

## Direct Conjugate Additions Using Aryl and Alkyl Organic Halides in Air and Water

Feng Zhou <sup>[+]</sup><sup>1</sup>, Xiaoyun Hu <sup>[+]</sup><sup>1,2</sup>, Wanying Zhang<sup>1</sup> and Chao-Jun Li<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Chemistry and FQRNT Center for Green Chemistry and Catalysis, McGill

University, 801 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal, Quebec, H3A 0B8, Canada. <sup>[+]</sup>These

authors contributed equally to this work. \*Correspondence: cj.li@mcgill.ca

<sup>2</sup>College of Chemistry and Materials Science, South Central University for Nationalities,

Wuhan, 430074, P.R. China

### Supplmentary Information

#### Contents

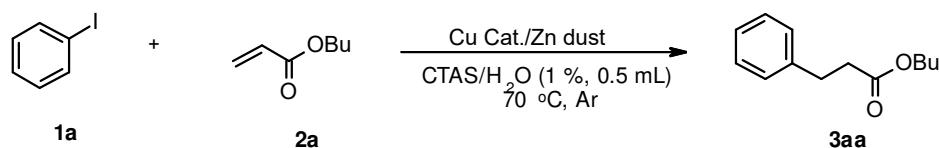
I	General Comments and Materials	S2
II	Supplementary Results of Condition Optimization	S2
	Typical Procedure for Copper-Catalyzed, Zinc-Mediated	
III	Intermolecular Arylation and Alkylation of Electron-Deficient Alkenes Using Organohalides in Air and Water	S5
	Typical Procedure for Copper-Catalyzed, Zinc-Mediated	
IV	Intermolecular Conjugate Addition of Iodobenzene to Butyl Acrylate in Air and Water Using L-2 as Ligand	S5
V	The Gram-Scale Synthesis	S6
VI	The Spectroscopic Data of Products	S7
VII	References	S15
VIII	Copies of <sup>1</sup> H, <sup>13</sup> C NMR Spectra of products	S16

## I. General Comments and Materials

All commercially available compounds were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Strem and Acros used as received. Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were weighed and handled in air and deionized water was used. For the optimization of reaction condition, the degassed water was used; for the reactions in substrate scope and scale-up reactions, there is no need to use degassed water. NMR spectra were recorded on Varian Mercury plus-300 spectrometer, Varian MERCURY plus-400 spectrometer, Varian VNMRS 500 spectrometer with proton resonances at 300/400/500 MHz and carbon resonances at 75/100/125 MHz, respectively. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm). The solvent residual peaks, e.g., of chloroform ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ :  $\delta$  7.26 ppm and  $\delta$  77.26 ppm), were used as references. Data are reported as following: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, dd = doublet of doublets, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad signal) and integration. Flash column chromatography was performed with Biotage Isolera with cartridge. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using Merck silica gel 60 F254 pre-coated plates (0.25 mm). HRMS were conducted through atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI) or electro-spraying ionization (ESI), and was performed by McGill University on a Thermo-Scientific Exactive Orbitrap. GC-MS were recorded on an Agilent 5975 GC-MS instrument (EI). Zinc dust was treated by the standard procedure (Armarego, W. L. F.; Chai, C. L. L. *Purification of Laboratory Chemicals; Elsevier Science*, **2003**) and other chemicals used as received. The complex  $\text{iPrS-CuCl}$  was prepared according to this reference<sup>1</sup>.

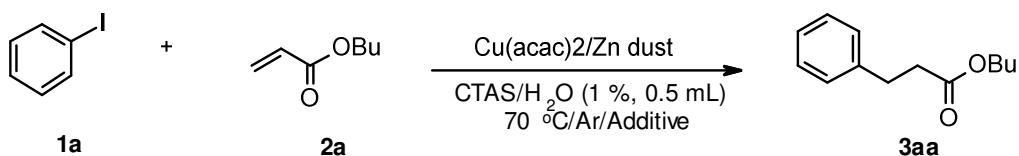
## II. Supplementary Results of Condition Optimization

**Table S1.** Survey of copper catalysts



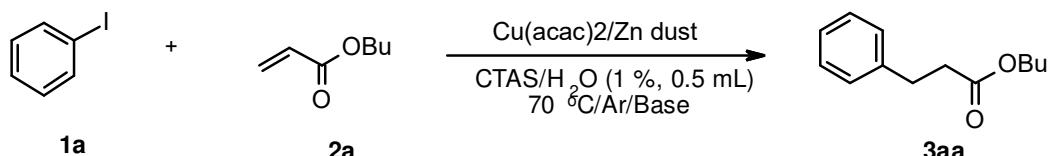
Entry	Cu Cat. (mol%)	Yield (%) <sup>1</sup>	Entry	Cu Cat. (mol%)	Yield (%) <sup>1</sup>
1	$\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2$ (5)	41	12	$\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ (10)	30
2	$\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2$ (20)	50	13	$\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2$ (10), $\text{hv(S)}$	25
3	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$ (10)	34	14	$\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2$ (10), rt, $\text{hv(W)}$	23
4	$\text{CuCl}_2$ (10)	29	15	$\text{CuCl}$ (10)	33
5	$\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ , toluene(10)	32	16	$\text{Cu}_2(\text{CN})_2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (10)	28
6	$\text{Cu}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CO}_2)_2$ (10)	38	17	$\text{CuI}$ (10)	37
7	$\text{CuO}$ (10)	41	18	$\text{CuBr}$ (10)	21
8	$\text{CuSO}_4$ (10)	29	19	$[\text{Cu}(\text{MeCN})_4]\text{PF}_6$ (10)	33
9	$\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ (10)	50	20	$\text{Cu}_2\text{Se}$ (10)	31
10	$\text{Cu}(\text{CF}_3\text{CO}_2)_2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (10)	36	21	$\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ (10)	28
11	$\text{CuBr}_2$ (10)	35	22	$\text{Cu}(\text{ClO}_4)_2\cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (10)	23

Conditions: Iodobenzene (**1a**) (0.6 mmol), butyl acrylate (**2a**) (0.2 mmol), Cu Cat. Zn dust (0.78 mmol), CTAS (1%,W/V)/H<sub>2</sub>O (0.5 mL), 70 °C , 24 h under argon. <sup>1</sup>The yields were determined by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR by using the trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard. CTAS = Cetyltrimethylammonium hydrogensulfate

**Table S2.** Influence of halide salts as additive

Entry	Additive (mol%)	Yield (%) <sup>1</sup>
1	LiF (20)	49
2	LiCl (20)	47
3	LiI (20)	49
4	acac (20)	45
5	I <sub>2</sub> (5)	41
6	BrCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> Br (10)	42
7	LiBr (20)	50
8	LiBr(100)	43
9	LiBr (500)	42

Conditions: Iodobenzene (**1a**) (0.6 mmol), butyl acrylate (**2a**) (0.2 mmol), Cu(acac)<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%). Zn dust (0.78 mmol), CTAS (1%,W/V) /H<sub>2</sub>O (0.5 mL), 70 °C , 24 h under argon. <sup>1</sup>The yields were determined by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR by using the trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard.

**Table S3.** Bases screening

Entry	Base (mol%)	Yield (%) <sup>1</sup>
1	KHCO <sub>3</sub> (20)	40
2	KOH (20)	15
3	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (20)	39
4	TMEDA (20)	23
5	DABCO (20)	39
6	DMAP (20)	56
7	DMAP (10)	57
8	DMAP (20)*	57
9	DMAP (50)	36
10	DMAP (100)	17

Conditions: Iodobenzene (**1a**) (0.6 mmol), butyl acrylate (**2a**) (0.2 mmol), Cu(acac)<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%). Zn dust (0.78 mmol), CTAS (1%,W/V) /H<sub>2</sub>O (0.5 mL), 70 °C , 24 h under argon. <sup>1</sup>The yields were determined by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR by using the trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard. \*Pre-mix Cu(acac)<sub>2</sub> and DMAP.

**Table S4.** Survey of ligands

<b>1a</b>	<b>2a</b>			<b>3aa</b>
50%	55%	60%	50%	63%
66%	64%	61%	58%	
54%	52%	70%	82%	

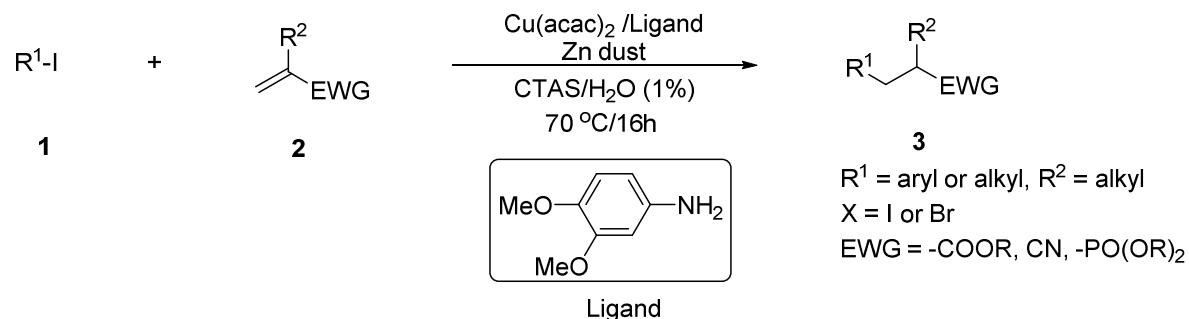
Conditions: Iodobenzene (**1a**) (0.6 mmol), butyl acrylate (**2a**) (0.2 mmol), Cu(acac)<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%), Zn dust (0.78 mmol), CTAS (1%,W/V) /H<sub>2</sub>O (0.5 mL), 70 °C , 24 h under argon. <sup>1</sup>The yields were determined by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR by using the trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard.

**Table S5.** Test of reaction temperature and time

<b>1a</b>	<b>2a</b>		<b>3aa</b>	Ligand
Entry	Temp. (°C)	Time (h)	Yield (%) <sup>1</sup>	
1	70	24	70	
2	70	5	62	
3 <sup>2</sup>	70	5	50	
4	50	46	64	
5	rt	46	60	

Conditions: Iodobenzene (**1a**) (0.6 mmol), butyl acrylate (**2a**) (0.2 mmol), Cu(acac)<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%), *p*-anisidine (20 mol%), Zn dust (0.78 mmol), CTAS (1%,W/V) /H<sub>2</sub>O (0.5 mL), temperature and time, under argon. <sup>1</sup>The yields were determined by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR by using the trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard. <sup>2</sup> Iodobenzene (0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was used.

### III. Typical Procedure for the Copper-Catalyzed, Zinc-Mediated Intermolecular Arylation and Alkylation of Electron-Deficient Alkenes Using Organohalides in Air and Water



To a microwave tube was charged with  $\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2$  (0.02 mmol, 5.2 mg), 3,4-dimethoxyaniline (0.04 mmol, 6.1 mg), Zinc dust (0.78 mmol, 50.7 mg). [Organiodide (0.40 mmol) or electron-deficient alkene (0.20 mmol) was added at this point if the compound is solid]. Then the solvent CTAS in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1% w/v) was injected via syringe, followed by the addition of iodobenzene (**1a**, 0.40 mmol, 81.6 mg, 45.0  $\mu\text{L}$ ) and butyl acrylate (**2a**, 0.20 mmol, 25.6 mg, 29.0  $\mu\text{L}$ ). The tube was then sealed. The reaction mixture was heated to 70 °C and stirred vigorously (1400 rpm) for 16 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was diluted with  $\text{EtOAc}$  (8 mL) and filtered through a short silica gel pad. The filter cake was further flushed with  $\text{EtOAc}$  (6 x 4 mL). The combined solution was concentrated under vacuum, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the analytically pure product **3aa** (32.2 mg, 78%).

Preparation of 1% of CTAS/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  solution: A 20 mL vial was charged with CTAS (Cetyltrimethylammonium hydrogensulfate) (100 mg). Then degassed water (10 mL) was added via syringe. The mixture was placed in a sonicator and oscillated for 10 min. Occasional vigorous shaking was essential for the formation of well-distributed emulsion. The emulsion was stored under argon. Before injecting it (1% w/v, 0.5 mL) into the reaction tube, shake it vigorously.

### IV. Typical Procedure for Copper-Catalyzed, Zinc-Mediated Intermolecular Conjugate Addition of Iodobenzene to Butyl Acrylate in Air and Water Using L-2 as Ligand

Preparation of ligand **L-1** and **L-2** according to the reference<sup>2</sup>: a mixture of acetylacetone (5.0 mmol, 0.5 mL), aniline (5.0 mmol, 0.62 g) and formic acid (1.0 mol%) in methanol (20 mL) was heated at 85 °C for 4 h. After cooling to room temperature, the product was precipitated out and collected as a solid. Then it was further recrystallized from a mixture of

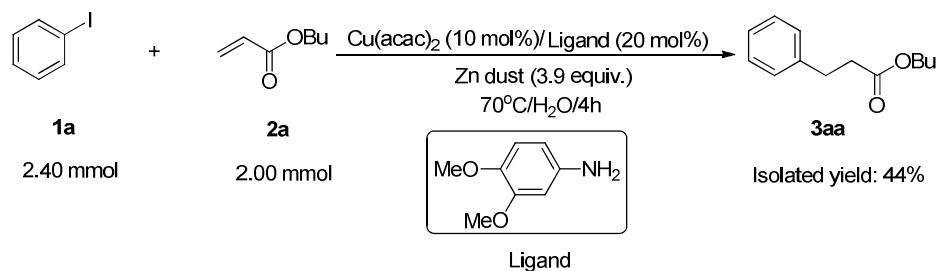
methanol/ether (6/4) to afford  $\beta$ -enaminone **L-2** (0.856 g, 78%).

**L-1:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  12.3 (s, 1H), 6.82 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.69–6.64 (m, 2H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.93 (s, 3H).

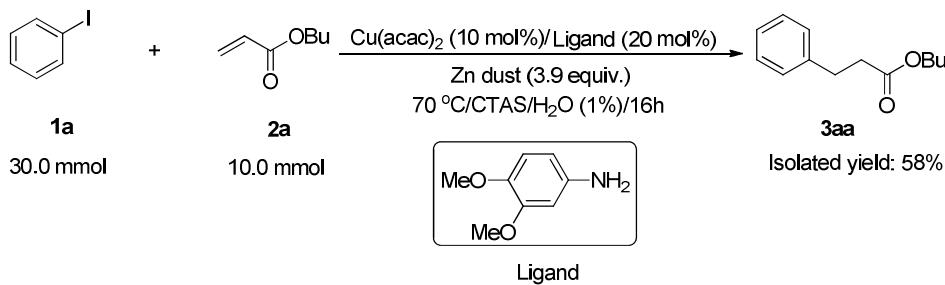
**L-2:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  12.29 (s, 1H), 7.04 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.08 (s, 3H), 1.90 (s, 3H).

To a Biotage microwave tube was charged with  $\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2$  (0.02 mmol, 5.2 mg), **L-2** (0.02 mmol, 4.1 mg), Zinc dust (0.78 mmol, 50.7 mg), followed by the addition of solvent CTAS in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1% w/v, 1.0 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 minutes. Then iodobenzene (**1a**, 0.40 mmol, 81.6 mg, 45  $\mu\text{L}$ ) and butyl acrylate (**2a**, 0.20 mmol, 25.6 mg, 30.0  $\mu\text{L}$ ) were injected. The reaction mixture was heated to 70 °C and stirred vigorously (1200 rpm) for 4 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was diluted with  $\text{EtOAc}$  (6 mL) and filtered through a short silica gel pad. The filter cake was further flushed with  $\text{EtOAc}$  (6 x 4 mL). The combined solution was concentrated under vacuum, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the analytically pure product **3aa** (20.3 mg, yield 49%).

## V. The Gram-Scale Synthesis



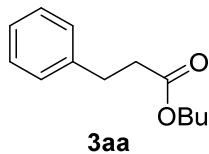
To a round-bottom flask was charged with  $\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2$  (0.20 mmol, 52.0 mg), 3,4-dimethoxyaniline (0.40 mmol, 61.0 mg), Zinc dust (7.8 mmol, 507 mg). The flask was plugged with a rubber stopper. The deionized water (5.0 mL) was injected via syringe, followed by the addition of iodobenzene (**1a**, 2.40 mmol, 490 mg, 0.274 mL) and butyl acrylate (**2a**, 2.00 mmol, 256 mg, 0.290 mL). The reaction mixture was heated to 70 °C and stirred vigorously (1200 rpm) for 4 h. After cooling to room temperature, water (15 mL) and  $\text{EtOAc}$  (15 mL) were added. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with  $\text{EtOAc}$  (3 x 25 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the product **3aa** (182 mg, 44%).



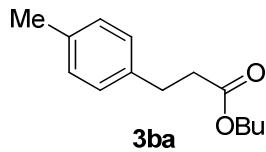
To a round-bottom flask was charged with  $\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2$  (1.00 mmol, 262 mg), 3,4-dimethoxyaniline (2.00mmol, 306 mg), Zinc dust (39.0 mmol, 2.54 g). The flask was plugged with a rubber stopper. Under an air atmosphere, 1% of CTAS/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (15.0 mL) was injected via syringe, followed by the addition of iodobenzene (**1a**, 30.0 mmol, 6.13 g, 3.50 mL) and butyl acrylate (**2a**, 10.0 mmol, 1.28 g, 1.50 mL). The reaction mixture was heated to 70 °C and stirred vigorously (1200 rpm) for 16 h. After cooling to room temperature,  $\text{EtOAc}$  (15 mL) were added. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with  $\text{EtOAc}$  (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the product **3aa** (1.191 g, 58%).

## VI. The Spectroscopic Data of Products

For the known compounds,  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  and  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  data and spectra, as well as MS data are provided. Full characterization data are provided for compounds **3ka**, **3ja**, **3ha**, **3cc**, **3ib**, **3la**, **3ae**, **3kd**, **3cf**, **3ee**, **3ad**, **3cd**, **3ce**, **3ec**, **3ed**, **3ic** and **3ke**.

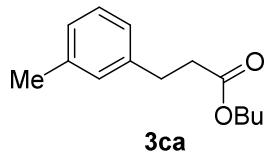


**Butyl 3-phenylpropanoate (3aa)<sup>3</sup>:** 32.2 mg, 78% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.31-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.19 (m, 3H), 4.08 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.63 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.60-1.57 (m, 2H), 1.38-1.31 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  173.2, 140.8, 128.7, 128.5, 126.5, 64.6, 36.2, 31.3, 30.9, 19.3, 13.9. MS (EI) m/z: 206.1

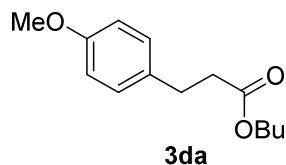


**Butyl 3-(*p*-tolyl)propanoate (3ba)<sup>4</sup>:** 38.3 mg, 78% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.10 (s, 4H), 4.08 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.92 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.62-1.56 (m, 2H), 1.37-1.33 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  173.3, 137.7, 135.9, 129.4, 128.4, 64.5, 36.3, 30.9, 30.8, 21.2, 19.3, 13.9. MS (EI)

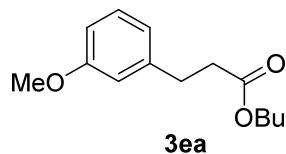
m/z: 220.1



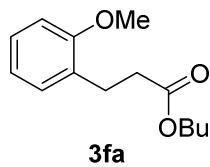
**Butyl 3-(*m*-tolyl)propanoate (3ca)<sup>5</sup>:** 25.5 mg, 58% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.20-7.17 (m, 1H), 7.03-7.00 (m, 3H), 4.08 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.92 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.62-1.57 (m, 2H), 1.38-1.33 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.3, 140.7, 138.2, 129.3, 128.6, 127.2, 125.5, 64.5, 36.2, 31.2, 30.9, 21.6, 19.3, 13.9. MS (EI) m/z: 220.1



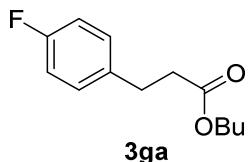
**Butyl 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propanoate (3da)<sup>5</sup>:** 22.7 mg, 48% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.13-7.10 (m, 2H), 6.84-6.81 (m, 2H), 4.06 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.89 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.59-1.56 (m, 2H), 1.36-1.32 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.3, 158.3, 132.9, 129.5, 114.1, 64.6, 55.5, 36.5, 30.9, 30.4, 19.4, 14.0. MS (EI) m/z: 236.1



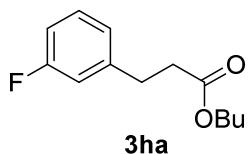
**Butyl 3-(3-methoxyphenyl)propanoate (3ea)<sup>6</sup>:** 19.8 mg, 42% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.22-7.18 (m, 1H), 6.80-6.74 (m, 3H), 4.08 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.93 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.60-1.57 (m, 2H), 1.37-1.33 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.2, 159.9, 142.4, 129.7, 120.9, 114.3, 111.8, 64.6, 55.4, 36.1, 31.3, 30.9, 19.4, 13.9. MS (EI) m/z: 236.1



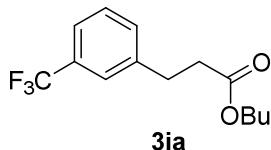
**Butyl 3-(2-methoxyphenyl)propanoate (3fa)<sup>6</sup>:** 12.3 mg, 26% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.21-7.14 (m, 2H), 6.89-6.83 (m, 2H), 4.07 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.94 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.60 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.62-1.57 (m, 2H), 1.39-1.32 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.9, 157.7, 130.2, 129.1, 127.8, 120.6, 110.4, 64.5, 55.4, 34.5, 30.9, 26.4, 19.4, 14.0. MS (EI) m/z: 236.1



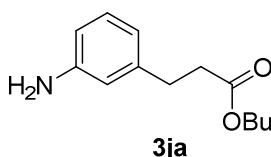
**Butyl 3-(4-fluorophenyl)propanoate (3ga)<sup>5</sup>:** 16.6 mg, 37% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.17-7.14 (m, 2H), 6.98-6.95 (m, 2H), 4.06 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.92 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.60 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.59-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.36-1.31 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.1, 162.7, 160.7, 136.4 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 129.9 (d, J = 7.8 Hz), 115.5 (d, J = 21.2 Hz), 64.6, 36.3, 30.9, 30.4, 19.3, 13.9. MS (EI) m/z: 224.1



**Butyl 3-(3-fluorophenyl)propanoate (3ha):** 17.0 mg, 38% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.24-7.22 (m, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.91-6.87 (m, 2H), 4.07 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.95 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.60-1.55 (m, 2H), 1.36-1.32 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.9, 164.1, 162.2, 143.3 (d, J = 7.3 Hz), 130.1 (d, J = 8.3 Hz), 124.2 (d, J = 2.8 Hz), 115.4 (d, J = 21.1 Hz), 113.4 (d, J = 21.0 Hz), 64.7, 35.8, 30.92 (d, J = 1.7 Hz), 30.88, 19.3, 13.9. HRMS calcd C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>FO<sub>2</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 247.1105. Found: 247.1105

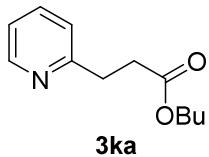


**Butyl 3-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (3ia)<sup>7</sup>:** 14.2 mg, 26% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.47-7.39 (m, 4H), 4.07 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.01 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.59-1.56 (m, 2H), 1.35-1.29 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.5, 141.4, 131.8, 130.8 (q, J = 32.0 Hz), 128.9, 125.1 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 124.1 (q, J = 270 Hz), 123.2 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 64.5, 35.6, 30.7, 30.6, 19.1, 13.7. MS (EI) m/z: 274.1

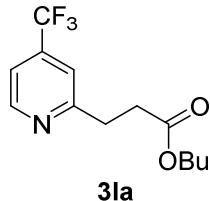


**Butyl 3-(3-aminophenyl)propanoate (3ja):** 5.3 mg, 12% yield, yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.08-7.05 (m, 1H), 6.61-6.52 (m, 3H), 4.07 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.69 (brs, 2H),

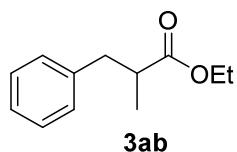
2.87-2.84 (m, 2H), 2.61-2.58 (m, 2H), 1.62-1.58 (m, 2H), 1.38-1.33 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  173.4, 146.7, 142.1, 129.6, 118.8, 115.3, 113.3, 64.6, 36.1, 31.2, 30.9, 19.4, 14.0. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$  [M+H] $^+$ : 222.1488. Found: 222.1488



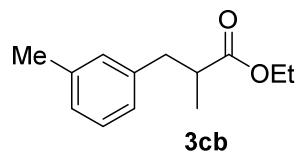
**Butyl 3-(pyridin-2-yl)propanoate (3ka):** 27.7 mg, 67% yield, yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.52 (d,  $J$  = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (td,  $J$  = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.19-7.09 (m, 2H), 4.06 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.11 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.80 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.60-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.35-1.31 (m, 2H), 0.90 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  173.4, 160.4, 149.5, 136.6, 123.2, 121.6, 64.6, 33.7, 33.2, 30.9, 19.3, 13.9. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$  [M+H] $^+$ : 208.1332. Found: 208.1331



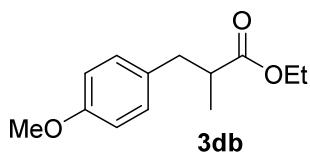
**Butyl 3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridin-2-yl)propanoate (3la):** 30.8 mg, 56% yield, yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.69 (d,  $J$  = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.19 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.84 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.59-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.36-1.30 (m, 2H), 0.90 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  173.0, 162.0, 150.5, 138.8 (q,  $J$  = 33.9 Hz), 123.1 (q,  $J$  = 273.2 Hz), 118.9 (q,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz), 117.2 (q,  $J$  = 3.5 Hz), 64.7, 33.2, 33.1, 30.9, 19.3, 13.9. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_2$  [M+H] $^+$ : 276.1206. Found: 276.1205



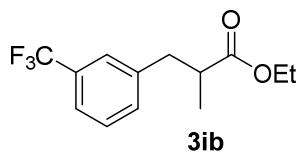
**Ethyl 2-methyl-3-phenylpropanoate (3ab)<sup>8</sup>:** 23.0 mg, 60% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.29-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.16 (m, 3H), 4.09 (q,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.02 (dd,  $J$  = 13.0, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.74-2.64 (m, 2H), 1.19 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.15 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  176.4, 139.7, 129.2, 128.6, 126.5, 60.5, 41.8, 40.0, 17.0, 14.4. MS (EI) m/z: 192.1



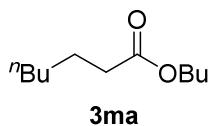
**Ethyl 2-methyl-3-(3-methylphenyl)propanoate (3cb)<sup>9</sup>:** 24.7 mg, 60% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.18-7.15 (m, 1H), 7.02-6.96 (m, 3H), 4.10 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.99 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.72-2.60 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.15 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.4, 139.6, 138.1, 130.0, 128.4, 127.2, 126.2, 60.5, 41.7, 39.9, 21.6, 17.0, 14.4. MS (EI) m/z: 206.1



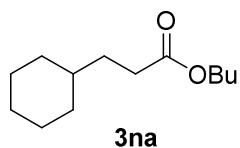
**Ethyl 2-methyl-3-(3-methoxylphenyl)propanoate (3db)<sup>10</sup>:** 9.32 mg, 21% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.09 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.95 (dd, *J* = 13.2, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.68-2.59 (m, 2H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.14 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.4, 158.3, 131.7, 130.2, 114.0, 60.5, 55.5, 42.0, 39.1, 17.0, 14.4. MS (EI) m/z: 222.1



**Ethyl 2-methyl-3-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (3ib):** 17.7 mg, 34% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.47-7.35 (m, 4H), 4.08 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.08-3.03 (m, 1H), 2.77-2.71 (m, 2H), 1.19-1.16 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 175.8, 140.6, 132.7, 130.9 (q, *J* = 32.0 Hz), 129.0, 125.9 (q, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 124.4 (q, *J* = 270 Hz), 123.5 (q, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 60.7, 41.6, 39.7, 17.2, 14.3. MS (EI) m/z: 260.1. HRMS calcd C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 261.1097. Found: 261.1095

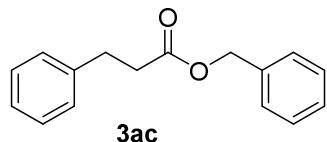


**Butyl heptanoate (3ma)<sup>11</sup>:** 26.0 mg, 70% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 4.06 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.29 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.62-1.59 (m, 4H), 1.31-1.25 (m, 8H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.3, 64.3, 34.7, 31.7, 31.0, 29.1, 25.2, 22.7, 19.4, 14.3, 14.0. MS (EI) m/z: 186.1

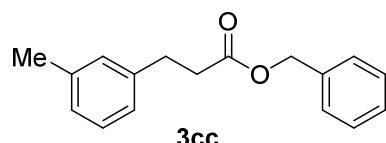


**Butyl 3-cyclohexylpropanoate (3na)<sup>12</sup>:** 37.3 mg, 88% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 4.06 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.31-2.28 (m, 2H), 1.71-1.57 (m, 7H), 1.52 (dd, *J* = 15.4, 7.1

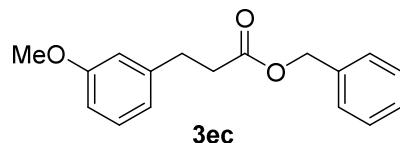
Hz, 2H), 1.40-1.35 (m, 2H), 1.22-1.20 (m, 4H), 0.95-0.84 (m, 5H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  174.3, 64.1, 37.3, 33.0, 32.4, 30.0, 30.7, 26.6, 26.2, 19.2, 13.7. MS (EI) m/z: 212.1



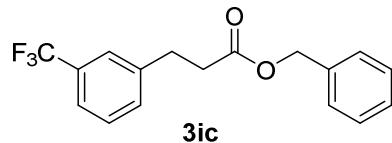
**Benzyl 3-phenylpropanoate (3ac)**<sup>13</sup>: 34.6 mg, 72% yield, colorless oil,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38-7.28 (m, 7H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 3H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 2.99 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.70 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.9, 140.6, 136.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 126.5, 66.5, 36.1, 31.2. MS (EI) m/z: 240.1



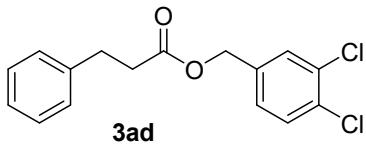
**Benzyl 3-(m-tolyl)propanoate (3cc)**<sup>14</sup>: 31.0 mg, 61% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38-7.31 (m, 5H), 7.18 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.04-6.99 (m, 3H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 2.95 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.69 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  173.0, 140.6, 138.3, 136.2, 129.3, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 127.2, 125.5, 66.5, 36.2, 31.1, 21.6. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_2\text{Na} [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 277.1199. Found: 277.1201



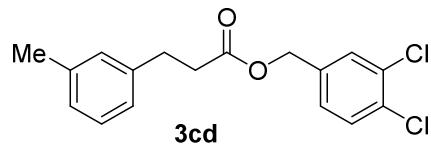
**Benzyl 3-(3-methoxyphenyl)propanoate (3ec)**: 23.2 mg, 43% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.36-7.31 (m, 5H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 1H), 6.80-6.75 (m, 3H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.96 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.69 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.9, 159.9, 142.3, 136.2, 129.7, 128.8, 128.4, 120.9, 114.2, 111.9, 66.5, 55.4, 36.0, 31.2. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_3\text{Na} [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 277.1148. Found: 277.1144



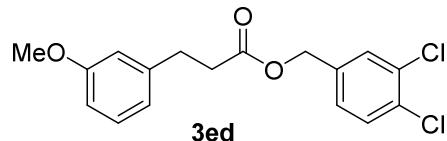
**Benzyl 3-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (3ic)**: 17.2 mg, 28% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.47-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.29 (m, 7H), 5.11 (s, 2H), 3.03 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.71 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.5, 141.5, 136.0, 132.0, 131.1 (q,  $J = 32.0$  Hz), 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 125.3 (q,  $J = 3.8$  Hz), 124.4 (q,  $J = 270.0$  Hz), 123.5 (q,  $J = 3.8$  Hz), 66.7, 35.8, 30.9. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{O}_2\text{Na} [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 331.0916. Found: 331.0908



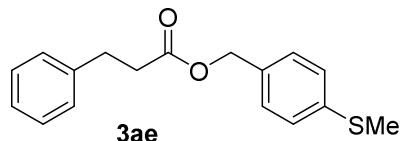
**3,4-Dichlorobenzyl 3-phenylpropanoate (3ad):** 43.3 mg, 70% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.41-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.17 (m, 3H), 7.11-7.09 (m, 1H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 2.97 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.70 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.7, 140.4, 136.4, 132.9, 132.5, 130.8, 130.3, 128.8, 128.5, 127.6, 126.6, 64.9, 36.0, 31.1. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na} [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 331.0263. Found: 331.0254



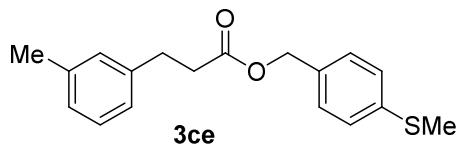
**3,4-Dichlorobenzyl 3-(m-tolyl)propanoate (3cd):** 32.9 mg, 51% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.41-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.17 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.11 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.03-6.97 (m, 3H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 2.93 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.69 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.8, 140.3, 138.4, 136.4, 132.9, 132.5, 130.8, 130.3, 129.3, 128.7, 127.6, 127.4, 125.5, 64.9, 36.0, 31.1, 21.6. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na} [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 345.0420. Found: 345.0412



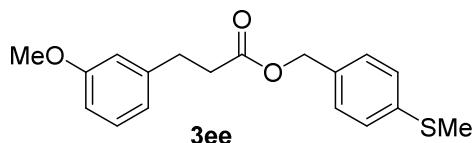
**3,4-dichlorobenzyl 3-(3-methoxyphenyl)propanoate (3ed):** 30.5 mg, 45% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.41-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.20 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.11 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.78-6.73 (m, 3H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.95 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.70 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.7, 159.9, 142.0, 136.3, 132.9, 132.5, 130.7, 130.3, 129.7, 127.6, 120.8, 114.3, 111.9, 64.9, 55.4, 35.9, 31.1. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_3\text{Na} [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 361.0369. Found: 361.0361



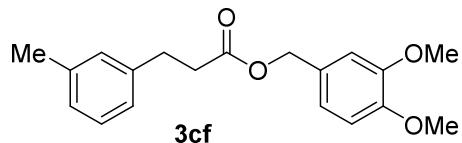
**4-(Methylthio)benzyl 3-phenylpropanoate (3ae):** 37.8 mg, 66% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.28 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.23 (s, 4H), 7.20 (dd,  $J = 14.6, 7.4$  Hz, 3H), 5.07 (s, 2H), 2.97 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.68 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.9, 140.6, 139.0, 132.9, 129.1, 128.7, 128.5, 126.8, 126.5, 66.1, 36.1, 31.2, 16.0. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{NaSO}_2 [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 309.0920. Found: 309.0918



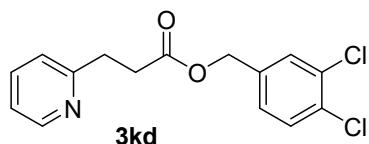
**4-(Methylthio)benzyl 3-(*m*-tolyl)propanoate (3ce):** 34.2 mg, 57% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.29 (dd,  $J = 13.6, 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.23 (s, 3H), 7.16 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.02-6.97 (m, 3H), 5.06 (s, 2H), 2.92 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.66 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  173.0, 140.6, 139.0, 138.3, 132.9, 129.3, 129.14, 128.6, 127.2, 126.8, 125.5, 66.1, 36.2, 31.1, 21.6, 16.0. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{NaSO}_2$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 323.1076. Found: 323.1076



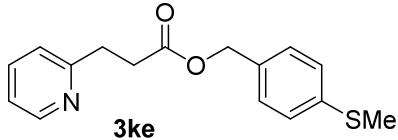
**4-(Methylthio)benzyl 3-(3-methoxyphenyl)propanoate (3ee):** 36.0 mg, 57% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.23 (s, 4H), 7.19 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.78-6.74 (m, 3H), 5.07 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.94 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.67 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.9, 159.9, 142.2, 139.0, 132.9, 129.7, 129.1, 126.7, 120.8, 114.2, 111.9, 66.2, 55.4, 36.0, 31.2, 16.0. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_3\text{NaS}$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 339.1025. Found: 339.1025



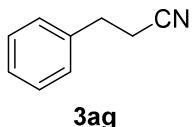
**3,4-Dimethoxybenzyl 3-(*m*-tolyl)propanoate (3cf):** 38.9 mg, 62% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.18-7.14 (m, 1H), 7.02-6.97 (m, 3H), 6.91-6.89 (m, 1H), 6.86-6.83 (m, 2H), 5.05 (s, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.93 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.66 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  173.1, 149.3, 149.2, 140.6, 138.3, 129.3, 128.7, 128.6, 127.2, 125.5, 121.5, 112.0, 111.2, 66.6, 56.2, 56.1, 36.2, 31.1, 21.6. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_4\text{Na}$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 337.1410. Found: 337.1412



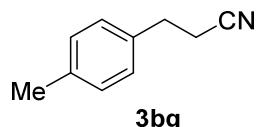
**3-Chloro-4-(methylthio)benzyl 3-(pyridin-2-yl)propanoate (3kd):** 39.1 mg, 63% yield, light yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.50 (d,  $J = 4.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.57 (td,  $J = 7.7, 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.16-7.10 (m, 3H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 3.13 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 2.87 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.9, 159.8, 149.5, 136.6, 136.5, 132.8, 132.4, 130.7, 130.2, 127.5, 123.2, 121.7, 64.8, 33.4, 32.9. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}_2$  [M+H] $^+$ : 310.0396. Found: 310.0398



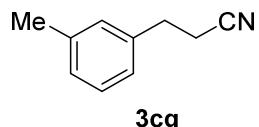
**4-(Methylthio)benzyl 3-(pyridin-2-yl)propanoate (3ke):** 37.3 mg, 65% yield, light yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.50 (d,  $J = 4.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.56 (td,  $J = 7.7, 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.24–7.20 (m, 4H), 7.15–7.09 (m, 2H), 5.06 (s, 2H), 3.12 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.85 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  173.1, 160.1, 149.5, 138.9, 136.6, 133.0, 129.1, 126.8, 123.2, 121.6, 66.1, 33.6, 33.1, 16.0. HRMS calcd  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{NSO}_2\text{Na} [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 310.0872. Found: 310.0868



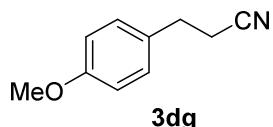
**3-Phenylpropanenitrile (3ag)<sup>15</sup>:** 15.7 mg, 60% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.33–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.23–7.29 (m, 3H), 2.96 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.62 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  138.3, 129.1, 128.5, 127.5, 119.4, 31.8, 19.6. MS (EI) m/z: 131.1



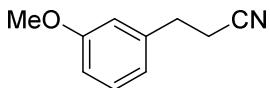
**3-(P-tolyl)propanenitrile (3bg)<sup>16</sup>:** 13.1 mg, 45% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.14 (q,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 4H), 2.92 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.60 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  137.1, 135.3, 129.8, 128.4, 119.5, 31.4, 21.3, 19.7. MS (EI) m/z: 145.1



**3-(M-tolyl)propanenitrile (3cg)<sup>17</sup>:** 18.0 mg, 62% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.23 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.10 – 7.02 (m, 3H), 2.93 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 2.61 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  138.8, 138.2, 129.3, 129.0, 128.2, 125.5, 119.4, 31.8, 21.6, 19.6. MS (EI) m/z: 145.1

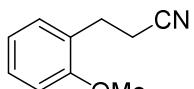


**3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)propanenitrile (3dg)<sup>16</sup>:** 6.76 mg, 21% yield, colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.16–7.14 (m, 2H), 6.88–6.86 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.90 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.58 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  159.0, 130.4, 129.6, 119.5, 114.5, 55.5, 31.0, 20.0. MS (EI) m/z: 161.1



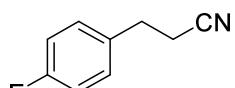
**3eg**

**3-(3-Methoxyphenyl)propanenitrile (3eg)<sup>16</sup>:** 19.3 mg, 60% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.27-7.24 (m, 1H), 6.83-6.77 (m, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.94 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.2, 139.8, 130.2, 120.7, 119.3, 114.3, 112.7, 55.5, 31.9, 19.5. MS (EI) m/z: 161.1



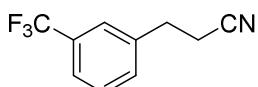
**3fg**

**3-(2-Methoxyphenyl)propanenitrile (3fg)<sup>18</sup>:** 17.1 mg, 53% yield, yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.26 (dd, J = 15.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.94-6.86 (m, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.96 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.5, 130.5, 128.90, 126.6, 120.9, 119.9, 110.6, 55.5, 27.3, 17.7. MS (EI) m/z: 161.1



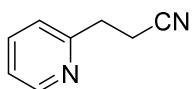
**3gg**

**3-(4-Fluorophenyl)propanenitrile (3gg)<sup>16</sup>:** 12.5 mg, 42% yield, yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.21-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.05-7.01 (m, 2H), 2.94 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.3, 161.3, 133.9 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 130.1 (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 119.1, 116.1, 115.9, 31.0, 19.8. MS (EI) m/z: 149.1



**3ig**

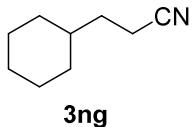
**3-(3-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanenitrile (3ig)<sup>19</sup>:** 14.3 mg, 36% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.56 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.44 (m, 3H), 3.03 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.66 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 139.0, 132.0, 131.7, 131.4, 129.7, 129.2, 129.0, 127.8, 127.5, 125.3 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 124.51 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 118.8, 31.6, 19.4. MS (EI) m/z: 199.1



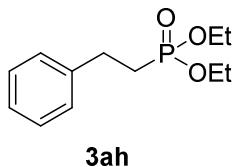
**3kg**

**3-(Pyridin-2-yl)propanenitrile (3kg)<sup>20</sup>:** 12.9 mg, 49% yield, yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.56 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (td, J = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.23 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 3.12 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.85 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.4, 149.9, 137.0, 123.4,

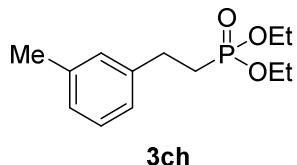
122.4, 119.7, 33.6, 16.9. MS (EI) m/z: 132.1



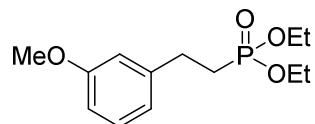
**3-Cyclohexylpropanenitrile (3ng)**<sup>21</sup>: 26.3 mg, 96% yield, colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.34 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.73-1.65 (m, 5H), 1.58-1.53 (m, 2H), 1.42-1.36 (m, 1H), 1.28-1.12 (m, 3H), 0.94-0.86 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 120.3, 36.8, 32.80, 32.75, 26.6, 26.2, 14.9. MS (EI) m/z: 137.1



**Diethyl phenethylphosphonate (3ah)**<sup>22</sup>: 16.9 mg, 35% yield, yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.31-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.19 (m, 3H), 4.13-4.06 (m, 4H), 2.92 (dd, J = 17.2, 9.8 Hz, 2H), 2.05 (ddd, J = 11.7, 10.3, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.3, 141.2, 128.8, 128.3, 126.6, 61.8 (d, J = 6.5 Hz), 28.8 (d, J = 4.4 Hz), 27.8 (d, J = 139.4 Hz), 16.7 (d, J = 6.0 Hz). MS (EI) m/z: 242.1



**Diethyl (3-methylphenethyl)phosphonate (3ch)**<sup>23</sup>: 24.1 mg, 47% yield, yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.19-7.16 (m, 1H), 7.03-7.00 (m, 3H), 4.15-4.13 (m, 4H), 2.92-2.86 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.11 (brs, 2H), 1.33 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 138.4, 129.1, 128.7, 127.4, 125.3, 61.9 (d, J = 6.5 Hz), 28.6 (d, J = 4.2 Hz), 27.8 (d, J = 139.2 Hz), 21.6, 16.7 (d, J = 6.1 Hz). MS (EI) m/z: 256.1



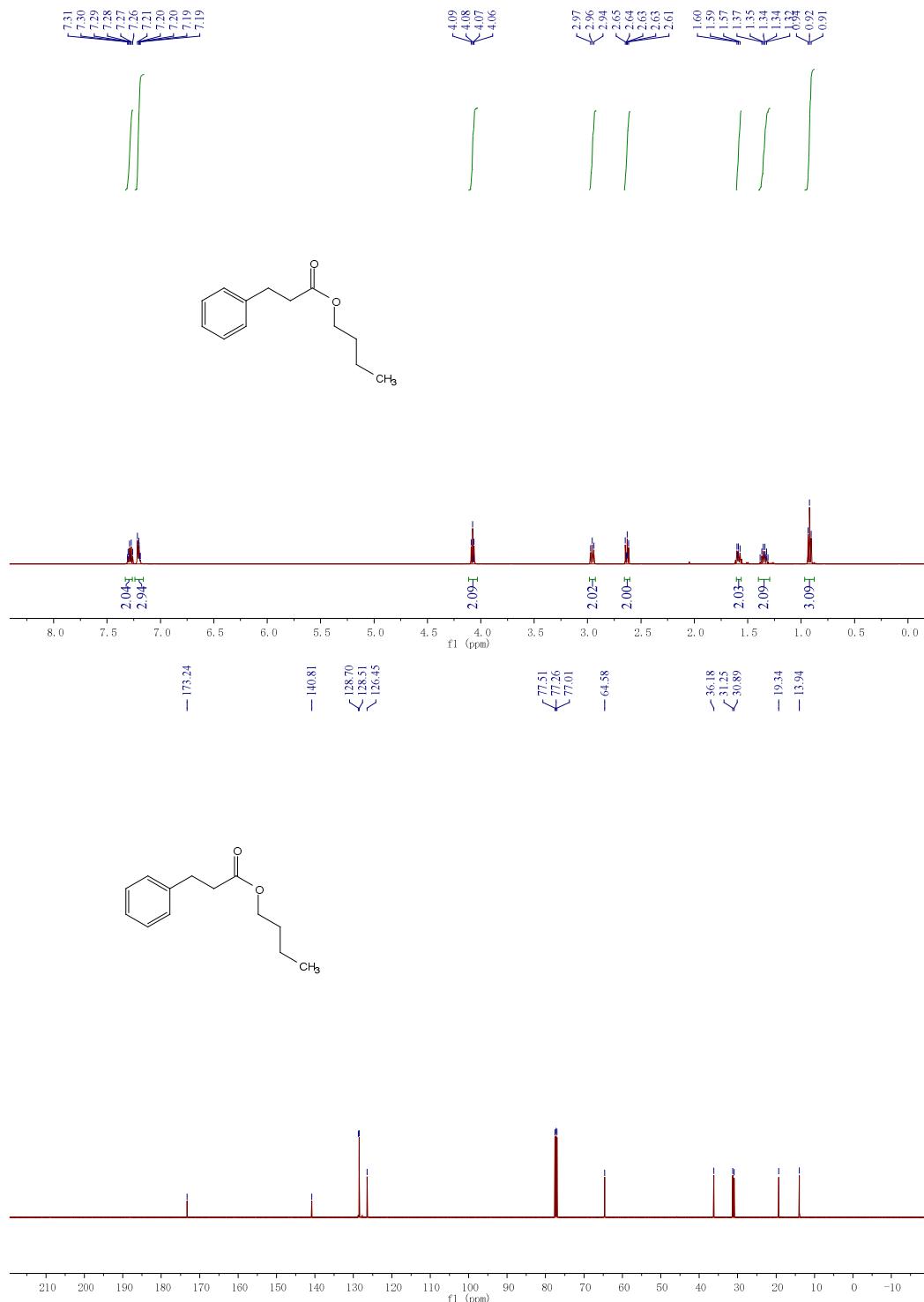
**Diethyl (3-methoxyphenethyl)phosphonate (3eh)**<sup>23</sup>: 19.6 mg, 36% yield, yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.23-7.20 (m, 1H), 6.80-6.75 (m, 3H), 4.14-4.07 (m, 4H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.92-2.86 (m, 2H), 2.09-2.02 (m, 2H), 1.33 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.0, 129.8, 120.6, 114.1, 111.9, 61.9 (d, J = 6.5 Hz), 55.4, 28.9, 27.8 (d, J = 139.2 Hz), 16.7 (d, J = 6.2 Hz). MS (EI) m/z: 272.1

## VII. References

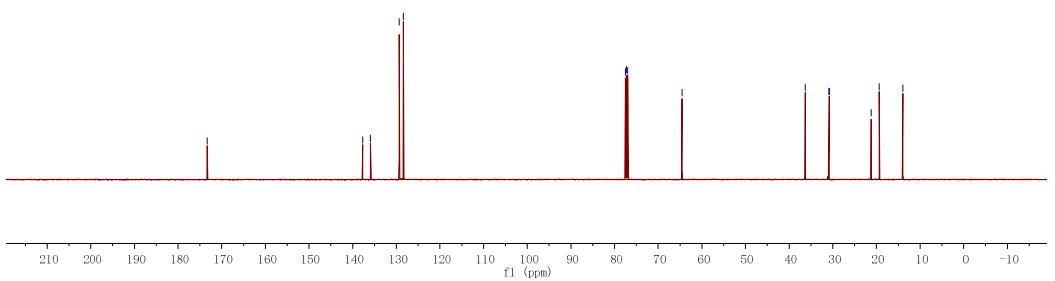
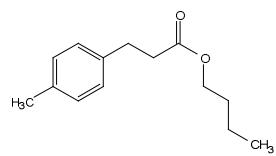
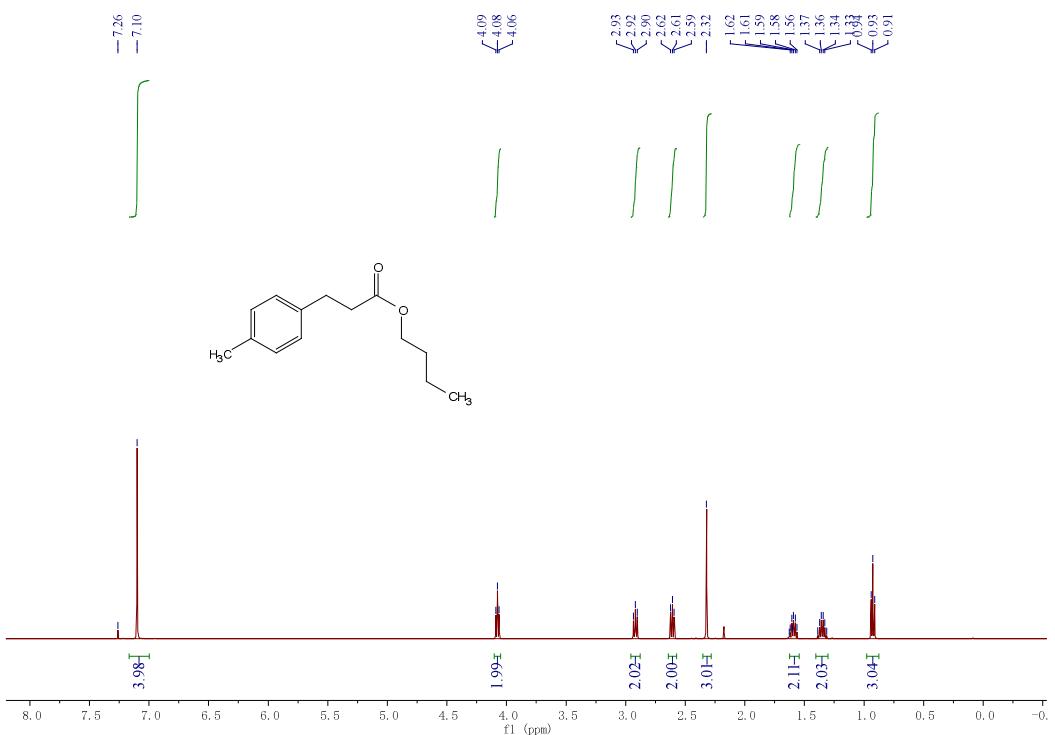
1. P. De Fremont, N. M. Scott, E. D. Stevens, T. Ramnial, O. C. Lightbody, C. L. Macdonald, J. A. C. Clyburne, C. D. Abernethy, S. P. Nolan, *Organometallics* 2005, **24**, 6301.
2. S. A. Patil, P. A. Medina, D. Gonzalez-Flores, J. K. Vohs, S. Dever, L. W. Pineda, M. L. Montero, B. D. Fahlman, *Synth. Commun.* 2013, **43**, 2349.
3. M. E. Cucciolito, M. Lega, V. Papa, F. Ruffo, *Catal. Lett.* 2016, **146**, 1113.
4. H. Horiguchi, H. Tsurugi, T. Satoh, M. Miura, *J. Org. Chem.* 2008, **73**, 1590.
5. L. Zhang, X. Xie, Z. Peng, L. Fu, Z. Zhang, *Chem. Commun.* 2013, **49**, 8797.
6. J. J. Meng, M. Gao, M. Dong, Y. P. Wei, W. Q. Zhang, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2014, **55**, 2107.
7. T. Sifferlen, R. Koberstein, E. Cottreel, A. Boller, T. Weller, J. Gatfield, C. Brisbare-Roch, F. Jenck, C. Boss, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2013, **23**, 3857.
8. M. Amézquita-Valencia, H. Alper, *J. Org. Chem.* 2016, **81**, 3860.
9. W. Hafner, H. Gebauer, M. Regiert, W. Friedrich, E. Markl, *Ger. Offen.* 1988, DE 3703584 A1 19880818.
10. L. Yang, C. A. Correia, X. Guo, C. J. Li, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2010, **51**, 5486.
11. H. D. Yan, Q. Zhang, Z. Wang, *Catal. Commun.* 2014, **45**, 59.
12. C. Lutz, , P. Jones, P. Knochel, *Synthesis* 1999, 312.
13. M. M. Dell'Anna, V. F. Capodiferro, M. Mali, P. Mastorilli, *J. Organomet. Chem.* 2016, **818**, 106.
14. I. Profir, M. Beller, I. Fleischer, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* 2014, **12**, 6972.
15. D. R. Heitz, K. Rizwan, G. A. Molander, *J. Org. Chem.* 2016, **81**, 7308.
16. N. Z. Yagafarov, D. L. Usanov, A. P. Moskovets, N. D. Kagramanov, V. I. Maleev, D. Chusov, *ChemCatChem*, 2015, **7**, 2590.
17. H. Guo, Y. Zhang, *Synth. Commun.* 2000, **30**, 1879.
18. J. J. Meng, M. Gao, M. Dong, Y. P. Wei, W. Q. Zhang, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2014, **55**, 2107.
19. M. Amatore, C. Gosmini, J. Périchon, *J. Org. Chem.* 2006, **71**, 6130.
20. R. V. Jagadeesh, H. Junge, M. Beller, *Nat. Commun.* 2014, **5**, 4123.
21. C. M. McMahon, E. J. Alexanian, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2014, **53**, 5974.
22. N. Iranpoor, H. Firouzabadi, K. Rajabi Moghadam, E. Etemadi-Davan, *Asian J. Org. Chem.* 2015, **4**, 1289.
23. S. Kim, C. E. Kim, B. Seo, P. H. Lee, *Org. Lett.* 2014, **16**, 5552.

## VIII. Copies of $^1\text{H}$ , $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR Spectra of products

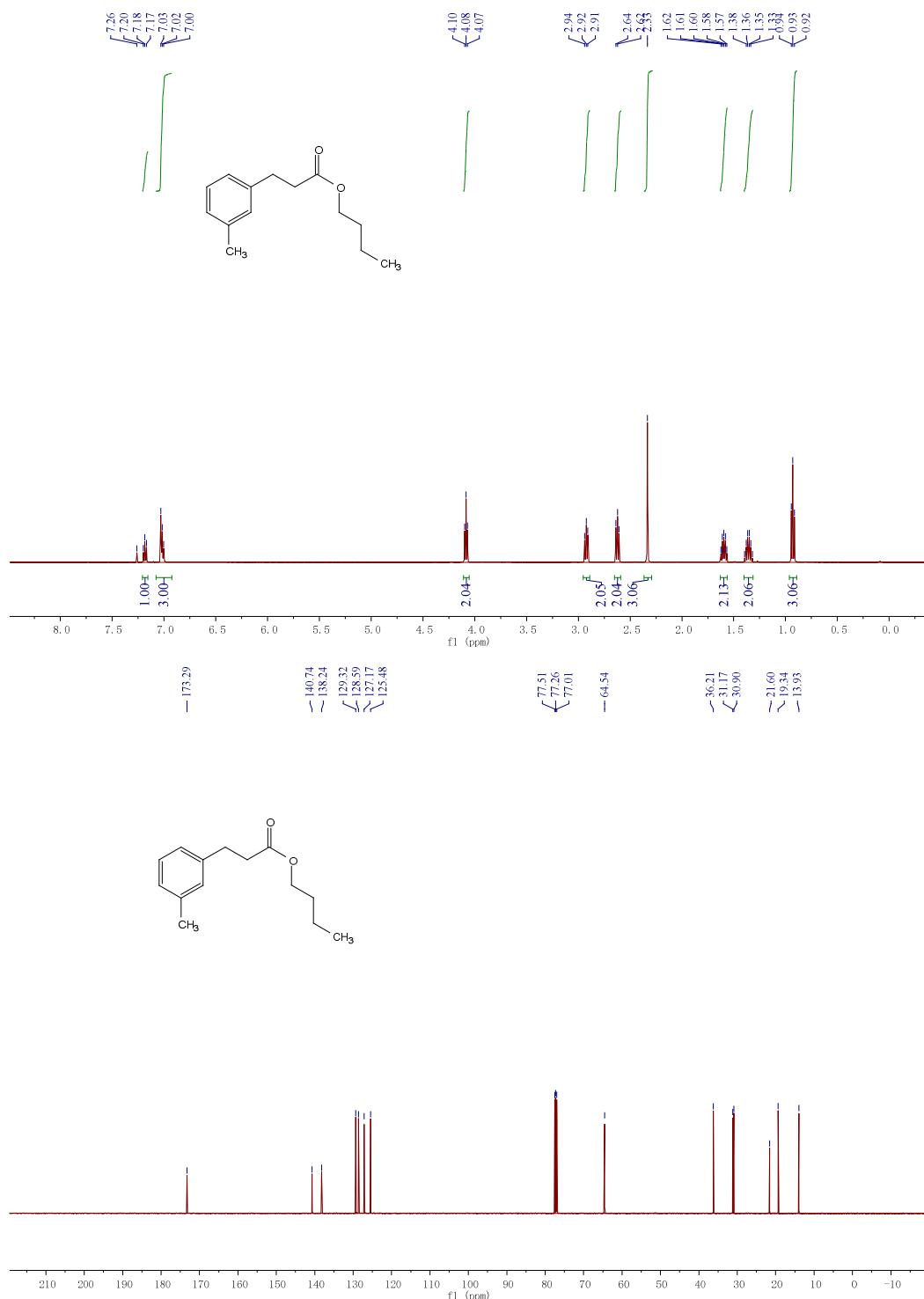
### $^1\text{H}$ NMR and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR of 3aa



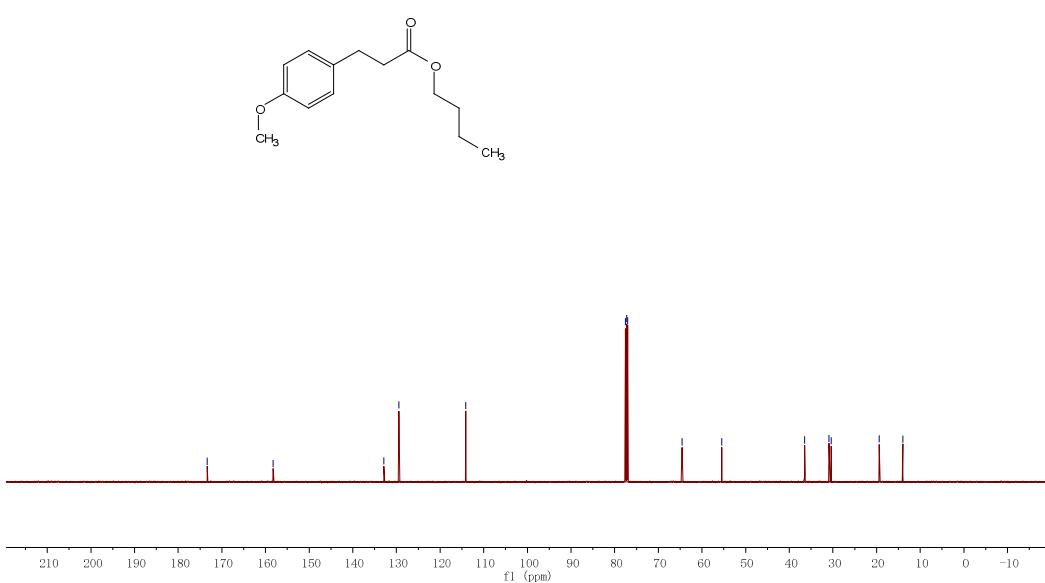
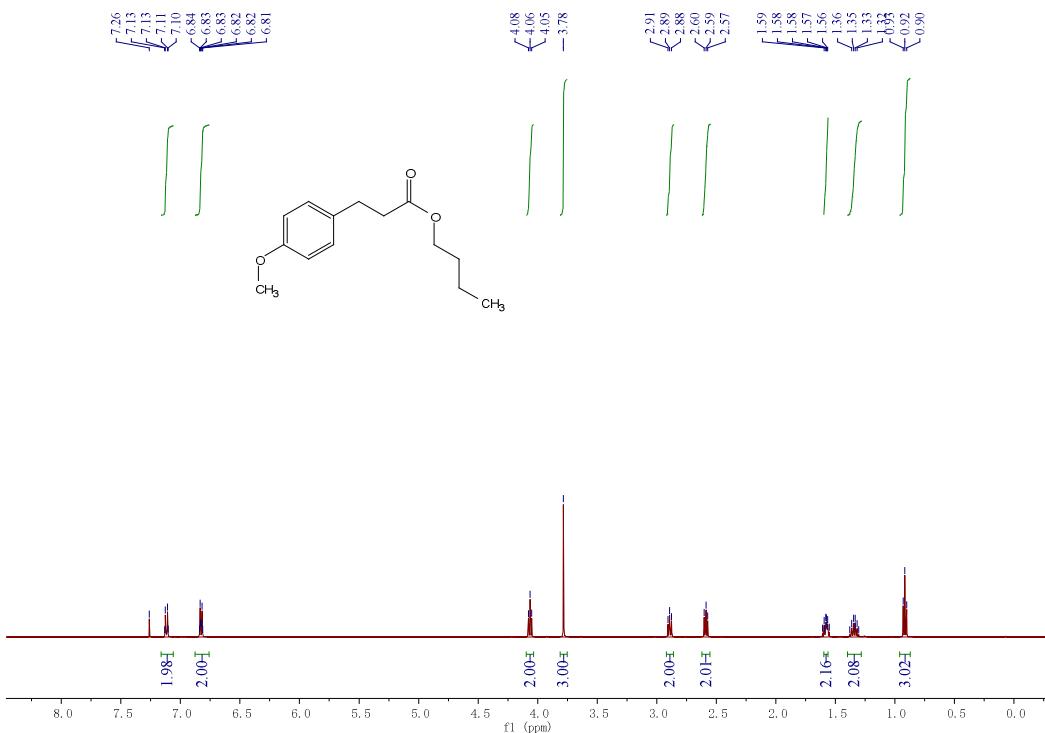
### <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ba



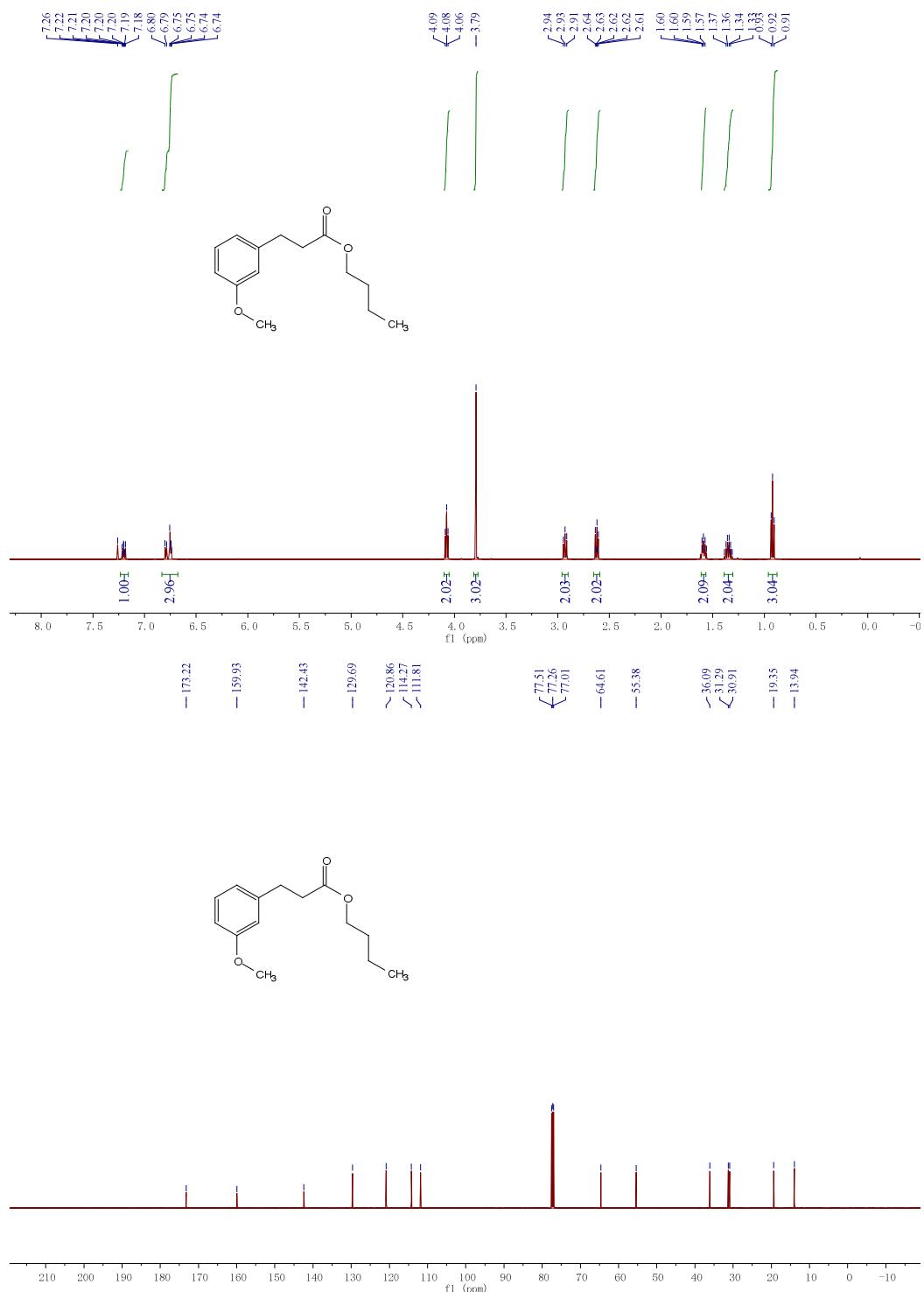
<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ca



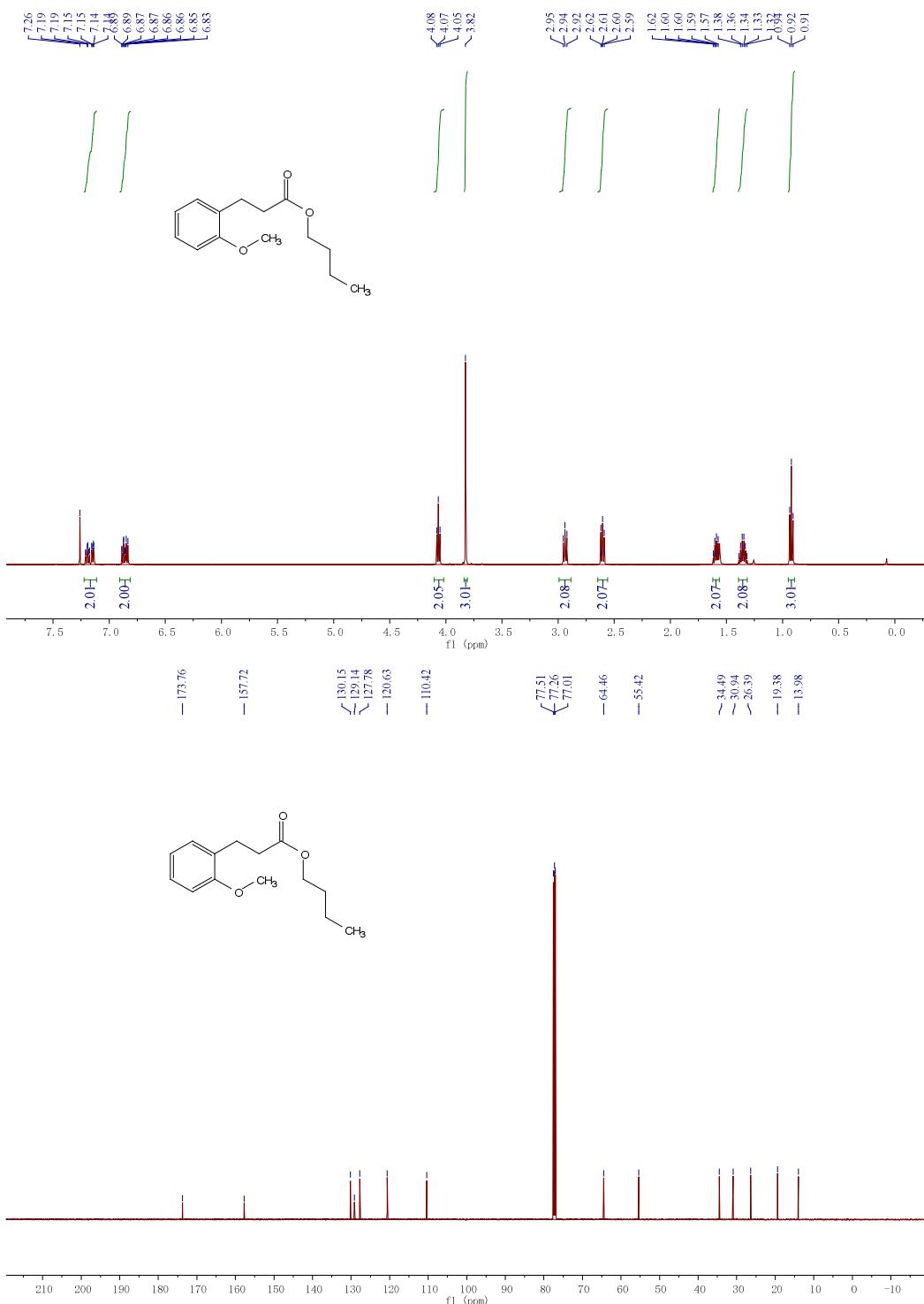
### **<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3da**



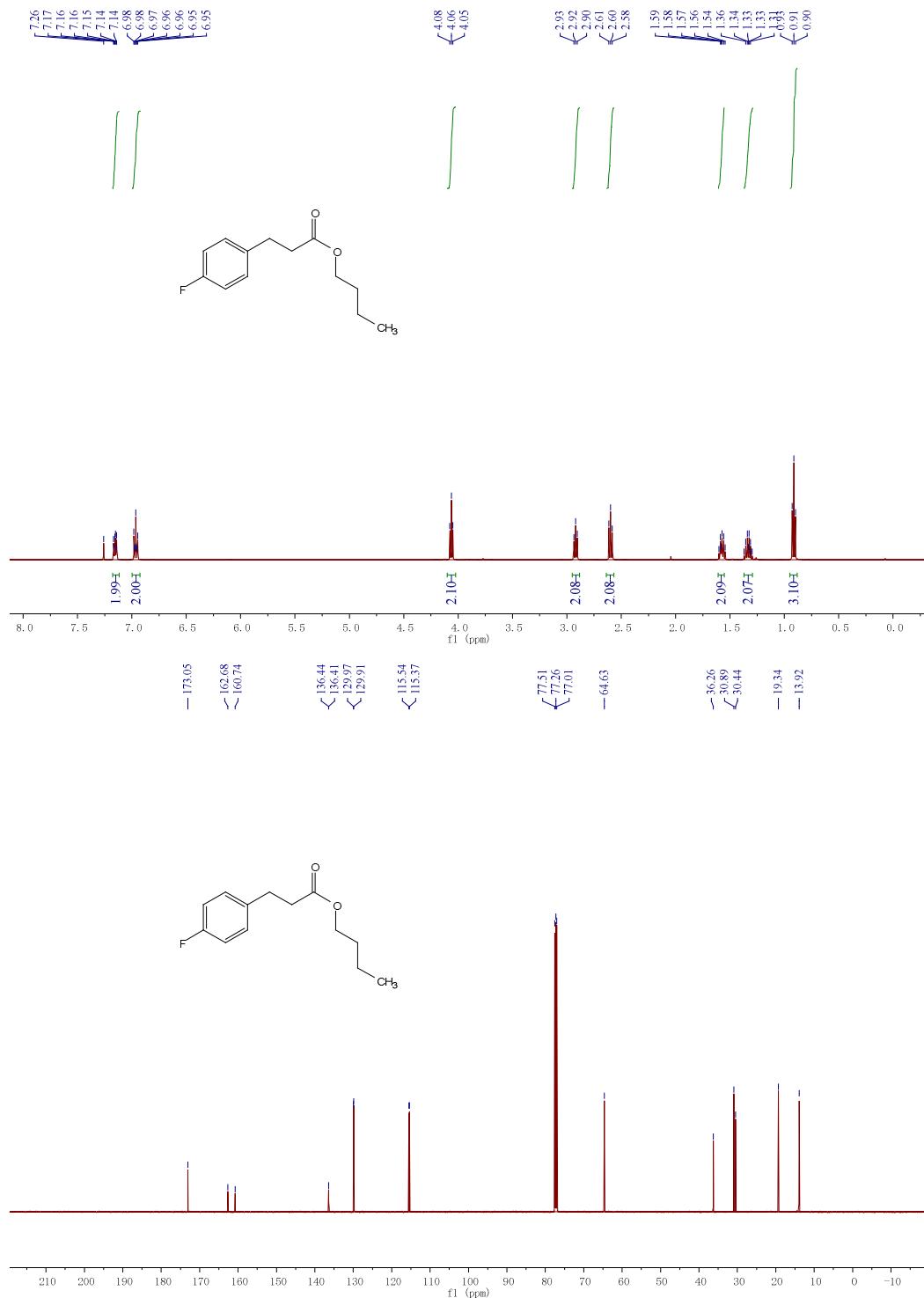
<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ea



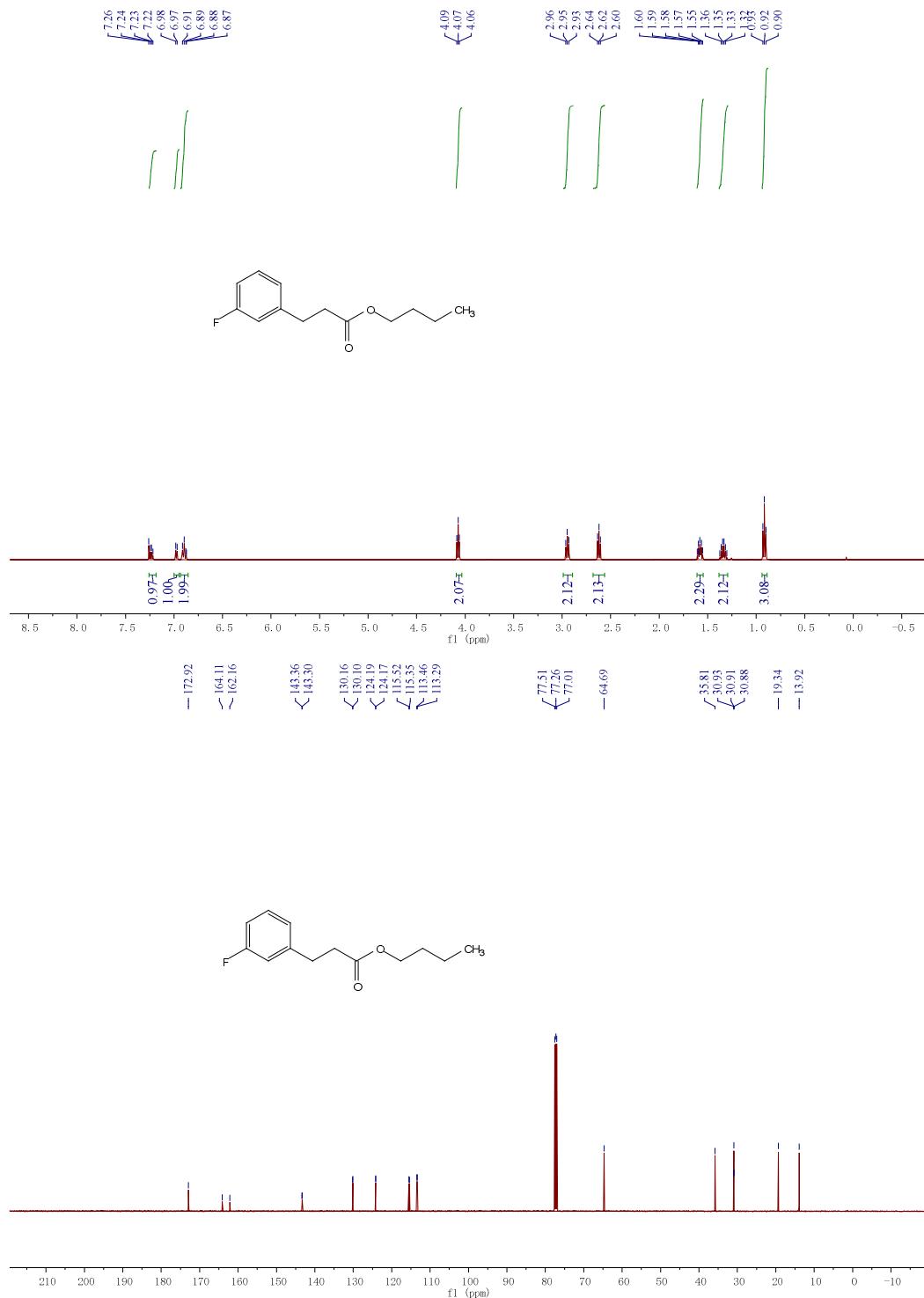
<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3fa



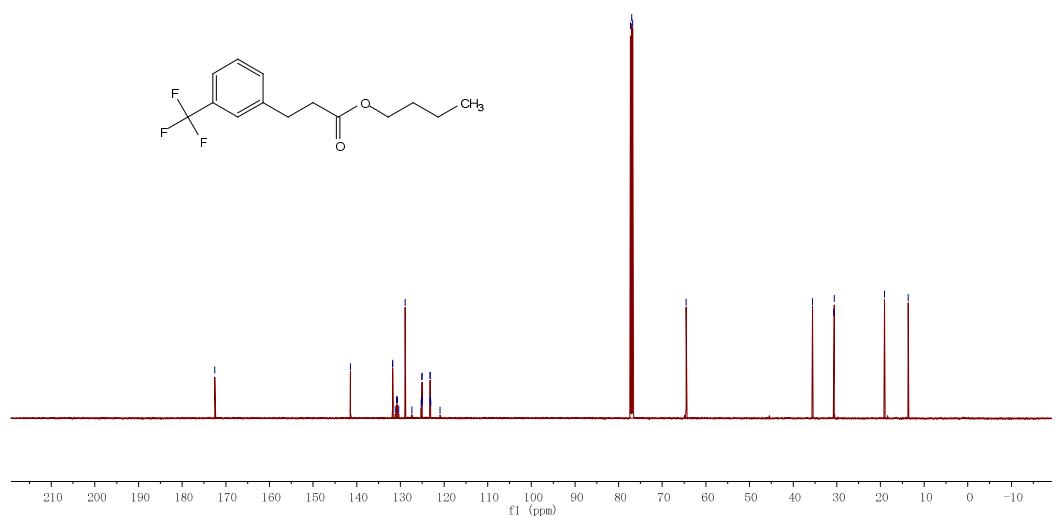
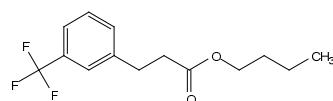
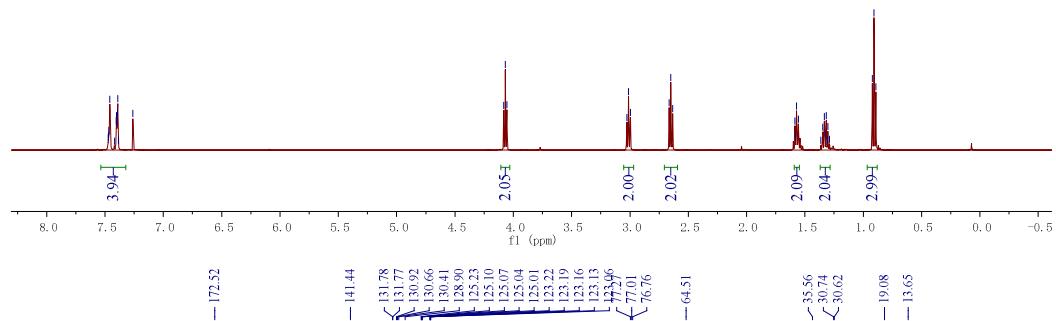
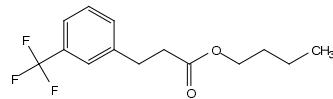
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ga**



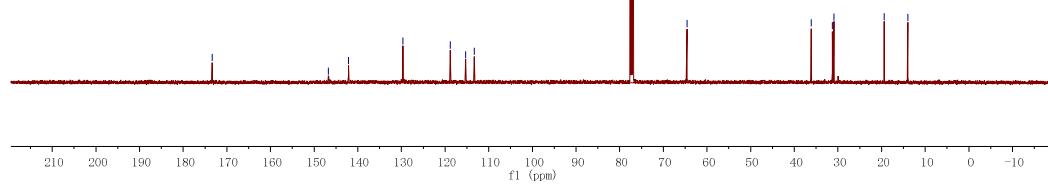
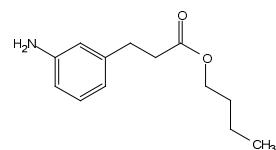
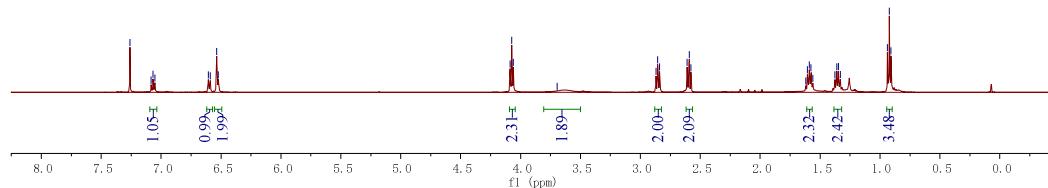
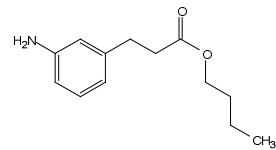
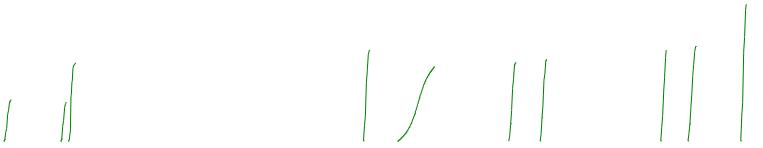
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ha**



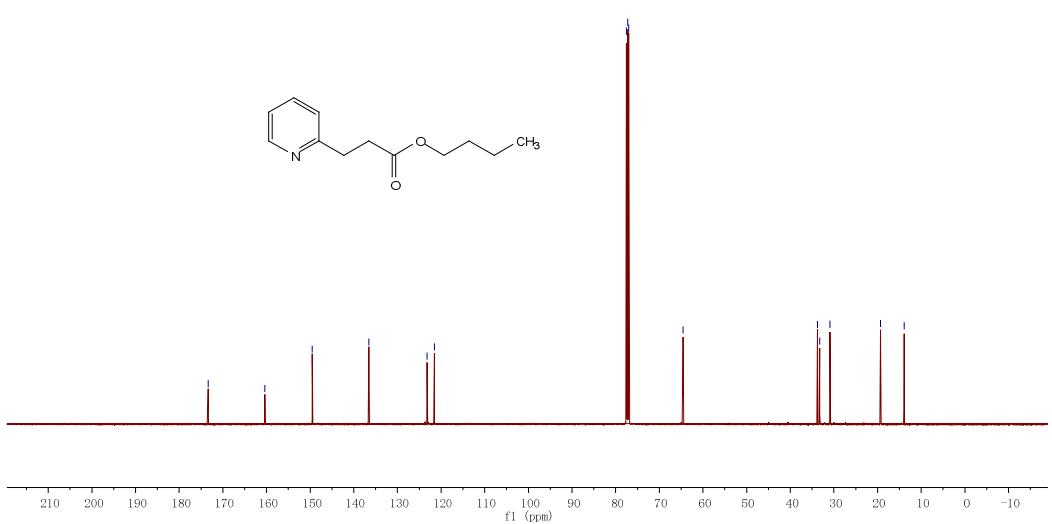
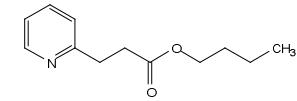
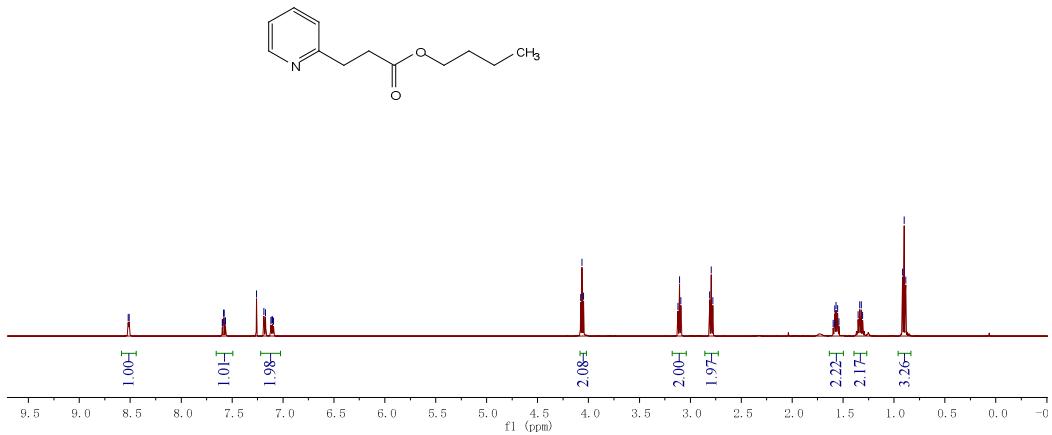
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ia**



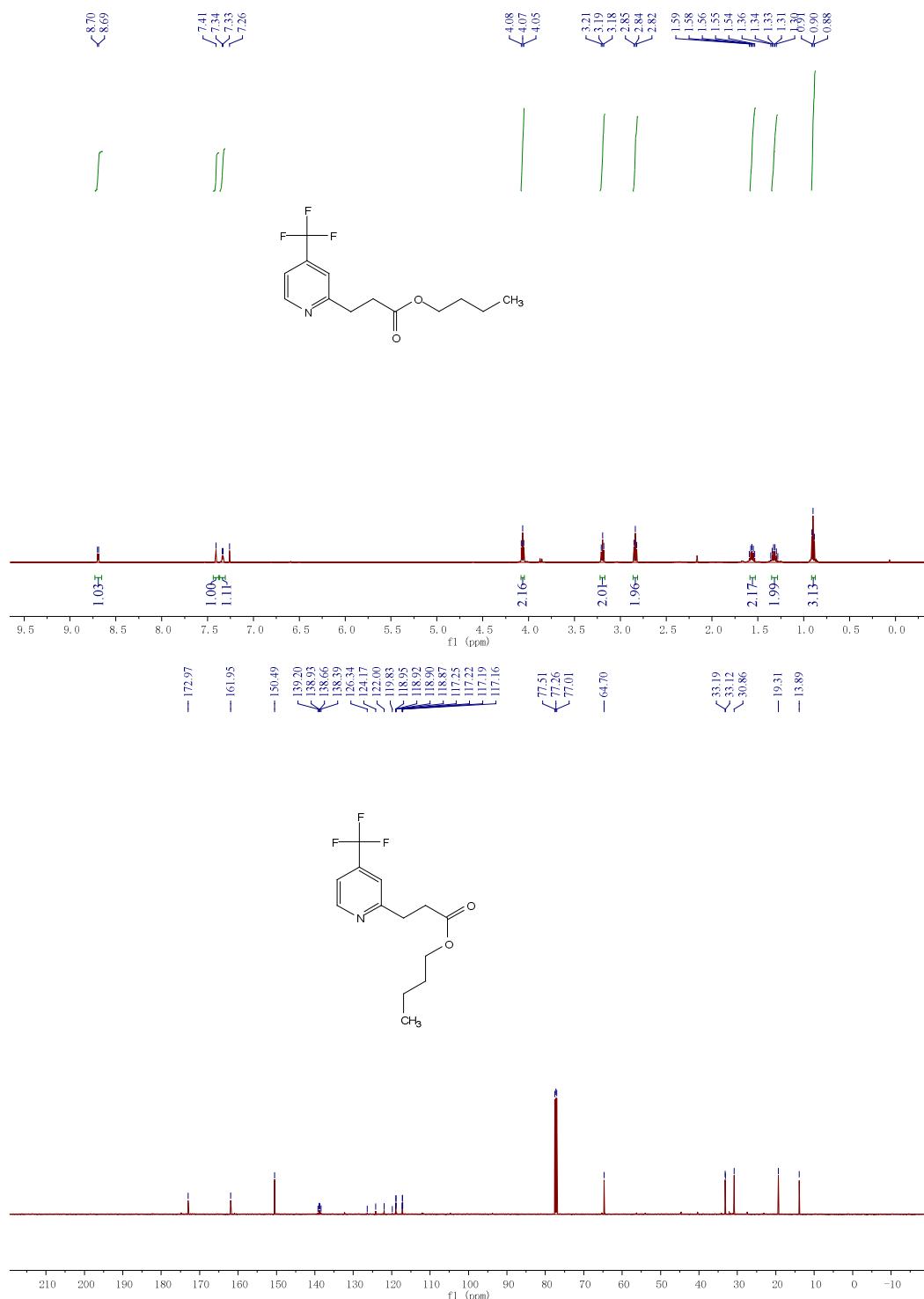
### <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ja



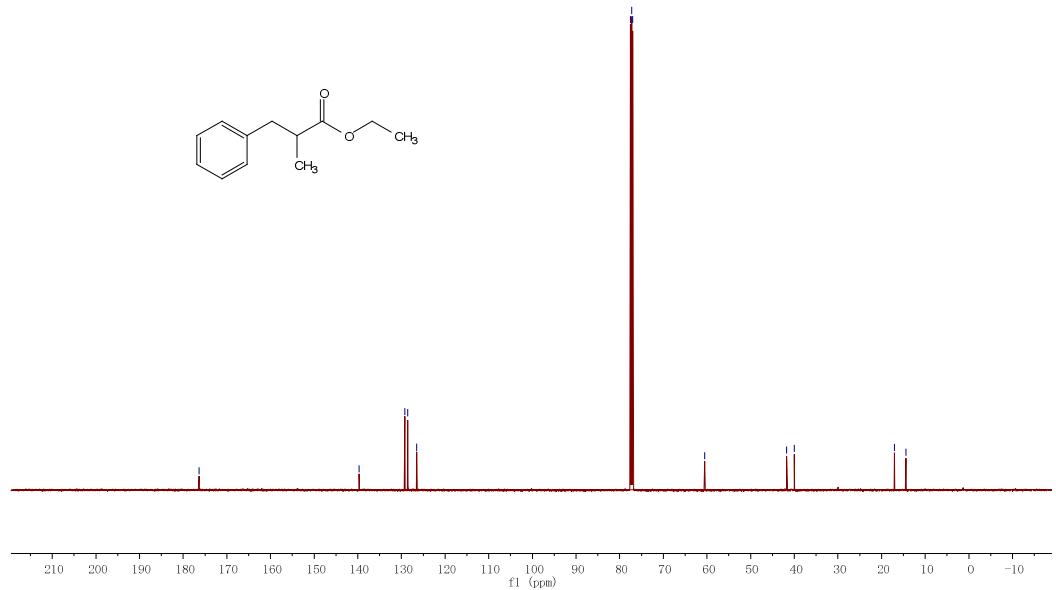
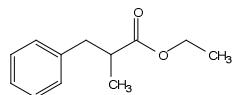
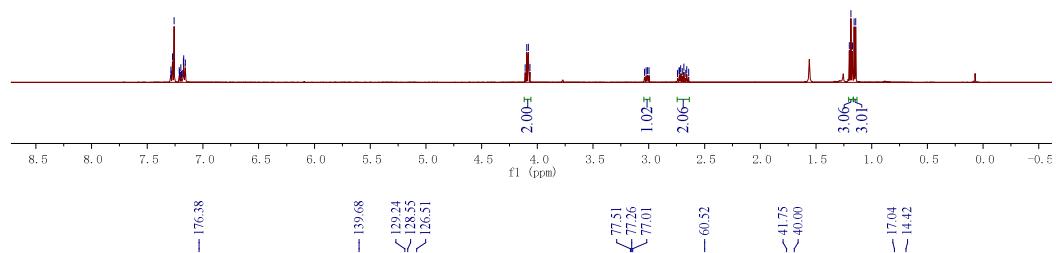
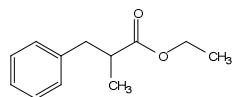
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ka**



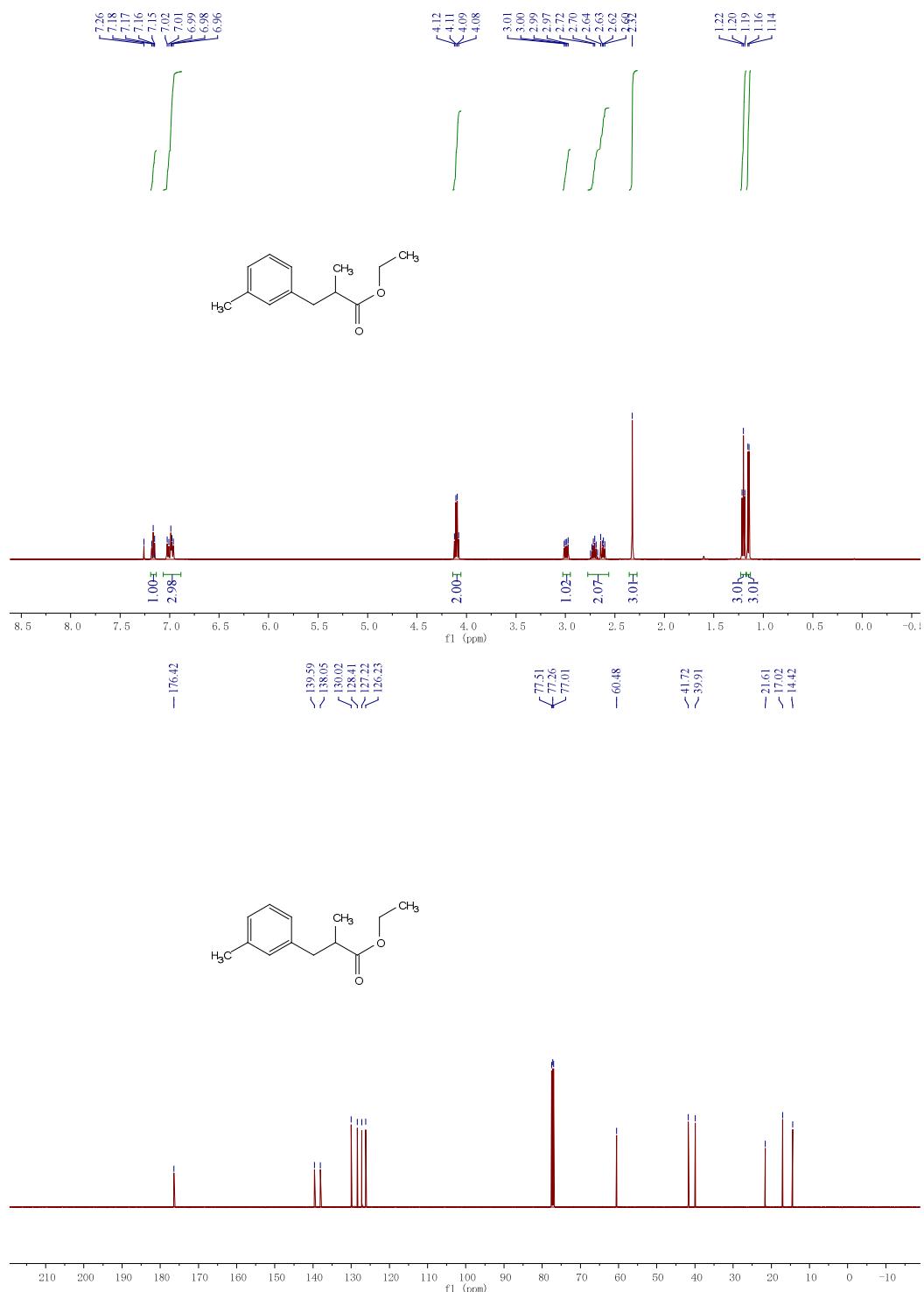
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3la**



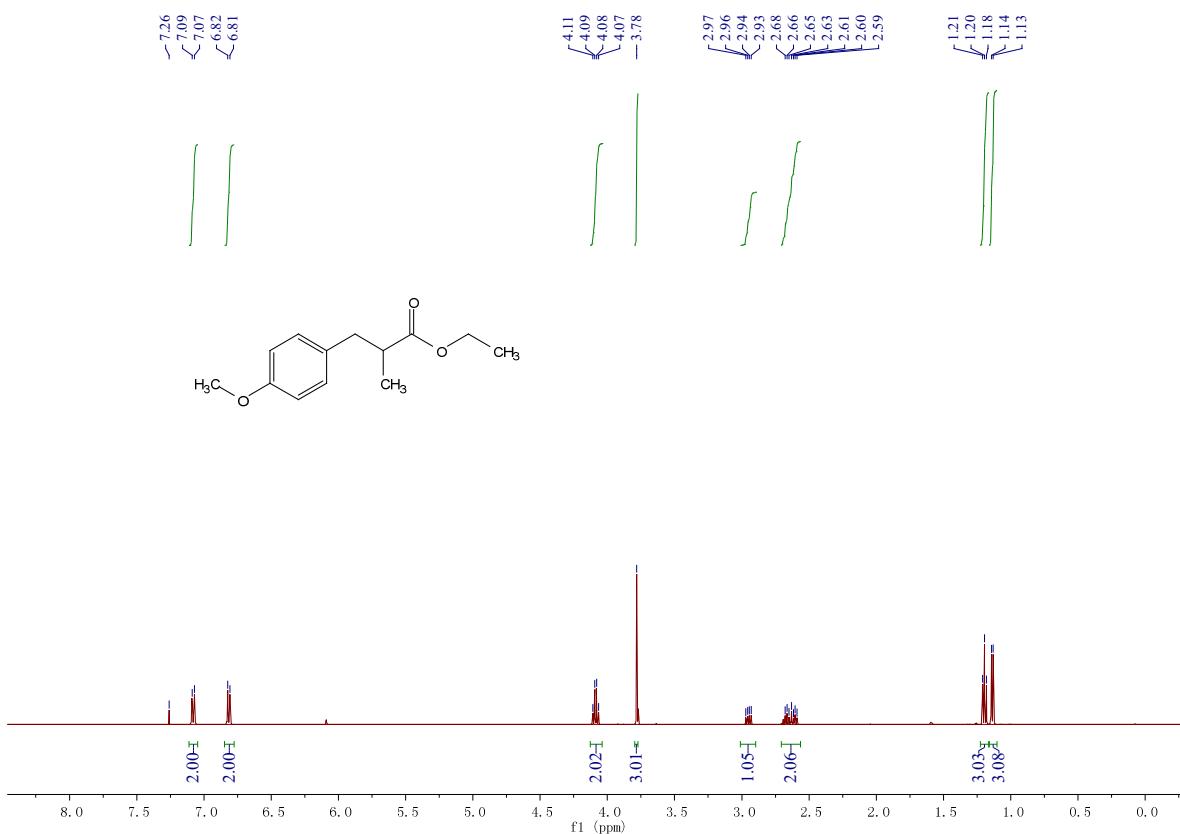
### <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ab



**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3cb**

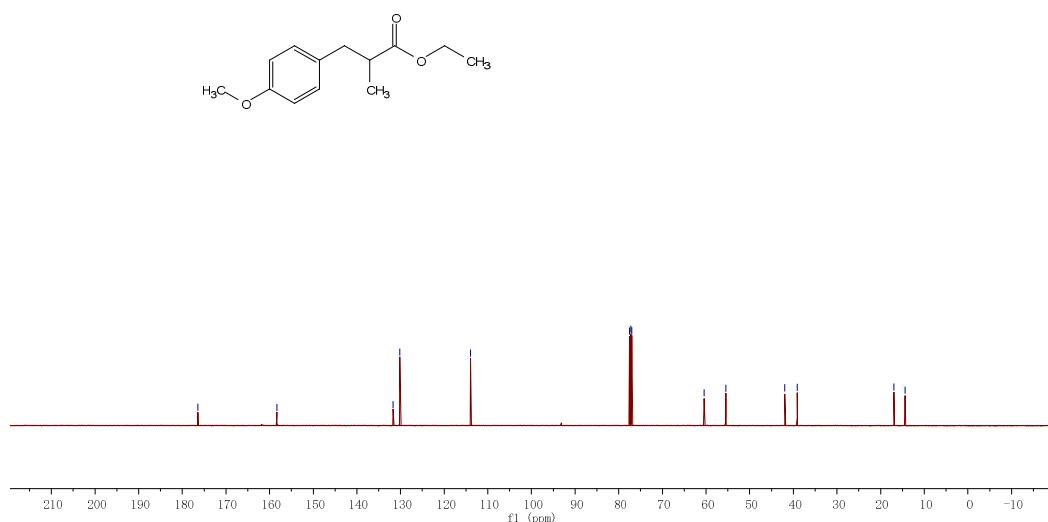


**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3db**

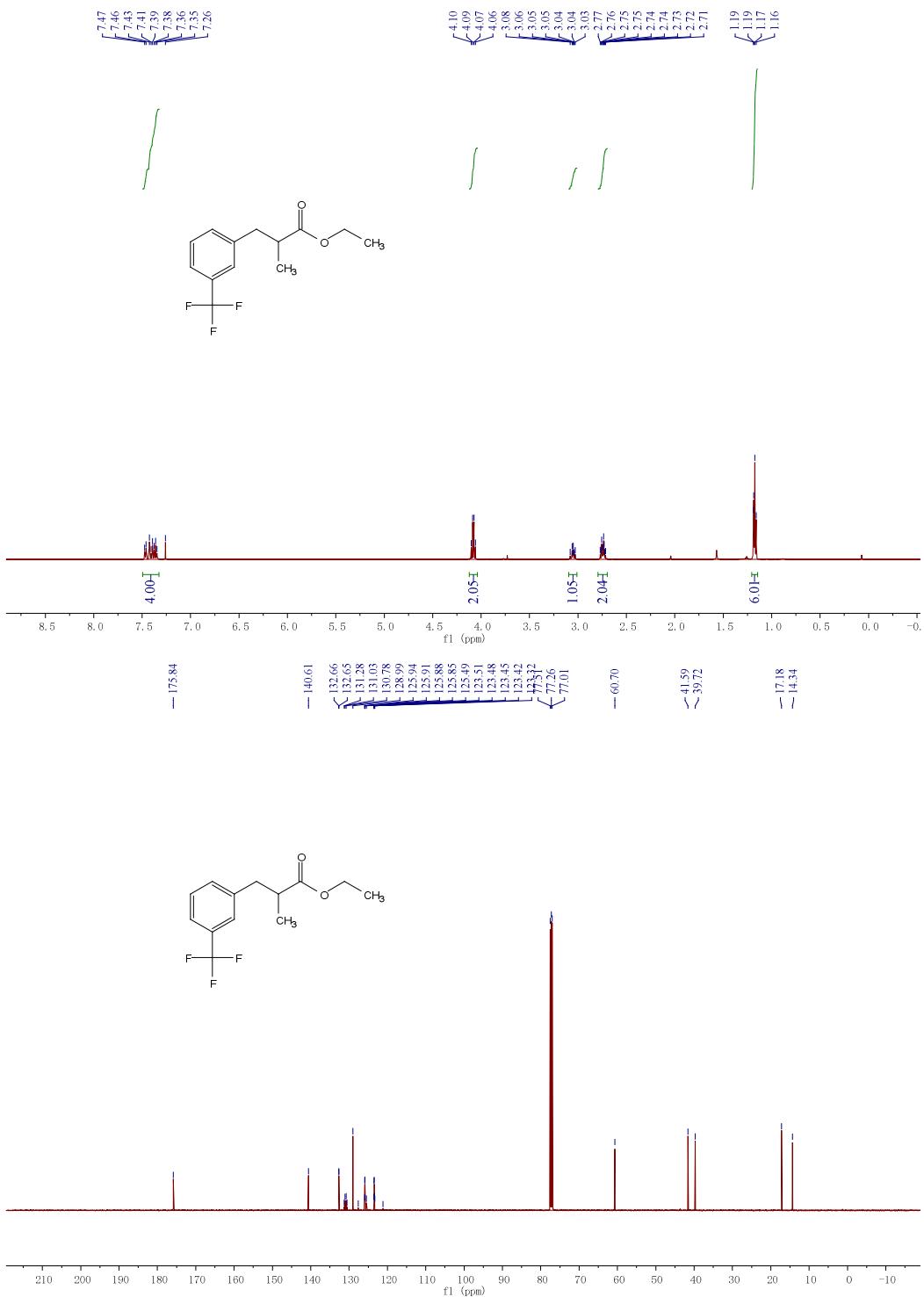


— 176.43  
— 158.32  
— 131.73  
— > 130.16  
— 113.95

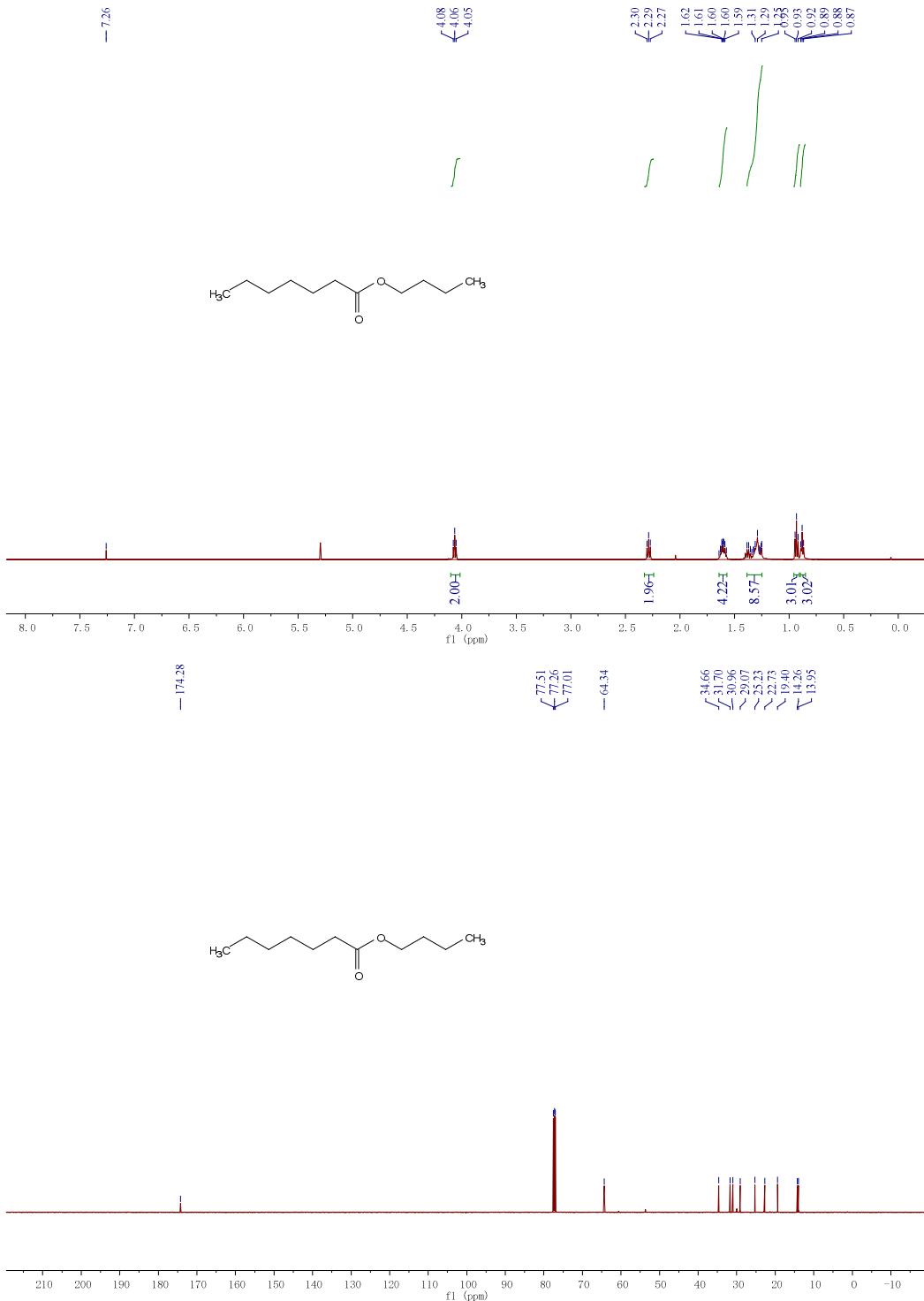
— 16.96  
— 14.44



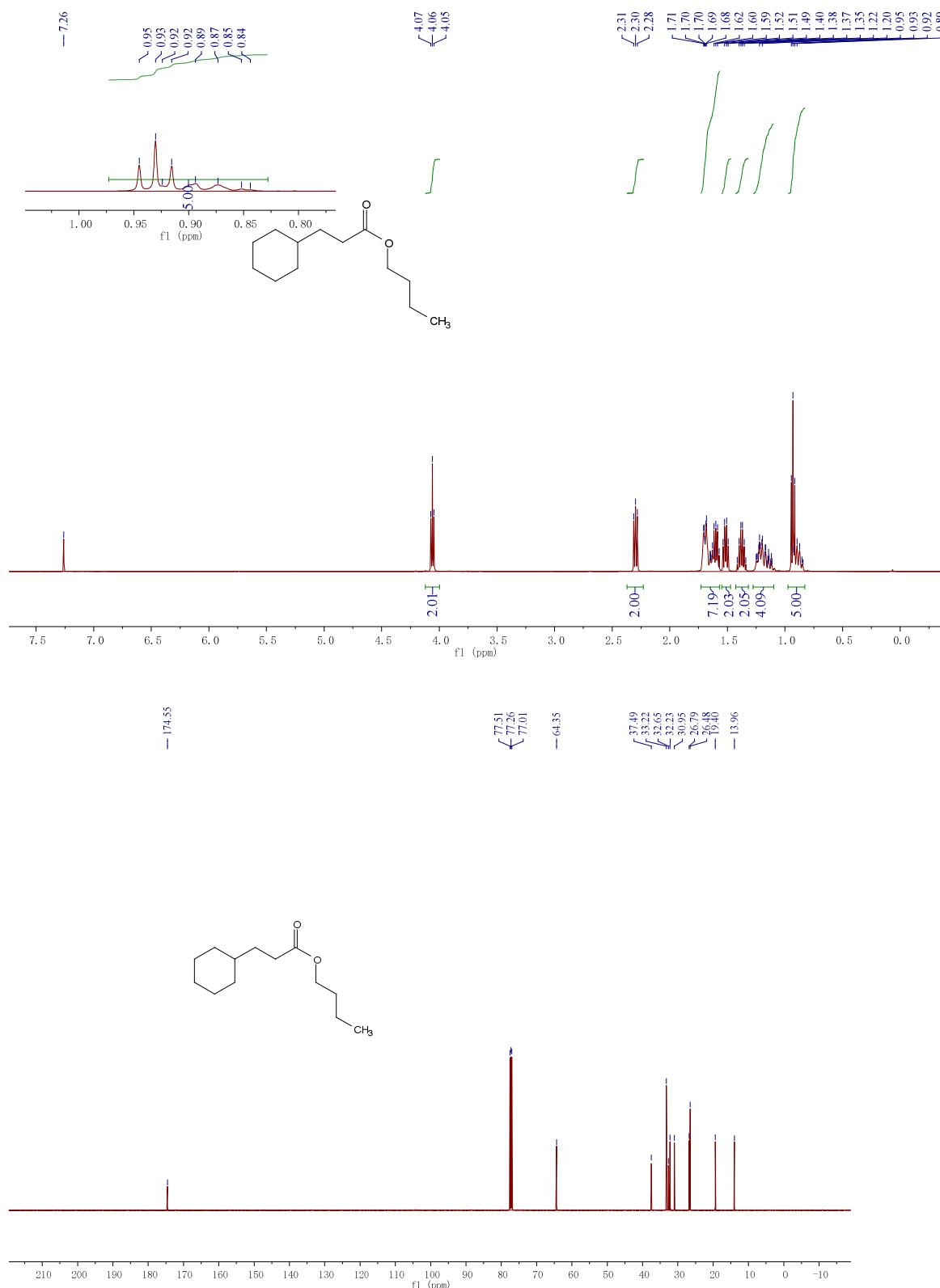
### <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ib



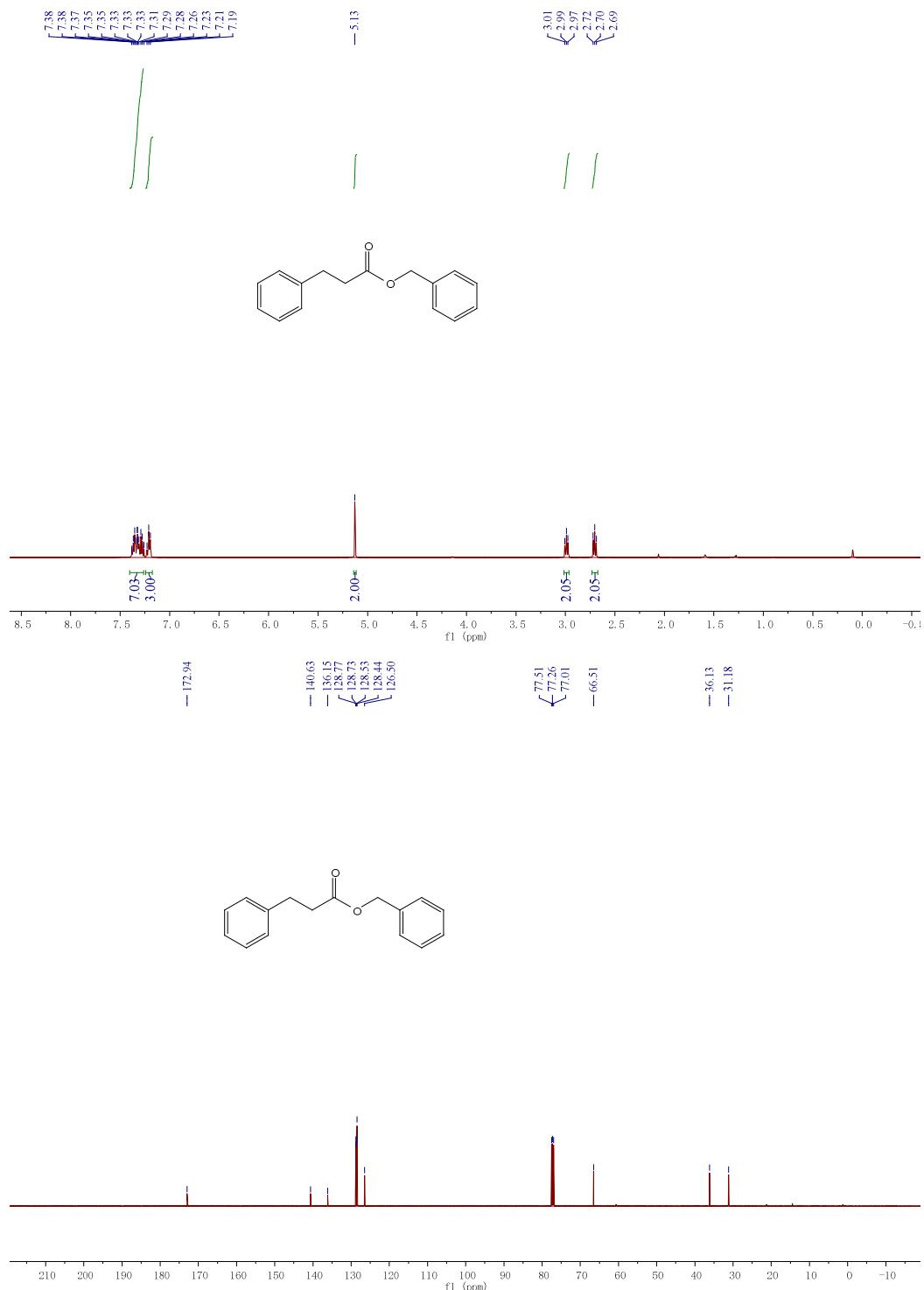
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ma**



**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3na**



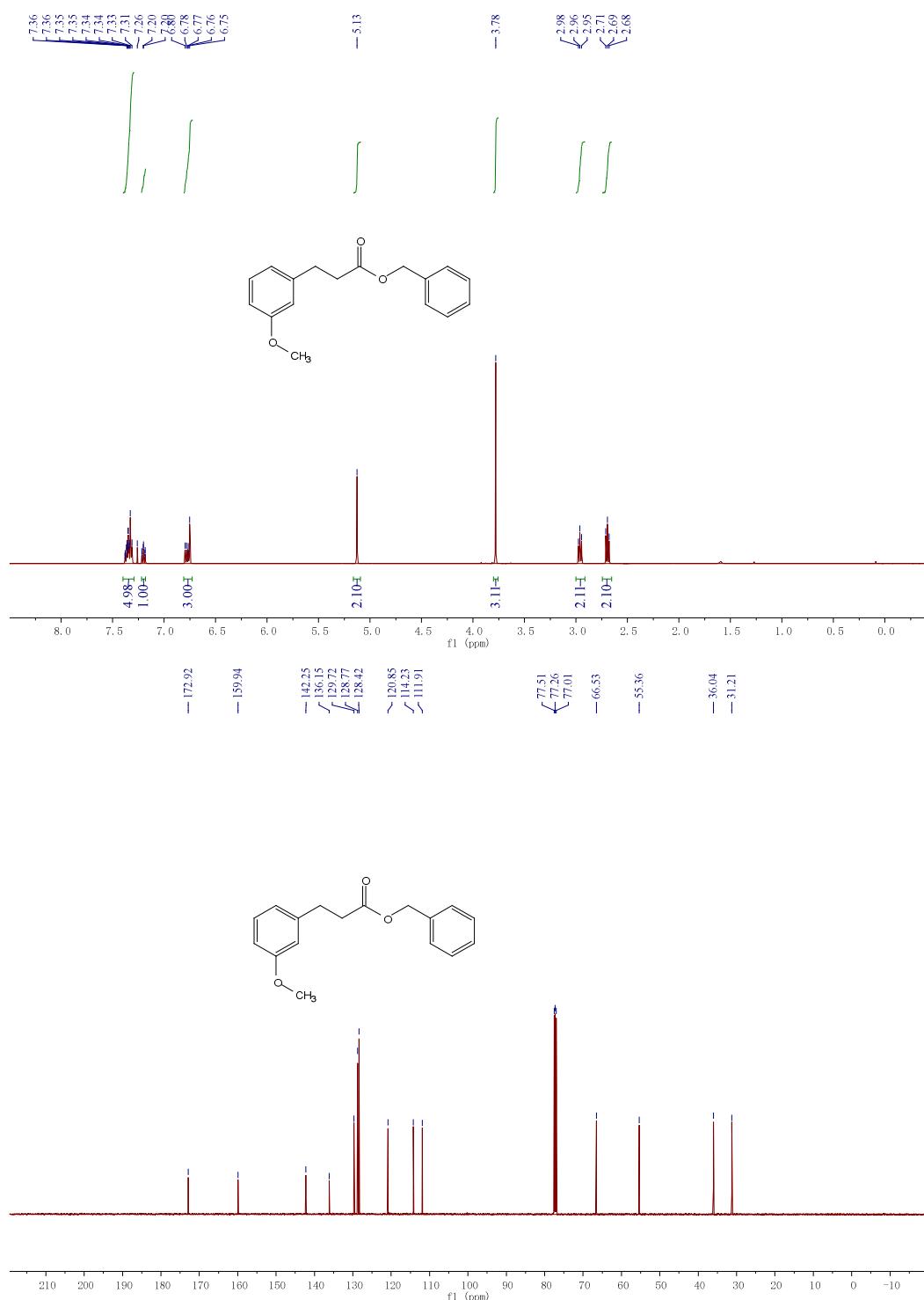
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ac**



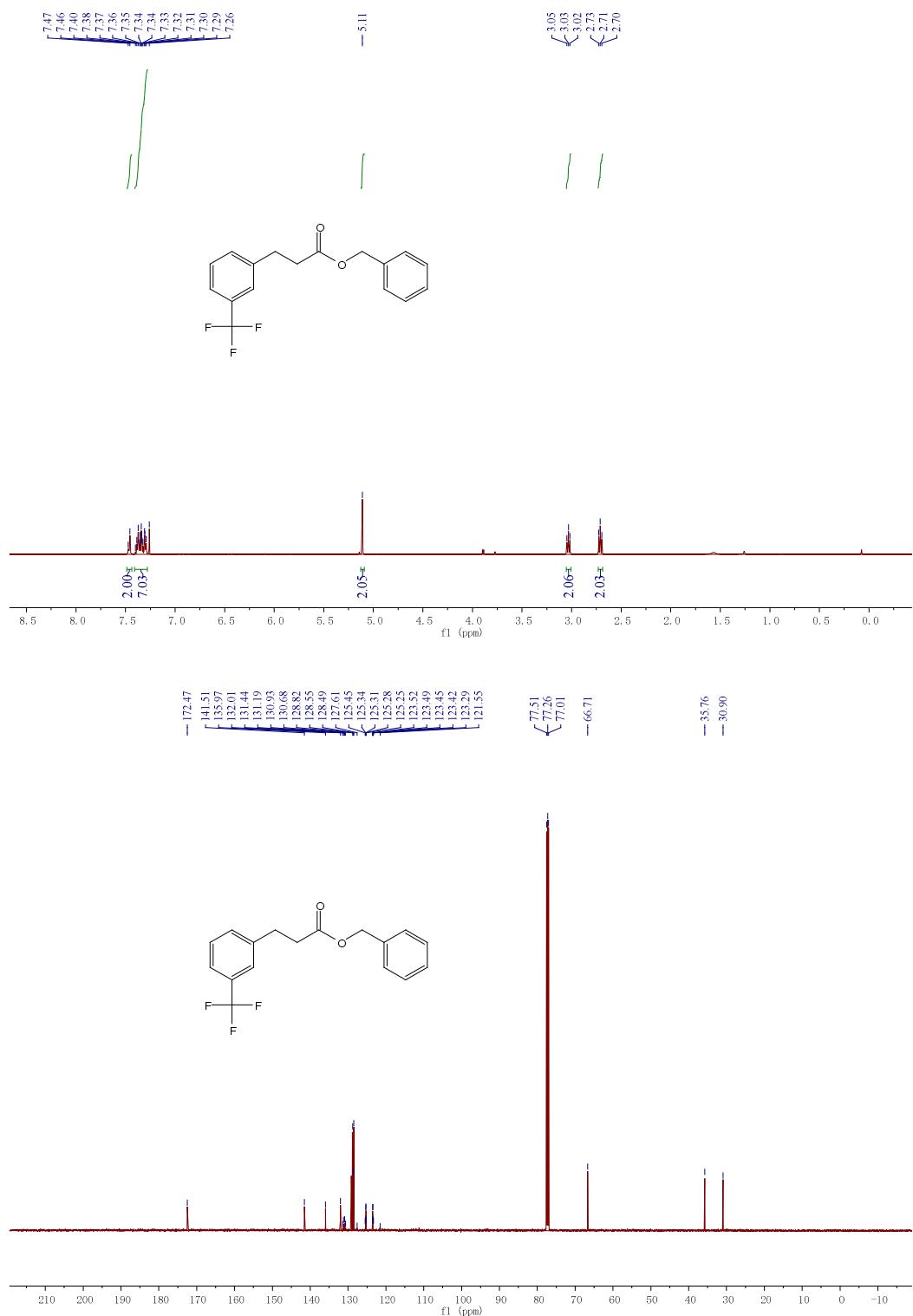
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3cc**



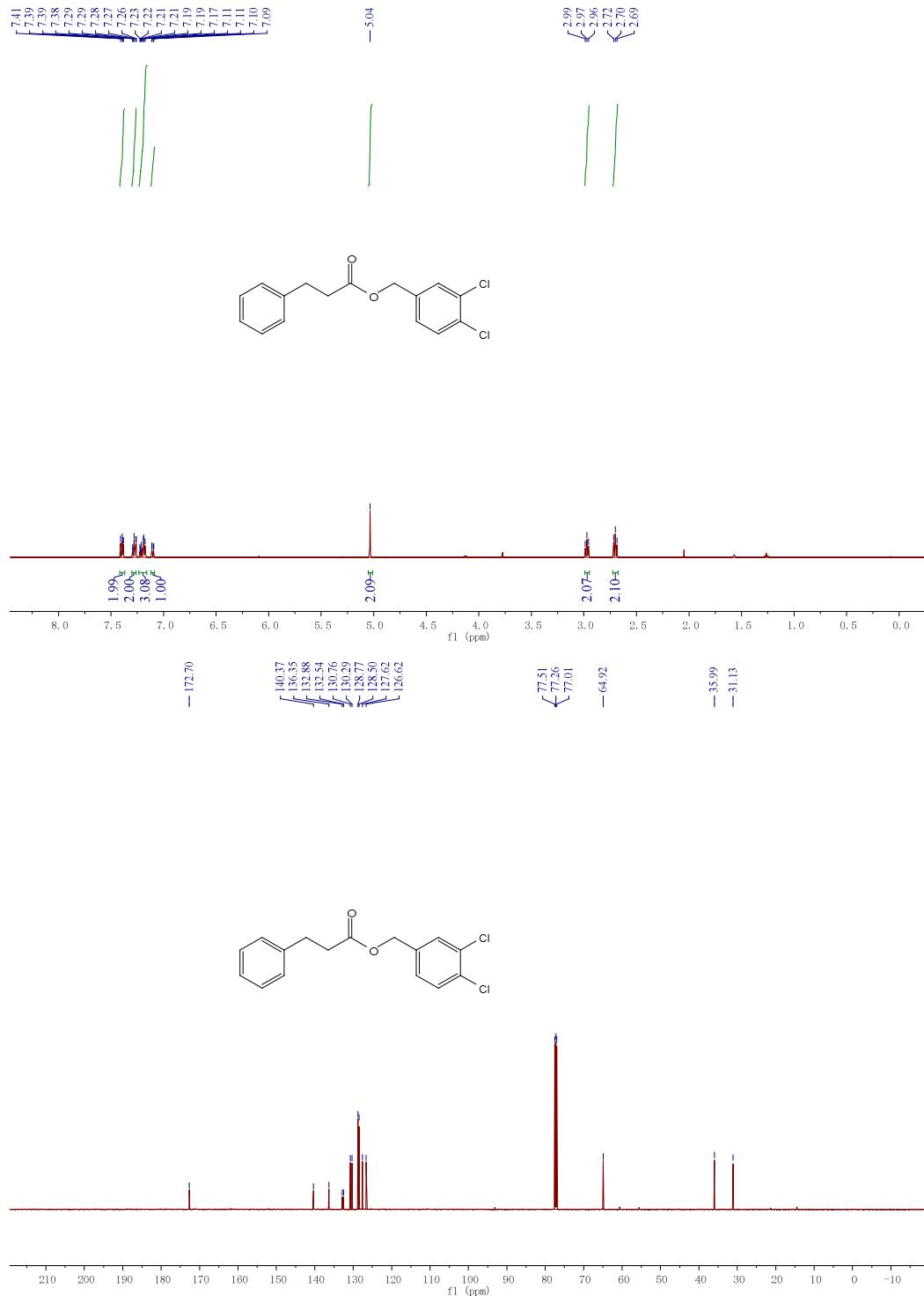
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ec**



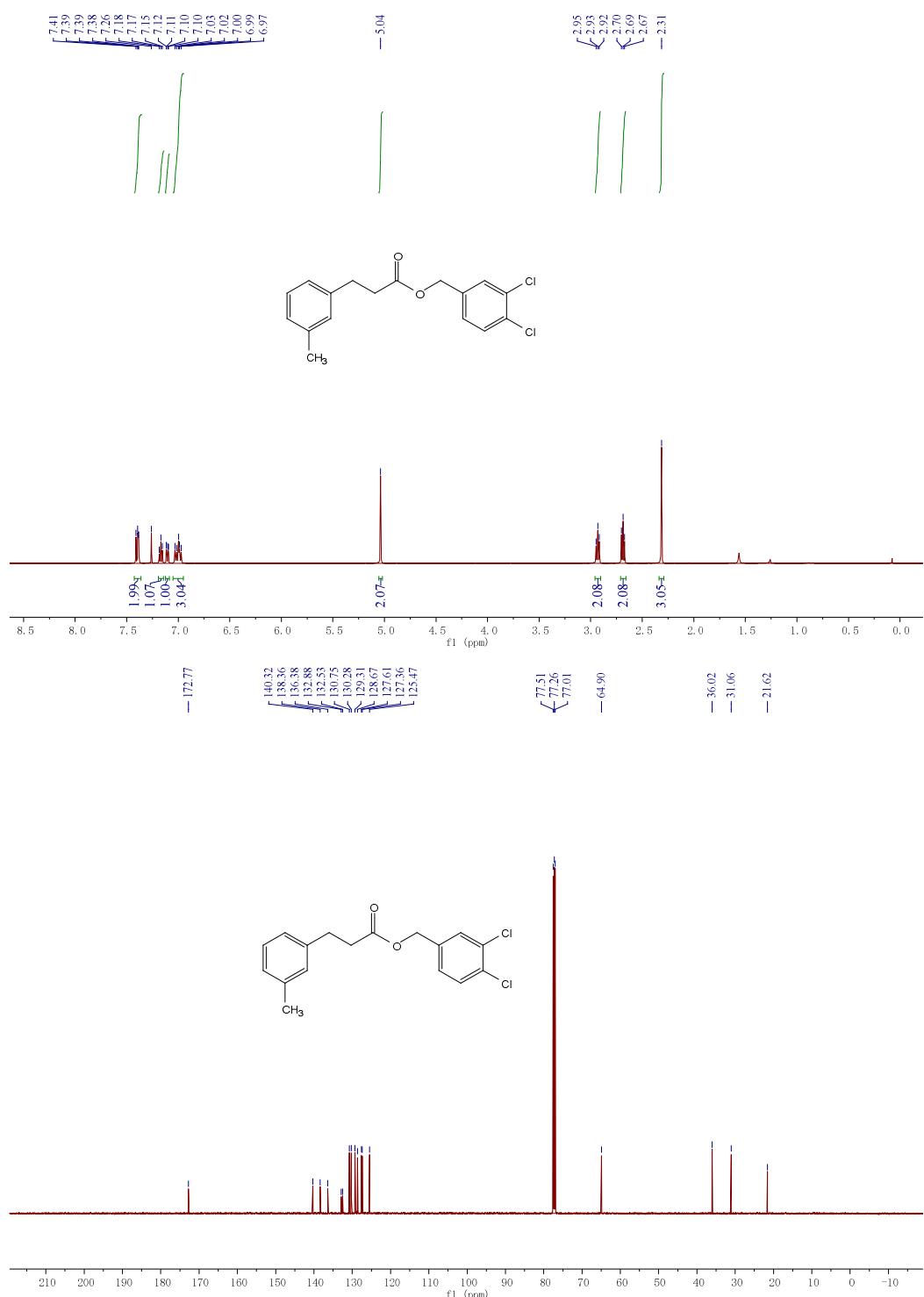
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ic**



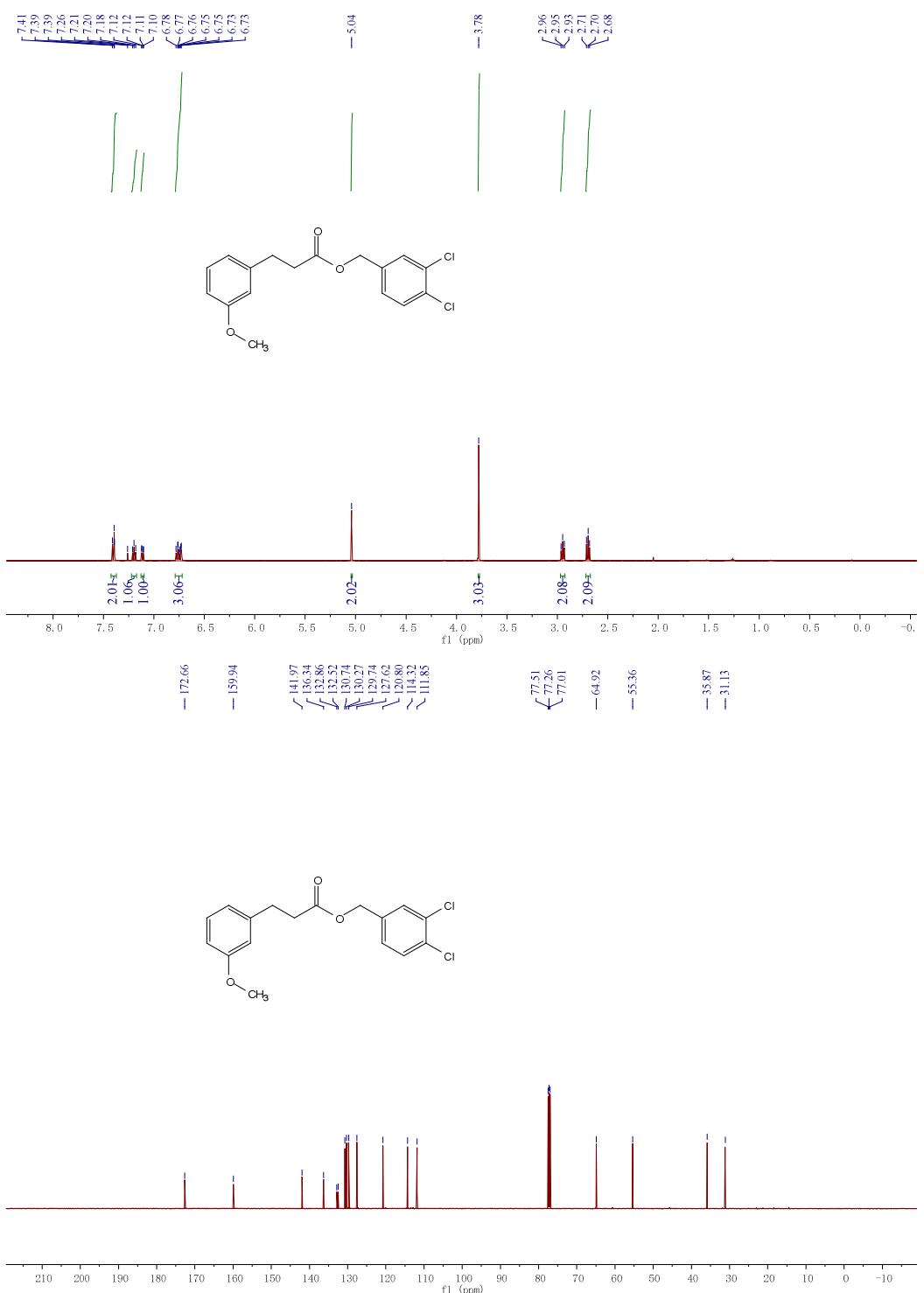
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ad**



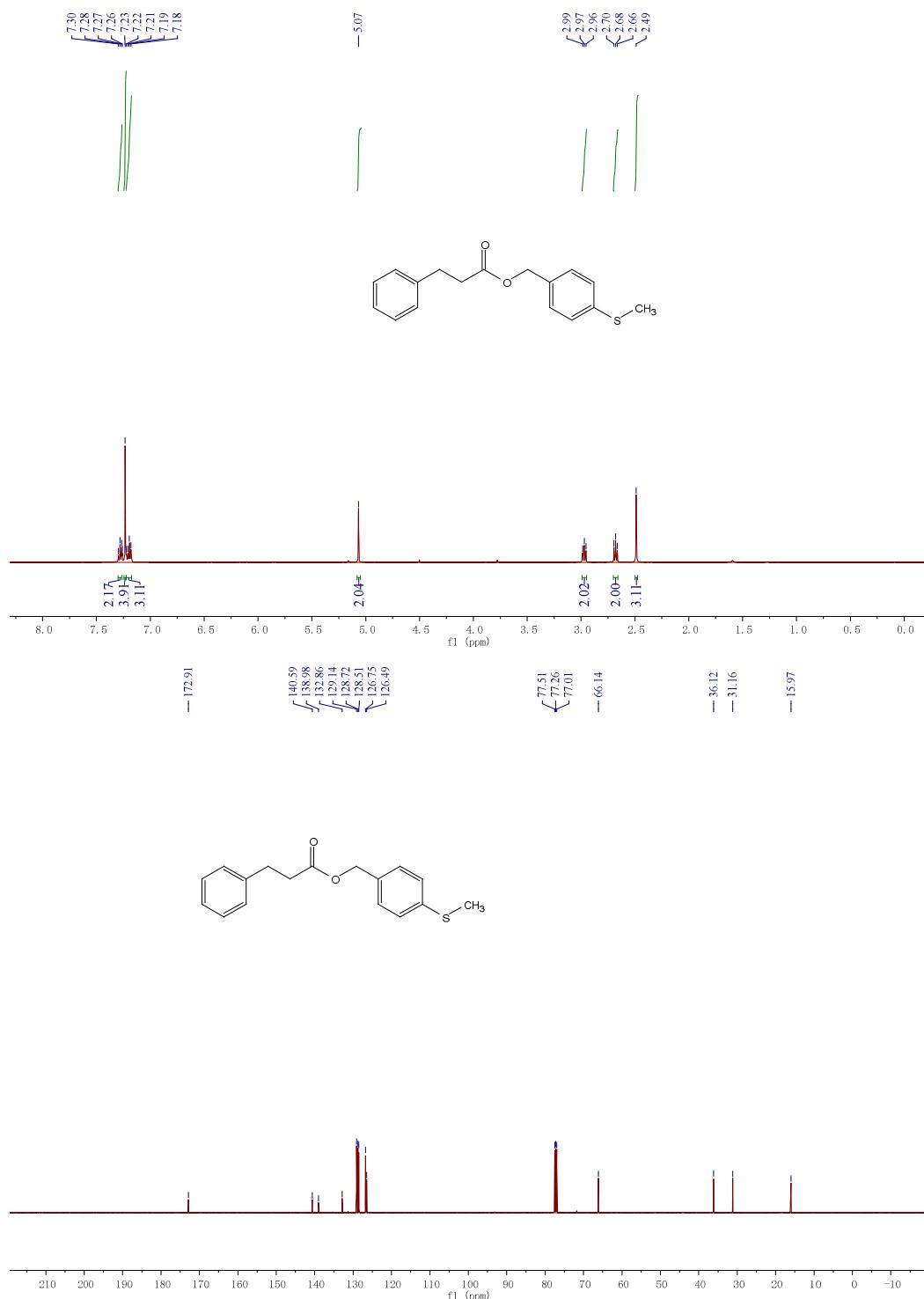
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3cd**



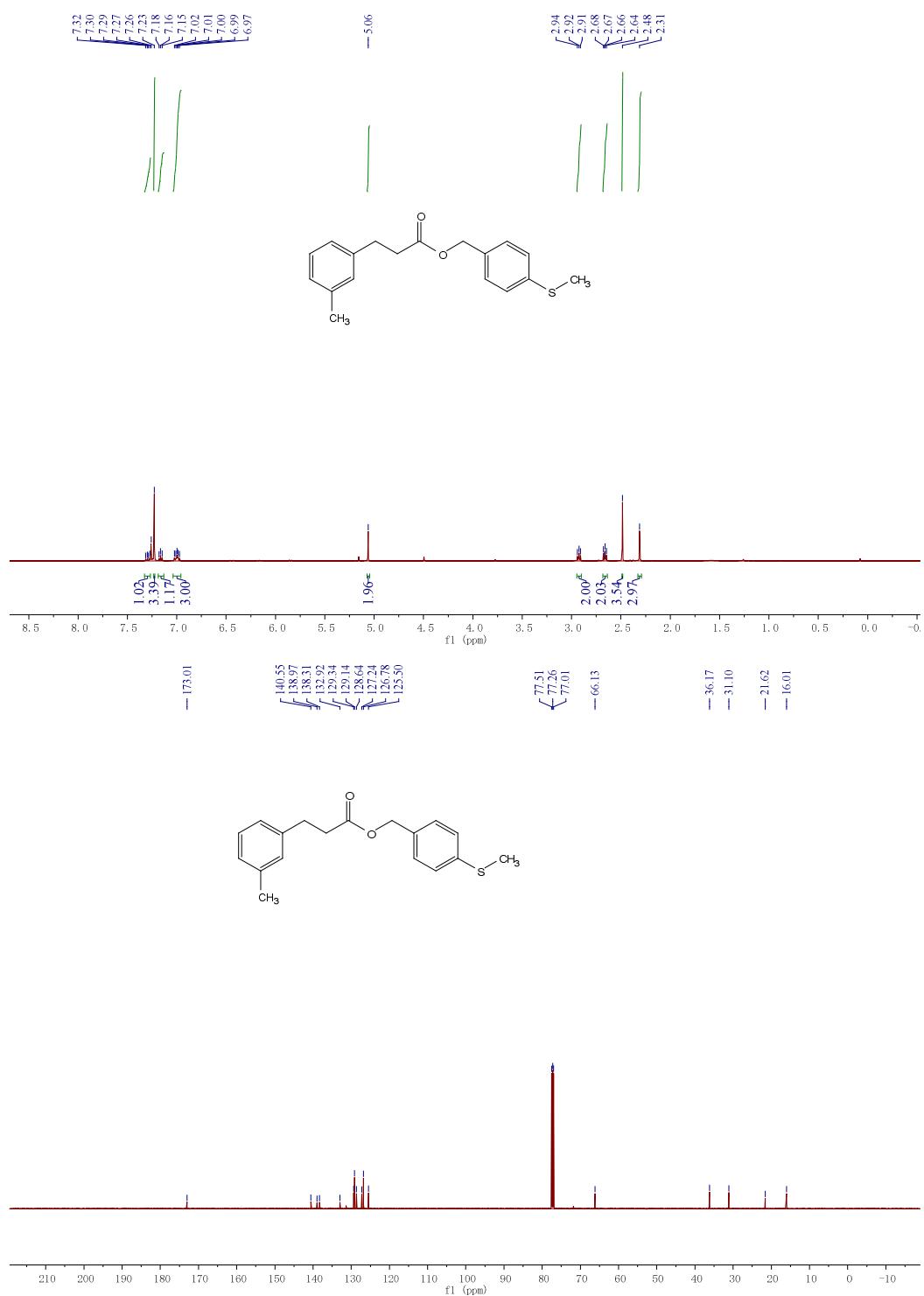
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ed**



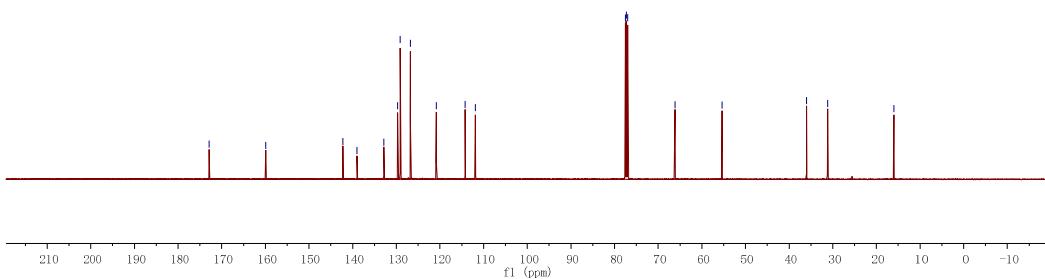
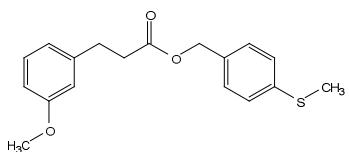
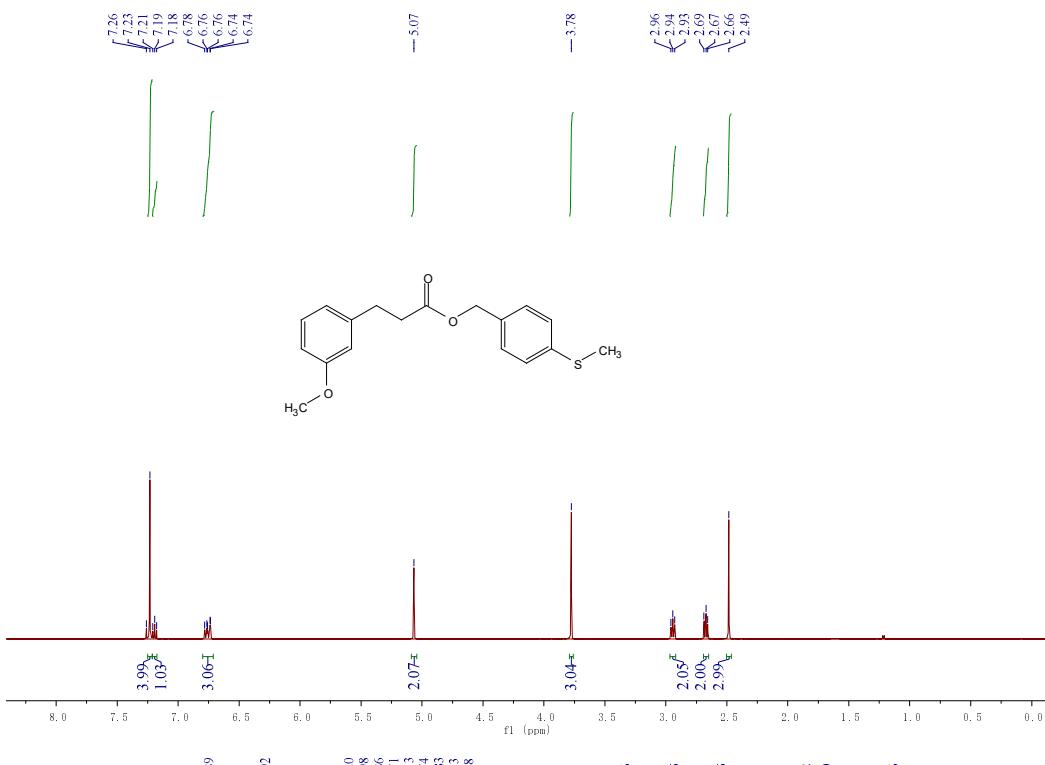
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ae**



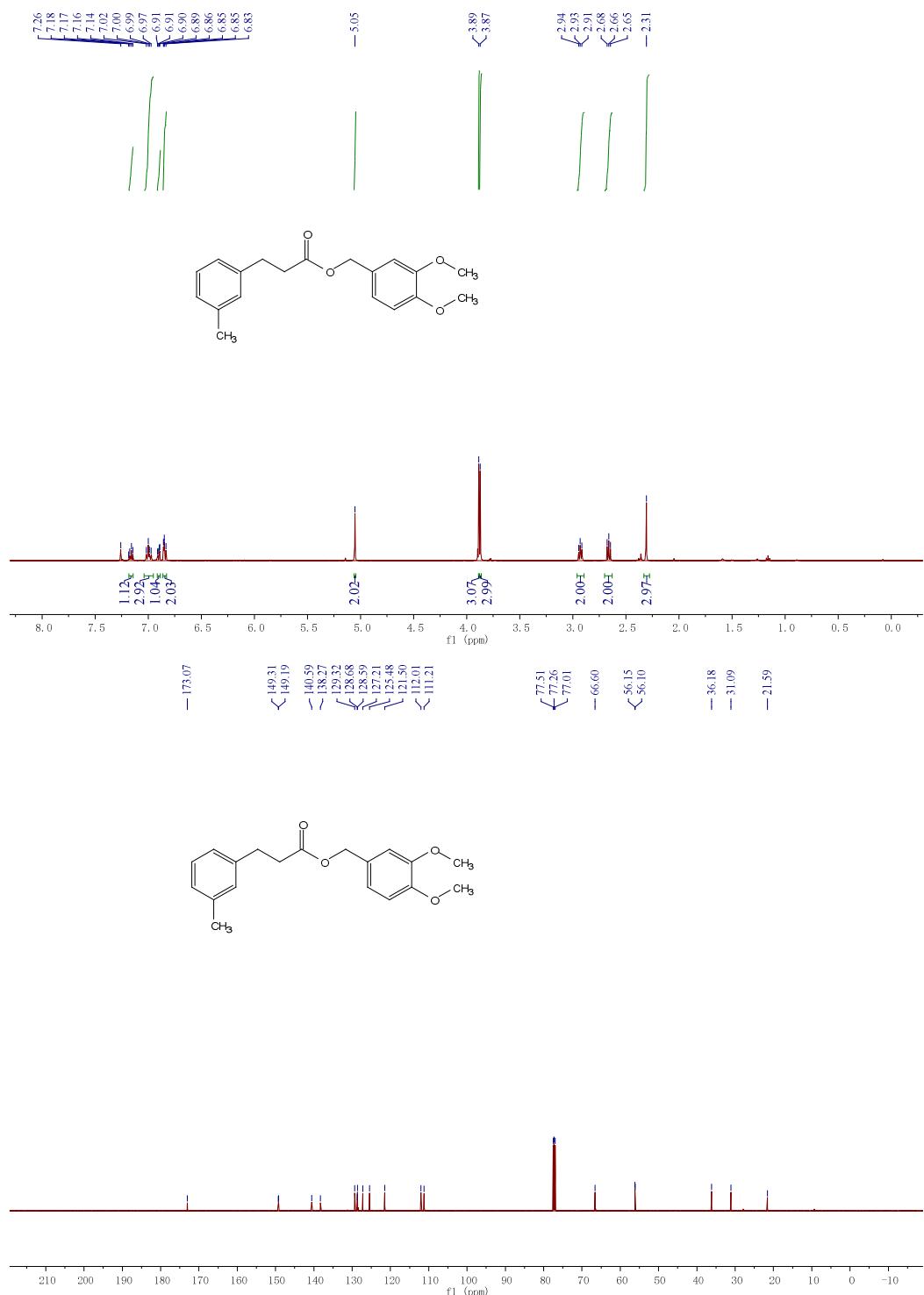
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ce**



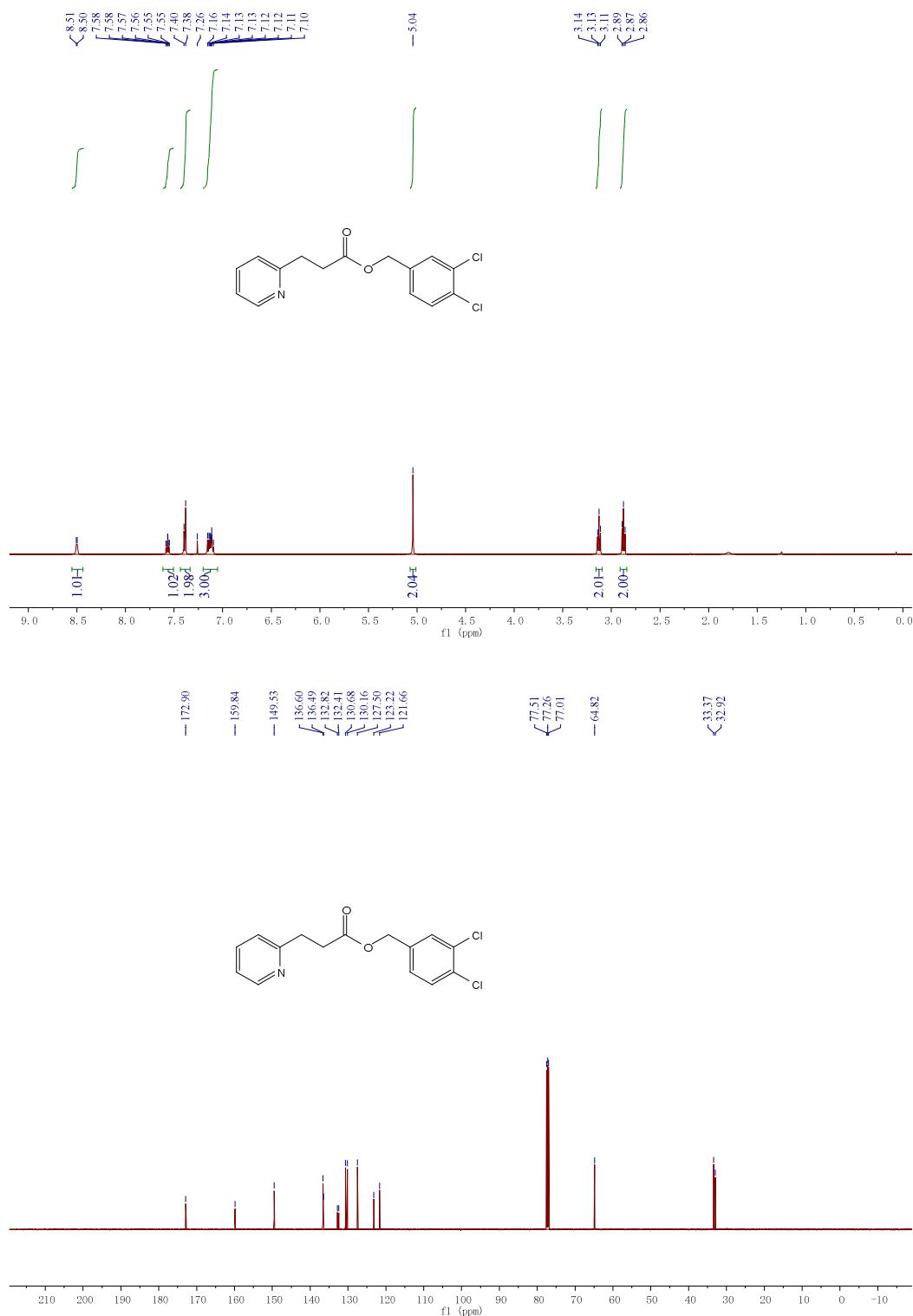
## <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ee



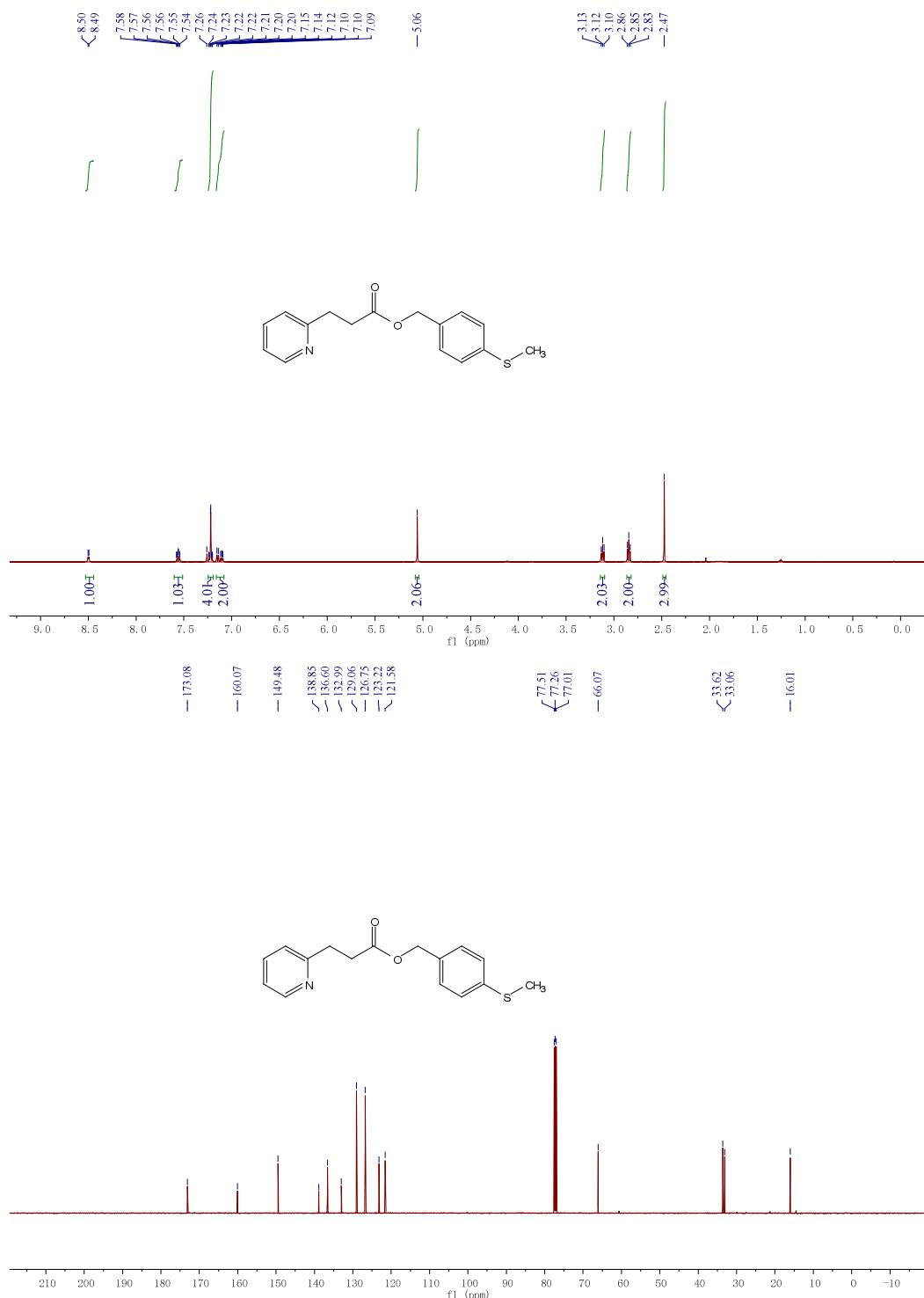
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3cf**



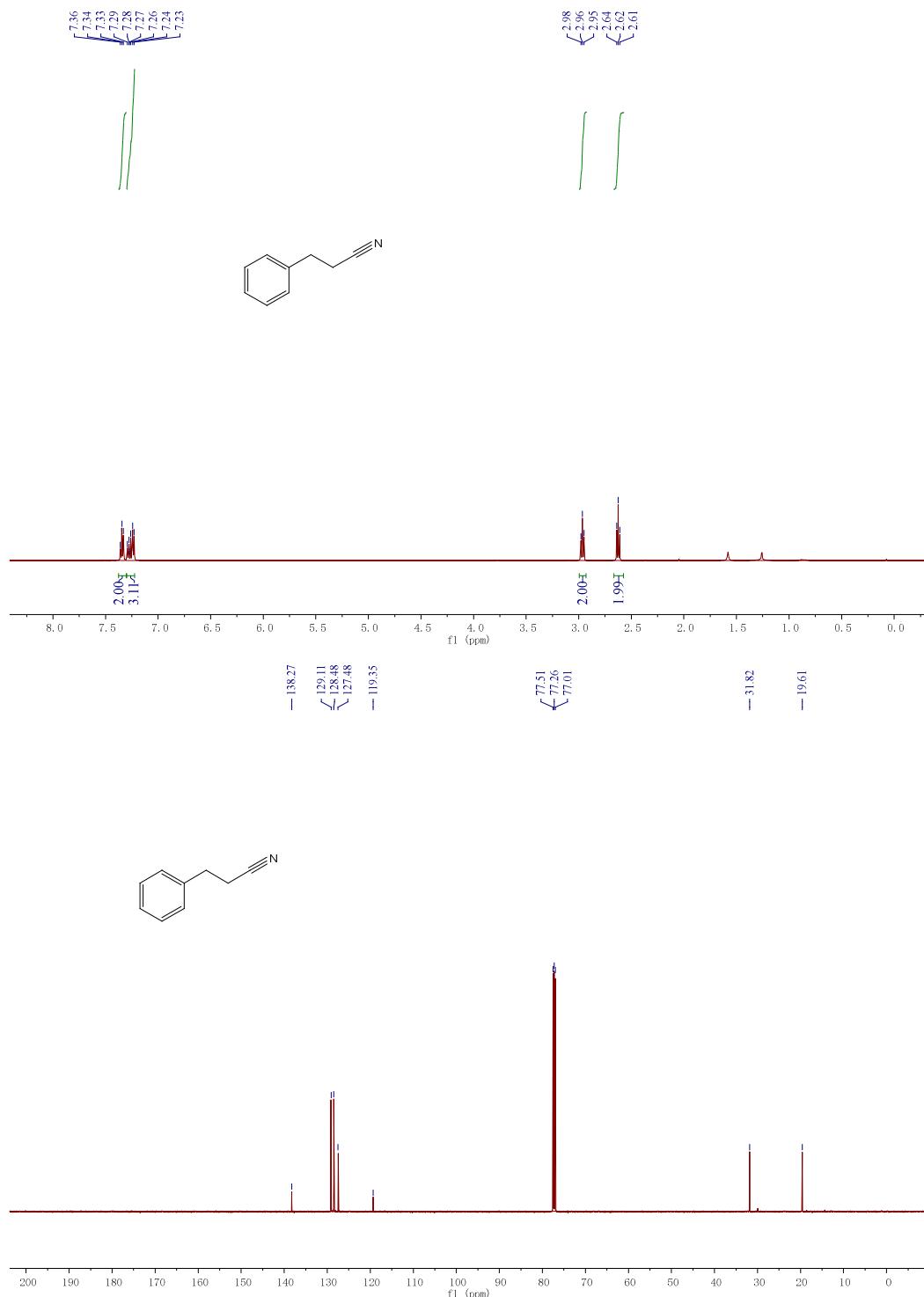
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3kd**



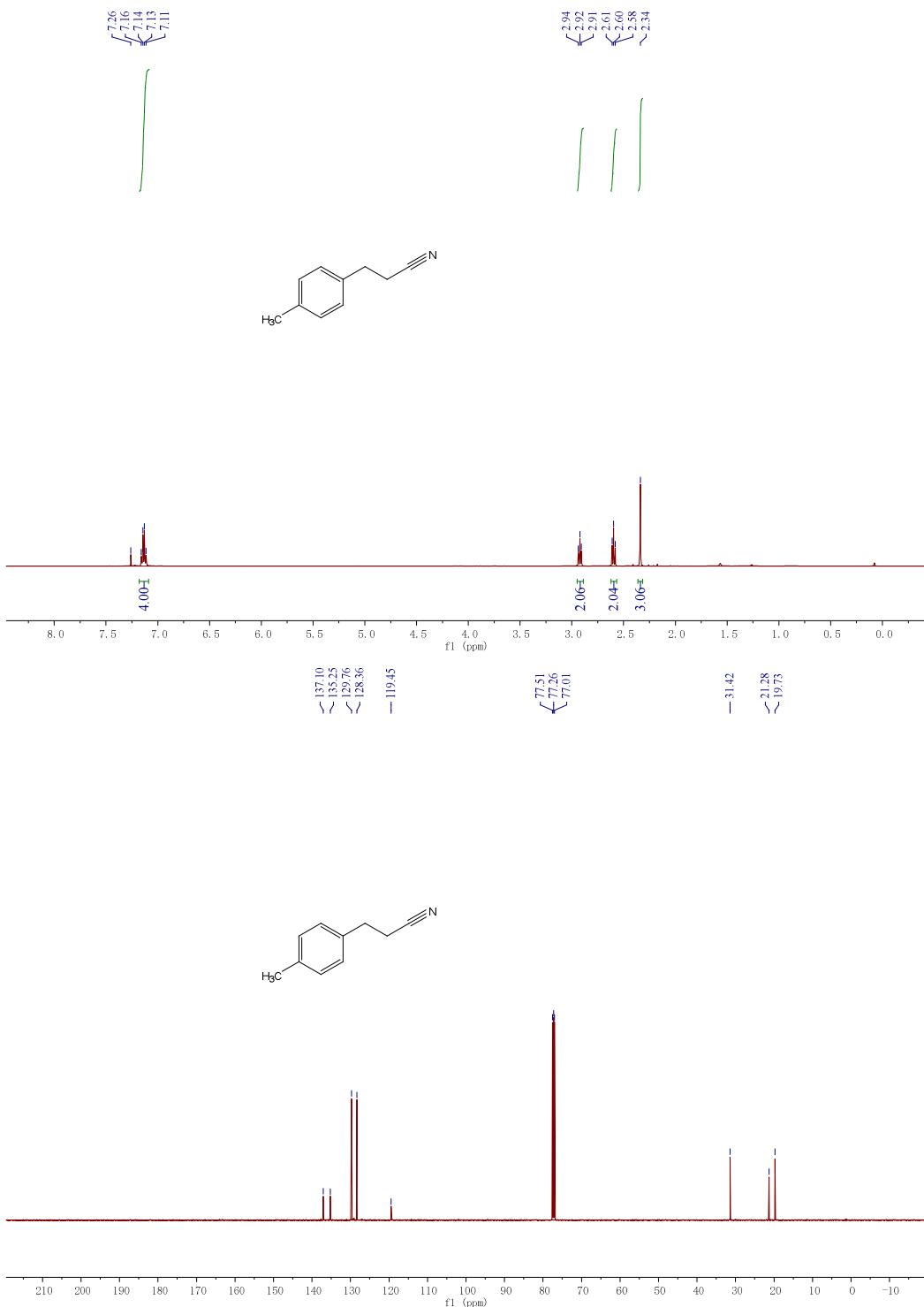
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ke**



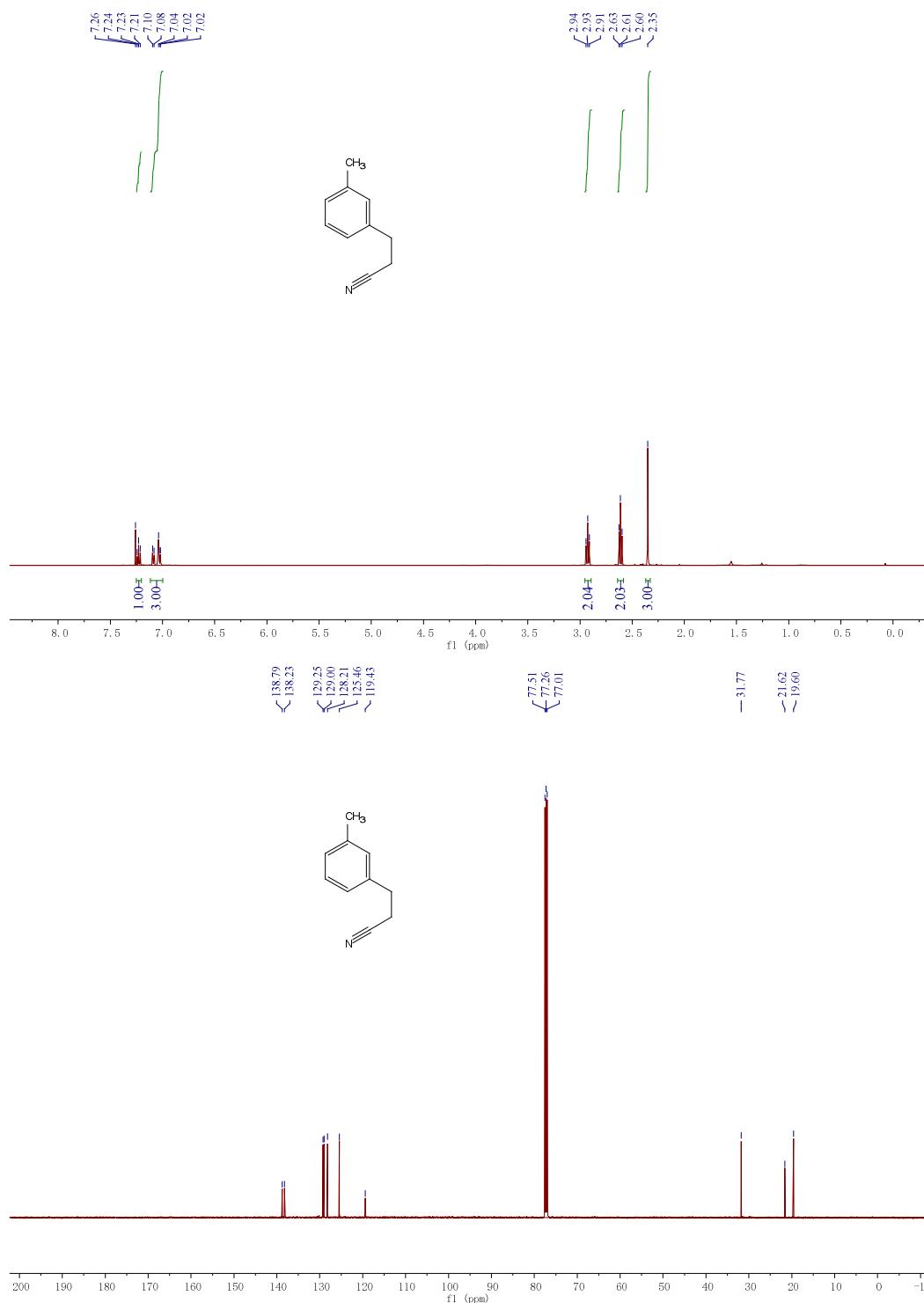
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ag**



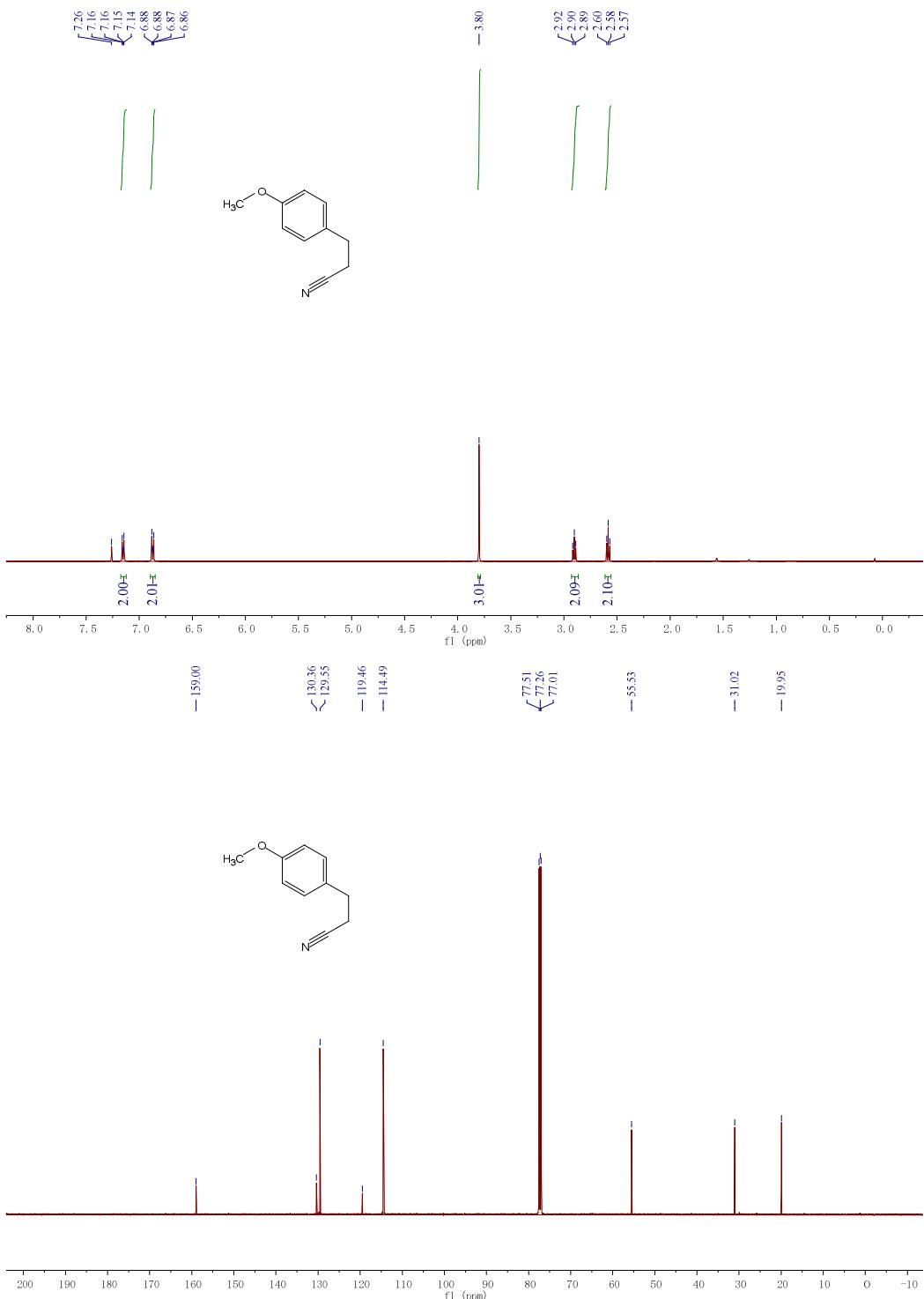
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3bg**



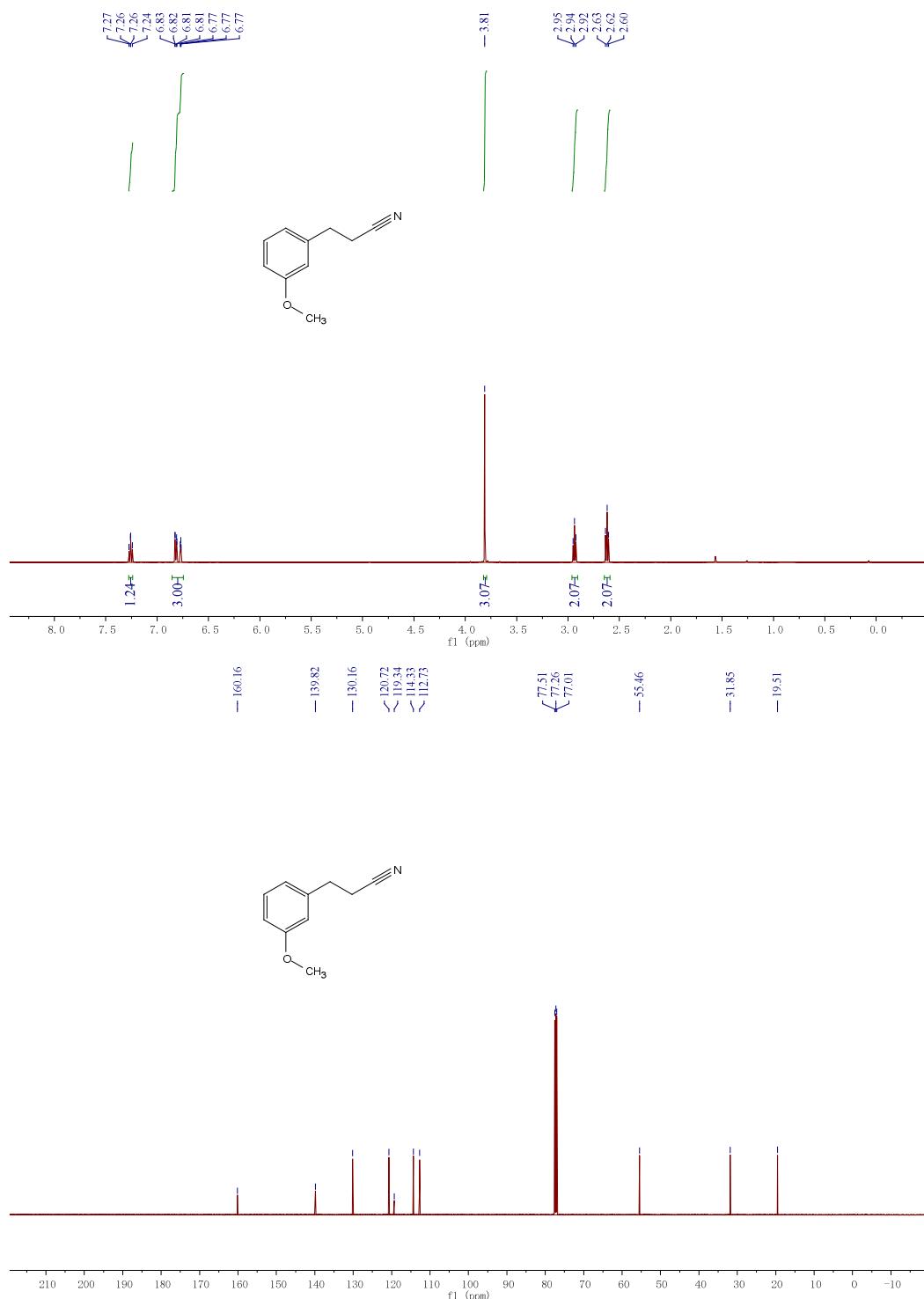
<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3cg



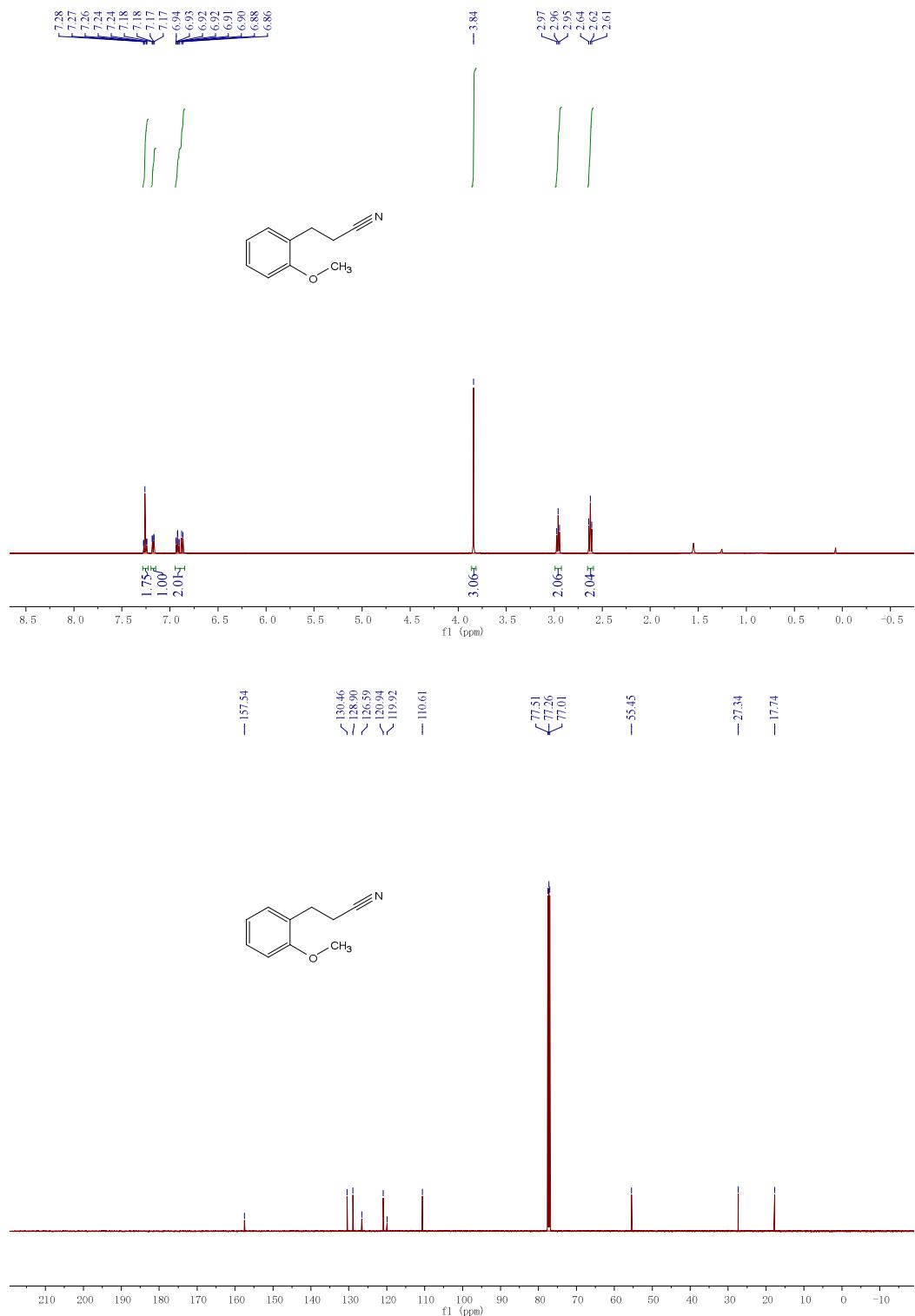
<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3dg



<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3eg



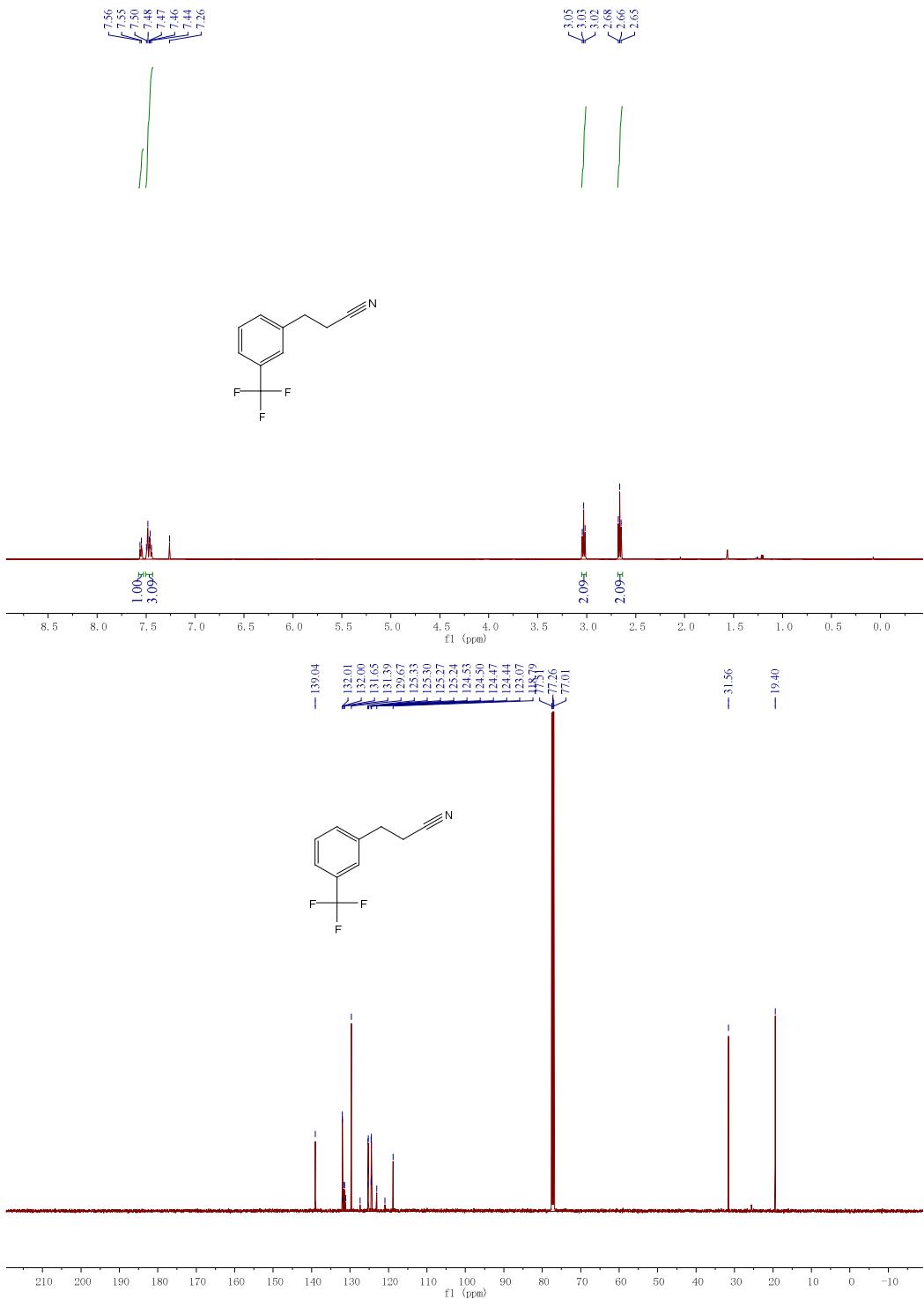
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3fg**



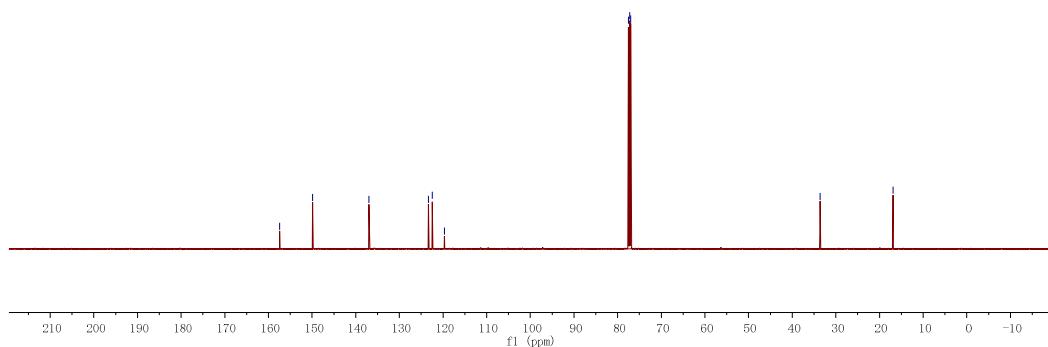
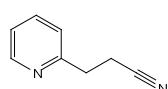
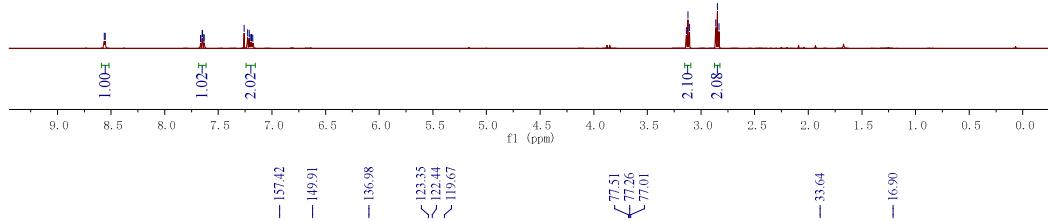
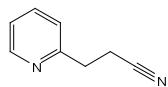
<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3gg



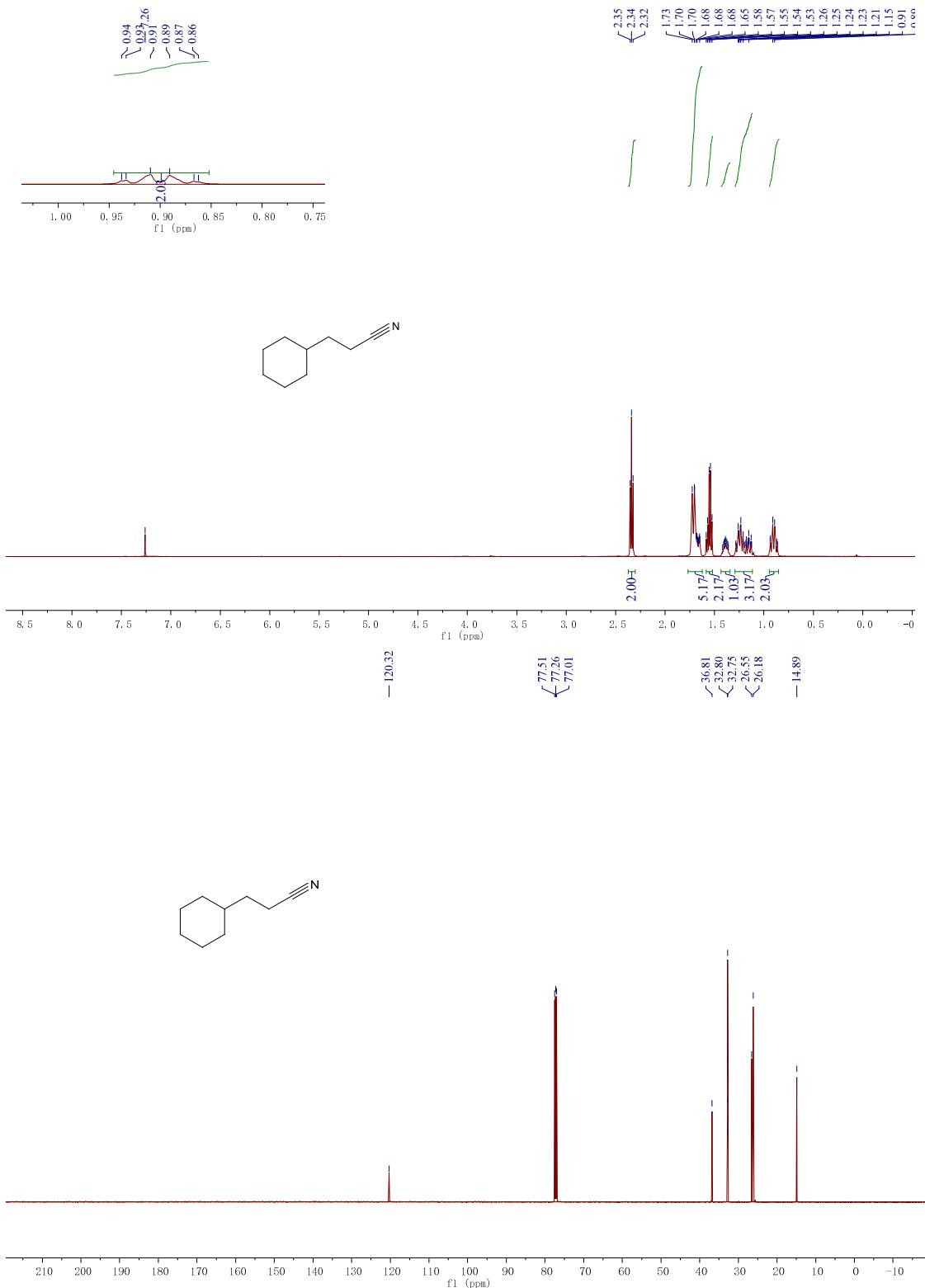
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ig**



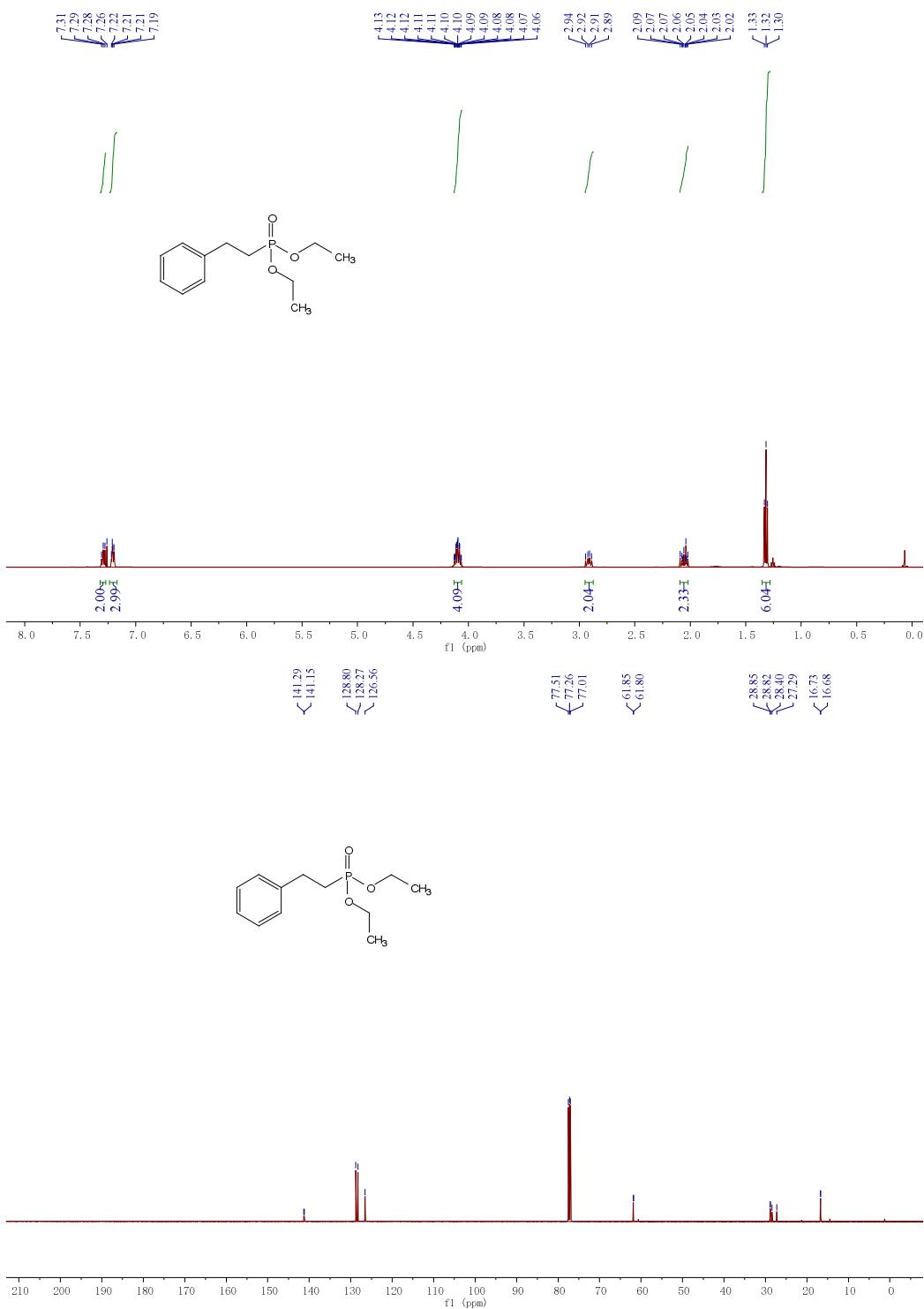
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3kg**



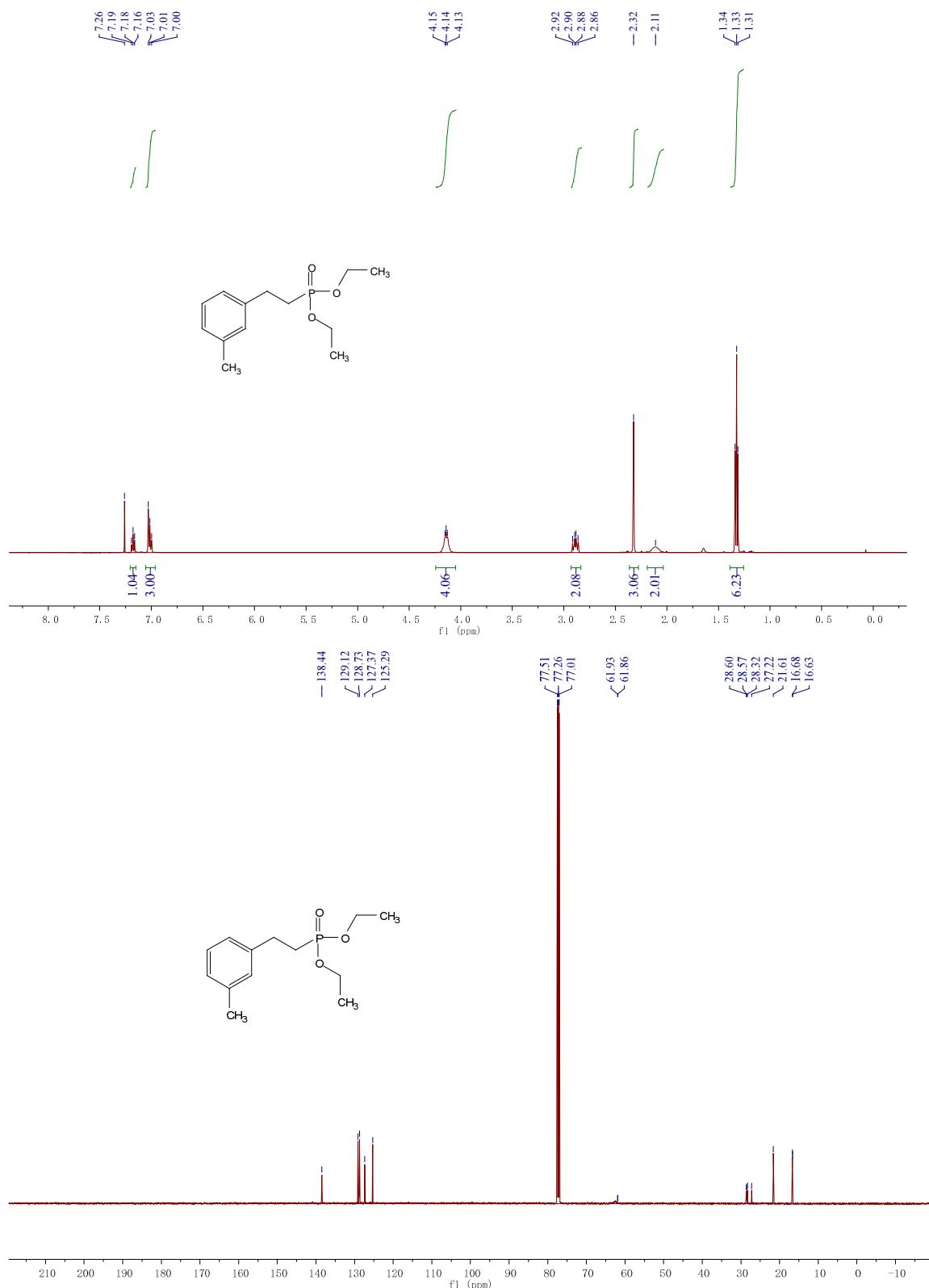
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ng**



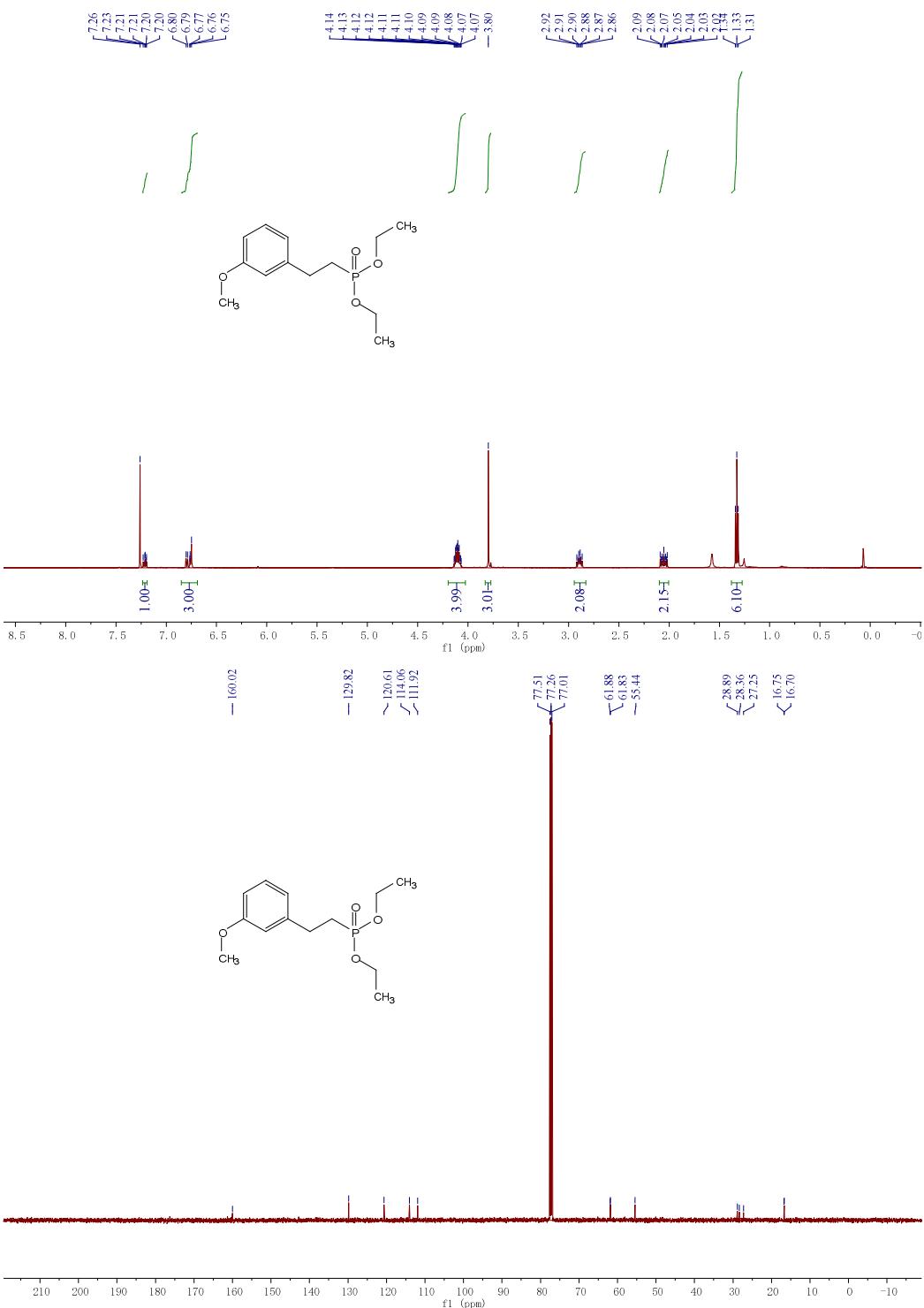
<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ah



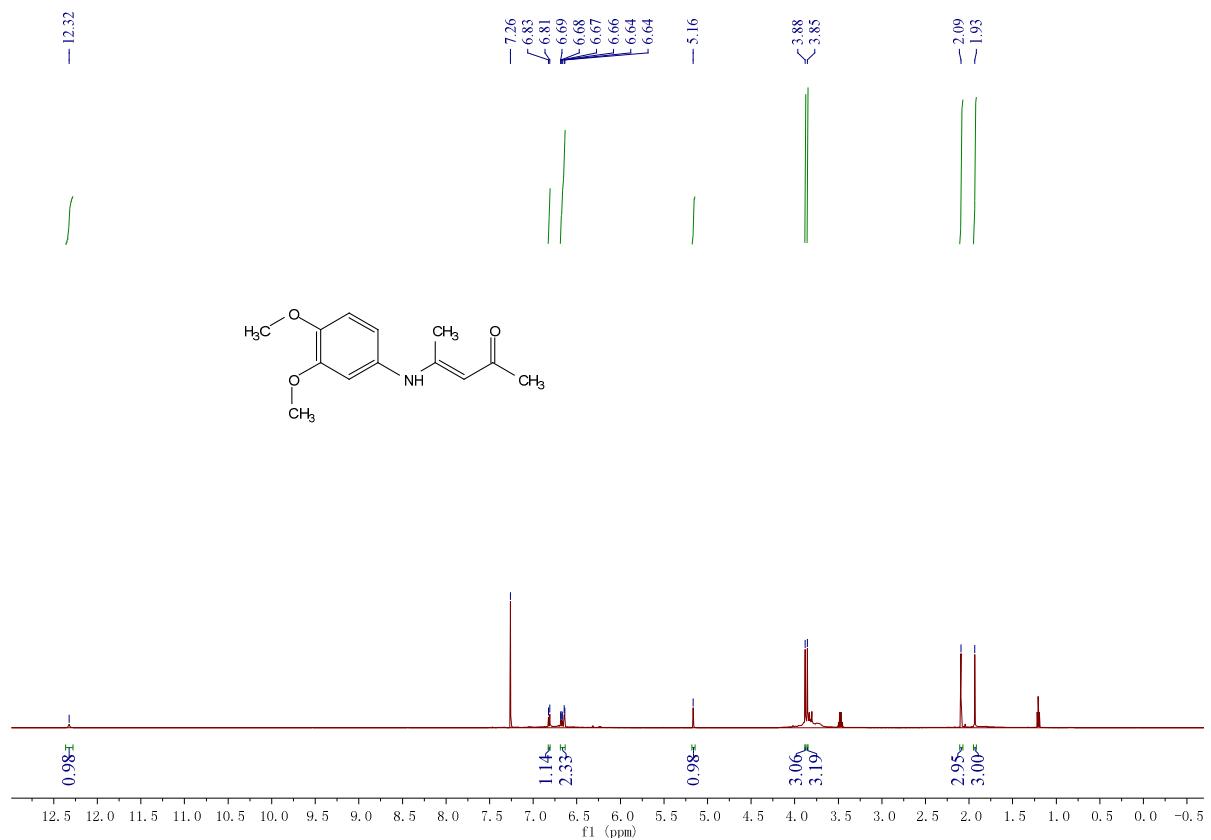
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3ch**



### **<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3eh**



<sup>1</sup>H NMR of L-2



<sup>1</sup>H NMR of L-2

