

Manganese-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Csp³-Csp² Coupling of Imidazo[1, 2-a]pyridines with Methyl Ketones

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1. General information

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Ascend™ 400 (400 MHz) using tetramethylsilane as an internal reference. NMR multiplicities are abbreviated as follows: s = singlet, d = doublet, m = multiplet, br = broad signal. Chemical shifts (δ) and coupling constants (J) were expressed in ppm and Hz, respectively. The rest of chemicals were purchased from the Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Adamas, Aladdin and TCI used as received. Q-TOF were used for the HRMS and GC-MS measurement. HRMS (ESI) data were obtained using electron spray ionization and GC-MS data were obtained using electron impact ionization.

2. General procedure for the synthesis of products

Without other special notes, all products were synthesized according to the following procedure: 50 mL Schlenk tube was added imidazopyridines **1** (0.2 mmol), ketones **2** (2 mL), Mn (OAc)₂·4H₂O (10 mol %) and DCP (3 equiv). The tube was stirred at 120°C for 24 h. After the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3×10 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with brine (10 mL), dried (MgSO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel with a mixture of petroleum ether and ethyl acetate as eluent to afford various target compounds (PE/EA = 20/1--2/1).

3. Characterization data for products

1-(2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-one (**3a**)¹

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 78%. 36.9 mg; white solid; mp:70-71 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) 1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.81 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.66 – 7.59 (m, 3H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.19 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 6.78 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.10 (s, 2H), 2.14 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 204.05, 145.05, 144.48, 134.11, 128.72, 128.38, 127.99, 124.61, 123.34, 117.67, 113.35, 112.63, 39.60, 29.23.

1-(2-(4-methoxyphenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-one (**3b**)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 69%, 38.6 mg; white solid; mp:65-66 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.66 (dd, J = 12.2, 7.6 Hz, 3H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (dd, J = 7.4, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 204.41, 157.94, 146.51, 143.78, 134.24, 128.67, 128.15, 127.77, 123.89, 112.08, 107.62, 94.78, 55.53, 39.56, 29.14. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₂O₂ 281.1285; Found: 281.1282.

1-(2-(4-fluorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-one (**3c**)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 59%, 31.6 mg; yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.68 – 7.60 (m, 3H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.17 (s, 2H), 6.83 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (s, 2H), 2.19 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 203.82, 162.65 (d, J=247 Hz), 145.07, 143.71, 130.35, 130.06 (d, J=8 Hz), 127.80, 123.99(d, J=139 Hz), 117.67, 115.73 (d, J=22 Hz), 113.19, 112.68, 39.52, 29.27. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₆H₁₃FN₂O 269.1085; Found: 269.1084.

1-(2-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-one (**3d**)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 56%, 31.1mg; yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.87 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 3.90 (s, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.07 (s, 3H). ¹³C

NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 204.12, 145.18, 144.81, 138.03, 137.40, 131.22, 130.37, 130.29, 126.28, 124.17, 123.50, 117.63, 114.22, 112.31, 39.32, 29.02, 21.23, 19.93. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₈H₁₈N₂O 279.1492; Found: 279.1497.

1-(7-chloro-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-one (3e)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 82%, 46.7 mg; white solid; mp: 86-87 °C.
¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.67 (s, 3H), 7.50 (s, 2H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 6.84 – 6.81 (m, 1H), 4.14 (s, 2H), 2.21 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 203.57, 145.43, 144.88, 133.82, 131.09, 128.81, 128.38, 128.23, 123.83, 116.51, 114.13, 113.71, 39.44, 29.34. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₆H₁₃ClN₂O 285.0789; Found: 285.0784.

1-(7-methoxy-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-one (3f)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 75%, 42.2 mg; white solid; mp: 52-53 °C.
¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.64 (s, 3H), 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 204.41, 157.94, 146.51, 143.78, 134.24, 128.67, 128.15, 127.77, 123.89, 112.08, 107.62, 94.78, 55.53, 39.56, 29.14. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₂O₂ 281.1285; Found: 281.1285.

1-(7-methyl-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-one (3g)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 76%, 40.1 mg; colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (s, 2H), 7.44 (s, 2H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (s, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 204.28, 145.52, 144.16, 135.58, 134.32, 128.67, 128.32, 127.83, 122.56, 116.06, 115.23, 112.68, 39.65, 29.12, 21.30. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₂O 265.1335; Found: 265.1345.

1-(8-methyl-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-one (3h)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 42%, 22.2 mg; white solid; mp: 70-71 °C.
¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.73 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (s, 2H), 2.66 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 202.92, 152.26, 145.46, 130.93, 129.99, 129.71, 124.34, 123.82, 117.34, 116.13, 112.96, 104.22, 53.44, 48.15, 30.20. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₂O 265.1335; Found: 265.1328.

1-(6-nitro-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-one (3i)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 45%, 23.9 mg; yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (s, 2H), 2.25 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 203.40, 155.64, 133.75, 128.97, 128.78, 128.64, 128.36, 128.22, 127.96, 123.51, 118.32, 107.29, 39.41, 29.43. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₆H₁₃N₃O₃ 296.1030; Found: 296.1032.

1-(6-chloro-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-one (3j)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 56%, 31.9 mg; white solid; mp: 55-56 °C.
¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.90 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (s, 2H), 2.25 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 203.43, 140.35, 130.90, 128.96, 128.81, 128.79, 128.64, 128.35, 128.22, 125.92, 121.32, 118.04, 39.43, 29.44. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₆H₁₃ClN₂O 285.0789; Found: 285.0784.

1-(2-(tert-butyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-one (3l)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 37 %, 17.1 mg; yellow solid; mp: 76-77 °C.
¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.16 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 202.92, 130.93, 129.99, 129.71, 123.82, 116.13, 112.96, 104.22, 53.39, 48.15, 30.20, 29.10. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₄H₁₈N₂O 231.1492; Found: 231.1501.

1-(2-(thiophen-2-yl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)propan-2-one (3m)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 58 %, 29.7 mg; yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.90 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.16 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 6.84 (td, *J* = 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (s, 2H), 2.21 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 203.68, 145.09, 138.75, 136.90, 128.81, 127.80, 125.79, 124.98, 124.92, 123.23, 117.52, 112.79, 39.73, 29.23. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₄H₁₂N₂OS 257.0743; Found: 257.0739.

3-(7-chloro-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)butan-2-one (3o)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 57 %, 34.2 mg; colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.84 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.69 – 7.64 (m, 3H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 6.79 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.97 (s, 3H), 1.55 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 206.56, 158.84, 144.95, 133.78, 131.07, 128.82, 128.66, 128.49, 128.36, 124.52, 116.81, 114.30, 43.92, 28.48, 12.70. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₅ClN₂O 299.0946; Found: 299.0947.

1-(7-chloro-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)butan-2-one (3p)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 7 %, 4.2 mg; colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (s, 2H), 2.54 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.08 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 206.45, 145.24, 144.79, 133.81, 131.02, 128.77, 128.67, 128.36, 128.17, 123.93, 116.41, 114.06, 38.24, 35.36, 7.63. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₅ClN₂O 299.0946; Found: 299.0941.

3-(2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)butan-2-one (3q)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 53 %, 27.9 mg; colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.89 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 8.2 Hz, 3H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 6.80 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.95 (s, 3H), 1.57 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 206.88, 145.21, 144.51, 134.25, 128.74, 128.13, 124.49, 124.05, 118.13, 118.05, 112.76, 44.09, 28.36, 12.60. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 206.88, 145.21, 144.51, 134.25, 129.80, 128.74, 128.13, 124.49, 124.05, 118.13, 118.05, 112.76, 44.09, 28.36, 12.60. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₂O 265.1335; Found: 265.1336.

2-(7-chloro-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)-1-phenylethan-1-one (3s)

Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 62 %, 42.9 mg; white solid; mp: 48–49 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.95 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.58 (m, 4H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 4H), 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 1H), 6.80 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.71 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 194.52, 145.63, 144.98, 135.45, 133.98, 130.92, 128.88, 128.77, 128.54, 128.52, 128.14, 124.21, 116.42, 113.98, 113.90, 109.99, 34.61. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₁H₁₅ClN₂O 347.0946; Found: 347.0940.

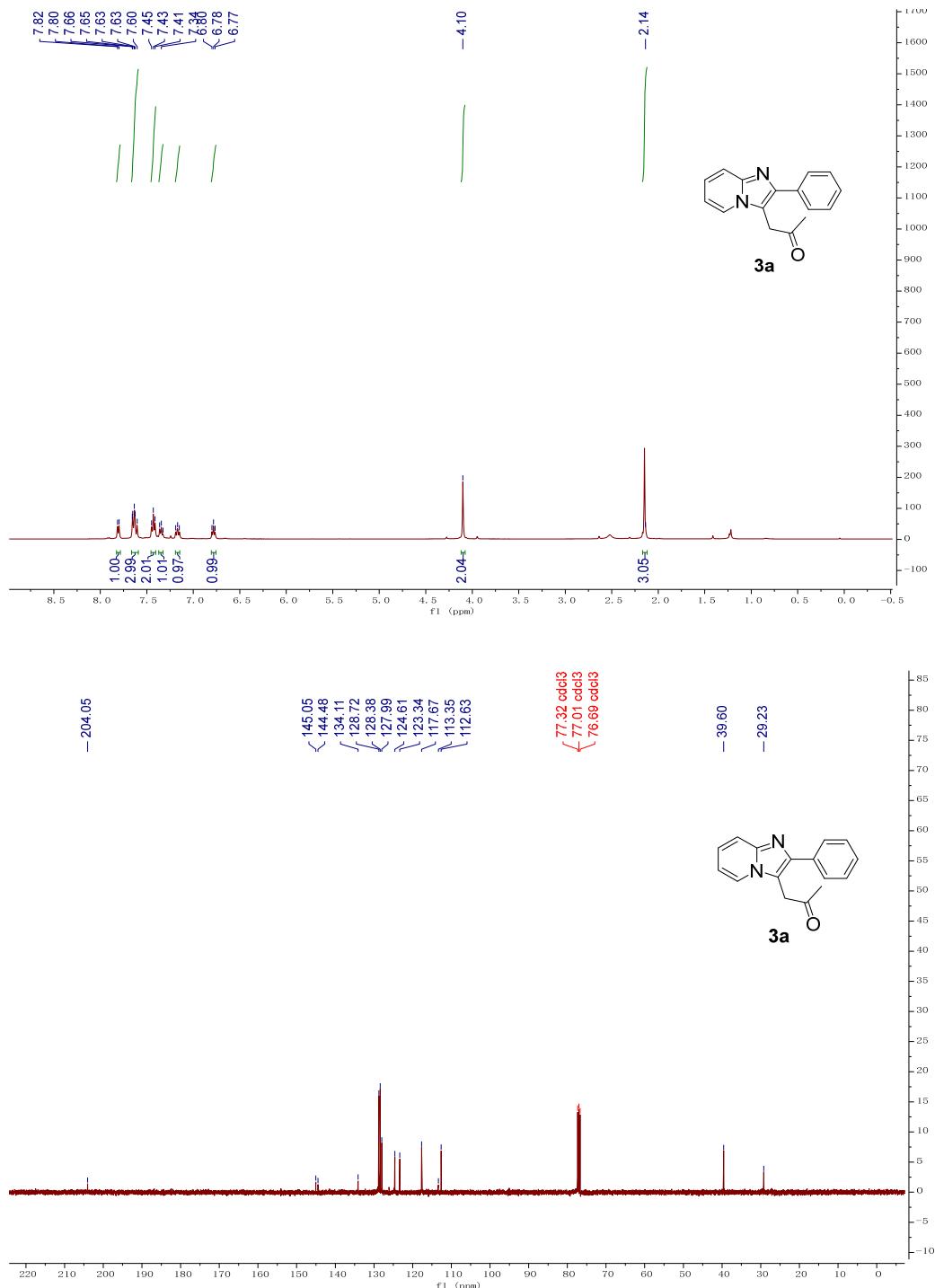
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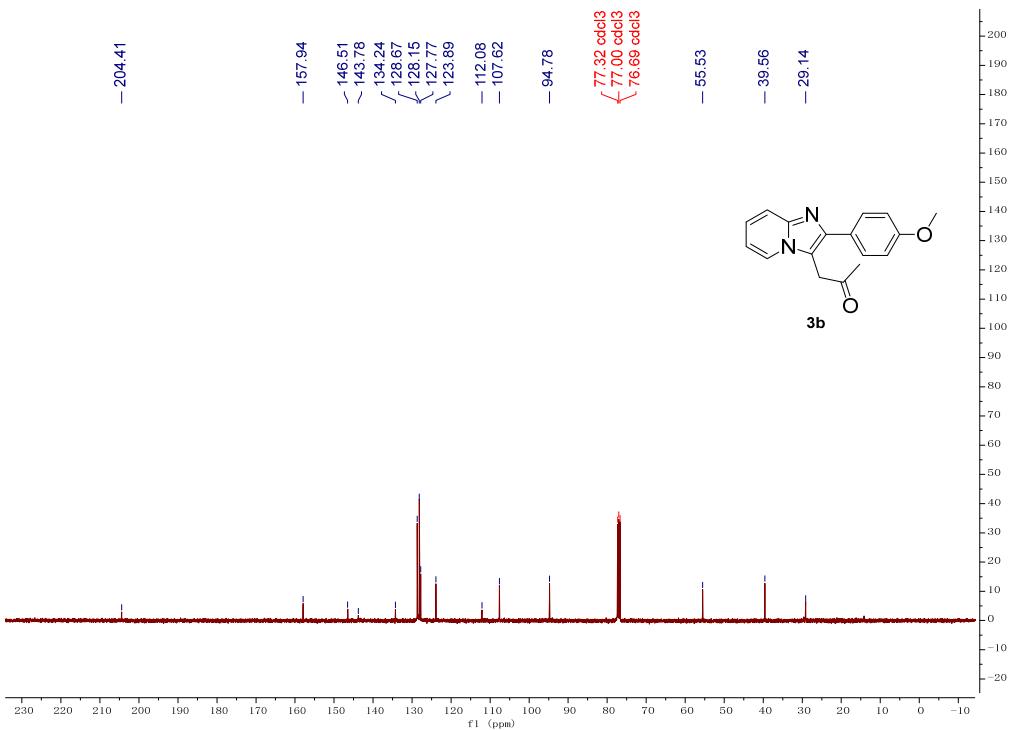
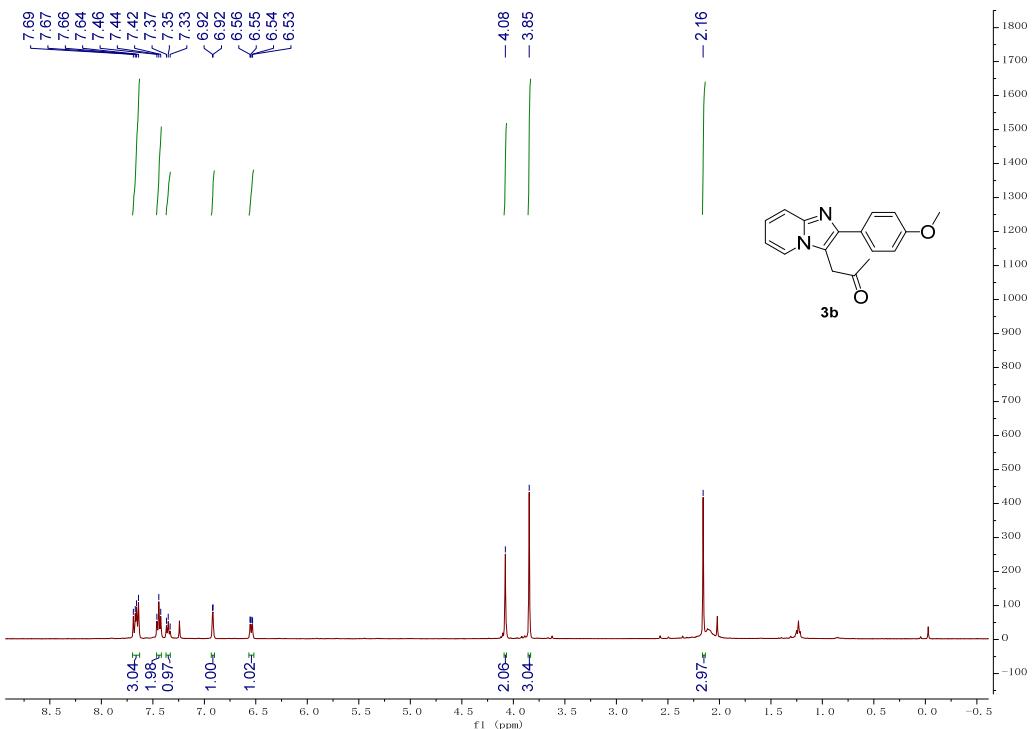
Purified by using a flash column chromatography; isolated yield = 39 %, 22.6 mg; yellow oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.73 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.40 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.20 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 6.75 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 4.35 – 4.29 (m, 1H), 2.67 – 2.49 (m, 2H), 2.27 – 2.19 (m, 2H), 2.10 – 1.97 (m, 2H), 1.89 – 1.80 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 207.38, 145.30, 134.82, 130.90, 130.27, 128.90, 128.58, 127.77, 125.26, 124.00, 117.94, 111.61, 48.31, 42.25, 31.17, 27.03, 25.37. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₉H₁₈N₂O 291.1492; Found: 291.1492.

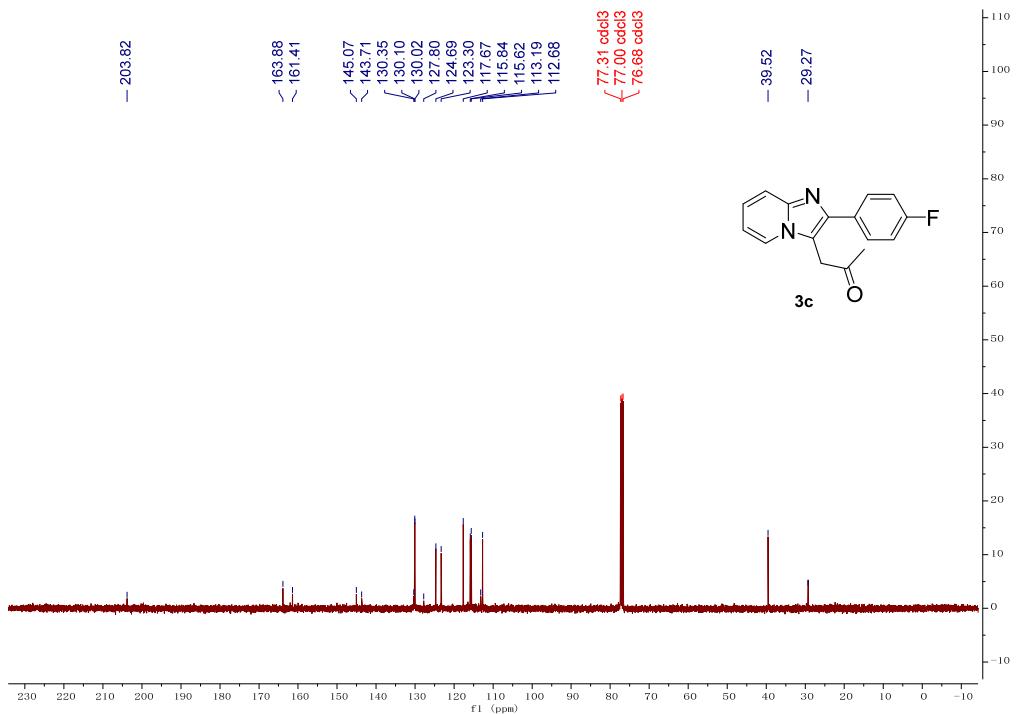
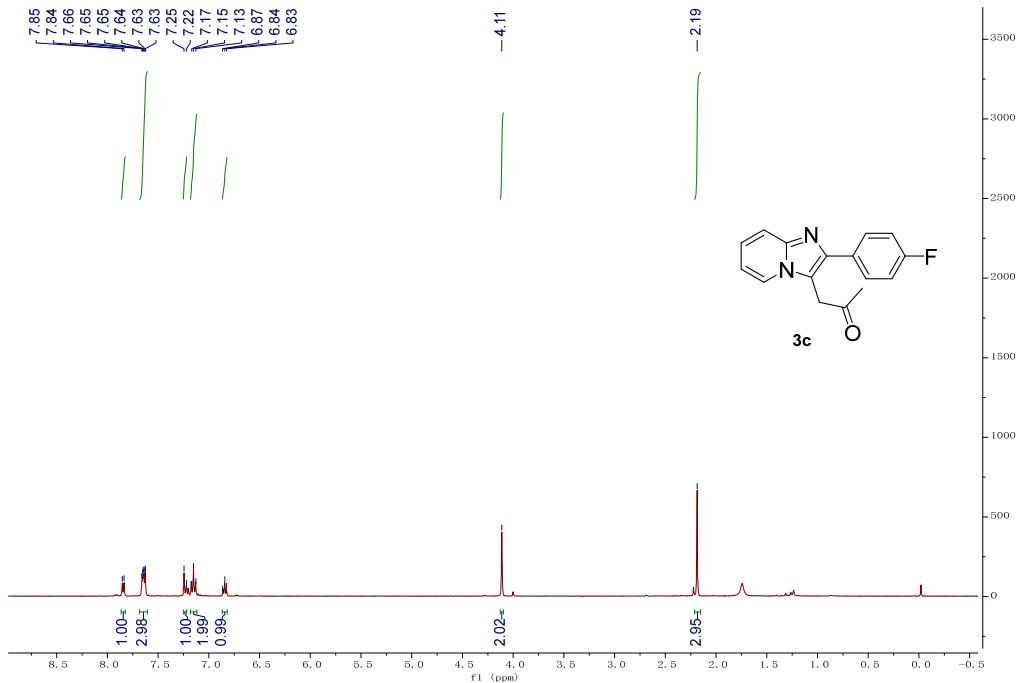
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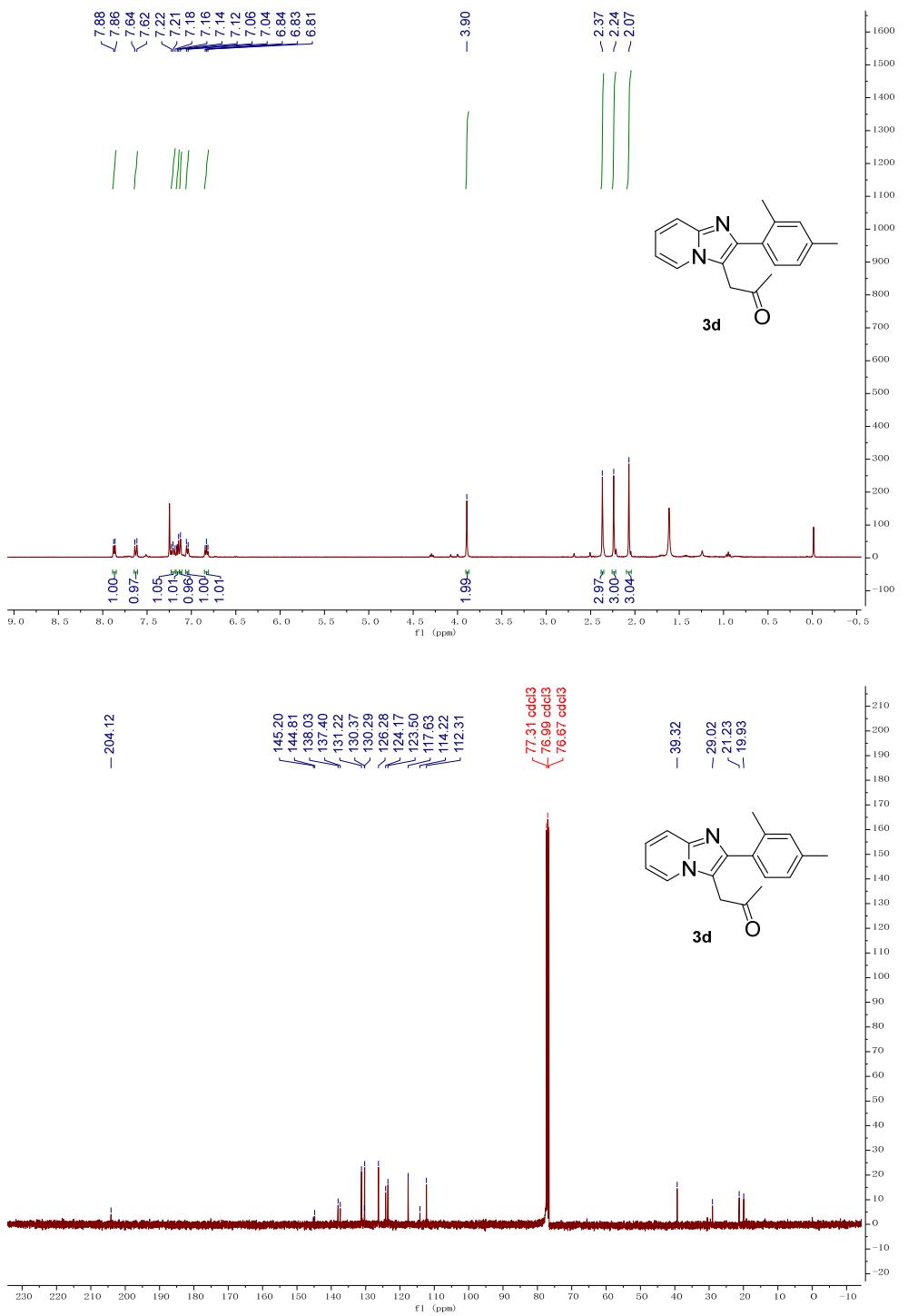
- (1) S.-C. Wang, X.-H. Huang, Z.-M. Ge, X. Wang, R.-T. Li. *RSC Adv.*, 2016, **6**, 68, 63532-63535.

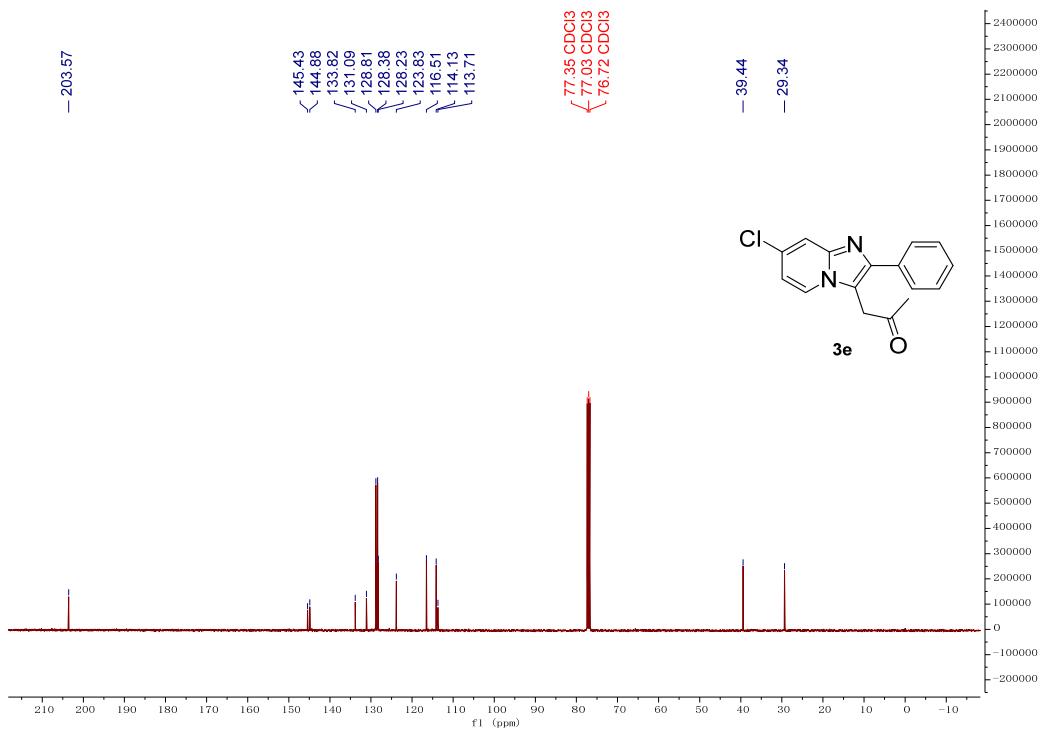
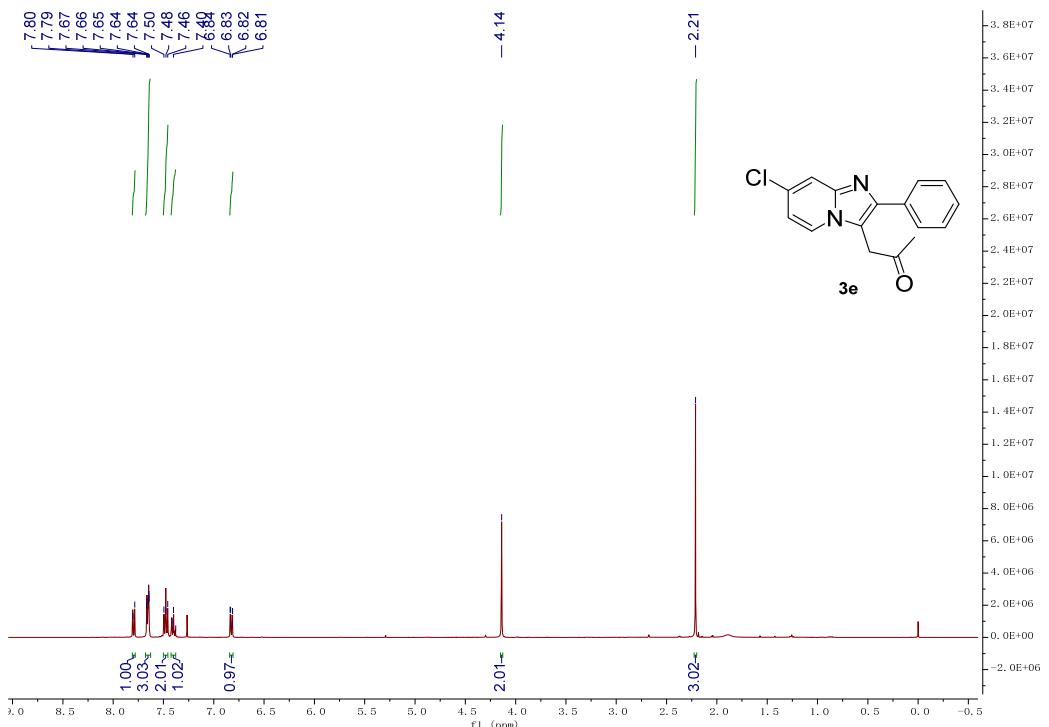
4. ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR for products

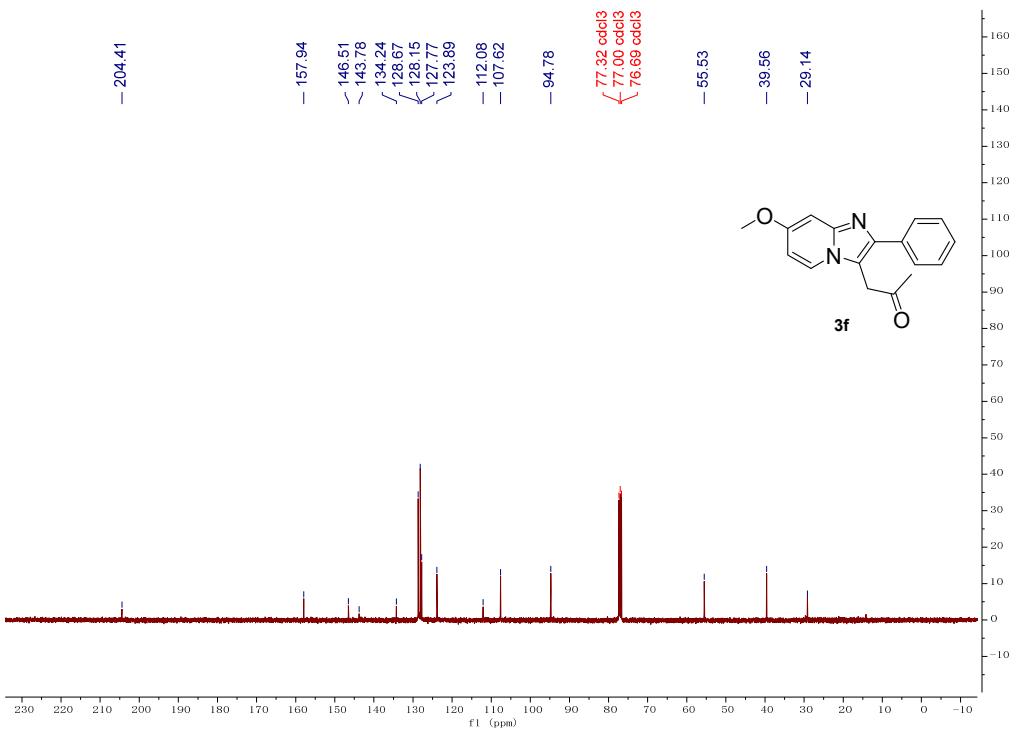
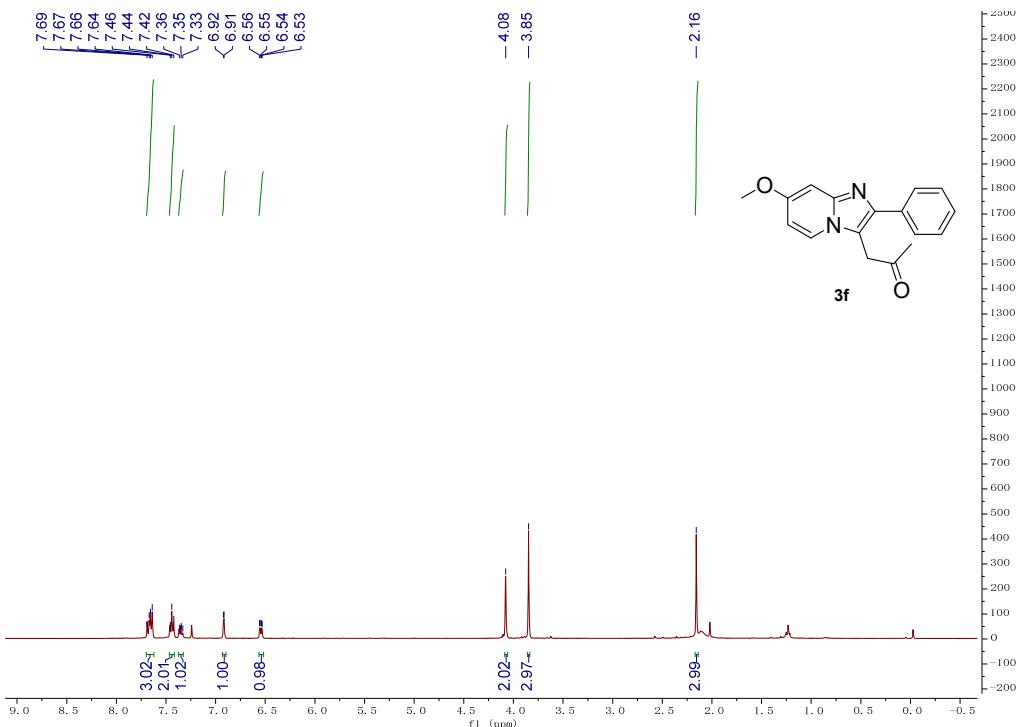


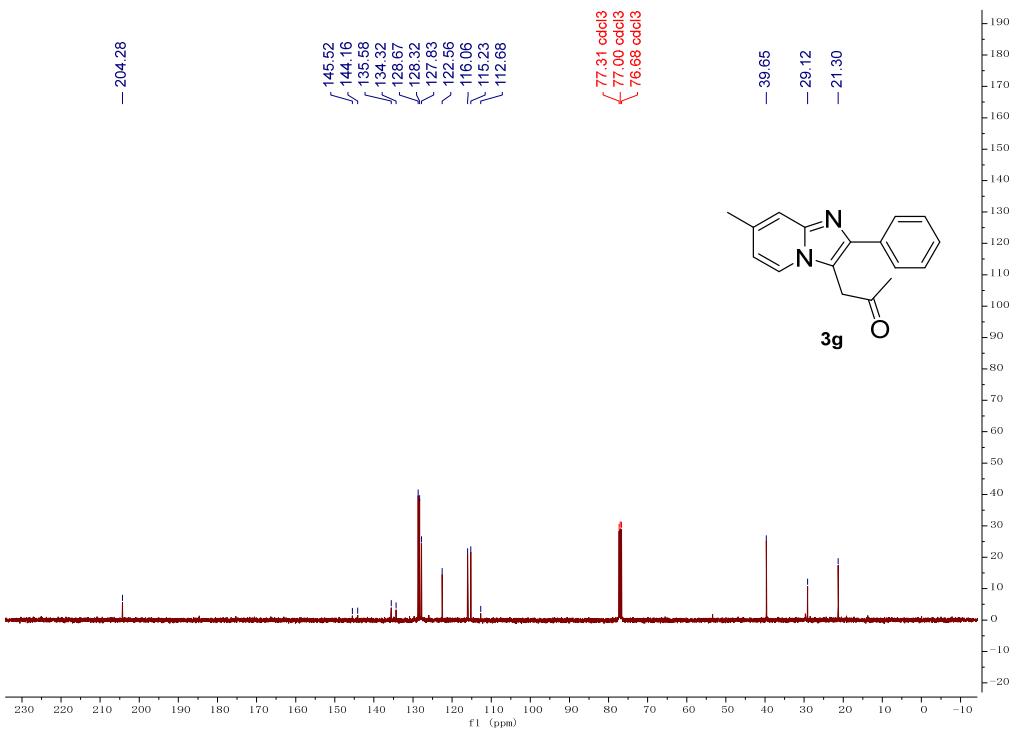
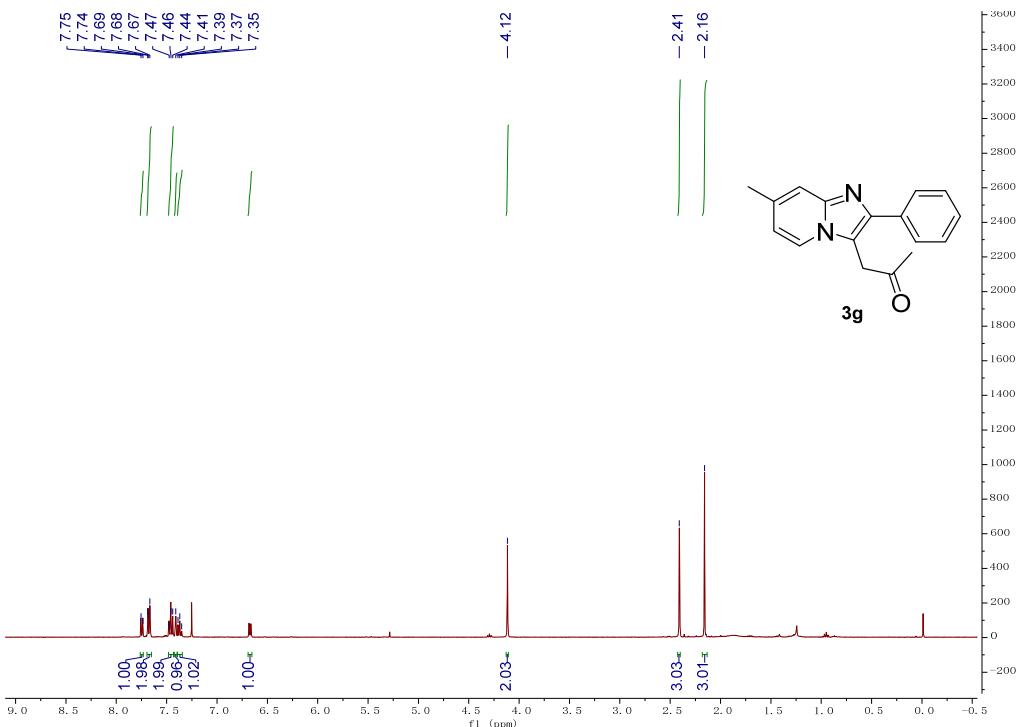


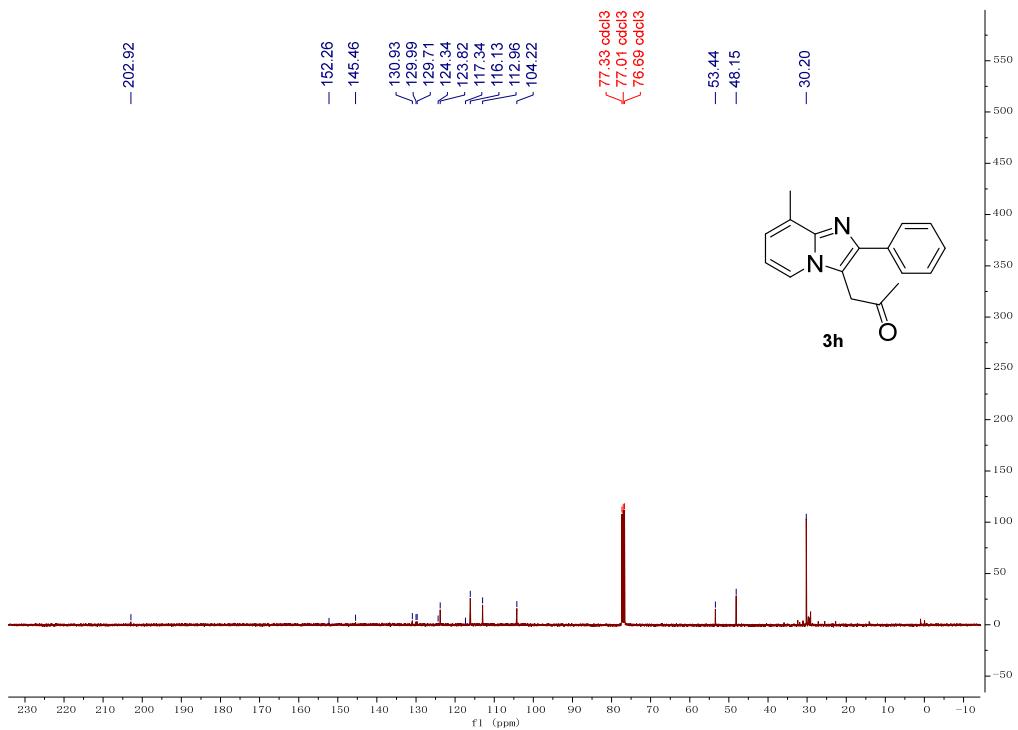
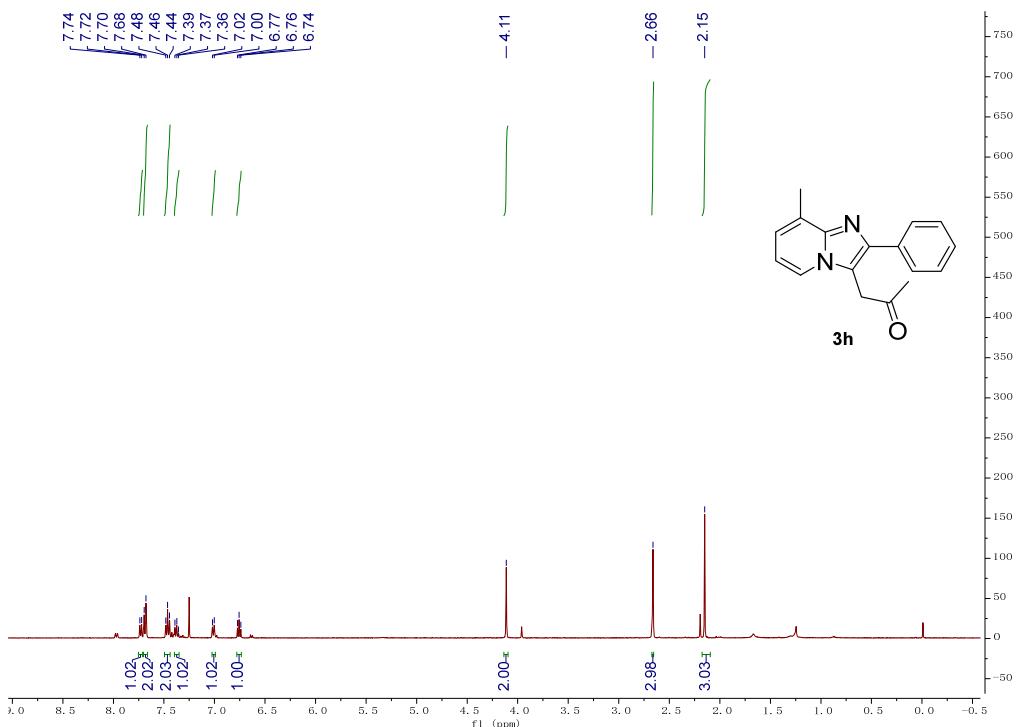


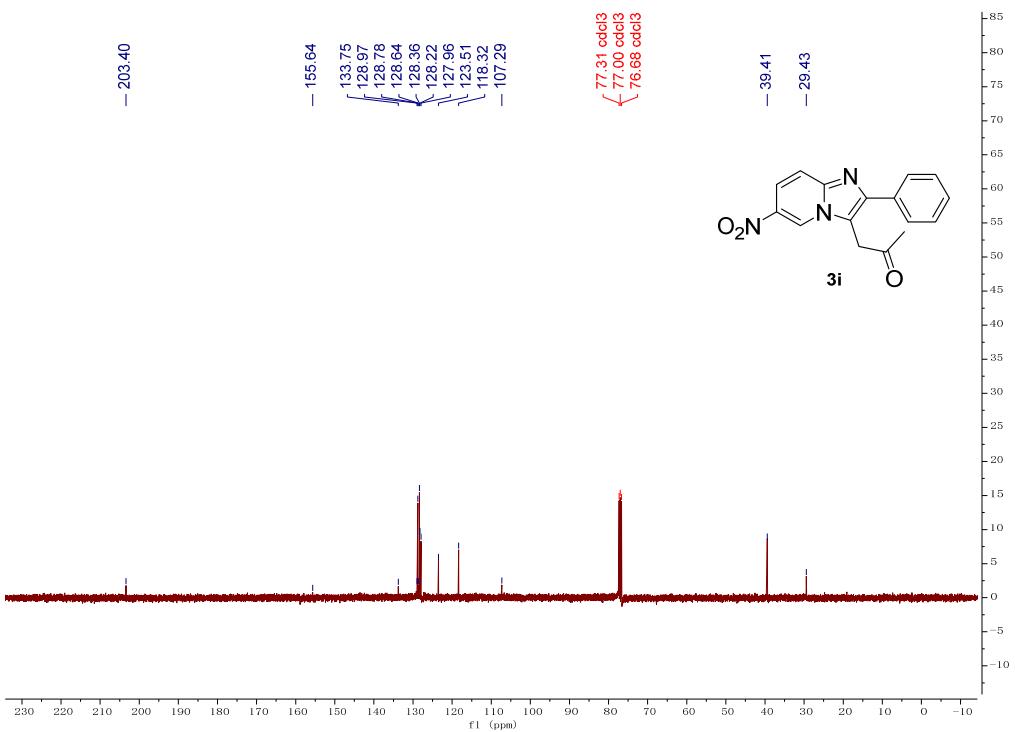
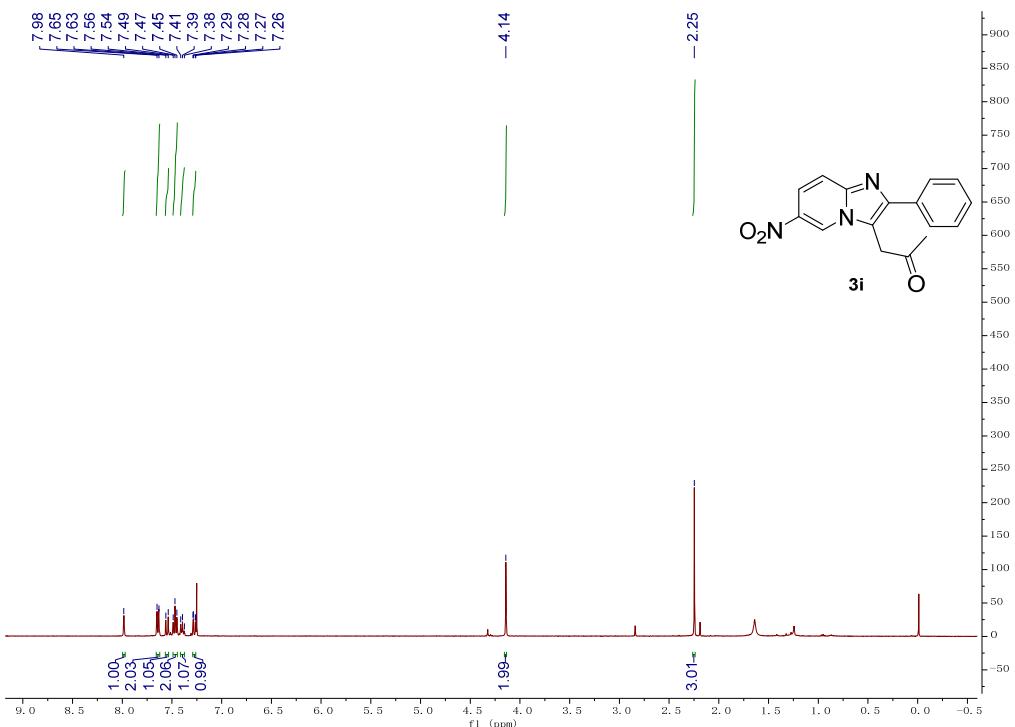


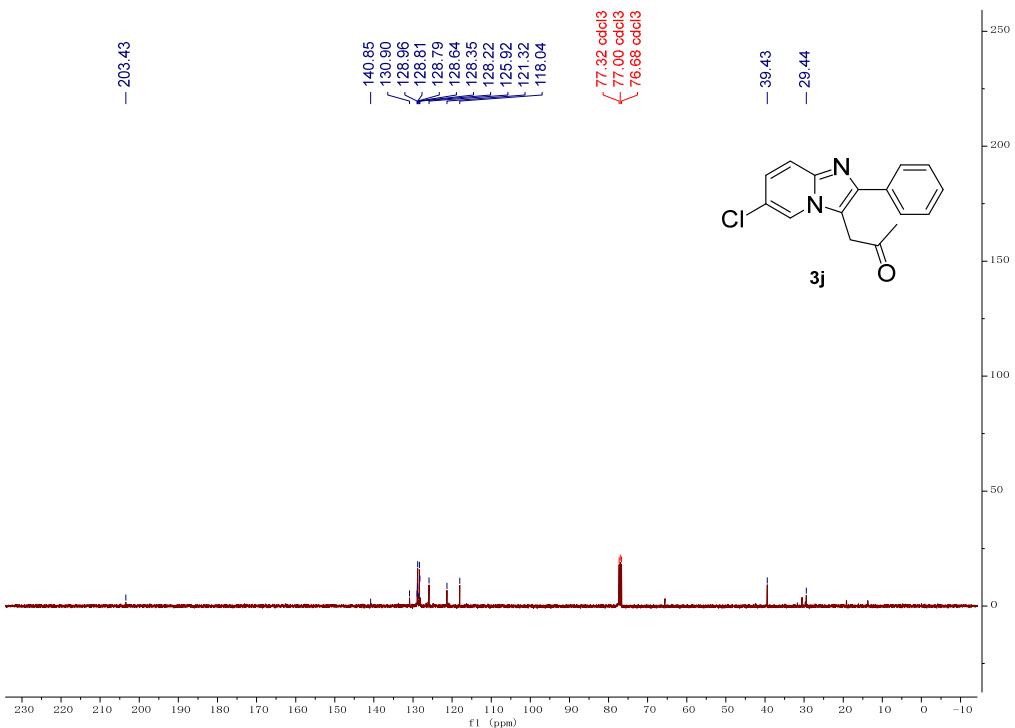
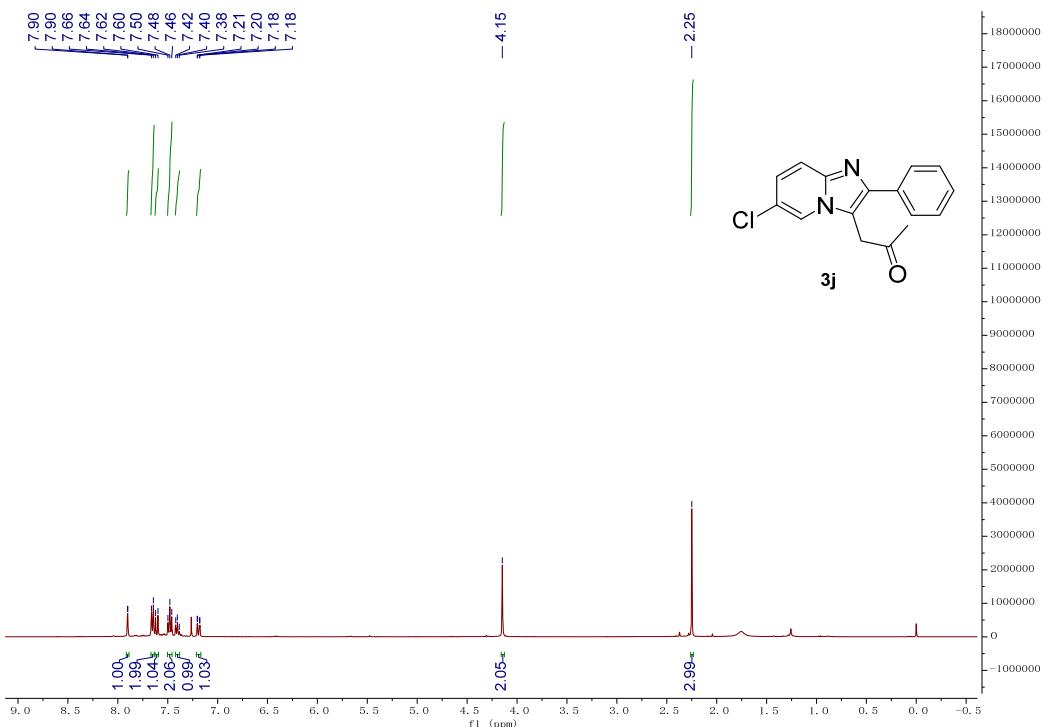


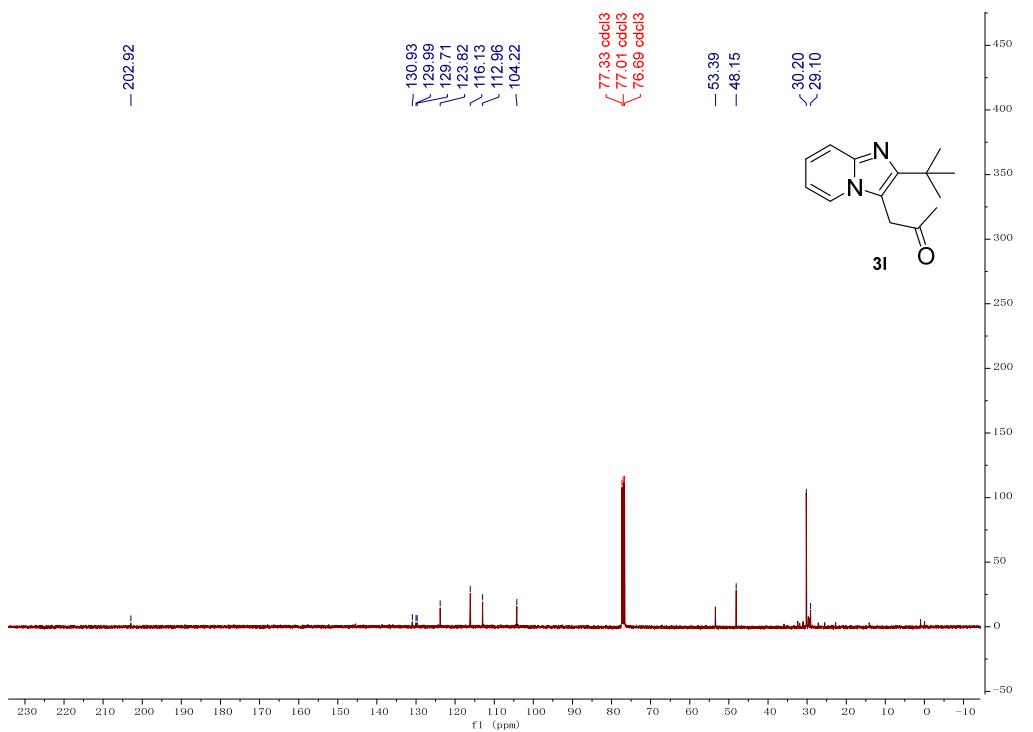
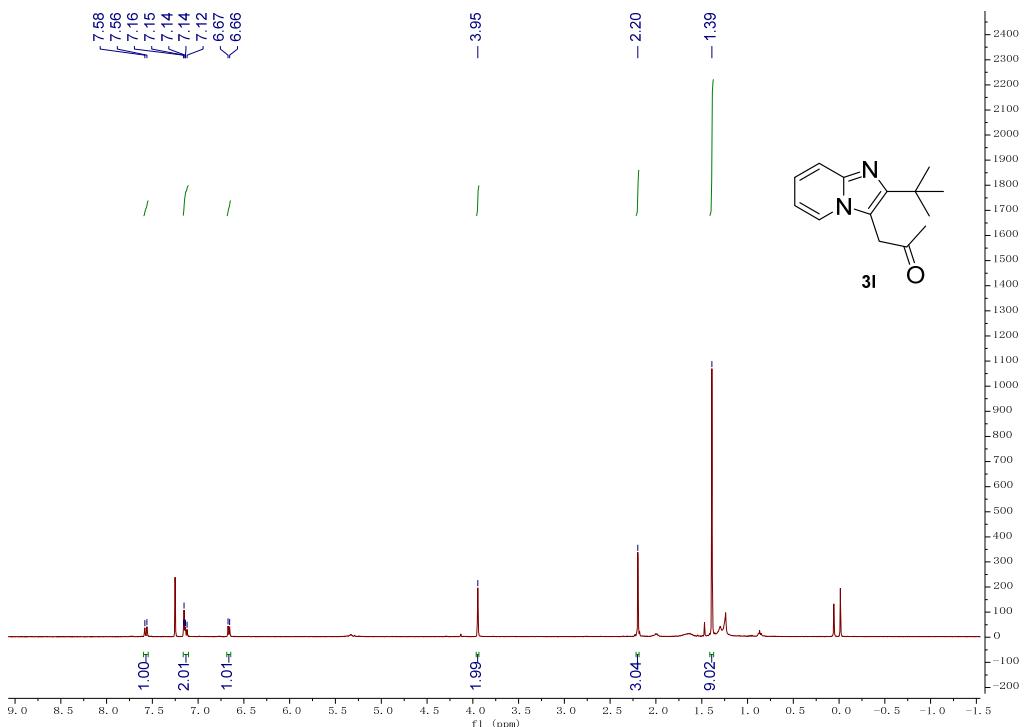


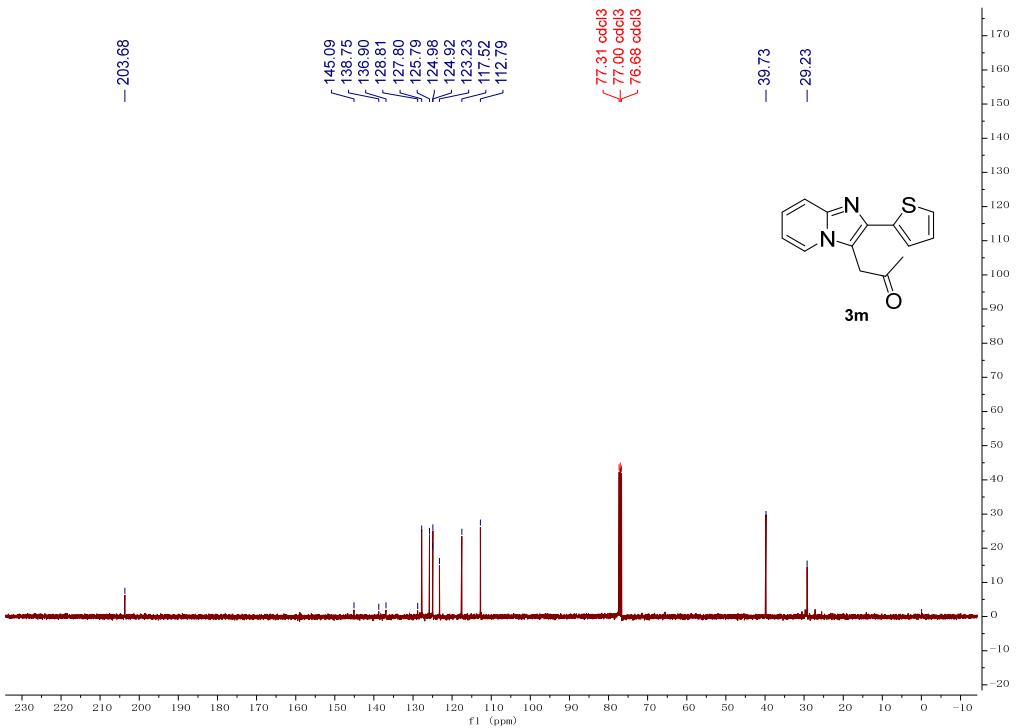
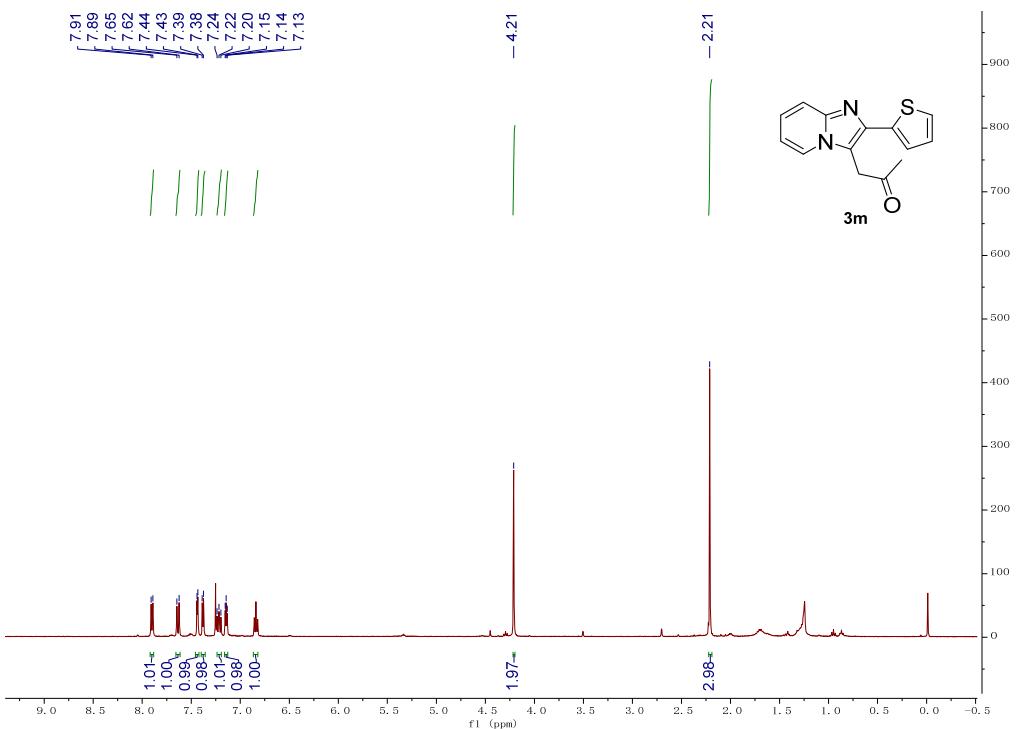


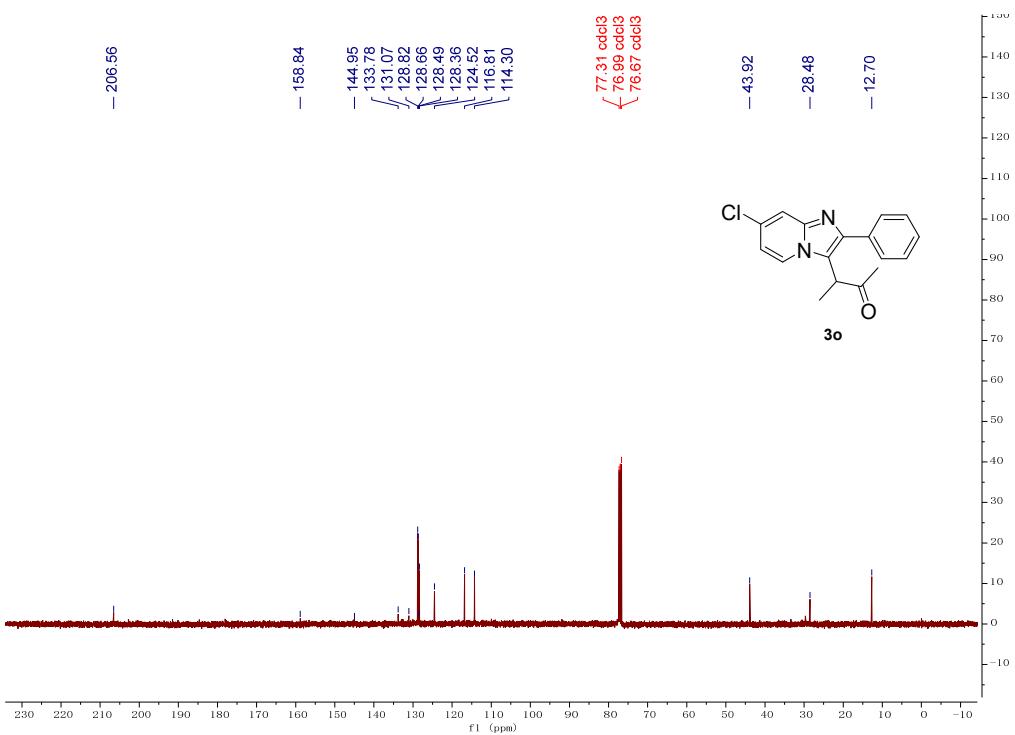
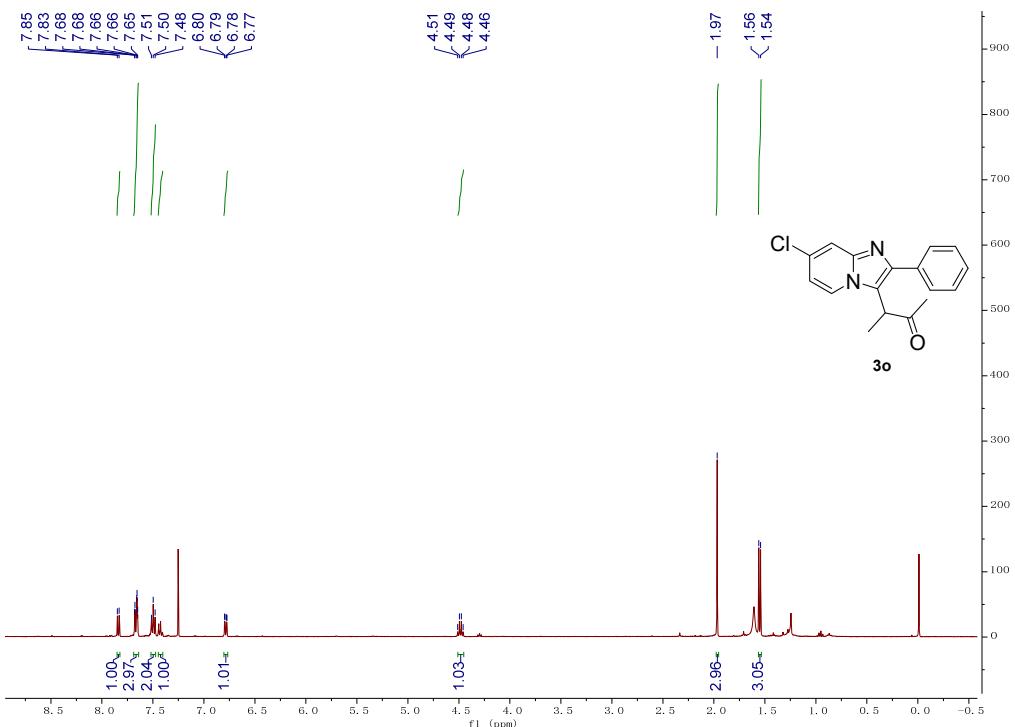


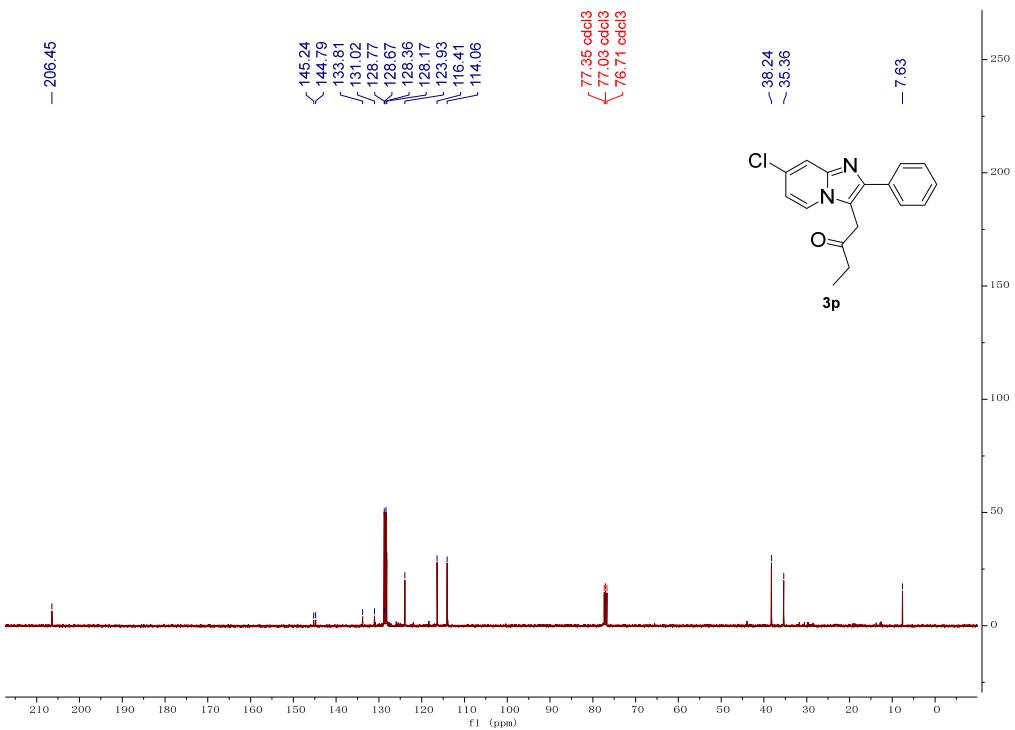
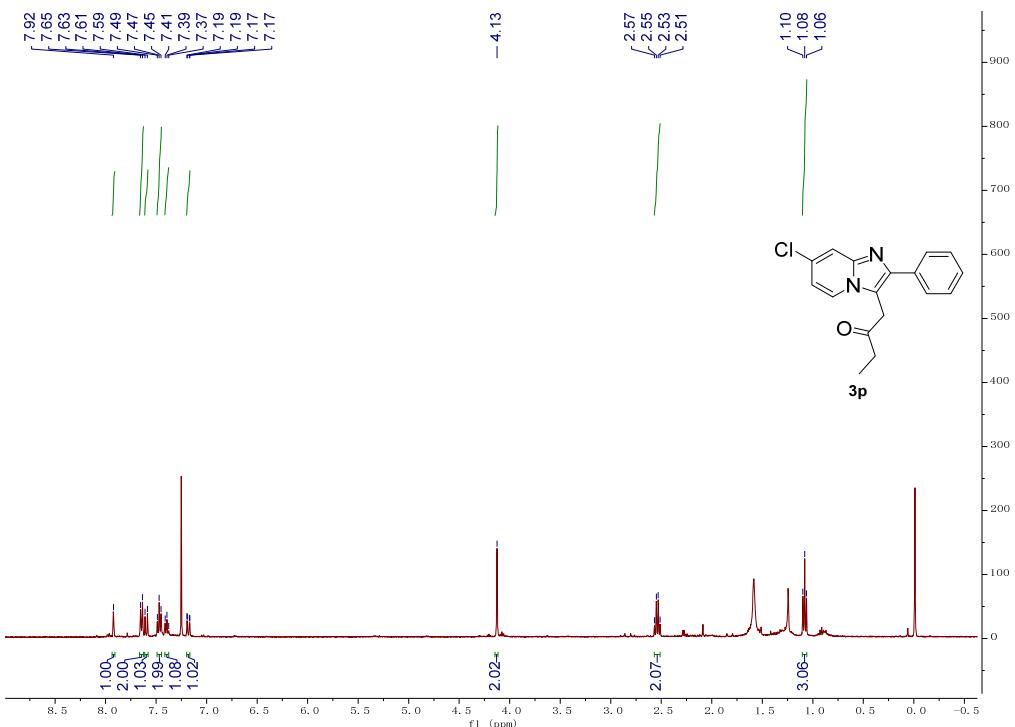


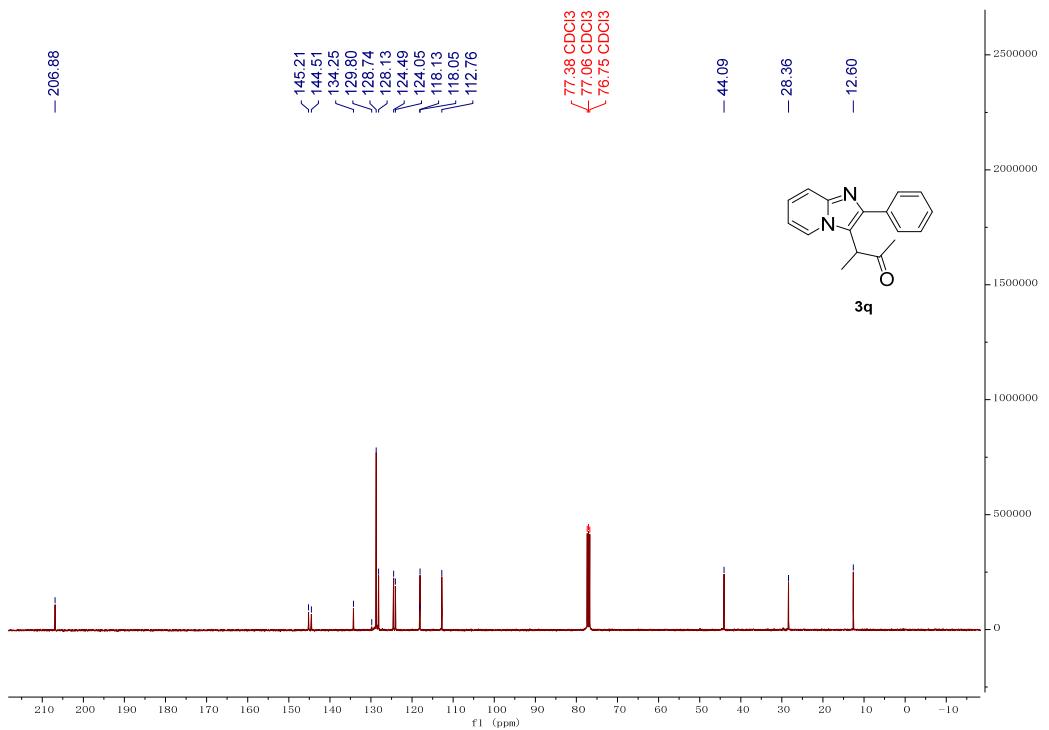
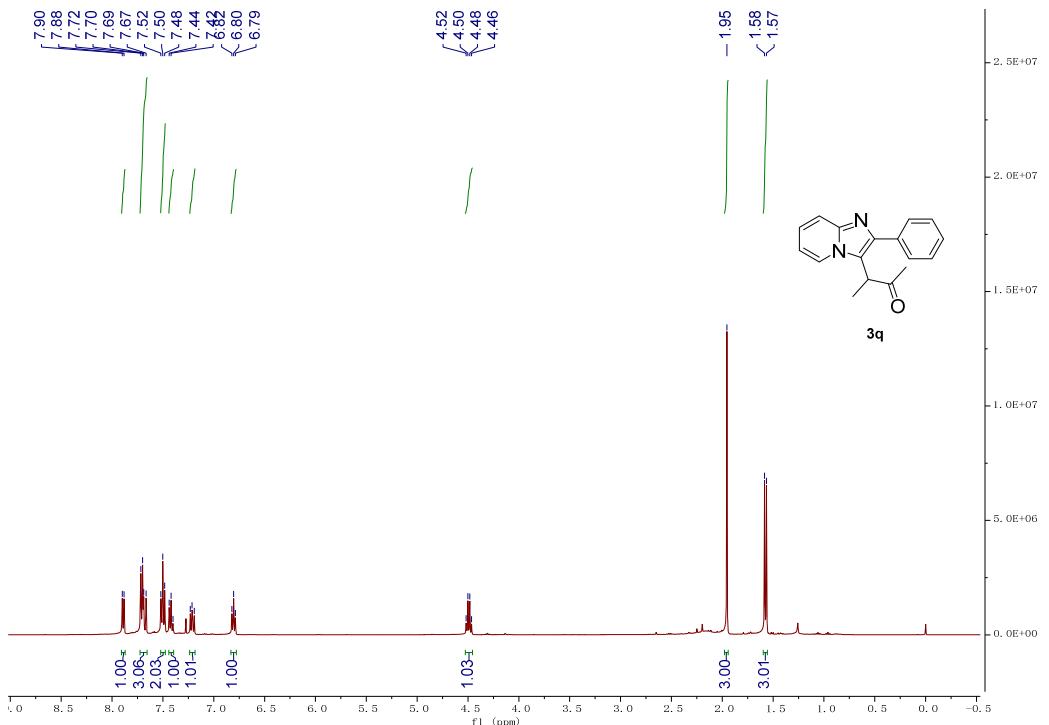


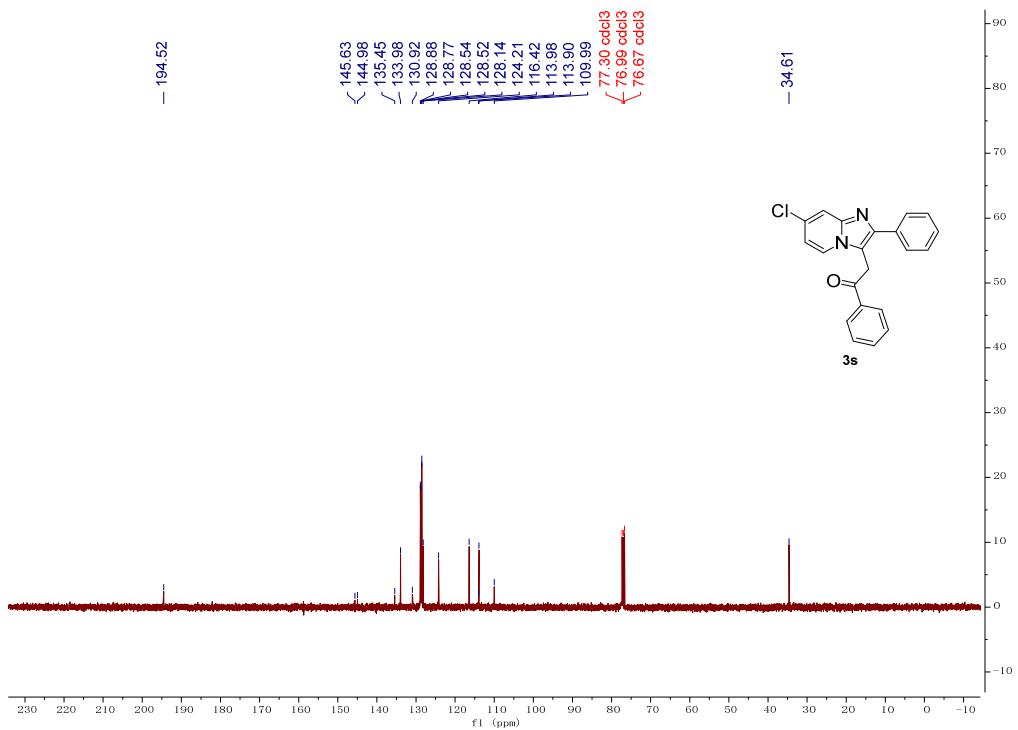
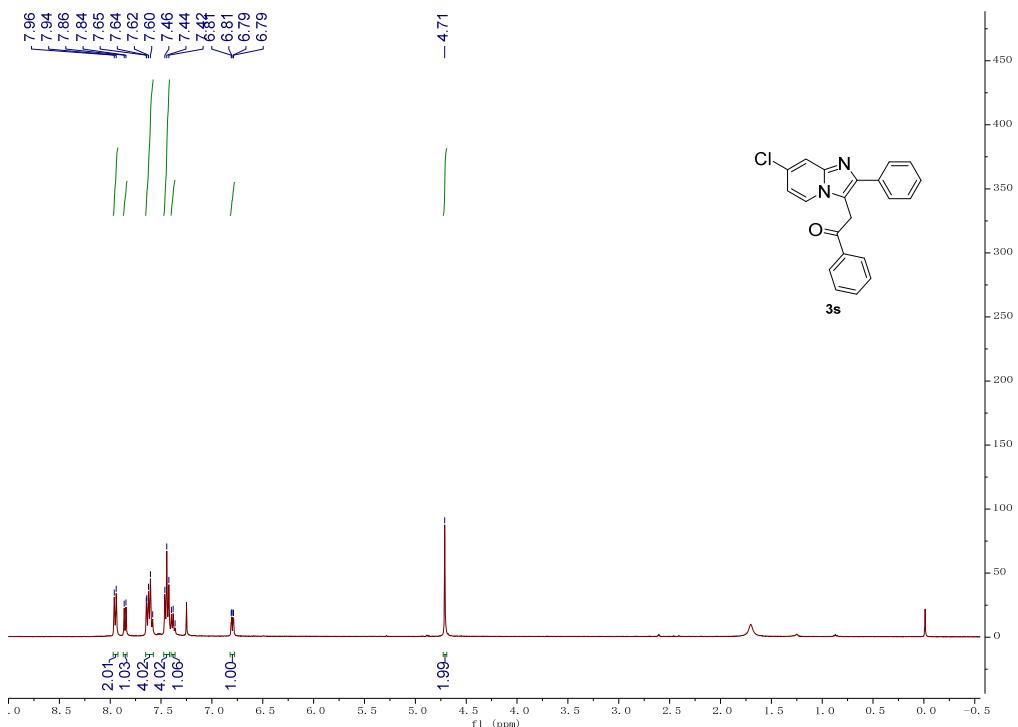


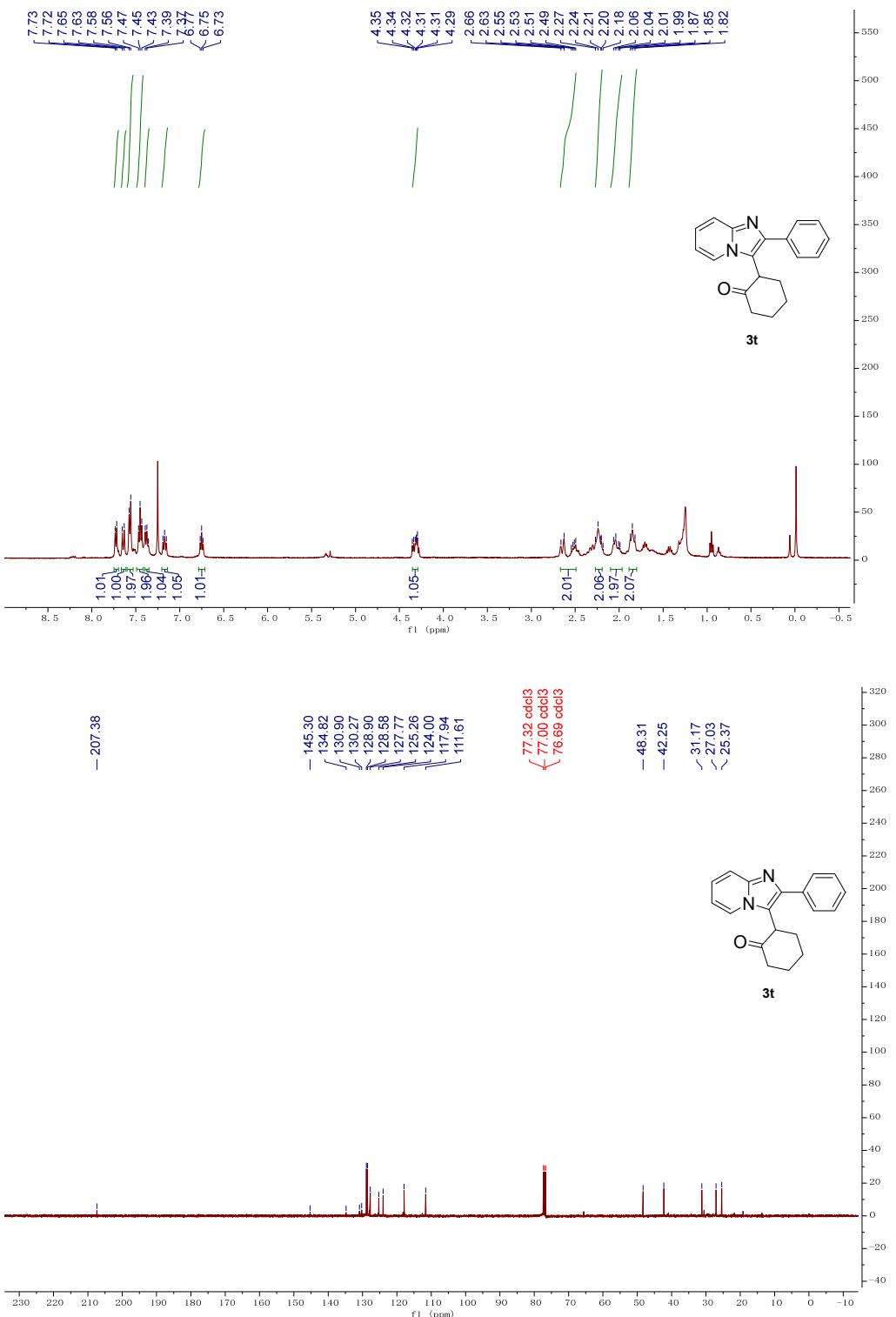












5. GC-MS spectra of compounds 4 and 5

