

## Supporting Information

# Wavelength-Regulated Stereodivergent Synthesis of (Z)- and (E)-1,4-Enediones from Phosponium Ylides

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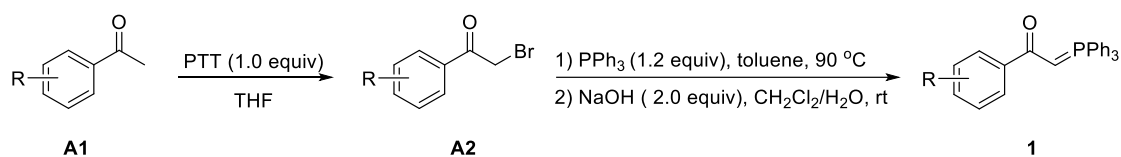
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## 1. General Information

The phosphorus ylides used were prepared according to the reported literature.<sup>1</sup> CH<sub>3</sub>CN, EtOAc and DCE were extra dry solvent purchased from chemical energy. If no special indicated, other reagents and solvents were used as commercially available without further purification. All the reactions were carried out in open air. Column chromatographic purification of products was accomplished using 200-300 mesh silica gel. NMR spectra were measured on a Bruker Avance-400 spectrometer in the solvents indicated; chemical shifts are reported in units (ppm) by assigning TMS resonance in the <sup>1</sup>H spectrum as 0.00 ppm or CHCl<sub>3</sub> resonance in CDCl<sub>3</sub> as 7.26 ppm, CDCl<sub>3</sub> resonance in the <sup>13</sup>C spectrum as 77.0 ppm, and DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> resonance in the <sup>1</sup>H spectrum as 2.50 ppm and <sup>13</sup>C spectrum as 39.52 ppm. Coupling constants are reported in Hz with multiplicities denoted as br (broad), s (singlet), bs (broad singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet) and m (multiplet). HRMS were performed on Fourier Transform Ion Cyclotron Resonance Mass Spectrometer. The UV-vis spectra were recorded using a HITACHI F-4500 Fluorescence Spectrometer. Electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker EMXplus-9.5/12 spectrometer.

## 2. General Procedure for Preparation of **1**.

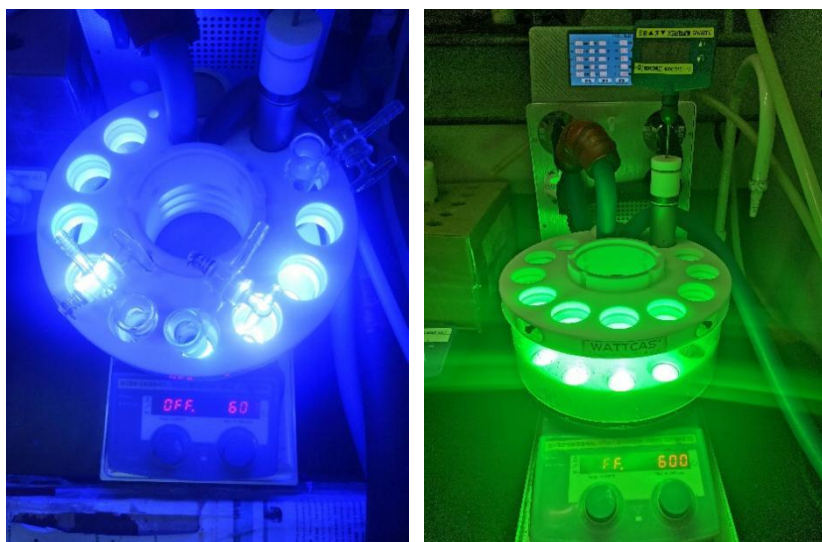


Following a literature procedure:<sup>1a</sup> to a solution of **A1** (20.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in THF (50 mL) was added PTT (trimethyl phenylammonium perbromide, 7.50 g, 20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4.0 h. Then, filter the reaction mixture, concentrate the filtrate and dissolve it with dichloromethane, wash with distilled water (3×60 mL), saturated brine (3×60 mL), dry with anhydrous magnesium sulfate, concentrate under reduced pressure, and pass through silica gel flash column chromatography to give the product **A2**.

Next, stabilized phosphonium ylides were prepared according to known procedures.<sup>1b,1c</sup> A mixture of **A2** (10.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and triphenylphospine (10.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was stirred at room temperature in toluene for 12 h under Ar atmosphere. Upon completion of the reaction, the white solid was collected by vacuum filtration and the filter cake was washed with toluene. The phosphonium salt was added to a one liter separatory funnel and dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and 1M NaOH was added and shaken vigorously with adequate venting. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to yield the target compound **1** as solid.

### 3. General Procedure for Synthesis of **2** and **3** from Phosphorus Ylides (Procedure A)

To a Schlenk tube containing a stirring bar was added methylene blue ([MB], 0.02 mmol, 10 mol%) and phosphorous ylide **1** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Then, 4.0 mL EtOAc or DCE was added to the reaction tube via syringe in air condition. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at Wattecs Parallel Light Reactor (Blue (445 nm–450 nm) or Green LED (515 nm–520 nm) Light source, 10 W every position) at ambient temperature (the temperature range from 28 °C to 32 °C). A coolant circulating pump is equipped with the Parallel Light Reactor to keep the temperature constant. Finally, the solvent was removed in vacuum and the residue was purified by rapid column chromatography on silica gel to afford the compound **2** or **3**.



**Wattecs Parallel Light Reactor equipped with a coolant circulating pump (Blue or Green LED Light source, 10 W every position)**

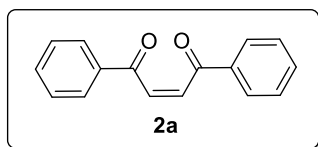
### 4. General Procedure for the synthesis of alkene from Phosphonium Salts (Procedure B)

To a Schlenk tube equipped with a rubber septum and magnetic stir bar was charged base (Sodium hydride (60% stabilized in mineral oil) or t-BuOLi) (2 equiv) and Phosphonium salt (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv). 4.0 mL EtOAc or DCE was then added to the reaction tube via syringe. Then, left the solution stirred for about 30 minutes. Subsequently, methylene blue (10 mol%) was added. A small needle was inserted through the septum to maintain oxygen level inside the vial. The reaction mixture was stirred under blue

or Green LED irradiation for 12 h at ambient temperature (the temperature range from 28 °C to 32 °C). A coolant circulating pump is equipped with the Parallel Light Reactor to keep the temperature constant. Finally, the solvent was removed in vacuum and the residue was purified by rapid column chromatography on silica gel to afford the corresponding alkenes.

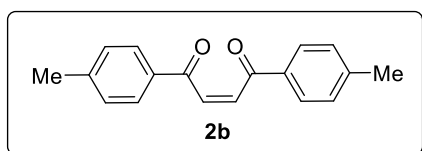
## 5. Characterization Data for Products

### (Z)-1,4-diphenylbut-2-ene-1,4-dione **2a**<sup>2</sup>



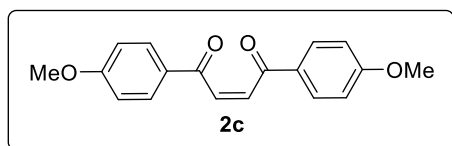
According to the general procedure A, **2a** (white solid, 21.9 mg, mp: 125–127 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) in 88% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.15 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 192.4 (2C), 136.1 (2C), 135.6 (2C), 133.5 (2C), 128.7 (4C), 128.6 (4C); MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 236.0.

### (Z)-1,4-di-tolylbut-2-ene-1,4-dione **2b**<sup>3</sup>



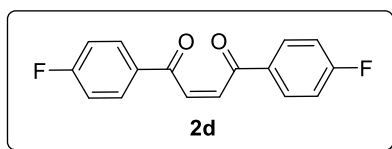
According to the general procedure A, **2b** (white solid, 25.4 mg, mp: 93–95 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 15:1) in 96% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.36 (s, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 2.36 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 191.9 (2C), 144.1 (2C), 135.9 (2C), 133.4 (2C), 129.4 (4C), 128.5 (4C), 21.2 (2C); MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 264.0.

### (Z)-1,4-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2c**<sup>3</sup>



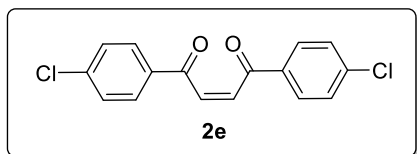
According to the general procedure A, **2c** (white solid, 28.2 mg, mp: 114–116 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5:1) in 95% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.89 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.31 (s, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 3.84 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 190.8 (2C), 163.4 (2C), 135.5 (2C), 130.7 (4C), 128.9 (2C), 114.1 (2C), 55.6 (2C); MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 296.0.

### (Z)-1,4-bis(4-fluorophenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2d**<sup>4</sup>



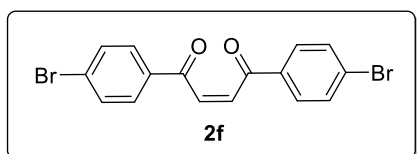
According to the general procedure A, **2d** (white solid, 25.9 mg, mp: 117–119 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 8:1) in 95% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.98–7.94 (m, 4H), 7.16–7.11 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 190.7 (2C), 166.0 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 254.4 Hz, 2C), 135.4 (2C), 132.5 (2C), 131.3 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 9.3 Hz, 4C), 115.9 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 21.9 Hz, 4C); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -103.854; MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 272.0.

(Z)-1,4-bis(4-chlorophenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2e**<sup>4</sup>



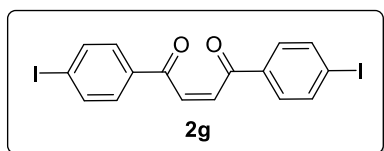
According to the general procedure A, **2e** (white solid, 27.2 mg, mp: 100–102 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) in 89% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.13 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 191.0 (2C), 140.2 (2C), 135.5 (2C), 134.4 (2C), 130.0 (4C), 129.2 (4C); MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 303.9.

(Z)-1,4-bis(4-bromophenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2f**<sup>5</sup>



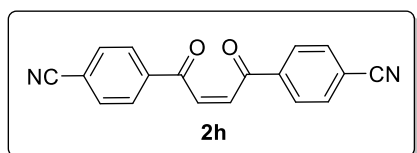
According to the general procedure A, **2f** (white solid, 36.4 mg, mp: 180–182 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 9:1) in 93% yield; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.12 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 191.3 (2C), 135.5 (2C), 134.7 (2C), 132.1 (4C), 130.0 (4C), 129.0 (2C); MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 391.9.

(Z)-1,4-bis(4-iodophenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2g**



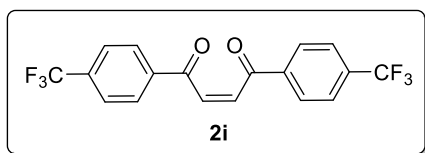
According to the general procedure A, **2g** (white solid, 34.7 mg, mp: 140–142 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 6:1) in 71% yield. The structure of **2g** was unambiguously confirmed by X-ray crystallography (see figure S1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.39 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 191.9 (2C), 137.9 (4C), 136.0 (2C), 135.0 (2C), 130.0 (4C), 102.4 (2C); MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 487.8.

(Z)-1,4-bis(4-cyanophenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2h**



According to the general procedure A, **2h** (white solid, 24.7 mg, mp: 175–177 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2:1) in 86% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.22 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 190.7 (2C), 138.7 (2C), 135.8 (2C), 132.7 (4C), 128.9 (4C), 117.7 (2C), 117.0 (2C); HRMS (ESI): calculated for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>) requires *m/z*: 287.0815, found *m/z*: 287.0821.

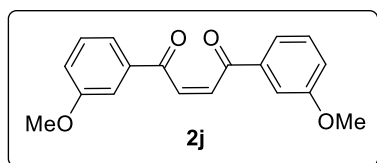
(Z)-1,4-bis(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2i**<sup>6</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **2i** (white solid, 35.4 mg, mp: 175–177 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) in 95% yield. <sup>1</sup>H

NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.50 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 191.9 (2C), 138.7 (2C), 136.5 (2C), 133.0 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 31.7 Hz, 2C), 125.9 (4C), 125.9 (4C), 123.7 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 271.1 Hz, 2C); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -61.74; MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 372.0.

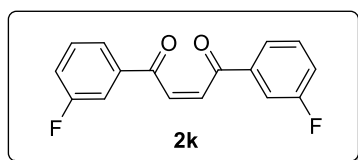
(*Z*)-1,4-bis(3-methoxyphenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2j**<sup>3</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **2j** (white solid, 27.4 mg, mp: 63–65 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 8:1) in 99% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,

DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.46–7.40 (m, 6H), 7.23–7.21 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 192.1 (2C), 159.5 (2C), 137.2 (2C), 136.2 (2C), 130.1 (2C), 121.1 (2C), 119.8 (2C), 112.5 (2C), 55.3 (2C); MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 296.0.

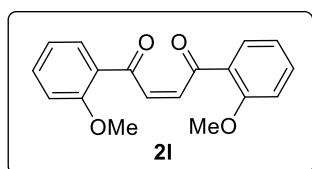
(*Z*)-1,4-bis(3-fluorophenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2k**<sup>3</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **2k** (white solid, 27.0 mg, mp: 85–87 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 8:1) in 99% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,

DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.78 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.71–7.68 (m, 2H), 7.61–7.45 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 191.4 (2C), 162.3 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 244.1 Hz, 2C), 137.9 (2C), 136.2 (2C), 131.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 7.5 Hz, 2C), 124.7 (2C), 120.7 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 21.2 Hz, 2C), 114.7 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 22.3 Hz, 2C); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -111.93; MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 272.0.

(*Z*)-1,4-bis(2-methoxyphenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2l**



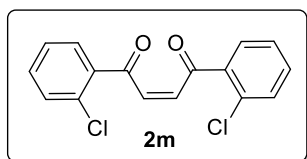
According to the general procedure A, **2l** (white solid, 29.0 mg, mp: 70–72 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 6:1) in 98% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ

7.57–7.52 (m, 4H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.03–6.95 (m, 4H), 3.83 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 192.6 (2C), 158.7 (2C), 136.2 (2C), 134.3 (2C), 130.1 (2C), 126.6 (2C), 120.5 (2C), 112.6



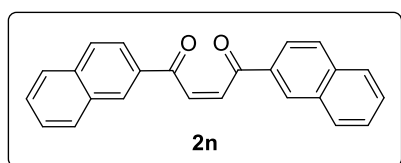
(2C), 55.8 (2C); HRMS (ESI): calculated for  $[M+H]^+$  ( $C_{18}H_{17}O_4^+$ ) requires  $m/z$ : 297.1121, found  $m/z$ : 297.1125.

(Z)-1,4-bis(2-chlorophenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2m**<sup>7</sup>



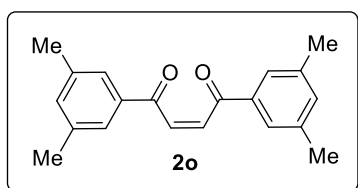
According to the general procedure A, **2m** (white solid, 30.2 mg, mp: 85–87 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) in 99% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.57–7.51 (m, 4H), 7.46–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.18 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 192.6 (2C), 137.0 (2C), 135.8 (2C), 133.4 (2C), 131.2 (2C), 131.0 (2C), 130.7 (2C), 127.3 (2C); MS:  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$ , 303.9.

(Z)-1,4-di(naphthalen-2-yl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2n**



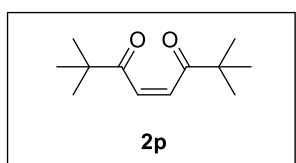
According to the general procedure A, **2n** (white solid, 32.3 mg, mp: 198–199 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) in 96% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.47 (s, 2H), 8.01–7.99 (m, 2H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 192.4 (2C), 135.8 (2C), 135.7 (2C), 133.6 (2C), 132.5 (2C), 130.7 (2C), 129.6 (2C), 128.7 (2C), 128.7 (2C), 127.8 (2C), 126.8 (2C), 123.9 (2C); HRMS (ESI): calculated for  $[M+H]^+$  ( $C_{24}H_{17}O_2^+$ ) requires  $m/z$ : 337.1223, found  $m/z$ : 337.1224.

(Z)-1,4-bis(3,5-dimethylphenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **2o**



According to the general procedure A, **2o** (white solid, 28.1 mg, mp: 107–109 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) in 96% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53 (s, 4H), 7.18 (s, 2H), 7.10 (s, 2H), 2.33 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 192.8 (2C), 138.3 (4C), 136.3 (2C), 135.7 (2C), 135.1 (2C), 126.4 (4C), 21.1 (4C); HRMS (ESI): calculated for  $[M+H]^+$  ( $C_{20}H_{21}O_2^+$ ) requires  $m/z$ : 293.1536, found  $m/z$ : 293.1540.

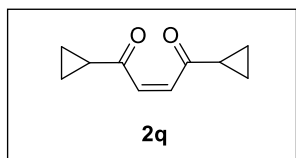
(Z)-2,2,7,7-tetramethyloct-4-ene-3,6-dione **2p**<sup>8</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **2p** (colorless liquid, 16.1 mg) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20:1) in 82% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.60 (s, 2H), 1.19

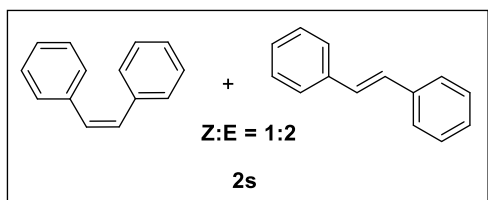
(s, 18 H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  208.2 (2C), 134.4 (2C), 43.5 (2C), 26.2 (6C); MS:  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 197.0.

(Z)-1,4-dicyclopropylbut-2-ene-1,4-dione **2q**



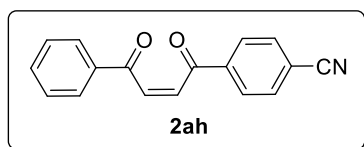
According to the general procedure A, **2q** (Oily liquid, 13.6 mg) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20:1) in 83% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.42 (s, 2H), 2.08–2.02 (m, 2H), 1.18–1.14 (m, 4H), 1.02–0.97 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  202.6 (2C), 135.4 (2C), 21.4 (2C), 11.9 (4C); HRMS (ESI): calculated for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  ( $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_2^+$ ) requires  $m/z$ : 165.0910, found  $m/z$ : 165.0911.

(Z)-1,2-diphenylethene and (E)-1,2-diphenylethene **2s**<sup>9</sup>



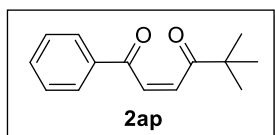
According to the general procedure B, NaH was selected as the base, **2s** (a mixture of (Z)-1,2-diphenylethene and (E)-1,2-diphenylethene, 14.4 mg) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 200:1) in 80% yield, Z:E = 1:2. (Z)-**2s**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.25–7.17 (m, 10H), 6.59 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  137.2 (2C), 130.2 (2C), 128.9 (4C), 128.2 (4C), 127.1 (2C); (E)-**2s**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.56 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 4H), 7.40 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 4H), 7.30 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.15 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  137.3 (2C), 128.7 (2C), 128.7 (4C), 127.6 (2C), 126.5 (4C). MS:  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 180.2.

(Z)-4-(4-oxo-4-phenylbut-2-enoyl)benzonitrile **2ah**



According to the general procedure A, **1a** (0.1 mmol) and **1h** (0.1 mmol) were added to the reaction tube in a ratio of 1:1. **2ah** (white solid, 16.7 mg, mp: 90–92 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 8:1) in 64% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.06 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 8.00 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.94 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.67 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.56–7.52 (m, 3H), 7.41 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$  192.5, 191.7, 138.9, 136.9, 135.6 (2C), 133.8, 132.9 (2C), 128.9 (2C), 128.8 (2C), 128.5 (2C), 118.0, 115.4; HRMS (ESI): calculated for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  ( $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}_2^+$ ) requires  $m/z$ : 262.0863, found  $m/z$ : 262.0865.

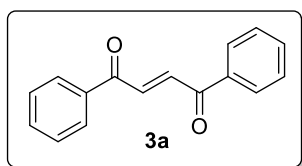
(Z)-5,5-dimethyl-1-phenylhex-2-ene-1,4-dione **2ap**<sup>10</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **1a** (0.1 mmol) and **1p** (0.1 mmol) were added to the reaction tube in a ratio of 1:1. **2ap** (yellow liquid, 11.5 mg) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl

acetate = 8:1) in 53% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.92–7.90 (m, 2H), 7.56 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.89–6.81 (m, 2H), 1.18 (s, 9H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  207.3, 205.9, 137.8, 135.9, 133.4, 132.2, 128.6 (2C), 128.4 (2C), 43.3, 26.0 (3C); MS:  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 216.0

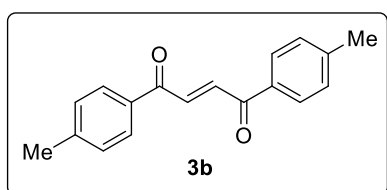
(E)-1,4-diphenylbut-2-ene-1,4-dione **3a**<sup>11</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **3a** (yellow solid, 22.4 mg, mp: 109–111 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 15:1) in 95% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,

$\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.08 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 4H), 7.92 (s, 2H), 7.72 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.60 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$  190.0 (2C), 136.4 (2C), 135.3 (2C), 134.0 (2C), 129.0 (4C), 128.8 (4C); MS:  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 236.0.

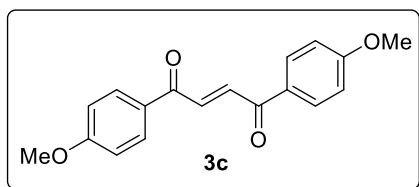
(E)-1,4-di-p-tolylbut-2-ene-1,4-dione **3b**<sup>12</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **3b** (yellow solid, 24.1 mg, mp: 147–149 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 15:1) in 91% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.00 (s, 2H), 7.97 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 4H), 7.32 (d,  $J = 8.0$

Hz, 4H), 2.43 (s, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  189.4 (2C), 144.9 (2C), 134.9 (2C), 134.5 (2C), 129.6 (4C), 129.0 (4C), 21.7 (2C); MS:  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 264.0.

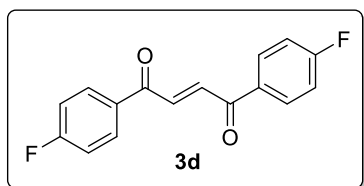
(E)-1,4-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **3c**<sup>11</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **3c** (yellow solid, 25.5 mg, mp: 147–149 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) in 86% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR

(400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.08 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 4H), 7.91 (s, 2H), 7.11 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 4H), 3.87 (s, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$  187.9 (2C), 163.8 (2C), 134.8 (2C), 131.3 (4C), 129.5 (2C), 114.3 (4C), 55.7 (2C). MS:  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 296.0.

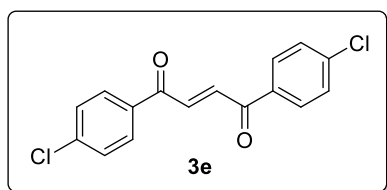
(E)-1,4-bis(4-fluorophenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **3d**<sup>12</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **3d** (yellow solid, 26.4 mg, mp: 117–119 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20:1) in 97% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.19–8.15 (m, 4H), 7.91 (s, 2H), 7.41 (t,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 4H);

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  188.5 (2C), 165.5 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 251.8 Hz, 2C), 135.2 (2C), 133.1 (2C), 132.0 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 9.6 Hz, 4C), 116.1 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 21.9 Hz, 4C);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  -104.43; MS:  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 272.0.

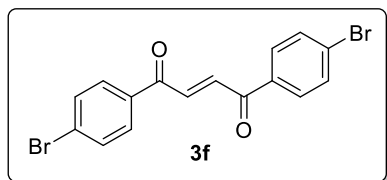
(E)-1,4-bis(4-chlorophenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **3e**<sup>12</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **3e** (yellow solid, 29.0 mg, mp: 170–172 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 15:1) in 95% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.09 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.89 (s, 2H), 7.65 (d,  $J$  =

8.4 Hz, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  189.0 (2C), 139.0 (2C), 135.3 (2C), 135.0 (2C), 130.8 (4C), 129.2 (4C); MS:  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 303.9.

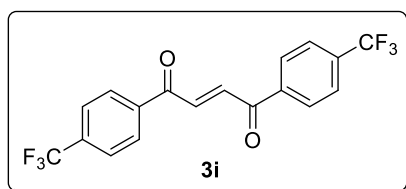
(E)-1,4-bis(4-bromophenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **3f**<sup>11</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **3f** (yellow solid, 35.3 mg, mp: 270–272 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) in 90% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.97 (s, 2H), 7.93 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 7.68 (d,  $J$  = 8.4

Hz, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  188.6 (2C), 135.5 (2C), 134.9 (2C), 132.3 (4C), 130.3 (4C), 129.4 (2C); MS:  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 391.9.

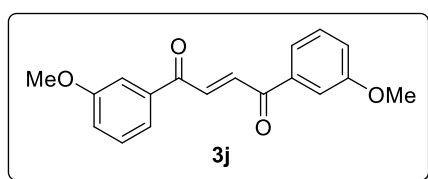
(E)-1,4-bis(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **3i**<sup>3</sup>



According to the general procedure A with a shorten reaction time of 1.5 h, **3i** (yellow solid, 35.5 mg, mp: 190–192 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 8:1) in 95% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.27 (d,

$J$  = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.96 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.93 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  189.6 (2C), 139.5 (2C), 135.7 (2C), 133.1 (q,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 31.8 Hz, 2C), 129.7 (4C), 125.9 (q,  $^3J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 3.3 Hz, 4C), 123.7 (q,  $^1J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 271.2 Hz, 2C);  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  -61.65; MS:  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 372.0.

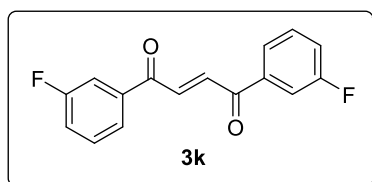
(E)-1,4-bis(3-methoxyphenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **3j**<sup>11</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **3j** (yellow solid, 28.7 mg, mp: 66–68 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20:1) in 97% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.97 (s, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H),

7.57–7.56 (m, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.19–7.16 (m, 2H), 3.88 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 189.6 (2C), 160.1 (2C), 138.3 (2C), 135.2 (2C), 129.8 (2C), 121.6 (2C), 120.6 (2C), 112.8 (2C), 55.5 (2C); MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 296.0.

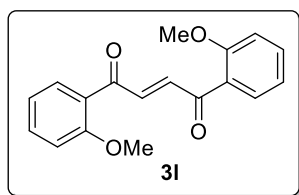
(E)-1,4-bis(3-fluorophenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **3k**<sup>11</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **3k** (yellow solid, 25.9 mg, mp: 75–77 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 15:1) in 95% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.90 (s, 2H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz,

2H), 7.67–7.61 (m, 2H), 7.59–7.56 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 188.9 (2C), 162.3 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 244.3 Hz, 2C), 138.5 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 6.0 Hz, 2C), 135.4 (2C), 131.3 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 7.8 Hz), 125.2 (2C), 120.9 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 21.3 Hz, 2C), 115.2 (d, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 22.4 Hz); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ -111.74. MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 272.0.

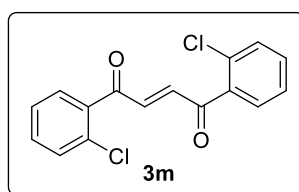
(E)-1,4-bis(2-methoxyphenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **3l**<sup>13</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **3l** (yellow solid, 28.4 mg, mp: 100–102 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 8:1) in 96% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.62–7.57 (m, 4H), 7.45 (s, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (t,

*J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 191.8 (2C), 158.4 (2C), 137.4 (2C), 134.3 (2C), 130.0 (2C), 127.3 (2C), 120.7 (2C), 112.6 (2C), 55.9 (2C); MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 296.0.

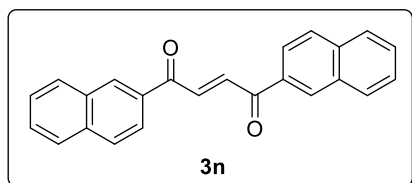
(E)-1,4-bis(2-chlorophenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **3m**<sup>12</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **3m** (yellow solid, 30.2 mg, mp: 75–77 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20:1) in 99% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.66–7.59 (m, 6H), 7.53–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.18 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz,

DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  192.5 (2C), 138.3 (2C), 136.8 (2C), 133.1 (2C), 130.4 (2C), 130.4 (2C), 130.1 (2C), 127.6 (2C). MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 303.9.

(E)-1,4-di(naphthalen-2-yl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **3n**<sup>4</sup>

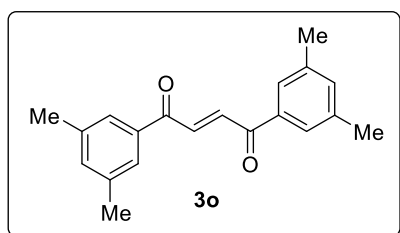


According to the general procedure A, **3n** (yellow solid, 32.0 mg, mp: 190–191 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1) in 95% yield. The structure of **3n** was unambiguously confirmed by X-ray

crystallography. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  8.68 (s, 2H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.02–7.92 (m, 6H), 7.68–7.60 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  192.4 (2C), 136.3 (2C), 135.2 (2C), 133.3 (2C), 132.1 (2C), 130.8 (2C), 129.6 (2C), 128.9 (2C), 128.6 (2C), 127.7 (2C), 127.0 (2C), 123.5 (2C).

MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 336.0.

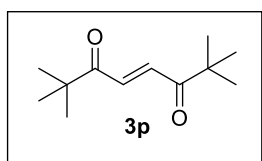
(E)-1,4-bis(3,5-dimethylphenyl)but-2-ene-1,4-dione **3o**



According to the general procedure A, **3o** (yellow solid, 28.9 mg, mp: 170–172 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) in 99% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.88 (s, 2H), 7.67 (s, 4H), 7.34 (s, 2H), 2.36 (s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  190.0 (2C), 138.5 (4C),

136.6 (2C), 135.4 (2C), 135.3 (2C), 126.5 (4C), 20.7 (4C). HRMS (ESI): calculated for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>) requires *m/z*: 293.1536, found *m/z*: 293.1541.

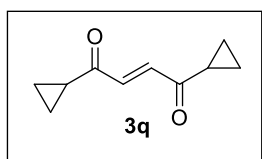
(E)-2,2,7,7-tetramethyloct-4-ene-3,6-dione **3p**<sup>8</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **3p** (yellow solid, 17.7 mg, mp: 95–96 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) in 90% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.44 (s, 2H), 1.20 (s,

18H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  204.7 (2C), 133.1 (2C), 43.7 (2C), 25.8 (6C); MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 197.0.

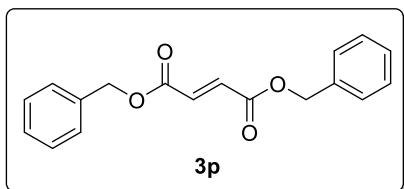
(E)-1,4-dicyclopropylbut-2-ene-1,4-dione **3q**



According to the general procedure A, **3q** (yellow solid, 14.6 mg, mp: 82–83 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) in 89% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.05 (s, 2H), 2.26 –

2.22 (m, 2H), 2.20–1.17(m, 4H), 1.07–1.04(m, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  200.4 (2C), 136.1 (2C), 20.4 (2C), 12.2 (4C). HRMS (ESI): calculated for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  ( $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_2^+$ ) requires  $m/z$  165.0910, found  $m/z$ : 165.0913.

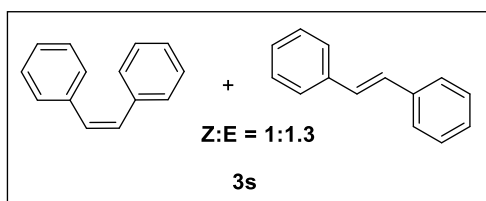
#### dibenzyl fumarate **3r**<sup>14</sup>



According to the general procedure A, **3r** (yellow solid, 27.3 mg, mp: 62–64 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20:1) in 92% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38 (br, 10H), 6.92 (s, 2H), 5.24 (s, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR

(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  164.6 (2C), 135.2 (2C), 133.7 (2C), 128.6 (4C), 128.5 (2C), 128.3 (4C), 67.1 (2C); MS:  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 296.0.

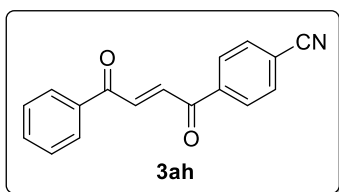
#### (Z)-1,2-diphenylethene and (E)-1,2-diphenylethene **3s**<sup>9</sup>



According to the general procedure B, *t*-BuOLi was selected as the base, **3s** (a mixture of (Z)-1,2-diphenylethene and (E)-1,2-diphenylethene, 13.3 mg) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate

= 200:1) in 74% yield, Z:E = 1:1.3. The spectrum of corresponding (Z)-1,2-diphenylethene and (E)-1,2-diphenylethene see (Z)-**2s** and (E)-**2s**.

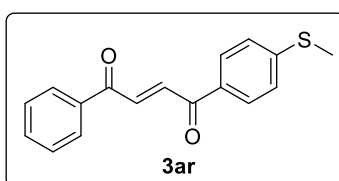
#### (E)-4-(4-oxo-4-phenylbut-2-enoyl)benzonitrile **3ah**



Following the general procedure A, **1a** (0.1 mmol) and **1h** (0.1 mmol) were added to the reaction tube in ratio of 1:1. **3ah** (yellow solid, 12.3 mg, mp: 76–78 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 15:1) in 47% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,

$\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.21 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.07 (t,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.94 (d,  $J$  = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d,  $J$  = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$  189.8, 189.5, 139.6, 136.2 (2C), 134.7, 134.0, 132.9 (2C), 129.4 (2C), 129.0 (2C), 128.8 (2C), 118.0, 115.6; HRMS (ESI): calculated for  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  ( $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}_2^+$ ) requires  $m/z$ : 262.0863, found  $m/z$ : 262.0866.

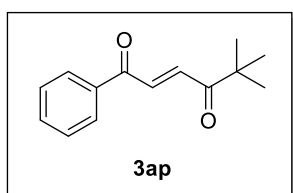
#### (E)-1-(4-(methylthio)phenyl)-4-phenylbut-2-ene-1,4-dione **3at**



Following the general procedure A, **1a** (0.1 mmol) and **1t** (0.1 mmol) were added to the reaction tube in a ratio of 1:1. **3at** (yellow solid, 22.5

mg, mp: 120–122 °C) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 15:1) in 80% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.08 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.92 (s, 2H), 7.72 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 190.0, 188.6, 146.9, 136.4, 135.3, 135.0, 134.0, 132.6, 129.3 (2C), 129.0 (2C), 128.8 (2C), 125.1 (2C), 13.9; HRMS (ESI): calculated for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sup>+</sup>) requires *m/z*: 283.0787, found *m/z*: 283.0793.

(E)-5,5-dimethyl-1-phenylhex-2-ene-1,4-dione **3ap**<sup>2</sup>



Following the general procedure A, **1a** (0.1 mmol) and **1p** (0.1 mmol) were added to the reaction tube in a ratio of 1:1. **3ap** (yellow liquid, 13.6 mg) was obtained by column chromatography with the eluting (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50:1) in 63% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.02 (d, *J* = 7.2

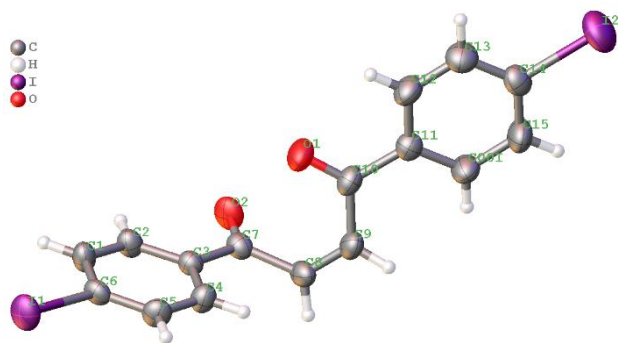
Hz, 2H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 7.64– 7.49 (m, 4H), 1.24 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (10 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 204.3 (s), 189.9 (s), 137.0 (s), 134.3 (s), 134.0 (s), 133.7 (s), 128.8 (2C), 128.8 (2C), 43.7 (s), 25.8 (3C). MS: *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup>, 216.0.



## 5. X-ray Crystallography

### 5.1 Compounds 2g

Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained by slow evaporation of a saturated solution of **2g** in methanol in a loosely capped vial.



**Figure S1.** Crystal structure of compound **2g**.

Summary of Data    CCDC: 2097346

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Compound Name: **2g**

Formula: C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>10</sub>I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

Crystal System: monoclinic

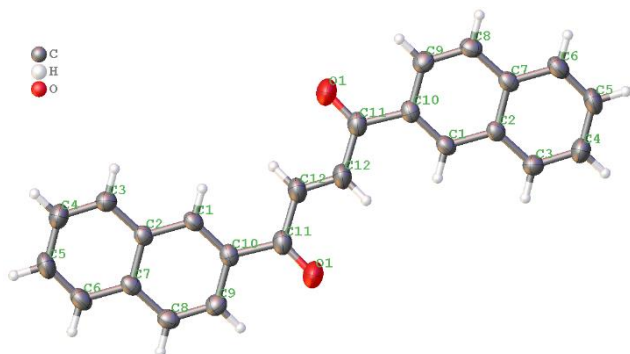
Space Group: P2<sub>1</sub>/c

Unit Cell Parameters: a 14.4263(17) b 5.4210(6) c 20.143(2)

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### 5.2 Compounds 3n

Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained by slow evaporation of a saturated solution of **3n** in DCM in a loosely capped vial.



**Figure S2.** Crystal structure of compound **3n**.

Summary of Data    CCDC: 2097344

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Compound Name: **3n**

Formula: C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

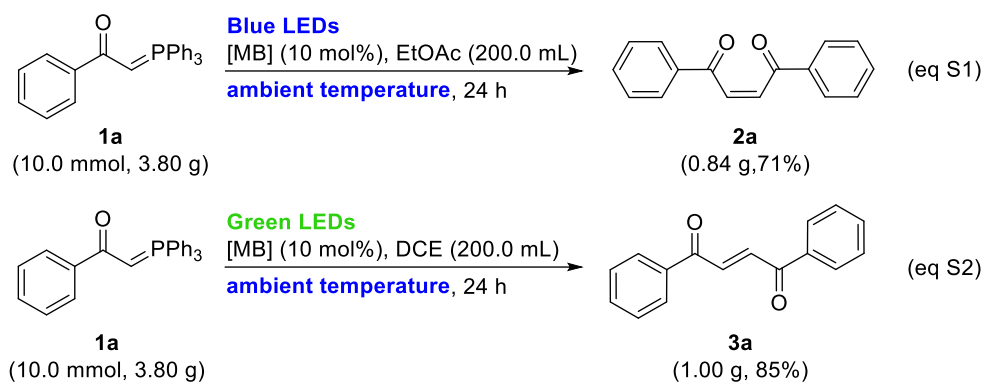
Crystal System: monoclinic

Space Group: P2<sub>1</sub>/c

Unit Cell Parameters: a 7.9088(11) b 5.8824(8) c 18.453(2)

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## 6. Gram-scale Reaction

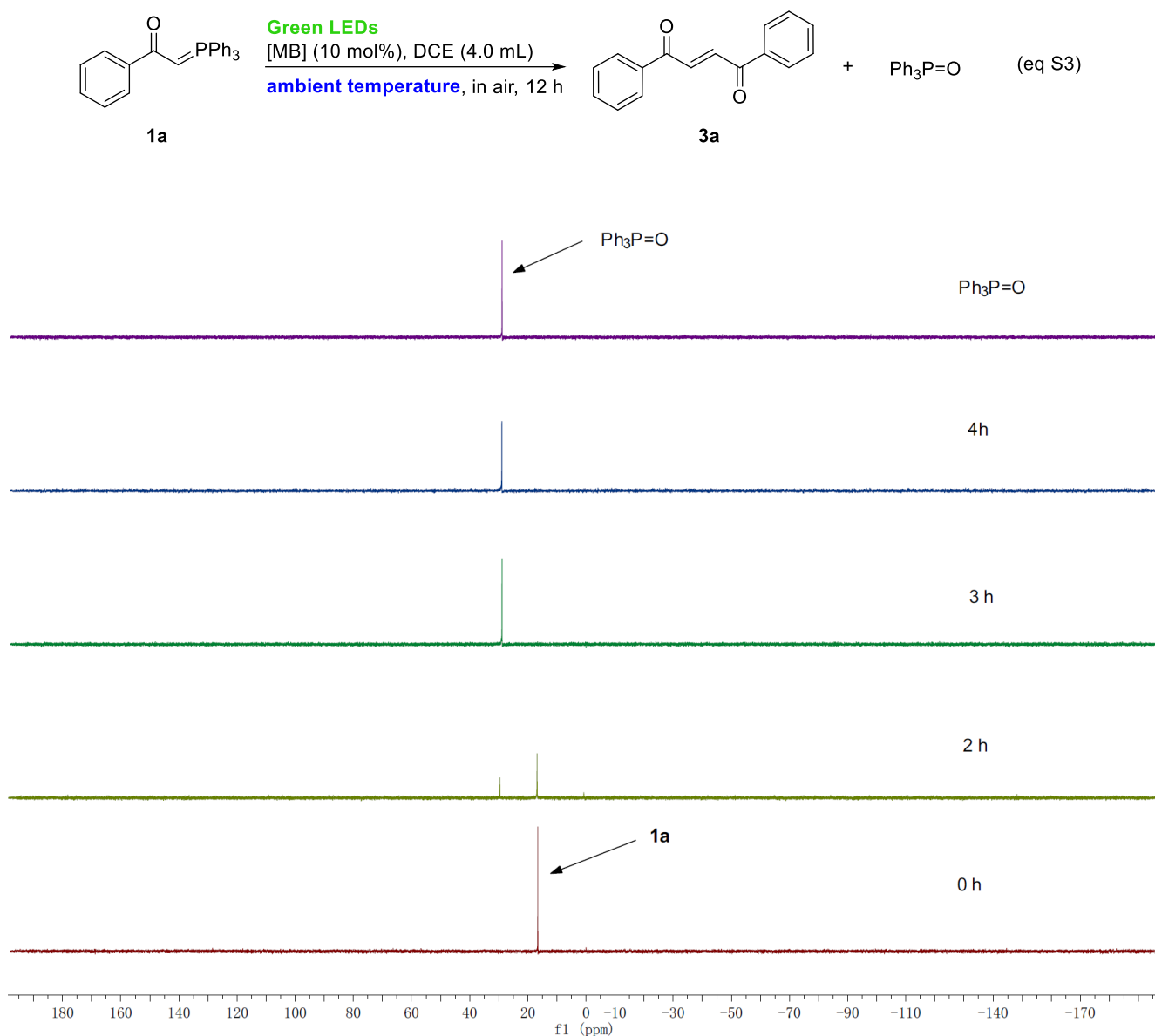


**Scheme S1.** Gram-scale reactions.

Gram-scale reaction was conducted under standard conditions with 24 hours irradiation: 10.0 mmol of **1a** (3.80 g) and 10 mol% [MB] in 200 mL of EtOAc or DCE, blue LEDs strip or green LEDs strip, at ambient temperature, affording the product **2a** (0.84 g) and **3a** in 71% and 85% isolated yield, respectively (Scheme S1).

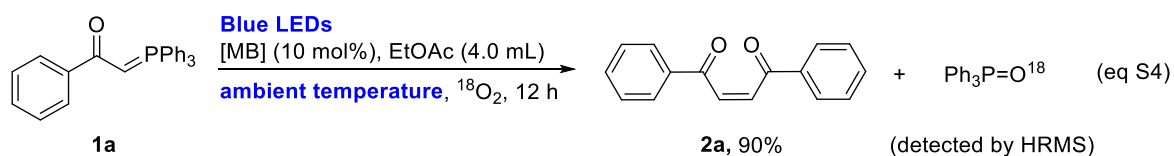
## 7. Mechanistic Studies

### 7.1 Monitoring the $^{31}\text{P}$ NMR During the Reaction



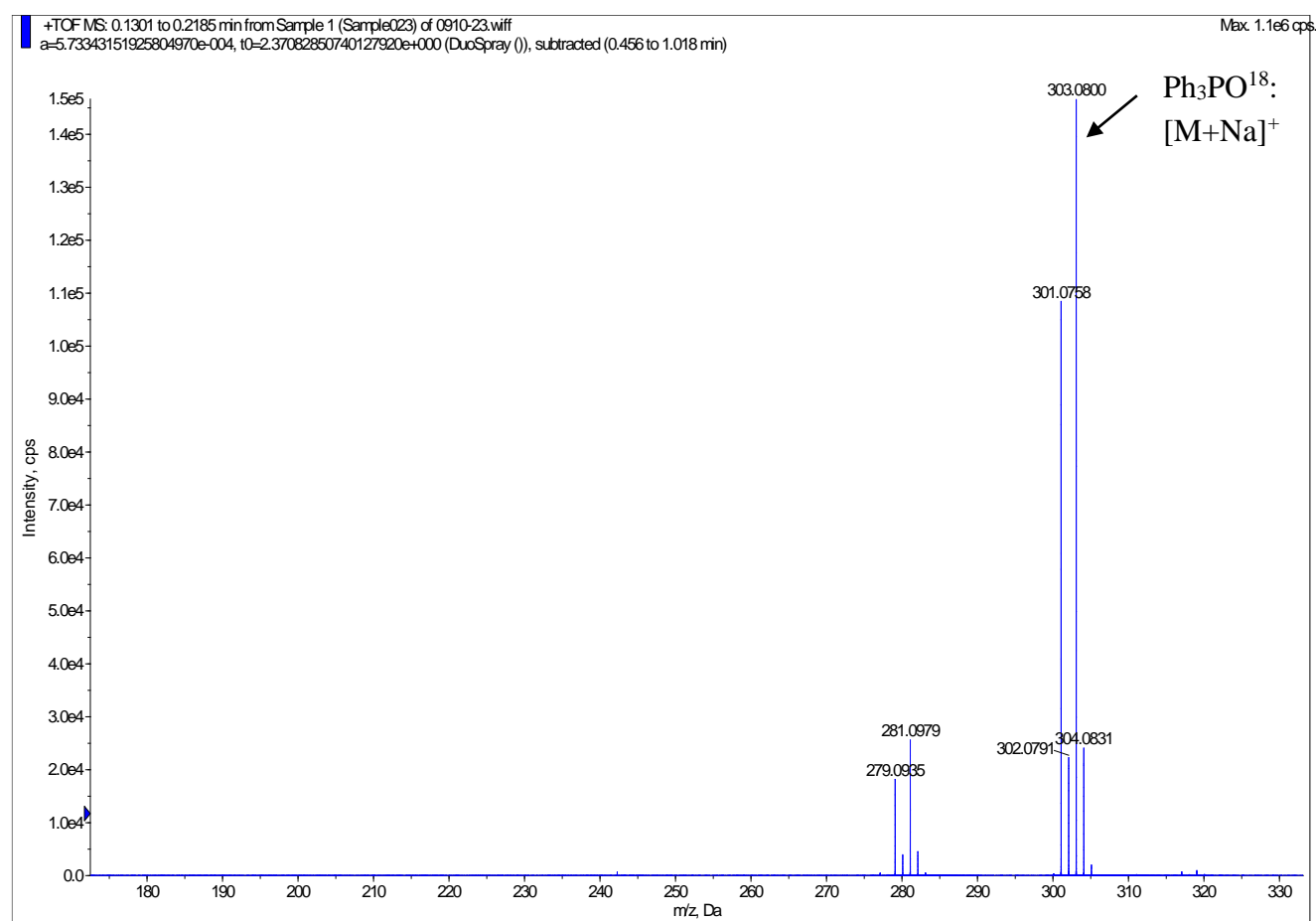
**Figure S3.** Monitoring of the  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR during the reaction.

### 7.2 $^{18}\text{O}_2$ Labeling Experiments

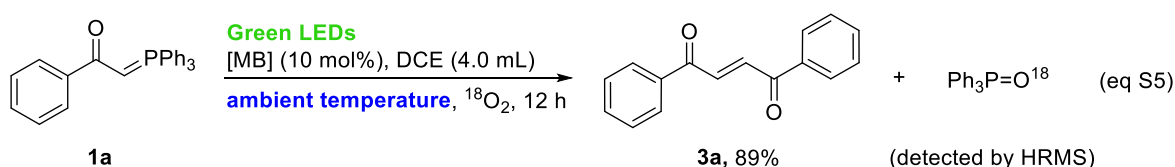


To a Schlenk tube containing a stirring bar was added [MB] (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%) and **1a** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Then, the reaction tube was equipped with a rubber stopper and pumped to a negative pressure. Subsequently, the same amount of  $^{18}\text{O}_2$  as the volume of the reaction tube was injected via a

needle tube. Finally, 4.0 mL of EtOAc were added to the reaction tube via syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred on Wattecs Parallel Light Reactor for 12 hours. It should be noted that under this kind of operation, part of the O<sub>2</sub> will inevitably enter the reaction tube, resulting in the formation of part of Ph<sub>3</sub>PO. 90% yield of **2a** was determined via crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR. Ph<sub>3</sub>P=O<sup>18</sup> was isolated and determined by HRMS. HRMS (ESI): calculated for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (Ph<sub>3</sub>P=O<sup>18</sup>H<sup>+</sup>) requires *m/z* 281.0976, found *m/z*: 281.0979; calculated for [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (Ph<sub>3</sub>P=O<sup>18</sup>Na<sup>+</sup>) requires *m/z*: 303.0796, found *m/z*: 303.0800 (see figure S4).

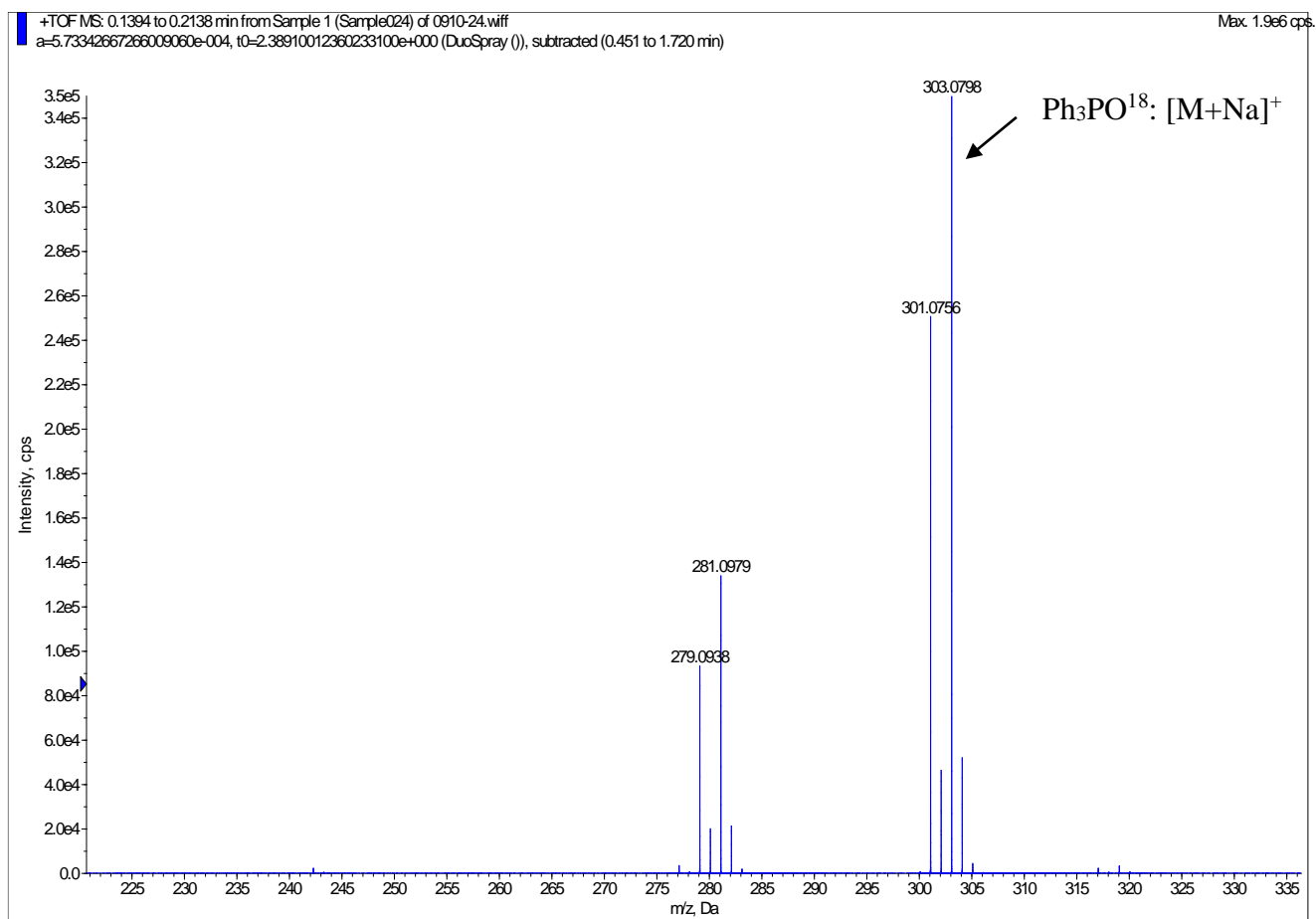


**Figure S4.** HRMS (ESI-TOF) spectrum of Ph<sub>3</sub>P=O<sup>18</sup> in reaction of eq S4.

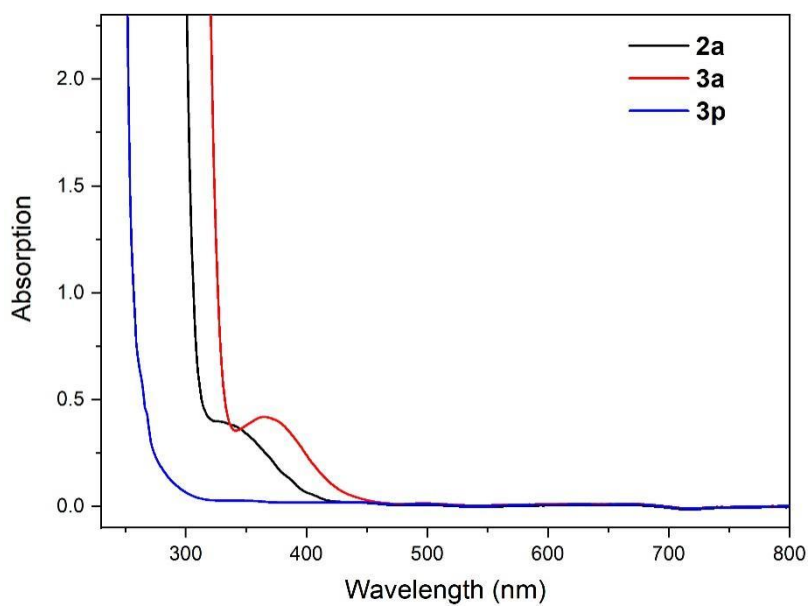


Following the same procedure as above with 4.0 mL DCE instead, the reaction mixture was stirred on Wattecs Parallel Light Reactor for 12 hours. 89% yield of **3a** was determined via crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR. Ph<sub>3</sub>P=O<sup>18</sup> was isolated and determined by HRMS. HRMS (ESI): calculated for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (Ph<sub>3</sub>P=O<sup>18</sup>H<sup>+</sup>)

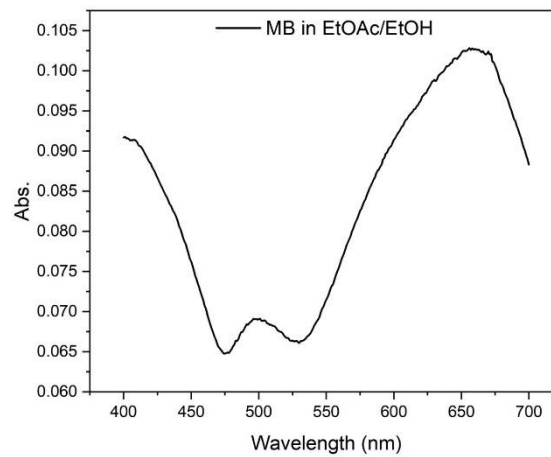
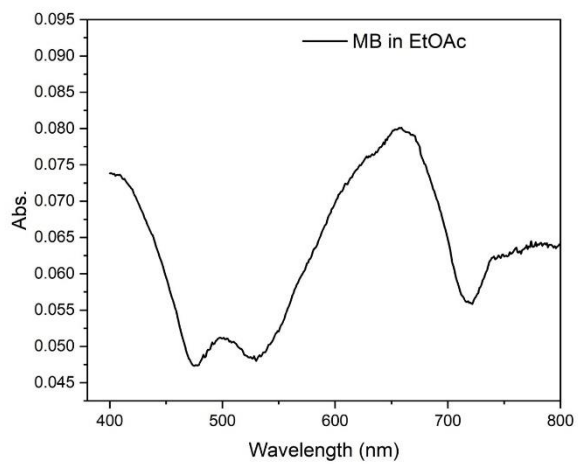
requires  $m/z$ : 281.0976, found  $m/z$ : 281.0979; calculated for  $[M+Na]^+$  ( $Ph_3P=O^{18}Na^+$ ) requires  $m/z$ : 303.0796, found  $m/z$ : 303.0798 (see figure S5).



**Figure S5.** HRMS (ESI-TOF) spectrum of  $Ph_3P=O^{18}$  in reaction of eq S5.

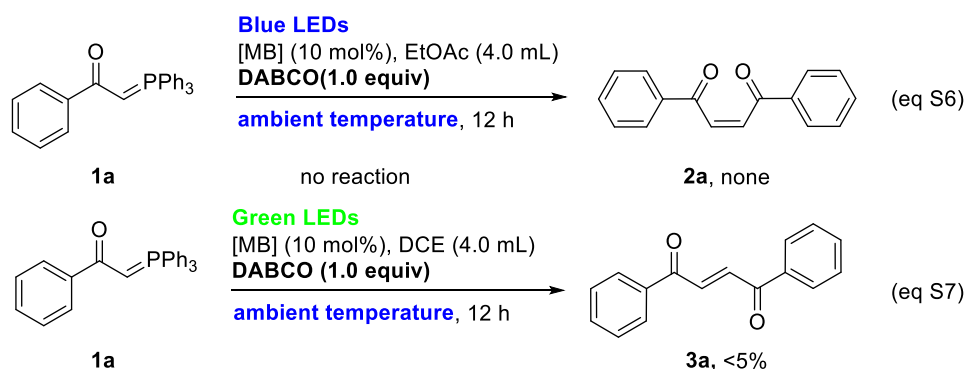


**Figure S6.** UV-vis spectrum of **2a**, **3a**, **3p** in EtOAc.



**Figure S7.** UV-vis spectra of methylene blue in EtOAc and EtOAc/EtOH.

### 7.3 $^1\text{O}_2$ Detection Experiments

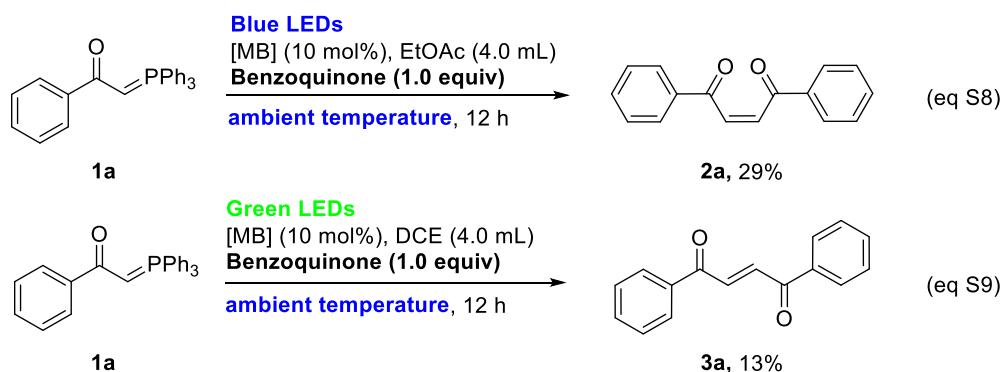


**Scheme S2.**  $^1\text{O}_2$  detection experiments.

To a Schlenk tube containing a stirring bar was added [MB] (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), **1a** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and DABCO (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Then, 4.0 mL of EtOAc or DCE were added to the reaction tube. The reaction mixture was stirred under blue LED (conditions A) or green LED (conditions B) irradiation for 12 hours. These reactions were completely suppressed and no **2a** or trace of **3a** was formed (Scheme S2).

The addition of 1,4-diazabicyclo(2.2.2) octane (DABCO) completely suppressed the reactions, suggesting that  $^1\text{O}_2$  is involved in the reaction.

### 7.4 $\text{O}_2^{\cdot-}$ Detection Experiments



**Scheme S3.**  $\text{O}_2^{\cdot-}$  detection experiments.

To a Schlenk tube containing a stirring bar was added [MB] (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), **1a** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and benzoquinone (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Then, 4.0 mL of EtOAc or DCE were added to the reaction tube. The reaction mixture was stirred under blue LED (conditions A) or green LED (conditions B) irradiation for 12 hours. The yields of **2a** and **3a** were finally determined as 29% and 13%, respectively, via crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis (eq S8).



Adding benzoquinone to the reactions sharply decreased the yields, suggesting that  $O_2^{\cdot-}$  is involved in the reaction.

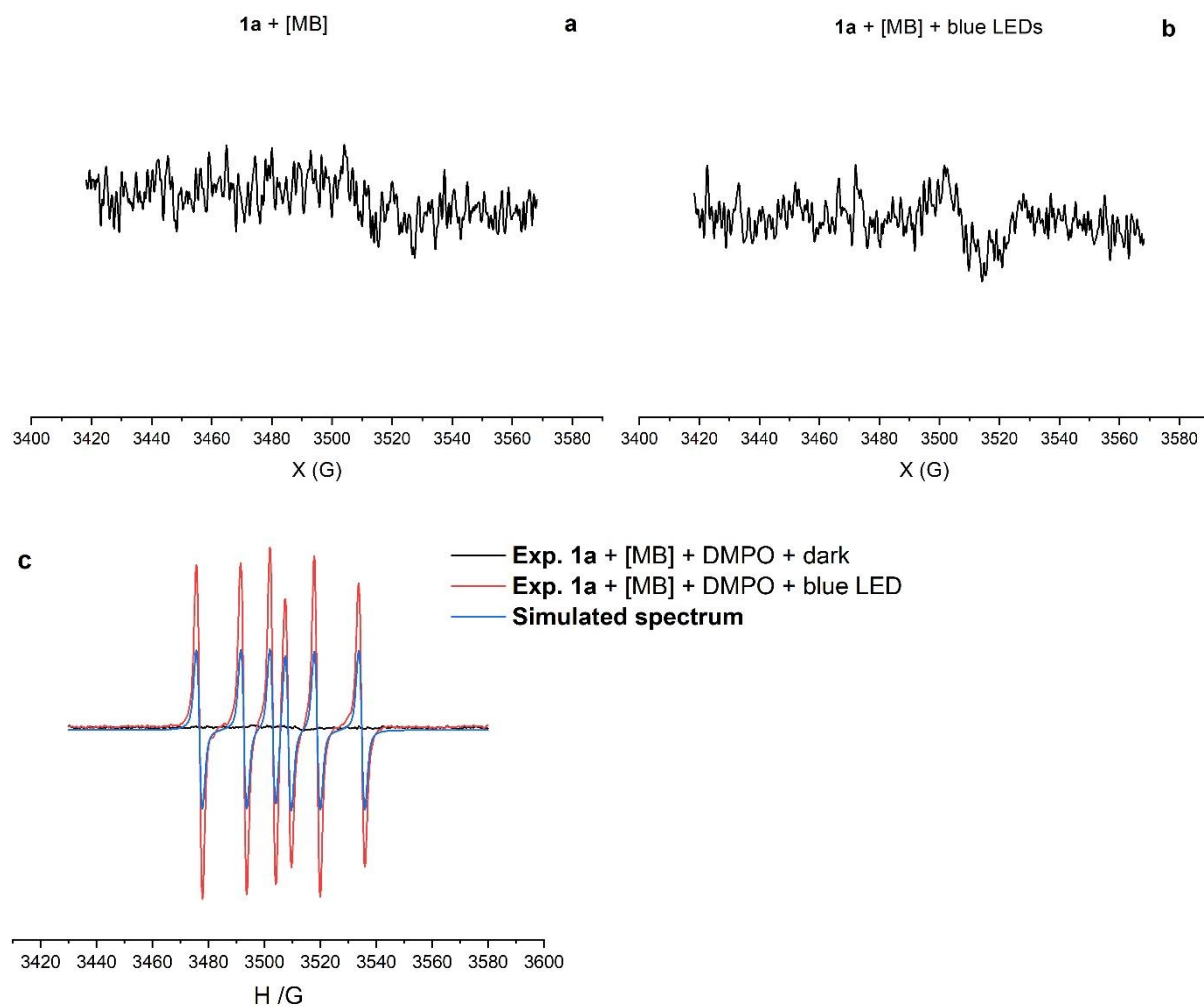
## 7.5 EPR Experiments

EPR spectra were obtained using a Bruker EMXplus-9.5/12 spectrometer. A series of experiments were conducted to investigate the active species in the reaction. A common operation of the EPR experiments is taking the solution of the reaction into a small quartz tube, and then analyzed by EPR.

### 7.5.1 DMPO as Spin Trapping Reagent

- a. A Schlenk tube containing a stirring bar, **1a** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), [MB] (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), and 4.0 mL of EtOAc was stirred for 15 minutes in air under darkness. The corresponding EPR spectrum of the reaction is showed in figure S8a.
- b. A Schlenk tube containing a stirring bar, **1a** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), [MB] (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), and 4.0 mL of EtOAc was stirred for 15 minutes under blue LEDs irradiation in air. The corresponding EPR spectrum of the reaction is showed in figure S8b.
- c. A Schlenk tube containing a stirring bar, **1a** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), [MB] (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), DMPO (5,5-Dimethyl-1-pyrroline N-oxide, 0.1 mmol, 50 mol%), and 4.0 mL of EtOAc was stirred for 15 minutes in air under darkness. The corresponding EPR spectrum of the reaction is showed in figure S8c.
- d. A Schlenk tube containing a stirring bar, **1a** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), [MB] (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), DMPO (5,5-Dimethyl-1-pyrroline N-oxide, 0.1 mmol, 50 mol%), and 4.0 mL of EtOAc was stirred for 15 minutes under blue LEDs irradiation in air. The corresponding EPR spectrum of the reaction is showed in figure S8c.

Notably, a strong EPR signal is generated in the conditions, suggesting that a radical is generated ( $g = 2.0057$ , hyperfine splitting constants  $a^N = 15.89$  G,  $a^H = 26.26$  G). These signals were assigned as a spin trapped adducts of DMPO- $\cdot C$  after simulation (see figure S8c).<sup>15</sup>

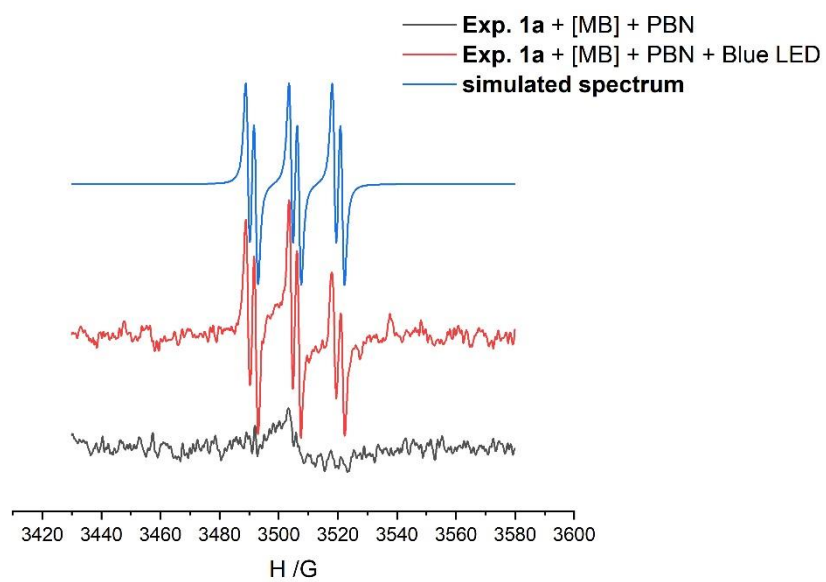


**Figure S8.** Electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) spectra.

### 7.5.2 PBN as Spin Trapping Reagent

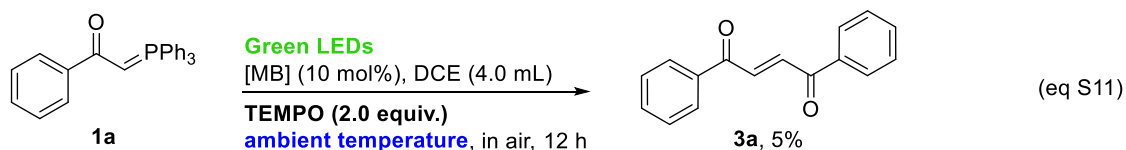
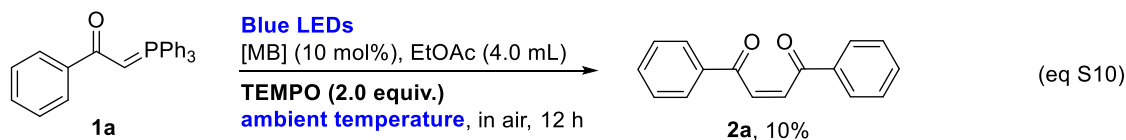
- A Schlenk tube containing a stirring bar, **1a** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), [MB] (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), PBN (*N*-tert-butyl- $\alpha$ -phenylnitrone, 0.1 mmol, 50 mol%), and 4.0 mL of EtOAc was stirred for 15 minutes in air under darkness.
- A Schlenk tube containing a stirring bar, **1a** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), [MB] (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), PBN (*N*-tert-butyl- $\alpha$ -phenylnitrone, 0.1 mmol, 50 mol%), and 4.0 mL of EtOAc was stirred for 15 minutes under blue LEDs irradiation in air.

Notably, a clear EPR signal was generated in the conditions, suggesting that a radical is generated ( $g = 2.0059$ , hyperfine splitting constants  $a^N = 14.62$  G,  $a^H = 2.68$  G). These signals were assigned as a spin trapped adducts of PBN- $\bullet$ C after simulation (see figure S9).<sup>12</sup>



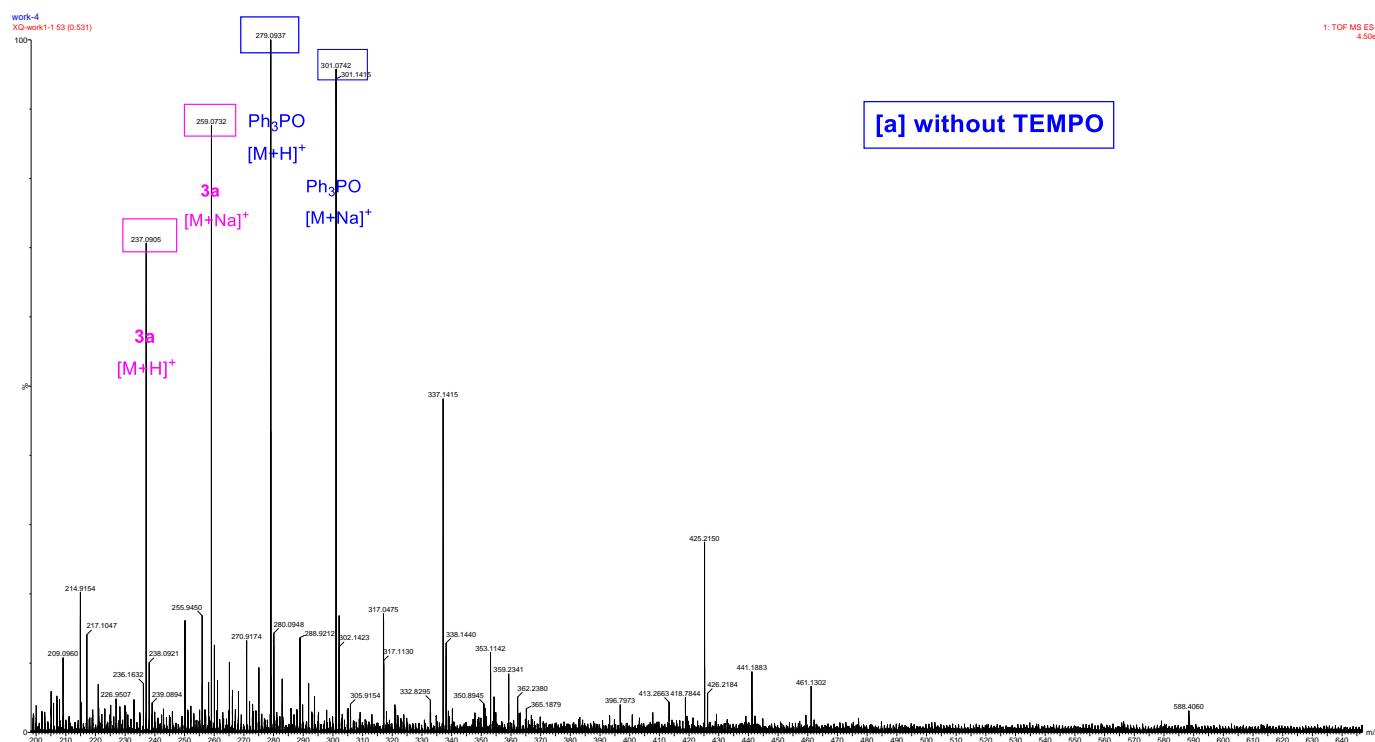
**Figure S9.** (a)→(b), Electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) spectra obtained by experiments; (c) simulated spectrum.

## 7.6 radical capture experiments

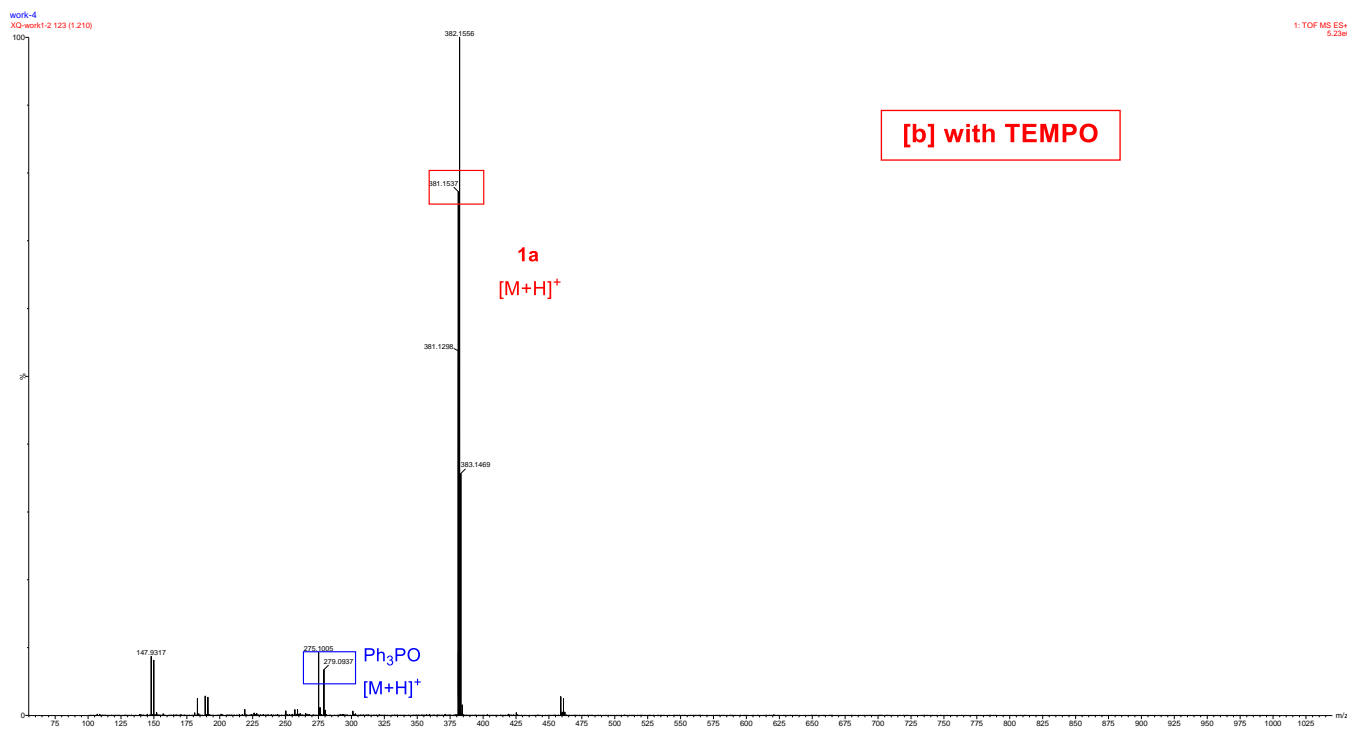


### Scheme S4. Radical-capture experiments.

Following the general procedure A, 2.0 equivalent of TEMPO was separately added to the model reactions (conditions A and B). These reactions were stirred on Wattecs Parallel Light Reactor for 12 h. Then, the LEDs was turned off and the reaction mixture under green LED irradiation was taken for mass spectrometry analysis (using CH<sub>3</sub>CN solvent, ESI method). Afterwards, compounds **2a** and **3a** were determined as 10% and 5% yields via crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis, respectively (eq S10, S11). As a comparison, the reaction mixture of model reaction with green LED irradiation was also taken for mass spectrometry analysis. After carefully analysis the spectra, none of TEMPO adduct was detected.



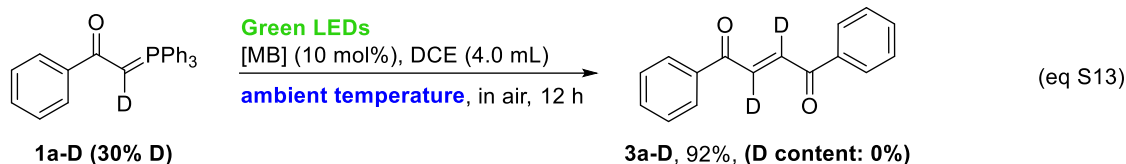
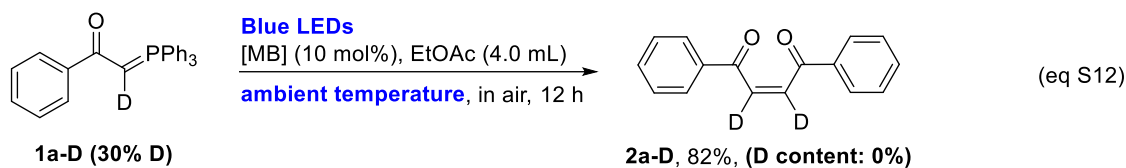
**Figure S9.** Analysis of mass spectrum of the model reaction mixture without TEMPO scavenger.



**Figure S10.** Analysis of mass spectrum of the reaction mixture with TEMPO scavenger.

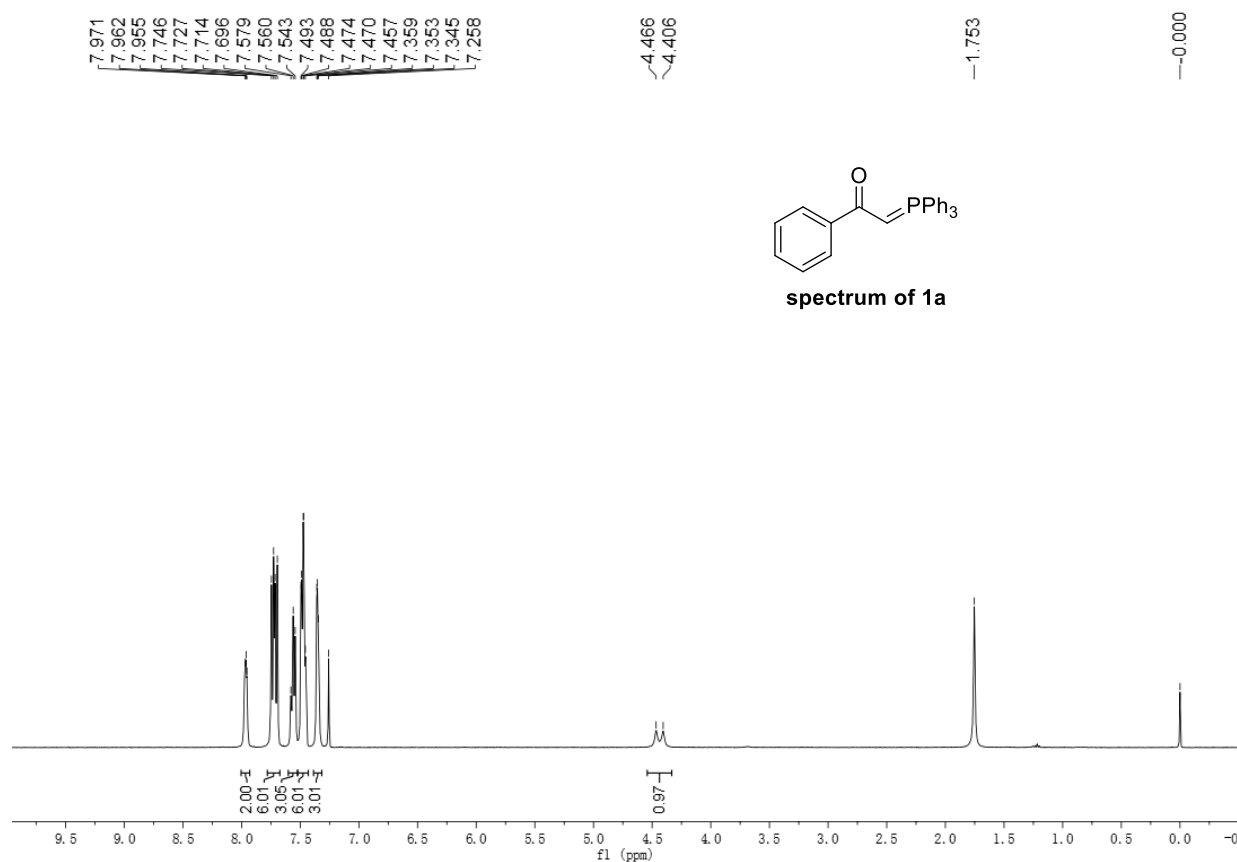
## 7.7 Deuterium experiments.

### 7.7.1 Deuterium experiments employing **1a-D** as substrate

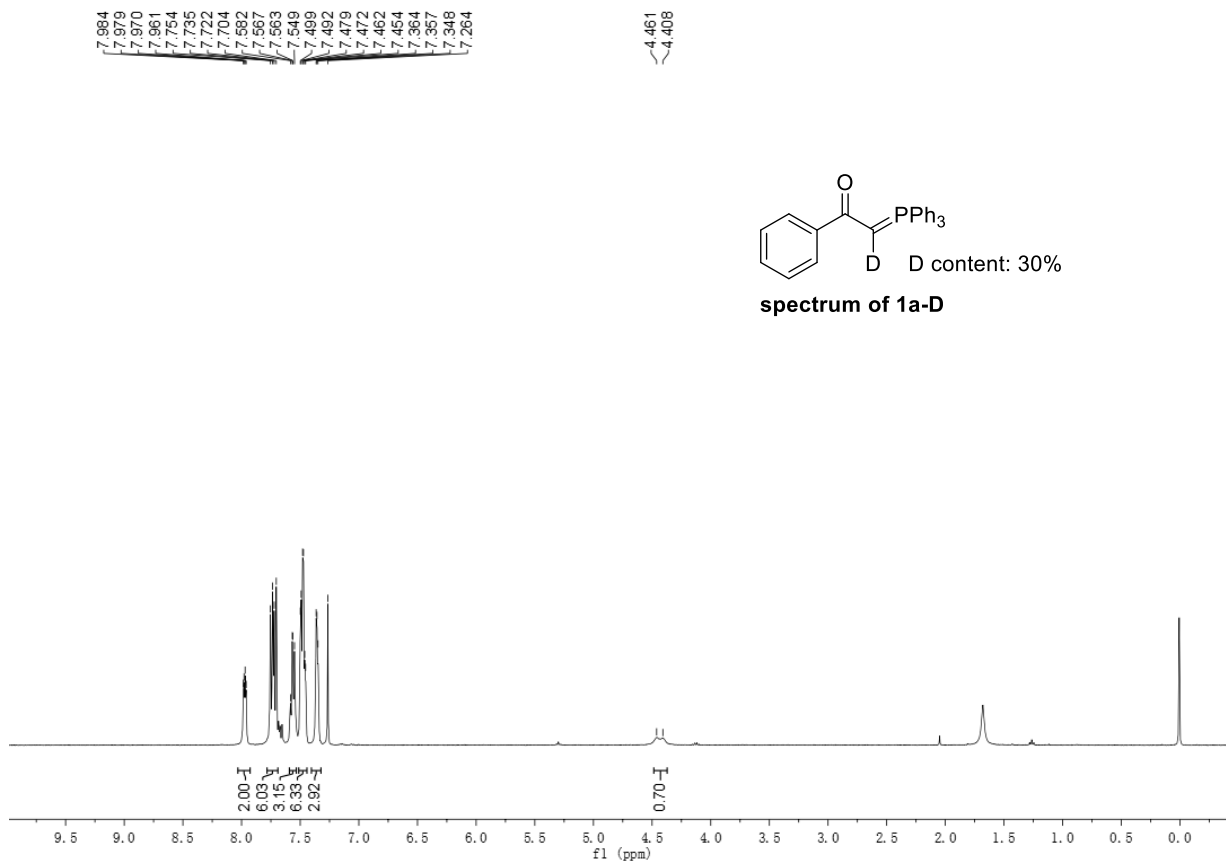


**Scheme S5.** Deuterium experiments using **1a-D** as substrate.

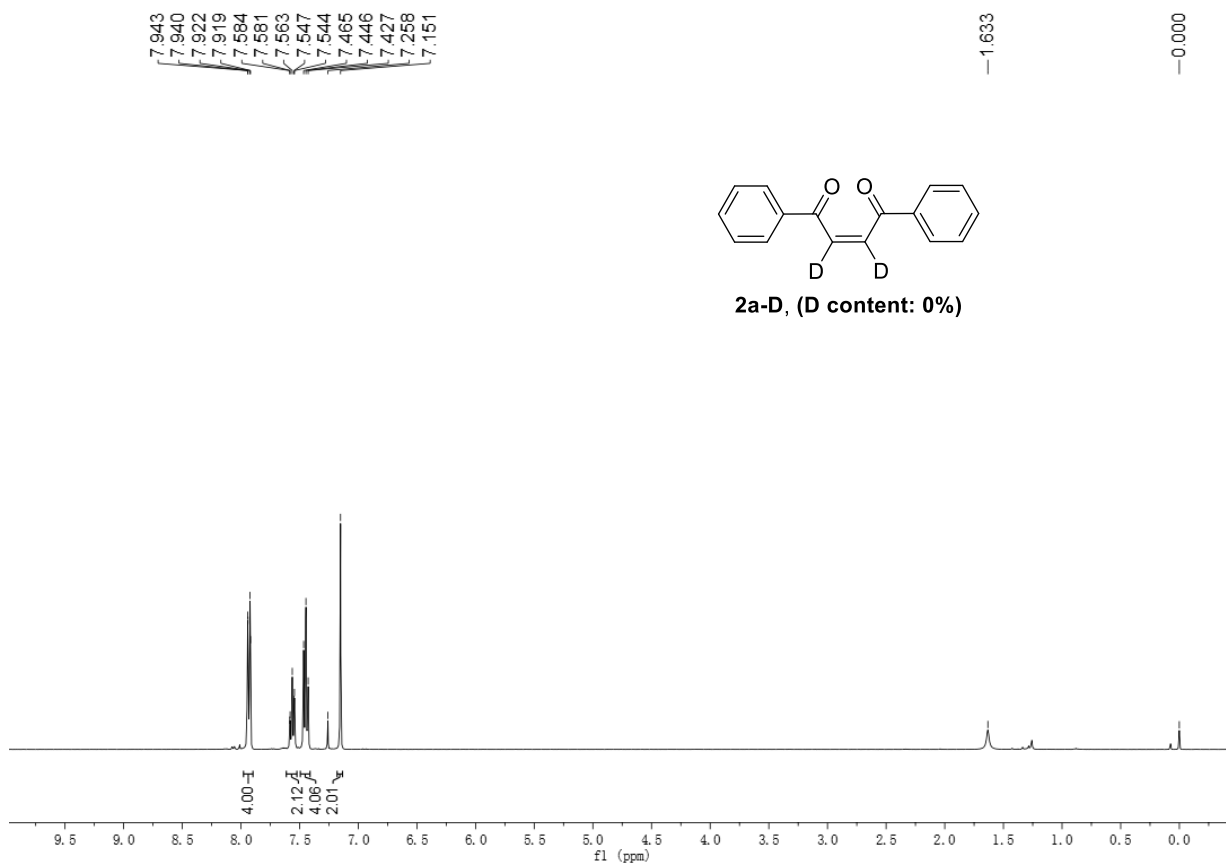
**1a-D** was prepared via reported procedure. In our work, the D-content of **1a-D** was determined as 30% (see Figure S11 and S12 below). Following the general procedure As, **1a-D** was employed as the substrate under conditions A and B. After the reaction was finished, the corresponding alkenes were isolated and analyzed via  $^1\text{H}$  NMR. From  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis, the obtained alkene products do not contain any deuterium.



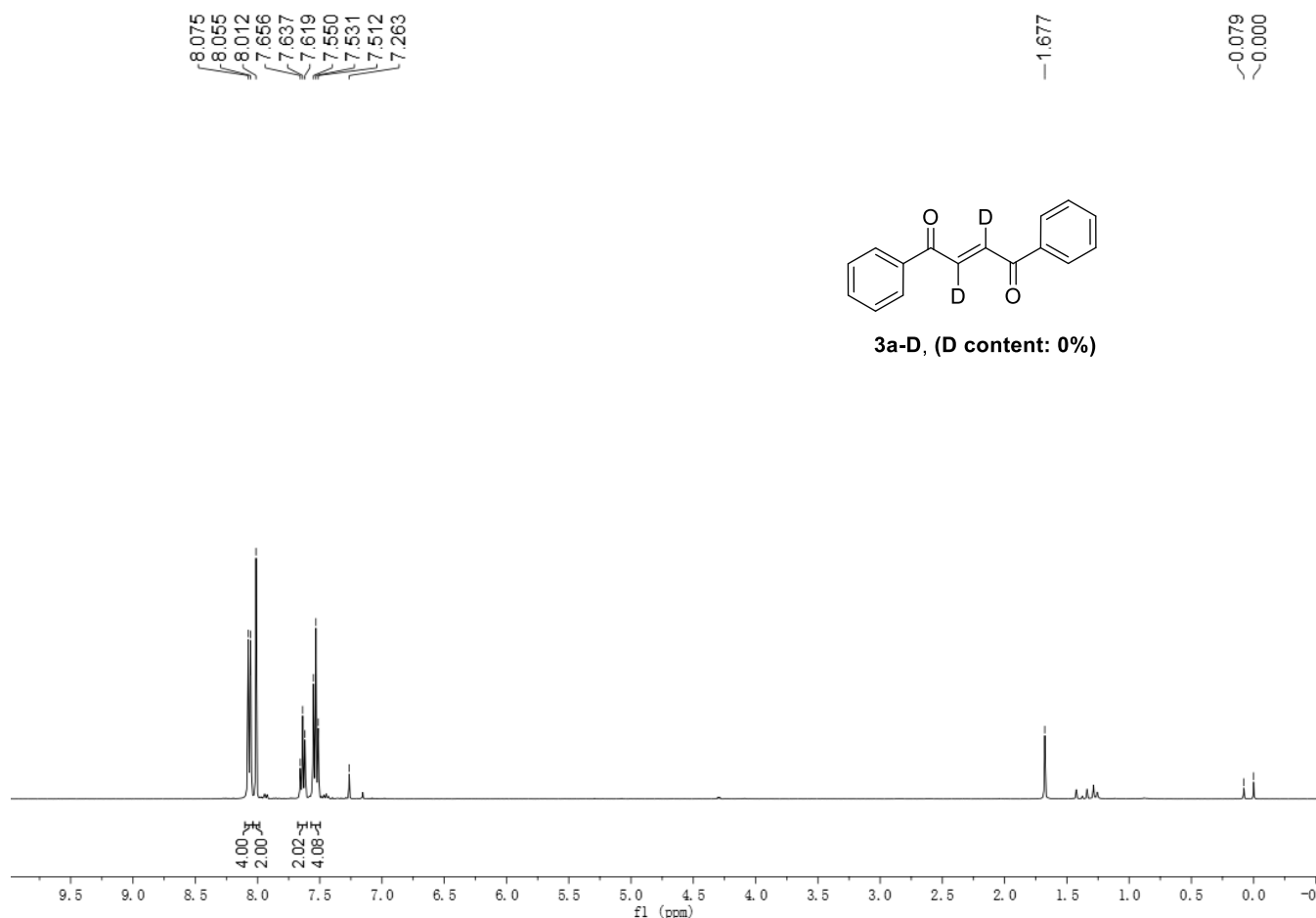
**Figure S11.** Spectrum of **1a**.



**Figure S12.** Spectrum of **1a-D**.

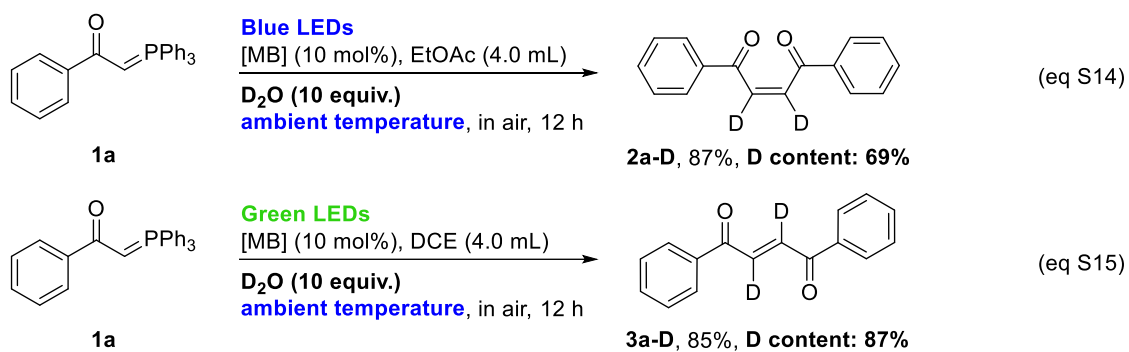


**Figure S13.** Spectrum of **2a-D**.



**Figure S14.** Spectrum of **3a-D**.

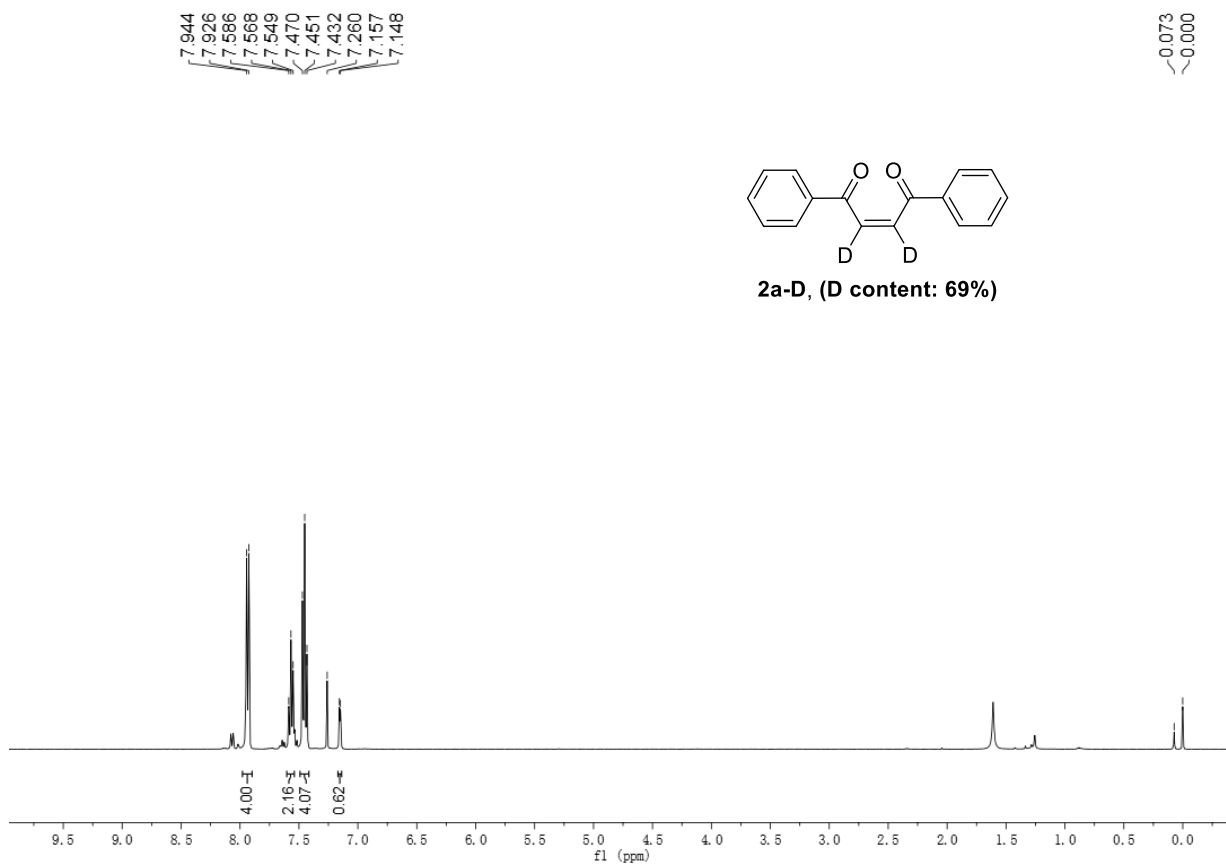
### 7.7.2 Deuterium experiments by adding equivalent of D<sub>2</sub>O.



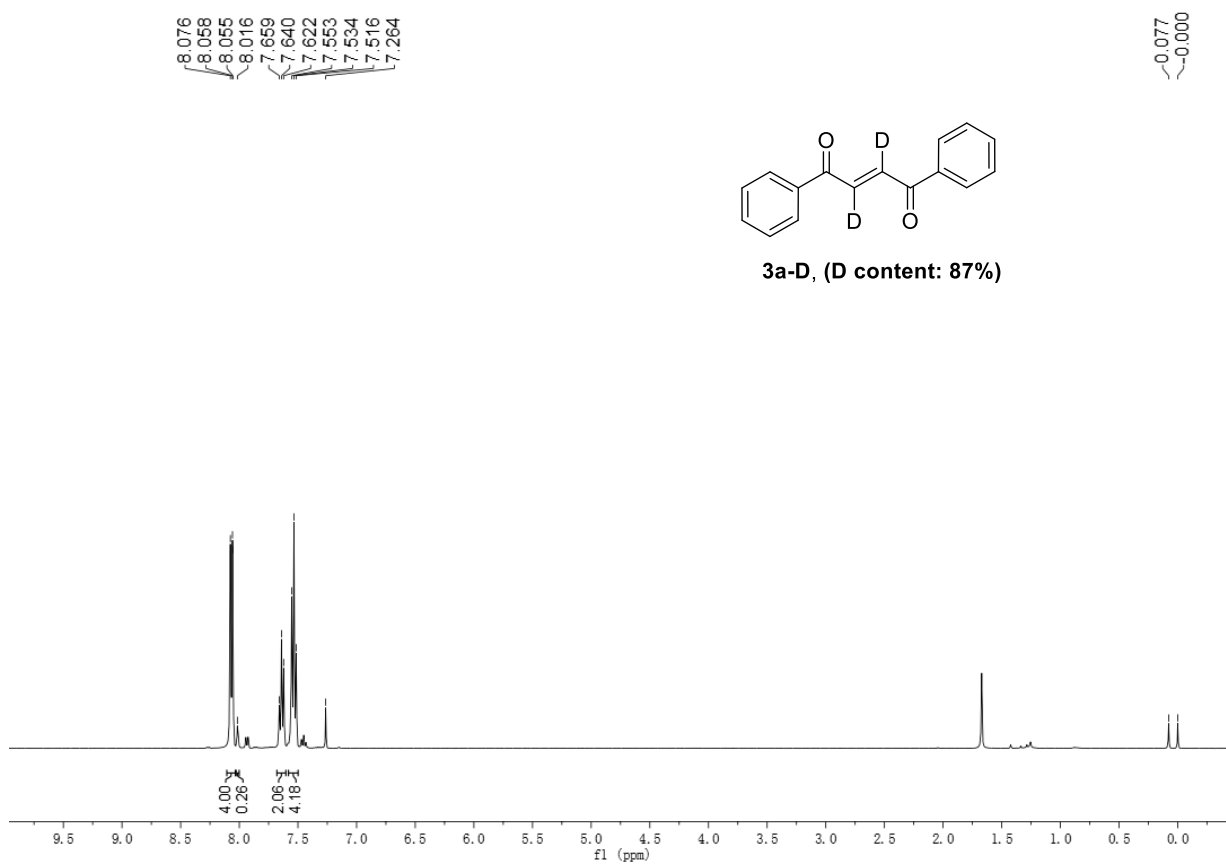
**Scheme S6.** Deuterium experiments by adding equivalent D<sub>2</sub>O.

Following the general procedure A, 10.0 equivalent of D<sub>2</sub>O was separately added to the model reactions (conditions A and B). After the reactions were finished, the corresponding **2a-D** and **3a-D** were isolated and analyzed via <sup>1</sup>H NMR (figure S15, S16). From <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis, a large amount of deuterium has been incorporated into the olefin molecules. Based on above experiments, we hence postulate that the hydrogen in phosphorus ylides undergoes a fast proton exchange with the medium in the process.



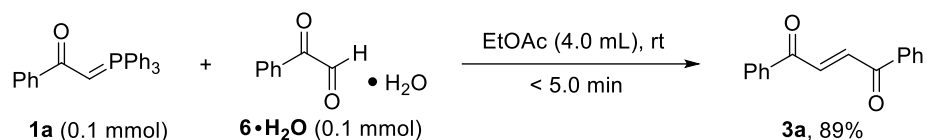


**Figure S15. Spectrum of 2a-D.**



**Figure S16. Spectrum of 3a-D.**

### 7.8 determination the involvement of intermediate **6**.



#### **Scheme S7.** determination the involvement of intermediate **6**.

To a Schlenk tube containing a stirring bar, **1a** (0.1 mmol) and **6•H<sub>2</sub>O** (0.1 mmol) was added EtOAc (4.0 mL) at room temperature. This reaction was stirred for 5 minutes. Then, TLC analysis showed that the starting materials were completely consumed and **3a** was formed as an only new point. Crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis using Cl<sub>2</sub>CHCHCl<sub>2</sub> as internal standard revealed the formation of **3a** in 89% yield.

## 8. References

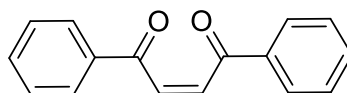
- (1) (a) Santos, C.; Silva, A.; Cavaleiro, J. A Novel and Efficient Route for the Synthesis of Hydroxylated 2,3-Diarylxanthenes. *Synlett* **2007**, 2007, 3113; (b) Fang, F.; Li, Y.; Tian, S.-K. Stereoselective Olefination of N-Sulfonyl Imines with Stabilized Phosphonium Ylides for the Synthesis of Electron-Deficient Alkenes. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2011**, 2011, 1084; (c) Ma, X.-T.; Wang, Y.; Dai, R.-H.; Liu, C.-R.; Tian, S.-K. Catalytic Allylation of Stabilized Phosphonium Ylides with Primary Allylic Amines. *J. Org. Chem.* **2013**, 78, 11071.
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## 9. Spectrum

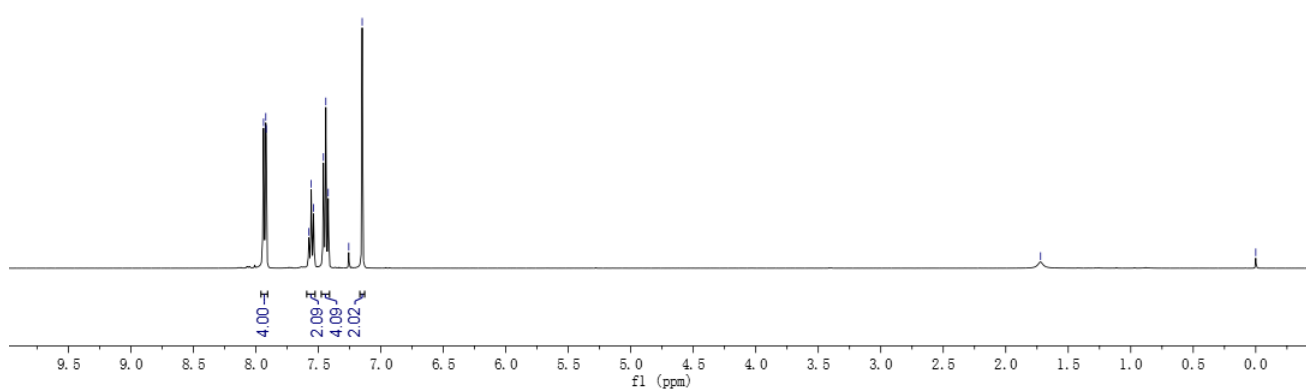
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7.920  
7.917  
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7.538  
7.459  
7.440  
7.421  
7.256  
7.149

-1.721

-0.000



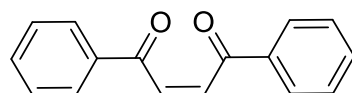
2a (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, <sup>1</sup>H, 400 MHz)



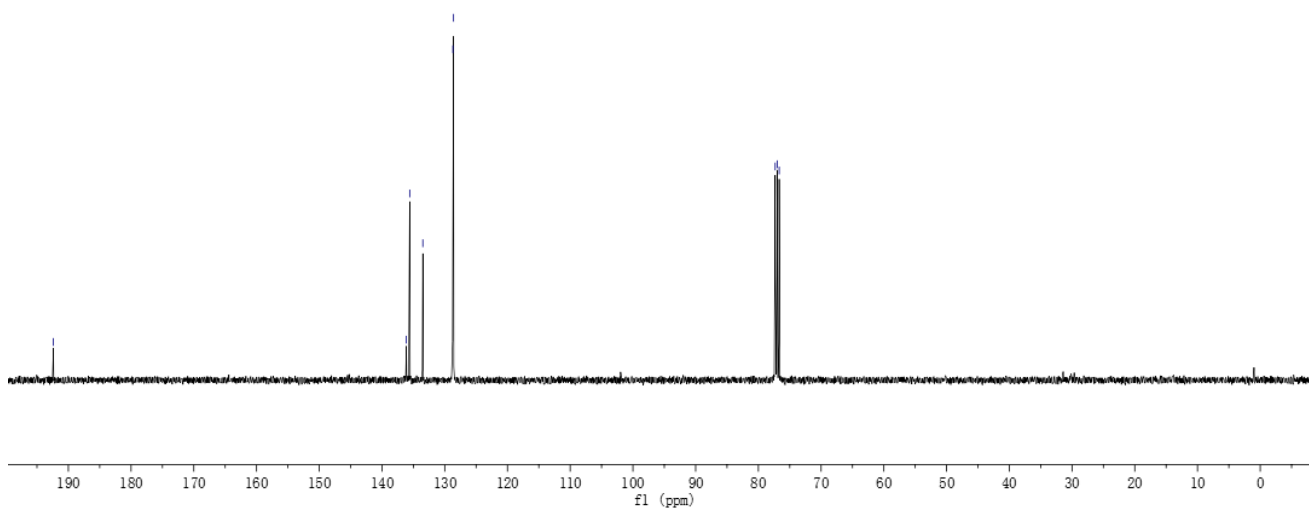
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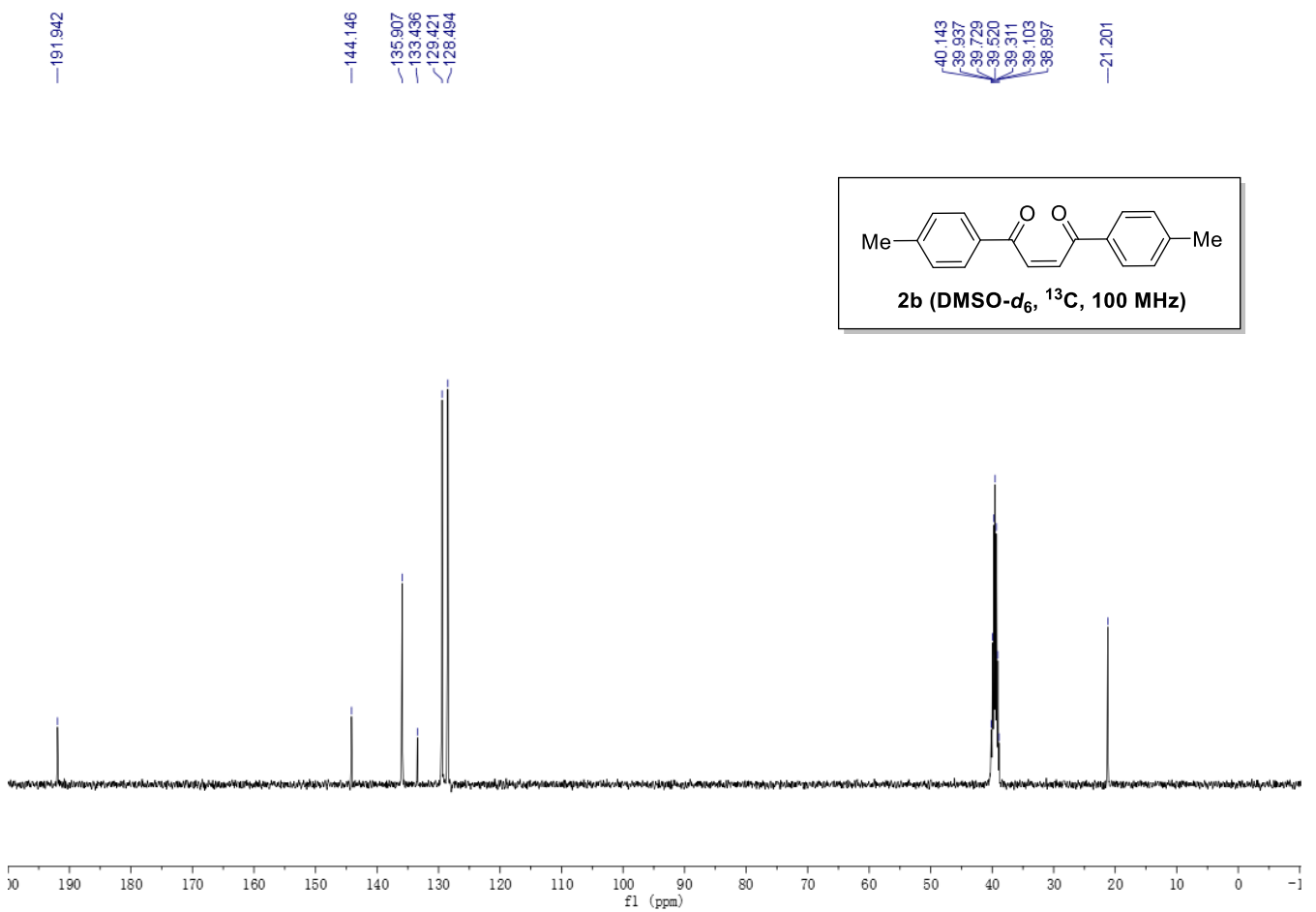
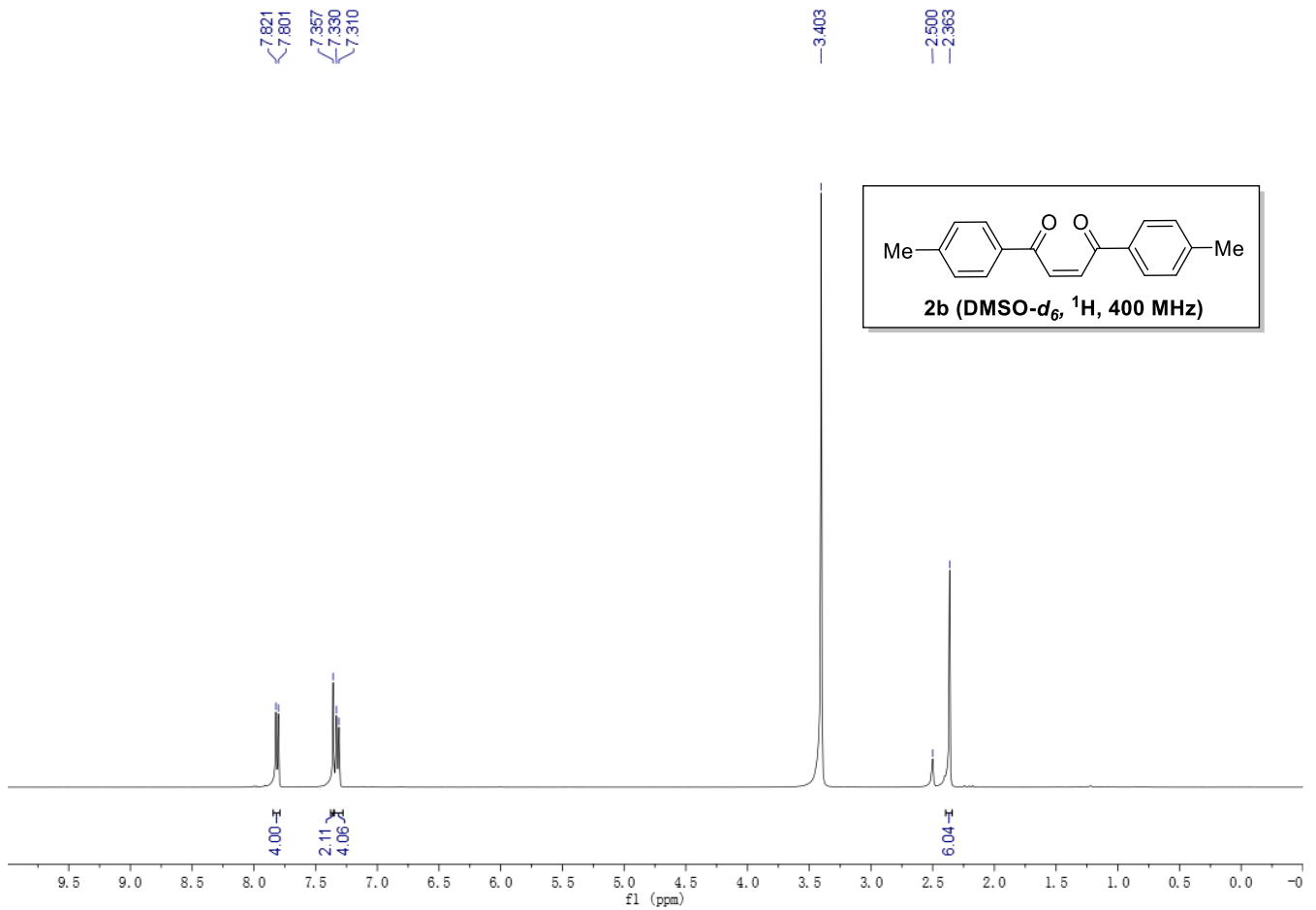
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135.585  
133.491  
128.697  
128.597

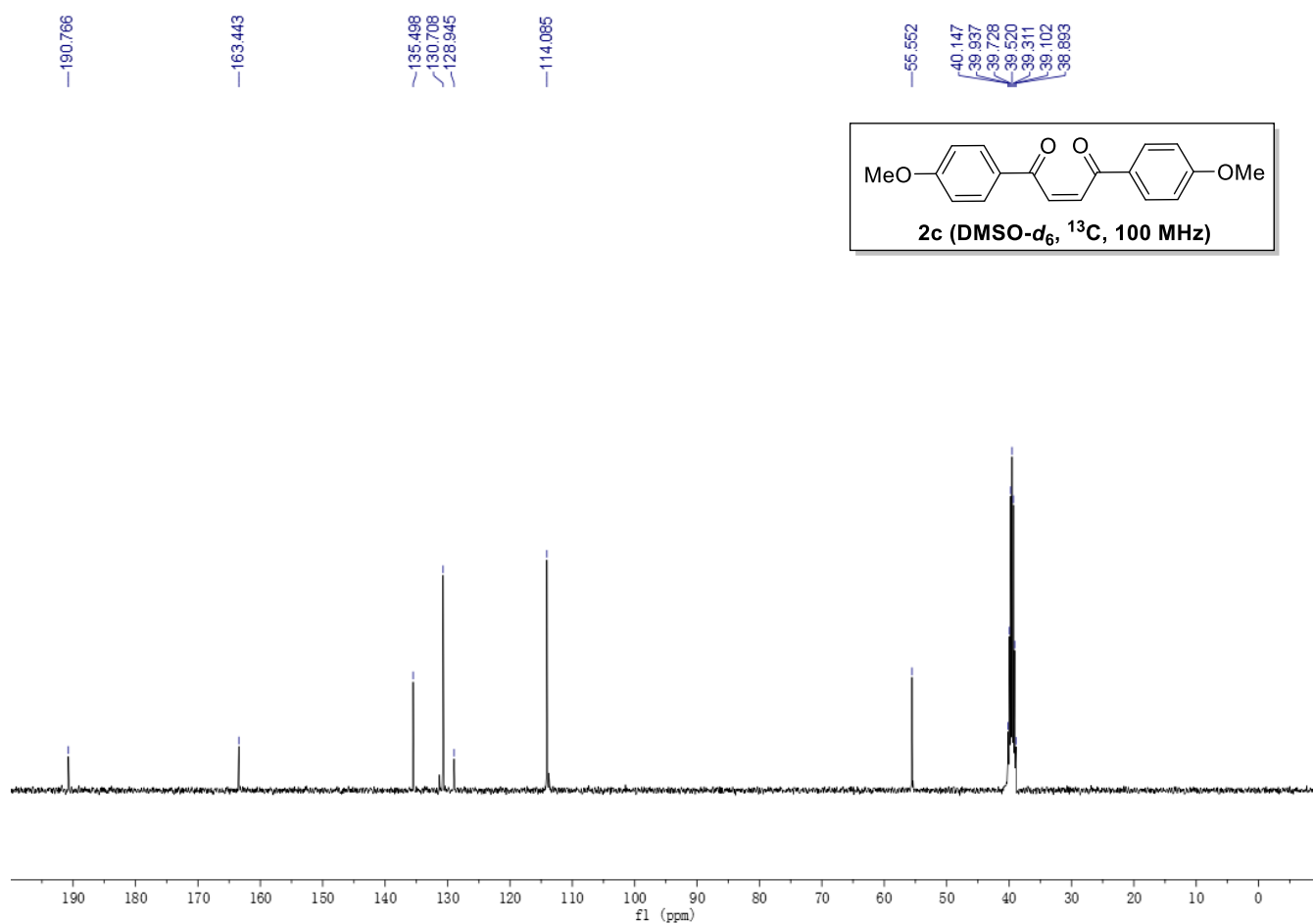
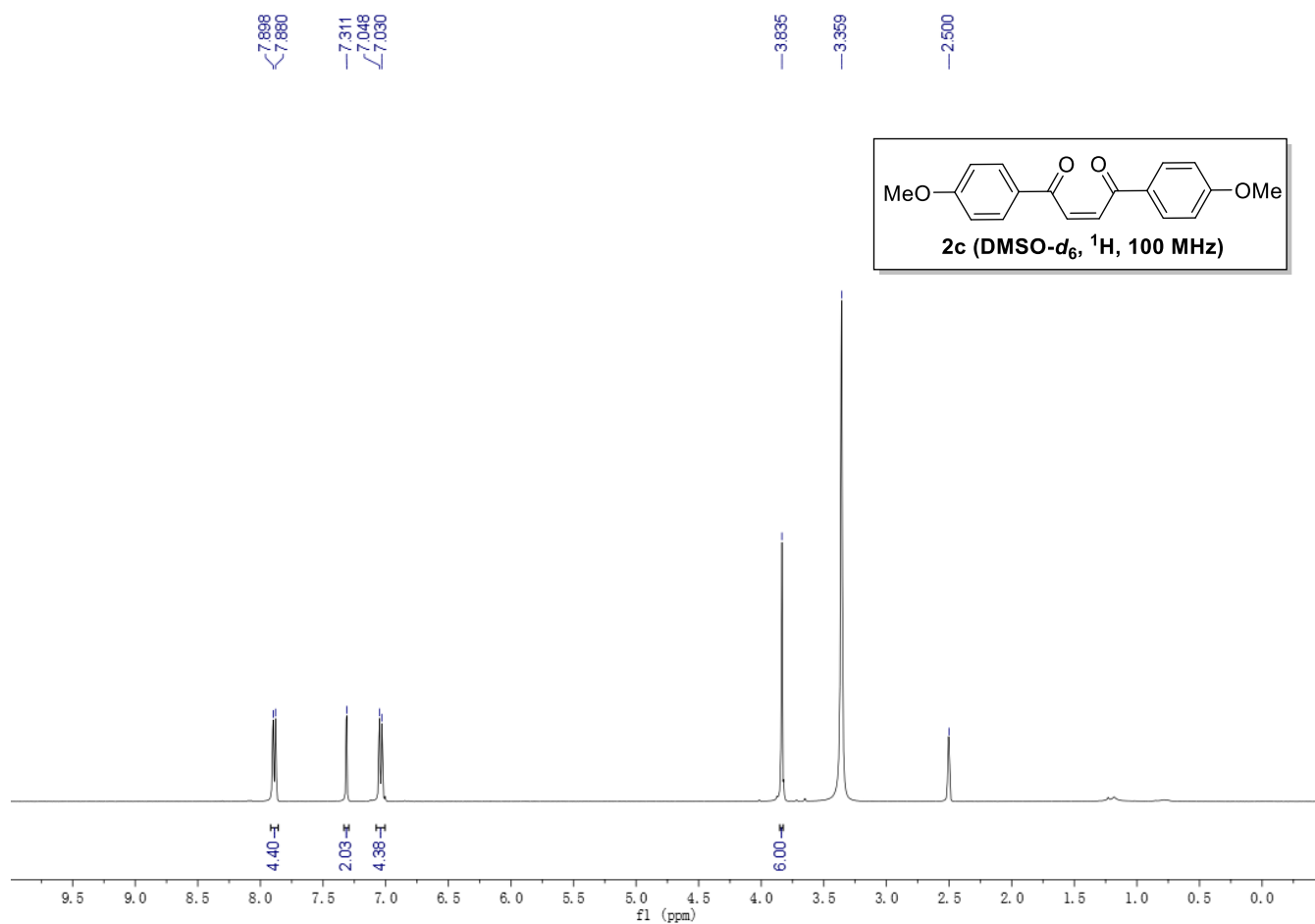
77.318  
77.000  
76.682

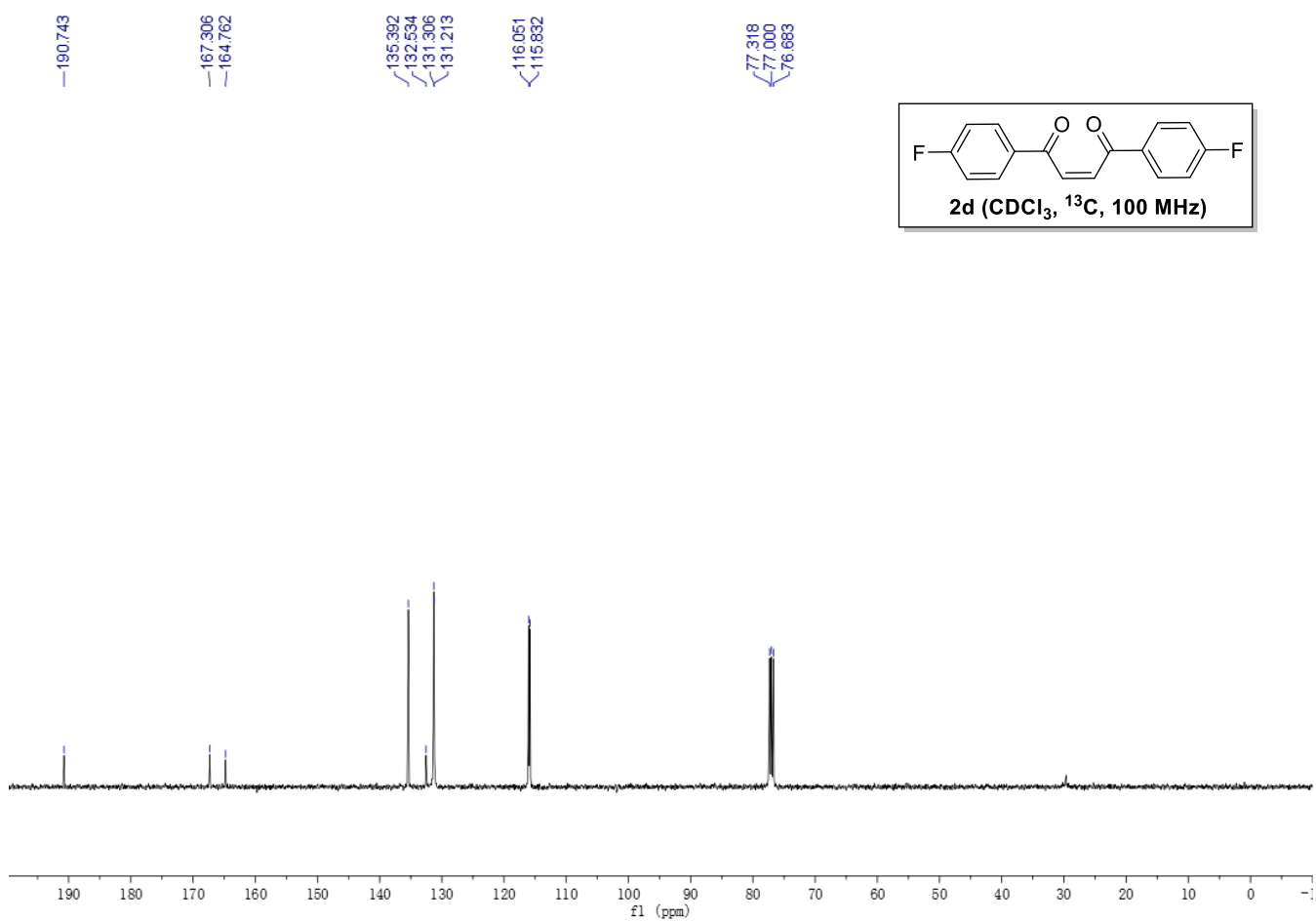
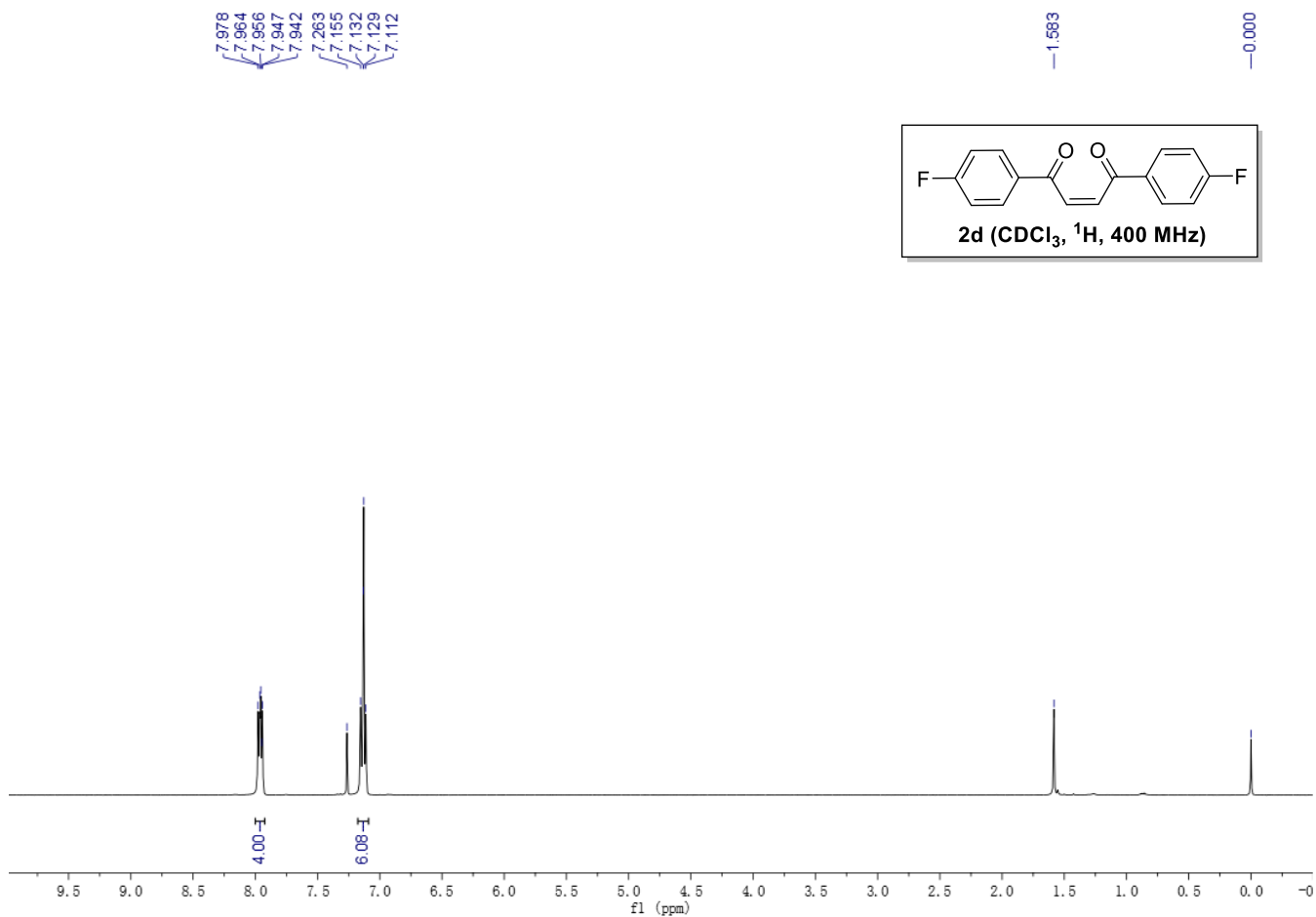


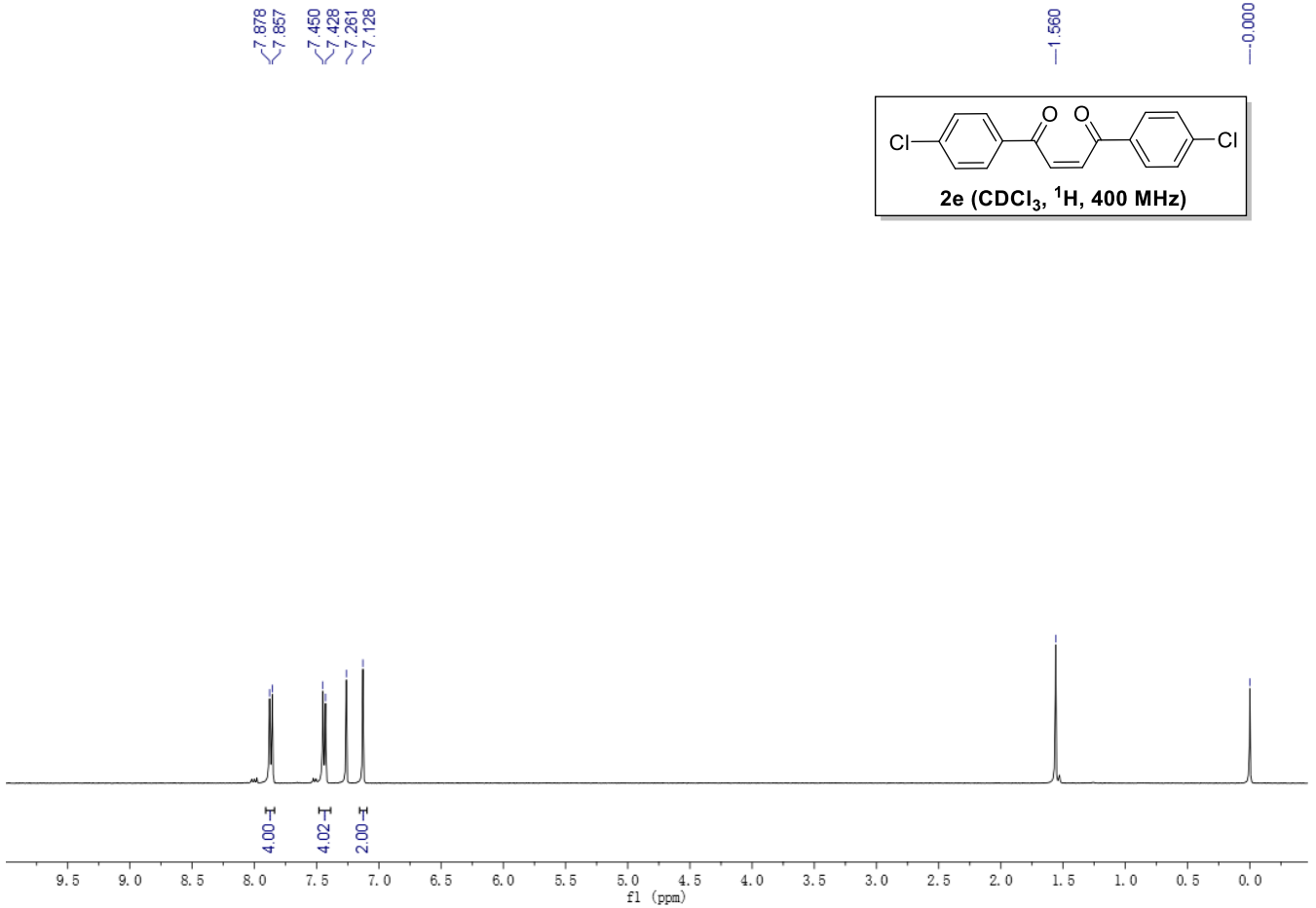
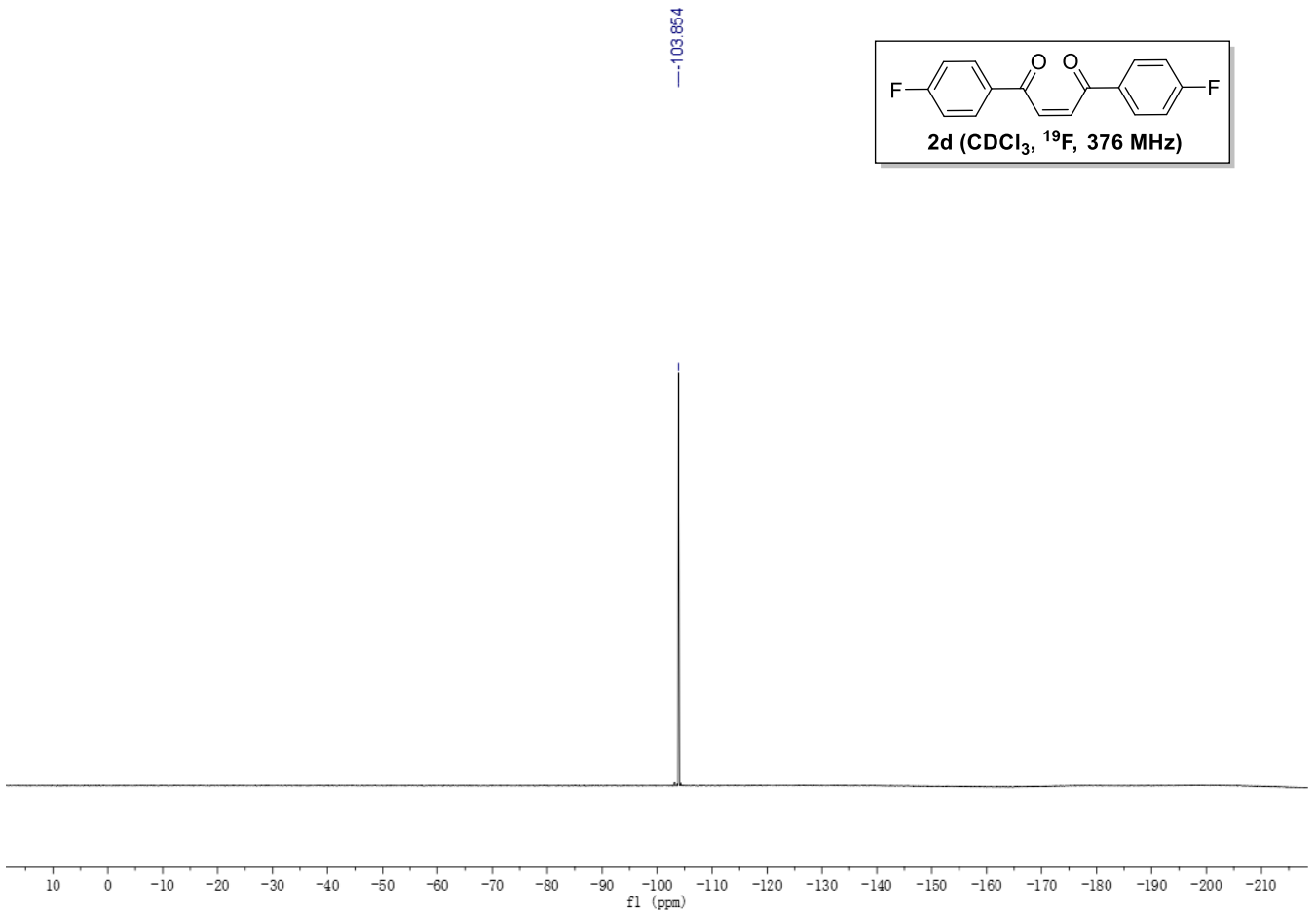
2a (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, <sup>13</sup>C, 100 MHz)









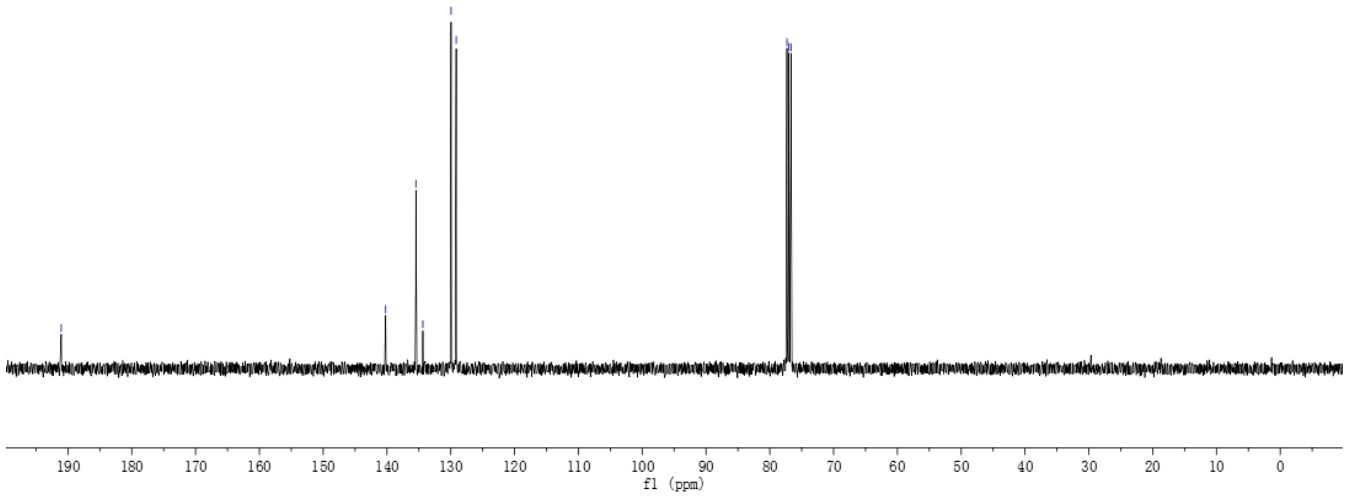
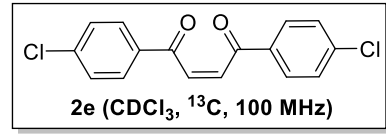




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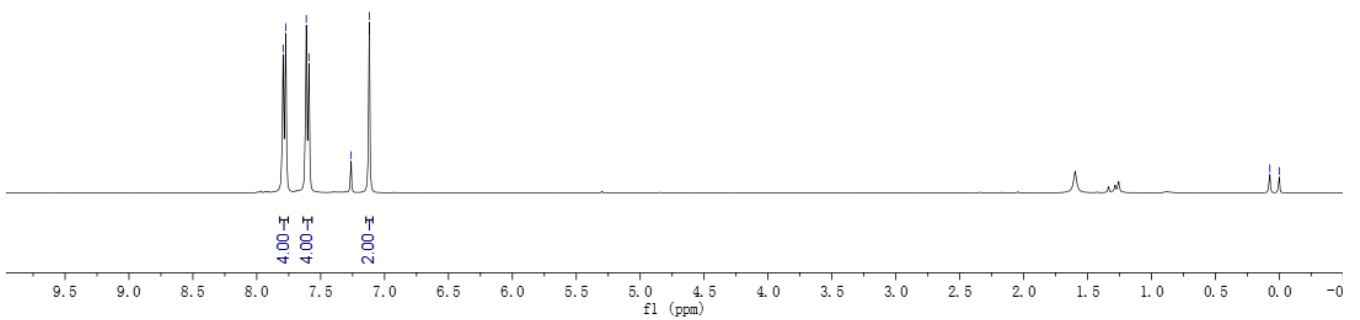
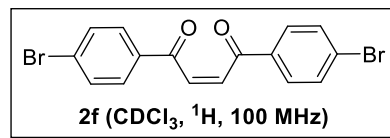
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135.468  
134.374  
129.953  
129.150

77.318  
77.000  
76.682



7.794  
7.773  
7.612  
7.591  
7.262  
7.119

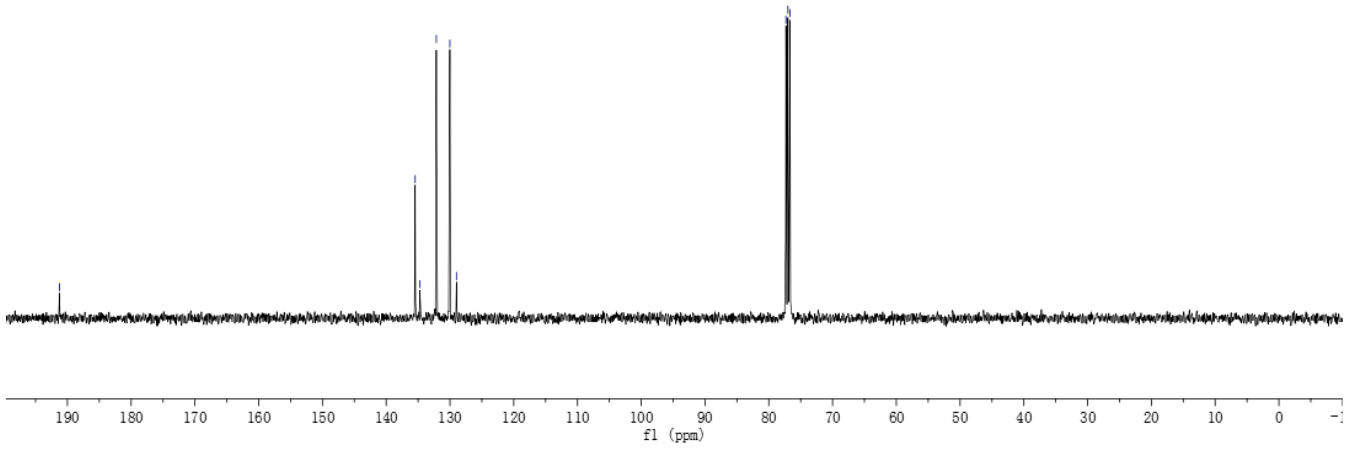
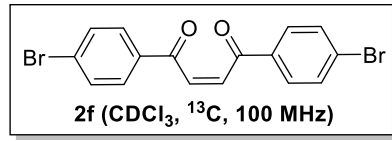
0.073  
0.000



—191.252

135.461  
134.726  
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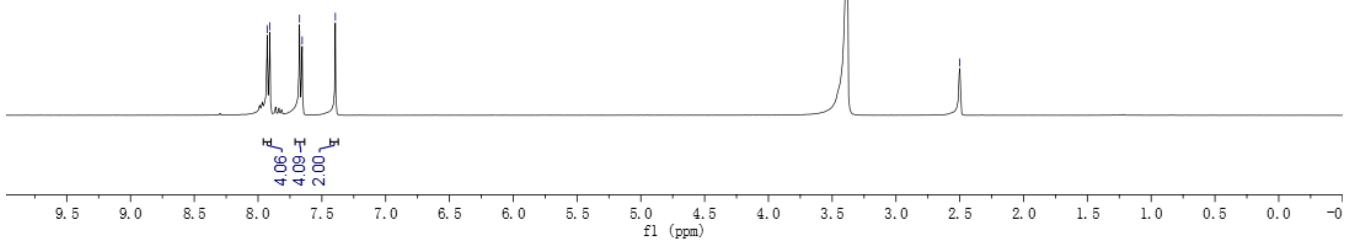
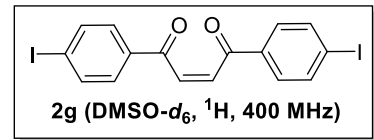
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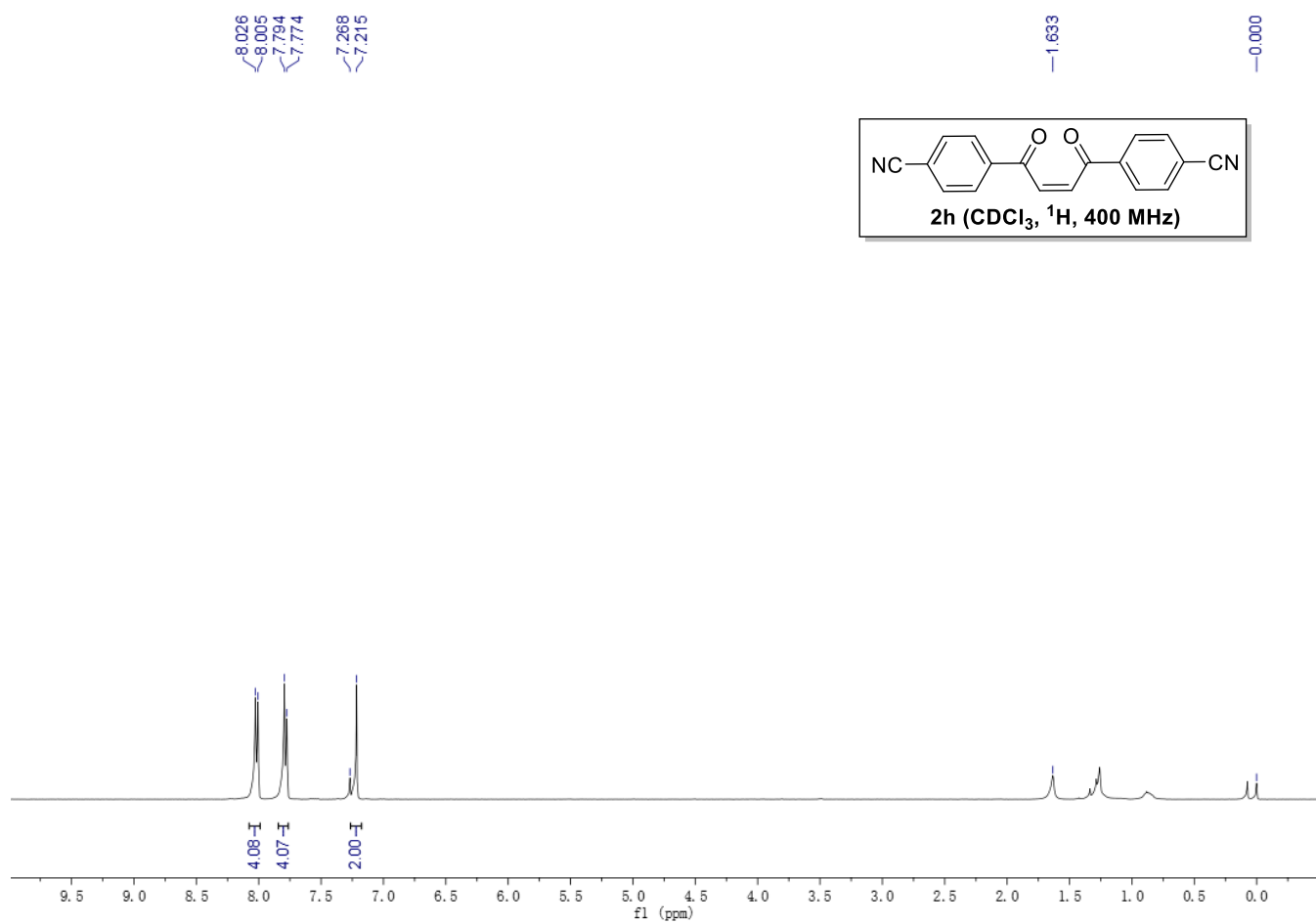
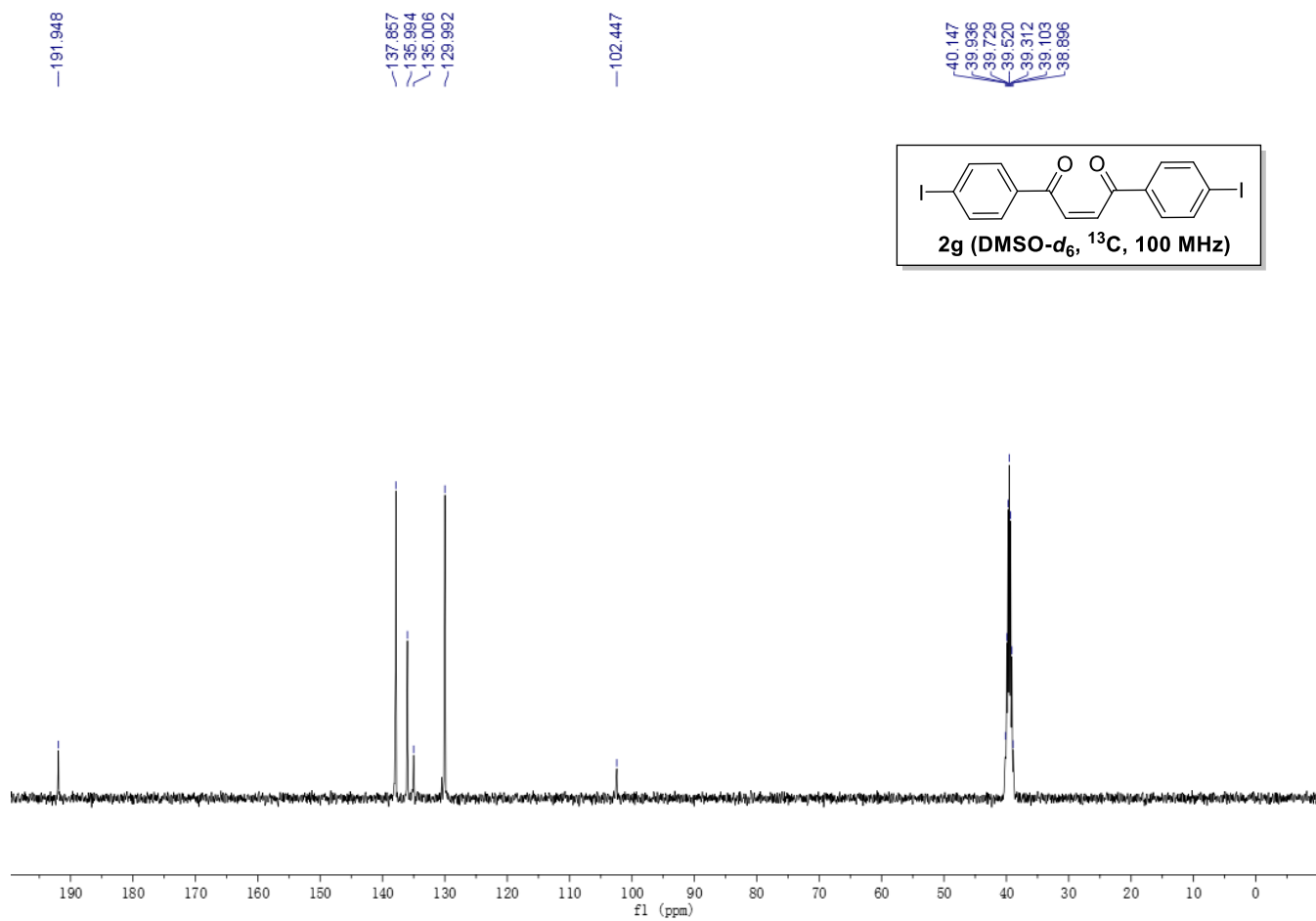


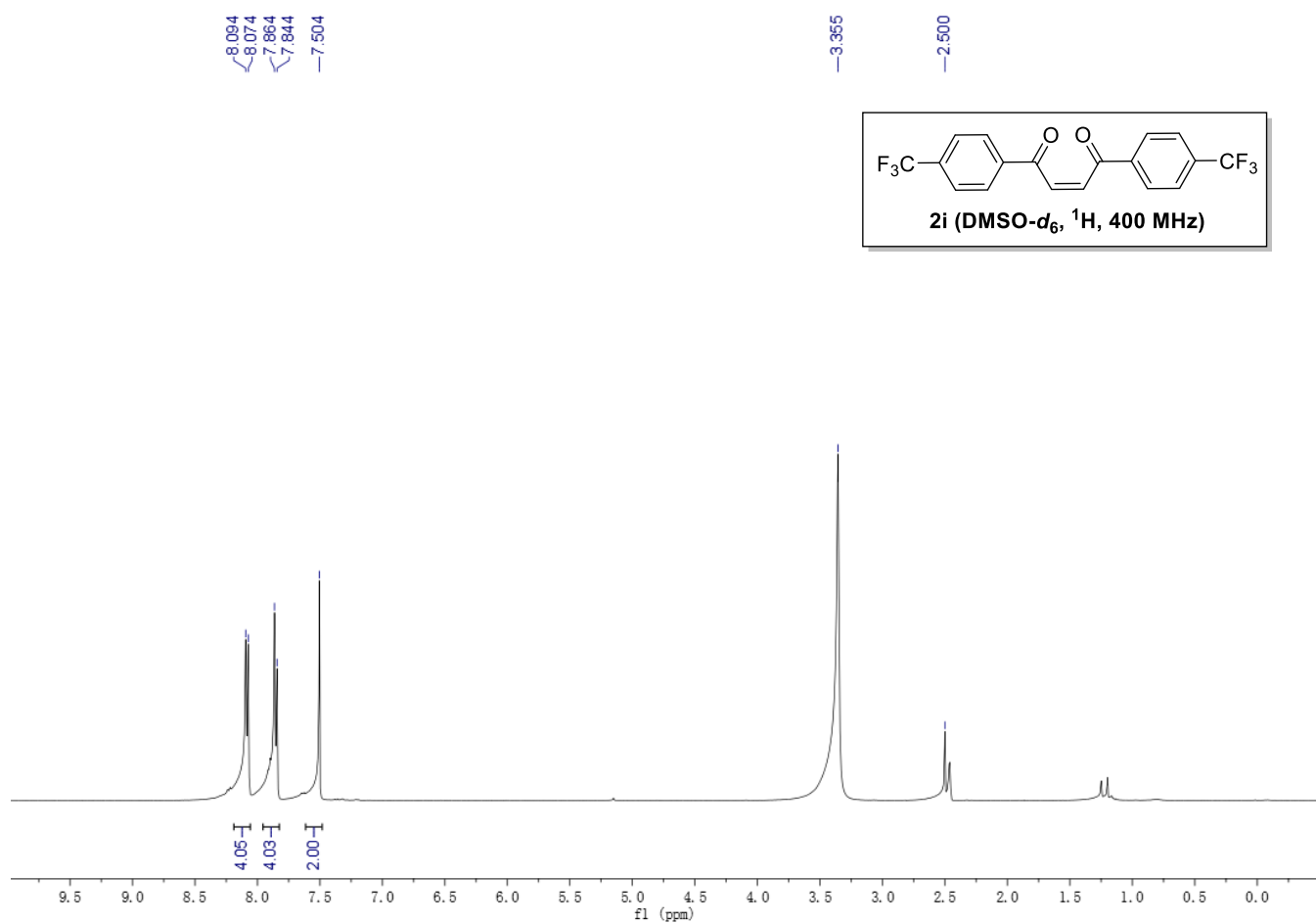
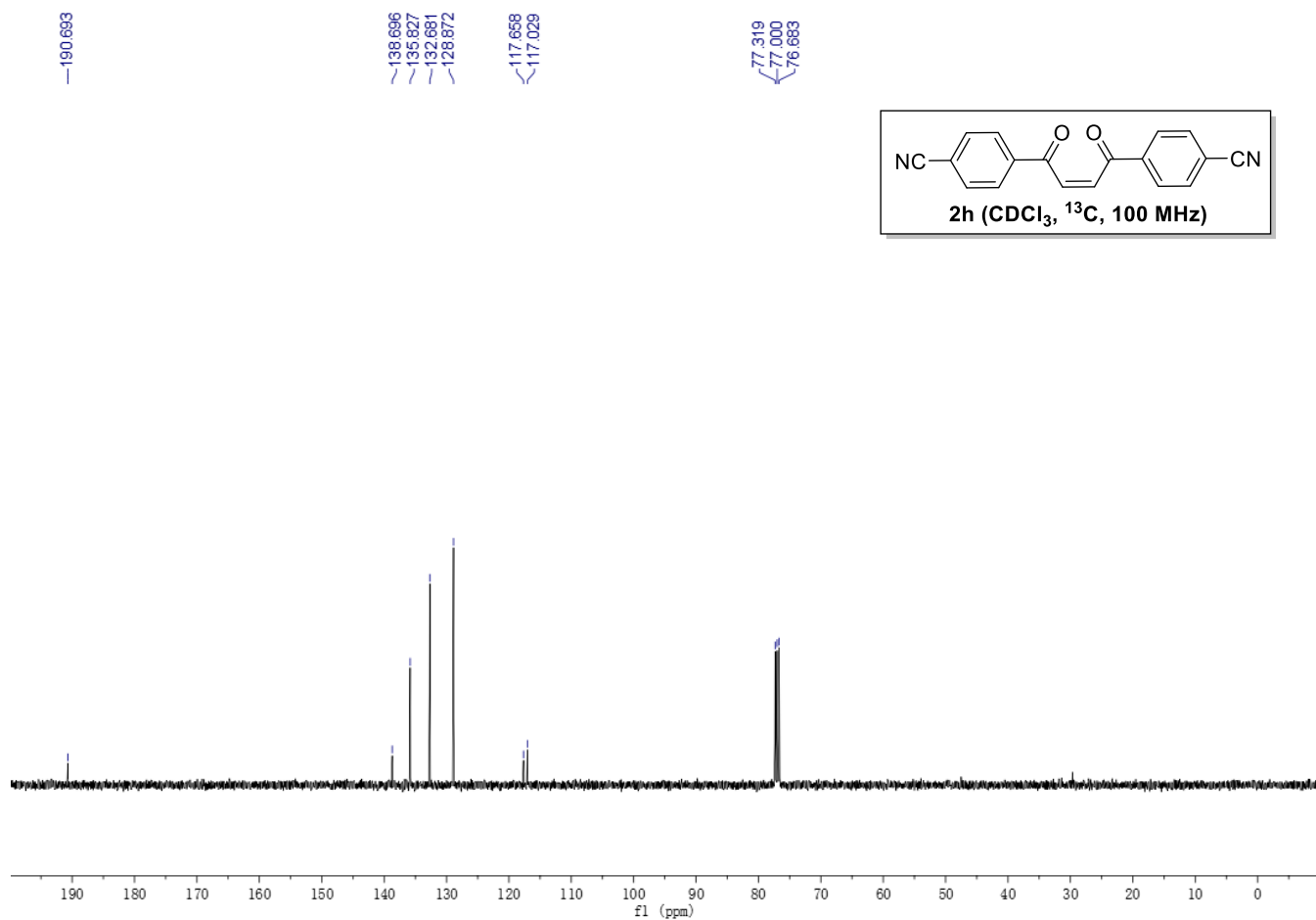
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7.908  
7.675  
7.654  
7.394

3.365

—2.500



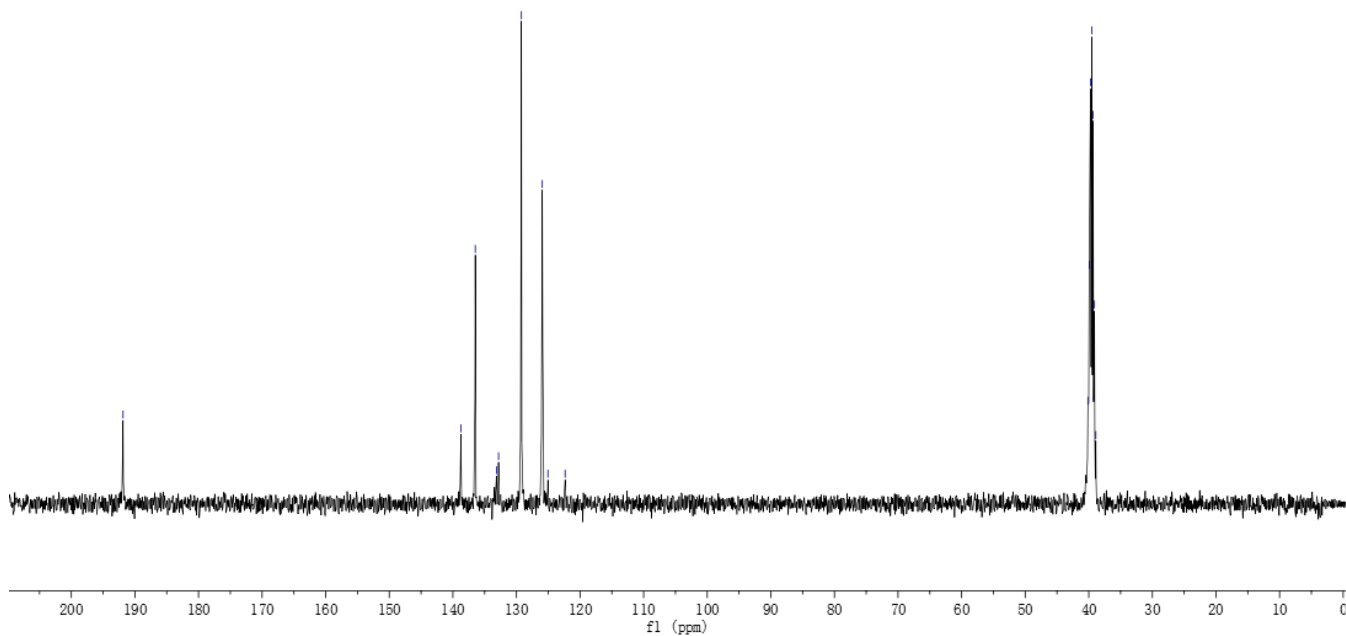
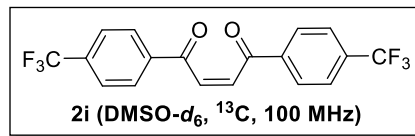




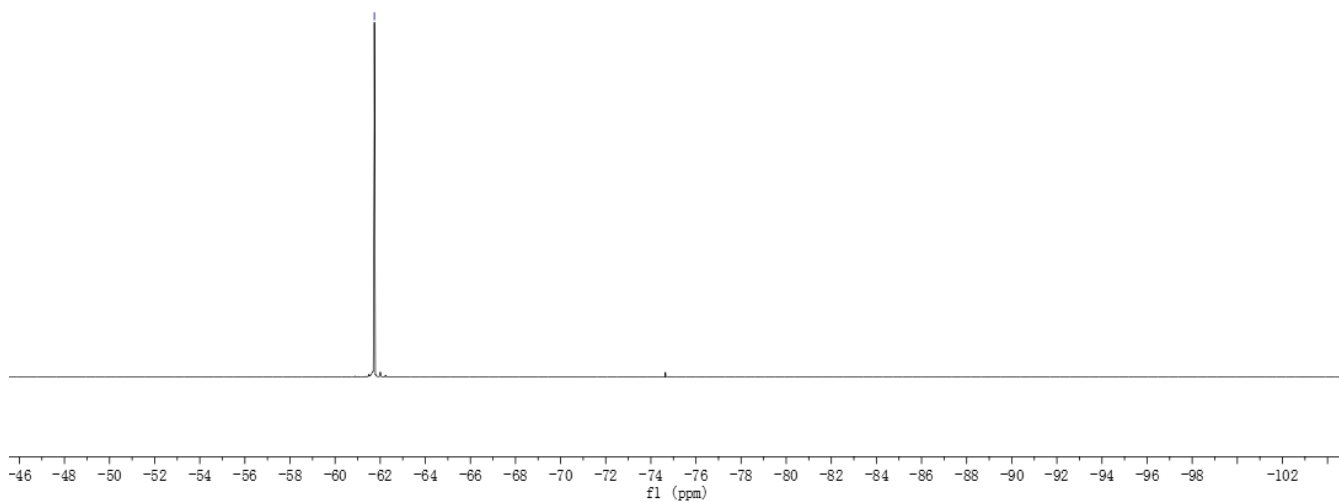
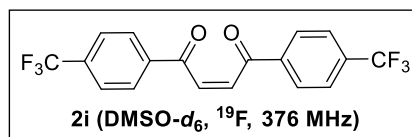
—191.863

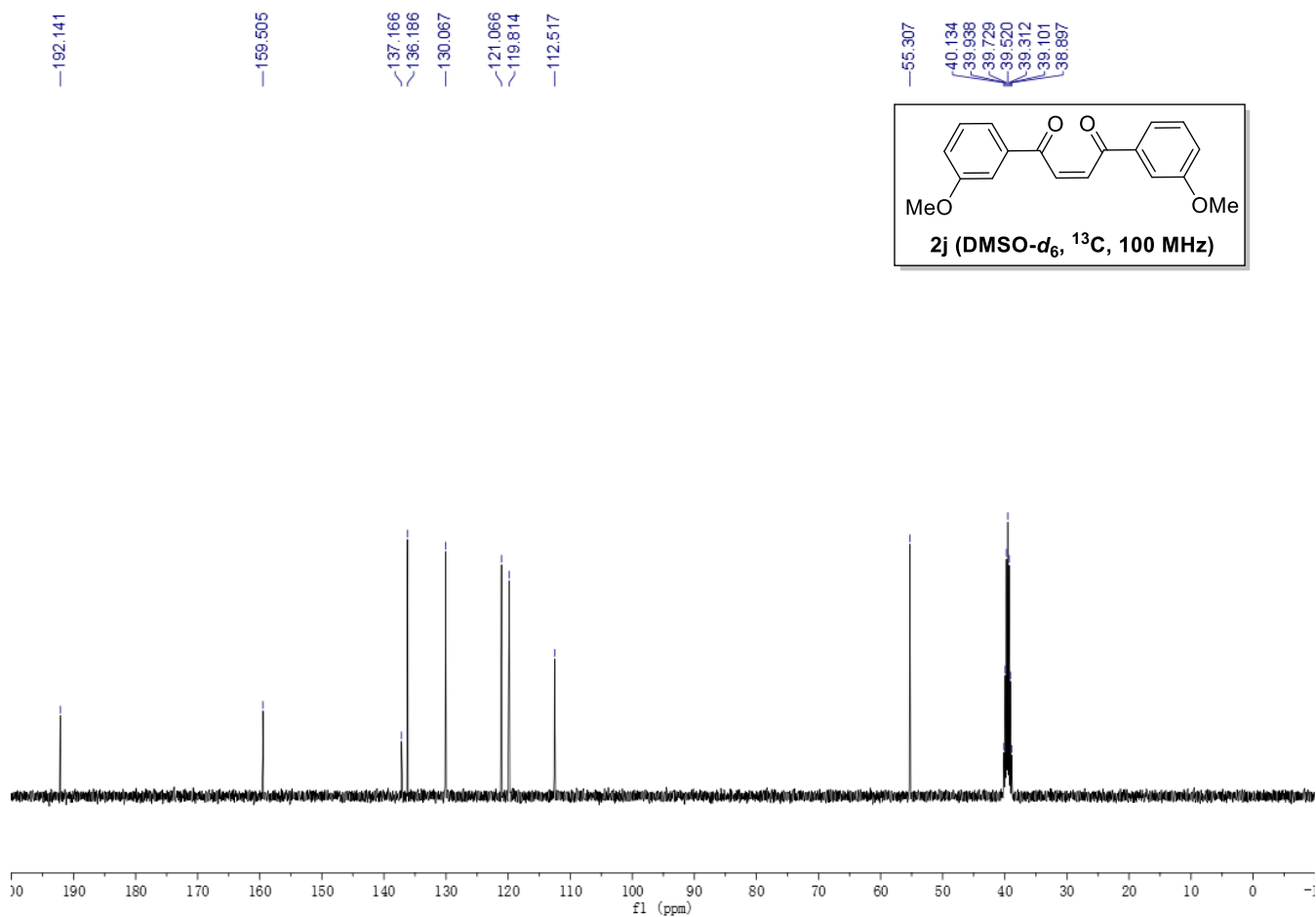
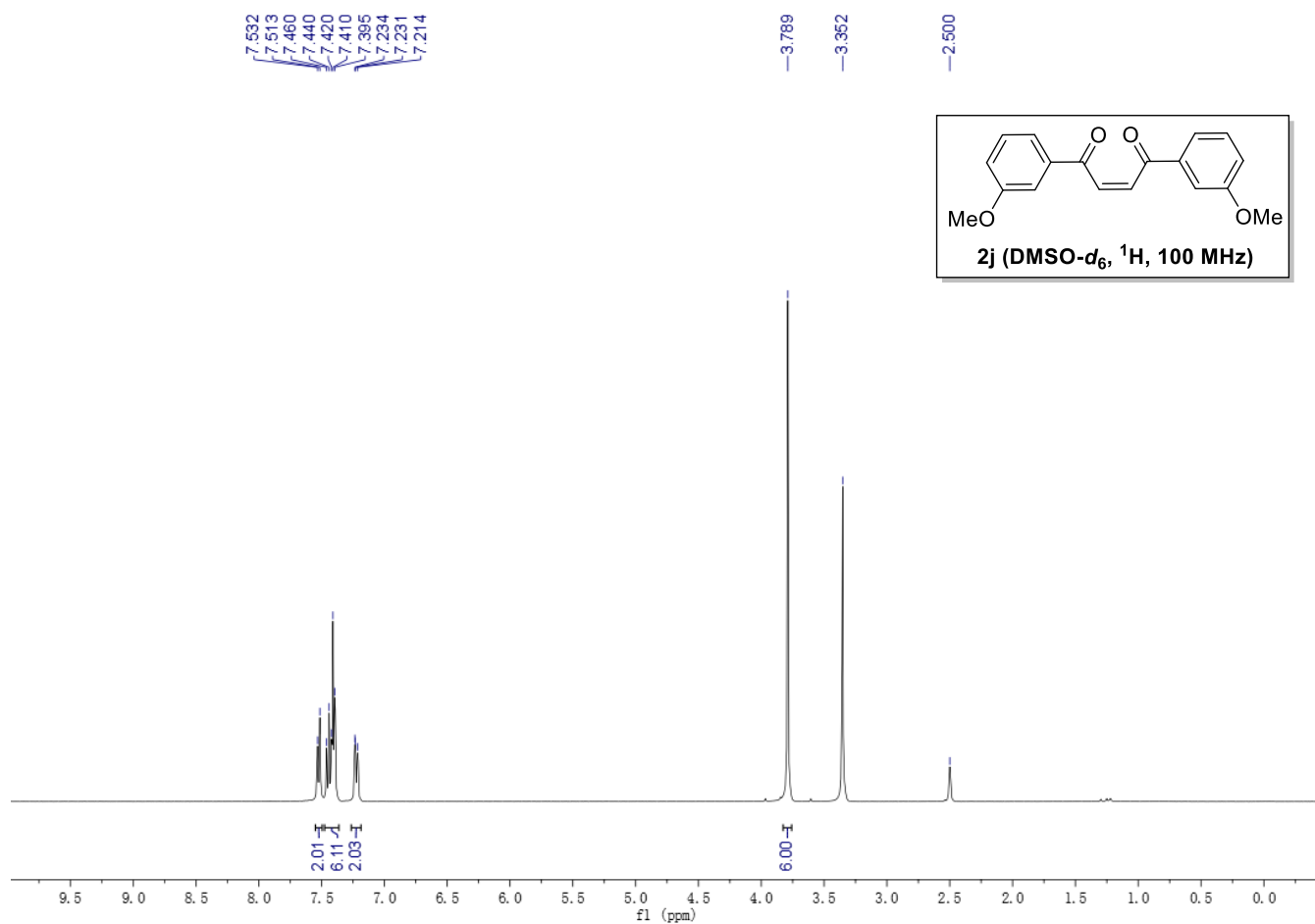
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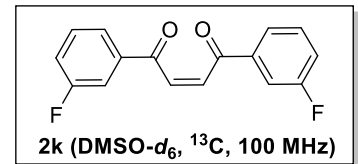
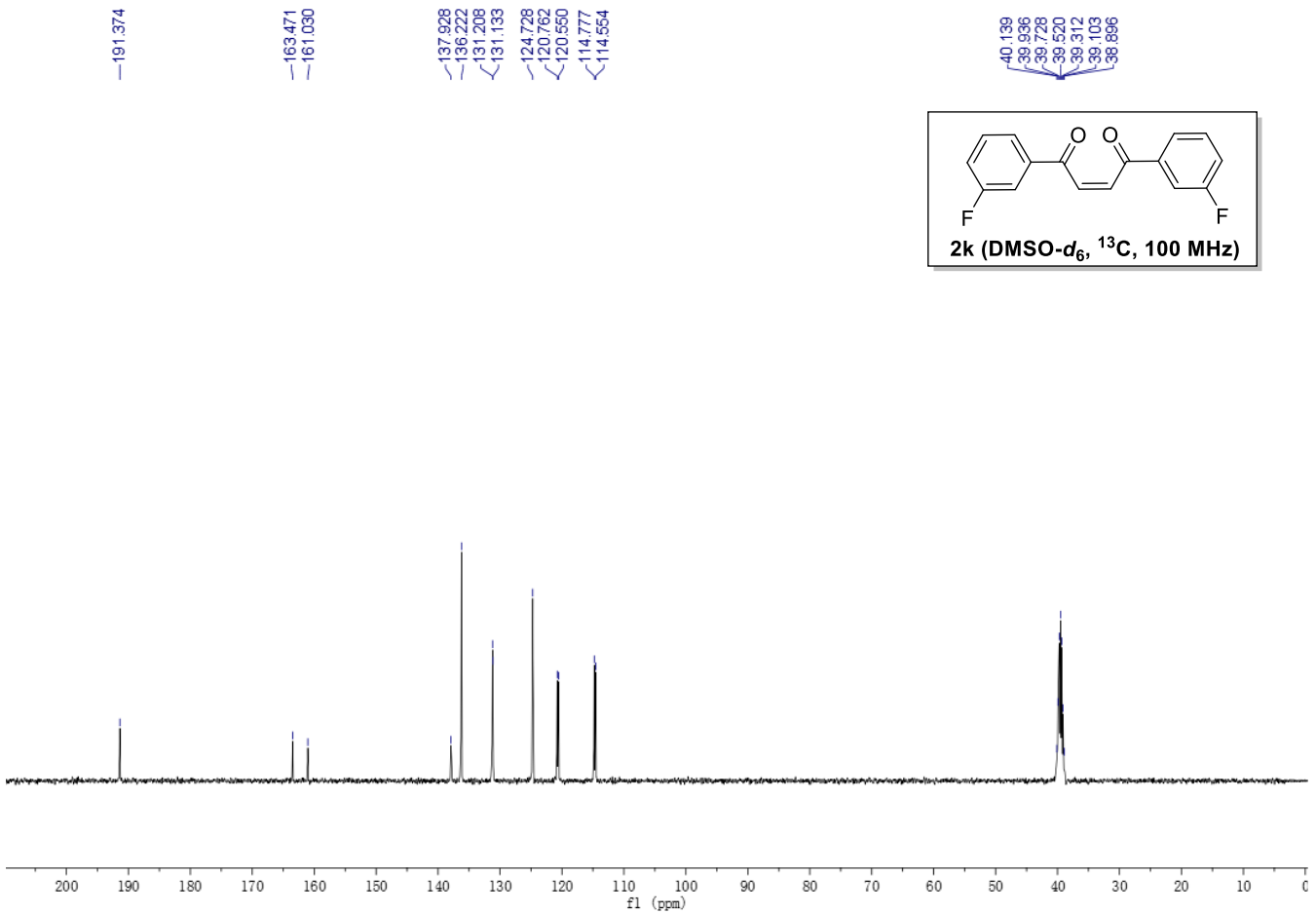
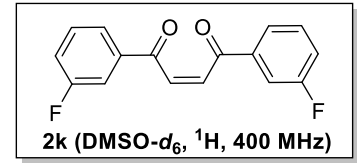
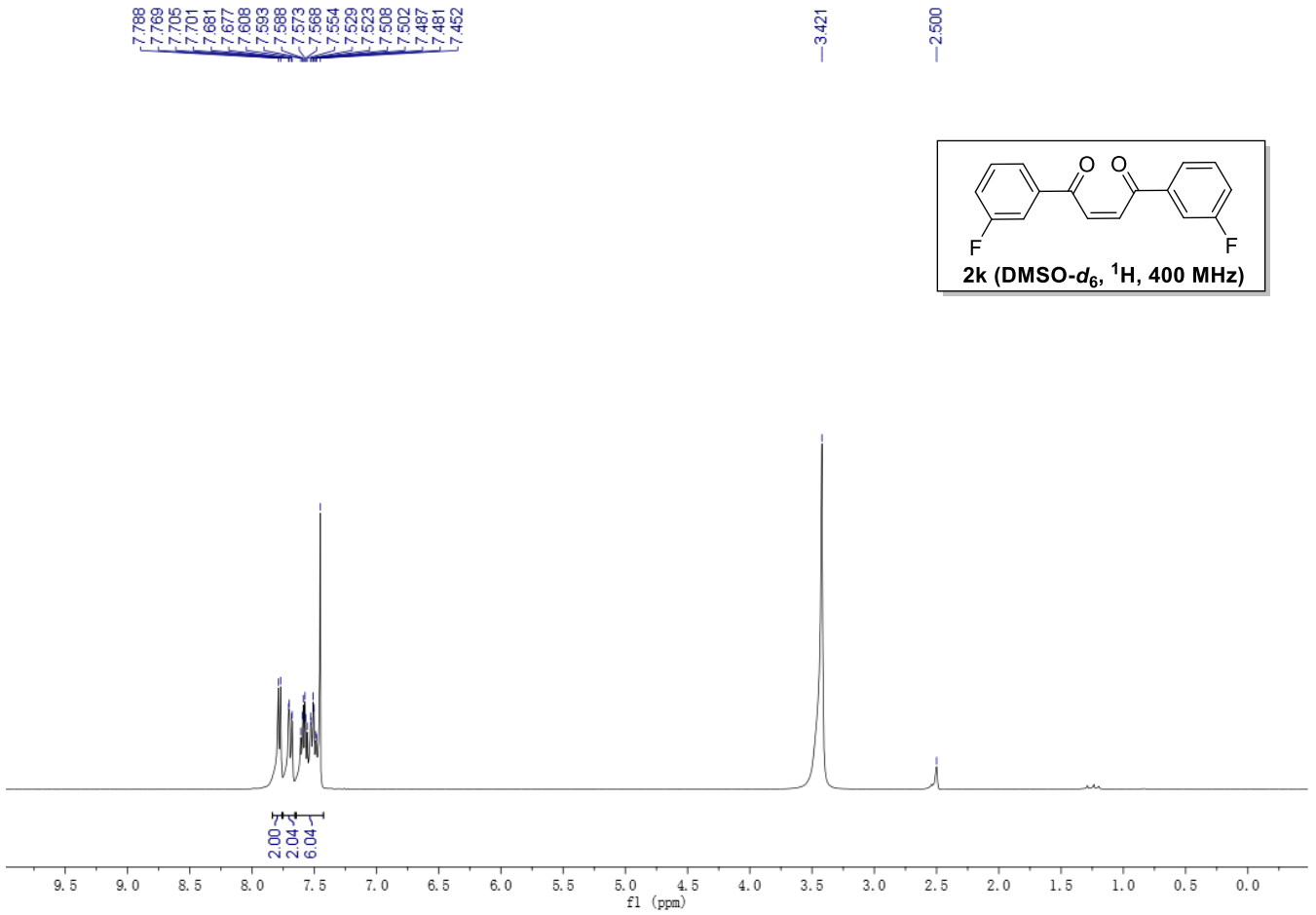
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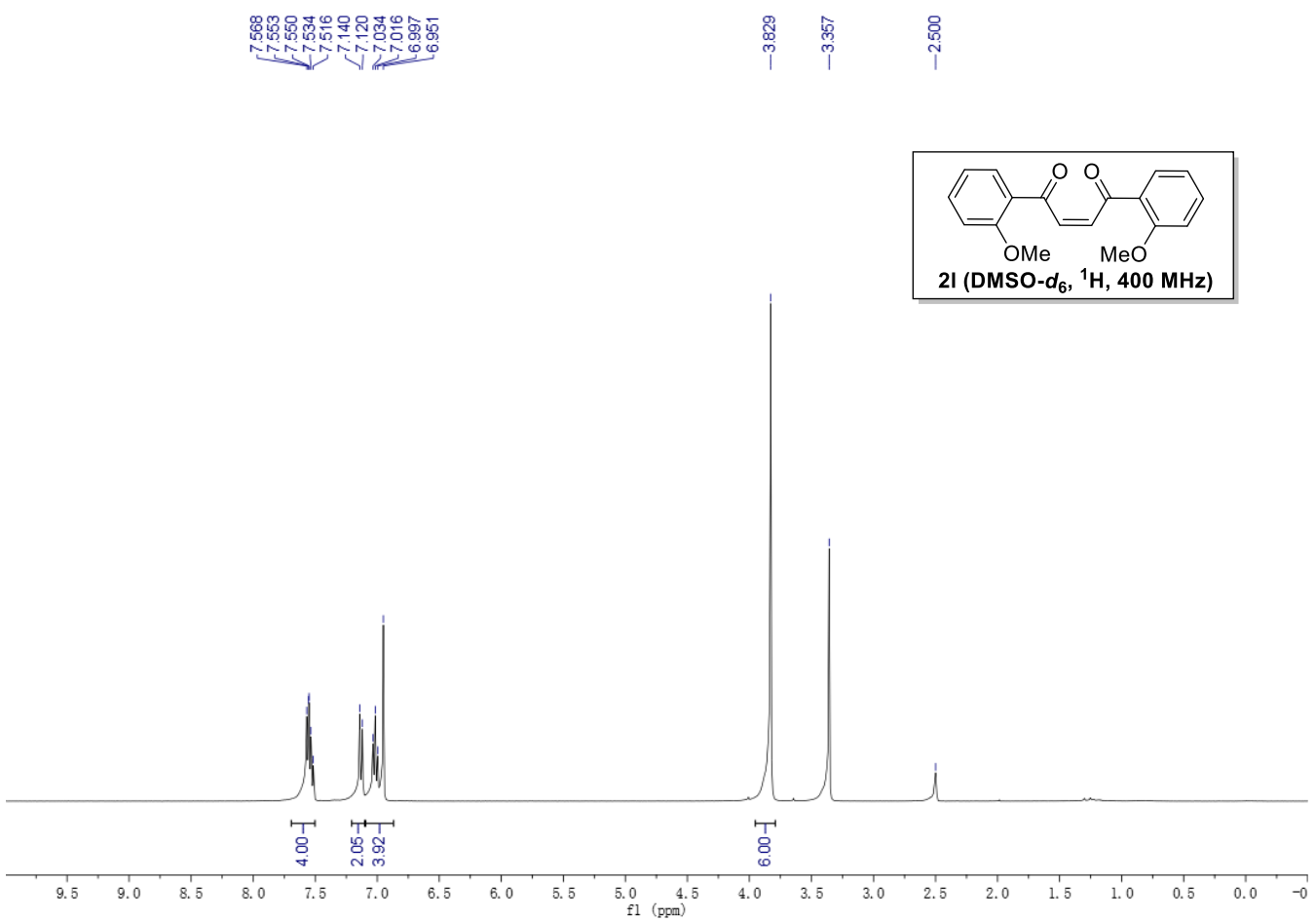
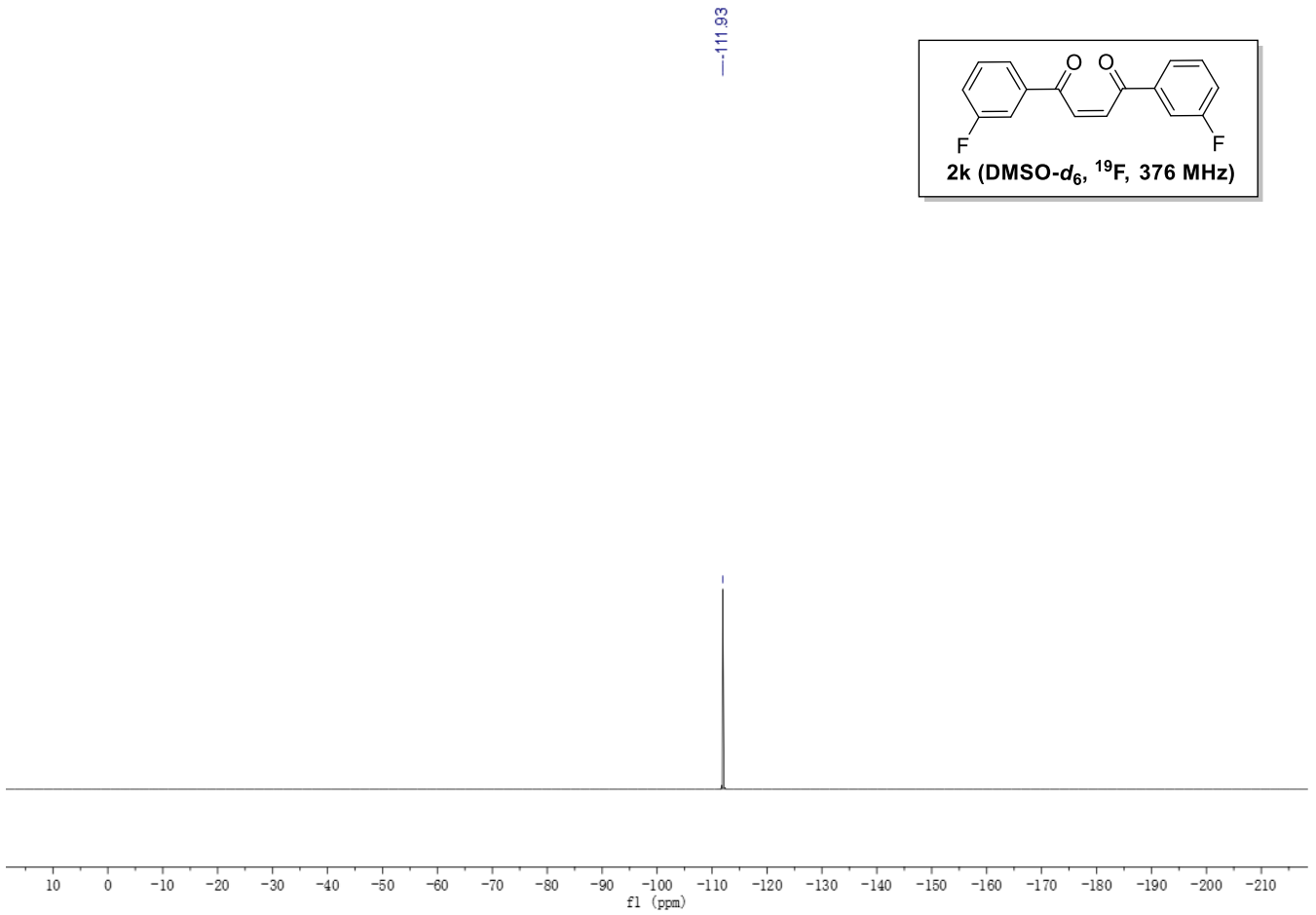


—61.74

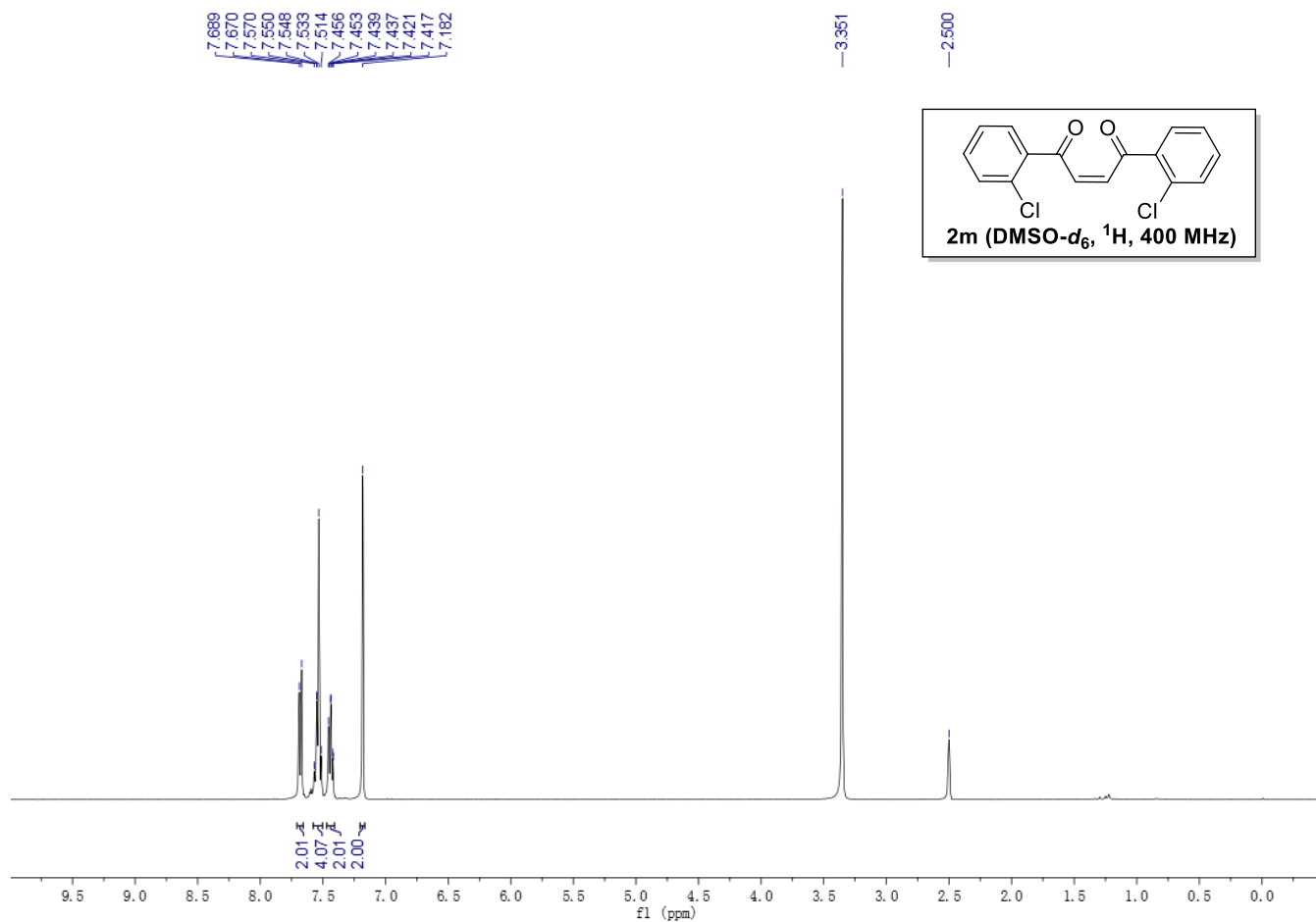
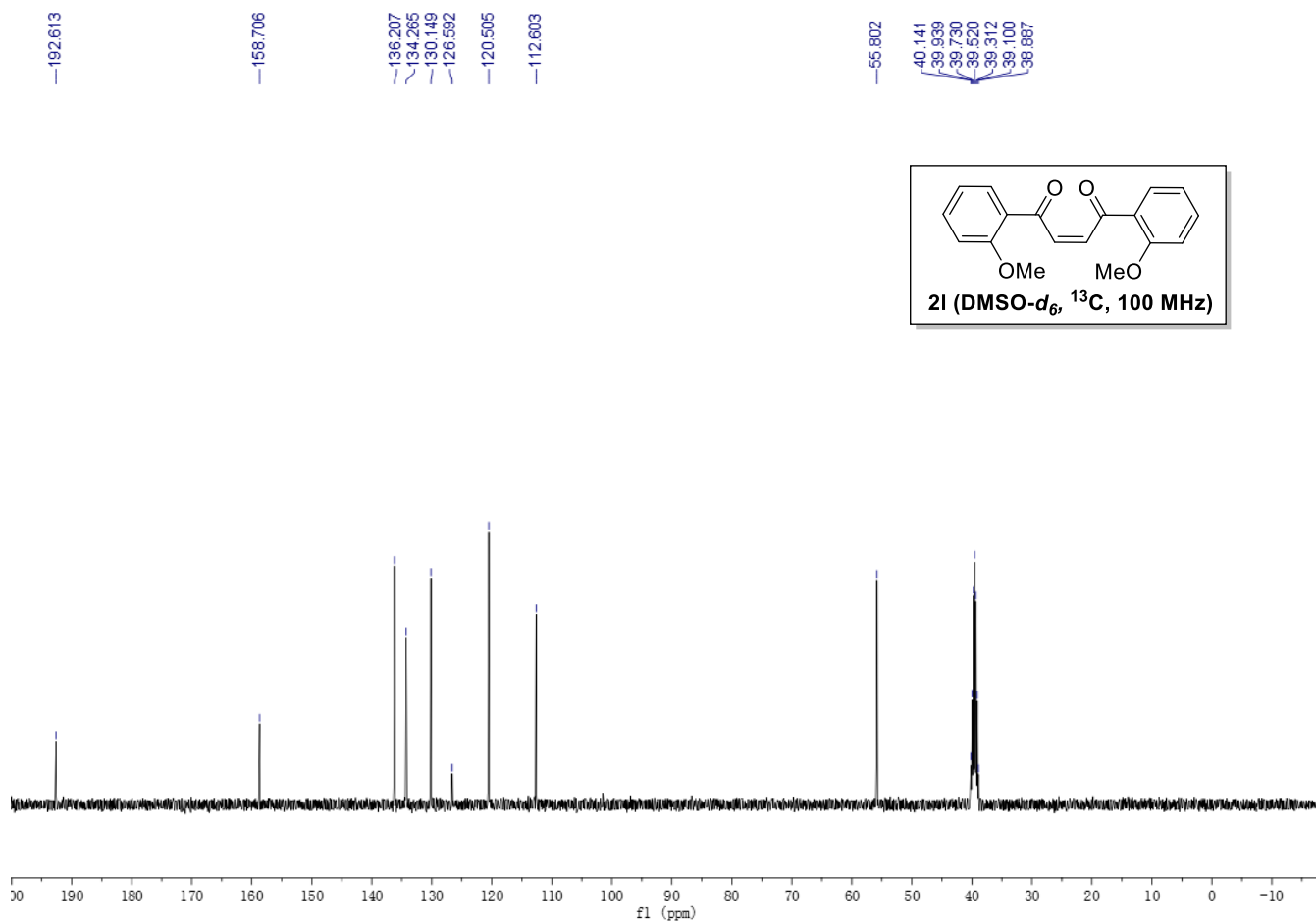


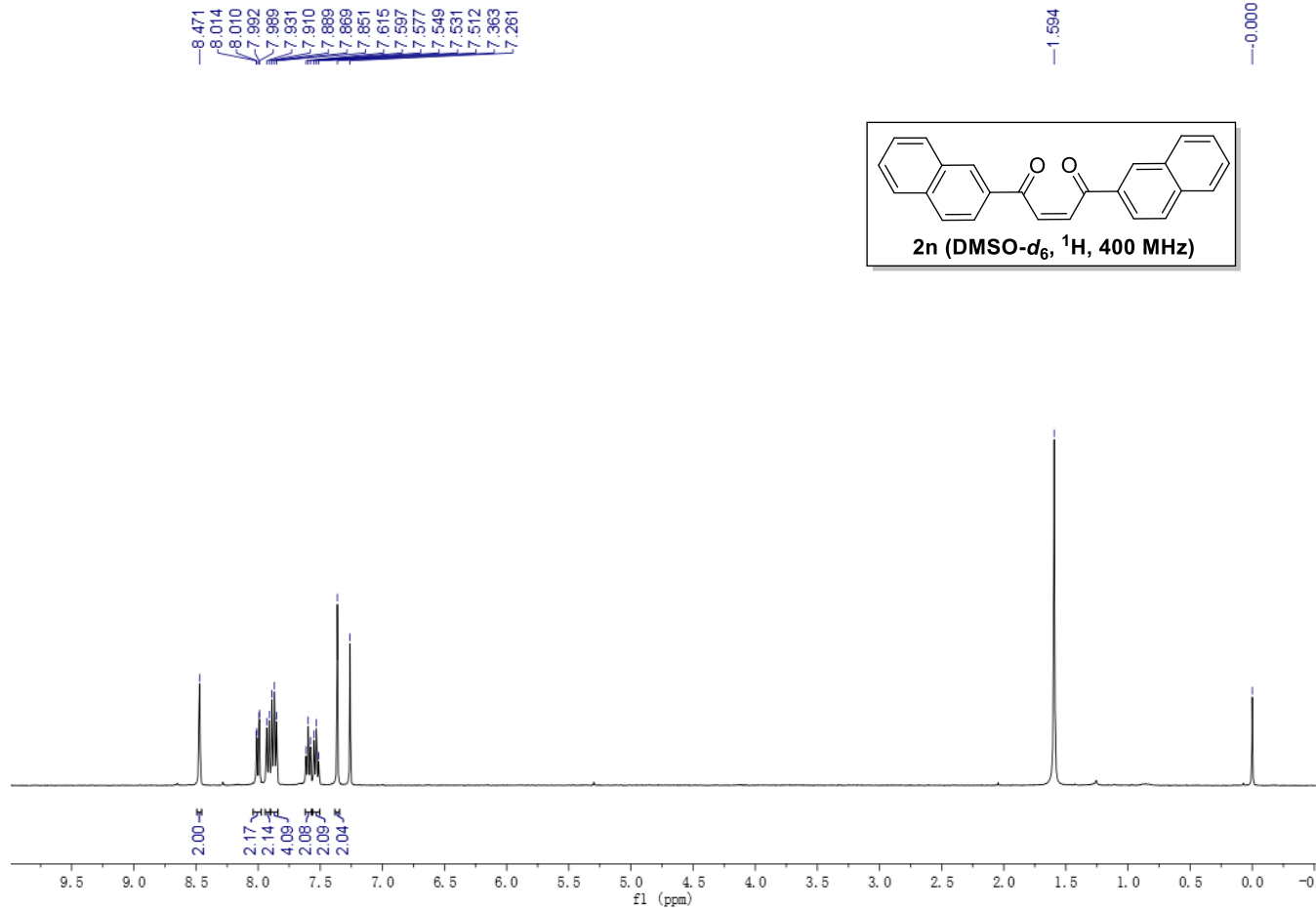
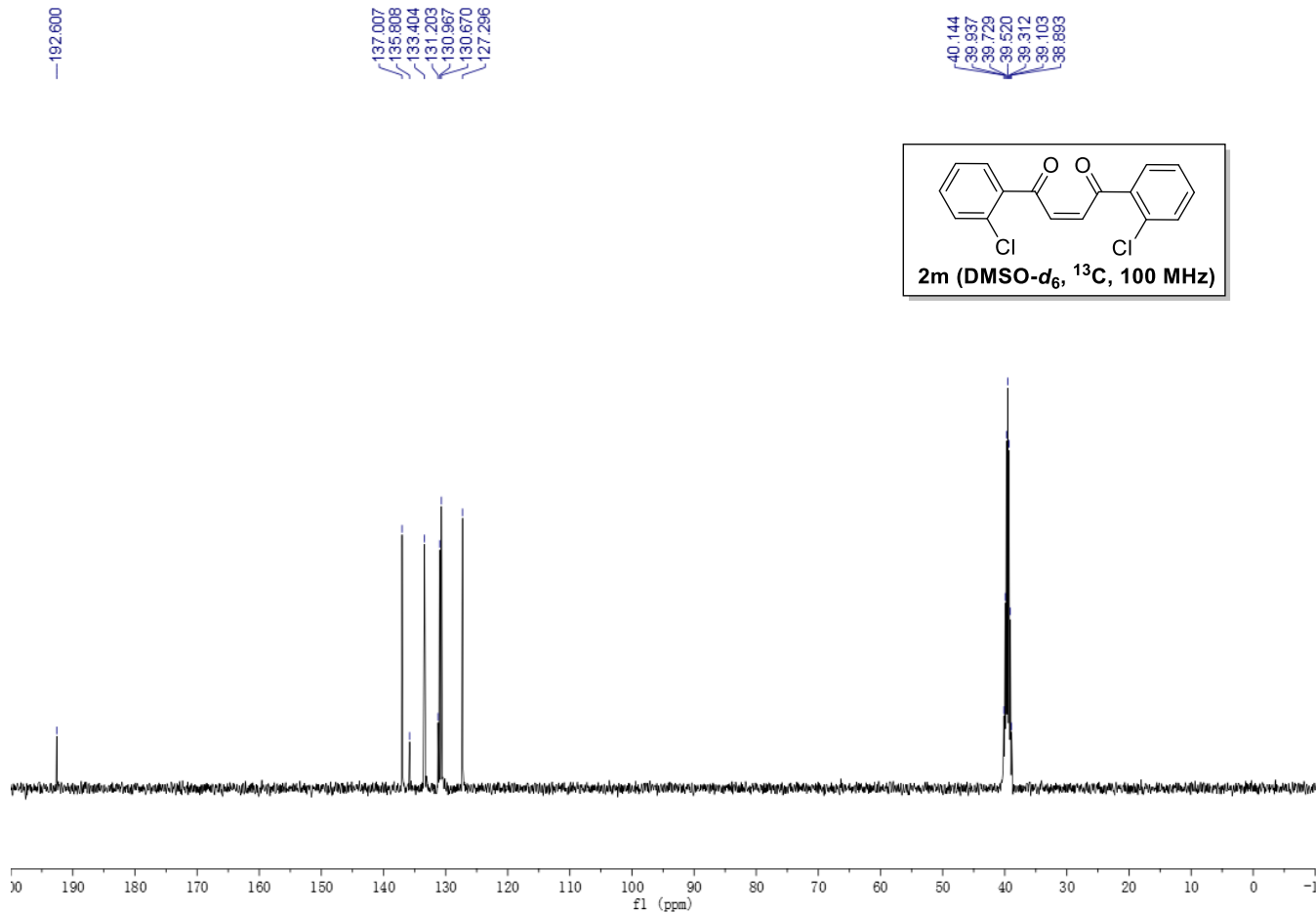


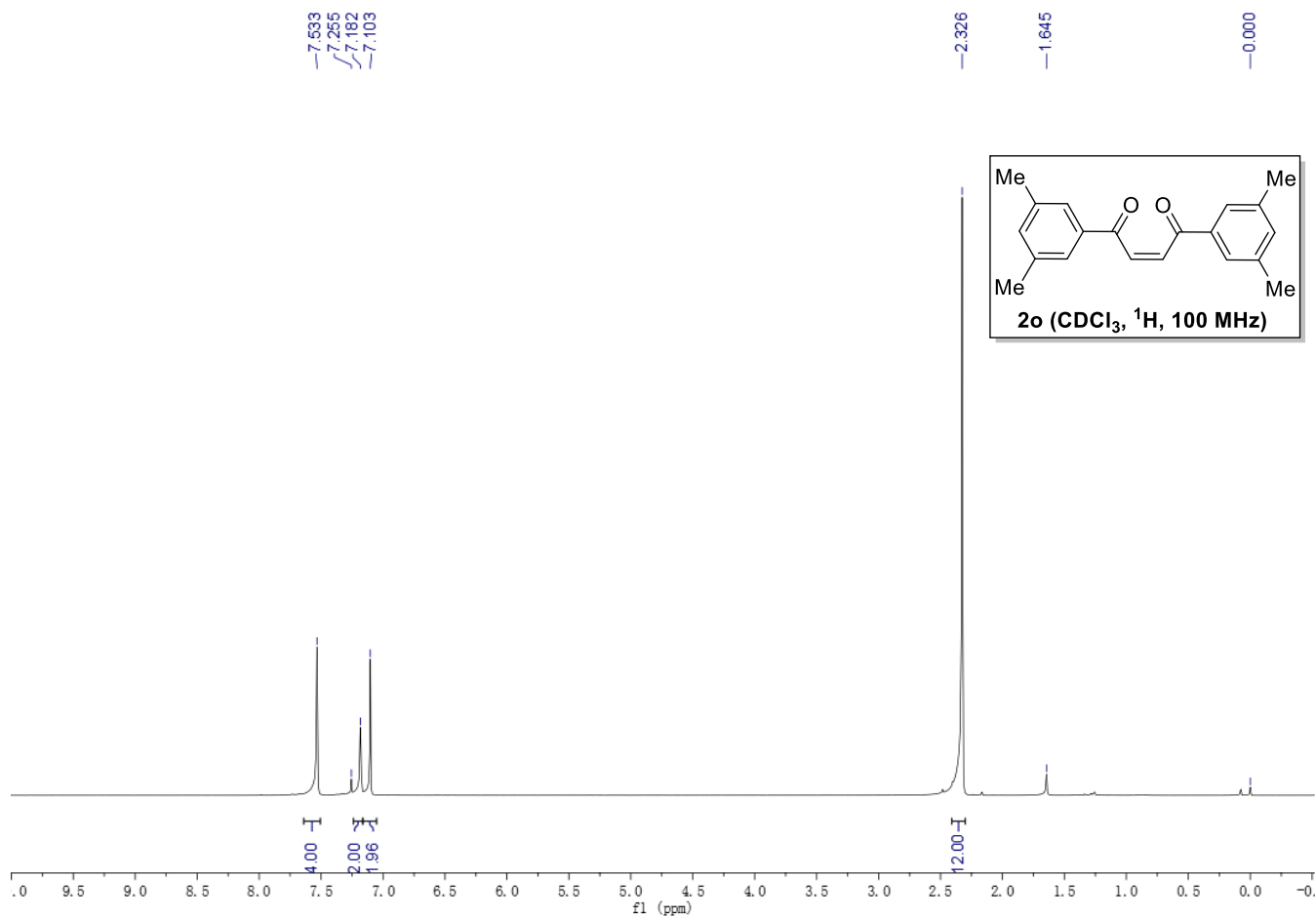
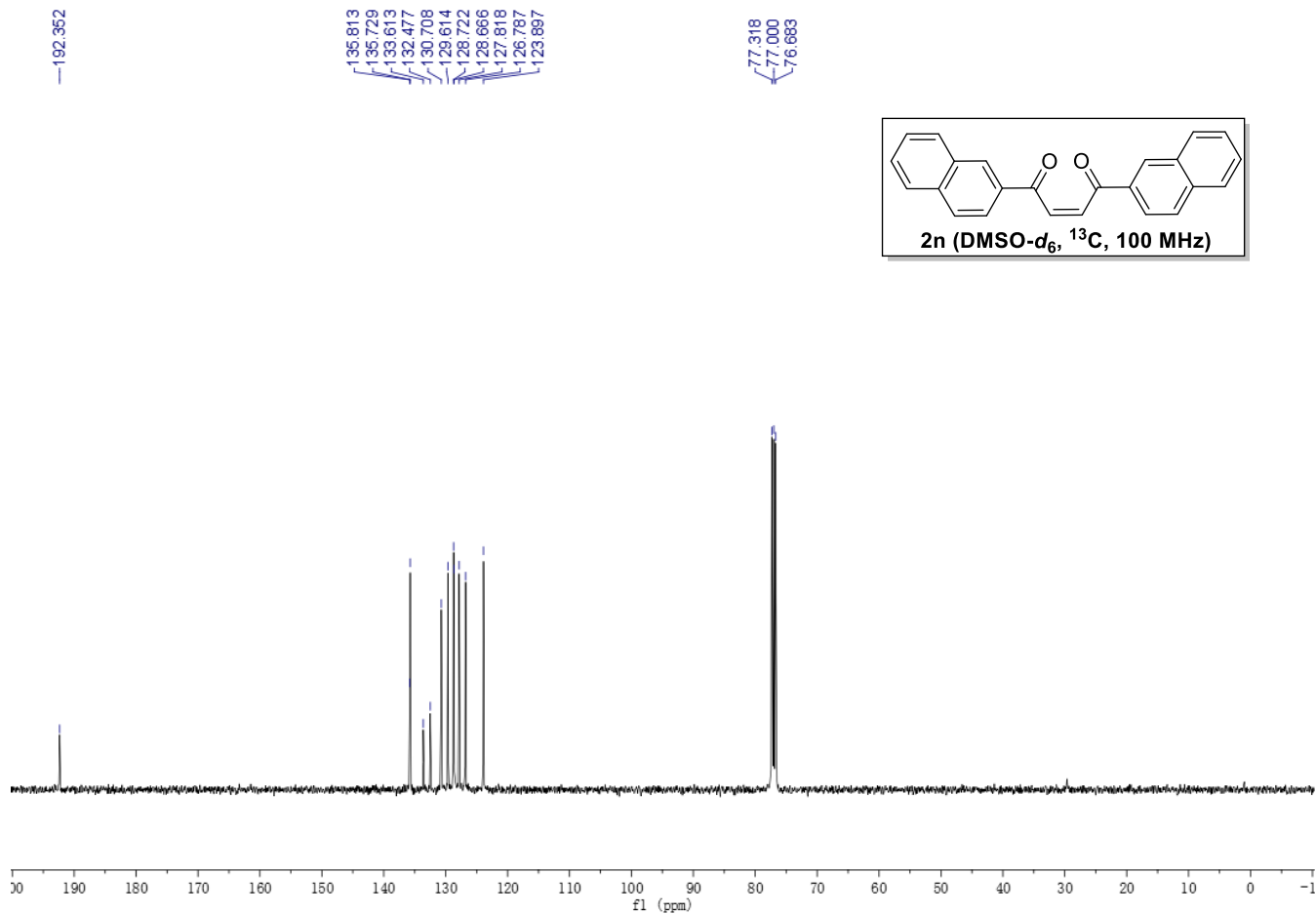


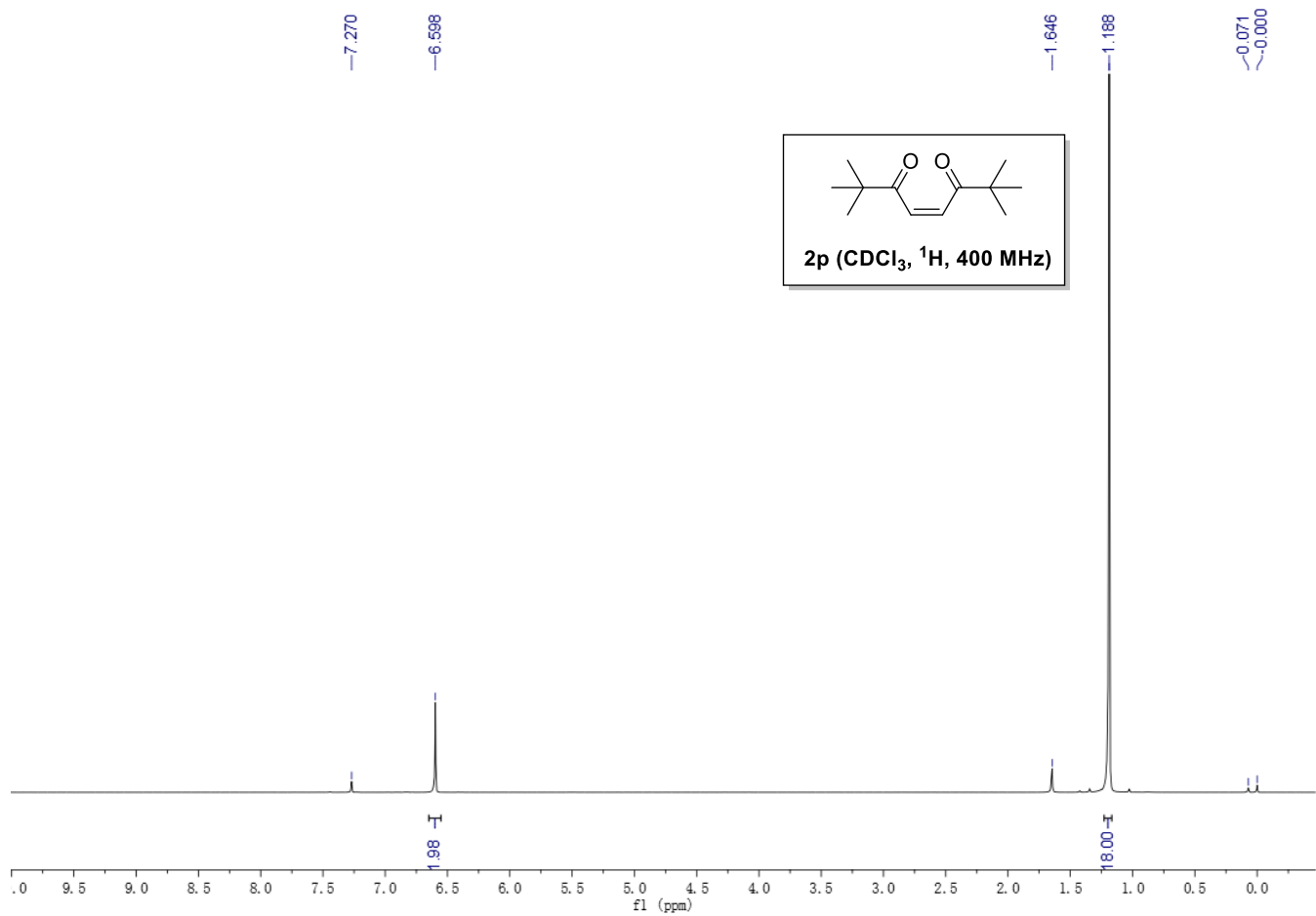
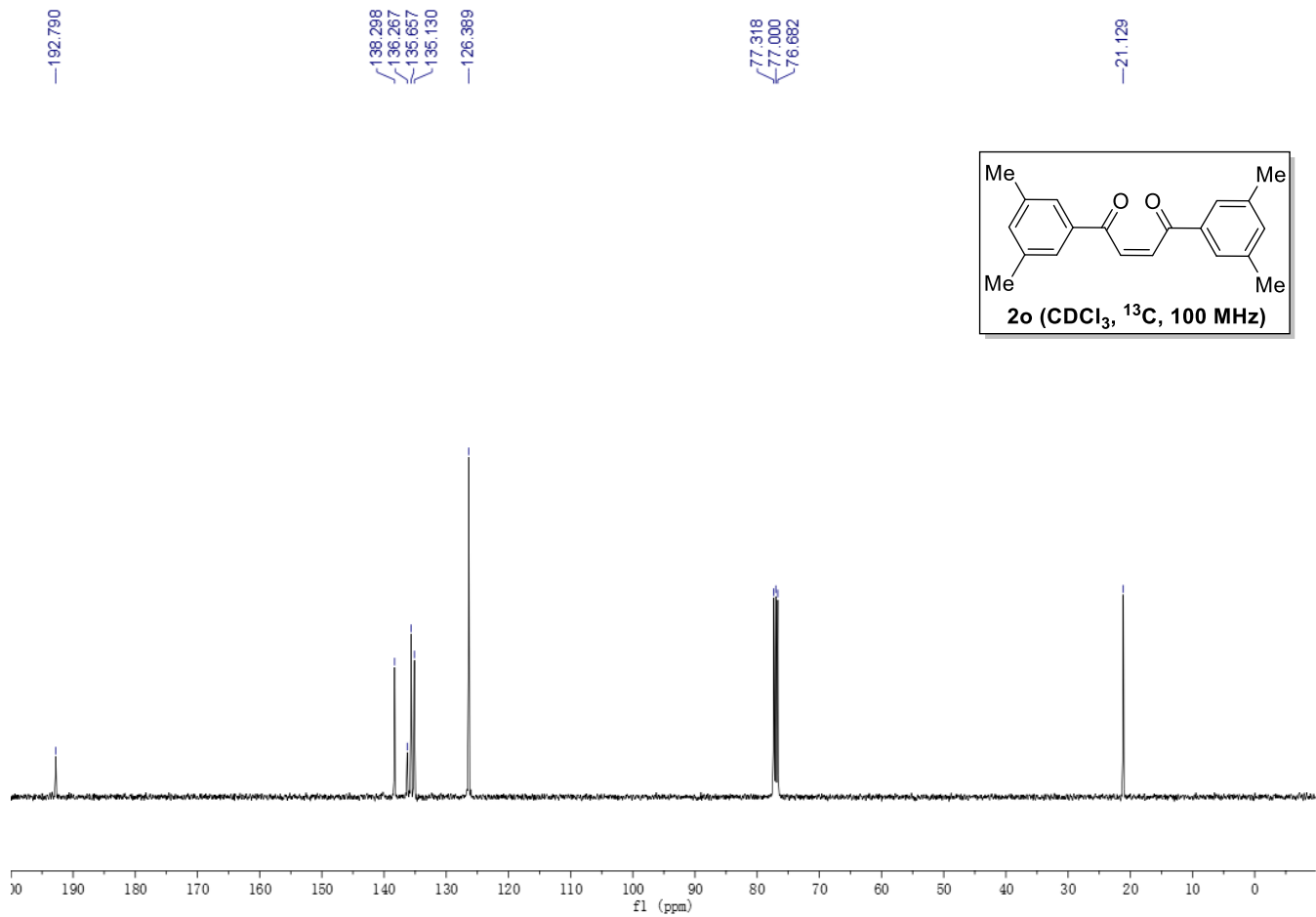


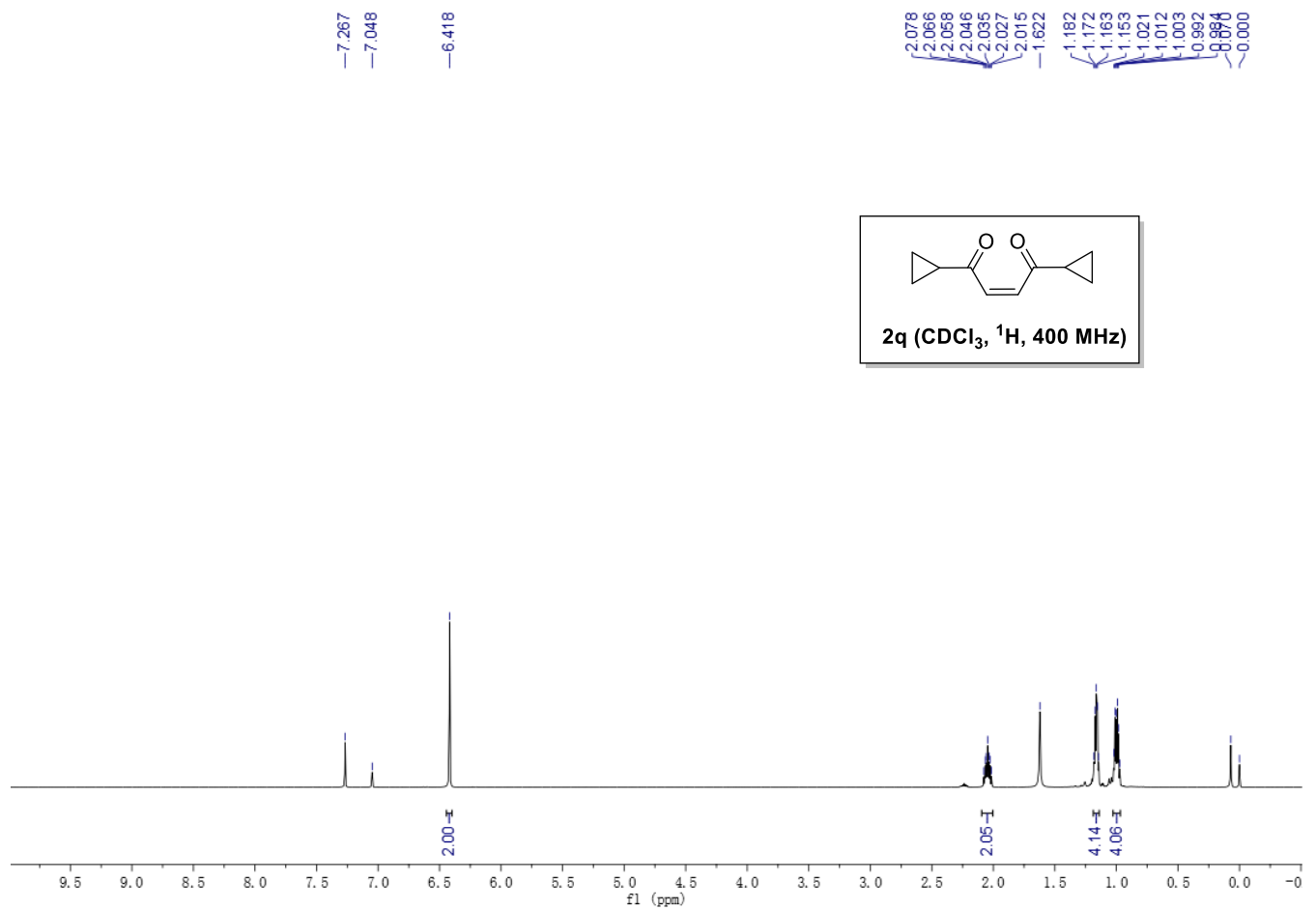
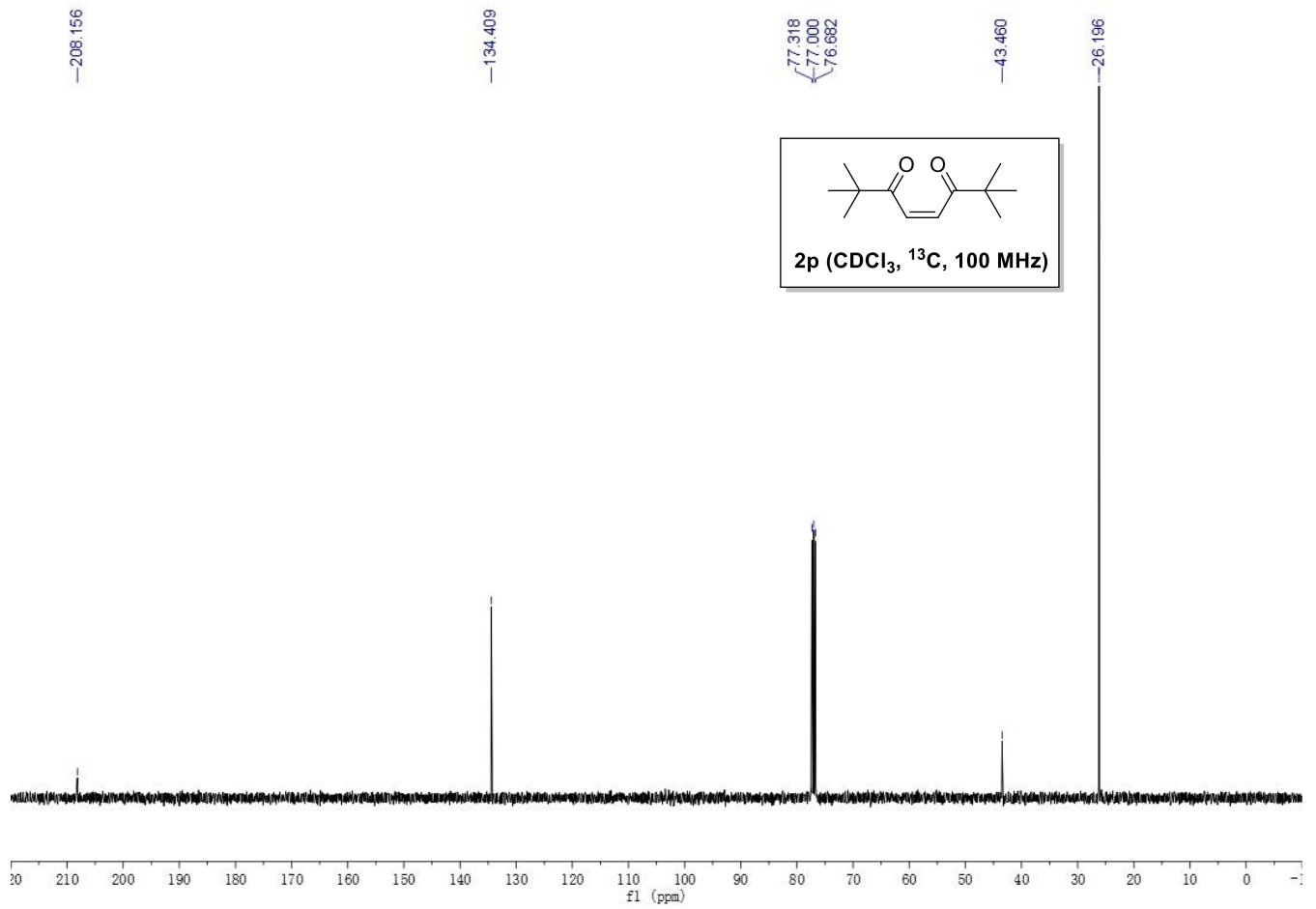


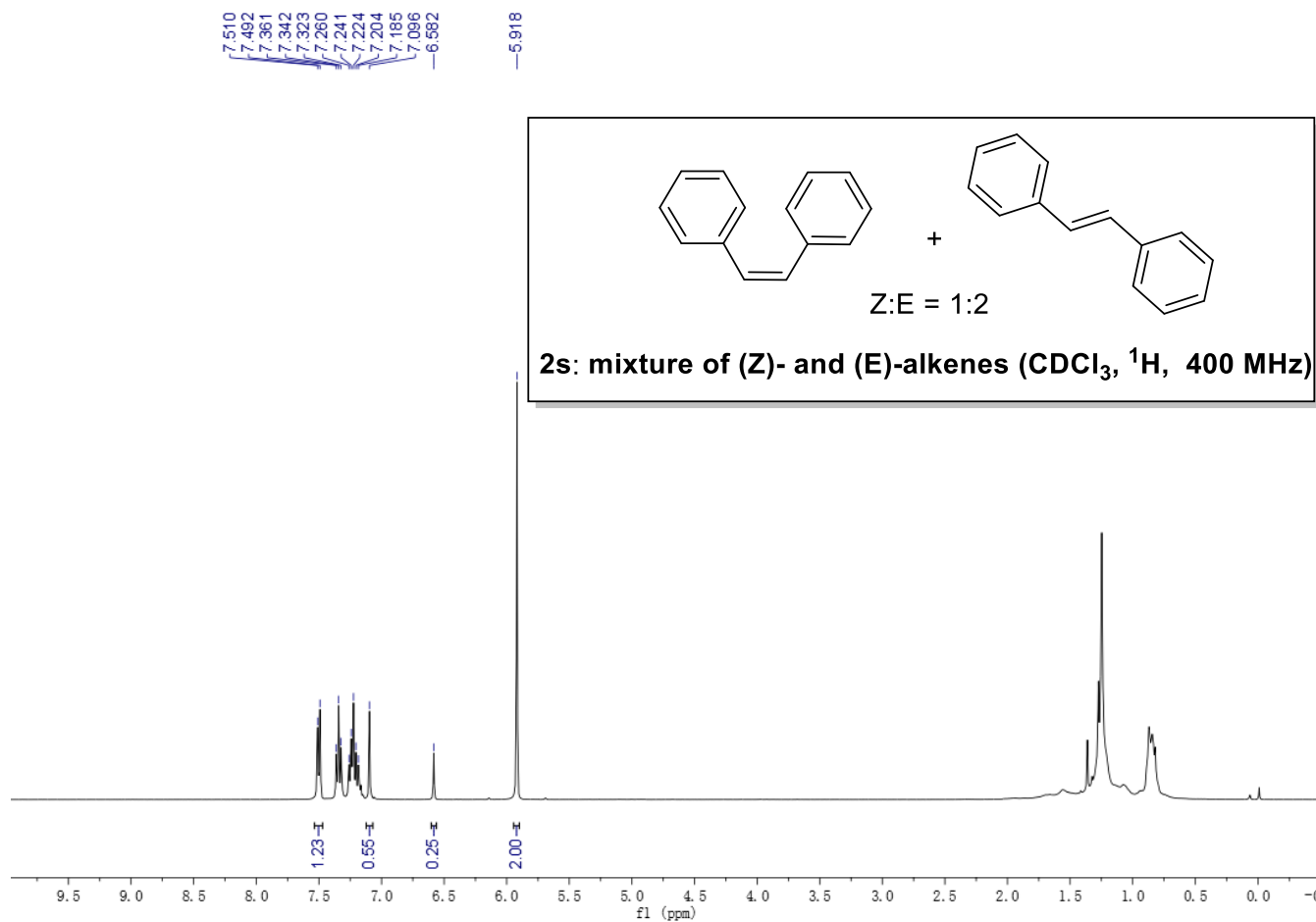
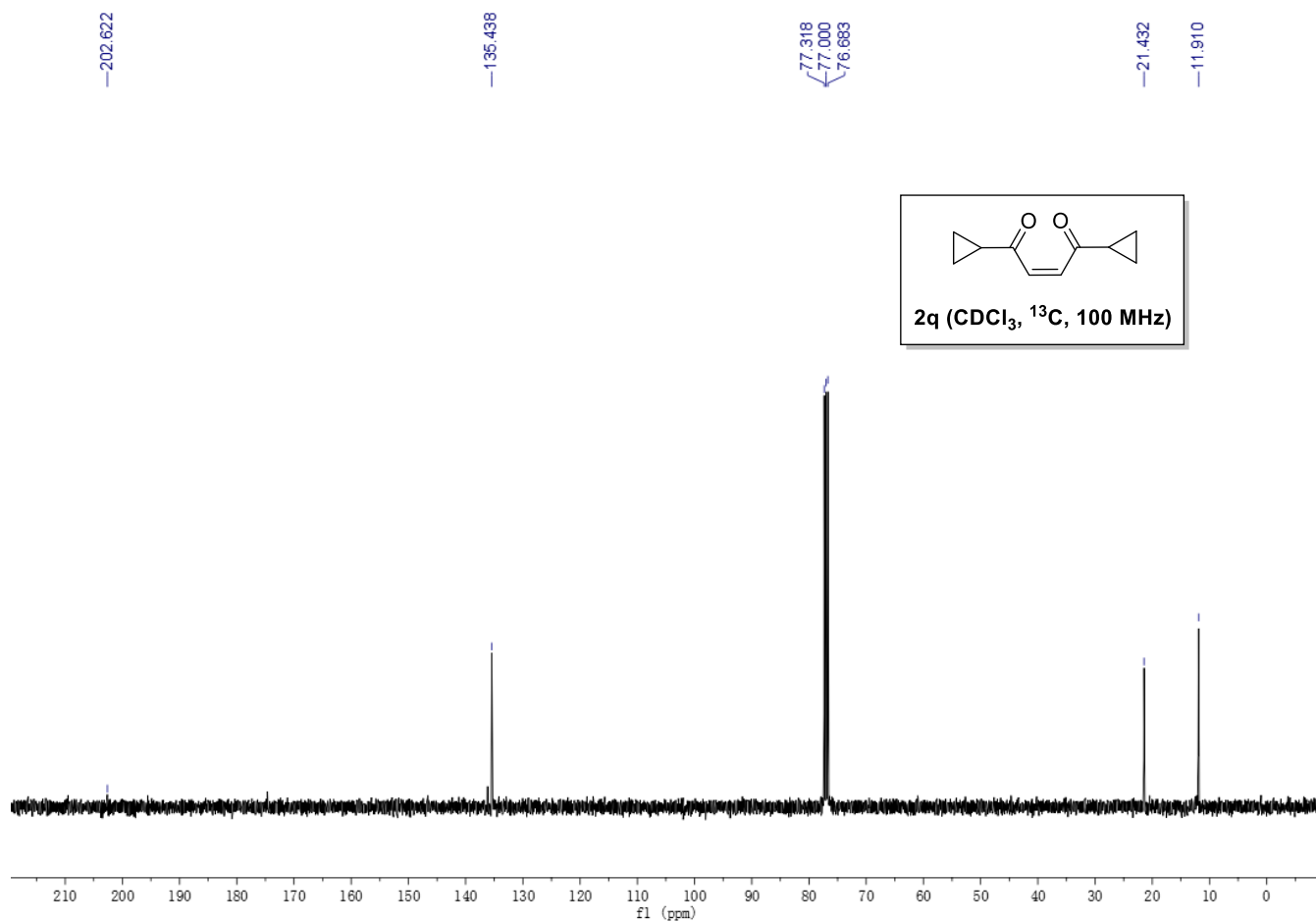






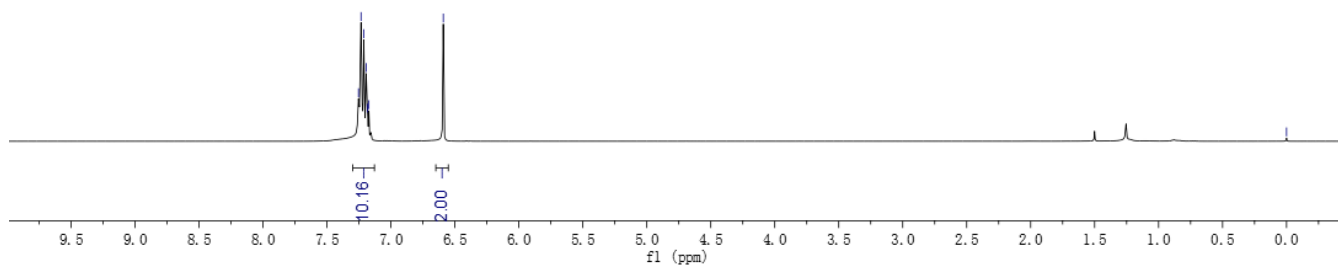
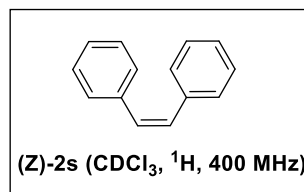






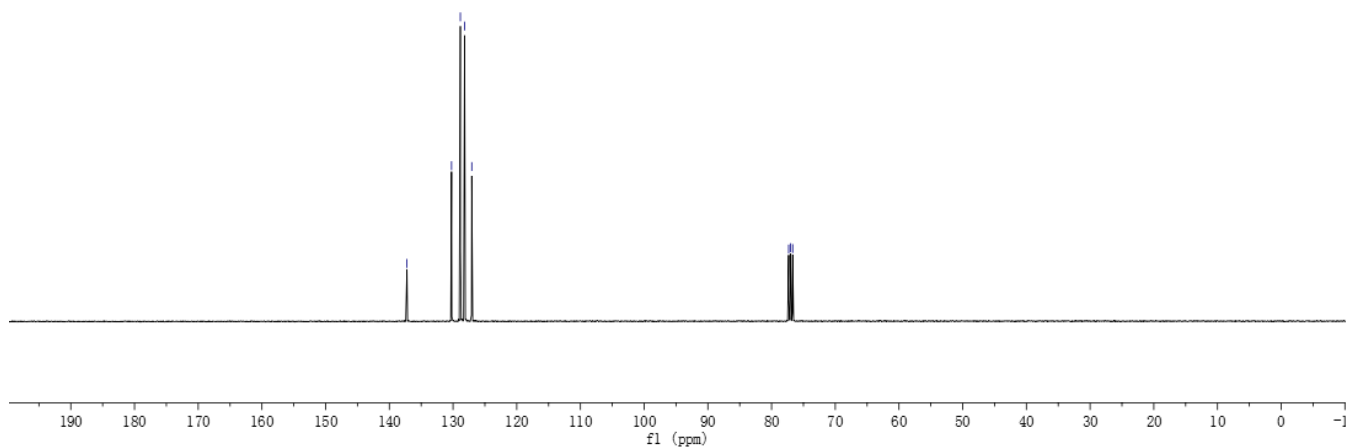
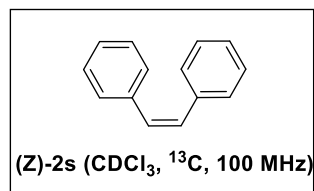
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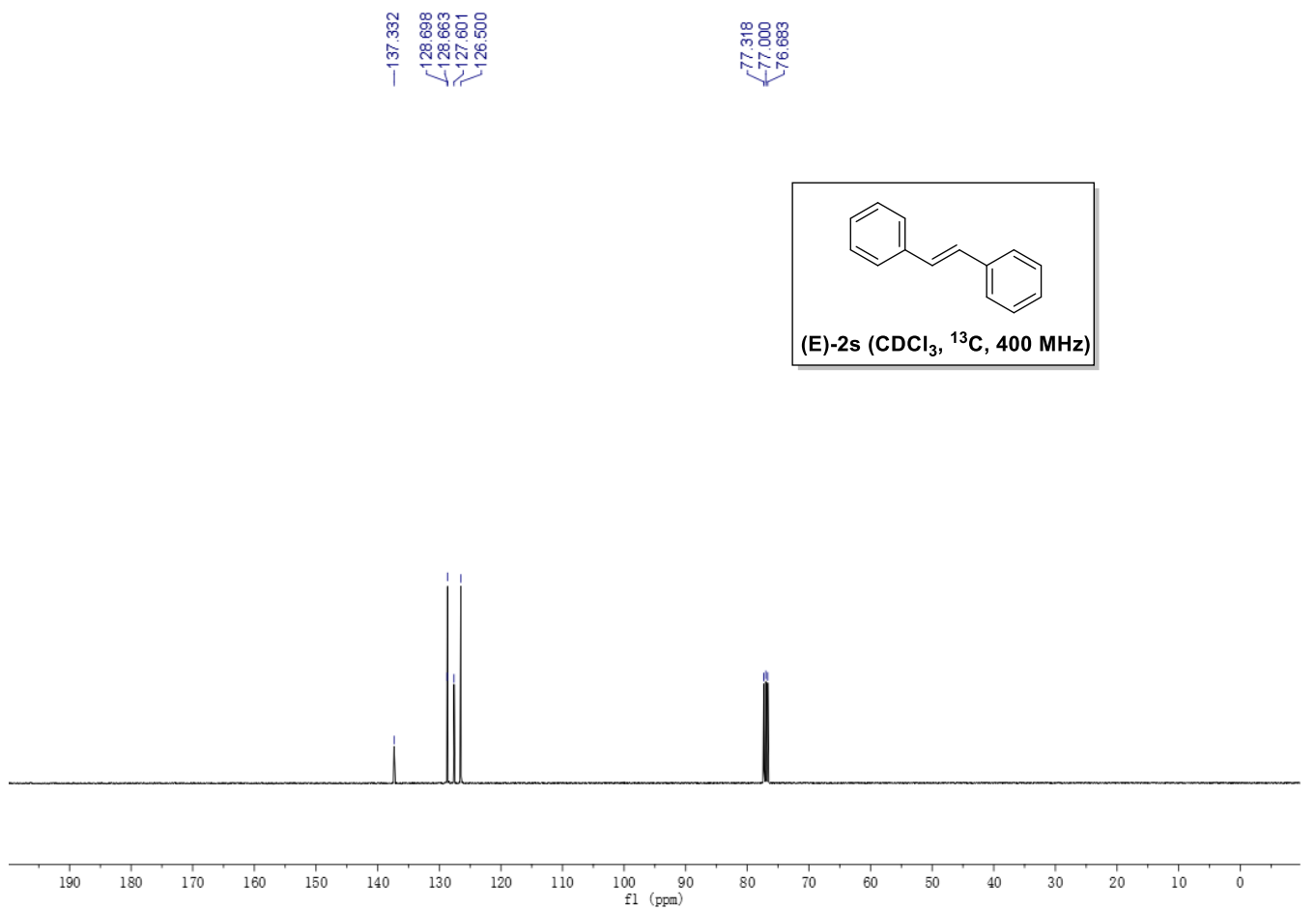
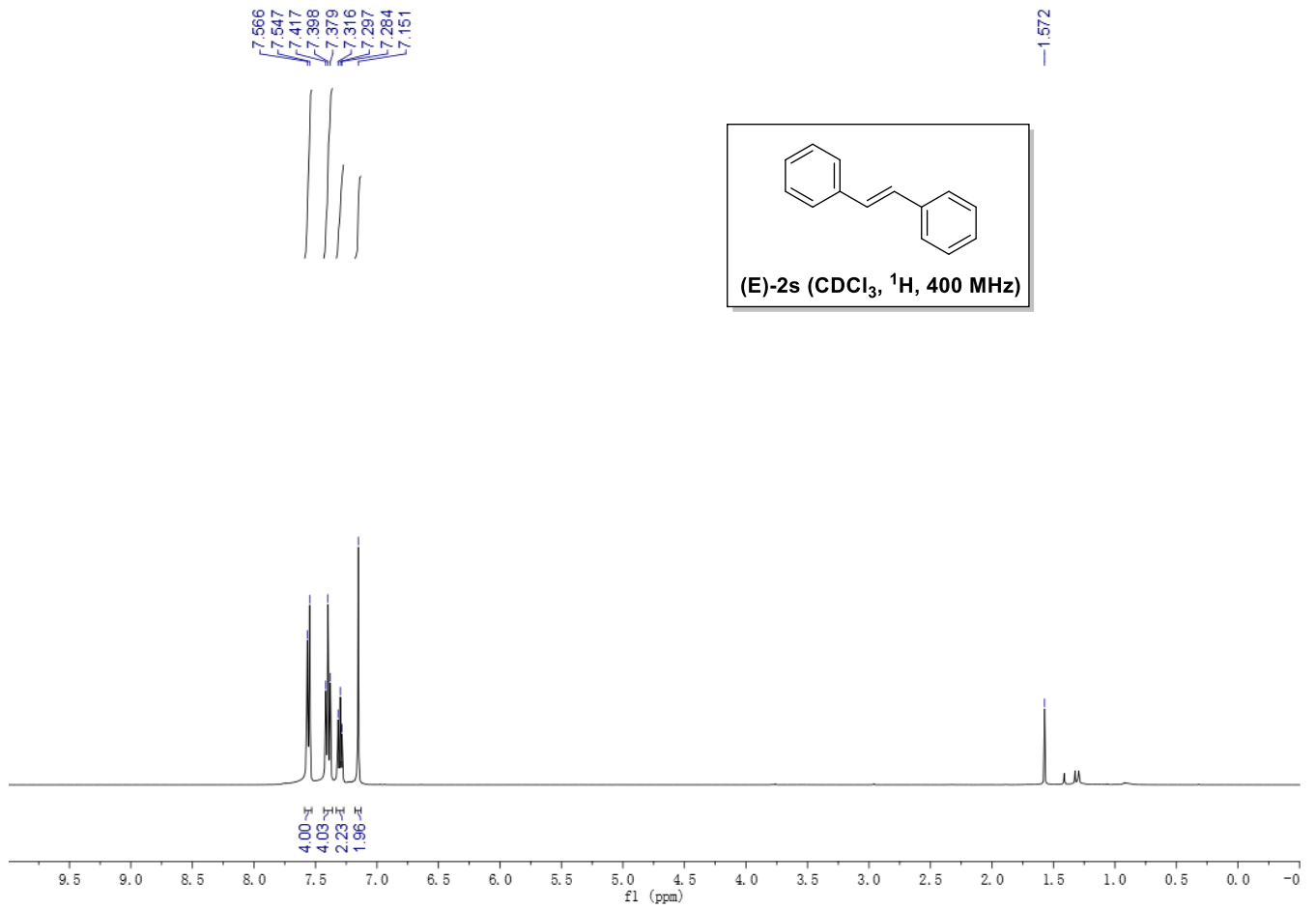
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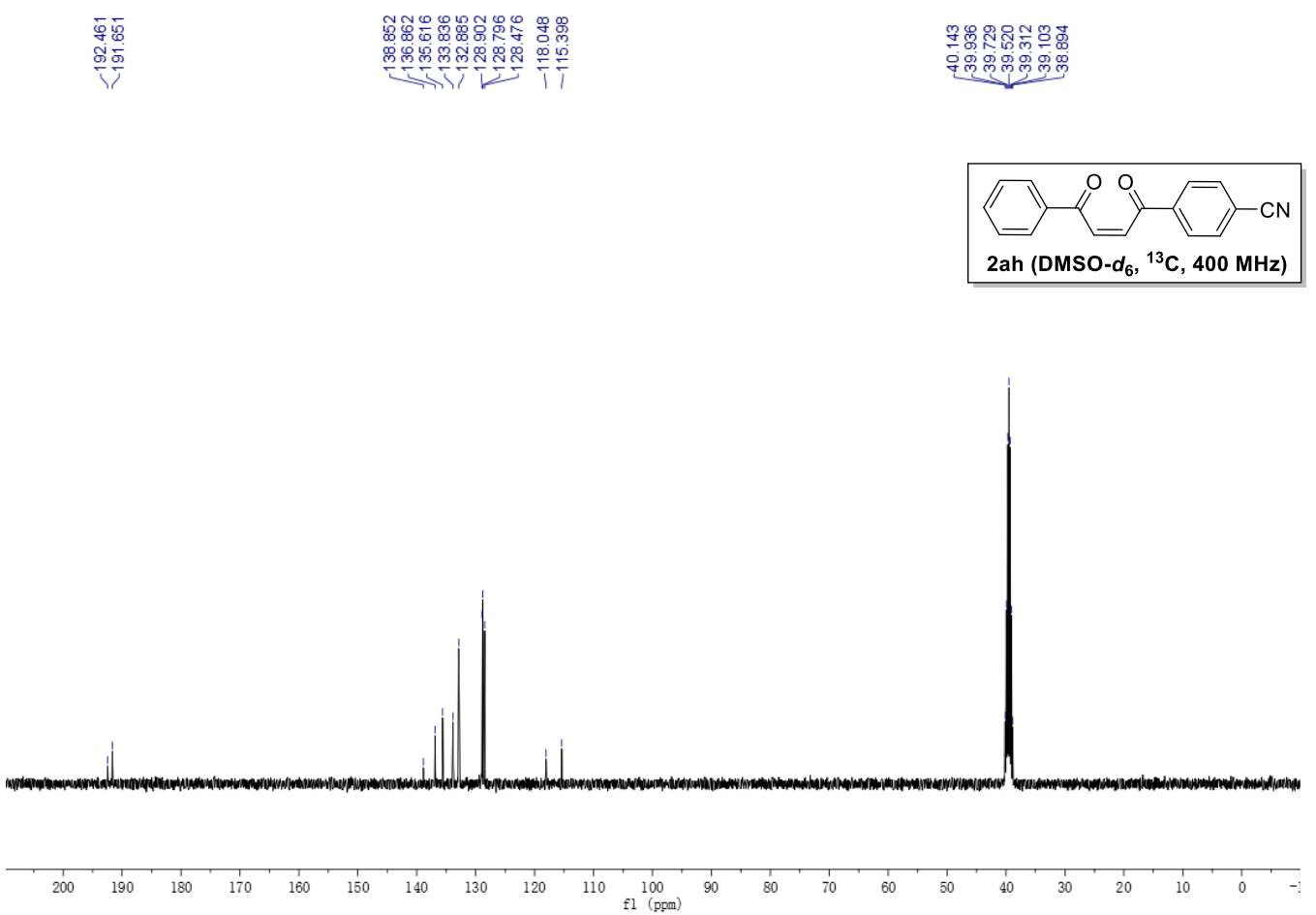
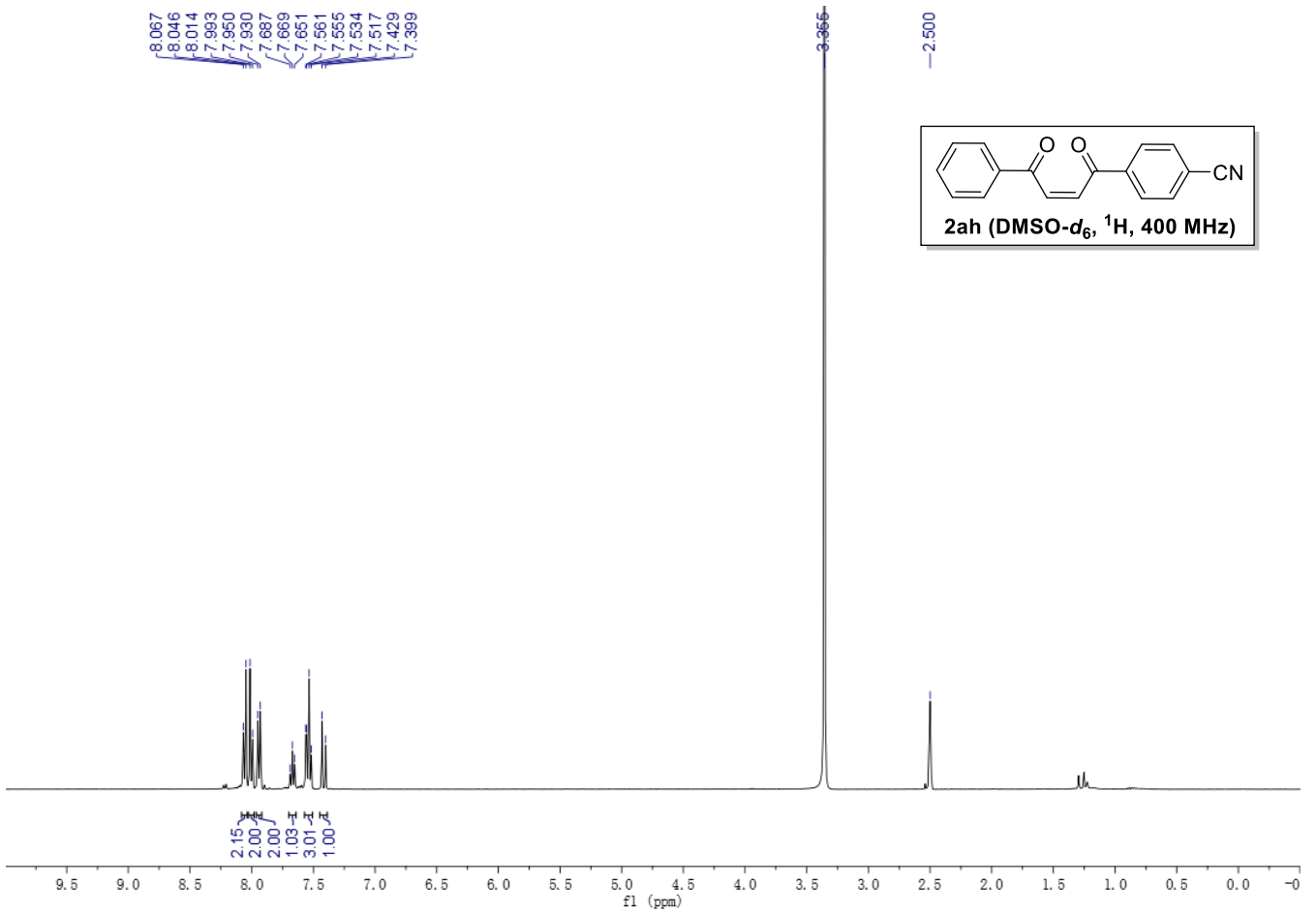
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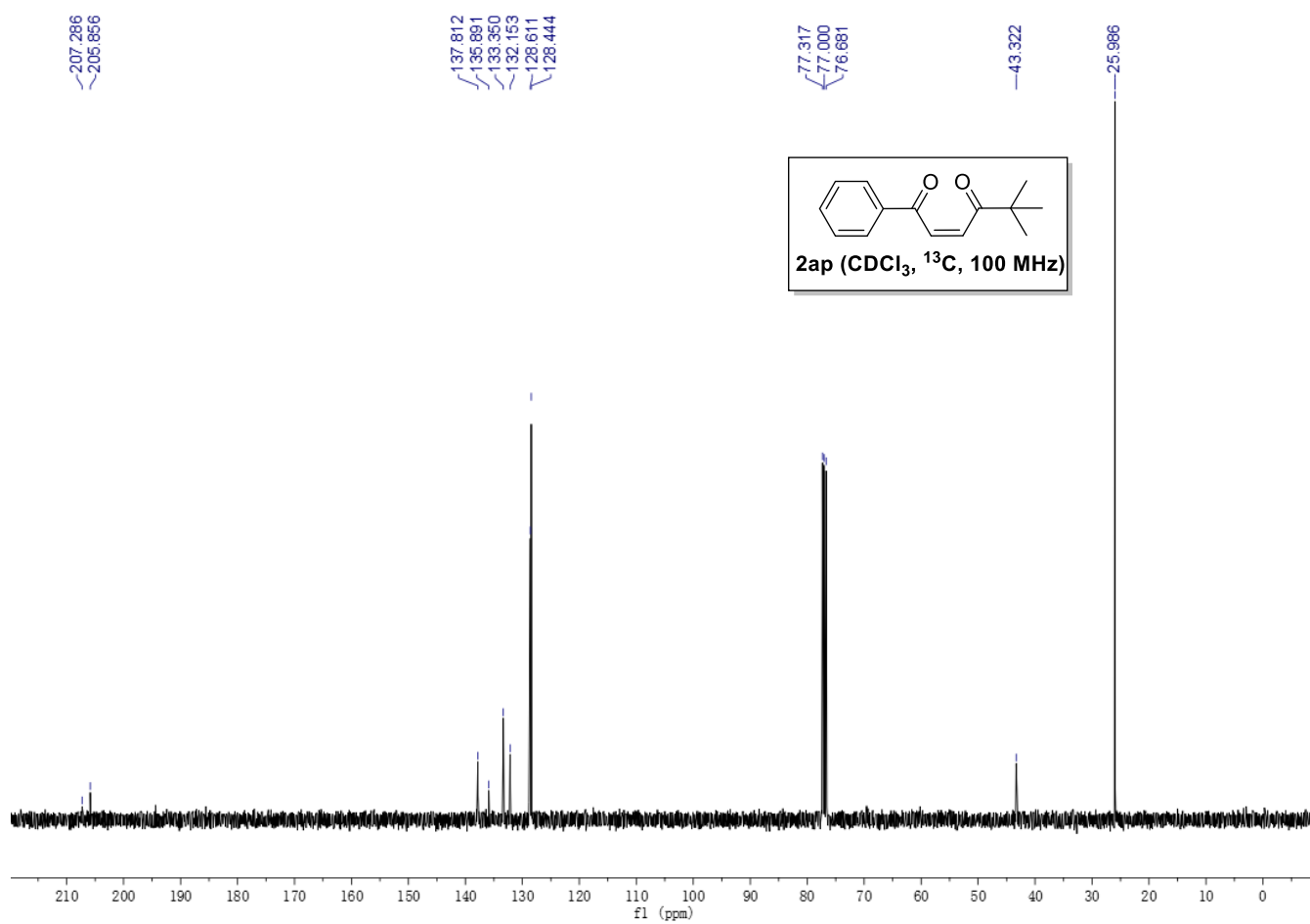
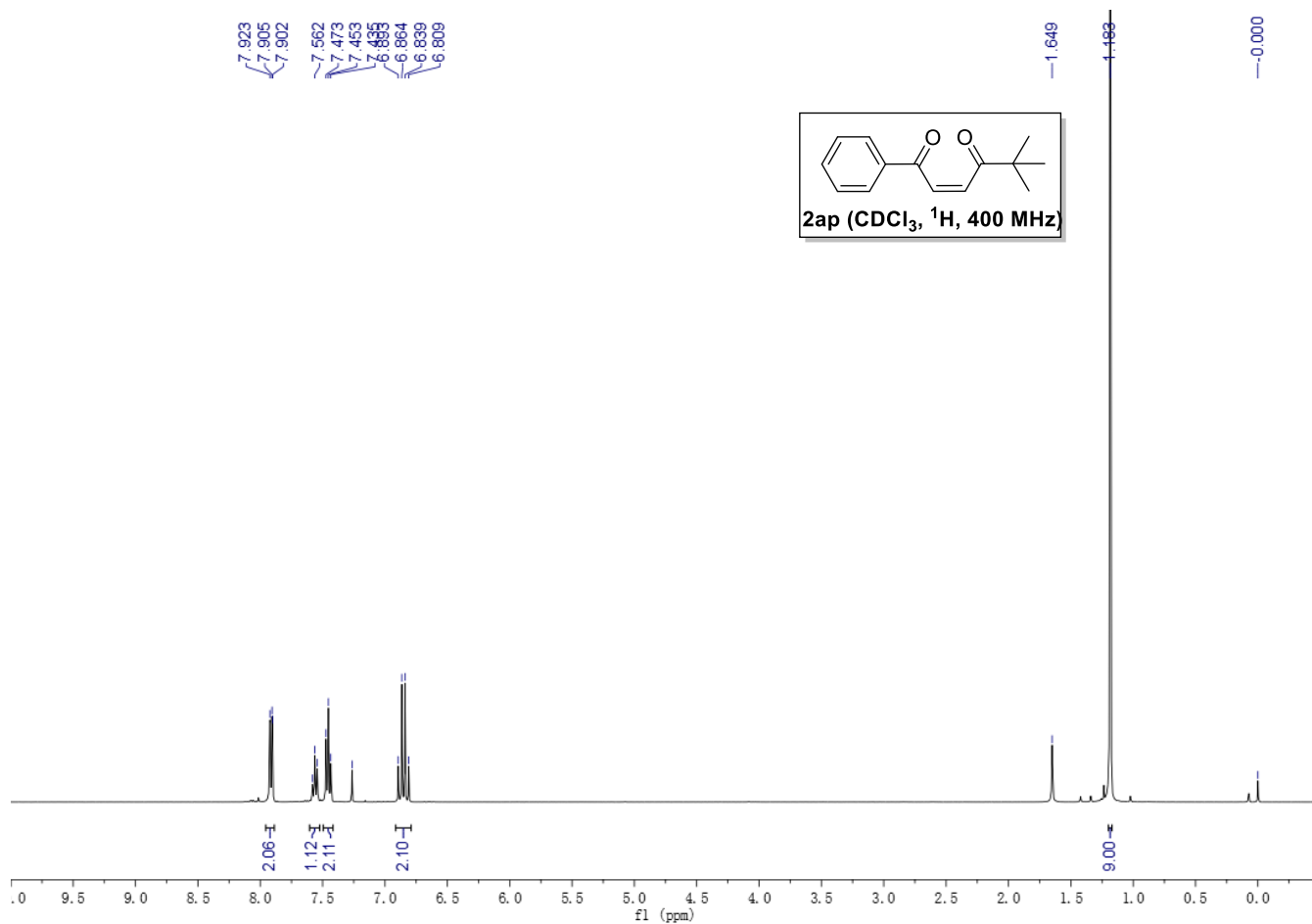
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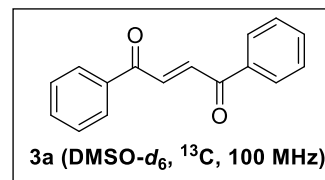
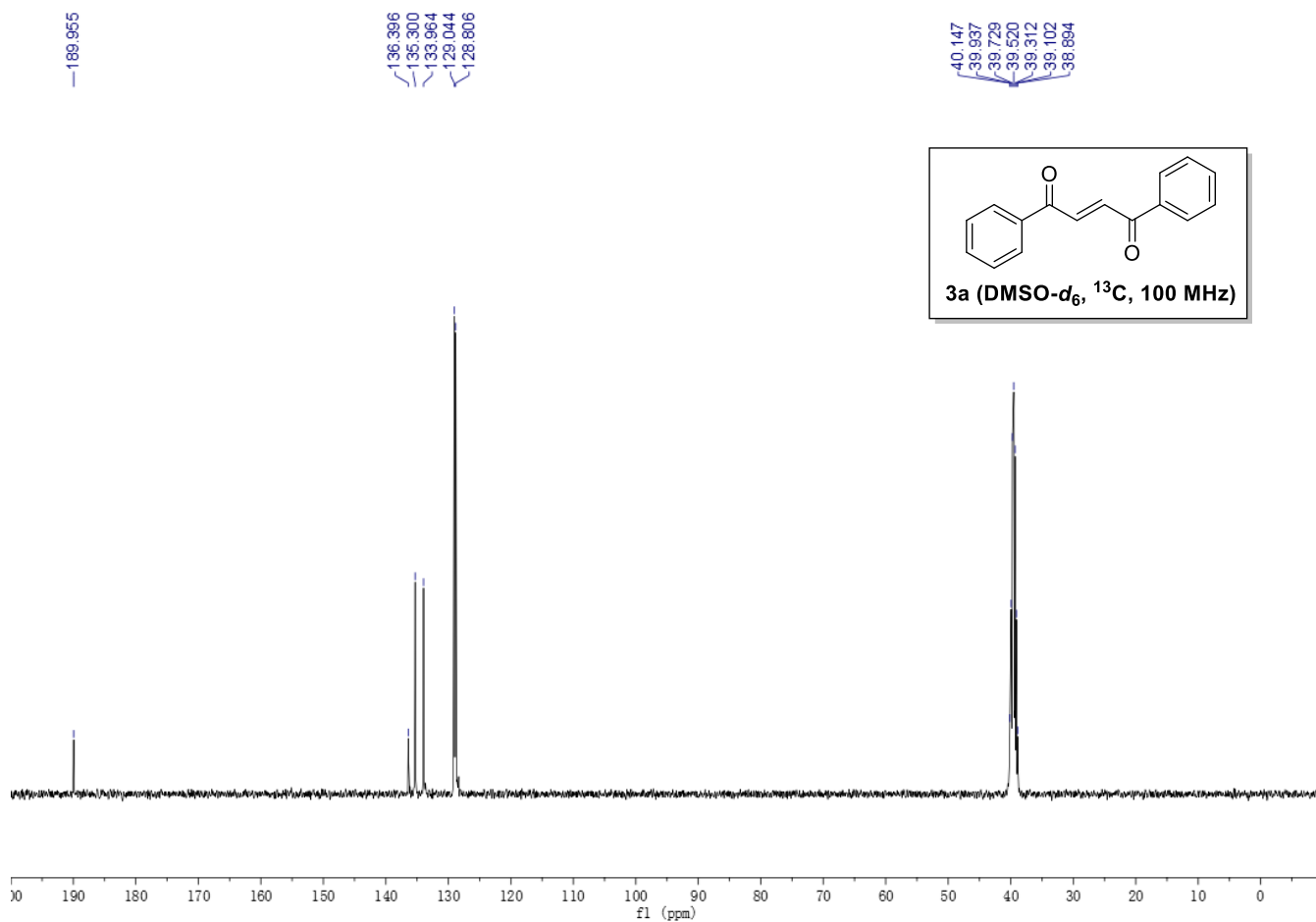
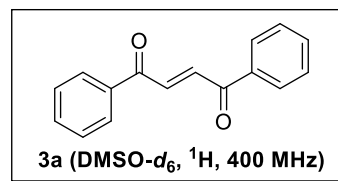
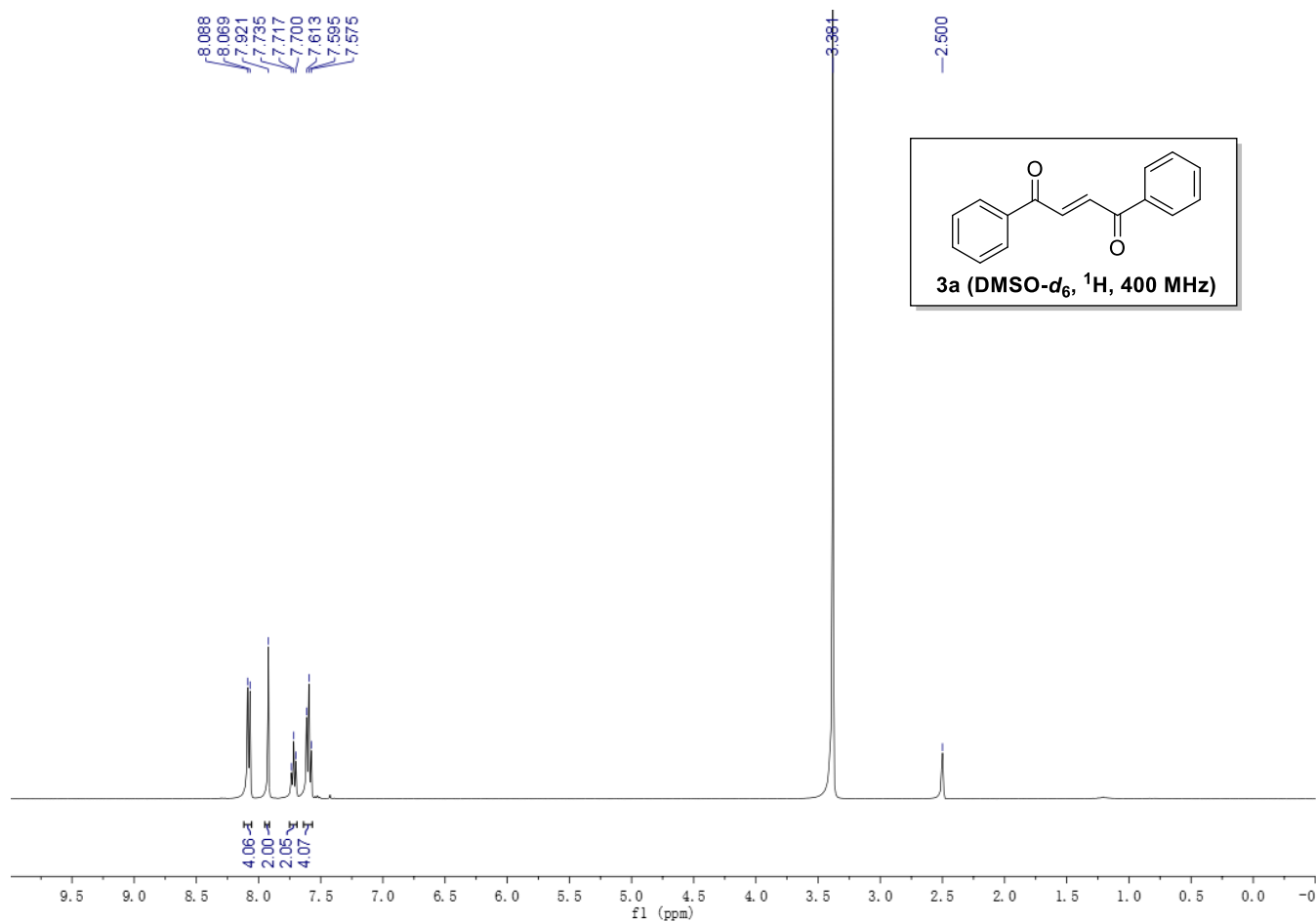






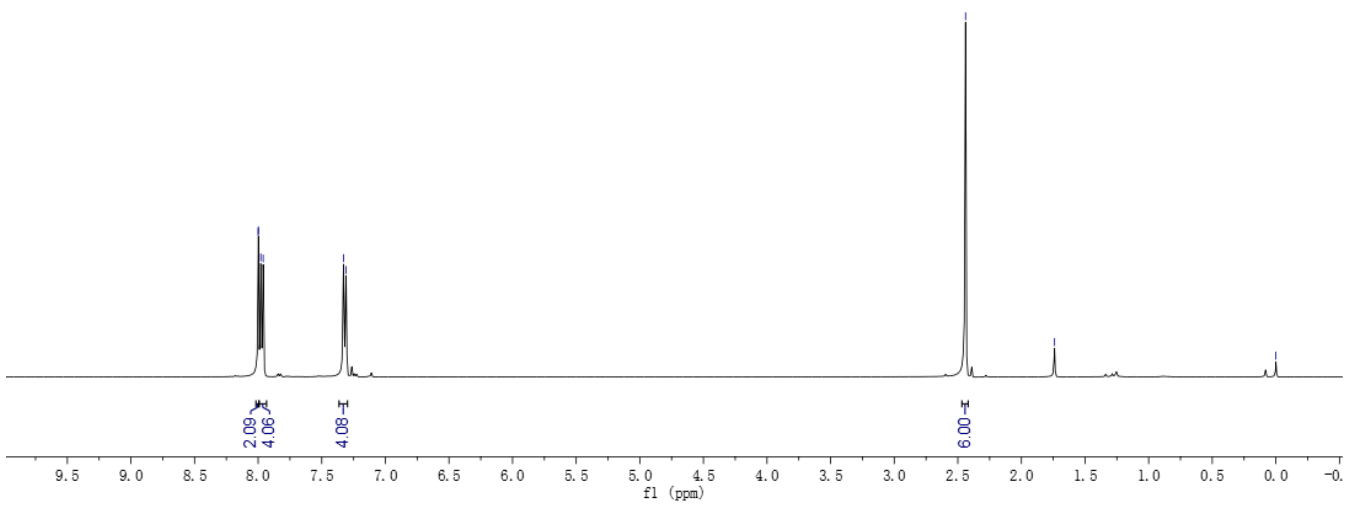
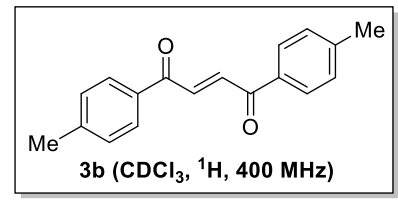




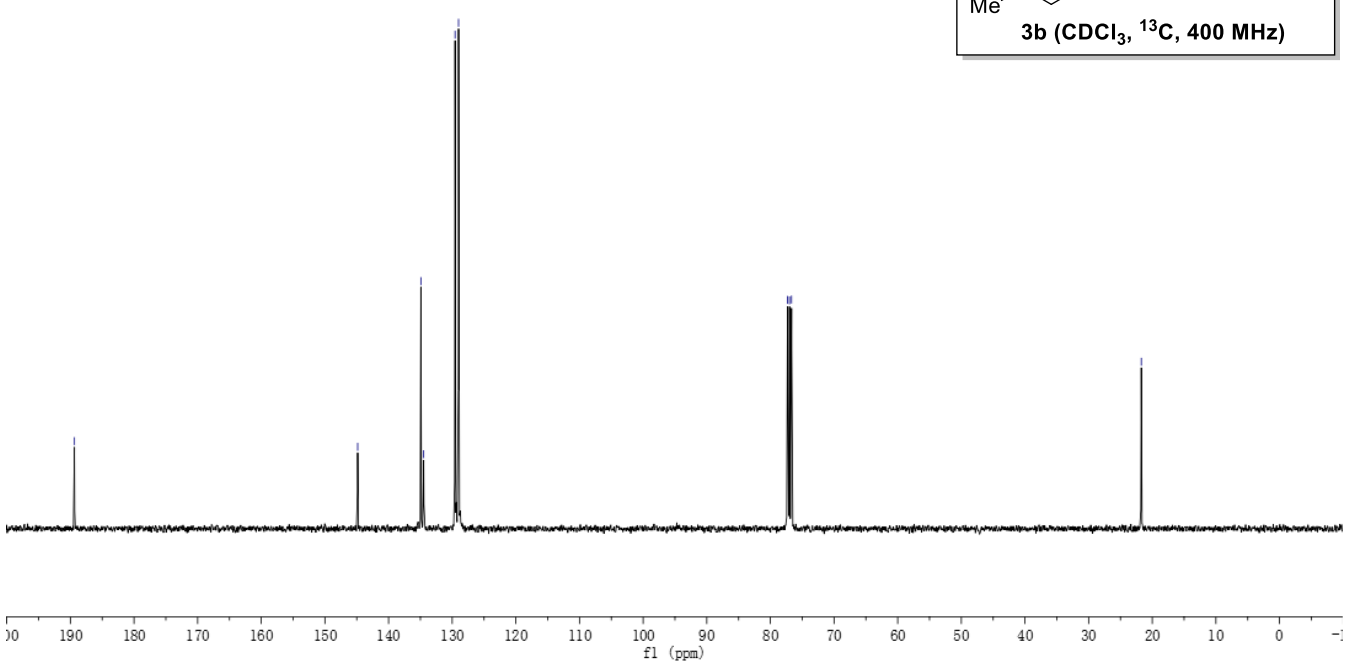
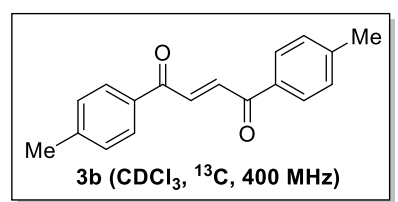


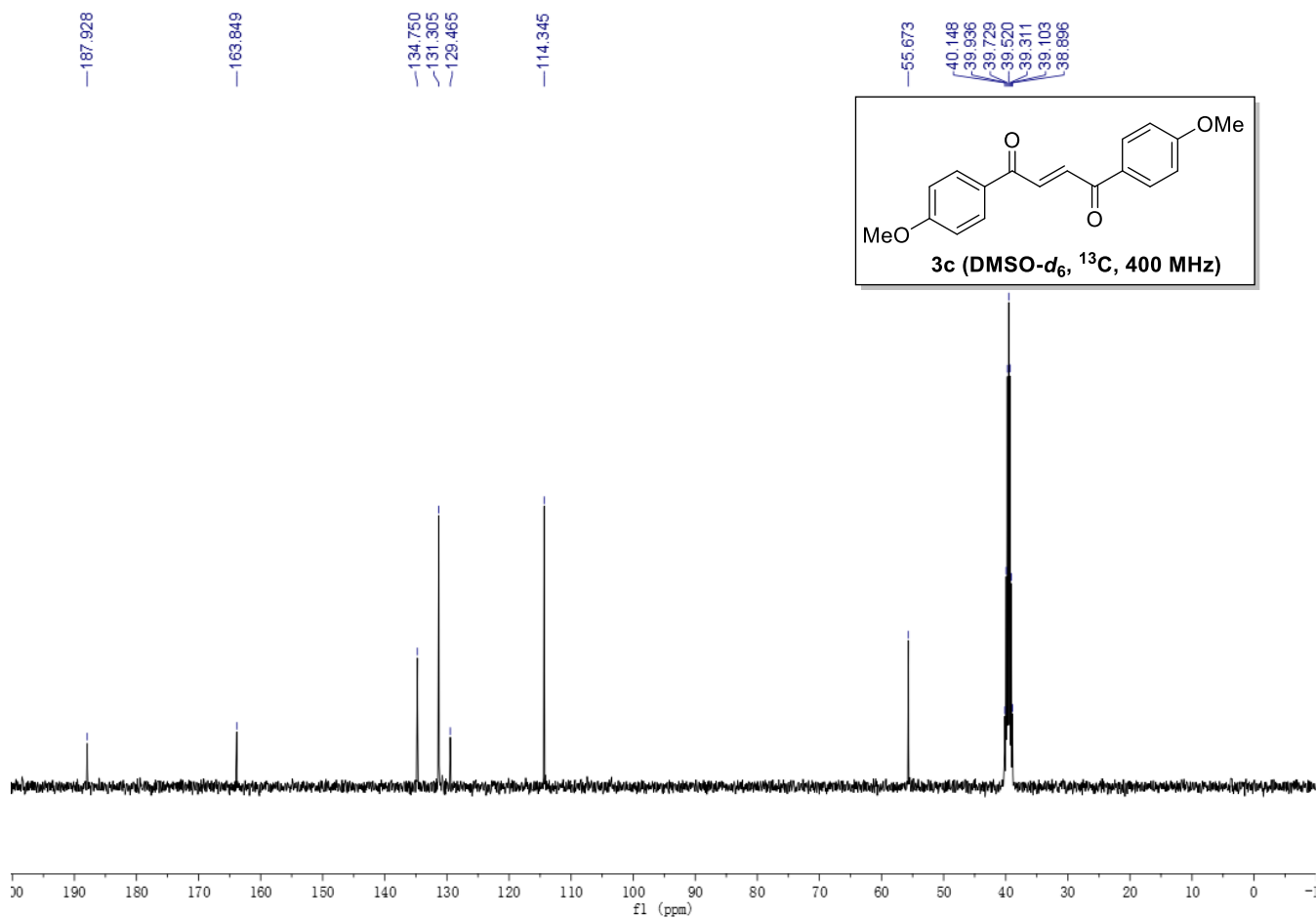
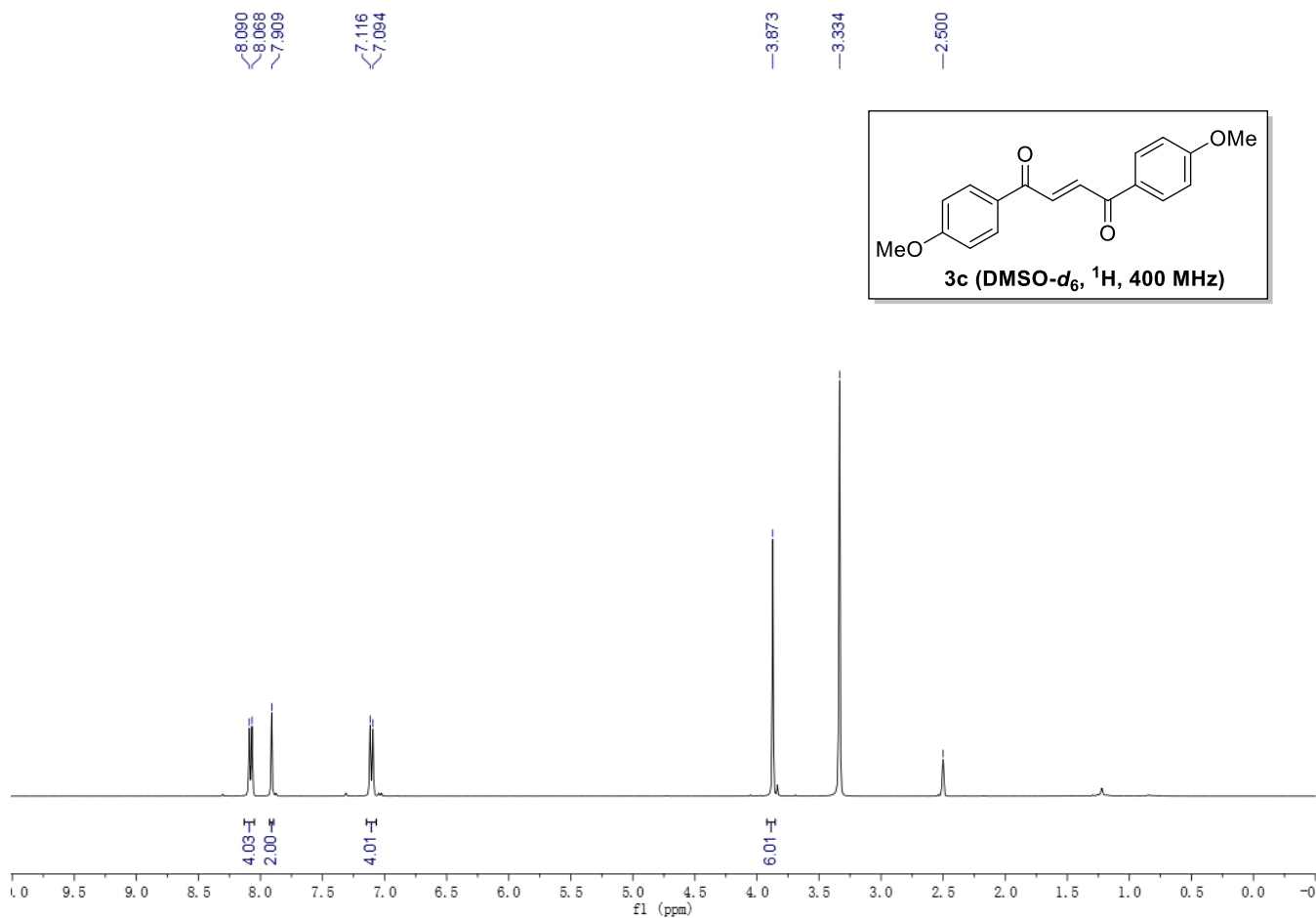
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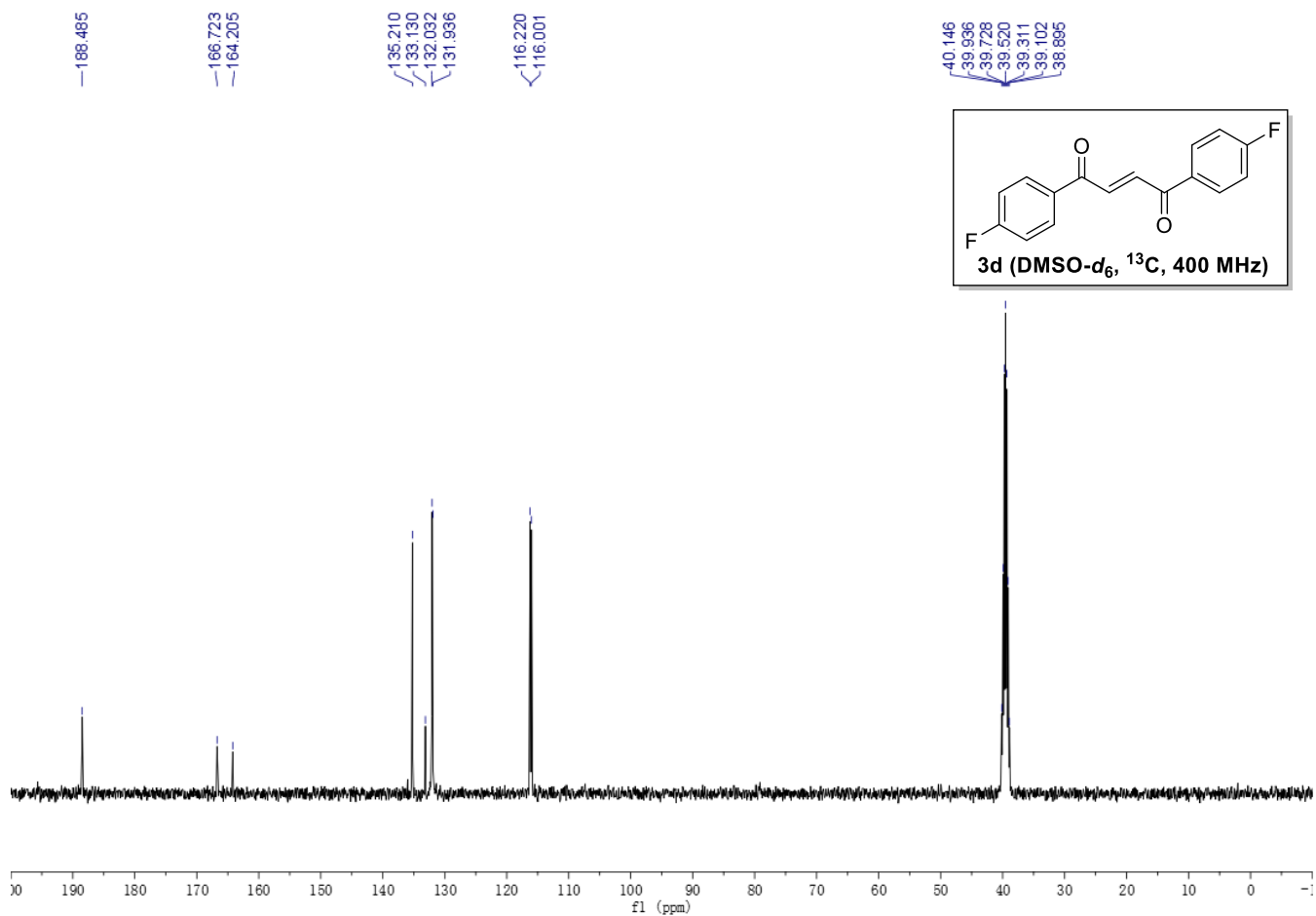
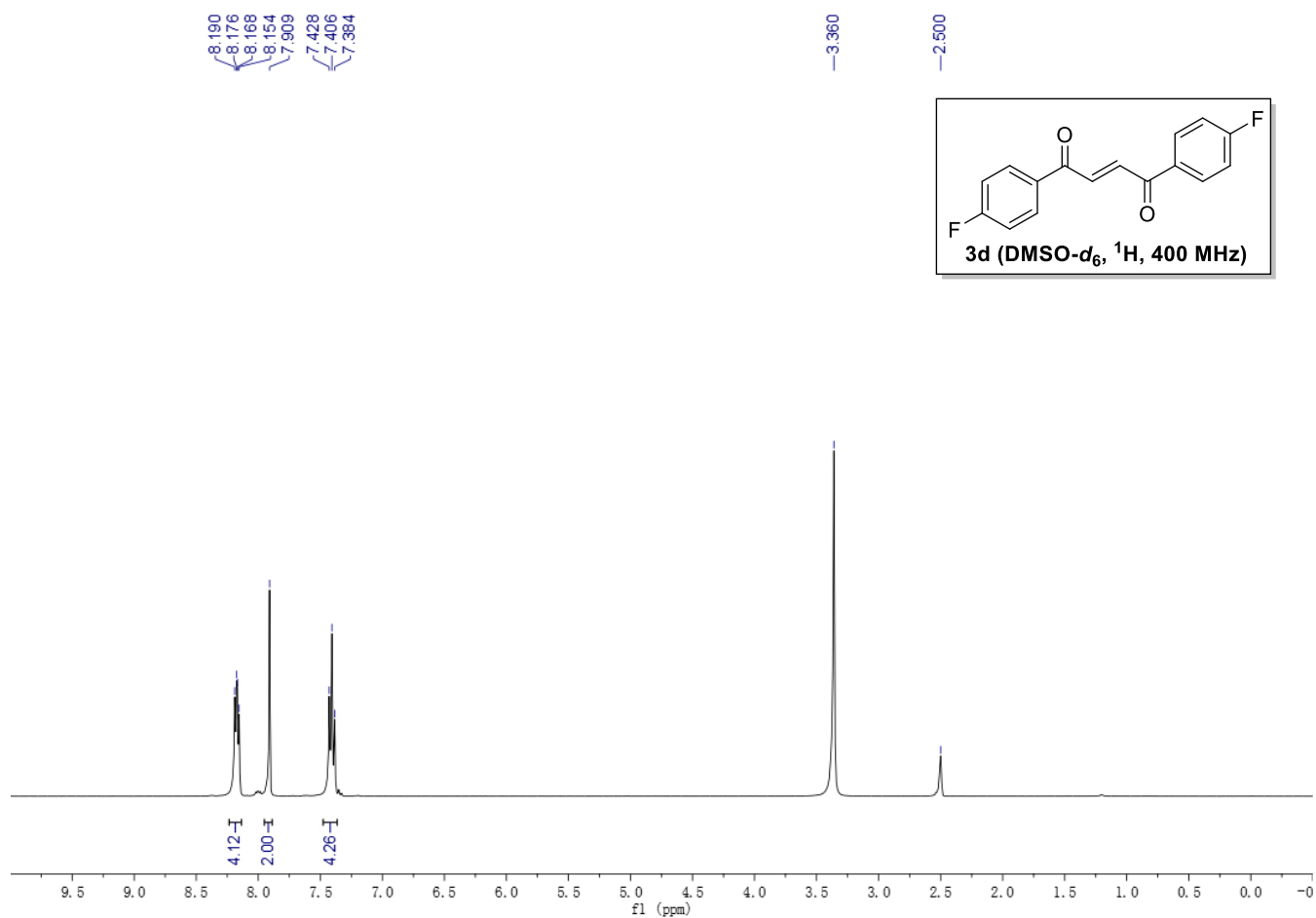
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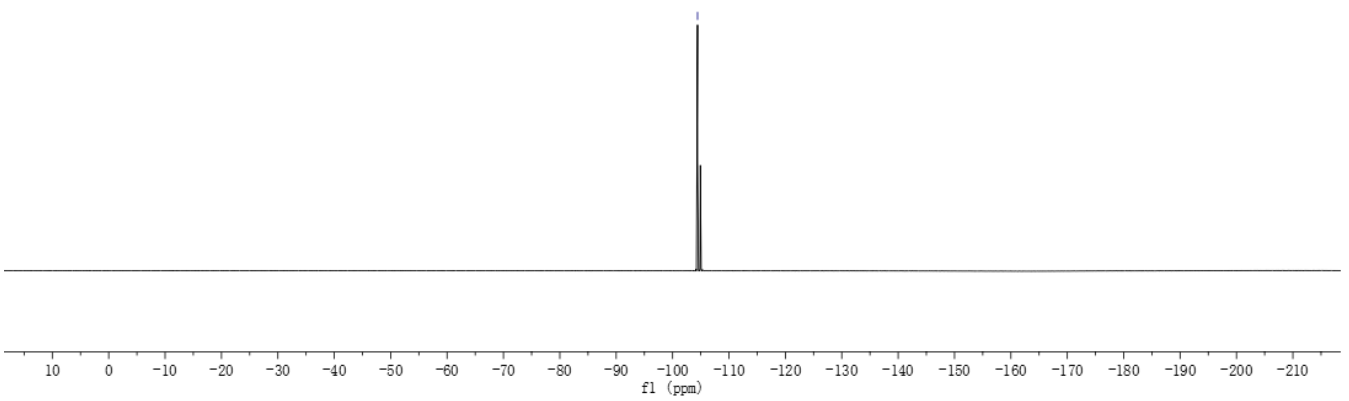
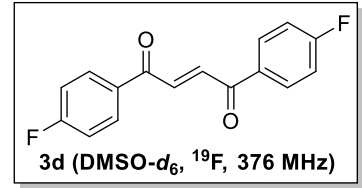
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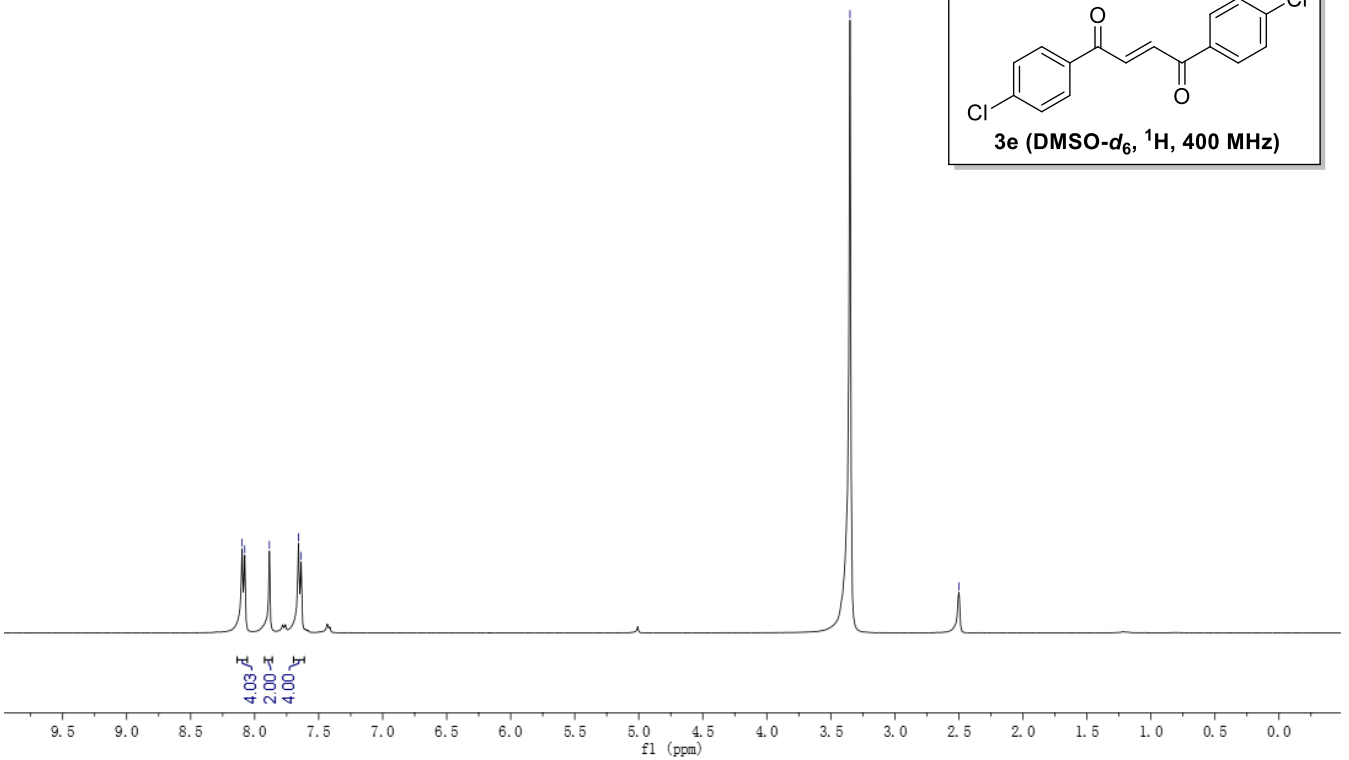
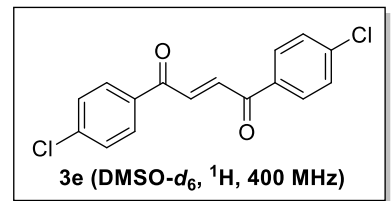
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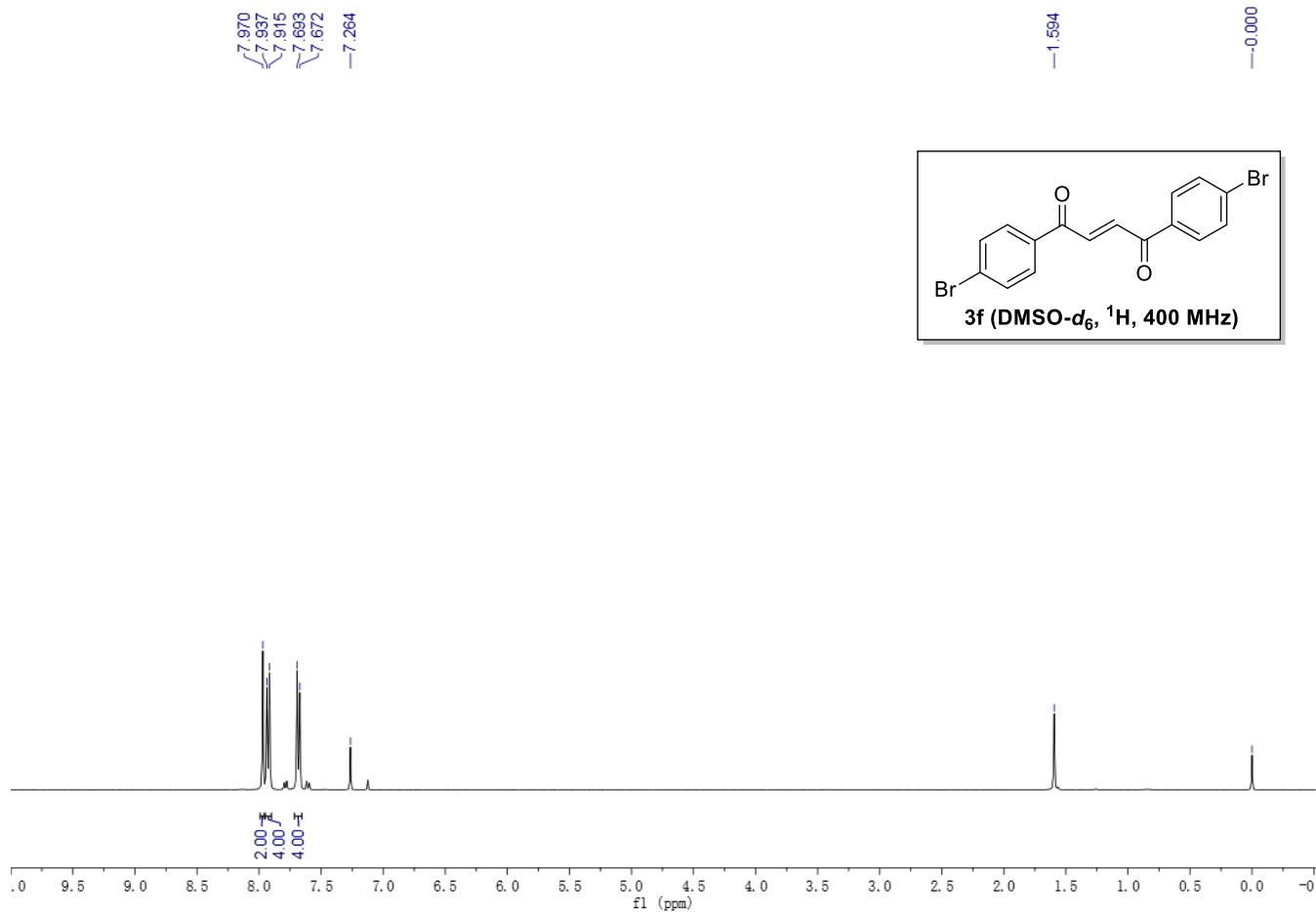
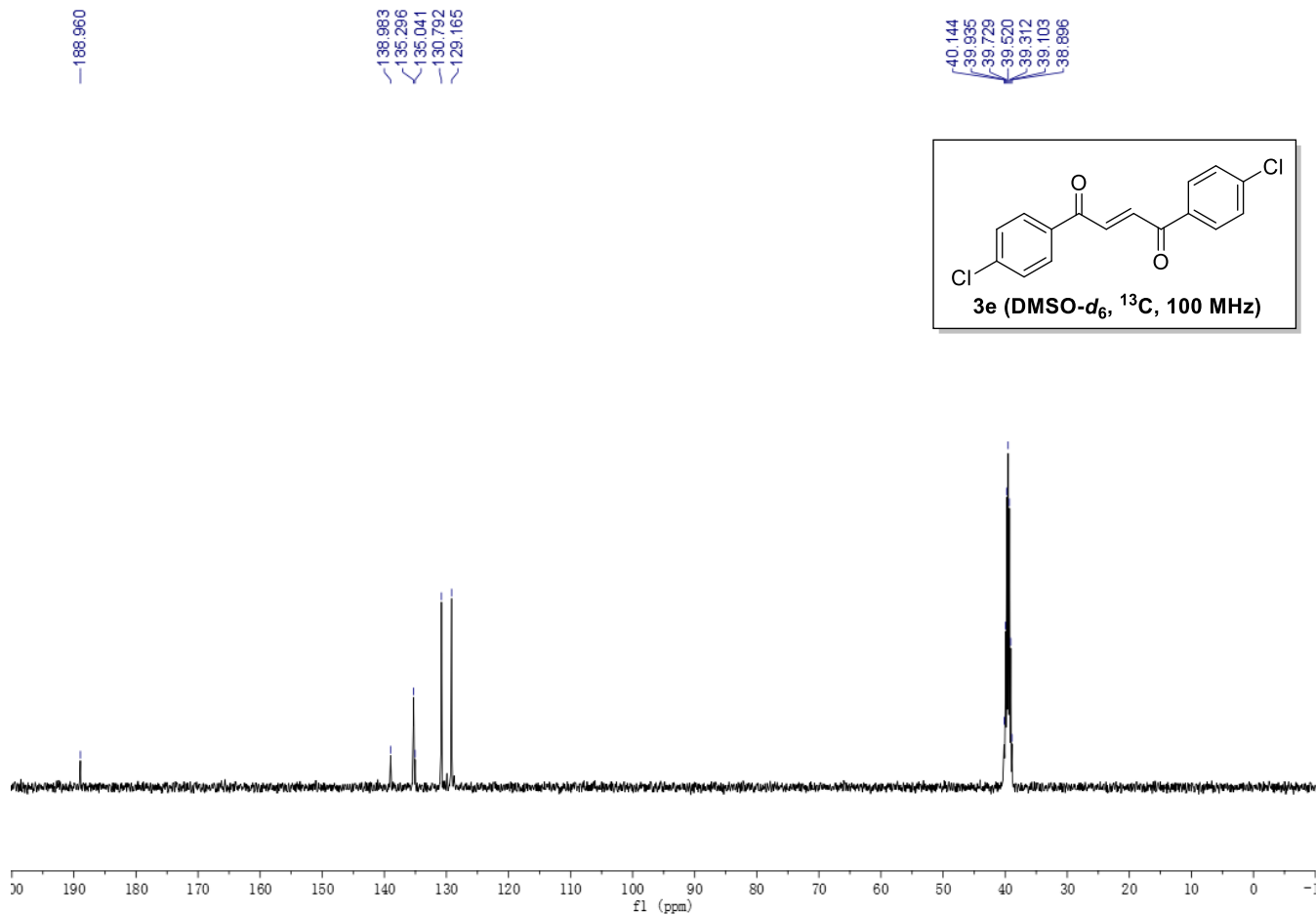


8.099  
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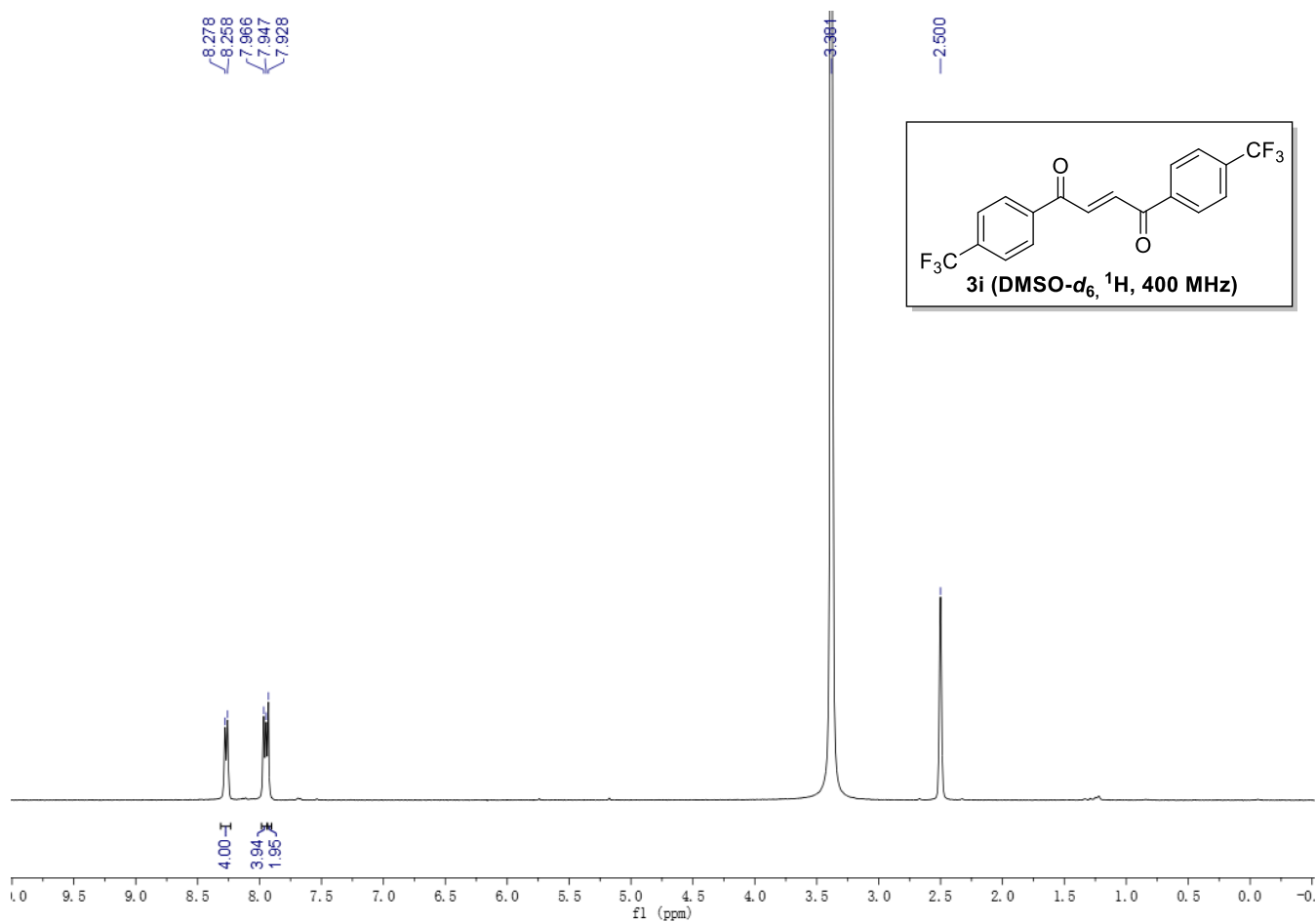
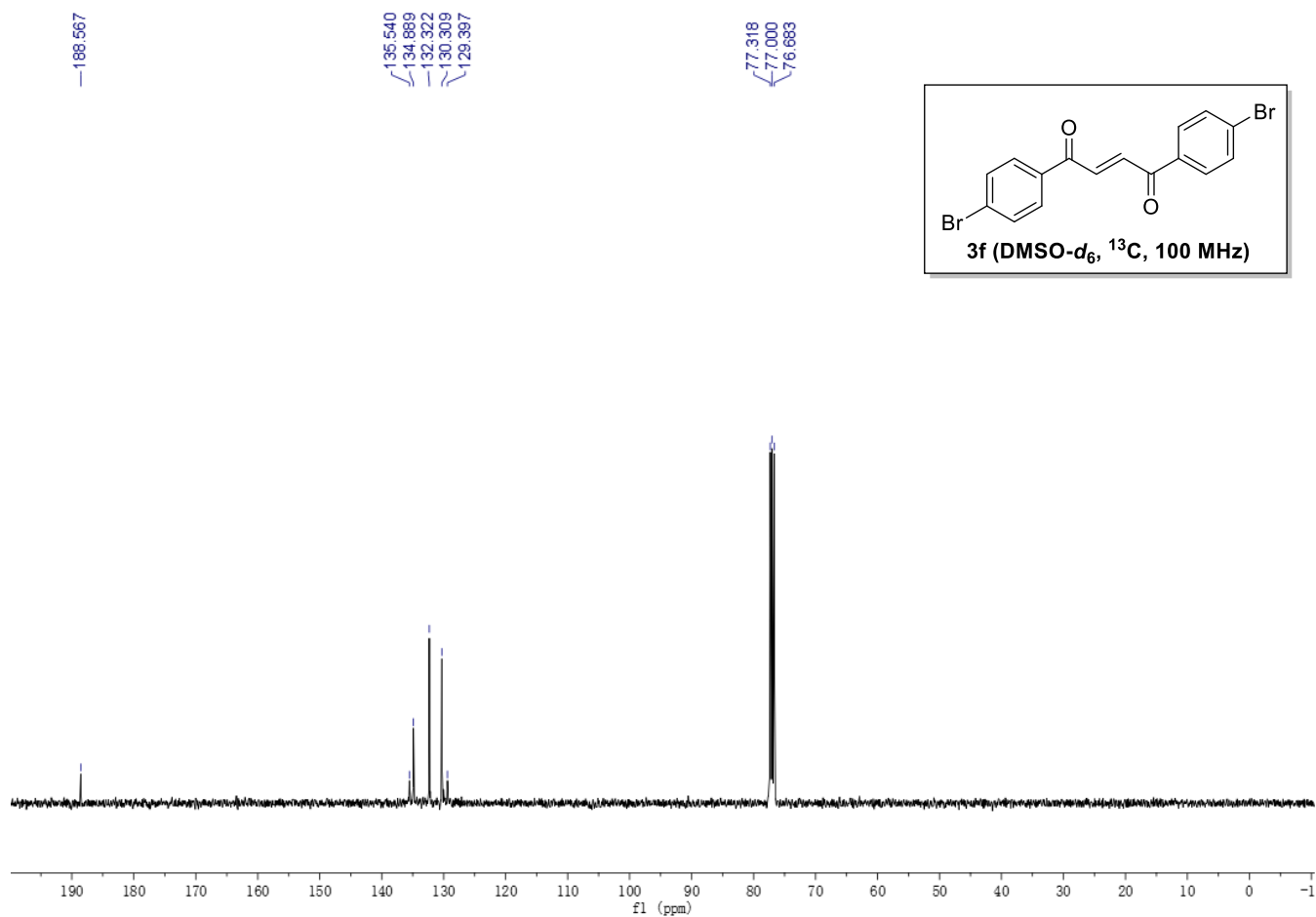
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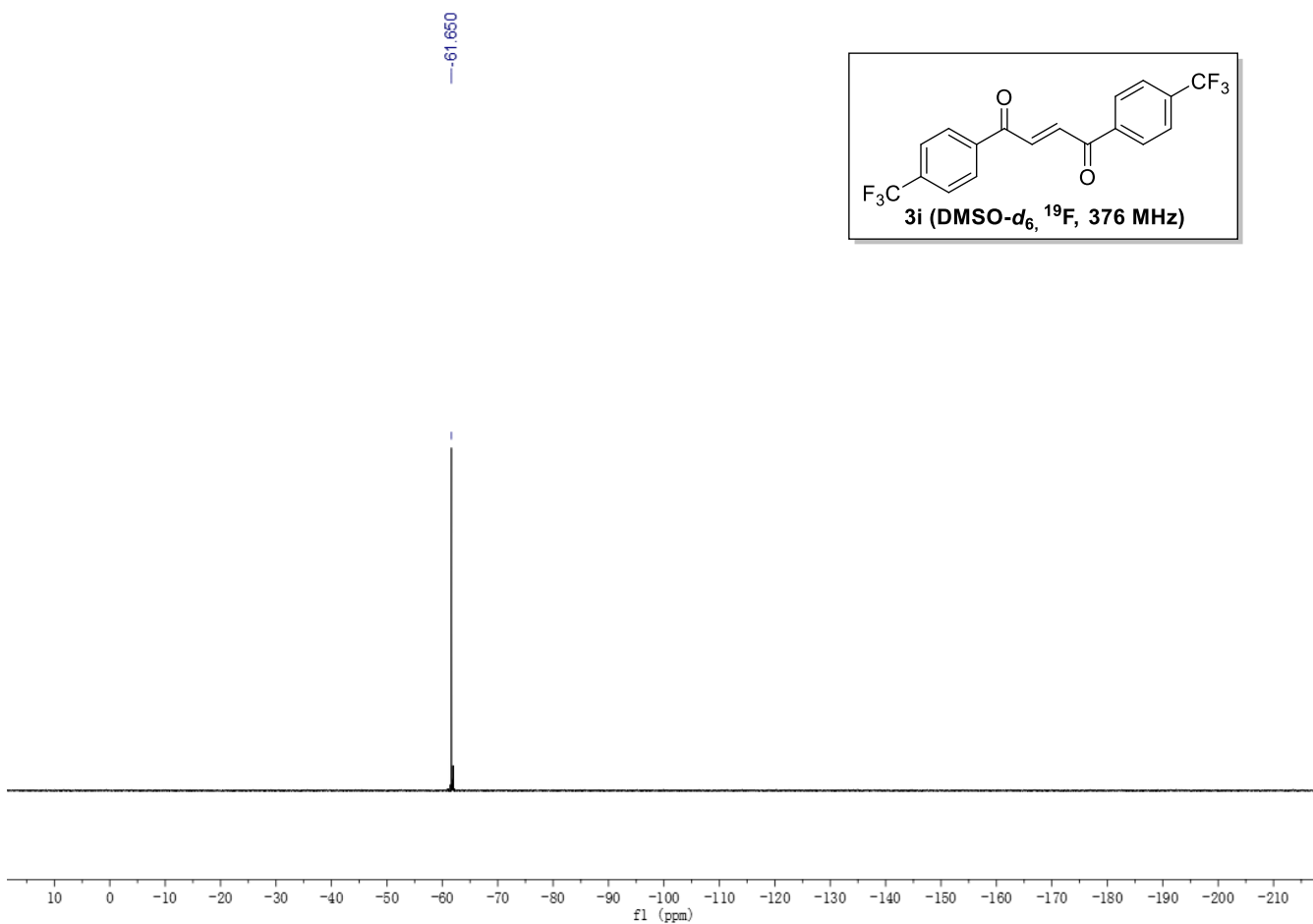
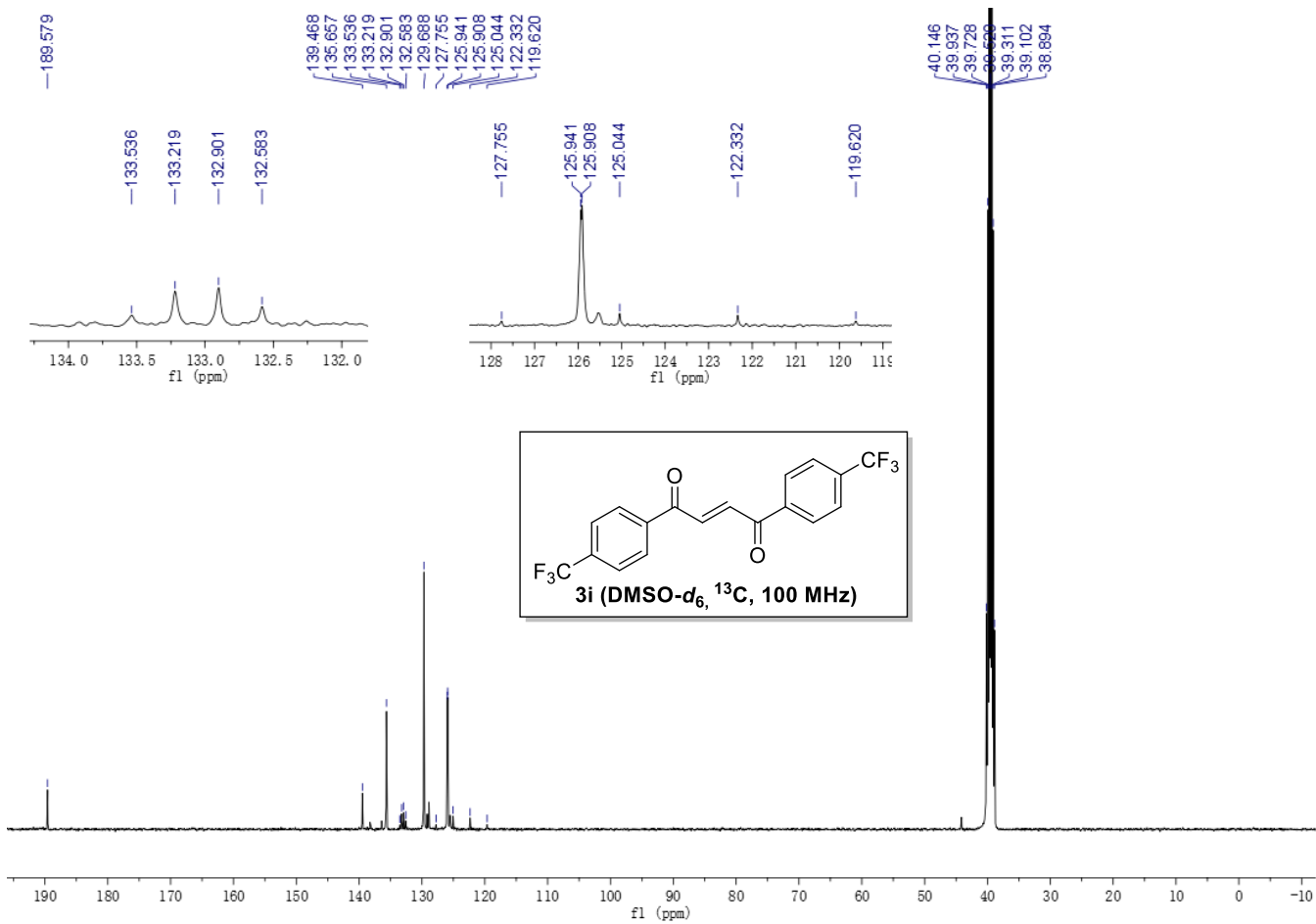
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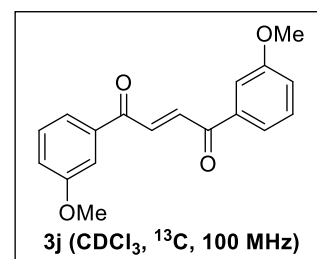
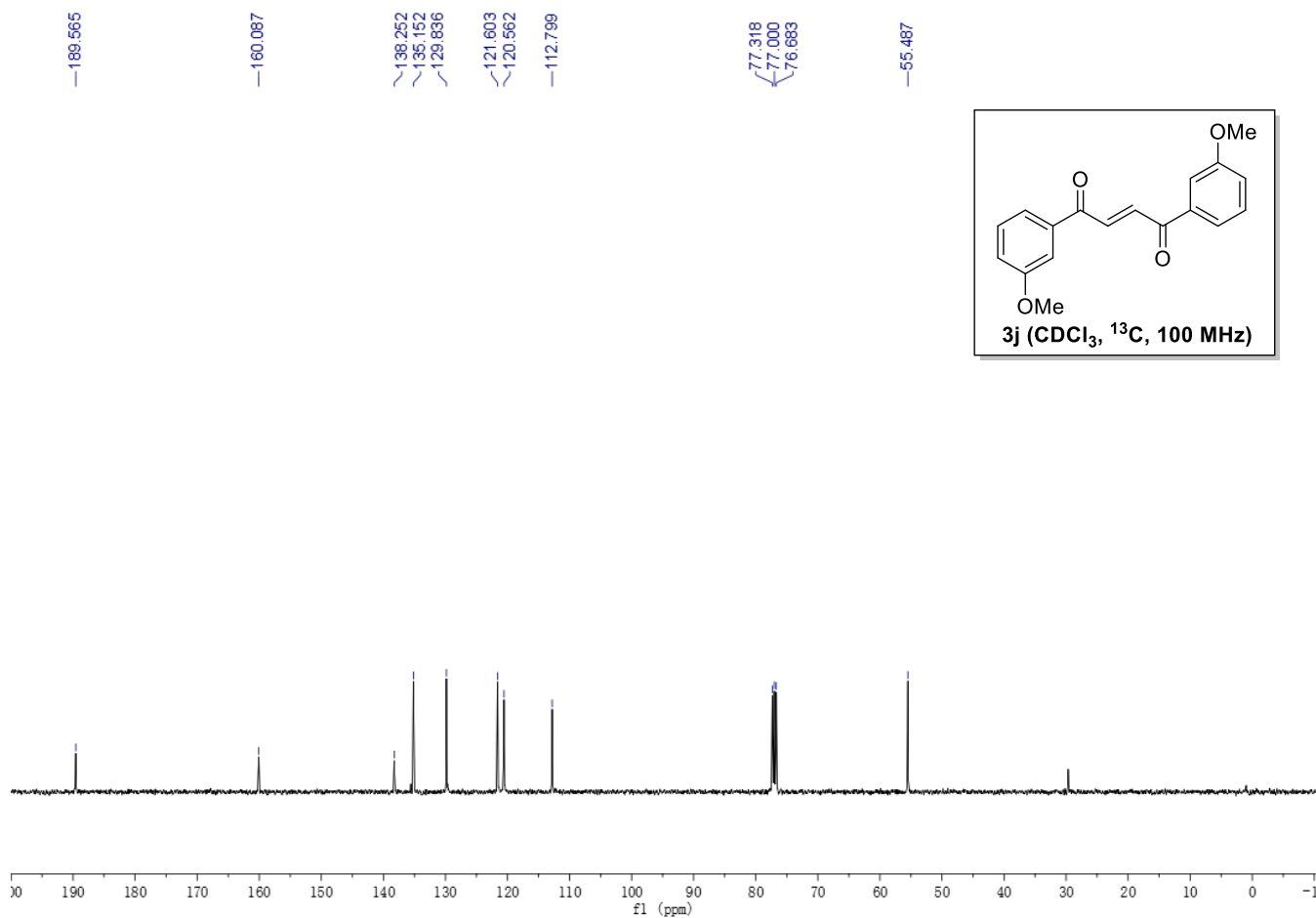
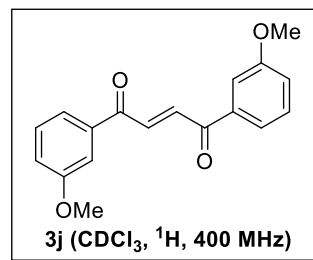
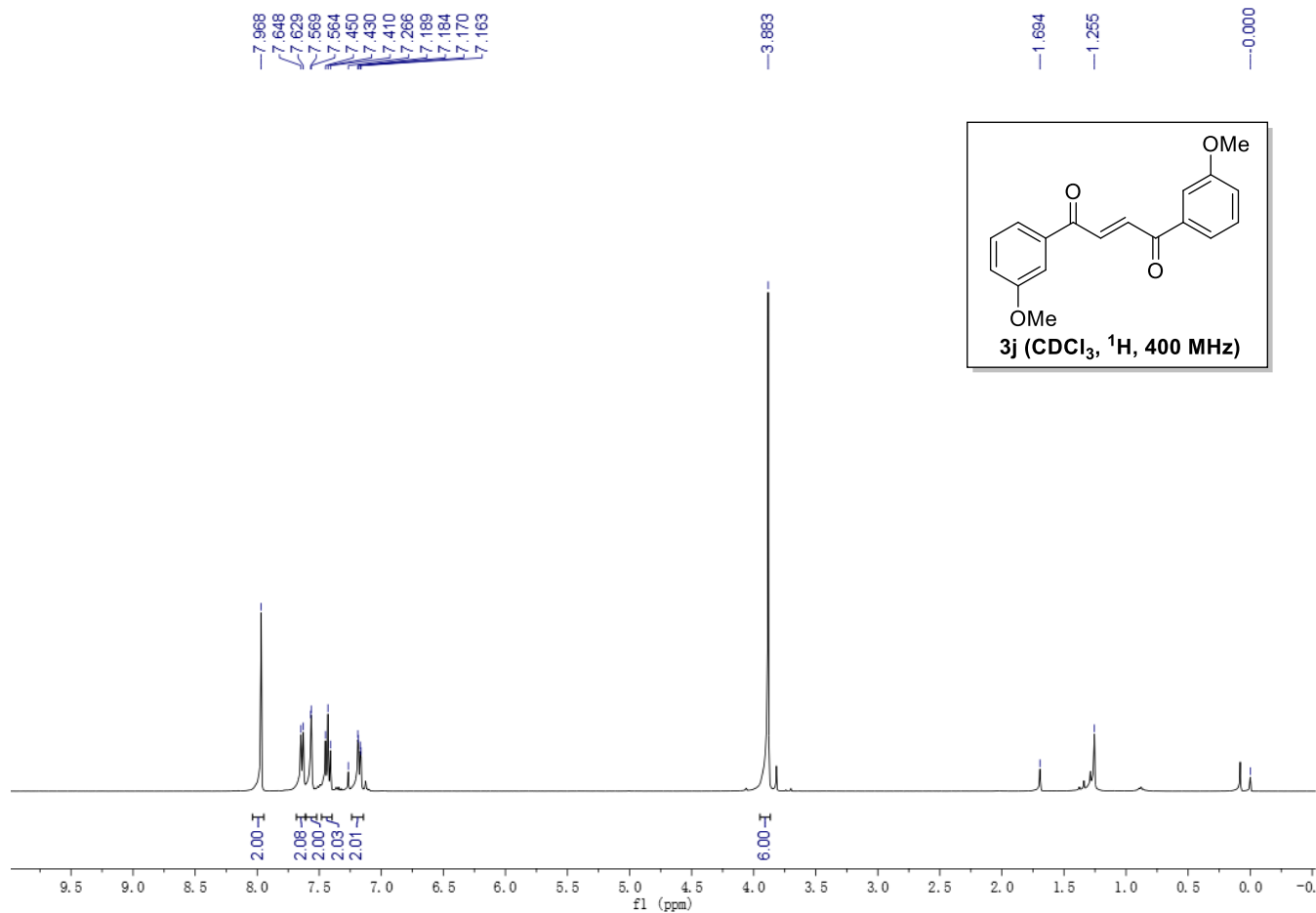


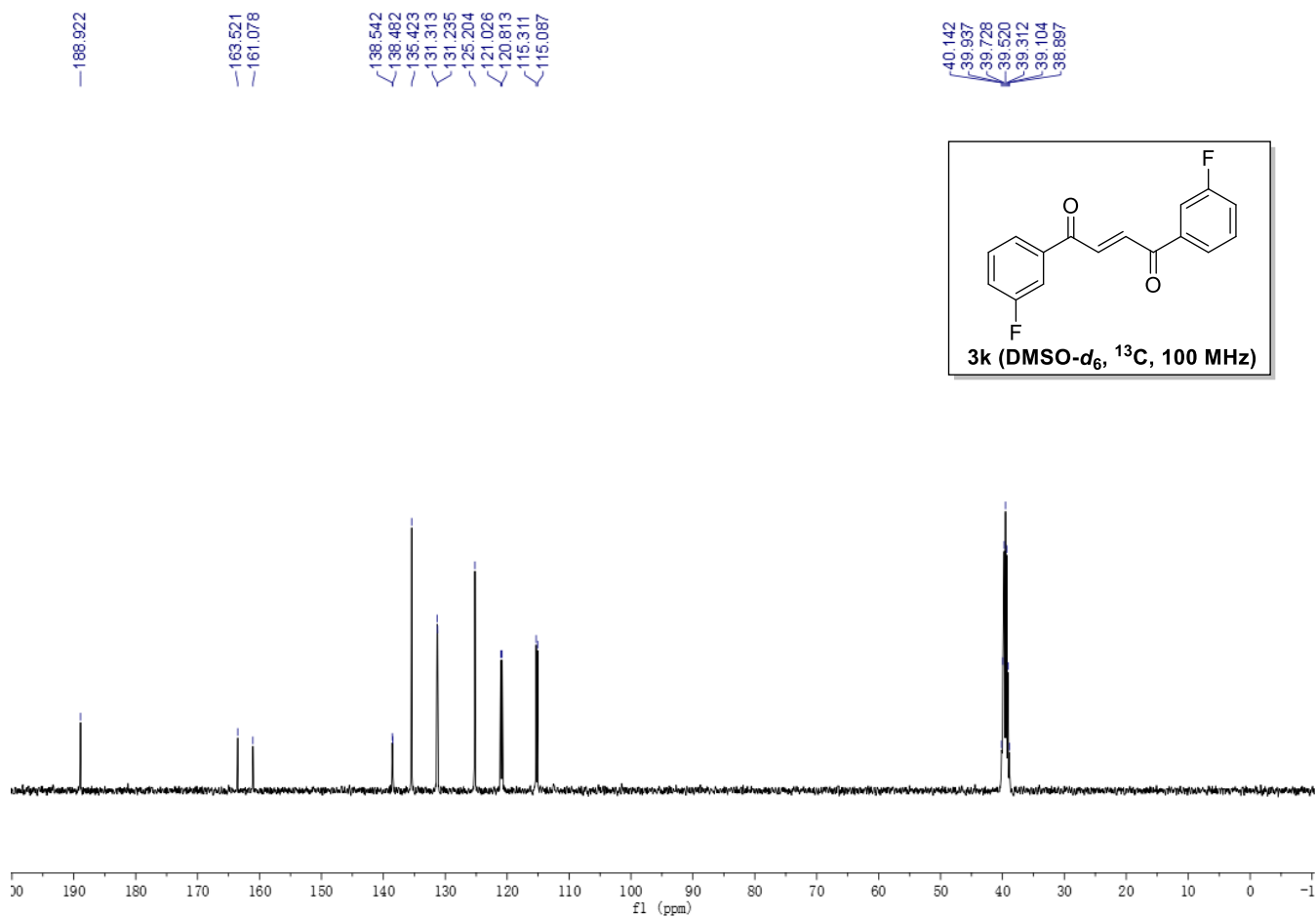
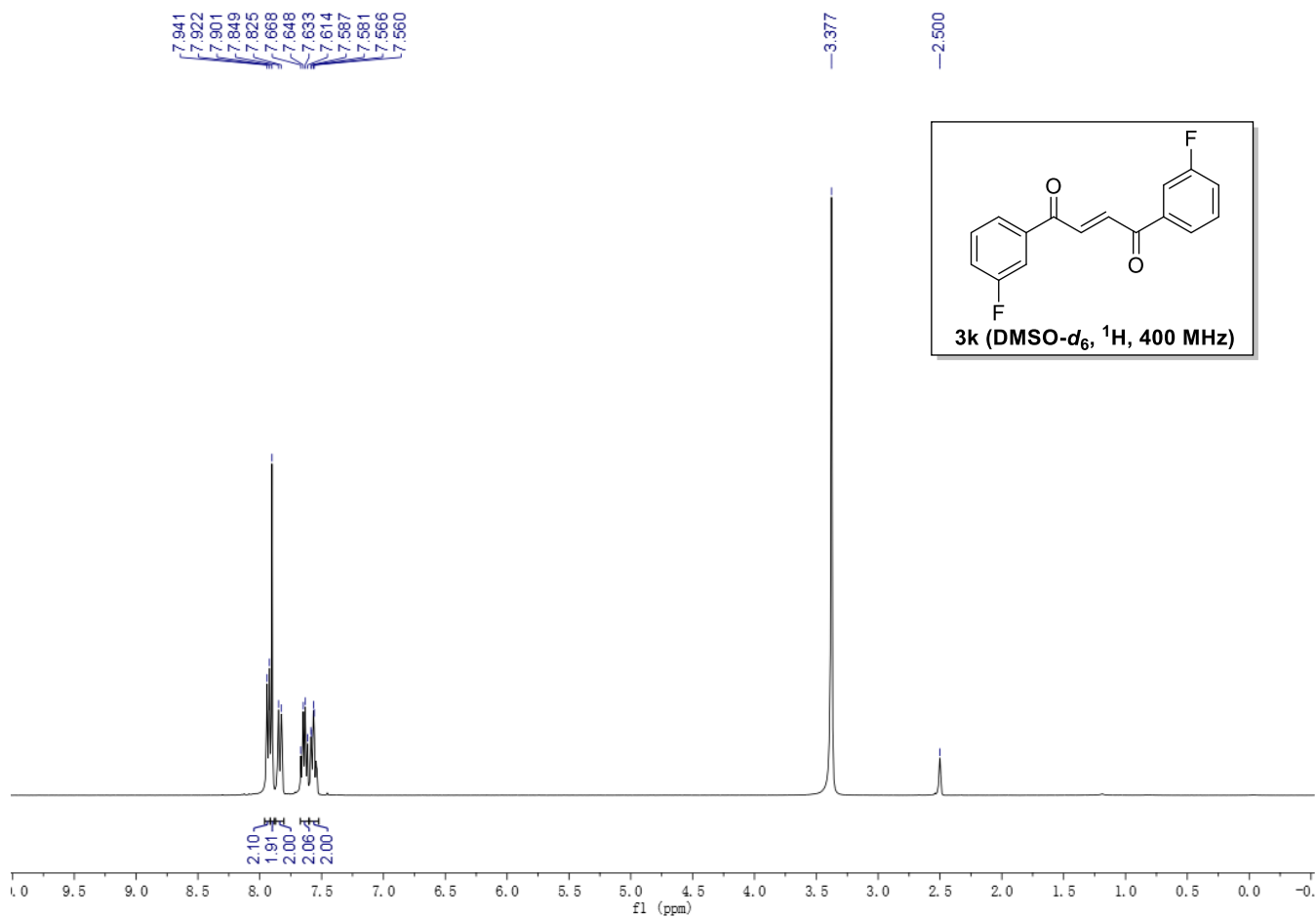


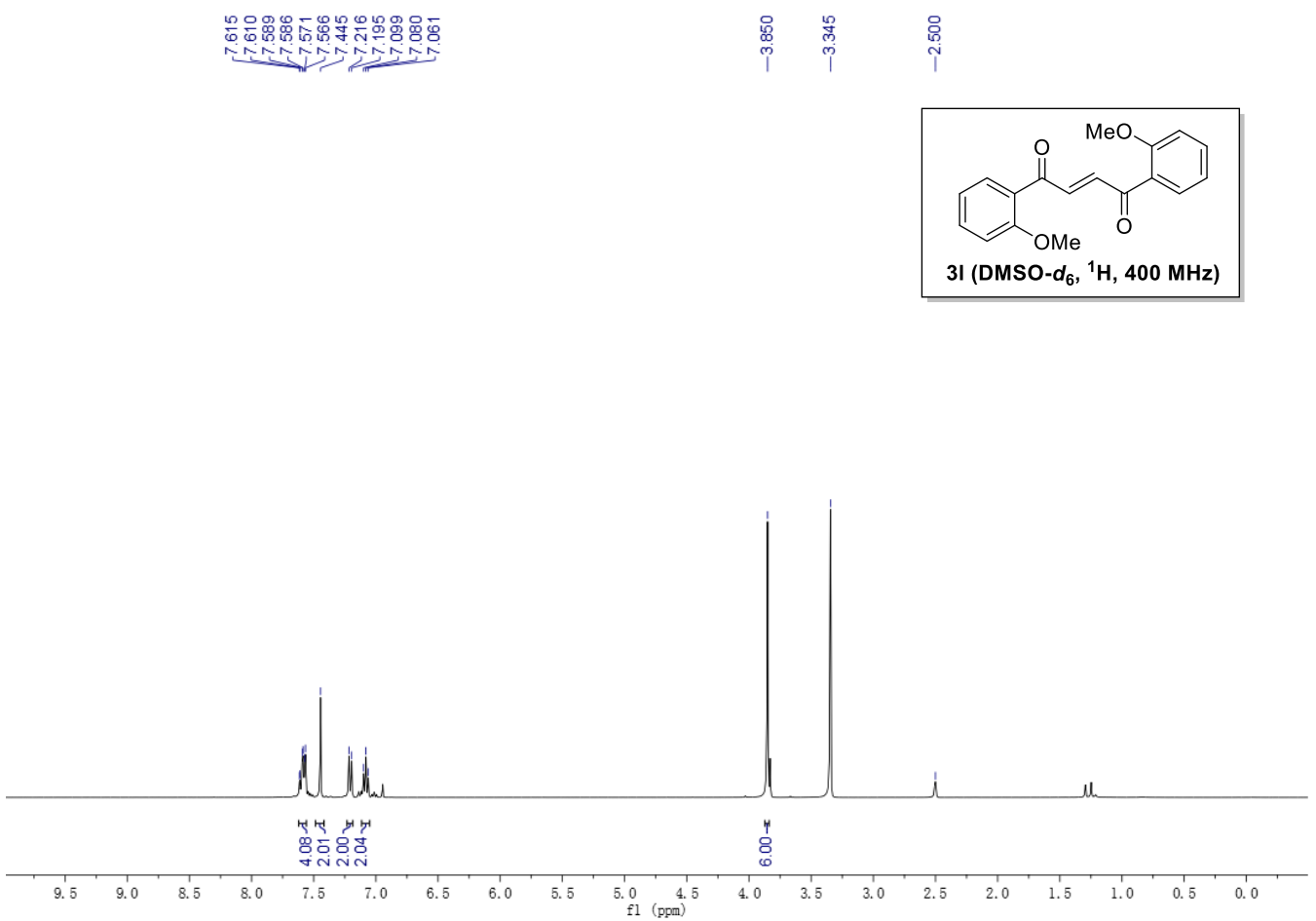
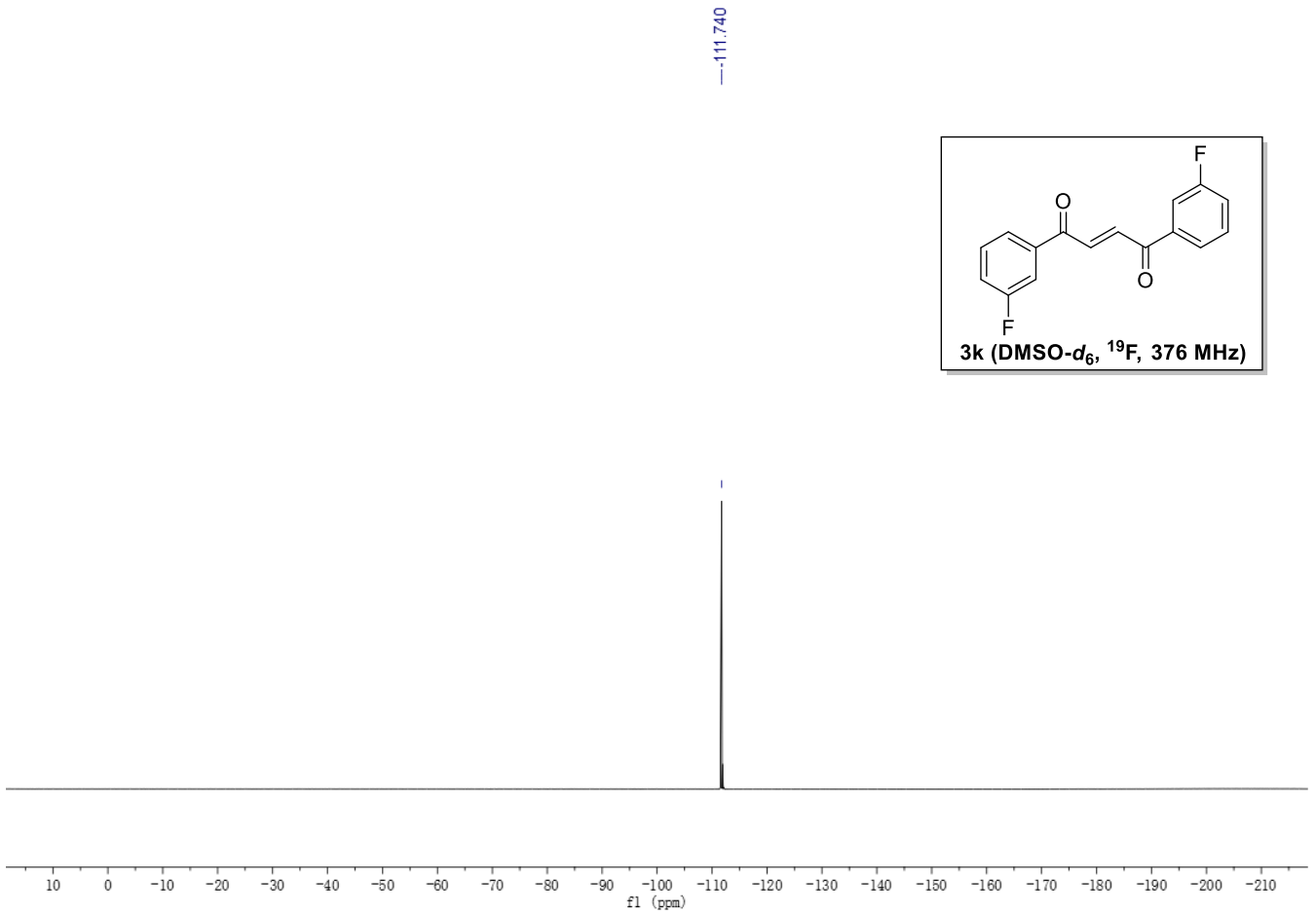


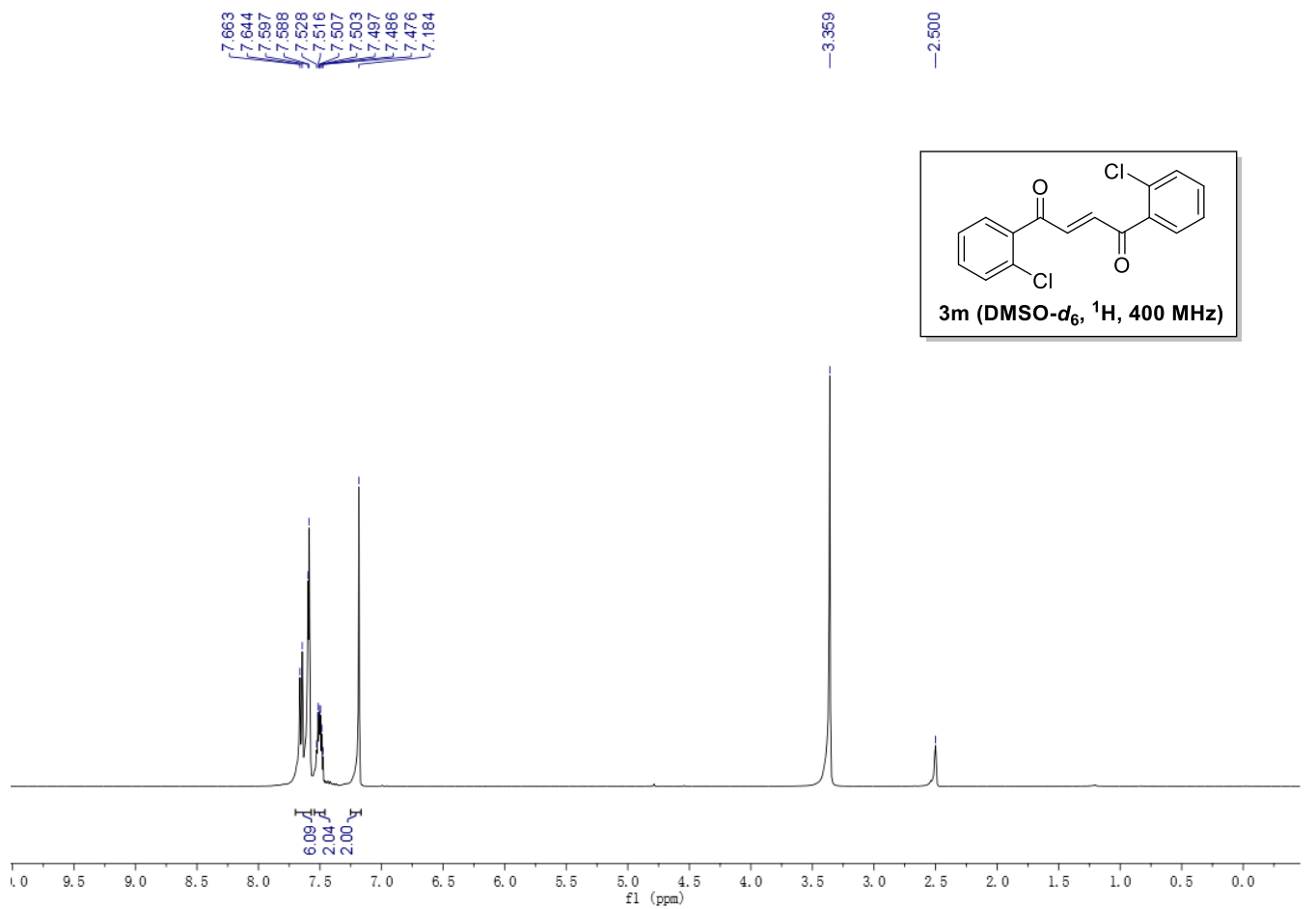
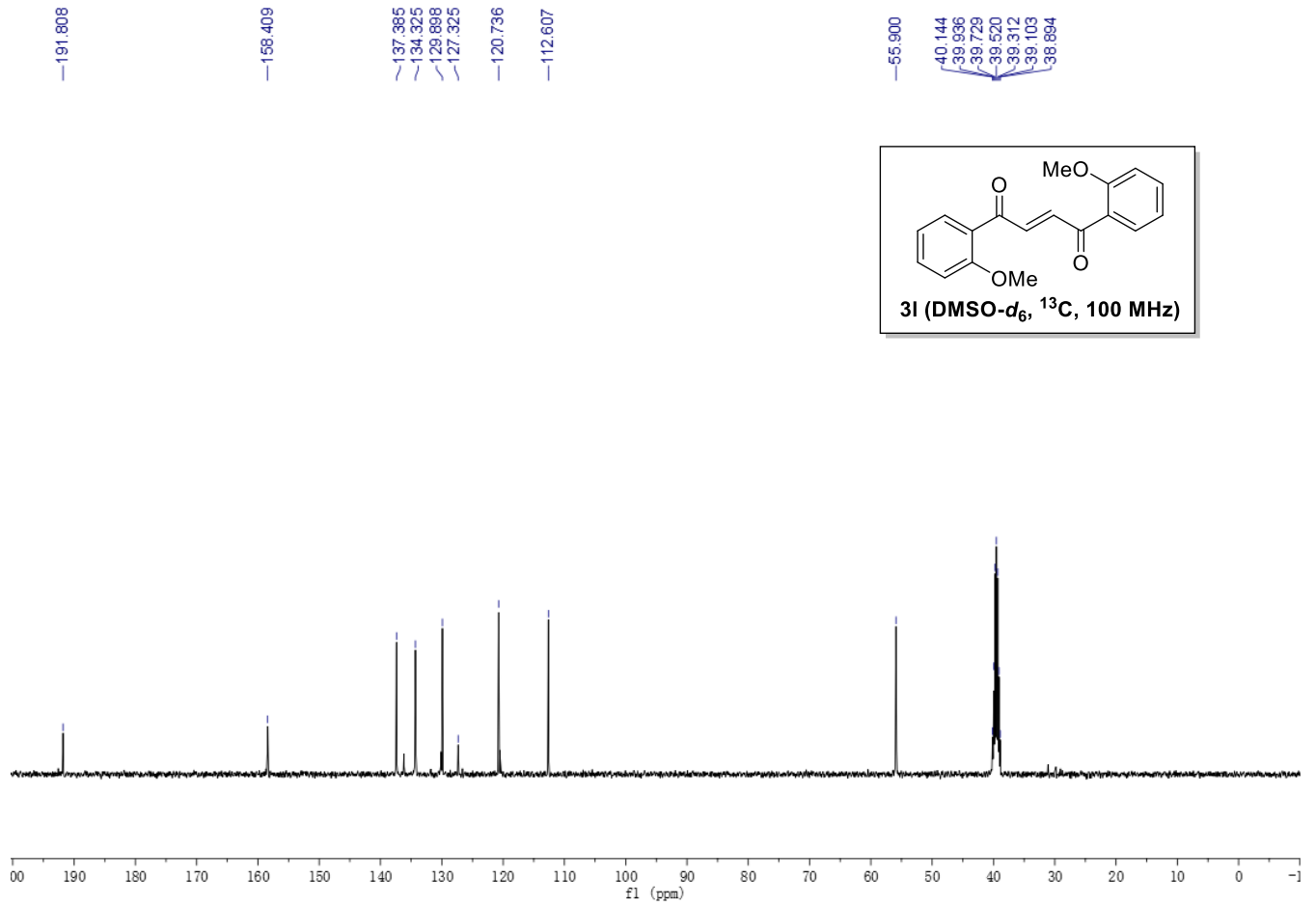


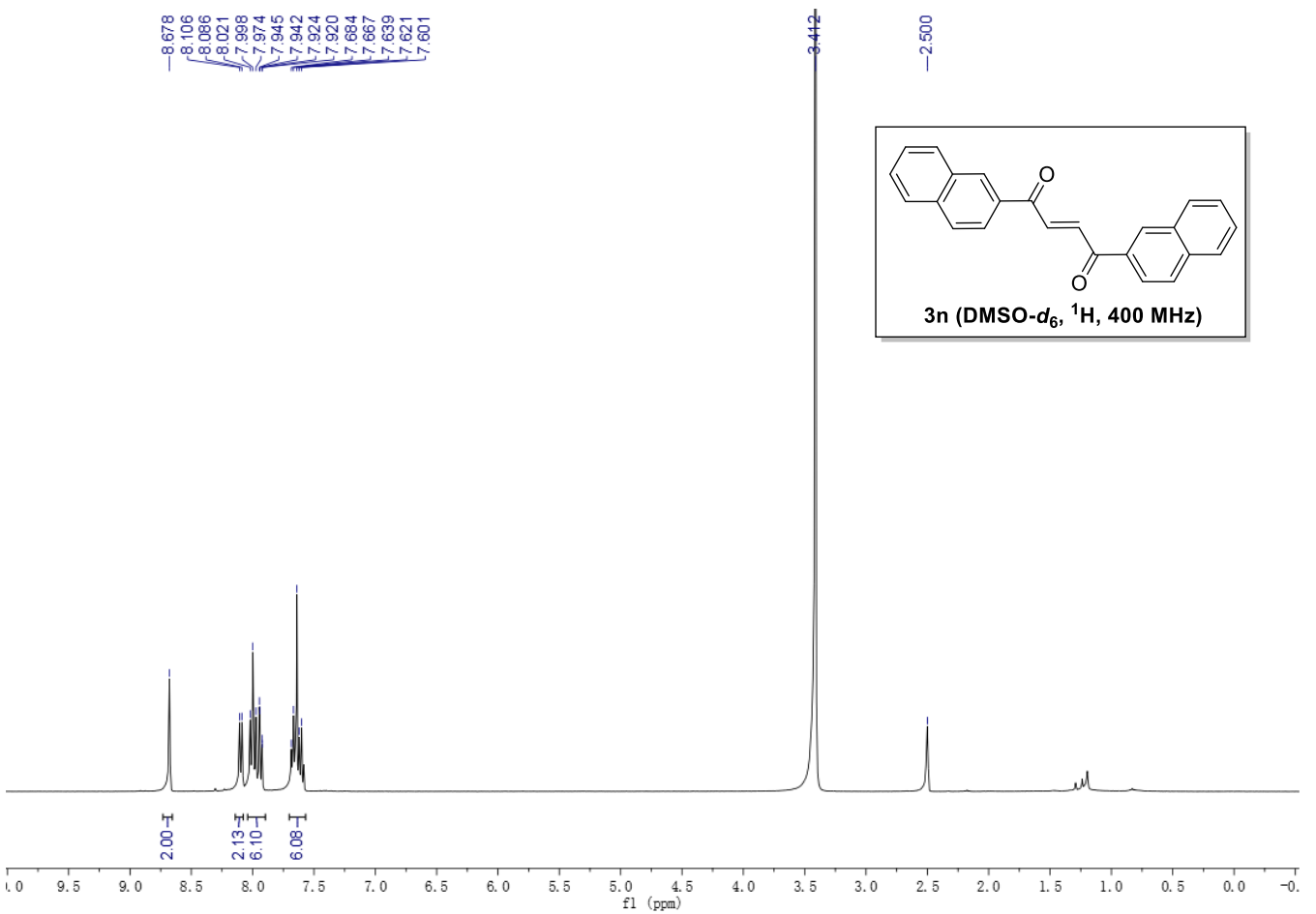
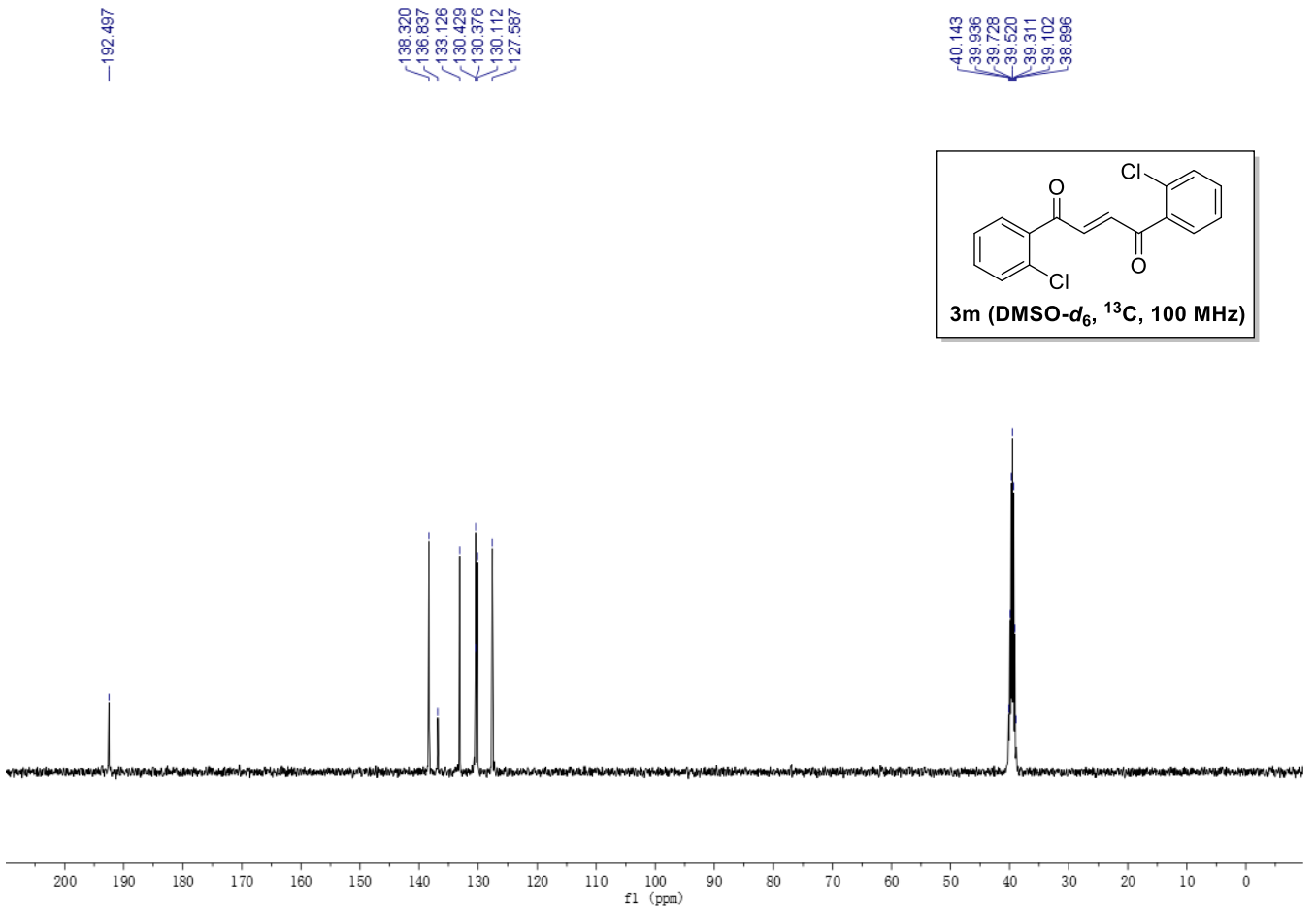








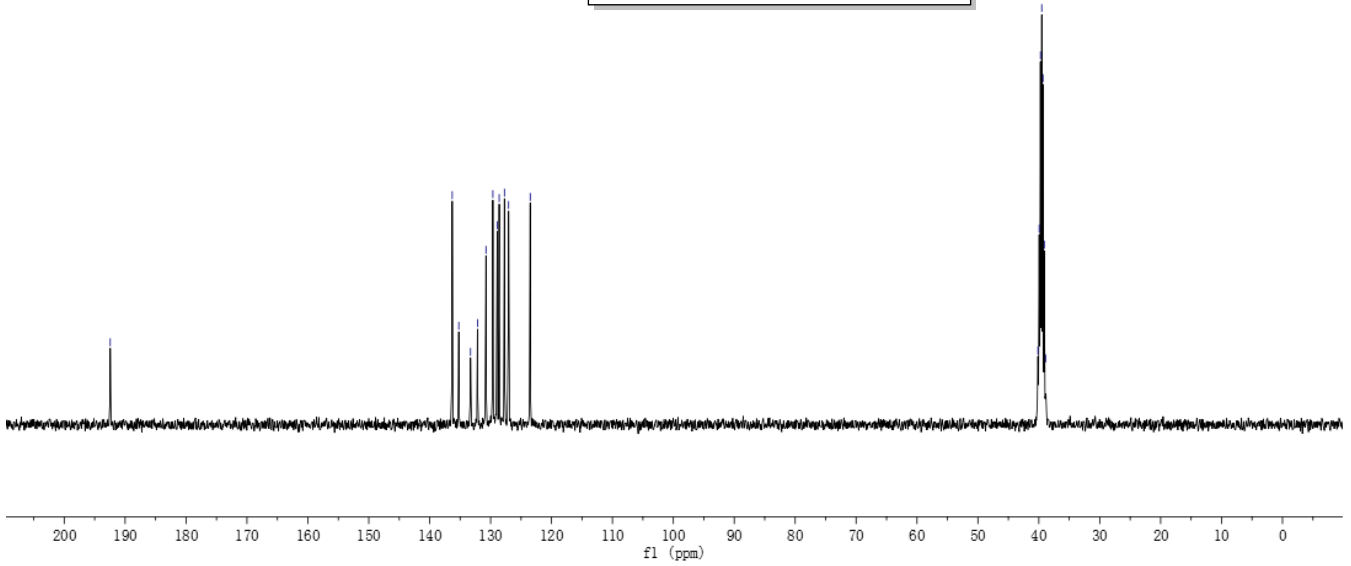
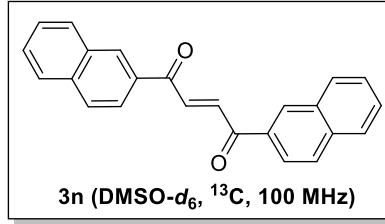




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130.758  
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127.046  
123.493

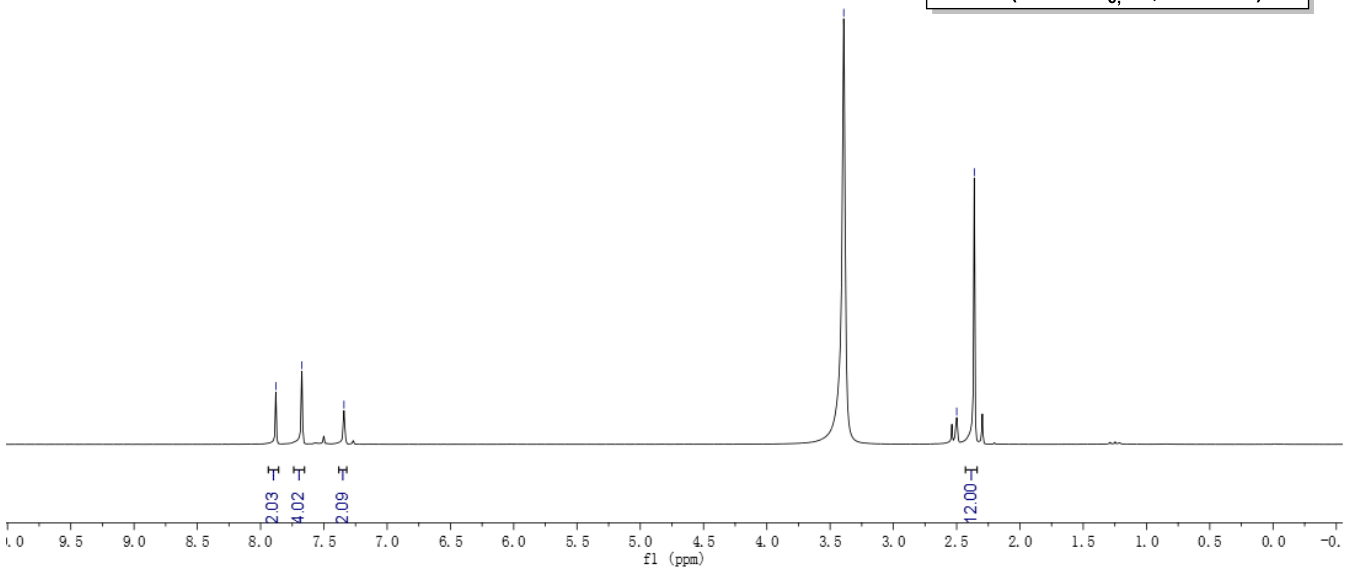
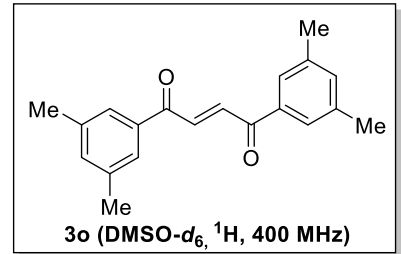
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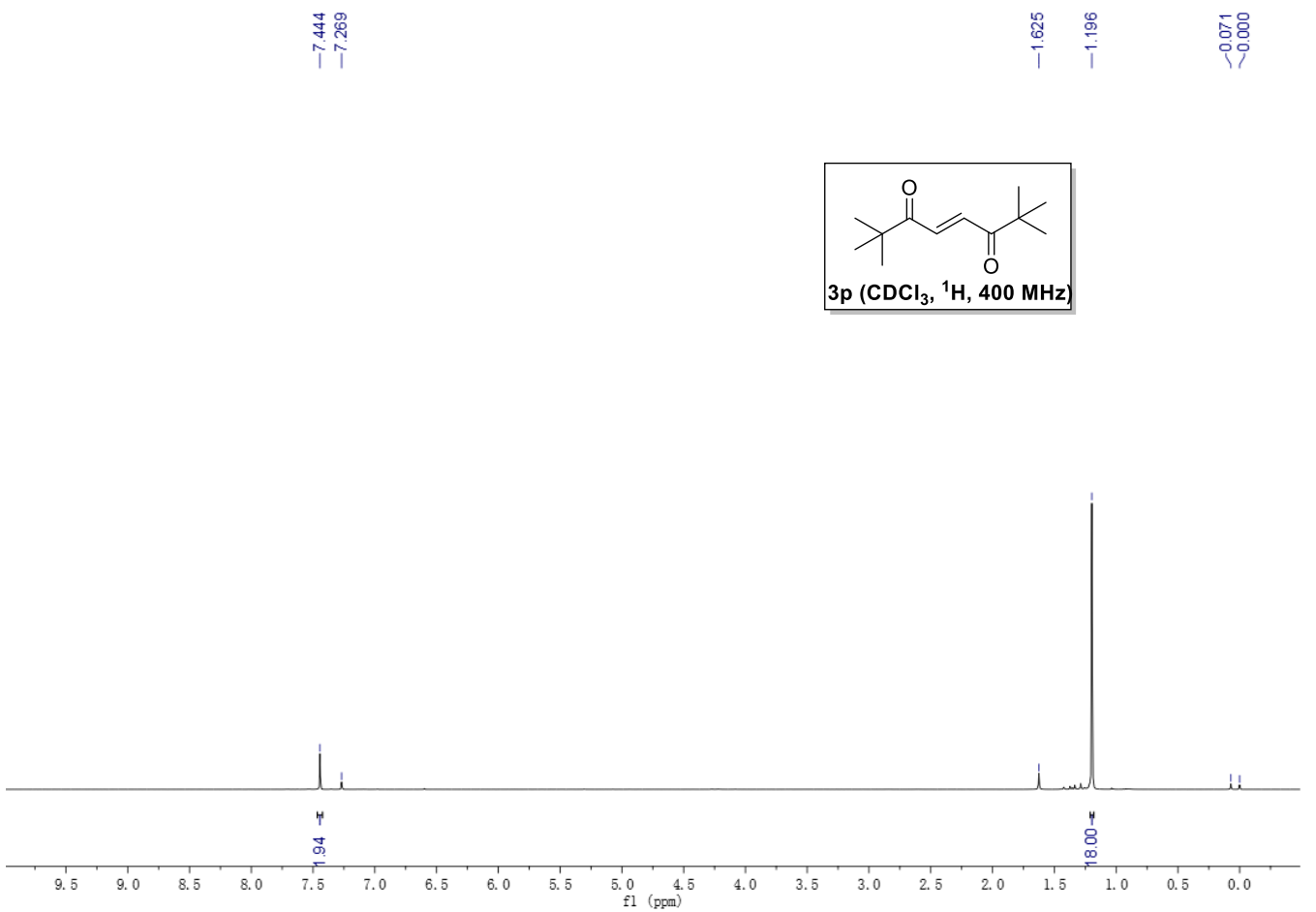
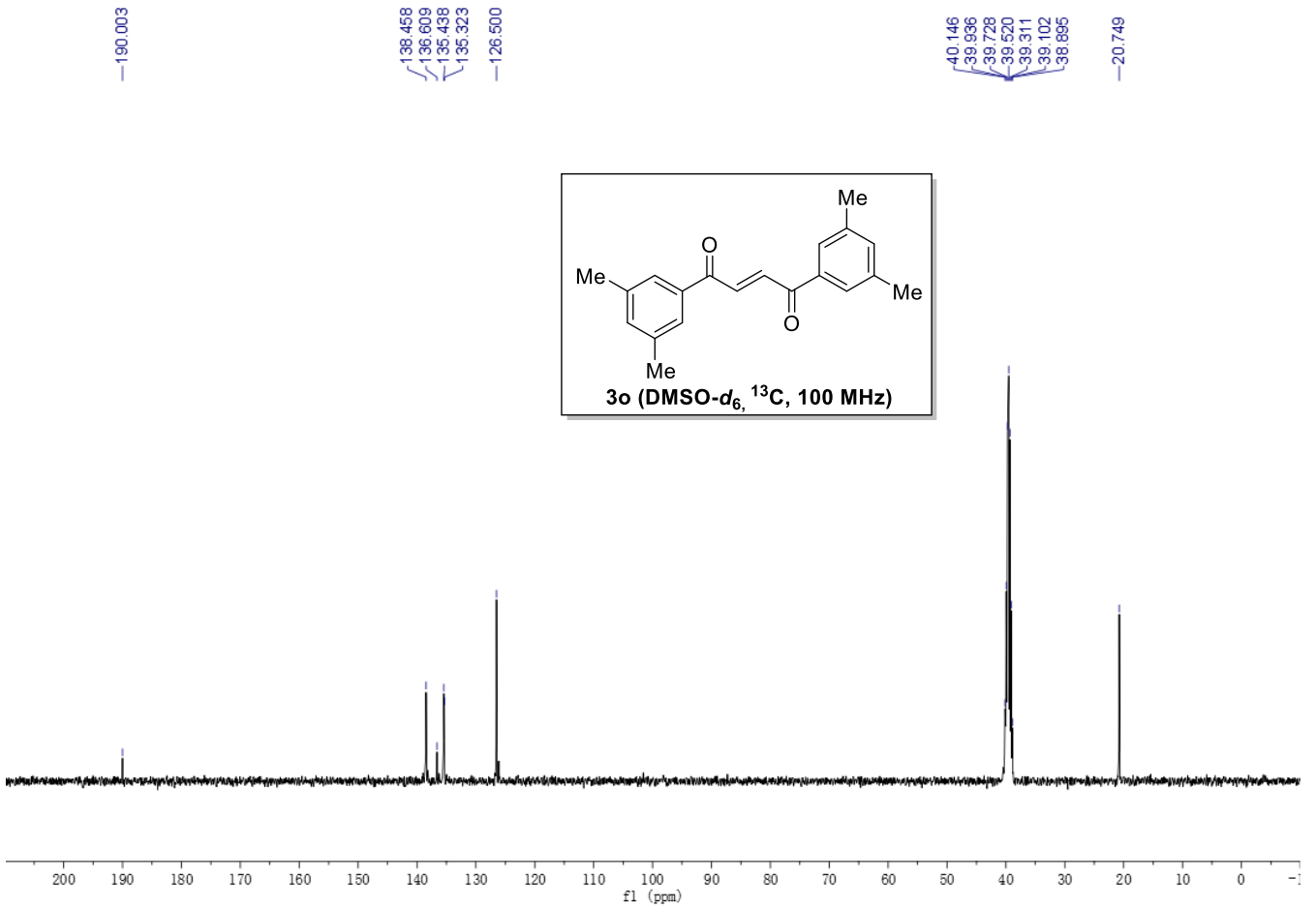
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—3.392

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—2.361







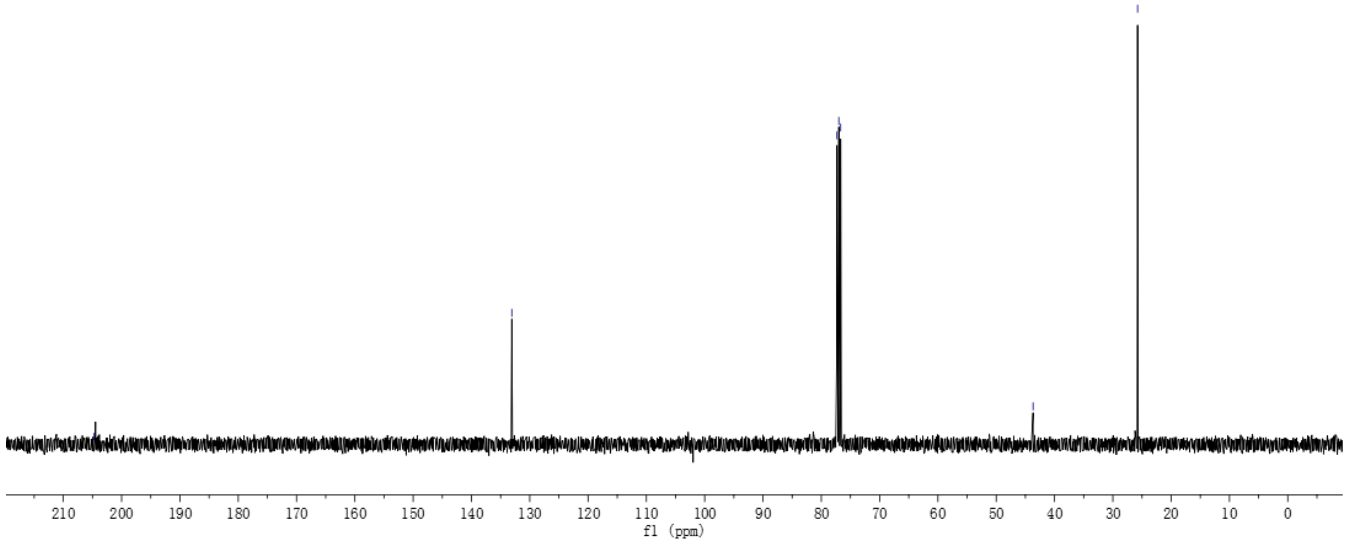
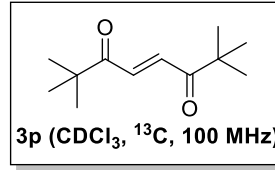
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-133.085

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-43.685

-25.757



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1.035  
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-0.000

