

Electronic Supplementary Information

Asymmetric Hydrogenation of 1,4-Diketones: Facile Synthesis of Enantiopure 1,4-Diarylbutane-1,4-diols

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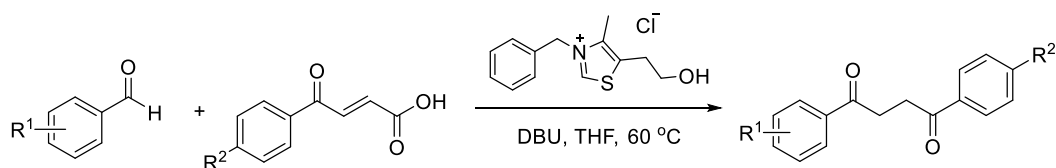
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1. General Information

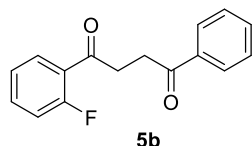
Unless otherwise mentioned, all experiments and manipulations which are sensitive to moisture or air were carried out under an atmosphere of argon in a glovebox or using standard Schlenk techniques. Solvents were dried with standard procedures and degassed with N₂. Flash column chromatography was performed using Tsingdao silica gel (60, particle size 200-300 mesh). NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DPX 400 spectrometer at 400 MHz for ¹H NMR, 101 MHz for ¹³C NMR in CDCl₃ with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard. Data are reported as: multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet) and chemical shifts are reported in ppm and coupling constants are given in Hz. Chemical shifts were reported relative to TMS (0.00 ppm) or CHCl₃ (7.26 ppm) for ¹H NMR and relative to CDCl₃ (77.0 ppm) for ¹³C NMR. Optical rotations [α]_D were determined using a PERKIN ELMER polarimeter 343 instrument. HPLC analyses were performed using Daicel chiral column on an Agilent 1260 Series HPLC instrument.

2. General procedure for synthesis of 1,4-diketones



5a, **5r**, **5s** were commercially available and used without further purification unless otherwise stated. Other substrates were prepared as described in literature.^[1] DBU (0.4 equiv) was added to the stirred solution of benzaldehyde (1.5 equiv) and thiazolium salt (0.2 equiv) in THF. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred in room temperature for 10-15 minutes. After that 3-benzoylacrylic acid (1.0 equiv) was added at 60 °C for overnight and monitored by TLC. After completion of the reaction, reaction system was cooled to room temperature and washed with saturated solution of sodium bicarbonate and extracted with ethyl acetate, organic layer was dried over sodium sulphate and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel.

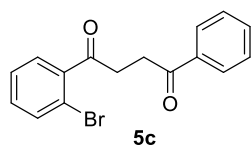
1-(2-fluorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (**5b**)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.44 (m, 4H), 7.24 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (dd, *J* = 11.3, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 4H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.52, 197.03, 196.99, 163.43, 160.89, 136.79, 134.66, 134.57, 133.14, 130.73, 130.70, 128.61, 128.14, 125.42, 125.01, 124.47, 124.43, 116.84, 116.61, 37.46, 37.38, 32.60, 32.58.

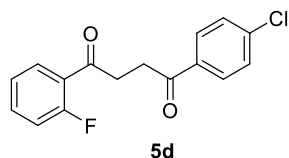
[1] A. R. S. Verma, M. Mishra, C. B. Pandey, S. Kumar and B. Tiwari. *J. Org. Chem.*, 2020, **85**, 8166–8175.

1-(2-bromophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (5c)



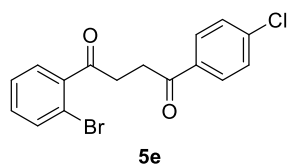
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (dd, *J* = 18.3, 7.6 Hz, 3H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.37 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 202.69, 198.25, 141.57, 136.59, 133.65, 133.27, 131.63, 128.93, 128.65, 128.12, 127.52, 118.60, 36.56, 33.00.

1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-fluorophenyl)butane-1,4-dione (5d)



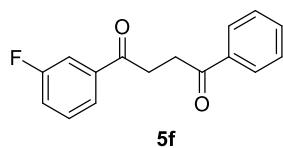
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.90 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 3.49 – 3.38 (m, 4H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.34, 163.46, 139.57, 135.14, 134.75, 134.66, 130.72, 130.69, 129.56, 128.93, 125.40, 124.49, 124.46, 116.86, 116.62, 37.44, 37.36, 32.53, 32.51.

1-(2-bromophenyl)-4-(4-chlorophenyl)butane-1,4-dione (5e)



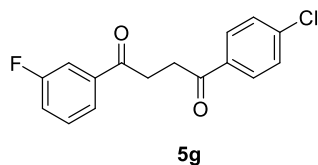
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.69 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 23.0, 7.9 Hz, 3H), 7.31 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.49 – 3.32 (m, 4H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 202.52, 197.07, 141.41, 139.72, 134.92, 133.69, 131.70, 129.54, 128.98, 128.90, 127.52, 118.63, 36.49, 32.92.

1-(3-fluorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (5f)



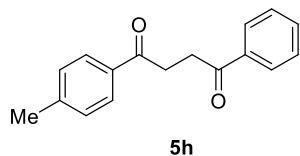
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.33 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 3.45 (dd, *J* = 12.1, 5.6 Hz, 4H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.44, 197.50, 197.48, 164.12, 161.66, 138.91, 138.85, 136.67, 133.26, 130.35, 130.27, 128.65, 128.14, 123.94, 123.91, 120.28, 120.07, 114.99, 114.77, 32.71, 32.54.

1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(3-fluorophenyl)butane-1,4-dione (5g)



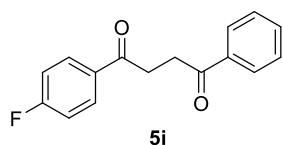
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, *J* = 9.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 3H), 7.30 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 2.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (s, 4H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.33, 197.26, 164.13, 161.66, 139.72, 138.79, 138.73, 135.00, 130.38, 130.30, 129.56, 128.98, 123.92, 123.89, 120.38, 120.16, 115.00, 114.78, 32.67, 32.47.

1-phenyl-4-(p-tolyl)butane-1,4-dione (5h)



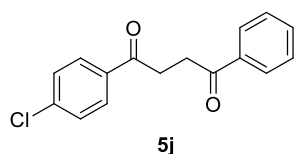
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.08 – 8.00 (m, 2H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.45 (s, 4H), 2.42 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.84, 198.35, 143.96, 136.83, 134.32, 133.15, 129.30, 128.61, 128.26, 128.15, 32.64, 32.50, 21.68.

1-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (5i)



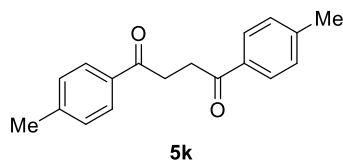
$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.11 – 8.00 (m, 4H), 7.58 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.15 (t, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.45 (ddd, $J = 10.0, 4.4, 0.9$ Hz, 4H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.61, 197.13, 167.09, 164.56, 136.71, 133.23, 130.82, 130.73, 128.64, 128.14, 115.82, 115.60, 32.59, 32.46.

1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (5j)



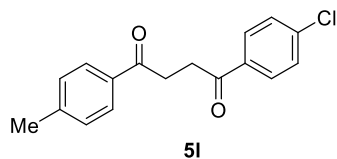
$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.01 (dd, $J = 20.7, 7.8$ Hz, 4H), 7.59 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, $J = 14.2, 8.2$ Hz, 4H), 3.50 – 3.40 (m, 4H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.52, 197.52, 139.61, 136.68, 135.13, 133.25, 129.56, 128.94, 128.64, 128.13, 32.56, 32.52.

1,4-di-p-tolylbutane-1,4-dione (5k)



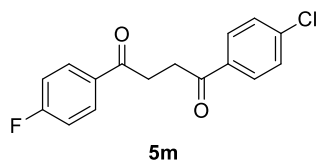
$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.94 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H), 7.28 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H), 3.42 (s, 4H), 2.41 (s, 6H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.45, 143.90, 134.37, 129.28, 128.26, 32.54, 21.67.

1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(p-tolyl)butane-1,4-dione (5l)



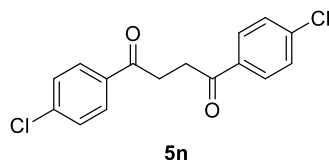
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (dd, *J* = 19.9, 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.47 – 3.38 (m, 4H), 2.42 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.15, 197.65, 144.05, 139.57, 135.18, 134.22, 129.57, 129.32, 128.93, 128.25, 32.56, 32.46, 21.68.

1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)butane-1,4-dione (5m)



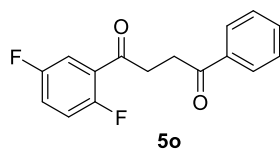
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.42 (s, 4H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.43, 196.94, 172.11, 167.13, 164.60, 139.68, 135.04, 133.15, 130.82, 130.73, 129.56, 128.97, 115.86, 115.64, 32.51, 32.43.

1,4-bis(4-chlorophenyl)butane-1,4-dione (5n)



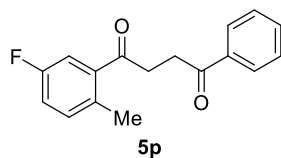
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 – 7.95 (m, 4H), 7.50 – 7.42 (m, 4H), 3.42 (s, 4H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.34, 139.71, 135.01, 129.56, 128.98, 32.49.

1-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (5o)



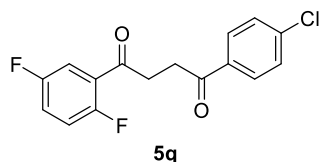
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.64 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 3.45 (s, 4H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.29, 136.67, 133.22, 128.63, 128.13, 121.47, 121.37, 121.22, 121.13, 118.32, 118.13, 118.05, 116.71, 116.50, 37.32, 37.24, 32.58, 32.56.

1-(5-fluoro-2-methylphenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (5p)



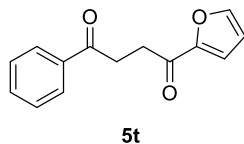
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (td, *J* = 8.3, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.50 – 3.43 (m, 2H), 3.34 – 3.27 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 201.63, 201.60, 198.39, 161.84, 159.41, 139.14, 139.08, 136.65, 133.53, 133.49, 133.30, 133.24, 133.22, 128.64, 128.11, 118.20, 117.99, 115.37, 115.15, 35.27, 32.83, 20.39.

1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)butane-1,4-dione (5q)



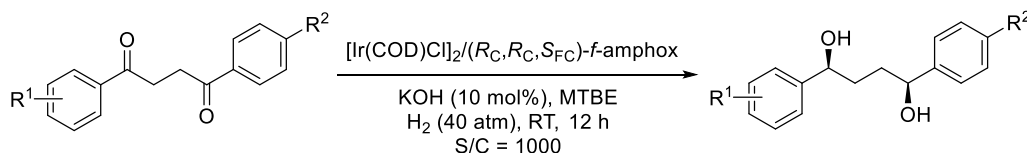
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (ddd, *J* = 8.6, 5.4, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.26 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 3.42 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 3.4 Hz, 4H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.11, 195.60, 195.56, 139.67, 135.01, 129.54, 128.96, 121.58, 121.48, 121.33, 121.24, 118.43, 118.35, 118.16, 118.08, 116.72, 116.69, 116.47, 116.44, 37.29, 37.21, 32.50, 32.48.

1-(furan-2-yl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-dione (5t)



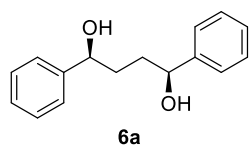
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.69 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.31 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.39, 187.89, 152.56, 146.39, 136.64, 133.21, 128.62, 128.12, 117.15, 112.25, 32.28, 32.25.

3. General procedure for asymmetric hydrogenation of 1,4-diketones



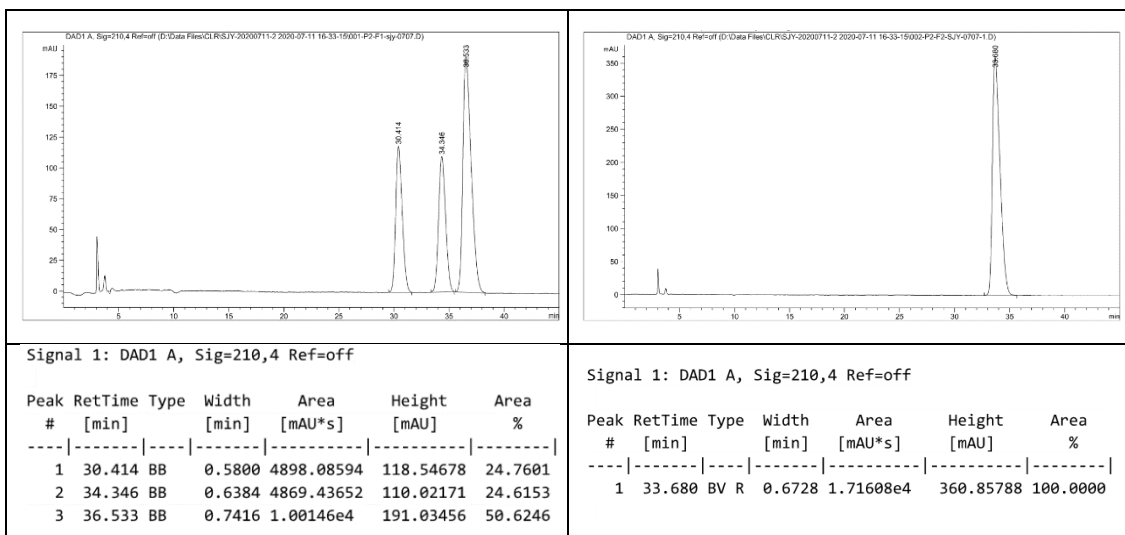
To a 4.0 mL vial was added the catalyst precursor [Ir(COD)Cl]₂ (6.72 mg, 1.0×10⁻² mmol), ligand (R_C,R_C,S_{FC})-f-amphox (12.2 mg, 2.2×10⁻² mmol) and anhydrous toluene (2.0 mL) in the argon-filled glovebox. The mixture was stirred for 2 h at 25 °C giving orange red solution. And then 0.1 mmol of 1,4-diketones, KOH (0.56 mg, 0.01 mmol) were added into a 5 mL hydrogenation vessel. 1.0 mL anhydrous MTBE was added as solvent and a solution of Ir/(R_C,R_C,S_{FC})-f-amphox in anhydrous toluene (10 μL) was added *via* an injection port. Then the vessel was placed in an autoclave, closed it and moved it out from glovebox. The autoclave quickly purged with hydrogen gas for three times, then pressurized to 40 atm H₂. The reaction solution was stirred at room temperature (25 °C - 30 °C) until for 12 h, then released pressure carefully. The solution of reaction mixture was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with ethyl acetate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The ee value was determined by chiral HPLC analysis of the hydrogenation product chiral diol directly. The absolute configurations of 1,4-diols were assigned by analogy.

(1*S*,4*S*)-1,4-diphenylbutane-1,4-diol (**6a**)

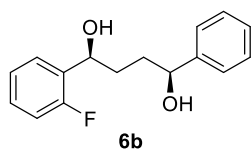


99% yield, >100:1 dr, >99.9% ee. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40 – 7.23 (m, 10H), 4.85 – 4.52 (m, 2H), 2.87 (s, 2H), 1.98 – 1.76 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.64, 128.47, 127.53, 125.84, 74.61, 35.92.

Optical Rotation: [α]_D²⁵ = -62.0 (c = 1.00, CHCl₃). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral OJ-H column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 33.68 min.

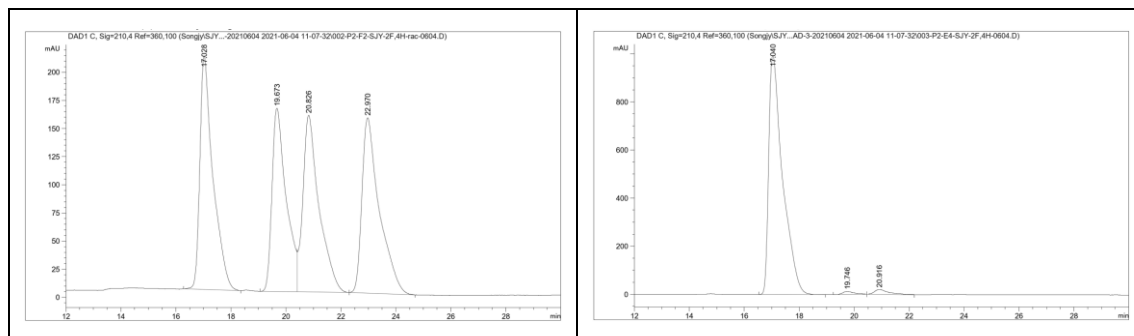


(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(2-fluorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-diol (**6b**)



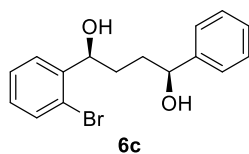
99% yield, 33:1 dr, >99.9% ee. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.46 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, $J = 3.8$ Hz, 4H), 7.28 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.13 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.04 – 6.95 (m, 1H), 5.02 (dd, $J = 7.4, 4.1$ Hz, 1H), 4.70 (dd, $J = 7.8, 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.01 (s, 2H), 1.97 – 1.82 (m, 4H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 160.89, 158.45, 144.52, 131.67, 131.53, 128.79, 128.71, 128.50, 127.58, 127.27, 127.22, 125.82, 124.29, 124.25, 115.35, 115.14, 74.61, 68.33, 68.31, 35.73, 34.85.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = -25.1$ ($c = 1.00$, CHCl_3). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AD-3 column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_{R} (major) = 17.04 min, t_{R} (minor) = 19.75 min, 20.92 min.



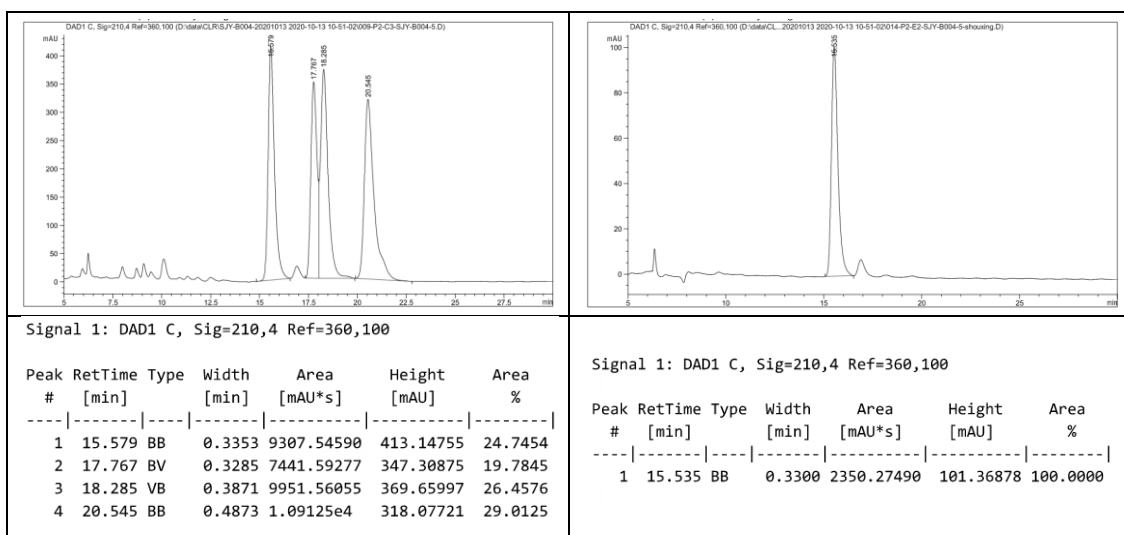
Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=210,4 Ref=360,100							Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=210,4 Ref=360,100						
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %	Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	17.028	BB	0.4758	6887.20654	207.22250	26.4658	1	17.040	BB	0.5113	3.49621e4	991.82367	97.0627
2	19.673	BV	0.5220	5864.97705	162.92426	22.5376	2	19.746	BB	0.3912	344.38980	12.20428	0.9561
3	20.826	VB	0.5807	6415.82471	157.01456	24.6544	3	20.916	BB	0.4774	713.63147	20.33602	1.9812
4	22.970	BB	0.6231	6855.07031	155.87086	26.3423							

(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(2-bromophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-diol (**6c**)

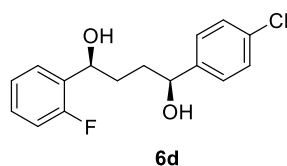


99% yield, >100:1 dr, >99.9% ee. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.27 (m, 6H), 7.11 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.08 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (s, 2H), 2.02 – 1.77 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.53, 143.60, 132.64, 128.75, 128.51, 127.72, 127.61, 127.29, 125.84, 121.90, 74.71, 73.13, 35.94, 34.58.

Optical Rotation: [α]_D²⁵ = -39.5 (c = 1.00, CHCl₃). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AD-3 column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 15.54 min.

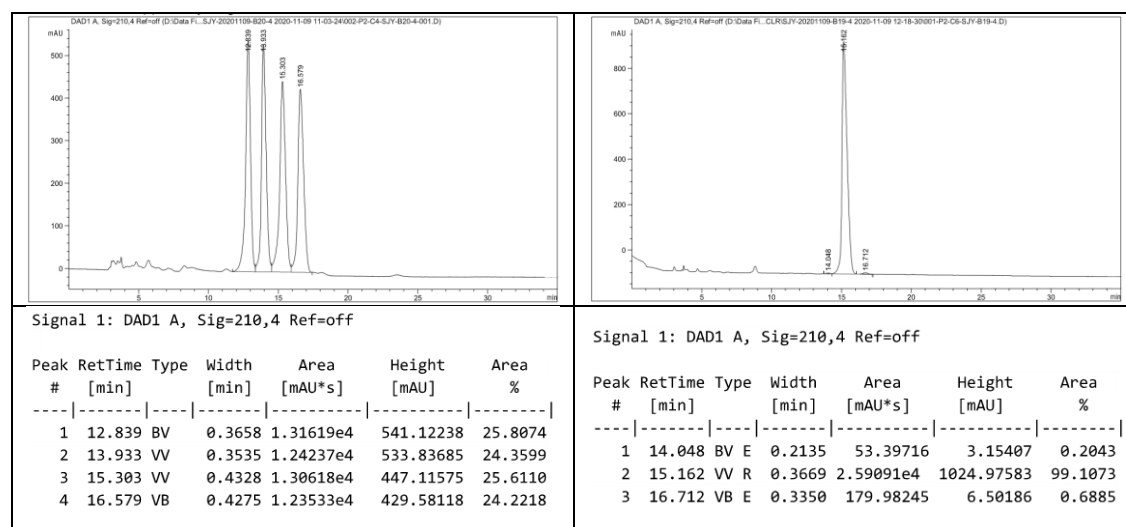


(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-fluorophenyl)butane-1,4-diol (6d)

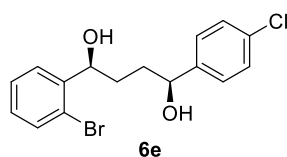


99% yield, >100:1 dr, 99.8% ee. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.45 (td, $J = 7.6, 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.21 (m, 5H), 7.14 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.04 – 6.97 (m, 1H), 5.02 (dd, $J = 7.8, 3.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.75 – 4.61 (m, 1H), 3.14 (s, 2H), 1.95 – 1.79 (m, 4H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.29, 160.83, 158.40, 143.03, 133.12, 131.50, 131.37, 128.91, 128.83, 128.58, 127.19, 124.32, 124.29, 115.40, 115.18, 73.83, 68.29, 68.26, 35.84, 34.63.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = -37.8$ ($c = 1.00, \text{CHCl}_3$). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral OJ-H column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 85:15; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_{R} (major) = 15.16 min, t_{R} (minor) = 14.05 min, 16.71 min.



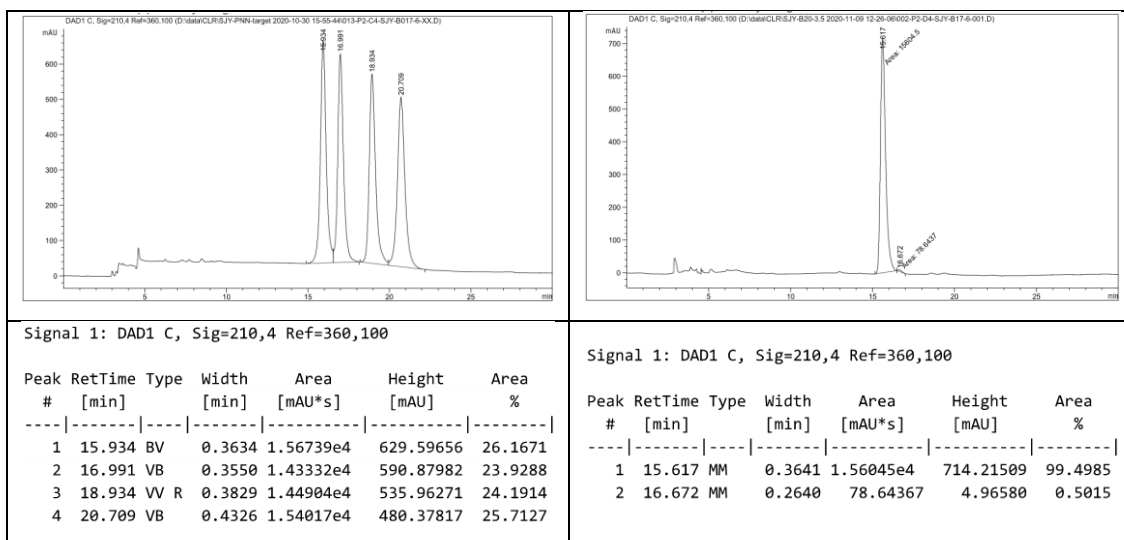
(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(2-bromophenyl)-4-(4-chlorophenyl)butane-1,4-diol (6e)



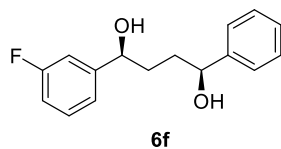
99% yield, >100:1 dr, >99.9% ee. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.53 (ddd, $J = 15.7, 7.9, 1.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.28 (q, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 5H), 7.13 (td, $J = 7.6, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.05 (dd, $J =$

8.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (dd, $J = 7.7, 4.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.51 (s, 2H), 1.96 – 1.71 (m, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 143.42, 143.01, 133.10, 132.66, 128.83, 128.57, 127.74, 127.21, 127.18, 121.82, 73.90, 73.08, 36.14, 34.45.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = -55.1$ ($c = 1.00$, CHCl_3). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AD-3 column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_{R} (major) = 15.62min, t_{R} (minor) = 16.67 min.

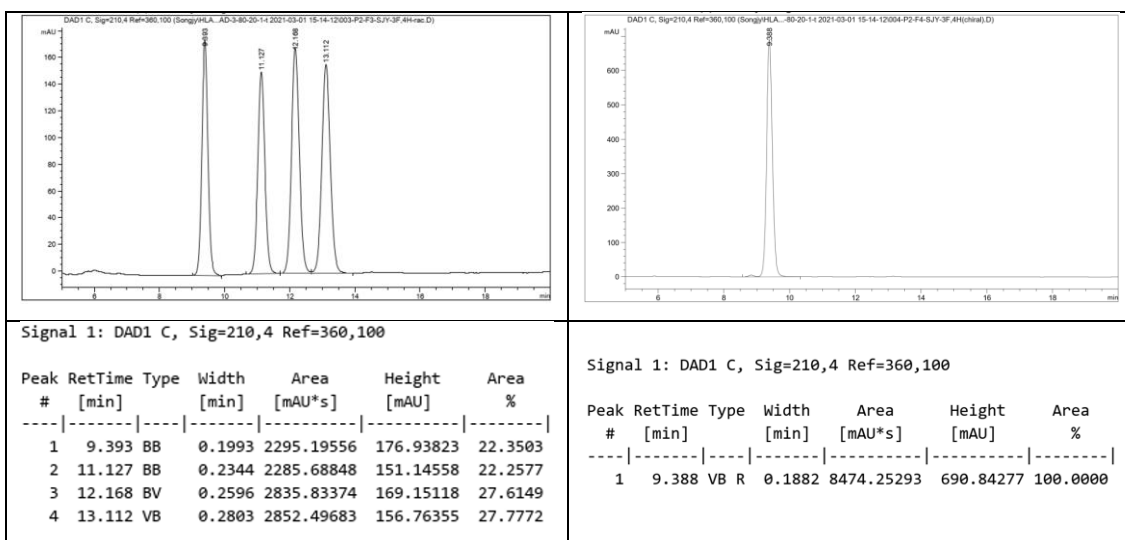


(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(3-fluorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-diol (**6f**)

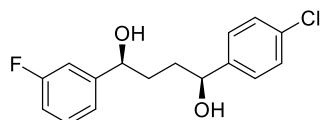


99% yield, >100:1 dr, >99.9% ee. ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.32 (d, $J = 18.3$ Hz, 4H), 7.28 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.09 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 6.96 – 6.90 (m, 1H), 4.70 – 4.65 (m, 2H), 3.25 (s, 1H), 2.92 (s, 1H), 1.92 – 1.78 (m, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.77, 162.14, 147.45, 147.41, 144.47, 129.93, 129.87, 128.52, 127.63, 125.79, 121.40, 121.38, 114.29, 114.15, 112.80, 112.66, 74.59, 73.88, 73.86, 36.00, 35.70.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = -27.6$ ($c = 1.00$, CHCl_3). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AD-3 column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_{R} (major) = 9.39 min.



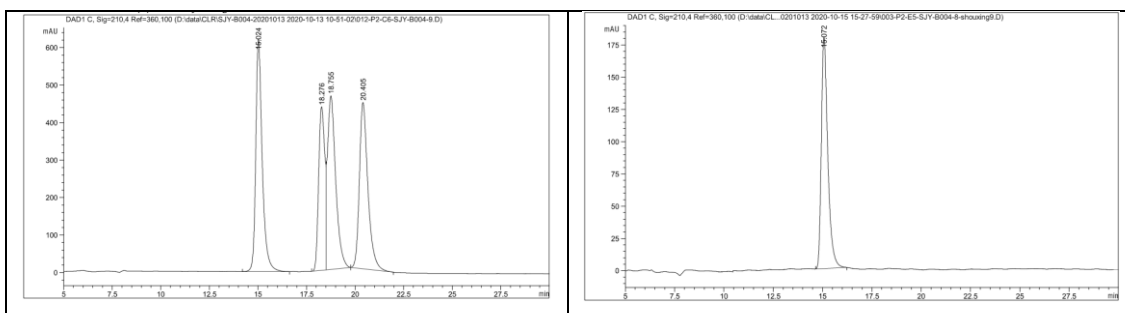
(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(3-fluorophenyl)butane-1,4-diol (6g)



6g

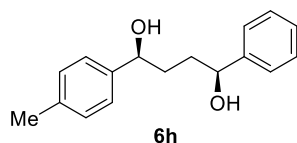
99% yield, >100:1 dr, >99.9% ee. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.21 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.03 (t, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 6.94 (td, $J = 9.0, 8.4, 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.63 (s, 2H), 3.33 (d, $J = 12.6$ Hz, 2H), 1.87 – 1.77 (m, 4H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 164.18, 161.73, 147.28, 147.21, 142.97, 133.16, 130.01, 129.93, 128.60, 127.16, 121.34, 121.32, 114.44, 114.23, 112.78, 112.56, 73.85, 73.82, 35.85.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = -33.2$ ($c = 1.00$, CHCl_3). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AD-3 column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_{R} (major) = 15.07 min.



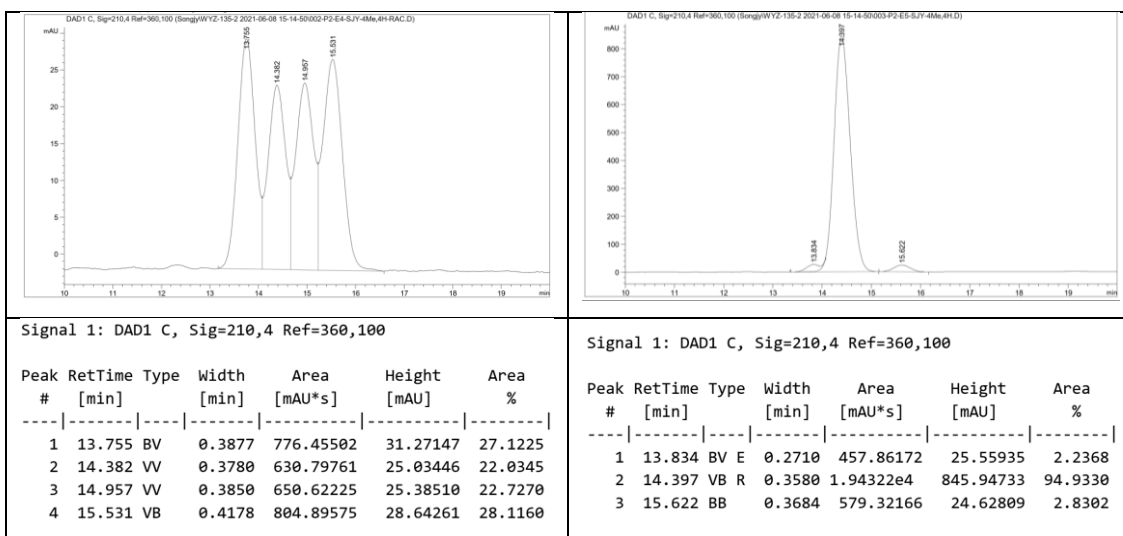
Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=210,4 Ref=360,100							Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=210,4 Ref=360,100						
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %	Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	15.024	BB	0.3377	1.43575e4	619.83838	28.1372	1	15.072	BB	0.3393	4094.70142	179.41325	100.0000
2	18.276	BV	0.3347	9540.46484	436.20291	18.6971							
3	18.755	VB	0.4213	1.36224e4	462.92474	26.6967							
4	20.405	BB	0.4356	1.35062e4	443.79395	26.4690							

(1*S*,4*S*)-1-phenyl-4-(*p*-tolyl)butane-1,4-diol (**6h**)

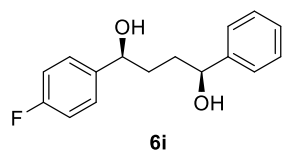


99% yield, 19:1 dr, >99.9% ee. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 – 7.24 (m, 5H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 4.66 (ddd, *J* = 11.7, 7.7, 4.3 Hz, 2H), 2.87 (d, *J* = 43.6 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.93 – 1.75 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.71, 141.68, 137.18, 129.14, 128.44, 127.47, 125.86, 125.80, 74.60, 74.47, 36.00, 35.85, 21.12.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -35.1$ (*c* = 1.00, CHCl₃). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral IC column, 210 nm, 25 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 88:12; flow 1.0 mL/min; *t_R* (major) = 14.40 min, *t_R* (minor) = 13.83 min, 15.62 min.

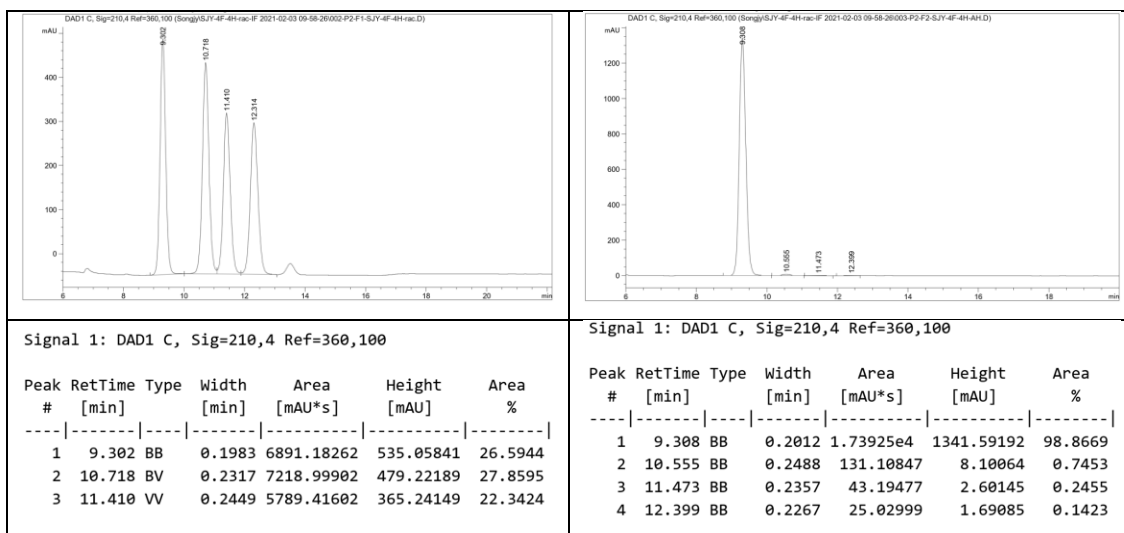


(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-diol (6i)

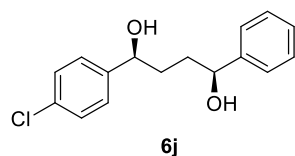


99% yield, >100:1 dr, 98.5% ee. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.36 – 7.26 (m, 7H), 7.01 (t, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 4.75 – 4.65 (m, 2H), 2.77 (s, 2H), 1.95 – 1.75 (m, 4H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.35, 160.92, 144.53, 140.41, 140.38, 128.53, 127.64, 127.49, 127.41, 125.79, 115.35, 115.14, 74.65, 73.96, 36.06, 35.78.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = -37.4$ ($c = 1.00$, CHCl_3). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral IF column, 210 nm, 25 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 88:12; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_{R} (major) = 9.31 min, t_{R} (minor) = 10.56 min, 11.47 min, 12.40 min.

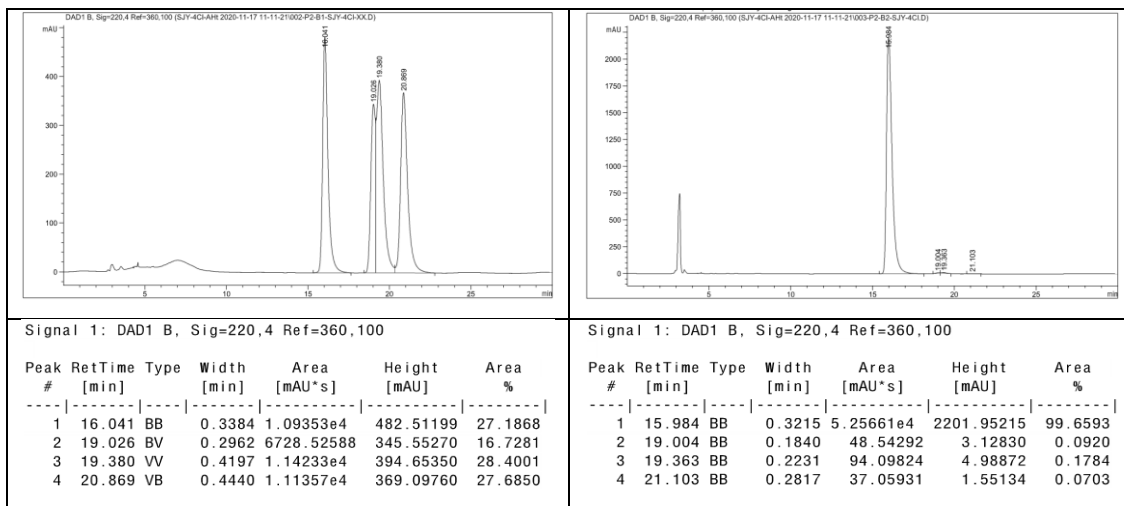


(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-diol (6j)

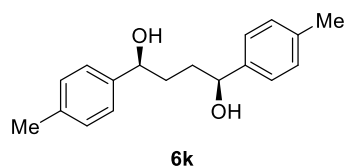


99% yield, >100:1 dr, 99.6% ee. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.27 (d, $J = 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.22 – 7.17 (m, 5H), 4.62 (td, $J = 7.6, 4.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.65 (s, 2H), 1.86 – 1.70 (m, 4H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 144.46, 143.14, 133.09, 128.57, 128.54, 127.67, 127.22, 125.77, 74.64, 73.88, 36.02, 35.69.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -22.8$ ($c = 1.00$, CHCl_3). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AD-3 column, 220 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 15.98 min, t_R (minor) = 19.00 min, 19.36 min, 21.10 min.

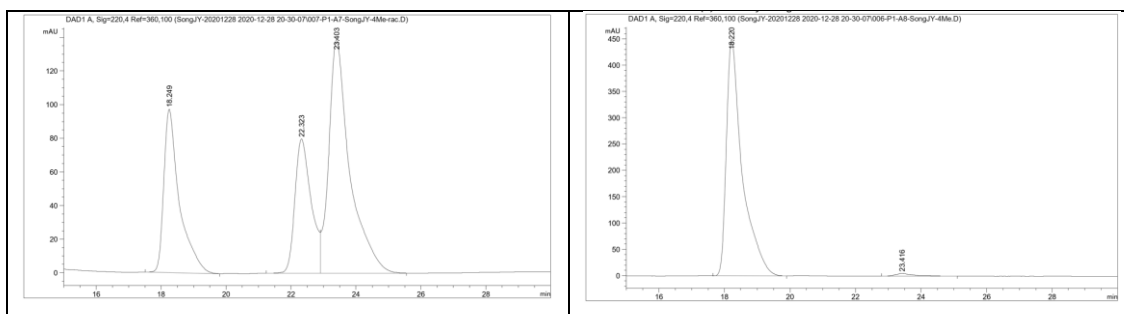


(1*S*,4*S*)-1,4-di-*p*-tolylbutane-1,4-diol (6k)



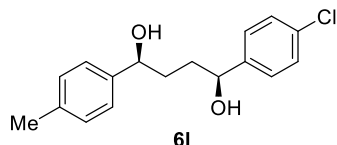
99% yield, 76:1 dr, >99.9% ee. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.94 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H), 7.28 (s, 4H), 3.42 (s, 4H), 2.41 (s, 6H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.45, 143.90, 134.37, 129.28, 128.26, 32.54, 21.67.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -49.6$ ($c = 0.50$, CHCl_3). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AD-3 column, 220 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 18.22 min, t_R (minor) = 23.42 min.



Signal 1: DAD1 A, Sig=220,4 Ref=360,100							Signal 1: DAD1 A, Sig=220,4 Ref=360,100						
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %	Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	18.249	BB	0.4777	3228.04712	97.13160	26.3898	1	18.220	BB	0.4844	1.51410e4	450.19681	98.7098
2	22.323	BV	0.5166	2769.92554	79.87865	22.6446	2	23.416	BB	0.5606	197.89963	4.70646	1.2902
3	23.403	VB	0.6388	6234.21875	139.10869	50.9657							

(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(*p*-tolyl)butane-1,4-diol (6l**)**

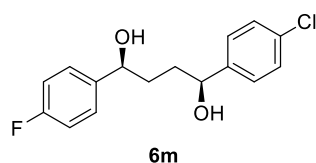


99% yield, >100:1 dr, 99.6% ee. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.28 – 7.19 (m, 4H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 4.66 (dt, *J* = 7.7, 3.6 Hz, 2H), 3.23 (s, 1H), 2.80 (s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.92 – 1.76 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.21, 141.50, 137.33, 133.00, 129.19, 128.52, 127.23, 125.73, 74.47, 73.85, 36.14, 35.69, 21.12.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -49.5$ (*c* = 1.00, CHCl₃). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AD-3 column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; *t_R* (major) = 16.31 min, *t_R* (minor) = 18.96 min, 19.42 min.

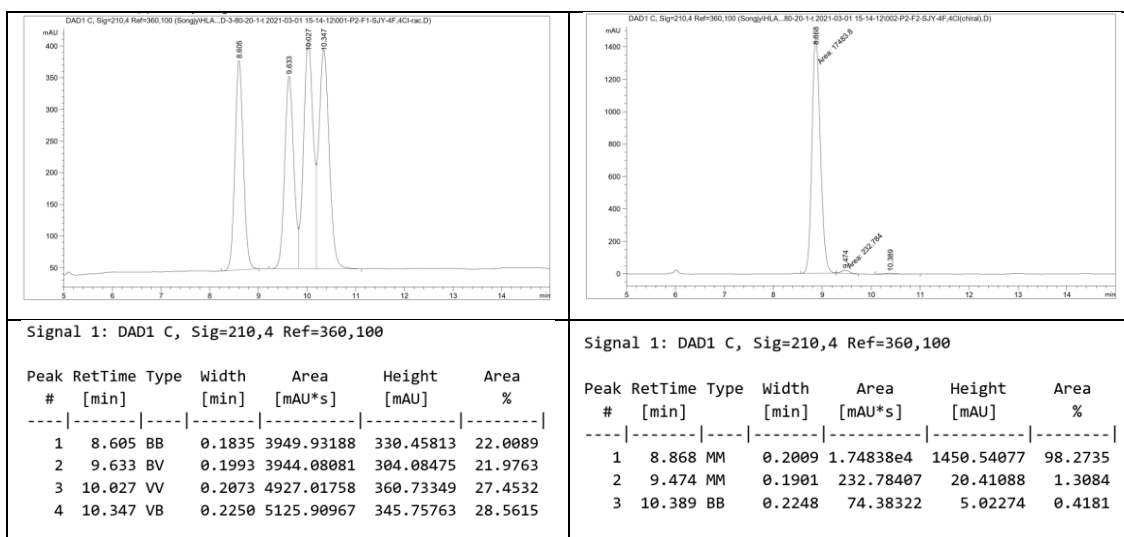
Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=210,4 Ref=360,100							Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=210,4 Ref=360,100						
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %	Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	16.248	BB	0.3921	7578.68262	272.38766	27.2225	1	16.314	MM	0.3875	2.86192e4	1230.81812	99.5592
2	18.876	VV R	0.2929	5177.21289	248.19695	18.5964	2	18.958	MM	0.2583	51.69290	3.33579	0.1798
3	19.376	VV R	0.4783	1.50839e4	431.55484	54.1811	3	19.423	MM	0.3135	75.00529	3.98809	0.2609

(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)butane-1,4-diol (**6m**)

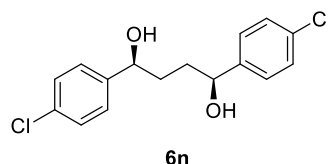


99% yield, >100:1 dr, 97.4% ee. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 3H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 3H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.65 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 3.4 Hz, 2H), 3.01 (d, *J* = 40.8 Hz, 2H), 1.93 – 1.72 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.39, 160.95, 143.03, 140.25, 140.21, 133.16, 128.60, 127.43, 127.35, 127.17, 115.41, 115.19, 73.93, 73.87, 35.96, 35.93.

Optical Rotation: [α]_D²⁵ = -42.1 (*c* = 1.00, CHCl₃). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral IF column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 88:12; flow 1.0 mL/min; *t*_R (major) = 8.87 min, *t*_R (minor) = 9.47 min, 10.39 min.

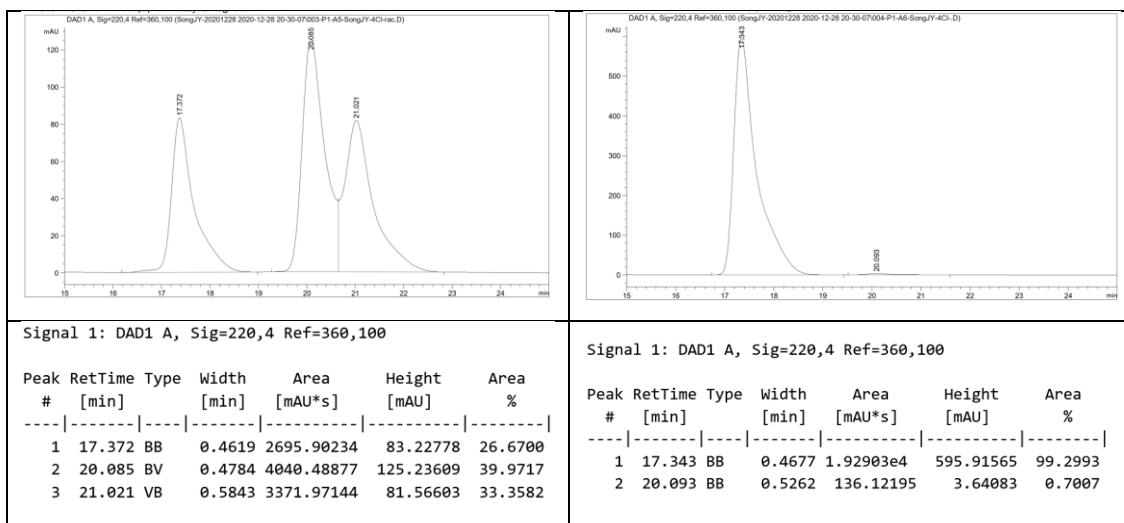


(1*S*,4*S*)-1,4-bis(4-chlorophenyl)butane-1,4-diol (**6n**)

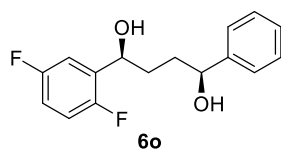


99% yield, >100:1 dr, >99.9% ee. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H), 4.65 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 2H), 2.92 (s, 2H), 1.88 – 1.73 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.93, 132.16, 127.58, 126.12, 72.82, 34.83.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -37.8$ ($c = 0.50$, CHCl_3). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AD-3 column, 220 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 17.37 min, t_R (minor) = 20.09 min.

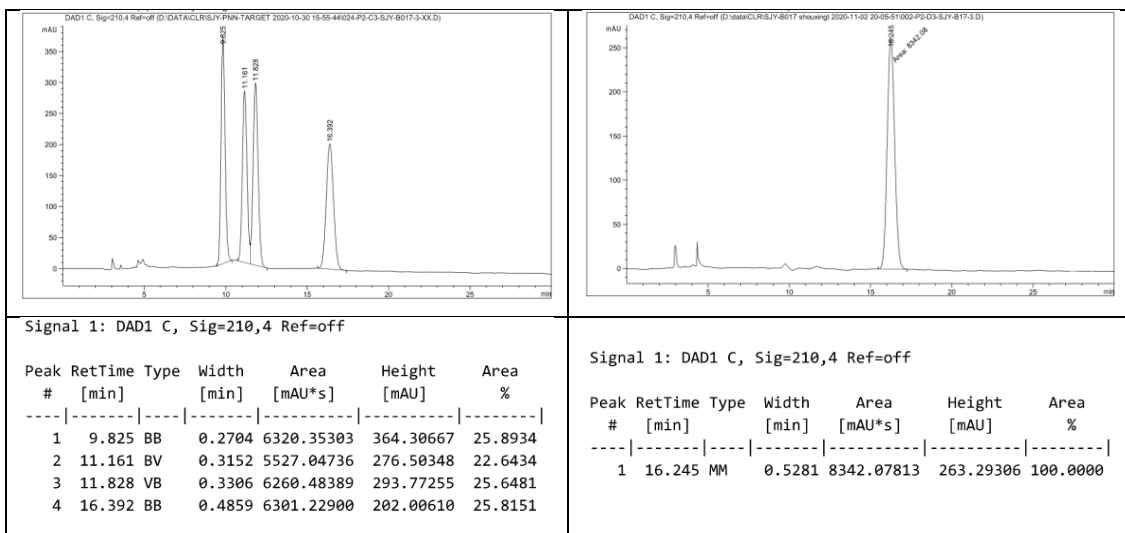


(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(2,5-difluorophenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-diol (6o)

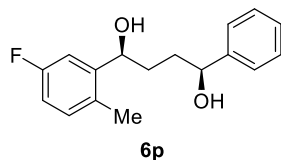


99% yield, >100:1 dr, >99.9% ee. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.33 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 4H), 7.29 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.22 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 6.99 – 6.83 (m, 2H), 4.97 (t, $J = 5.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.69 (dd, $J = 7.9, 3.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.04 (s, 2H), 1.96 – 1.80 (m, 4H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 160.18, 160.16, 157.77, 157.75, 156.53, 154.16, 154.14, 144.32, 133.76, 133.69, 133.60, 133.53, 128.54, 127.69, 125.78, 116.38, 116.30, 116.14, 116.05, 115.03, 114.95, 114.79, 114.70, 113.96, 113.91, 113.71, 113.66, 74.63, 67.89, 35.60, 34.91.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -40.7$ ($c = 1.00$, CHCl_3). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral OD-3 column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 16.25 min.

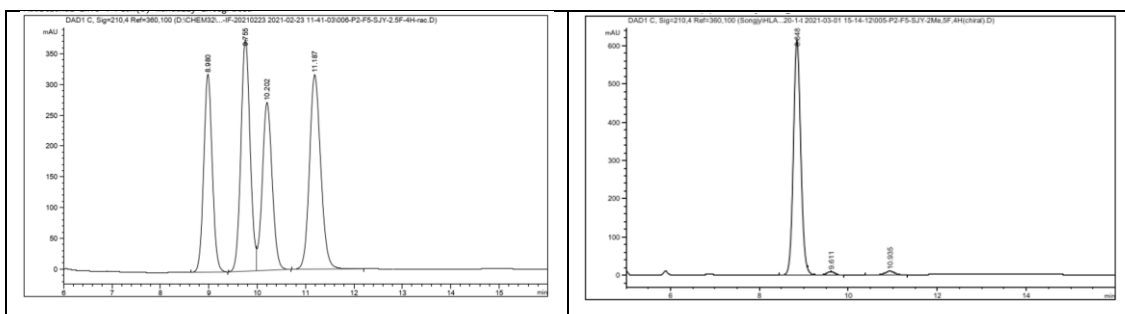


(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(5-fluoro-2-methylphenyl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-diol (**6p**)



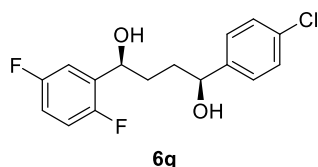
99% yield, 25:1 dr, >99.9% ee. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 4H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (td, *J* = 8.3, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 4.71 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.04 (s, 2H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.00 – 1.86 (m, 2H), 1.78 (q, *J* = 7.0, 6.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.89, 160.47, 145.09, 145.03, 144.50, 131.60, 131.52, 129.51, 129.48, 128.53, 127.63, 125.79, 113.77, 113.57, 112.22, 112.00, 74.66, 70.60, 70.59, 36.01, 34.80, 18.24.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -60.4$ (*c* = 1.00, CHCl₃). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral IF column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 88:12; flow 1.0 mL/min; *t_R* (major) = 8.85 min, *t_R* (minor) = 9.61 min, 10.94 min.



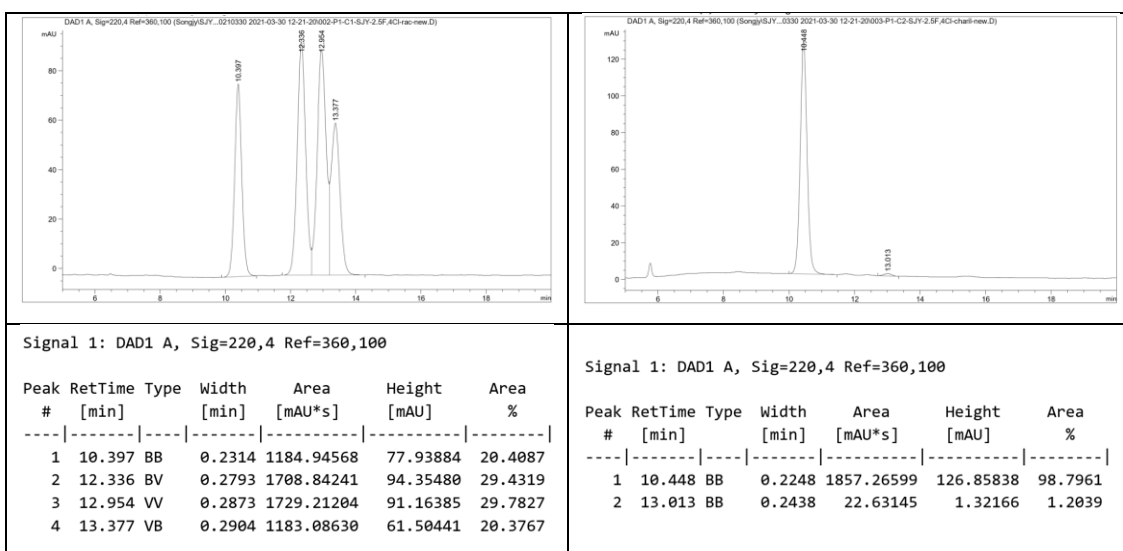
Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=210,4 Ref=360,100							Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=210,4 Ref=360,100						
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %	Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	8.980	BB	0.1912	3946.08789	321.43826	22.0150	1	8.848	BV R	0.1763	7074.02197	614.70929	96.1588
2	9.755	BV	0.2045	4993.86279	377.05154	27.8605	2	9.611	V8 E	0.2172	134.93028	9.19562	1.8341
3	10.202	VB	0.2193	3868.75366	272.99463	21.5836	3	10.935	BB	0.2378	147.65228	9.27228	2.0071
4	11.187	BB	0.2488	5115.82129	316.20224	28.5409							

(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(2,5-difluorophenyl)butane-1,4-diol (6q)

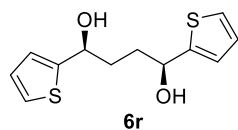


99% yield, 82:1 dr, >99.9% ee. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 – 7.24 (m, 5H), 7.20 (ddd, *J* = 8.9, 5.6, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.02 – 6.88 (m, 2H), 4.99 (s, 1H), 4.70 (s, 1H), 3.46 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 3.09 (s, 1H), 1.95 – 1.81 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.18, 160.15, 157.77, 157.75, 156.48, 154.11, 154.09, 142.83, 133.58, 133.51, 133.42, 133.35, 133.27, 128.64, 127.14, 116.46, 116.37, 116.21, 116.12, 115.16, 115.08, 114.92, 114.83, 113.87, 113.82, 113.62, 113.58, 73.87, 67.83, 35.67, 34.67.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -43.3$ (*c* = 1.00, CHCl₃). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral IA column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 88:12; flow 1.0 mL/min; *t_R* (major) = 10.45 min, *t_R* (minor) = 13.01 min.

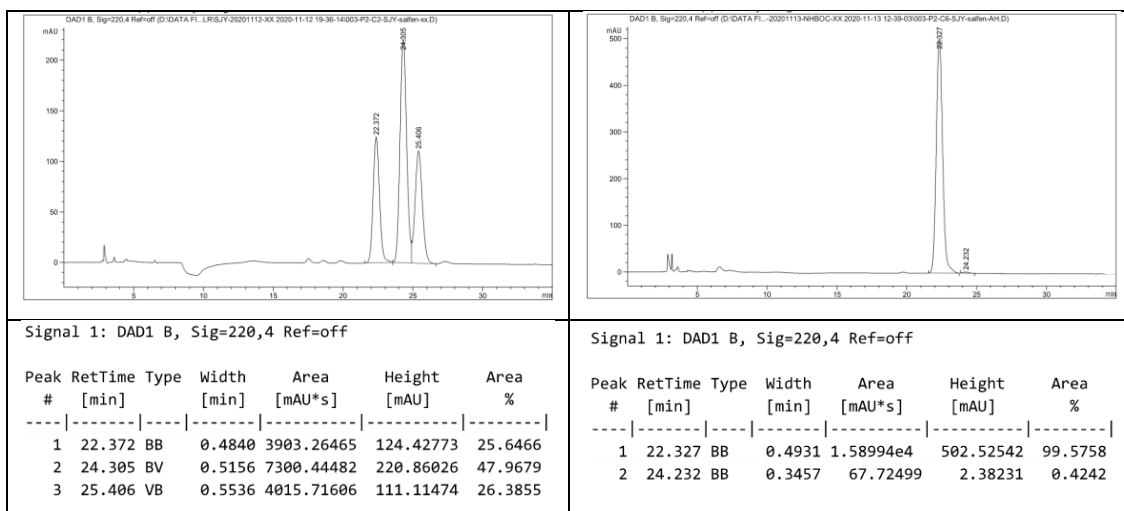


(1*S*,4*S*)-1,4-di(thiophen-2-yl)butane-1,4-diol (**6r**)

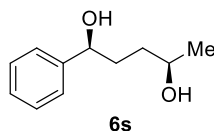


99% yield, >100:1 dr, >99.9% ee. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 6.48 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.11 – 5.98 (m, 4H), 4.67 (d, $J = 4.7$ Hz, 2H), 3.90 (q, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 2H), 0.98 – 0.72 (m, 4H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 156.03, 131.63, 129.11, 127.96, 73.41, 40.93.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -18.1$ ($c = 1.00$, CHCl_3). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AD-H column, 220 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 22.33 min, t_R (minor) = 24.23 min.

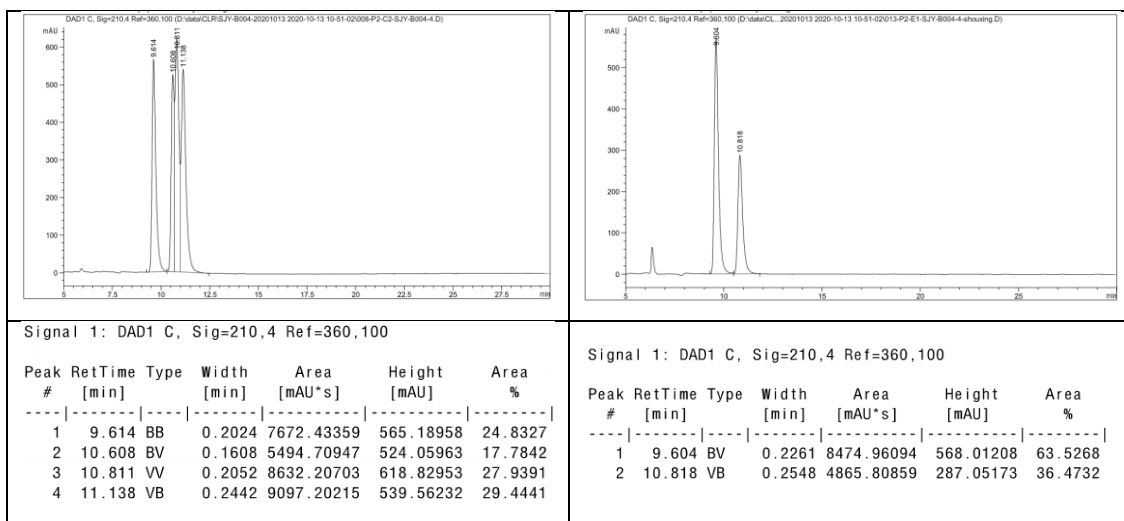


(1*S*,4*R*)-1-phenylpentane-1,4-diol (**6s**)

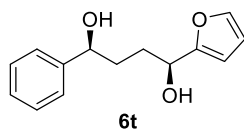


99% yield, 7:4 dr, >99.9% ee. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.37 – 7.20 (m, 5H), 4.71 – 4.58 (m, 1H), 3.78 (dq, $J = 24.2, 6.1$ Hz, 1H), 1.87 – 1.74 (m, 2H), 1.59 – 1.39 (m, 2H), 1.19 – 1.09 (m, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 144.93, 144.75, 128.39, 127.39, 127.35, 125.86, 125.83, 74.66, 74.13, 68.22, 67.73, 36.19, 36.00, 35.06, 34.94, 23.62, 23.32.

Optical Rotation: The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AD-3 column, 210 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 9.60 min, t_R (minor) = 10.82 min.

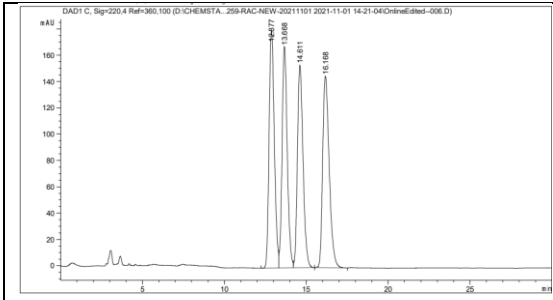


(1*S*,4*S*)-1-(furan-2-yl)-4-phenylbutane-1,4-diol (6t)



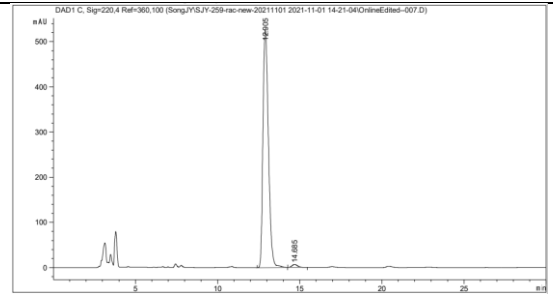
99% yield, 75:1 dr, >99.9% ee. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 5H), 7.27 (q, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 6.34 – 6.29 (m, 1H), 6.21 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (dt, J = 8.0, 5.1 Hz, 2H), 2.58 (d, J = 113.7 Hz, 2H), 2.01 – 1.91 (m, 3H), 1.87 – 1.80 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.61, 144.49, 141.91, 128.52, 127.63, 125.82, 110.16, 105.80, 74.45, 67.87, 35.41, 32.25.

Optical Rotation: The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AS-3 column, 220 nm, 25 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 12.91 min, t_R (minor) = 14.69 min.



Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=220,4 Ref=360,100

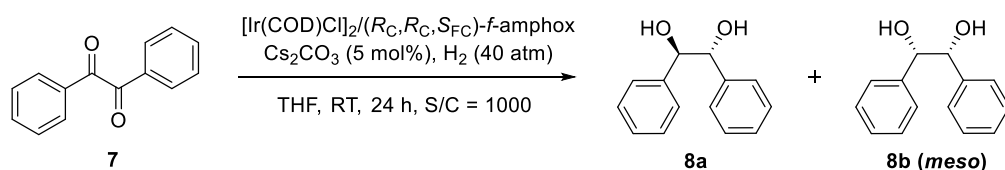
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	12.877	BV	0.3478	4011.55737	180.17473	26.0225
2	13.668	VV	0.3406	3694.20044	167.93747	23.9638
3	14.611	VB	0.3698	3668.17603	154.03580	23.7950
4	16.168	BB	0.4318	4041.80957	145.61195	26.2187



Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=220,4 Ref=360,100

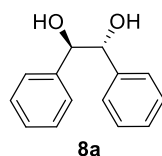
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	12.905	BB	0.3640	1.21743e4	526.04846	98.7458
2	14.685	BB	0.3579	154.63133	6.53953	1.2542

4. General procedure for asymmetric hydrogenation of benzil (7)



To a 4.0 mL vial was added the catalyst precursor [Ir(COD)Cl]₂ (6.72 mg, 1.0×10⁻² mmol), ligand (R_C,R_C,S_{FC})-f-amphox (12.2 mg, 2.2×10⁻² mmol) and anhydrous THF (2.0 mL) in the argon-filled glovebox. The mixture was stirred for 2.0 h at 25 °C giving orange red solution. And then benzil **7** (0.1 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (1.63 mg, 0.005 mmol), and anhydrous THF (1.0 mL) were added into a 5 mL hydrogenation vessel, and a solution of Ir/(R_C,R_C,S_{FC})-f-amphox in anhydrous THF (10 μL) was added *via* an injection port. Then the vessel was placed in an autoclave, closed it and moved it out from glovebox. The autoclave quickly purged with hydrogen gas for three times, then pressurized to 40 atm H₂. The reaction solution was stirred at room temperature (25 °C - 30 °C) until for 24 h, then released pressure carefully. The product was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with ethyl acetate.

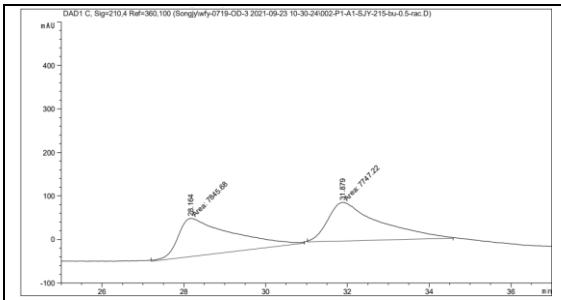
(1R,2R)-1,2-diphenylethane-1,2-diol (**8a**)



99% yield, 7:3 dr, >99.9% ee. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 5H), 7.10 (s, 2H), 4.80 (s, 1H), 4.67 (s, 1H), 3.10 (s, 1H), 2.44 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.77, 128.21, 128.13, 128.08, 127.93, 127.13, 127.02, 79.02, 78.06.

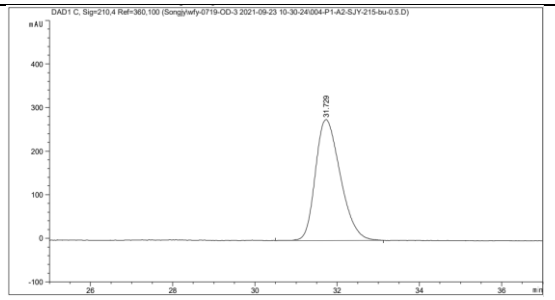
Optical Rotation: The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral OJ-H column, 210 nm, 25 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 0.5 mL/min; t_R (major) = 31.73 min. The absolute configuration was assigned by comparing with literature data.^[2]

[2] T. Touge, T. Hakamata, H. Nara, T. Kobayashi, N. Sayo, T. Saito, Y. Kayaki, and T. Ikariya, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2011, **133** (38), 14960-14963.



Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=210,4 Ref=360,100

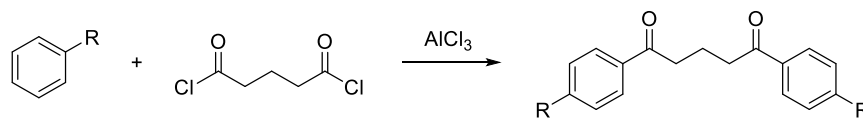
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	28.164	MM	1.4919	7845.67871	87.64993	50.3157
2	31.879	MM	1.4505	7747.21582	89.01520	49.6843



Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=210,4 Ref=360,100

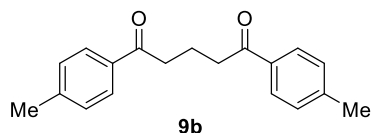
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	31.729	VB R	0.6045	1.16715e4	277.58972	100.0000

5. General procedure for synthesis of 1,5-diketones (9)



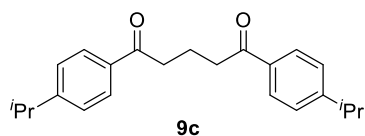
Aluminum chloride (1.33 g, 10 mmol) was added to the solution of glutaryl chloride (845 mg) in benzene (10 mL) at room temperature. The solution was stirred for 4 h at 25 °C. After completion of the reaction, add saturated ammonium chloride solution to the solution. Extracted with ethyl acetate, organic layer was dried over sodium sulphate and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel.

1,5-di-*p*-tolylpentane-1,5-dione (9b)



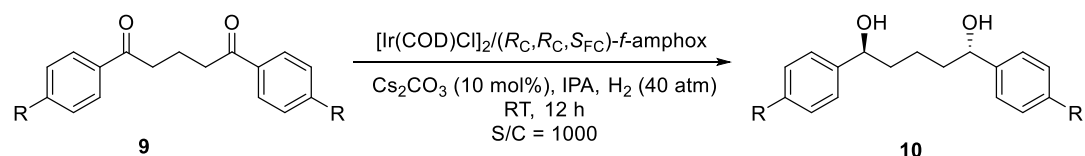
65% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 4H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 3.08 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 4H), 2.40 (s, 6H), 2.18 (p, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.61, 143.82, 134.43, 129.28, 128.22, 37.57, 21.64, 18.95.

1,5-bis(4-isopropylphenyl)pentane-1,5-dione (9c)



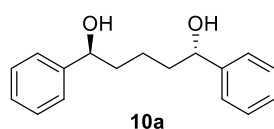
49% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.9 Hz, 4H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 3.08 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 4H), 2.96 (p, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.18 (p, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.26 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 12H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.63, 154.55, 134.78, 128.36, 126.68, 37.59, 34.26, 23.69, 19.00.

6. General procedure for asymmetric hydrogenation of 1,5-diketones



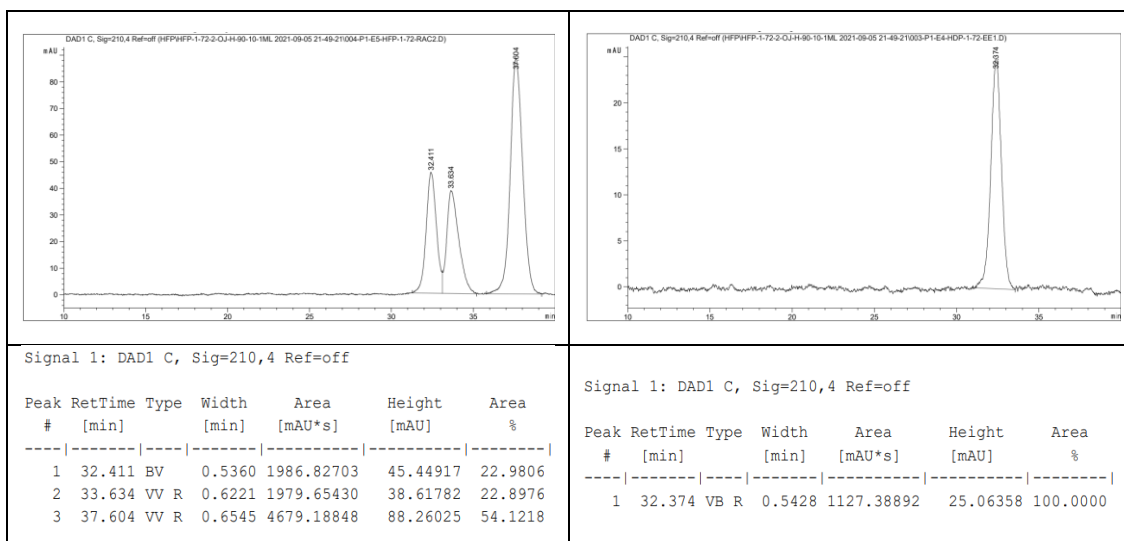
To a 4.0 mL vial was added the catalyst precursor $[\text{Ir}(\text{COD})\text{Cl}]_2$ (6.72 mg, 1.0×10^{-2} mmol), ligand $(R_C, R_C, S_{FC})\text{-f-amphox}$ (12.2 mg, 2.2×10^{-2} mmol) and anhydrous IPA (2.0 mL) in the argon-filled glovebox. The mixture was stirred for 2.0 h at 25 °C giving orange red solution. And then 1,5-diketone **9** (0.1 mmol), Cs_2CO_3 (3.25 mg, 0.01 mmol) were added into a 5 mL hydrogenation vessel. 1.0 mL anhydrous IPA was added as solvent and a solution of $\text{Ir}/(R_C, R_C, S_{FC})\text{-f-amphox}$ in anhydrous IPA (10 μL) was added via an injection port. Then the vessel was placed in an autoclave, closed it and moved it out from glovebox. The autoclave quickly purged with hydrogen gas for three times, then pressurized to 40 atm H_2 . The reaction solution was stirred at room temperature (25 °C - 30 °C) until for 12 h, then released pressure carefully. The solution of reaction mixture was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with ethyl acetate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The ee value was determined by chiral HPLC analysis of the hydrogenation product chiral diol directly. The absolute configurations of 1,5-diol were assigned by analogy.

(1*S*,5*S*)-1,5-diphenylpentane-1,5-diol (**10a**)

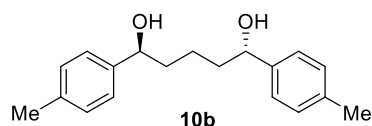


99% yield, >100:1 dr, >99.9% ee. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.36 – 7.29 (m, 8H), 7.29 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 4.66 (ddd, $J = 8.2, 5.3, 3.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.01 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.88 – 1.79 (m, 2H), 1.76 – 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.48 (p, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 144.78, 128.49, 127.57, 125.84, 74.46, 38.82, 22.29.

Optical Rotation: The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral OJ-H column, 210 nm, 25 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 32.37 min.

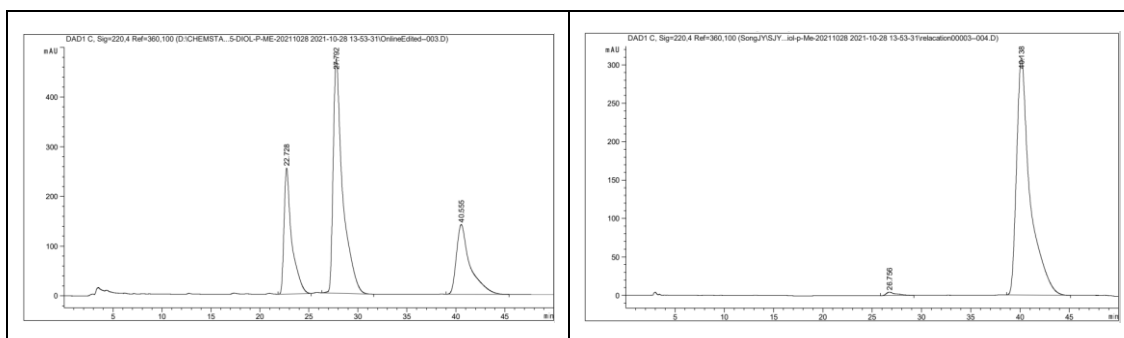


(1*S*,5*S*)-1,5- di-*p*-tolylpentane-1,5-diol (10b)



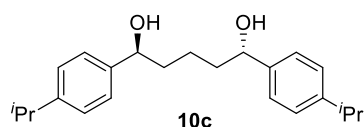
99% yield, 92:1 dr, >99.9% ee. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 4H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 4H), 4.63 – 4.57 (m, 2H), 2.34 (s, 6H), 2.13 (s, 2H), 1.81 (dq, *J* = 15.3, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.69 (td, *J* = 13.5, 7.9 Hz, 2H), 1.45 (p, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.89, 137.17, 129.14, 125.82, 74.23, 38.78, 22.38, 21.13.

Optical Rotation: The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral AD-3 column, 220 nm, 25 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 40.14 min, t_R (minor) = 26.76 min.



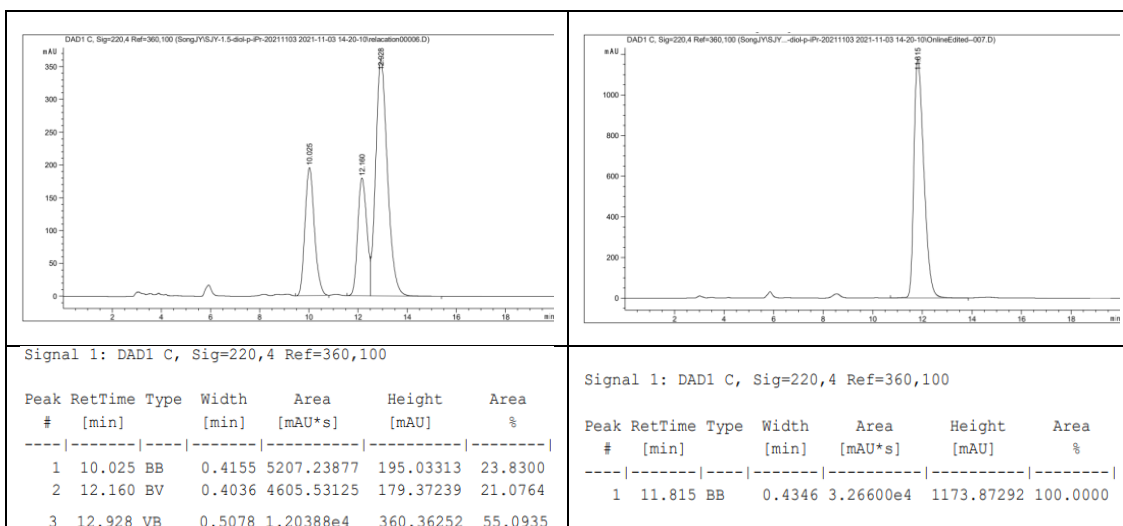
Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=220,4 Ref=360,100						Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=220,4 Ref=360,100							
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %	Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	22.728	BB	0.7805	1.37752e4	253.30539	23.3546	1	26.756	BB	0.8332	318.14532	4.59847	1.0747
2	27.792	BB	0.9635	3.17318e4	471.27997	53.7984	2	40.138	BB	1.3651	2.92854e4	308.60568	98.9253
3	40.555	BB	1.3874	1.34757e4	140.20245	22.8469							

(1*S*,5*S*)-1,5-bis(4-isopropylphenyl)pentane-1,5-diol (**10c**)

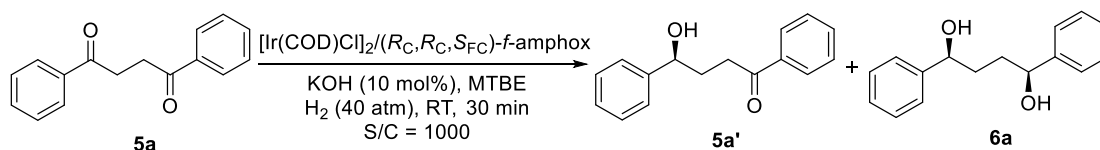


99% yield, >100:1 dr, >99.9% ee. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.24 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 4H), 4.62 (dd, J = 8.0, 5.3 Hz, 2H), 2.90 (p, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.13 (s, 2H), 1.83 (dq, J = 15.1, 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.71 (td, J = 13.4, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.49 (p, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.25 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 12H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.15, 141.20, 125.46, 124.82, 73.23, 37.67, 32.77, 22.98, 21.42.

Optical Rotation: The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral OD-3 column, 220 nm, 25 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10; flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 11.82 min.



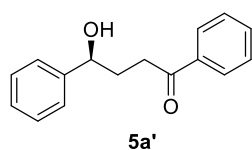
7. Mechanistic investigation



To a 4.0 mL vial was added the catalyst precursor $[\text{Ir}(\text{COD})\text{Cl}]_2$ (6.72 mg, 1.0×10^{-2} mmol), ligand $(\text{R}_C,\text{R}_C,\text{S}_{\text{FC}})\text{-f-amphox}$ (12.2 mg, 2.2×10^{-2} mmol) and anhydrous toluene (2.0 mL) in the argon-filled glovebox. The mixture was stirred for 2 h at 25 °C giving orange red solution. And then 0.1 mmol of 1,4-diphenylbutane-1,4-dione (**5a**), KOH (0.56 mg, 0.01 mmol) were added into a 5 mL hydrogenation vessel. 1.0 mL anhydrous MTBE was added as solvent and a solution of $\text{Ir}/(\text{R}_C,\text{R}_C,\text{S}_{\text{FC}})\text{-f-amphox}$ in anhydrous toluene (10 μL) was added *via* an injection port. Then the vessel was placed in an autoclave, closed it and moved it out from glovebox. The autoclave quickly purged with hydrogen gas for three times, then pressurized to 40 atm H_2 . The reaction solution was stirred at room temperature for 30 min, then released pressure carefully.

The reaction mixture was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with ethyl acetate. The mono-reduced product (S)-4-hydroxy-1,4-diphenylbutan-1-one (**5a'**) could be obtained in 6.7% yield with 99% ee, and only a trace amount of **6a** was detected.

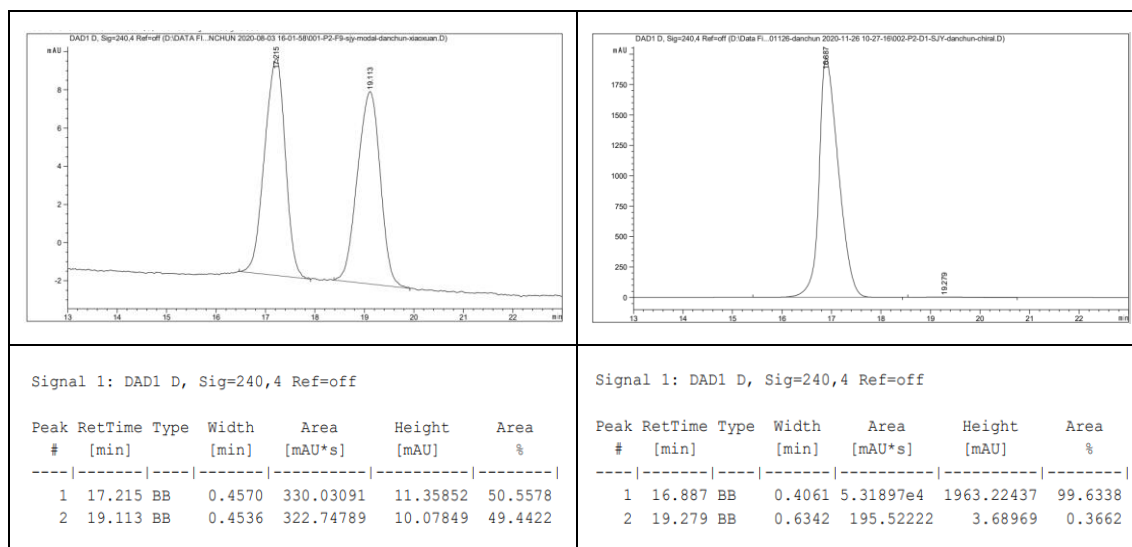
(S)-4-hydroxy-1,4-diphenylbutan-1-one (**5a'**)



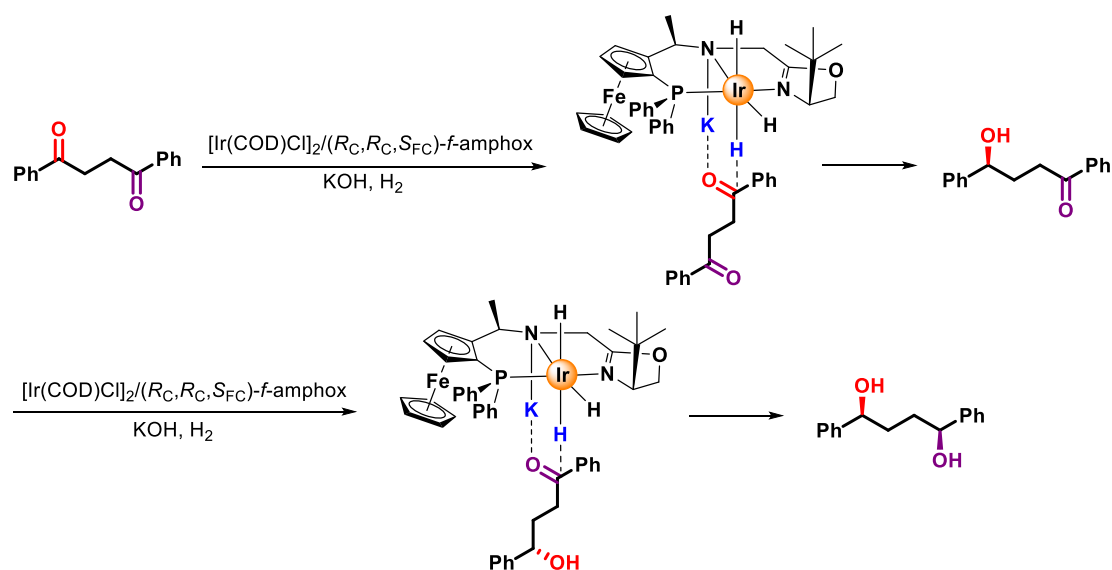
6.7% yield, 99% ee. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.94 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.58 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.45 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.40 – 7.33 (m, 4H), 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 4.83 (dd, $J = 7.4, 5.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.11 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.50 (s, 1H), 2.26 – 2.16 (m, 2H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 200.59, 144.37, 136.85, 133.16, 128.61, 128.54, 128.12, 127.61, 125.78, 73.63, 34.79, 33.08.

Optical Rotation: $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{22} = -23.8$ ($c = 1.00$, CHCl_3). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral OJ-H column, 240 nm, 30 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 90:10;

flow 1.0 mL/min; t_R (major) = 16.89 min, t_R (minor) = 19.28 min. The absolute configuration of 1,4-diphenylbutane-1,4-diol **5a'** was assigned to be (*S*) by comparing the optical rotation with literature data.^[3]

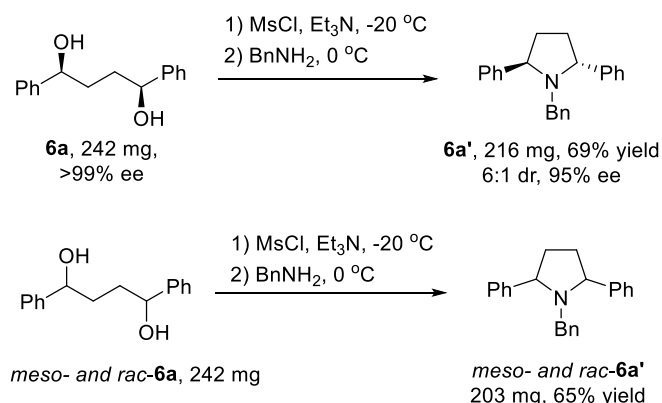


The isolation of the intermediate revealed the nature of this stepwise transformation from 1,4-diketones to 1,4-diols.



[3] Y. Xia, L. Lin, F. Chang, X. Fu, X. Liu and X. Feng, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2015, **54**, 13748-13752.

8. Synthesis of (2*R*,5*R*)-1-benzyl-2,5-diphenylpyrrolidine (**6a'**)



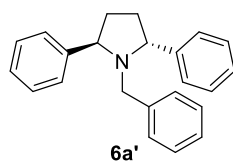
(2*R*,5*R*)-1-benzyl-2,5-diphenylpyrrolidine (**6a'**) was prepared as described in literature.^[4] To the solution of methanesulfonyl chloride (0.2 mL, 2.6 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) at -20 °C was added a solution of (1*S*,4*S*)-1,4-diphenylbutane-1,4-diol (**6a**, 242 mg, 1.0 mmol, >99% ee) and Et₃N (0.42 mL, 3.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at -20 °C, then quenched with aq. sat. NH₄Cl (2 mL) and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated to approximately 5 mL under reduced pressure, and immediately used for the next reaction without further purification.

Benzylamine (2 mL, 20 mmol) was added at 0 °C to the solution obtained in the previous step and the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 12 h. Then, the mixture was extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel.

Using the similar procedure, the corresponding racemic sample could be obtained. Unfortunately, after repeated purification, *rac*-**6a'** still could not be completely separated from *meso*-**6a'**.

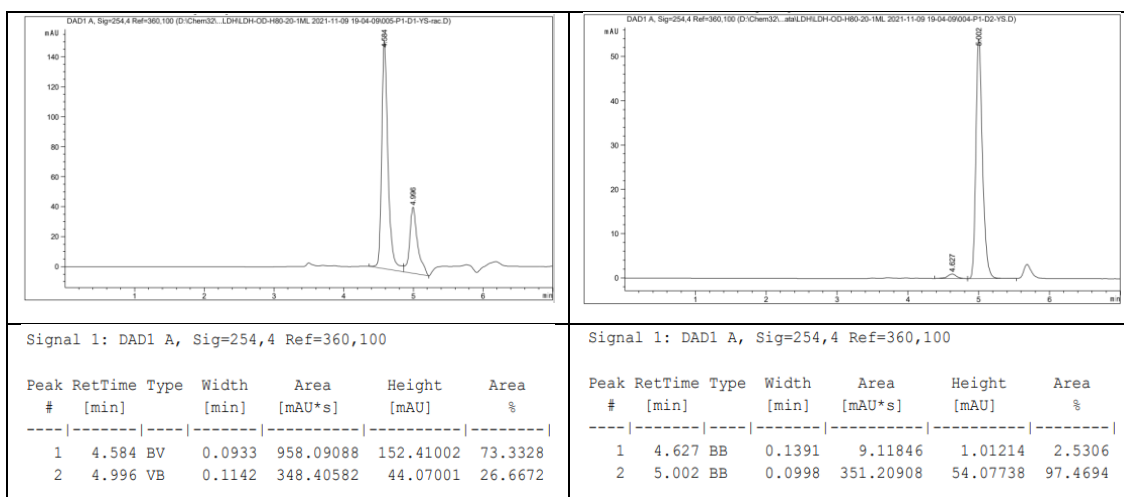
[4] M. Periasamy, M. Seenivasaperumal and V. D. Rao, *Synthesis*, 2003, **16**, 2507-2510.

(2*R*,5*R*)-1-benzyl-2,5-diphenylpyrrolidine (6a')

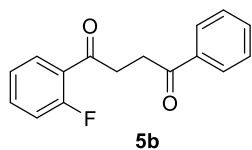


69% yield, 6:1 dr, 95% ee. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 9H), 7.25 – 7.16 (m, 4H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.27 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 3.57 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 3.08 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 1H), 2.63 – 2.48 (m, 2H), 2.04 – 1.91 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.86, 139.06, 127.26, 127.13, 127.05, 126.84, 125.84, 125.28, 64.16, 49.91, 32.20.

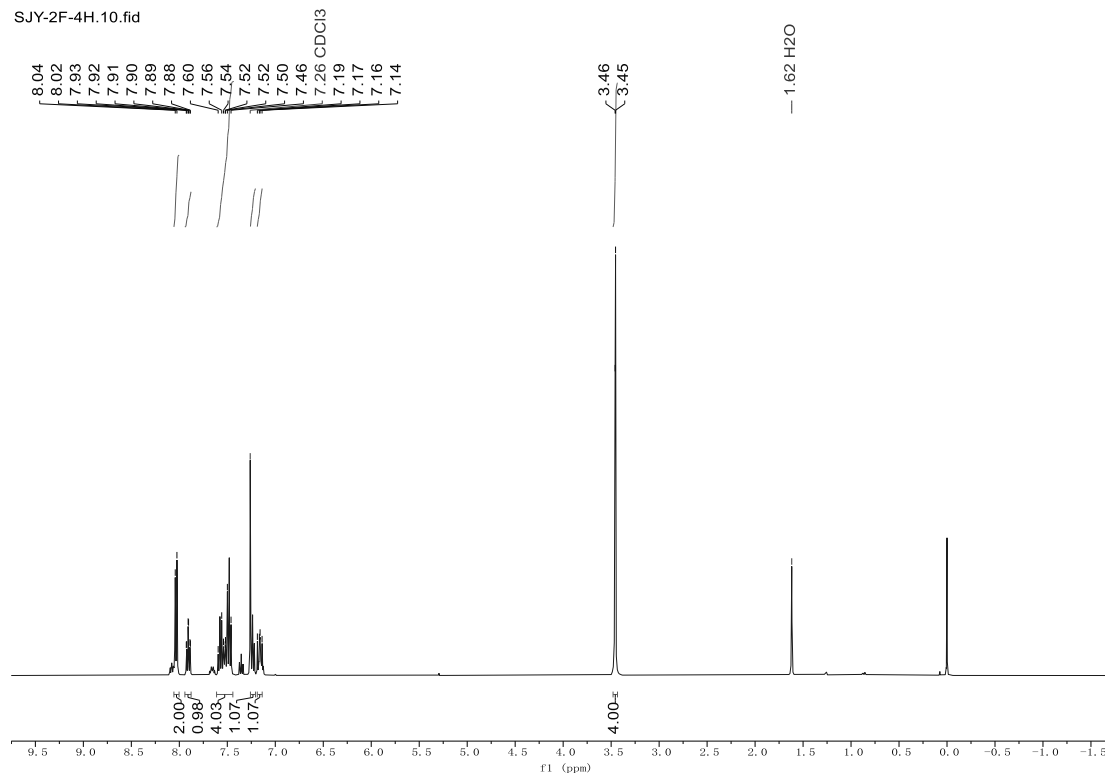
Optical Rotation: The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Chiral OD-H column, 254 nm, 25 °C, n-hexane: i-PrOH = 98:2; flow 0.8 mL/min; t_R (major) = 5.00 min, t_R (minor) = 4.63 min.



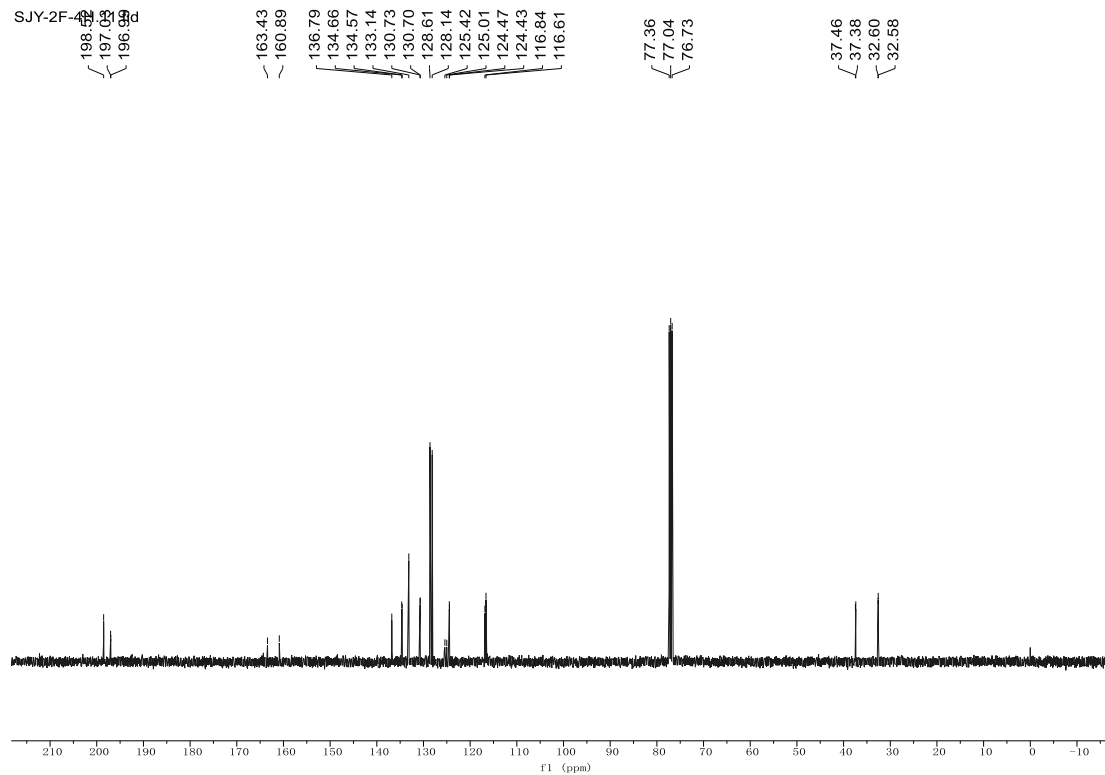
9. NMR Spectra

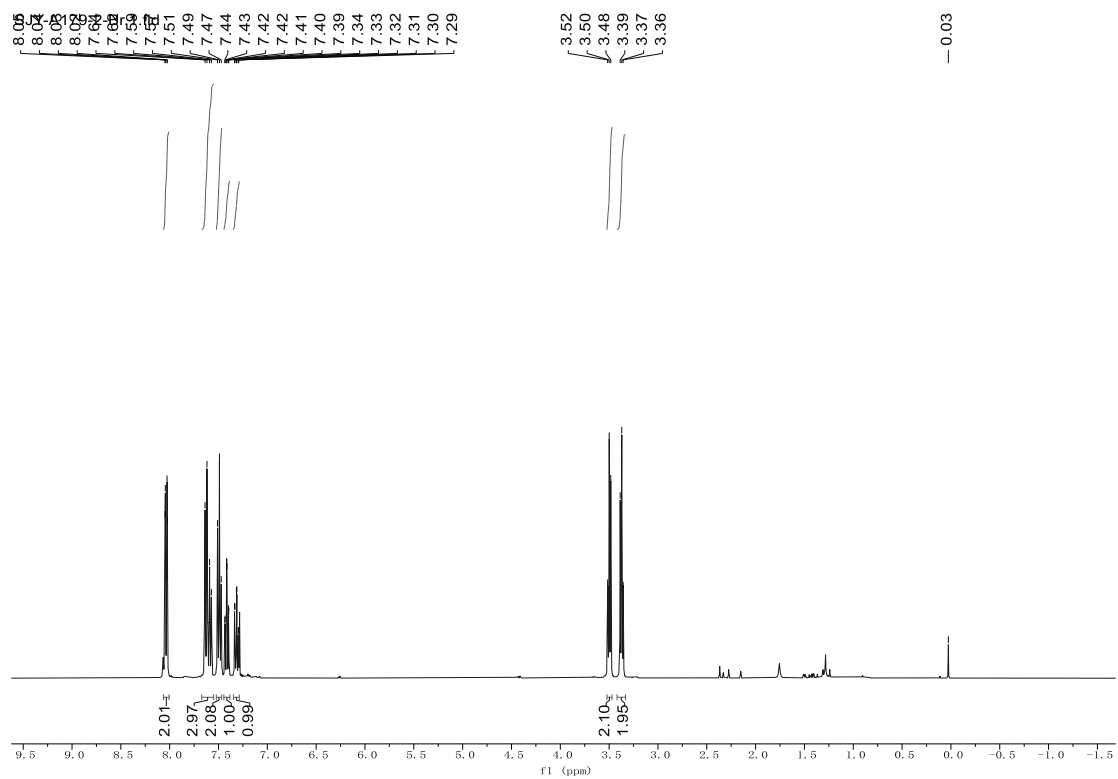
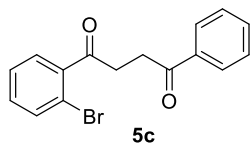


SJY-2F-4H.10.fid

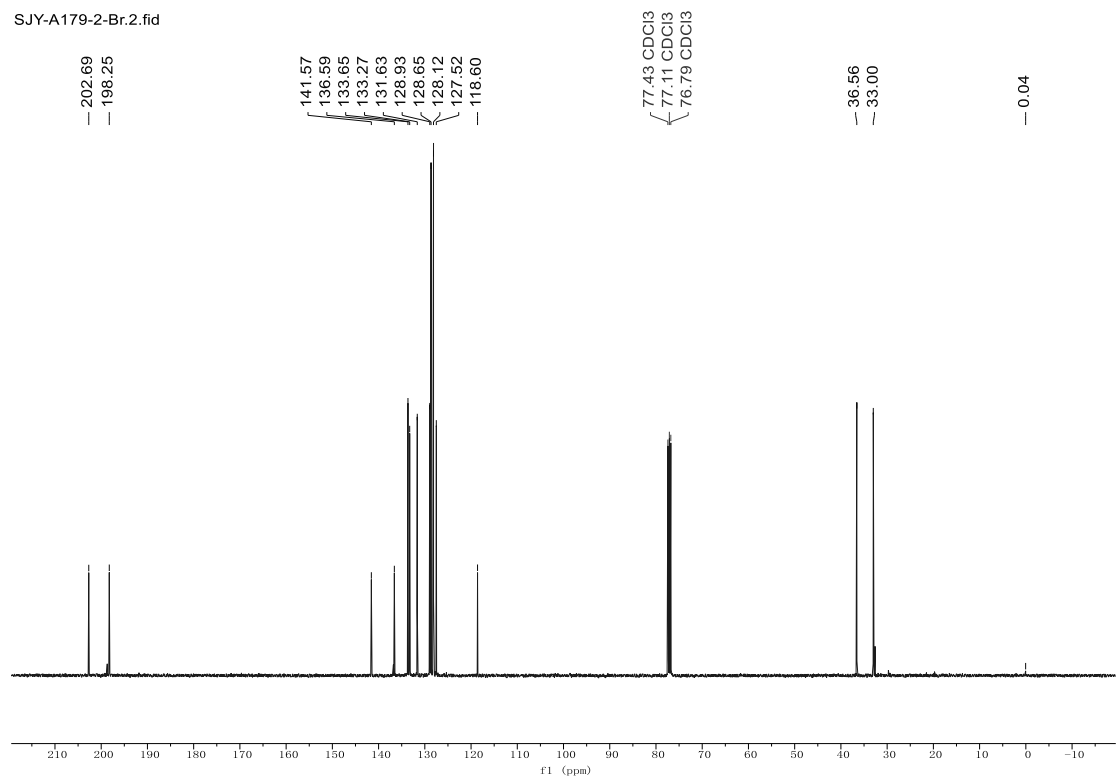


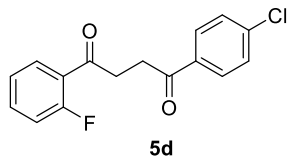
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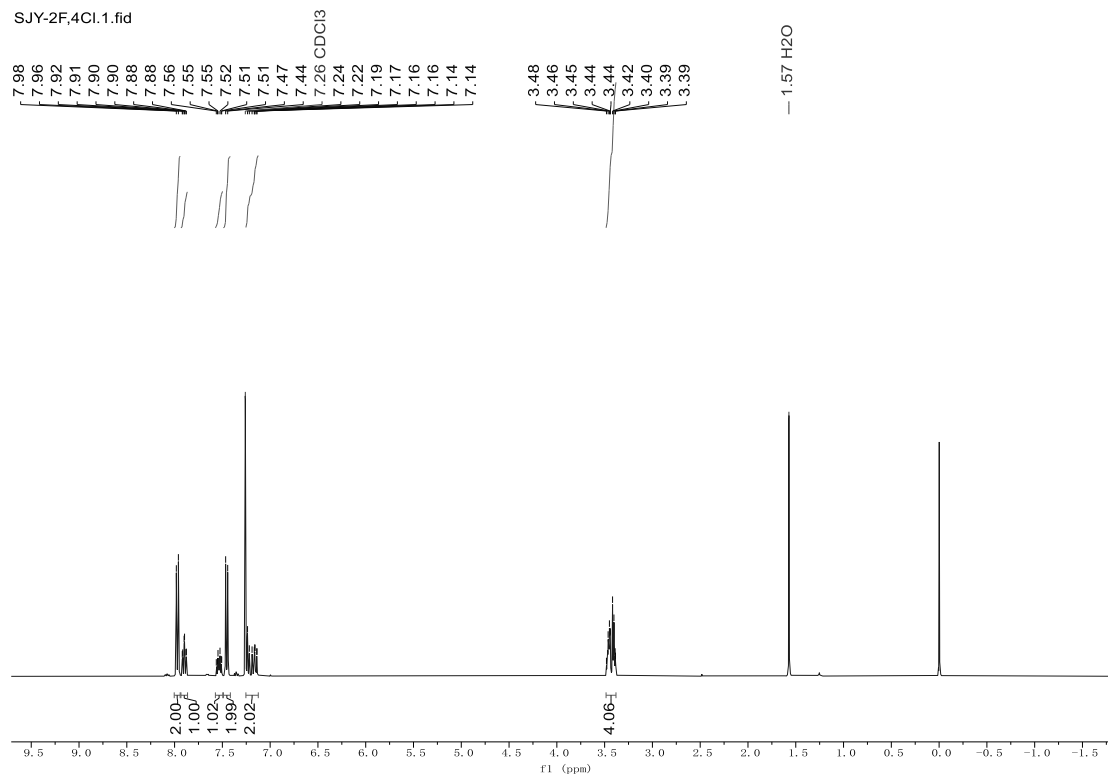


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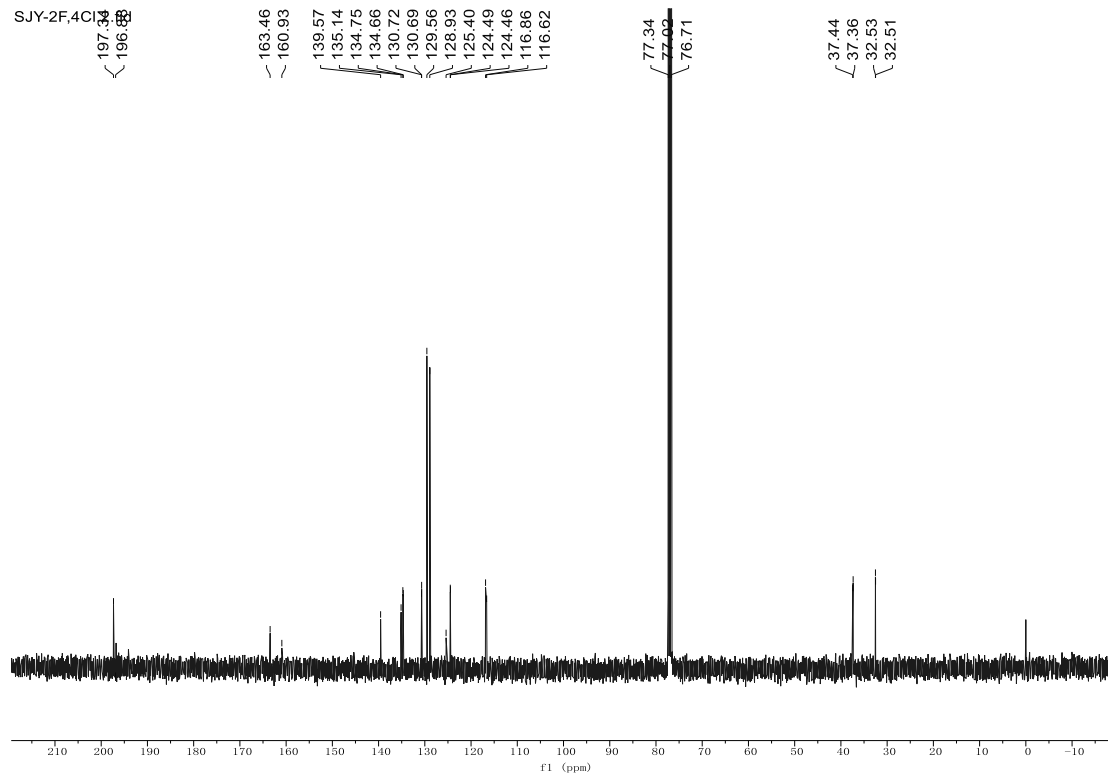


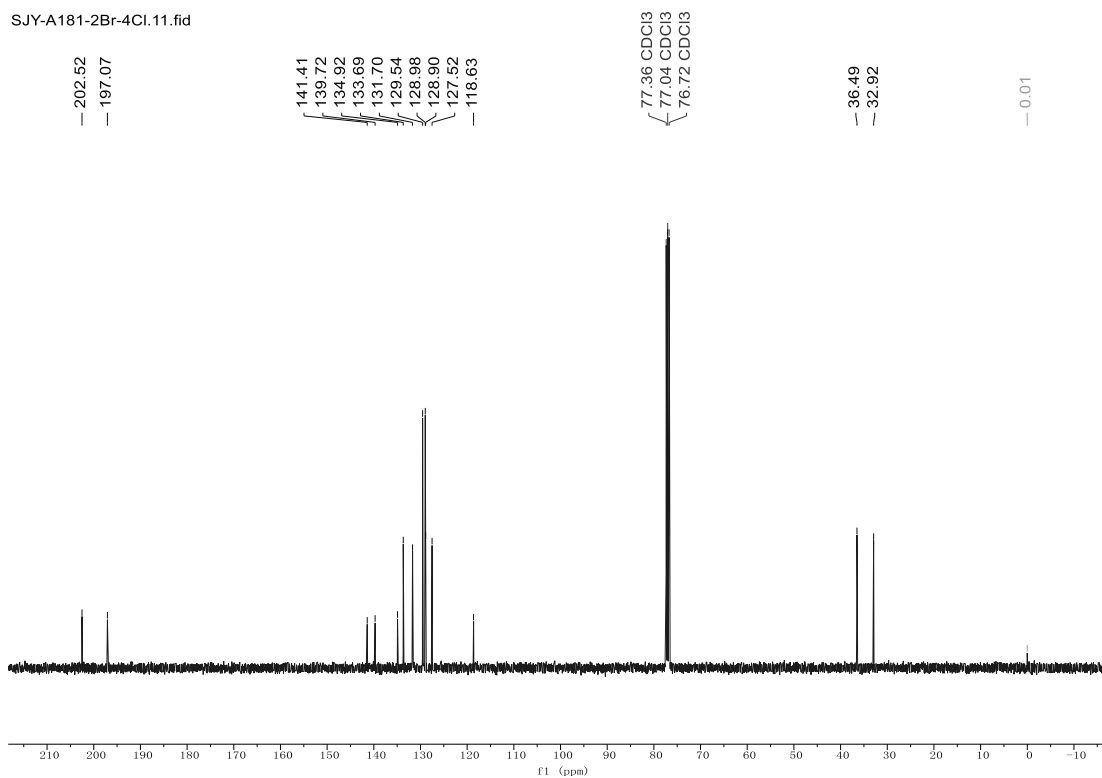
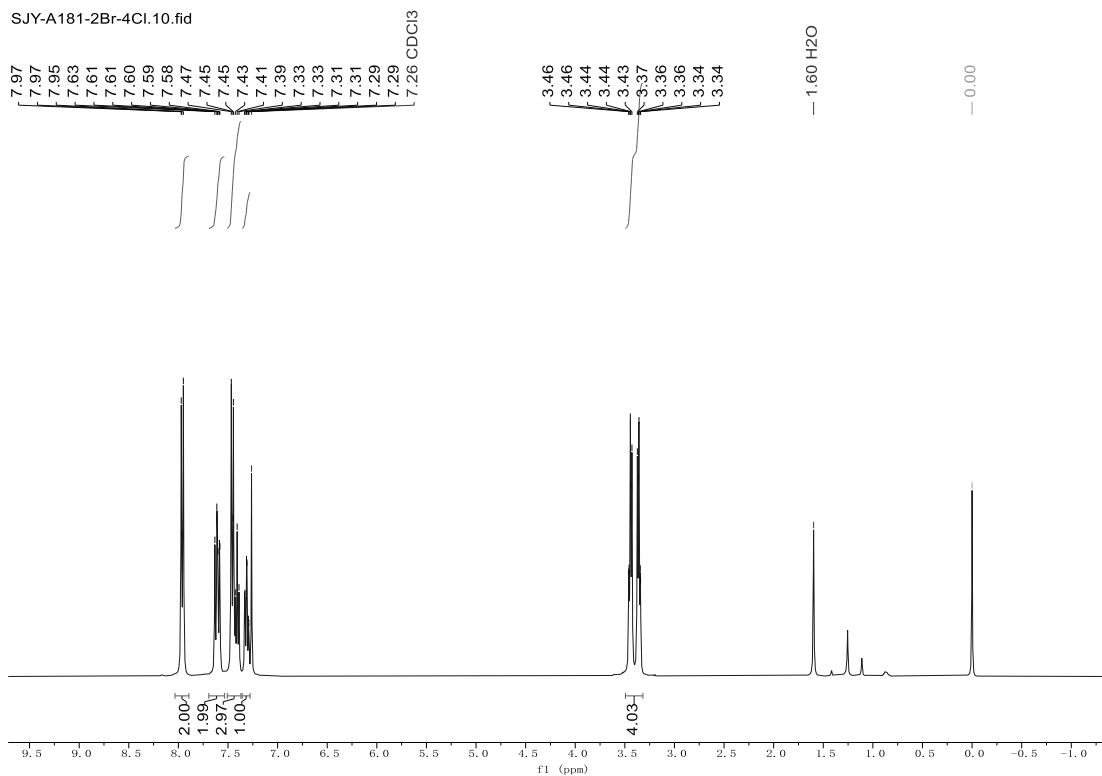
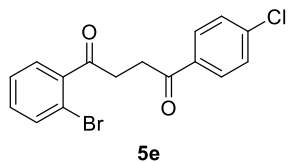


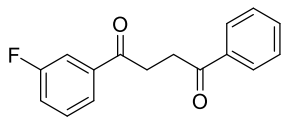
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SJY-2F,4Cl.1

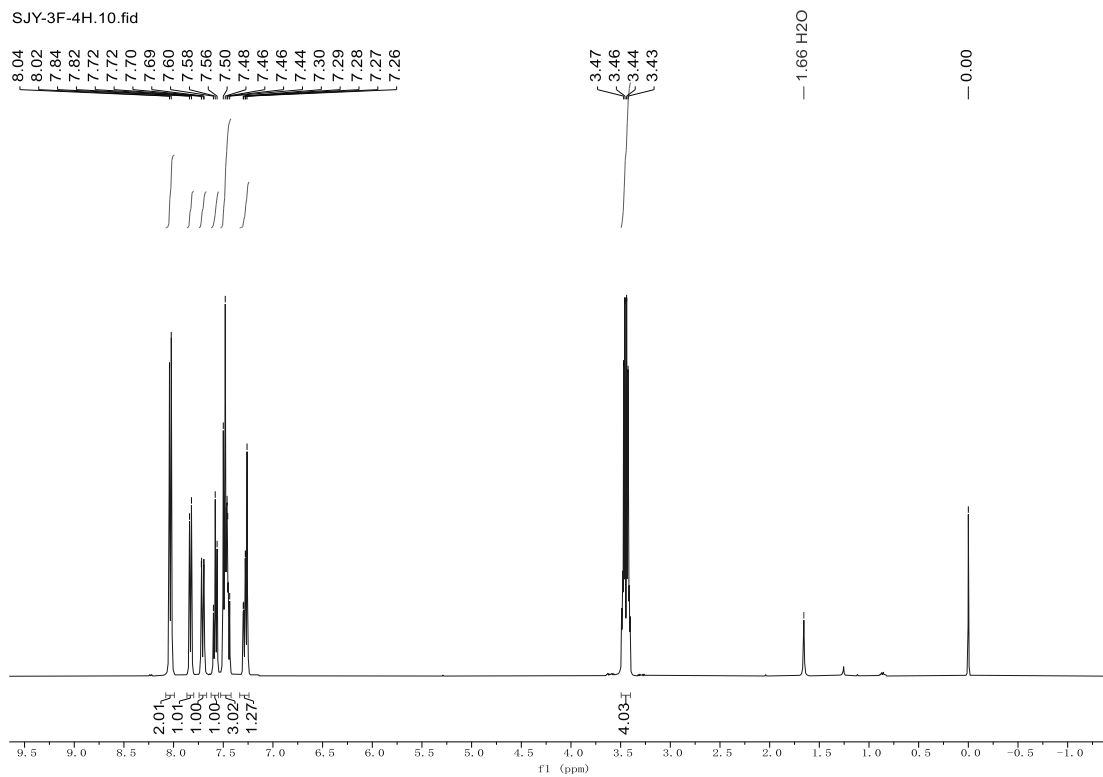




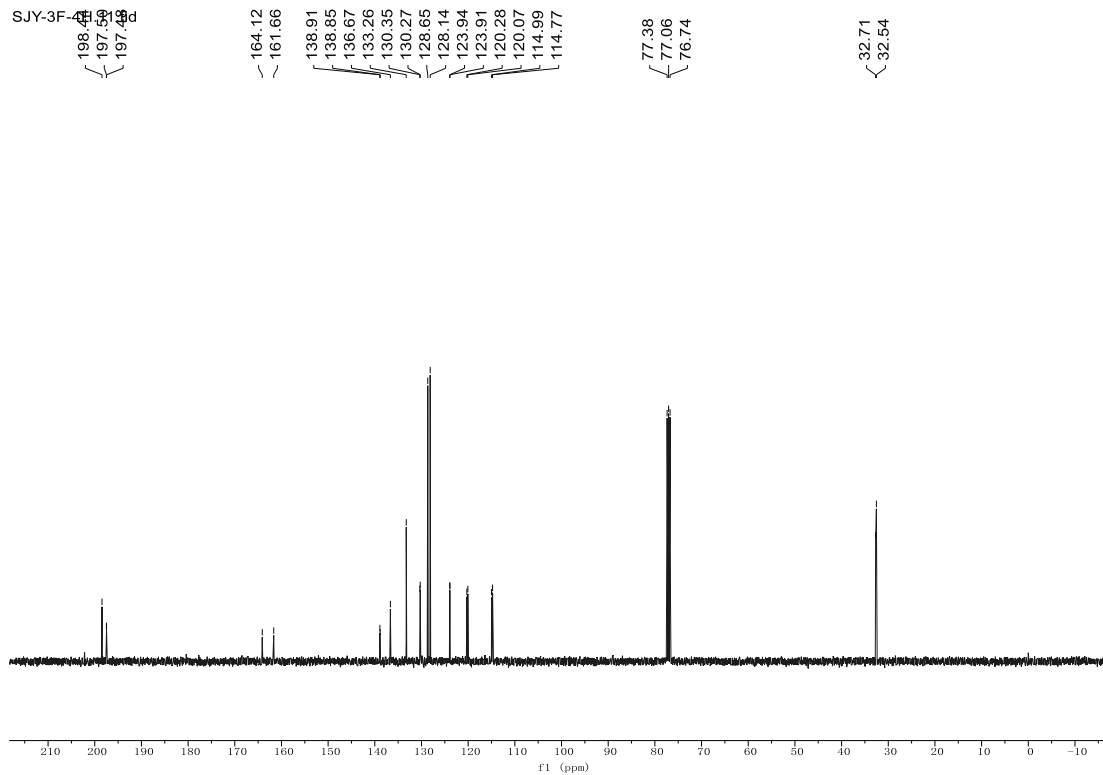


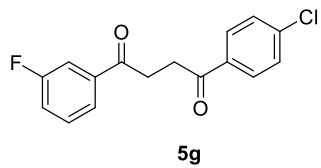
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SJY-3F-4H.10.fid

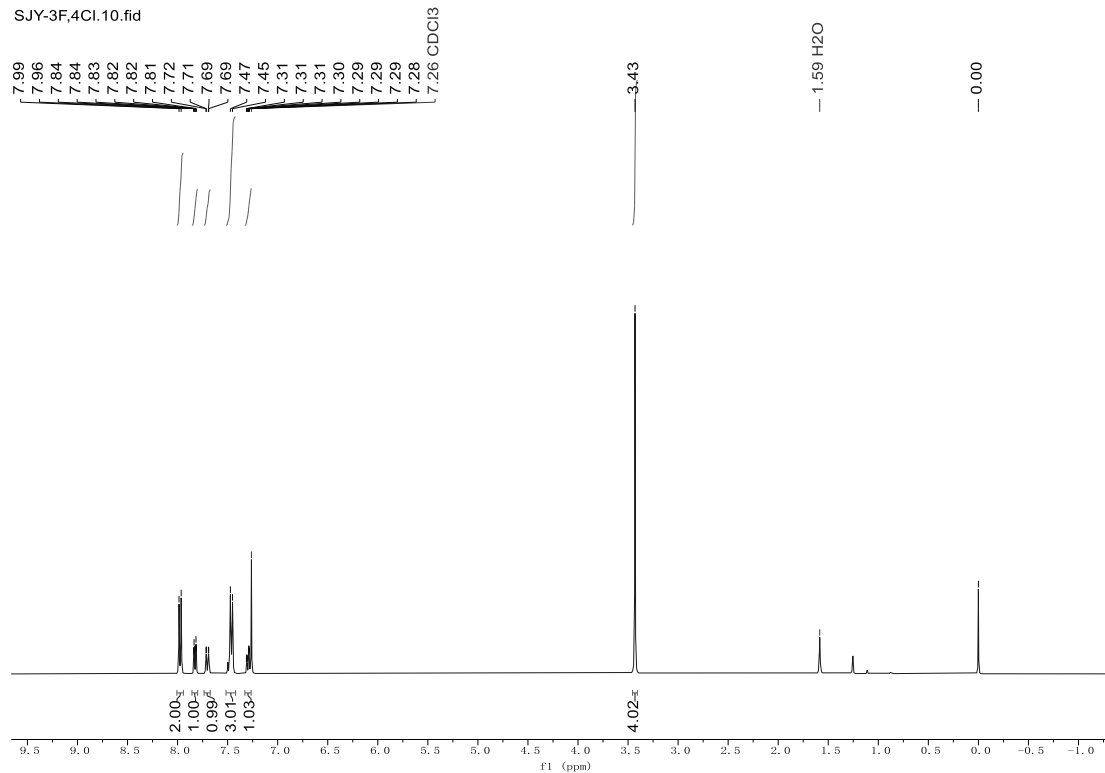


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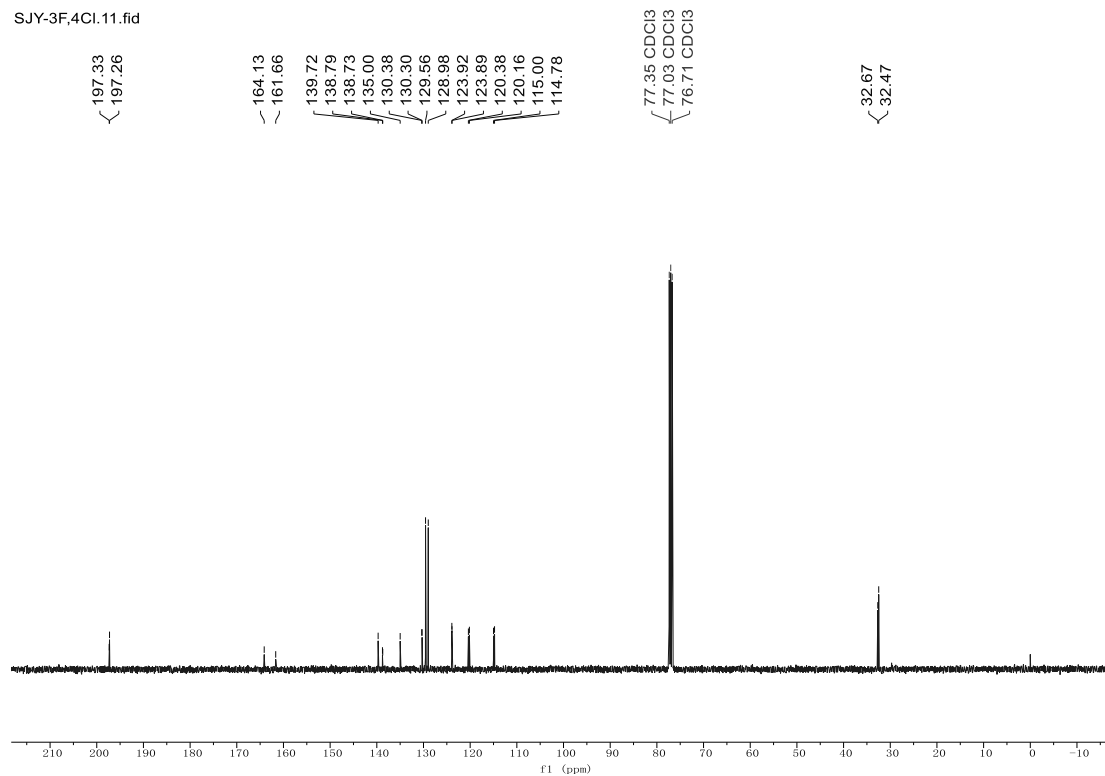


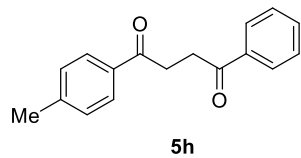


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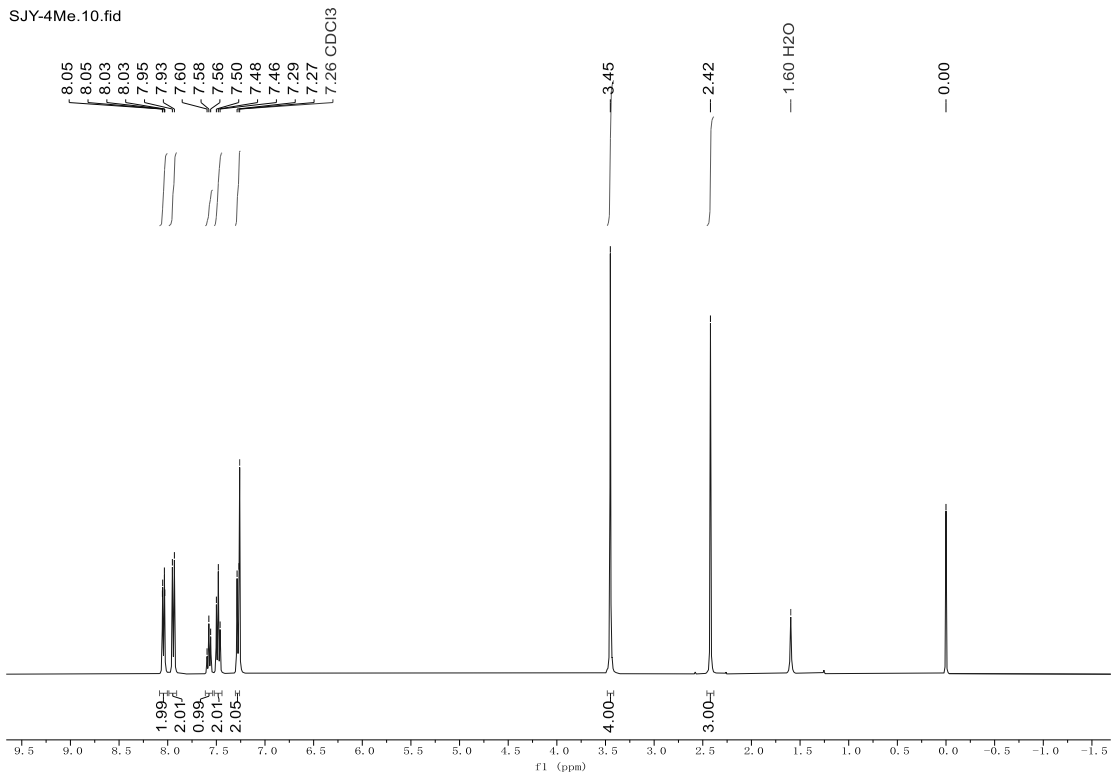


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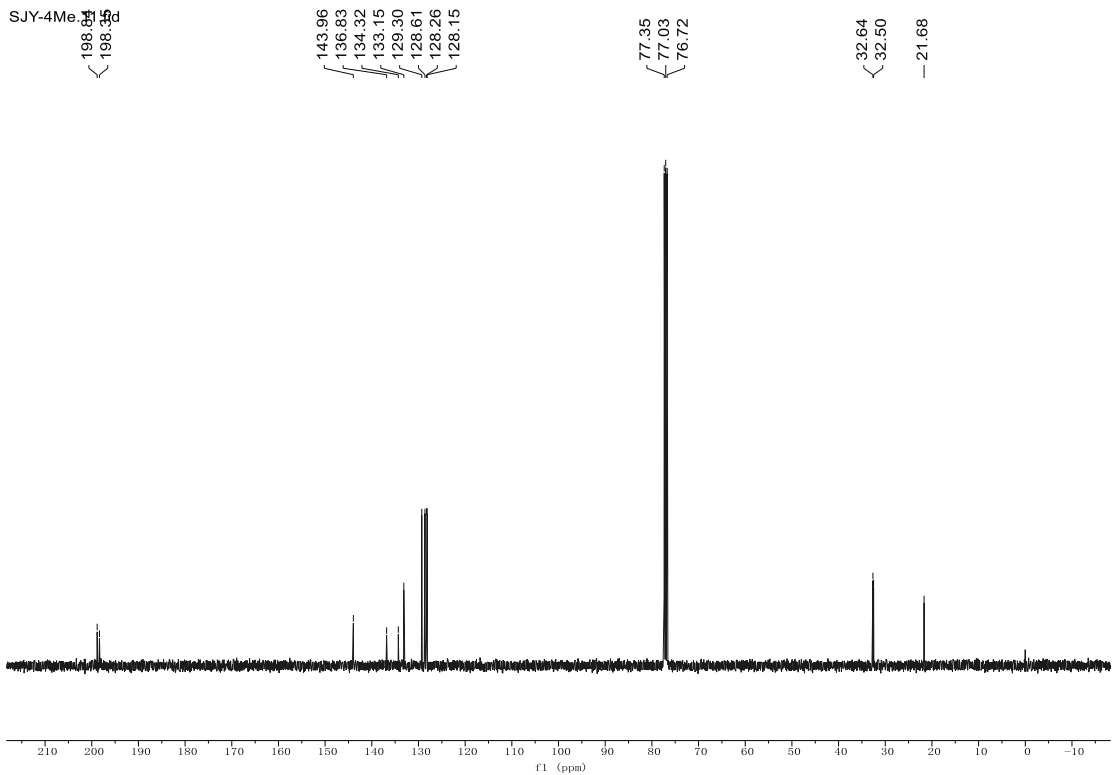


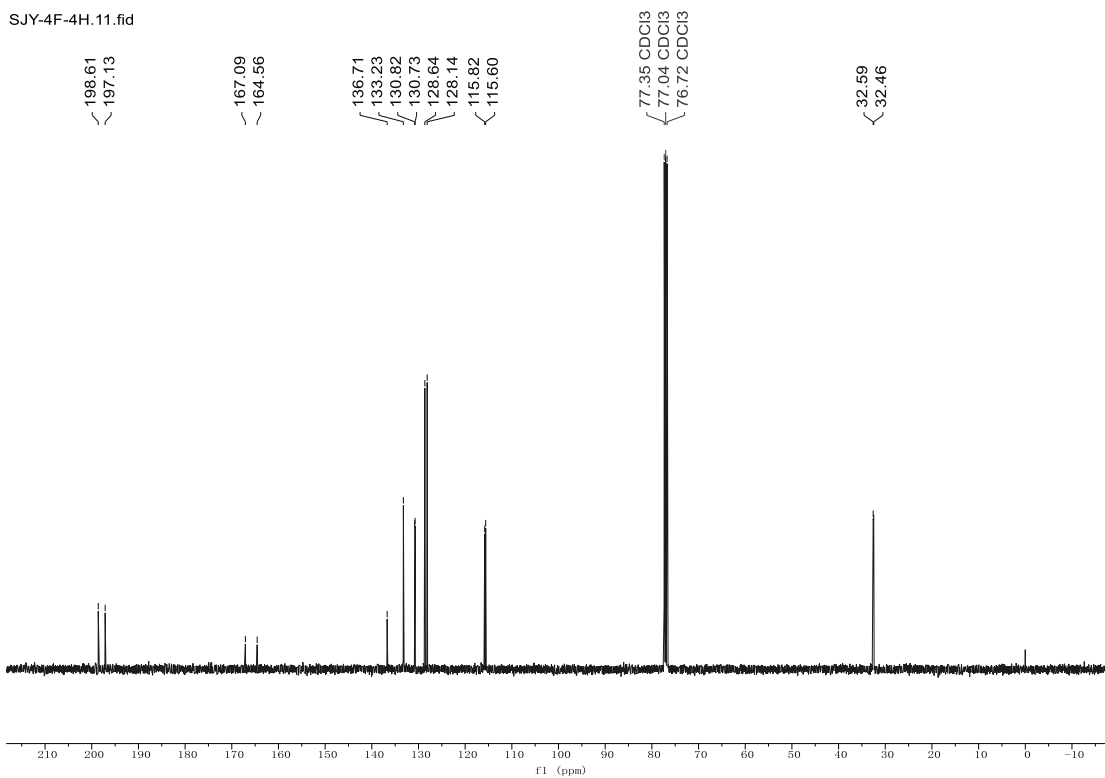
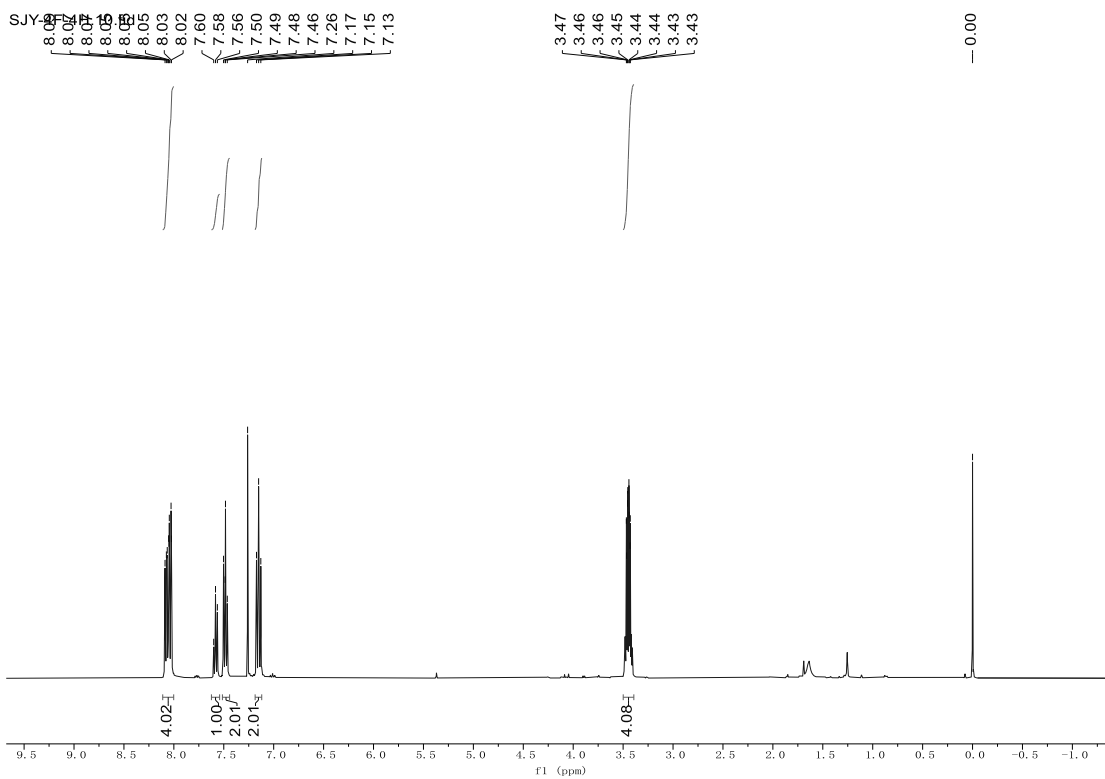
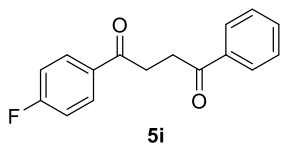


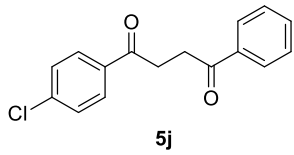
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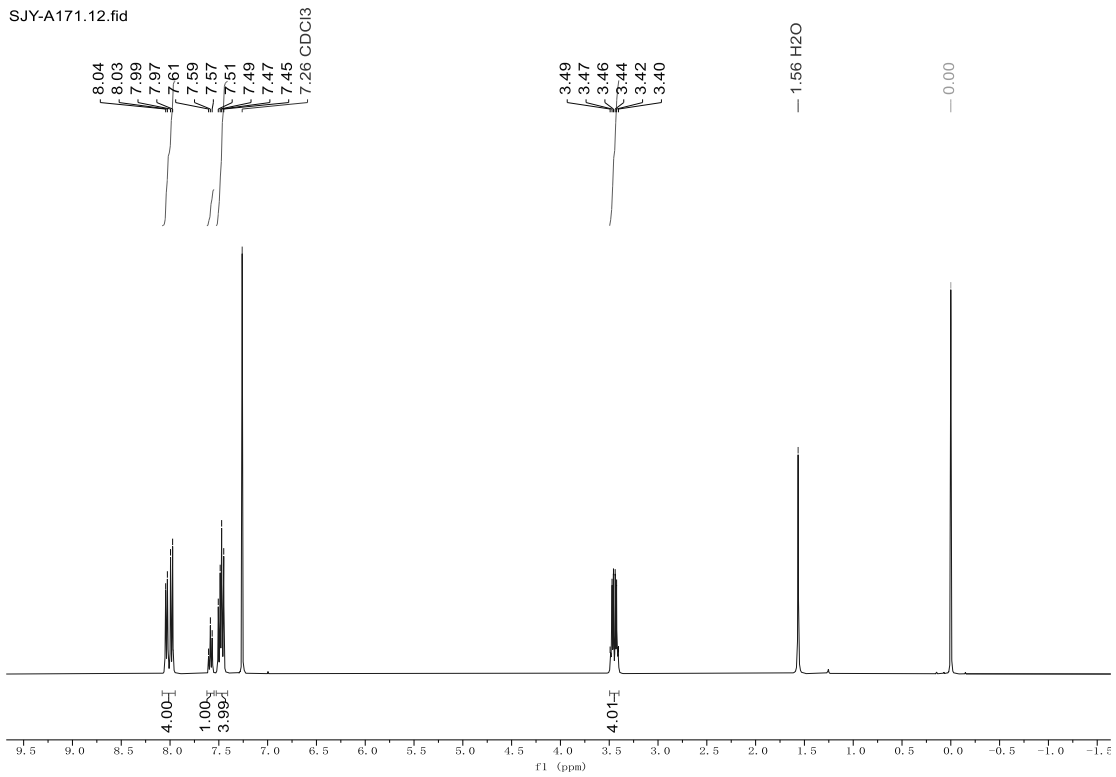
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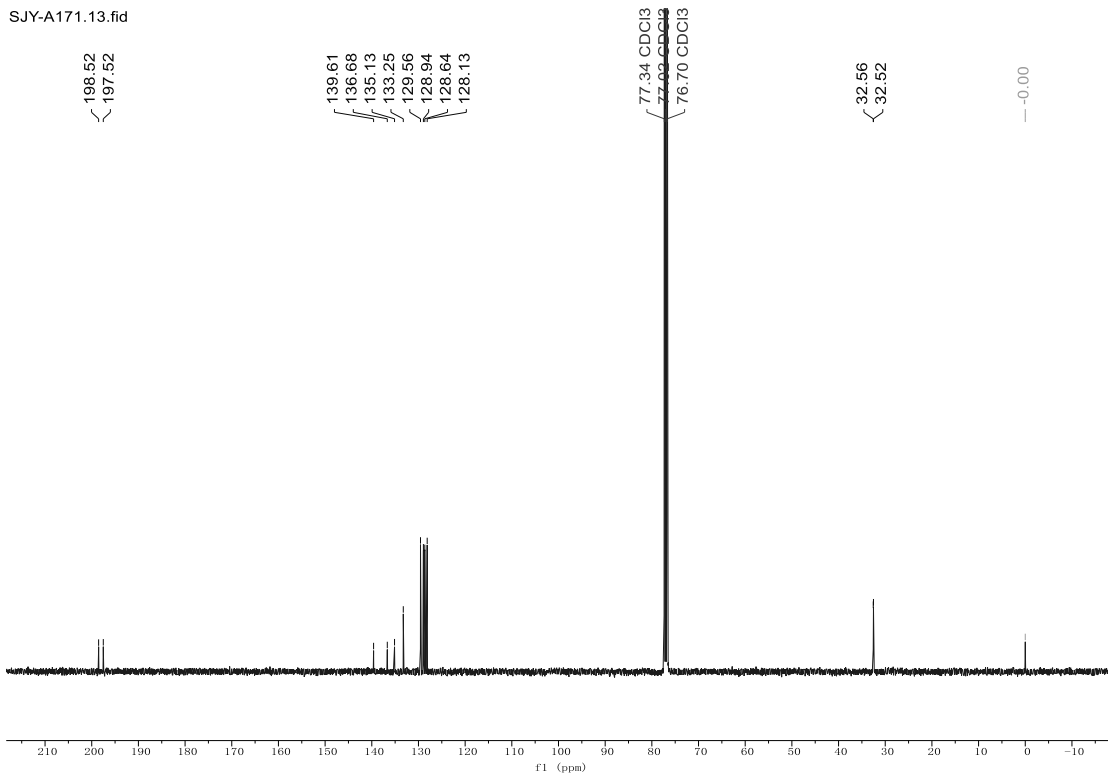


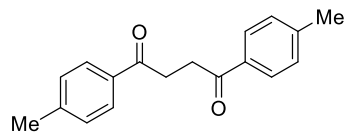


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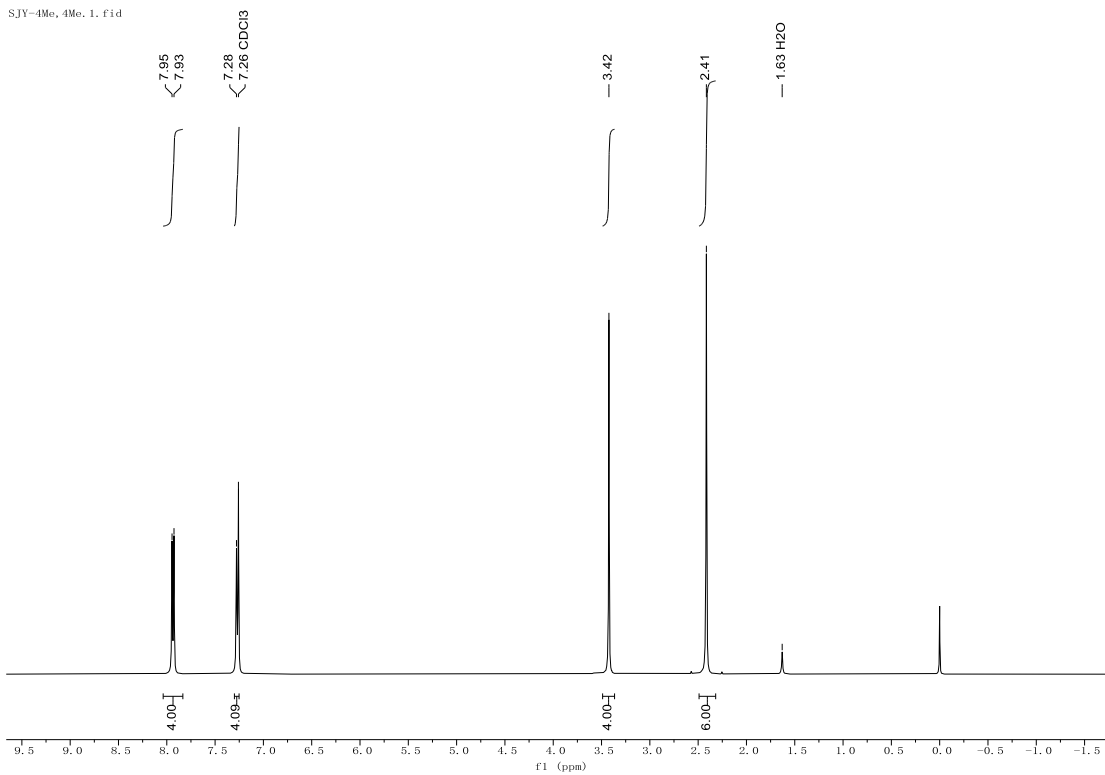
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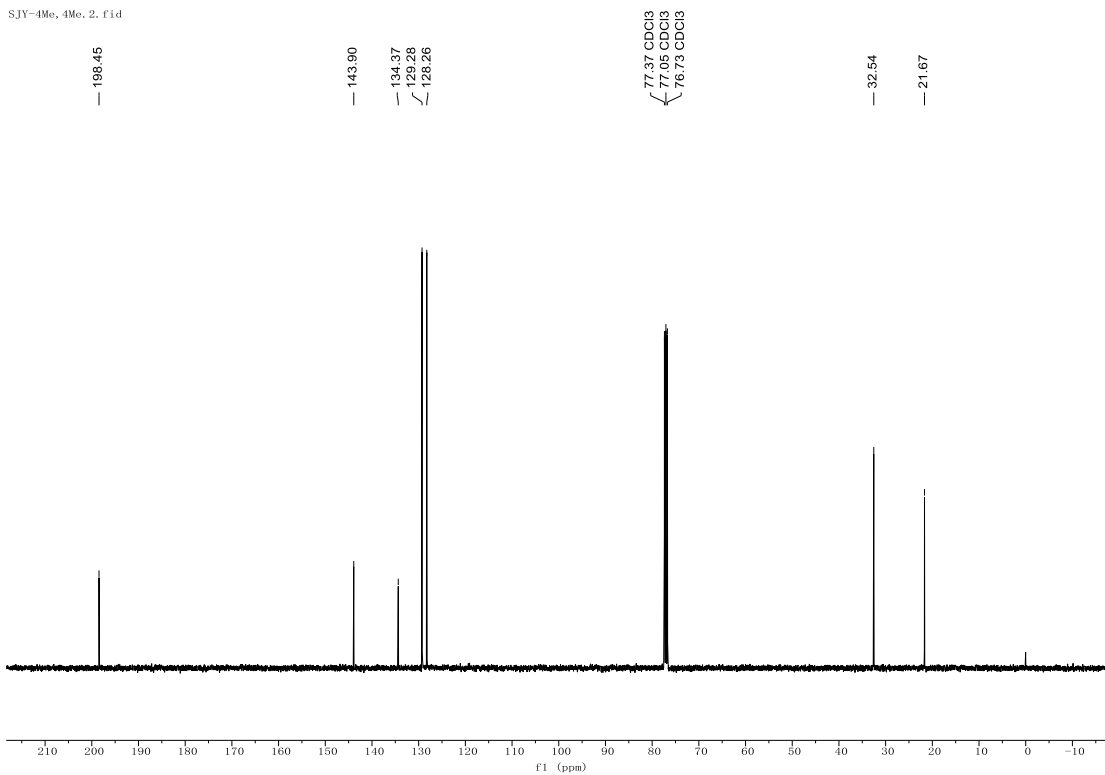


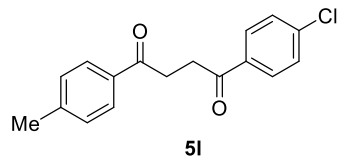
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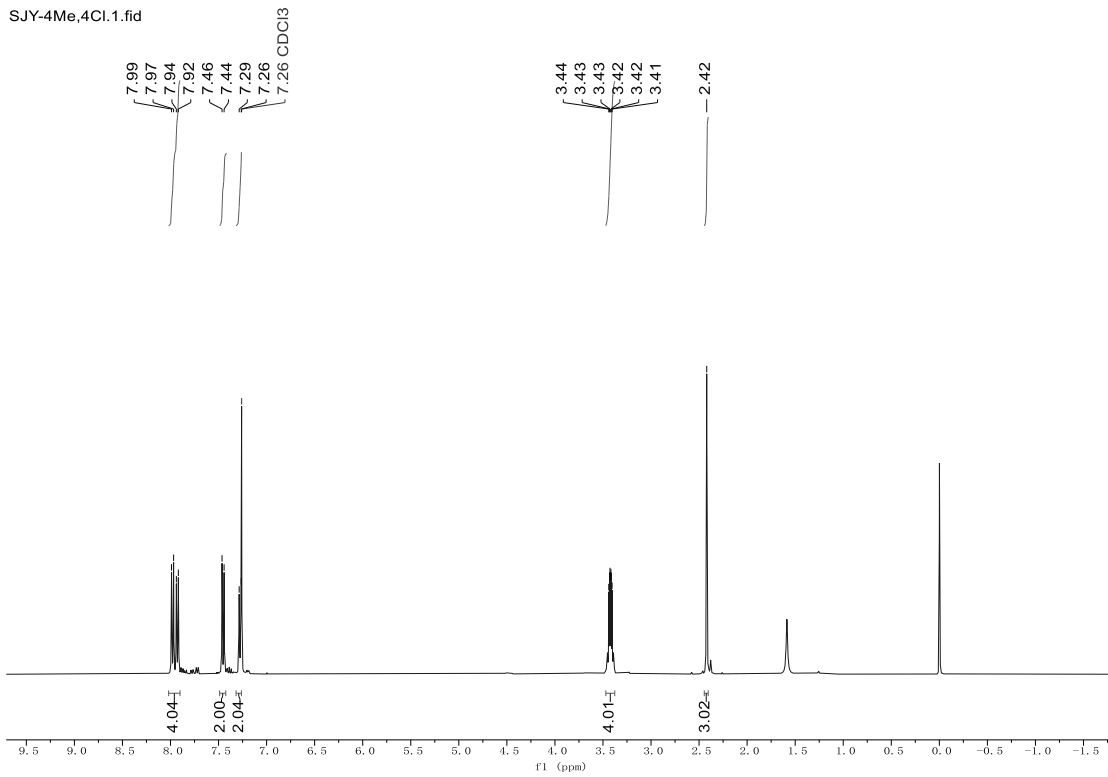


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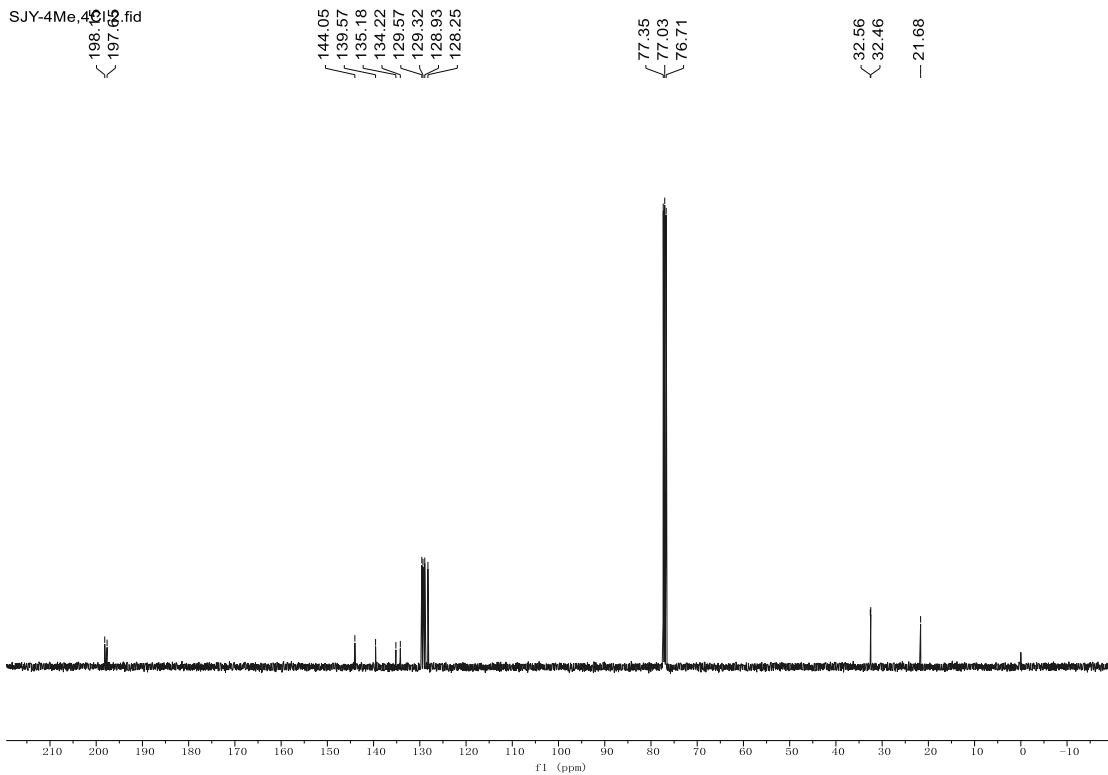


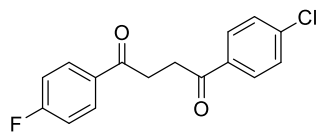


SJY-4Me,4Cl.1.fid



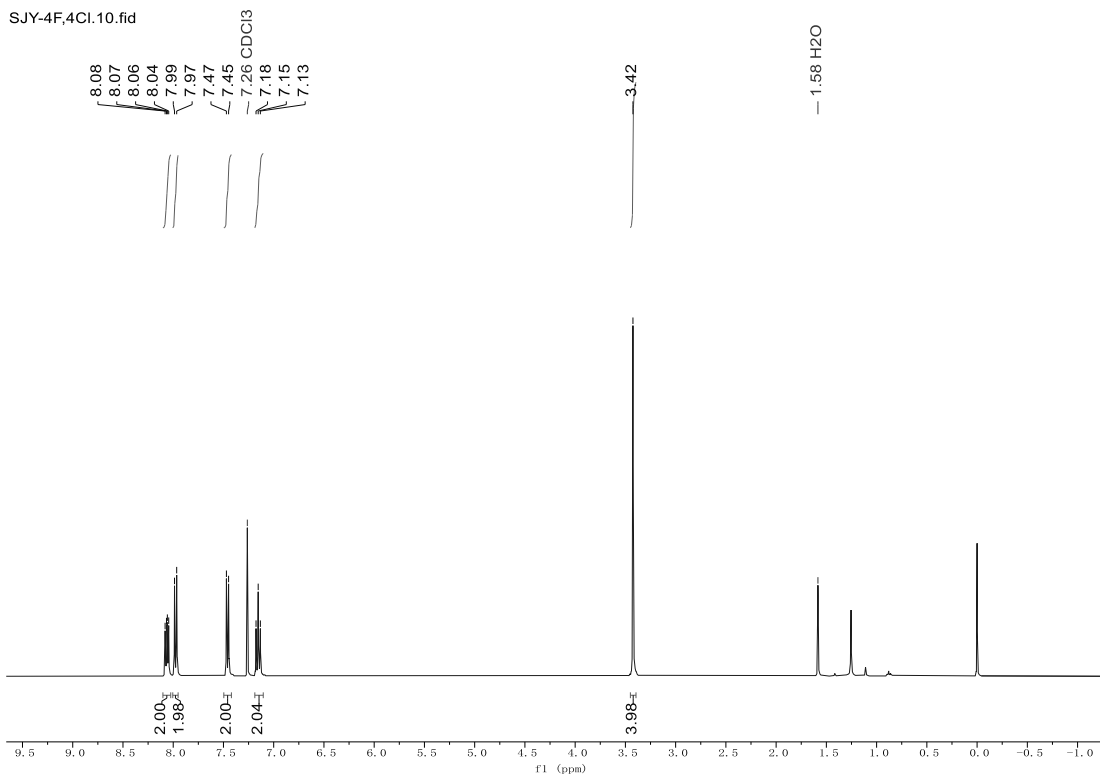
SJY-4Me,4Cl.1.fid



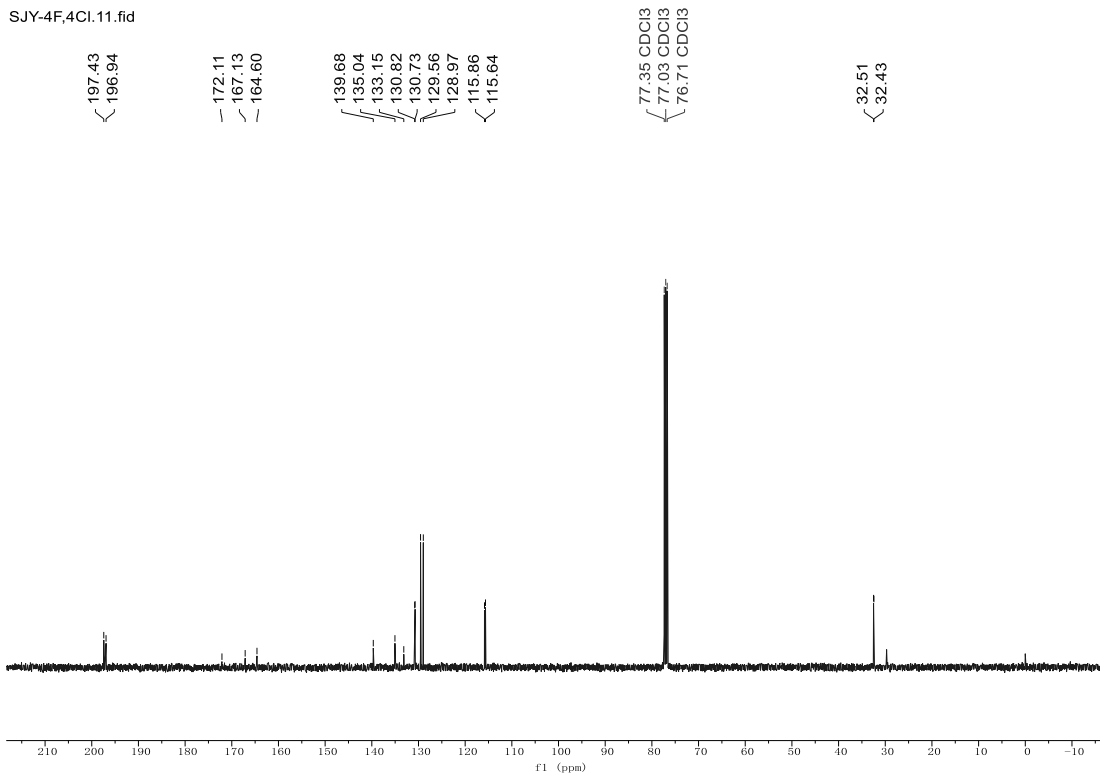


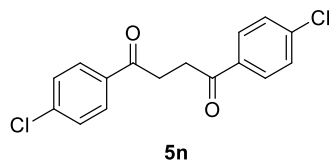
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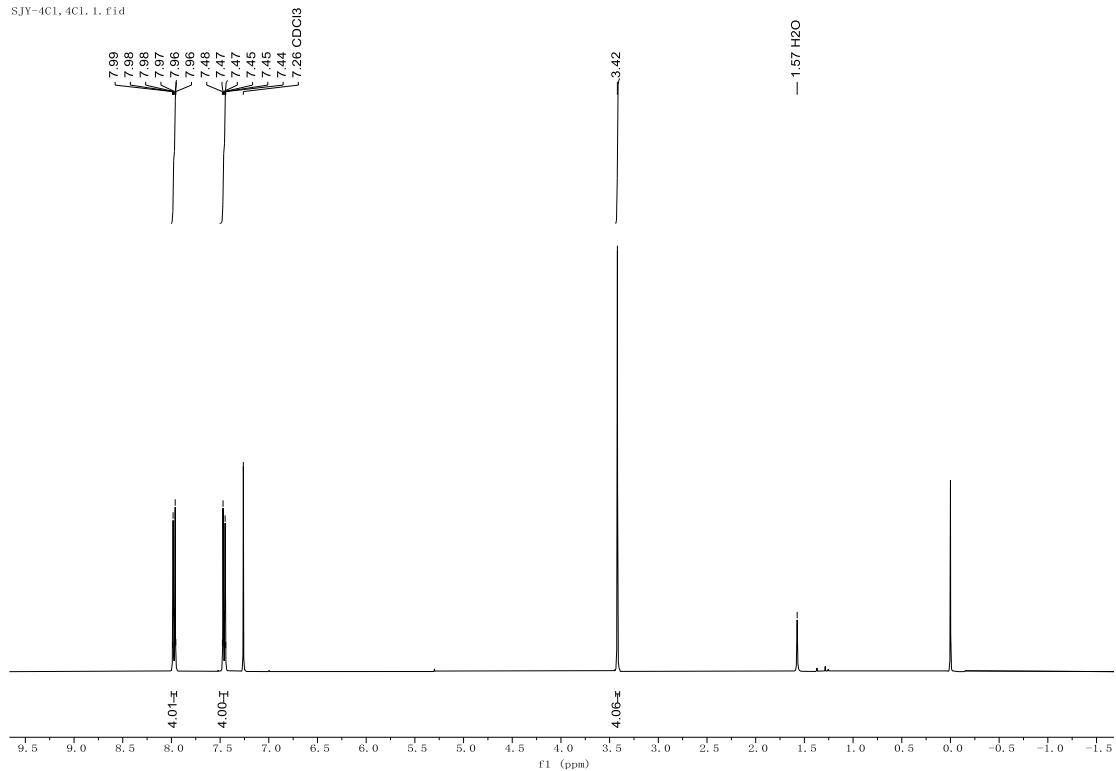


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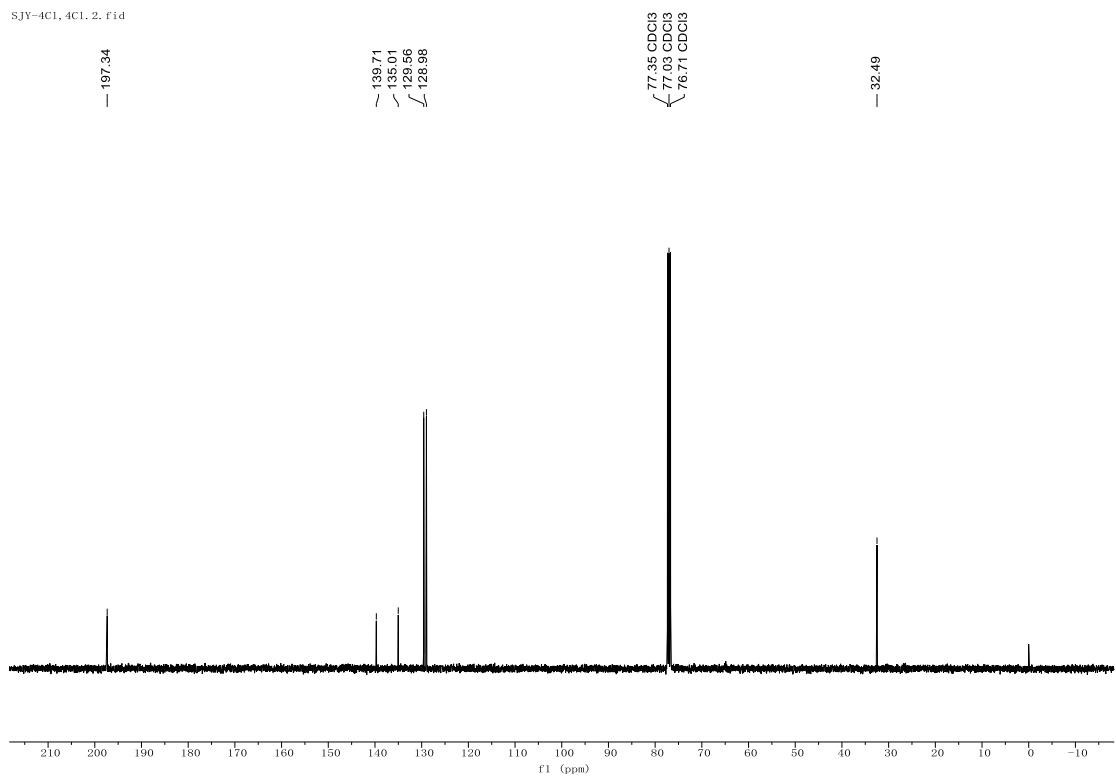


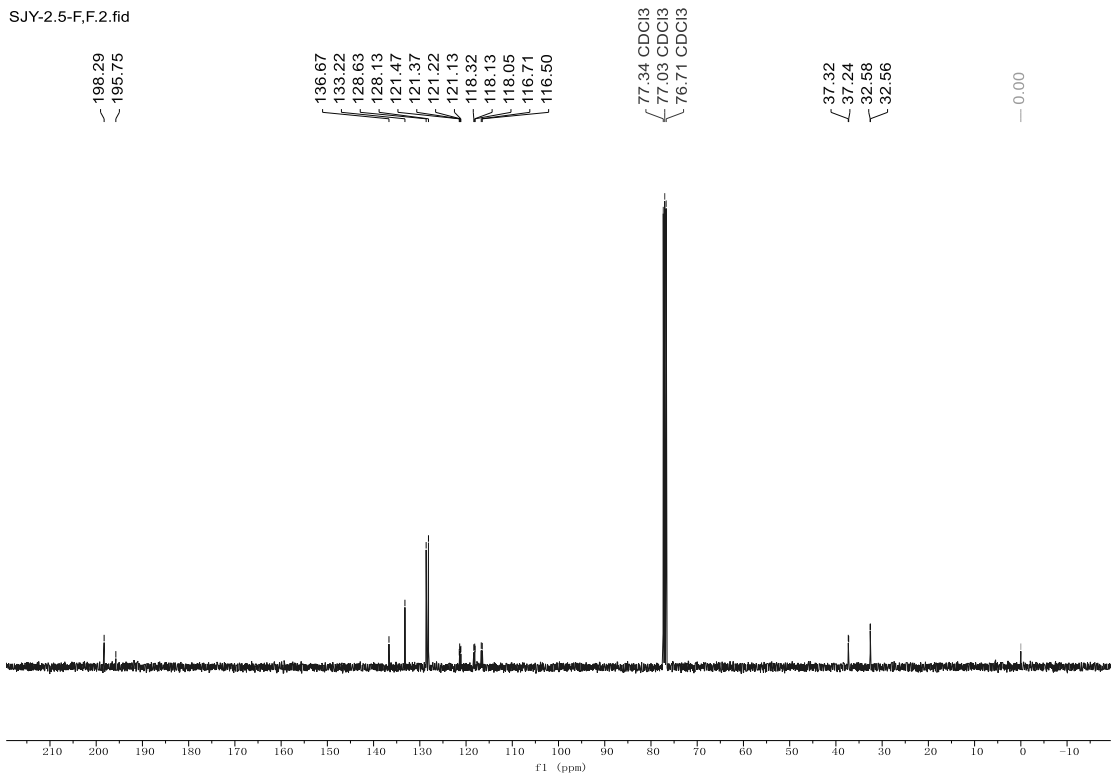
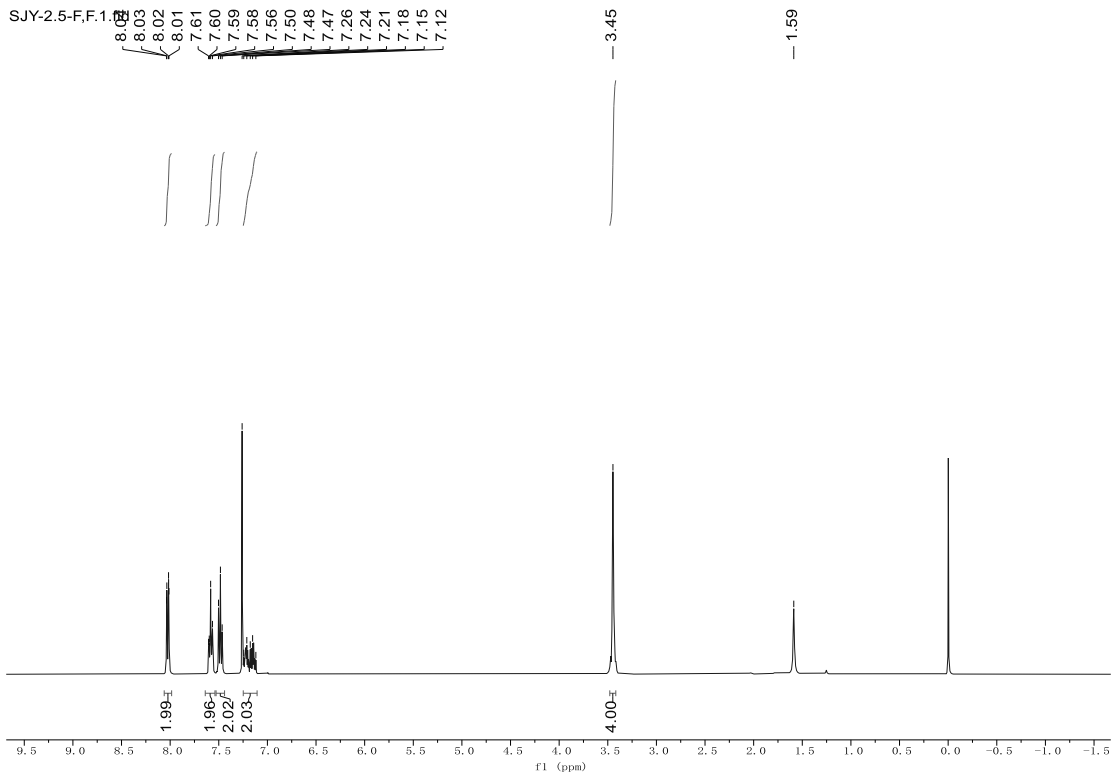
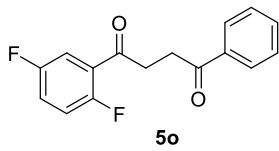


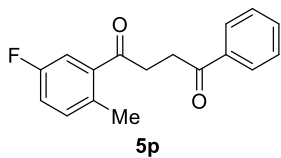
SJY-4Cl, 4Cl, 1. fid



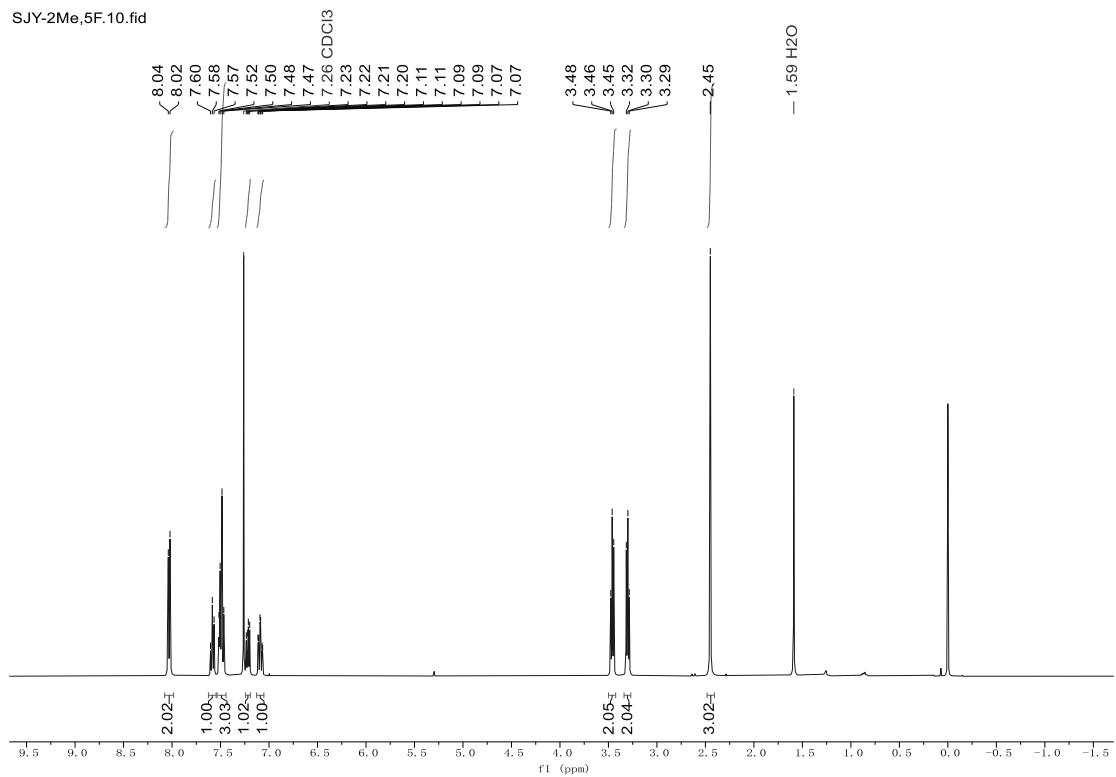
SJY-4Cl, 4Cl, 2. fid



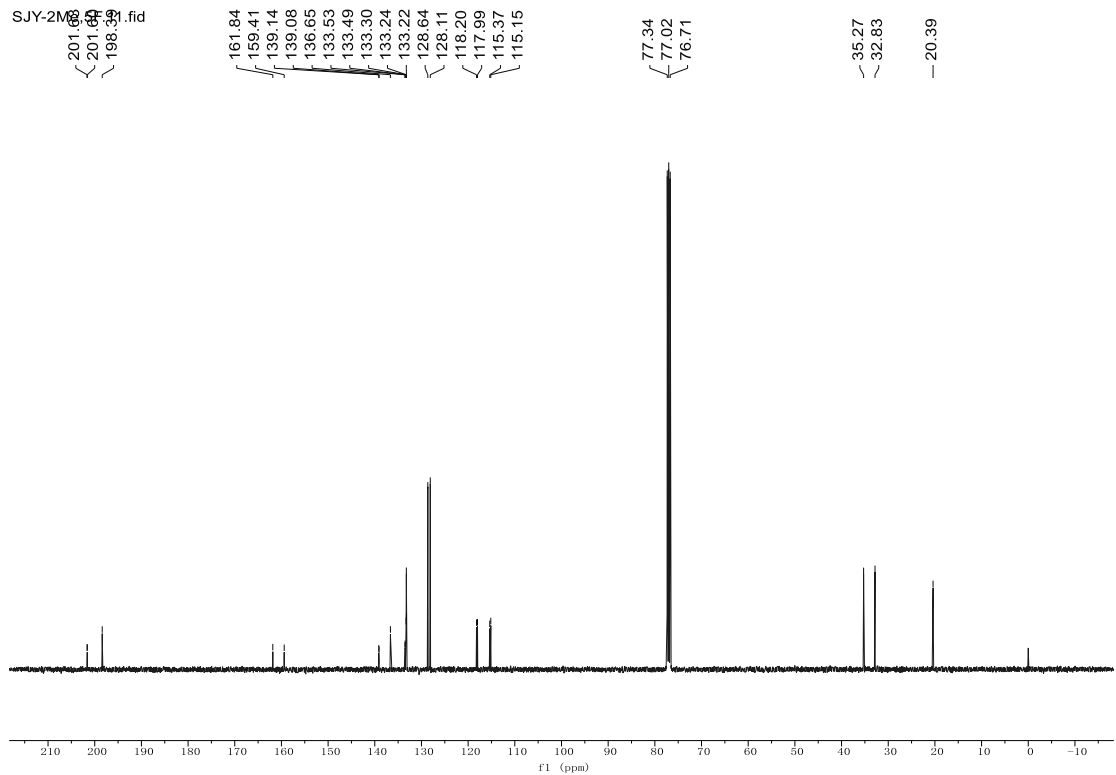


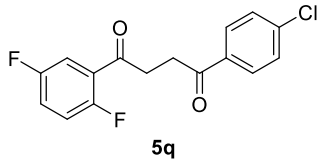


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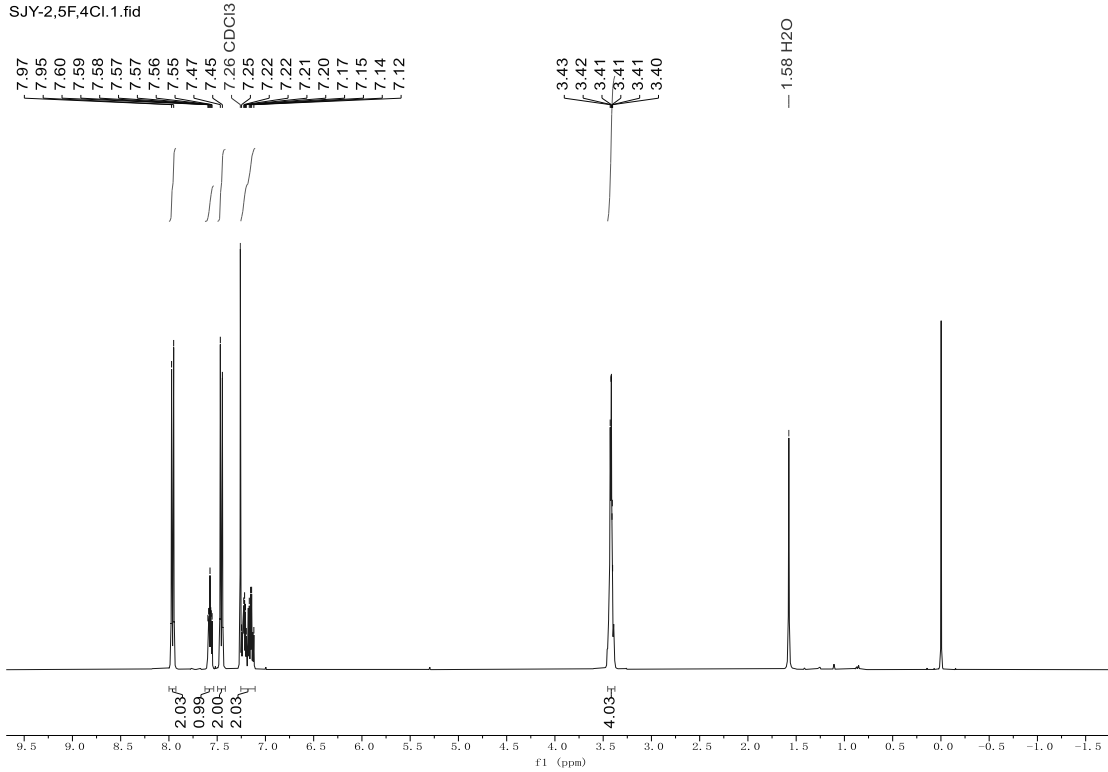


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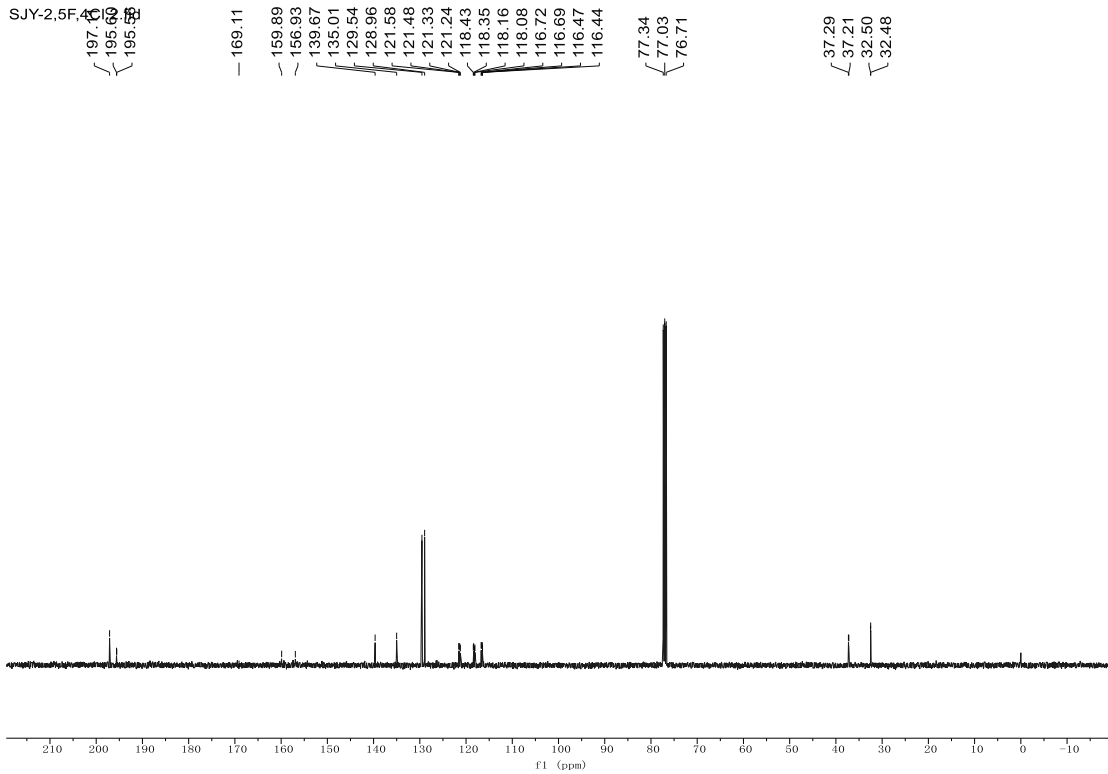


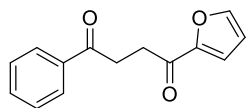


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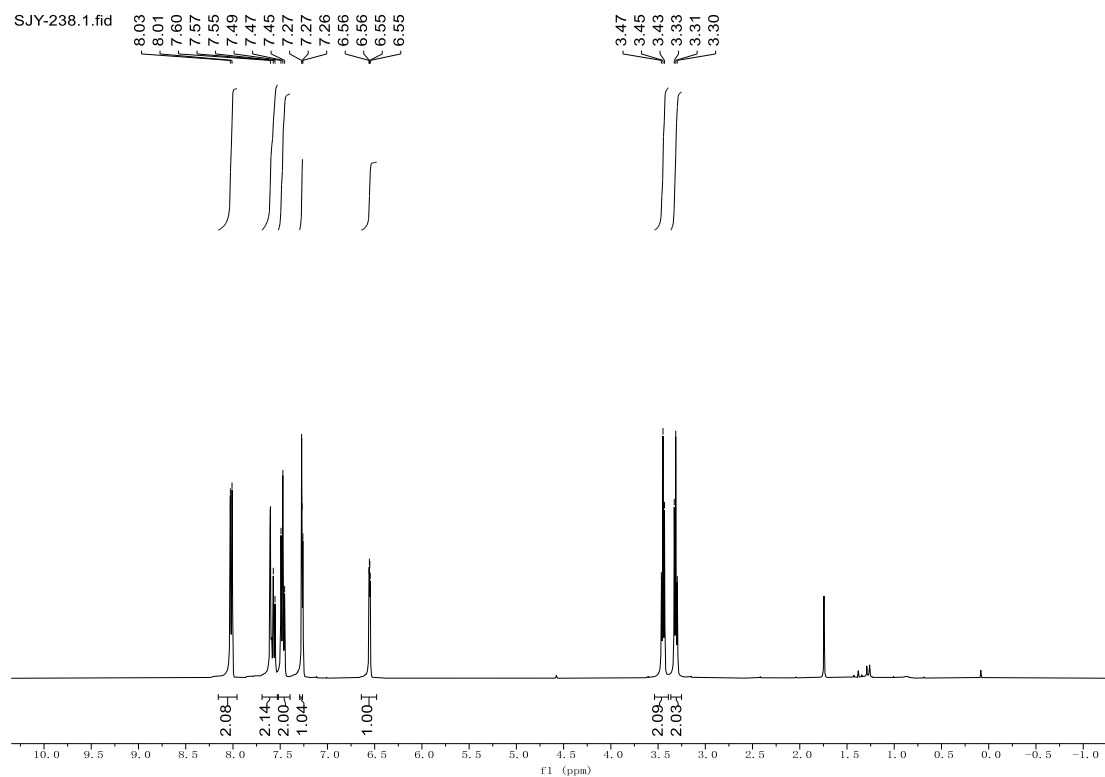
SJY-2,5F,4Cl.1



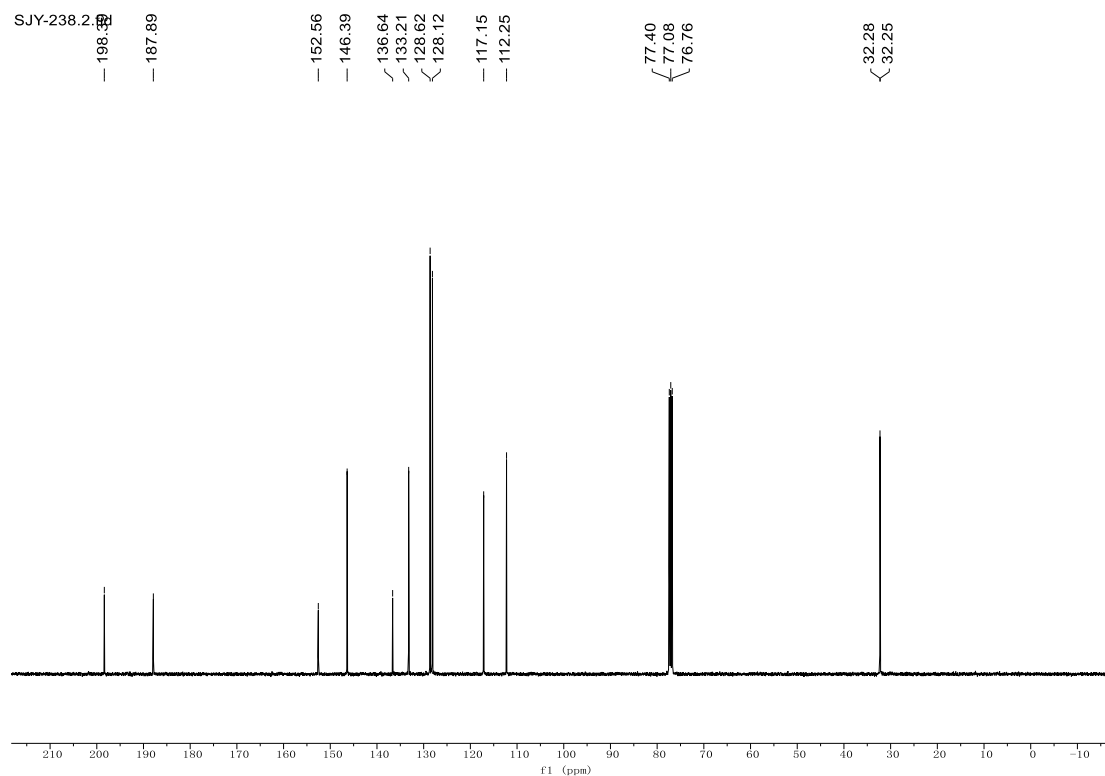


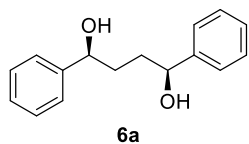
5t

SJY-238.1.fid

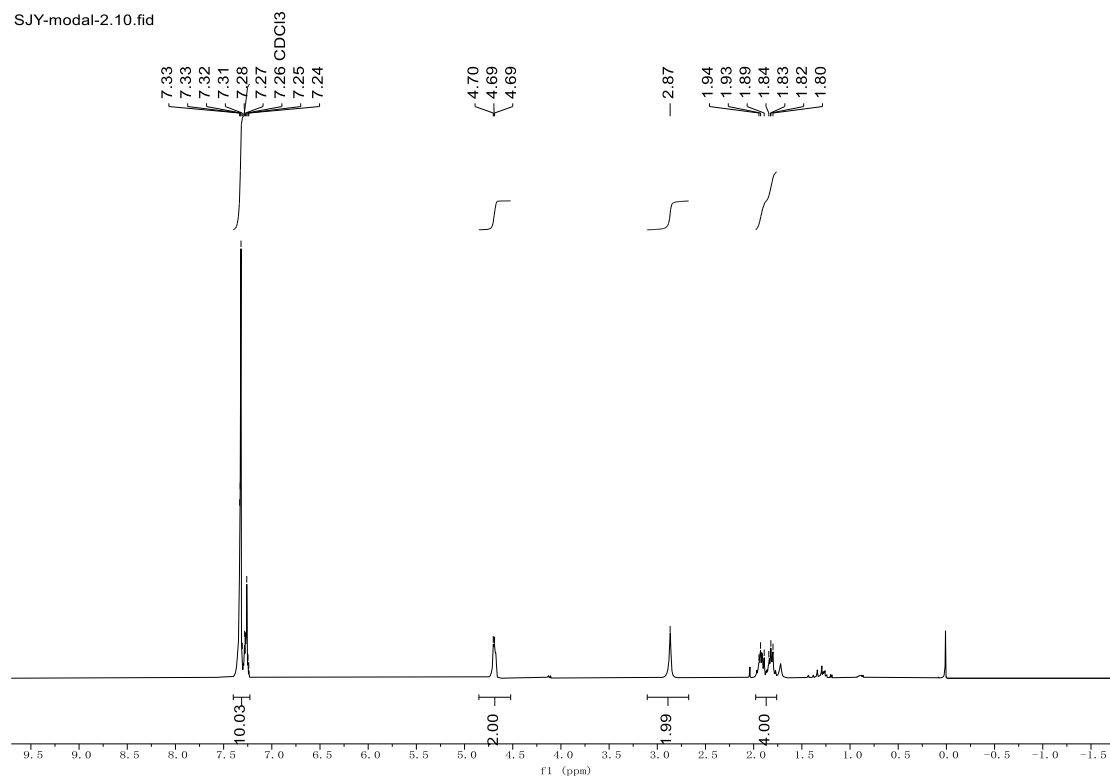


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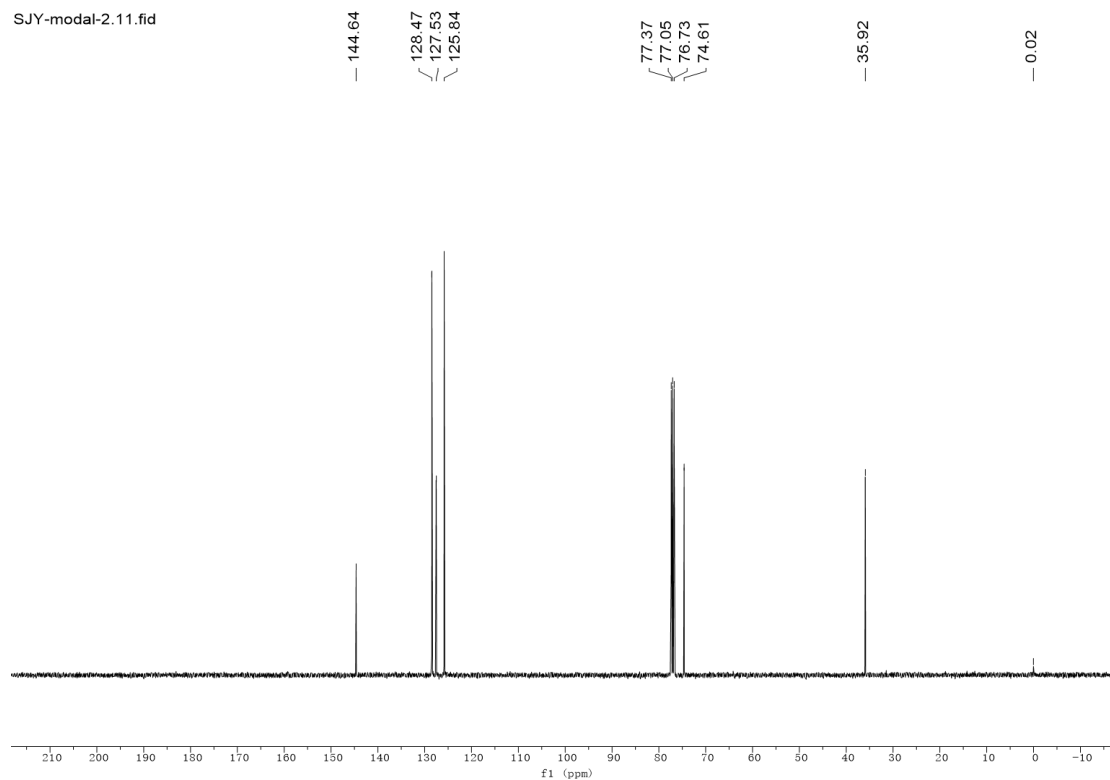


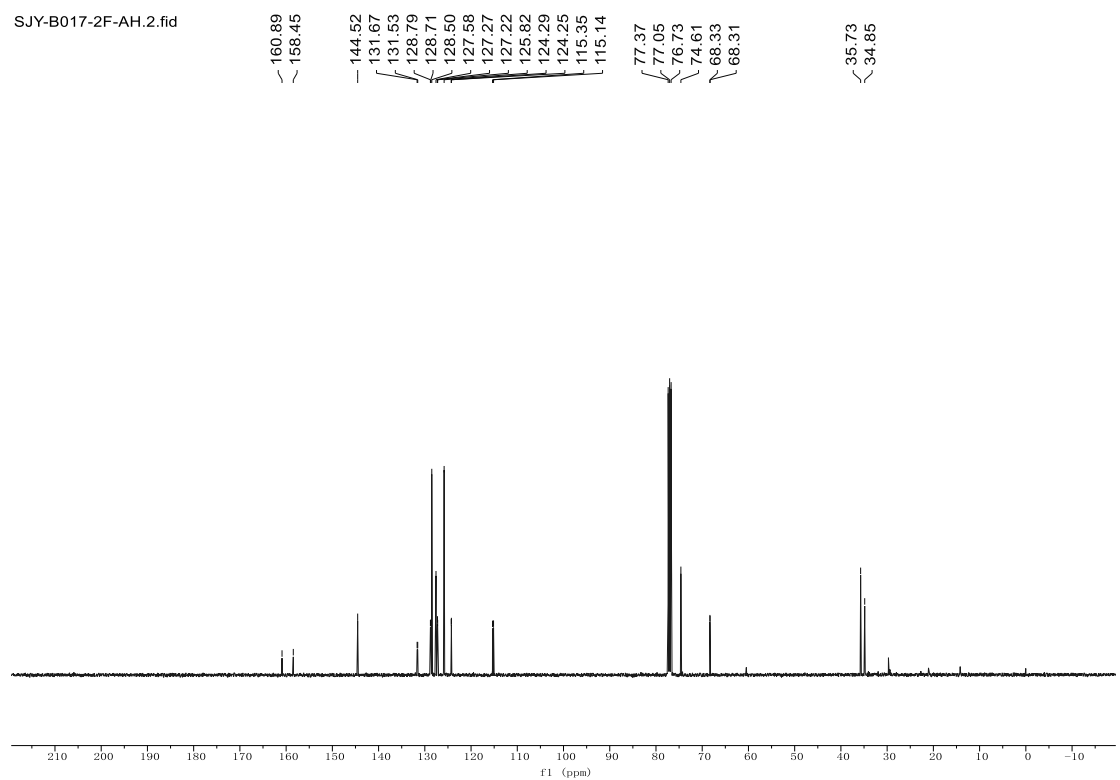
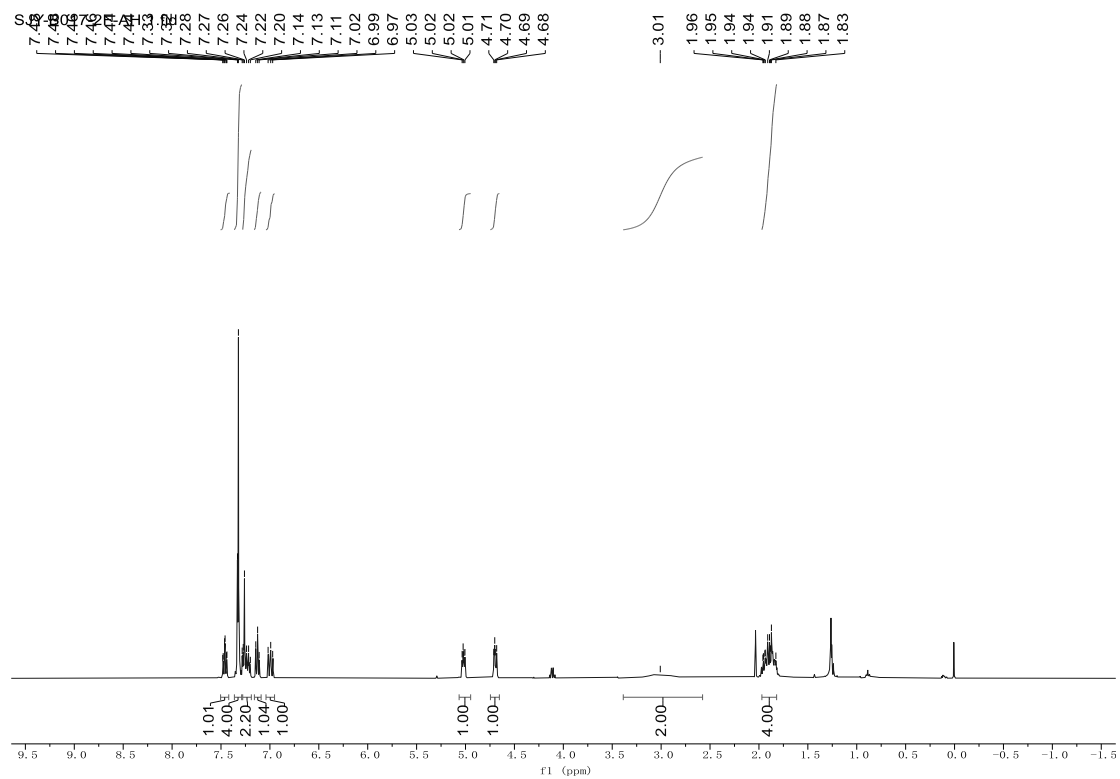
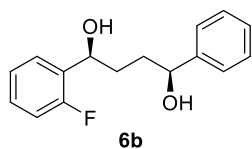


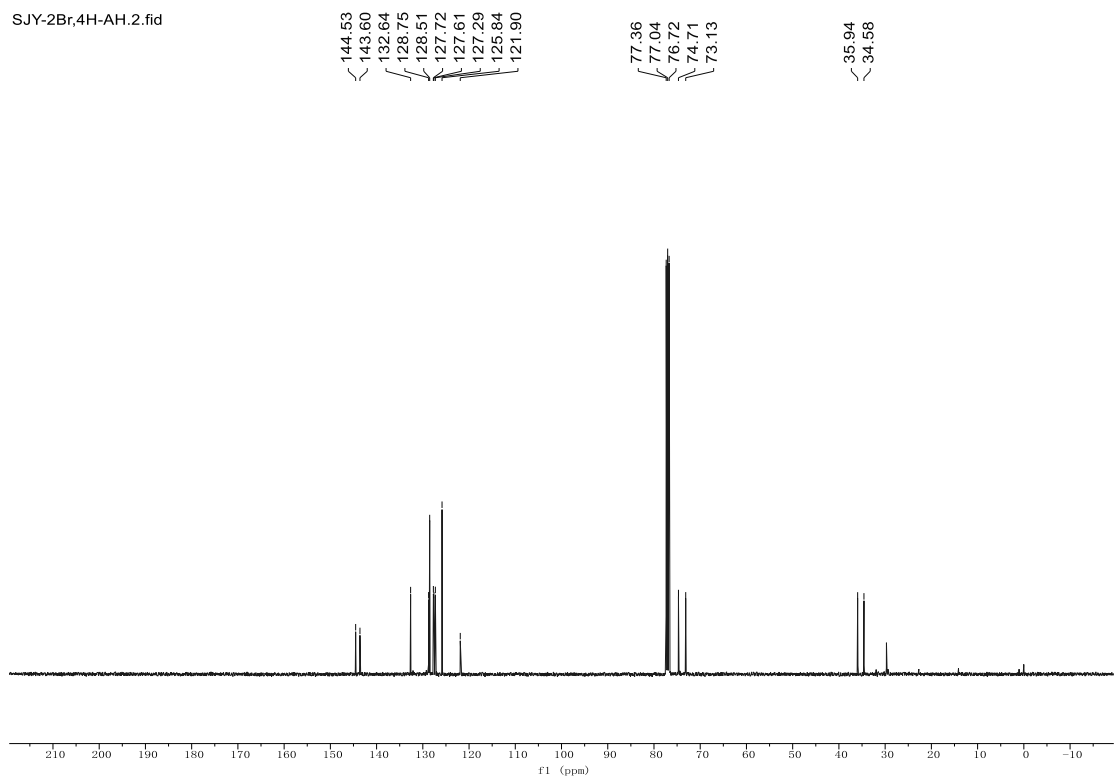
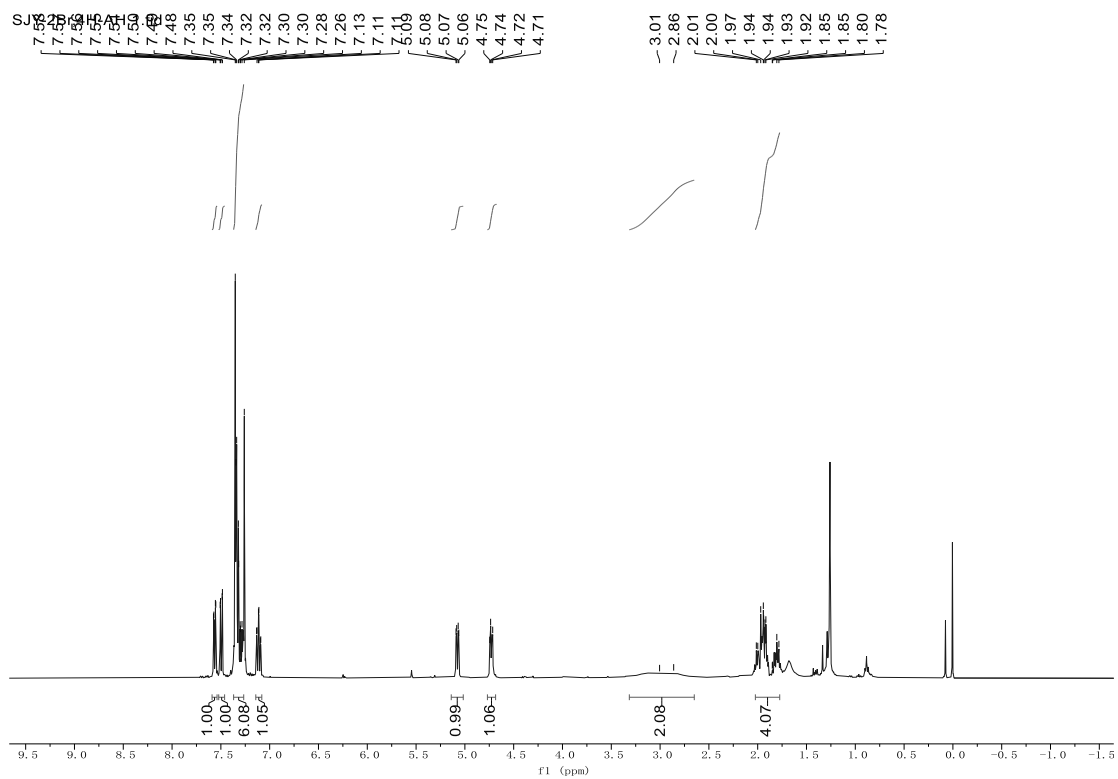
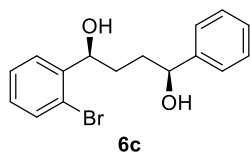
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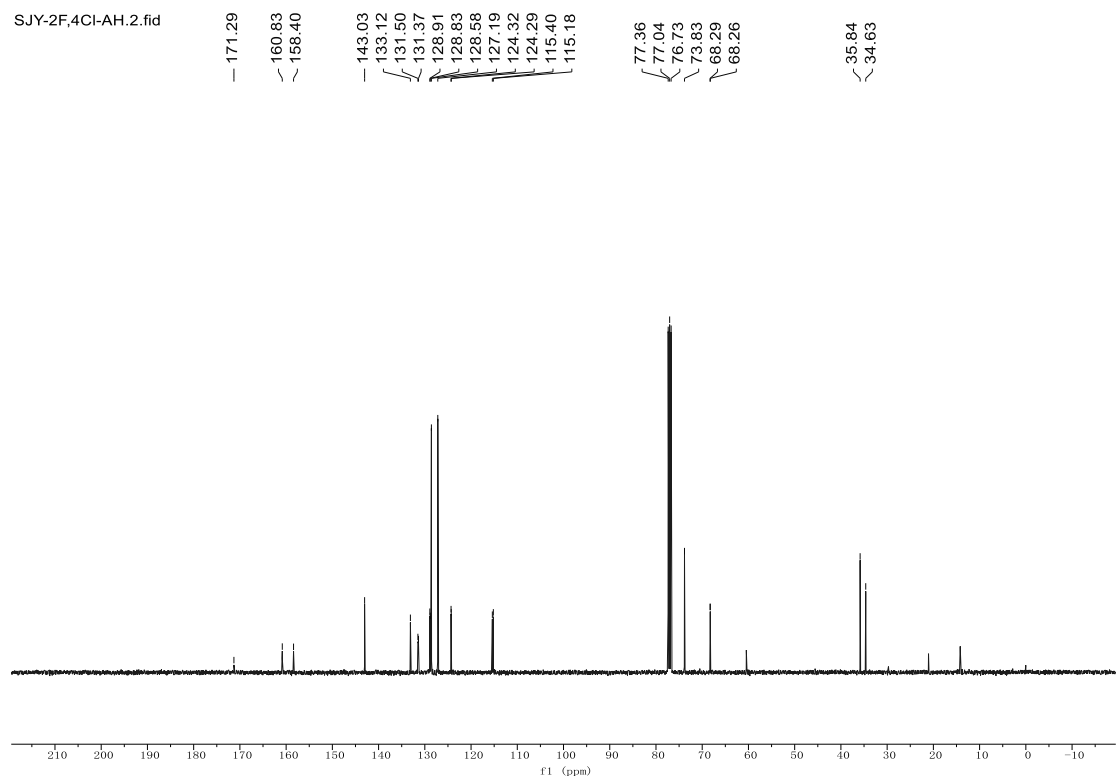
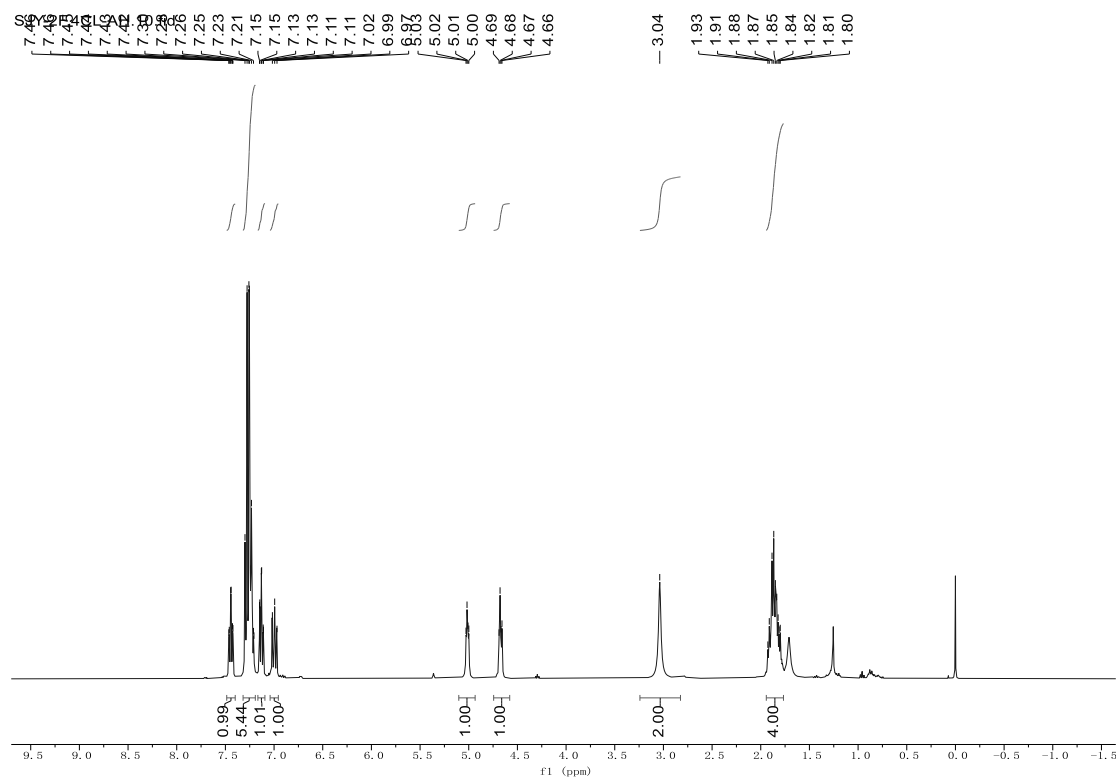
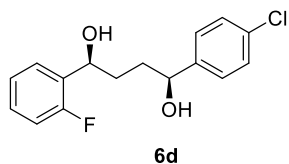


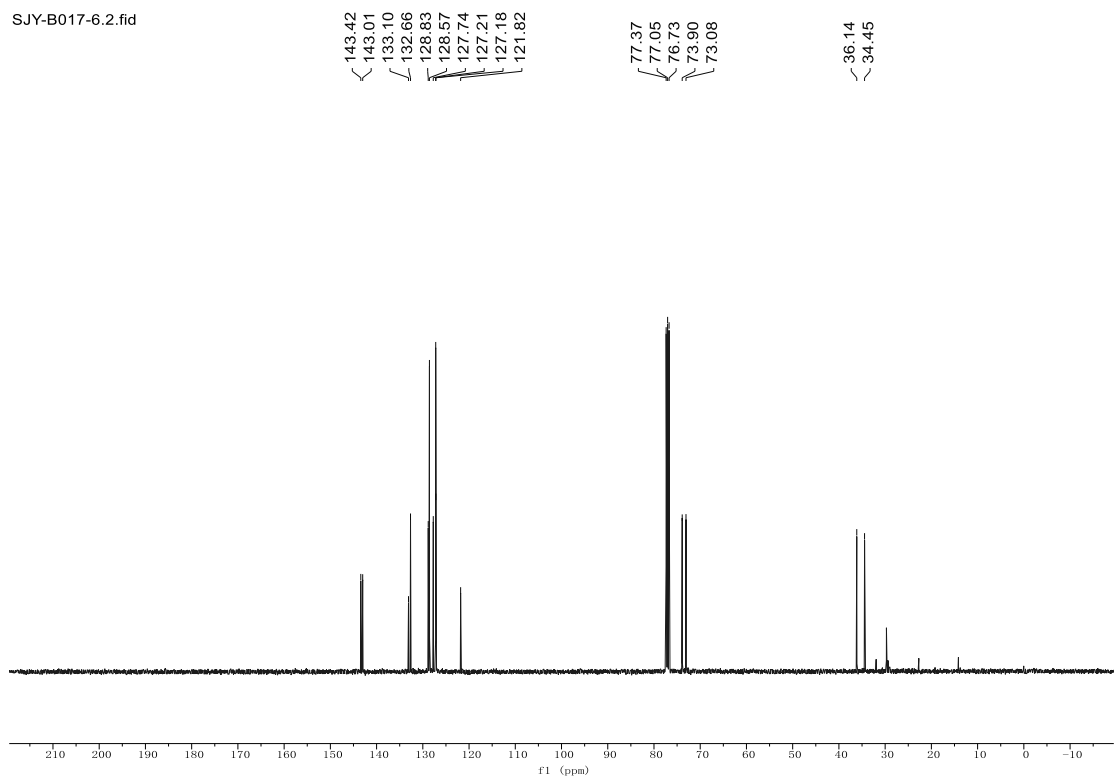
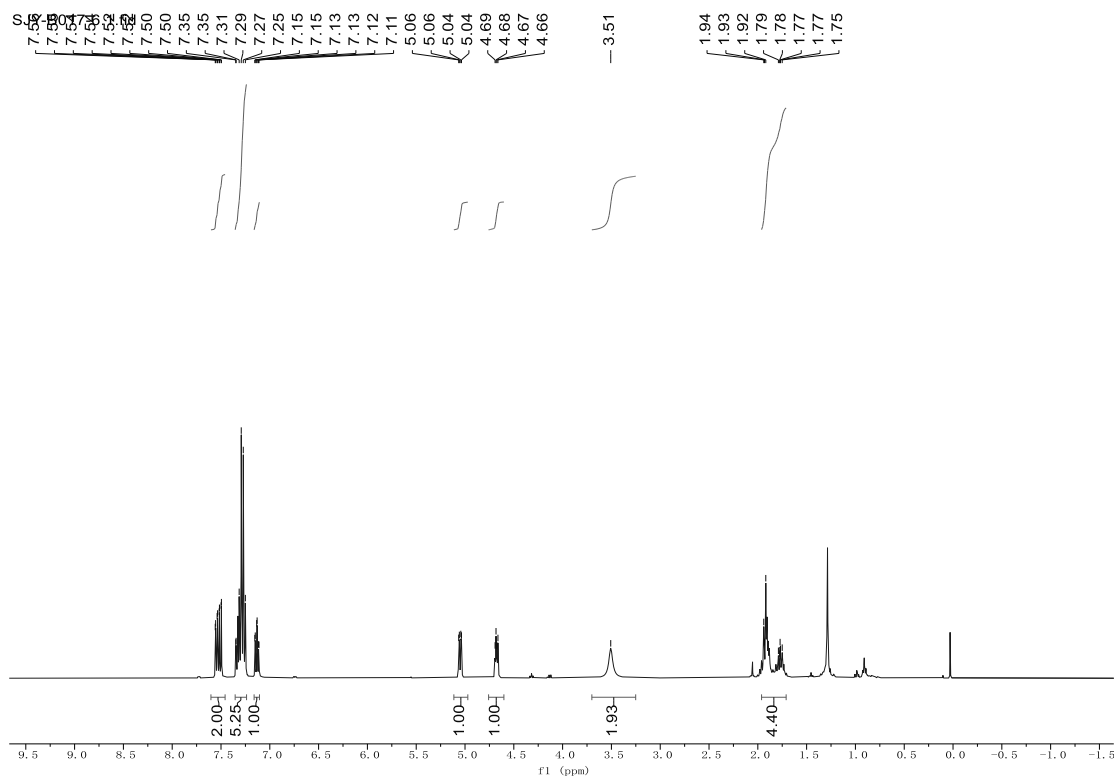
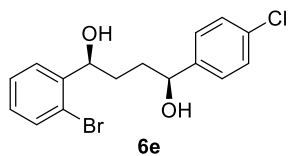
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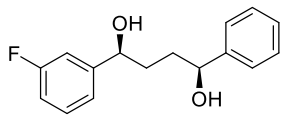






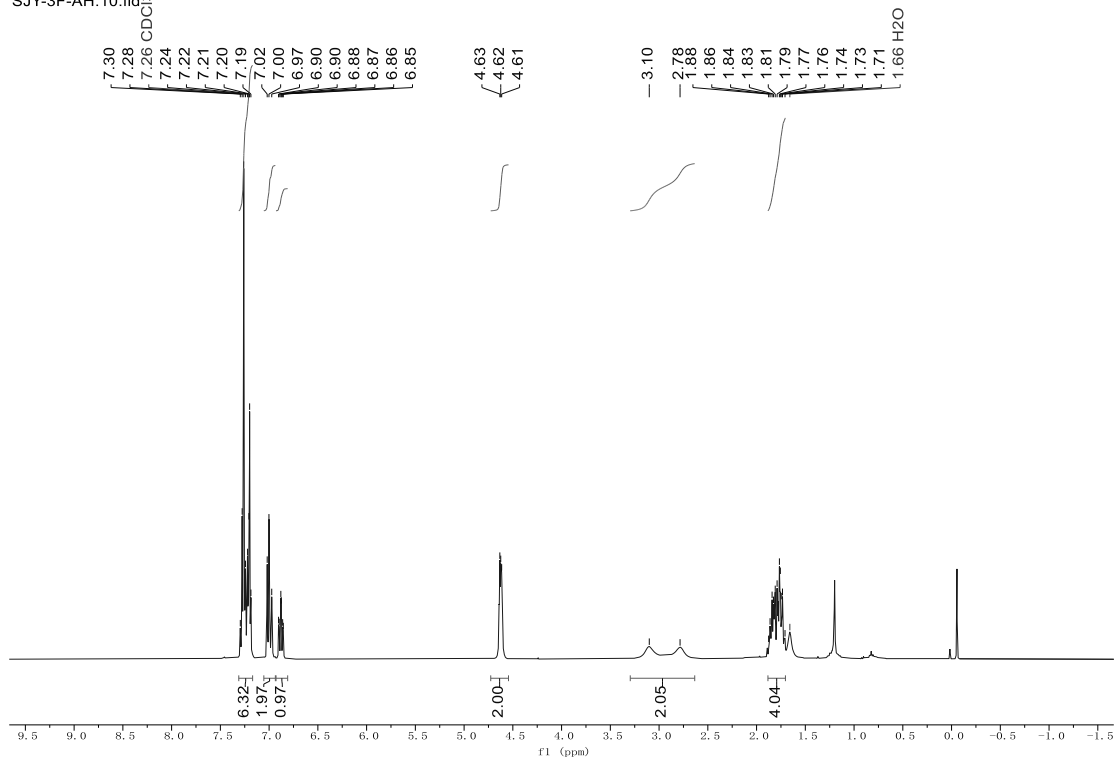




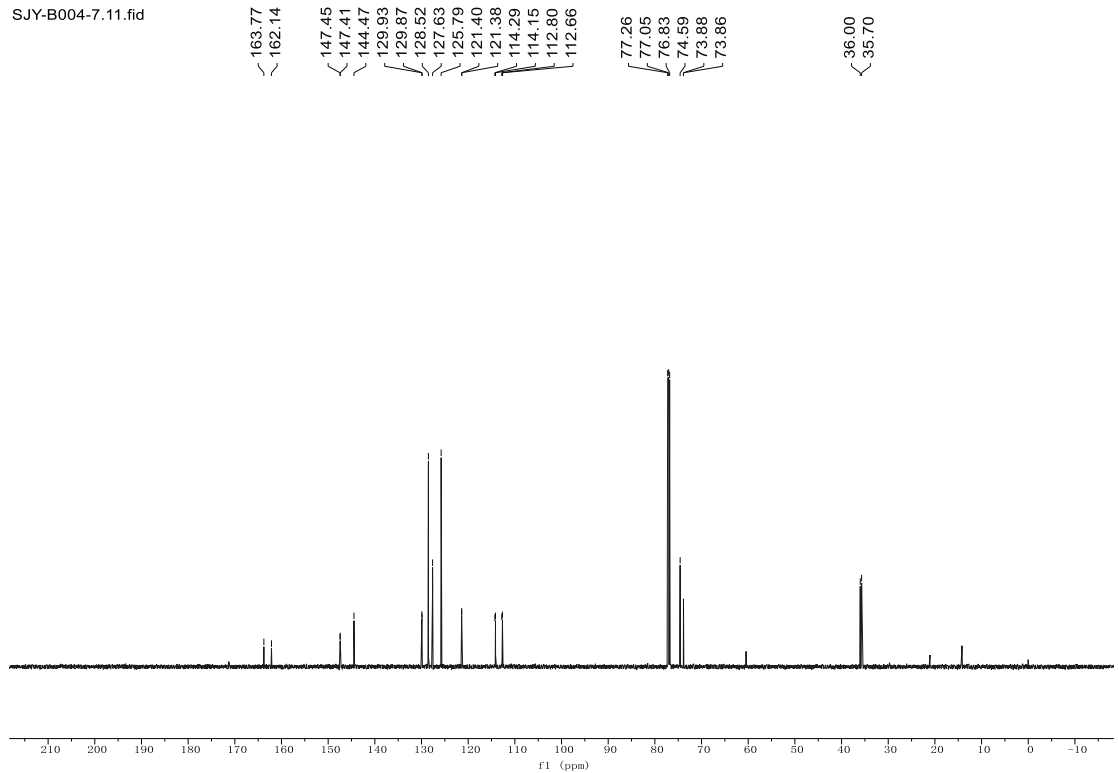


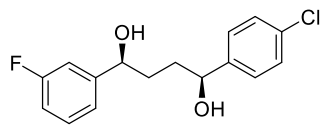
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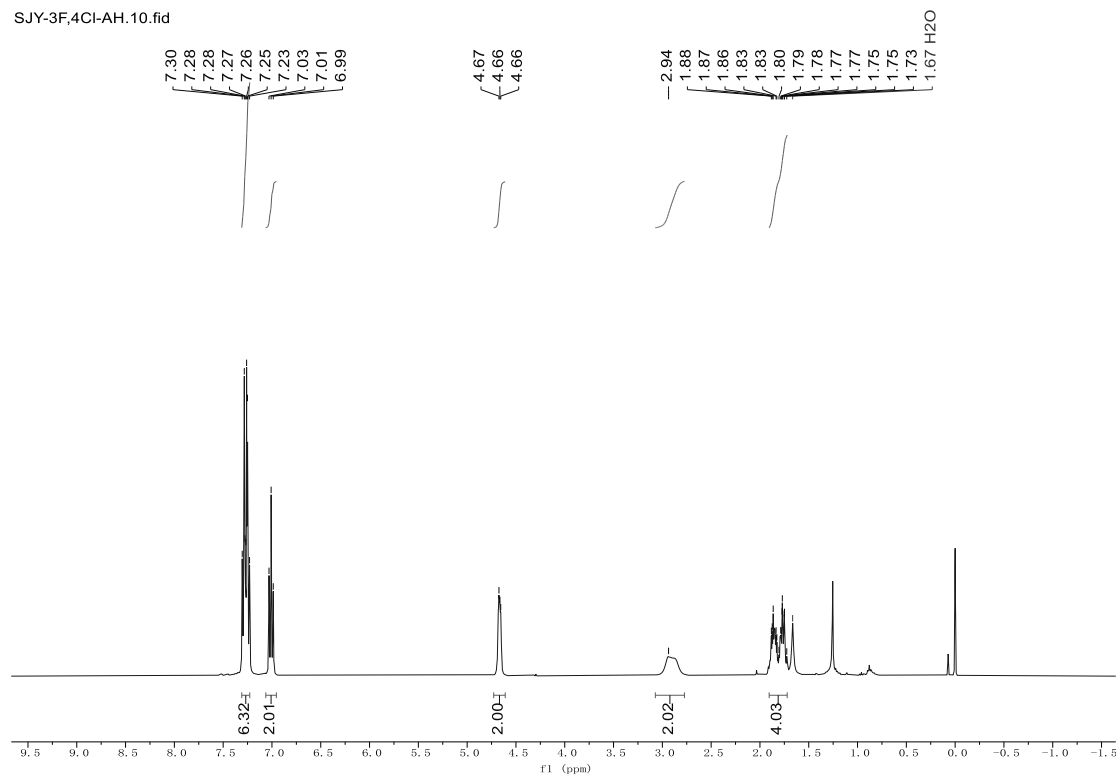
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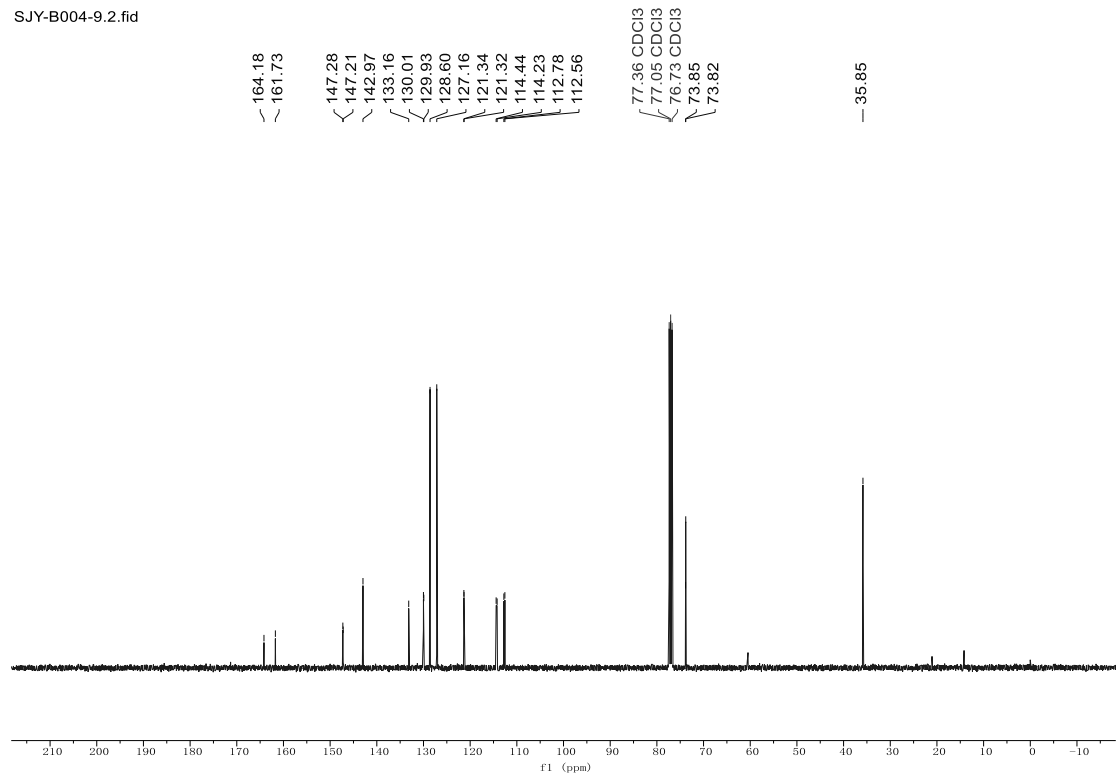


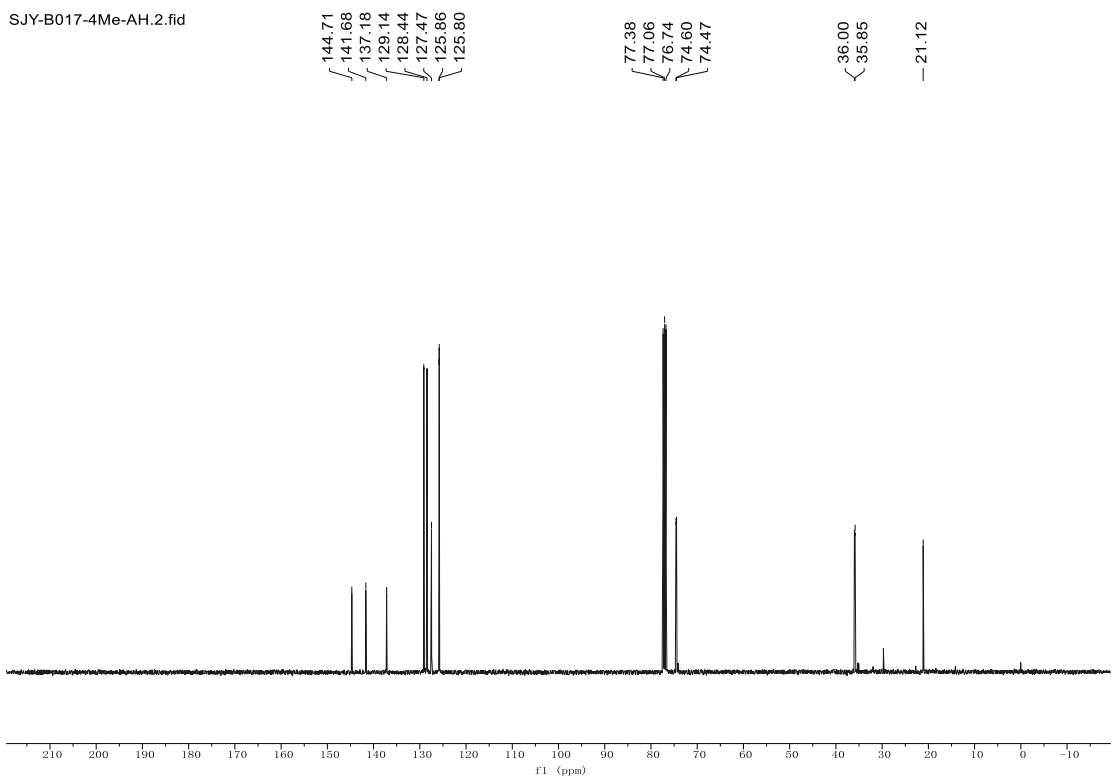
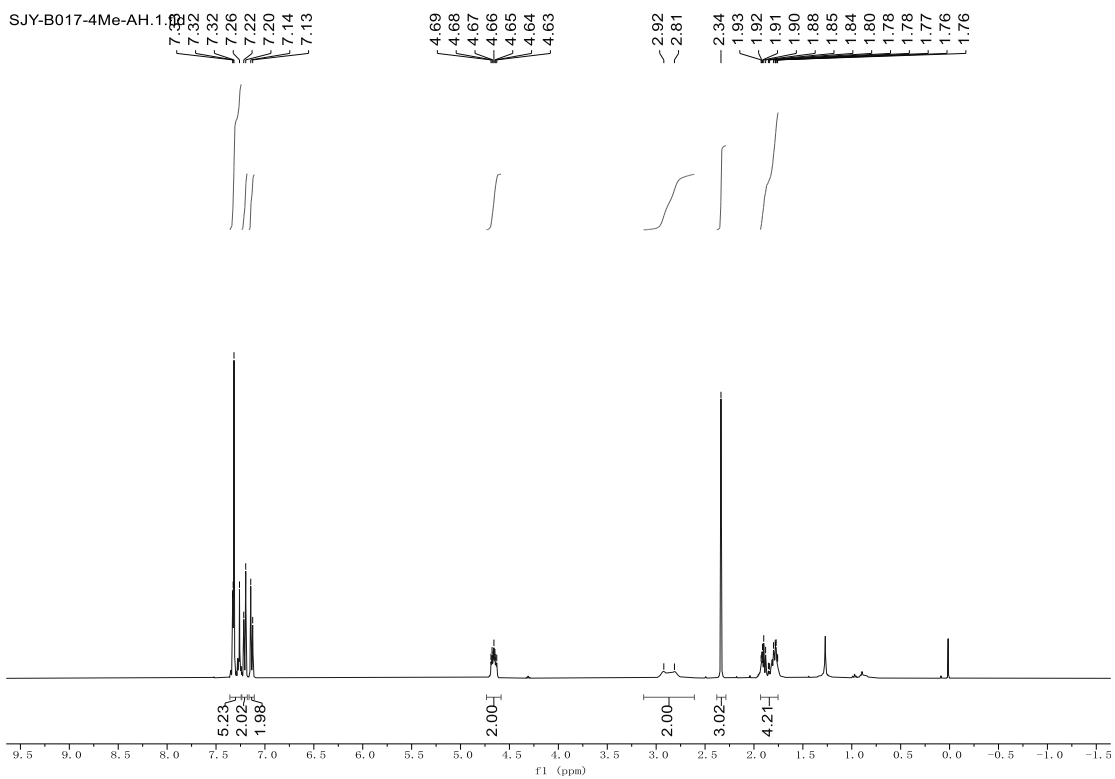
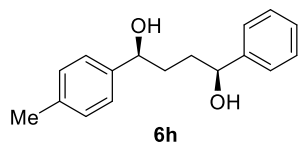
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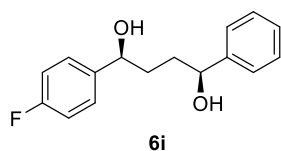
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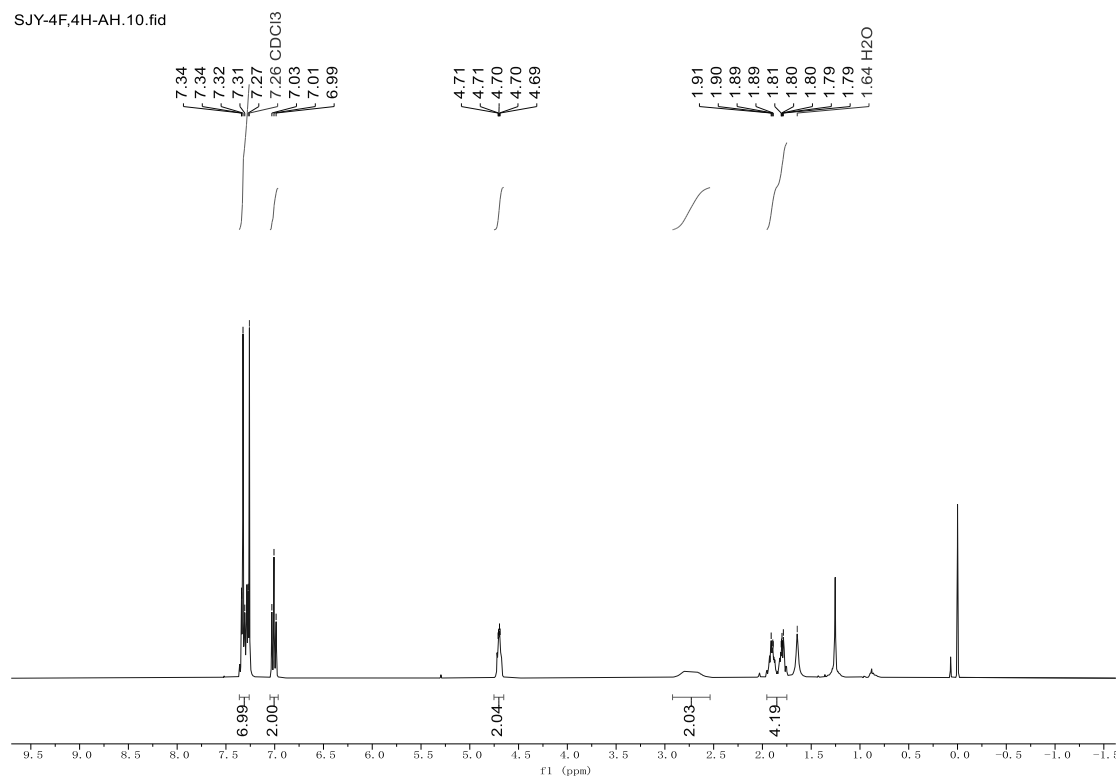
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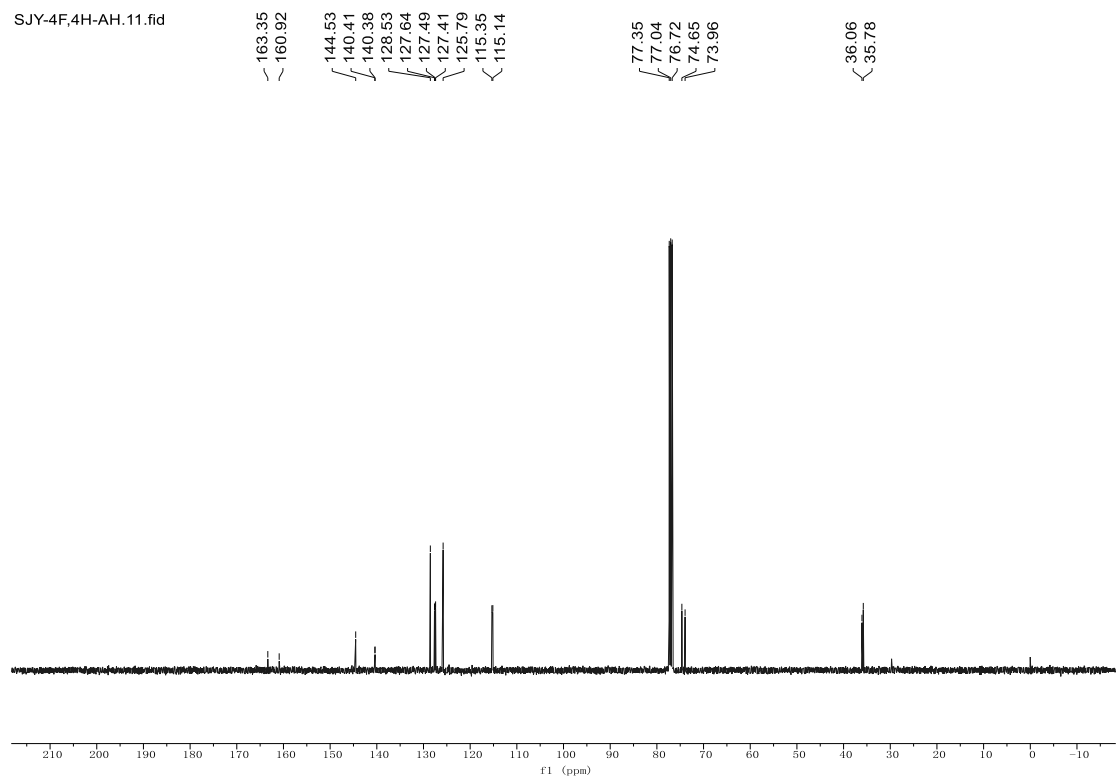


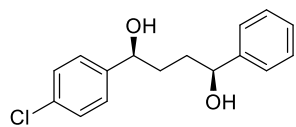


SJY-4F,4H-AH.10.fid



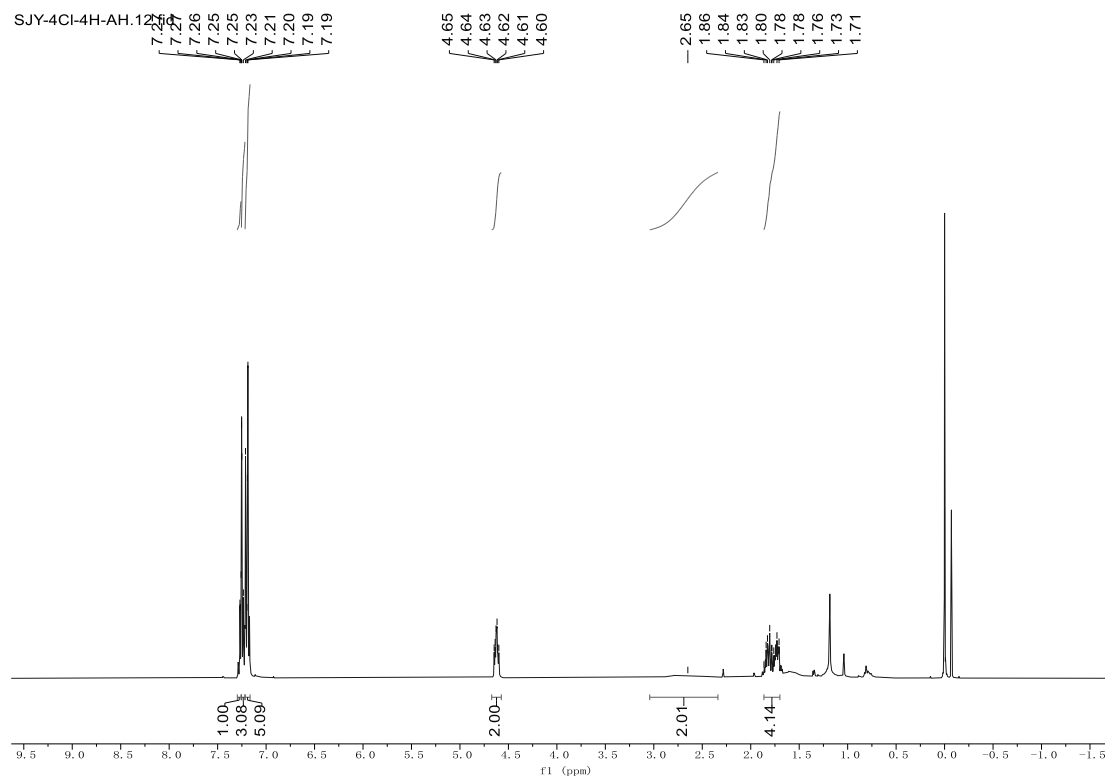
SJY-4F,4H-AH.11.fid



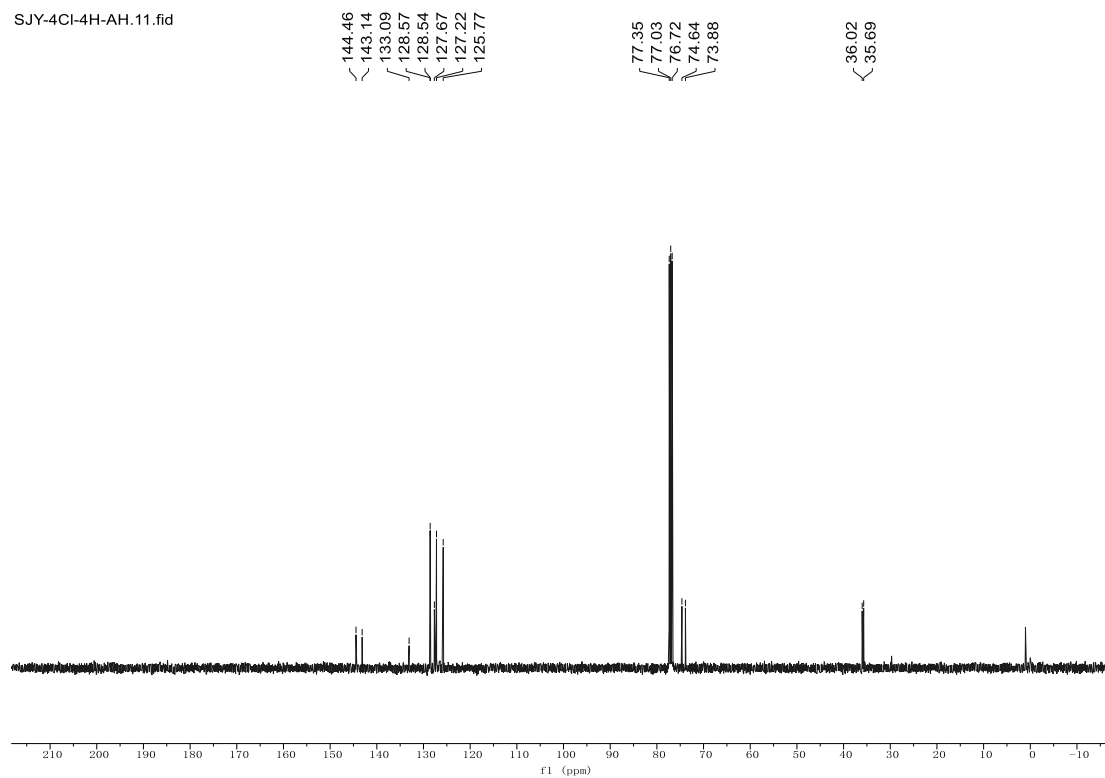


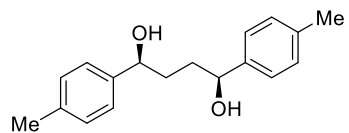
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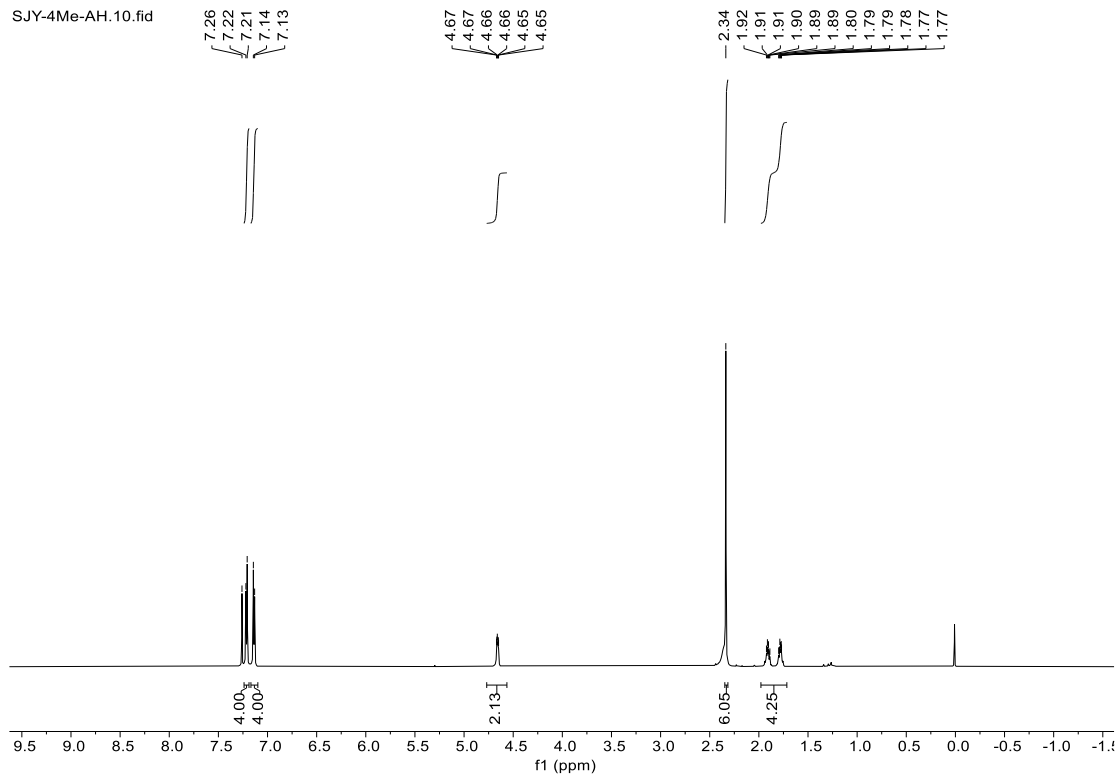
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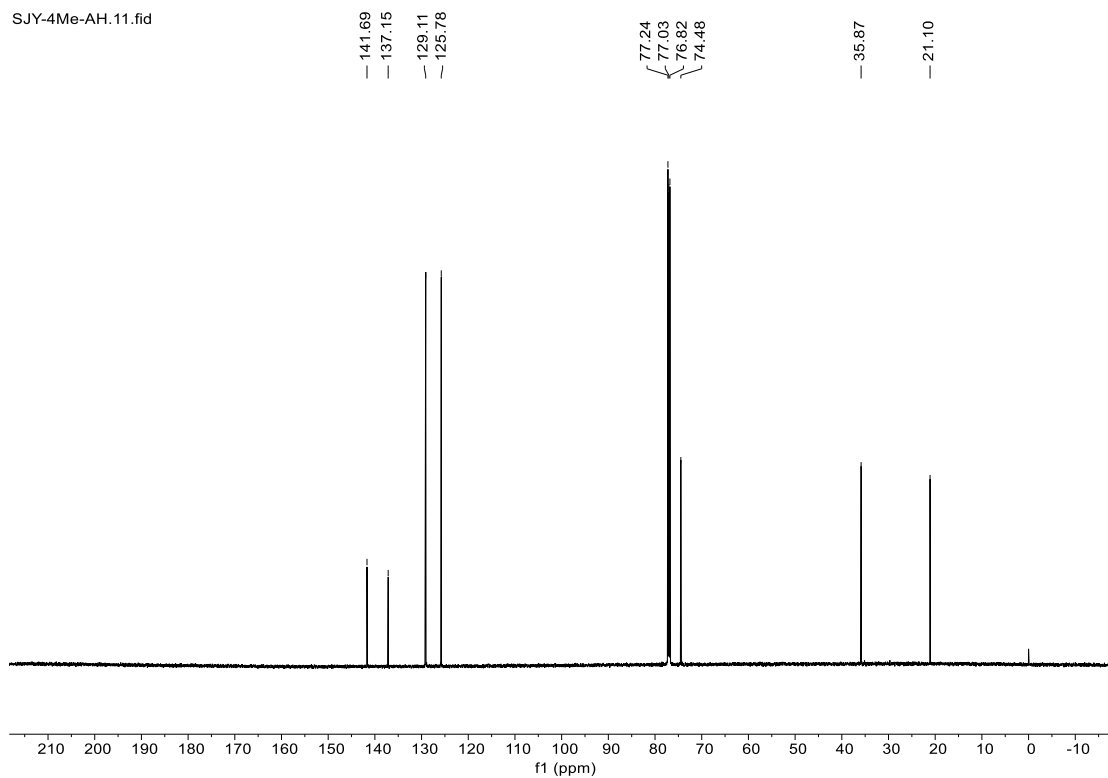


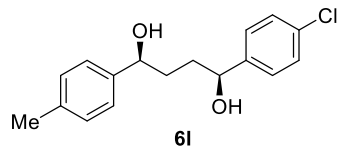
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SJY-4Me-AH.10.fid

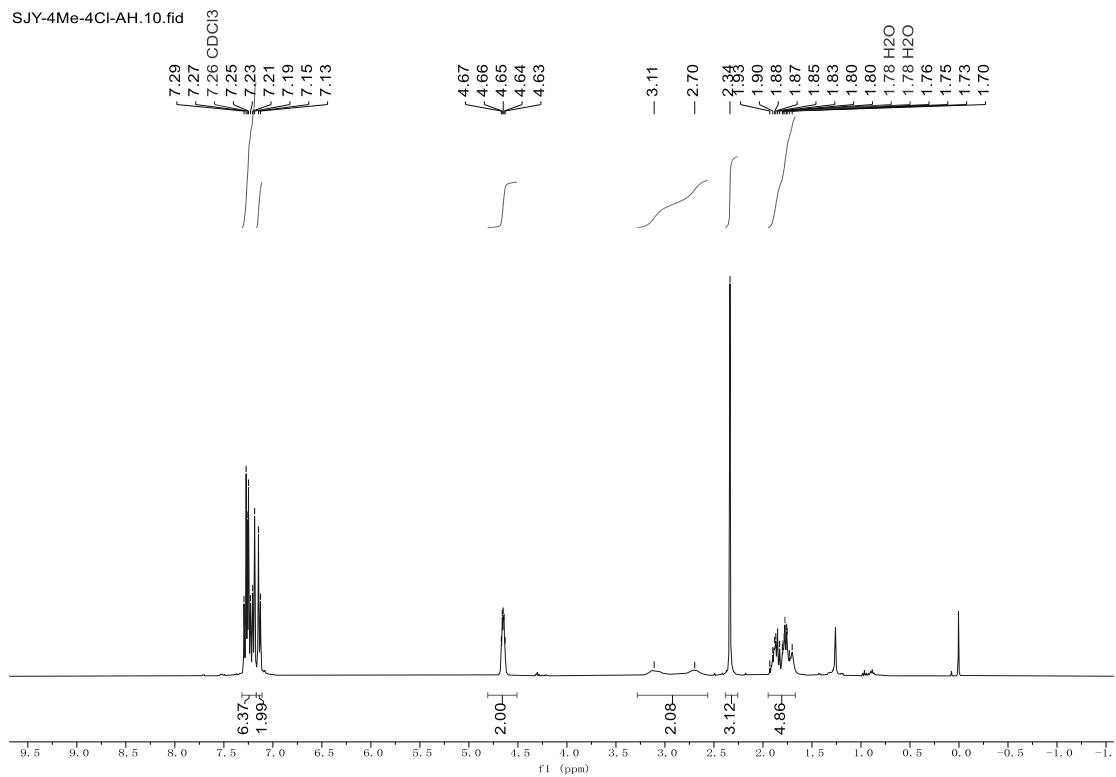


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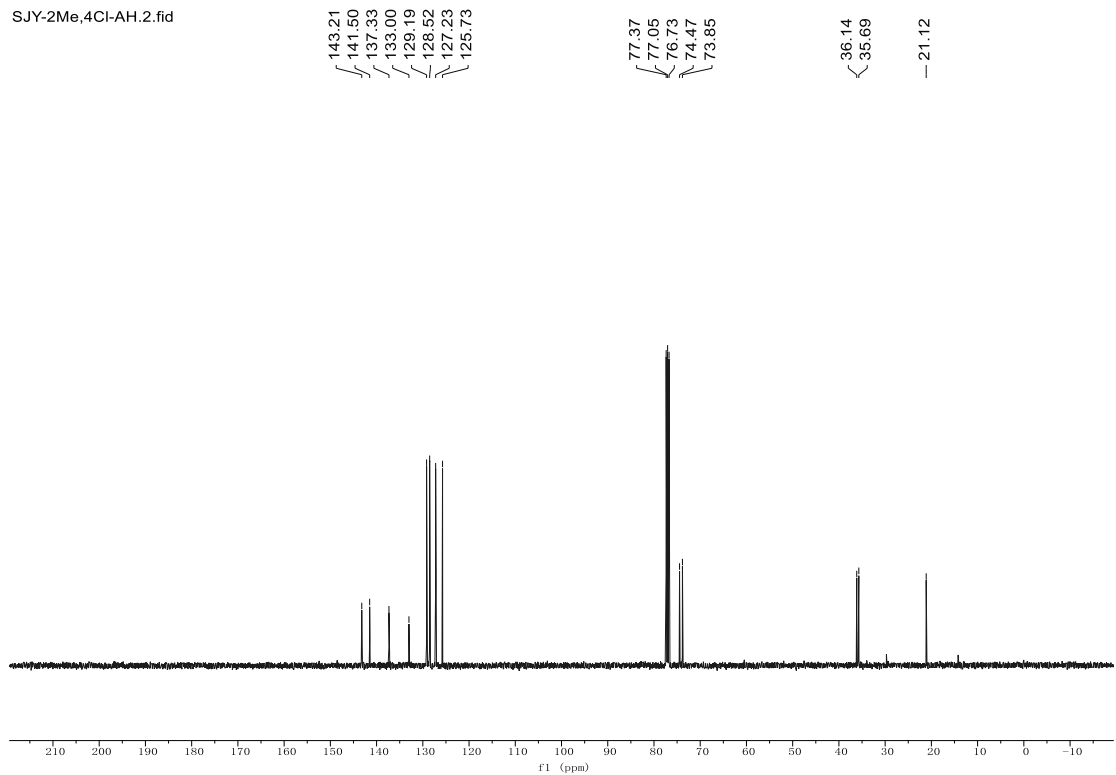


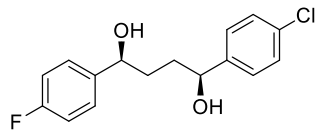


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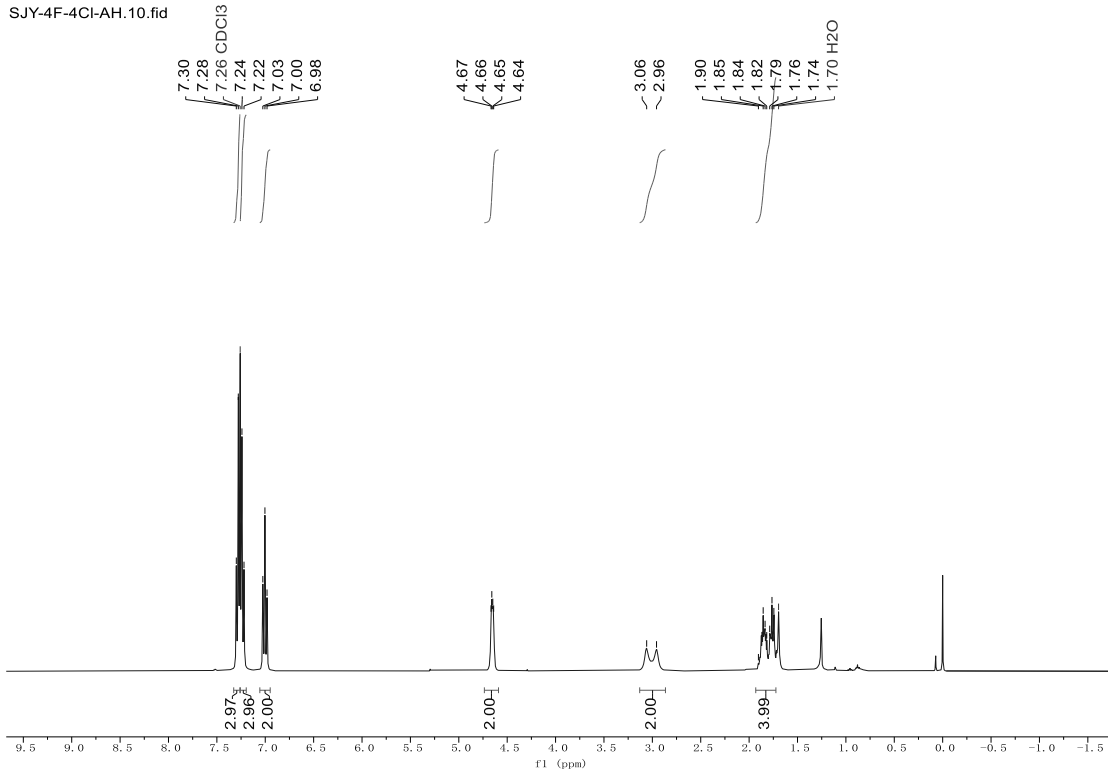
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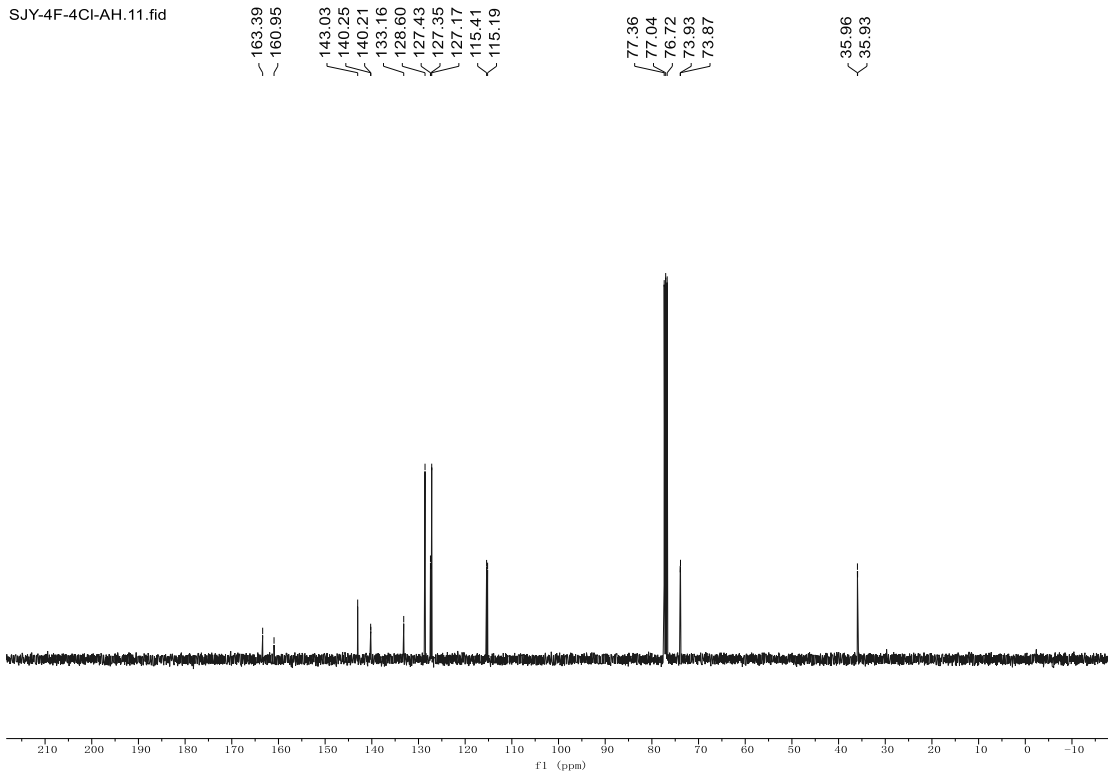


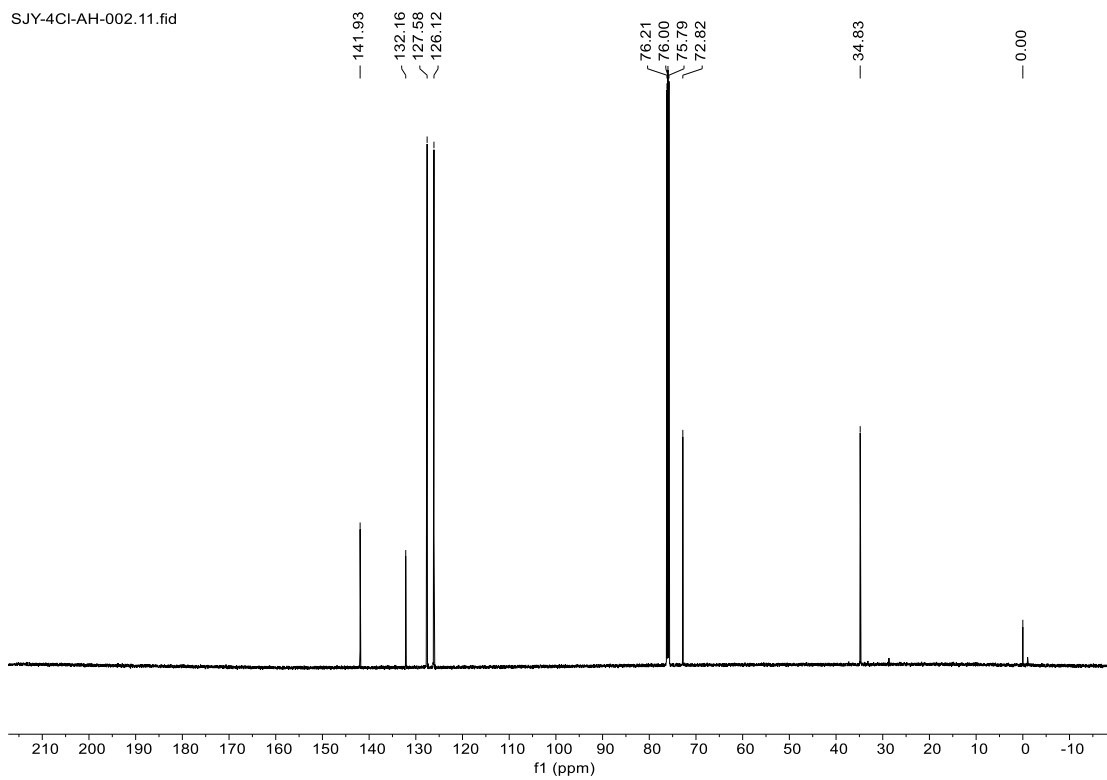
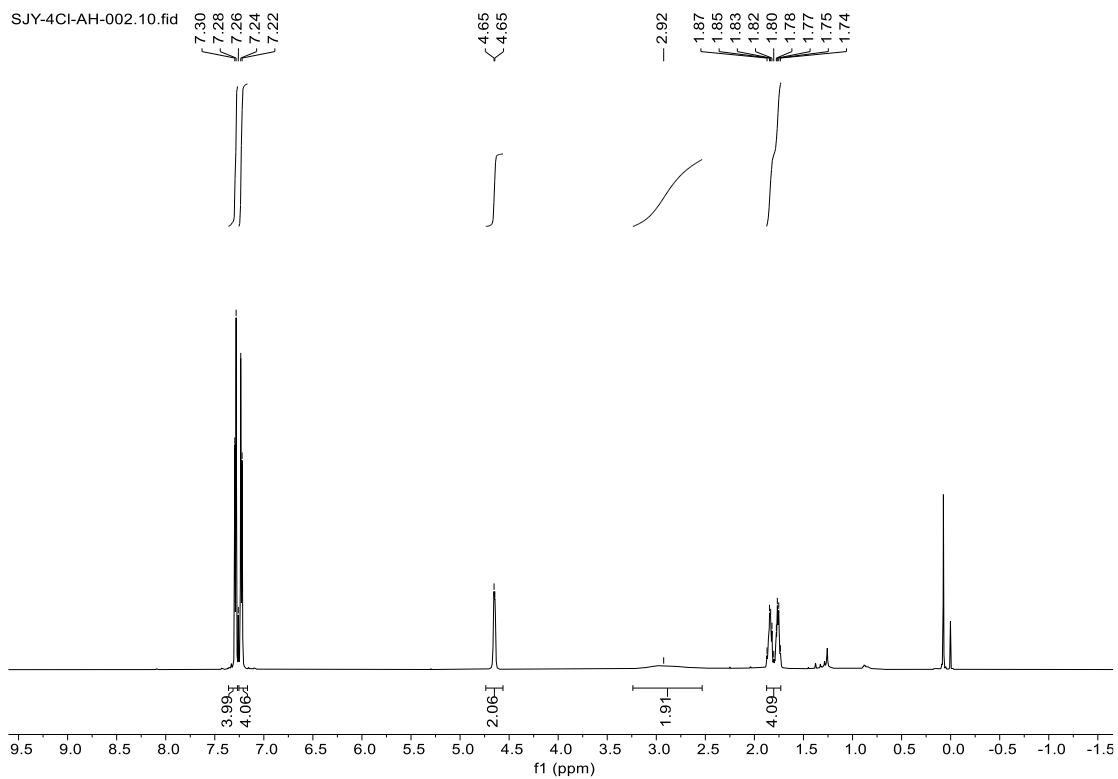
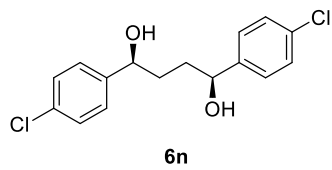
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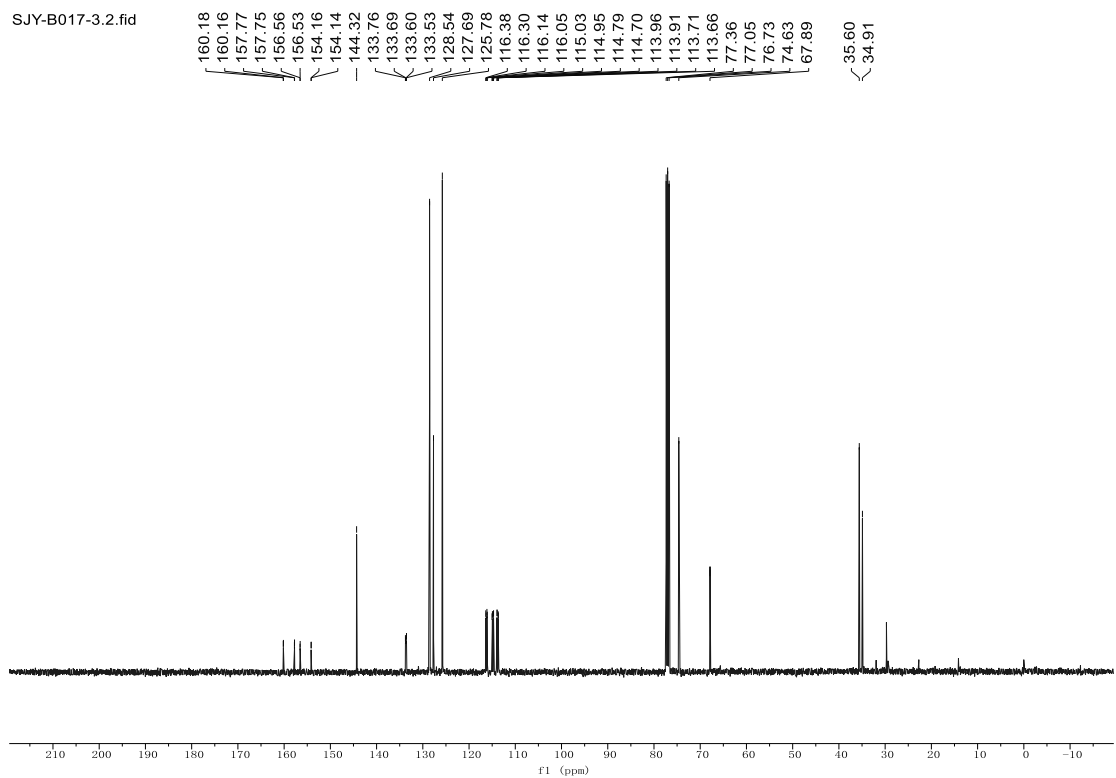
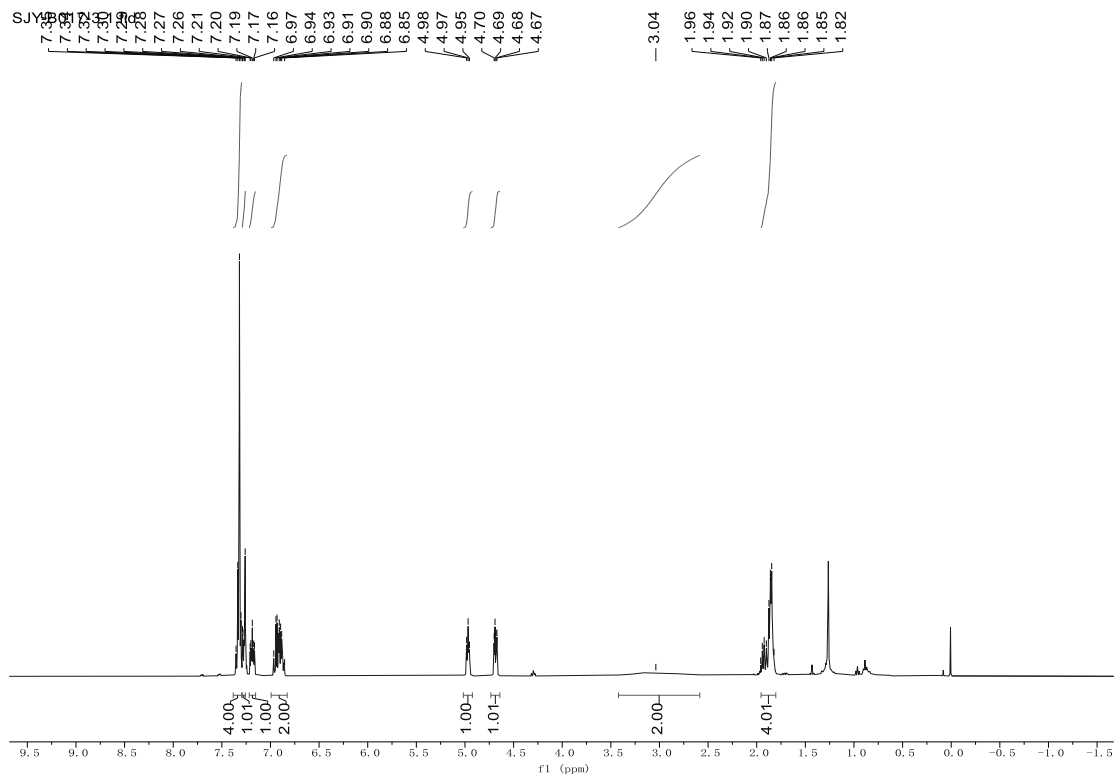
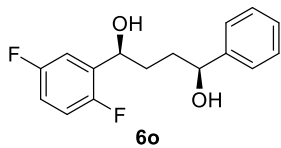
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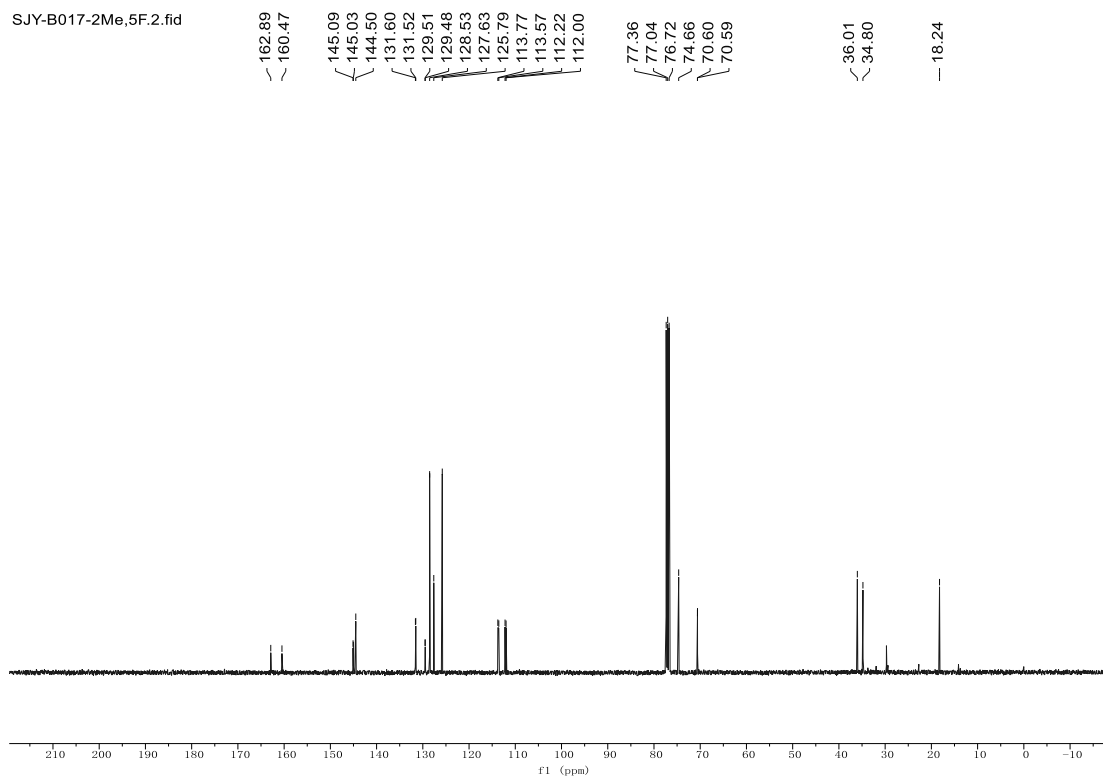
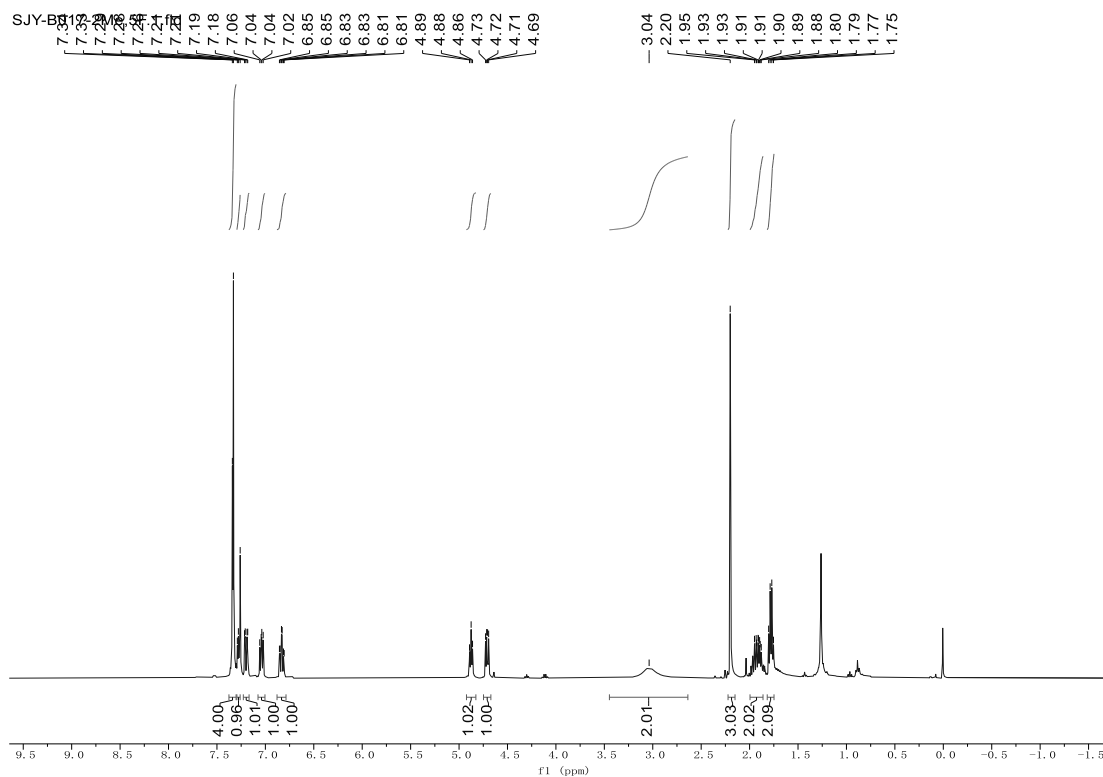
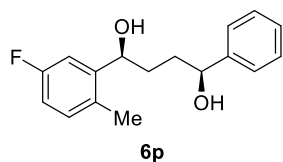


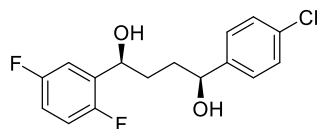
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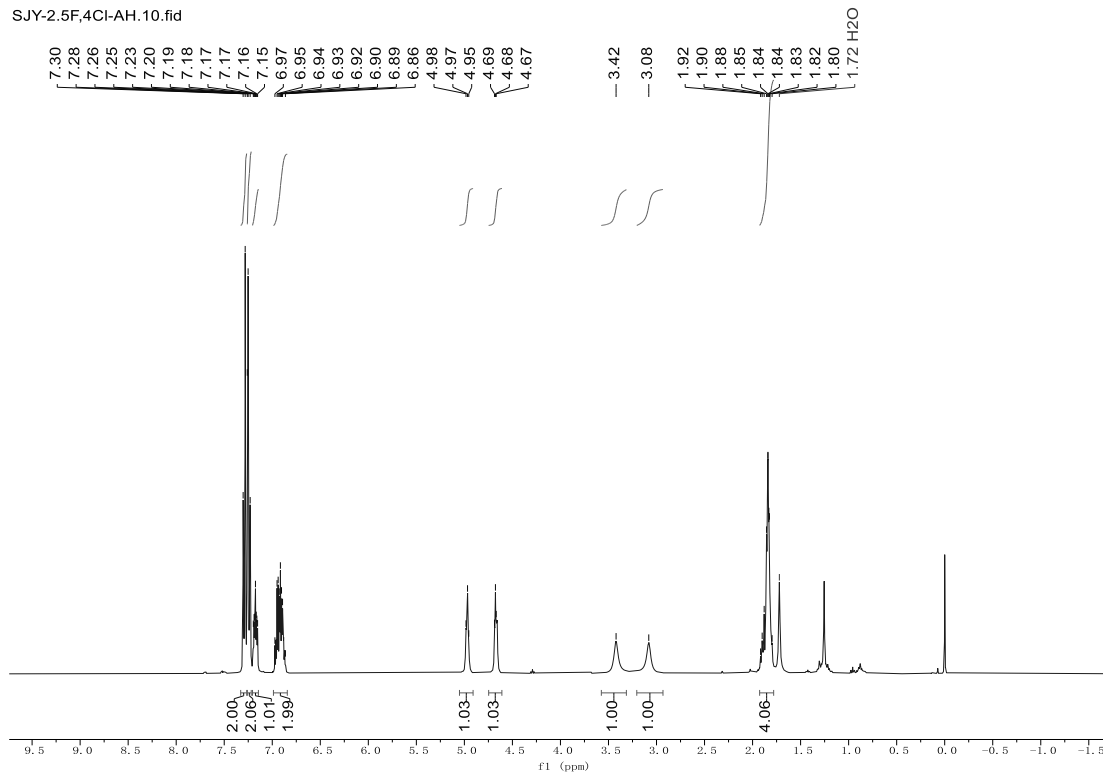




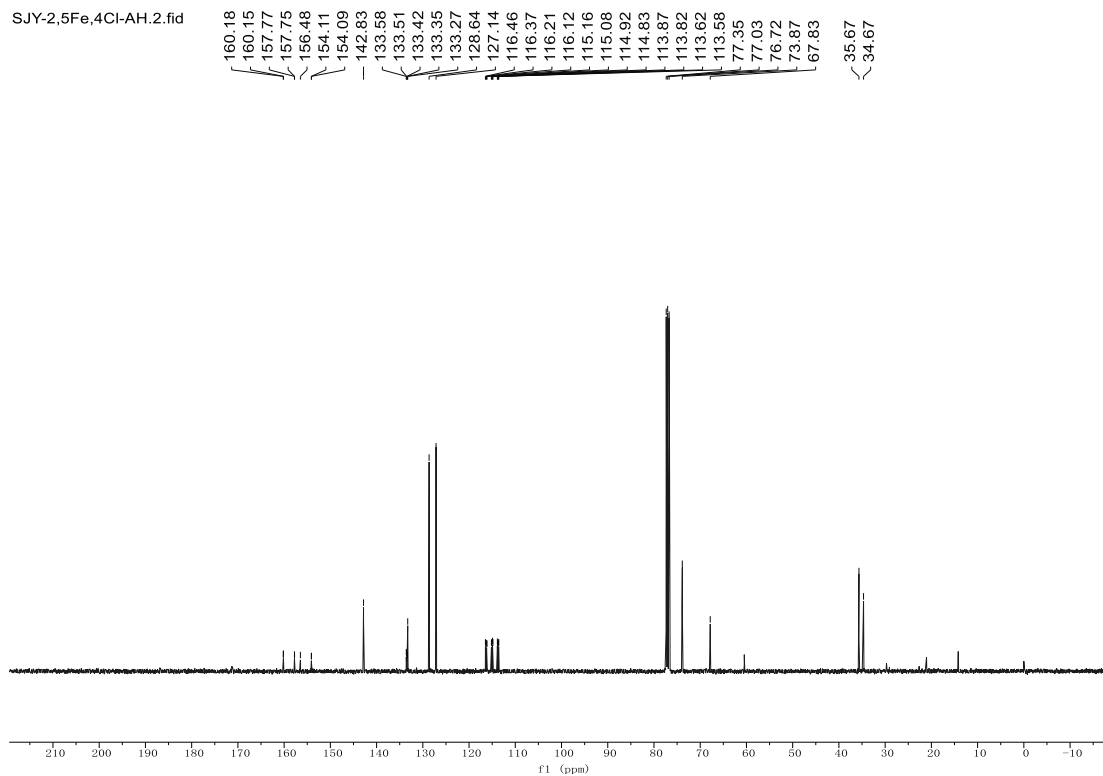


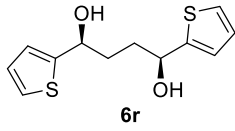
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SJY-2.5F,4Cl-AH.10.fid

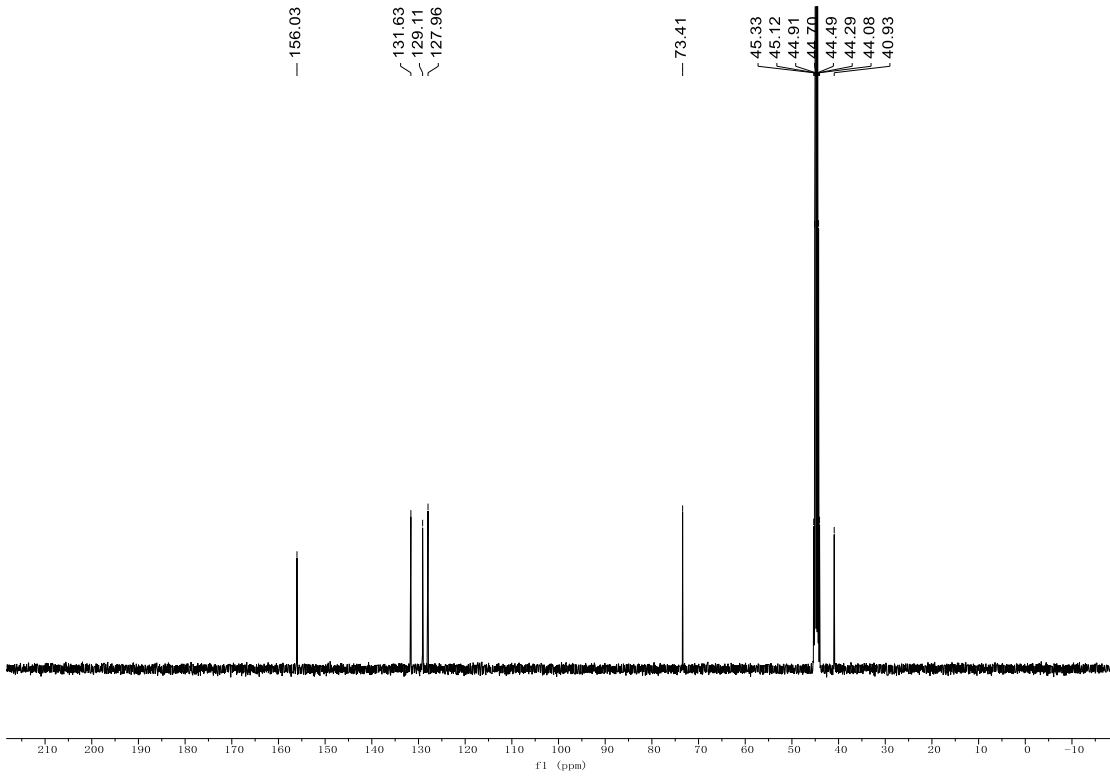
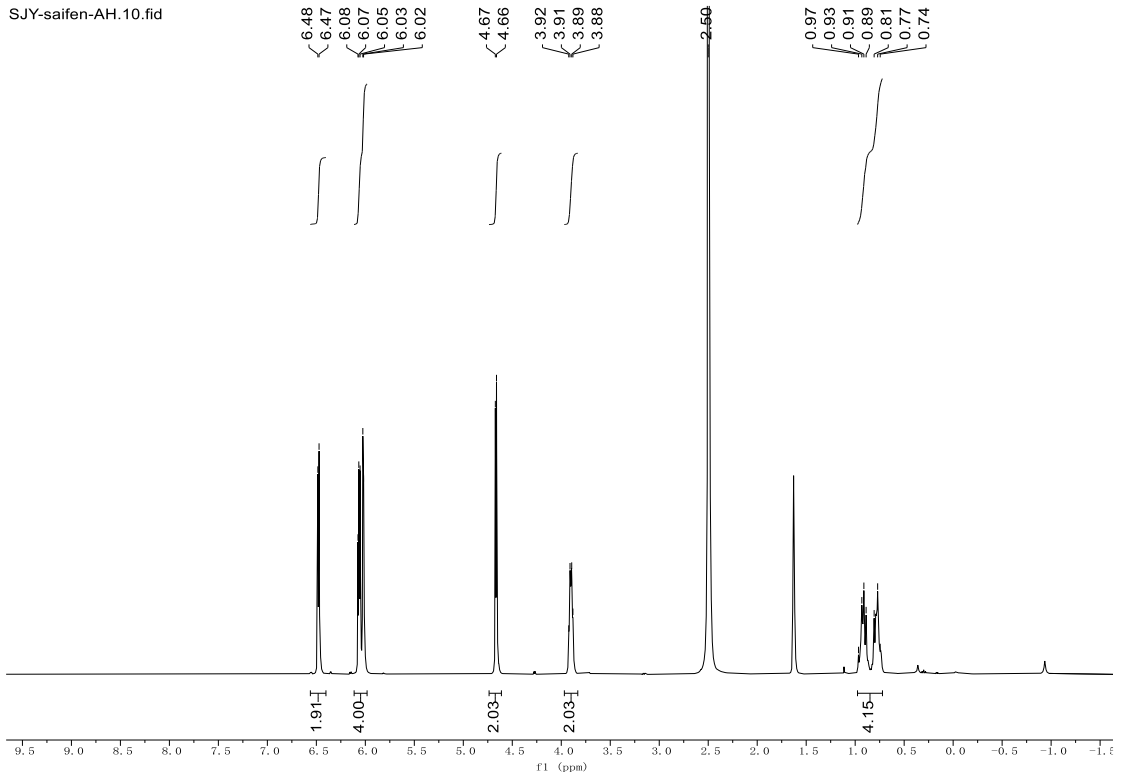


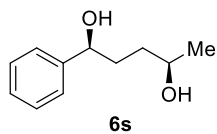
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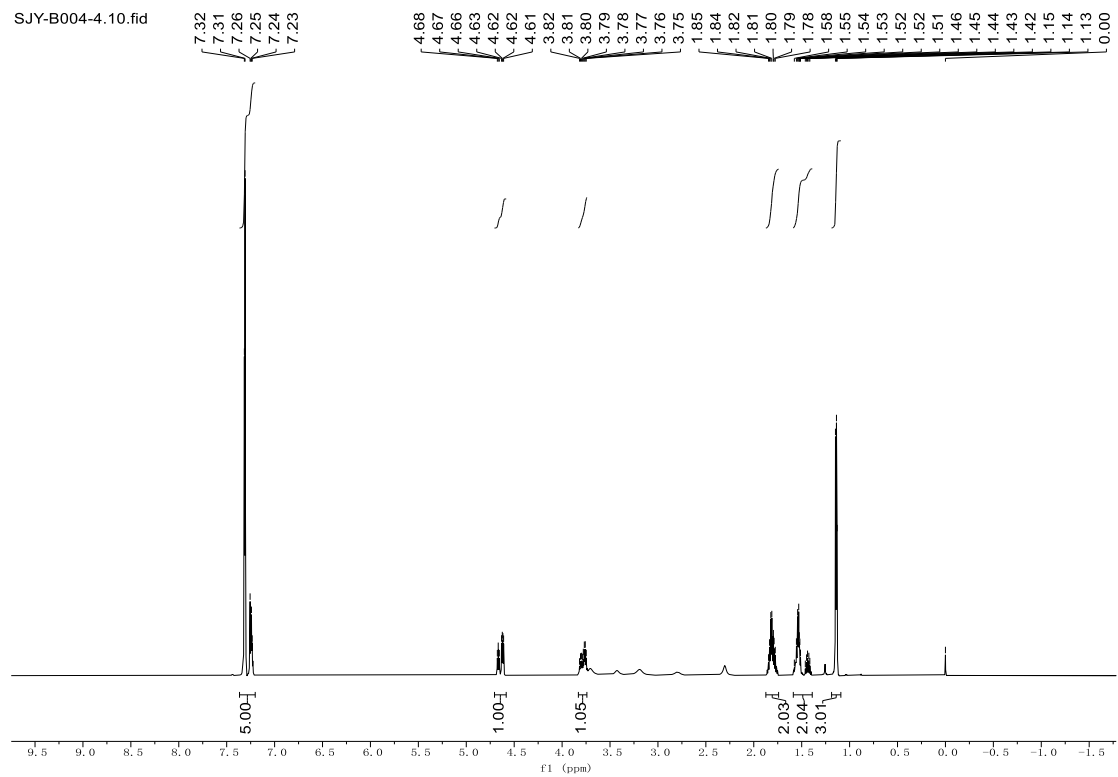


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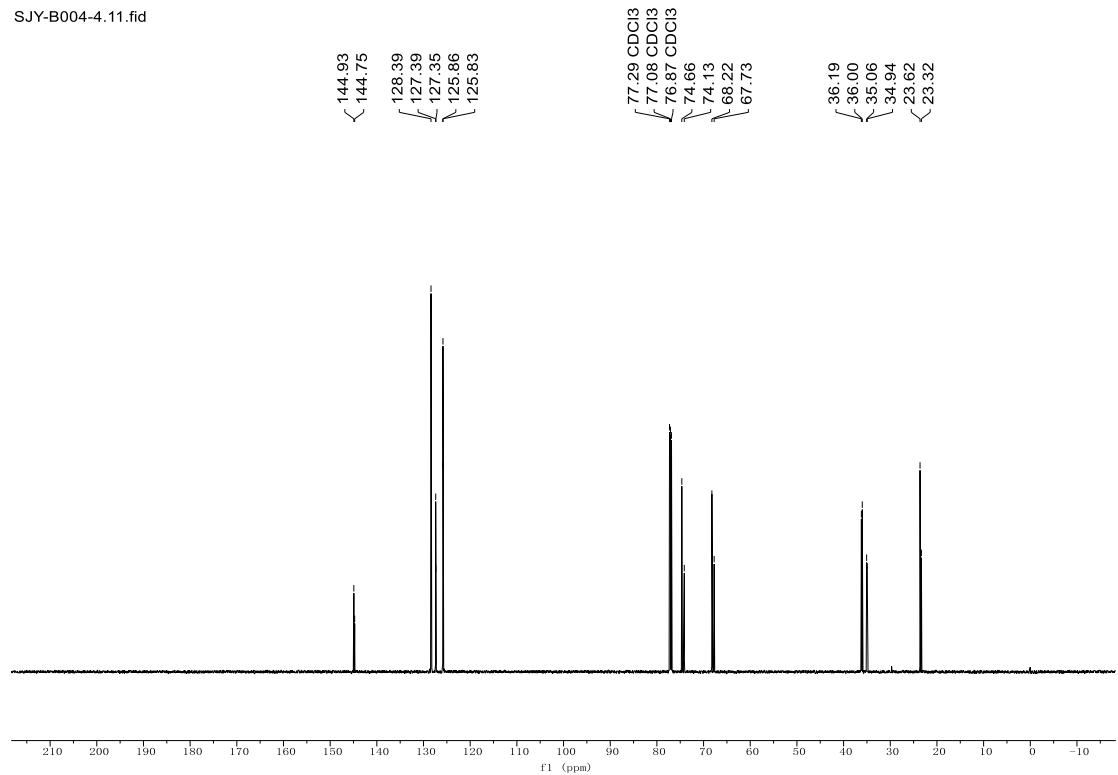


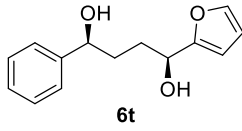


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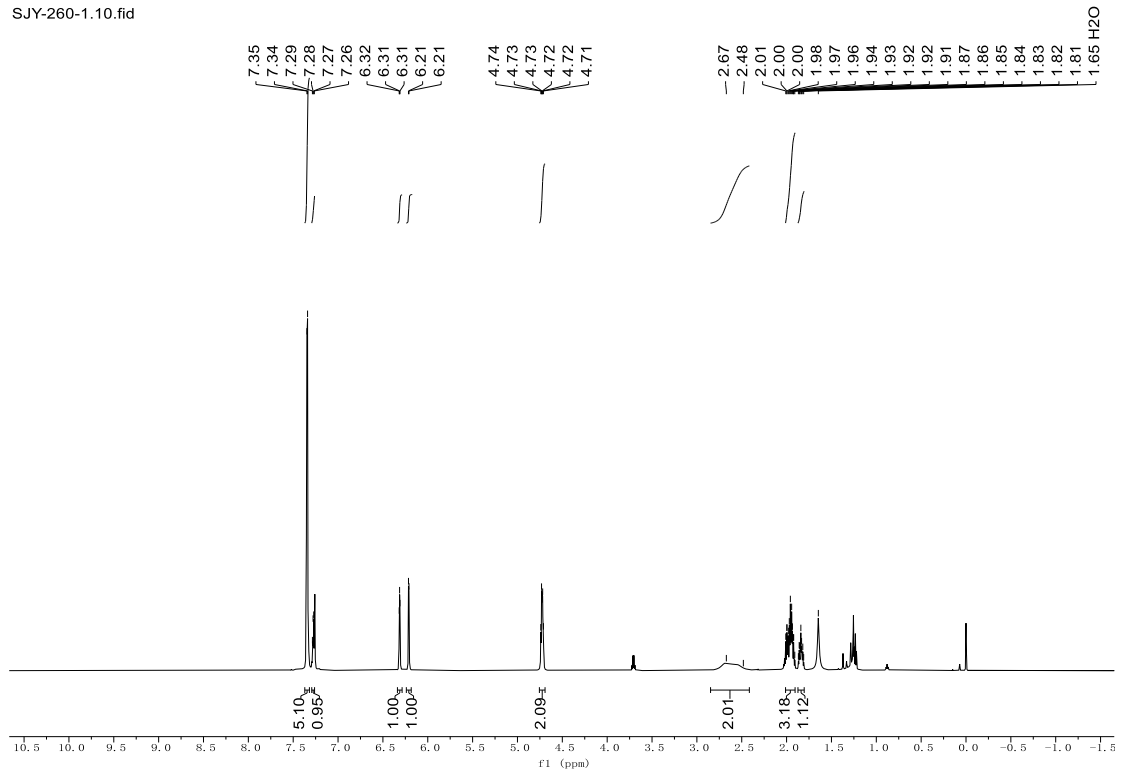


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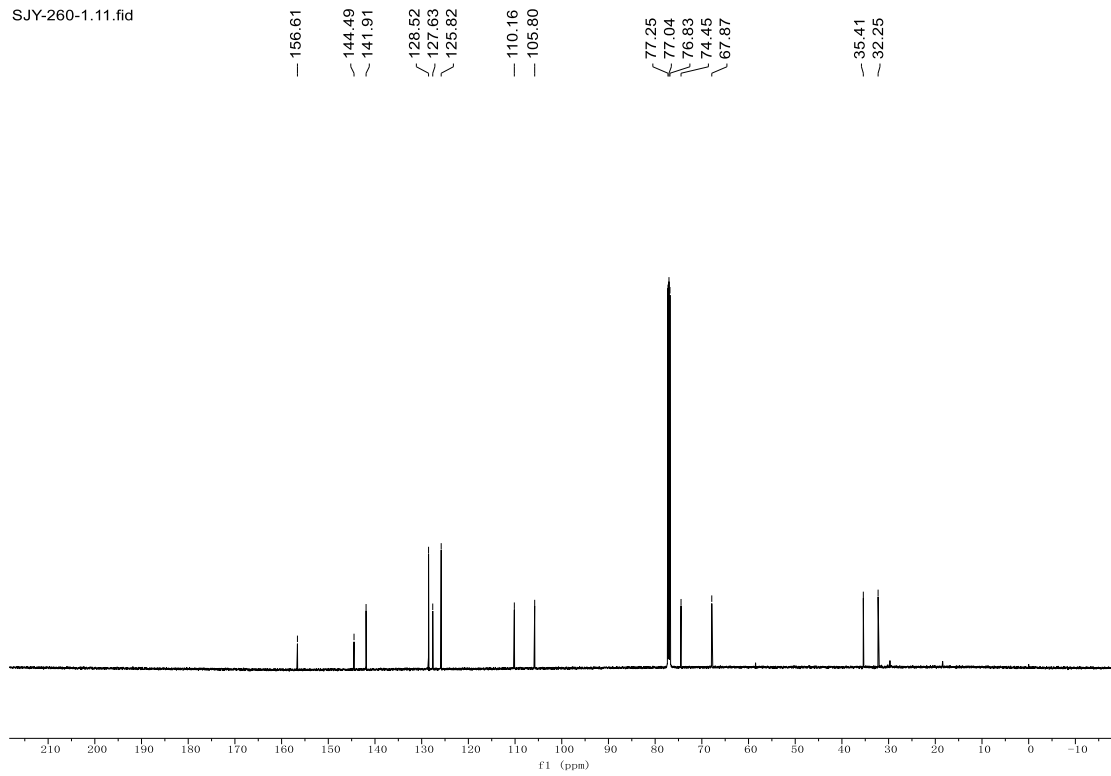


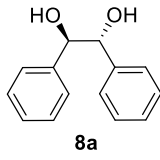


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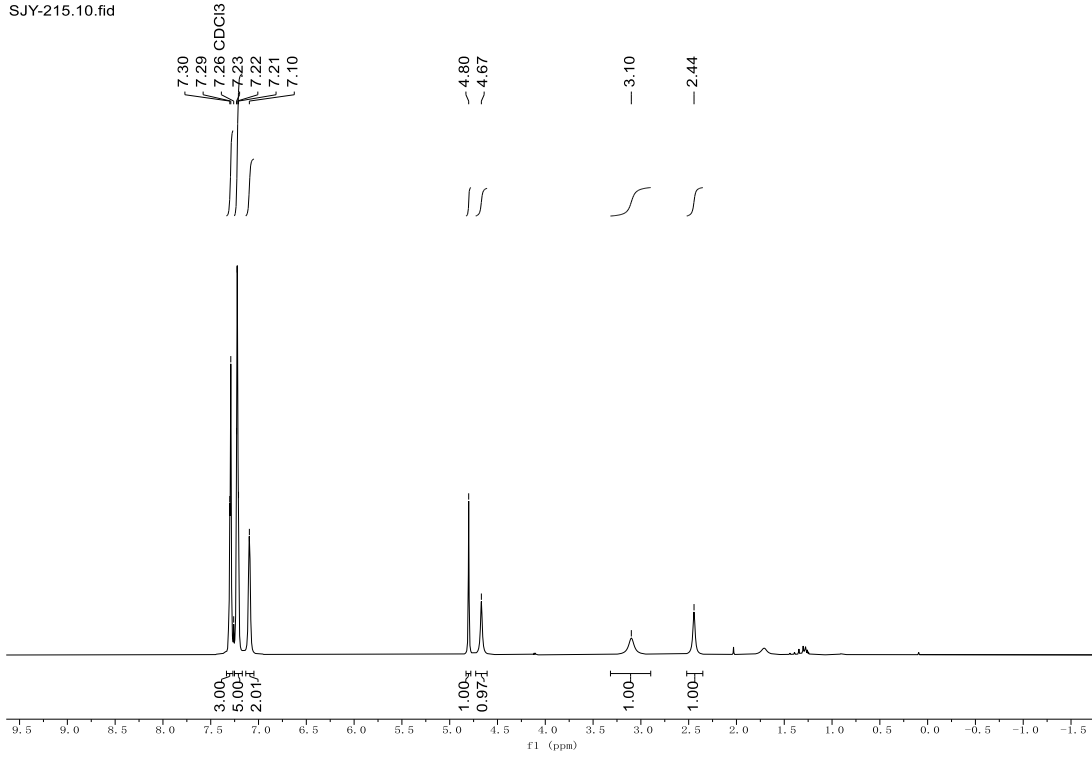


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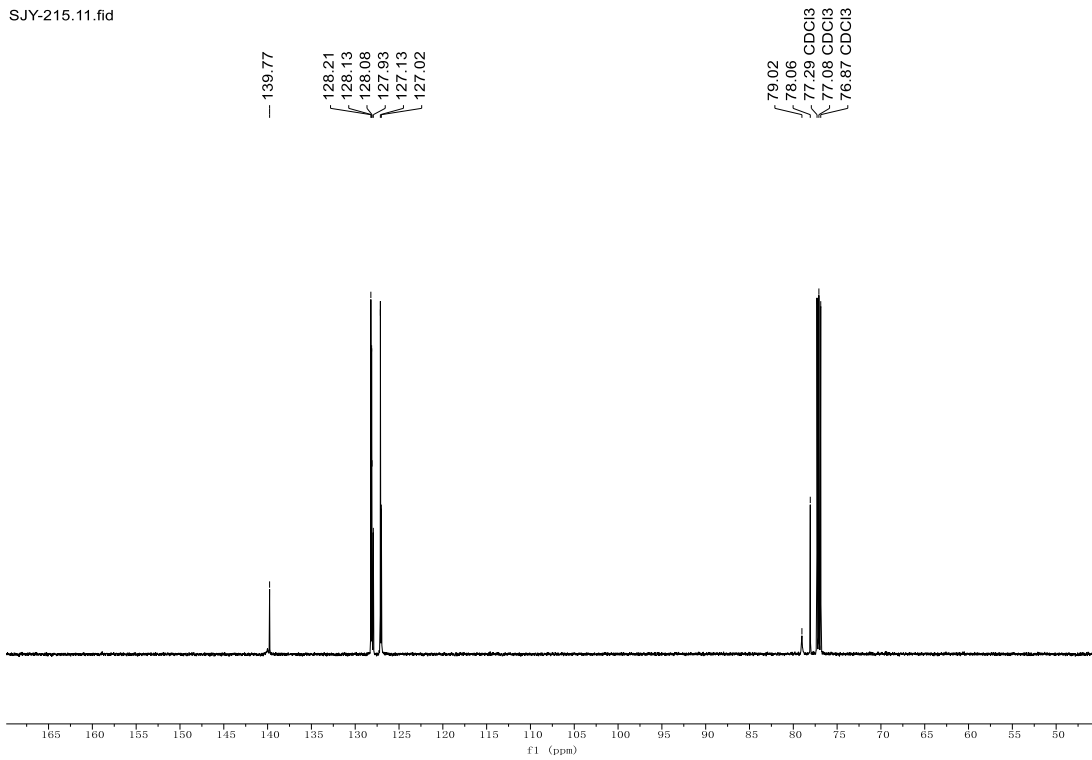


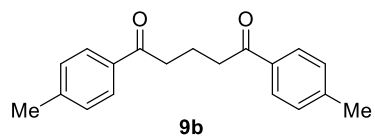


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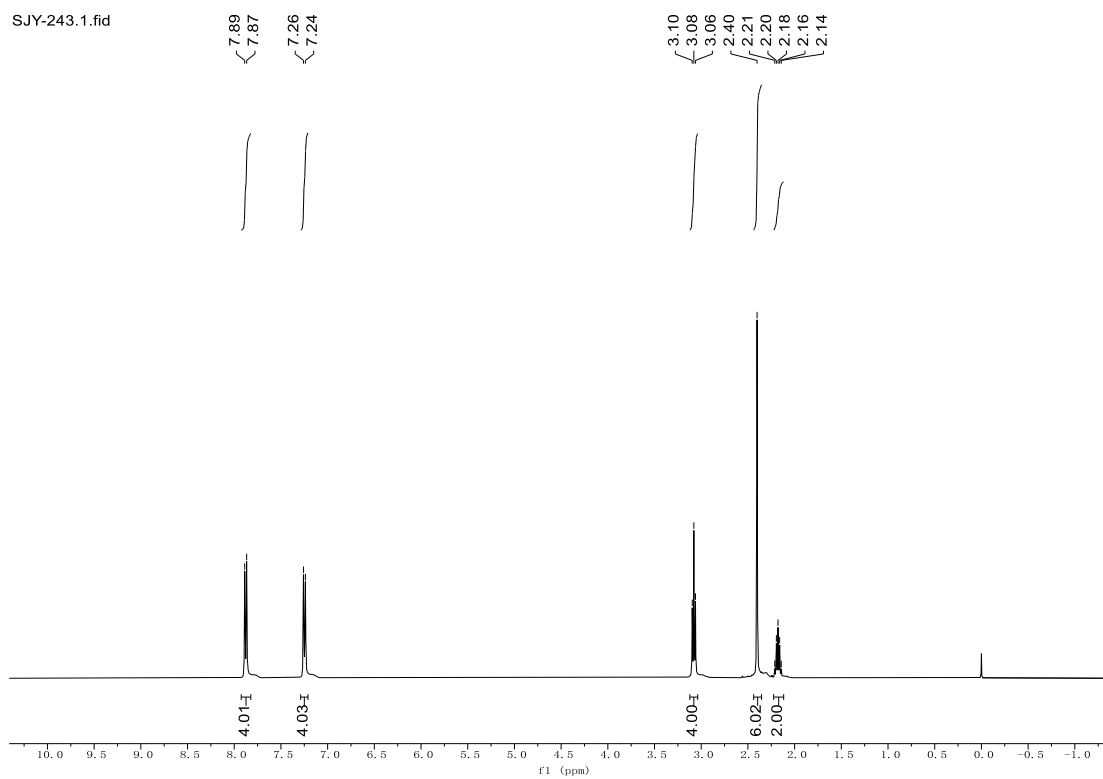


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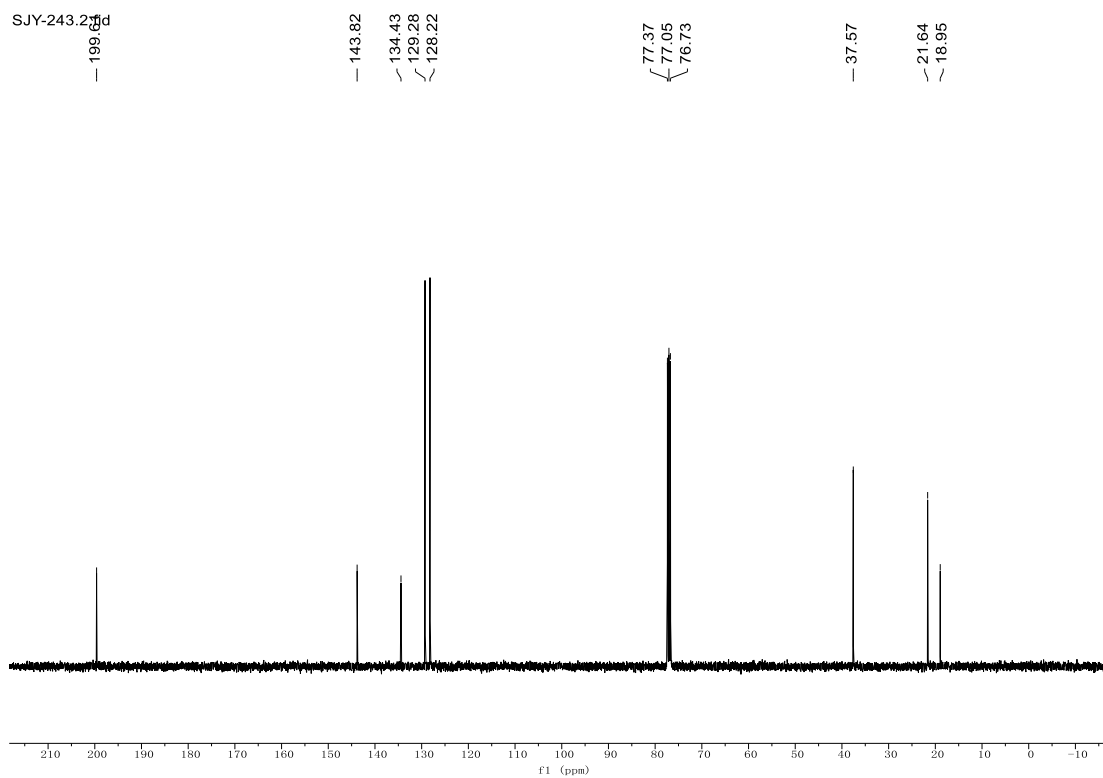


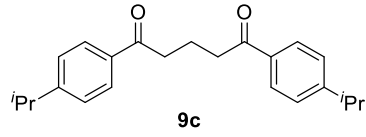


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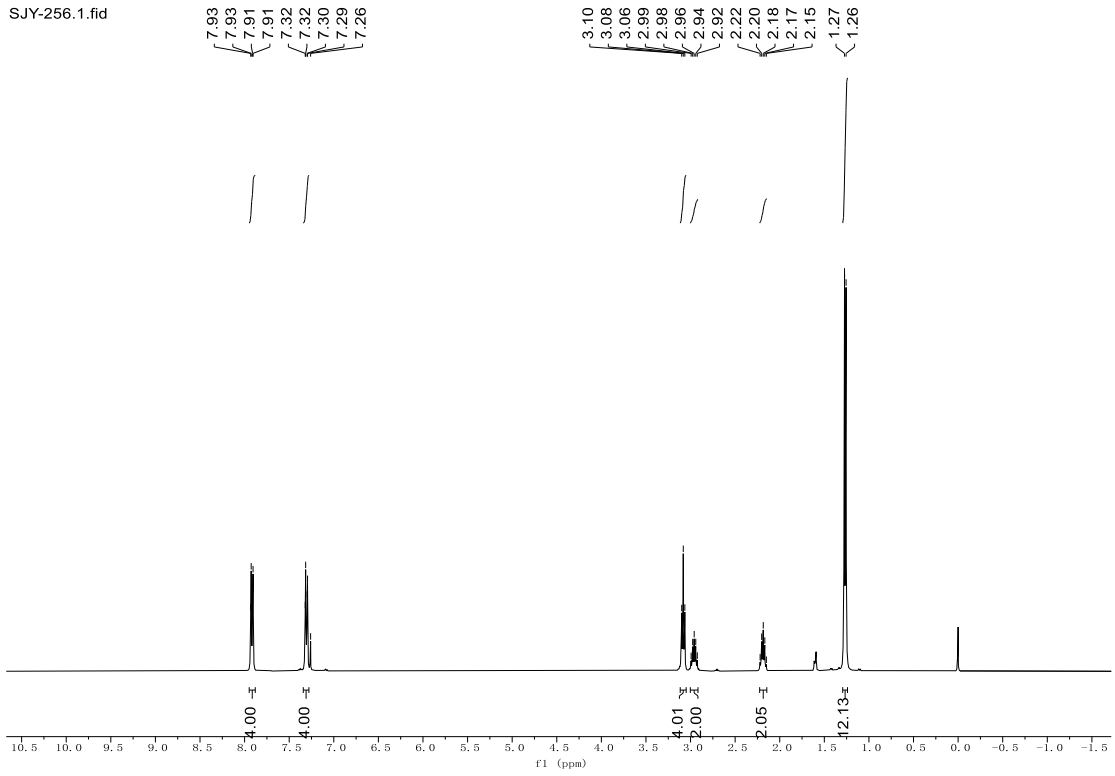


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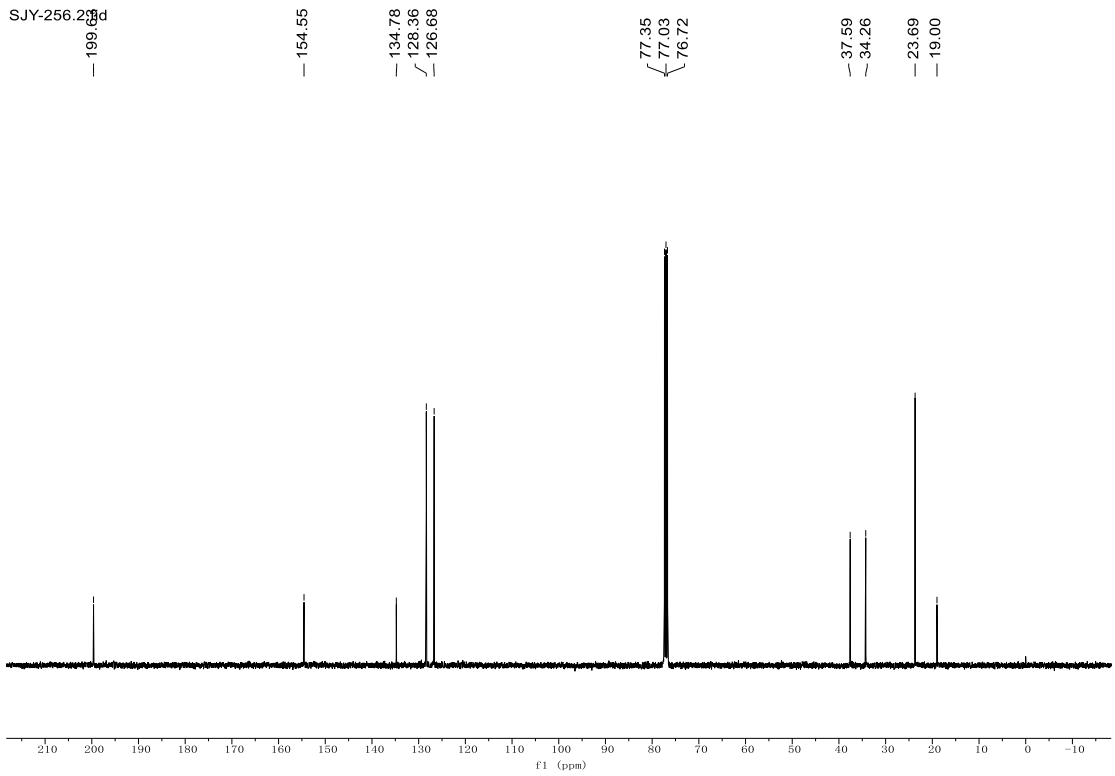


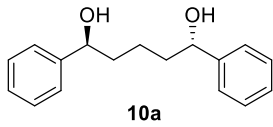


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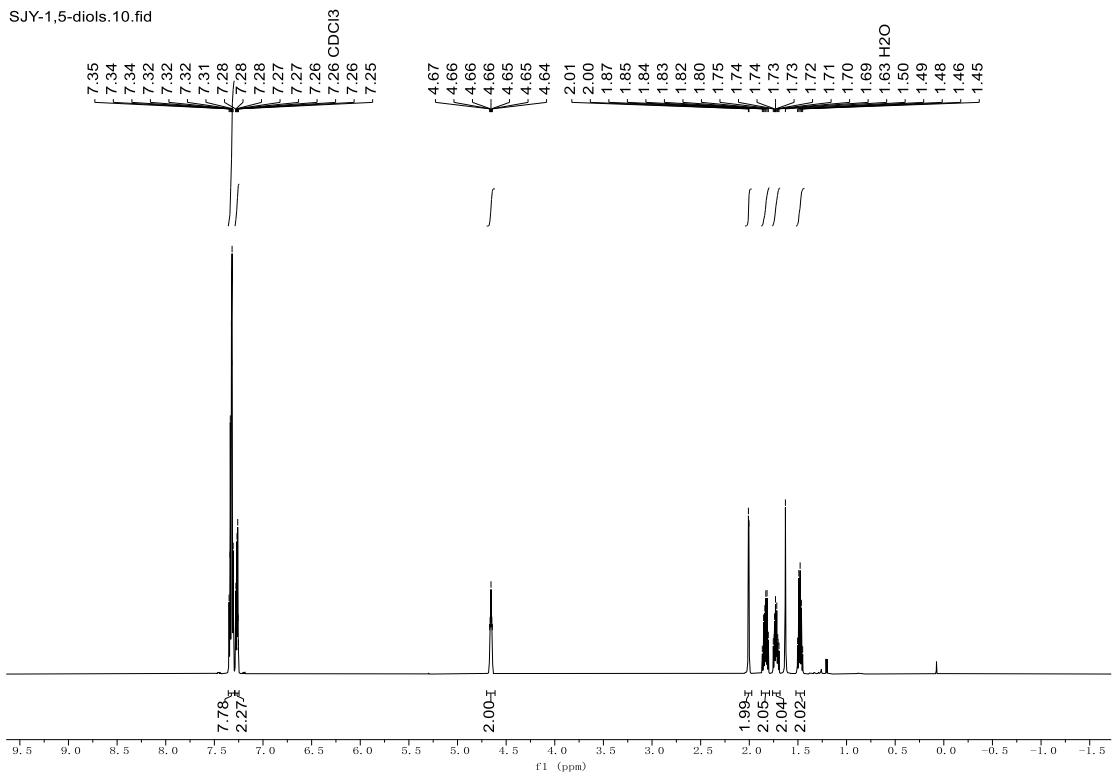


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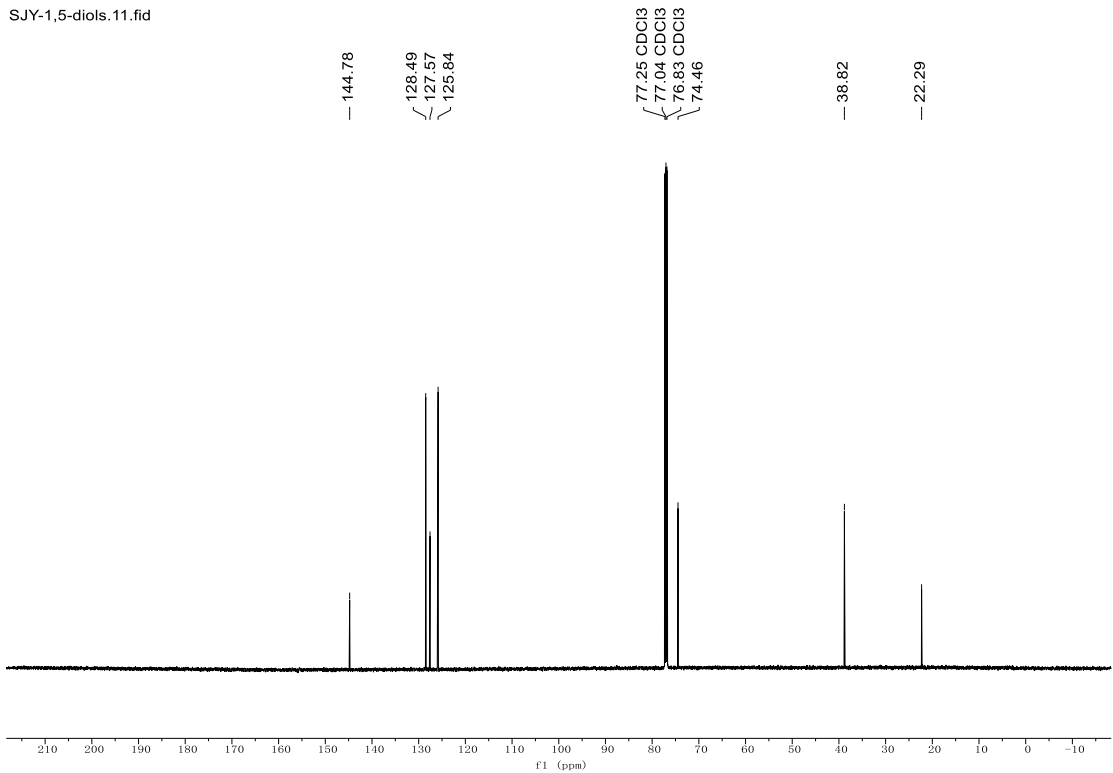


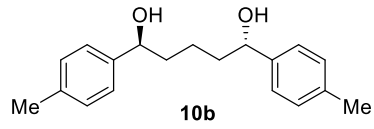


SJY-1,5-diols.10.fid

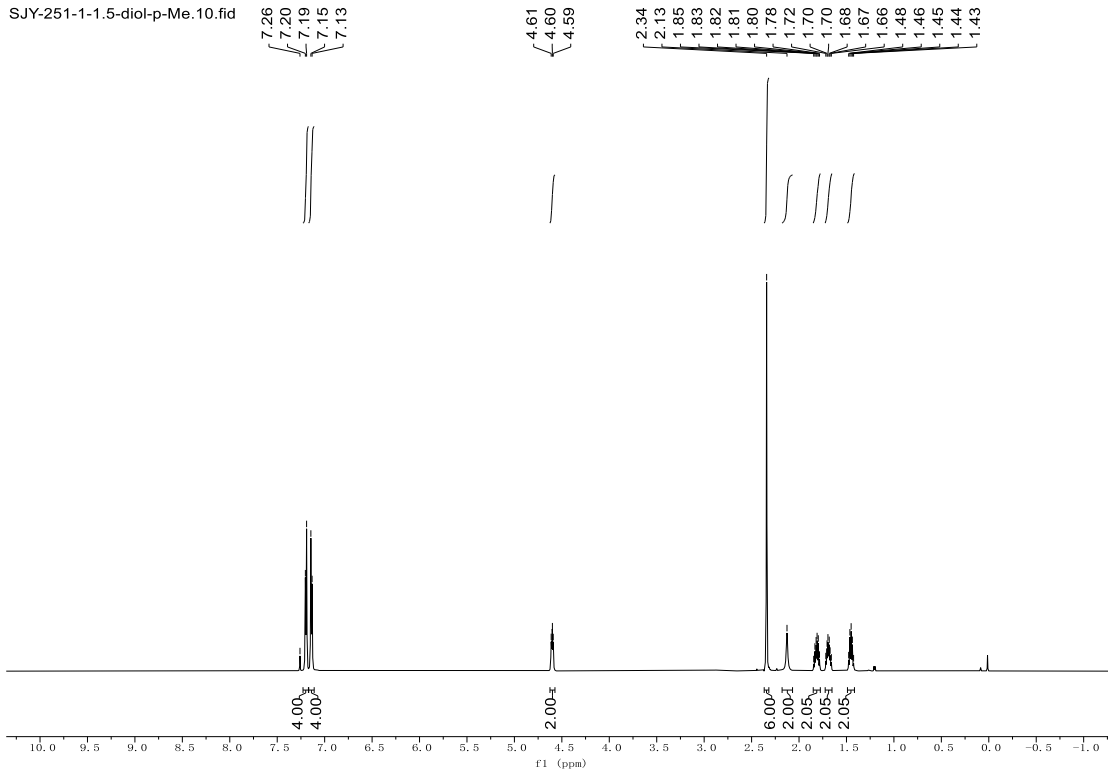


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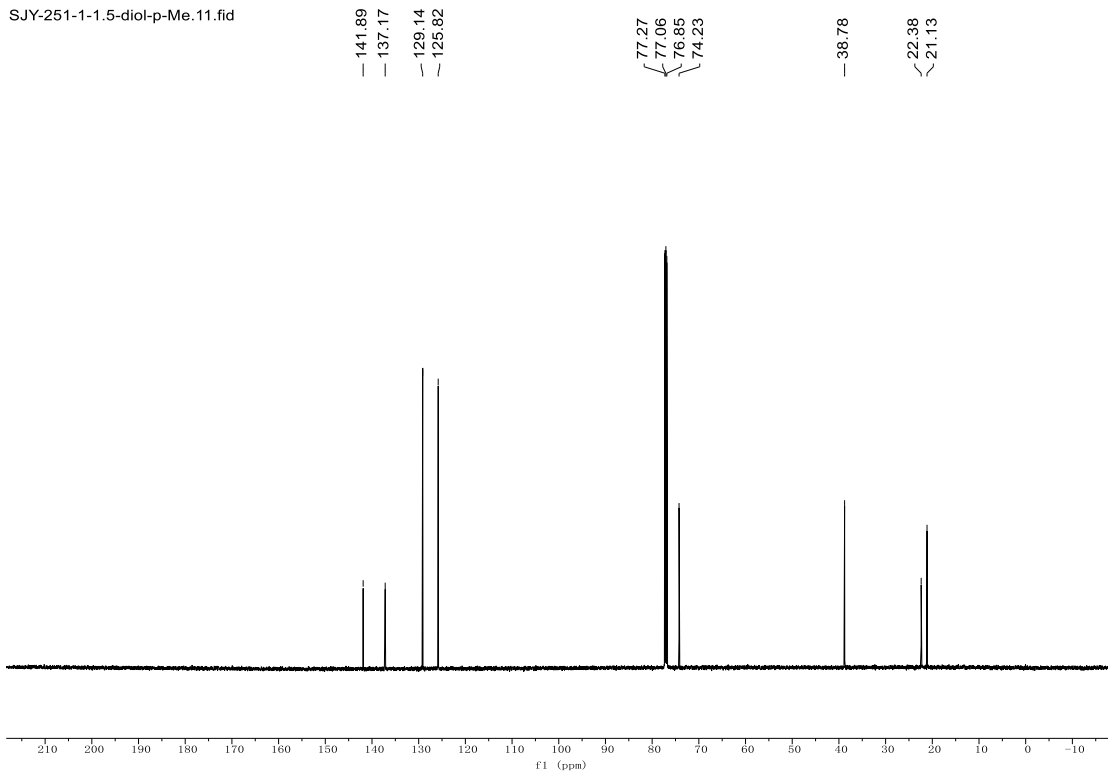


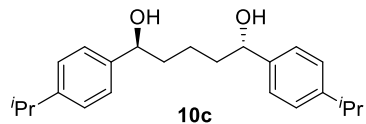


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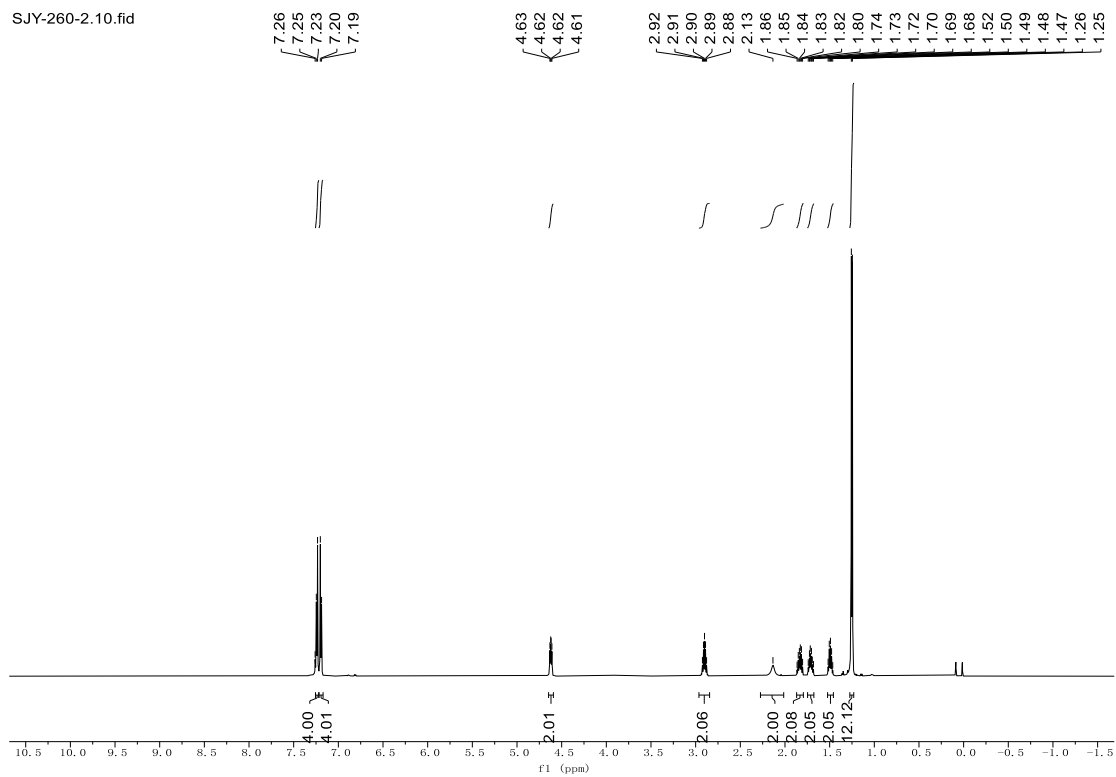


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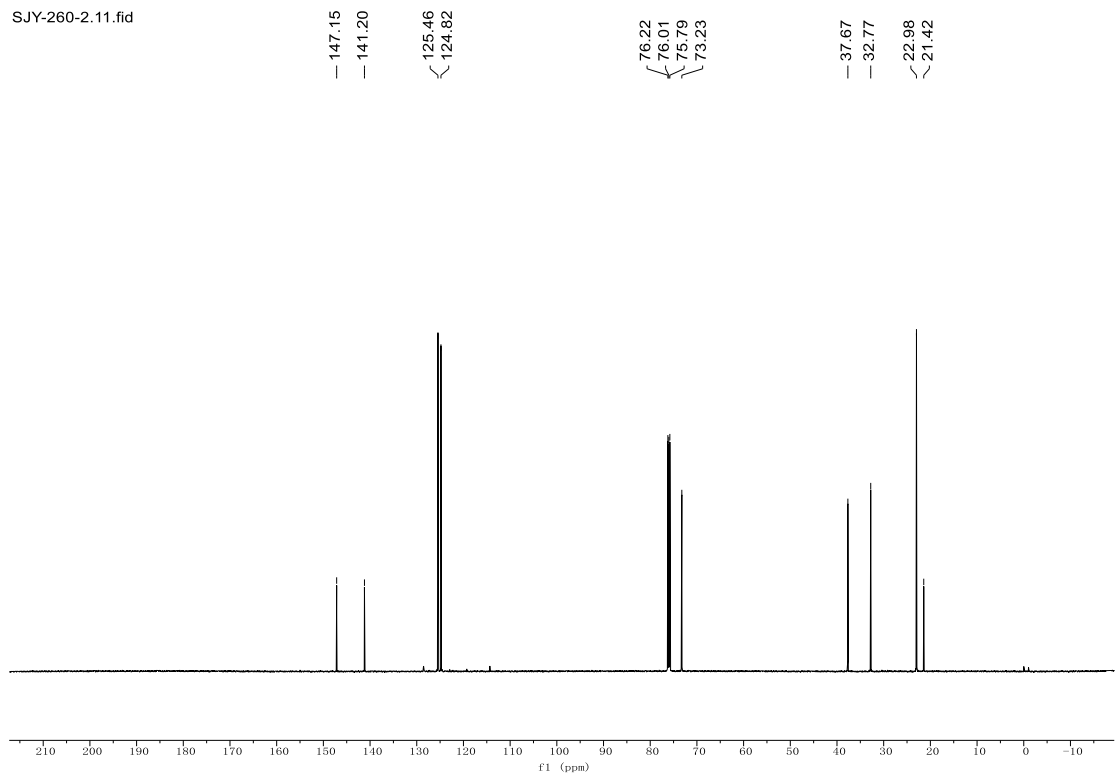


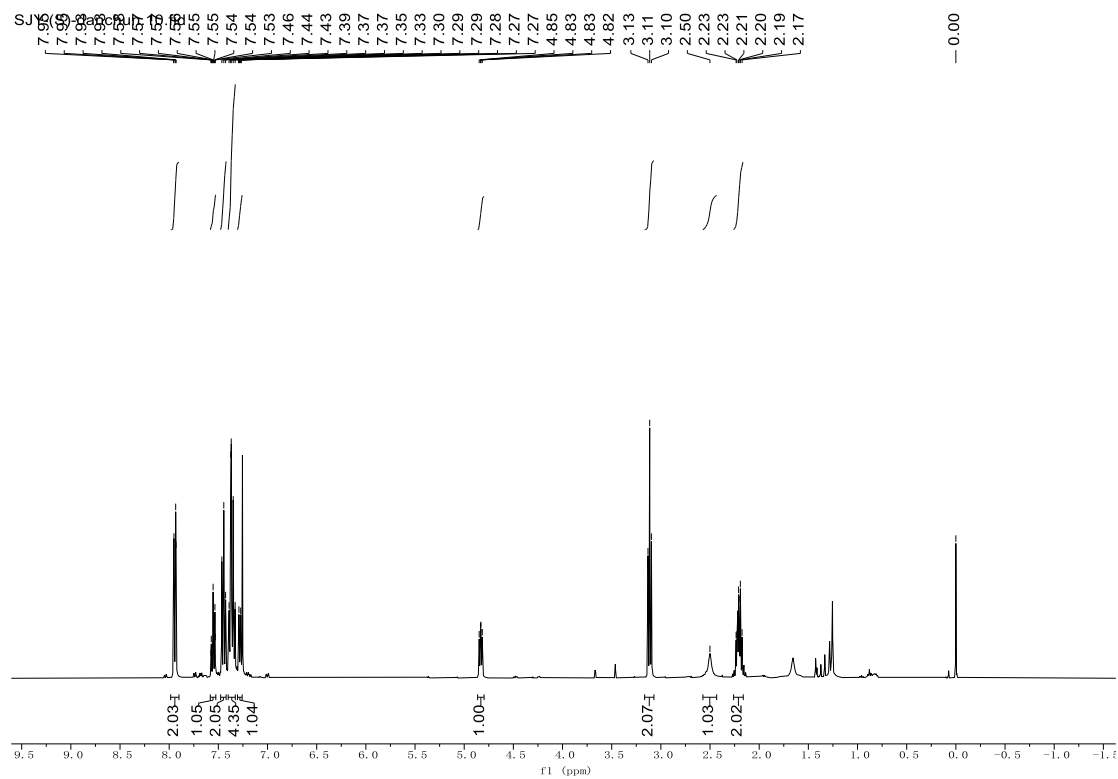
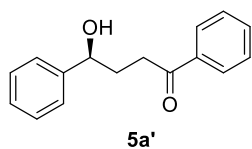


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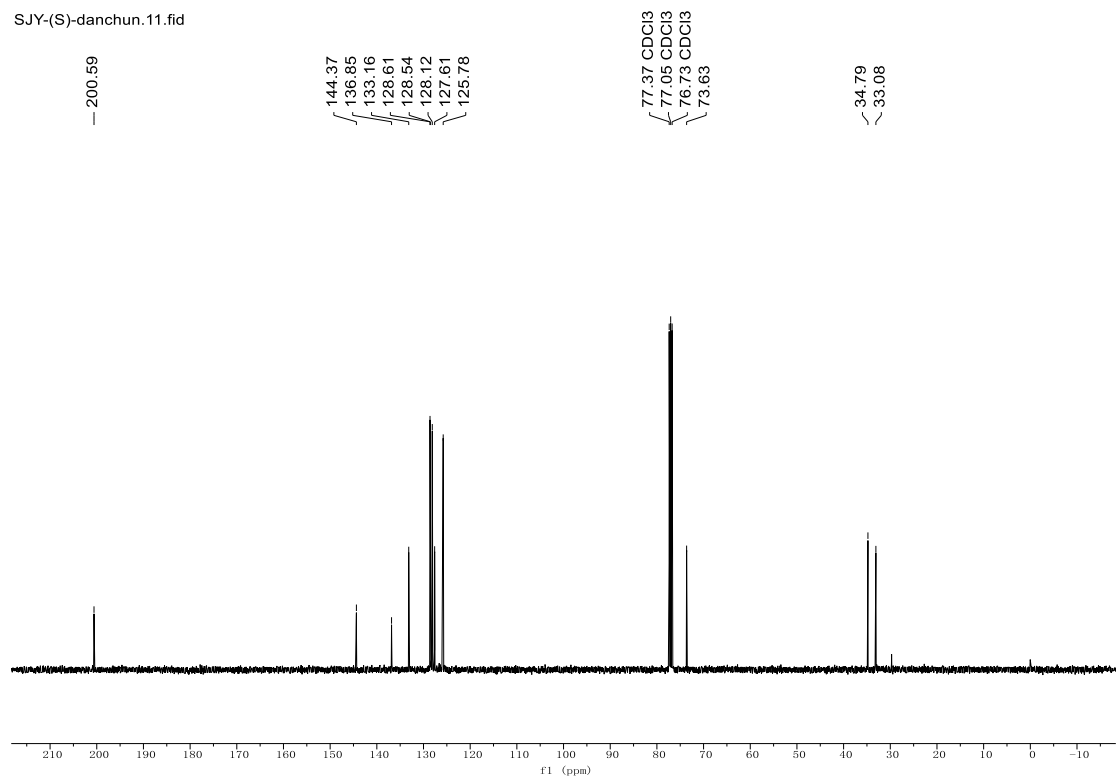


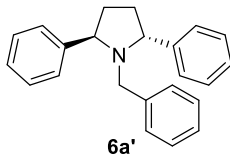
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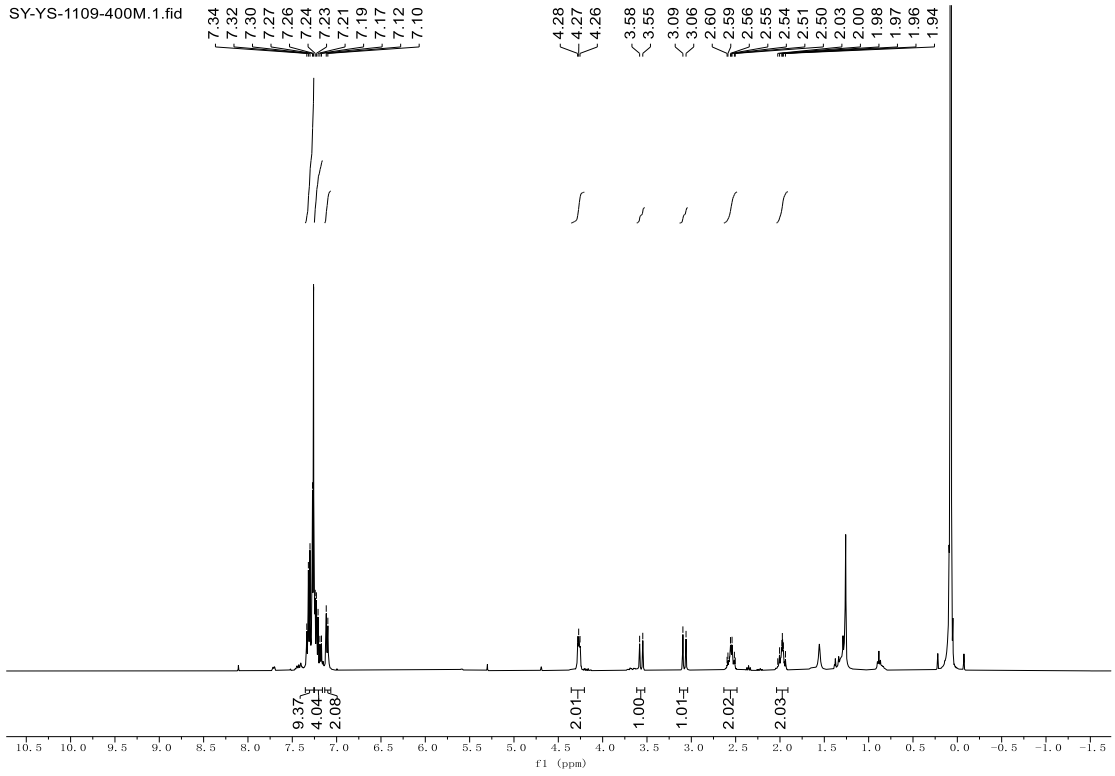


SJY-(S)-danchun.11.fid





SY-YS-1109-400M.1.fid



SY-YS-1109-400M.2.fid

