

Supporting information

H₂O₂-Mediated Room Temperature Synthesis of 2-Arylacetophenones from Arylhydrazines and Vinyl Azides in Water

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General Information

Commercially available materials were used as received. Purifications of all the desired products were performed by chromatography (silica gel 200-300 mesh). NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 MHz spectrometer, data are reported as follows: chemical shift, integration, multiplicity (s=singlet, d=doublet, t=triplet, q=quartet, m=multiplet). Chemical shifts (δ) were reported in ppm and the coupling constants J are given in Hz. For ^1H NMR, DMSO- d_6 (δ = 2.50) or CDCl_3 (δ = 7.26) was used as internal standard. For ^{13}C NMR, DMSO- d_6 (δ = 39.5) or CDCl_3 (δ = 77.16) was used as internal standard. HRMS data was obtained using Agilent Technologies 6224 TOF LC/MS. Melting points were measured on a BÜCHI B-540 melting point apparatus and uncorrected. The starting material of vinyl azides **2** were prepared according to the reported methods.^[1-3]

General procedures for synthesis of compounds **3aa-3ap** and **3ba-3ra**

A mixture of arylhydrazines **1** (1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv), vinyl azides **2** (1.0 mmol), H_2O_2 (4.0 mmol) and PEG-800 (0.05 mmol) in water (10 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 4h. Upon completion of the reaction, the resulting mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl solution (5 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3×10 mL). The combined organic phase was dried with anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , concentrated and purified by chromatography (petroleum ether/ethylacetate = 30:1) on silica gel to afford the desired products 2-aryl acetophenones **3aa-3ap** and **3ba-3ra**.

Typical procedures for control experiments

(a) Typical procedure for radical trapping experiment

A mixture of p-tolylhydrazine (**1h**) (1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv), α -phenylvinyl azide (**2a**) (1.0 mmol), H_2O_2 (4.0 mmol), PEG-800 (0.05 mmol) and TEMPO (2.0 mmol) in water (10 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 4h. Upon completion of the reaction, the resulting mixture was diluted with saturated NaCl solution (5 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3×10 mL). The combined organic phase was dried with anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , concentrated and purified by chromatography on silica gel, the desired product (**3ha**) was obtained in 15% yield (petroleum ether/ethylacetate = 30:1).

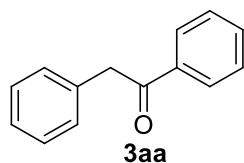
(b) Typical procedure for solely treated with p-tolylhydrazine under the standard condition

A mixture of p-tolylhydrazine (**1h**) (1.0 mmol), H_2O_2 (4.0 mmol), PEG-800 (0.05 mmol) in H_2O (10 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 4h. Upon completion of the reaction, the resulting mixture was detected by GC-MS.

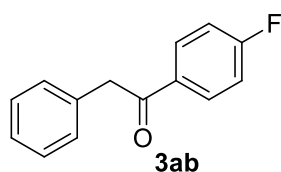
(c) Typical procedure for studying the role of H_2O_2

A mixture of p-tolylhydrazine (**2h**) (1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv), α -phenylvinyl azide (**2a**) (1.0 mmol), and PEG-800 (0.05 mmol) in water (10 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 4h. Then the resulting mixture was detected by LC-MS, no desired product (**3ha**) was detected.

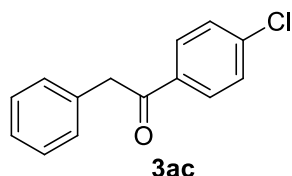
Characterization of Synthesized Compounds 3aa-3ap and 3ba-3ra



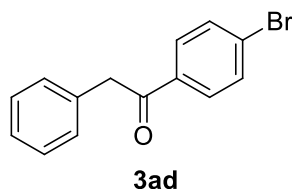
1,2-Diphenylethanone(3aa)^[4]: Yellow oil, yield 85%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.57 (tt, *J* = 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 4.30 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.78, 136.66, 134.63, 133.31, 129.59, 128.80, 128.77, 128.74, 127.02, 45.62. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₃O [M+H]⁺: 197.0961, found: 197.0965.



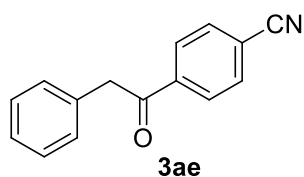
1-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2-phenylethanone(3ab)^[4]: Yellow solid, m.p. 93.3 – 93.8 °C, yield 81%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.13 (q, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (tt, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 4.39 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 196.28, 165.03 (d, *J* = 250 Hz), 134.99, 133.06 (d, *J* = 3 Hz), 131.38 (d, *J* = 10 Hz), 129.69, 128.30, 126.51, 115.75 (d, *J* = 19 Hz), 44.64. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₂FO [M+H]⁺: 215.0867, found: 215.0861.



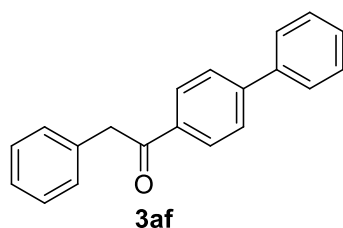
1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-phenylethanone(3ac)^[4]: White solid, m.p. 97.8 – 98.3 °C, yield 82%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 4.29 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.55, 139.78, 135.05, 134.34, 130.19, 129.51, 129.11, 128.91, 127.18, 45.70. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₂ClO [M+H]⁺: 231.0571, found: 231.0570.



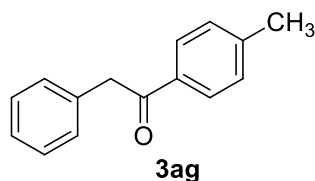
1-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-phenylethanone (3ad)^[4]: White solid, m.p. 101.1 – 101.6 °C, yield 85%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.28 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 4.25 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.78, 135.39, 134.28, 132.12, 130.30, 129.51, 128.92, 128.53, 127.20, 45.68. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₂BrO [M+H]⁺: 275.0066, found: 275.0068.



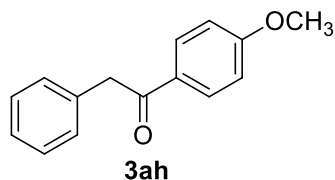
4-(2-Phenylacetyl)benzonitrile (3ae) ^[4]: White solid, m.p. 98.0 – 99.7 °C, yield 81%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.37 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 4.29 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.18, 139.51, 133.45, 132.38, 129.39, 129.03, 128.92, 127.34, 117.79, 116.53, 45.77. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₁NO [M+H]⁺: 221.0841, found: 221.0848..



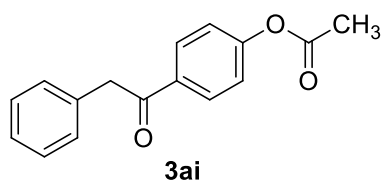
1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-phenylethanone (3af) ^[6]: Light yellow solid, m.p. 89.6 – 90.1 °C, yield 89%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.52 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 4.42 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 197.22, 144.60, 138.83, 135.14, 129.66, 129.15, 129.08, 128.40, 128.33, 126.98, 126.91, 126.49, 44.73. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₂₀H₁₇O [M+H]⁺: 273.1274, found: 273.1271.



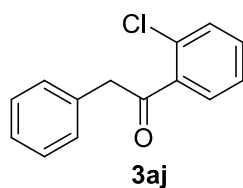
2-Phenyl-1-(p-tolyl)ethanone (3ag) ^[4]: Yellow solid, m.p. 95.6 – 96.1 °C, yield 89%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.28 (m, 5H), 4.30 (s, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.44, 144.12, 134.90, 134.23, 129.57, 129.46, 128.90, 128.77, 126.94, 45.55, 21.78. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₅O [M+H]⁺: 211.1117, found: 211.1120.



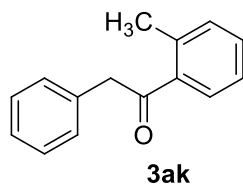
1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylethanone (3ah) ^[4]: White solid, m.p. 101.2 – 102.1 °C, yield 88%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 4H), 7.22 (tt, *J* = 7.0, 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.31 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.37, 163.65, 135.11, 131.09, 129.77, 129.52, 128.78, 126.91, 113.92, 55.61, 45.41. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₅O₂ [M+H]⁺: 227.1067, found: 227.1070.



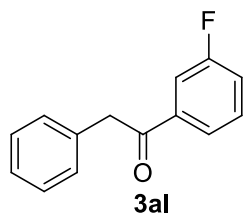
4-(2-Phenylacetyl)phenyl acetate (3ai): Yellow solid, m.p. 81.2 – 81.6 °C, yield 86%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.05 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.27 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.27 (s, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.45, 168.96, 154.47, 134.44, 134.25, 130.39, 129.53, 128.85, 127.09, 121.96, 45.63, 21.28. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 255.1016, found: 255.1017.



1-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2-phenylethanone (3aj) ^[4]: Yellow oil, yield 75%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.73 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.44 (td, J = 7.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 4.29 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 200.20, 138.64, 133.98, 132.12, 130.33, 129.82, 129.59, 129.05, 128.34, 127.30, 126.76, 48.63. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 231.0571, found: 231.0568.

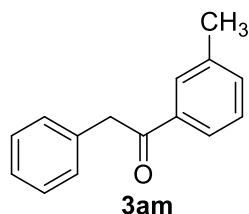


2-Phenyl-1-(o-tolyl)ethanone (3ak) ^[4]: Yellow oil, yield 78%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.90 (dd, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (td, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.26 (m, 4H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 3H), 4.29 (s, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 201.61, 137.67, 137.09, 134.96, 131.54, 131.21, 129.69, 128.72, 128.28, 126.47, 125.81, 47.74, 20.58. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 211.1117, found: 211.1120.

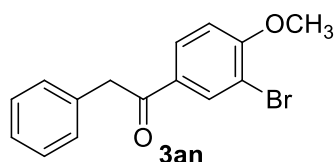


1-(3-Fluorophenyl)-2-phenylethanone (3al) ^[14]: Yellow solid, m.p. 81.3 – 81.8 °C, yield 83%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 8.07 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.65 (tt, J = 7.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.6

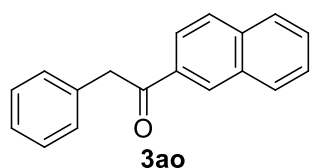
Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.14 – 7.04 (m, 3H), 4.46 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 197.14, 162.06 (d, J = 242 Hz), 137.94 (d, J = 8 Hz), 136.26, 133.36, 130.00 (d, J = 8 Hz), 128.76, 128.31, 126.00 (d, J = 3 Hz), 116.65 (d, J = 22 Hz), 113.28 (d, J = 21 Hz), 44.21. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{FO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 215.0867, found: 215.0865.



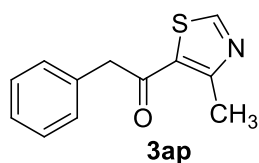
2-Phenyl-1-(*m*-tolyl)ethanone (3am)^[15]: White solid, m.p. 98.1 – 98.6 °C, yield 86%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.82 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.28 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 4.28 (s, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.01, 138.60, 136.81, 134.79, 134.08, 129.61, 129.23, 128.79, 128.63, 126.99, 126.02, 45.65, 21.52. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 211.1117, found: 211.1119.



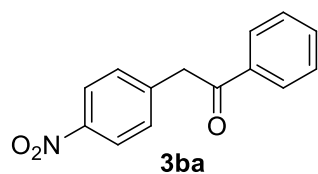
1-(3-Bromo-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylethanone (3an)^[15]: White solid, m.p. 115.2 – 115.5 °C, yield 88%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.23 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.27 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (s, 2H), 3.95 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 195.27, 159.72, 134.55, 134.21, 130.67, 130.01, 129.49, 128.85, 127.07, 112.11, 111.24, 56.60, 45.36. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{BrO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 305.0172, found: 305.0175.



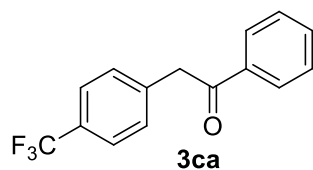
1-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-2-phenylethanone (3ao)^[6]: Light yellow solid, m.p. 78.3 – 78.7 °C, yield 89%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.30 (s, 1H), 8.15 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.03 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 8.00 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 4.53 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 197.69, 135.28, 135.07, 133.64, 132.23, 130.50, 129.82, 129.66, 128.76, 128.36, 127.69, 127.01, 126.52, 123.90, 44.69. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 247.1117, found: 247.1112.



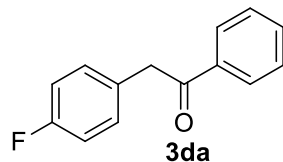
1-(4-Methylthiazol-5-yl)-2-phenylethanone (3ap): Yellow solid, m.p. 65.2 – 65.7 °C, yield 85%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.19 (s, 1H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.27 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 4.26 (s, 2H), 2.68 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 190.97, 158.44, 156.94, 134.26, 130.41, 129.79, 128.30, 126.76, 48.84, 18.03. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{NOS}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 218.0634, found: 218.0630.



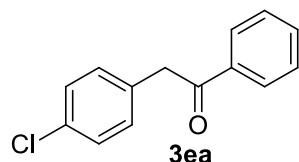
2-(4-Nitrophenyl)-1-phenylethanone (3ba)^[7]: Light yellow solid, m.p. 137.8 – 138.4 °C, yield 88%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.19 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.03 – 8.00 (m, 2H), 7.61 (tt, J = 7.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.42 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.12, 147.16, 142.17, 136.26, 133.86, 130.77, 129.00, 128.55, 123.85, 45.05. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 242.0812, found: 242.0808.



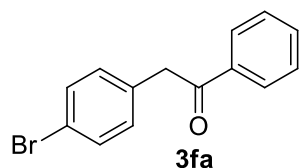
1-Phenyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethanone (3ca)^[8]: White solid, m.p. 97.1 – 97.8 °C, yield 86%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.03 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.58 (m, 3H), 7.49 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.36 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 197.06, 140.17, 136.25, 133.44, 130.77, 128.79, 128.31, 127.22 (d, J = 32 Hz), 124.40 (d, J = 270 Hz), 124.97 (q, J = 4.0 Hz), 44.34. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_3\text{O}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 265.0835, found: 265.0838.



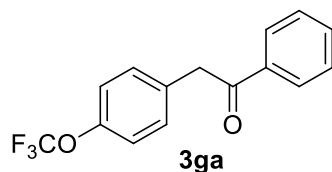
2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1-phenylethanone (3da)^[5]: Light yellow solid, m.p. 100.1 – 100.4 °C, yield 88%, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.01 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (tt, J = 7.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.02 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.27 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.54, 162.05 (d, J = 244 Hz), 136.60, 133.45, 131.18 (d, J = 8 Hz), 130.27 (d, J = 3 Hz), 128.86, 128.66, 115.67 (d, J = 22 Hz), 44.66. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{FO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 215.0867, found: 215.0870.



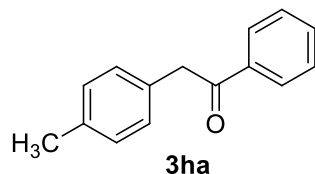
2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-phenylethanone (3ea) ^[5]: Light yellow solid, m.p. 111.2 – 112.0 °C, yield 90%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.05 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (tt, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.43 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 197.30, 136.22, 134.17, 133.31, 131.66, 131.18, 128.73, 128.27, 128.12, 43.84. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₂ClO [M+H]⁺: 231.0571, found: 231.0574.



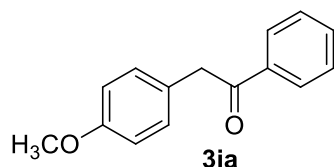
2-(4-Bromophenyl)-1-phenylethanone (3fa) ^[9]: Light yellow solid, m.p. 139.5 – 140.2 °C, yield 87%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (tt, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 4H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.4, 2H), 4.25 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.14, 136.49, 133.56, 133.52, 131.87, 131.40, 128.87, 128.65, 121.10, 44.88. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₂BrO [M+H]⁺: 275.0066, found: 275.0065.



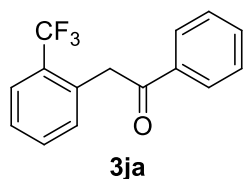
1-Phenyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)ethanone (3ga) ^[5]: White solid, m.p. 121.2 – 121.8 °C, yield 85%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.59 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.30 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.17, 148.33, 136.51, 133.57, 133.28, 131.08, 128.89, 128.63, 121.26, 120.60 (d, *J* = 255 Hz), 44.62. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₂F₃O₂ [M+H]⁺: 281.0784, found: 281.0789.



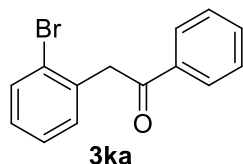
1-Phenyl-2-(p-tolyl)ethanone (3ha) ^[5]: Yellow solid, m.p. 81.2 – 81.6 °C, yield 83%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.03 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (tt, *J* = 7.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (q, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 4.32 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 197.81, 136.30, 135.50, 133.20, 131.97, 129.49, 128.92, 128.72, 128.40, 44.34, 20.63. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₅O [M+H]⁺: 211.1117, found: 211.1117.



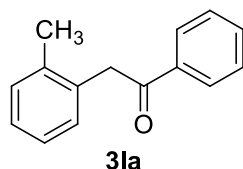
2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-phenylethanone (3ia)^[4]: White solid, m.p. 86.7 – 87.1 °C, yield 80%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (tt, *J* = 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.87 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.23 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.07, 158.72, 136.81, 136.77, 133.22, 130.60, 128.75, 126.67, 114.31, 55.40, 44.79. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₅O₂ [M+H]⁺: 227.1067, found: 227.1066.



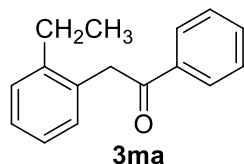
1-Phenyl-2-(2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethanone (3ja)^[7]: Yellow solid, m.p. 63.4 – 64.1 °C, yield 78%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.05 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (tt, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.48 (m, 3H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.49, 136.55, 133.49, 133.29, 132.98, 131.94, 129.12 (d, *J* = 30 Hz), 128.86, 128.38, 127.32, 126.25 (q, *J* = 5 Hz), 124.53 (d, *J* = 272 Hz), 120.45, 42.57. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₂F₃O [M+H]⁺: 265.0835, found: 265.0832.



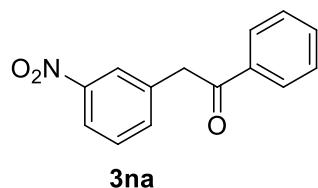
2-(2-Bromophenyl)-1-phenylethanone (3ka)^[13]: Yellow oil, yield 76%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.07 – 8.04 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.32 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.16 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.47 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.48, 136.76, 135.12, 133.44, 132.92, 131.83, 128.87, 128.83, 128.47, 127.66, 125.23, 45.91. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₂BrO [M+H]⁺: 275.0066, found: 275.0068.



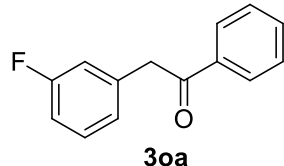
1-Phenyl-2-(o-tolyl)ethanone (3la)^[10]: Light yellow solid, m.p. 61.2 – 61.7 °C, yield 76%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.08 – 8.06 (m, 2H), 7.66 (tt, *J* = 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.18 – 7.12 (m, 4H), 4.44 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 197.58, 136.87, 136.64, 134.19, 133.26, 130.58, 129.83, 128.75, 128.16, 126.73, 125.70, 43.06, 19.27. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₅O [M+H]⁺: 211.1117, found: 211.1114.



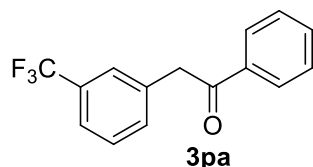
2-(2-Ethylphenyl)-1-phenylethanone (3ma)^[12]: Yellow oil, yield 74%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.08 – 8.06 (m, 2H), 7.63 (tt, *J* = 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.30 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 4.38 (s, 2H), 2.65 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.94, 142.66, 137.01, 133.28, 132.79, 130.69, 128.79, 128.58, 128.46, 127.53, 126.13, 42.97, 26.08, 14.85. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₆H₁₇O [M+H]⁺: 225.1274, found: 225.1275.



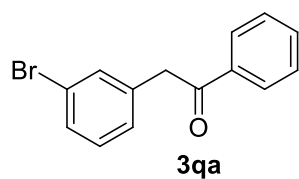
2-(3-Nitrophenyl)-1-phenylethanone (3na)^[11]: Yellow solid, m.p. 58.7 – 59.3 °C, yield 85%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.14 – 8.12 (m, 2H), 8.03 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.63 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.50 (dt, *J* = 8.0, 3.6 Hz, 3H), 4.42 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.23, 148.41, 136.47, 136.22, 136.18, 133.81, 129.49, 128.97, 128.48, 124.84, 122.18, 44.64. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₂NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 242.0812, found: 242.0815.



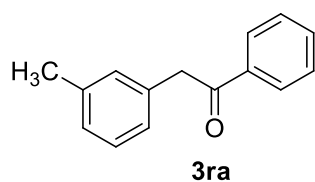
2-(3-Fluorophenyl)-1-phenylethanone (3oa)^[5]: Light yellow oil, yield 87%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.07 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.65 (tt, *J* = 7.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.15 – 7.04 (m, 3H), 4.46 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 197.14, 162.06 (d, *J* = 242.0 Hz), 137.94 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 136.26, 133.36, 130.00 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 128.76, 128.31, 126.00 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 116.65 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz), 113.28 (d, *J* = 21.0 Hz), 44.21. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₂FO [M+H]⁺: 215.0867, found: 215.0864.



1-Phenyl-2-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethanone (3pa)^[5]: Yellow solid, m.p. 78.6 – 79.3 °C, yield 84%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.60 (tt, *J* = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.45 (m, 6H), 4.36 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.79, 136.48, 135.48, 133.65, 133.24, 131.03 (d, *J* = 33 Hz), 129.13, 128.76 (d, *J* = 35 Hz), 126.55 (d, *J* = 4 Hz), 123.98 (d, *J* = 4 Hz), 124.21 (d, *J* = 270 Hz), 120.15, 45.02. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₂F₃O [M+H]⁺: 265.0835, found: 265.0834.

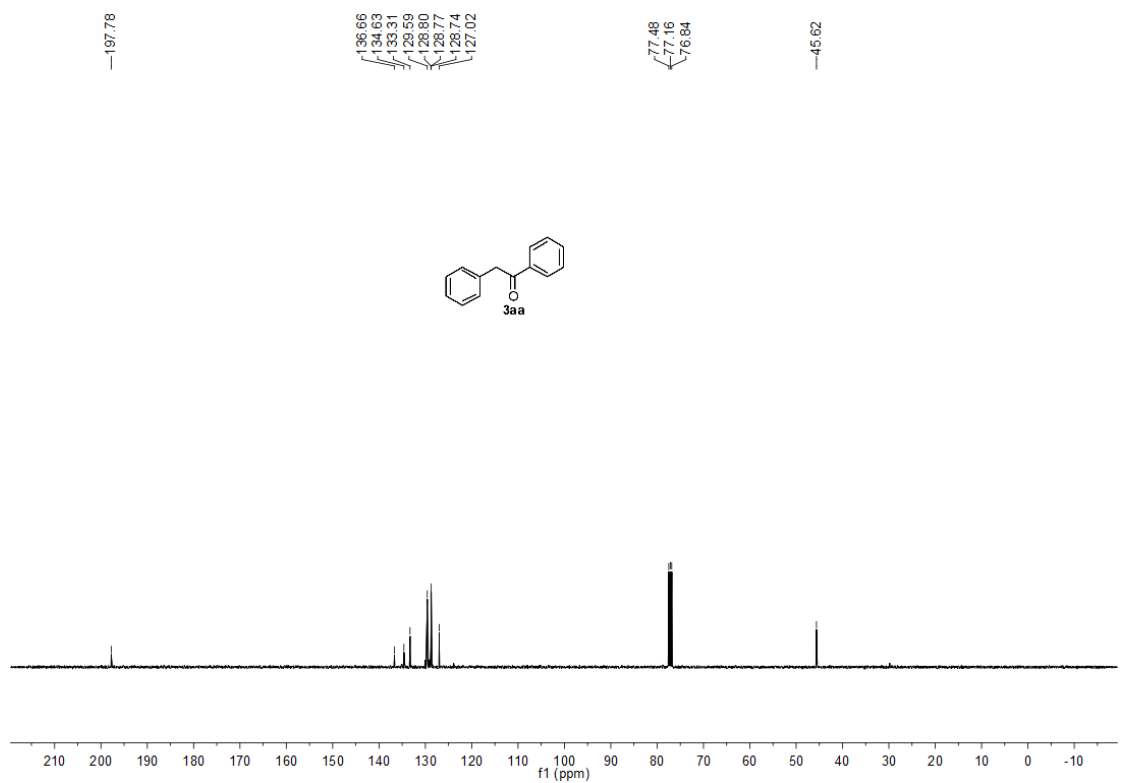
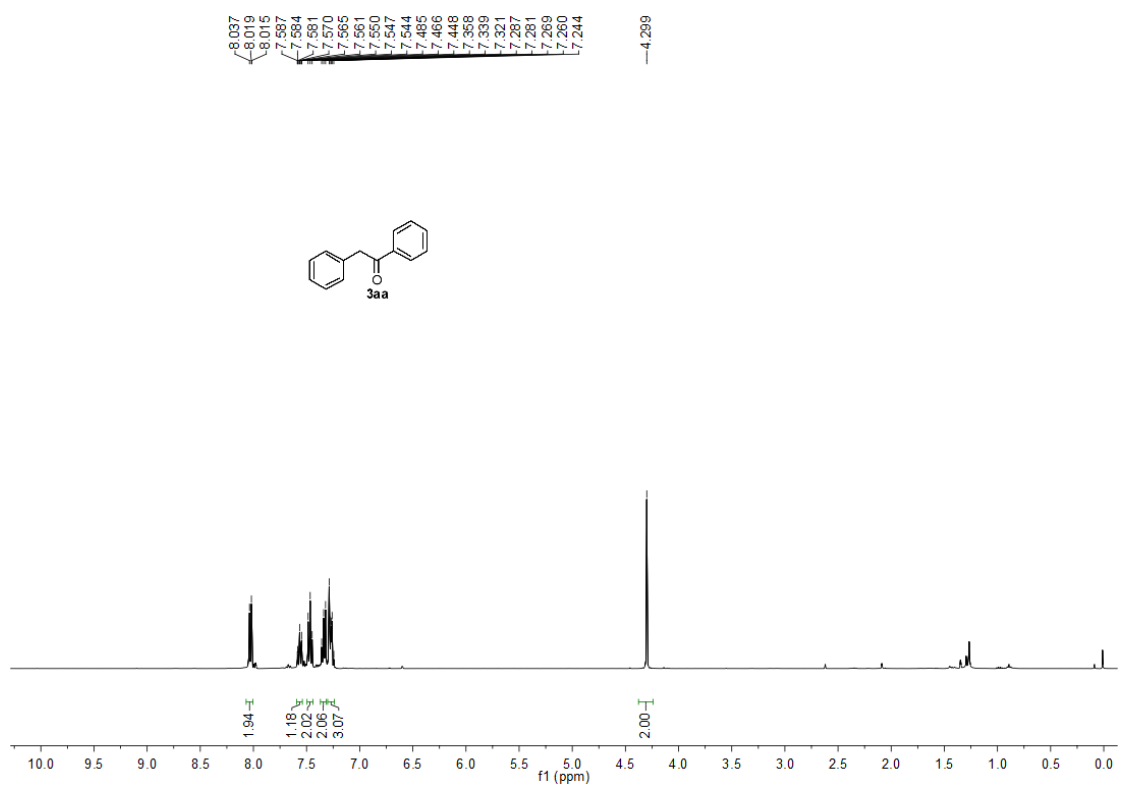


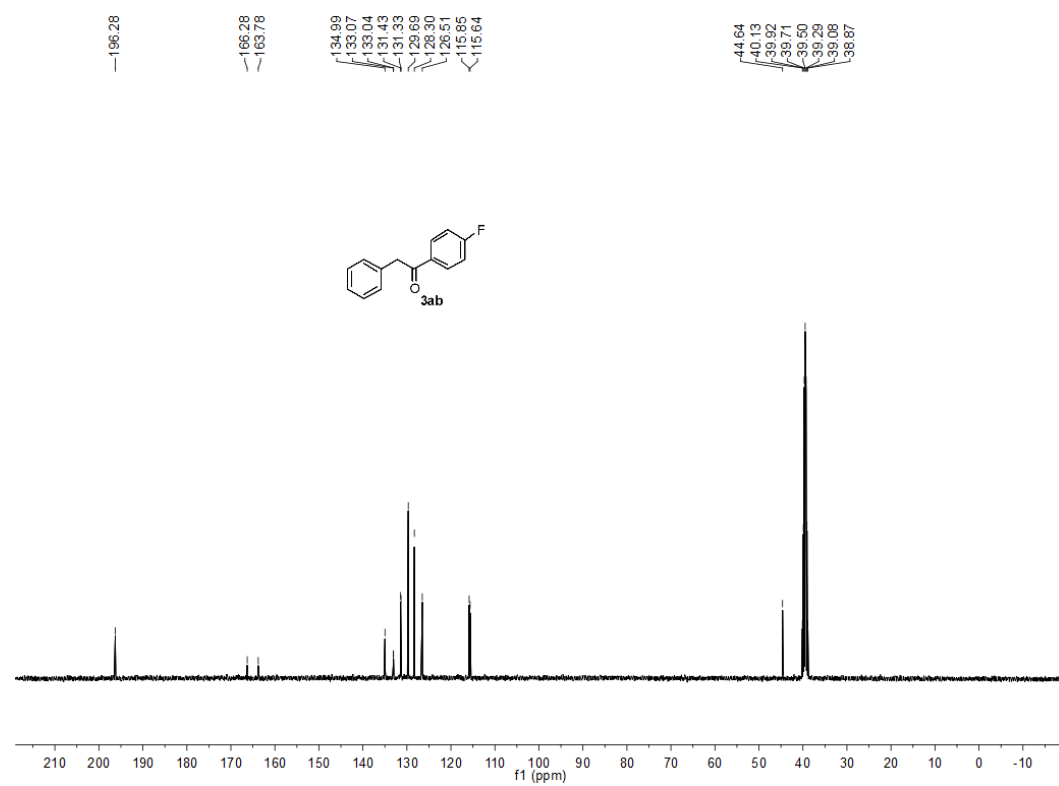
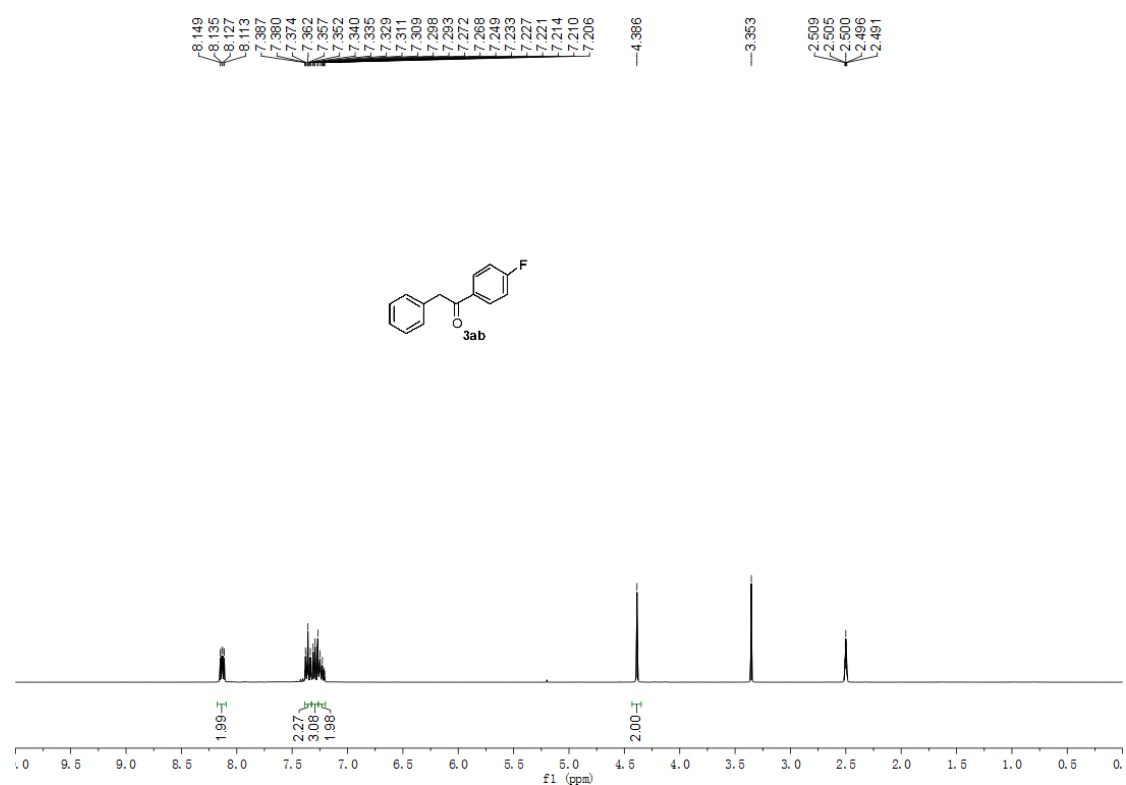
2-(3-Bromophenyl)-1-phenylethanone (3qa) ^[5]: Light yellow solid, m.p. 95.6 – 96.3 °C, yield 86%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (*d*, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (*t*, *J* = 7.4 Hz 1H), 7.47 (*t*, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (*s*, 1H), 7.41 – 7.38 (*m*, 1H), 7.20 (*d*, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 4.25 (*s*, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.83, 136.77, 136.38, 133.47, 132.61, 130.17, 130.10, 128.80, 128.55, 128.33, 122.65, 44.84. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₂BrO [M+H]⁺: 275.0066, found: 275.0065.

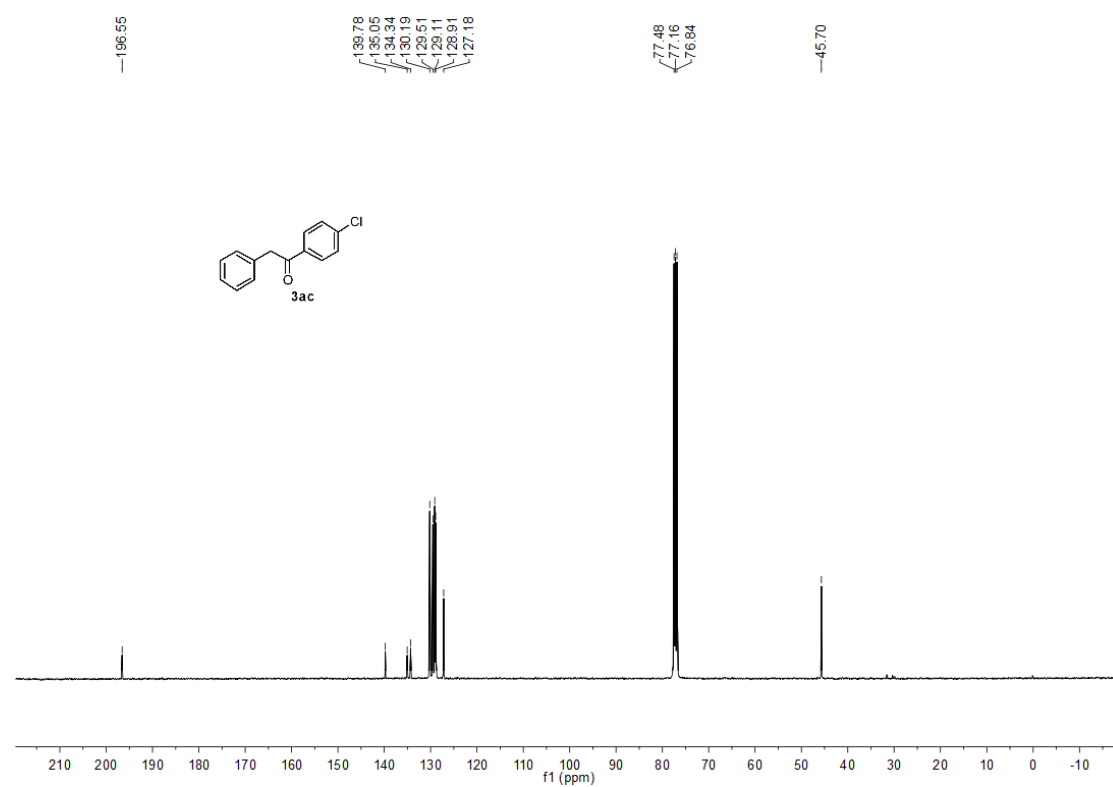
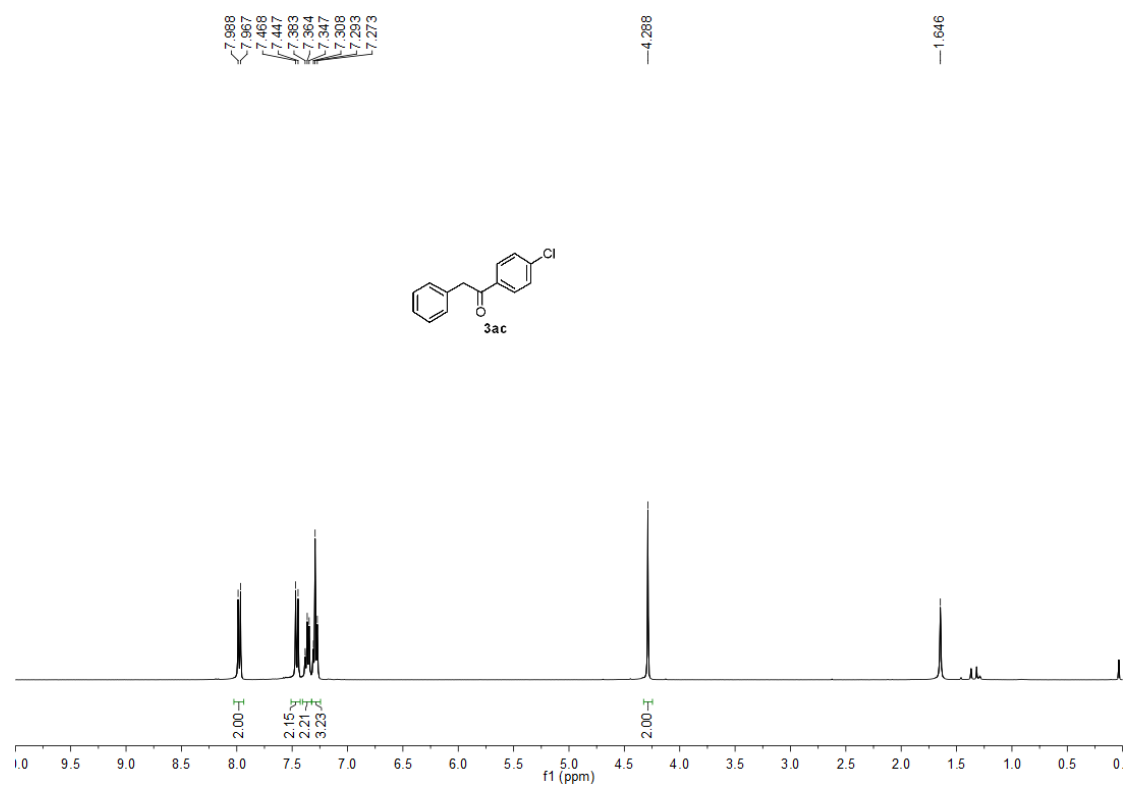


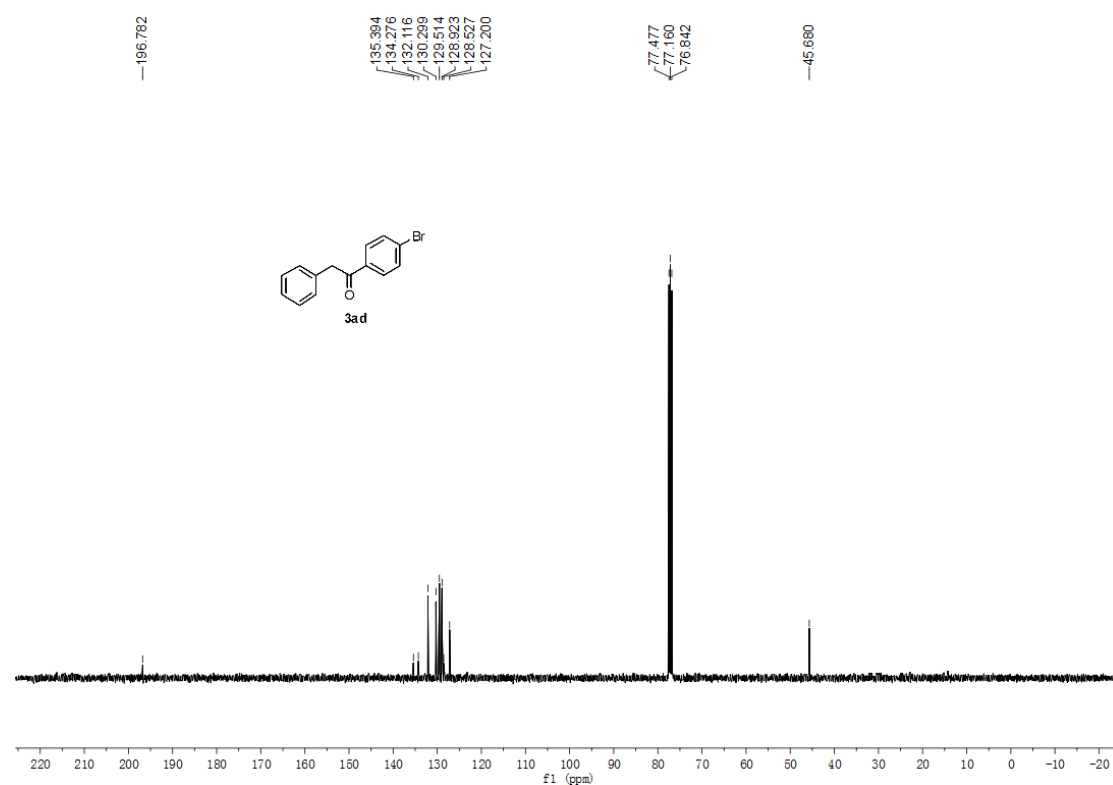
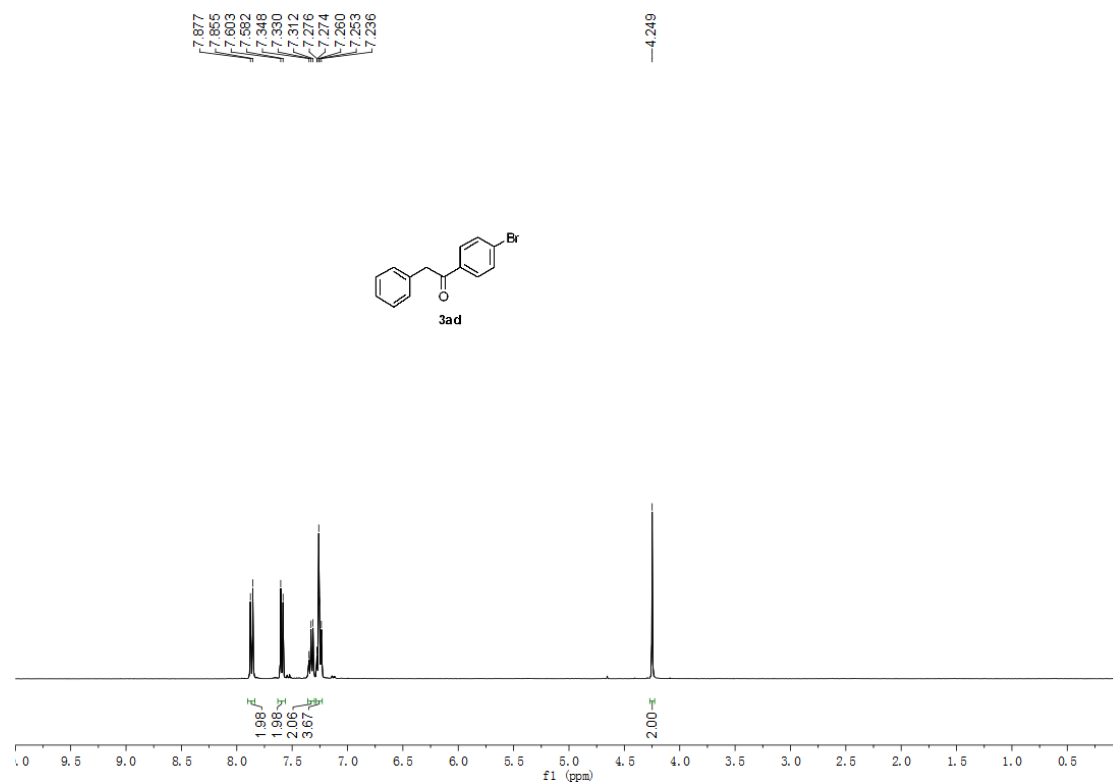
1-Phenyl-2-(*m*-tolyl)ethanone (3ra) ^[5]: Yellow oil, yield 85%, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.08 – 8.06 (*m*, 2H), 7.60 (*tt*, *J* = 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (*t*, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (*t*, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.14 – 7.11 (*m*, 3H), 4.30 (*s*, 2H), 2.38 (*s*, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.84, 138.37, 136.70, 134.51, 133.21, 130.25, 128.97, 128.71, 128.64, 127.75, 126.57, 45.52, 21.47. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₅O [M+H]⁺: 211.1117, found: 211.1116.

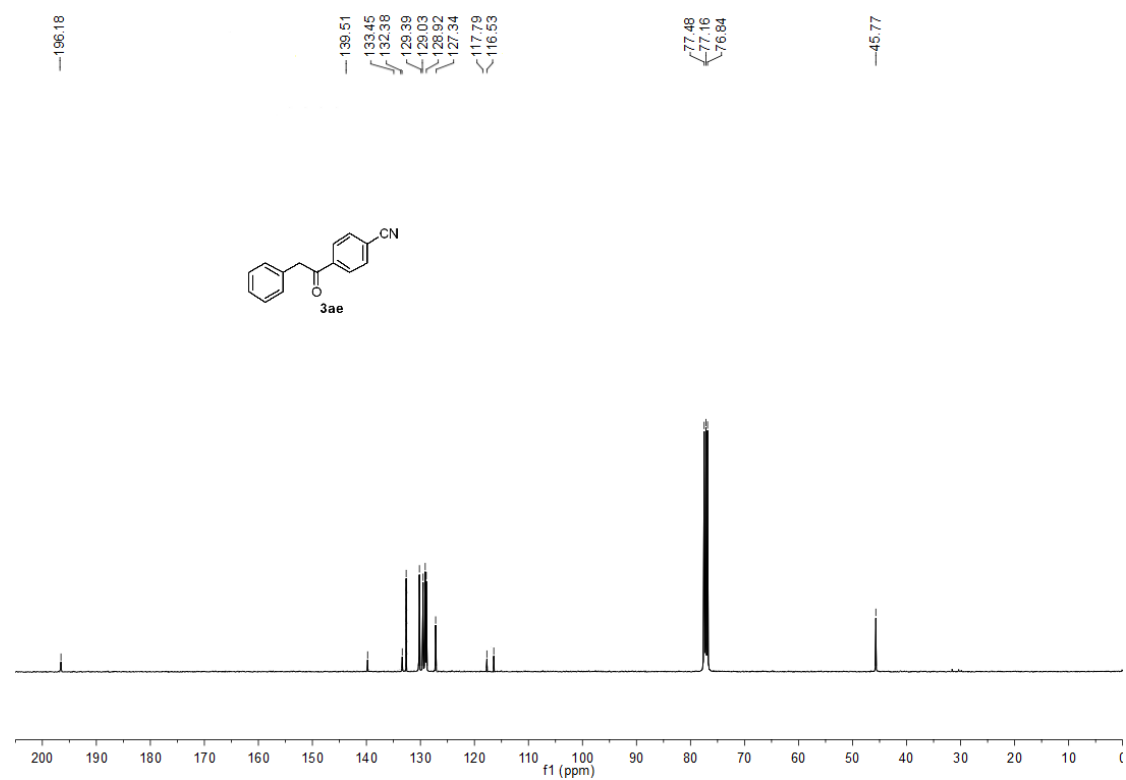
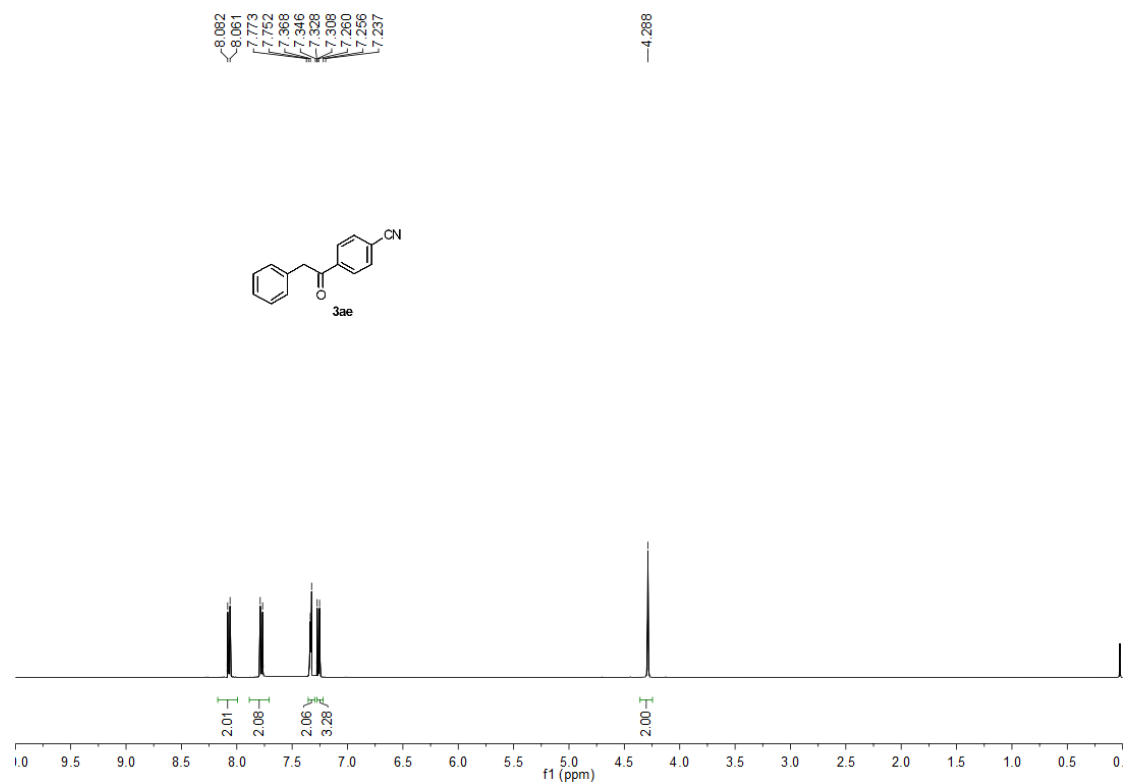
¹H and ¹³C NMR Spectra of Products for Control Experiments

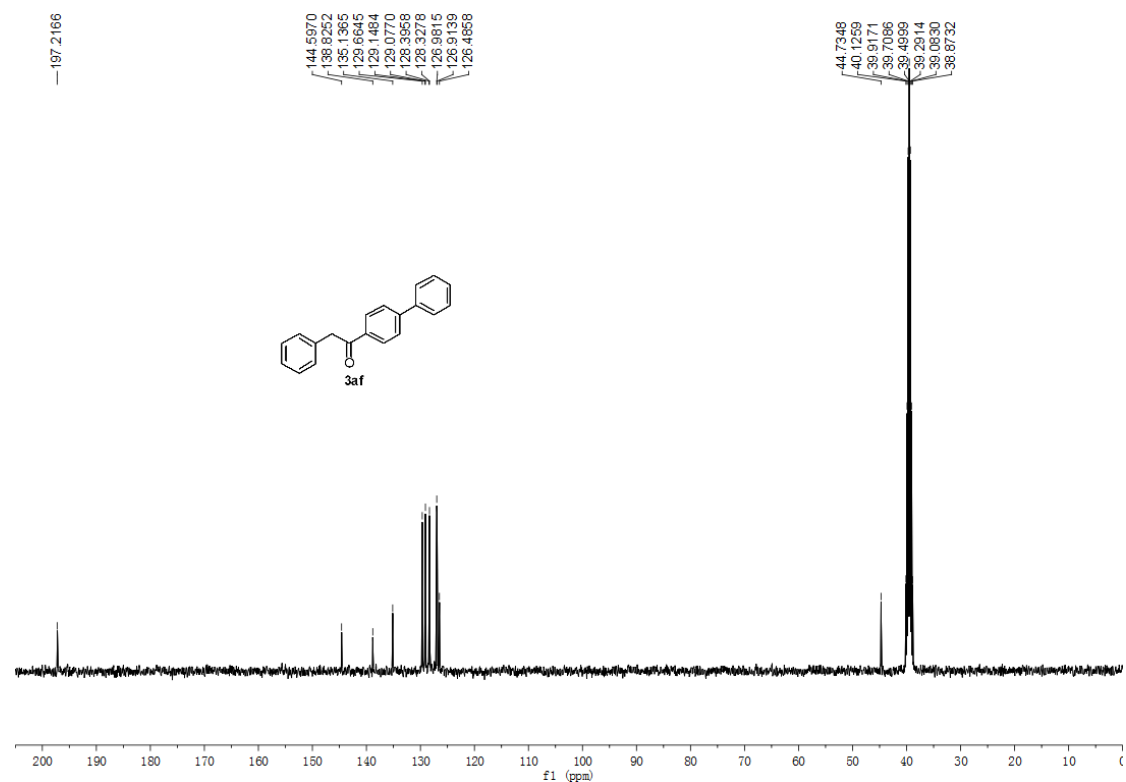
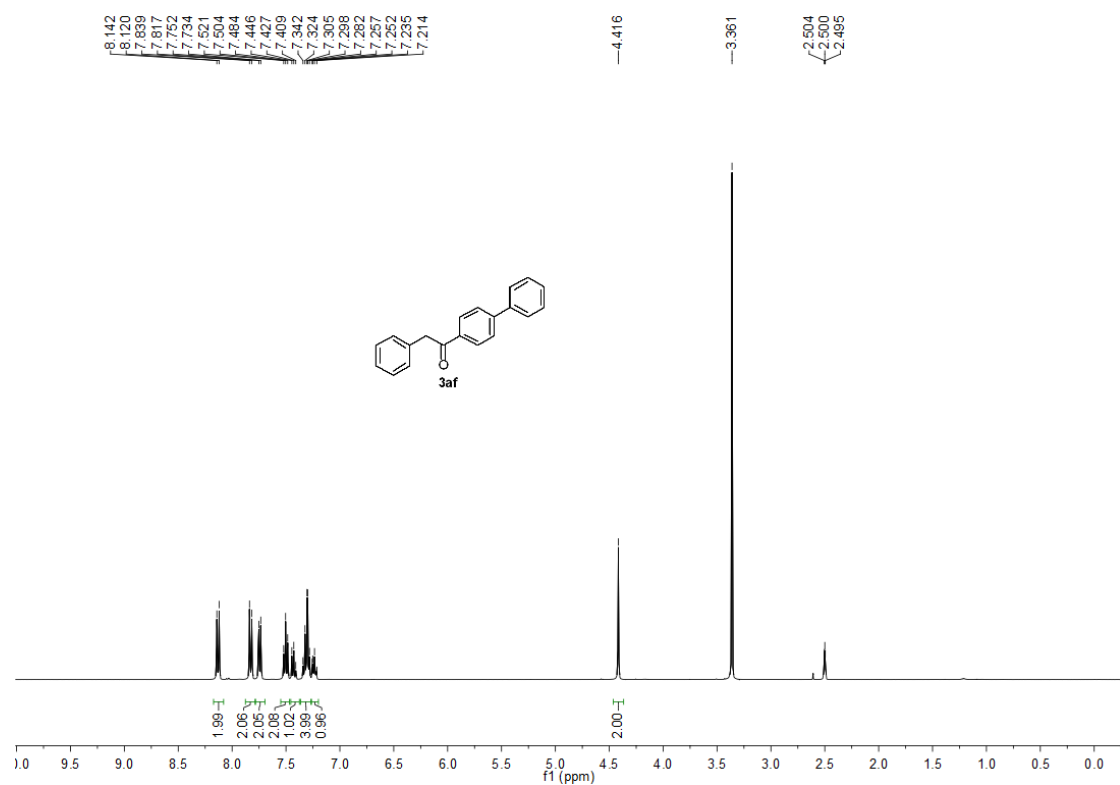


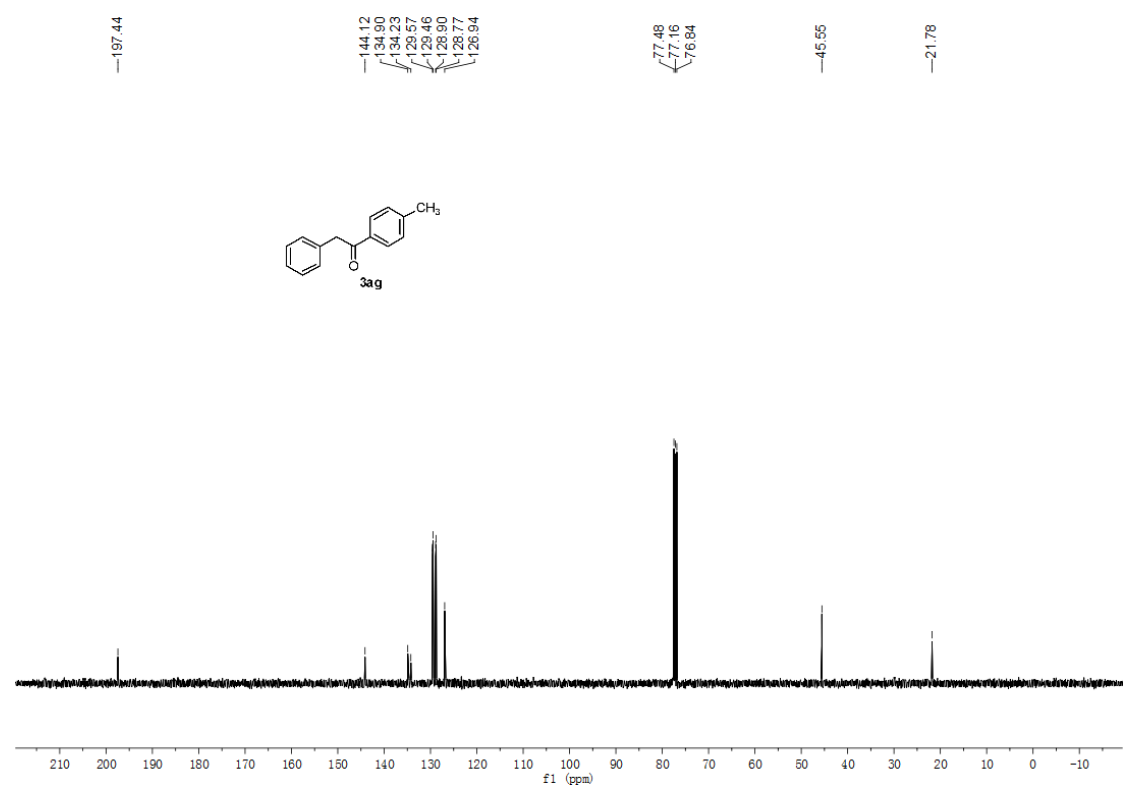
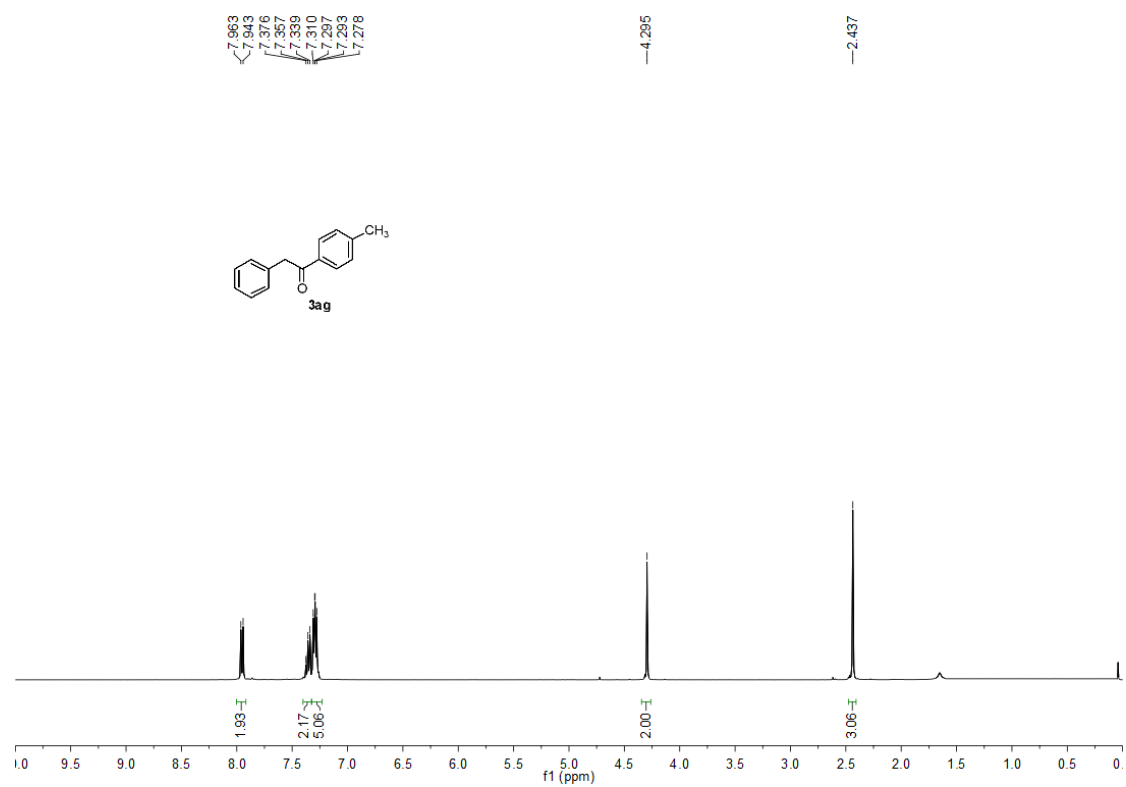


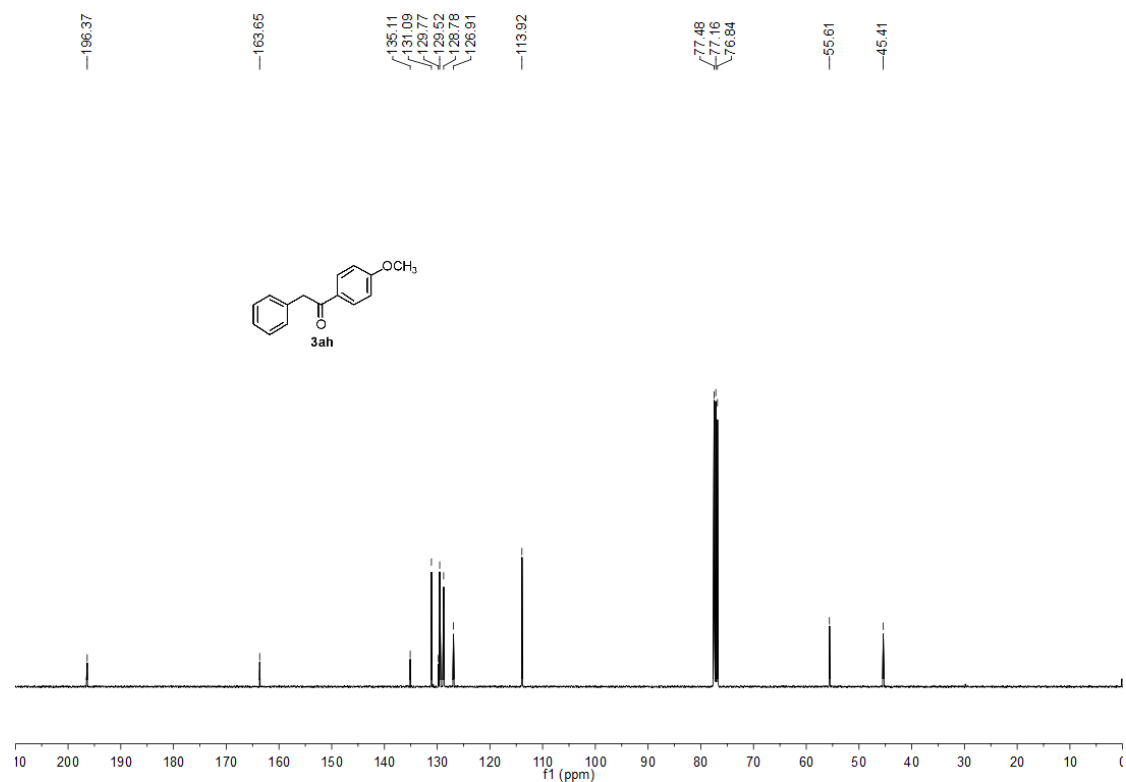
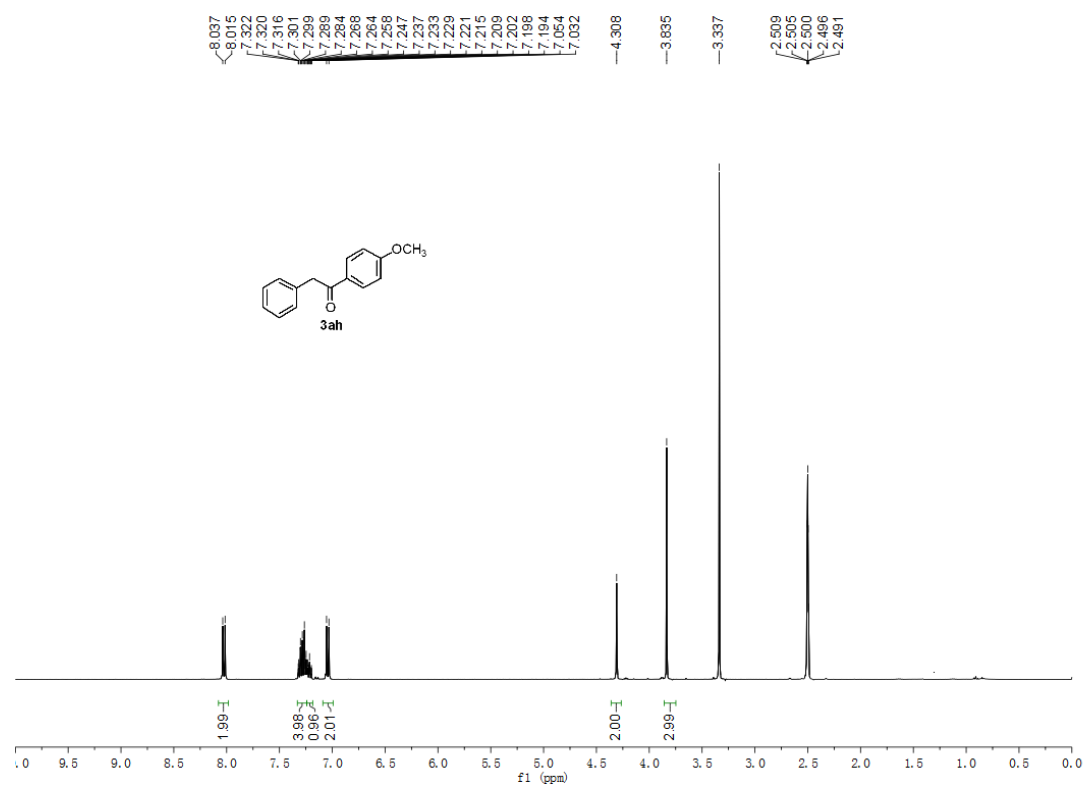


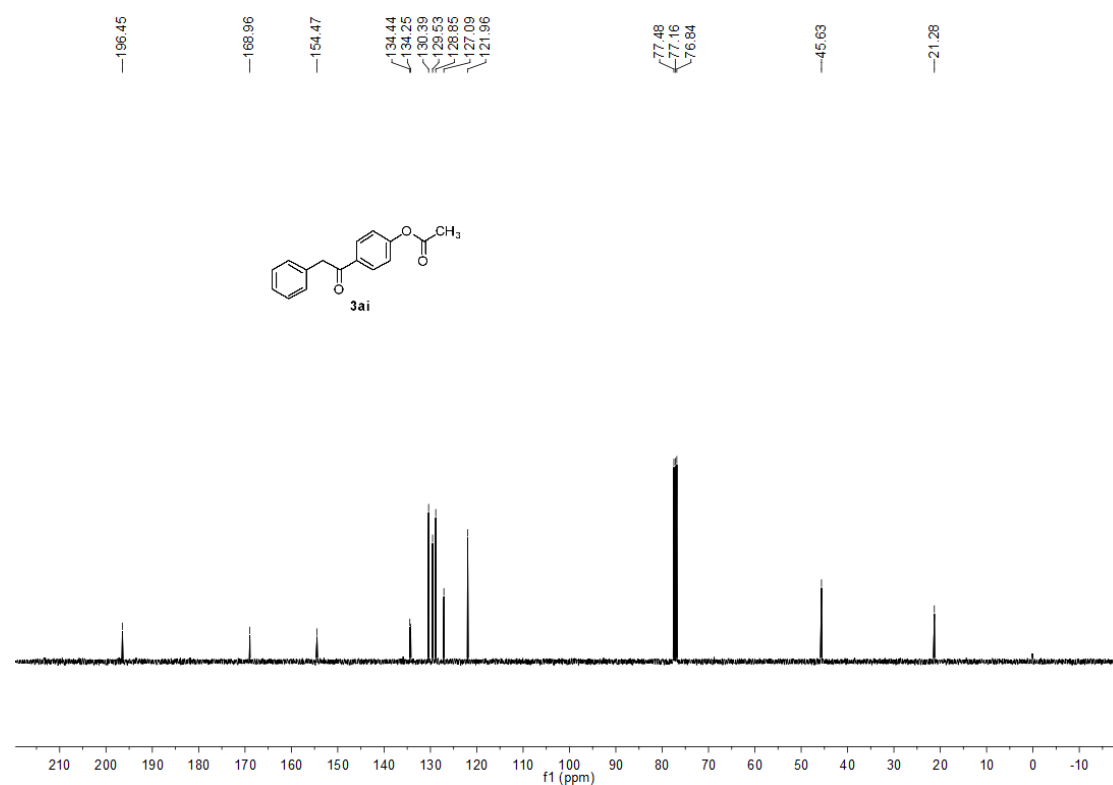
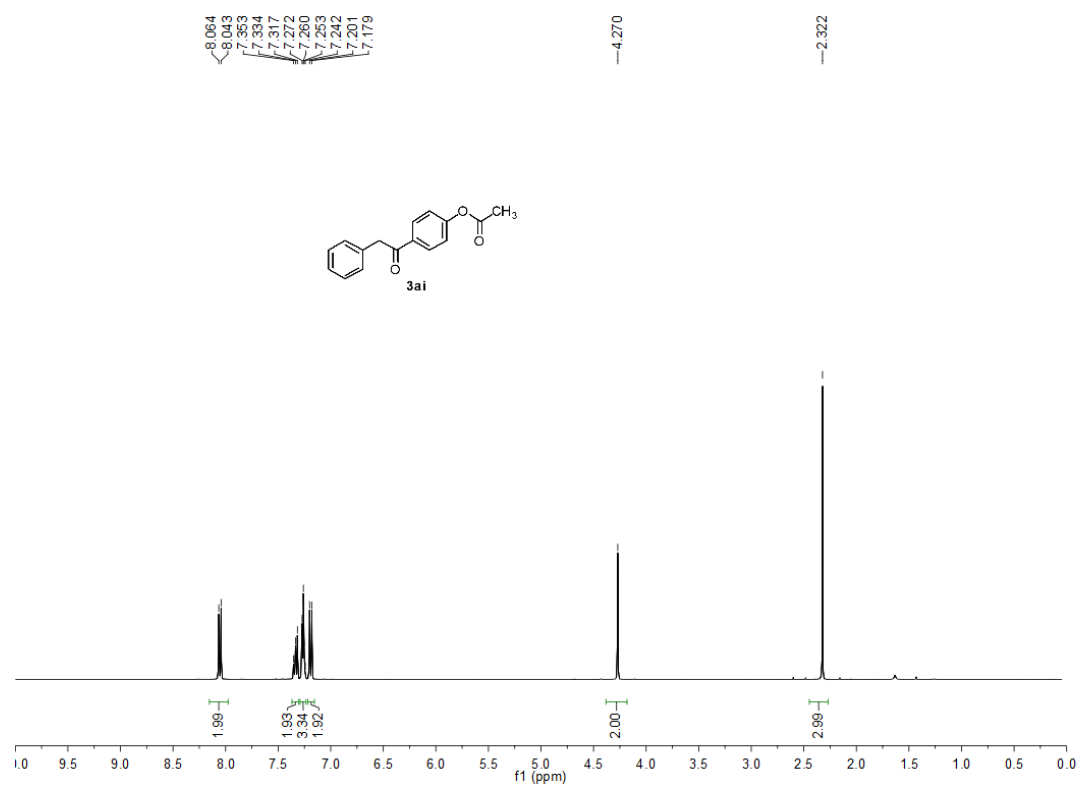


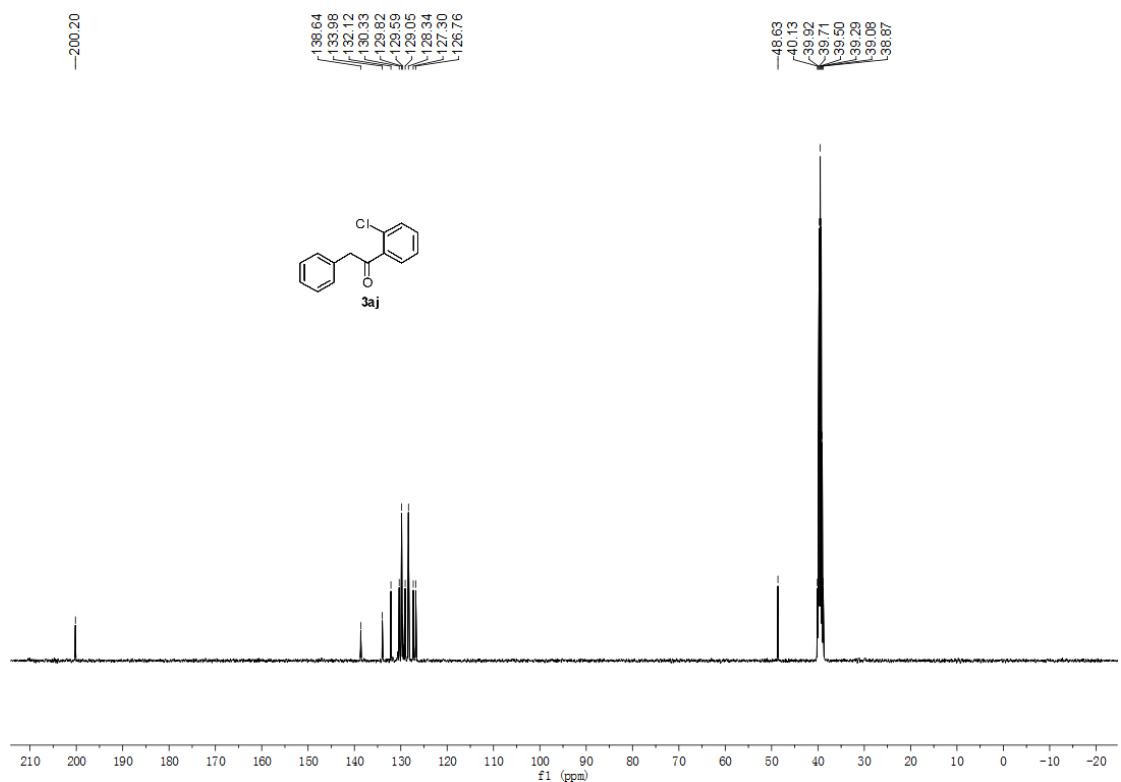
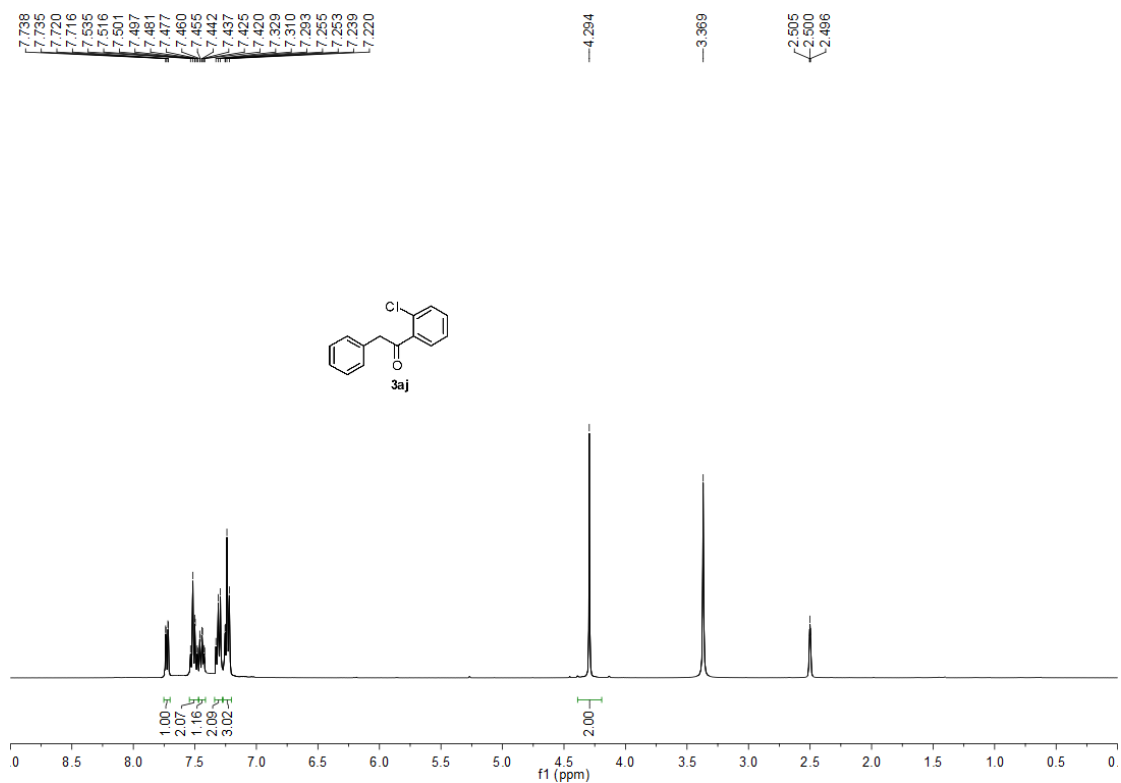


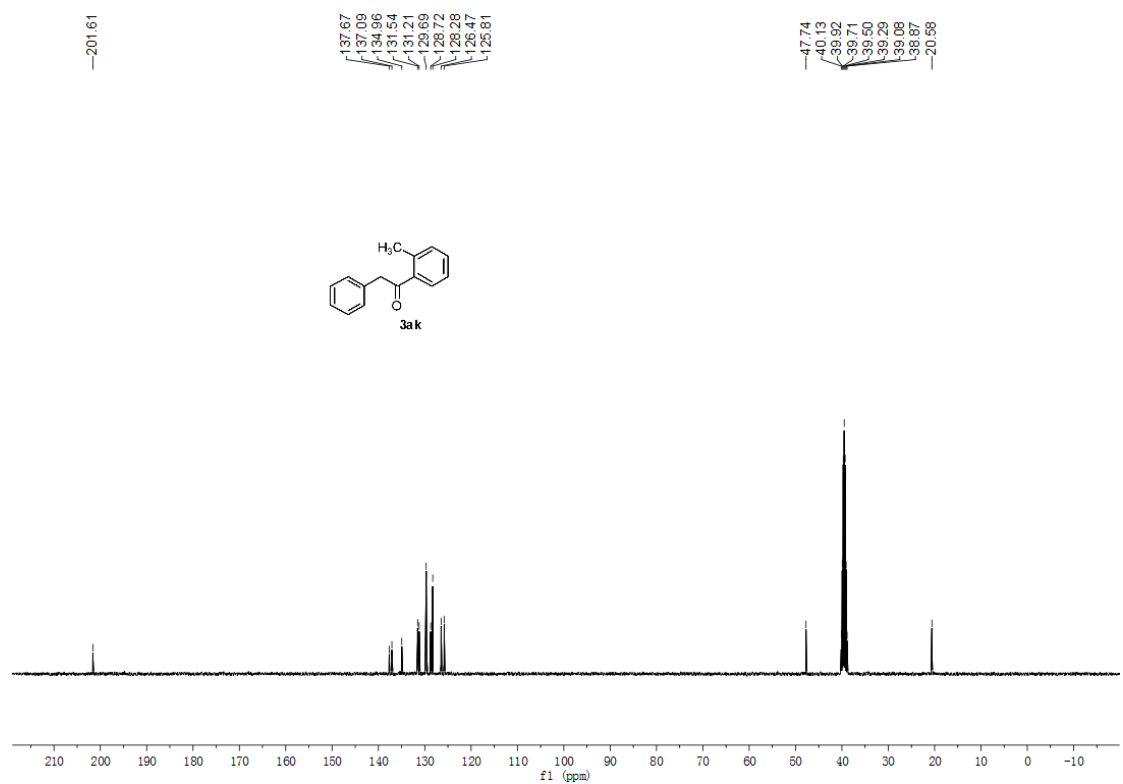
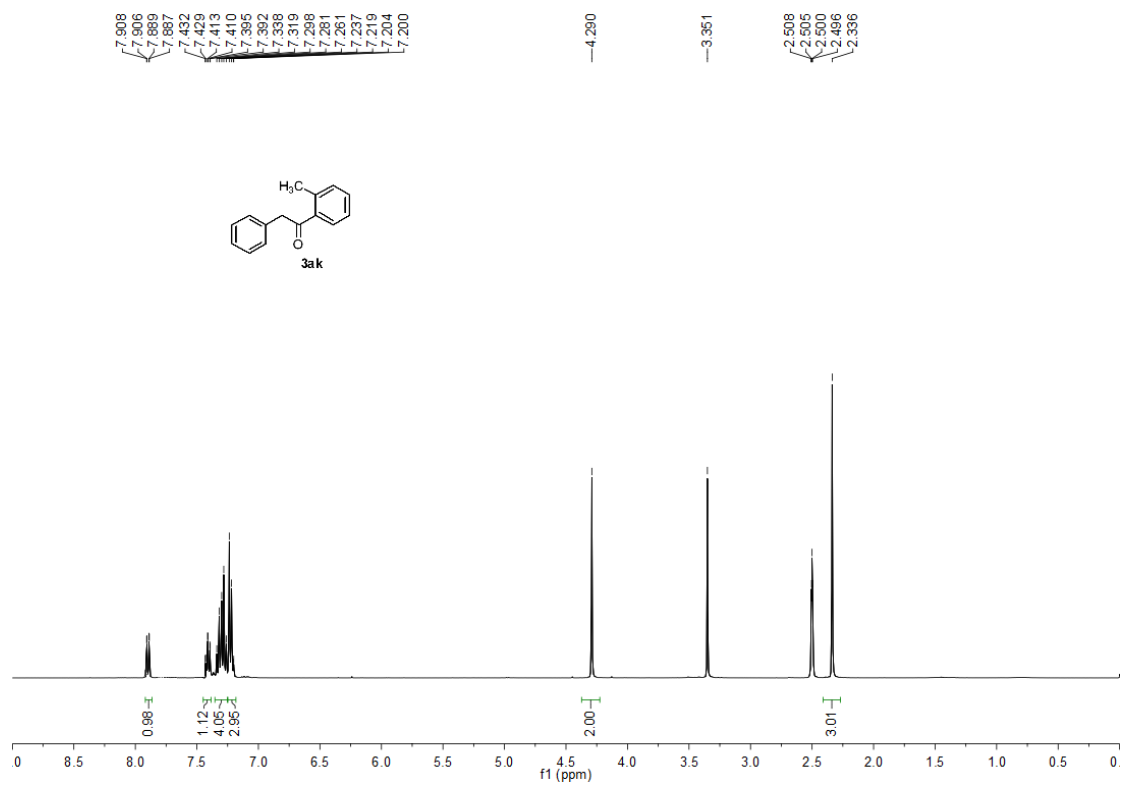


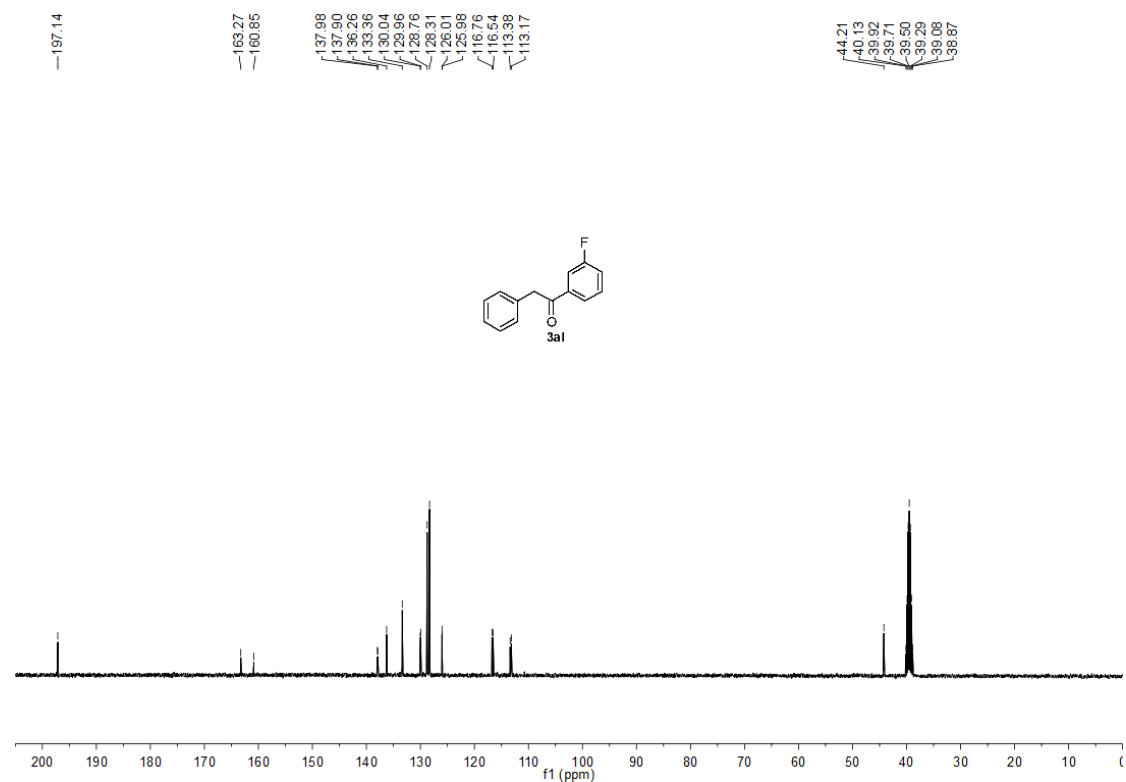
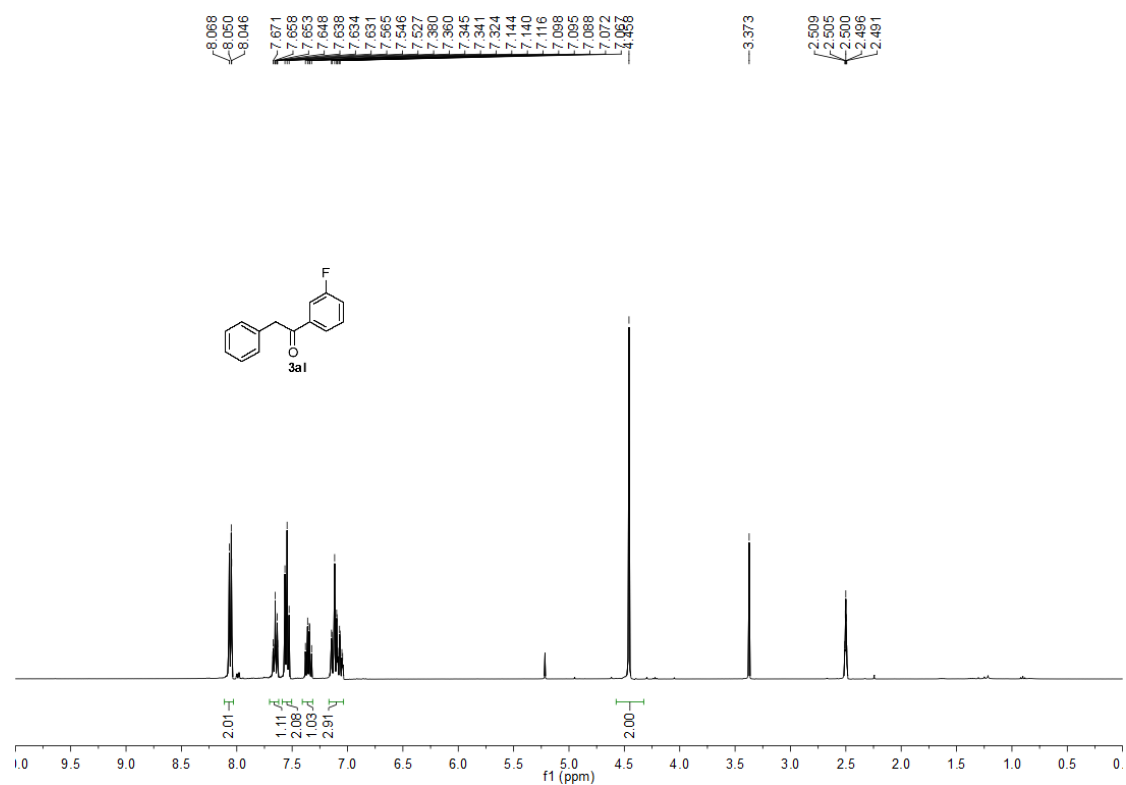


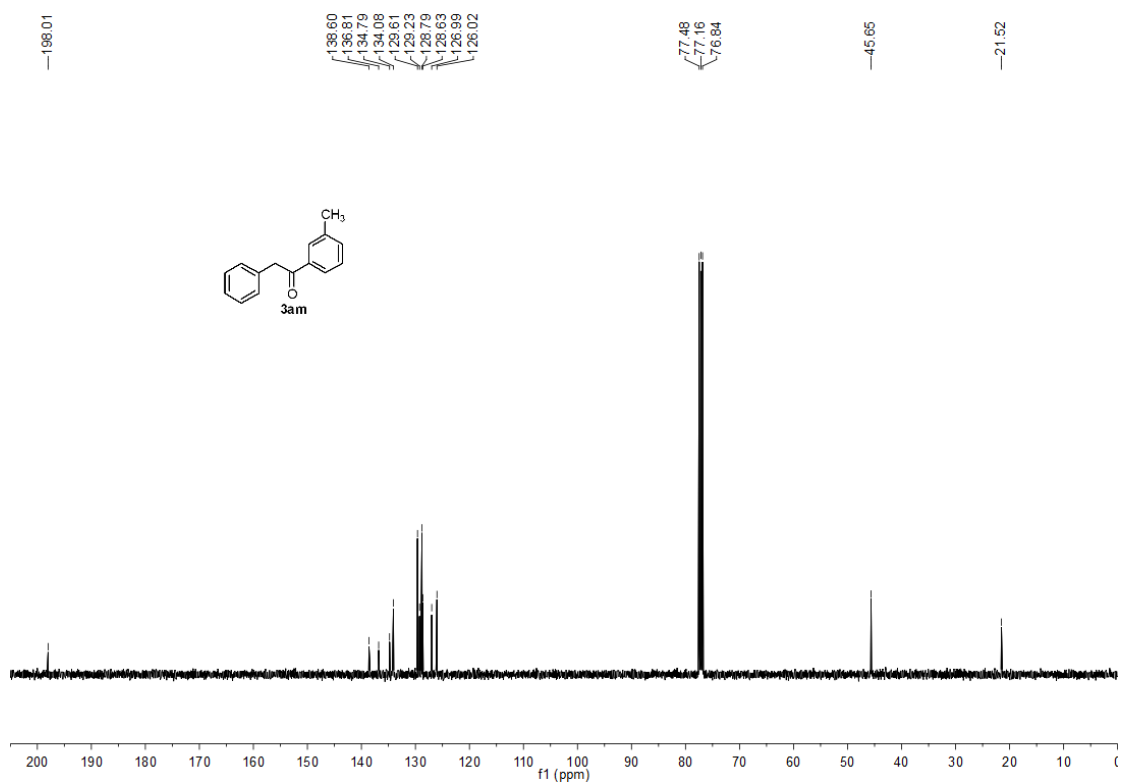
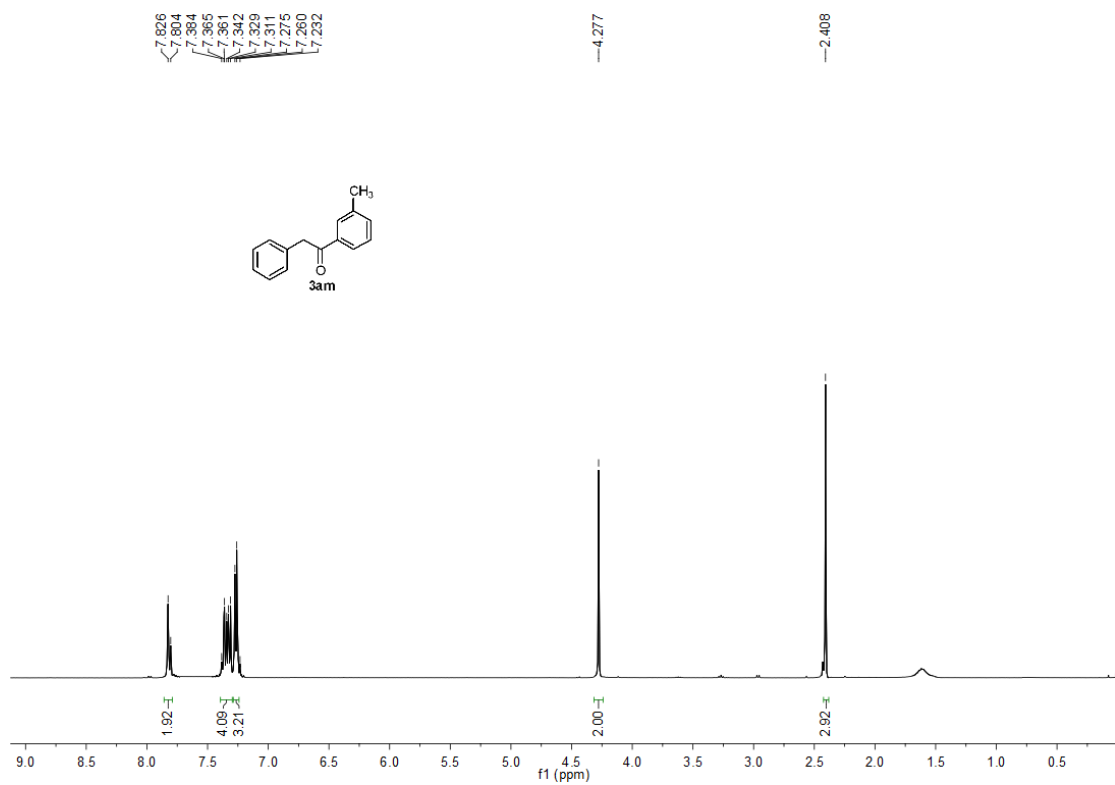


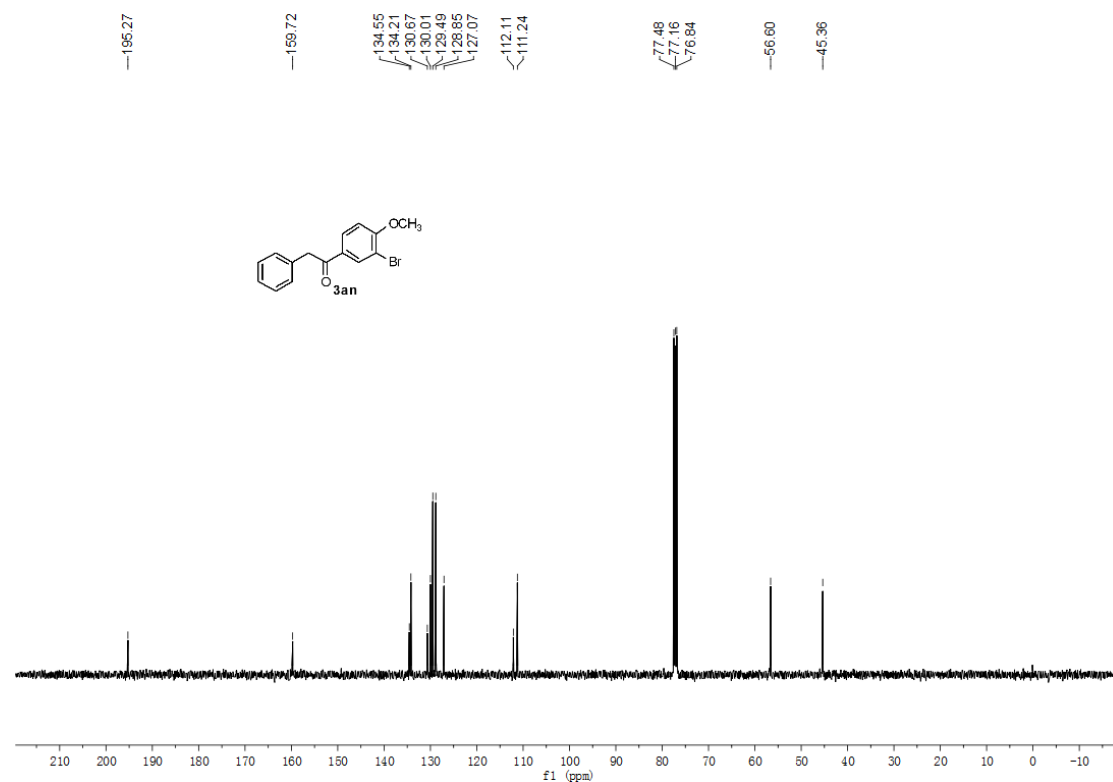
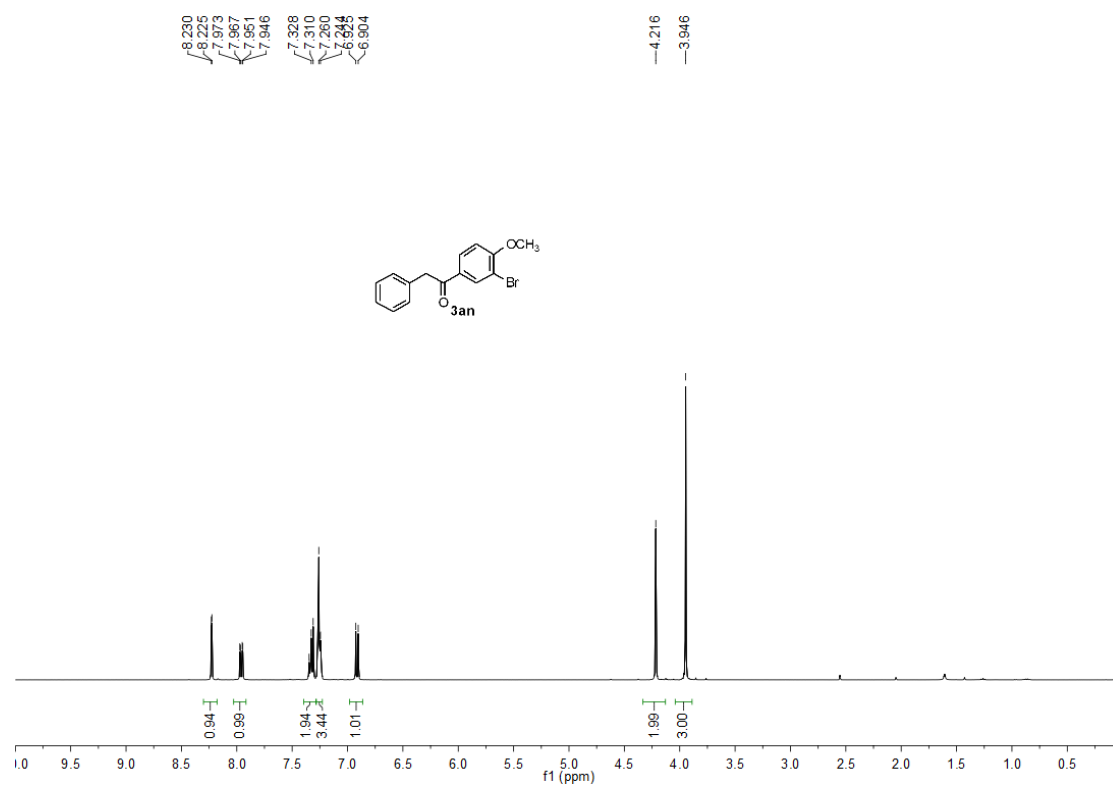


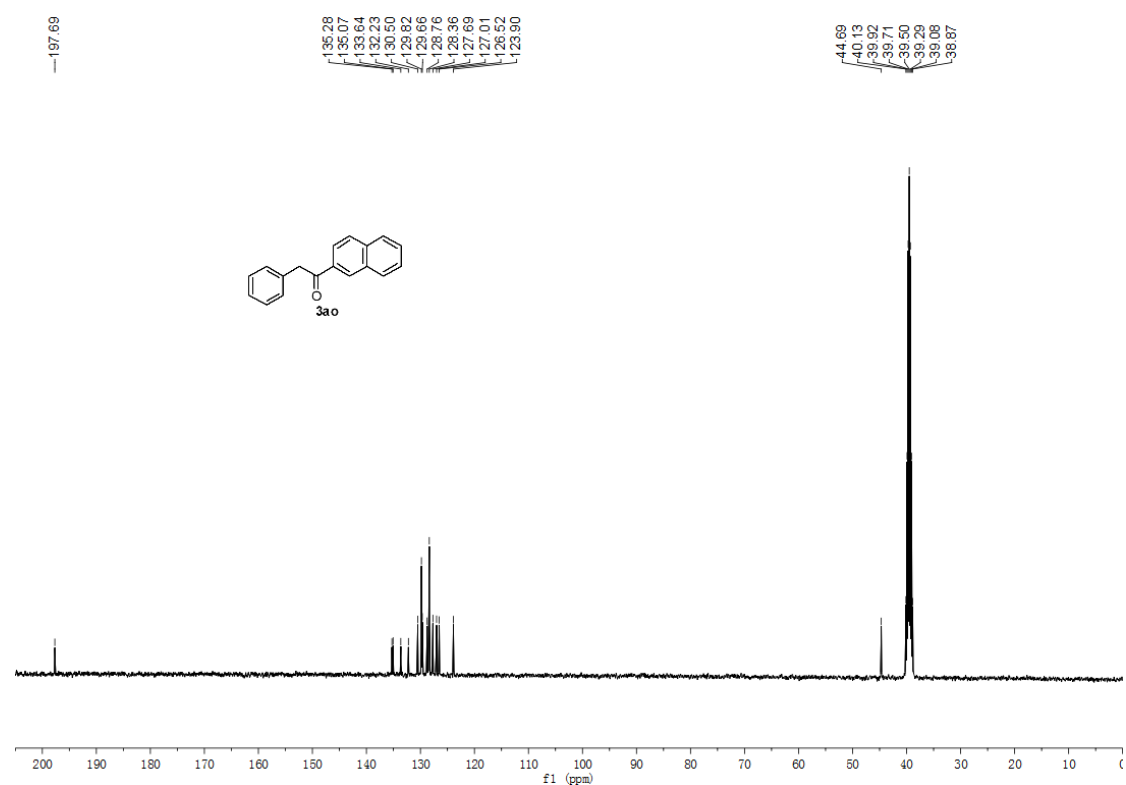
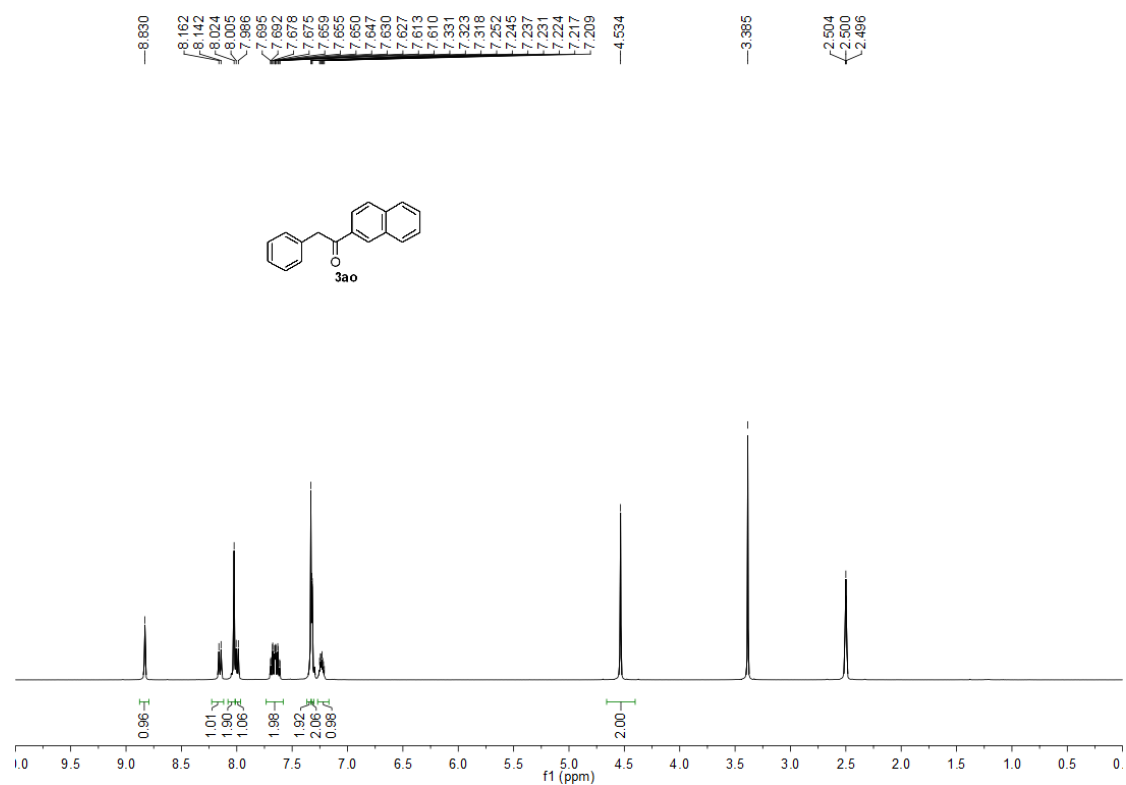


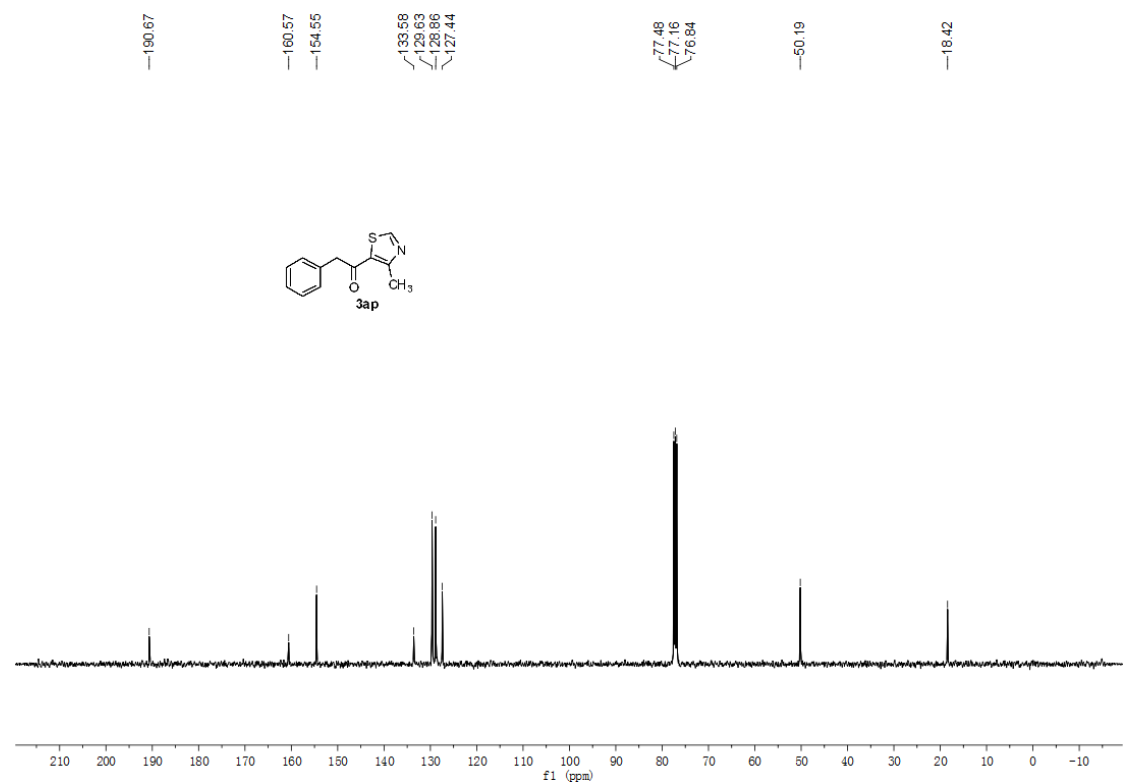
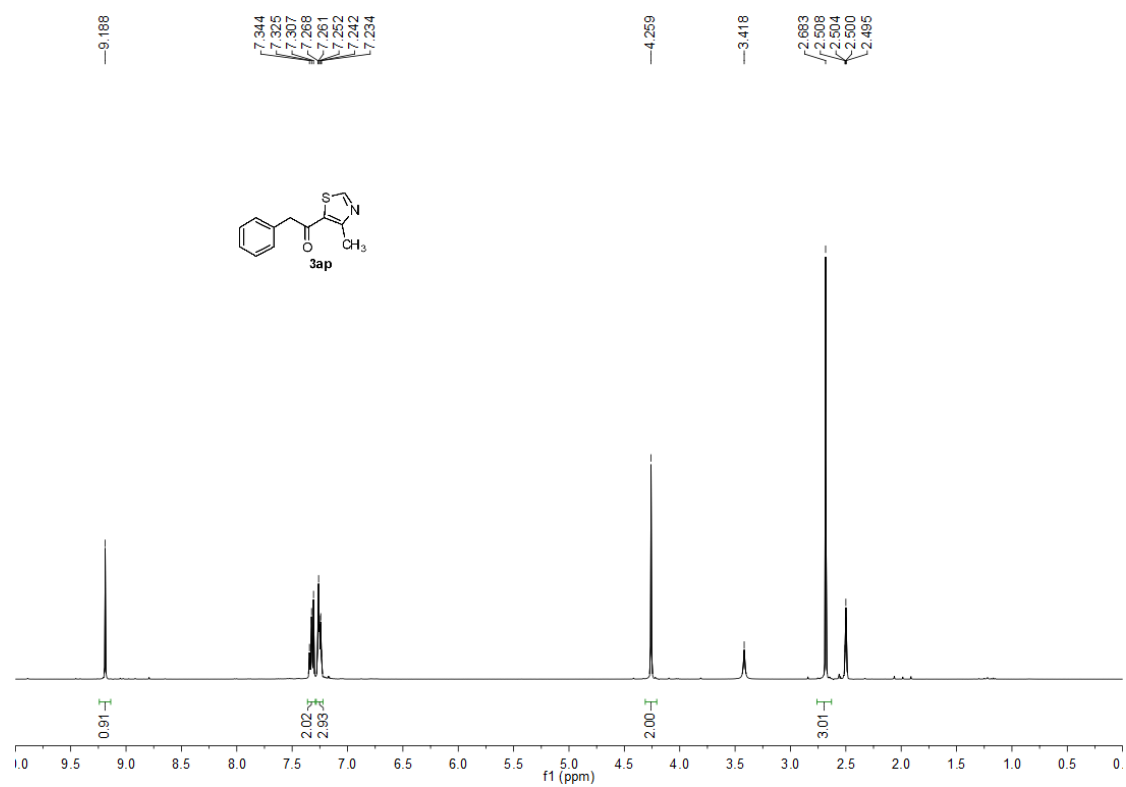


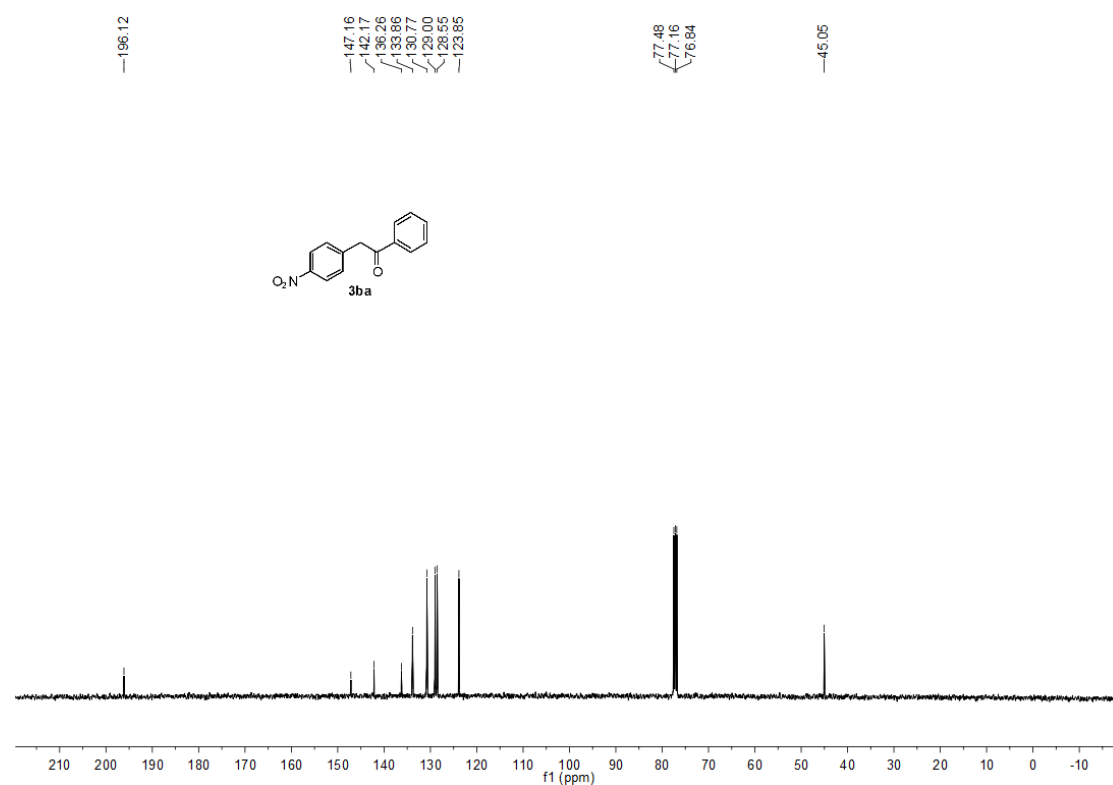
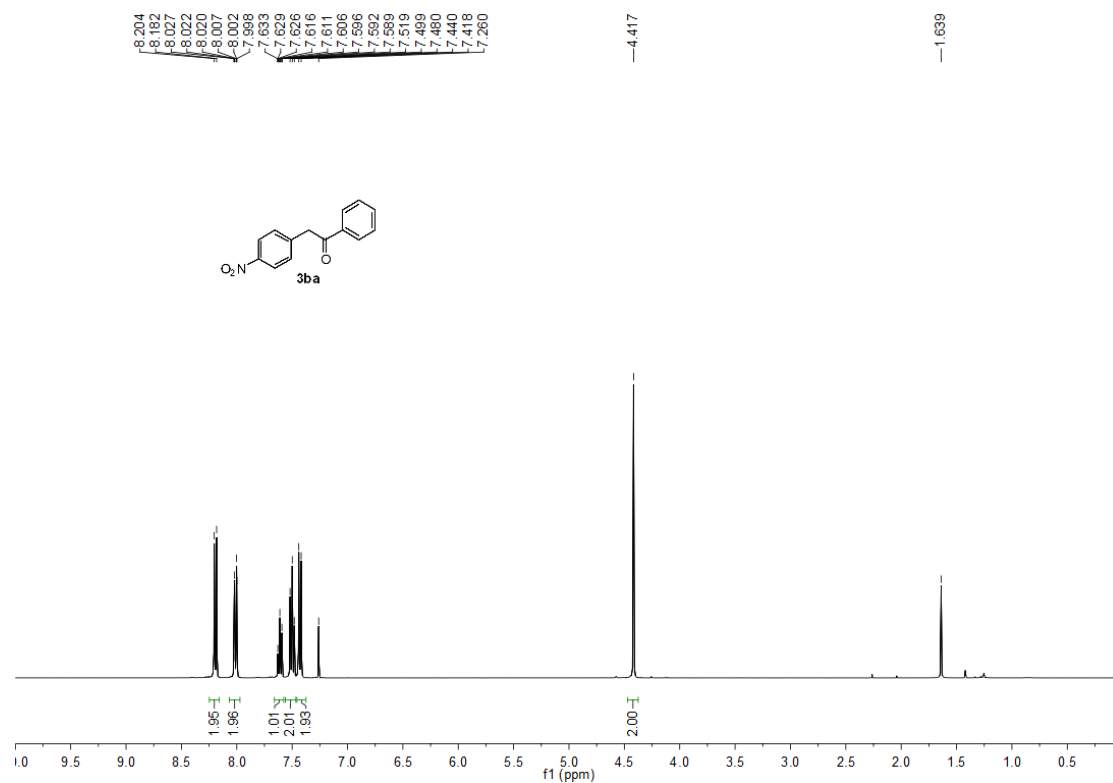


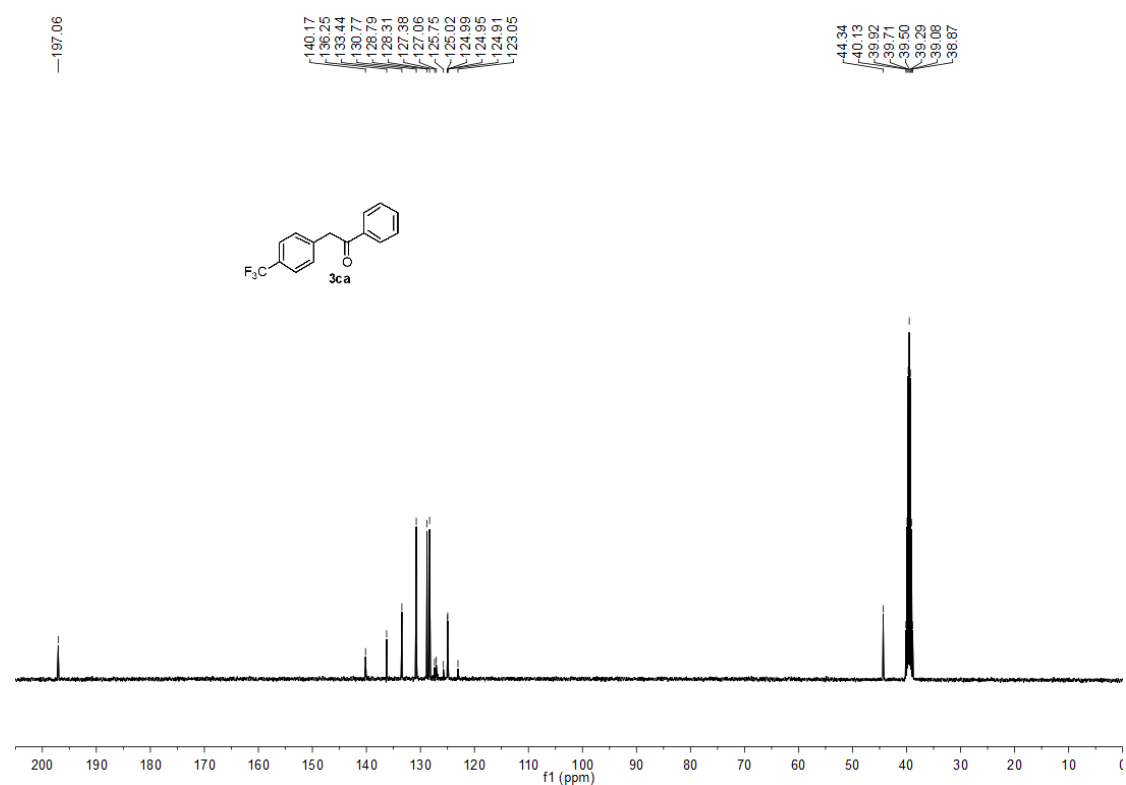
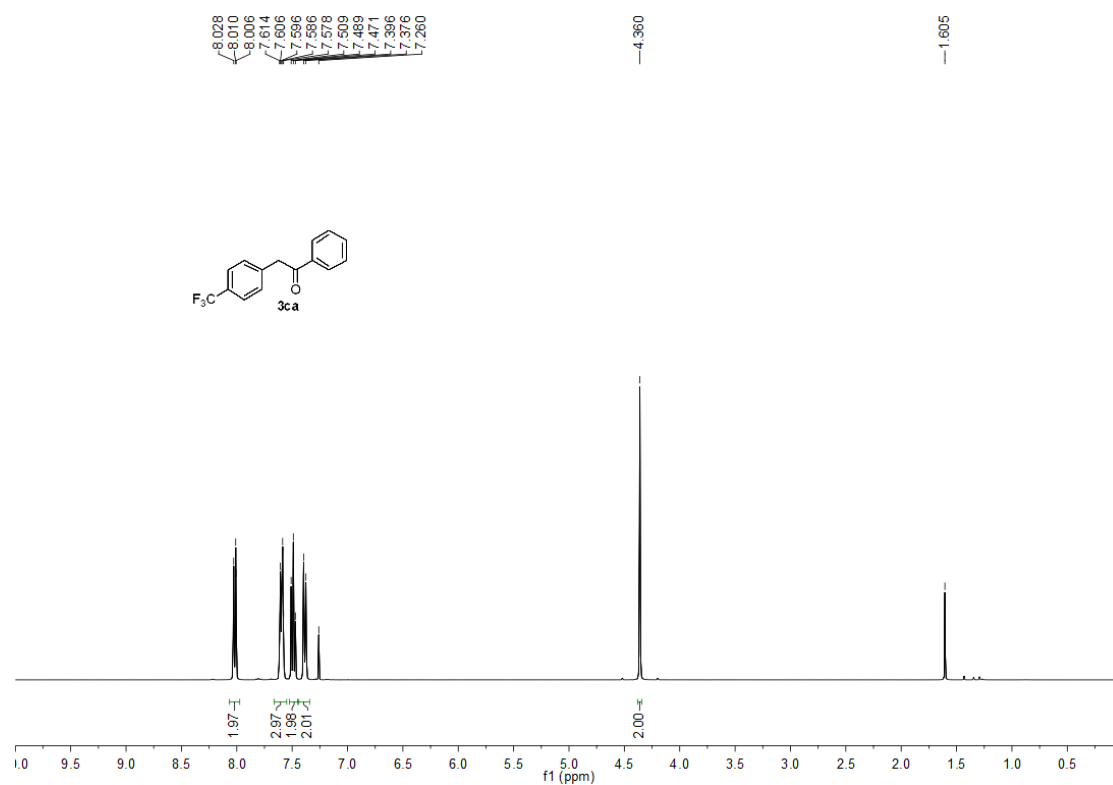


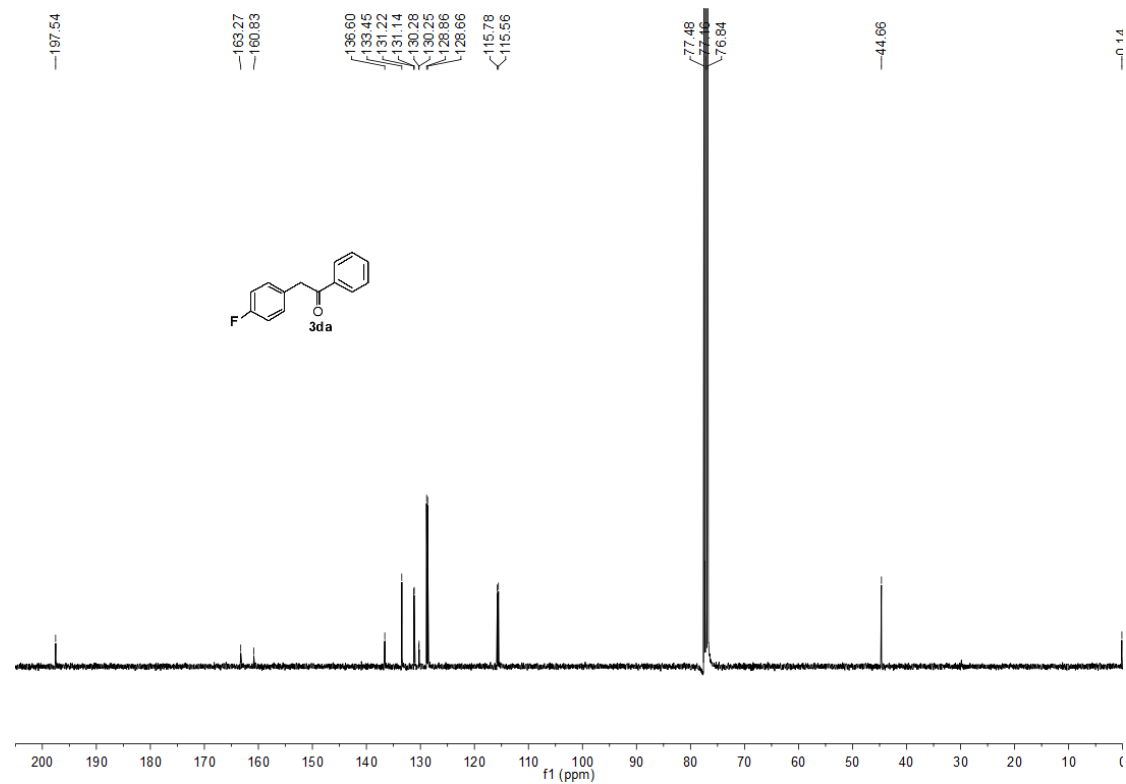
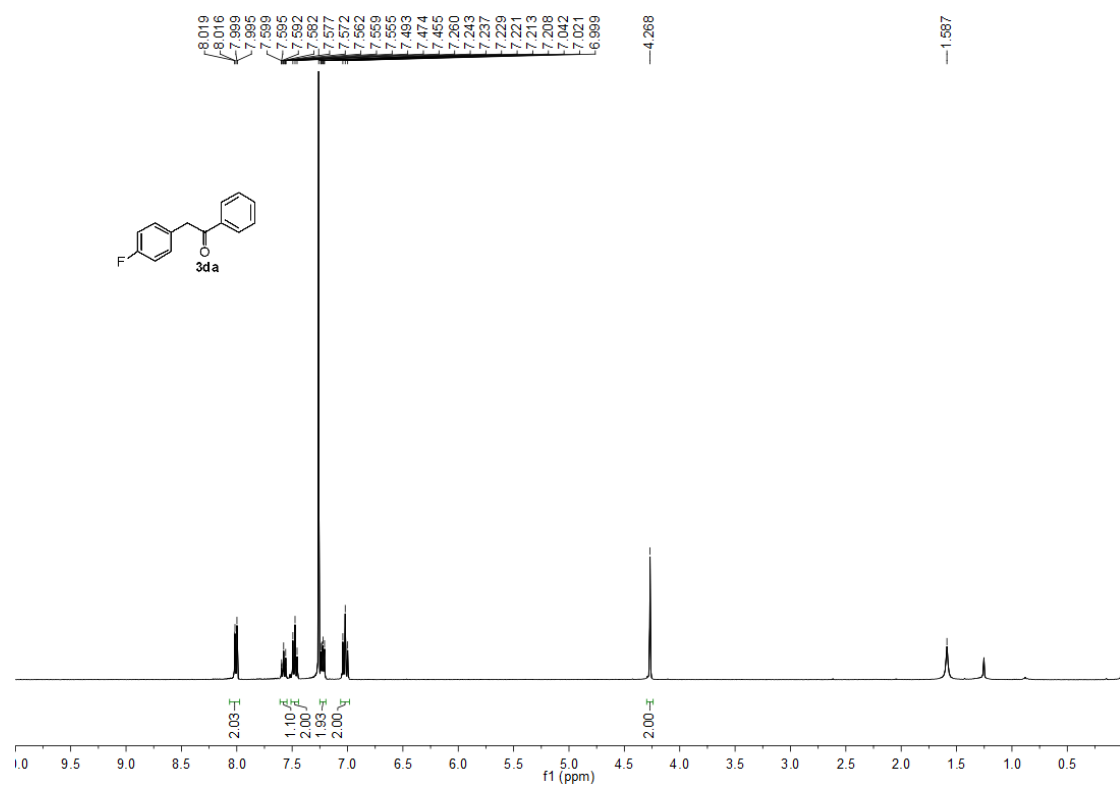


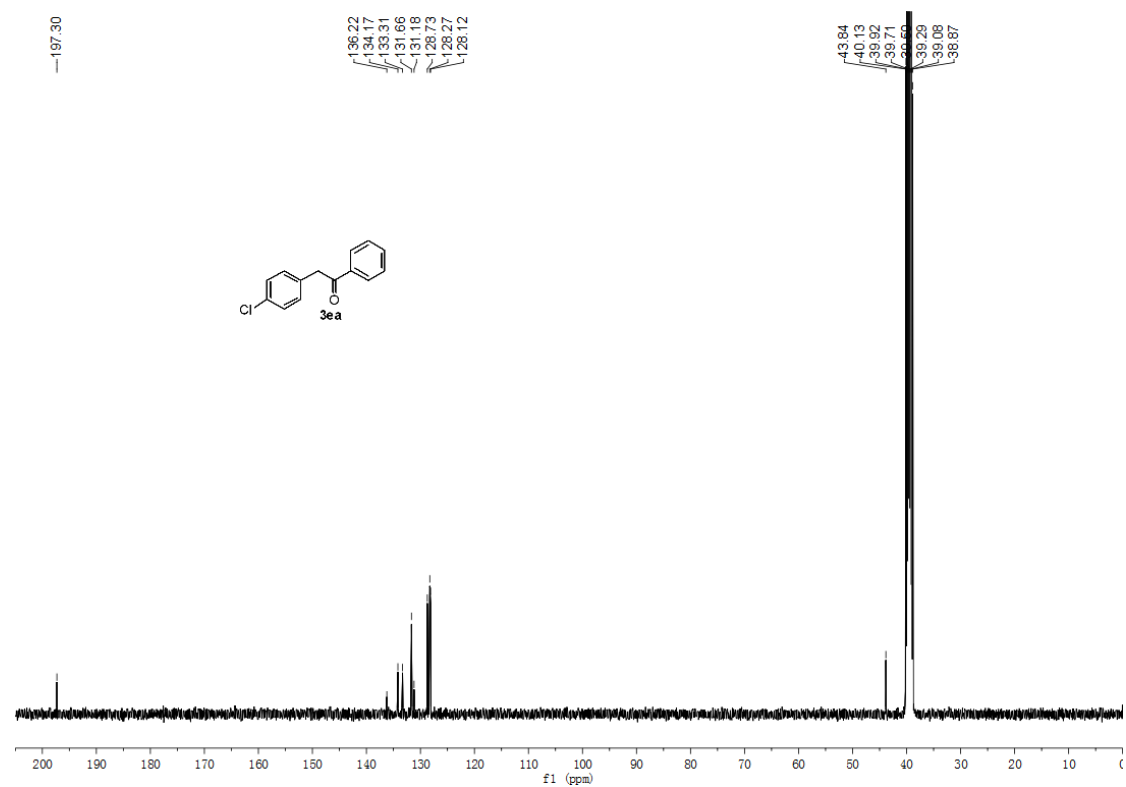
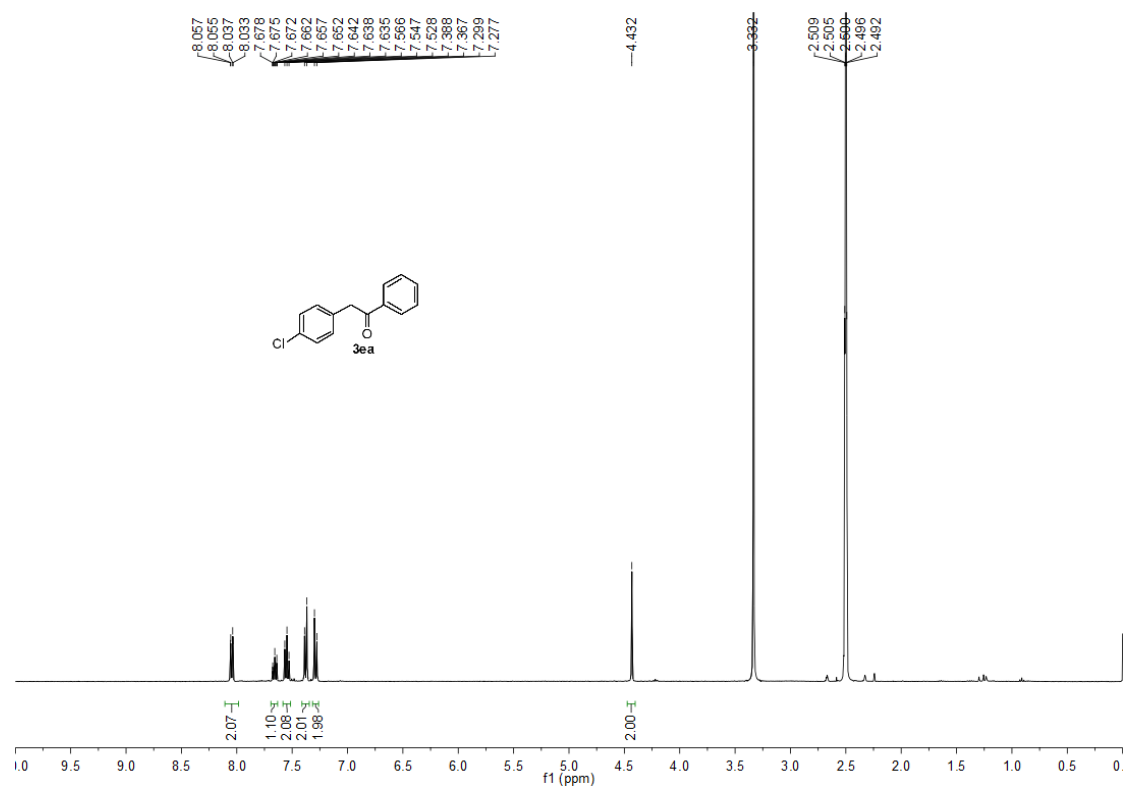


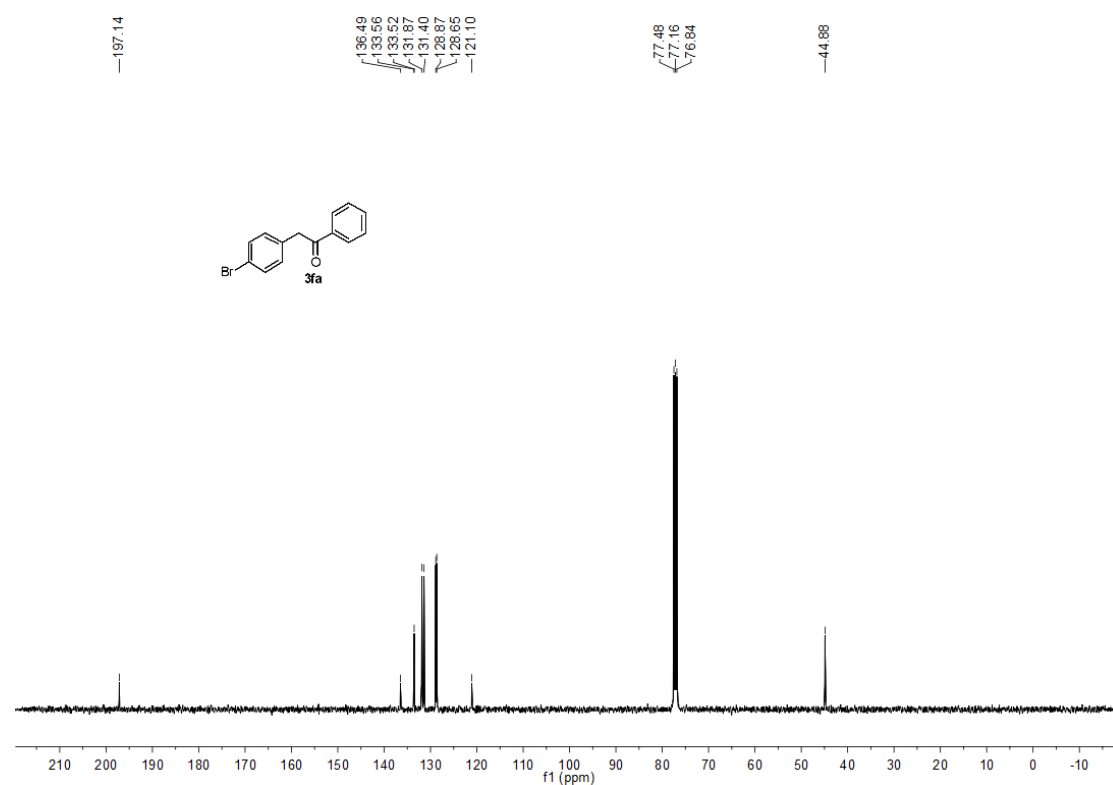
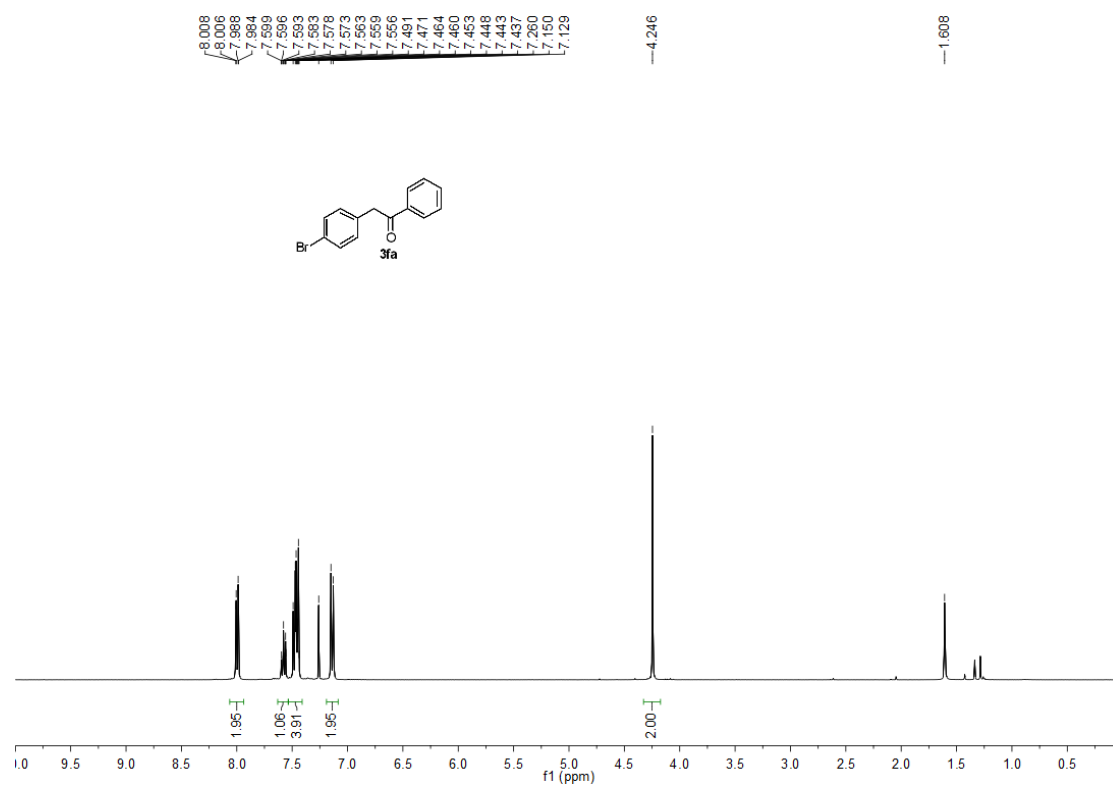


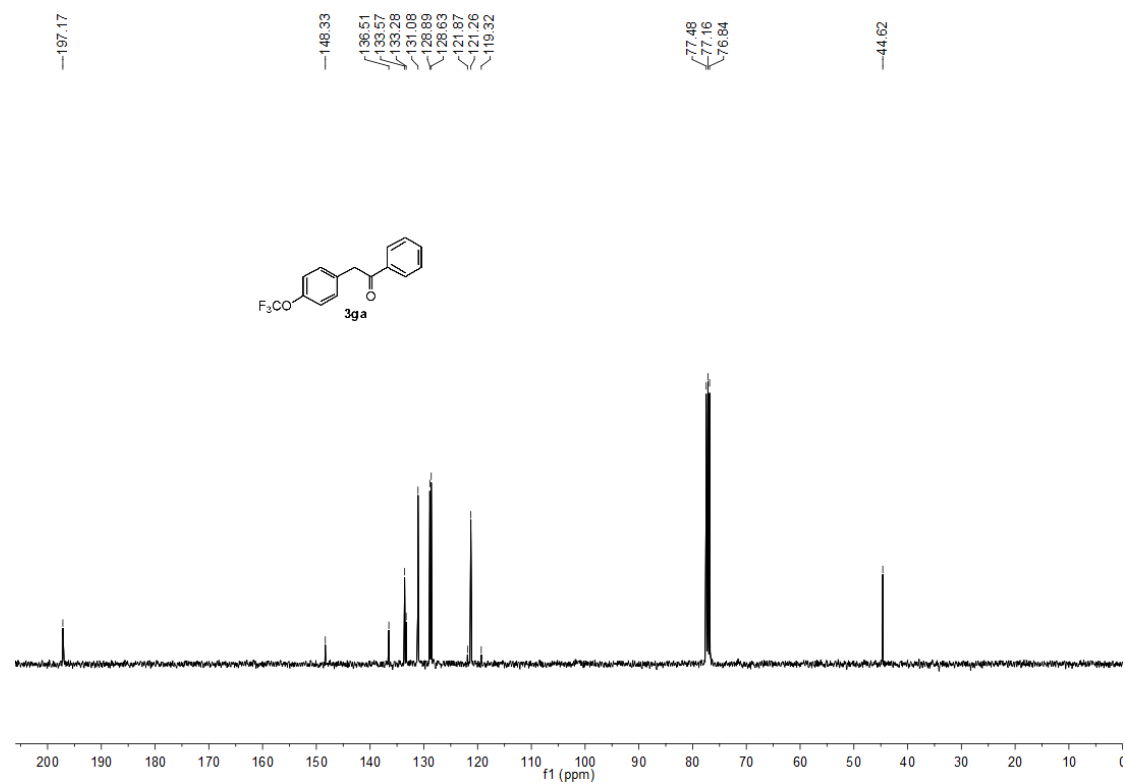
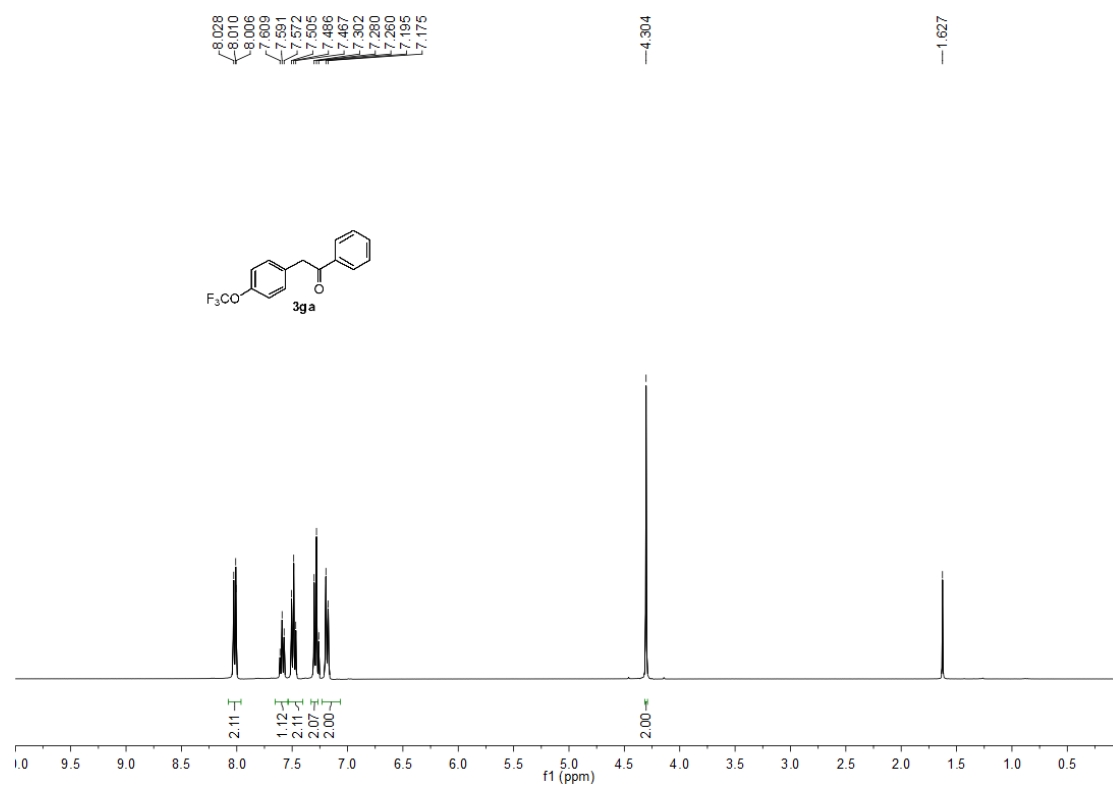


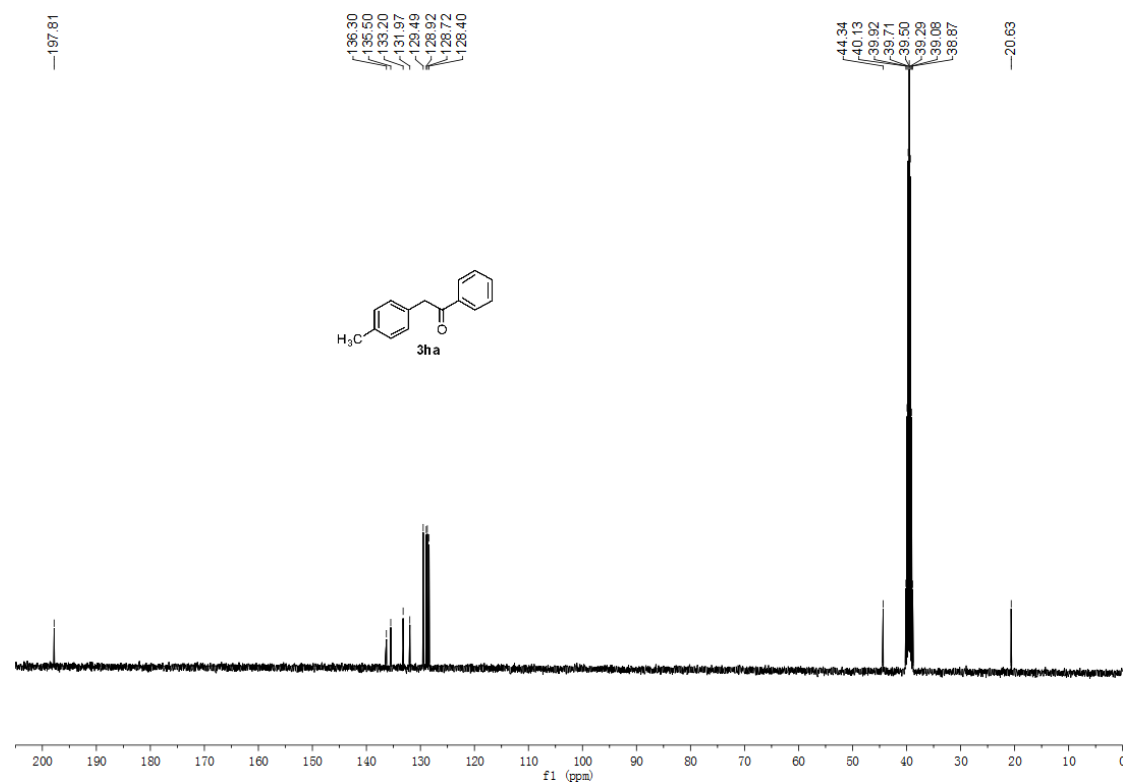
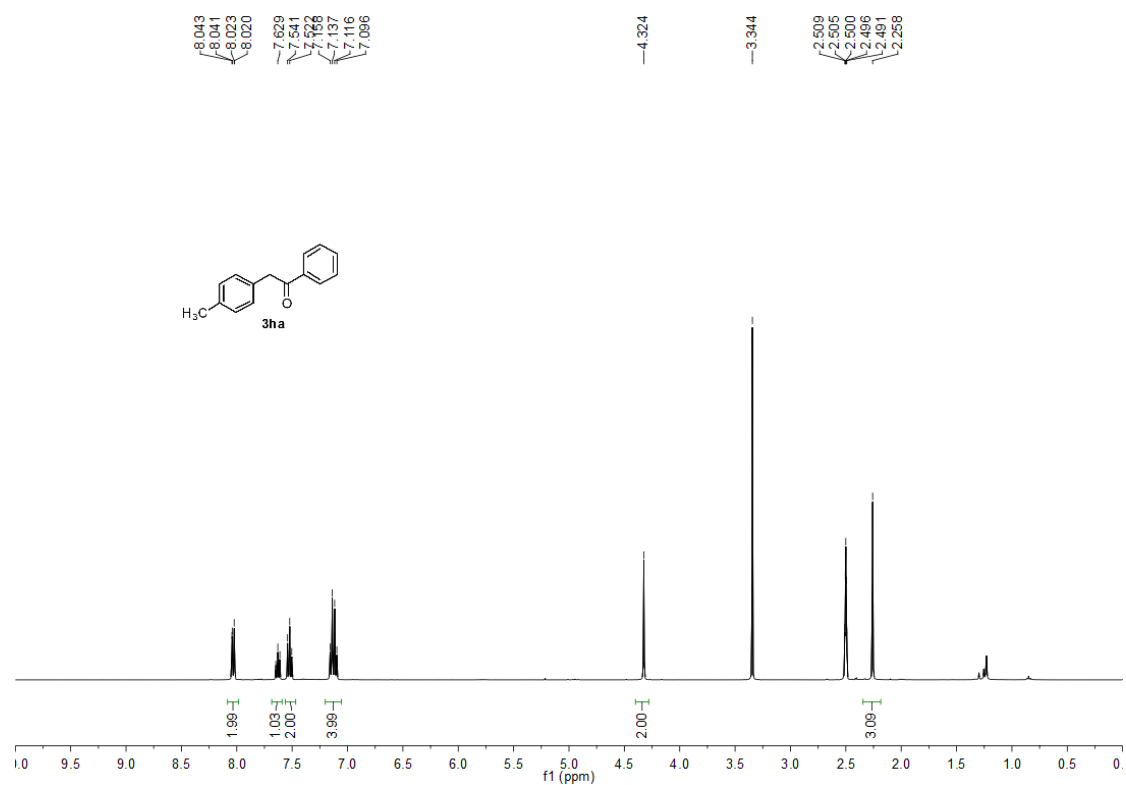


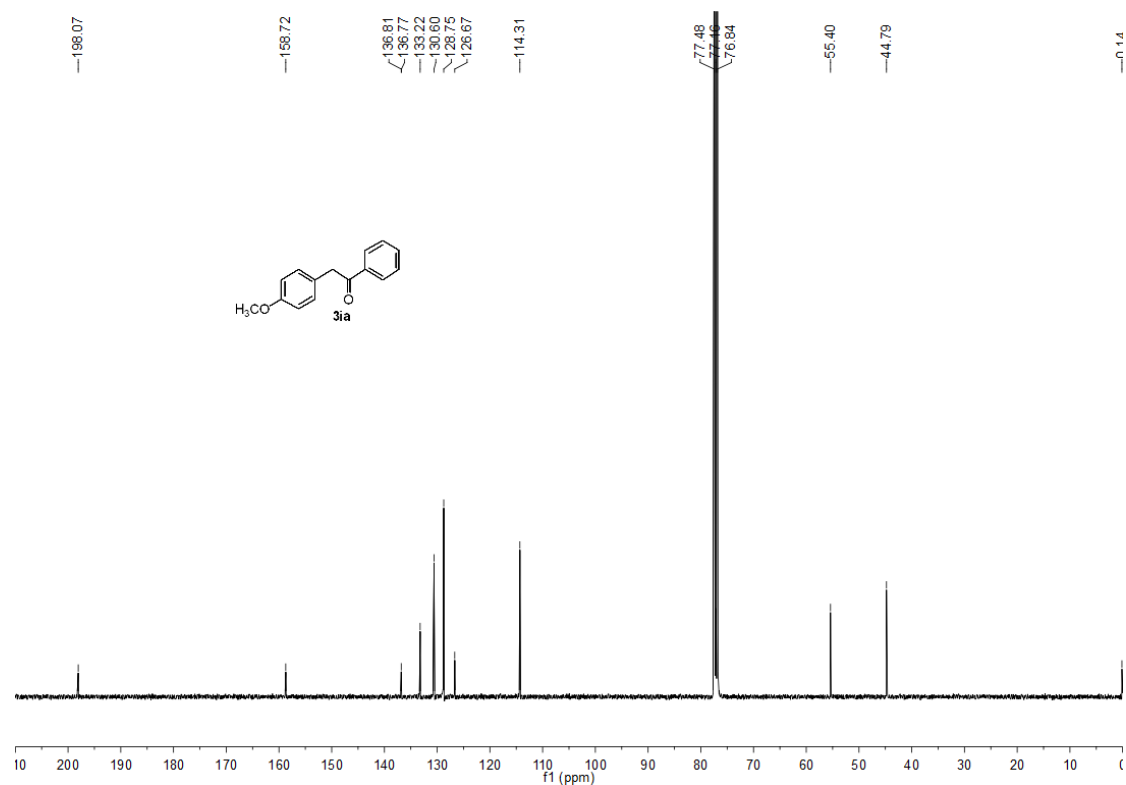
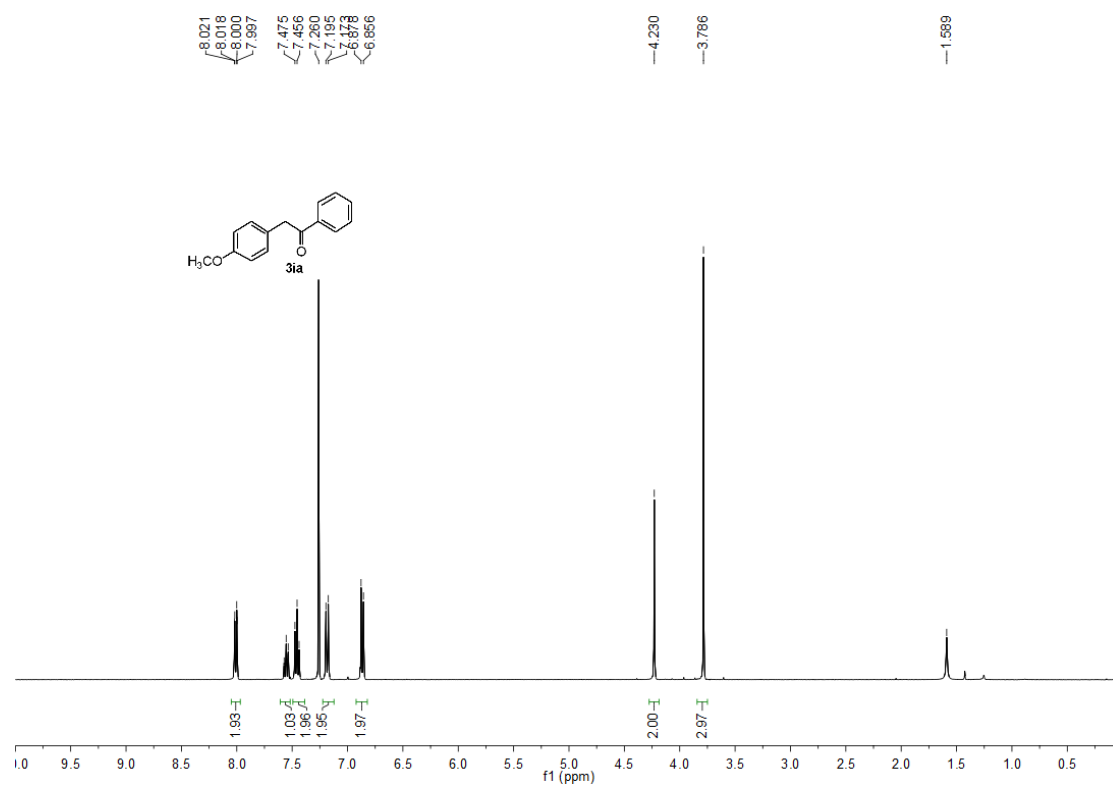


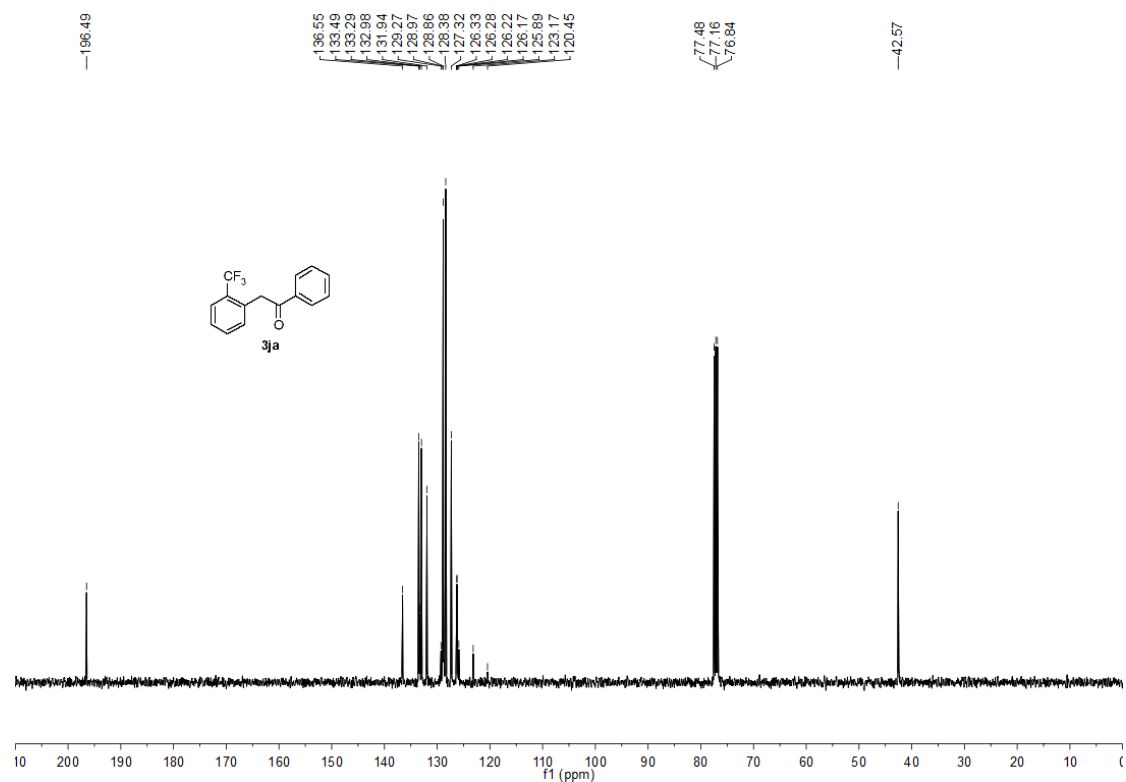
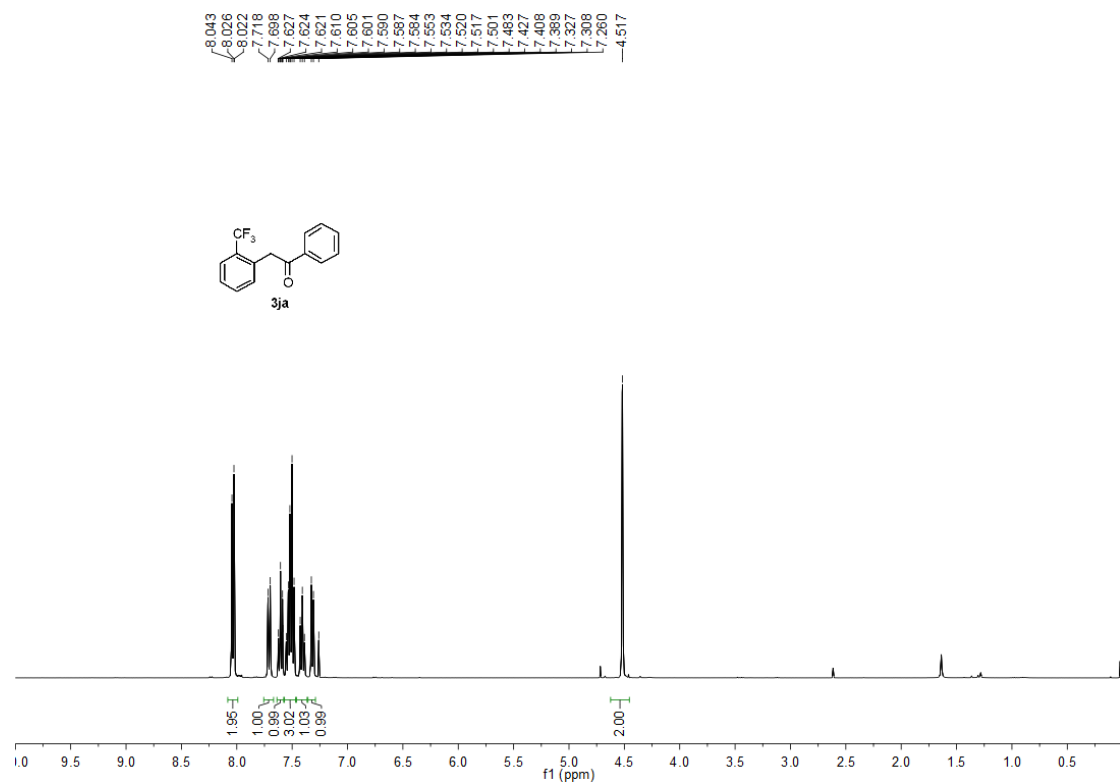


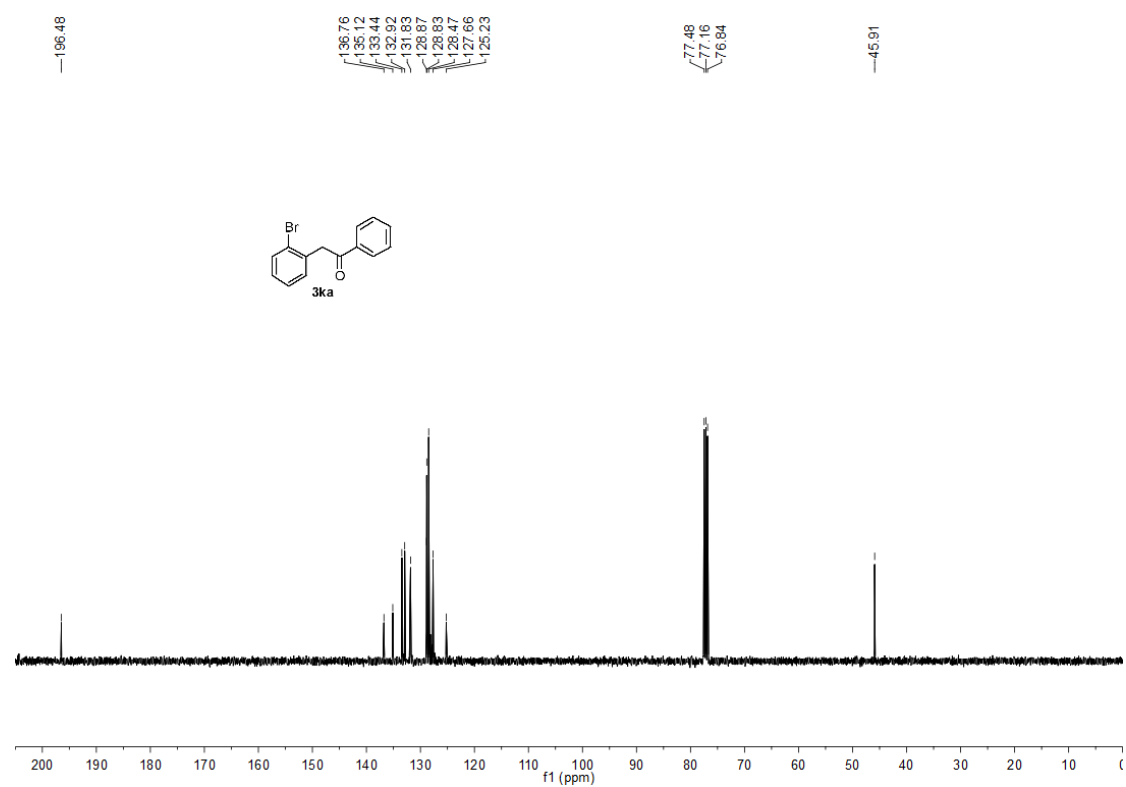
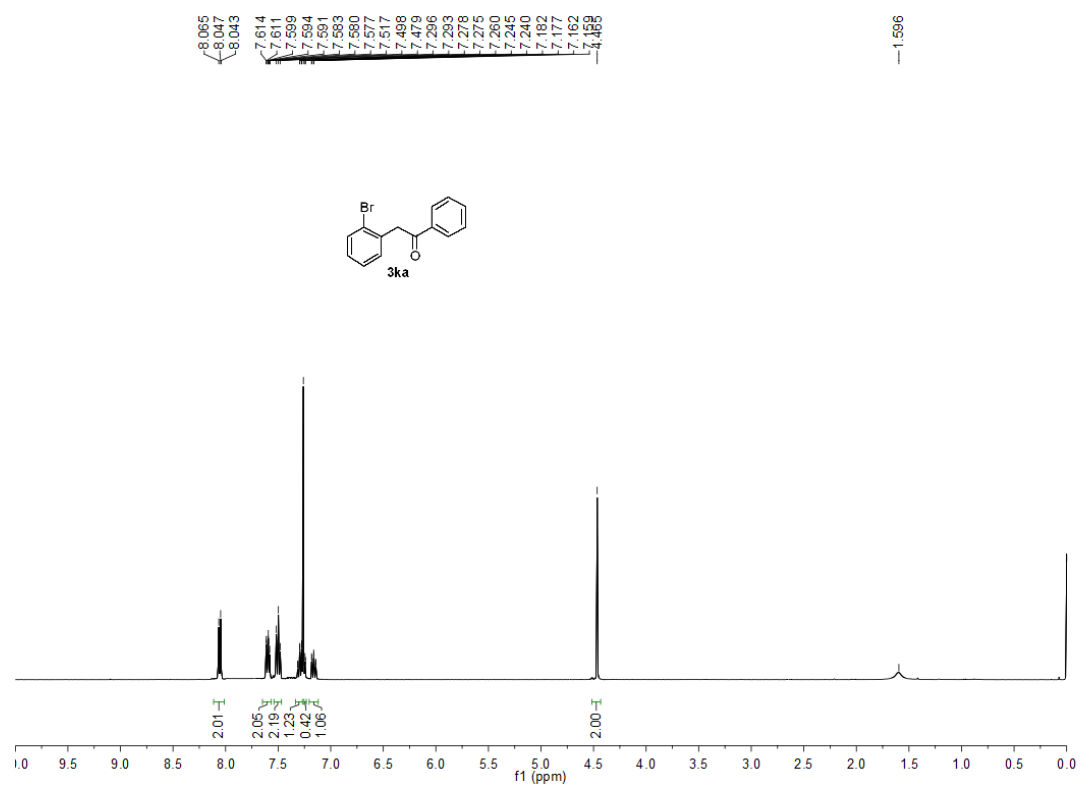


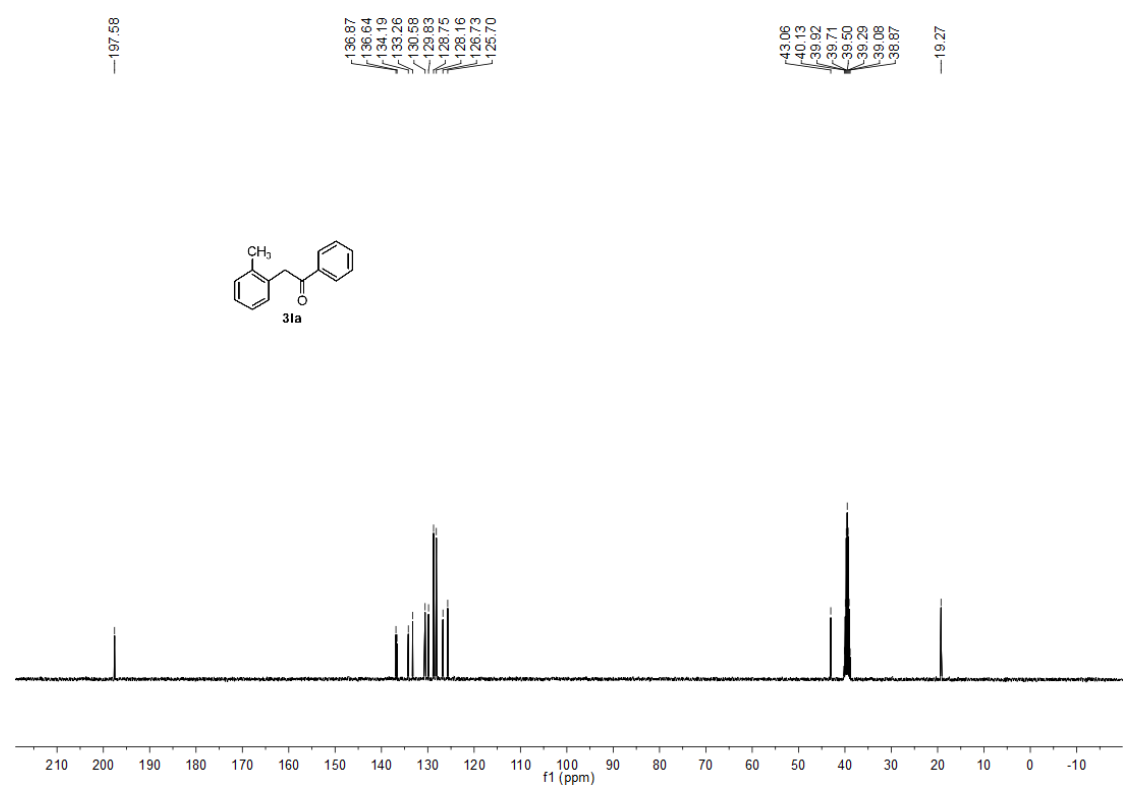
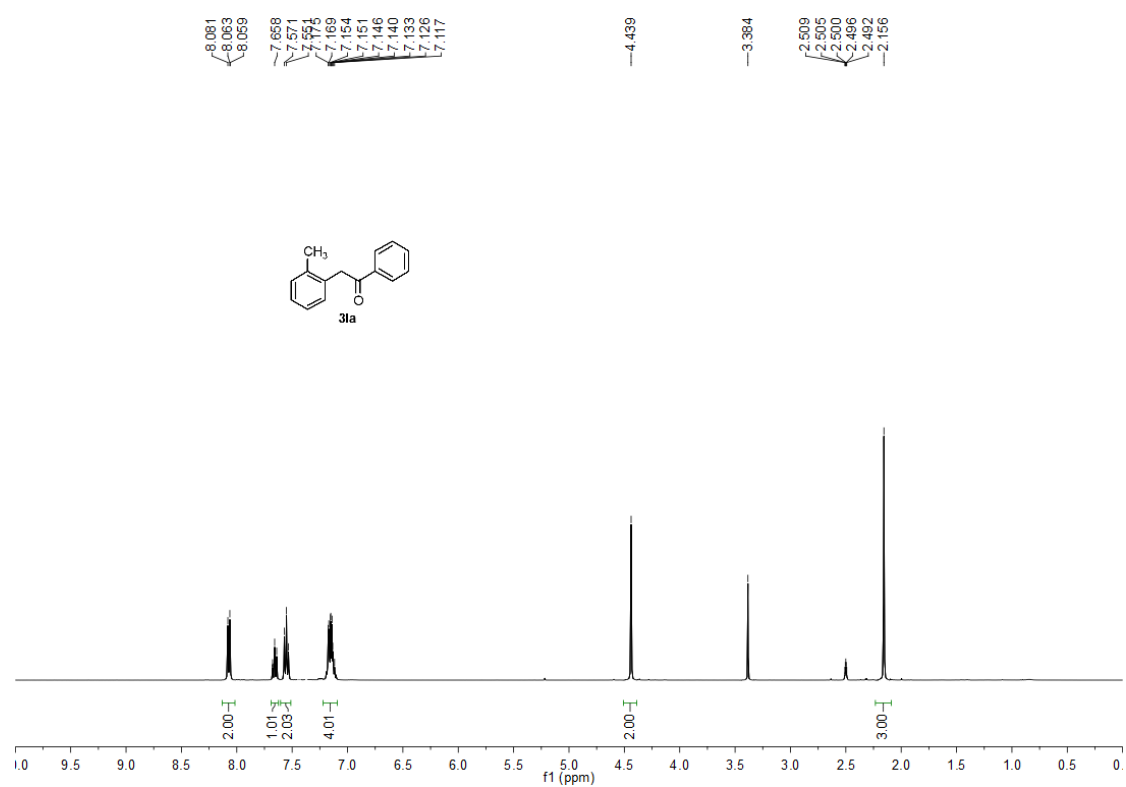


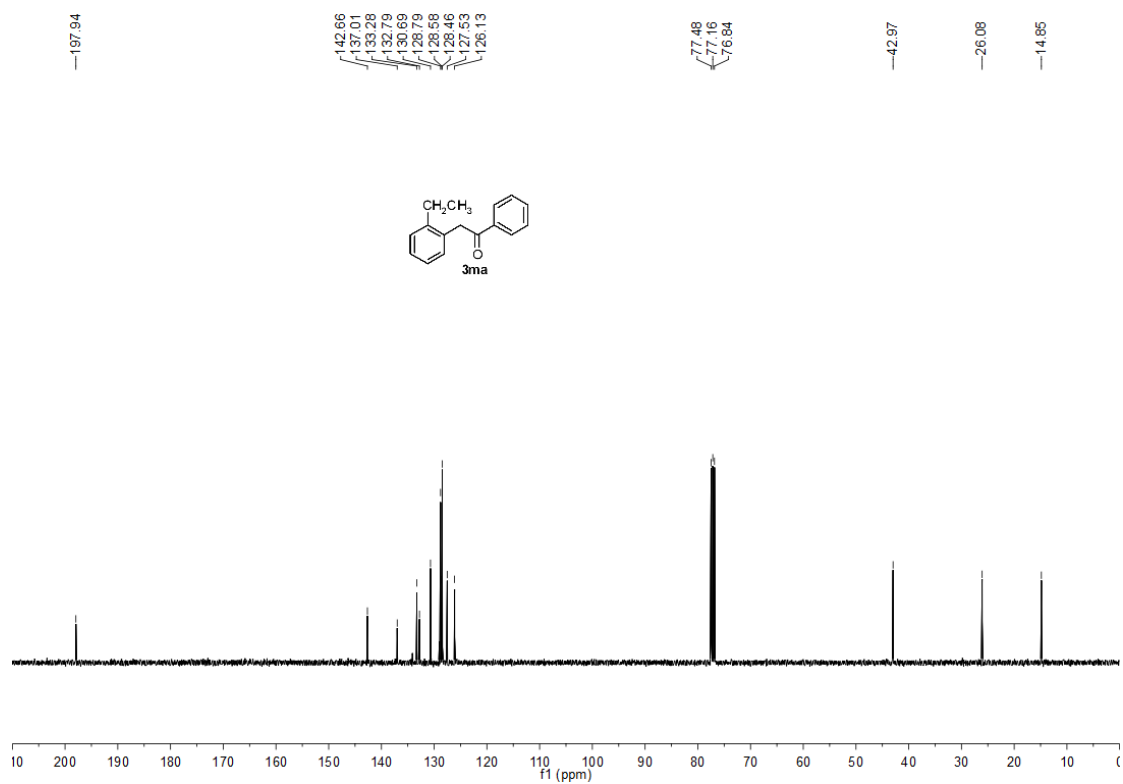
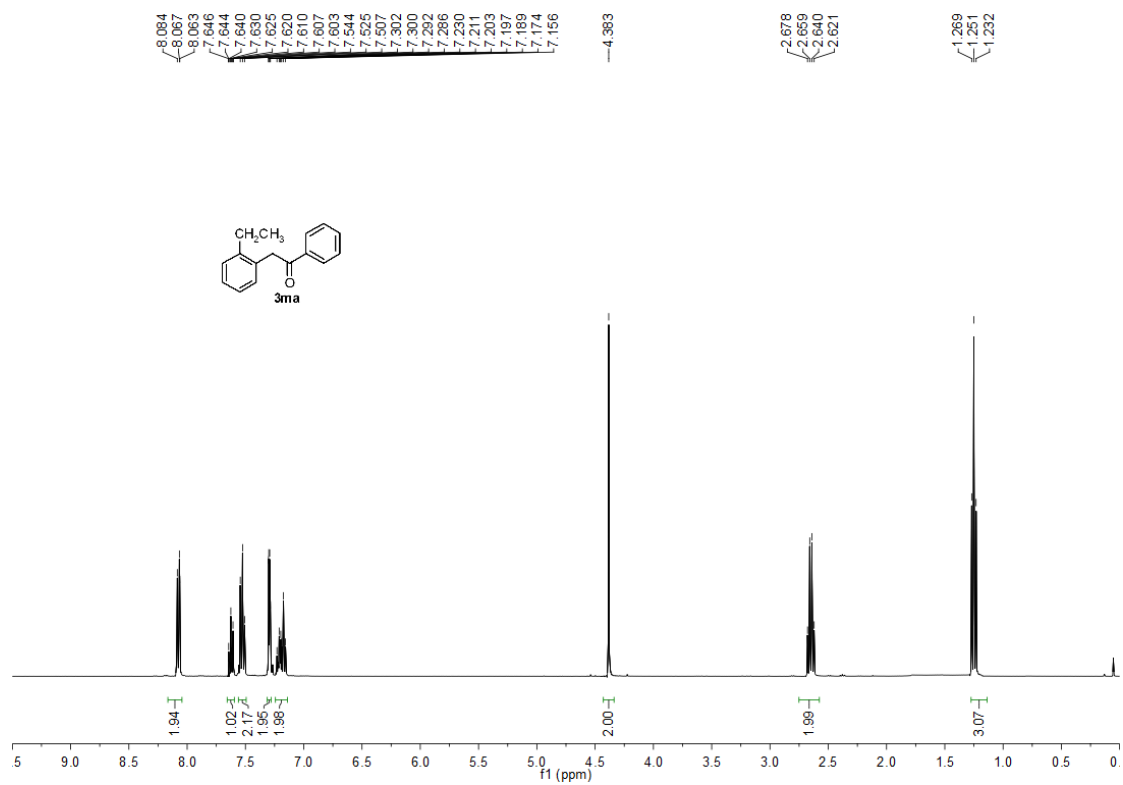


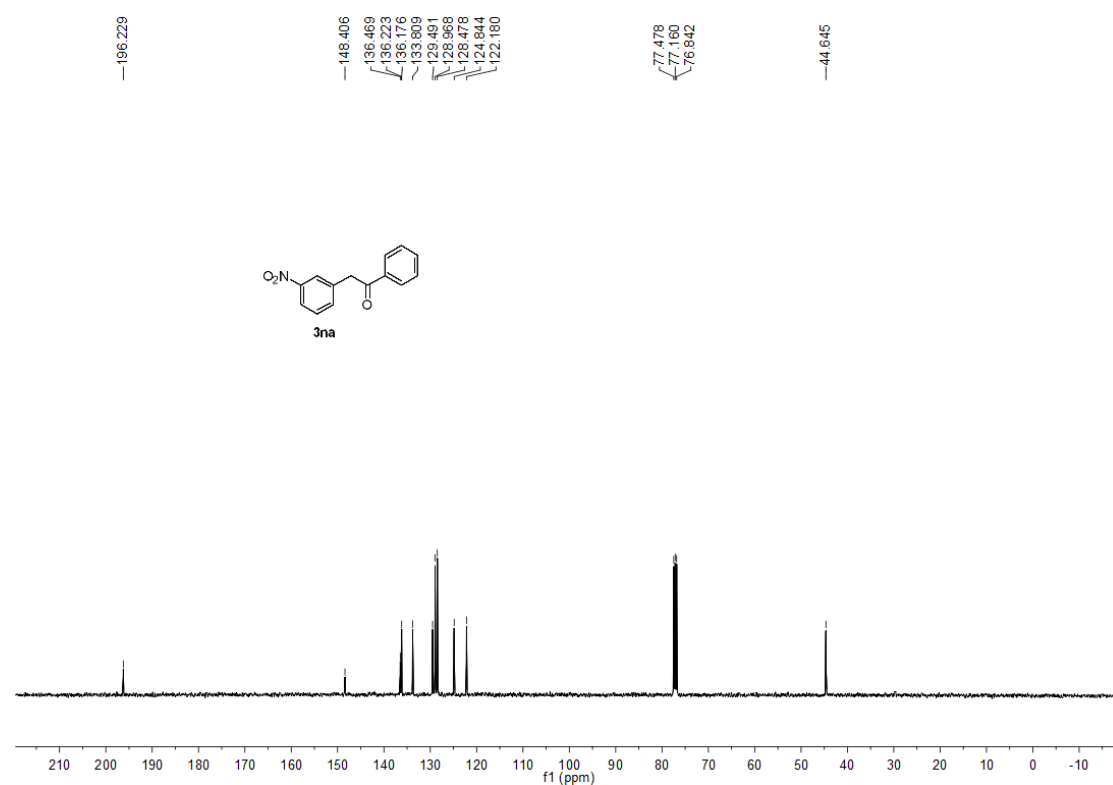
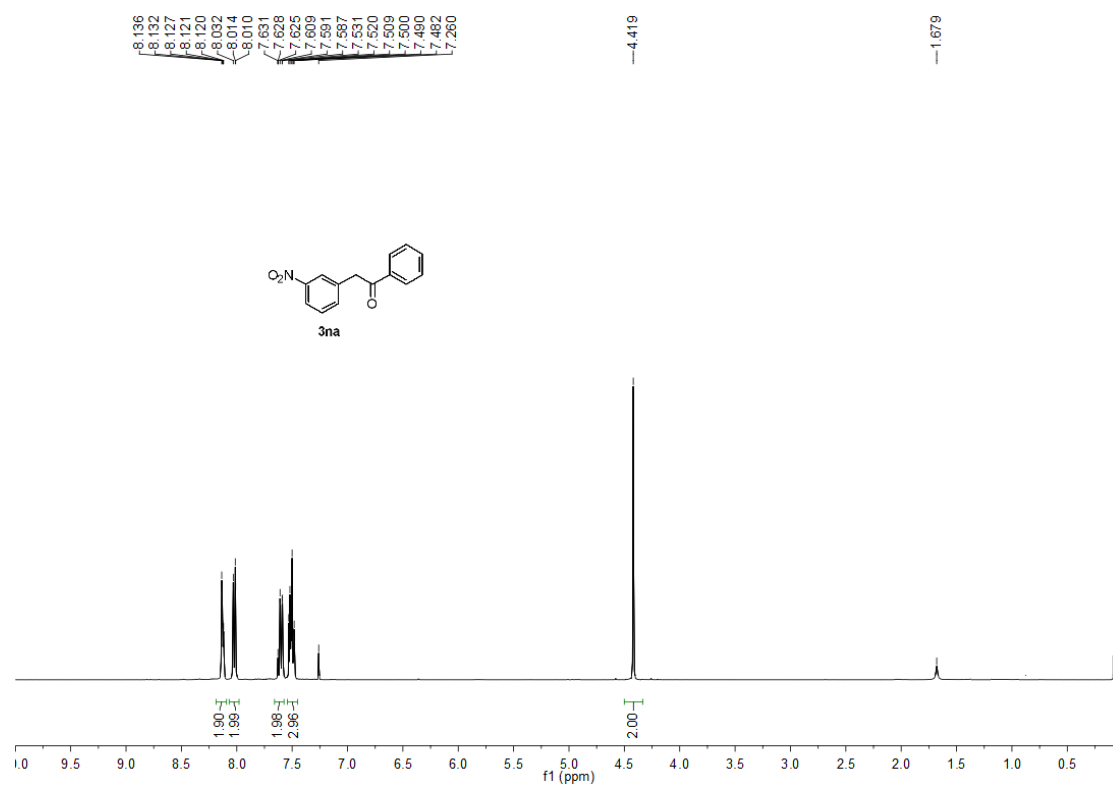


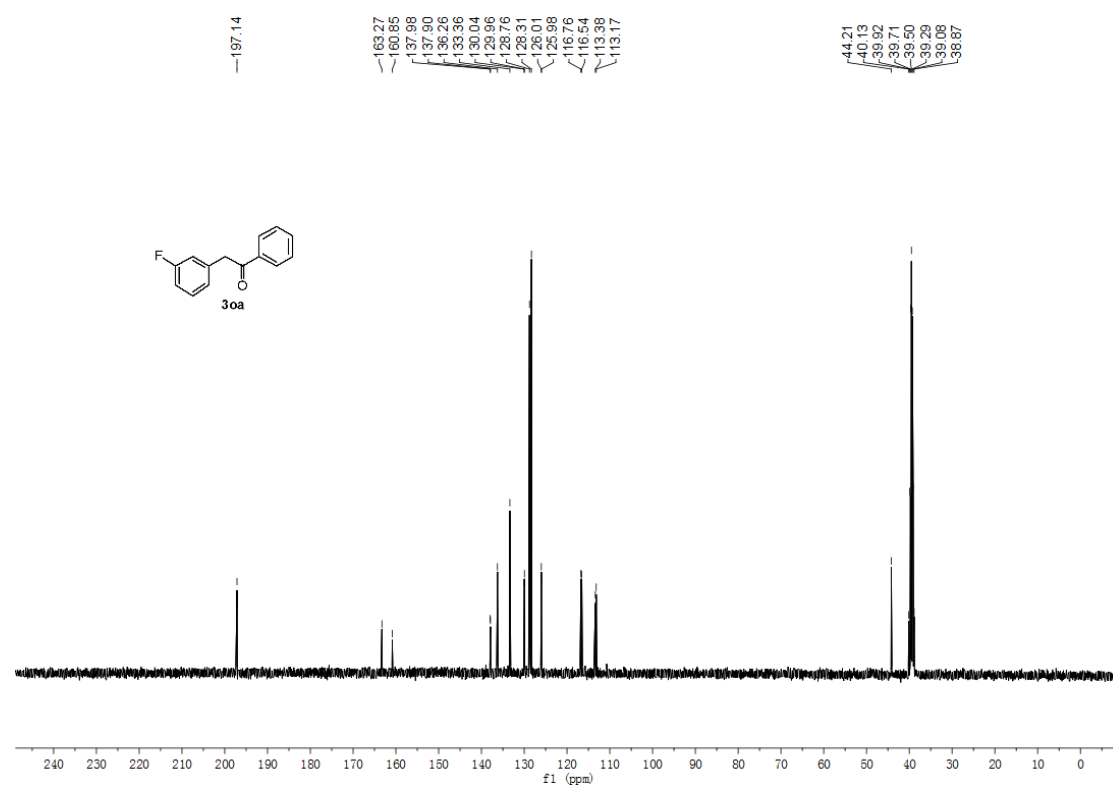
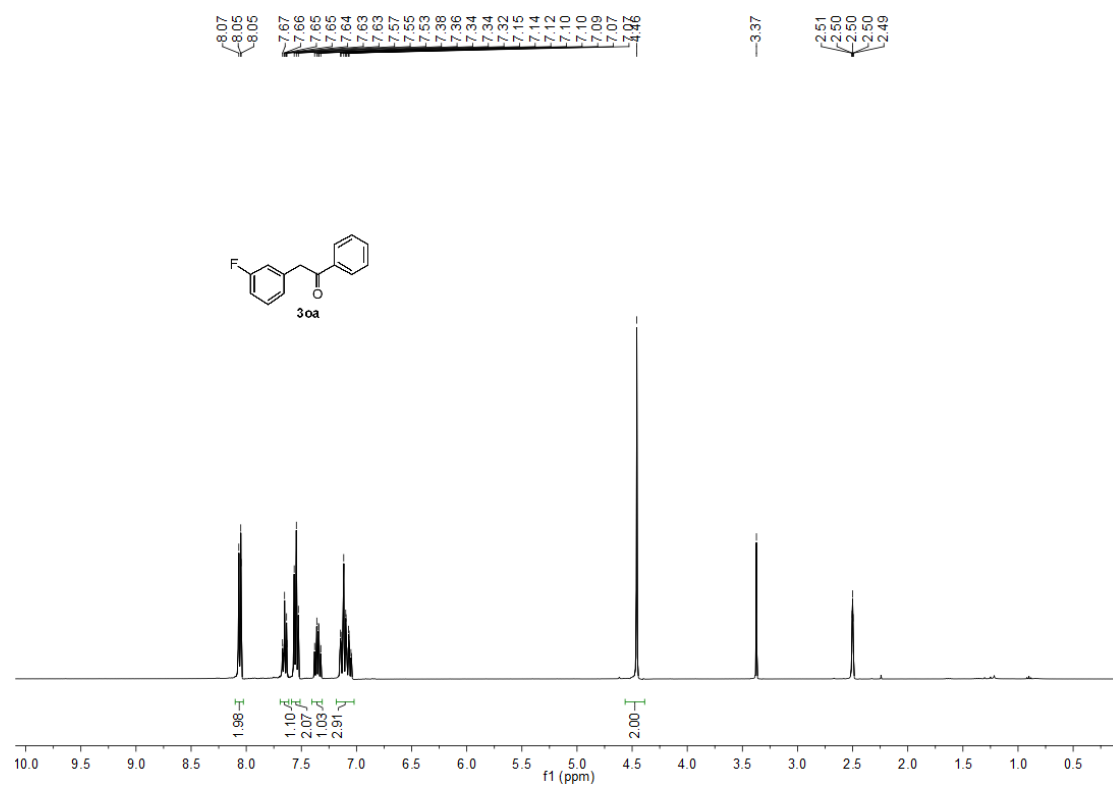


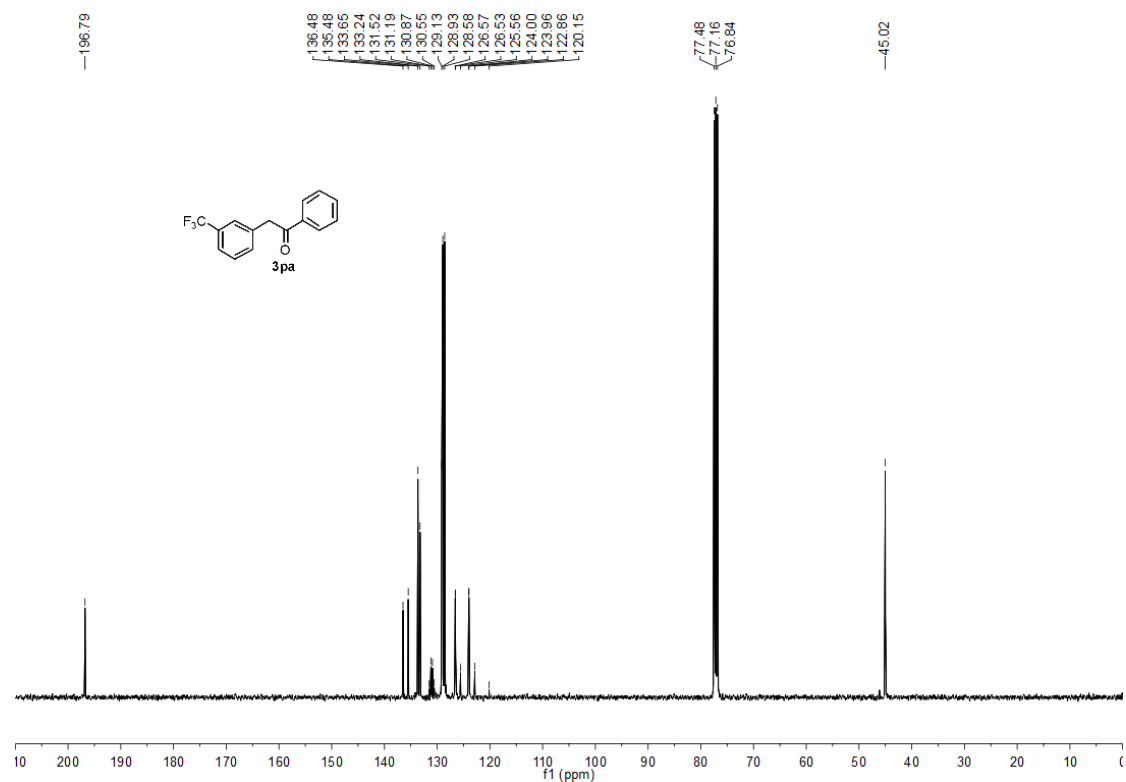
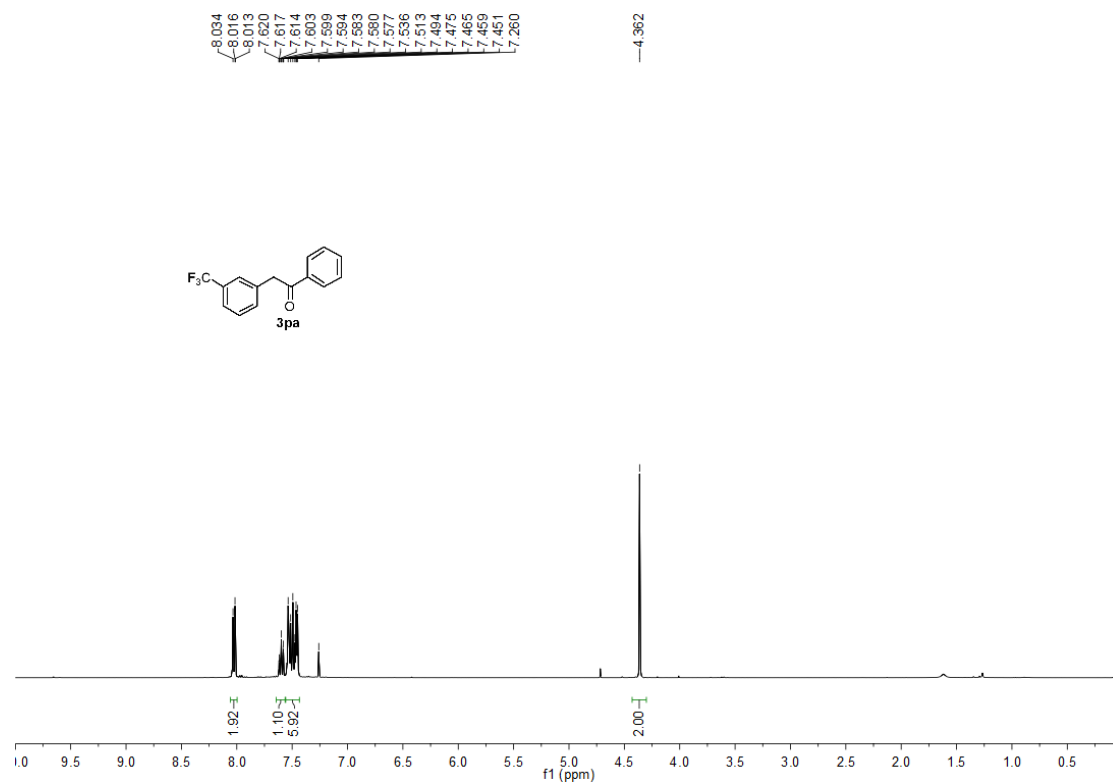


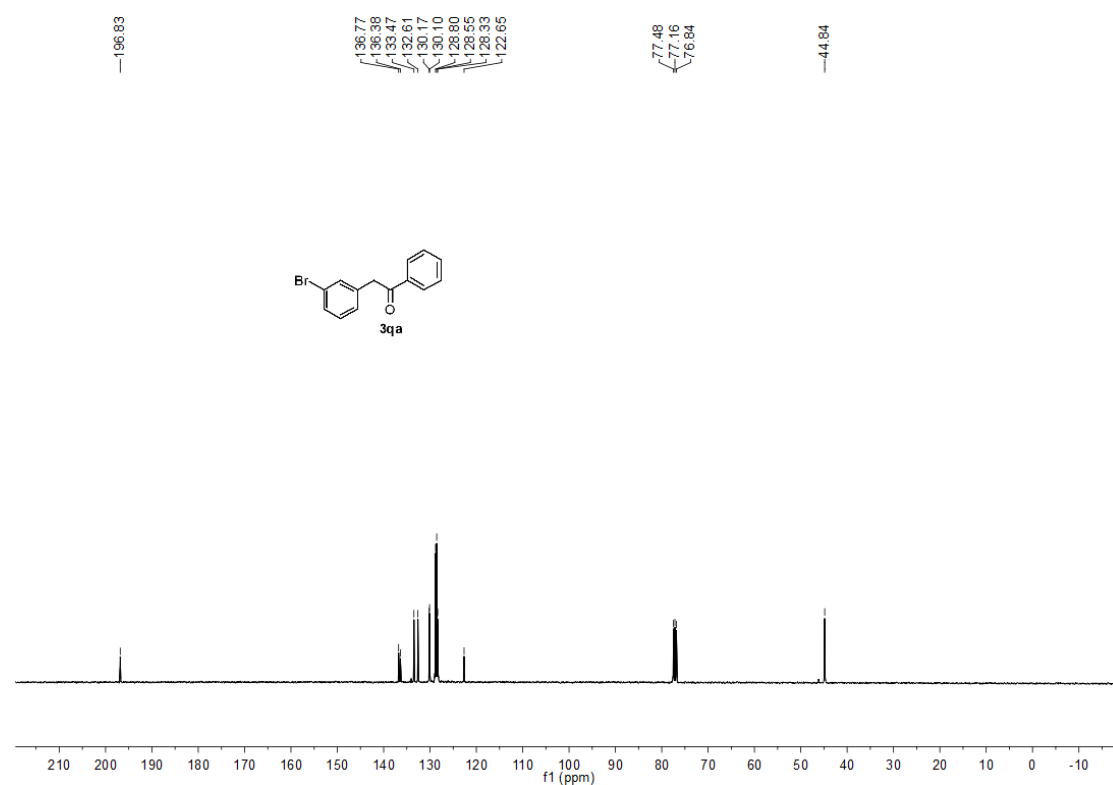
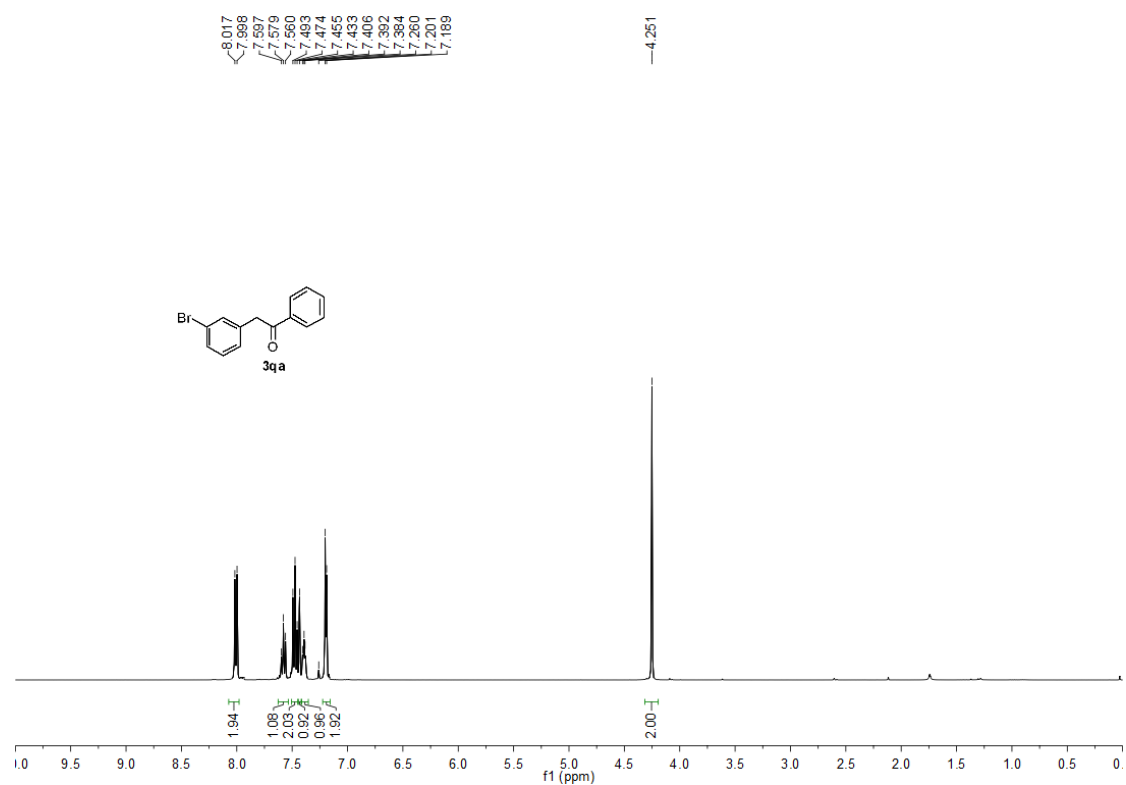


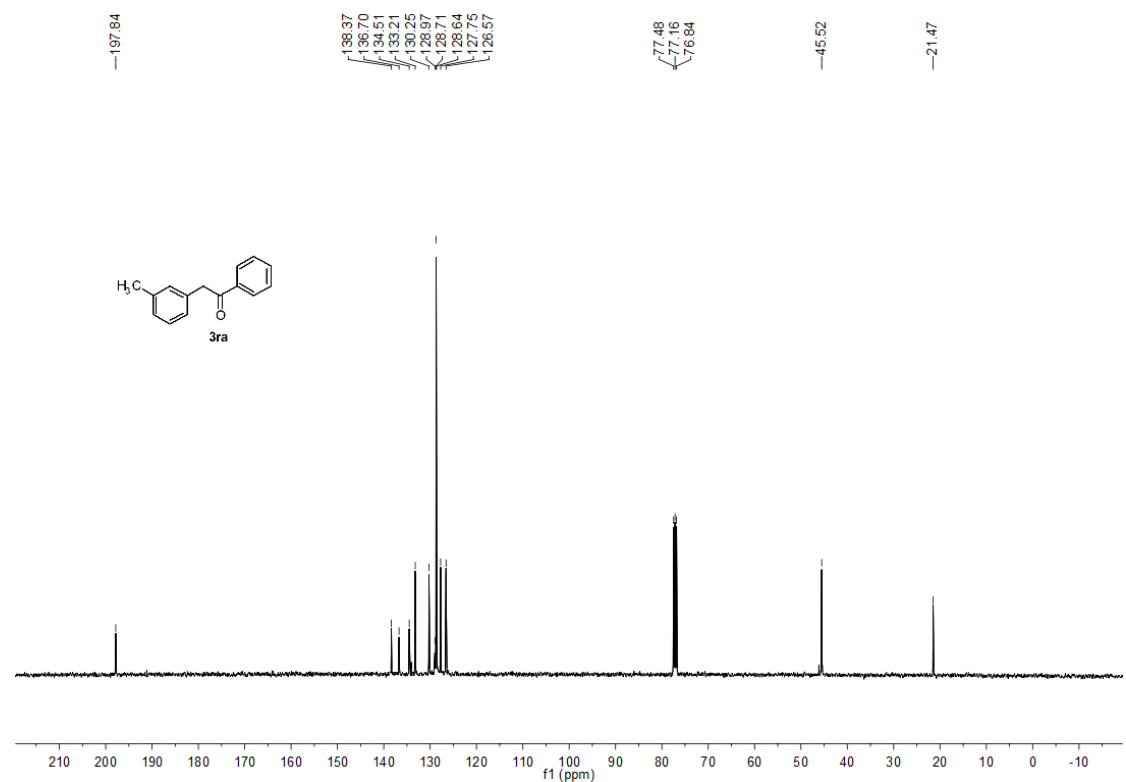
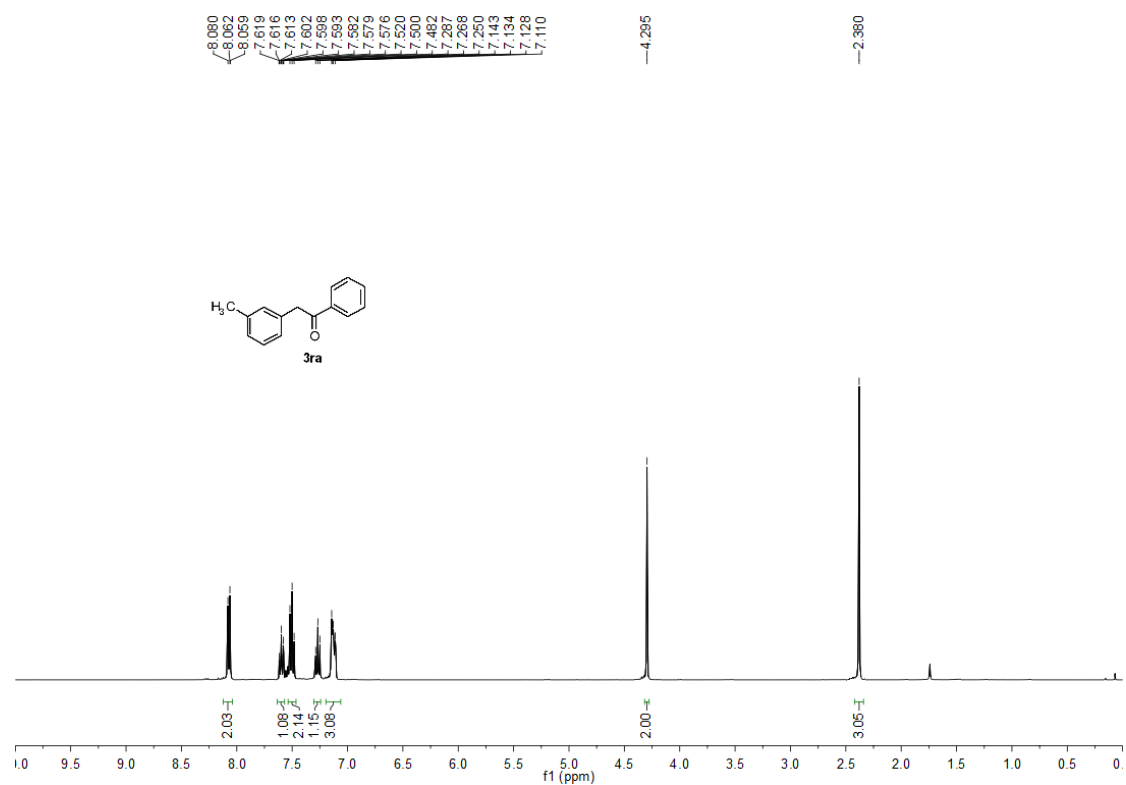












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