

Supporting Information for

Convergent Syntheses of 2,3-Dihydrobenzofurans via a Catellani Strategy

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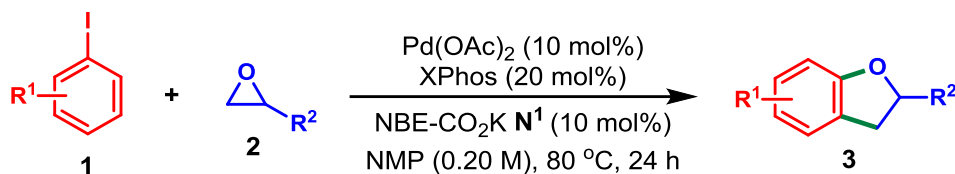
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1. General information

All reactions dealing with air- or moisture-sensitive compounds were performed in the argon-filled glove box or by standard Schlenk techniques in oven-dried reaction vessels under argon atmosphere. Unless noted otherwise, all solvents were dried by JC Meyer Solvent Drying System. Most reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification, unless otherwise stated. Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) carried out on 0.2 mm commercial silica gel plates, using UV light as the visualizing agent or basic solution of KMnO_4 or acidic solution of *p*-anisaldehyde and heat as a developing agent. ^1H NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 MHz Bruker spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ) were reported in ppm from the solvent resonance as the internal standard (CDCl_3 : 7.26 ppm). The following abbreviations were used to explain multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, dd = doublet of doublets, dt = doublet of triplets, td = triplet of doublets, ddd = doublet of doublet of doublets, m = multiplet, brs = broad singlet. ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on 100 MHz with complete proton decoupling spectrophotometers (CDCl_3 : 77.16 ppm). ^{19}F NMR were reported on 376 MHz or 564 MHz Bruker spectrometer. Gas chromatography (GC) were recorded on Agilent 7890 instrument and the biphenyl as internal standard. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on DIONEX UltiMate 3000 & Bruker Compact TOF mass spectrometer. Enantiomeric ratio (*ee*) values were determined by chiral HPLC (Agilent 1260) with chiral OD-H column with hexane and *i*-PrOH as solvents. Optical rotations were measured with a polarimeter.

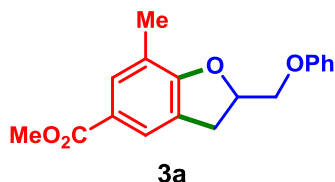
2. General procedure for the synthesis of 3



Unless otherwise noted, in an argon-filled glove box, an oven-dried 4.0 mL vial equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with Pd(OAc)₂ (2.2 mg, 10 mol%), XPhos (19.1 mg, 20 mol%), NBE-CO₂K N¹ (3.5 mg, 10 mol%), aryl iodide **1** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), epoxide **2** (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv.) and dry NMP (1.0 mL). The vial was sealed with a cap and stirred at r.t. for about 5 min, then the reaction mixture was heated at 80 °C for 24 h. After the reaction vessel was cooled to r.t., the mixture was washed with H₂O, extracted with MTBE, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was directly purified by column chromatography on silica gel or purified by PTLC to yield the desired product **3**.

3. Characterization data for 3

Methyl 7-methyl-2-(phenoxymethyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3a)



Physical state: white solid.

Melting point: 48-50 °C.

Yield: 82%.

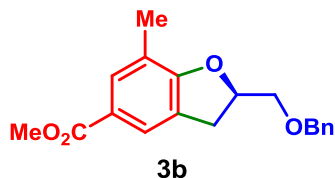
R_f = 0.5 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.31-7.27 (m, 2H), 6.97 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 5.25-5.18 (m, 1H), 4.22 (dd, J = 10.1, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (dd, J = 10.1, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.41 (dd, J = 15.8, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (dd, J = 15.8, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.27, 162.10, 158.65, 132.12, 129.63, 125.87, 124.42, 122.75, 121.37, 119.66, 114.78, 81.49, 69.66, 51.96, 32.14, 15.33.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₁₈H₁₈NaO₄ [M+Na⁺] 321.1097, found 321.1100.

(R)-Methyl 2-((benzyloxy)methyl)-7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3b)



Physical state: light yellow oil.

Yield: 93%.

R_f = 0.5 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1).

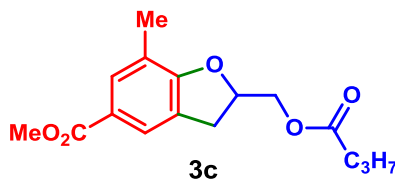
E_e: >99%, the *ee* was determined by HPLC (Chiralpak OD-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH, 95:5 v/v, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, λ = 254 nm, 25 °C). t_R (major) = 13.190 min; t_R (minor), undetected. [α]_D²³ = 34.2 (c = 1.0, CH₂Cl₂).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.69 (s, 2H), 7.37-7.27 (m, 5H), 5.08-5.01 (m, 1H), 4.66-4.58 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.72-3.63 (m, 2H), 3.28 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.05 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.33, 162.26, 137.98, 132.03, 128.58, 127.92, 127.86, 126.11, 124.40, 122.53, 119.53, 82.57, 73.61, 71.95, 51.94, 32.03, 15.38.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₁₉H₂₀NaO₄ [M+Na⁺] 335.1254, found 335.1259.

Methyl 2-((butyryloxy)methyl)-7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3c)



Physical state: light yellow oil.

Yield: 91%.

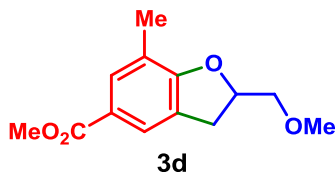
R_f = 0.3 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.70 (s, 2H), 5.09-5.03 (m, 1H), 4.35-4.23 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.33 (dd, *J* = 15.8, 9.7 Hz, 1H), 3.01 (dd, *J* = 15.8, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.63-1.56 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.60, 167.24, 161.97, 132.14, 125.65, 124.30, 122.77, 119.64, 80.88, 65.52, 51.97, 36.09, 31.87, 18.48, 15.26, 13.72.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₁₆H₂₀NaO₅ [M+Na⁺] 315.1203, found 315.1206.

Methyl 2-(methoxymethyl)-7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3d)



Physical state: light yellow oil.

Yield: 72%.

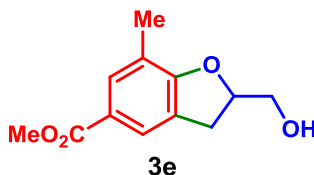
R_f = 0.3 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.69 (s, 2H), 5.04-4.97 (m, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.65-3.56 (m, 2H), 3.43 (s, 3H), 3.27 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 3.02 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.29, 162.23, 132.04, 126.04, 124.37, 122.53, 119.57, 82.48, 74.67, 59.63, 51.92, 31.83, 15.39.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₁₃H₁₆NaO₄ [M+Na⁺] 259.0941, found 259.0942.

Methyl 2-(hydroxymethyl)-7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3e)



Physical state: colorless oil.

Yield: 73%.

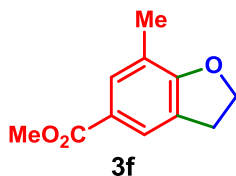
R_f = 0.5 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 2:1).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.70 (s, 2H), 5.02-4.95 (m, 1H), 3.92-3.88 (m, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.78-3.73 (m, 1H), 3.27 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.01 (brs, 1H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.27, 161.92, 132.09, 126.34, 124.47, 122.77, 119.54, 84.10, 64.95, 51.98, 31.07, 15.36.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₁₂H₁₄NaO₄ [M+Na⁺] 245.0784, found 245.0792.

Methyl 7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3f)



Physical state: yellow oil.

Yield: 83%.

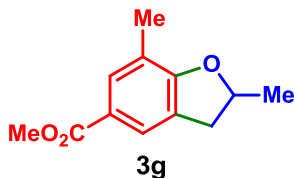
R_f = 0.5 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 20:1).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 4.64 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.24 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.22 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.35, 162.74, 131.97, 126.58, 124.37, 122.46, 119.44, 71.90, 51.94, 29.54, 15.29.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{NaO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$] 215.0679, found 215.0683.

Methyl 2,7-dimethyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3g)



Physical state: white solid.

Melting point: 42-44 °C.

Yield: 97%.

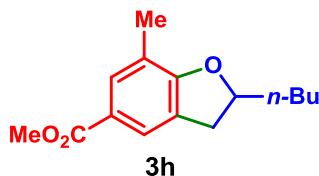
R_f = 0.5 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 20:1).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.68 (s, 2H), 5.03-4.94 (m, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.33 (dd, J = 16.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (dd, J = 16.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.48 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.36, 162.27, 131.95, 126.65, 124.40, 122.18, 119.30, 80.60, 51.88, 36.88, 22.01, 15.31.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}^+$] 207.1016, found 207.1018.

Methyl 2-butyl-7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3h)^[1]



Physical state: light yellow oil.

Yield: 71%.

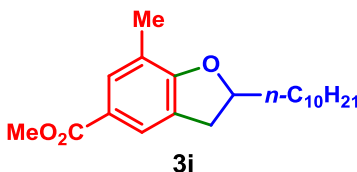
R_f = 0.5 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 20:1).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.68 (s, 2H), 4.87-4.80 (m, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.29 (dd, J = 16.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (dd, J = 16.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.89-1.80 (m, 1H), 1.71-1.64 (m, 1H), 1.53-1.44 (m, 4H), 0.93 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.41, 162.39, 131.92, 126.62, 124.38, 122.08, 119.28, 84.42, 51.89, 35.98, 35.24, 27.55, 22.73, 15.31, 14.17.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₁₅H₂₀NaO₃ [M+Na⁺] 271.1305, found 271.1312.

Methyl 2-decyl-7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3i)



Physical state: yellow oil.

Yield: 67%.

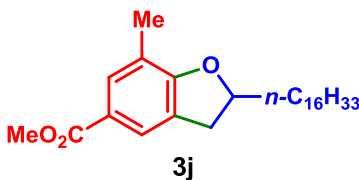
R_f = 0.65 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 50:1).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.68 (s, 2H), 4.87-4.80 (m, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.29 (dd, J = 16.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (dd, J = 16.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.88-1.79 (m, 1H), 1.71-1.62 (m, 1H), 1.47-1.26 (m, 16H), 0.88 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.42, 162.40, 131.93, 126.64, 124.38, 122.08, 119.29, 84.45, 51.90, 36.27, 35.25, 32.05, 29.75, 29.73, 29.68, 29.64, 29.48, 25.40, 22.84, 15.33, 14.29.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₂₁H₃₂NaO₃ [M+Na⁺] 355.2244, found 355.2245.

Methyl 2-hexadecyl-7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3j)



Physical state: white solid.

Melting point: 46-48 °C.

Yield: 80%.

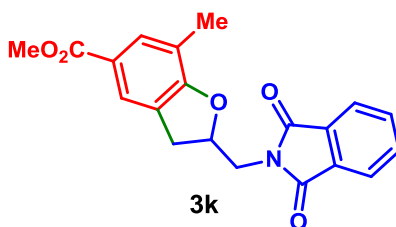
R_f = 0.7 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 50:1).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.68 (s, 2H), 4.87-4.80 (m, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.29 (dd, J = 16.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (dd, J = 16.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.88-1.79 (m, 1H), 1.71-1.63 (m, 1H), 1.42-1.25 (m, 28H), 0.88 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.42, 162.40, 131.93, 126.63, 124.39, 122.08, 119.28, 84.45, 51.89, 36.27, 35.25, 32.08, 29.85, 29.82, 29.80, 29.73, 29.68, 29.64, 29.52, 25.41, 22.85, 15.32, 14.29.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{44}\text{NaO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$] 439.3183, found 439.3184.

Methyl 2-((1,3-dioxoisindolin-2-yl)methyl)-7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3k)



Physical state: white solid.

Melting point: 127-129 °C.

Yield: 60%.

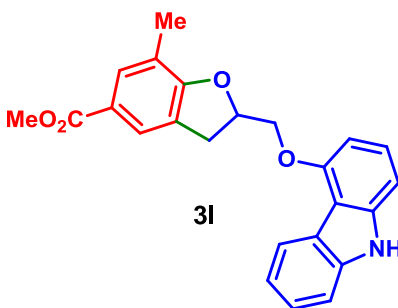
R_f = 0.5 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 2:1).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.88-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.74-7.72 (m, 2H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 5.20-5.13 (m, 1H), 4.01 (dd, J = 16.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.82 (dd, J = 12.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (dd, J = 16.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.04 (dd, J = 6.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.15 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.27, 167.21, 161.48, 134.25, 132.19, 132.02, 125.39, 124.48, 123.54, 122.93, 120.16, 80.37, 51.95, 42.00, 33.00, 15.18.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₂₀H₁₇NNaO₅ [M+Na⁺] 374.0999, found 374.1008.

Methyl 2-(((9H-carbazol-4-yl)oxy)methyl)-7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3l)



Physical state: white solid.

Melting point: 169-171 °C.

Yield: 89%.

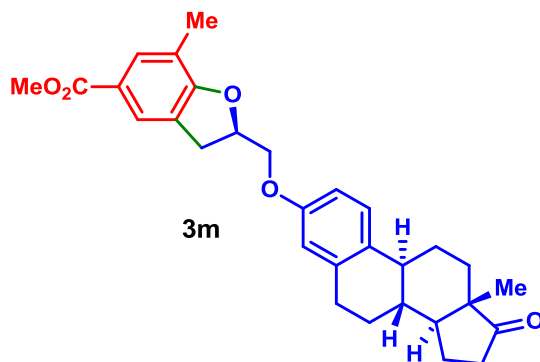
R_f = 0.45 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 5:1).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.00-6.96 (m, 1H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.43-5.37 (m, 1H), 4.47 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.42-4.38 (m, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.55 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.37, 162.48, 154.98, 140.96, 138.64, 132.16, 126.56, 126.11, 125.07, 124.45, 122.98, 122.68, 122.38, 119.69, 119.59, 112.81, 109.90, 104.09, 101.05, 81.21, 69.84, 51.94, 32.03, 15.31.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₂₄H₂₁NNaO₄ [M+Na⁺] 410.1357, found 410.1365.

Methyl 7-methyl-2-(((8*R*,9*S*,13*S*,14*S*)-13-methyl-17-oxo-7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-decahydro-6*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-3-yl)oxy)methyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3m)



Physical state: colorless oil.

Yield: 78%.

$[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{23} = 12.8$ ($c = 1.0$, CH_2Cl_2).

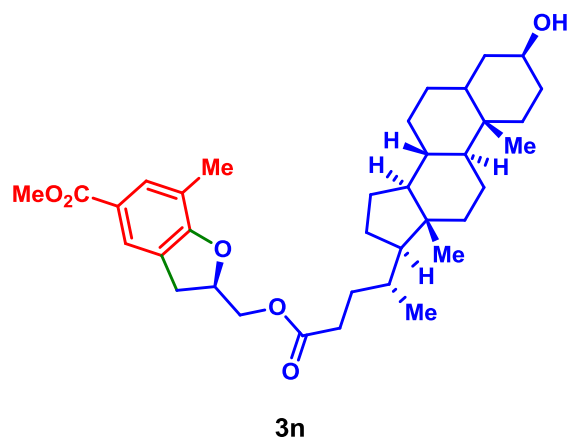
$R_f = 0.3$ (silica gel, dichloromethane).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.20 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.74 (dd, $J = 8.5, 2.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, $J = 2.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.23-5.17 (m, 1H), 4.19 (dd, $J = 10.1, 5.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.10 (dd, $J = 10.2, 4.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.40 (dd, $J = 15.8, 9.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.18 (dd, $J = 15.8, 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.90-2.86 (m, 2H), 2.54-2.47 (m, 1H), 2.42-2.38 (m, 1H), 2.28-2.22 (m, 4H), 2.19-1.94 (m, 4H), 1.68-1.62 (m, 1H), 1.57-1.40 (m, 5H), 0.91 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 221.14, 167.29, 162.12, 156.72, 138.01, 132.80, 132.11, 126.55, 125.90, 124.44, 122.75, 119.64, 114.89, 112.40, 81.52, 69.77, 51.98, 50.49, 48.14, 44.09, 38.45, 36.02, 32.17, 31.68, 29.76, 26.63, 26.06, 21.72, 15.35, 13.98.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{34}\text{NaO}_5$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}^+]$ 497.2298, found 497.2307.

(2*R*)-methyl 2-((((4*R*)-4-((3*S*,8*R*,9*S*,10*S*,13*R*,14*S*,17*R*)-3-hydroxy-10,13-dimethylhexadecahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17-yl)pentanoyl)oxy)methyl)-7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxylate (3n)



Physical state: colorless oil.

Yield: 85%.

$[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{23} = -18.6$ ($c = 1.0$, CH_2Cl_2).

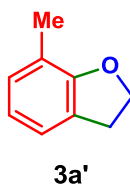
$R_f = 0.4$ (silica gel, toluene: ethyl ether = 2:1).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.70 (s, 2H), 5.09-5.02 (m, 1H), 4.33 (dd, $J = 11.9, 3.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.24 (dd, $J = 11.9, 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.66-3.58 (m, 1H), 3.33 (dd, $J = 15.8, 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.02 (dd, $J = 15.8, 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.39-2.31 (m, 1H), 2.25-2.17 (m, 4H), 1.96-1.91 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.67 (m, 6H), 1.55-1.52 (m, 2H), 1.40-1.33 (m, 6H), 1.30-1.16 (m, 6H), 1.11-0.95 (m, 6H), 0.91 (s, 3H), 0.87 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 3H), 0.61 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 174.24, 167.23, 162.01, 132.17, 125.67, 124.31, 122.76, 119.62, 80.90, 71.96, 65.58, 56.56, 55.97, 51.97, 42.82, 42.18, 40.50, 40.24, 36.54, 35.93, 35.43, 34.67, 31.87, 31.20, 30.98, 30.64, 28.27, 27.30, 26.52, 24.29, 23.49, 20.91, 18.33, 15.29, 12.14.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{52}\text{NaO}_6$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}^+]$ 603.3656, found 603.3658.

7-Methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran (**3a'**)^[1]



CAS: 17359-45-4

Physical state: colorless oil.

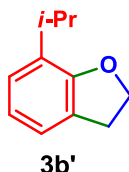
Yield: 85%.

$R_f = 0.3$ (silica gel, petroleum ether).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.22 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.03 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 158.46, 129.25, 126.21, 122.38, 120.34, 119.69, 70.86, 30.20, 15.40.

7-Isopropyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran (3b')



Physical state: colorless oil.

Yield: 77%.

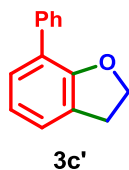
R_f = 0.43 (silica gel, petroleum ether).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.06-7.01 (m, 2H), 6.84-6.81 (m, 1H), 4.57 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.21 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.15-3.05 (m, 1H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.25 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 157.51, 130.62, 126.53, 124.85, 122.32, 120.52, 70.80, 30.15, 28.33, 22.48.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₁₁H₁₅O [M+H⁺] 163.1123, found 163.1126.

7-Phenyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran (3c')



Physical state: colorless oil.

Yield: 65%.

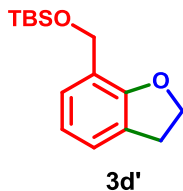
R_f = 0.3 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 50:1).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.33-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.28 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 157.28, 137.45, 128.48, 128.47, 127.96, 127.86, 127.19, 124.12, 123.67, 120.99, 71.16, 29.99.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₁₄H₁₂NaO [M+Na⁺] 219.0780, found 219.0770.

***tert*-Butyl((2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-7-yl)methoxy)dimethylsilane (3d')**



Physical state: colorless oil.

Yield: 55%.

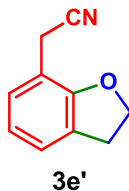
R_f = 0.3 (silica gel, petroleum ether).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.25 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (s, 2H), 4.57 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.20 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 0.95 (s, 9H), 0.11 (s, 6H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 156.52, 126.30, 125.84, 123.44, 123.36, 120.45, 71.32, 59.99, 29.87, 26.13, 18.61, -5.15.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₁₅H₂₄NaO₂Si [M+Na⁺] 287.1438, found 287.1440.

2-(2,3-Dihydrobenzofuran-7-yl)acetonitrile (3e')



Physical state: colorless oil.

Yield: 82%.

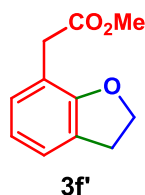
R_f = 0.4 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 20:1).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.18-7.13 (m, 2H), 6.86 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (s, 2H), 3.24 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 157.84, 127.50, 127.37, 124.97, 121.00, 117.74, 117.71, 7.68, 29.99, 18.22.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₁₀H₁₀NO [M+H⁺] 160.0762, found 160.0761.

Methyl 2-(2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-7-yl)acetate (3f')



Physical state: colorless oil.

Yield: 65%.

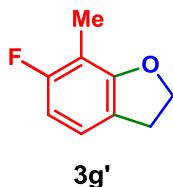
R_f = 0.5 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 20:1).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.12 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.57 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.61 (s, 2H), 3.22 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171.99, 158.51, 129.14, 126.94, 124.06, 120.55, 115.87, 71.26, 52.18, 35.18, 30.11.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₁₁H₁₂NaO₃ [M+Na⁺] 215.0679, found 215.0677.

6-Fluoro-7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran (3g')



Physical state: light yellow oil.

Yield: 63%.

R_f = 0.3 (silica gel, petroleum ether).

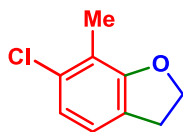
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.94-6.90 (m, 1H), 6.54-6.49 (m, 1H), 4.61 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.17 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.12 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.45 (d, J = 240.0 Hz), 159.75 (d, J = 10.0 Hz), 121.66 (d, J = 10.0 Hz), 121.40 (d, J = 3.0 Hz), 107.84 (d, J = 22.0 Hz), 102.67 (d, J = 24.0 Hz), 72.24, 29.73, 7.95 (d, J = 4.0 Hz).

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -121.16.

HRMS (APCI-TOF): calc'd for C₉H₁₀FO [M+H⁺] 153.0710, found 153.0720.

6-Chloro-7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran (3h')



3h'

Physical state: yellow oil.

Yield: 64%.

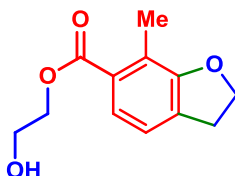
R_f = 0.3 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 20:1).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 6.93 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.21-3.16 (m, 2H), 2.23 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 159.52, 133.56, 124.75, 122.34, 120.92, 118.44, 71.74, 30.04, 12.66.

HRMS (APCI-TOF): calc'd for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_9\text{ClO}$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}^+$] 169.0420, found 169.0422.

2-Hydroxyethyl 7-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-6-carboxylate (3i')



3i'

Physical state: light yellow oil.

Yield: 50%.

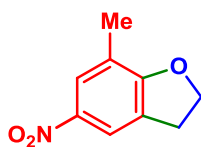
R_f = 0.4 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 2:1).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.45 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.42-4.40 (m, 2H), 3.95-3.92 (m, 2H), 3.25 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 1H).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 168.03, 159.47, 130.86, 129.33, 123.47, 121.91, 121.64, 70.97, 66.49, 61.56, 30.48, 13.32.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{NaO}_4$ [$\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$] 245.0784, found 245.0790.

7-Methyl-5-nitro-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran (3j')



3j'

Physical state: yellow solid.

Melting point: 82-84 °C.

Yield: 60%.

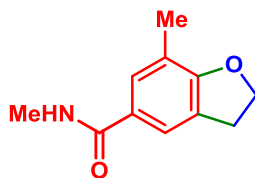
R_f = 0.6 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 10:1).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.93 (s, 2H), 4.73 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.29 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 164.21, 141.70, 127.41, 126.40, 120.08, 118.96, 72.72, 29.32, 15.34.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_9\text{NNaO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$] 202.0475, found 202.0477.

N,7-dimethyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-carboxamide (3k')



3k'

Physical state: white solid.

Melting point: 115-118 °C.

Yield: 76%.

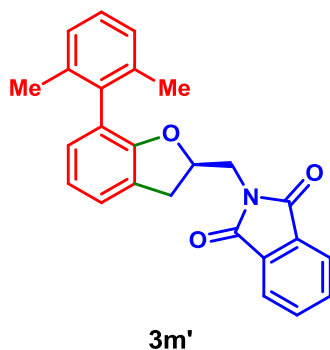
R_f = 0.5 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 2:1).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 4.60 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.19 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 168.40, 161.26, 128.72, 127.05, 126.66, 121.66, 119.32, 71.65, 29.68, 26.90, 15.33.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_2$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}^+$] 192.1019, found 192.1022.

(R)-2-((7-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-2-yl)methyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione
(3m')



Physical state: colorless oil.

Yield: 53%.

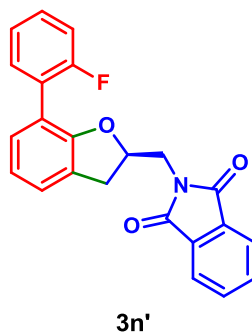
R_f = 0.55 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 5:1).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.86-7.82 (m, 2H), 7.74-7.69 (m, 2H), 7.19-7.16 (m, 1H), 7.13-7.11 (m, 2H), 7.04-7.00 (m, 2H), 6.92 (m, 1H), 5.18-5.10 (m, 1H), 4.11 (dd, J = 13.8, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (dd, J = 13.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.42 (dd, J = 15.8, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 3.13 (dd, J = 15.8, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 168.26, 156.22, 136.69, 134.91, 134.16, 133.26, 132.09, 131.13, 130.10, 129.92, 128.34, 125.86, 124.38, 124.05, 123.45, 120.71, 78.95, 42.27, 33.71, 21.02, 19.80.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}\text{NNaO}_3$ [$\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$] 406.1414, found 406.1415.

(R)-2-((7-(2-fluorophenyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-2-yl)methyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (3n')



Physical state: yellow oil.

Yield: 48%.

R_f = 0.3 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 5:1).

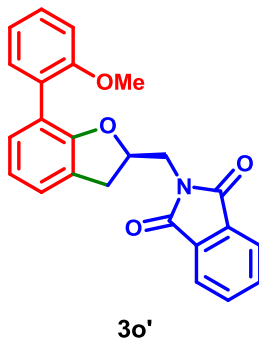
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.87-7.82 (m, 2H), 7.74-7.71 (m, 2H), 7.58-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.28-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.18 (m, 1H), 7.15-7.05 (m, 2H), 6.84 (m, 1H), 5.18-5.11 (m, 1H), 4.10 (dd, *J* = 13.9, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (dd, *J* = 13.9, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.42 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 9.4 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (dd, *J* = 15.8, 6.0 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.29, 159.77 (d, *J* = 246.0 Hz), 156.37, 134.17, 132.06, 132.02, 129.82 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 129.05 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 126.40, 124.86, 124.61 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz), 123.82 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 123.42, 120.89, 118.26, 115.82 (d, *J* = 23.0 Hz), 79.29, 42.04, 35.53.

¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -115.54.

HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₂₃H₁₆FNNaO₃ [*M*+Na⁺] 396.1006, found 396.1007.

(*R*)-2-((7-(2-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-2-yl)methyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (3o')



Physical state: yellow oil.

Yield: 62%.

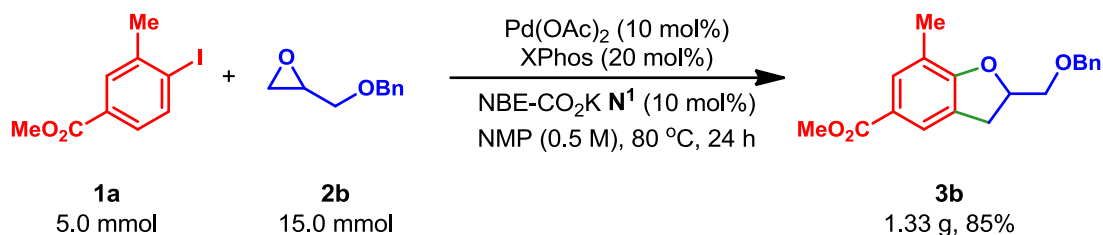
R_f = 0.4 (silica gel, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 5:1).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.86-7.84 (m, 2H), 7.73-7.70 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.28-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.97-6.89 (m, 3H), 5.17-5.17 (m, 1H), 4.09 (dd, *J* = 13.8, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (dd, *J* = 13.8, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.39 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 9.4 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 6.2 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.33, 156.69, 156.56, 134.18, 132.12, 131.85, 130.32, 128.82, 126.02, 125.83, 124.20, 123.43, 120.89, 120.51, 120.42, 111.13, 78.93, 55.67, 42.16, 33.68.

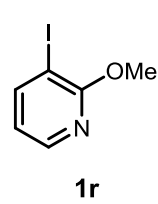
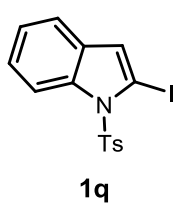
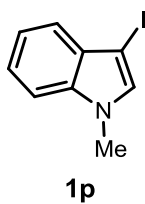
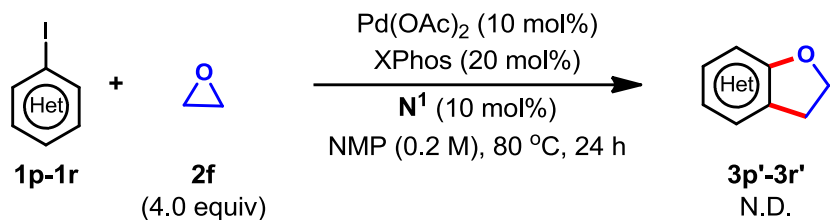
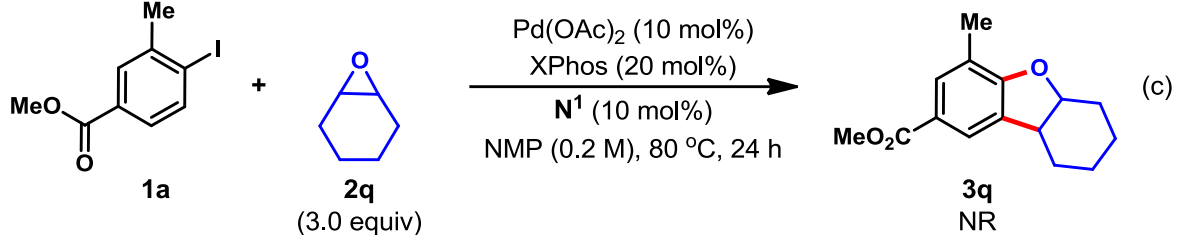
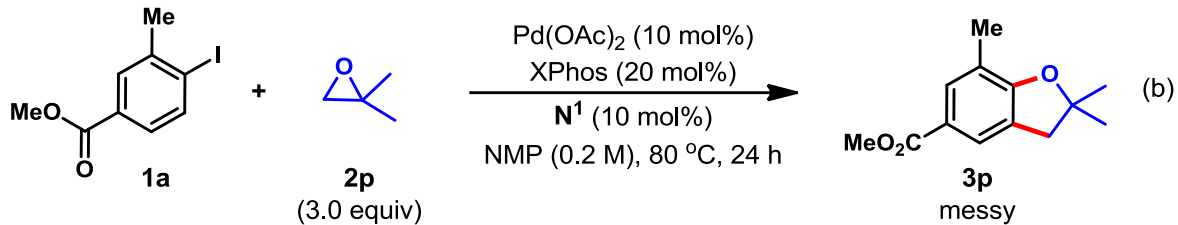
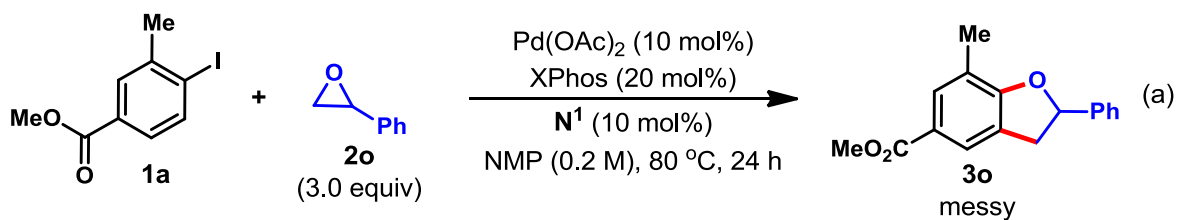
HRMS (ESI-TOF): calc'd for C₂₄H₁₉NNaO₄ [*M*+Na⁺] 408.1206, found 408.1213.

4. Experimental procedure for gram-scale synthesis of **3b**

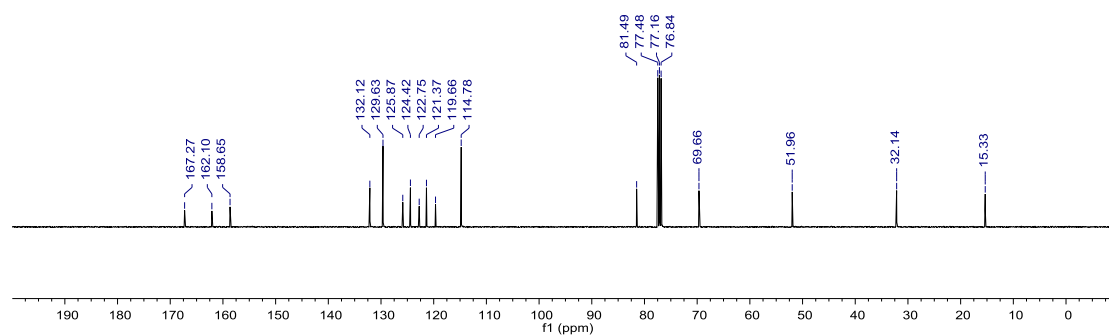
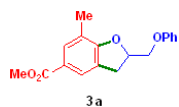
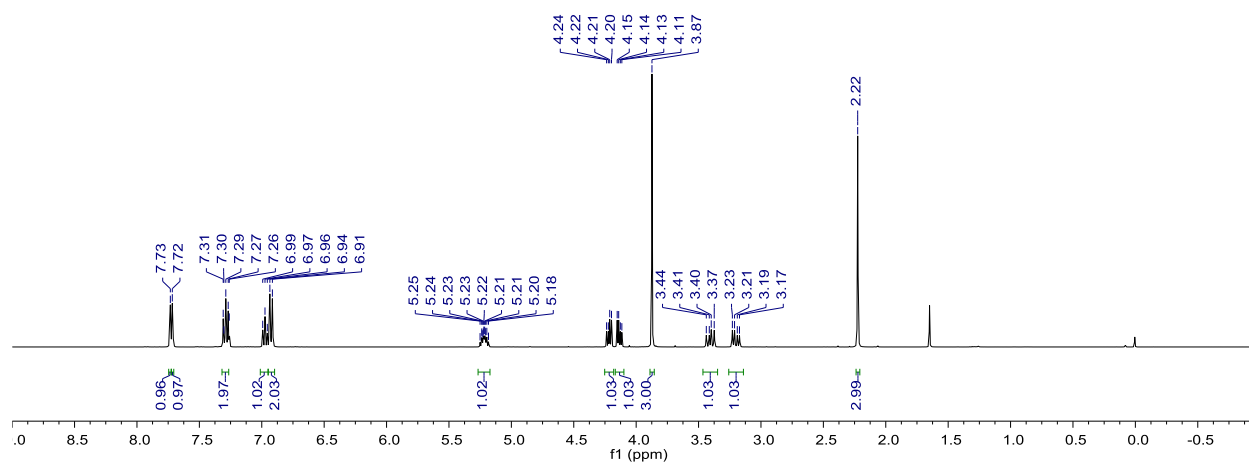


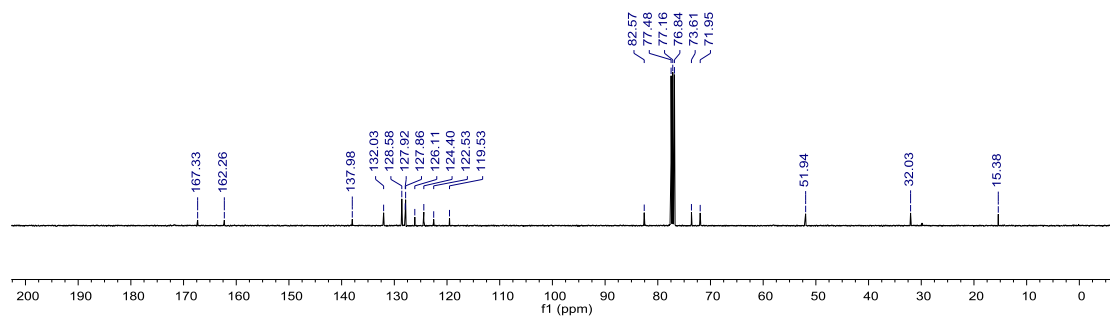
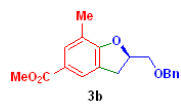
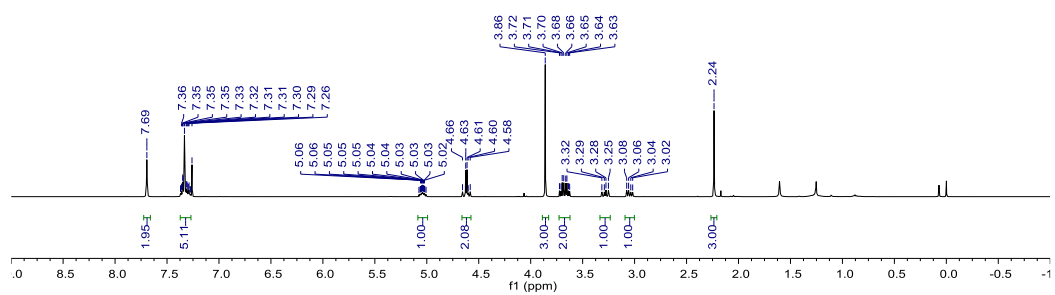
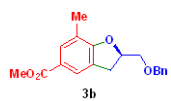
In an argon-filled glove box, an oven-dried 50 mL vial equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (112.3 mg, 0.5 mmol), XPhos (476.7 mg, 1.0 mmol), NBE-CO₂K **N**¹ (88.1 mg, 0.5 mmol), methyl 4-iodo-3-methylbenzoate **1a** (1.38 g, 5.0 mmol), 2-((benzyloxy)methyl)oxirane **2b** (2.46 g, 15.0 mmol), and dry NMP (10 mL). The vial was sealed with a cap and stirred at r.t. for about 5 min, then the reaction mixture was heated at 80 °C for 24 h. After the reaction vessel was cooled to r.t., the mixture was washed with H₂O, extracted with MTBE, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was directly purified by column chromatography on silica gel to yield the product **3b** (1.33 g, 85% yield) as a light yellow oil.

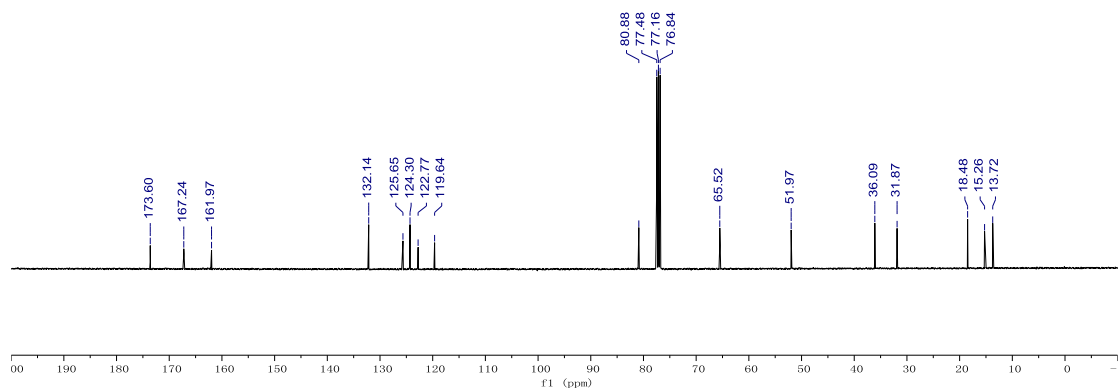
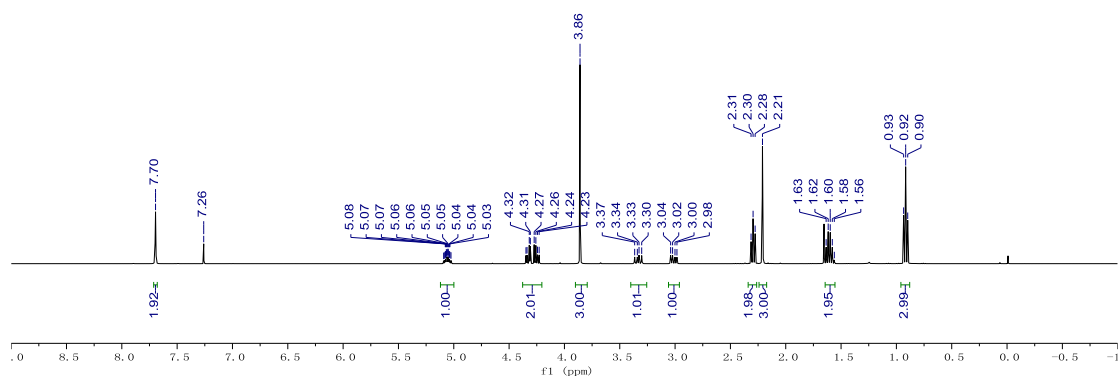
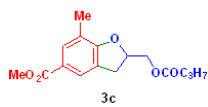
5. Failed substrates archive

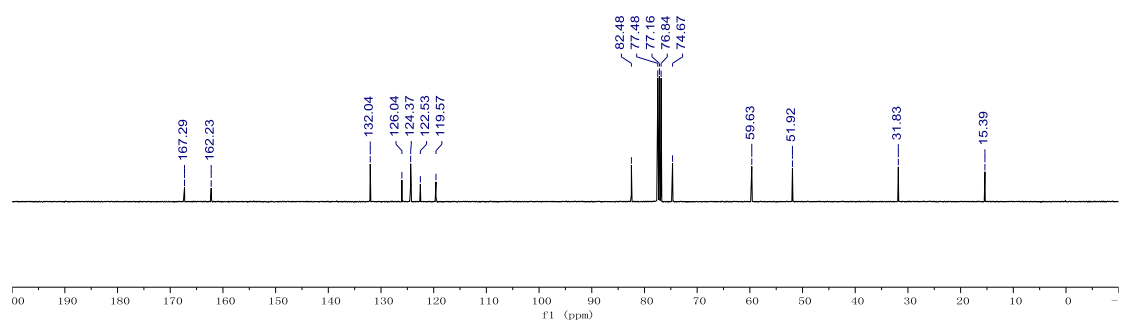
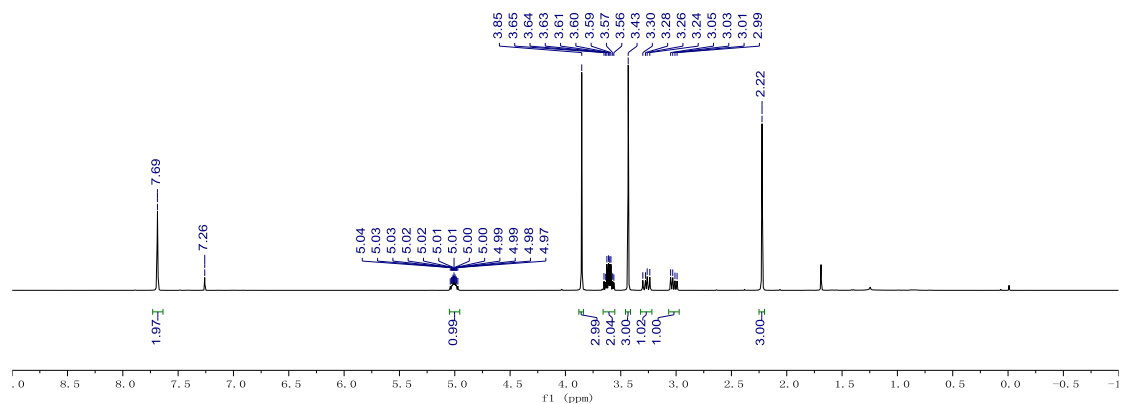


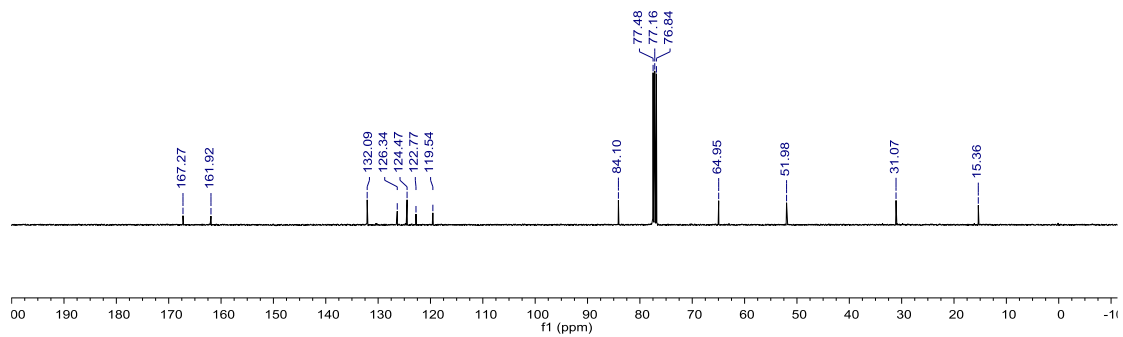
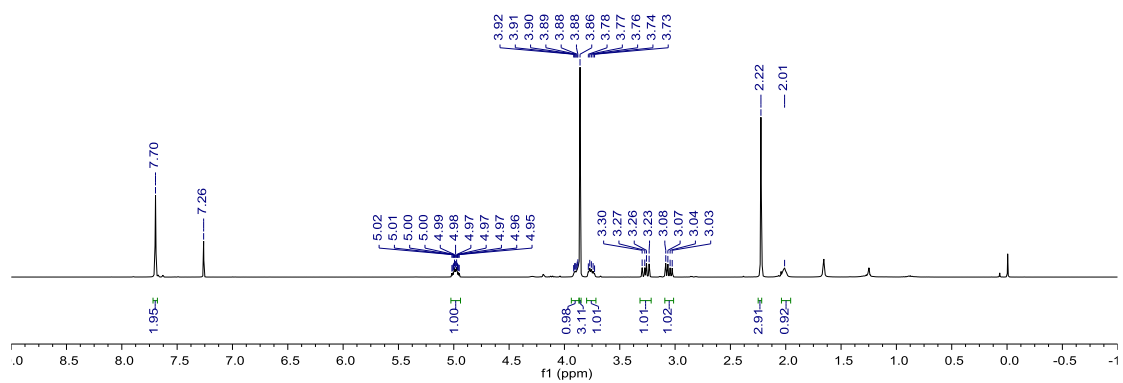
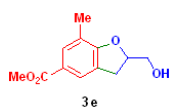
6. The spectra of products

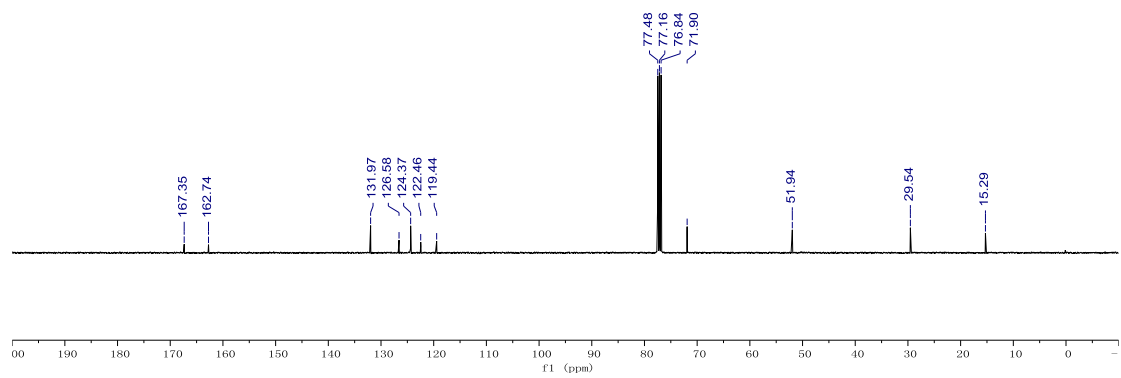
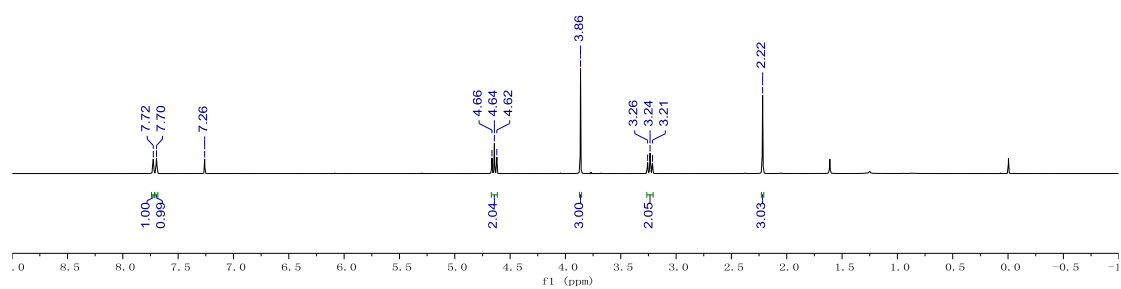
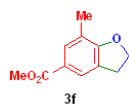


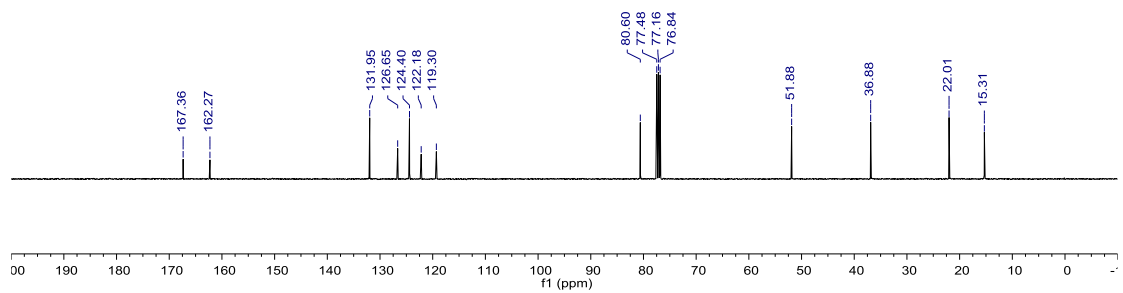
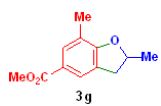
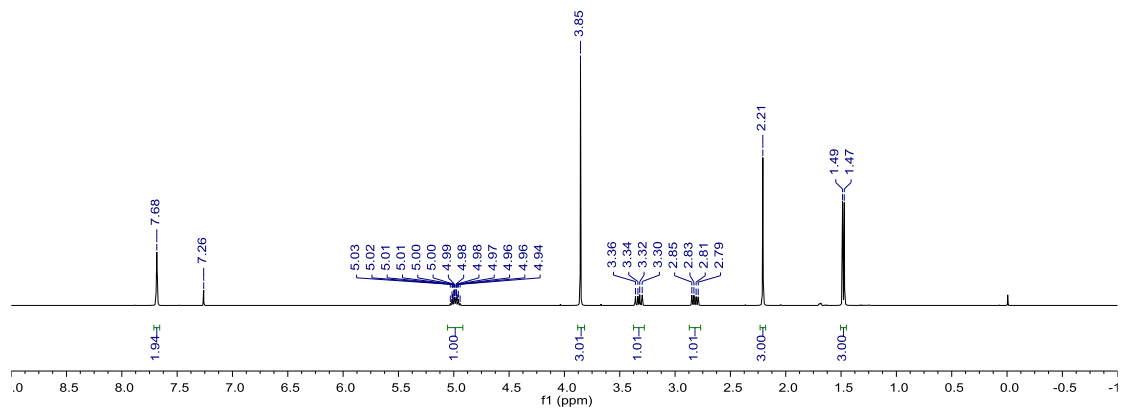


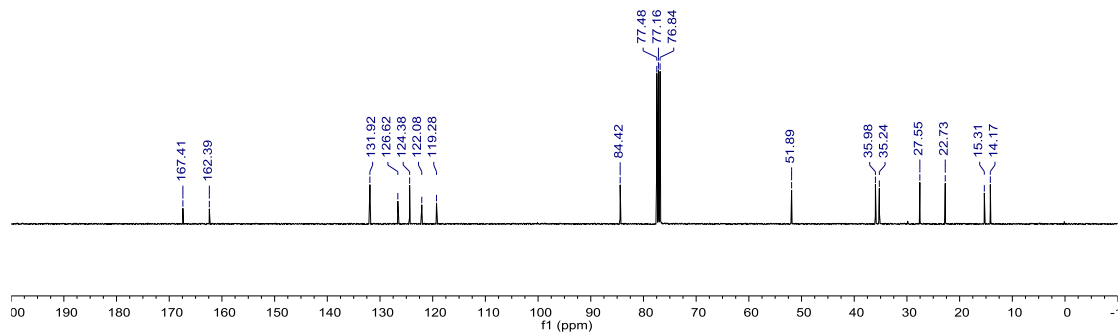
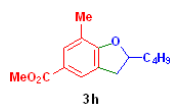
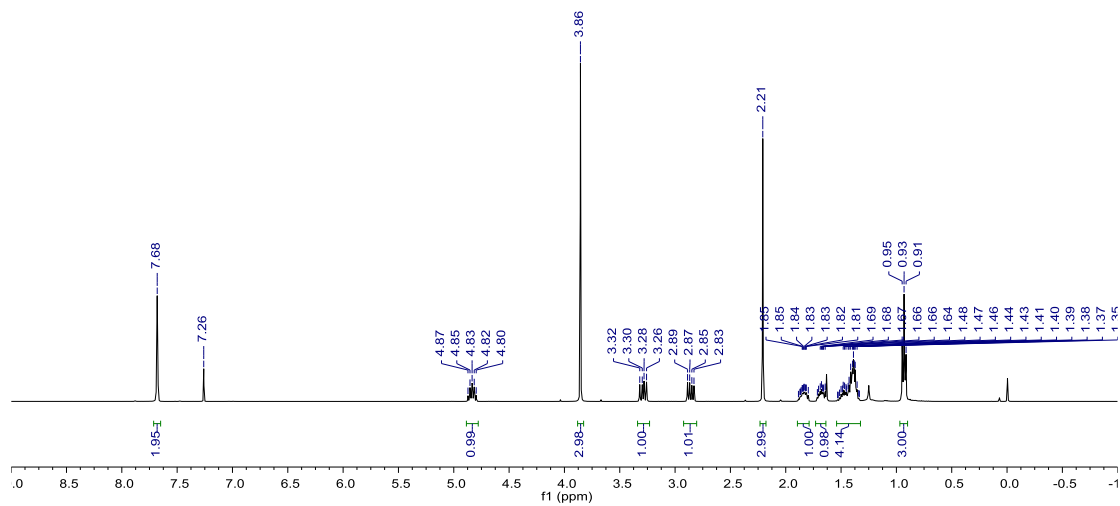
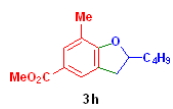


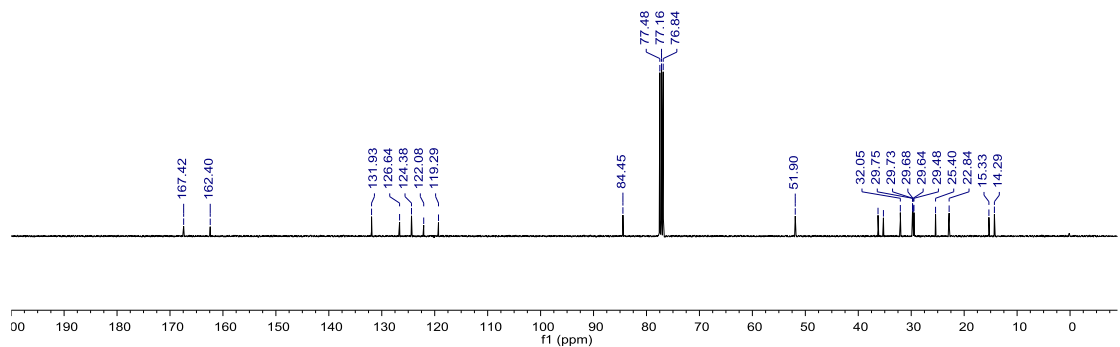
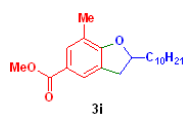
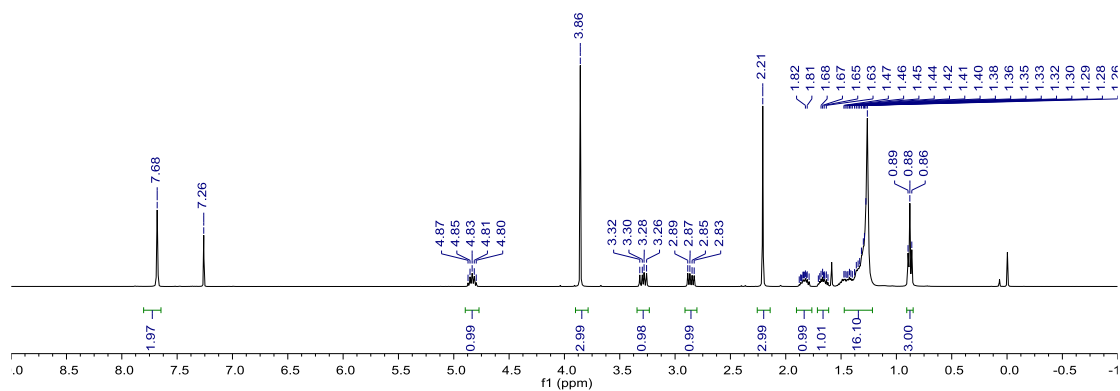
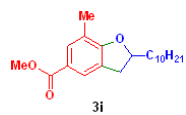


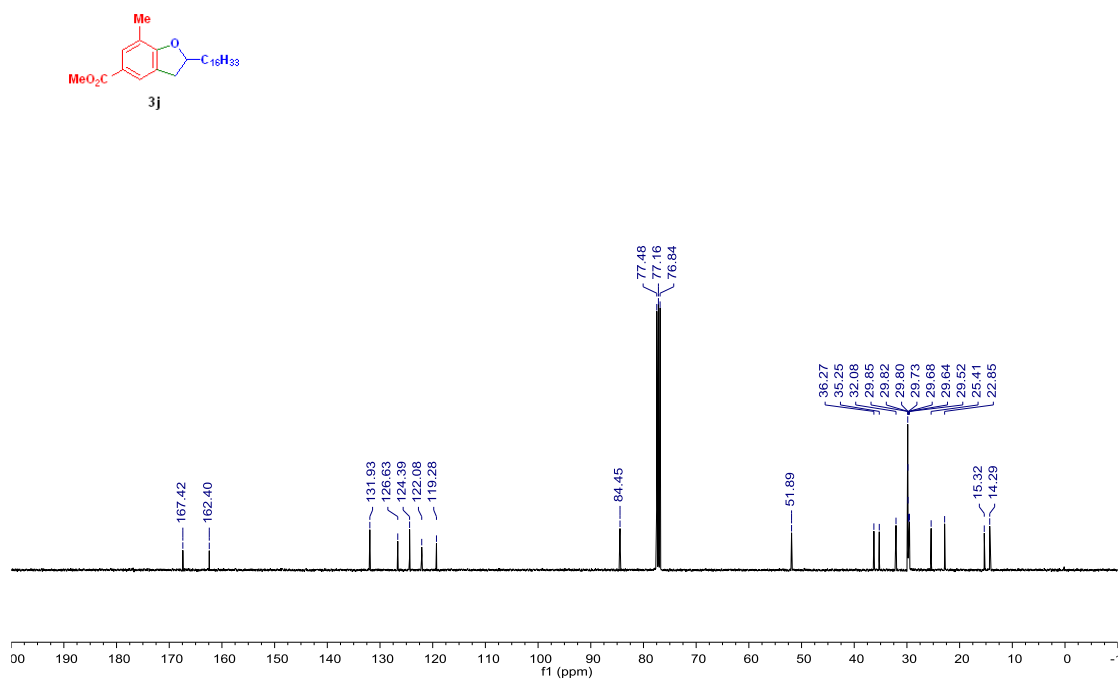
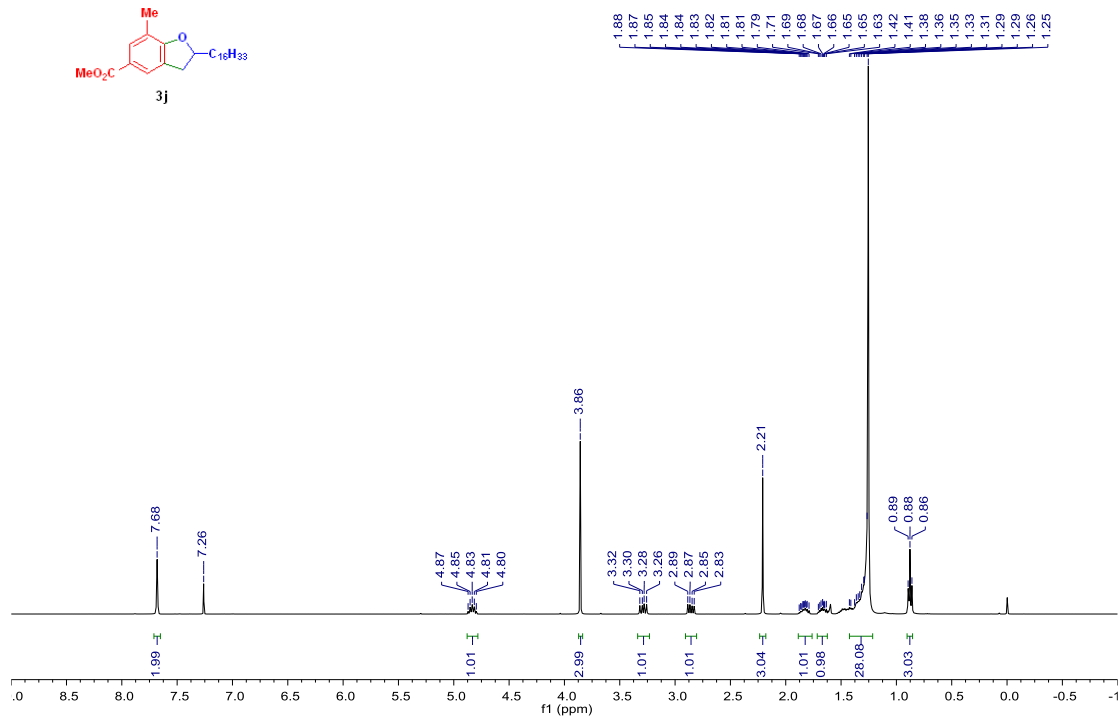


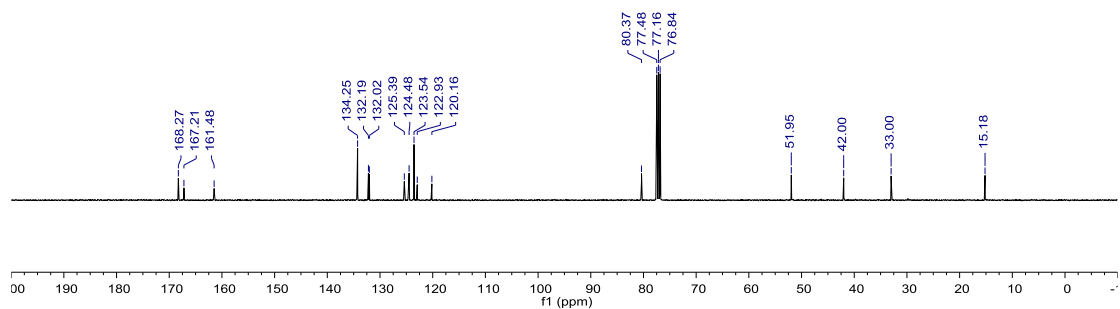
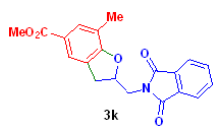
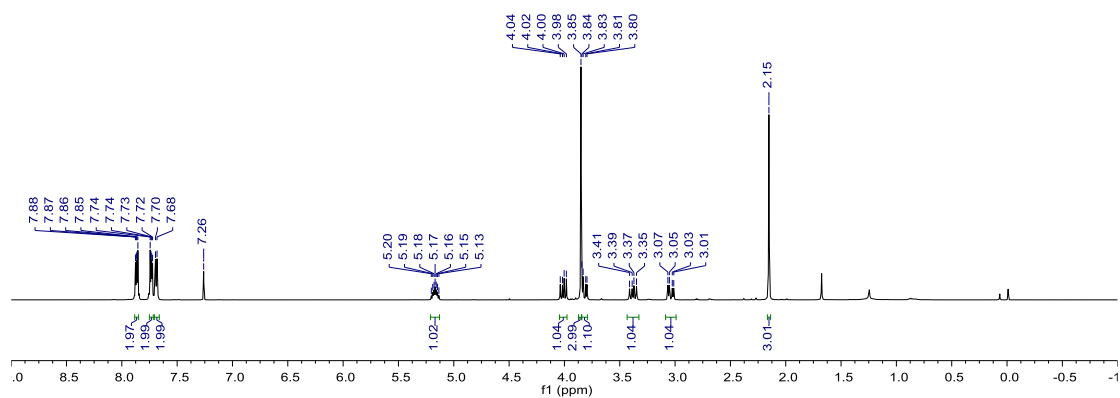
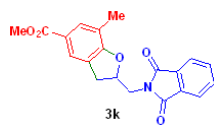


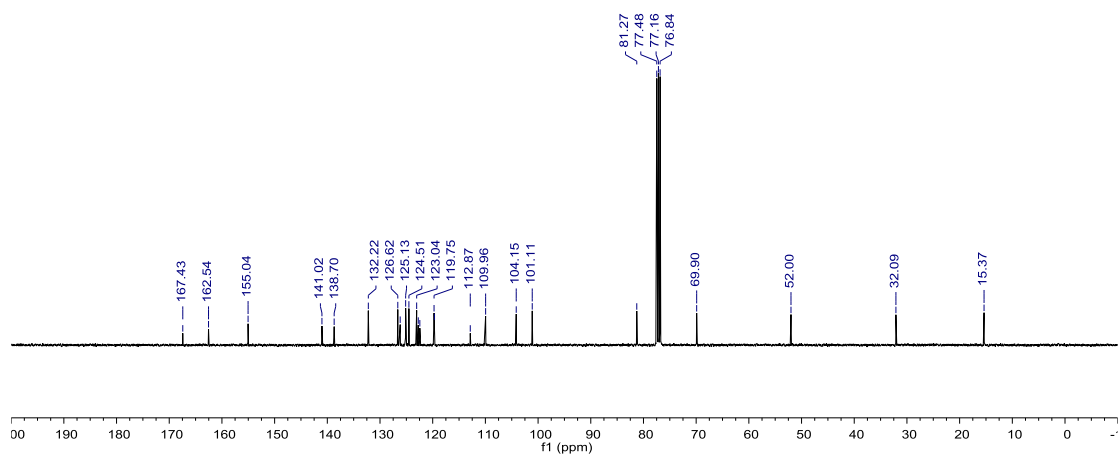
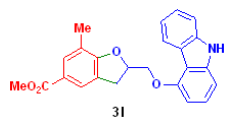
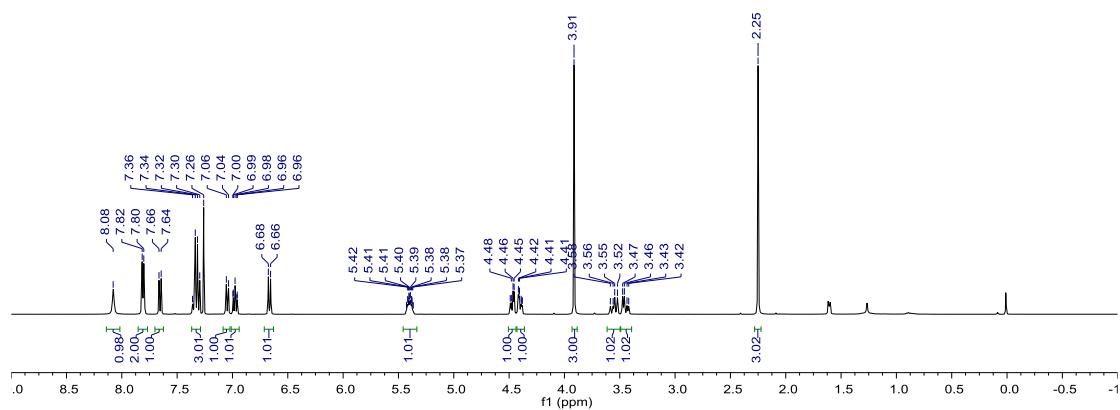
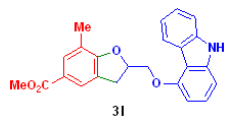


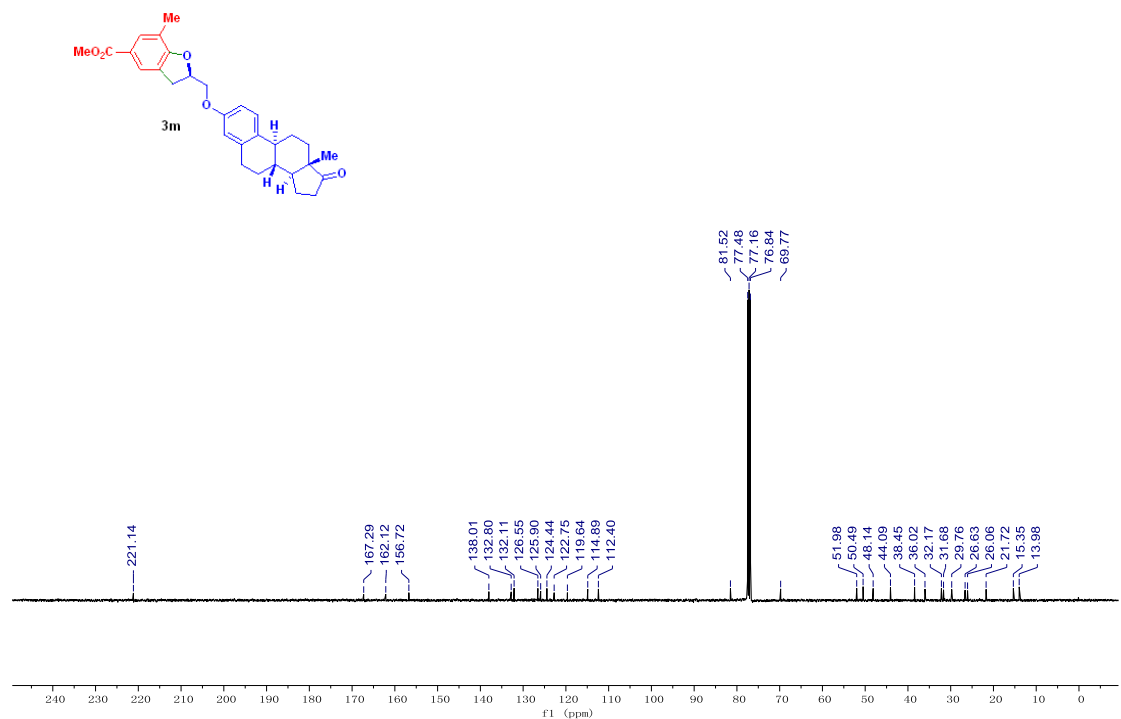
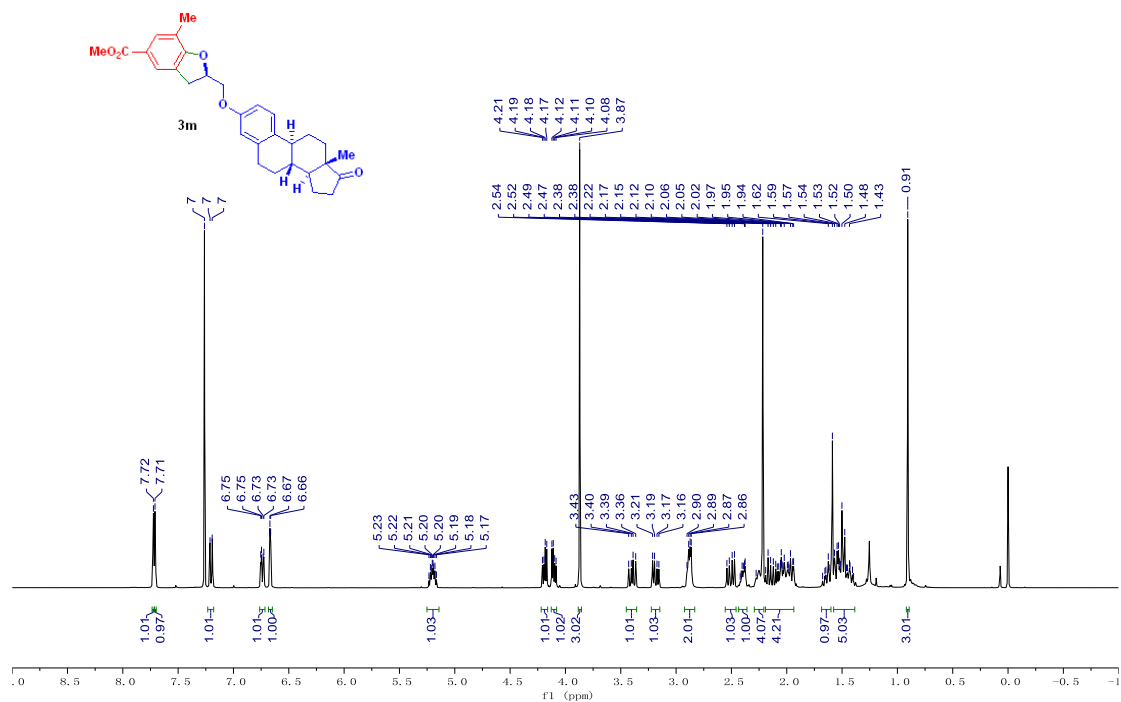


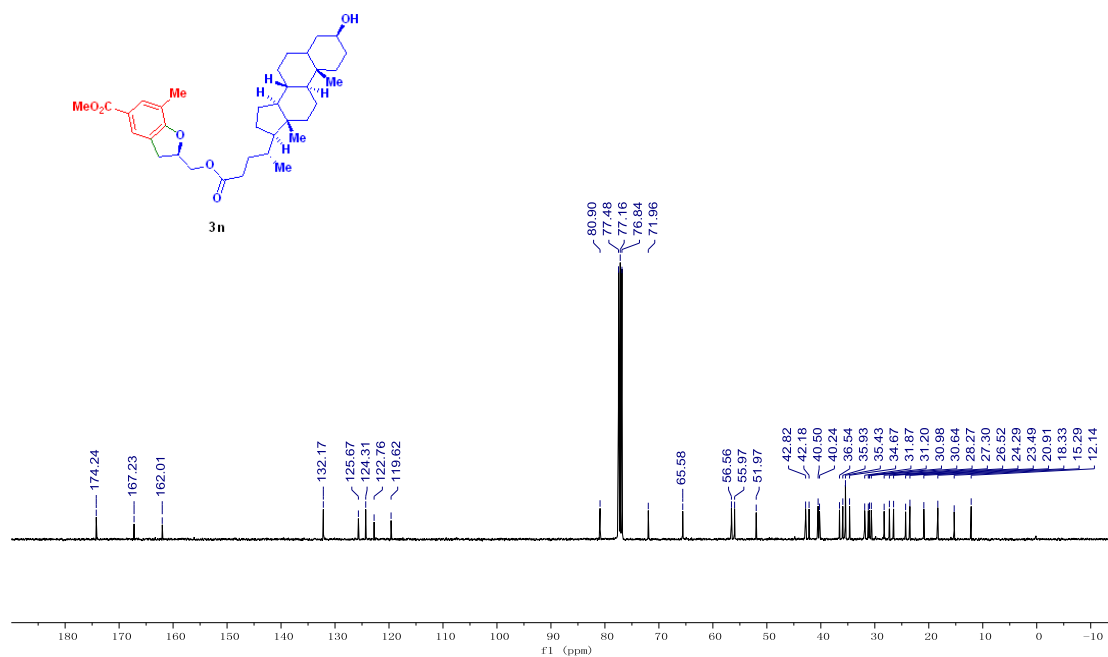
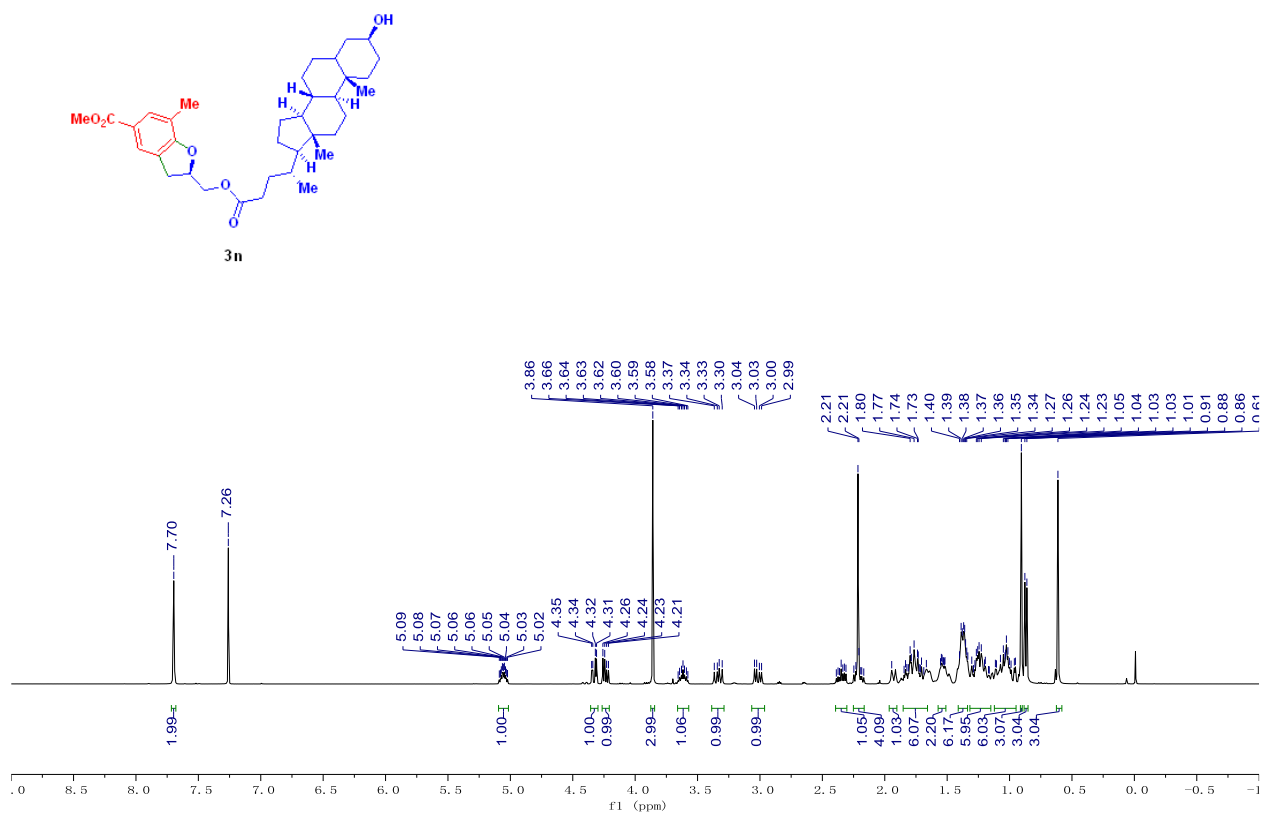


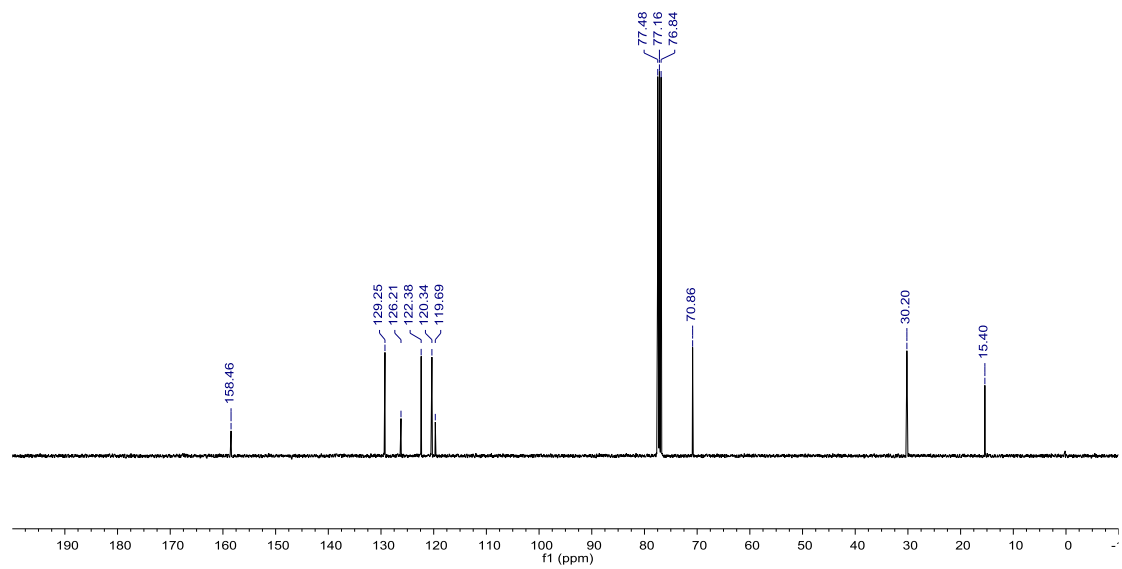
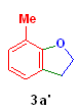
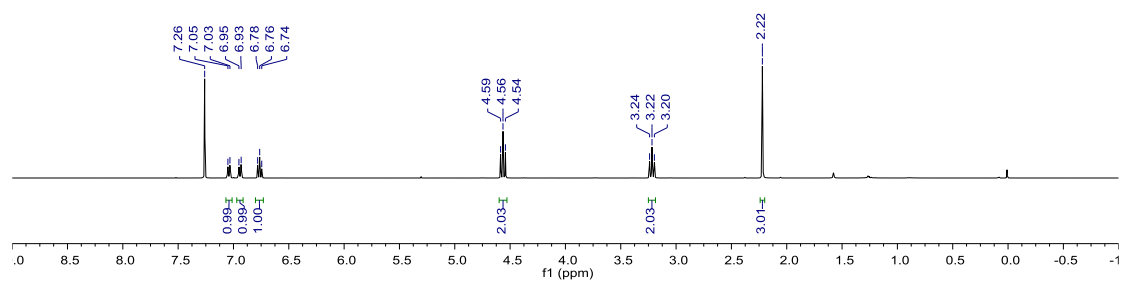
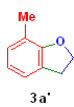


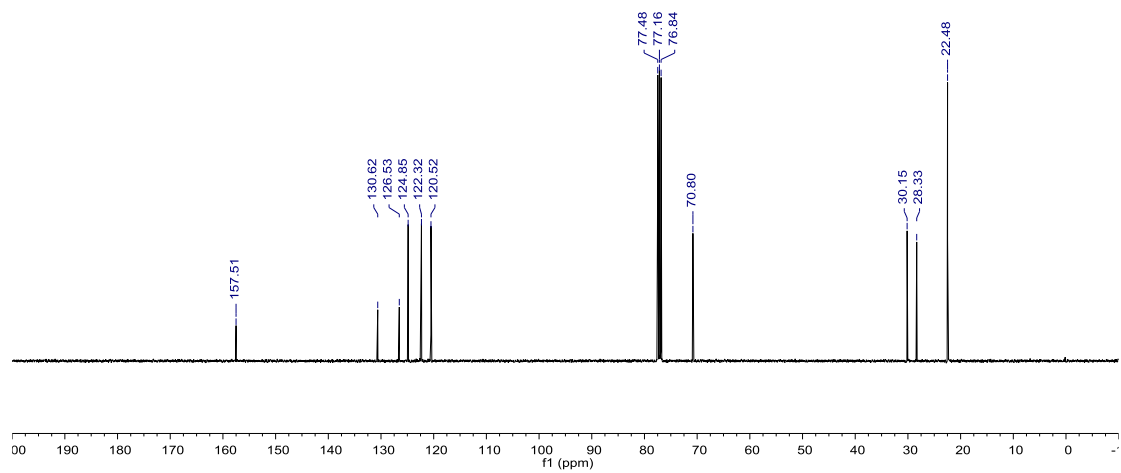
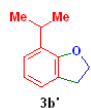
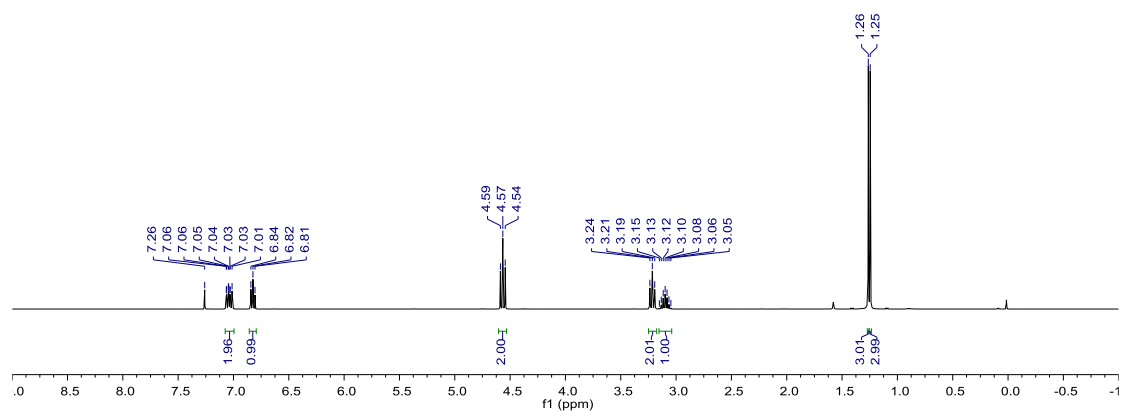


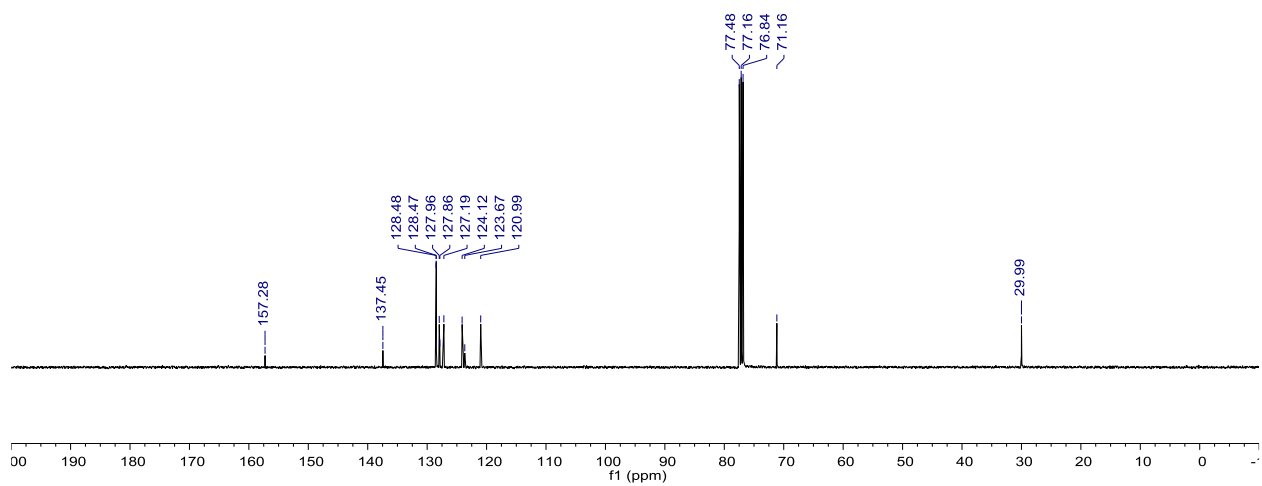
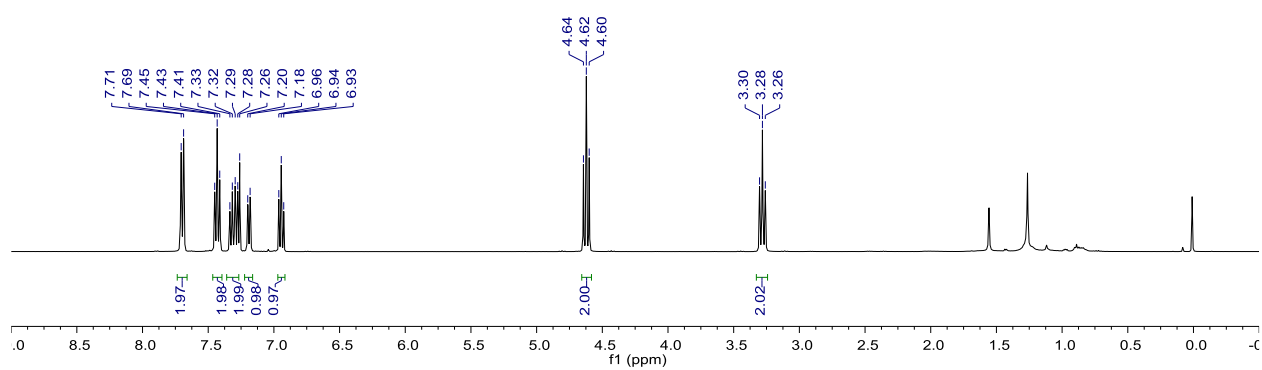


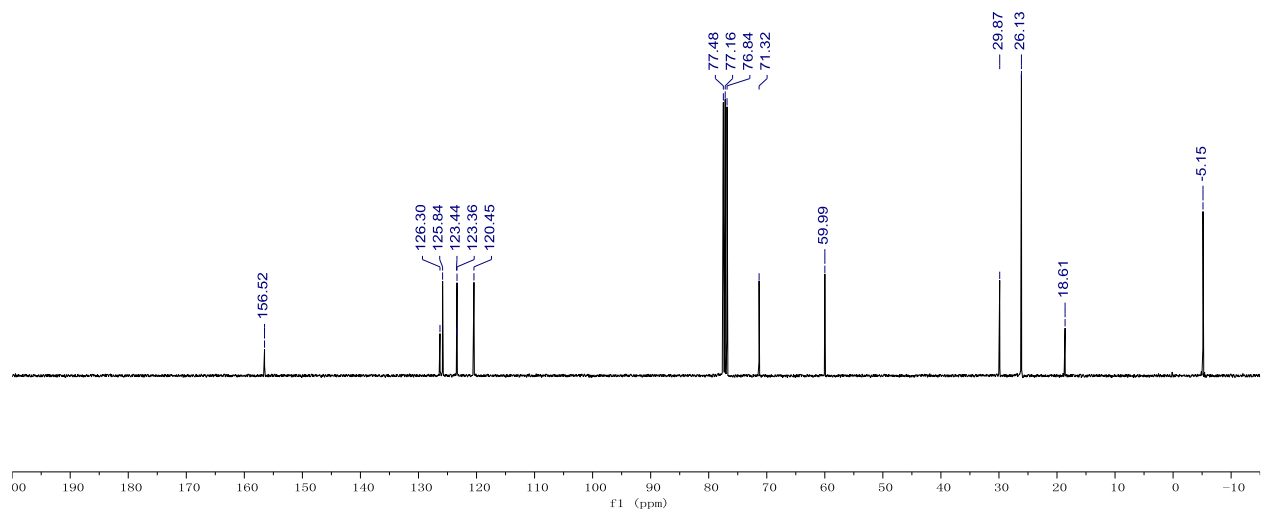
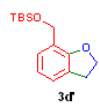
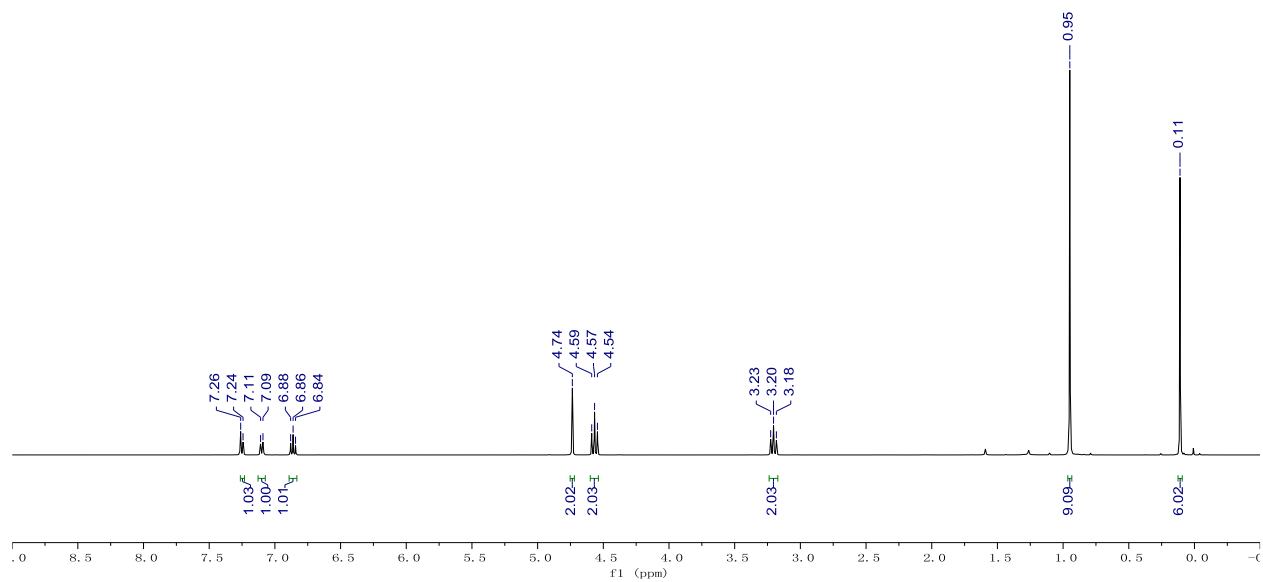
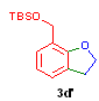


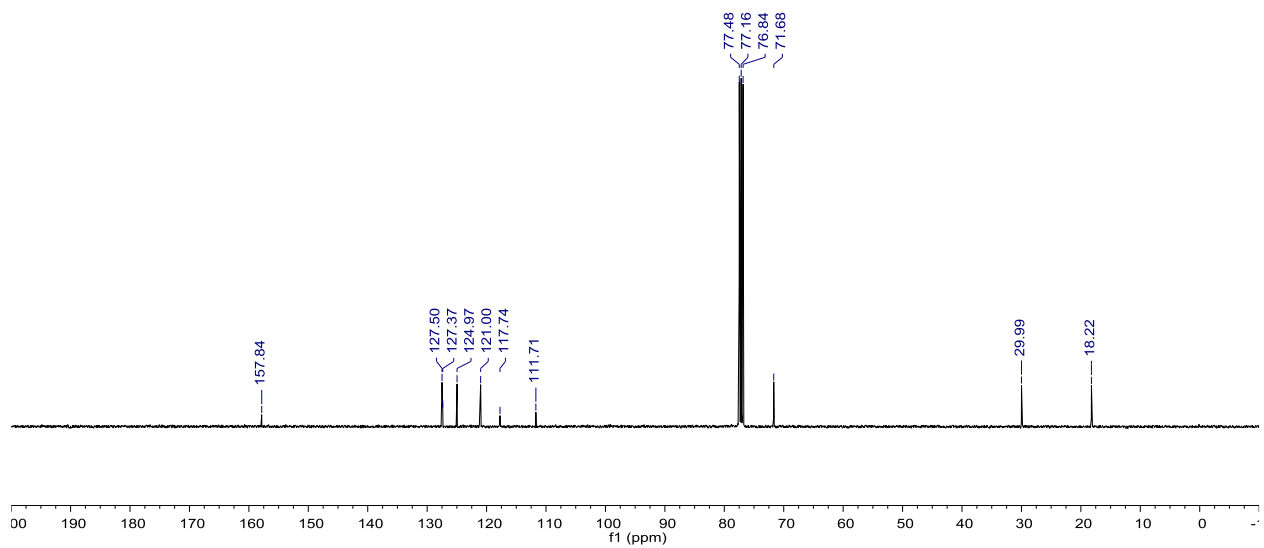
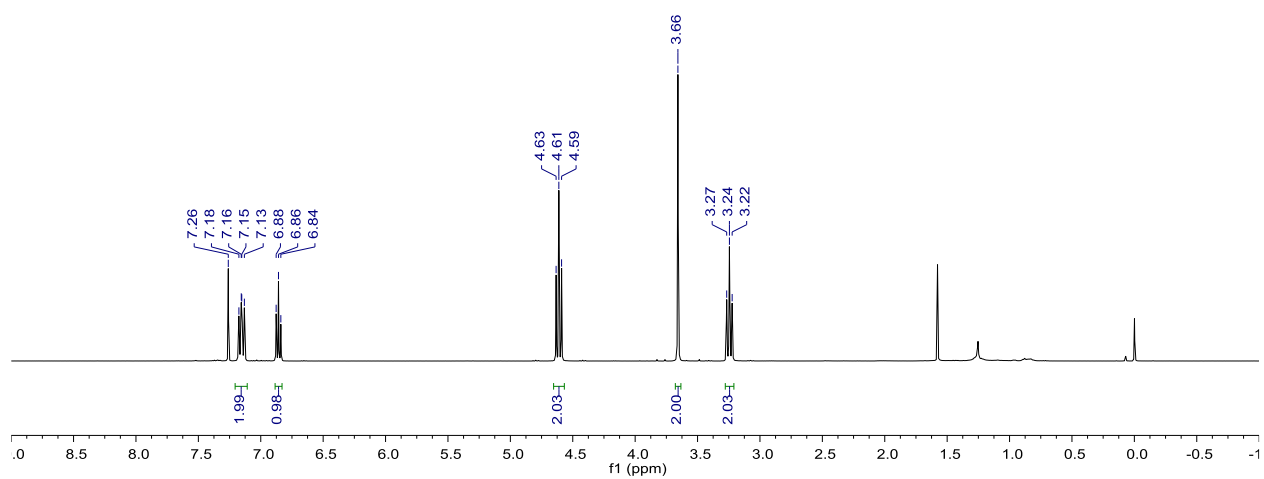
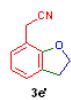


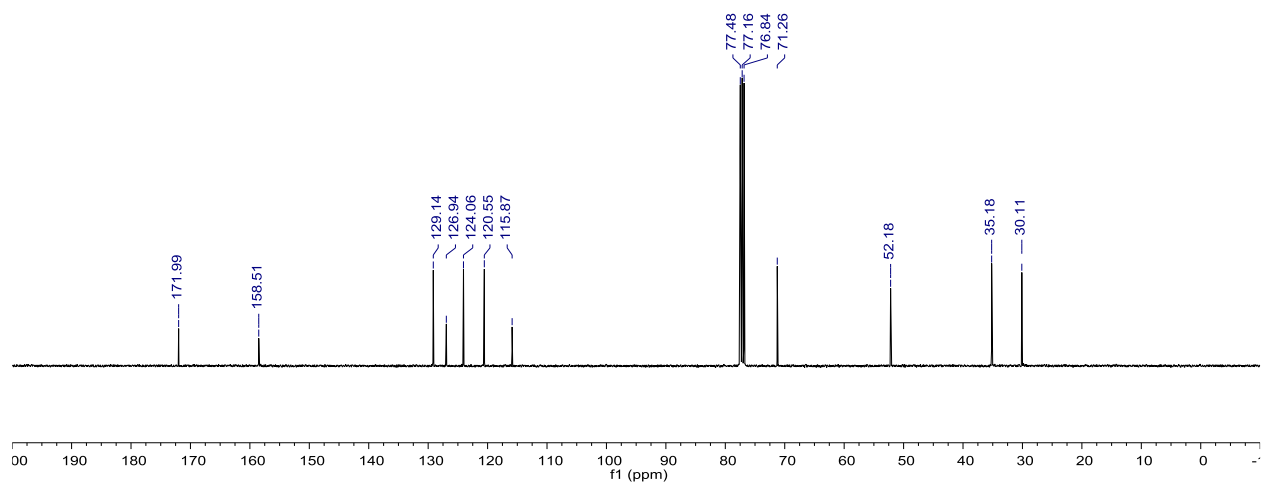
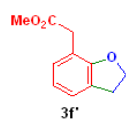
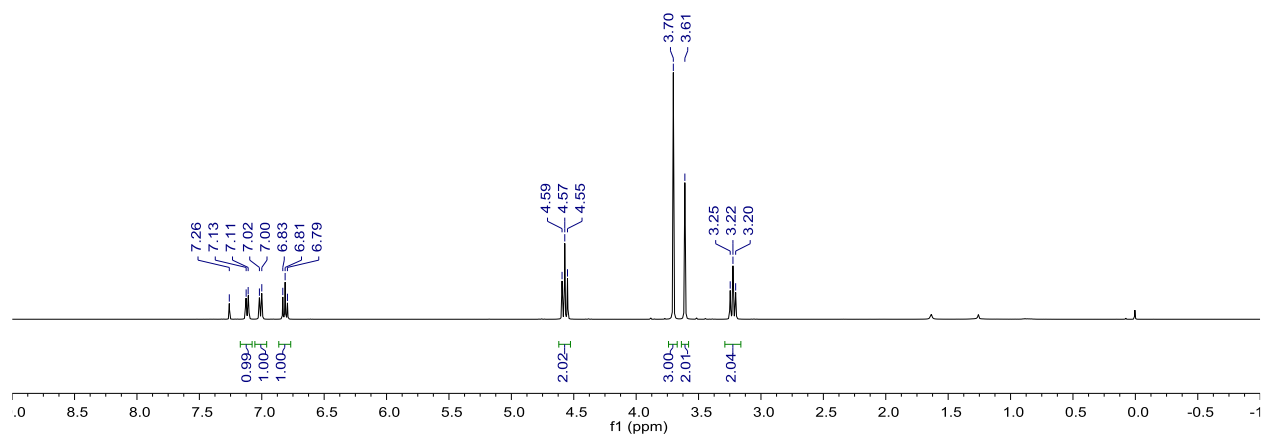
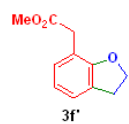


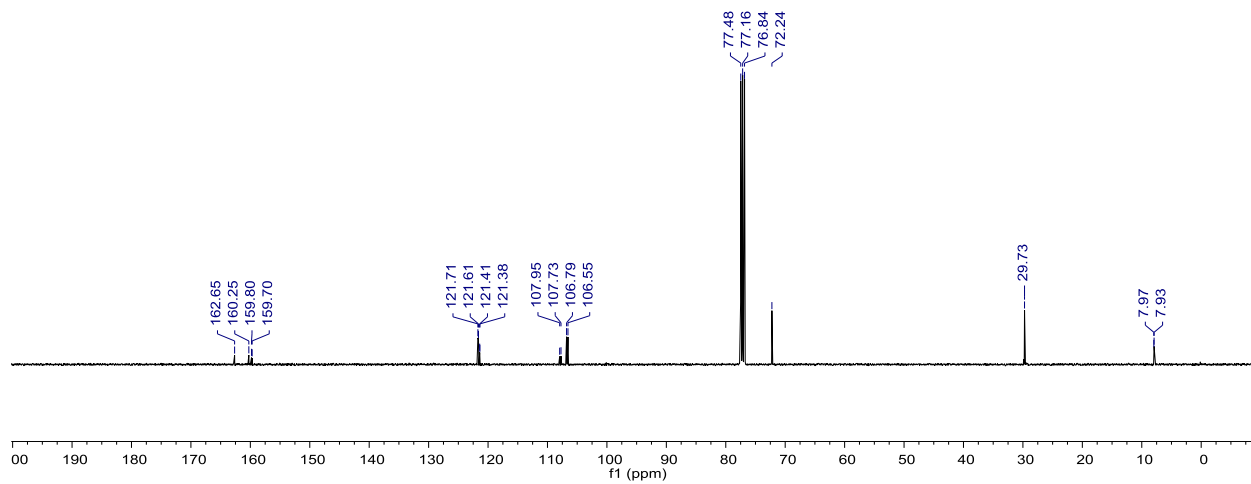
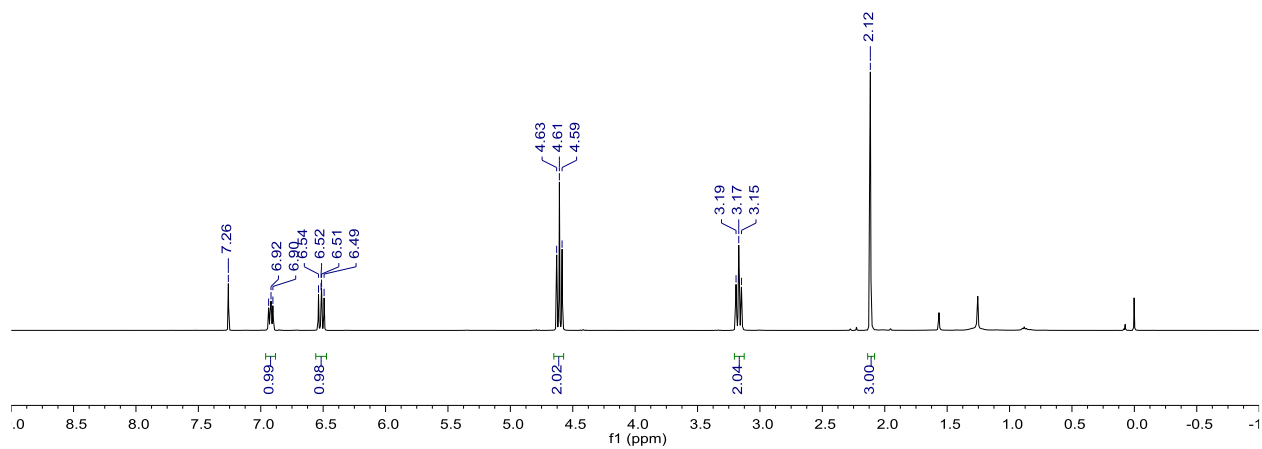


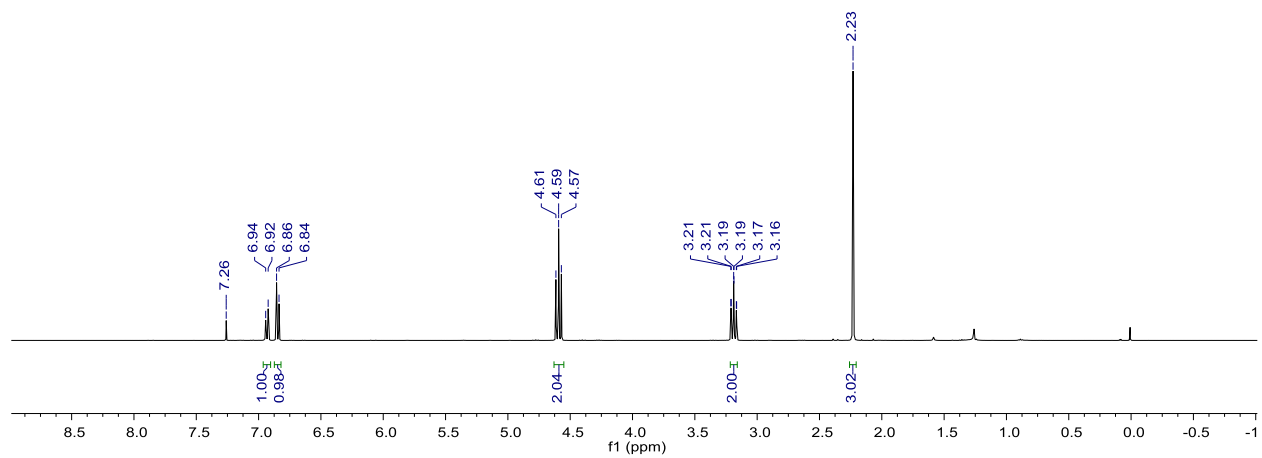
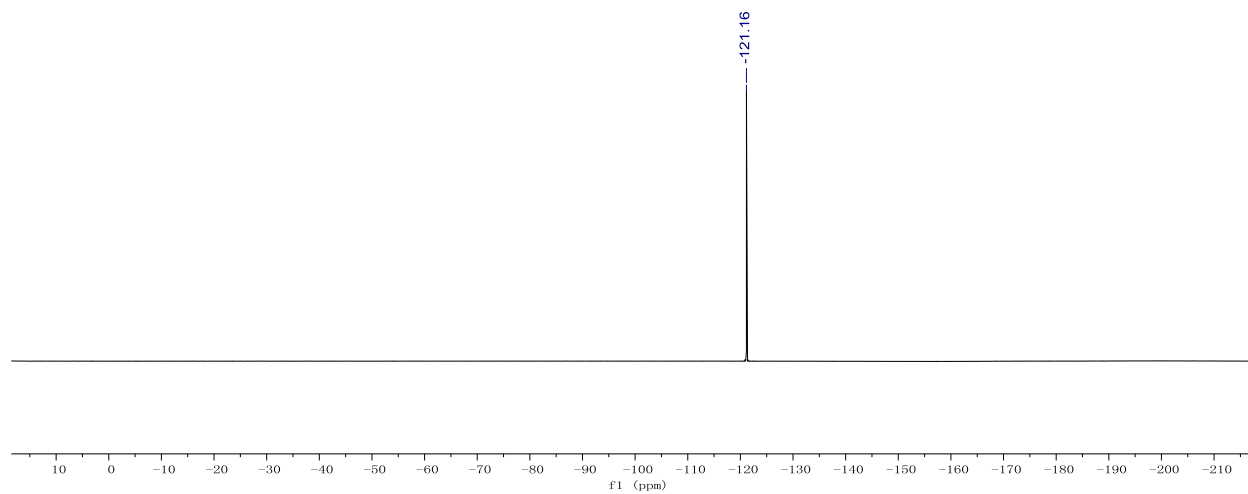


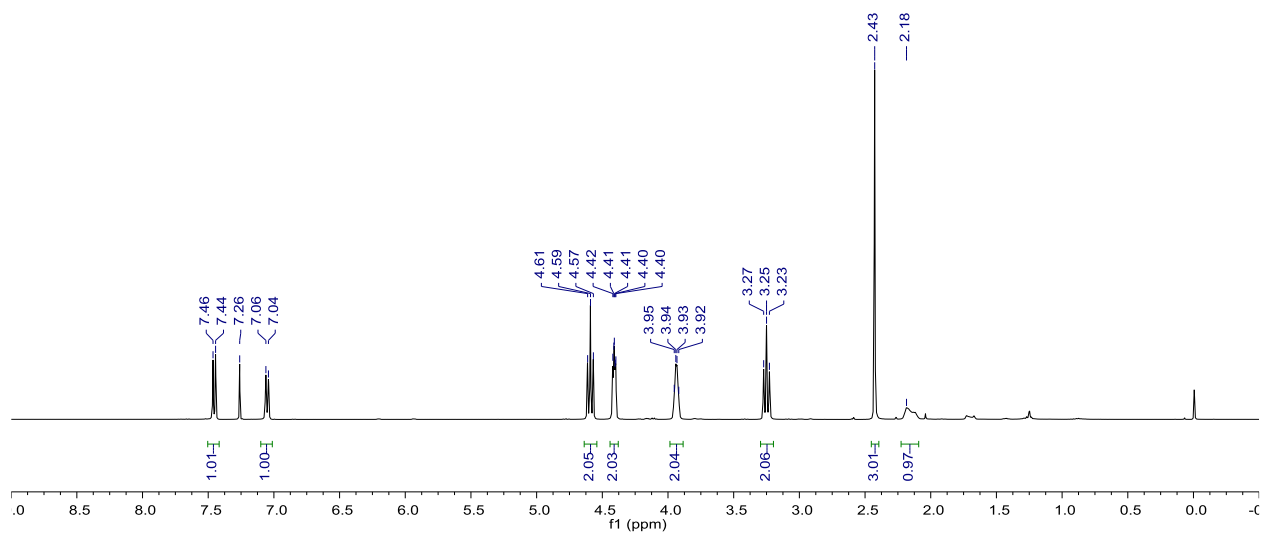
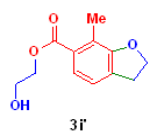
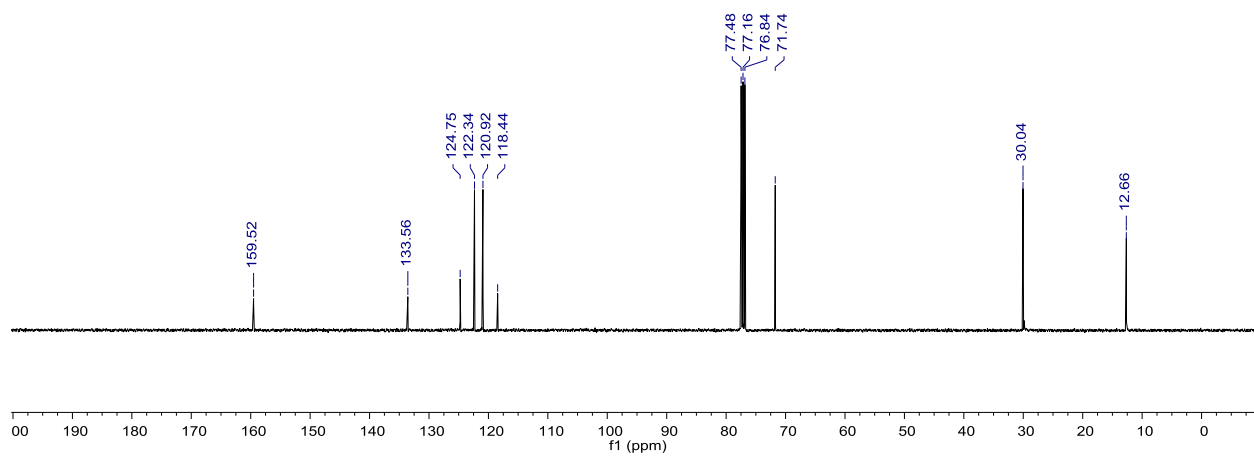


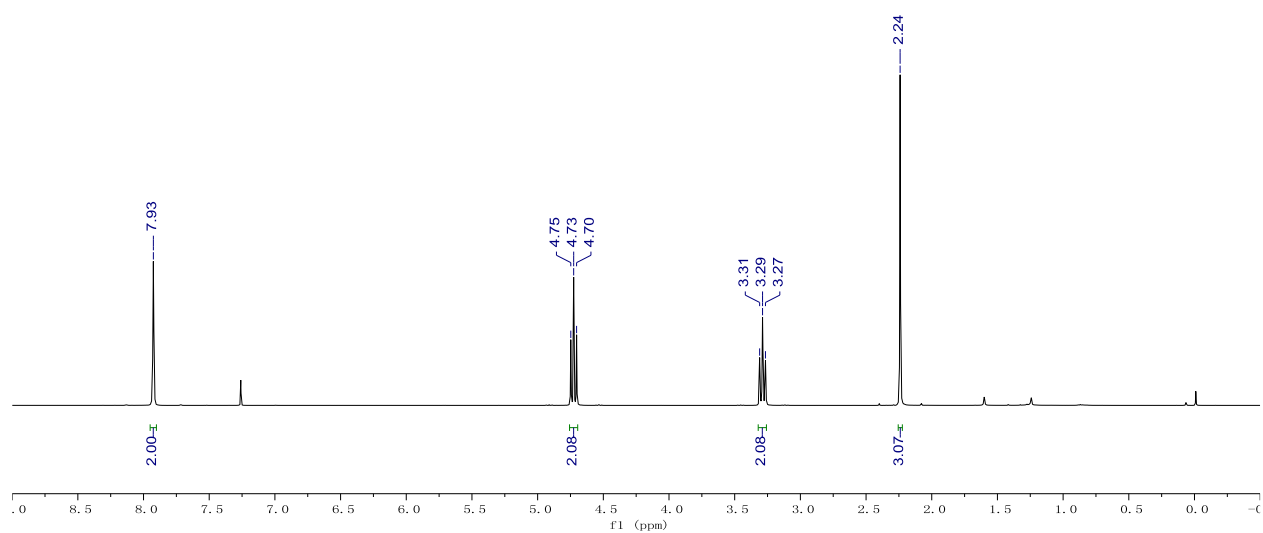
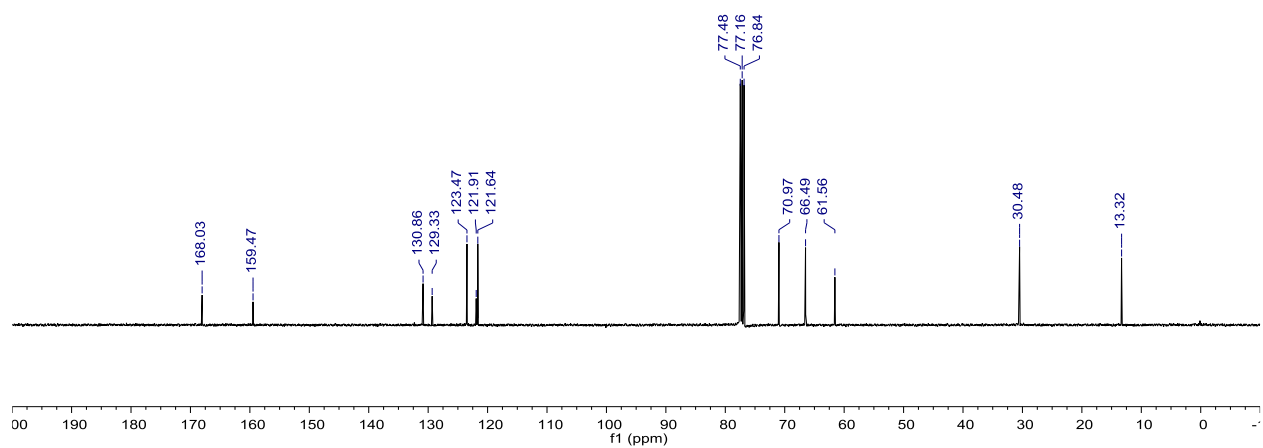
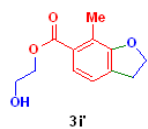


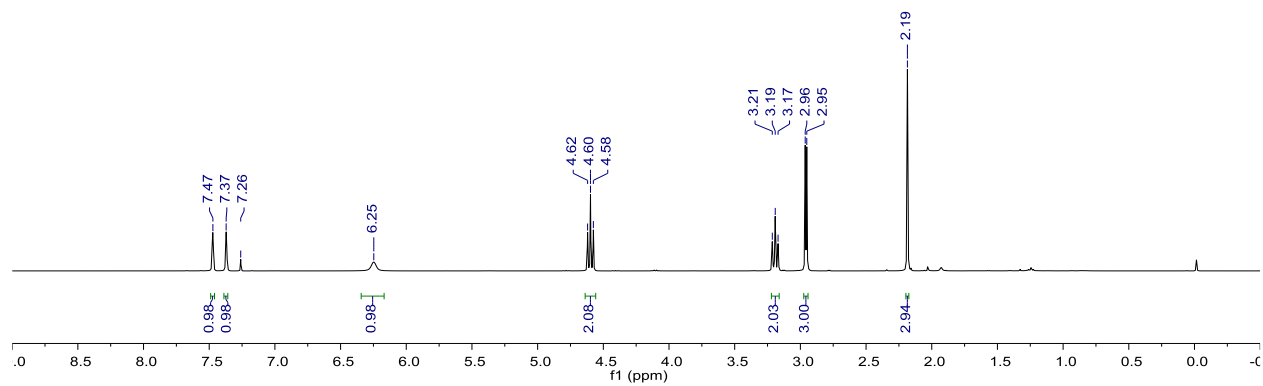
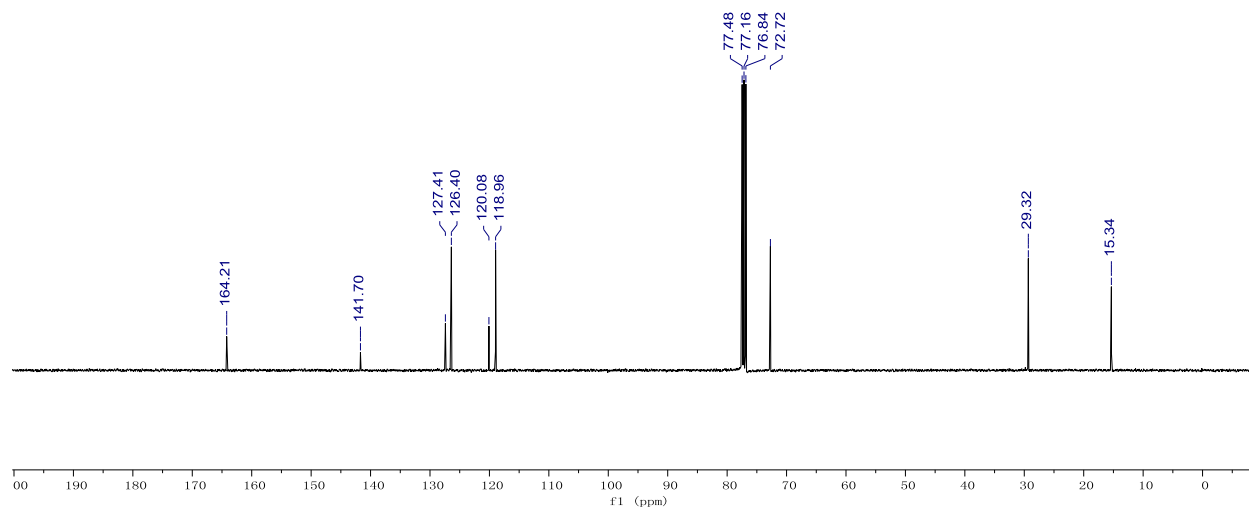


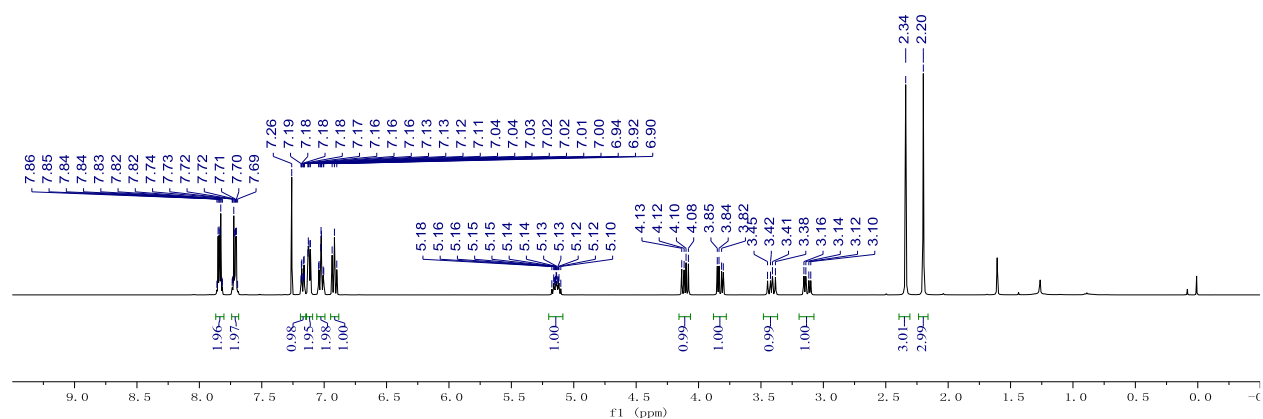
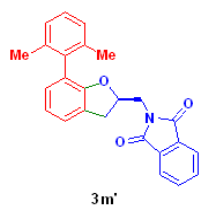
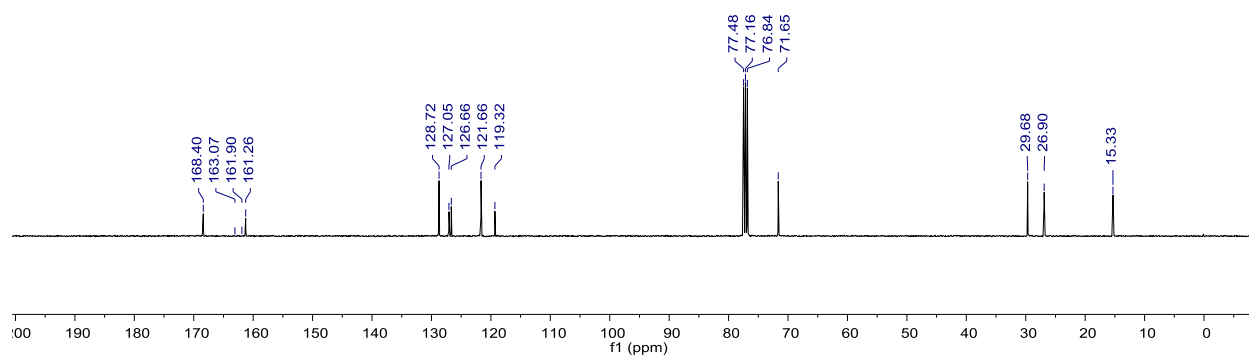


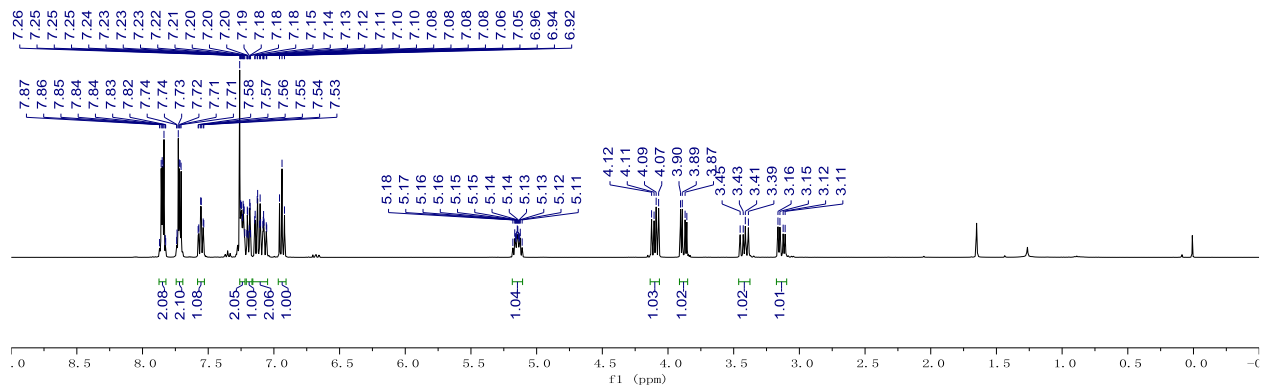
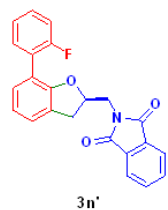
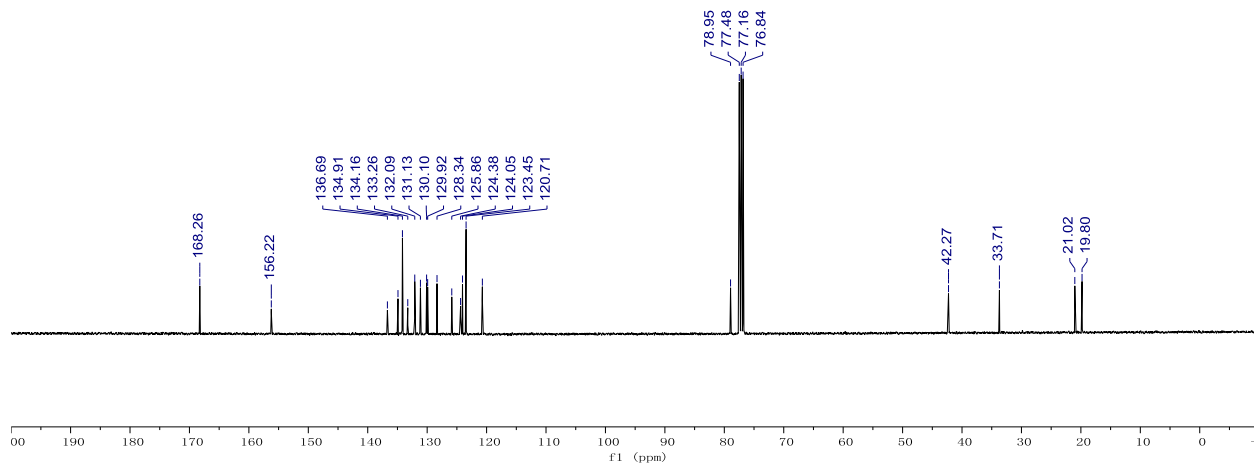
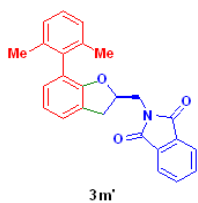


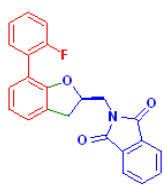




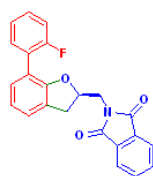
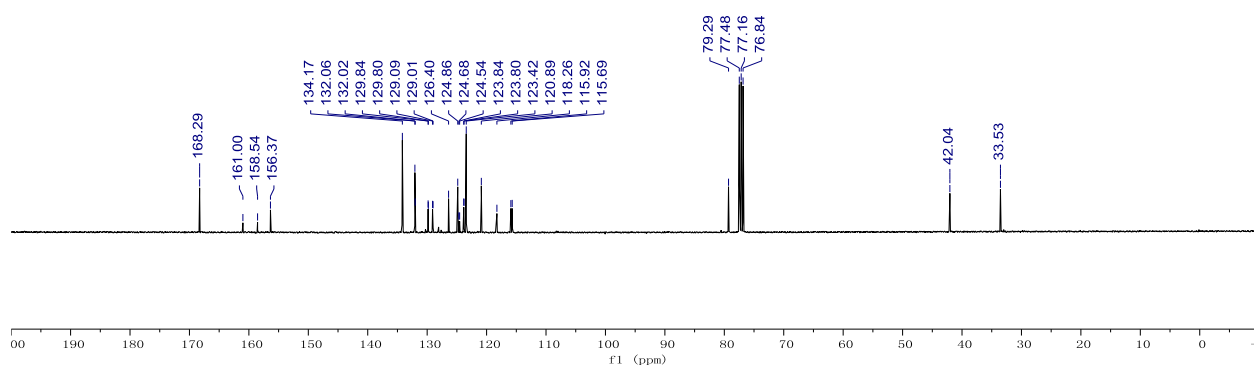




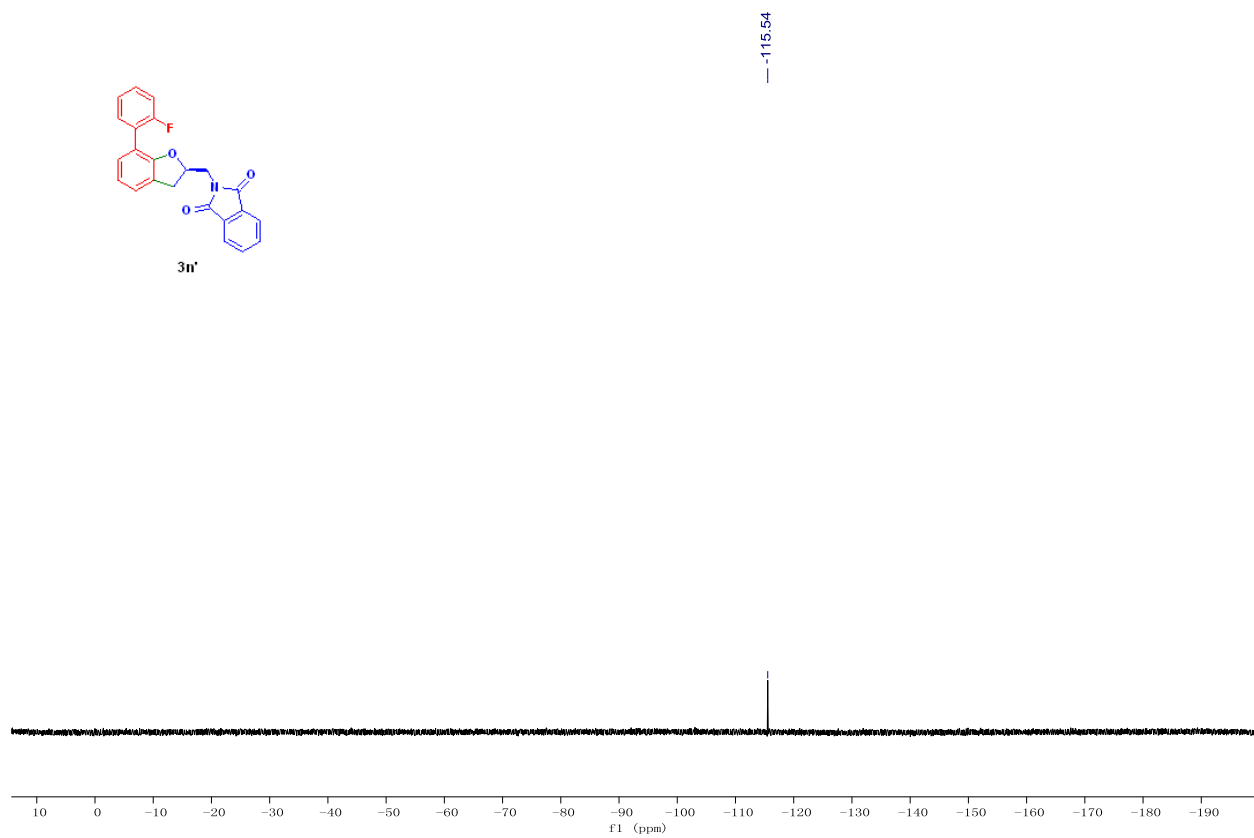


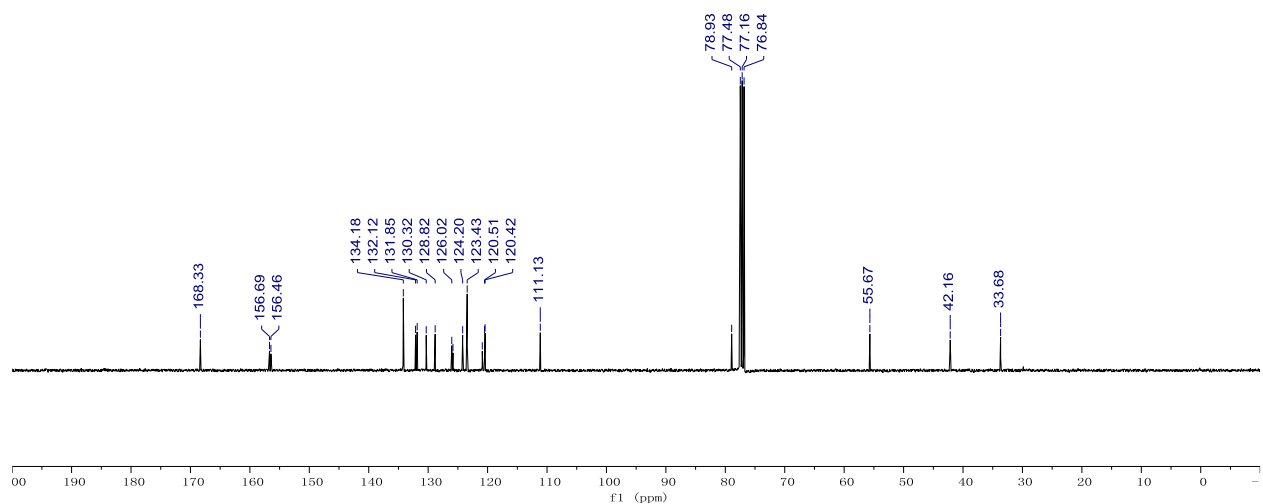
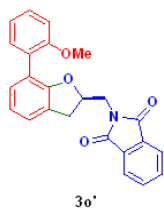
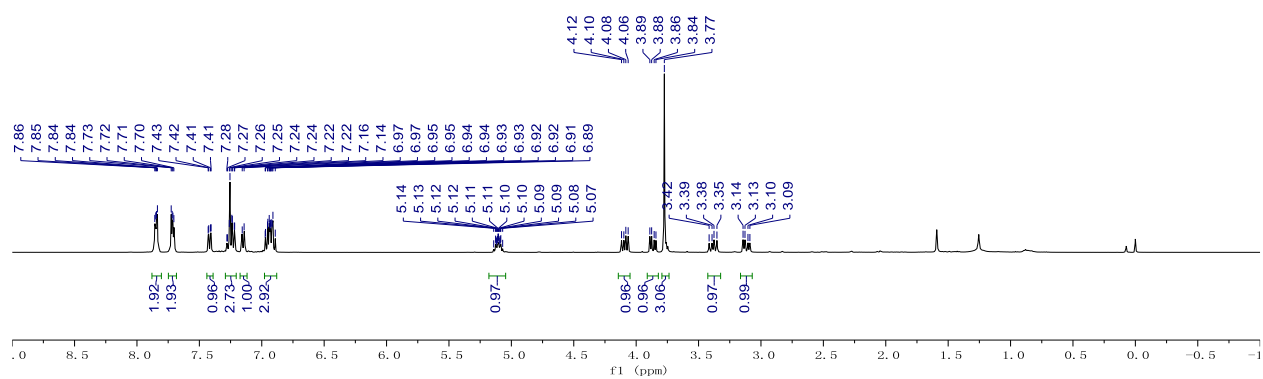
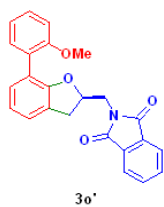


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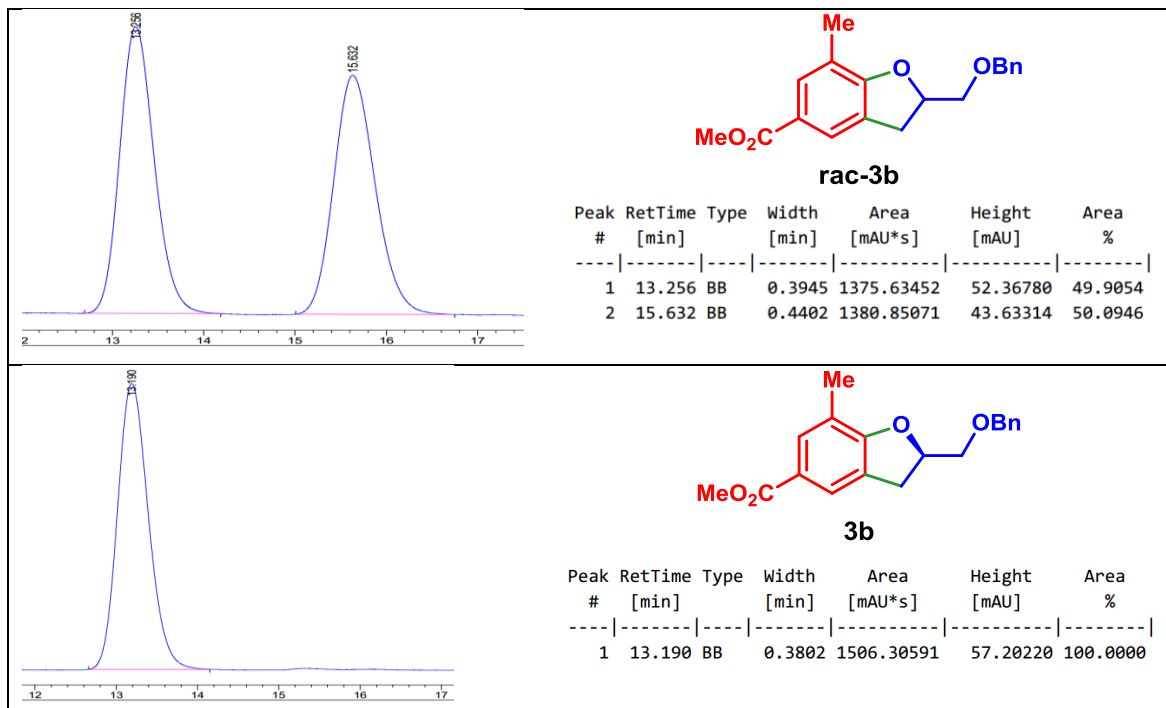


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7. Copies of HPLC chromatograms



8. Reference

[1] R. Li, G. Dong, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2018**, 57, 1697.