

Copper-catalyzed efficient access to 2,4,6-triphenyl pyridines via oxidative decarboxylation coupling of aryl acetic acids with oxime acetates

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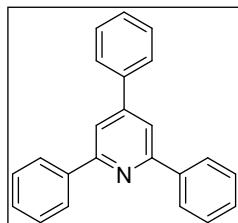
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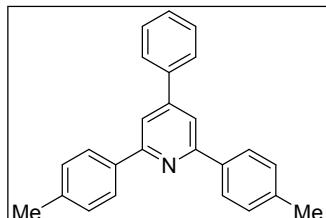
- 1. General procedure**
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General section: The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of all synthesized compounds were recorded in Bruker 400 or 500 MHz NMR machine using their solutions in CDCl_3 . The ^1H NMR was referred to TMS used as an internal standard and ^{13}C NMR was referred to the central line of CDCl_3 ($\delta = 0.00$ and $\delta = 77.00$ ppm respectively). The mass data was obtained from GC-MS. HRMS (High resolution mass spectra) were recorded using electro spray ionization in Bruker waters machine. For TLC, aluminium plates coated with silica gel containing F254 indicator were used which are purchased from Merck and the spots were visualized by UV light and/or by heating the plates sprayed with Seebach solution (phosphomolybdic acid (2.5 g), $\text{Ce}(\text{SO}_4)_2$ (1.0 g), conc. H_2SO_4 (6 mL) and H_2O (94 mL). The crude products were purified by column chromatography on 100-200 mesh silica gel using mixture of hexanes and ethyl acetate as eluent. Unless otherwise noted, all commercial reagents were used without purification. The oxime esters are synthesised according to the literature procedure.

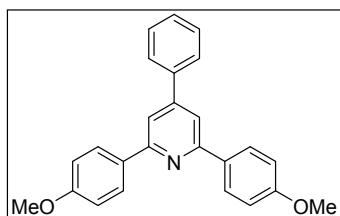
General procedure for the synthesis of 2,4,6-triphenyl substituted pyridines (3): The round bottom flask charged with oxime acetate **1** (0.2 mmol), phenylacetic acid **2** (0.15 mmol), CuCl (20 mol%) and NaHSO_3 (0.5 equiv.) in DMF (2 mL) under oxygen atmosphere. The mixture was allowed to stir at 150 °C for 2-4 h. The reaction progress was monitored by TLC. After completion of the reaction mixture cooled to room temperature and diluted with ethyl acetate (10 mL) and water. Both layers were separated and aqueous fraction washed with ethyl acetate (10 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and the solvents were removed using rotary evaporator. The crude residue was purified by column chromatography using silica gel as stationary phase, Hexane/EtOAc (98:2) as a mobile phase to obtain the corresponding **3**.¹



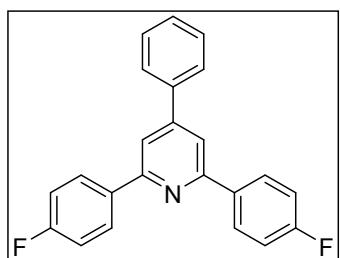
2,4,6-Triphenyl-pyridine (3aa).¹ White solid, 90% yield, mp 101-102 °C (lit.^{1,2} mp 102-104 °C); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.21 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 4H), 7.90 (s, 2H), 7.76 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.60 - 7.41 (m, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.5, 150.2, 139.6, 139.1, 129.2, 129.0, 129.0, 128.5, 127.2, 127.1, 117.1; HRMS (ESI) calc. for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H})^+$, 308.1437, found 308.1441.



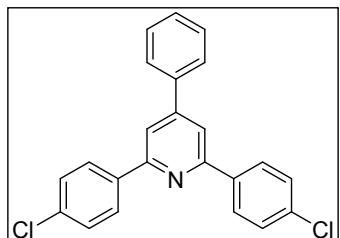
2,6-Bis(4-methylphenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (3ab). White solid, 92% yield, mp 150 -154 °C (lit.¹ mp 157.4- 157.9 °C); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.11- 8.09 (m, 4H), 7.84 (s, 2H), 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.55- 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.31 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 4H), 2.42 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.4, 150.0, 139.3, 138.9, 136.9, 129.4, 129.1, 128.8, 127.2, 127.1, 116.5, 21.2; HRMS (ESI) calc. for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H})^+$, 336.1747, found 336.1752.



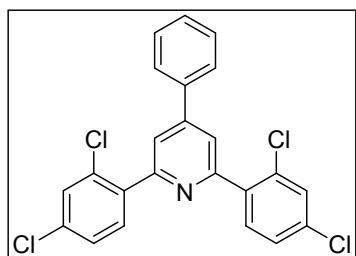
2,6-Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (3ac). White solid, 94% yield, mp 96-98 °C (lit.^{1,2} mp 98-98 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 4H), 7.78 (s, 2H), 7.53-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 3H), 3.88 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.3, 156.8, 150.0, 139.3, 132.2, 130.6, 128.8, 128.3, 127.1, 115.7, 114.0, 55.5; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₅H₂₂NO₂ (M+H)⁺, 368.1644, found 368.1649.



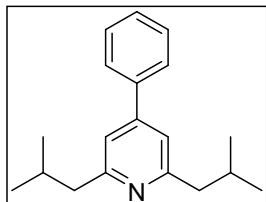
2,6-Bis(4-fluorophenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (3ad). White solid, 88% yield, mp 149-150 °C (lit.¹ mp 150-152°C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 8.08 (m, 4H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 17.2 Hz, 4H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 16 Hz), 155.6, 145.0, 134.7, 134.5 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.0 Hz), 131.1, (d, *J*_{C-F} = 10.0 Hz), 130.9, 130.6, 129.0, 128.4, 121.5, 115.6.; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₃H₁₆NF₂ (M+H)⁺, 344.1247, found 344.1251.



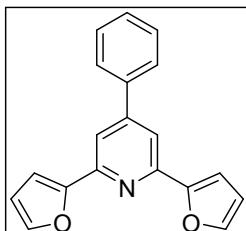
2,6-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (3ae). White solid, 86% yield, mp 162-164 °C (lit.^[1] mp 160-164°C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 4H), 7.87 (s, 2H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.51-7.46 (m, 7H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.3, 150.2, 137.8, 137.1, 135.3, 129.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.3, 127.2, 117.1; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₃H₁₆NCl₂ (M+H)⁺, 376.0656, found 376.0659.



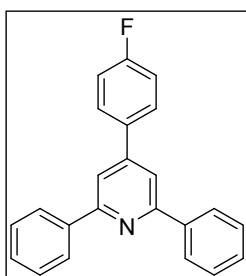
2,6-Bis(2,4-chlorophenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (3af). White solid, 82% yield, mp 159-160 °C (lit.⁵ mp 163-164°C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (s, 2H), 7.75 -7.66 (m, 4H), 7.53 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 1.8 Hz, 4H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.1 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.2, 148.8, 137.5, 135.0, 133.0, 132.7, 130.0, 129.2, 127.5, 127.2, 121.7; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₃H₁₄NCl₄ (M+H)⁺, 444.9891, found 444.9897.



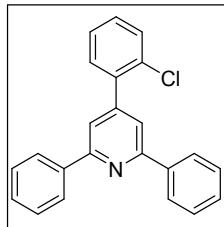
2,6-Bis(isobutyl)-4-phenylpyridine (3ah). Yellow oil, 78% yield; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 (s, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.41(t, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 5H), 2.56 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 1.70 (s, 2H), 1.0 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 12H,); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.5, 142.4, 137.3, 134.6, 130.4, 128.9, 126.6, 49.6, 29.7, 25.2, 22.7; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₁₉H₂₆N (M+H)⁺, 264.1708, found 264.1711.



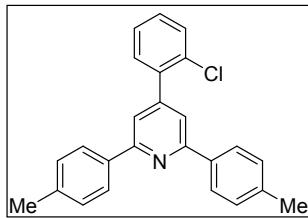
2,6-Bis(furan-2-yl)-4-phenylpyridine (3ai). Yellow solid, 45% yield, mp 104-107 °C (lit.⁴ mp 102-104°C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz 2H), 7.79 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 7.21(m, 2H), 6.51 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.8, 149.7, 143.3, 129.1, 129.0, 127.0, 114.8, 112.0, 109.1; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₁₉H₁₄NO₂ (M+H)⁺, 288.1021, found 288.1018.



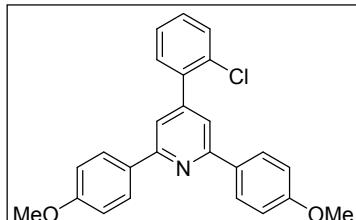
4-(4-Fluorophenyl)2,6-diphenylpyridine (3ba). White solid, 80% yield, mp 135-136 °C (lit.¹ mp 138-140°C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.22 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.86 (s, 2H), 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 32.8 Hz, 2H); HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₃H₁₇NF (M+H)⁺, 326.1342, found 342.1339.



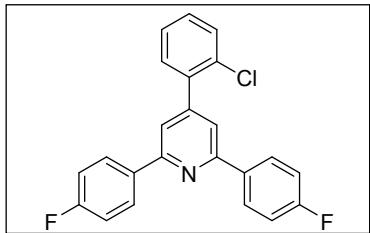
4-(2-Chlorophenyl)2,6-diphenylpyridine (3ca). Yellow solid, 72% yield, mp 112-114 °C (lit.¹ mp 108-110°C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.19 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 4H), 7.78 (s, 2H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 2.3, 1.8 Hz, 10 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.8, 149.7, 139.3, 134.0, 132.0, 129.9, 129.0, 128.7, 128.5, 127.6, 127.1, 120.2, 119.5; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₃H₁₇NCl (M+H)⁺; 342.1052, found 342.1062.



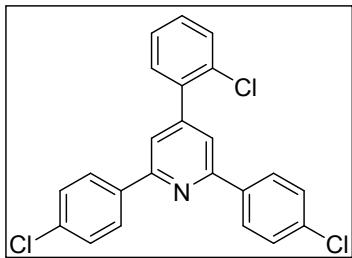
2,6-Bis(4-methylphenyl)-4-(2-chlorophenyl)pyridine (3cb). White solid, 75% yield, mp 182-184 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.74 (s, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 2.19 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.7, 142.7, 137.9, 135.1, 134.0, 132.4, 132.0, 130.6, 130.0, 129.7, 129.4, 127.6, 127.3, 115.9, 21.3; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₅H₂₁NCl (M+H)⁺, 370.1298, found 370.1294.



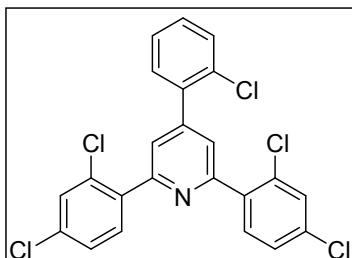
2,6-Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(2-chlorophenyl)pyridine (3cc). White solid, 71% yield, mp 138-140 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (s, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.5, 156.3, 148.4, 139.8, 138.8, 132.1, 130.8, 130.6, 129.5, 128.3, 127.1, 124.7, 118.0, 114.0, 113.7, 55.7; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₅H₂₁NO₂Cl (M+H)⁺, 402.1205 found 402.1208.



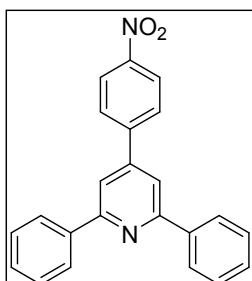
2,6-Bis(4-florophenyl)-4-(2-chlorophenyl)pyridine (3cd). Yellow oil, 68% yield; H^1 NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.20 (d, $J = 15.6$ Hz, 2H), 8.08 (m, 4H), 7.78 (s, 2H), 7.76 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 166.9, 164.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 8.0$ Hz), 157.9, 145.0, 140.8, 135.5, 134.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.0$ Hz), 134.0, 133.1, 133.8, 131.2, 131.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 9.0$ Hz), 130.3, 127.8, 127.1, 124.3, 115.7; HRMS (ESI) calc. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{15}\text{NCl}_2$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$, 378.0794, found 378.0805.



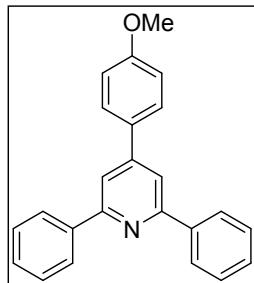
2,6-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-chlorophenyl)pyridine (3ce). White solid, 65% yield, mp 171-173 °C (lit.³ mp 169-170 °C); H^1 NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3), 8.15 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 4H), 8.14 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.78 (s, 2H), 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.54 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 155.8, 148.9, 137.6, 135.3, 132.2, 130.8, 129.9, 128.9, 128.3, 127.2, 119.5; HRMS (ESI) calc. $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{15}\text{NCl}_3$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$, 410.0210, found 410.0232.



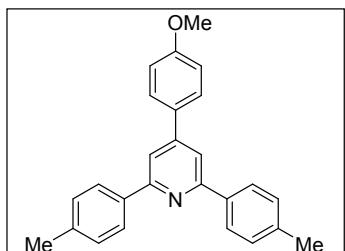
2,6-Bis(2,4-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-chlorophenyl)pyridine (3cf). White solid, 60% yield, mp 205-207 °C (lit.⁵ mp 208-210 °C); H^1 NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) 7.82 (s, 2H), 7.78 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.45 (m, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.6, 155.6, 146.1, 137.8, 137.4, 134.9, 132.6, 130.9, 130.2, 129.9, 128.4, 127.7, 124.4, 119.8; HRMS (ESI) calc. for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{13}\text{NCl}_5$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$, 479.9412, found 479.9419.



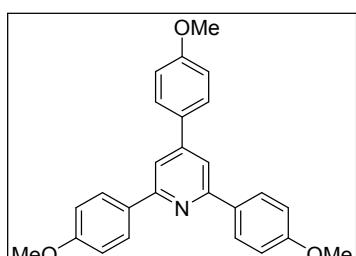
4-(4-Nitrophenyl)2,6-diphenylpyridine (3da). Yellow solid, 65% yield, mp 195-196 °C (lit.² mp 196-198°C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.20 (m, 2H), 8.18 (m, 4H), 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.8, 150.8, 142.7, 139.5, 137.4, 120.7, 128.9, 128.6, 127.3, 127.1, 127.0, 118.6; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₃H₁₇N2O₂Cl (M+H)⁺; 353.1249, found 353.1246.



4-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2,6-diphenylpyridine (3ea). White solid, 88% yield, mp 98-99 °C (lit.^{1,4} mp 100-102 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.19 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 4H), 7.85 (s, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.5, 157.5, 149.6, 139.7, 131.3, 129.0, 128.71, 128.3, 127.1, 116.6, 114.4, 55.4; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₄H₂₀NO (M+H)⁺, 338.1538, found 338.1542.

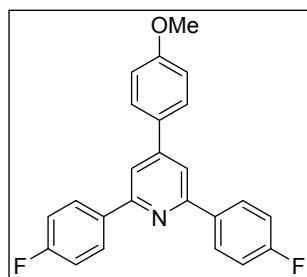


2,6-Bis(4-methyl phenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridine (3eb). White solid, 86% yield, mp 152-154 °C (lit.^{1b} mp 155-157 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H), 7.80 (s, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.4, 157.3, 149.5, 138.9, 137.0, 131.5, 129.4, 128.3, 127.0, 116.0, 114.5, 55.4, 21.3; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₆H₂₄NO (M+H)⁺, 366.1851, found 366.1854.

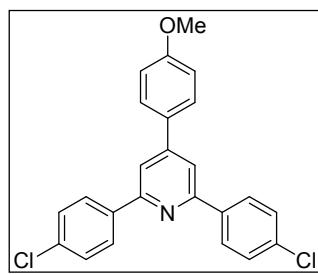


2,4,6-Tris(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridine (3ec). White solid, 84% yield, mp 132-134 °C (lit.^{1b} mp 138-139 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.15 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (s, 2H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.09-7.01 (m, 5H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR

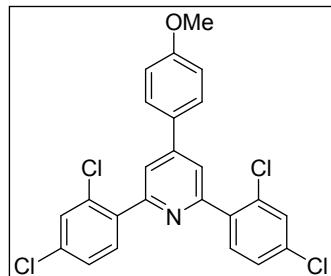
(100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.4, 155.5, 153.6, 149.0, 139.2, 136.3, 134.3, 128.3, 128.3, 115.2, 114.5, 114.0, 55.4; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₆H₂₄NO₃ (M+H)⁺, 398.1751, found 398.1761.



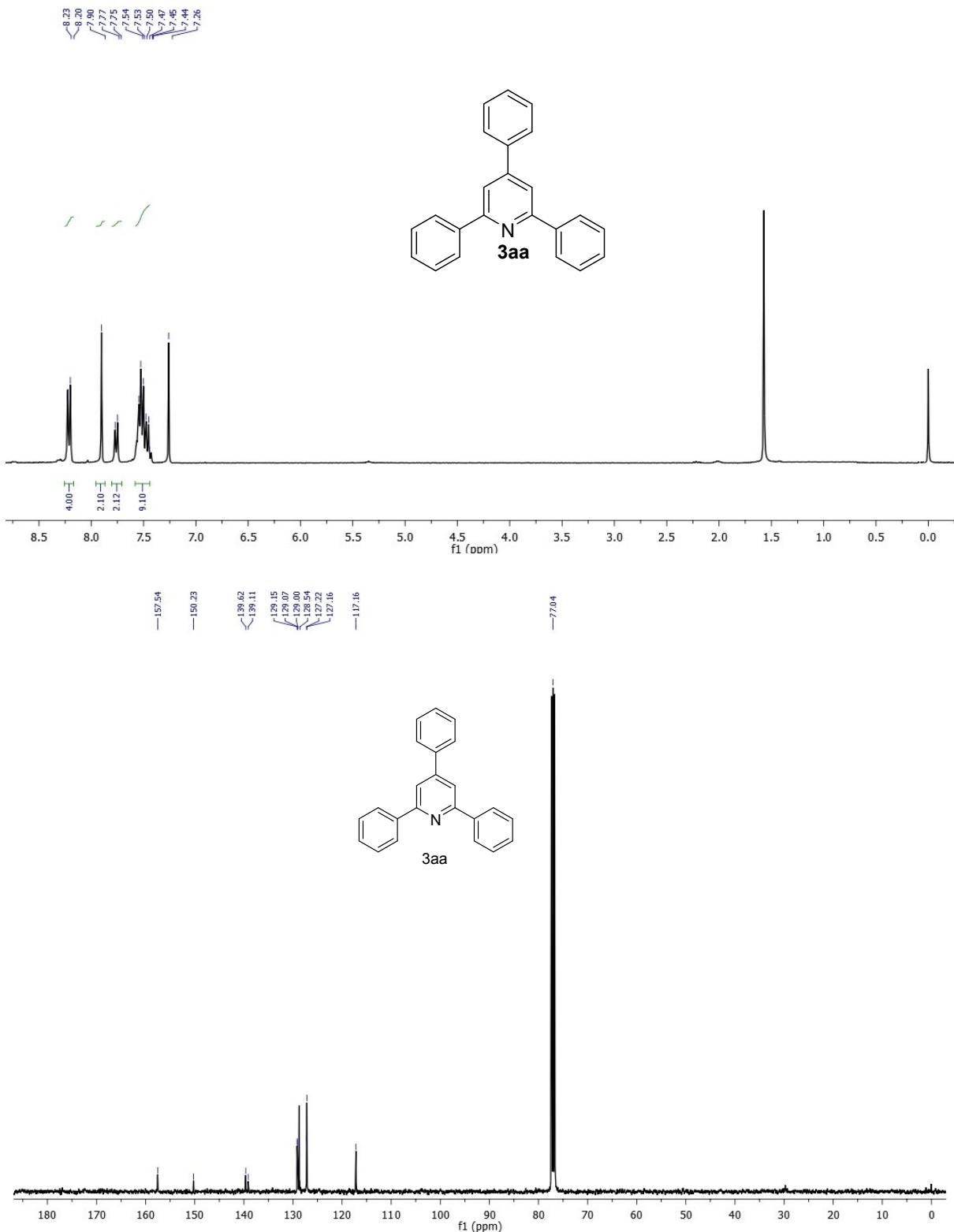
2,6-Bis(4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridine (3ed). White solid, 76% yield, mp 122-123 °C (lit.^{1b} mp 124-126 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11(d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (s, 2H), 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.18 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.8, 155.8, 146.3, 135.5, 130.5, 129.5 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 12 Hz), 129.3, 129.2, 128.7, 128.8, 128.52(d, *J*_{C-F} = 8.0 Hz), 128.2, 118.2, 116.1, 115.9, 55.6; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₄H₁₈NOF₂ (M+H)⁺, 374.1350, found 374.1358.

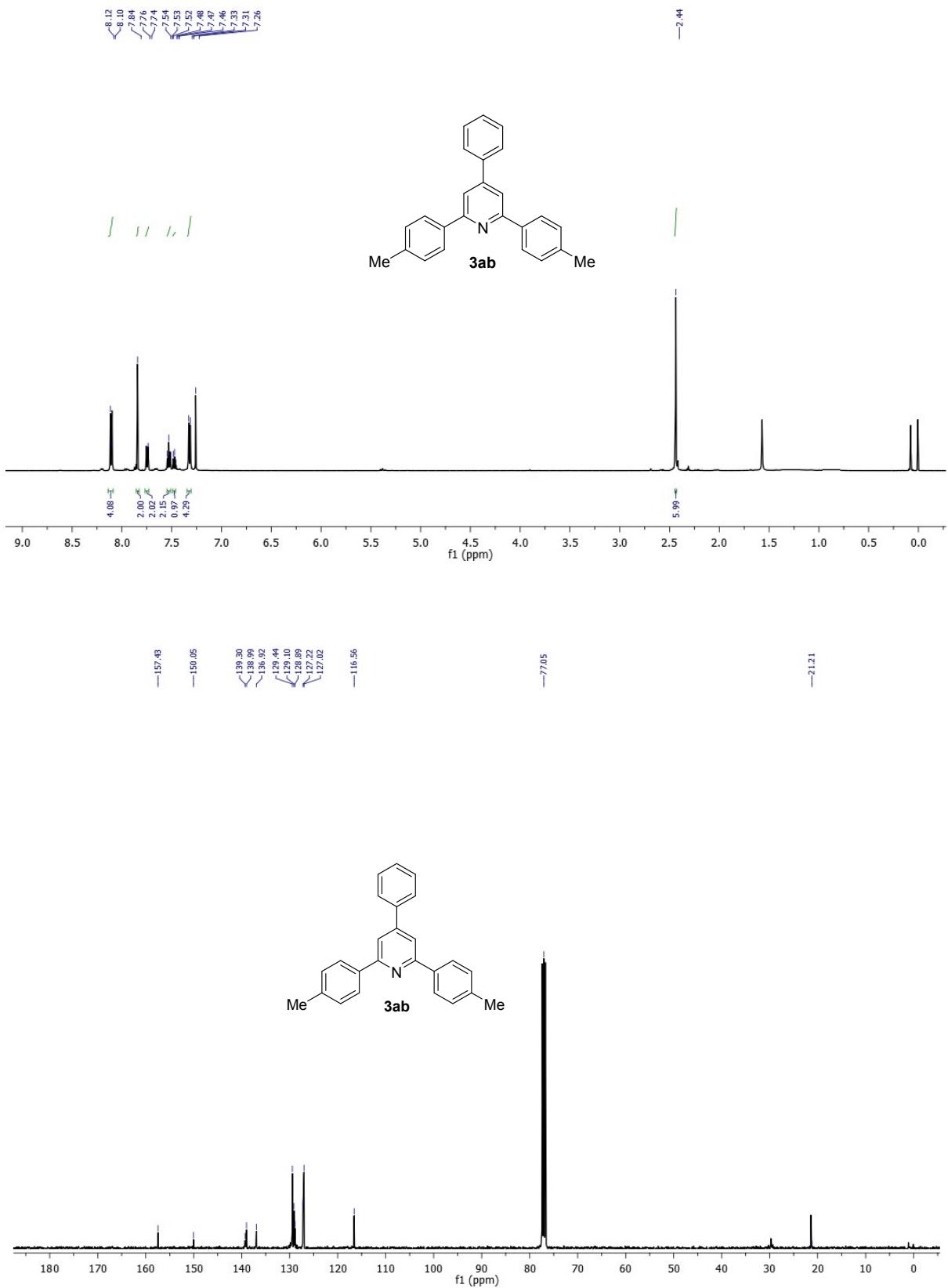


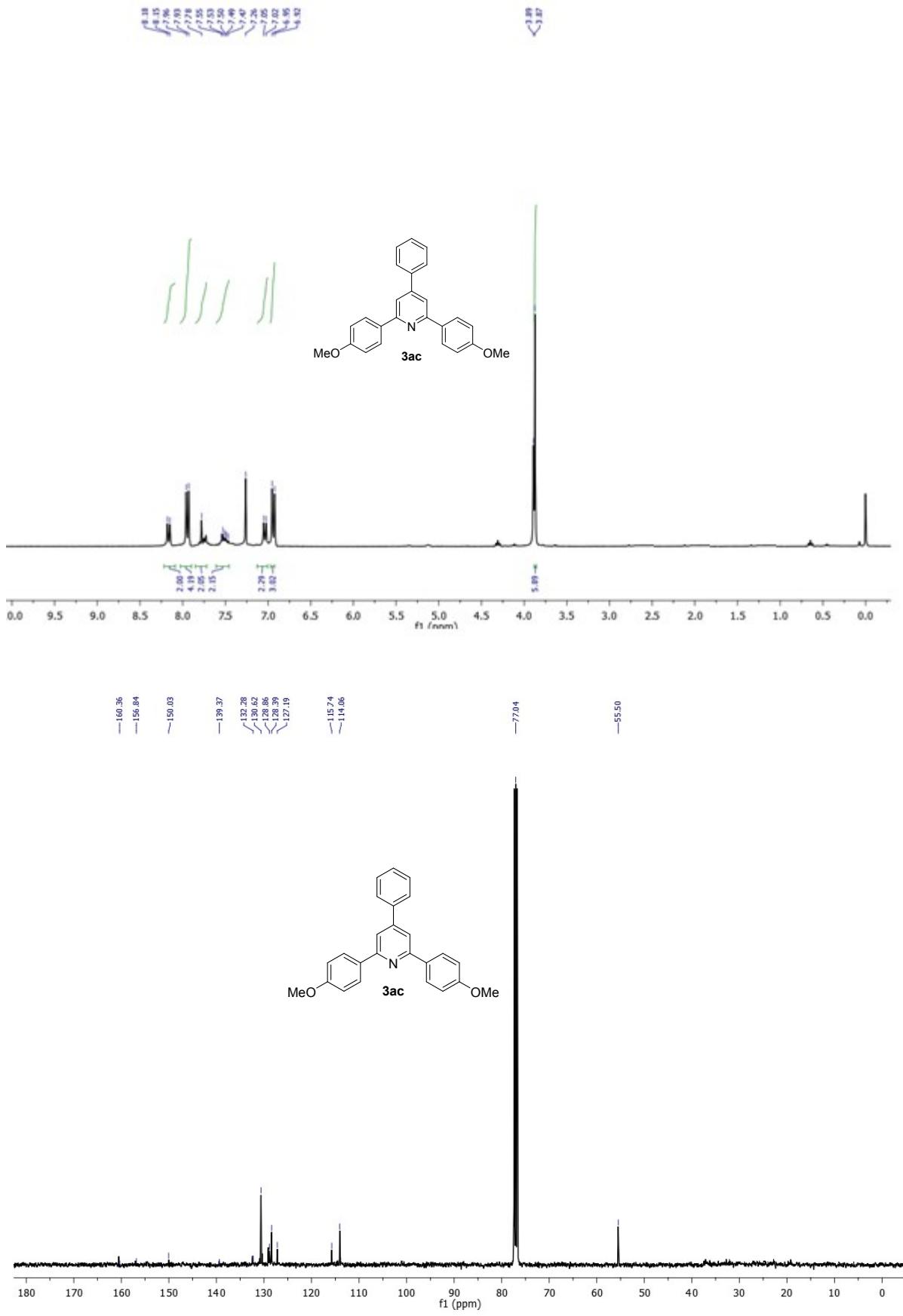
2,6-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridine (3ee). White solid, 72% yield, mp 178-180 °C (lit.^{1b} mp 180-182 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 4H), 7.82 (s, 2H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.55-7.41 (m, 4H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.6, 156.3, 150.0, 137.9, 135.2, 133.5, 130.9, 128.9, 128.3, 116.6, 114.6, 55.4; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₄H₁₈NOCl₂ (M+H)⁺, 406.0750, found 406.0765.

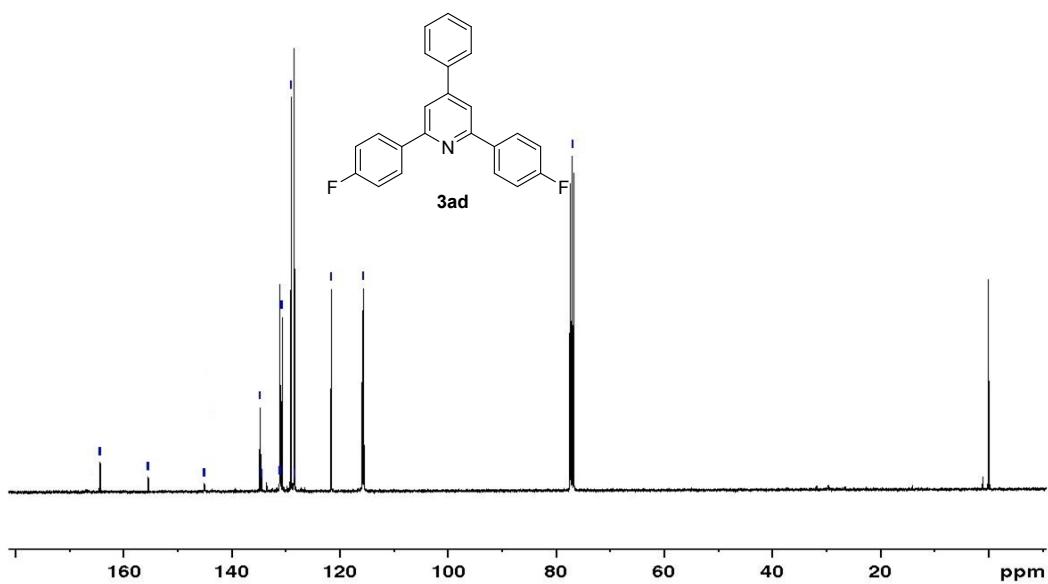
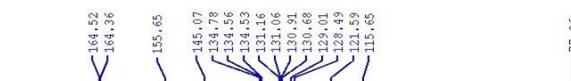
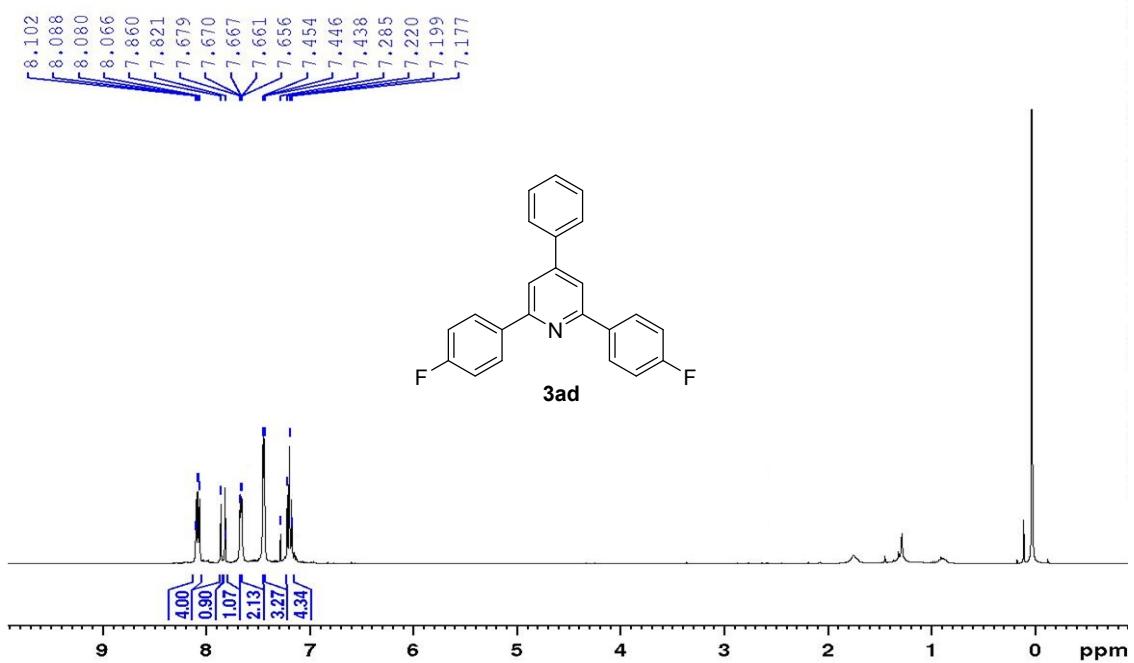


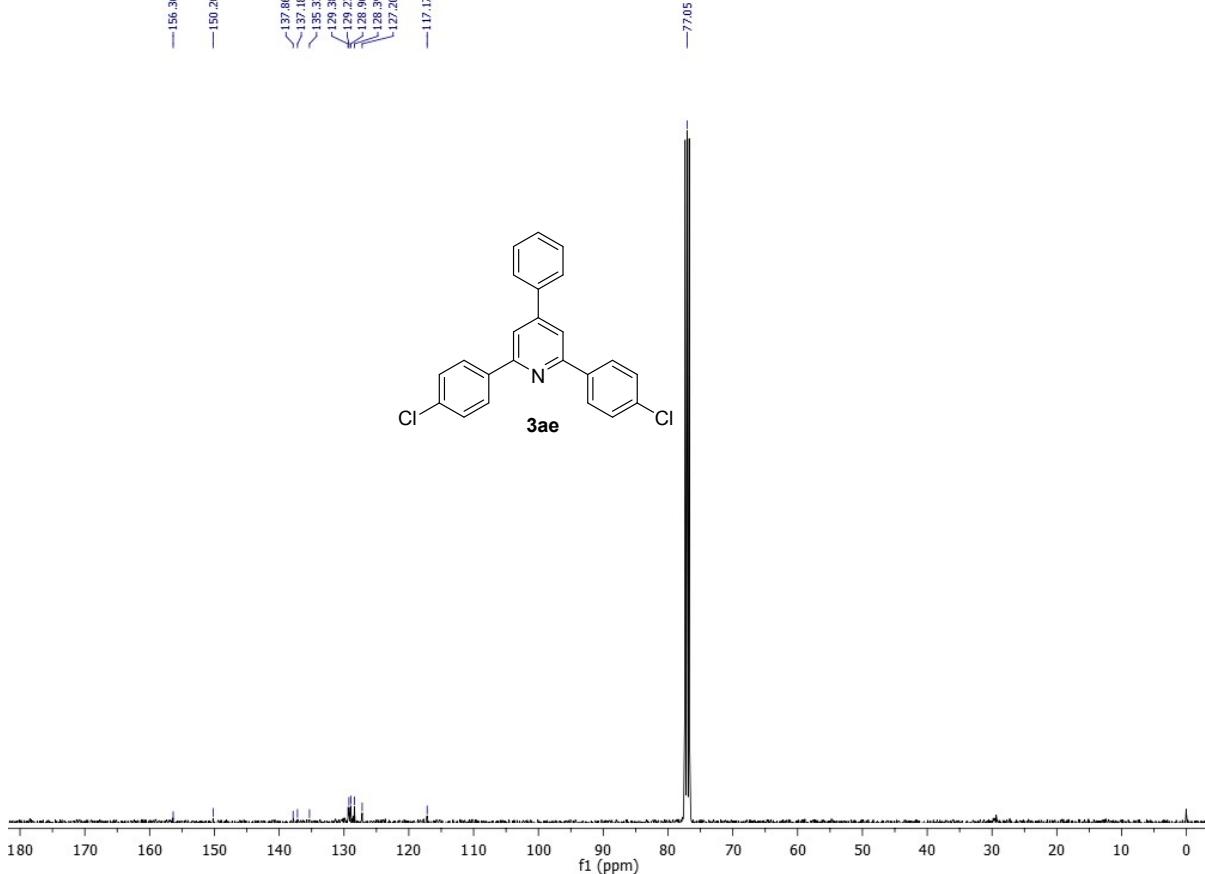
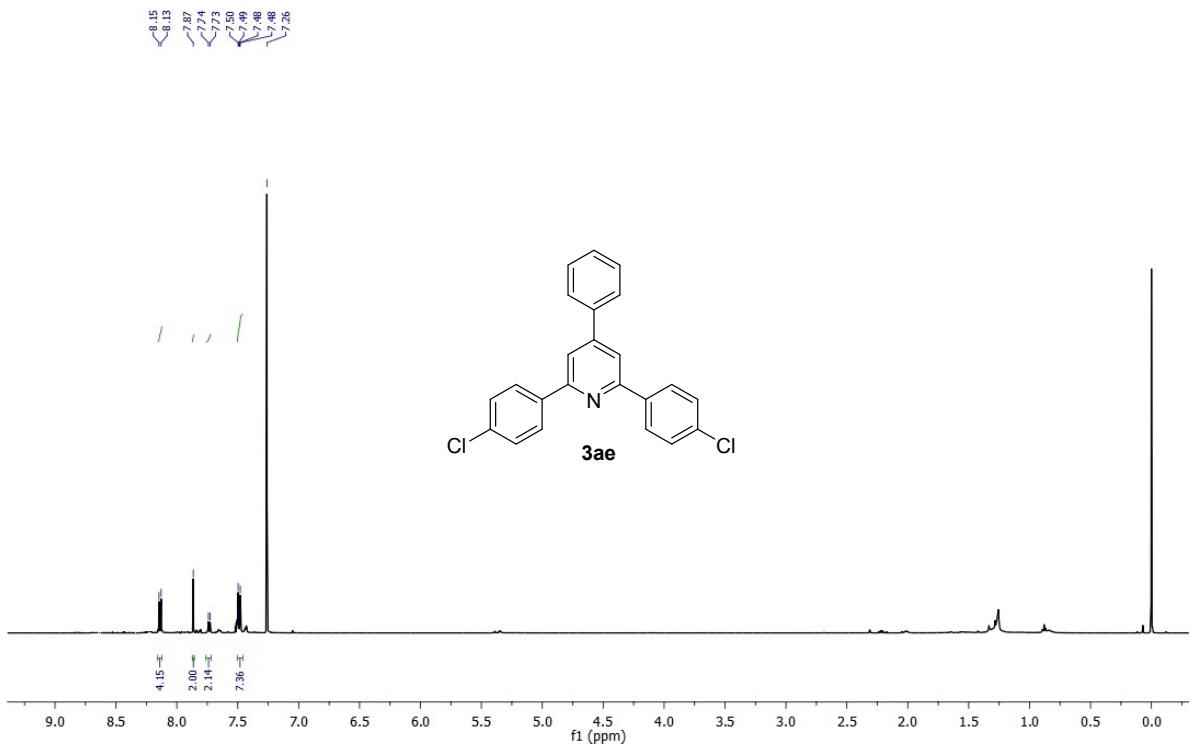
2,6-Bis(2,4-chlorophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridine (3ef). White solid, 67% yield, mp 178-180 °C (lit.⁴ mp 168-169 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.83 (s, 2H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.8, 156.2, 148.2, 138.2, 137.8, 135.0, 134.2, 129.8, 129.5, 127.3, 114.5, 55.5; HRMS (ESI) calc. for C₂₄H₁₆NOCl₄ (M+H)⁺, 474.9892, found 474.9898.

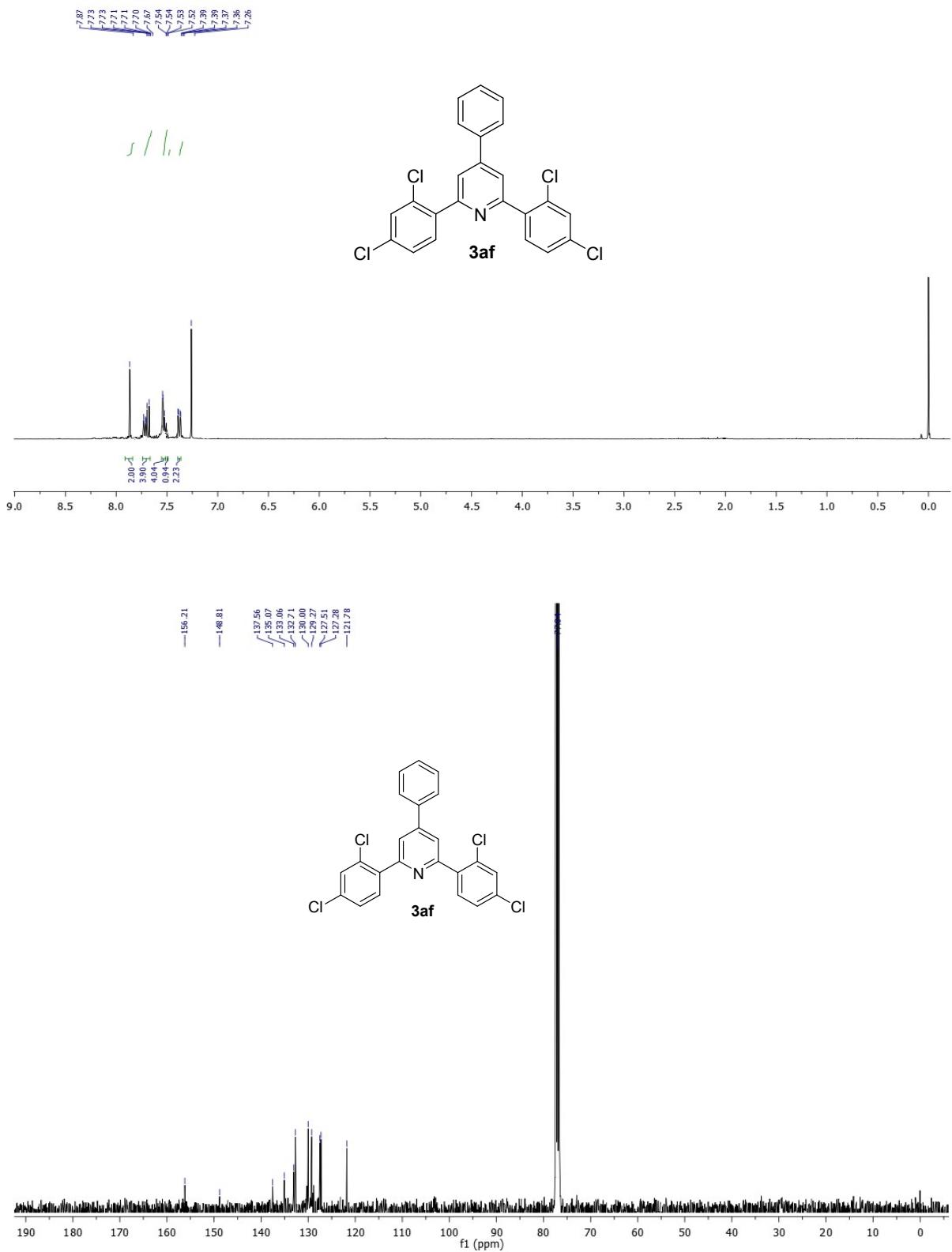


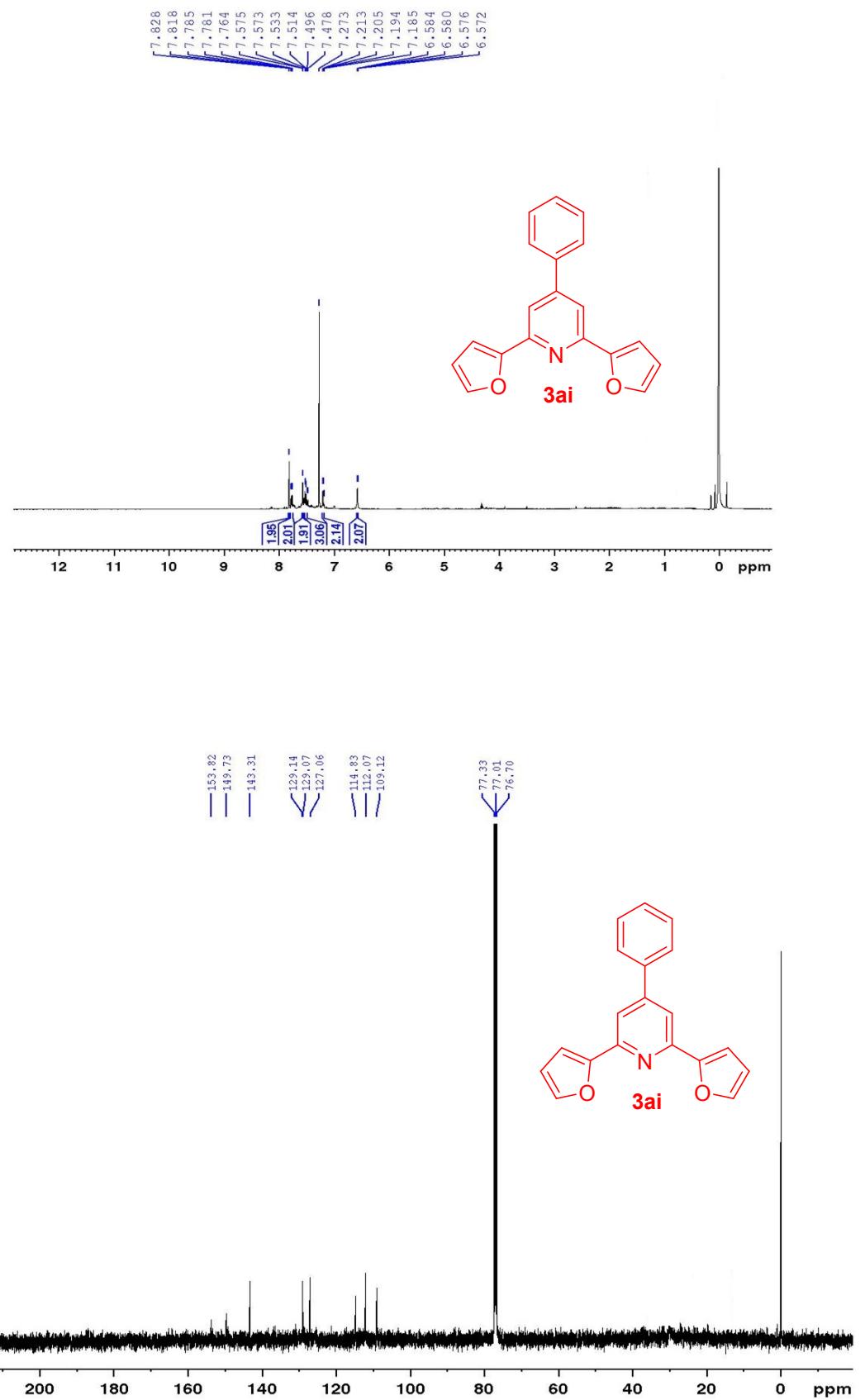


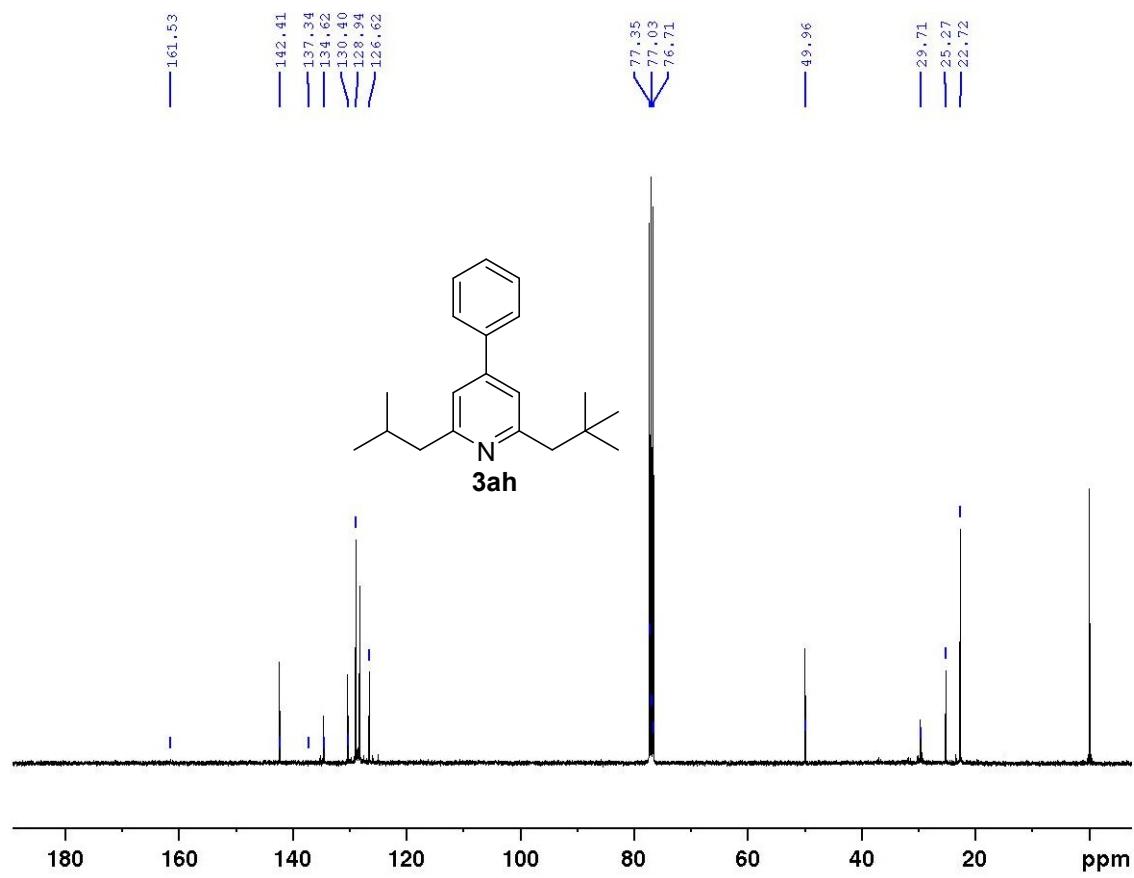
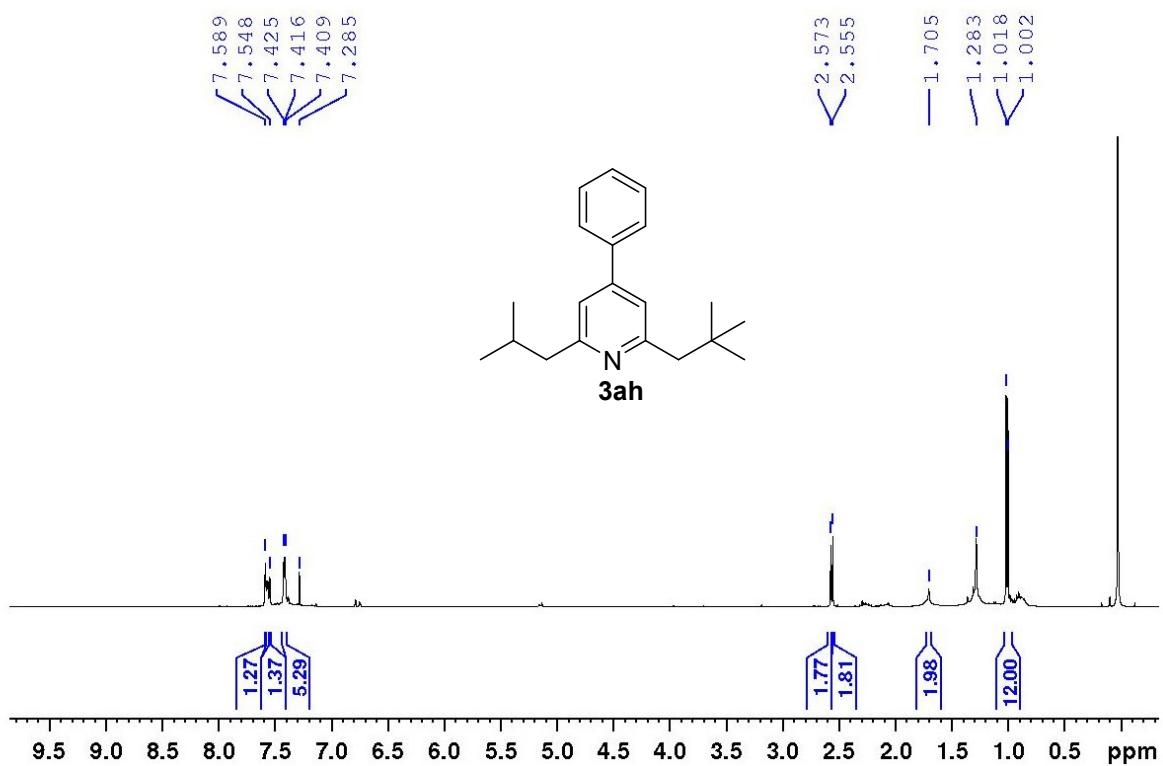


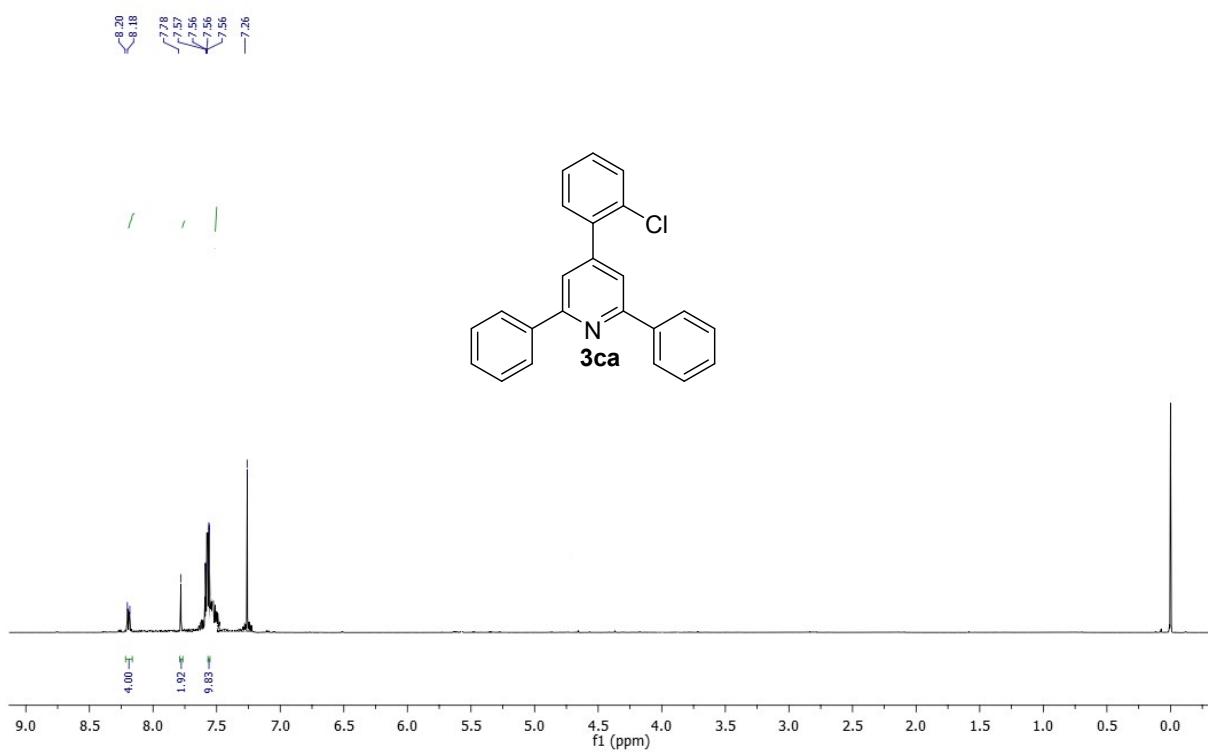
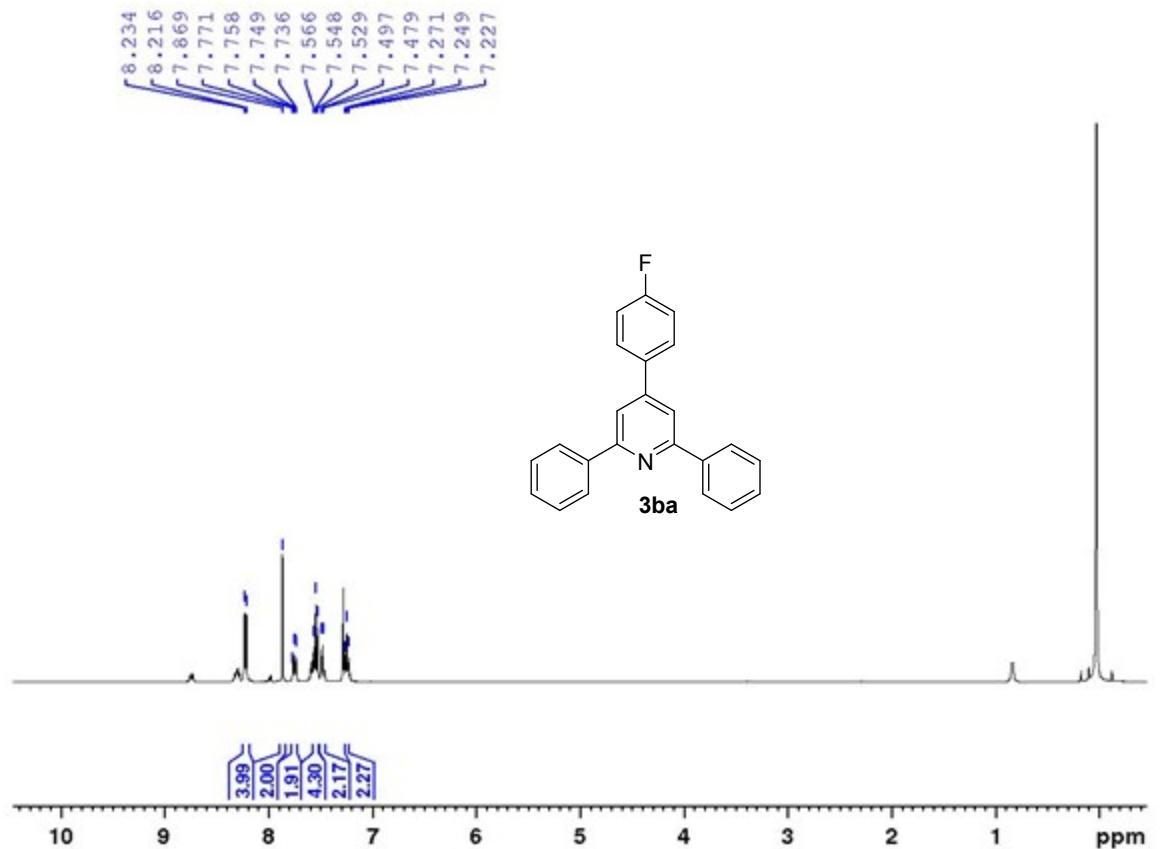


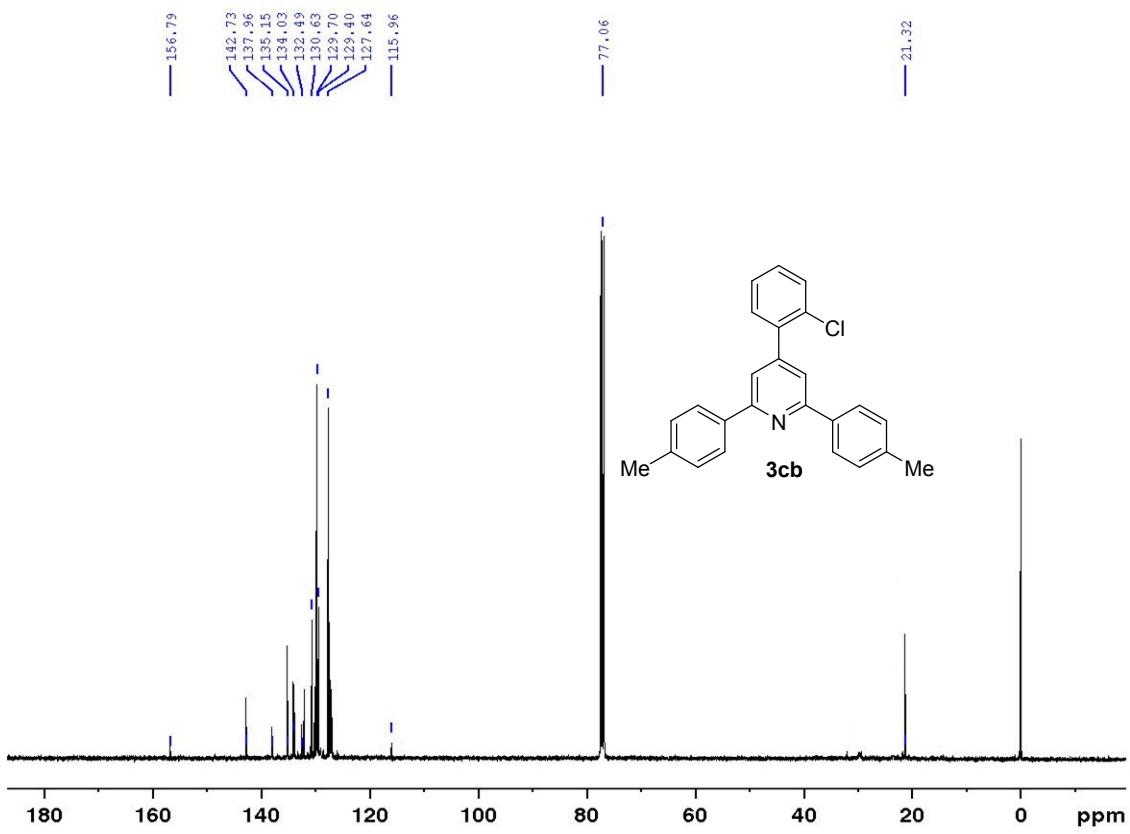
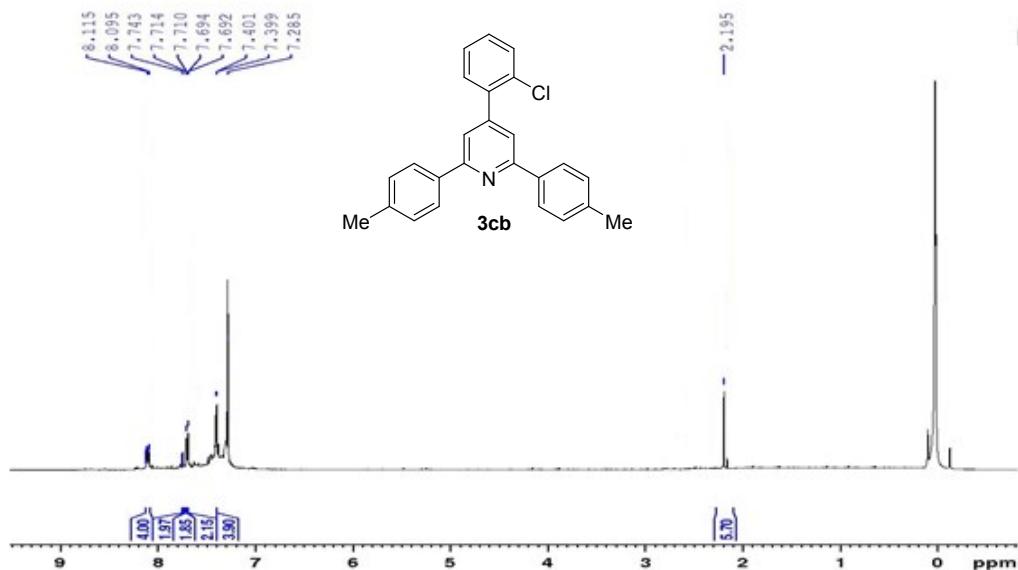


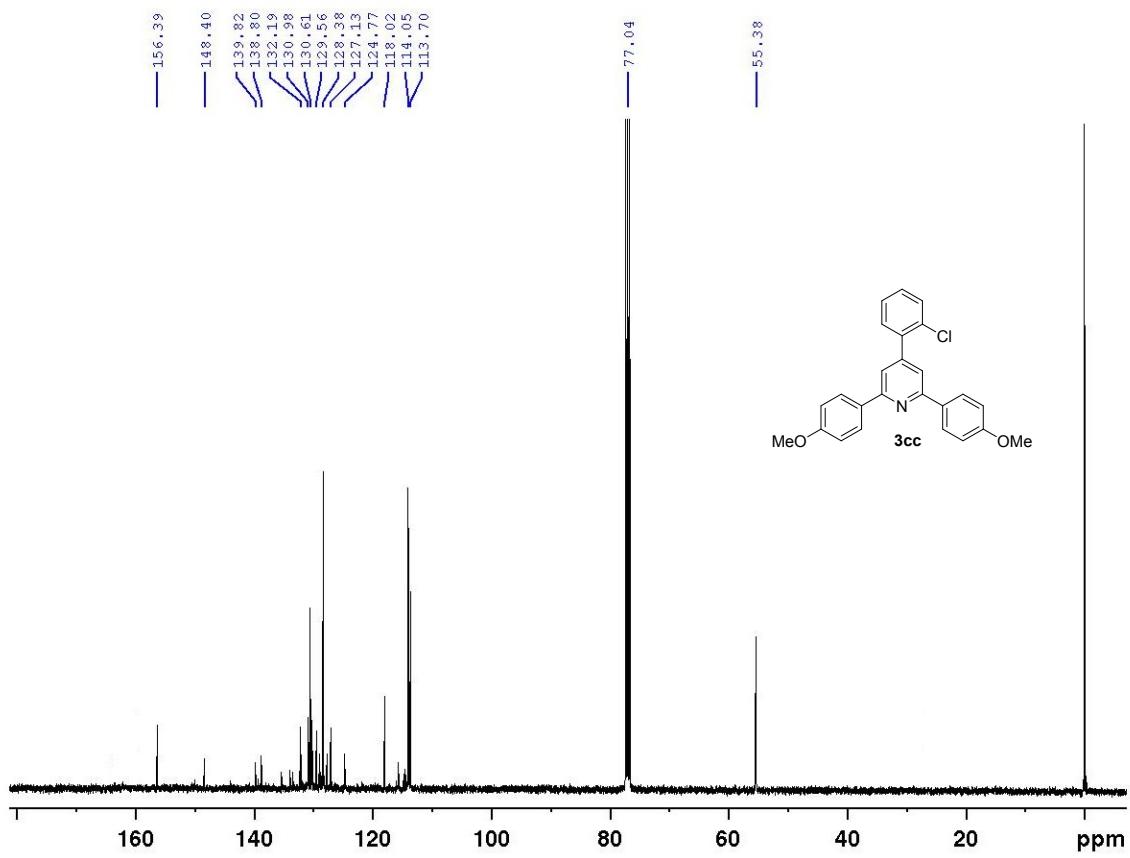
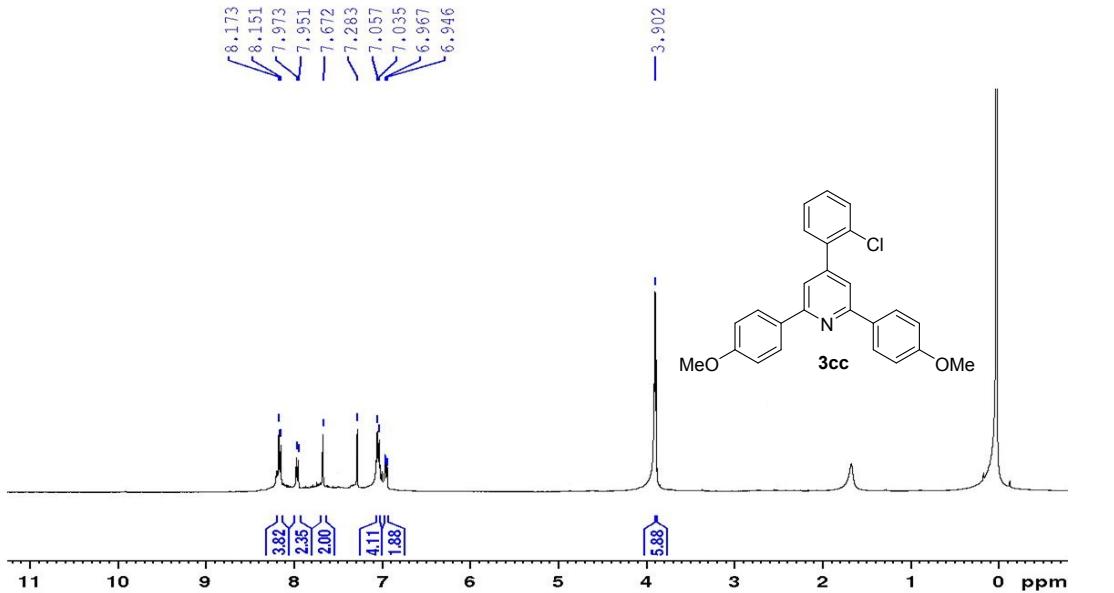


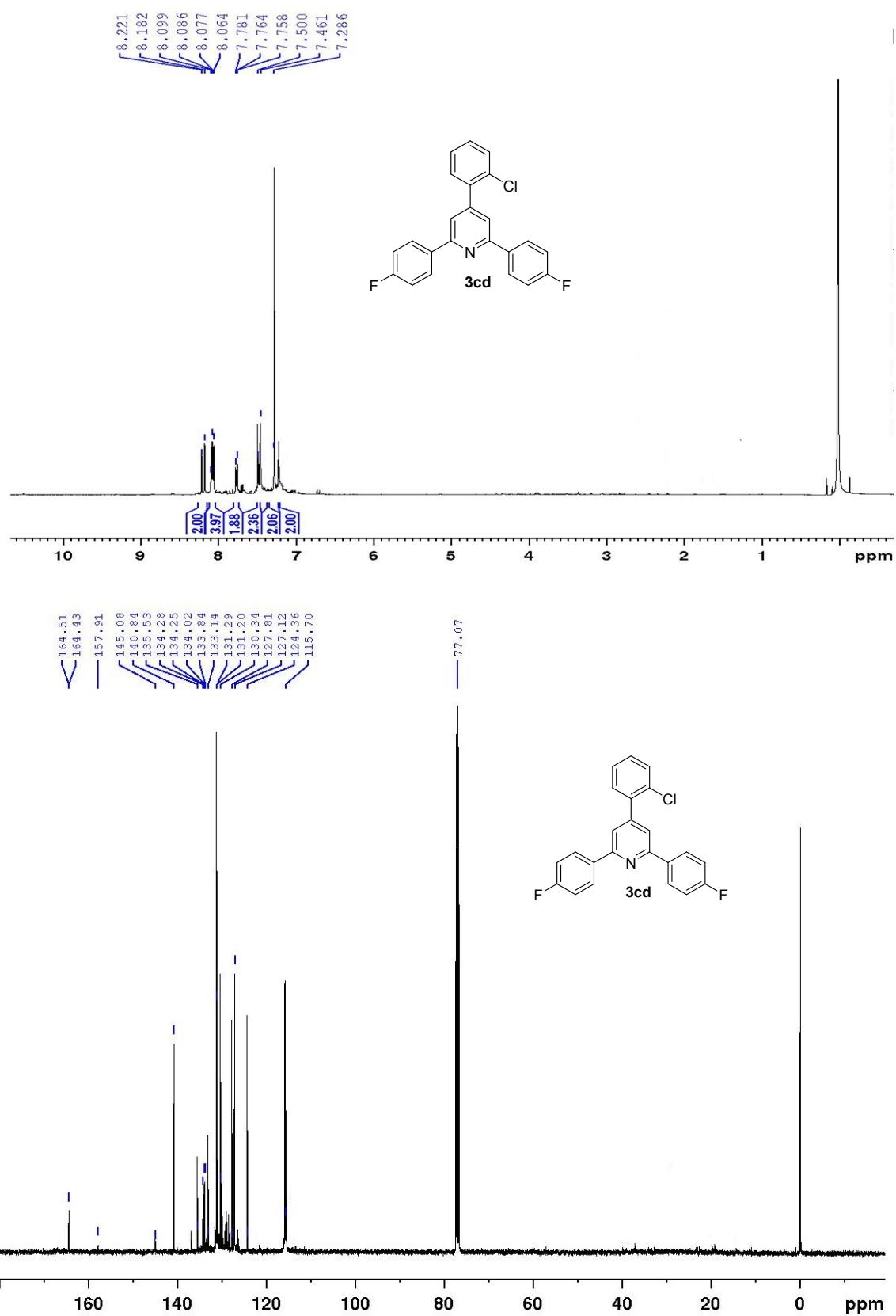


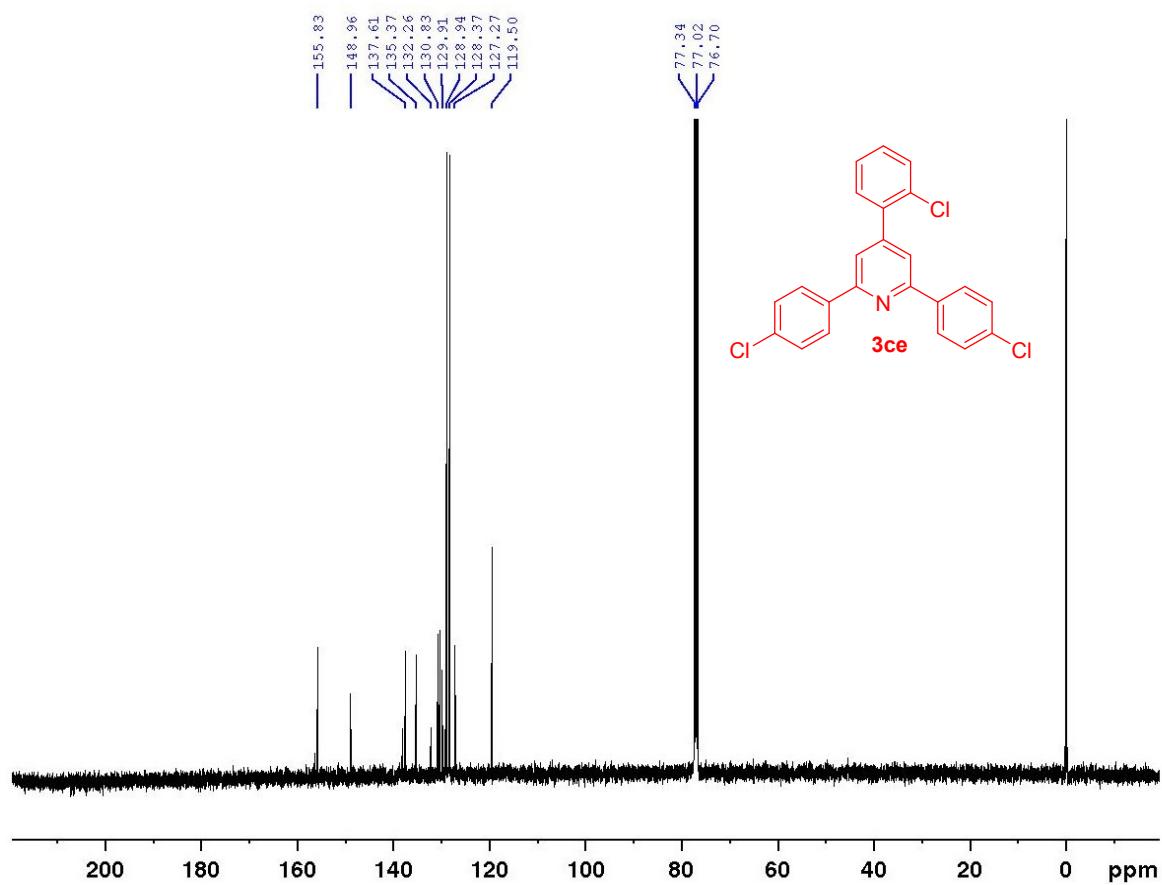
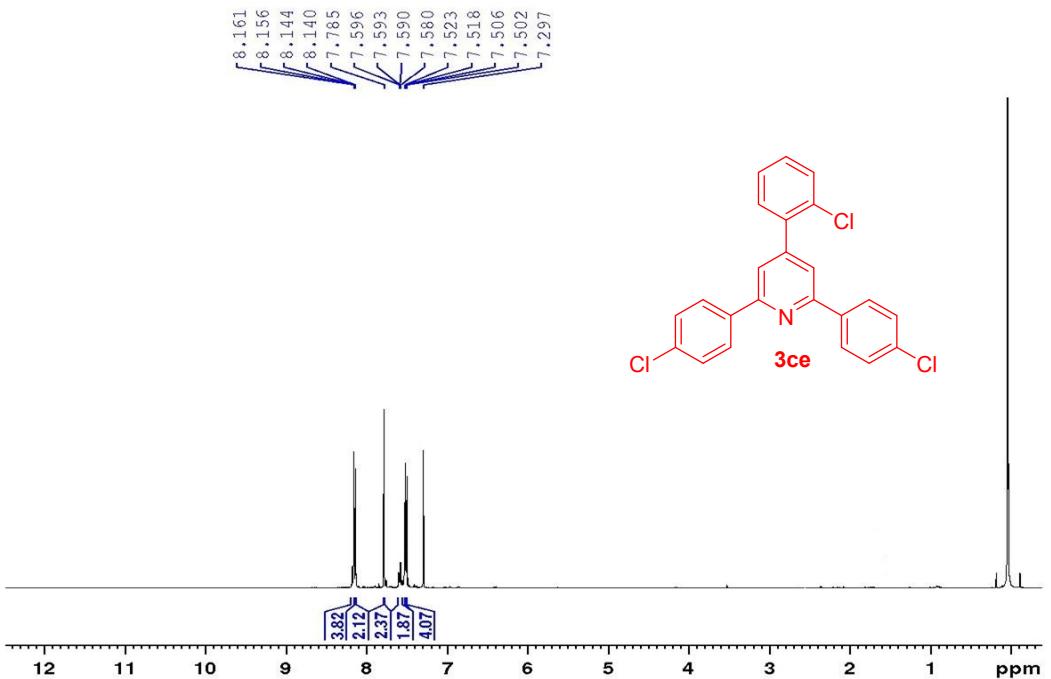


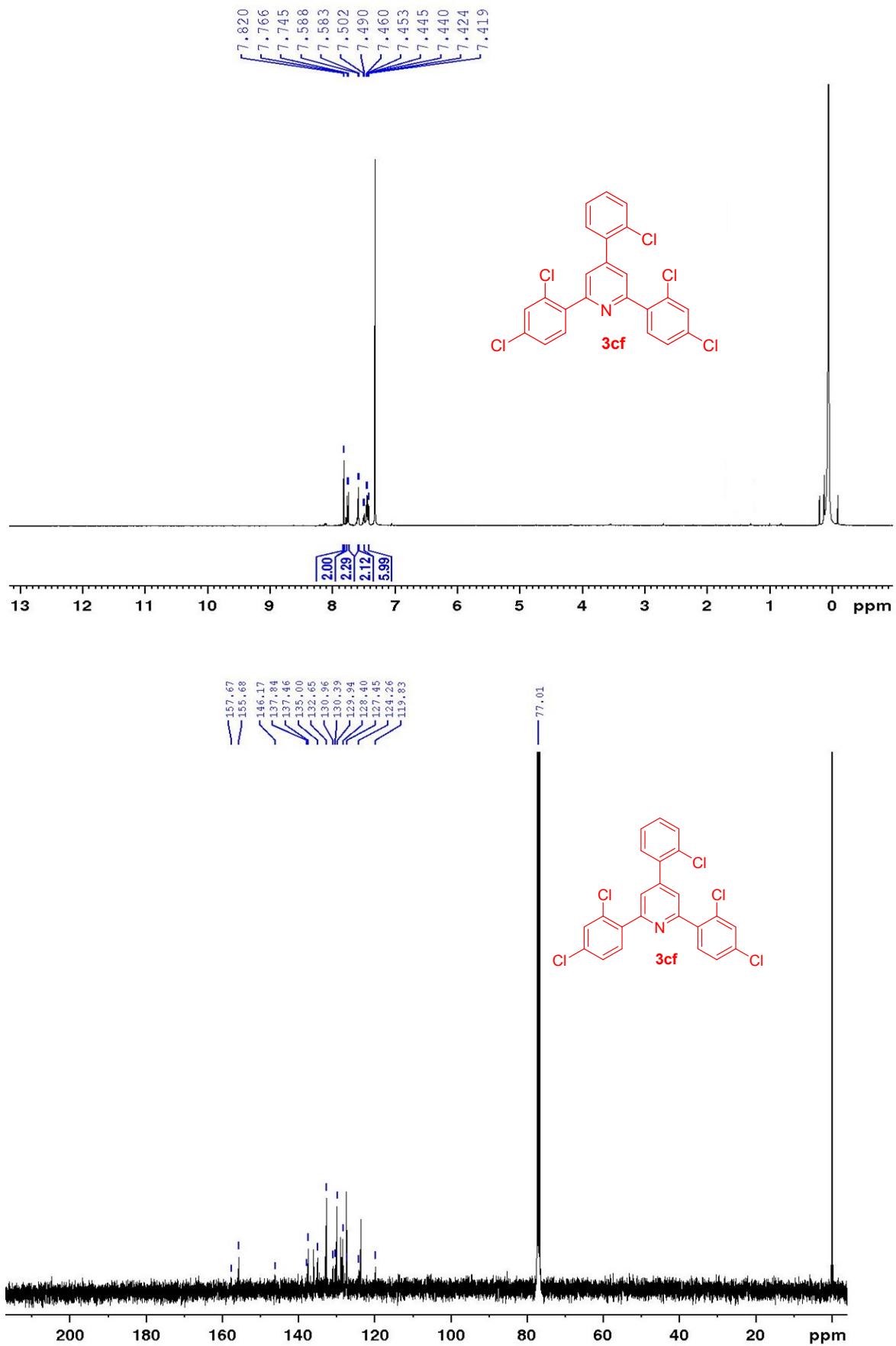


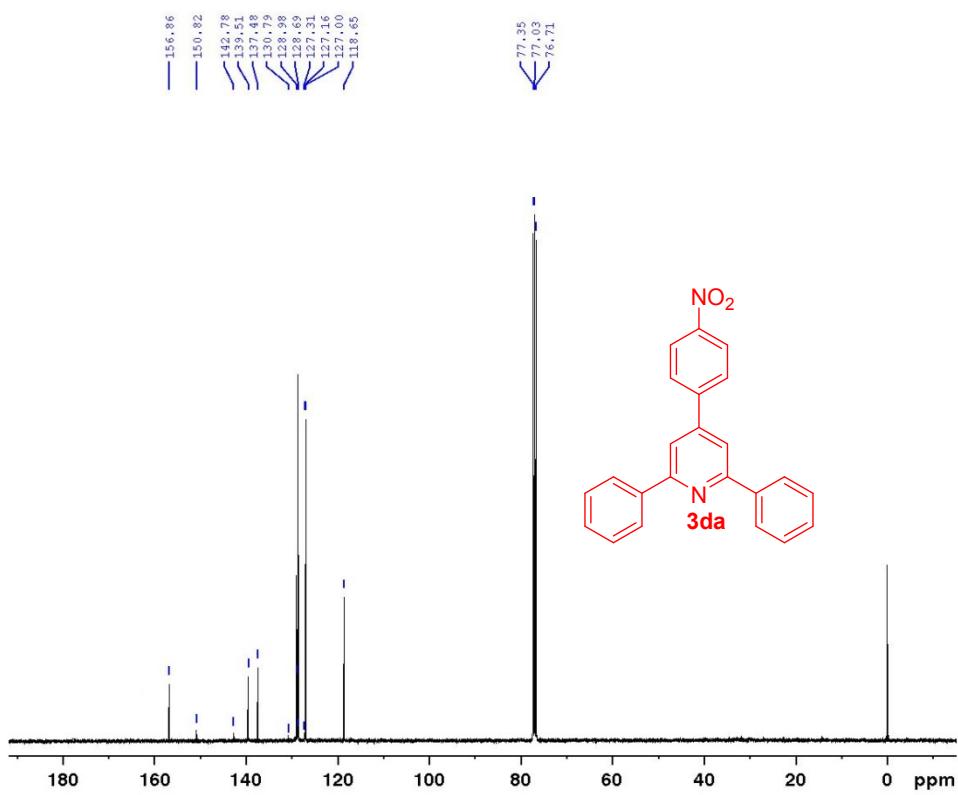
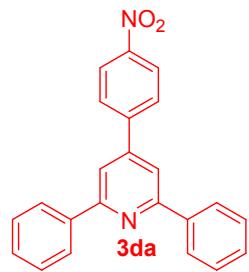
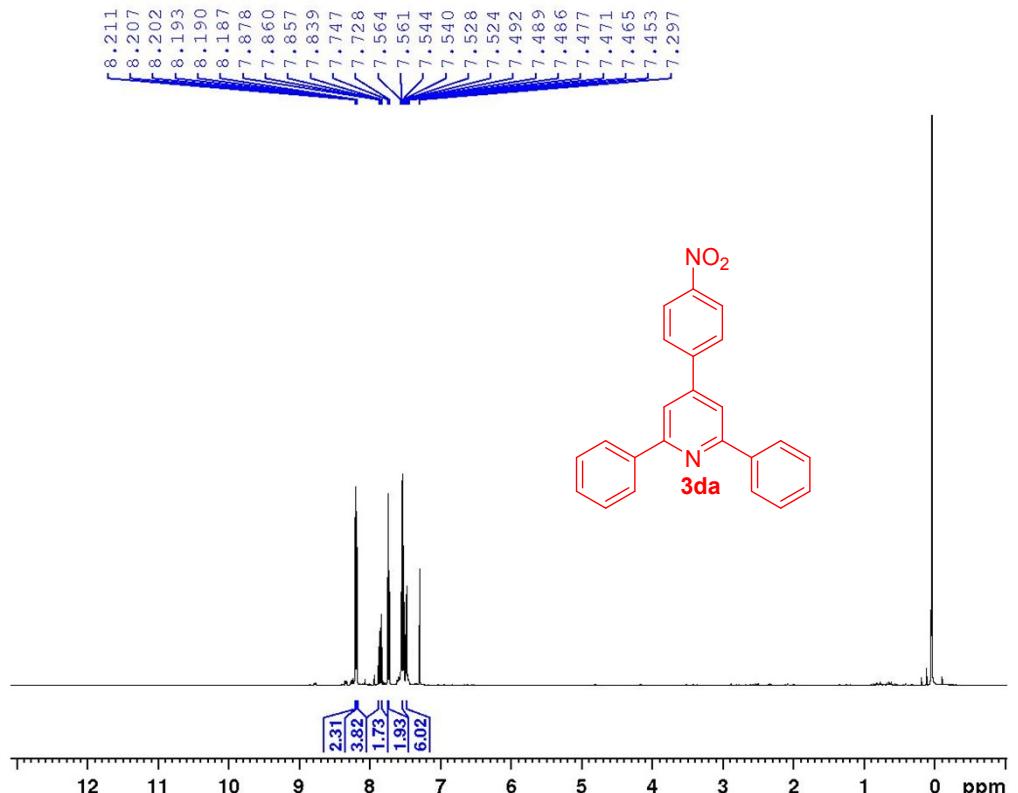


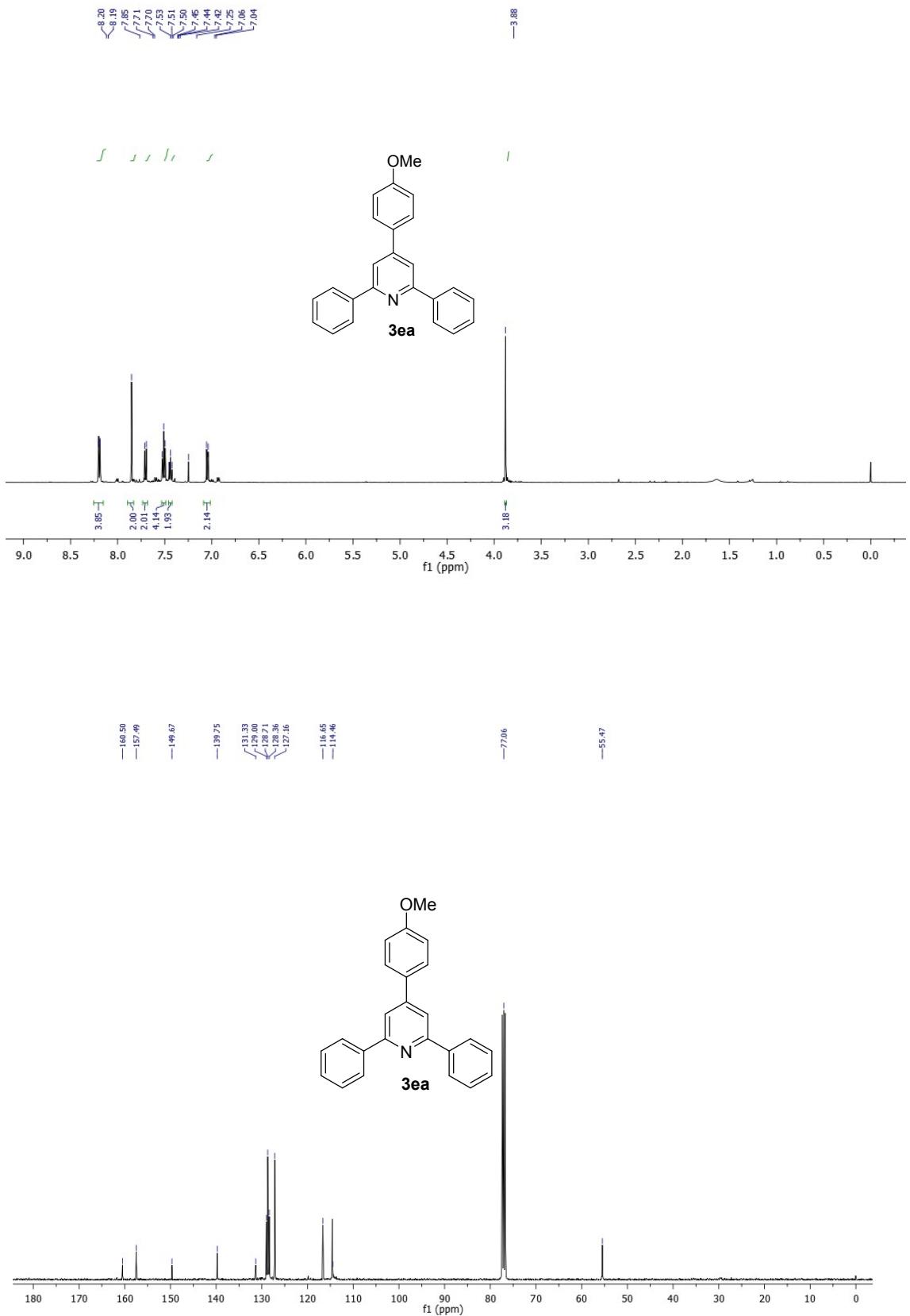


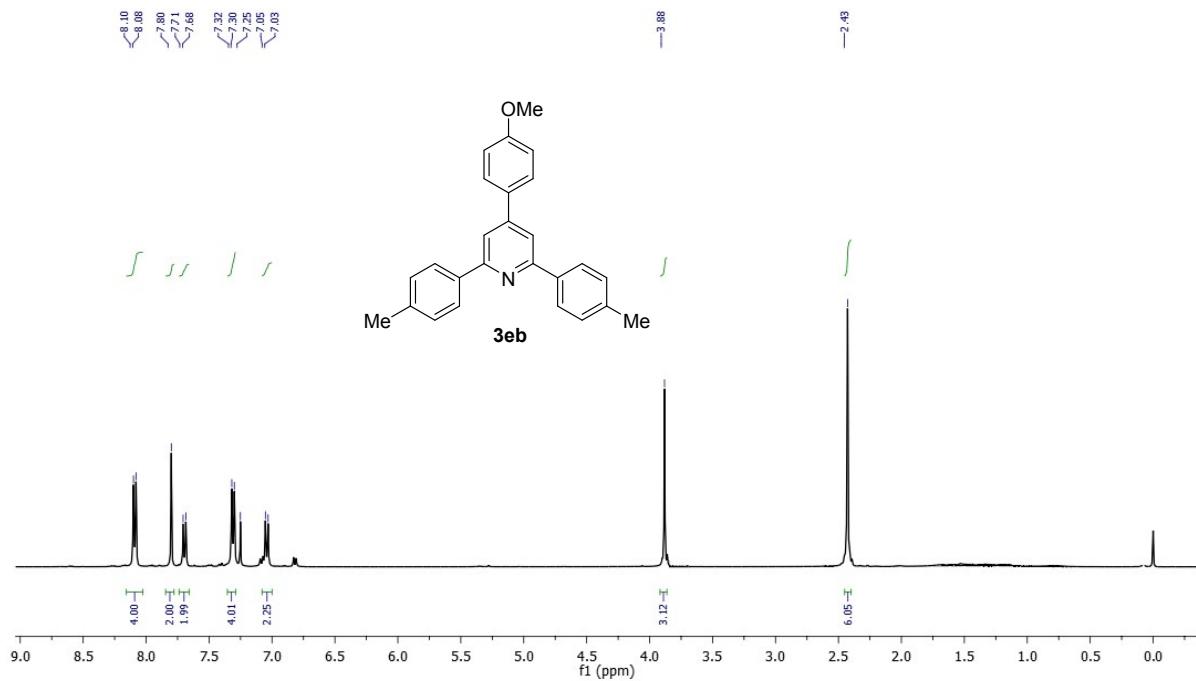






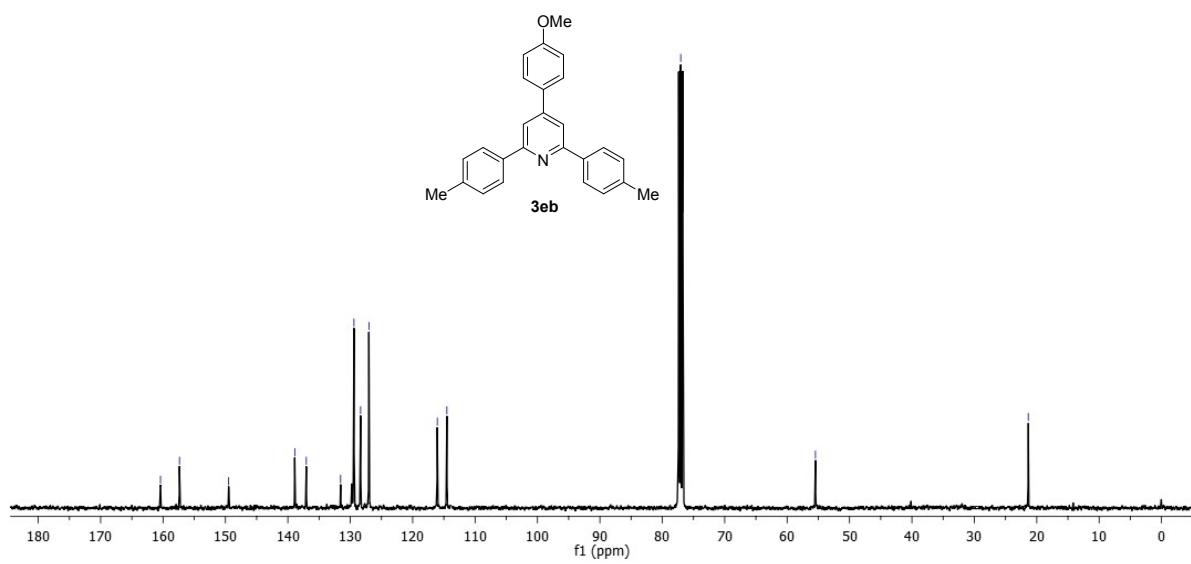


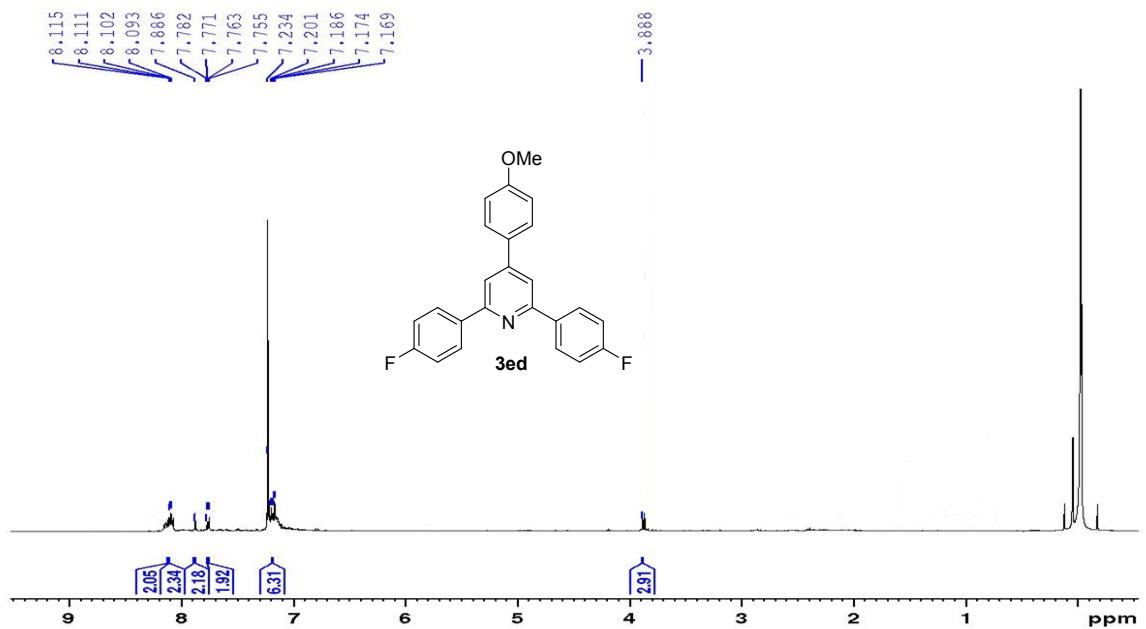
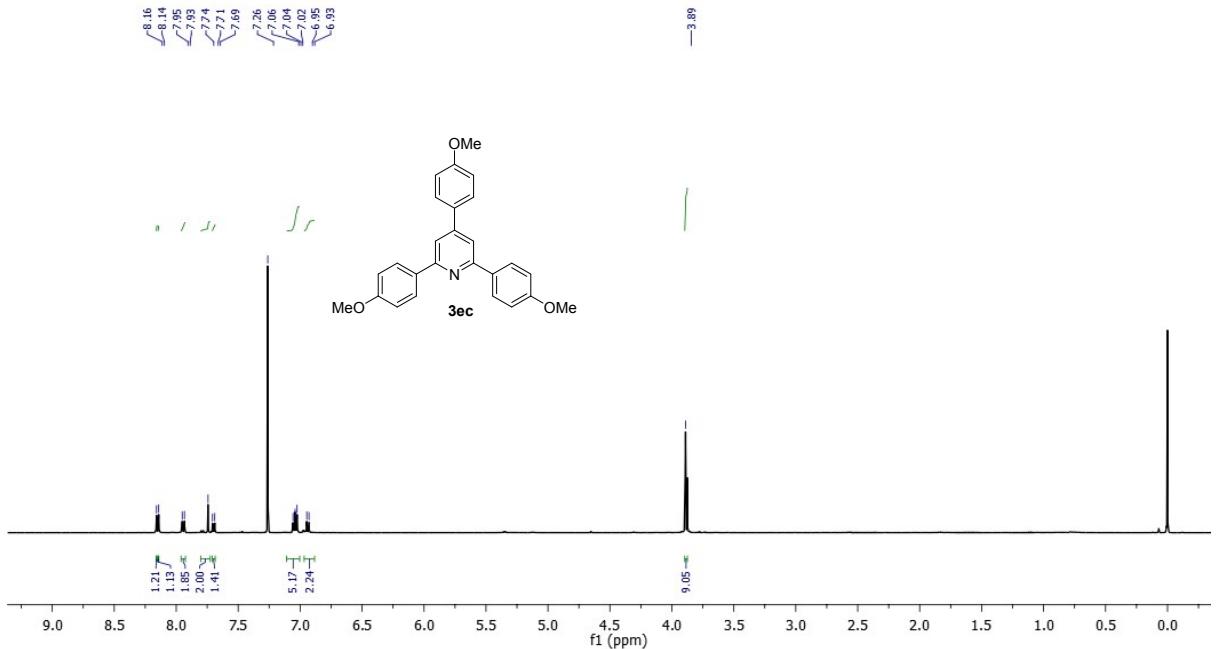




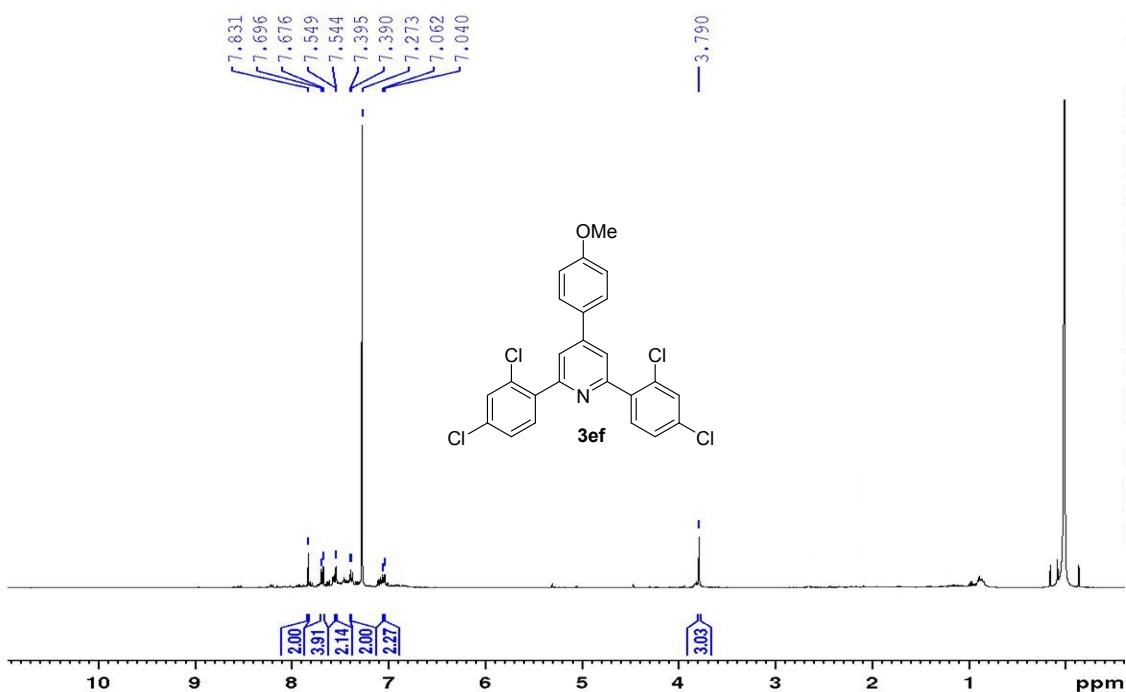
13C NMR chemical shifts (δ , ppm):

- 160.41, 157.37, 149.49, 138.90, 137.04, 131.55, 129.41, 128.34, 127.01, 116.06, 114.52, 77.05, 55.46, 21.36









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