

Supplementary Information

Transition-Metal-Free Aerobic C-O Bond Formation via C-N Bond Cleavage

Lirong Guo,^{a,†} Fengting Liu,^{a,†} Liying Wang,^a Hairui Yuan,^a Lei Feng,^a Haifeng
Lu^{a,*} and Hongyin Gao^{a,*}

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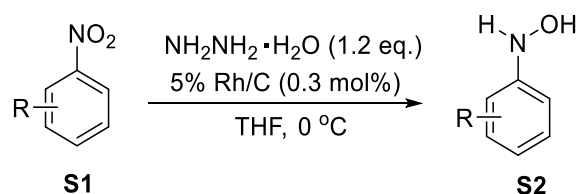
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General remarks

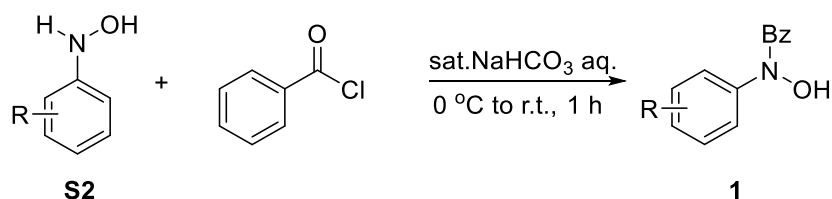
All reactions were performed in conventional Schlenk techniques under an atmosphere of nitrogen unless otherwise stated. Solvents were dried following standard procedures under argon. Syringe was used to transfer liquids and solutions. All reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) with E. Merck silica gel 60 F254 pre-coated plates (0.25 mm). Silica gel (particle size 200-300 mesh) purchased from SiliCycle was used for flash chromatography. For reactions that require heating, oil bath was used.

Proton (^1H) and carbon (^{13}C) NMR spectra were taken on a Bruker AV-500 spectrometer operating at 500 MHz or 400 MHz for proton and 126 MHz or 101 MHz for carbon nuclei using CDCl_3 or $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ as solvent, respectively. Chemical shifts are expressed as parts per million (δ , ppm) and are referenced to 7.26 (CDCl_3) for ^1H NMR and 77.00 (CDCl_3) for ^{13}C NMR. Proton signal data uses the following abbreviations: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet and J = coupling constant. High Resolution Mass Spectrometry was obtained with a Bruker Apex II mass instrument under the conditions of electrospray ionization (ESI) in both positive and negative mode.

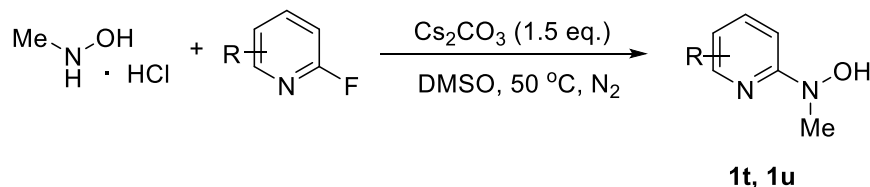
General procedure for the synthesis of protected *N*-aryl-*N*-hydroxylamines^{1, 2}



Nitroarene **S1** (1.0 equiv.) was added to a solution of 5% Rh/C (0.30 mol% Rh) in THF (0.324 M) under atmosphere of nitrogen. Then hydrazine monohydrate (1.2 equiv.) was added dropwise to the above mixture at 0 °C. Then the reaction mixture was stirred at indicated temperature for 1 hour and slowly heated to room temperature. The reaction mixture was filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Title compound **S2** were recrystallized from CH₂Cl₂/ Petroleum ether (PE) at –20 °C. The crude residue was used directly for the next step without further purification.



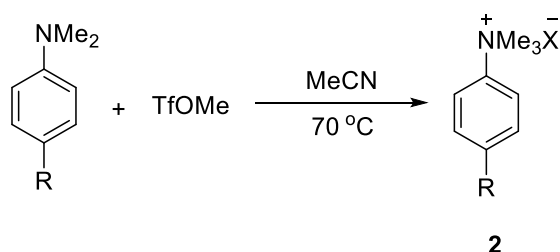
Saturated aqueous solution (1 M) of sodium bicarbonate was added to a solution of **S2** in ether (0.5 M). Benzoyl chloride was added dropwise to the mixture at 0 °C. Then, the solution was stirred for 1 hour at room temperature. Saturated aqueous ammonium chloride was used to quench the reaction solution. After the mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂, the organic layer was washed by brine and dried over sodium sulfate. Solvent was then removed in vacuum and the crude product was purified by recrystallization (PE/CH₂Cl₂) to obtain the product **1**.



Under N₂ atmosphere, a suspension of *N*-methylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (3.0 equiv.), 2,6-difluoropyridine (5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) or 2-fluoro-5-iodopyridine and Cs₂CO₃ (1.5 equiv.) in DMSO (15 mL) was heated to 50 °C. Then, the solution was

stirred for 2 hours with cooling the solution to room temperature. The reaction was quenched by water (60 mL). The mixture was extracted with ether (3 × 25 mL) and the organic layer was washed by brine and dried over sodium sulfate. After the solvent was removed *in vacuo*, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 5/1) to obtain **1t** or **1u**.

General Procedure for Preparations of Aryltrimethylammonium Salts³



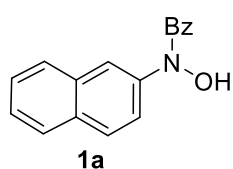
Methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (0.62 mL, 5.5 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) was added by dropwise to a stirred solution of *N,N*-dimethylaniline (5 mmol) in MeCN (10 mL) at 70 °C. The resulting solution was stirred for 12 hours at 70 °C. Solvent was then removed in vacuum and the residue was washed with EtOAc or Et₂O, dried under vacuum to give a white solid.

For **2a'**, trimethyloxonium tetrafluoroborate (1.1 equiv.) was added instead of methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate by dropwise at 70 °C.

For **2a''**, methyl iodide (1.1 equiv.) was added instead of methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate by dropwise at 70 °C.

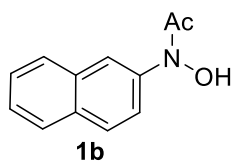
Analytical data of starting materials

1. *N*-hydroxy-*N*-(naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (**1a**)



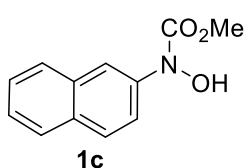
Pink solid, m.p. = 139-141 °C; *R*_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.30 (s, 1H), 8.82 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (dd, *J* = 23.1, 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.53-7.27 (m, 5H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.7, 137.0, 133.1, 132.4, 132.3, 131.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.3, 128.2, 127.7, 126.91, 126.87, 124.4, 123.7; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for [C₁₇H₁₄NO₂]⁺ [*M*+H]⁺: 264.1019, found 264.1026.

2. *N*-hydroxy-*N*-(naphthalen-2-yl)acetamide (1b)



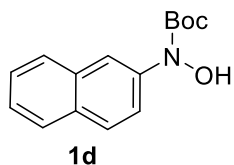
White solid, m.p. = 84-86 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.83 (s, 1H), 8.15 (s, 1H), 7.90 (dd, J = 15.4, 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.67-7.36 (m, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 139.9, 133.4, 130.8, 128.4, 128.2, 127.9, 127.0, 125.9, 120.8, 23.1; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}_2]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 202.0863, found 202.0893.

3. methyl hydroxy(naphthalen-2-yl)carbamate (1c)



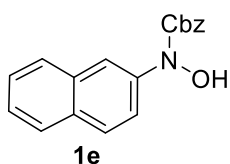
White solid, m.p. = 88-89 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.43 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dt, J = 9.1, 5.8 Hz, 3H), 7.50 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.27 (m, 2H), 3.67 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 156.2, 138.2, 133.1, 131.4, 128.3, 128.0, 127.5, 126.4, 125.8, 121.2, 119.7, 53.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}_3]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 218.0812, found 218.0817.

4. *tert*-butyl hydroxy(naphthalen-2-yl)carbamate (1d)



White solid, m.p. = 132-134 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.76-7.68 (m, 3H), 7.56 (dd, J = 8.9, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.29 (m, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 154.5, 138.4, 133.3, 131.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.5, 126.4, 125.6, 121.2, 118.8, 83.6, 28.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 282.1101, found 282.1093.

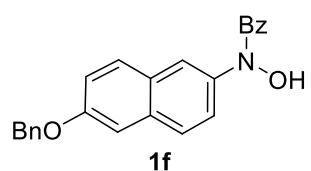
5. benzyl hydroxy(naphthalen-2-yl)carbamate (1e)



White solid, m.p. = 89-91 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.13 (s, 1H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.67 (dd, J = 20.5, 10.5 Hz, 3H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.4-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.14 (m, 5H), 5.13 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 155.3, 138.0, 135.5, 133.2, 131.4, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 128.0, 127.6, 126.5, 125.9, 121.1, 119.5, 68.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_3]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$:

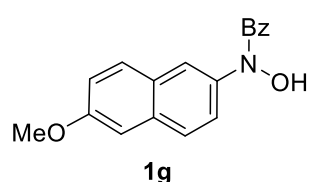
294.1125, found 294.1131.

6. *N*-(7-(benzyloxy)naphthalen-2-yl)-*N*-hydroxybenzamide (1f)



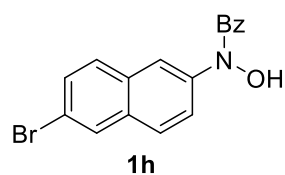
Yellow solid, m.p. = 162-163 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.82 (s, 1H), 8.06-7.61 (m, 6H), 7.58-7.12 (m, 10H), 5.23 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 168.4, 156.9, 138.3, 137.4, 136.0, 132.6, 130.71, 129.9, 128.94, 128.88, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 127.4, 123.0, 120.6, 119.9, 107.7, 69.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_3]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 370.1438, found 370.1440.

7. *N*-hydroxy-*N*-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (1g)



Yellow solid, m.p. = 167-168 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.63 (dd, J = 20.2, 8.8 Hz, 3H), 7.50-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.19 (m, 3H), 7.14 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 168.4, 157.9, 138.3, 136.1, 132.8, 130.7, 129.8, 128.9, 128.5, 128.3, 128.1, 127.4, 123.0, 119.6, 106.4, 55.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_3]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 294.1125, found 294.1133.

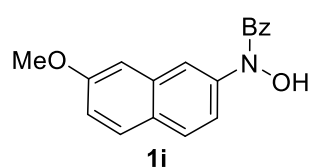
8. *N*-(6-bromonaphthalen-2-yl)-*N*-hydroxybenzamide (1h)



White solid, m.p. = 162-164 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.92 (s, 1H), 8.20 (s, 1H), 8.10 (s, 1H), 7.90 (dt, J = 20.0, 8.8 Hz, 3H), 7.71 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (dd, J = 8.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.41 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 168.8, 140.7, 135.8, 132.3, 131.9, 131.0, 130.5, 130.0, 129.9, 128.9, 128.4, 127.8, 123.0, 119.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrNO}_2]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 342.0124, found 342.0126.

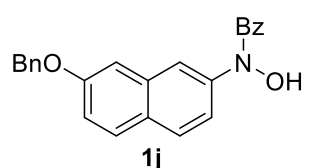
9. *N*-hydroxy-*N*-(7-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (1i)

Yellow solid, m.p. = 148-149 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.86 (s, 1H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.82 (dd, J = 17.1, 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, J =



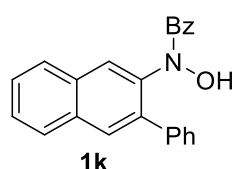
7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.33 (s, 1H), 7.21-7.07 (m, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 168.6, 158.3, 140.7, 136.1, 134.8, 130.8, 129.5, 128.9, 128.4, 128.3, 126.7, 119.7, 118.9, 118.8, 106.6; 55.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_3]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 294.1125, found 294.1119.

10. *N*-(7-(benzyloxy)naphthalen-2-yl)-*N*-hydroxybenzamide (**1j**)



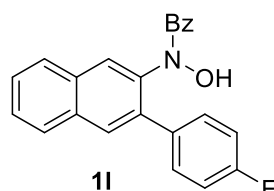
White solid, m.p. = 131-132 °C; $R_f = 0.3$ (PE:EA = 2:1); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.88 (s, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.84 (s, 2H), 7.69 (d, $J = 33.0$ Hz, 3H), 7.44 (t, $J = 39.9$ Hz, 9H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 5.22 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 168.6, 157.3, 140.8, 137.4, 136.1, 134.7, 130.8, 129.58, 128.9, 128.4, 126.8, 119.7, 119.1, 118.8, 107.9, 69.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_3]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 370.1438, found 370.1444.

11. *N*-hydroxy-*N*-(3-phenylnaphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (**1k**)



White solid, m.p. = 76-78 °C; $R_f = 0.3$ (PE:EA = 2:1); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.86 (s, 1H), 8.17 (s, 1H), 8.01 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 3H), 7.80-6.89 (m, 12H); the benzamide has poor solubility, so we can not get its carbon (^{13}C) NMR spectra. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 340.1332, found 340.1337.

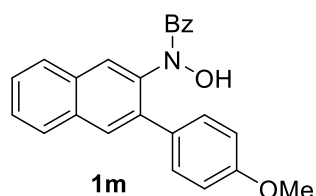
12. *N*-(3-(4-fluorophenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)-*N*-hydroxybenzamide (**1l**)



White solid, m.p. = 77-79 °C; $R_f = 0.3$ (PE:EA = 2:1); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.93-7.84 (m, 1H), 7.83-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.51 (dd, $J = 6.2, 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.15 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.02 (s, 2H), 6.92 (dt, $J = 22.1, 7.0$ Hz, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 163.6, 161.6, 137.0, 135.1, 134.0, 133.6, 132.7, 130.7, 130.5, 130.4, 130.1, 129.2, 128.4, 128.1, 127.9, 127.7, 127.0, 115.6, 115.4; ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -114.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{FNO}_2]^+$

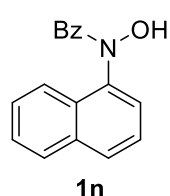
[M+H]⁺: 358.1238, found 358.1230.

13. N-hydroxy-N-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (1m)



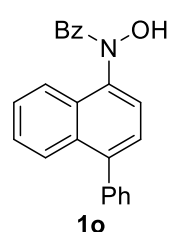
White solid, m.p. = 73-75 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.70-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.24 (m, 5H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 31.5, 7.7 Hz, 5H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.6, 159.3, 141.2, 136.4, 133.7, 132.4, 131.7, 131.1, 131.0, 130.9, 129.0, 128.6, 128.3, 126.9, 126.7, 126.1, 124.4, 123.1, 113.8, 55.4; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for [C₂₄H₂₀NO₃]⁺ [M+H]⁺: 370.1438, found 370.1430.

14. N-hydroxy-N-(naphthalen-1-yl)benzamide⁴ (1n)



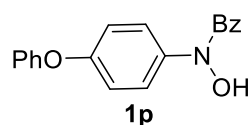
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.44 (s, 1H), 8.27 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (dd, *J* = 19.6, 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.72-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.21 (m, 5H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H). Analytical data are in accordance with the literature values.

15. N-hydroxy-N-(4-phenylnaphthalen-1-yl)benzamide (1o)



Yellow solid, m.p. = 70-72 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.66 (s, 1H), 8.33 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.39 (m, 8H), 7.31-7.12 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.4, 142.8, 139.7, 135.4, 132.7, 131.2, 130.7, 130.2, 130.0, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 127.8, 127.6, 127.0, 126.9, 126.8, 126.3, 123.6; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for [C₂₃H₁₈NO₂]⁺ [M+H]⁺: 340.1332, found 340.1329.

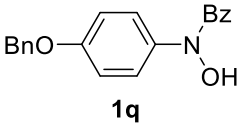
16. N-hydroxy-N-(4-phenoxyphenyl)benzamide (1p)



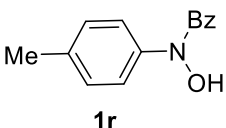
White solid, m.p. = 122-124 °C; R_f = 0.4 (PE:EA = 2:1); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.36 (s, 1H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (ddd, *J* = 10.9, 7.2, 5.7 Hz, 3H), 7.29-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.11 (m, 3H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.93-6.85 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz,

CDCl₃): δ 165.6, 157.4, 156.2, 134.5, 132.2, 131.0, 130.0, 128.9, 128.2, 128.0, 124.11, 120.0, 118.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for [C₁₉H₁₆NO₃]⁺ [M+H]⁺: 306.1125, found 306.1131.

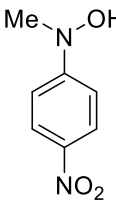
17. *N*-(4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)-*N*-hydroxybenzamide (1q)


1q White solid, m.p. = 159-160 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 5:1); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.13 (s, 1H), 7.45-7.30 (m, 8H), 7.30-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.19-7.11 (m, 2H), 6.93-6.85 (m, 2H), 5.03 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- *d*₆): δ 168.0, 156.8, 137.4, 136.1, 135.9, 130.5, 128.9, 128.8, 128.3, 128.3, 128.2, 128.0, 115.2, 70.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for [C₂₀H₁₈NO₃]⁺ [M+H]⁺: 320.1281, found 320.1288.

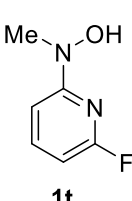
18. *N*-hydroxy-*N*-(*p*-tolyl)benzamide⁵ (1r)


1r R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.09 (s, 1H), 7.37-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (s, 4H), 2.25 (s, 3H). Analytical data are in accordance with the literature values.

19. *N*-methyl-*N*-(4-nitrophenyl)hydroxylamine (1s)

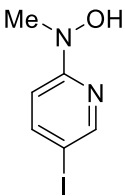

1s Yellow solid, m.p. = 104-106 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 3:1); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- *d*₆): δ 9.94 (s, 1H), 8.06 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.25 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- *d*₆): δ 157.6, 138.6, 125.9, 112.3, 43.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for [C₇H₉N₂O₃]⁺ [M+H]⁺: 169.0608, found 169.0612.

20. *N*-(6-fluoropyridin-2-yl)-*N*-methylhydroxylamine (1t)


1t White oil; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.16 (s, 1H), 7.64-7.45 (m, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 162.15 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 15.1 Hz), 162.04 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 23.0 Hz), 142.20 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 8.8 Hz), 105.38 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.8 Hz), 99.1 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 35.3 Hz), 41.8; ¹⁹F NMR (471

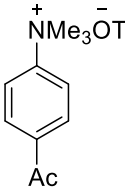
MHz, CDCl₃): δ -70.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for [C₆H₈FN₂O]⁺ [M+H]⁺: 143.0615, found 143.0616.

21. *N*-(5-iodopyridin-2-yl)-*N*-methylhydroxylamine (1u)

 White oil; R_f = 0.4 (PE:EA = 3:1); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.35 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dd, J = 8.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 162.2, 152.6, 145.5, 111.6, 81.1, 42.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for [C₆H₈IN₂O]⁺ [M+H]⁺: 250.9676, found 250.9674.

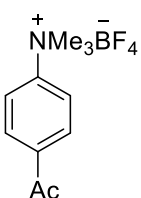
1u

22. 4-acetyl-*N,N,N*-trimethylbenzenaminium trifluoromethanesulfonate (2a)³

 White solid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- *d*₆): 8.14 (dd, J = 20.3, 8.9 Hz, 4H), 3.65 (s, 9H), 2.65 (s, 3H). Analytical data are in accordance with the literature values.

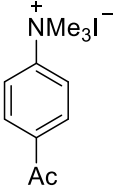
2a

23. 4-acetyl-*N,N,N*-trimethylbenzenaminium tetrafluoroborate(2a')³

 White solid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- *d*₆): δ 8.14 (dd, J = 21.6, 9.0 Hz, 4H), 3.65 (s, 9H), 2.64 (s, 3H). Analytical data are in accordance with the literature values.

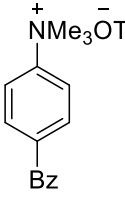
2a'

24. 4-acetyl-*N,N,N*-trimethylbenzenaminium iodide (2a'')³

 White solid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- *d*₆): δ 8.15 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 4H), 3.67 (s, 9H), 2.66 (s, 3H). Analytical data are in accordance with the literature values.

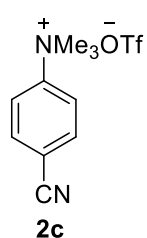
2a''

25. 4-benzoyl-*N,N,N*-trimethylbenzenaminium trifluoromethanesulfonate (2b)³

 White solid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- *d*₆): 8.18 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.95 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.85-7.69 (m, 3H), 7.60 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 3.69 (s, 9H). Analytical data are in accordance with the literature values.

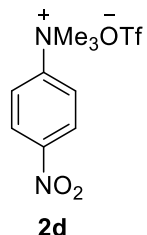
2b

26. 4-cyano-*N,N,N*-trimethylbenzenaminium trifluoromethanesulfonate (2c)³



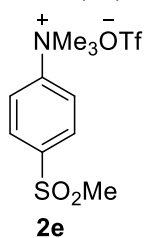
White solid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- *d*₆): 8.27-8.08 (m, 4H), 3.65 (s, 9H). Analytical data are in accordance with the literature values.

27. *N,N,N*-trimethyl-4-nitrobenzenaminium trifluoromethanesulfonate (2d)³



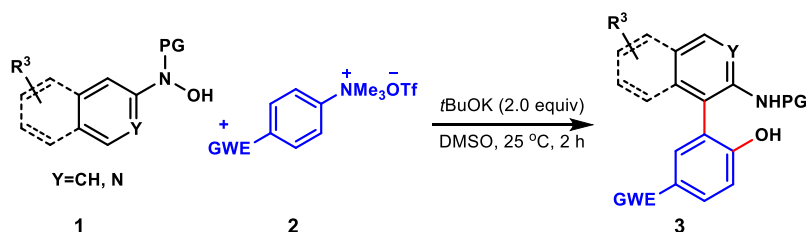
White solid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- *d*₆): 8.47 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 3.69 (s, 9H). Analytical data are in accordance with the literature values.

28. *N,N,N*-trimethyl-4-(methylsulfonyl)benzenaminium-trifluoromethanesulfonate (2e)³



White solid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- *d*₆): 8.32-8.25 (m, 2H), 8.23-8.14 (m, 2H), 3.68 (s, 9H), 3.33 (s, 3H). Analytical data are in accordance with the literature values.

General procedure for the synthesis of biaryls

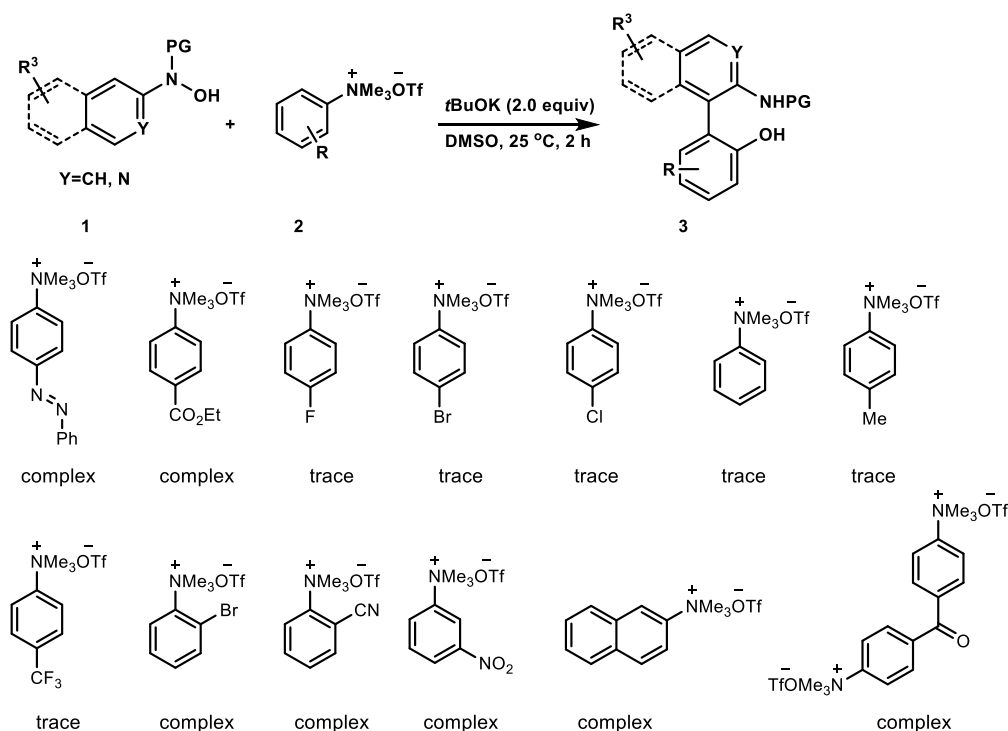


A solution of *t*BuOK (0.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), **1** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and **2** (0.45 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) in anhydrous DMSO (3 mL) under air was stirred at 25 °C until the complete consumption of **1** detected by TLC analysis. Then water (30 mL) was added and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography to give the desired product **3**.

Screening of ammonium salts with various electron-withdrawing groups

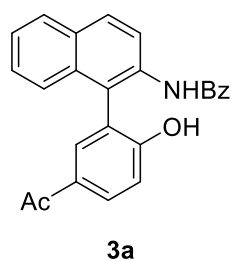
groups

A number of ammonium salts bearing various electron-withdrawing groups rather than nitro group were tried. For the details, see the following scheme. All the reactions were carried out following the general procedure.



Analytical data of biaryl products

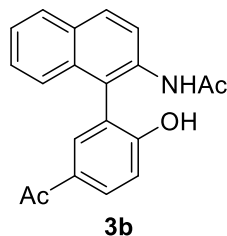
1. *N*-(1-(5-acetyl-2-hydroxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (**3a**)



91 mg, 80% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 229-230 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (3:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.27 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.83-7.71 (m, 3H), 7.41 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (dd, J = 16.4, 7.9 Hz, 3H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.14-7.08 (m, 1H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 196.5, 166.1, 160.4, 135.1, 134.3, 134.0, 132.7, 131.9, 130.6, 130.3, 128.9, 128.43, 128.35, 127.7, 126.8, 126.2, 125.9, 125.8, 123.0, 116.2, 26.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for

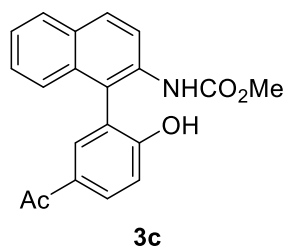
$[\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_3]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 382.1438, found 382.1443.

2. *N*-(1-(5-acetyl-2-hydroxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)acetamide (3b)



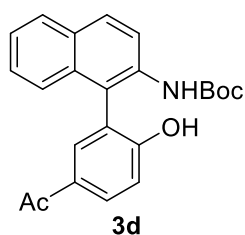
40 mg, 42% yield; White solid, m.p. = 141-143 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (2:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.38 (s, 1H), 8.96 (s, 1H), 8.05-7.90 (m, 3H), 7.75 (dd, J = 33.0, 5.3 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (dt, J = 14.9, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 3H), 1.89 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 196.6, 169.2, 160.6, 134.5, 133.7, 132.7, 131.4, 130.7, 129.1, 129.1, 128.6, 128.3, 128.0, 126.6, 126.1, 125.5, 123.0, 116.2, 26.8, 23.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_3]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 320.1281, found 320.1301.

3. methyl (1-(5-acetyl-2-hydroxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)carbamate (3c)



76 mg, 76% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 103-105 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (2:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.46 (s, 1H), 8.21 (s, 1H), 8.05-7.92 (m, 3H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 196.6, 160.5, 155.2, 134.1, 133.9, 132.8, 131.2, 130.7, 129.2, 128.5, 128.3, 126.8, 125.9, 125.4, 124.1, 122.8, 116.3, 52.2, 26.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_4]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 336.1230, found 336.1226.

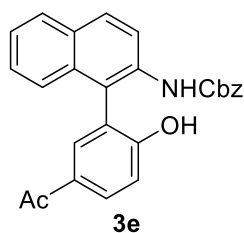
4. *tert*-butyl (1-(5-acetyl-2-hydroxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)carbamate (3d)



88 mg, 78% yield; White Oil; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (3:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.08 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, J = 17.8, 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.36-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.17 (d, J =

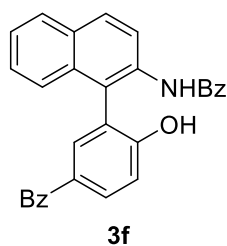
8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 197.1, 158.8, 153.5, 134.8, 133.3, 132.7, 131.2, 130.8, 130.5, 129.8, 128.2, 127.1, 125.1, 124.9, 121.7, 121.0, 116.7, 81.3, 28.3, 26.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_4\text{Na}]^+ [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 400.1519, found 400.1512.

5. benzyl (1-(5-acetyl-2-hydroxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)carbamate (3e)



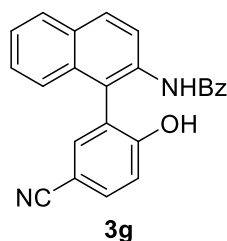
78 mg, 63% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 155-157 °C; $R_f = 0.3$ (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (4:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.15 (s, 1H), 7.95 -7.59 (m, 4H), 7.43-7.13 (m, 8H), 7.03 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 6.39 (s, 1H), 4.95 (q, $J = 11.9$ Hz, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 196.9, 158.7, 153.8, 135.7, 134.5, 133.1, 132.6, 131.5, 130.8, 130.8, 130.1, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 127.3, 125.3, 124.9, 121.3, 116.8, 67.3, 26.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_4]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 412.1543, found 412.1546.

6. N-(1-(5-benzoyl-2-hydroxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3f)



71 mg, 53% yield; White solid, m.p. = 216-218 °C; $R_f = 0.2$ (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (2:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 10.65 (s, 1H), 9.68 (s, 1H), 8.00 (t, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.86-7.78 (m, 2H), 7.75 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.66-7.63 (m, 2H), 7.58 (dd, $J = 14.8, 4.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.52-7.42 (m, 8H), 7.21 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 194.8, 166.0, 160.5, 138.4, 135.9, 135.1, 134.4, 132.7, 132.3, 132.2, 132.0, 130.3, 129.6, 128.82, 128.75, 128.44, 128.36, 128.3, 127.8, 126.8, 126.1, 126.08, 125.9, 123.0, 116.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_3]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 444.1594, found 444.1602.

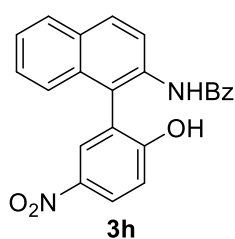
7. N-(1-(5-cyano-2-hydroxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3g)



58 mg, 53% yield; Brown solid, m.p. = 259-261 °C; $R_f = 0.2$ (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica

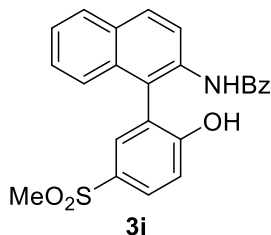
gel (3:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.74 (s, 1H), 9.65 (s, 1H), 8.05-7.97 (m, 2H), 7.80-7.73 (m, 2H), 7.70 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, J = 11.6, 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (q, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 166.2, 160.2, 137.0, 135.2, 134.4, 134.2, 132.5, 132.0, 131.9, 129.6, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 127.8, 126.9, 126.2, 126.0, 124.7, 120.0, 117.2, 101.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 365.1285, found 365.1285.

8. *N*-(1-(2-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3h)



90 mg, 78% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 262-263 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (2:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.19 (s, 1H), 9.81 (s, 1H), 8.24 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (dd, J = 16.7, 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.59-7.47 (m, 4H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 166.4, 162.6, 139.8, 135.2, 134.6, 132.5, 132.0, 131.9, 129.6, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 127.9, 127.1, 126.5, 126.09, 126.07, 125.9, 124.2, 116.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 385.1183, found 385.1176.

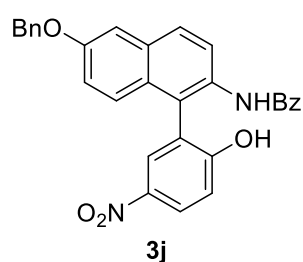
9. *N*-(1-(2-hydroxy-5-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3i)



62 mg, 50% yield; white solid, m.p. = 229-231 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (3:2, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.70 (s, 1H), 9.71 (s, 1H), 8.02 (dd, J = 12.9, 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.75-7.66 (m, 3H), 7.58-7.39 (m, 6H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 166.2, 160.4, 135.0, 134.4, 132.4, 132.1, 132.0, 131.9, 131.1, 130.3, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 127.8, 126.9, 126.3, 126.1, 126.0, 124.0, 116.6, 44.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_4\text{S}]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 418.1108, found 418.1105.

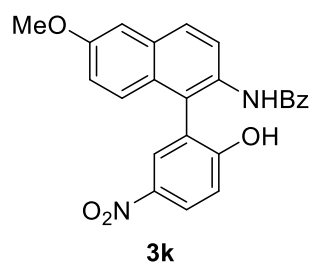
10. N-(6-(benzyloxy)-1-(2-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide

(3j)



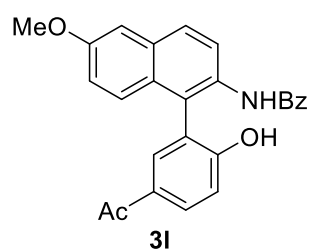
130 mg, 89% yield; Brown solid, m.p. = 224-226 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (3:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.16 (s, 1H), 9.75 (s, 1H), 8.24-8.18 (m, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 7.58-7.48 (m, 4H), 7.45-7.33 (m, 6H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 5.27 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 166.4, 162.5, 156.6, 139.7, 137.4, 135.2, 133.4, 132.5, 131.8, 130.0, 129.0, 128.7, 128.4, 128.3, 127.81, 127.77, 127.7, 127.6, 127.2, 126.0, 124.3, 119.7, 116.5, 108.2, 69.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 491.1601, found 491.1594.

11. N-(1-(2-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)-6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3k)



98 mg, 79% yield; Green solid, m.p. = 256-258 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (5:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.15 (s, 1H), 9.74 (s, 1H), 8.22 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (t, J = 8.5 Hz, 3H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.34 (m, 4H), 7.24-7.04 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 166.4, 162.5, 157.6, 139.8, 135.2, 133.5, 132.5, 131.8, 130.0, 128.9, 128.7, 127.8, 127.72, 127.71, 127.5, 127.1, 126.0, 124.4, 119.4, 116.5, 106.9, 55.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 415.1288, found 415.1283.

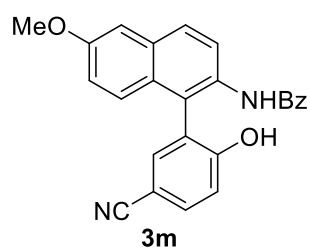
12. N-(1-(5-acetyl-2-hydroxyphenyl)-6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3l)



57 mg, 46% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 139-141 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (5:2, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.54 (s, 1H),

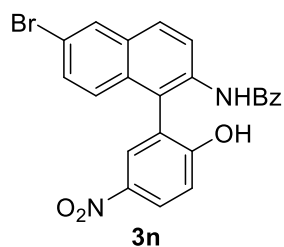
9.50 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H), 7.36 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.04 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 196.5, 166.2, 160.3, 157.4, 135.2, 133.91, 133.4, 132.2, 131.9, 130.9, 130.5, 128.9, 128.8, 127.94, 127.92, 127.7, 127.2, 126.7, 123.2, 119.1, 116.1, 106.8, 55.7, 26.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_4]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 412.1543, found 412.1543.

13. *N*-(1-(5-cyano-2-hydroxyphenyl)-6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3m)



49 mg, 42% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 242-243 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (5:2, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.70 (s, 1H), 9.59 (s, 1H), 8.04-7.85 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.64 (m, 4H), 7.58 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 (ddd, $J = 7.4, 4.2, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.30 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.03 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 166.3, 160.1, 157.5, 136.9, 135.2, 134.1, 133.4, 132.3, 131.8, 130.0, 129.0, 128.8, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 127.0, 124.9, 119.9, 119.3, 117.2, 106.8, 101.4, 55.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 395.1390, found 395.1383.

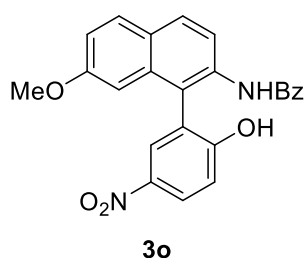
14. *N*-(6-bromo-1-(2-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3n)



65 mg, 47% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 303-305 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (3:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.23 (s, 1H), 9.84 (s, 1H), 8.31 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 8.23 (dd, $J = 9.1, 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, $J = 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.60 (dd, $J = 9.0, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.17 (d, $J = 9.1$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 166.4, 162.5, 139.8, 135.2, 135.0, 133.2, 132.0, 131.1, 130.3, 130.0, 129.7, 129.0, 128.8, 128.3, 128.1, 127.9, 127.7, 126.3,

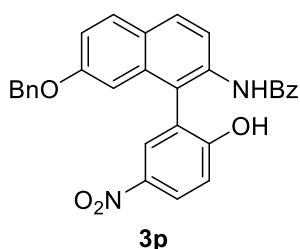
123.6, 119.4, 116.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[C_{23}H_{16}BrN_2O_4]^+ [M+H]^+$: 463.0288, found 463.0280.

15. *N*-(1-(2-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)-7-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3o)



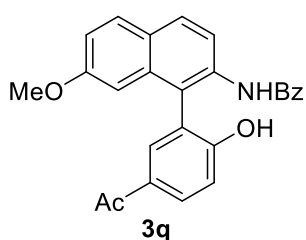
95 mg, 77% yield; Brown solid, m.p. = 225-227 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (3:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); 1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.18 (s, 1H), 9.75 (s, 1H), 8.22 (dd, J = 9.1, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (t, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.27-7.17 (m, 2H), 6.77 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 166.3, 162.5, 158.1, 139.9, 135.23, 135.19, 133.8, 131.9, 130.3, 129.1, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.0, 127.9, 127.5, 126.1, 124.3, 124.0, 117.8, 116.6, 105.1, 55.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[C_{24}H_{19}N_2O_5]^+ [M+H]^+$: 415.1288, found 415.1287.

16. *N*-(7-(benzyloxy)-1-(2-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide(3p)



91 mg, 62% yield; White solid, m.p. = 235-236 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (2:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); 1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.14 (s, 1H), 9.73 (s, 1H), 8.26 (dd, J = 9.1, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (dd, J = 8.8, 4.9 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.34-7.25 (m, 6H), 7.20 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 5.08-4.99 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 166.3, 162.5, 157.2, 139.9, 137.2, 135.23, 135.18, 133.8, 131.9, 130.3, 129.1, 128.82, 128.79, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 127.9, 127.5, 126.1, 124.2, 124.0, 118.3, 116.6, 106.7, 70.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[C_{30}H_{23}N_2O_5]^+ [M+H]^+$: 491.1601, found 491.1599.

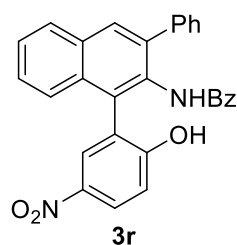
17. *N*-(1-(5-acetyl-2-hydroxyphenyl)-7-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3q)



65 mg, 53% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 148-150 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash

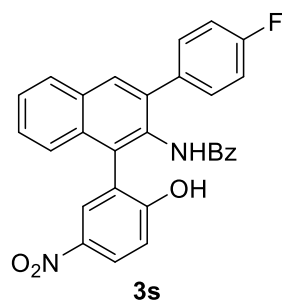
chromatography on silica gel (3:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.10 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.97 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd, J = 21.1, 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.43-7.37 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.9, 166.1, 158.9, 158.6, 134.7, 134.1, 134.0, 133.2, 132.0, 131.3, 130.6, 129.9, 129.6, 128.8, 127.0, 126.9, 121.99, 121.95, 119.4, 117.9, 117.0, 104.0, 55.2, 26.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_4]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 412.1543, found 412.1544.

18. *N*-(1-(2-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)-3-phenylnaphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3r)



76 mg, 55% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 188-190 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (3:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.11 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (dd, J = 27.3, 7.8 Hz, 3H), 7.60 (d, J = 24.5 Hz, 3H), 7.50-7.16 (m, 12H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 169.0, 161.1, 141.2, 138.6, 138.2, 133.1, 132.9, 132.1, 132.0, 131.3, 131.0, 129.1, 128.6, 128.6, 128.4, 127.9, 127.4, 127.3, 127.0, 125.7, 125.6, 118.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 461.1496, found 461.1489.

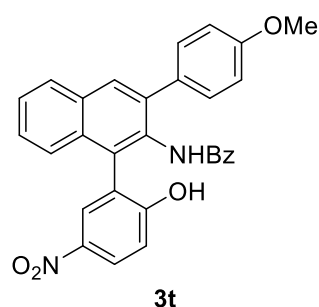
19. *N*-(3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-(2-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3s)



90 mg, 63% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 250-252 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (3:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 11.15 (s, 1H), 9.92 (s, 1H), 8.27-8.14 (m, 2H), 8.09 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (dd, J = 8.5, 5.6 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.40 (m, 4H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 163.1, 162.5, 161.1, 139.6, 138.6, 136.4, 135.2, 134.4, 132.7, 132.7, 131.9, 131.6, 131.5, 131.4, 130.0, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.5, 127.1,

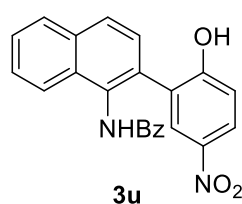
126.9, 126.2, 126.0, 124.9, 116.3, 115.4, 115.2; ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$): δ -115.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{20}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_4]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 479.1402, found 479.1410.

20. *N*-(1-(2-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (3t)



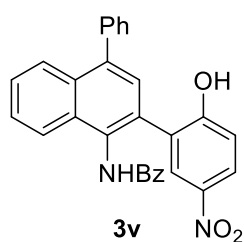
68 mg, 69% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 101-103 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (3:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$): δ 11.22 (s, 1H), 9.84 (s, 1H), 8.24 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 3H), 7.52 (dd, J = 14.2, 8.3 Hz, 6H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (dd, J = 15.6, 8.8 Hz, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$): δ 166.4, 162.7, 159.4, 140.2, 139.9, 135.2, 134.1, 133.0, 132.1, 131.9, 131.4, 130.1, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 127.9, 127.0, 126.9, 126.4, 126.3, 126.2, 126.1, 124.1, 116.6, 114.6, 55.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 491.1601, found 491.1593.

21. *N*-(2-(2-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)naphthalen-1-yl)benzamide (3u)



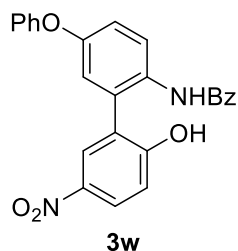
54 mg, 47% yield; Brown solid, m.p. = 208-210 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (2:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$): δ 11.27 (s, 1H), 10.19 (s, 1H), 8.21 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (dd, J = 5.2, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd, J = 9.9, 5.7 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (td, J = 5.3, 2.5 Hz, 3H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$): δ 167.1, 161.8, 139.6, 135.0, 133.8, 133.0, 132.5, 131.9, 131.4, 128.82, 128.79, 128.4, 127.9, 127.5, 127.3, 127.2, 127.1, 126.9, 125.5, 124.4, 116.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 385.1183, found 385.1184.

22. N-(2-(2-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)-4-phenylnaphthalen-1-yl)benzamide (3v)



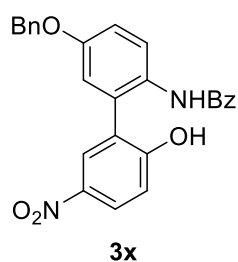
45 mg, 33% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 189-191 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (5:2, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.74 (s, 1H), 8.05 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.08 (m, 11H), 6.64 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 168.3, 159.3, 141.1, 140.7, 139.3, 132.76, 132.60, 132.09, 131.13, 130.4, 130.1, 129.9, 128.9, 128.8, 128.4, 127.7, 127.3, 127.1, 126.8, 126.7, 125.2, 123.9, 116.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 461.1496, found 461.1494.

23. N-(2'-hydroxy-5'-nitro-5-phenoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)benzamide (3w)



58 mg, 46% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 145-146 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (3:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 9.77 (s, 1H), 8.10-8.04 (m, 2H), 7.71 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (ddd, J = 7.6, 6.0, 2.7 Hz, 4H), 7.16 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.13-7.06 (m, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 166.0, 161.9, 157.1, 154.7, 139.6, 135.1, 134.9, 131.9, 130.6, 129.2, 129.0, 128.8, 128.2, 127.8, 126.4, 125.7, 124.1, 121.1, 119.2, 118.7, 116.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 427.1288, found 427.1283.

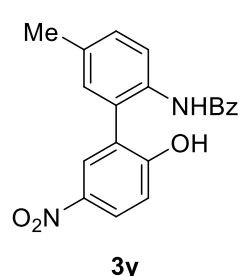
24. N-(5-(benzyloxy)-2'-hydroxy-5'-nitro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)benzamide(3x)



66mg, 50% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 198-200 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (4:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 11.36 (s, 1H), 9.58 (s, 1H), 8.18-8.00 (m, 2H), 7.70 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.58-7.46 (m, 4H), 7.43-7.37 (m, 4H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dt, J = 14.4, 6.2 Hz, 3H), 5.17 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 166.0, 161.5, 156.6, 139.8, 137.5, 135.3, 134.7, 131.8,

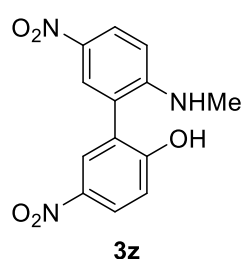
129.5, 128.9, 128.8, 128.3, 128.2, 127.9, 127.7, 127.0, 125.6, 117.2, 116.4, 115.2, 70.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[C_{26}H_{21}N_2O_5]^+ [M+H]^+$: 441.1445, found 441.1439.

25. *N*-(2'-hydroxy-5-methyl-5'-nitro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)benzamide (3y)



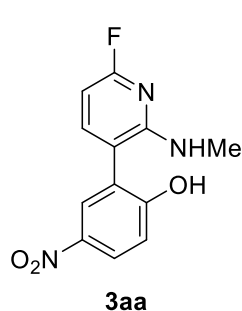
55 mg, 53% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 181-182 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 3:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (4:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); 1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.32 (s, 1H), 9.59 (s, 1H), 8.17-7.98 (m, 2H), 7.69 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.53-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 165.8, 161.8, 139.7, 135.5, 135.3, 133.9, 133.1, 131.8, 131.7, 129.3, 128.8, 127.9, 127.7, 127.4, 127.1, 125.5, 116.4, 21.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[C_{20}H_{17}N_2O_4]^+ [M+H]^+$: 349.1183, found 349.1179.

26. 2'-(methylamino)-5,5'-dinitro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-ol (3z)



31 mg, 36% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 166-168 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 3:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (3:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); 1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.45 (s, 1H), 8.16 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 8.04 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 3.32 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 160.8, 154.0, 140.5, 137.8, 132.8, 126.09, 126.05, 125.4, 117.9, 112.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[C_{13}H_{12}N_3O_5]^+ [M+H]^+$: 290.0771, found 290.0774.

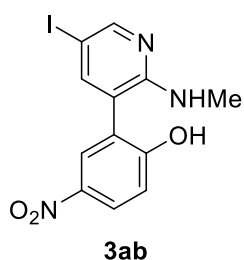
27. 2-(6-fluoro-2-(methylamino)pyridin-3-yl)-4-nitrophenol (3aa)



40 mg, 51% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 107-109 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 5:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (6:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); 1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.16 (s, 1H), 8.16 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, J = 9.0

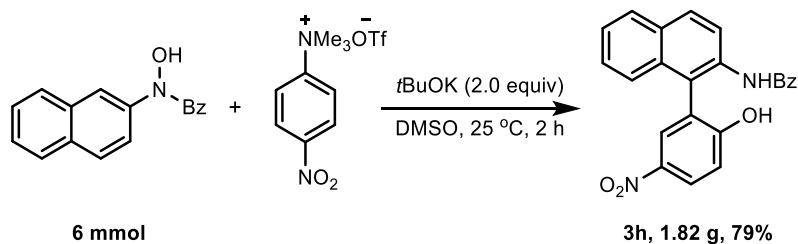
Hz, 1H), 6.19 (dd, $J = 7.7, 2.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 2.72 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 163.9, 162.5, 162.1, 156.5, 156.3, 142.9, 142.8, 140.2, 128.1, 125.9, 124.6, 116.8, 113.89, 113.85, 93.5, 93.1, 28.7; ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ -71.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{FN}_3\text{O}_3]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 264.0779, found 264.0773.

28. 2-(5-iodo-2-(methyamino)pyridin-3-yl)-4-nitrophenol (3ab)



40 mg, 36% yield; Yellow solid, m.p. = 204-206 °C; $R_f = 0.3$ (PE:EA = 3:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (5:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.28 (s, 1H), 8.27 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 8.10 (dd, $J = 8.3, 2.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.69 (dd, $J = 8.9, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.13 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.25 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.27 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 161.0, 157.4, 153.1, 144.9, 140.3, 133.0, 126.0, 124.8, 117.5, 110.8, 78.7, 37.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{IN}_3\text{O}_3]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 371.9840, found 371.9866.

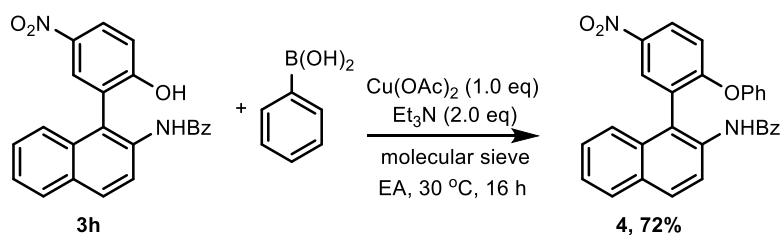
Experimental procedure for large scale reaction



N-hydroxy-*N*-(naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (1.58 g, 6 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and aryltrimethylammonium triflates (9 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) were dissolved in anhydrous DMSO (60 mL) under air atmosphere and *t*BuOK (12 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 2 hours. The mixture was quenched by water (600 mL) and was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 100 mL), the organic layer was washed by brine and dried over sodium sulfate. After the solvent was removed *in vacuum*, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 2/1) to obtain **3h** (1.82 g, 79 %) as a yellow solid.

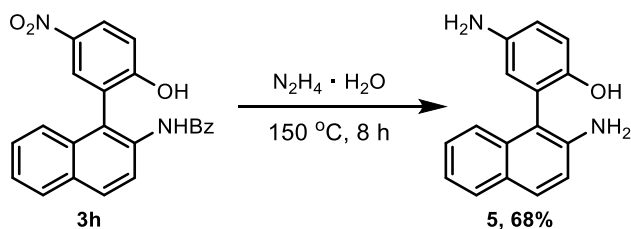
Synthetic applications of the biaryl products

General Procedure for the Synthesis of biaryl **4**⁶



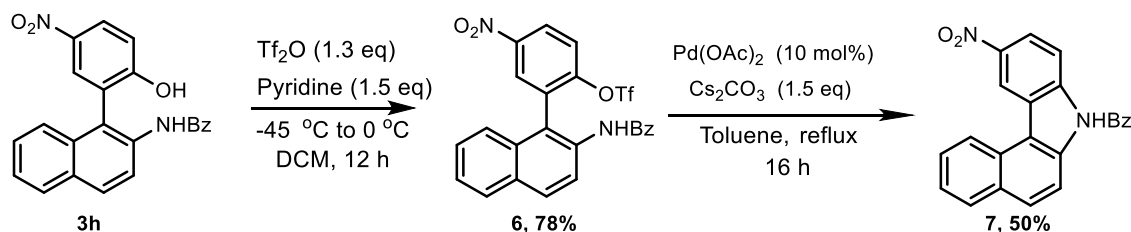
Biaryl **3h** (0.3 mmol, 1.00 equiv.), Cu(OAc)_2 (56.2 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), phenylboronic acid (75 mg, 0.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), and activated 4Å molecular sieves were added to ethyl acetate (3.0 mL) under an atmosphere of nitrogen, triethylamine (85 μL , 0.61 mmol., 2.0 equiv.) was added to the mixture via microsyringe, and the mixture was stirred at 30 °C for 16 hours. The reaction mixture was separated by silica gel chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 6/1) to obtain biaryl product **4** (99 mg, 72%).

General Procedure for the Synthesis of biaryl **5**⁷.



Biaryl **3h** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was dissolved in $\text{NH}_2\text{NH}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2.0 mL) in a sealed-tube. The tube was heated at 150 °C for 8 hours. After the reaction mixture was cooled to 30 °C and neutralized to pH = 7 by concentrated HCl (2 M). Then the mixture was diluted with EtOAc (45 mL), the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over sodium sulfate. Finally, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 1/1) to obtain the desired product **5** (34 mg, 68%).

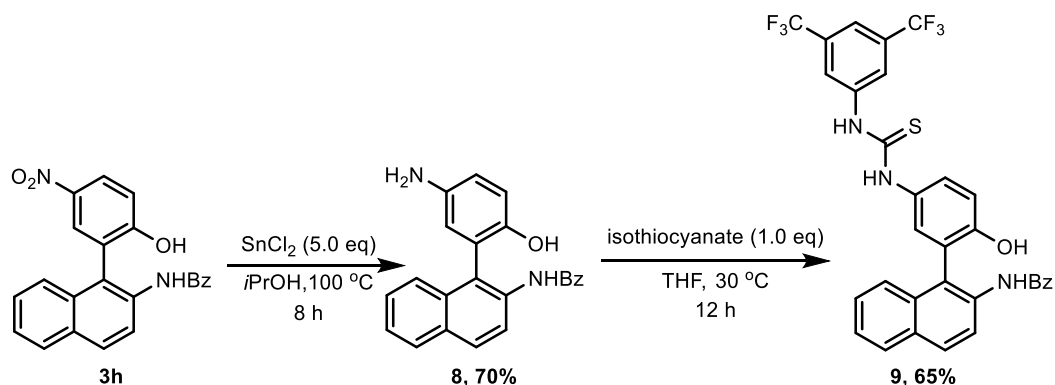
General Procedure for the Synthesis of carbazole **7**^{8,9}



Pyridine (1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added to a solution of **3h** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) at $-45\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ under nitrogen atmosphere, and then triflic anhydride (1.3 mmol, 1.3 equiv.) was slowly added to the mixture. The mixture was stirred at $0\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 12 hours. 1M HCl (aq.) was slowly added to the reaction mixture. Then the mixture was extracted with brine, and dried over MgSO_4 . The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 6/1) to obtain product **6** (40 mg, 78%) as a yellow solid.

Biaryl **6** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (3 mg, 10 mol%), and Cs_2CO_3 (0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was dissolved in toluene (0.4 mL) under nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was refluxed at $120\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 16 hours. After the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, the residue was purified by flash chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 12/1) to obtain the carbazole **7** (19 mg, 50%) as a yellow oil.

General Procedure for the Synthesis of biaryl **9**^{10,11}

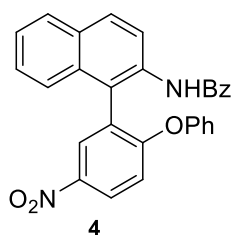


Biaryl **3h** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was dissolved in *i*PrOH (0.5 mL) and stannous chloride (235 mg, 5.0 equiv.) was added slowly to the mixture at 100 °C under air, then the mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 8 hour. The mixture was quenched by water (3 mL) and it was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 25 mL), the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over sodium sulfate. After the solvent was removed *in vacuum*, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 1/1) to obtain desired product **8** (50mg, 70%) as a black solid.

To a solution of **8** (0.1 mmol, 35.4 mg) in THF (3.0 mL) was added 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl isothiocyanate (27.1 mg, 0.1 mmol). After being stirred at room temperature for 12 h, the mixture was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by recrystallization (n-hexane/AcOEt) to afford **9** as white solid (41 mg, 65%).

Analytical data of starting materials and synthetic applications

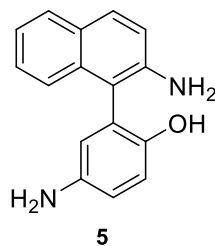
29. *N*-(1-(5-nitro-2-phenoxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (**4**)



99 mg, 72% yield; White solid, m.p. = 68-70 °C; R_f = 0.3 (PE:EA = 4:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (6:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.23 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 8.17 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.94-7.82 (m, 2H), 7.78 (dd, J = 5.5, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.45-7.27 (m, 6H), 7.13 (dd, J = 12.7, 4.9 Hz, 2H), 7.05-6.92 (m,

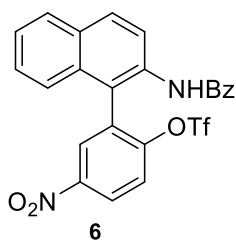
2H), 6.72 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 165.6, 161.4, 154.5, 142.9, 134.7, 133.9, 132.3, 132.1, 131.4, 130.2, 129.8, 129.2, 128.9, 128.4, 126.99, 126.96, 126.8, 125.9, 125.5, 124.9, 123.1, 122.1, 120.3, 116.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 461.1496, found 461.1494.

30. 4-amino-2-(2-aminonaphthalen-1-yl)phenol (5)



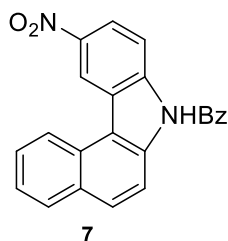
47 mg, Yield = 68%; Black solid, m.p. = 104-106 °C; $R_f = 0.2$ (PE:EA = 1:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (1:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.63 (dd, $J = 29.8, 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.37-6.99 (m, 4H), 6.75 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 4.60 (s, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): δ 146.8, 143.3, 141.7, 134.1, 128.02, 127.95, 127.3, 125.9, 124.5, 123.7, 121.2, 118.9, 118.3, 117.2, 116.1, 115.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 251.1179, found 251.1173.

31. 2-(2-benzamidonaphthalen-1-yl)-4-nitrophenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (6)



48 mg, Yield = 78%; Yellow solid, m.p. = 113-115 °C; $R_f = 0.3$ (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (6:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.35 (dt, $J = 4.1, 2.7$ Hz, 2H), 8.05 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, $J = 19.2, 10.7$ Hz, 4H), 7.51-7.25 (m, 5H), 7.08 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 166.0, 151.4, 147.6, 134.3, 134.0, 132.9, 132.2, 131.6, 131.52, 131.1, 129.2, 128.9, 128.6, 127.6, 127.1, 126.1, 125.9, 124.1, 123.6, 123.5, 122.4; ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -73.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{S}]^+$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 517.0676, found 517.0680.

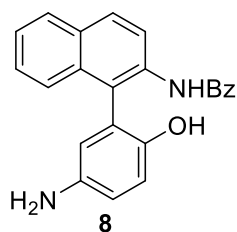
32. (10-nitro-7H-7l4-benzo[c]carbazol-7-yl)(phenyl)methanone (7)



55 mg, Yield = 50%; Black solid, m.p. = 230-232 °C; $R_f = 0.3$ (PE:EA = 5:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on

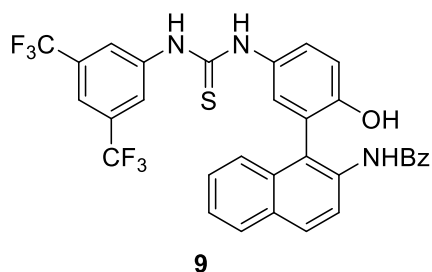
silica gel (12:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 9.32 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.79 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.82 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.79-7.70 (m, 4H), 7.65-7.56 (m, 3H), 7.42 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 167.4, 142.0, 140.0, 136.9, 132.5, 132.5, 128.7, 128.3, 127.9, 127.8, 127.0, 126.3, 124.0, 123.7, 121.8, 119.4, 116.0, 115.5, 113.3; the product has poor solubility, so we can not get its perfect NMR spectra; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3]^+ [\text{M}]^+$: 367.1083, found 367.1083.

33. *N*-(1-(5-amino-2-hydroxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (8)



74 mg, 70% yield; Black solid, m.p. = 132-134 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 1:1); Purified directly by flash chromatography on silica gel (1:1, petroleum ether: ethyl acetate); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 9.04 (d, J = 24.4 Hz, 2H), 8.19 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (dd, J = 18.2, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (dt, J = 15.3, 7.2 Hz, 4H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 165.0, 145.9, 141.8, 135.0, 133.5, 132.9, 132.3, 131.5, 129.3, 128.4, 128.3, 127.8, 127.3, 126.6, 126.5, 125.4, 123.0, 122.6, 118.1, 117.4, 116.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 355.1441, found 355.1435.

34. *N*-(1-(5-(3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)thioureido)-2-hydroxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)benzamide (9)



41 mg, 65% yield; White solid, m.p. = 280-282 °C; R_f = 0.2 (PE:EA = 2:1); Purified by recrystallization (n-hexane/AcOEt); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.52-9.72 (m, 3H), 9.28 (s, 1H), 8.26 (s, 2H), 7.99 (s, 3H), 7.84-7.59 (m, 4H), 7.59 -7.18 (m, 7H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 180.4, 165.5, 153.4, 142.4, 135.0, 134.0, 132.8, 132.1, 131.7, 130.5, 130.2, 129.8, 129.0, 128.5, 128.3, 128.3, 127.6, 126.9, 126.6, 126.4, 125.6, 124.8, 124.3, 123.9,

122.9, 122.6, 117.2, 116.6; ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ -61.53; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $[\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{22}\text{F}_6\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}]^+ [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 626.1331, found 626.1331.

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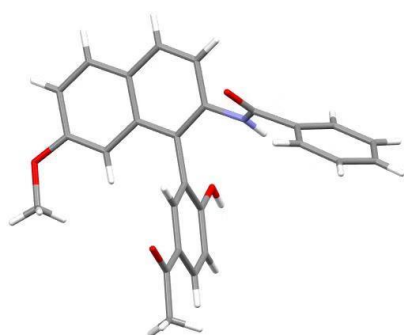
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X-Ray Crystal Structure Data for Compound 3q

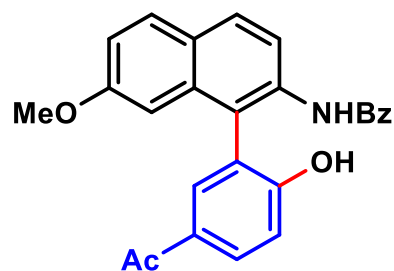
Single crystal was chosen under an optical microscope and quickly coated with high vacuum grease (Dow Corning Corporation) to prevent decomposition. Intensity data and cell parameters were recorded at 173 K on a Bruker Apex II single crystal diffractometer, employing a Mo K_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$) and a CCD area detector. The raw frame data were processed using SAINT and SADABS to yield the reflection data file.¹ The structure was solved using the charge-flipping algorithm, as implemented in the program *SUPERFLIP*² and refined by full-matrix least-squares techniques against F_o^2 using the SHELXL program³ through the OLEX2 interface.⁴ Hydrogen atoms at carbon were placed in calculated positions and refined isotropically by using a riding model. Appropriate restraints or constraints were applied to the geometry and the atomic displacement parameters of the atoms in the cluster. All structures were examined using the Addsym subroutine of PLATON⁵ to ensure that no additional symmetry could be applied to the models. CCDC **1961871** (**3q**) contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre.

References

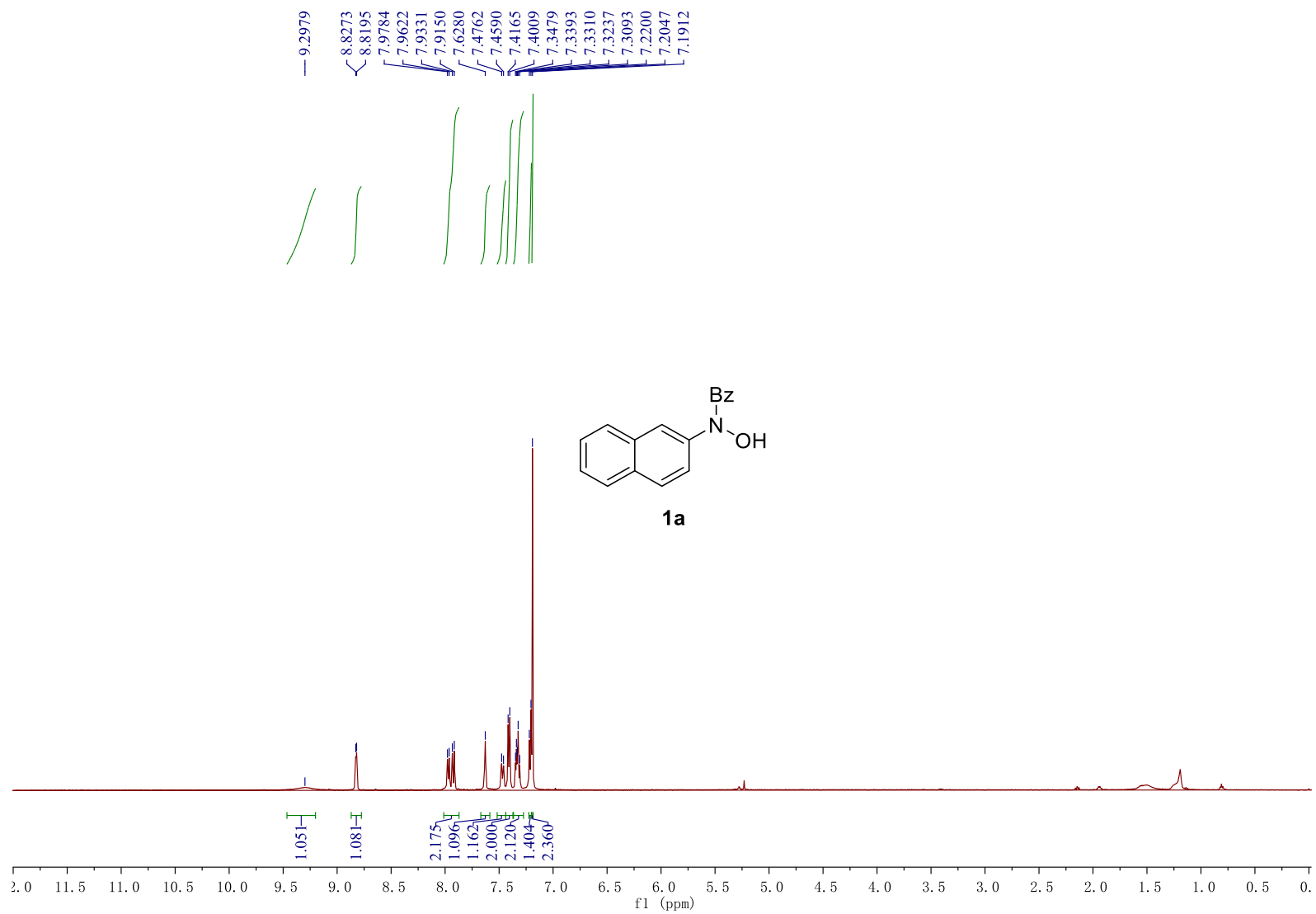
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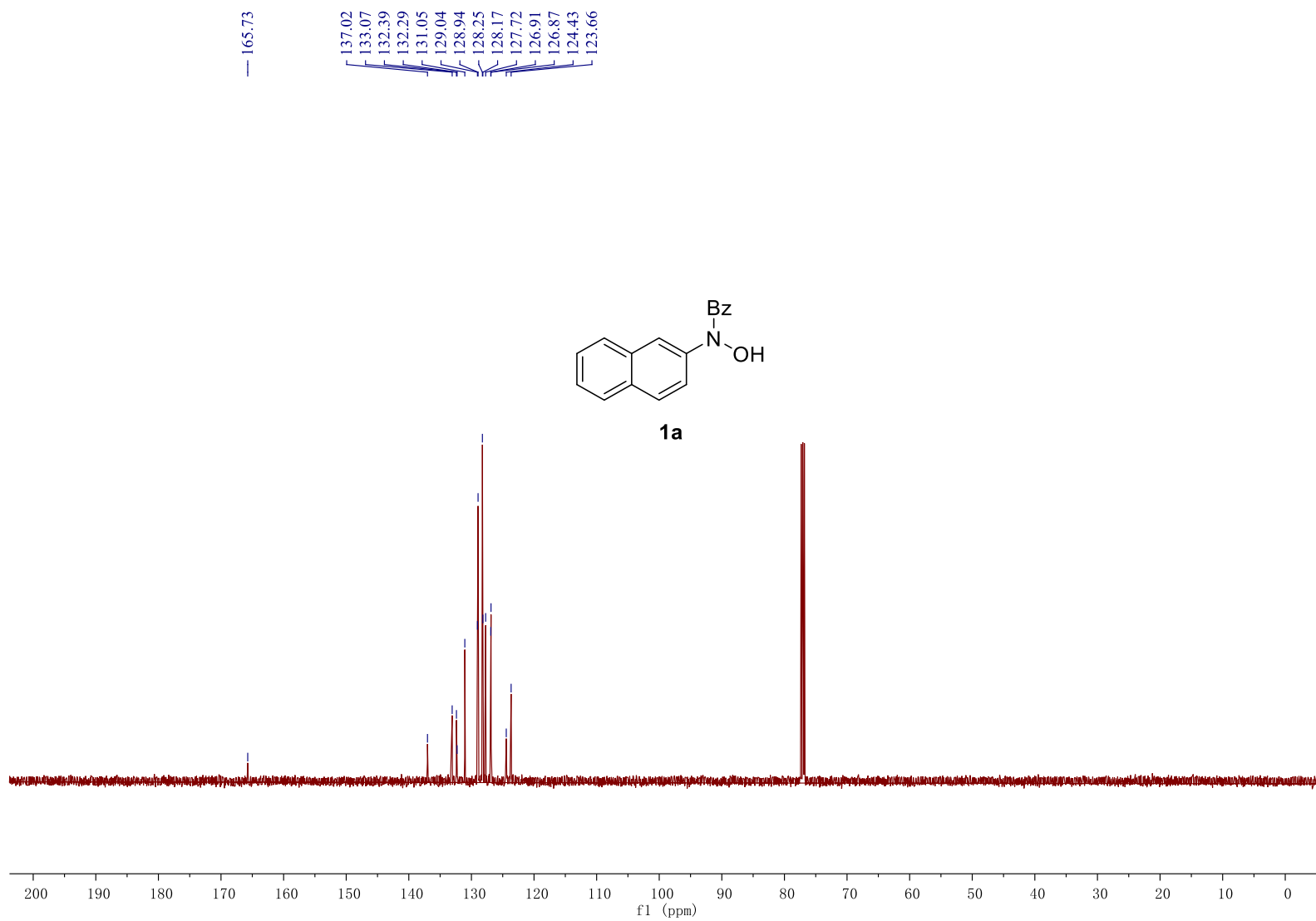


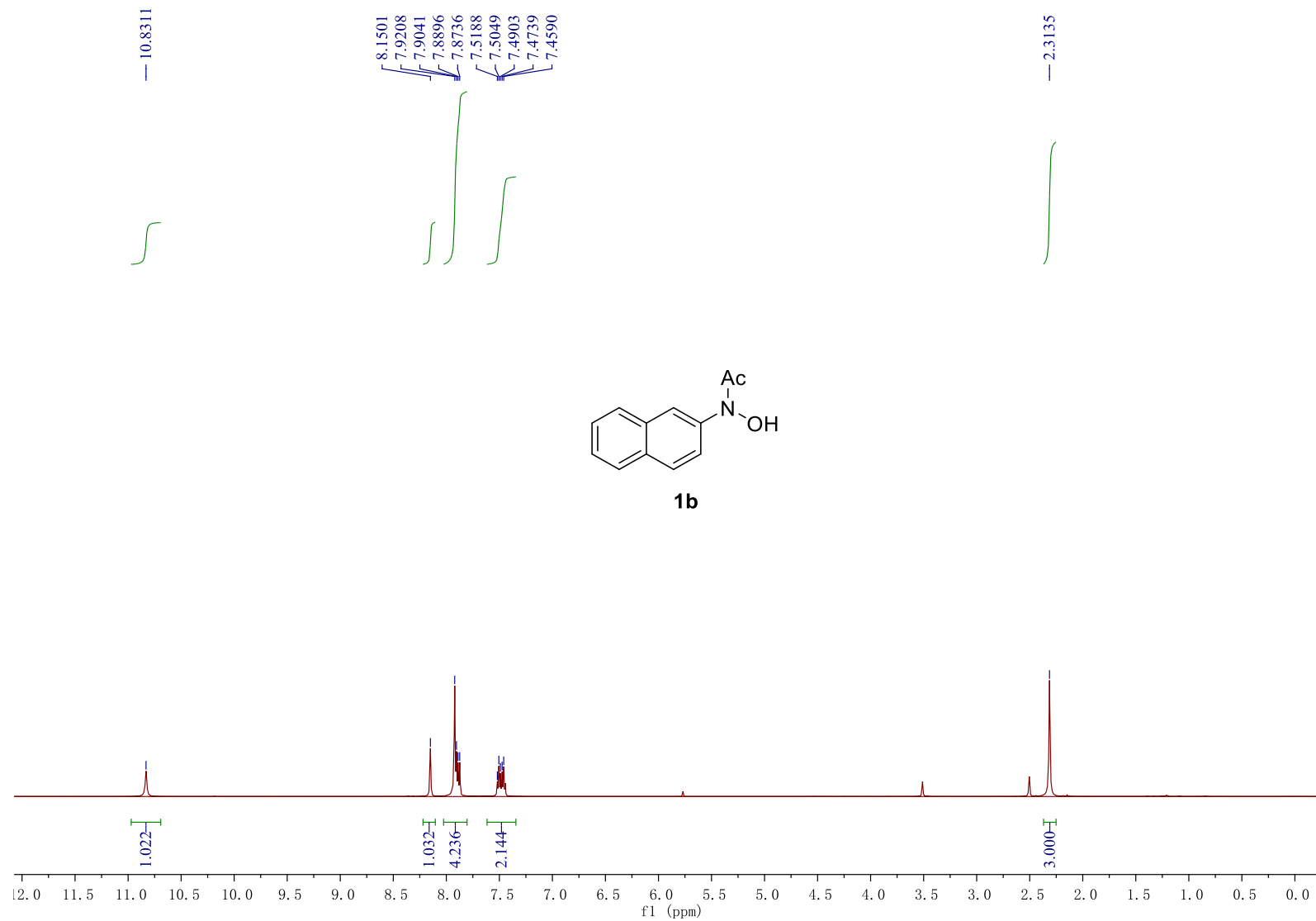
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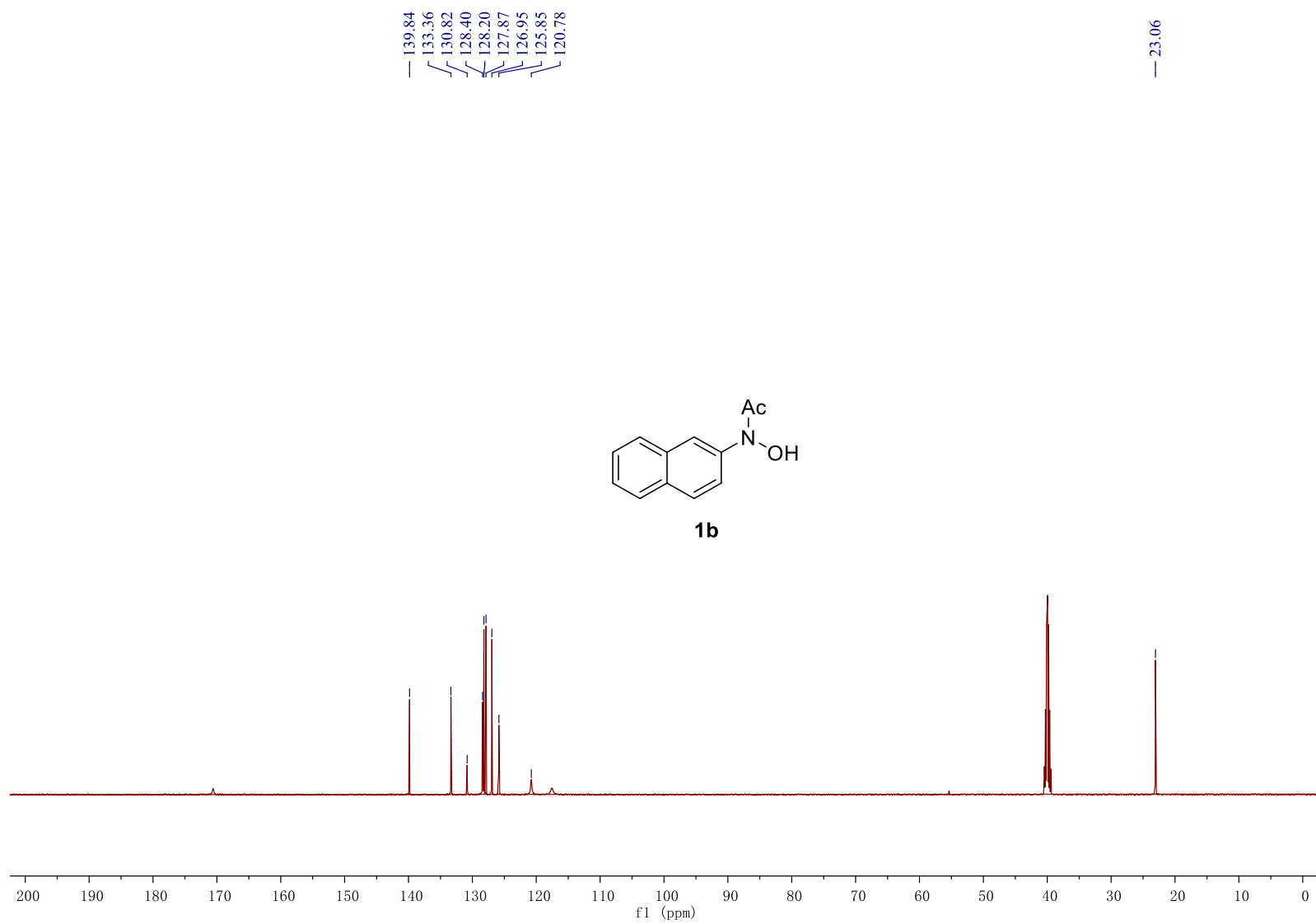


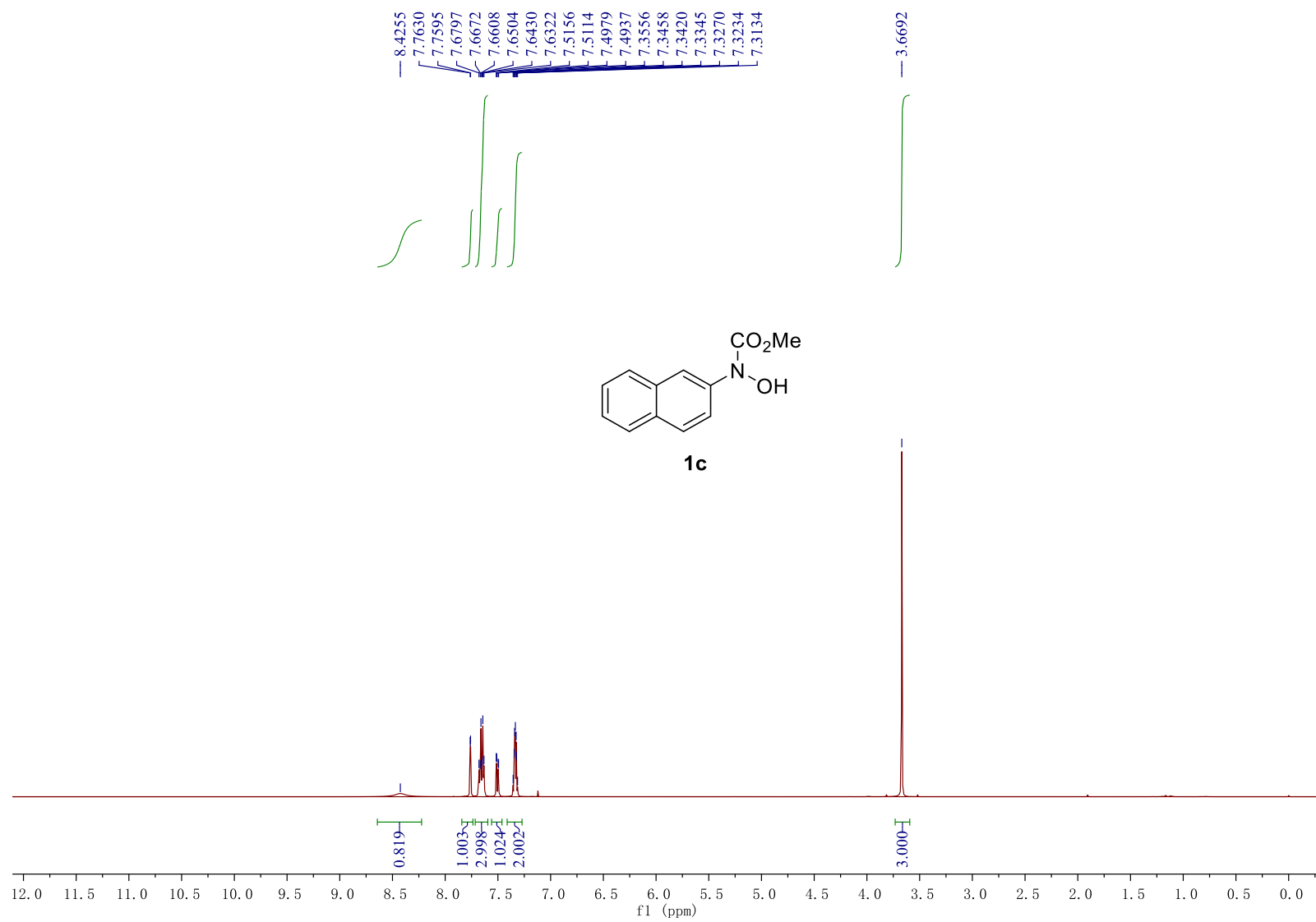
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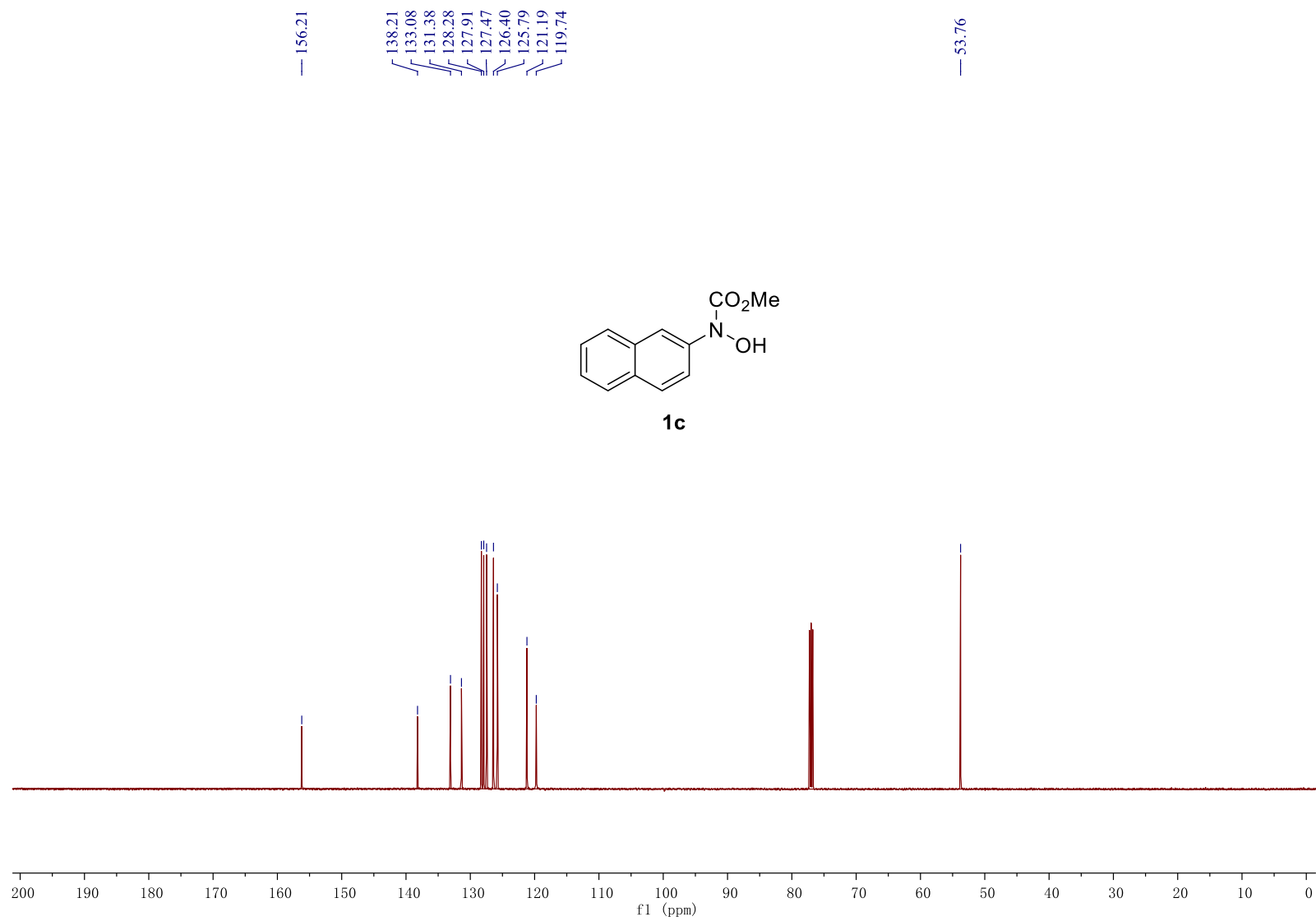


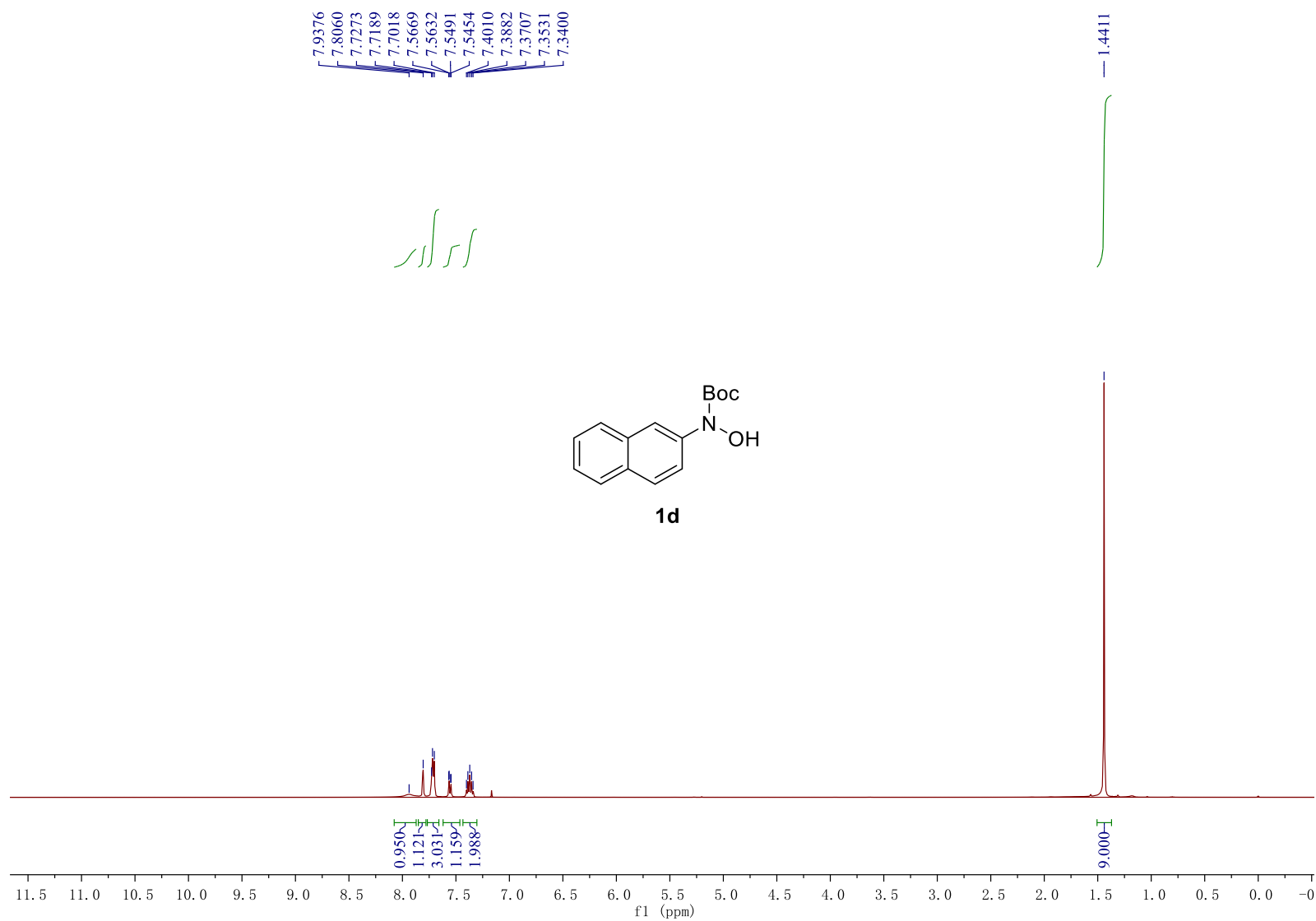


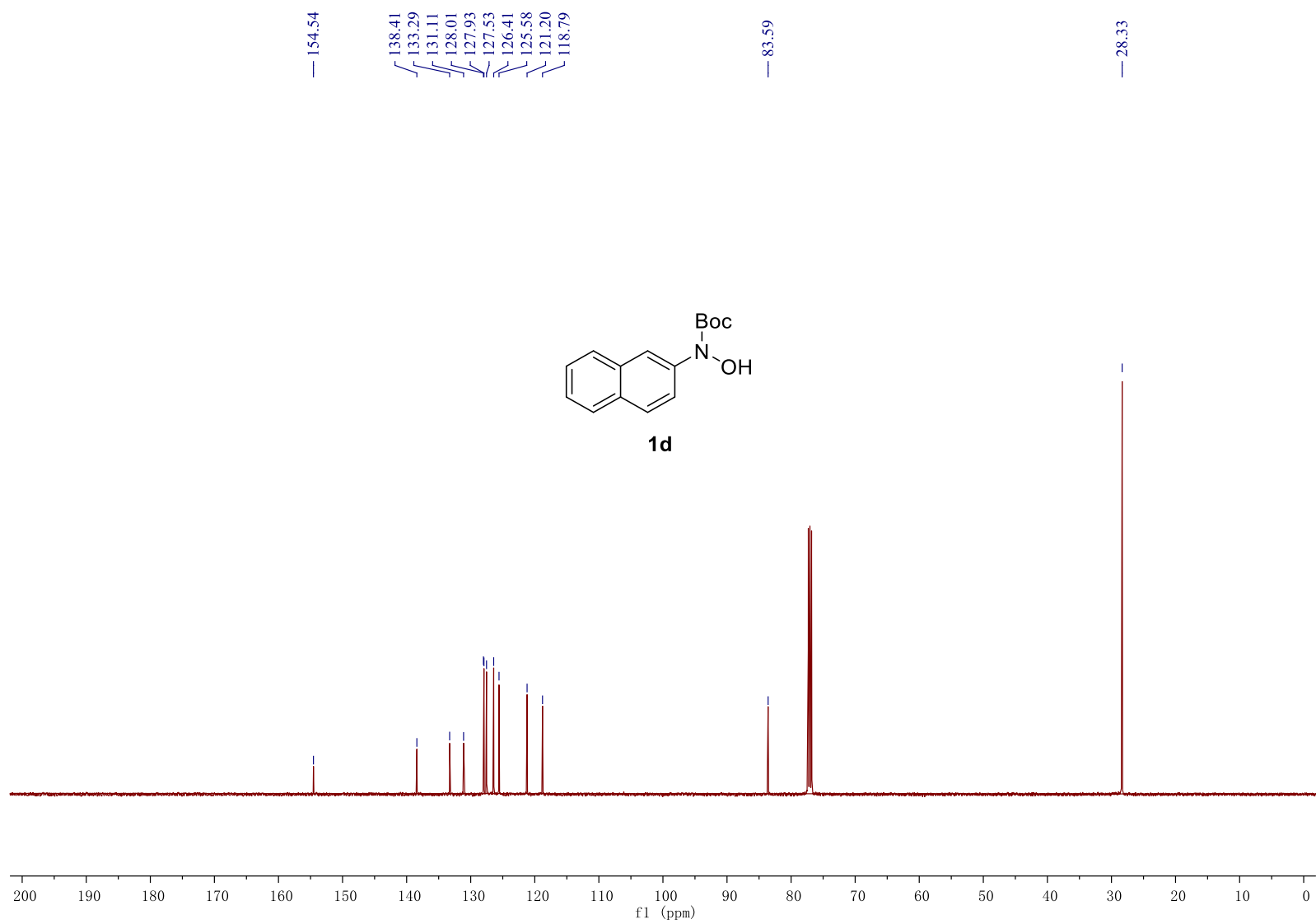


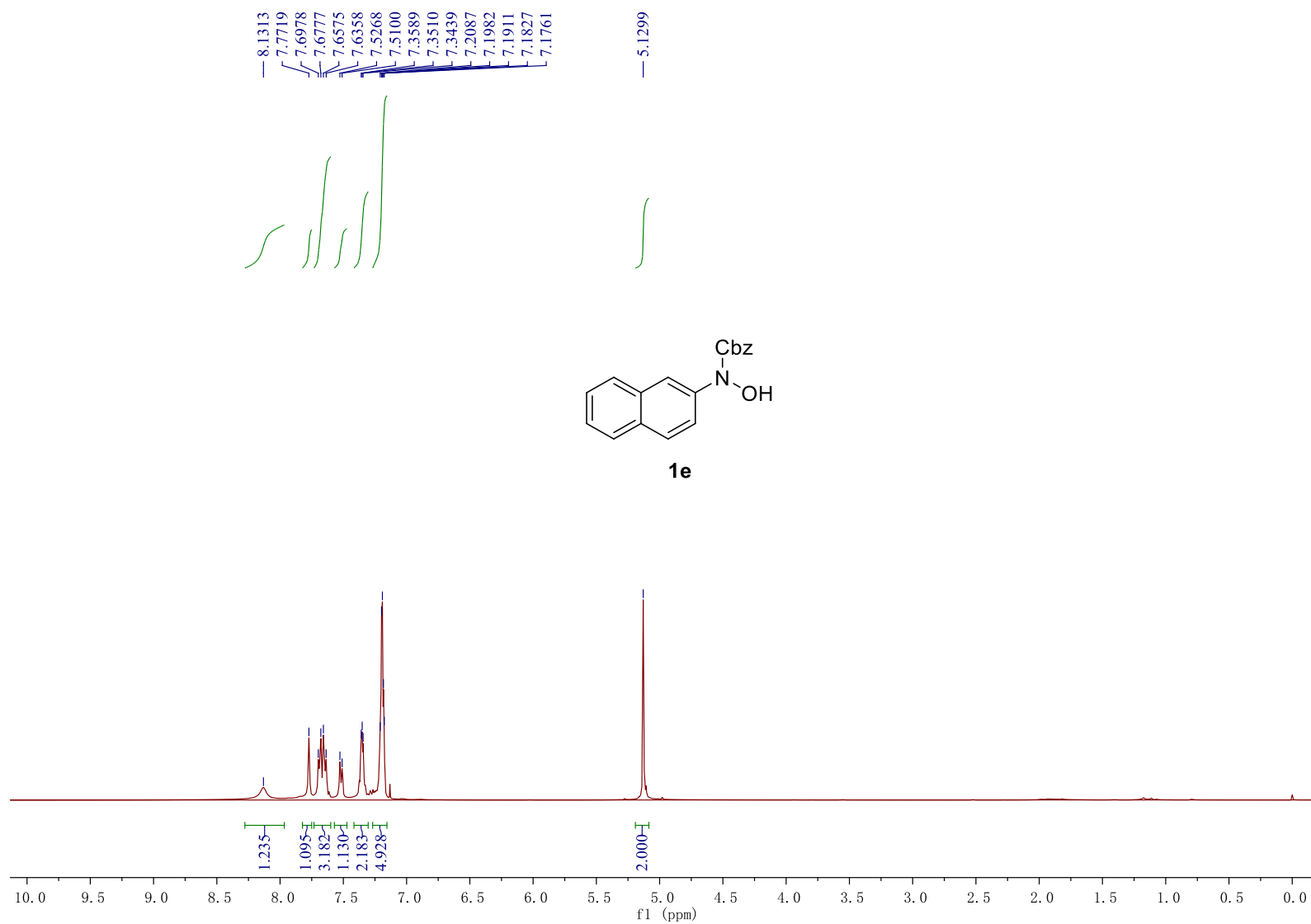


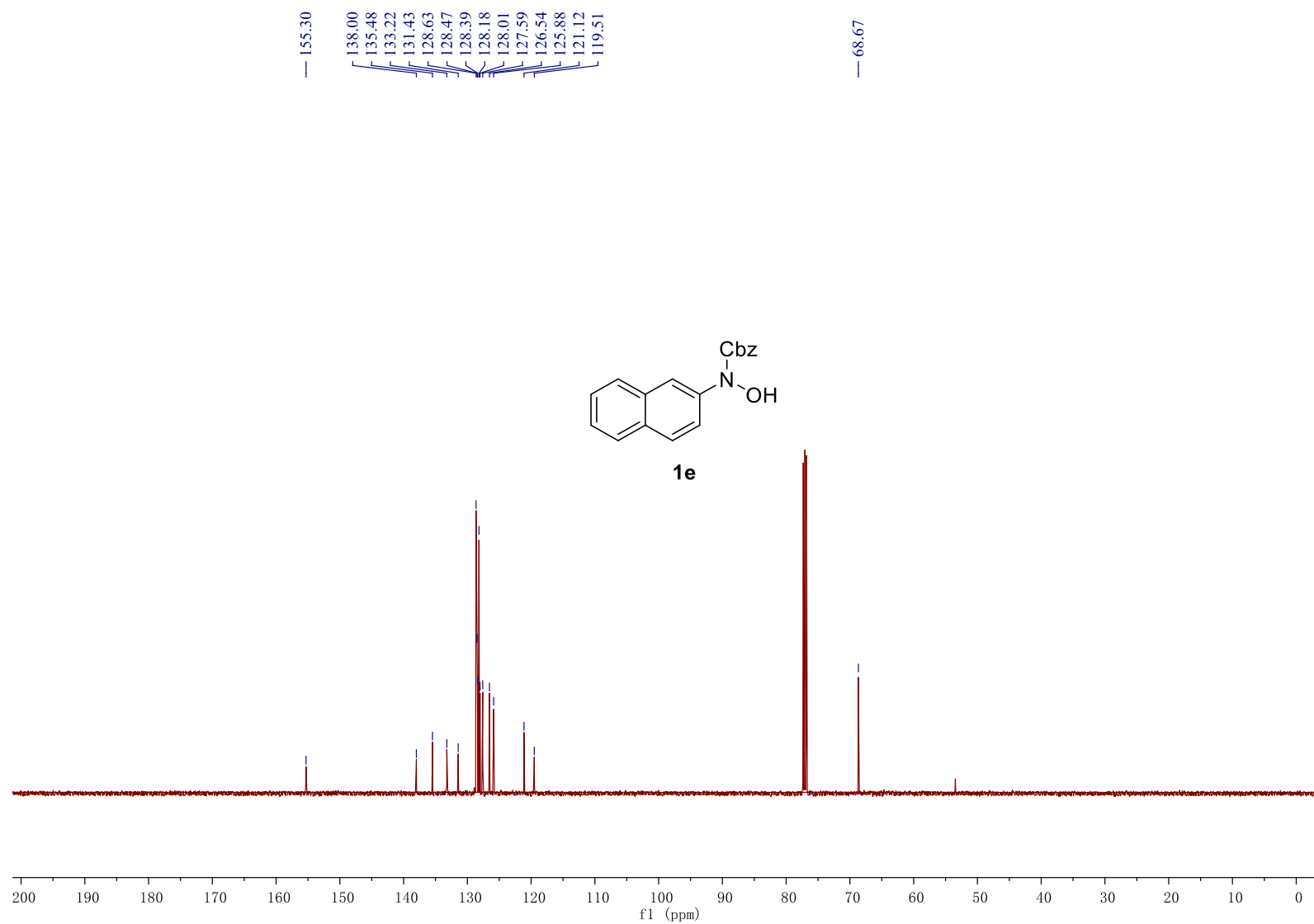


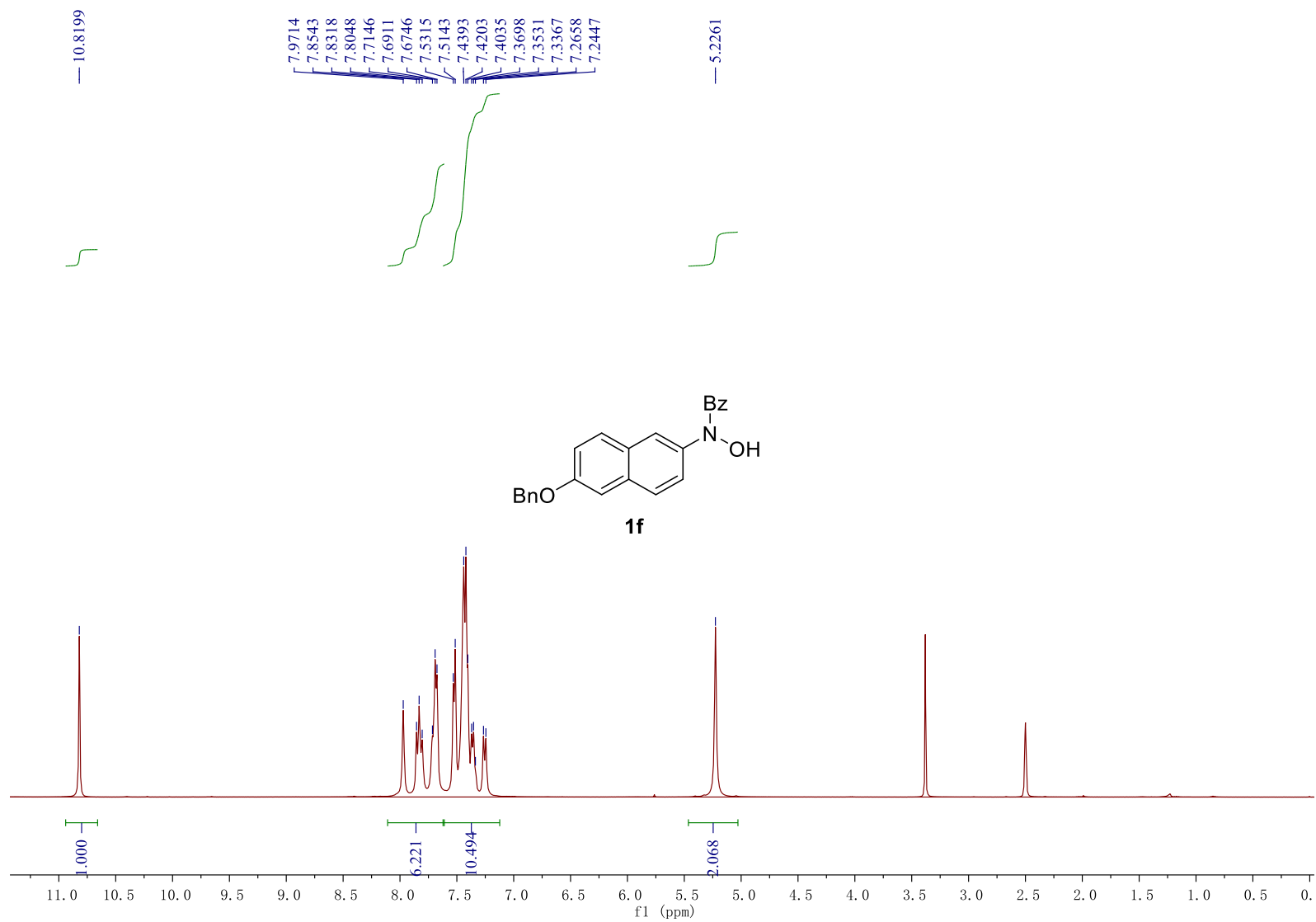


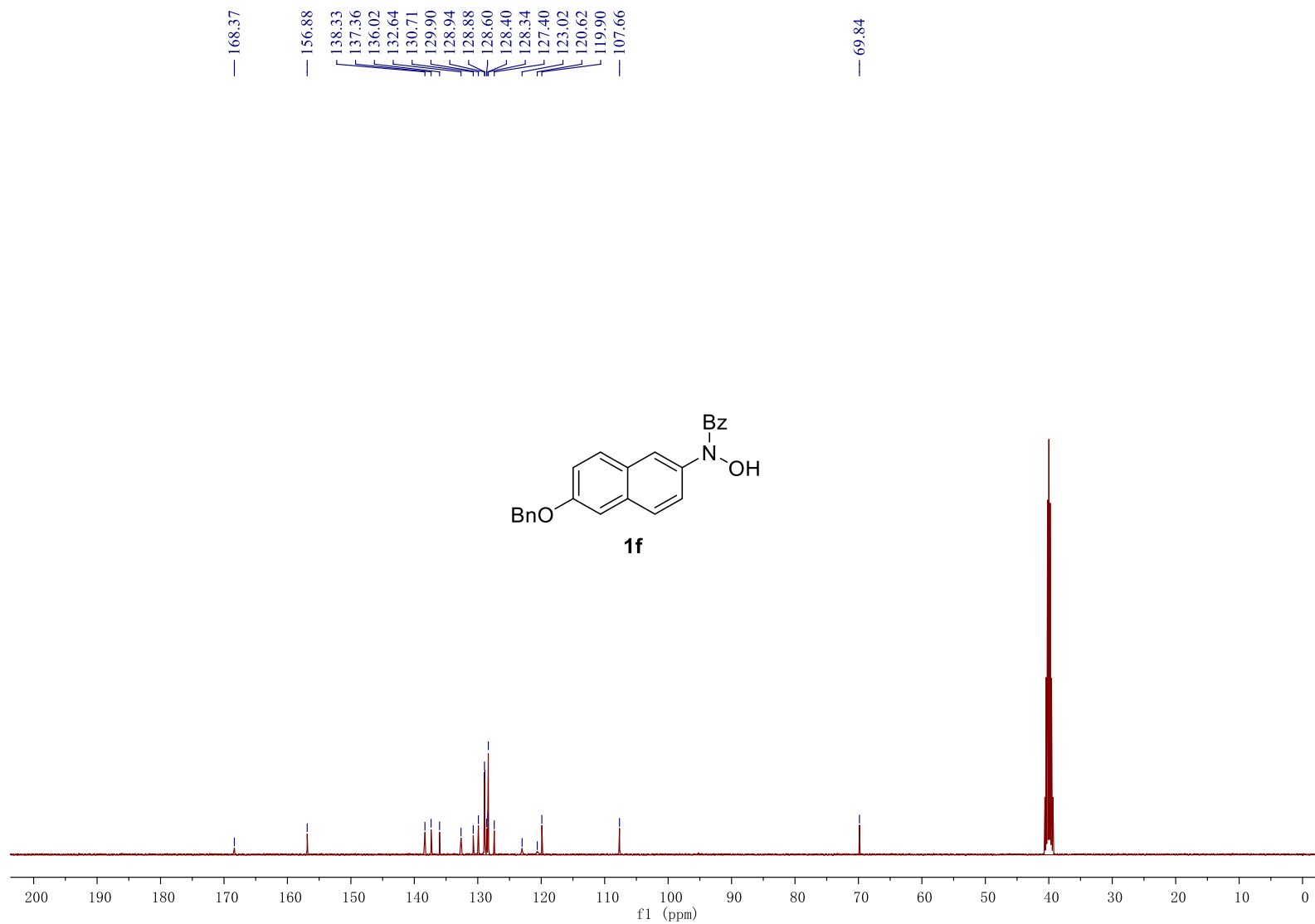


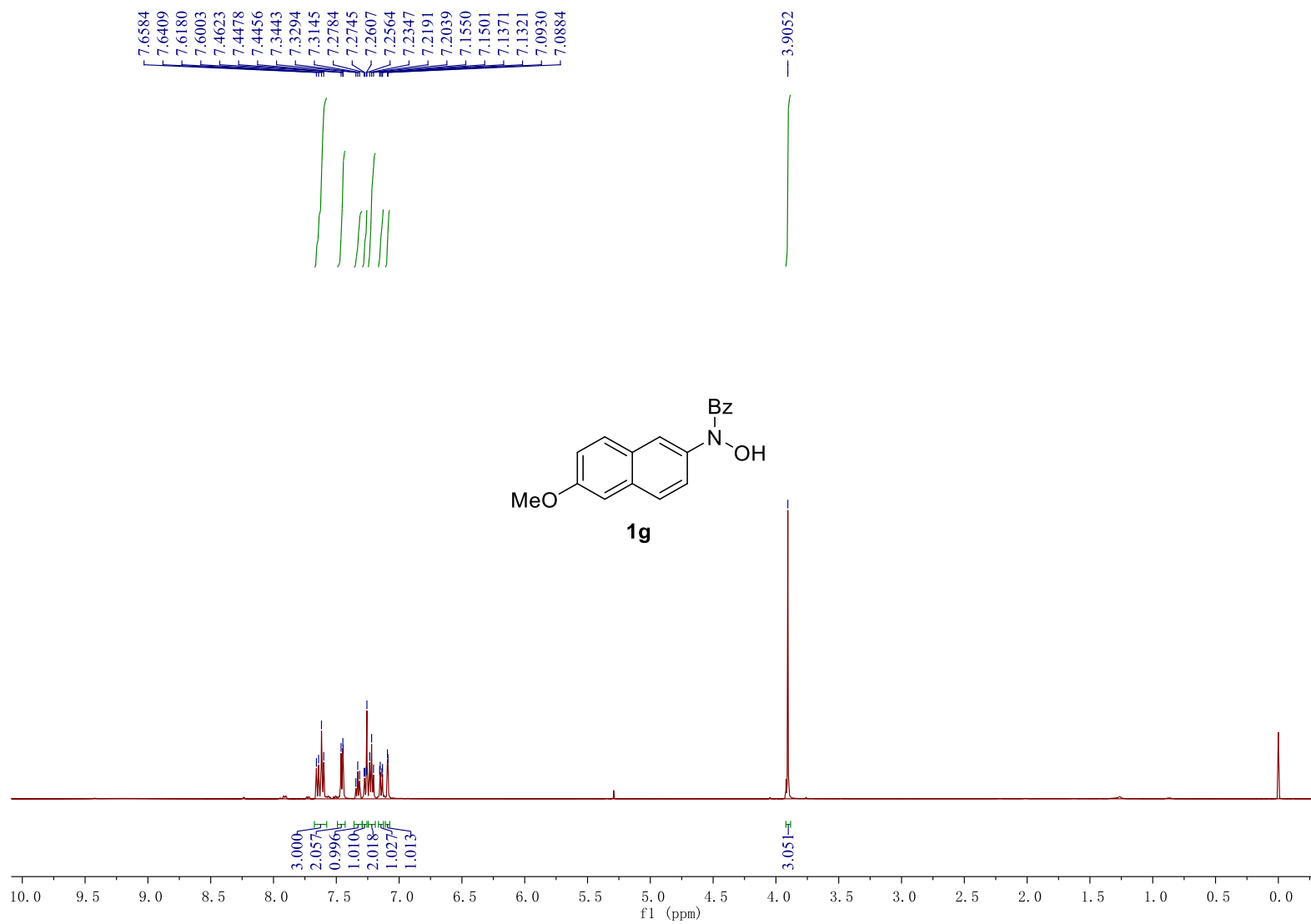


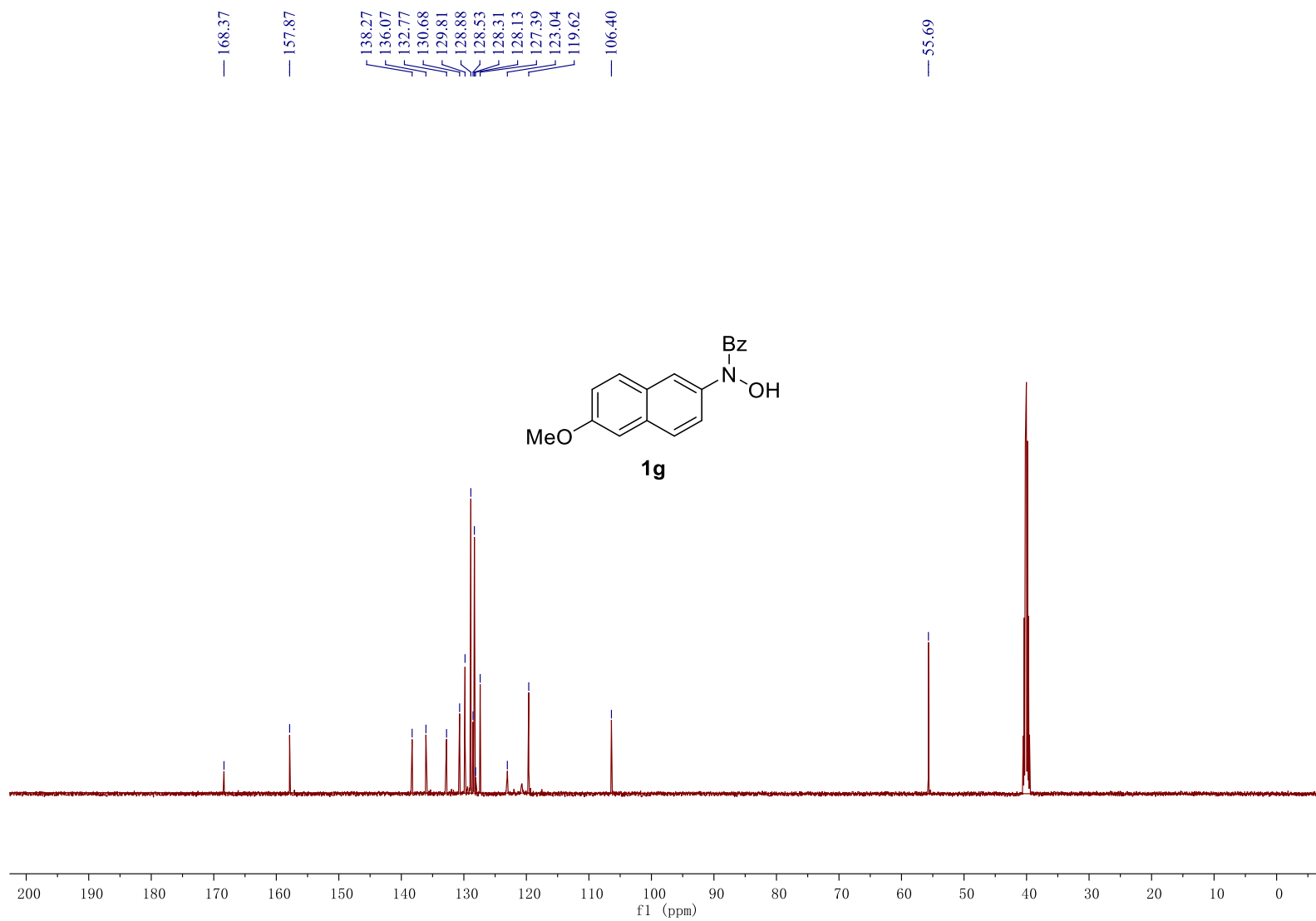


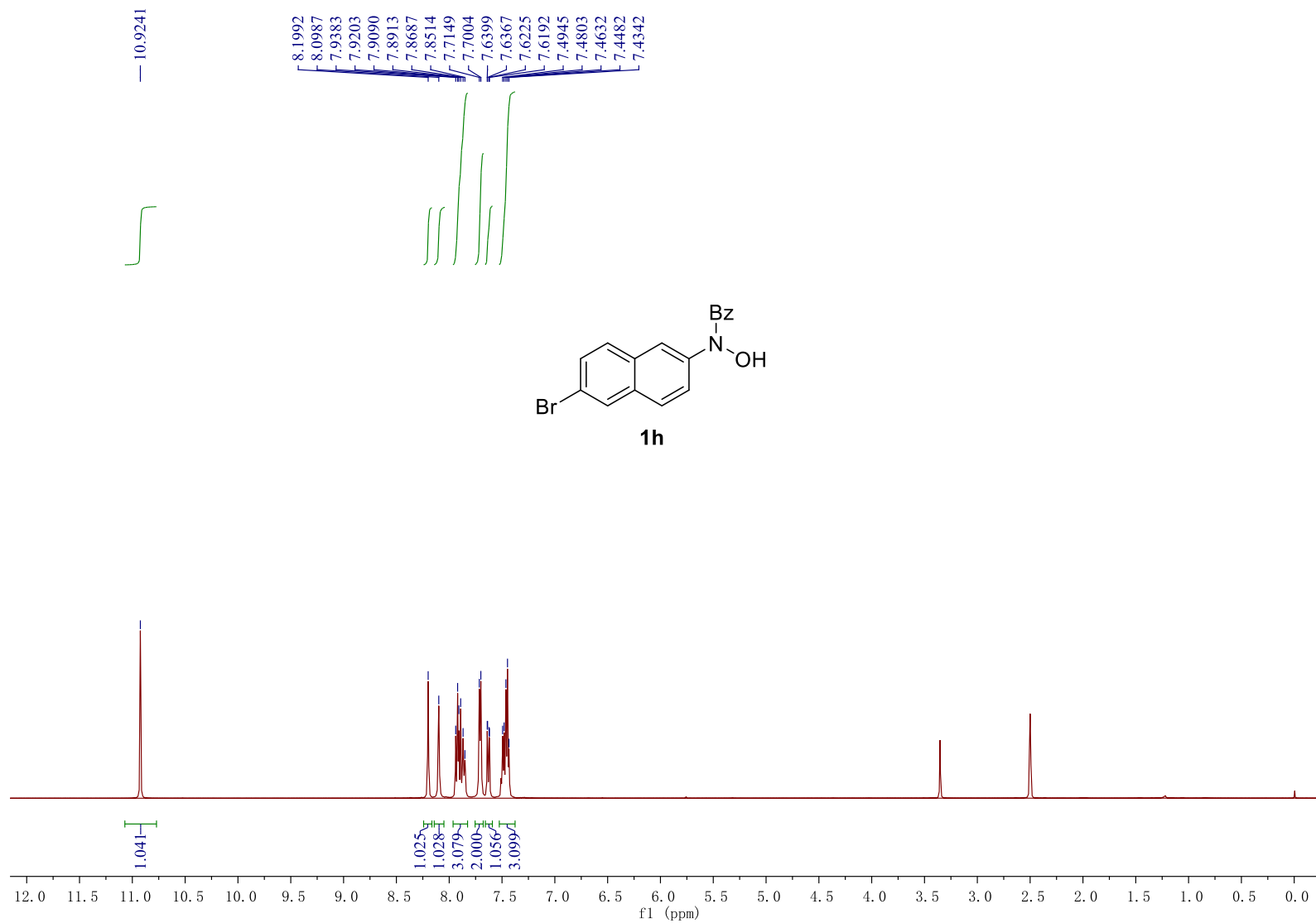


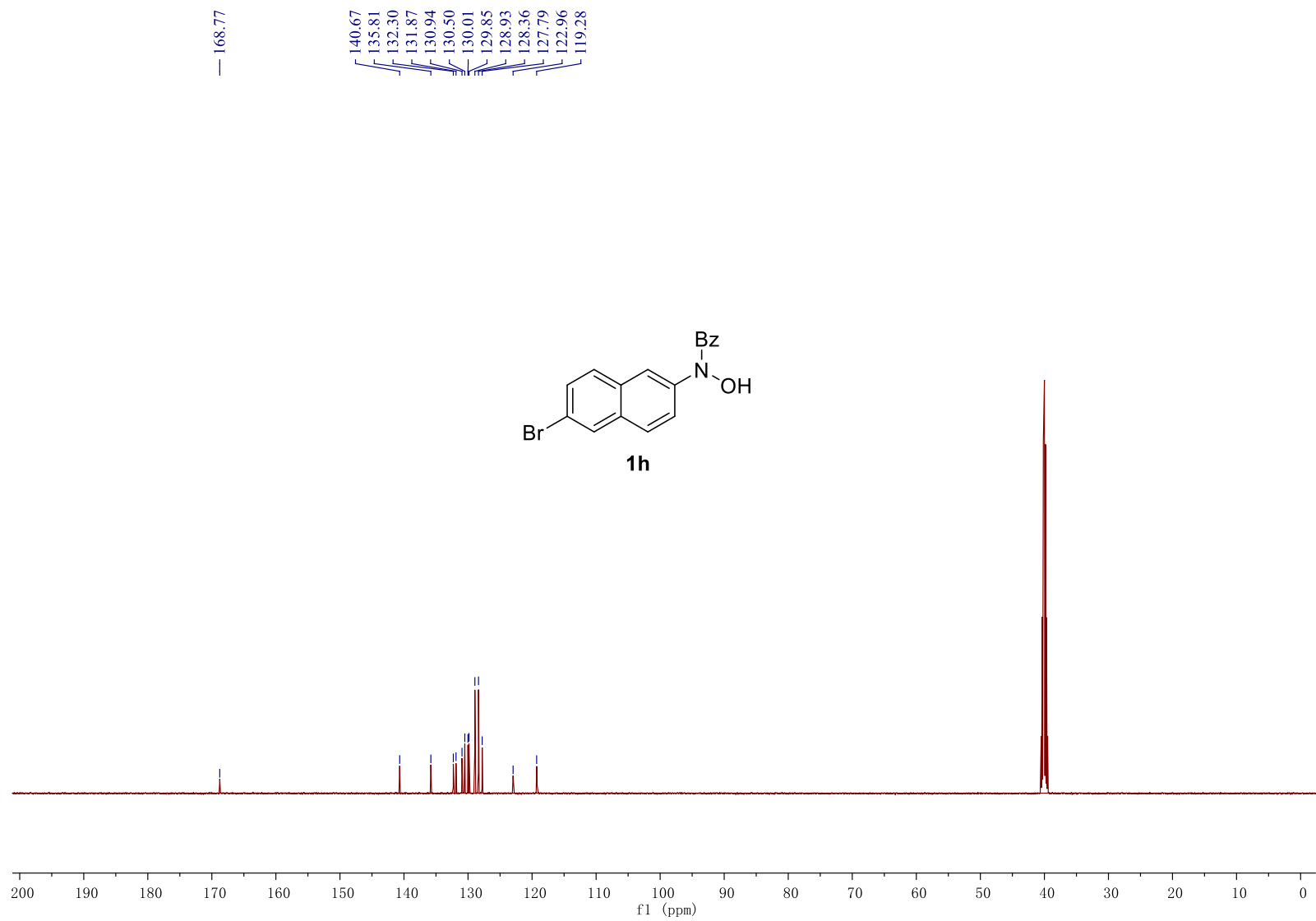


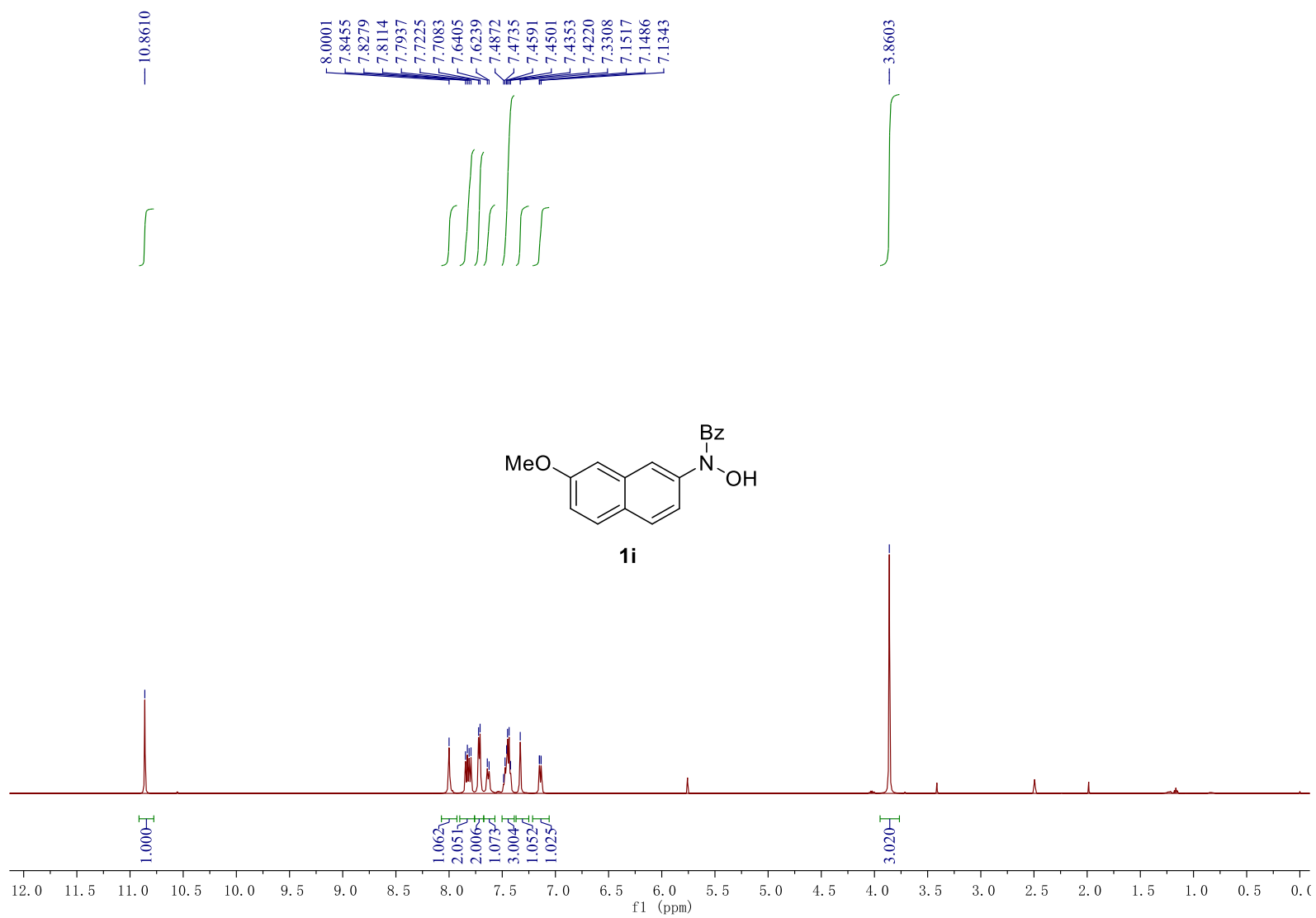


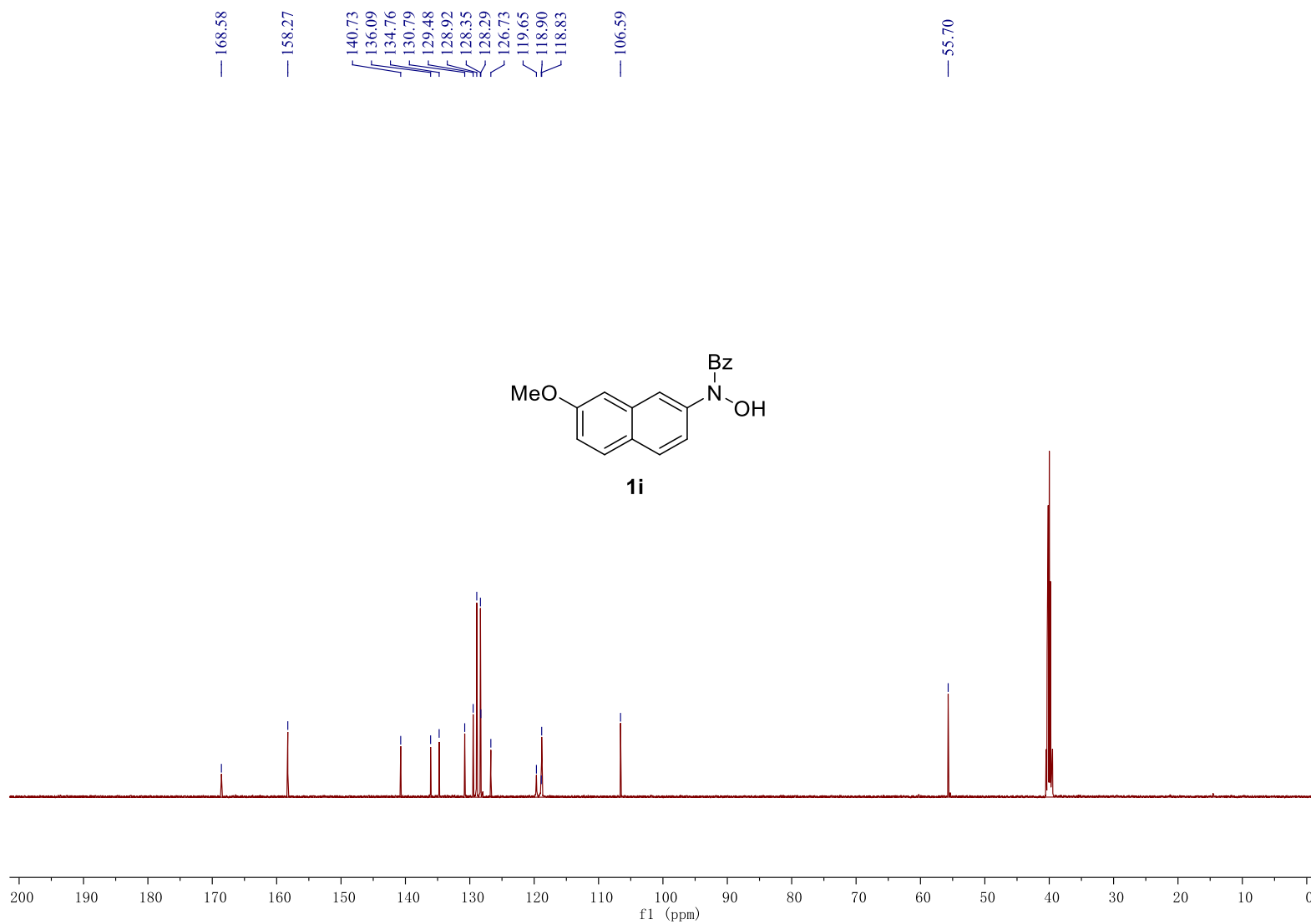


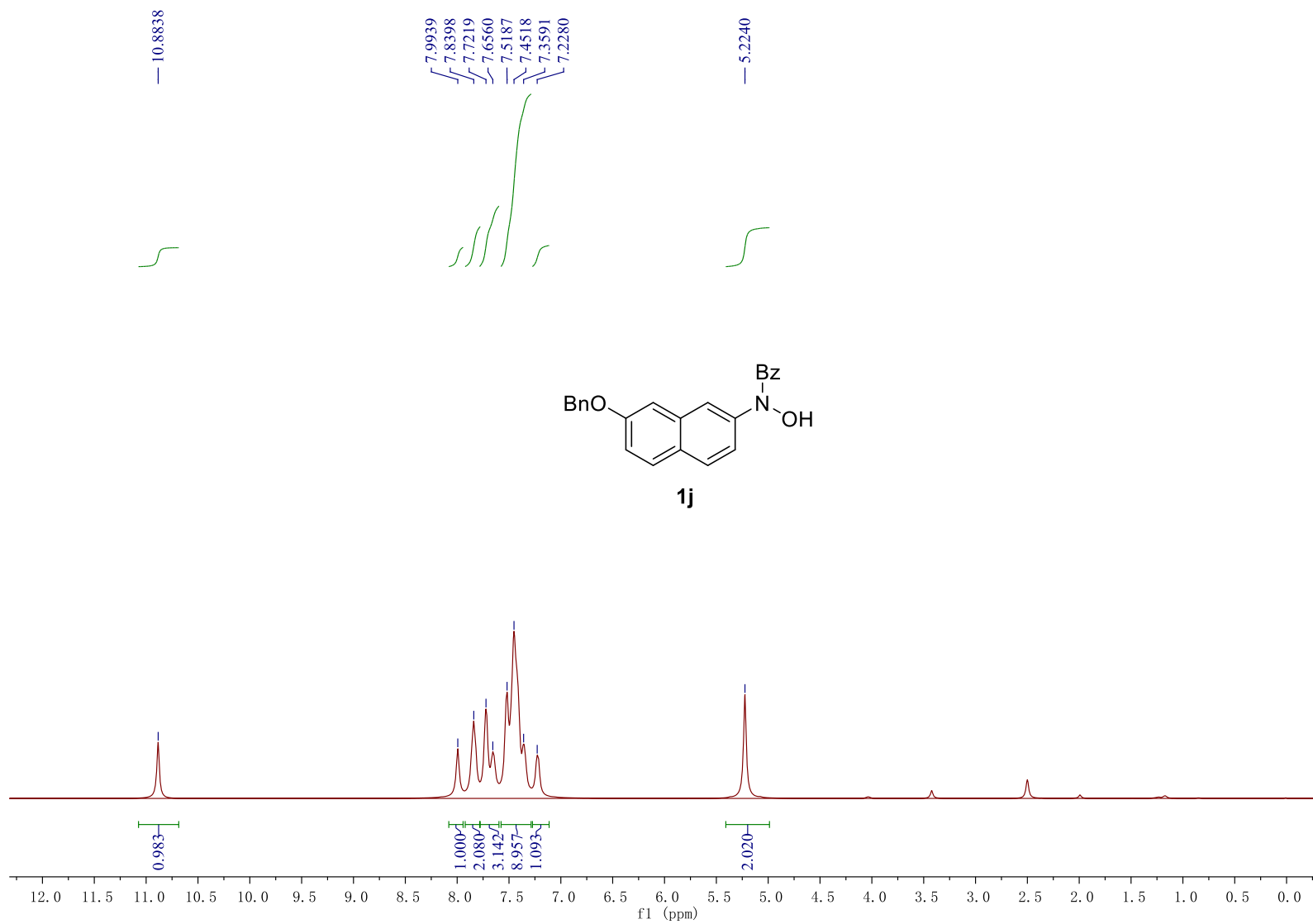


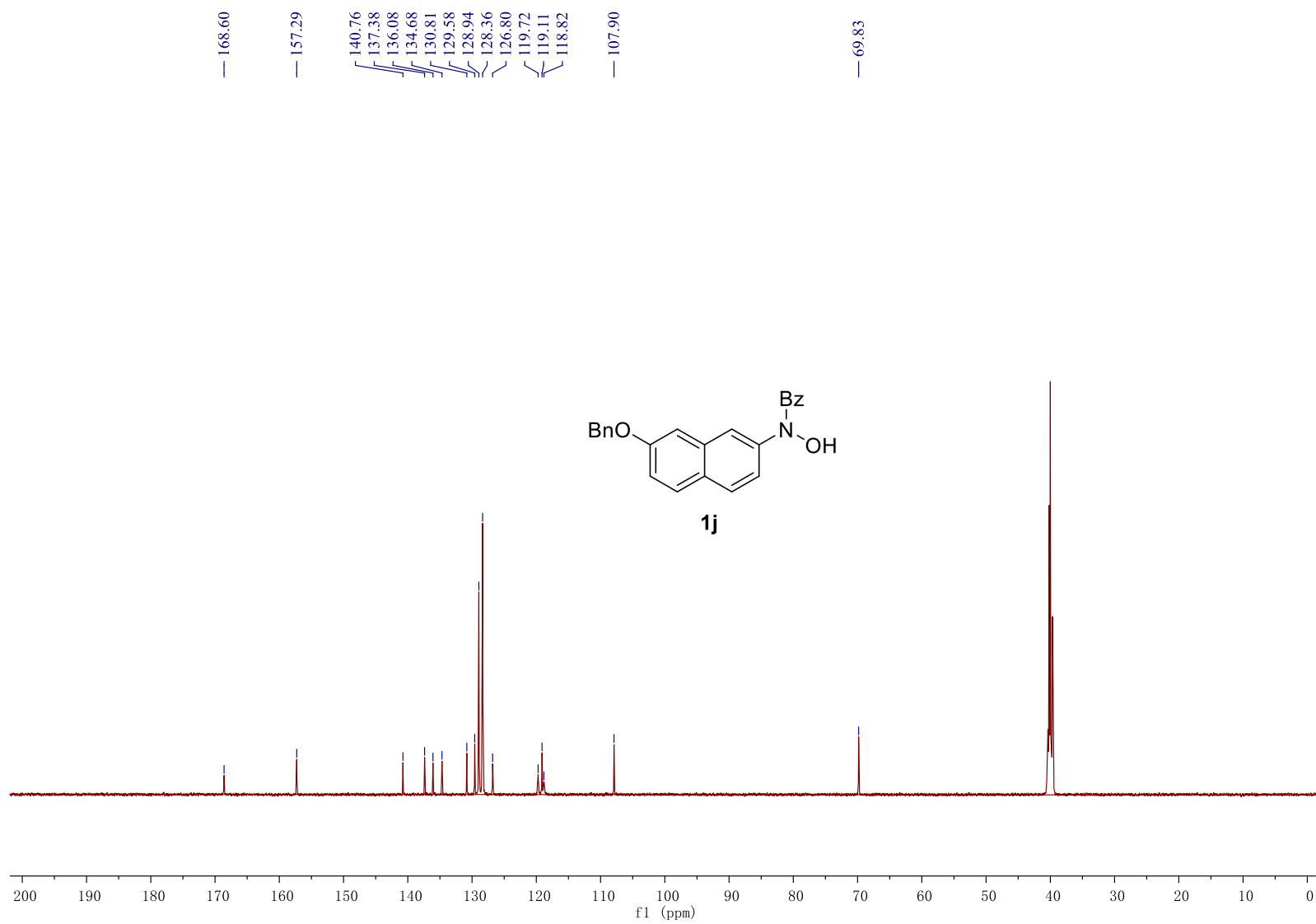


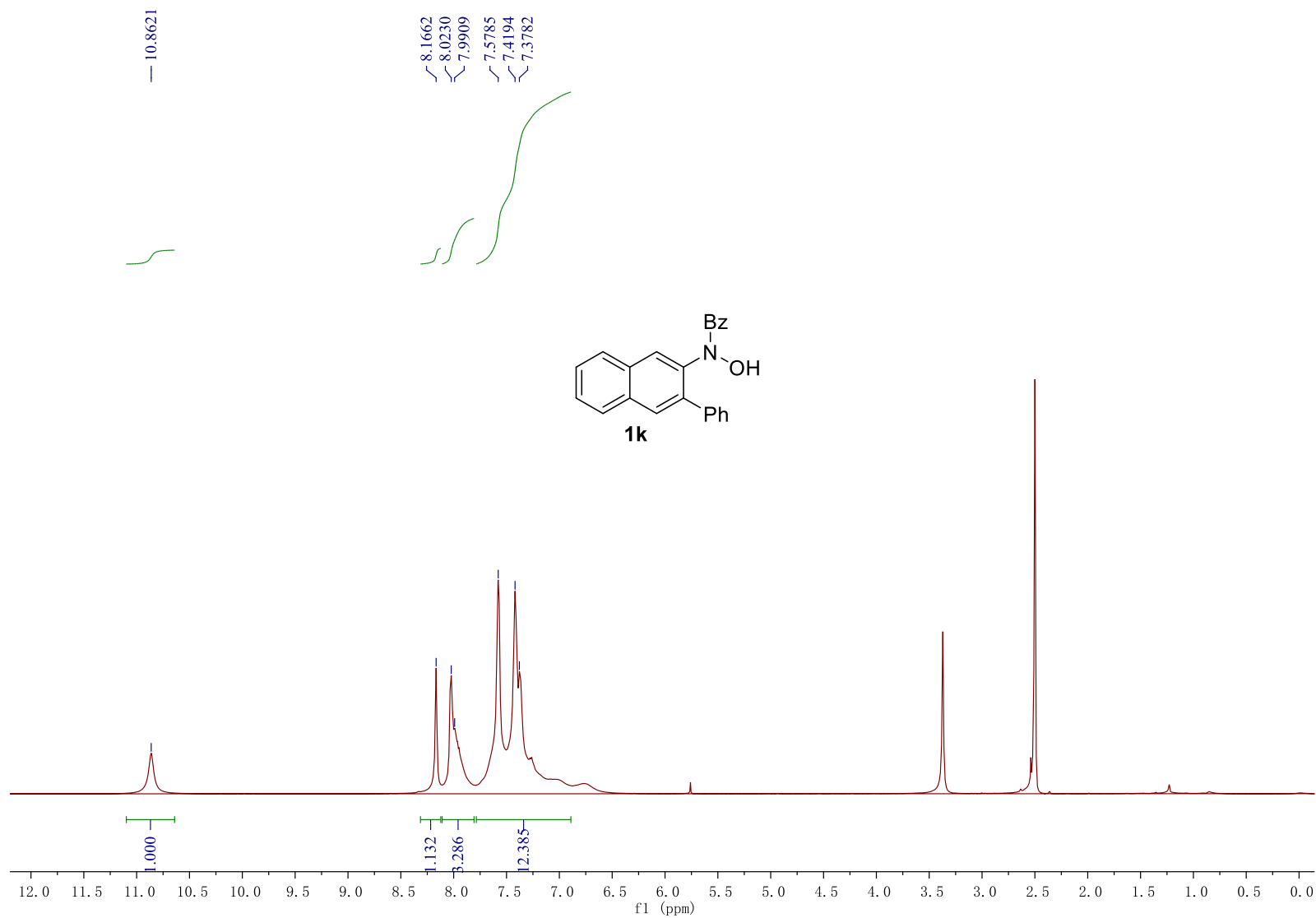


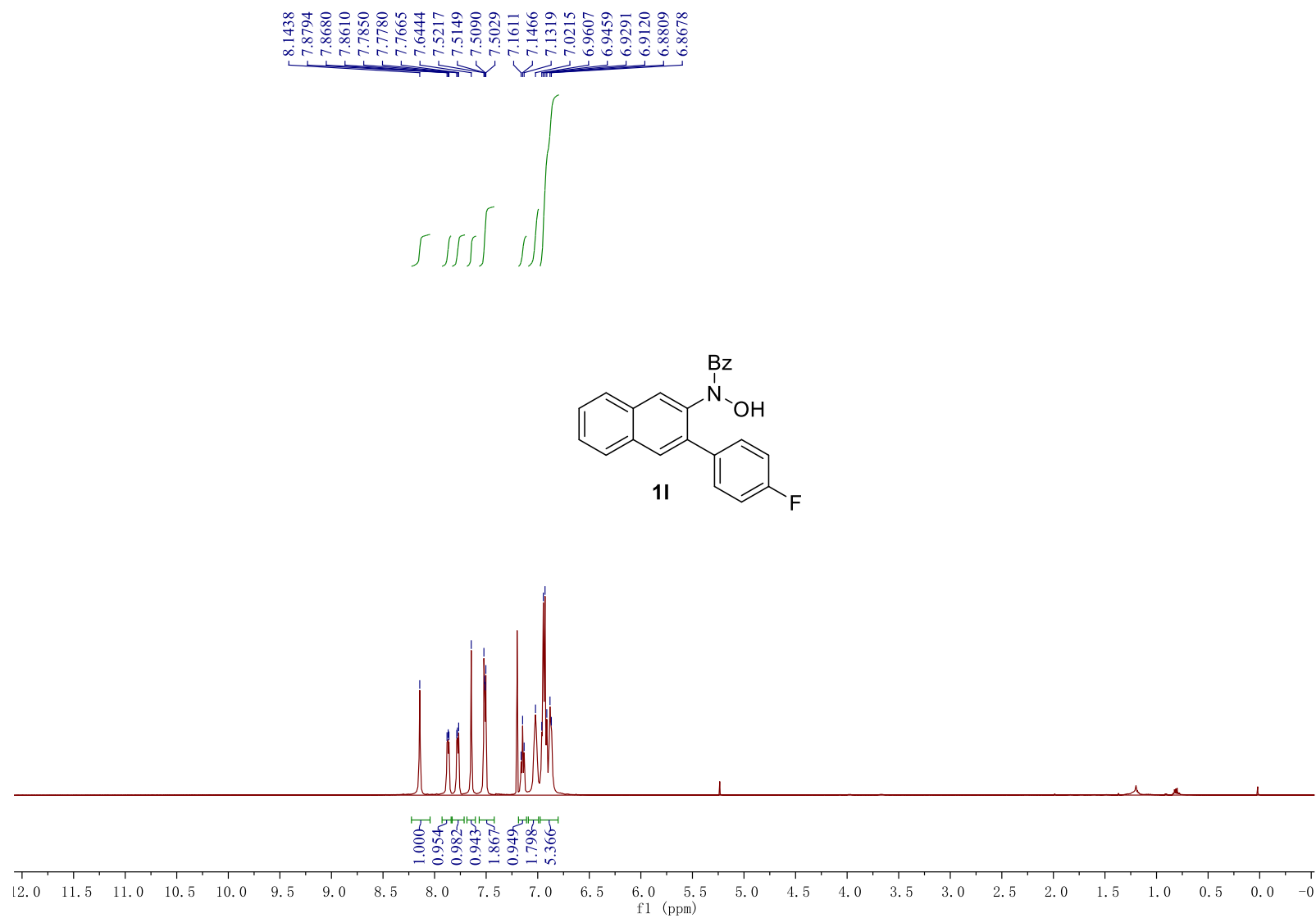


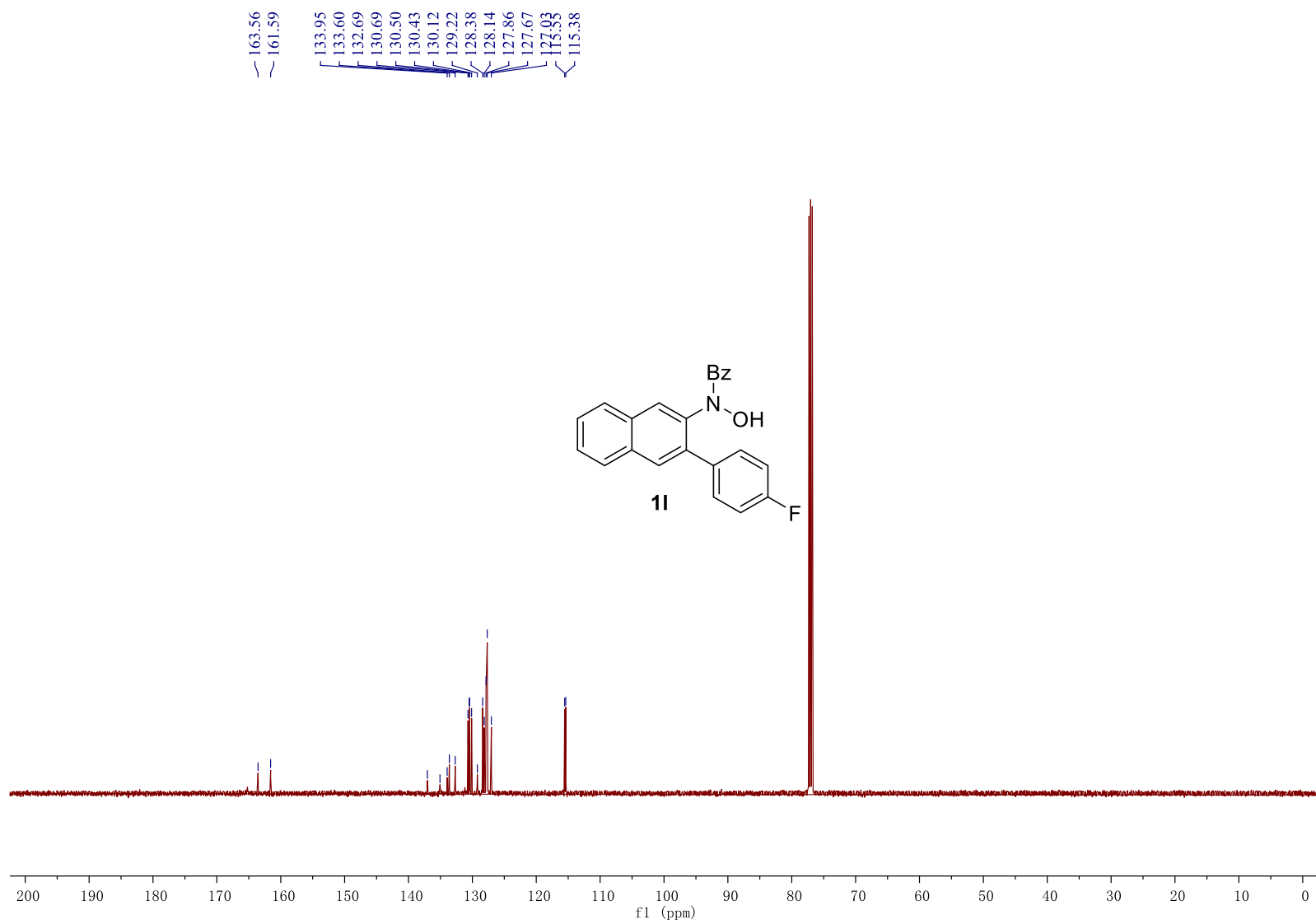


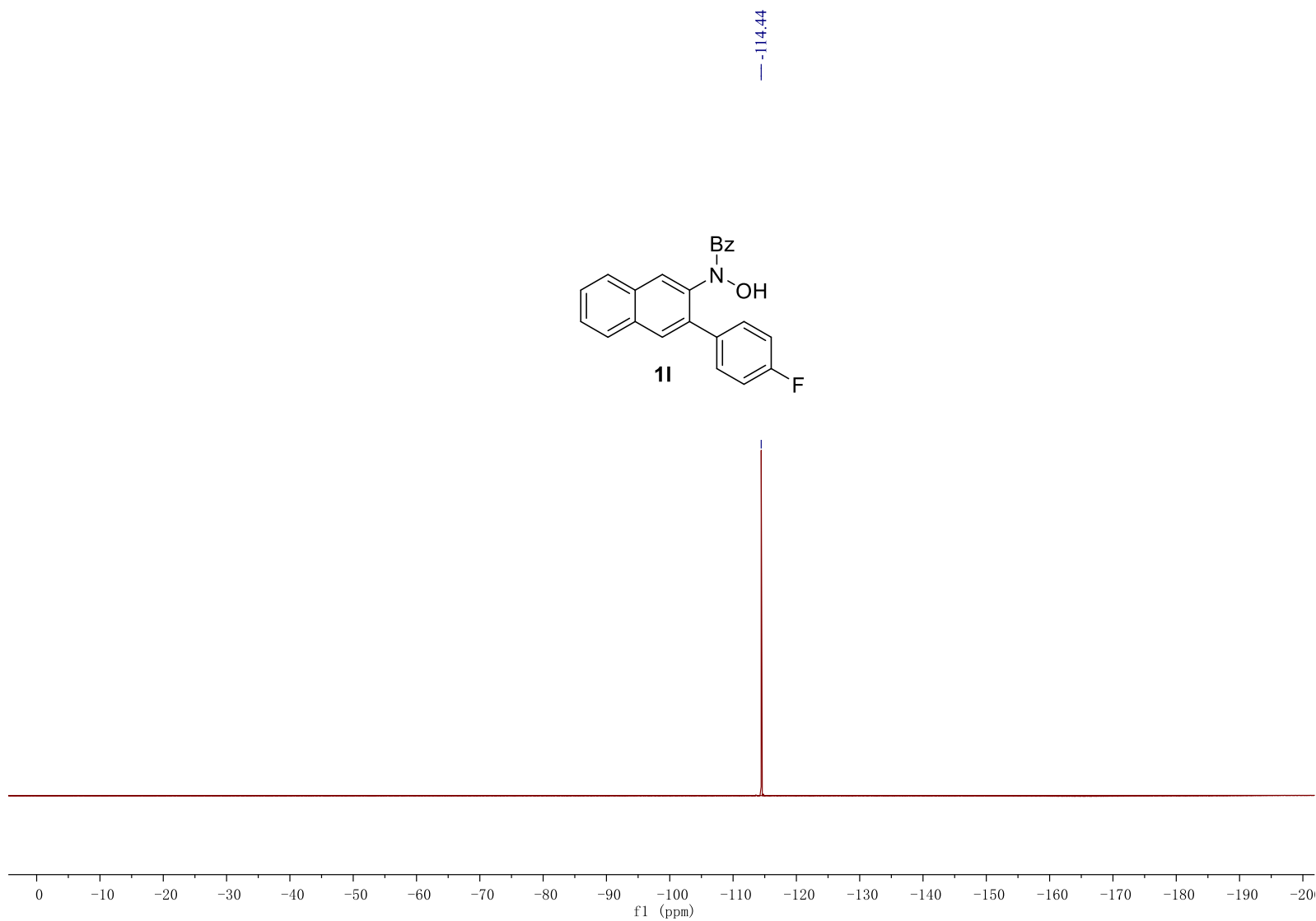


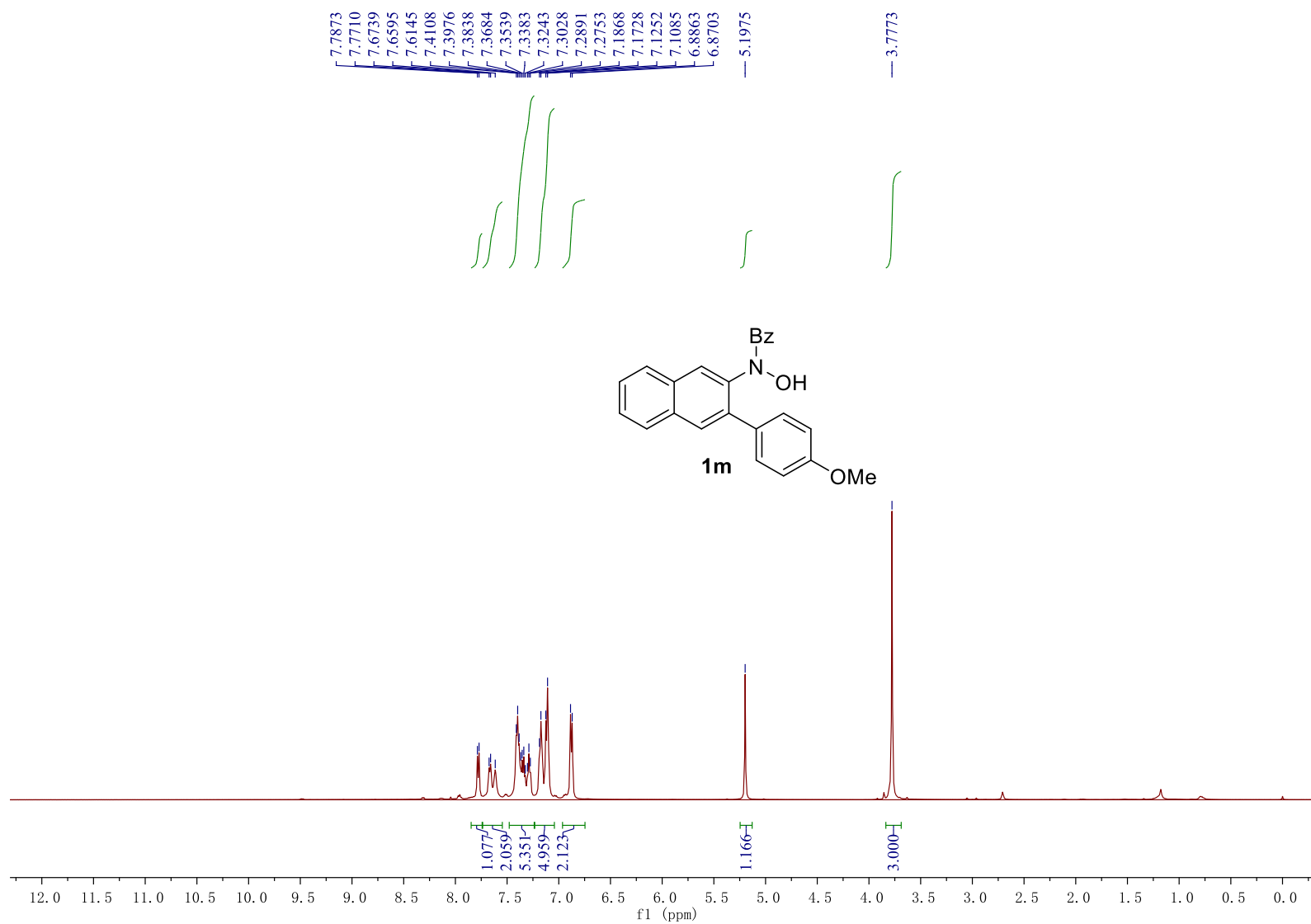


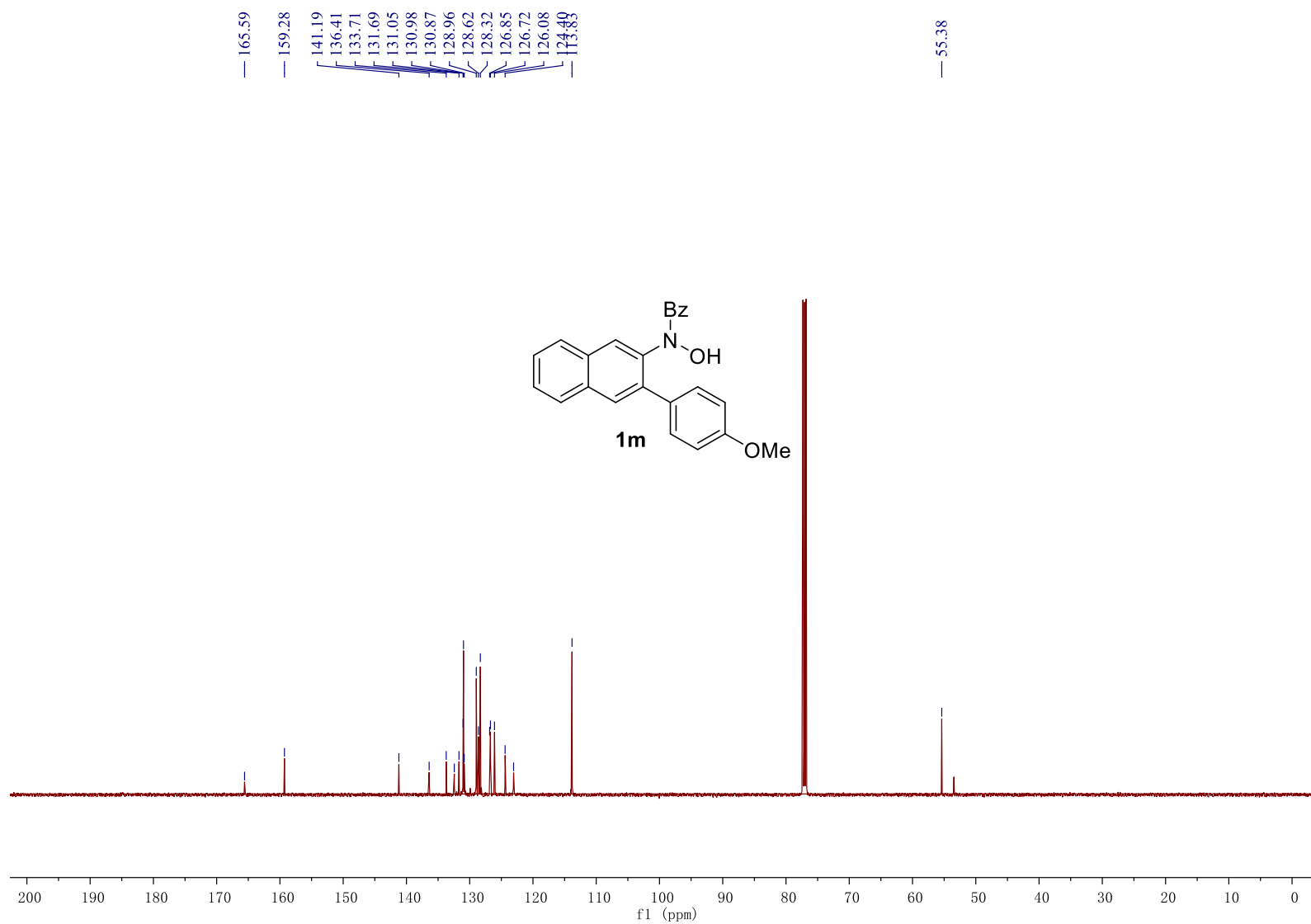


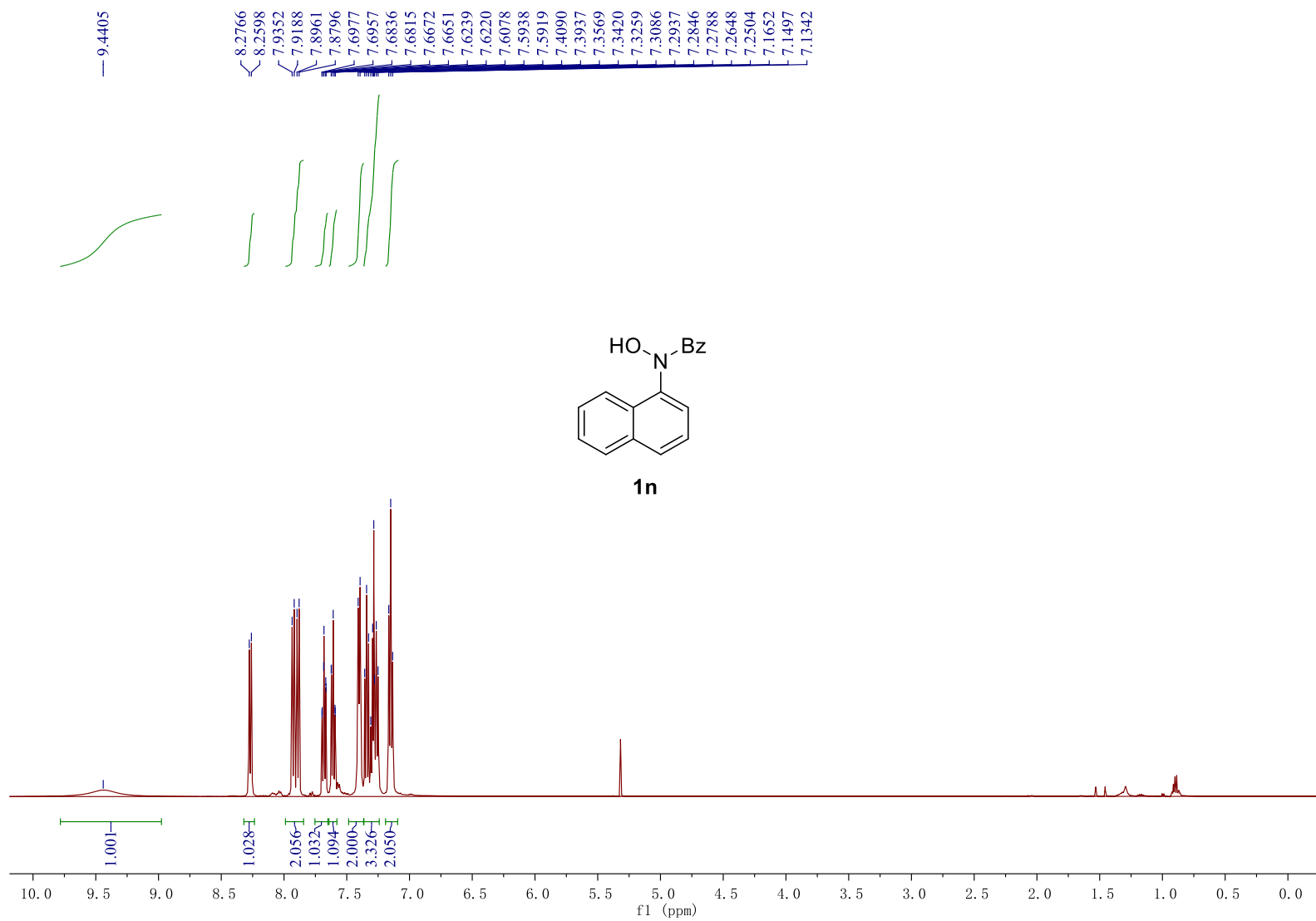


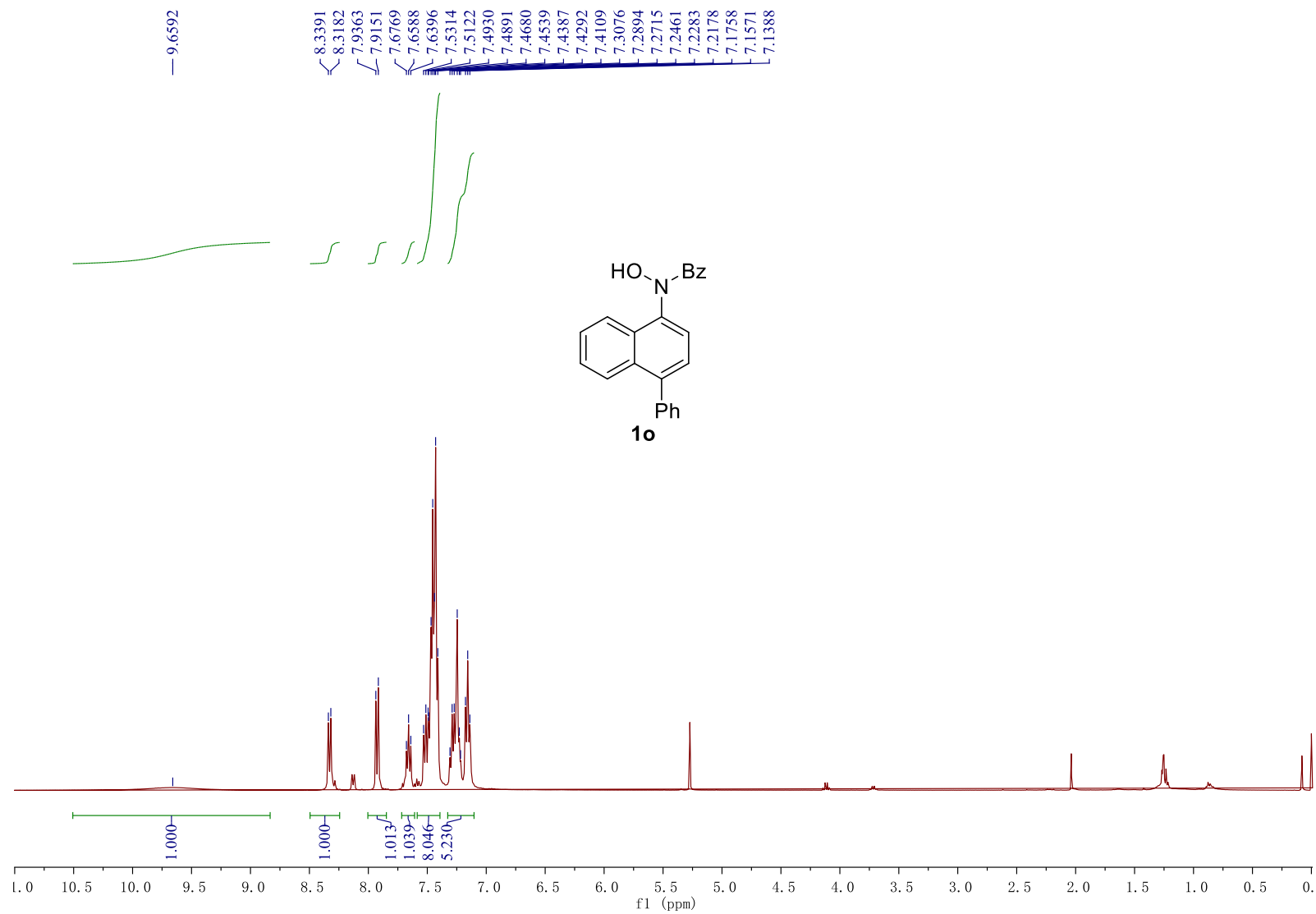


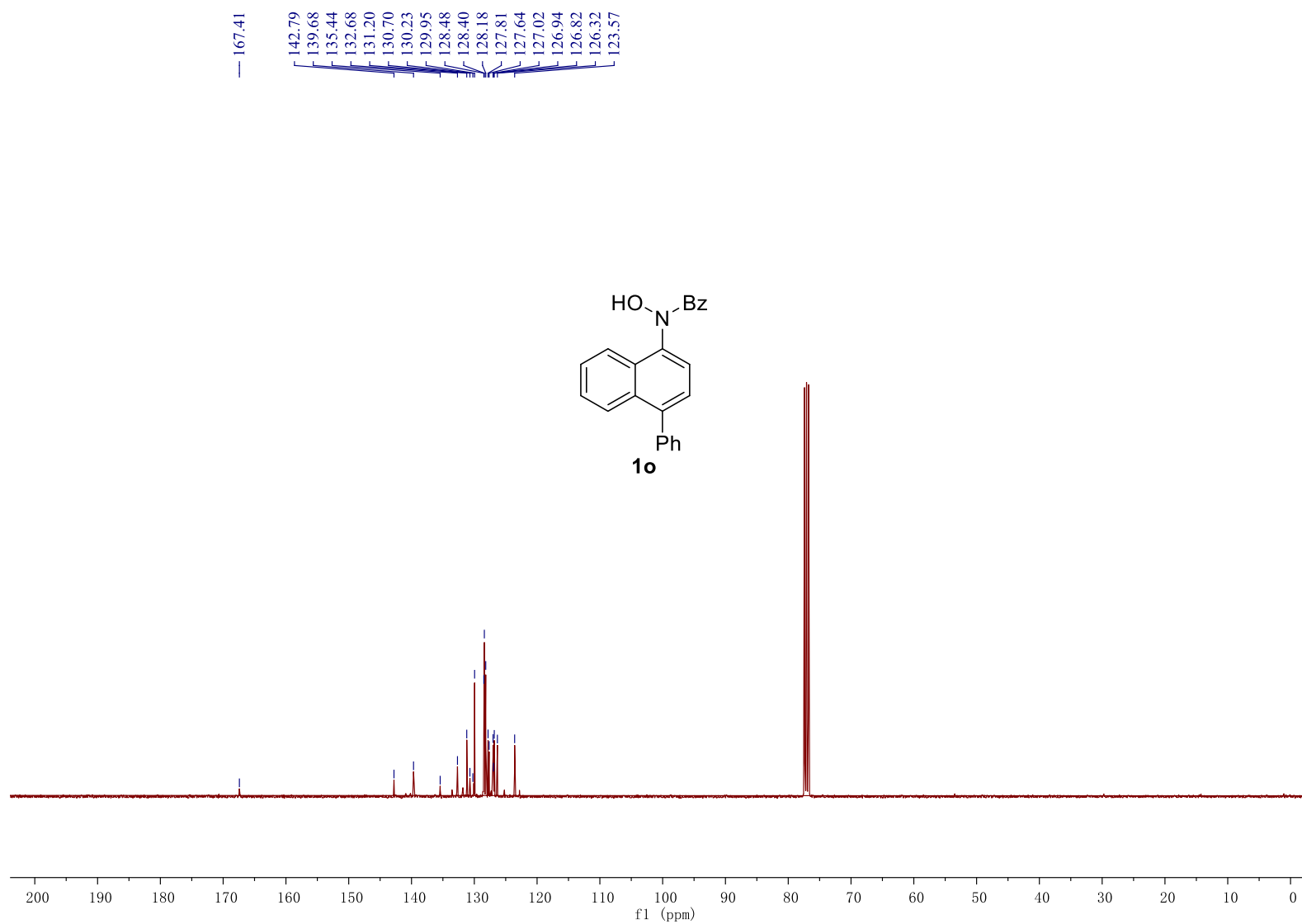


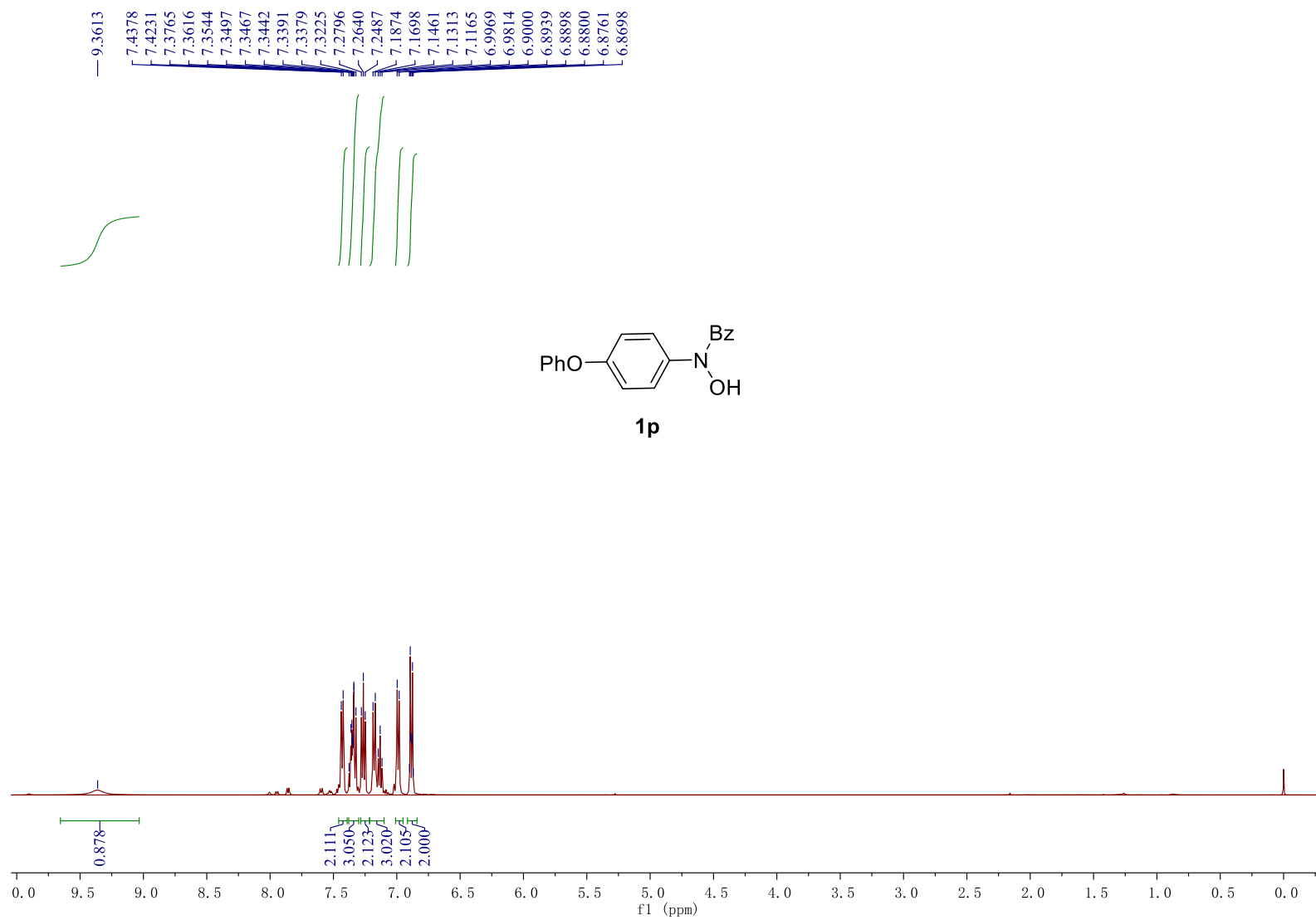


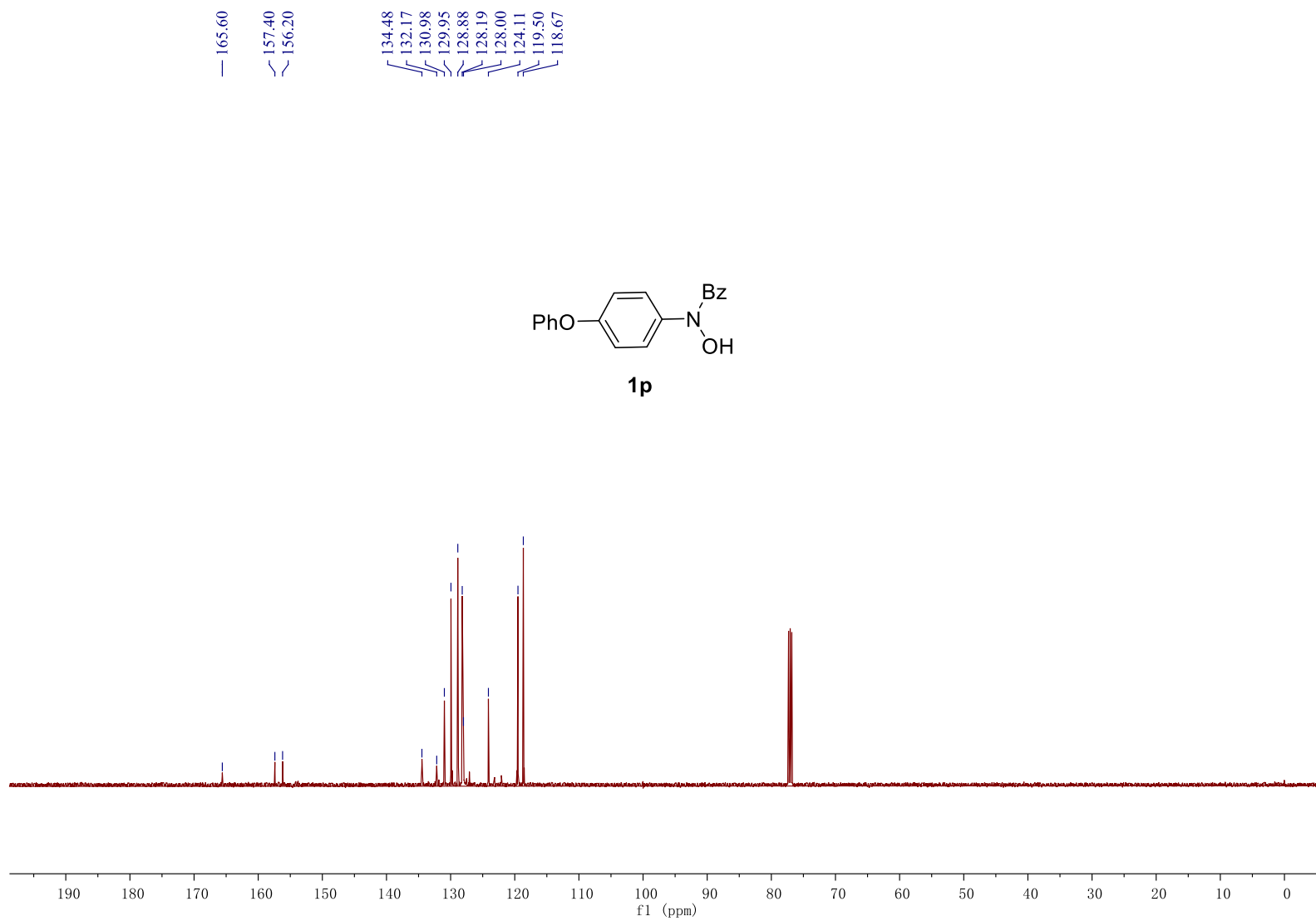


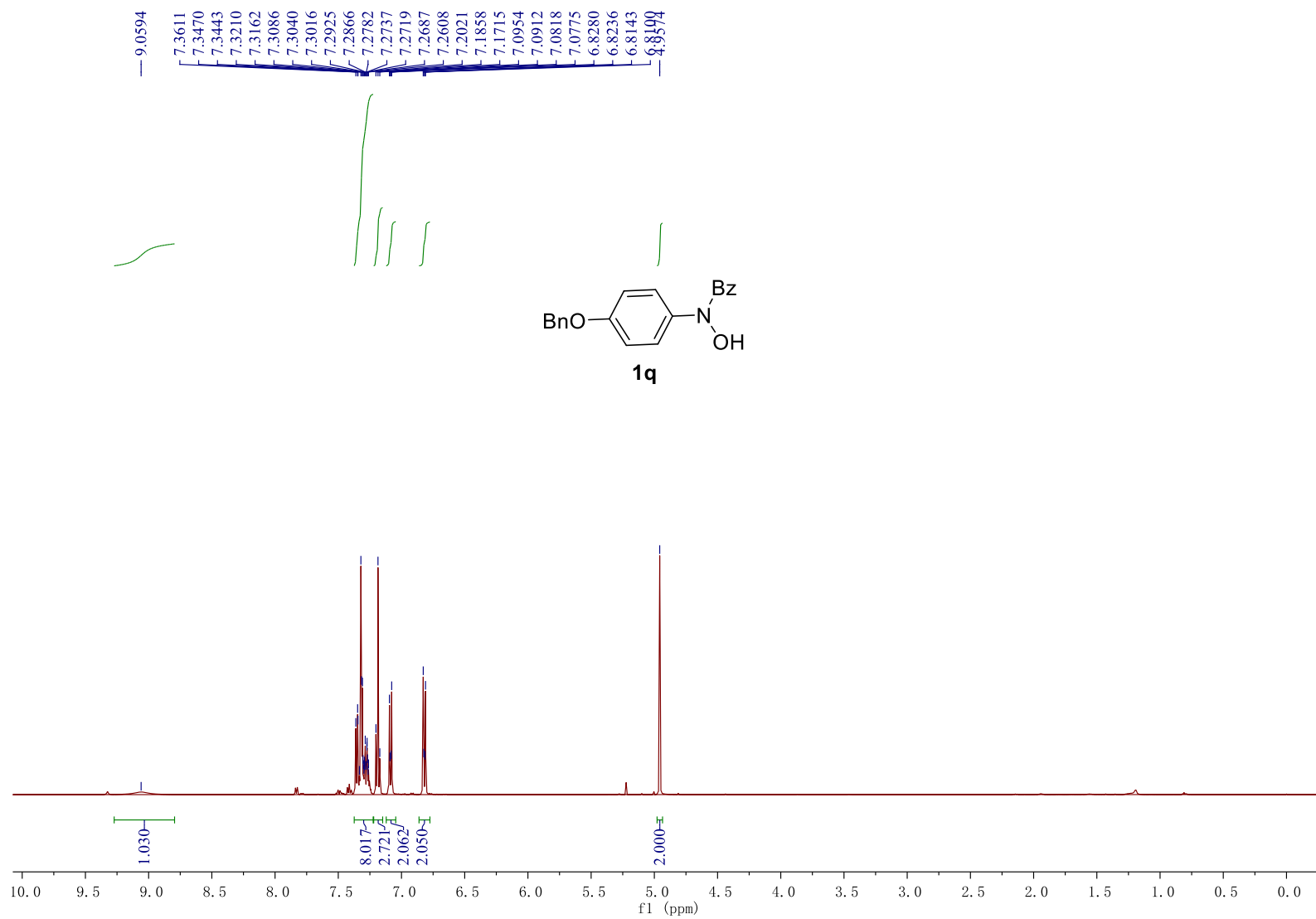


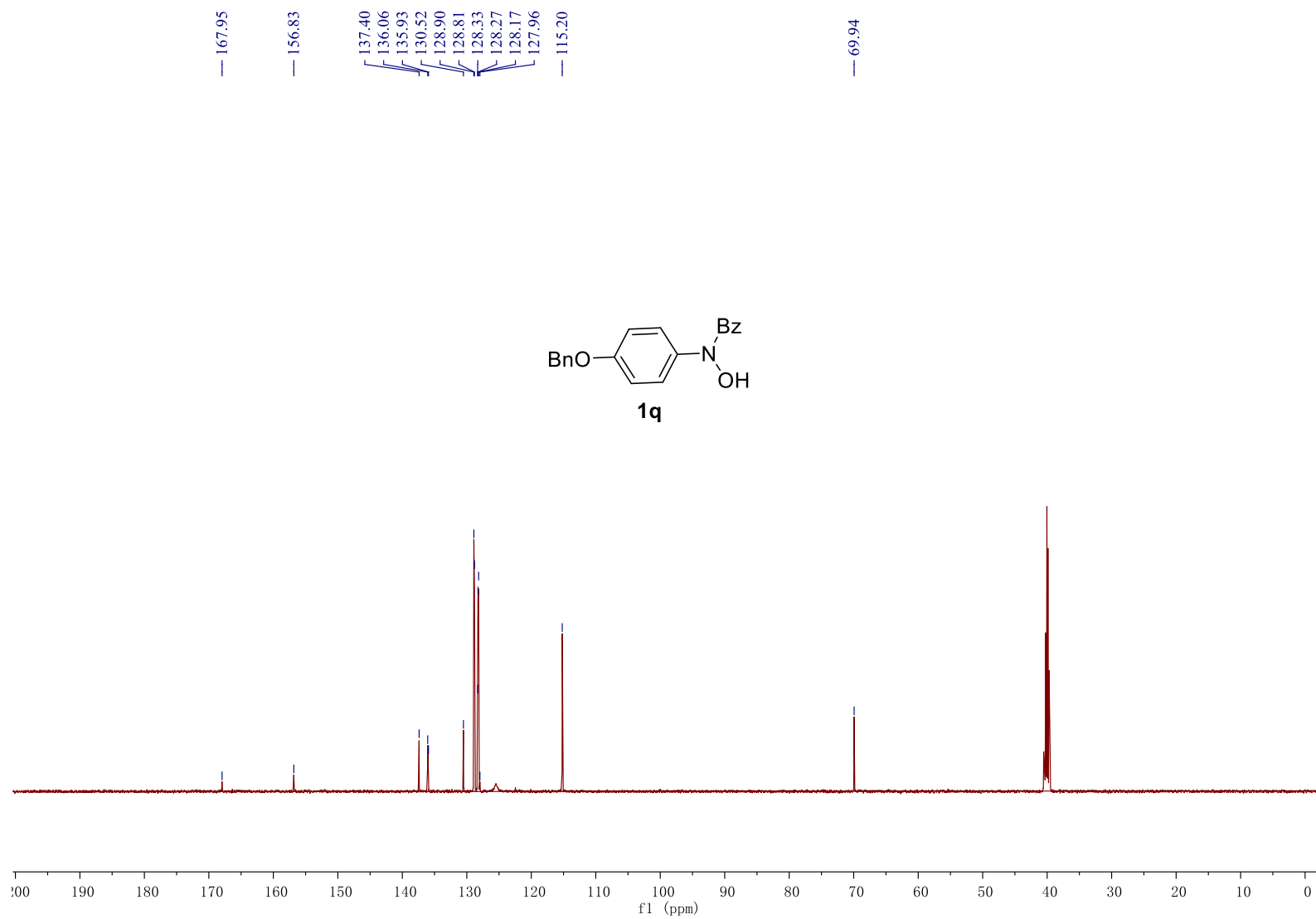


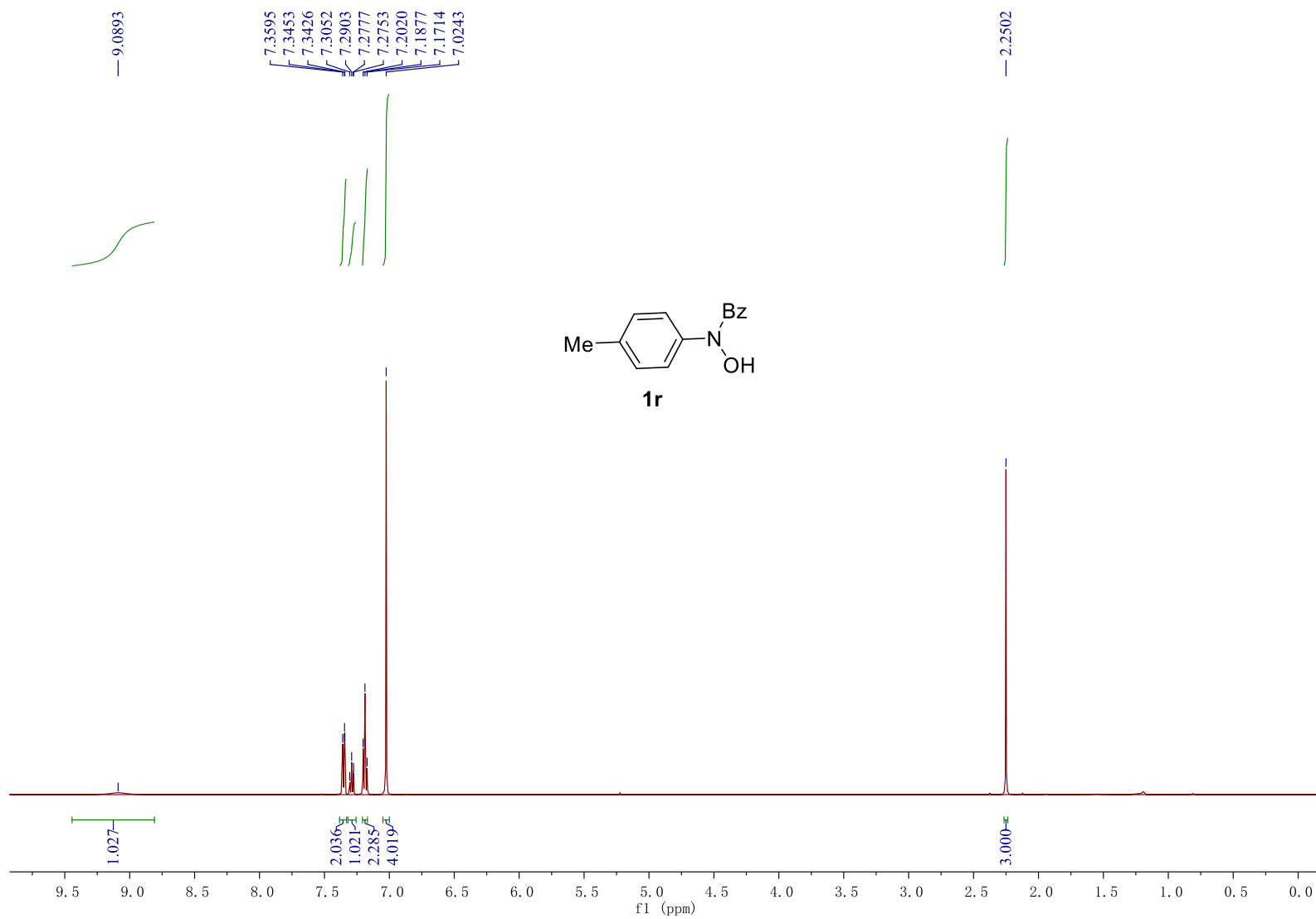


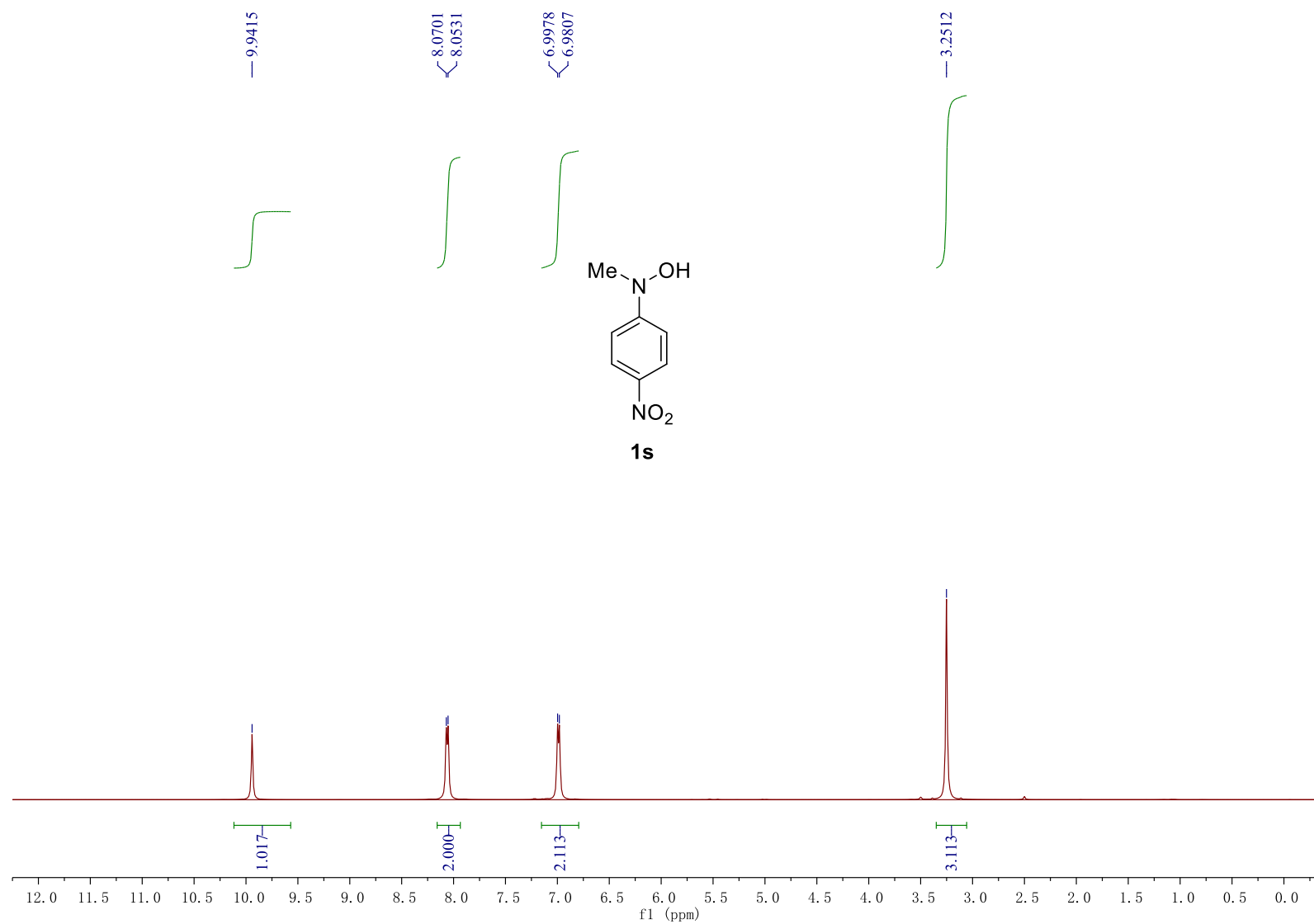


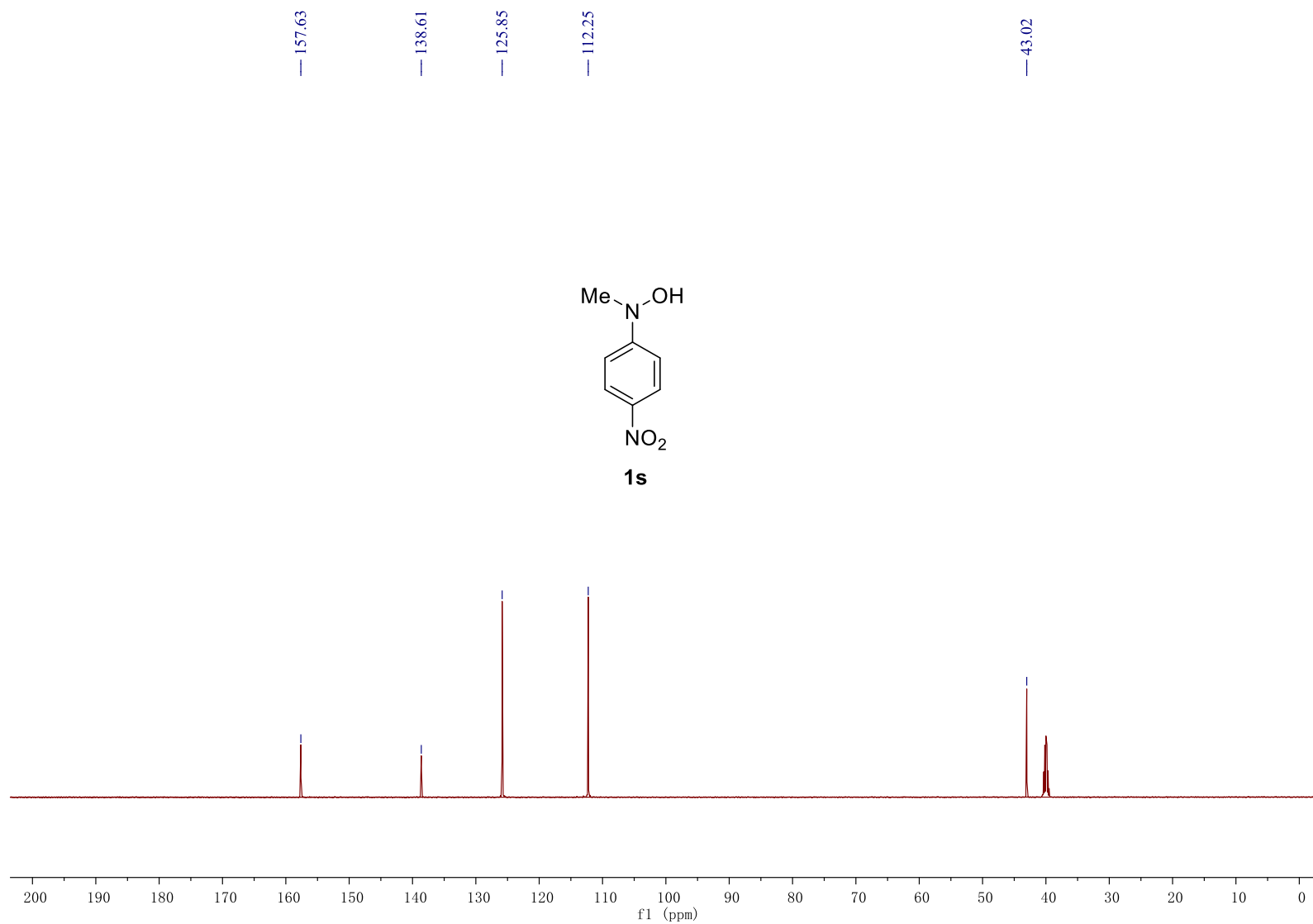


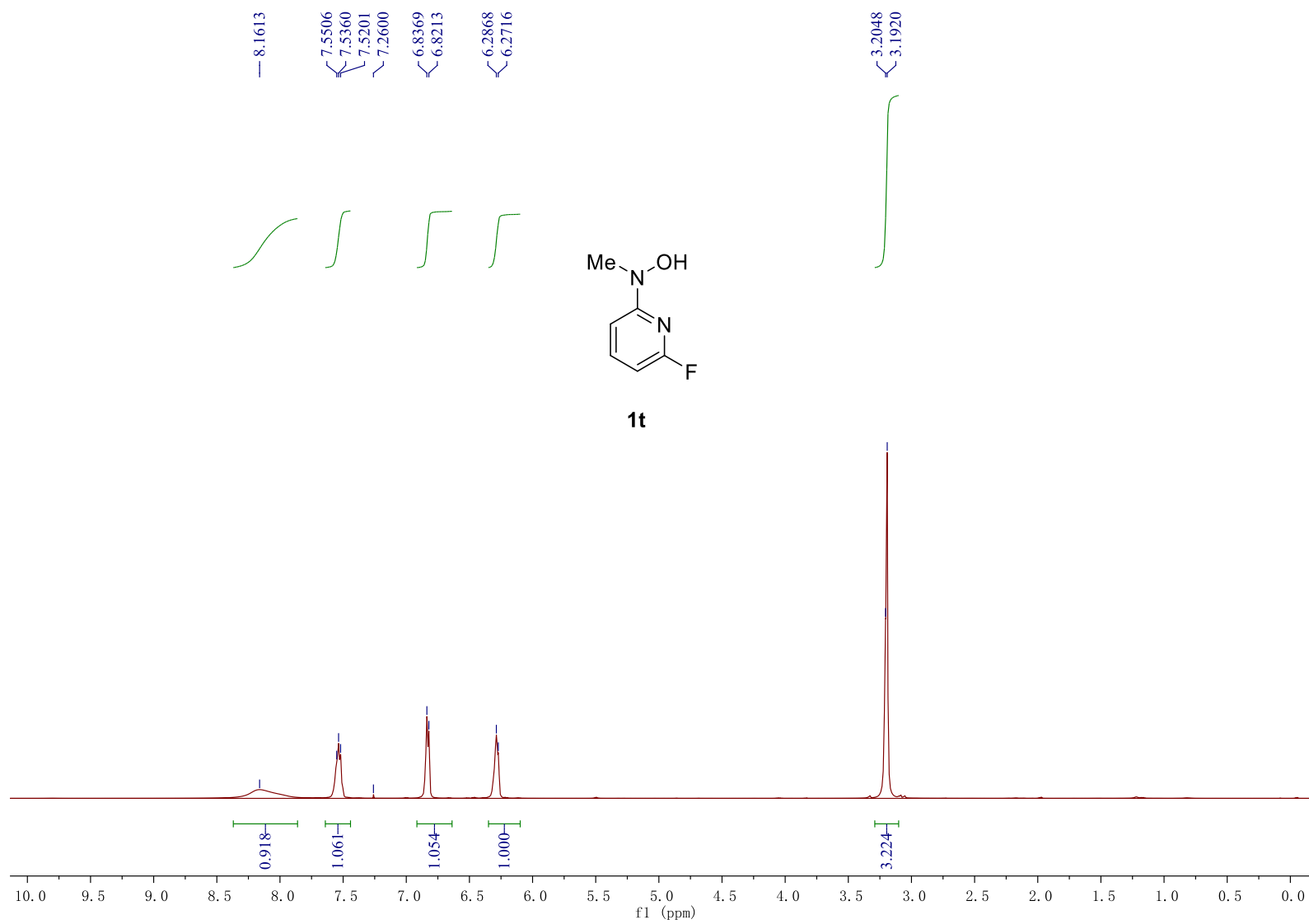


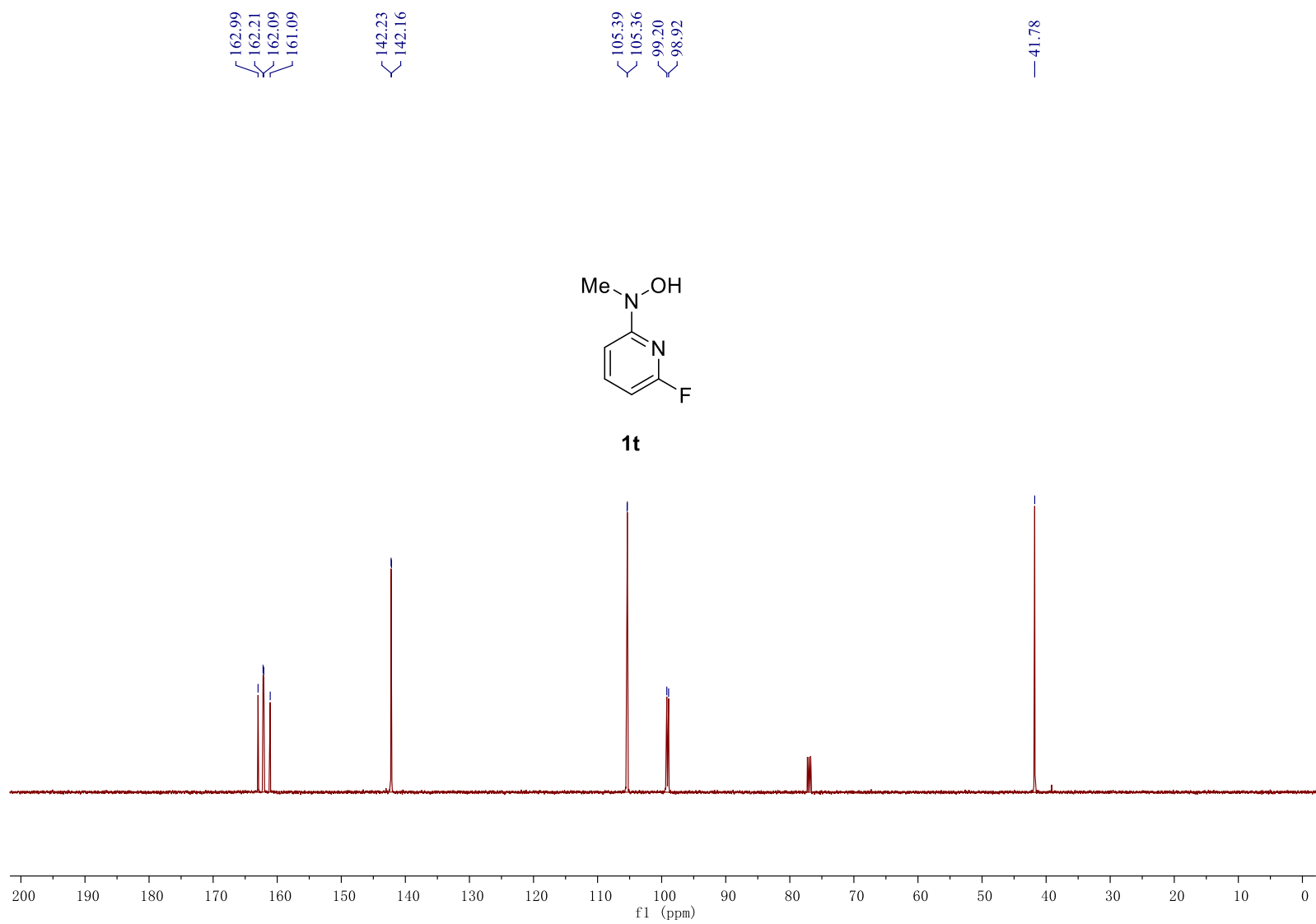


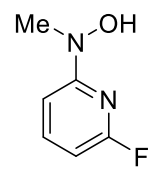












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