

Ruthenium-catalyzed *meta*-C-H bond alkylation of aryl 2-pyridyl ketones

Gang Li,^{*a} Chunqi Jia,^{b†} Xiaofeng Cai,^{a†} Lei zhong,^a Lei Zou^a and Xiuling Cui^{*b}

^aCollege of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Henan Province Key Laboratory of New Optoelectronic Functional Materials, Anyang Normal University, Anyang 455002, PR China.

^bEngineering Research Center of Molecular Medicine of Ministry of Education, Key Laboratory of Fujian Molecular Medicine, Key Laboratory of Xiamen Marine and Gene Drugs, School of Biomedical Sciences, Huaqiao University, Xiamen 361021, PR China

Supporting Information

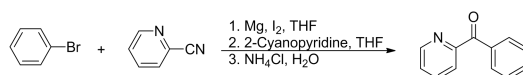
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1. General Information

All commercial reagents and solvents were used directly without additional purification. Column chromatography were performed on silica gel 200-300 mesh. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were registered on a Bruker Ascend™ 400 spectrometer (Germany). Chemical shifts were reported in units (ppm) referenced to 0.0 ppm of TMS in the ¹H spectrum and 77.0 ppm of CDCl₃ in the ¹³C spectrum. All coupling constants were reported in Hertz (Hz). HRMS data were obtained on a Waters LCT Premierxe™ (USA).

2. Experimental Section

2.1. Typical Procedure for the Synthesis of Phenyl(pyridin-2-yl)methanone.¹



A solution of the aryl bromide derivatives (10.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in 20 mL of THF was treated with magnesium (12.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) and 10 mg I₂ under N₂ atmosphere. After the formation of the Grignard reagent, the solution was cooled to room temperature, and added into the solution of 2-cyanopyridine (10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in THF (15 mL) at 0 °C dropwise. After the reaction was complete monitored by TLC, the reaction was quenched by addition of a solution of saturated NH₄Cl. The organic layer was separated and extracted twice with ethyl acetate. After evaporation, the residue was dissolved in Et₂O (80.0 mL), and 6 M HCl (10.0 mL) was added. After 30 min, the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was basified with saturated NaHCO₃, and then extracted three times with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography with petroleum ether and ethyl acetate.

2.2. Typical experimental procedure of the *meta*-C_{Ar}-H bond alkylations of aryl 2-pyridyl ketones.

Aryl 2-pyridyl ketones (0.2 mmol), Alkyl bromide (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv.), [Ru(*p*-Cymene)Cl₂]₂, (0.01 mmol, 5 mol %), KOAc (0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv), 1-AdCOOH (30 mmol %), dry toluene (1 mL) were charged into a pre-dried 30-mL pressure tube sealed with rubber plugs under N₂ atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 24 h. The reaction was cooled down to room temperature. The mixture was passed through a short pad of celite, washing with a mixture of EtOAc. The organic layer was concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude oil, which was purified by column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum as eluent) on silica gel to afford the desired products.

3. References

1. Beibei Liu, Ge Qu, Jun - Kuan Li, Wenchao Fan, Jun-An Ma, Yan Xu, Yao Nie, Zhoutong Sun, Adv. Synth. Catal., 2019, 361, 3182.

4. Data and Spectra of ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR

Methyl 2-(3-picolinoylphenyl)propanoate (3a, colorless oil): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.72 (d, $J = 3.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.10-7.99 (m, 2H), 7.99-7.87 (m, 2H), 7.56 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.37 (m, 2H), 3.82 (m, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 1.54 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 193.69, 174.58, 154.98, 148.56, 140.61, 137.10, 136.59, 132.02, 130.08 (d), 128.41, 126.26, 124.65, 52.12, 45.30, 18.47. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_3$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, 270.1125, Found: m/z 270.1127.

Methyl 2-(2-methyl-5-picolinoylphenyl)propanoate (3b, slight yellow oil): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.71 (d, $J = 4.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.00 (m, 2H), 7.91-7.80 (m, 2H), 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.31-7.22 (m, 1H), 4.01 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.52 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 193.41, 174.73, 155.25, 148.48, 141.62, 139.12, 137.01, 134.58, 130.32, 129.88, 129.41, 126.09, 124.57, 52.09, 41.39, 19.90, 17.69. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_3$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, 284.1281, Found: m/z 284.1279.

Methyl 2-(4-picolinoyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)propanoate (3c, colorless oil): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.81-8.70 (m, 1H), 8.11 (m, 2H), 8.00-7.89 (m, 2H), 7.56-7.36 (m, 7H), 3.97 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 1.42 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 193.40, 174.89, 155.00, 148.55, 146.26, 140.36, 138.78, 137.14, 135.75, 130.11, 129.81, 129.41, 129.05, 128.36, 127.66, 126.31, 124.69, 52.09, 41.19, 19.17. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_3$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, 346.1438, Found: m/z 346.1433.

Methyl 2-(2-chloro-5-picolinoylphenyl)propanoate (3d, colorless oil): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.77-8.66 (m, 1H), 8.15-8.04 (m, 2H), 7.93 (m, 2H), 7.51 (m, 2H), 4.26 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.69 (d, $J = 4.1$ Hz, 3H), 1.56 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 192.34, 173.97, 154.57, 148.49, 138.79, 138.47, 137.23, 135.14, 131.25, 131.00, 129.45, 126.50, 124.72, 52.28, 42.24, 17.36. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClNO}_3$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, 304.0735, Found: m/z 304.0730.

Methyl 2-(2-fluoro-5-picolinoylphenyl)propanoate (3e, colorless oil): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.72 (d, $J = 4.7$ Hz, 1H), 8.13 (m, 1H), 8.09-8.02 (m, 2H), 7.92 (m, 1H), 7.56-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.15 (t, $J = 9.1$ Hz, 1H), 4.07 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.69 (d, $J = 4.8$ Hz, 3H), 1.56 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 191.95, 173.76, 164.65, 154.89, 148.43, 137.16, 132.81-132.33 (m), 128.01 (d, $J = 15.5$ Hz), 126.30, 124.68, 115.45, 115.22, 52.24, 38.63 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz), 17.26. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{FNO}_3$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, 288.1030, Found: m/z 288.1032.

Methyl 2-(5-picolinoyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (3f, colorless oil): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.72 (d, $J = 3.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.10-7.99 (m, 2H), 7.99-7.87 (m, 2H), 7.56 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.37 (m, 2H), 3.82 (m, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 1.54 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 192.56, 173.97, 153.99, 148.64, 139.67, 137.29, 131.62, 131.31, 129.42, 126.82, 125.84, 125.78, 125.72, 125.67, 125.27, 124.75, 52.34, 40.91, 19.40. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_3$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, 338.0999, Found: m/z 338.0994.

Methyl 2-(2-methoxy-5-picolinoylphenyl)propanoate (3g, colorless oil): ^1H NMR (400 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 8.70 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.98 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (m, 1H), 7.51-7.44 (m, 1H), 6.93 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 1.49 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.24, 174.96, 160.79, 155.72, 148.32, 137.00, 132.78, 131.37, 129.46, 128.91, 125.84, 124.52, 109.78, 55.78, 51.93, 39.46, 16.97. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For C₁₇H₁₈NO₄: [M+H]⁺, 300.1230, Found: m/z 300.1231.

Ethyl 2-(2-methoxy-5-picolinoylphenyl)butanoate (3h, colorless oil): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.69 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 8.10-8.02 (m, 2H), 7.97 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (m, 1H), 7.53-7.40 (m, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.95-3.81 (m, 4H), 2.08 (m, 1H), 1.88-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.18 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.33, 173.85, 161.01, 155.70, 148.32, 137.02, 132.63, 131.78, 128.75, 128.05, 125.85, 124.53, 109.71, 60.50, 55.74, 46.22, 25.21, 14.19, 12.21. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For C₁₉H₂₂NO₄: [M+H]⁺, 328.1543, Found: m/z 328.1546.

Methyl 2-(2-methoxy-5-picolinoylphenyl)octanoate (3i, colorless oil): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.69 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 8.09-8.01 (m, 2H), 7.98 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (m, 1H), 7.50-7.41 (m, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 2.11-2.00 (m, 1H), 1.77 (m, 1H), 1.26 (m, 8H), 0.85 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.30, 174.49, 160.92, 155.65, 148.31, 137.04, 132.64, 131.77, 128.81, 128.08, 125.88, 124.56, 109.78, 55.82, 51.87, 44.21, 32.03, 31.61, 29.04, 27.49, 22.59, 14.06. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For C₂₂H₂₈NO₄: [M+H]⁺, 370.2013, Found: m/z 370.2010.

Methyl 2-(3-(4-methylpicolinoyl)phenyl)propanoate (3j, colorless oil): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.57 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 8.04-7.83 (m, 3H), 7.55 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (m, 1H), 3.82 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 1.54 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 194.08, 174.60, 154.87, 148.43 (d, J = 10.2 Hz), 140.57, 136.76, 131.95, 130.06 (d), 128.37, 127.11, 125.43, 52.11, 45.31, 21.14, 18.46. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For C₁₇H₁₈NO₃: [M+H]⁺, 284.1281, Found: m/z 284.1285.

Methyl 2-(3-picolinoynaphthalen-1-yl)propanoate (3k, slight yellow oil): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.78 (m, 1H), 8.57 (s, 1H), 8.19-8.09 (m, 3H), 8.02-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.70-7.64 (m, 1H), 7.59-7.52 (m, 2H), 4.54 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 1.73 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 193.46, 175.04, 148.57, 137.15, 133.56 (d, J = 13.1 Hz), 133.00 (d, J = 9.6 Hz), 130.98, 128.99, 126.26 (d), 124.79 (d), 123.21, 52.23, 41.75, 17.89. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For C₂₀H₁₈NO₃: [M+H]⁺, 320.1281, Found: m/z 320.1283.

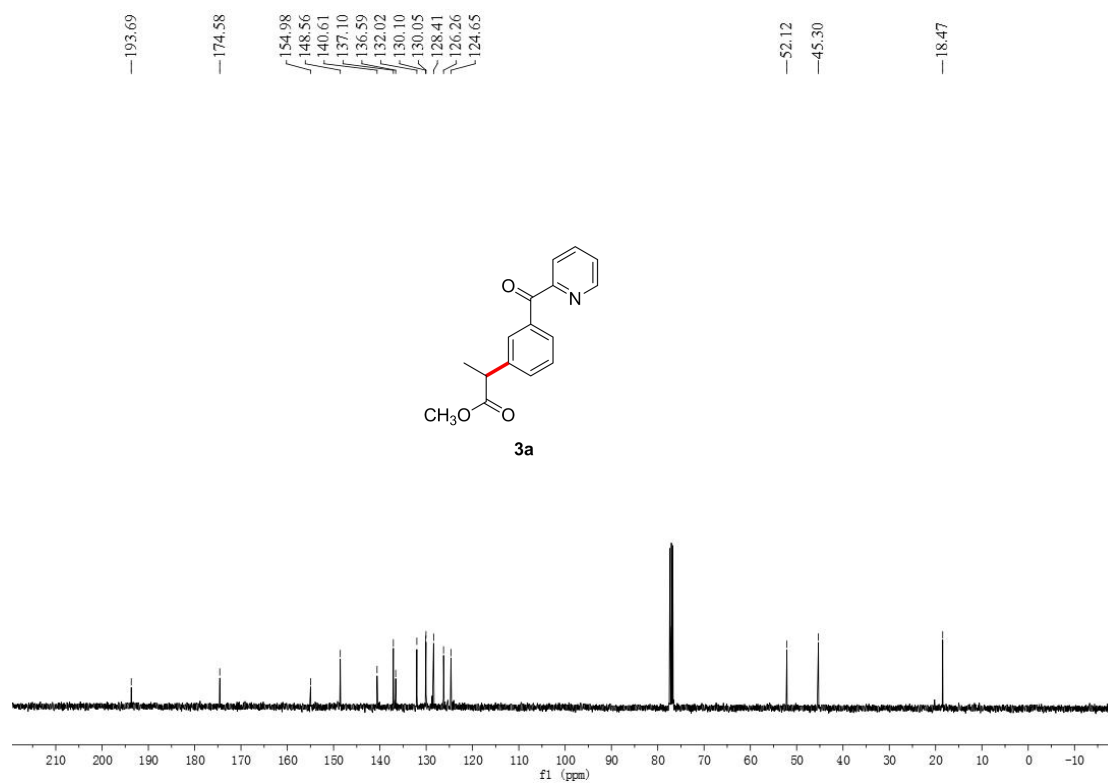
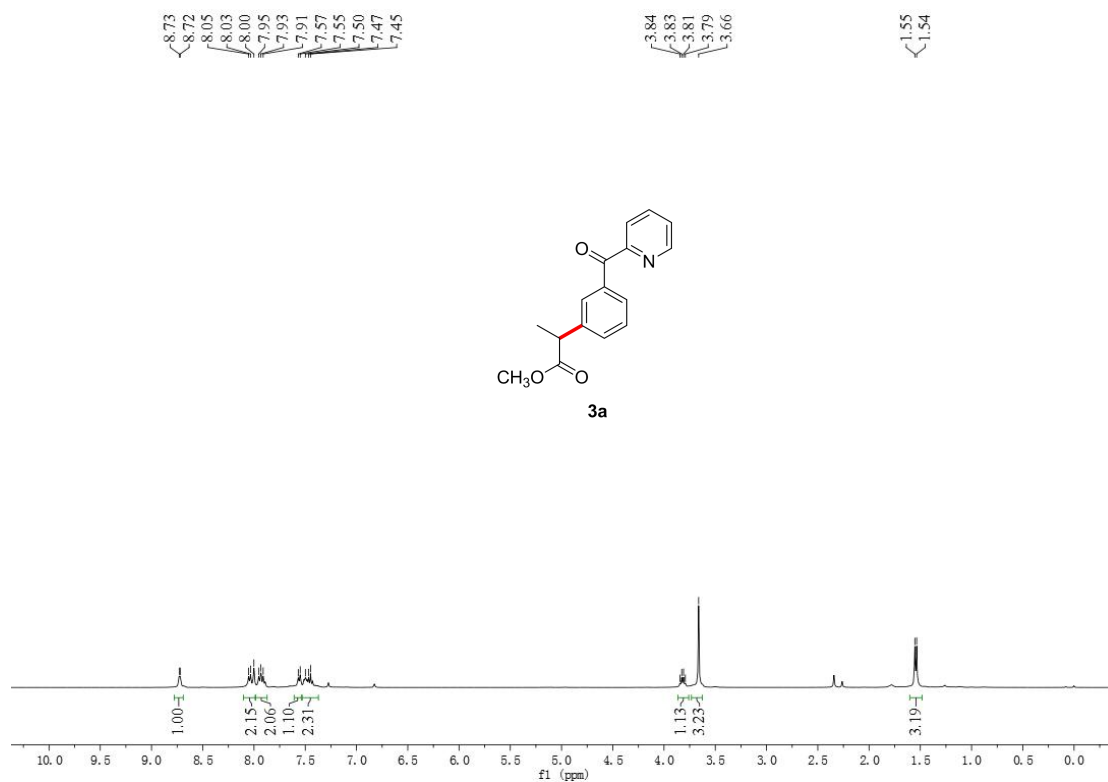
Ethyl 2-(3-picolinoylphenyl)butanoate (3l, slight yellow oil): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.72 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.09-7.97 (m, 2H), 7.97-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.58 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (m, 2H), 4.13 (m, 2H), 3.53 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (m, 1H), 1.90-1.77 (m, 1H), 1.22 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 193.72, 173.64, 155.06, 148.54, 139.40, 137.06, 136.46, 132.43, 130.53, 130.10, 128.31, 126.19, 124.62, 60.76, 53.39, 26.80, 14.13, 12.14. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For C₁₈H₂₀NO₃: [M+H]⁺, 298.1438, Found: m/z 298.1434.

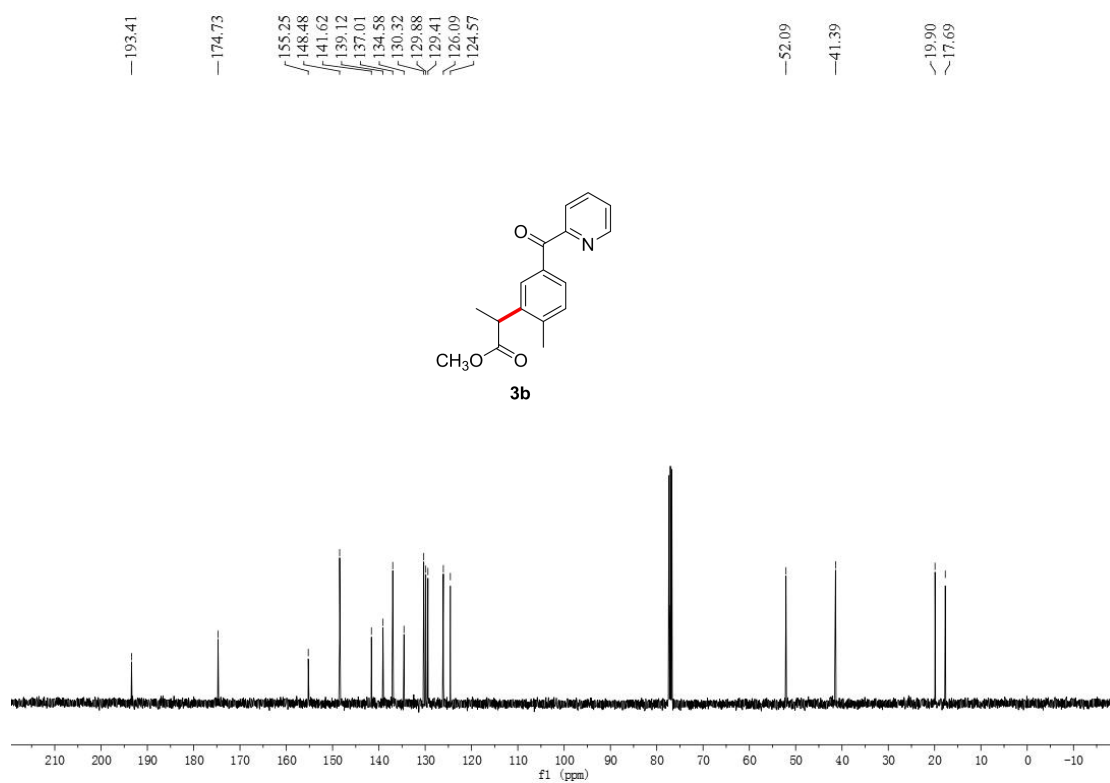
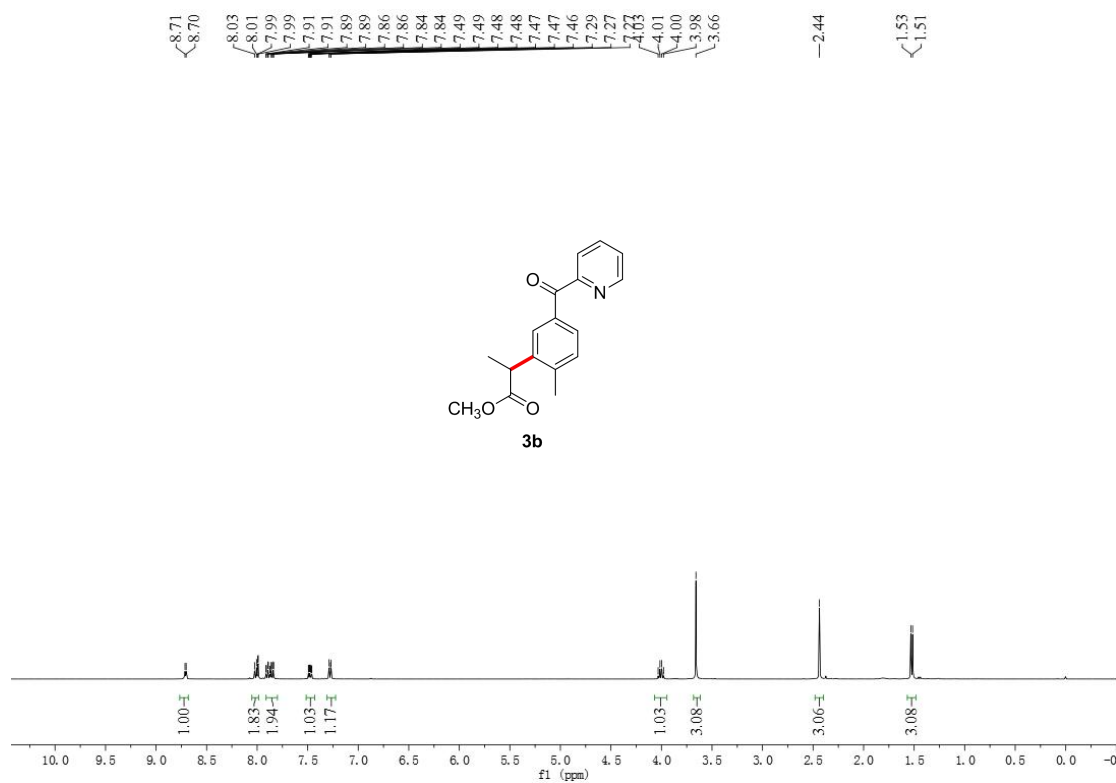
Methyl 2-(3-picolinoylphenyl)octanoate (3m, slight yellow oil): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

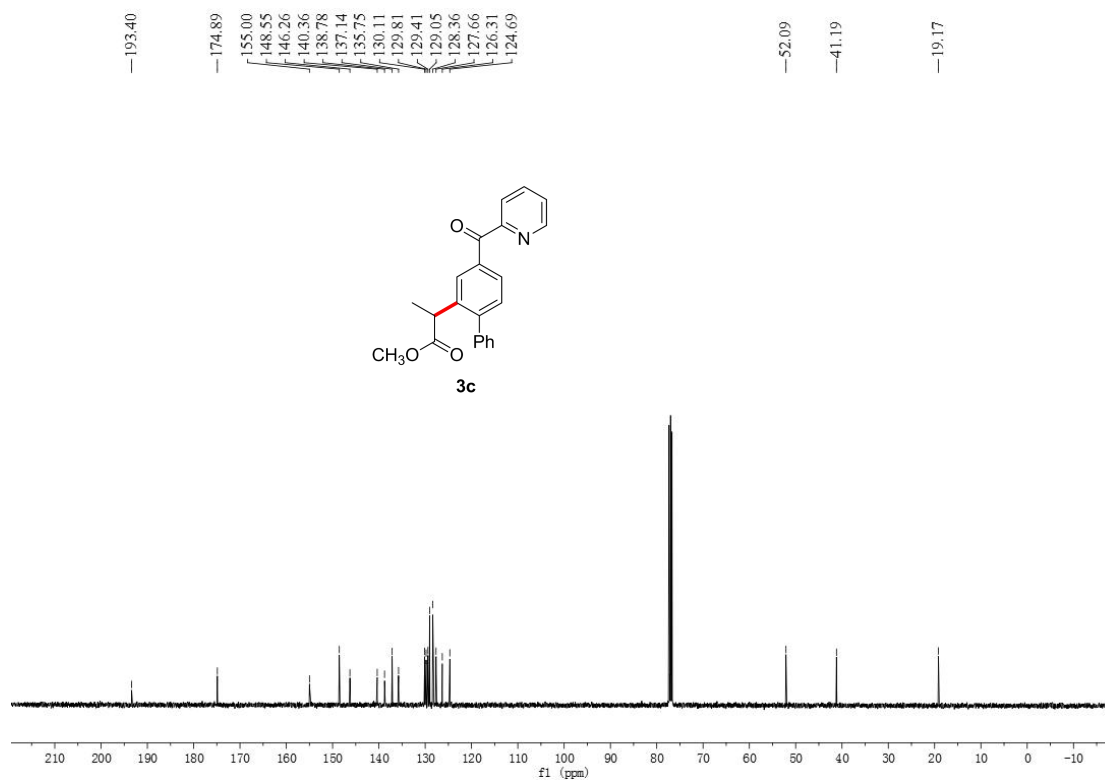
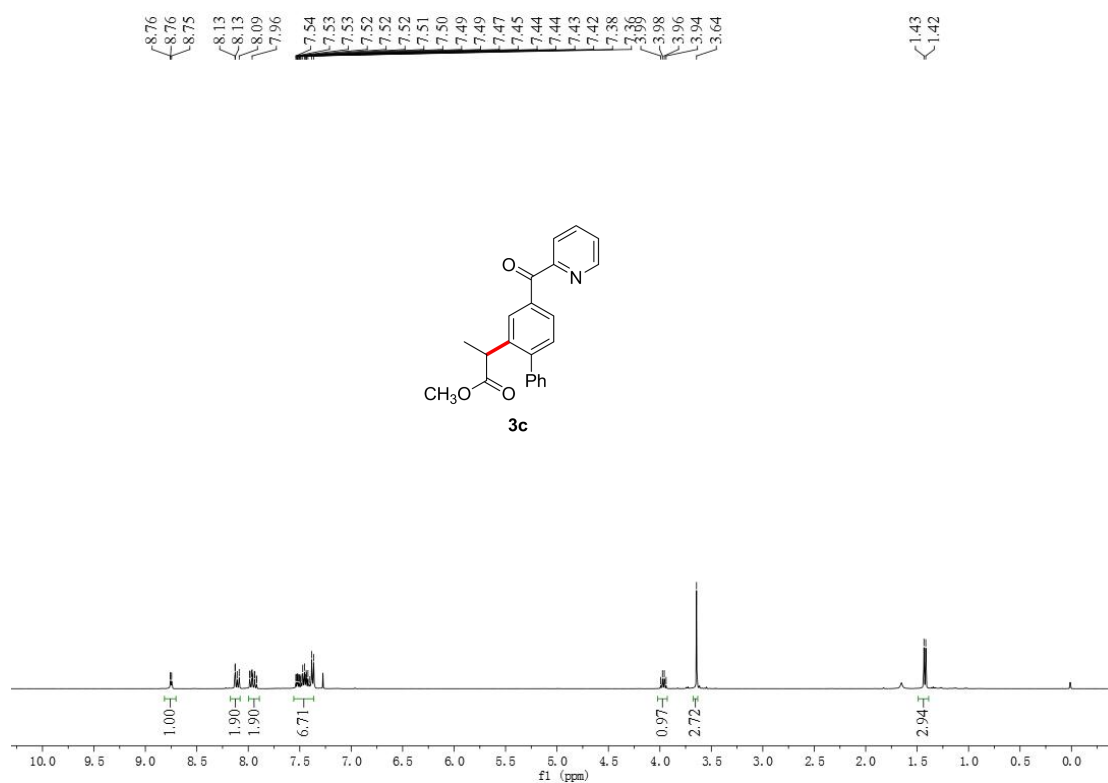
δ 8.71 (s, 1H), 8.06-7.97 (m, 2H), 7.96-7.82 (m, 2H), 7.56 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.38 (m, 2H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 2.08 (s, 1H), 1.79 (s, 1H), 1.25 (s, 9H), 0.85 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 193.66, 174.21, 155.01, 148.53, 139.42, 137.06, 136.50, 132.40, 130.49, 130.14, 128.34, 126.21, 124.62, 51.97, 51.50, 33.48, 31.56, 28.97, 27.48, 22.54, 14.02. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_3$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, 340.1907, Found: m/z 340.1901.

Ethyl 2-methyl-2-(3-picolinoylphenyl)propanoate (3n, colorless oil): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.79-8.68 (m, 1H), 8.06 (m, 2H), 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.59 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.39 (m, 2H), 4.13 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.62 (s, 6H), 1.19 (m, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 193.84, 176.35, 155.11, 148.52, 145.01, 137.08, 136.26, 130.59, 129.70, 128.03 (d), 126.19, 124.64, 60.95, 46.55, 26.49, 14.02. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_3$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, 298.1438, Found: m/z 298.1434.

Methyl 2-methyl-2-(3-picolinoylphenyl)propanoate (3o, colorless oil): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.73 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (m, 2H), 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.39 (m, 2H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 1.63 (s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 193.84, 176.90, 155.05, 148.52, 144.80, 137.10, 136.31, 130.56, 129.77, 128.06 (d), 126.24, 124.67, 52.30, 46.58, 26.48. HRMS (ESI) Calcd. For $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_3$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, 284.1281, Found: m/z 284.1286.

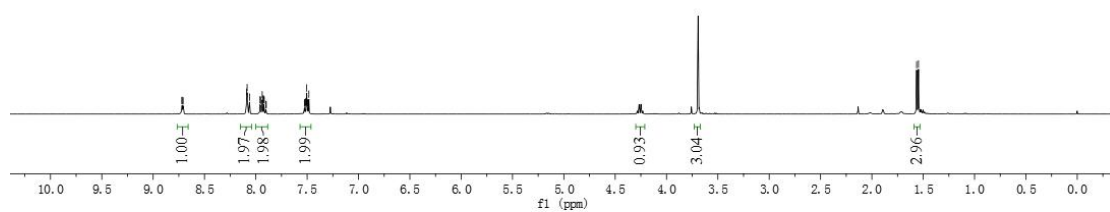
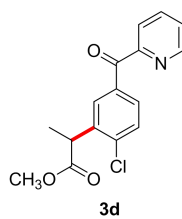






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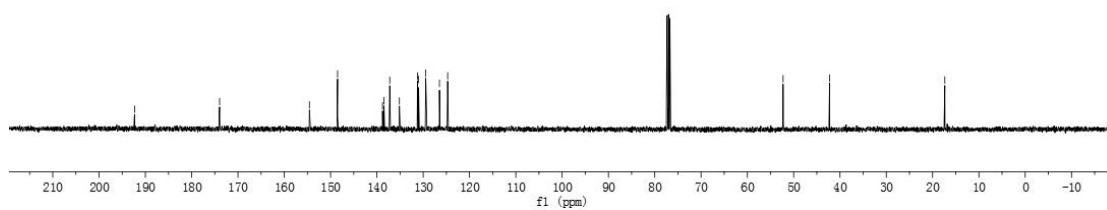
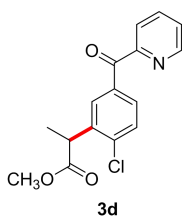
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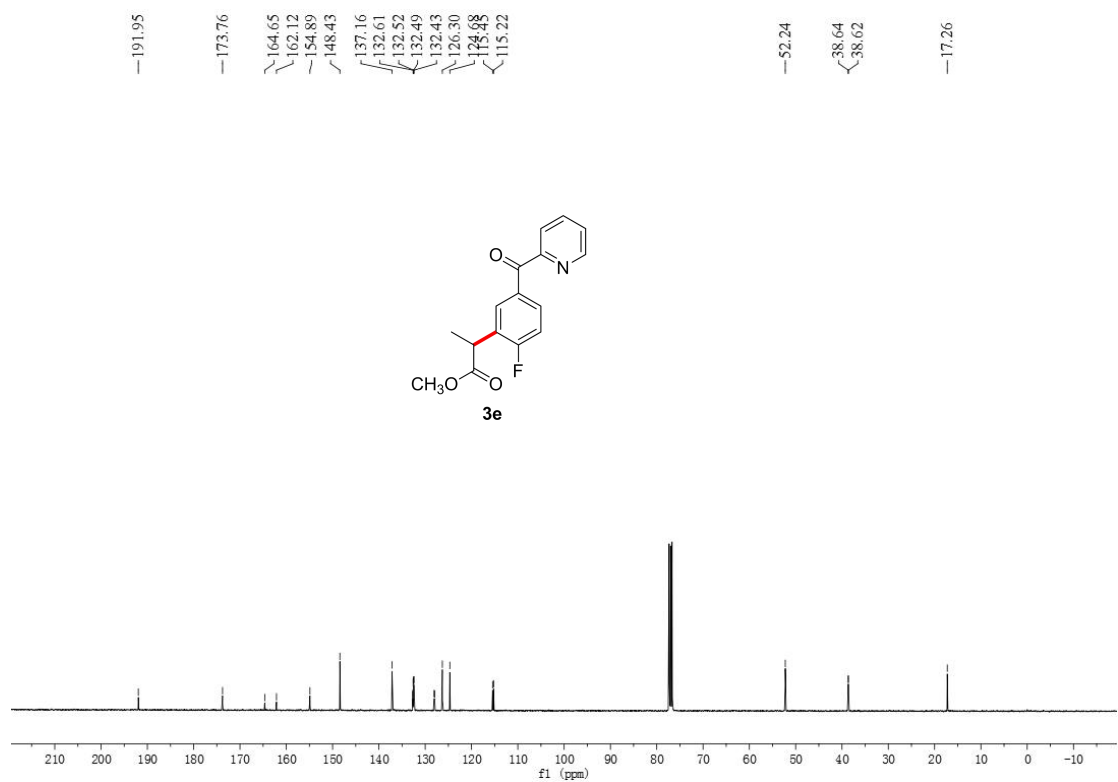
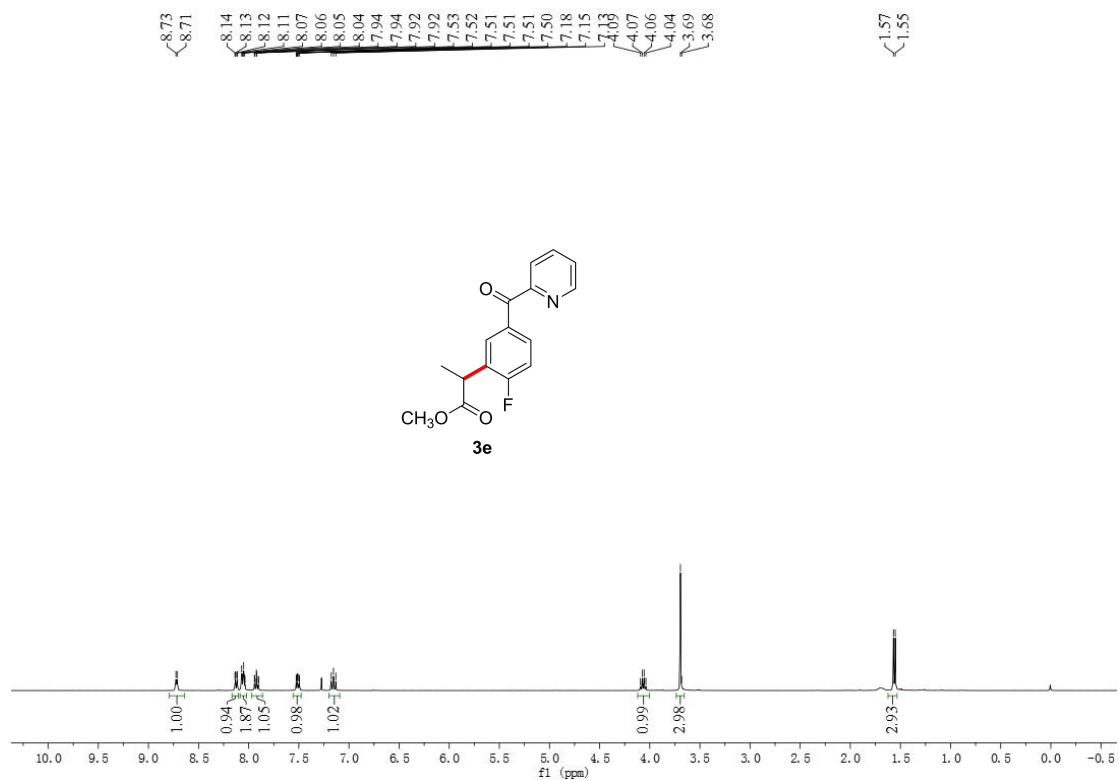
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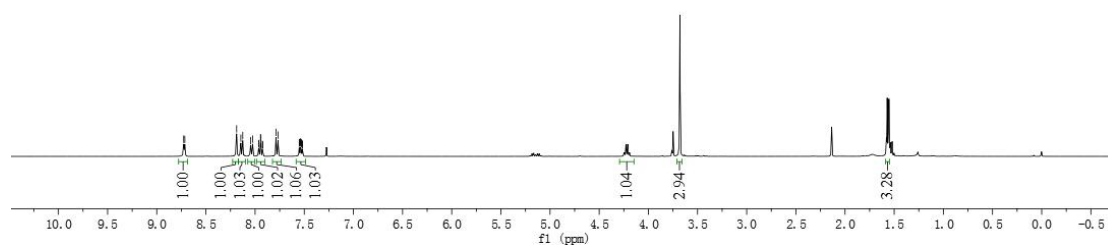
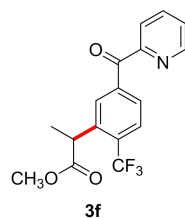
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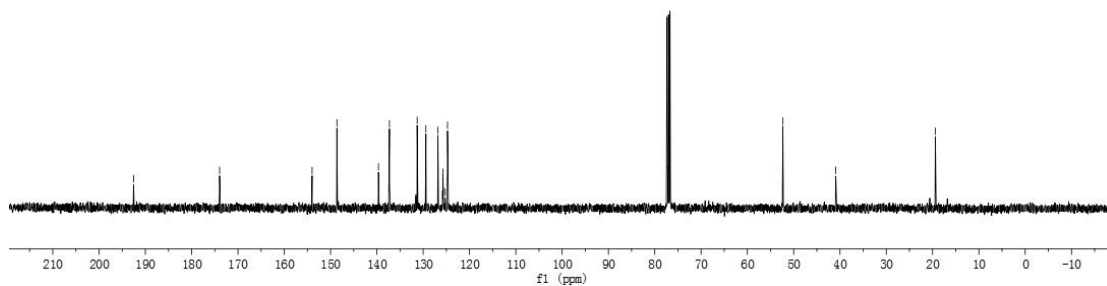
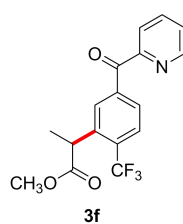


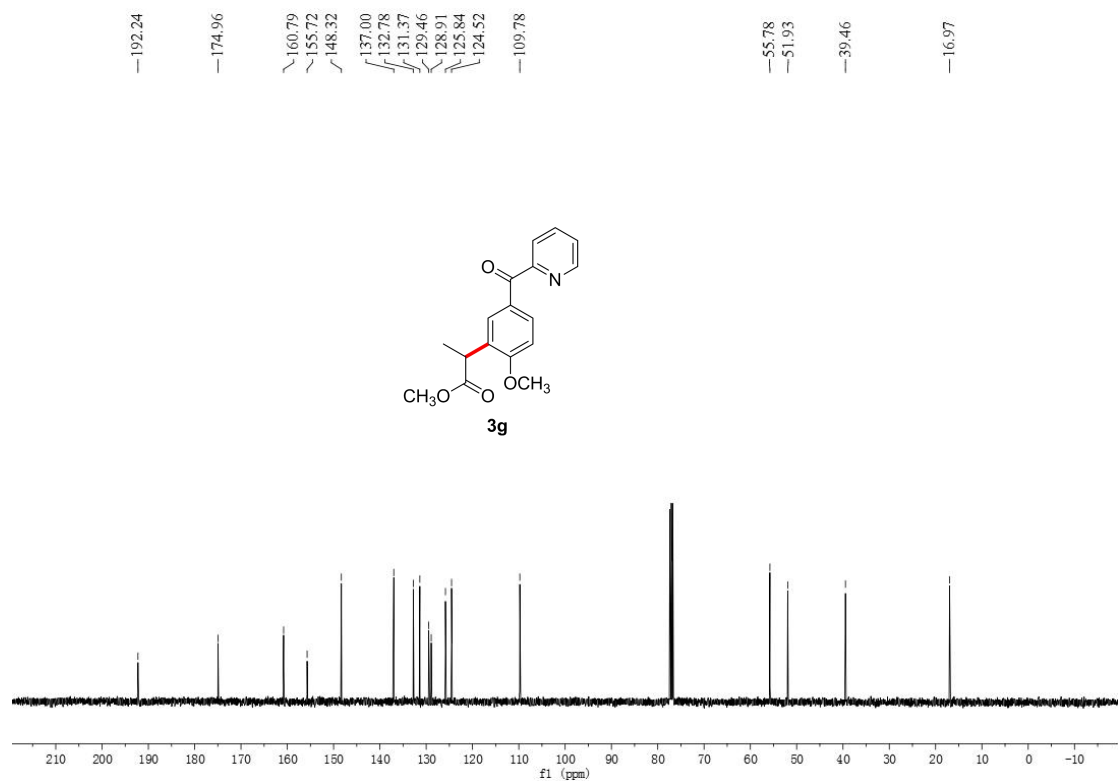
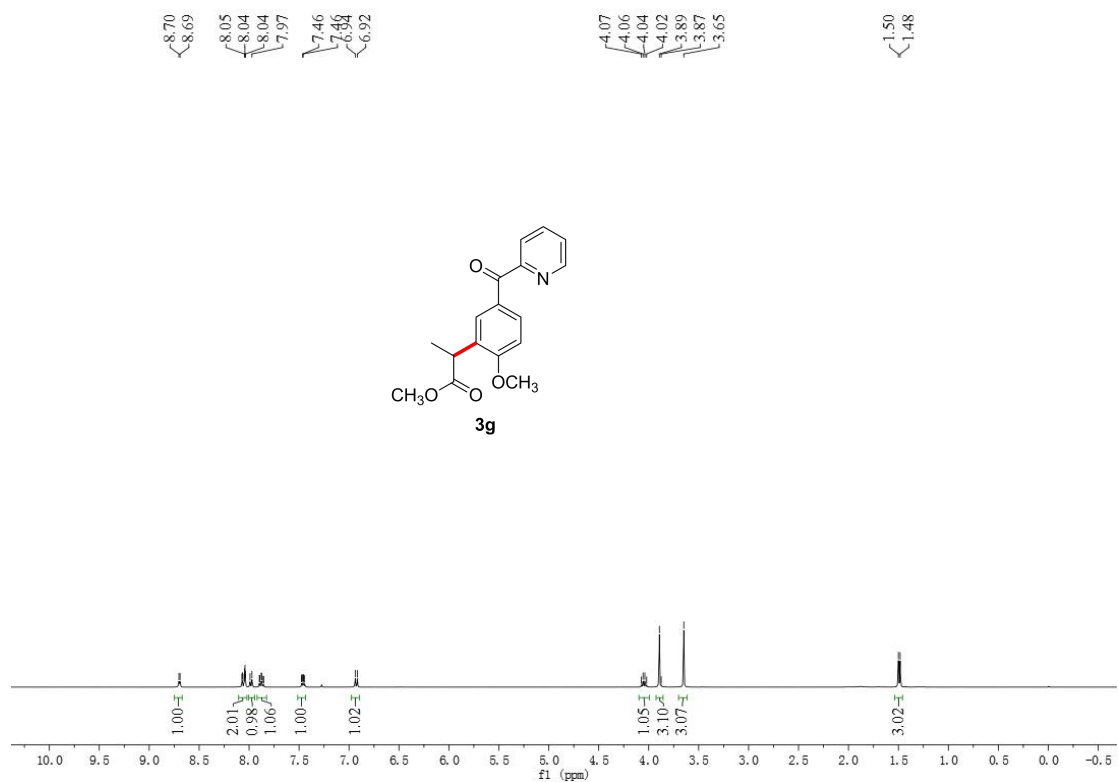


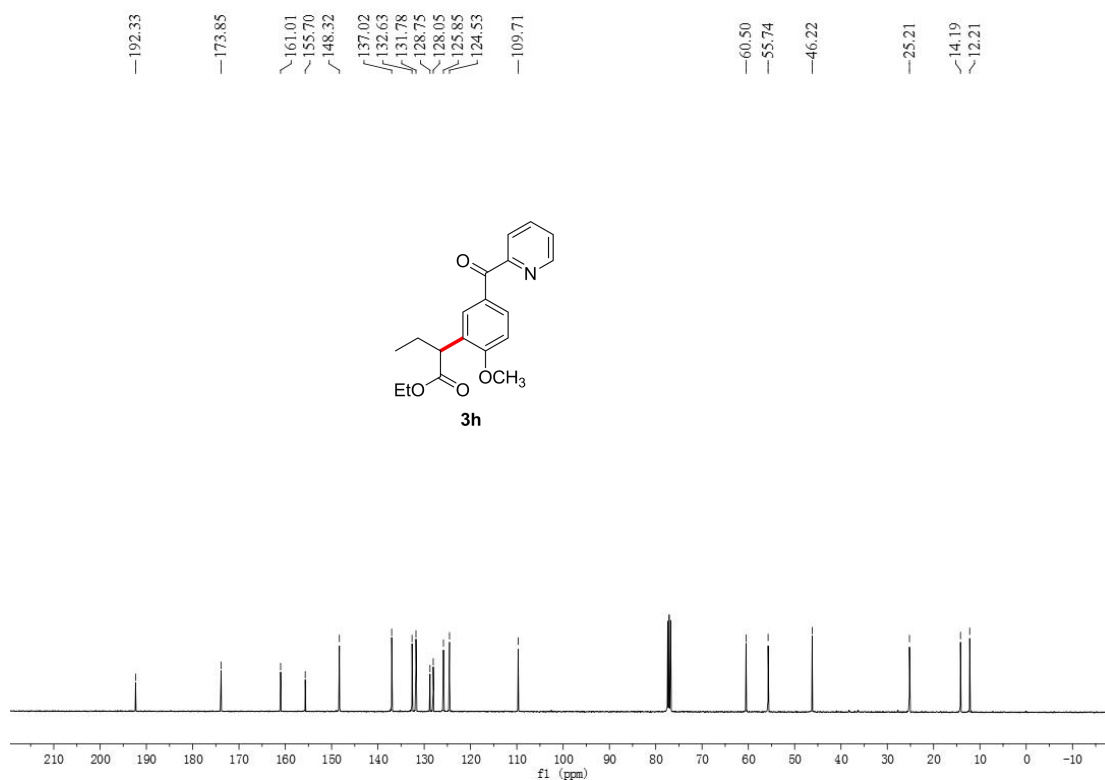
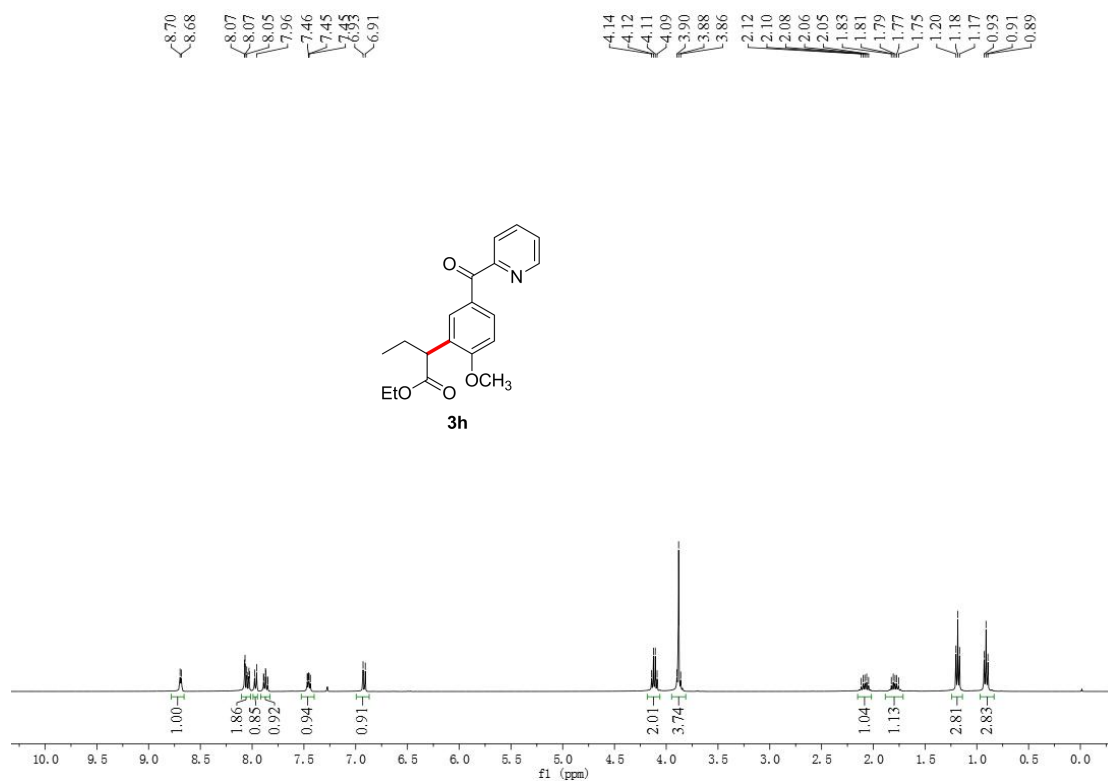
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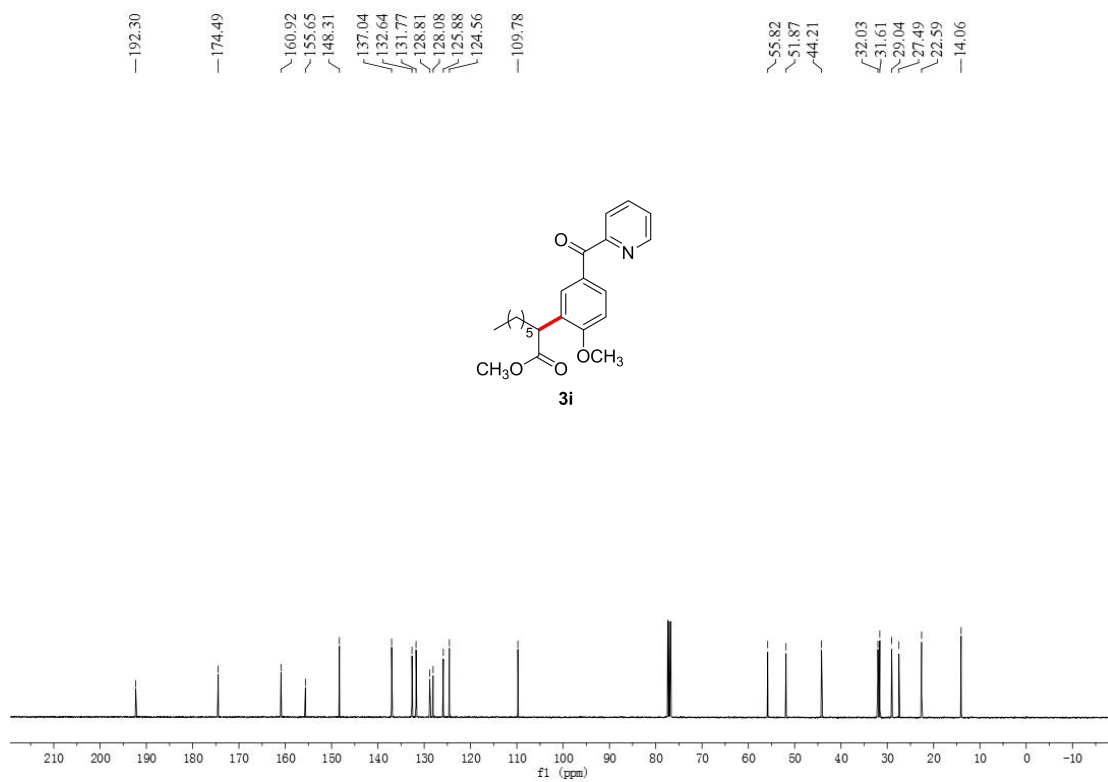
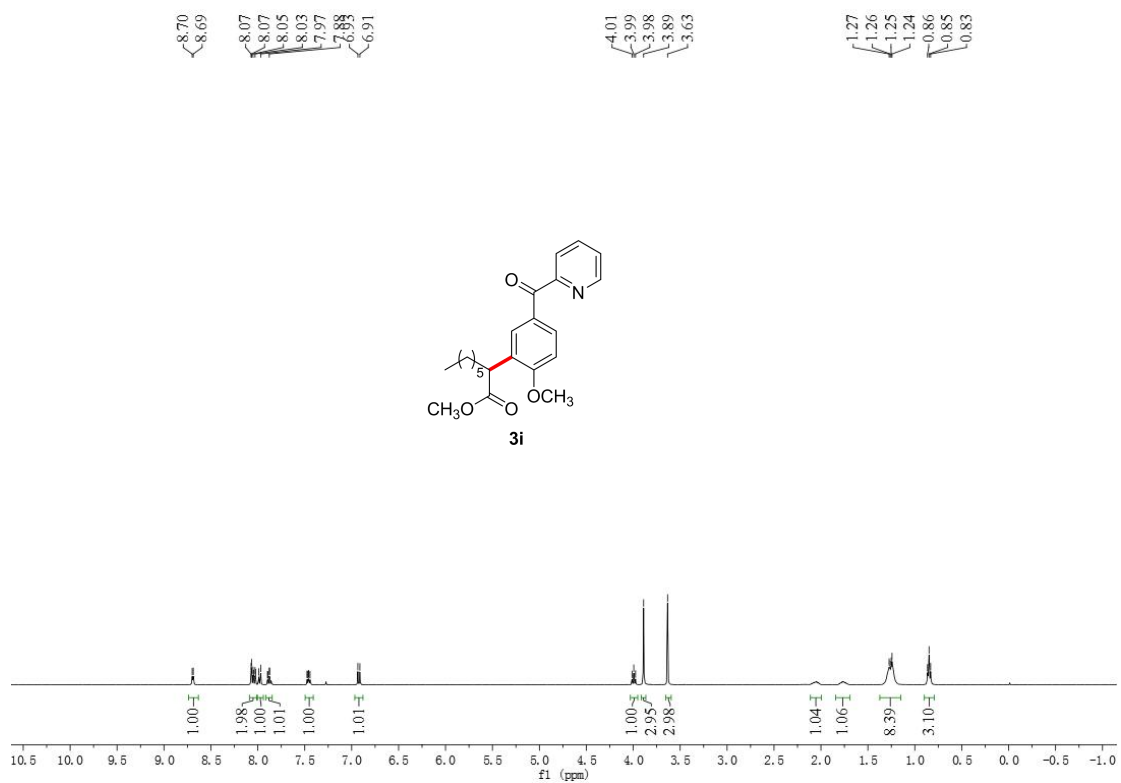


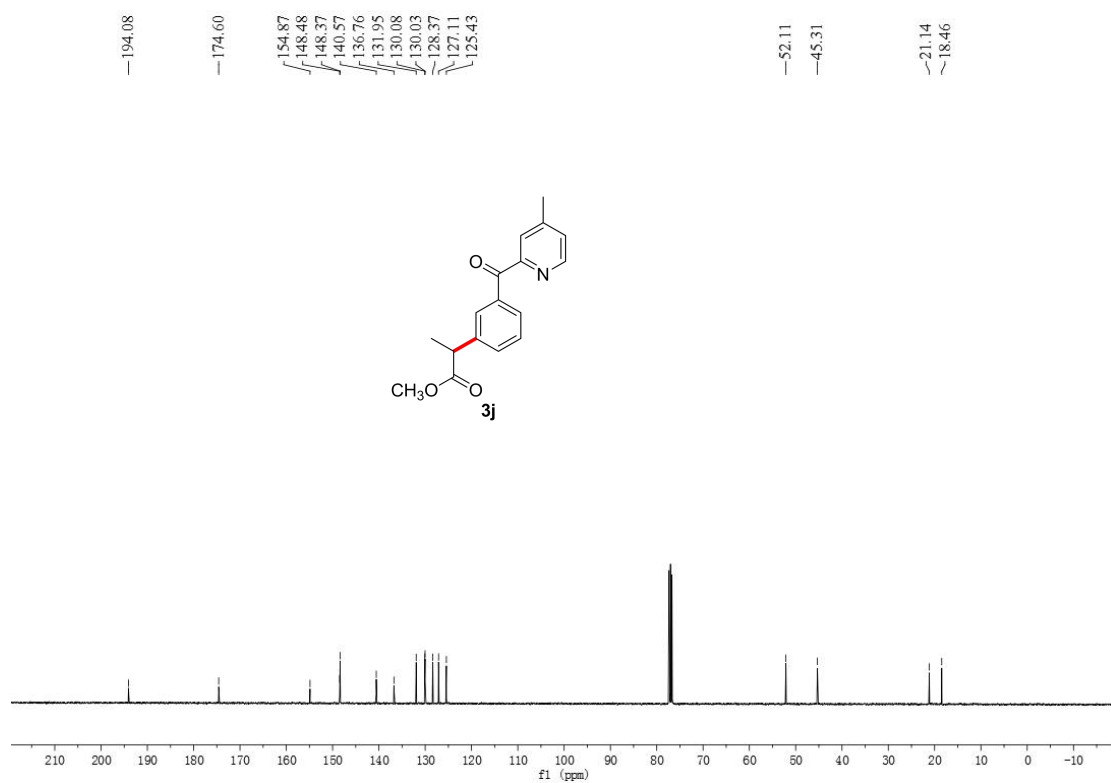
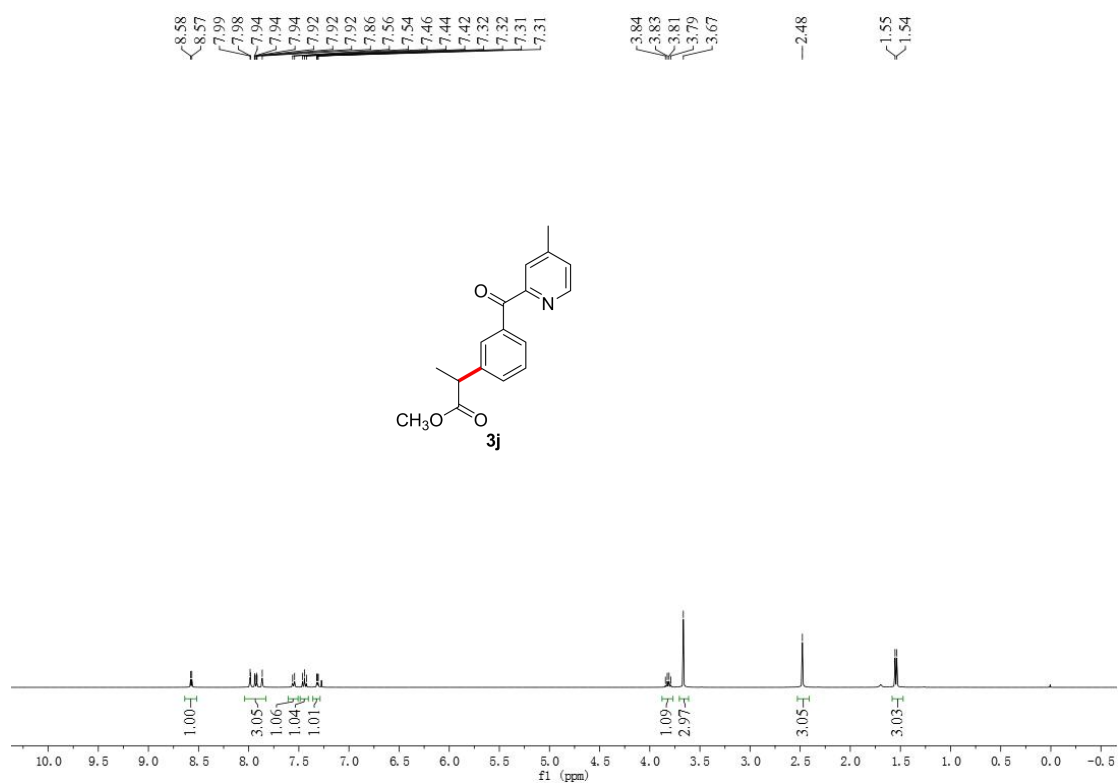
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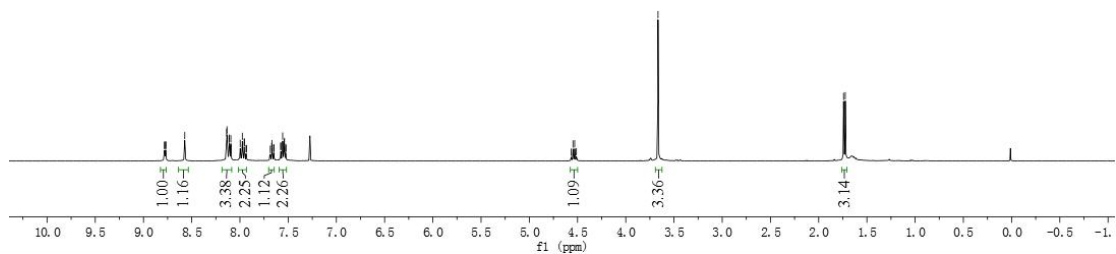
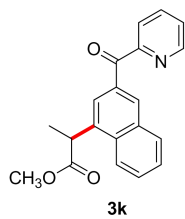




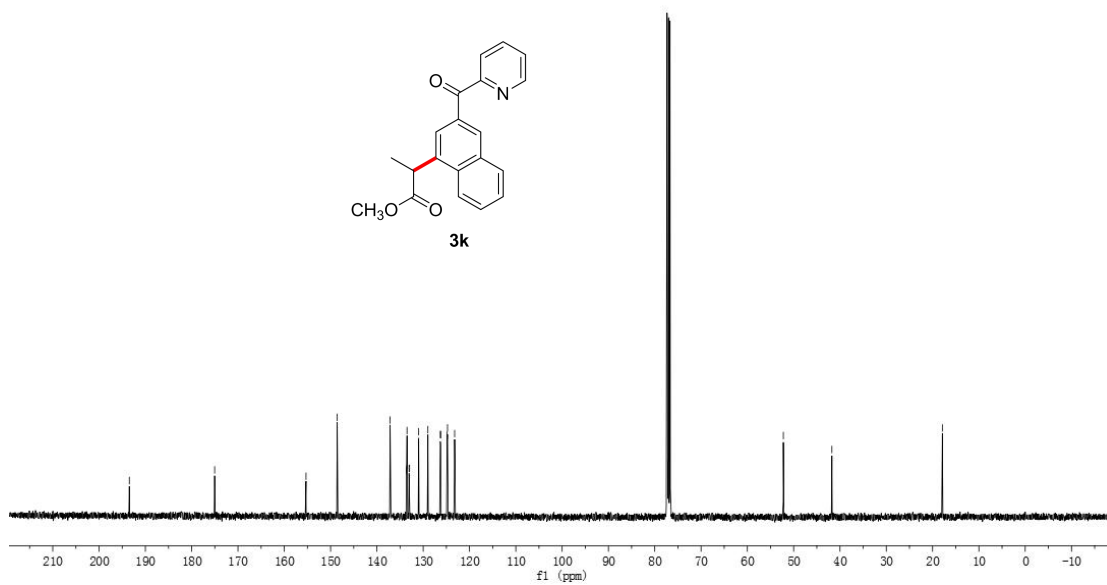
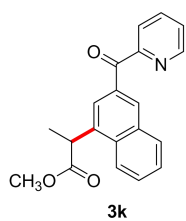


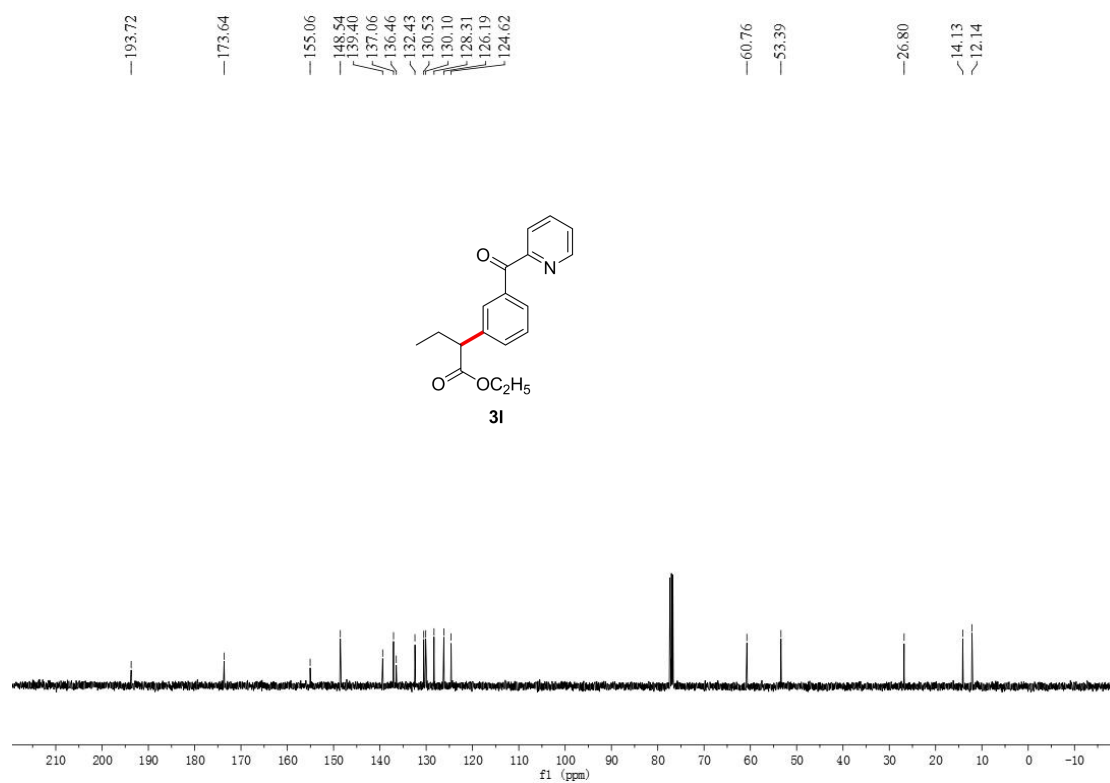
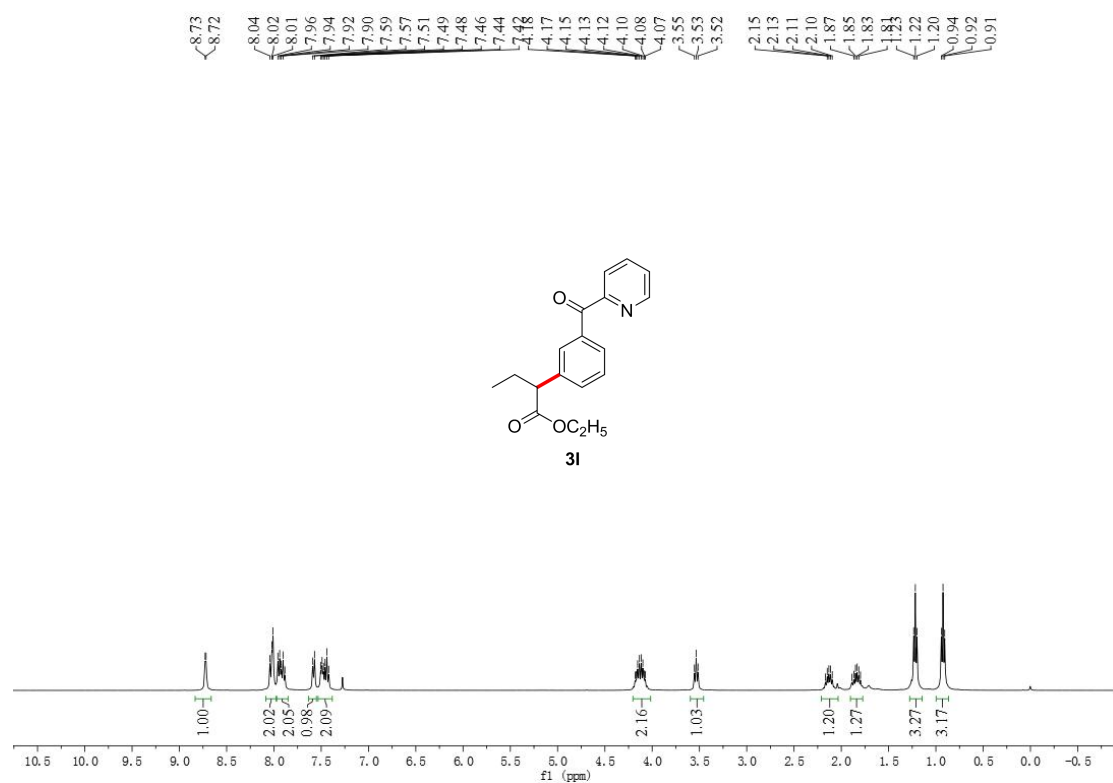


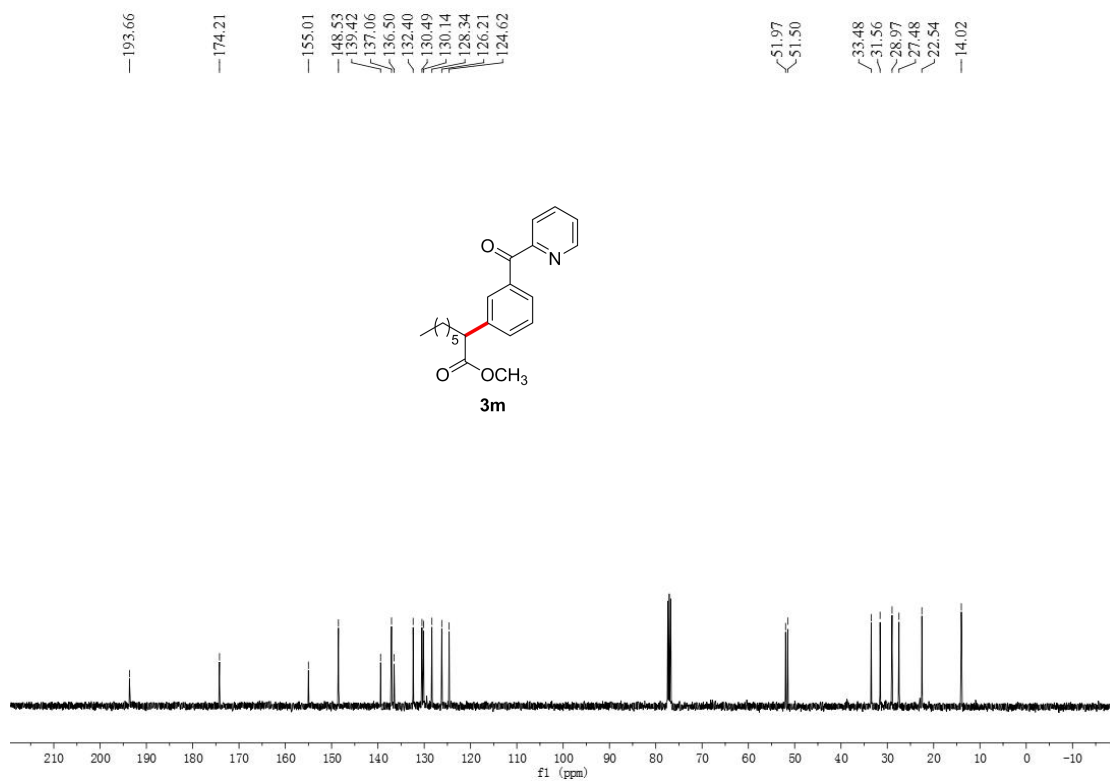
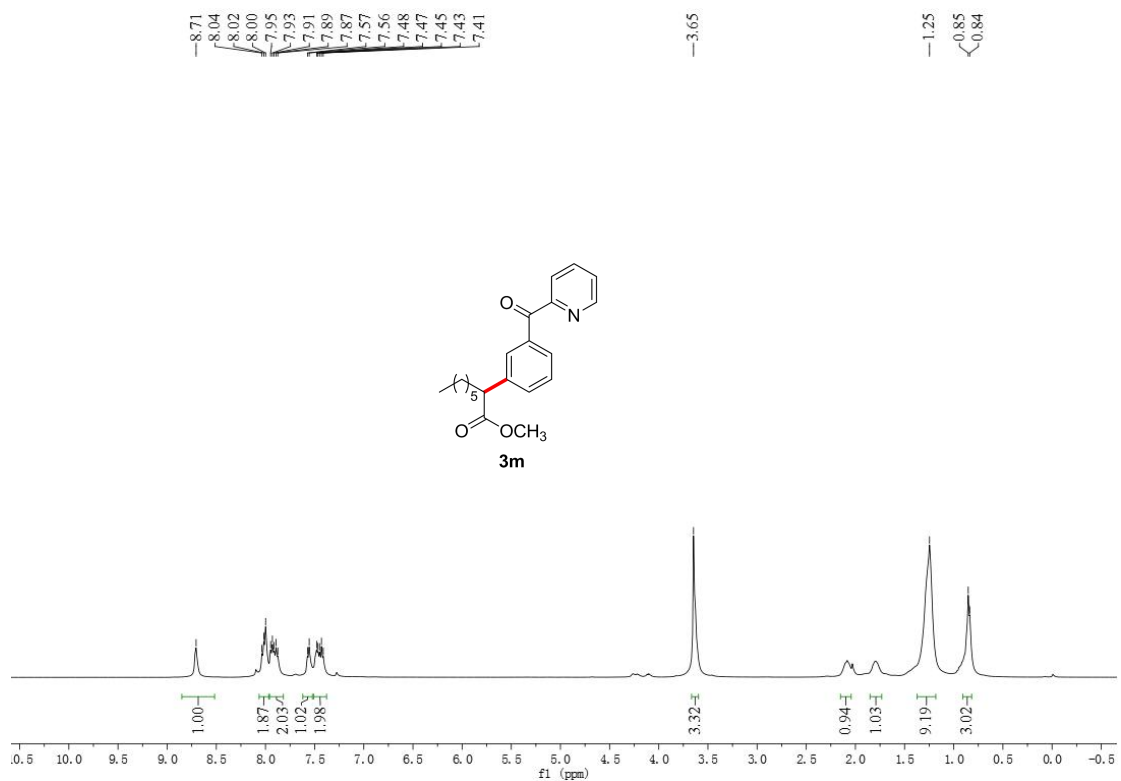
8.78
8.78
8.77
8.57
8.14
8.13
8.11
8.11
8.09
8.00
7.98
7.97
7.96
7.95
7.67
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7.56
7.54
7.54
4.54
4.55
4.51
-3.67
1.74
1.72

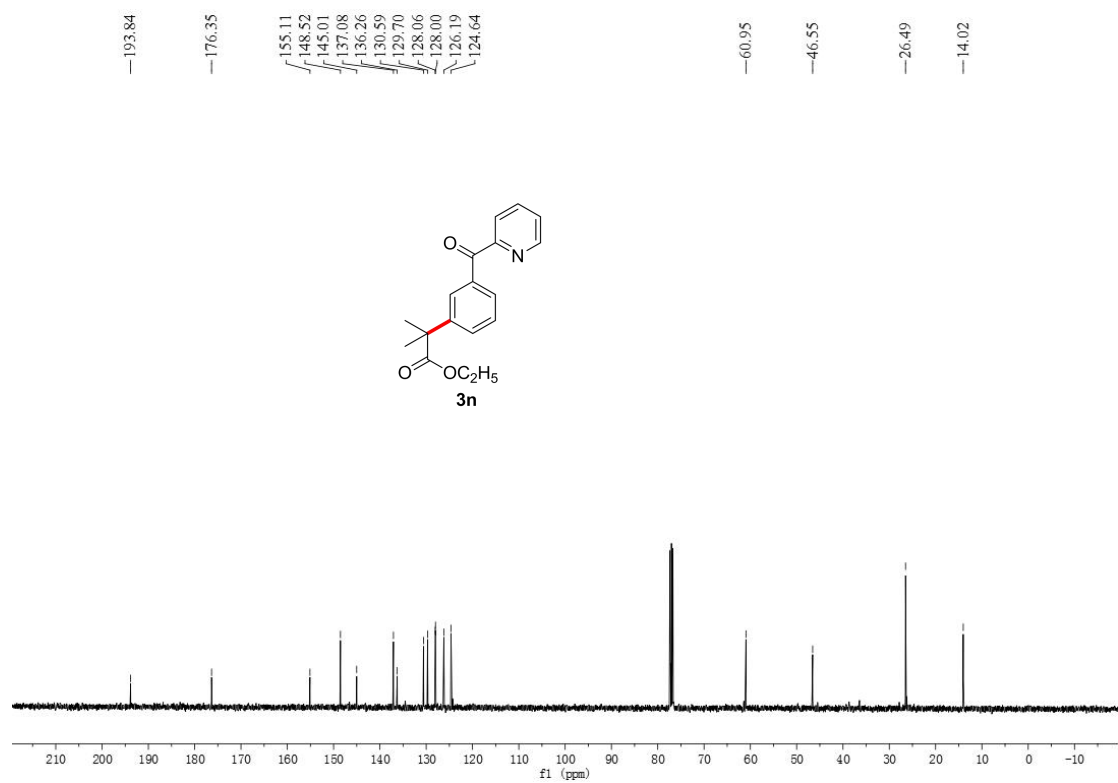
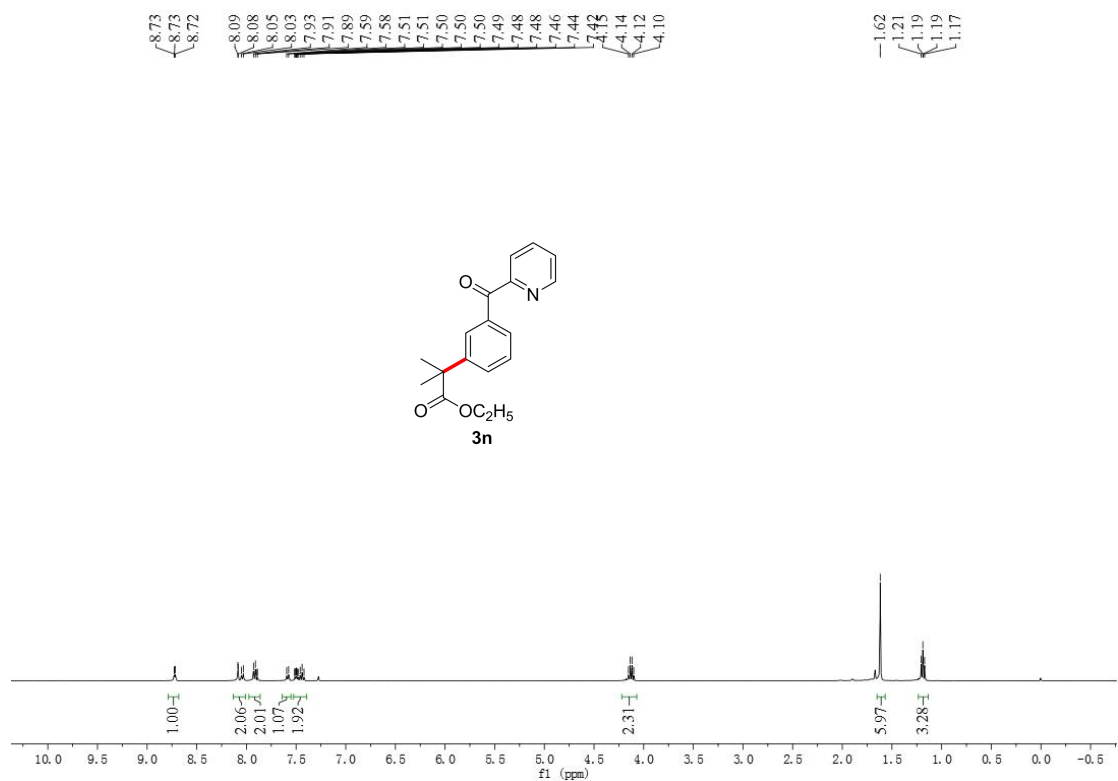


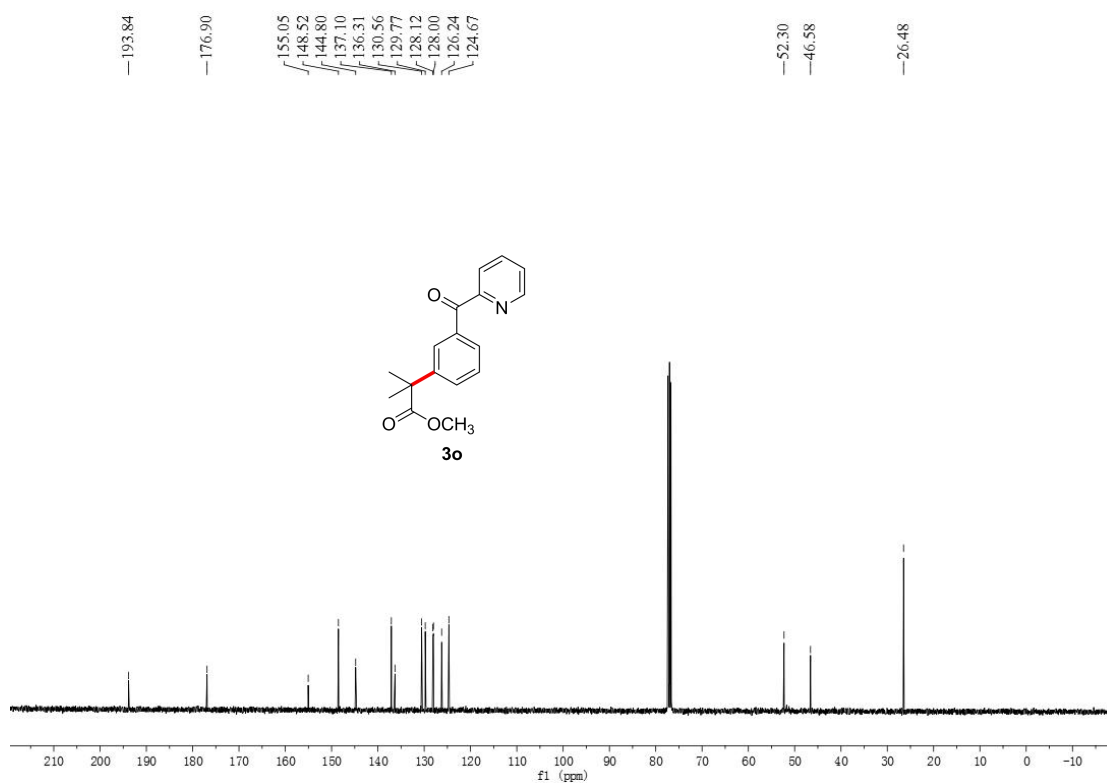
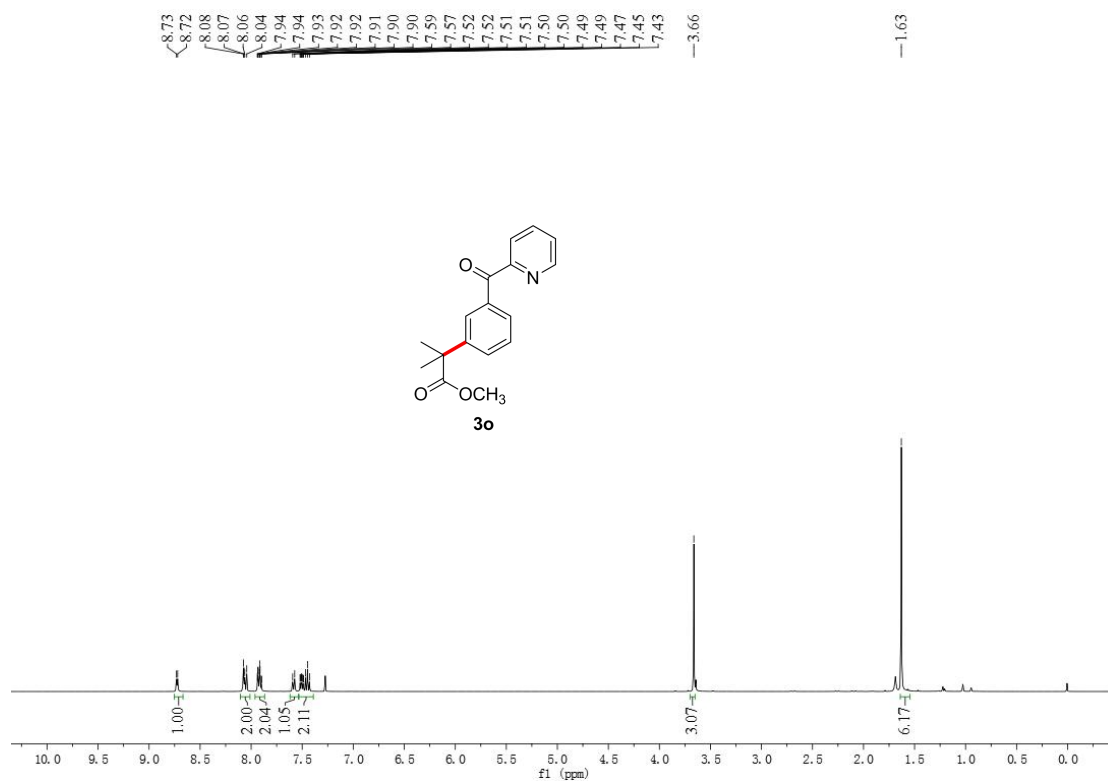
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175.04
155.31
148.57
137.15
133.63
133.49
133.05
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130.98
128.99
126.31
126.21
124.84
124.75
123.21
52.23
41.75
17.89

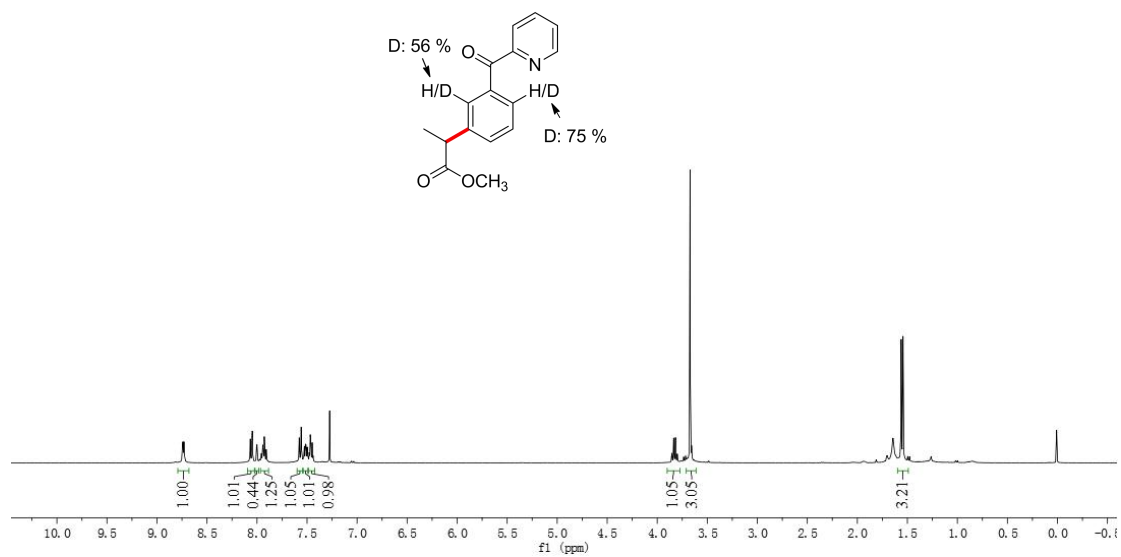












8.75
8.74
8.08
8.07
8.05
7.96
7.95
7.94
7.93
7.92
7.91
7.90
7.63
7.61
7.60
7.52
7.51
7.50
7.27

