

**Electronic Supporting Information**

**Palladium-Catalyzed Regio- and Chemoselective *ortho*-Benzylation  
of C-H Bond Using a Functionalizable Primary Amide Directing Group:  
A Concise Synthesis of Dibenzo[*b,e*]azepin-6-ones**

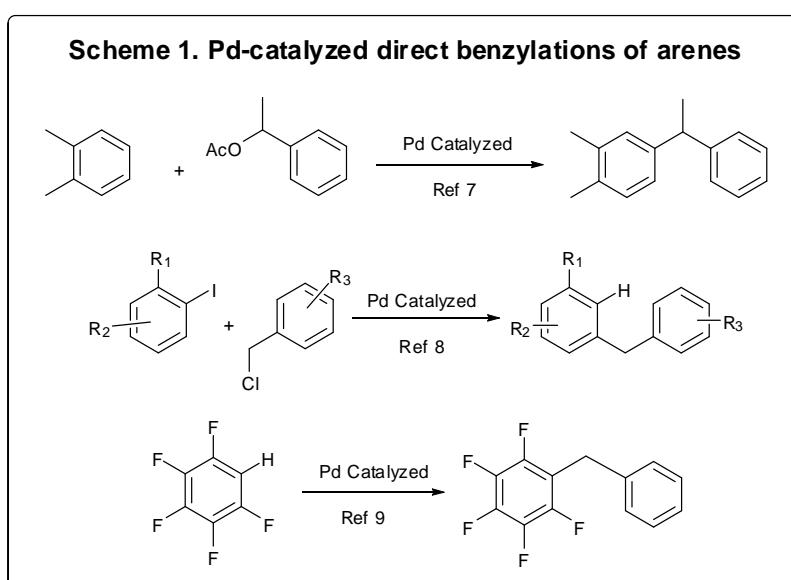
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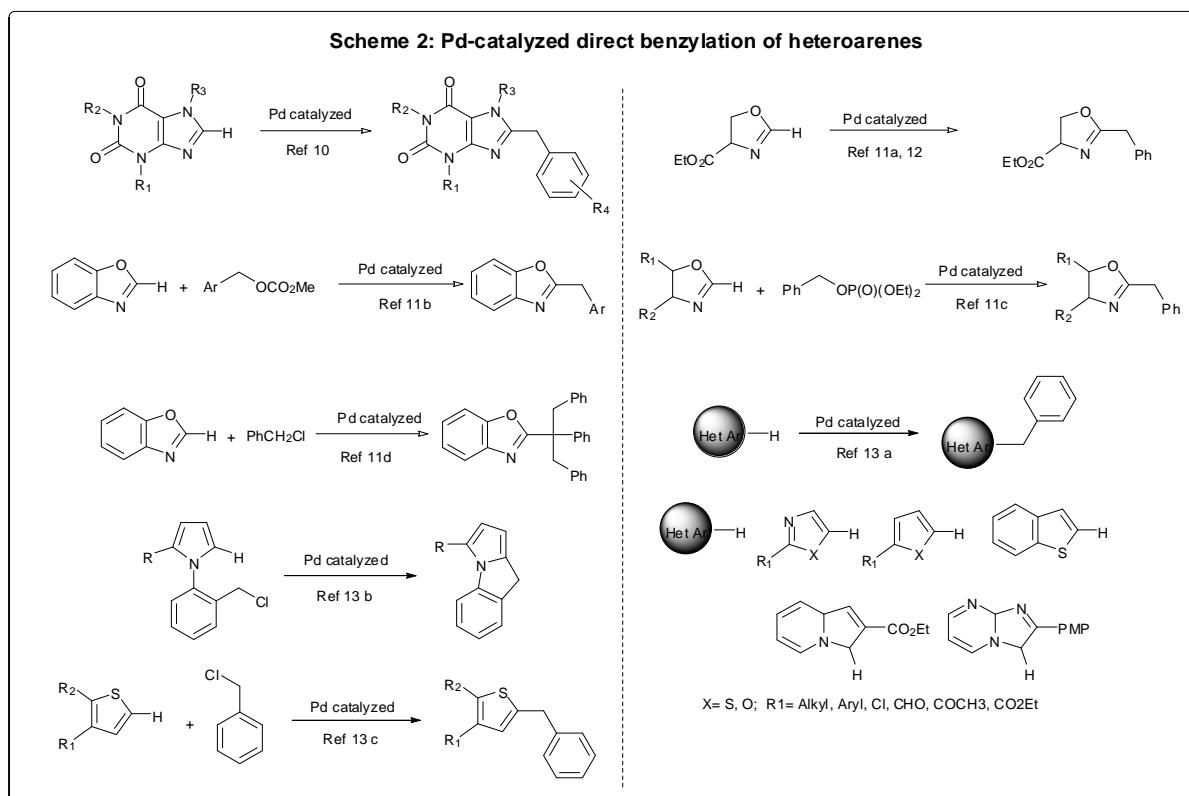
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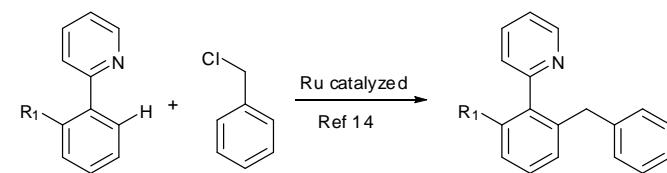
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**Additional Information on report:** Development of an efficient method for the synthesis of functionalized diarylmethanes<sup>1,2</sup> is considered an active research area in direct C-H functionalization. A classical still widely used approach to prepare these structural motifs is Lewis-acid mediated Friedel-Crafts (or S<sub>E</sub>Ar) reactions of arenes with benzylic electrophiles.<sup>3</sup> While valuable these processes often suffer from several limitations including restrictions to electron-rich arenes, stumpy tolerance to acid-sensitive functional groups, and low chemo- and regioselectivities. Remarkably, some of these limitations have been addressed in the Friedel-Crafts benzylation of activated and deactivated arenes using Lewis acid BF<sub>3</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub>.<sup>4</sup> Recently, transition-metal catalyzed cross-coupling reactions of a stoichiometric organometallic aryl with benzyl halides have emerged as alternatives to the Friedel-Crafts reactions.<sup>5</sup> However, these cross-coupling reactions call for pre-functionalization adding synthetic steps to the preparation of organometallic reagents and demand improved functional groups compatibility. To overcome these drawbacks, transition-metal catalyzed direct benzylation<sup>6</sup> of electron-deficient arenes and heteroarenes have been successfully developed, which includes palladium-catalyzed direct benzylation of arenes,<sup>7,8</sup> pentafluoroarenes (**Scheme 1**),<sup>9</sup> xanthenes,<sup>10</sup> azoles,<sup>11,12</sup> oxazol(in)es,<sup>12</sup> or heteroarenes<sup>7,13</sup> (**Scheme 2**), ruthenium-catalyzed direct benzylation of arenes containing a heterocycle (**Scheme 3**),<sup>14</sup> and cobalt-catalyzed direct benzylation of *N*-pyridinylindole (only one example) with benzyl phosphate (**Scheme 4**).<sup>15</sup>

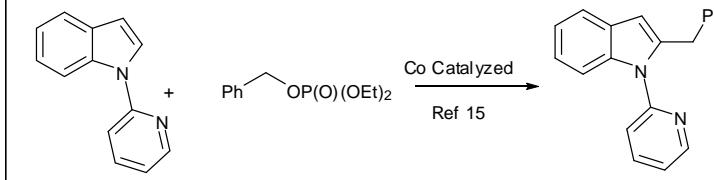




**Scheme 3: Ru-catalyzed direct benzylation of arenes**

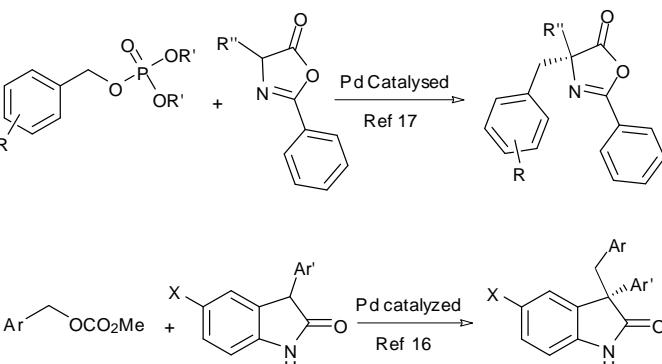


**Scheme 4: Co-catalyzed direct benzylation of heteroarenes**



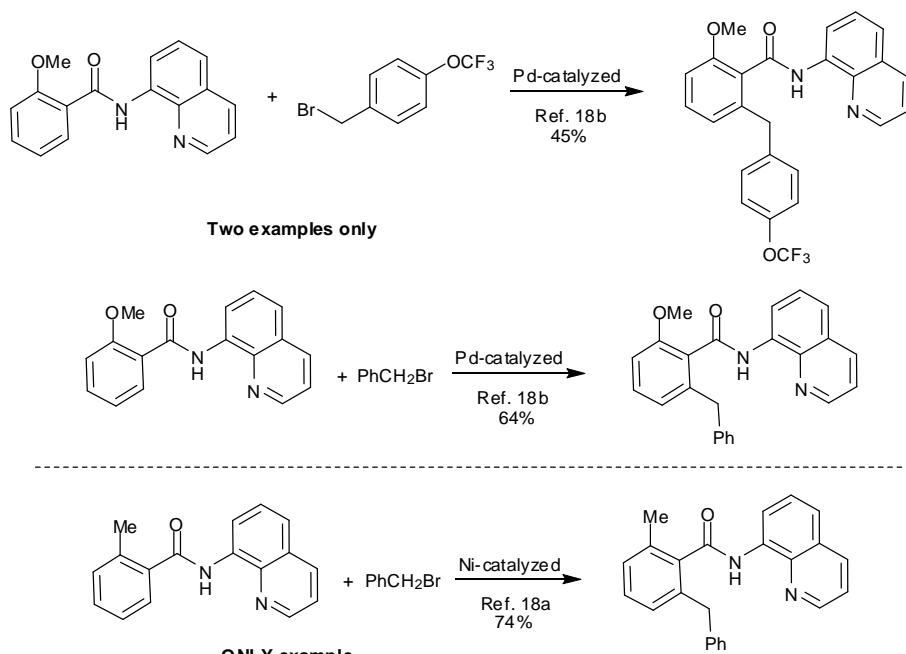
Notably, palladium-catalyzed asymmetric direct benzylation of 3-aryl oxindoles<sup>16</sup> and azlactones<sup>17</sup> have also been realized (**Scheme 5**).

**Scheme 5: Asymmetric benzylation of heteroaryls**



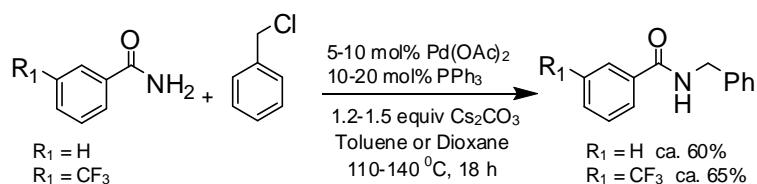
While a wide variety of functional groups have been evaluated as directing group in arene C-H functionalizations, only a few example of *ortho*-benzylation directed by a secondary amide containing an 8-aminoquinoline moiety have appeared. The nickel-<sup>18a</sup> or palladium-<sup>18b</sup> catalyzed direct alkylation of *ortho* C-H bond in secondary benzamides containing an 8-aminoquinoline moiety as a bidentate directing-group has been developed, wherein a few examples of *ortho*-benzylation have been included (**Scheme 6**).

**Scheme 6: Pd- or Ni-catalyzed benzylations directed by secondary amide group**



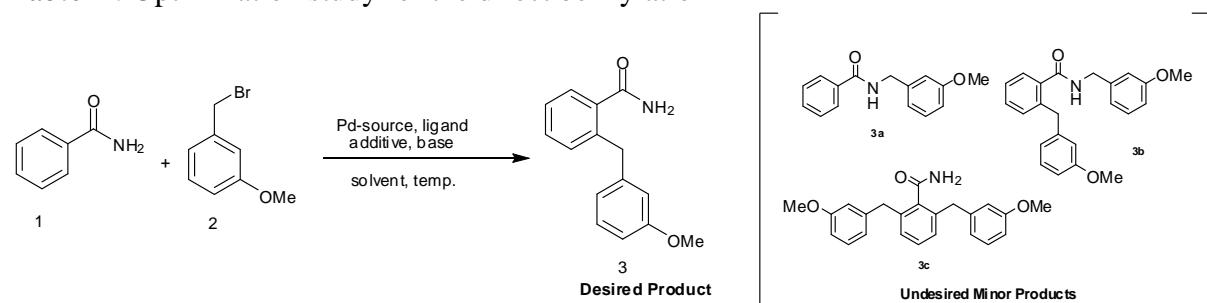
At the outset, choice of the appropriate benzylic electrophile for palladium-catalyzed direct benzylation of benzamides was crucial. While transition metal-catalyzed direct benzylation of electron-deficient arenes or (hetero)arenes was successfully achieved with benzyl chloride, only a limited success was documented with benzyl bromide.<sup>9,13a</sup> Initial efforts directed to the development of palladium-catalyzed direct benzylation of benzamides with benzyl chloride invariably gave N-benzylated benzamides as major isolated product (**Scheme 7**).

**Scheme 7: Benzylation of primary benzamides with benzyl chloride**

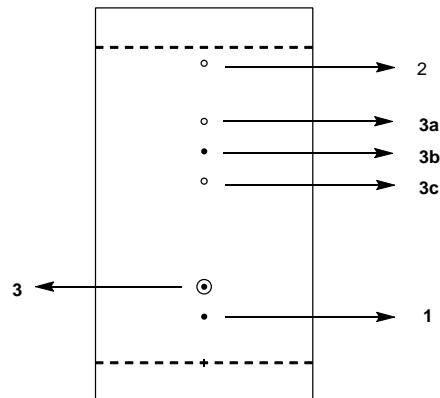


We, therefore, chose 3-methoxybenzyl bromide (**2**) in our optimization study. The reason for choosing **2** as electrophile was two-fold: (1) it is readily available in our laboratory, (2)  $\eta^3$ -benzyl-palladium species generated in situ from **2** by oxidative addition of  $\text{Pd}^0$  would be stabilized by the presence of an electron-donating group.<sup>5,6</sup> We began our optimization study using a reaction condition used for the direct benzylation of electron-deficient arenes.<sup>9</sup> Thus, reaction of **1** with **2** did not afford the diarylmethane **3** under the condition described in the literature (Table A, entry 1). However, reaction of **1** with **2** in the presence of 10 mol%  $\text{Pd(OAc)}_2$ , 20 mol% of a trialkylphosphine ( $\text{PCy}_3$ ) or triarylphosphine ( $\text{PPh}_3$ ) ligand, and a strong base ( $\text{NaOBu-}t$ ) afforded the desired benzylated product **3** only in detectable amount together with substantial amount of N-benzylated product (30-35%) and other unidentified by-products (entry 2). In addition, use of a mild base  $\text{Cs}_2\text{CO}_3$  in combination with  $\text{PCy}_3$  also produced only a trace amount of diarylmethane **3**, but significantly reduced the amount of N-benzylated product (entry 3). Instead, use of  $\text{Cs}_2\text{CO}_3$  with  $\text{PPh}_3$  produced **3** in 30% yield though a significant amount of starting material remained unreacted even after prolonging the reaction to 36 h (entry 4). Other triarylphosphine ligands [**L1** =  $\text{P}(o\text{-Tol})_3$  or Xant-Phos, BINAP] or biaryldialkylphosphine ligands [**L2** =  $\text{P}(\text{biphen-2-yl})\text{Cy}_2$ , Jhon-Phos, S-Phos, X-Phos, or DPPP] didn't offer any improvement (entry 5-7). The effect of other bases [ $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ,  $\text{KOAc}$ ,  $\text{K}_2\text{HPO}_4$ , TEA, DBU, or DBN] was also examined, but the formation of diarylmethane **3** was observed in 5-20% in these cases (entry 8). Increasing the temperature from  $110^\circ\text{C}$  to  $140^\circ\text{C}$  using other solvents [*o*-xylene, DMA, DMF, or DME] was detrimental (entry 9). However, the yield of **3** was increased to 45% using dioxane as the solvent (entry 10). A lower catalyst loading (5 mol%) was somewhat better to suppress the formation of undesired products at the cost of unreacted starting material. Thus, compound **3** was best obtained in 60% yield by heating **1** and **2** in the presence of 5 mol%  $\text{Pd(OAc)}_2$ , 10 mol%  $\text{PPh}_3$  and 1.2 equiv  $\text{Cs}_2\text{CO}_3$  in dioxane at  $110^\circ\text{C}$  (entry 11). It should be noted here in addition to the desired diarylmethane **3**, the formation of N-benzylated, N,C-dibenzylated derivatives, and other unidentified products account for the mass balance of conversion of benzamide into products. For example, 3-trifluoromethylbenzamide produced diarylmethane **6** in 68% yield together with N-benzylated (**SC-1**) and N,C-dibenzylated (**SC-2**) derivatives in 8% and 11% yields, respectively (**Scheme 8**).

**Table A:** Optimization study for the direct benzylation<sup>a</sup>

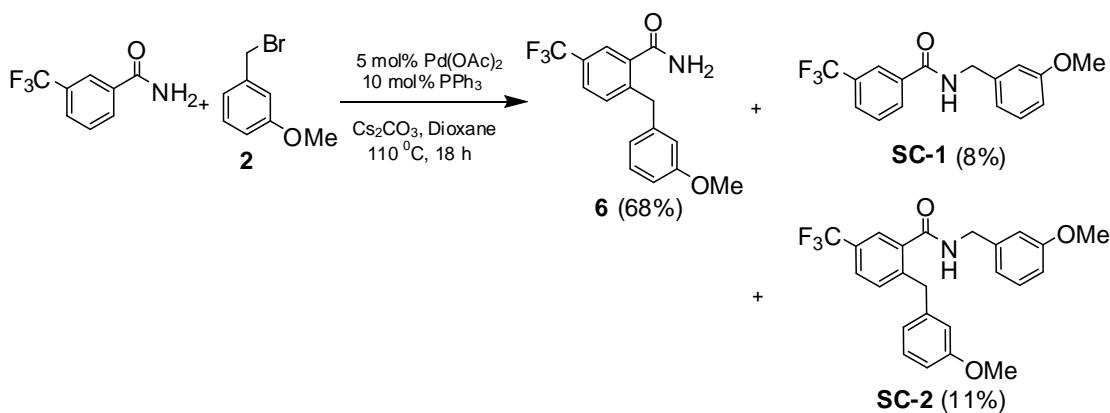


Entry	Metal	Ligand	Base	Solvent	Yield [%]
1 <sup>b</sup>	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Toluene	0
2	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	PCy <sub>3</sub> or PPPh <sub>3</sub>	NaOBu- <i>t</i>	Toluene	Trace
3	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	PCy <sub>3</sub>	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Toluene	Trace
4	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Toluene	30
5	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	Ligand L1	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Toluene	10-15
6	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	BINAP	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Toluene	Trace
7	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	Ligand L2	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Toluene	8-13
8	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	Other bases	Toluene	5-20
9 <sup>c</sup>	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Other solvents	0-10
10	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Dioxane	45
11 <sup>d</sup>	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Dioxane	<b>60</b>
12 <sup>e</sup>	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Dioxane	38
13 <sup>f</sup>	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	-	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	t-Amyl-OH	20
14 <sup>g</sup>	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Dioxane	30-35
15 <sup>h</sup>	Pd(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	-	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Dioxane	52
16	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	-	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Dioxane	38
17 <sup>i</sup>	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	PPPh <sub>3</sub>	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Dioxane	0

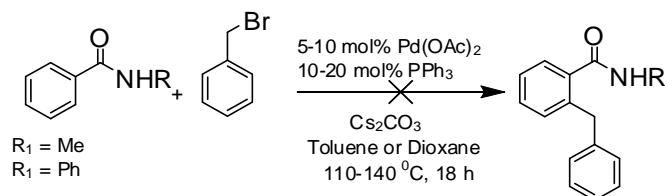


[a] Reagents and conditions: **1** (0.2 mmol), **2** (0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol), PPPh<sub>3</sub> (0.04 mmol), base (1.2 mmol), solvent (500 mM), temp. 110 °C, 18 h. [b] Pivalic acid (1.2 equiv) as additive. [c] Temp 140 °C, [d] Used Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.01 mmol) and PPPh<sub>3</sub> (0.02 mmol). [e] Used **2** (2 equiv.), [f] **1** (0.2 mmol), **2** (0.6 mmol), base (0.6 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (5 mol%), Pivalic acid (20 mol%) [g] Used 1.25-2.50 mol% Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> and 2.5-5.0 mol% PPPh<sub>3</sub>. [h] Used Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0.02 mmol). [i] Employed secondary benzamide (*N*-methylbenzamide or *N*-phenylbenzamide) as one of the coupling partners using 5 mol% Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> and 10 mol% PPPh<sub>3</sub>.

**Scheme 8: Products isolated in benzylation of 3-trifluoromethyl benzamide with 3-methoxy benzylbromide**



Attempt for complete conversion of starting material into products using excess **2** (2 equiv) was not beneficial (entry 12). However reported experimental condition<sup>18b</sup> resulted in only 20% yield (entry 13). Similarly, further lowering of the catalyst loading to 2.5 mol% or 1.25 mol% was deleterious (entry 14). Replacing Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> by Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> resulted in slightly reduced yield of **3** (entry 15). The optimized condition excluding PPh<sub>3</sub> gave the desired *ortho*-benzylated benzamide in reduced yield (38% vs. 60%) with increased amount of byproduct (C,C-dibenzylated benzamide and C,N-dibenzylated benzamide) (entry 16). A similar observation (reflecting reduced yield) was also recorded in the reaction of 3-trifluorobenzamide and 3-methoxybenzyl bromide under the optimized condition excluding PPh<sub>3</sub> (42% vs. 68%). To understand the role of Ph<sub>3</sub>P in this reaction, we performed the following control experiments. An experiment involving reaction of Ph<sub>3</sub>P and benzyl bromide in dioxane at 110 °C for 30 min did not show the presence of Ph<sub>3</sub>P on TLC and formed a white colored insoluble material, which indicated the formation of benzyl triphenylphosphonium salt. Another control experiment including Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, Ph<sub>3</sub>P, and benzyl bromide in dioxane at 110 °C for 1-2 h also did not reveal the presence of Ph<sub>3</sub>P. <sup>31</sup>P NMR of these reactions also suggested the absence of Ph<sub>3</sub>P (<sup>31</sup>P NMR Spectra Exp-A and Exp-B, respectively). Remarkably, reaction of a secondary benzamide (*N*-methylbenzamide or *N*-phenylbenzamide) with **2** did not give the corresponding direct benzylated product under the best condition (entry 17).



Only a few examples of direct benzylation of activated C-H bonds in (hetero)arenes using 2-, 3- or 4-chlorobenzyl chloride has been documented, which demonstrated chemical selectivity at benzyl chloride over aryl chloride.<sup>13,14</sup> This may be rationalized of the poor reactivity of aryl chloride compared to benzyl chloride leading to chemoselective direct benzylation.

## Experimental

**General Information:** Unless otherwise noted, all reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used as received. All palladium-catalyzed reactions were degassed with argon and performed in a screw-capped vial. Unless specified, the proton and carbon NMR spectra were obtained in CDCl<sub>3</sub> using a 400 MHz spectrometer and are reported in  $\delta$  units. Coupling constants ( $J$  values) are reported in Hz. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (100-200 or 230-400 mesh). High Resolution Mass Spectra (HRMS) were obtained using Bruker-Maxis. IR spectra were obtained using Perkin Elmer-Spectrum II instrument. All melting points were taken using a melting point apparatus equipped with a calibrated thermometer and are uncorrected. New compounds were characterized by melting point, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>CNMR, IR, and HRMS data.

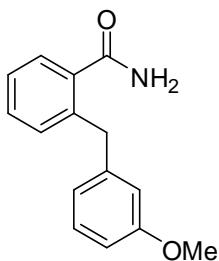
All benzamides and benzyl bromides were purchased from commercial vendors.

**General procedure for the palladium-catalyzed direct benzylation of primary benzamides:** In an oven-dried screw cap vial equipped with a magnetic stir bar, benzamide (122 mg, 1 mmol) was dissolved in dioxane (2 mL) under nitrogen followed by the addition of Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (390 mg, 1.2 mmol), 3-methoxy benzylbromide (201 mg, 1 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11.2 mg, 0.05 mmol) and PPh<sub>3</sub> (26 mg, 0.10 mmol). The resulting reaction mixture was heated at 110 °C for 18 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 50 mL). The organic layers were combined, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), concentrated under reduced pressure, and purified by column chromatography on silica using(ethyl acetate/ hexane = 1:4) as an eluent to give the desired product.

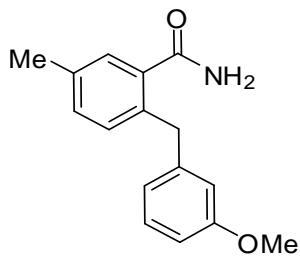
**General procedure for the palladium-catalyzed intermolecular *N*-arylation of 2-(2-bromobenzyl) benzamides:** In an oven-dried screw cap vial equipped with a magnetic stir bar, 2-(2-bromobenzyl) benzamide (0.25 mmol) was dissolved in dioxane (2 mL) under nitrogen followed by the addition of Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (161 mg, 0.5 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (5.6 mg, 0.025 mmol) and Xant-Phos (20 mg, 0.034 mmol). The resulting reaction mixture was heated at 110 °C for 18 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 50 mL). The organic layers were combined, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), concentrated under reduced pressure, and purified by column chromatography on silica gel using (ethyl acetate/ hexane = 1:7) as an eluent to give the cyclized compound.

## Characterization Data

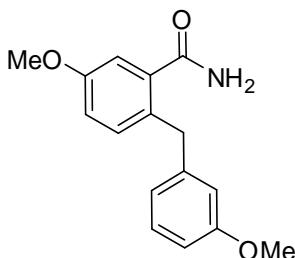
**2-(3-Methoxybenzyl)benzamide (3):** white solid; mp: 109 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 7.50 (d, *J*=7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J*=7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.16 - 7.32 (m, 3H), 6.72 - 6.77 (m, 3H), 5.90 (br. s, 1H), 5.70 (br. s, 1H), 4.21 (s, 2 H), 3.75 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 172.0, 159.7, 142.3, 138.7, 135.3, 131.2, 130.5, 129.5, 127.4, 126.4, 121.3, 114.8, 111.4, 55.1, 38.8; HRMS obsd 242.1175, calcd 242.1181 for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>(M<sup>+</sup>+H); IR (KBr): 3371, 3178, 1648, 1626, 1626, 1261, 646, 556 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



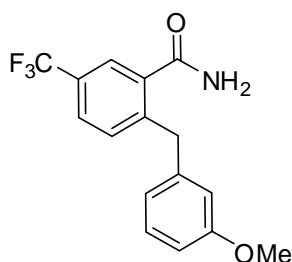
**2-(3-Methoxybenzyl)-5-methylbenzamide (4):** white solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 7.32 (s, 1H), 7.18 - 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.11 - 7.13 (m, 1H), 6.74 - 6.80 (m, 3H), 5.65 (br. s., 2H), 4.18 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 171.8, 159.7, 142.6, 136.1, 135.4, 135.1, 131.2, 131.1, 129.4, 128.1, 121.2, 114.6, 111.3, 55.1, 38.4, 20.8; HRMS obsd 255.1257, calcd 255.1259 for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>(M<sup>+</sup>+H); IR (KBr): 3370, 3182, 1654, 1324, 1260, 996, 695, 548 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



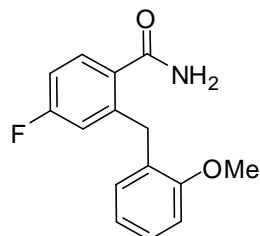
**5-Methoxy-2-(3-methoxybenzyl)benzamide (5):** white solid; mp: 79 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 7.17 - 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J*=3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, *J*=8.4, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 6.68 - 6.79 (m, 3H), 5.58 - 5.83 (m, 2H), 4.15 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 171.5, 159.5, 157.9, 142.0, 136.5, 132.3, 130.2, 129.1, 121.1, 116.1, 114.6, 112.8, 111.3, 55.4, 55.1, 38.0; HRMS obsd 295.1140, calcd 295.1140 for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+Na); IR (KBr): 3369, 3184, 2834, 1648, 1334, 1158, 1039, 920, 753, 655, 556 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



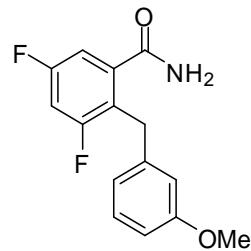
**2-(3-Methoxybenzyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (6):** pale yellow solid; mp: 133 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J*=7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, *J*=7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.73 - 6.83 (m, 3H), 5.81 (br. s, 1H), 5.73 (br. s, 1H), 4.27 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 170.3, 159.8, 142.9, 142.9, 141.1, 135.9, 131.6, 129.7, 128.7, 127.1, 124.3, 121.3, 114.9, 111.6, 55.1, 38.6; HRMS obsd 309.0980, calcd 309.0977 for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>(M<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr): 3370, 3182, 1654, 1324, 1260, 996, 695, 548 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



**4-Fluoro-2-(3-methoxybenzyl)benzamide (7):** white solid; mp: 87 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 7.50 (dd, *J*=8.3, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, *J*=7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.89 - 6.99 (m, 2H), 6.74 - 6.78 (m, 3H), 5.93 (br. s, 1H), 5.73 (br. s, 1H), 4.22 (s, 2H), 3.78 (d, *J*=0.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 171.0, 164.9, 162.4, 159.8, 142.3, 141.4, 131.4, 129.6, 121.3, 118.0, 115.0, 113.5, 111.6, 55.2, 38.7; HRMS obsd 260.1082, calcd 260.1087 for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FNO<sub>2</sub>(M<sup>+</sup>+H); IR (KBr): 3367, 3184, 2834, 1647, 1584, 1401, 1261, 968, 694, 556 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

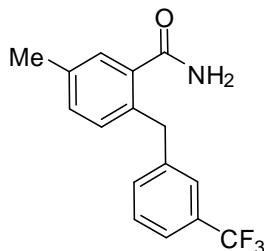


**3,5-difluoro-2-(3-methoxybenzyl)benzamide (8):** white solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 7.16 (t, *J*= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J*= 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.93 - 6.88 (m, 1H), 6.76- 6.70 (3, 3H), 6.20 (br. S, 1H), 5.72 (br. S, 1H), 4.16 (s, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 169.5, 162.4, 159.8, 141.0, 138.3, 129.6, 122.0, 120.6, 114.3, 111.4, 110.5, 105.8, 55.1, 30.8; HRMS obsd 300.0819 calcd 300.0812 for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>2</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub>(M<sup>+</sup>+Na); IR (KBr): 3369, 3092, 2927, 1647, 1618, 1460, 1129, 879, 753, 609 cm<sup>-1</sup>

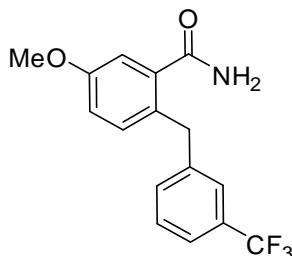


**5-Methyl-2-(3-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)benzamide (9):** white solid; mp: 157 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 7.42 - 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.34 - 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J*=7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.74 (br. s, 1H),

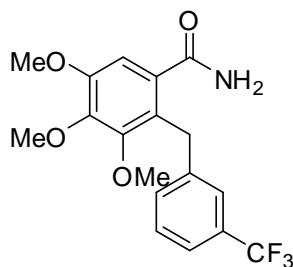
5.66 (br. s, 1H), 4.27 (s, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  171.8, 142.0, 136.5, 135.5, 134.9, 132.4, 131.4, 131.1, 128.8, 127.9, 125.6, 125.5, 123.0, 122.9, 38.1, 20.9; HRMS: obsd 294.1107, calcd 294.1106 for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{NO} (\text{M}^+ + \text{H})$ ; IR (KBr): 3372, 3187, 2919, 1647, 1334, 1111, 872, 656, 584  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



**5-Methoxy-2-(3-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)benzamide (10):** white solid; mp: 135 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  7.45 (s, 2H), 7.37 - 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.14 (d,  $J=8.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d,  $J=2.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd,  $J=8.5, 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 5.67 (s, 1H), 4.24 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  171.3, 158.0, 142.2, 136.0, 132.3, 130.2, 128.8, 125.4, 122.9, 116.0, 113.0, 55.5, 37.7; HRMS obsd 333.0912, calcd 333.0908 for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_3\text{NNaO}_2 (\text{M}^+ + \text{Na})$ ; IR (KBr): 3374, 3188, 1646, 1336, 1115, 701, 661, 537  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

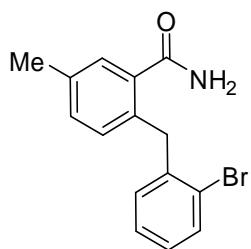


**3,4,5-trimethoxy-2-(3-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)benzamide (11):** white solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  7.49 (s, 1H), 7.40-7.34 (m, 3H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 5.5 (br.s, 2H), 4.23 (s, 2H), 3.89 (s, 6H), 3.70 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  171.2, 152.6, 152.2, 144.1, 142.4, 131.9, 131.1, 128.6, 125.3, 125.2, 124.6, 122.6, 106.5, 60.8, 56.1, 32.1; HRMS obsd 392.1086 calcd 392.1086 for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{F}_3\text{NNaO}_4 (\text{M}^+ + \text{Na})$ ; IR (KBr): 3371, 3186, 1647, 1340, 1112, 703, 667, 541  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

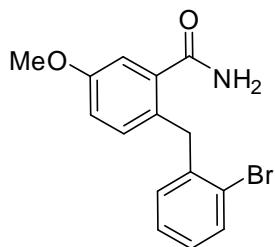


**2-(2-Bromobenzyl)-5-methylbenzamide (12):** white solid; mp: 141 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  7.58 (d,  $J=8.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.35 (s, 1H), 7.21 - 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d,  $J=1$  Hz), 7.07 - 7.12 (m, 2H), 6.98 (d,  $J=7.8$  Hz, 1H), 5.66 (br. s, 1H), 5.71 (br. s, 1H), 4.31 (s, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  171.8, 140.2, 136.2, 135.3, 134.5, 132.8,

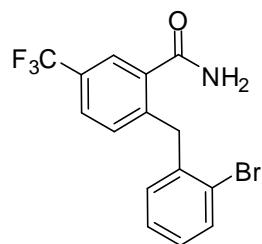
131.3, 130.6, 128.9, 128.5, 127.9, 127.5, 125.0, 38.6, 20.9; HRMS obsd 303.0256, calcd 303.0259 for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrNO (M<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr): 3372, 3178, 1647, 1604, 1598, 742, 654, 608 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



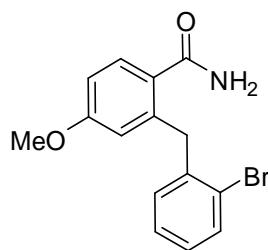
**2-(2-Bromobenzyl)-5-methoxybenzamide (13):** white solid; mp: 152 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 6.56 (d, J=7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.20 - 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.05 - 7.10 (m, 3H), 7.01 (d, J=8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd, J=8.5, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (br. s, 1H), 5.74 (br. s, 1H), 4.26 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 171.4, 157.9, 140.3, 136.4, 132.8, 131.9, 130.9, 129.2, 127.9, 127.5, 124.9, 116.1, 112.8, 55.4, 38.3; HRMS obsd 343.0109, calcd 342.0106 for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrNNaO<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+Na); IR (KBr): 3375, 3186, 1646, 1504, 1241, 1030, 745, 544 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



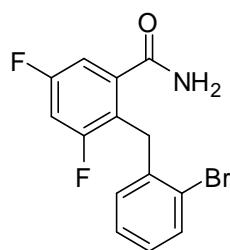
**2-(2-Bromobenzyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (14):** white solid; mp: 140 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.60 (d, J=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.25 - 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.13 - 7.20 (m, 3H), 5.93 (br. s, 1H), 5.83 (br. s, 1H), 4.41 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 170.2, 138.9, 135.9, 133.1, 131.3, 130.9, 129.0, 128.4, 127.7, 127.1, 127.0, 125.0, 124.1, 124.0, 38.9; HRMS obsd 356.9971, calcd 356.9976 for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrF<sub>3</sub>NO (M<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr): 3379, 3186, 1648, 1610, 1323, 1123, 712, 656 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



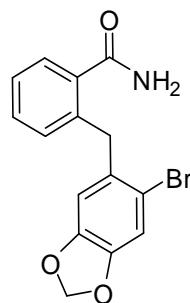
**2-(2-Bromobenzyl)-4-methoxybenzamide (15):** white solid; mp: 155 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 7.58 (dd, J=8.3, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, J=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.22 - 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.09 - 7.12 (m, 2H), 6.80 (dd, J=8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, J=2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (br. s, 2H), 4.39 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 171.4, 161.2, 140.4, 140.0, 132.8, 131.1, 129.3, 128.0, 128.5, 127.6, 125.0, 116.5, 111.3, 55.3, 39.3; HRMS obsd 342.0107, calcd 342.0106 for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrNNaO<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+Na); IR (KBr): 3184, 1641, 1541, 1275, 1260, 764, 749 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



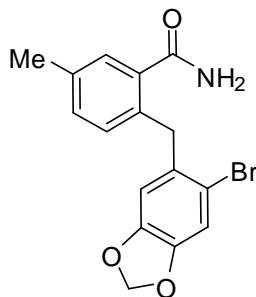
**2-(2-bromobenzyl)-3,5-difluorobenzamide (16):** white solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  7.55 (d,  $J=7.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.03 (m, 2H), 6.97-6.92 (m, 1H), 6.79 (d,  $J=8$  Hz, 1H), 6.16 (br.s, 1H), 5.66 (br.s, 1H), 4.24 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  169.1, 162.7, 160.2, 138.5, 132.8, 129, 128.0, 127.5, 124.5, 120.9, 110.9, 105.9, 53.4, 31.8; HRMS obsd 347.9812 calcd 347.9812 for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{BrF}_2\text{NaO}$  ( $\text{M}^+ + \text{Na}$ ); IR (KBr): 3371, 3082, 2922, 1650, 1611, 1473, 1119, 859, 680, 607  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



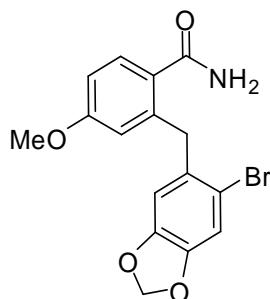
**2-(6-Bromobenzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)methylbenzamide (17):** white solid; mp: 182  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  7.52 (dd,  $J=7.7$ , 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (td,  $J=7.5$ , 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.28 - 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.11 (d,  $J=7.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 5.95 (s, 2H), 5.80 (br. s, 2H), 4.27(s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  171.6, 147.5, 146.9, 138.0, 135.2, 133.0, 130.6, 130.5, 127.2, 126.5, 115.0, 112.7, 110.8, 101.6, 38.6; HRMS obsd 355.9898, calcd 355.9898 for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{BrNNaO}_3$  ( $\text{M}^+ + \text{Na}$ ); IR (KBr): 3360, 3190, 1645, 1617, 1468, 1261, 935, 764, 642, 595  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



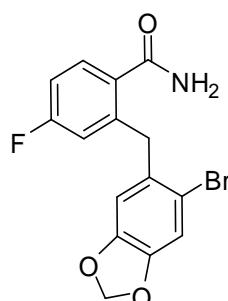
**2-(6-Bromobenzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)methyl-5-methylbenzamide (18):** white solid; mp: 208  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  7.34 (s, 1H), 7.18 (d,  $J=7.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 7.00 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 5.94 (s, 2H), 5.72 (br. s, 1H), 5.72 (br. s, 1H), 5.67 (br. s, 1H), 4.21 (s, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  171.6, 147.6, 147.1, 137.1, 136.3, 134.6, 133.7, 130.5, 129.8, 128.3, 114.5, 112.6, 111.1, 102.2, 37.8, 20.9; HRMS obsd 370.0057, calcd 370.0055 for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{BrNNaO}_3$  ( $\text{M}^+ + \text{Na}$ ); IR (KBr): 3370, 3186, 2921, 2362, 1648, 1478, 1245, 935, 680, 585  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



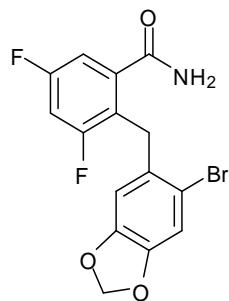
**2-(6-Bromobenzo[*d*][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)methyl)-4-methoxybenzamide (19):** white solid; mp: 186 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 6.98 (t, *J*=1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J*=1.5 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 6.02 (s, 2H), 4.06 (s, 2H), 3.76 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 171.1, 157.6, 147.6, 147.0, 138.1, 133.9, 131.2, 129.5, 115.6, 114.4, 113.3, 112.6, 111.0, 102.2, 55.6, 37.5; HRMS obsd 364.0177, calcd 364.0184 for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrNO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H); IR (KBr): 3361, 3180, 2925, 1652, 1517, 1485, 1244, 803, 702, 546 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



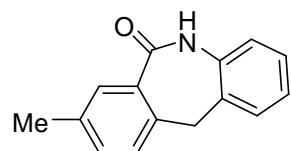
**2-(6-Bromobenzo[*d*][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)methyl)-4-fluorobenzamide (20):** white solid; mp: 195 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 7.51 (s, 1H), 6.96 - 7.03 (m, 2H), 6.75 - 6.65 (m, 2H), 5.96 (s, 2H), 5.72 (br. s, 2H), 4.26 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 170.6, 162.5, 147.6, 147.2, 141.8, 132.3, 131.1, 129.3, 129.2, 117.2, 115.1, 113.5, 112.8, 110.8, 101.7, 38.6; HRMS obsd 373.9800, calcd 373.9804 for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrFNNaO<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+Na); IR (KBr): 3364, 3184, 1645, 1617, 1479, 1275, 920, 650, 588 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



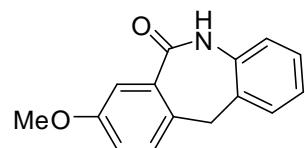
**2-((6-bromobenzo[*d*][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)methyl)-3,5-difluorobenzamide (21):** white solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 7.10 (d, *J*= 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 6.95 (t, *J*= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 5.91 (br. s, 3H), 5.65 (br. s, 1H), 4.15 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 168.7, 147.5, 146.8, 138.7, 131.5, 114.5, 112.7, 110.9, 110.6, 109, 106.2, 106, 105.7, 101.6, 31.6, 31.5; HRMS obsd 391.9711 calcd 391.9710 for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>10</sub>BrF<sub>2</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+Na); IR (KBr): 3372, 3185, 1647, 1615, 1460, 1285, 921, 657, 589 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



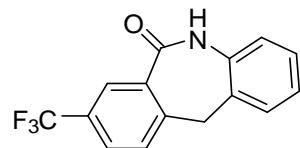
**8-Methyl-5,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]azepin-6-one (22):** white solid; mp: 150 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 8.51 (br. s, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.25 - 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.21 (td, *J*=7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J*=7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.09 - 7.14 (m, 1H), 7.07 (dd, *J*=7.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ: 169.7, 138.6, 136.8, 136.1, 133.4, 133.3, 131.1, 128.2, 127.4, 127.2, 125.4, 120.8, 38.8, 20.9; HRMS obsd 224.1073, calcd 224.1075 for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO (M<sup>+</sup>+H); IR (KBr): 3435, 3173, 1671, 1363, 1139, 750, 561, 512, 488 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



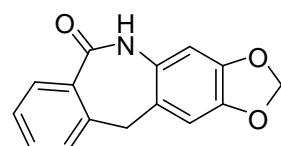
**8-Methoxy-5,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]azepin-6-one (23):** pale yellow solid; mp: 147 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 8.6 (s, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J*=2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.22 (dd, *J*=7.56, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J*=8 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (td, *J*=7.4, 1.08 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J*=7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (dd, *J*=8.3, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR: δ 169.5, 158.6, 135.9, 133.9, 133.6, 132.2, 128.5, 128.1, 127.4, 125.5, 120.8, 119.6, 114.3, 55.5, 38.3; HRMS obsd 240.1017, calcd 240.1025 for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+H); IR (KBr): 3172, 3037, 2918, 1647, 1492, 1236, 1035, 846, 650, 539 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



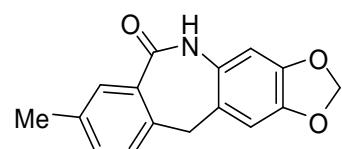
**8-(Trifluoromethyl)-5,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]azepin-6-one (24):** off-white solid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ 8.38 (br. s, 1H), 8.21 (s, 1H), 7.69 - 7.71 (m, 1H), 7.43 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J*=7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, *J*=7.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.14 - 7.18 (m, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J*=7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 169.0, 145.0, 135.9, 132.3, 132.0, 129.9, 129.5, 129.0, 128.3, 128.0, 127.8, 125.8, 121.2, 39.0; HRMS obsd 300.0609, calcd 300.0612 for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>10</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO (M<sup>+</sup>+Na).



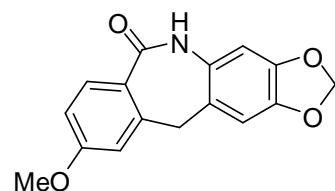
**5,11-Dihydrodibenzo[2,3-d]1,3-dioxole[b,e]azepin-6-one (25):** off white solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  8.14 (br. s, 1H), 7.91 (d,  $J=7.7$ , 1H), 7.45 (td,  $J=7.5$ , 1.28 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (t,  $J=7.5$ , 1H), 7.24 (d,  $J=7.5$ , 1H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 6.59 (s, 1H), 5.93 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  169.4, 146.8, 145.4, 141.9, 132.5, 131.3, 130.8, 127.1, 126.8, 107.9, 102.4, 101.5, 38.8; HRMS obsd 254.0810, calcd 254.0817 for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}_3$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ).



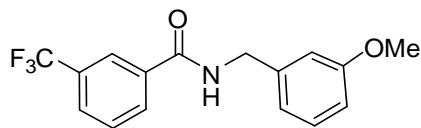
**8-Methyl-5,11-Dihydrodibenzo[2,3-d]1,3-dioxole[b,e]azepin-6-one (26):** off white solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  8.06 (br. s, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.12 (d,  $J=7.72$ , 1H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 5.92 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR:  $\delta$  170.0, 146.8, 145.2, 139.2, 136.9, 133.6, 131.3, 129.9, 126.5, 108.0, 102.7, 101.5, 38.6, 20.5; HRMS obsd 267.0894, calcd 267.0895 for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_3$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{H}$ ); IR (KBr): 3150, 1656, 1482, 1482, 1356, 1275, 750  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



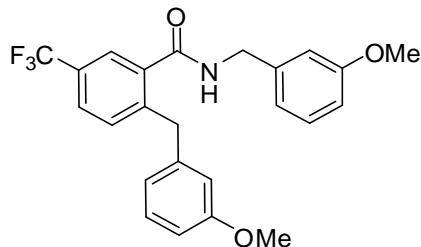
**9-Methoxy-5,11-Dihydrodibenzo[2,3-d]1,3-dioxole[b,e]azepin-6-one (27):** white solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  8.21 (br. s, 1H), 7.41 (d,  $J=2.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd,  $J=8.3$ , 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 5.91 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  167.2, 161.9, 145.9, 144.0, 143.4, 131.8, 130.7, 125.7, 124.4, 112.2, 111.6, 107.7, 102.2, 101.1, 55.3, 37.4; HRMS obsd 306.0741, calcd 306.0742 for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{NNaO}_4$  ( $\text{M}^++\text{Na}$ ).



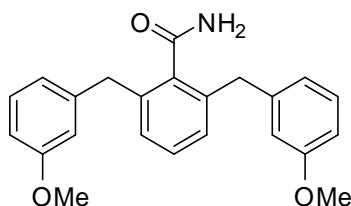
**N-(3-methoxybenzyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (SC-1):** white yellow solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  8.06 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d,  $J=7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d,  $J=7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.59 (t,  $J=7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.29 - 7.33 (m, 1H), 6.96 (d,  $J=7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.87 (dd,  $J=8.3, 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.42 (br. s, 1H), 4.66 (d,  $J=5.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H).



**N,2-bis(3-methoxybenzyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (SC-2):** light yellow solid,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  7.66 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d,  $J=8.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.25 (t,  $J=8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.15 - 7.21 (m, 1H), 6.82 - 6.87 (m, 1H), 6.78 - 6.81 (m, 2H), 6.73 - 6.78 (m, 1H), 6.67 - 6.72 (m, 2H), 5.92 (br. s, 1H), 4.50 (d,  $J=5.8$  Hz, 2H), 4.23 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H).



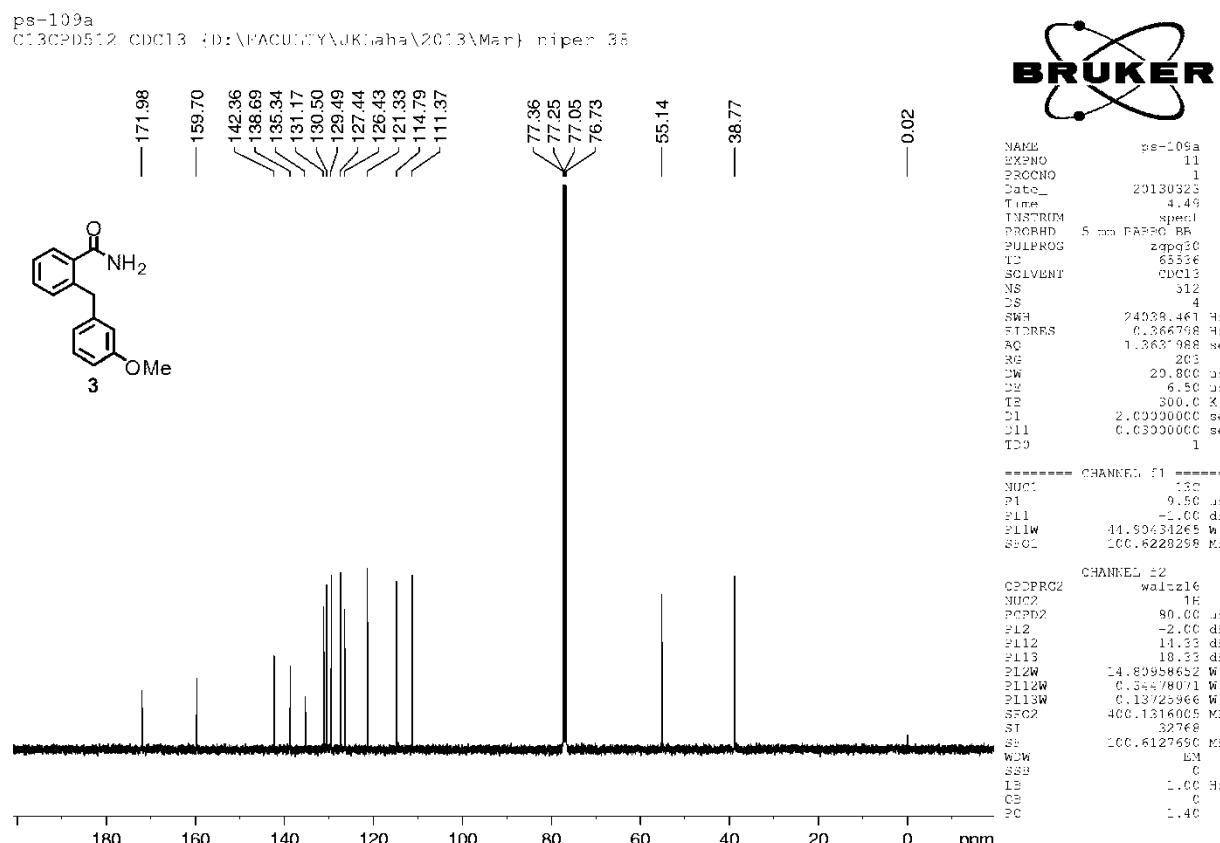
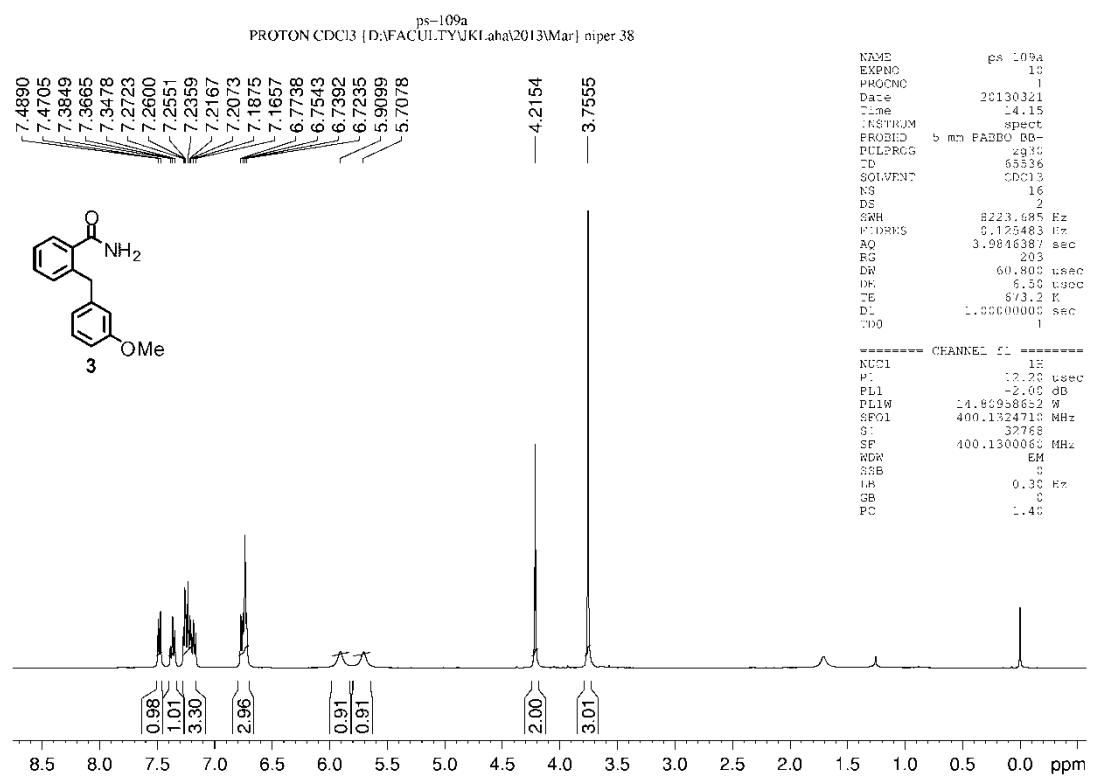
**2,6-bis(3-methoxybenzyl)benzamide (3c):** off white solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta$  7.26-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.06-7.04 (d,  $J=8$  Hz, 2H), 6.79-6.74 (m, 6H), 5.84 (br. s, 1H), 5.39 (br. s, 1H), 4.064 (s, 4H), 3.77 (s, 6H).

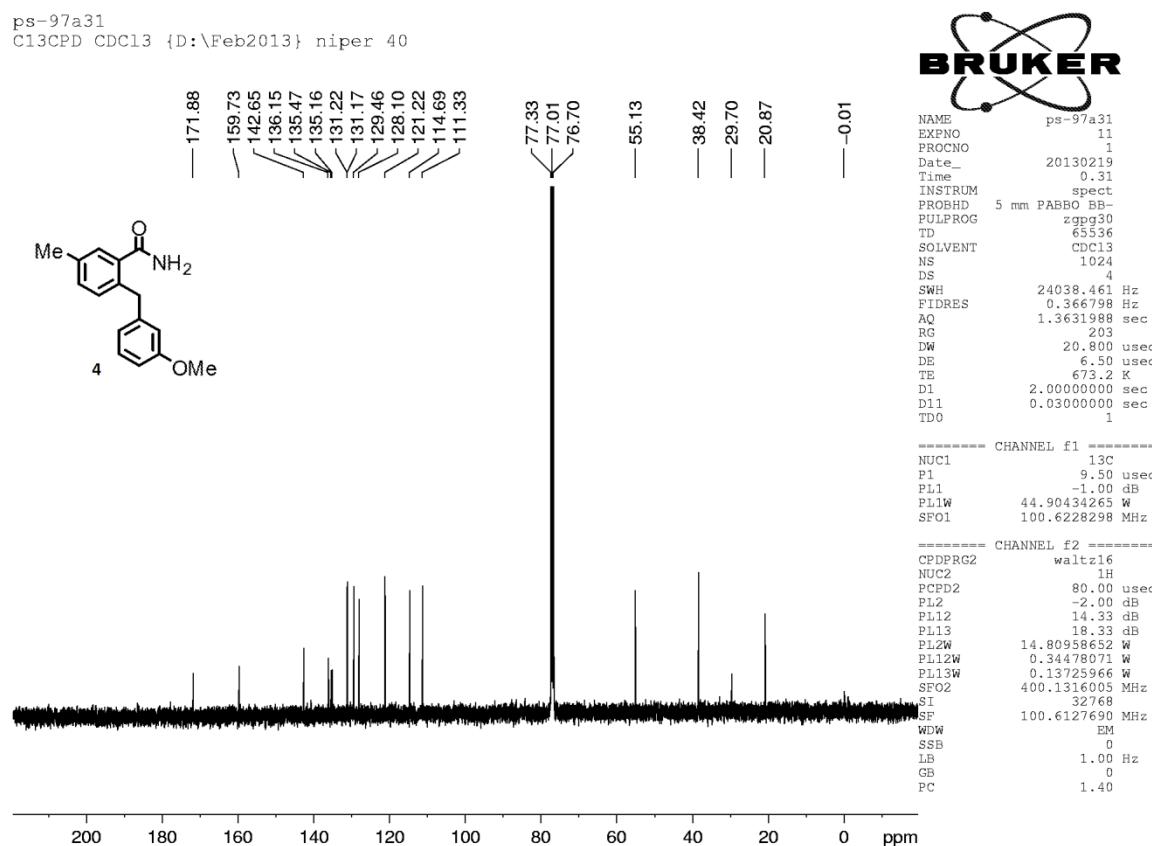
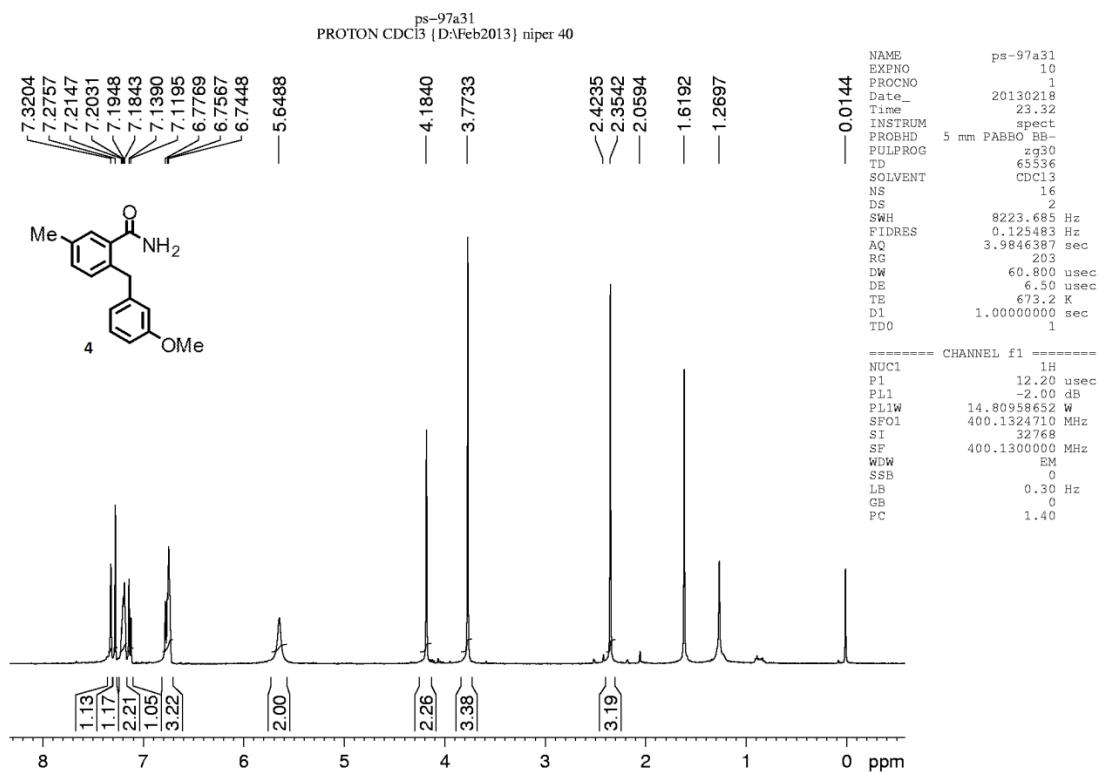


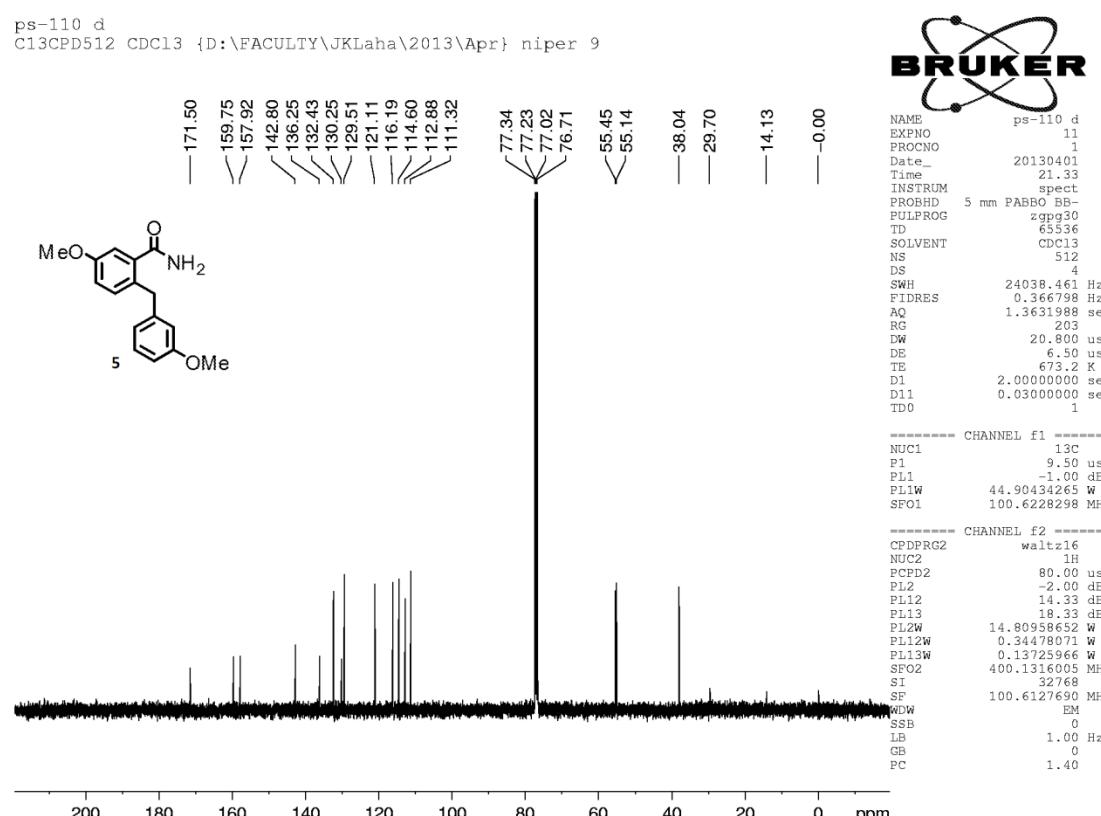
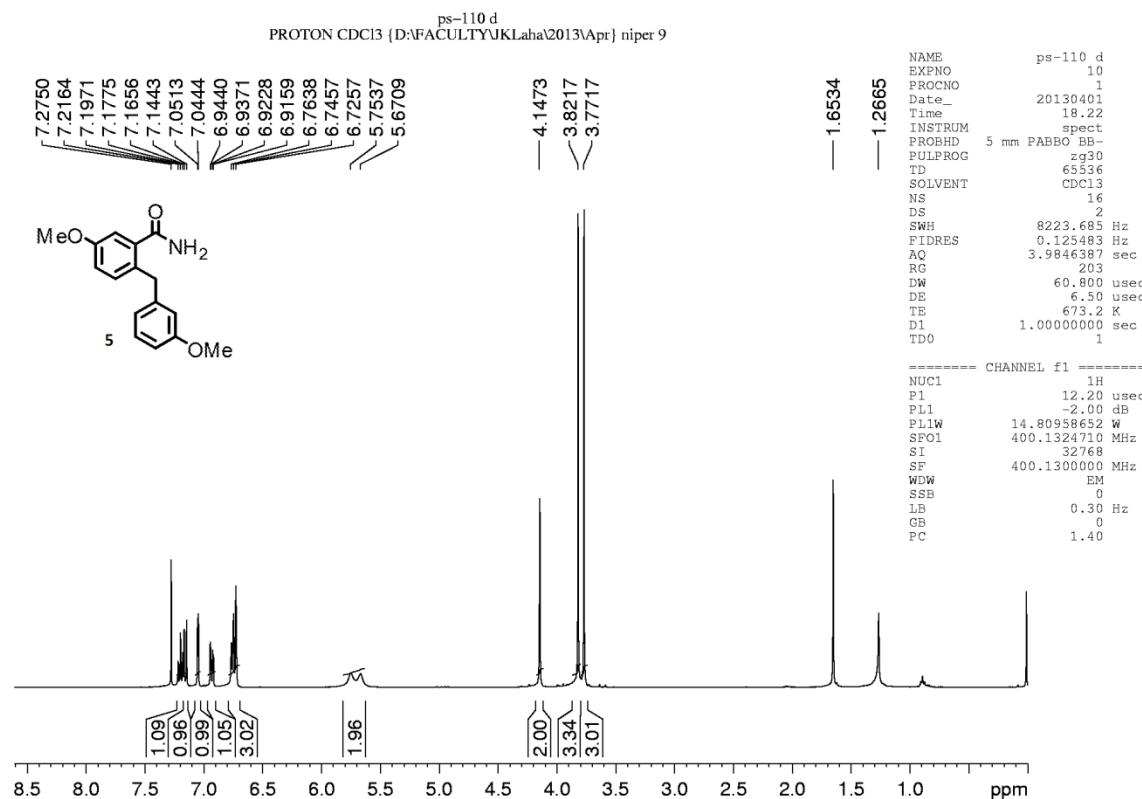
## References

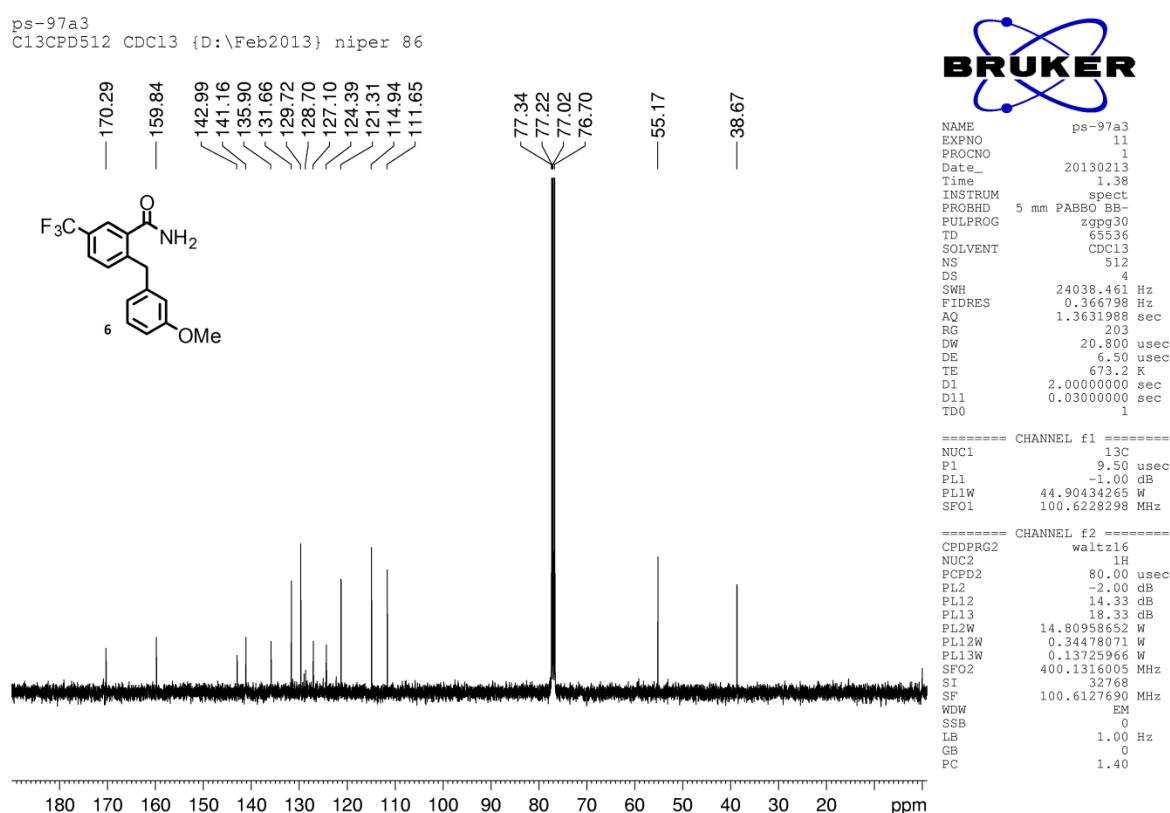
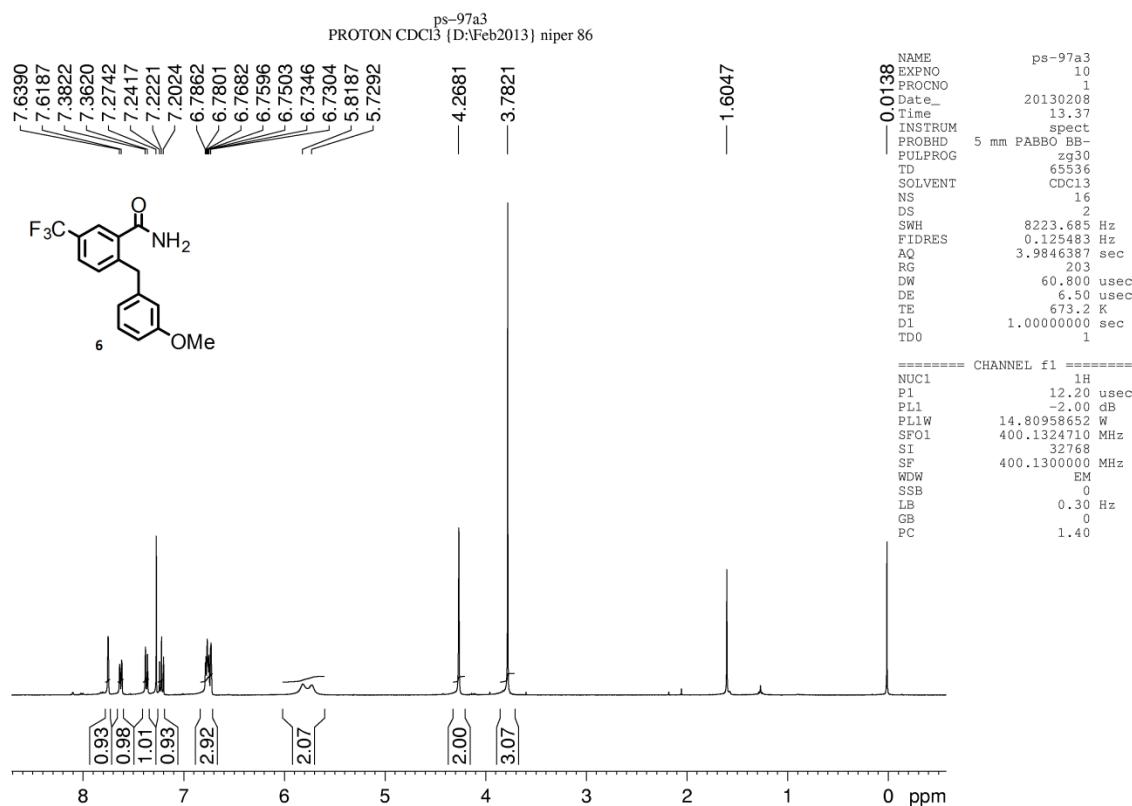
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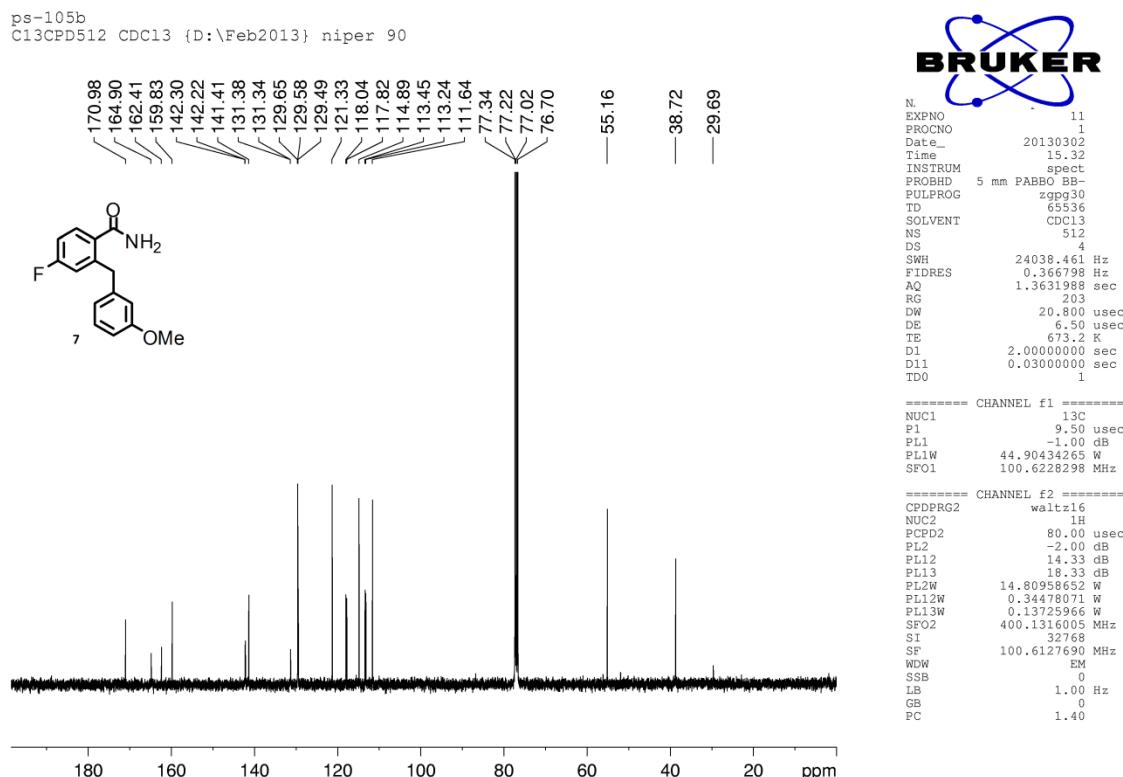
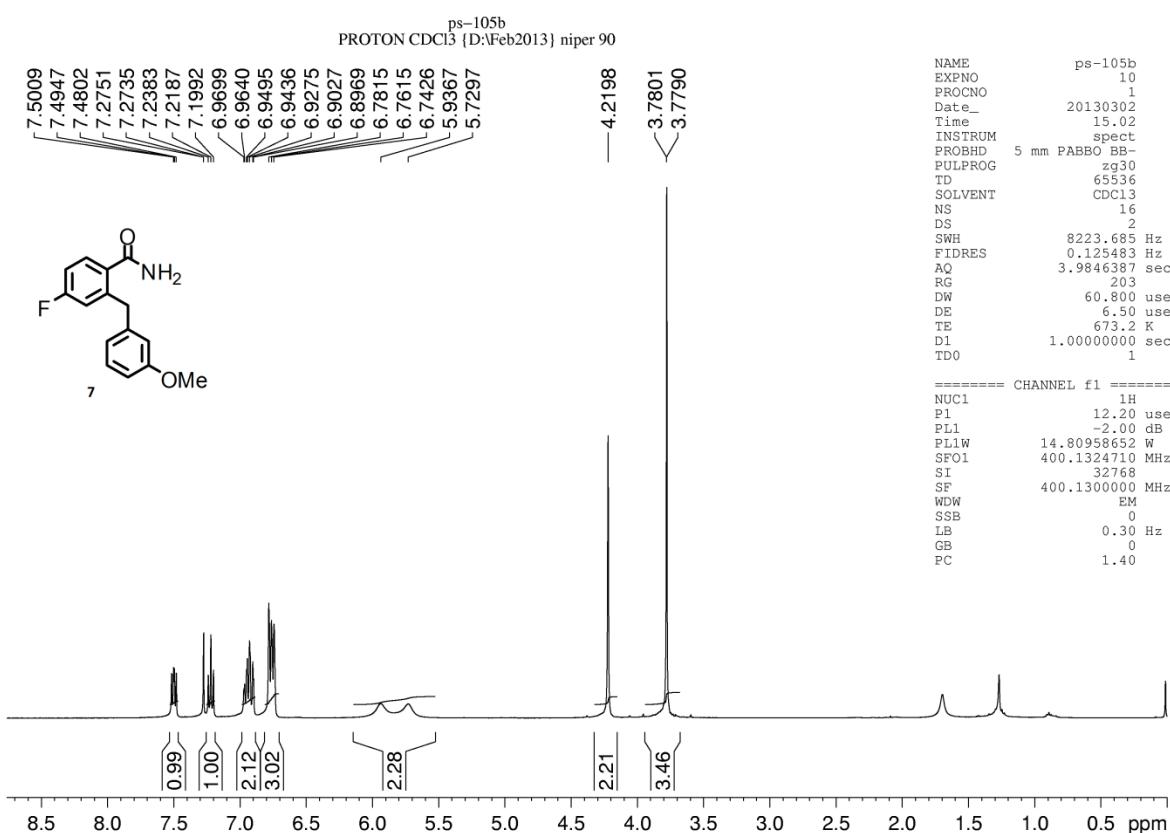
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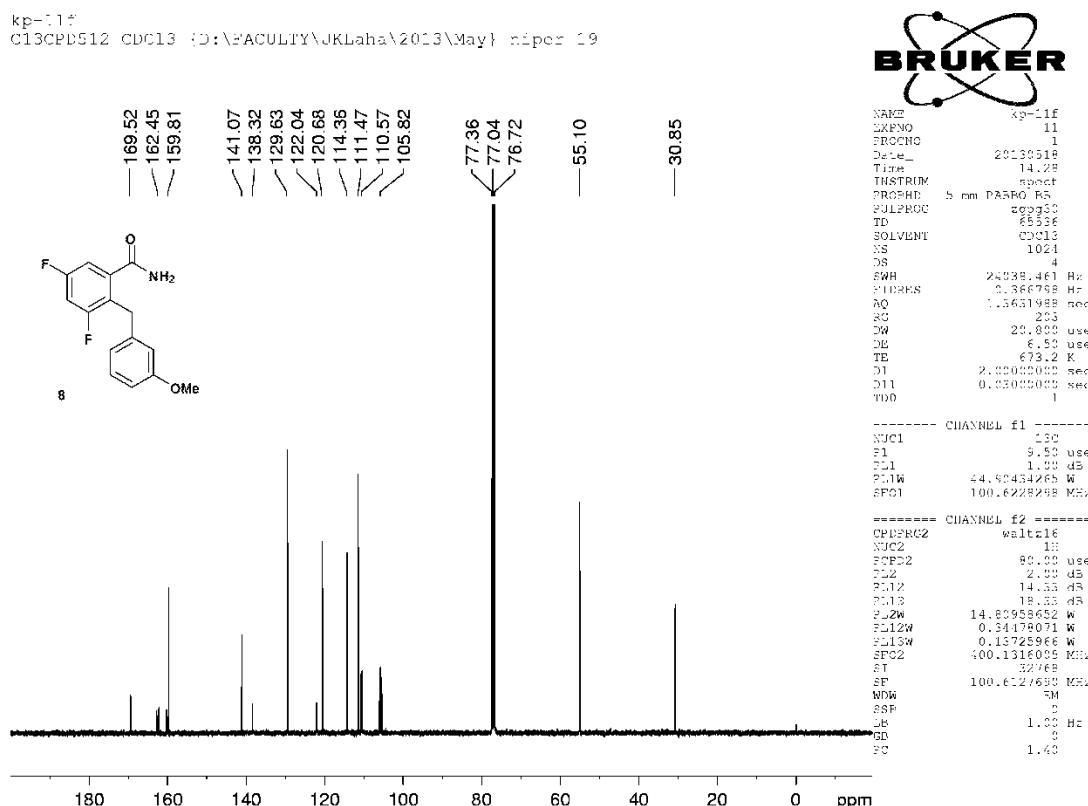
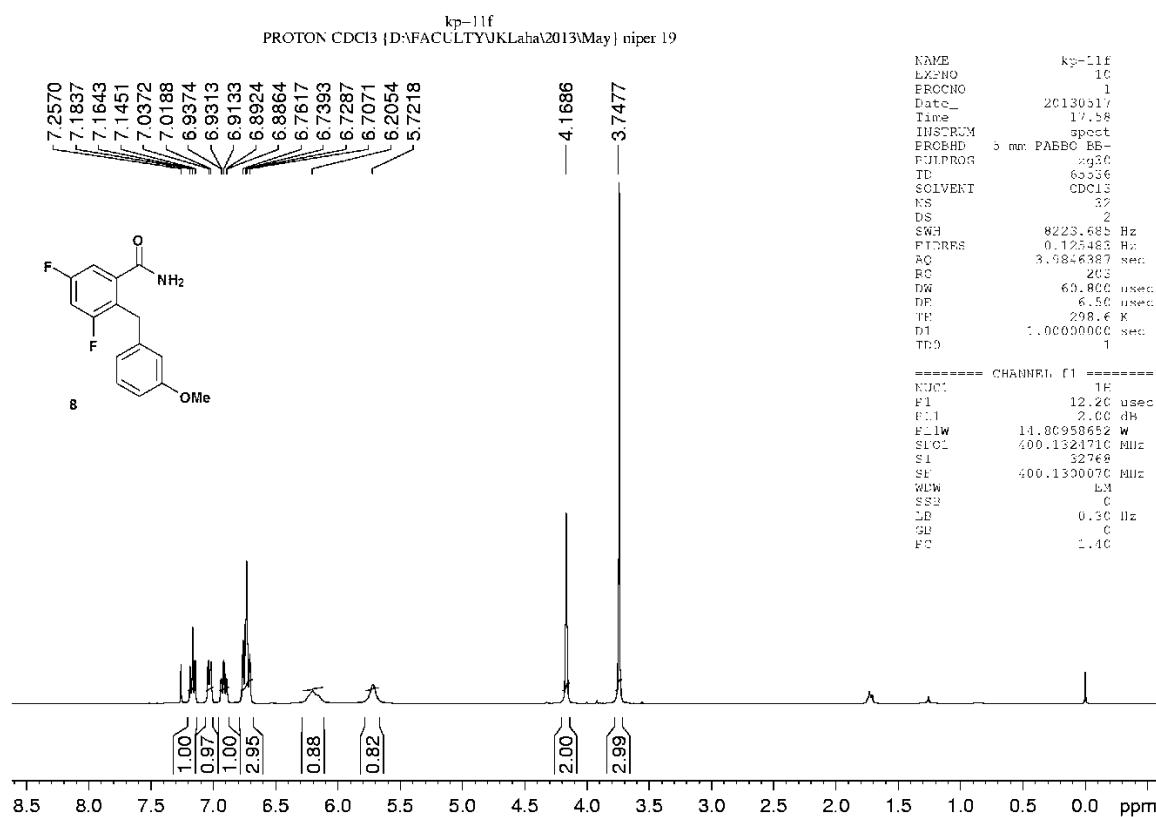


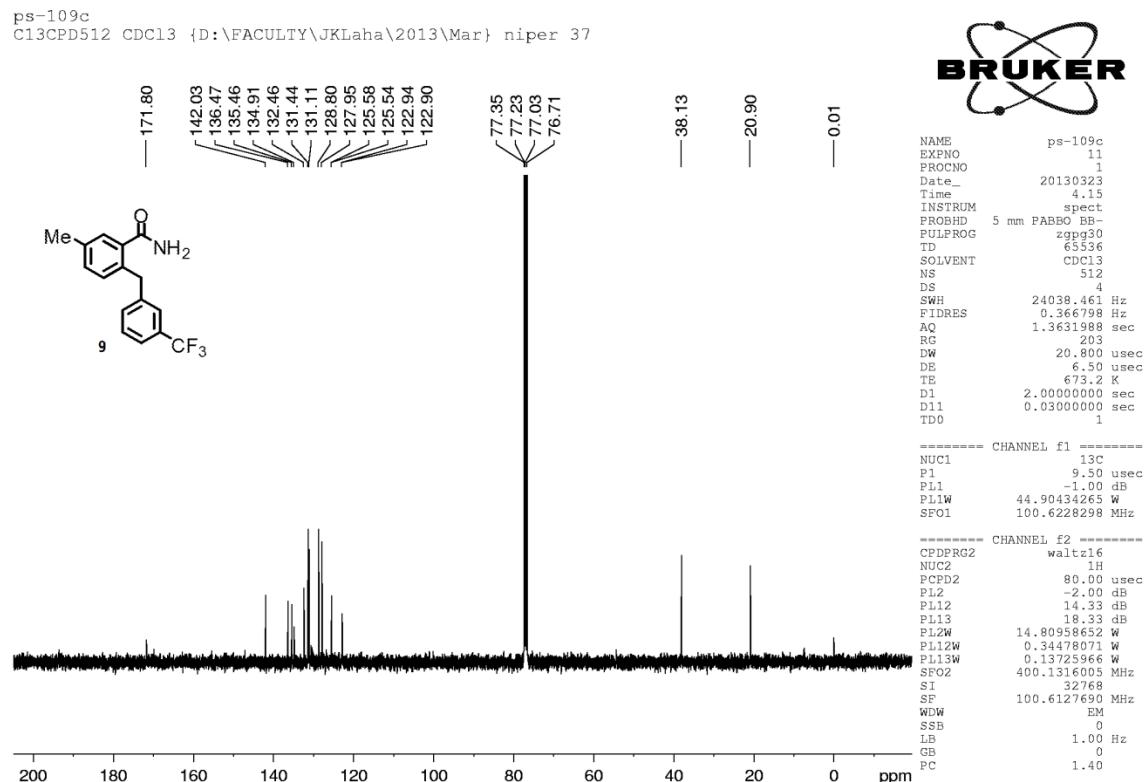
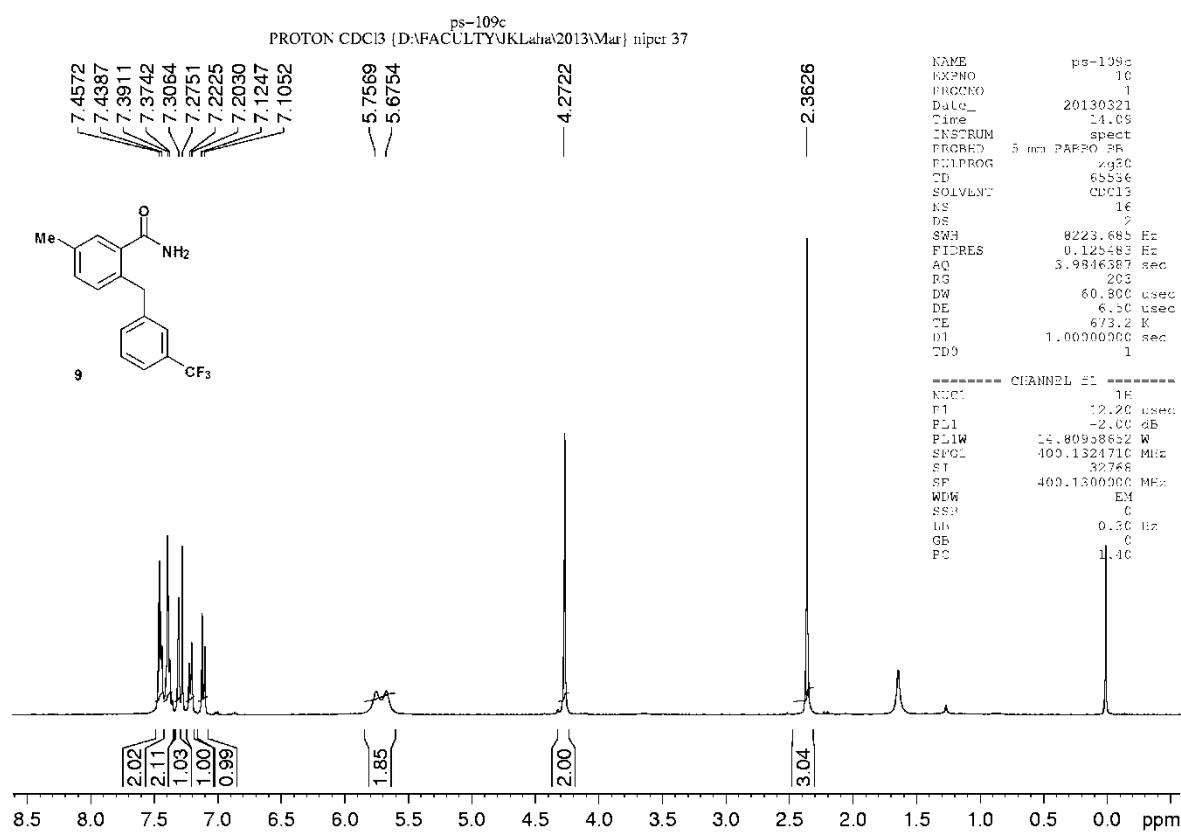


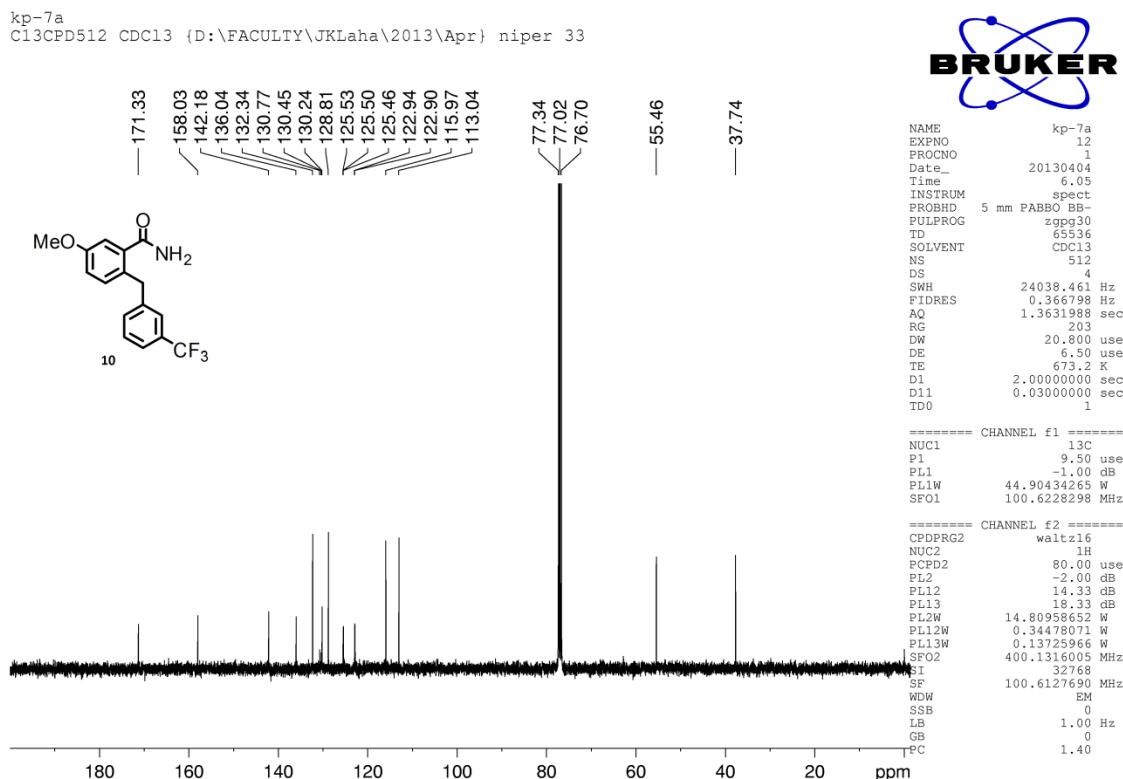
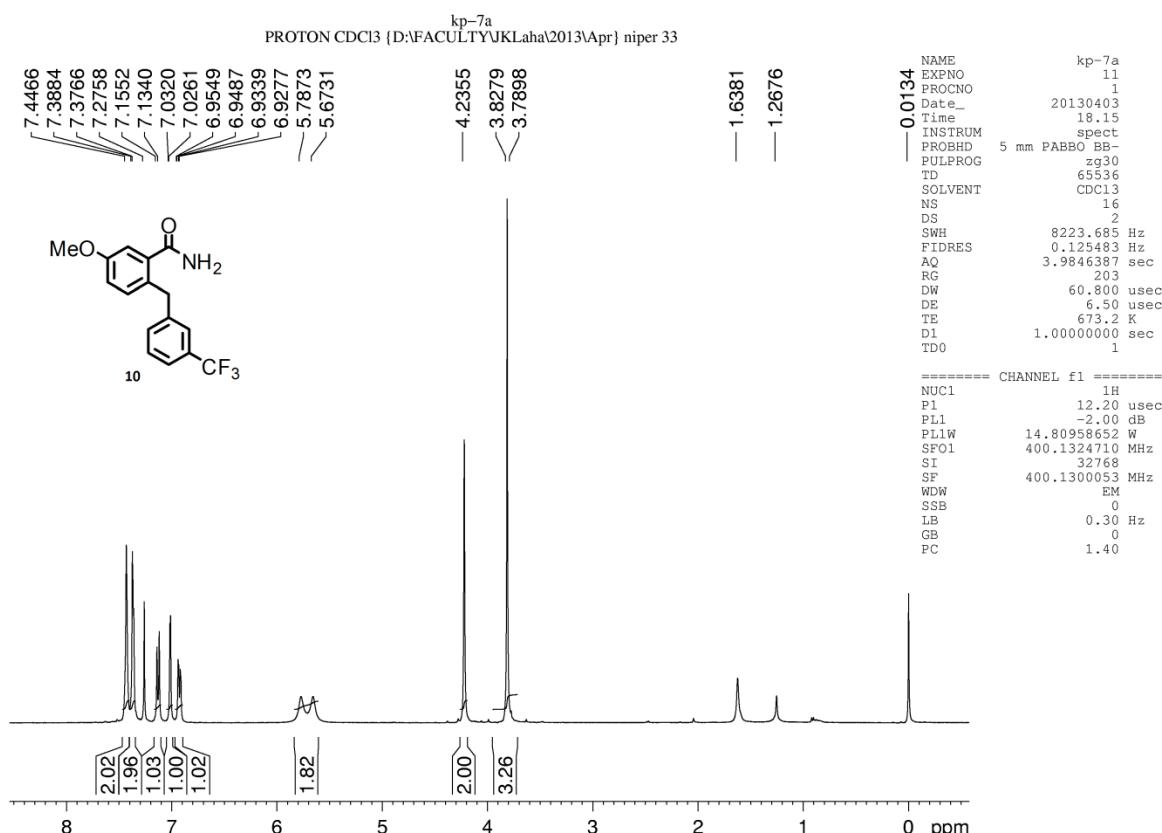


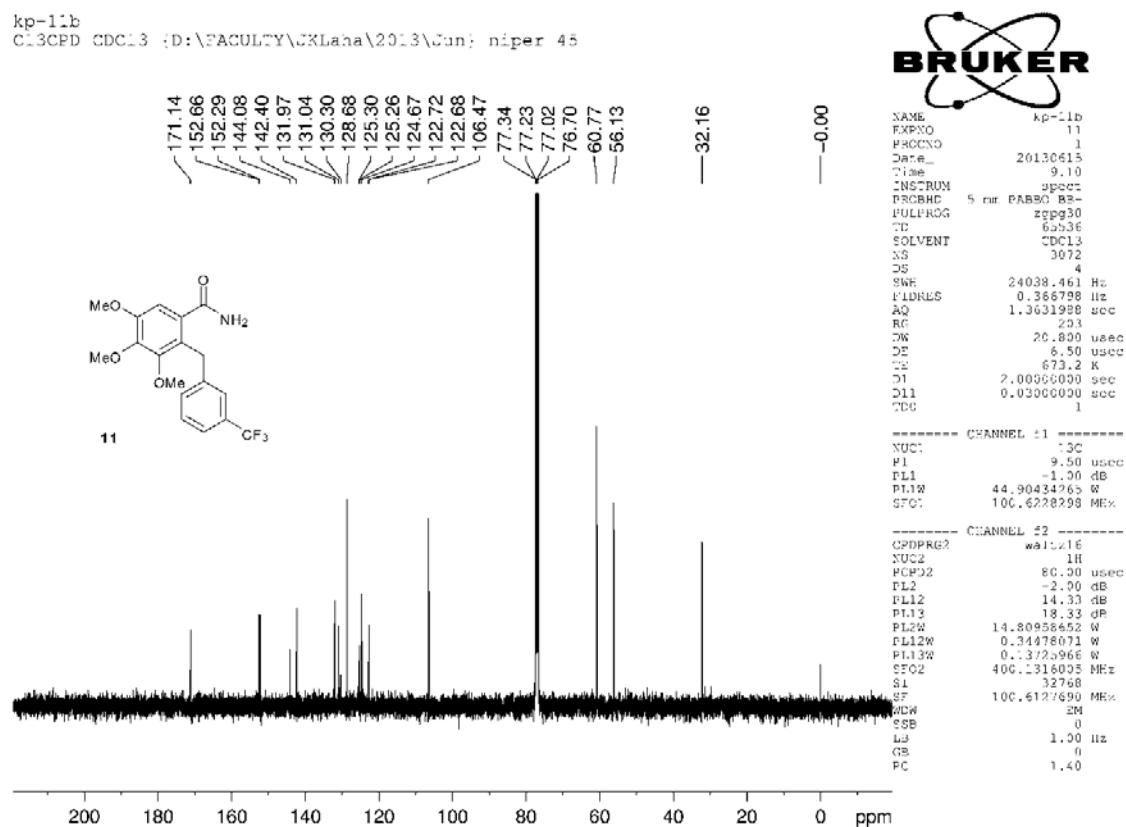
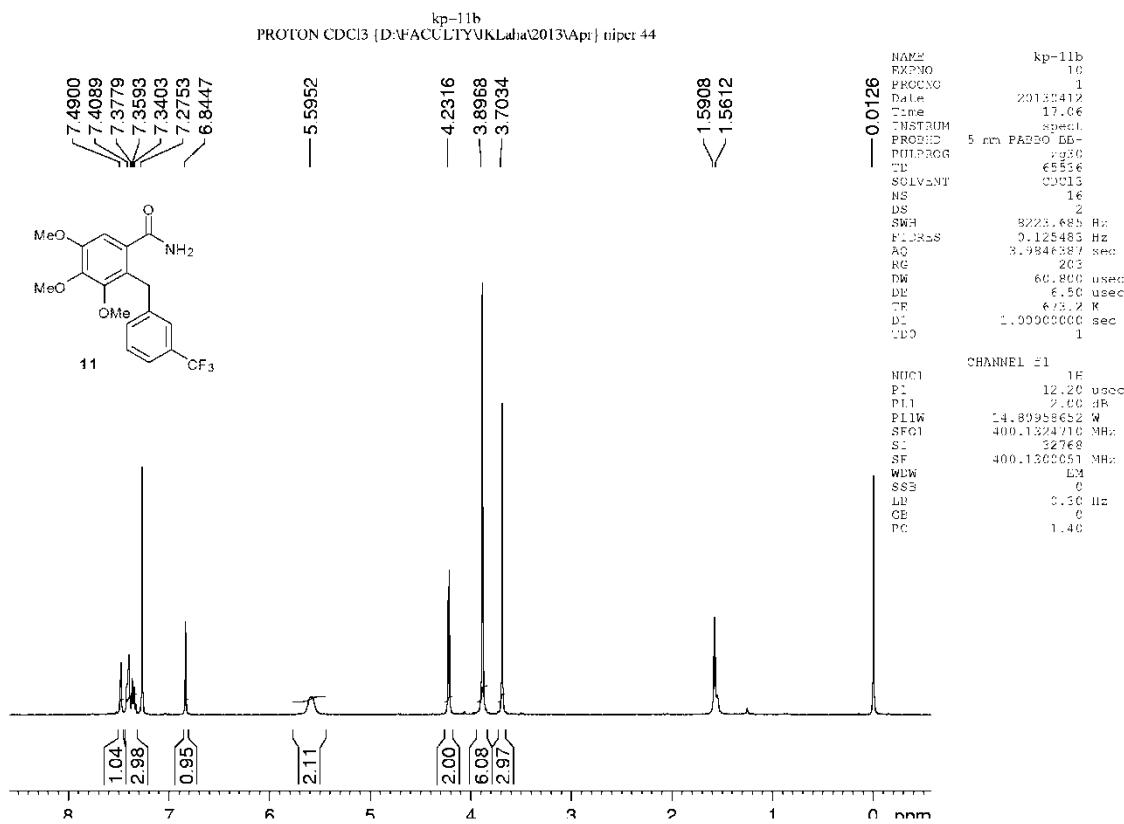


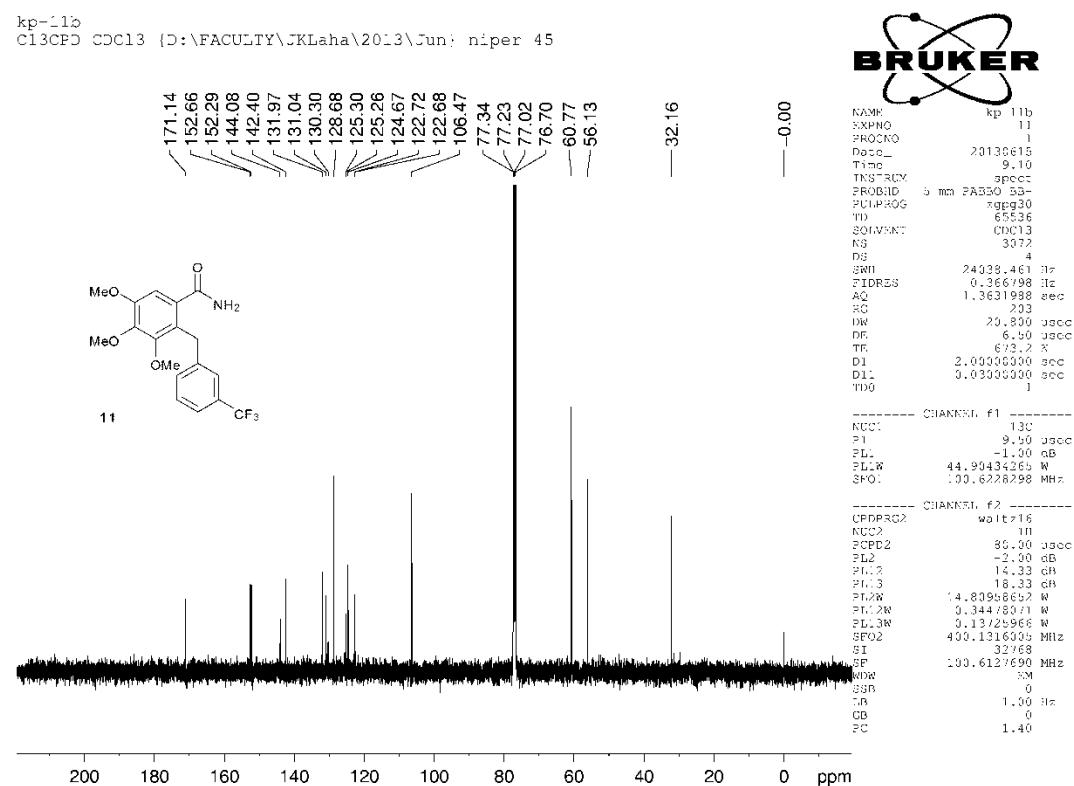
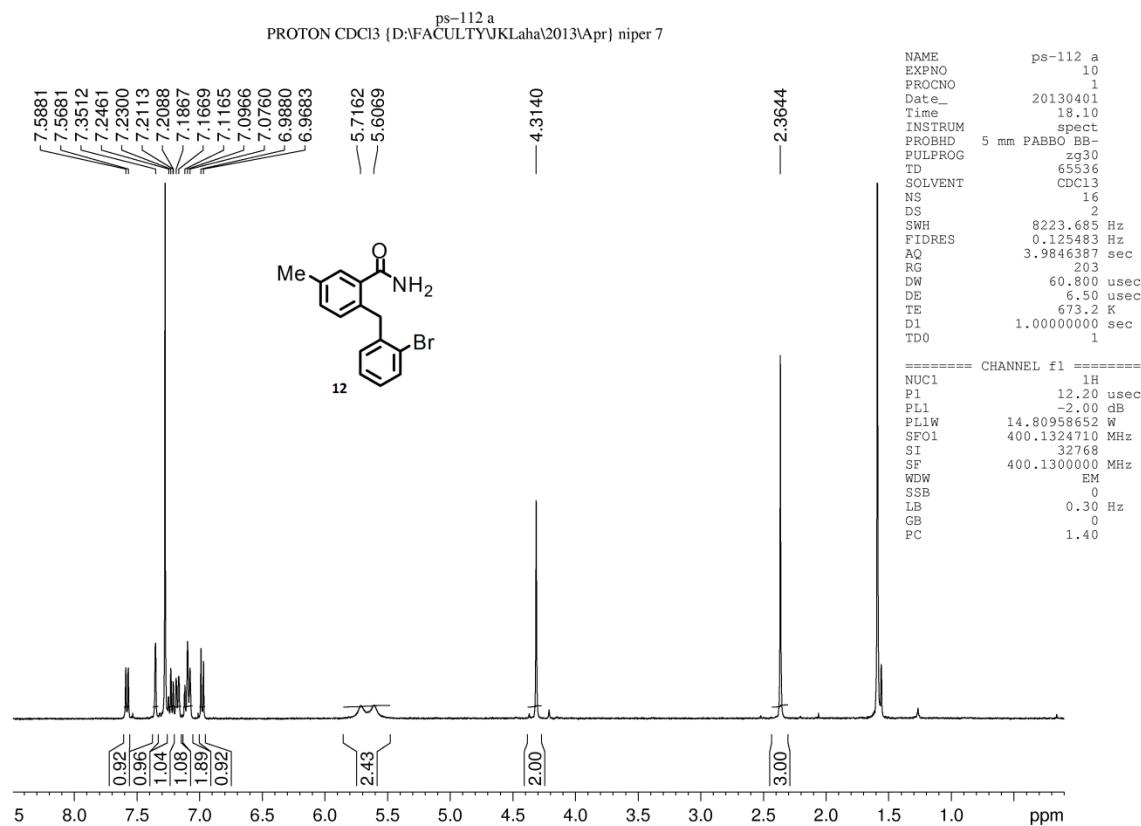


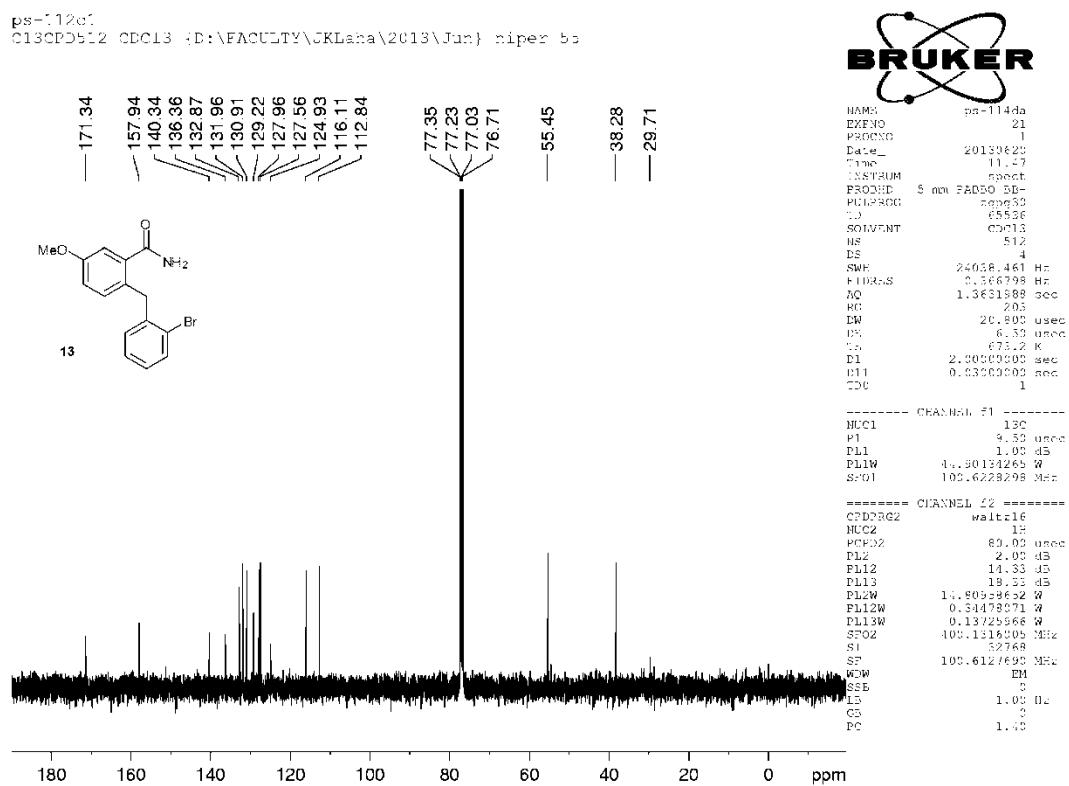
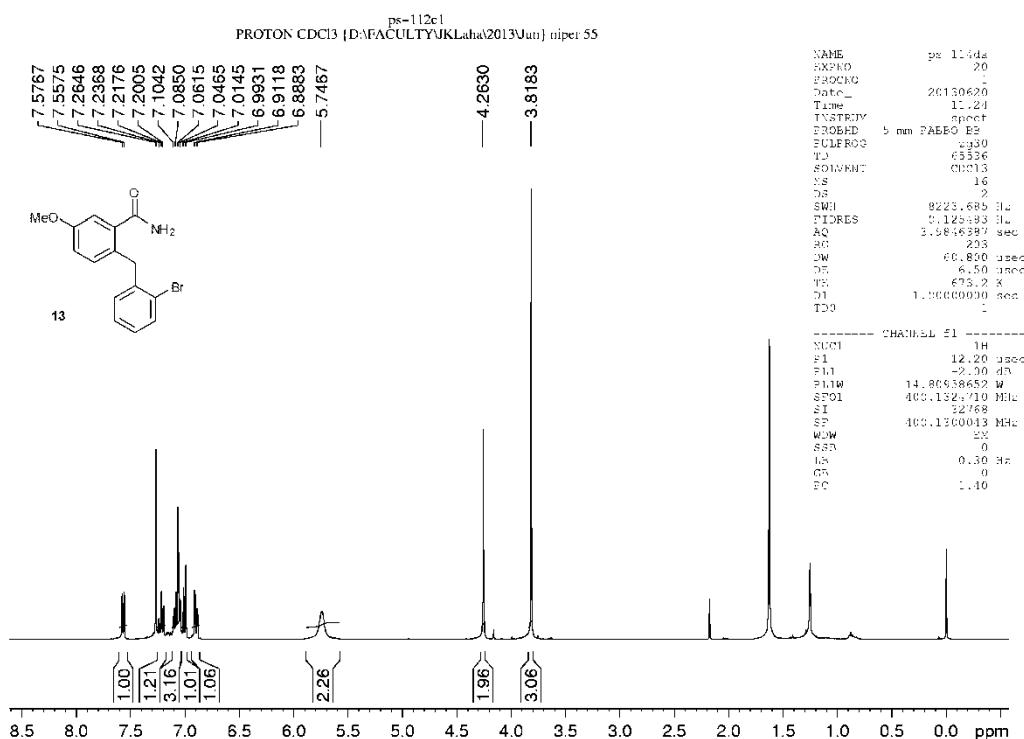


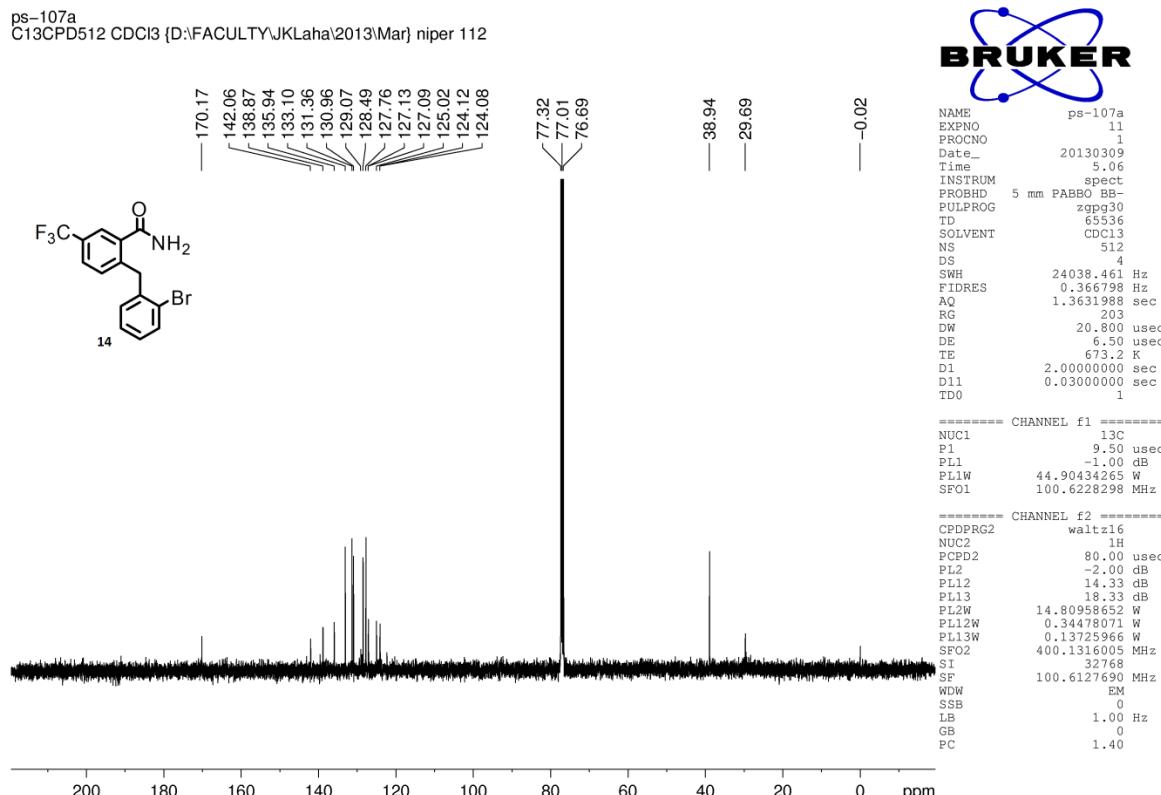
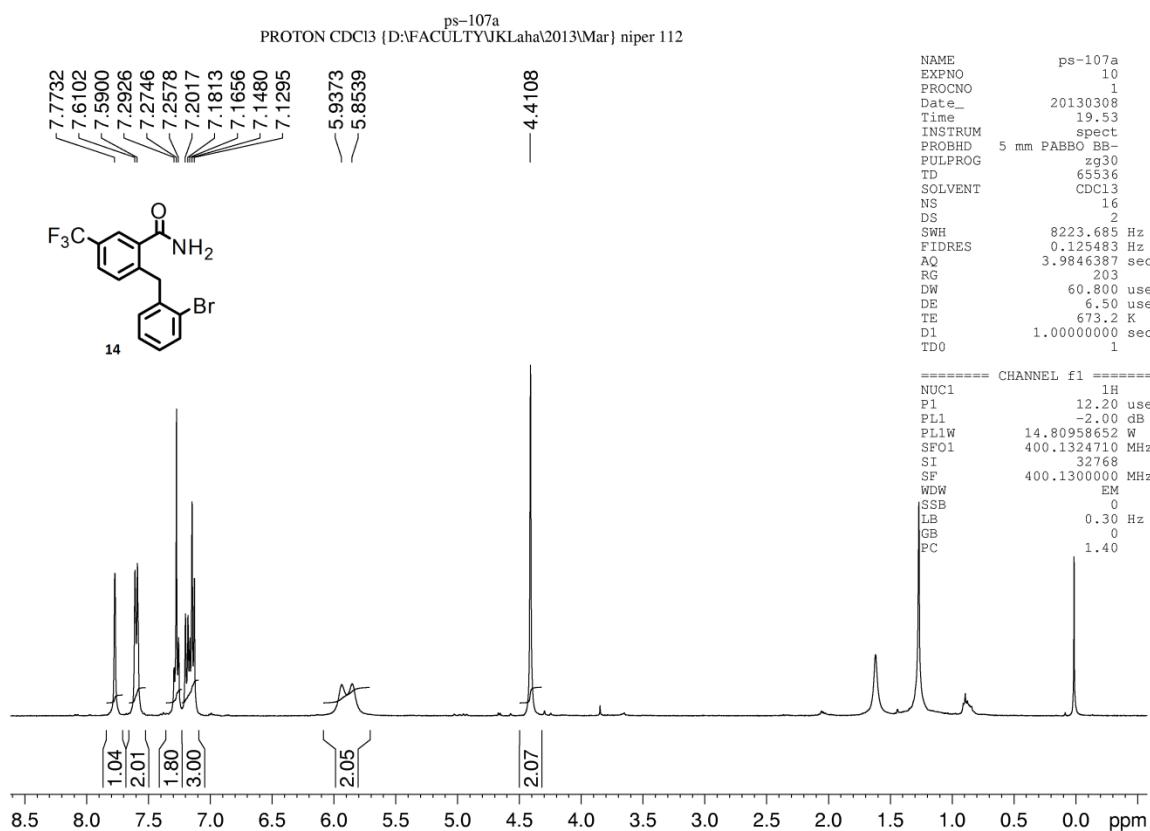


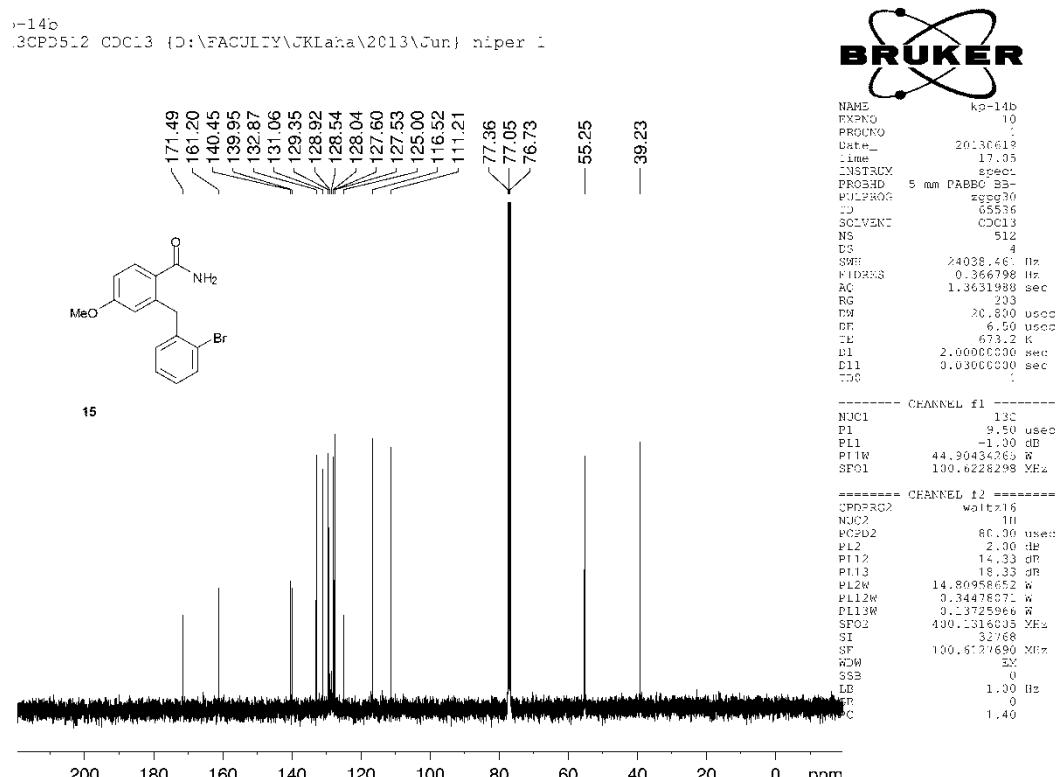
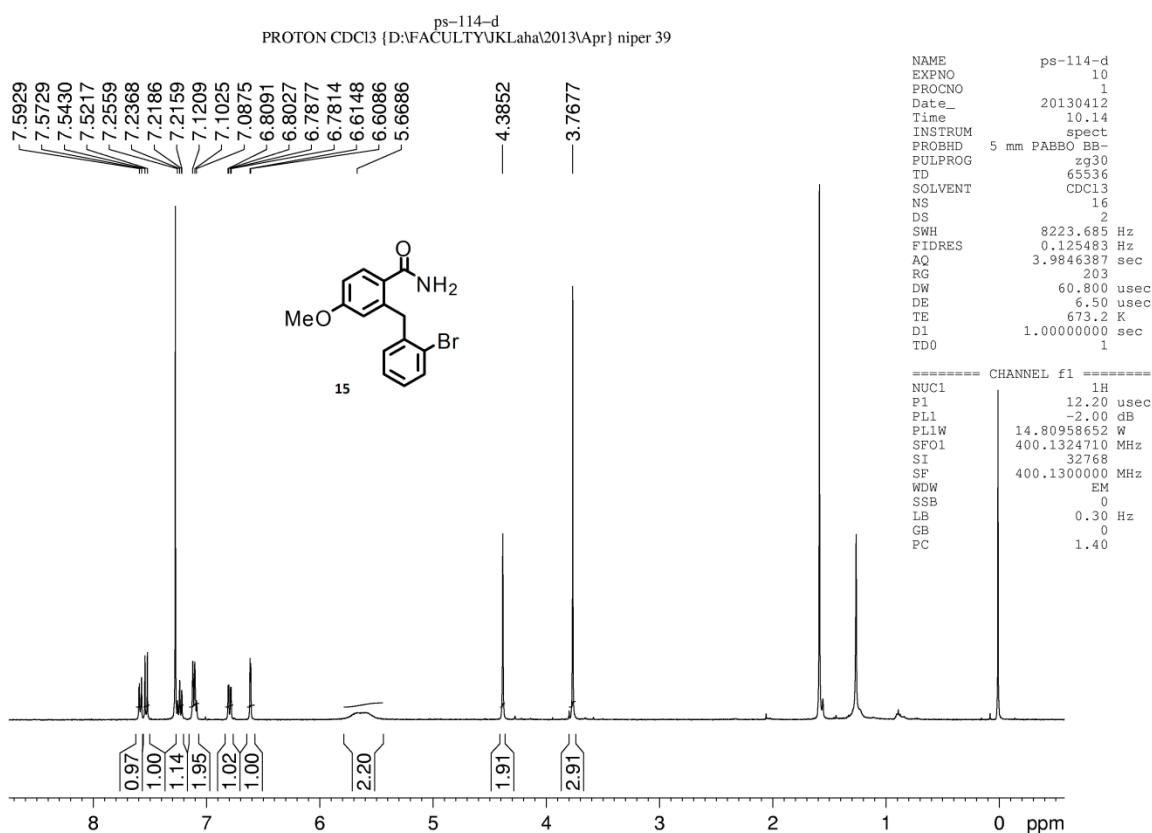


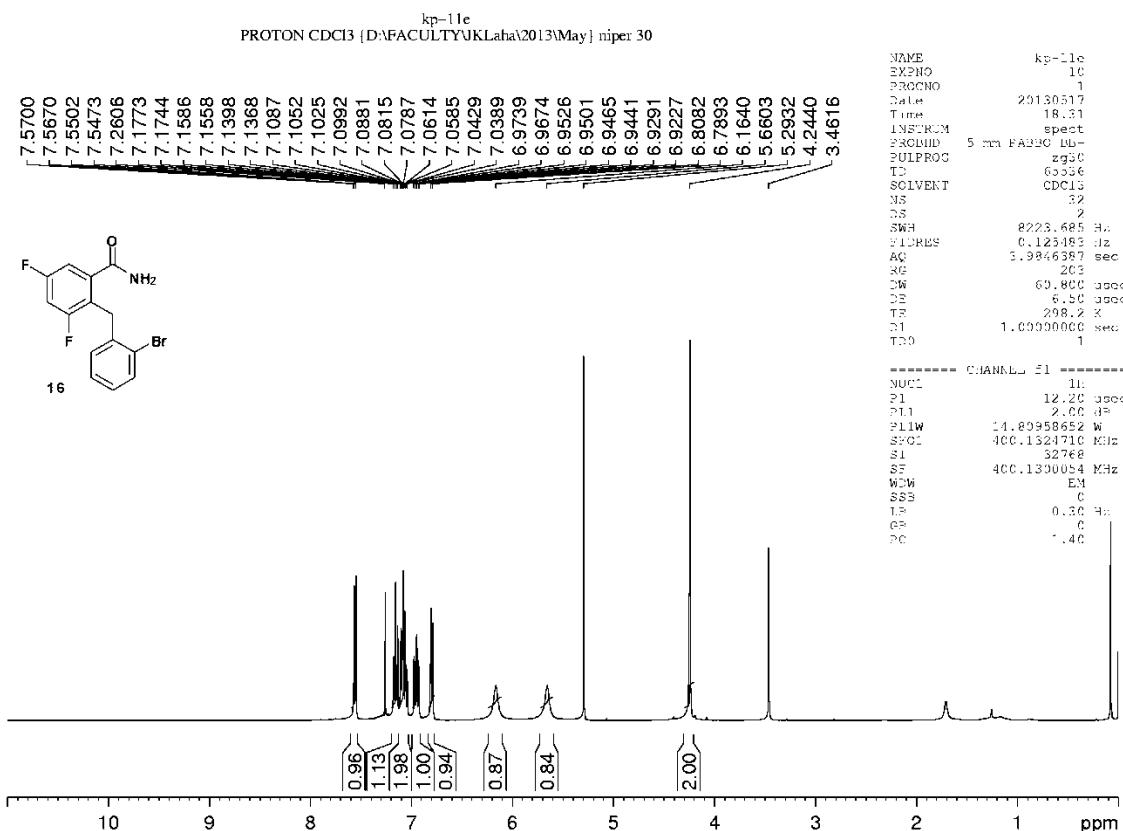


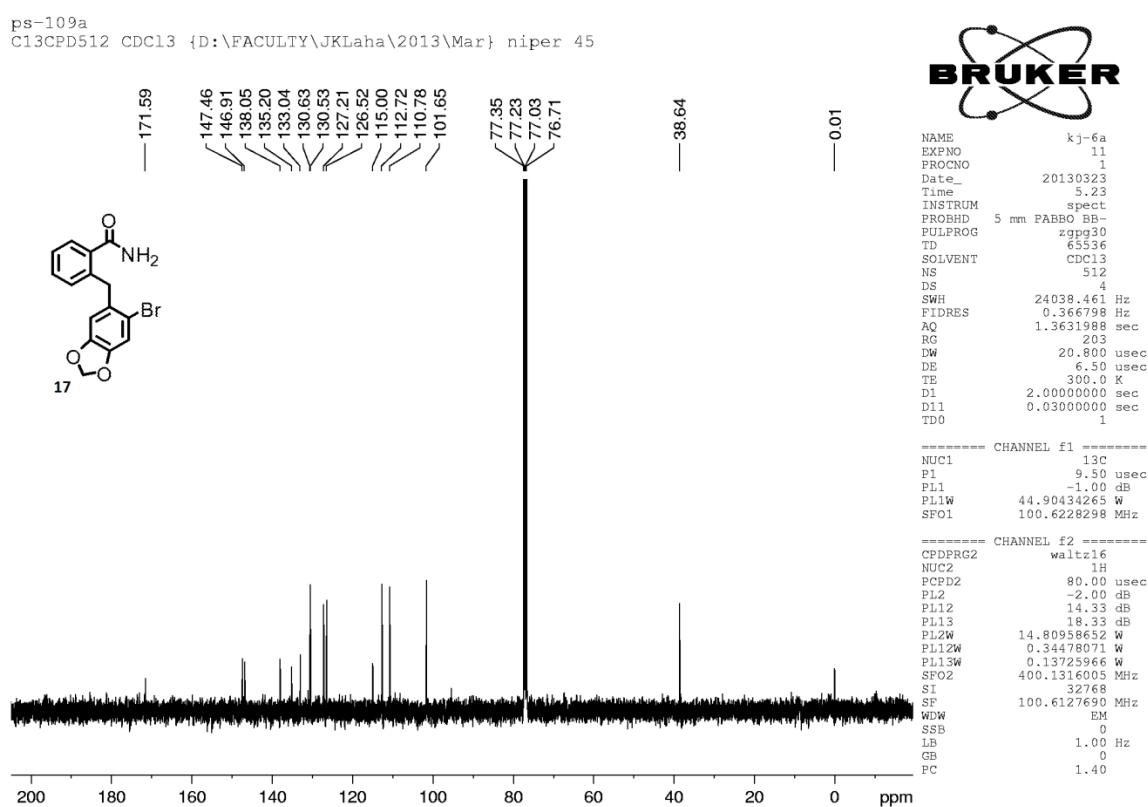
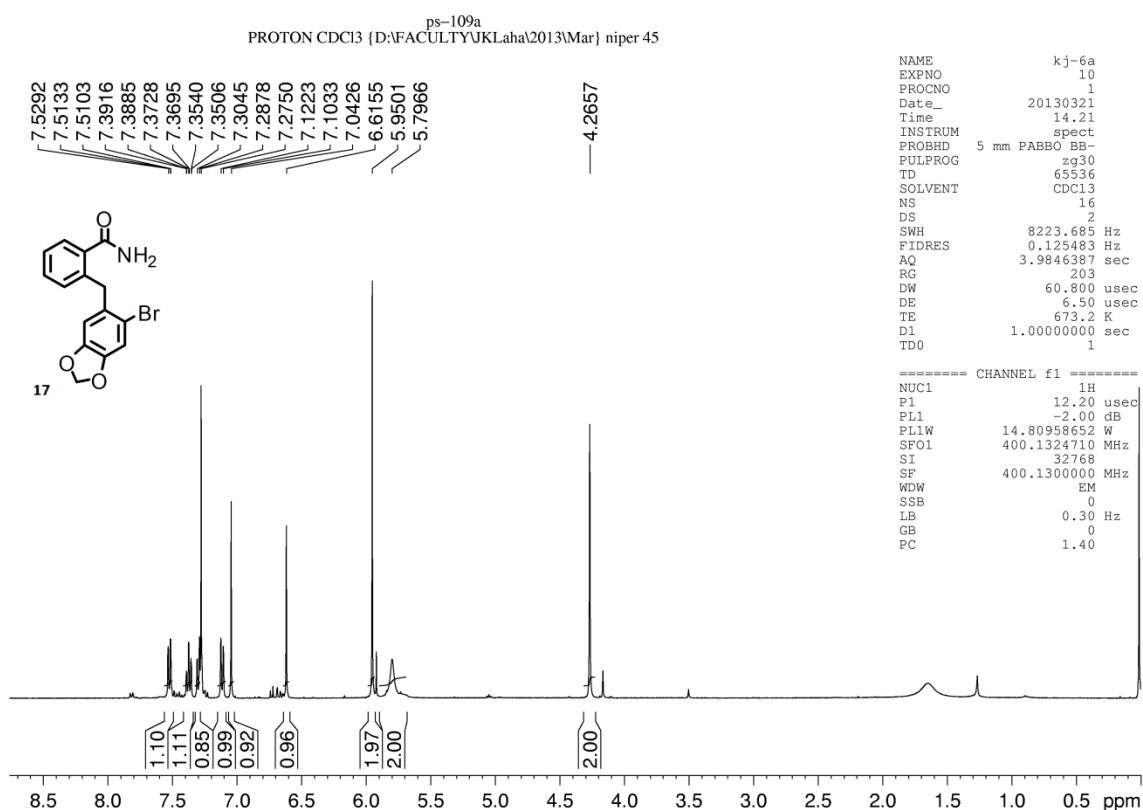


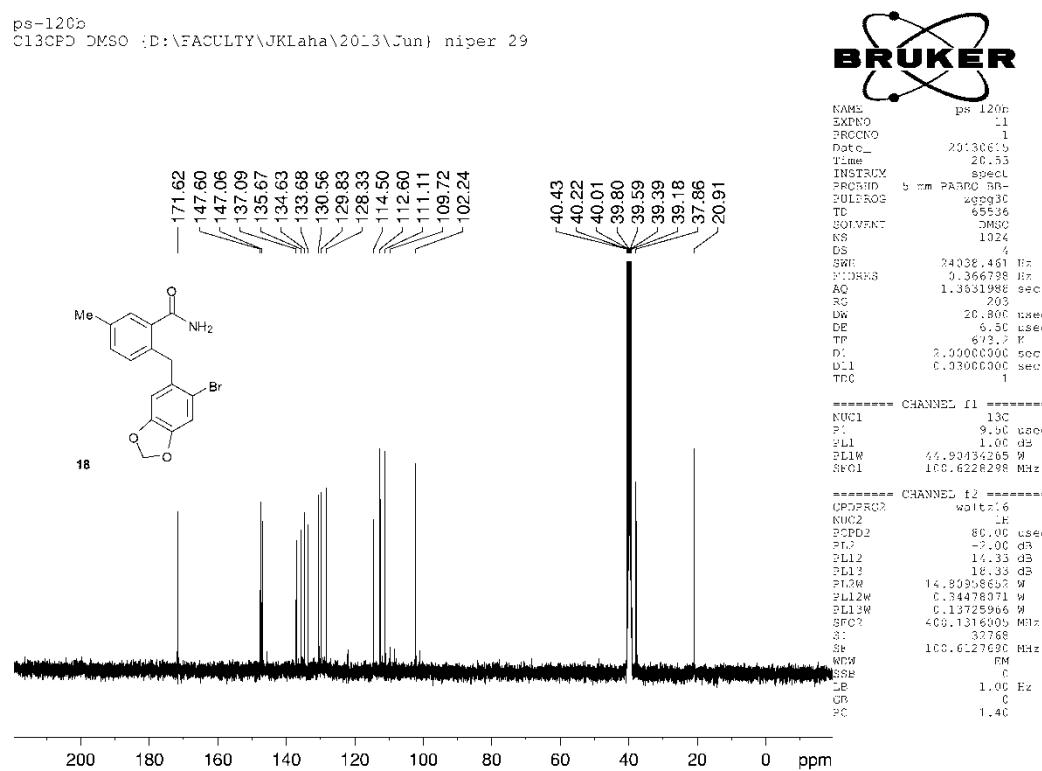
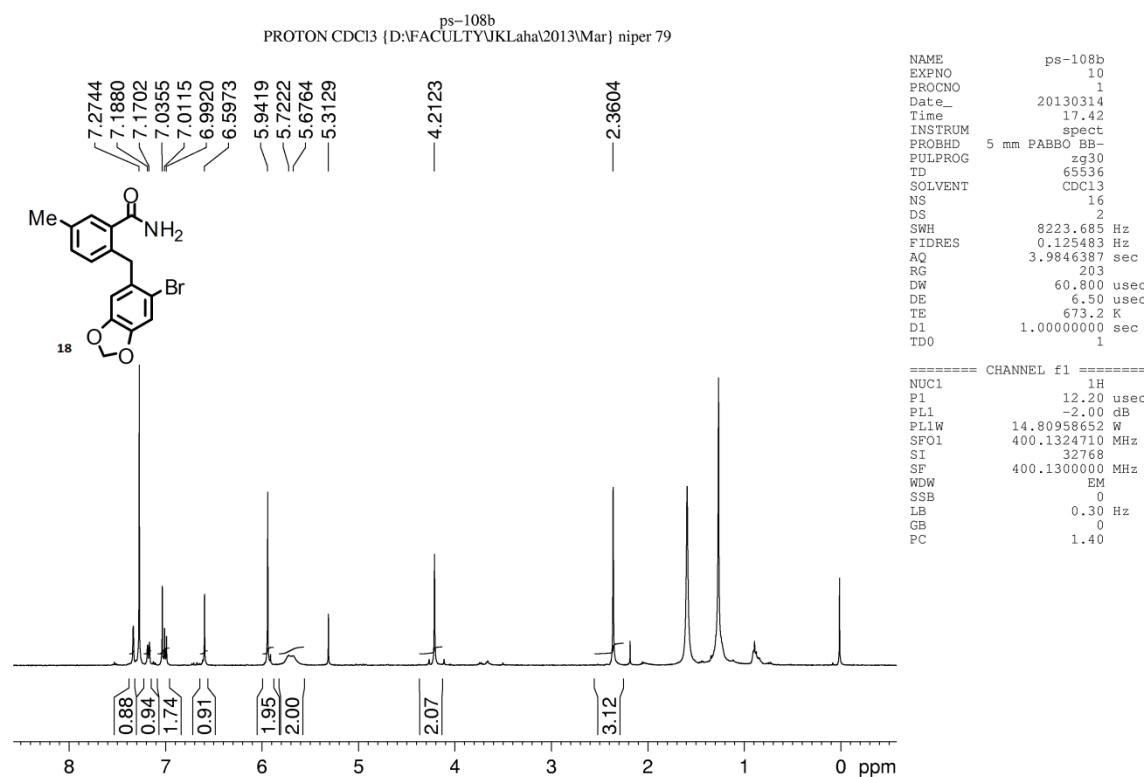


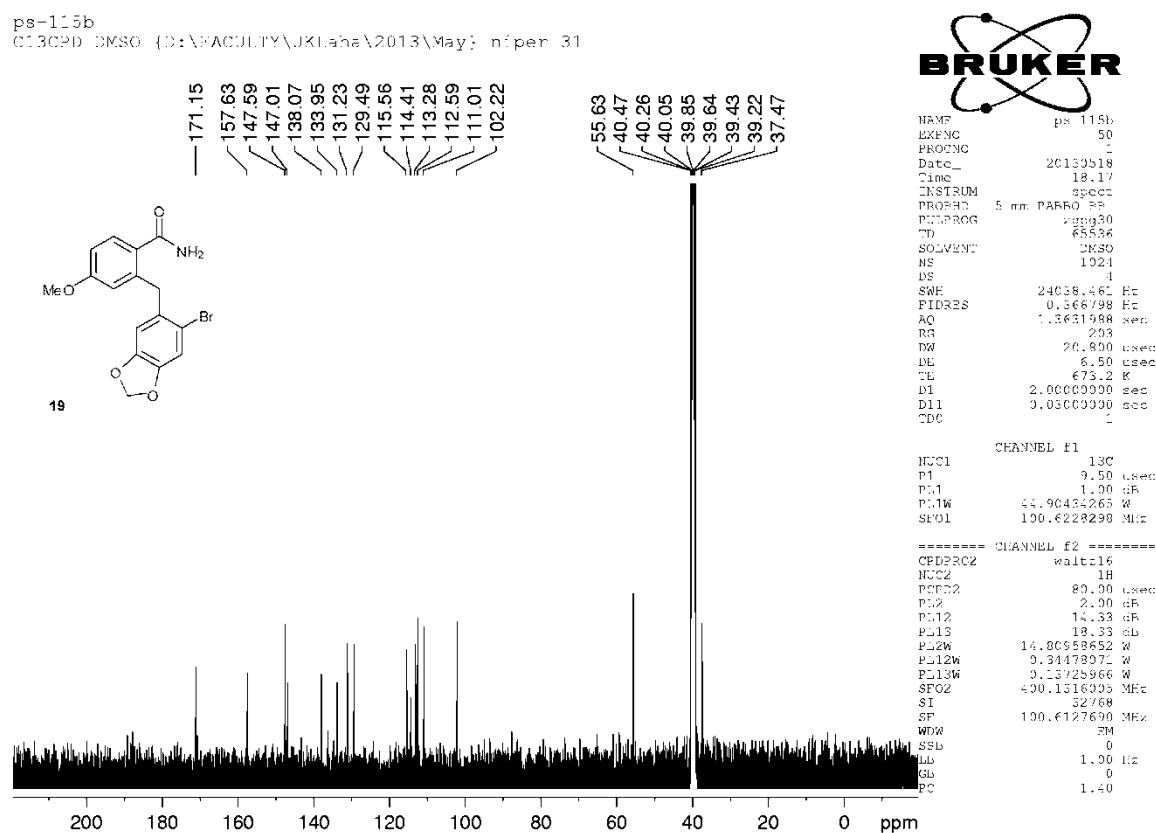
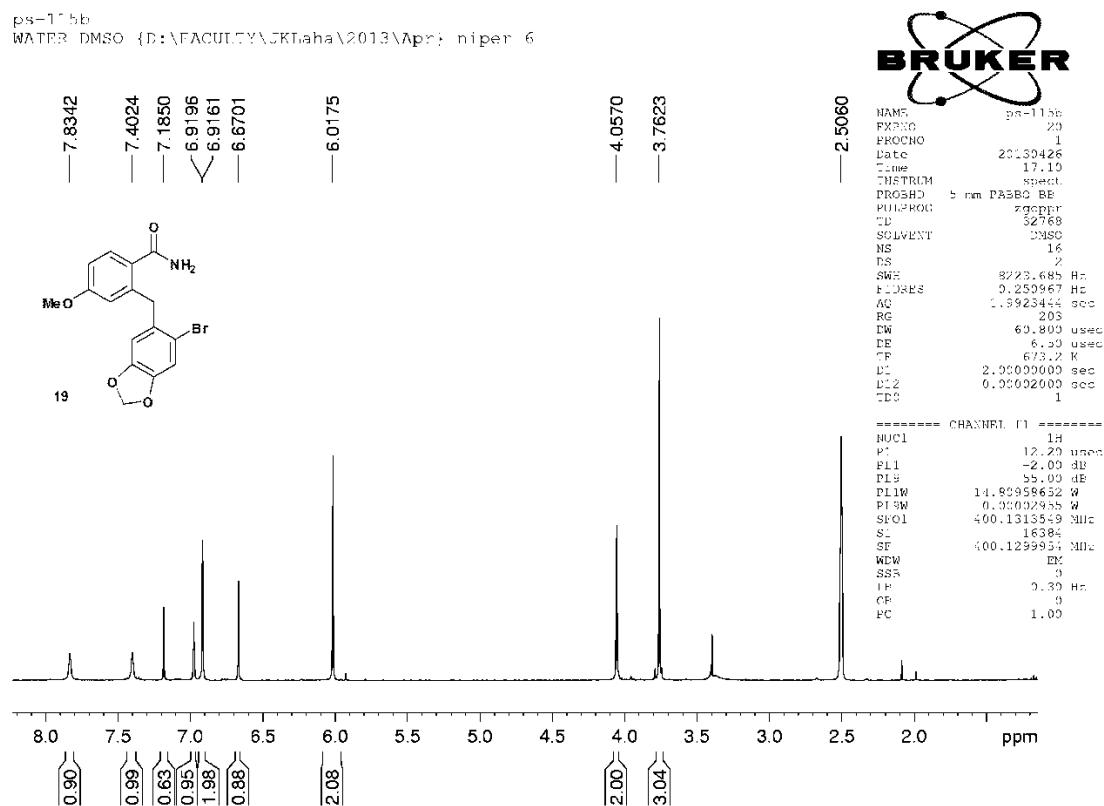


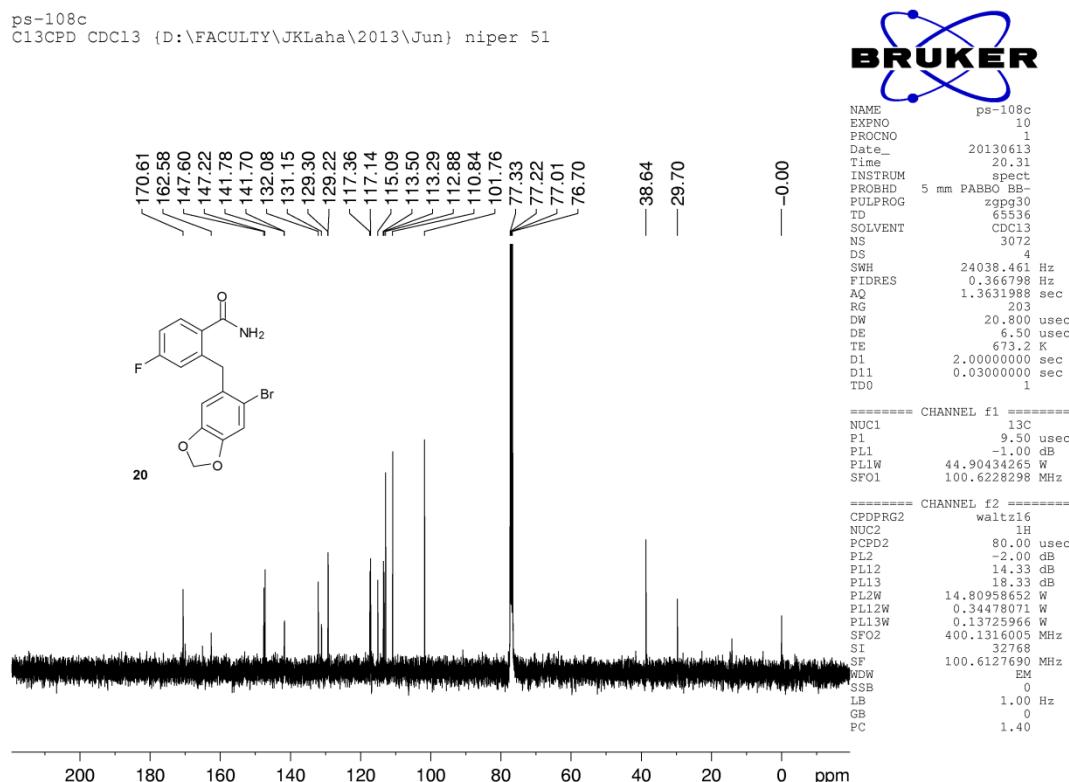
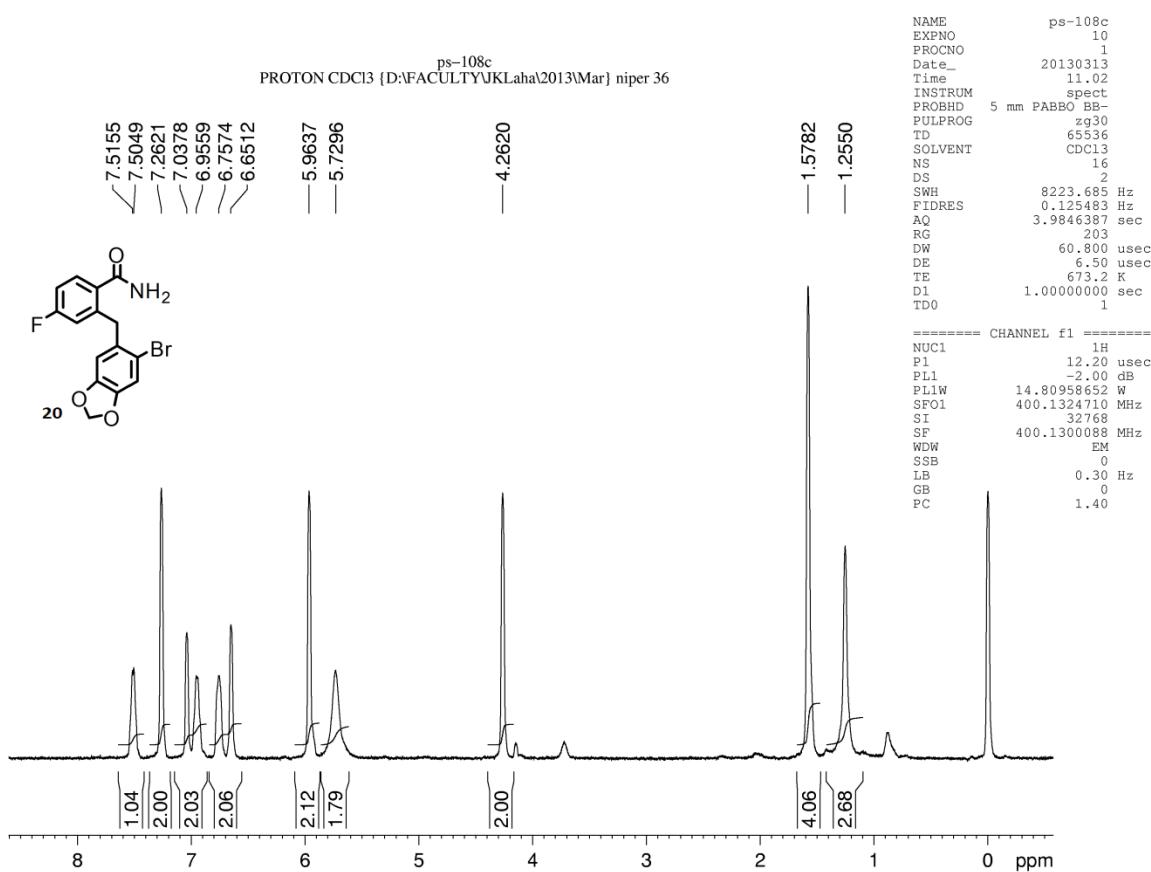


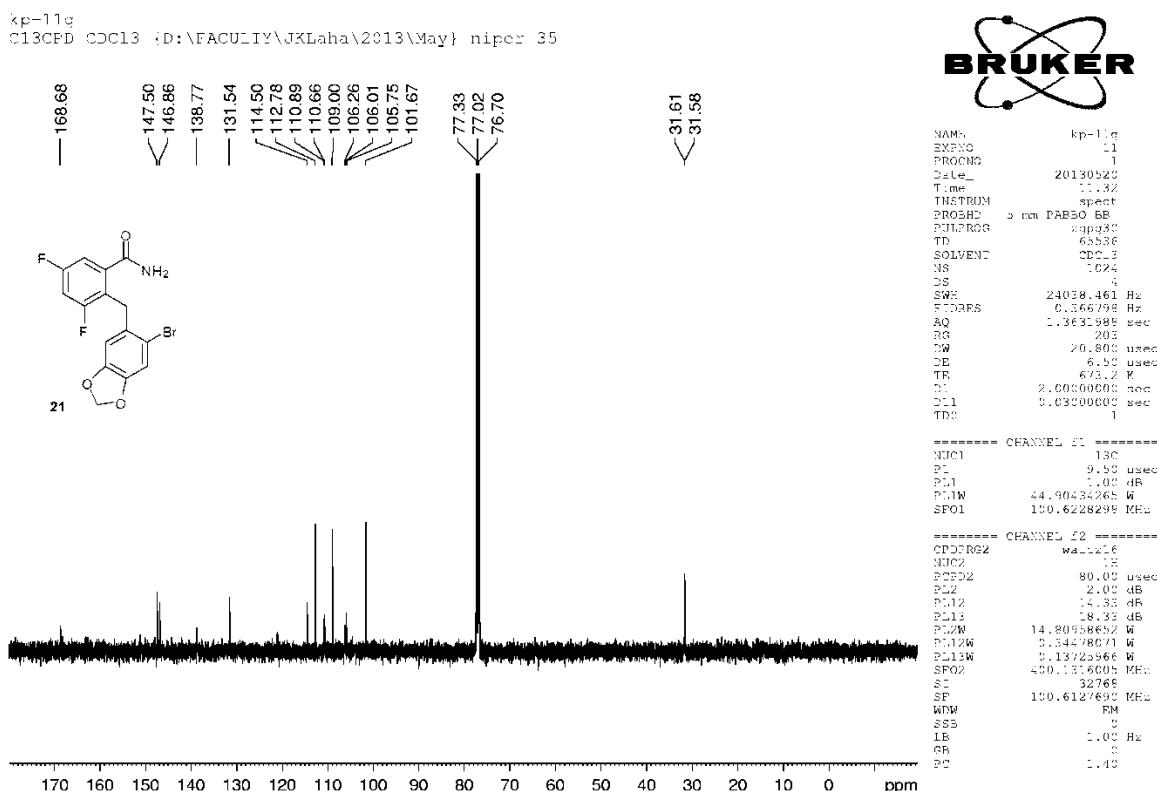
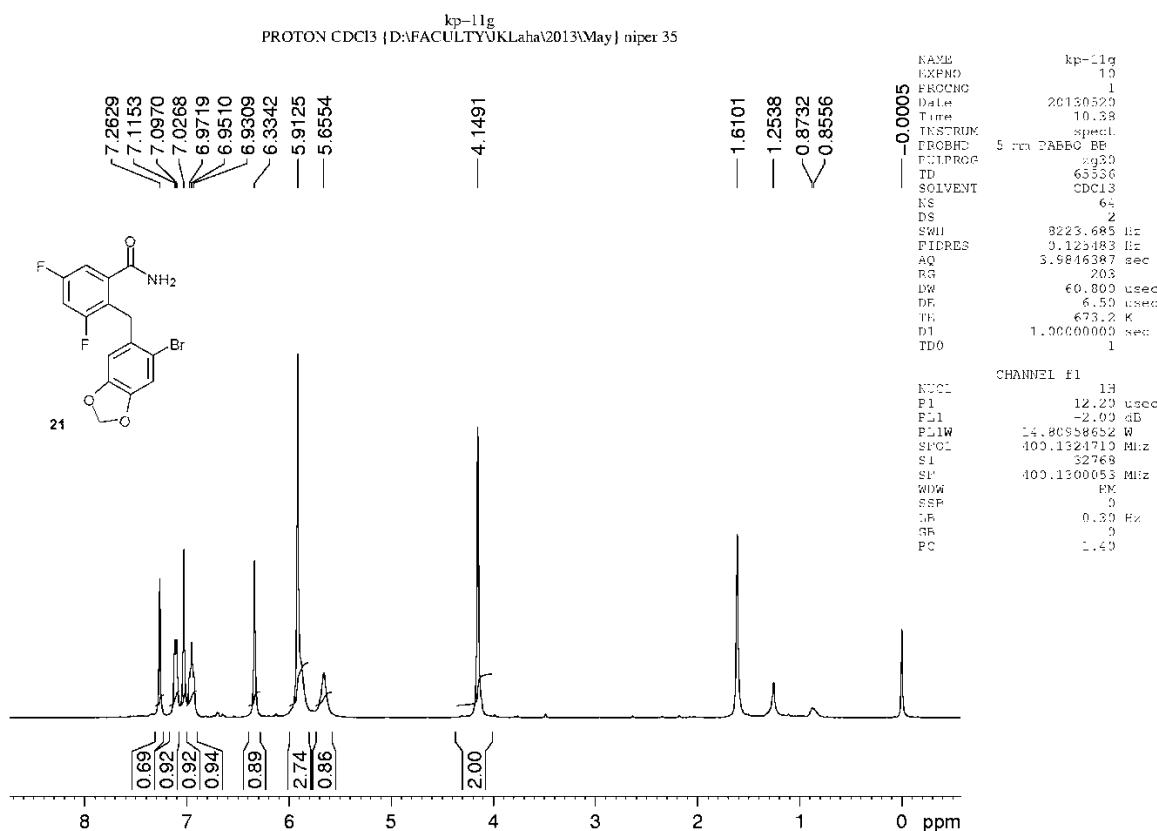


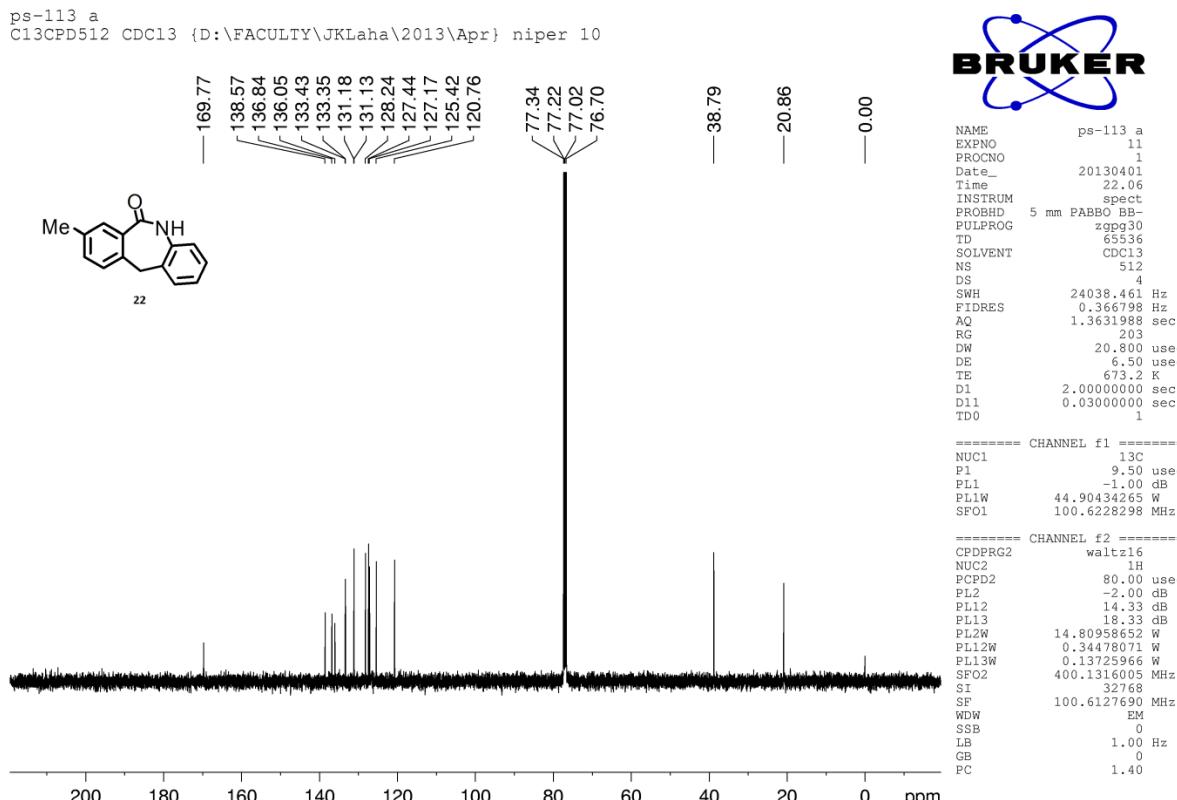
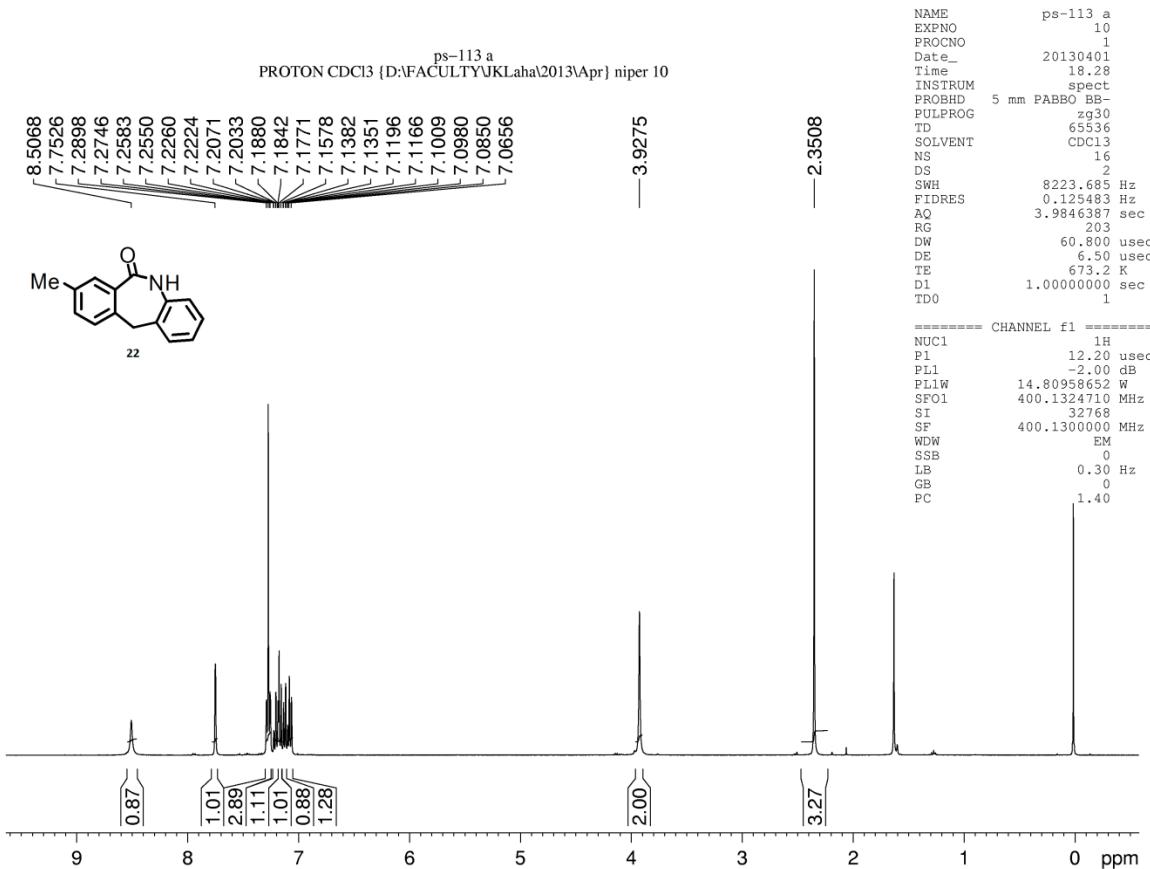


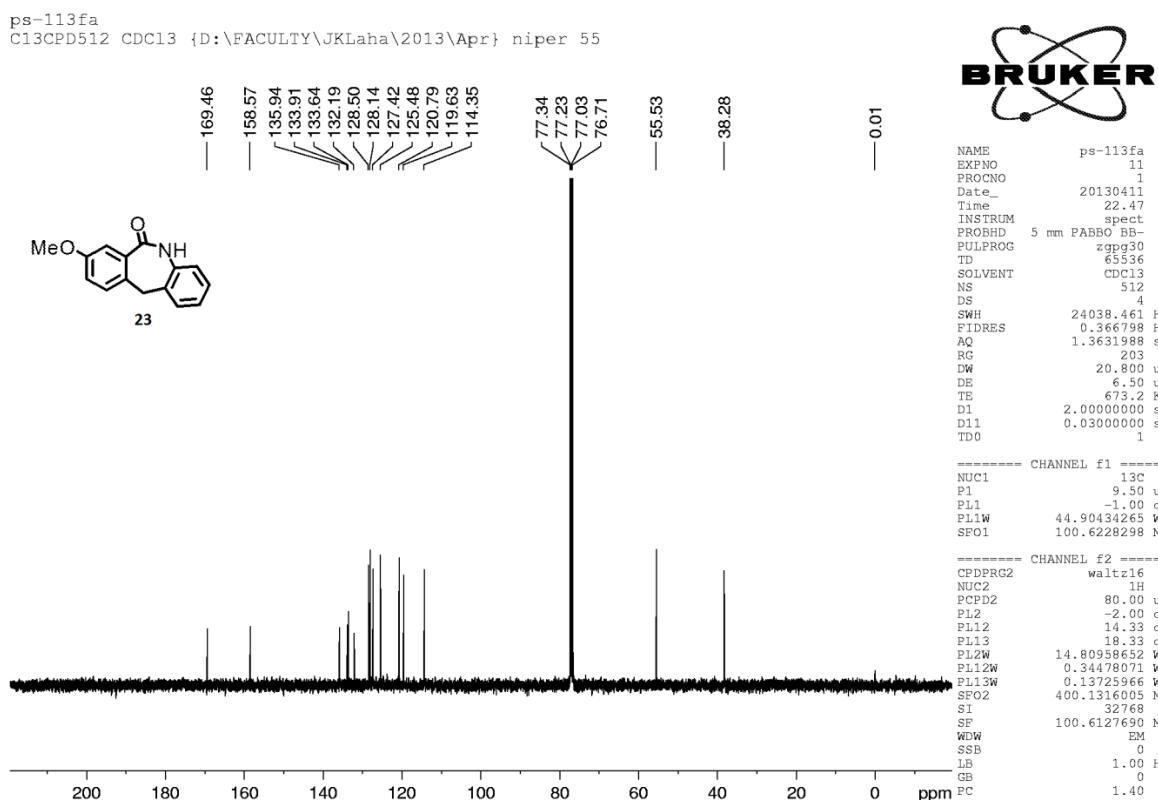
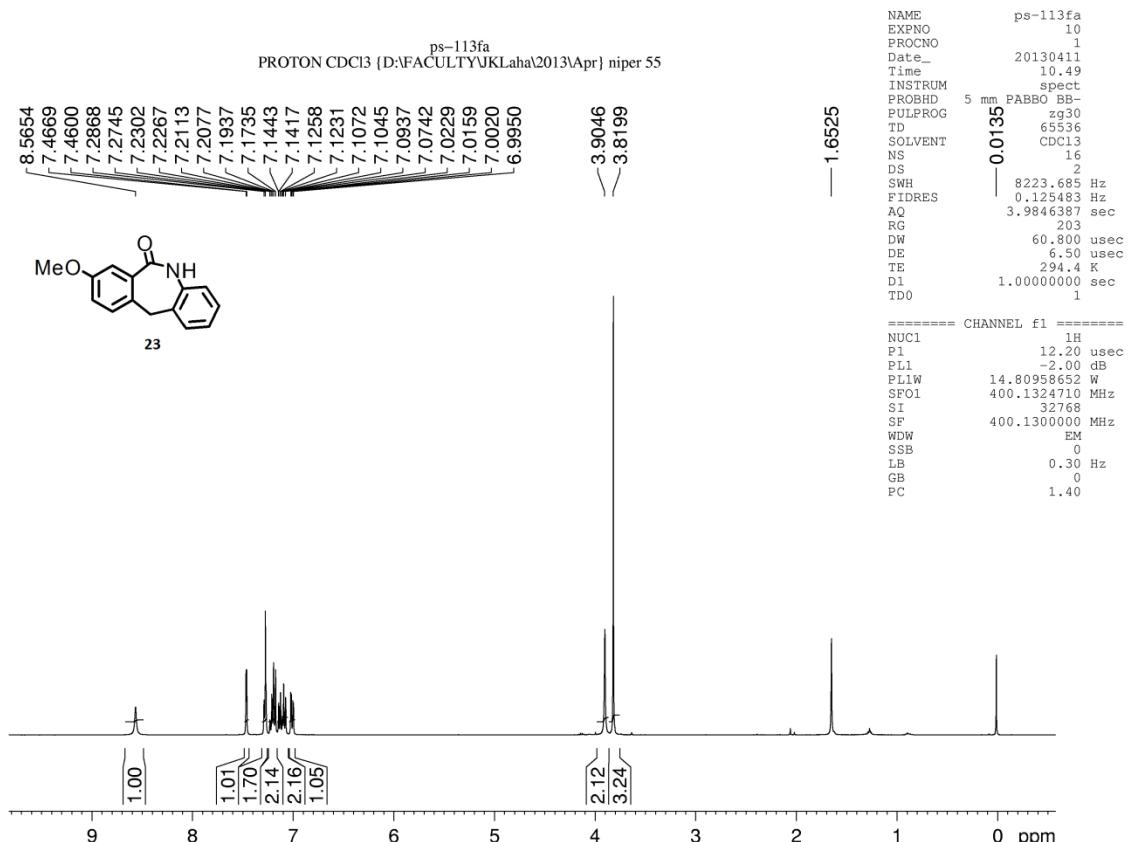


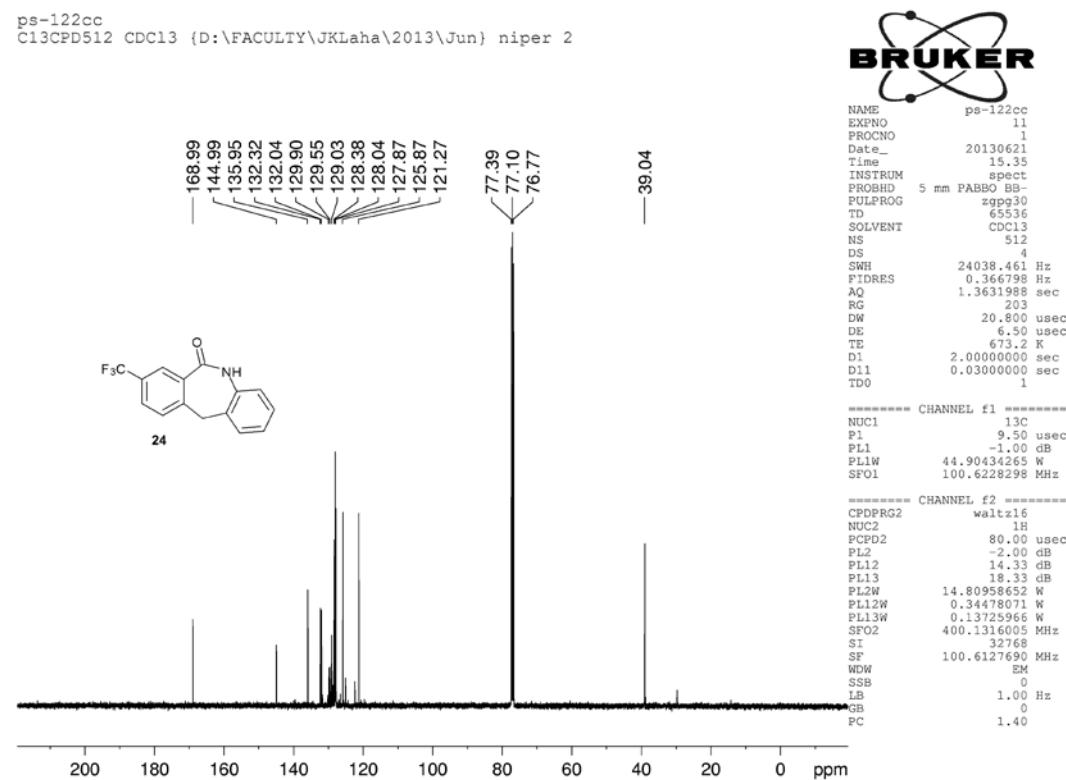
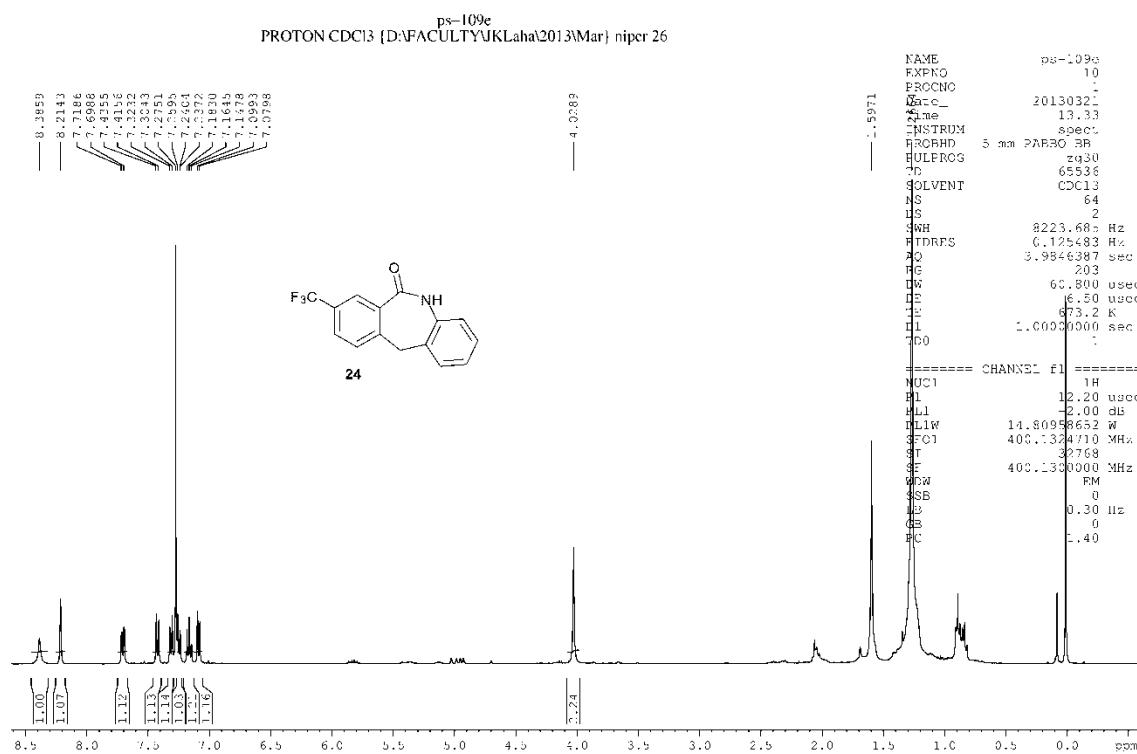


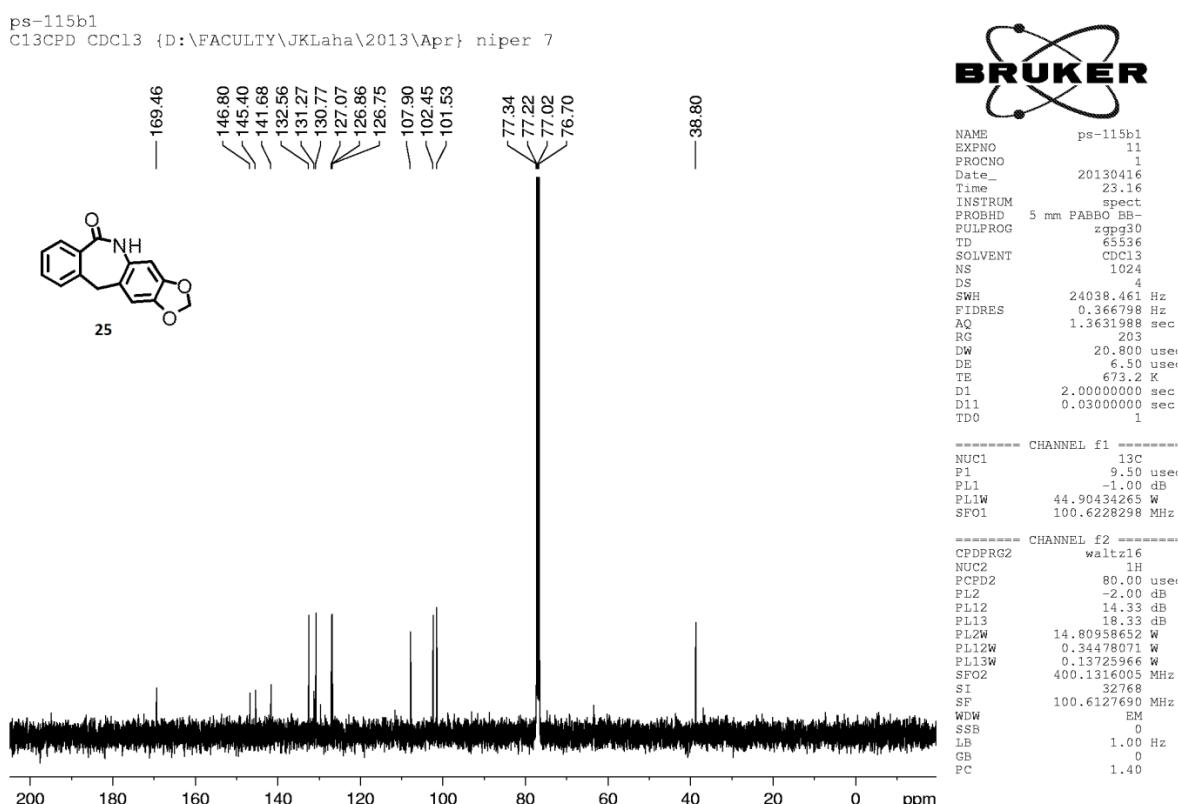
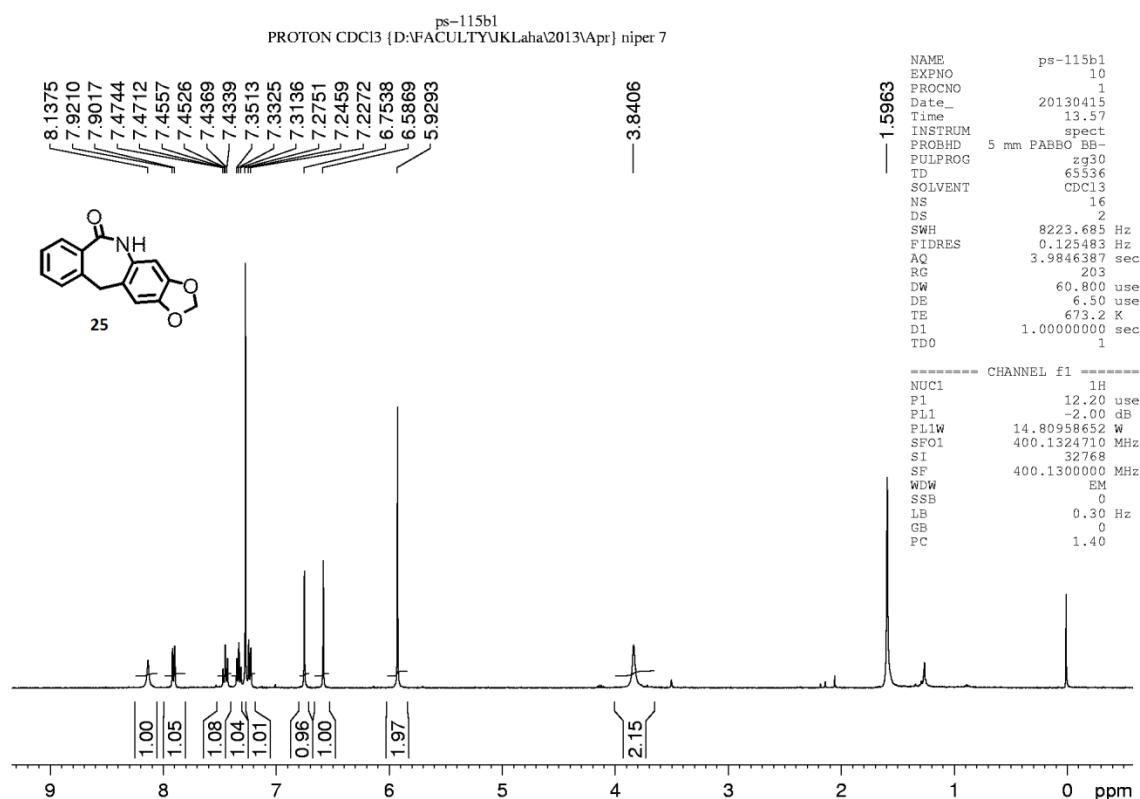


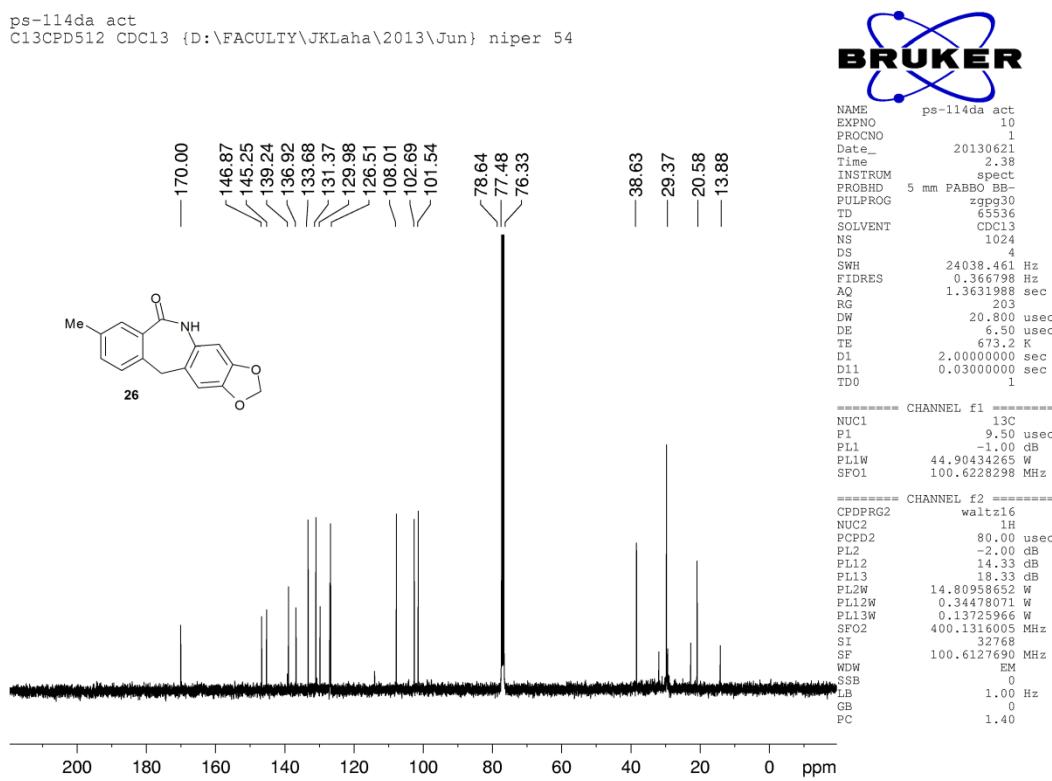
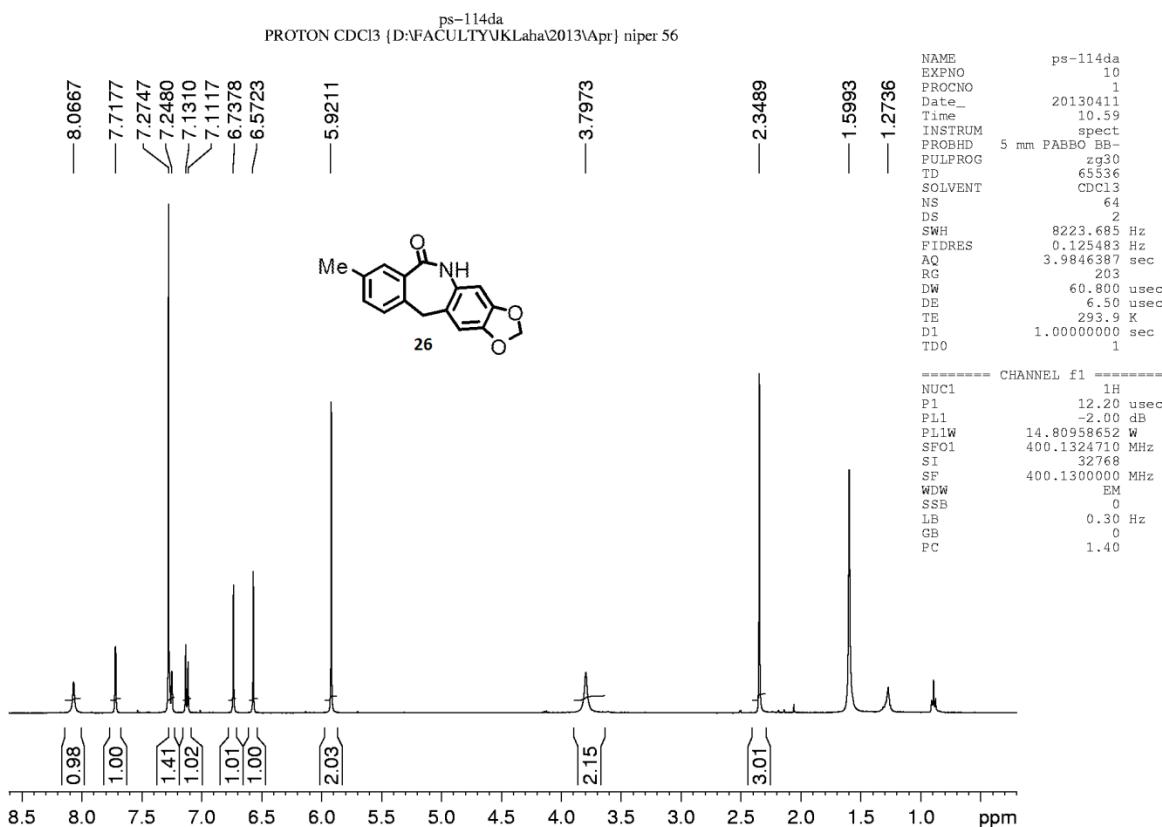


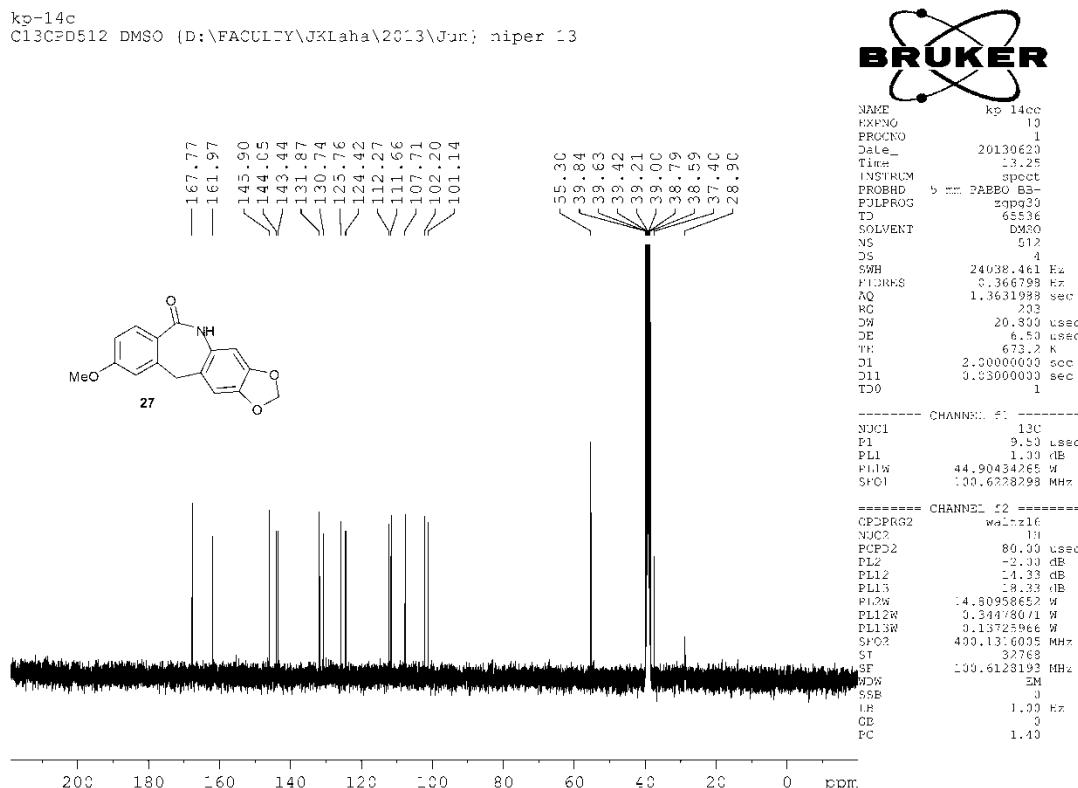
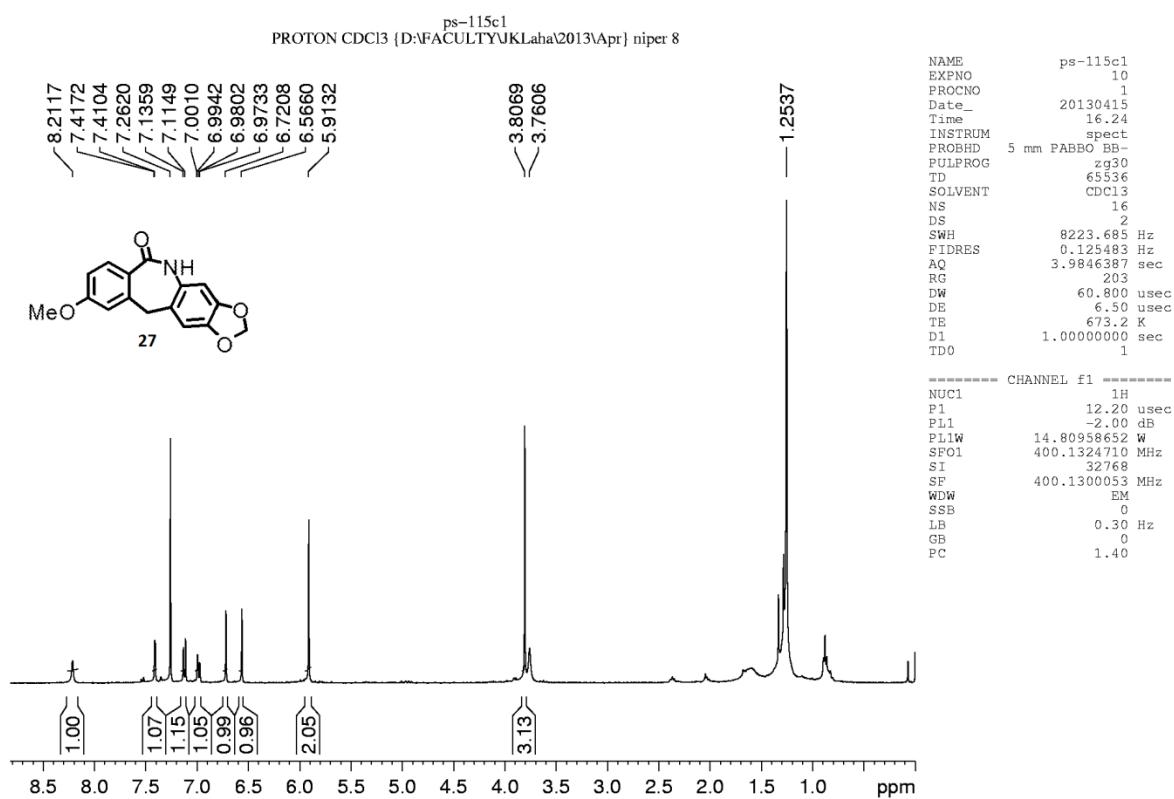


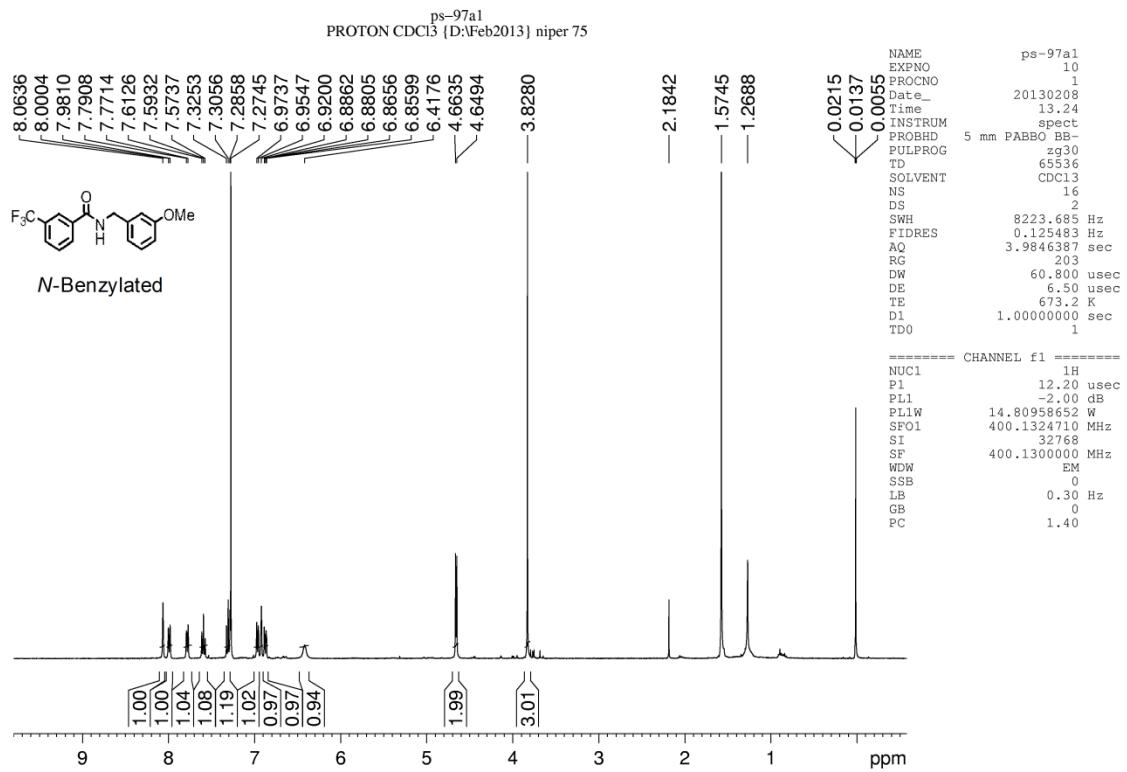


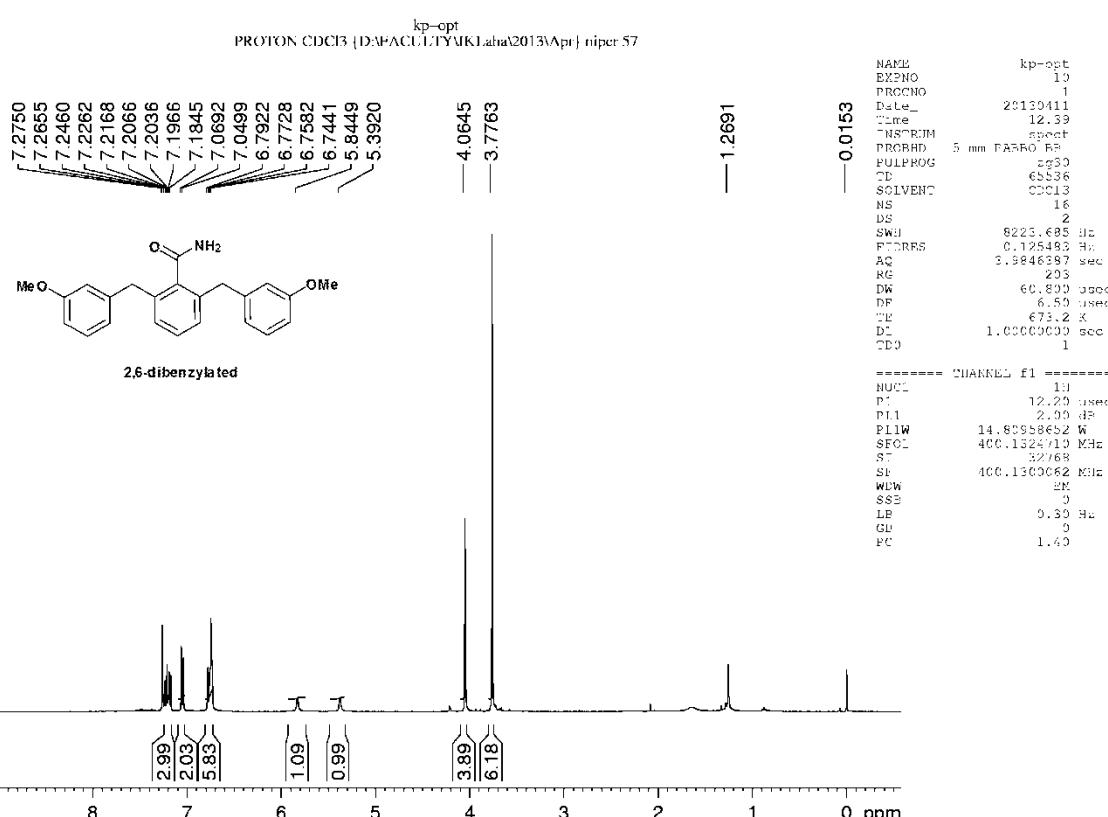
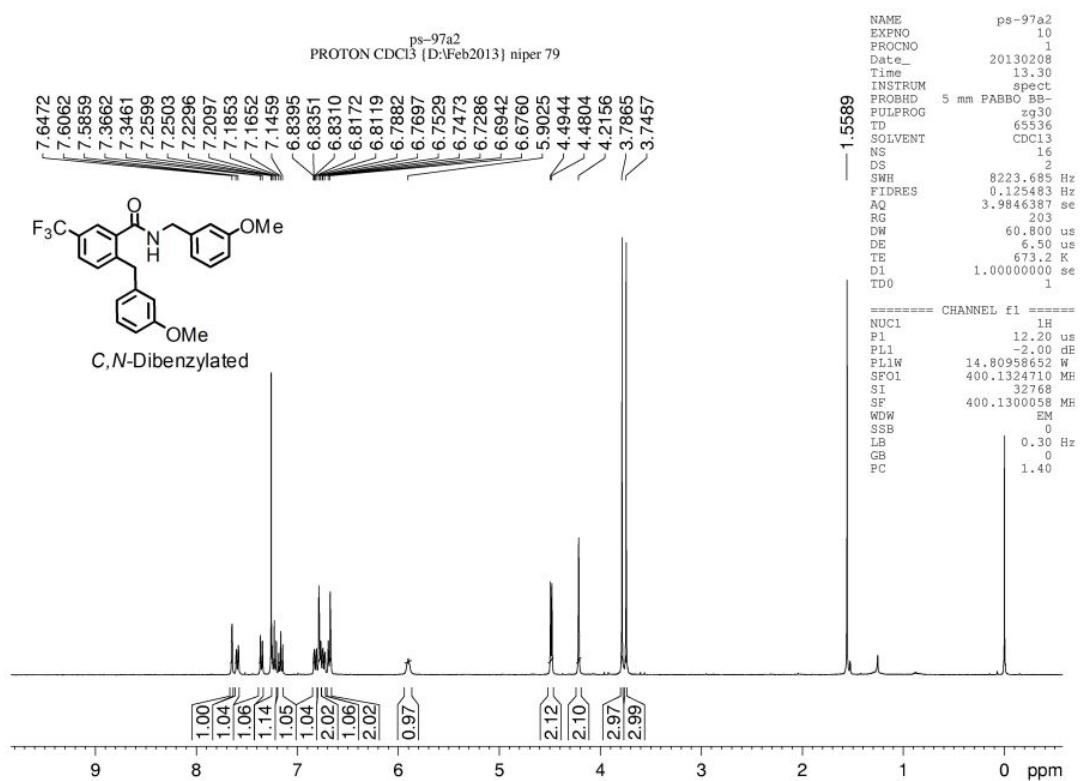








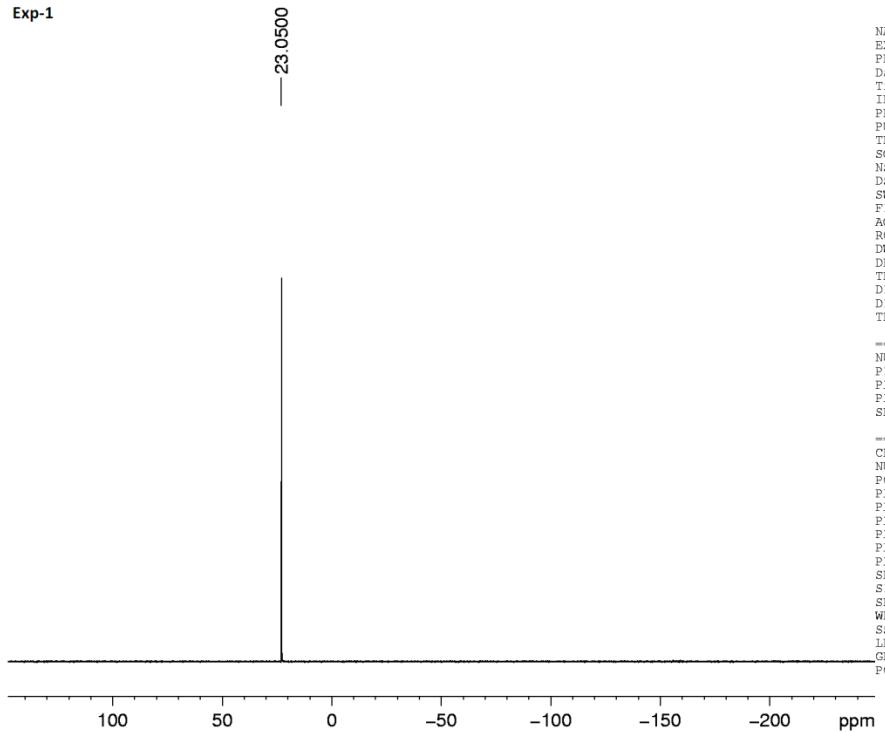




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Exp-1



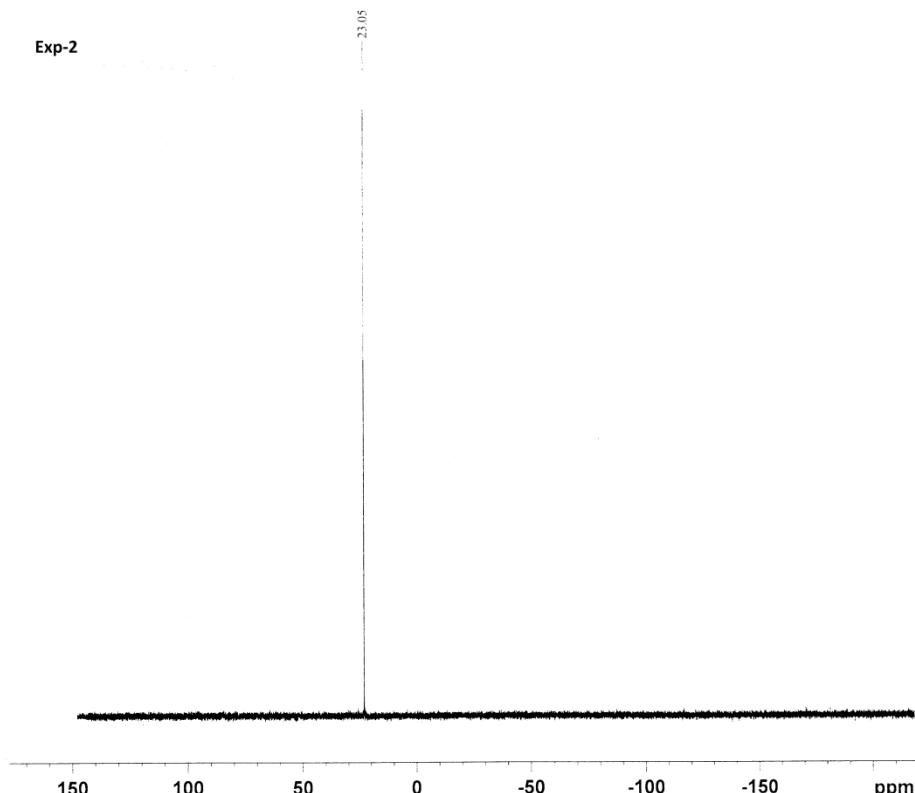
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RG 203  
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DE 6.50 usec  
TE 673.2 K  
D1 2.0000000 sec  
D11 0.03000000 sec  
TD0 1

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PL13 18.33 dB  
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PL12W 0.34478071 W  
PL13W 0.13725966 W  
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SI 32768  
SF 161.9755930 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
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jkp-19b  
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Exp-2



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RG 203  
DW 7.800 usec  
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D1 2.0000000 sec  
D11 0.03000000 sec  
TD0 1

===== CHANNEL f1 =====  
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P1 12.68 usec  
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SF01 161.9674942 MHz

===== CHANNEL f2 =====  
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NUC2 1H  
PCPD2 80.00 usec  
PL2 -2.00 dB  
PL12 14.33 dB  
PL13 18.33 dB  
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PL12W 0.34478071 W  
PL13W 0.13725966 W  
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