

Supporting Information

Highly Effective Copper-Mediated *gem*-Difluoromethylenation of Arylboronic Acids

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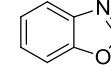
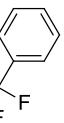
1. General Information

General Information : ^1H -, ^{13}C - and ^{19}F -NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl_3 on 500 spectrometers. Chemical shifts for ^1H NMR spectra are reported in ppm relative to residual CHCl_3 as internal reference (δ 7.26 ppm for ^1H) downfield from TMS, chemical shifts for ^{13}C NMR spectra are reported in ppm relative to internal chloroform (δ 77.10 ppm for ^{13}C), and chemical shifts for ^{19}F NMR spectra are reported in ppm downfield from internal fluorotrichloromethane (CFCl_3). Coupling constants (J) are given in Hertz (Hz). The terms m, s, d, t, q refer to multiplet, singlet, doublet, triplet, quartet respectively; br refers to a broad signal. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) and Mass spectra (MS) were recorded using an Electron impact (EI) or Electrospray ionization (ESI) techniques. Elemental analyses were carried out on an elemental analyzer. Infrared spectra (IR) were recorded on FT-IR spectrometer, absorbance frequencies are given at maximum of intensity in cm^{-1} . Melting points were obtained on a X-4 digital melting point apparatus without correction. Reactions were monitored by ^{19}F NMR or TLC carried out on commercial silica gel plates (GF254) using UV light as a visualizing agent. Flash column chromatograph was carried out using 300-400 mesh silica gel at medium pressure.

All reagents were used as received from commercial sources, unless specified otherwise, or prepared as described in the literature. NMP was distilled under reduced pressure from CaH_2 and stored with 4 Å molecular sieves.

2. Optimization of the Reaction Condition

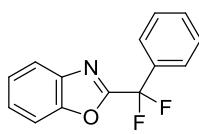
Table S1. *gem*-Difluoromethylenation of Phenylboronic Acids with Additives

 1a	 2	 3a		
$\xrightarrow[\substack{\text{NMP} \\ \text{RT, 16h}}]{\substack{[\text{Cu}] \\ \text{additive}}}$				
Entry ^a	[Cu]	Additive	1a: 2: [Cu]: Additive	Yield(%) ^a
1	Cu	bipy	1:3:3:1	31
2	Cu	phen	1:3:3:1	47
3	Cu	Ph ₃ P	1:3:3:1	0
4	Cu	DPPP	1:3:3:1	0
5	Cu	DPPF	1:3:3:1	0
6	Cu	KOAc	1:3:3:1	0
7	Cu	Na ₂ CO ₃	1:3:3:1	0
8	Cu	CsCO ₃	1:3:3:1	0
9	Cu	<i>t</i> -BuOK	1:3:3:1	3

^aYields determined by ¹⁹F NMR analysis with PhCF₃ as the internal standard

3. Preliminary mechanistic study

Table S2. Effects of Additives on *gem*-Difluoromethylenation of Phenylboronic acid

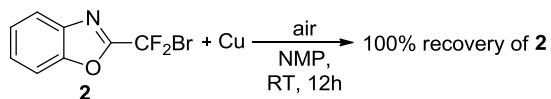
 1a	 2	 3
$\xrightarrow[\substack{\text{NMP}, \text{RT, 4h}}]{\substack{\text{Cu} \\ \text{additive}}}$		
Entry	Additive	Yield (%) ^a
1	ambient light	86
2	dark	81
3	50mol% 1,4-dinitrobenzene	78
4	50mol% hydroquinone	81
5	100mol% TEMPO	trace

^a Yields determined by ¹⁹F NMR spectroscopy with PhCF₃ as internal standard.

Control reactions to probe for the possible mechanism.

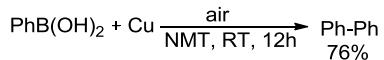
A 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with copper (96 mg, 1.5 mmol), 2 (1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) and solvent (NMP, 3 mL). After stirred at room temperature for 12 h, the resulting mixture was analyzed by ¹⁹F NMR and GC-MS, respectively (Scheme 1). The new signals were not detected

by ^{19}F NMR, and the reactant **2** was recovery almost completely.



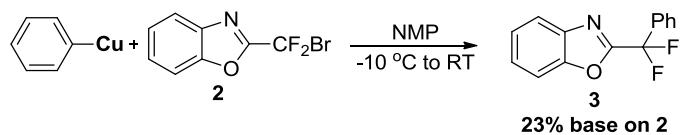
Scheme 1

A 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with copper (96 mg, 1.5 mmol), Phenylboronic acid (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) and solvent (NMP, 3 mL). The mixture was stirred under air at room temperature for 12 h. The solution was poured into water and filtered through a pad of Celite, washed with ether. The combined filtrates were washed with brine (10 mL \times 3), and the organic phase was dried over Na_2SO_4 . After filtration and evaporation of the solvent, the crude mixture was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography to afford the 1,1'-biphenyl product as a white solid in 76% yield (Scheme 2).



Scheme 2

Phenyl lithium (1.5 M in ether, 0.5mL, 0.75mmol, 1.0 equiv) were added dropwise to the mixture of cuprous bromide (113mg, 0.8mmol, 1.05 equiv) in Et_2O at -10°C. After standing under -10°C to -5°C for 30 min, the upper phase was removed carefully using a syringe. The remaining ether was removed by evaporation under vacuum to give a solid of phenylcopper mixed with cuprous bromide (CuBr) and lithium bromide (LiBr). The mixture was used directly without further purification. To the solid obtained from previous step was added a solution of 2-(bromodifluoromethyl)benzoxazole **2** (555mg, 2.25 mmol) in NMP at -10°C. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred under N_2 for 5 h. (Trifluoromethyl) benzene (329 mg, 2.25 mmol) was added as an internal standard. The desired product **3** was observed in 23% yield based on **2** added as determined by ^{19}F NMR spectrum. ^{19}F NMR spectroscopic analysis of the crude reaction mixture did not show the presence of transmetalation active species (ArCF_2Cu) (Scheme 3).



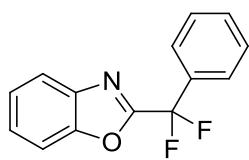
Scheme 3

4. Typical procedure for the *gem*-Difluoromethylenation of arylboronic acids

A 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with copper (96 mg, 1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and aryl boronic acid (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 2 (1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) and solvent (NMP, 3 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature. After the completion of the reaction, the solution was poured into cold water and filtered through a pad of Celite, washed with ether. The combined filtrates were washed with brine (10 mL×3), and the organic phase was dried over Na_2SO_4 . After filtration and evaporation of the solvent, the crude mixture was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography to afford the desired products **3a-3z**.

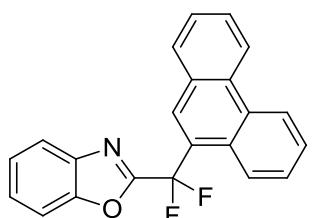
5. Compounds Characterization

2-(difluoro(phenyl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (**3a**):



White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 40/1, 104.4 mg, 85% yield), mp: 35-37°C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.82 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.48 (m, 3H), 7.46 - 7.38 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 158.5 (t, J = 37.1 Hz), 150.8, 140.1, 133.6 (t, J = 25.7 Hz), 131.2, 128.8, 126.8 125.7 (t, J = 5.5 Hz), 125.3, 121.4, 114.5 (t, J = 243.7 Hz), 111.4; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -95.28 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3067$, 1616, 1573, 1451, 1261, 914, 774, 748; LC-MS (ESI): m/z 246 [$\text{M}+1$] $^+$; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_2\text{NO}^+$: 246.0725, found: 246.0729.

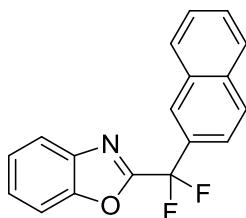
2-(difluoro(phenanthren-9-yl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (**3b**):



White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 40/1, 125.4 mg, 73% yield); mp: 120-122°C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.71 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.64 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (s, 1H), 8.27 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.87-7.83 (m, 1H), 7.72 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.60-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.36 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 158.7 (t, J = 35.7 Hz), 150.7, 140.1, 131.7, 131.0, 129.9, 129.8, 128.7, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 127.22, 127.20, 127.0, 126.8, 125.3, 125.1, 123.3, 122.6, 121.4, 115.1 (t, J = 243 Hz), 111.4; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): -92.35 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3064$, 3044, 1616, 1531, 1453, 1239, 1137, 1053, 896, 749; MS (EI): m/z 345 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{NO}^+$: 346.1038, found: 346.1045.

2-(difluoro(naphthalen-2-yl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (**3c**):

White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 40/1, 122.5 mg, 83% yield); mp: 64-66°C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.30 (s, 1H), 7.99-7.90 (m, 2H), 7.90-7.80 (m, 3H), 7.64-7.51 (m, 3H), 7.45-7.35 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 158.5 (t, J = 36.8 Hz), 150.7, 140.1, 134.3,



132.4, 130.7 (t, $J = 26.5$ Hz), 128.9, 128.8, 127.8, 127.0, 126.8, 125.9 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz), 125.2, 122.1 (t, $J = 4.8$ Hz), 121.3, 114.7 (t, $J = 245.0$ Hz), 111.3; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -94.73 (s). IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3061, 1616, 1573, 1450, 1277, 1104, 1077, 1009, 828, 748$; MS (EI): m/z 295 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2\text{NO}^+$: 296.0881, found: 296.0887.

2-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yldifluoromethyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3d):

White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 99.1 mg, 62% yield); mp: 70-72°C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.87-7.83 (m, 3H), 7.73 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H), 7.49-7.39 (m, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 158.5 (t, $J = 36.8$ Hz), 150.8, 144.1, 140.1, 139.9, 132.4 (t, $J = 25.5$ Hz), 129.0, 128.1, 127.5, 127.3, 126.8, 126.2 (t, $J = 5.5$ Hz), 125.4, 121.5, 114.6 (t, $J = 243.2$ Hz), 111.4; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -94.80 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3075, 1611, 1489, 1452, 1257, 1082, 978, 839, 753, 692$; MS (EI): m/z 321 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{NO}^+$: 322.1038, found: 322.1041.

2-(difluoro(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3e):

White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 104.8 mg, 76% yield); mp: 75-76°C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.81 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.36 (m, 2H), 6.99 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 161.7, 158.8 (t, $J = 37.7$ Hz), 150.8, 140.1, 127.3 (t, $J = 5.5$ Hz), 126.7, 125.7 (t, $J = 26.3$ Hz), 125.2, 121.4, 114.7 (t, $J = 245.0$ Hz), 114.1, 111.3, 55.3; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -93.49 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3074, 2948, 1615, 1519, 1492, 1454, 1255, 1081, 980, 921, 753$; MS (EI): m/z 275 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2^+$: 276.0831, found: 276.0835.

2-(difluoro(3-methoxyphenyl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3f):

White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 87.2 mg, 63% yield); mp: 42-43°C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.81 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 7.04 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 159.7, 158.4 (t, $J = 36.8$ Hz), 150.7, 140.0, 134.8 (t, $J = 26.7$ Hz), 130.0, 126.7, 125.2, 121.3, 117.8 (t, $J = 36.8$ Hz), 116.8, 114.3 (t, $J = 245.0$ Hz), 111.3, 111.1 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz), 55.3; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -95.26 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3071, 2962, 1607, 1492, 1453, 1274, 1089, 1008, 836, 749, 696$; MS (EI): m/z 275 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2^+$: 276.0831, found: 276.0834.

2-(difluoro(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3g):

White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 121.5 mg, 88% yield); mp: 116-117°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.81 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46 - 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 159.4 (t, *J* = 34.9 Hz), 157.5 (t, *J* = 4.9 Hz), 150.5, 140.5, 133.0, 126.8 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 126.4, 125.1, 121.9 (t, *J* = 24.6 Hz), 121.3, 120.6, 113.4 (t, *J* = 241.7 Hz), 112.0, 111.3, 56.0; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -95.13 (s); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3084, 2974, 1604, 1491, 1443, 1298, 1092, 973, 914, 753, 674$; MS (EI): *m/z* 275 (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₁₅H₁₂F₂NO₂⁺: 276.0831, found: 276.0838.

2-((4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)difluoromethyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3h):

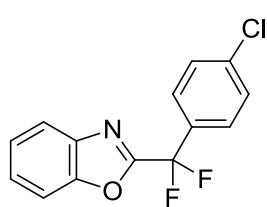
White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 131.2 mg, 75% yield); mp: 81-83°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.40 (m, 6H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.11 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 160.8, 158.7 (t, *J* = 35.7 Hz), 150.7, 140.1, 136.3, 128.7, 128.2, 127.5, 127.4 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 126.7, 125.9 (t, *J* = 26.5 Hz), 125.2, 121.4, 115.0, 114.6 (t, *J* = 243.3 Hz), 111.4, 70.1; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -93.54 (s); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3038, 2946, 1609, 1512, 1451, 1246, 1081, 980, 836, 745, 697$; MS (EI): *m/z* 351 (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₂₁H₁₆F₂NO₂⁺: 352.1144, found: 352.1142.

2-(difluoro(4-fluorophenyl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3i):

White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 113.8 mg, 87% yield); mp: 47-48°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73-7.69 (m, 2H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 164.3 (d, *J* = 251.1 Hz), 158.2 (t, *J* = 37.7 Hz), 150.7, 140.0, 129.6 (td, *J* = 26.5, 3.3 Hz), 128.1 (dt, *J* = 8.9, 5.5 Hz), 126.9, 125.3, 121.4, 115.9 (d, *J* = 22.1 Hz), 114.2 (t, *J* = 245.0 Hz), 111.3; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -94.02 (s), -108.6 - -108.7 (m, *J* = 10.3 Hz); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3079, 1605, 1511, 1453, 1261, 1079, 984, 843, 749, 556$; MS (EI): *m/z* 263 (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₁₄H₉F₃NO⁺: 264.0631, found: 264.0630.

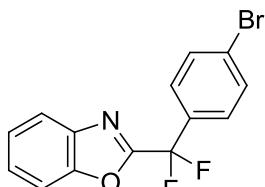
2-((4-chlorophenyl)difluoromethyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3j):

White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 122.1 mg, 87% yield); mp: 59-61°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.80 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.45-7.37 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 158.1 (t, *J* = 36.2 Hz), 150.8,



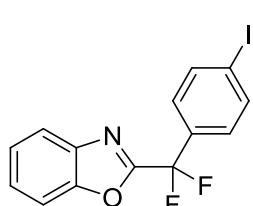
140.0, 137.5 (t, $J = 1.8$ Hz), 132.1 (t, $J = 26.6$ Hz), 129.1, 127.3 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz), 127.0, 125.4, 121.5, 114.1 (t, $J = 244.7$ Hz), 111.4; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -95.03 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3095, 1617, 1450, 1260, 1077, 983, 828, 750, 736$; MS (EI): m/z 279 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{ClF}_2\text{NO}^+$: 280.0335, found: 280.0336

2-((4-bromophenyl)difluoromethyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3k):



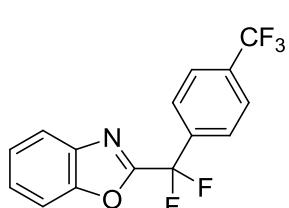
White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 113.3 mg, 70% yield); mp: 74-75°C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.81 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.63-7.57 (m, 5H), 7.43 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 157.9 (t, $J = 36$ Hz), 150.7, 140.0, 132.5 (t, $J = 26.3$ Hz), 132.0, 127.4 (t, $J = 5.9$ Hz), 127.0, 125.9, 125.4, 121.4, 114.1 (t, $J = 245.0$ Hz), 111.4; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -95.18 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3093, 1617, 1595, 1451, 1260, 1081, 982, 824, 750$; MS (EI): m/z 323 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{BrF}_2\text{NO}^+$: 323.9830, found: 323.9837. Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_8\text{BrF}_2\text{NO}$: C, 51.88; H, 2.49; N, 4.32; Found: C, 51.81; H, 2.53; N, 4.28.

2-(difluoro(4-iodophenyl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3l):



White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 152.0 mg, 82% yield); mp: 83-84°C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.88 - 7.78 (m, 3H), 7.58 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 - 7.36 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 157.9 (t, $J = 36.7$ Hz), 150.8, 140.0, 138.0, 133.2 (t, $J = 26.1$ Hz), 127.4 (t, $J = 5.8$ Hz), 127.0, 125.4, 121.4, 114.2 (t, $J = 243.8$ Hz), 111.4, 98.1; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -95.54 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3089, 1615, 1589, 1452, 1346, 1256, 1094, 1080, 917, 814, 741$; MS (EI): m/z 371 (M^+); MS (EI): 371 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{F}_2\text{INO}^+$: 371.9691, found: 371.9695.

2-(difluoro(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3m):



White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 12/1, 99.2 mg, 63% yield); mp: 76-78°C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.88 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 157.8 (t, $J = 36.7$ Hz), 150.9, 140.0, 137.2 (t, $J = 27.8$ Hz), 133.3 (q, $J = 33.0$ Hz), 127.1, 126.5 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz), 125.8 (q, $J = 3.7$ Hz), 125.5, 124.7 (q, $J = 272.8$ Hz), 121.5, 113.9 (t, $J = 243.8$ Hz), 111.4; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -63.13 (CF_3 , s), -95.82 (CF_2 , s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3082, 1619, 1453, 1323, 1259, 1177, 1086, 986, 850, 744, 693$; MS (EI): m/z 313 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_9\text{F}_5\text{NO}^+$: 313.0530, found: 313.0530

314.0599, found: 314.0598.

4-(benzo[d]oxazol-2-yldifluoromethyl)benzonitrile (3n):

Yellow solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 8/1, 95.1 mg, 70% yield); mp: 101-103°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.84 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.78 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 157.2 (t, *J* = 34.8 Hz), 150.7, 139.8, 137.7 (t, *J* = 25.2 Hz), 132.5, 127.2, 126.7 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz), 125.5, 121.4, 117.7, 115.2, 113.5 (t, *J* = 245.0 Hz), 111.4; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -96.07 (s); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3101, 3049, 2235, 1616, 1452, 1261, 1111, 1075, 985, 920, 847, 741; MS (EI): 270 *m/z* (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₁₅H₉F₂N₂O⁺: 271.0677, found: 271.0674.

1-(4-(benzo[d]oxazol-2-yldifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethanone (3o):

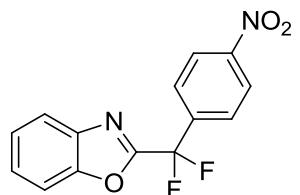
White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 12/1, 81.3 mg, 57% yield); mp: 90-92°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 197.0, 157.7 (t, *J* = 38.1 Hz), 150.7, 139.9, 139.1, 137.5 (t, *J* = 26.9 Hz), 128.6, 127.0, 126.1 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz), 125.4, 121.4, 114.0 (t, *J* = 245.0 Hz), 111.3, 26.7; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -95.84 (s); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3100, 3071, 1690, 1612, 1265, 1078, 986, 833, 745; MS (EI): *m/z* 287 (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₁₆H₁₂F₂NO₂⁺: 288.0831, found: 288.0826. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₁F₂NO₃: C, 63.37; H, 3.66; N, 4.62; Found: C, 63.33; H, 3.61; N, 4.65.

4-(benzo[d]oxazol-2-yldifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde (3p):

White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 12/1, 63.1 mg, 46% yield); mp: 116-118°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 10.07 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 191.2, 157.6 (t, *J* = 36.4 Hz), 150.7, 139.9, 138.9 (t, *J* = 26.0 Hz), 138.2, 129.9, 127.1, 126.6 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz), 125.5, 121.4, 113.9 (t, *J* = 244.8 Hz), 111.4; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -95.90 (s); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3100, 2864, 1705, 1612, 1451, 1261, 1096, 1076, 831, 750; MS (EI): *m/z* 273 (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₁₅H₁₀F₂NO₂⁺: 274.0674, found: 274.0677.

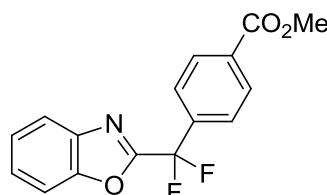
2-(difluoro(4-nitrophenyl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3q):

Yellow solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 6/1, 83.3 mg, 57% yield); mp: 133-135°C; ¹H NMR (500



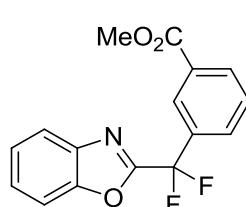
MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.33 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.92 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.78 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.60$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 157.2 (t, $J = 33.0$ Hz), 150.8, 149.6, 139.9, 139.4 (t, $J = 26.0$ Hz), 127.34 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz), 127.29, 126.7, 125.6, 124.0, 121.5, 113.5 (t, $J = 245.0$ Hz), 111.5; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -95.80 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3077, 1615, 1533, 1452, 1258, 1071, 954, 854, 752$; MS (EI): m/z 290 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{F}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_3^+$: 291.0576, found: 291.0581.

Methyl 4-(benzo[d]oxazol-2-ylidifluoromethyl)benzoate (3r):



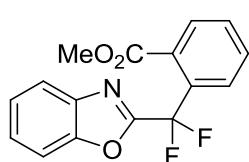
White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 6/1, 106.3 mg, 70% yield); mp: 107-109 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.14 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.78 (t, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 3H), 7.56 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.0, 157.8 (t, $J = 36.8$ Hz), 150.7, 140.0, 137.6 (t, $J = 25.50$ Hz), 132.7, 129.9, 127.0, 125.9 (t, $J = 5.7$ Hz), 125.4, 121.4, 114.0 (t, $J = 245.0$ Hz), 111.4, 52.4; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -95.87 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3067, 2957, 1715, 1609, 1453, 1283, 1071, 982, 824, 785, 742, 725$; MS (EI): m/z 303 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3^+$: 304.0780, found: 304.0782.

Methyl 3-(benzo[d]oxazol-2-ylidifluoromethyl)benzoate (3s):



White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 6/1, 118.6 mg, 78% yield); mp: 93-95 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.40 (s, 1H), 8.17 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 165.9, 157.9 (t, $J = 36.3$ Hz), 150.7, 140.0, 134.0 (t, $J = 26.50$ Hz), 132.2, 130.9, 130.0 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz), 129.0, 126.94 (t, $J = 6.5$ Hz), 126.92, 125.3, 121.4, 114.0 (t, $J = 245.0$ Hz), 111.4, 52.4; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -95.27 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3070, 2959, 1722, 1614, 1450, 1294, 1235, 1078, 966, 764, 746, 723$; MS (EI): m/z 303 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3^+$: 304.0780, found: 304.0781.

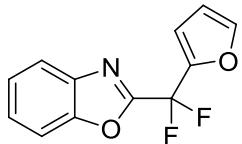
Methyl 2-(benzo[d]oxazol-2-ylidifluoromethyl)benzoate (3t):



White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 4/1, 144.7 mg, 95% yield); mp: 98-100 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.02 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.5, 159.3 (t, $J = 34.3$ Hz), 150.2, 140.2, 133.0 (t,

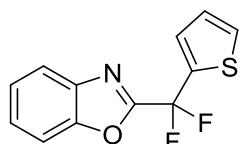
$J = 24.50$ Hz), 132.1, 131.2, 131.1, 129.9 (t, $J = 3.5$ Hz), 127.1 (t, $J = 9.0$ Hz), 126.5, 125.1, 121.1, 113.9 (t, $J = 245.0$ Hz), 111.3, 52.4; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -90.60 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3075, 2954, 1719, 1600, 1452, 1272, 1090, 916, 829, 753$; MS (EI): m/z 303 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3^+$: 304.0780, found: 304.0785.

2-(difluoro(furan-2-yl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3u):



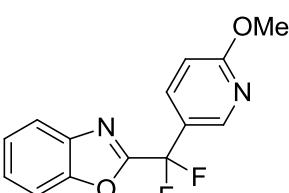
Colorless oil (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 80.3 mg, 68% yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.85 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.45 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 6.49 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 156.7 (t, $J = 37$ Hz), 150.8, 145.2, 145.0 (t, $J = 34$ Hz), 140.0, 127.1, 125.4, 121.5, 112.2 (t, $J = 4$ Hz), 111.5, 110.8, 109.6 (t, $J = 240$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -94.28 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3143, 3092, 1614, 1498, 1452, 1267, 1162, 1087, 1010, 881, 762, 749$; MS (EI): m/z 235 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{12}\text{H}_8\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2^+$: 236.0518, found: 236.0525.

2-(difluoro(thiophen-2-yl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3v):



Colorless oil (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 63.7 mg, 51% yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.84 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 157.6 (t, $J = 37$ Hz), 150.7, 139.9, 134.9 (t, $J = 31$ Hz), 129.1, 128.9 (t, $J = 6$ Hz), 127.1, 126.9, 125.3, 121.4, 112.8 (t, $J = 241$ Hz), 111.3; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -83.18 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3110, 1688, 1616, 1550, 1462, 1080, 843, 748, 718$; MS (EI): m/z 251 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{12}\text{H}_8\text{F}_2\text{NOS}^+$: 252.0289, found: 252.0296.

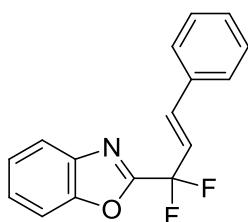
2-(difluoro(6-methoxypyridin-3-yl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3w):



White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 5/1, 76.2 mg, 55% yield); mp: 60-62°C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.51 (s, 1H), 7.86 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.34 (m, 2H), 6.81 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 165.8, 158.0 (t, $J = 36.9$ Hz), 150.8, 145.3 (t, $J = 6.5$ Hz), 140.0, 136.2 (t, $J = 4.7$ Hz), 127.0, 125.4, 122.6 (t, $J = 26.4$ Hz), 121.4, 114.1 (t, $J = 244.5$ Hz), 111.4, 111.1, 53.9; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -94.05 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3085, 2945, 1608, 1493, 1387, 1259, 1079, 919, 841, 749$; MS (EI): m/z 276 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{F}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_2^+$: 277.0783, found: 277.0780.

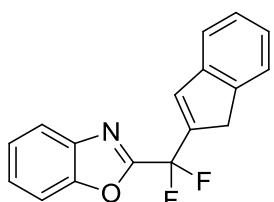
(E)-2-(1,1-difluoro-3-phenylallyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3x):

White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 69.6 mg, 51% yield); mp: 57-59°C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.86 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.34 (m, 2H), 6.81 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 165.8, 158.0 (t, $J = 36.9$ Hz), 150.8, 145.3 (t, $J = 6.5$ Hz), 140.0, 136.2 (t, $J = 4.7$ Hz), 127.0, 125.4, 122.6 (t, $J = 26.4$ Hz), 121.4, 114.1 (t, $J = 244.5$ Hz), 111.4, 111.1, 53.9; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -94.05 (s); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3085, 2945, 1608, 1493, 1387, 1259, 1079, 919, 841, 749$; MS (EI): m/z 276 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{F}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_2^+$: 277.0783, found: 277.0780.



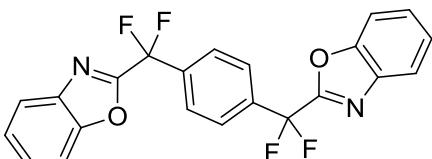
MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.48-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 6.71-6.62 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 158.1 (t, *J* = 35.8 Hz), 150.7, 140.1, 136.8 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 134.1, 129.7, 128.9, 127.6, 126.9, 125.4, 121.4, 119.5 (t, *J* = 24.4 Hz), 113.5 (t, *J* = 240.3 Hz), 111.4; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -94.45 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3033, 1656, 1615, 1595, 1451, 1224, 979, 763, 750$; MS (EI): *m/z* 271 (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₁₆H₁₂F₂NO⁺: 272.0881, found: 272.0886.

2-(difluoro(1H-inden-2-yl)methyl)benzo[d]oxazole (3y):



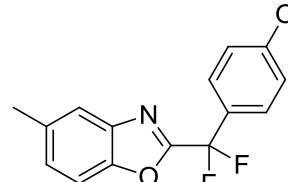
White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 74.2 mg, 52% yield); mp: 67-69°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.86 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.35-7.29 (m, 3H), 3.80 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 157.9 (t, *J* = 36.2 Hz), 150.7, 143.5, 142.3, 140.1, 138.5 (t, *J* = 26.4 Hz), 134.7 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 126.9, 126.89, 126.8, 125.4, 124.1, 122.8, 121.4, 113.5 (t, *J* = 239.2 Hz), 111.4, 37.5; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -91.97 (s); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3076, 2923, 1616, 1451, 1293, 1185, 1070, 1021, 981, 887, 749, 716$; MS (EI): *m/z* 283 (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₁₇H₁₂F₂NO⁺: 284.0881, found: 284.0887.

1,4-bis(benzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)difluoromethylbenzene (3z):



White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 87.4 mg, 42% yield); mp: 90-92°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.88 (s, 4H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 157.9 (t, *J* = 36.3 Hz), 150.9, 140.0, 136.5 (t, *J* = 27.2 Hz), 127.1, 126.5 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 125.5, 121.5, 114.0 (t, *J* = 245.0 Hz), 111.5; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -95.92 (s); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3103, 3058, 1616, 1451, 1264, 1076, 983, 919, 842, 761, 747$; MS (EI): *m/z* 412 (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₂₂H₁₃F₄N₂O₂⁺: 413.0908, found: 413.0912.

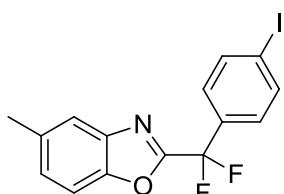
2-(difluoro(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl)-5-methylbenzo[d]oxazole (7a):



White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 110.4 mg, 76% yield); mp: 90-92°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (s, 1H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.6 (t, *J* = 1.7 Hz), 158.8 (t, *J* = 38.7 Hz), 149.0, 140.3, 135.2, 127.9, 127.3 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 125.7 (t, *J* = 27.3 Hz), 121.0, 114.7 (t, *J*

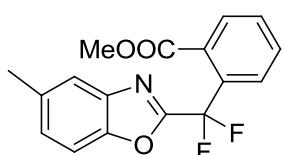
= 245.0 Hz), 114.0, 110.6, 55.3, 21.4; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -93.39 (s); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 2968, 2964, 1616, 1518, 1246, 1048, 980, 838, 812; MS (EI): *m/z* 289 (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₁₆H₁₄F₂NO₂⁺: 290.0987, found: 290.0988.

2-(difluoro(4-iodophenyl)methyl)-5-methylbenzo[d]oxazole (7b):



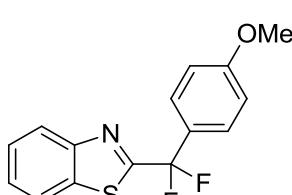
White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 143.7 mg, 75% yield); mp: 97-99°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (s, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 157.9 (t, *J* = 36.8 Hz), 149.0, 140.2, 137.9, 135.4, 133.2 (t, *J* = 26.2 Hz), 128.1, 127.4 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz), 121.1, 114.2 (t, *J* = 244.9 Hz), 110.7, 98.0, 21.5; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -95.42 (s); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3091, 1625, 1588, 1393, 1259, 1097, 1078, 986, 829, 801; MS (EI): *m/z* 385 (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₁₅H₁₁IINO⁺: 385.9848, found: 385.9853.

Methyl 2-(difluoro(5-methylbenzo[d]oxazol-2-yl)methyl)benzoate (7c):



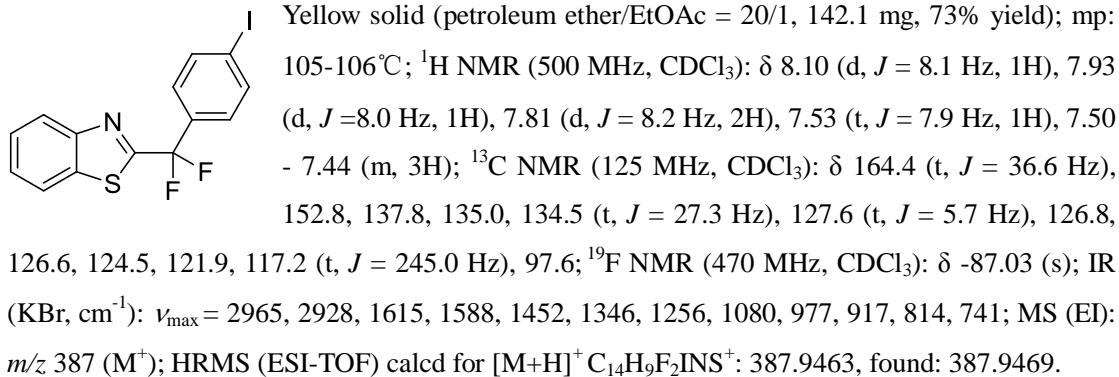
White solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 4/1, method A: 151.0 mg, 95% yield); mp: 101-103°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.00 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.6, 159.3 (t, *J* = 32.3 Hz), 148.5, 140.4, 135.0, 133.1 (t, *J* = 24.1 Hz), 132.0, 131.1, 130.0, 127.7, 127.1 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 120.9, 113.9 (t, *J* = 245.0 Hz), 110.7, 52.4, 21.4; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -90.51 (s); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3001, 2953, 1721, 1612, 1283, 1038, 981, 806, 770, 718; MS (EI): *m/z* 317 (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₁₇H₁₄F₂NO₃⁺: 318.0936, found: 318.0944.

2-(difluoro(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl)benzo[d]thiazole (8a):

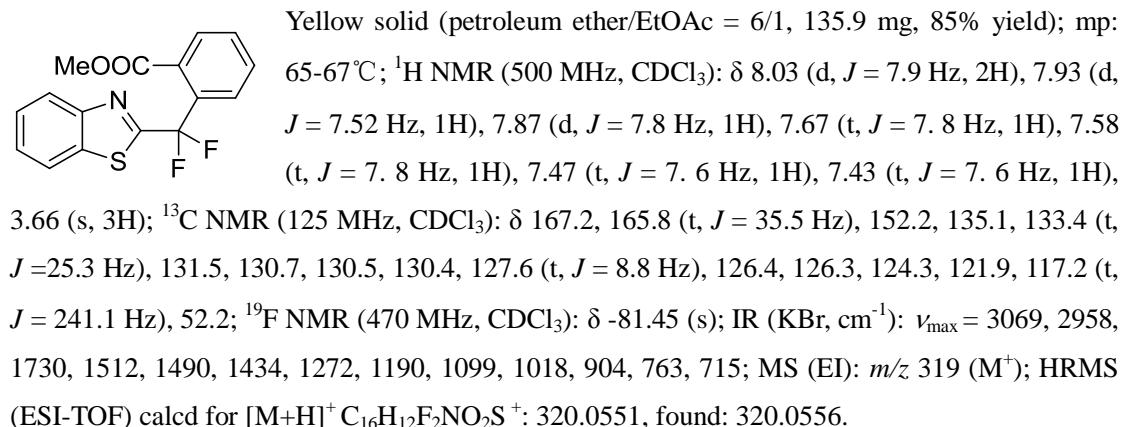


Yellow solid (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 20/1, 111.3 mg, 76% yield); mp: 82-84°C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃): 165.3 (t, *J* = 36.8 Hz), 161.3 (t, *J* = 1.9 Hz), 152.8, 127.4 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz), 126.9 (t, *J* = 27.5 Hz), 126.6, 126.4, 124.3, 121.8, 117.6 (t, *J* = 242.5 Hz), 113.9, 55.2; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -84.84 (s); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): ν_{max} = 3065, 2961, 1614, 1516, 1311, 1256, 1178, 1029, 907, 831, 760, 730; MS (EI): *m/z* 291 (M⁺); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for [M+H]⁺ C₁₅H₁₂F₂NOS⁺: 292.0602, found: 292.0607.

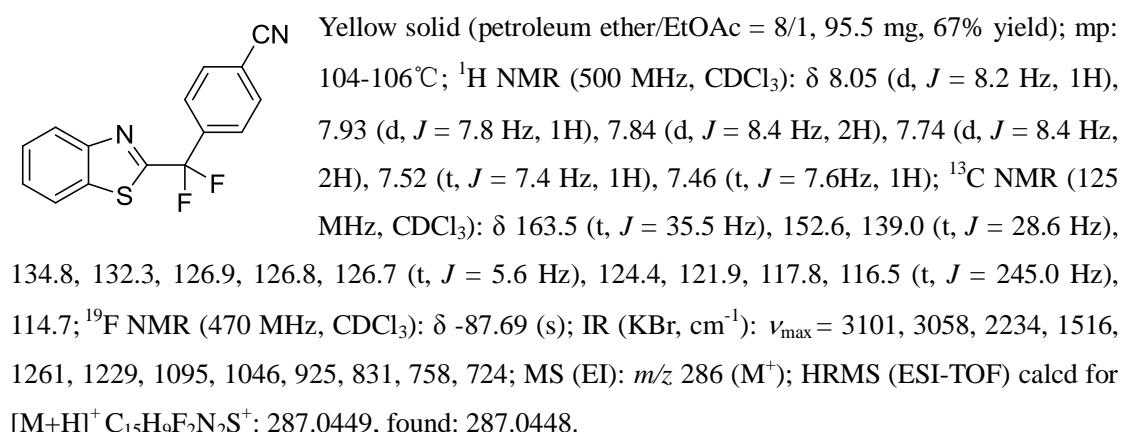
2-(difluoro(4-iodophenyl)methyl)benzo[d]thiazole (8b):



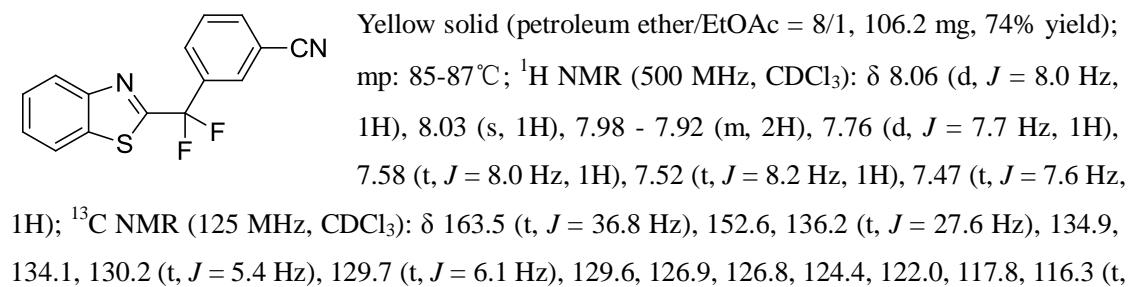
Methyl 2-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)difluoromethyl)benzoate (8c):



4-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)difluoromethyl)benzonitrile (8d):

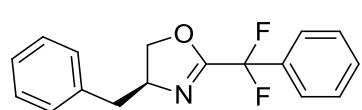


3-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)difluoromethyl)benzonitrile (8e):



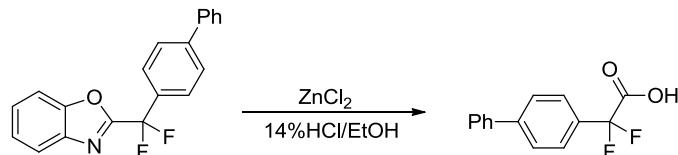
$J = 244.1$ Hz), 113.0; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -86.98 (s). IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): $\nu_{\text{max}} = 3082$, 3059, 2234, 1518, 1429, 1229, 1090, 1054, 951, 813, 792, 757, 698; MS (EI): m/z 286 (M^+); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{15}\text{H}_9\text{F}_2\text{N}_2\text{S}^+$: 287.0449, found: 287.0448.

(S)-4-benzyl-2-(difluoro(phenyl)methyl)-4,5-dihydrooxazole (9)



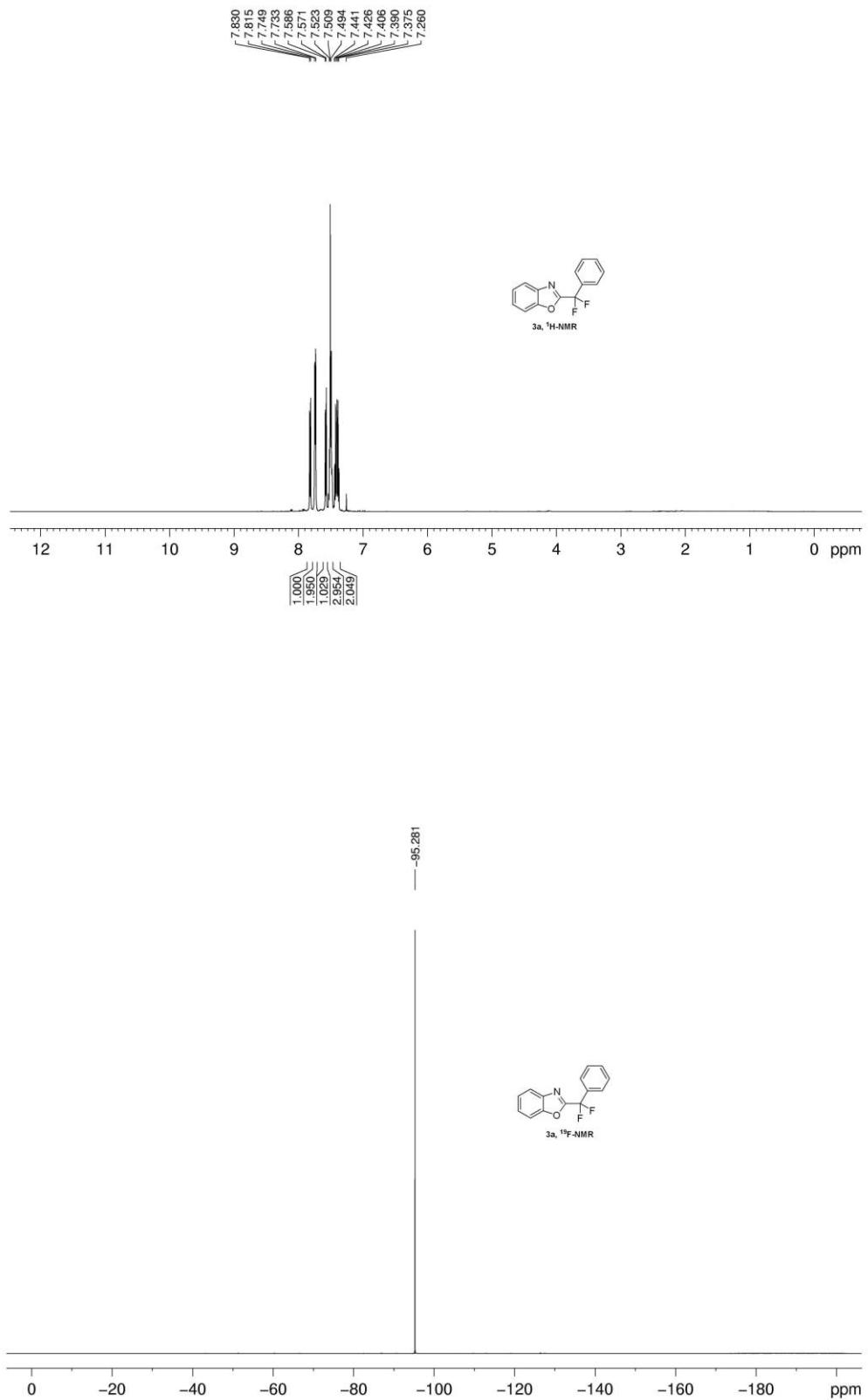
A 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with copper (96 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), phenylboronic acid (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 6 (1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) and solvent (NMP, 3 mL). The mixture was stirred at 50 °C under N_2 . After the completion of the reaction, the solution was poured into cold water and filtered through a pad of Celite, washed with ether. The combined filtrates were washed with brine (10 mL $\times 3$), and the organic phase was dried over Na_2SO_4 . After filtration and evaporation of the solvent, the crude mixture was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography to afford the desired products **9**. Clear oil; 66.1 mg, 46%; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.60 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.53-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.31-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.17 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.61-4.53 (m, 1H), 4.34 (t, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.15 (t, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.17 (dd, $J = 13.9, 4.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.75 (dd, $J = 13.9, 4.9$ Hz, 1H); ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -99.48 (dd, $J = 41.4$ Hz,); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 161.3 (t, $J = 33.7$ Hz), 136.9, 133.7 (t, $J = 25.5$ Hz), 131.0, 129.4, 128.7, 128.6, 126.9, 125.6 (t, $J = 6.2$ Hz), 114.0 (t, $J = 242.8$ Hz), 73.2, 67.5, 40.8; HRMS (ESI FT) calcd for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ \text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_2\text{NO}^+$: 288.1200, found: 288.1211.

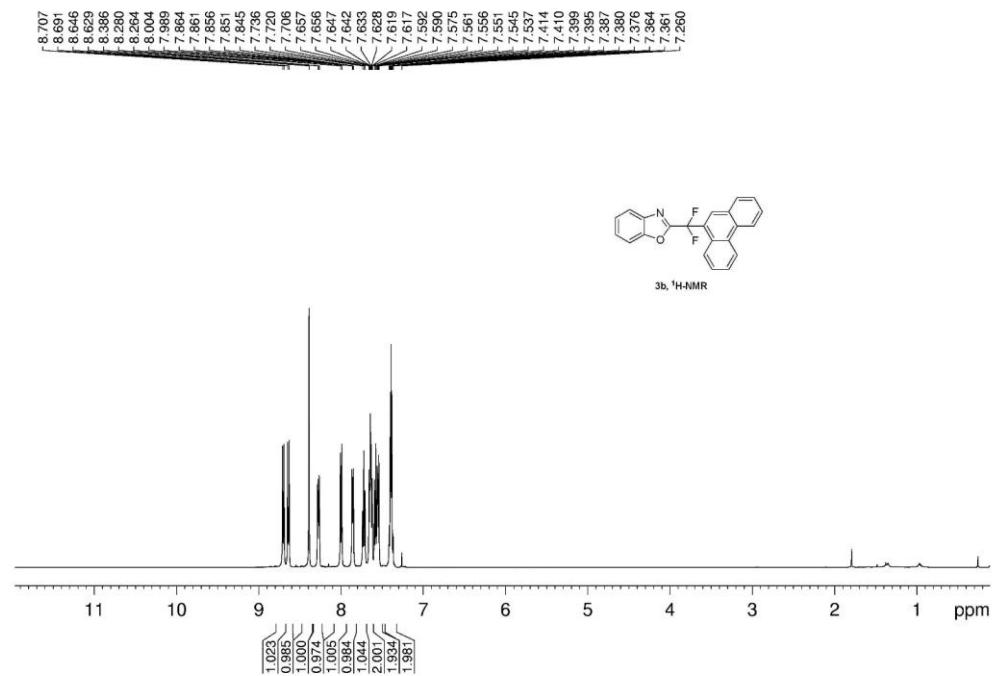
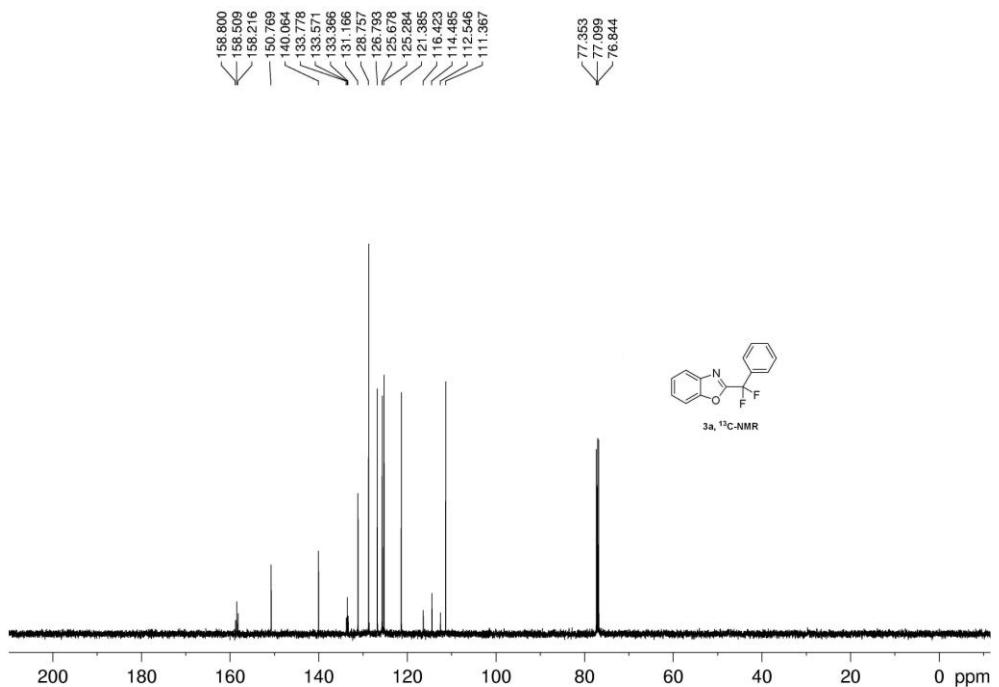
Biphenyl-4-yl(difluoro)acetic acid:

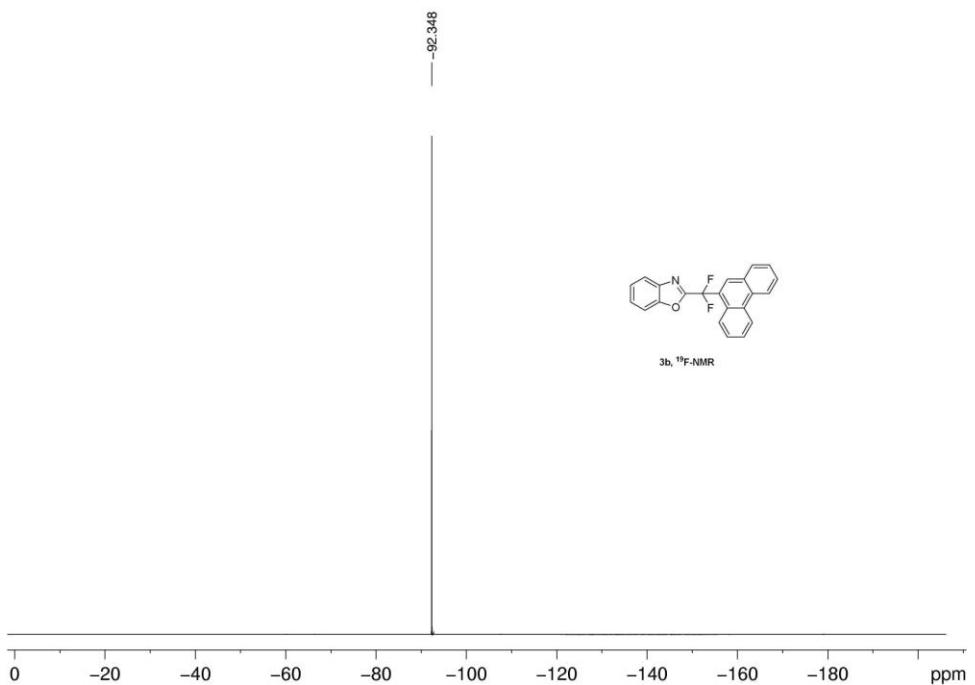


The decarbonylation of Biphenyl-4-yl(difluoro)acetic acid obtained from the reaction of **3d** (65 mg, 0.2 mmol) was hydrolyzed upon treatment with ZnCl_2 (55 mg, 0.4 mmol) and a 14% HCl aqueous solution (2.0 mL) in EtOH (4.0 mL) at 80 °C for 12h. The NaOH was added at room temperature with continuous stirring for 2h. After evaporation of the solvent, the aqueous layer was washed with CH_2Cl_2 (3×5 mL). The aqueous layer was acidified with a concentrated HCl aqueous solution and then extracted with EtOAc (10 mL $\times 5$). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated in vacuo to give the corresponding carboxylic acid as a off-white solid; (32.3 mg, 65% yield); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.50 (s, 1H), 7.75-7.69 (m, 4H), 7.62 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.4 (t, $J = 37.5$ Hz), 144.5, 139.9, 130.7 (t, $J = 25.7$ Hz), 129.0, 128.2, 127.6, 127.3, 126.1 (t, $J = 5.5$ Hz), 113.2 (t, $J = 257.3$ Hz); ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -104.99 (s).

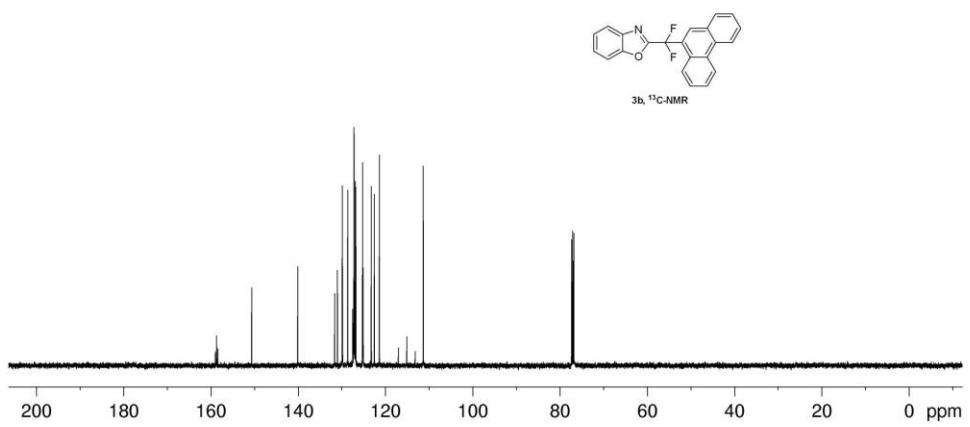
6. Copies of ^1H NMR, ^{19}F NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra

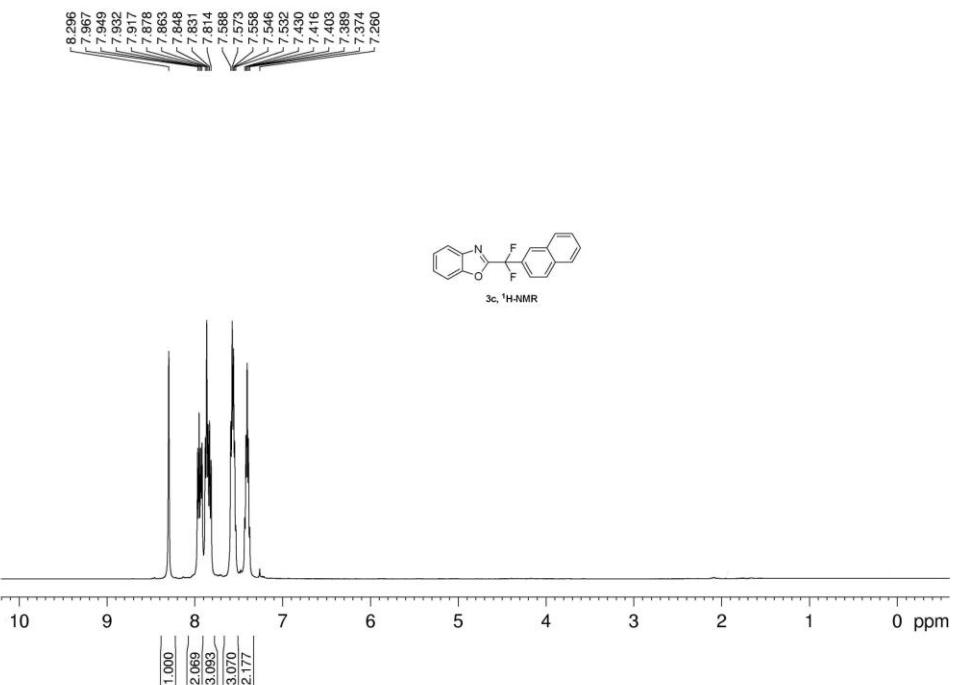




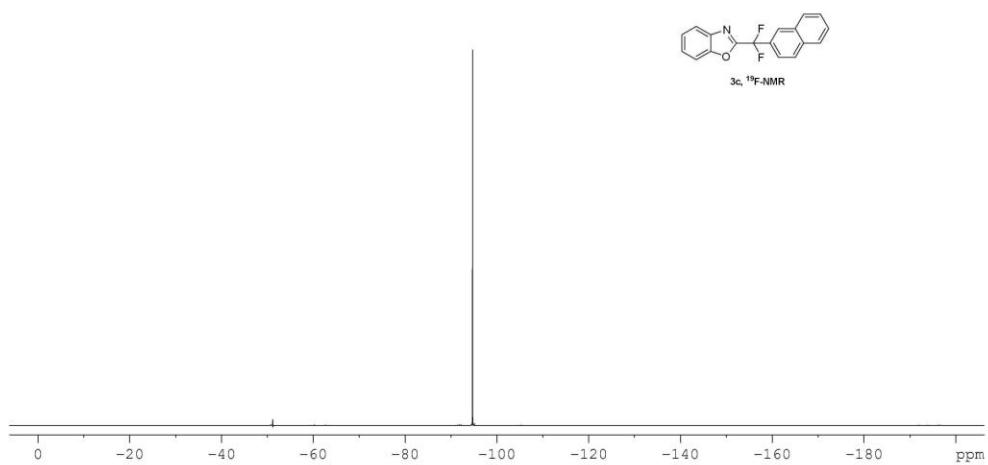


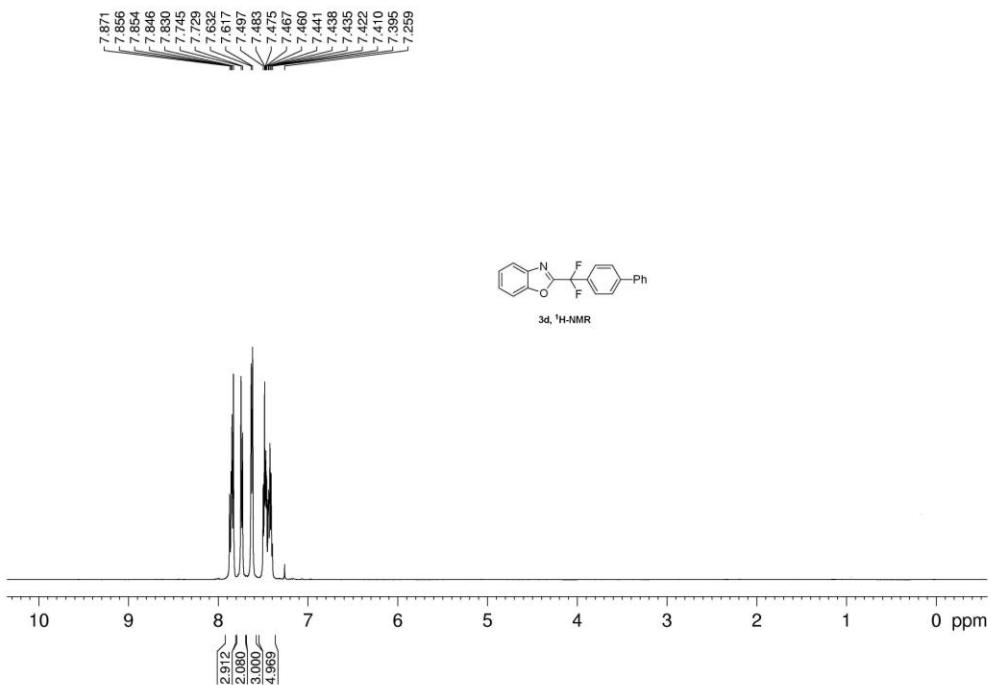
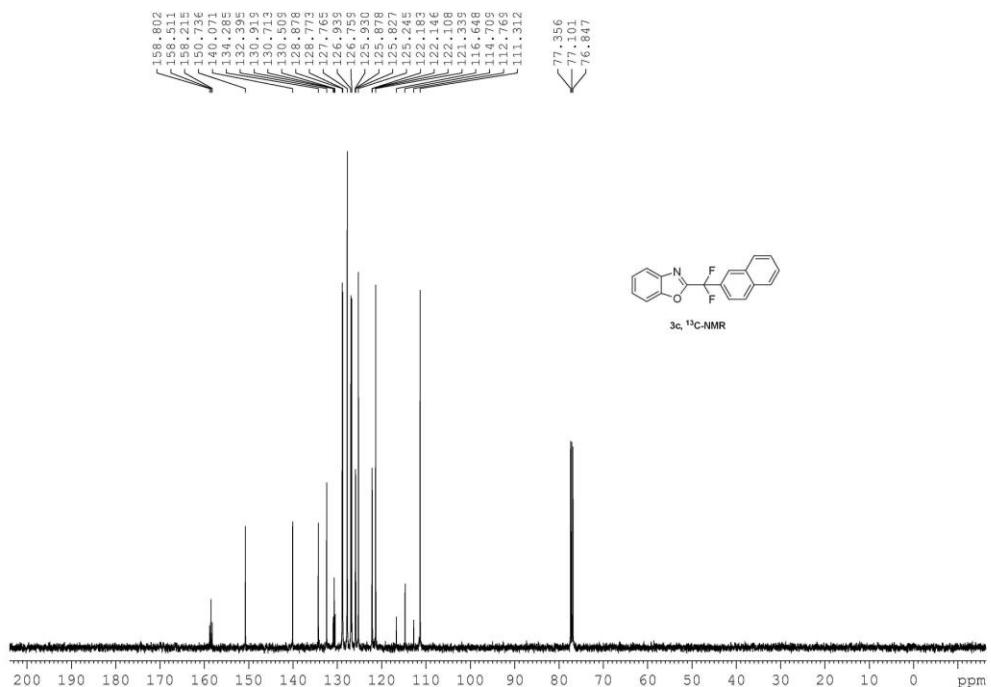
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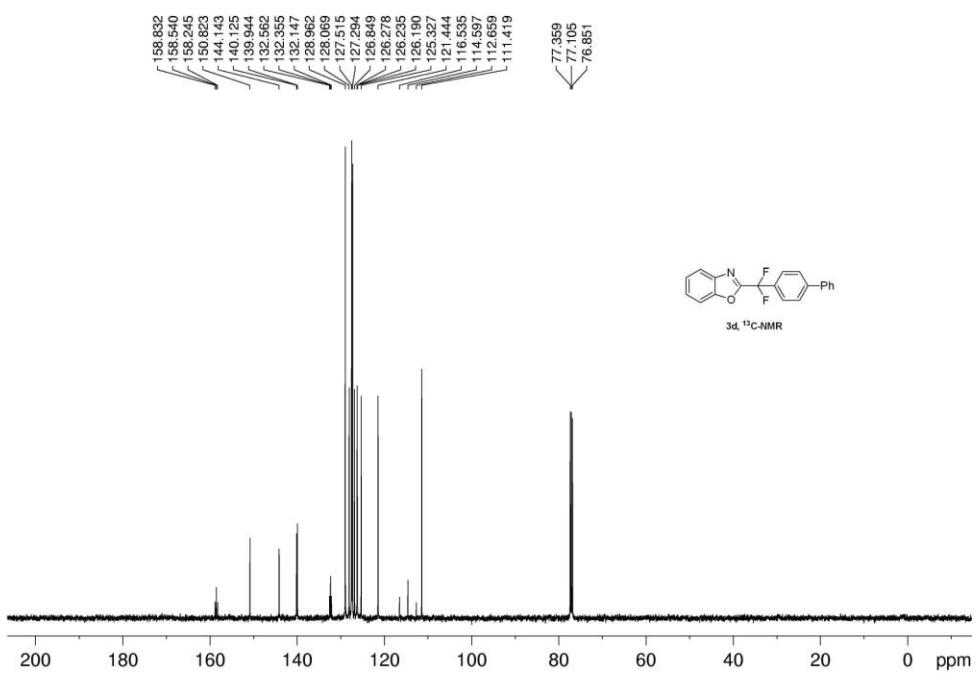
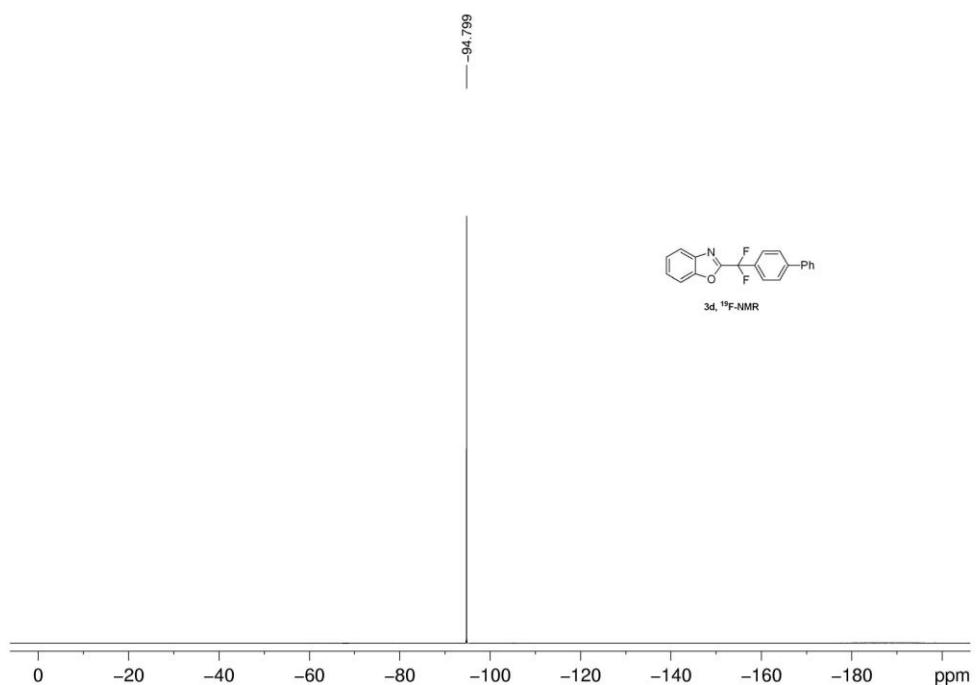


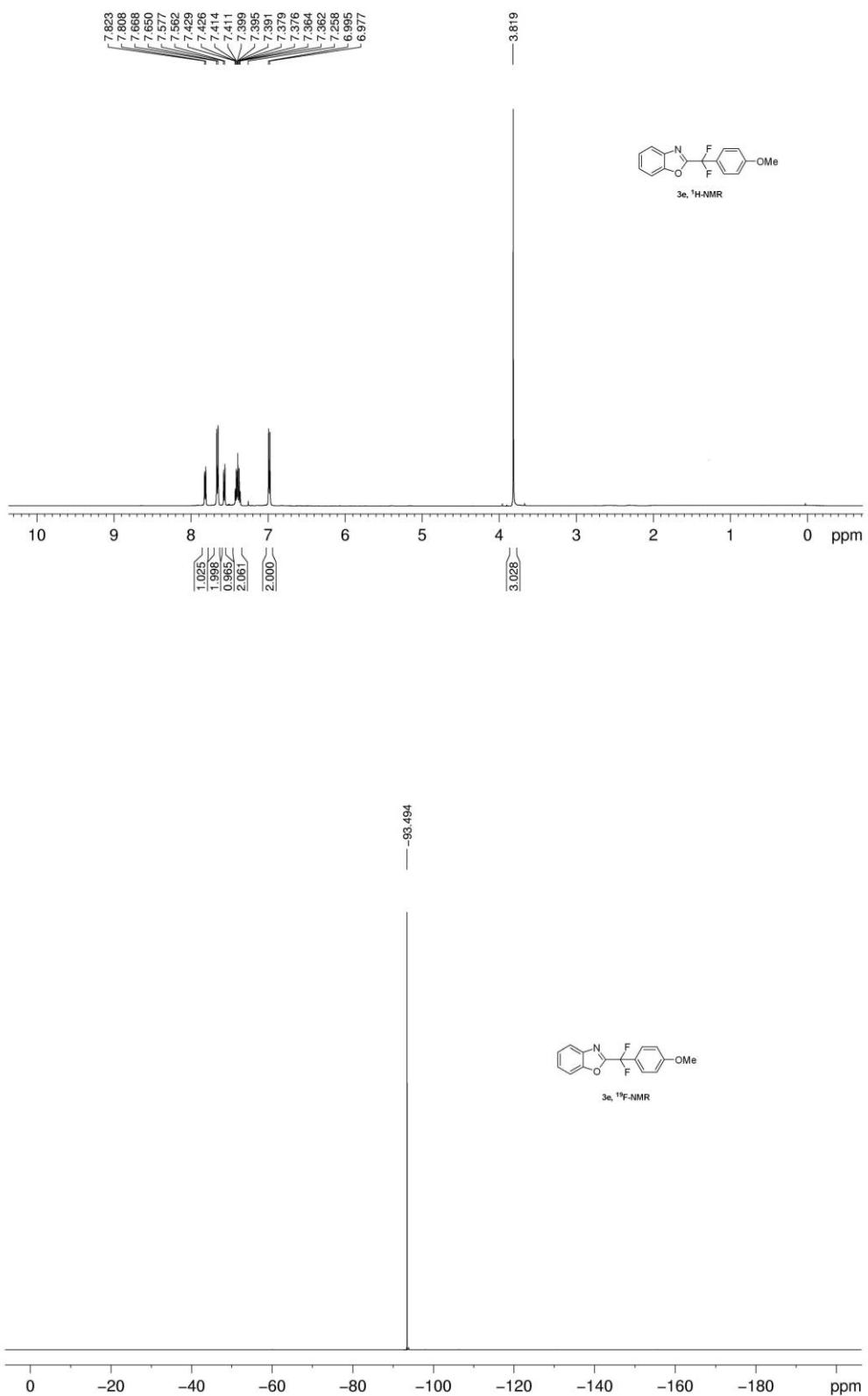


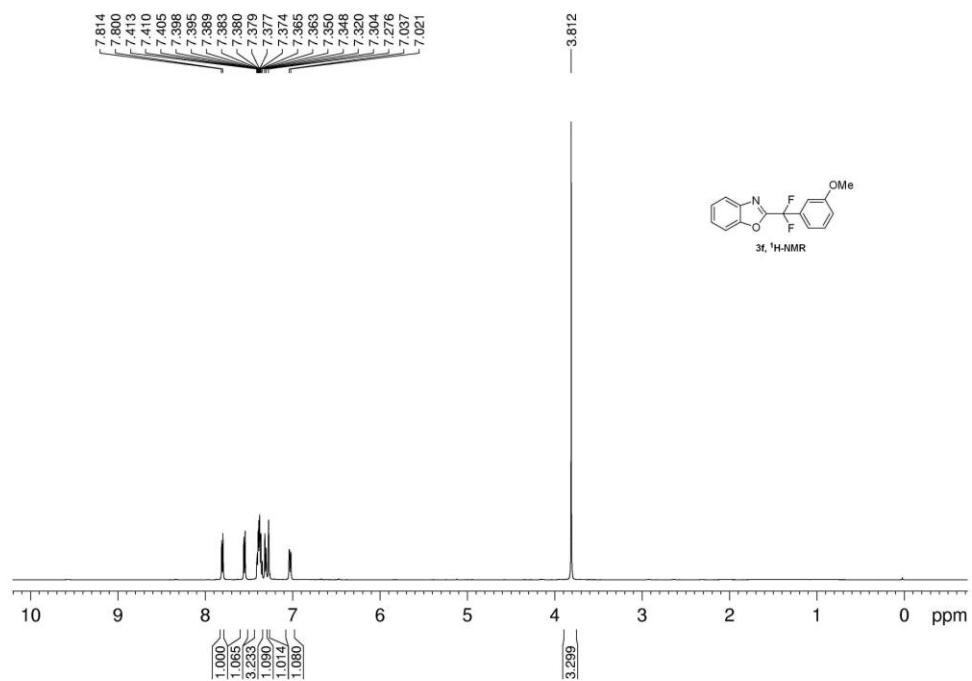
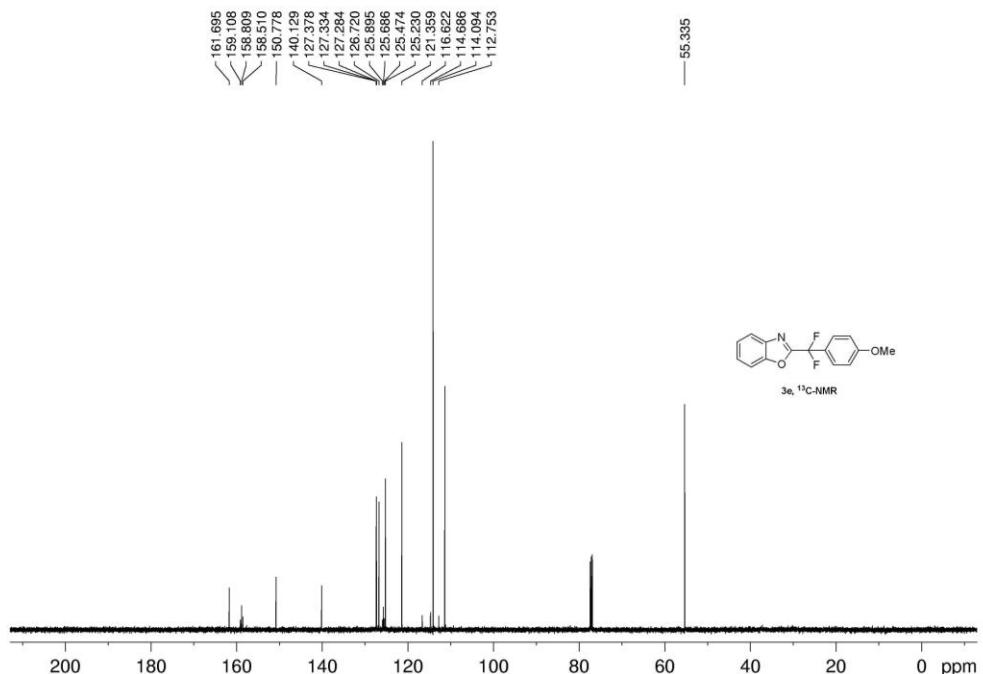
— -94.725

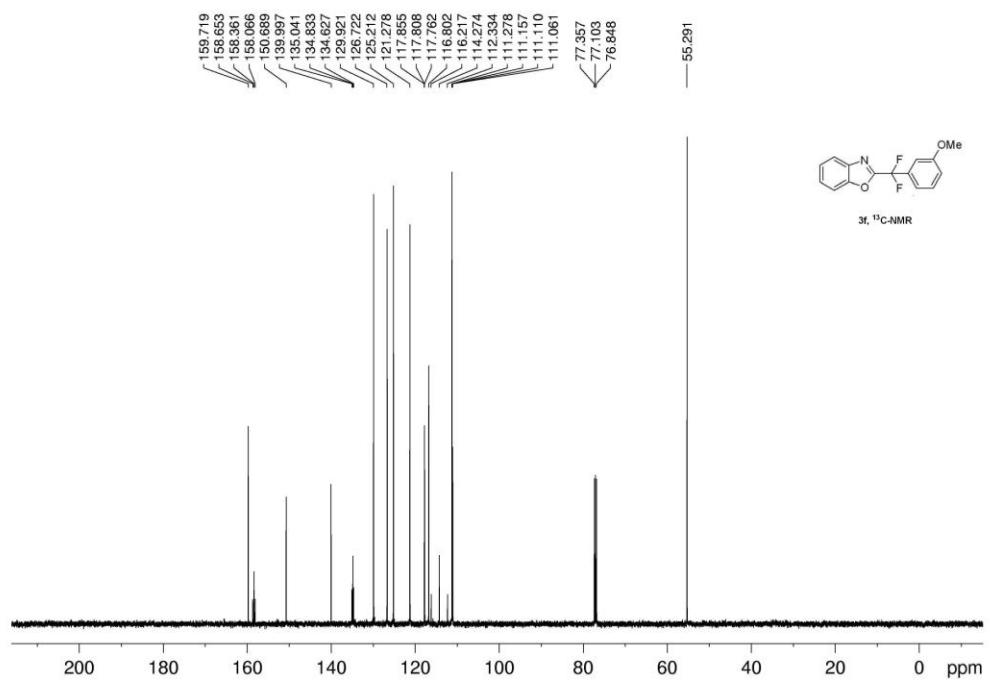
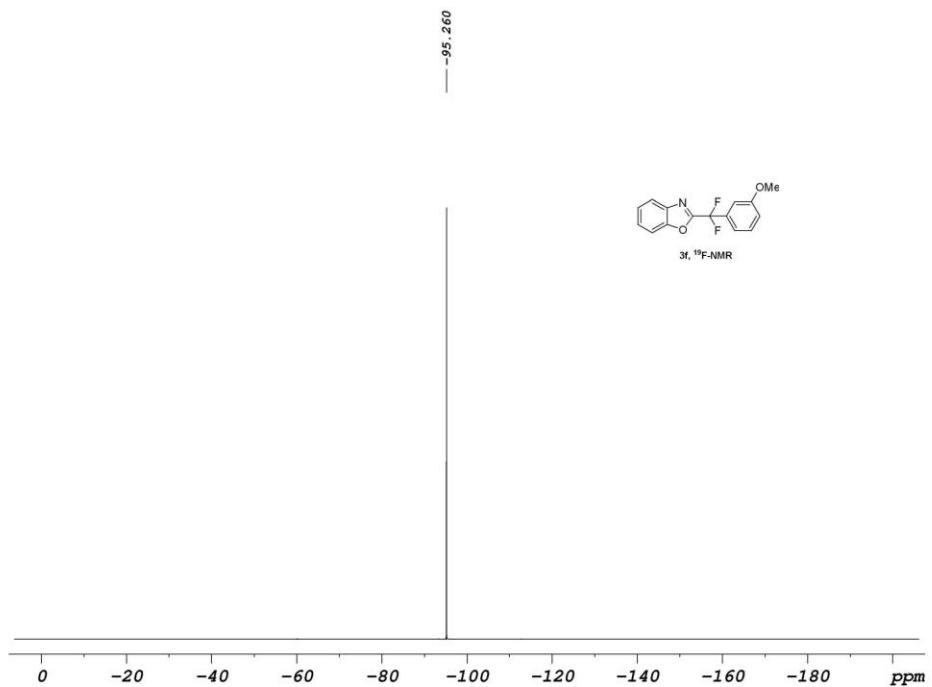


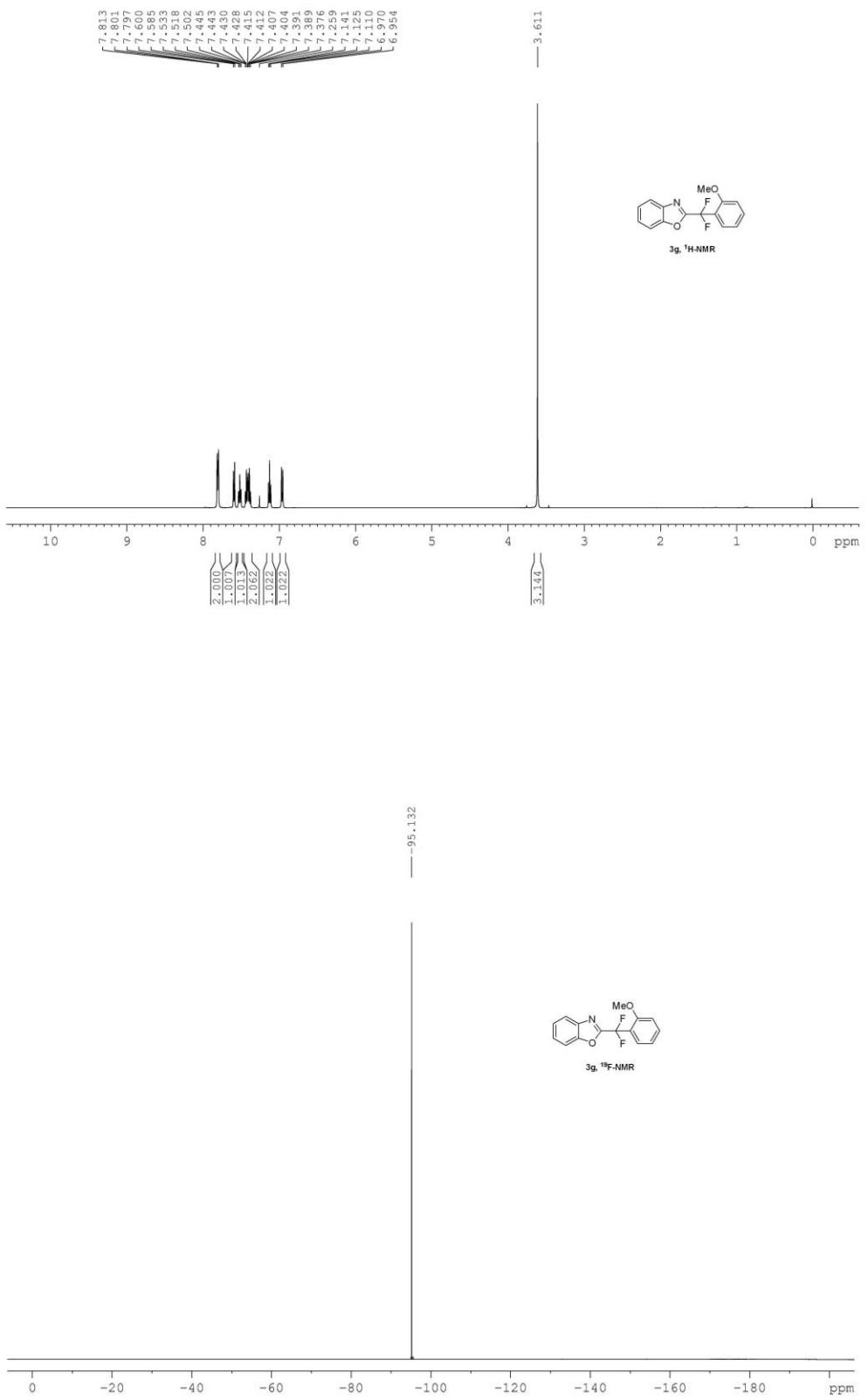


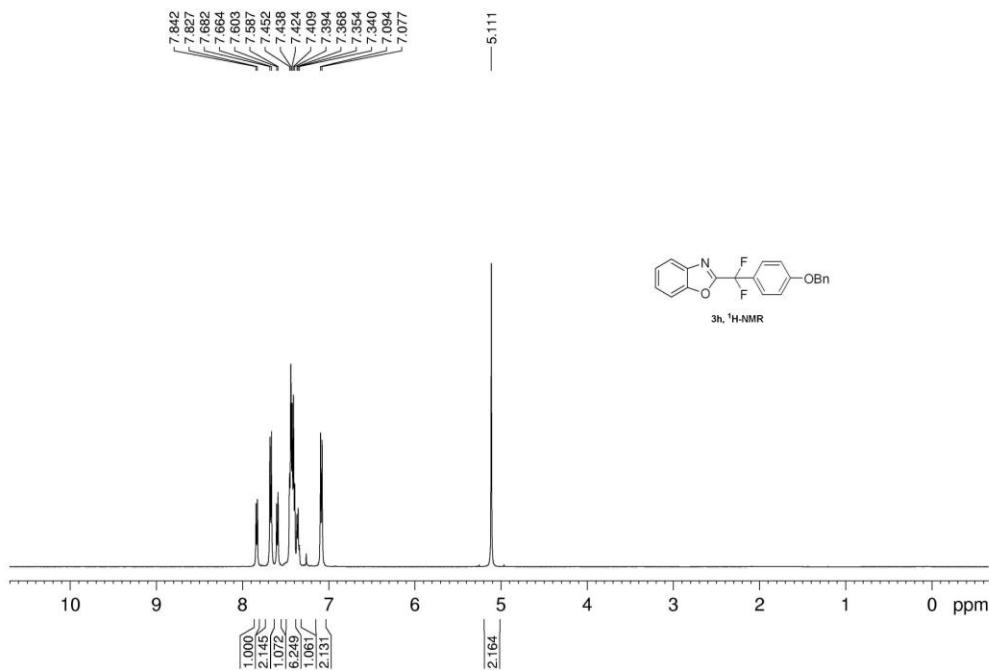
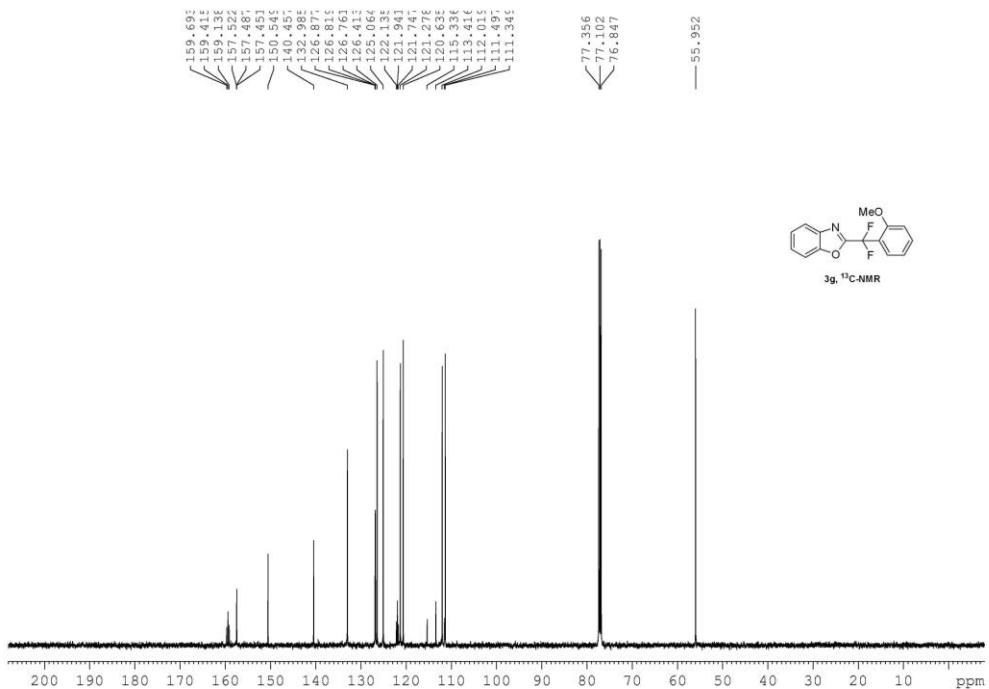


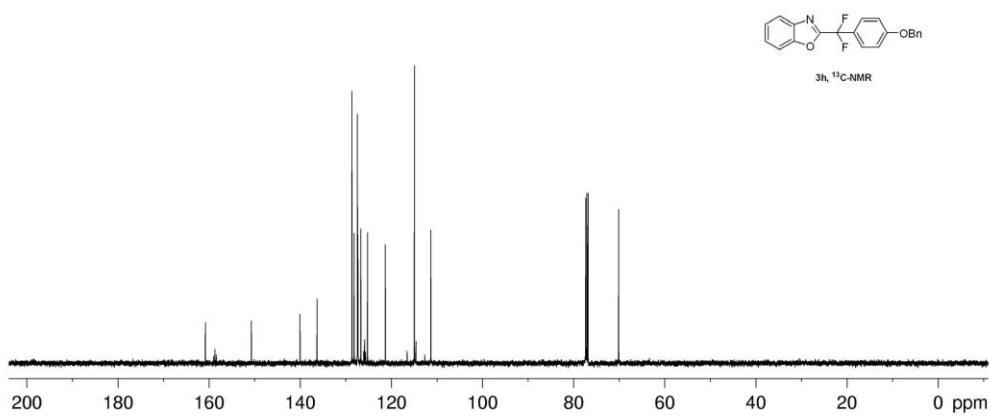
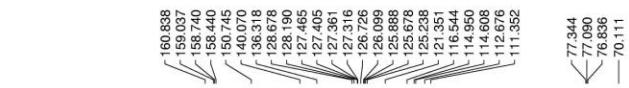
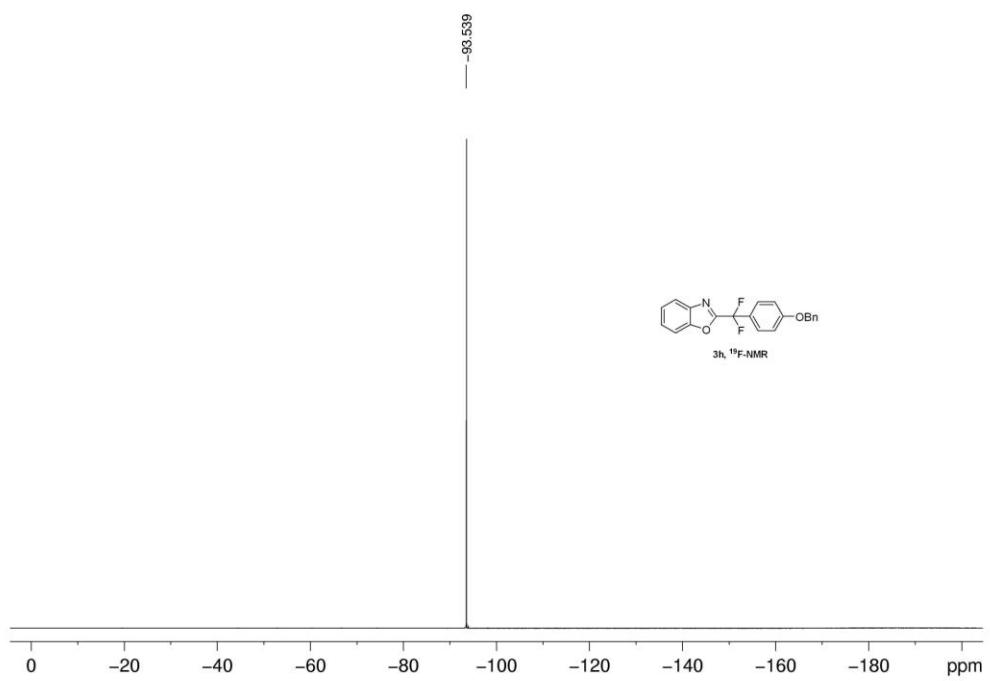


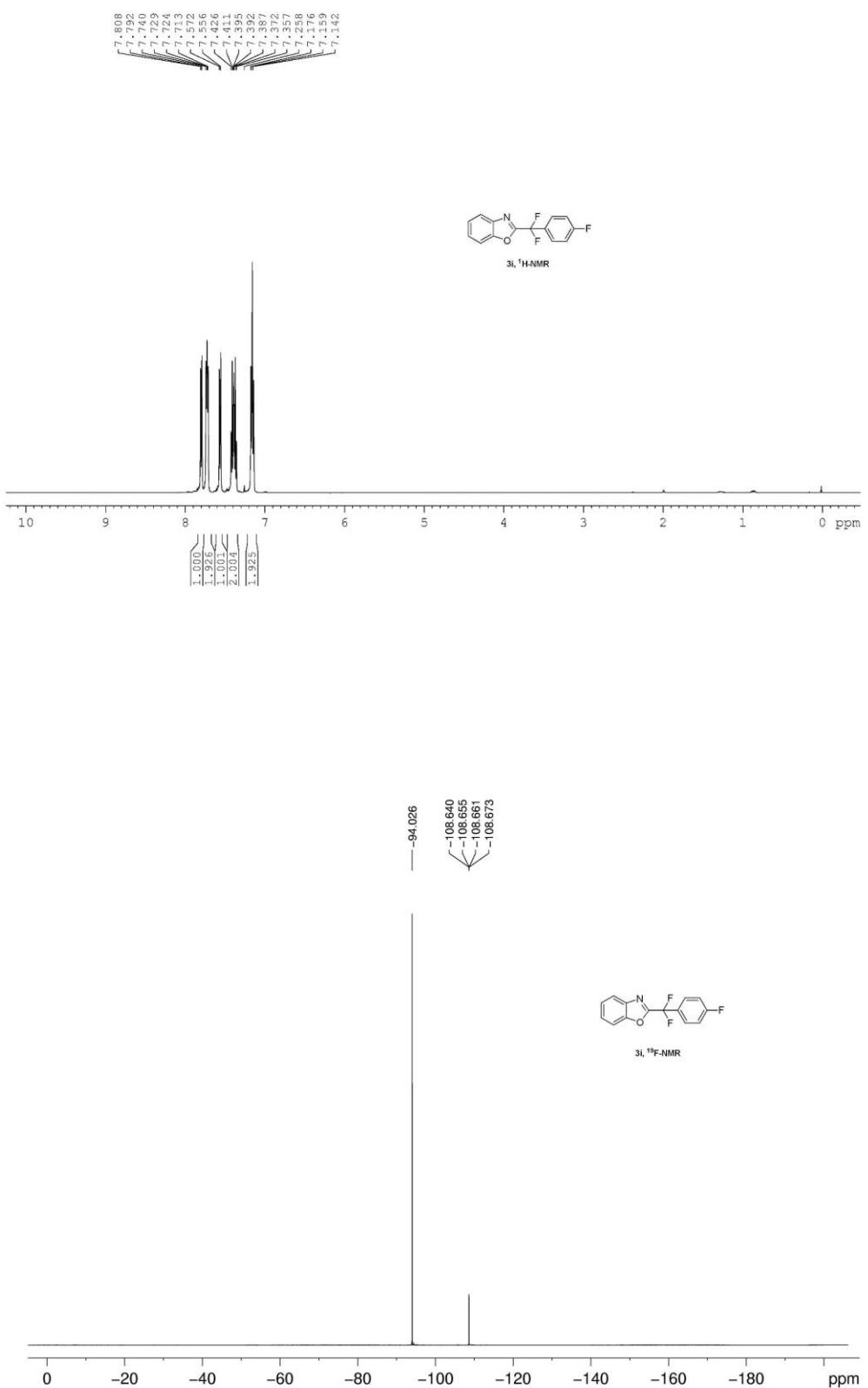


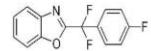
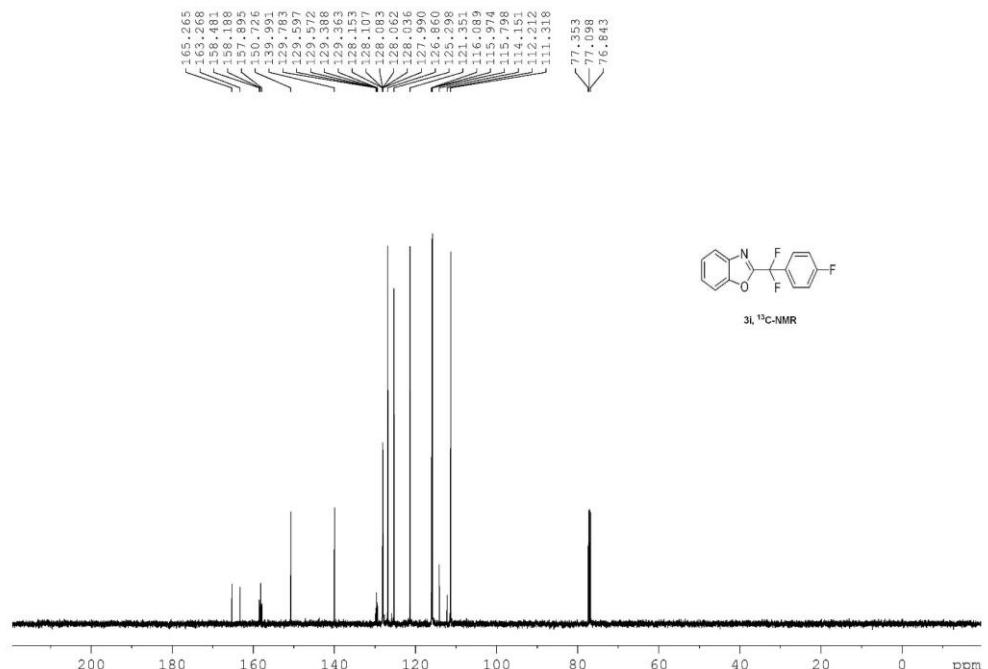




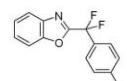
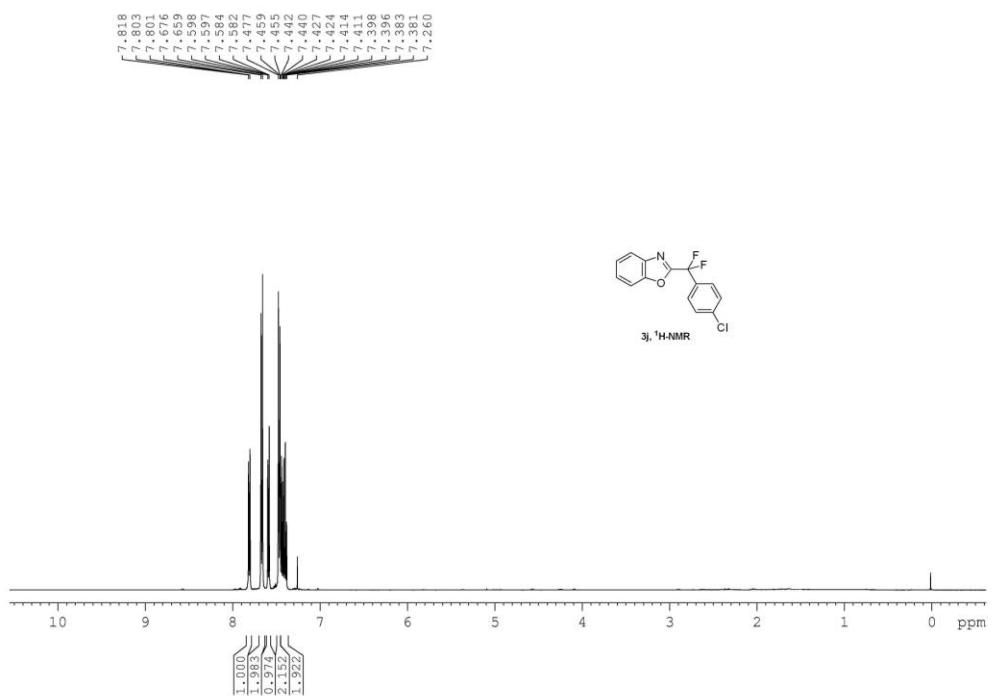




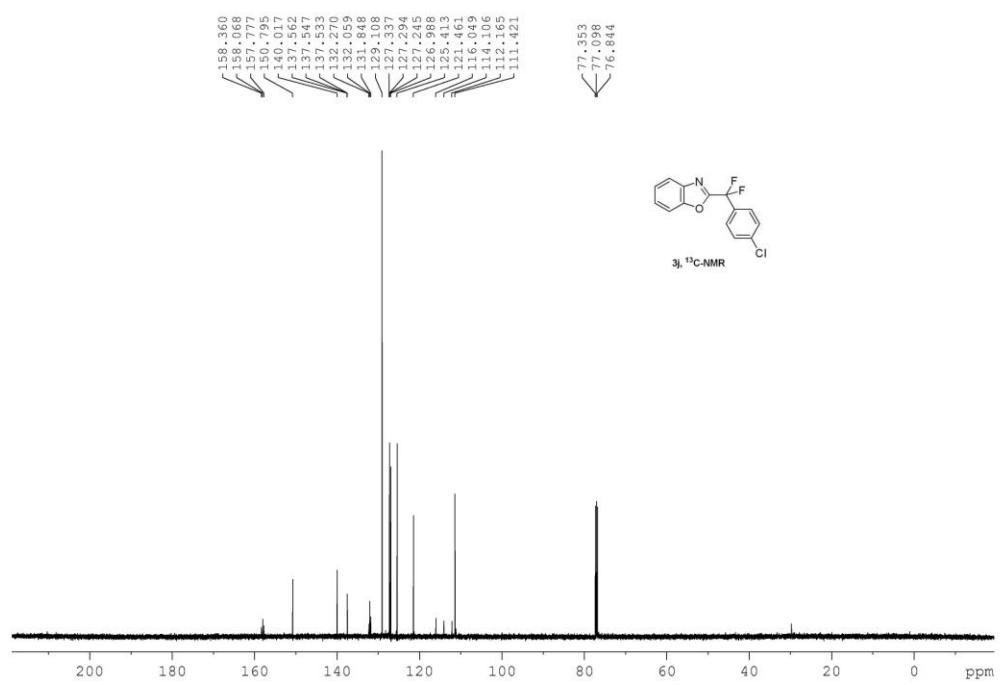
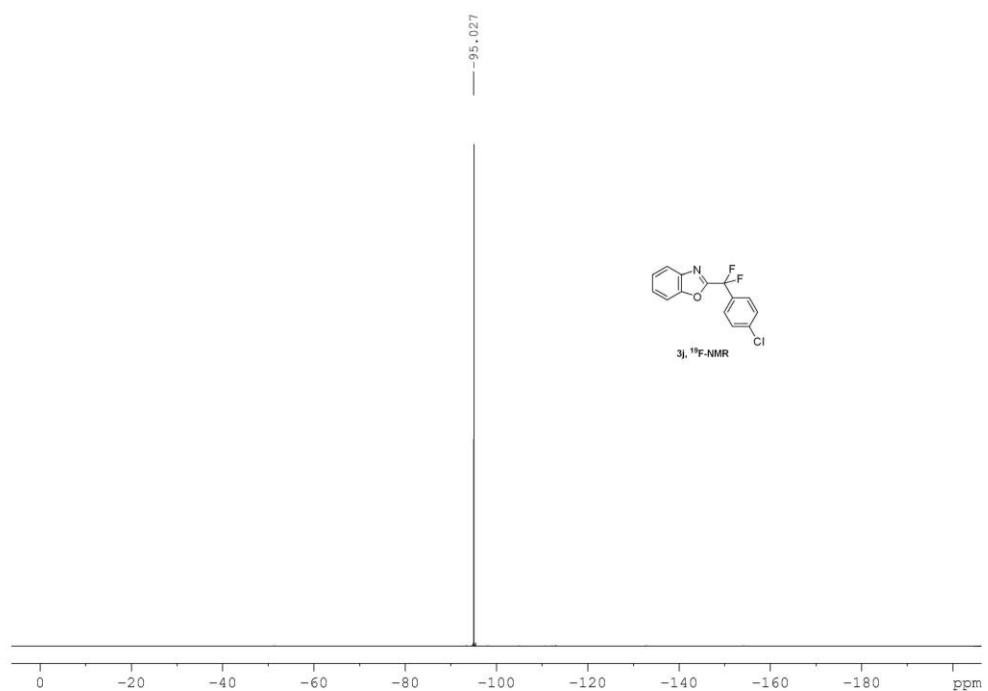


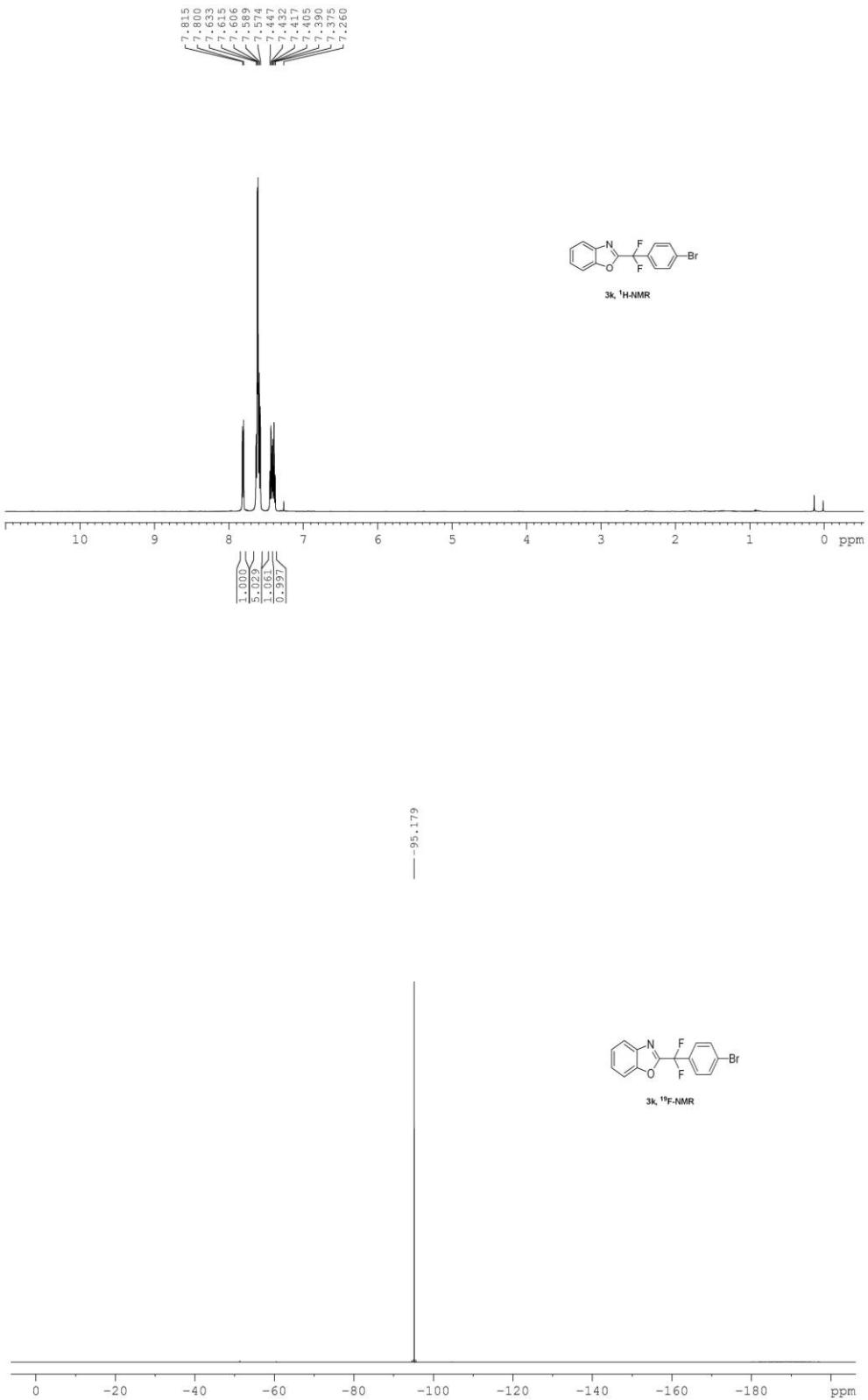


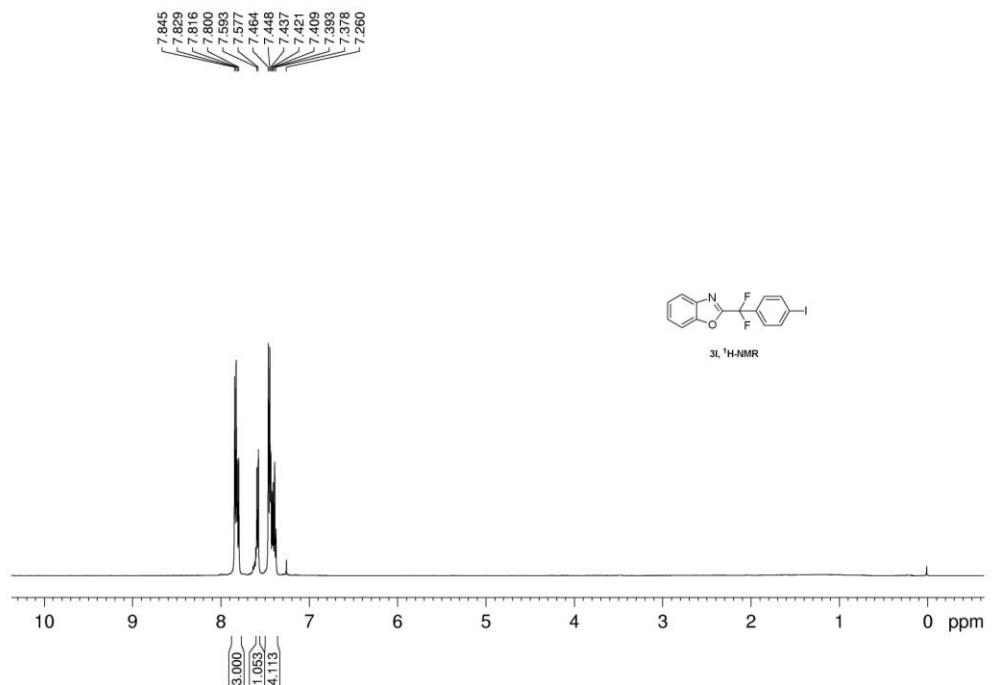
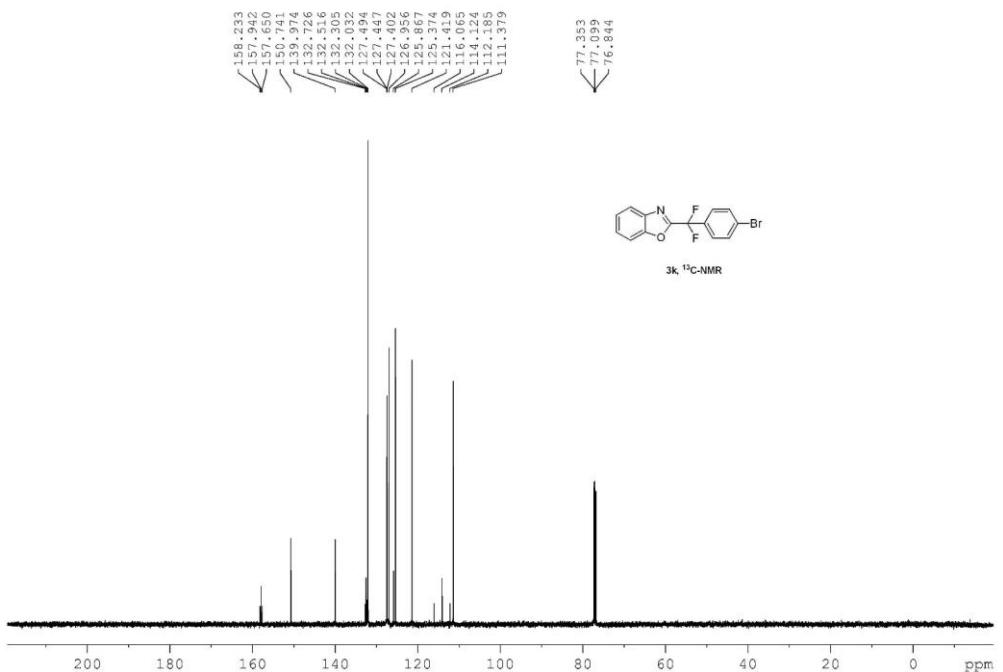
3i, ^{13}C -NMR

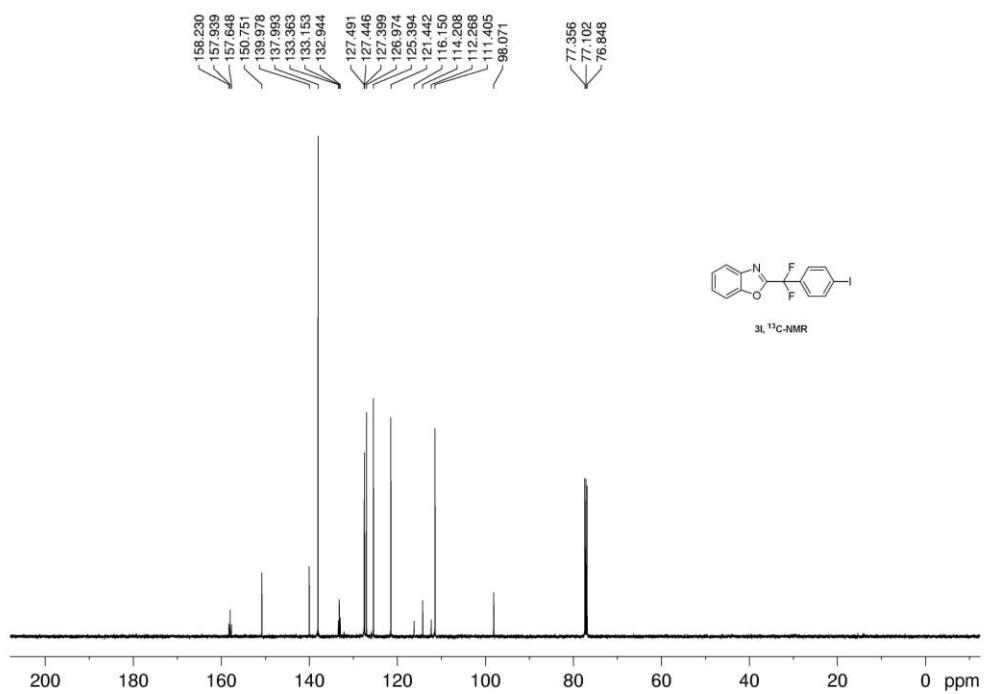
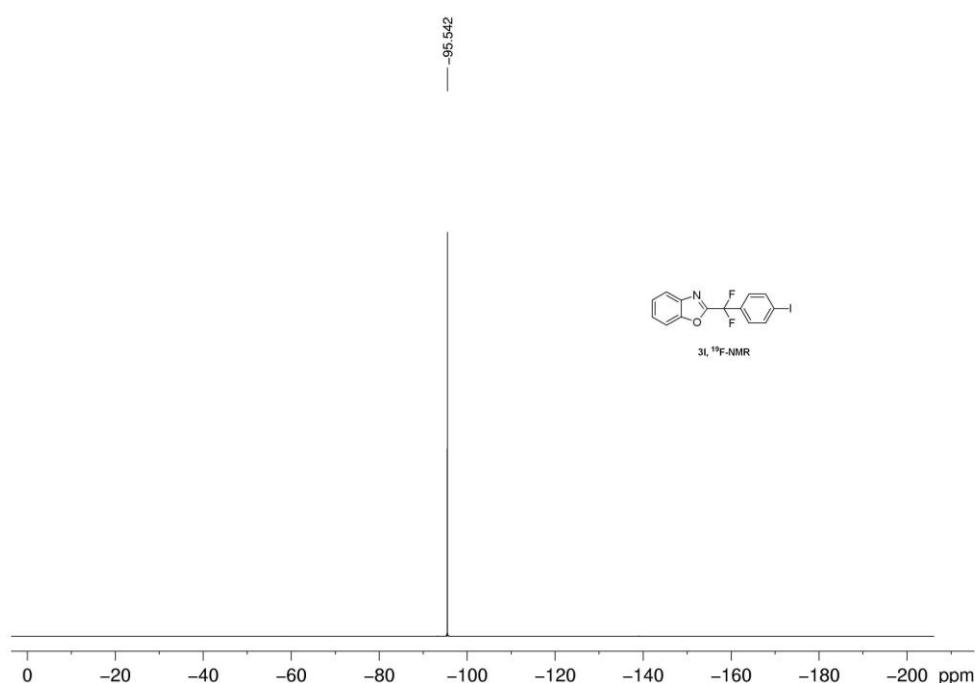


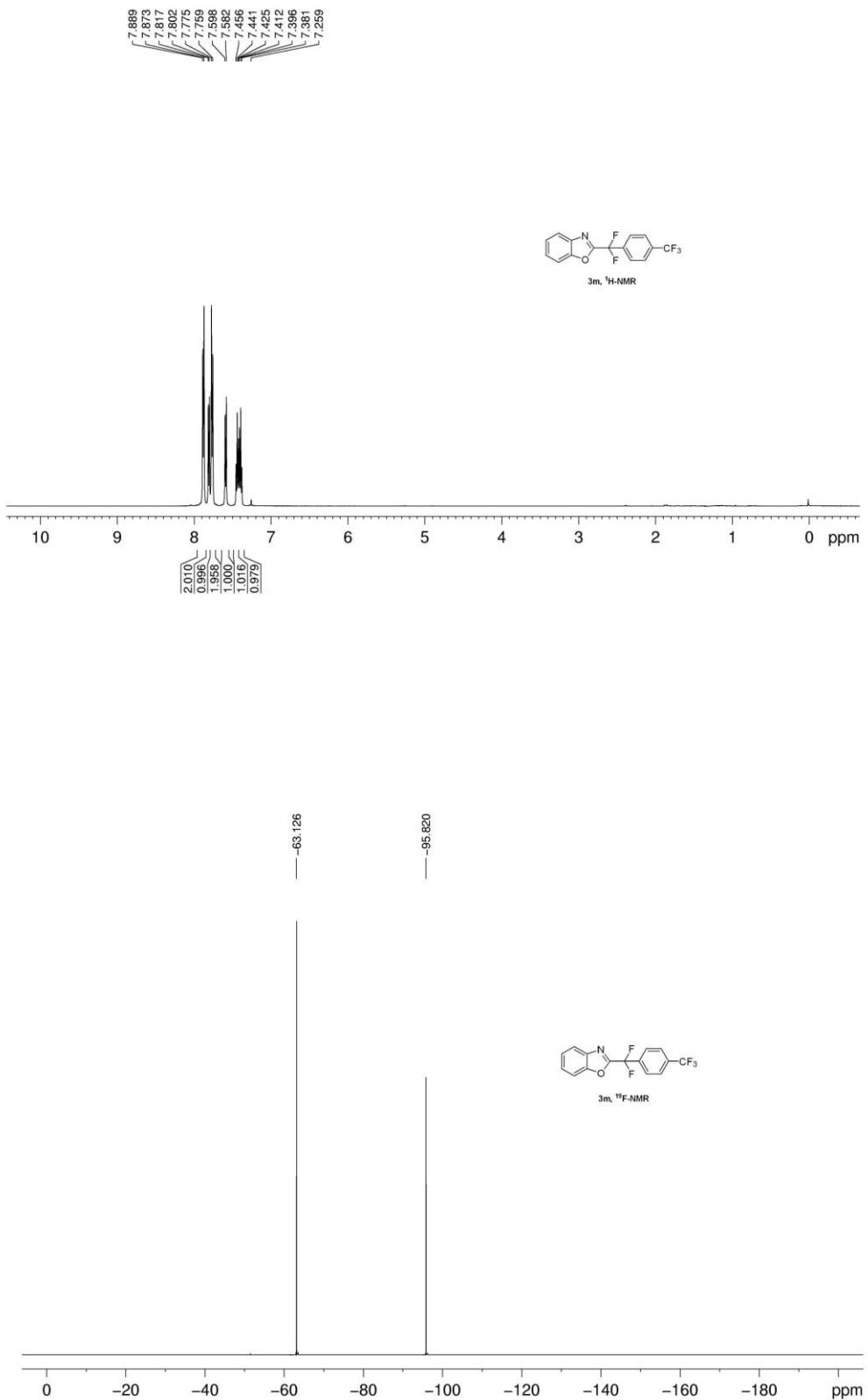
3j, $^1\text{H-NMR}$

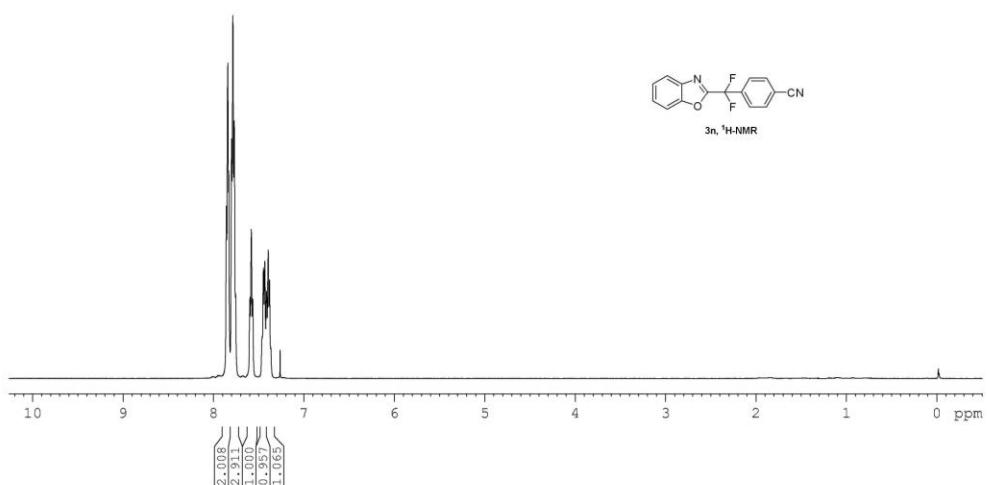
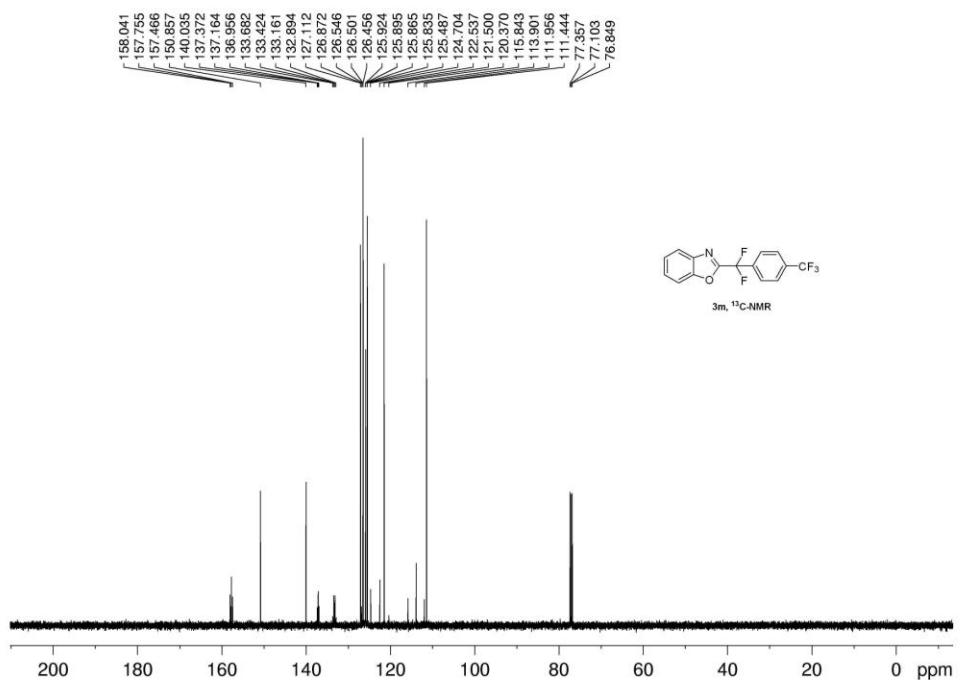


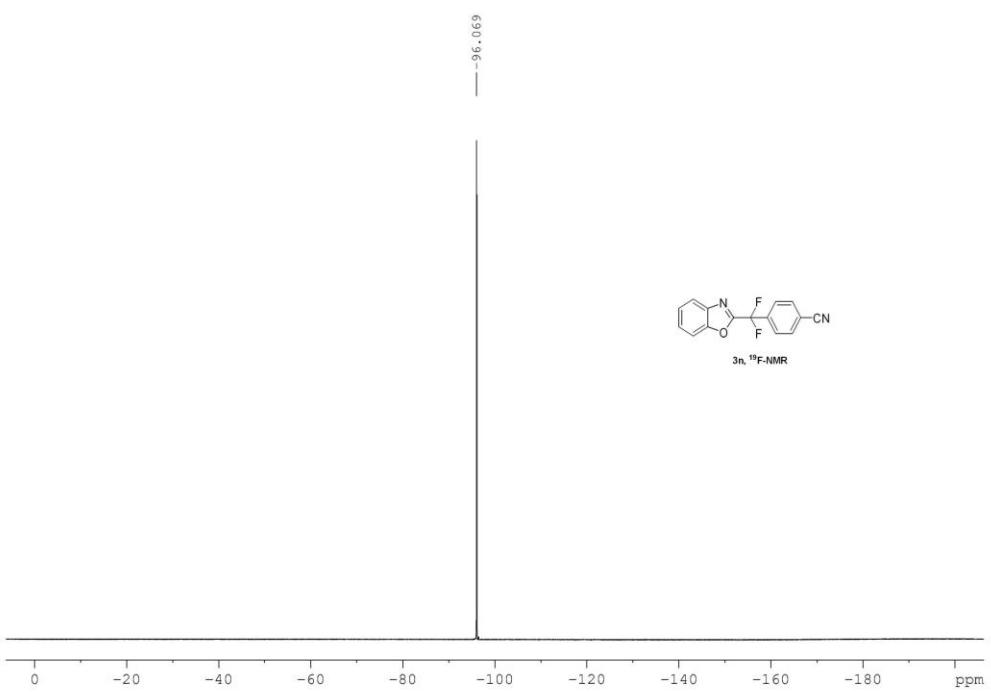




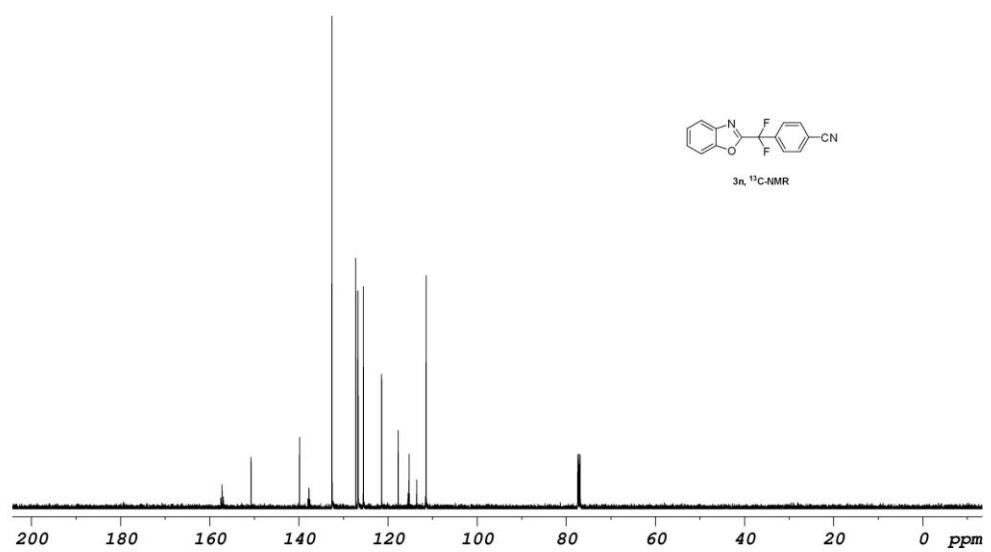


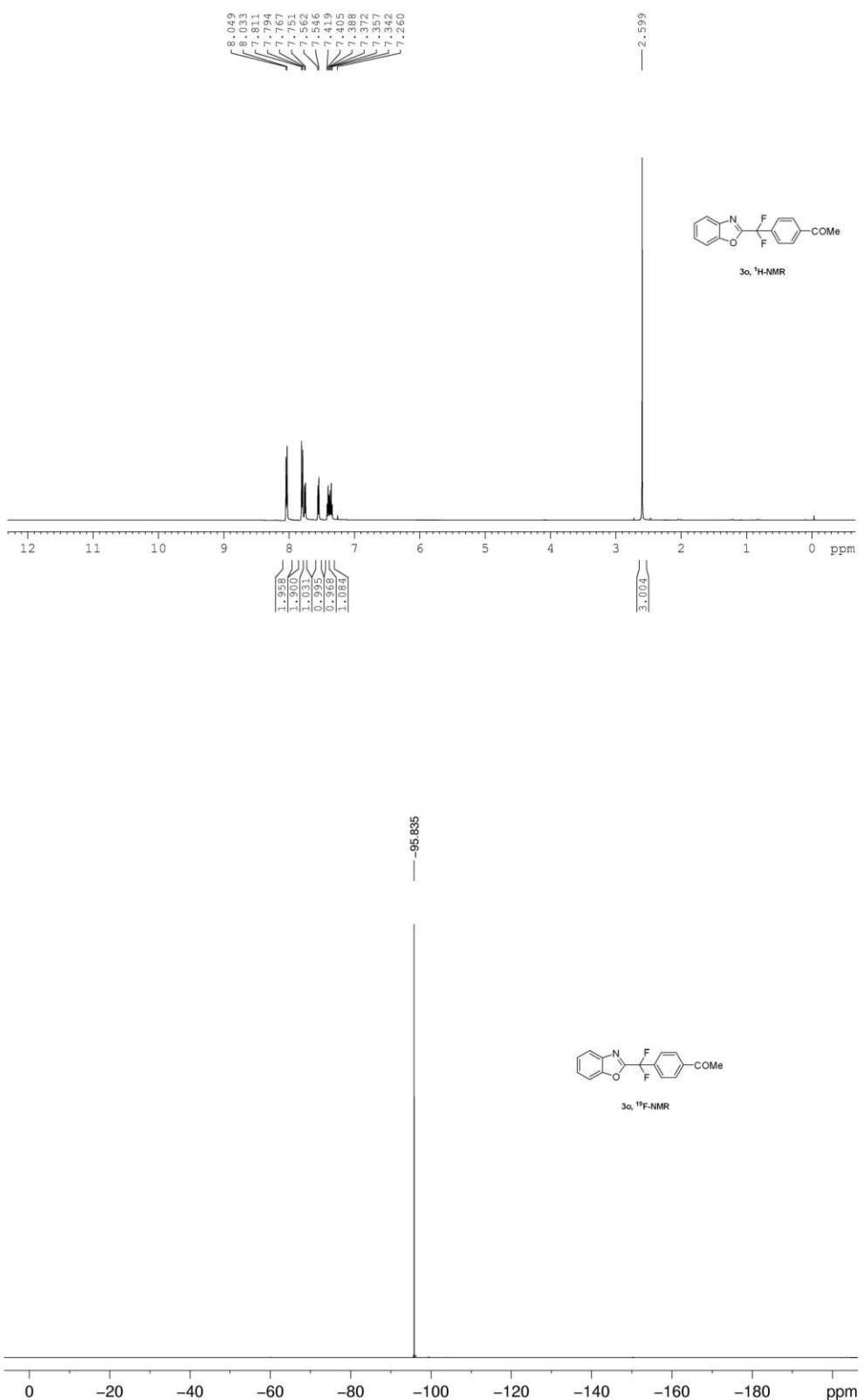


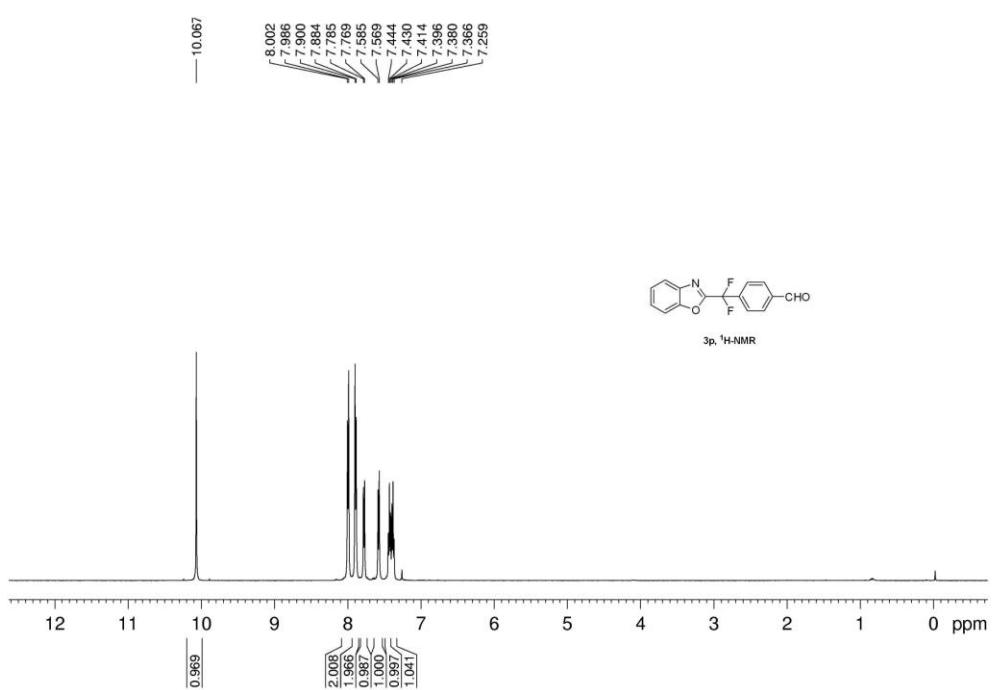
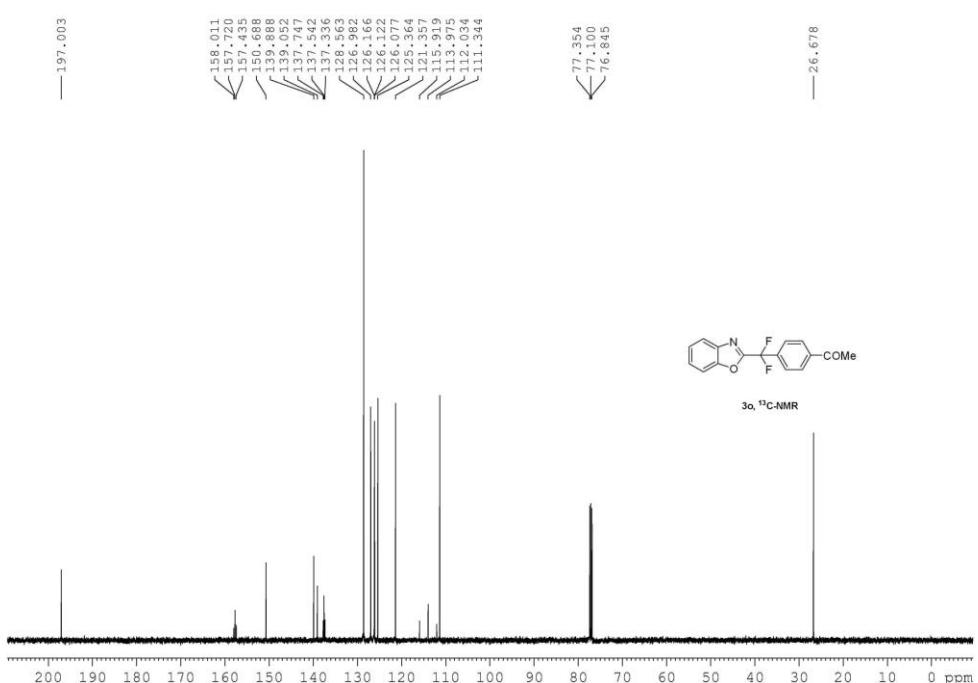


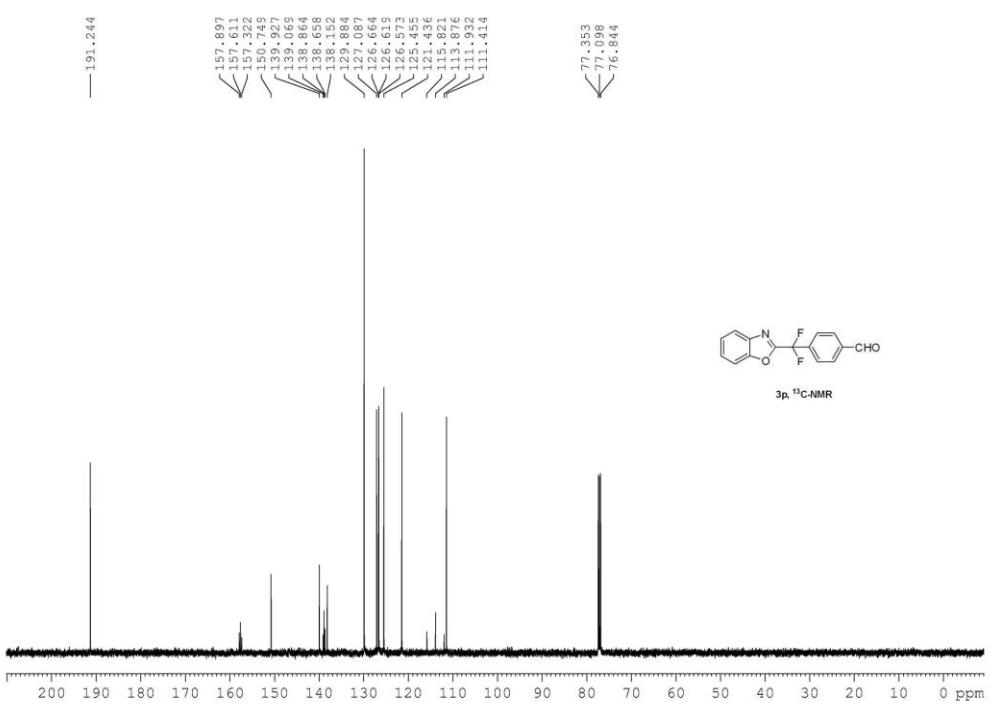
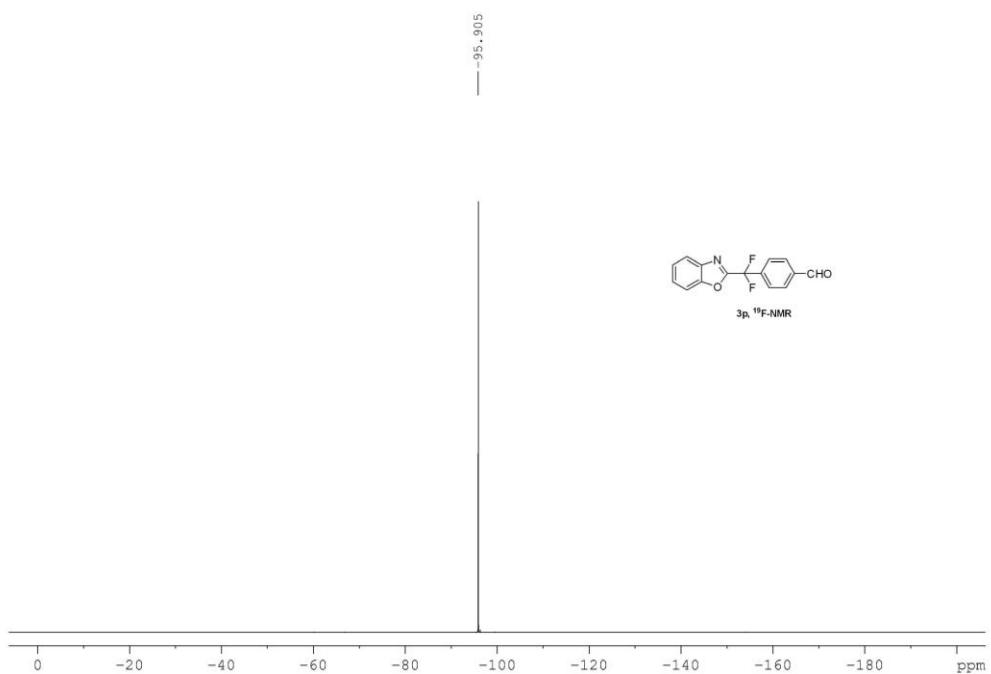


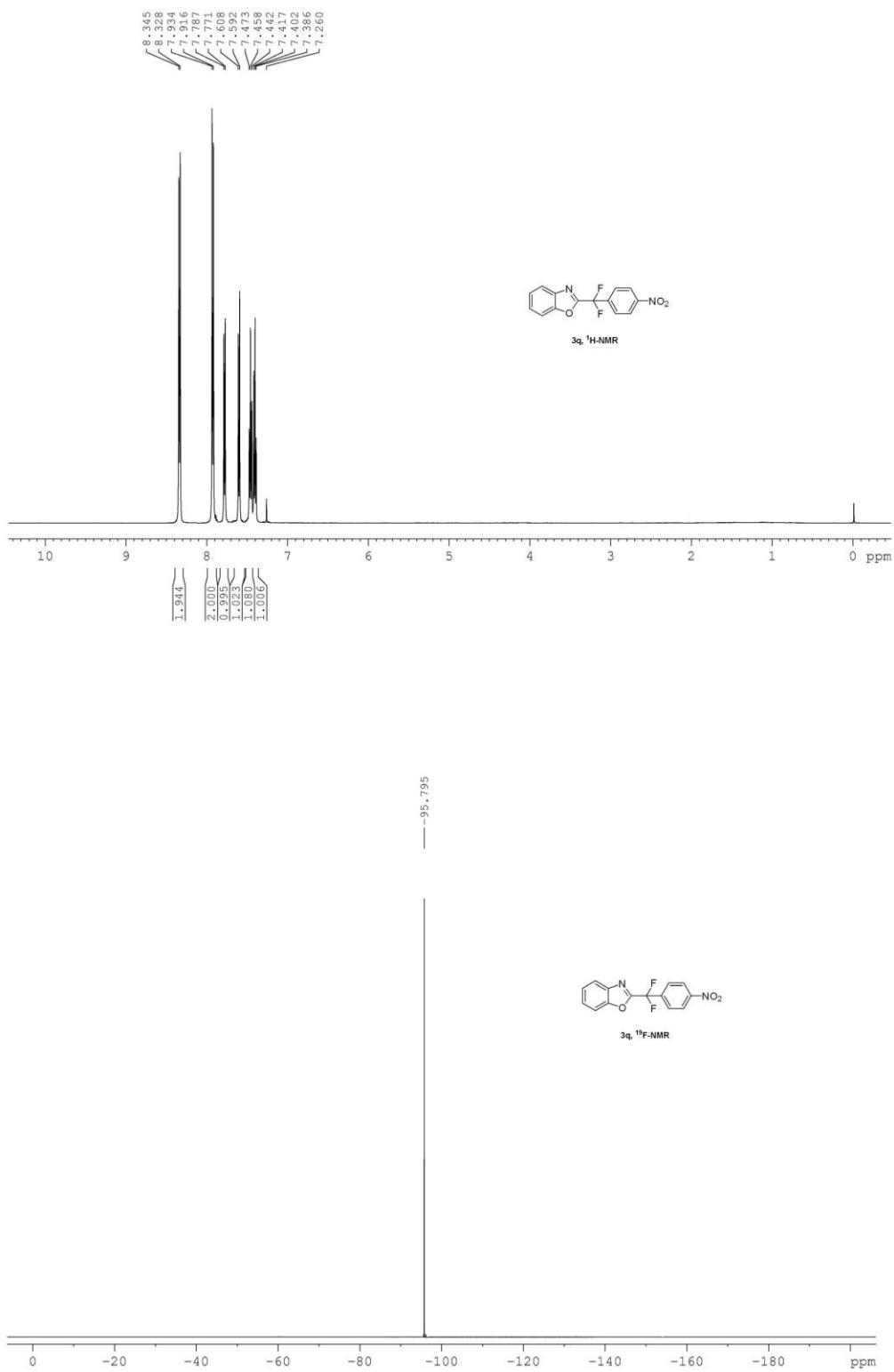
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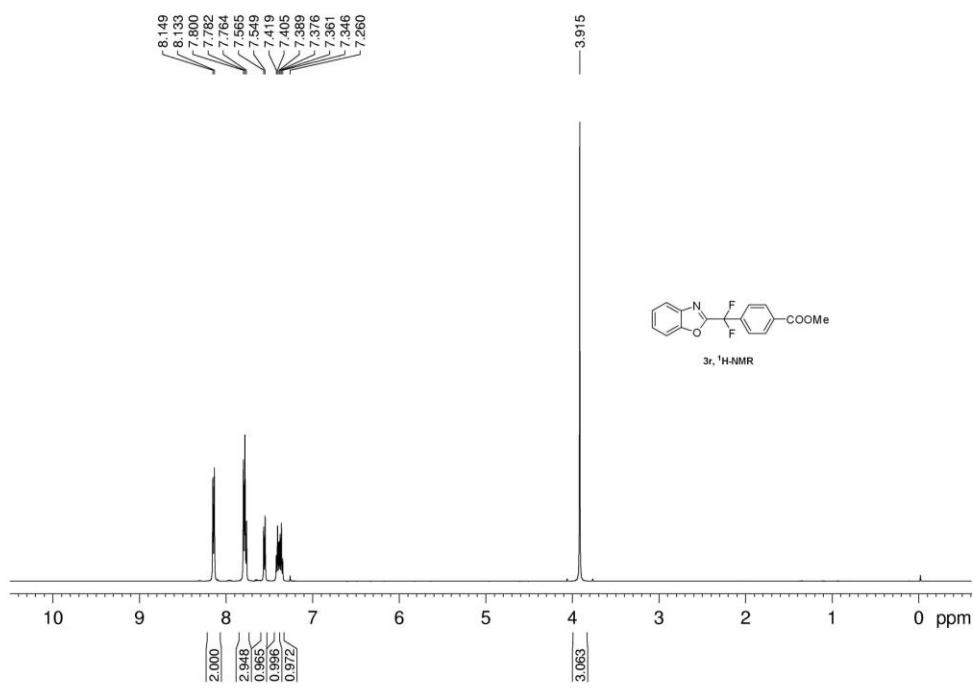
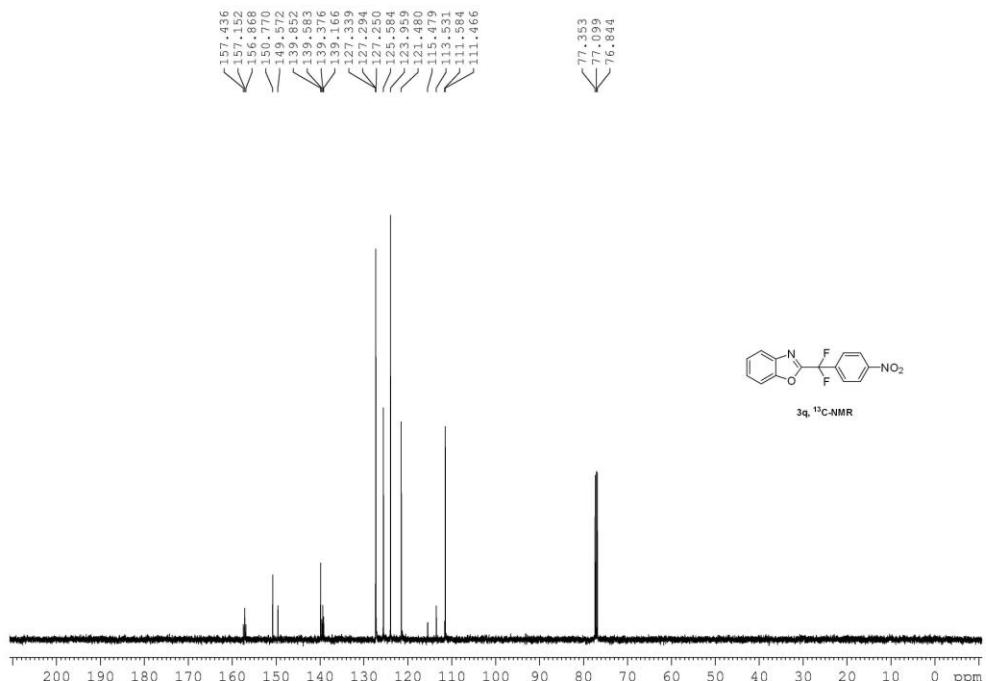


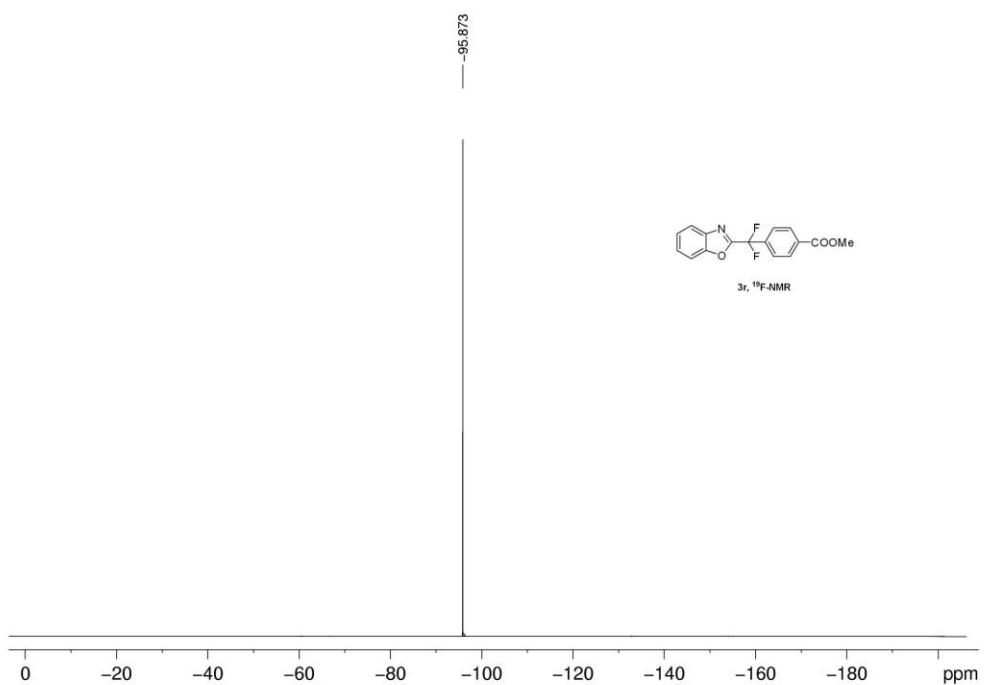




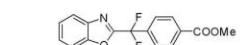




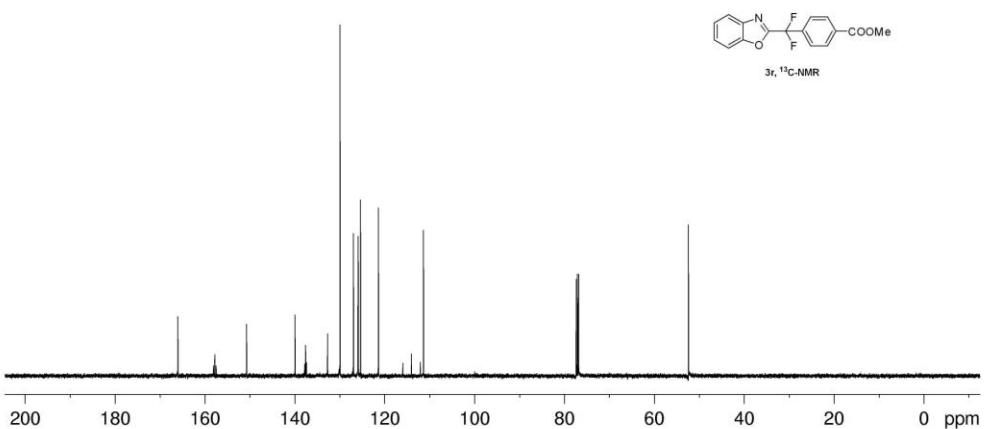


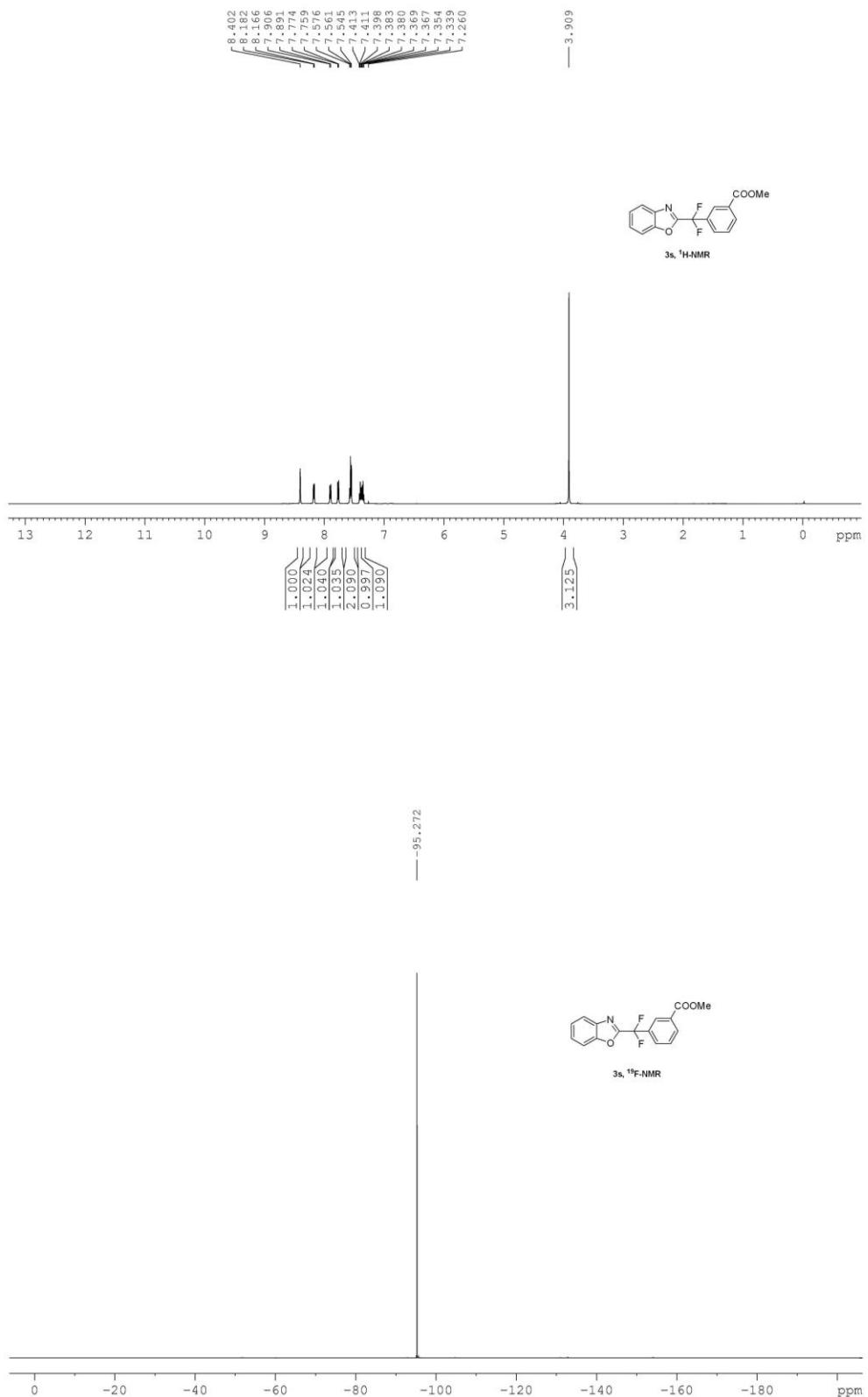


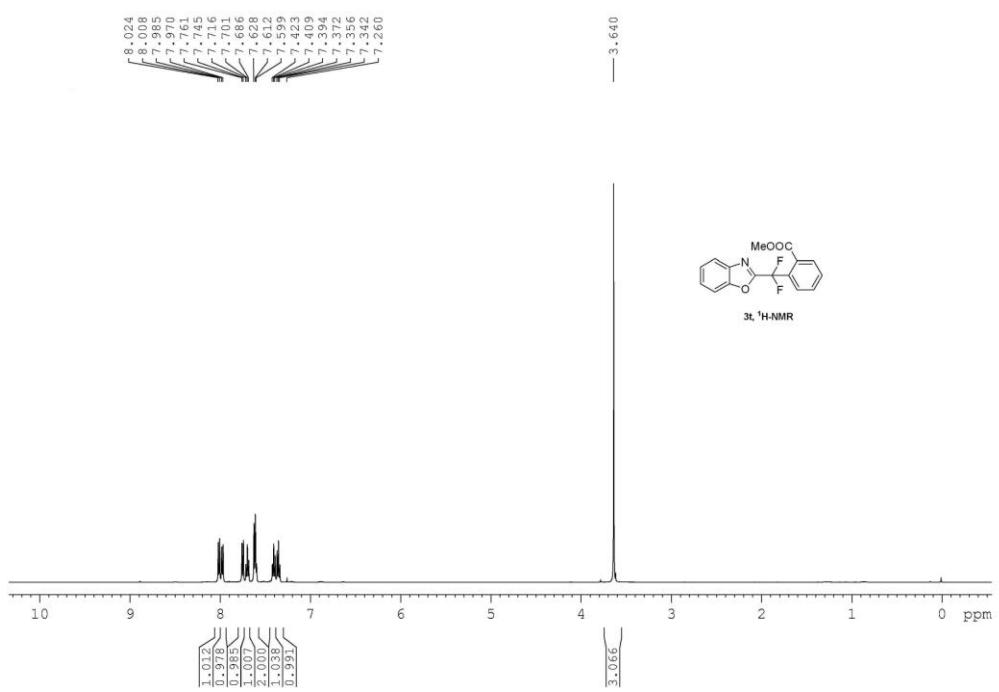
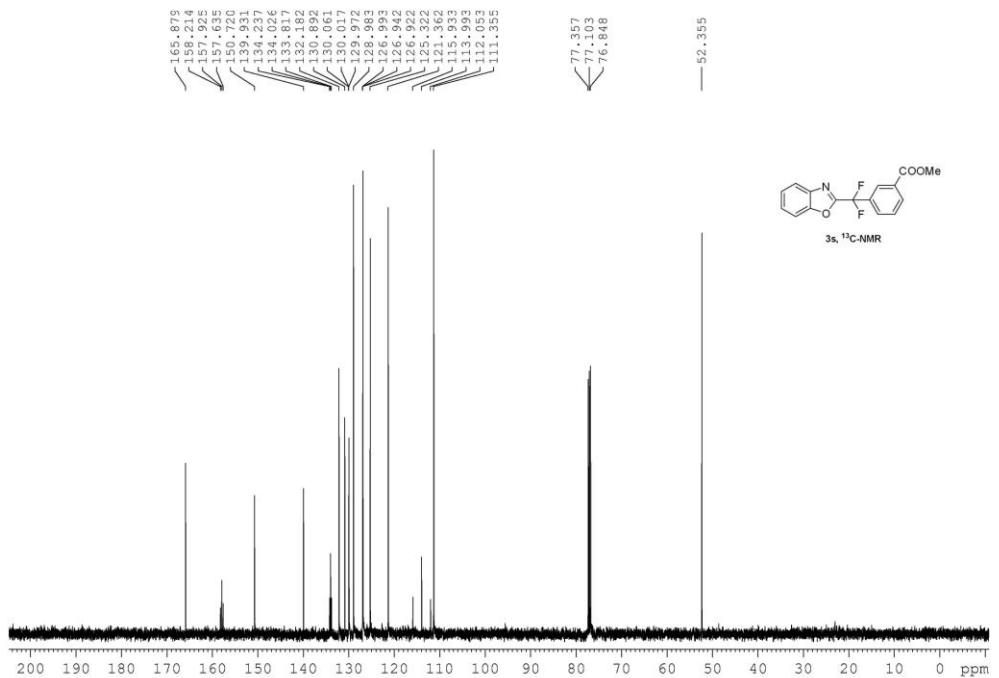
${}^{165.969}$
 ${}^{158.999}$
 ${}^{157.809}$
 ${}^{157.522}$
 ${}^{150.733}$
 ${}^{139.961}$
 ${}^{137.813}$
 ${}^{137.807}$
 ${}^{137.401}$
 ${}^{132.704}$
 ${}^{129.940}$
 ${}^{126.963}$
 ${}^{125.945}$
 ${}^{125.898}$
 ${}^{125.853}$
 ${}^{125.364}$
 ${}^{121.400}$
 ${}^{115.972}$
 ${}^{114.029}$
 ${}^{112.986}$
 ${}^{111.362}$

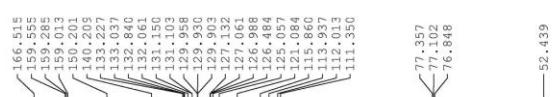
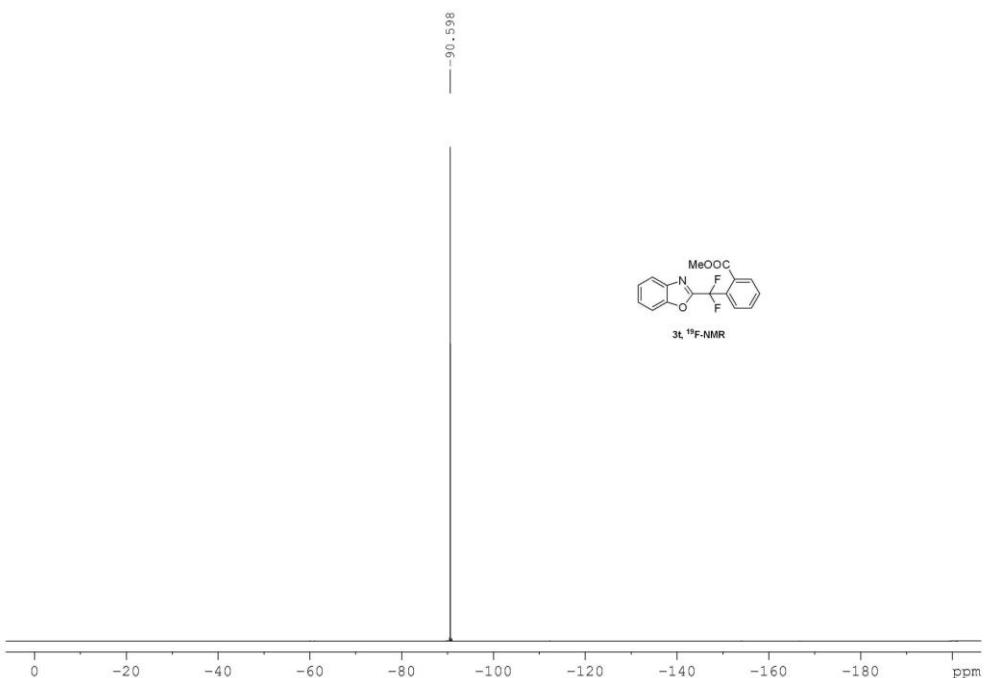


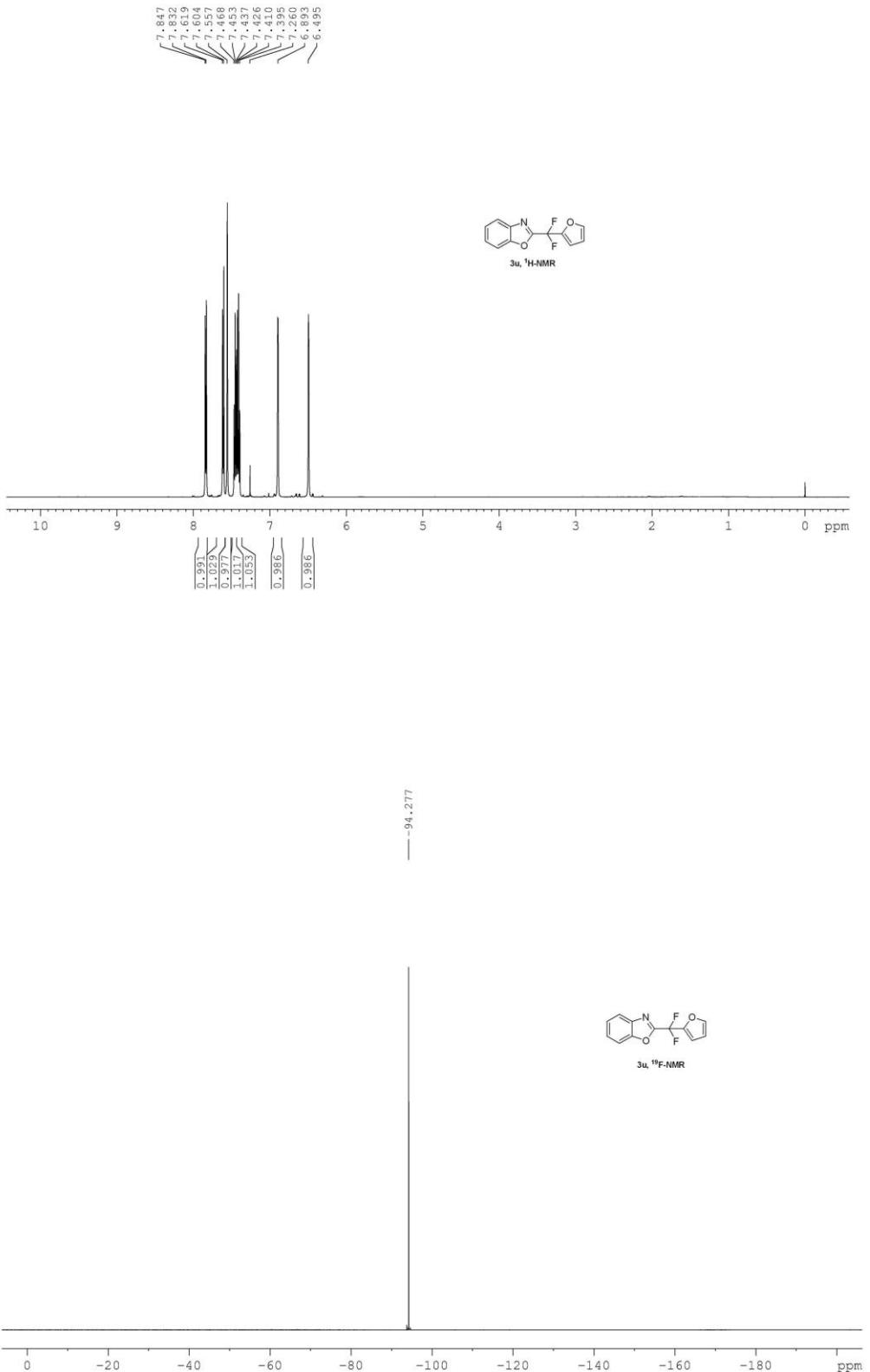
$3r, {}^{13}\text{C-NMR}$

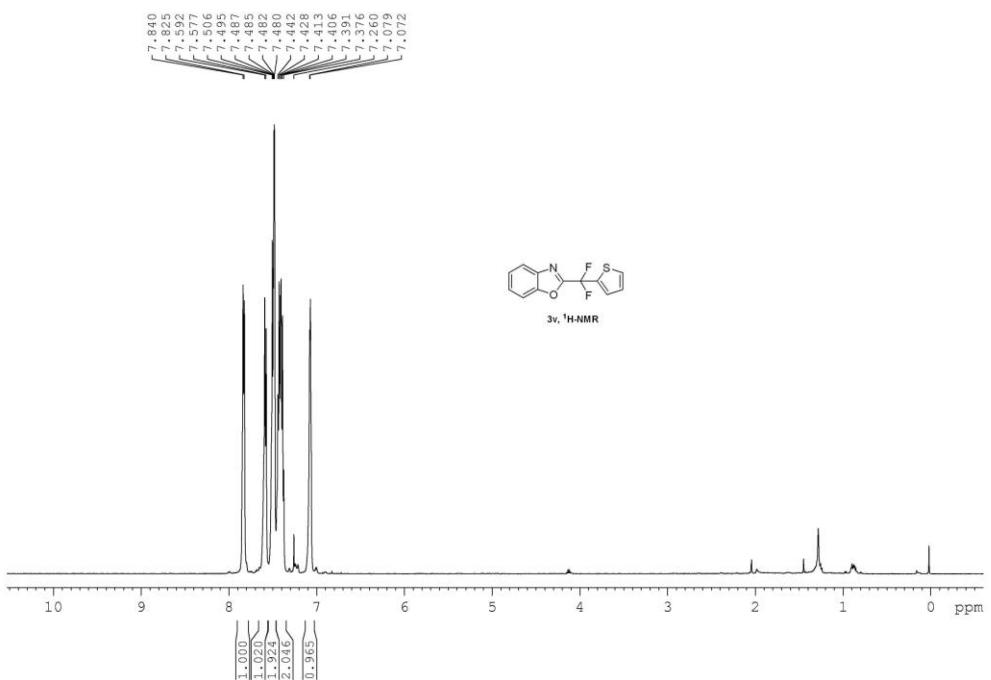
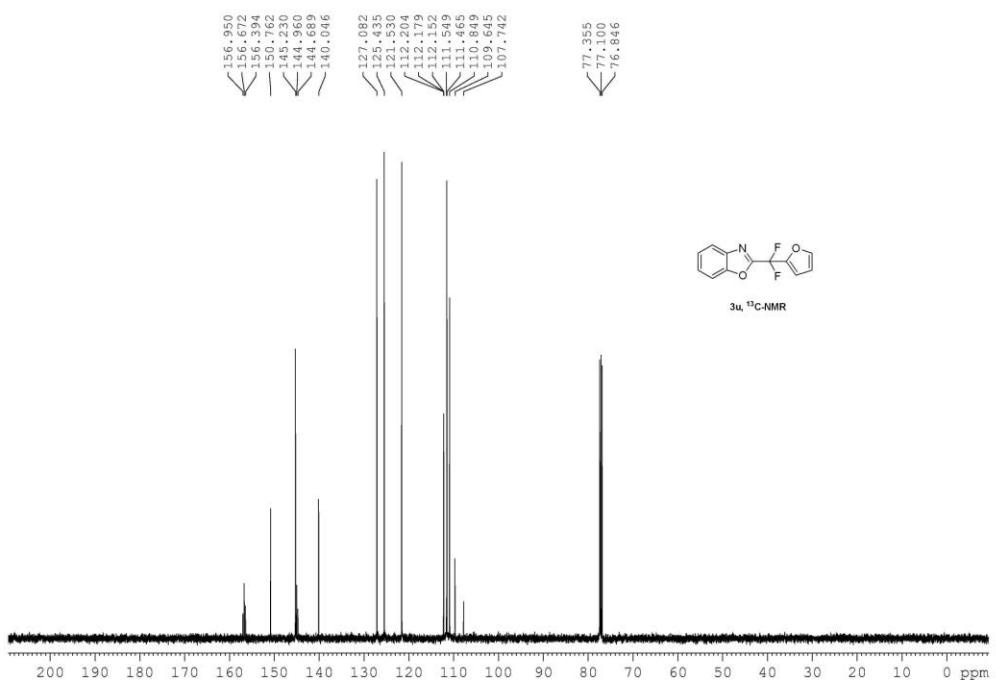


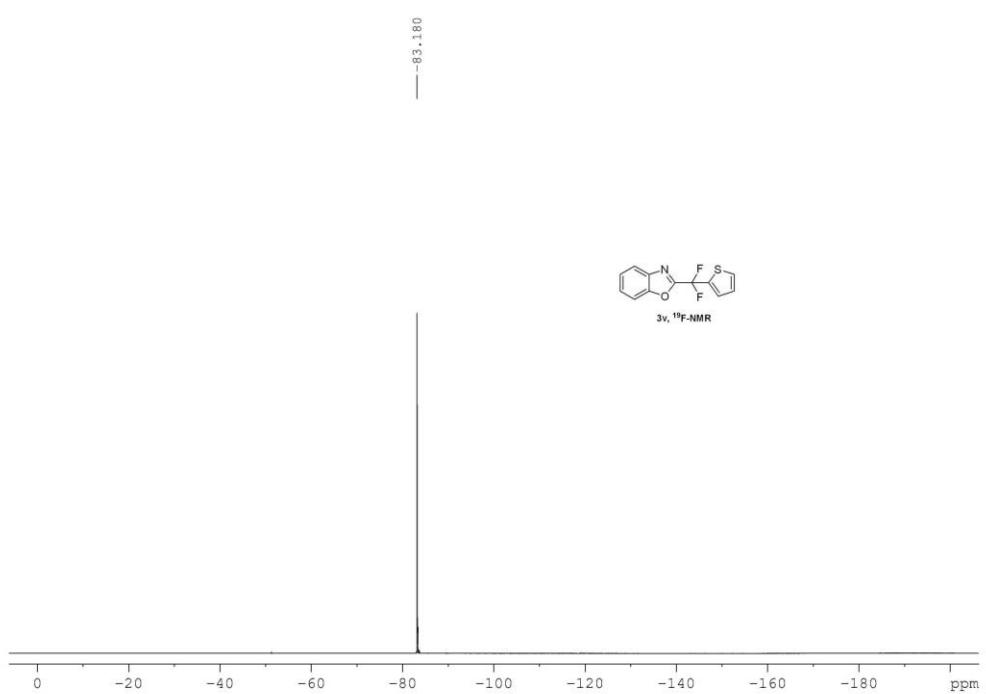




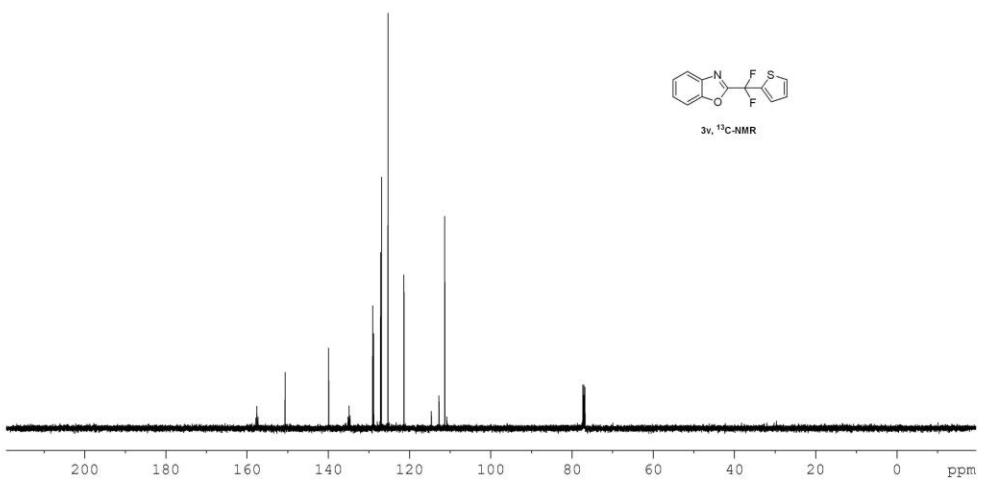


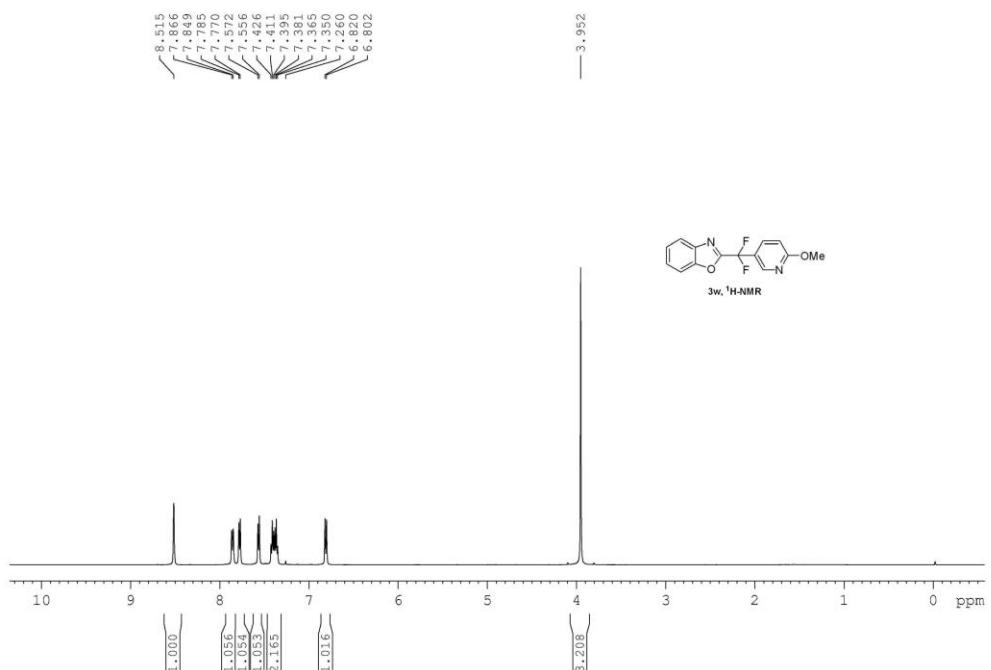




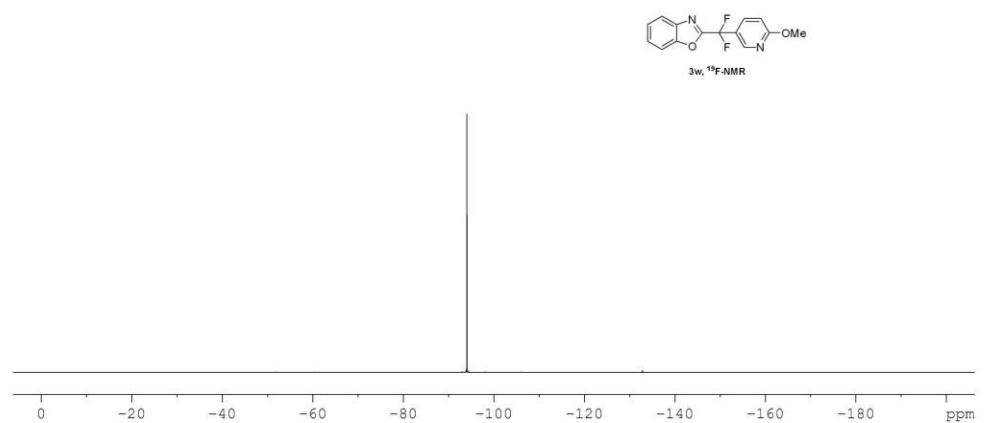


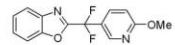
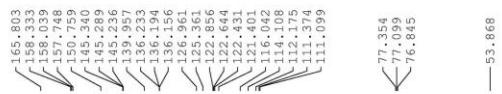
157, 91.4
157, 65.2
157, 32.2
130, 66.4
139, 64.4
135, 162
134, 91.6
134, 67.4
129, 63.8
128, 63.5
128, 60.2
128, 58.0
127, 15.9
126, 9.8
125, 3.8
121, 3.8
114, 6.0
112, 7.4
111, 3.8
110, 8.57



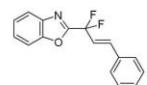
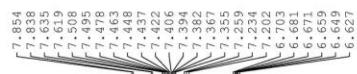
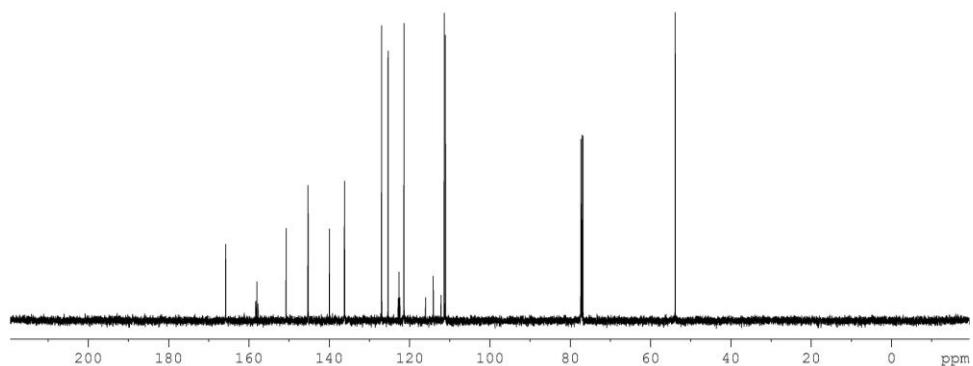


—94.052

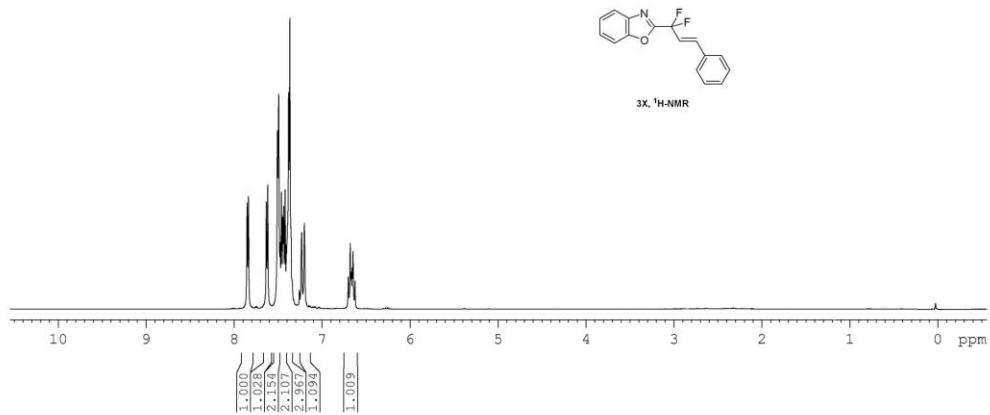


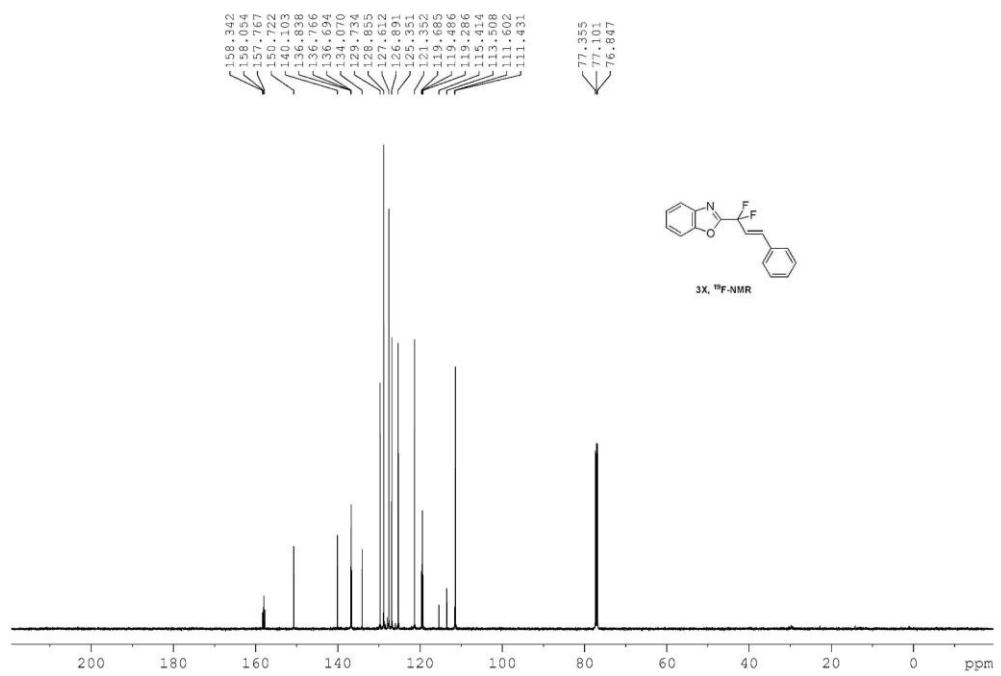
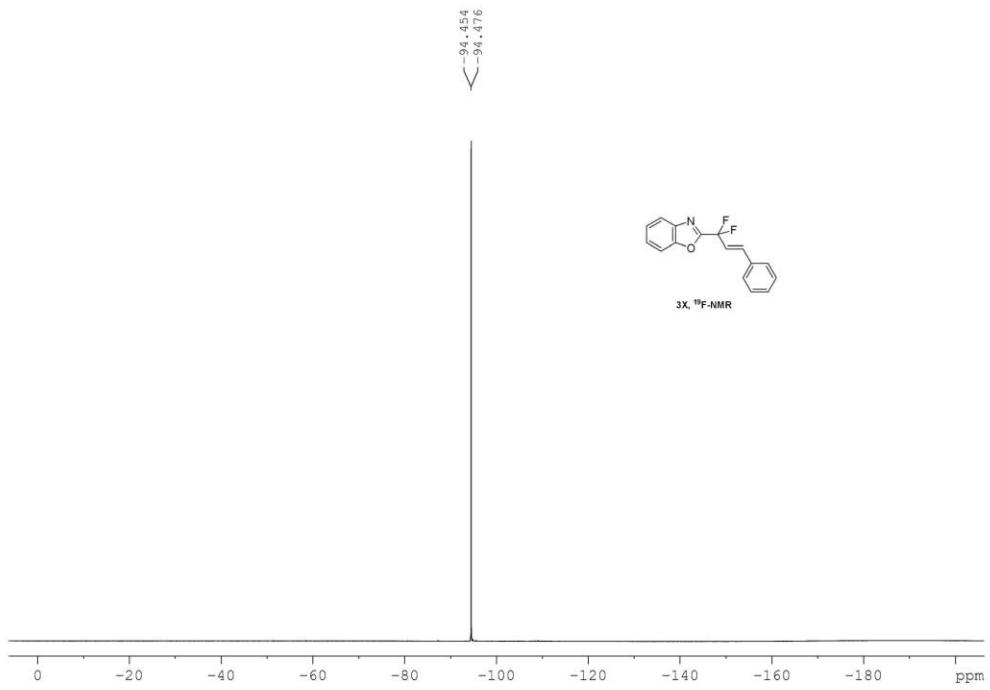


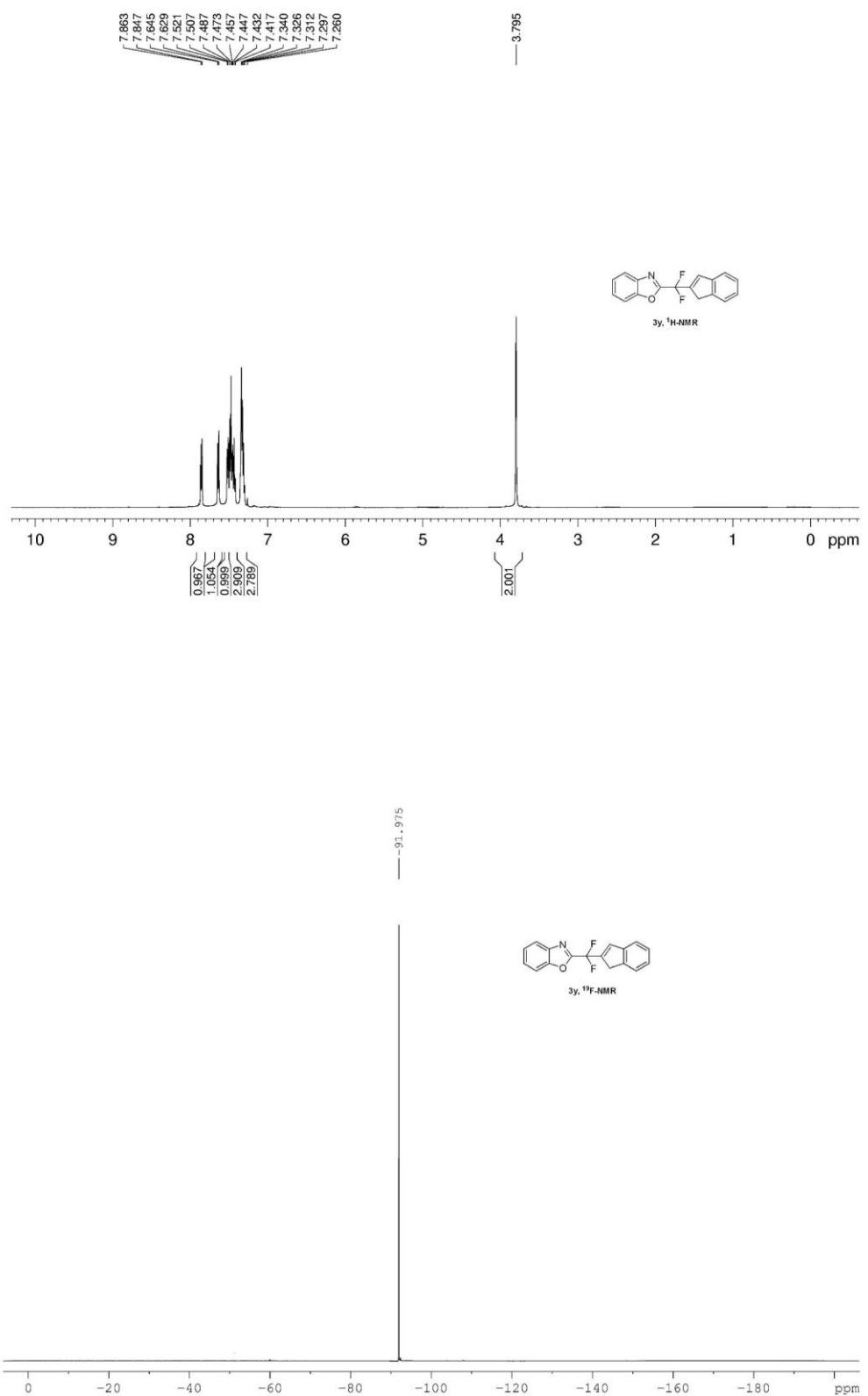
3w, ¹³C-NMR

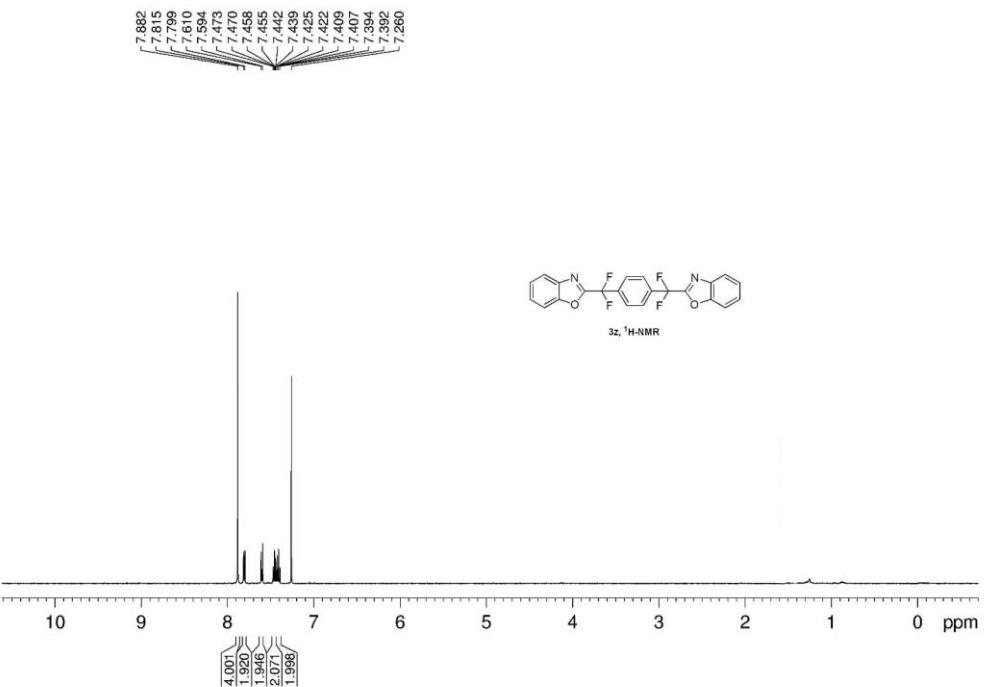
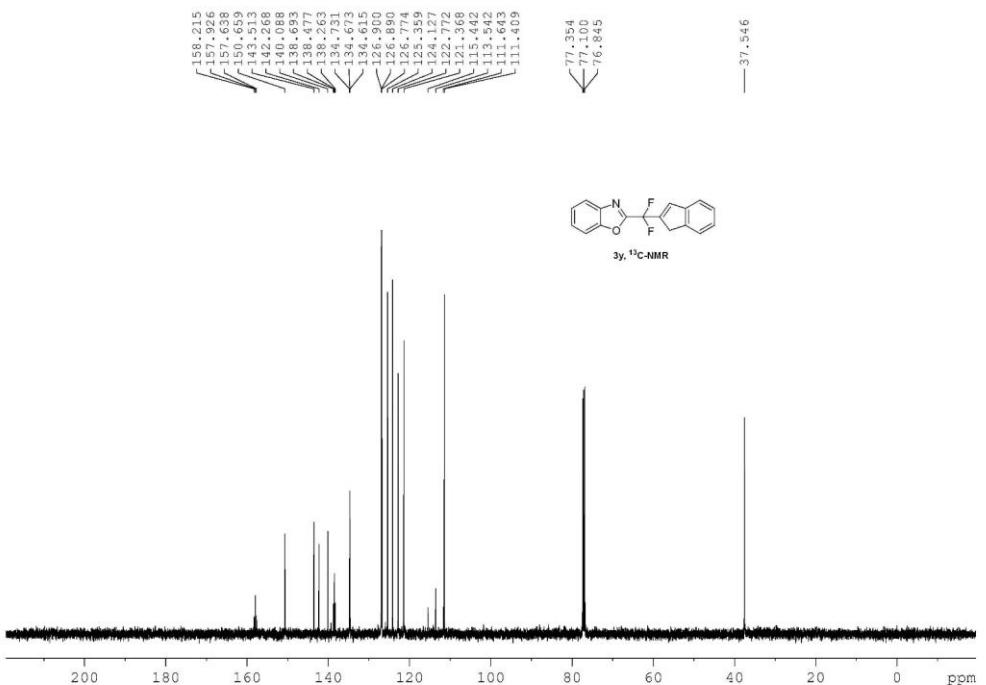


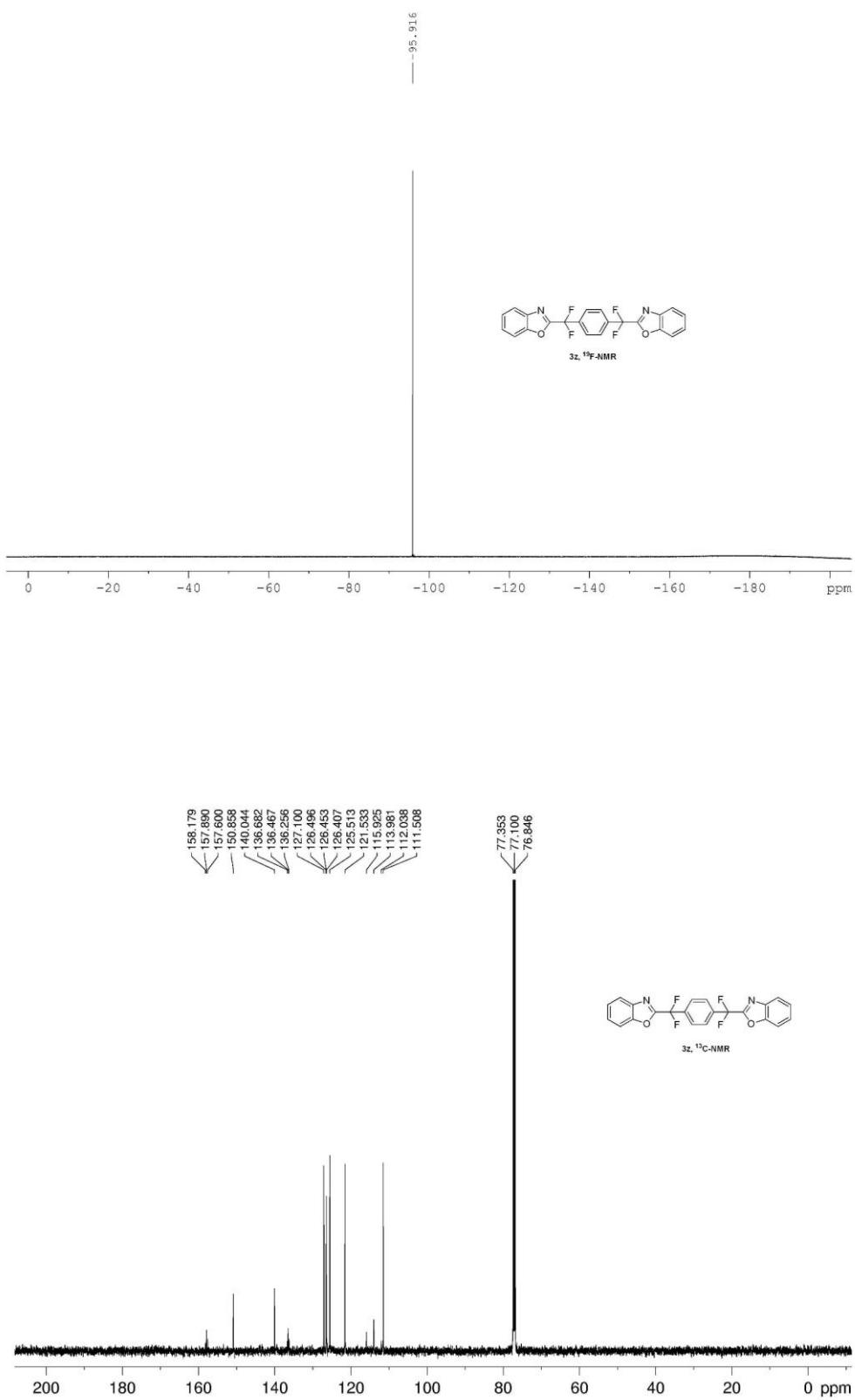
3x, ¹H-NMR

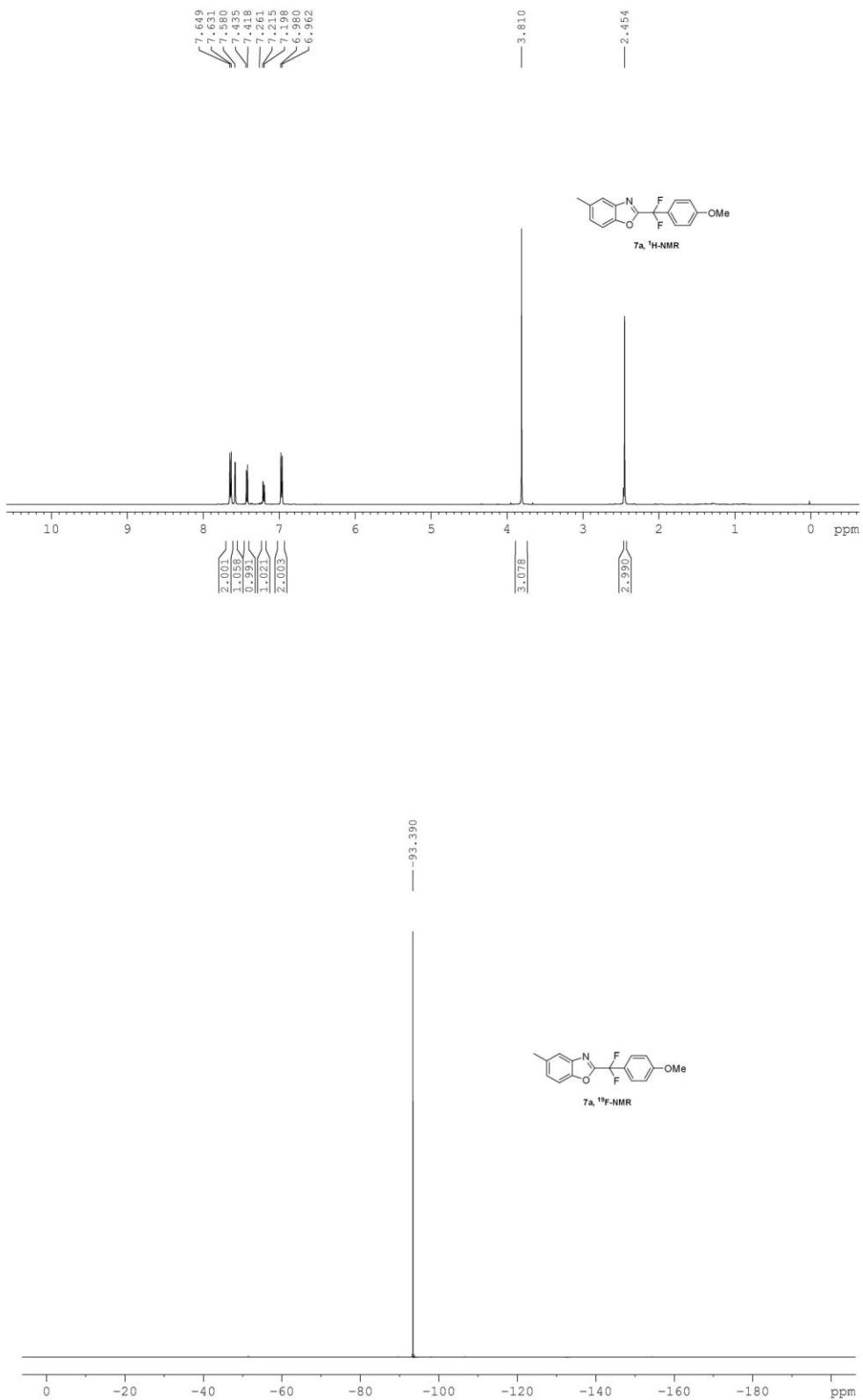


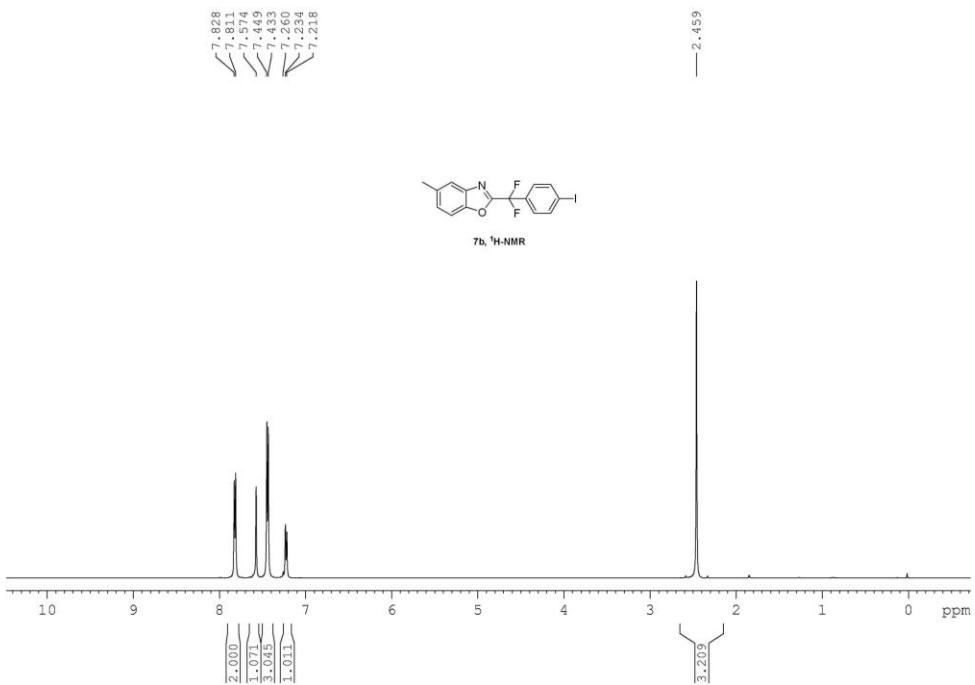
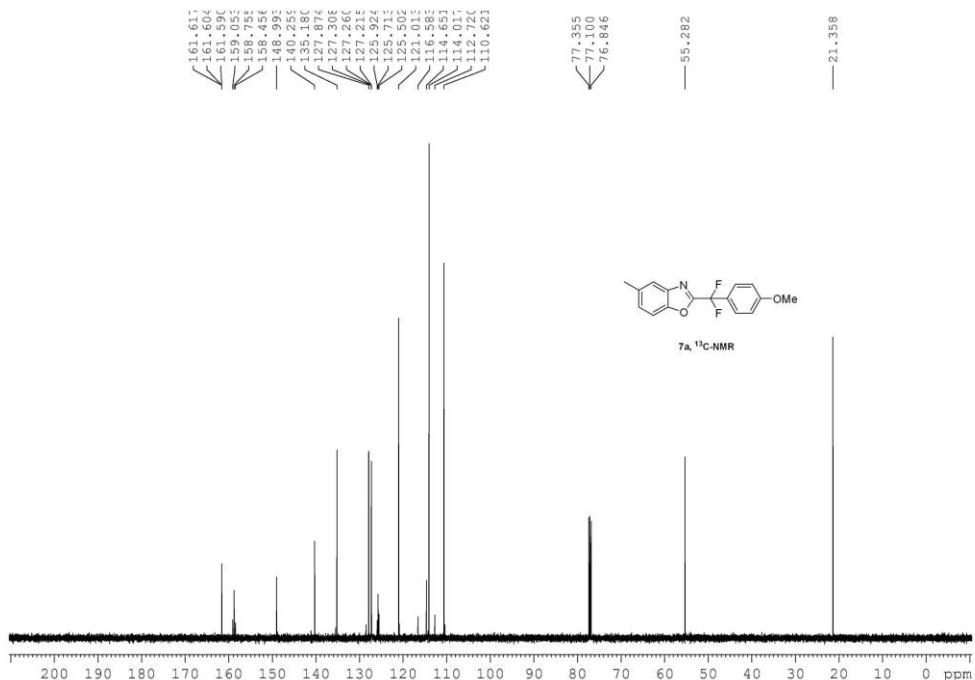


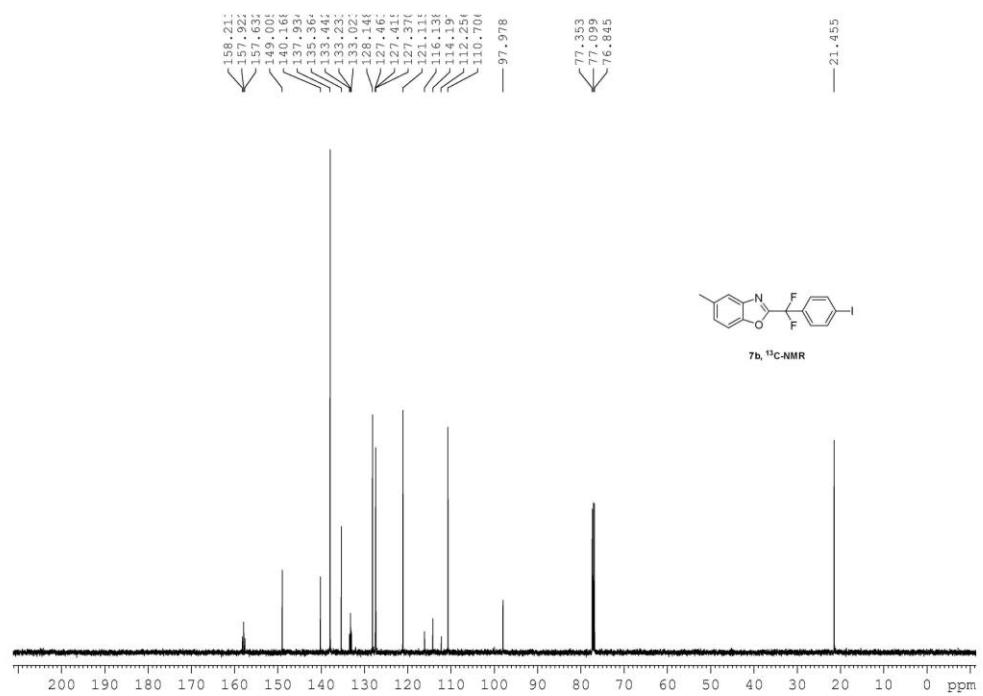
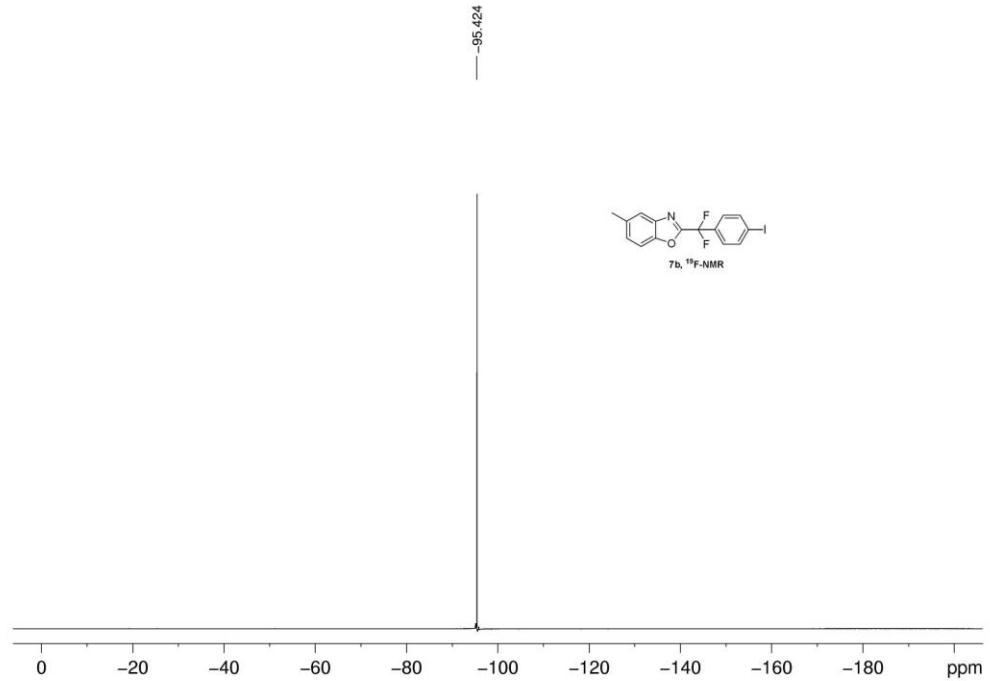


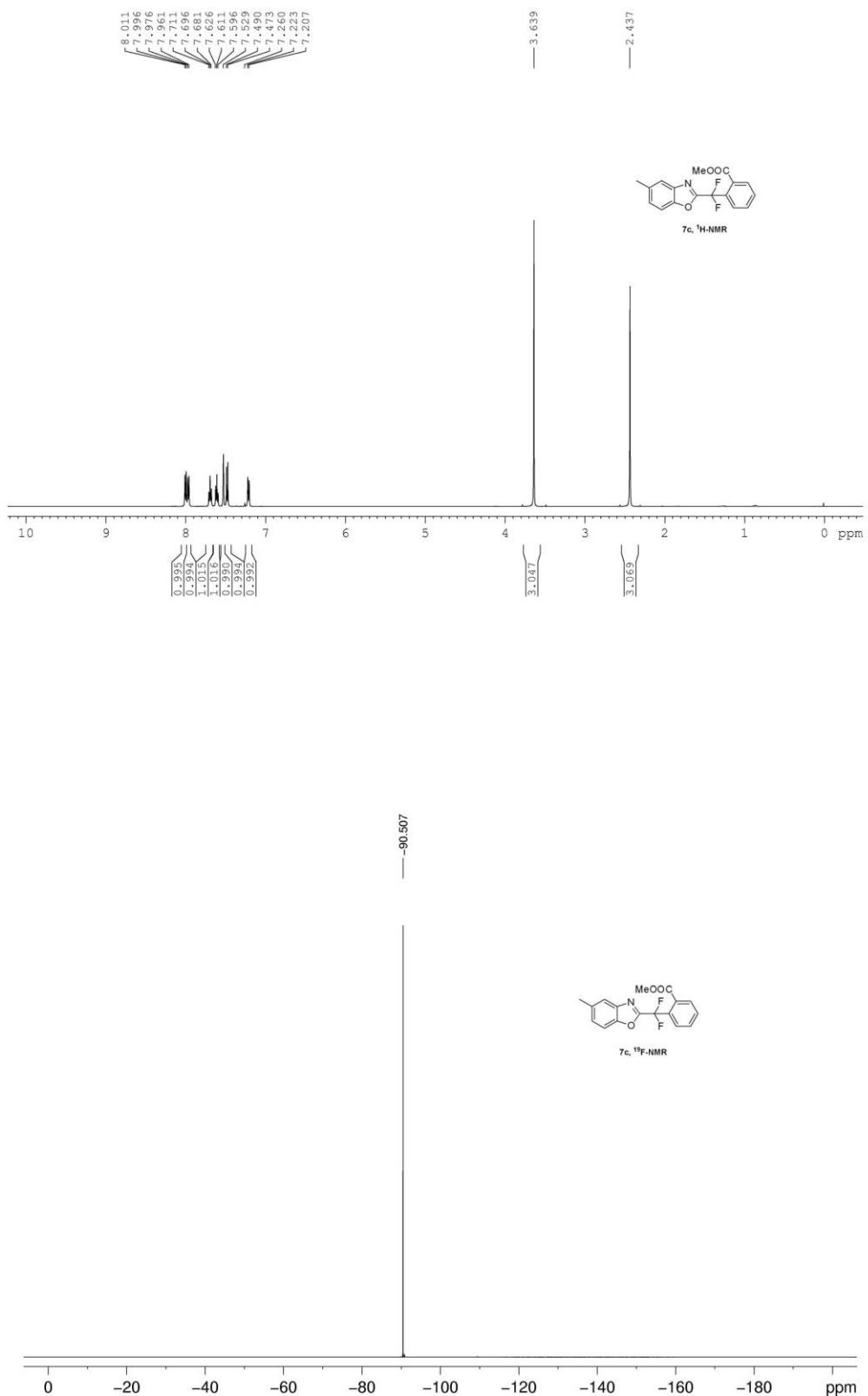


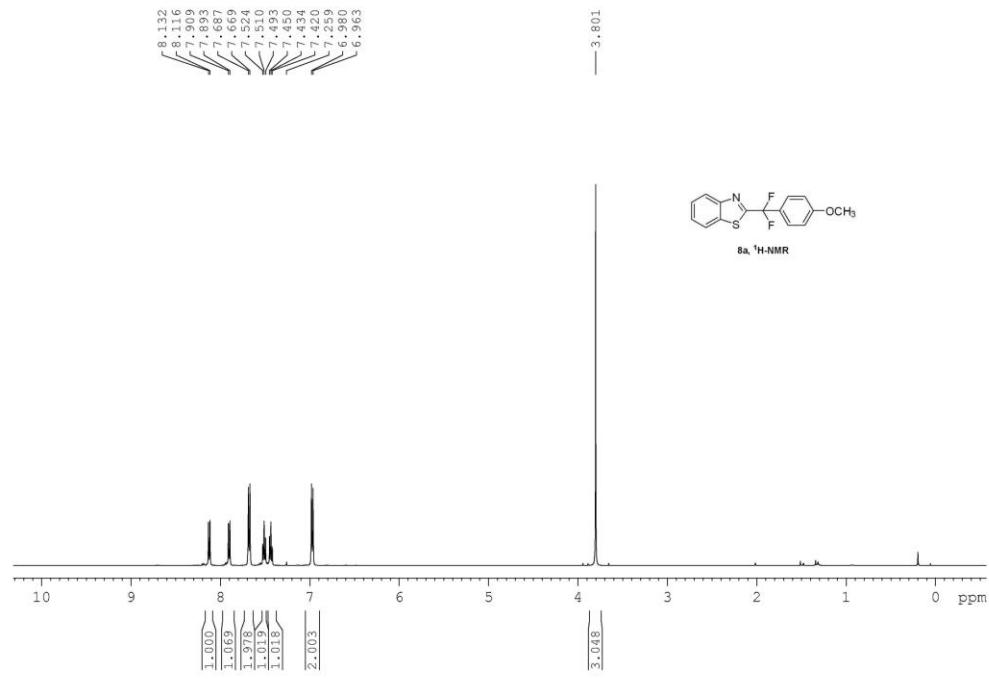
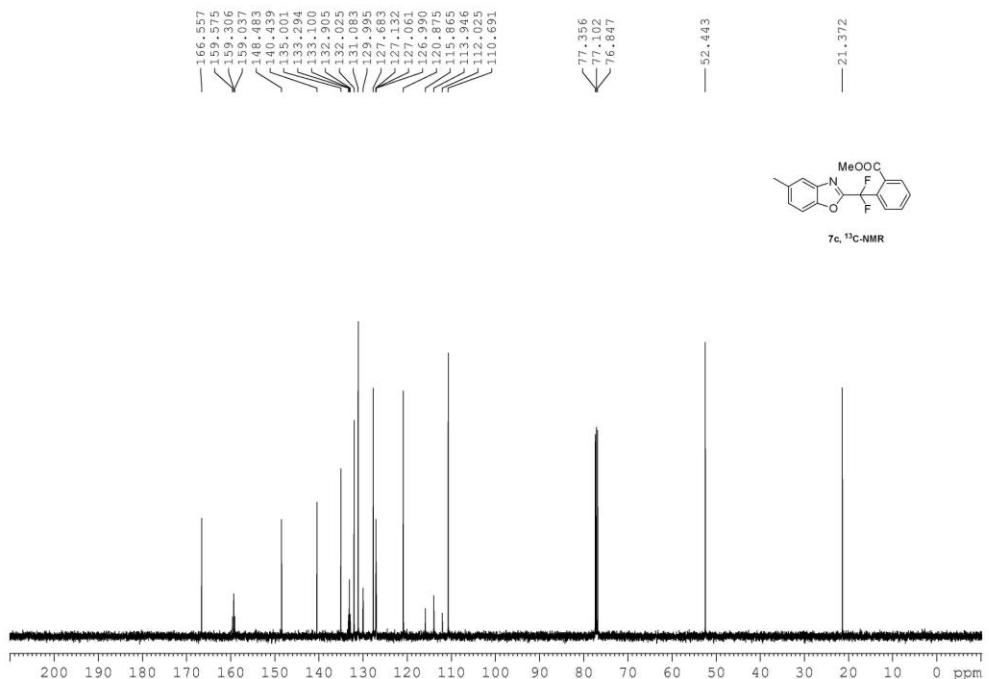


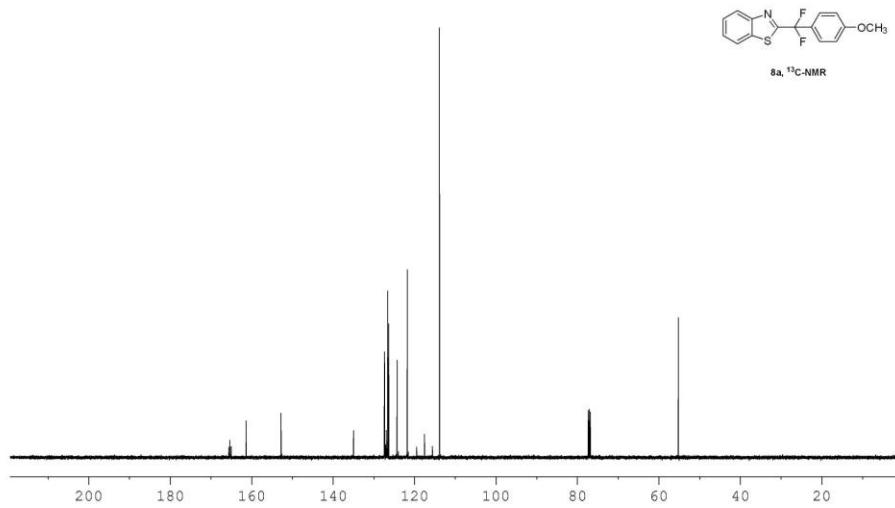
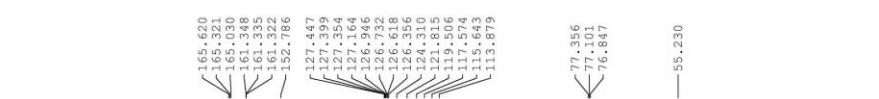
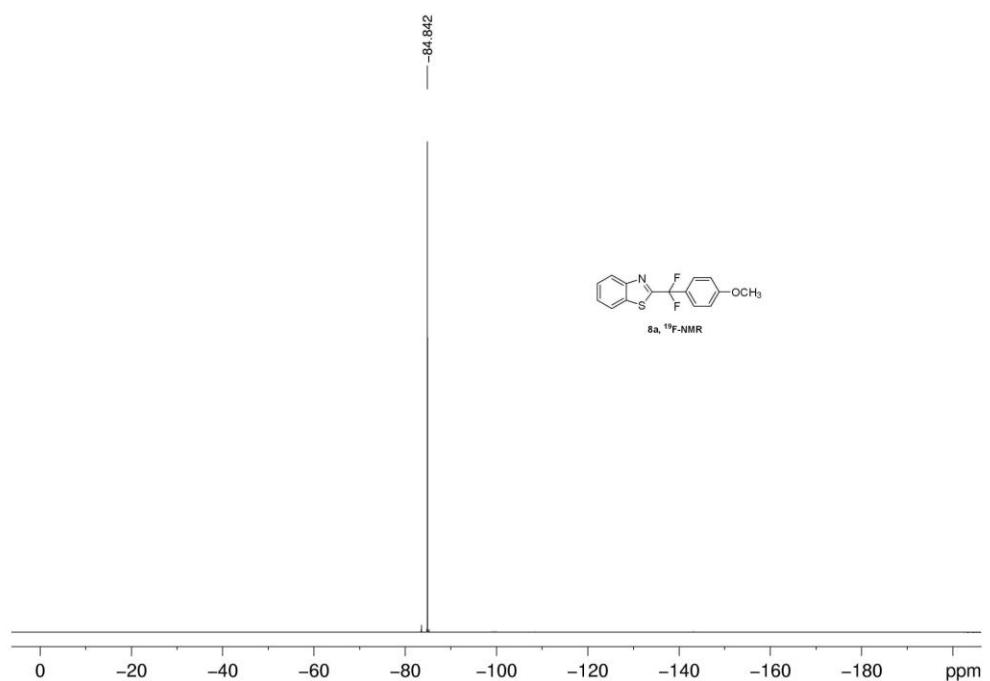


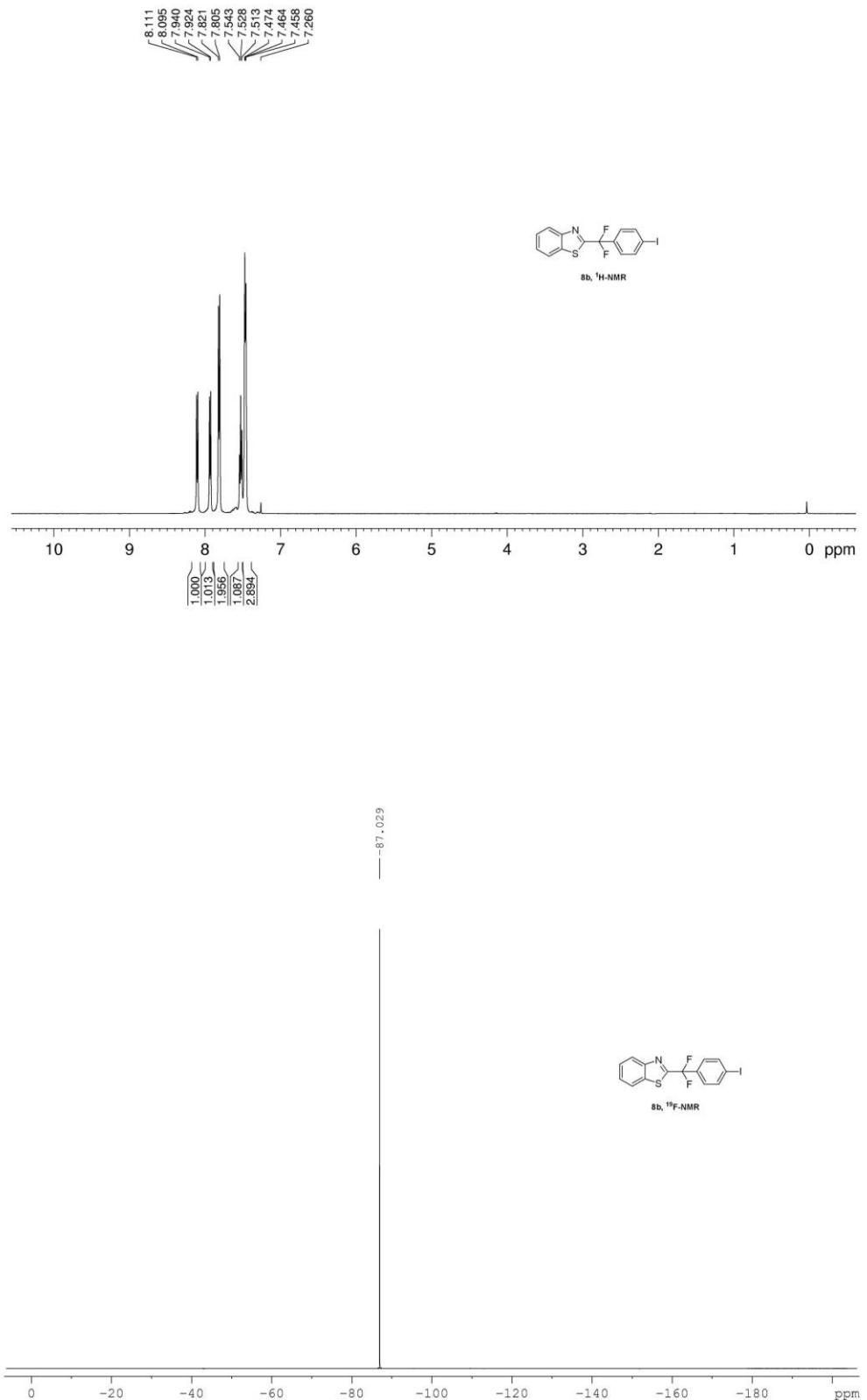


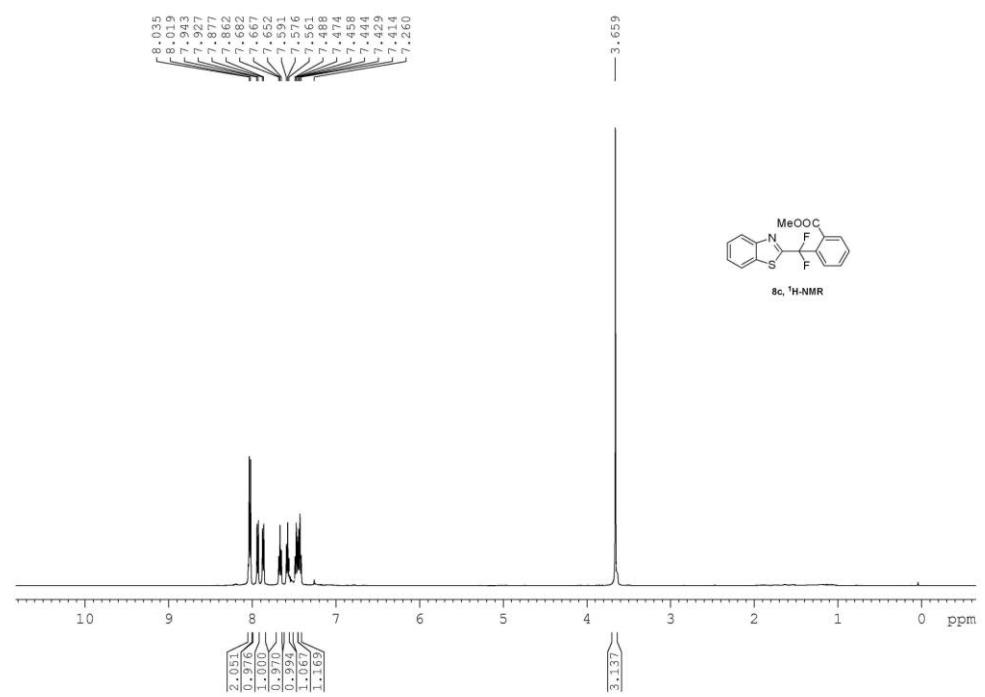
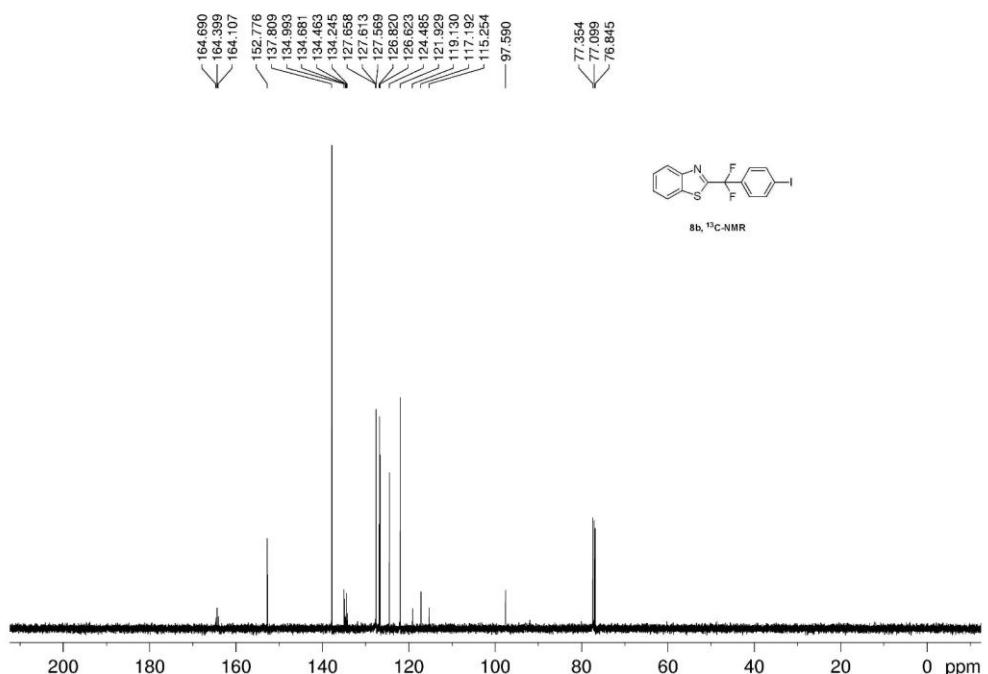


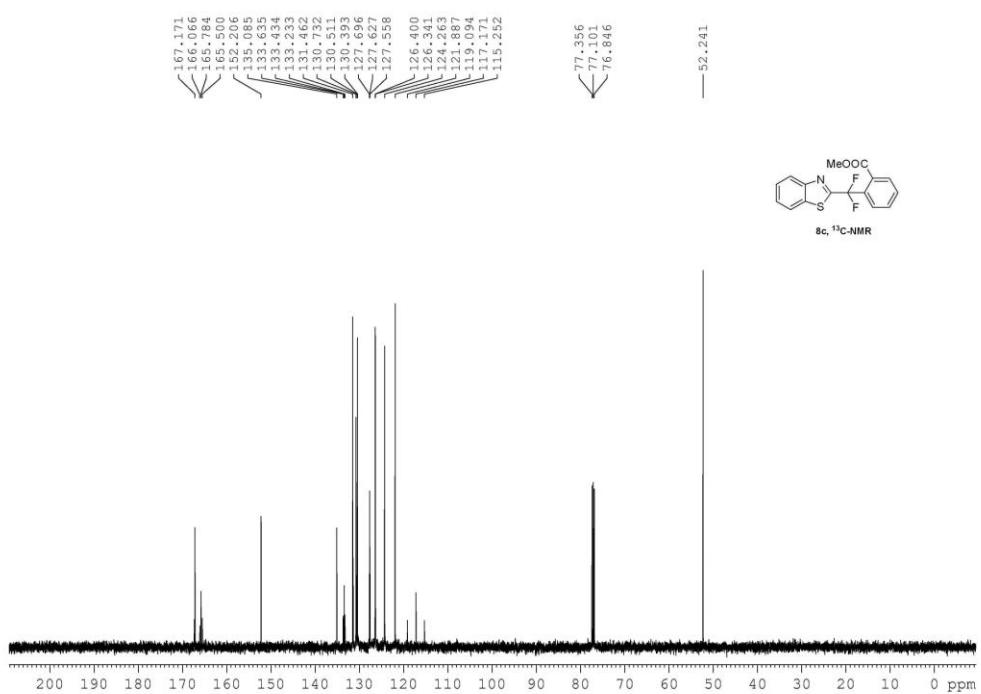
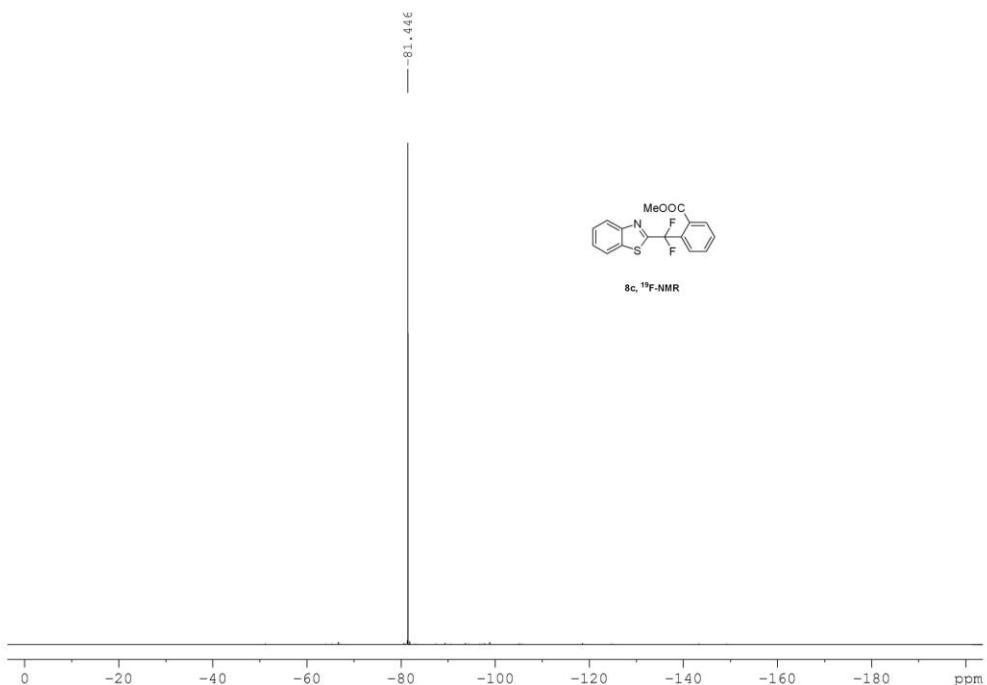


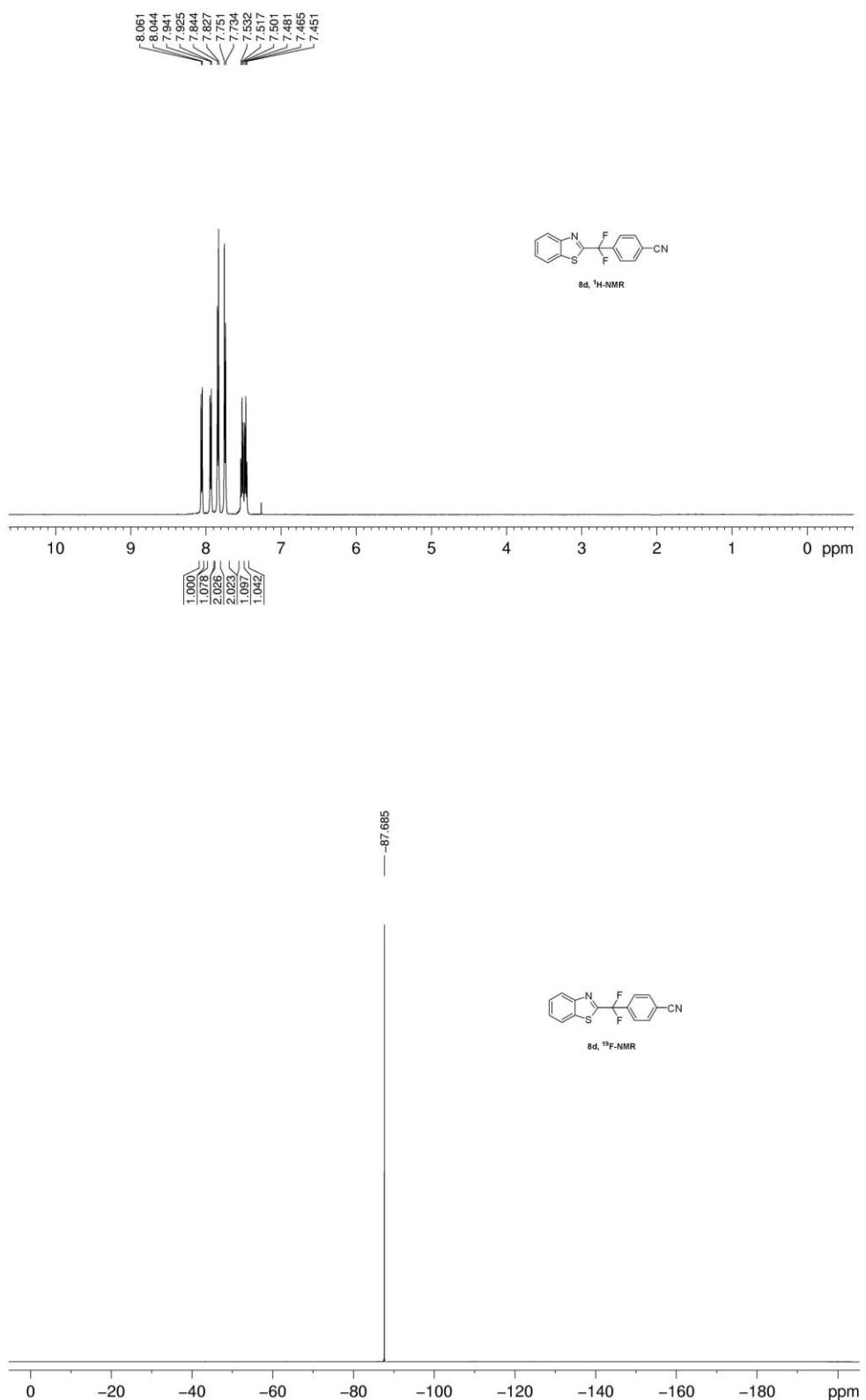


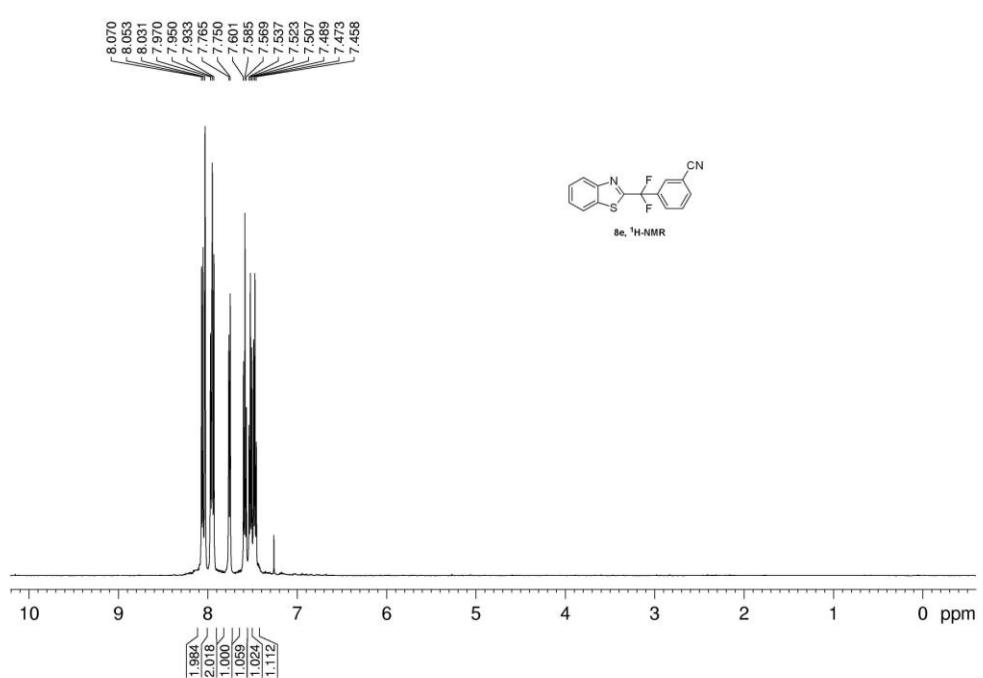
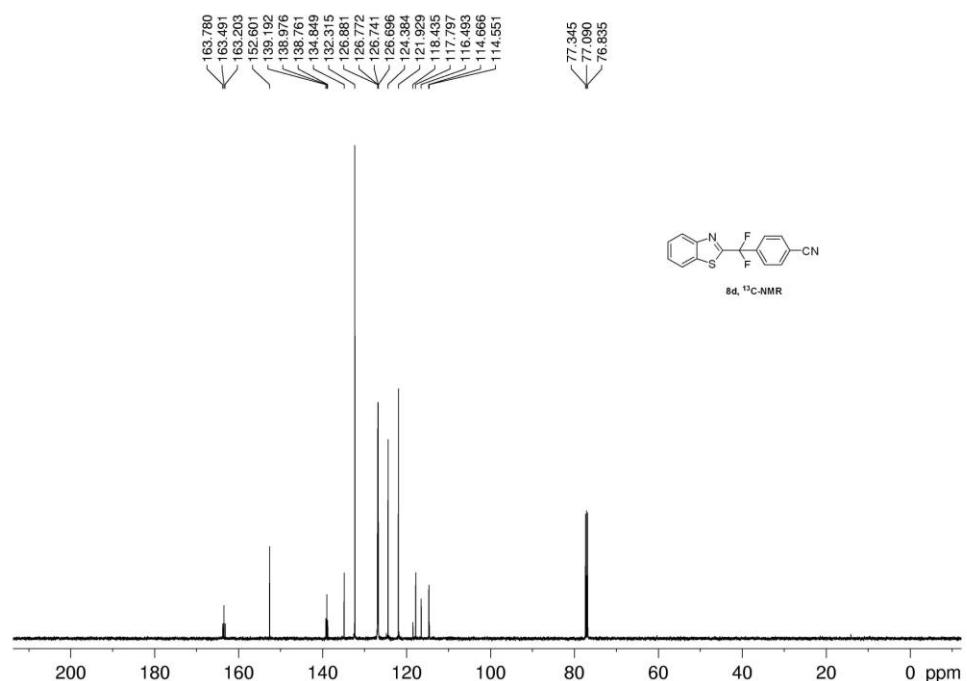


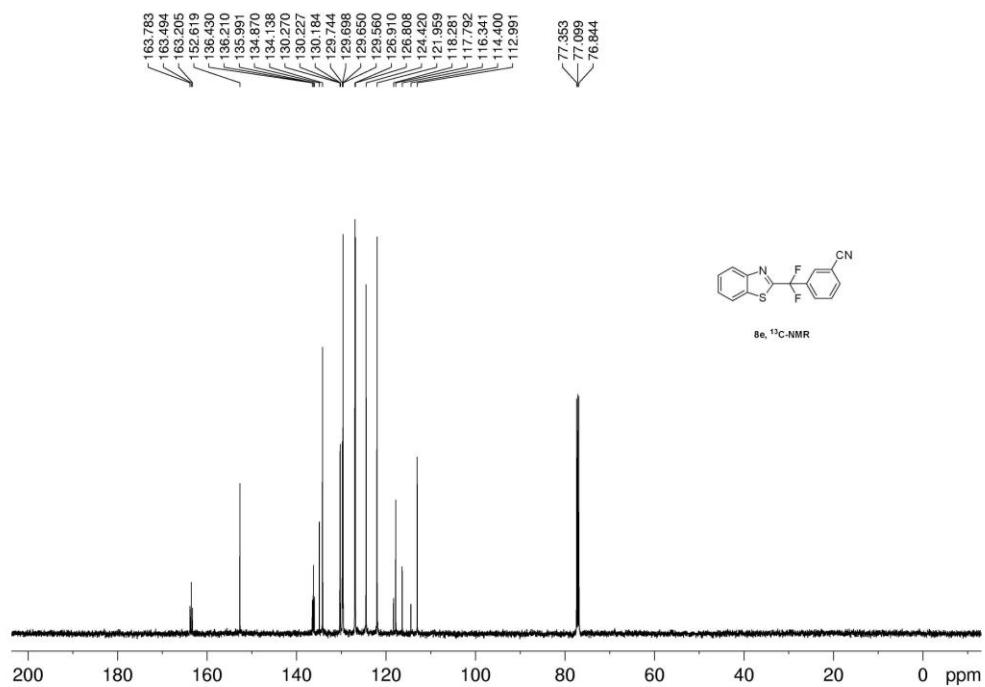
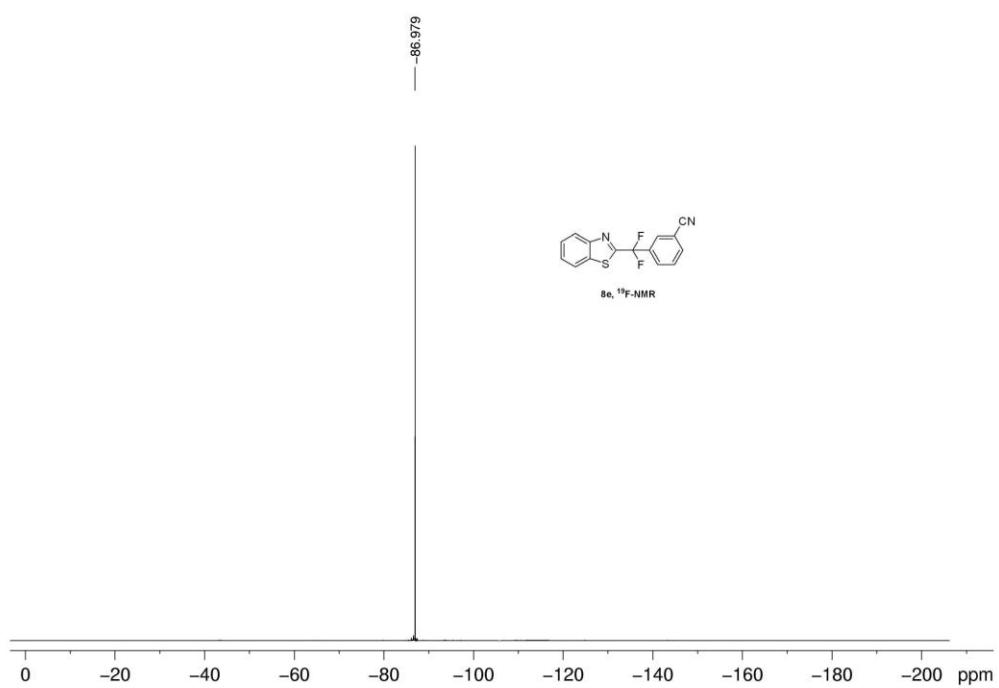


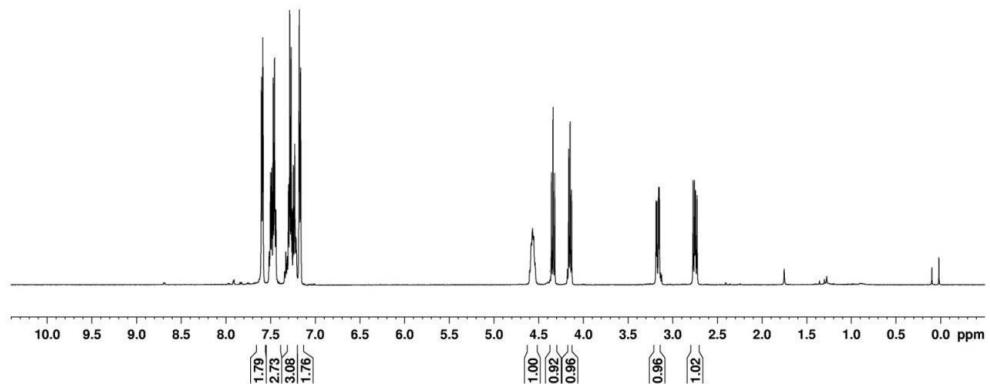
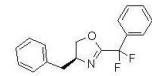




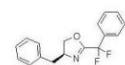








-98.666
-99.437
-99.525
-100.096



9, $^{19}\text{F-NMR}$

