

Heterogeneous Carbon Nitrides Photocatalysis C-C Bond Oxidative Cleavage of Vicinal Diols in Aerobic Micellar Medium

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General Methods

All chemicals were commercially available and used without further purification. Analytical thin-layer chromatography was performed on glass plates precoated with silica gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm). The plates were visualized by exposure to ultraviolet light. ^1H NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker DRX (400 MHz) and ^{13}C NMR spectra on Bruker DRX (100 MHz) spectrometer. Mass spectra were taken on a Finnigan TSQ Quantum-MS instrument in the electrospray ionization (ESI) mode. X-ray diffraction (XRD) pattern was recorded with a diffractometer (Bruker D8 Advance) using Cu K α radiation. The catalysts were examined at room temperature at a range of 10–80° on 2 θ . The N $_2$ adsorption–desorption isotherms were measured using a Quantachrome Autosorb iQ instrument. UV–vis diffuse reflectance spectroscopy (UV–vis DRS) of the samples were measured using a UV-3600 plus spectrometer (Shimadzu, Japan) and the spectra were collected at 300–800nm using BaSO $_4$ as a reference.

Experimental Section

Table S1 Optimization of reaction conditions for internal 1,2-diols

Entry	Catalyst	solvent	Conv./%	Sel./% ^b
1	CN620 (20 mg)	CH $_3$ OH	87	70
2	CN620 (20 mg)	MeCN	82	73
3	CN620 (20 mg)	CH $_2$ Cl $_2$	32	57
4	CN620 (20 mg)	DMF	76	43
5	p-g-C $_3$ N $_4$ (20 mg)	CH $_3$ OH	88	55
6	Fe $_2$ O $_3$ @g-C $_3$ N $_4$ (20 mg)	CH $_3$ OH	78	50
7	CuO@g-C $_3$ N $_4$ (20 mg)	CH $_3$ OH	82	52
8	Acr $^+$ –Mes (2 mol%)	CH $_3$ OH	100	37
9	Eosin Y (2 mol%)	CH $_3$ OH	74	68
10	Ru(bpy) $_3$ Cl $_2$ (2 mol%)	CH $_3$ OH	40	100
11	Rhodamine B (2 mol%)	CH $_3$ OH	51	53
12	CN620 (20 mg)	H $_2$ O	8	75
13	CN620 (20 mg)	2wt% Brij L4/H $_2$ O	84	90
14	CN620 (20mg)	2wt% Brij O20/H $_2$ O	62	13
15	CN620 (20mg)	2wt% Brij C20/H $_2$ O	74	66
16	CN620 (20mg)	2wt% Brij SDS/H $_2$ O	66	47
17	CN620 (20mg)	2wt% CTAB/H $_2$ O	94	90
18	CN620 (20mg)	1wt% CTAB/H $_2$ O	92	77
19	CN620 (20mg)	4wt% CTAB/H $_2$ O	86	90
20	CN620 (30mg)	2wt% CTAB/H $_2$ O	95	79

21 ^c	CN620 (20mg)	2wt% CTAB/H ₂ O	84	85
22	p-g-C ₃ N ₄ (20 mg)	2wt% CTAB/H ₂ O	84	61
23	Fe ₂ O ₃ @g-C ₃ N ₄ (20 mg)	2wt% CTAB/H ₂ O	73	54
24	CuO@g-C ₃ N ₄ (20 mg)	2wt% CTAB/H ₂ O	80	63
25	Acr+-Mes (2 mol%)	2wt% CTAB/H ₂ O	Trace	-
26	Eosin Y (2 mol%)	2wt% CTAB/H ₂ O	Trace	-
27	Ru(bpy) ₃ Cl ₂ (2 mol%)	2wt% CTAB/H ₂ O	Trace	-
28	Rhodamine B (2 mol%)	2wt% CTAB/H ₂ O	Trace	-
29	NO	2wt% CTAB/H ₂ O	NR	NR
30 ^d	CN620 (20mg)	2wt% CTAB/H ₂ O	NR	NR

^a Reaction conditions: substrate **1a** (1 mmol), CN620 under Xe lamp (250 W) irradiation or homogeneous PC under blue LED (5W), at room temperature, solvent (3 mL), O₂ atmosphere, reaction for 5 hours. ^b Conversion and selectivity determined by HPLC. ^c reaction carried out at open air. ^d reaction without light.

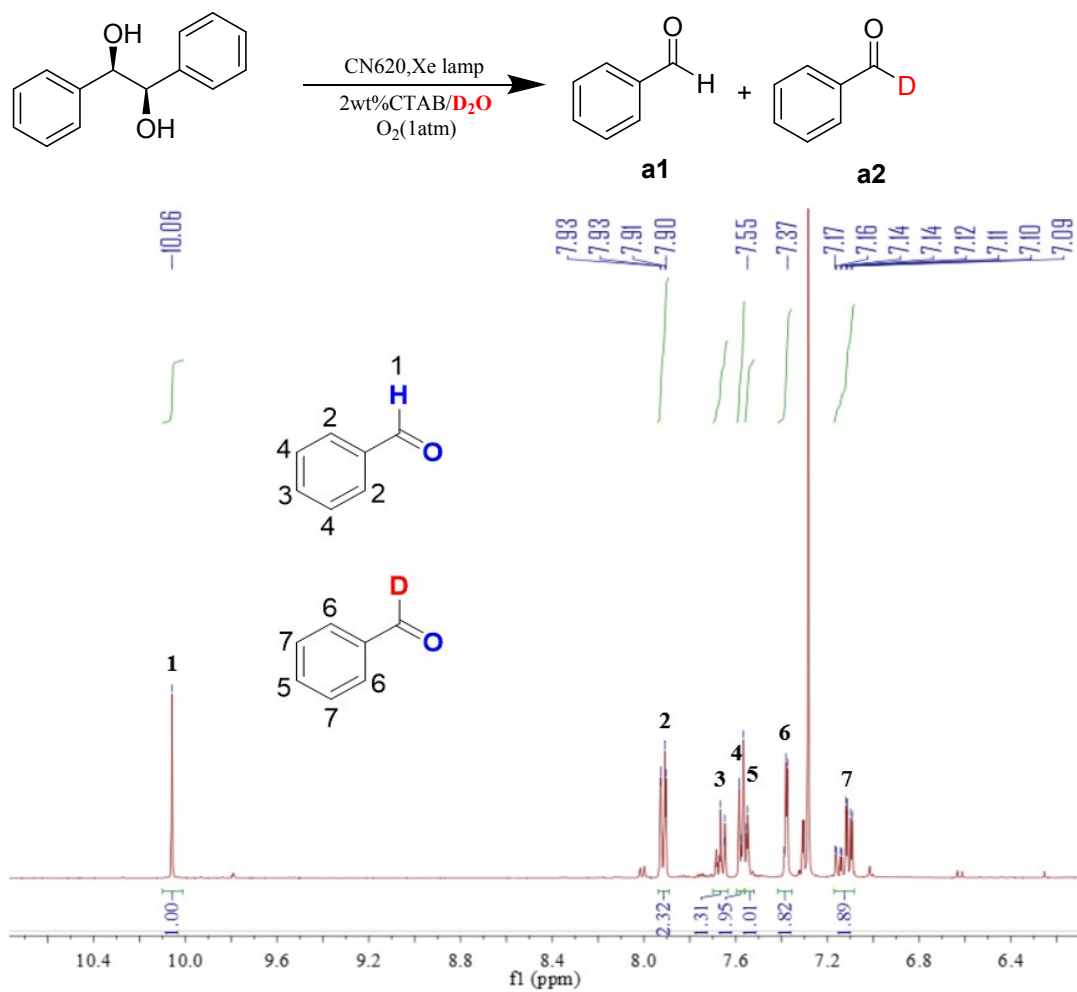
Table S2 Optimization of reaction conditions for monosubstituted 1,2-diols

c1ccccc1C(O)CO (3a) $\xrightarrow[\text{Surfactant/solvent, O}_2(1\text{atm})]{\text{CN620, Xe lamp}}$ c1ccccc1C(=O)O (2a)

Entry	Base (eq)	Surfactant/solvent	Conversion/%	Yield(%) ^b
1	—	CH ₃ CN: H ₂ O(1:1)	83	37
2	Na ₂ CO ₃ (2)	CH ₃ CN: H ₂ O(1:1)	71	68
3	NaHCO ₃ (2)	CH ₃ CN: H ₂ O(1:1)	37	37
4	CaCO ₃ (2)	CH ₃ CN: H ₂ O(1:1)	58	21
5	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2)	CH ₃ CN: H ₂ O(1:1)	46	43
6	Na ₂ CO ₃ (1)	CH ₃ CN: H ₂ O(1:1)	53	42
7	Na ₂ CO ₃ (4)	CH ₃ CN: H ₂ O(1:1)	36	12
8	Na ₂ CO ₃ (4)	H ₂ O	Trace	Trace
9	Na ₂ CO ₃ (2)	2wt%CTAB/H ₂ O	78	78
10	Na ₂ CO ₃ (2)	2wt%Brij L4/H ₂ O	88	88
11	Na ₂ CO ₃ (2)	2WT% Brij C20/H ₂ O	68	72
12	Na ₂ CO ₃ (2)	2WT% Brij SDS/H ₂ O	65	63

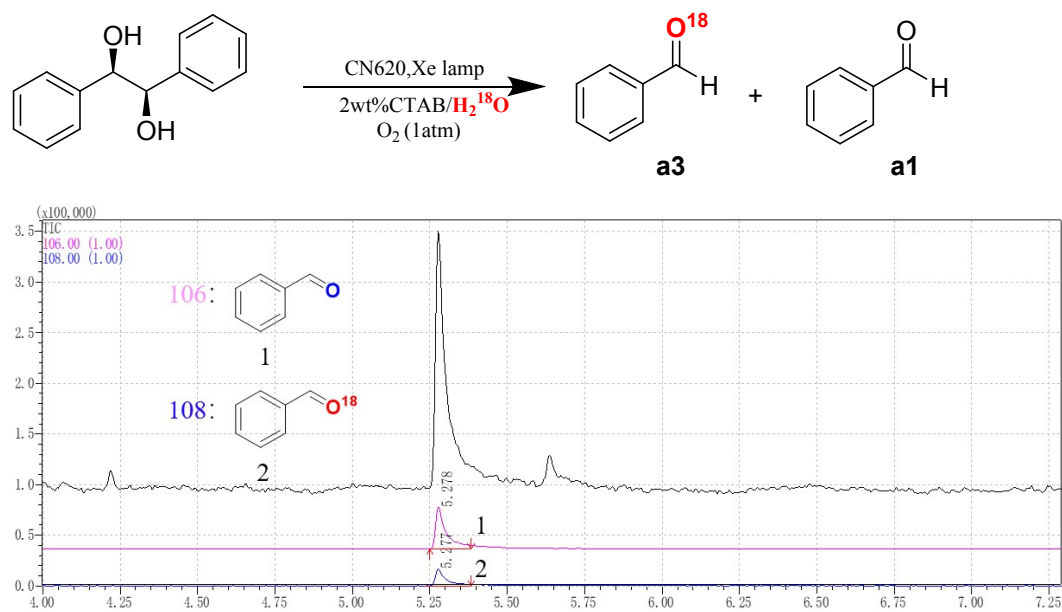
^a Reaction conditions: 1-Phenyl-1,2-ethanediol (1mmol), CN620 (20 mg), solvent (3 mL), the reaction filled with oxygen (1 atm), at room temperature, Xe lamp (250 W), 5 h irradiation. ^b Conversion and yield determined by HPLC. ^c reaction carried out at open air. ^d reaction without light.

The D₂O isotope experiment.



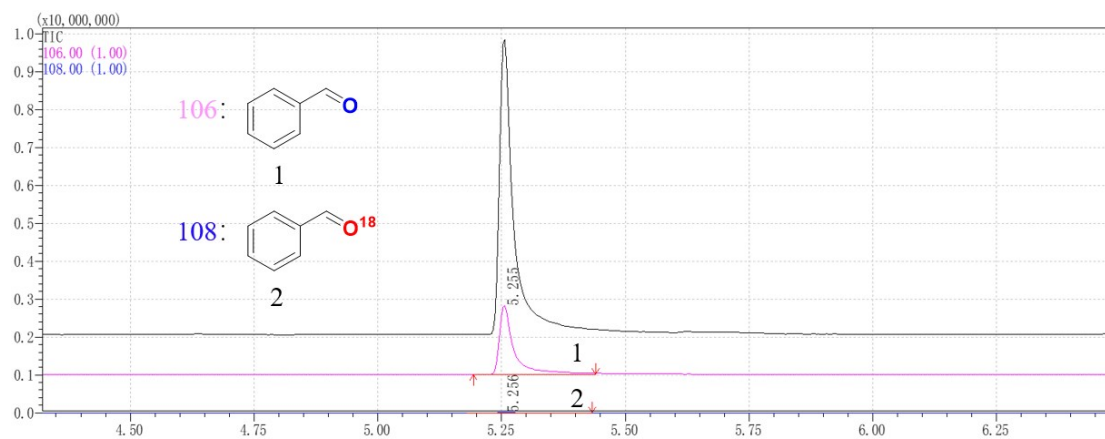
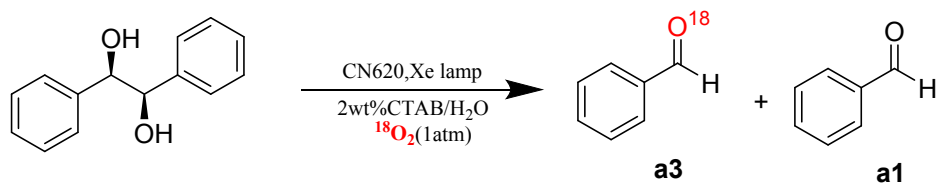
Sa1:Sa2≈1:1.1

The H₂O¹⁸ isotope experiment.



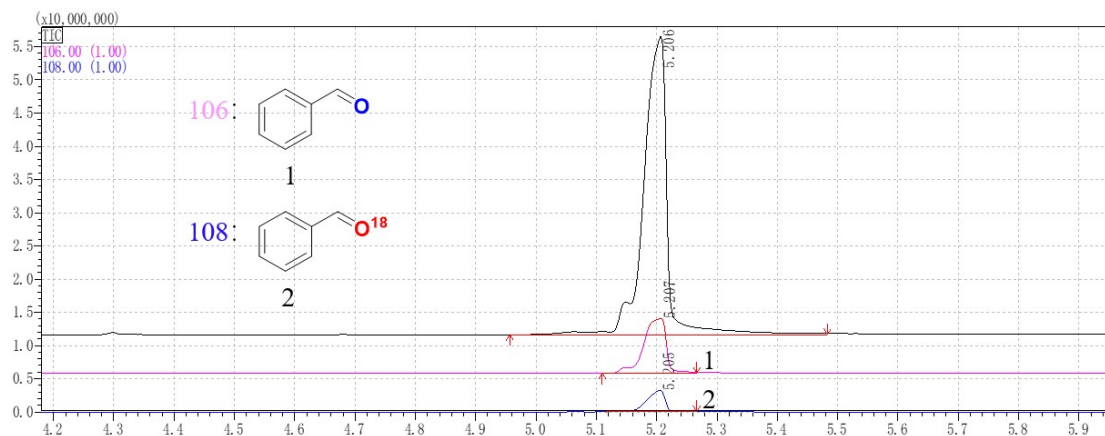
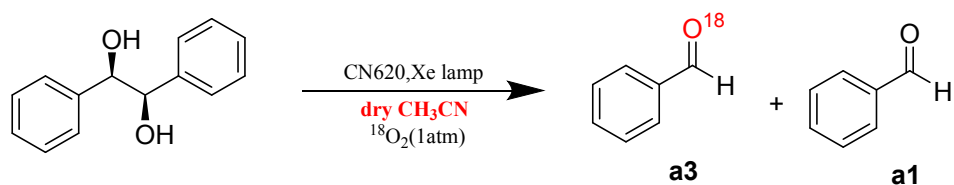
Sa3:Sa1=40282:103381≈1:2.57

The O₂¹⁸ isotope experiment.



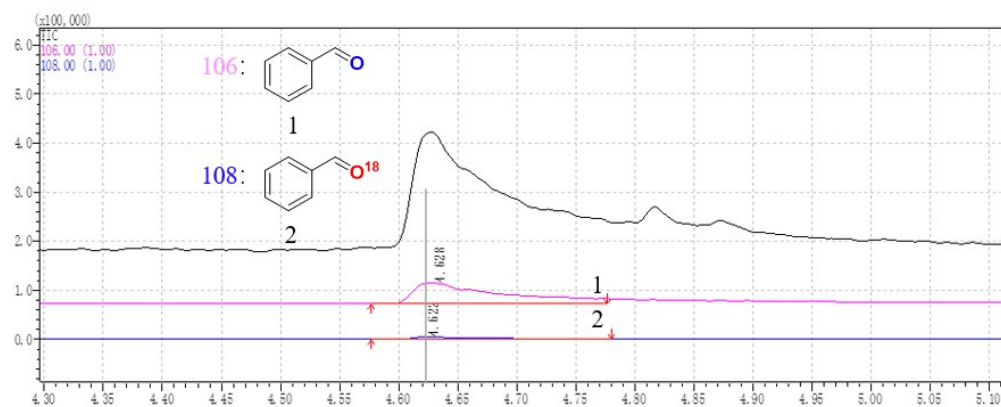
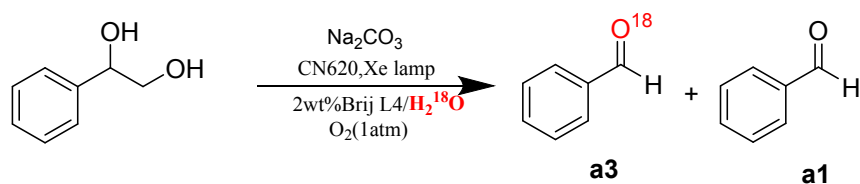
Sa3:Sa1=23496:3752891≈1:159.72

The O₂¹⁸ isotope experiment in dry CH₃CN.



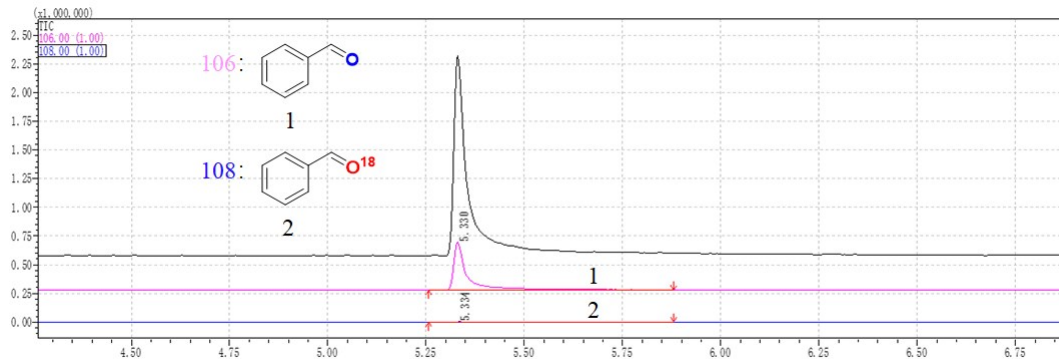
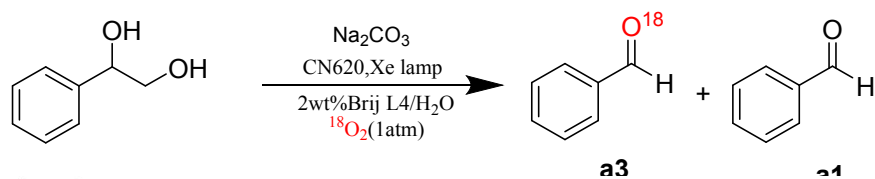
Sa3:Sa1=6925663:21078363≈1:3.04

The H₂O¹⁸ isotope experiment.

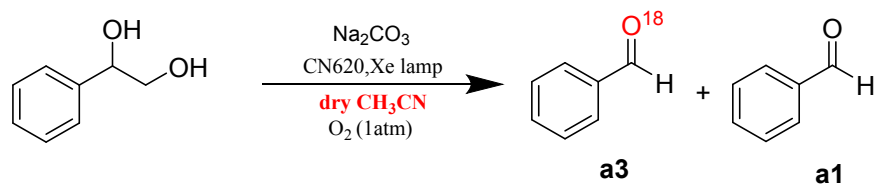


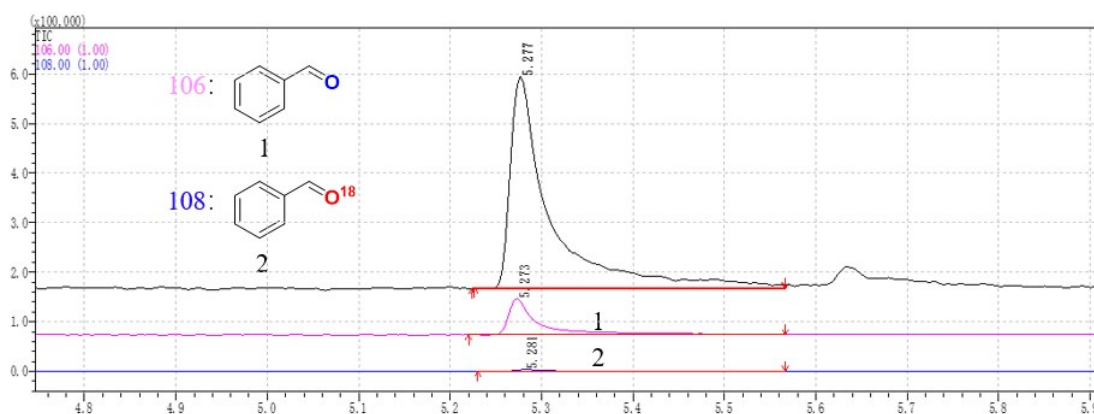
Sa3:Sa1=24237:228890≈1:9.44

The O₂¹⁸ isotope experiment.



Sa3:Sa1=11144:2108853≈1:189.2





Sa3:Sa1=11982:177455≈1:14.81

Synthesis of CN620¹:

5g of dicyandiamide was put into a covered crucible, heated to 500°C at a ramp rate of 5°C min⁻¹ in a tube furnace under air condition and then maintained at this temperature for additional 4h, noted as CN. 1g of CN was put into a crucible, heated to 620°C at a ramp rate of 5°C min⁻¹ in a tube furnace under N₂ condition, respectively, and maintained at the corresponding temperature for 2h.

Representative procedure for oxidative cleavage of (R, R)-hydrobenzoin to Benzaldehyde:

A 25 mL reaction vessel with a magnetic stirring bar was equipped with (R, R)-hydrobenzoin (1 mmol), CN620 (20 mg), CTAB (60mg) and distilled water (3 mL). The mixture was irradiated with a Xe lamp (250 W) and stirred at r.t. in an oxygen atmosphere for 5 h. The distance of the reaction vial from the light is about 10 centimeters. After the reaction, the solvent was extracted with EtOAc (3×10mL). The extracted solution was dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the crude product was achieved by flash column chromatography using petrol ether/ethyl acetate (5:1~10:1) as eluent.

Representative procedure for oxidative cleavage of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol to benzaldehyde:

A 25 mL reaction vessel with a magnetic stirring bar was equipped with benzaldehyde (1 mmol), CN620 (20 mg), Na₂CO₃ (2 mmol), Brij L4 (60mg) and distilled water (3 mL). The mixture was irradiated with a Xe lamp (250 W) and stirred at r.t. in an oxygen atmosphere for 5 h. The distance of the reaction vial from the light is about 10 centimeters. After the reaction, the solvent was extracted with EtOAc (3×10mL). The extracted solution was dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the crude product was achieved by flash column chromatography using petrol ether/ethyl acetate (5:1~10:1) as eluent.

Representative procedure for photocatalyst recycling

A 25 mL reaction vessel with a magnetic stirring bar was equipped with (R, R)-hydrobenzoin (1 mmol), CN620 (20 mg), CTAB (60mg) and distilled water (3 mL). The mixture was irradiated with a Xe lamp (250 W) and stirred at r.t. in an oxygen atmosphere for 5 h. The distance of the reaction vial from the light is about 10 centimeters. Once the reaction was finished, the solvent was extracted with EtOAc (3×6mL). The extracted solution was tested by HPLC. Then another (R, R)-

hydrobenzoin (1 mmol) was added in the separated aqueous medium without fresh portion of surfactant or catalyst for recycle reaction.

Characterization data

Characterization of the catalyst

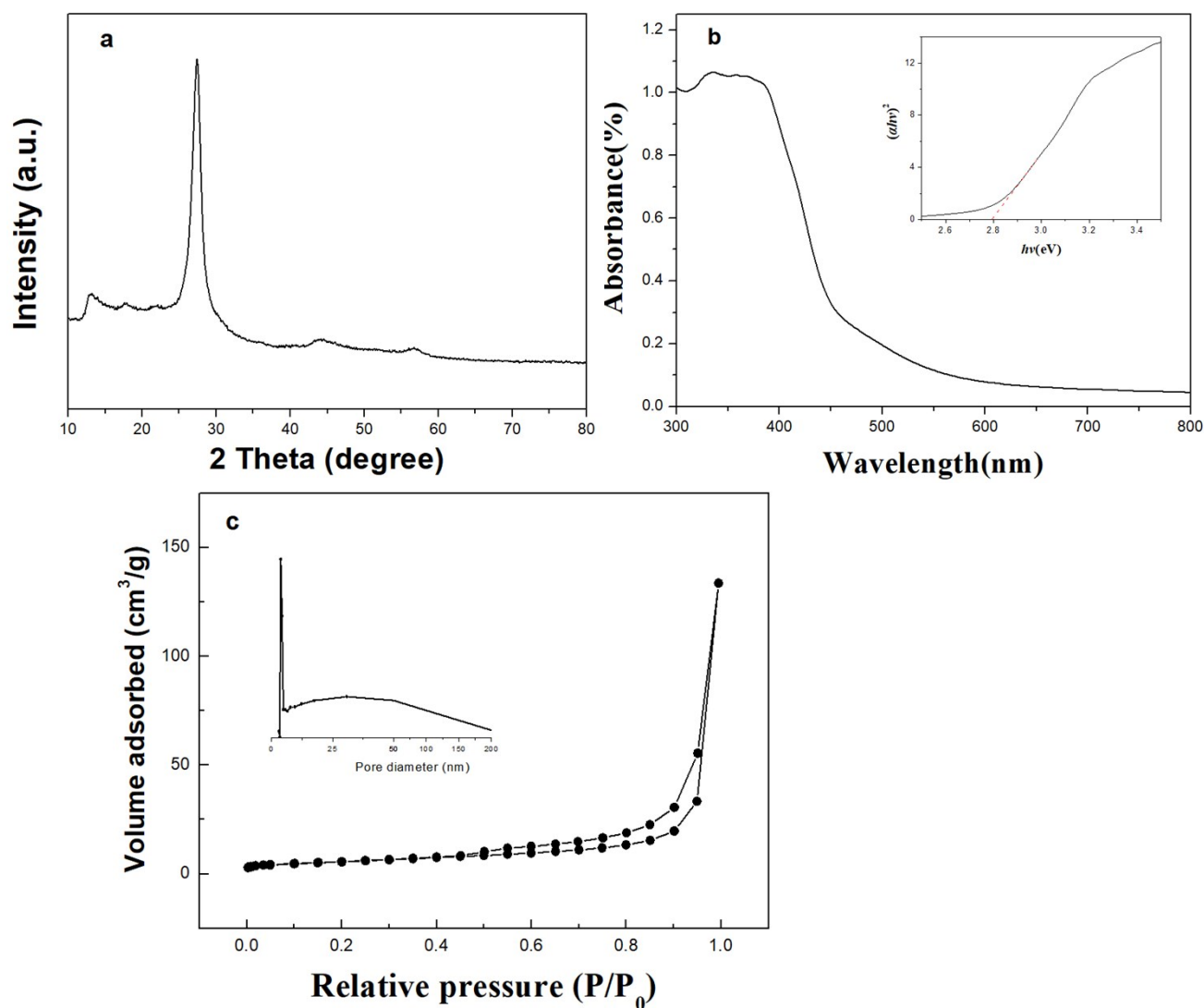


Figure S1. (a) XRD patterns and (b) diffuse reflectance UV-vis spectra (c) Nitrogen adsorption–desorption isotherms and Barret-Joyner-Halenda (BJH) pore size distribution plots (inset) of CN620.

The XRD patterns of CN620 show two diffraction peaks at 13.2° and 27.4°, which correspond to the (100) and (002) crystal planes of the graphitic carbon nitride, respectively. Figure S1 (b) shows UV–vis diffuse reflectance spectra (DRS) and calculated bandgaps for CN620 samples. The calculated band gaps were approximately 2.79 eV for CN620. The Brunauer-Emmett-Teller (BET) specific surface areas of CN620 were calculated to be 19.961 m²g⁻¹.

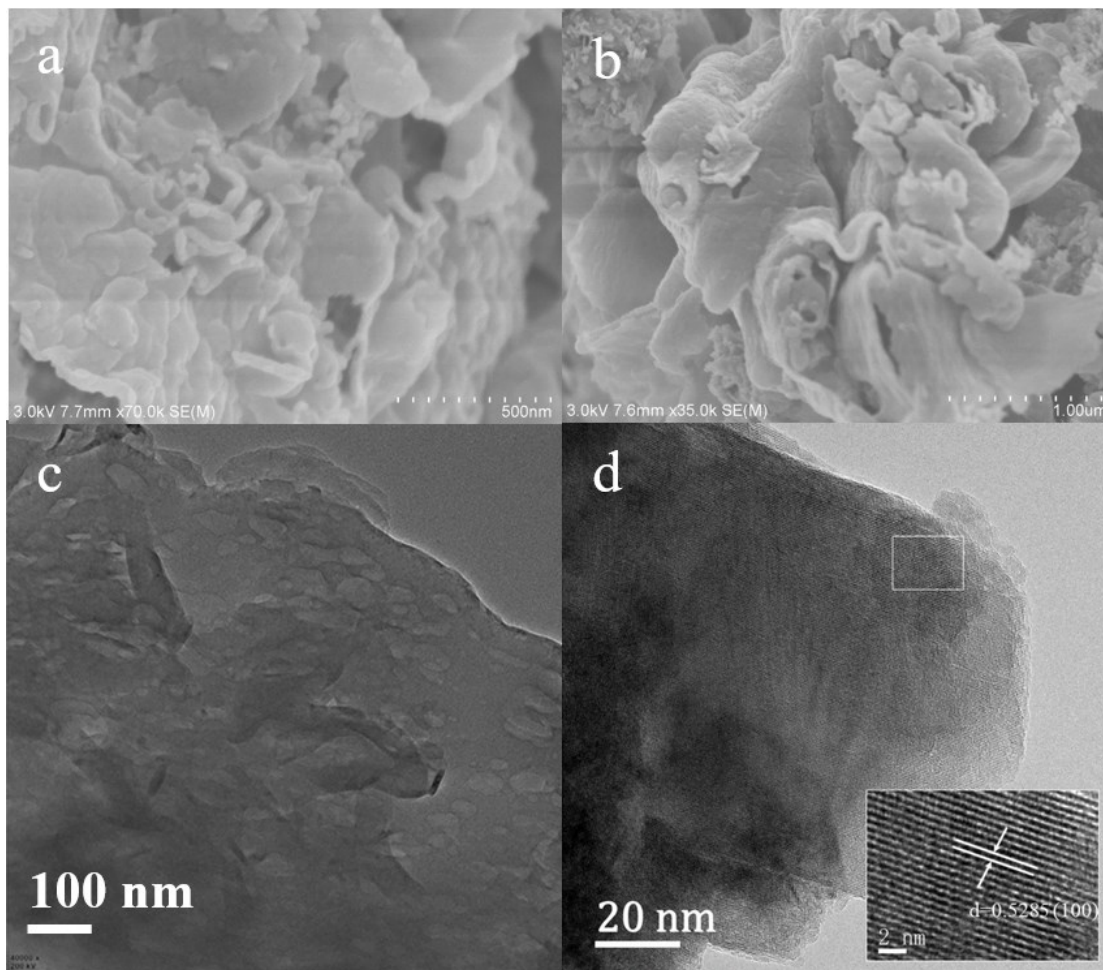


Figure S2. (a,b) SEM, (c) TEM and (d) HRTEM image of CN620.

The morphology of the sample was observed by scanning electron microscope (SEM) and transmission electron microscope (TEM). SEM and TEM spectra show that CN620 has a lamellar stacking structure, and some crack holes are generated while stacking. The high-resolution TEM image reveals well-defined lattice fringes with an interplanar spacing of 0.5285 nm, corresponding to the (100) plane of CN620.

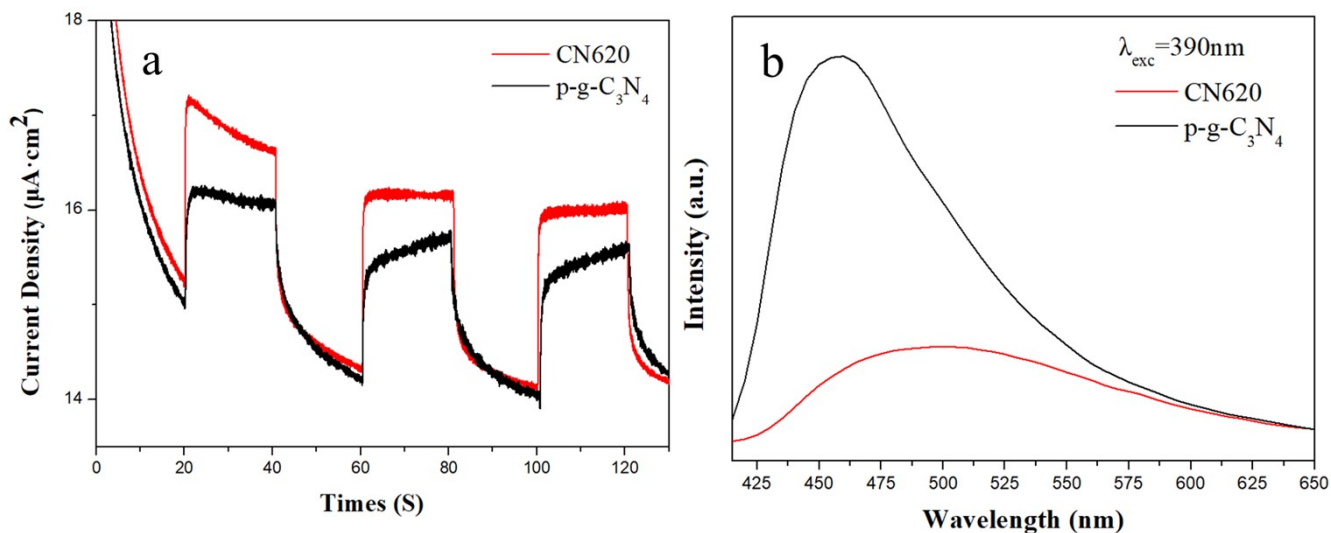


Figure S3. (a) Photocurrent responses and (b) PL emission spectra of CN620.

To prove the positive impact of nitrogen vacancies on separation and transportation of photogenerated electron-hole pairs under irradiation, the periodic on/off photocurrent response was measured over the samples. CN620 enhancement in photocurrent response as compared to p-g-C₃N₄. The charge separation efficiency was also investigated by photoluminescence spectra (PL) at an excitation wavelength of 390 nm. From p-g-C₃N₄ to CN620, the PL intensity is significantly reduced, which indicates that the reorganization of the photogenerated electron-hole pairs of CN620 is reduced compared to p-g-C₃N₄.

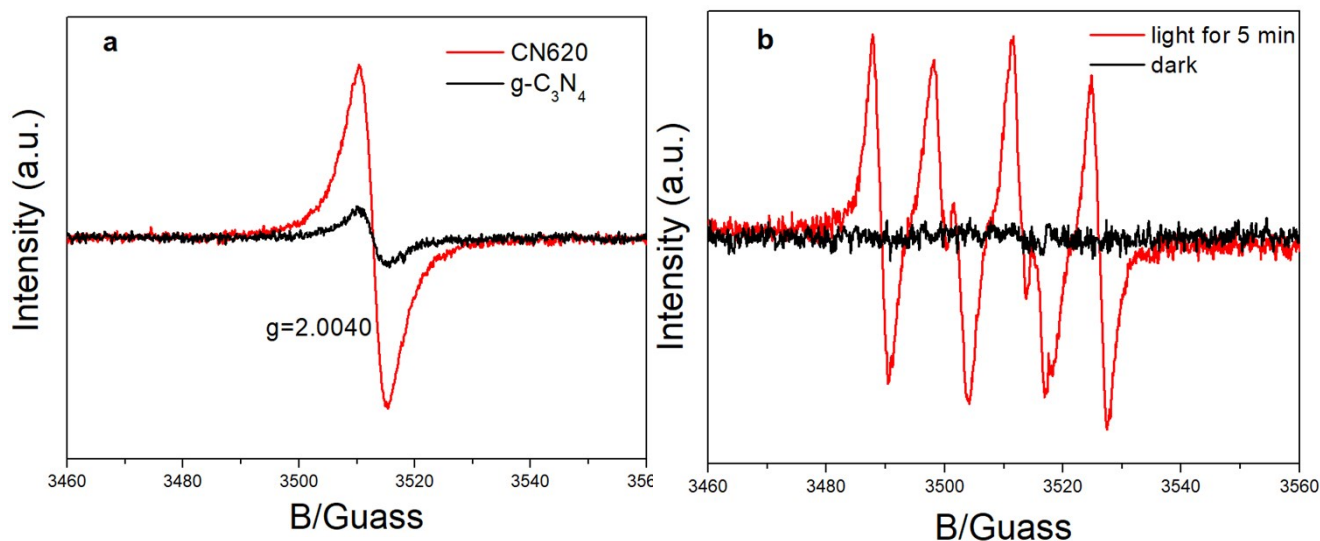


Figure S4. (a) EPR spectra of CN620 and g-C₃N₄. (b) ESR measurement for ·O₂⁻ over CN620 composite.

The electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) spectroscopy can provide fingerprint evidence for probing the surface vacancies in semiconductor photocatalysts.² As shown in Figure S4 (a), the EPR signal strength of CN620 is significantly higher than that of g-C₃N₄, revealing the increase of nitrogen vacancies generated in CN620. Figure S4 (b) shows, superoxide radical was detected by electron paramagnetic resonance (ESR).³

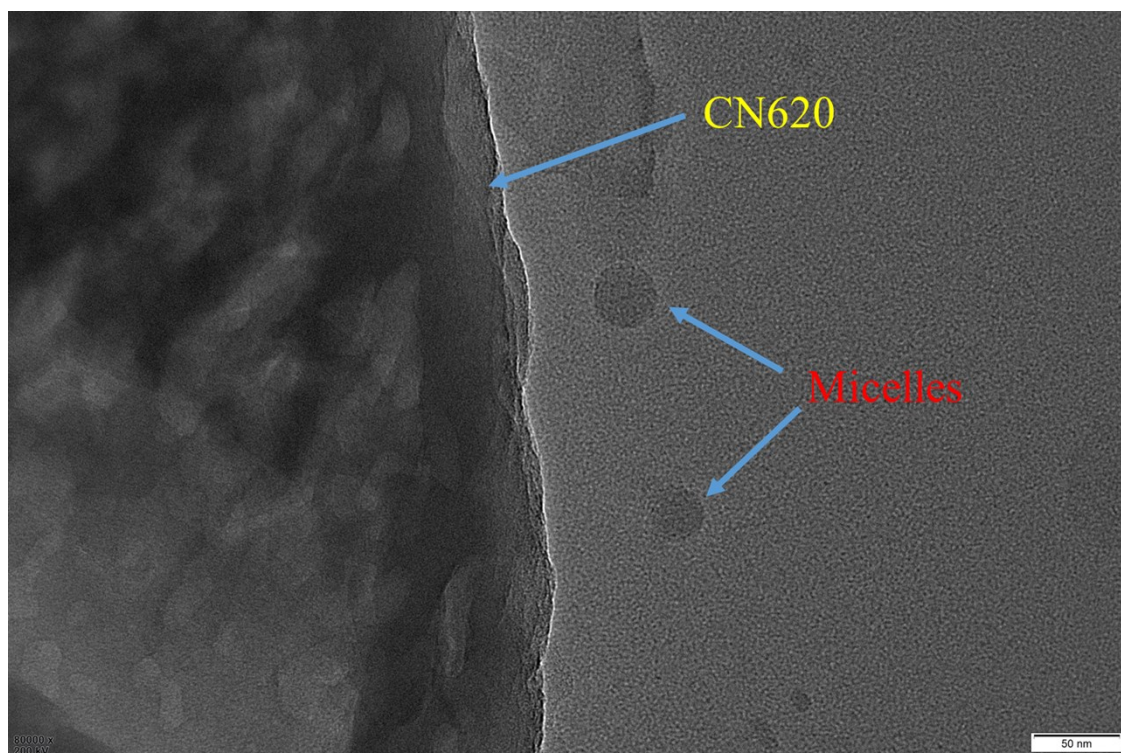


Figure S5. TEM images of CN620 and CTAB mixed solution

As can be seen from TEM, the nature of the micelles formed by CTAB was found to be spherical in shape. TEM also revealed that the micelle size distribution of CTAB aqueous solution is within 50 nm and CN620 is much larger than the micelle size. Therefore, the micelle is probably on the surface of the catalyst rather than the catalyst in the micelle.

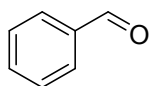


Figure S6. The photograph of outdoor equipment of sunlight-driven.

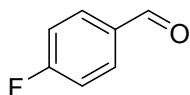
References

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- 2 W. Tu, Y. Xu, J. Wang, B. Zhang, T. Zhou, S. Yin, S. Wu, C. Li, Y. Huang, Y. Zhou, Z. Zou, J. Robertson, M. Kraft and R. Xu, *ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.*, 2017, **5**, 7260-7268.
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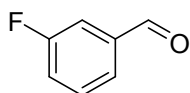
NMR data for characteristic compounds



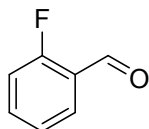
Benzaldehyde (**2a**). Colorless liquid (159mg, 75%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.03 (s, 1H), 7.97 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.70 – 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 192.4, 136.4, 134.5, 129.7, 129.0. ESI-MS: m/z = 107 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



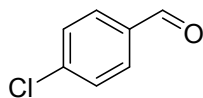
4-Fluorobenzaldehyde (**2b**). Colorless liquid (174mg, 70%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.98 (s, 1H), 8.02 – 7.82 (m, 2H), 7.22 (dd, J = 11.9, 5.2 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 190.5, 167.8, 133.0, 133.0, 132.3, 132.2, 116.5, 116.2. ESI-MS: m/z = 125 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



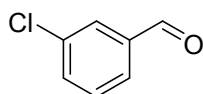
3-Fluorobenzaldehyde (**2c**). Colorless liquid (166mg, 67%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.01 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dt, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.35 (tdd, J = 8.3, 2.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 190.9, 190.9, 164.3, 161.9, 138.4, 138.4, 130.8, 130.8, 126.1, 126.1, 121.7, 121.5, 115.4, 115.2. ESI-MS: m/z = 125 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



2-Fluorobenzaldehyde (**2d**). Colorless liquid (184mg, 74%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.37 (d, J = 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.93 – 7.82 (m, 1H), 7.61 (dddd, J = 8.4, 7.3, 5.4, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.18 (ddd, J = 10.4, 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 187.3, 187.2, 166.0, 163.4, 136.4, 136.3, 128.7, 128.7, 124.7, 124.6, 116.6, 116.4. ESI-MS: m/z = 125 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.

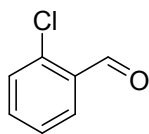


4-Chlorobenzaldehyde (**2e**). Colorless solid (204mg, 73%); m.p. 48°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.00 (s, 1H), 7.89 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.49 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.3, 144.6, 140.1, 136.4, 134.5. ESI-MS: m/z = 141 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.

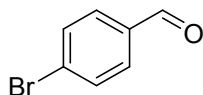


3-Chlorobenzaldehyde (**2f**). Colorless liquid (207mg, 74%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.98 (s, 1H), 7.85 (t, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dt, J = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (ddd, J = 8.0, 2.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)

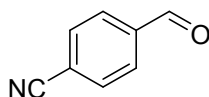
δ 190.8, 137.8, 135.4, 134.4, 130.4, 129.3, 128.0. ESI-MS: m/z =141 $[M+1]^+$.



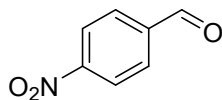
2-Chlorobenzaldehyde (**2g**). Colorless liquid (182mg, 65%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.48 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (ddd, J = 8.1, 7.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 189.7, 137.9, 135.1, 132.5, 130.6, 129.4, 127.3. ESI-MS: m/z =141 $[M+1]^+$.



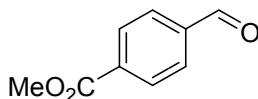
4-Bromobenzaldehyde (**2h**). Colorless solid (313mg, 85%); m.p. 55-58°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.00 (s, 1H), 7.82 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 7.74 – 7.67 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 191.0, 135.1, 132.4, 131.0, 129.7. ESI-MS: m/z =185 $[M+1]^+$.



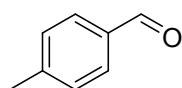
4-Formylbenzonitrile (**2i**). White crystalline Powder (228mg, 87%); m.p. 100-102°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.10 (s, 1H), 8.04 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.90 – 7.81 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 190.7, 138.7, 132.9, 129.9, 117.7, 117.6. ESI-MS: m/z =132 $[M+1]^+$.



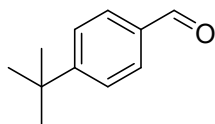
4-Nitrobenzaldehyde (**2j**). Yellow powder (269mg, 89%); m.p. 103-106°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.18 (s, 1H), 8.41 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 8.10 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 190.3, 151.1, 140.1, 130.5, 124.3. ESI-MS: m/z =152 $[M+1]^+$.



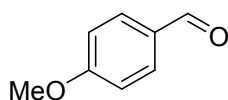
Methyl 4-formylbenzoate (**2k**). White solid (207mg, 63%); m.p. 59-63°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.10 (s, 1H), 8.19 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 8.01 – 7.89 (m, 2H), 3.96 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 191.6, 166.0, 139.2, 135.1, 130.2, 129.5, 52.5. ESI-MS: m/z =165 $[M+1]^+$.



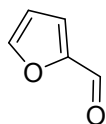
4-Methylbenzaldehyde (**2l**). Colorless liquid (161mg, 67%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.96 (s, 1H), 7.86 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 192.0, 145.5, 134.2, 130.2, 129.8, 129.7, 129.2, 21.8. ESI-MS: m/z =121 $[M+1]^+$.



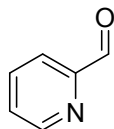
4-(Tert-butyl)benzaldehyde (**2m**). Faint yellow liquid (204mg, 63%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.01 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 1.38 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 192.0, 158.4, 134.1, 129.7, 126.0, 35.4, 31.1. ESI-MS: $m/z = 163$ $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



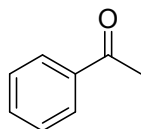
4-Methoxybenzaldehyde (**2n**). Colorless liquid (95mg, 35%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.89 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 190.8, 164.6, 132.0, 130.0, 114.3, 55.6. ESI-MS: $m/z = 137$ $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



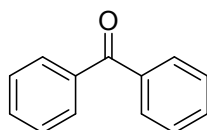
Furan-2-carbaldehyde (**2o**). Brown liquid (159mg, 86%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.62 (d, $J = 0.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.23 (dd, $J = 3.6, 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.58 (dd, $J = 3.6, 1.7$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 177.9, 152.9, 148.1, 121.2, 112.6. ESI-MS: $m/z = 97$ $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



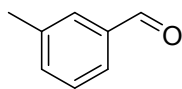
Picolinaldehyde (**2p**). Brown liquid (178mg, 83%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.01 (d, $J = 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.72 (ddd, $J = 4.8, 1.5, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.94 – 7.85 (m, 1H), 7.82 (tdd, $J = 7.8, 1.6, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 (ddd, $J = 7.5, 4.8, 1.4$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 193.3, 152.7, 150.2, 137.0, 127.8, 121.6. ESI-MS: $m/z = 108$ $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



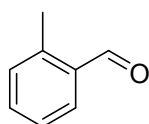
Acetophenone (**2q**). Colorless liquid (199mg, 83%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.02 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 2.62 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 184.4, 140.6, 132.9, 132.2, 128.6, 127.7, 127.1, 32.5. ESI-MS: $m/z = 121$ $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



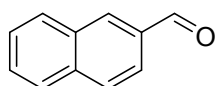
Benzophenone (**2r**). White solid (313mg, 86%); m.p. 47-51°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 – 7.79 (m, 4H), 7.67 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.46 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.8, 137.6, 132.4, 130.1, 128.3. ESI-MS: m/z =183 [M+1]⁺.



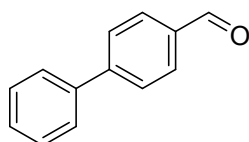
3-Methylbenzaldehyde (**4a**). Colorless liquid (95mg, 79%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.01 (s, 1H), 7.70 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.54 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.6, 138.9, 136.5, 135.3, 130.0, 128.9, 127.2, 21.2. ESI-MS: m/z =121 [M+1]⁺.



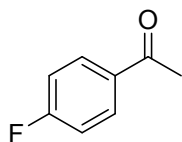
2-Methylbenzaldehyde (**4b**). Colorless liquid (88mg, 73%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.27 (s, 1H), 7.80 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.8, 140.6, 134.1, 133.7, 132.1, 131.8, 126.3, 19.6. ESI-MS: m/z =121 [M+1]⁺.



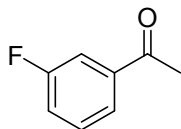
2-Naphthaldehyde (**4c**). Off-white to yellow solid (125mg, 80%); m.p. 58-61°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.19 (s, 1H), 8.37 (s, 1H), 8.10 – 7.89 (m, 4H), 7.65 (dddd, *J* = 22.8, 8.1, 6.9, 1.3 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.3, 136.5, 134.6, 134.1, 132.7, 129.5, 129.1, 129.1, 128.1, 127.1, 122.8. ESI-MS: m/z =157 [M+1]⁺.



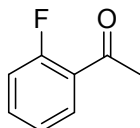
[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-carbaldehyde (**4d**). Colorless solid (133mg, 73%); m.p. 57-59°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.08 (s, 1H), 8.02 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.83 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 7.71 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.42 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 191.9, 147.2, 139.7, 135.2, 130.3, 129.1, 128.5, 127.7, 127.4. ESI-MS: m/z =183[M+1]⁺.



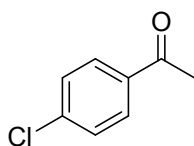
1-(4-Fluorophenyl)ethan-1-one (**4e**). Colorless liquid (89mg, 64%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 7.20 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 2.55 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.4, 167.0, 164.5, 133.6, 133.6, 131.0, 130.9, 115.7, 115.5, 26.5. ESI-MS: m/z =139 [M+1]⁺.



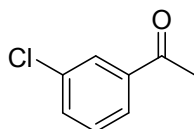
1-(3-Fluorophenyl)ethan-1-one (**4f**). Colorless liquid (86mg, 62%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.75 – 7.69 (m, 1H), 7.62 (ddd, J = 9.5, 2.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (td, J = 8.0, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 2.59 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.7, 196.6, 164.1, 161.6, 139.2, 139.2, 130.3, 130.2, 124.1, 124.1, 120.2, 119.9, 115.0, 114.8, 26.6. ESI-MS: m/z = 139 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



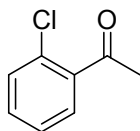
1-(2-Fluorophenyl)ethan-1-one (**4g**). Colorless liquid (70mg, 51%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.86 (td, J = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dddd, J = 8.3, 7.1, 5.0, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 7.12 (ddd, J = 11.2, 8.3, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 195.8, 195.8, 163.5, 160.9, 134.7, 134.6, 130.6, 130.5, 125.8, 125.7, 124.4, 124.3, 116.7, 116.5, 31.4, 31.3. ESI-MS: m/z = 139 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



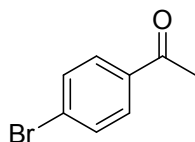
1-(4-Chlorophenyl)ethan-1-one (**4h**). Colorless liquid (108mg, 70%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.01 – 7.82 (m, 2H), 7.57 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 2.62 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.8, 139.6, 135.5, 129.7, 128.9, 26.5. ESI-MS: m/z = 155 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



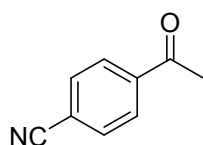
1-(3-Chlorophenyl)ethan-1-one (**4i**). Faint yellow liquid (103mg, 67%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.92 (t, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.80 (m, 1H), 7.53 (ddd, J = 8.0, 2.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.6, 138.6, 134.9, 133.0, 129.9, 128.4, 126.4, 26.6. ESI-MS: m/z = 155 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



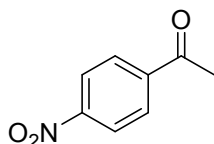
1-(2-Chlorophenyl)ethan-1-one (**4j**). Colorless liquid (72mg, 47%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.58 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.45 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 2.65 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 200.4, 139.2, 132.0, 131.3, 130.6, 129.4, 126.9, 30.7. ESI-MS: m/z = 155 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



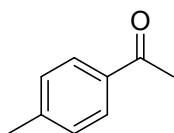
1-(4-Bromophenyl)ethan-1-one (**4k**). Colorless solid (123mg, 62%); m.p. 108-110°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.87 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.0, 135.8, 131.9, 129.8, 128.3, 26.5. ESI-MS: m/z =199 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



4-Acetylbenzonitrile (**4l**). Faint yellow crystalline powder (101mg, 70%); m.p. 56-59°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.17 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.76 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 2.63 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.5, 139.9, 132.5, 128.7, 117.9, 116.4, 26.7. ESI-MS: m/z =146 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



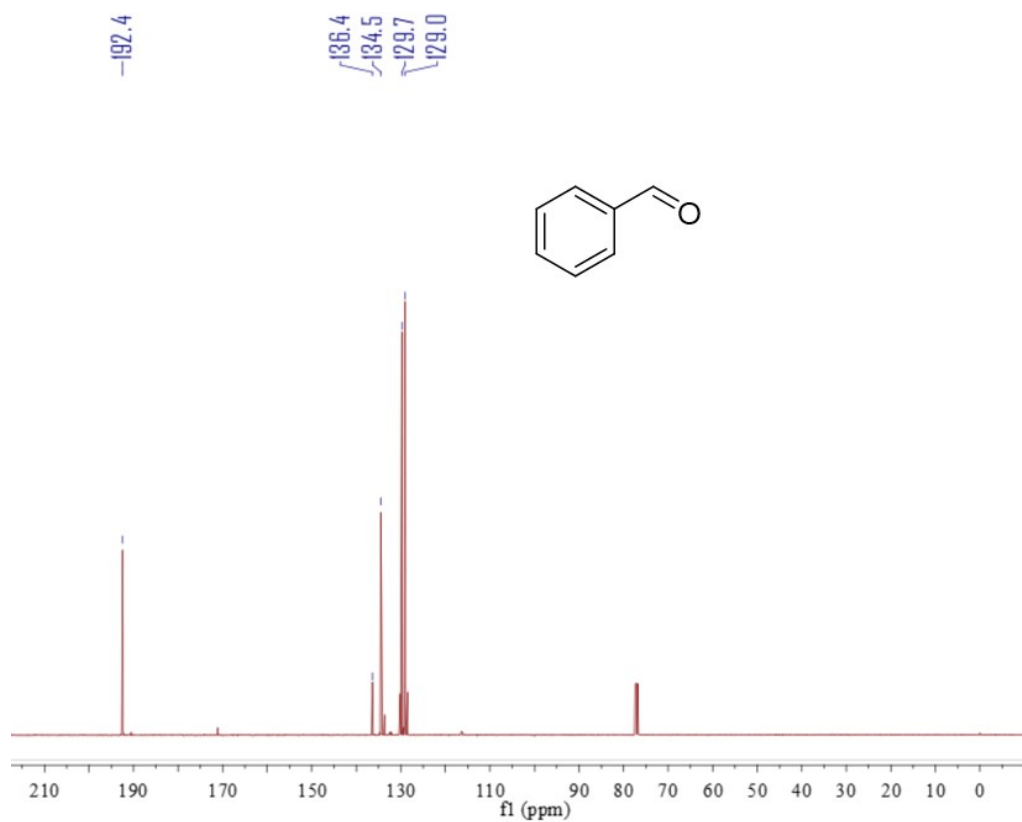
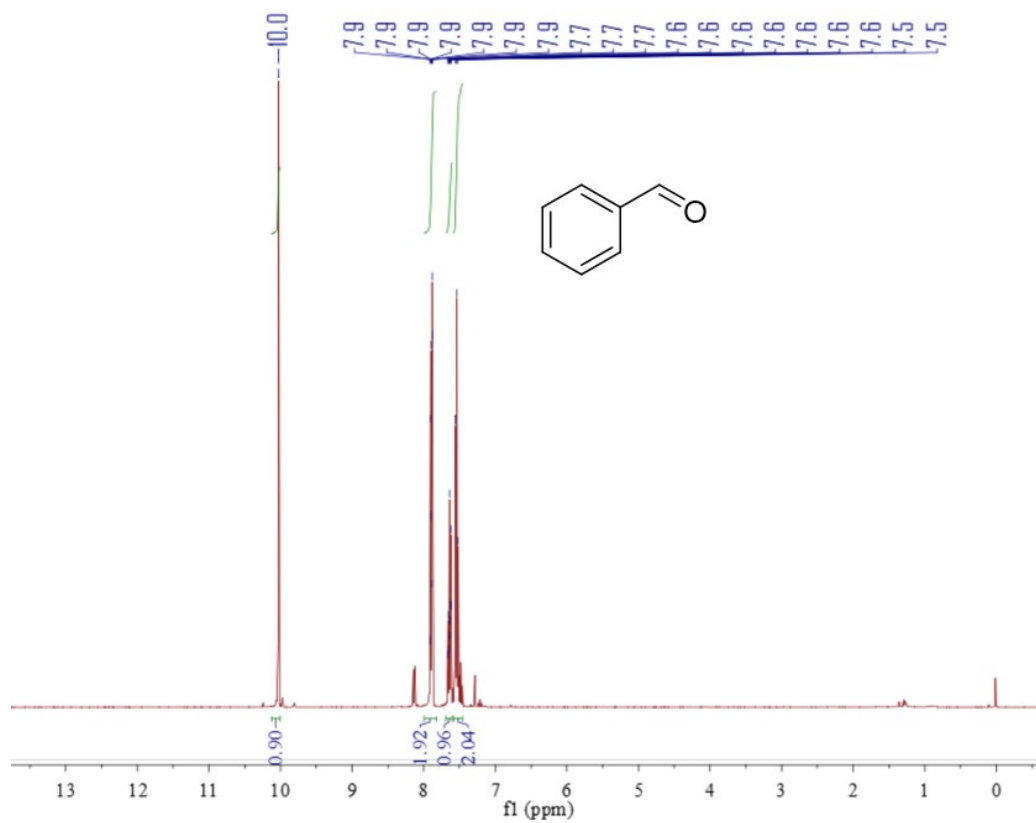
1-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethan-1-one (**4m**). Light yellow crystal (119mg, 72%); m.p. 75-78°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.30 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 8.18 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 2.68 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.3, 150.4, 141.4, 129.3, 123.8, 26.9. ESI-MS: m/z =166 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.



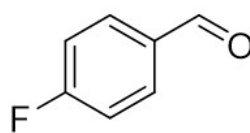
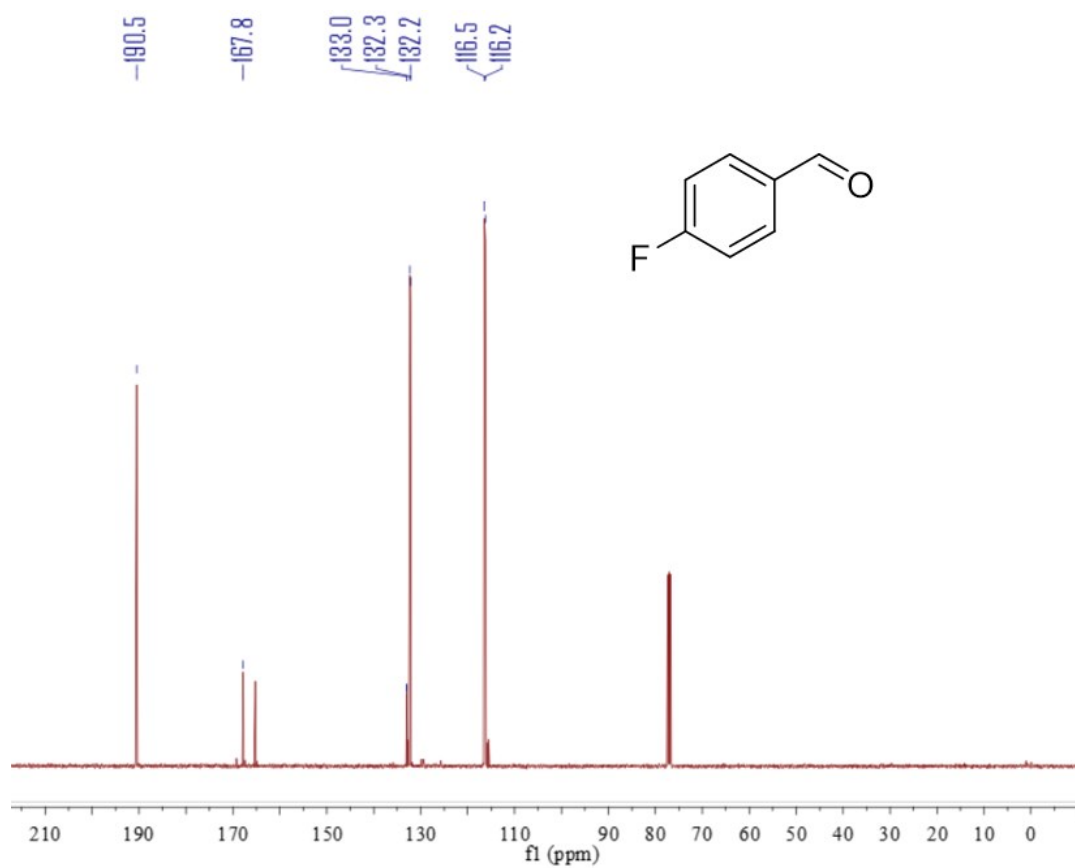
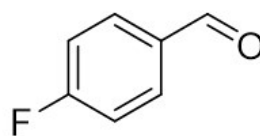
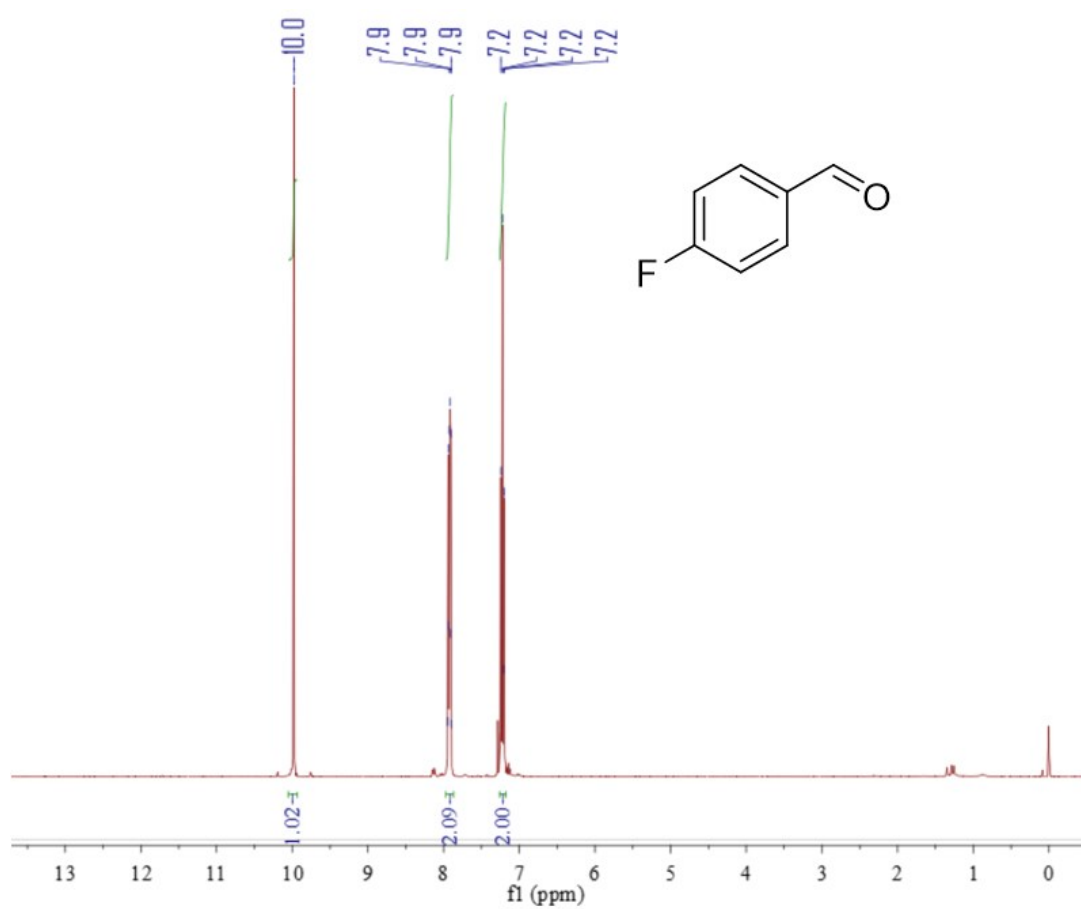
1-(P-tolyl)ethan-1-one (**4n**). Colorless liquid (75mg, 56%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.88 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.41 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.8, 143.9, 134.8, 129.2, 128.4, 26.5, 21.6. ESI-MS: m/z =135 $[\text{M}+1]^+$.

NMR Spectra

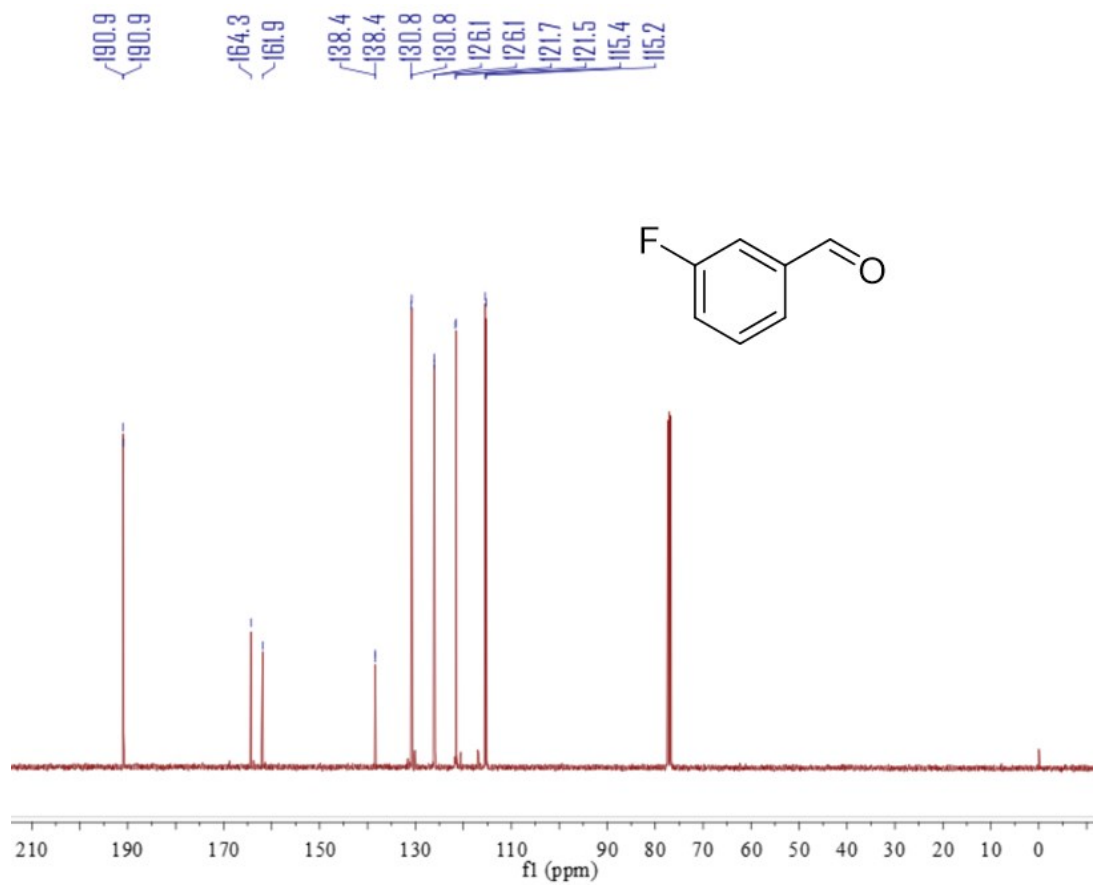
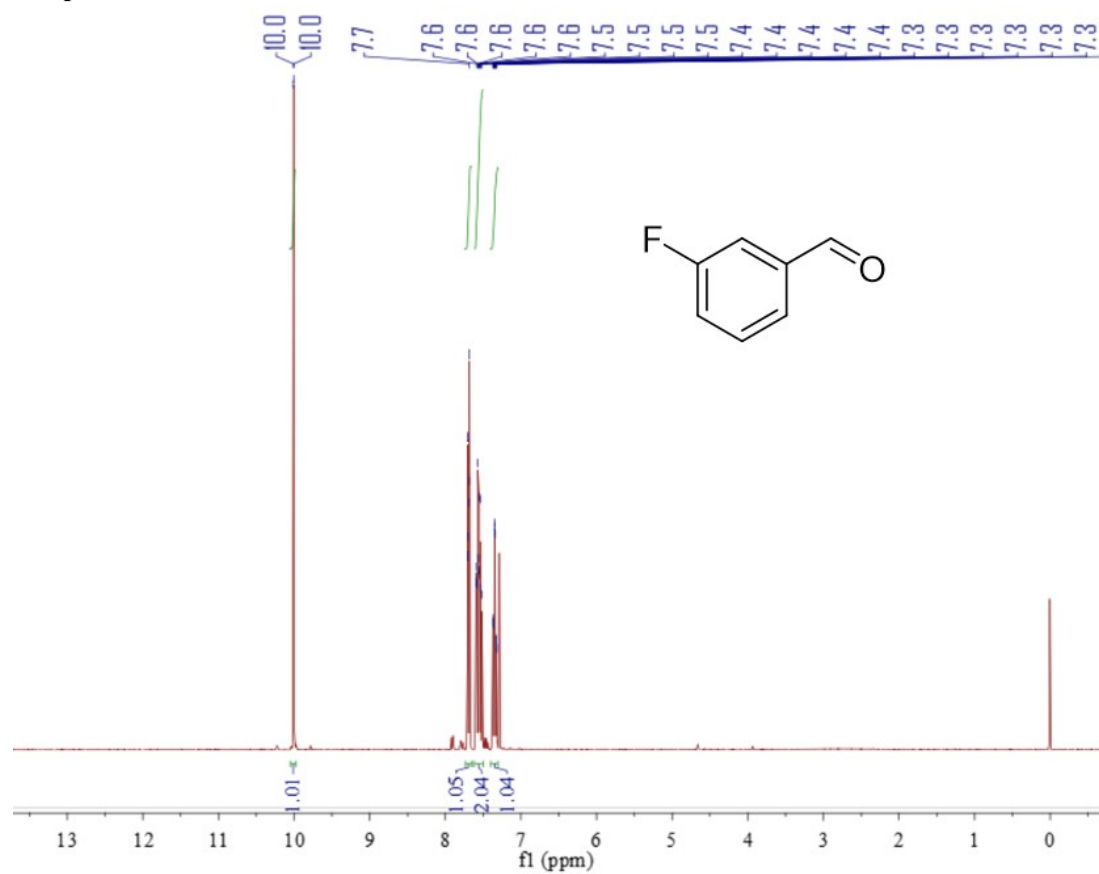
Compound 2a



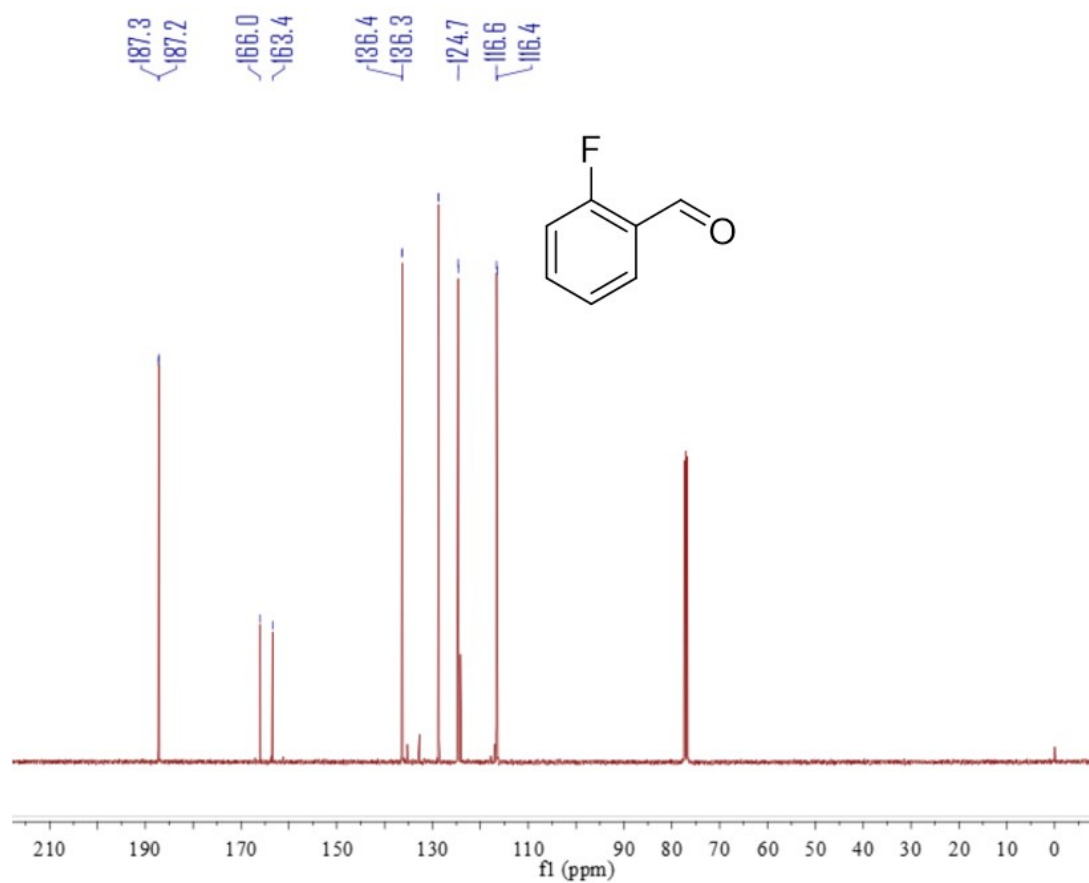
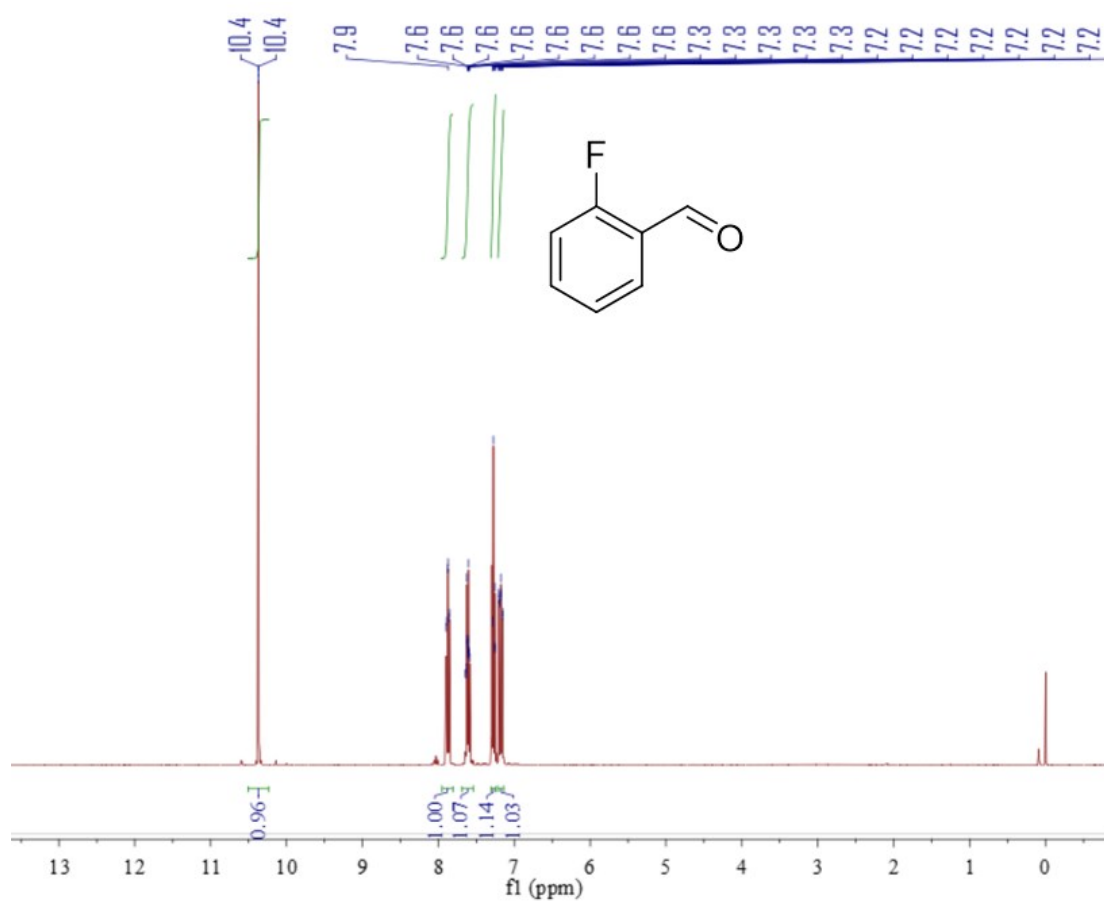
Compound 2b



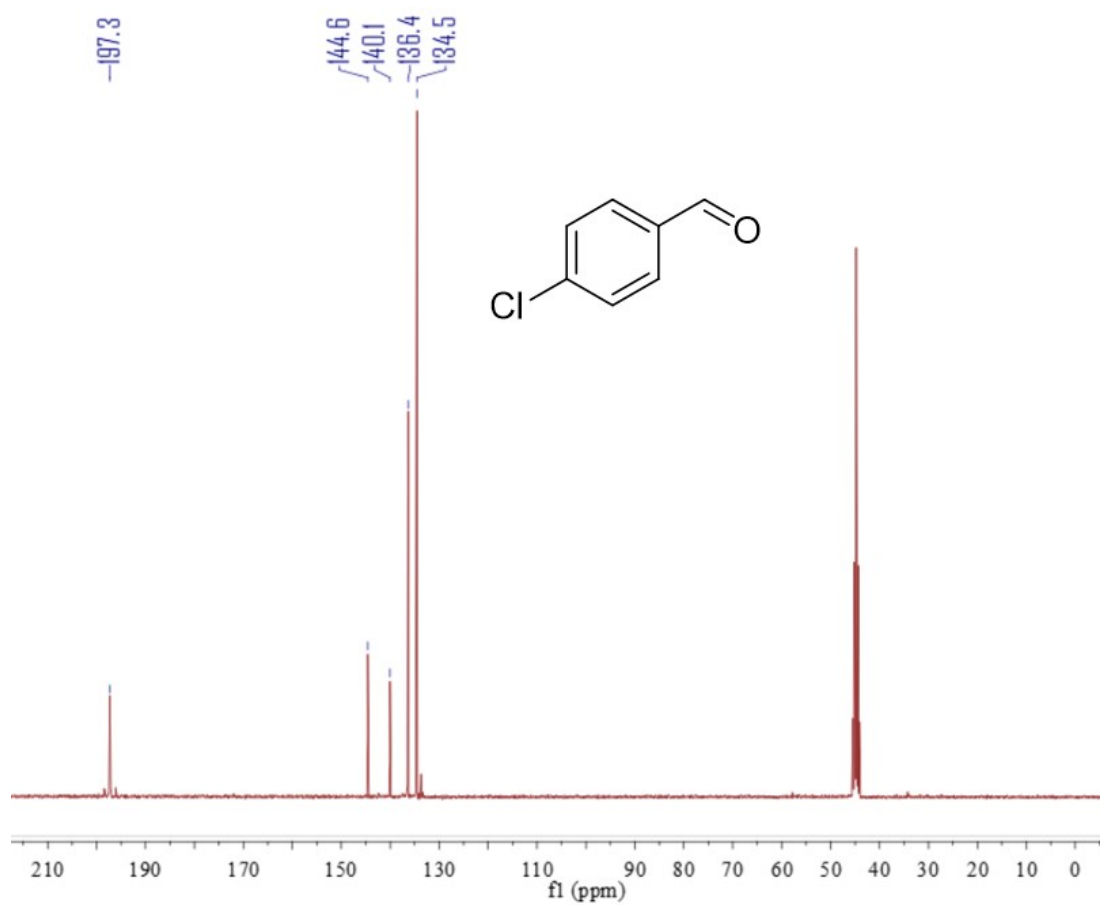
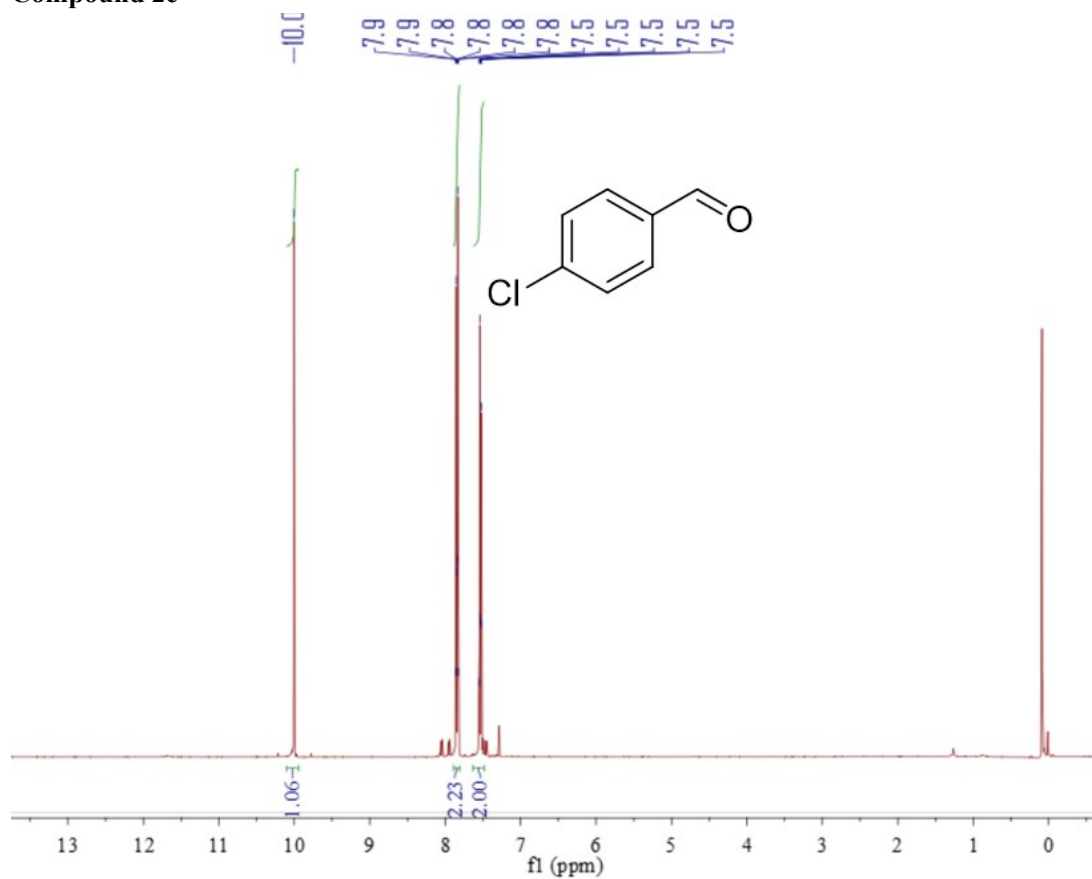
Compound 2c



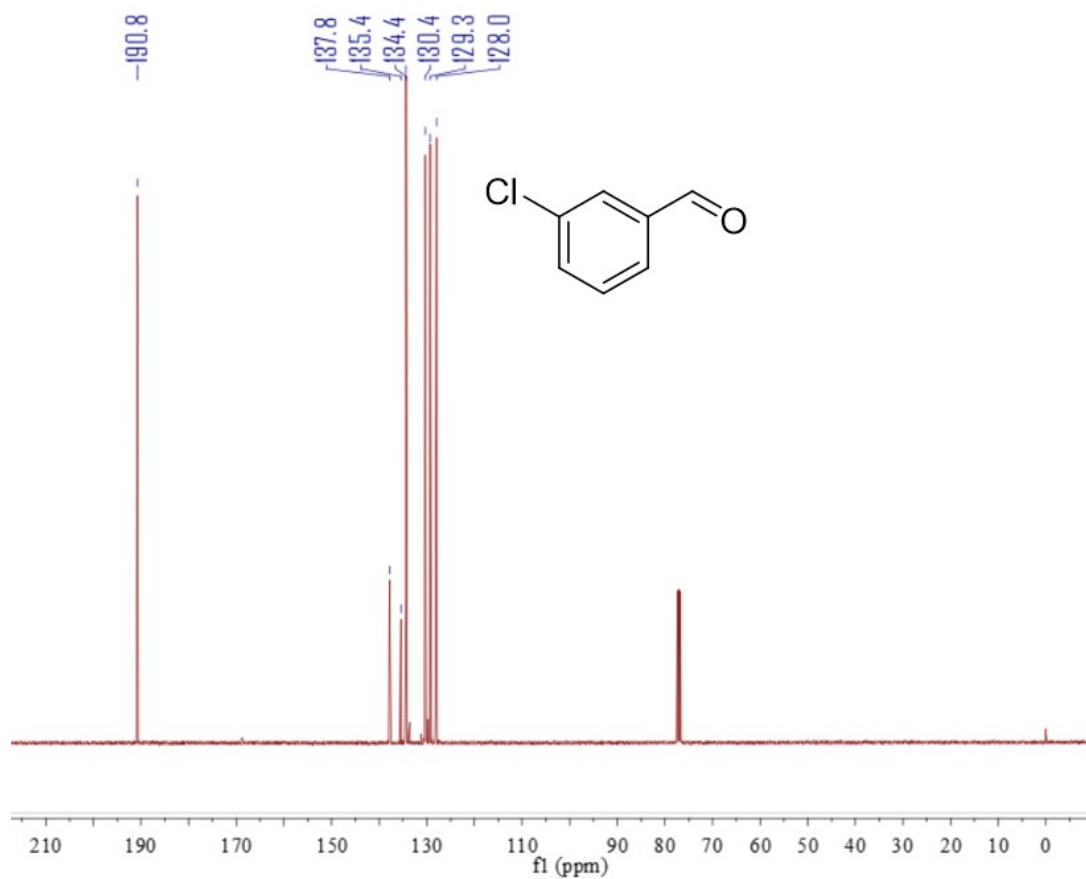
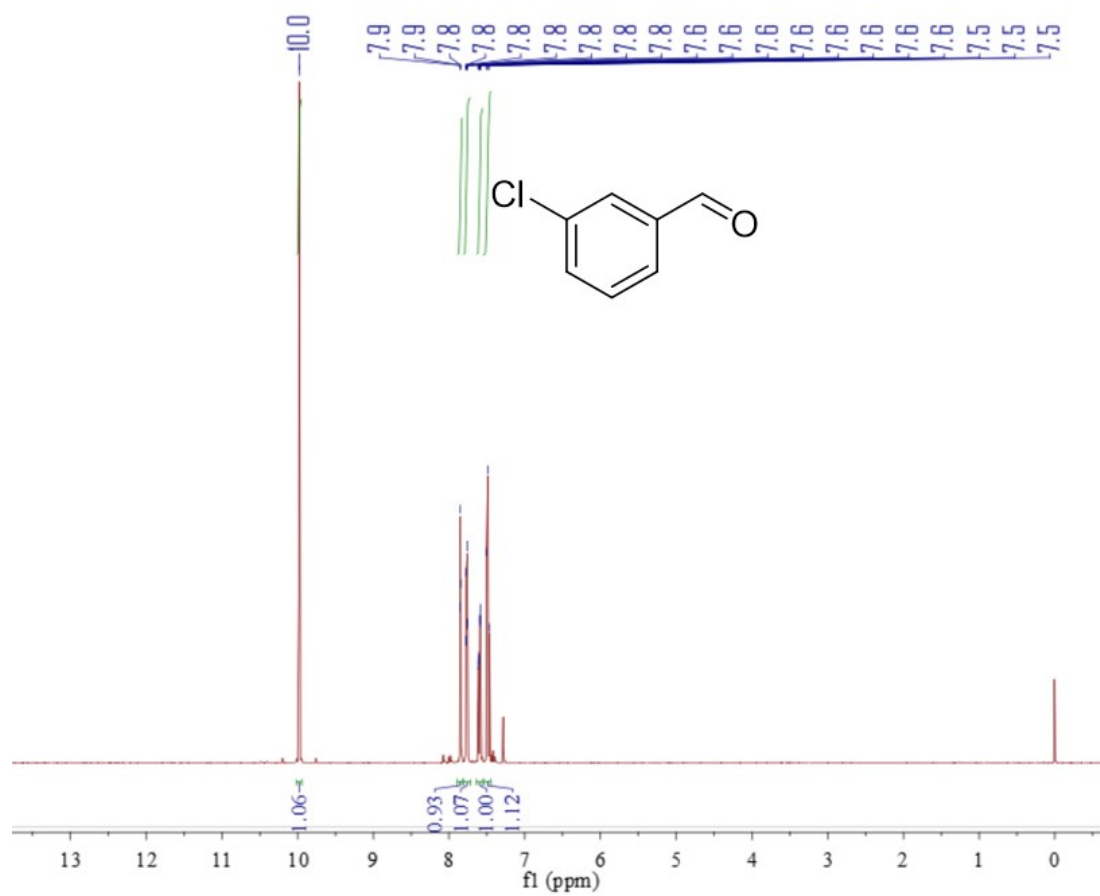
Compound 2d



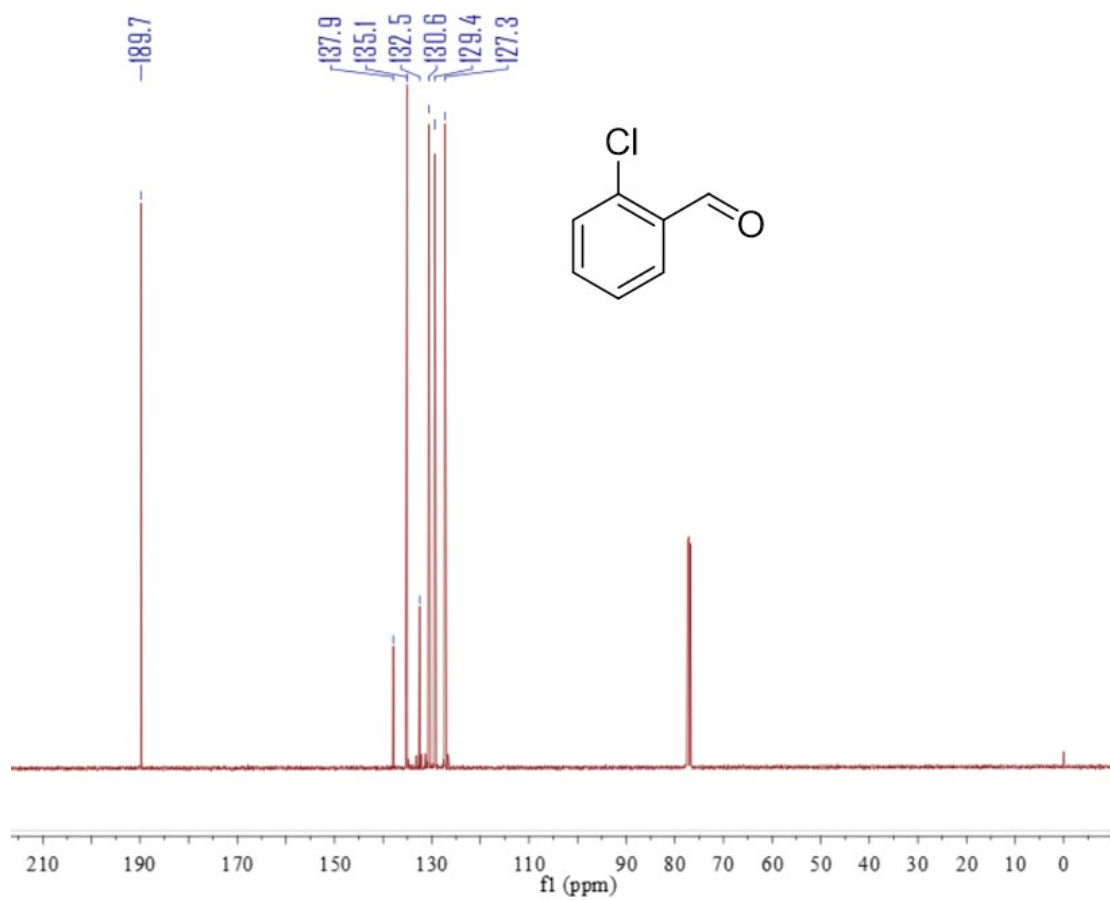
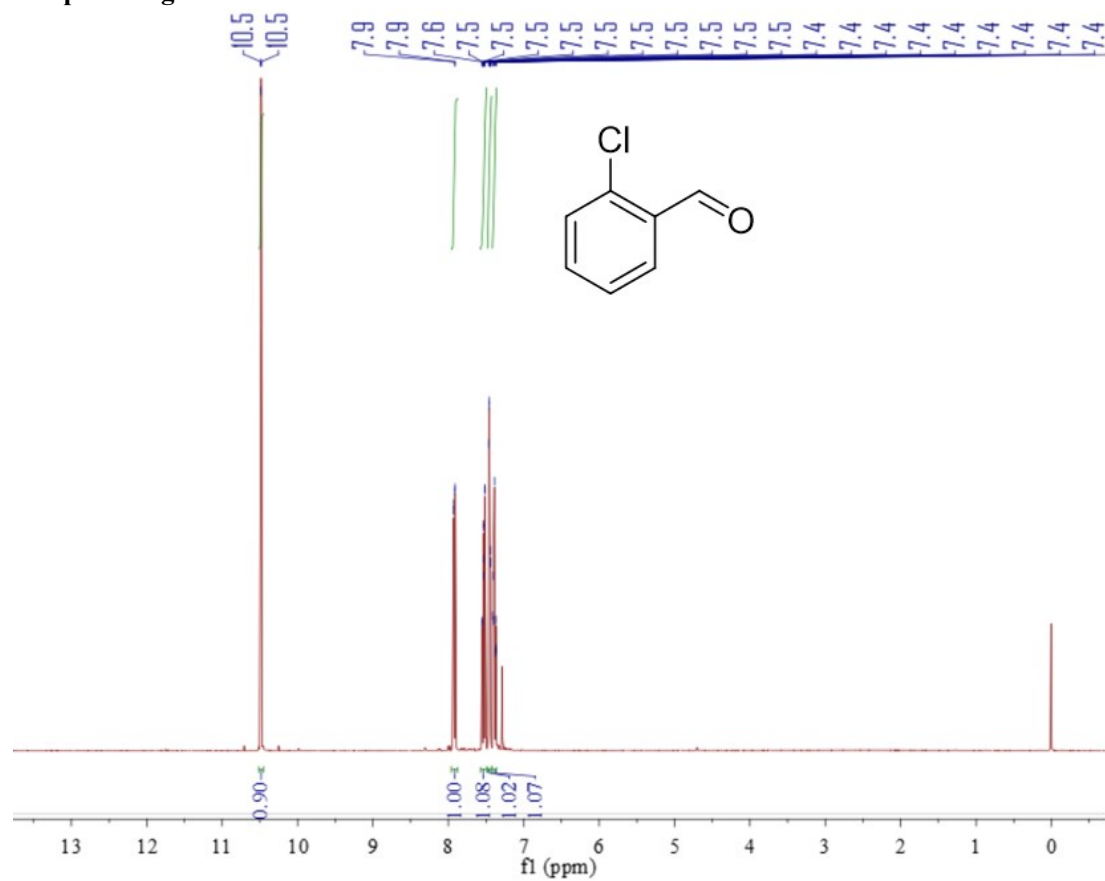
Compound 2e



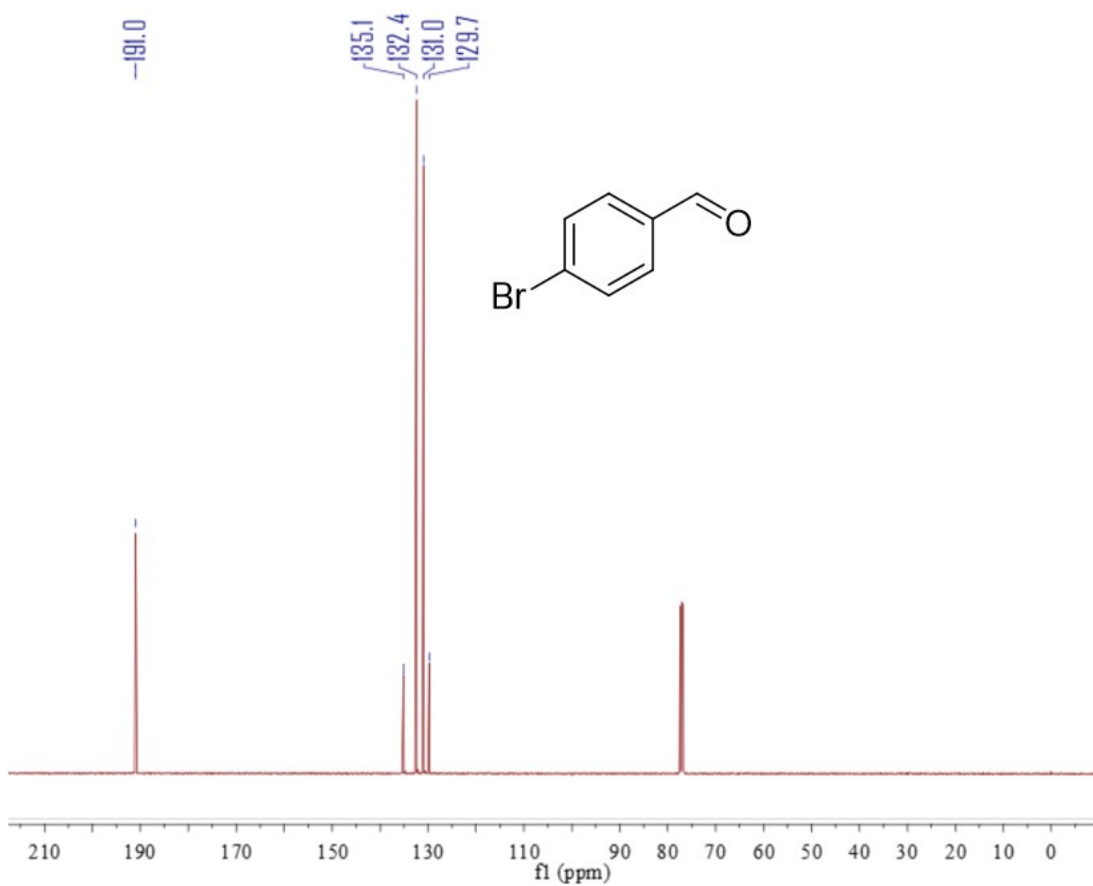
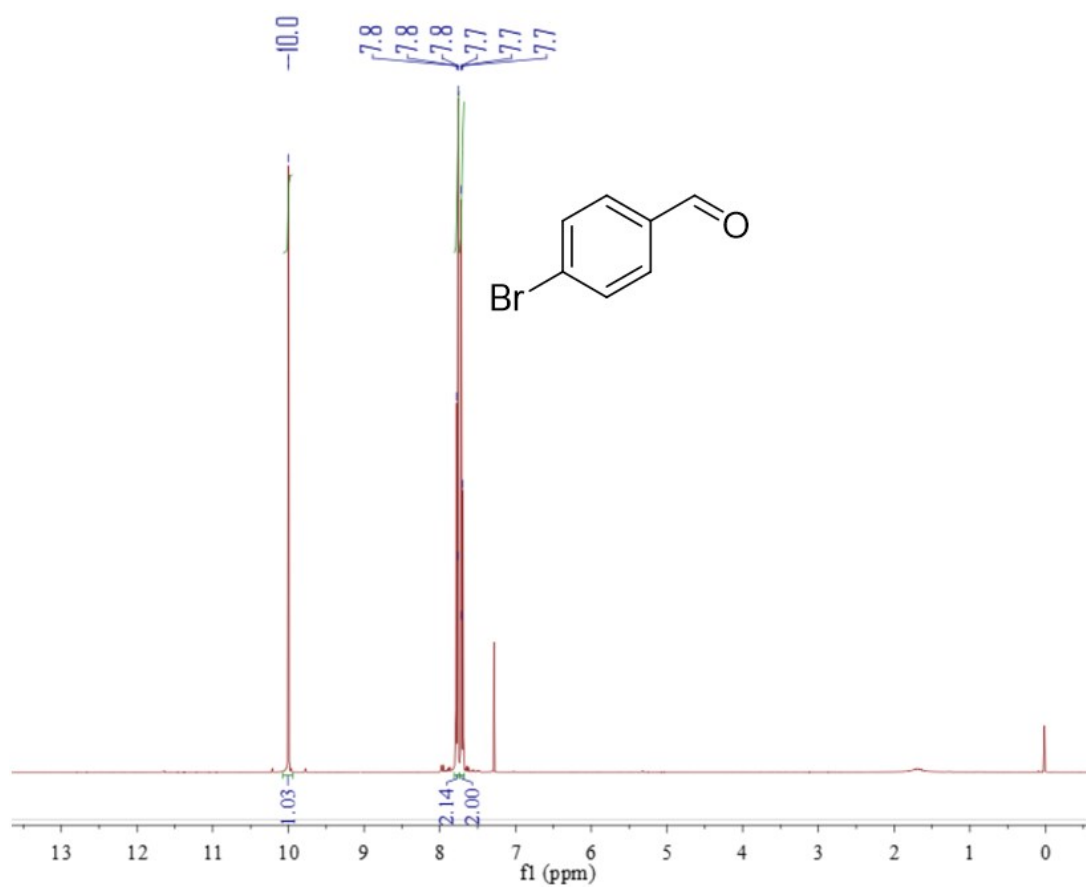
Compound 2f



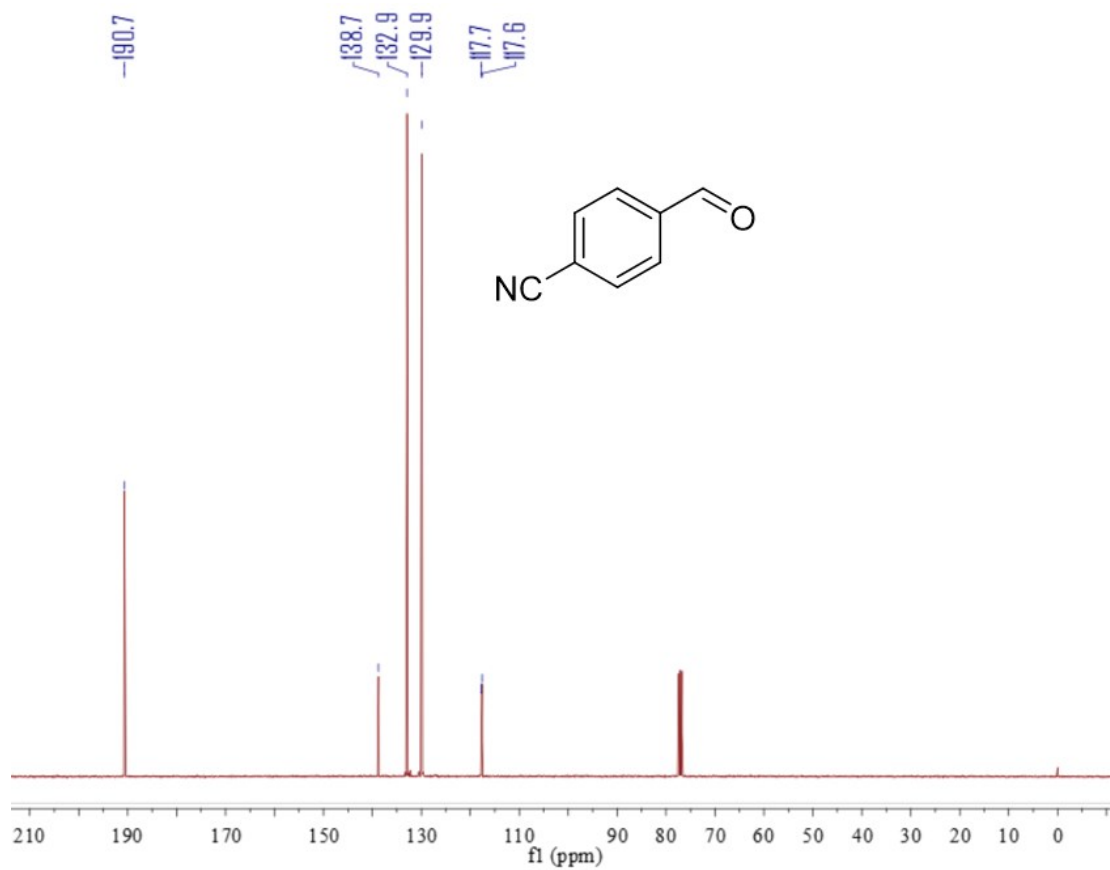
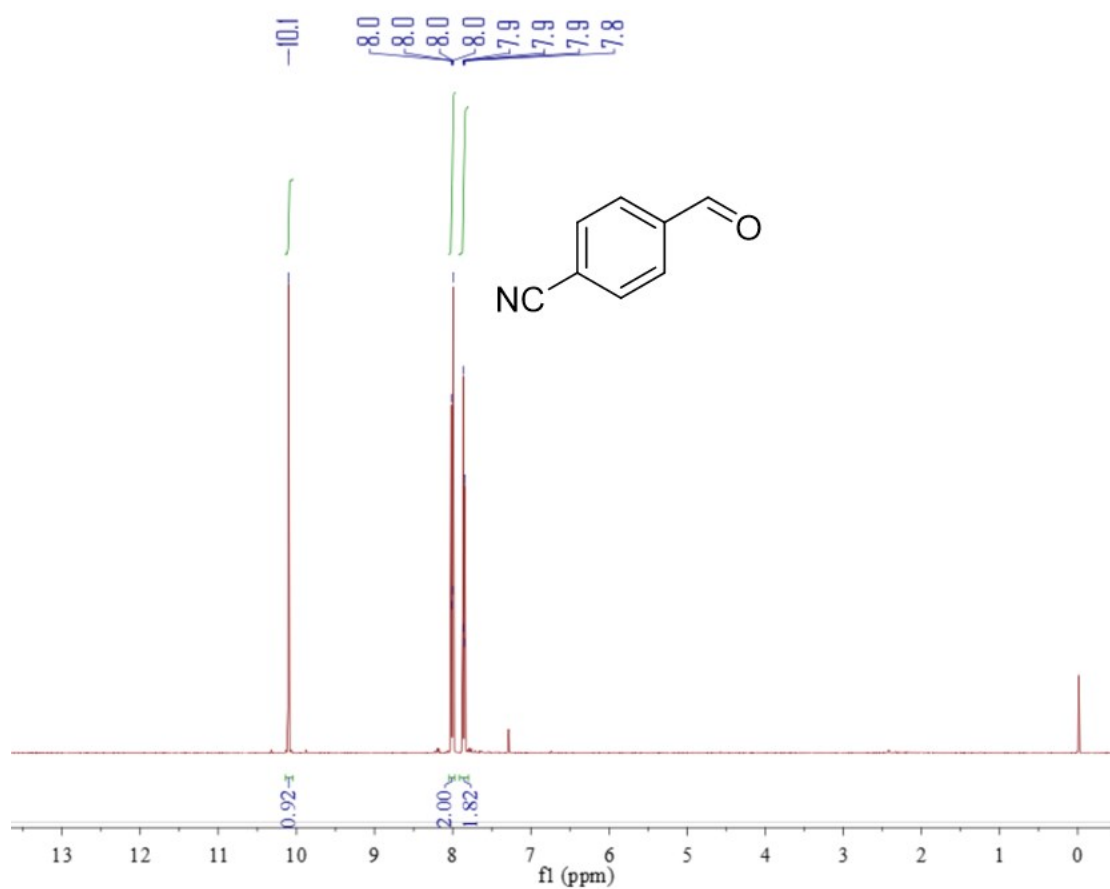
Compound 2g



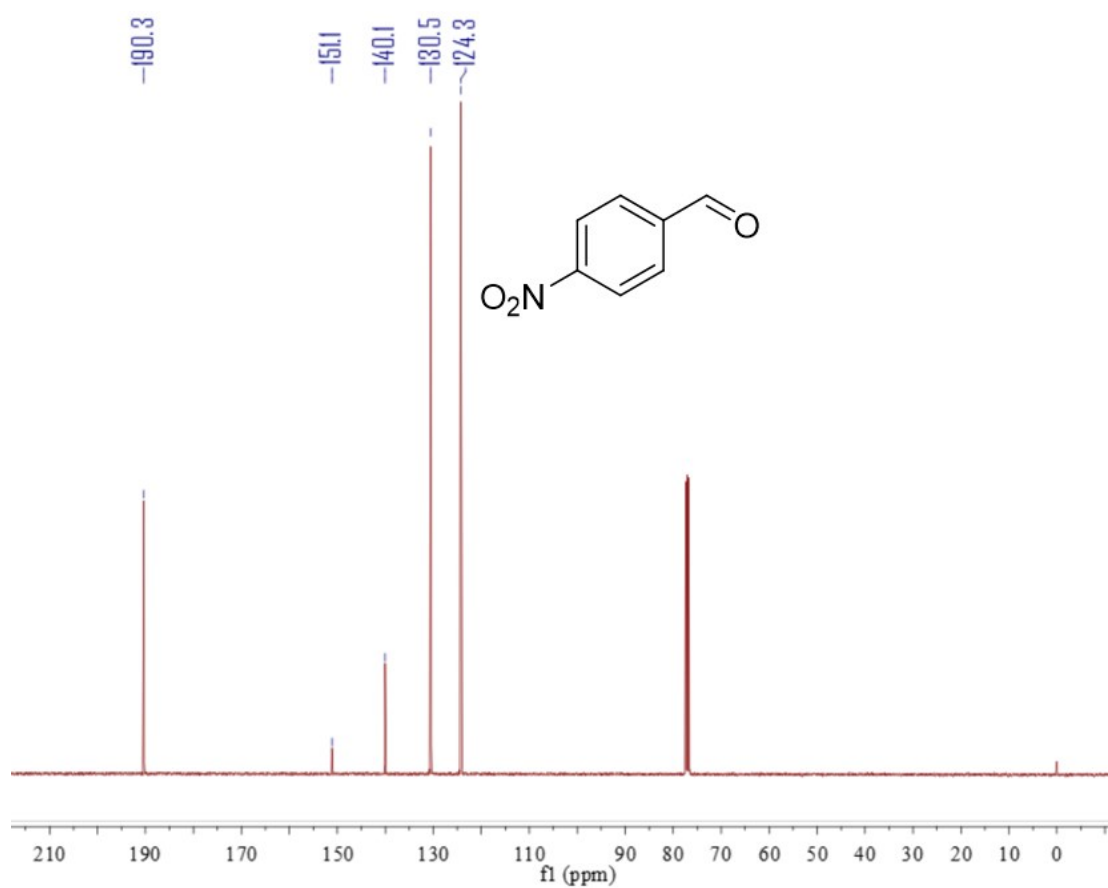
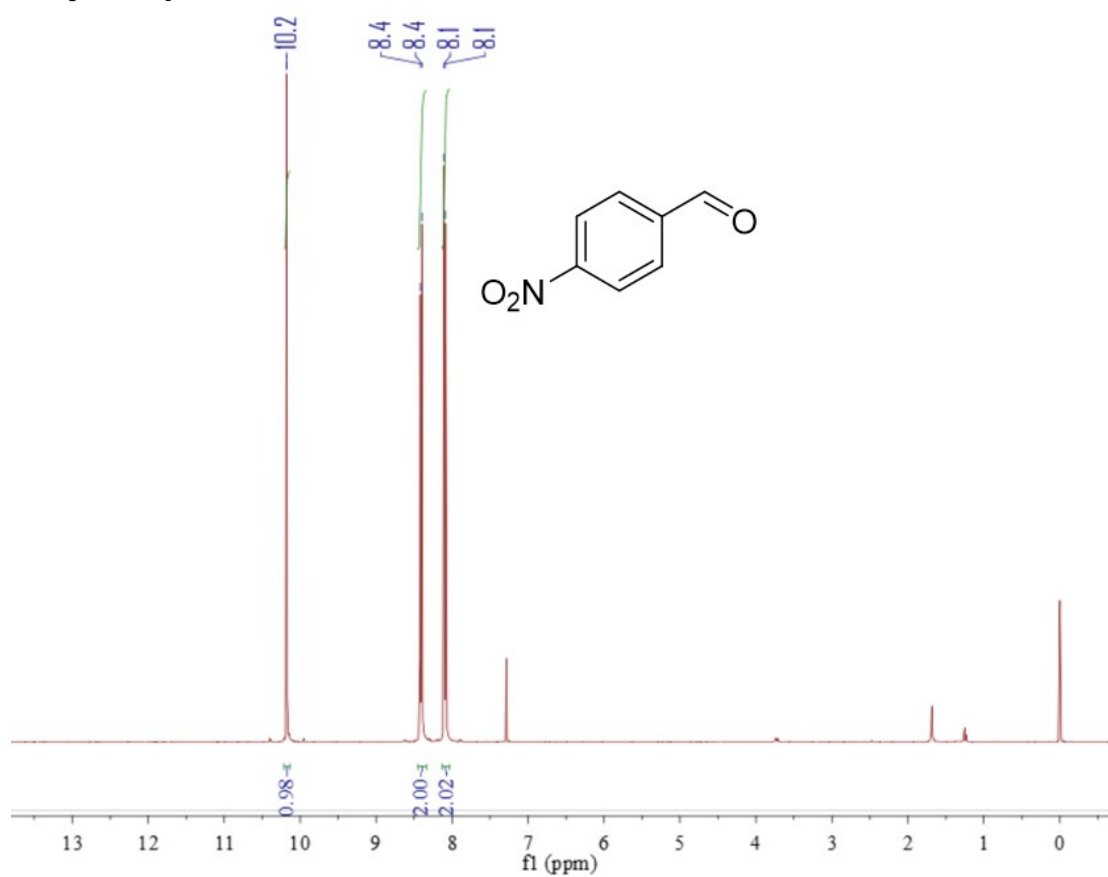
Compound 2h



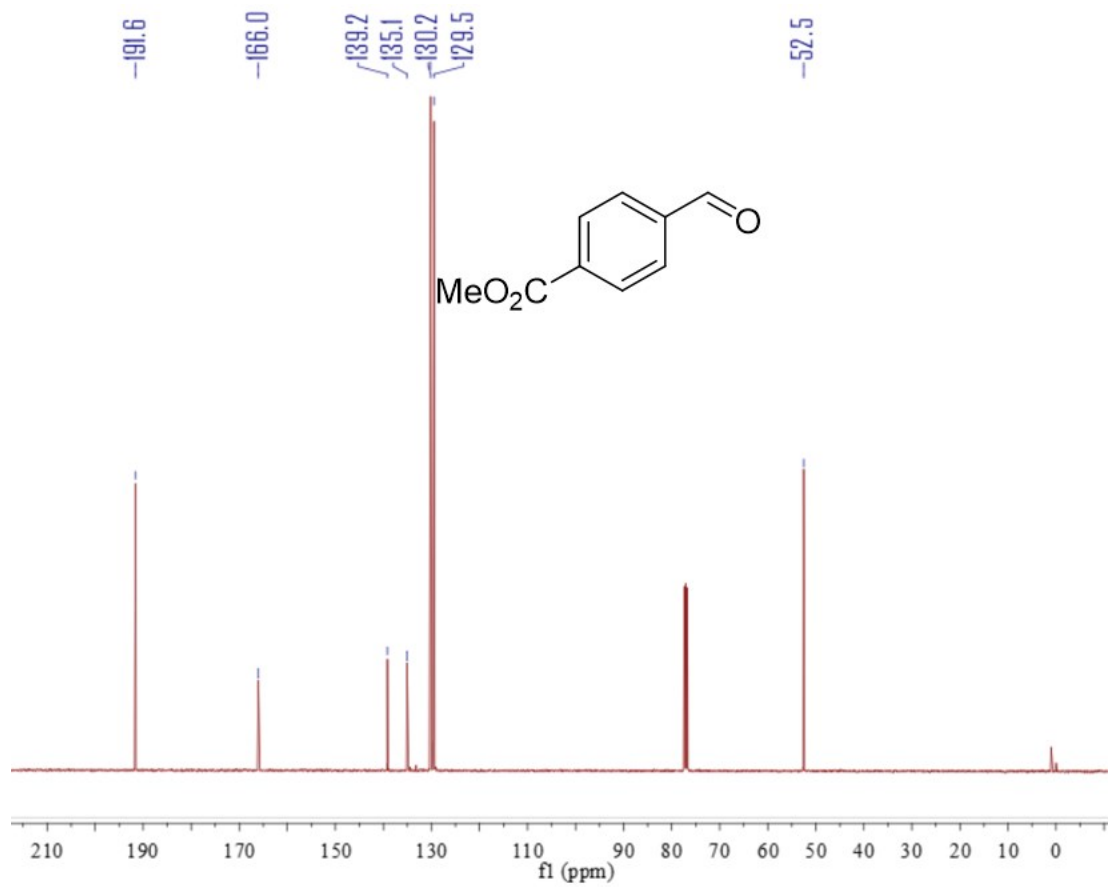
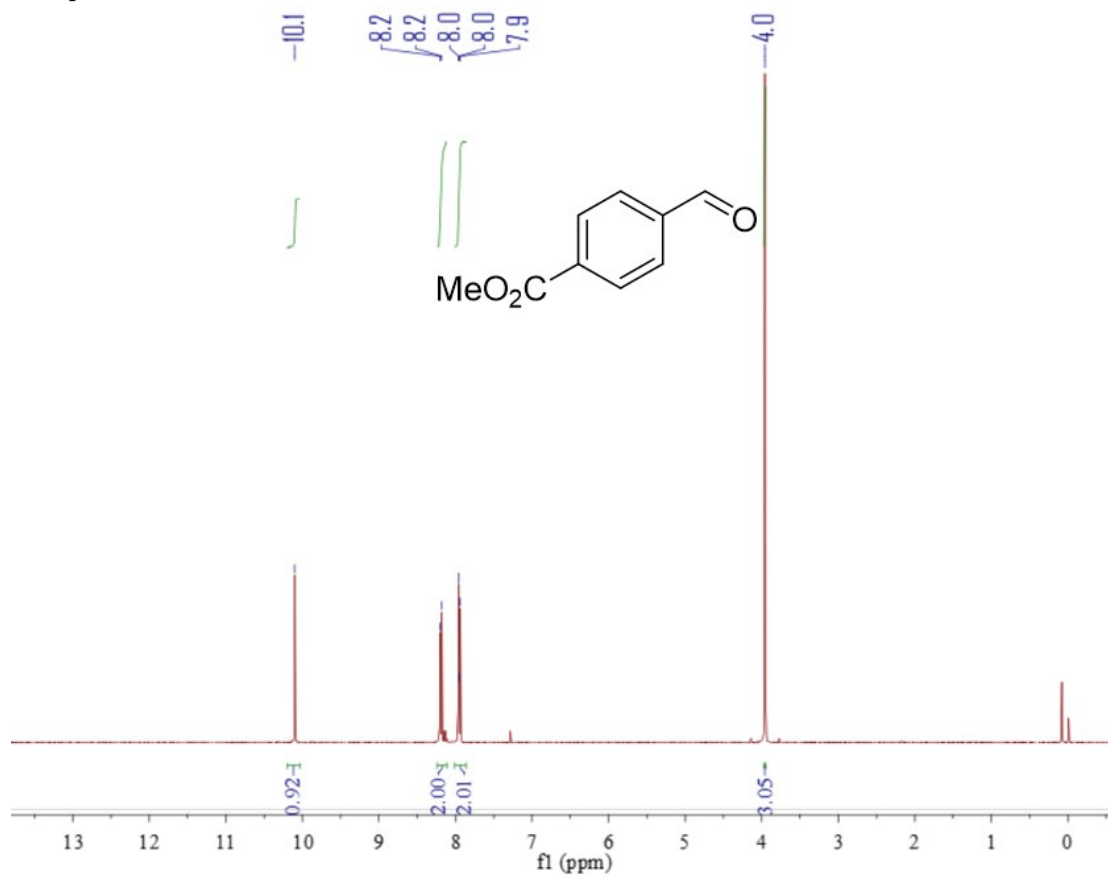
Compound 2i



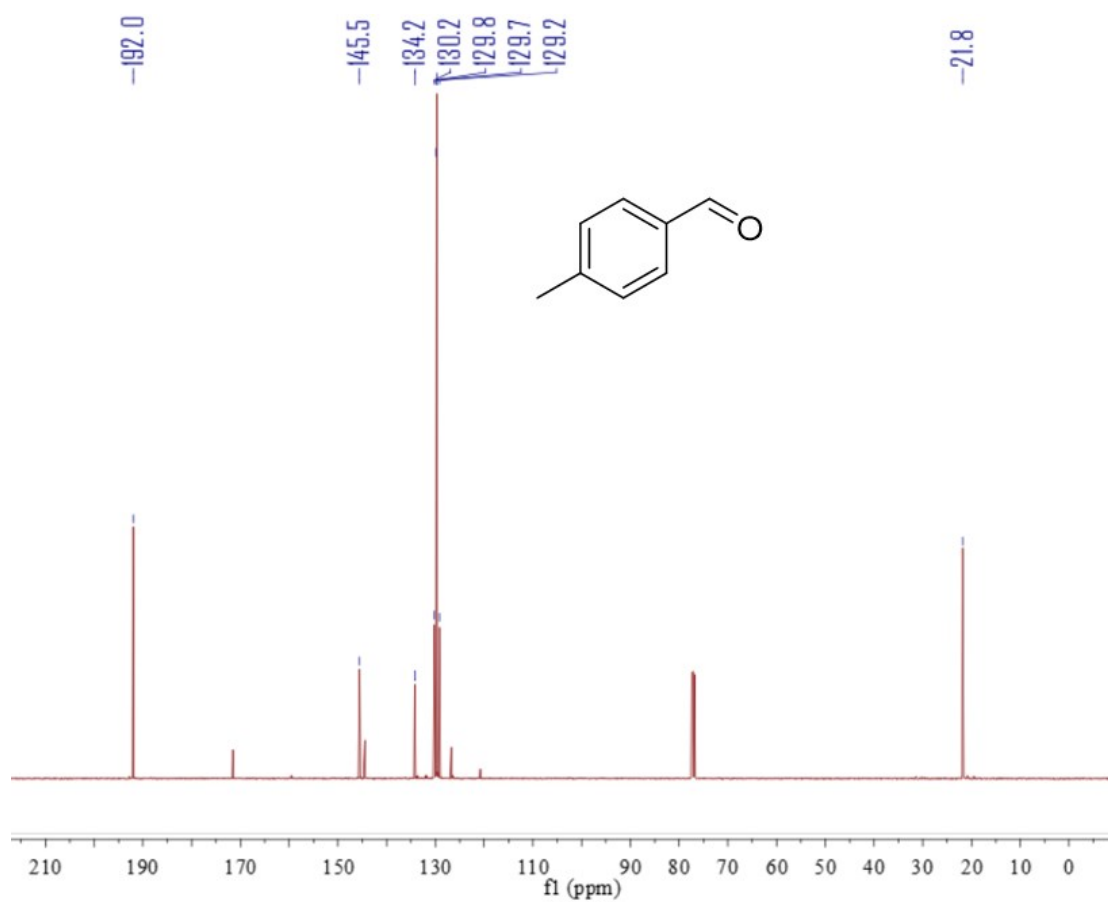
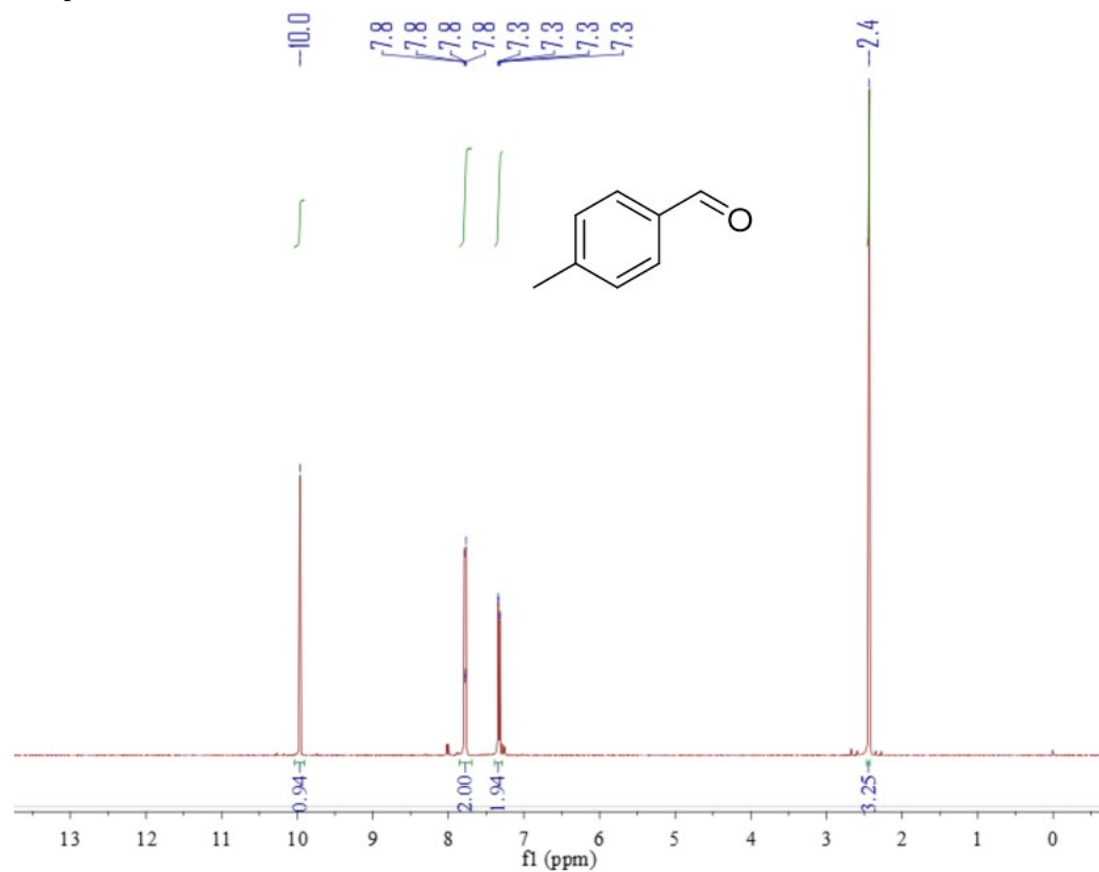
Compound 2j



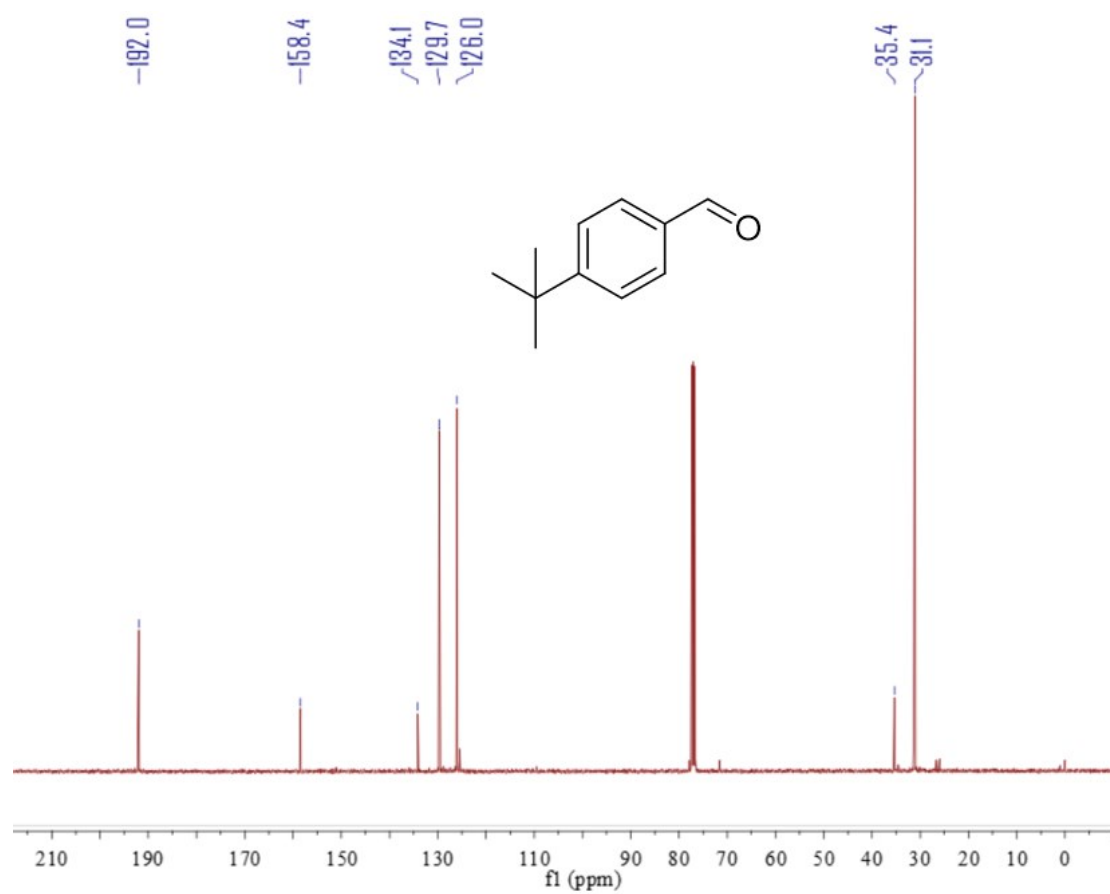
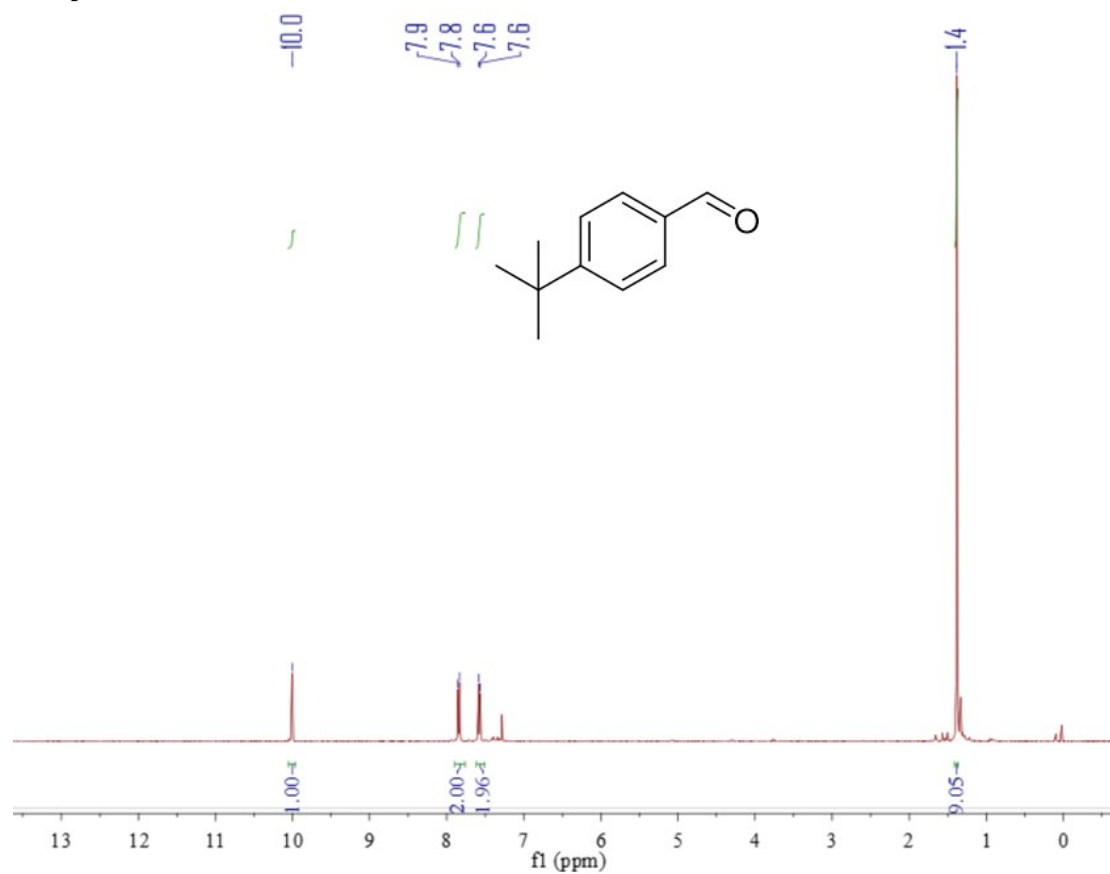
Compound 2k



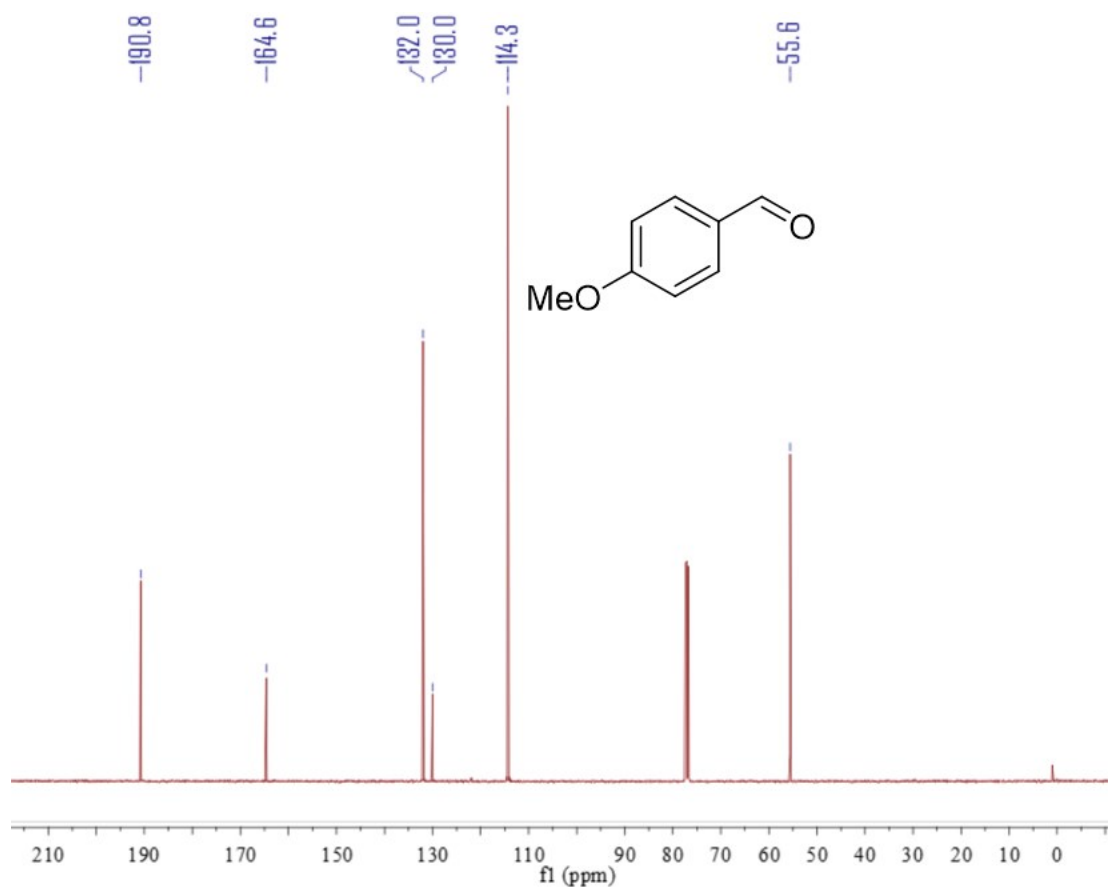
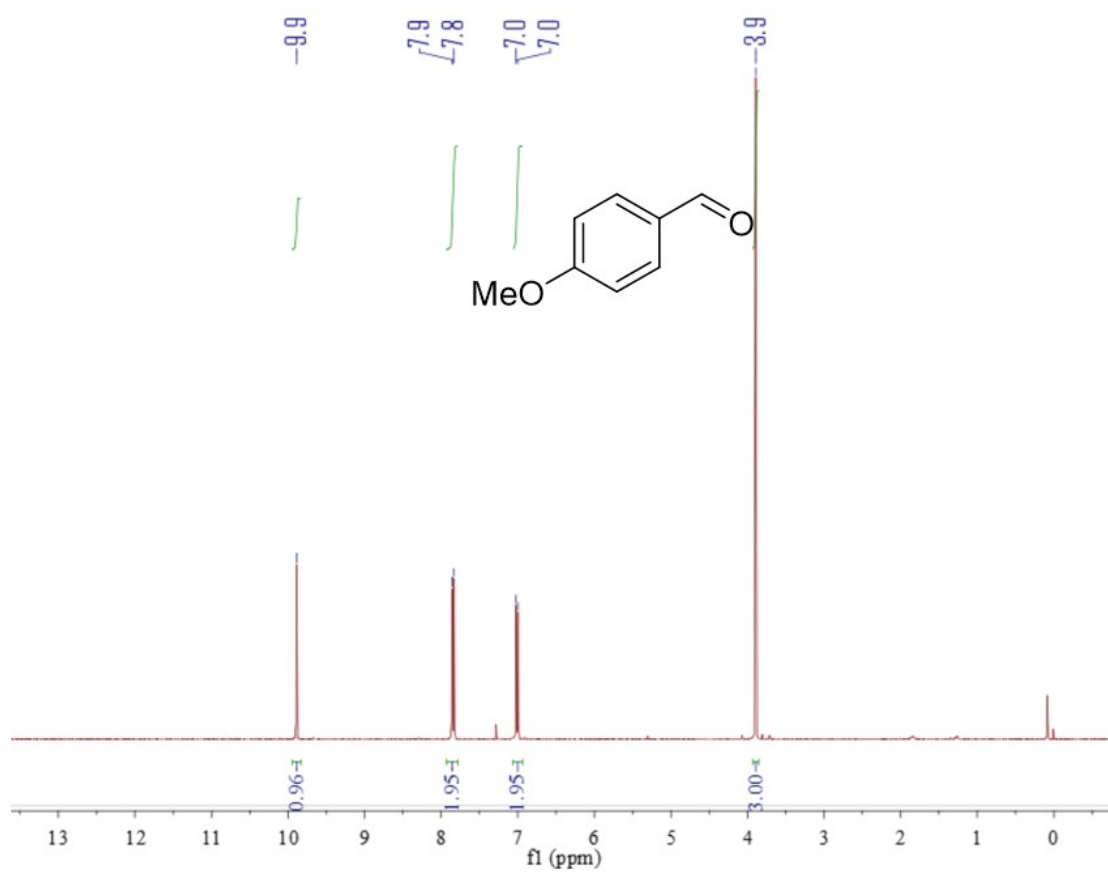
Compound 2l



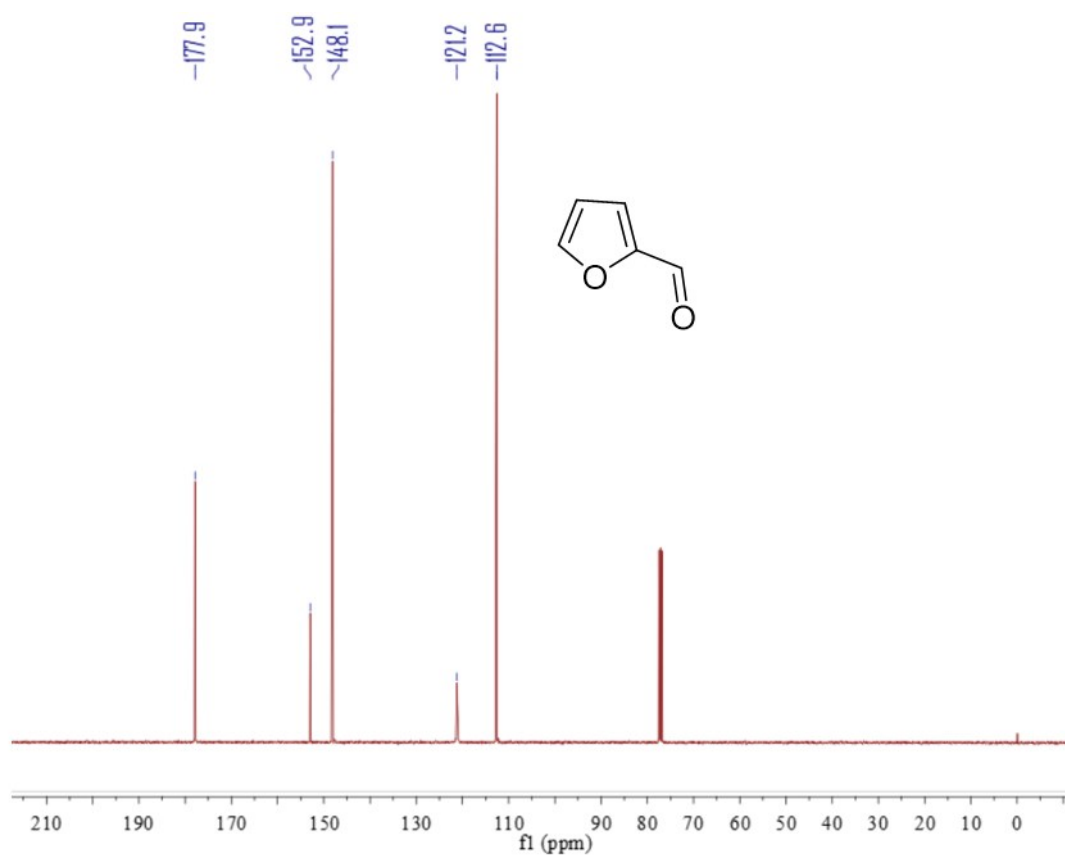
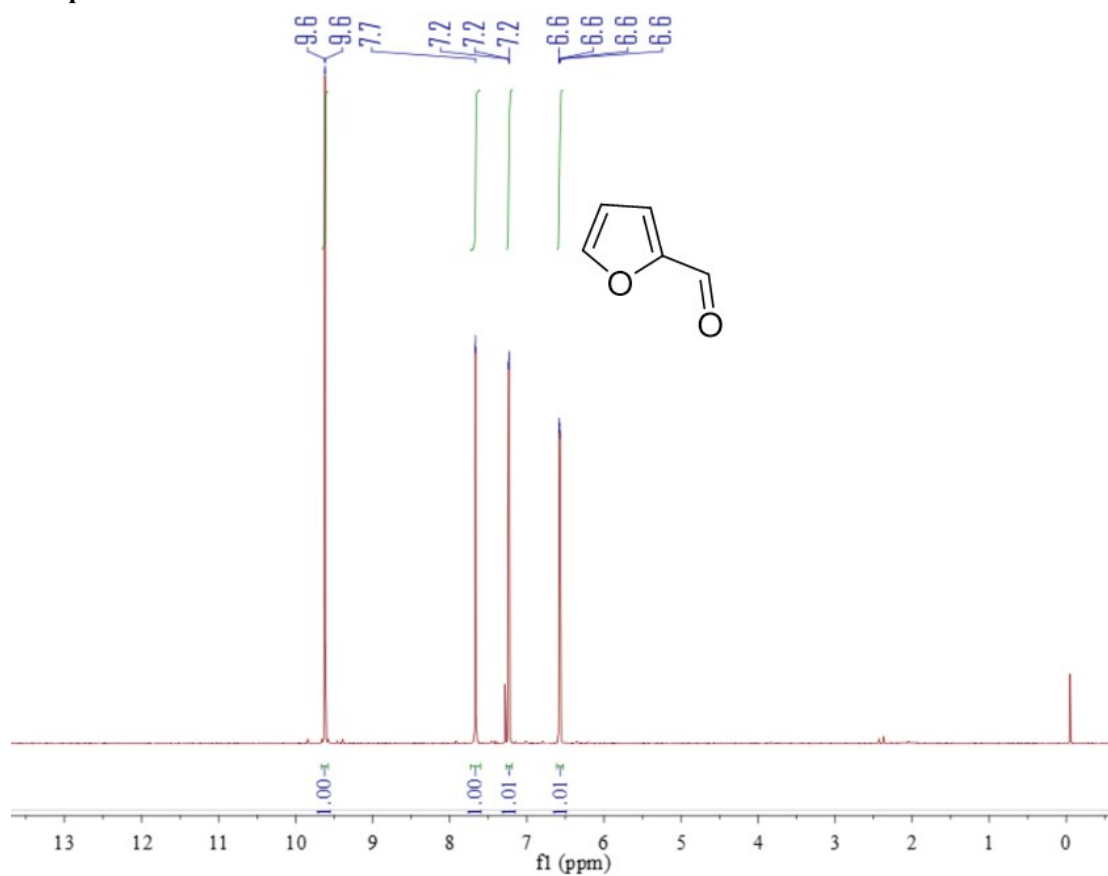
Compound 2m



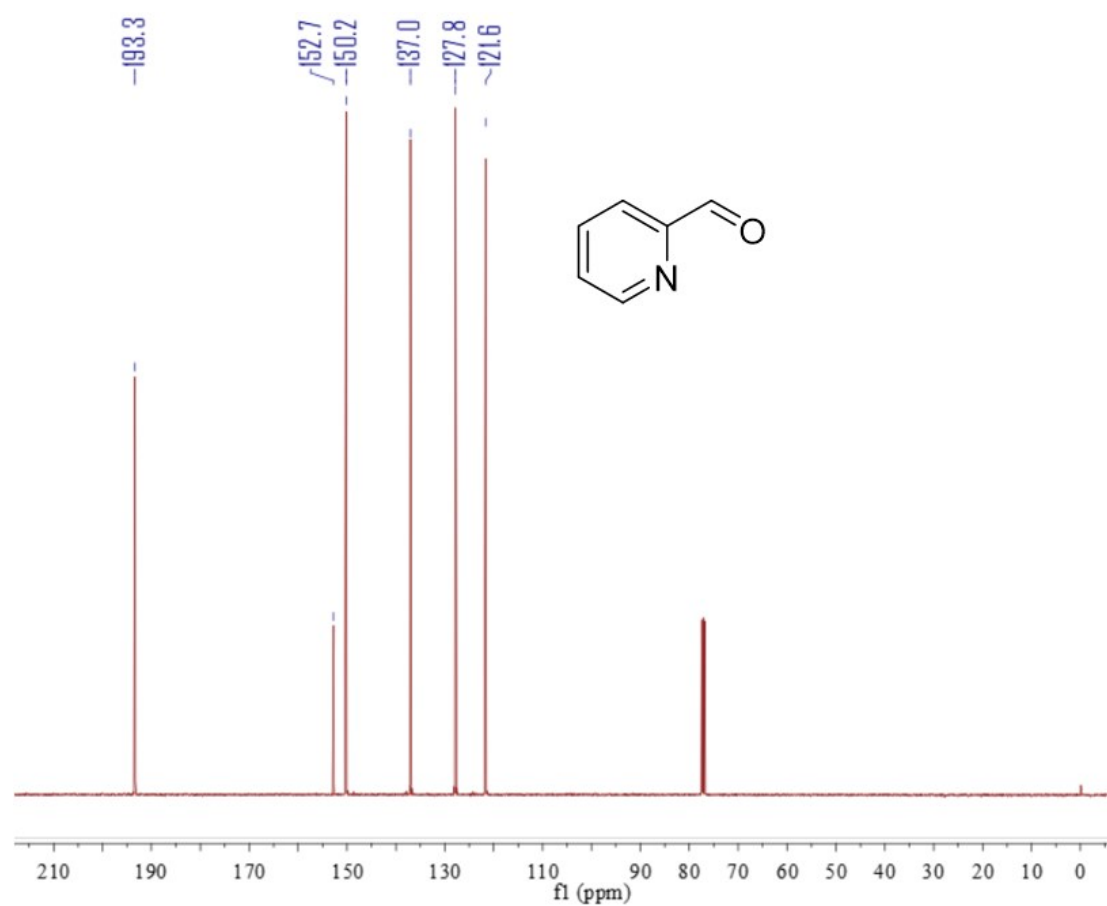
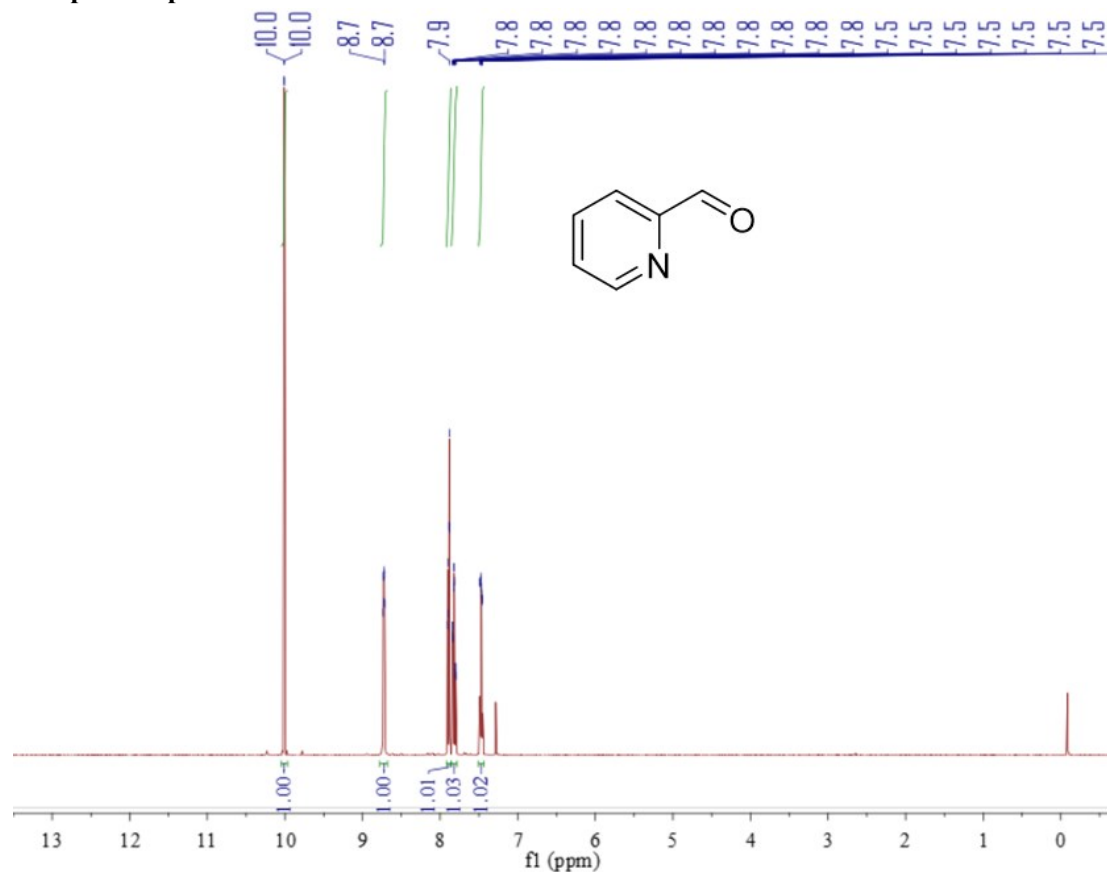
Compound 2n



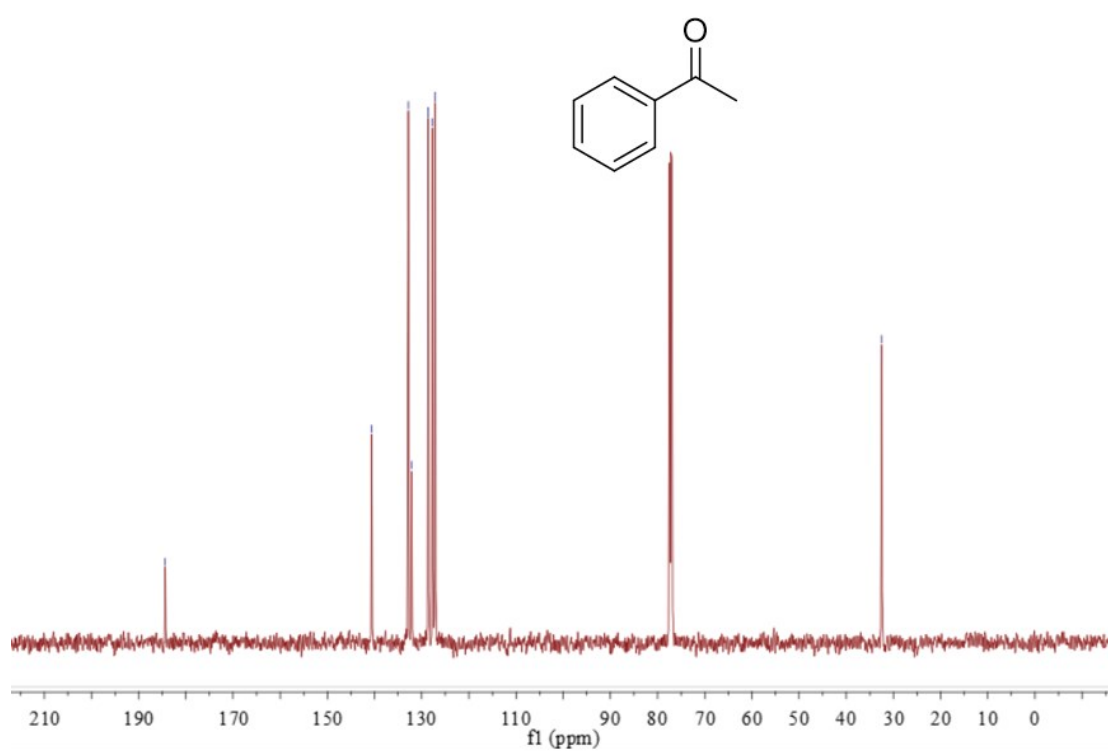
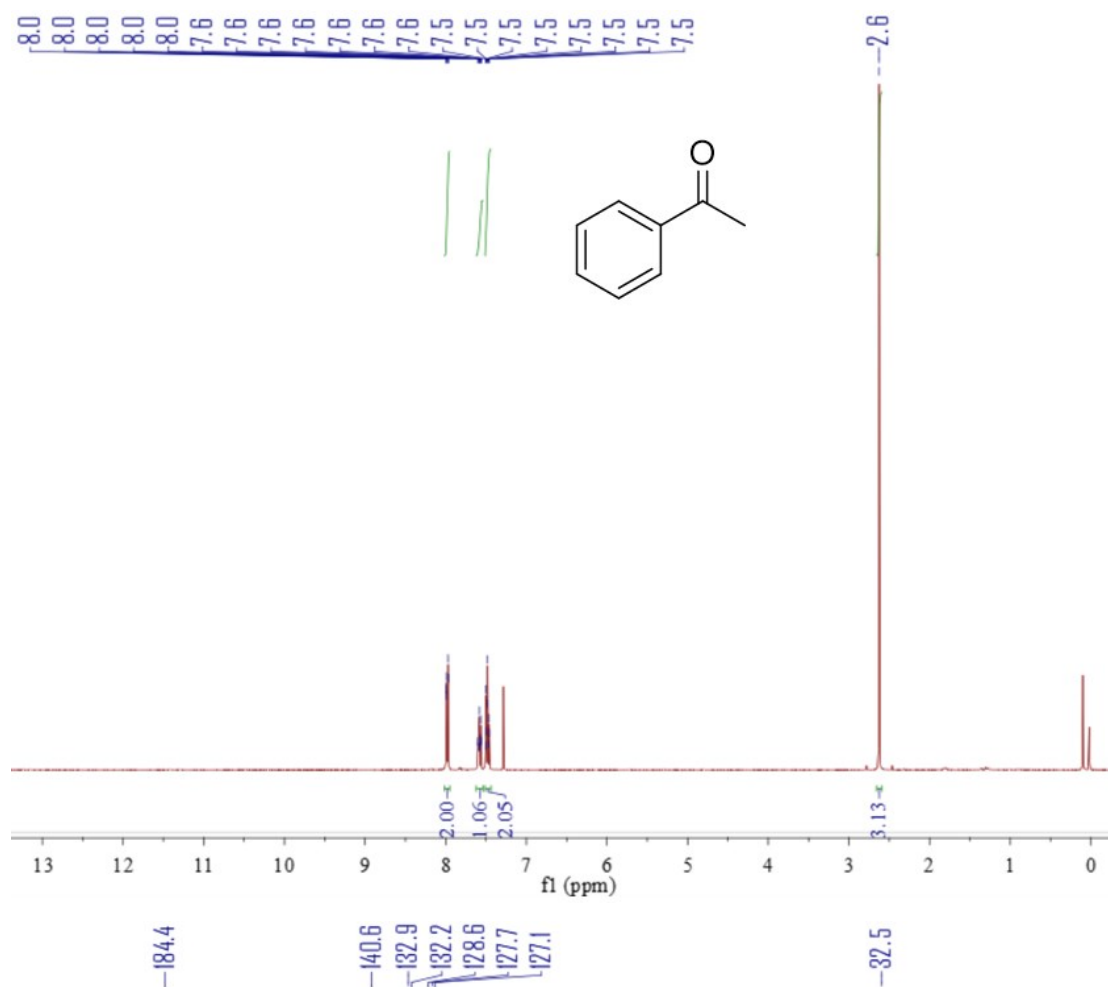
Compound 2o



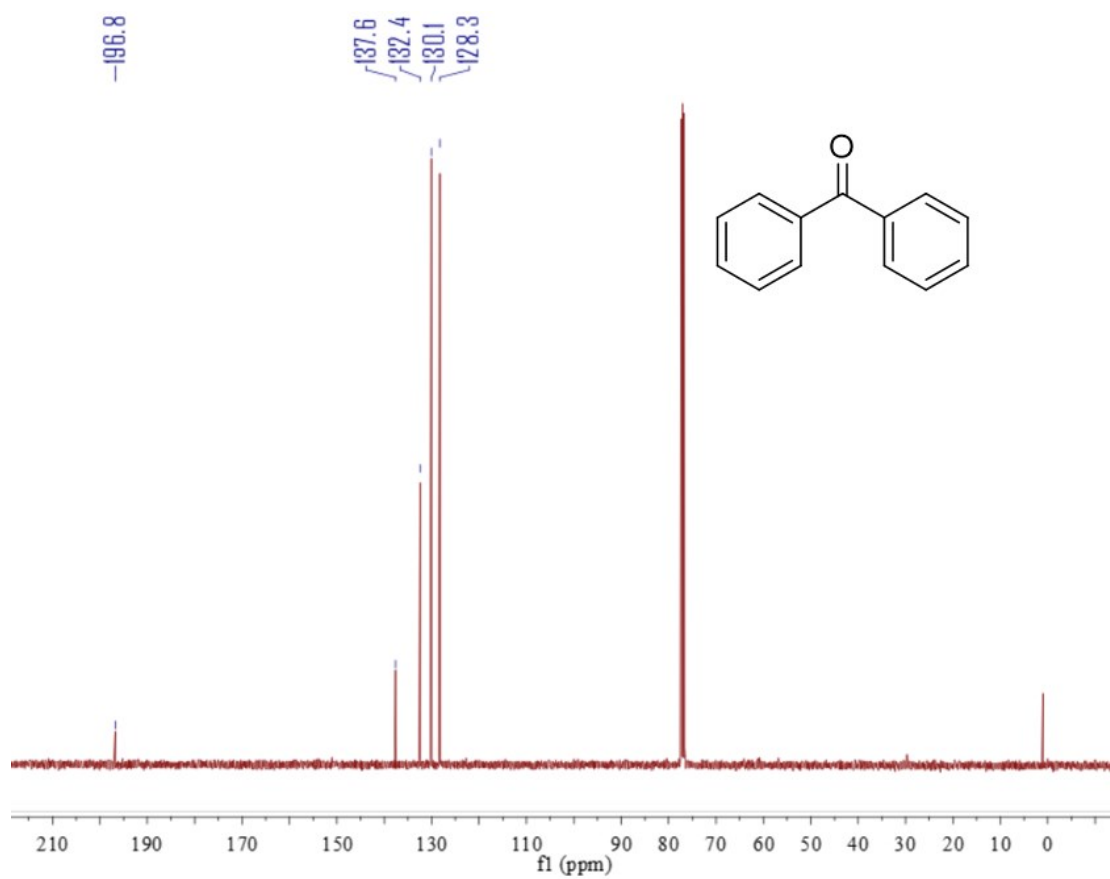
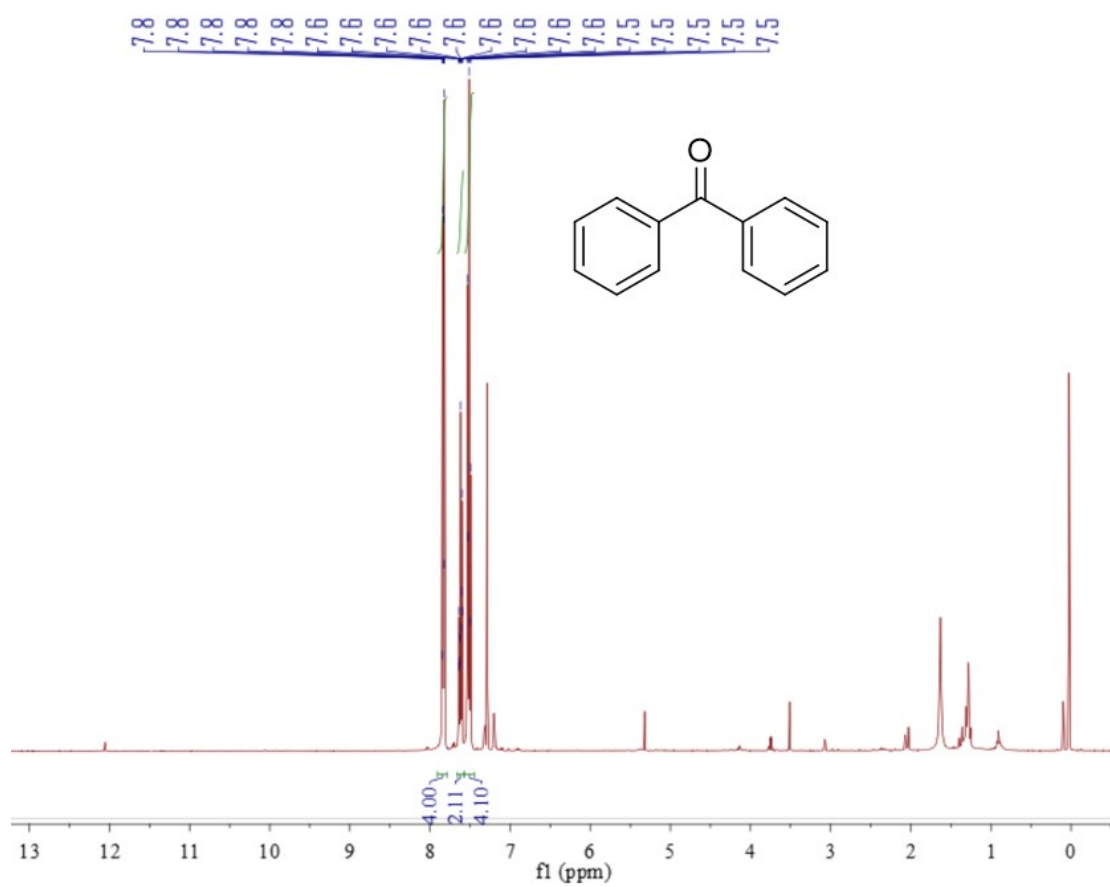
Compound 2p



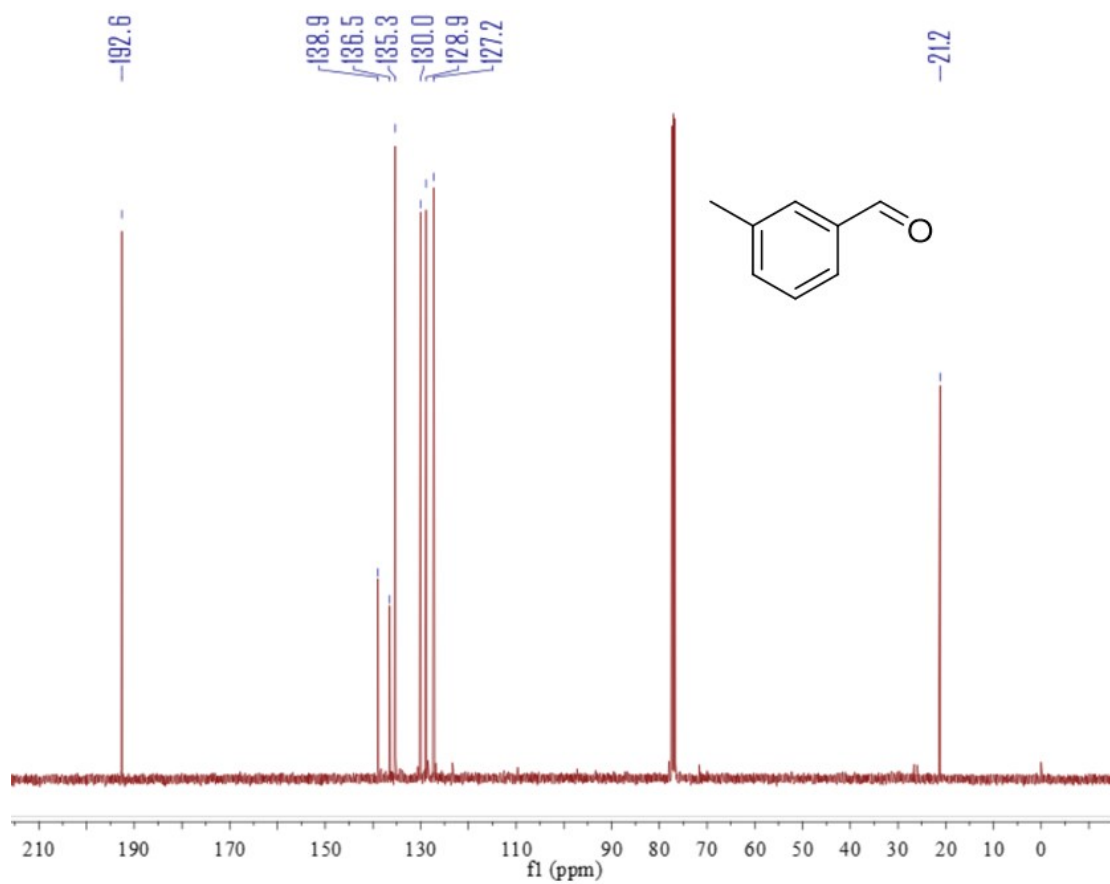
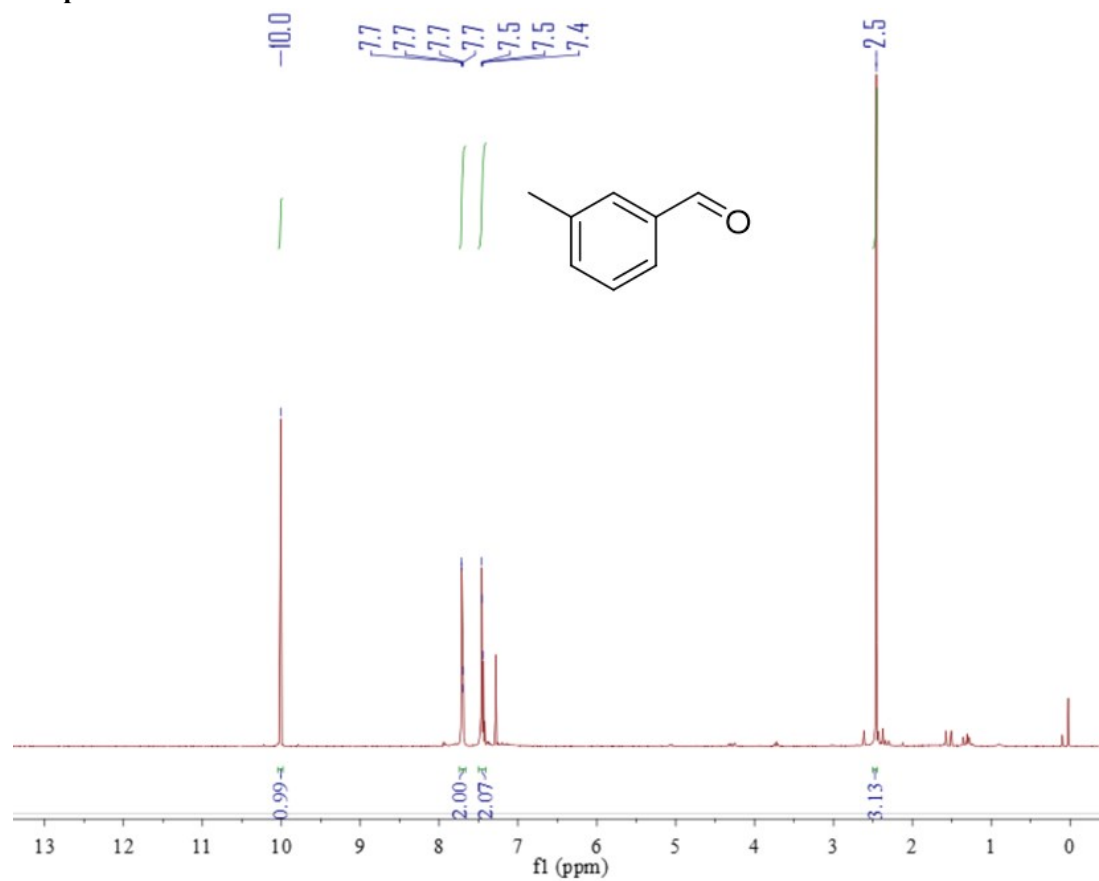
Compound 2q



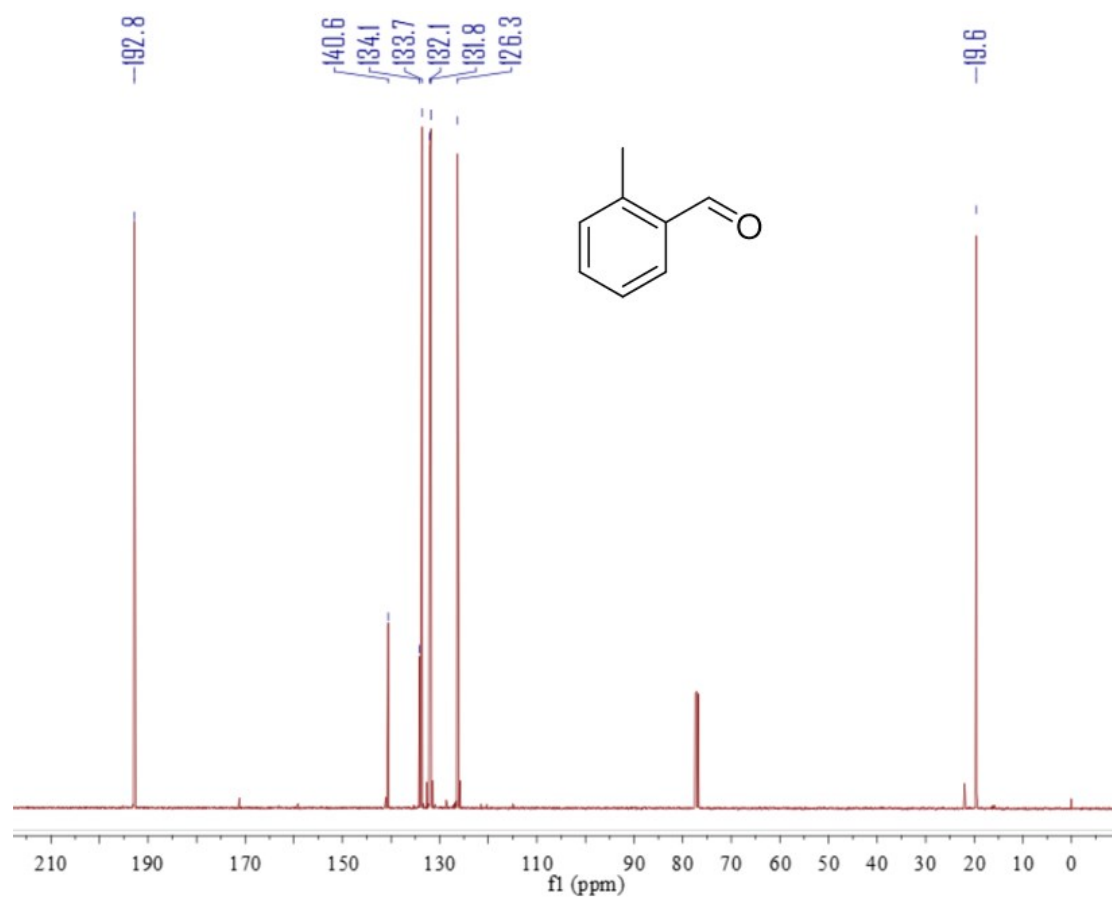
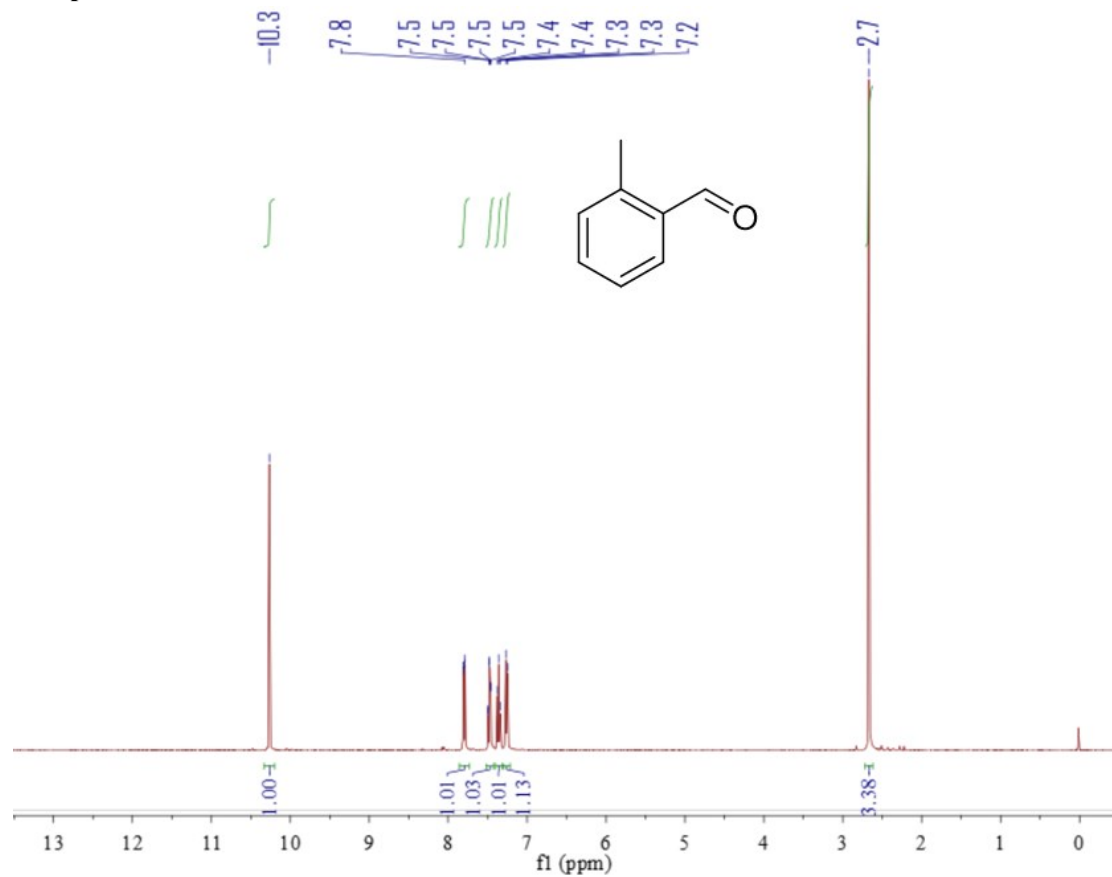
Compound 2r



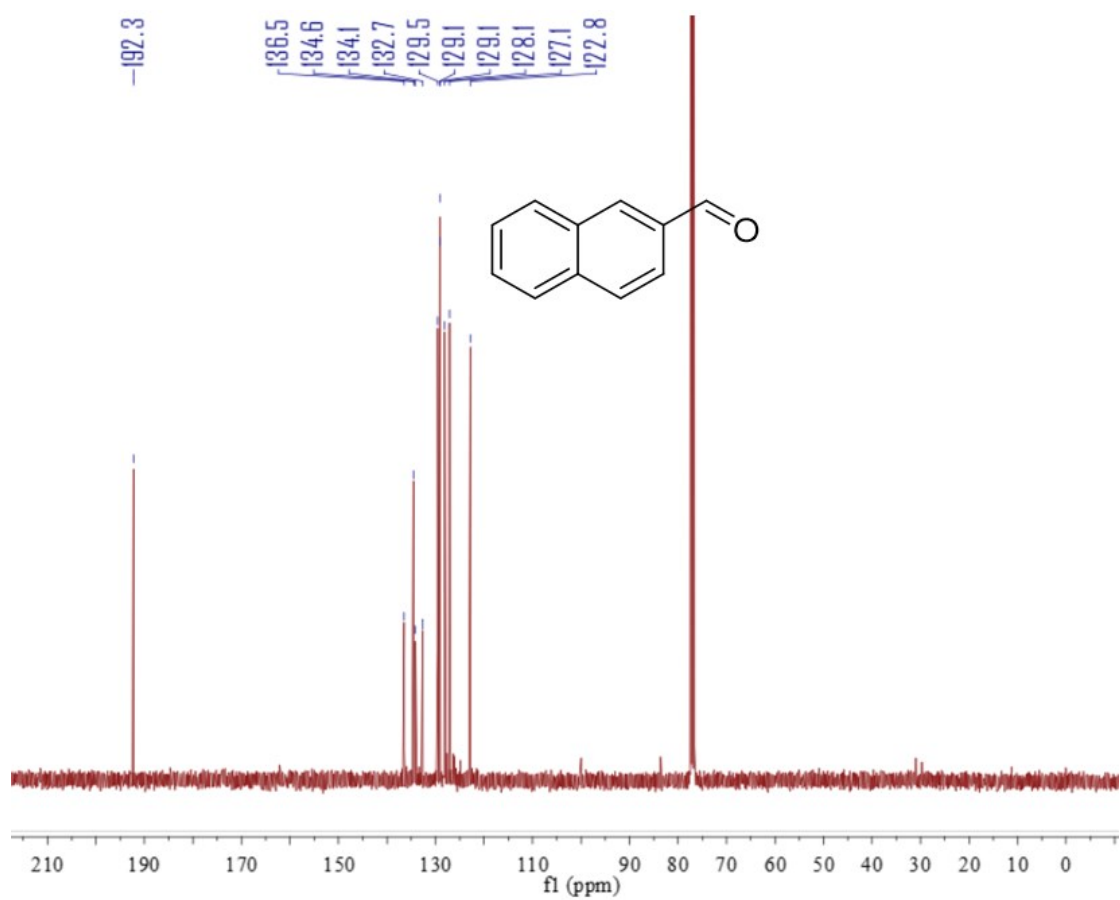
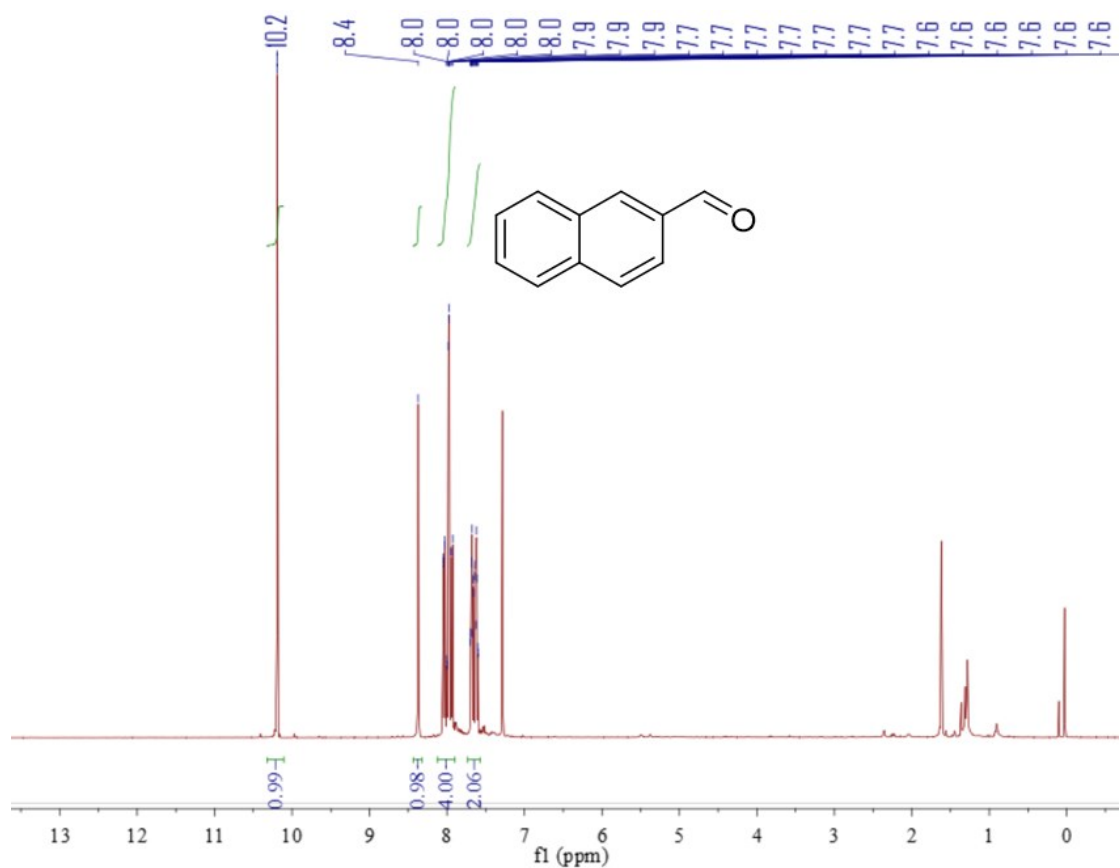
Compound 4a



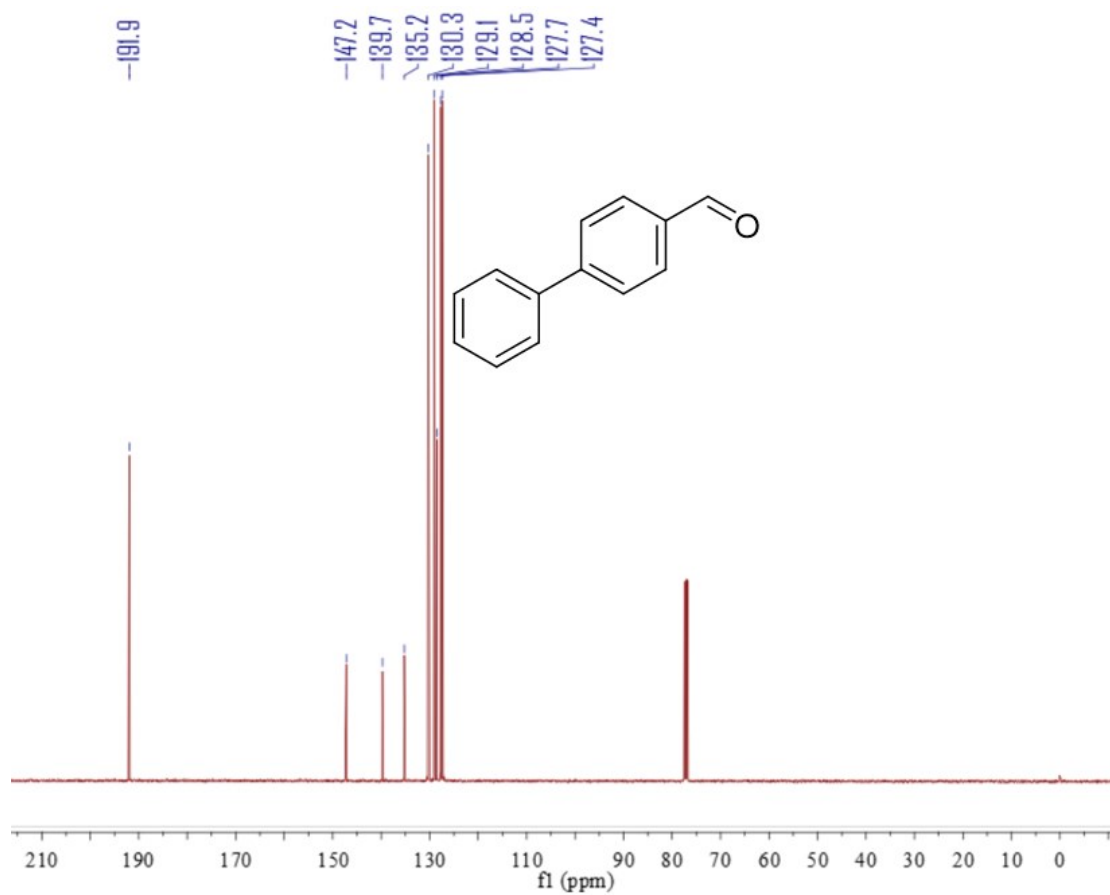
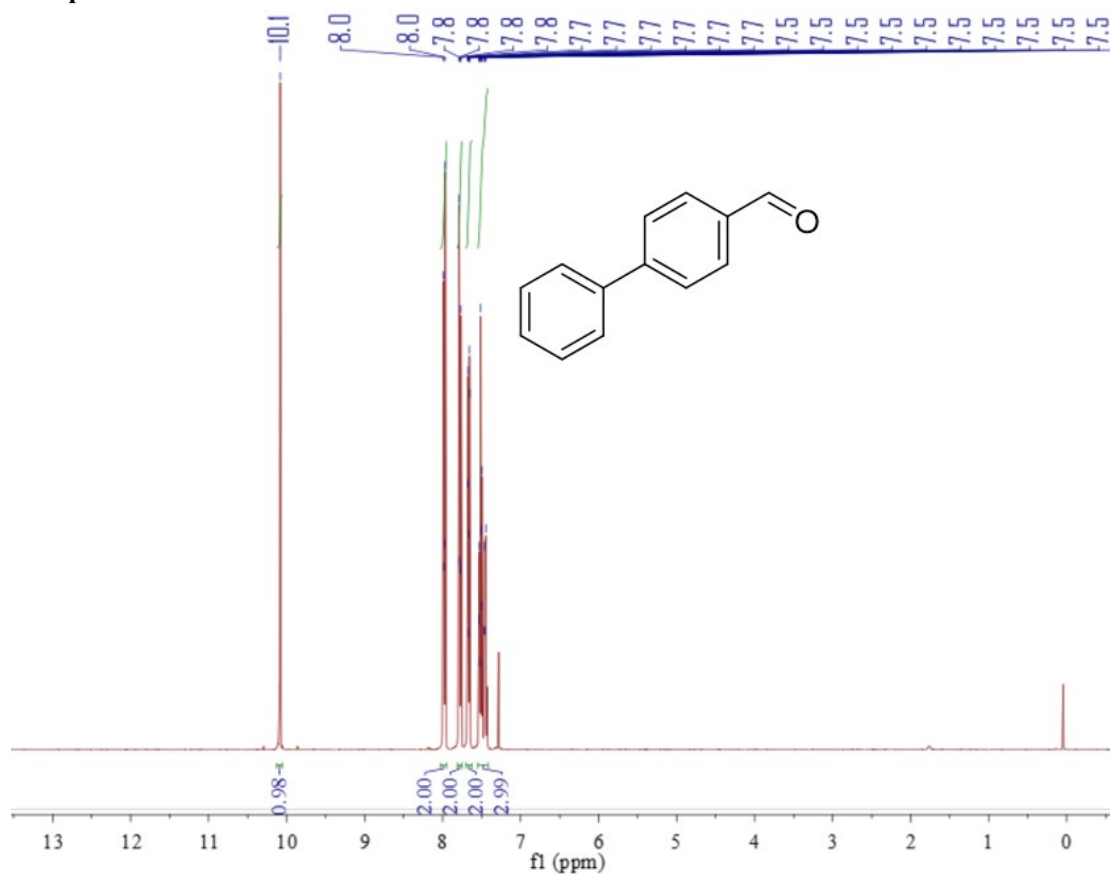
Compound 4b



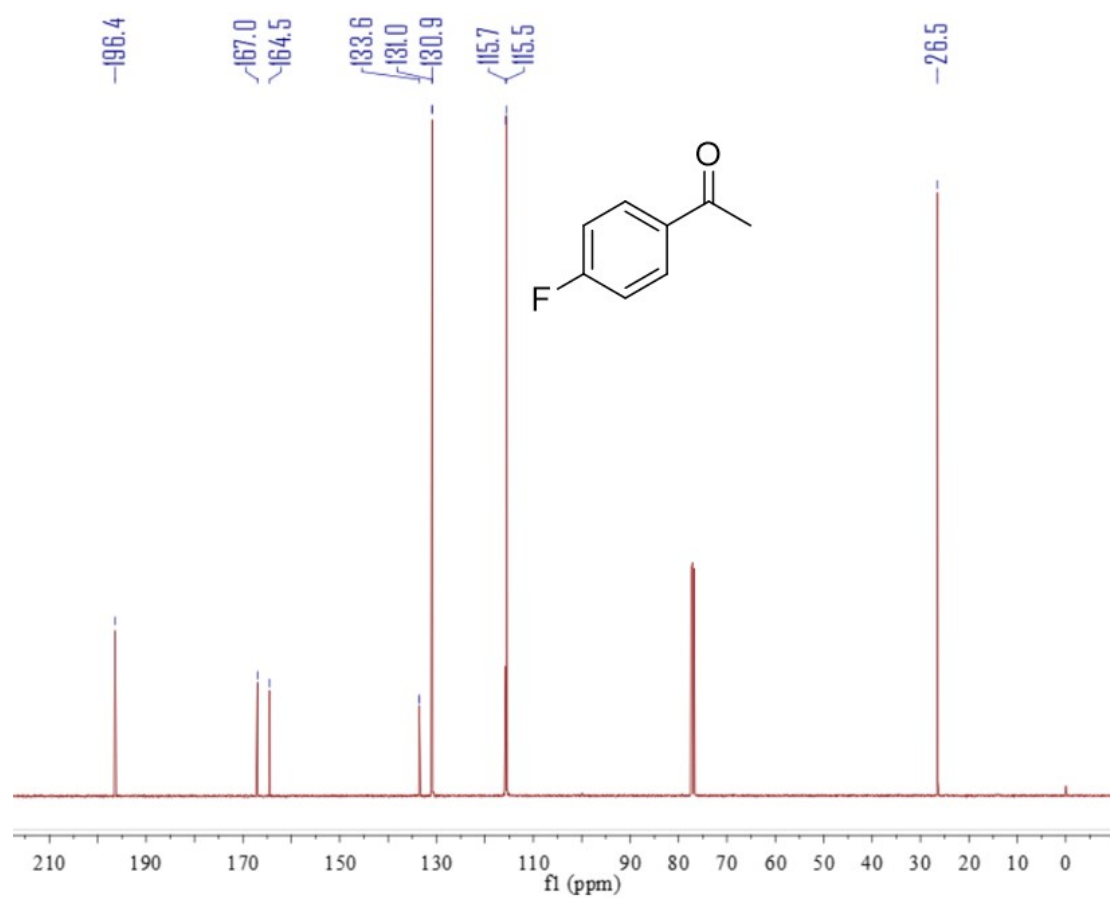
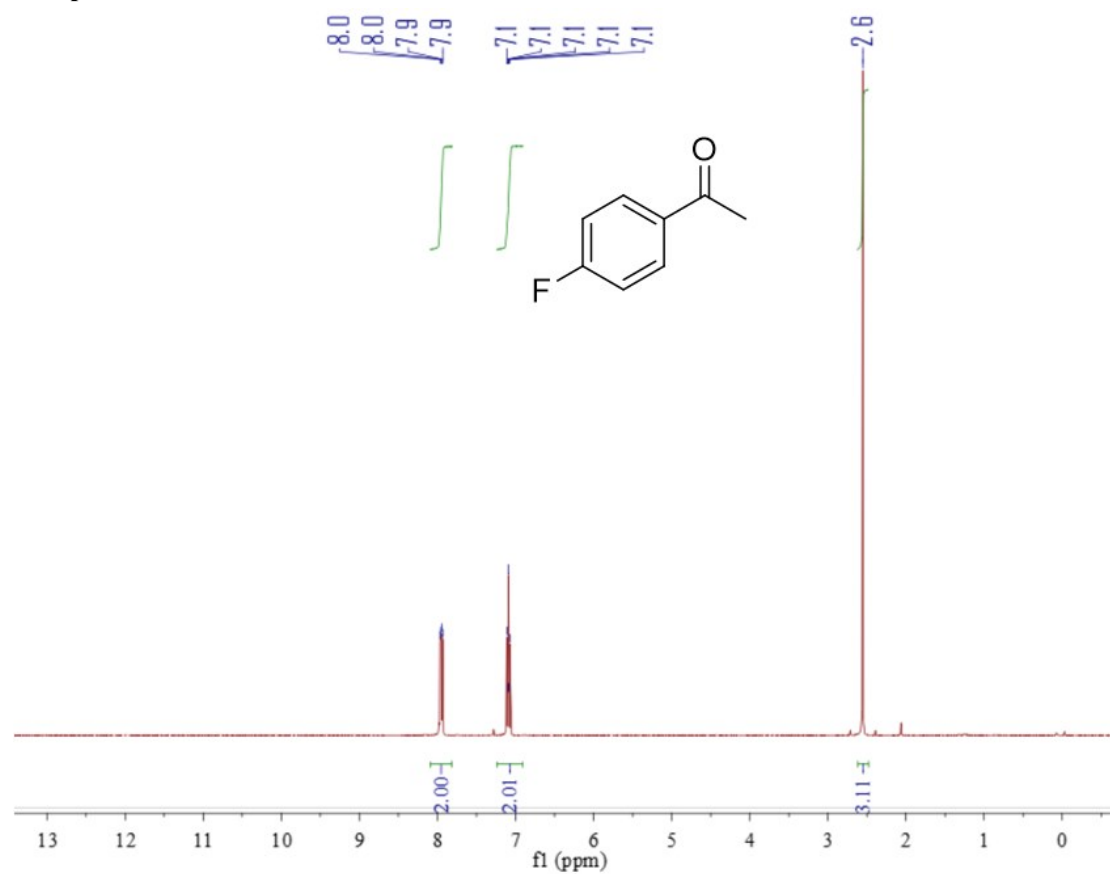
Compound 4c



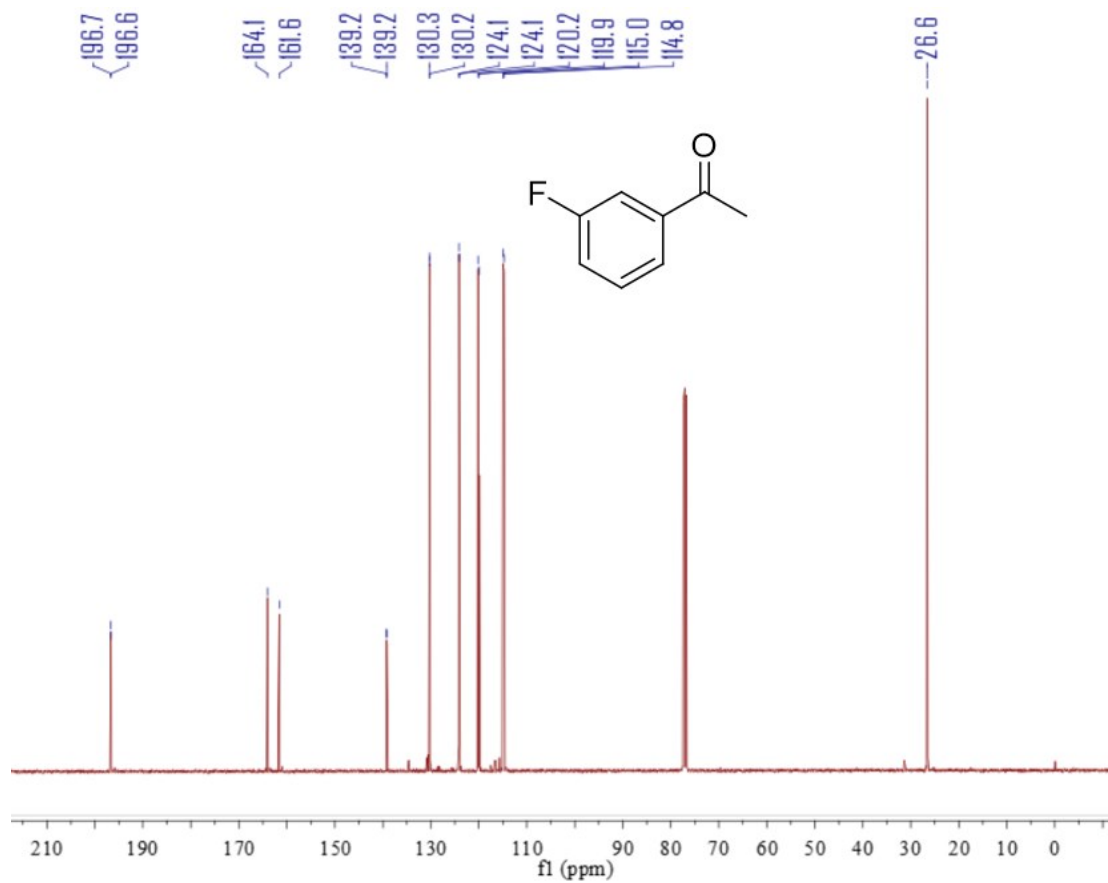
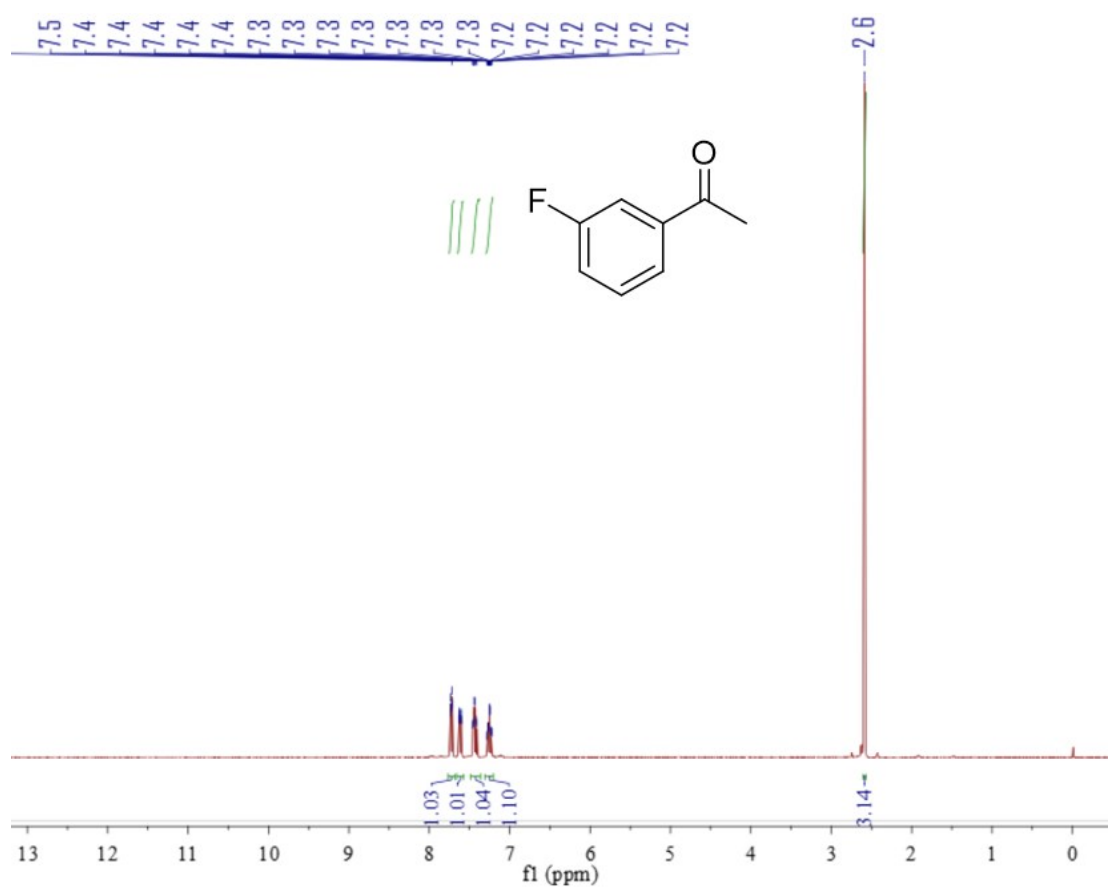
Compound 4d



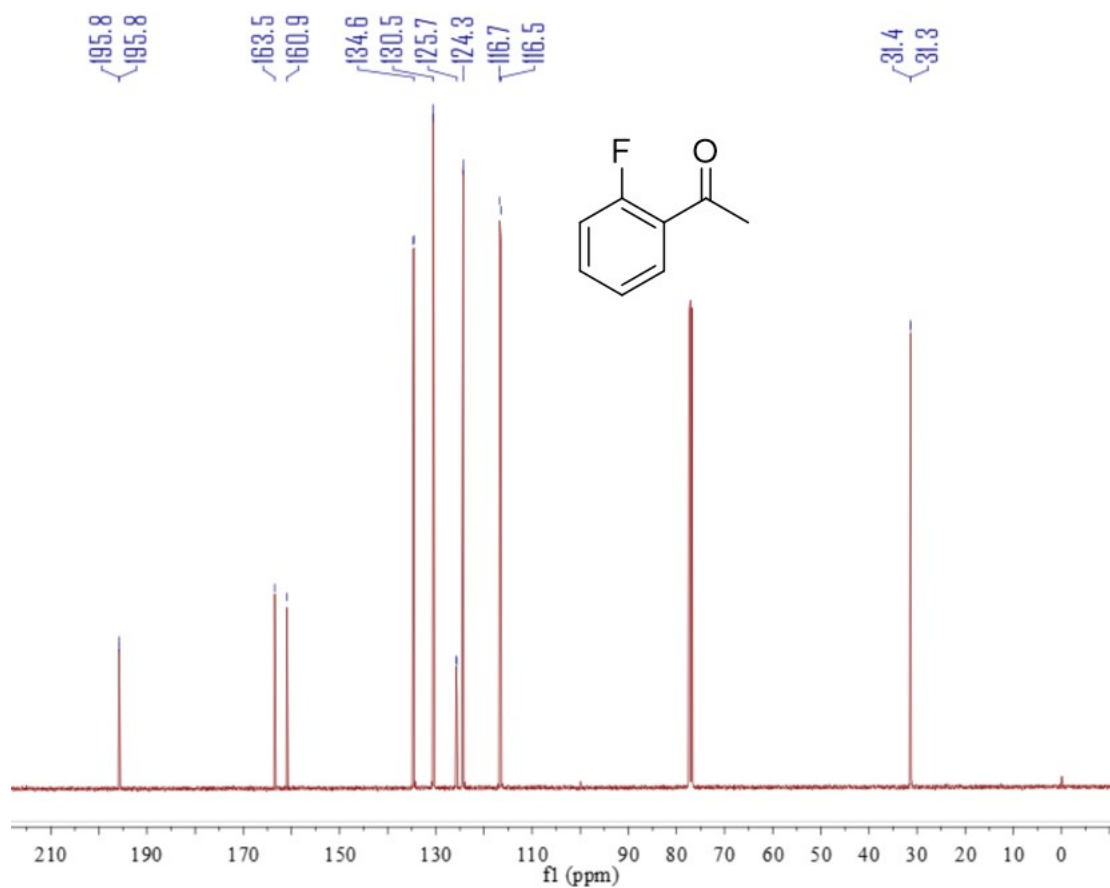
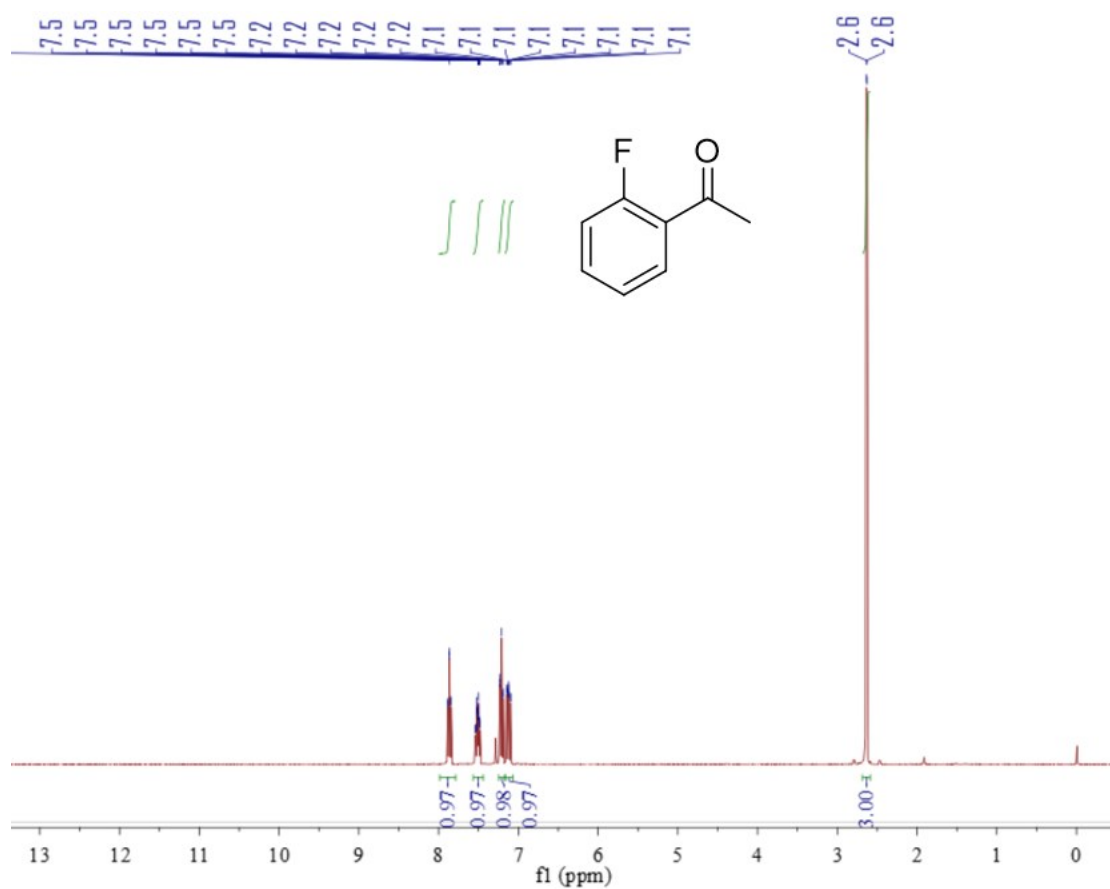
Compound 4e



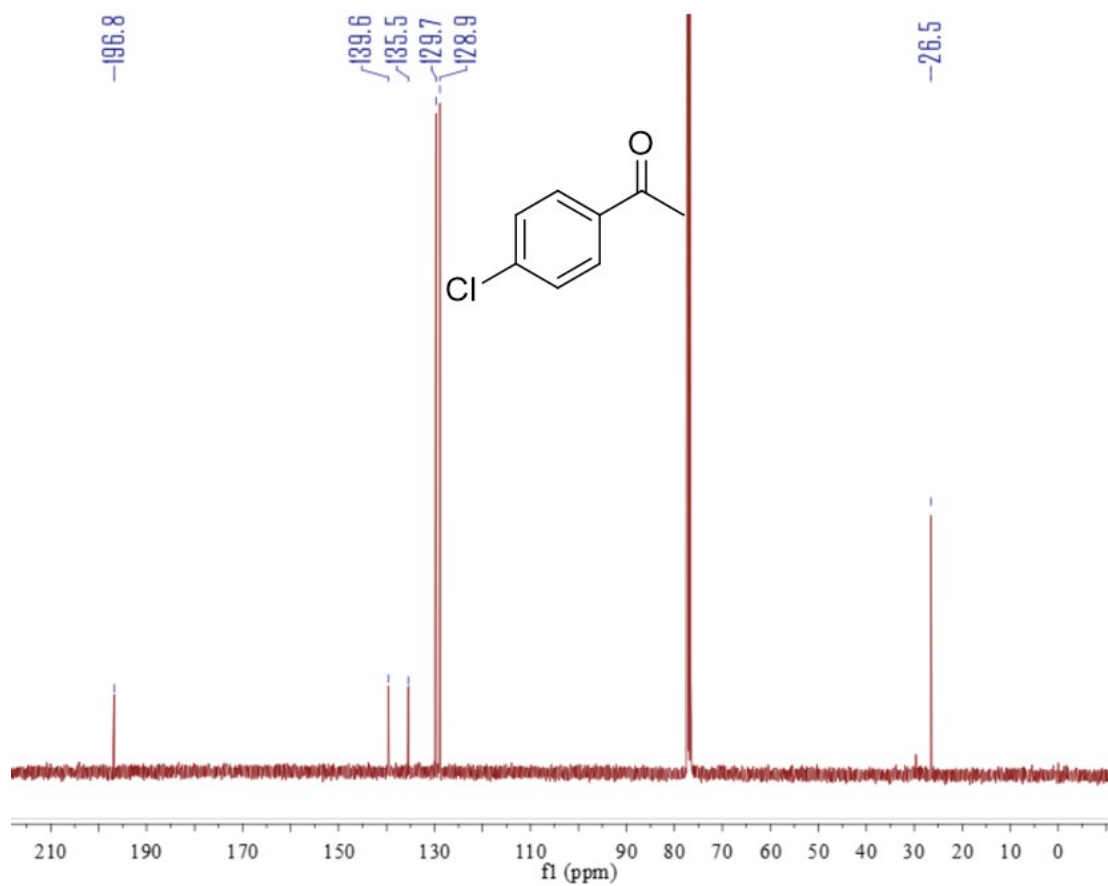
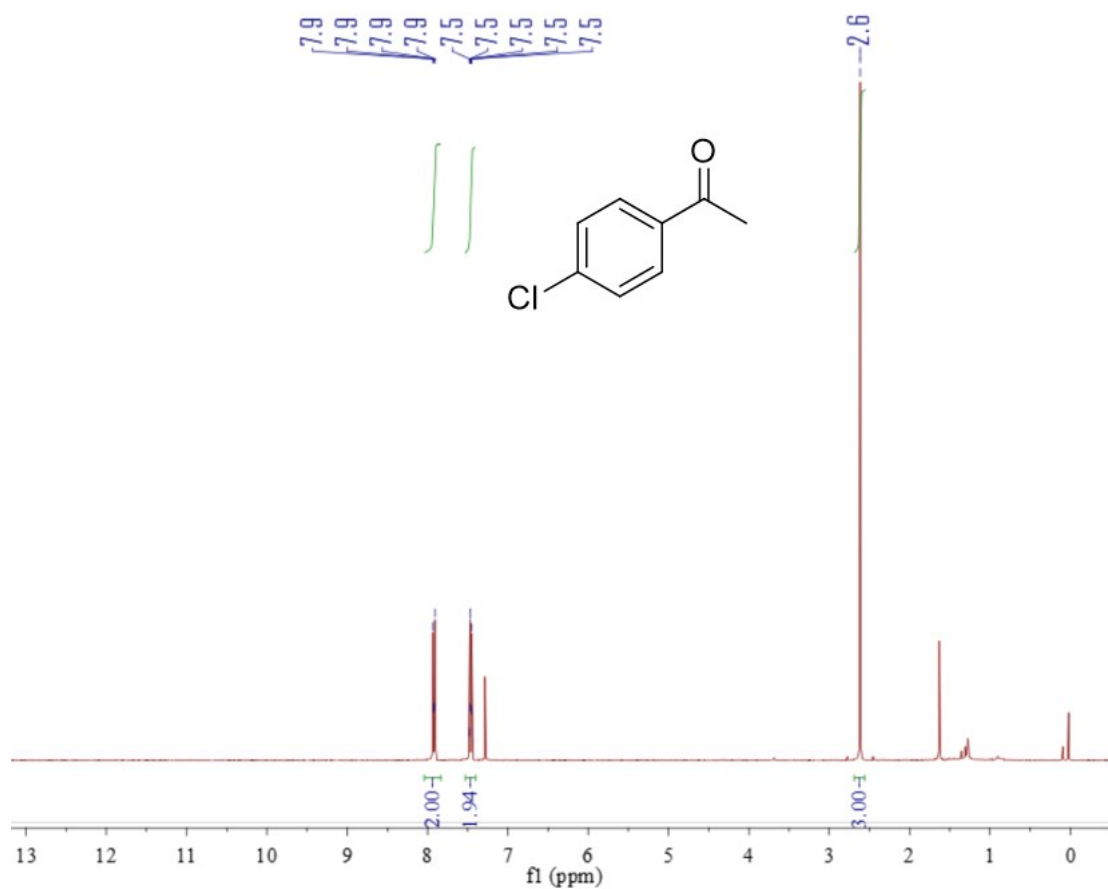
Compound 4f



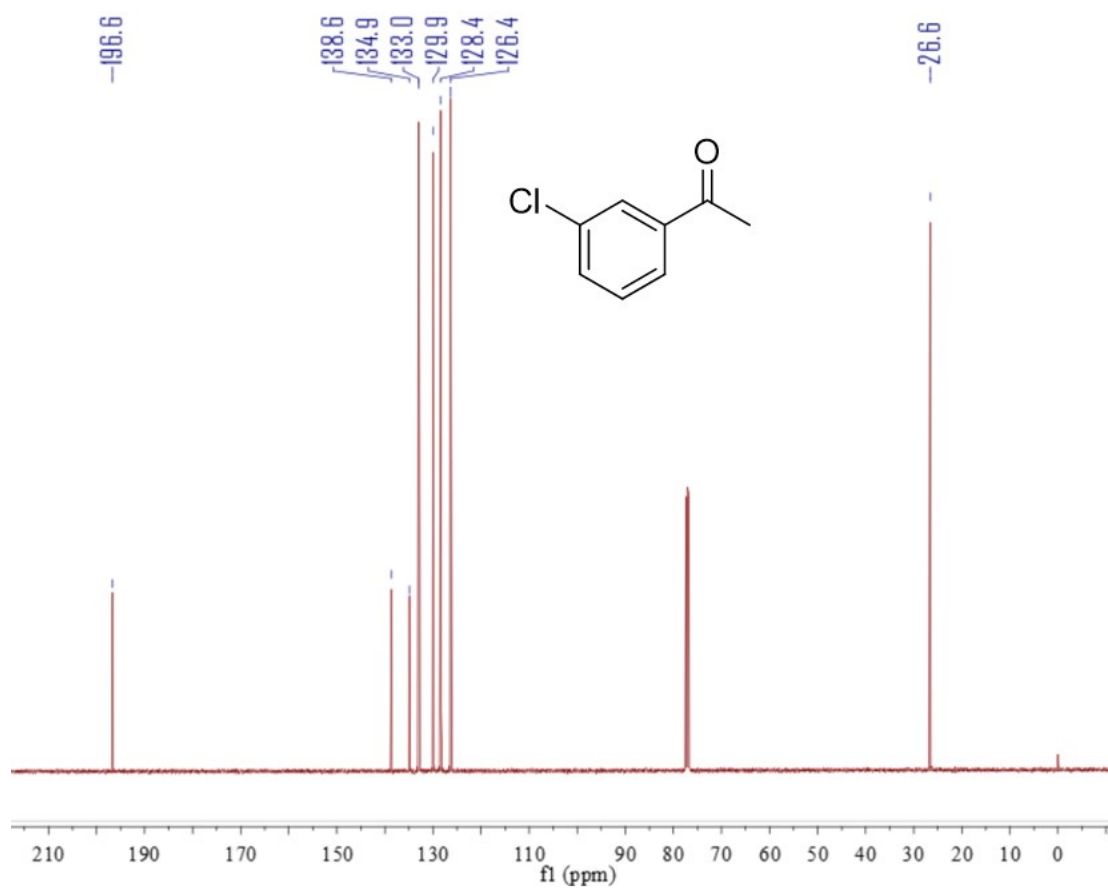
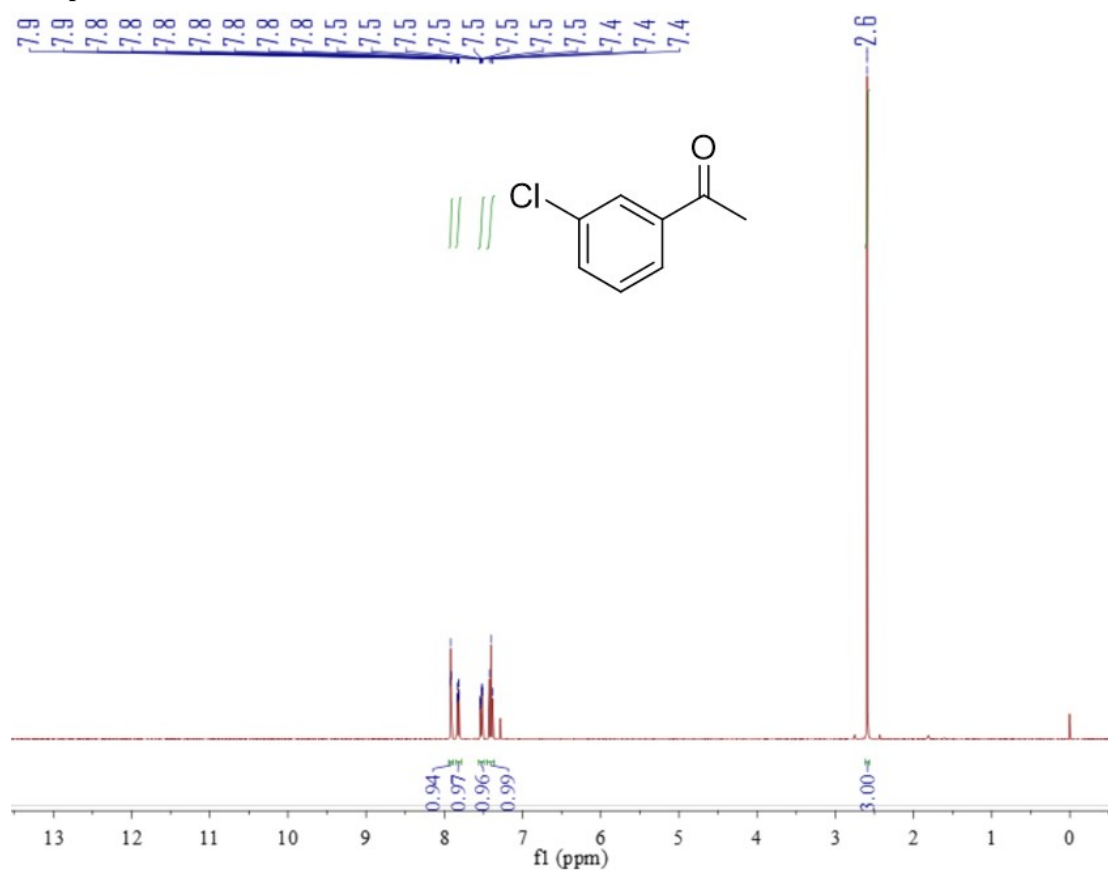
Compound 4g



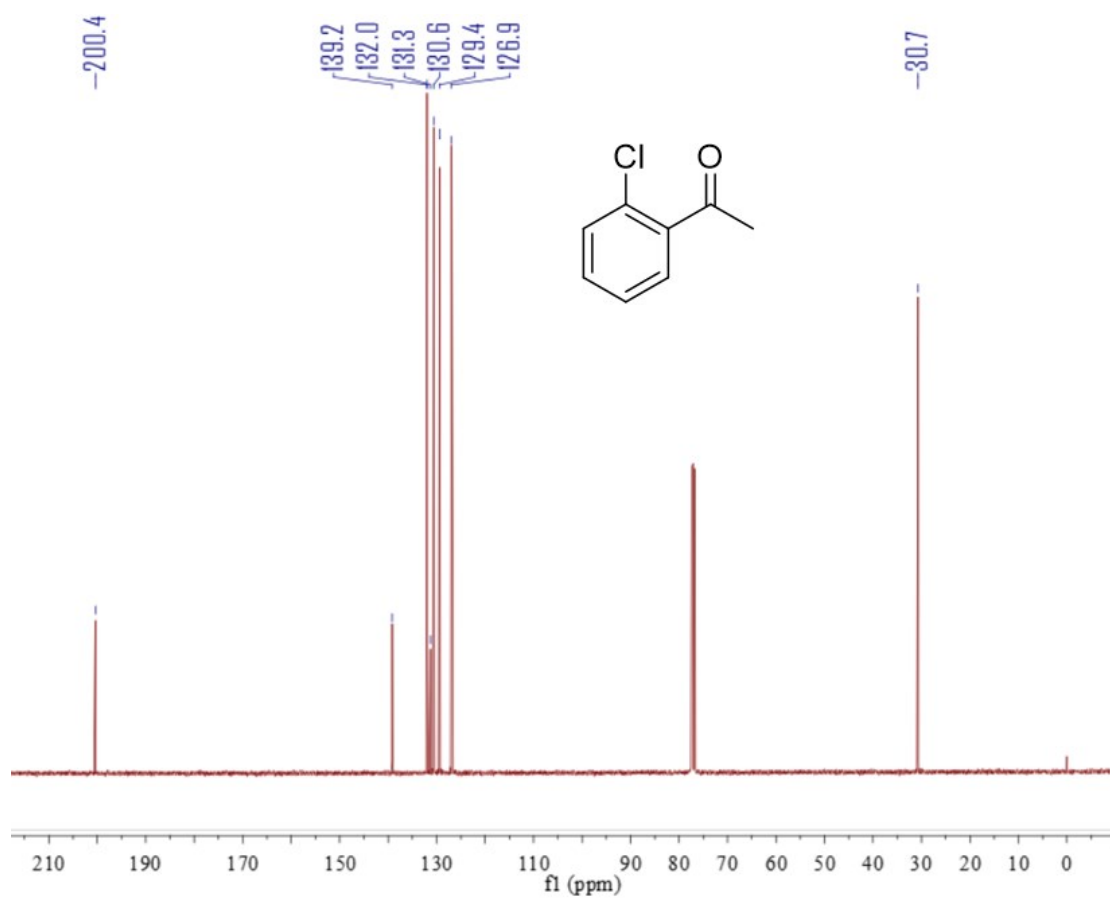
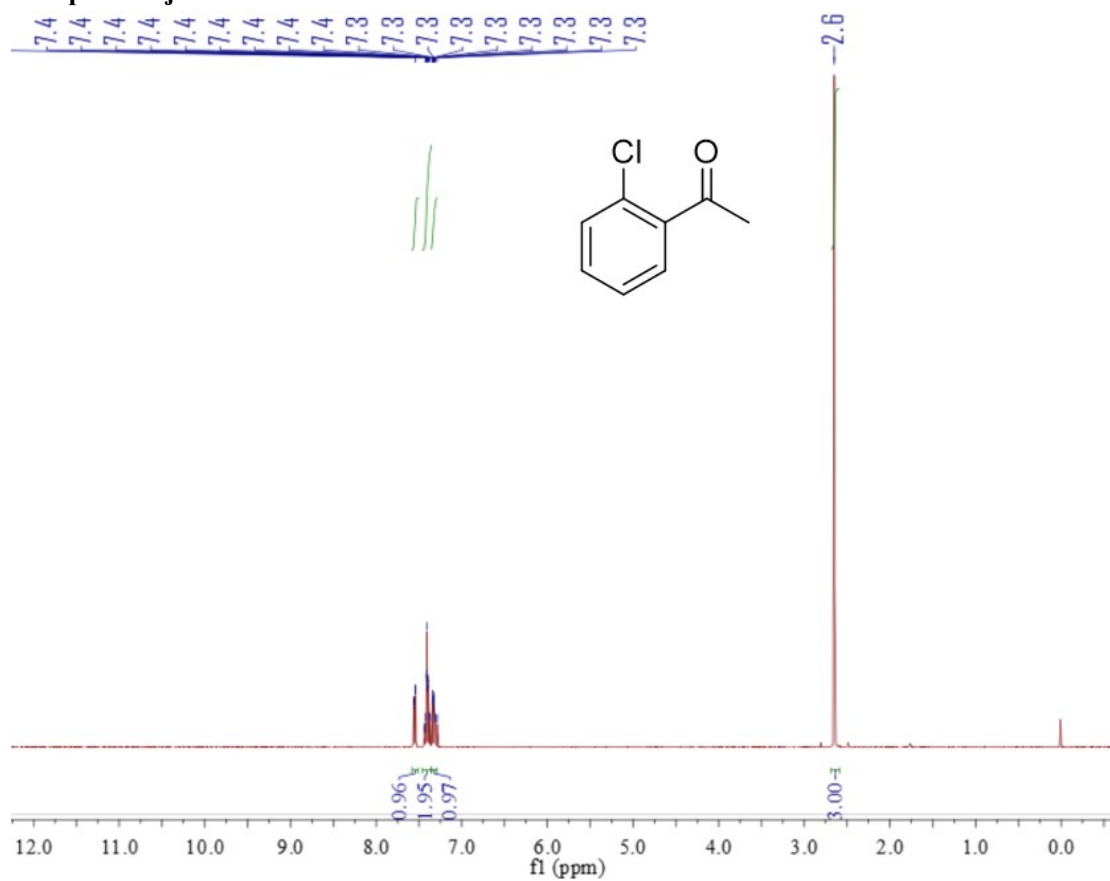
Compound 4h



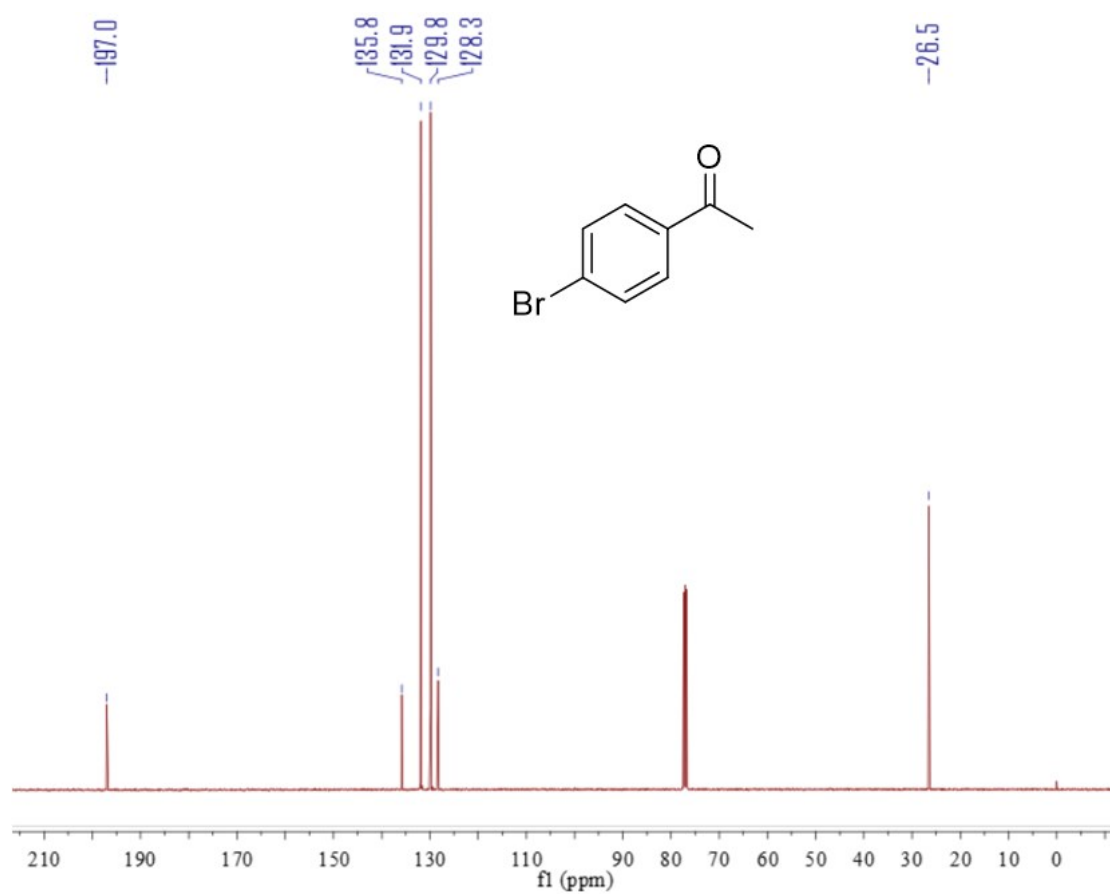
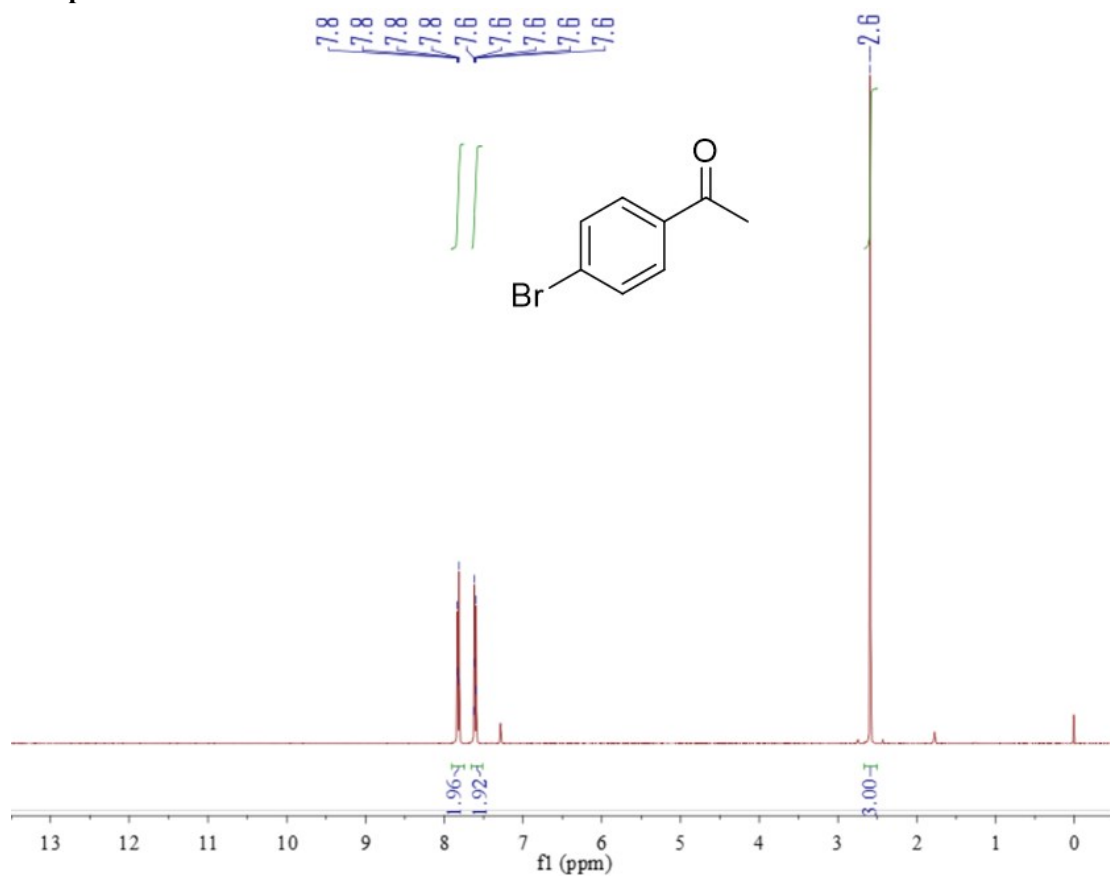
Compound 4i



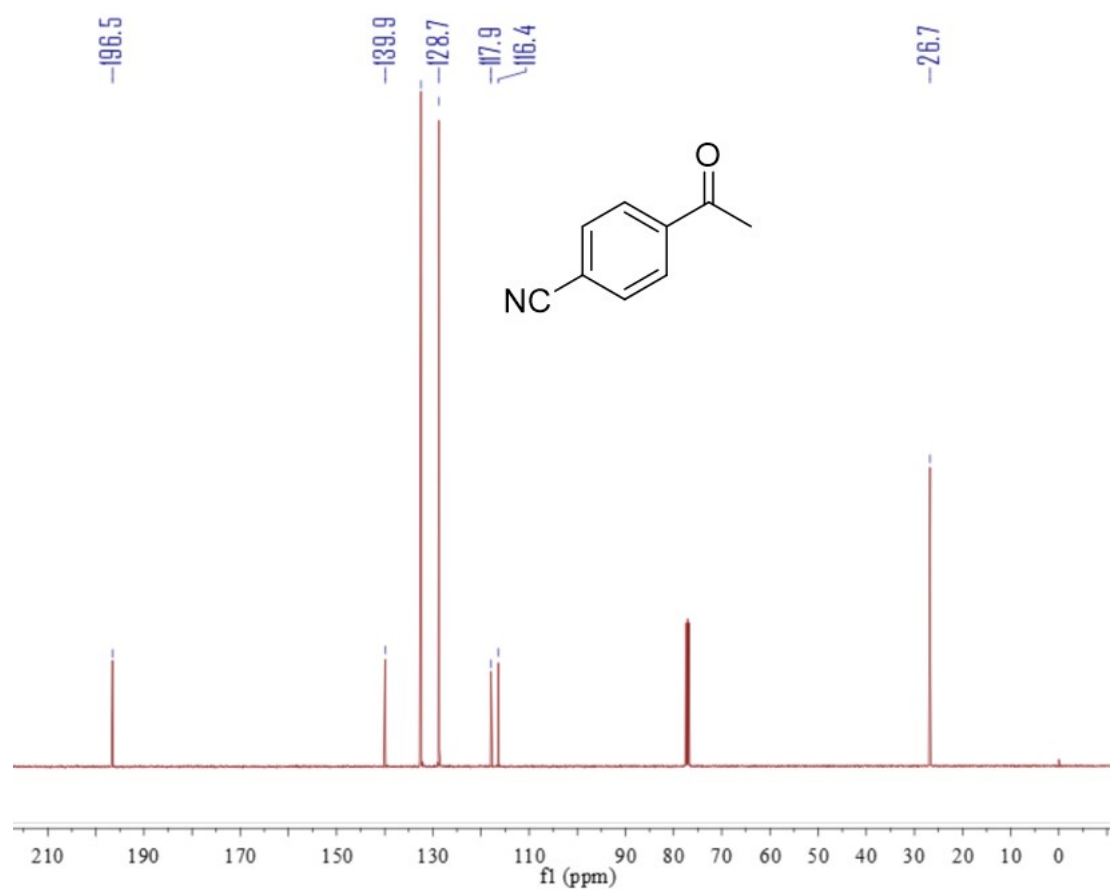
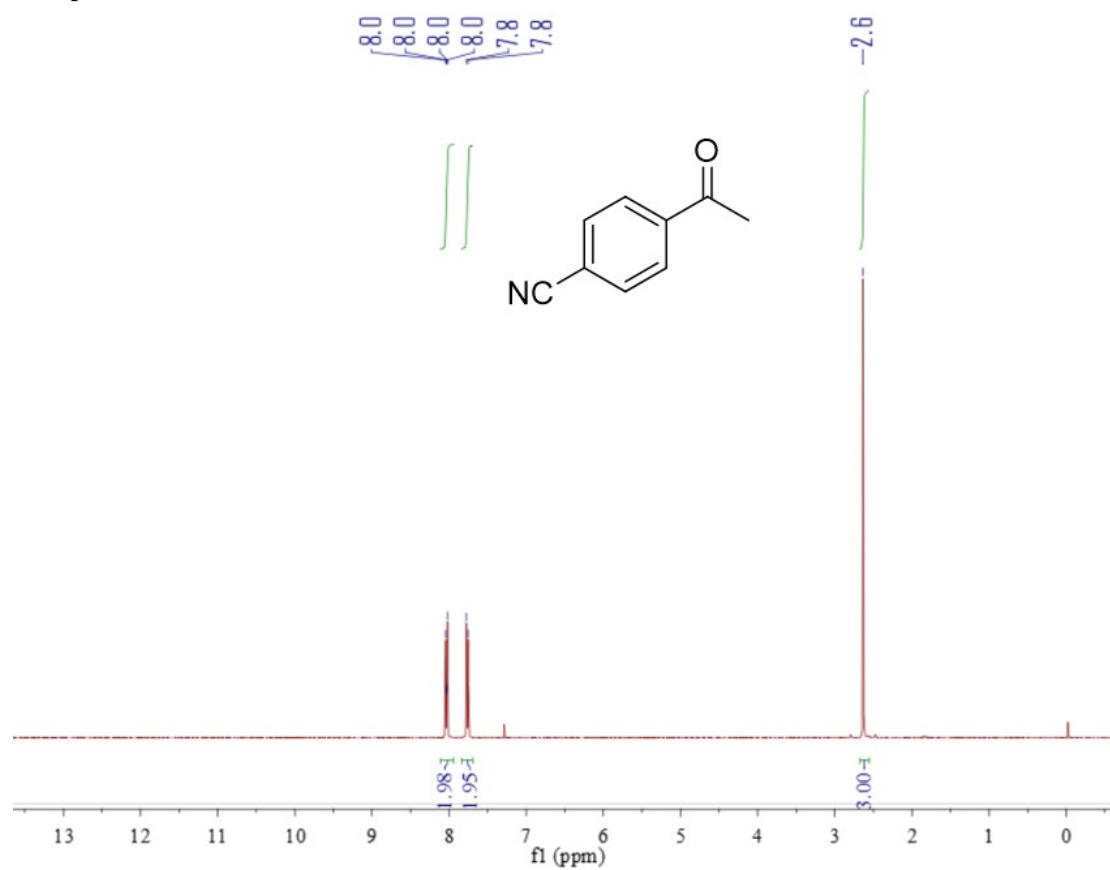
Compound 4j



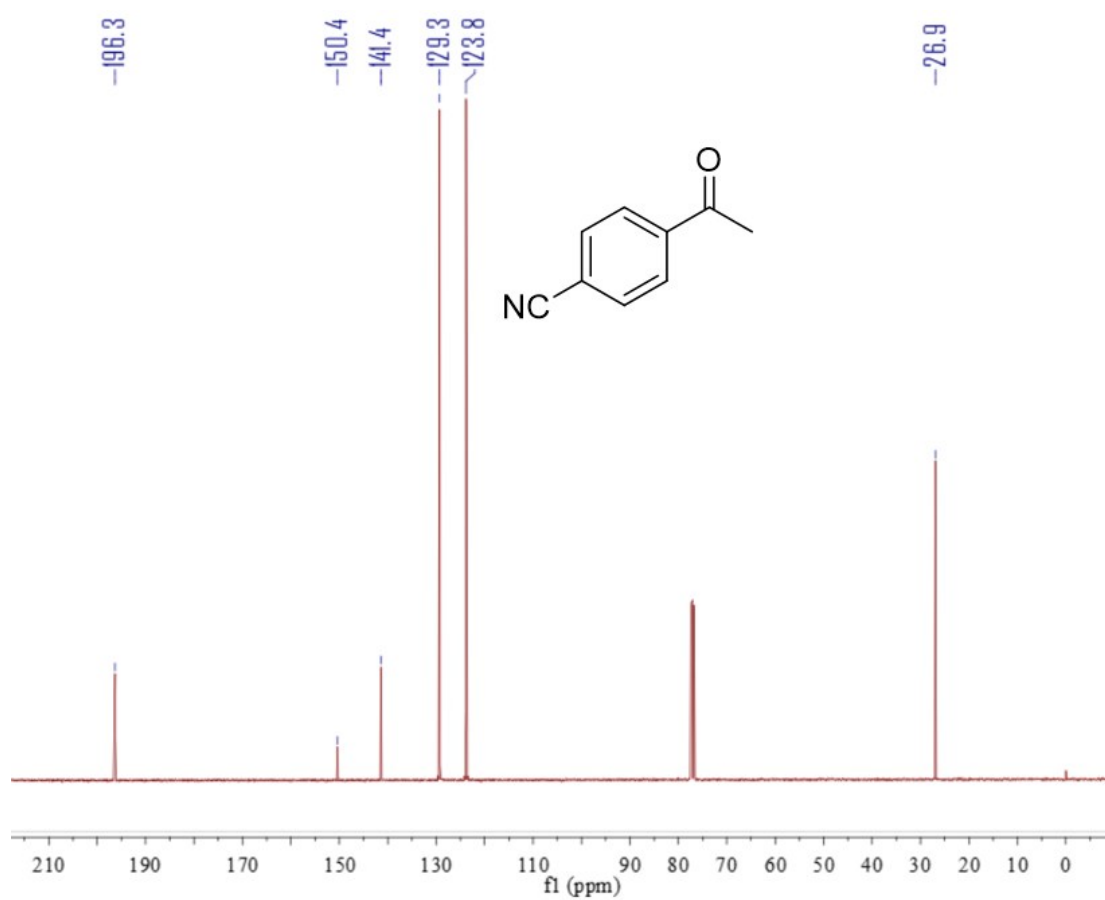
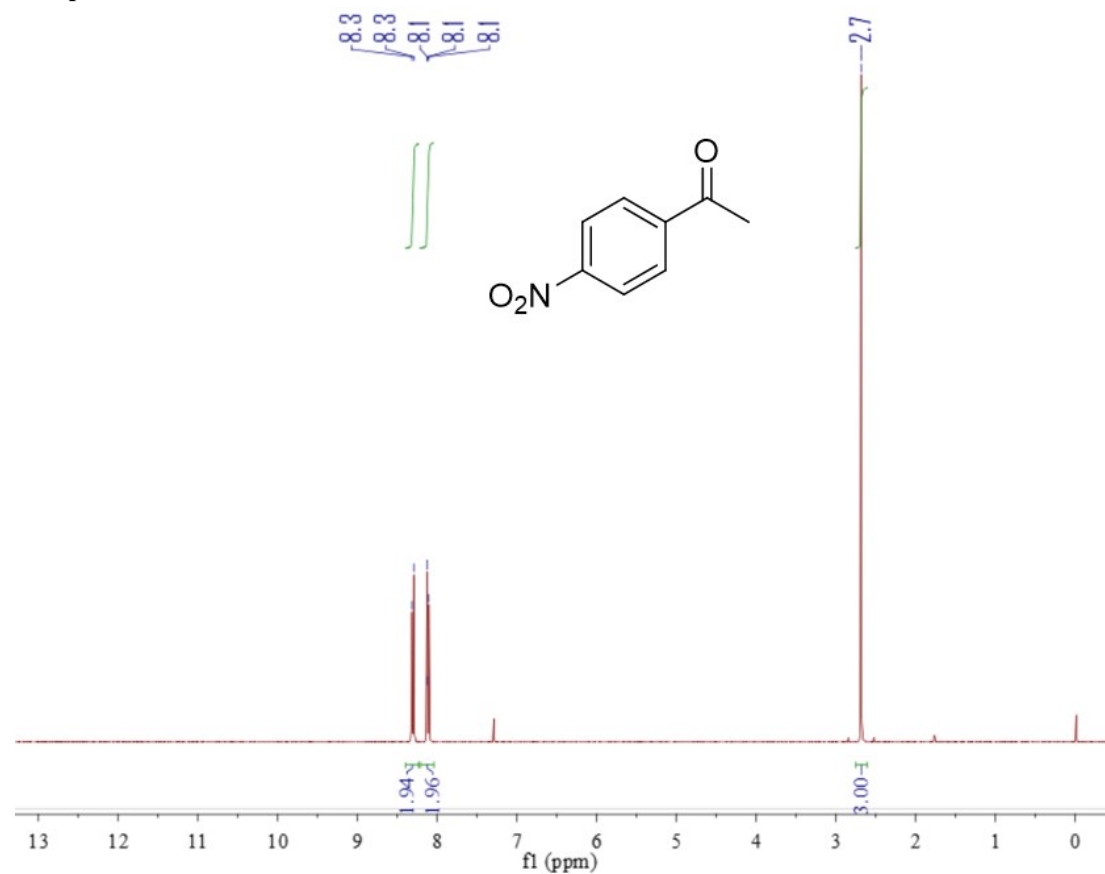
Compound 4k



Compound 4l



Compound 4m



Compound 4n

