

Substrate Switched Dual Functionalization of Alkenes: Catalyst-free Synthetic Route for β -hydroxy and β -keto Thioethers

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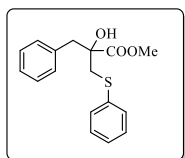
General information:

All chemicals were procured from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Alkenes **1** & **4** were prepared following the known procedure.¹ NMR spectra were recorded on a Jeol resonance-400 instrument using CDCl₃ as solvent. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm) and referenced to the residual solvent resonance. Coupling constant (*J*) are reported in hertz (Hz). Standard abbreviations indicating multiplicity were used as follows: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, dd = double doublet, q = quartet, m = multiplet. HRMS data were collected on Waters - Xevo G2S QToF with UPLC H-Class Ultra Performance Liquid chromatography - mass spectrometry (LC-MS) facility.

General Procedure for Table 1

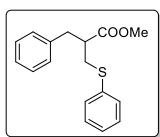
To a stirred solution of methyl 2-benzylacrylate **1a** (1.0 mmol, 0.176 g) and thiophenol **2a** (2.0 mmol, 0.220g) were added oxidant. Then the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature till the complete conversion of methyl 2-benzylacrylate **1a**. The solvent was then evaporated and crude thus obtained was purified *via* column chromatography (silica gel, 2% EtOAc in hexanes) to afford the corresponding products **3a** as white solid.

Representative example of Table 1 (Entry 16): Methyl 2-benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-(phenylthio)propanoate (**3a**)



Methyl 2-benzylacrylate **1a** (1.0 mmol, 0.176 g) and thiophenol **2a** (2.0 mmol, 0.220g) were mixed in an open flask, silica gel (1.0 g, 60-120 mesh) was then added reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was kept under open air at room temperature without stirring. After complete conversion of alkene **1a**, the residue was purified *via* column chromatography (silica gel, 2% EtOAc in hexanes) to afford the corresponding products **3a** as white solid. Yield: 0.256 g, 85%; M.P.: 53 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.99 & 3.07 (ABq, 2H, *J* = 13.6 Hz), 3.25-3.47 (m*, 6H), 7.15-7.27 (m, 8H), 7.38-7.41 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 43.50, 44.32, 51.99, 77.81, 126.29, 126.64, 127.78, 128.41, 129.63, 130.36, 134.66, 135.23, 173.62; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for C₁₇H₁₈O₃S + Na (M + Na), 325.0874; Found: 325.0876. *This multiplet contains one singlet for three protons, one singlet for one proton and dABq for two protons.

Methyl 2-benzyl-3-(phenylthio)propanoate (3a')

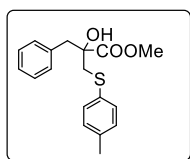


Colourless liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.91-2.97 (m, 2H), 3.01-3.07 (m, 2H), 3.17-3.22 (m, 1H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 7.13-7.15 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.31 (m, 8H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 35.01, 37.67, 47.44, 51.88, 126.57, 126.75, 128.62, 129.05, 129.07, 130.03, 135.45, 138.29, 174.32; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_2\text{S} + \text{Na}$ (M + Na) 309.0925; Found: 309.0928

General procedure for Table 2

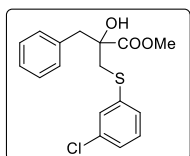
Alkenes **1** (1.0 mmol) and benzenethiols **2** (2.0 mmol) were mixed in an open flask, silica gel (1.0 g, 60-120 mesh) was then added reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was kept under open air at room temperature without stirring for 12 h. The residue was purified *via* column chromatography (silica gel, 2% EtOAc in hexanes) to afford the corresponding products **3**.

Methyl 2-benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-(*p*-tolylthio)propanoate (3b)



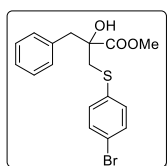
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-benzylacrylate **1a** (1.0 mmol, 0.176 g) and 4-methylbenzenethiol **2b** (2.0 mmol, 0.248 g), providing **3b** as white solid. Yield: 0.259 g, 82%; M.P.: 64 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.98 & 3.06 (ABq, 2H, $J = 13.6$ Hz), 3.21-3.43 (m*, 3H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 7.07 (d, 2H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.16 (dd, 2H, $J = 7.6$ & 2.0 Hz), 7.21- 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.30 (d, 2H, $J = 8.0$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 20.90, 44.44, 44.62, 52.27, 78.21, 126.92, 128.07, 129.49, 129.94, 131.30, 131.77, 135.02, 136.80, 173.97; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_3\text{S} + \text{Na}$ (M + Na), 339.1031; Found: 339.1022.* This multiplet contains one singlet for one proton and dABq for two protons.

Methyl 2-benzyl-3-((3-chlorophenyl)thio)-2-hydroxypropanoate (3c)



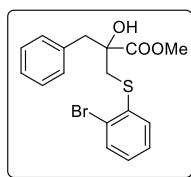
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-benzylacrylate **1a** (1.0 mmol, 0.176 g) and 3-chlorobenzenethiol **2c** (2.0 mmol, 0.288 g), providing **3c** as white solid. Yield: 0.295 g, 88%; M.P.: 63 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.00 & 3.07 (ABq, 2H, J = 13.2 Hz), 3.27 & 3.43 (dABq, 2H, J = 64.4 & 13.2 Hz), 3.46 (s, 1H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 7.13-7.17 (m, 4H), 7.21-7.26 (m, 4H), 7.38 (d, 1H, J = 2.0 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 43.83, 45.32, 53.09, 78.86, 127.15, 127.68, 128.79, 130.27, 130.35, 130.57, 134.96, 135.47, 138.59, 174.49; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClO}_3\text{S} + \text{Na}$ ($M + \text{Na}$), 359.0485.; Found: 359.0487.

Methyl 2-benzyl-3-((4-bromophenyl)thio)-2-hydroxypropanoate (**3d**)



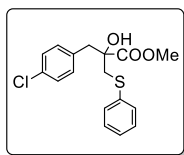
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-benzylacrylate **1a** (1.0 mmol, 0.176 g) and 4-bromobenzenethiol **2d** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g), providing **3d** as white solid. Yield: 0.327 g, 86%; M.P.: 90 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.98 & 3.06 (ABq, 2H, J = 13.6 Hz), 3.24 & 3.40 (dABq, 2H, J = 64.0 & 13.6 Hz), 3.42 (s, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 7.14-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.27 (m, 5H), 7.34-7.36 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 43.66, 44.79, 52.54, 78.39, 120.53, 127.12, 128.23, 130.00, 131.80, 132.09, 134.90, 135.08, 173.96; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{BrO}_3\text{S} + \text{Na}$ ($M + \text{Na}$), 402.9979.; Found: 402.9974.

Methyl 2-benzyl-3-((2-bromophenyl)thio)-2-hydroxypropanoate (**3e**)



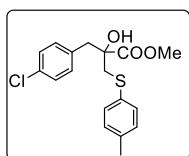
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-benzylacrylate **1a** (1.0 mmol, 0.176 g) and 2-bromobenzenethiol **2e** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g), providing **3e** as white solid. Yield: 0.320 g, 84%; M.P.: 66 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.96 & 3.02 (ABq, 2H, J = 13.6 Hz), 3.23 & 3.40 (dABq, 2H, J = 68.0 & 13.6 Hz), 3.38 (s, 1H), 3.48 (s, 3H), 6.96 (td, 1H, J = 8.0 & 1.2 Hz), 7.09-7.20 (m, 6H), 7.37 (dd, 1H, J = 8.0 & 1.6 Hz), 7.45 (dd, 1H, J = 8.0 & 1.2 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 42.47, 44.51, 52.27, 77.94, 125.12, 126.74, 127.26, 127.38, 127.85, 129.66, 130.94, 132.64, 134.58, 136.40, 173.58; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{BrO}_3\text{S} + \text{Na}$ ($M + \text{Na}$), 402.9979.; Found: 402.9971.

Methyl 2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2-hydroxy-3-(phenylthio)propanoate (3f)



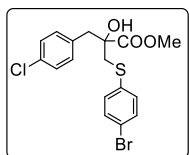
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-(4-chlorobenzyl) **1b** (1.0 mmol, 0.210 g) and thiophenol **2a** (2.0 mmol, 0.220 g), providing **3f** as colourless liquid. Yield: 0.295 g, 88%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.97 & 3.03 (ABq, 2H, $J = 13.6$ Hz), 3.23-3.46 (m*, 5H), 3.52 (s, 1H), 7.11 (d, 2H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.17-7.28 (m, 5H), 7.39-7.41 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 43.97, 44.15, 52.62, 78.17, 126.96, 128.44, 129.01, 130.98, 131.56, 133.09, 133.82, 135.59, 173.98; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClO}_3\text{S} + \text{Na}$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$), 359.0485; Found: 359.0489. * This multiplet contains one singlet for three protons and dABq for two protons.

Methyl 2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2-hydroxy-3-(*p*-tolylthio)propanoate (3g)



The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-(4-chlorobenzyl) **1b** (1.0 mmol, 0.210 g) and 4-methylbenzenethiol **2b** (2.0 mmol, 0.248 g), providing **3g** as white solid. Yield: 0.287 g, 82%; M.P.: 95 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.96 & 3.02 (ABq, 2H, $J = 13.6$ Hz), 3.20 & 3.40 (dABq, 2H, $J = 80.0$ & 13.6 Hz), 3.45 (s, 3H), 3.48 (s, 1H), 7.07-7.12 (m, 4H), 7.20-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.32 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 21.15, 43.98, 44.79, 52.59, 78.25, 128.42, 129.78, 131.55, 131.61, 131.84, 133.06, 133.87, 137.15, 174.01; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{ClO}_3\text{S} + \text{Na}$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$), 373.0641; Found: 373.0645.

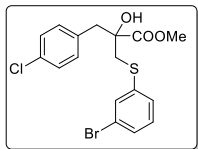
Methyl 3-((4-bromophenyl)thio)-2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2-hydroxypropanoate(3h)



The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-(4-chlorobenzyl) **1b** (1.0 mmol, 0.210 g) and 4-bromobenzenethiol **2d** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g), providing **3h** as white solid. Yield: 0.323 g, 78%; M.P.: 96 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.96 & 3.02 (ABq, 2H, $J = 13.6$ Hz), 3.22 & 3.39 (dABq, 2H, $J = 66.4$ & 13.6 Hz), 3.47 (s, 1H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 7.09 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.20-7.26 (m, 4H), 7.36 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 43.95, 44.06, 52.78,

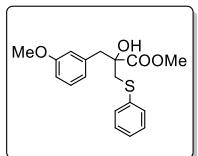
78.35, 120.82, 128.49, 131.50, 132.00, 132.34, 133.18, 133.62, 135.01, 173.92; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $C_{17}H_{16}BrClO_3S + Na$ (M + Na), 436.9590; Found: 436.9585.

Methyl 3-((3-bromophenyl)thio)-2-(4-chlorobenzyl)-2-hydroxypropanoate (**3i**)



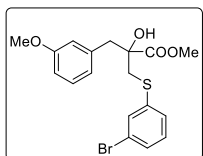
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-(4-chlorobenzyl) **1b** (1.0 mmol, 0.210 g) and 3-bromobenzenethiol **2f** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g), providing **3i** as colourless liquid. Yield: 0.307 g, 74%; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 2.94 & 3.00 (ABq, 2H, J = 13.6 Hz), 3.21 & 3.38 (dABq, 2H, J = 67.2 & 13.6 Hz), 3.48 (s, 4H), 7.05-7.09 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.27 (dd, 2H, 8.0 & 1.6 Hz), 7.49 (t, 1H, J = 1.6 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): 43.66, 44.07, 52.86, 78.28, 122.77, 128.55, 129.06, 129.83, 130.30, 131.55, 132.85, 133.24, 133.64, 138.25, 173.93 HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $C_{17}H_{16}BrClO_3S + Na$ (M + Na), 436.9590; Found: 436.9587.

Methyl 2-hydroxy-2-(3-methoxybenzyl)-3-(phenylthio)propanoate (**3j**)



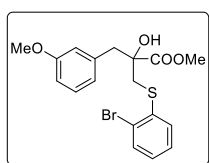
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-(3-methoxybenzyl)acrylate **1c** (1.0 mmol, 0.206 g) and thiophenol **2a** (2.0 mmol, 0.220 g), providing **3j** as white solid. Yield: 0.285 g, 86%; M.P.: 58 °C; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 2.99 & 3.07 (ABq, 2H, J = 13.6), 3.29 & 3.47 (dABq, 2H, J = 67.6 & 13.6 Hz), 3.47 (s, 3H), 3.50 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 6.75-6.79 (m, 3H), 7.15-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.43 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 44.03, 44.88, 52.55, 55.21, 78.34, 112.63, 115.94, 122.52, 126.84, 128.98, 129.27, 130.89, 135.86, 136.76, 159.50, 174.16; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $C_{18}H_{20}O_4S + Na$ (M + Na), 355.0980; Found: 355.0986.

Methyl 3-((3-bromophenyl) thio)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-methoxybenzyl)propanoate (**3k**)



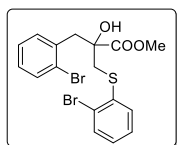
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-(3-methoxybenzyl)acrylate **1c** (1.0 mmol, 0.206 g) and 3-bromobenzenethiol **2f** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g), providing **3k** as colourless liquid. Yield: 0.312 g, 76%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.97 & 3.05 (ABq, 2H, $J = 13.6$ Hz), 3.26 & 3.42 (dABq, 2H, $J = 61.2$ & 13.6 Hz), 3.47 (s, 1H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 6.72-6.76 (m, 3H), 7.07-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.53 (t, 1H, $J = 1.6$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 43.33, 44.78, 52.57, 55.05, 78.25, 112.50, 115.75, 122.29, 122.53, 128.77, 129.16, 129.50, 130.07, 132.56, 136.38, 138.32, 159.35, 173.90, HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrO}_4\text{S} + \text{Na}$ (M + Na), 433.0085.; Found: 433.0083.

Methyl 3-((2-bromophenyl) thio)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-methoxybenzyl)propanoate(**3l**)



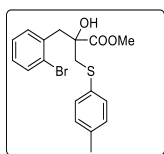
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-(3-methoxybenzyl)acrylate **1c** (1.0 mmol, 0.206 g) and 2-bromobenzenethiol **2e** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g), providing **3l** as colourless liquid. Yield: 0.304 g, 74%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.98 & 3.04 (ABq, 2H, $J = 13.6$ Hz), 3.27 & 3.43 (dABq, 2H, $J = 63.6$ & 13.6 Hz), 3.45 (s, 1H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 6.71-6.75 (m, 3H), 6.98-7.02 (m, 1H), 7.11-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.42 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.0$ & 1.2 Hz), 7.50 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.0$ & 1.2 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): 42.83, 44.89, 52.65, 55.06, 78.28, 112.52, 115.74, 122.32, 125.46, 127.64, 127.75, 129.15, 131.29, 133.00, 136.44, 136.79, 159.35, 173.93; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrO}_4\text{S} + \text{Na}$ (M + Na), 433.0085; Found: 433.0087.

Methyl 2-(2-bromobenzyl)-3-((2-bromophenyl)thio)-2-hydroxypropanoate (**3m**)



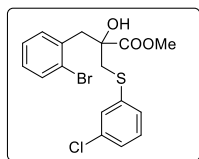
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-(2-bromobenzyl) **1d** (1.0 mmol, 0.255 g) and 2-bromobenzenethiol **2e** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g), providing **3m** as white solid. Yield: 0.404 g, 88%; M.P.: 56 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.25-3.33 (m 3H), 3.55-3.59 (m, 5H), 7.03 (td, 1H, $J = 2.0$ & 7.6 Hz), 7.08 (td, 1H, $J = 2.0$ & 7.6 Hz), 7.20-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.38 (dd, 1H, $J = 2.0$ & 8.0 Hz), 7.42 (dd, 1H, $J = 2.0$ & 8.0 Hz), 7.51-7.53 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 42.12, 43.06, 52.58, 77.32, 125.09, 125.14, 126.85, 127.29, 127.37, 128.38, 130.85, 132.08, 132.53, 132.66, 134.35, 136.44, 173.80; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{Br}_2\text{O}_3\text{S} + \text{Na}$ (M + Na), 480.9085; Found: 480.9079.

Methyl 2-(2-bromobenzyl)-2-hydroxy-3-(*p*-tolylthio)propanoate (**3n**)



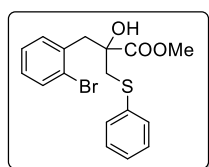
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-(2-bromobenzyl) **1d** (1.0 mmol, 0.255 g) and 4-methylbenzenethiol **2b** (2.0 mmol, 0.248 g), providing **3n** as colourless liquid. Yield: 0.323 g, 82%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.30 (s, 3H), 3.20-3.31 (m, 3H), 3.50-3.61 (m, 5H), 7.05-7.09 (m, 3H), 7.22 (td, 1H, $J = 7.6$ & 0.8 Hz), 7.32 (d, 2H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.41 (dd, 1H, $J = 7.6$ & 1.6 Hz), 7.52 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.0$ & 0.8 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 20.98, 43.13, 44.06, 52.55, 77.63, 125.48, 127.12, 128.56, 129.55, 131.26, 131.87, 132.35, 132.77, 134.89, 136.74, 174.17; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrO}_3\text{S} + \text{Na}$ ($M + \text{Na}$), 417.0136; Found: 417.0131.

Methyl 2-(2-bromobenzyl)-3-((3-chlorophenyl) thio)-2-hydroxypropanoate (**3o**)



The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-(2-bromobenzyl) **1d** (1.0 mmol, 0.255 g) and 3-chlorobenzenethiol **2c** (2.0 mmol, 0.288 g), providing **3o** as colourless liquid. Yield: 0.307 g, 74%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.24-3.30 (m, 3H), 3.52-3.57 (m, 5H), 7.05-7.26 (m, 5H), 7.36-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.51 (d, 1H, $J = 8.0$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): 43.02, 43.44, 53.00, 77.86, 125.65, 126.74, 127.39, 128.32, 128.90, 129.82, 129.95, 132.55, 133.05, 134.57, 134.83, 138.20, 174.28; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{BrClO}_3\text{S} + \text{Na}$ ($M + \text{Na}$), 436.9590; Found: 436.9589.

Methyl 2-(2-bromobenzyl)-2-hydroxy-3-(phenylthio)propanoate (**3p**)



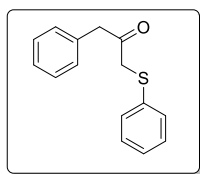
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 2, using methyl 2-(2-bromobenzyl) **1d** (1.0 mmol, 0.255 g) and thiophenol **2a** (2.0 mmol, 0.220 g), providing **3p** as colourless liquid. Yield: 0.342 g, 90%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.23-3.32 (m, 3H), 3.49-3.60 (m, 5H), 7.07

(td, 1H, $J = 8.0$ & 1.6 Hz), 7.18-7.27 (m, 4H), 7.40-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.52 (d, 1H, $J = 8.0$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 43.36, 43.61, 52.80, 77.78, 125.69, 126.82, 127.35, 128.81, 128.99, 130.82, 132.55, 133.00, 135.04, 135.82, 174.35; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{BrO}_3\text{S} + \text{Na}$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$), 402.9979.; Found: 402.9971

General procedure for Table 3

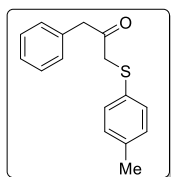
Alkenes **4** (1.0 mmol) and benzenethiols **2** (2.0 mmol) were mixed in a flask and then silica gel (1.0 g, 60-120 mesh) was added in to this reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was kept under open air at room temperature for 12 hour. The residue was purified *via* column chromatography (silica gel, 5 % EtOAc in hexanes) to afford the corresponding β -keto thioethers **5**.

1-Phenyl-3-(phenylthio)propan-2-one (**5a**)



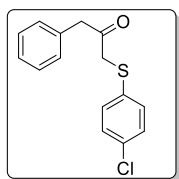
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-benzylacrylonitrile **4a** (1.0 mmol, 0.143 g) and benzenethiol **2a** (2.0 mmol, 0.220 g), providing **5a** as colourless liquid. Yield: 0.213 g, 88%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.70 (s, 2H), 3.89 (s, 2H), 7.17-7.34 (m, 10H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 43.30, 47.81, 127.20, 127.44, 129.03, 129.41, 129.78, 129.96, 133.91, 134.82, 203.05; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{OS} + \text{K}$ ($\text{M} + \text{K}$), 281.0402; Found: 281.0407.

1-Phenyl-3-(*p*-tolylthio)propan-2-one (**5b**)



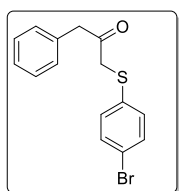
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-benzylacrylonitrile **4a** (1.0 mmol, 0.143 g) and 4-methylbenzenethiol **2b** (2.0 mmol, 0.248 g), providing **5b** as pale yellow liquid. Yield: 0.220 g, 86%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.27 (s, 3H), 3.60 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 7.04 (d, 2H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.13 (d, 2H, $J = 7.6$ Hz) 7.20-7.29 (m, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 21.21, 43.88, 47.66, 127.27, 128.88, 129.71, 130.11, 130.78, 130.89, 133.93, 137.43, 202.95; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{OS} + \text{K}$ ($\text{M} + \text{K}$), 295.0559; Found: 295.0566

1-((4-Chlorophenyl)thio)-3-phenylpropan-2-one (5c)



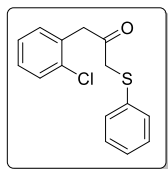
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-benzylacrylonitrile **4a** (1.0 mmol, 0.143 g) and 4-chlorobenzenethiol **2g** (2.0 mmol, 0.288 g), providing **5c** as pale yellow liquid. Yield: 0.224 g, 81%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.65 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 2H), 7.15 (d, 2H, J = 6.8 Hz), 7.21 (s, 3H) 7.24-7.32 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 43.23, 47.78, 127.39, 128.94, 129.36, 129.57, 131.24, 133.07, 133.19, 133.54, 202.43; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClOS} + \text{K}$ ($\text{M} + \text{K}$), 315.0013; Found: 315.0008

1-((4-Bromophenyl)thio)-3-phenylpropan-2-one (5d)



The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-benzylacrylonitrile **4a** (1.0 mmol, 0.143 g) and 4-bromobenzenethiol **2d** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g), providing **5d** as white solid. Yield: 0.250 g, 78%; M.P.: 65 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.64 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 2H), 7.10-7.15 (m, 4H), 7.22-7.36 (m, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 43.04, 47.78, 121.06, 127.40, 128.95, 129.58, 131.32, 132.28, 133.53, 133.81, 202.38.; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrOS} + \text{K}$ ($\text{M} + \text{K}$), 358.9508; Found: 358.9515

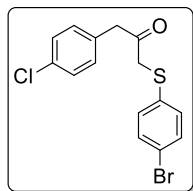
1-(2-Chlorophenyl)-3-(phenylthio)propan-2-one (5e)



The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-(2-chlorobenzyl)acrylonitrile **4b** (1.0 mmol, 0.177 g) and benzenethiol **2a** (2.0 mmol, 0.220 g), providing **5e** as colour less liquid. Yield: 0.229 g, 83%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.75 (s, 2H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 7.13-7.22 (m, 4H), 7.25-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.36 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 43.69, 45.52,

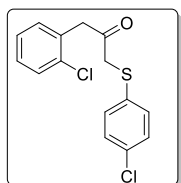
127.05, 127.11, 128.89, 129.27, 129.64, 129.75, 131.96, 132.49, 134.52, 134.74, 203.72.; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $C_{15}H_{13}ClOS + K (M + K)$, 315.0013; Found: 315.0017

1-((4-Bromophenyl)thio)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)propan-2-one (5f)



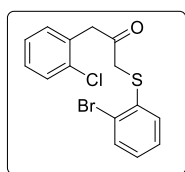
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-(4-chlorobenzyl)acrylonitrile **4f** (1.0 mmol, 0.177 g) and 4-bromobenzenethiol **2d** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g), providing **5f** as colour white solid Yield: 0.277 g, 86%, M.P 68 °C; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 3.64 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 7.06 (d, 2H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.14 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.26 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.36 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 43.23, 46.72, 121.26, 129.00, 130.93, 131.40, 131.93, 132.34, 133.35, 133.52, 201.92; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $C_{15}H_{12}BrClOS + K (M + K)$, 392.9118; Found: 392.9121

1-(2-Chlorophenyl)-3-((4-chlorophenyl)thio)propan-2-one (5g)



The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-(2-chlorobenzyl)acrylonitrile **4b** (1.0 mmol, 0.177 g) and 4-chlorobenzenethiol **2g** (2.0 mmol, 0.288 g), providing **5g** as pale yellow liquid. Yield: 0.270 g, 87%; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 3.72 (s, 2H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 7.14-7.16 (m, 1H), 7.17-7.27 (m, 6H), 7.34-7.36 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 43.73, 45.59, 127.18, 129.00, 129.37, 129.68, 131.18, 131.92, 132.27, 133.15, 133.20, 134.46, 202.31; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $C_{15}H_{12}Cl_2OS + K (M + K)$, 348.9623; Found: 348.9628

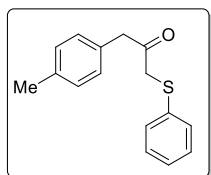
1-((2-Bromophenyl)thio)-3-(2-chlorophenyl)propan-2-one (5h)



The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-(2-chlorobenzyl)acrylonitrile **4b** (1.0 mmol, 0.177 g) and 2-bromobenzenethiol **2e** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g),

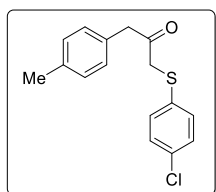
providing **5h** as white solid. Yield: 0.298 g, 84%; M.P 62 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.79 (s, 2H), 4.04 (s, 2H), 7.04 (td, 1H, J = 1.2 & 8.0 Hz), 7.15-7.28 (m, 5H), 7.34-7.37 (m, 1H) 7.54 (dd, 1H, J = 8.0 & 1.2 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 42.69, 45.59, 123.90, 127.17, 127.75, 128.18, 128.98, 129.23, 129.66, 132.00, 132.33, 133.27, 134.50, 136.04, 201.41; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{BrClOS} + \text{K}$ (M + K), 392.9118; Found: 392.9114

1-(Phenylthio)-3-(*p*-tolyl)propan-2-one (**5i**)



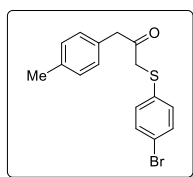
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-(4-methylbenzyl)acrylonitrile **4c** (1.0 mmol, 0.157 g) and benzenethiol **2a** (2.0 mmol, 0.220 g), providing **5i** as pale yellow liquid. Yield: 0.218 g, 85%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.32 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 7.05 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.11 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.17-7.32 (m, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 21.22, 43.05, 47.36, 127.01, 129.26, 129.51, 129.62, 129.80, 130.70, 134.80, 136.95, 203.18.; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{OS} + \text{K}$ (M + K), 295.0559; Found: 295.0548

1-((4-Chlorophenyl)thio)-3-(*p*-tolyl)propan-2-one (**5j**)



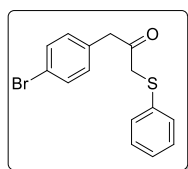
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-(4-methylbenzyl)acrylonitrile **4c** (1.0 mmol, 0.157 g) and 4-chlorobenzenethiol **2g** (2.0 mmol, 0.288 g), providing **5j** as colour less liquid. Yield: 0.244 g, 84%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.32 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 2H), 7.04 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.11 (d, 2H, J = 7.6 Hz), 7.19-7.23 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 21.18, 43.10, 47.47, 129.33, 129.44, 129.65, 130.45, 131.21, 133.11, 133.20, 137.07, 202.68; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClOS} + \text{K}$ (M + K), 329.0169; Found: 329.0159

1-((4-Bromophenyl)thio)-3-(*p*-tolyl)propan-2-one (5k)



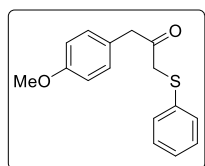
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-(4-methylbenzyl)acrylonitrile **4c** (1.0 mmol, 0.157 g) 4-bromobenzenethiol **2d** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g), providing **5k** as white solid. Yield: 0.294 g, 88%, M.P. 63 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 2.34 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 2H), 7.06 (d, 2H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.12-7.15 (m, 4H), 7.36 (d, 2H, $J = 8.0$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 21.21, 42.92, 47.48, 120.98, 129.45, 129.66, 130.44, 131.29, 132.24, 133.95, 137.07, 202.65; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrOS} + \text{K}$ ($\text{M} + \text{K}$), 372.9664; Found: 372.9673

1-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-(phenylthio)propan-2-one (5l)



The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-(4-bromobenzyl)acrylonitrile **4e** (1.0 mmol, 0.222 g) and benzenethiol **2a** (2.0 mmol, 0.220 g), providing **5l** as colourless liquid. Yield: 0.263 g, 82%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.66 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 7.00 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.19-7.31 (m, 5H), 7.40 (d, 2H, $J = 8.0$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 43.35, 46.68, 121.32, 127.22, 129.31, 129.90, 131.34, 131.89, 132.67, 134.37, 203.30; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrOS} + \text{K}$ ($\text{M} + \text{K}$), 358.9508; Found: 358.9514

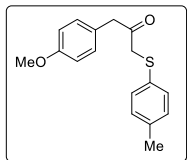
1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-(phenylthio)propan-2-one (5m)



The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-(4-methoxybenzyl)acrylonitrile **4d** (1.0 mmol, 0.173 g) and benzenethiol **2a** (2.0 mmol, 0.220 g), providing **5m** as colourless liquid. Yield: 0.250 g, 92%; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.67 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 2H), 6.84 (d, 2H, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.07 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.19-7.32 (m, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz,

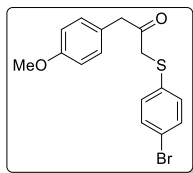
CDCl₃): δ 43.00, 46.84, 55.35, 114.33, 125.76, 127.00, 129.26, 129.76, 130.67, 134.80, 158.87, 203.31.; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for C₁₆H₁₆O₂S + K (M + K), 311.0508; Found: 311.0518

1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-(p-tolylthio)propan-2-one (5n)



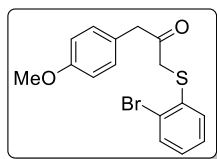
The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-(4-methoxybenzyl)acrylonitrile **4d** (1.0 mmol, 0.173 g) and 4-methylbenzenethiol **2b** (2.0 mmol, 0.248 g), providing **5n** as colourless liquid. Yield: 0.257 g, 90%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.31 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 2H), 6.84 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.07-7.09 (m, 4H), 7.24 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 21.18, 43.68, 46.79, 55.33, 114.30, 125.87, 130.07, 130.69, 130.72, 130.95, 137.35, 158.84, 203.33.; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for C₁₇H₁₈O₂S + K (M + K), 325.0665; Found: 325.0671

1-((4-Bromophenyl)thio)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propan-2-one (5o)



The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-(4-methoxybenzyl)acrylonitrile **4d** (1.0 mmol, 0.173 g) and 4-bromobenzenethiol **2d** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g), providing **5o** as white solid. Yield: 0.309 g, 88%; M.P. 66 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.64 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 5H), 6.83 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.06 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.13 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.35 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 42.85, 46.94, 55.35, 114.36, 120.98, 125.47, 130.59, 131.27, 132.24, 133.91, 158.93, 202.78; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for C₁₆H₁₅BrO₂S + K (M + K), 388.9613; Found: 388.9608

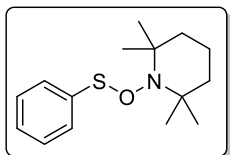
1-((2-Bromophenyl)thio)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propan-2-one (5p)



The title compound was prepared following the general procedure for Table 3, using 2-(4-methoxybenzyl)acrylonitrile **4d** (1.0 mmol, 0.173 g), and 2-bromobenzenethiol **2e** (2.0 mmol, 0.378 g),

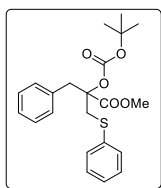
providing **5p** as colourless liquid Yield: 0.277 g, 79%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 3.70 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 6.83 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.01-7.05 (m, 1H), 7.09 (d, 2H, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.18-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.52 (d, 1H, $J = 7.6$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 41.93, 46.87, 55.36, 114.36, 123.92, 125.52, 127.68, 128.11, 129.20, 130.64, 133.24, 136.06, 158.90, 203.02; HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrO}_2\text{S} + \text{K}$ ($\text{M} + \text{K}$), 388.9613; Found: 388.9608

2,2,6,6-Tetramethyl-1-((phenylthio)oxy)piperidine (6)

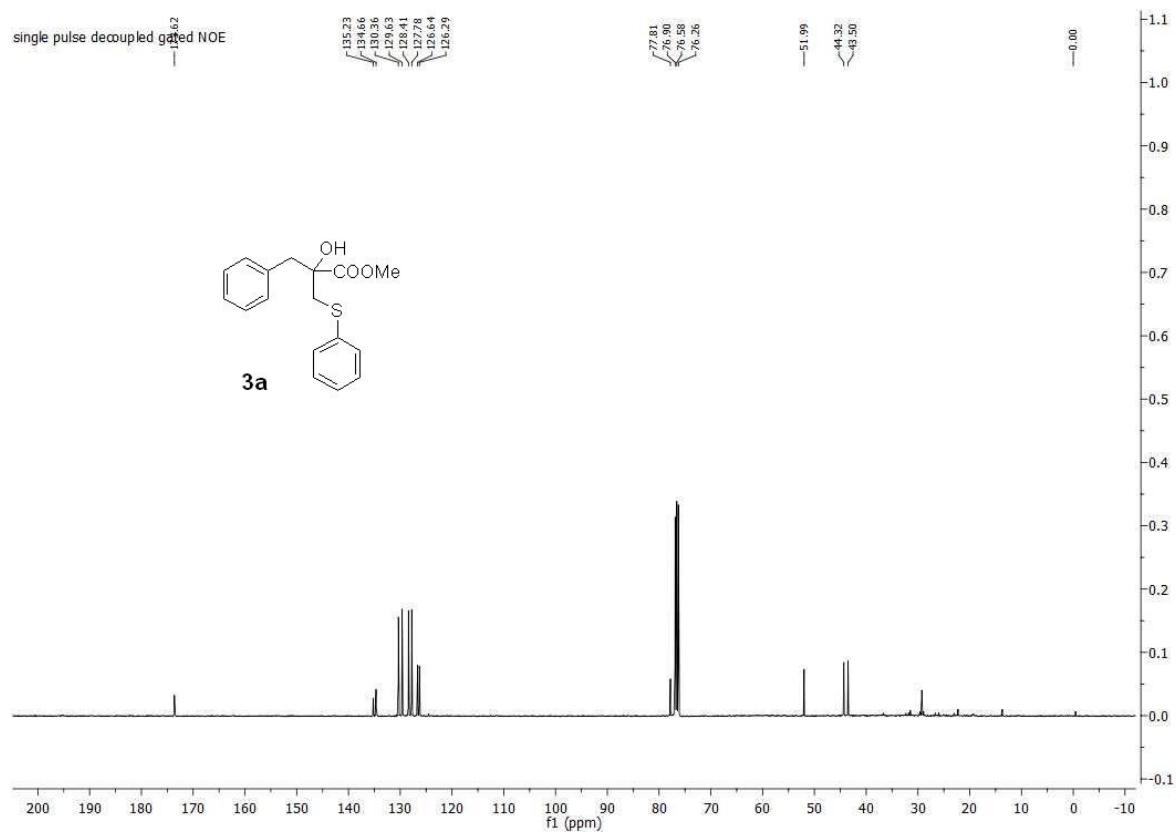
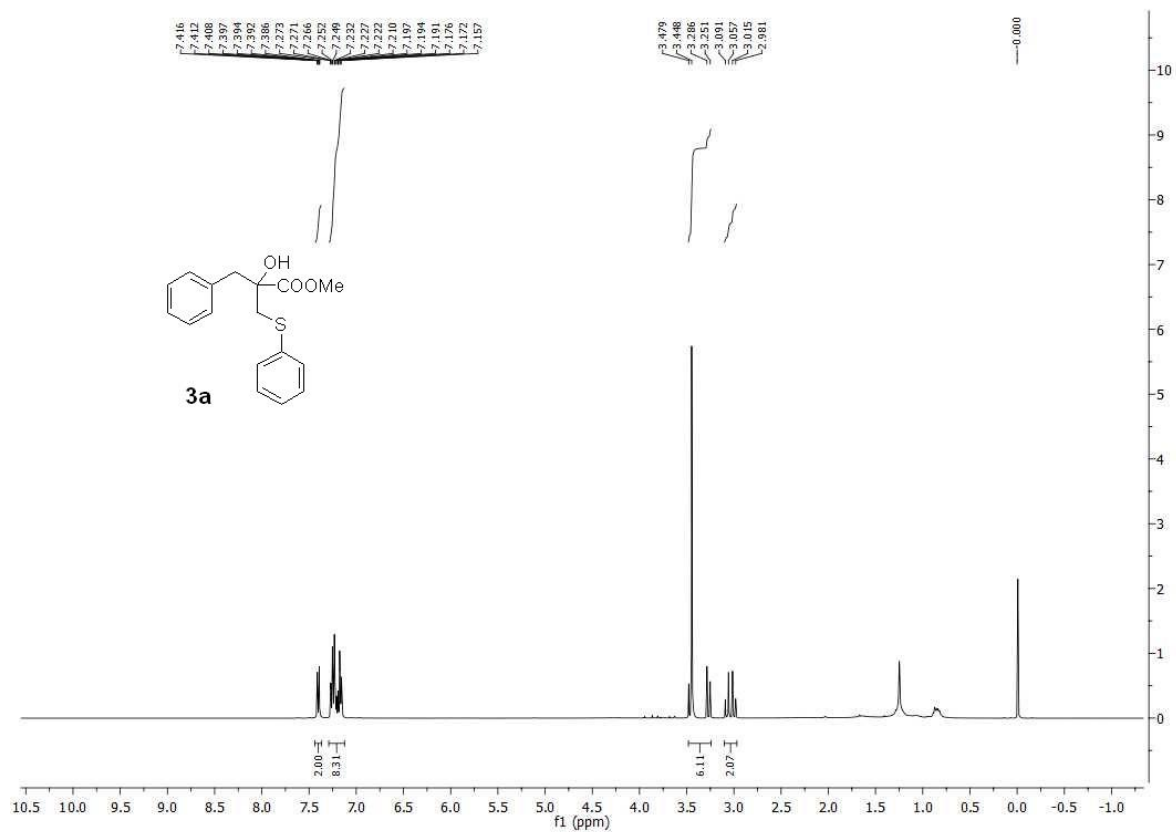


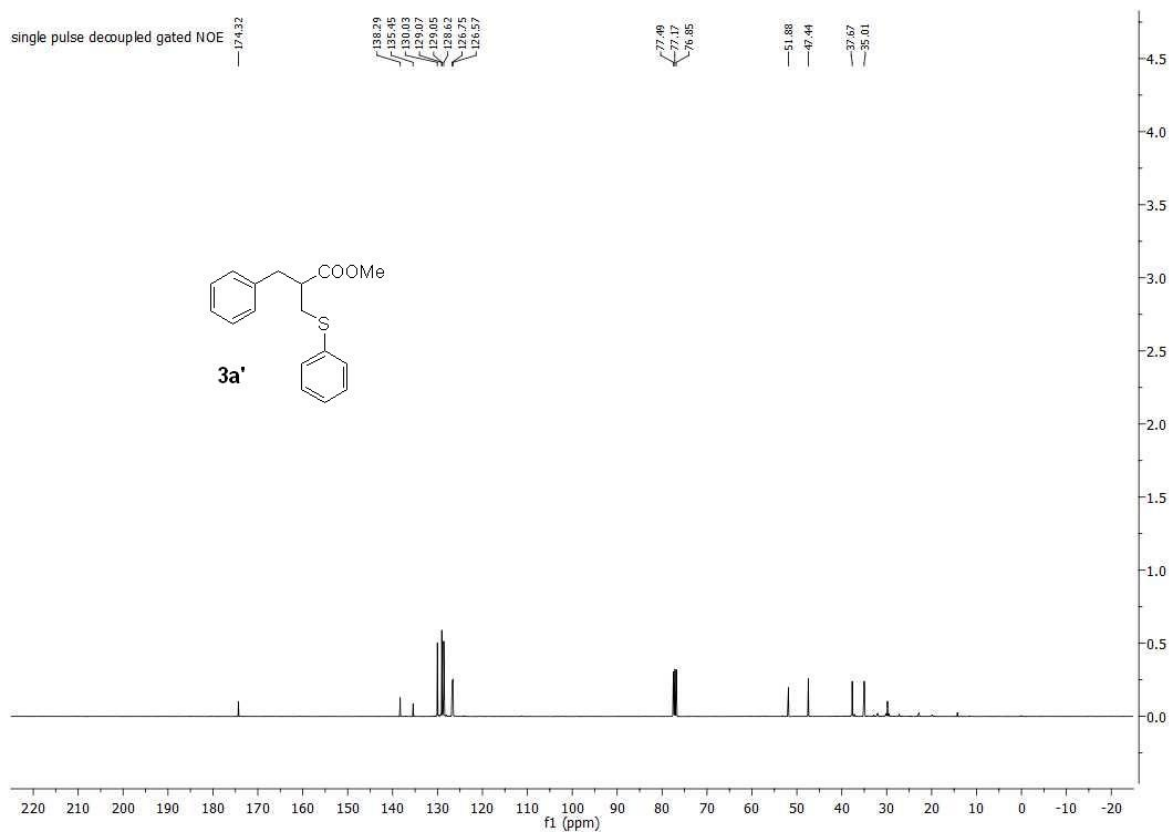
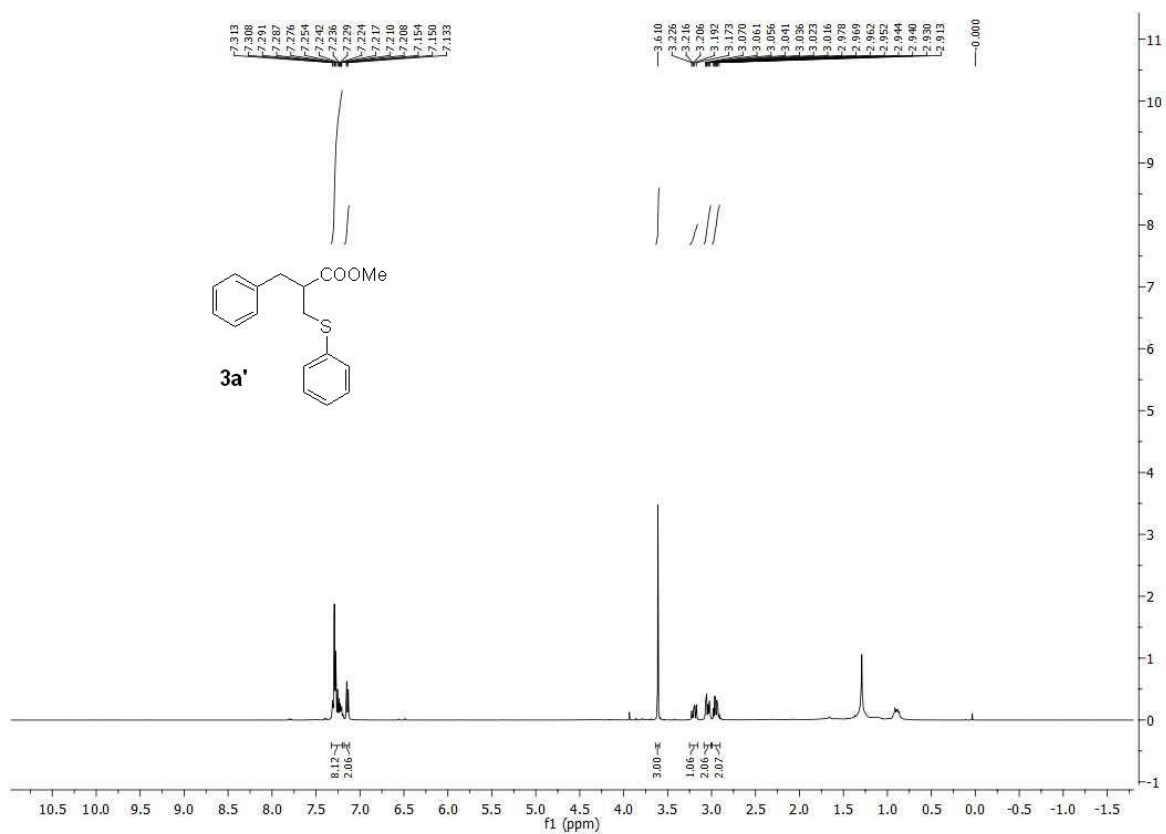
^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 1.25 (s, 3H), 1.50-1.66 (m, 15H), 7.36-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.67-7.69 (m, 2H); HRMS (ESI) exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{23}\text{NOS} + \text{Na}$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$), 288.1398; Found: 288.1392

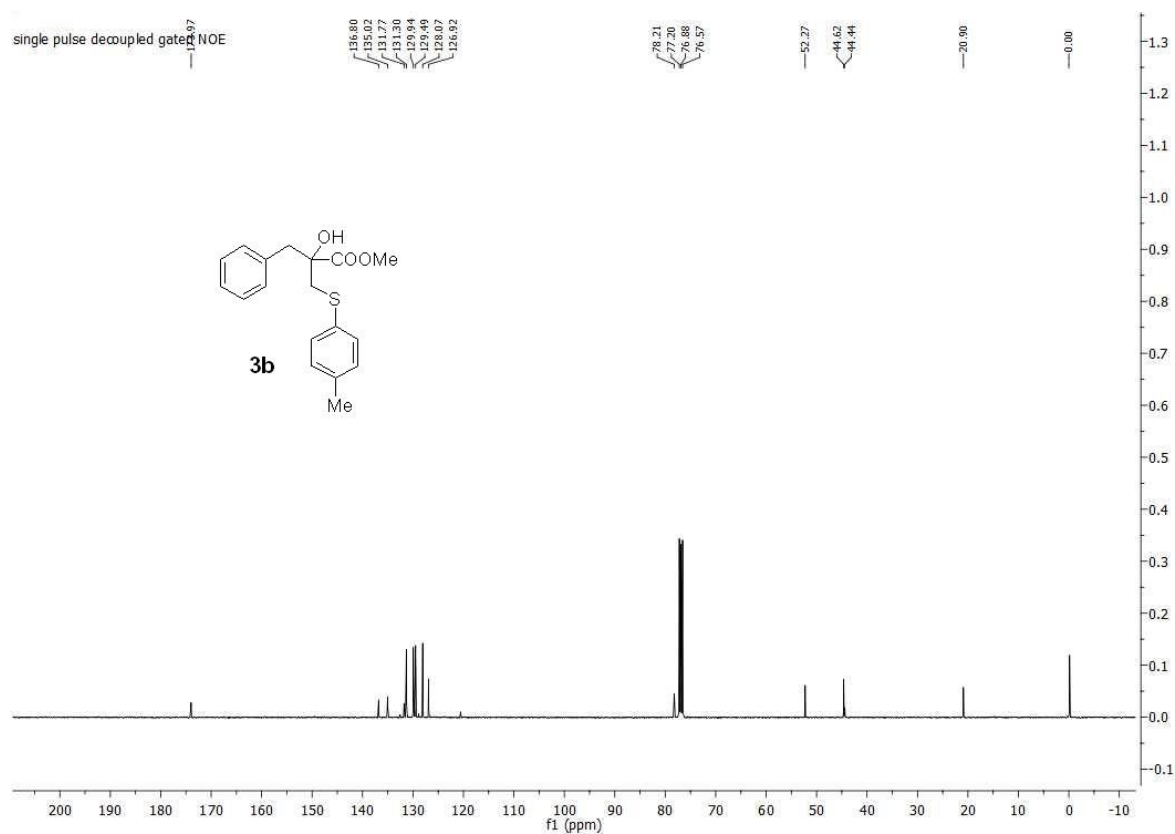
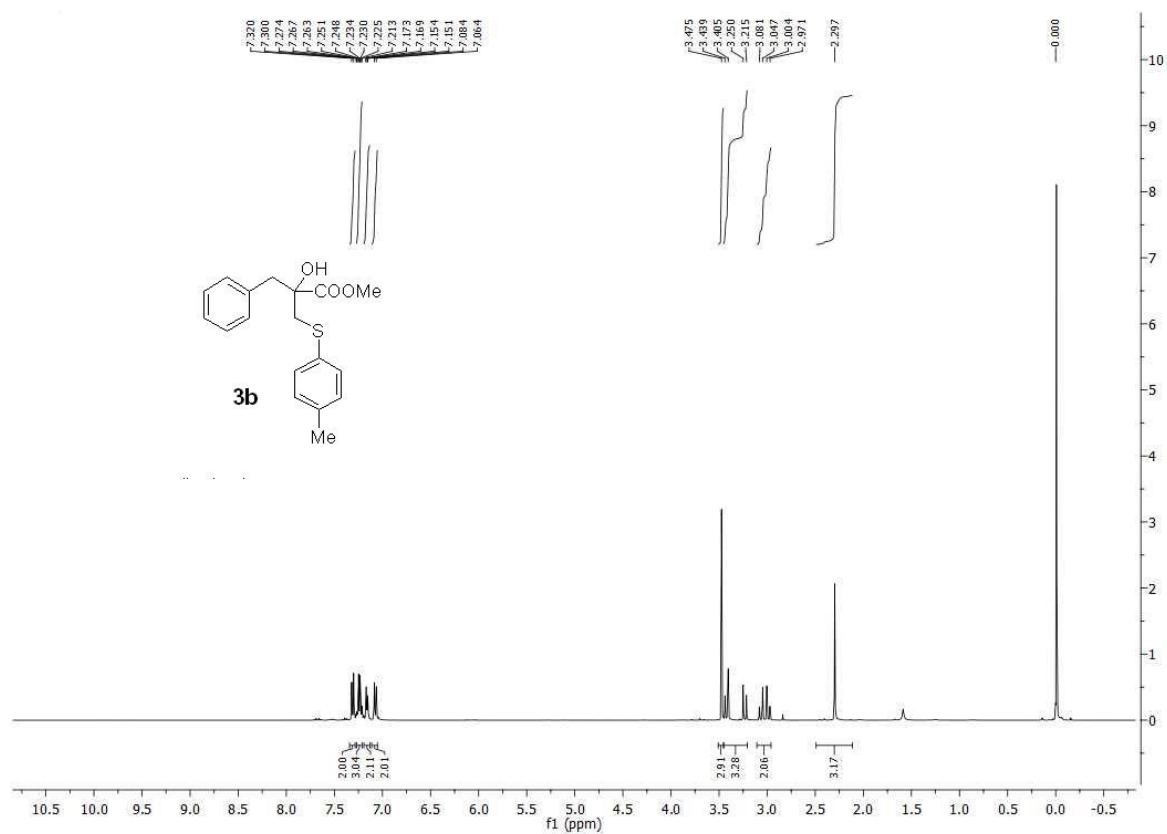
2-Benzyl-1-(methylperoxy)-3-(phenylthio)-1 λ^2 -propan-2-yl tert-butyl carbonate (7)

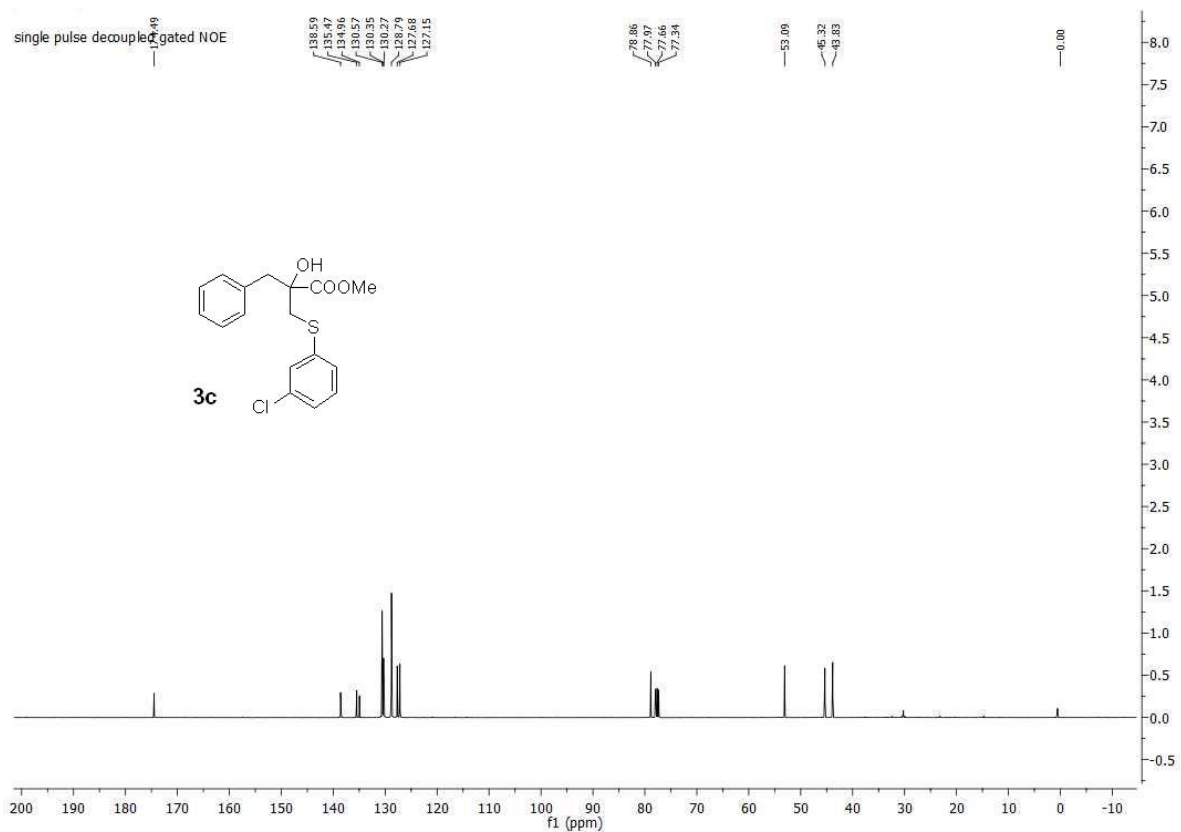
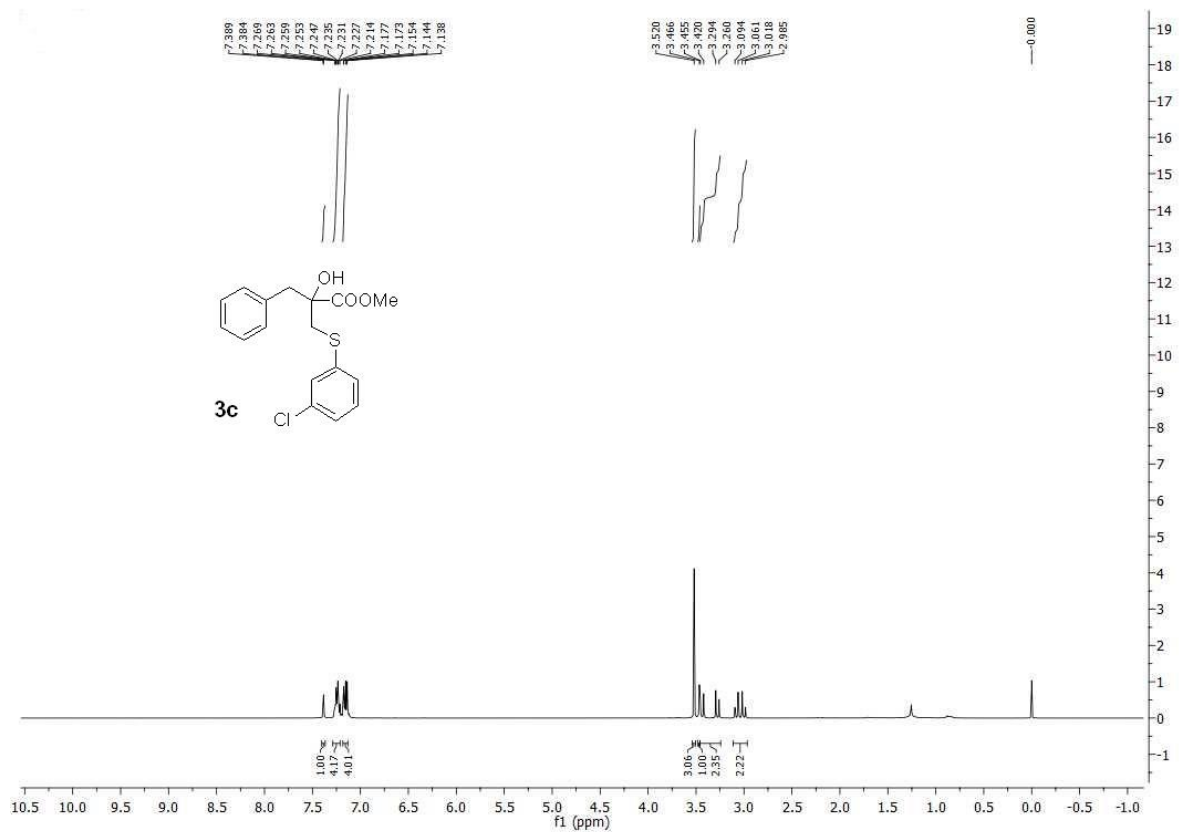


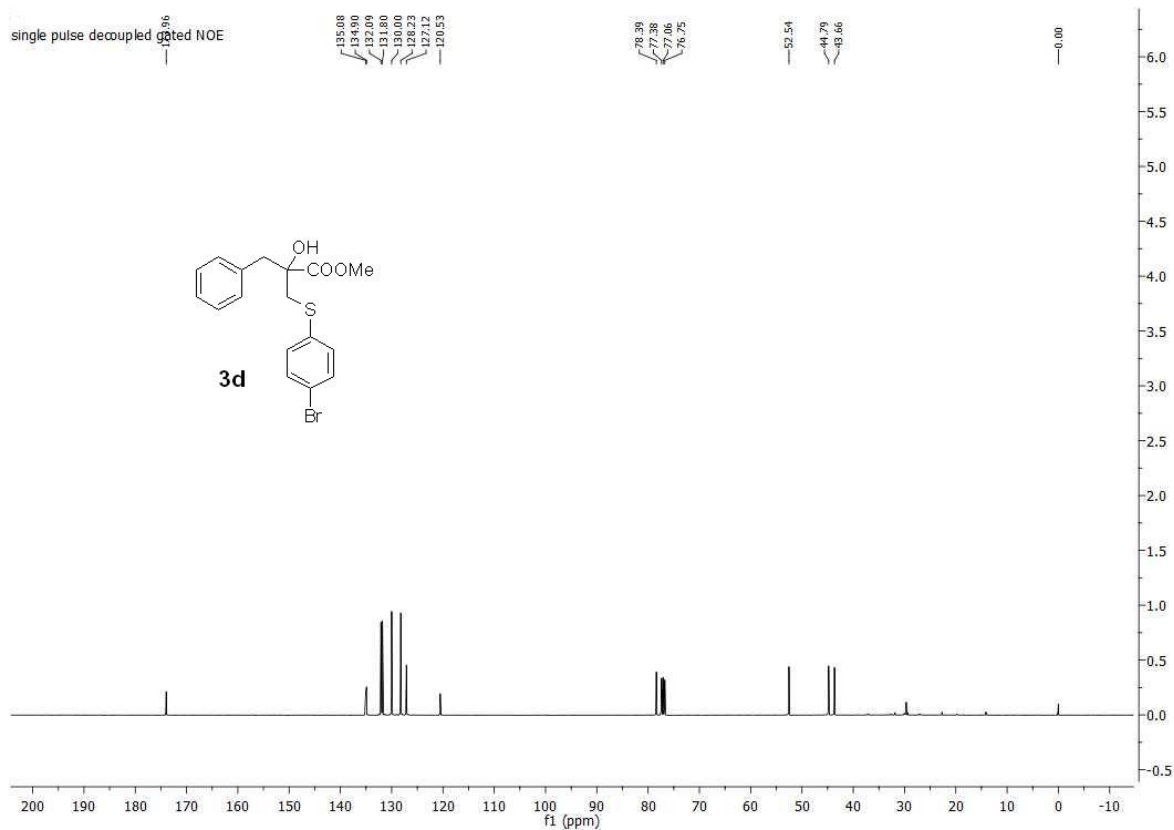
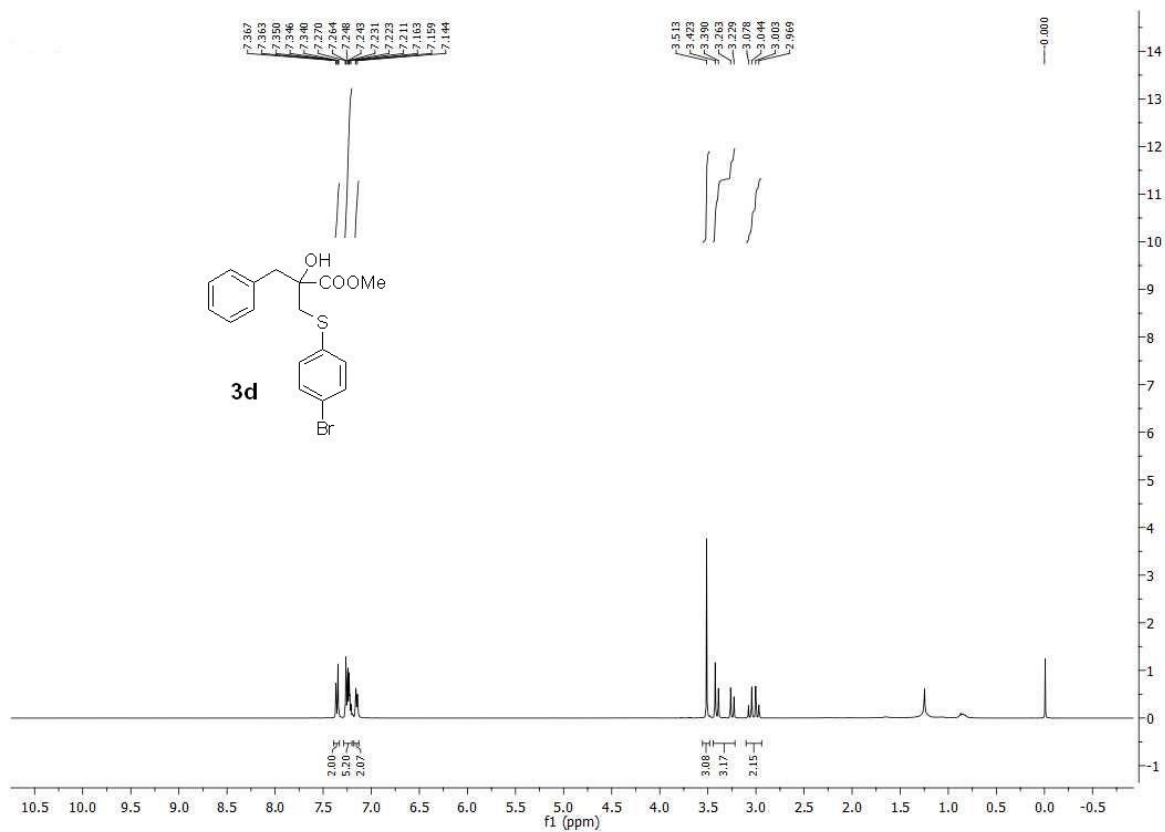
^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 1.42 (s, 9H), 3.35 (dd, 2H, $J = 14.0$ & 1.6 Hz), 3.55 (s, 3H), 3.58-3.66 (m, 2H), 7.11-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.30 (m, 7H), 7.42-7.44 (m, 2H).

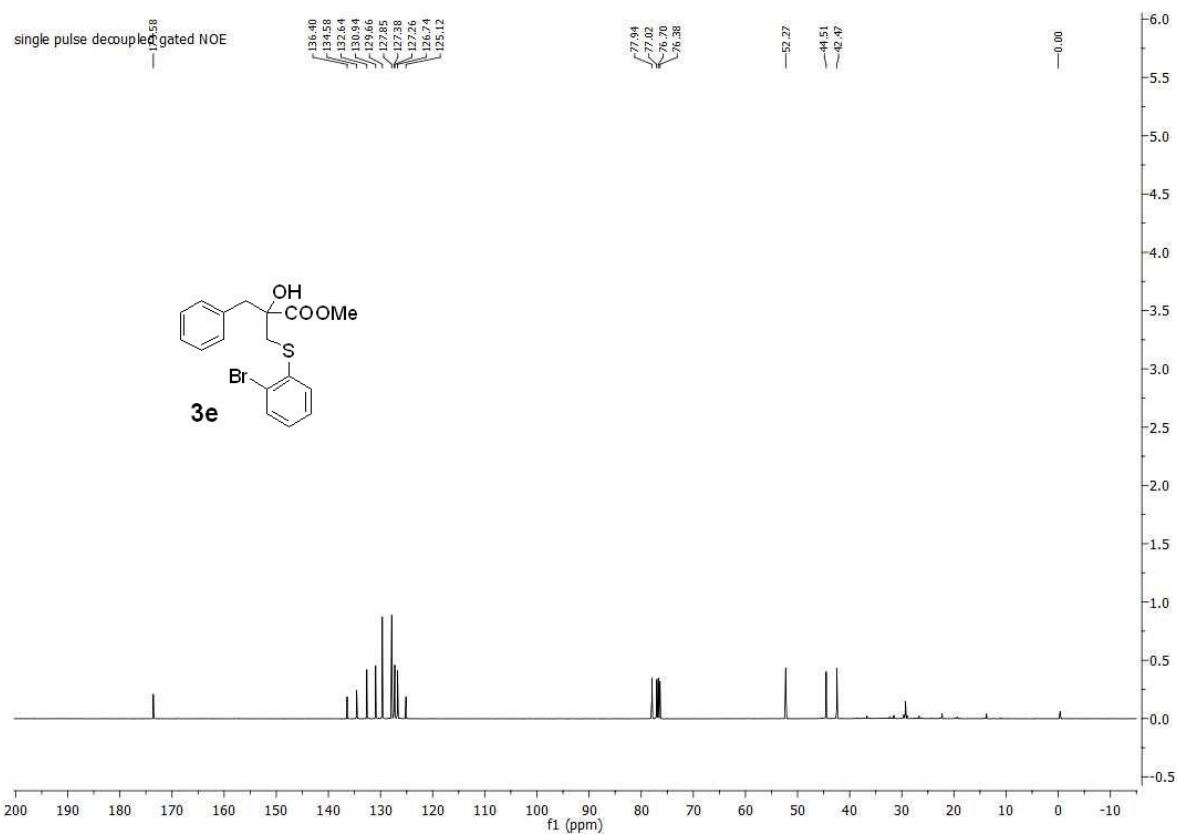
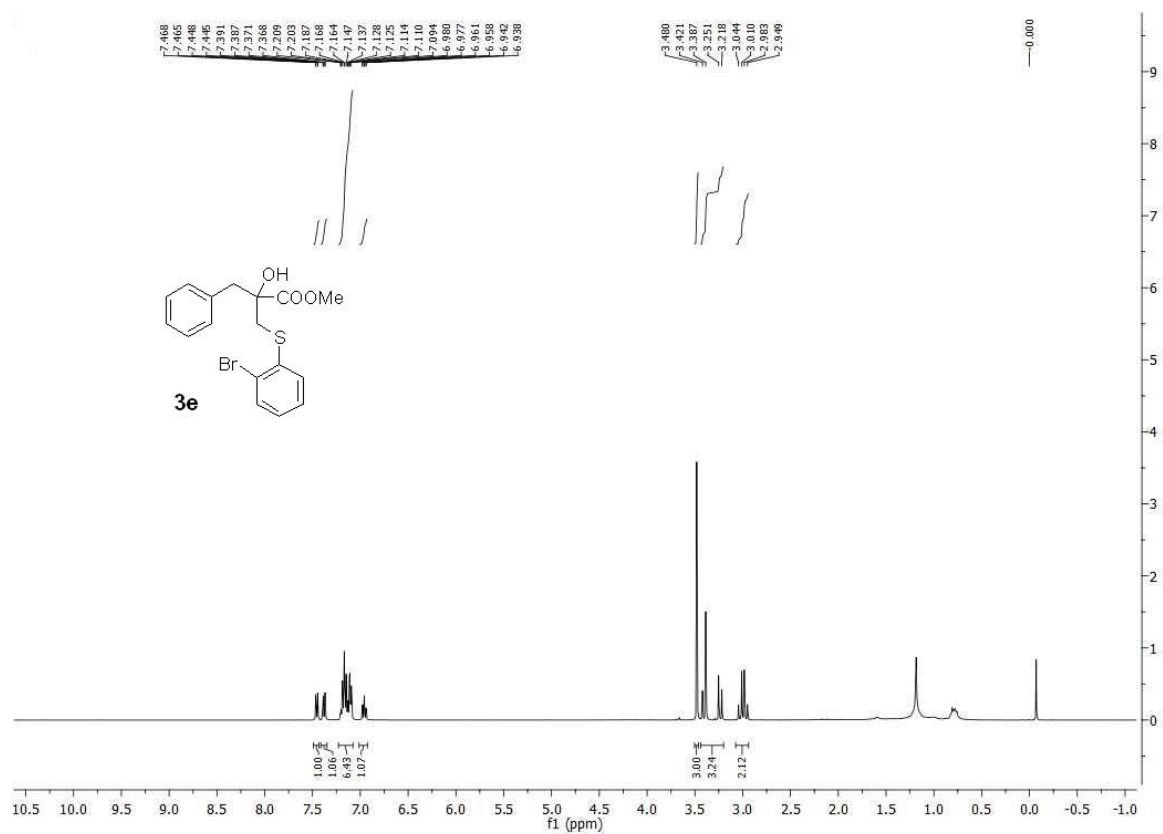


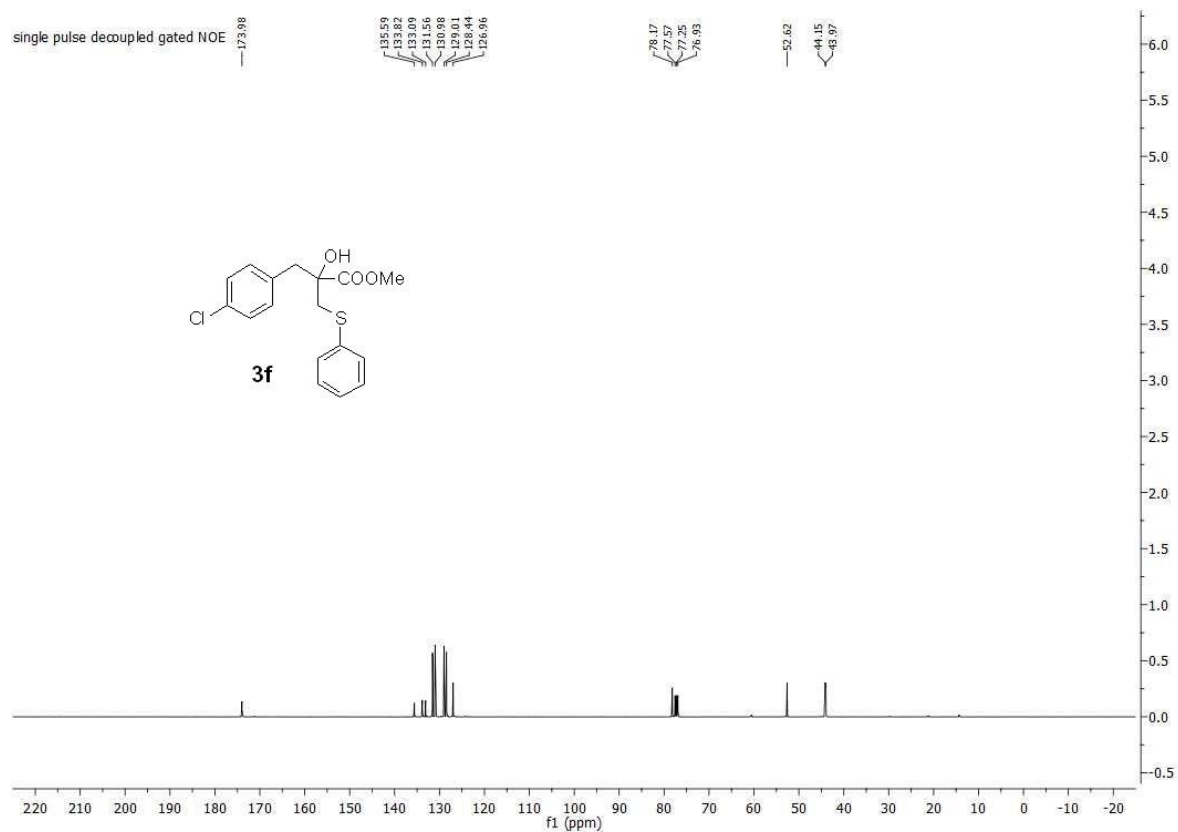
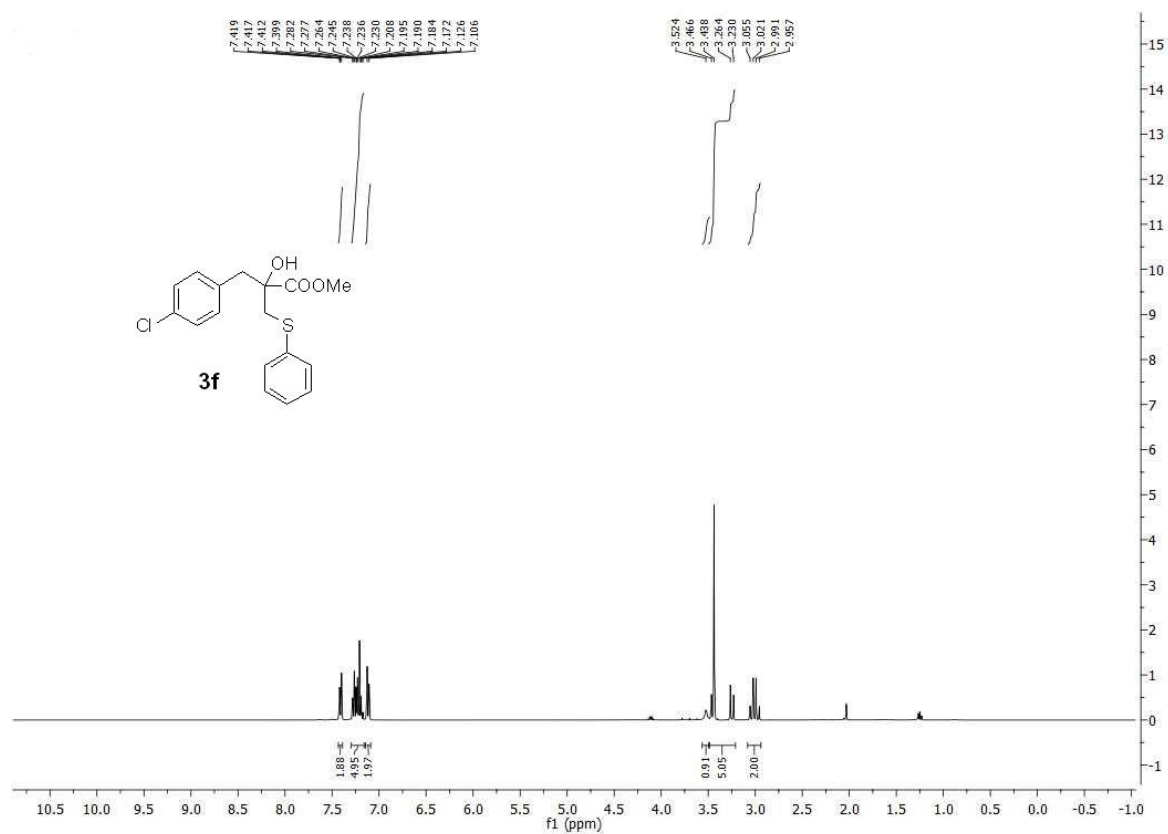


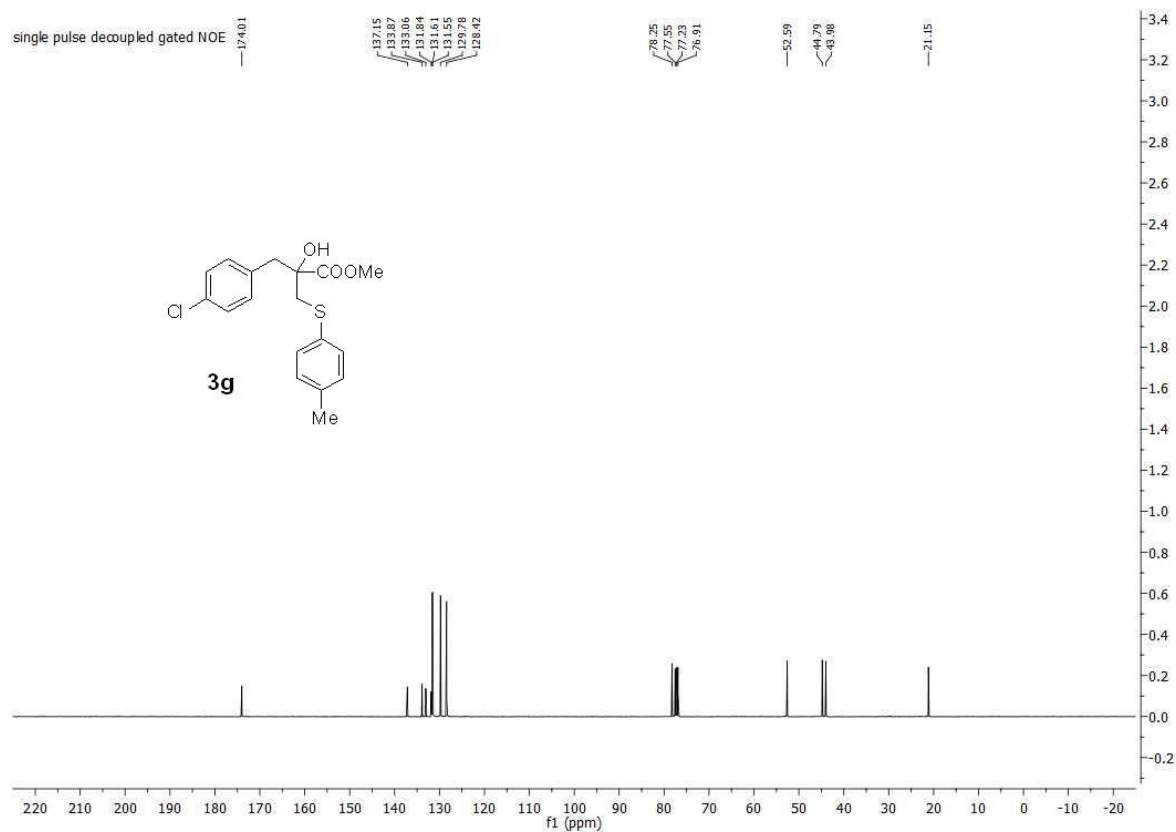
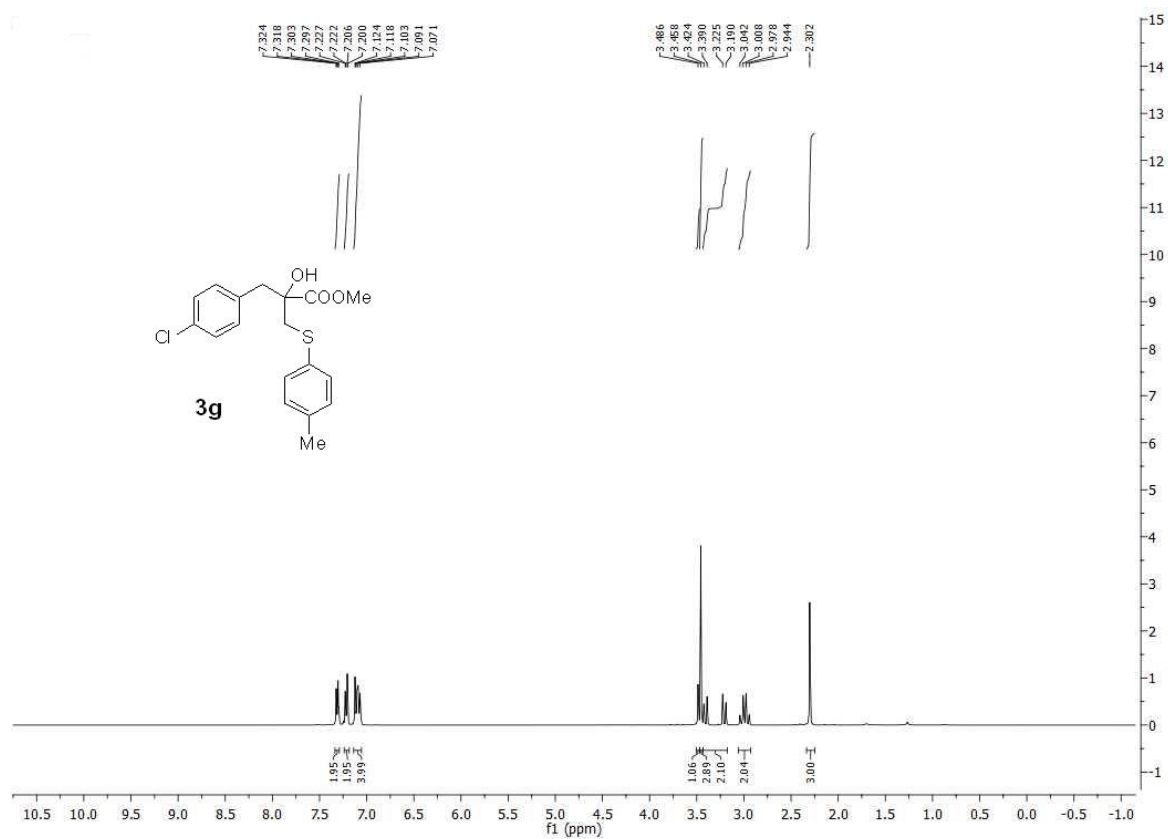


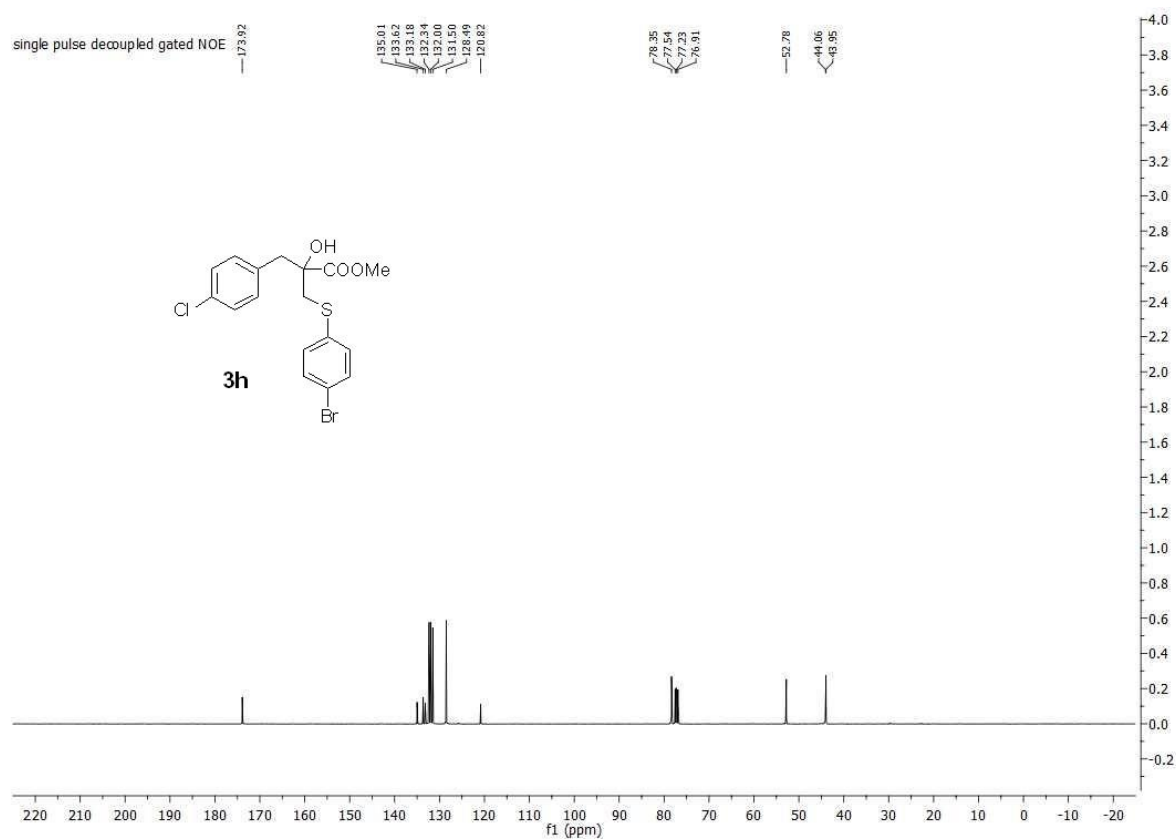
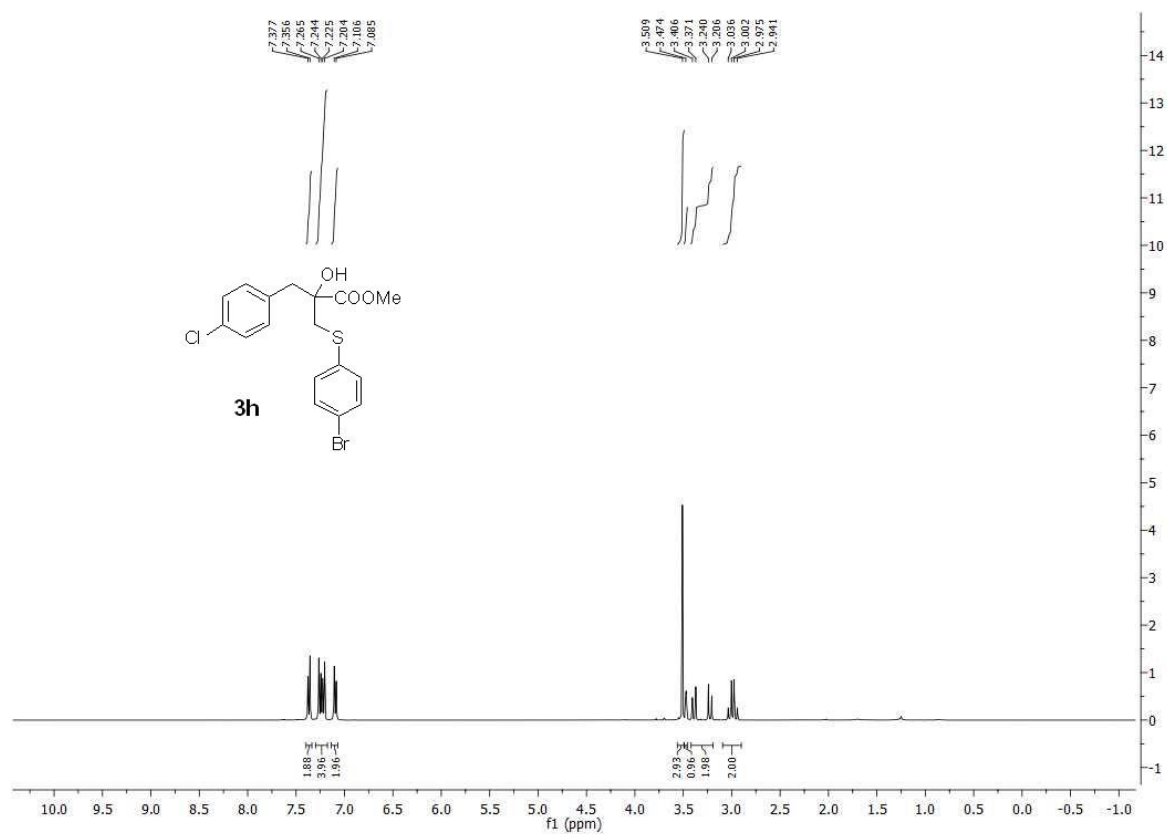


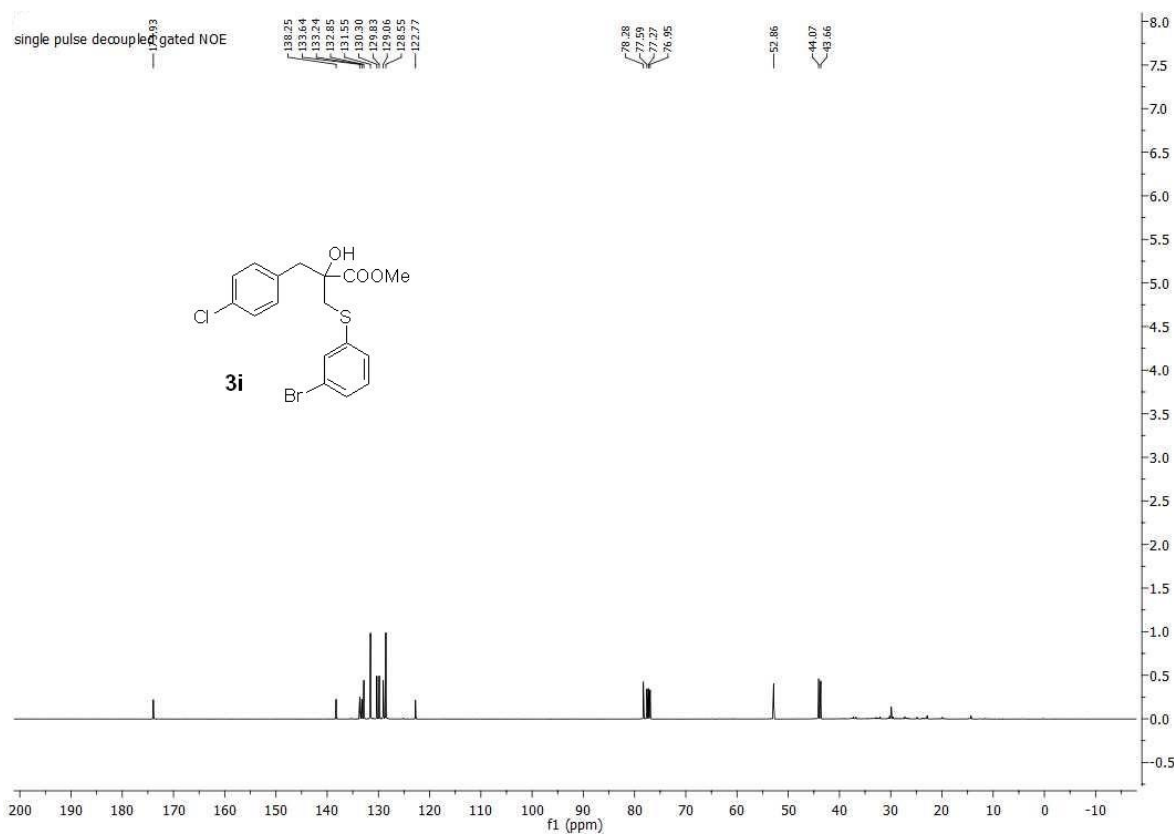
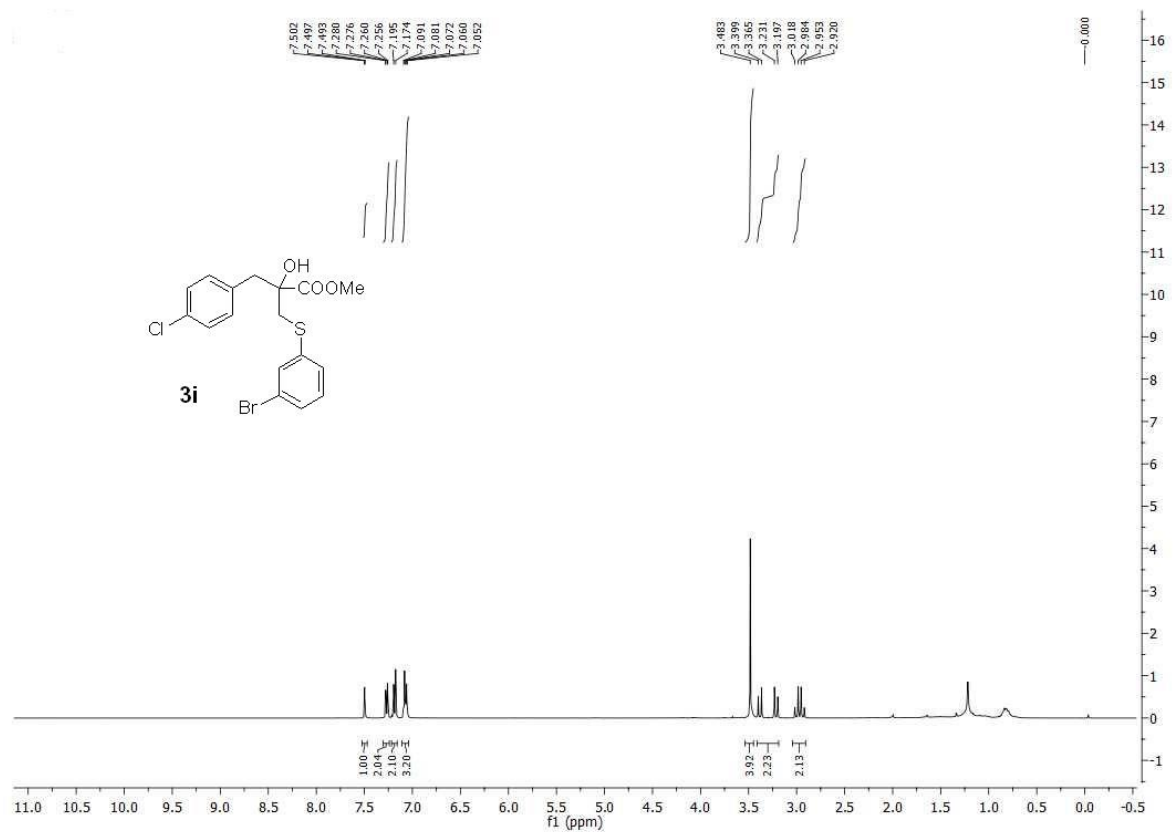


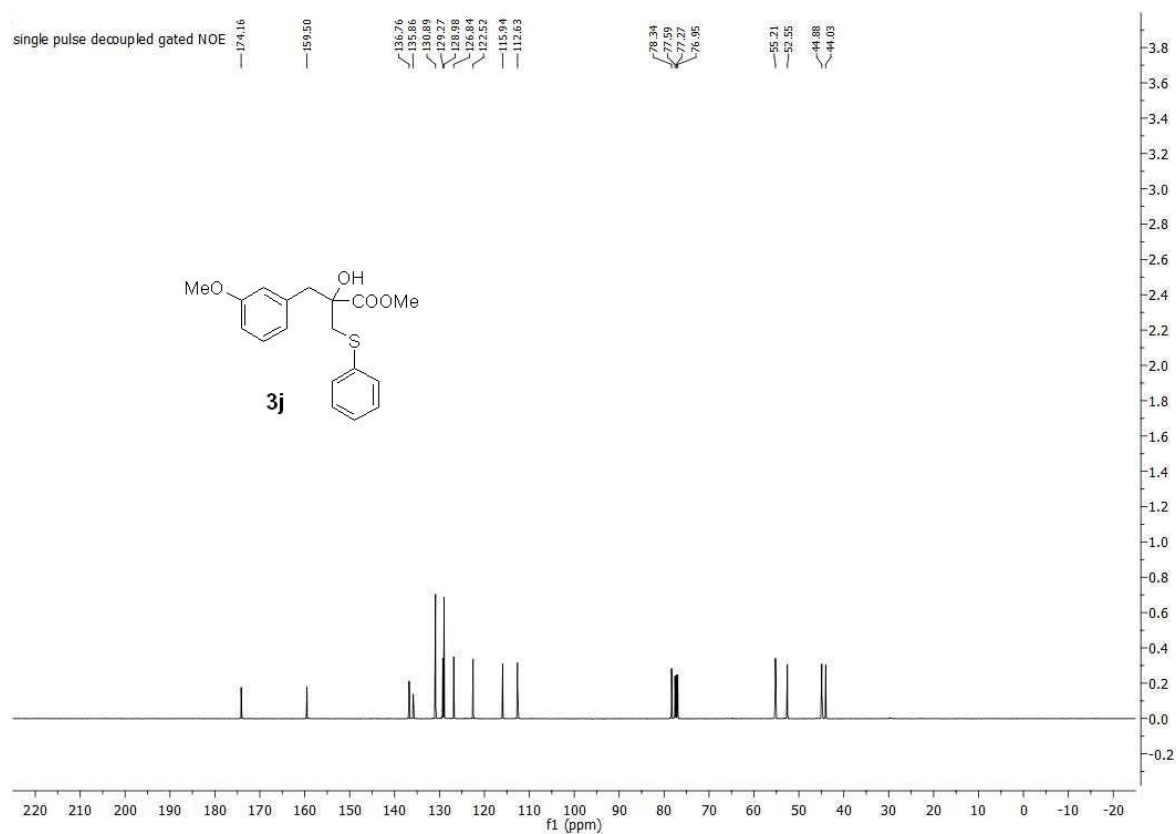
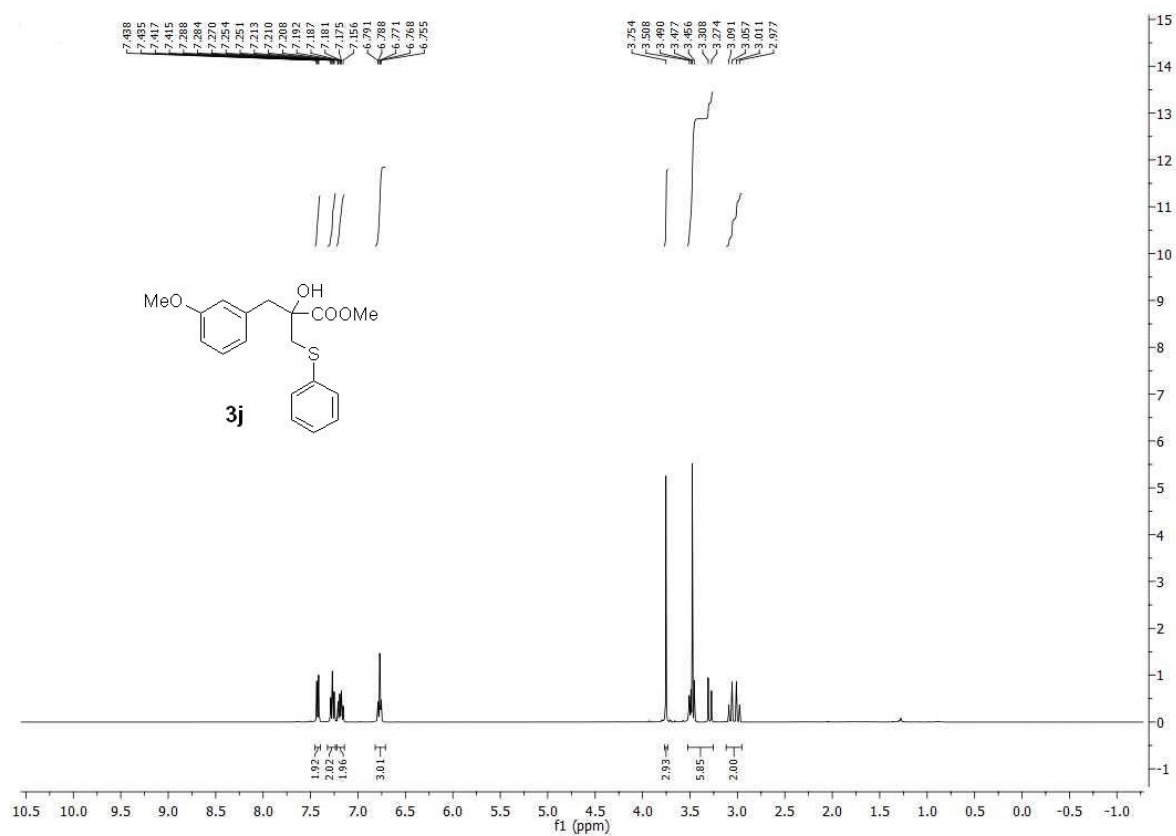


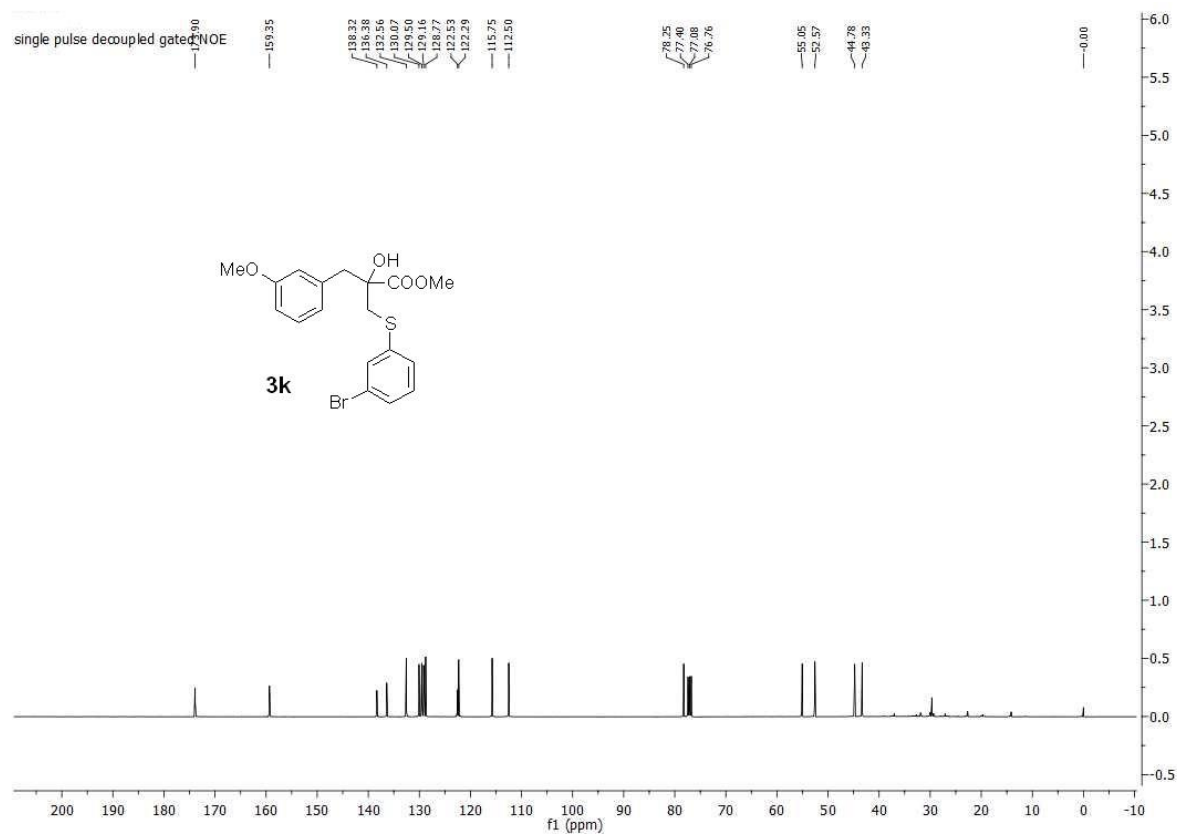
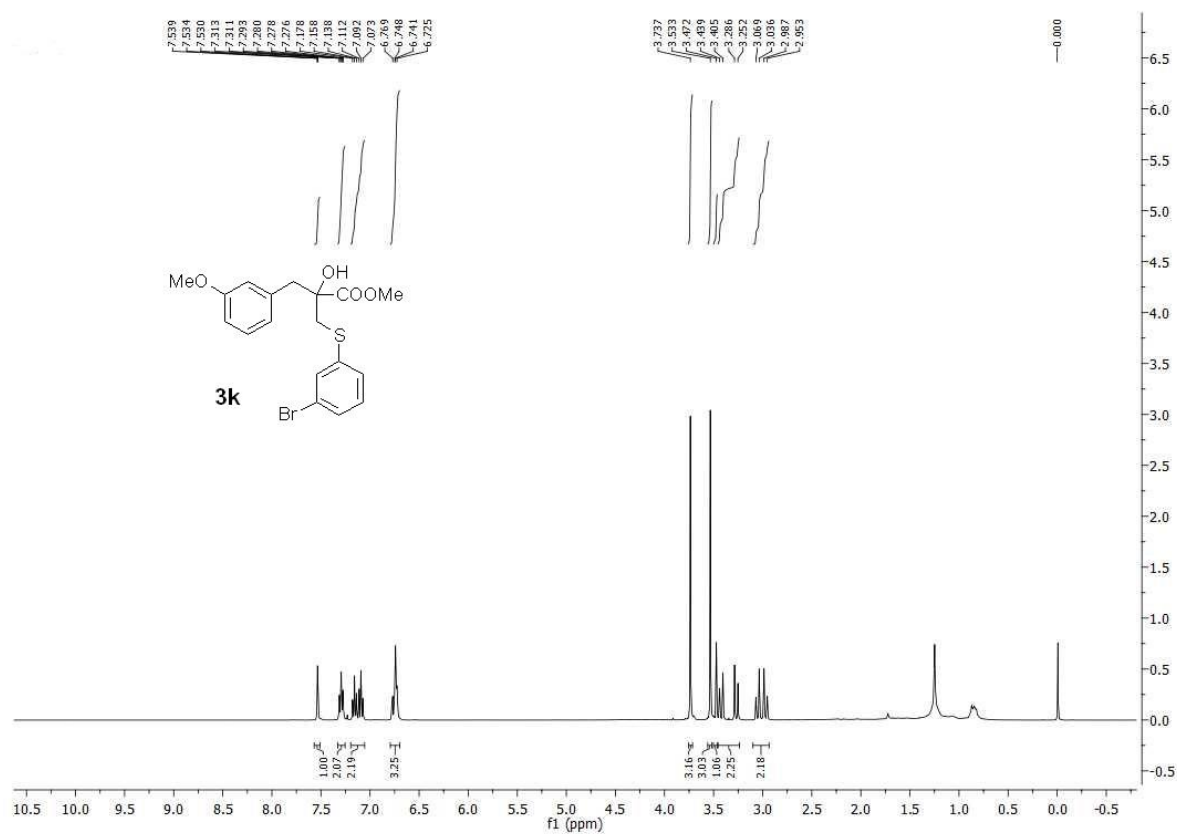


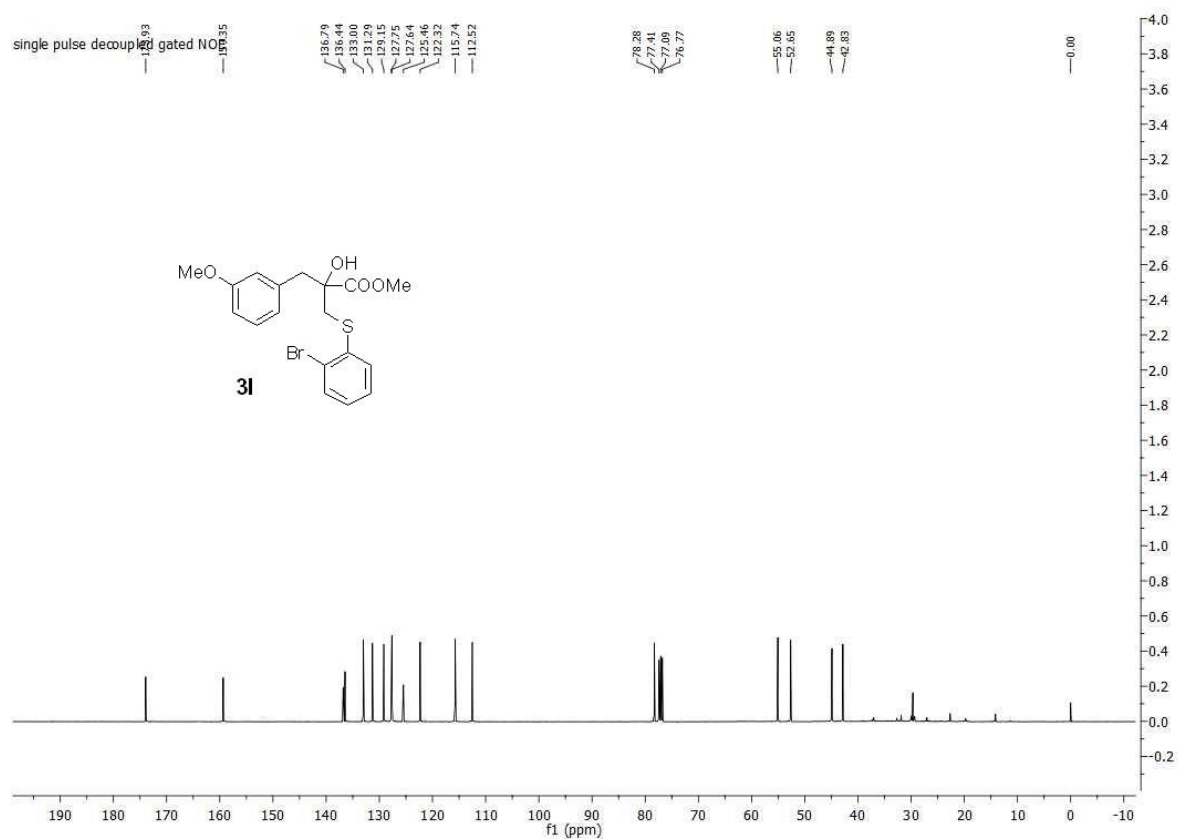
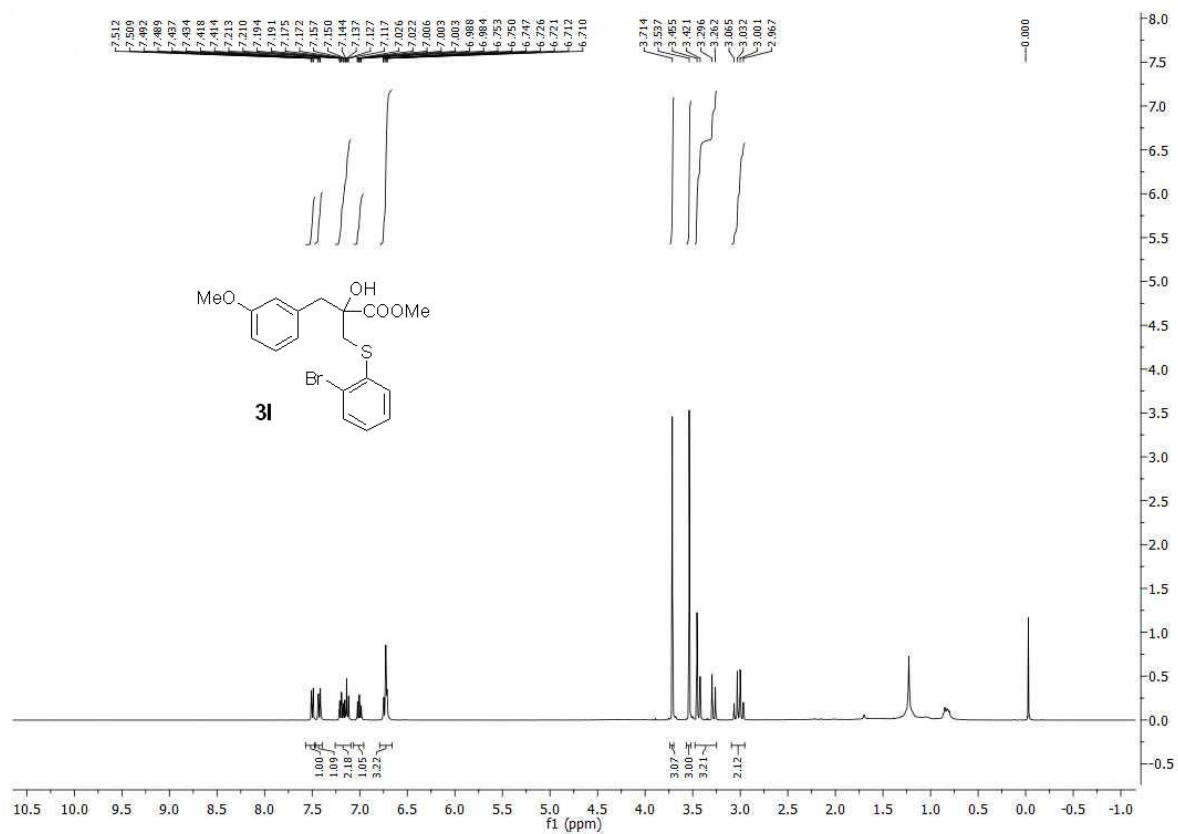


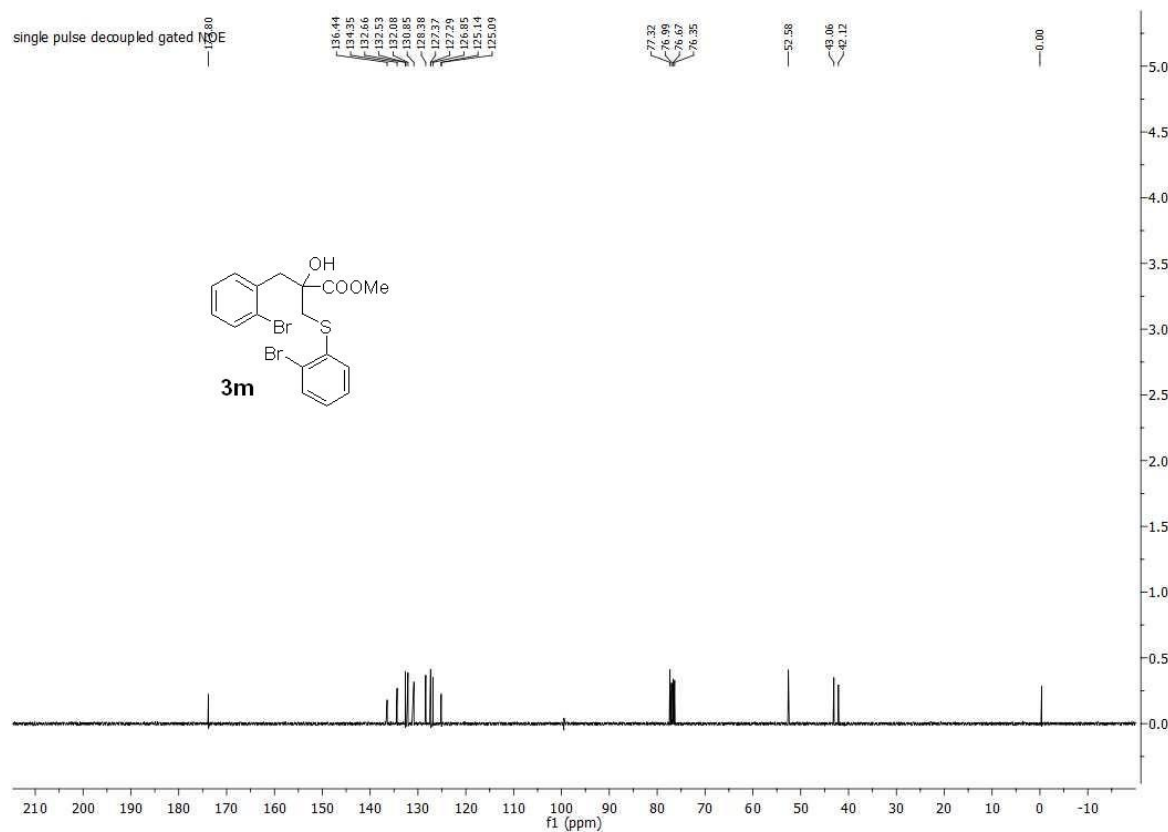
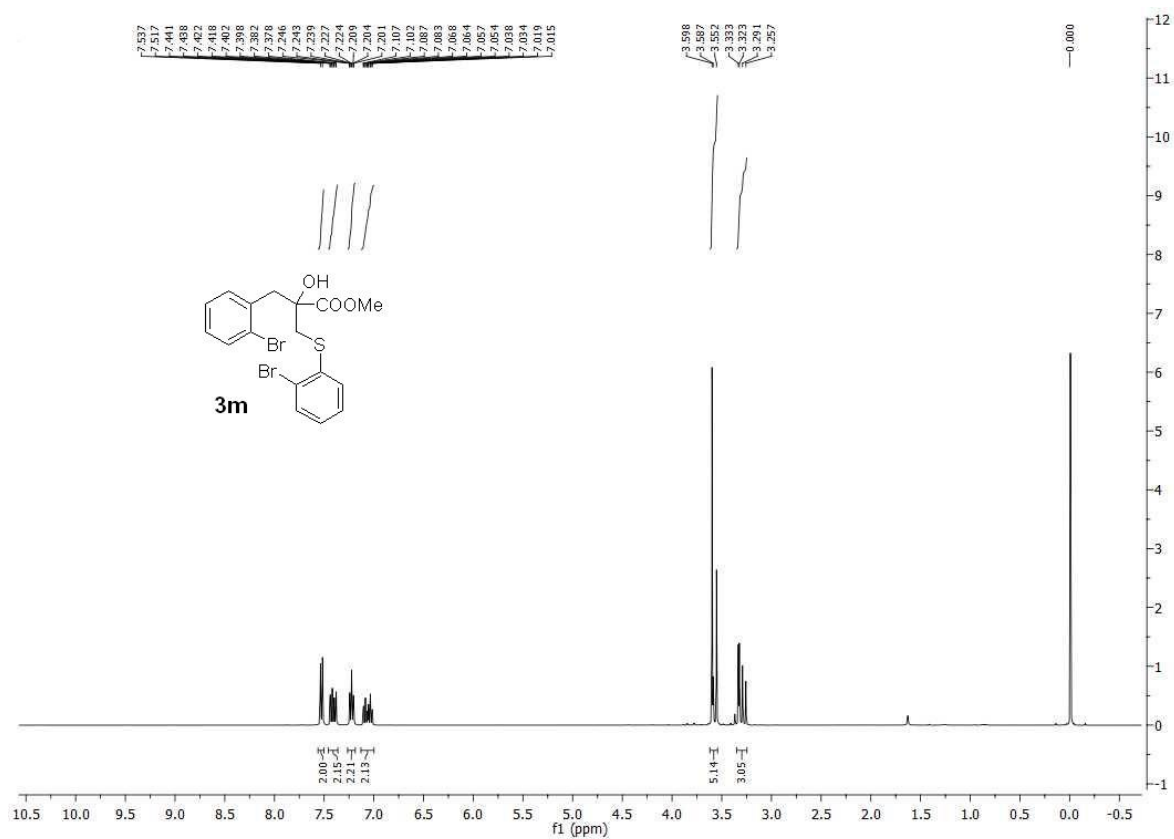


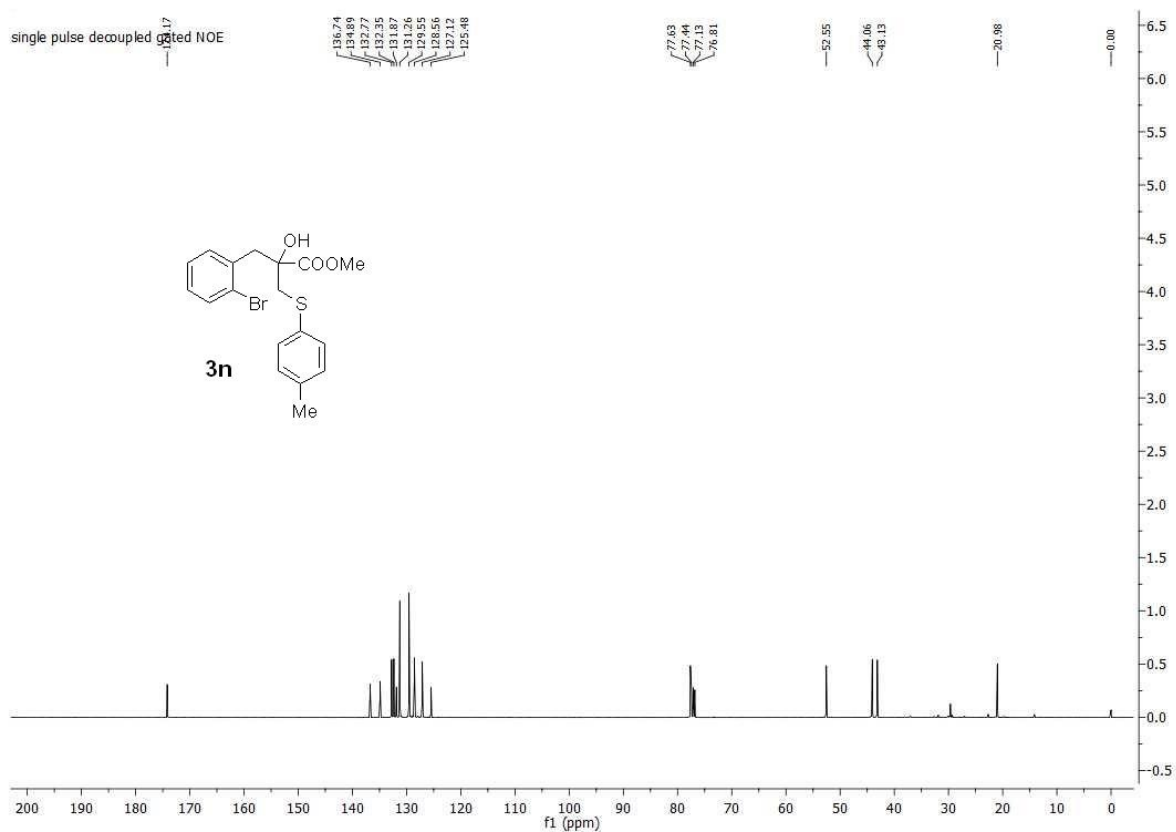
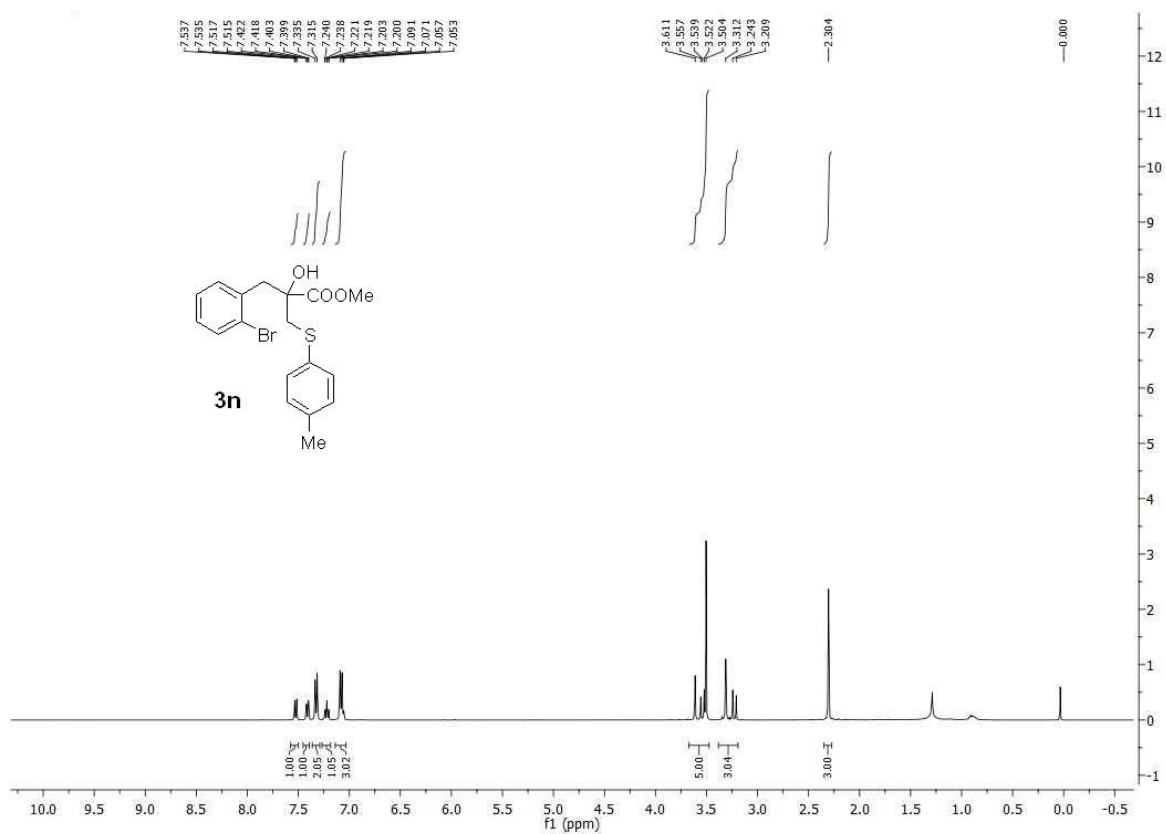


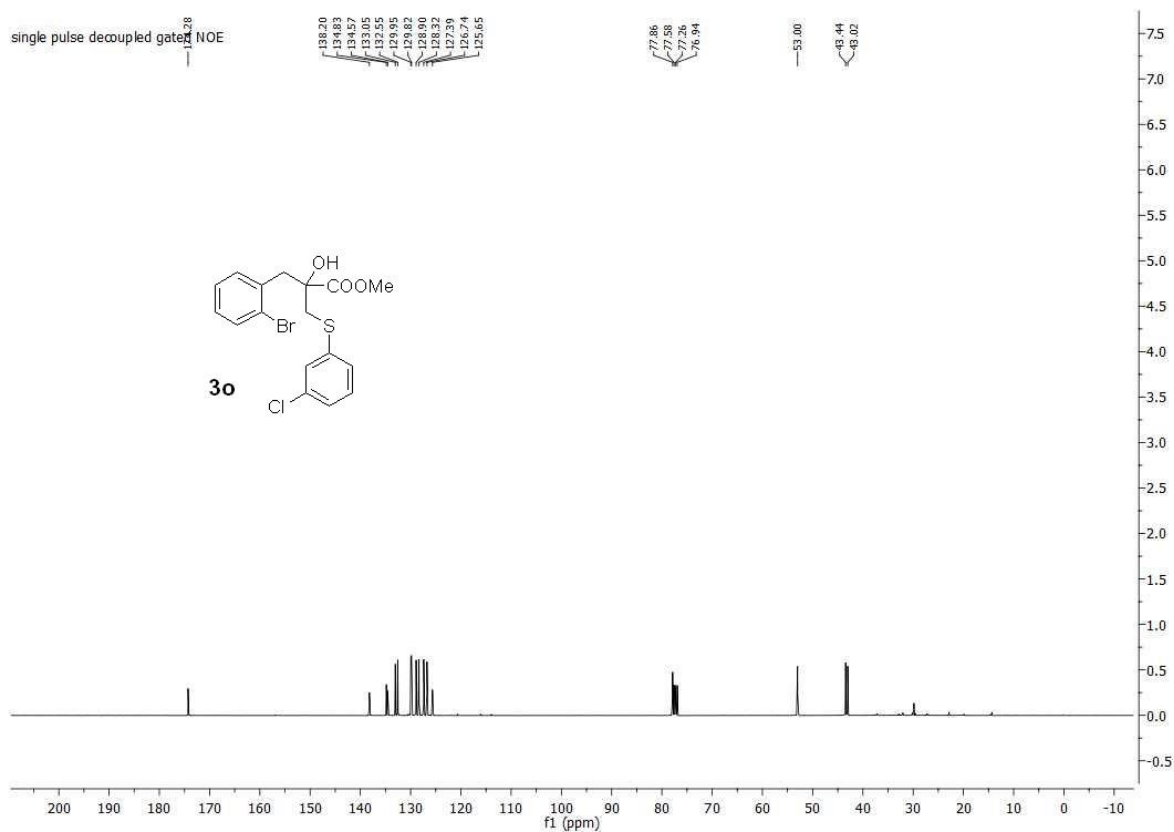
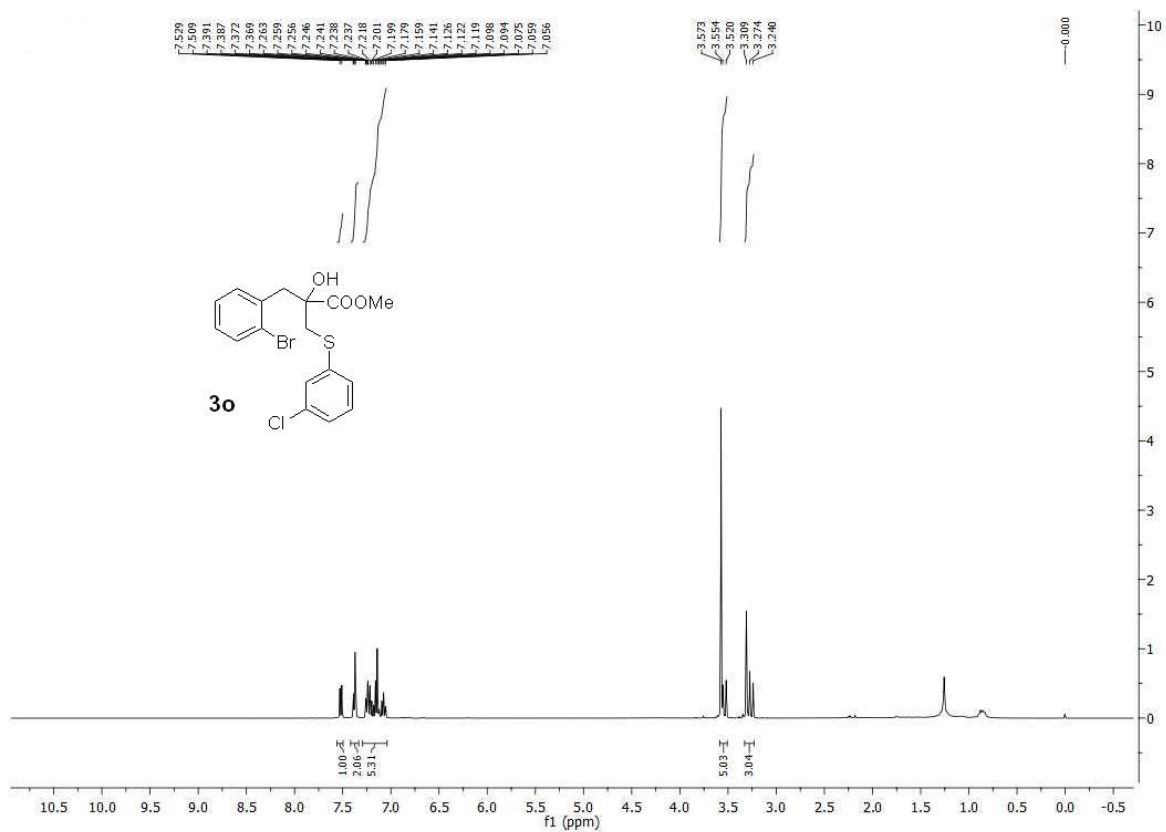


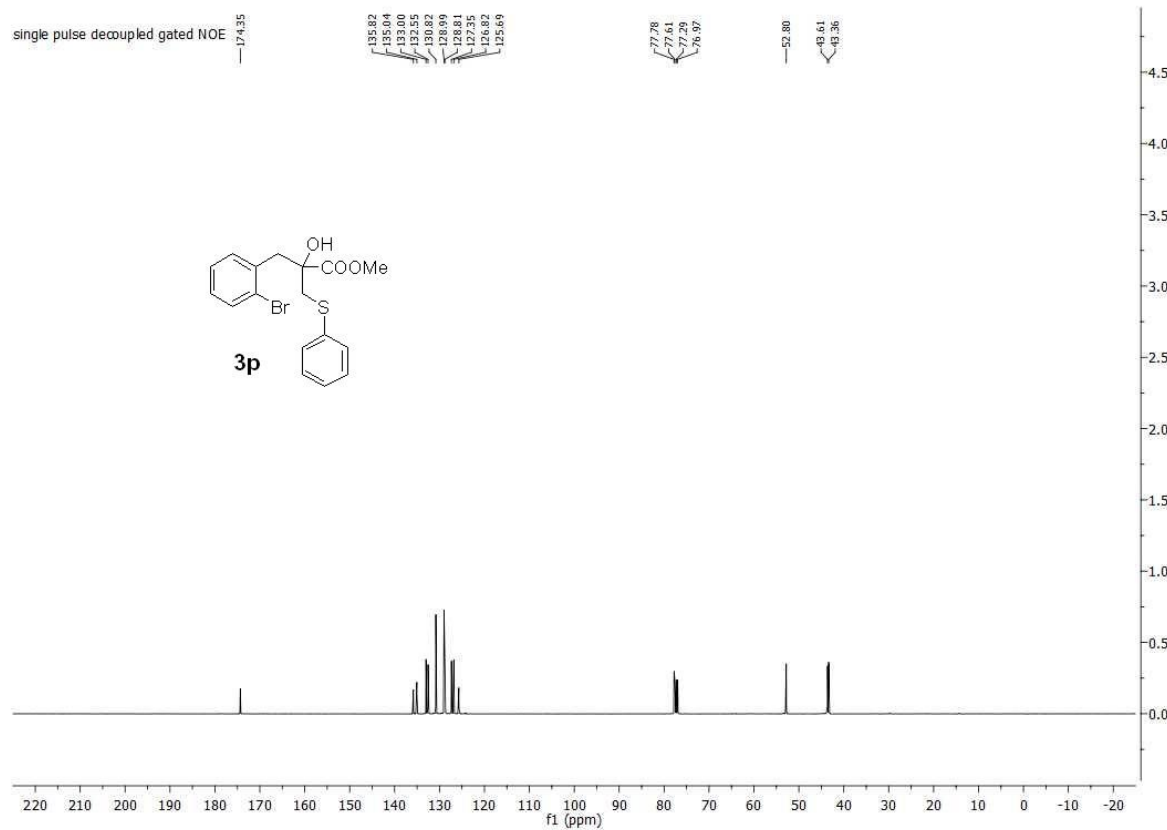
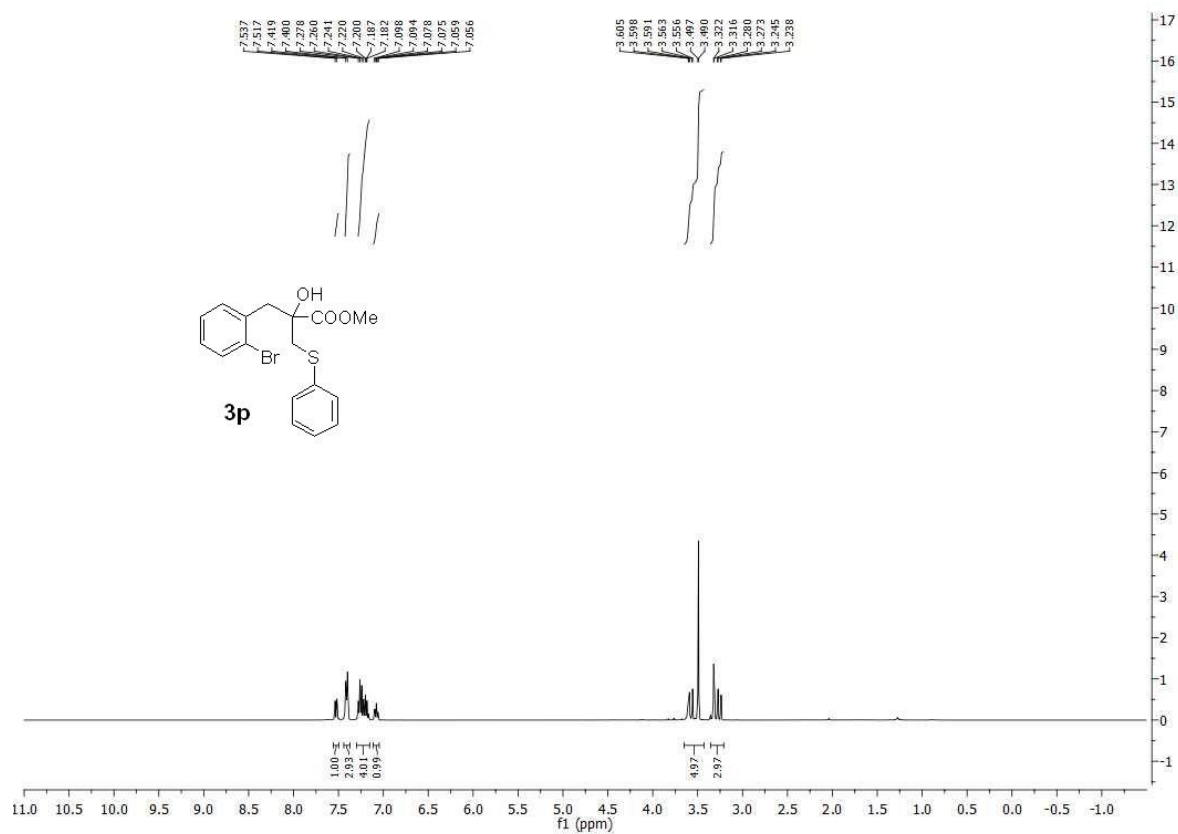


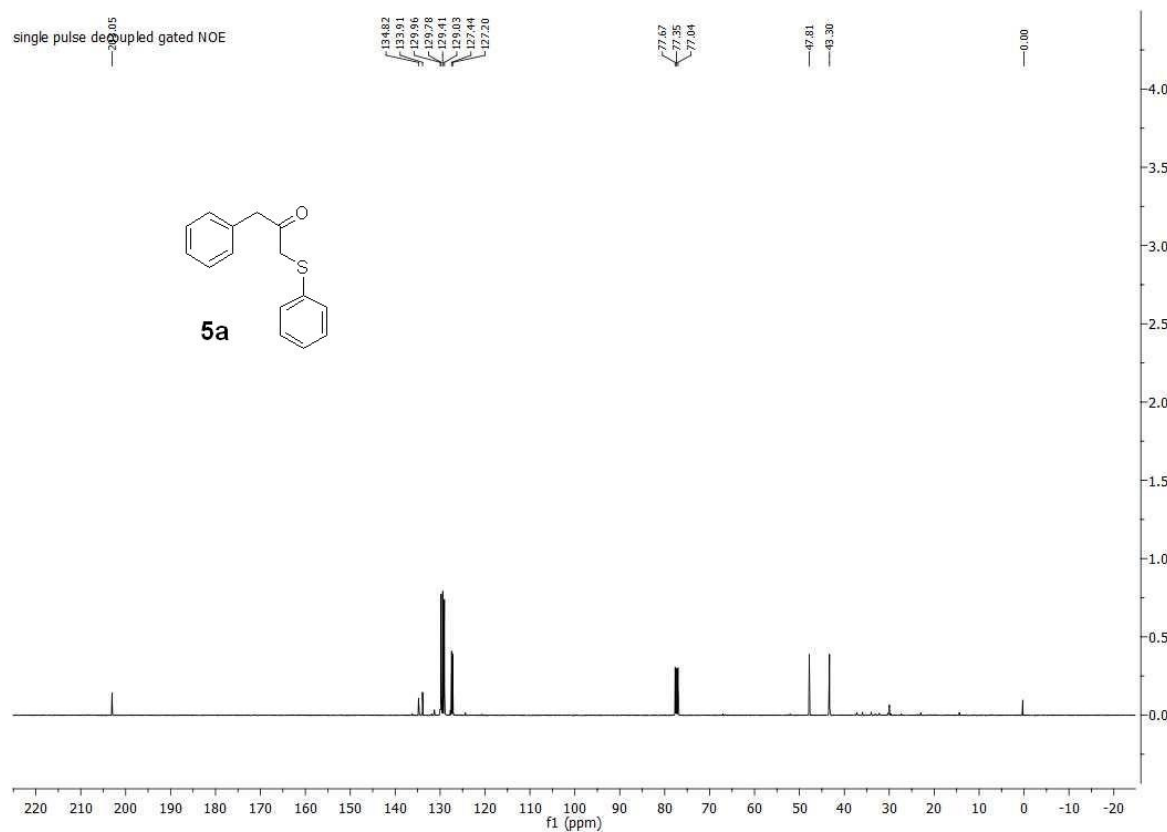
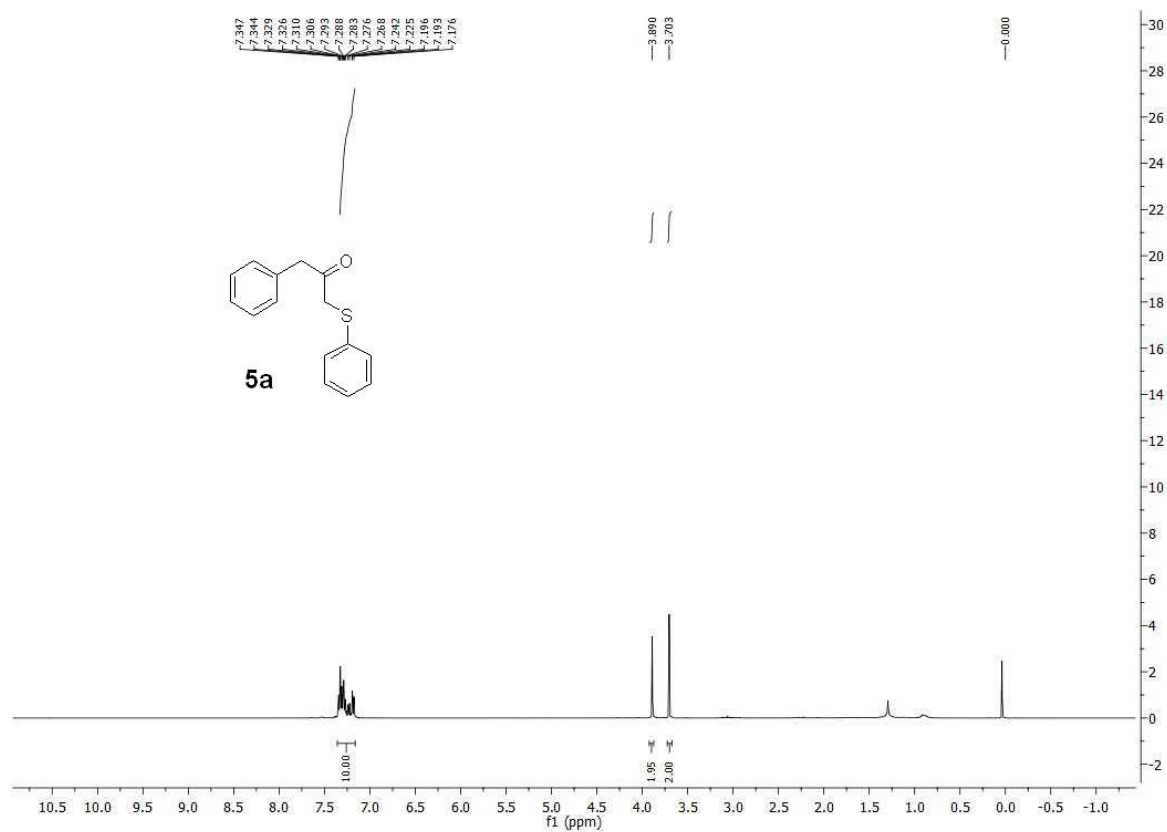


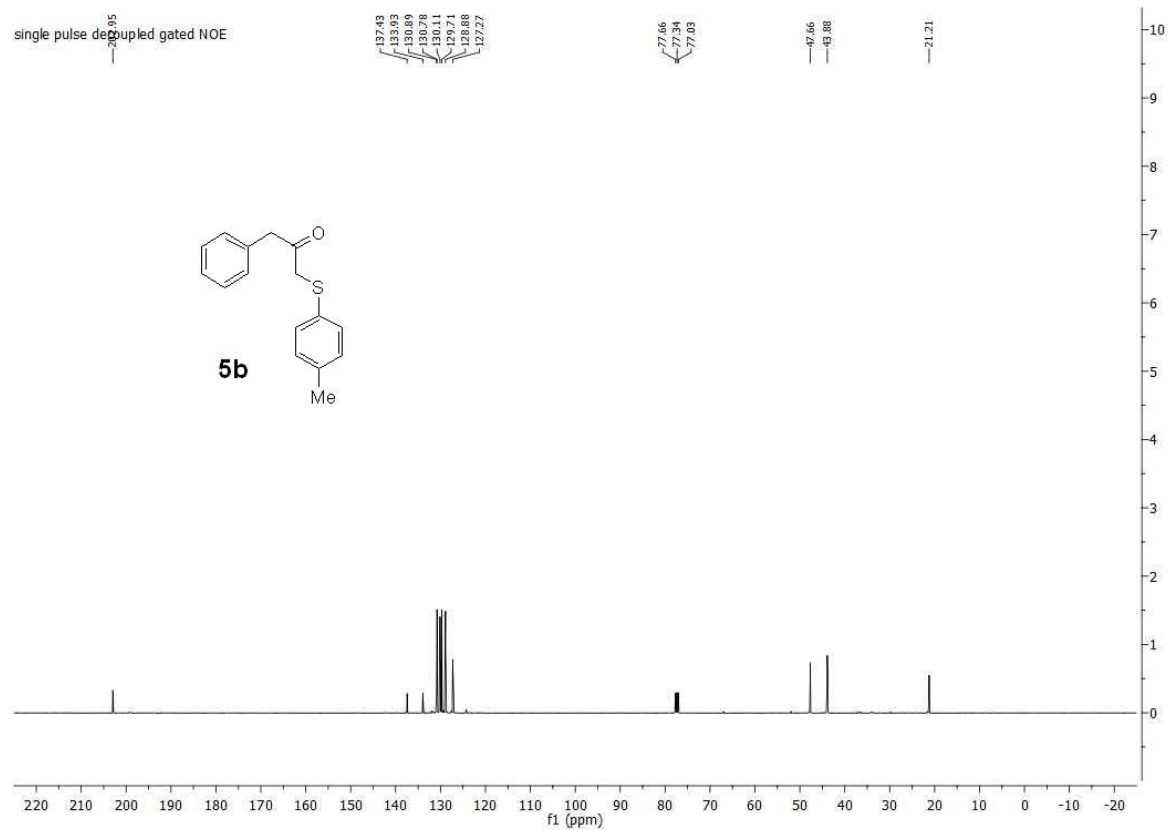
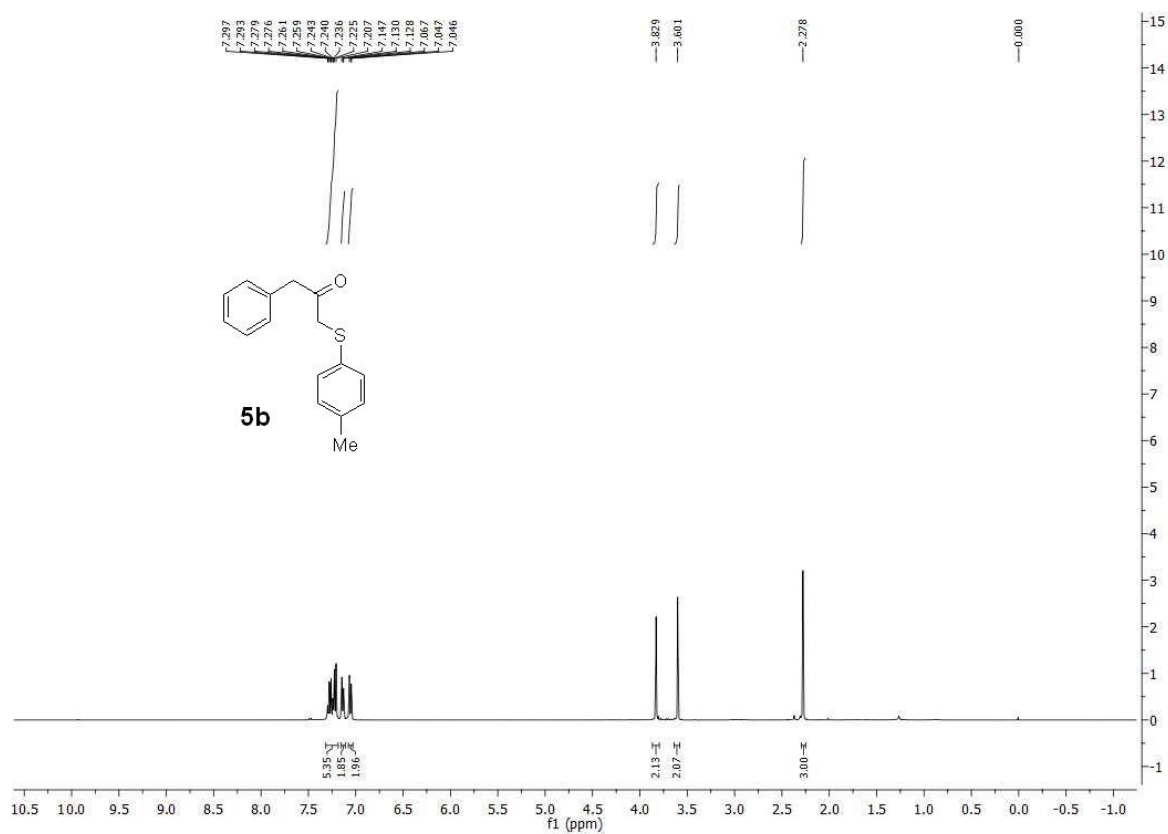


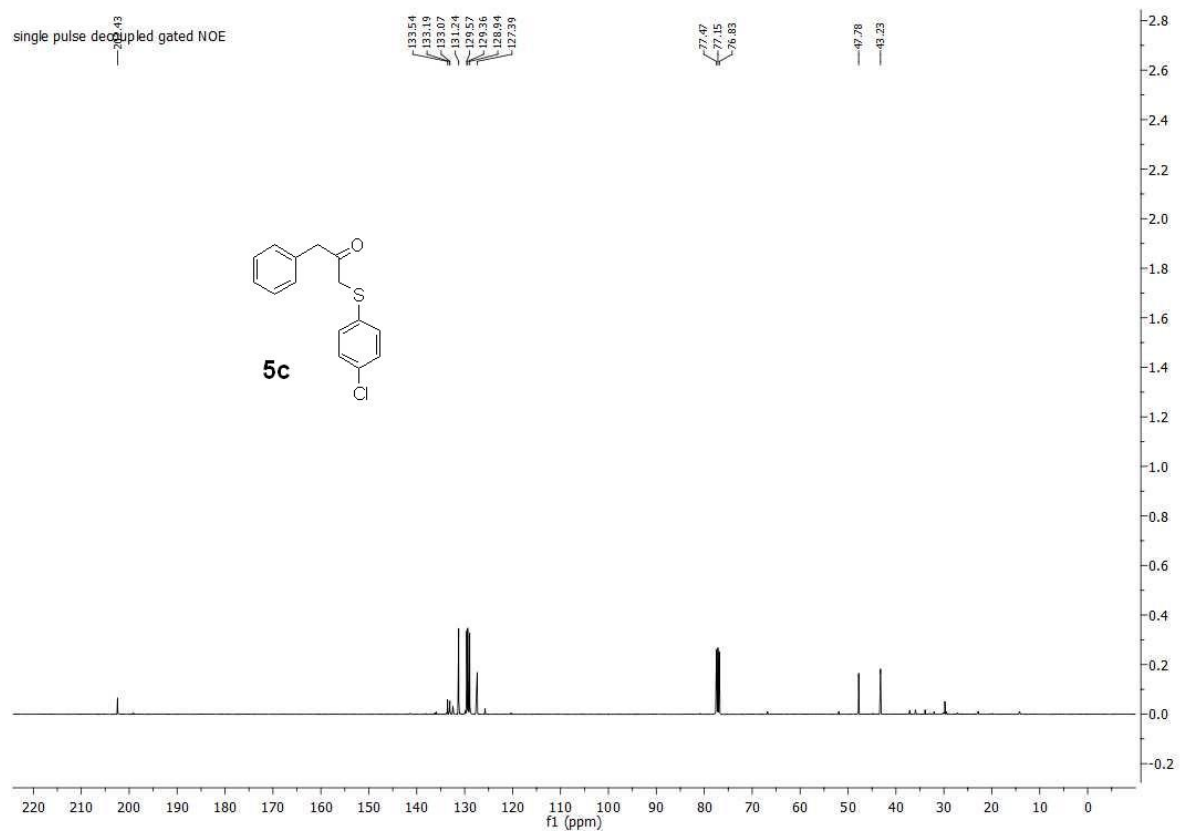
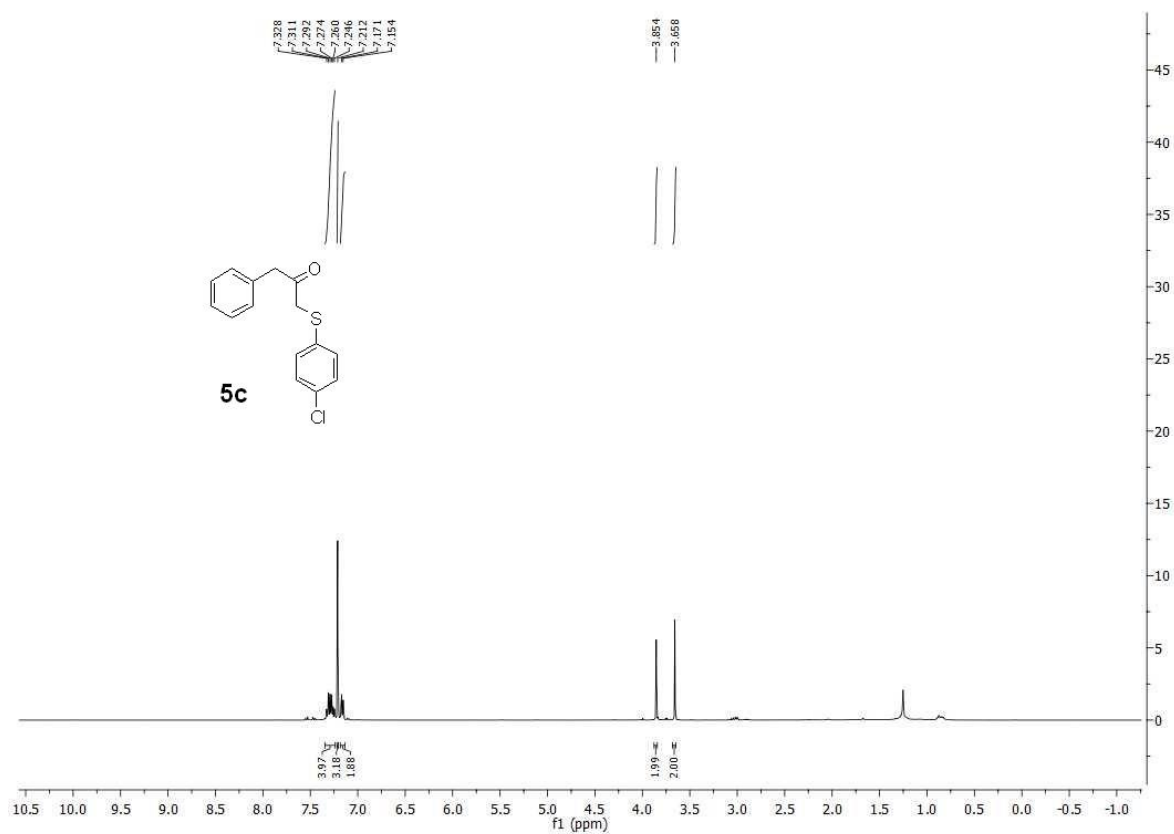


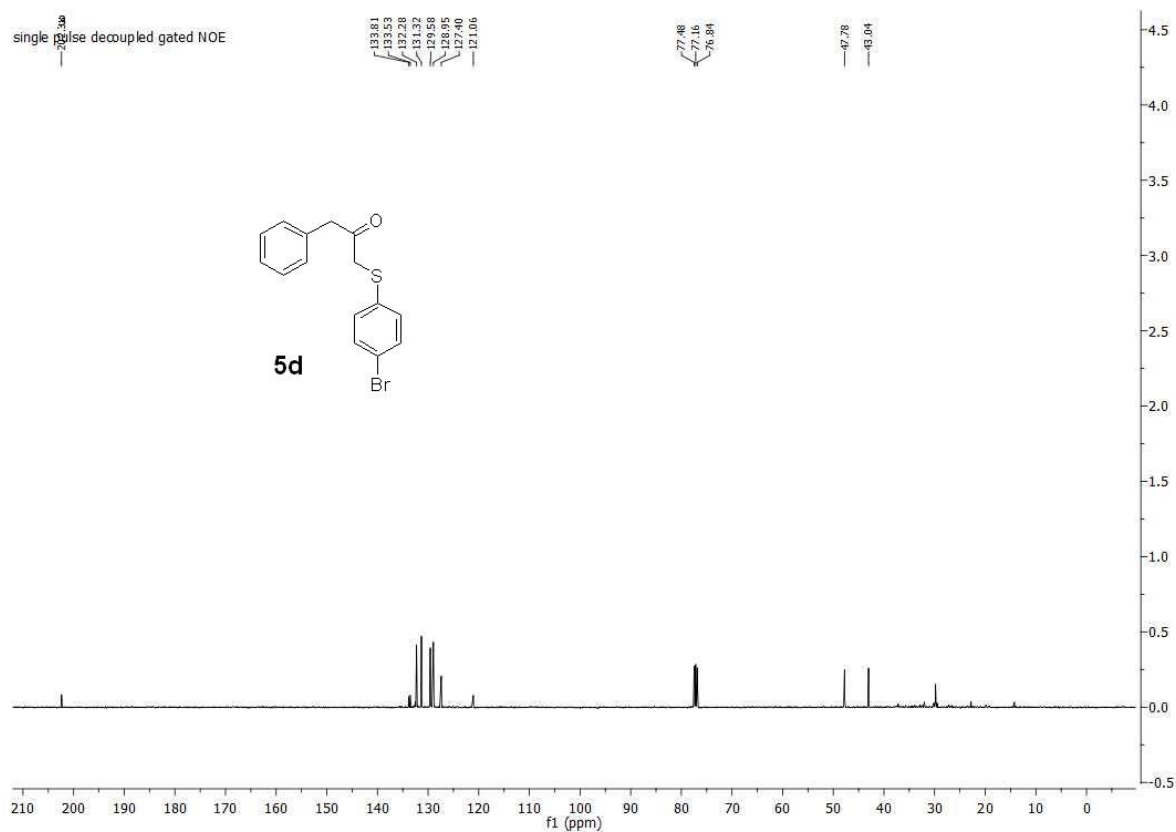
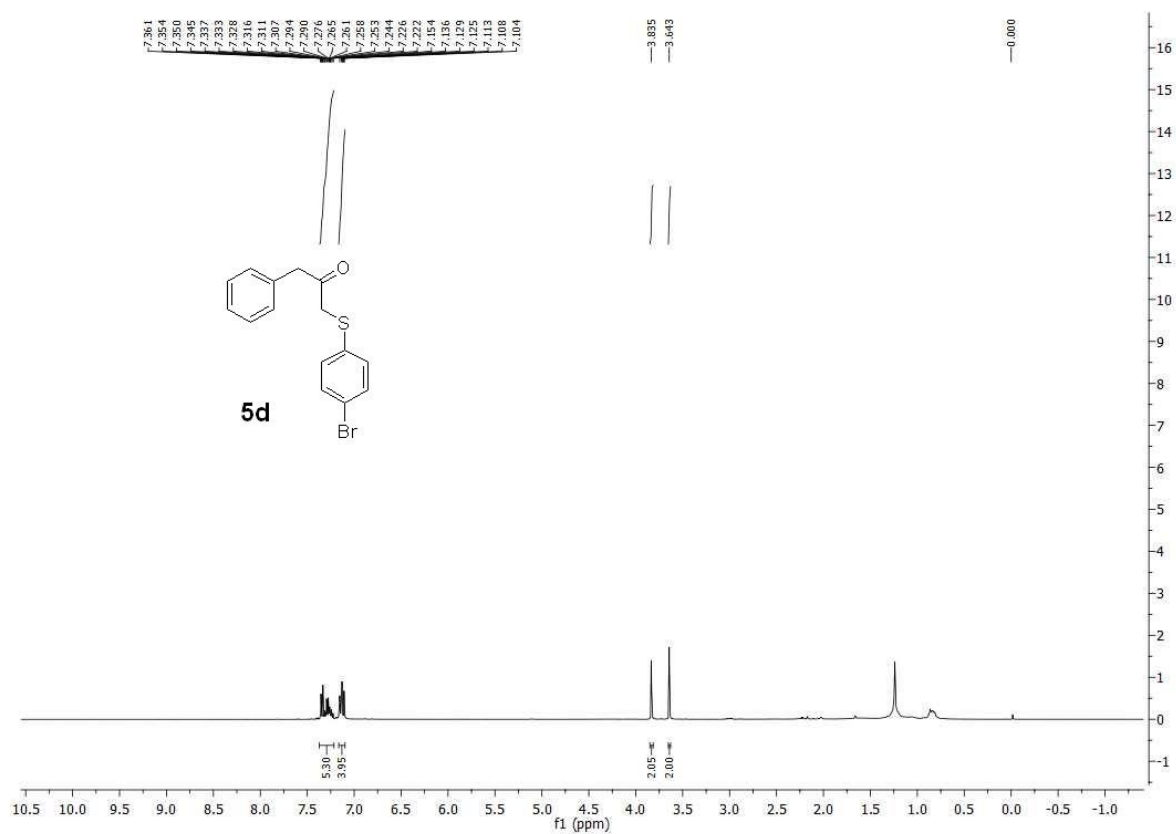


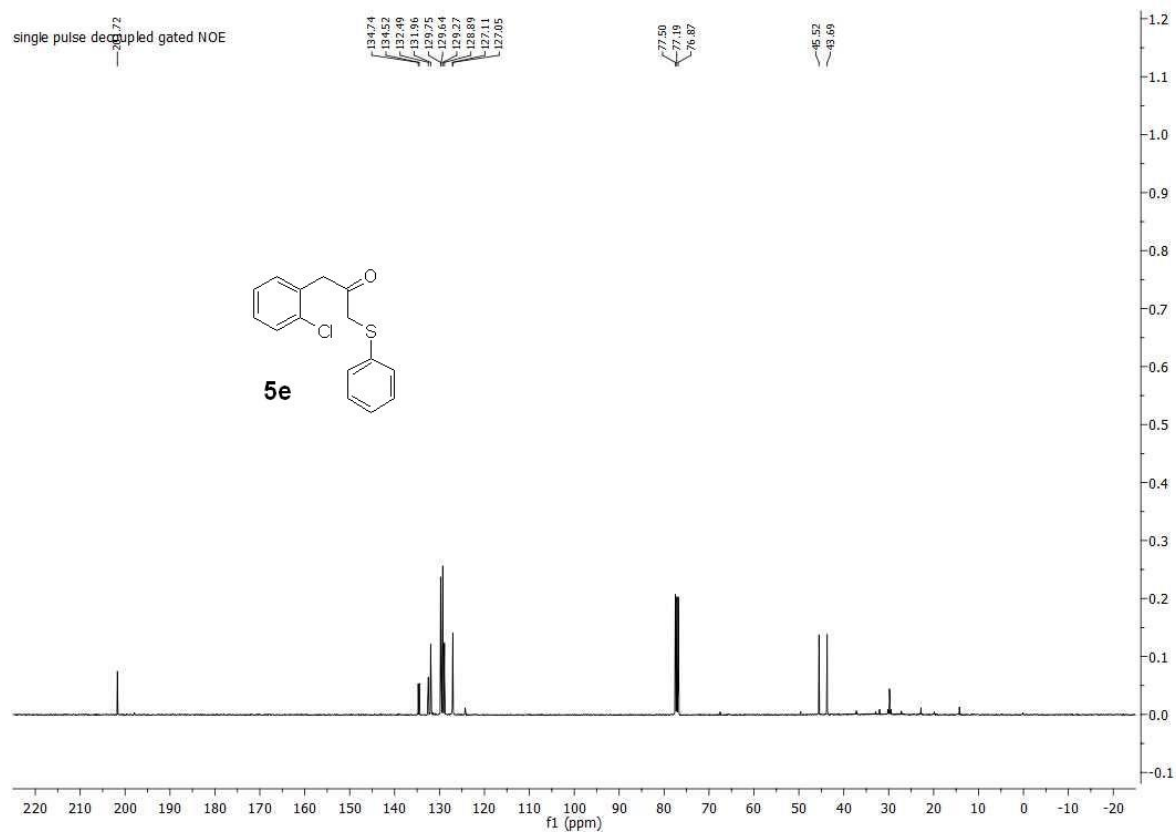
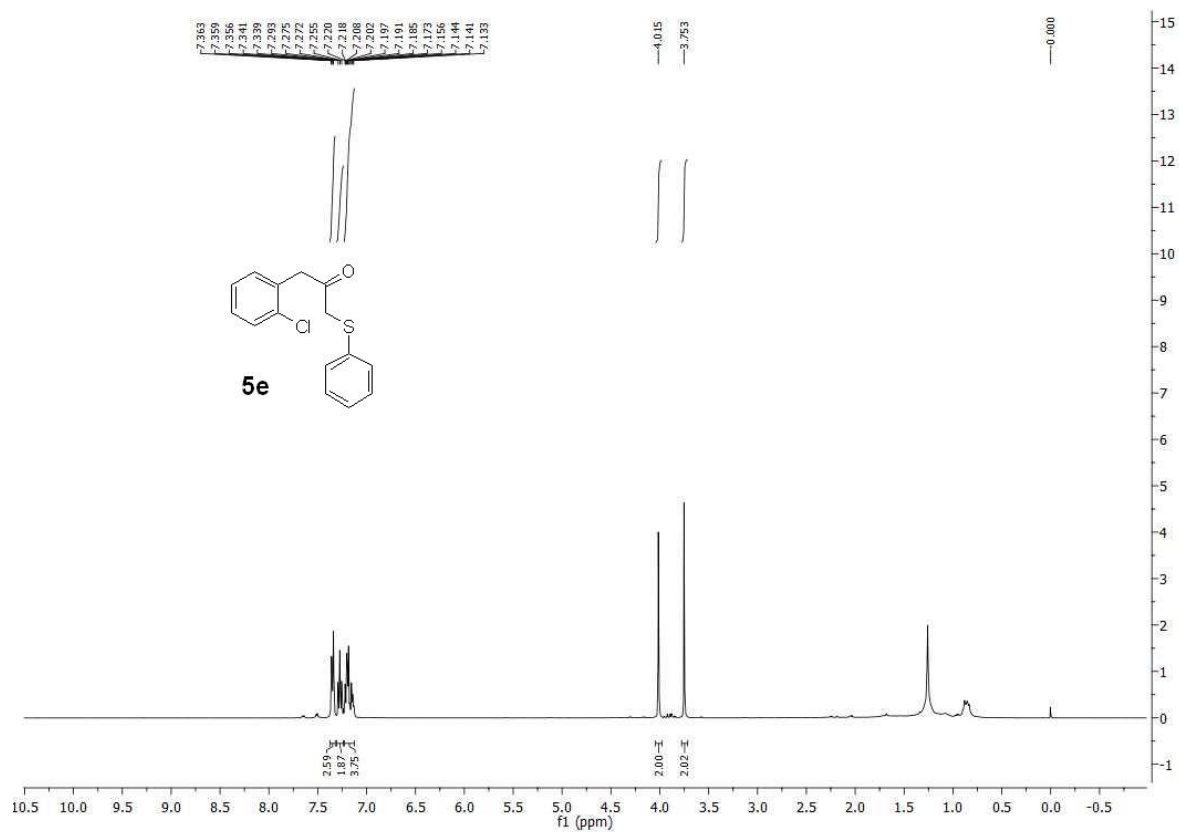


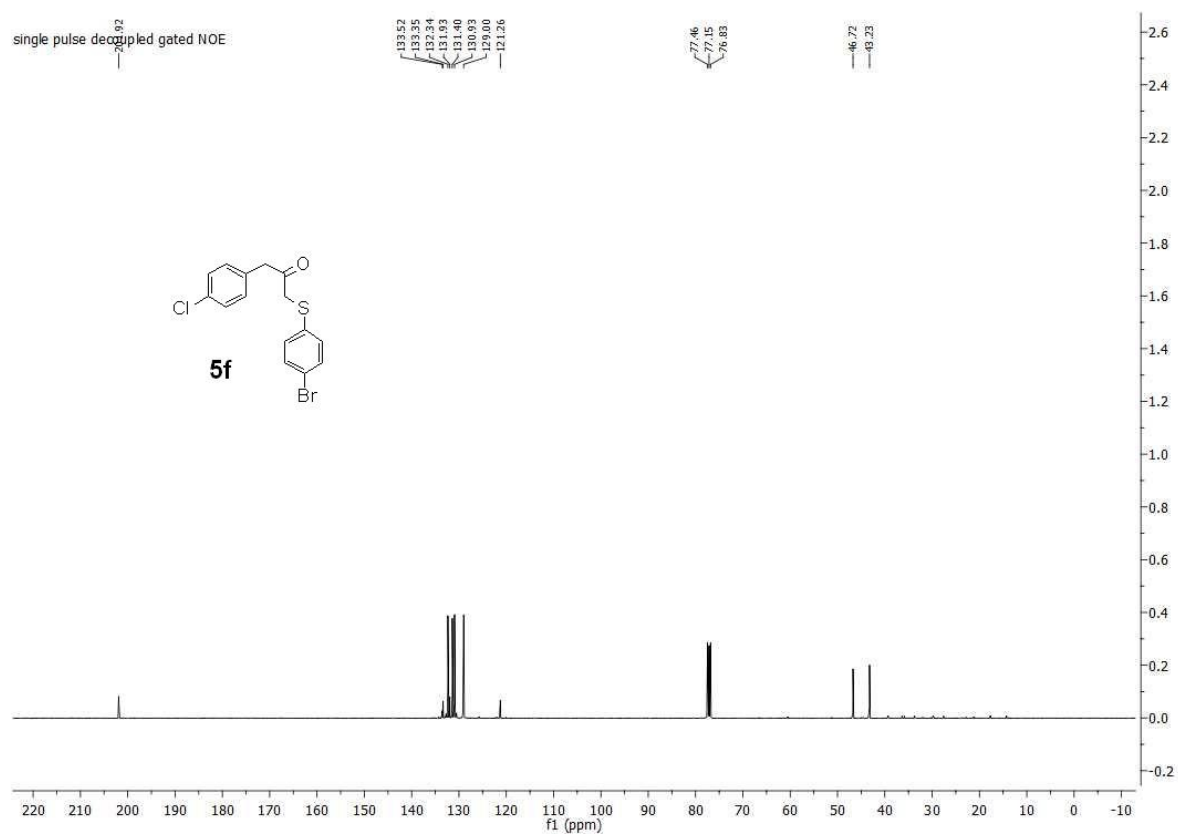
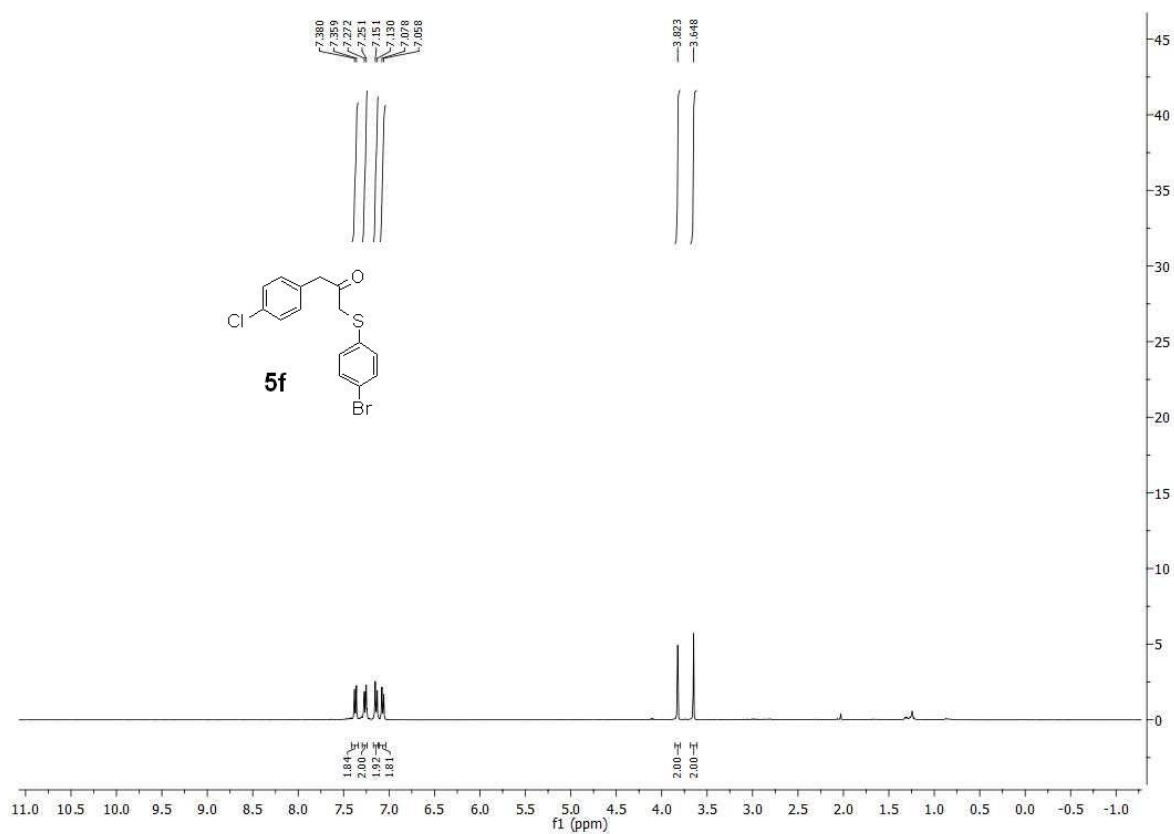


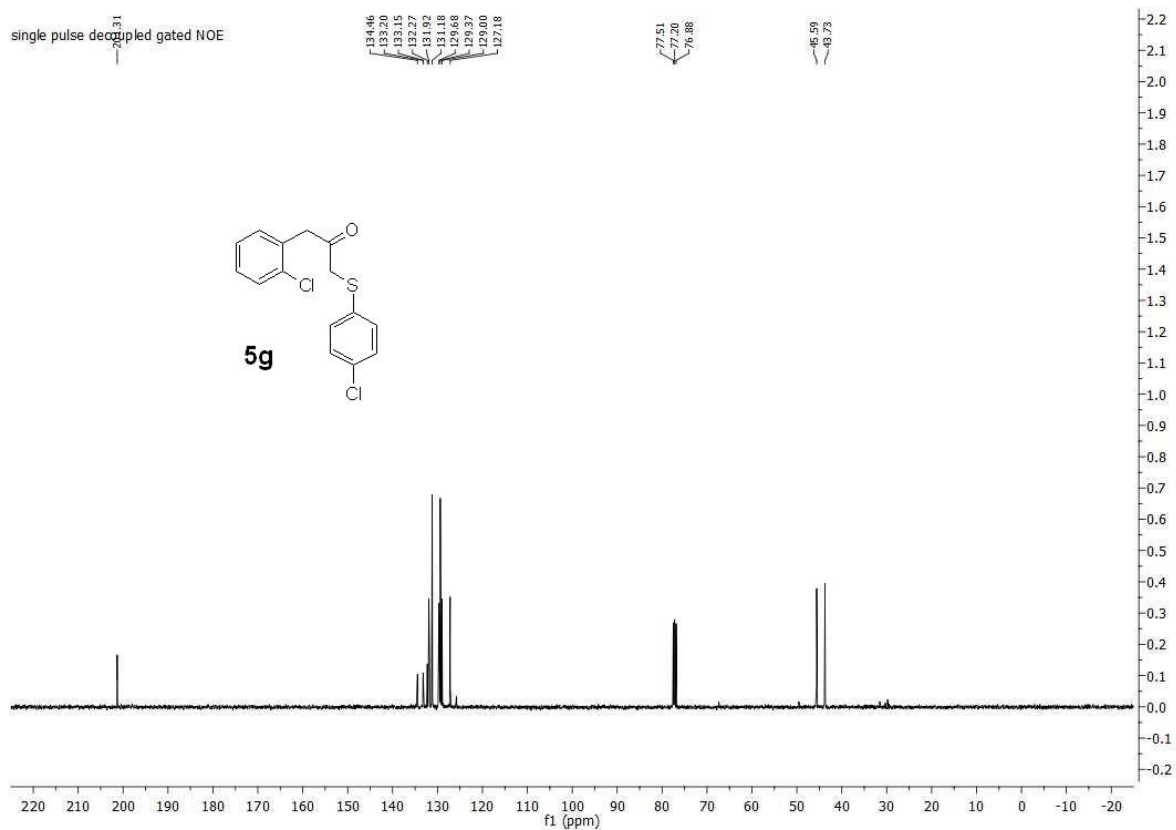
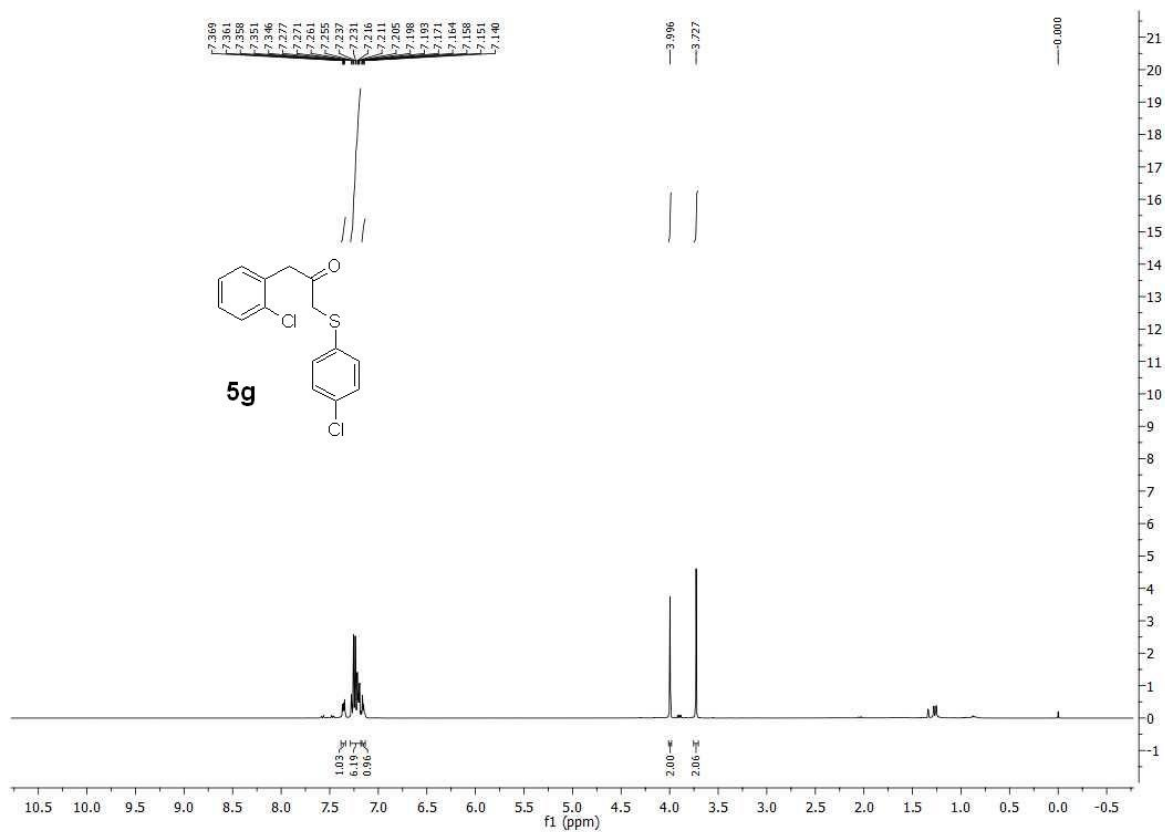


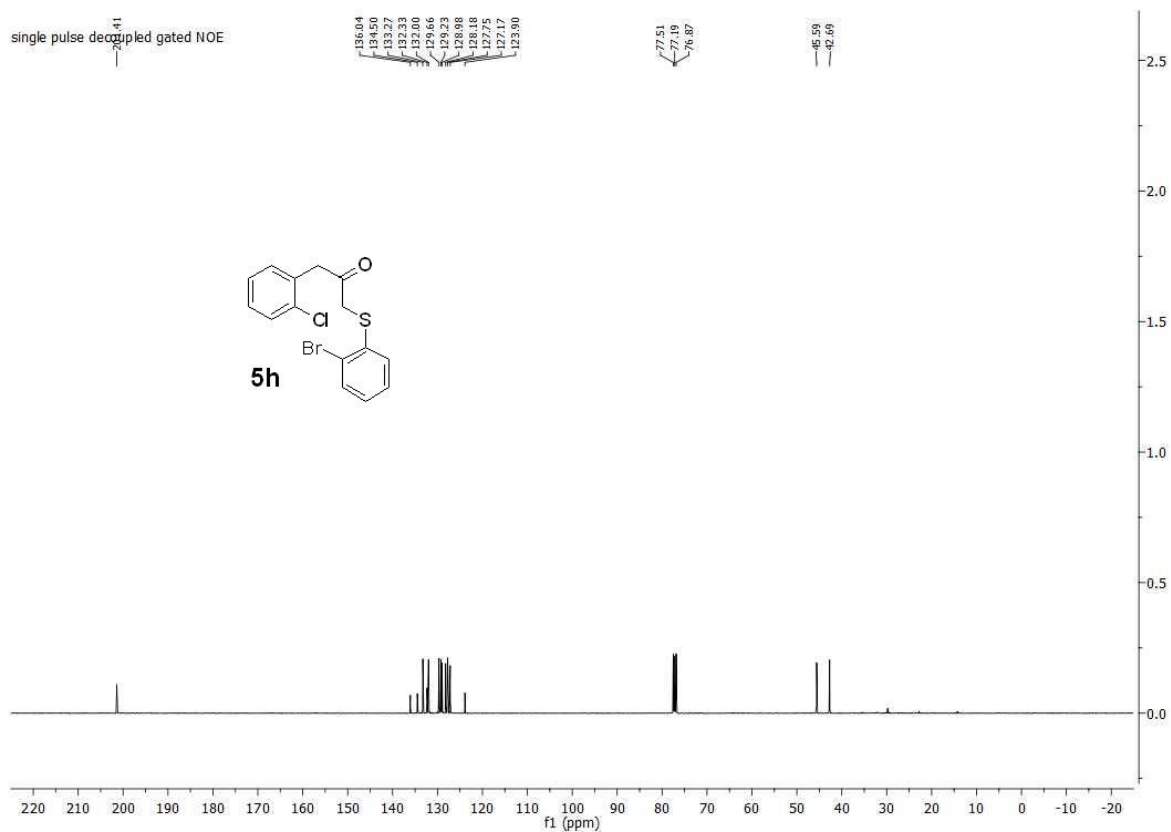
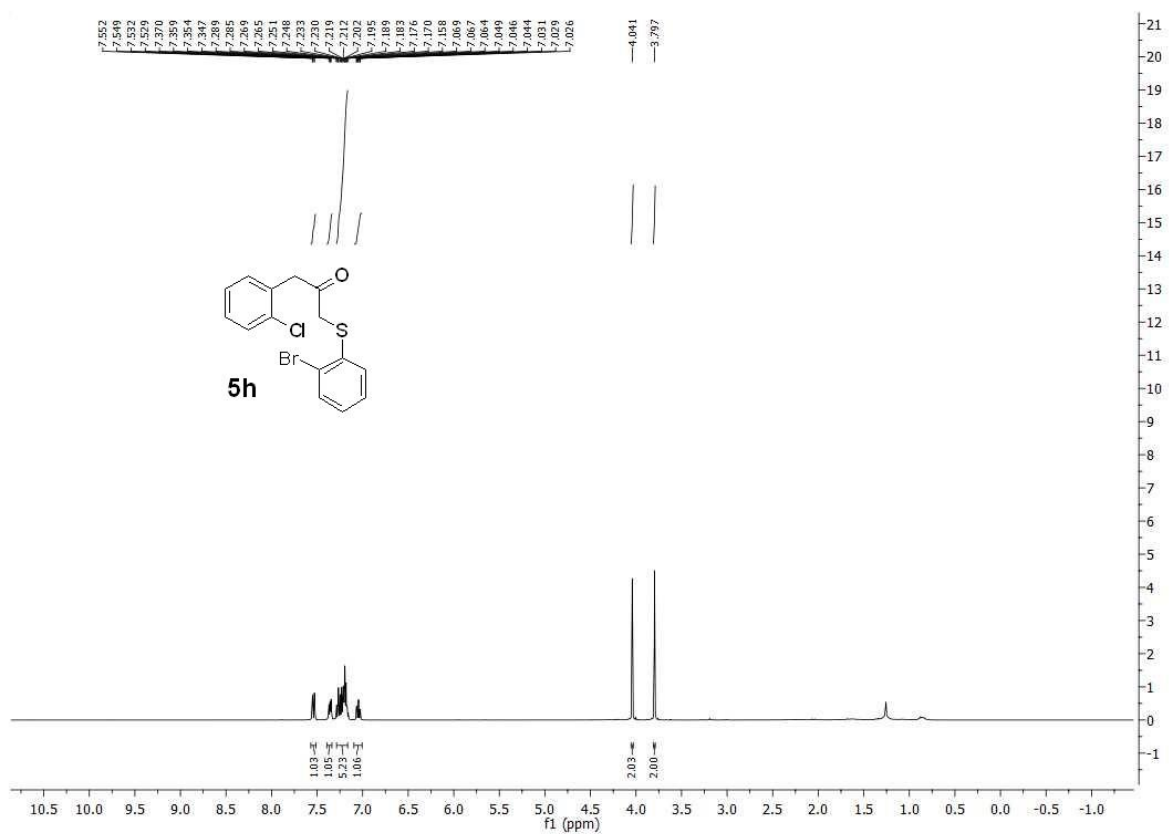


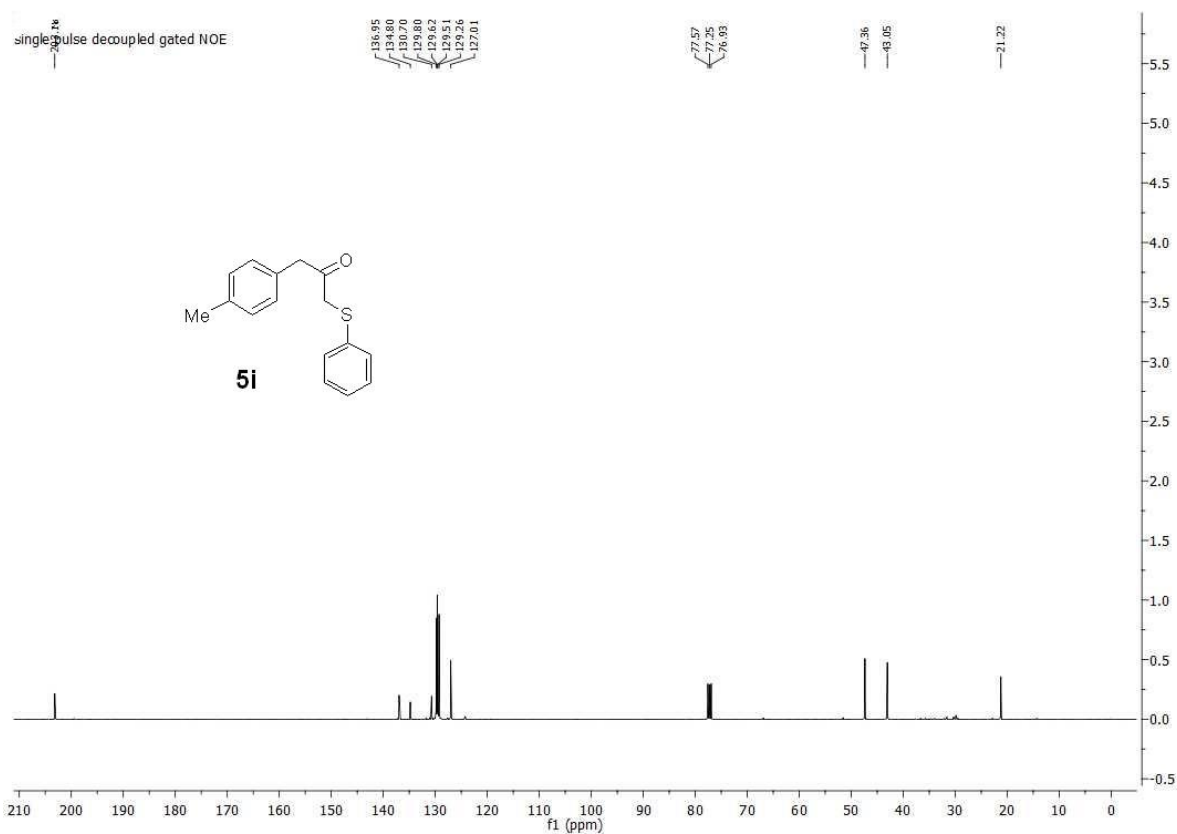
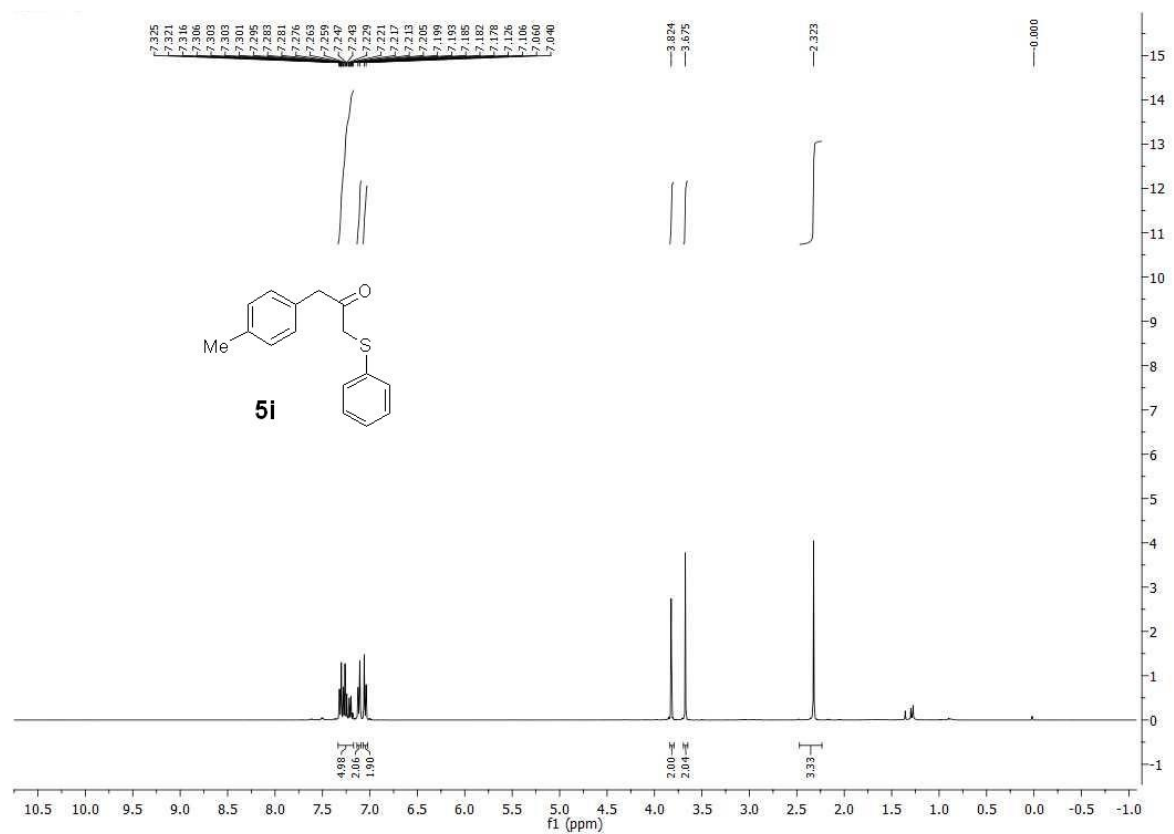


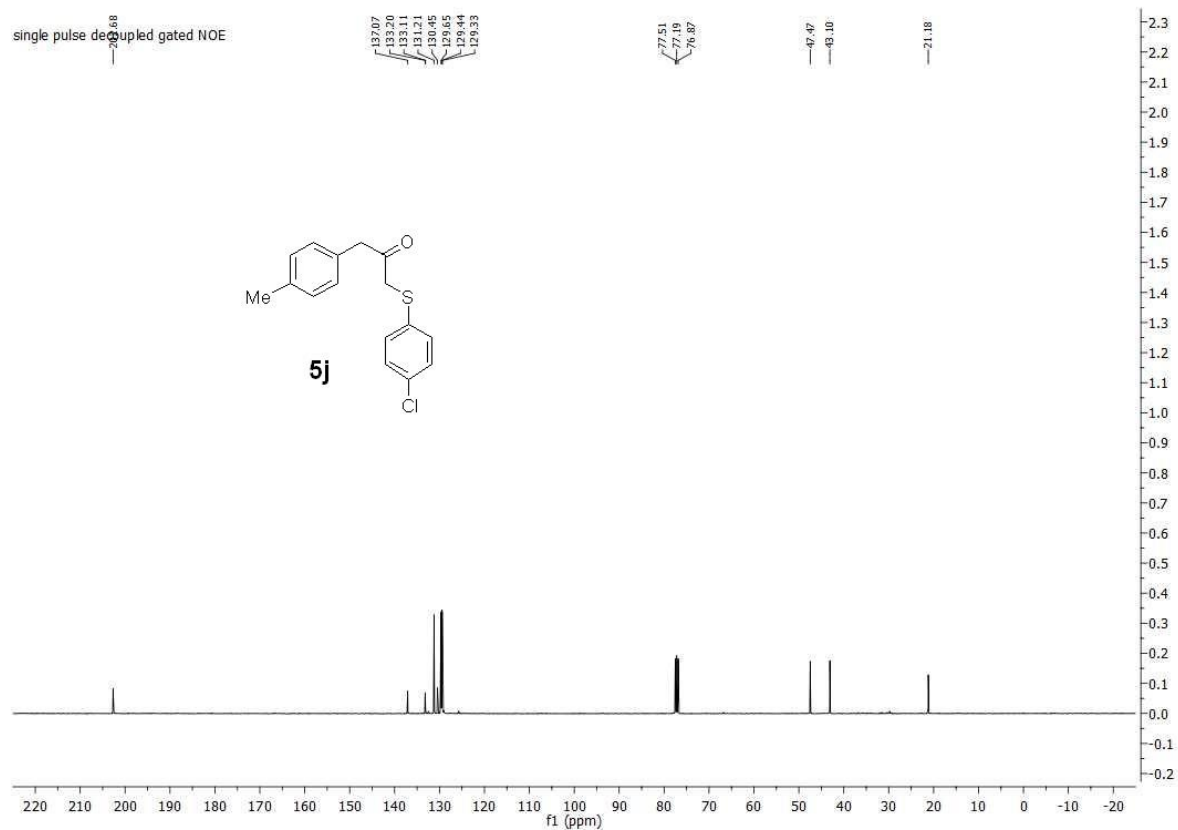
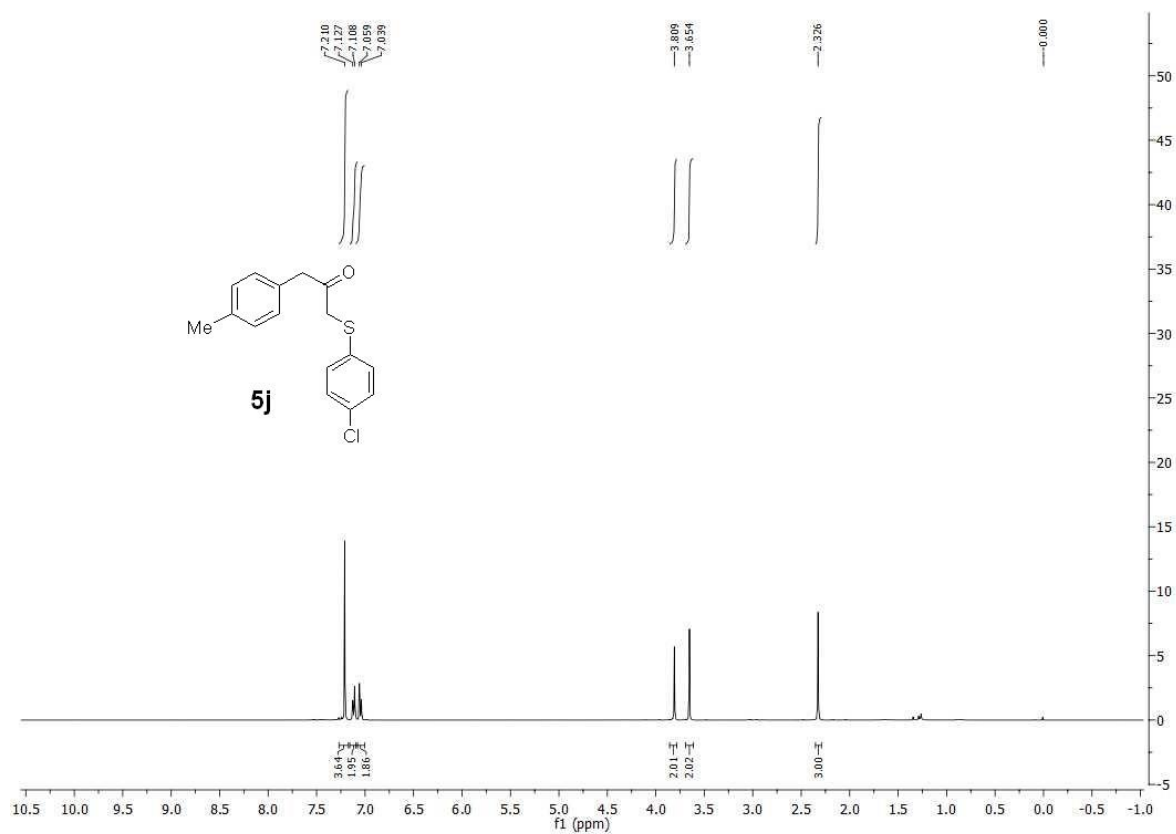


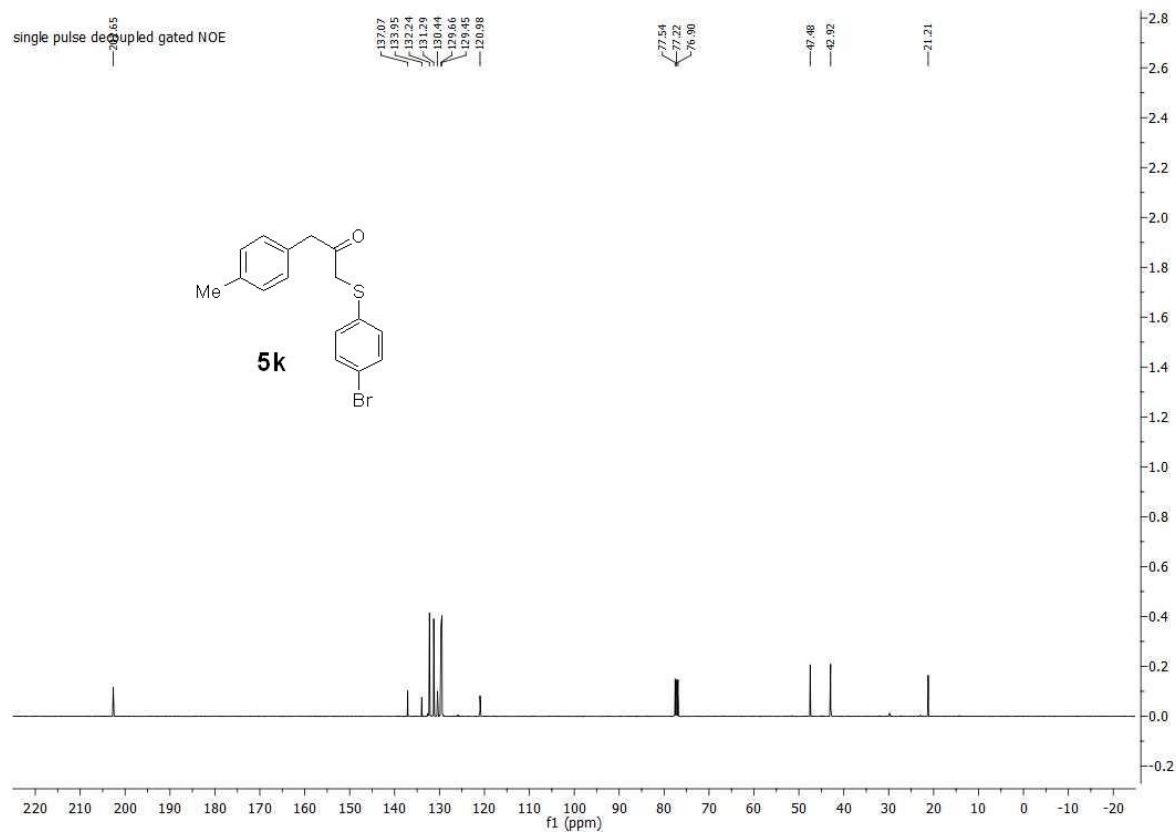
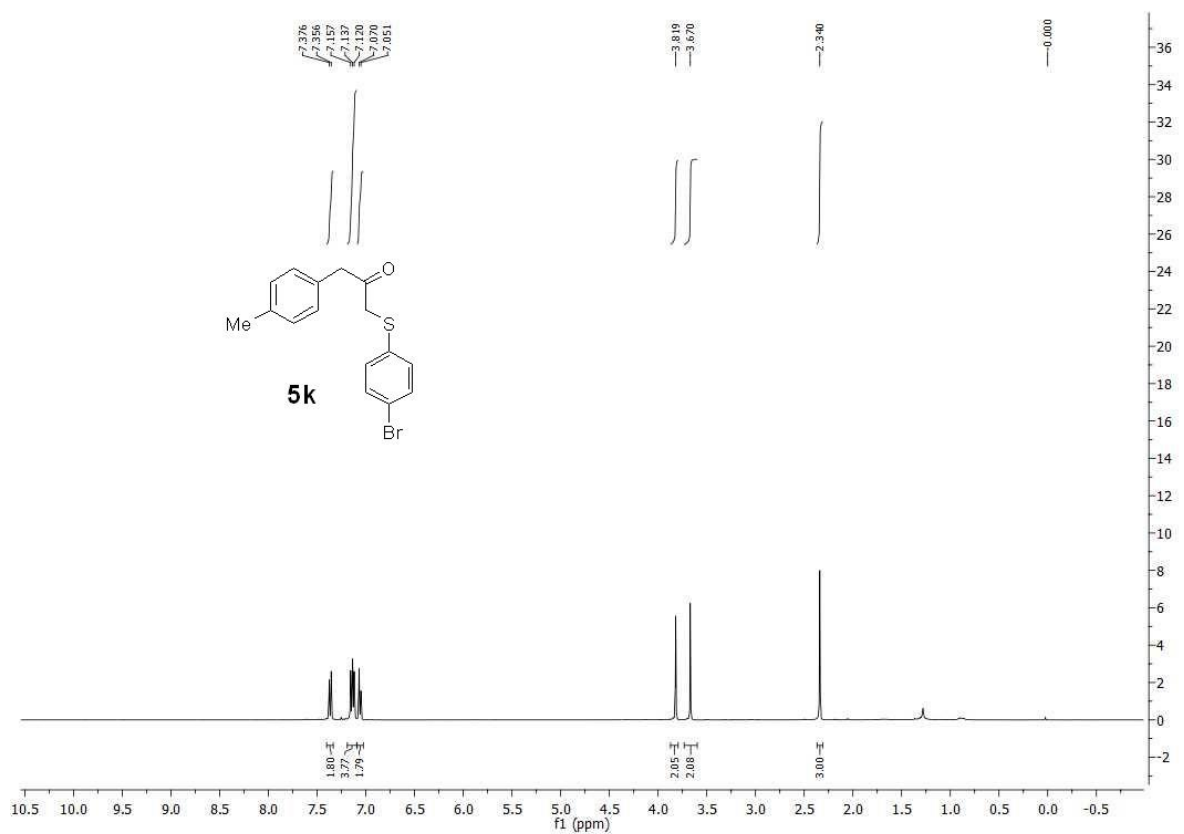


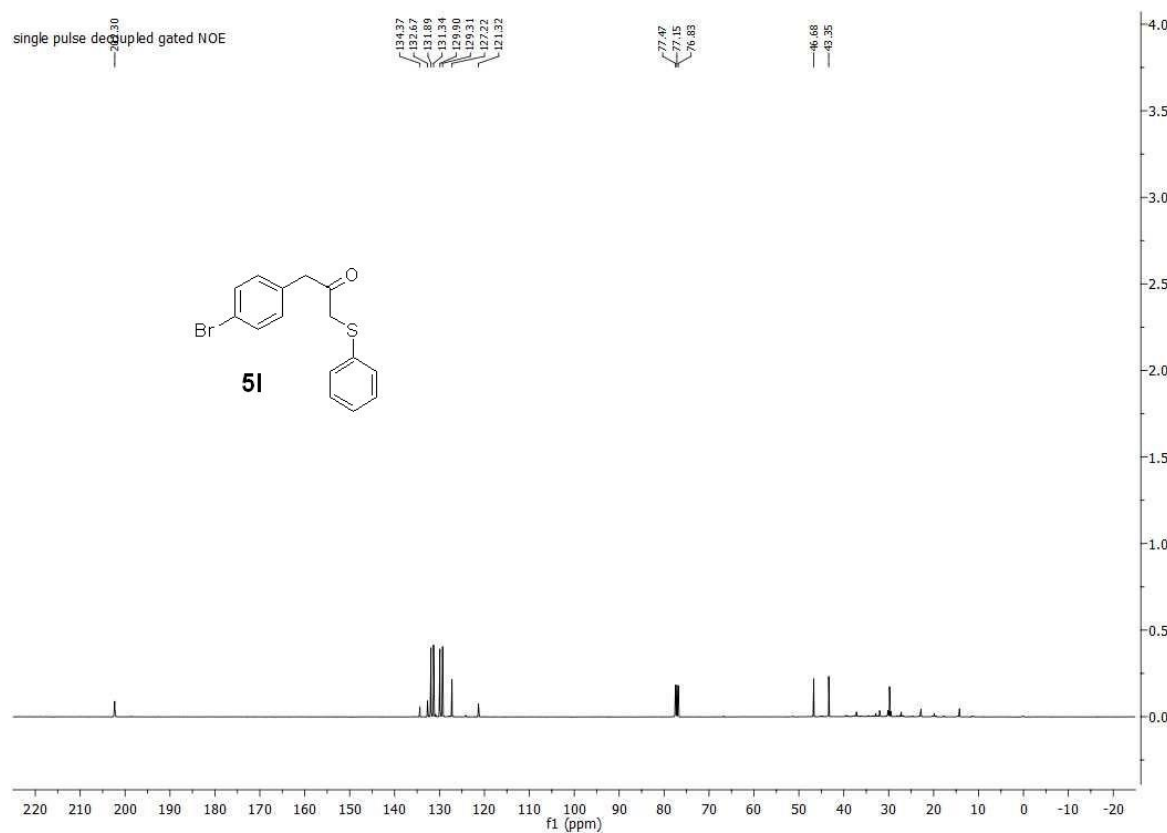
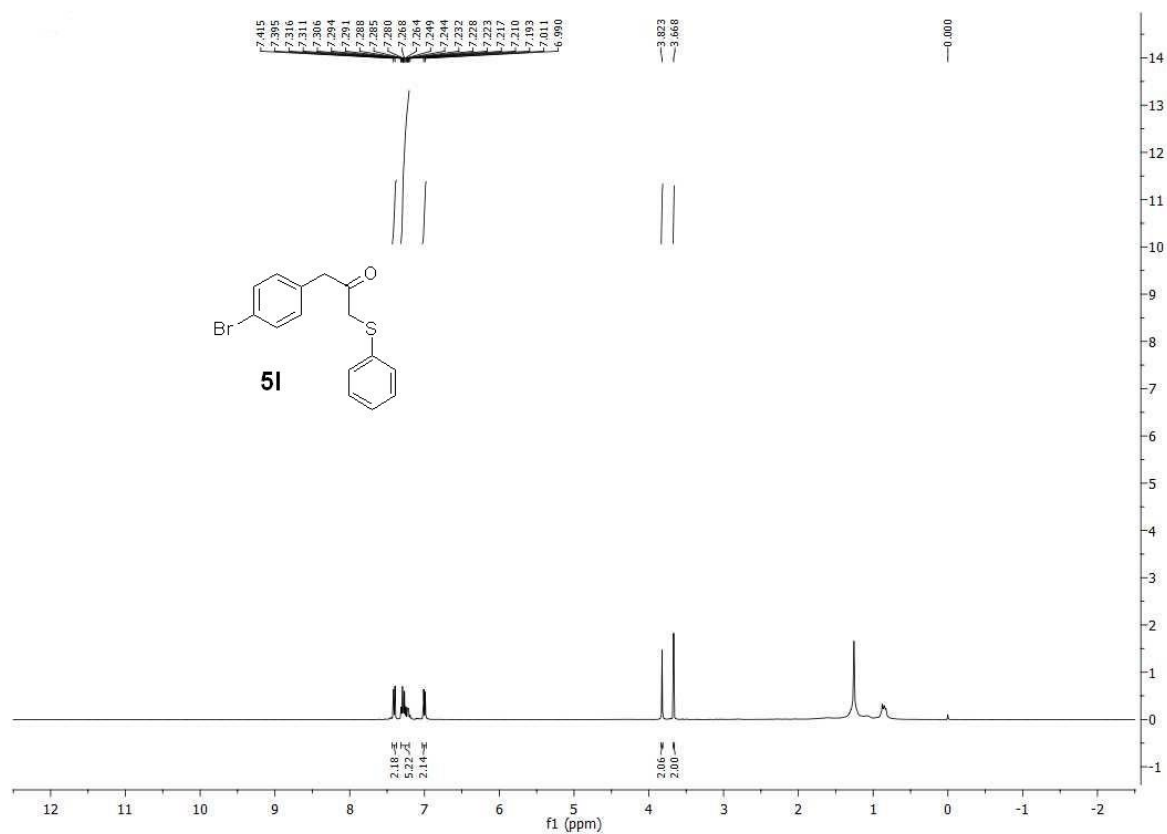


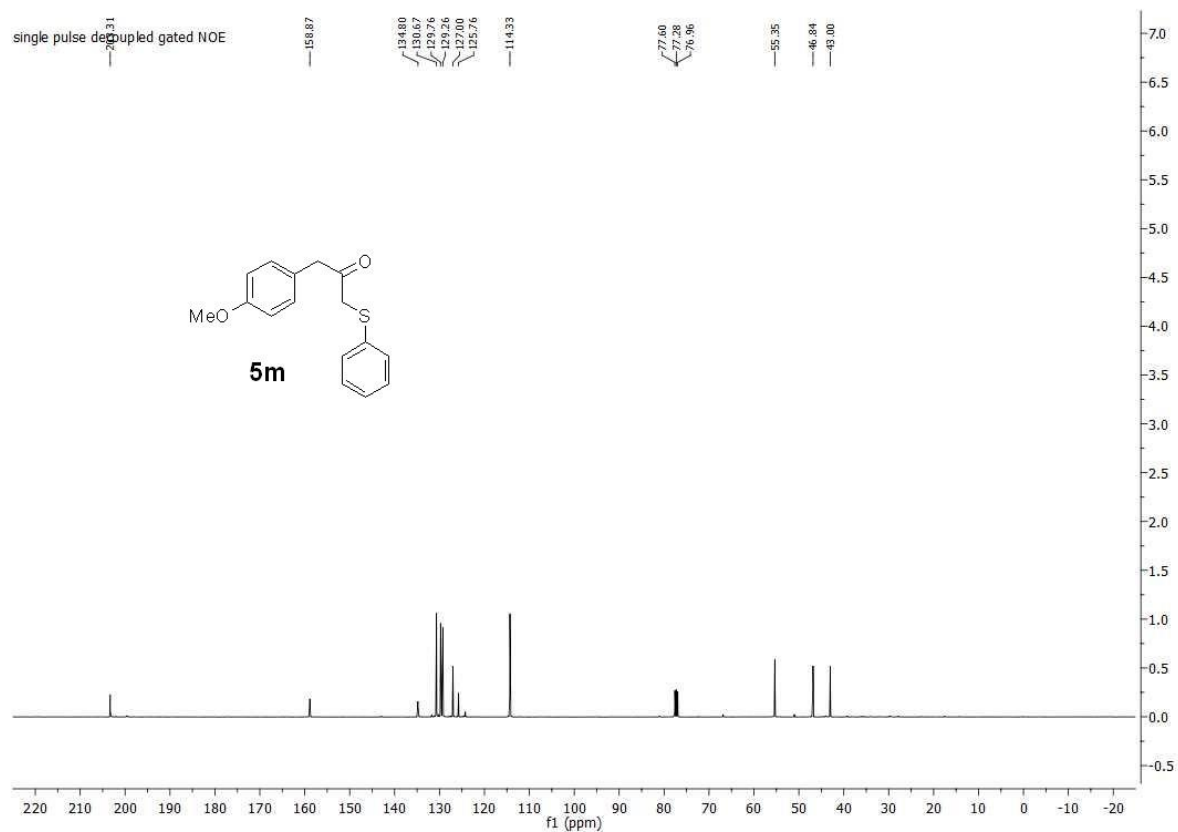
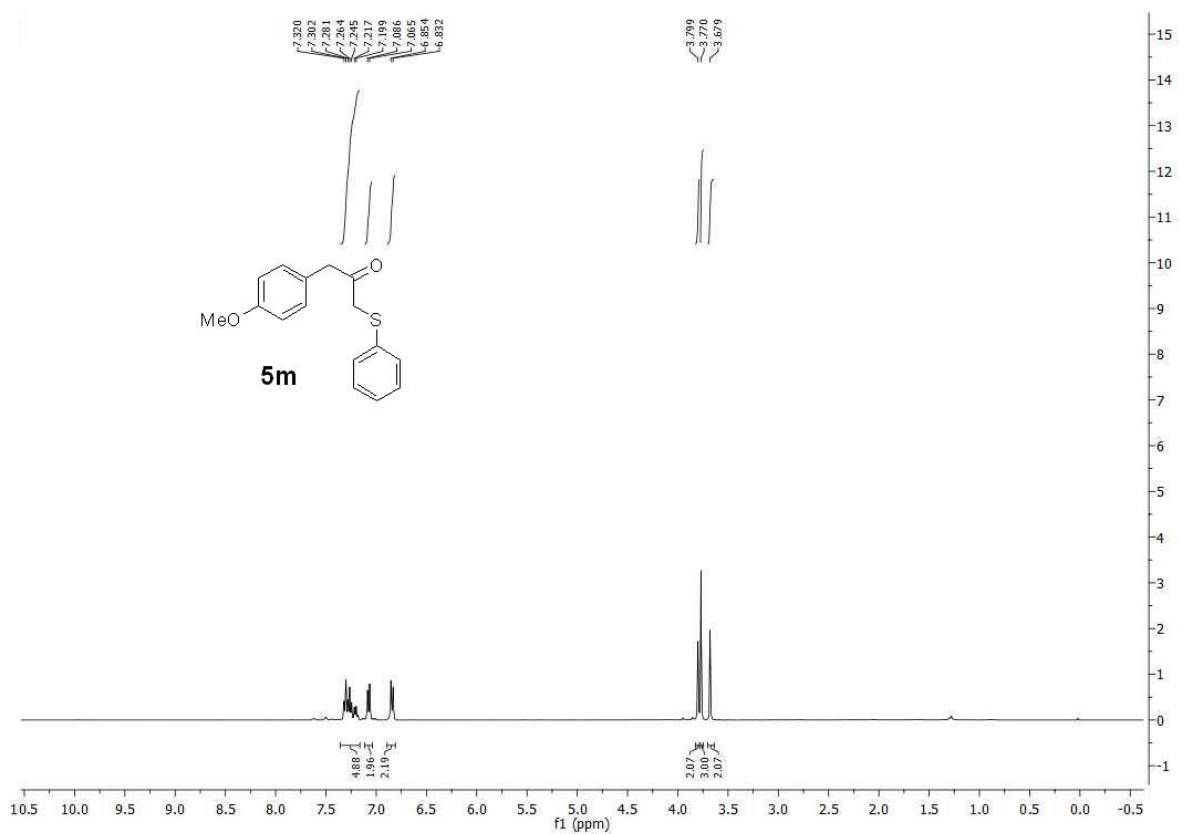


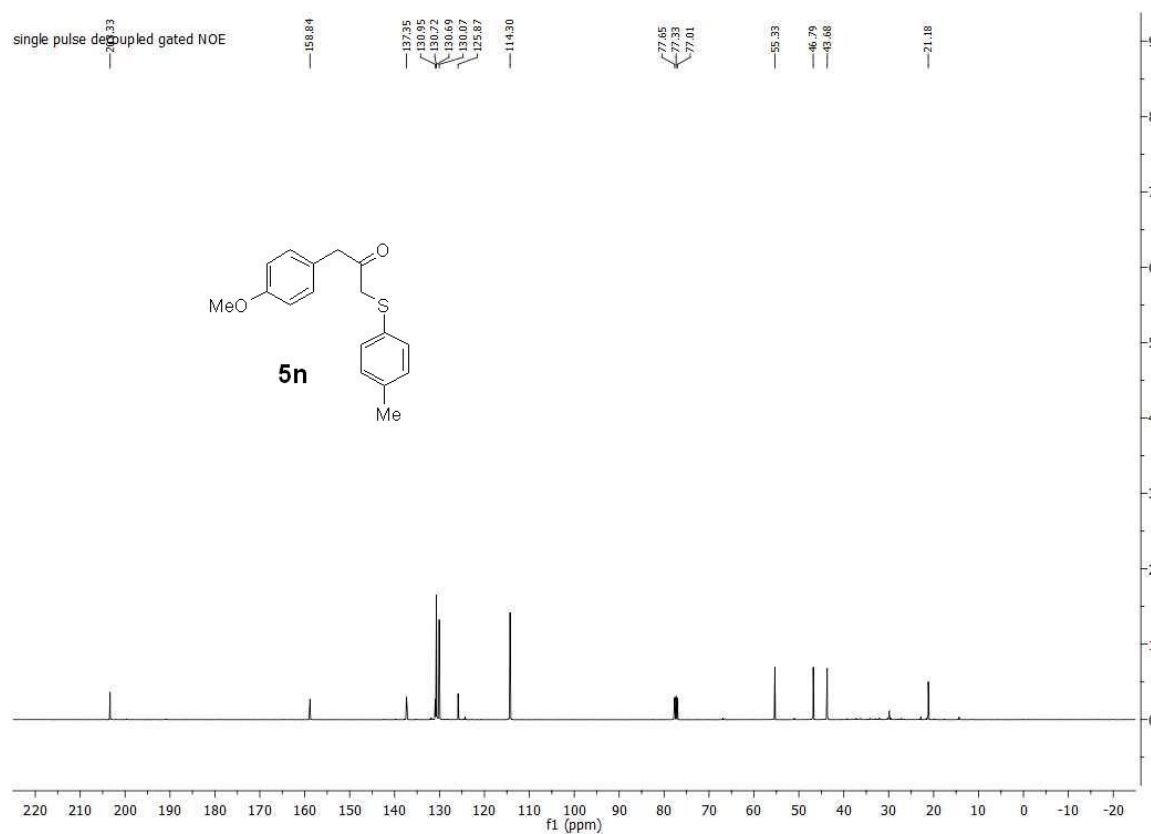
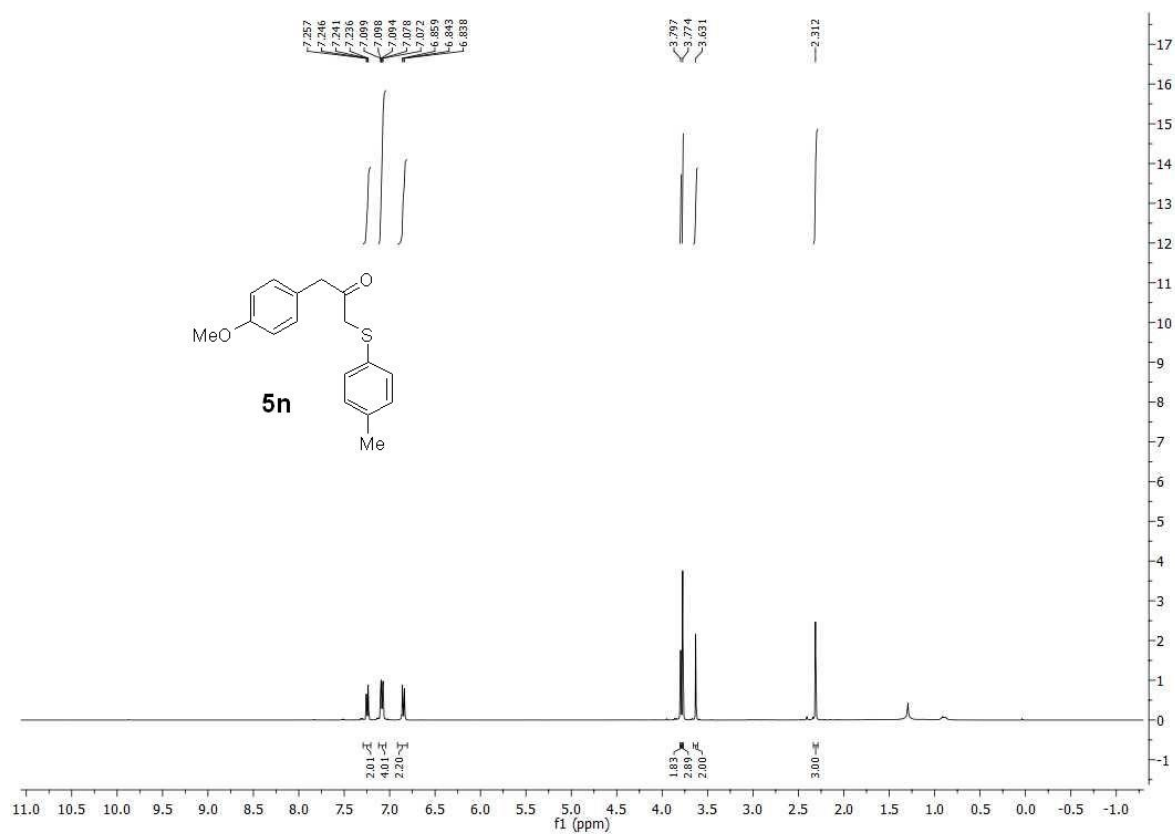


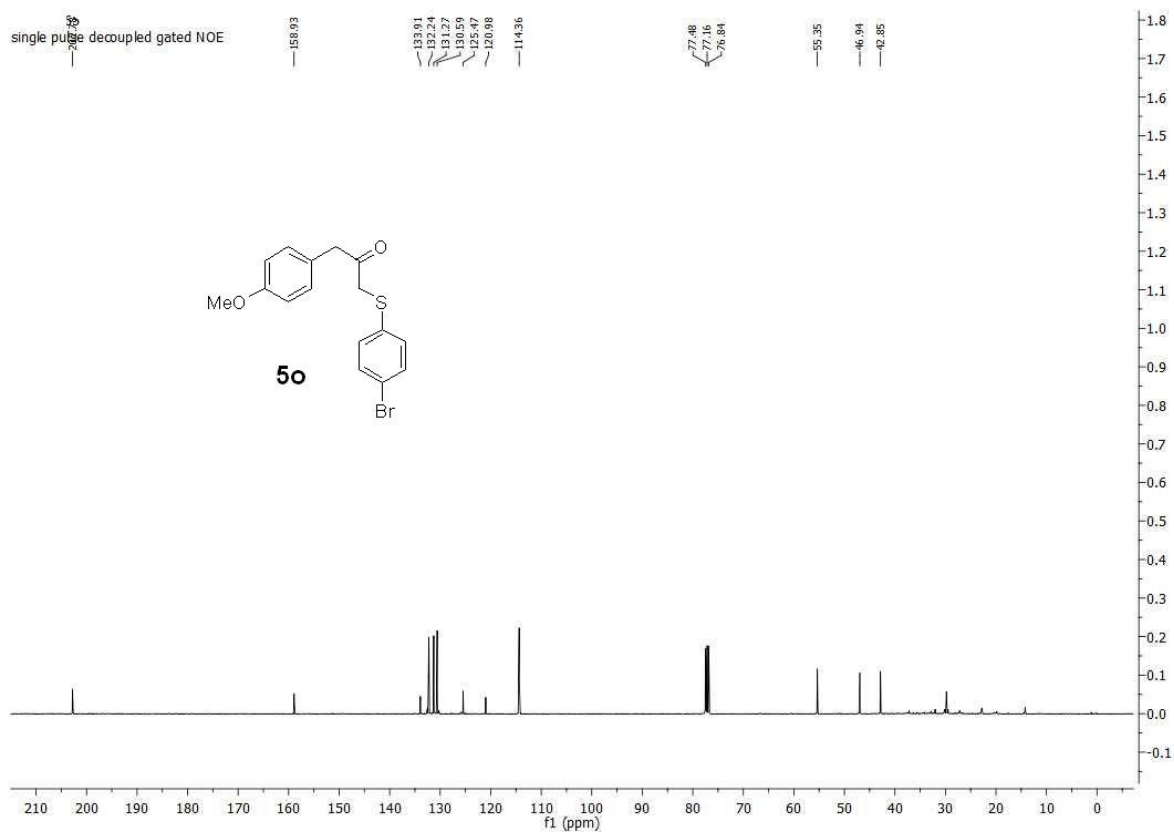
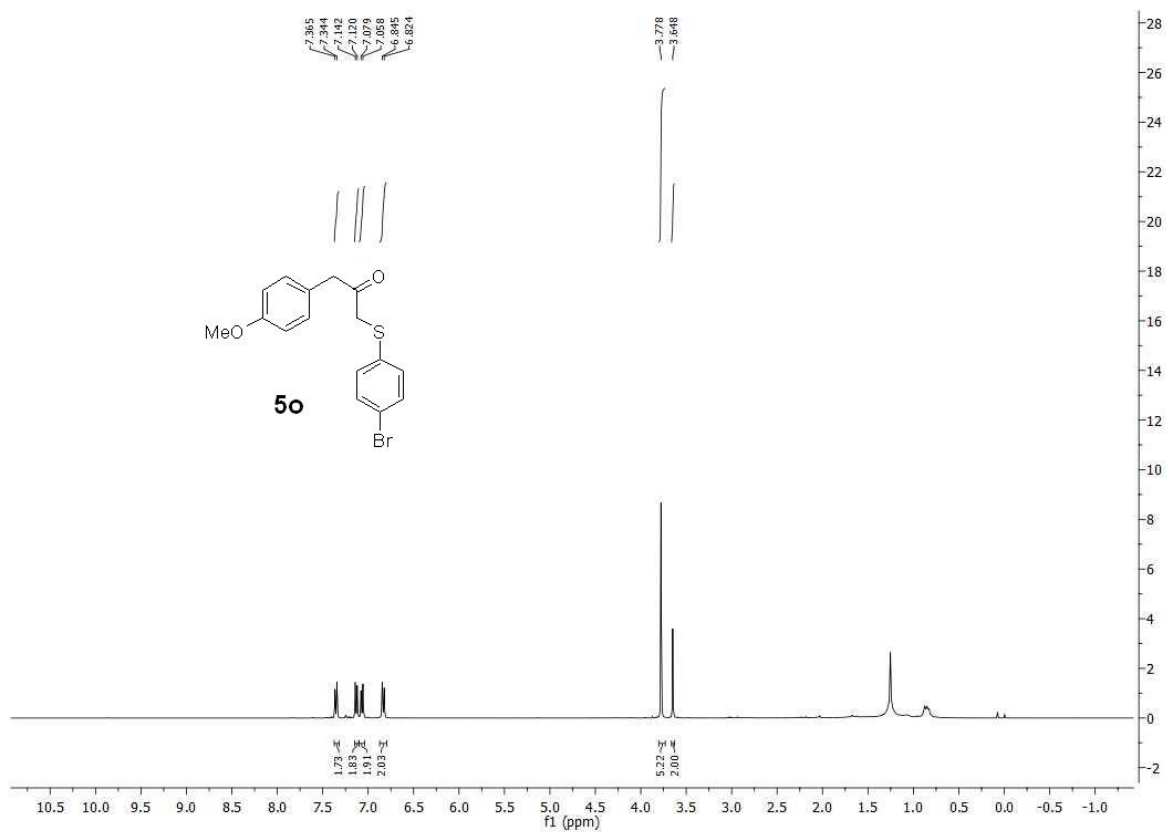


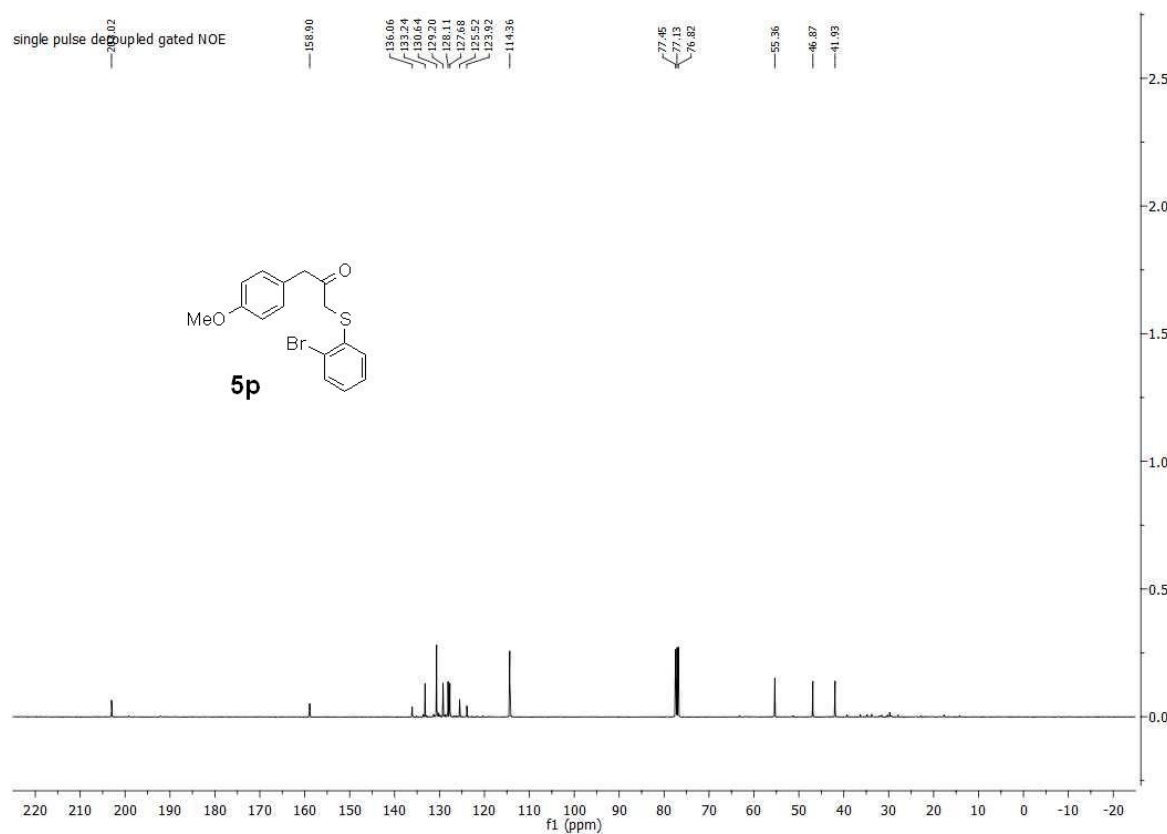
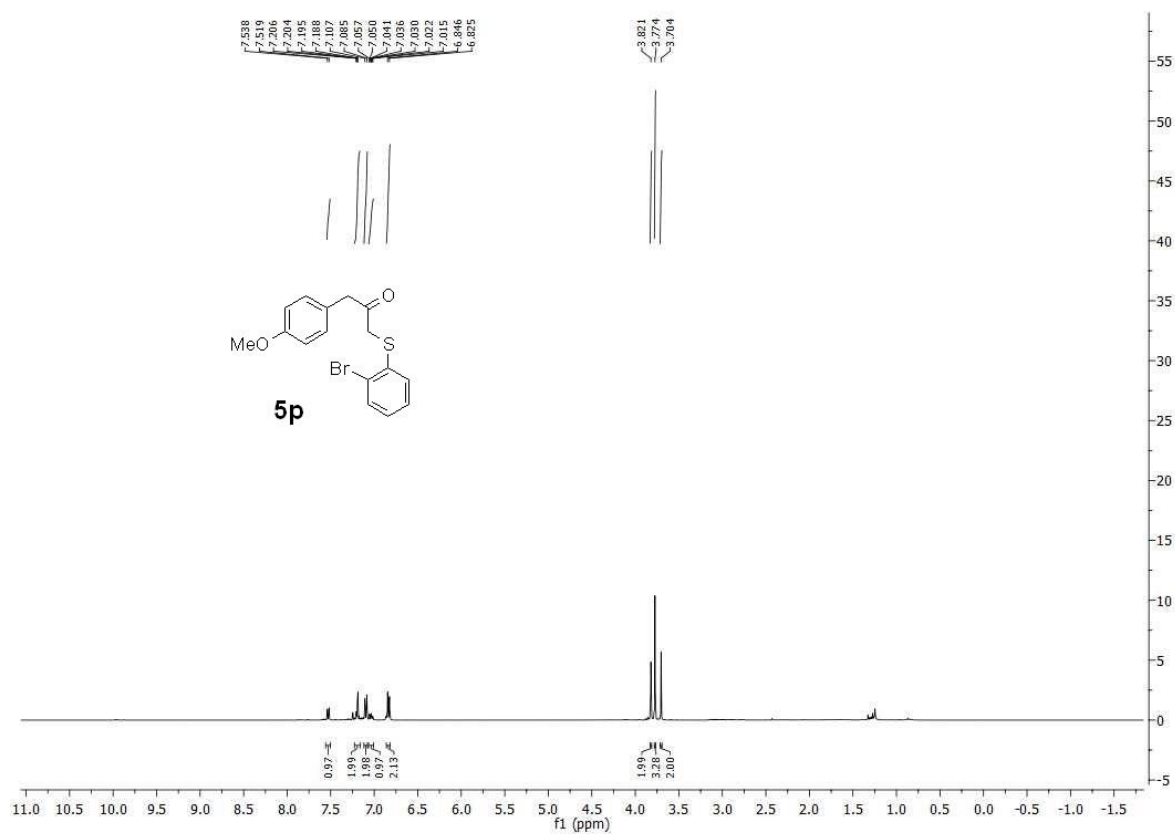


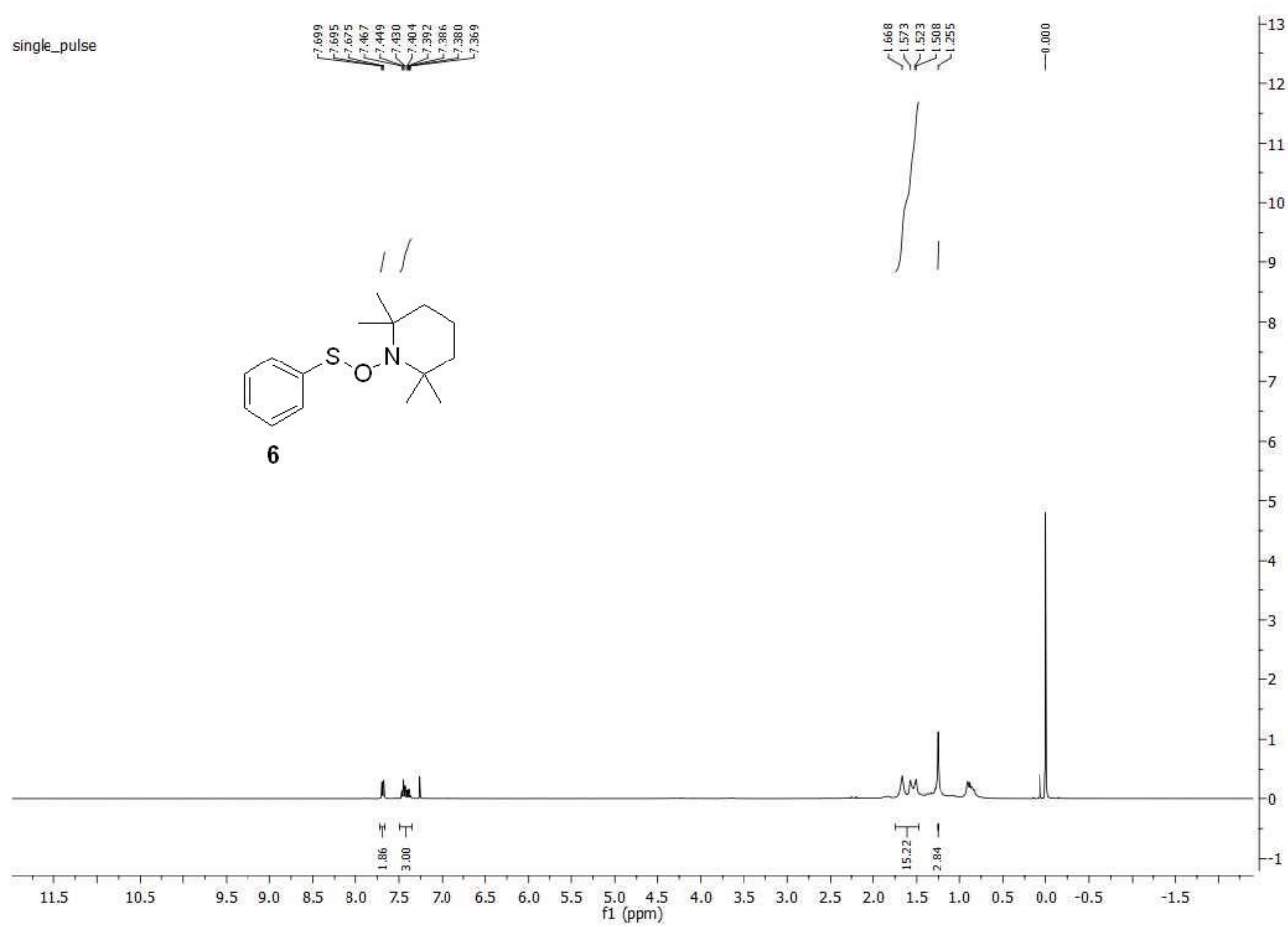


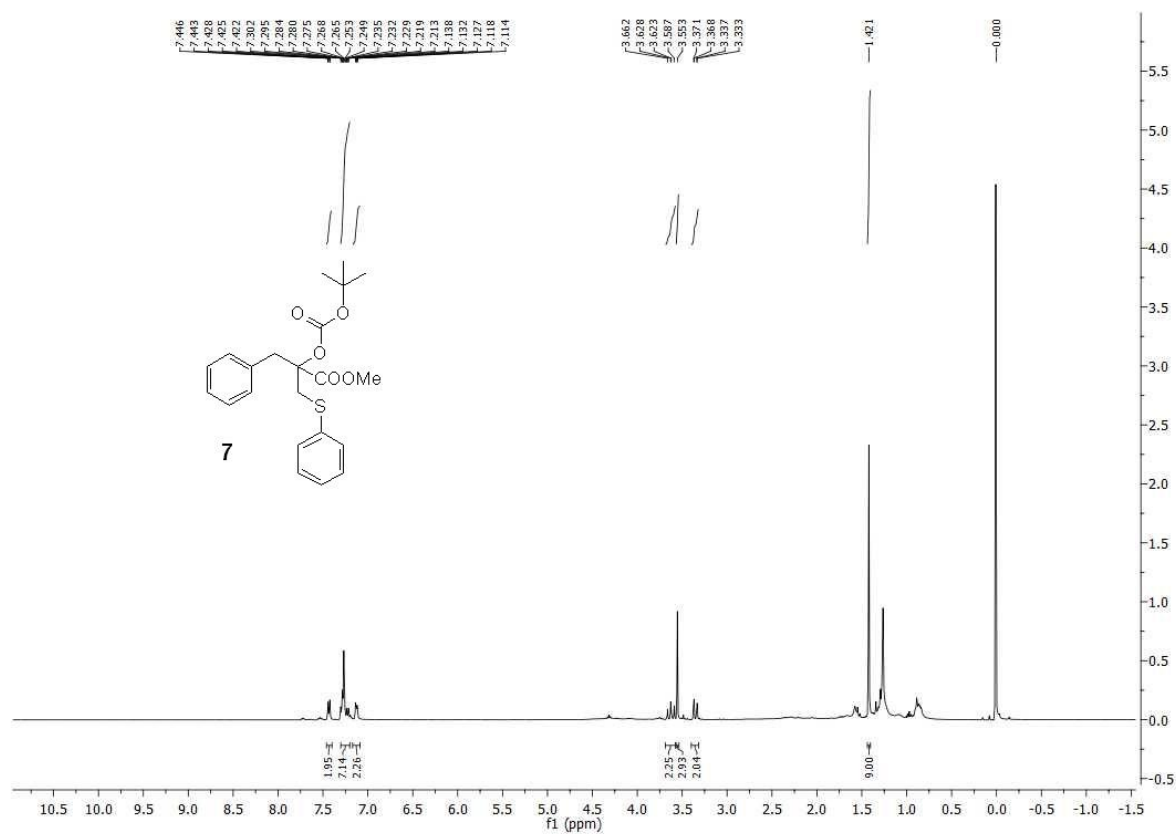












Refernces

1. D. Basavaiah, K. R. Reddy and N. Kumaragurubaran, *Nat. Protoc.*, 2007, **2**, 2665