

## Supporting Information

### Selective synthesis of sulfoxides and sulfones *via* controllable oxidation of sulfides with *N*-fluorobenzenesulfonimide

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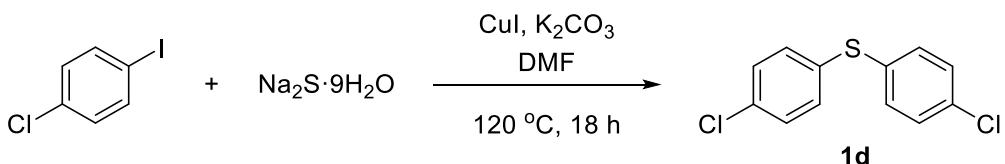
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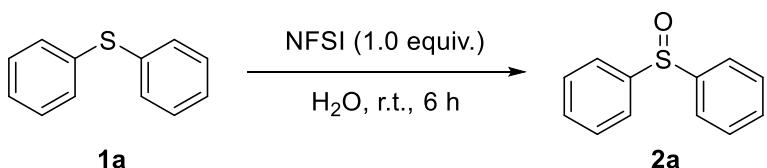
## **1. General Information**

Unless otherwise noted, reactions were carried out in oven-dried glassware or sealed tube under ambient atmosphere. *N,N*-Dimethylformamide (DMF) was distilled from calcium hydride. Tetrahydrofuran (THF) was dried and distilled from sodium. Reactions were monitored by analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) on Merck silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> plates (0.25 mm), visualized by ultraviolet light (254 nm) or by staining with ceric ammonium molybdate. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker AVANCE 400 MHz spectrometer at ambient temperature. Data were reported as follows: chemical shift on the  $\delta$  scale using residual proton solvent as internal standard [ $\delta$  7.26 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta$  2.50 (DMSO);  $\delta$  4.79 (H<sub>2</sub>O); TMS: 0.00 ppm], multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, dd = doublet of doublets), integration, and coupling constant (J) in hertz (Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained with proton decoupling on a Bruker AVANCE (100 MHz) spectrometer and were reported in ppm with residual solvent for internal standard [ $\delta$  77.0 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta$  39.52 (DMSO)]. High resolution mass spectra were obtained on a Bruker SolariX 7.0T spectrometer. NCS = *N*-Chlorosuccinimide, NFSI = *N*-Fluorobenzenesulfonimide, TEMPO = 2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidinoxyl.

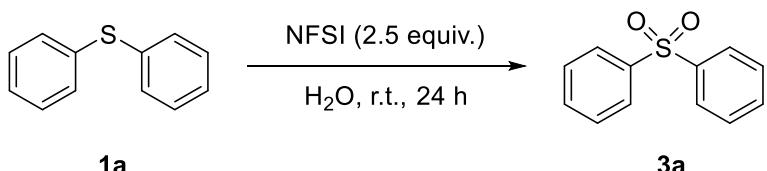
## 2. Experimental procedures



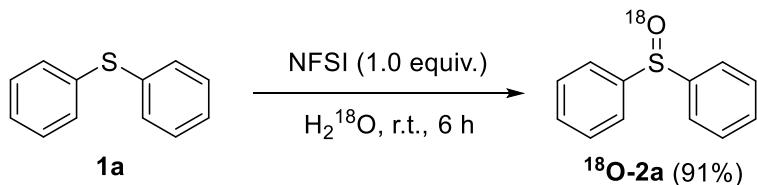
**General procedure for substrates<sup>1</sup>:** A flame-dried test tube containing a magnetic stirring bar was charged with CuI (0.2 mmol),  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (2 mmol),  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}\cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1.2 mmol), the 1-chloro-4-iodobenzene (2.0 mmol), and DMF (4 mL) under argon. The mixture was heated at  $120^\circ\text{C}$  for 18 h and allowed to cool to room temperature. The resulting mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3\times 50\text{ mL}$ ). The combined organic layers were dried with  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and then concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with an eluent consisting of petroleum ether and ethyl acetate.



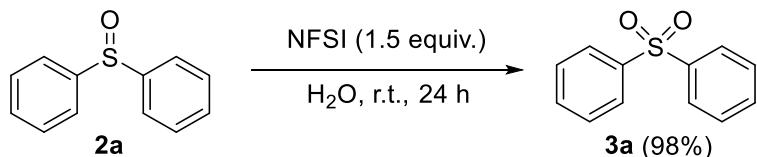
**General procedure for sulfoxides:** To a solution of diphenyl sulfide **1a** (186 mg, 1.0 mmol) and NFSI (315 mg, 1.0 equiv.) in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2.0 mL) at room temperature. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred for 6 h and EtOAc (10 mL) was then added to the mixture. The resulting mixture was extracted with EtOAc ( $3\times 20\text{ mL}$ ), and the combined organic phase was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resultant residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired product **2a** as a white solid (192 mg, 95% yield).



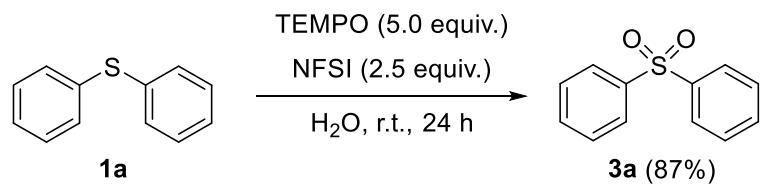
**General procedure for sulfones:** To a solution of diphenyl sulfide **1a** (186 mg, 1.0 mmol) and NFSI (788 mg, 2.5 equiv.) in H<sub>2</sub>O (4.0 mL) at room temperature. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred for 24 h and EtOAc (10 mL) was then added to the mixture. The resulting mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3×20 mL), and the combined organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resultant residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired product **3a** as a white solid (200 mg, 92% yield).



**Isotope labeling experiment with H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O:** To a solution of diphenyl sulfide **1a** (93 mg, 0.5 mmol) and NFSI (158 mg, 1.0 equiv.) in H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O (100 mg, 5.0 mmol) at room temperature. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred for 6 h and EtOAc (10 mL) was then added to the mixture. The resulting mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3×20 mL), and the combined organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resultant residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired product <sup>18</sup>O-**2a** in 91% yield. HRMS of <sup>18</sup>O-**2a**: calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub><sup>18</sup>OS<sup>+</sup> [M+H<sup>+</sup>]: 205.0568; found: 205.0568.

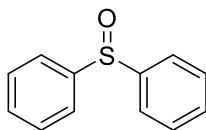


**Intermediate probe experiment:** To a solution of diphenyl sulfoxide **2a** (101 mg, 0.5 mmol) and NFSI (236 mg, 1.5 equiv.) in H<sub>2</sub>O (2.0 mL) at room temperature. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred for 24 h and EtOAc (10 mL) was then added to the mixture. The resulting mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3×20 mL), and the combined organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resultant residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired product **3a** in 98% yield.

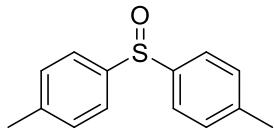


**Radical trapping experiments:** To a solution of diphenyl sulfide **1a** (93 mg, 0.5 mmol), radical scavenger TEMPO (390 mg, 5.0 equiv.) and NFSI (394 mg, 2.5 equiv.) in H<sub>2</sub>O (2.0 mL) at room temperature. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred for 24 h and EtOAc (10 mL) was then added to the mixture. The resulting mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3×20 mL), and the combined organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resultant residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired product **3a** in 87% yield.

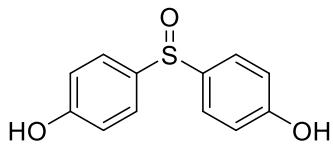
### 3. Characterization of Products



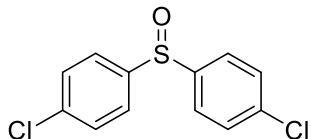
**Sulfinyldibenzene (2a)<sup>2</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 95% (192 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.74-7.72 (m, 4H), 7.56-7.50 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 145.92, 131.06, 129.47, 124.08.



**4,4'-Dimethyldiphenylsulfoxide (2b)<sup>3</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 94% (216 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.56 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 4H), 7.33 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 4H), 2.32 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 143.05, 141.01, 129.93, 124.16, 20.80.



**4,4'-Sulfinylbisphenol (2c)<sup>3</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 89% (208 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 10.09 (s, 2H, OH), 7.44-7.42 (m, 4H), 6.89-6.87 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 159.86, 135.51, 126.50, 116.10.

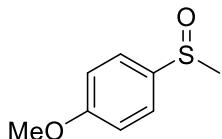


**4,4'-Sulfinylbis(chlorobenzene) (2d)<sup>3</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 92% (248 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.77-7.75 (m, 4H), 7.64-7.62 (m, 4H);

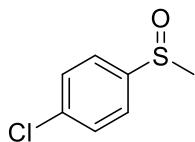
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{d}^6\text{-DMSO}$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 144.52, 136.08, 129.67, 126.05.



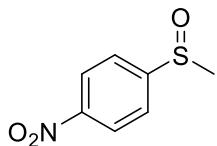
**1-Nitro-2-(phenylsulfinyl)benzene (2e)<sup>4</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 85% (210 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 8.60 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dt,  $J$  = 8.6, 4.0 Hz, 3H), 7.42 (dd,  $J$  = 5.3, 1.9 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 145.08, 144.56, 143.84, 135.36, 131.54, 131.41, 129.25, 126.77, 126.28, 125.30.



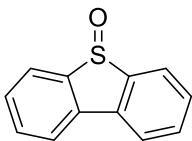
**1-Methoxy-4-(methylsulfinyl)benzene (2f)<sup>5</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 90% (153 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 7.59 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.69 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 161.85, 136.46, 125.35, 114.74, 55.42, 43.88.



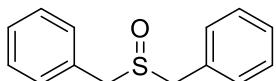
**1-Chloro-4-(methylsulfinyl)benzene (2g)<sup>2</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 88% (153 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 7.60 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.73 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 144.10, 137.22, 129.61, 124.95, 43.97.



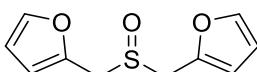
**1-(Methylsulfinyl)-4-nitrobenzene (2h)<sup>2</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 83% (154 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.40 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 2.81 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 152.99, 149.56, 124.79, 124.56, 43.77.



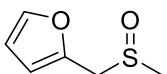
**Dibenzothiophene-5-oxide (2i)<sup>6</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 87% (174 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.00 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 145.04, 136.99, 132.46, 129.45, 127.42, 121.83.



**(Sulfinylbis(methylene))dibenzene (2j)<sup>4</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 95% (218 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.40-7.26 (m, 10H), 3.94-3.86 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 130.07 (2C), 128.89, 128.29, 57.20.

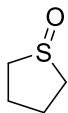


**Difurfuryl sulfoxide (2k)<sup>7</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 92% (193 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.71 (s, 2H), 6.49-6.47 (m, 4H), 4.29 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 2H), 4.07 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 145.35, 143.83, 111.16, 111.06, 49.53.

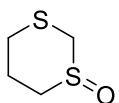


**2-((Methylsulfinyl)methyl)furan (2l)<sup>3</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 87% (125 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.69 (s, 1H), 6.49-6.43 (m, 2H), 4.22 (d,

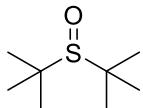
*J* = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (s, 3H).



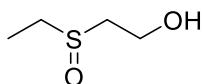
**Tetramethylene sulfoxide (2m)<sup>8</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 94% (98 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 2.87-2.74 (m, 4H), 2.43-2.34 (m, 2H), 2.02-1.92 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 54.34, 25.32.



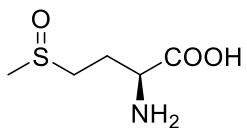
**1,3-Dithiane 1-oxide (2n)<sup>9</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 95% (129 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 4.00 (d, *J* = 12.7 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (d, *J* = 12.7 Hz, 1H), 3.33-3.31 (m, 1H), 2.68-2.48 (m, 4H), 2.25-2.19 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 52.79, 50.35, 28.22, 27.08.



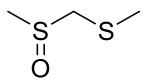
**2-(Tert-butylsulfinyl)-2-methylpropane (2o)<sup>6</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 72% (117 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 1.24 (s, 18H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 56.88, 25.44.



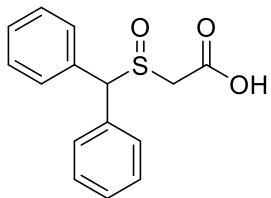
**Ethyl 2-hydroxyethyl sulfoxide (2p)<sup>10</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 99% (120 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 4.16-4.07 (m, 2H), 2.95-2.78 (m, 4H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 55.40, 53.51, 45.67, 6.67.



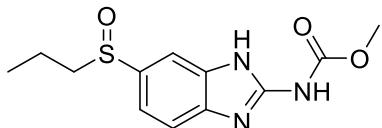
**L-methionine sulfoxide (2q)<sup>5</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 76% (125 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 3.87 (td,  $J$  = 8.0, 7.3, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.06-2.97 (m, 2H), 2.74 (s, 3H), 2.31 (td,  $J$  = 8.0, 6.4 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 173.16, 53.29, 48.22, 36.52, 23.73.



**Methyl((methylsulfinyl)methyl)sulfane (2r)<sup>11</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 97% (120 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 3.98 (d,  $J$  = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (d,  $J$  = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 55.21, 37.21, 16.38.

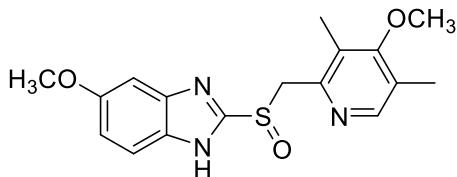


**2-Benzhydrylsulphinylacetic acid (2s)<sup>12</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 71% (195 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 13.20 (s, 1H, COOH), 7.52 (dt,  $J$  = 6.9, 1.5 Hz, 4H), 7.45-7.36 (m, 6H), 5.41 (s, 1H), 3.57 (d,  $J$  = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (d,  $J$  = 14.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 167.38, 136.62, 134.88, 129.61, 129.12, 128.58, 128.52, 128.12, 128.06, 69.27, 55.42.

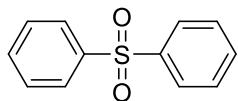


**Ricobendazole (2t)<sup>6</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 52% (146 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 11.87 (s, 2H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.57 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33

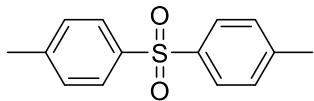
(dt,  $J = 8.4, 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.88-2.74 (m, 2H), 1.61 (dt,  $J = 14.7, 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 1.49 (tt,  $J = 14.0, 9.1$  Hz, 1H), 0.95 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 154.41, 148.64, 136.18, 116.79, 58.22, 52.64, 15.44, 12.98.



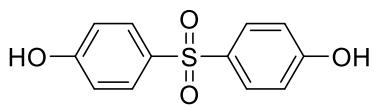
**Omeprazole (2u)**<sup>6</sup>: Known compound. Isolated yield 46% (159 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 13.44 (s, 1H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 7.57 (s, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 6.93 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 1H), 4.77 (d,  $J = 13.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.69 (d,  $J = 13.5$  Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.19 (d,  $J = 13.2$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 163.98, 157.44, 156.43, 153.03, 150.09, 149.61, 137.96, 135.95, 126.95, 125.98, 120.89, 114.75, 113.35, 101.94, 95.04, 60.55, 60.17, 55.94, 13.36, 11.56.



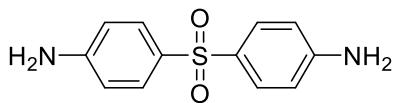
**Diphenyl sulfone (3a)**<sup>2</sup>: Known compound. Isolated yield 93% (203 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.98-7.96 (m, 4H), 7.72-7.61 (m, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 141.11, 133.67, 129.72, 127.33.



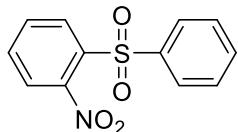
**4,4'-Sulfonylbis(methylbenzene) (3b)**<sup>13</sup>: Known compound. Isolated yield 96% (236 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.81 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 2.36 (s, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 144.07, 138.63, 130.09, 127.21, 20.95.



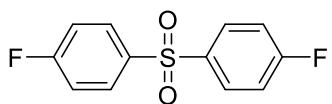
**4,4'-Sulfonyldiphenol (3c)<sup>3</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 92% (230 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $d^6$ -DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 10.53 (s, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 6.89 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $d^6$ -DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 161.66, 132.18, 129.42, 116.02.



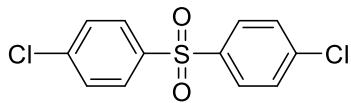
**4,4'-Sulfonyldianiline (3d)<sup>14</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 86% (213 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $d^6$ -DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.44 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 6.57 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 4H), 5.99 (s, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $d^6$ -DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 152.75, 128.60, 128.18, 112.90.



**1-Nitro-2-(phenylsulfonyl)benzene (3e)<sup>15</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 82% (216 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $d^6$ -DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.41-8.39 (m, 1H), 8.05-7.97 (m, 5H), 7.78-7.68 (m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $d^6$ -DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 147.80, 139.97, 135.96, 134.34, 133.29, 132.43, 131.50, 129.63, 127.69, 124.92.

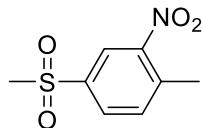


**4,4'-Sulfonylbis(fluorobenzene) (3f)<sup>13</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 80% (203 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $d^6$ -DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.07 (dd,  $J$  = 8.6, 5.2 Hz, 4H), 7.47 (t,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $d^6$ -DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 164.93 (d,  $J$  = 252.36 Hz), 137.34 (d,  $J$  = 3.11 Hz), 130.62 (d,  $J$  = 9.34 Hz), 116.99 (d,  $J$  = 23,24 Hz).

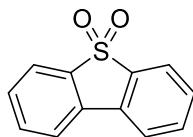


**4,4'-Dichlorodiphenyl sulfone (3g)<sup>3</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 78% (223 mg).

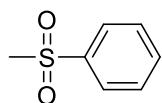
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.00 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.71 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 139.45, 139.07, 129.95, 129.40.



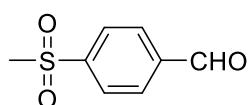
**2-Nitro-4-methylsulfonyltoluene (3h)<sup>16</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 77% (166 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.47 (d,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (dt,  $J$  = 8.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 2.63 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 148.82, 139.74, 138.78, 134.22, 131.14, 123.35, 43.23, 19.61.



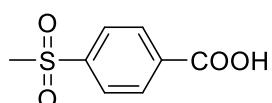
**Dibenzo[b,d]thiophene 5,5-dioxide (3i)<sup>6</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 65% (140 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.21 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.99 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 136.95, 134.52, 130.92, 130.83, 122.67, 121.97.



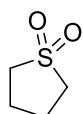
**Methyl phenyl sulfone (3j)<sup>2</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 94% (147 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.96-7.94 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.65 (m, 3H), 3.37 (s, 0H), 3.23 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 140.84, 133.60, 129.41, 126.90, 43.51.



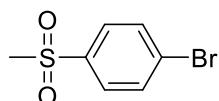
**4-Methylsulphonyl benzaldehyde (3k)**<sup>17</sup>: Known compound. Isolated yield 75% (138 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 10.13 (s, 1H), 8.14-8.07 (m, 4H), 3.10 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 190.67, 145.31, 139.62, 130.35, 128.16, 44.24.



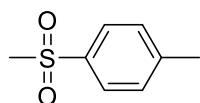
**4-Methylsulphonylbenzoic acid (3l)**<sup>2</sup>: Known compound. Isolated yield 79% (158 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 13.56 (s, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 8.06 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.29 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 166.21, 144.35, 135.29, 130.26, 127.37, 43.30.



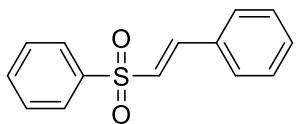
**Tetrahydrothiophene 1,1-dioxide (3m)**<sup>8</sup>: Known compound. Isolated yield 95% (114 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 3.02-2.98 (m, 4H), 2.10-2.06 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 50.58, 22.16.



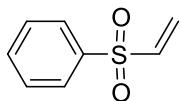
**4-Bromophenyl methyl sulfone (3n)**<sup>2</sup>: Known compound. Isolated yield 94% (220 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.89-7.87 (m, 4H), 3.25 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 140.04, 132.45, 129.05, 127.68, 43.39.



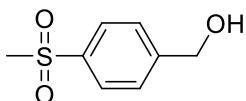
**1-Methyl-4-(methylsulfonyl)-benzene (3o)<sup>8</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 97% (165 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.82 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 144.07, 138.07, 129.81, 126.94, 43.68, 21.01.



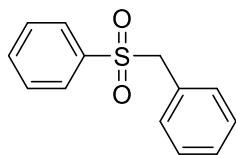
**(E)-[2-(Phenylsulfonyl)vinyl]benzene (3p)<sup>15</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 95% (232 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.95 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.77-7.61 (m, 7H), 7.44 (d,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 142.04, 140.72, 133.58, 132.37, 131.17, 129.62, 129.01, 128.98, 128.06, 127.13.



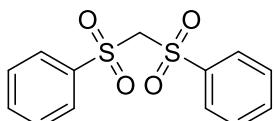
**(Vinylsulfonyl)benzene (3q)<sup>18</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 83% (139 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.90-7.87 (m, 2H), 7.78-7.65 (m, 3H), 7.14 (dd,  $J$  = 16.4, 9.8 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (d,  $J$  = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 6.22 (d,  $J$  = 9.9 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 139.50, 138.52, 133.83, 129.61, 128.71, 127.38.



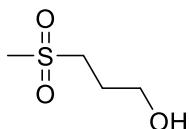
**(4-(Methylsulfonyl)phenyl)methanol (3r)<sup>17</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 87% (162 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.88 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.46 (td,  $J$  = 5.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d,  $J$  = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 3.20 (d,  $J$  = 1.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  (ppm) 148.77, 139.09, 126.89, 126.87, 62.21, 43.69.



**Benzylsulfonyl-benzene (3s)<sup>2</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 92% (213 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (<sup>d</sup><sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 7.71 (d,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 7.59 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 7.14 (dd,  $J$  = 7.6, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 4.68 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (<sup>d</sup><sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 138.33, 133.79, 130.96, 129.09, 128.65, 128.32, 128.20, 128.02, 60.69.



**Bis(phenylsulfonyl)methane (3t)<sup>19</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 72% (213 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (<sup>d</sup><sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 7.90-7.88 (m, 4H), 7.76 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 4H), 5.94 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (<sup>d</sup><sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 138.85, 134.40, 129.15, 128.33, 71.83.



**3-(Methylsulfonyl)propan-1-ol (3u)<sup>20</sup>:** Known compound. Isolated yield 98% (135 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (<sup>d</sup><sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 400 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 4.71-4.68 (t,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (q,  $J$  = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 3.14-3.10 (dd,  $J$  = 10.4, 5.8 Hz, 2H), 2.97 (s, 3H), 1.86-1.79 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (<sup>d</sup><sup>6</sup>-DMSO, 100 MHz):  $\delta$ (ppm) 59.12, 51.07, 40.23, 25.42.

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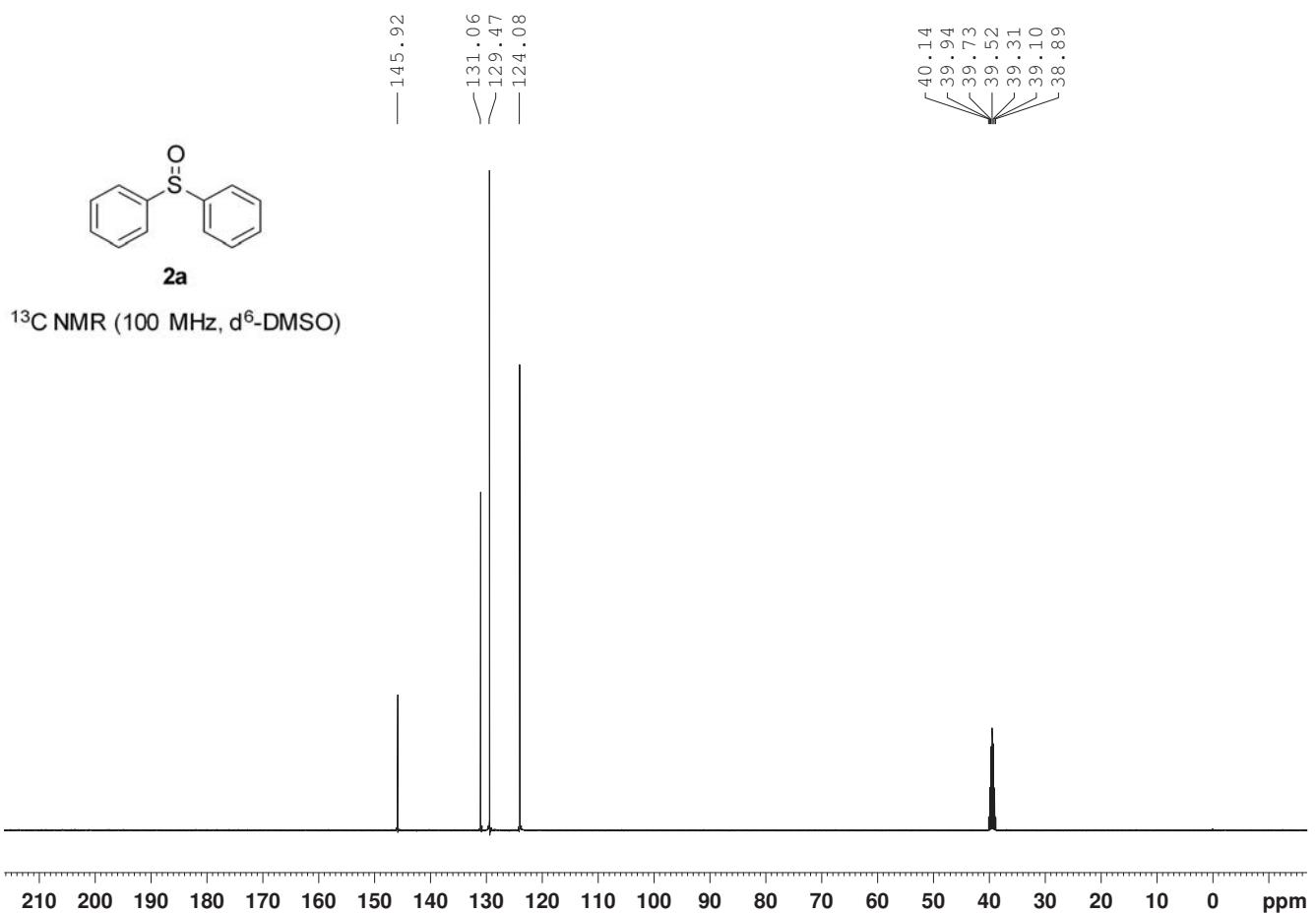
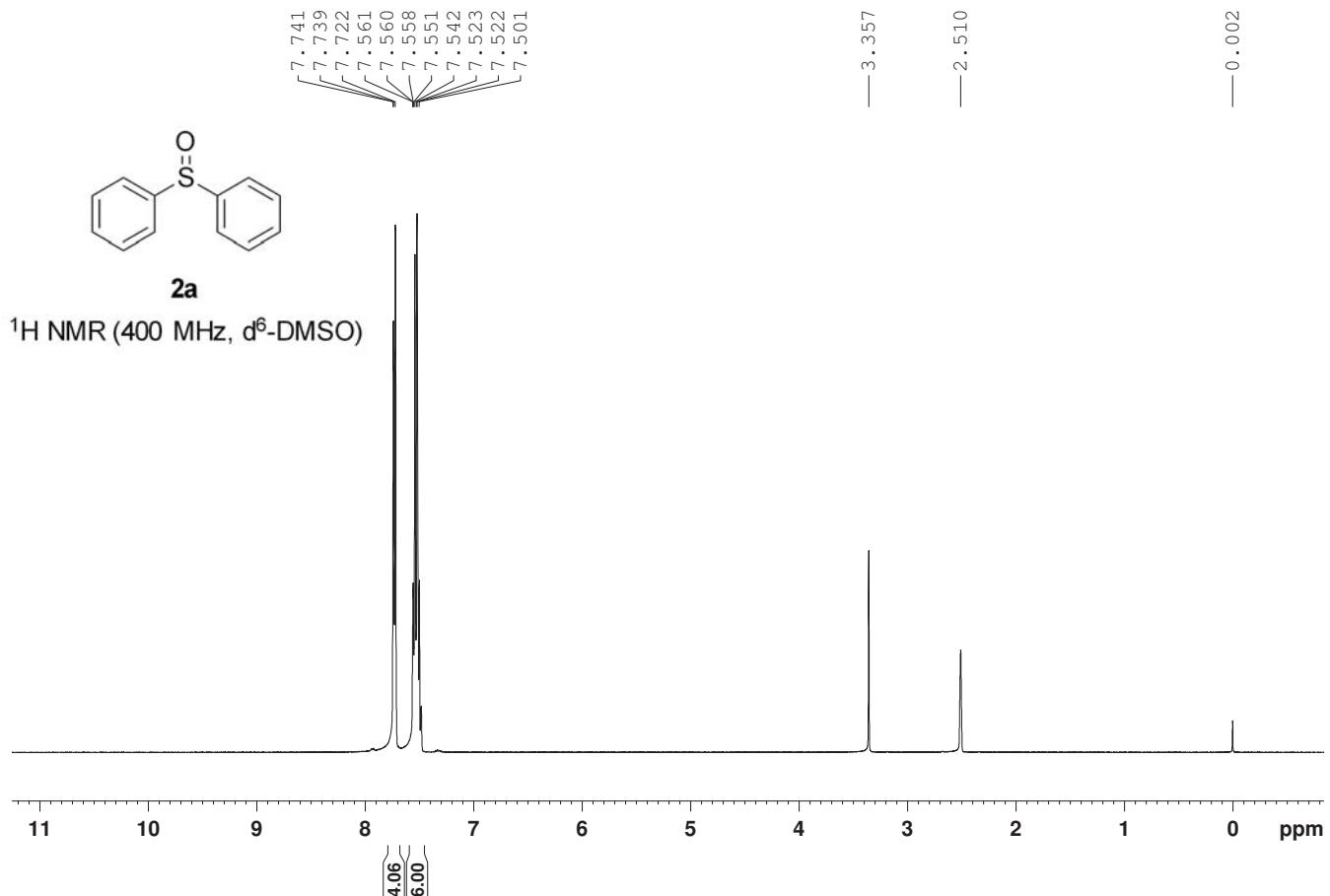
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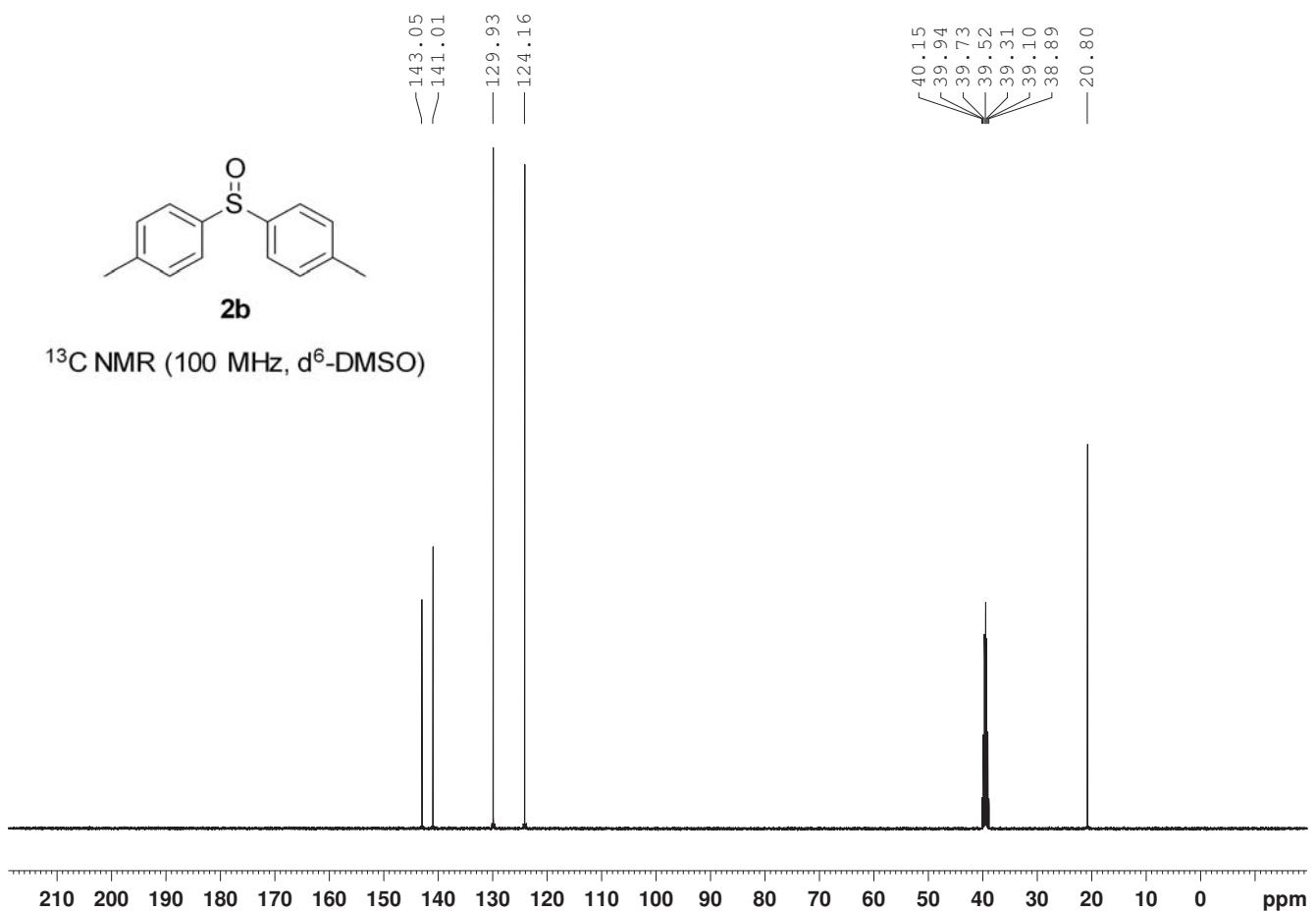
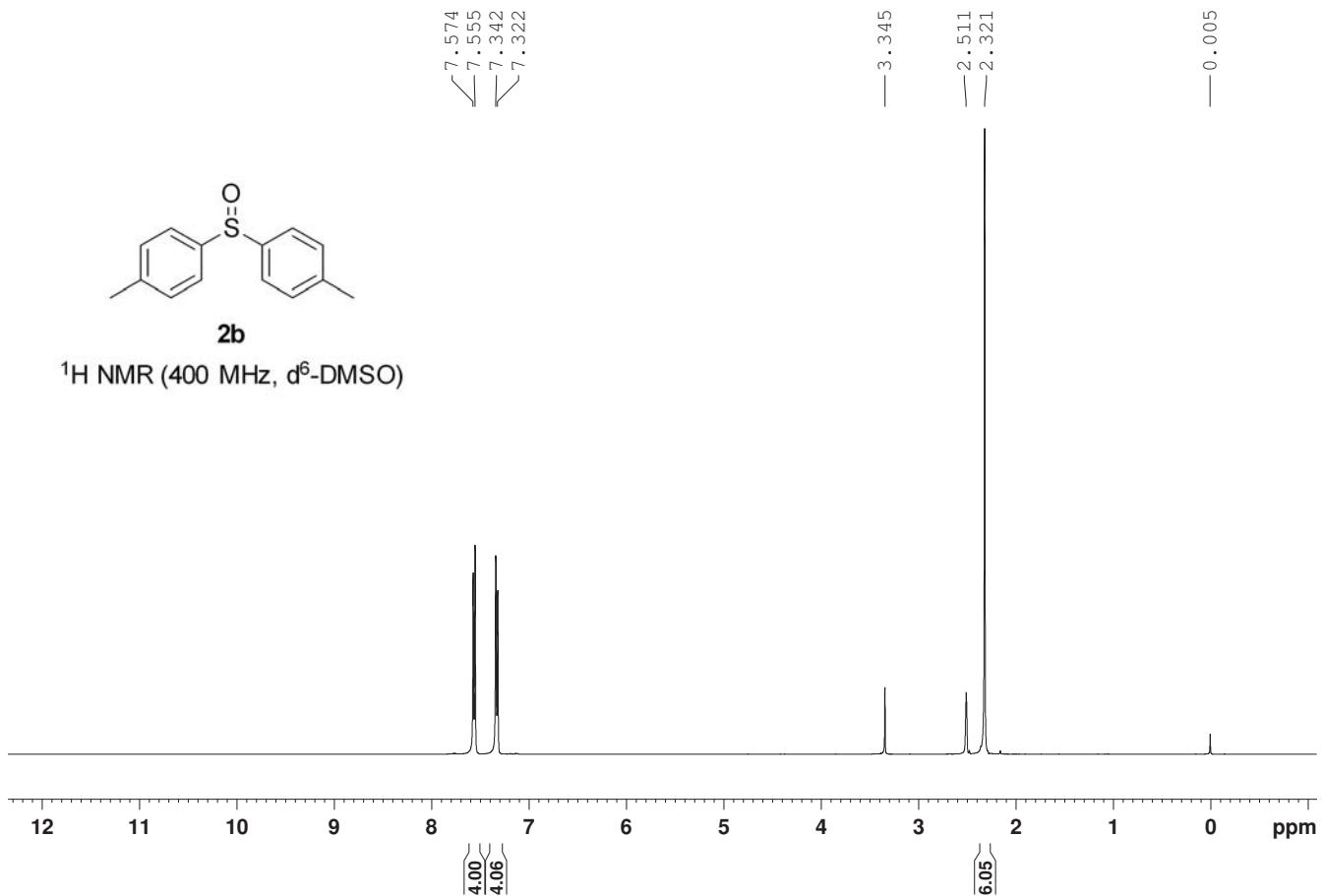
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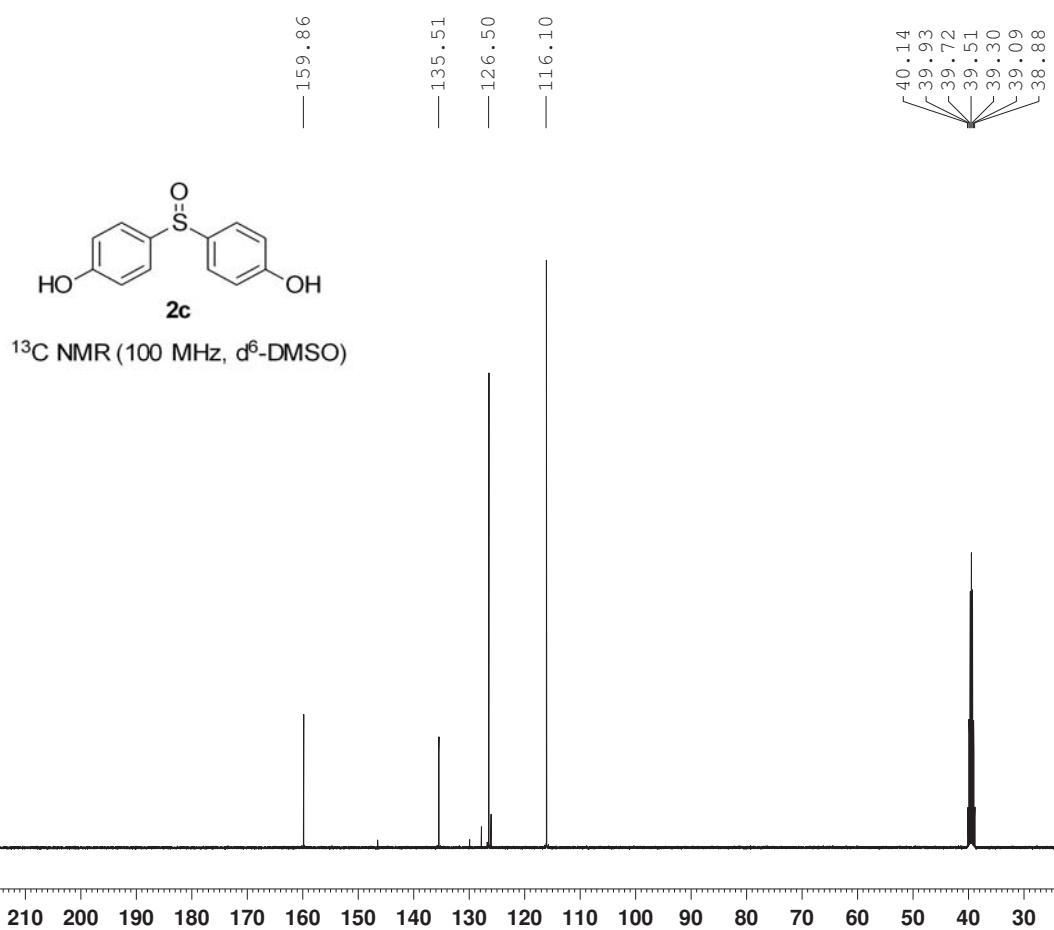
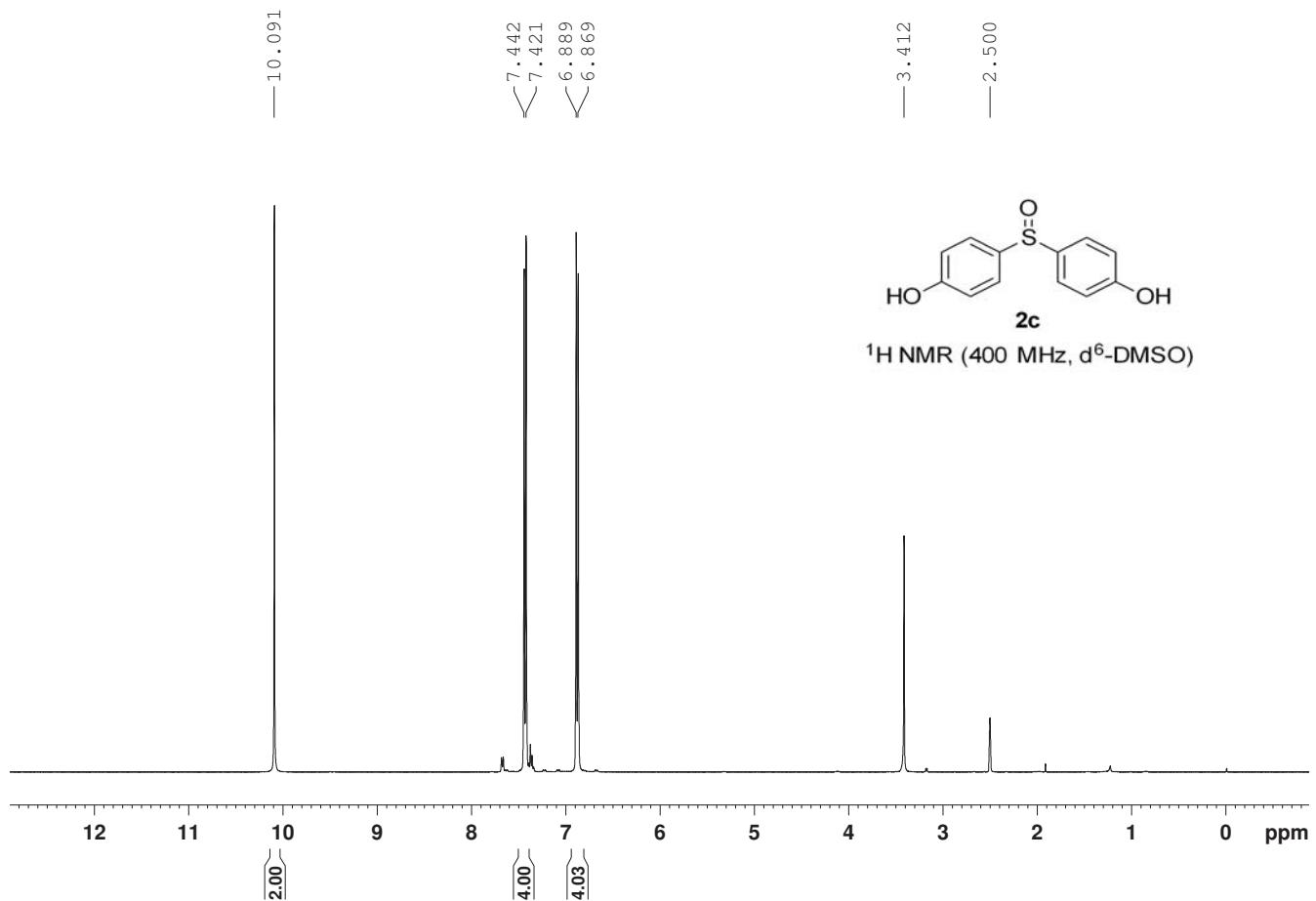
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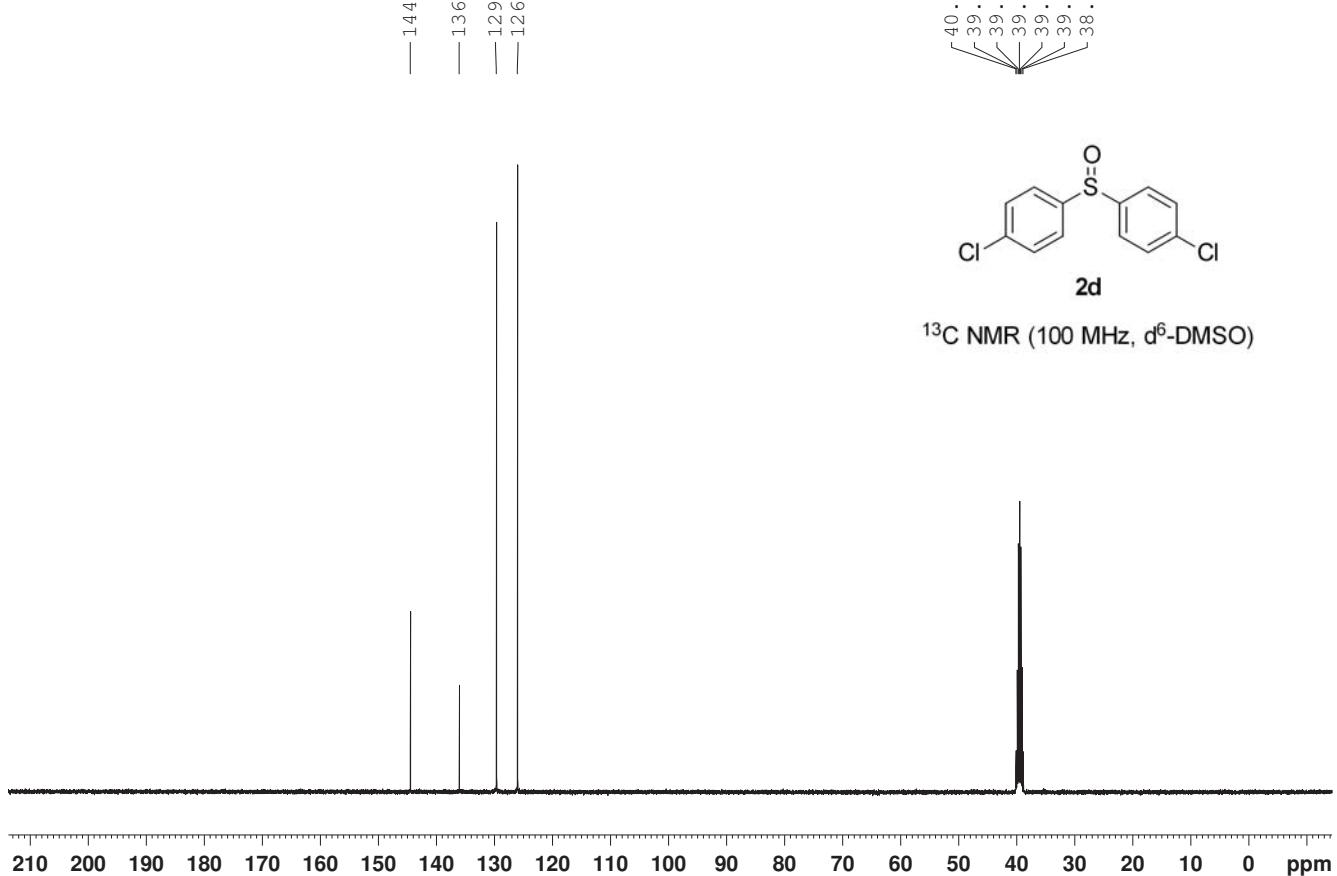
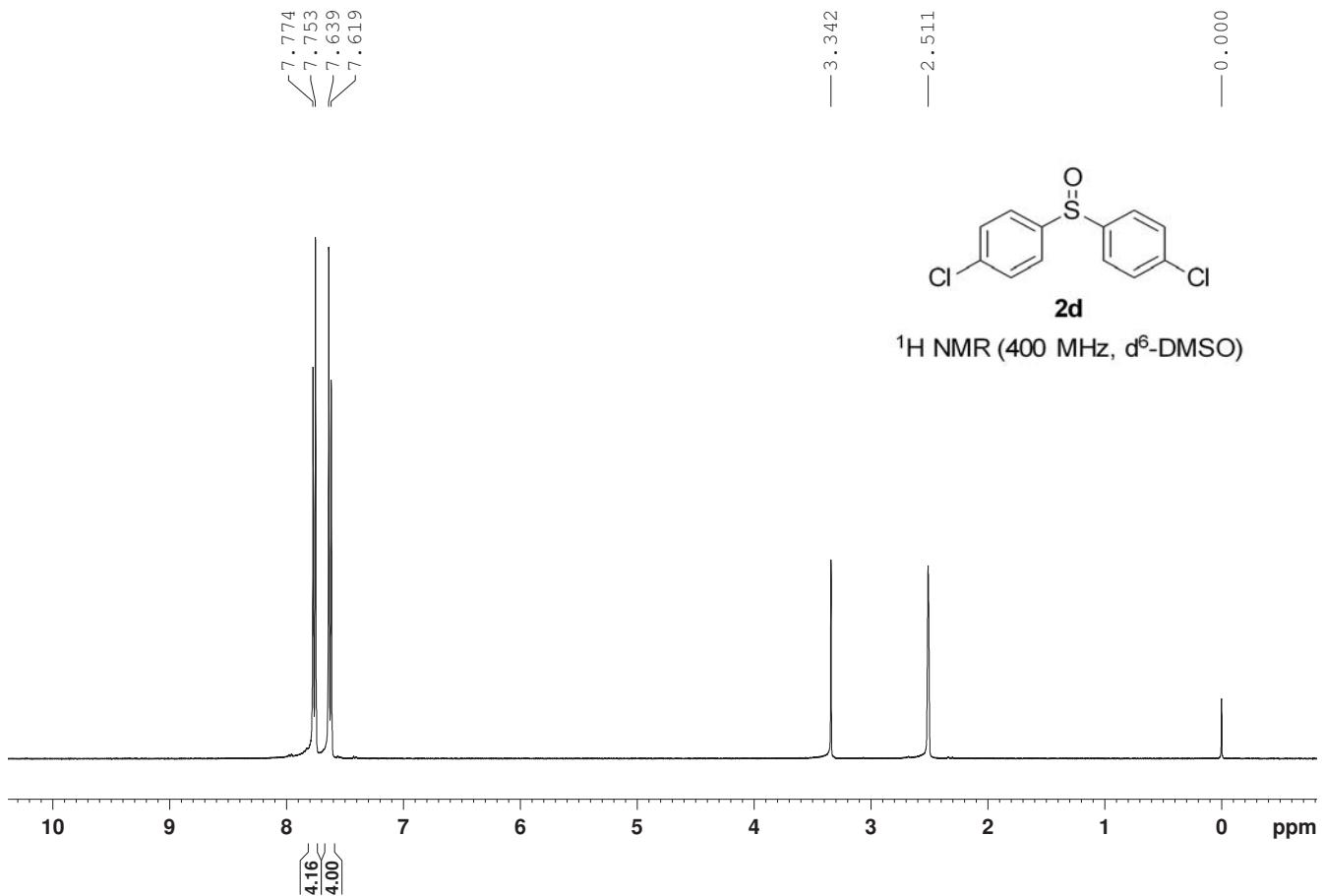
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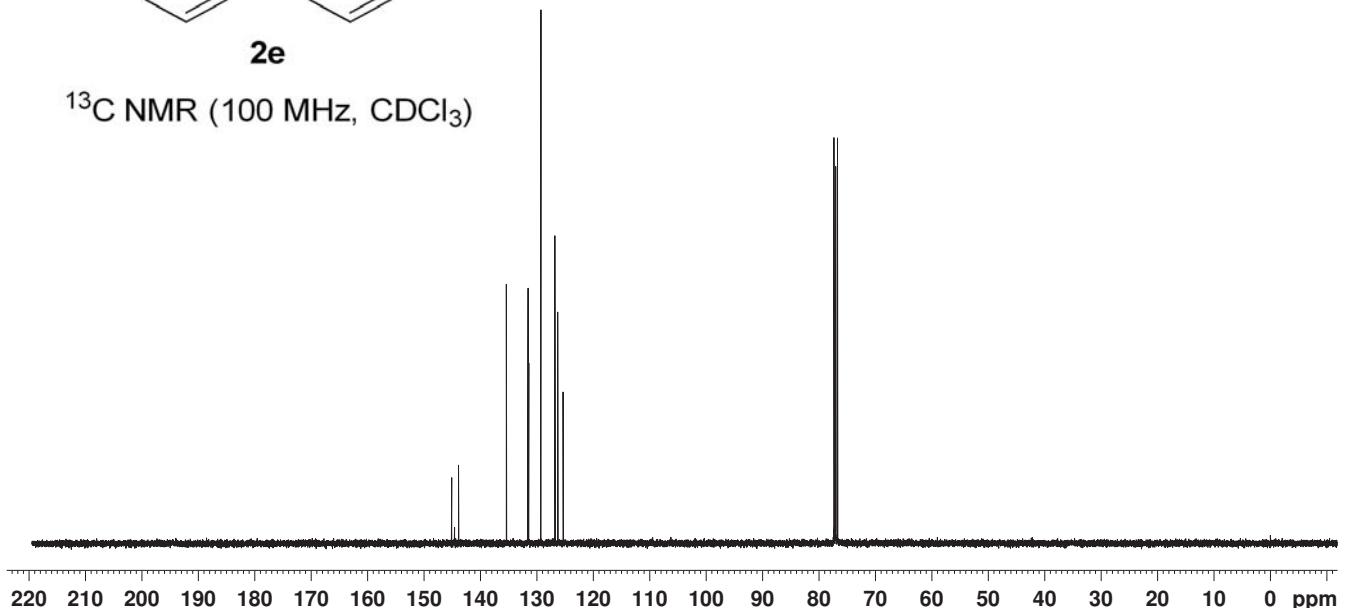
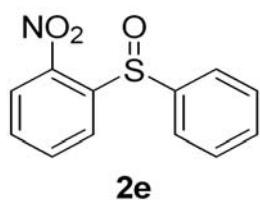
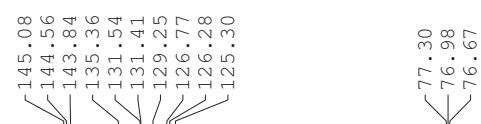
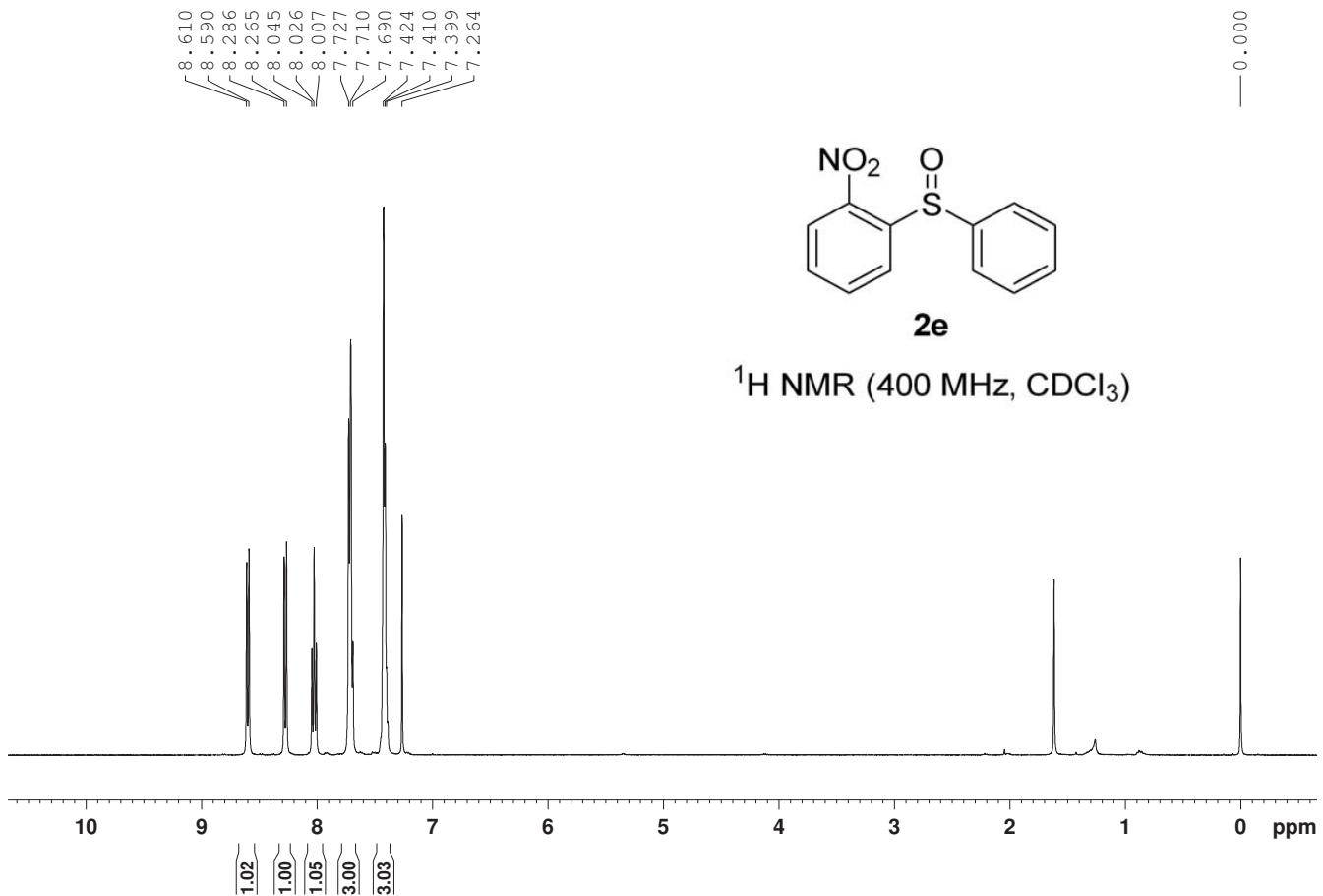
## 5. NMR Spectra

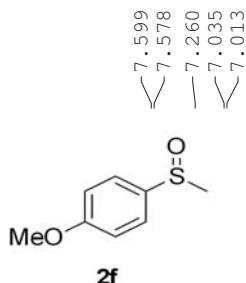




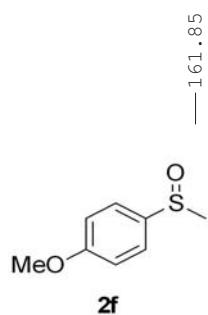
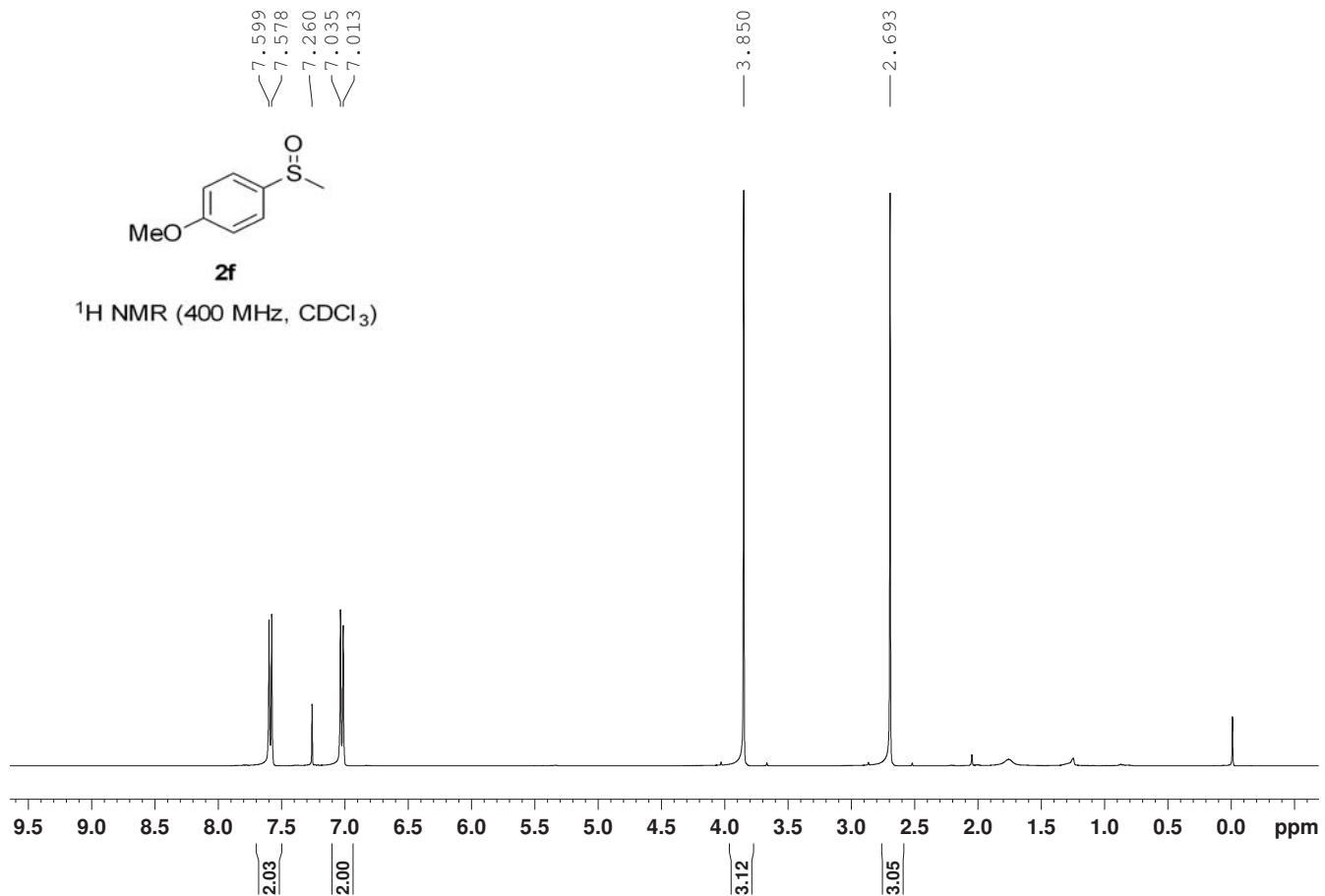




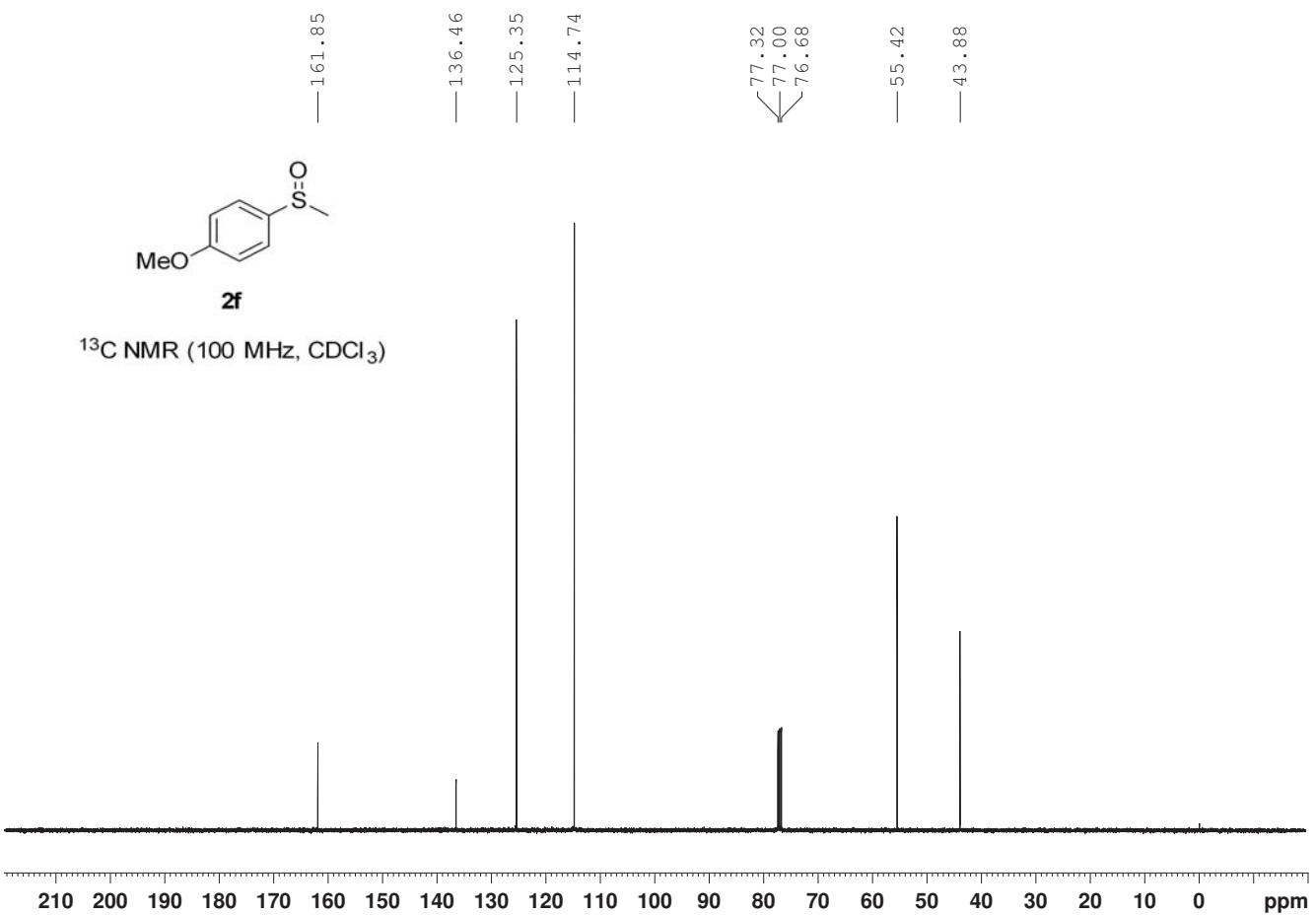


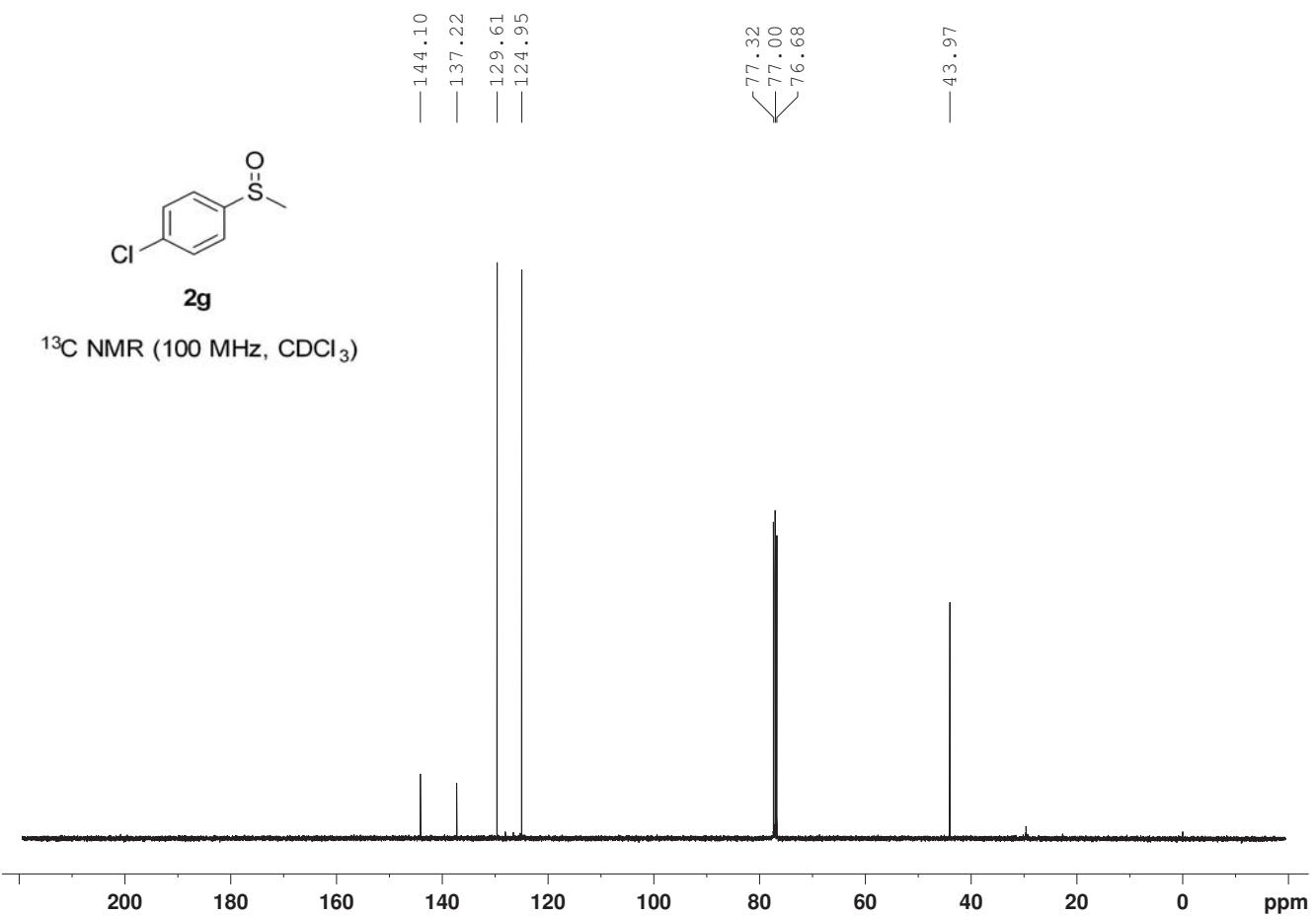
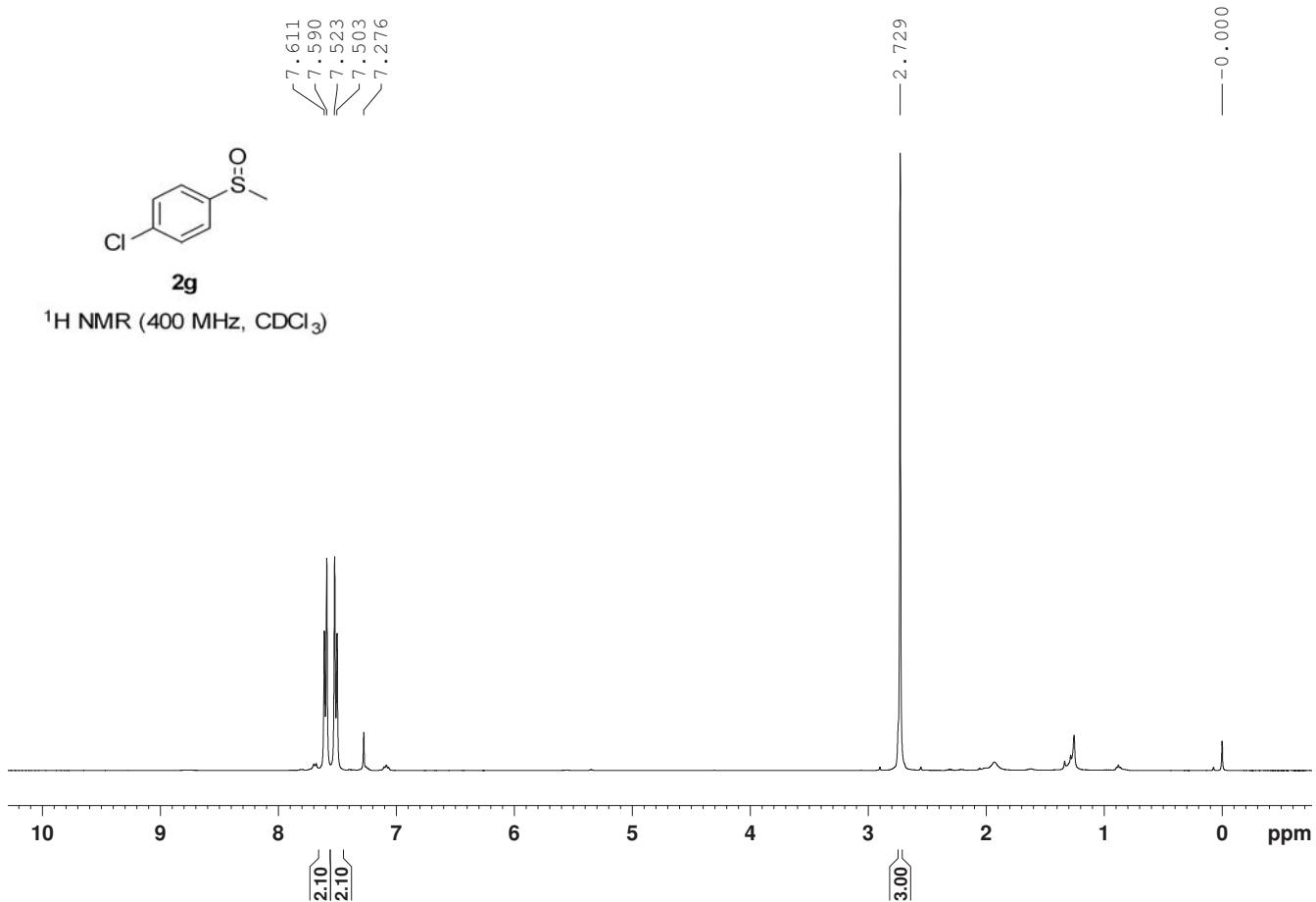


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

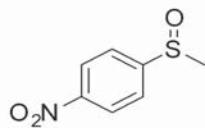




< 8.402  
< 8.380  
< 7.848  
< 7.827

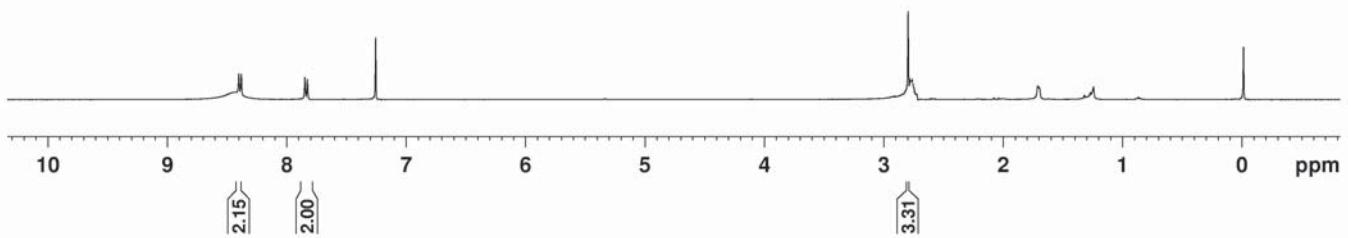
— 7.255

— 2.796



**2h**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

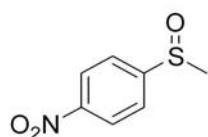


— 152.98  
— 149.56

< 124.78  
< 124.56

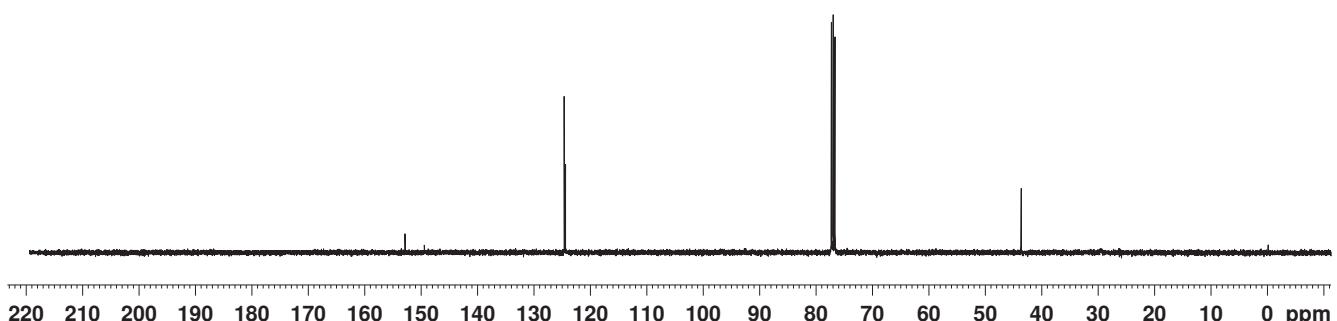
— 77.42  
— 77.10  
— 76.78

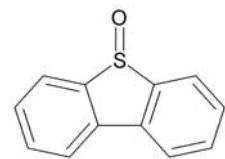
— 43.76



**2h**

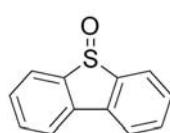
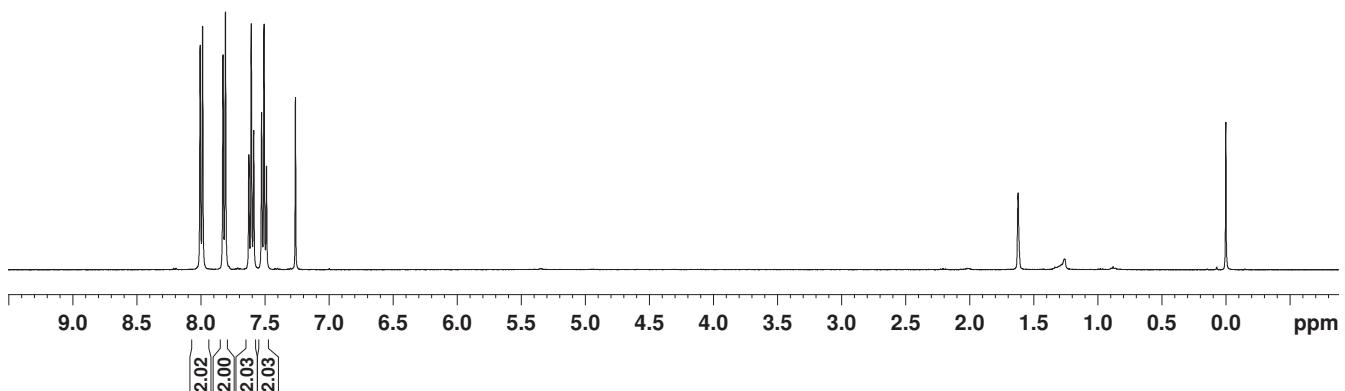
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





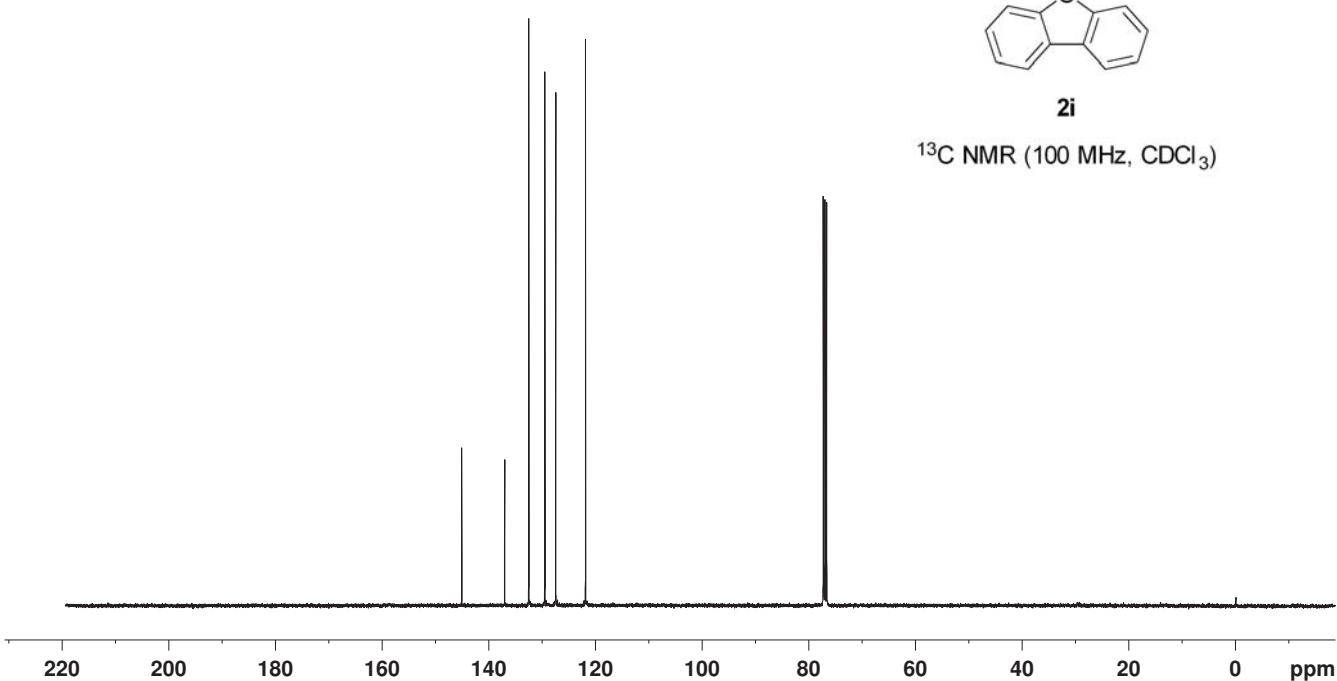
**2i**

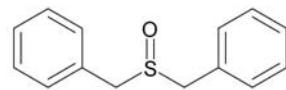
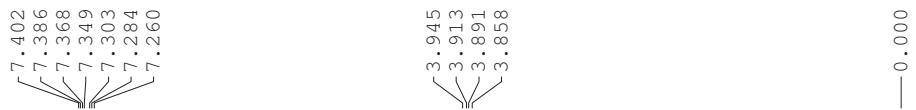
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



**2i**

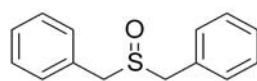
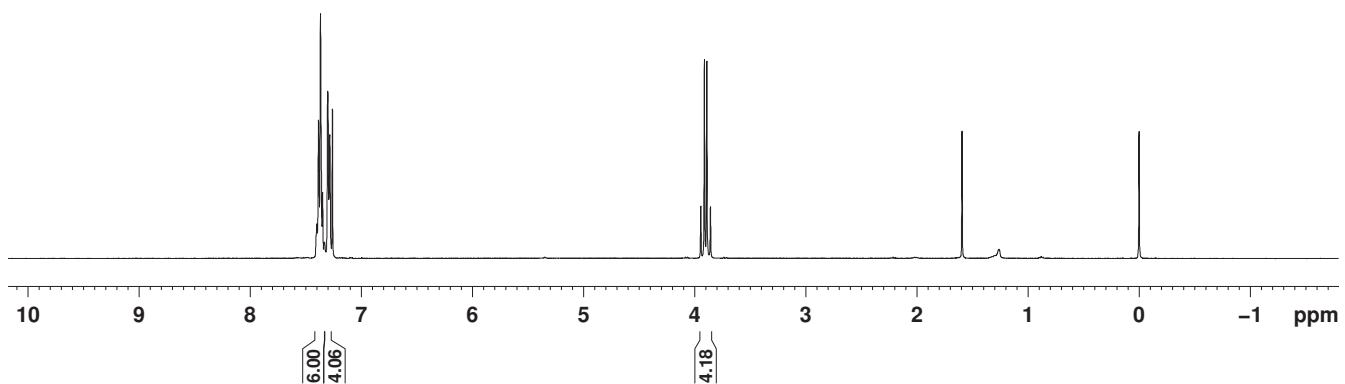
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





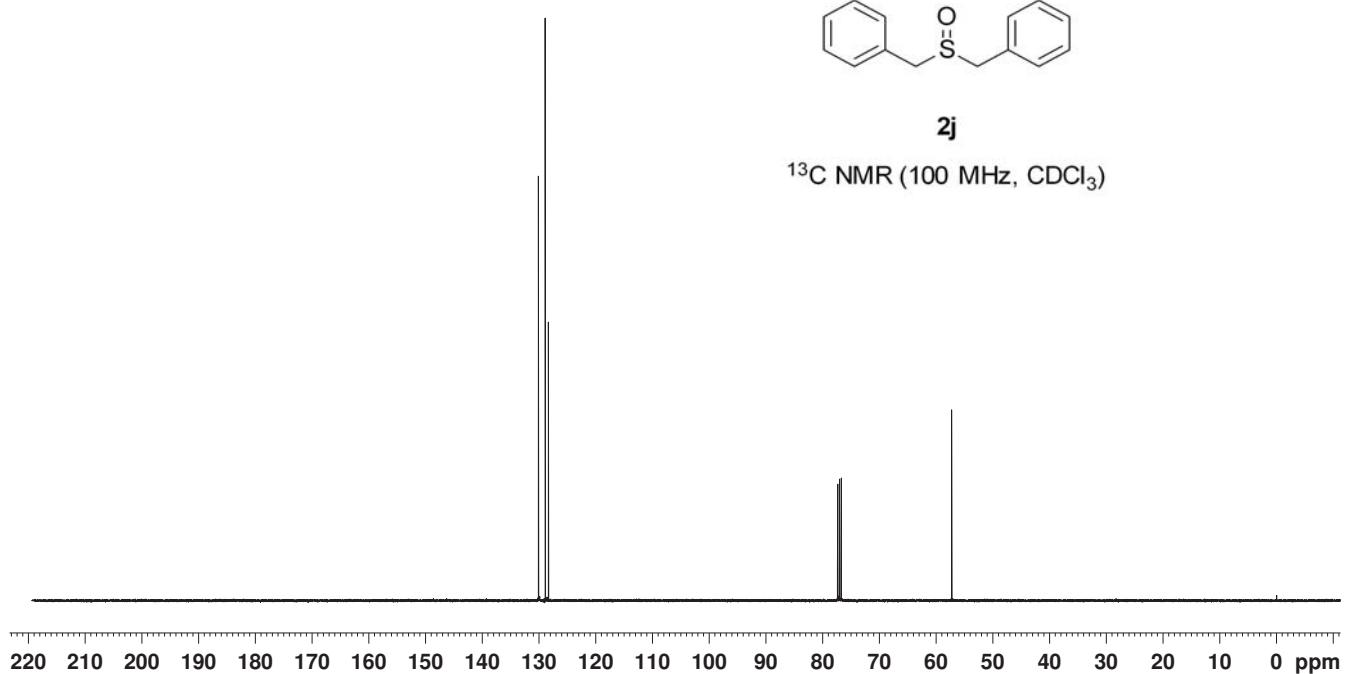
**2j**

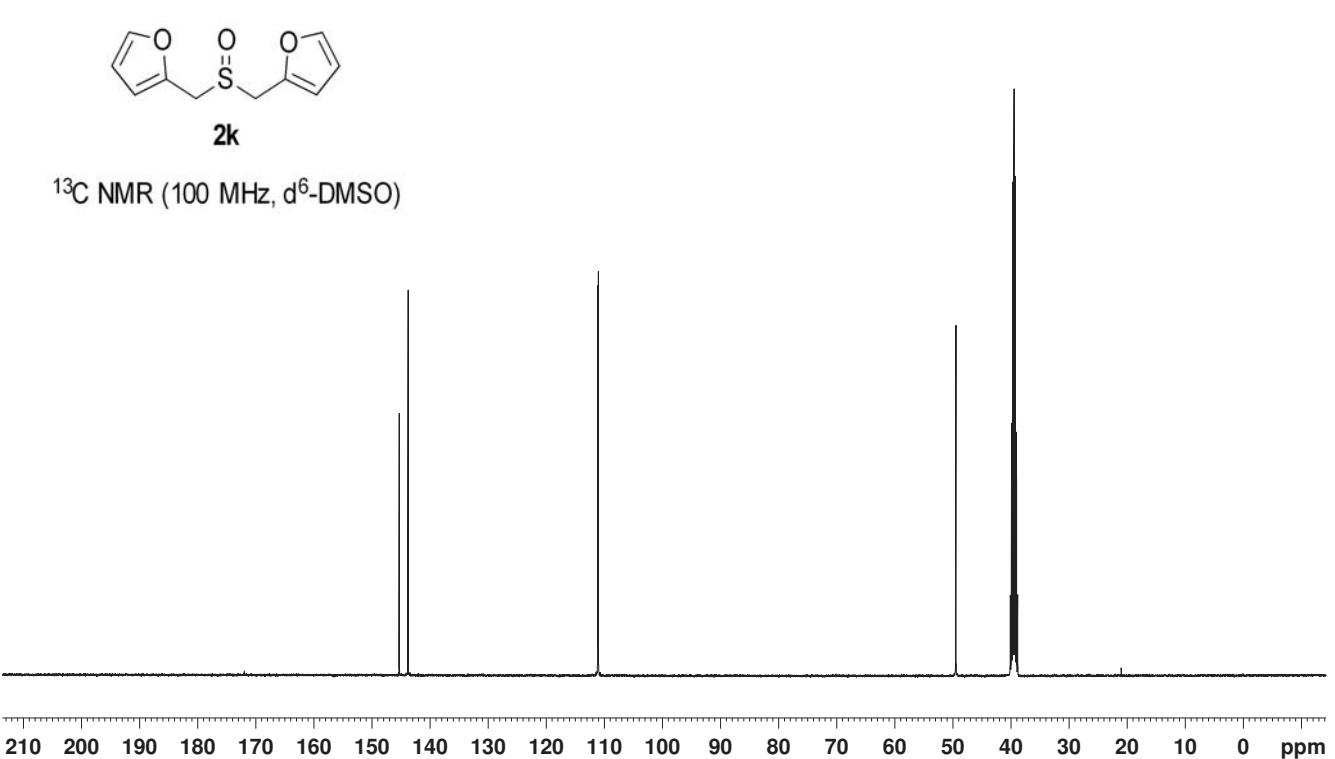
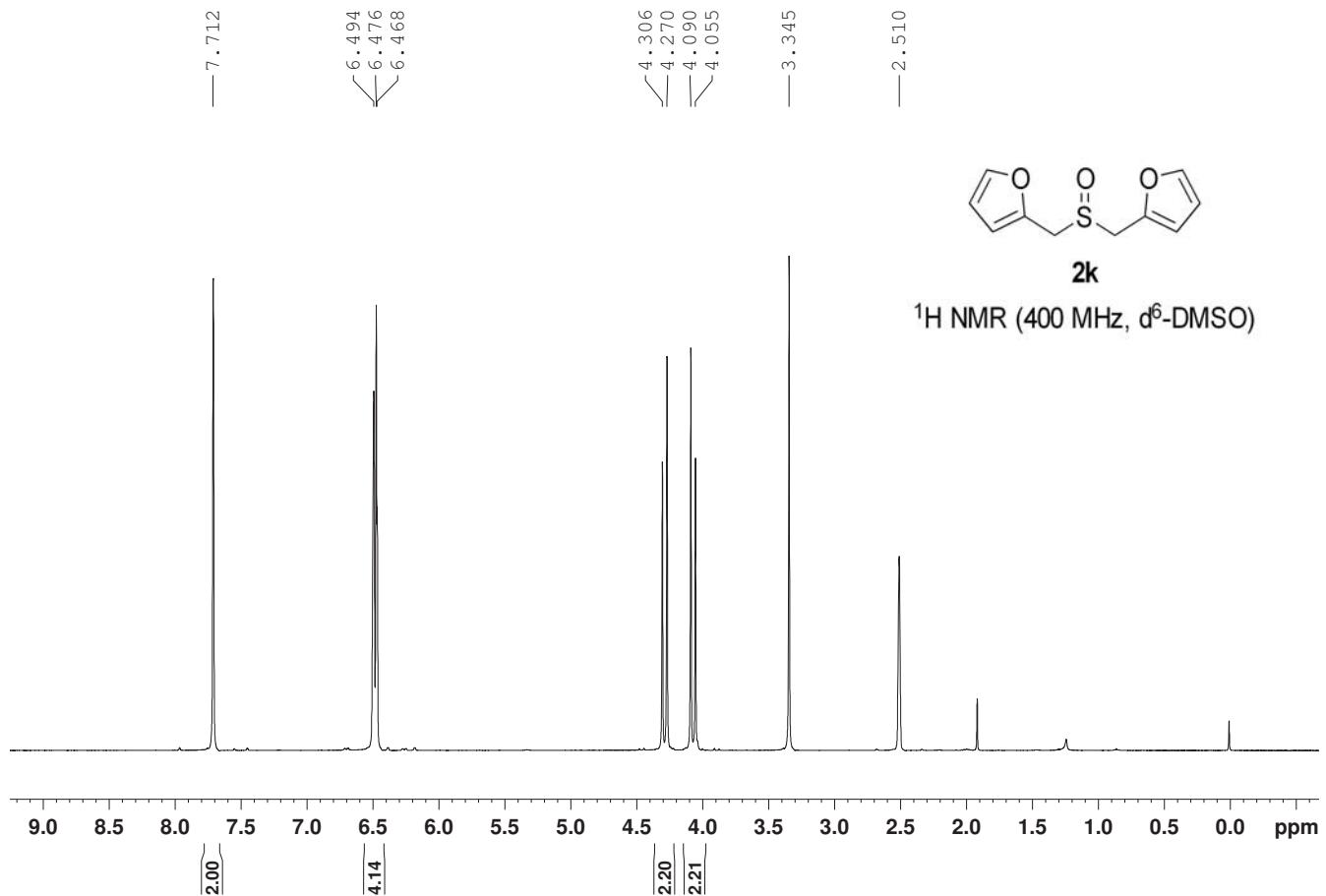
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

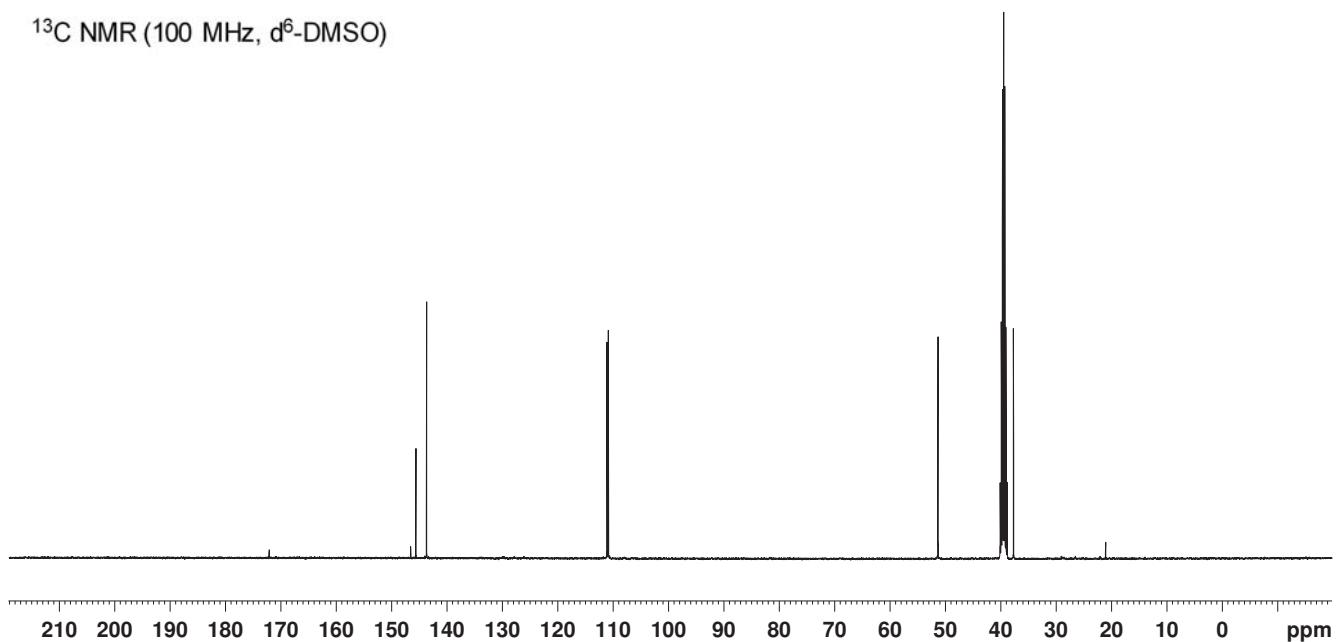
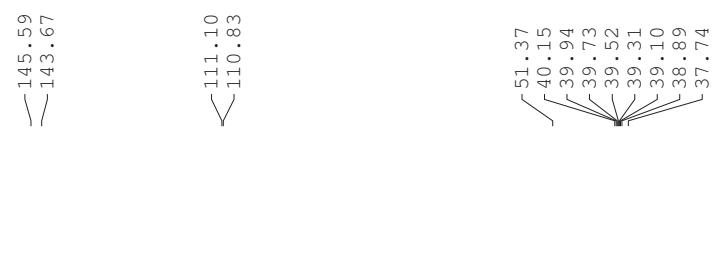
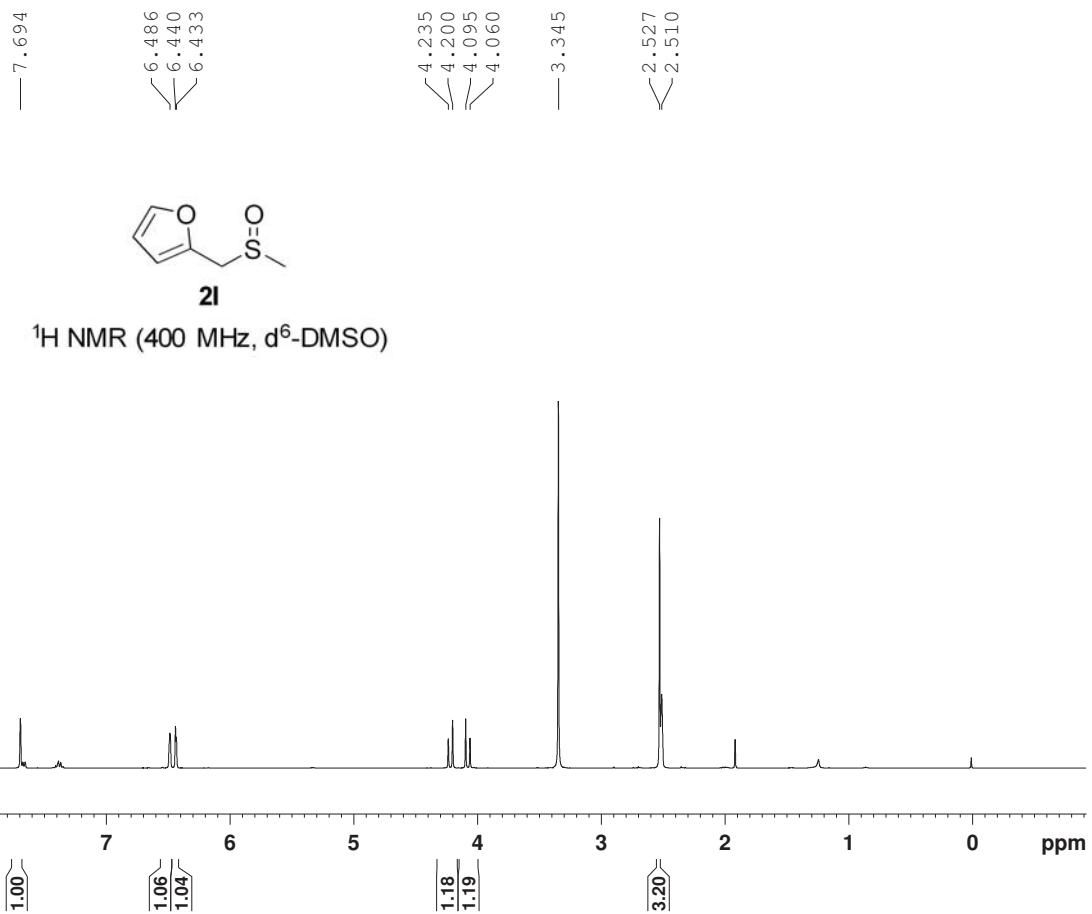


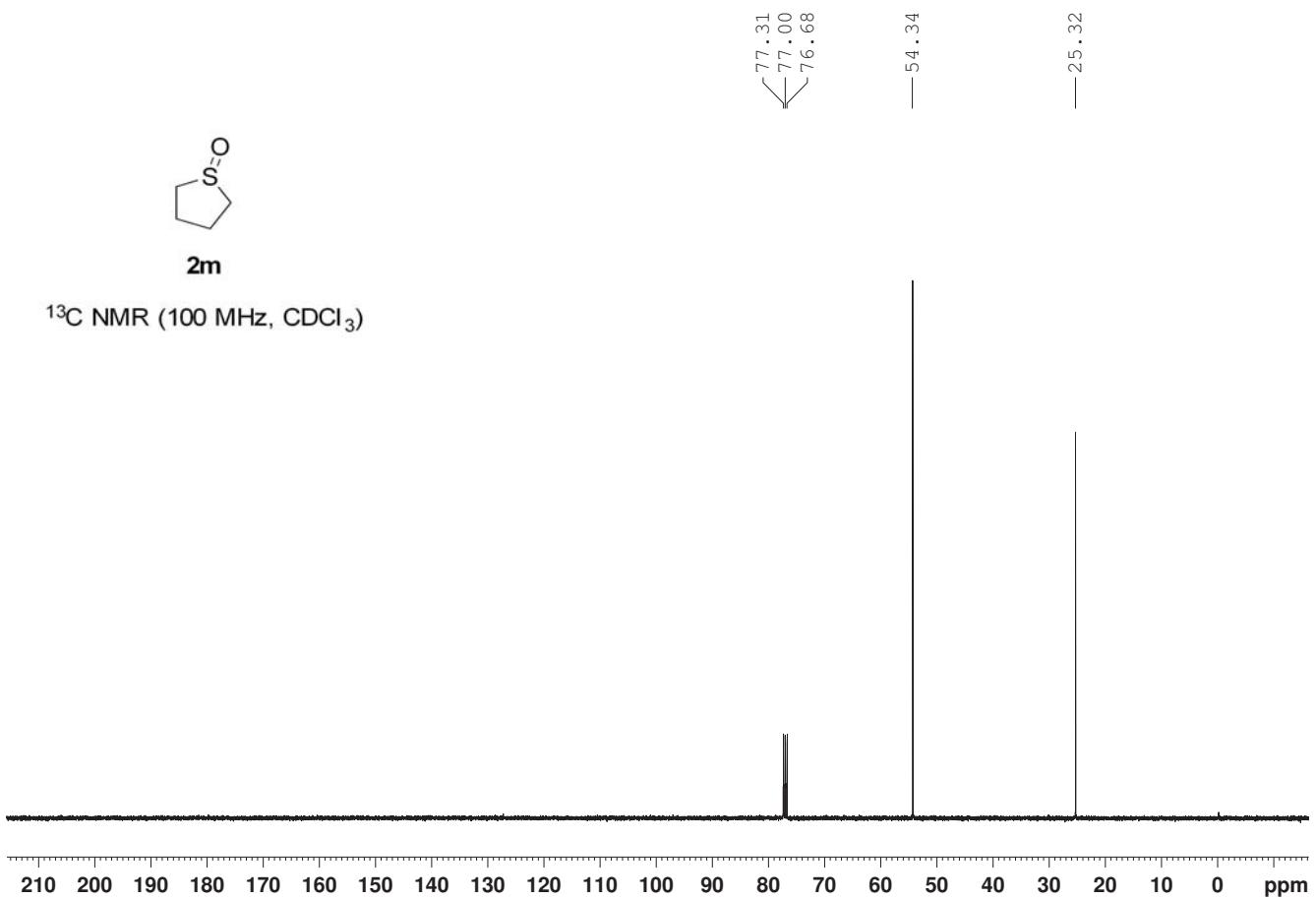
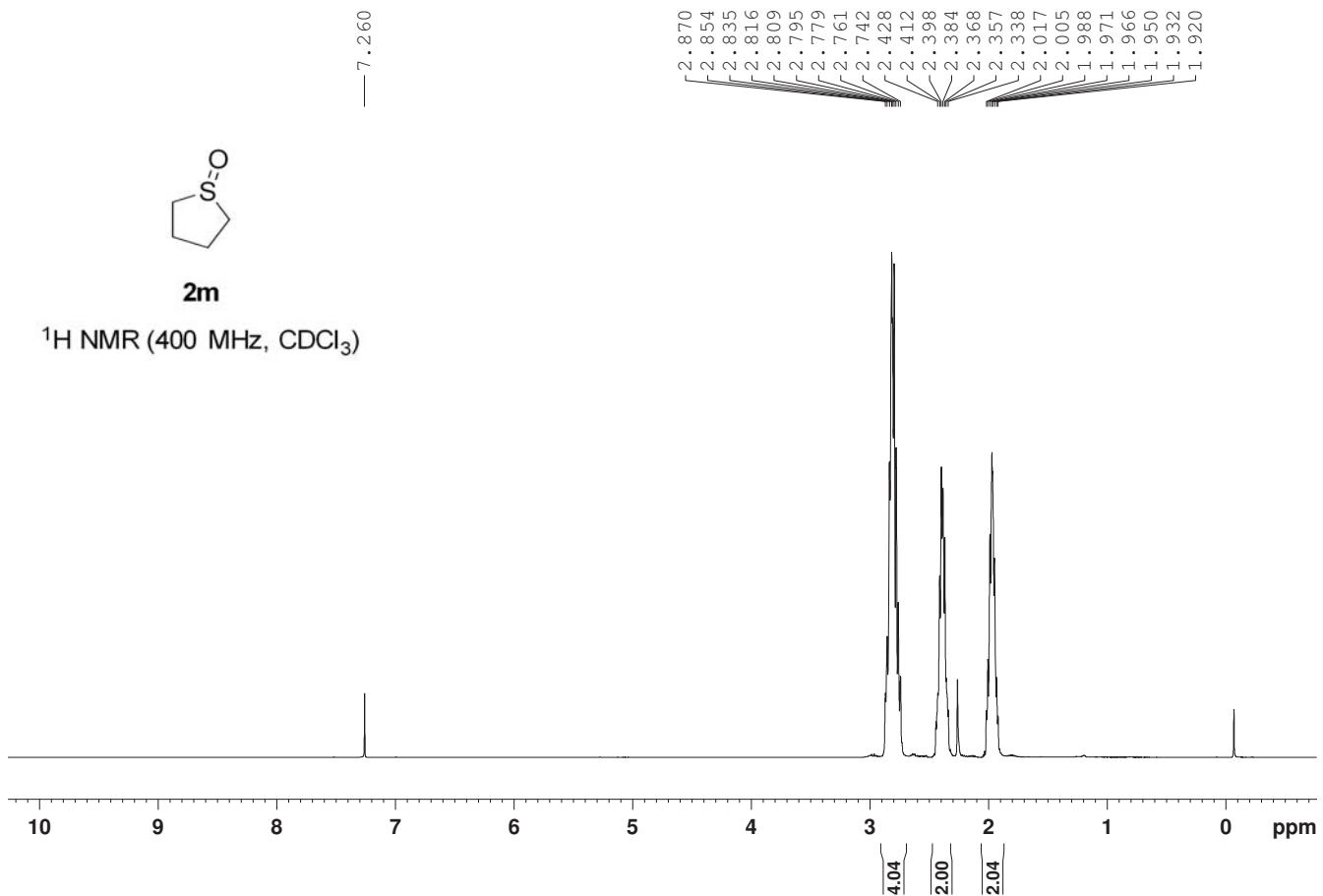
**2j**

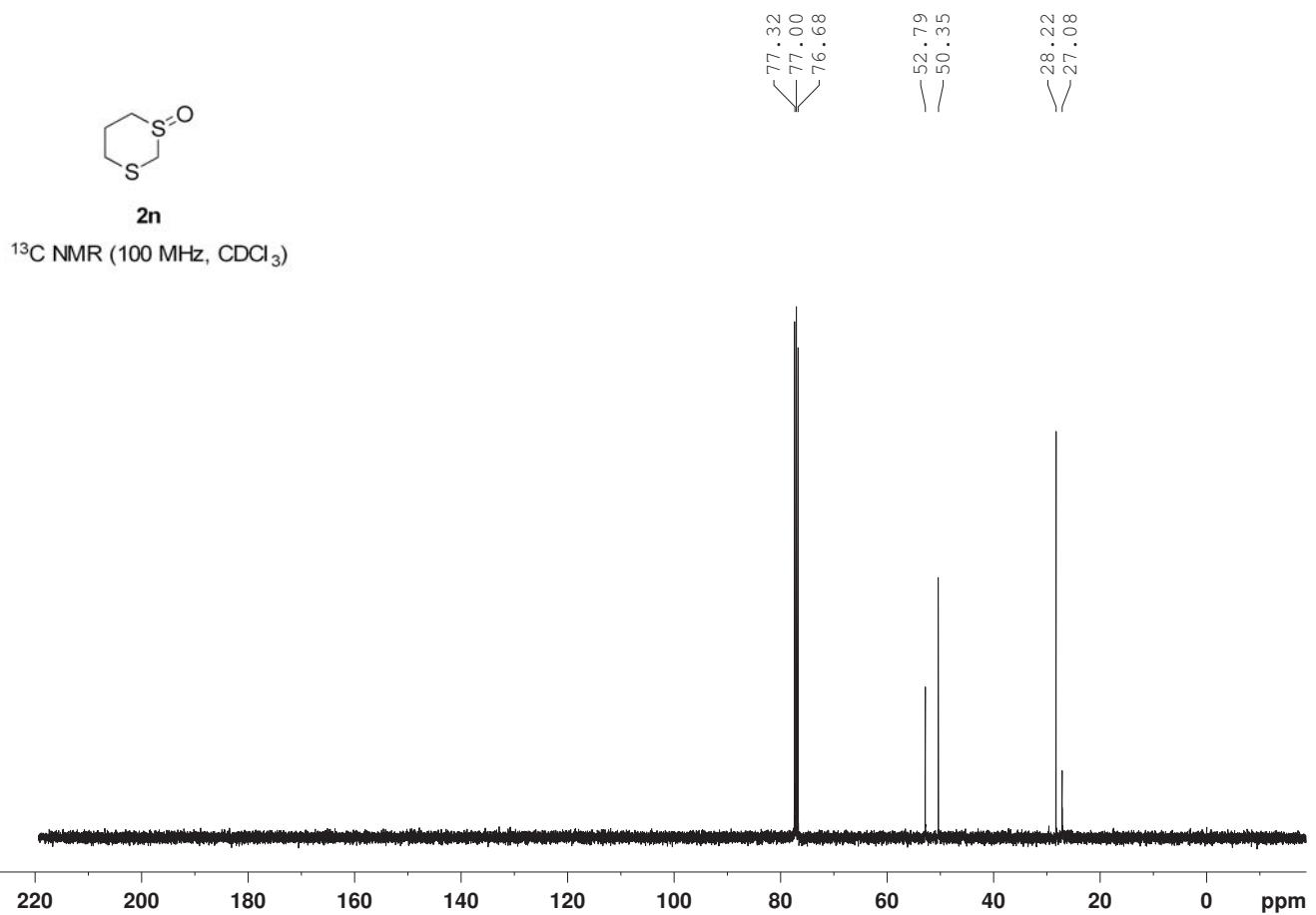
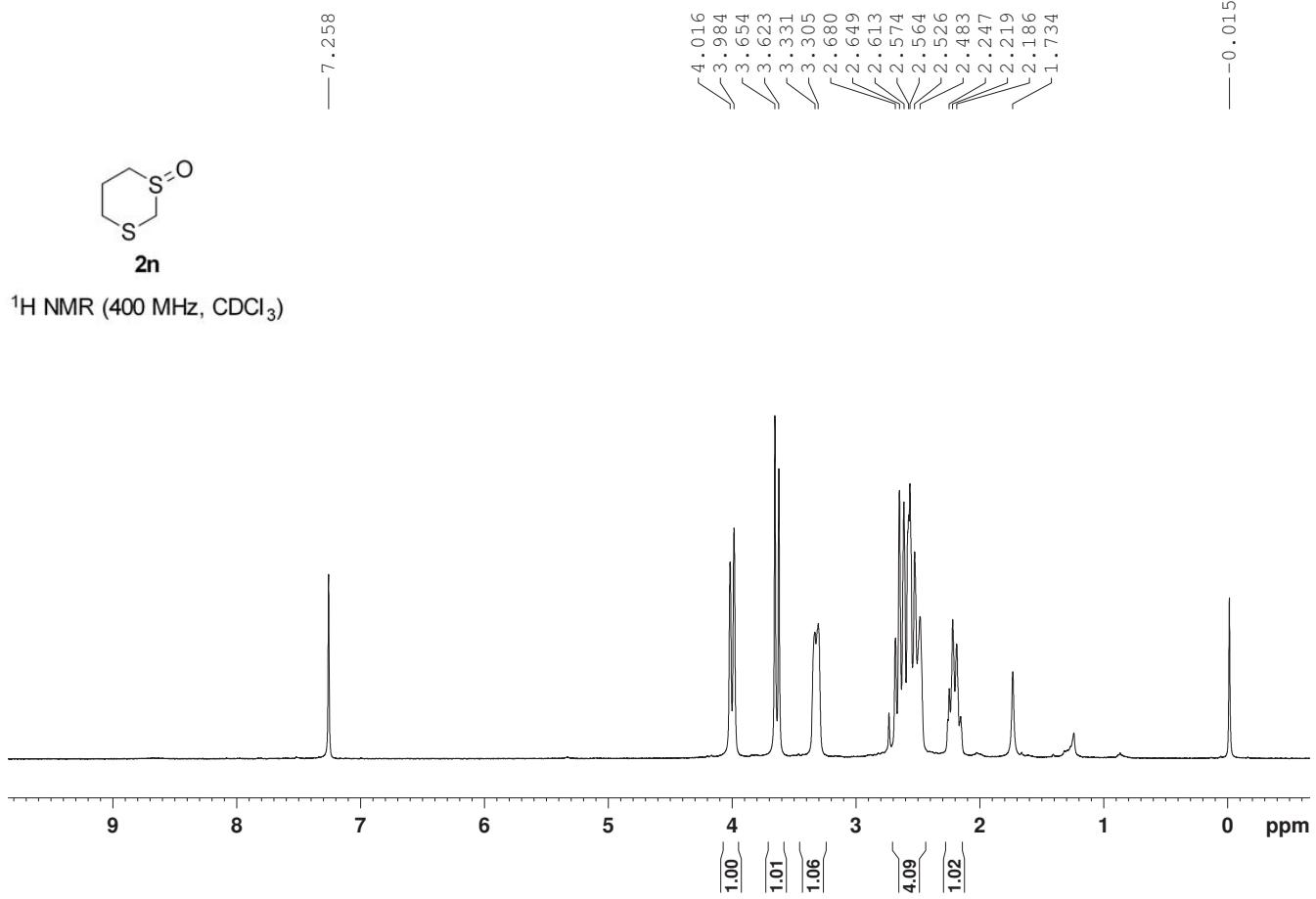
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

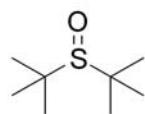






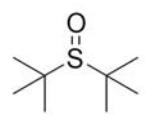
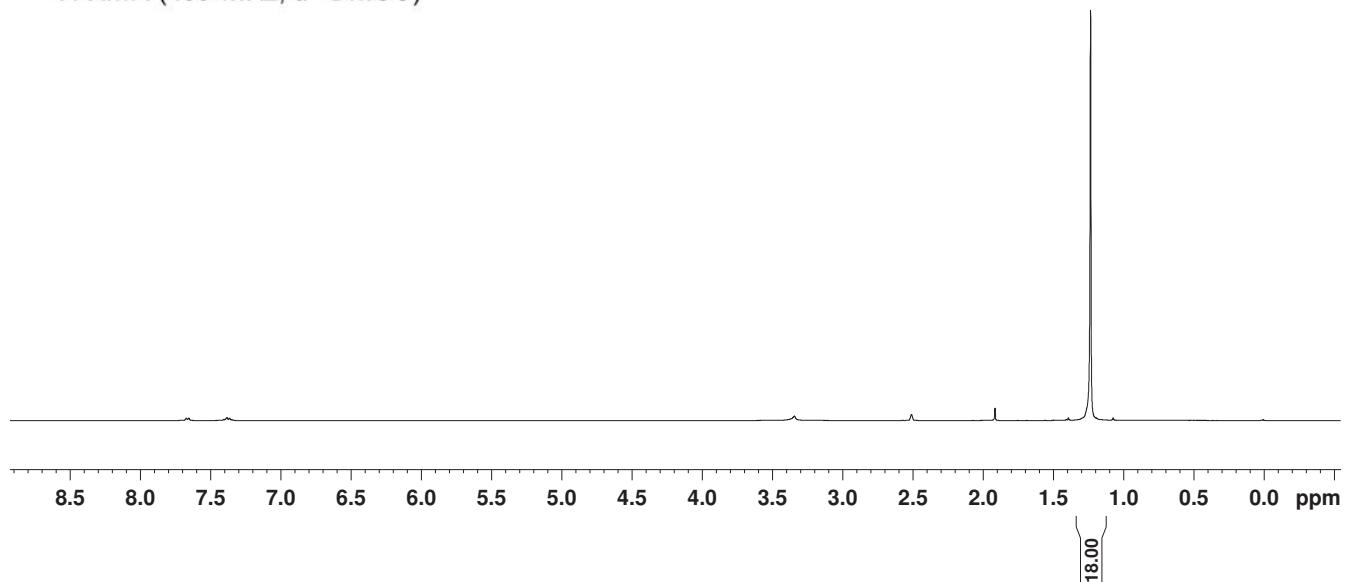






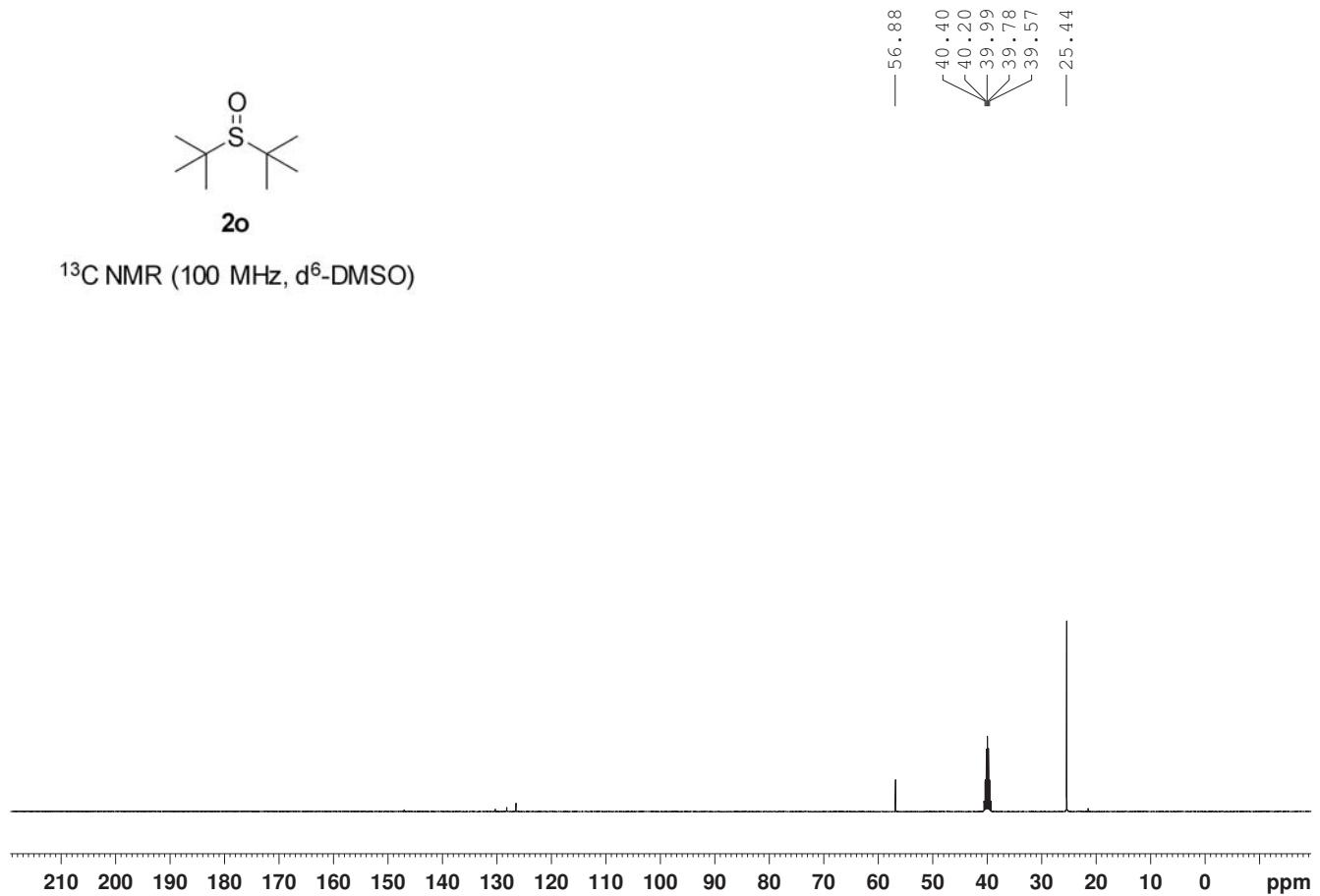
**2o**

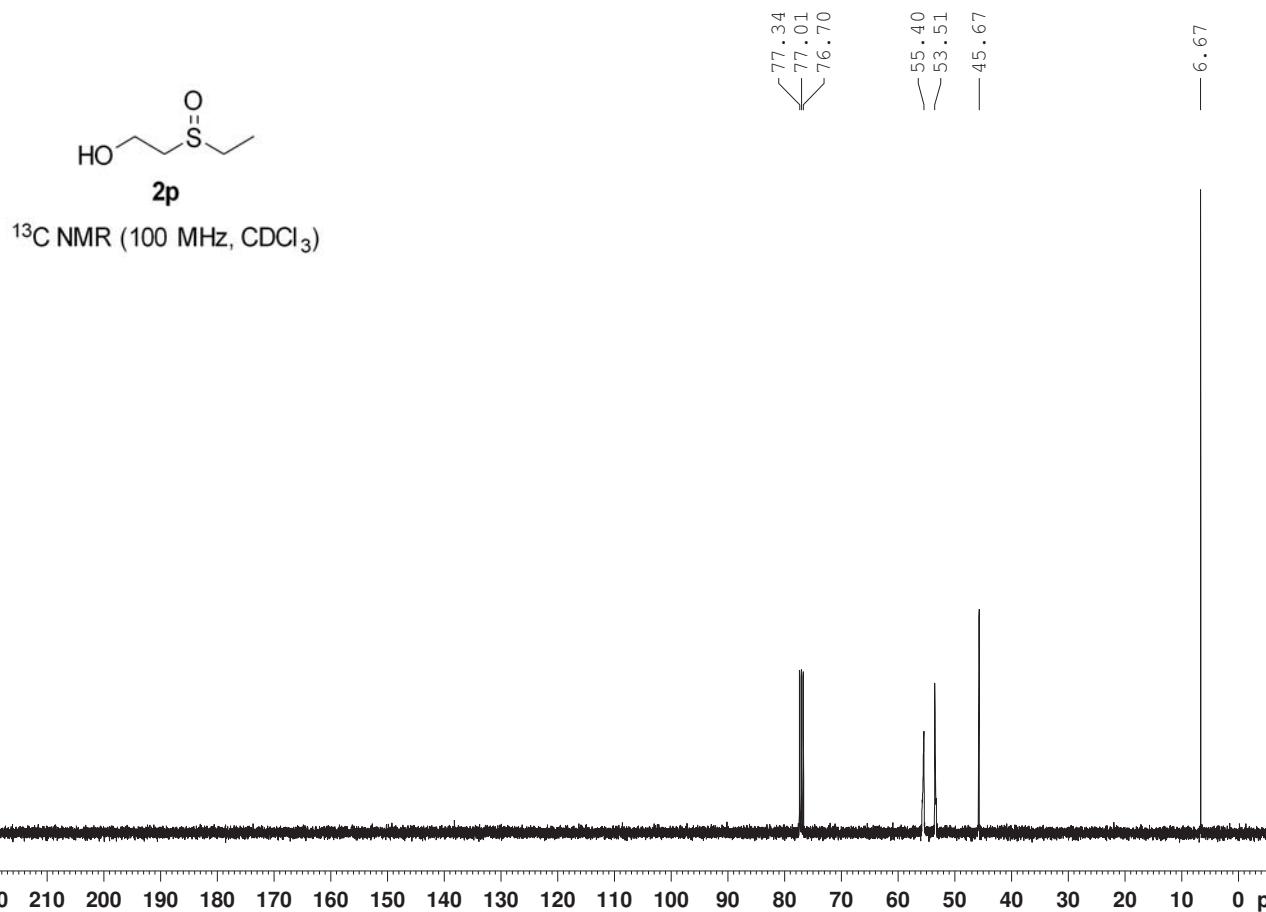
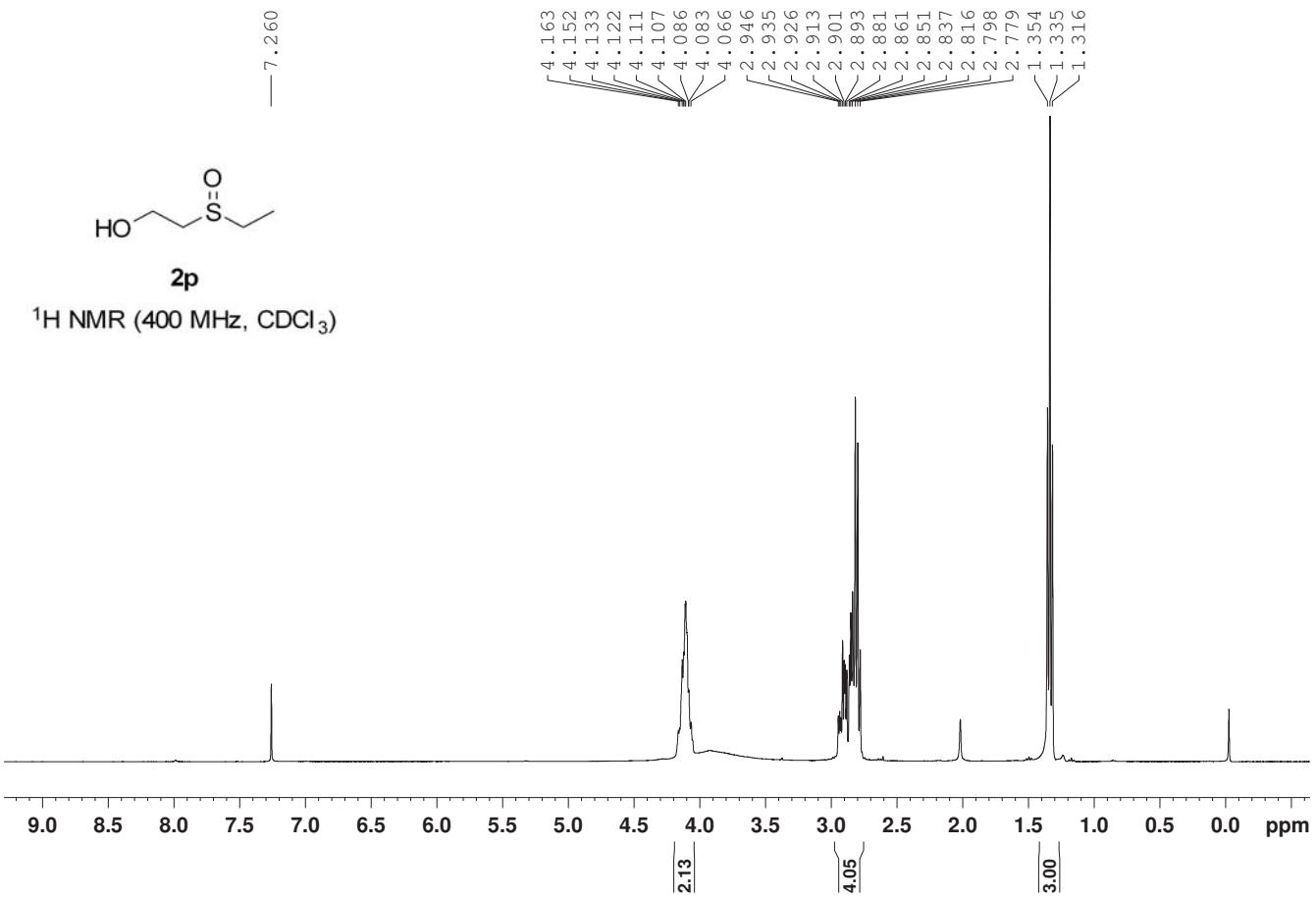
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{d}^6\text{-DMSO}$ )

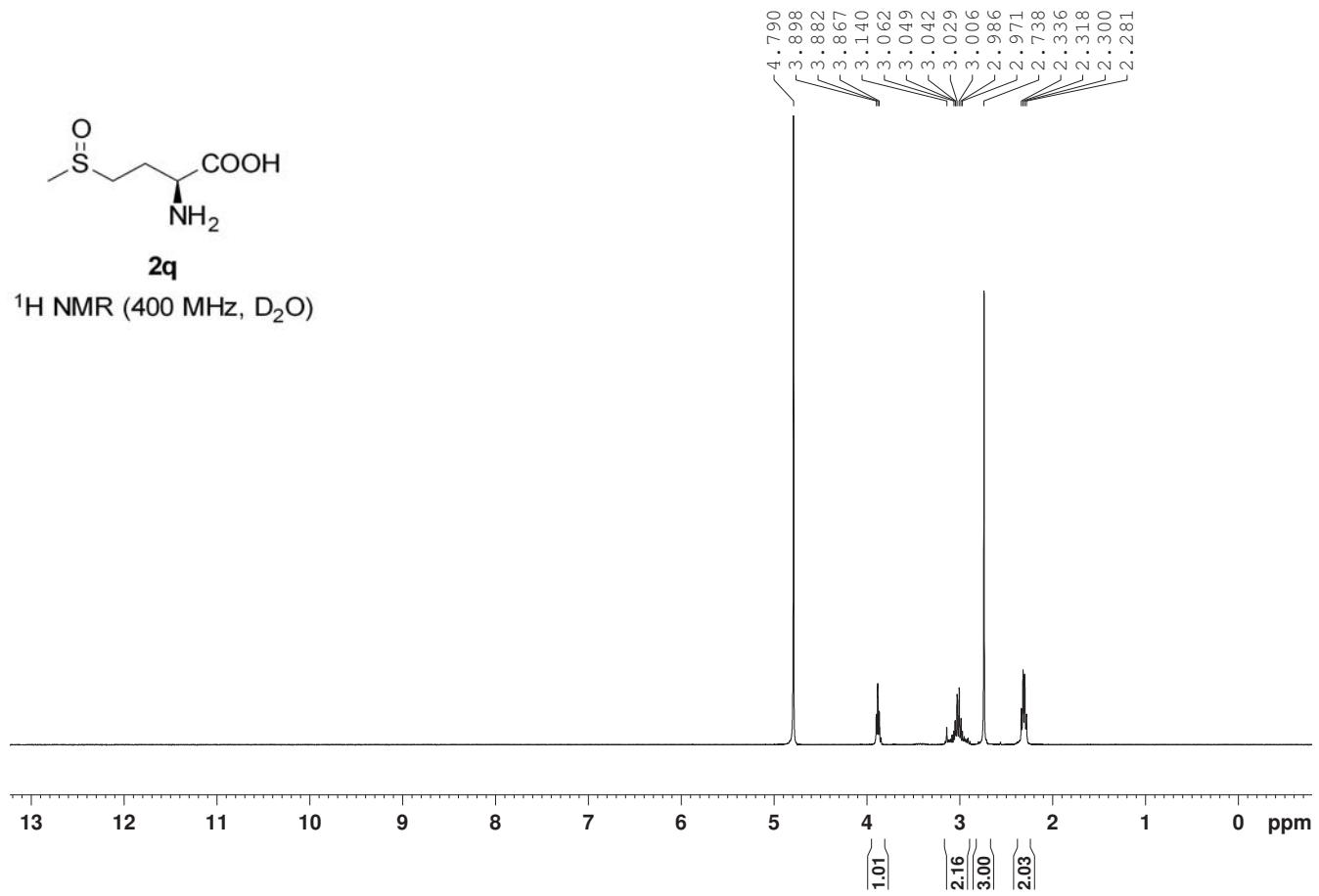


**2o**

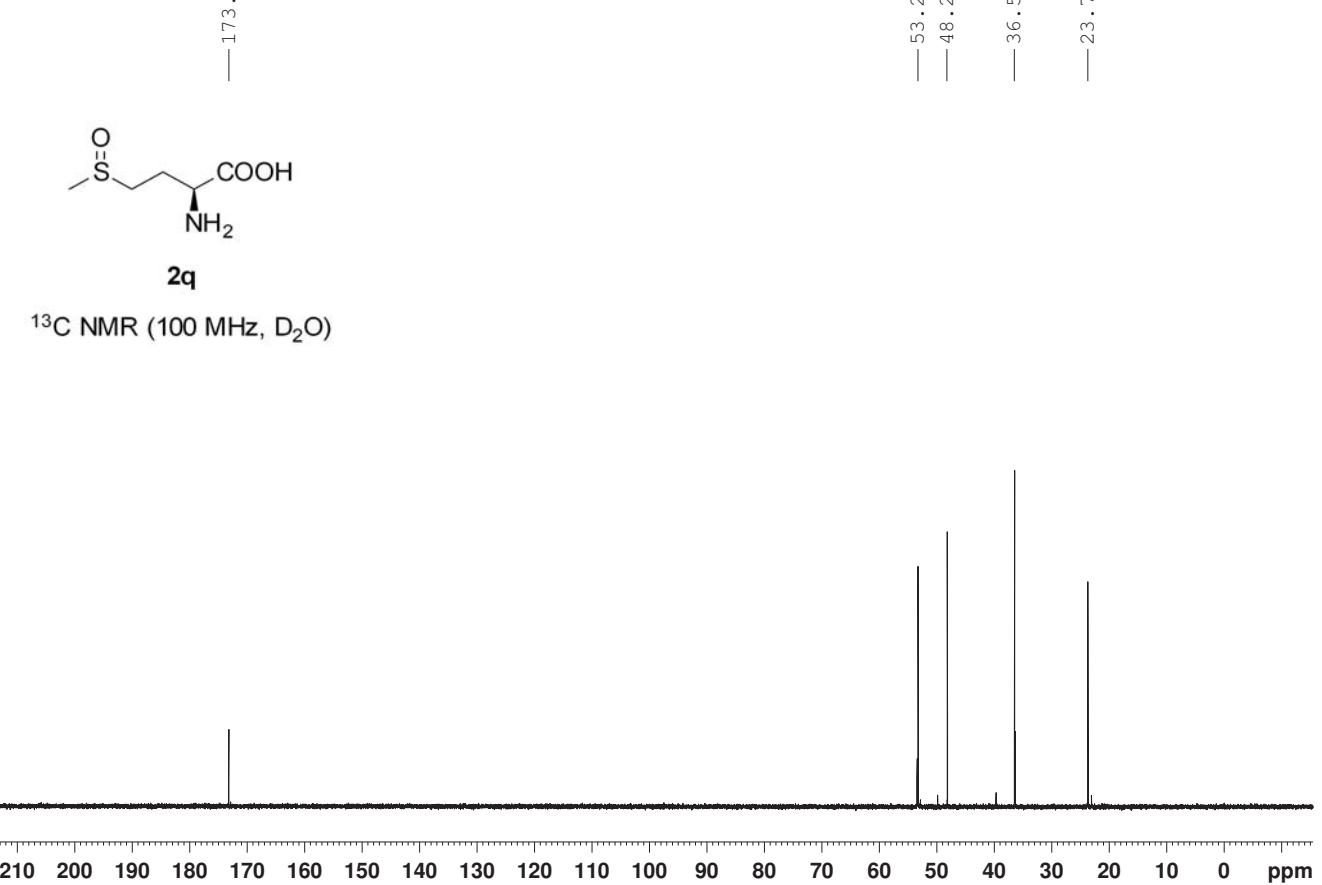
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{d}^6\text{-DMSO}$ )

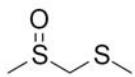






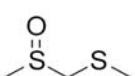
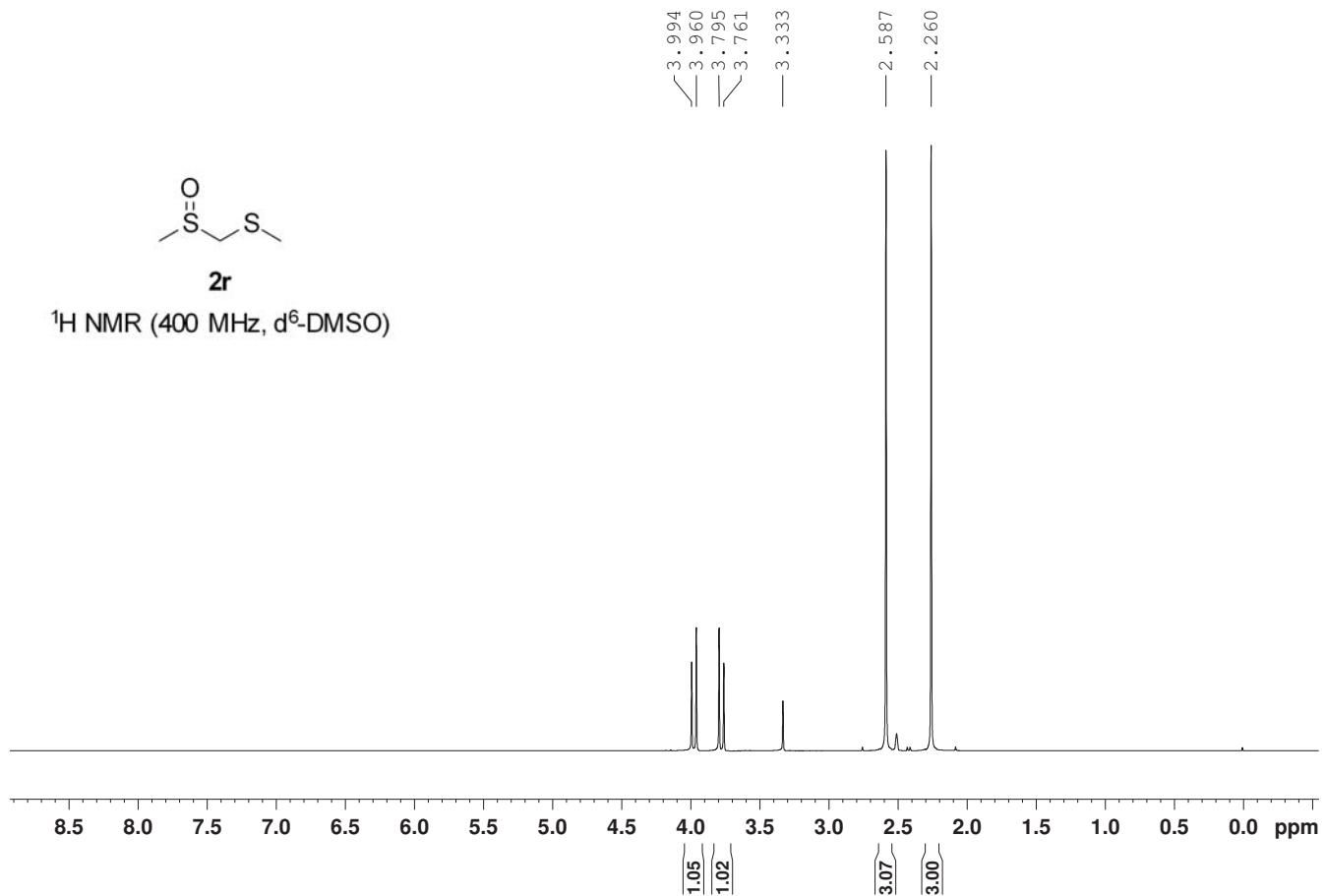
— 173.16





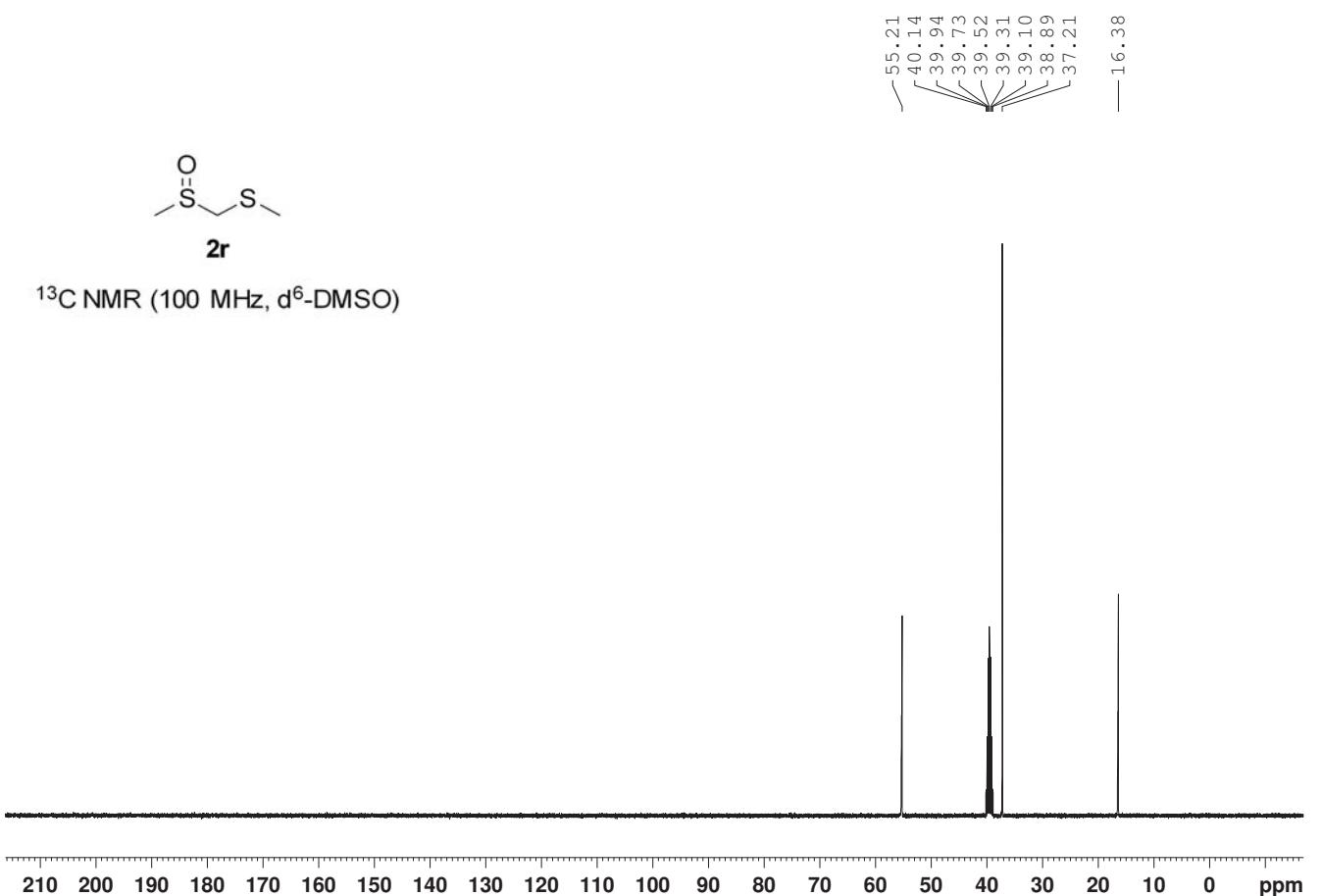
**2r**

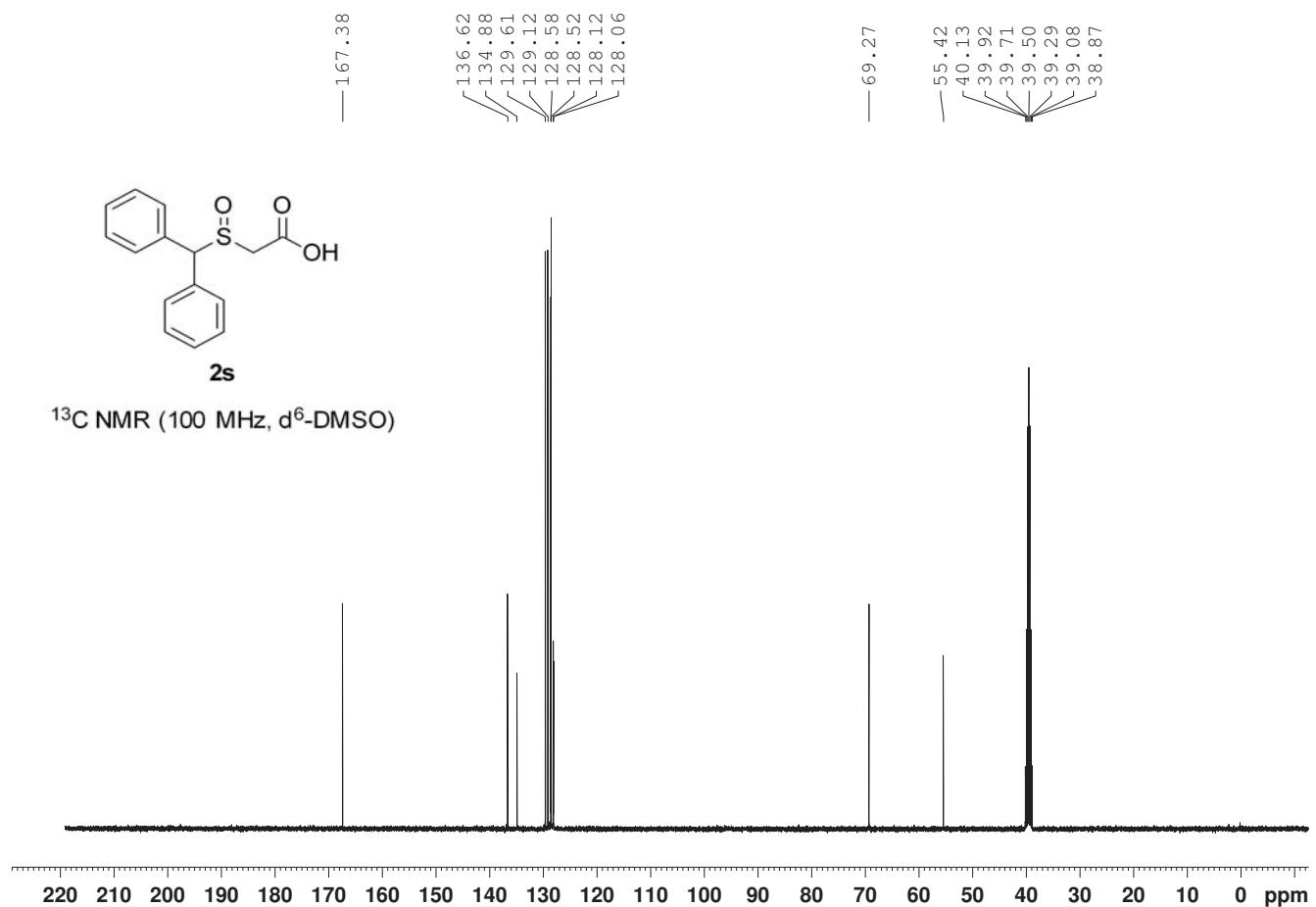
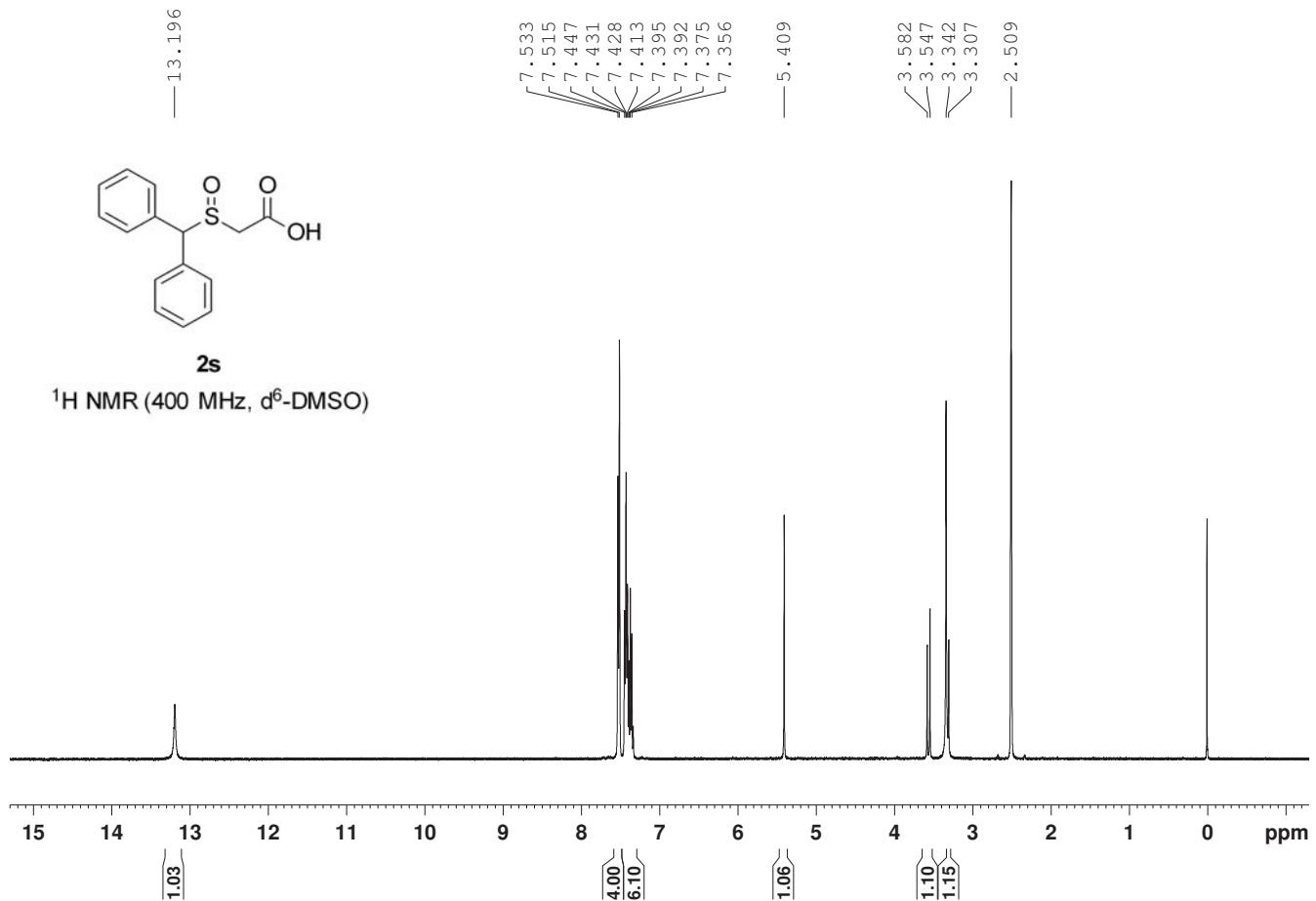
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO)

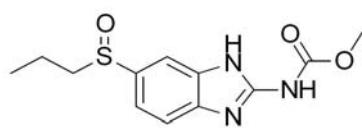


**2r**

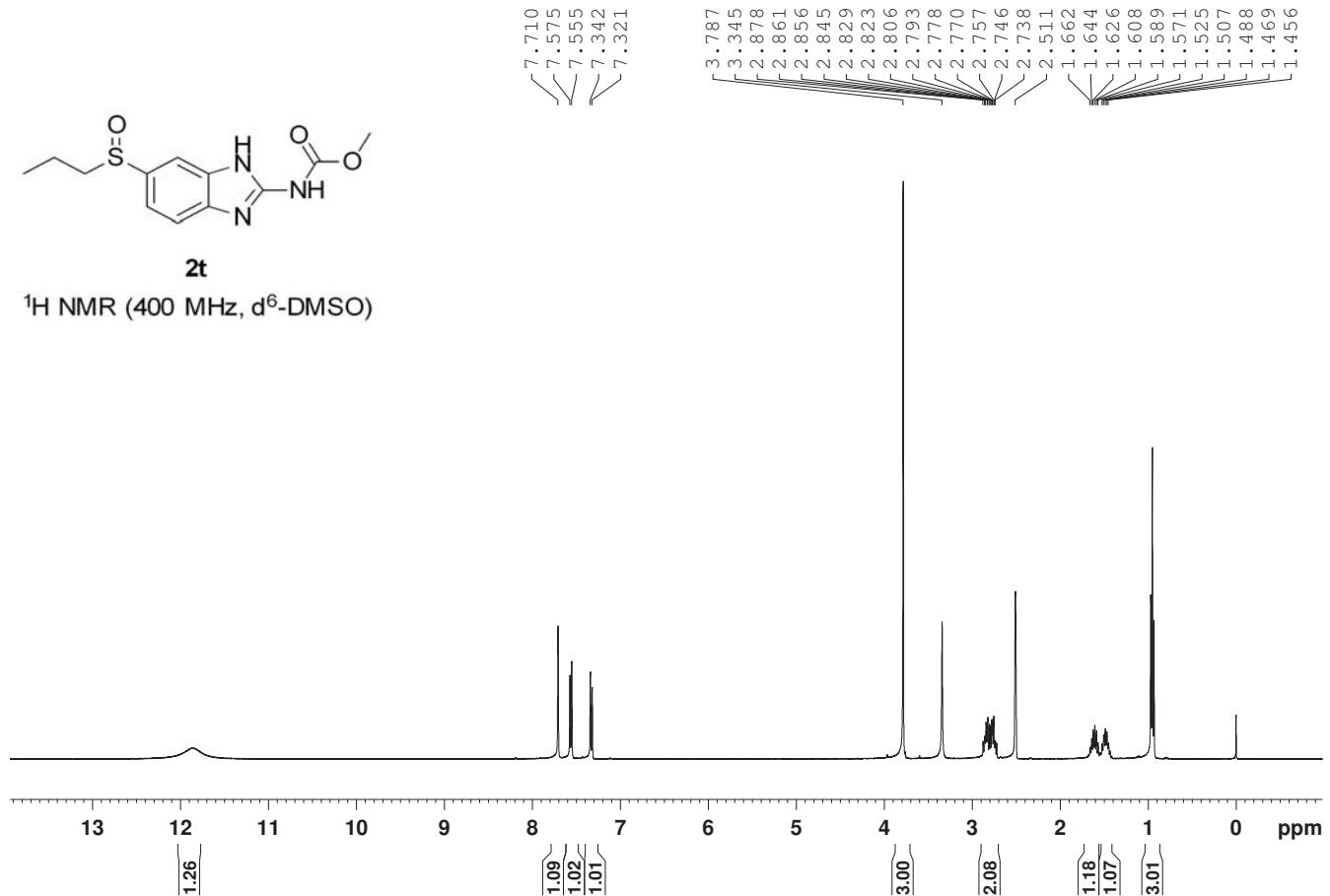
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO)







<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO)



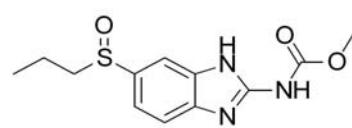
— 154.41  
— 148.63

— 136.17

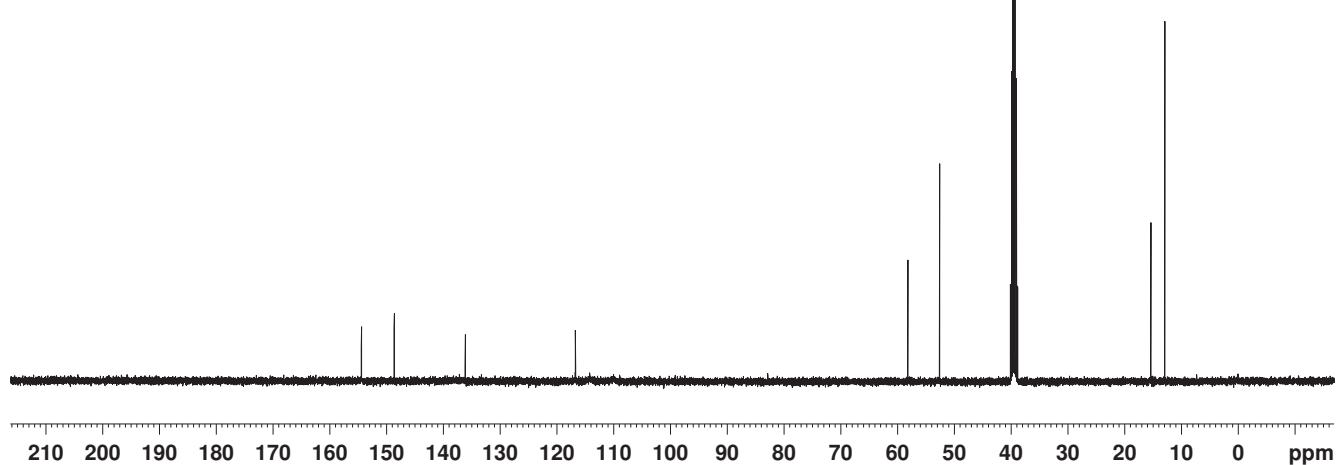
— 116.79

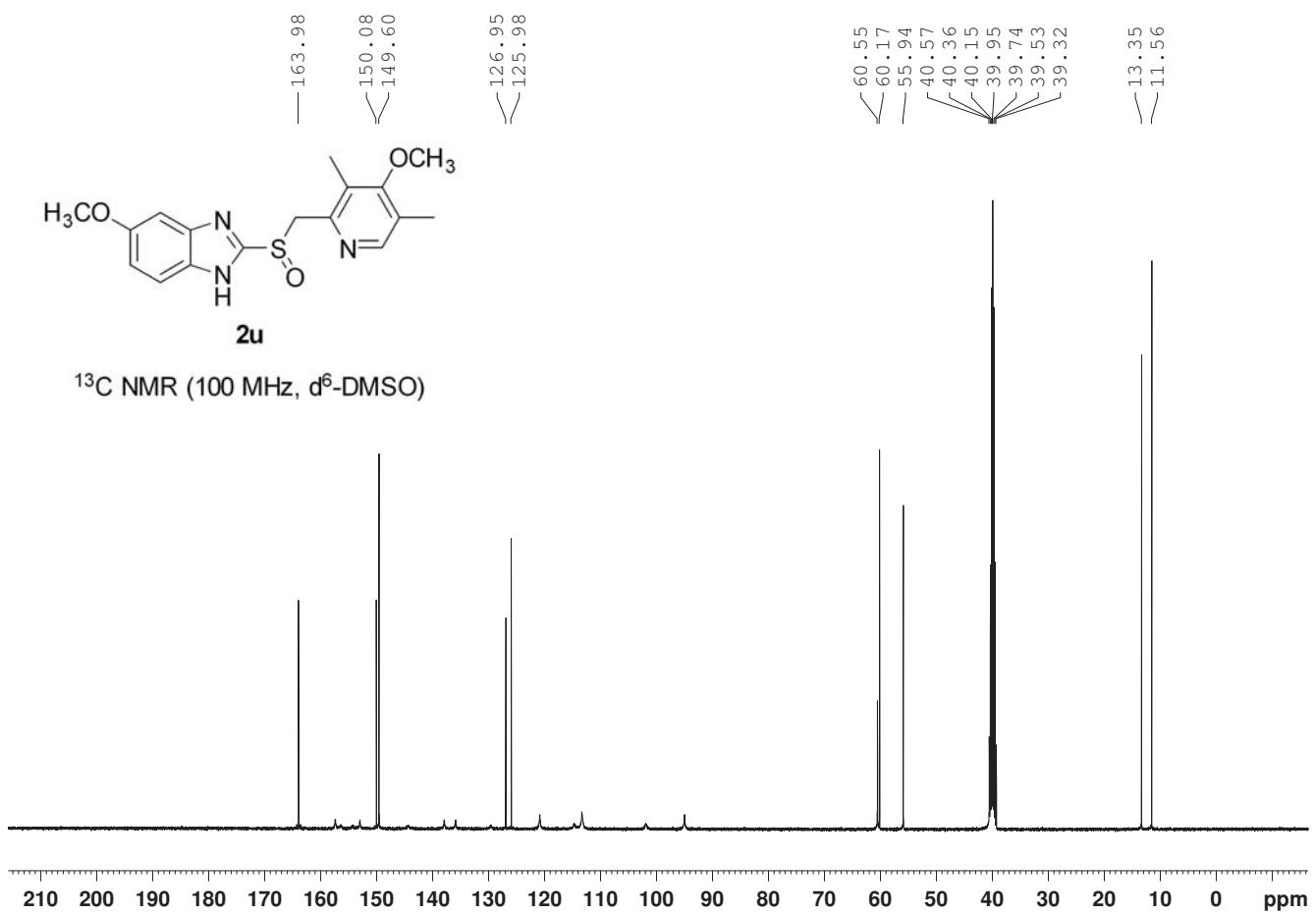
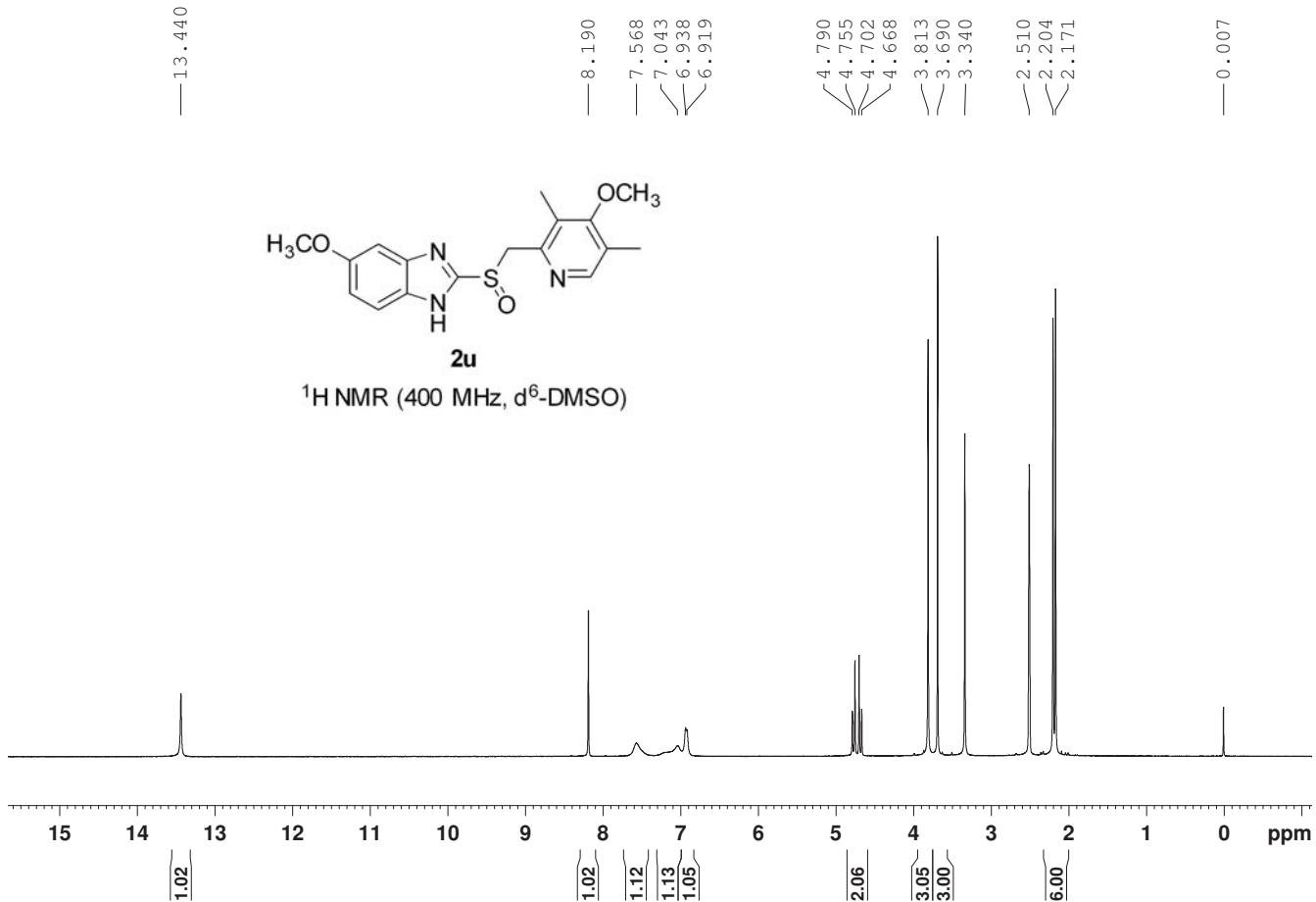
— 58.22  
— 52.64  
— 40.15  
— 39.94  
— 39.73  
— 39.52  
— 39.31  
— 39.10  
— 38.89

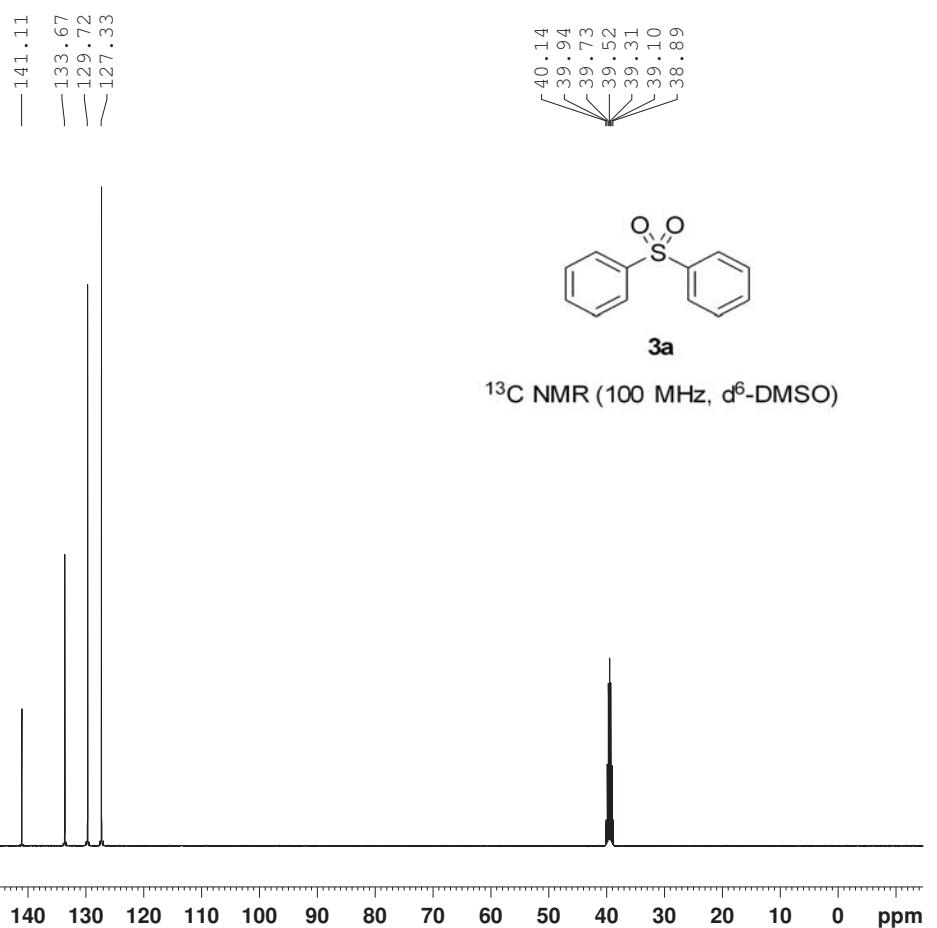
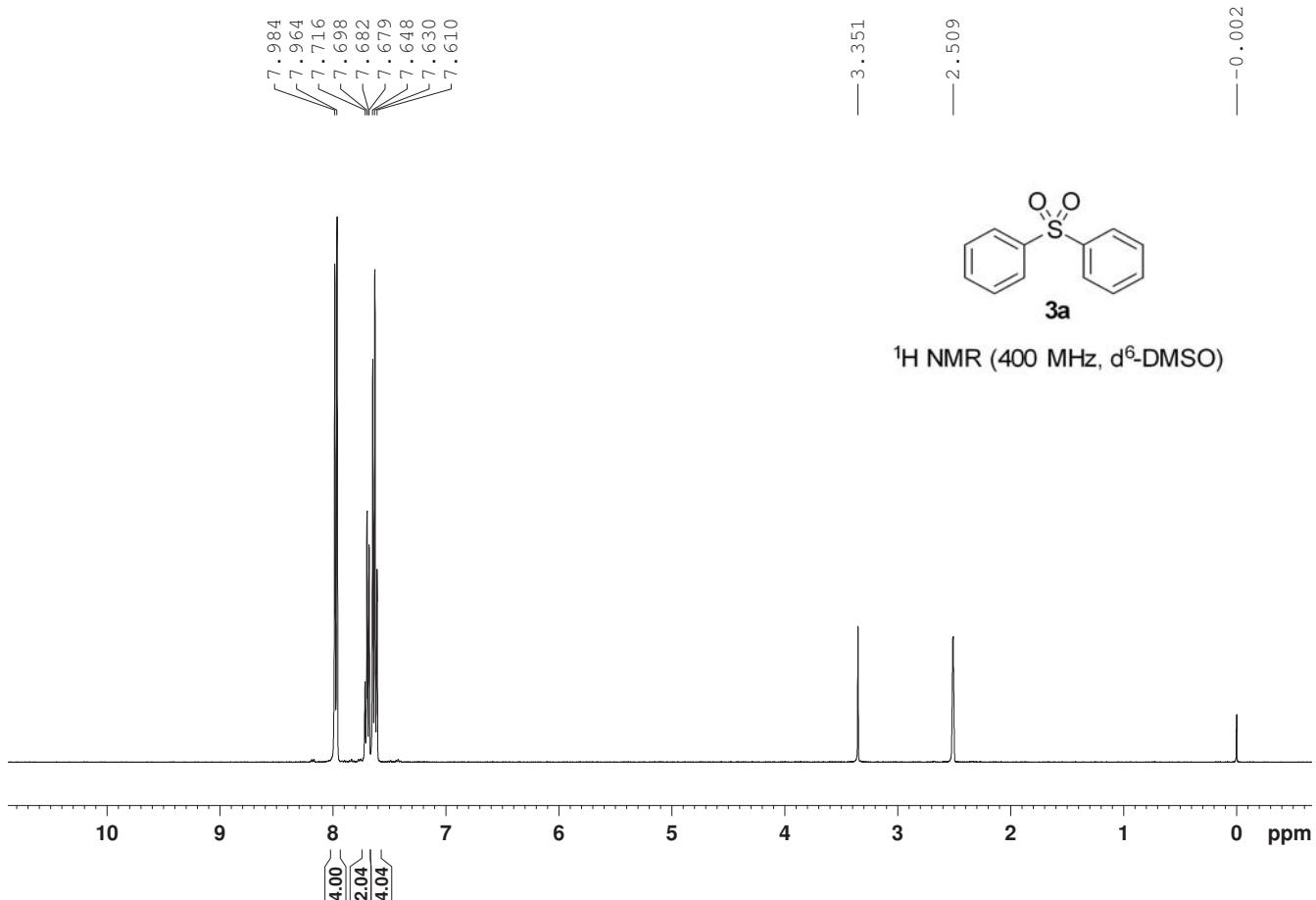
— 15.44  
— 12.97

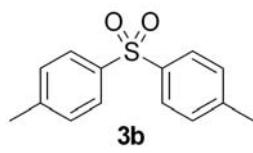


<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO)

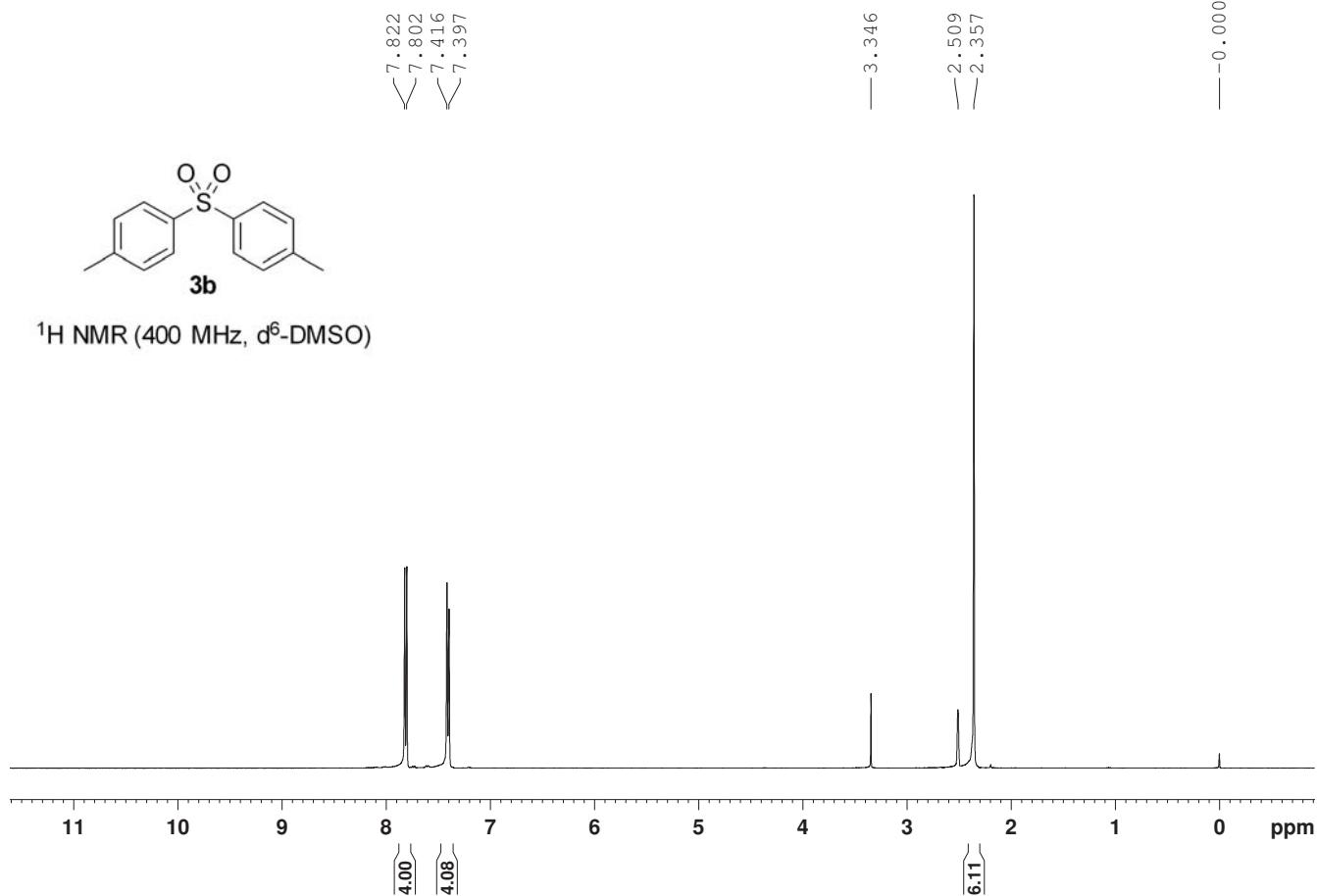




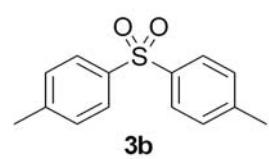




<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO)

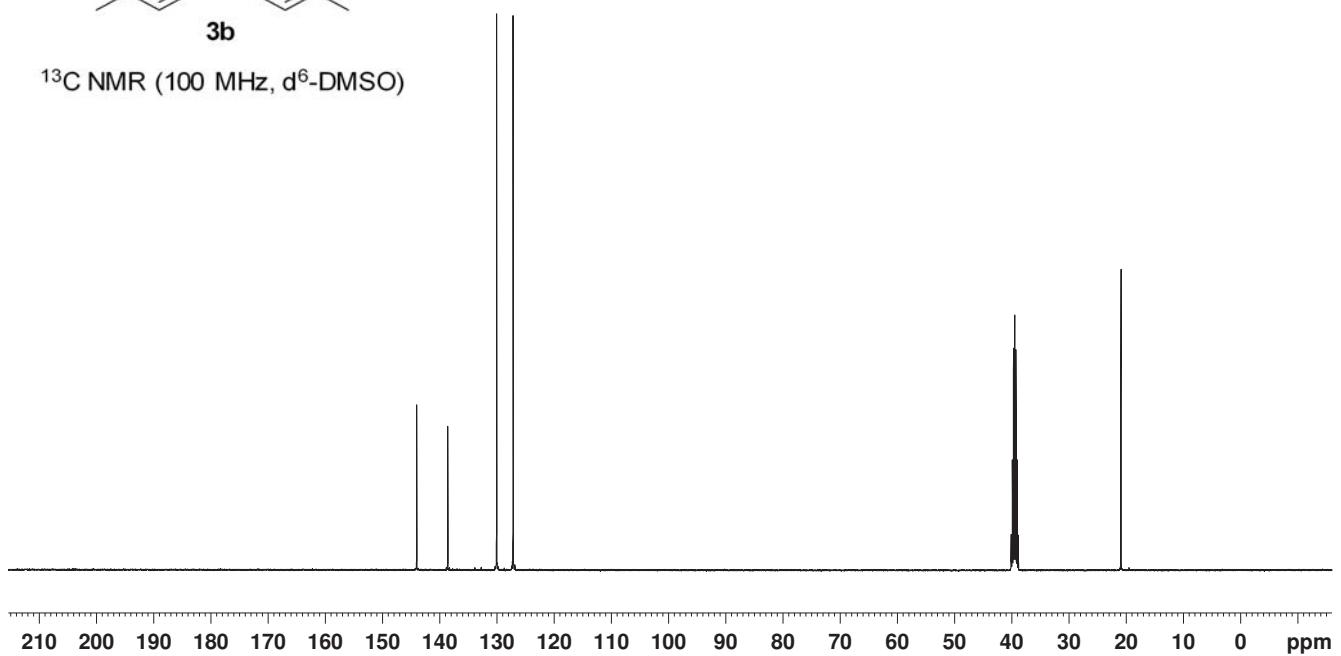


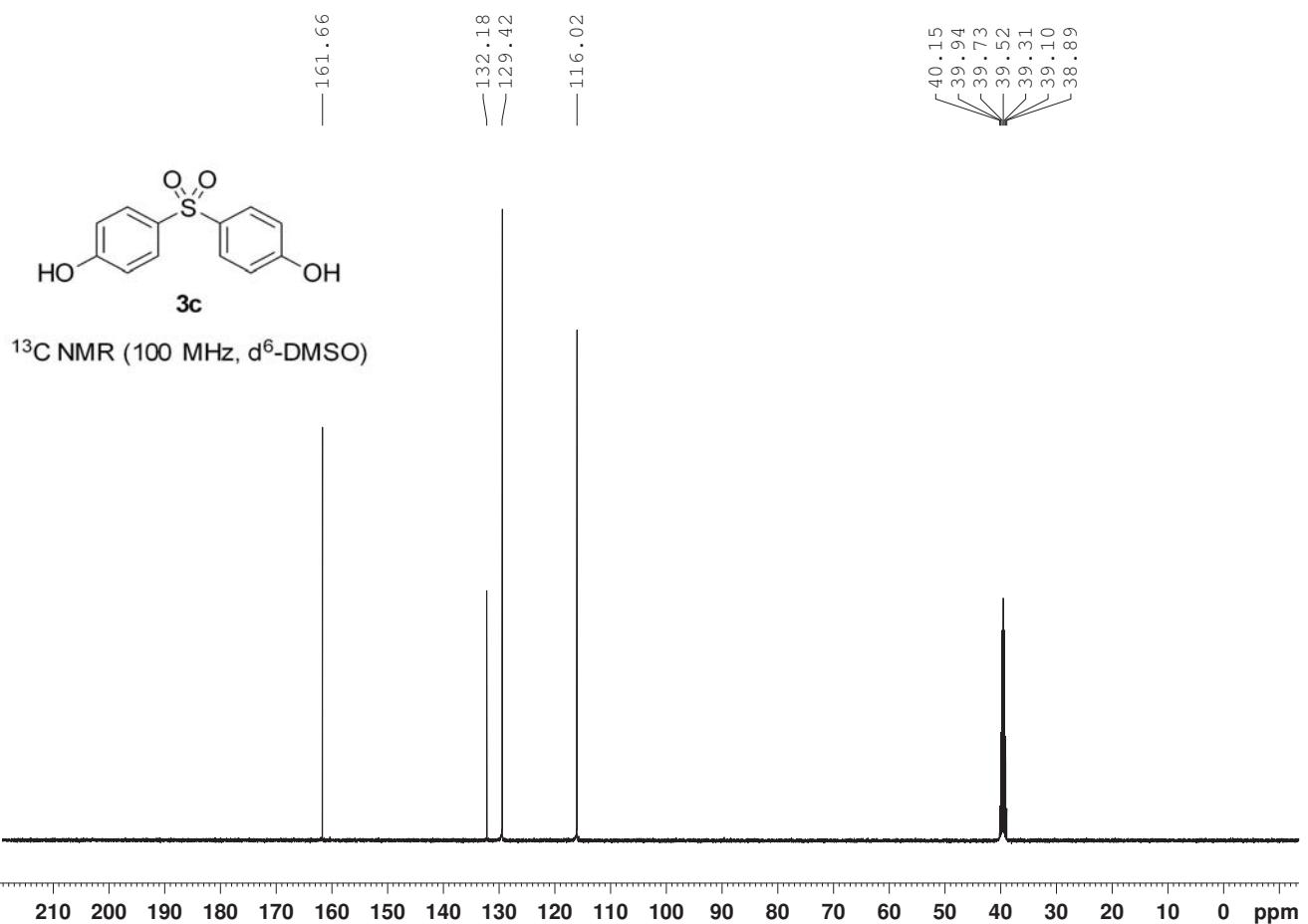
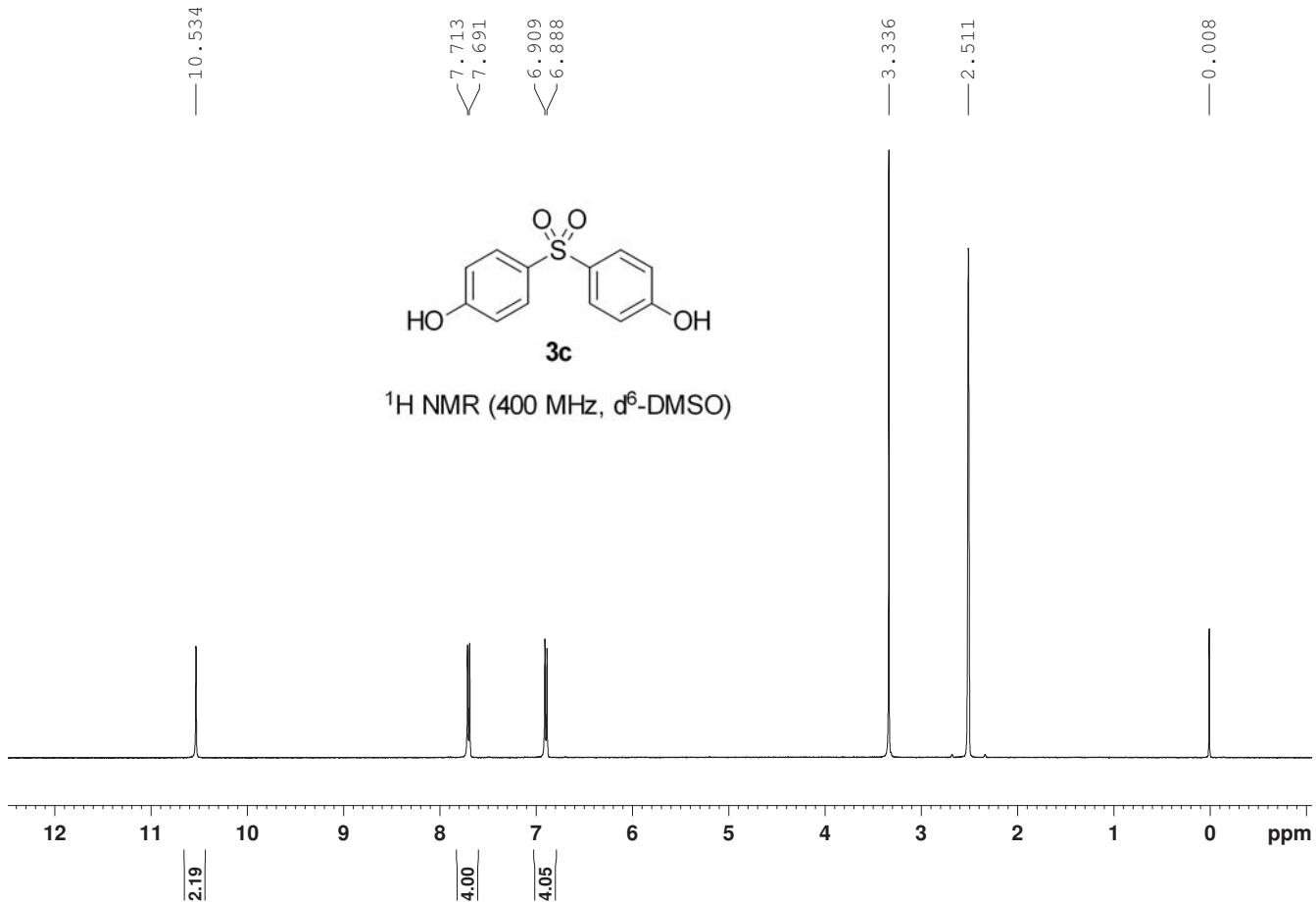
— 144.07  
— 138.63  
— 130.09  
— 127.21

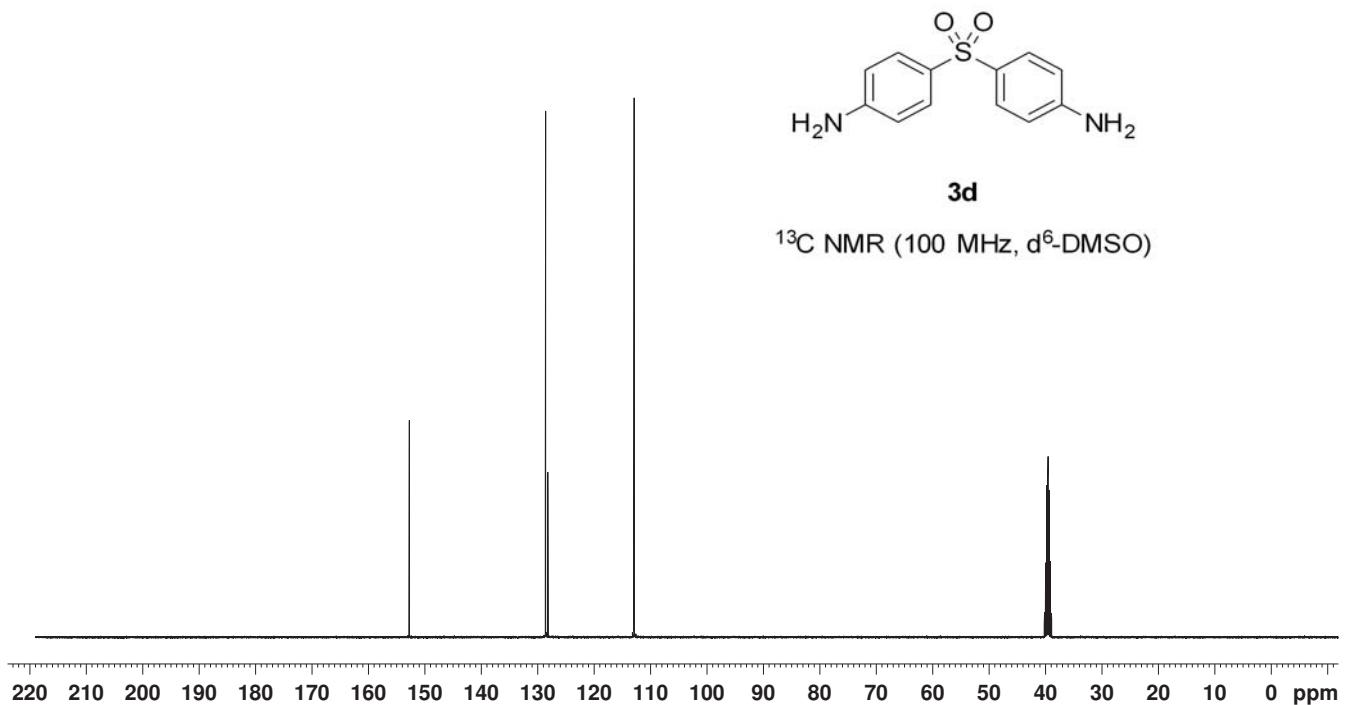
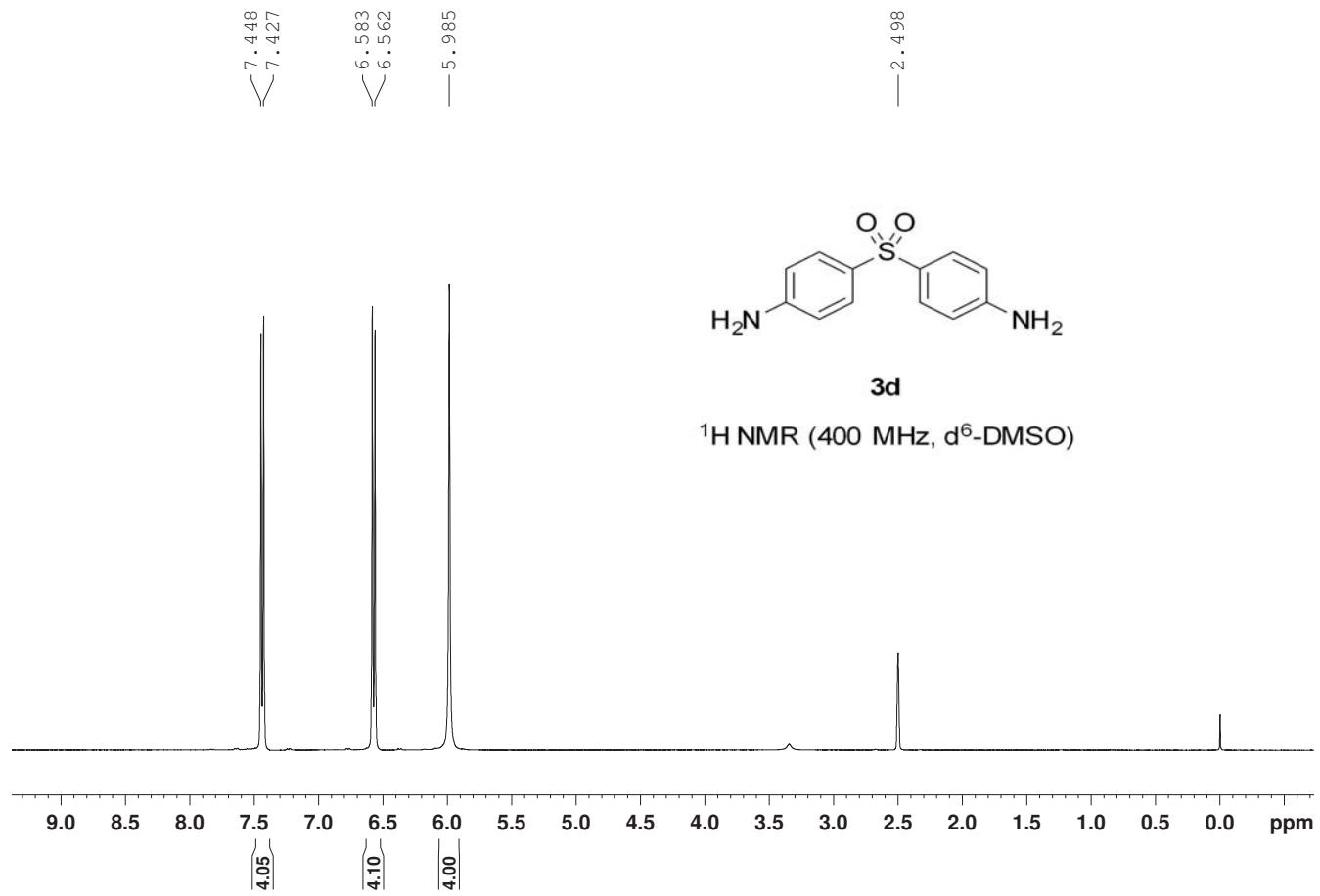


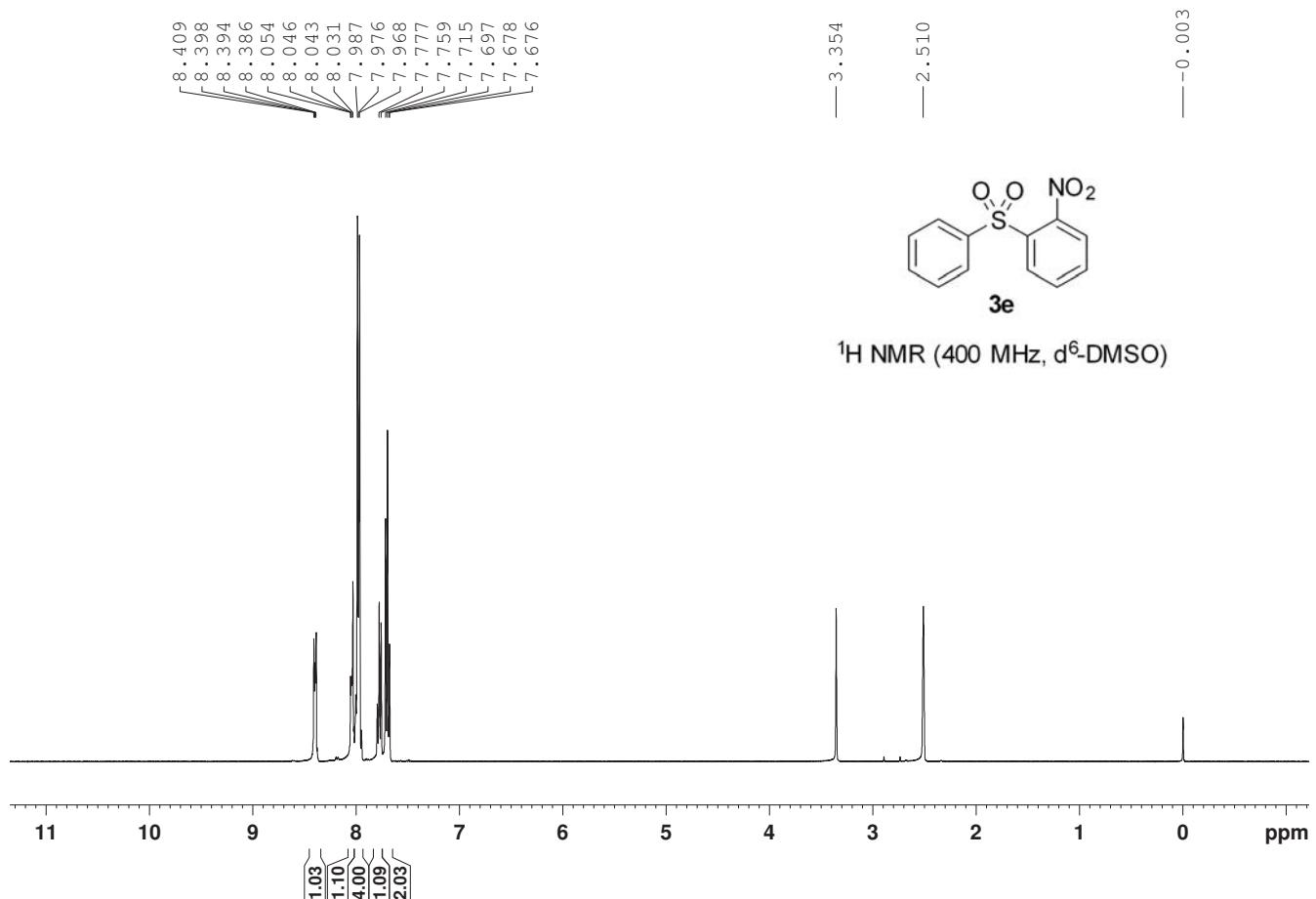
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO)

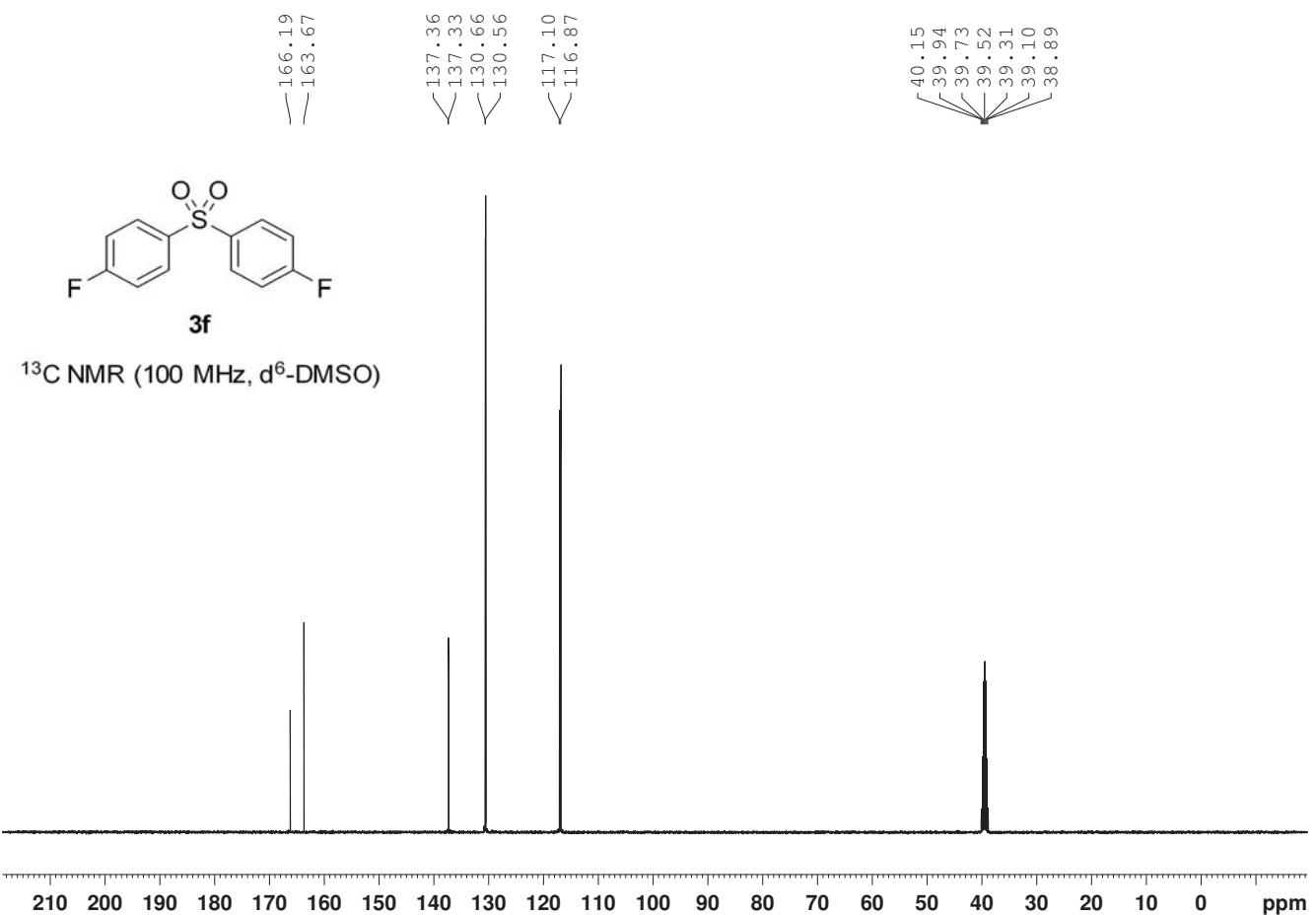
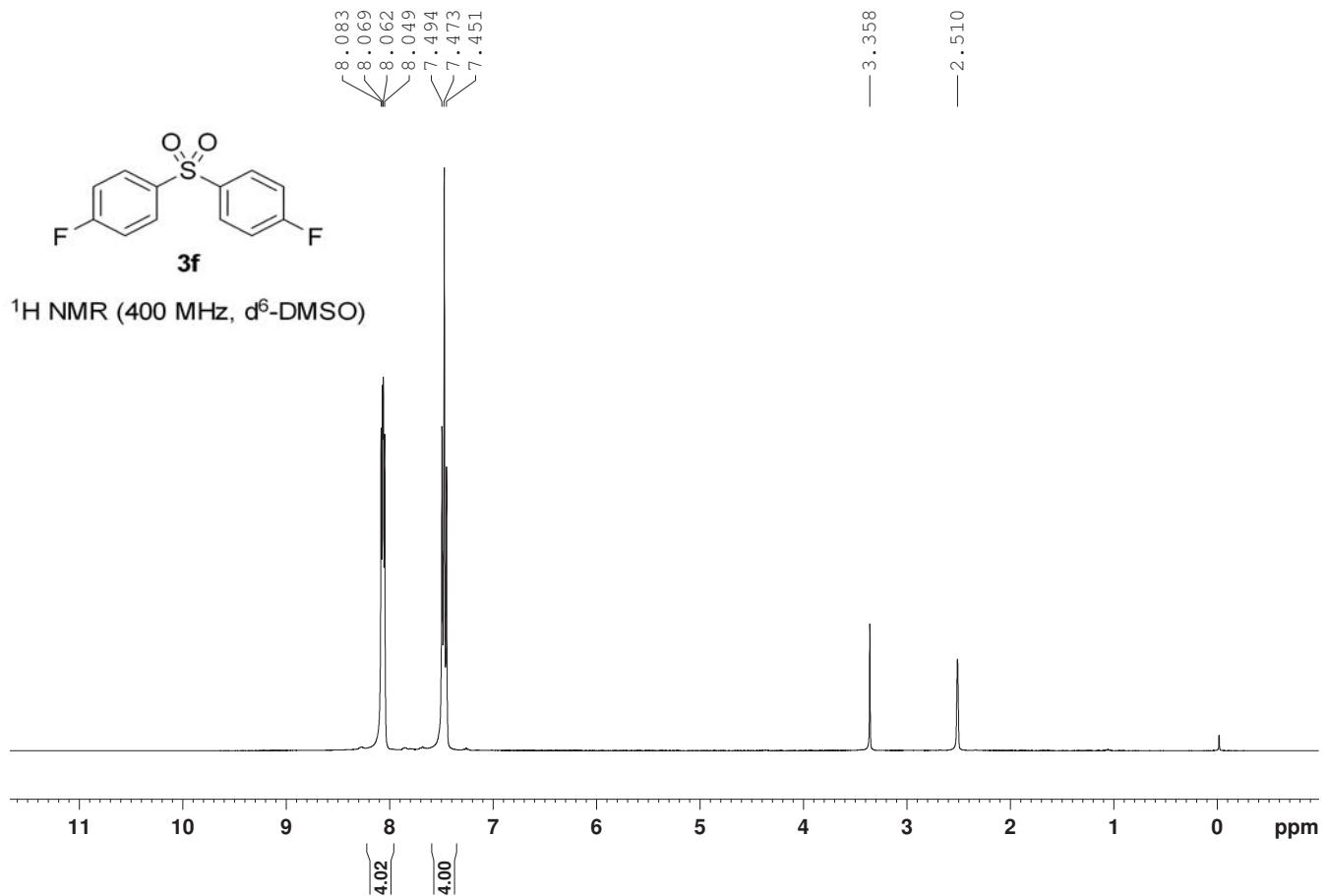
40.15  
39.94  
39.73  
39.52  
39.31  
39.10  
38.90  
— 20.95

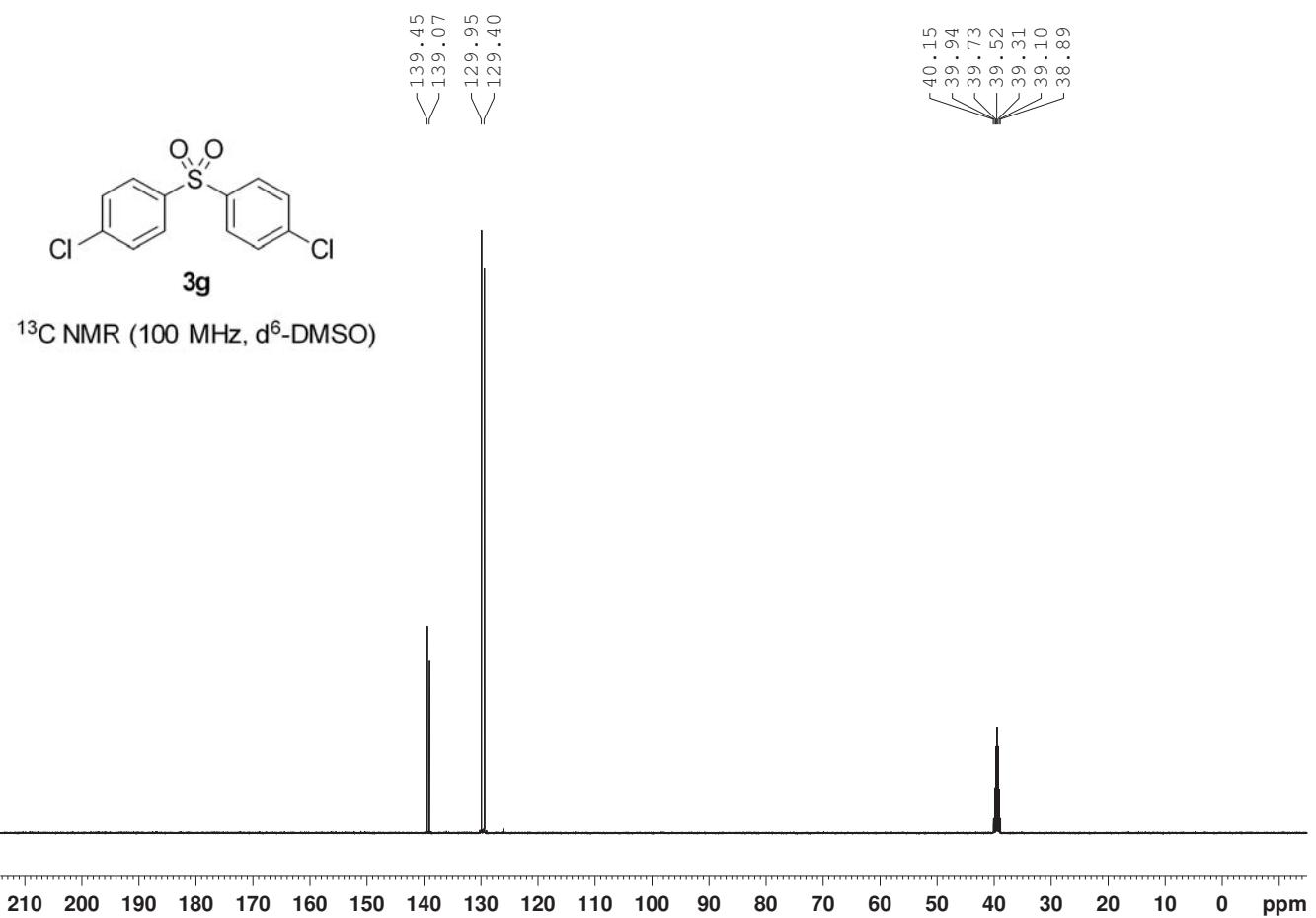
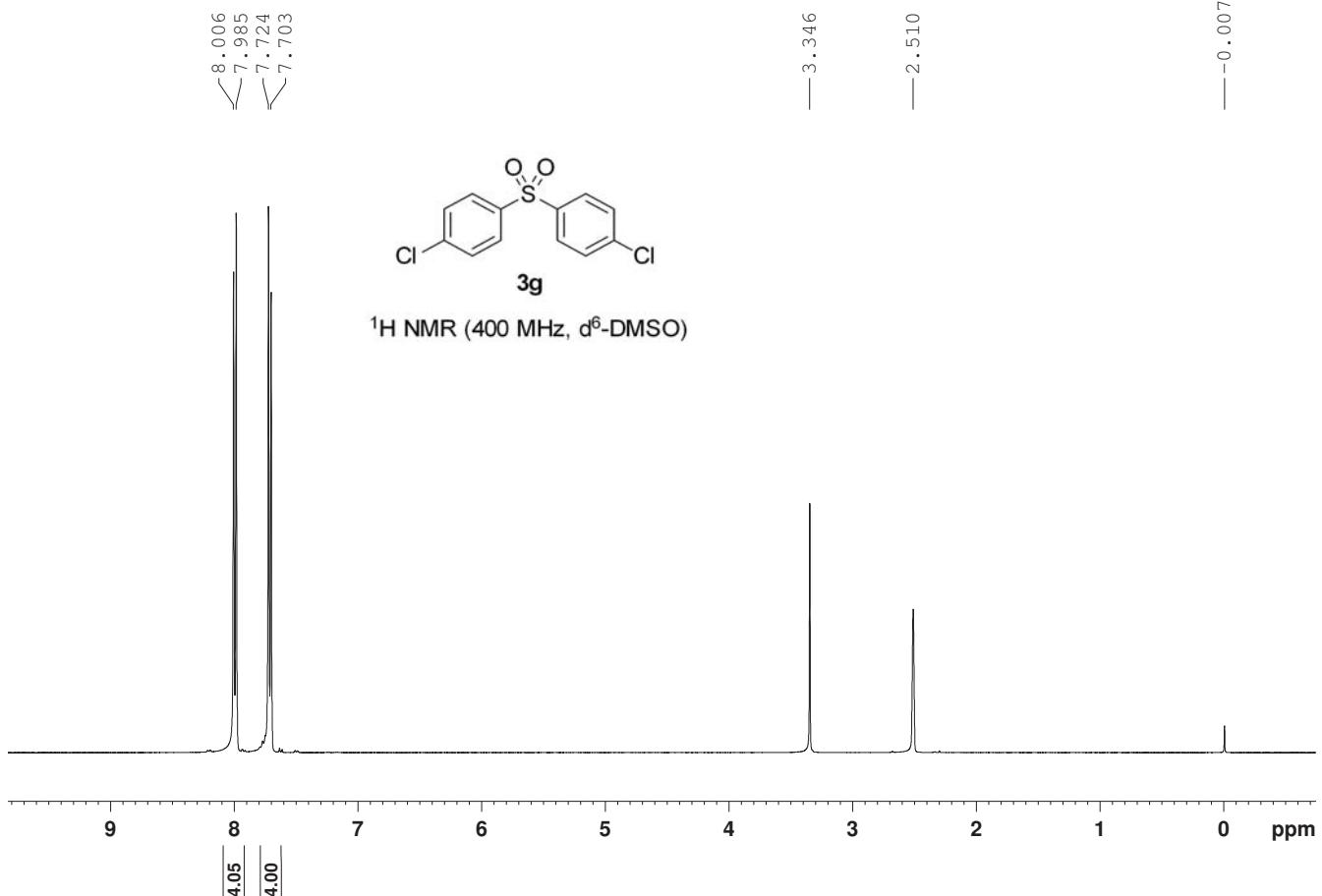


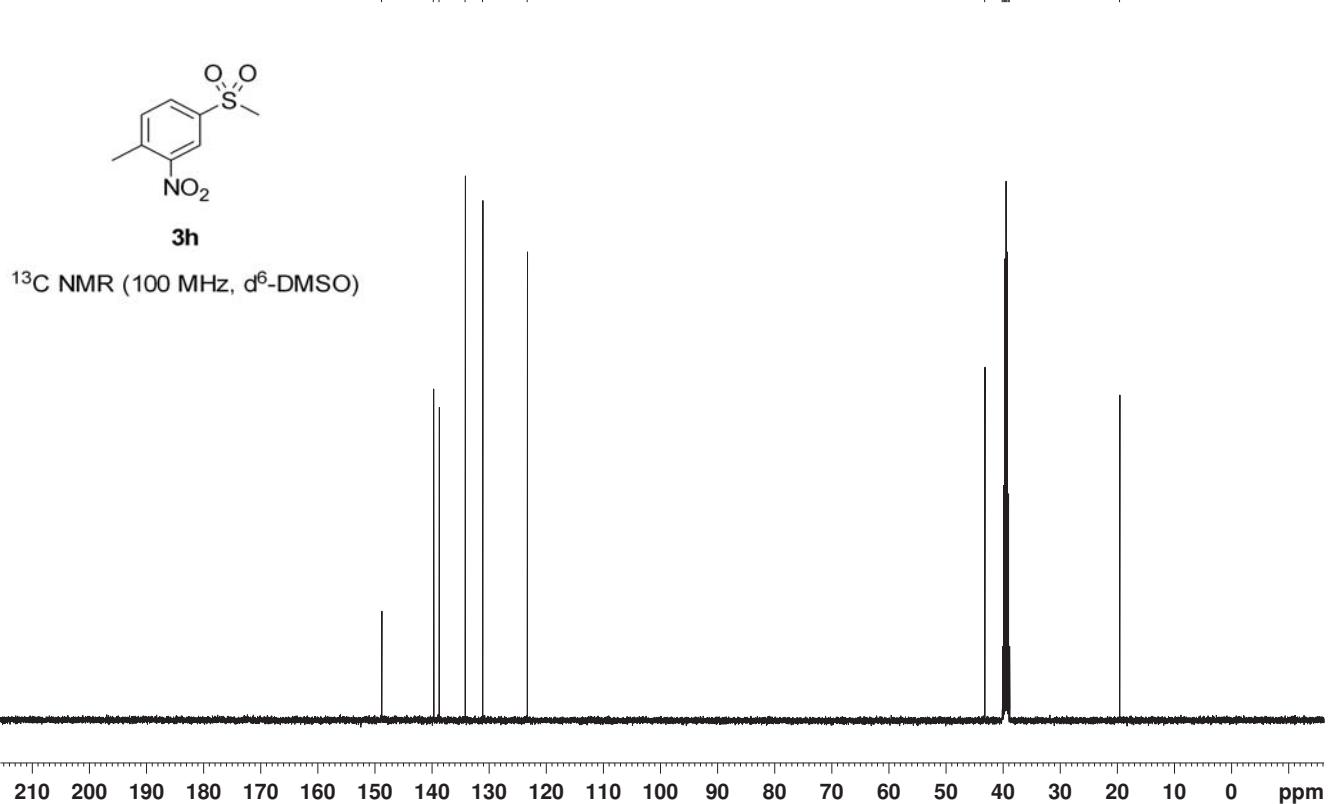
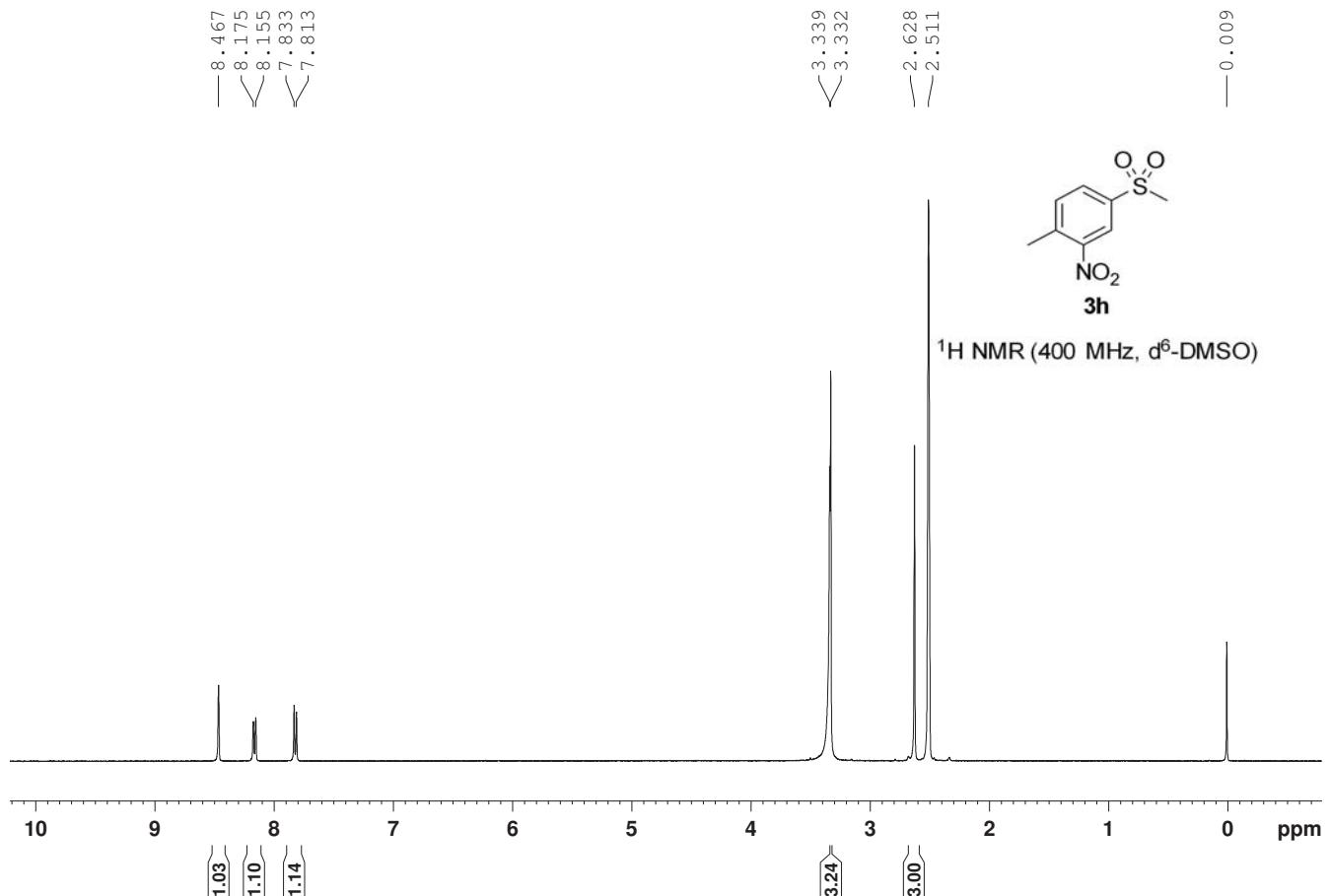


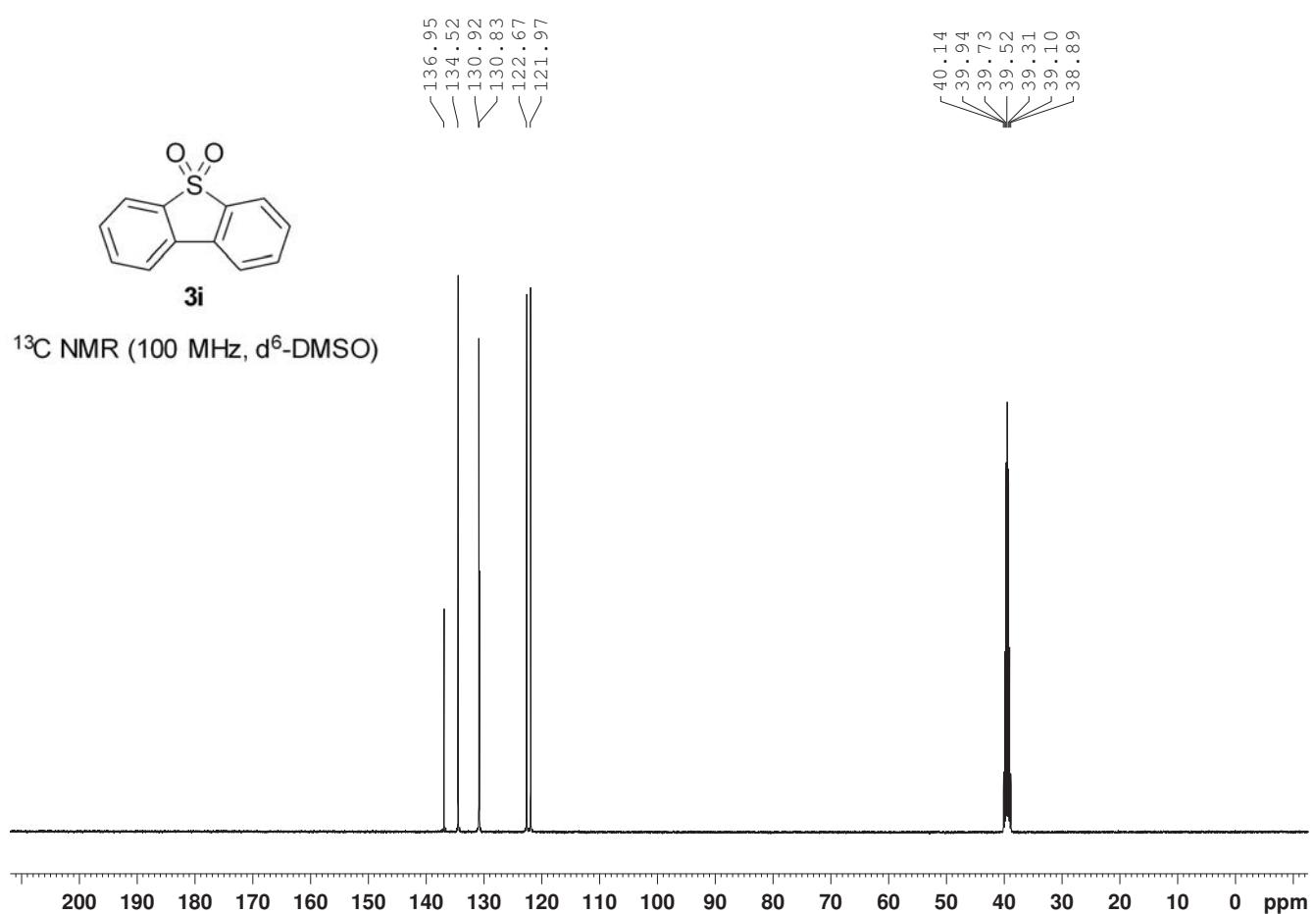
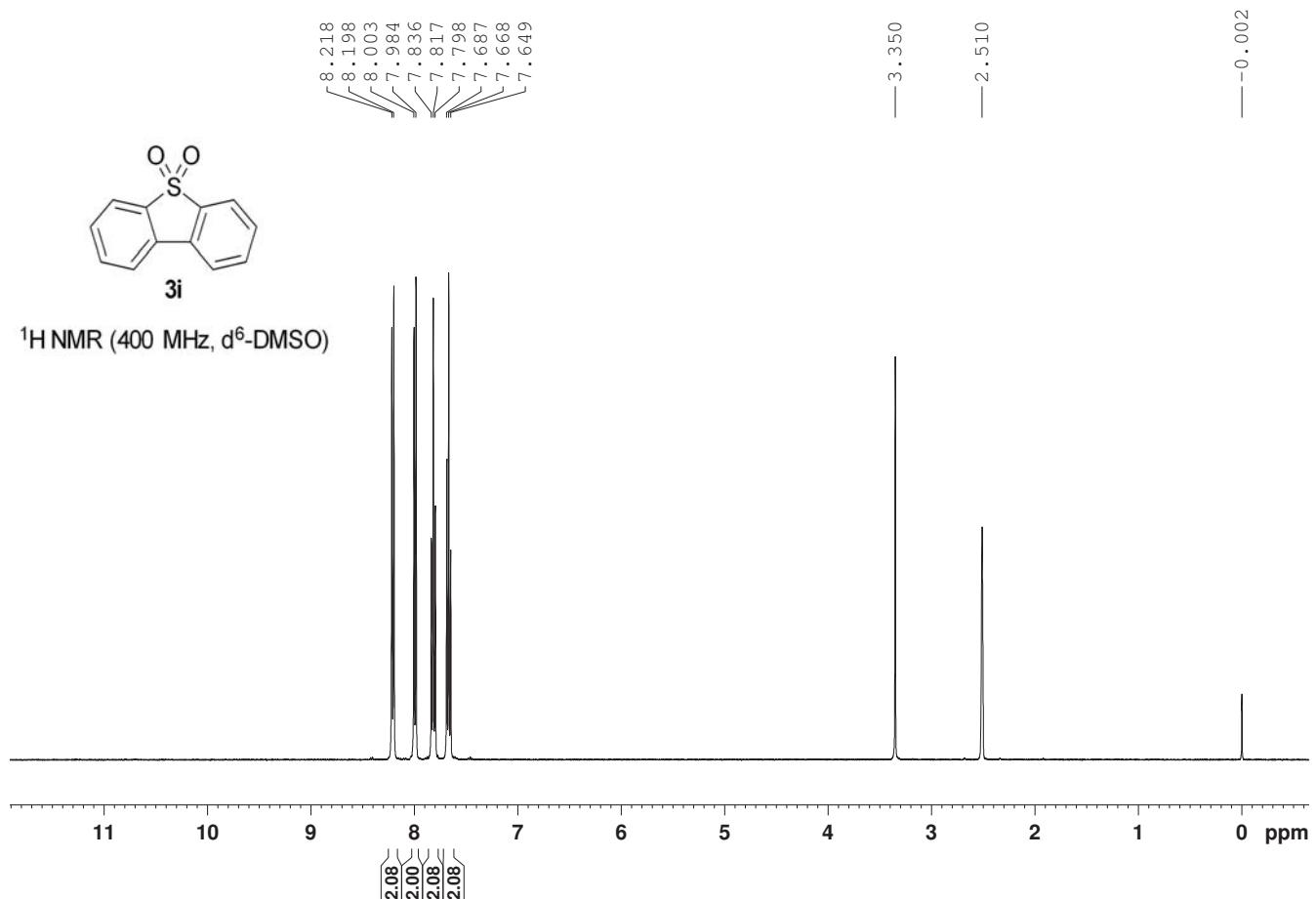


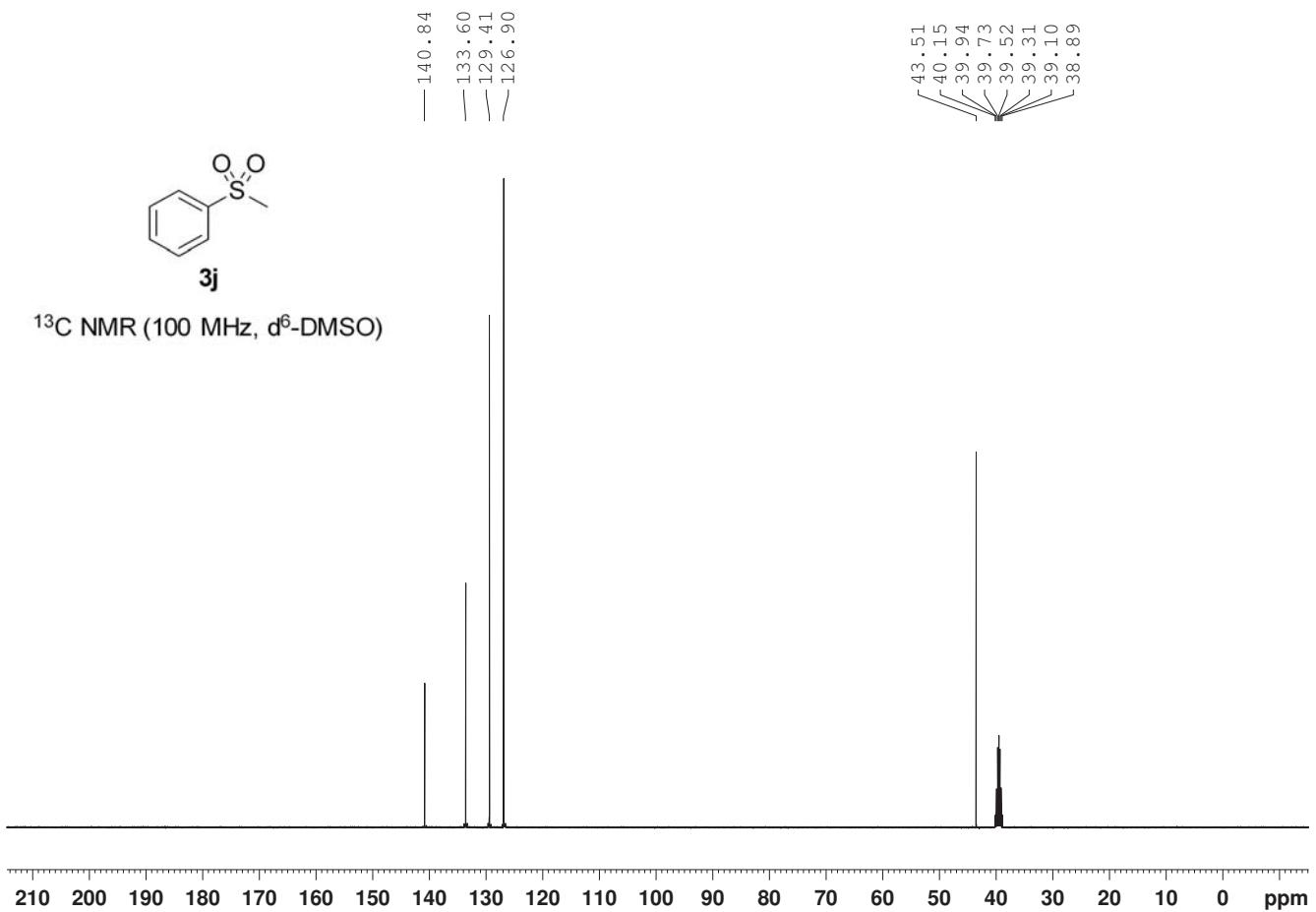
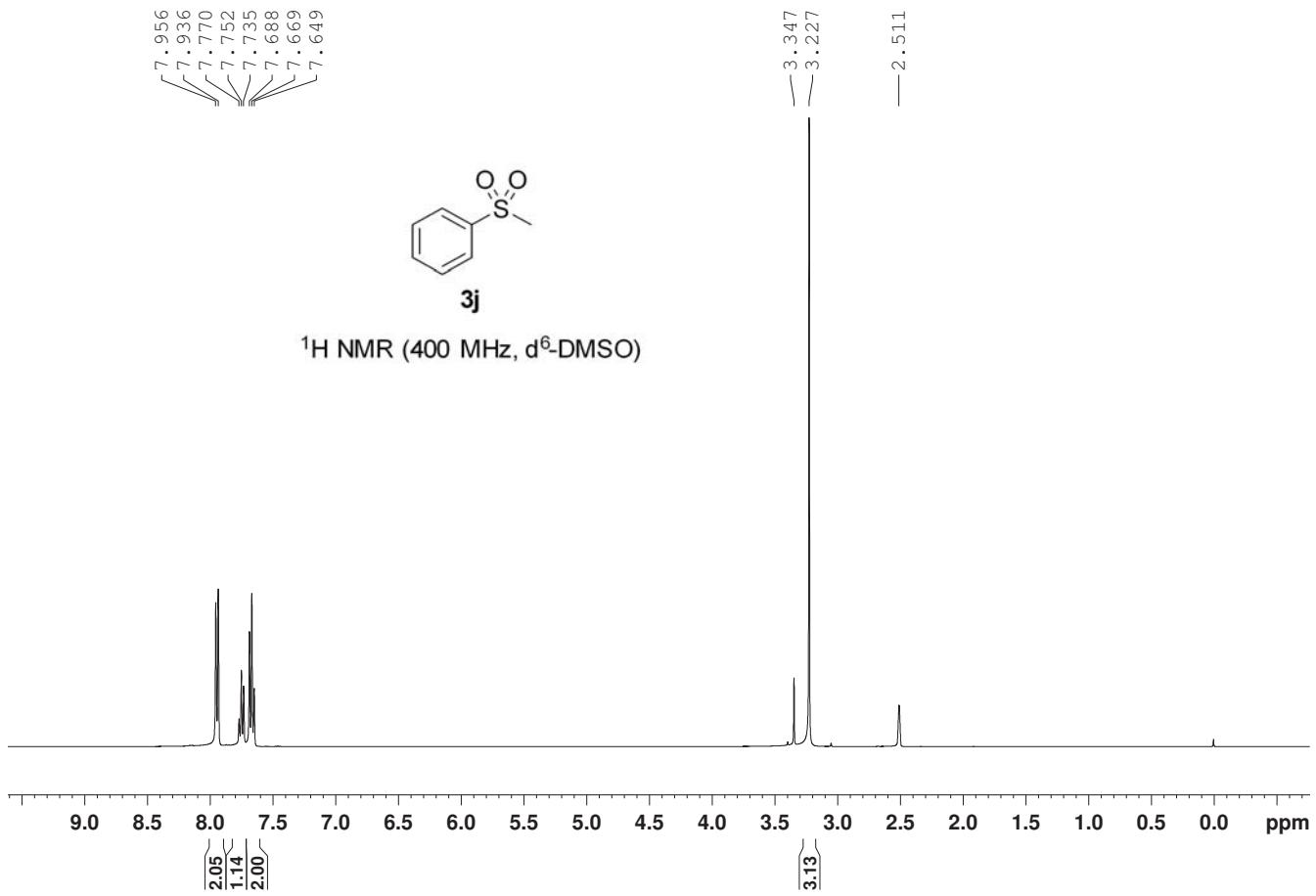


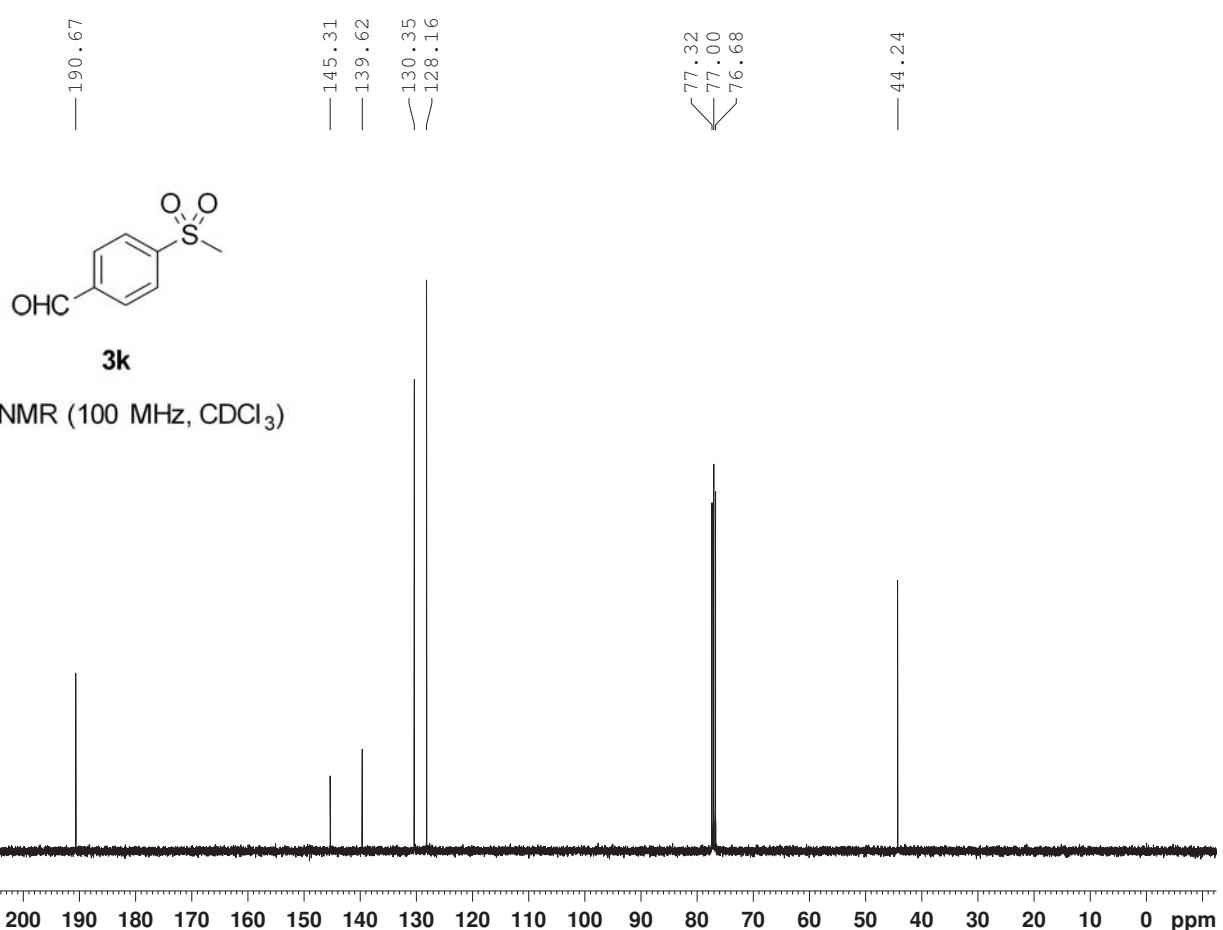
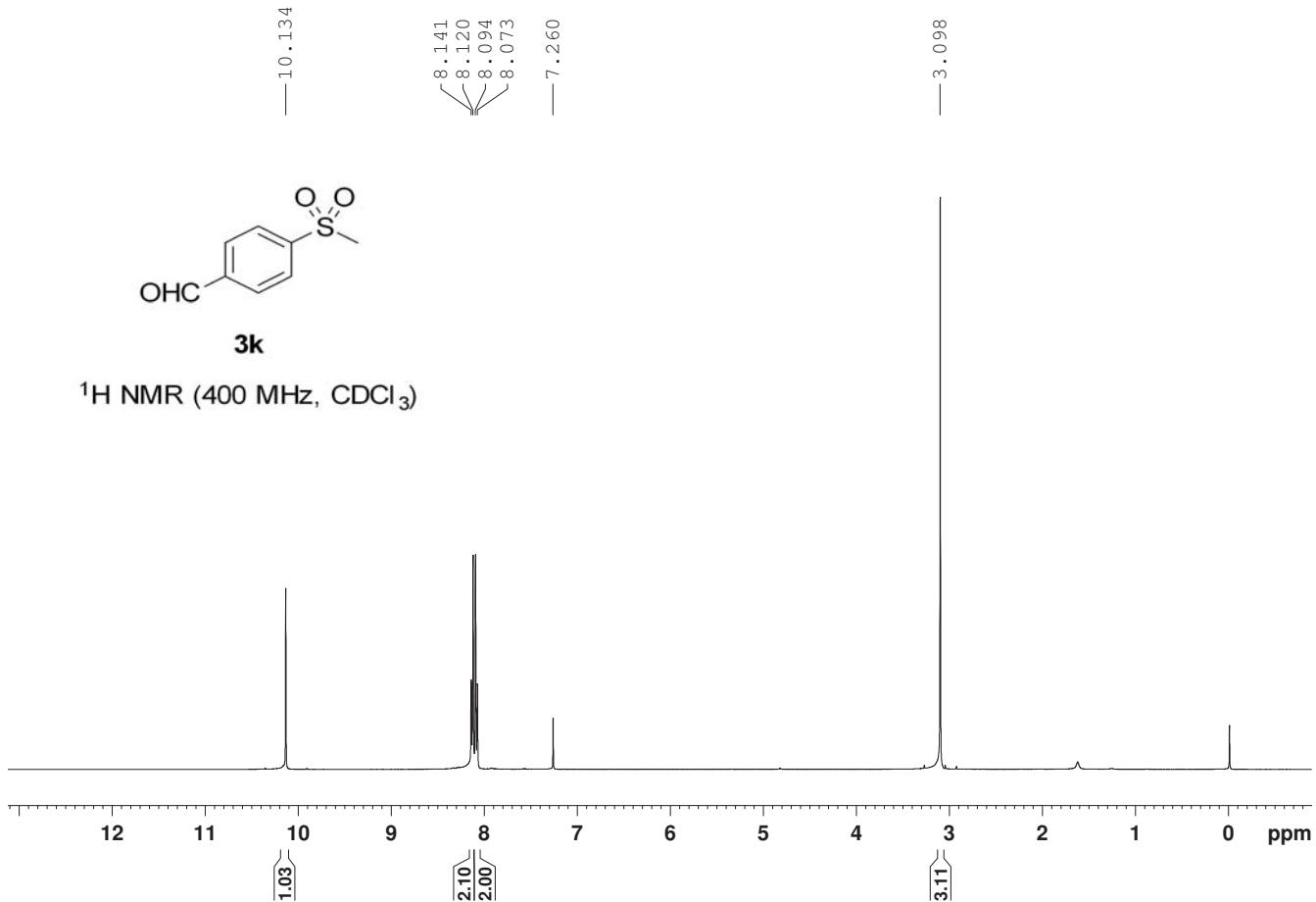


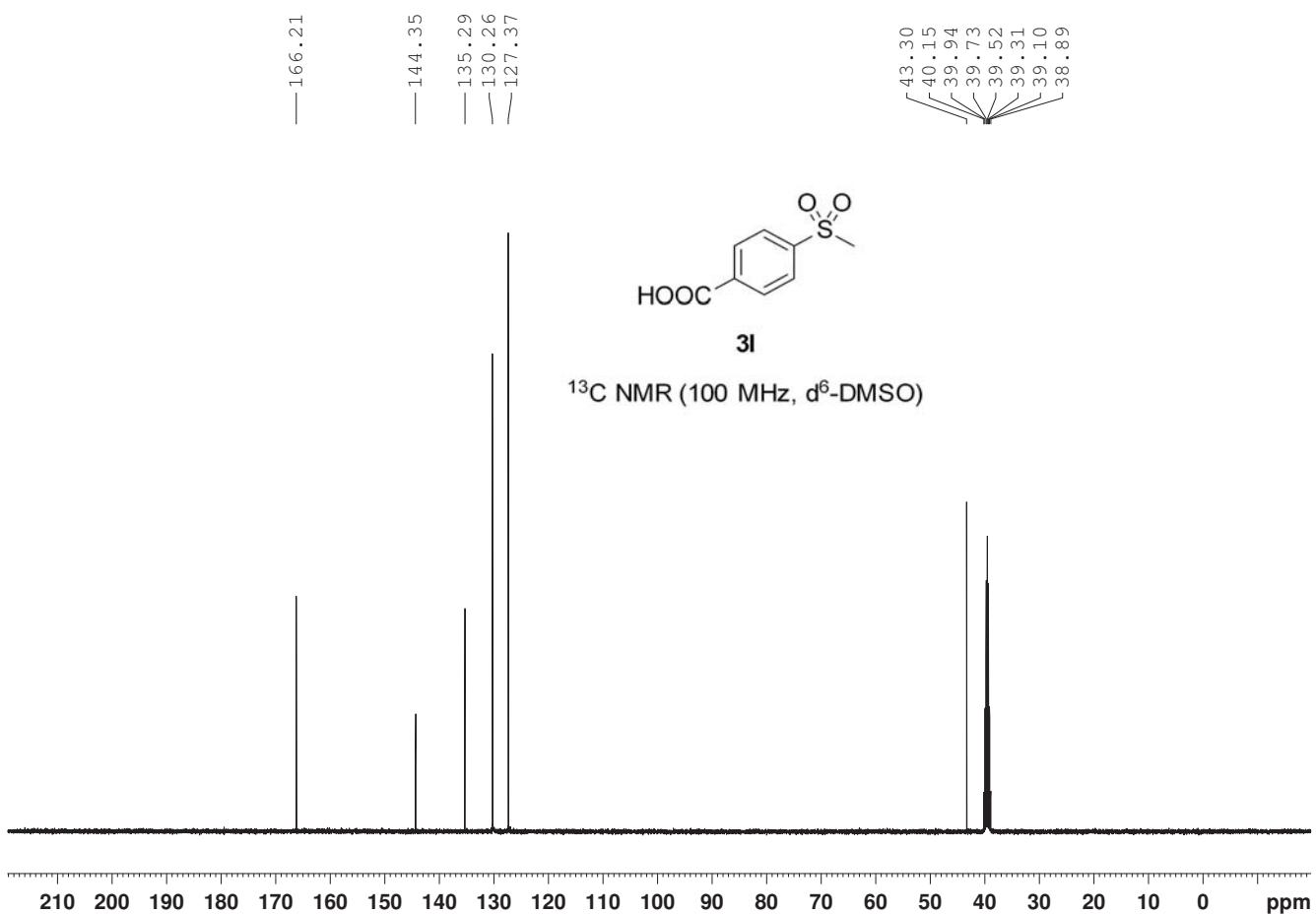
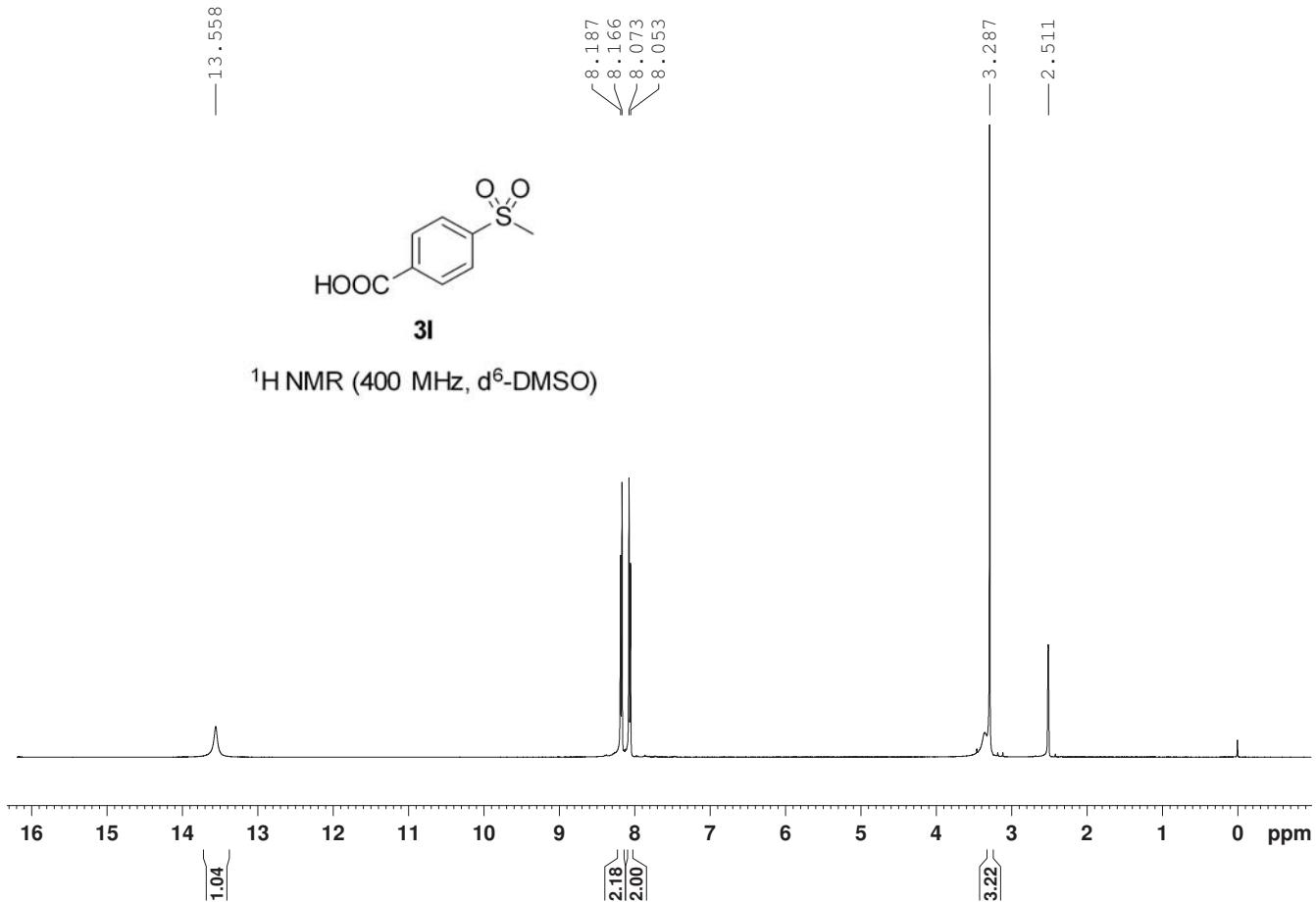


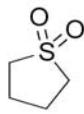






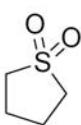
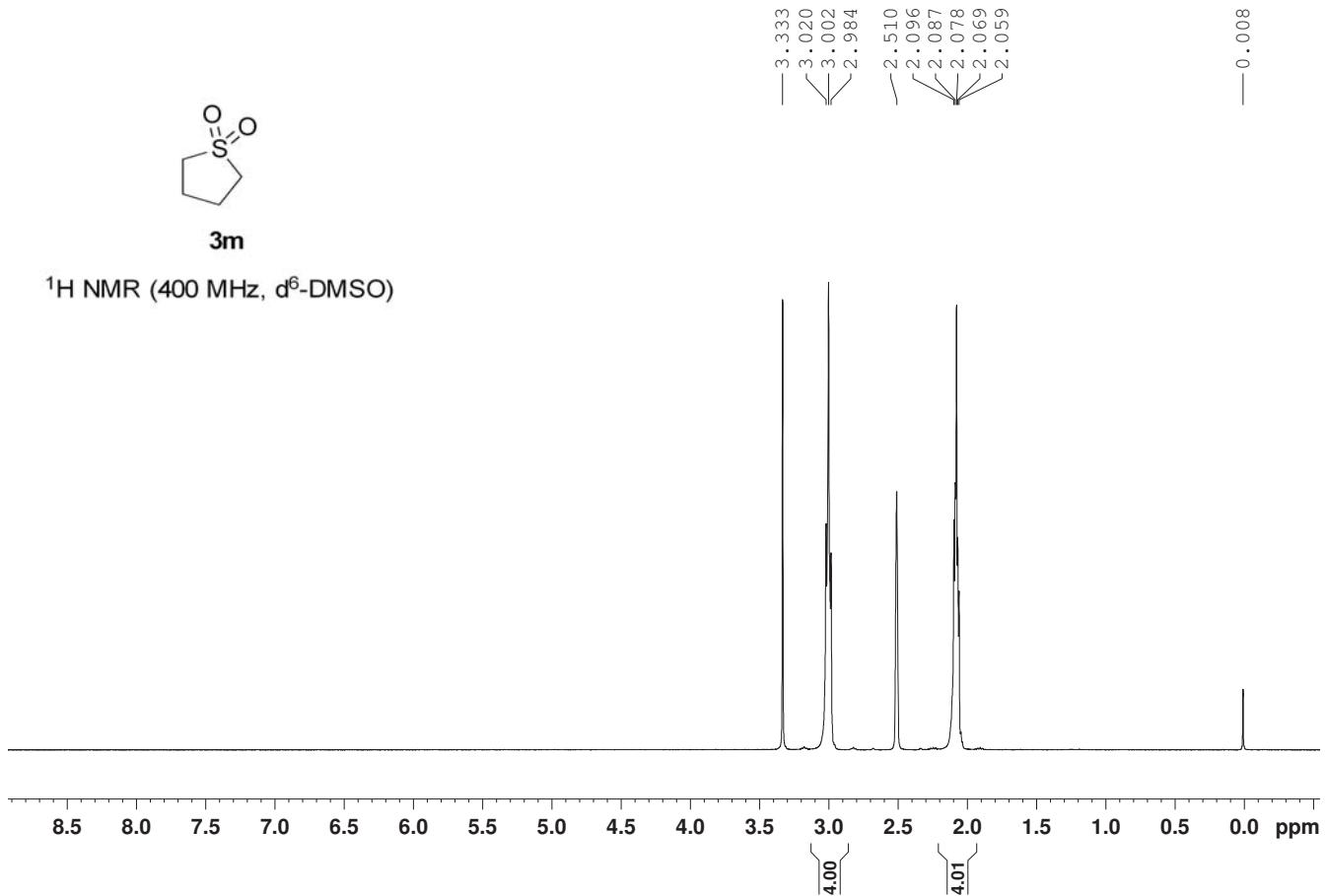






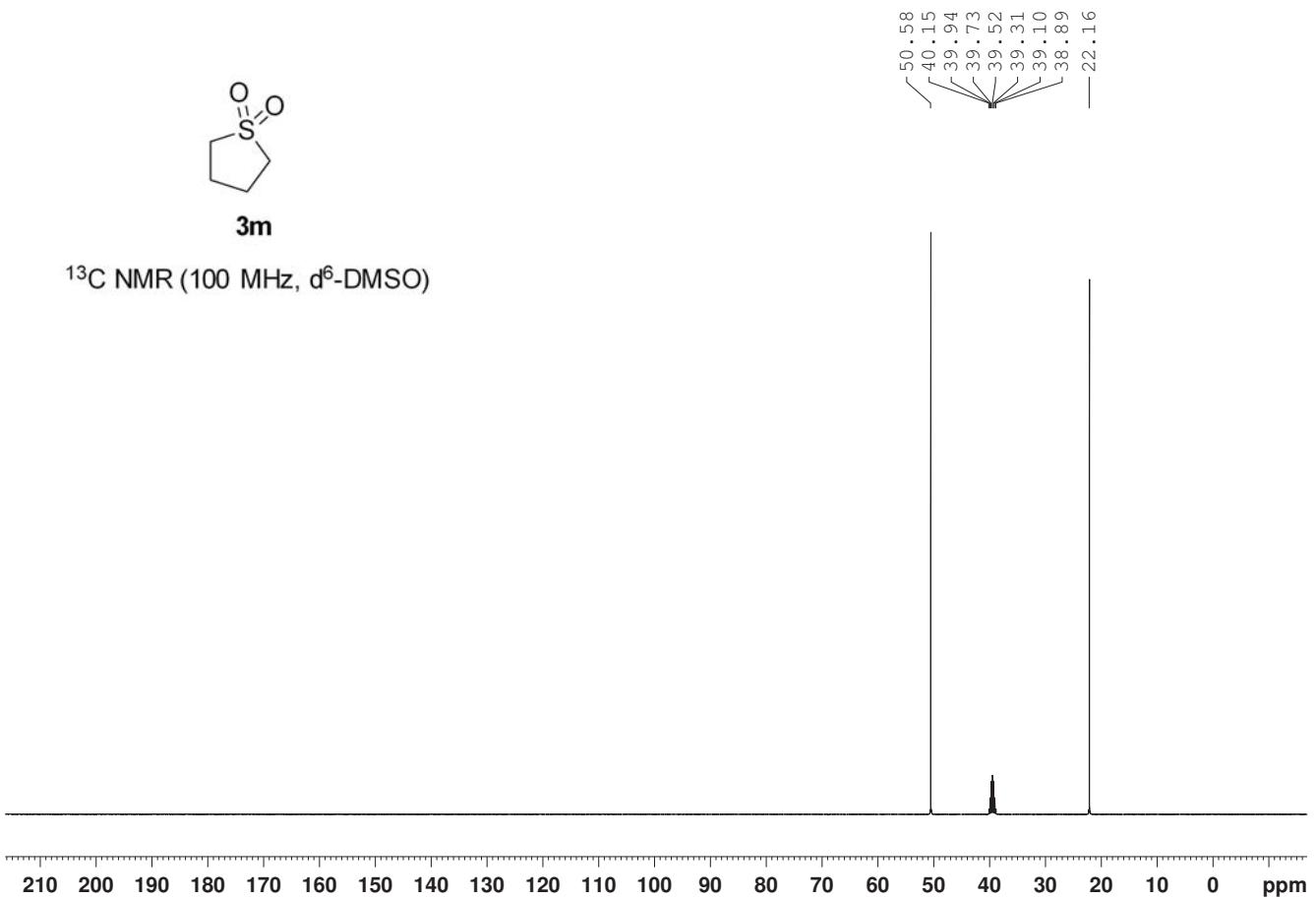
**3m**

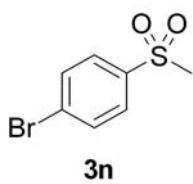
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO)



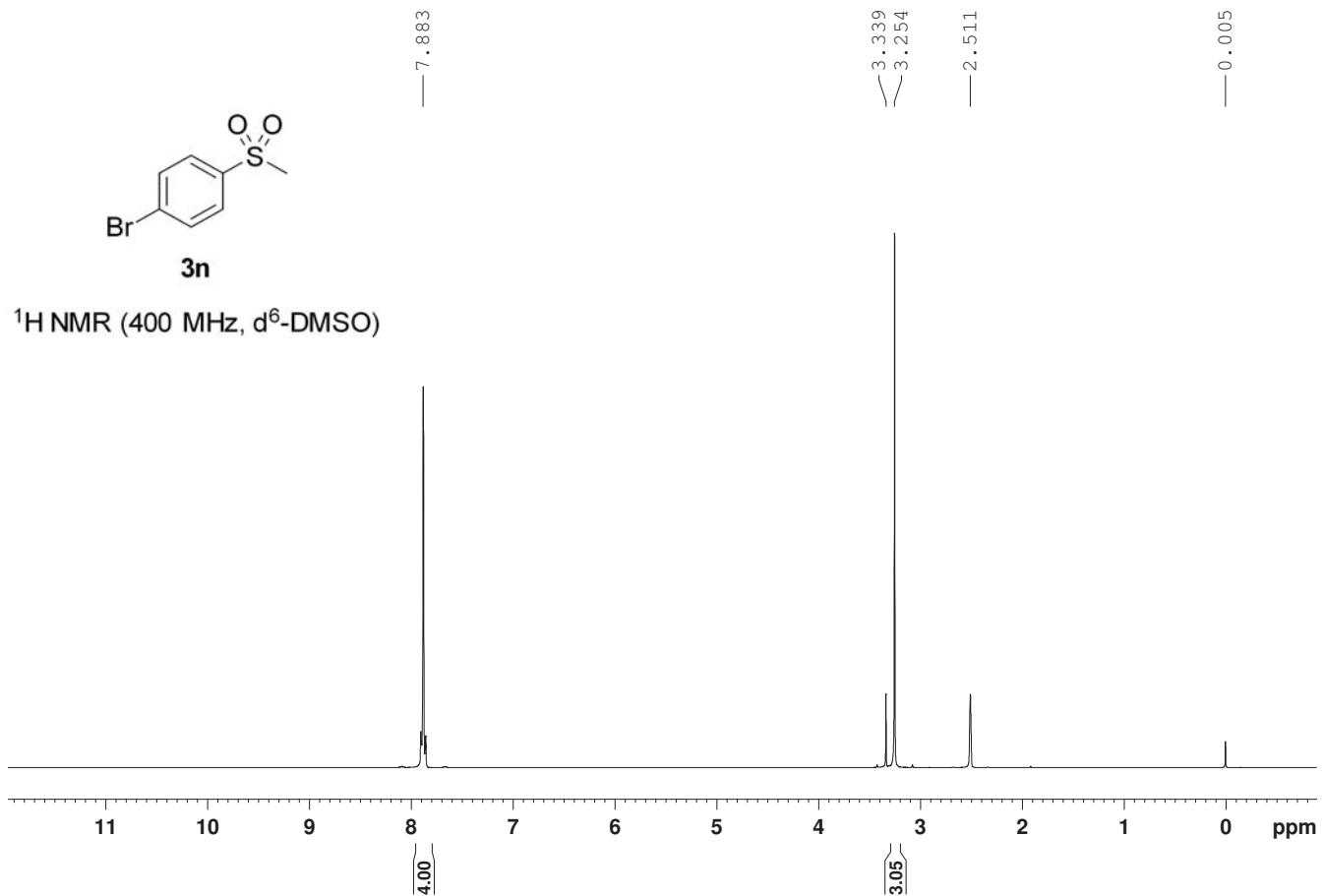
**3m**

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO)

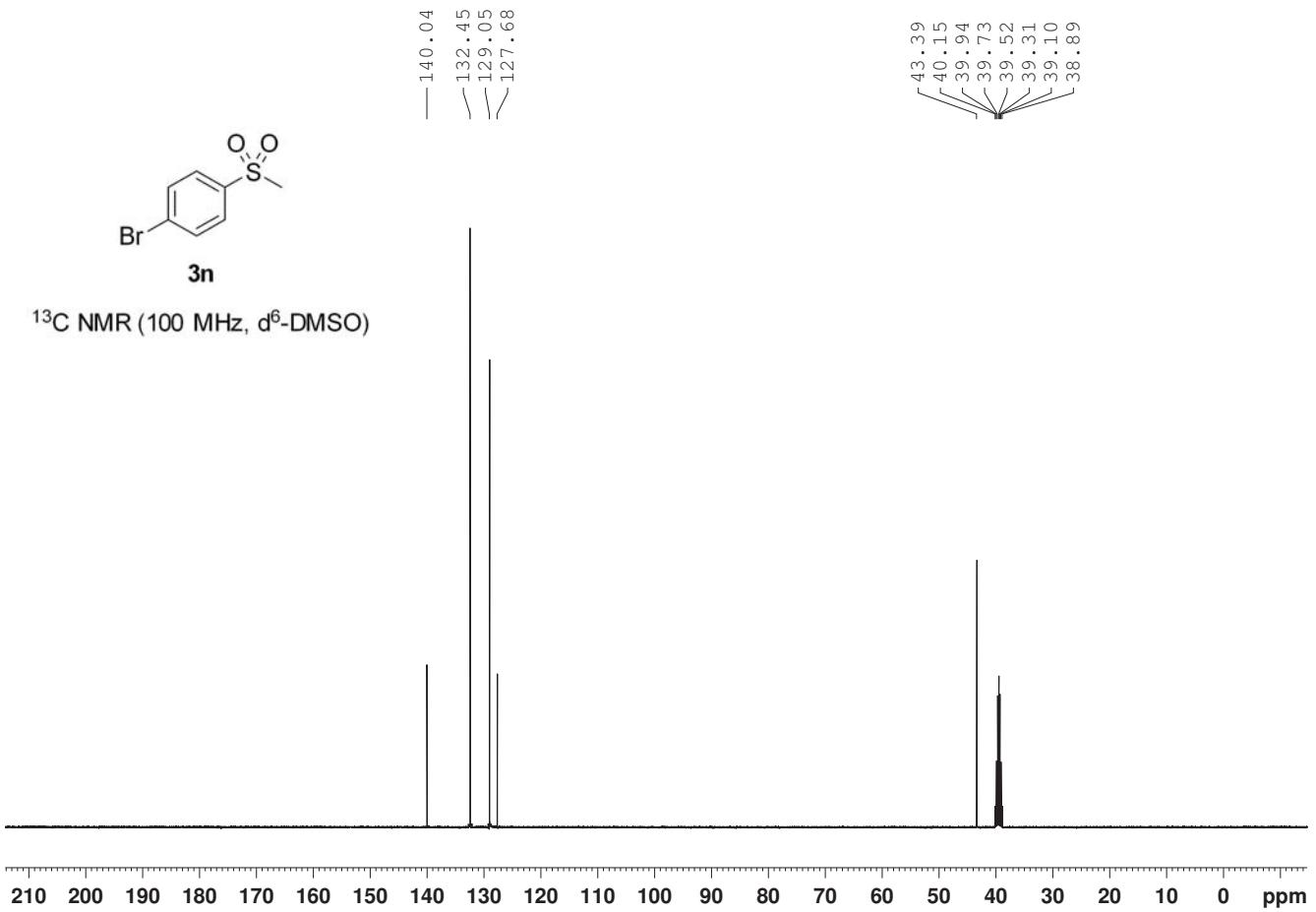


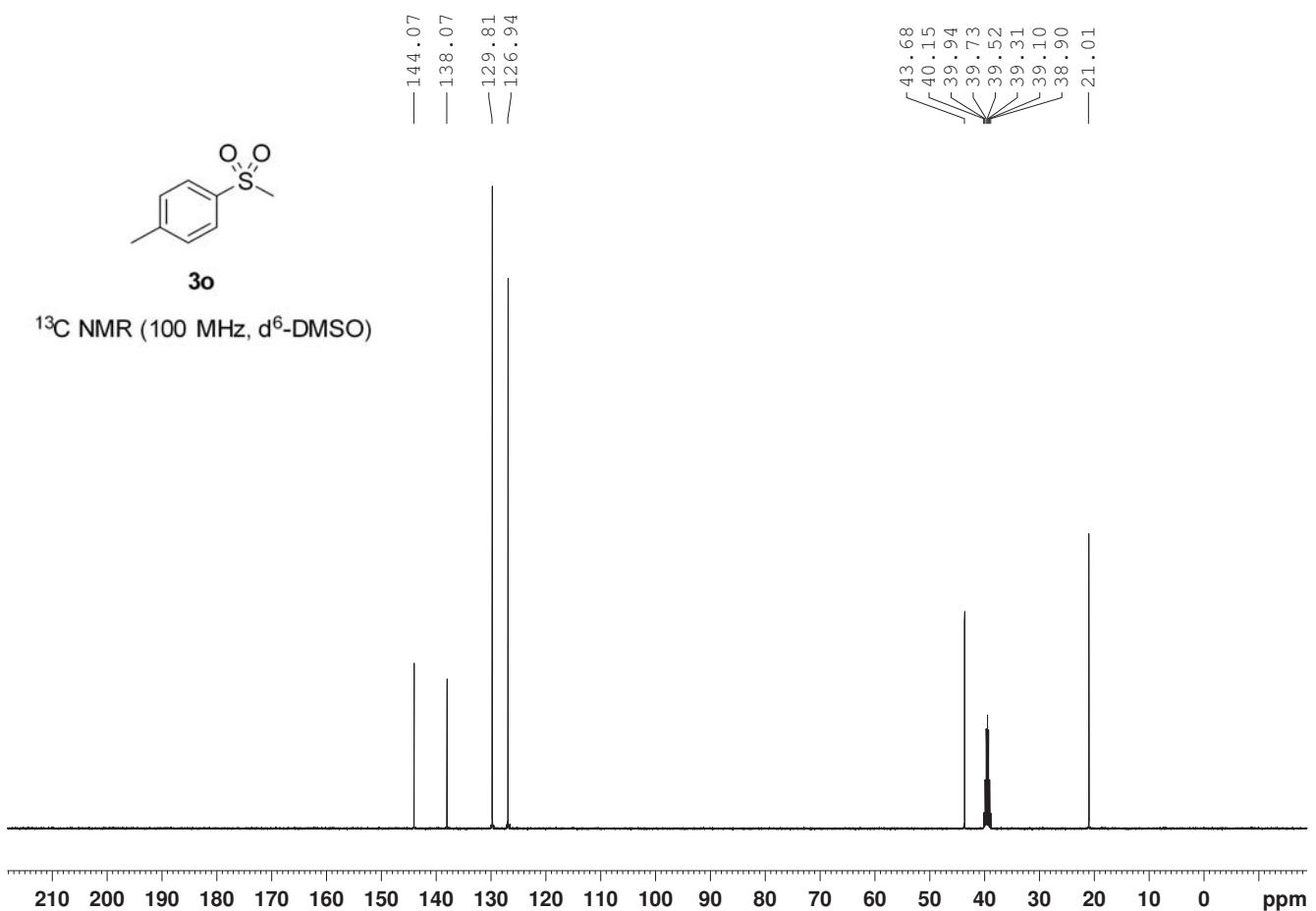
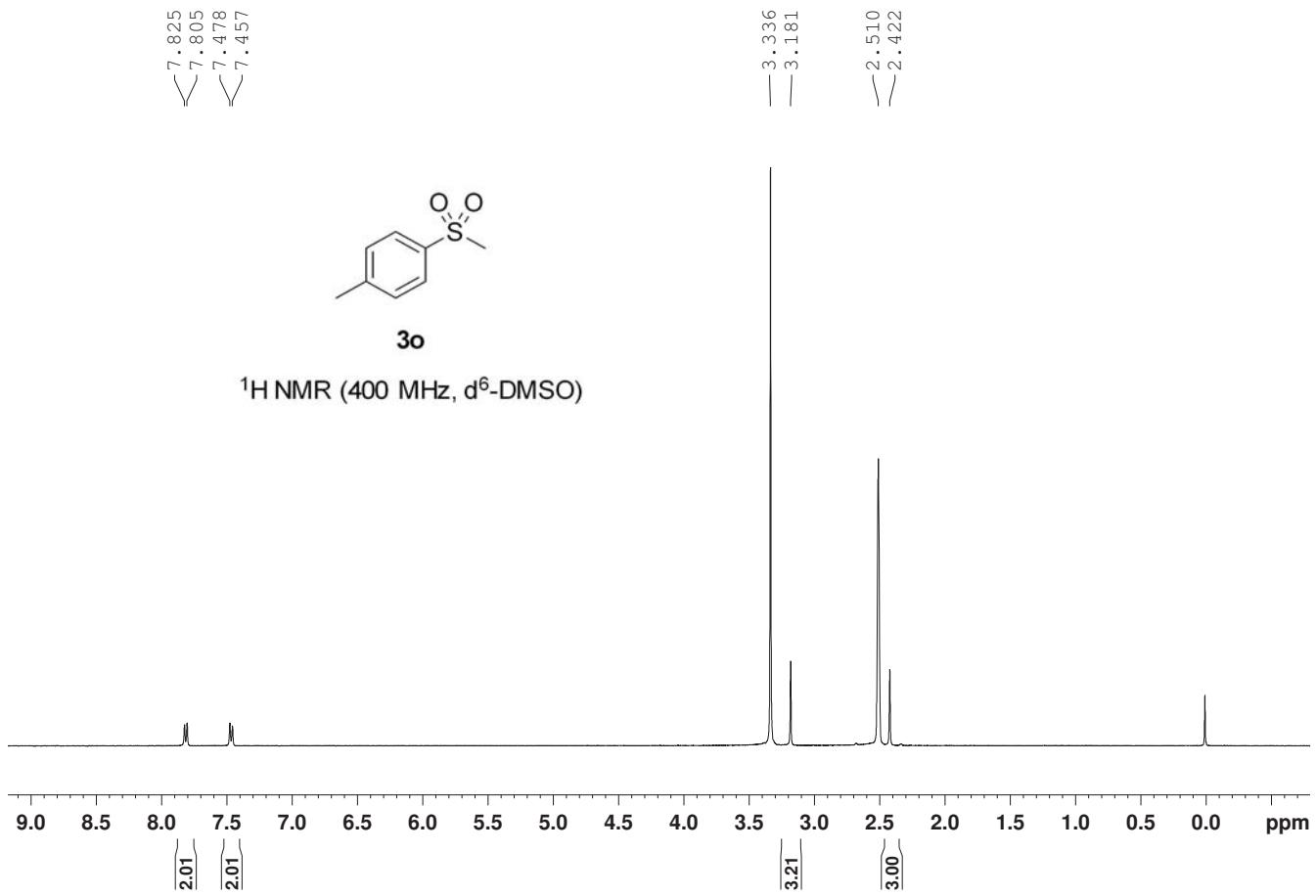


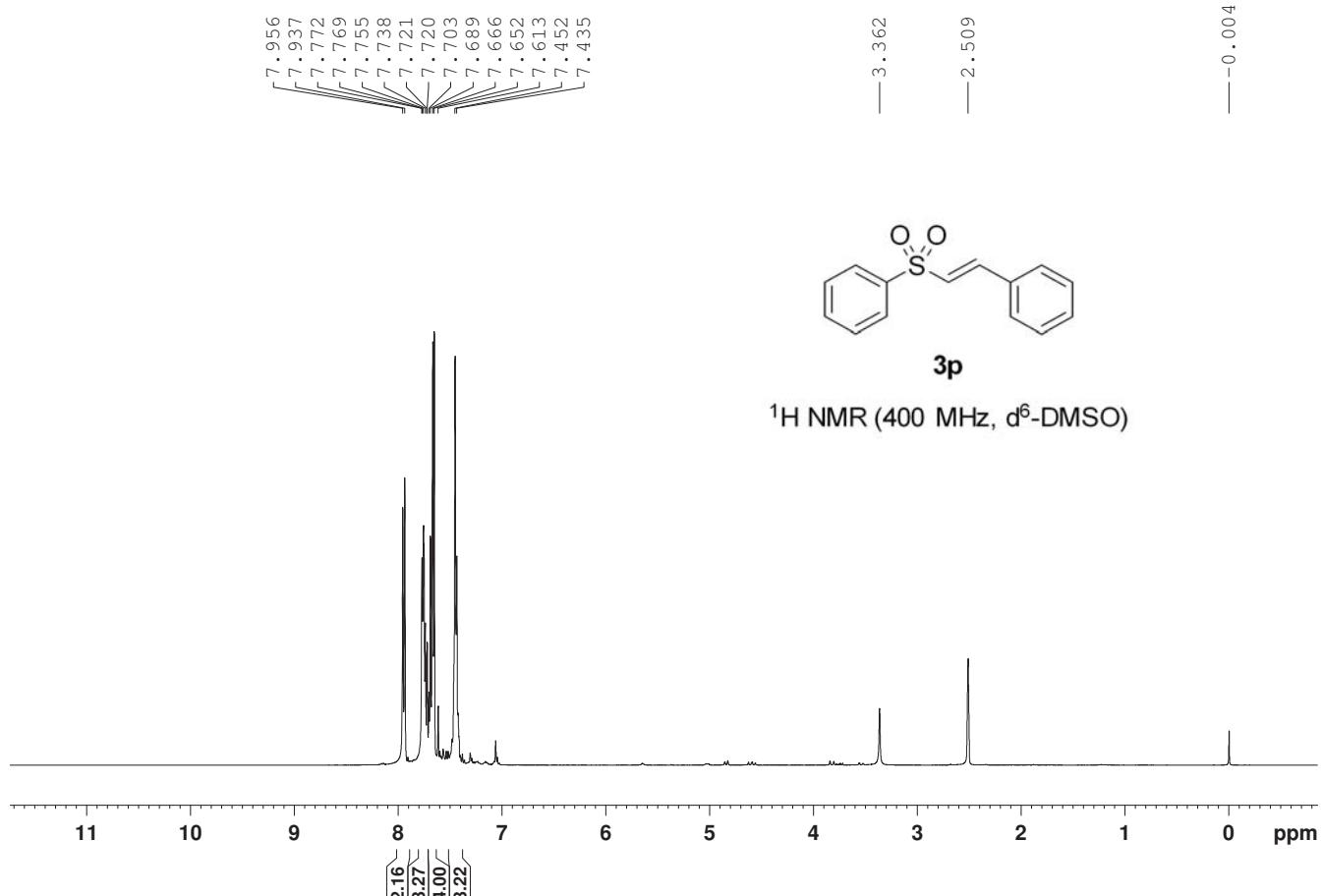
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO)

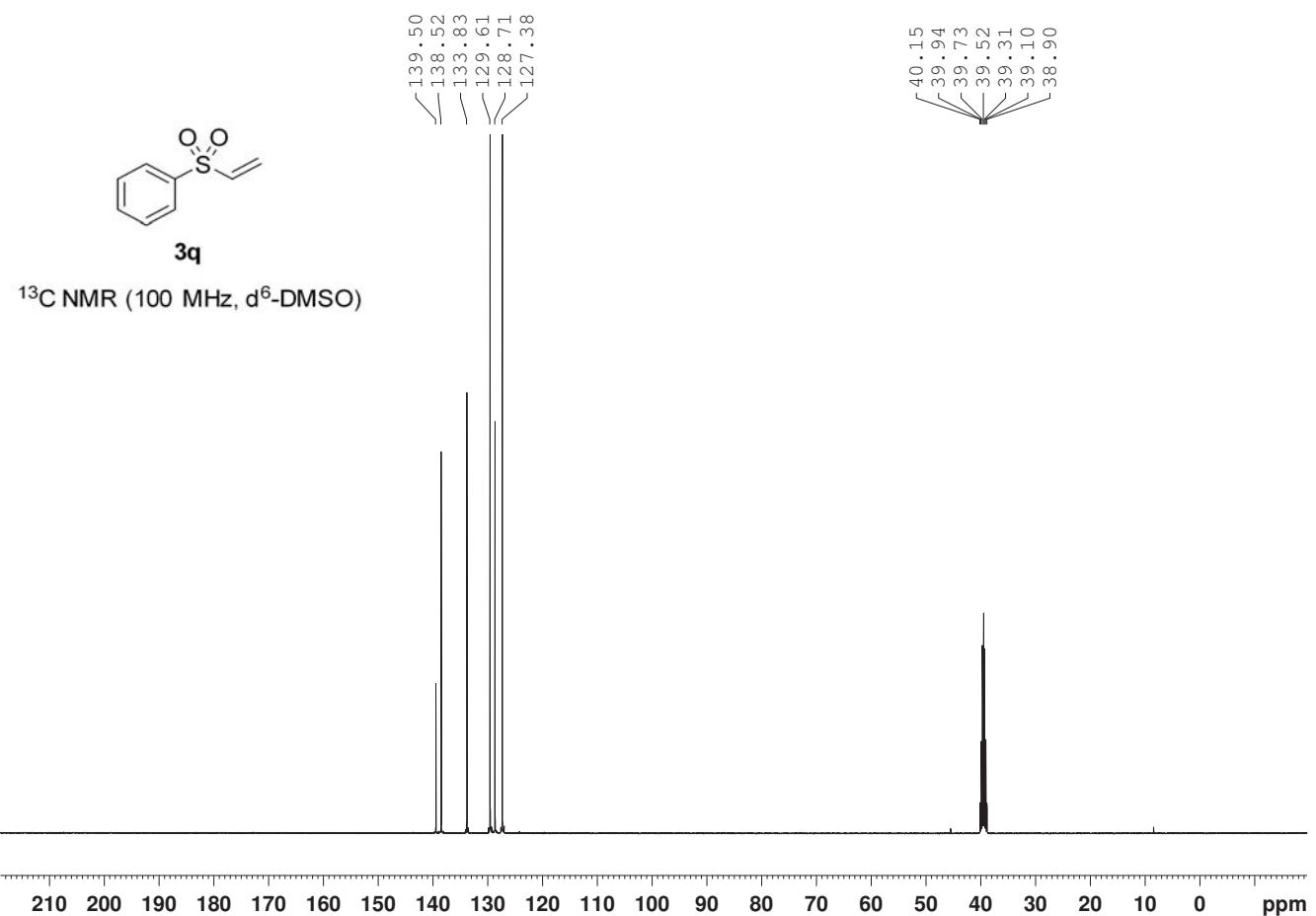
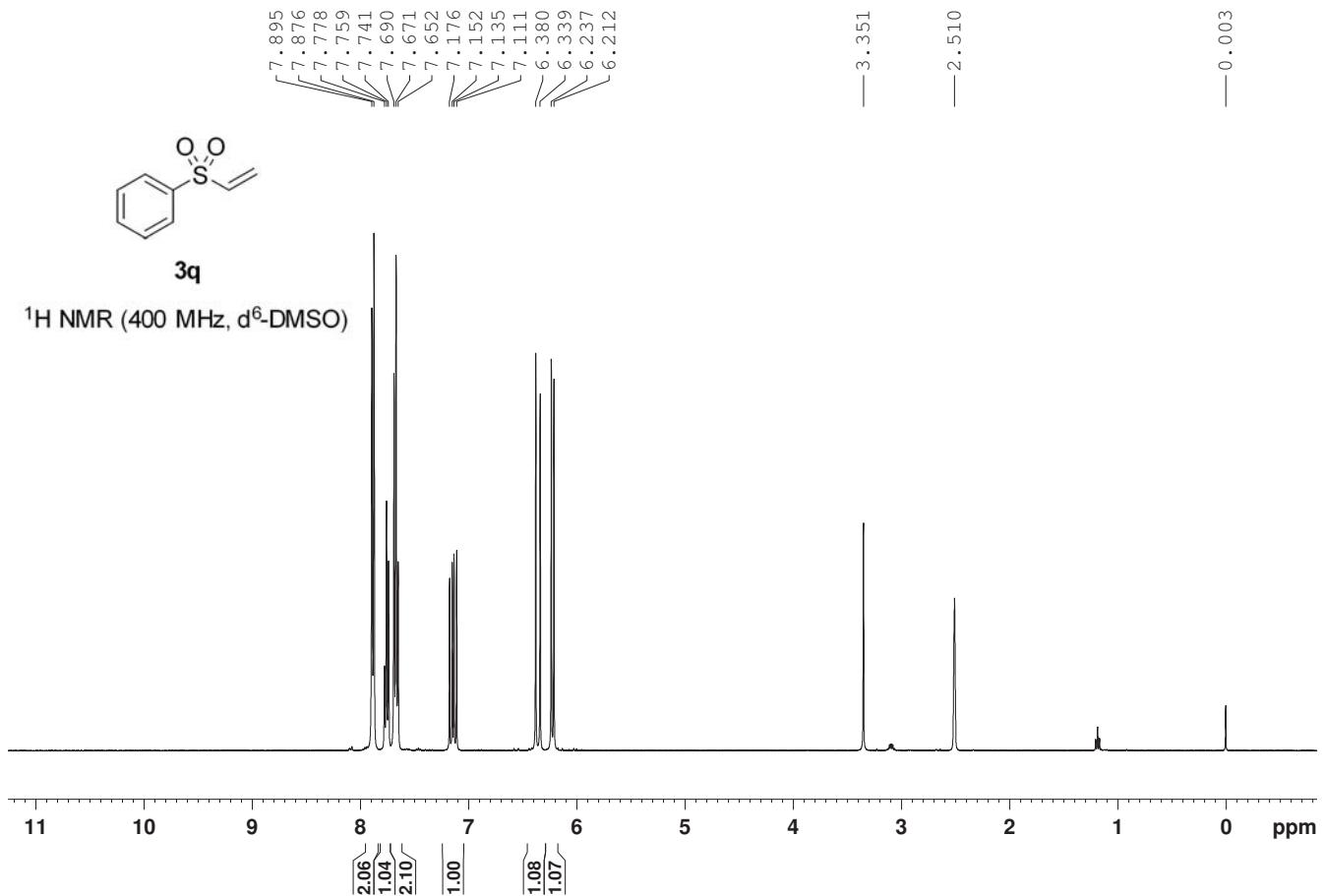


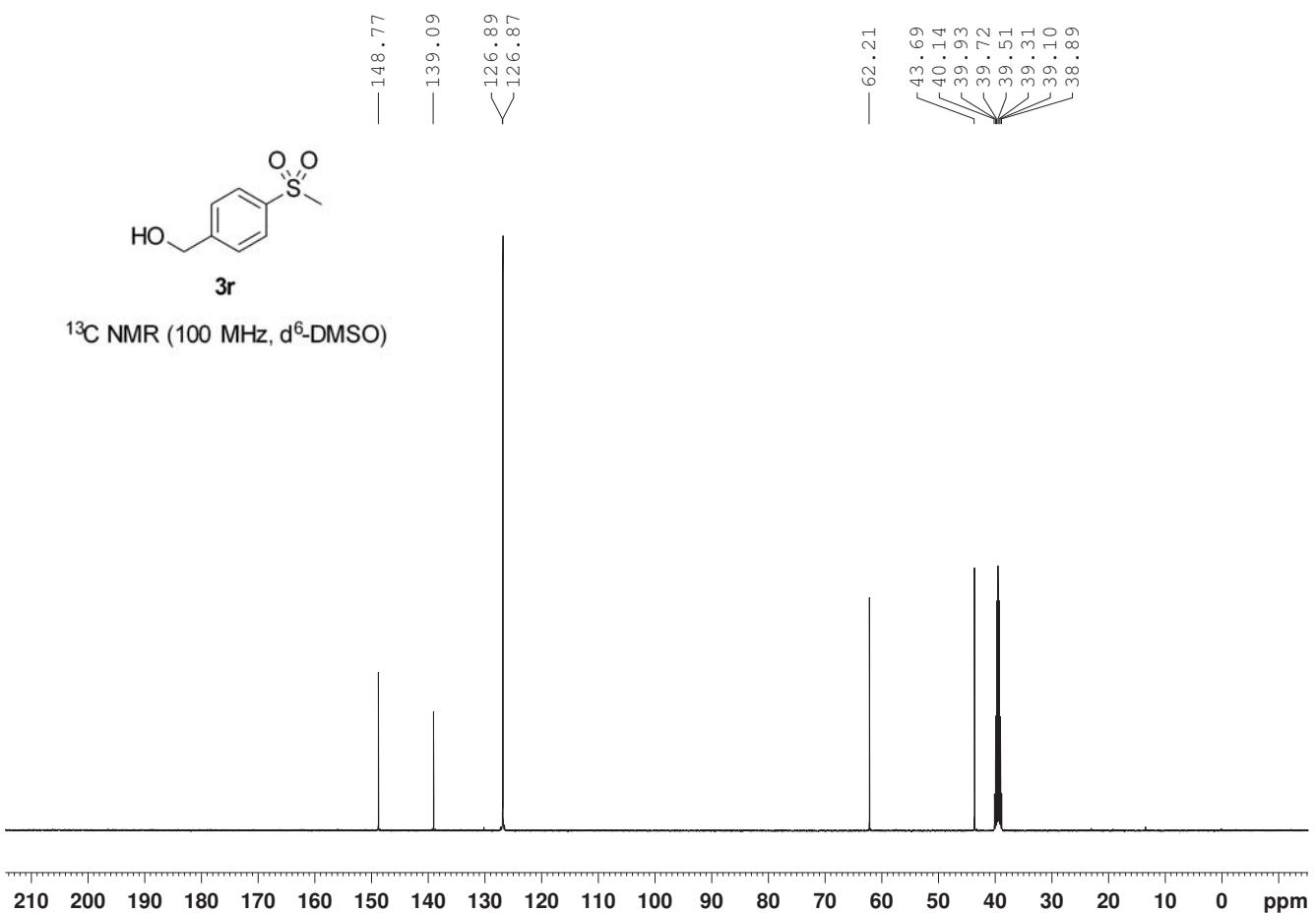
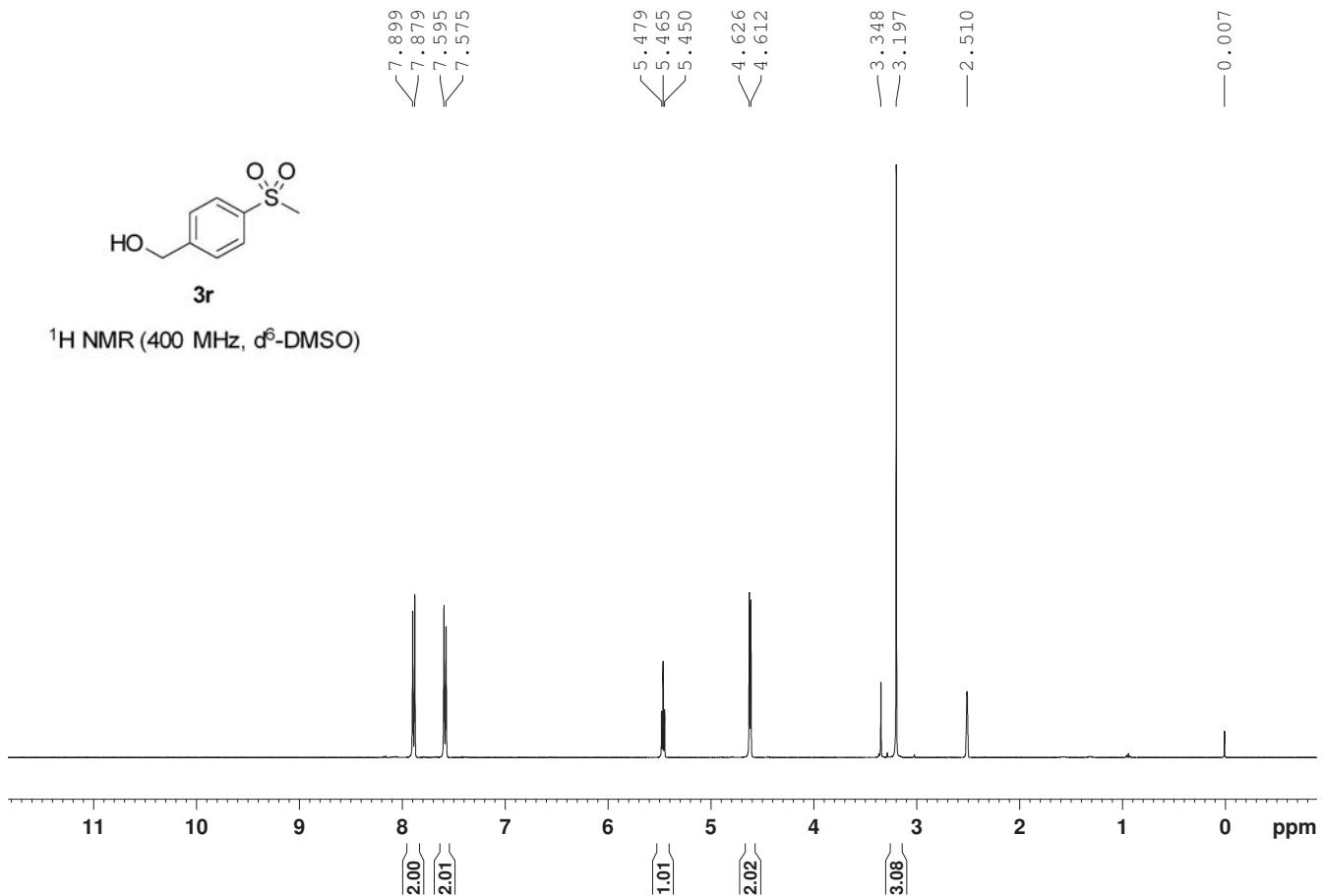
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO)

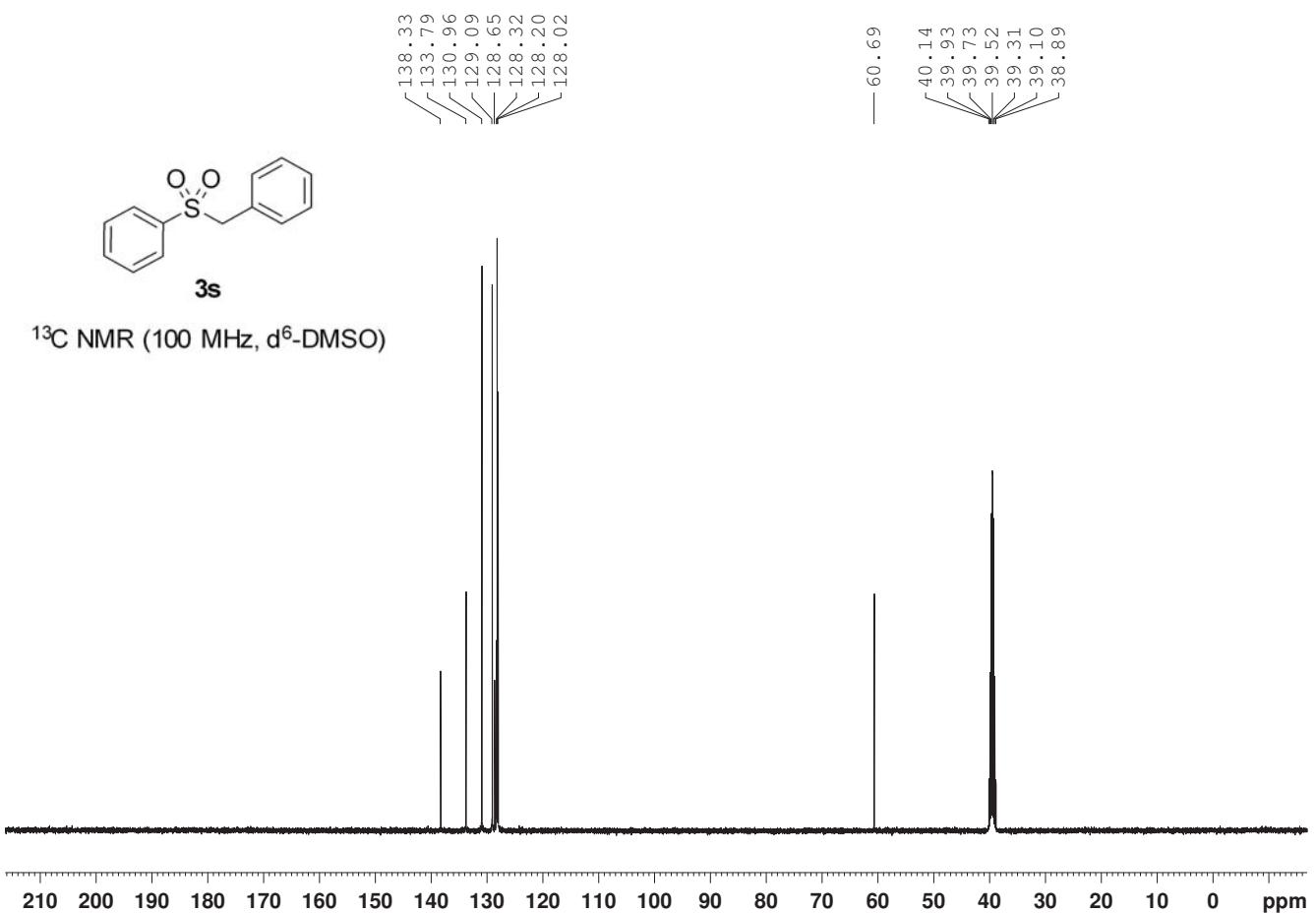
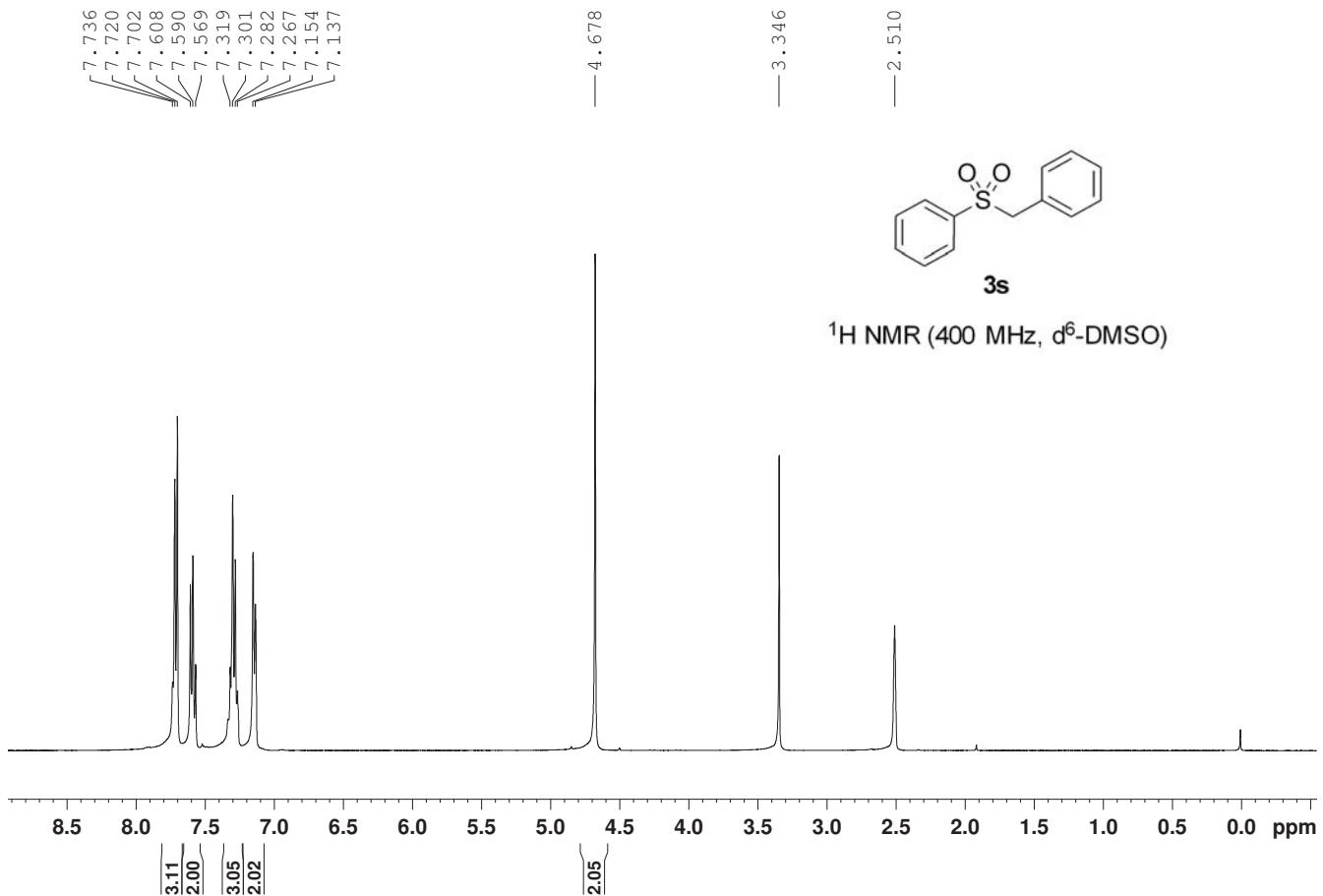


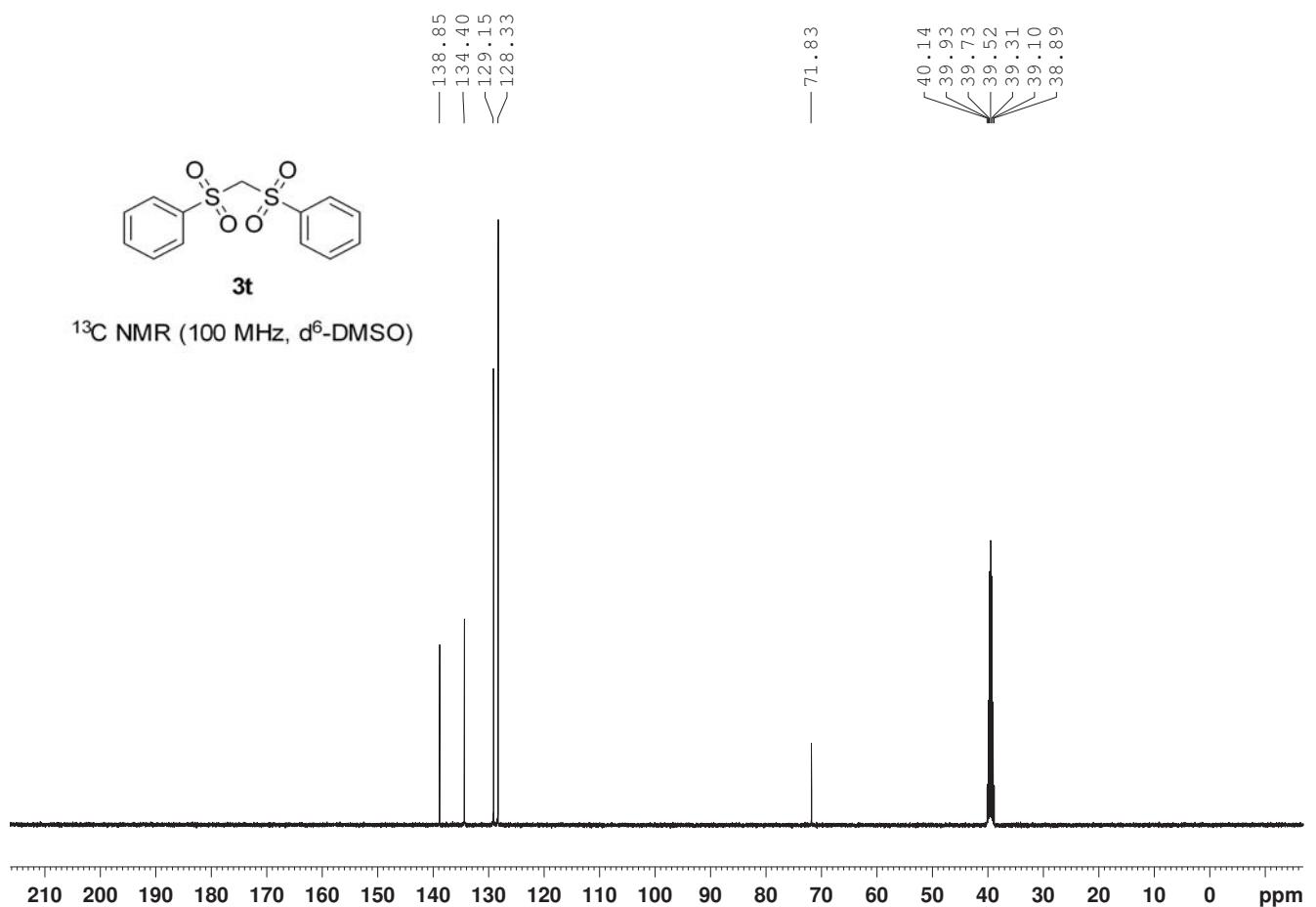
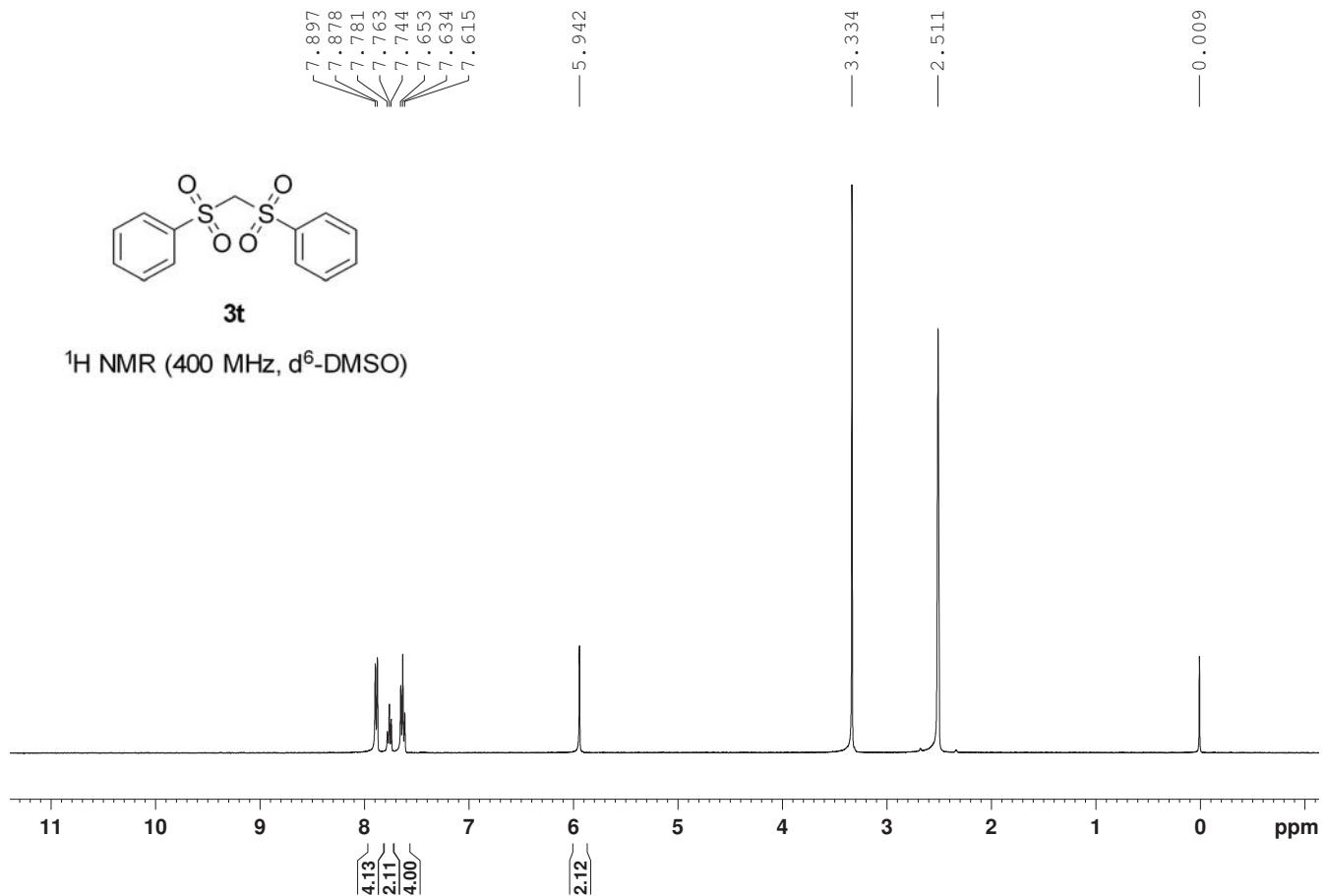


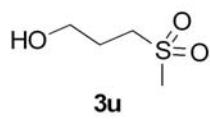




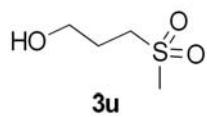
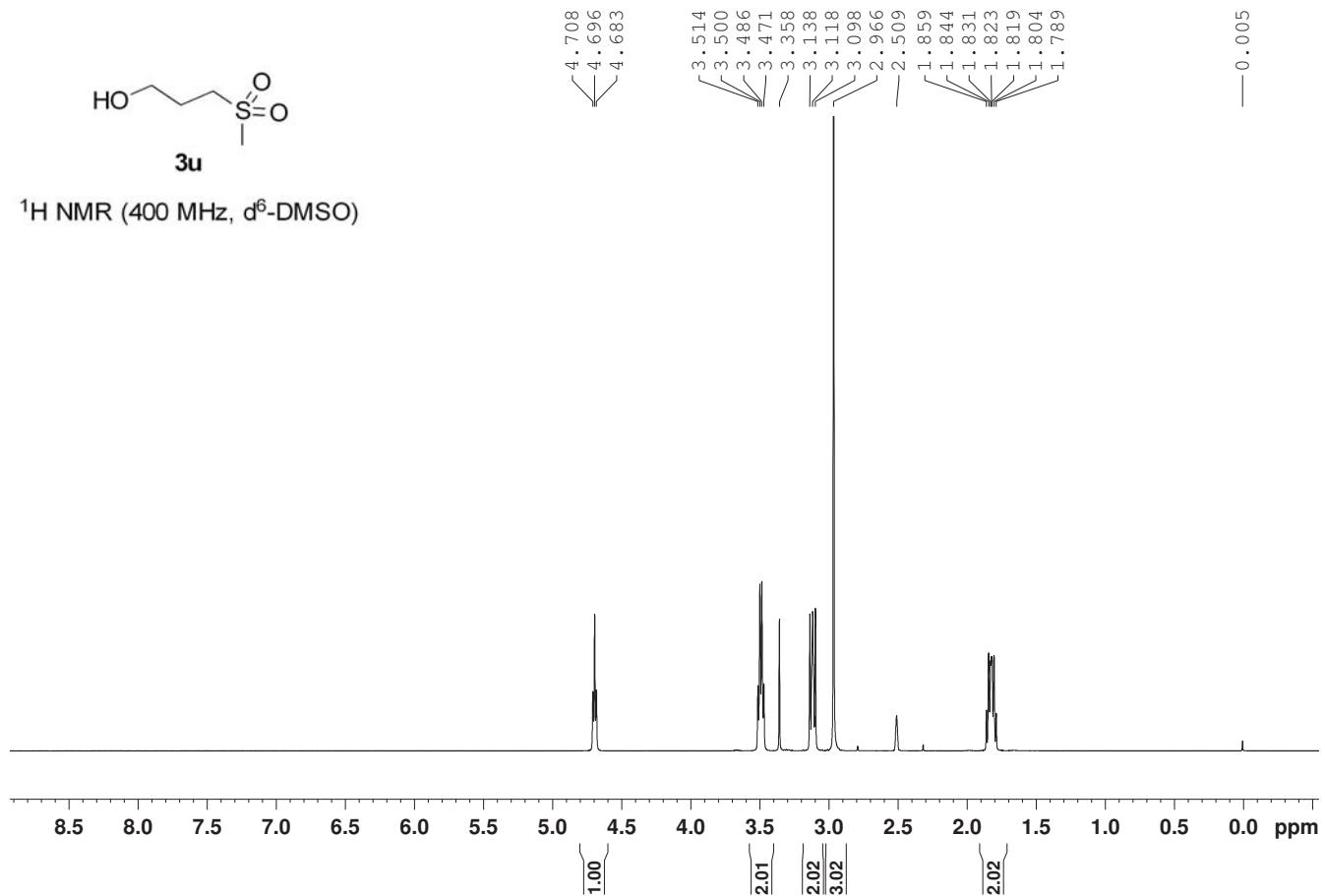








<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO)



<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO)

