

Supporting Information

One-pot cascade reactions of 1-aryl penta-3,4-dien-2-ones leading to 2-arylphenols and dibenzopyroanones

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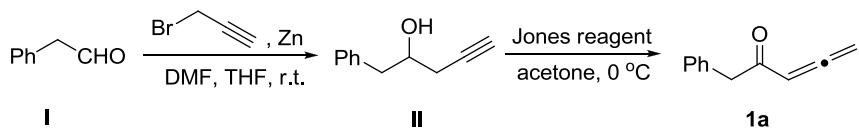
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I. General Experimental Information

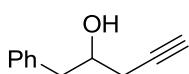
Unless otherwise noted, all commercial reagents were used without further purification. The solvents were dried prior to use. 1-Arylpenta-3,4-dien-2-ones (**1**) were synthesized through oxidation of the corresponding homopropargyl alcohols,¹ which were prepared through zinc promoted propargylation of the corresponding aldehydes.² All the activated ketones (**2**) are commercially available. Column chromatography was conducted with 200-300 mesh silica gel. Melting points were recorded with a micro melting point apparatus and uncorrected. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) were recorded on Bruker 400 MHz spectrometers. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm by assigning TMS resonance in the ¹H spectrum as 0.00 ppm, CDCl₃ resonance in the ¹³C spectrum as 77.0 ppm. All coupling constants (*J* values) were reported in Hertz (Hz). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained by using a MicrOTOF mass spectrometer. All reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) using silica gel plates (60 F254 0.25 mm) and components were visualized by observation under UV light (254 and 365 nm).

II. Experimental Procedures and Spectroscopic Data

1. Experimental procedures for the synthesis and spectroscopic data of 1-phenylpent-4-yn-2-ol (**II**)^{1,3} and 1-phenyl-penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1a**)²

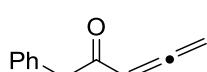


1-Phenylpent-4-yn-2-ol (**II**)



Typical procedure:¹ To a flask containing 2-phenylacetaldehyde (**I**, 240 mg, 2 mmol), THF (4 mL), and propargyl bromide (0.313 mL, 4 mmol) were added activated zinc dust (384 mg, 6 mmol) portion-wise with stirring. The mixture was then stirred at room temperature. Upon completion, it was diluted with saturated aqueous NH_4Cl (10 mL) and the excess zinc was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated and to the residue was added water. The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (10 mL \times 3). The combined organic phase was dried with anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether / ethyl acetate = 10:1) to afford 294 mg (92%) of **II**: yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 2.14 (s, 1H), 2.36-2.46 (m, 2H), 2.60 (br s, 1H), 2.83-2.98 (m, 2H), 3.92-4.06 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.38 (m, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 26.4, 42.4, 70.9, 71.3, 81.0, 126.7, 128.6, 129.6, 138.0; MS: m/z 161 [MH]⁺.

1-Phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-ones (**1a**)

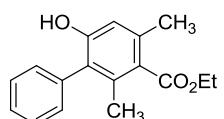


Typical procedure:² To a solution of 1-phenylpent-4-yn-2-ol (**II**, 160 mg, 1 mmol) in acetone (10 mL) cooled to 0°C was added Jones reagent (0.44 mL, 1.2 mmol) in a drop-wise manner. Upon complete consumption of the starting material as monitored by TLC, the reaction mixture was quenched by addition of isopropanol. The resulting mixture was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under vacuum. The residue were purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether / ethyl acetate = 10:1) to afford 142 mg (90%) of **1a**: yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400

MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 3.93 (s, 2H), 5.32 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 5.85 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.36 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 45.9, 80.0, 96.6, 126.9, 128.6, 129.5, 134.6, 197.8, 217.3; MS: m/z 159 [MH]⁺.

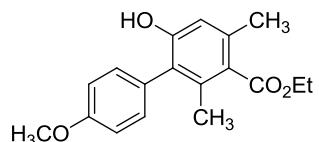
2. Experimental procedures for the synthesis and spectroscopic data of 3

Ethyl 6-hydroxy-2,4-dimethylbiphenyl-3-carboxylate (3a)



Typical procedure: To a flask containing 1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1a**, 79 mg, 0.5 mmol) and ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 78 mg, 0.6 mmol) were added CH₃CN (5 mL) and Cs₂CO₃ (163 mg, 0.5 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 80 °C. Upon completion as monitored by TLC, the reaction was quenched with aqueous NH₄Cl. Then, the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (5 mL × 3). The combined organic layer was washed with water and brine, and then dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the crude product was purified by chromatography on silica-gel (petroleum ether / ethyl acetate = 20:1) to afford 115 mg (85%) of **3a**: Yellow solid; Mp: 120-122 °C (ethanol); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 1.37-1.40 (m, 3H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 4.36-4.41 (m, 2H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 7.24 (dd, *J*₁ = 7.2 Hz, *J*₂ = 0.8 Hz, 2H), 7.40-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.52 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 14.3, 17.8, 19.7, 60.9, 114.3, 126.1, 127.2, 128.3, 129.5, 130.4, 134.3, 134.7, 136.0, 153.4, 170.3; MS: m/z 271 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₁₉O₃: 271.1334 [M+H], found: 271.1338.

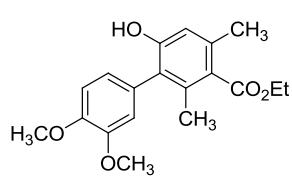
Ethyl 6-hydroxy-4'-methoxy-2,4-dimethylbiphenyl-3-carboxylate (3b)



The reaction of 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1b**, 94 mg, 0.5 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 78 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs₂CO₃ (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH₃CN (5 mL) afforded 125 mg (83%) of **3b**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); Yellow solid; Mp: 92-94 °C (ethanol); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 1.38 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.24 (s, 1H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 7.00 (dd, *J*₁ = 6.8 Hz,

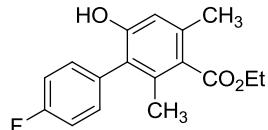
$J_2 = 1.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.14 (dd, $J_1 = 6.8$ Hz, $J_2 = 2.0$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 14.3, 17.9, 19.8, 55.2, 61.0, 114.3, 114.9, 125.9, 126.7, 127.1, 131.6, 134.8, 135.8, 153.9, 159.5, 170.5; MS: m/z 301 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_4$: 301.1440 [M+H], found: 301.1449.

Ethyl 6-hydroxy-3',4'-dimethoxy-2,4-dimethylbiphenyl-3-carboxylate (3c)



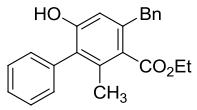
The reaction of 1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1c**, 109 mg, 0.5 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 78 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3CN (5 mL) afforded 135 mg (82%) of **3c**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (20%); Yellow solid; Mp: 146-148 °C (ethanol); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.37 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.91 (s, 1H), 4.36 (q, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 6.72 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.78 (dd, $J_1 = 8.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 14.3, 17.9, 19.8, 55.9, 61.0, 111.9, 113.2, 114.2, 122.6, 125.9, 126.8, 127.2, 134.7, 135.9, 149.0, 149.7, 153.7, 170.3; MS: m/z 331 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_5$: 331.1545 [M+H], found: 331.1548.

Ethyl 4'-fluoro-6-hydroxy-2,4-dimethylbiphenyl-3-carboxylate (3d)



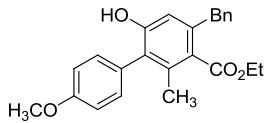
The reaction of 1-(4-fluorophenyl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1d**, 88 mg, 0.5 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 78 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3CN (5 mL) afforded 125 mg (87%) of **3d**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); Yellow solid; Mp: 87-89 °C (ethanol); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.38 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.00 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 4.38 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 5.10 (s, 1H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 7.15-7.20 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 14.3, 17.9, 19.8, 61.0, 114.5, 116.5, 116.7, 125.1, 127.4, 130.5, 130.6, 132.3, 132.4, 134.6, 136.3, 153.5, 161.5, 163.9, 170.2; MS: m/z 289 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{FO}_3$: 289.1240 [M+H], found: 289.1243.

Ethyl 4-benzyl-6-hydroxy-2-methylbiphenyl-3-carboxylate (3e)



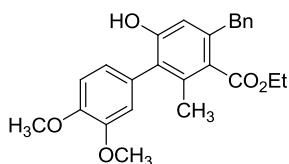
The reaction of 1,5-diphenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1e**, 117 mg, 0.5 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 78 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3CN (5 mL) afforded 149 mg (86%) of **3e**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); Yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.27 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 4.26 (q, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 4.85 (s, 1H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 7.21-7.32 (m, 7H), 7.41-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.51 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 14.1, 18.0, 39.4, 61.0, 114.4, 126.3, 126.7, 127.3, 128.5, 129.2, 129.6, 130.4, 130.5, 134.5, 134.6, 139.2, 139.9, 153.5, 170.2; MS: m/z 347 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_3$: 347.1647 [M+H], found: 347.1650.

Ethyl 4-benzyl-6-hydroxy-4'-methoxy-2-methylbiphenyl-3-carboxylate (3f)



The reaction of 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1f**, 132 mg, 0.5 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 78 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3CN (5 mL) afforded 158 mg (84%) of **3f**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); Yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.28 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 4.25 (q, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 7.01-7.03 (m, 3H), 7.15-7.23 (m, 4H), 7.28 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 14.2, 17.9, 39.3, 55.3, 61.0, 114.17, 114.20, 115.0, 126.2, 126.3, 128.4, 129.1, 131.6, 134.9, 138.9, 139.9, 153.7, 153.8, 159.6, 170.2; MS: m/z 377 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{25}\text{O}_4$: 377.1753 [M+H], found: 377.1760.

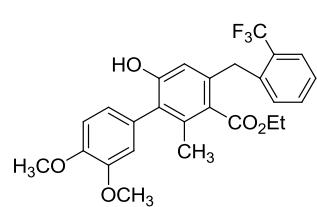
Ethyl 4-benzyl-6-hydroxy-3',4'-dimethoxy-2-methylbiphenyl-3-carboxylate (3g)



The reaction of 1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1g**, 147 mg, 0.5 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 78 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3CN (5 mL) afforded 166 mg (82%) of **3g**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (20%); Syrup; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.25 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 4.24 (q, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 5.05 (s, 1H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 6.73 (s,

1H), 6.79-6.81 (m, 1H), 6.98 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H), 7.27 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 14.1, 17.9, 39.3, 55.87, 55.90, 61.0, 111.9, 113.1, 114.2, 122.5, 126.2, 127.1, 128.4, 129.1, 134.8, 139.0, 139.9, 149.0, 149.7, 153.8, 170.2; MS: m/z 407 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{27}\text{O}_5$: 407.1858 [M+H], found: 407.1862.

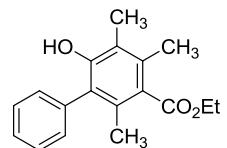
Ethyl 6-hydroxy-3',4'-dimethoxy-2-methyl-4-(2-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)biphenyl-3-carboxylate (3h)



The reaction of 1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-5-(4-trifluorophenyl)-penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1h**, 181 mg, 0.5 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 78 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3CN (5 mL) afforded 189 mg (80%) of

3h: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (20%); Yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.21 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H), 2.08 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 4.18 (s, 2H), 4.26 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 6.48 (s, 1H), 6.75 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.82 (dd, $J_1 = 8.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 13.9, 18.0, 35.2, 55.86, 55.91, 61.1, 111.9, 113.1, 114.3, 122.5, 125.7, 125.8, 126.3, 126.5, 126.7, 127.5, 131.6, 131.8, 135.0, 137.5, 138.4, 149.0, 149.7, 153.9, 170.0; MS: m/z 475 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{26}\text{F}_3\text{O}_5$: 475.1732 [M+H], found: 475.1739.

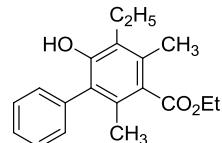
Ethyl 6-hydroxy-2,4,5-trimethylbiphenyl-3-carboxylate (3i)



The reaction of 3-methyl-1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1i**, 86 mg, 0.5 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 78 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3CN (5 mL) afforded 118 mg (83%) of **3i**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); Yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.39 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.97 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 4.39 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 4.85 (s, 1H), 7.25 (dd, $J_1 = 8.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.49-7.53 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 11.9, 14.3, 17.0, 17.5, 61.0, 120.7, 125.7, 127.7, 128.4, 129.6, 130.2, 130.5,

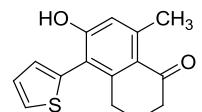
133.7, 135.2, 151.3, 171.0; MS: m/z 285 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₈H₂₁O₃: 285.1491 [M+H], found: 285.1496.

Ethyl 5-ethyl-6-hydroxy-2,4-dimethylbiphenyl-3-carboxylate (3j)



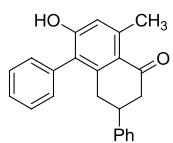
The reaction of 3-ethyl-1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1j**, 93 mg, 0.5 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 78 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs₂CO₃ (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH₃CN (5 mL) afforded 122 mg (82%) of **3j**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); Syrup; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 1.17 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 1.42 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.74 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 4.43 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.87 (s, 1H), 7.30 (dd, *J*₁ = 7.6 Hz, *J*₂ = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 13.4, 14.3, 16.1, 17.5, 19.7, 60.9, 125.9, 126.8, 127.9, 128.4, 129.6, 130.4, 130.6, 132.9, 135.1, 151.2, 171.0; MS: m/z 299 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₉H₂₃O₃: 299.1647 [M+H], found: 299.1651.

6-Hydroxy-8-methyl-5-(thiophen-2-yl)-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2*H*)-one (3k)



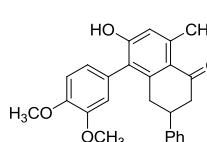
The reaction of 1-(thiophen-2-yl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1k**, 82 mg, 0.5 mmol), cyclohexane-1,3-dione (**2b**, 67 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs₂CO₃ (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH₃CN (5 mL) afforded 101 mg (78%) of **3k**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); Yellow solid; Mp: 164-165 °C (ethanol); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 1.92-1.97 (m, 2H), 2.57 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.66 (s, 3H), 2.70 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 5.99 (s, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.20 (m, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 22.6, 23.9, 29.4, 40.3, 117.0, 117.2, 125.1, 128.0, 128.3, 129.2, 134.3, 145.2, 147.8, 157.2, 199.3; MS: m/z 259 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₄O₂S: 259.0793 [M+H], found: 259.0798.

6-Hydroxy-8-methyl-3,5-diphenyl-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2*H*)-one (3l)



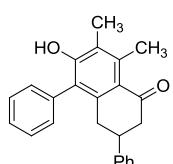
The reaction of 1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1a**, 79 mg, 0.5 mmol), 5-phenyl cyclohexane-1,3-dione (**2c**, 113 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3CN (5 mL) afforded 133 mg (81%) of **3l**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (20%); Yellow solid; Mp: 184-185 °C (ethanol); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 2.72 (s, 3H), 2.75-2.90 (m, 4H), 3.26-3.30 (m, 1H), 5.30 (s, 1H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 7.17 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.42 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.52 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 23.9, 37.0, 40.6, 47.4, 117.7, 124.5, 125.3, 126.8, 128.7, 129.7, 129.8, 129.9, 130.8, 134.2, 143.6, 144.2, 144.8, 156.4, 198.8; MS: m/z 329 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_2$: 329.1542 [M+H], found: 329.1549.

5-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-6-hydroxy-8-methyl-3-phenyl-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one (3m)



The reaction of 1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1c**, 109 mg, 0.5 mmol), 5-phenylcyclohexane-1,3-dione (**2c**, 113 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3CN (5 mL) afforded 149 mg (77%) of **3m**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (20%); Yellow solid; Mp: 202-204 °C (ethanol); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 2.71 (s, 3H), 2.74-2.89 (m, 4H), 3.25-3.31 (m, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 5.50 (d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.68-6.84 (m, 3H), 6.96 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.16-7.31 (m, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 23.9, 37.1, 40.5, 47.2, 55.9, 56.0, 112.2, 112.5, 113.4, 117.4, 122.1, 123.2, 124.5, 125.1, 125.9, 126.7, 128.7, 143.6, 144.1, 149.1, 149.9, 156.5, 198.7; MS: m/z 389 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{25}\text{O}_4$: 389.1753 [M+H], found: 389.1756.

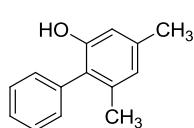
6-Hydroxy-7,8-dimethyl-3,5-diphenyl-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one (3n)



The reaction of 3-methyl-1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1i**, 86 mg, 0.5 mmol), 5-phenylcyclohexane-1,3-dione (**2c**, 113 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3CN (5 mL) afforded 138 mg (81%) of **3n**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); Yellow solid; Mp: 140-142 °C (ethanol); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.71 (s, 3H),

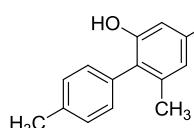
2.75-2.99 (m, 4H), 3.28-3.31 (m, 1H), 5.39 (s, 1H), 7.20-7.26 (m, 4H), 7.29-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.44 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.54 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 12.1, 18.2, 36.8, 40.7, 47.8, 123.2, 124.4, 125.2, 126.77, 126.80, 128.8, 129.99, 130.04, 131.1, 134.5, 141.2, 142.0, 143.8, 154.4, 199.3; MS: m/z 343 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_2$: 343.1698 [M+H], found: 343.1702.

4,6-Dimethylbiphenyl-2-ol (3o)



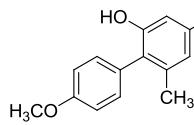
The reaction of 1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1a**, 79 mg, 0.5 mmol), pentane-2,4-dione (**2d**, 60 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3CN (5 mL) afforded 79 mg (80%) of **3o**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); Yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 4.75 (s, 1H), 6.71 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.49-7.52 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 20.3, 21.2, 113.3, 122.9, 125.3, 128.1, 129.4, 130.5, 135.4, 137.0, 138.6, 152.7; MS: m/z 199 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}$: 199.1123 [M+H], found: 199.1127.

4,4',6-Trimethylbiphenyl-2-ol (3p)



The reaction of 1-p-tolylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1l**, 86 mg, 0.5 mmol), pentane-2,4-dione (**2d**, 60 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3CN (5 mL) afforded 88 mg (83%) of **3p**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); Yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 2.09 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 4.83 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 20.4, 21.26, 21.31, 113.2, 122.9, 125.3, 130.2, 130.4, 132.2, 137.1, 137.8, 138.4, 152.9; MS: m/z 213 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}$: 213.1279 [M+H], found: 213.1286.

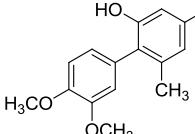
4'-Methoxy-4,6-dimethylbiphenyl-2-ol (3q)



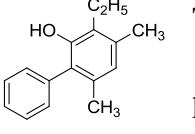
The reaction of 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1b**, 94 mg, 0.5 mmol), pentane-2,4-dione (**2d**, 60 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs_2CO_3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in

CH3CN (5 mL) afforded 92 mg (81%) of **3q**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); Yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ : 2.08 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 4.98 (s, 1H), 6.71 (s, 2H), 7.03-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.22 (dd, J_1 = 6.8 Hz, J_2 = 2.0 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl3) δ : 20.4, 21.2, 55.3, 113.2, 114.4, 114.8, 122.8, 125.0, 127.4, 131.6, 132.1, 137.3, 138.3, 153.1, 159.3; MS: m/z 229 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for C15H17O2: 229.1229 [M+H], found: 229.1233.

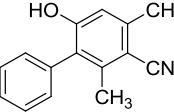
3',4'-Dimethoxy-4,6-dimethylbiphenyl-2-ol (3r)

 The reaction of 1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1c**, 109 mg, 0.5 mmol), pentane-2,4-dione (**2d**, 60 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs2CO3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH3CN (5 mL) afforded 102 mg (79%) of **3r**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); Yellow solid; Mp: 143-144 °C (ethanol); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ : 2.06 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 6.67 (s, 2H), 6.77 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (dd, J_1 = 7.2 Hz, J_2 = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl3) δ : 20.3, 21.2, 56.0, 56.2, 111.8, 113.1, 113.3, 122.6, 125.1, 127.0, 127.5, 137.2, 138.5, 148.7, 149.6, 153.0; MS: m/z 259 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for C16H19O3: 259.1334 [M+H], found: 259.1339.

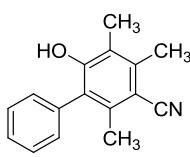
3-Ethyl-4,6-dimethylbiphenyl-2-ol (3s)

 The reaction of 3-ethyl-1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1j**, 93 mg, 0.5 mmol), pentane-2,4-dione (**2d**, 60 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs2CO3 (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH3CN (5 mL) afforded 93 mg (82%) of **3s**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); Yellow liquid; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ : 1.31 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.82 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.87 (s, 1H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.50-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.60 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl3) δ : 13.7, 19.2, 19.9, 20.1, 123.5, 125.7, 126.3, 128.1, 129.5, 130.6, 133.6, 136.0, 136.4, 150.6; MS: m/z 227 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for C16H19O: 227.1436 [M+H], found: 227.1439.

6-Hydroxy-2,4-dimethylbiphenyl-3-carbonitrile (3t)

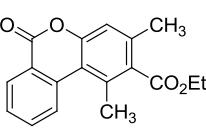

 The reaction of 1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1a**, 79 mg, 0.5 mmol), 3-oxobutanenitrile (**2e**, 50 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs₂CO₃ (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH₃CN (5 mL) afforded 86 mg (78%) of **3t**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); Yellow solid; Mp: 219-220 °C (ethanol); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 3H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.46-7.53 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 19.3, 20.8, 105.8, 114.7, 118.0, 126.7, 128.9, 129.8, 130.3, 133.6, 142.0, 143.5, 156.2; MS: m/z 224 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₄NO: 224.1075 [M+H], found: 224.1078.

6-Hydroxy-2,4,5-trimethylbiphenyl-3-carbonitrile (3u)


 The reaction of 3-methyl-1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1i**, 86 mg, 0.5 mmol), 3-oxobutanenitrile (**2e**, 50 mg, 0.6 mmol) and Cs₂CO₃ (163 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH₃CN (5 mL) afforded 101 mg (85%) of **3u**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); White solid; Mp: 142-143 °C (ethanol); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.21 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 3H), 5.25 (s, 1H), 7.23-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.56 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 12.1, 18.5, 19.1, 105.9, 118.7, 121.6, 126.3, 129.0, 129.9, 130.3, 134.0, 138.5, 141.5, 154.1; MS: m/z 238 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₁₆NO: 238.1232 [M+H], found: 238.1237.

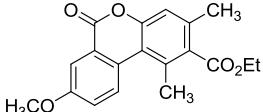
3. Experimental procedures for the synthesis and spectroscopic data of 4

Ethyl 1,3-dimethyl-6-oxo-6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-2-carboxylate (4a)

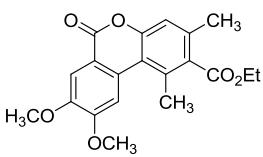

Typical procedure: To a flask containing 1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1a**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol) and ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 31 mg, 0.24 mmol) were added CH₃CN (4 mL), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), and anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 4 h. At this stage, Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) were added and the resulting mixture was stirred at 80 °C under CO (1atm). Upon completion as monitored by TLC,

the reaction was quenched with aqueous NH₄Cl. The mixture was filtered on diatomite and the filtrate was extracted with ethyl acetate (5 mL × 3). The combined organic layer was washed with water and brine, and then dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the crude product was purified by chromatography on silica-gel (petroleum ether / ethyl acetate = 20:1) to afford 40 mg (68%) of **4a**: Yellow solid; Mp: 145-147 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 1.45 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 4.47 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.61 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.81-7.85 (m, 1 H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.49 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 14.3, 19.6, 21.8, 61.5, 115.7, 117.1, 122.2, 126.4, 128.2, 130.9, 132.8, 133.8, 134.2, 135.4, 136.8, 151.9, 161.0, 169.7; MS: m/z 297 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₈H₁₇O₄: 297.1127 [M+H], found: 297.1131.

Ethyl 8-methoxy-1,3-dimethyl-6-oxo-6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-2-carboxylate (4b)

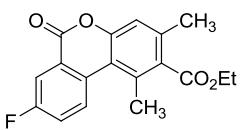
 The reaction of 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1b**, 38 mg, 0.2 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 31 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 48 mg (74%) of **4b**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); Yellow solid; Mp: 178-179 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.75 (s, 3H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 4.45 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 7.36-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 14.3, 19.5, 21.8, 55.7, 61.5, 112.0, 115.7, 117.0, 122.9, 123.5, 127.9, 128.6, 131.9, 133.6, 135.5, 150.9, 159.0, 161.0, 169.7; MS: m/z 327 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₉H₁₉O₅: 327.1232 [M+H], found: 327.1236.

Ethyl 8,9-dimethoxy-1,3-dimethyl-6-oxo-6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-2-carboxylate (4c)

 The reaction of 1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1c**, 44 mg, 0.2 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 31 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc

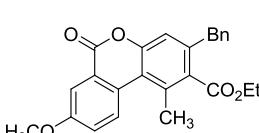
(100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 52 mg (73%) of **4c**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (20%); Yellow solid; Mp: 200-201 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 4.04 (s, 3H), 4.45 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 14.3, 19.5, 21.7, 56.11, 56.13, 61.5, 108.1, 110.8, 115.3, 115.5, 117.1, 130.3, 131.4, 133.6, 135.7, 148.9, 151.5, 153.8, 160.7, 169.7; MS: m/z 357 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₂₀H₂₁O₆: 357.1338 [M+H], found: 357.1342.

Ethyl 8-fluoro-1,3-dimethyl-6-oxo-6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-2-carboxylate (4d)



The reaction of 1-(4-fluorophenyl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1d**, 35 mg, 0.2 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 31 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 36 mg (58%) of **4d**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); Yellow solid; Mp: 181-183 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.75 (s, 3H), 4.46 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (s, 1H), 7.51-7.56 (m, 1H), 8.12-8.14 (m, 1H), 8.28-8.32 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 14.3, 19.6, 21.8, 61.6, 115.1, 116.5, 116.8, 117.2, 122.0, 122.2, 124.3, 124.4, 128.7, 128.8, 131.9, 132.0, 132.4, 134.0, 136.8, 151.4, 160.09, 160.12, 160.4, 162.9, 169.6; MS: m/z 315 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₈H₁₆FO₄: 315.1033 [M+H], found: 315.1036.

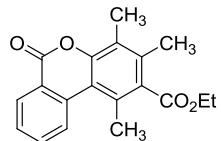
Ethyl 3-benzyl-8-methoxy-1-methyl-6-oxo-6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-2-carboxylate (4e)



The reaction of 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1e**, 53 mg, 0.2 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 31 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 60 mg (75%) of **4e**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); Yellow solid; Mp: 124-125 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.76 (s, 3H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 4.04 (s, 2H), 4.31 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 7.04-7.32 (m, 5H),

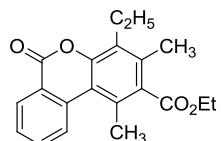
7.38 (dd, $J_1 = 9.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.23 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 14.1, 21.9, 39.1, 55.8, 61.5, 112.1, 116.4, 117.1, 123.0, 123.7, 126.6, 128.2, 128.57, 128.63, 129.2, 132.3, 133.4, 138.85, 138.88, 151.2, 159.2, 161.0, 169.7; MS: m/z 403 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_5$: 403.1545 [M+H], found: 403.1548.

Ethyl 1,3,4-trimethyl-6-oxo-6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-2-carboxylate (4f)



The reaction of 3-methyl-1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1i**, 34 mg, 0.2 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 31 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs_2CO_3 (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na_2SO_4 (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH_3CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 47 mg (76%) of **4f**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); White solid; Mp: 99-101 °C (ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.43 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.72 (s, 3H), 4.46 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.57 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.79 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.23 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.45 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 12.2, 14.2, 17.3, 21.5, 61.5, 115.7, 122.1, 123.8, 126.7, 128.0, 129.0, 130.6, 133.8, 134.0, 134.9, 135.8, 150.0, 161.1, 170.4; MS: m/z 311 [MH] $^+$; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_4$: 311.1283 [M+H], found: 311.1286.

Ethyl 4-ethyl-1,3-dimethyl-6-oxo-6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromene-2-carboxylate (4g)



The reaction of 3-ethyl-1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1j**, 37 mg, 0.2 mmol), ethyl 3-oxobutanoate (**2a**, 31 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs_2CO_3 (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na_2SO_4 (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH_3CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 45 mg (70%) of **4g**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); White solid; Mp: 112-114 °C (ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 1.18 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.42 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.70 (s, 3H), 2.91 (q, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 4.44 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.53 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.76 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.42 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 13.7, 14.3, 16.4, 19.7, 21.5, 61.5, 115.8, 122.1, 126.6, 128.0, 129.2, 129.6, 130.5, 134.0,

134.1, 134.2, 135.8, 149.8, 161.1, 170.4; MS: m/z 325 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₂₀H₂₁O₄: 325.1440 [M+H], found: 325.1449.

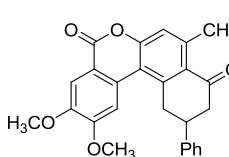
7-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-4H-benzo[f]thieno[3,2-c]chromene-4,8(9H)-dione (4h)

The reaction of 1-(thiophen-2-yl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1k**, 33 mg, 0.2 mmol), cyclohexane-1,3-dione (**2b**, 27 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 39 mg (69%) of **4h**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); White solid; Mp: 125-127 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.30 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.71-2.74 (m, 5H), 3.34 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 22.1, 23.9, 29.8, 39.7, 114.6, 119.5, 125.4, 126.7, 126.9, 128.8, 142.3, 144.2, 146.0, 153.3, 156.9, 198.6; MS: m/z 285 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₁₃O₃S: 285.0585 [M+H], found: 285.0591.

8-Methyl-11-phenyl-11,12-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[c,f]chromene-5,9(10H)-dione (4i)

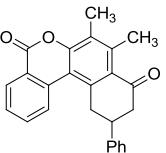
The reaction of 1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1a**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol), 5-phenylcyclohexane-1,3-dione (**2c**, 45 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 47 mg (66%) of **4i**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (20%); Yellow solid; Mp: 158-160 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.76 (s, 3H), 2.99-3.02 (m, 2H), 3.25-3.28 (m, 1H), 3.52-3.58 (m, 1H), 3.74 (dd, *J*₁ = 15.2 Hz, *J*₂ = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 7.31-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.39-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.75-7.79 (m, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.46 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 23.6, 29.7, 41.2, 47.4, 119.8, 122.4, 126.7, 126.8, 126.88, 126.94, 128.9, 129.0, 129.3, 129.9, 130.9, 134.7, 142.9, 143.6, 144.2, 156.0, 160.7, 198.6; MS: m/z 355 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₂₄H₁₉O₃: 355.1334 [M+H], found: 355.1338.

2,3-Dimethoxy-8-methyl-11-phenyl-11,12-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[c,f]chromene-5,9(10H)-dione (4j)



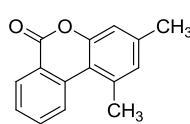
The reaction of 1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1c**, 44 mg, 0.2 mmol), 5-phenylcyclohexane-1,3-dione (**2c**, 45 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 57 mg (69%) of **4j**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (20%); White solid; Mp: 206-208 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.75 (s, 3H), 2.90-3.07 (m, 2H), 3.27-3.30 (m, 1H), 3.52-3.59 (m, 1H), 3.80-3.93 (m, 4H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 7.32-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 23.5, 40.4, 40.8, 46.3, 56.1, 56.3, 108.9, 111.1, 115.6, 115.8, 119.7, 126.5, 127.3, 129.0, 129.1, 129.7, 142.5, 142.9, 143.4, 149.3, 153.1, 153.8, 160.5, 198.5; MS: m/z 415 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₂₆H₂₃O₅: 415.1545 [M+H], found: 415.1549.

7,8-Dimethyl-11-phenyl-11,12-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[c,f]chromene-5,9(10H)-dione (4k)

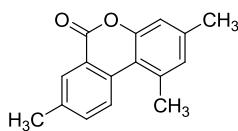


The reaction of 3-methyl-1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1i**, 34 mg, 0.2 mmol), 5-phenylcyclohexane-1,3-dione (**2c**, 45 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 52 mg (71%) of **4k**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); White solid; Mp: 182-184 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.64 (s, 3H), 2.91-3.05 (m, 2H), 3.21 (t, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (t, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (t, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.41 (m, 5H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 12.3, 18.1, 40.0, 41.3, 46.5, 115.0, 122.2, 125.4, 126.9, 127.15, 127.21, 128.3, 128.9, 130.3, 130.5, 134.1, 134.9, 139.9, 141.9, 143.0, 151.6, 160.7, 199.7; MS: m/z 369 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₂₅H₂₁O₃: 369.1491 [M+H], found: 369.1494.

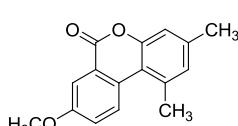
1,3-Dimethyl-6H-benzo[c]chromen-6-one (4l)


 The reaction of 1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1a**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol), pentane-2,4-dione (**2d**, 24 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 32 mg (72%) of **4l**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); White solid; Mp: 137-139 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.86 (s, 3H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.49 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 21.0, 25.4, 114.8, 116.4, 121.7, 125.8, 127.6, 128.1, 130.0, 130.8, 134.2, 135.8, 136.3, 139.9, 152.2, 161.5; MS: m/z 225 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₃O₂: 225.0916 [M+H], found: 225.0919.

1,3,8-Trimethyl-6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromen-6-one (4m)

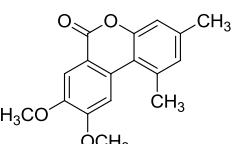

 The reaction of 1-*p*-tolylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1l**, 34 mg, 0.2 mmol), pentane-2,4-dione (**2d**, 24 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 31 mg (66%) of **4m**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); White solid; Mp: 170-171 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 7.08 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 21.0, 21.3, 25.4, 115.0, 116.3, 125.9, 128.9, 129.9, 130.1, 130.8, 133.7, 135.4, 137.8, 139.4, 152.0, 161.8; MS: m/z 239 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₁₅O₂: 239.1072 [M+H], found: 239.1077.

8-Methoxy-1,3-dimethyl-6*H*-benzo[*c*]chromen-6-one (4n)

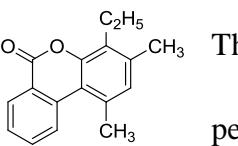

 The reaction of 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1b**, 38 mg, 0.2 mmol), pentane-2,4-dione (**2d**, 24 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN

(4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 36 mg (70%) of **4n**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (5%); White solid; Mp: 184-186 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.83 (s, 3H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 7.08 (s, 1H), 7.37 (dd, *J*₁ = 9.2 Hz, *J*₂ = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 20.9, 21.2, 55.3, 113.0, 114.8, 122.8, 124.8, 127.1, 127.5, 129.9, 131.6, 134.9, 138.4, 153.0, 159.3, 161.6; MS: m/z 255 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₁₅O₃: 255.1021 [M+H], found: 255.1023.

8,9-Dimethoxy-1,3-dimethyl-6H-benzo[c]chromen-6-one (4o)

 The reaction of 1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)penta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1c**, 44 mg, 0.2 mmol), pentane-2,4-dione (**2d**, 24 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 40 mg (70%) of **4o**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); White solid; Mp: 211-213 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.87 (s, 3H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 4.06 (s, 3H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 7.08 (s, 1H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.85 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 21.0, 25.2, 56.1, 56.2, 107.7, 111.0, 114.9, 115.1, 116.5, 130.0, 131.5, 134.5, 139.1, 148.7, 152.0, 154.0, 161.4; MS: m/z 285 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₁₇O₄: 285.1127 [M+H], found: 285.1132.

4-Ethyl-1,3-dimethyl-6H-benzo[c]chromen-6-one (4p)

 The reaction of 3-ethyl-1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1j**, 37 mg, 0.2 mmol), pentane-2,4-dione (**2d**, 24 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 35 mg (69%) of **4p**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); White solid; Mp: 158-160 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 3.03 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.47 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 16.9, 20.2, 20.6,

21.2, 116.4, 122.1, 124.9, 126.6, 128.0, 130.2, 130.6, 130.8, 133.9, 136.1, 145.2, 147.5, 161.4; MS: m/z 253 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₁₇O₂: 253.1229 [M+H], found: 253.1232.

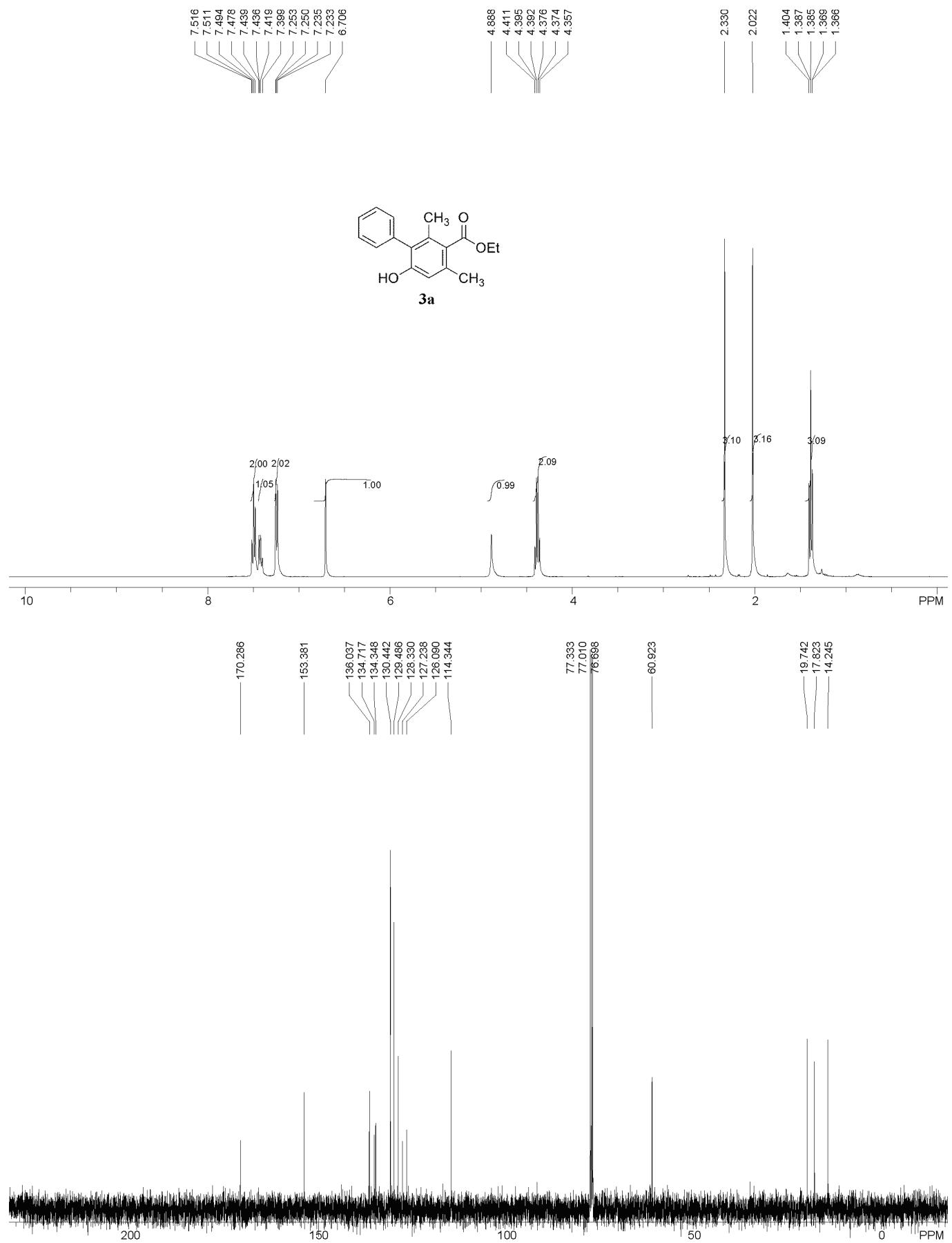
1,3-Dimethyl-6-oxo-6H-benzo[c]chromene-2-carbonitrile (4q)

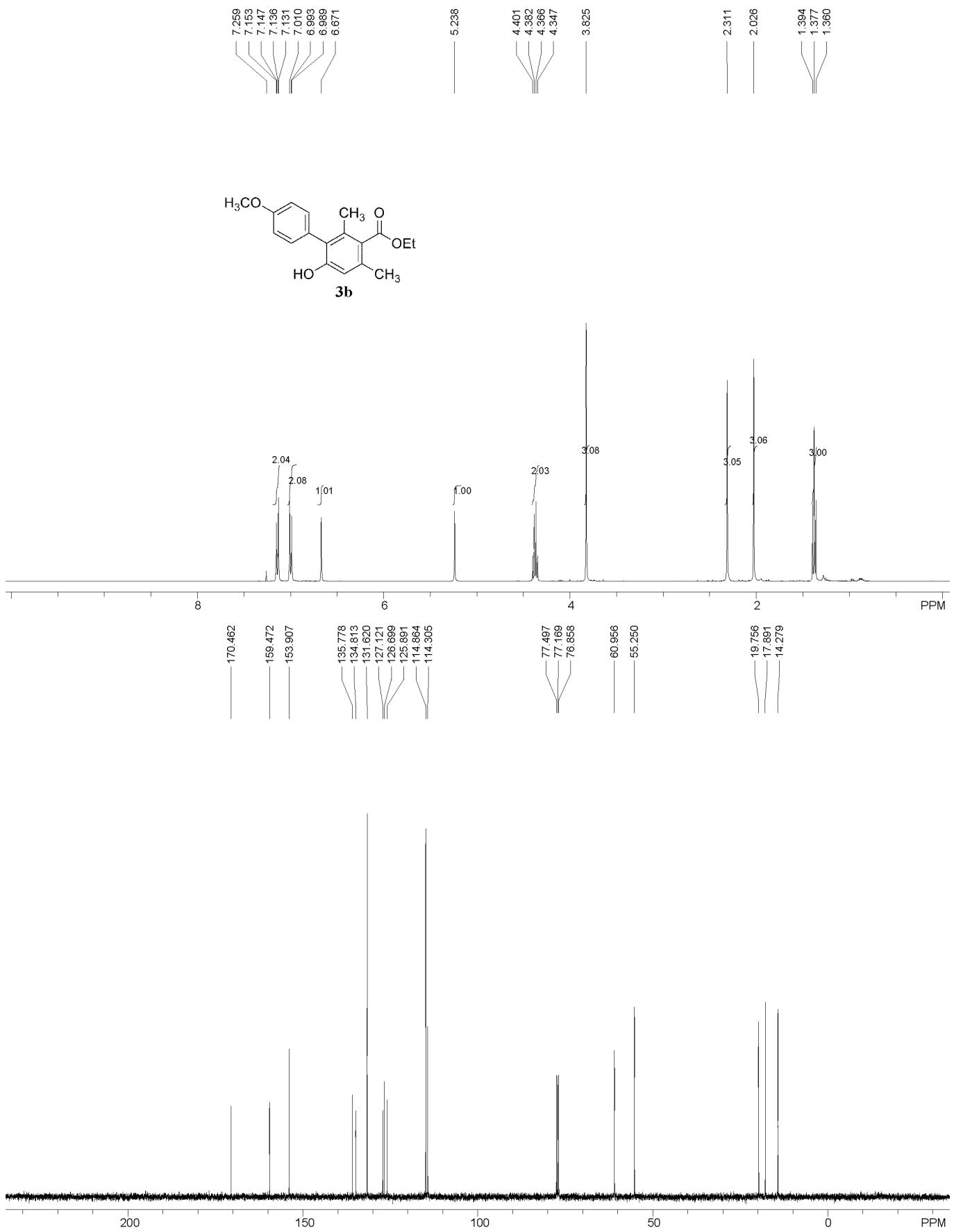
The reaction of 1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1a**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol), 3-oxobutanenitrile (**2e**, 20 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 33 mg (67%) of **4q**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); White solid; Mp: 257-259 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.62 (s, 3H), 3.08 (s, 3H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.65 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.47 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 21.1, 23.4, 112.6, 116.5, 117.0, 117.6, 122.1, 126.4, 129.0, 131.1, 134.5, 134.7, 141.1, 143.9, 153.9, 160.3; MS: m/z 250 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₁₂NO₂: 250.0868 [M+H], found: 250.0881.

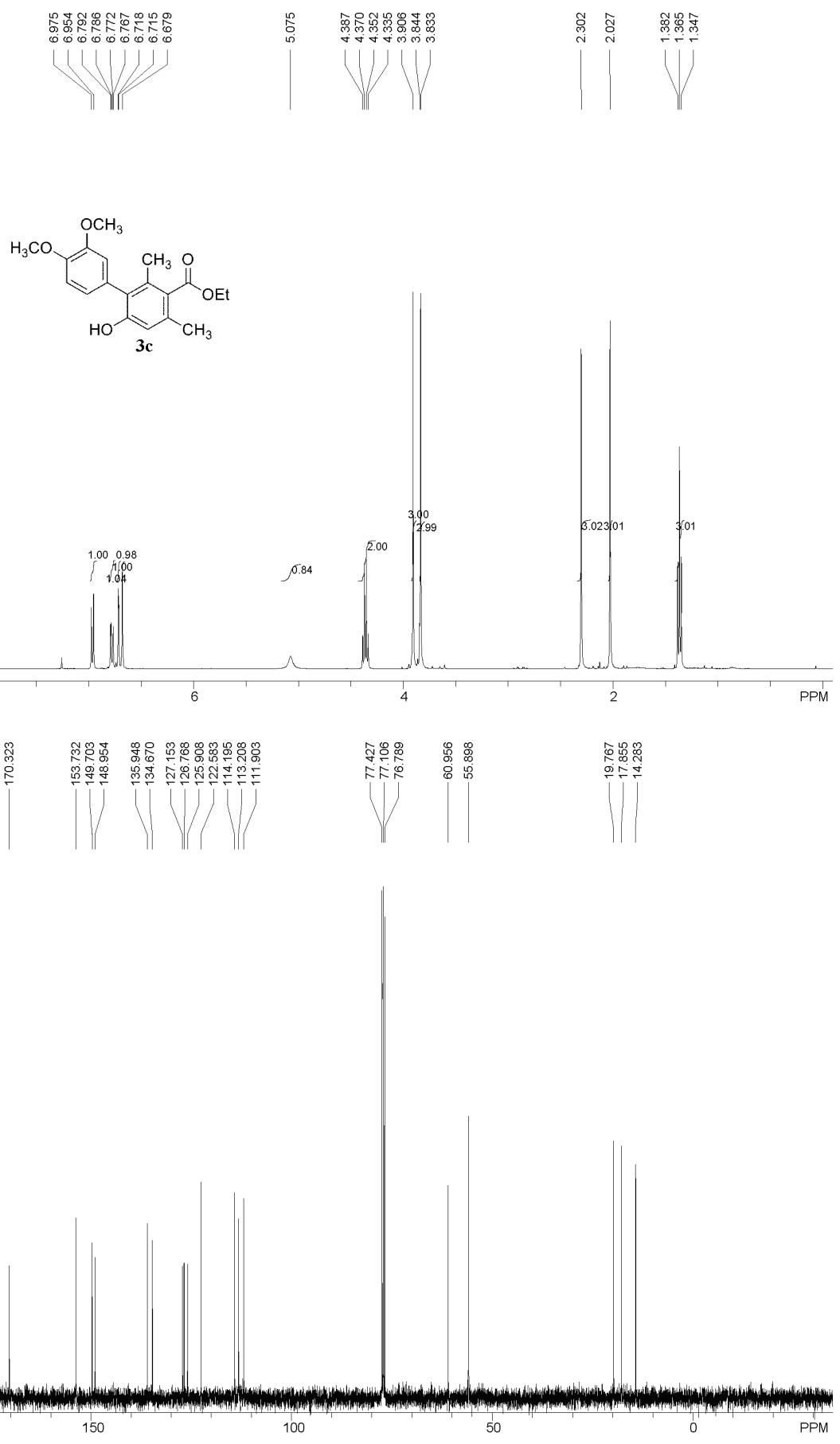
1,3,4-Trimethyl-6-oxo-6H-benzo[c]chromene-2-carbonitrile (4r)

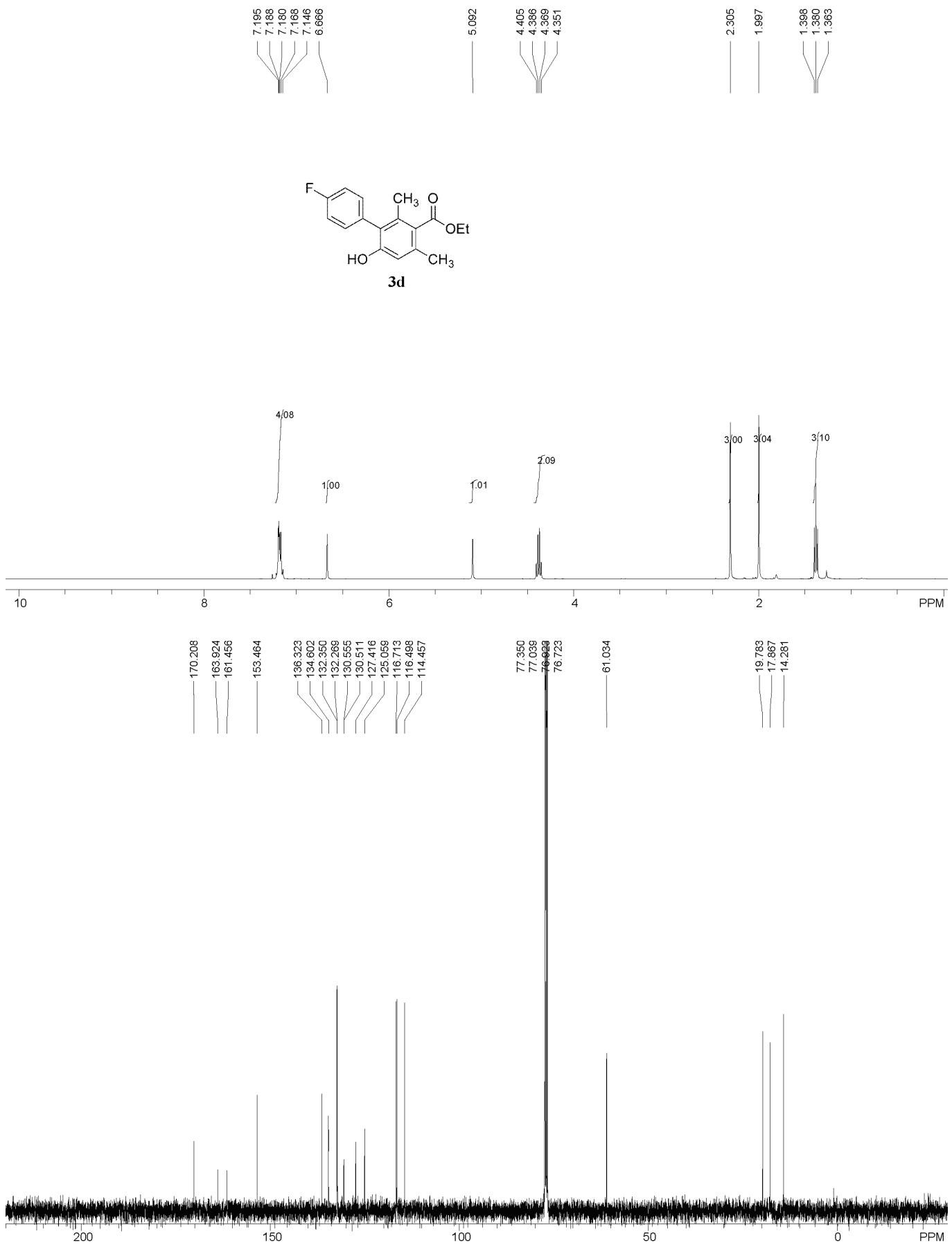
The reaction of 3-methyl-1-phenylpenta-3,4-dien-2-one (**1i**, 34 mg, 0.2 mmol), 3-oxobutanenitrile (**2e**, 20 mg, 0.24 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (65 mg, 0.2 mmol), anhydrous Na₂SO₄ (28 mg, 0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and AgOAc (100 mg, 0.6 mmol) in CH₃CN (4 mL) under CO (1atm) afforded 42 mg (80%) of **4r**: Eluent: ethyl acetate / petroleum ether (10%); White solid; Mp: 225-226 °C (ethyl acetate); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 3.01 (s, 3H), 7.63 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 12.4, 19.0, 23.2, 112.5, 116.3, 117.7, 121.8, 124.7, 126.6, 128.8, 130.7, 134.5, 134.8, 137.6, 142.1, 152.0, 160.2; MS: m/z 264 [MH]⁺; HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₁₄NO₂: 264.1025 [M+H], found: 264.1030.

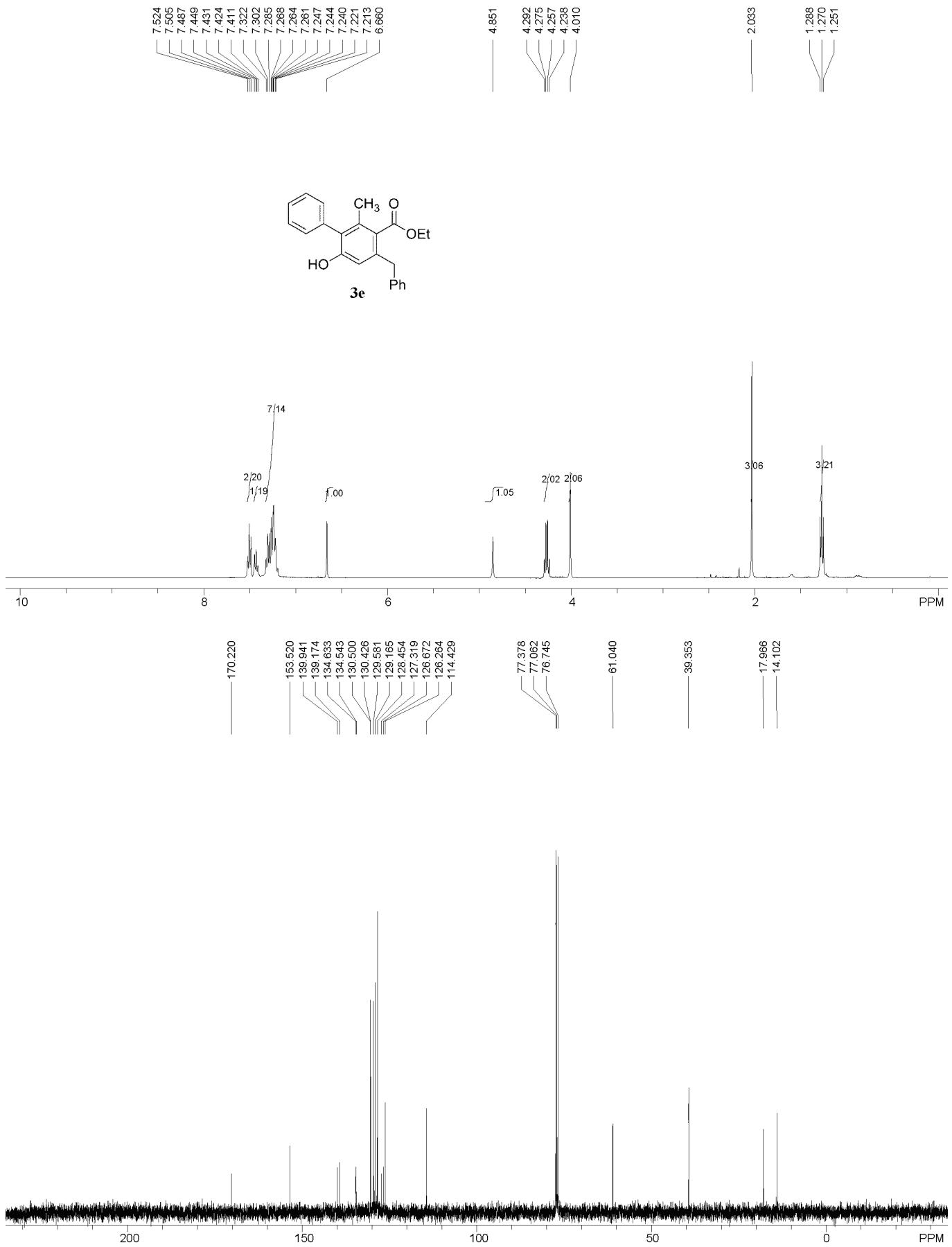
III. Copies of ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of 3a-3u

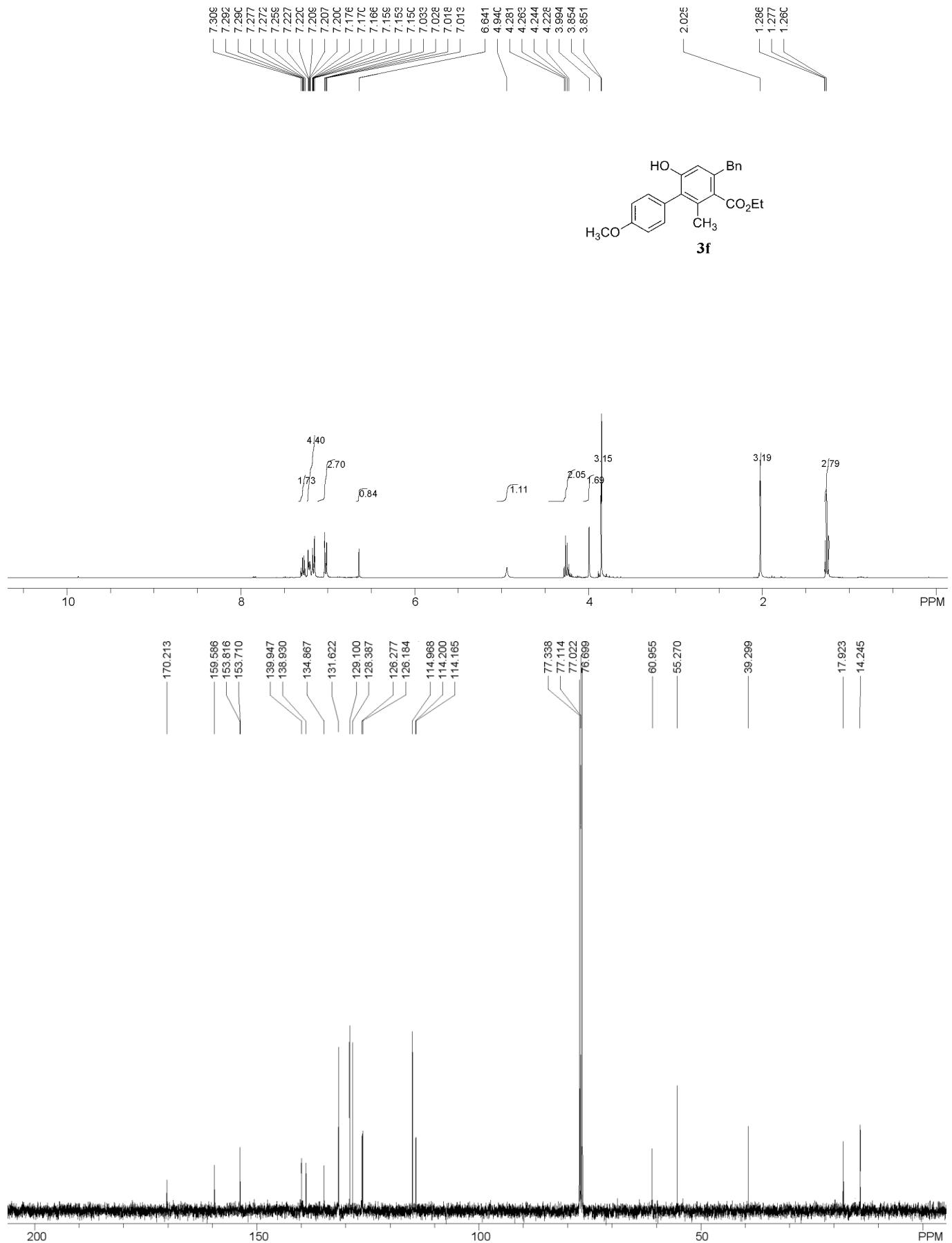


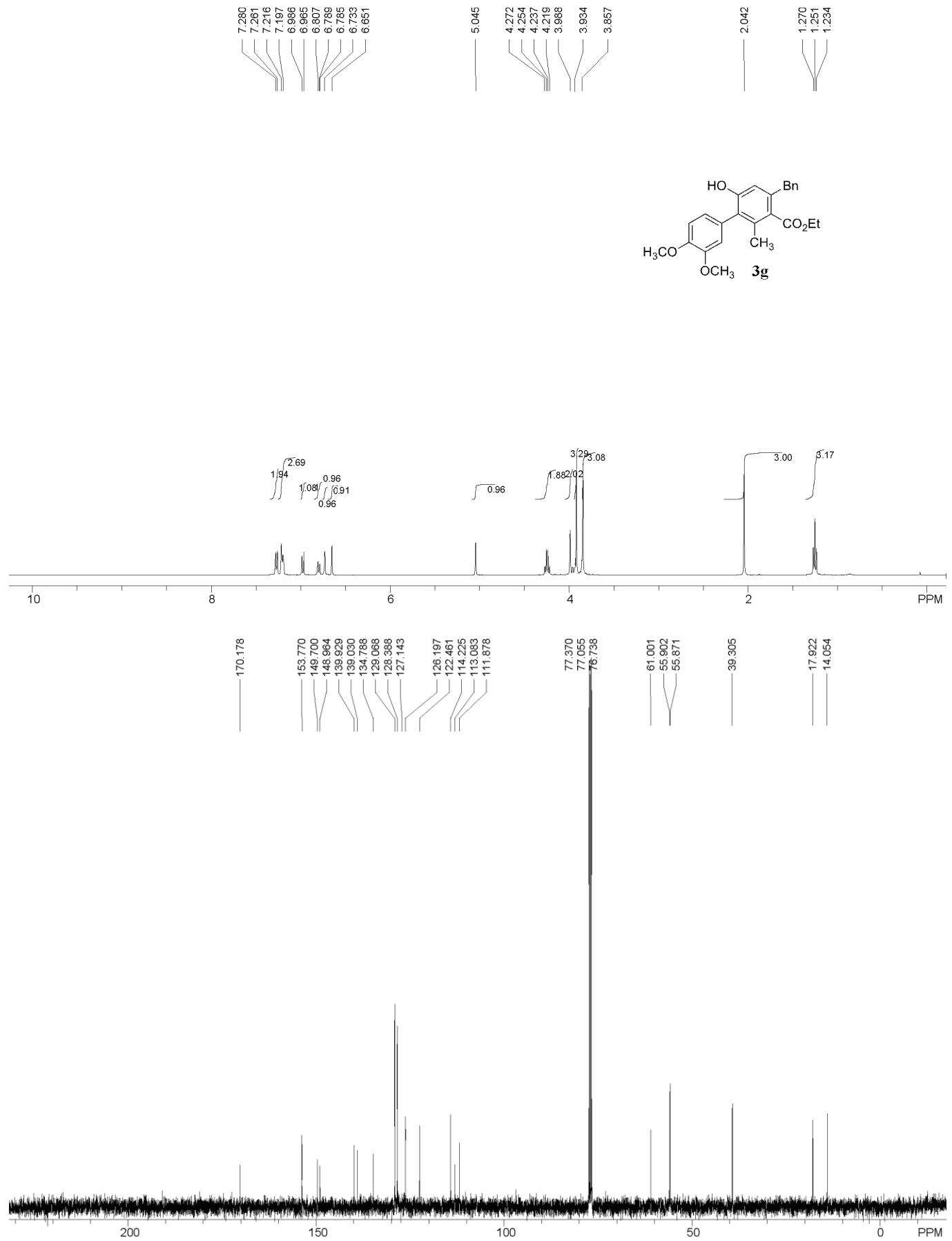


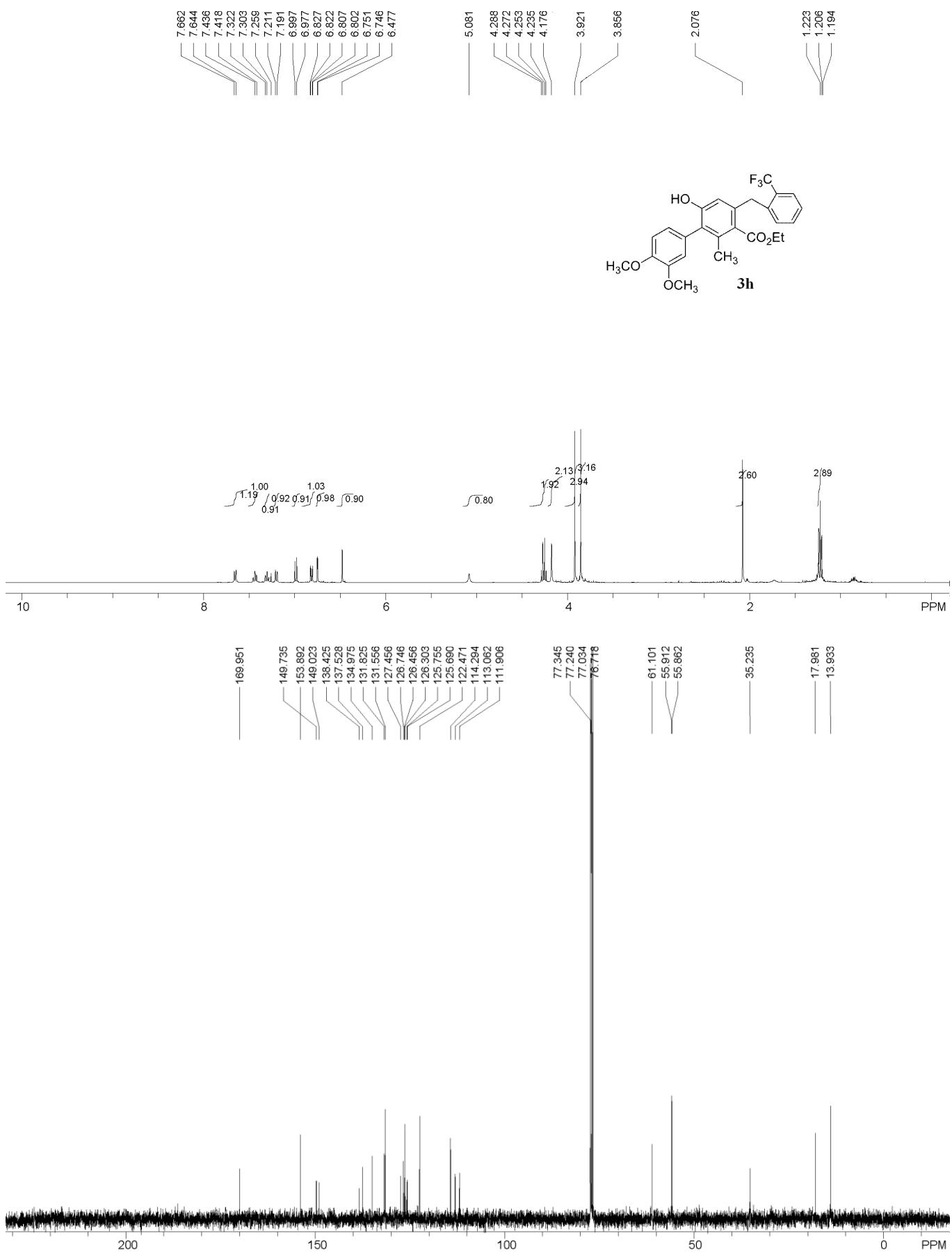


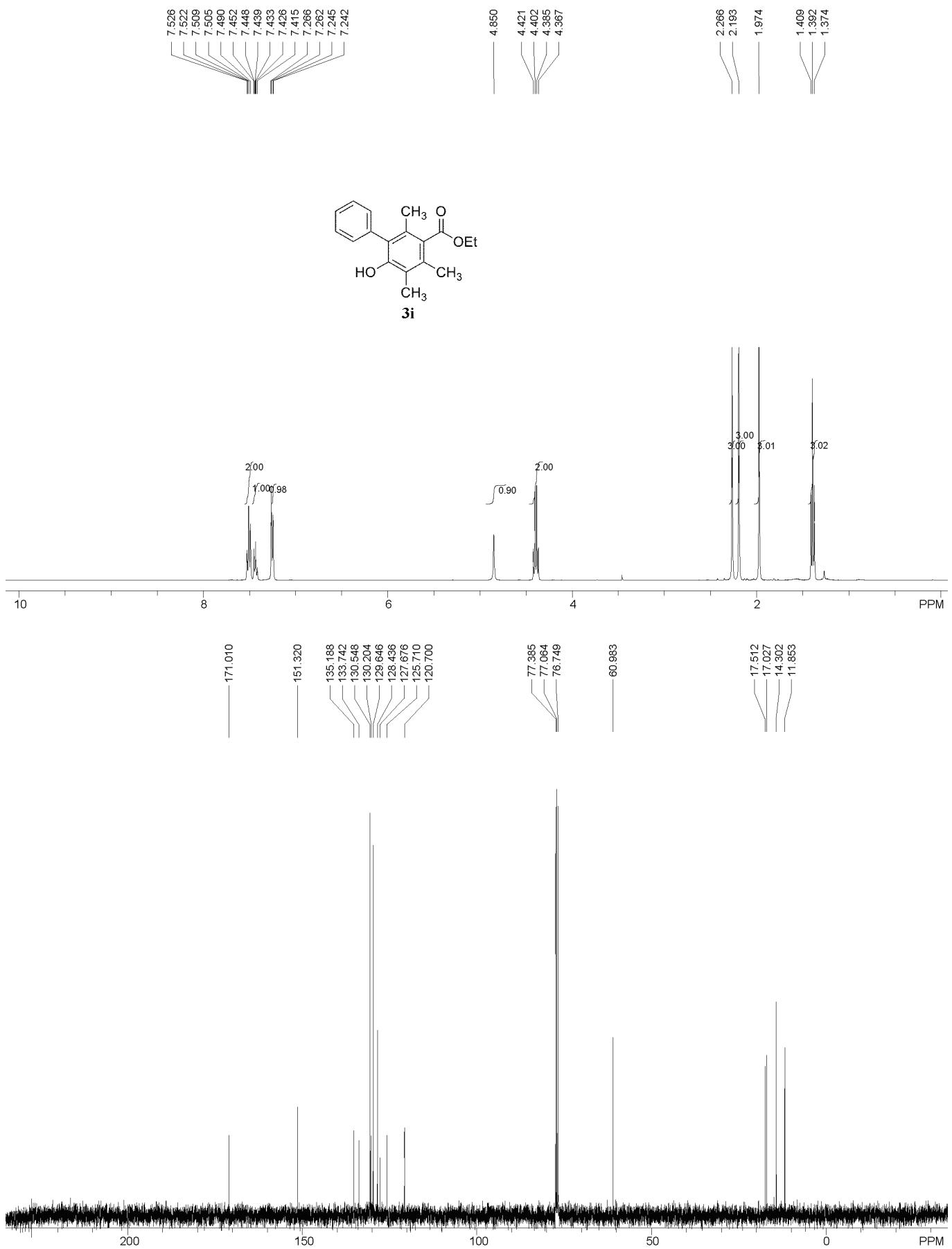


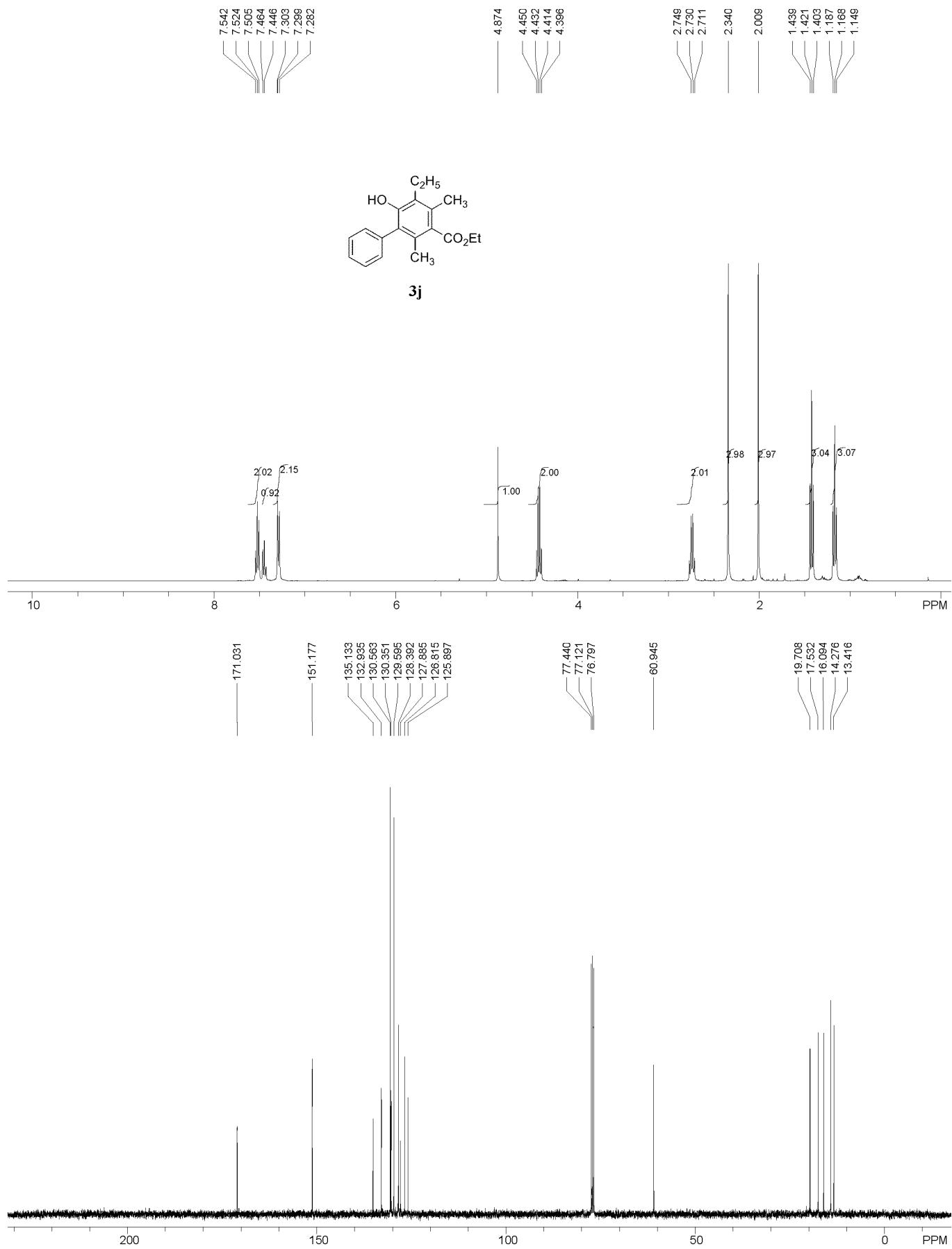


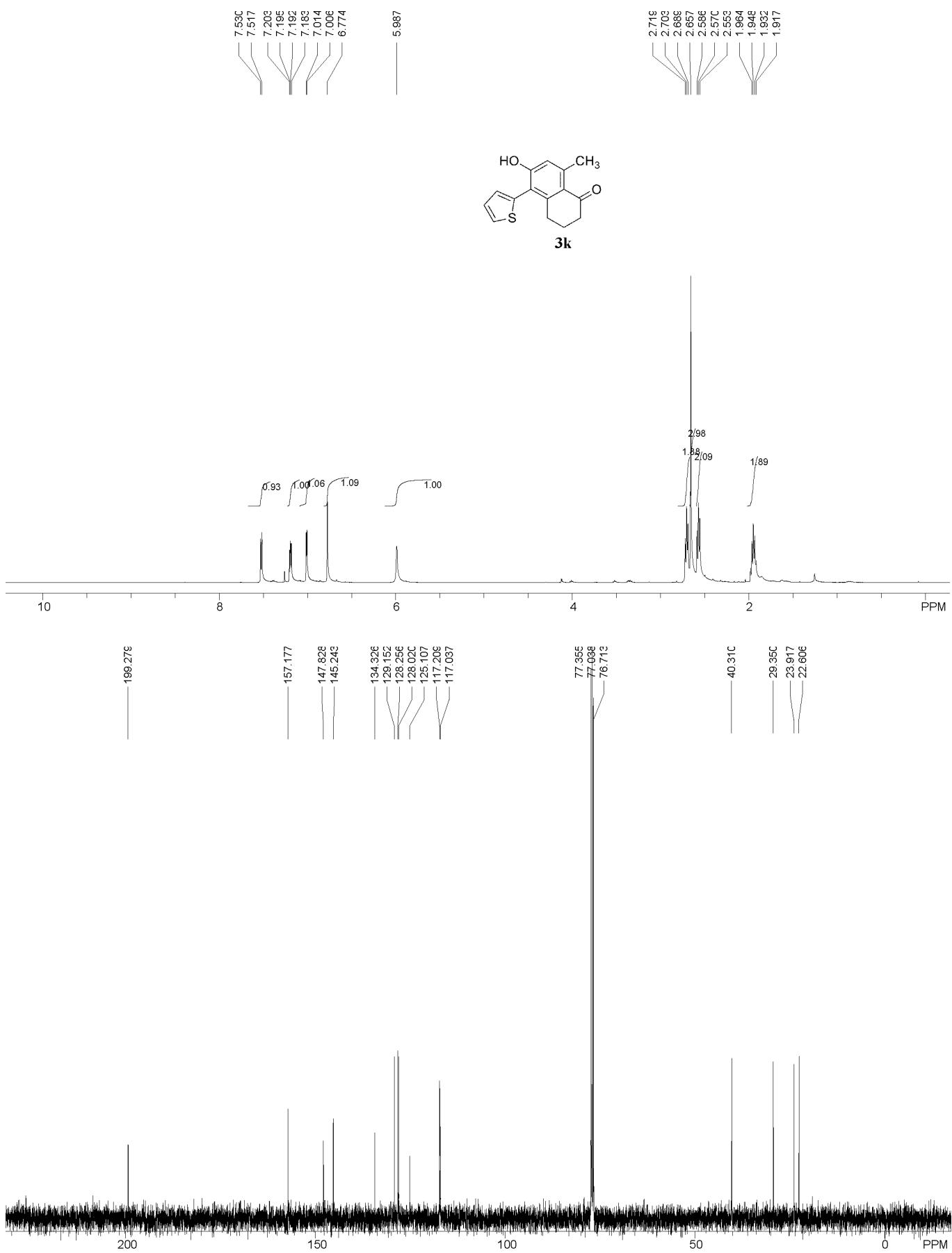


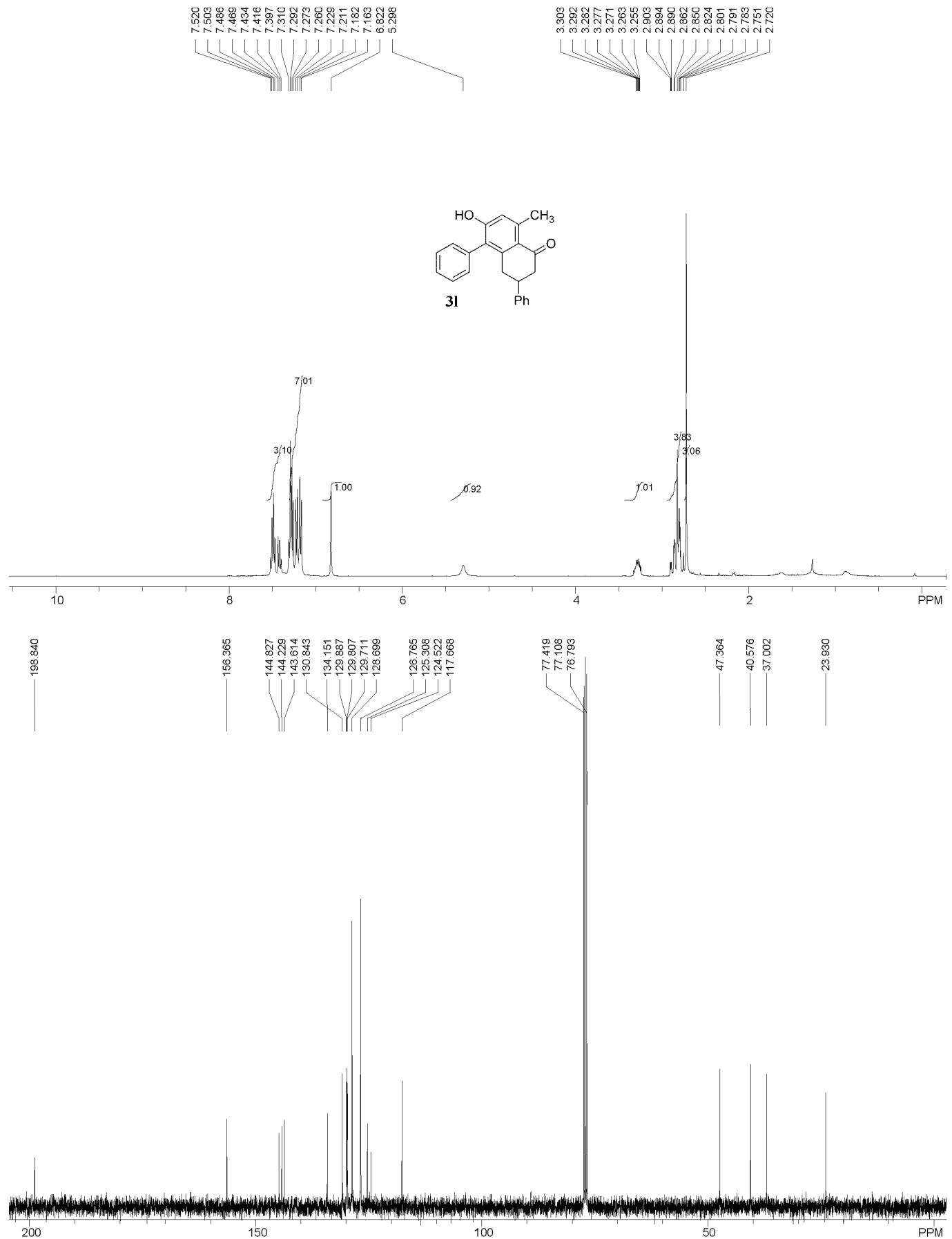




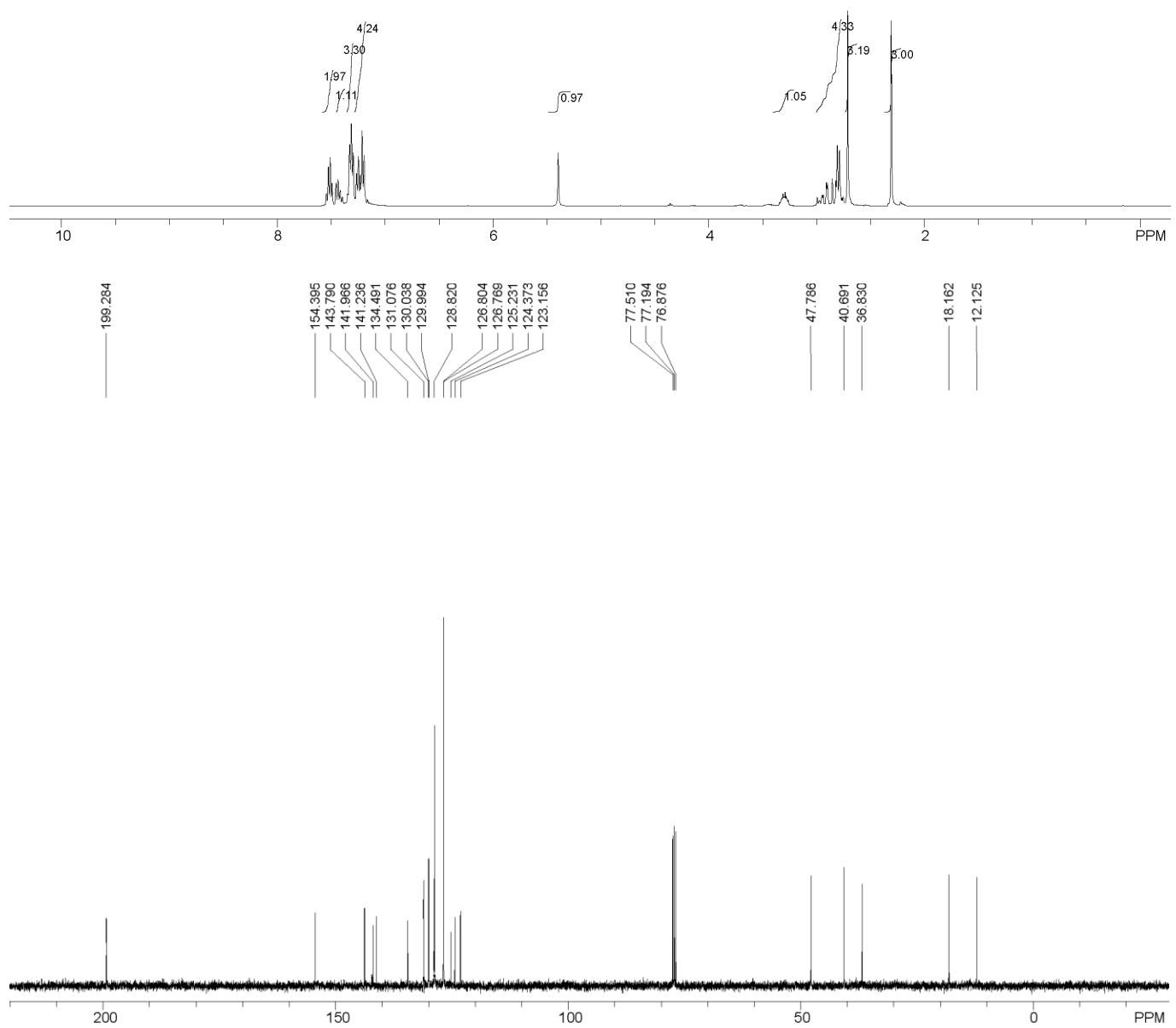
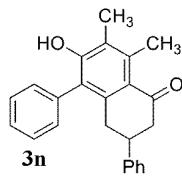
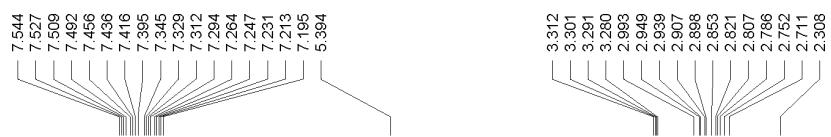


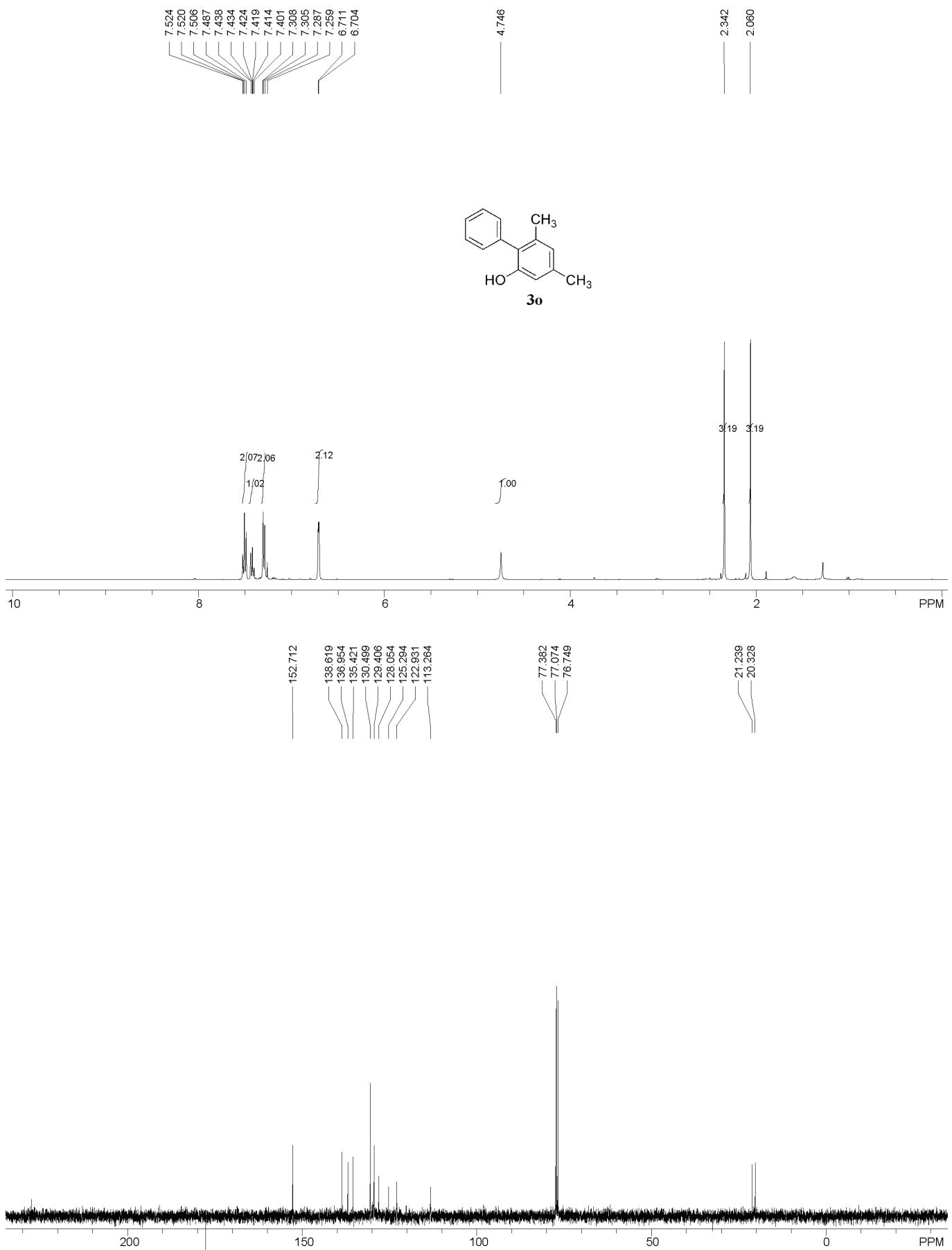


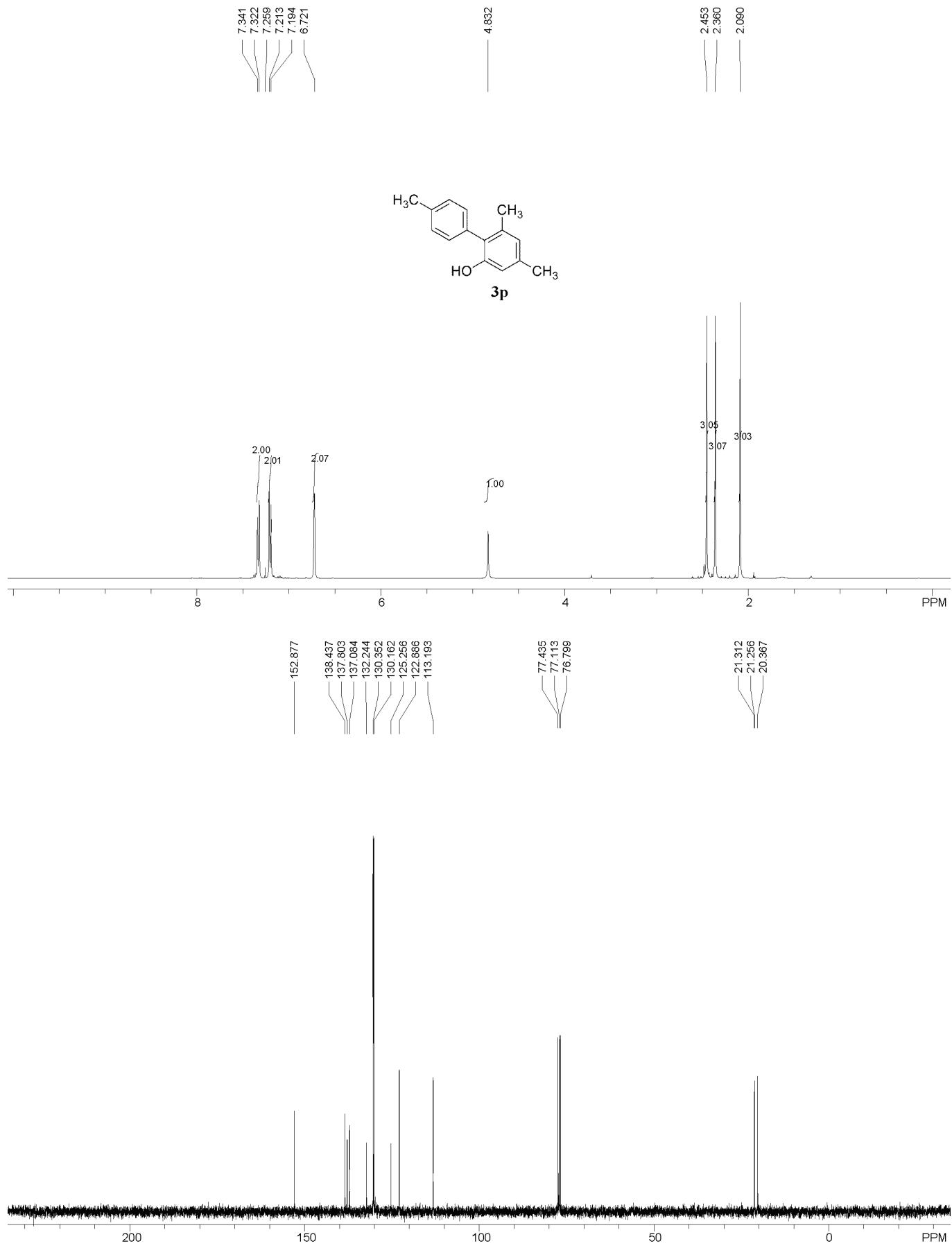


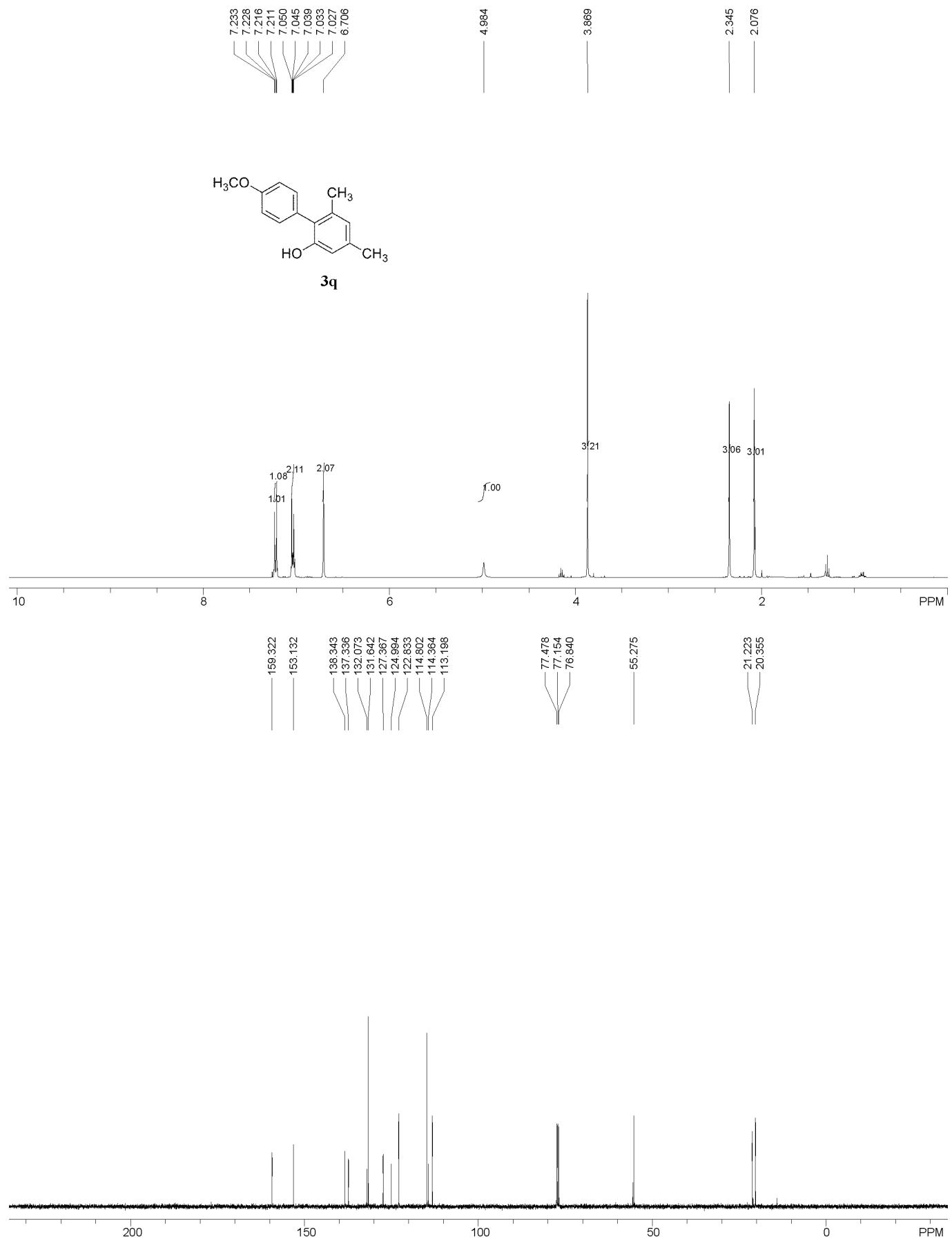


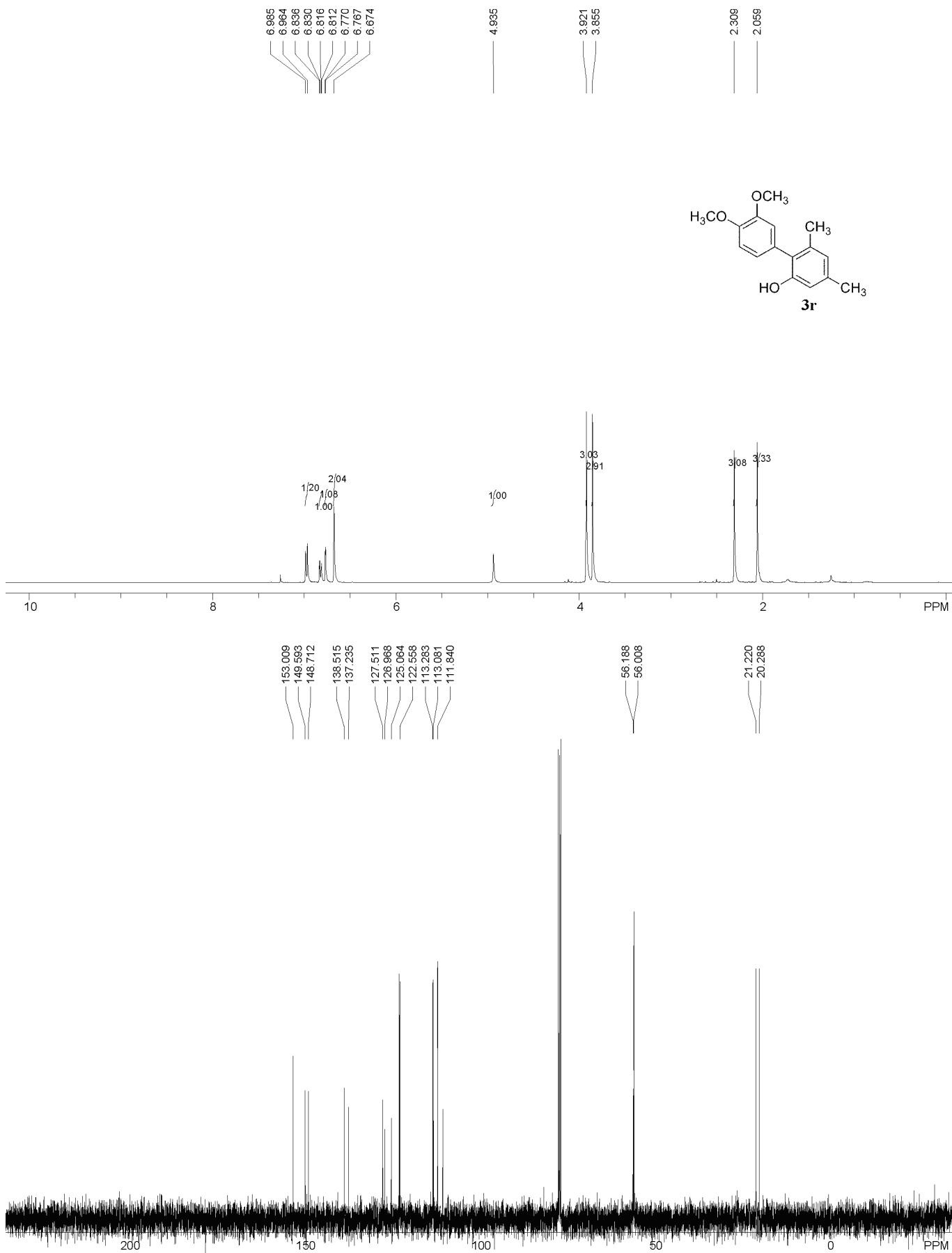


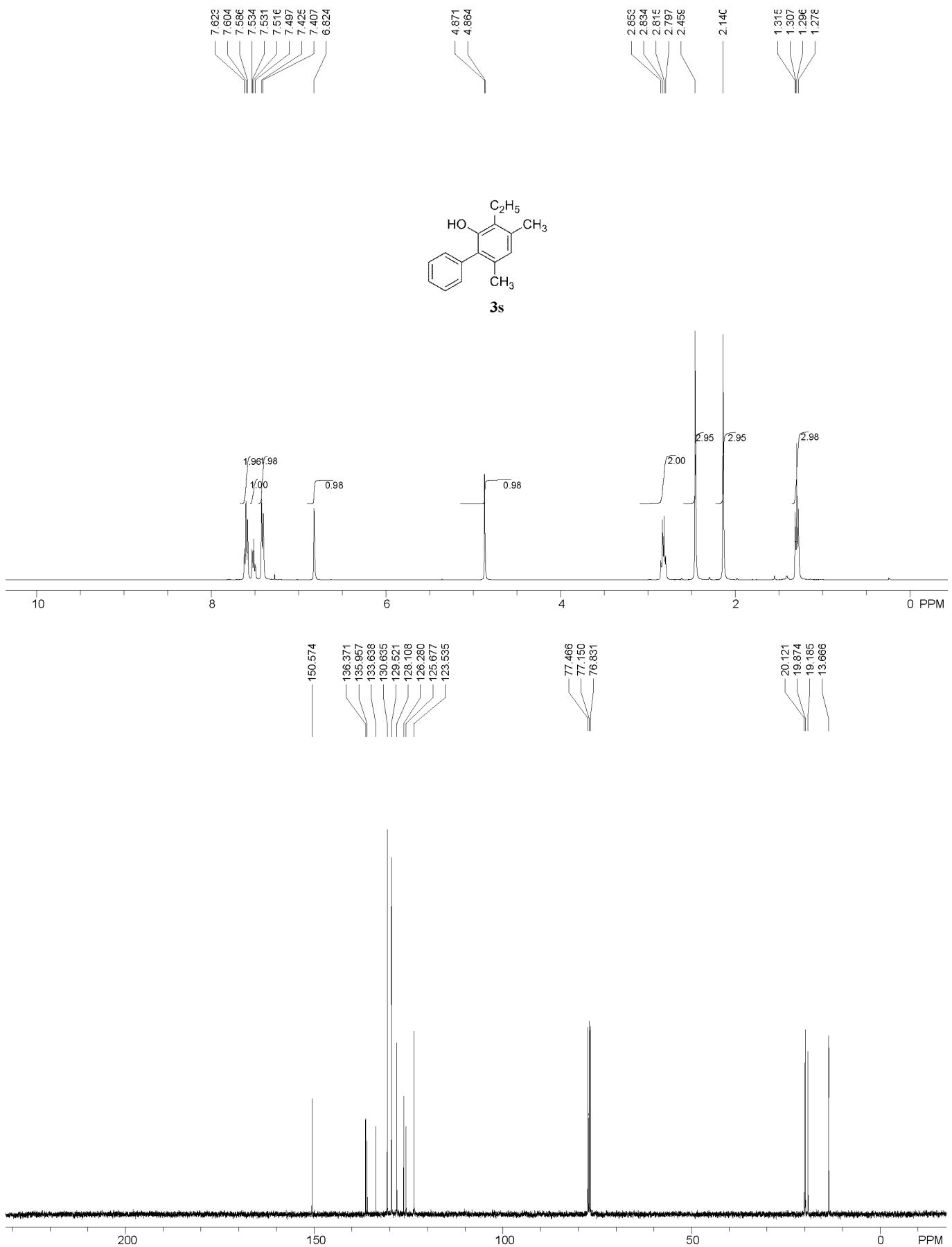


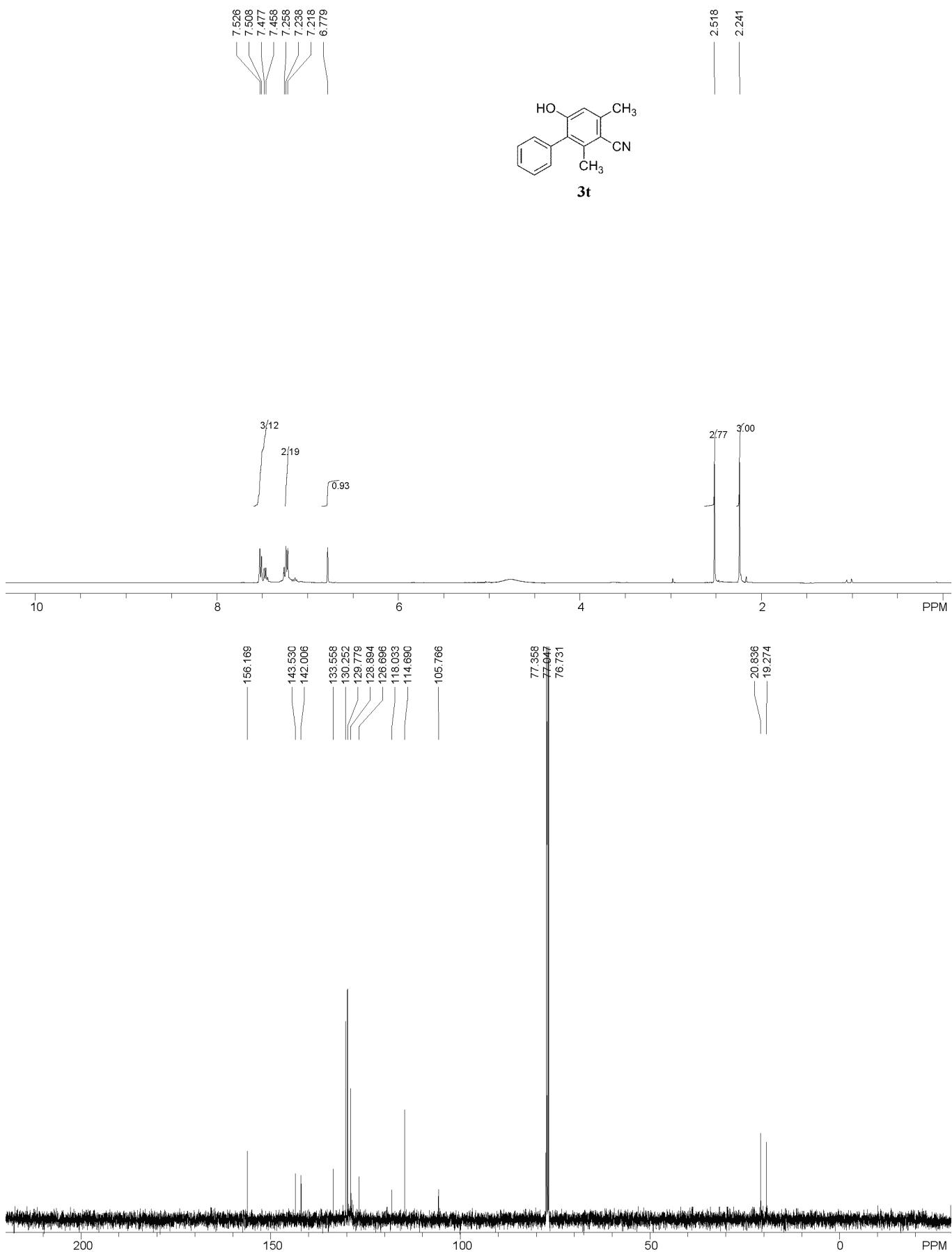


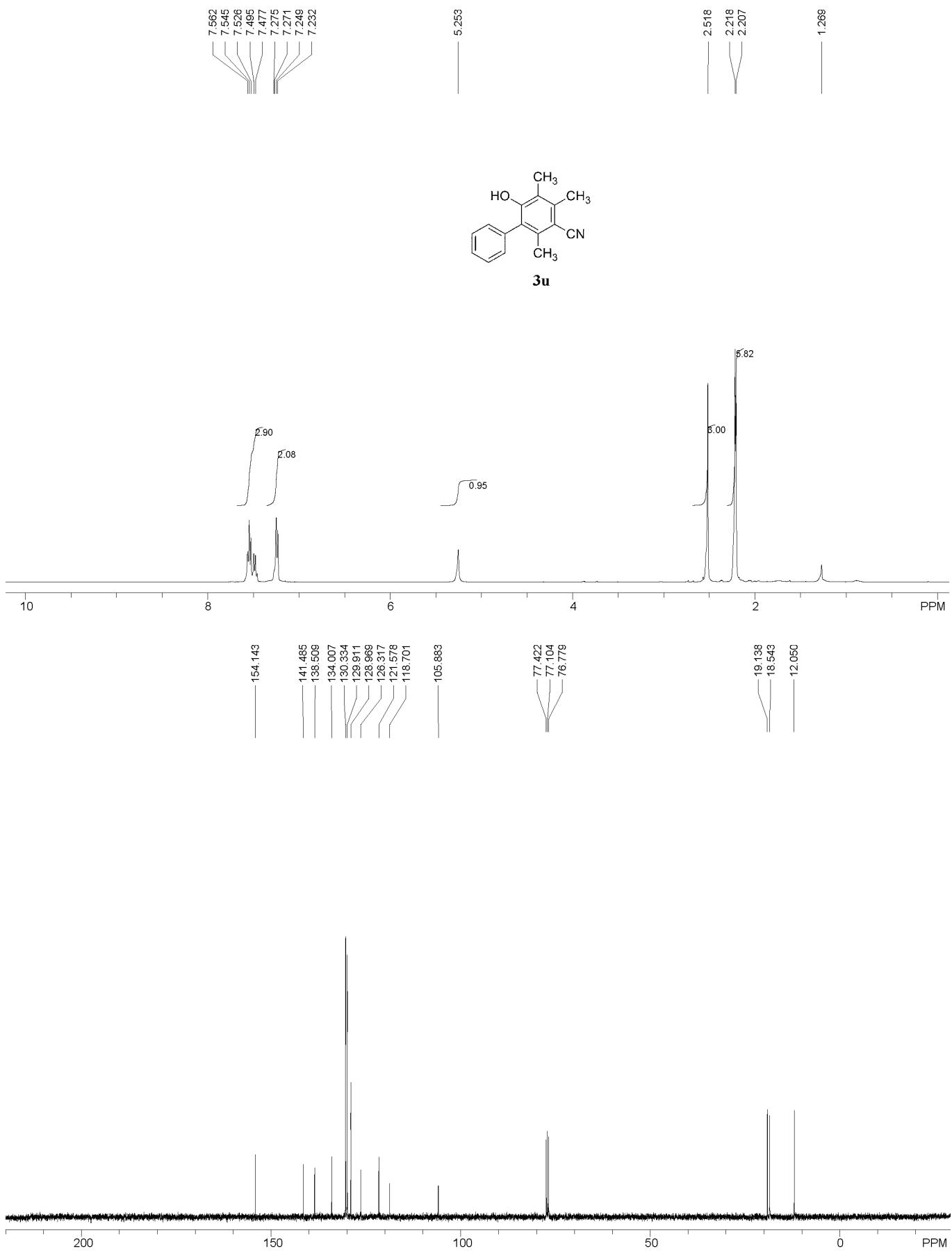




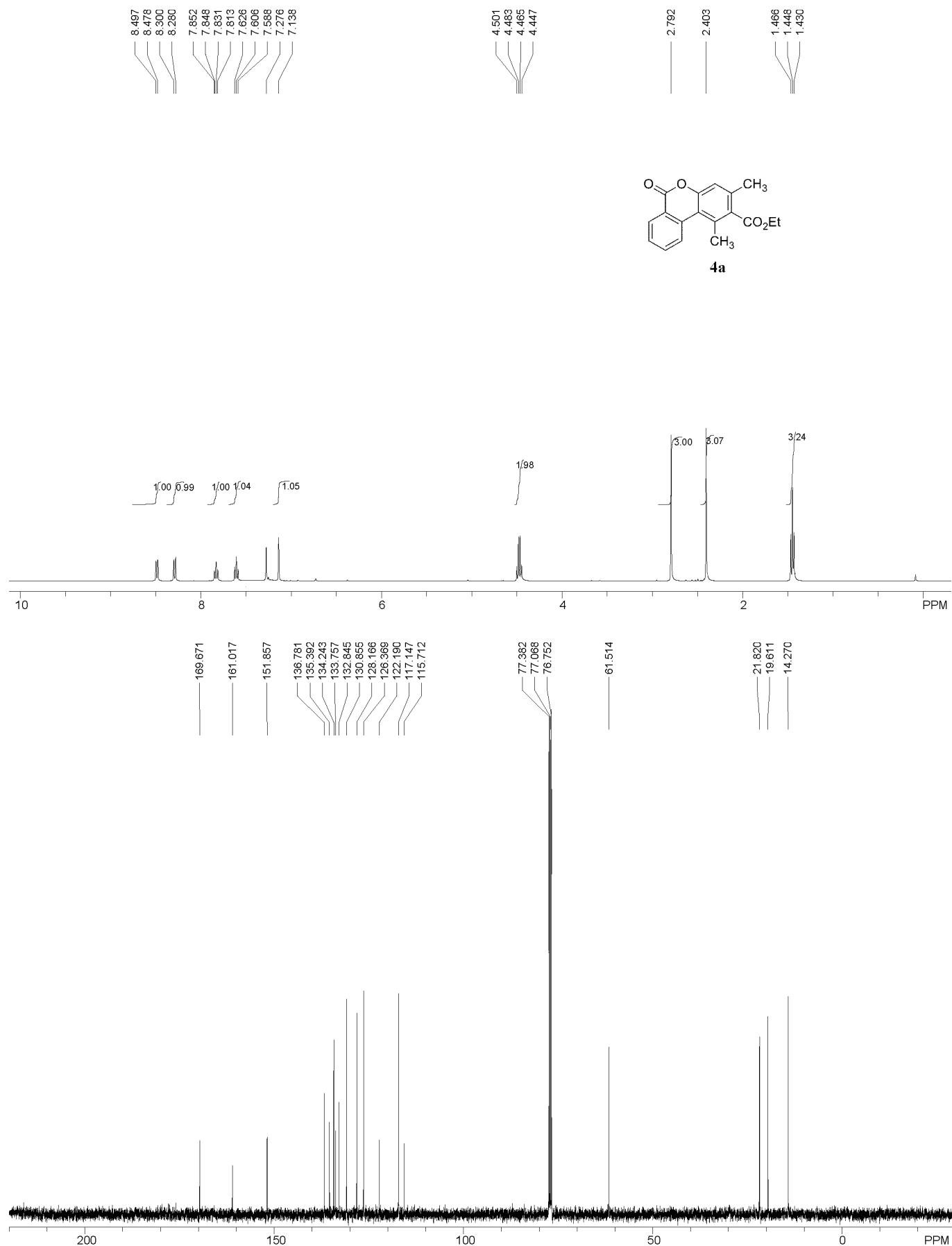


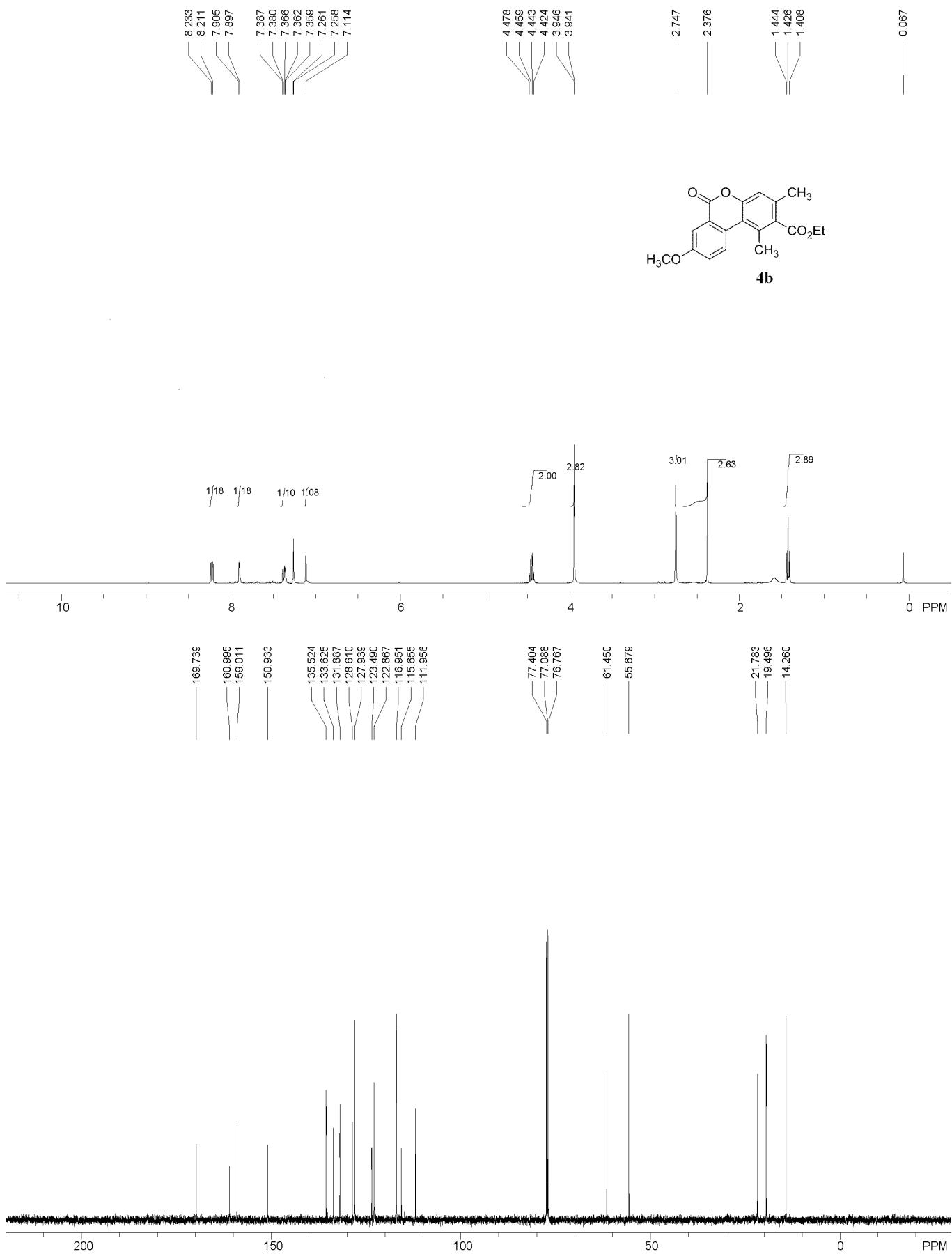


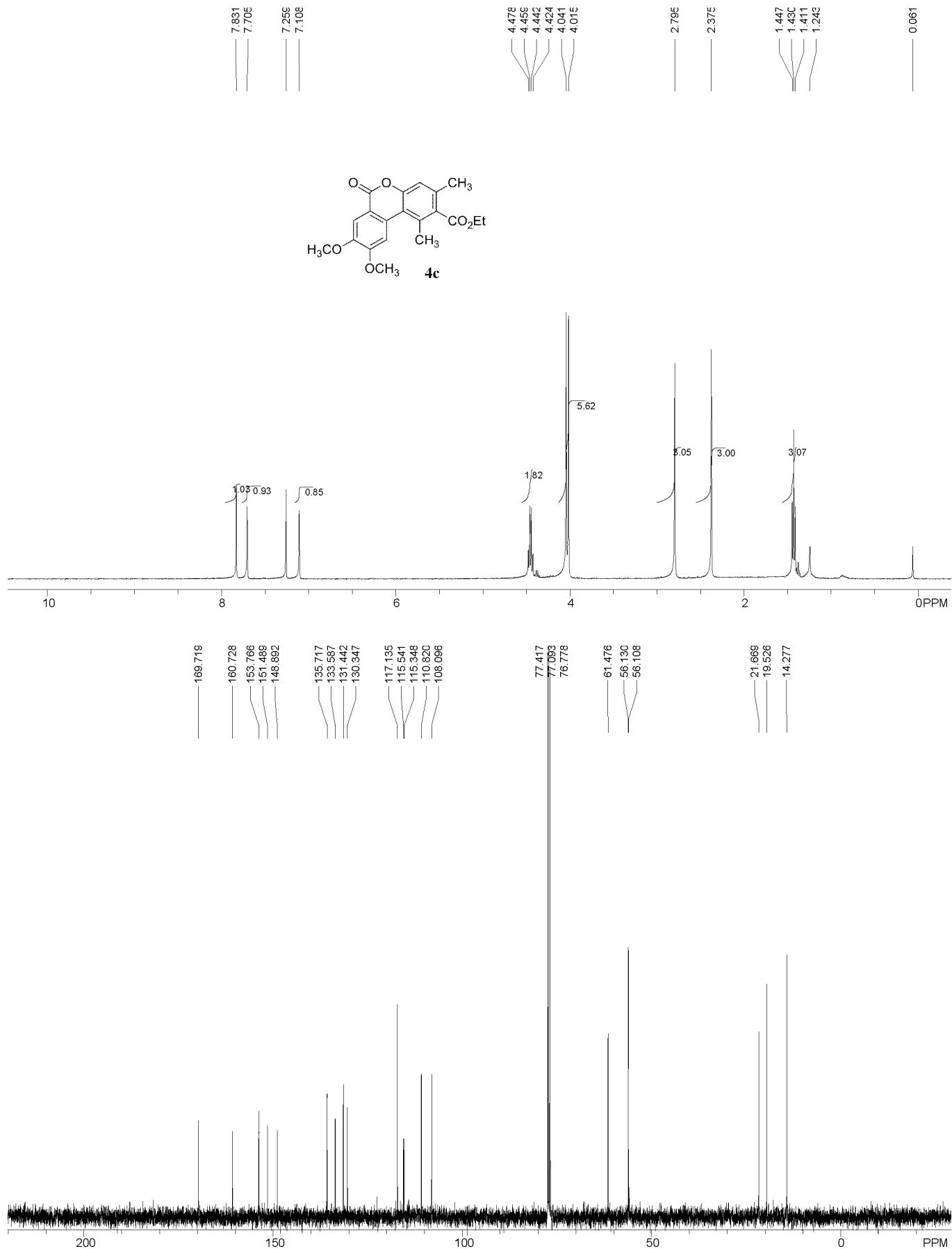


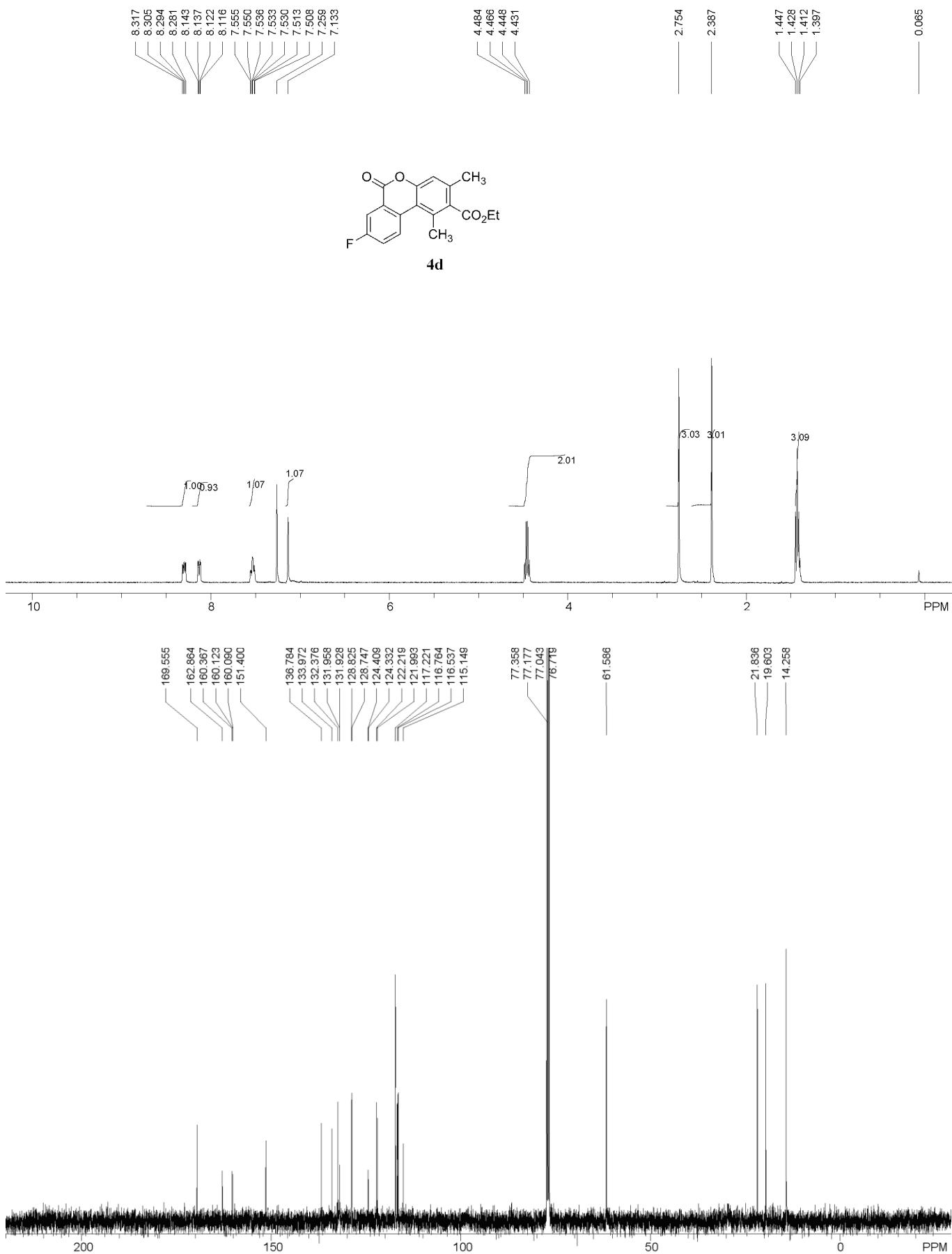


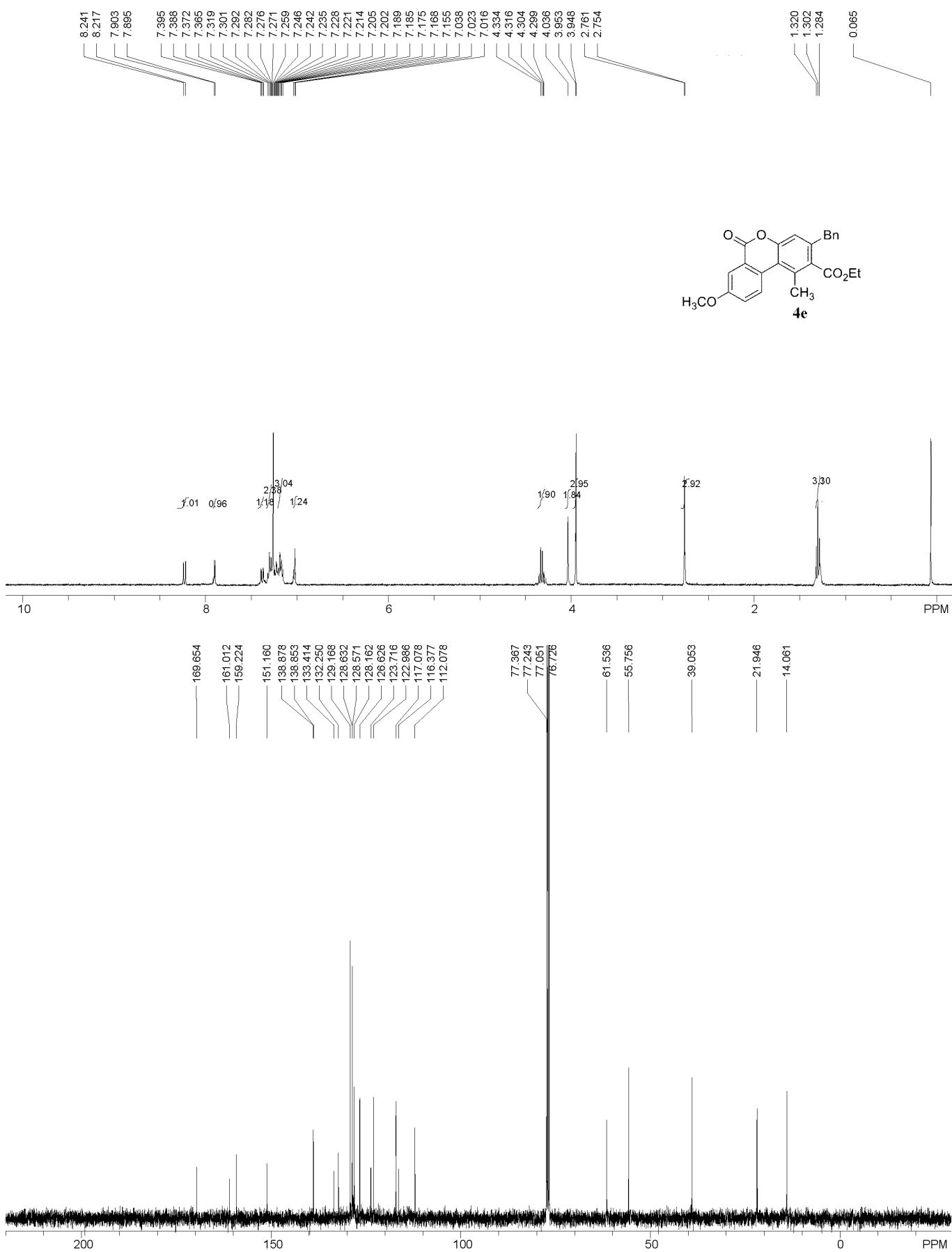
IV. Copies of ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of 4a-4r

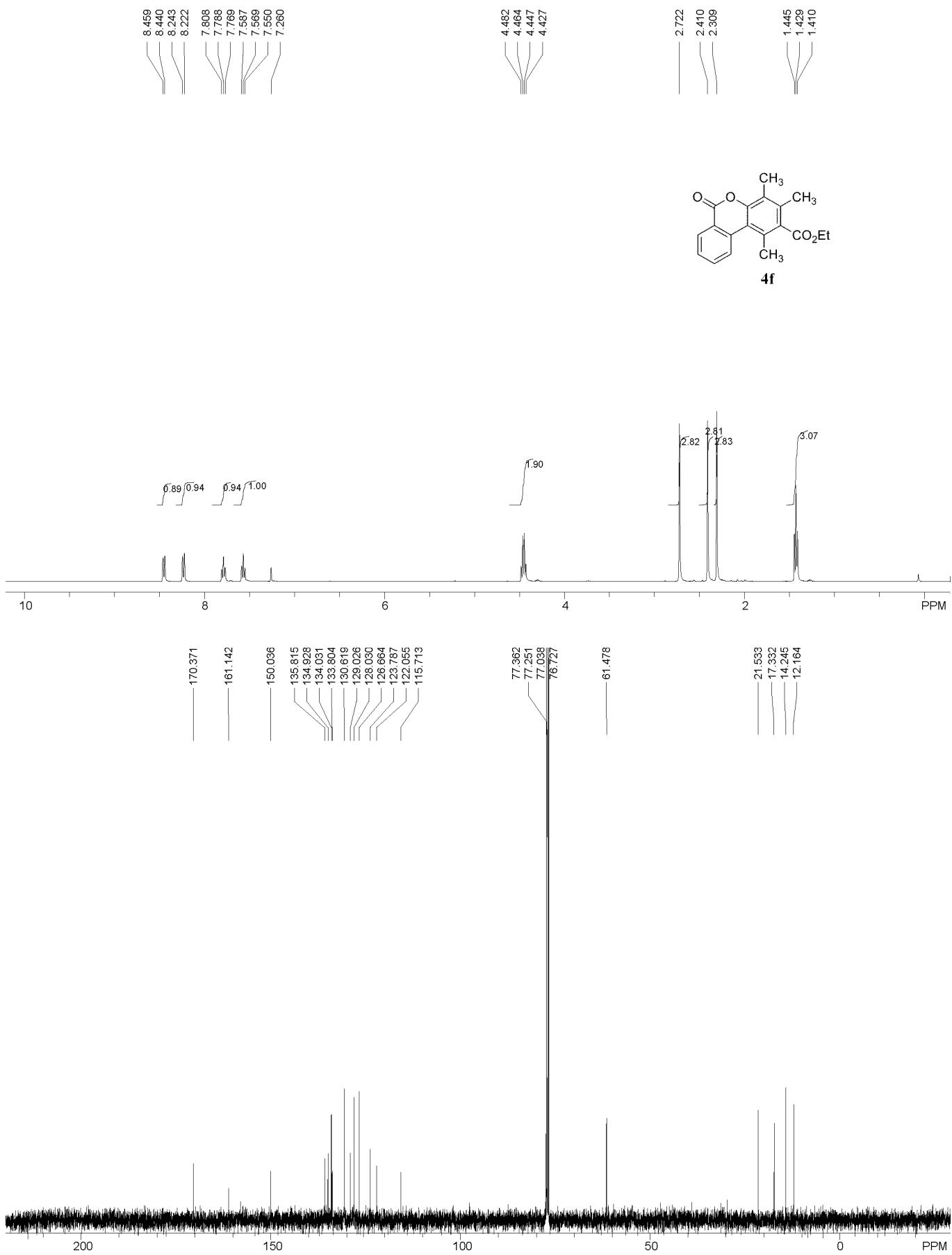


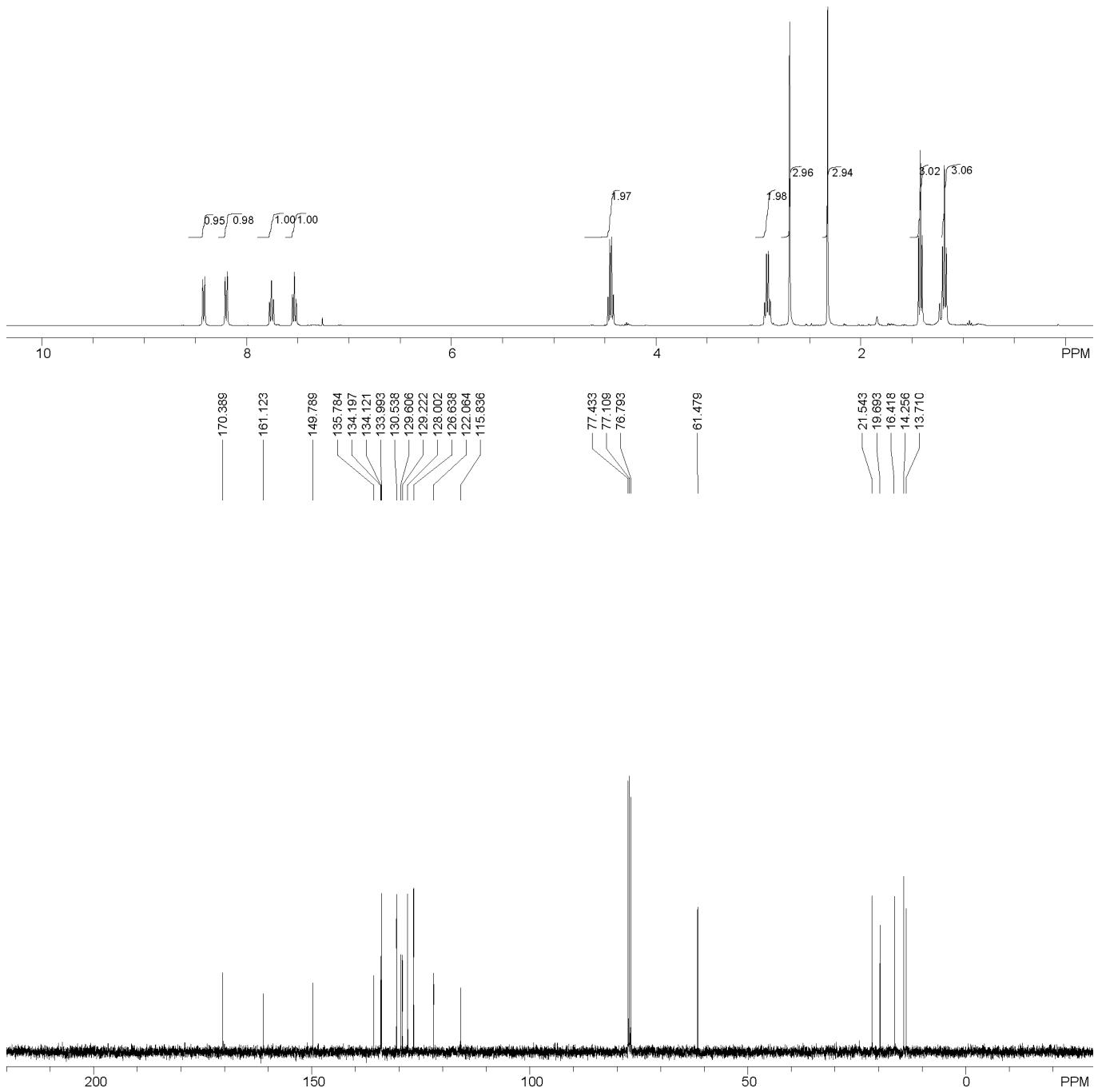
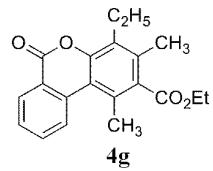
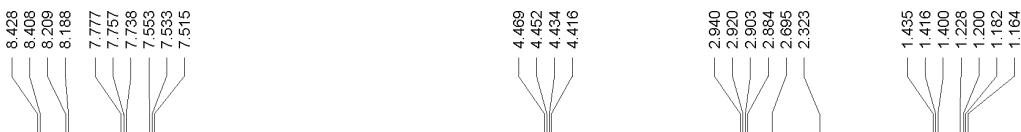


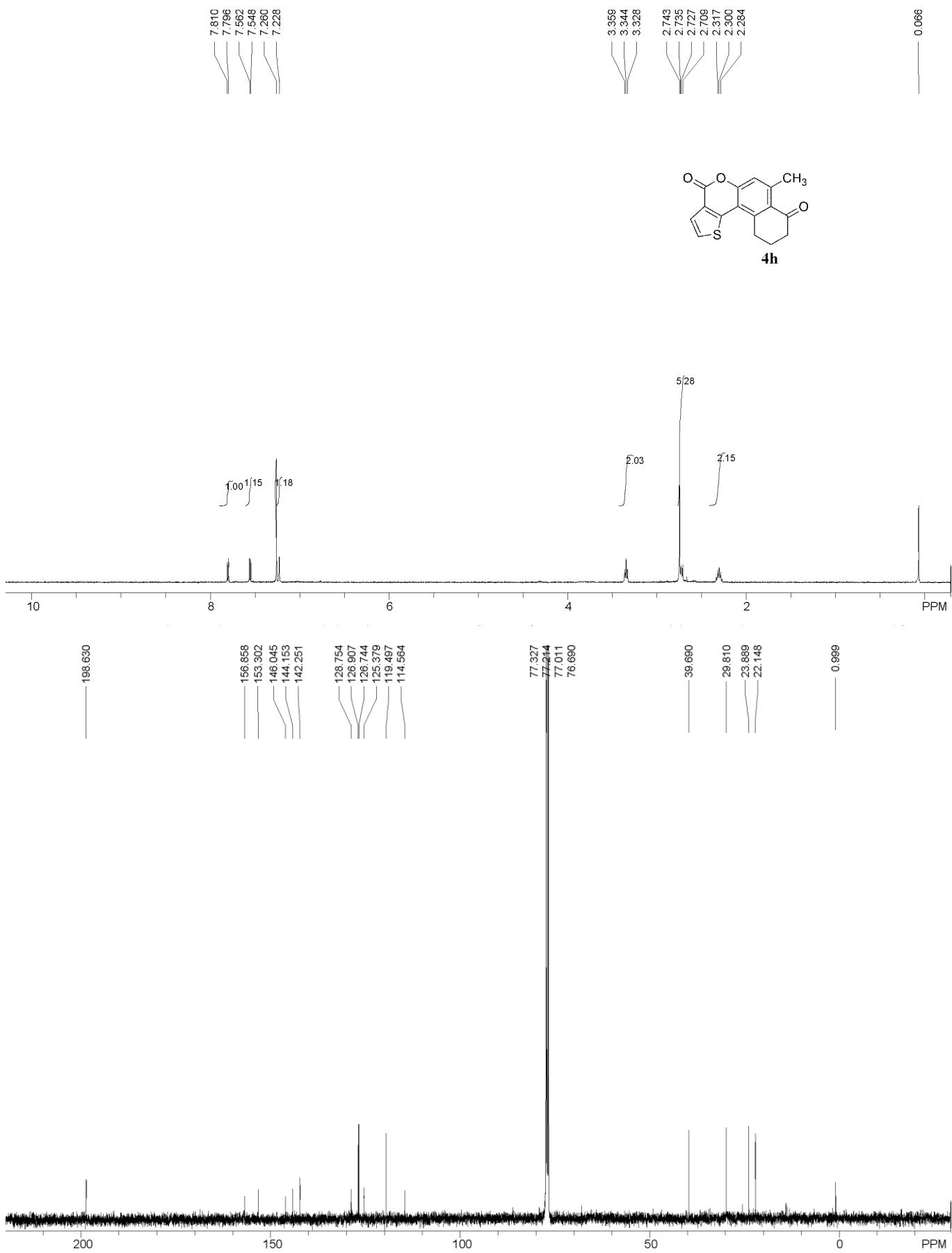


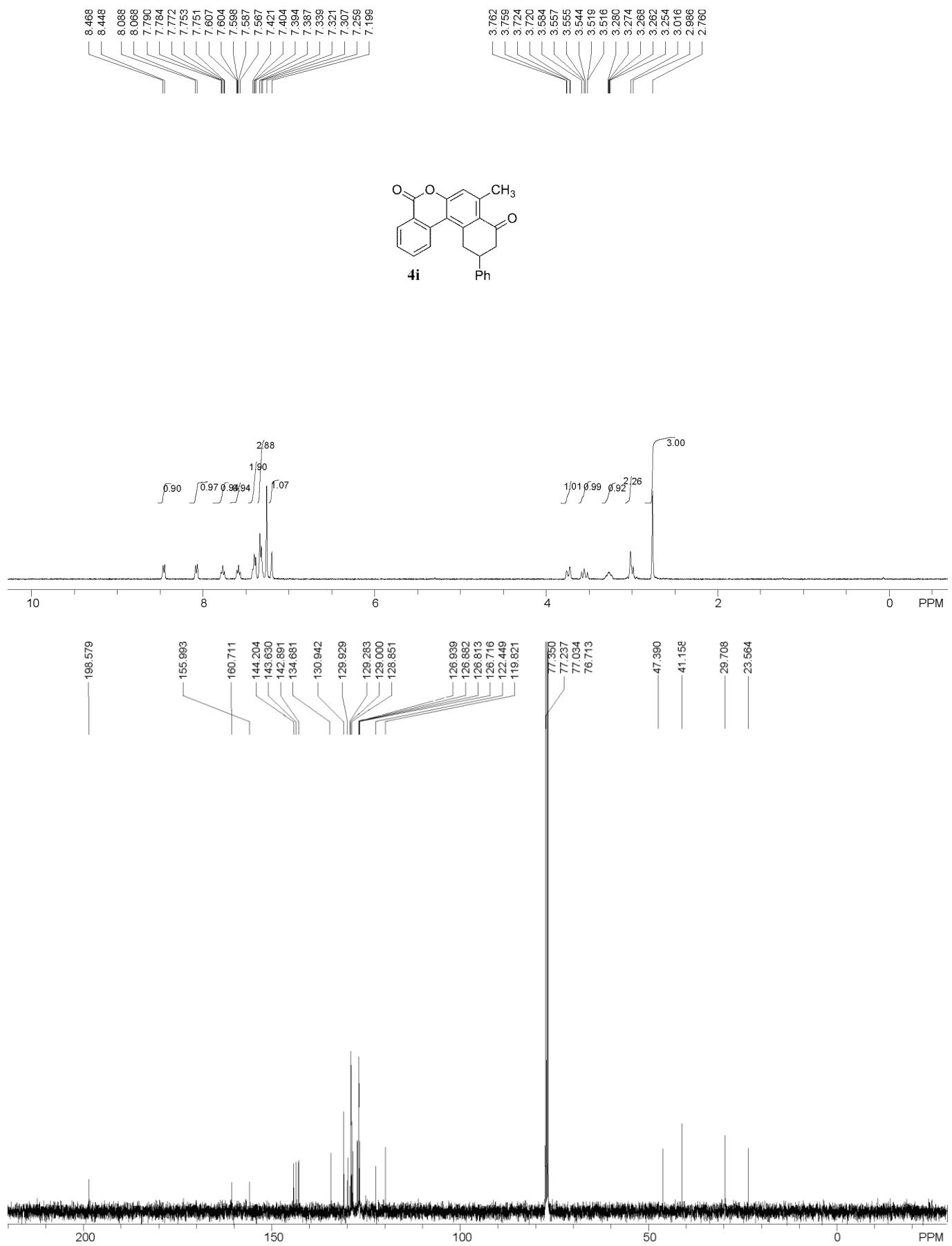


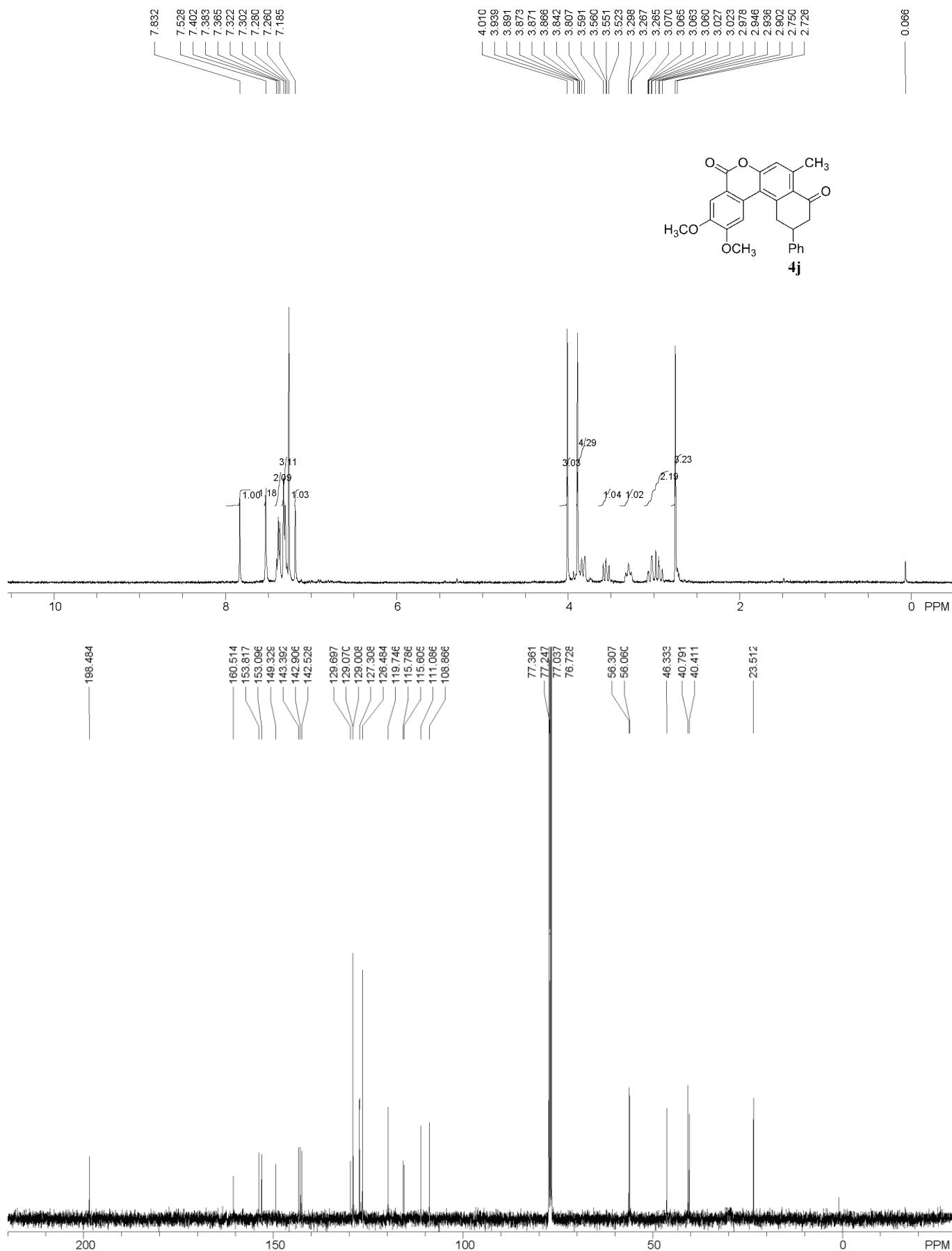


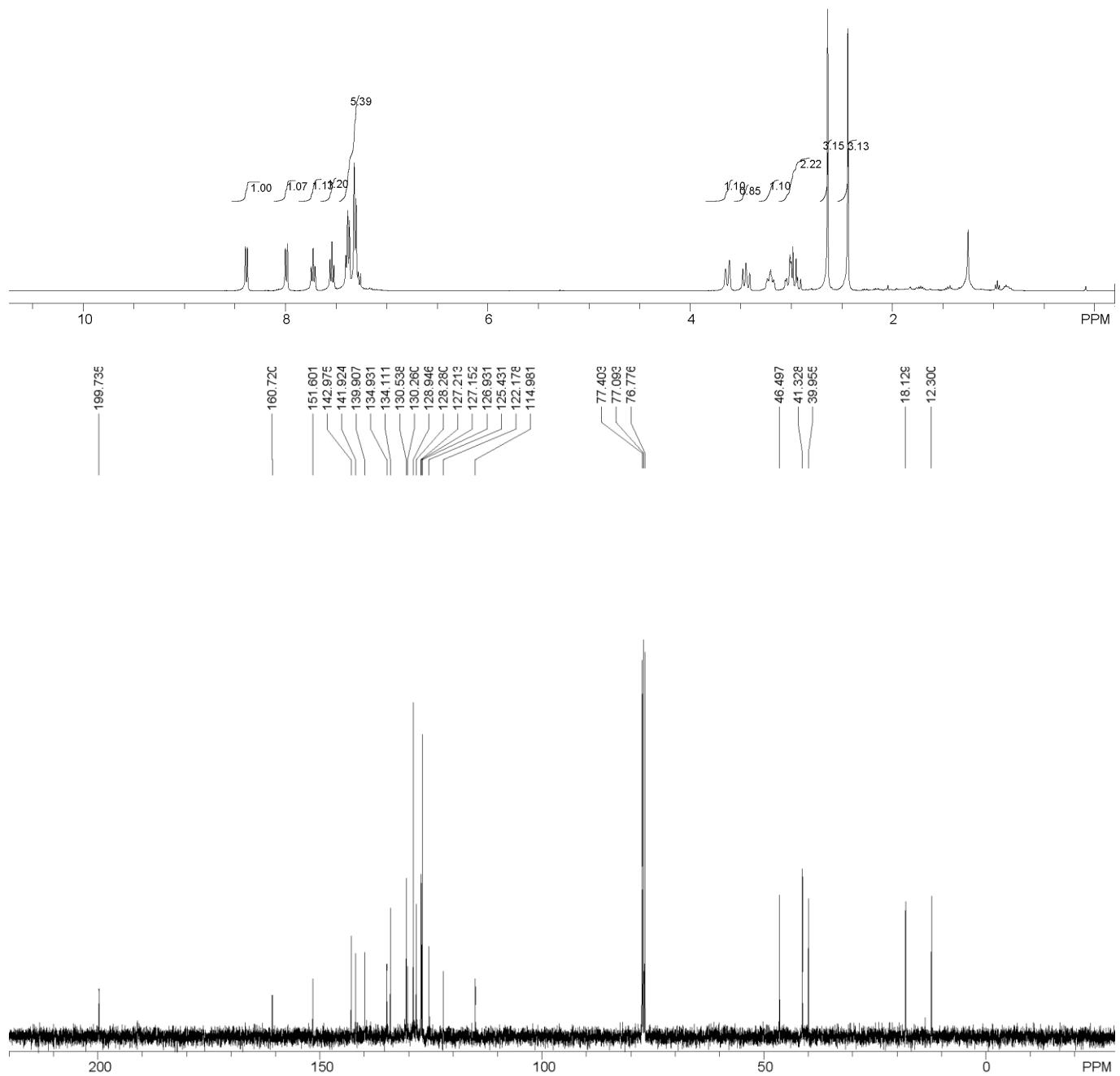
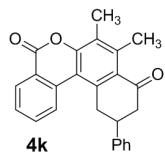


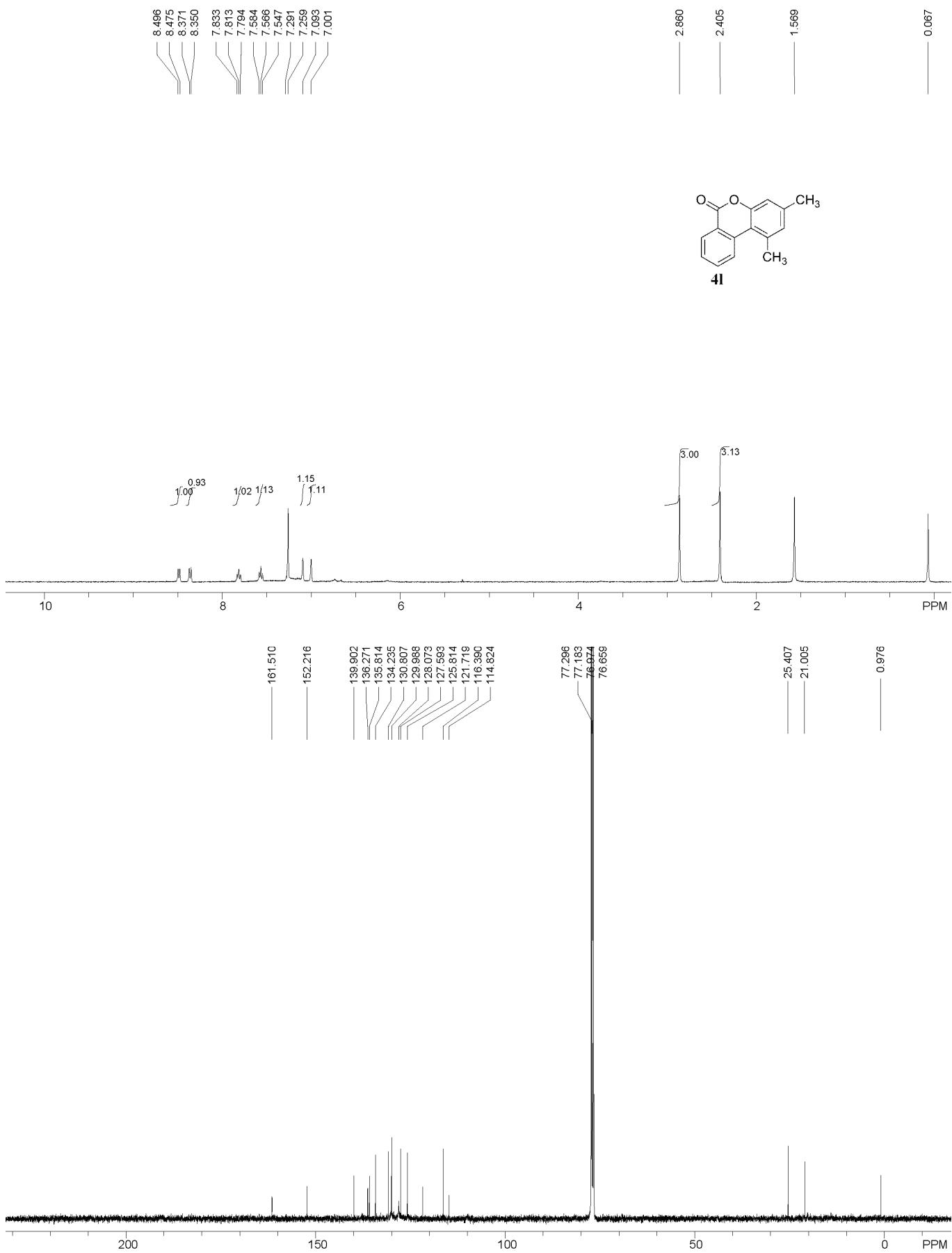


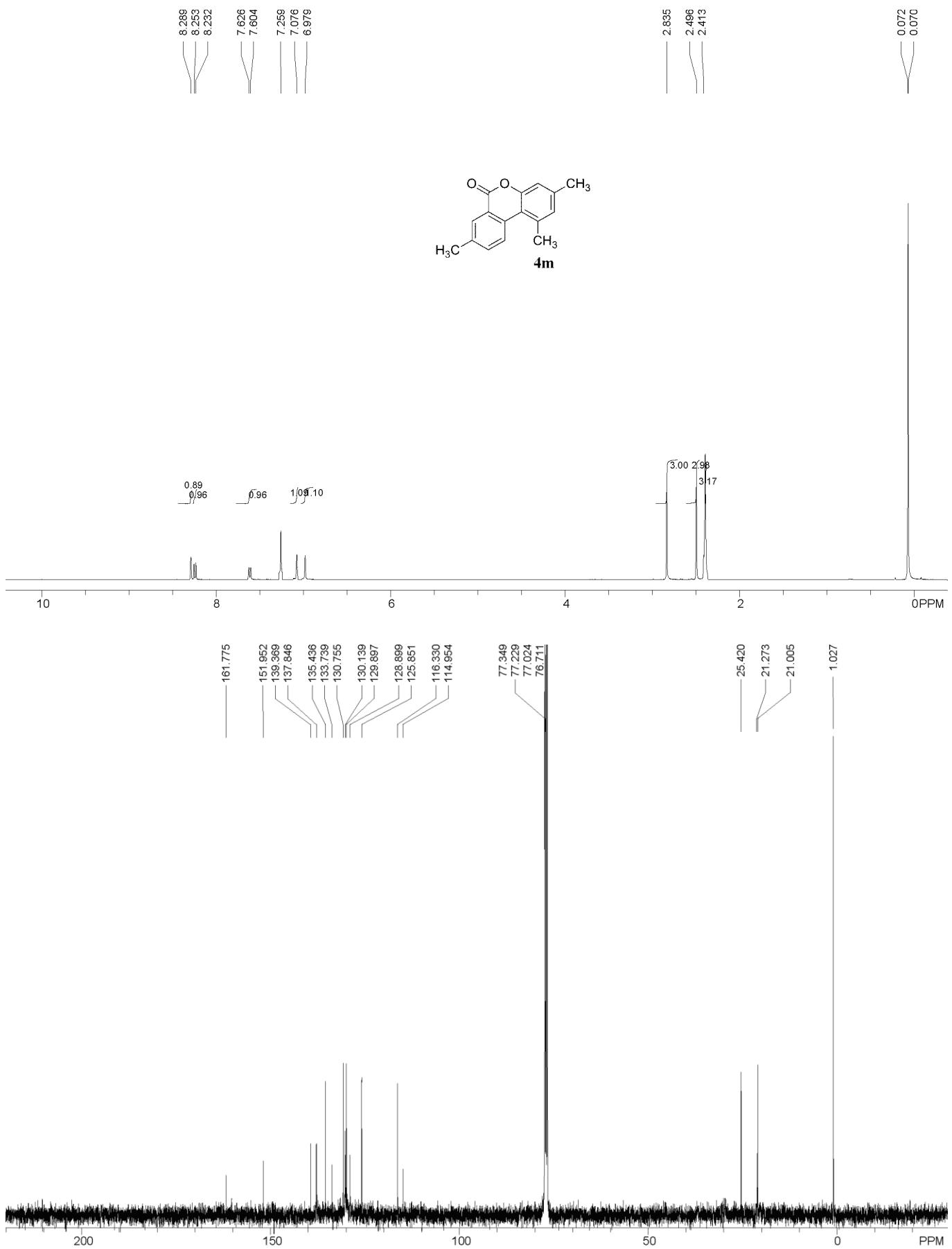


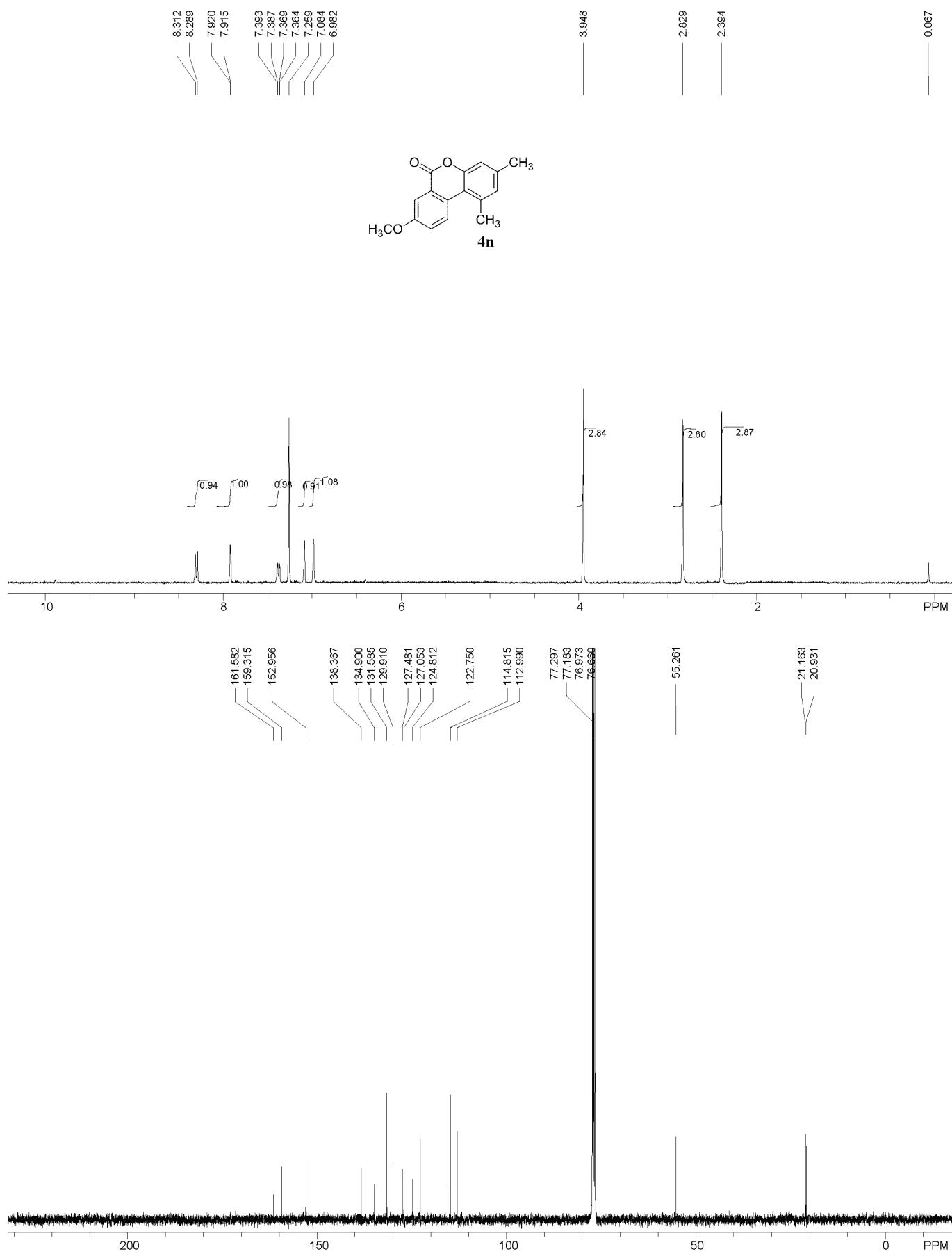


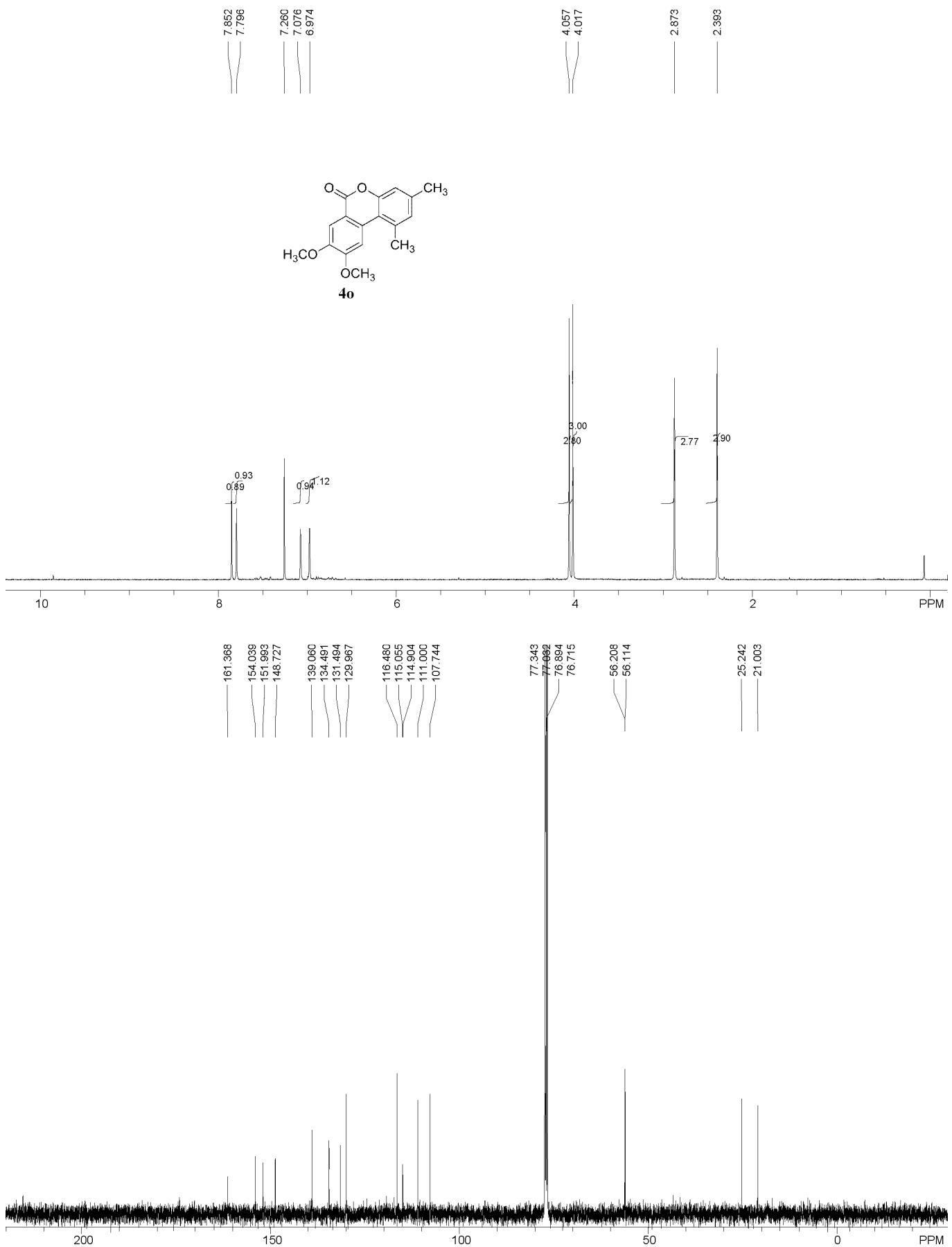


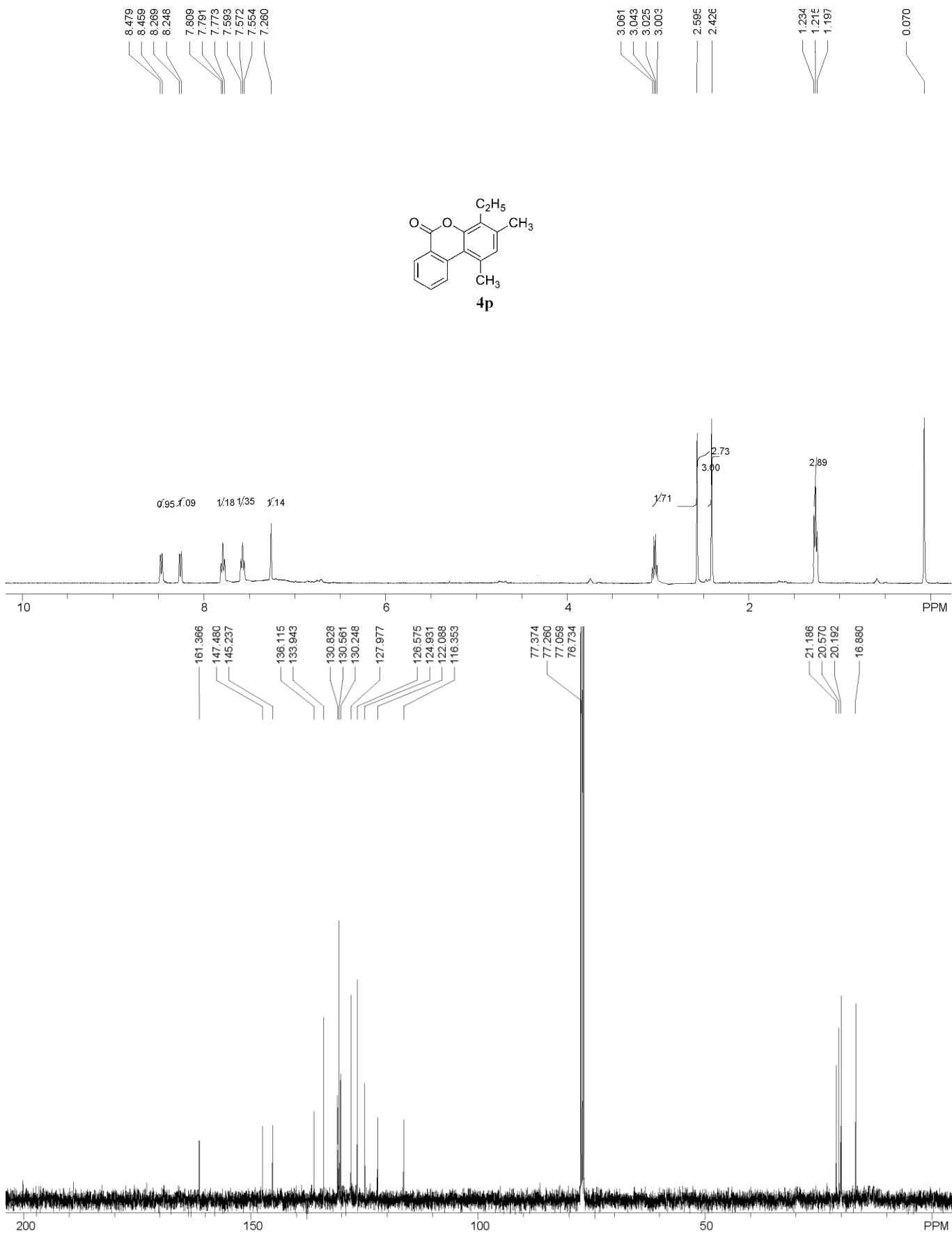


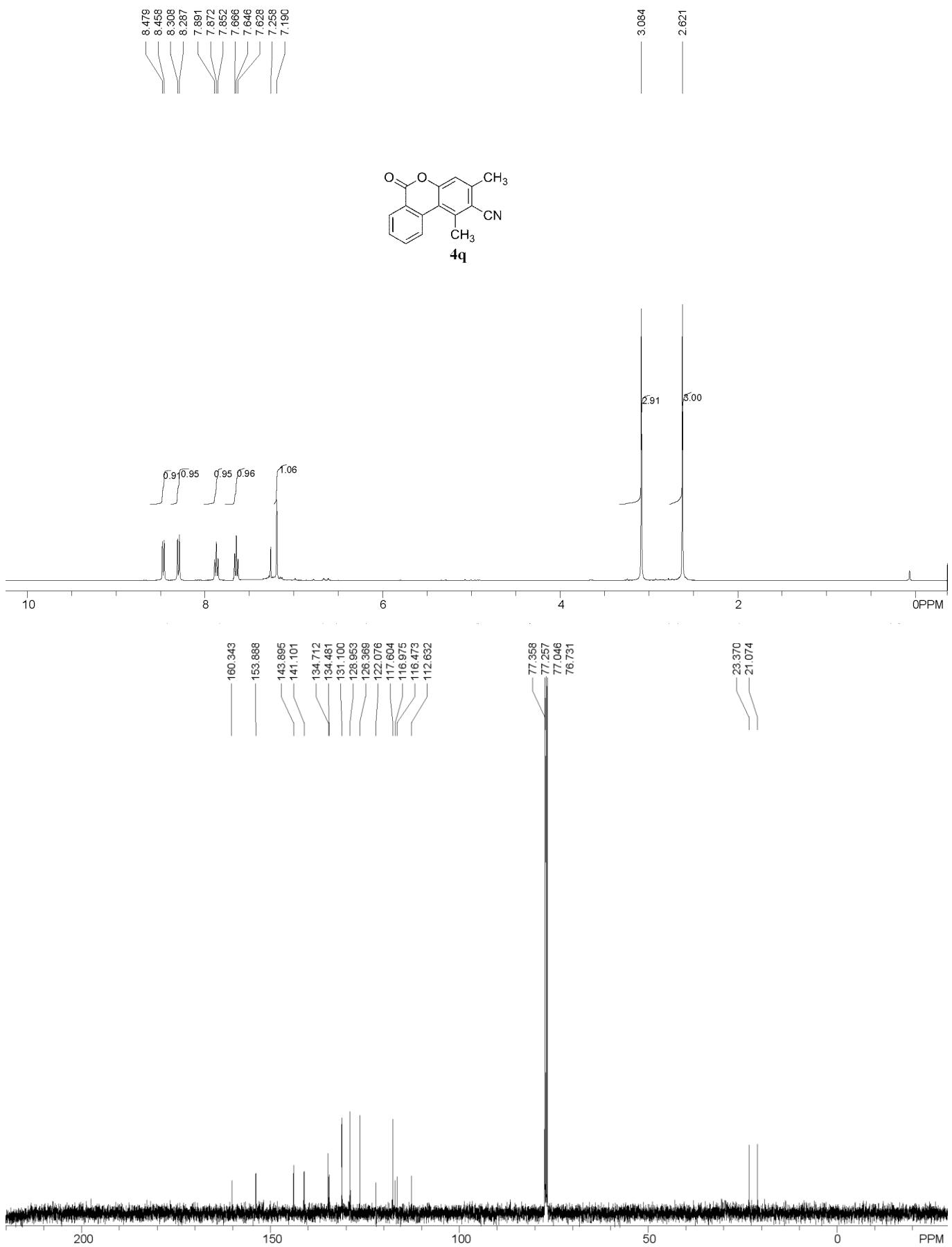


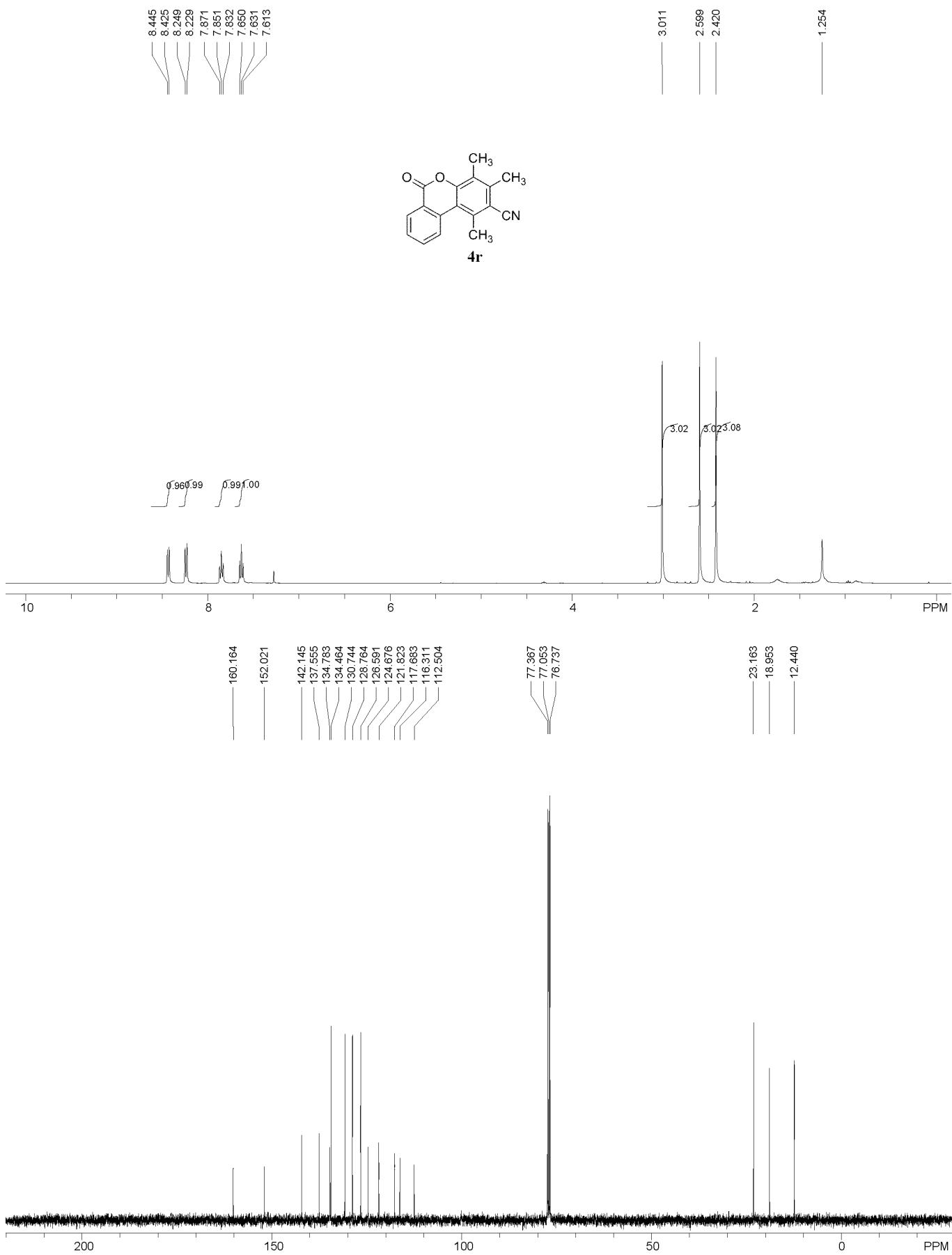












V. References

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