

Supporting Information

One-Pot Cascade Synthesis of α -Diketones from Aldehydes and Ketones in Water Catalyzed by A Bifunctional Iron Nanocomposites Catalyst

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1. General information

Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were purchased commercially from Sigma-Aldrich, or Aladdin and used as received without further purification. The fresh bamboo shoots were obtained from Anhui Taiping Test Centre, International Centre for Bamboo and Rattan, Anhui Province, China. All operations were carried out in an argon atmosphere using glovebox and Schlenk techniques unless otherwise specified. Gas chromatography analysis was performed on an Agilent HP-7890 instrument with a flame ionization detector (FID) and an HP-5MS capillary column (30 m, 0.25 mm i.d., 0.25 μ m film thicknesses) using helium as the carrier gas. Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry analysis was carried out on an Agilent HP-7890 instrument with an Agilent HP-5975 with triple-axis detector and HP-5 capillary column using helium carrier gas. NMR spectra were from a Bruker DRX-400, or DRX-600, instrument and calibrated using residual non-deuterated solvent (CDCl_3 : $\delta_{\text{H}} = 7.26$ ppm, $\delta_{\text{C}} = 77.16$ ppm; $\text{DMSO}-d_6$, $\delta_{\text{H}} = 2.50$ ppm, $\delta_{\text{C}} = 39.60$ ppm) as an internal reference. High-resolution mass data were recorded on Bruke Maxis UHR TOF mass spectrometers in ESI mode.

2. General procedures for the synthesis of α -Diketones

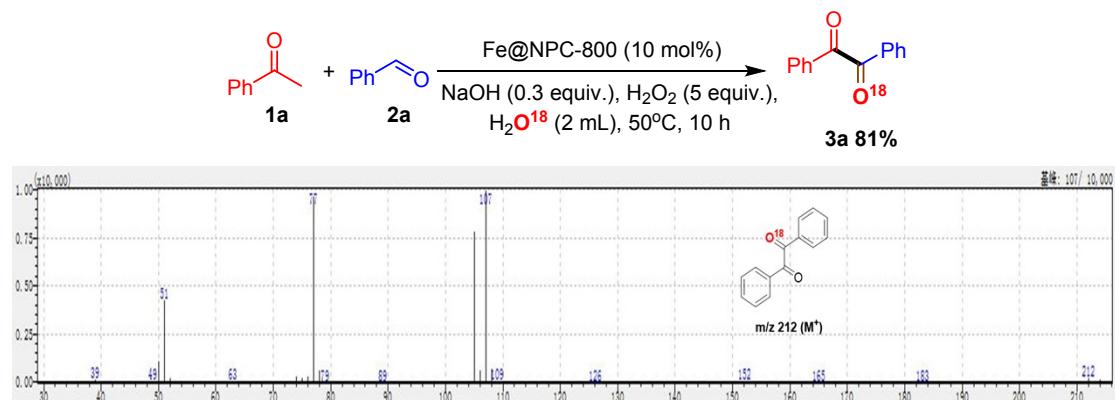
A 25 mL sealing tube was charged with a magnetic stirring, ketone (0.2 mmol), aldehyde (0.22 mmol), Fe@NPC-800 (10 mol% of Fe), H_2O_2 30wt% in water (5 eq.), H_2O (2 mL). The reaction was stirred for 10 h at 50 °C. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and the liquid was extracted by ethyl acetate and the organic phase was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to determine the conversion and selectivity using dodecane as an internal standard. The products were purified by column chromatography and structurally confirmed by NMR.

3. Recyclability of the catalyst

The model reaction was chosen to investigate the recyclability of the Fe@NPC-

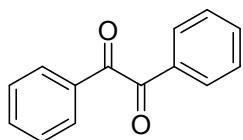
800 catalyst. A 25 mL sealing tube was charged with a magnetic stirring, acetophenone (0.2 mmol), benzaldehyde (0.22 mmol), catalyst (10 mol% of Fe), H₂O₂ 30wt% in water (5 eq.), H₂O (2 mL). The reaction was stirred for 10 h at 50 °C. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and the liquid was extracted by ethyl acetate and the organic phase was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to determine the conversion and selectivity using dodecane as an internal standard. The residue was dispersed in ethanol and water (5 mL v/v=1/1) and the resulting mixture was stirred for 10 min, the catalyst was separated by centrifugation. Such operation was repeated for 3 times. Finally, the obtained black solid was dried under vacuum at 40°C overnight for successive use.

4. The O¹⁸-labeling experiment



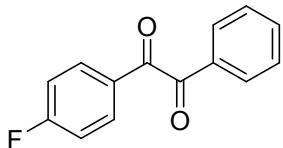
Scheme 1. GC-MS result for O¹⁸-Labeling Studies

5. Characterization of products

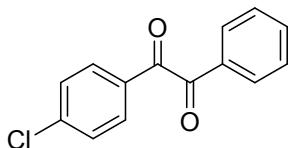


benzil (3a), yellow solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 10:1; 200 mL). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.05-7.85 (m, 4H), 7.73 -7.60 (m, 2H), 7.58-7.39 (m, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 194.6, 134.9, 133.0, 129.9, 129.1.

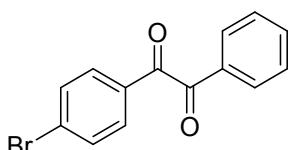
The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.¹



1-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (3b), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 10:1; 200 mL). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.00-7.91 (m, 2H), 7.91-7.82 (m, 2H), 7.59 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.16-7.04 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 194.1, 192.8, 167.12 (d, $J = 259$ Hz), 135.0, 132.9, 132.76 (d, $J_{C-F} = 7.6$ Hz), 129.9, 129.5 (d, $J_{C-F} = 2.9$ Hz), 129.1, 116.43 (d, $J_{C-F} = 22.1$ Hz). The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.¹

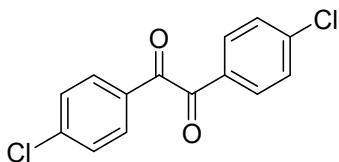


1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (3c), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 10:1; 200 mL). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.92-7.82 (m, 4H), 7.59 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.38 (m, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 193.9, 193.1, 141.6, 135.1, 132.8, 131.4, 131.3, 129.9, 129.5, 129.1. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.¹

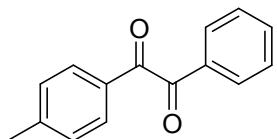


1-(4-bromophenyl)-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (3d), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 10:1; 200 mL). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3):

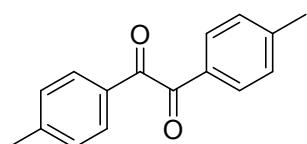
δ 7.89 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.81-7.73 (m, 2H), 7.67-7.57 (m, 3H), 7.50-7.40 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 193.9, 193.3, 135.1, 132.8, 132.5, 131.8, 131.3, 130.5, 129.9, 129.1. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.¹



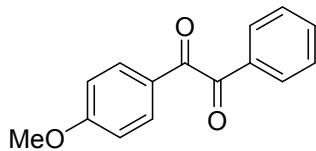
1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (3e), Yellow solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 10:1; 200 mL). ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.92 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.50 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 192.4, 141.8, 131.3, 131.1, 129.5. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.¹



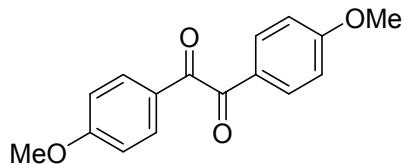
1-phenyl-2-(p-tolyl)ethane-1,2-dione (3f), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 10:1; 200 mL). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.96-7.83 (m, 2H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.62 -7.49 (m, 1H), 7.40 (dd, J = 10.7, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 194.8, 194.3, 146.3, 134.8, 133.1, 130.6, 130.0, 129.9, 129.8, 129.1, 21.9. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.¹



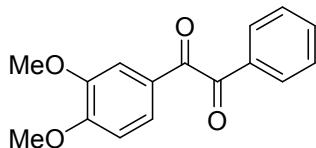
1,2-di-p-tolylethane-1,2-dione (3g), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 10:1; 200 mL). ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.86 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 2.43 (s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 194.5, 146.2, 130.7, 130.0, 129.7, 21.9. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.¹



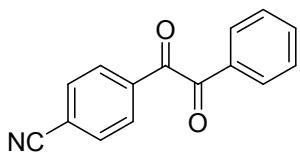
1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (3h), yellow solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 5:1; 200 mL). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.98-7.72 (m, 4H), 7.61-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.40 (dd, *J* = 10.7, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 6.99-6.80 (m, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 194.9, 193.2, 165.0, 134.8, 133.2, 132.4, 129.9, 128.9, 126.1, 114.4, 55.7. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.¹



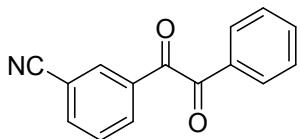
1,2-di-p-tolylethane-1,2-dione (3i), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 5:1; 200 mL). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 4H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 4H), 3.88 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 193.5, 164.9, 132.4, 126.3, 114.3, 55.6. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.¹



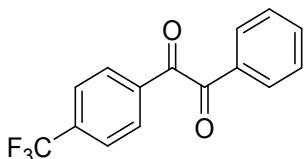
1-phenyl-2-(p-tolyl)ethane-1,2-dione (3j), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 5:1; 200 mL). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.20-7.78 (m, 2H), 7.67-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.32 (m, 3H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 193.7, 192.3, 153.9, 148.6, 133.3, 132.5, 128.9, 127.9, 125.3, 125.2, 109.4, 109.2, 55.2, 55.1. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.²



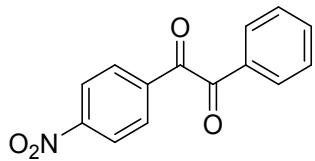
4-(2-oxo-2-phenylacetyl)benzonitrile (3k), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 7:1; 200 mL). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.13-8.06 (m, 2H), 8.01-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.85-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 193.0, 192.4, 135.9, 135.4, 132.8, 132.5, 130.2, 130.0, 129.2, 117.9, 117.6. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.¹



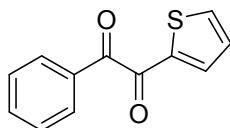
3-(2-oxo-2-phenylacetyl)benzonitrile (3l), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 7:1; 200 mL). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.19 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.17-8.10 (m, 1H), 7.91 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.86-7.80 (m, 1H), 7.68-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 192.9, 191.7, 137.4, 135.5, 133.8, 133.7, 133.4, 132.4, 130.09, 130.07, 129.2, 117.4, 113.7. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.³



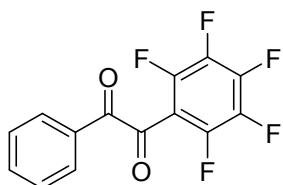
1-phenyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethane-1,2-dione (3m), yellow solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 10:1; 200 mL). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.95-7.86 (m, 2H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.40 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 193.5, 193.0, 135.9 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 33.1 Hz), 135.3, 132.6, 130.2, 130.0, 129.2, 126.07 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 123.33 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 271.0 Hz). The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.⁴



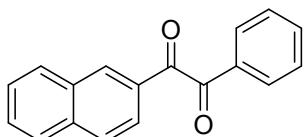
1-(4-nitrophenyl)-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (3n), yellow solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 5:1; 200 mL). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.40-8.20 (m, 2H), 8.20-8.05 (m, 2H), 7.98-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.65 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 192.8, 192.1, 151.2, 137.3, 135.5, 132.4, 130.9, 130.1, 129.3, 124.2. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.⁴



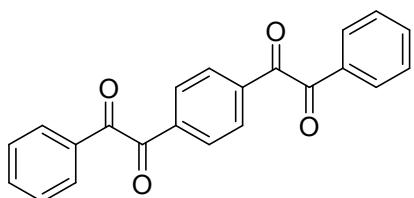
1-phenyl-2-(thiophen-2-yl)ethane-1,2-dione (3o), yellow solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 10:1; 200 mL). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.22 (dd, *J* = 2.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.08-7.98 (m, 2H), 7.71-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.51 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 4.7 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 2.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 193.3, 187.3, 138.1, 137.0, 134.8, 132.7, 130.2, 128.9, 127.2, 127.1. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.⁵



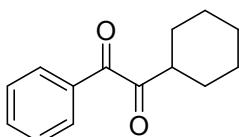
1-(perfluorophenyl)-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (3p), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 10:1; 200 mL). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.11-7.98 (m, 2H), 7.72 (dd, *J* = 10.6, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 188.8, 184.9, 147.85–147.06 (m), 145.19-144.40 (m), 139.15-138.43 (m), 136.93-136.08 (m), 135.4, 130.9, 130.5, 129.2. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.⁶



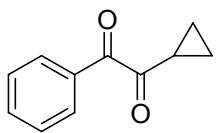
1-(naphthalen-2-yl)-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (3q), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 10:1; 200 mL).¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.32 (s, 1H), 8.01 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.98-7.89 (m, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.62-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.45 (dt, *J* = 15.5, 4.3 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 194.7, 136.4, 134.9, 133.6, 133.2, 132.4, 130.4, 130.0, 129.9, 129.6, 129.2, 129.1, 128.0, 127.2, 123.7. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.⁷



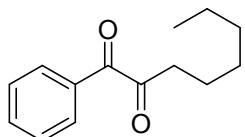
2,2'-(1,4-phenylene)bis(1-phenylethane-1,2-dione) (3r), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 3:1; 200 mL).¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.11 (s, 4H), 7.97 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.0 Hz, 4H), 7.69 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 4H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 193.5, 193.3, 137.2, 135.3, 132.6, 130.3, 130.0, 129.2. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.¹



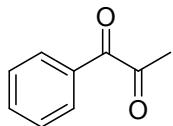
1-cyclohexyl-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (3s), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 20:1; 200 mL).¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.99-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.35 (m, 2H), 3.004-2.98 (m, 1H), 1.91-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.77-1.67 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.56 (m, 1H), 1.41-1.09 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 206.1, 194.3, 134.6, 132.6, 129.9, 128.9, 45.9, 27.2, 25.8, 25.4. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.⁴



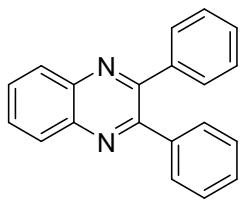
1-cyclopropyl-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (3t), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 20:1; 200 mL). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.91 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.55-2.37 (m, 1H), 1.33-1.15 (m, 2H), 1.13-1.08 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 202.7, 192.4, 134.5, 132.2, 130.3, 128.8, 18.6, 13.3. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.⁴



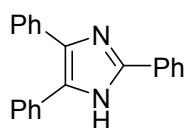
1-phenyloctane-1,2-dione (3u), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 20:1; 200 mL). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.13-7.86 (m, 2H), 7.71-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 2.87 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.69 (dd, *J* = 14.9, 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.39-1.26 (m, 6H), 0.89 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 203.6, 192.6, 134.6, 132.0, 130.2, 128.9, 38.8, 31.5, 28.8, 22.8, 22.5, 14.0. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.⁴



1-phenylpropane-1,2-dione (3v), white solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 20:1; 200 mL). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.00 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.75-7.57 (m, 1H), 7.56-7.37 (m, 2H), 2.52 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 200.6, 191.4, 134.6, 131.8, 130.3, 128.8, 26.4. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.⁴

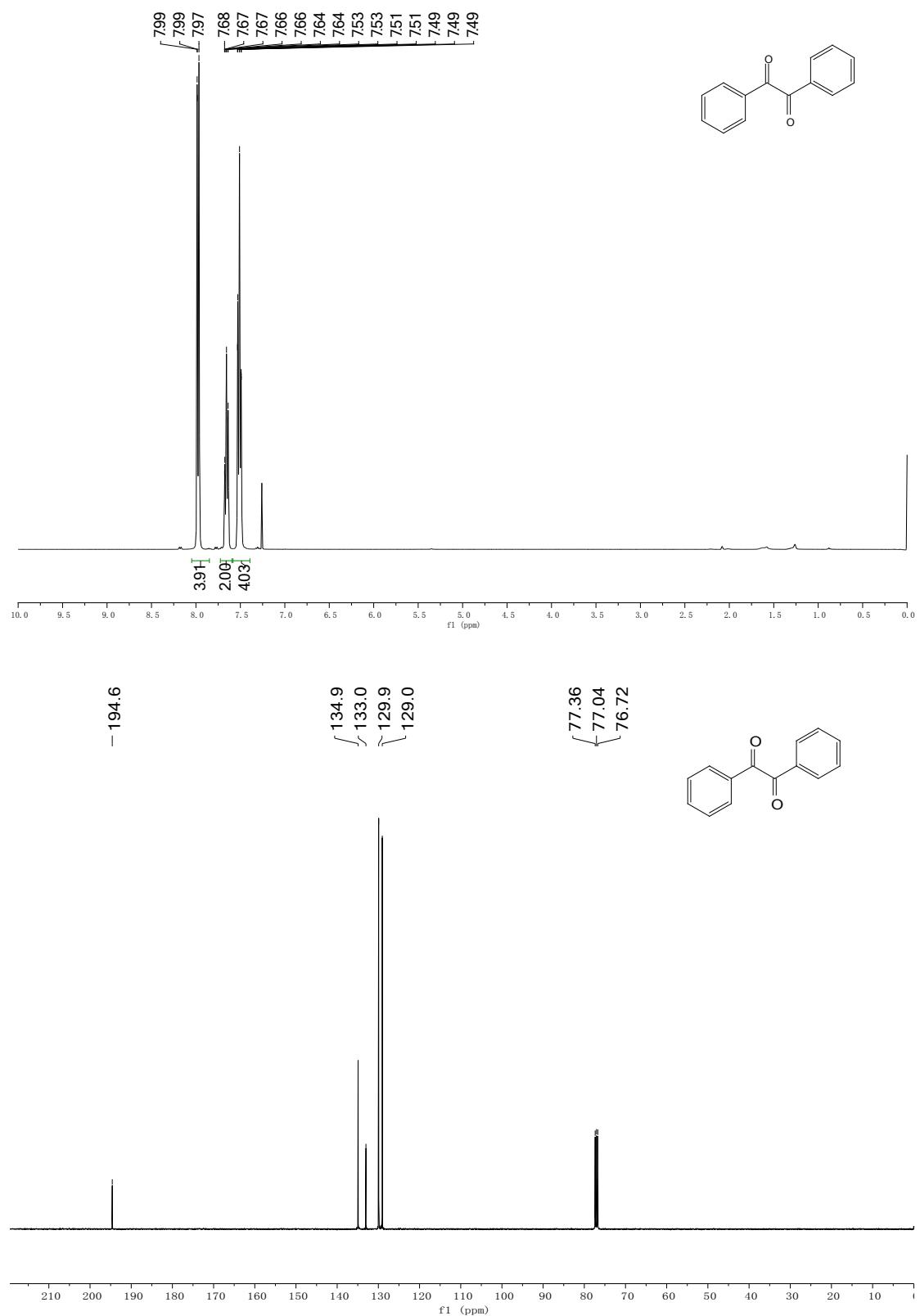


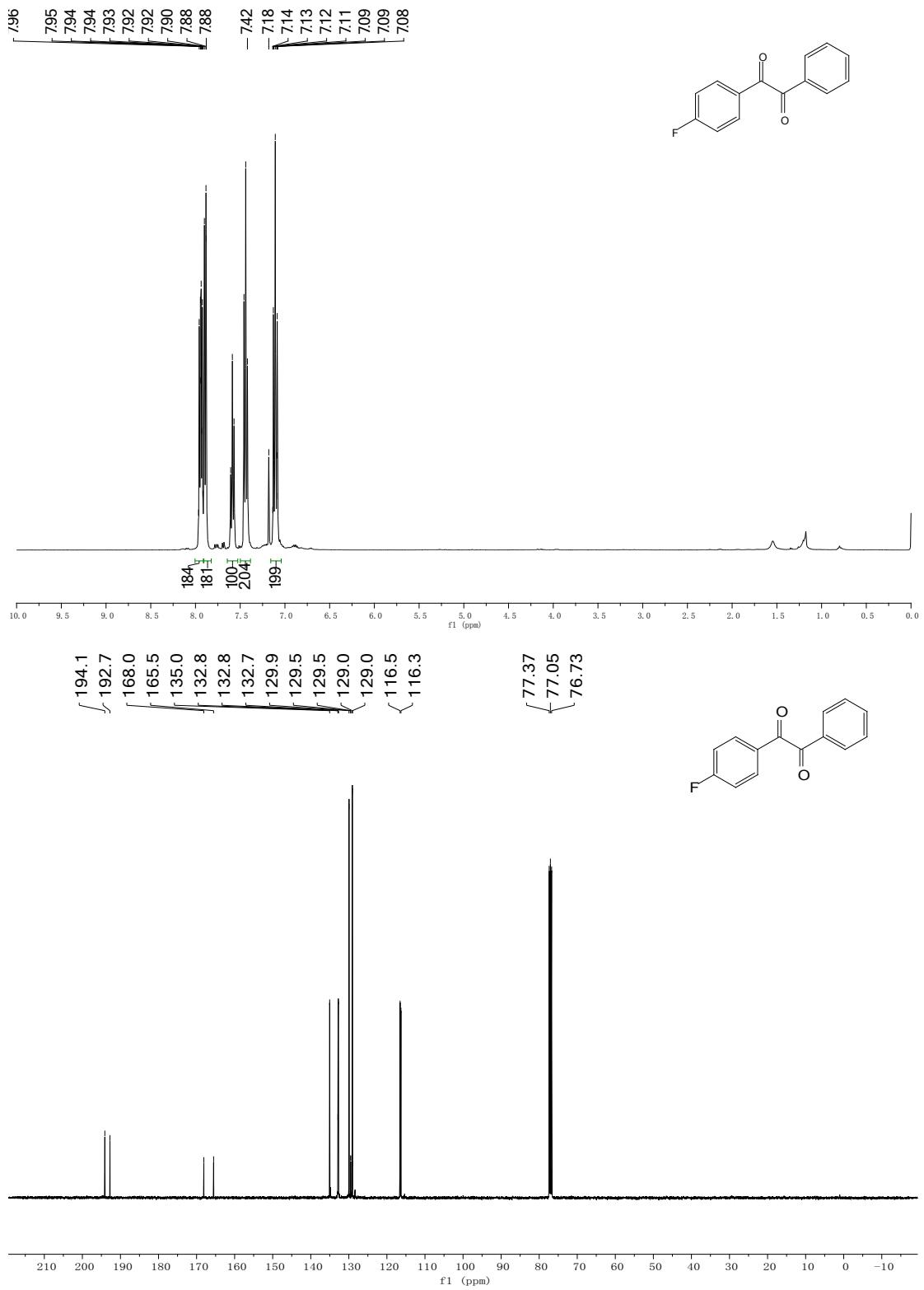
2,3-diphenylquinoxaline (4a), yellow solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 10:1; 200 mL). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.19 (dd, $J = 6.4, 3.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.78 (dd, $J = 6.4, 3.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.52 (dd, $J = 7.6, 1.6$ Hz, 4H), 7.35 (dd, $J = 8.8, 4.6$ Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 153.5, 141.3, 139.1, 129.9, 129.8, 129.2, 128.8, 128.3. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.⁸

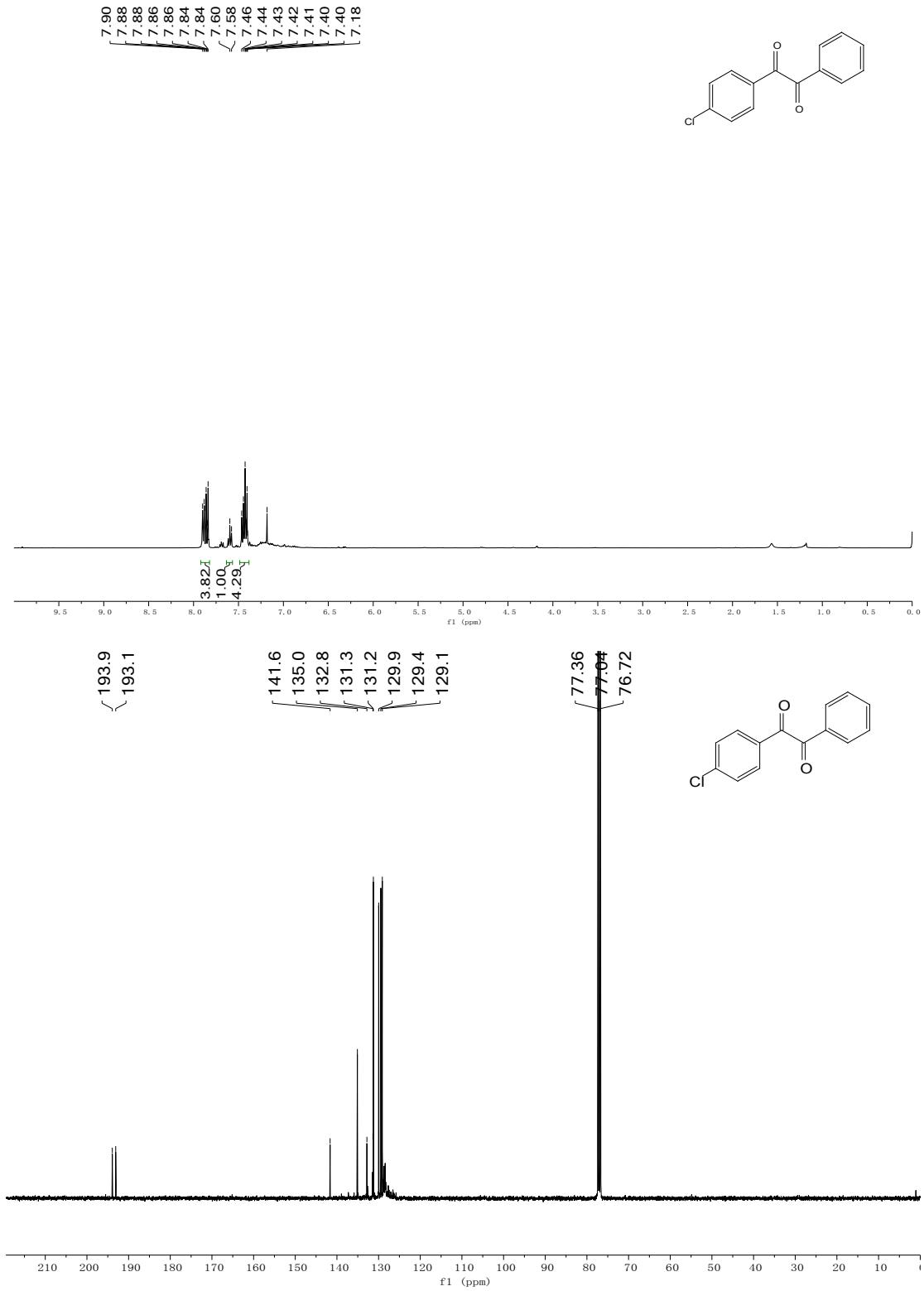


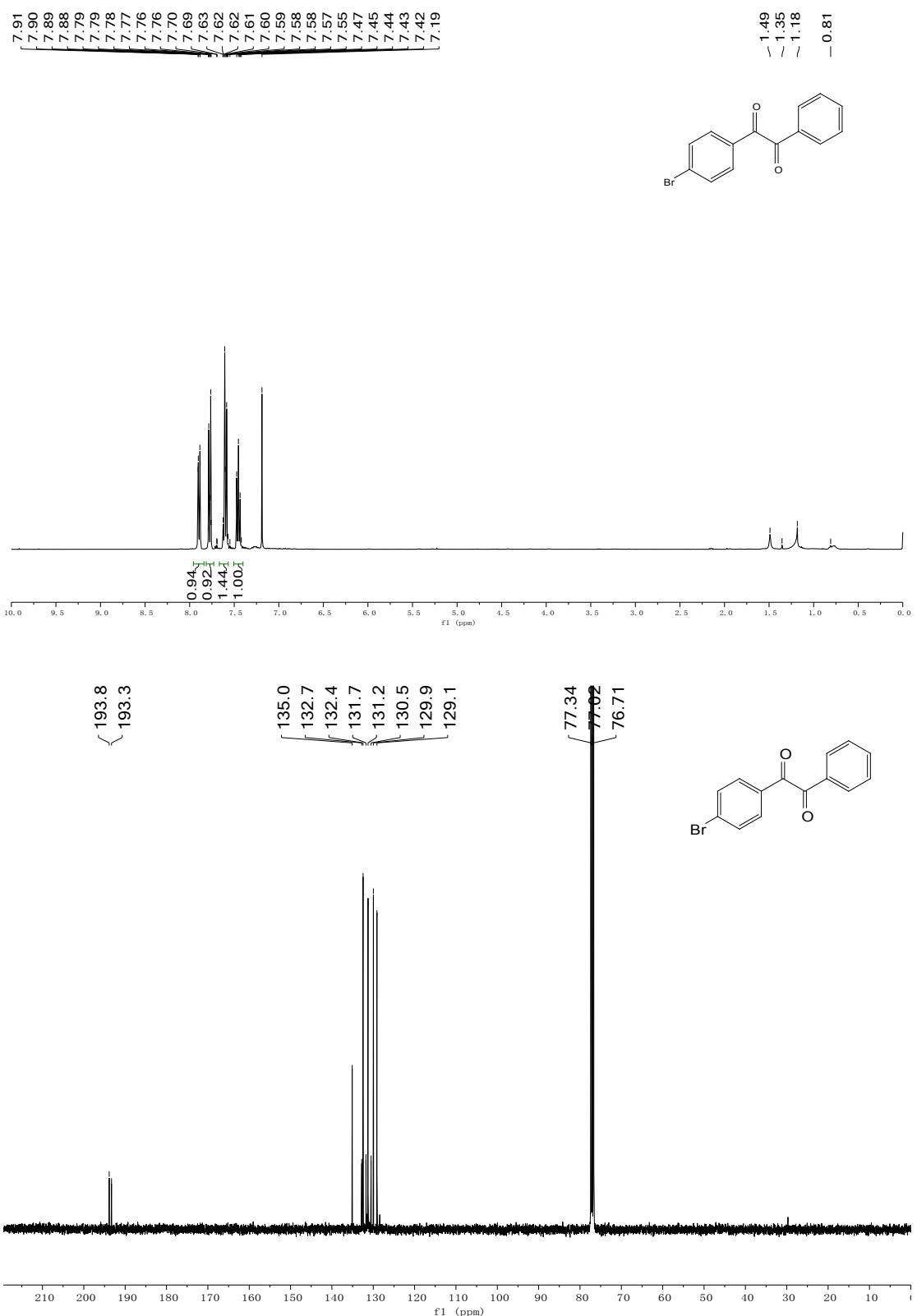
2,4,5-triphenyl-1H-imidazole (5a), yellow solid; Purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/EtOAc, 3:1; 200 mL). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 12.71 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.71-7.08 (m, 13H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 146.0, 137.6, 135.7, 131.6, 130.8, 129.2, 128.9, 128.7, 128.2, 127.6, 126.9, 125.7. The spectroscopic data matched that previously report.⁹

6. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of products

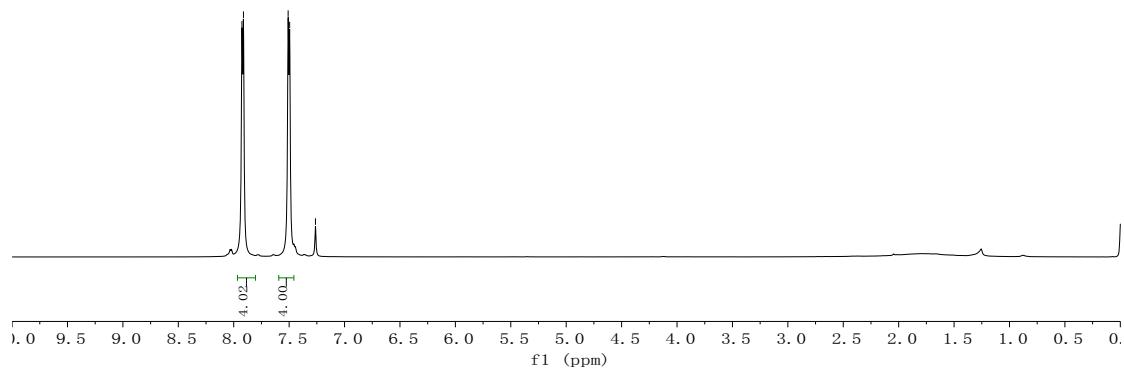
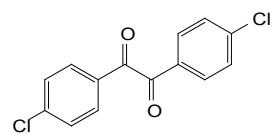








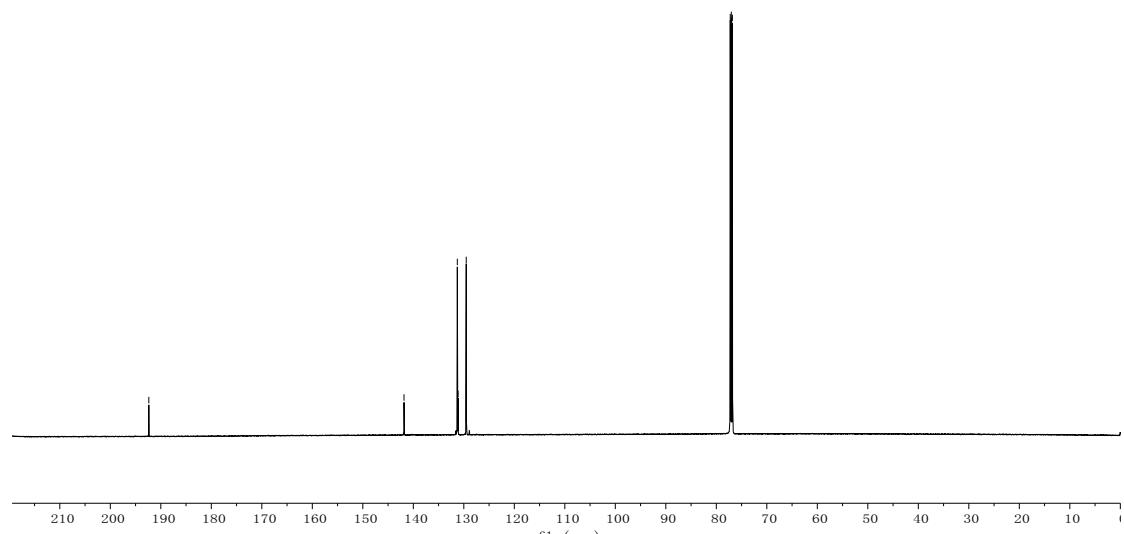
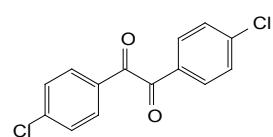
7.9ε
7.91
7.51
7.56
7.2ε

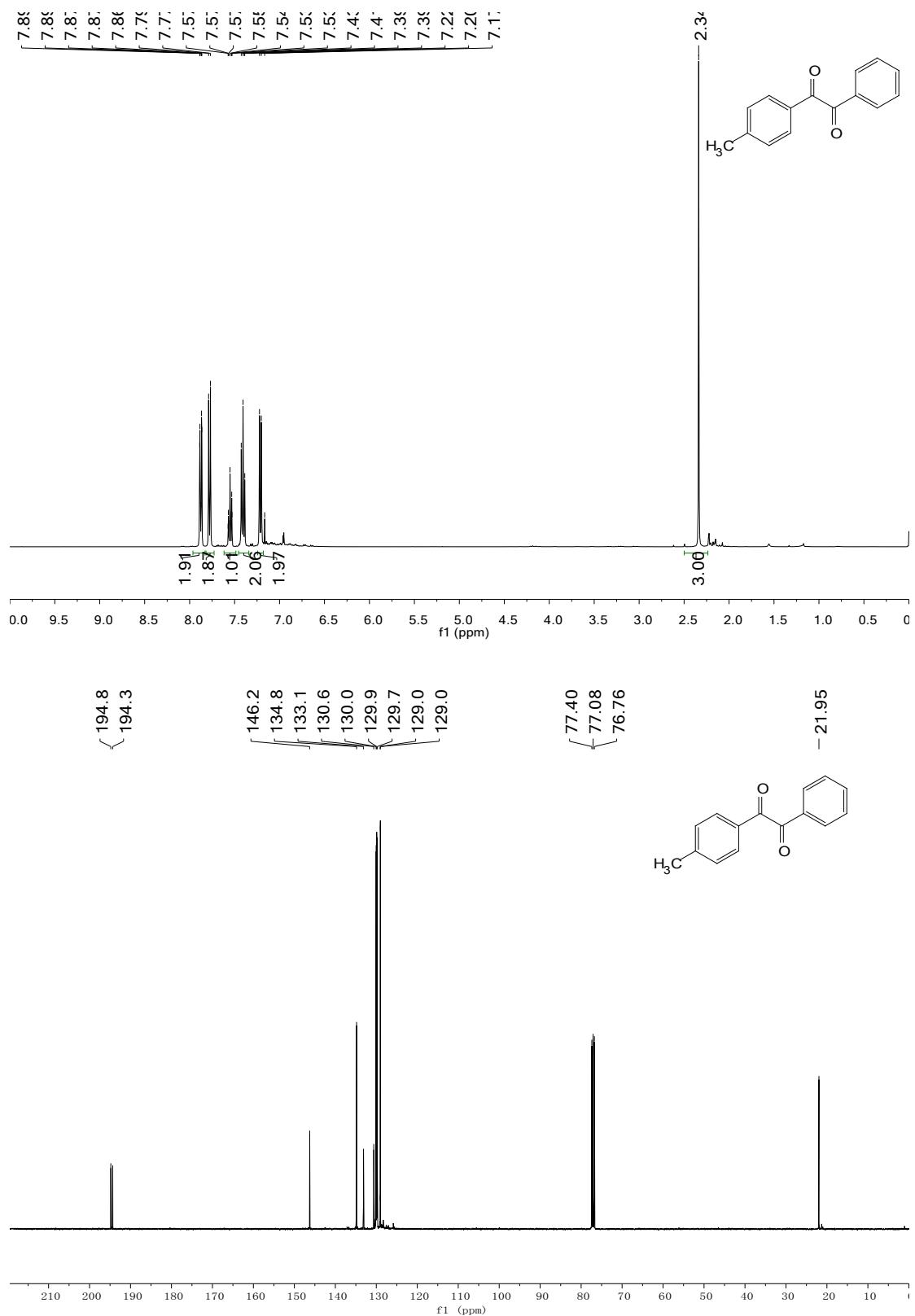


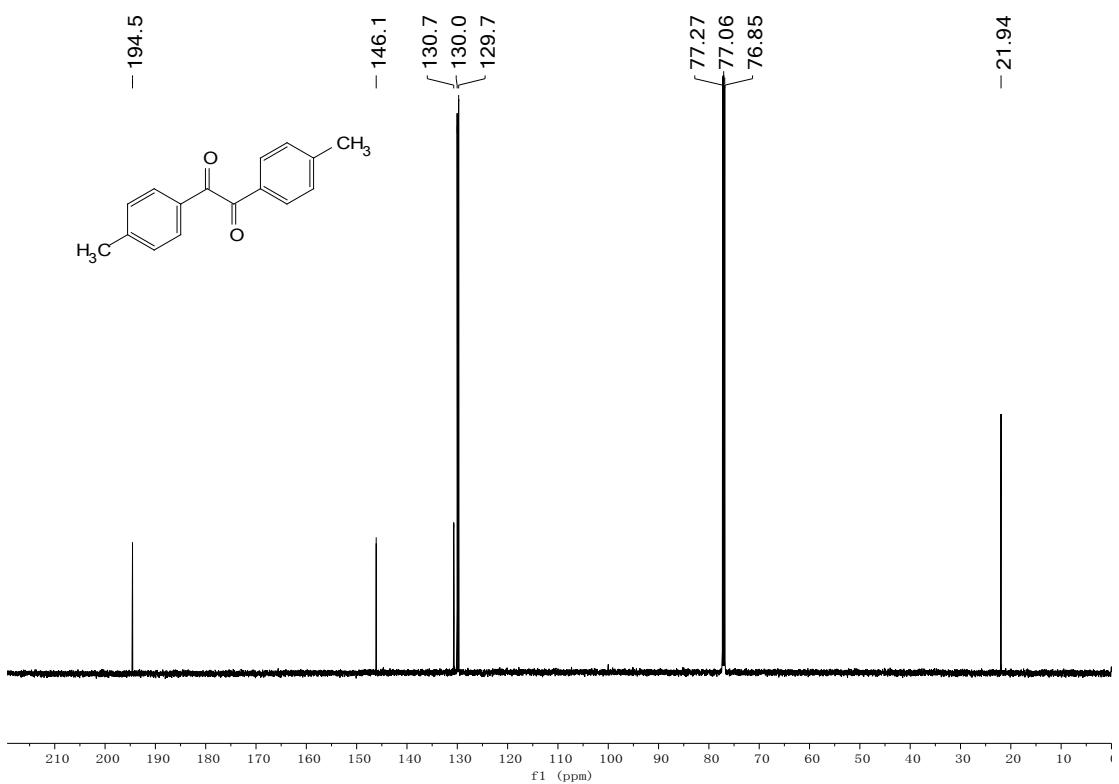
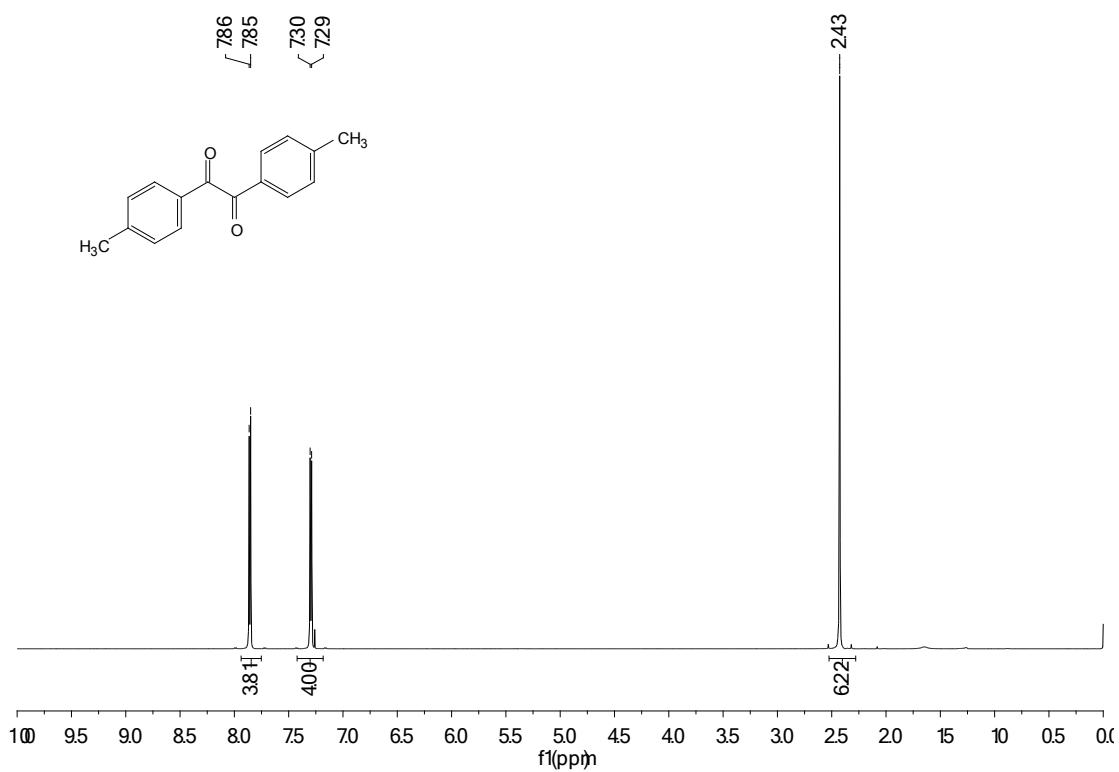
-192.3

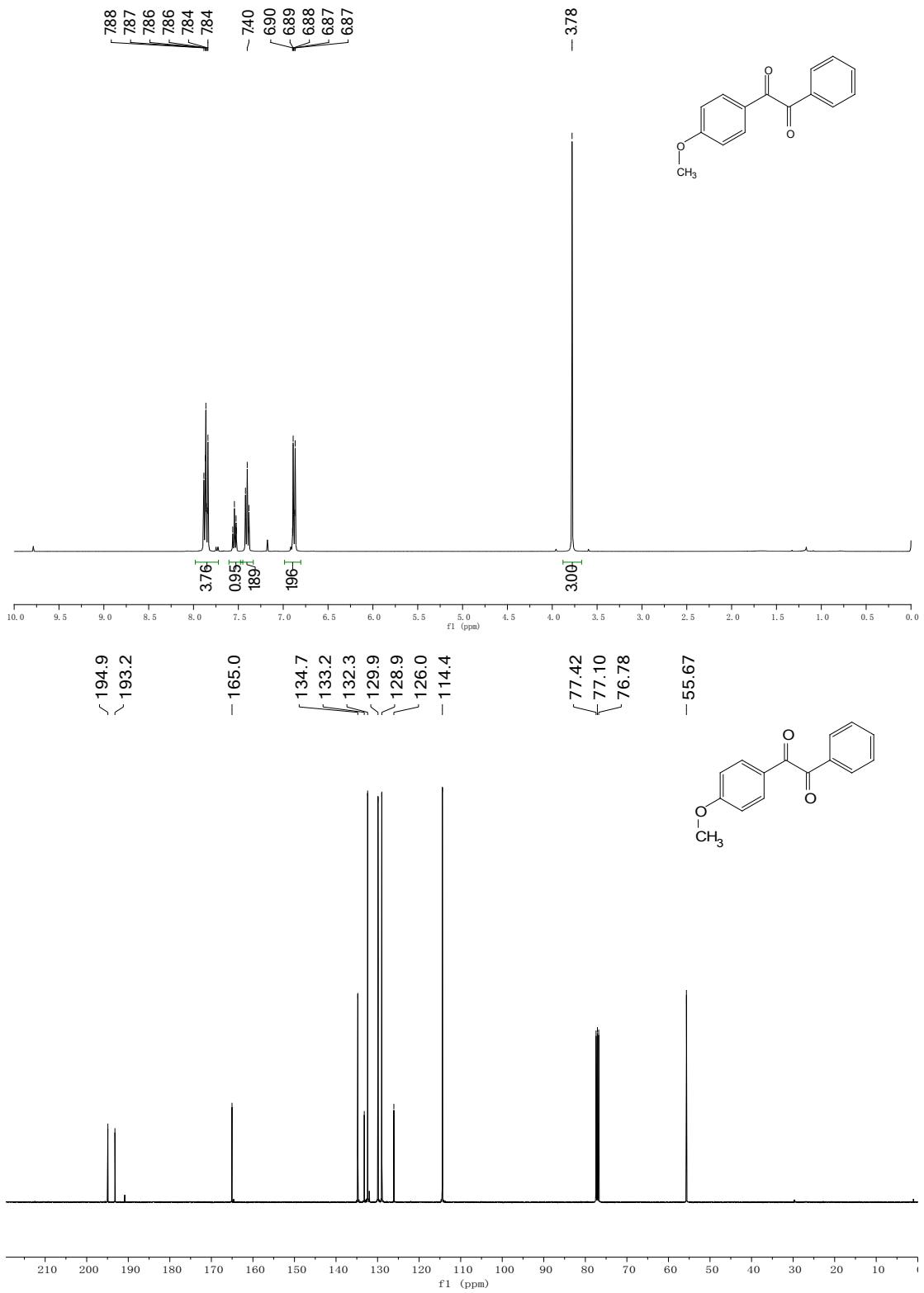
141.8
131.2
131.1
129.5

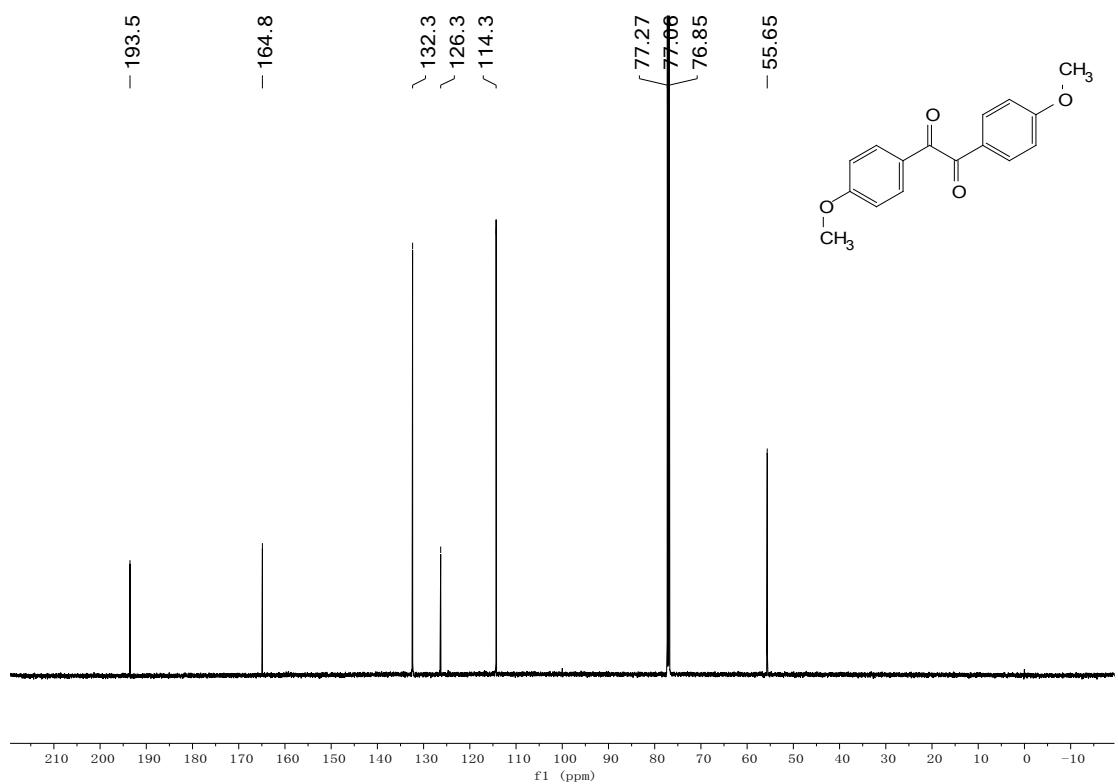
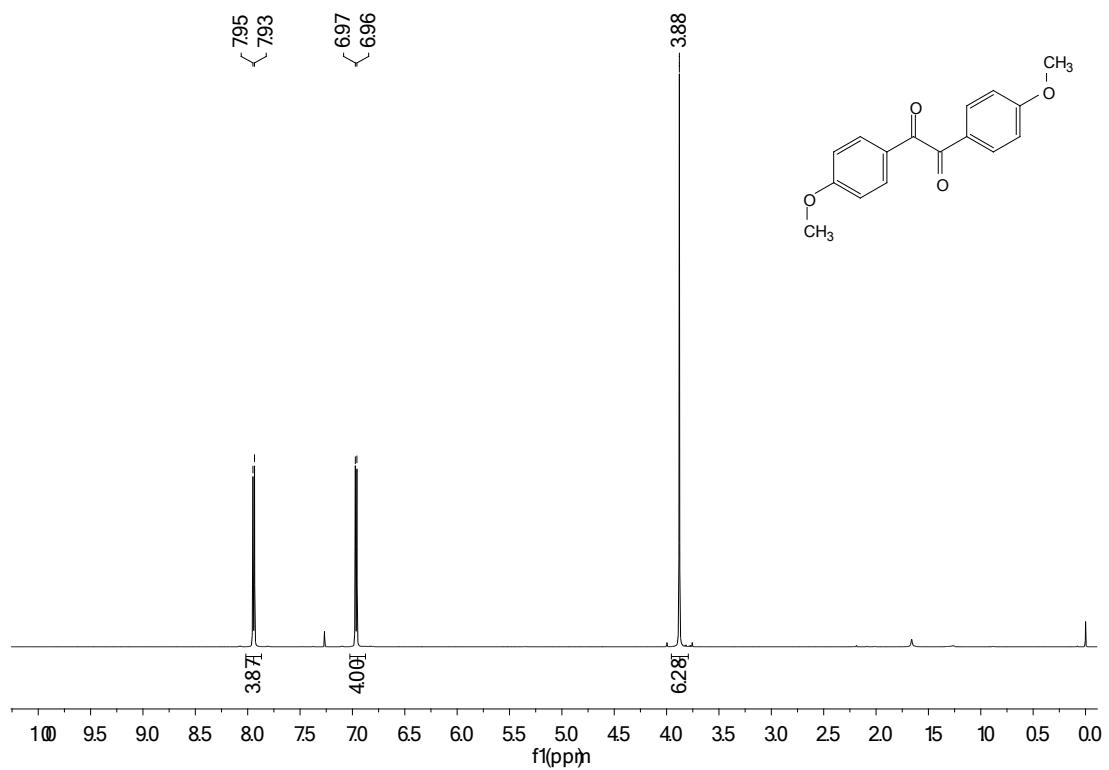
77.24
77.03
76.82

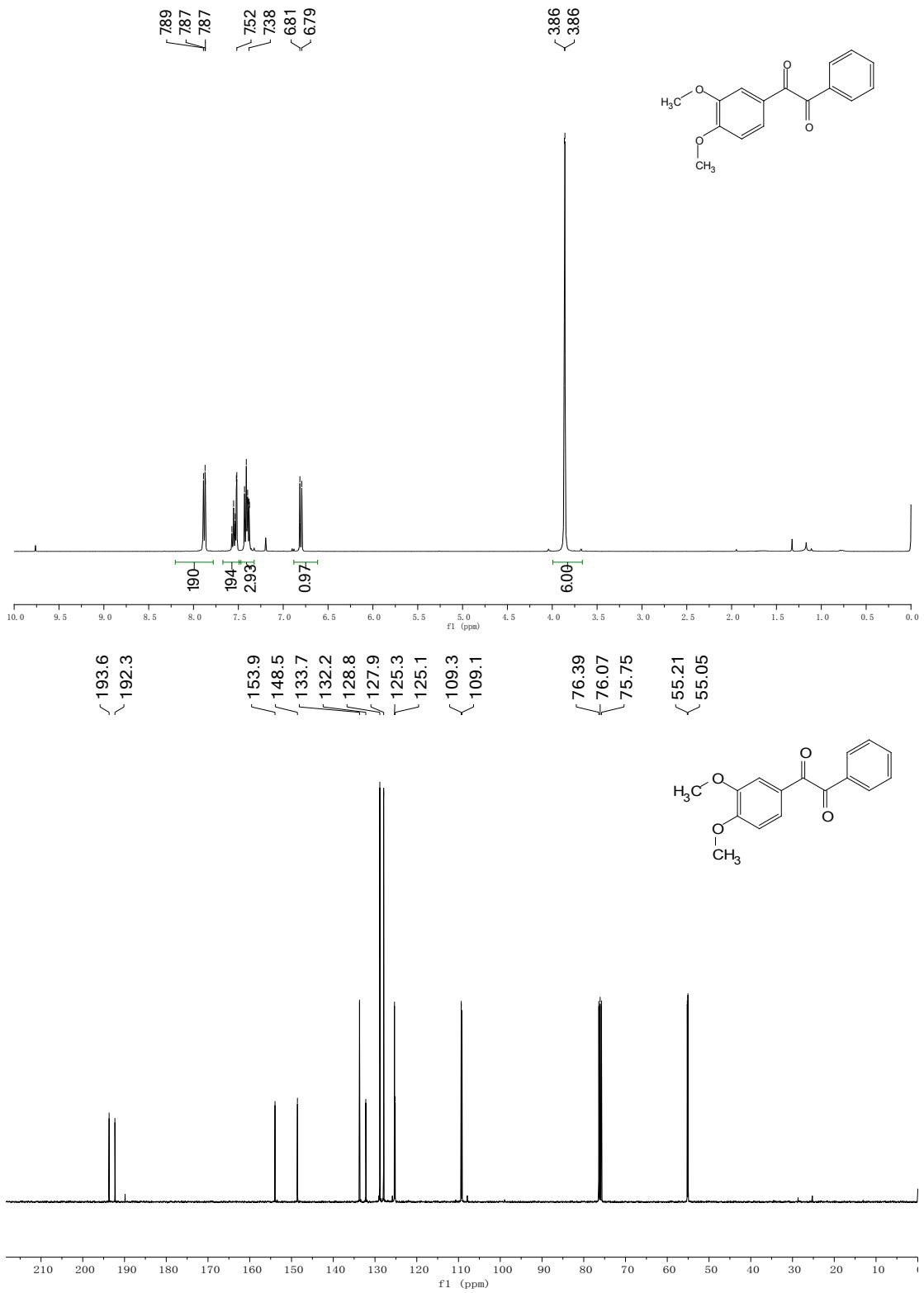


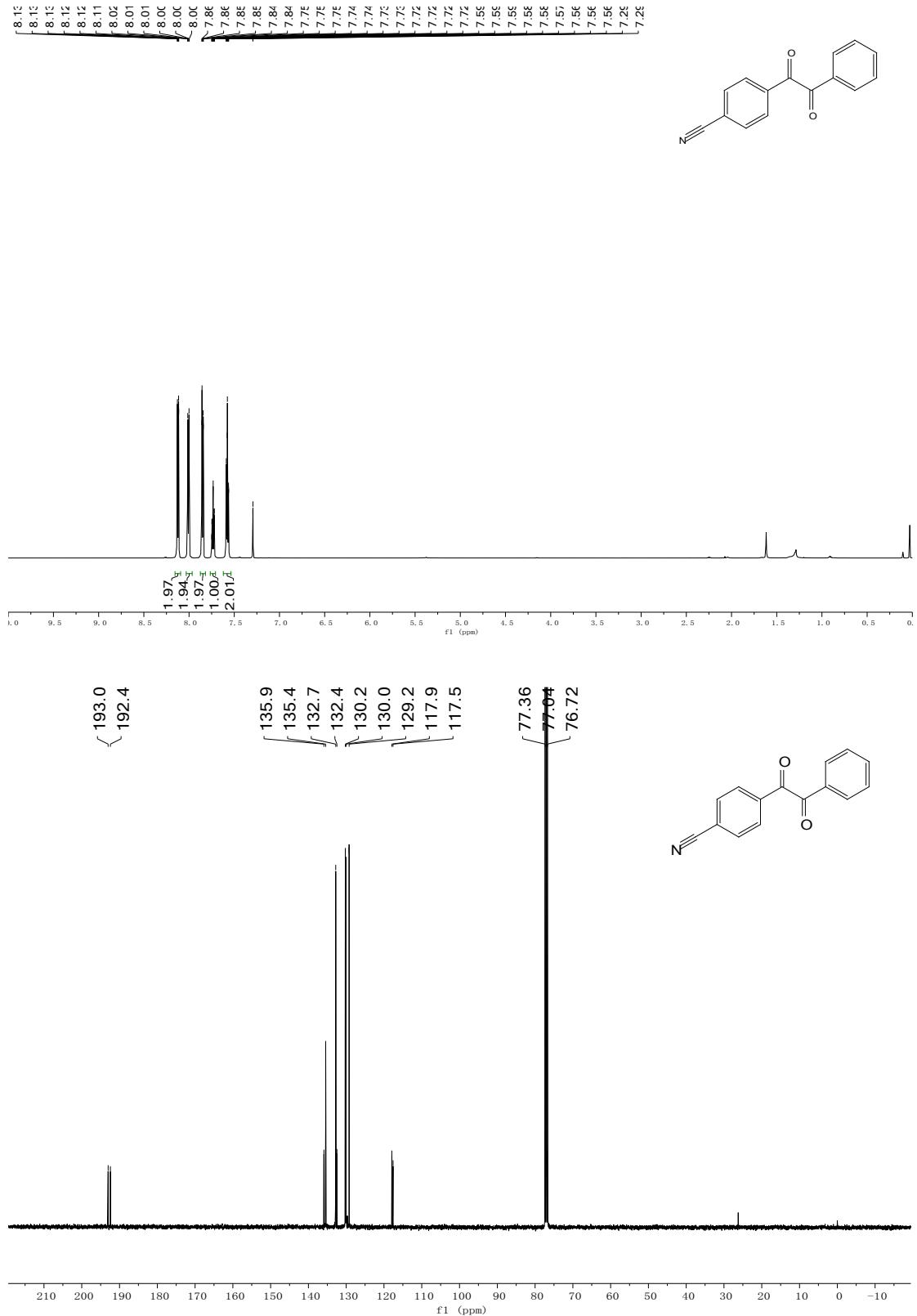


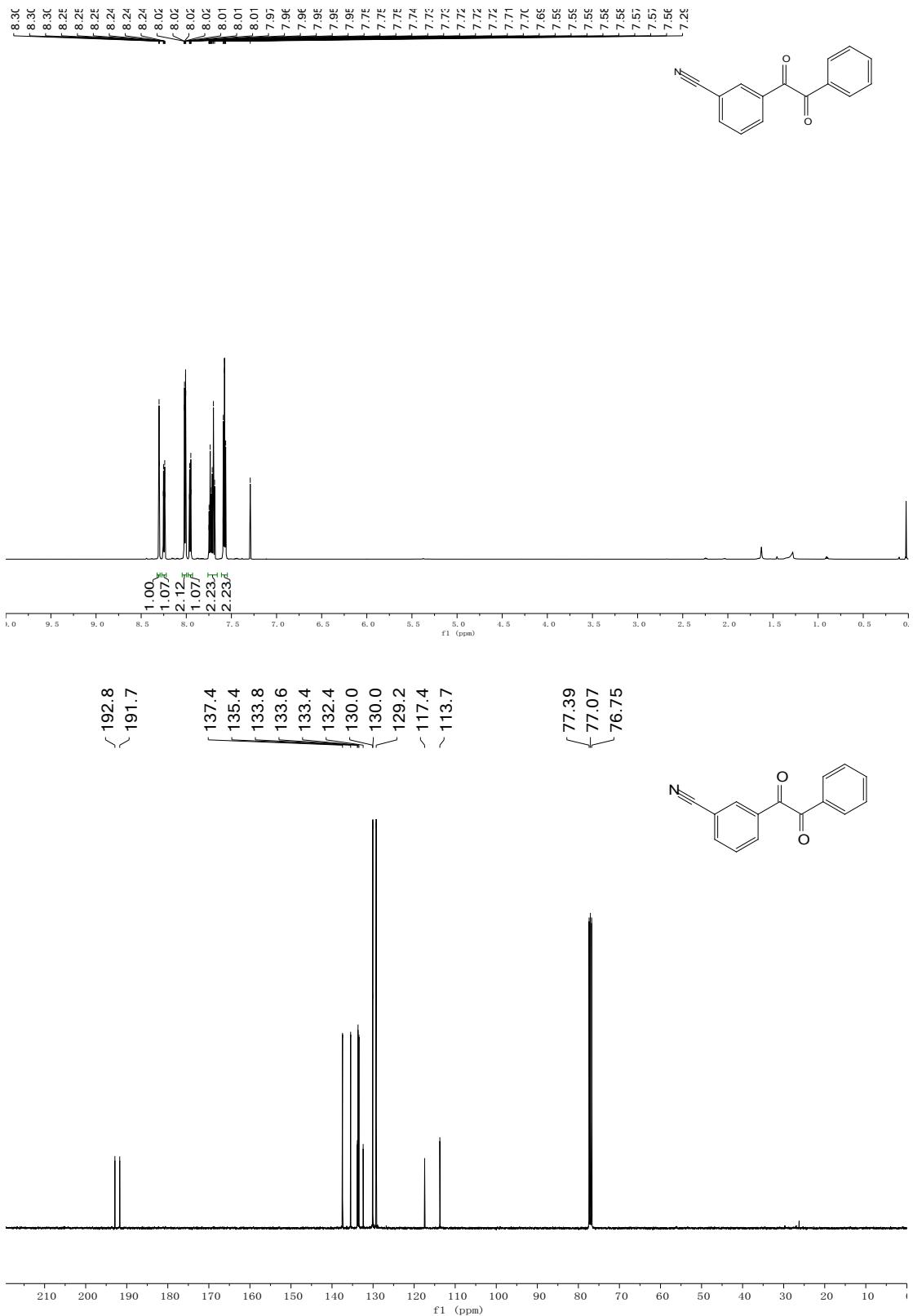


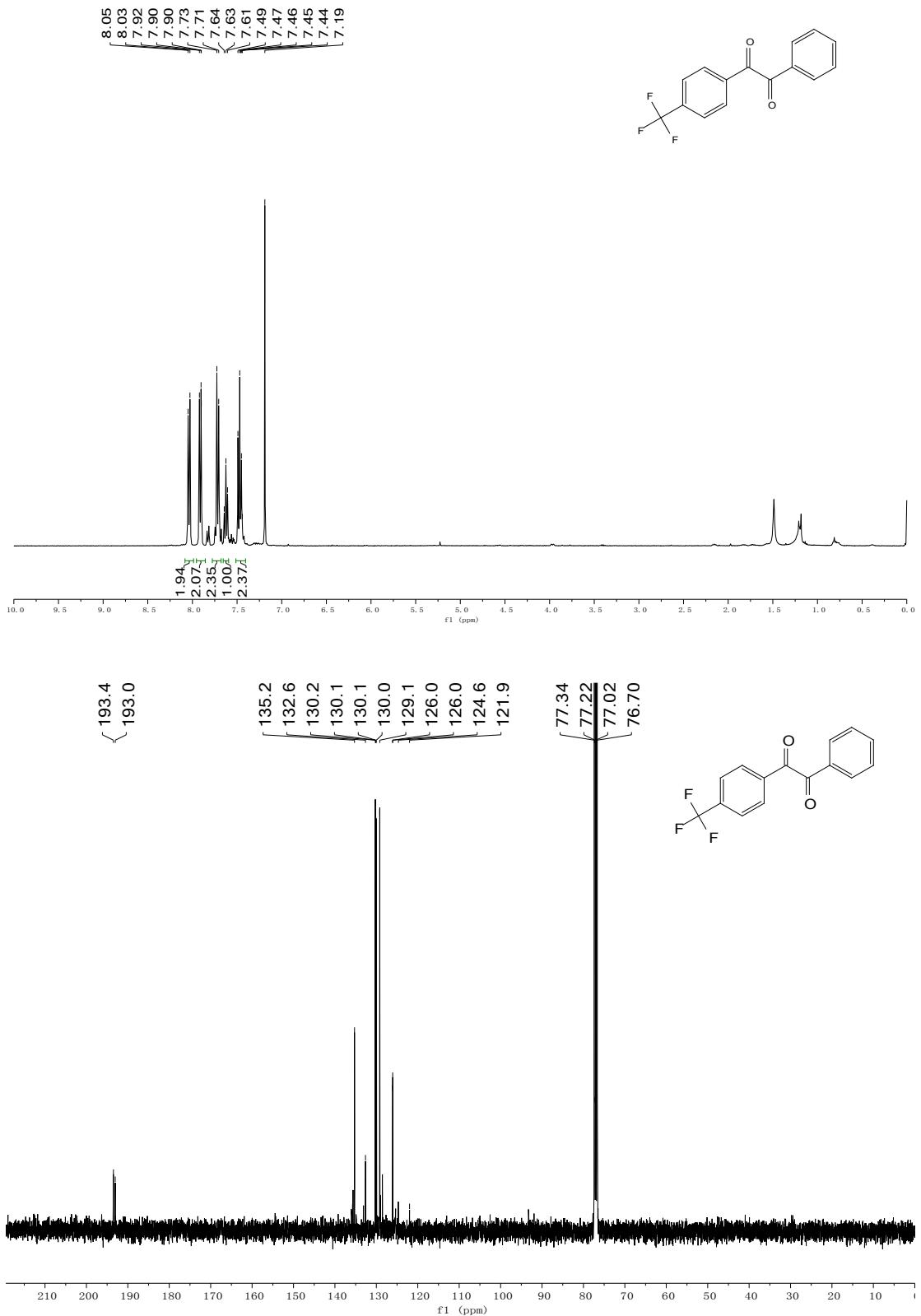


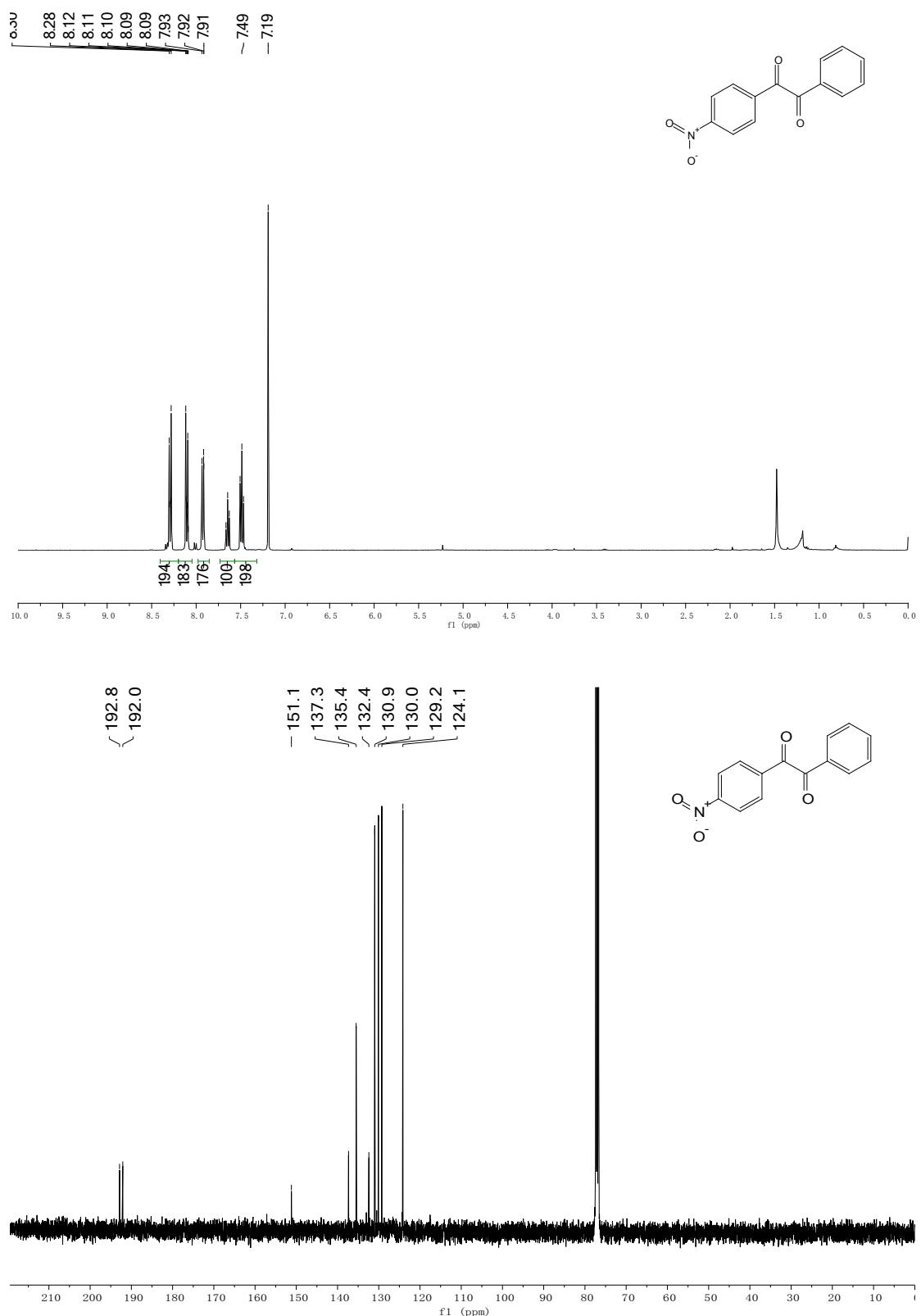


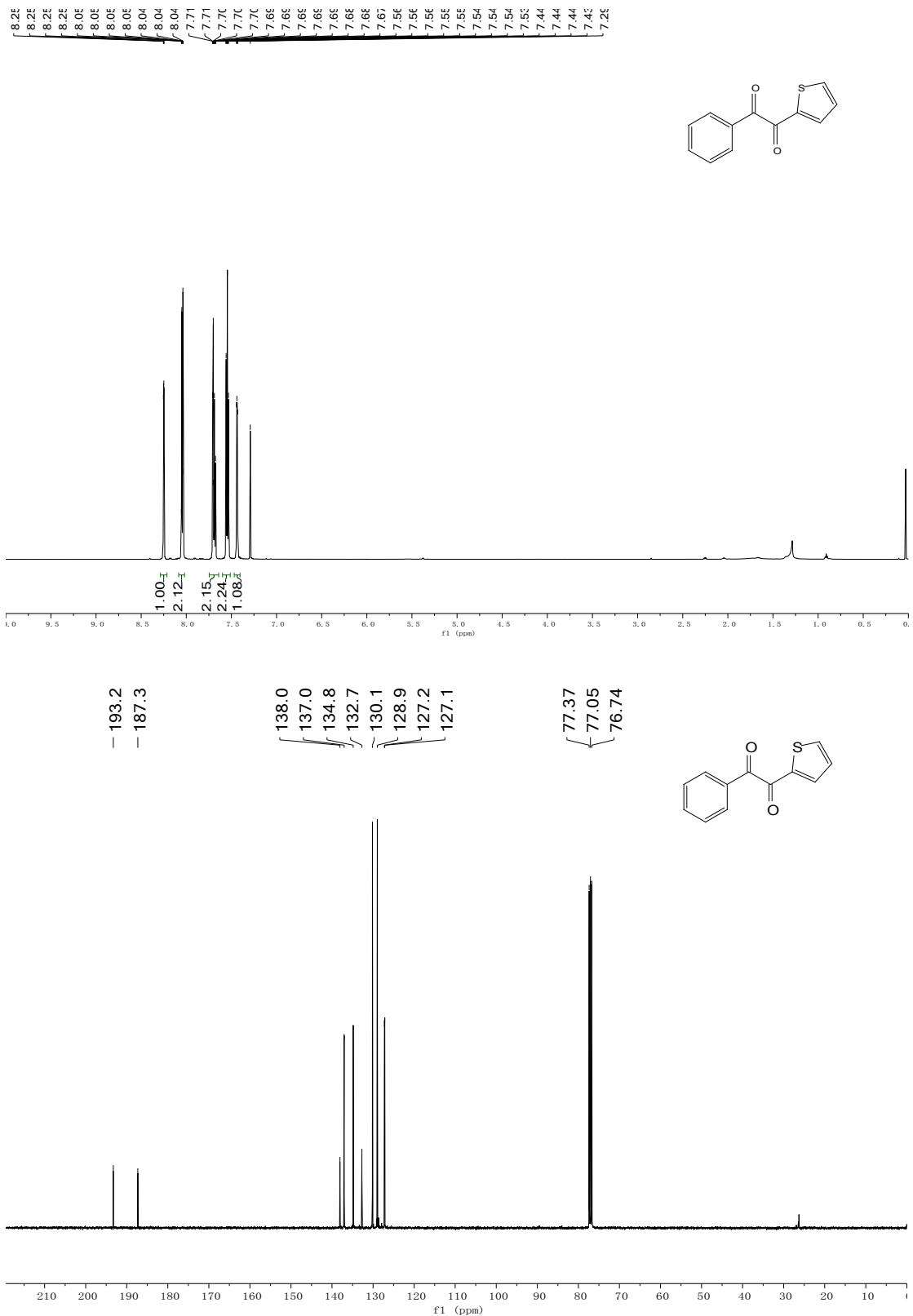


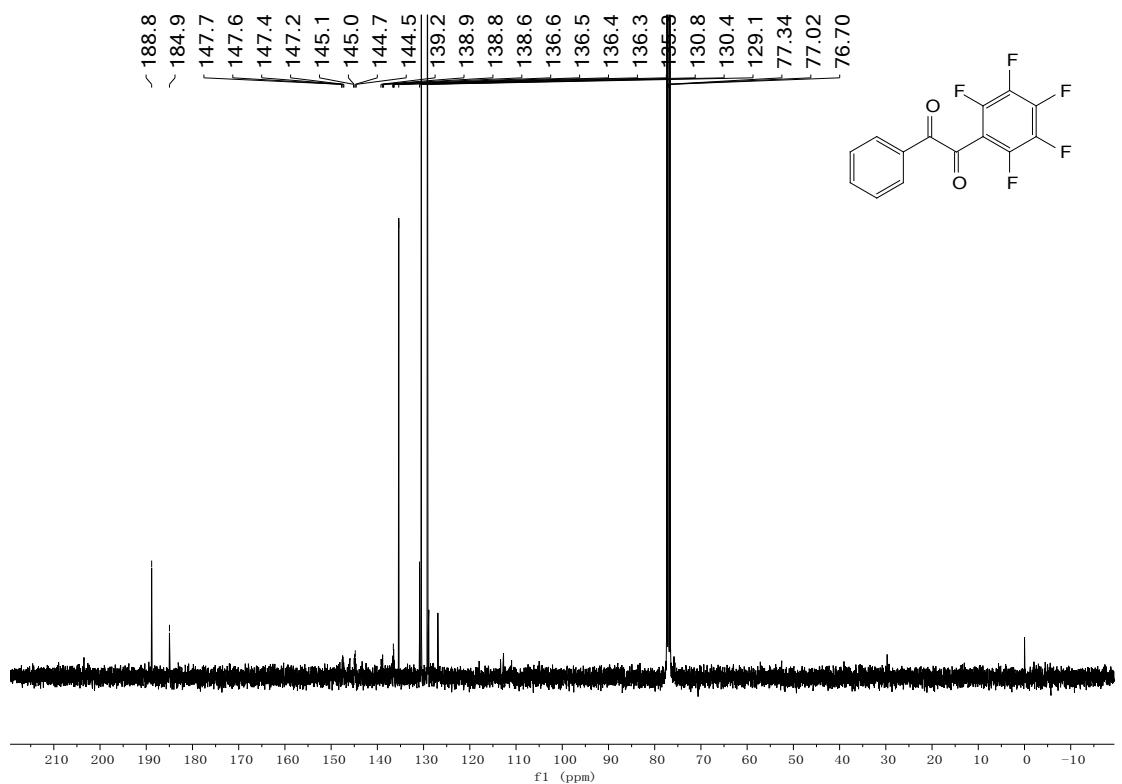
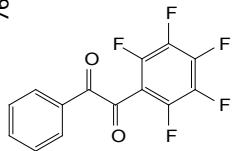
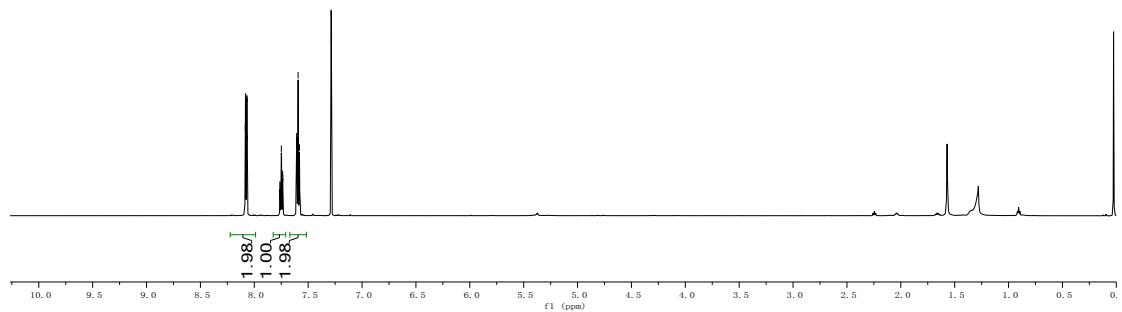
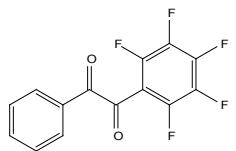


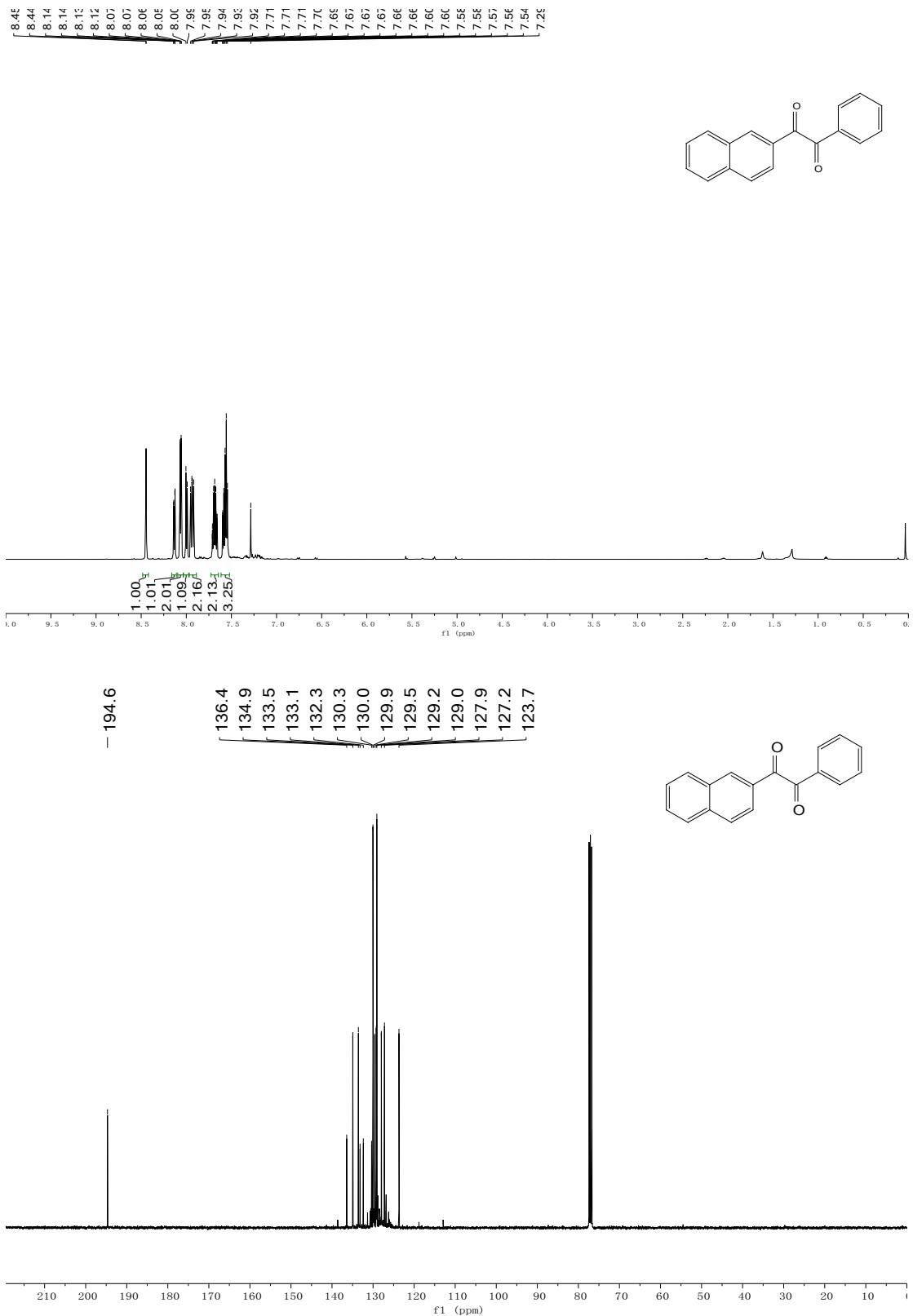


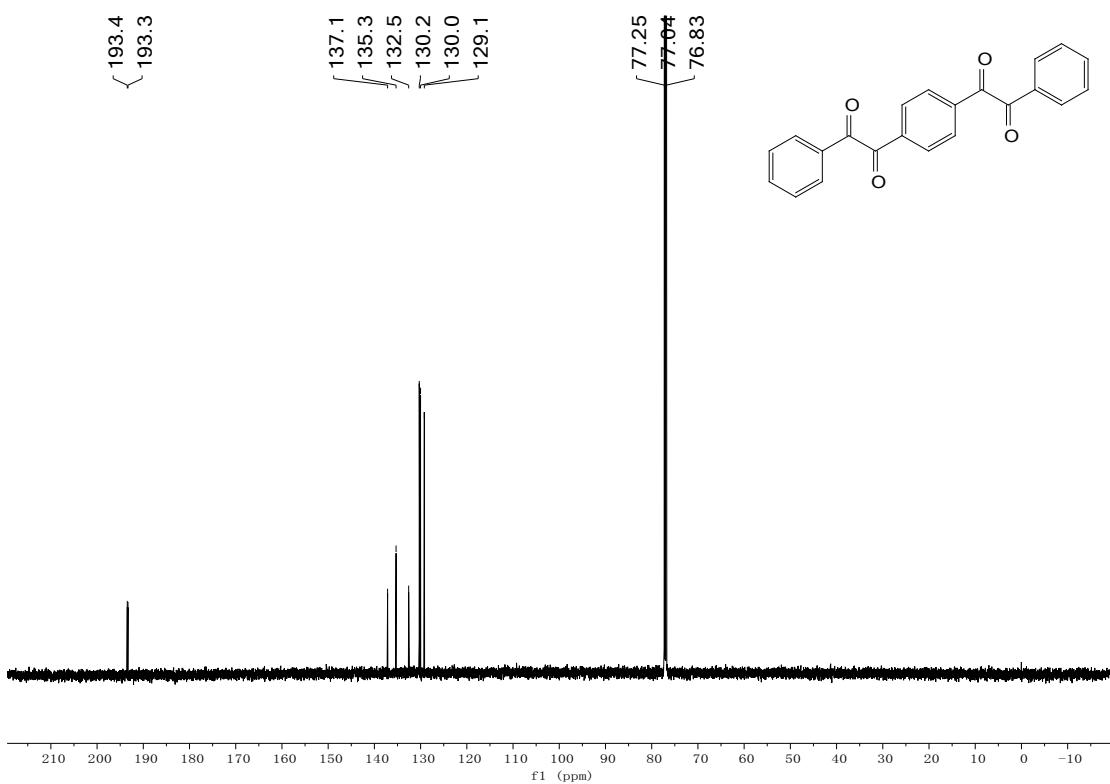
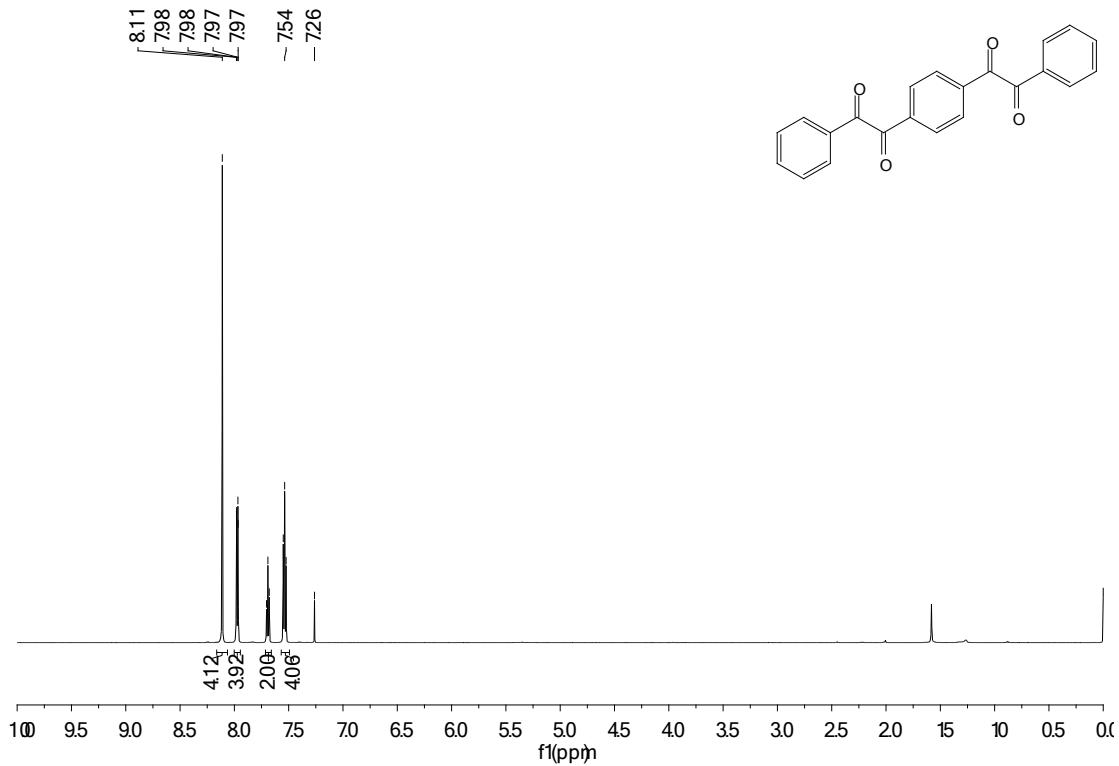


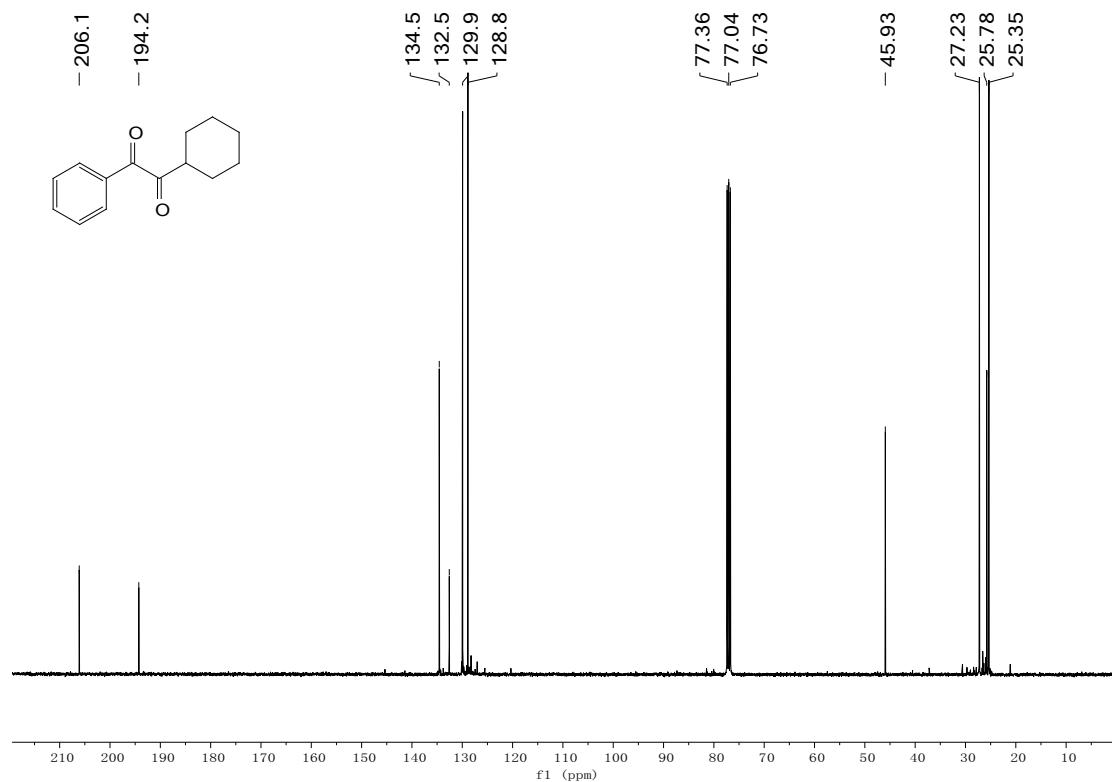
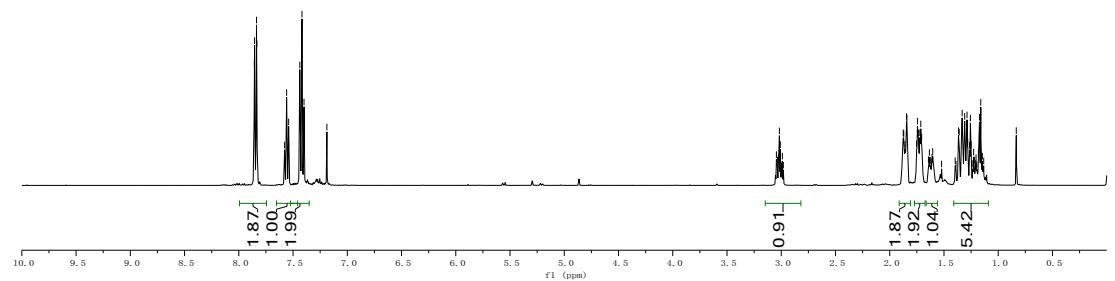
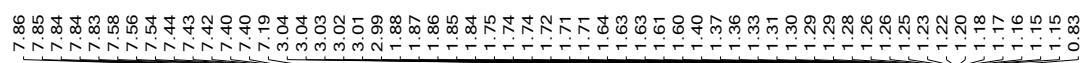


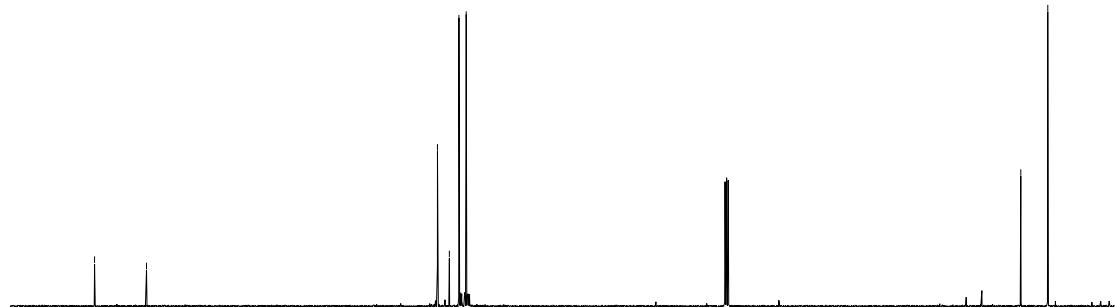
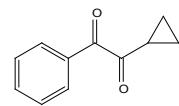
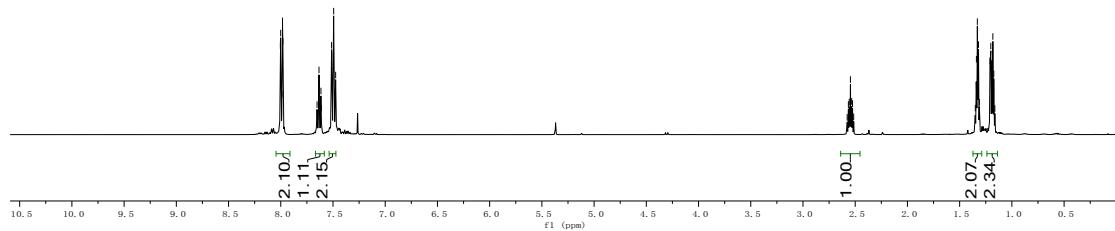
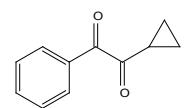


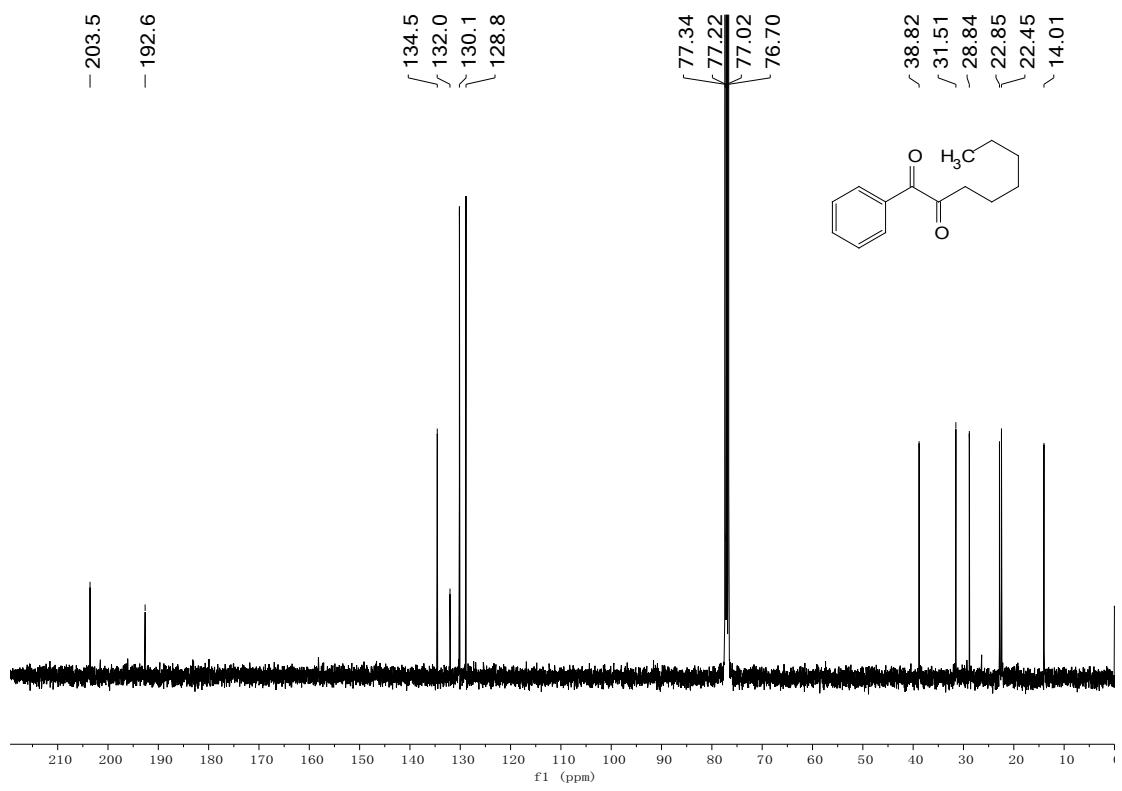
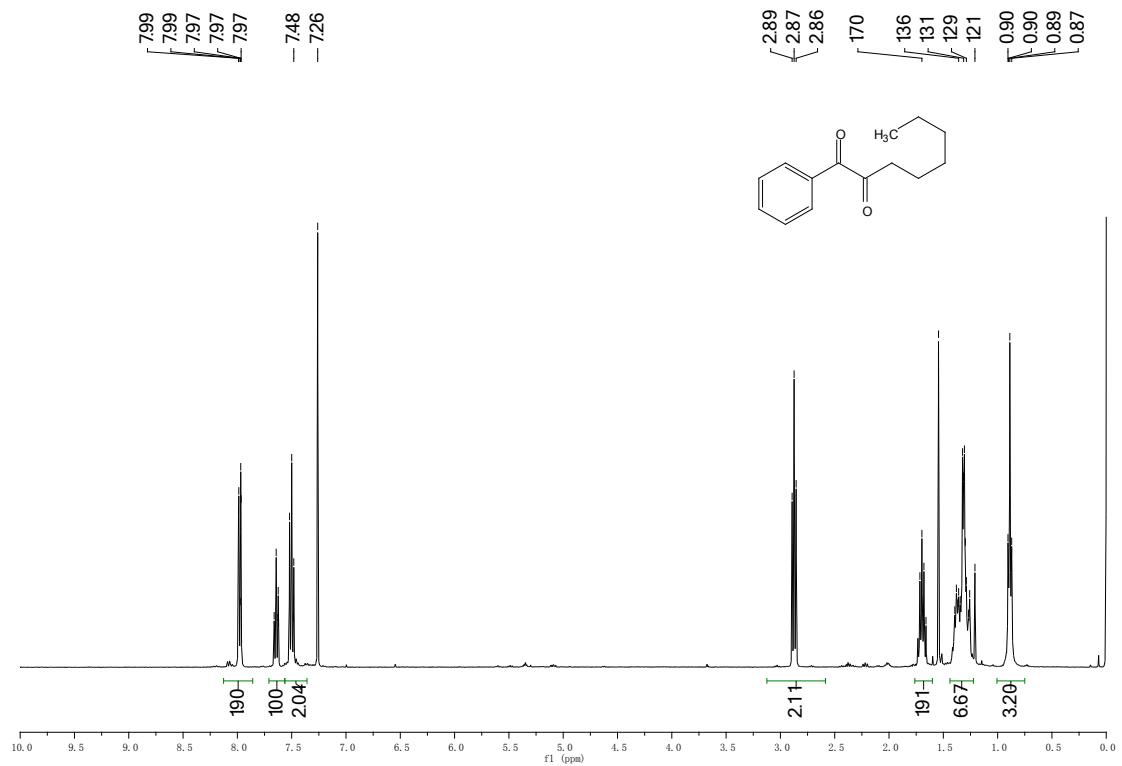


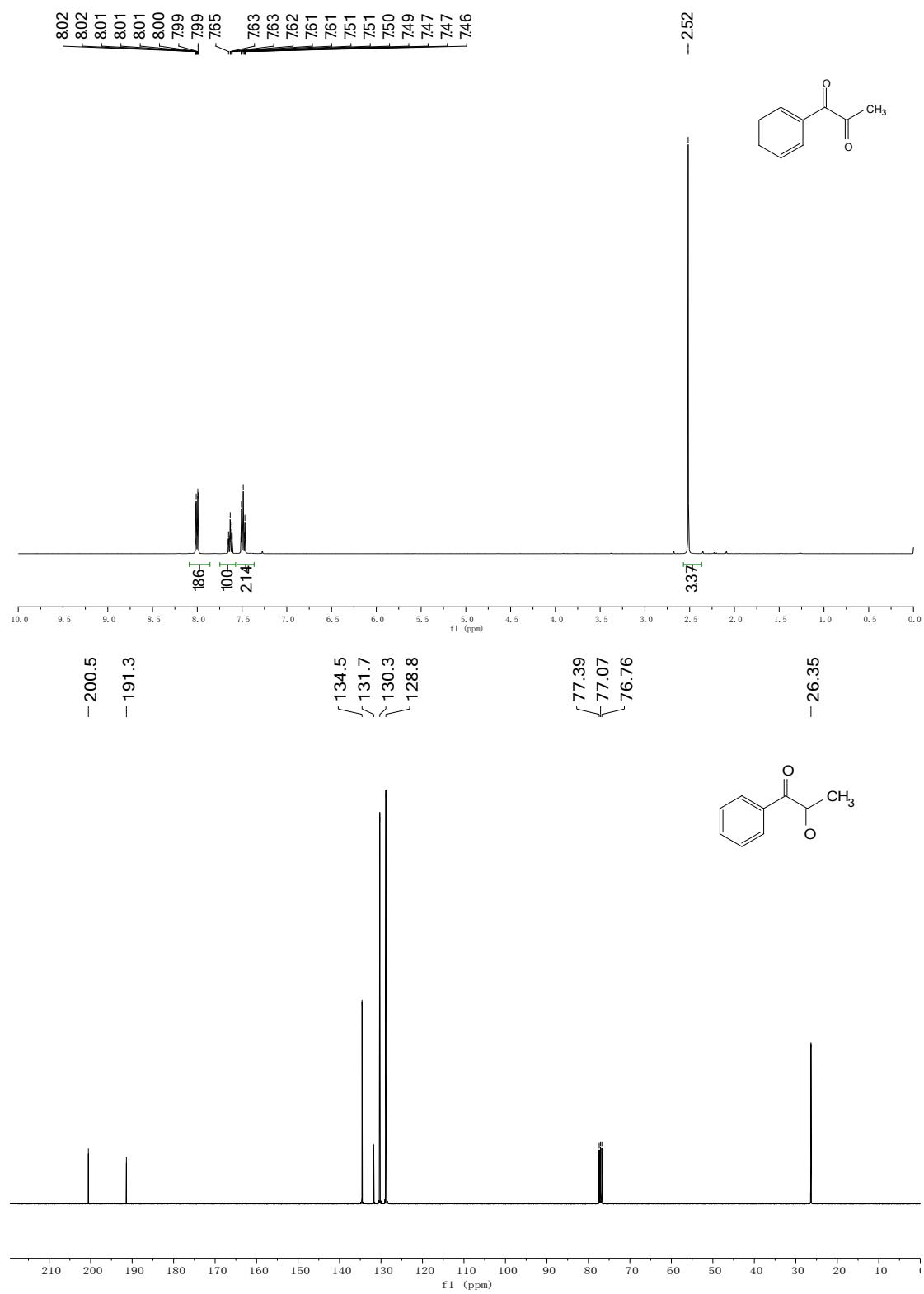


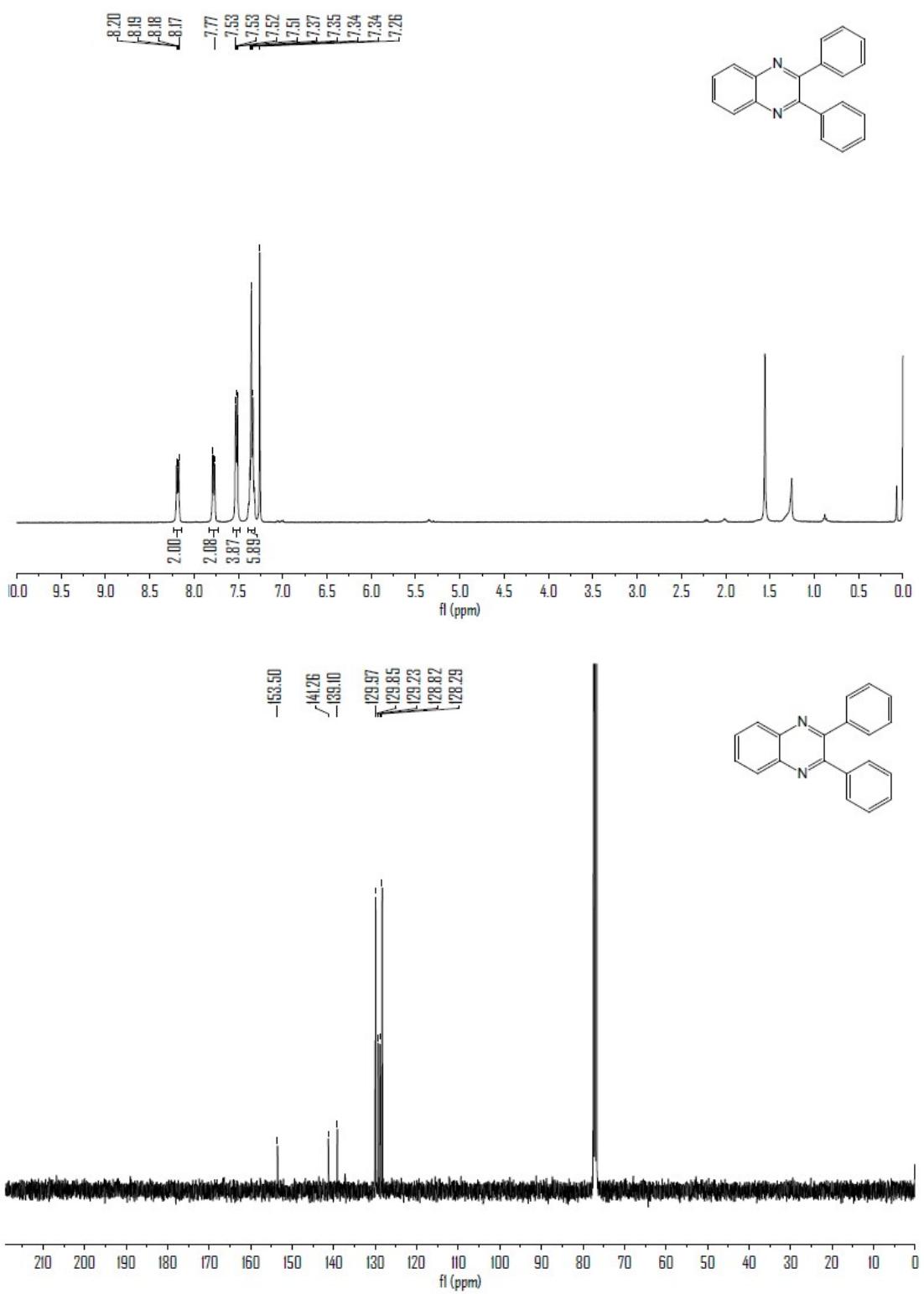


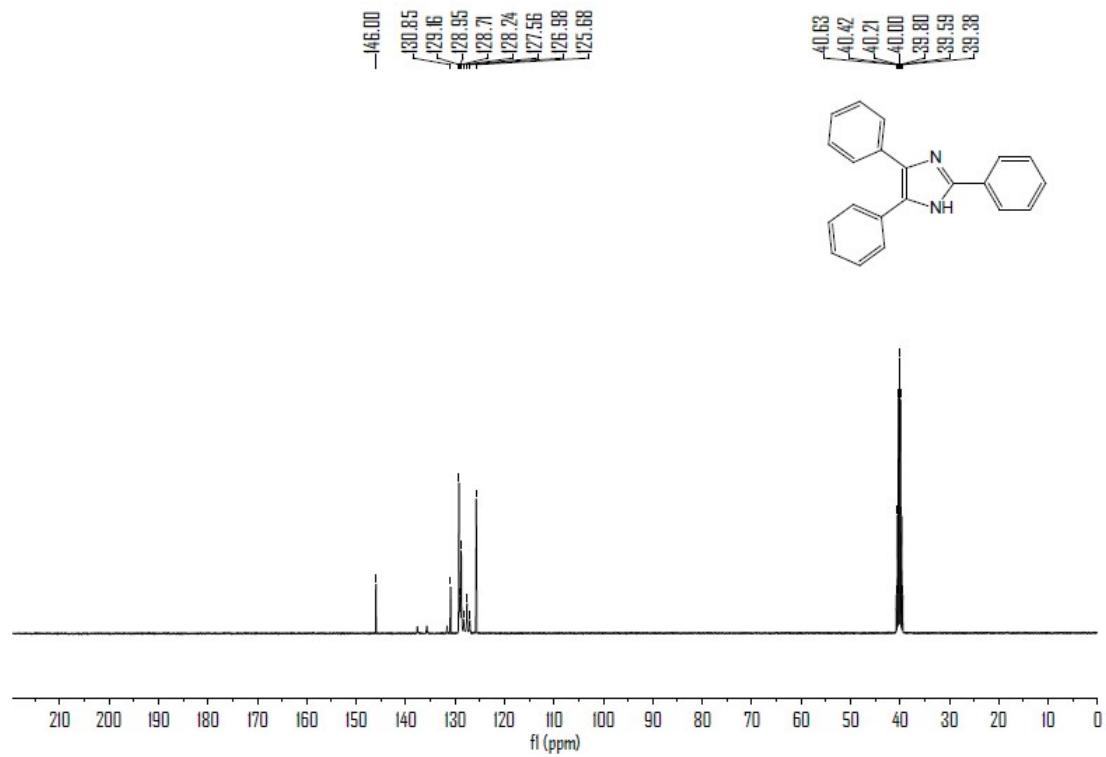
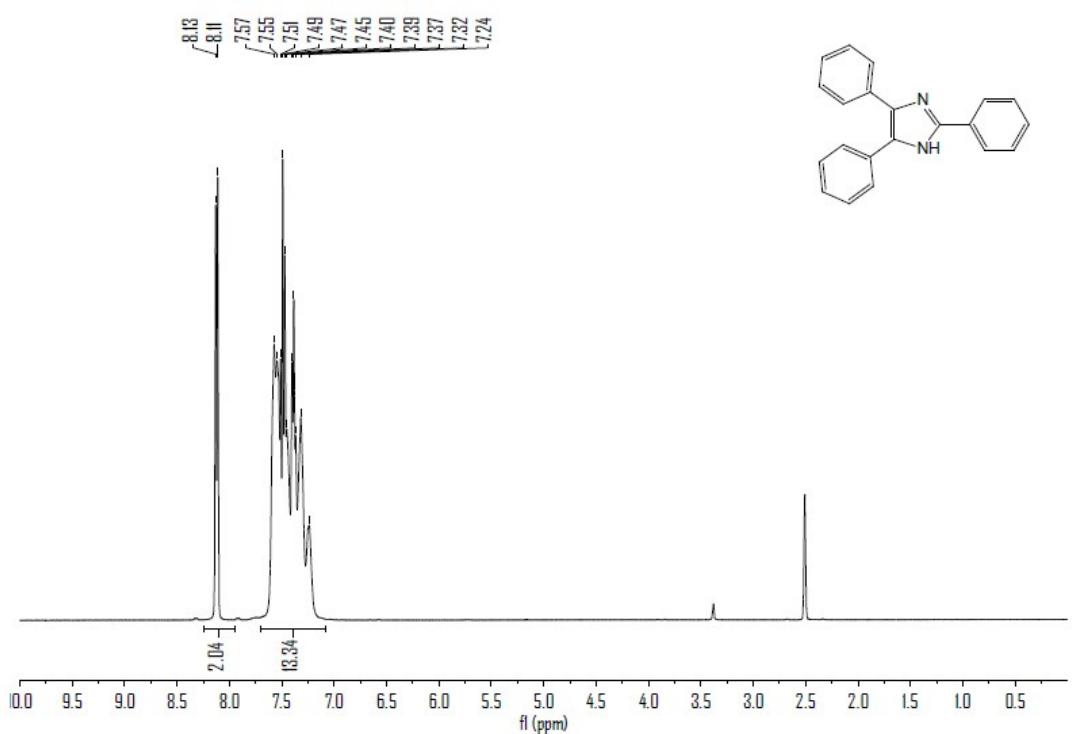












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