

Supplementary Information

Copper(II)-catalyzed highly diastereoselective three-component reaction of aryldiazoacetates with alcohols and chalcones: an easy access to furan derivatives

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General Considerations:

Dichloromethane (CH_2Cl_2), 1,2-dichloroethane ($\text{ClCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$) and chloroform (CHCl_3) were freshly distilled over calcium hydride prior to use. All commercially available reagents were directly used as received from vendors, unless otherwise stated. Melting points were determined on a digital melting point apparatus and temperatures were uncorrected. ^1H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker-500 MHz spectrometer, and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on a JNM-EX400 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to the internal standard tetramethylsilane ($\delta = 0$ ppm) for ^1H NMR and deuteriochloroform ($\delta = 77.00$ ppm) for ^{13}C NMR spectroscopy. HRMS spectra were recorded on a Bruker micrOTOF II instrument.

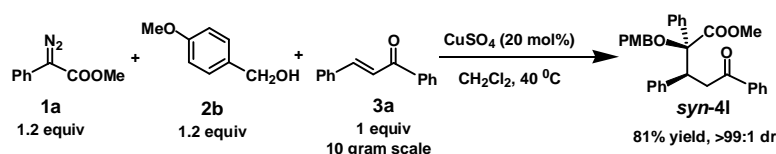
Synthesis of Substrates:

Chalcones **3a-3j** were prepared according to the literature procedure.¹ **3k** was synthesized following another literature procedure.² Aryl diazoacetates **1a-1c** were prepared by the treatment of corresponding arylacetate with *p*-acetamidobenzenesulfonyl azide (*p*-ABSA) in the presence of DBU following the general procedure.³

General Procedure for Copper(II)-Catalyzed Highly Diastereoselective Three-Component Reaction of Aryldiazoacetates with Alcohols and Chalcones:

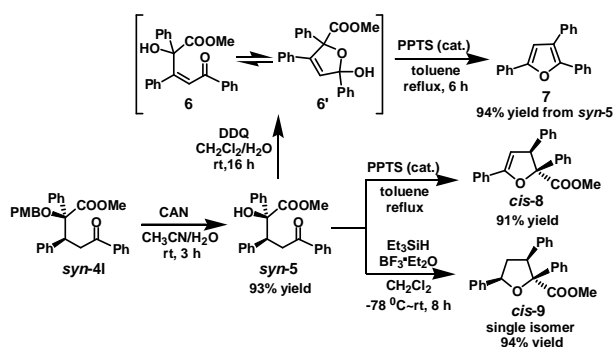
A mixture of $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ (10.8 mg, 0.03 mmol), alcohols **2** (0.36 mmol), chalcones **3** (0.3 mmol) and CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) was stirred for 20 min at room temperature, then to the mixture was added diazo compounds **1** (0.36 mmol) in 1.5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 over 3 h via a syringe pump at 40 °C. After completion of the addition, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Solvent was removed, and a portion of crude product was subjected to ^1H NMR analysis for determination of the product ratio. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate / petroleum ether = 1:30 ~ 1:20) to give the corresponding pure products **4**.

Scale-up of the Michael-type Three-Component Reaction:

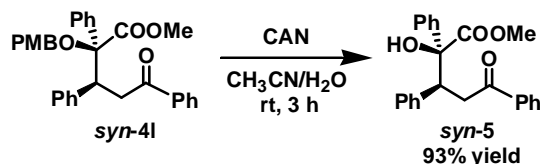


A mixture of CuSO_4 (1.53 g, 9.61 mmol), *p*-methoxy benzylalcohol **2b** (7.97 g, 57.64 mmol), chalcone **3a** (10.0 g, 48.03 mmol) and CH_2Cl_2 (200 mL) was vigorously stirred for 20 min at room temperature, then to the mixture was added methyl phenyldiazoacetate **1a** (10.16 g, 57.64 mmol) in 50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 over 4 h via a syringe pump at 40 °C. After completion of the addition, the reaction mixture was stirred for another 2 h at the same temperature. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. CH_2Cl_2 was removed, and a portion of crude product was subjected to ^1H NMR analysis for determination of the product ratio (*syn* : *anti* >99 : 1). The crude product was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate / petroleum ether = 1:20 ~ 1:10) to give product **syn-4I** (19.24 g, 81% yield) as a white solid.

Syntheses of **syn-5**, Polysubstituted Furan **7**, 2,3-Dihydrofuran **cis-8** and Tetrahydrofuran **cis-9**:



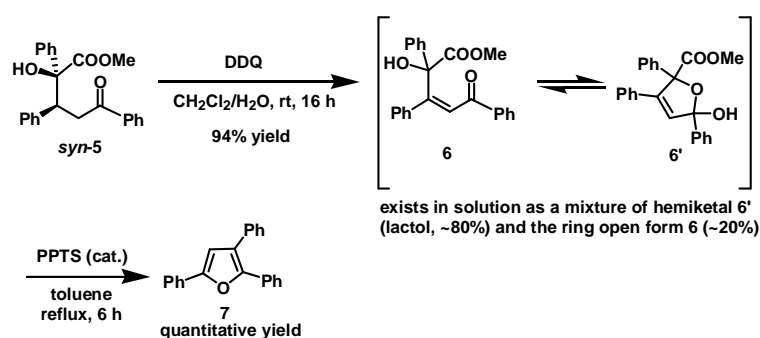
The procedure for preparation of **syn-5** from three-component product **syn-4I**:



To a stirred solution of compound **syn-4I** (1.70 g, 3.44 mmol) in the mixed solvents of CH_3CN and water (v/v = 3:1, 48 mL) was added dropwise the solution of ammonium cerium (IV) nitrate (CAN) (5.10 g, 9.28 mmol) in wet CH_3CN (8 mL) at 0 °C. After

addition, the reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. TLC indicated that the starting material was consumed completely. Then, saturated aq. NaHCO₃ solution (20 mL) was added. The precipitated solid was removed by filtration. The filtrate was extracted with EtOAc (3×30 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated in *vacuo* to give the crude product. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether = 1:10) to afford the corresponding product *syn-5* (1.20 g, 93% yield) as a white solid.

The procedure for preparation of polysubstituted furan **7** from *syn-5*:

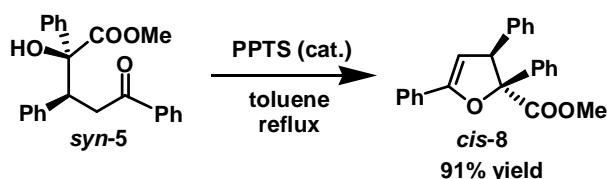


To a mixture of compound *syn-5* (0.60 g, 1.60 mmol) in the mixed solvents of CH₂Cl₂ and water (v/v = 9:1, 30 mL) was added 2, 3-dichloro-5, 6-dicyanobenzoquinone (DDQ, 0.44 g, 1.92 mmol) at room temperature. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. TLC showed the starting material was completely consumed. The aqueous solution of Na₂CO₃ was added to adjust PH = 10. The organic layer was separated and aqueous phase was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 15 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated in *vacuo* to give the crude product. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc / petroleum ether = 1:20 ~ 1:10) to afford the dehydrogenated product **6** (560 mg, 94% yield) as a white solid. ¹H NMR analysis showed that this product exists in solution as a mixture of hemiketal **6'** (lactol, ~80%) and the ring open form **6** (~20%).

A mixture of the obtained dehydrogenated product **6** (450 mg, 1.21 mmol), pyridinium *p*-toluenesulfonate (PPTS) (60.3 mg, 0.24 mmol) and toluene (18 mL) was

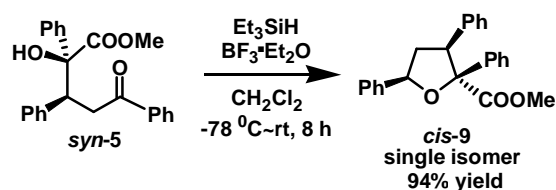
refluxed for 6 h under azeotropic distillation conditions. TLC indicated the reaction was complete. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. The solvent was removed under vacuum to give the crude product. The resulted crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether = 1:50) to give the product **7** (340.3 mg, almost quantitative yield) as a colorless crystalline solid.

The procedure for preparation of 2,3-dihydrofuran *cis*-8 from *syn*-5:⁴



A mixture of compound *syn*-5 (270 mg, 0.72 mmol), pyridinium *p*-toluenesulfonate (PPTS) (36 mg, 0.144 mmol) and toluene (12 mL) was refluxed for 8 h under azeotropic distillation conditions. TLC indicated the reaction was complete. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. The solvent was removed under vacuum to give the crude product. The resulted crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether = 1:40) to give the product *cis*-8 (234 mg, 91% yield) as a white solid.

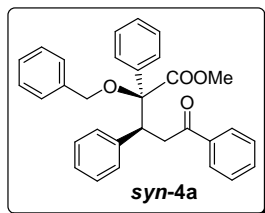
The procedure for preparation of tetrahydrofuran *cis*-9 from *syn*-5:⁵



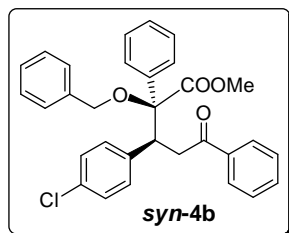
To a stirred solution of compound *syn*-5 (300 mg, 0.80 mmol) and triethylsilane (186 mg, 1.60 mmol) in dry CH_2Cl_2 (8 mL) was added dropwise a solution of $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$ (227 mg, 1.60 mmol) in dry CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) at -78°C for 10 min. After addition, the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at -78°C and for 8 h at room temperature. TLC showed the starting material was completely consumed. Then, saturated aq. NaHCO_3 solution (10 mL) was added. The organic layer was separated and aqueous

phase was extracted with EtOAc (3×10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated in *vacuo* to give the crude product. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc / petroleum ether = 1:25) to afford the corresponding product *cis*-**9** (269 mg, 94% yield) as a white solid.

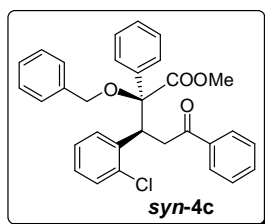
Characterization Data of Products:



(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-5-oxo-2,3,5-triphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4a): White solid, mp 156-157 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.25 (m, 12H), 7.16-7.13 (m, 5H), 4.62 (d, *J* = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 4.42 (dd, *J* = 10.3, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (d, *J* = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (dd, *J* = 17.5, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.35 (dd, *J* = 17.5, 3.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.96, 172.00, 138.88, 138.65, 137.06, 136.37, 132.77, 130.02, 128.36, 128.13, 128.08, 127.98, 127.84, 127.47, 127.07, 126.95, 126.87, 88.72, 68.03, 51.87, 50.72, 39.71; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₃₁H₂₈NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 487.1880, found 487.1879.

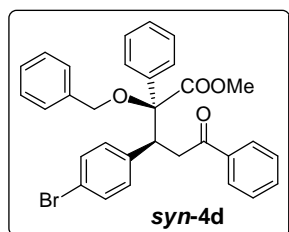


(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-3-(4-chloro-phenyl)-5-oxo-2,5-diphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4b): White solid, mp 135-137 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.30 (m, 12H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.67 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 4.39 (dd, *J* = 10.6, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.77 (dd, *J* = 17.8, 10.6 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (dd, *J* = 17.8, 3.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.67, 171.84, 138.69, 137.31, 136.84, 136.23, 132.91, 132.71, 131.30, 128.40, 128.27, 128.17, 127.99, 127.91, 127.85, 127.61, 127.19, 126.91, 88.53, 68.14, 51.94, 50.21, 39.67; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₃₁H₂₇ClNaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 521.1490, found 521.1490.



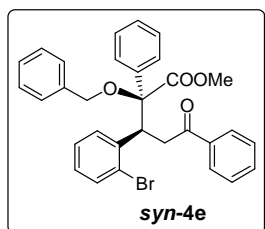
(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-3-(2-chloro-phenyl)-5-oxo-2,5-diphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4c): White solid, mp 98-100 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.36 (m, 6H), 7.31-7.20 (m, 6H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.11 (m, 1H), 7.09-7.05 (m, 1H), 5.06 (dd, *J* = 10.6, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.80 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz,

1H), 3.92 (dd, $J = 17.4, 10.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.44 (dd, $J = 17.4, 3.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.56, 172.40, 139.02, 137.04, 136.82, 136.71, 135.95, 132.79, 129.59, 129.00, 128.35, 128.16, 128.06, 127.97, 127.85, 127.71, 126.98, 126.86, 125.81, 88.56, 68.12, 52.01, 45.89, 41.03; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{27}\text{ClNaO}_4$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$ 521.1490, found 521.1495.



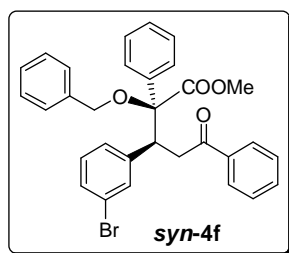
(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-3-(4-bromo-phenyl)-5-oxo-2,5-diphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4d): White solid, mp 141-142 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.84 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H),

7.36-7.28 (m, 12H), 7.03 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 4.67 (d, $J = 11.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.38 (dd, $J = 10.6, 3.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.31 (d, $J = 11.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.77 (dd, $J = 17.7, 10.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.34 (dd, $J = 17.7, 3.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.63, 171.82, 138.67, 137.86, 136.83, 136.21, 132.92, 131.69, 130.55, 128.41, 128.29, 128.17, 128.01, 127.91, 127.85, 127.19, 126.91, 120.97, 88.46, 68.14, 51.95, 50.27, 39.63; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{27}\text{BrNaO}_4$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$ 565.0985, found 565.0981.



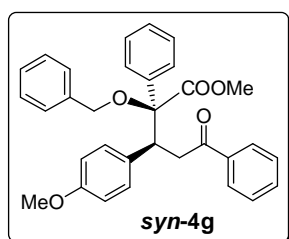
(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-3-(2-bromo-phenyl)-5-oxo-2,5-diphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4e): White solid, mp 82-84 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.87 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.52-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.35 (m, 7H), 7.32-7.28 (m, 2H),

7.27-7.20 (m, 4H), 7.19-7.16 (m, 1H), 7.01-6.98 (m, 1H), 5.01 (dd, $J = 10.7, 3.1$ Hz, 1H), 4.79 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.33 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.93 (dd, $J = 17.3, 10.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.43 (dd, $J = 17.3, 3.1$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.65, 172.47, 139.05, 138.44, 136.74, 135.86, 132.83, 132.45, 129.82, 128.69, 128.38, 128.22, 128.17, 128.07, 127.89, 127.76, 127.02, 126.98, 126.49, 88.65, 68.17, 52.06, 48.65, 41.31; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{27}\text{BrNaO}_4$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$ 565.0985, found 565.0988.



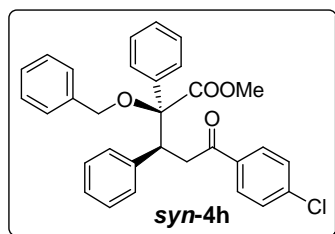
(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-3-(3-bromo-phenyl)-5-oxo-2,5-diphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4f): White solid, mp 95-97 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.27 (m, 14H), 7.24-6.98 (m, 2H), 4.63 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 2.5 Hz,

1H), 4.27 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.73 (dd, *J* = 18.0, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (dd, *J* = 18.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.52, 171.81, 141.28, 138.72, 136.83, 136.20, 132.99, 132.96, 130.02, 128.92, 128.75, 128.44, 128.35, 128.24, 128.06, 127.97, 127.82, 127.14, 126.82, 121.62, 88.54, 68.12, 51.96, 50.55, 39.56; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₃₁H₂₇BrNaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 565.0985, found 565.0991.



(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-3-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-5-oxo-2,5-diphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4g): White solid, mp 96-97 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.50-7.47 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.27 (m, 12H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 8.1

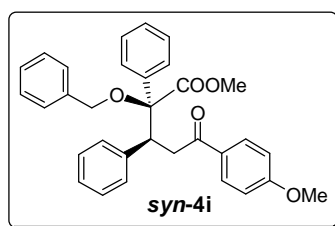
Hz, 2H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 4.61 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.68 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 3.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.06, 171.99, 158.44, 138.83, 137.03, 136.32, 132.70, 130.91, 130.49, 128.31, 128.09, 128.05, 127.93, 127.76, 127.05, 126.86, 112.87, 88.75, 67.96, 54.98, 51.82, 49.89, 39.74; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₃₂H₃₀NaO₅ (M + Na)⁺ 517.1985, found 517.1992.



(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-5-(4-chloro-phenyl)-5-oxo-2,3-diphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4h): White solid, mp 141-143 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.21 (m, 12H), 7.14-7.09 (m, 5H),

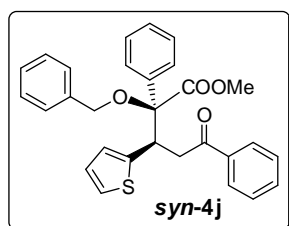
4.59 (d, *J* = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (d, *J* = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.66 (dd, *J* = 17.4, 10.1 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (dd, *J* = 17.4, 3.3 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.82, 171.89, 139.11, 138.74, 138.44, 136.19, 135.31, 129.94, 129.38, 128.62, 128.14, 128.10, 128.03, 127.82, 127.48, 127.09, 127.01,

126.87, 88.64, 68.06, 51.86, 50.82, 39.65; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{31}H_{27}ClNaO_4$ ($M + Na$)⁺ 521.1490, found 521.1497.



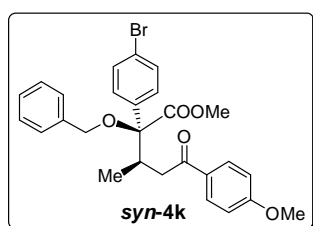
(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-5-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-5-oxo-2,3-diphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4i): White solid, mp 155-156 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.33-7.21 (m, 10H), 7.14-7.11 (m, 5H),

6.83 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.61 (d, J = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 4.40 (dd, J = 10.3, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (d, J = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.71 (dd, J = 17.3, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 3.27 (dd, J = 17.3, 3.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.41, 171.98, 163.18, 138.88, 138.70, 136.40, 130.19, 130.12, 129.99, 128.07, 128.03, 127.77, 127.38, 127.01, 126.85, 126.82, 113.44, 88.72, 67.96, 55.29, 51.78, 50.83, 39.21; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{32}H_{30}NaO_5$ ($M + Na$)⁺ 517.1985, found 517.1983.



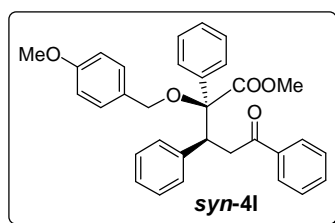
(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-5-oxo-2,5-diphenyl-3-thiophen-2-yl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4j): White solid, mp 123-125 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.26 (m, 12H), 7.08 (d, J = 5.0

Hz, 1H), 6.79 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.76 (dd, J = 10.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (d, J = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (d, J = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.70 (dd, J = 17.5, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 3.27 (dd, J = 17.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.39, 171.67, 141.64, 138.59, 136.87, 136.10, 132.86, 128.38, 128.29, 128.12, 127.97, 127.94, 127.86, 127.14, 127.01, 126.77, 125.96, 124.38, 88.56, 68.26, 51.98, 46.01, 41.12; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{29}H_{26}NaO_4S$ ($M + Na$)⁺ 493.1444, found 493.1441.



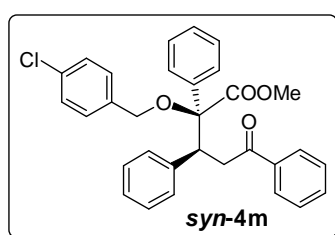
(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-2-(4-bromo-phenyl)-5-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-3-methyl-5-oxo-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4k): colorless viscous oil; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.37-7.33 (m, J = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 7.31-7.27 (m, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.8 Hz,

2H), 4.55 (d, $J = 11.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.27 (d, $J = 11.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 6H, overlap), 3.26-3.22 (m, 1H), 3.05 (dd, $J = 16.4, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.59 (dd, $J = 16.4, 10.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.02 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.25, 171.50, 163.19, 138.17, 135.73, 131.05, 130.17, 129.96, 129.62, 128.11, 127.24, 126.93, 122.15, 113.44, 87.91, 67.74, 55.20, 51.90, 40.37, 38.67, 15.60; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{27}\text{BrNaO}_5$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$ 533.0934, found 533.0941.



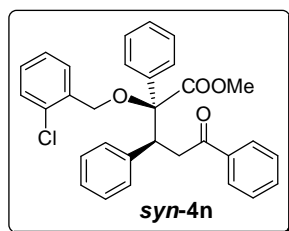
(2S*,3S*)-2-(4-methoxy-benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2,3,5-triphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4l): White solid, mp 118-119 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.85 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.30 (m, 7H),

7.25 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 5H), 6.90 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 4.57 (d, $J = 11.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.45 (dd, $J = 10.2, 3.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.26 (d, $J = 11.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.75 (dd, $J = 17.5, 10.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, $J = 17.5, 3.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.95, 171.99, 158.78, 138.64, 137.04, 136.38, 132.70, 130.91, 130.00, 128.43, 128.31, 128.12, 128.03, 127.92, 127.73, 127.41, 126.89, 113.53, 88.59, 67.70, 55.18, 51.81, 50.57, 39.64; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{30}\text{NaO}_5$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$ 517.1985, found 517.1985.



(2S*,3S*)-2-(4-chloro-benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2,3,5-triphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4m): White solid, mp 168-169 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.84 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.35 (m, 4H),

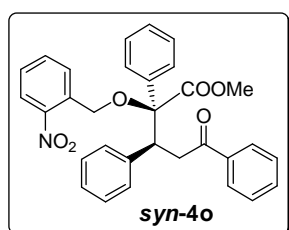
7.32-7.29 (m, 5H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 7H), 4.58 (d, $J = 12.1$ Hz, 1H), 4.44 (dd, $J = 10.2, 3.1$ Hz, 1H), 4.24 (d, $J = 12.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.82 (dd, $J = 17.6, 10.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.31 (dd, $J = 17.6, 3.1$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.76, 171.82, 138.61, 137.38, 136.96, 136.31, 132.77, 132.68, 129.90, 128.34, 128.24, 128.19, 127.96, 127.92, 127.90, 127.49, 126.99, 88.84, 67.37, 51.85, 50.76, 39.68; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{27}\text{ClNaO}_4$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$ 521.1490, found 521.1497.



(2S*,3S*)-2-(2-chloro-benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2,3,5-triphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4n): White solid, mp 83-85 °C;

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.38 (m,

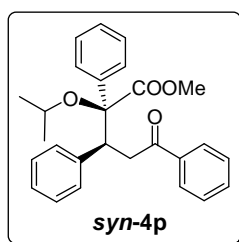
4H), 7.31-7.27 (m, 5H), 7.22-7.19 (m, 6H), 4.67 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.42 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (dd, *J* = 17.6, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.34 (dd, *J* = 17.6, 3.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.82, 171.82, 138.69, 138.67, 136.97, 136.66, 136.27, 132.79, 131.76, 129.92, 128.79, 128.39, 128.35, 128.25, 128.01, 127.93, 127.80, 127.52, 126.99, 126.58, 88.92, 65.37, 51.91, 51.04, 39.79; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₃₁H₂₇ClNaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 521.1490, found 521.1484.



(2S*,3S*)-2-(2-nitro-benzyloxy)-5-oxo-2,3,5-triphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4o): light yellow solid, mp

118-119 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H),

7.60 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.37 (m, 5H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.25-7.19 (m, 5H), 4.91 (d, *J* = 15.3 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d, *J* = 15.3 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (dd, *J* = 17.8, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.23 (dd, *J* = 17.8, 2.7 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.64, 171.60, 146.87, 138.81, 136.87, 136.31, 135.54, 133.34, 132.82, 129.76, 128.88, 128.51, 128.35, 128.30, 127.91, 127.64, 127.55, 127.41, 127.07, 124.21, 89.27, 65.27, 51.90, 51.23, 39.86; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₃₁H₂₇NNaO₆ (M + Na)⁺ 532.1730, found 532.1734.

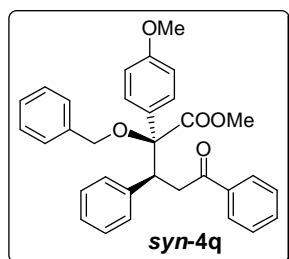


(2S*,3S*)-2-isopropoxy-5-oxo-2,3,5-triphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4p): White solid, mp 110-112 °C; ¹H NMR (500

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.24 (m, 5H), 7.14-7.12 (m, 3H),

7.08-7.06 (m, 2H), 4.51 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (septet, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.60 (dd, *J* = 18.0, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (dd, *J* = 18.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 1.11 (d, *J* =

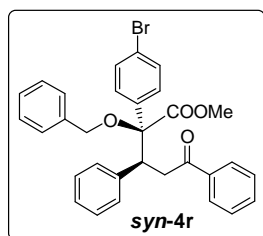
6.0 Hz, 3H), 0.93 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.32, 172.51, 139.02, 137.79, 137.27, 132.68, 130.12, 128.60, 128.34, 127.93, 127.89, 127.34, 127.24, 126.69, 88.01, 68.95, 51.56, 49.02, 39.69, 23.92, 23.44; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{28}\text{NaO}_4$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$ 439.1880, found 439.1886.



(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-5-oxo-3,5-diphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4q): White solid, mp

135-137 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.86 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.20 (m, 7H), 7.20-7.17 (m, 5H), 6.84 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz,

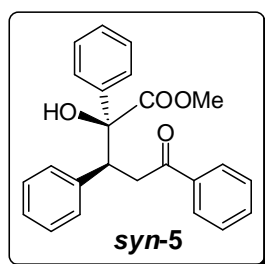
2H), 4.62 (d, $J = 11.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.44 (dd, $J = 10.3, 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.29 (d, $J = 11.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.78 (dd, $J = 17.5, 10.3$ Hz, 1H, overlap), 3.38 (dd, $J = 17.5, 3.2$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.98, 172.13, 159.23, 138.93, 138.75, 137.04, 132.70, 129.98, 129.41, 128.30, 128.23, 128.06, 127.93, 127.45, 126.99, 126.89, 126.83, 113.11, 88.41, 67.79, 55.11, 51.75, 50.82, 39.69; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{30}\text{NaO}_5$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$ 517.1985, found 517.1983.



(2S*,3S*)-2-benzyloxy-2-(4-bromo-phenyl)-5-oxo-3,5-diphenyl-pentanoic acid methyl ester (4r): White solid, mp

134-135 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.88 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.31 (m, 9H), 7.24 (d, $J =$

8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.21-7.19 (m, 3H), 7.15-7.13 (m, 2H), 4.66 (d, $J = 11.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.46 (dd, $J = 9.9, 3.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.33 (d, $J = 11.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.73 (dd, $J = 17.5, 9.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.46 (dd, $J = 17.5, 3.4$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.58, 171.46, 138.34, 138.19, 136.88, 135.27, 132.77, 130.75, 129.94, 129.91, 128.32, 128.15, 127.87, 127.53, 127.21, 127.06, 126.82, 122.29, 88.22, 68.09, 51.96, 50.50, 39.36; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{27}\text{BrNaO}_4$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$ 565.0985, found 565.0989.



(2S*,3S*)-2-hydroxy-5-oxo-2,3,5-triphenyl-pentanoic acid

methyl ester (syn-5): White solid, mp 140-141 °C; ¹H NMR

(500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.51-7.49 (m,

1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H),

7.18-7.11 (m, 5H), 7.01-6.97 (m, 3H), 4.41 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 3.5 Hz,

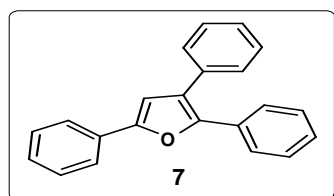
1H), 3.94 (s, 1H), 3.89 (dd, *J* = 17.0, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.13 (dd, *J* = 17.0,

3.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.96, 175.40, 140.16, 138.89, 136.97,

132.97, 129.75, 128.47, 128.06, 127.78, 127.47, 127.45, 126.45, 125.76, 81.49,

53.58, 48.51, 40.91; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₂NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 397.1410,

found 397.1418



Dehydrogenated product exists in solution as a

mixture of hemiketal 6' (lactol, ~80%) and the ring

open form 6 (~20%): White solid, mp 94-95 °C;

hemiketal 6' (lactol, ~80%): ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)

δ 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.32 (m, 7H), 7.30-7.23 (m, 6H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 4.49

(s, 1H, exchanged by D₂O addition, OH), 3.84 (s, 3H); the ring open form 6: ¹H

NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.78 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.54-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.32 (m,

5H), 7.31-7.23 (m, 6H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.09 (s, 1H, exchanged by D₂O

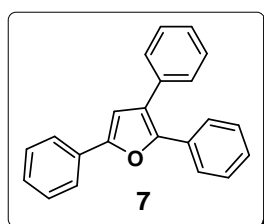
addition, OH); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.17 (170.76), (143.52) 141.55,

140.71 (139.35), 137.39, 131.81, 130.80 (130.19), 128.61, 128.45, 128.30, 128.17,

128.11, 128.03, 127.96, 127.86, 127.74, 127.33, 125.88, (109.83) 109.67, (94.51)

94.23, 53.24 (52.31); HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₄H₂₀NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 395.1254,

found 395.1266.



2,3,5-triphenyl-furan (7): colorless crystalline solid, mp 90-91

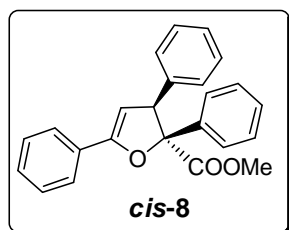
°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H),

7.61 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.36 (m,

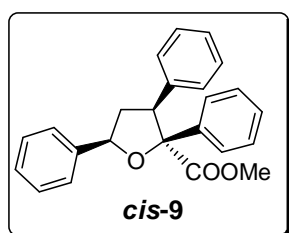
4H), 7.33-7.27 (m, 4H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H);

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.53, 147.87, 134.30, 131.09, 130.51, 128.69,

128.67, 128.63, 128.36, 127.48, 127.45, 127.26, 126.10, 124.51, 123.79, 109.43;
HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{22}H_{17}O$ ($M + H$)⁺ 297.1274, found 297.1264.



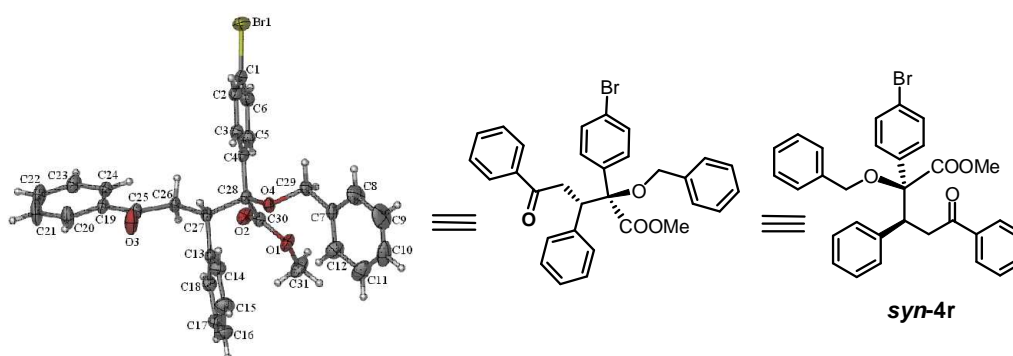
(2S*,3S*)-2,3,5-triphenyl-2,3-dihydro-furan-2-carboxylic acid methyl ester (*cis*-8): White solid, mp 104-105 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.47-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.34 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.11-7.00 (m, 8H), 5.64 (d, $J = 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.10 (d, $J = 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.24, 155.32, 138.77, 135.83, 130.21, 129.24, 128.99, 128.44, 127.72, 127.52, 127.33, 126.77, 126.04, 125.65, 101.20, 93.55, 56.80, 53.15; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{24}H_{20}NaO_3$ ($M + Na$)⁺ 379.1304, found 379.1311



(2S*,3S*,5R*)-2,3,5-triphenyl-tetrahydro-furan-2-carboxylic acid methyl ester (*cis*-9): White solid, mp 96-97 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.07-7.05 (m, 3H), 7.01-6.99 (m, 3H), 6.94-6.91 (m, 2H), 5.21 (dd, $J = 10.1, 5.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.57 (dd, $J = 8.9, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.81 (ddd, $J = 12.4, 10.1, 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.26 (ddd, $J = 12.4, 7.6, 5.9$ Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.27, 140.47, 139.74, 137.81, 129.21, 128.43, 127.66, 127.56, 127.29, 127.10, 126.32, 126.09, 126.04, 90.68, 79.95, 52.84, 52.82, 41.92; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $C_{24}H_{22}NaO_3$ ($M + Na$)⁺ 381.1461, found 381.1474.

Single-crystal X-ray structure determinations were performed on a Bruker SMART APEX II diffractometer using graphite-monochromated Mo-K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$). Cell parameters were retrieved using APEX II software and refined using SAINT on all observed reflections. Data reduction was performed using the SAINT software. Scaling and absorption corrections were applied using SADABS multi-scan technique supplied by George Sheldrick.⁶ The structures were solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares on F^2 with anisotropic displacement parameters for non-H atoms using SHELX-97.⁷

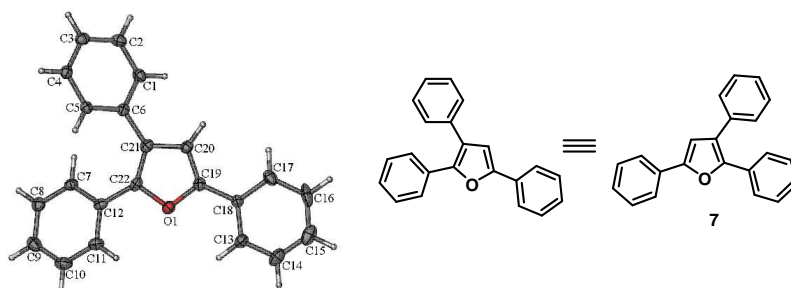
Crystal data of the three-component product *syn-4r*



Identification code	z
Empirical formula	C ₃₁ H ₂₇ BrO ₄
Formula weight	543.44
Temperature	296(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 \AA
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$
Unit cell dimensions	a = 11.0837(4) \AA alpha = 90 deg. b = 12.5162(4) \AA beta = 105.7030(10) deg. c = 19.9846(7) \AA gamma = 90 deg.
Volume	2668.91(16) \AA^3
Z, Calculated density	4, 1.352 Mg/m ³
Absorption coefficient	1.574 mm ⁻¹
F(000)	1120

Crystal size	0.48 x 0.26 x 0.22 mm
Theta range for data collection	1.91 to 25.01 deg.
Limiting indices	-13<=h<=13, -14<=k<=14, -23<=l<=23
Reflections collected / unique	30268 / 4691 [R(int) = 0.0283]
Completeness to theta = 25.01	99.9 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	1 and 0.606688
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²
Data / restraints / parameters	4691 / 0 / 325
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.031
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0471, wR2 = 0.1131
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0630, wR2 = 0.1251
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.646 and -0.768 e. Å ⁻³

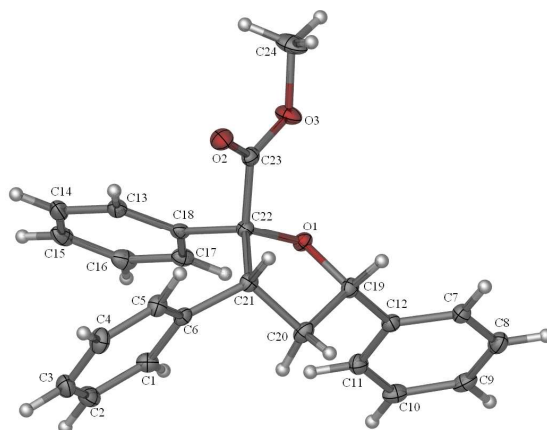
Crystal data of polysubstituted furan 7



Identification code	z
Empirical formula	C ₂₂ H ₁₆ O
Formula weight	296.35
Temperature	173(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system, space group	Orthorhombic, Pbc _a
Unit cell dimensions	a = 7.7124(4) Å alpha = 90 deg. b = 19.8082(9) Å beta = 90 deg.

	$c = 20.3303(10) \text{ \AA}$	$\gamma = 90 \text{ deg.}$
Volume	3105.8(3) \AA^3	
Z, Calculated density	8,	1.268 Mg/m^3
Absorption coefficient	0.076 mm^{-1}	
F(000)	1248	
Crystal size	0.52 x 0.48 x 0.36 mm	
Theta range for data collection	2.06 to 25.01 deg.	
Limiting indices	$-9 \leq h \leq 9$, $-23 \leq k \leq 23$, $-24 \leq l \leq 24$	
Reflections collected / unique	32737 / 2731 [R(int) = 0.0247]	
Completeness to theta = 25.01	99.9 %	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	0.9731 and 0.9615	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F^2	
Data / restraints / parameters	2731 / 0 / 208	
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.087	
Final R indices [$I > 2\sigma(I)$]	R1 = 0.0501, wR2 = 0.1258	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0559, wR2 = 0.1334	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.308 and -0.391 e.\AA^{-3}	

Crystal data of polysubstituted tetrahydrofuran *cis*-9



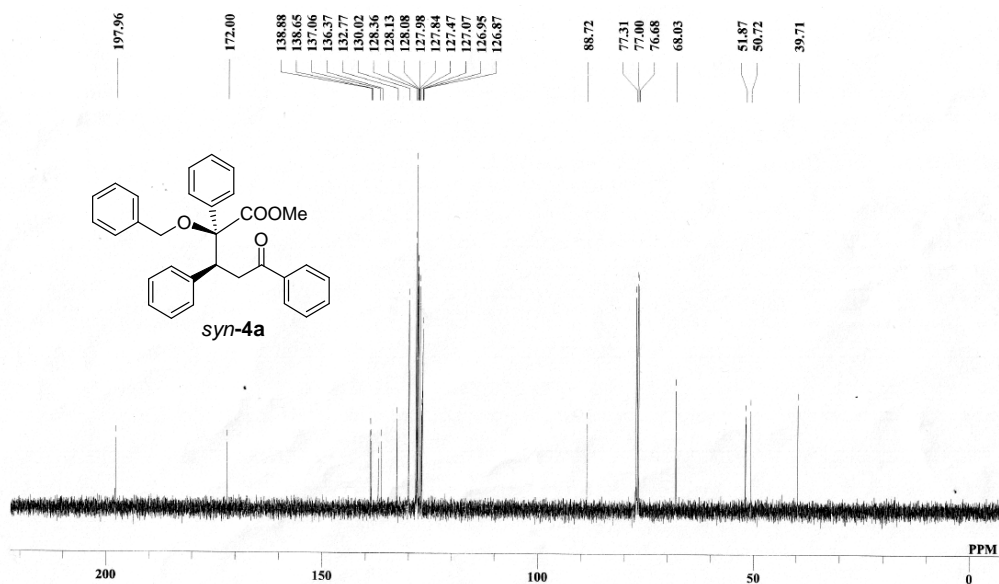
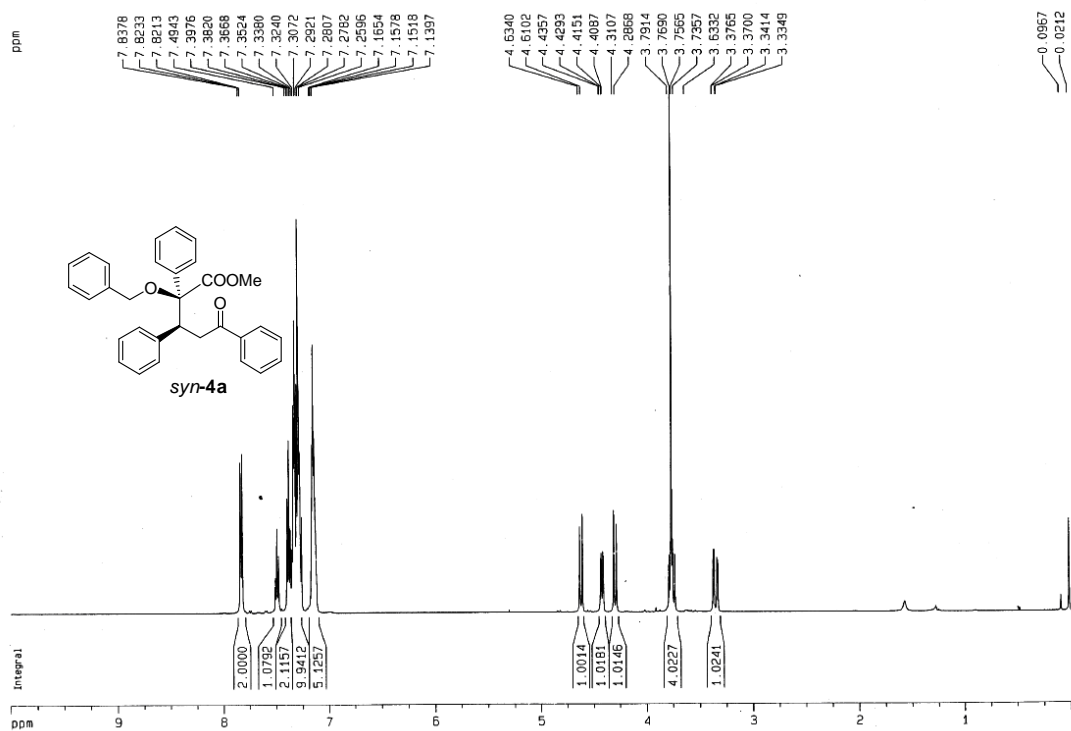
Identification code

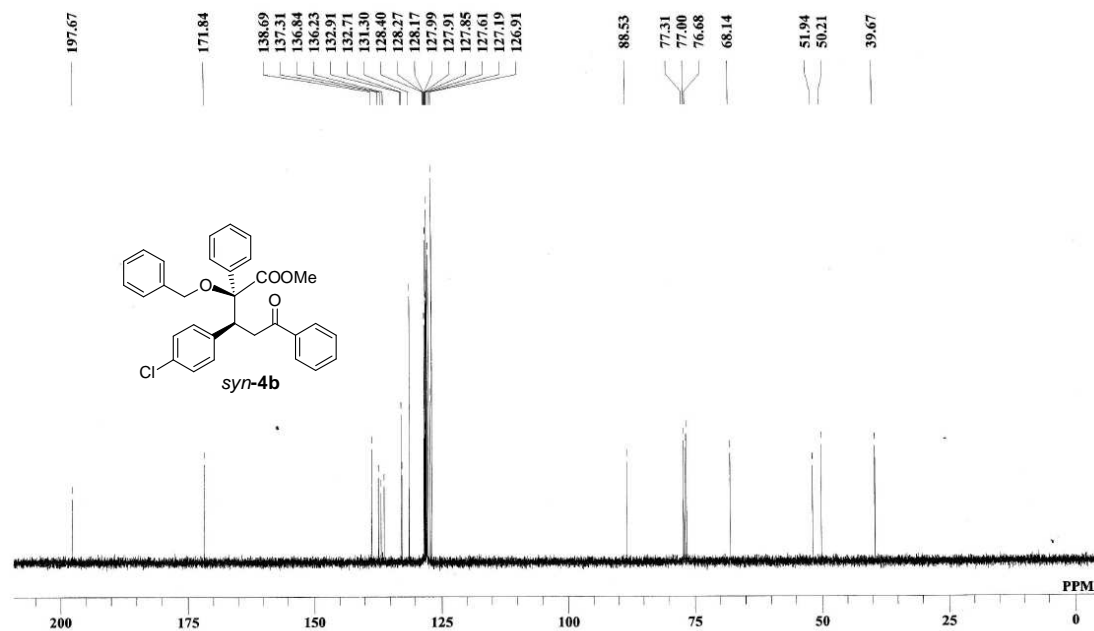
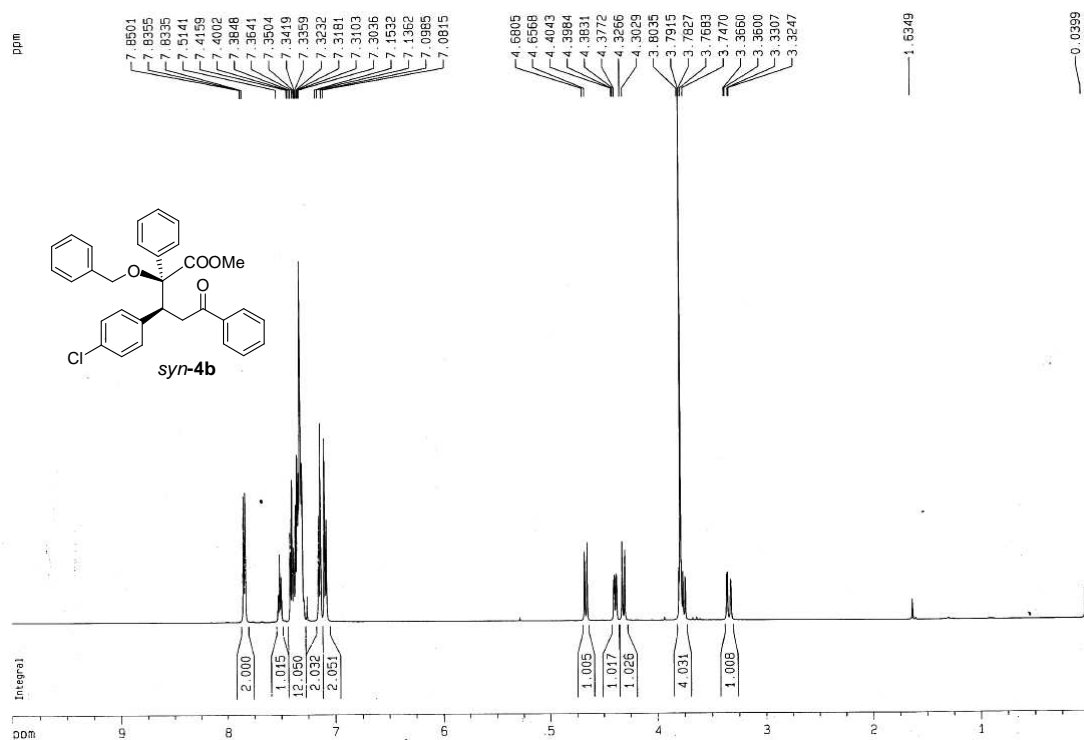
Z

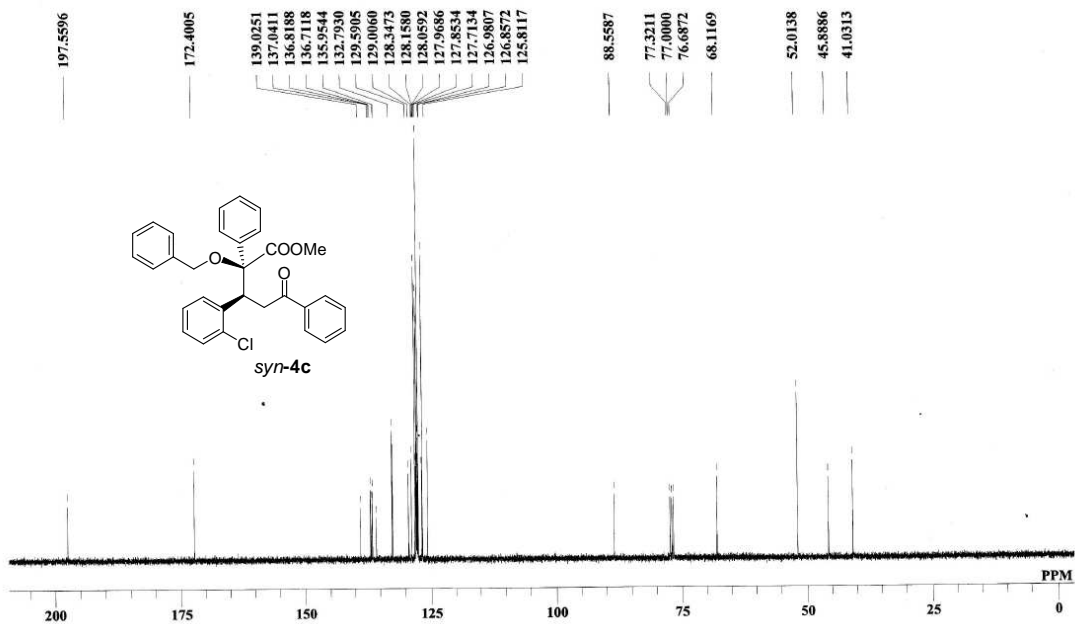
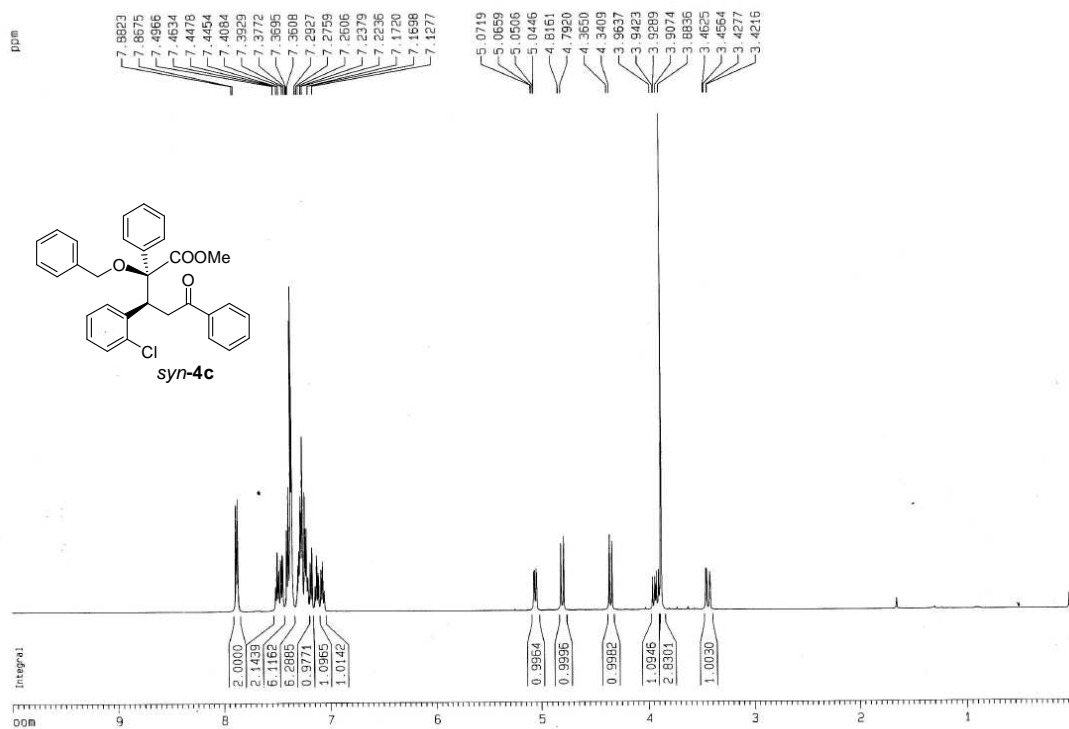
Empirical formula	$C_{24}H_{22}O_3$
Formula weight	358.42
Temperature	173(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system, space group	Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 8.6978(3)$ Å $\alpha = 90$ deg. $b = 9.0256(3)$ Å $\beta = 90$ deg. $c = 23.8222(9)$ Å $\gamma = 90$ deg.
Volume	$1870.11(11)$ Å ³
Z, Calculated density	4, 1.273 Mg/m ³
Absorption coefficient	0.083 mm ⁻¹
F(000)	760
Crystal size	0.52 x 0.44 x 0.32 mm
Theta range for data collection	2.41 to 25.01 deg.
Limiting indices	$-10 \leq h \leq 10$, $-10 \leq k \leq 10$, $-28 \leq l \leq 28$
Reflections collected / unique	21736 / 1903 [R(int) = 0.0862]
Completeness to theta = 25.01	99.4 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.9740 and 0.9582
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²
Data / restraints / parameters	1903 / 0 / 244
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.082
Final R indices [I > 2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0293, wR2 = 0.0734
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0302, wR2 = 0.0742
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.135 and -0.180 e.Å ⁻³

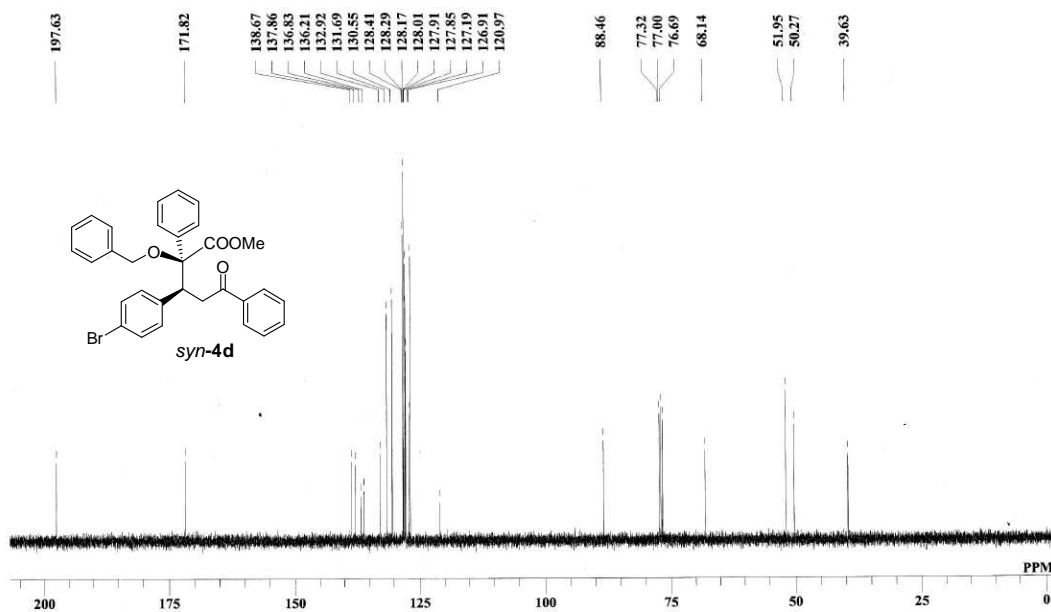
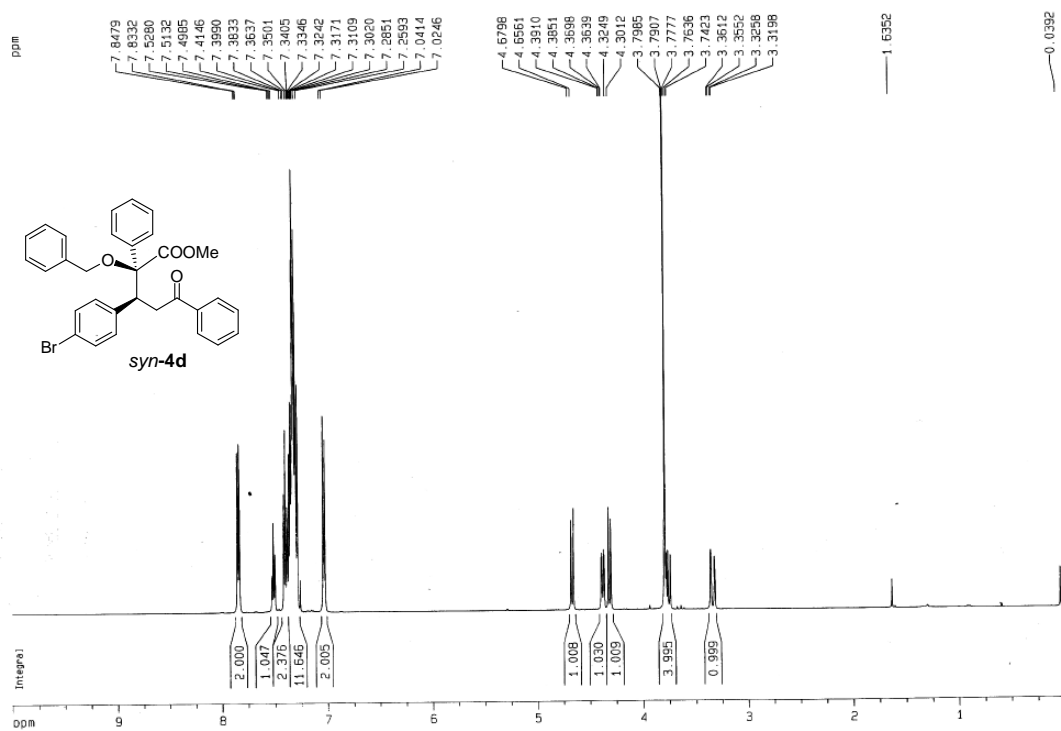
Notes and references

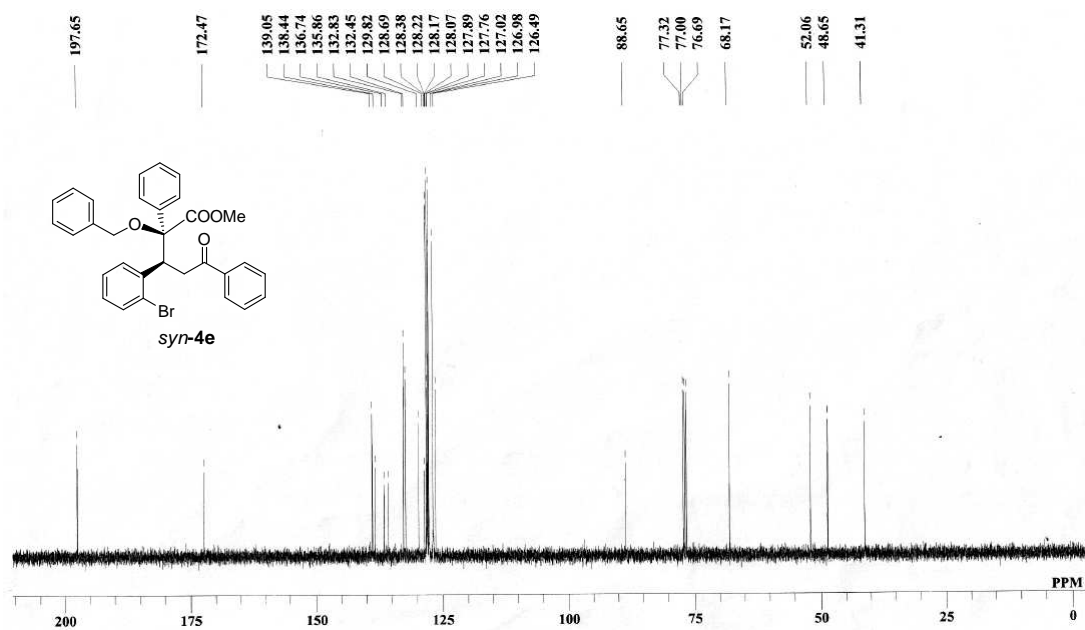
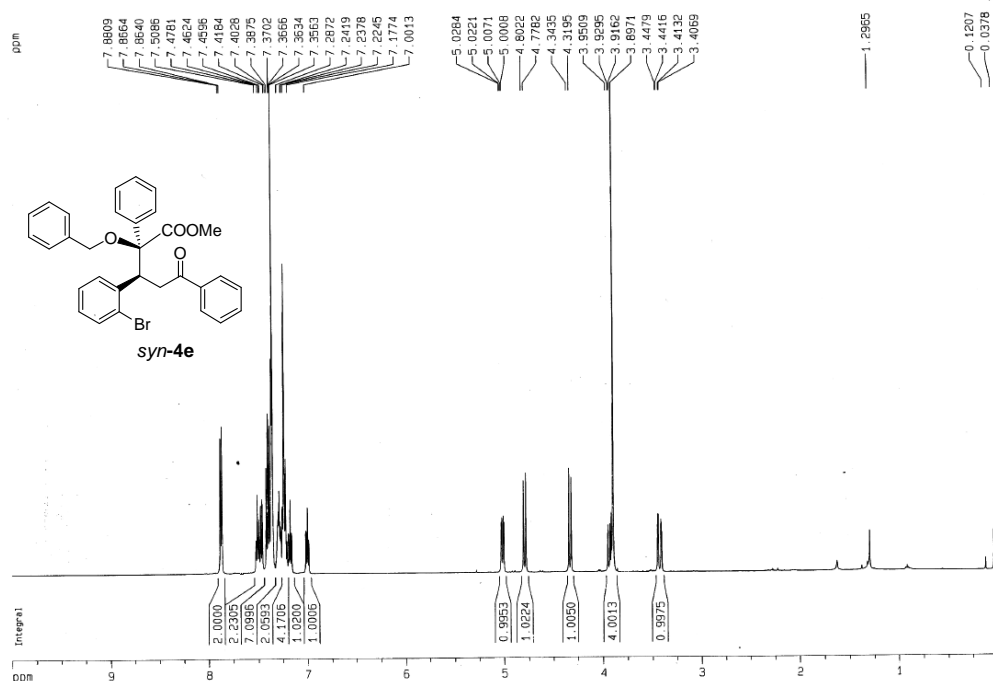
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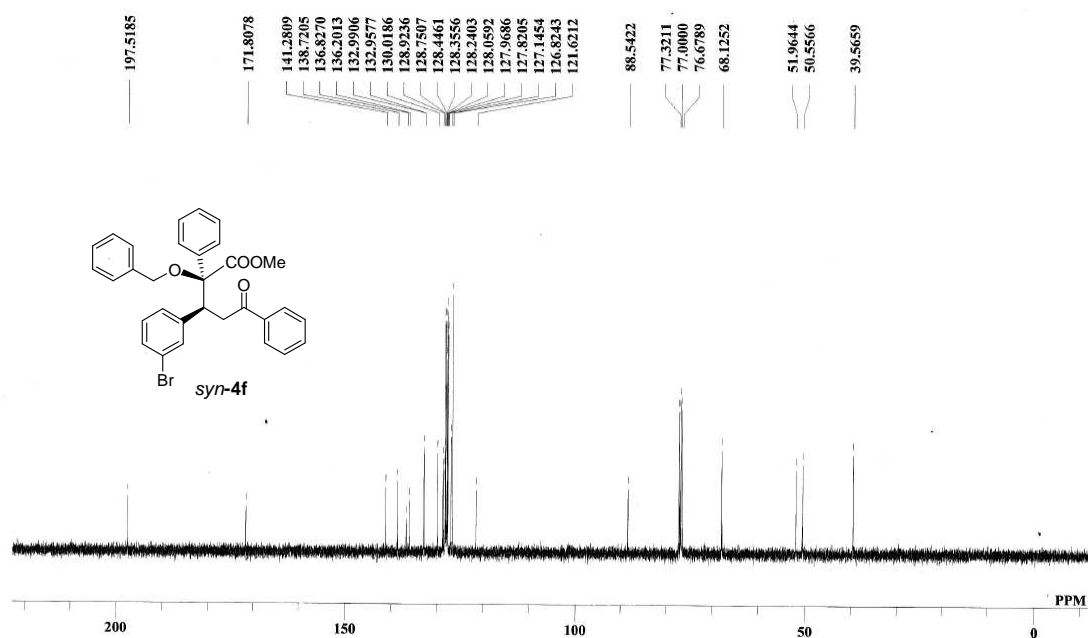
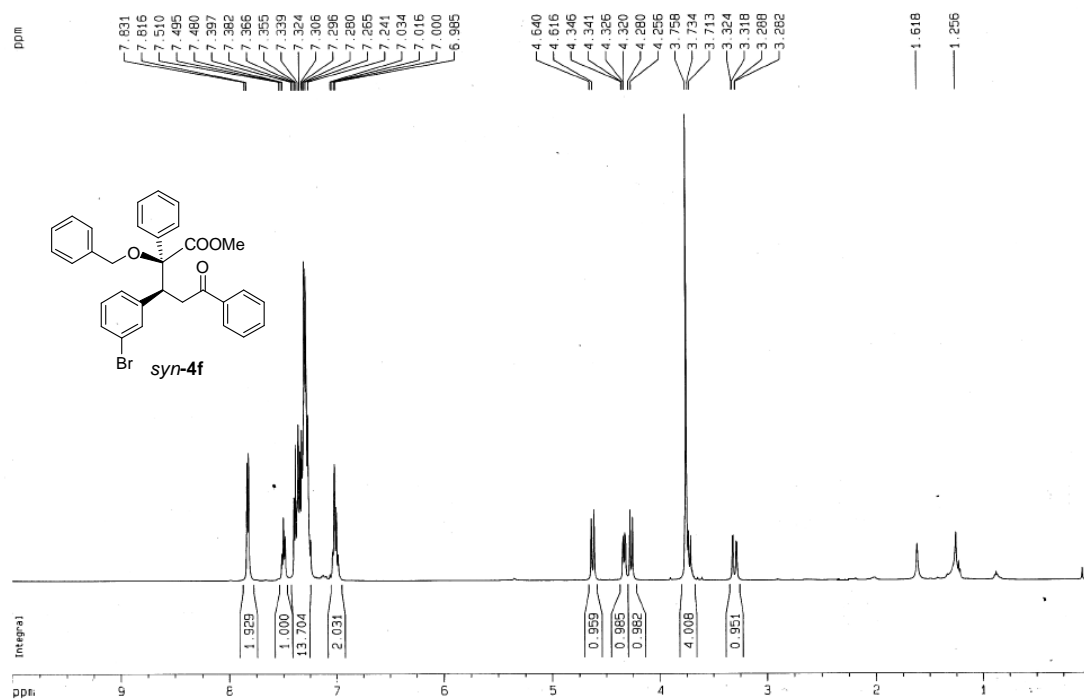


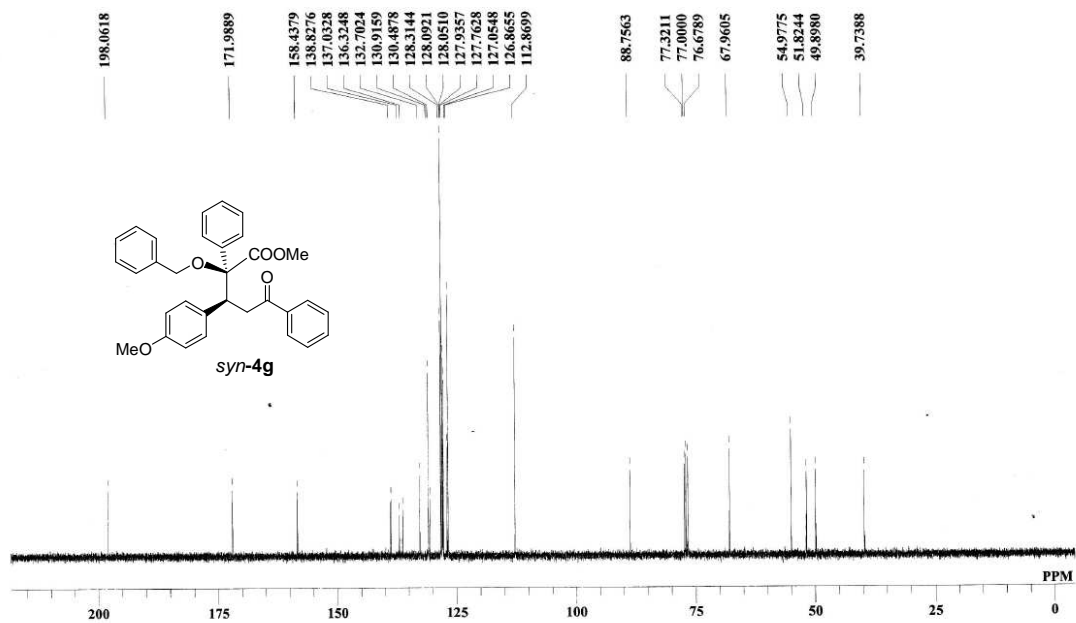
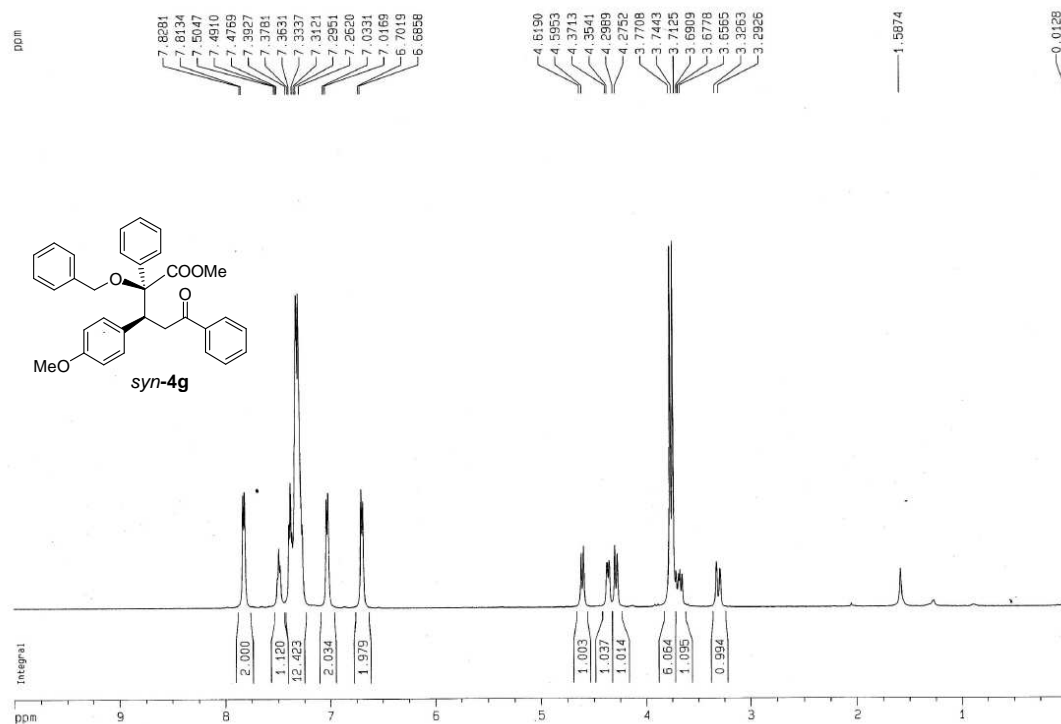


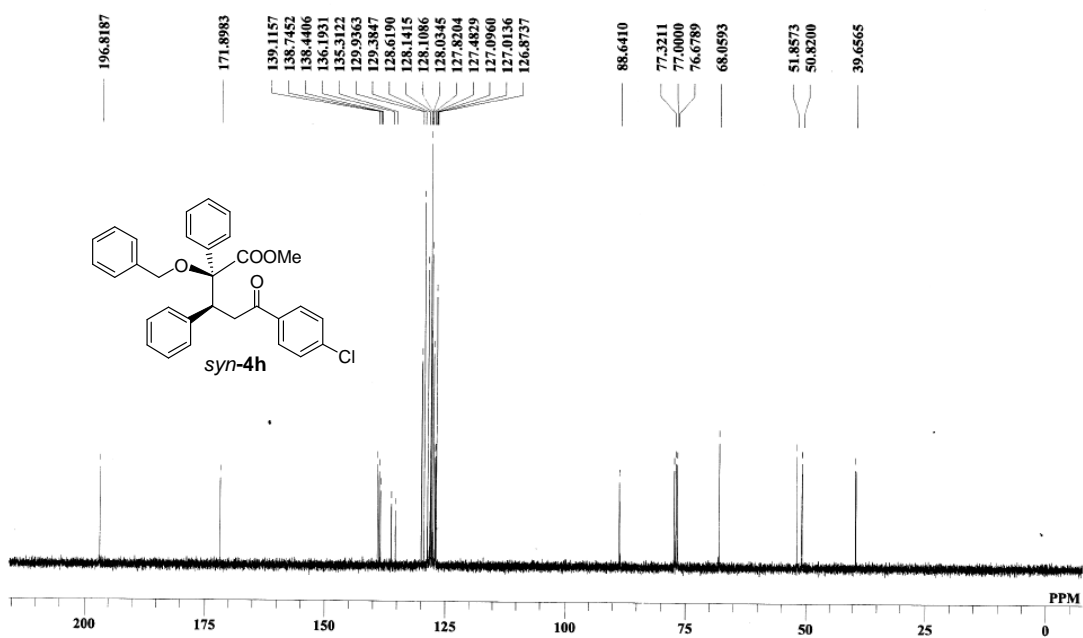
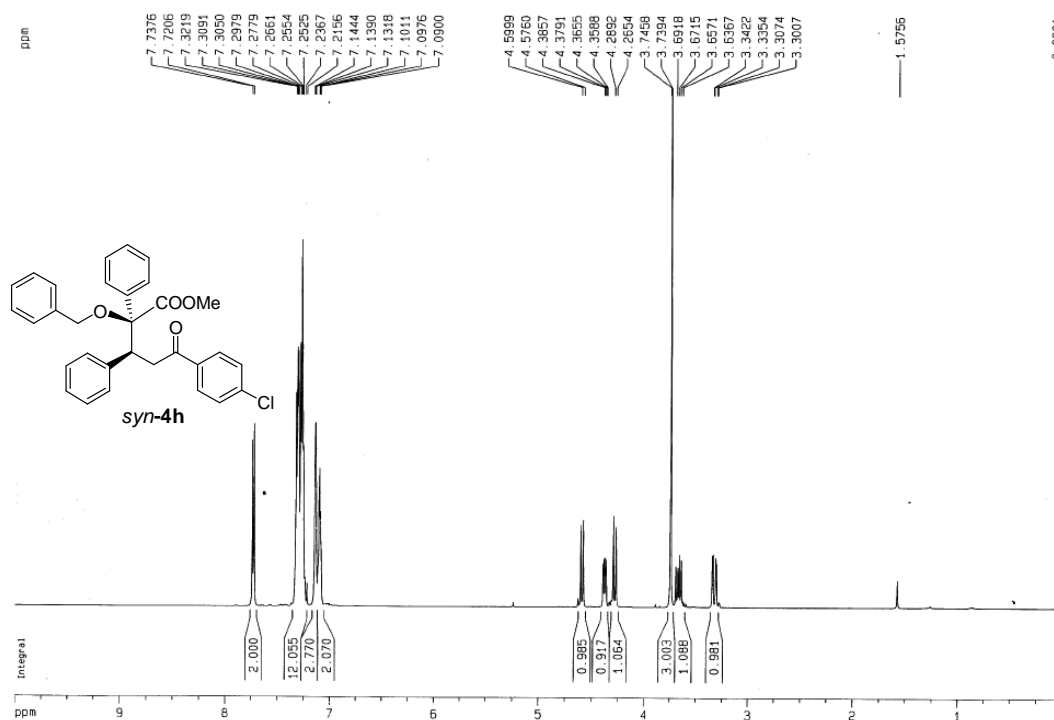


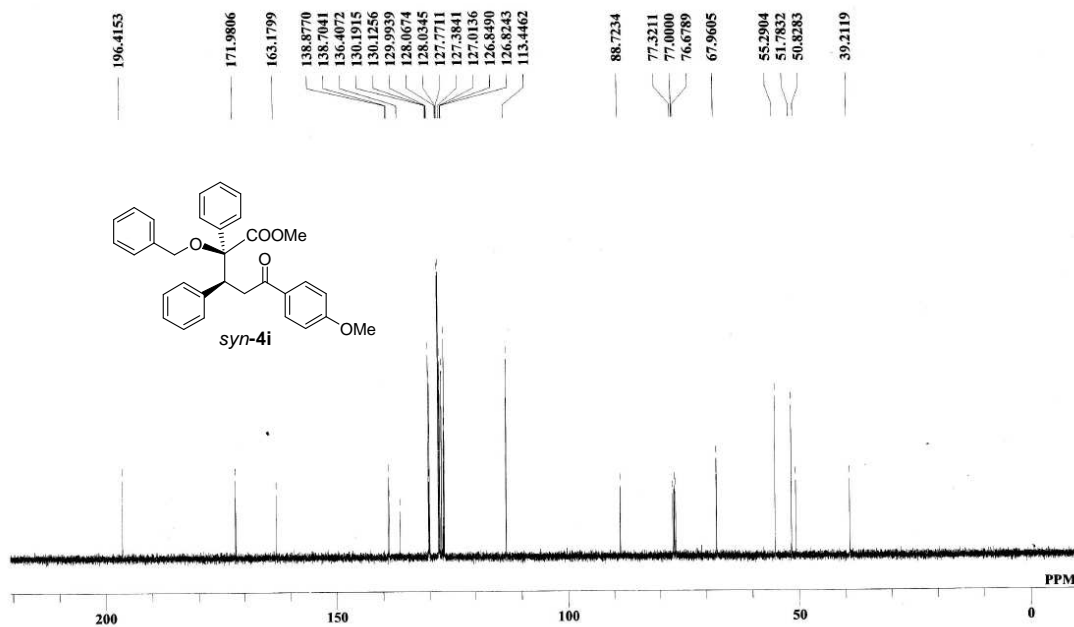
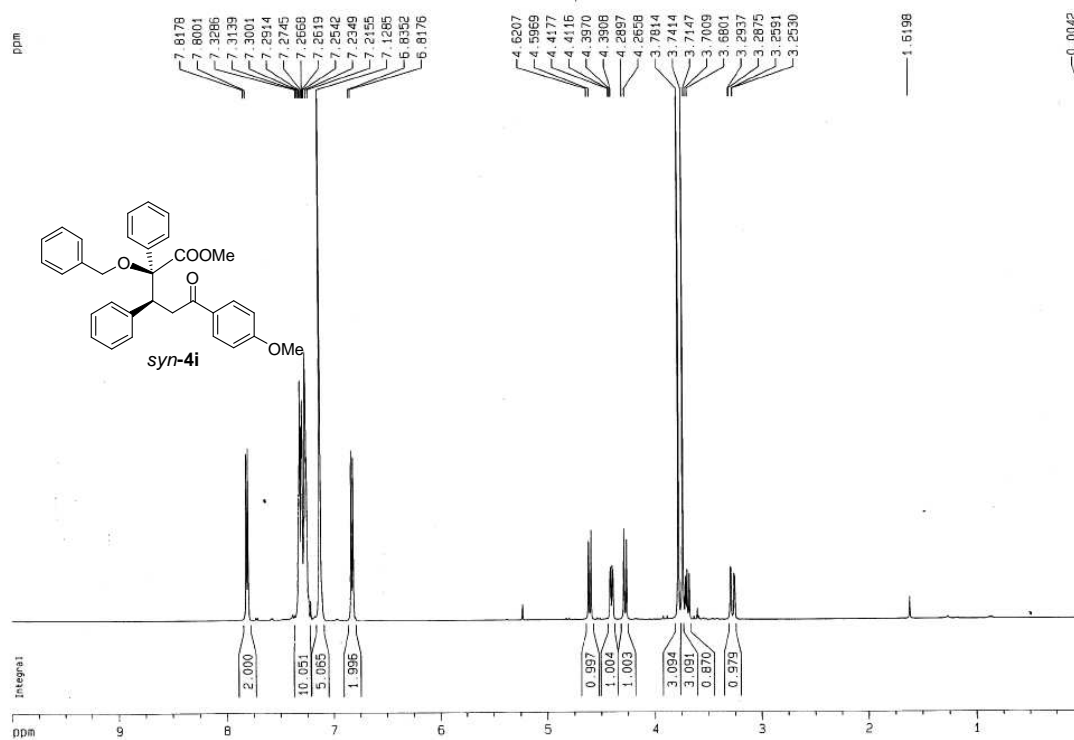


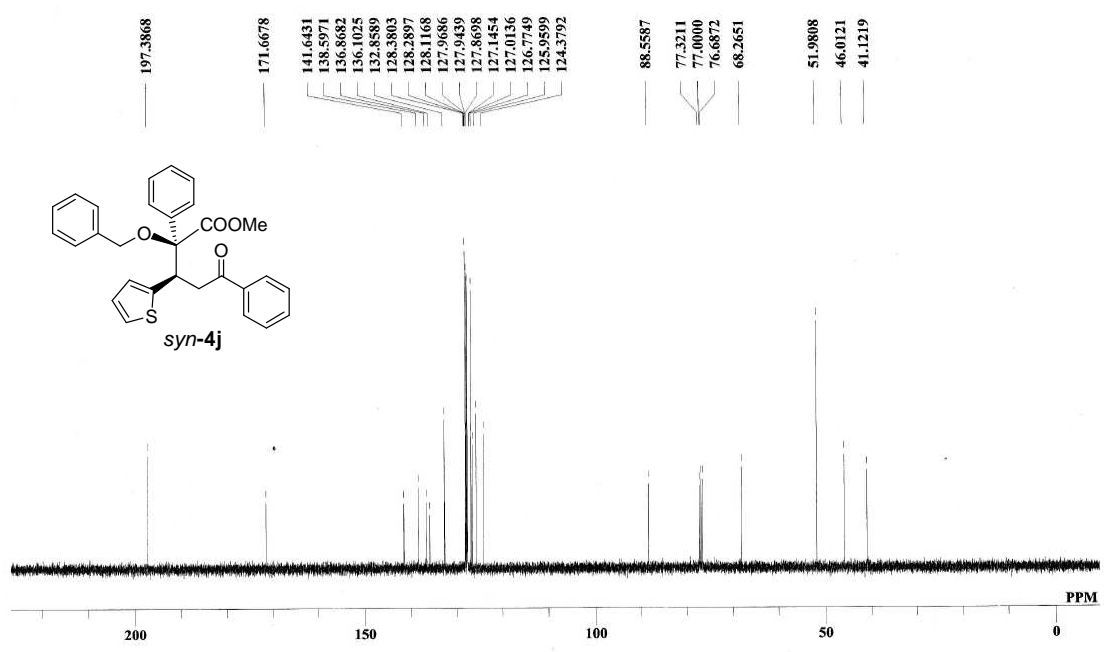
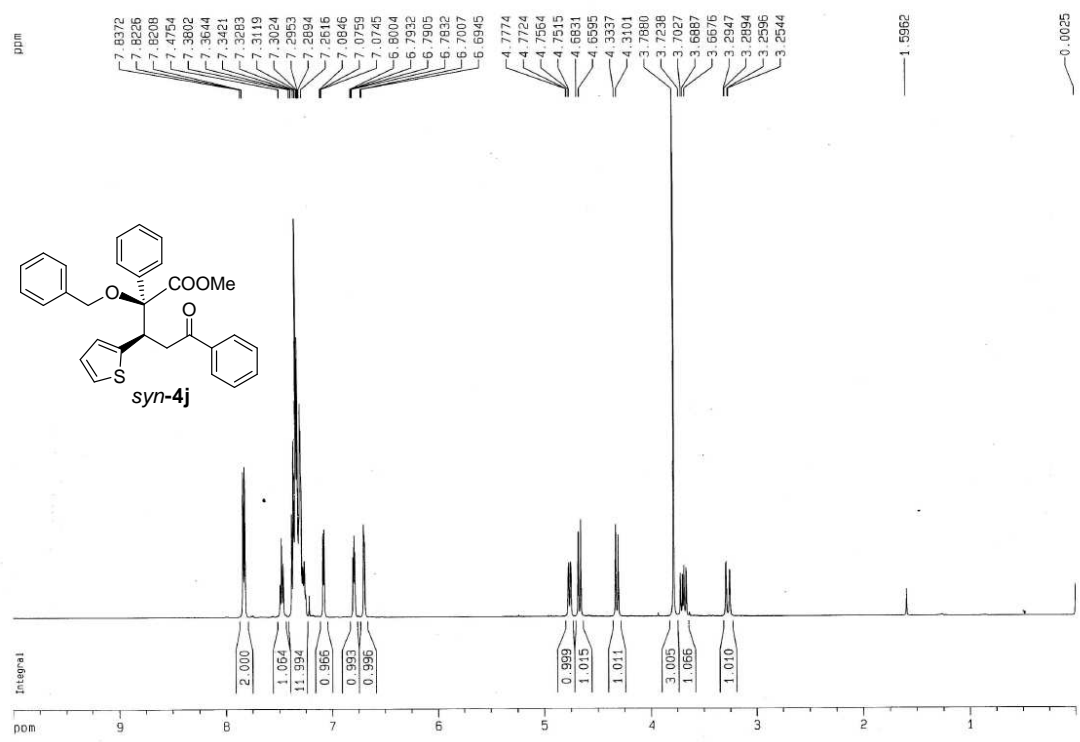


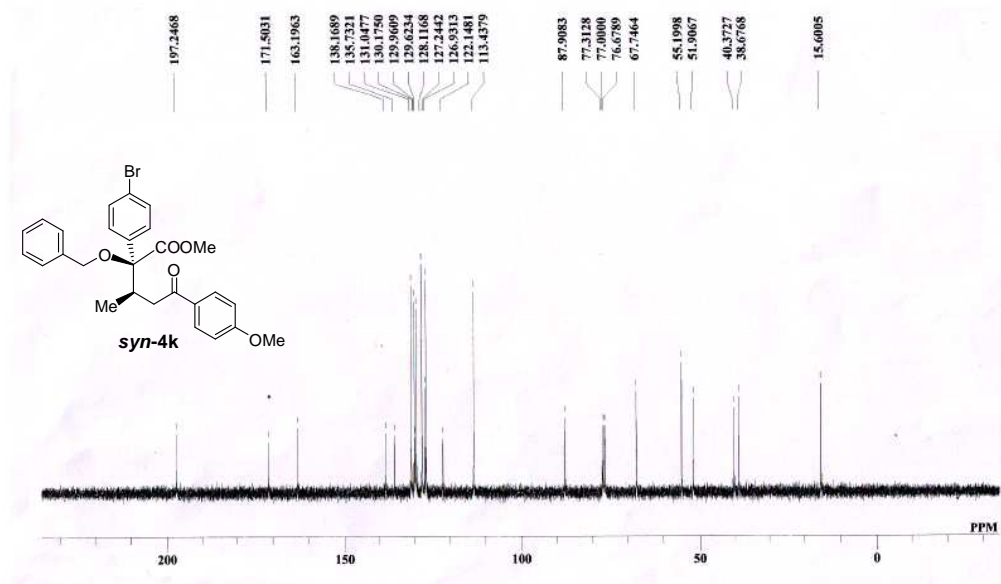
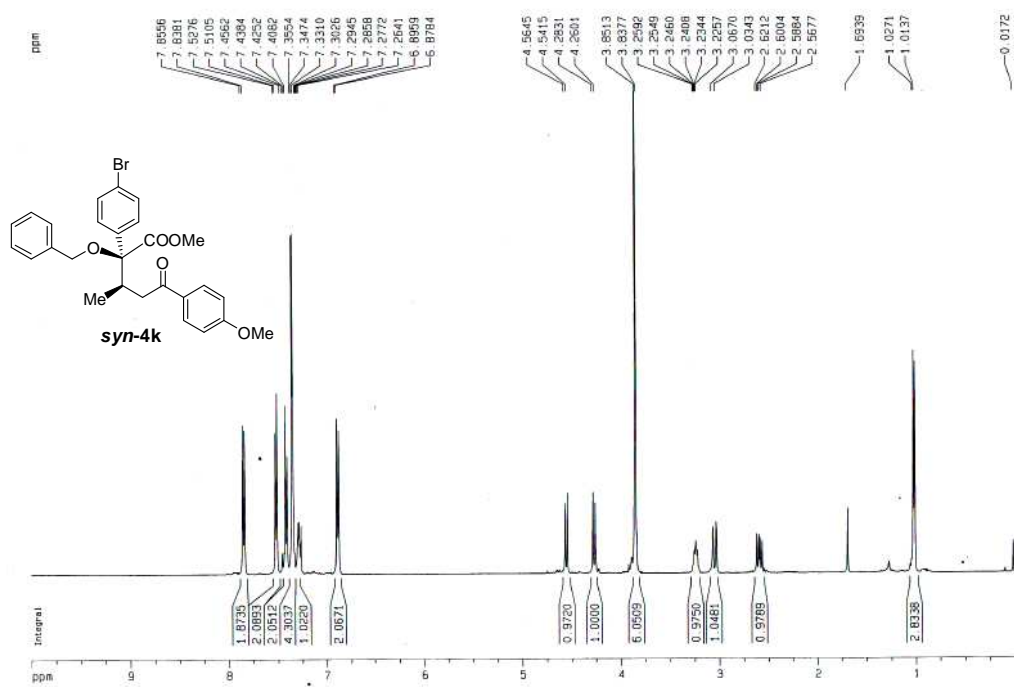


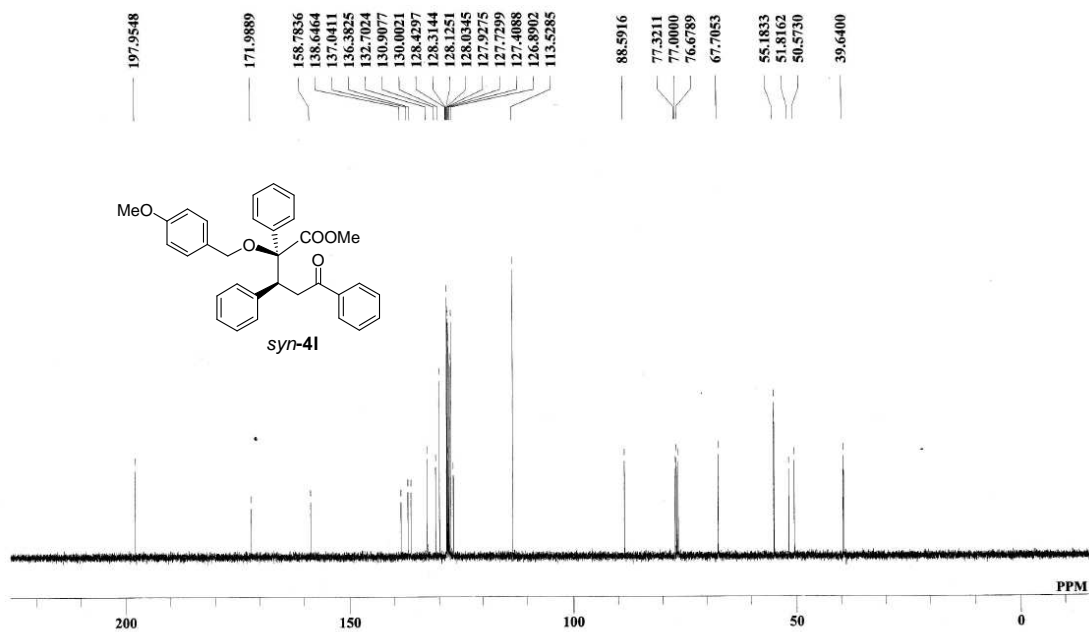
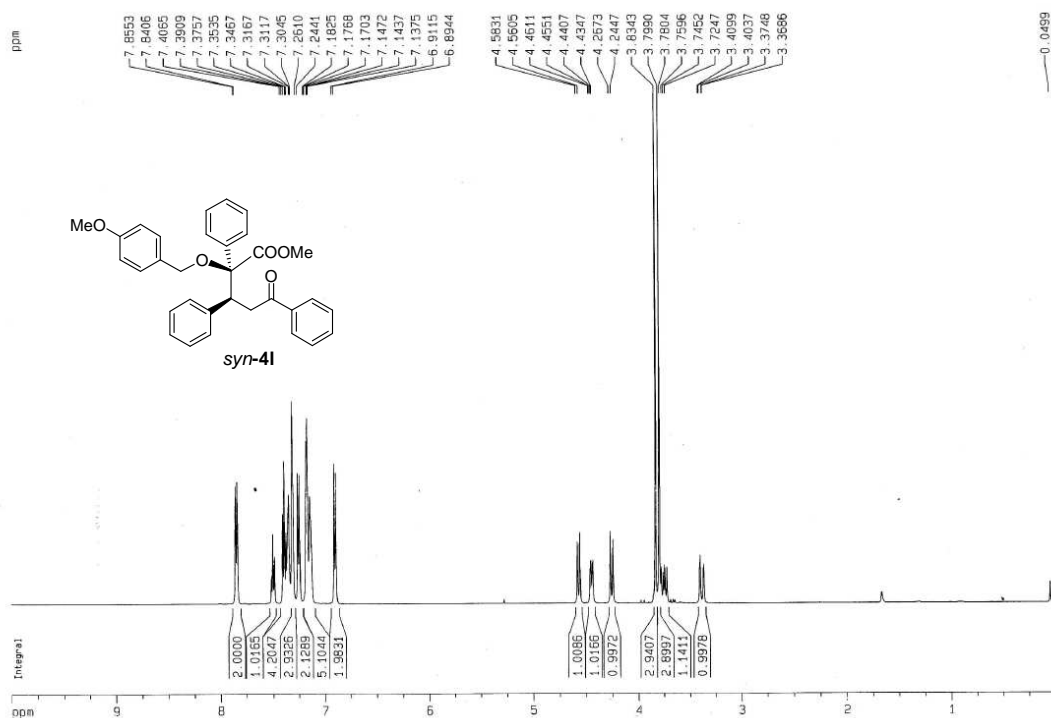


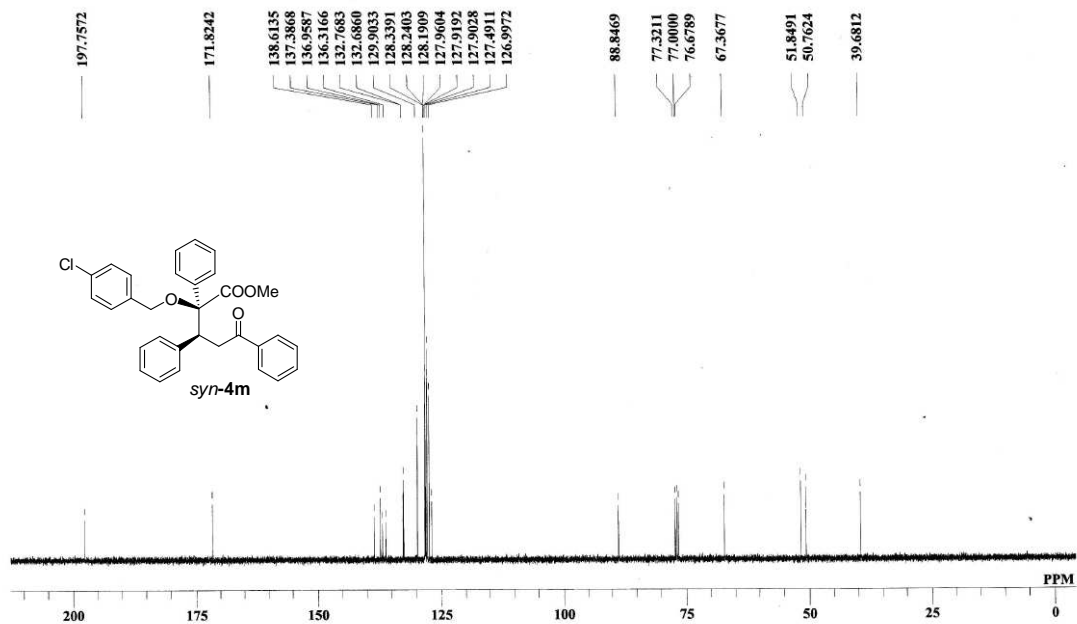
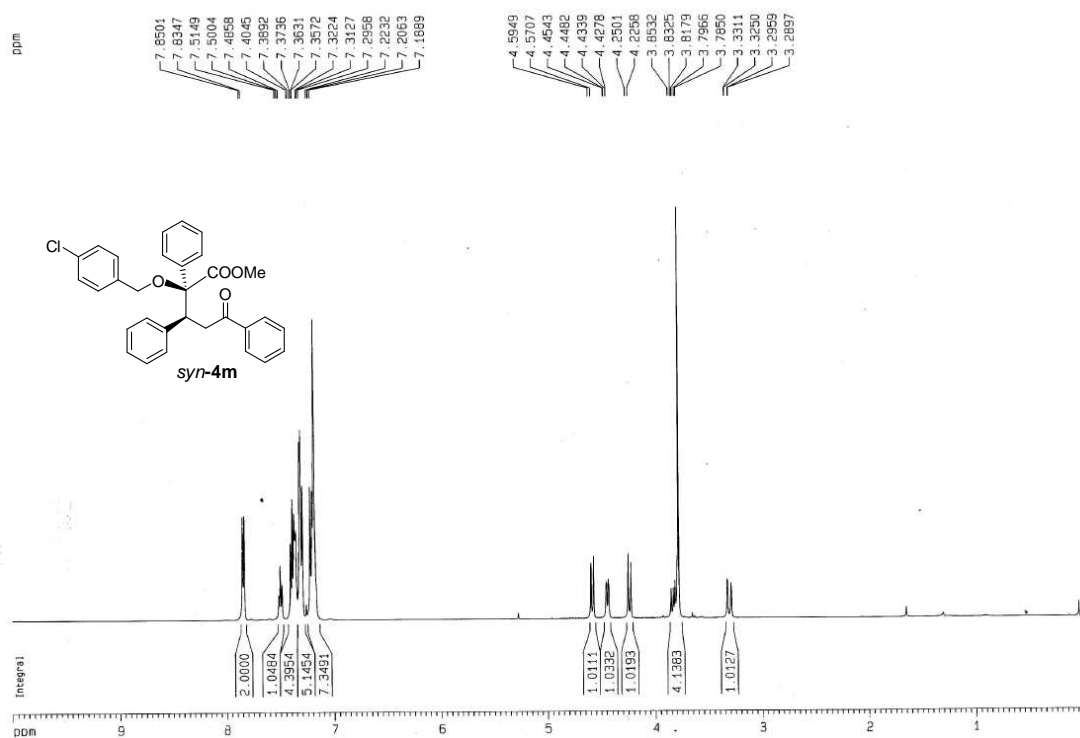


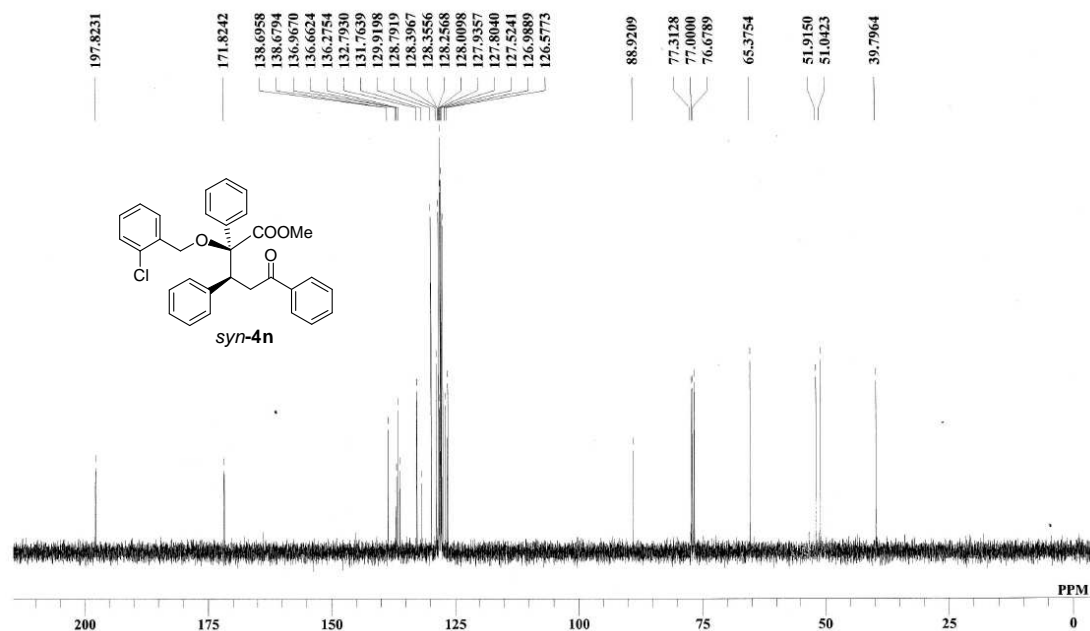
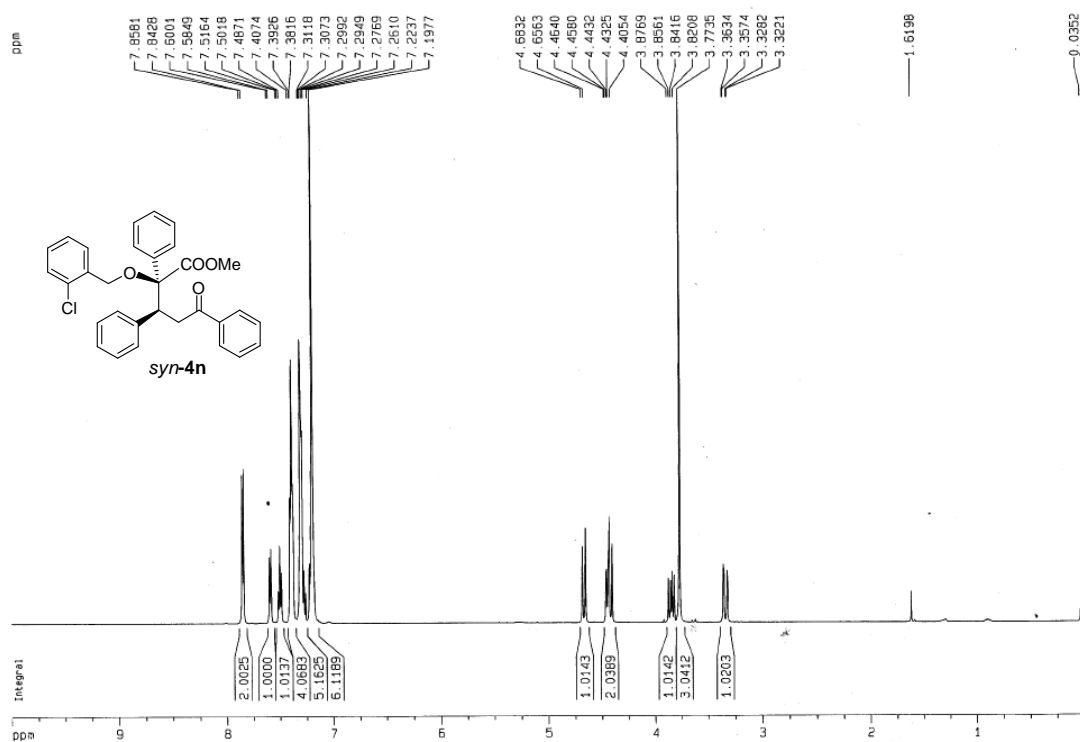


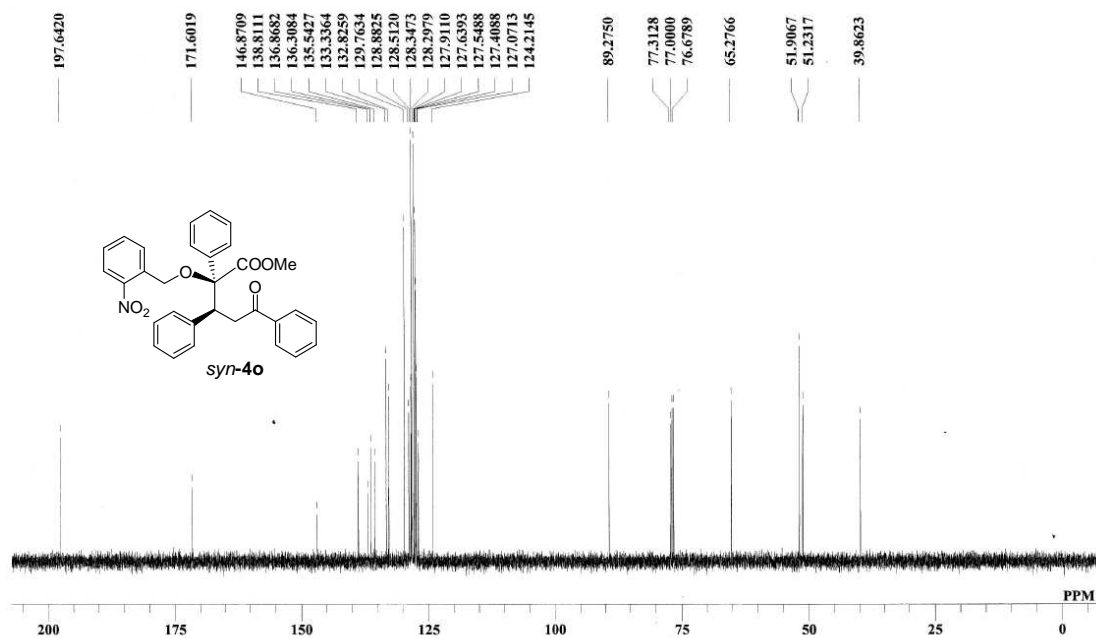
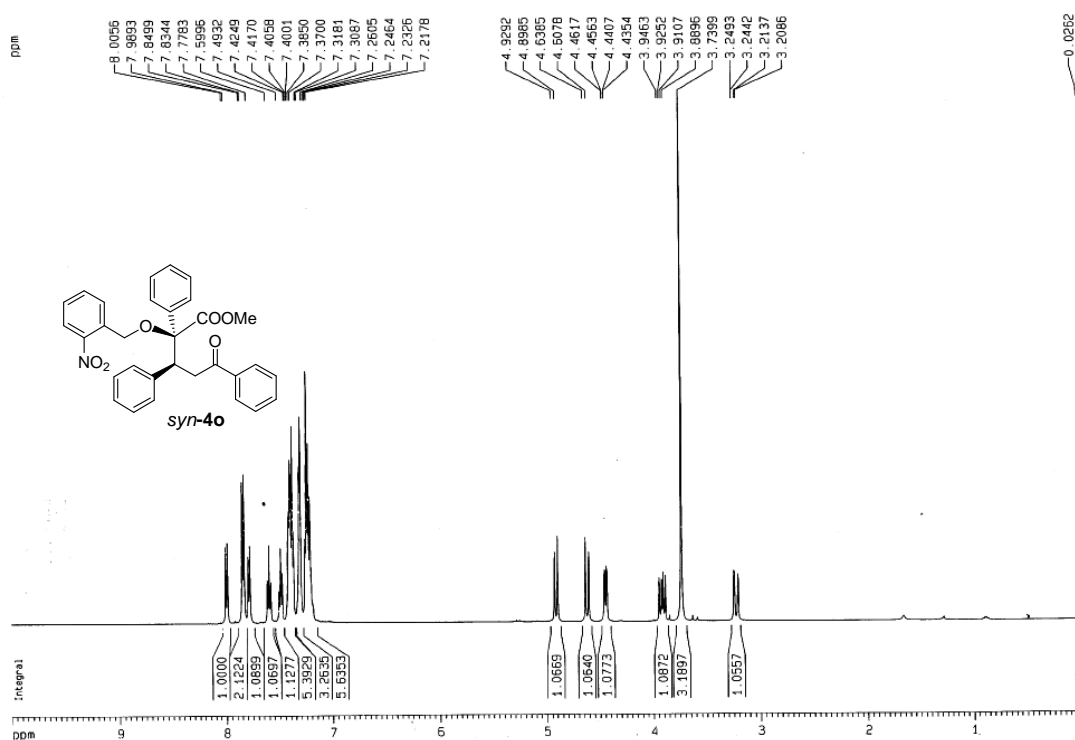


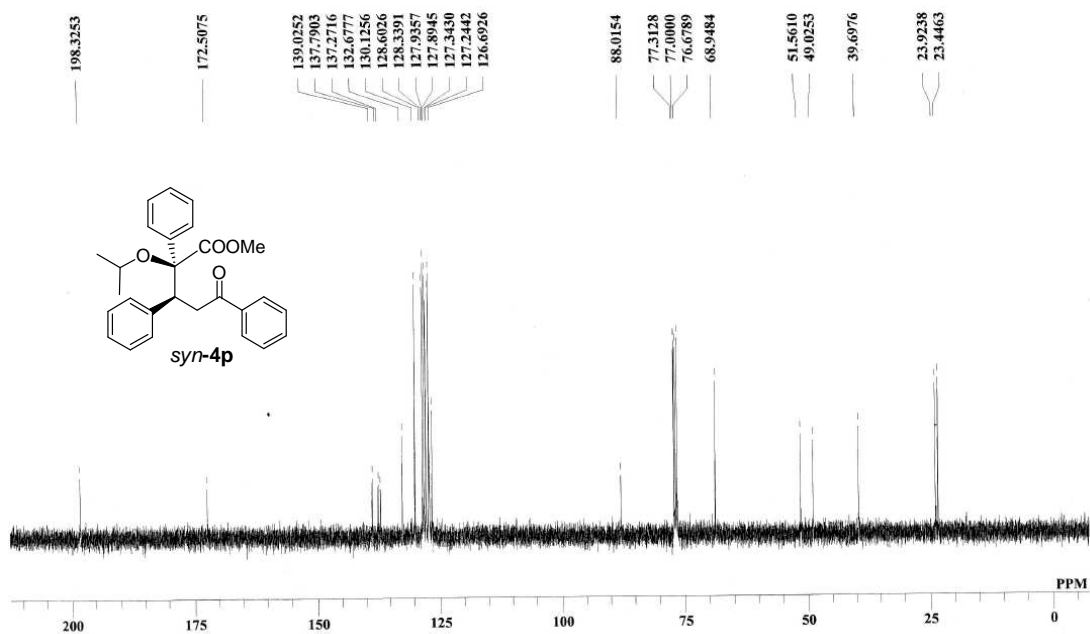
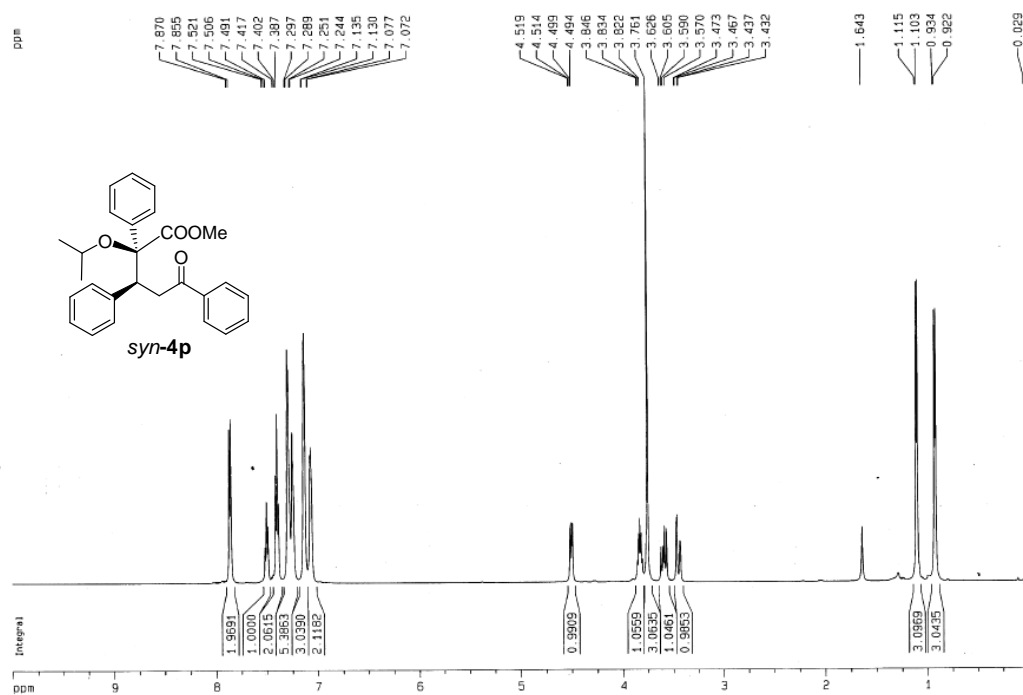


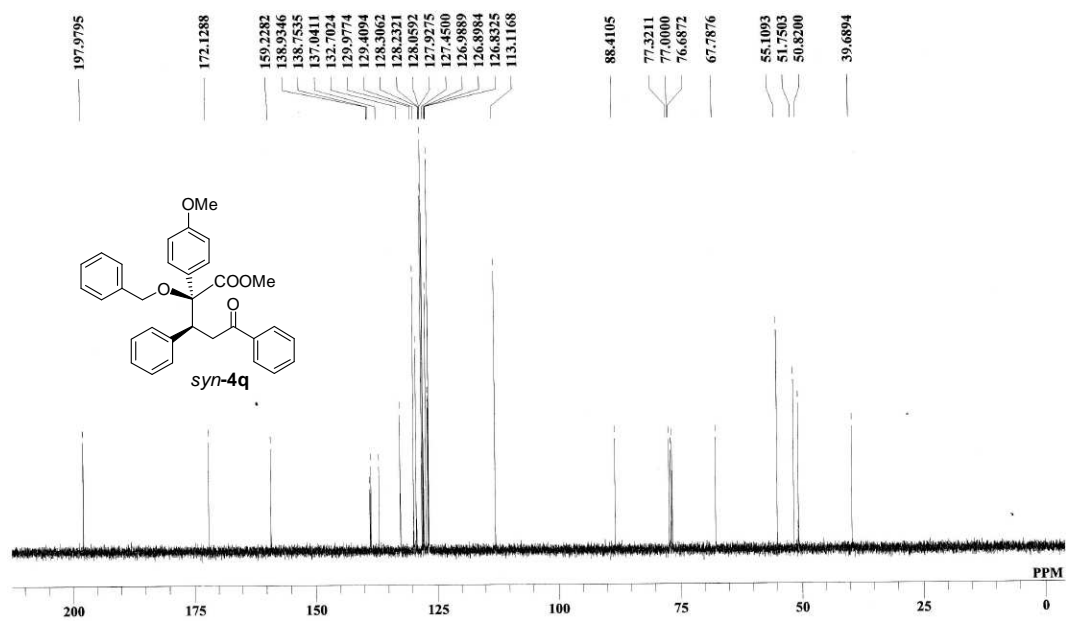
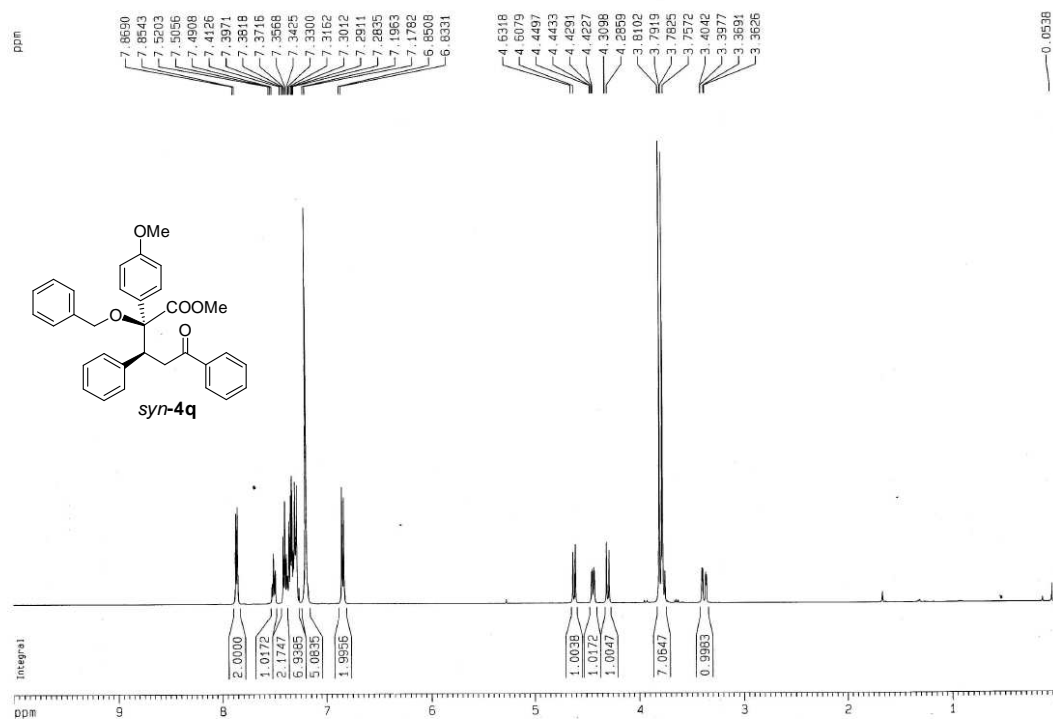


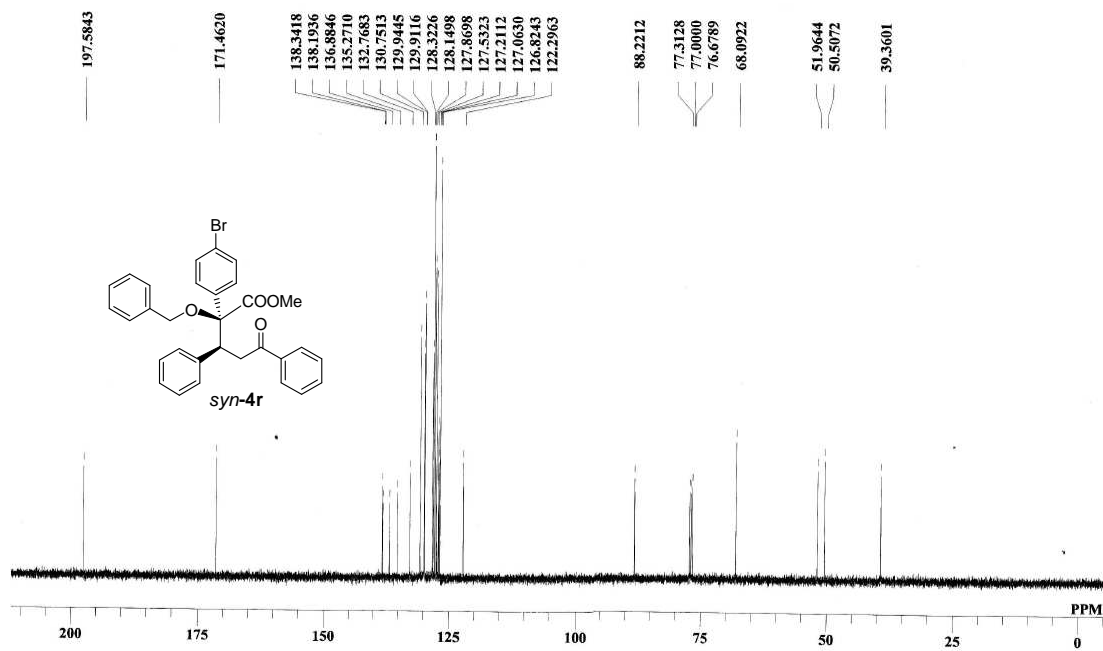
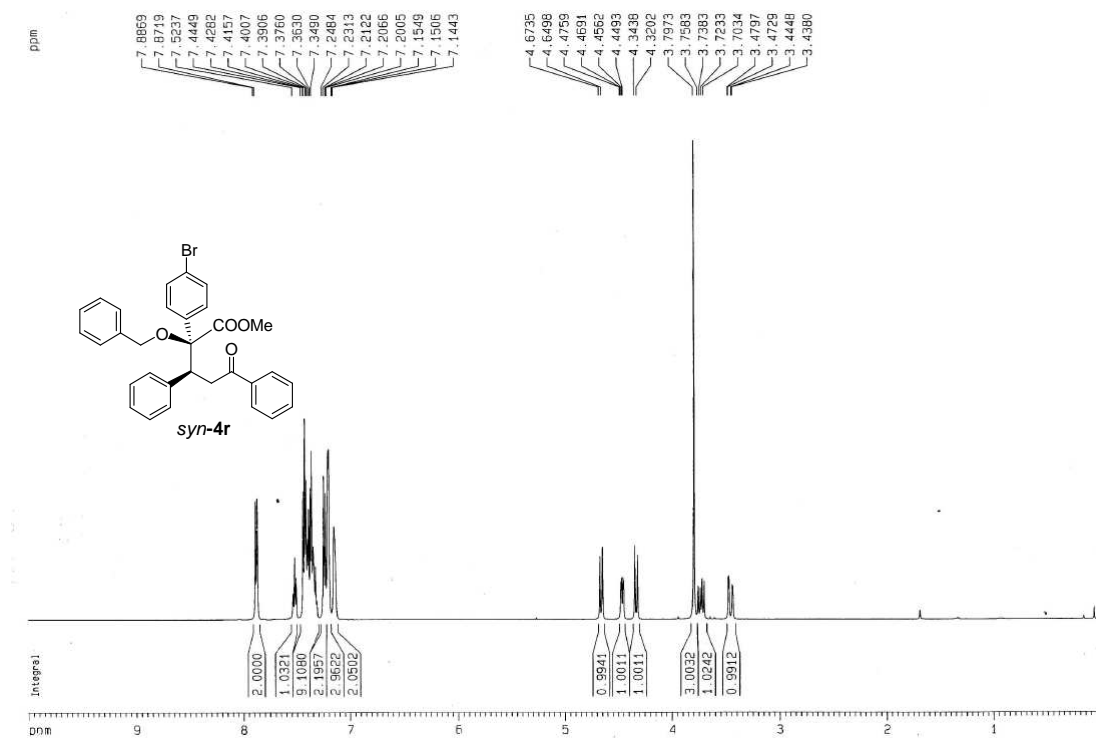


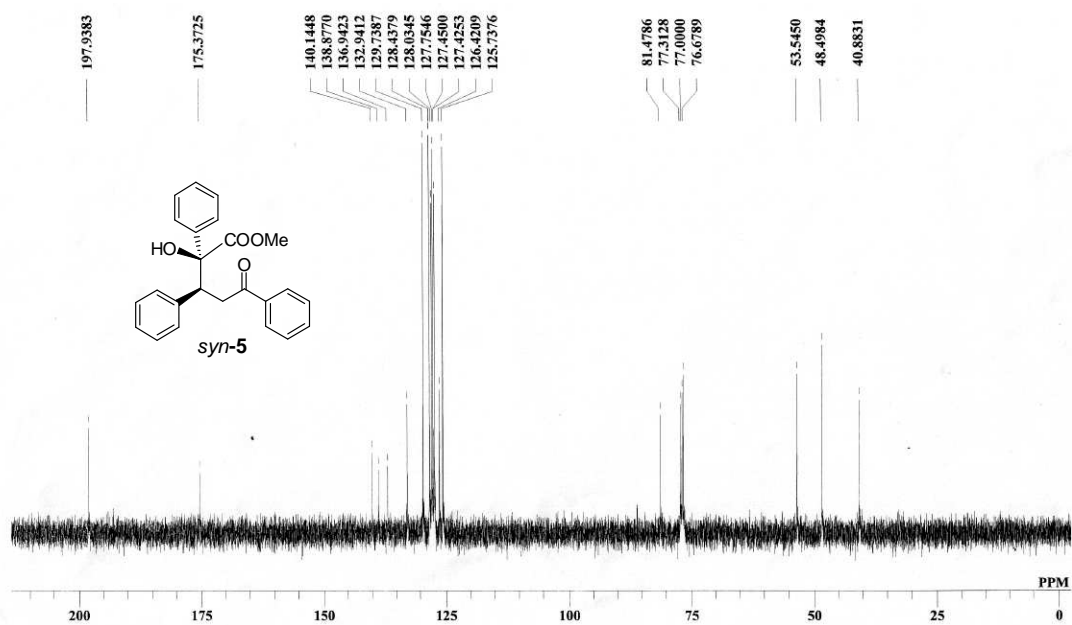
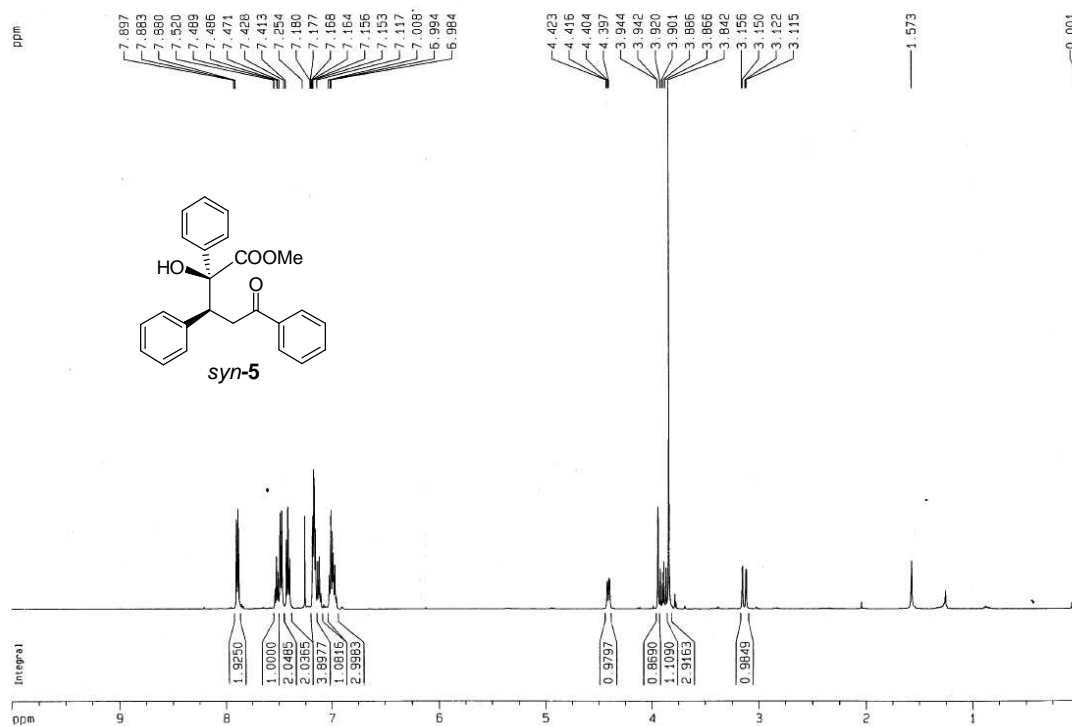


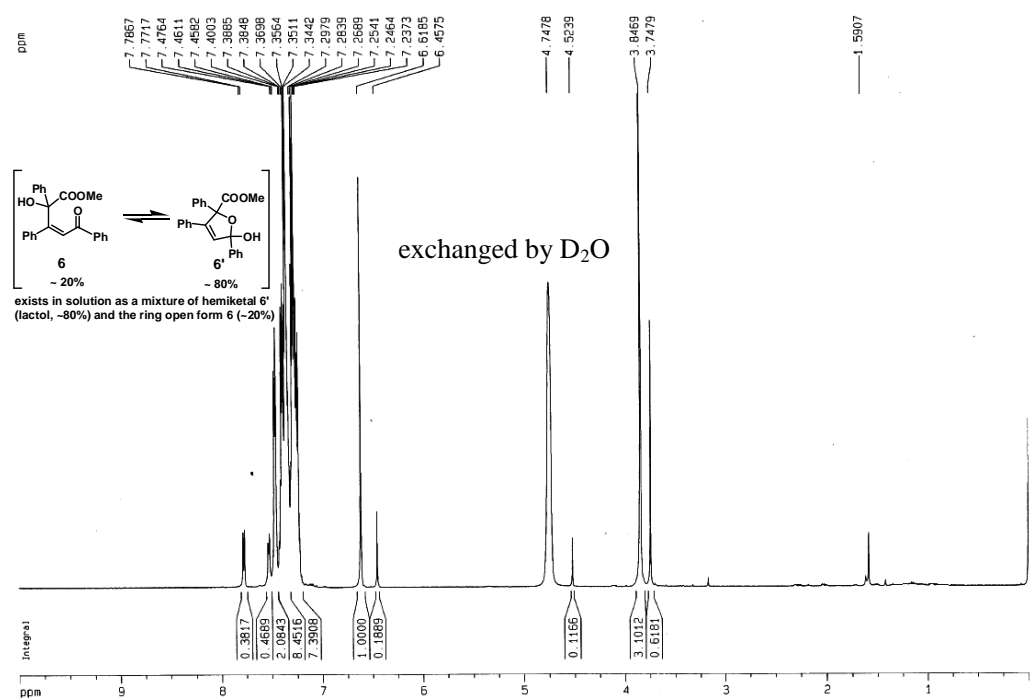
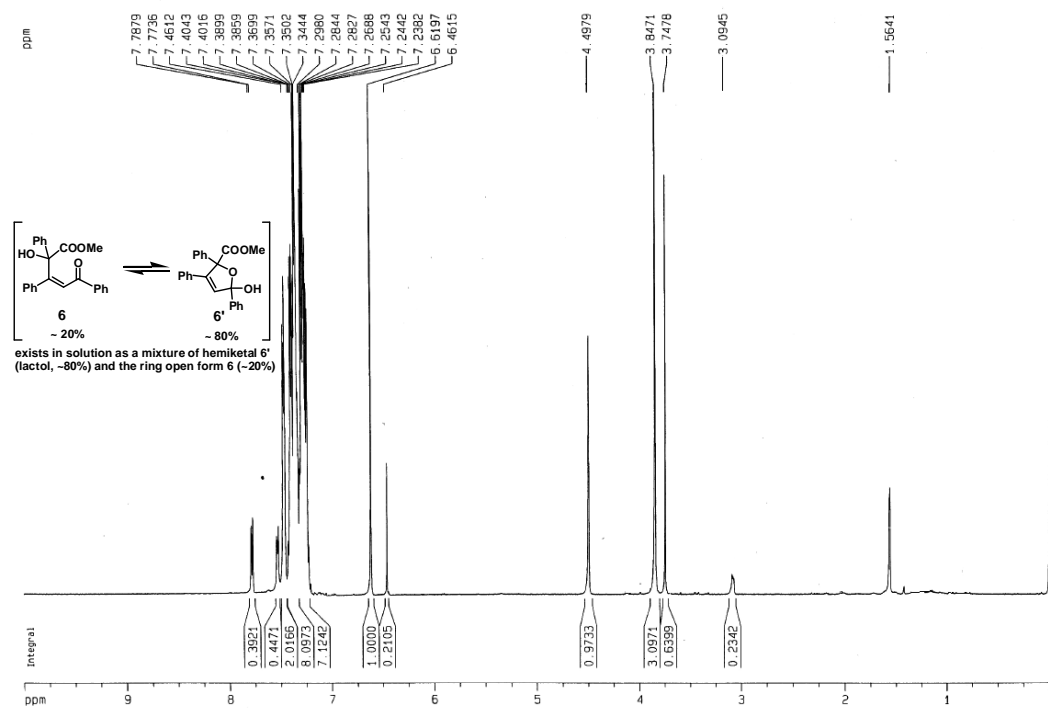


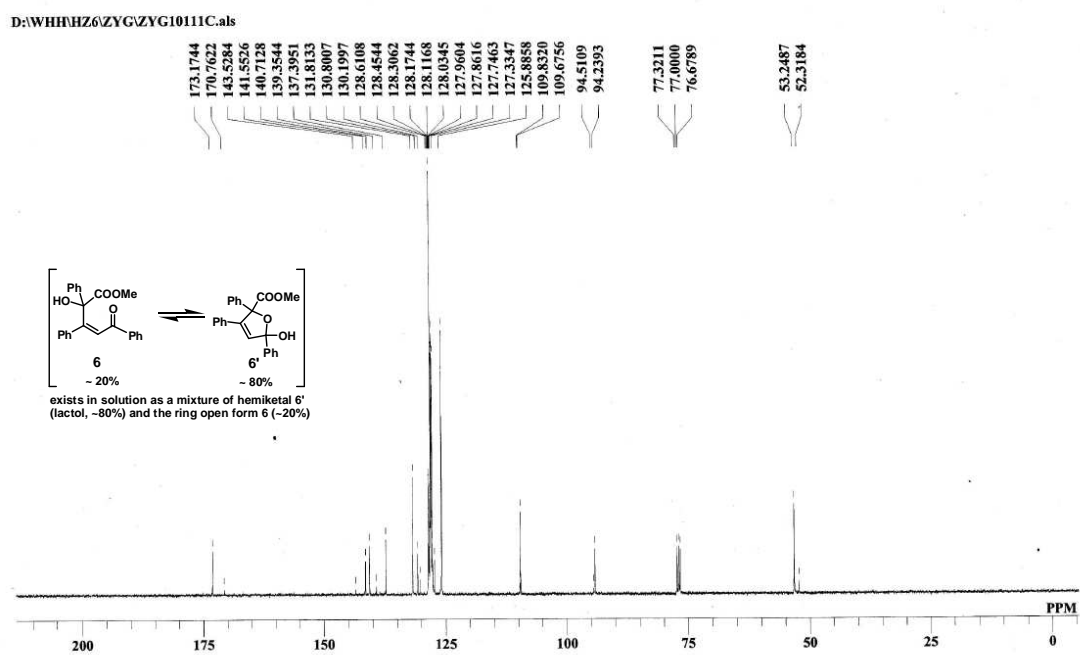


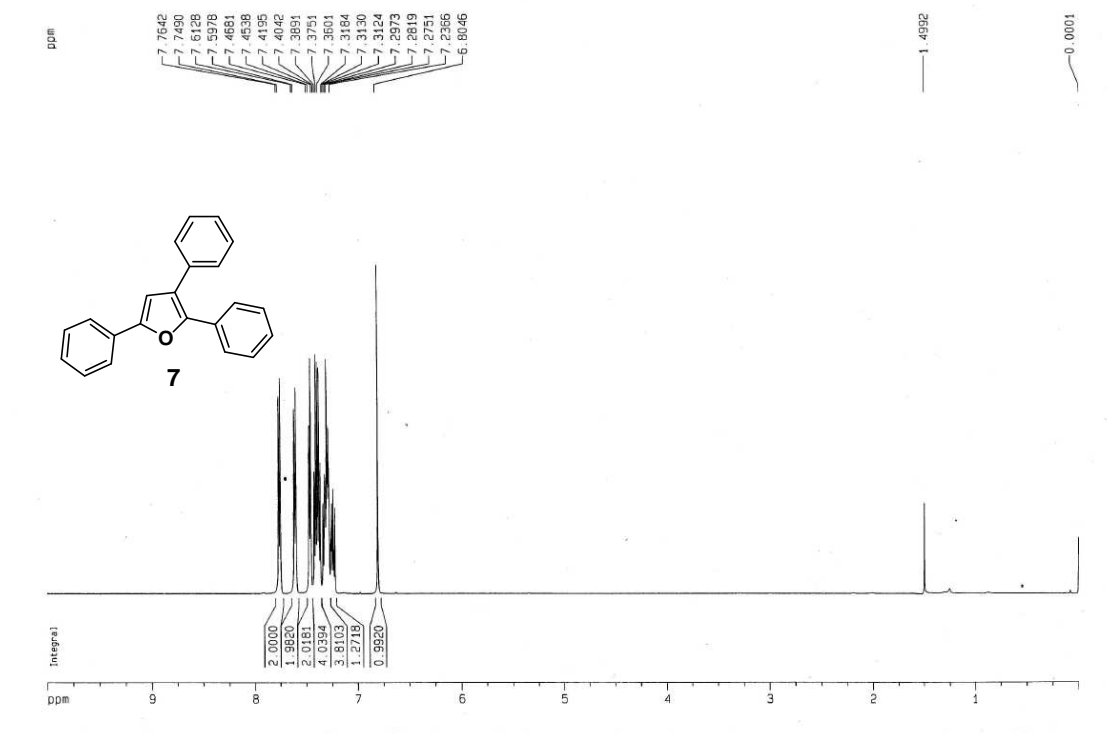












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