

Supporting Information

Regioselective access to di- and trisubstituted pyridines via a metal-oxidant-solvent-free domino reaction involving 3-chloropropiophenones

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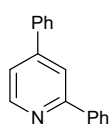
General Information: All reactions were carried out either under inert atmosphere or air and monitored by TLC using Merck 60 F254 pre coated silica gel plates (0.25 mm thickness) and the products were visualized by UV detection. Flash chromatography was carried out with silica gel (200-300 mesh). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance (III) 500 MHz spectrometer. Data for ¹H NMR are reported as a chemical shift (δ ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), coupling constant *J* (Hz), integration, and assignment, data for ¹³C are reported as a chemical shift (δ ppm). High resolutions mass spectral analyses (HRMS) were carried out using ESI-TOF-MS. Melting points were recorded on an Electrothermal melting points apparatus and are uncorrected.

Starting materials: 3-chloropropiophenones(**1a-1i**)¹¹ and 3-bromopropiophenone¹¹ were prepared according to literature procedures. Cyclic and acyclic ketones and ammonium salts were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification unless otherwise stated.

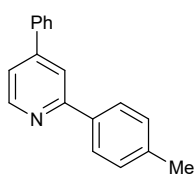
Representative procedure for the synthesis of (3aa): A mixture of compounds **1a** (0.3 mmol), **2a** (0.36 mmol) and NH₄OAc was heated at 70 °C in an open atmosphere. Upon completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 10 mL), washed with water and brine, respectively, and dried over Na₂SO₄. The combined organic phases were evaporated under reduced pressure to afford the crude product. Finally, the product was obtained in pure form (72% yield) through column chromatography over silica gel using a mixture of EtOAc/hexane (1:19, v/v) as the eluent. The product was fully characterized by its spectroscopic data (¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and HRMS).

The prepared pyridines in Schemes 2-4 were followed the above procedure and characterized by their corresponding spectroscopic data (¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and HRMS).

2,4-Diphenylpyridine (3aa):^{1,2} Gummy liquid; yield = 72%; time = 24h; *R_f* = 0.33 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.74 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.53 – 7.43 (m, 7H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.2, 150.2, 149.4, 139.6, 138.6, 129.2, 129.19, 129.17, 128.9, 127.2, 127.1, 120.4, 118.9 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): *m/z* [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₁₇H₁₄N⁺ 232.1121, found 232.1119.

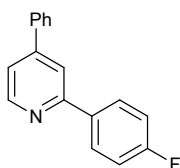


4-Phenyl-2-(4-methylphenyl)pyridine (3ab):^{1,2} Gummy liquid; yield = 70%; time = 24h; R_f



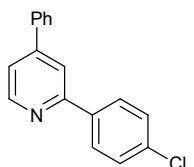
= 0.34 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.73 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.47 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.31 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 158.2, 150.1, 149.3, 139.1, 138.7, 136.7, 129.6, 129.2, 129.1, 127.2, 127.0, 120.1, 118.5, 21.4 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}^+$ 246.1277, found 246.1279.

2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (3ag):^{1,2} Yellow oil; yield = 63%; time = 24h; R_f



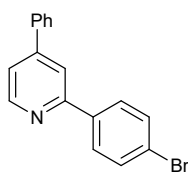
= 0.45 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.72 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 8.06 – 8.02 (m, 2H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.53 – 7.43 (m, 4H), 7.18 (t, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.7 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 247.2$ Hz), 157.2, 150.2, 149.5, 138.5, 135.7, 129.28, 129.25, 128.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 8.2$ Hz), 127.2, 120.3, 118.5, 115.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.3$ Hz) ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{FN}^+$ 250.1027, found 250.1028.

2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (3ae):^{1,2} Light yellow solid; yield = 65%; mp 52-54



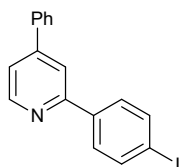
$^{\circ}\text{C}$; time = 24h; R_f = 0.41 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.73 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.45 (m, 4H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 156.9, 150.3, 149.6, 138.5, 138.0, 135.3, 129.3, 129.1, 128.6, 128.4, 127.2, 120.6, 118.6 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClN}^+$ 266.0731, found 266.0729.

2-(4-Bromophenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (3af):^{1,2} Pale yellow solid; yield = 66%; mp 66-68 $^{\circ}\text{C}$;



time = 24h; R_f = 0.41 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.73 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.53–7.45 (m, 4H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.0, 150.3, 149.6, 138.4, 138.2, 132.0, 129.3 (2C, one overlap peak), 128.7, 127.2, 123.6, 120.7, 118.6 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}^{79}\text{BrN}^+$ 310.0226, found 310.0234; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}^{81}\text{BrN}^+$ 312.0211, found 312.0206.

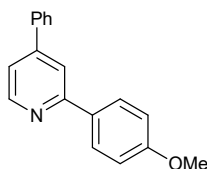
2-(4-Iodophenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (3ah):¹ Colorless solid; yield = 61%; mp 81-83 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; time



= 24h; R_f = 0.45 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.73 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.85 – 7.77 (m, 4H), 7.68 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.53 – 7.40 (m, 4H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.1,

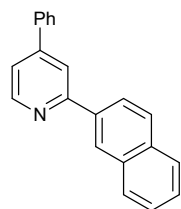
150.3, 149.6, 139.0, 138.4, 138.08, 138.04, 129.3, 128.9, 127.2, 120.8, 118.6, 95.5 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{17}H_{13}IN^+$ 358.0087, found 358.0081.

2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (3ac):¹ Pale yellow solid; yield=73%; mp 52-54 °C;



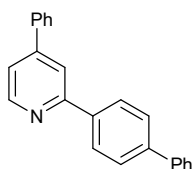
time = 24h; R_f = 0.31 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.69 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 160.6, 157.8, 150.0, 149.3, 138.8, 132.2, 129.2, 129.1, 128.4, 127.2, 119.7, 118.2, 114.3, 55.5 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{18}H_{16}NO^+$ 262.1226, found 262.1224.

2-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-4-phenylpyridine(3aj):^{1,2} Yellow oil; yield = 69%; time = 24h; R_f = 0.28 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.80 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 8.55



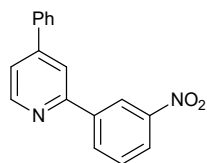
(s, 1H), 8.21 (dd, J = 8.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.98 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.90 – 7.88 (m, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.55 – 7.47 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 158.0, 150.3, 149.5, 138.6, 136.8, 133.8, 133.6, 129.3, 129.2, 128.8, 128.6, 127.8, 127.2, 126.7, 126.6, 126.4, 124.8, 120.4, 119.1 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{21}H_{16}N^+$ 282.1277, found 182.1286.

2-([1, 1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-4-phenylpyridine (3ad):¹ Light yellow solid; yield = 67%; time =



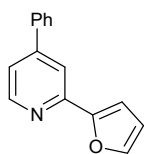
24h; mp 88-90 °C; R_f = 0.38 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.76 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.75 – 7.71 (m, 4H), 7.68 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.49 – 7.46 (m, 4H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 157.7, 150.2, 149.5, 141.9, 140.7, 138.6, 138.4, 129.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.0, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 127.2, 120.4, 118.8 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{23}H_{18}N^+$ 308.1434, found 308.1439.

2-(3-Nitrophenyl)-4-phenylpyridine (3ai):¹ Yellow solid; yield = 59% ; mp 109-111 °C;



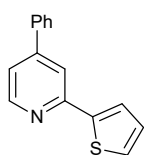
time = 24h; R_f = 0.33 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.91 (s, 1H), 8.77 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 8.43 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.71–7.64 (m, 3H), 7.54–7.47 (m, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 155.4, 150.5, 149.9, 148.9, 141.2, 138.1, 132.9, 129.8, 129.5, 129.3, 127.2, 123.7, 122.0, 121.4, 118.8 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{17}H_{13}N_2O_2^+$ 277.0972, found 277.0970.

2-(Furan-2-yl)-4-phenylpyridine (3al):¹ Yellow oil; yield = 68%; time = 24h; R_f = 0.32



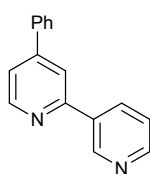
(EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.63 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (br s, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (br s, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (dd, J = 3.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.7, 150.1, 149.9, 149.2, 143.4, 138.3, 129.2, 129.2, 127.1, 120.0, 116.6, 112.2, 108.9 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO⁺ 222.0913, found 222.0932.

4-Phenyl-2-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine(3am):^{1,2} Colorless oil; yield = 70%; time = 24h; R_f = 0.32 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.62 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.86



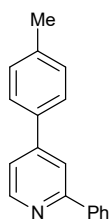
(br s, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 7.52 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, J = 5.0, 3.7 Hz, 1H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.2, 150.1, 149.4, 144.9, 138.4, 129.2, 128.2, 128.0, 127.8, 127.2, 124.8, 120.2, 117.0 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NS⁺ 238.0685, found 238.0690.

4-Phenyl-2,3'-bipyridine (3ak):¹ Pale yellow solid; yield = 55%; mp 51-53 °C; time = 24h;



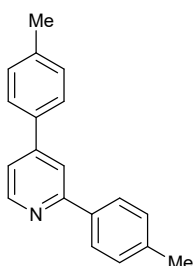
R_f = 0.20 (EtOAc/Hexane = 20:80); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.25 (s, 1H), 8.76 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 8.68 (br s, 1H), 8.38 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.55 – 7.42 (m, 5H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.5, 150.6, 150.0, 149.7, 148.3, 138.2, 135.1, 134.7, 129.4, 129.3, 127.2, 123.7, 121.1, 118.9 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₁₆H₁₃N₂⁺ 233.1073, found 233.1084.

2-Phenyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)pyridine (3ba):⁴ Pale yellow solid; yield = 73%; mp 73-75 °C;



time = 24h; R_f = 0.31 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.72 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.2, 150.2, 149.3, 139.7, 139.3, 135.7, 130.0, 129.1, 128.9, 127.2, 127.0, 120.1, 118.7, 21.3 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₁₈H₁₆N⁺ 246.1277, found 246.1295.

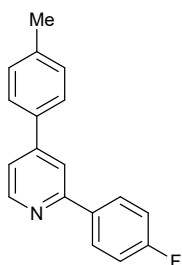
2,4-Di-(4-methylphenyl)pyridine (3bb):^{2,4} Colorless solid; yield = 70% ; mp 112-114 °C;



time = 24h; R_f = 0.34 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.70 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.28 (m, 4H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.1, 150.1,

149.2, 139.2, 139.1, 136.9, 135.8, 129.9, 129.6, 127.05, 127.03, 119.9, 118.3, 21.4, 21.3 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{19}H_{18}N^+$ 260.1434, found 260.1440.

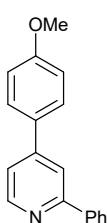
2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-(4-methylphenyl)pyridine (3bg): Pale yellow oil; yield = 63% ; time



= 24h; R_f = 0.35 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.69 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (dd, J = 8.6, 5.5 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 163.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 246.7 Hz), 157.0, 150.0, 149.3, 139.2, 135.7, 135.4, 129.8, 128.8 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.2 Hz), 126.9, 120.0, 118.2, 115.6 (d, J_{C-F} = 21.3 Hz), 21.2 ppm;

HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{18}H_{15}FN^+$ 264.1183, found 264.1184.

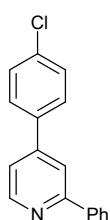
4-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-phenylpyridine (3ca):^{1,3,4} Yellow oil; yield = 71%; time = 24h; R_f



= 0.31 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.70 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 160.7, 158.1, 150.0, 148.9, 139.6, 130.8, 129.1, 128.9, 128.4, 127.2, 119.8, 118.4, 114.7, 55.5 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$

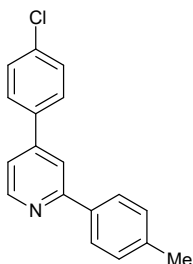
calcd for $C_{18}H_{16}NO^+$ 262.1226, found 262.1229.

4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-phenylpyridine (3ea):⁴ Yellow oil; yield = 66%; time = 24h; R_f =



0.33 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.74 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.51 – 7.39 (m, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 158.4, 150.3, 148.1, 139.4, 137.1, 135.4, 129.4, 129.3, 128.9, 128.4, 127.1, 120.1, 118.6 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{17}H_{13}ClN^+$ 266.0731, found 266.0741.

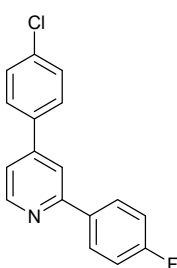
4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-(4-methylphenyl)pyridine (3eb):⁴ Colorless solid; yield = 68%; mp



96-98 °C; time = 24h; R_f = 0.37 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.72 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 158.4, 150.2, 148.1, 139.3, 137.2, 136.6, 135.3, 129.6, 129.4, 128.5, 127.0, 119.8, 118.3, 21.4 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$

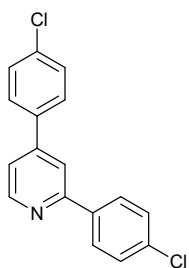
calcd for $C_{18}H_{15}ClN^+$ 280.0888, found 280.0894.

4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)pyridine (3eg): Colorless solid; yield = 56%; mp 61-63 °C; time = 24h; R_f = 0.39 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90);



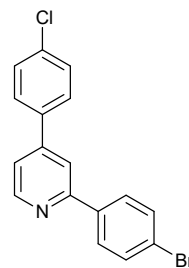
^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.63 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.94 (dd, $J = 8.7, 5.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.31 (dd, $J = 5.1, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.09 (t, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 2H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.7 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 247.3$ Hz), 157.3, 150.3, 148.2, 136.9, 135.57 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 2.8$ Hz), 135.50, 129.5, 128.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 8.4$ Hz), 128.4, 120.0, 118.2, 115.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.3$ Hz) ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClFN}^+$ 284.0637, found 284.0635.

2, 4-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)pyridine (3ee):² Colorless solid; yield=61% ; mp 97-99 °C; $R_f =$



0.46 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.73 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.48 (dd, $J = 10.4, 8.6$ Hz, 4H), 7.42 (dd, $J = 5.1, 1.6$ Hz, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.1, 150.4, 148.4, 137.8, 136.9, 135.5, 135.4, 129.5, 129.1, 128.5, 128.4, 120.4, 118.4 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}^+$ 300.0341, found 300.0347.

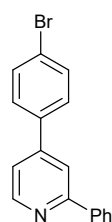
2-(4-Bromophenyl)-4-(4-chlorophenyl)pyridine (3ef): Colorless solid; yield = 58%; mp



112-114 °C; time = 24h; $R_f = 0.47$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.73 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.62 (dd, $J = 8.5, 3.6$ Hz, 4H), 7.49 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.42 (dd, $J = 5.1, 1.5$ Hz, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.2, 150.4, 148.4, 138.3, 136.9, 135.5, 132.1, 129.5, 128.7, 128.5, 123.8, 120.4, 118.3 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}^{79}\text{BrClN}^+$ 343.9836,

found 343.9844; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}^{81}\text{BrClN}^+$ 345.9815, found 345.9817.

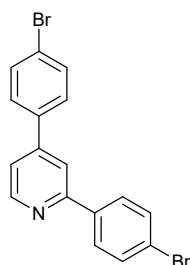
4-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-phenylpyridine (3fa):⁴ Yellow oil; yield = 64%; time = 24h; $R_f =$



0.39 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.75 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.65 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.51 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, $J = 5.1, 1.6$ Hz, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 158.4, 150.3, 148.3, 139.3, 137.5, 132.4, 129.3, 128.9, 128.8, 127.2, 123.7, 120.1, 118.6 ppm;

HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}^{79}\text{BrN}^+$ 310.0226, found 310.0230; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}^{81}\text{BrN}^+$ 312.0207, found 312.0211.

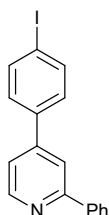
2,4-bis(4-bromophenyl)pyridine (3ff):² Colorless solid ; yield = 60%; mp 128-131 °C; time



= 24h; $R_f = 0.44$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.72 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.63 (dd, J

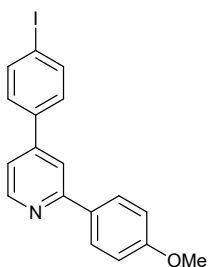
= 10.3, 8.6 Hz, 4H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.2, 150.4, 148.4, 138.2, 137.3, 132.4, 132.0, 128.7, 128.7, 123.8, 123.7, 120.3, 118.2 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}^{79}\text{Br}_2\text{N}^+$ 387.9331, found 387.9349; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}^{79}\text{Br}^{81}\text{BrN}^+$ 389.9311, found 389.9325; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}^{81}\text{Br}_2\text{N}^+$ 391.9293, found 391.9291.

4-(4-Iodophenyl)-2-phenylpyridine (3ga): Gummy; yield = 63%; time = 24h; R_f = 0.40 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.75 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, J



= 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.86 – 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.46 – 7.40 (m, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 158.4, 150.3, 148.4, 139.3, 138.4, 138.1, 129.3, 128.9, 128.9, 127.2, 120.0, 118.5, 95.4 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{IN}^+$ 358.0087, found 358.0087.

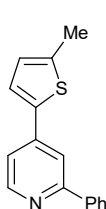
4-(4-Iodophenyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyridine (3gb): Gummy; yield = 60%; time = 24h;



R_f = 0.36 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.69 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 5.1, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 2H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 160.7, 158.0, 150.2, 148.2, 138.3, 138.3, 131.9, 128.9, 128.4, 119.3, 117.7, 114.3,

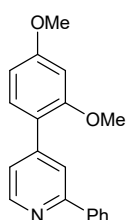
95.2, 55.5 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{INO}^+$ 388.0193, found 388.0197.

4-(5-Methylthiophen-2-yl)-2-phenylpyridine (3ha): Pale yellow solid; yield = 68%; mp 84-



86 °C; time = 24h; R_f = 0.37 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.63 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 6.80 (dd, J = 3.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 158.2, 150.2, 142.5, 142.3, 139.5, 139.0, 129.1, 128.8, 127.1, 126.8, 125.5, 118.1, 116.6, 15.7 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{NS}^+$ 352.0841, found 352.0847.

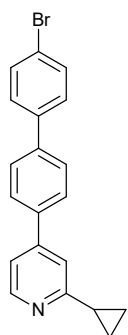
4-(2,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-2-phenylpyridine (3da): Pale yellow oil; yield = 66%; time =



24h; R_f = 0.21 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.68 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.62 – 6.59 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 161.6, 157.9, 157.3, 149.3,

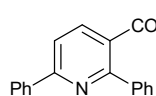
147.2, 139.9, 131.2, 128.9, 128.8, 127.2, 122.8, 121.4, 120.8, 105.2, 99.2, 55.7, 55.6 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{19}H_{18}NO_2^+$ 292.1332, found 292.1343.

4-(4'-Bromo-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-cyclopropylpyridine (3in): Pale Yellow oil; yield =



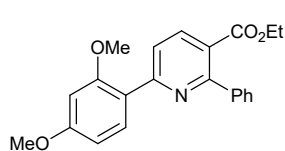
76%; time = 30h; R_f = 0.32 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.51 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.72 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.67 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.31 (dd, J = 5.2, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.18 – 2.13 (m, 1H), 1.13 – 1.04 (m, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 163.4, 149.1, 148.4, 140.8, 139.2, 137.6, 132.2, 128.8, 127.7, 127.7, 122.2, 119.2, 118.7, 17.2, 10.3 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{20}H_{17}^{79}BrN^+$ 350.0539, found 350.0539; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{20}H_{17}^{81}BrN^+$ 352.0520, found 352.0525.

Ethyl 2, 6-diphenylnicotinate (4ay):^{7,9} Pale yellow oil; yield =84%; time = 24h; R_f = 0.34



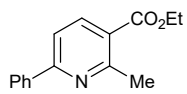
(EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.19 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.14-8.12 (m, 2H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.66 – 7.63 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.43 (m, 6H), 4.18 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.08 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 168.4, 158.8, 158.5, 140.6, 139.0, 138.4, 129.8, 128.98, 128.92, 128.7, 128.1, 127.4, 125.4, 117.9, 61.5, 13.8 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{20}H_{18}NO_2^+$ 304.1332, found 304.1341.

Ethyl 6-(2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-phenylnicotinate (4dy): Yellow oil; yield = 77%; time = 24h; R_f = 0.26 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.10 (d, J = 8.2 Hz,



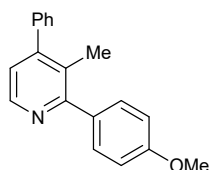
1H), 8.02 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.44 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 6.62 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 1.06 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 168.5, 162.0, 158.8, 158.5, 157.1, 141.0, 137.9, 132.7, 128.9, 128.4, 128.0, 124.2, 122.3, 121.1, 105.4, 98.9, 61.3, 55.7, 55.6 13.8 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{22}H_{22}NO_4^+$ 364.1543, found 364.1541.

Ethyl 2-methyl-6-phenylnicotinate (4az):⁷ Yellow oil; yield =75%; time = 24h; R_f = 0.58



(EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.25 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.06 – 8.04 (m, 2H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.41 (m, 3H), 4.39 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 1.41 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 166.6, 159.9, 159.0, 139.3, 138.5, 129.6, 128.8, 127.3, 123.6, 117.3, 61.1, 25.3, 14.3 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{15}H_{16}NO_2^+$ 242.1176, found 242.1182.

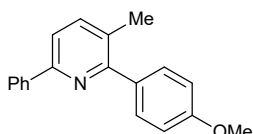
2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-4-phenylpyridine (3ao, major isomer): Colorless oil; yield = 61%; time = 36h; $R_f = 0.24$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 20:80); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ



8.54 (d, $J = 4.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, $J = 4.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H).ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.5, 159.4, 151.2, 146.3, 140.0, 130.6, 129.9, 128.8, 128.7,

128.5, 128.0, 123.0, 113.7, 55.4, 18.4 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}^+$ 276.1383, found 276.1382.

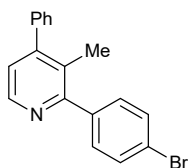
2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-6-phenylpyridine (4ao, minor isomer): Colorless oil;



yield = 9%; time = 36h; $R_f = 0.28$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 20:80); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.06 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.66-7.60 (m, 4H), 7.46 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.39 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H),

3.88 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.5, 157.5, 154.3, 139.7, 130.6, 129.3, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.9, 126.9, 118.5, 113.5, 55.3, 20.0 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}^+$ 276.1383, found 276.1388.

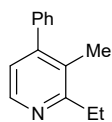
2-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-methyl-4-phenylpyridine (3ap): Yellow oil; yield =



57%; time = 36h; $R_f = 0.21$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.54 (d, $J = 4.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.48 – 7.40 (m, 5H), 7.36 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, $J = 4.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C

NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 158.6, 151.3, 146.7, 140.0, 139.7, 131.4, 131.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.1, 123.6, 122.3, 18.1 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}^{79}\text{BrN}^+$ 324.0382, found 324.0383; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}^{81}\text{BrN}^+$ 326.0364, found 326.0366.

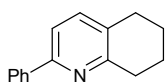
2-Ethyl-3-methyl-4-phenylpyridine (3aq): Pale yellow oil; yield = 64%; time =



36h; $R_f = 0.31$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.41 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.37 (m, 1H), 7.29 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.00 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.91 (q, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, $J = 7.5$

Hz, 3H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 162.1, 149.9, 146.0, 140.1, 129.1, 128.8, 128.3, 127.7, 122.3, 29.2, 15.6, 12.9 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}^+$ 198.1277, found 198.1285.

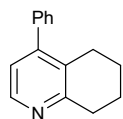
2-Phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline (4ar, major isomer):^{5,6} Pale yellow oil; yield = 40%



; time = 24h; $R_f = 0.52$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.95 – 7.93 (m, 2H), 7.46-7.35 (m, 5H), 3.01 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.80 (t, $J = 6.3$ Hz, 2H), 1.95-1.91 (m, 2H), 1.86 – 1.81 (m, 2H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ

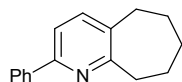
157.3, 154.8, 139.9, 137.6, 130.9, 128.7, 128.5, 126.9, 118.1, 32.9, 28.7, 23.3, 22.9 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{15}H_{15}N^+$ 210.1277, found 210.1281.

4-Phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline (3ar, minor isomer):³ Pale yellow oil; yield = 33%;



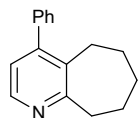
time = 24h; R_f = 0.24 (EtOAc/Hexane = 15:85); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.40 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.29 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 6.99 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.63 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 1.93 – 1.88 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.70 (m, 2H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 157.5, 150.2, 146.0, 139.3, 130.3, 128.6, 128.4, 128.0, 122.2, 32.8, 27.5, 22.9, 22.9 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{15}H_{15}N^+$ 210.1277, found 210.1278.

2-Phenyl-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-5H-cyclohepta[b]pyridine (4as, minor):⁶ Pale yellow oil;



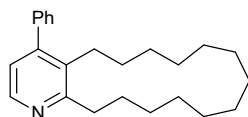
yield = 30%; time = 24h; R_f = 0.56 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.97 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.43 (m, 4H), 7.37 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.15 – 3.12 (m, 2H), 2.82 - 2.79 (m, 2H), 1.92 – 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.75 – 1.69 (m, 4H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 163.2, 154.1, 139.9, 137.3, 136.7, 128.7, 128.4, 126.9, 118.0, 39.8, 35.1, 32.7, 28.2, 26.8 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{16}H_{18}N^+$ 224.1434, found 224.1433.

4-Phenyl-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-5H-cyclohepta[b]pyridine (3as, major): Pale yellow oil; yield



= 39%; time = 24h; R_f = 0.30 (EtOAc/Hexane = 15:85); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.22 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.07 – 3.04 (m, 2H), 2.67 – 2.64 (m, 2H), 1.82-1.77 (m, 2H), 1.71 – 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.57-1.52 (m, 2H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 164.0, 149.1, 145.2, 140.0, 135.7, 128.9, 128.4, 127.74, 122.79, 39.4, 32.3, 29.7, 27.8, 26.5 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{16}H_{18}N^+$ 224.1434, found 224.1443.

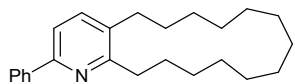
4-Phenyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-5H-cyclopentadeca[b]pyridine



(3at, major isomer): Yellow oil; yield = 48%; time = 30h; R_f = 0.22 (EtOAc/Hexane = 05:95); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.35 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.24 - 7.22 (m, 2H), 6.90 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.84 – 2.80 (m, 2H), 2.51 – 2.48 (m, 2H), 1.83 – 1.77 (m, 2H), 1.60 – 1.55 (m, 2H), 1.46 – 1.39 (m, 4H), 1.36 – 1.31 (m, 4H), 1.28 – 1.20 (m, 10H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 161.2, 150.3, 146.1, 140.4, 133.5, 128.4, 128.2, 127.6, 122.6, 35.3, 29.1, 29.0, 28.3, 27.7, 27.6, 26.9, 26.7, 26.5, 26.2, 26.1, 25.4, 25.2 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{24}H_{34}N^+$ 336.2686, found 336.2694.

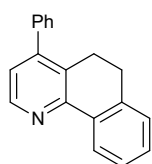
2-[Phenyl-6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-dodecahydro-5H-cyclopentadeca**[b]**pyridine

(4at, minor isomer):⁵ Colorless solid; yield = 24%; mp 39-41 °C; time = 30h; R_f = 0.69



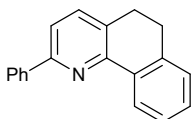
(EtOAc/Hexane = 05:95); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 4H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.88 – 2.84 (m, 2H), 2.65 – 2.62 (m, 2H), 1.86 – 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.67 – 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.59 – 1.55 (m, 2H), 1.54 – 1.48 (m, 2H), 1.44 – 1.42 (m, 4H), 1.38 – 1.34 (m, 10H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.3, 154.4, 140.0, 137.9, 134.2, 128.7, 128.4, 126.9, 118.0, 35.1, 32.3, 29.7, 28.2, 27.6, 27.5, 27.1, 27.0, 26.8, 26.17, 26.13, 25.7 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₂₄H₃₄N⁺ 336.2686, found 336.2699.

4-Phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[h]quinoline (3au, major isomer):^{1,5} Yellow solid; yield =



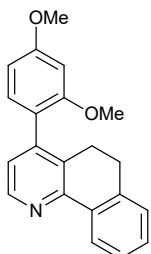
69%; mp 89-91 °C; time = 24h; R_f = 0.45 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.59 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.32 (m, 7H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (t, J = 7.0, 2H), 2.82 (t, J = 6.9, 2H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.1, 148.6, 147.2, 138.9, 138.2, 135.0, 129.5, 129.2, 128.8, 128.5, 128.1, 127.6, 127.2, 125.5, 123.4, 28.1, 25.5 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₁₉H₁₆N⁺ 258.1277, found 258.1278.

2-Phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[h]quinoline (4au, minor isomer):^{5,6} Pale yellow oil; yield = 14% ; time = 24h; R_f = 0.60 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.53



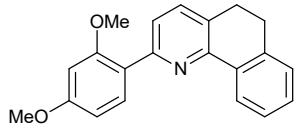
(d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.16 – 8.14 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.42 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.98 – 2.95 (m, 4H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.2, 152.1, 139.7, 138.3, 136.4, 134.9, 130.4, 129.1, 128.7, 127.8, 127.2, 126.9, 125.4, 118.8, 28.2, 27.9 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₁₉H₁₆N⁺ 258.1277, found 258.1260.

4-(2,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[h]quinoline (3du, major isomer): Colorless

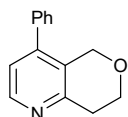


oil; yield = 68%; time = 30h; R_f = 0.58 (EtOAc/Hexane = 15:85); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.46 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 2.73-2.71 (m, 3H), 2.61 – 2.57 (m, 1H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.2, 157.6, 152.4, 147.0, 145.7, 138.5, 135.2, 131.5, 131.1, 129.0, 127.5, 127.2, 125.5, 124.3, 120.7, 104.6, 98.7, 55.6, 55.5, 28.1, 25.4 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₂₁H₂₀NO₂⁺ 318.1489, found 318.1495.

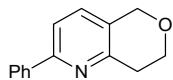
2-(2,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[*h*]quinoline (4du): Pale yellow oil; yield = 10%; time = 30h; $R_f = 0.69$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 15:85); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.46 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.23 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dd, $J = 8.5, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.57 (d, $J = 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.96 (s, 4H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 161.1, 158.3, 153.4, 151.6, 138.0, 135.3, 132.1, 129.2, 128.7, 127.6, 127.0, 125.1, 123.2, 105.1, 98.9, 55.6, 55.4, 28.2, 27.7 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2^+$ 318.1489, found 318.1496.



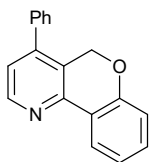
4-Phenyl-7,8-dihydro-5*H*-pyrano[4,3-*b*]pyridine (3aw, minor isomer):¹⁰ Yellow oil; yield = 25%; time = 30h; $R_f = 0.16$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 25:75); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.41 (d, $J = 4.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.20 (bs, 1H), 6.97 (d, $J = 4.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.60 (s, 2H), 4.03 (t, $J = 5.9$ Hz, 2H), 3.05 (t, $J = 5.9$ Hz, 2H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 153.9, 147.6, 147.3, 137.6, 128.8, 128.5, 128.29, 128.25, 122.4, 66.5, 65.8, 32.0 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}^+$ 212.1070, found 212.1068.



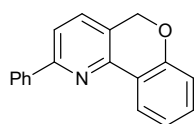
2-Phenyl-7,8-dihydro-5*H*-pyrano[4,3-*b*]pyridine (4aw, major isomer): Yellow oil; yield = 47%; time = 30h; $R_f = 0.70$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 25:75); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.96 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.41 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 4.81 (s, 2H), 4.11 (t, $J = 5.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.11 (t, $J = 5.7$ Hz, 2H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 155.9, 153.6, 139.5, 133.1, 128.9, 128.8, 127.0 (2C, one overlap peak), 118.4, 67.2, 65.9, 32.1 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}^+$ 212.1070, found 212.1072.



4-phenyl-5*H*-chromeno[4,3-*b*]pyridine (3av, major isomer): Pale yellow solid; yield = 66% ; time = 30h; $R_f = 0.62$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 15:85); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.62 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.29 (dd, $J = 7.8, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.32 (ddd, $J = 10.8, 8.2, 4.0$ Hz, 3H), 7.17 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.22 (s, 2H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 156.5, 149.3, 149.0, 146.8, 137.3, 131.5, 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 125.2, 124.0, 123.8, 123.5, 122.7, 117.0, 66.0 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}^+$ 260.1070, found 260.1082.



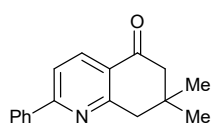
2-Phenyl-5*H*-chromeno[4,3-*b*]pyridine (4av, minor isomer): Pale yellow oil; yield = 13%



; time = 30h; $R_f = 0.70$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 15:85); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.43 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, J

= 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.48 (m, 3H), 7.44 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.14 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.27 (s, 2H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 156.9, 156.6, 148.4, 139.3, 132.9, 131.3, 129.2, 128.8, 127.0, 125.0, 124.5, 123.5, 122.4, 119.1, 117.0, 68.0 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}^+$ 260.1070, found 260.1071.

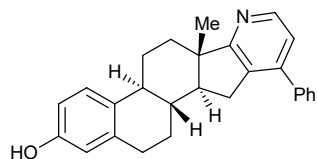
7,7-Dimethyl-2-phenyl-7,8-dihydroquinolin-5(6H)-one (4azz):⁸ Colorless solid; yield =



81%; mp 58-60 °C; time = 24h; $R_f = 0.38$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.27 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.03 (dd, $J = 8.1, 1.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 3.08 (s, 2H), 2.53 (s, 2H), 1.11 (s, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.8, 162.4, 161.0, 138.4, 135.3, 129.9, 128.8, 127.4, 125.5, 118.8, 52.0, 46.7, 32.9, 28.3 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}^+$ 252.1383, found 252.1383.

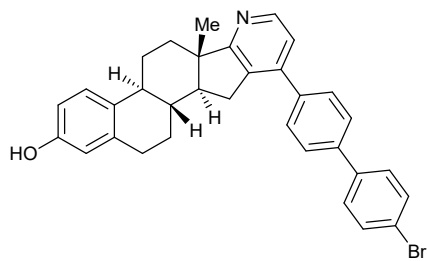
(6bS,8aS,13aS,13bR)-8a-Methyl-12-phenyl-2,6b,7,8,8a,13,13a,13b-octahydro-1H-

naphtho[2',1':4,5]indeno[1,2-b]pyridin-4-ol (3ax): Pale yellow solid; yield = 68%



; mp 211-213 °C; time = 30h; $R_f = 0.47$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 25:75); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.40 (d, $J = 5.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.42 (m, 5H), 7.17 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 6.71 (dd, $J = 8.4, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.94 – 2.79 (m, 4H), 2.52–2.44 (m, 2H), 2.36 – 2.32 (m, 1H), 2.00 – 1.96 (m, 1H), 1.86 – 1.67 (m, 4H), 1.48 – 1.39 (m, 1H), 1.14 (s, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.5, 154.5, 146.6, 146.4, 138.3, 137.8, 134.3, 131.7, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 126.2, 120.9, 115.5, 113.0, 55.1, 46.2, 44.3, 37.6, 33.7, 30.3, 29.5, 27.4, 26.3, 17.6 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{28}\text{NO}^+$ 382.2165, found 382.2163.

(6bS,8aS,13aS,13bR)-12-(4'-Bromo-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-8a-methyl



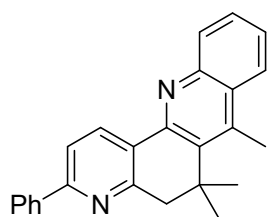
2,6b,7,8,8a,13,13a,13b-octahydro-1H-

naphtho[2',1':4,5]indeno[1,2-b]pyridin-4-ol (3ix):

Yellow solid; yield = 71%; mp 220-222 °C; time = 30h; $R_f = 0.43$ (EtOAc/Hexane = 25:75); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.43 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.60 (t, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 4H), 7.52 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.20 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 6.69 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 6.41 (br s, 1H), 2.91 – 2.82 (m, 4H), 2.48

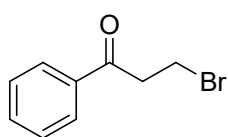
(d, $J = 10.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.37 - 2.33 (m, 1H), 2.01 - 2.00 (m, 1H), 1.86 - 1.72 (m, 4H), 1.49 - 1.40 (m, 1H), 1.15 (s, 3H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.8, 154.2, 147.1, 145.8, 140.3, 139.5, 138.2, 137.9, 134.3, 132.4, 132.3, 129.1, 128.9, 127.4, 126.5, 122.2, 120.9, 115.6, 113.1, 55.4, 46.4, 44.6, 37.8, 34.0, 30.6, 29.7, 27.6, 26.5, 17.8 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{31}^{79}\text{BrNO}^+$ 536.1584, found 536.1586. HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{31}^{81}\text{BrNO}^+$ 538.1569, found 538.1574.

6,6,7-Trimethyl-3-phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenzo[*b*][1,7]phenanthroline: Colorless solid; yield

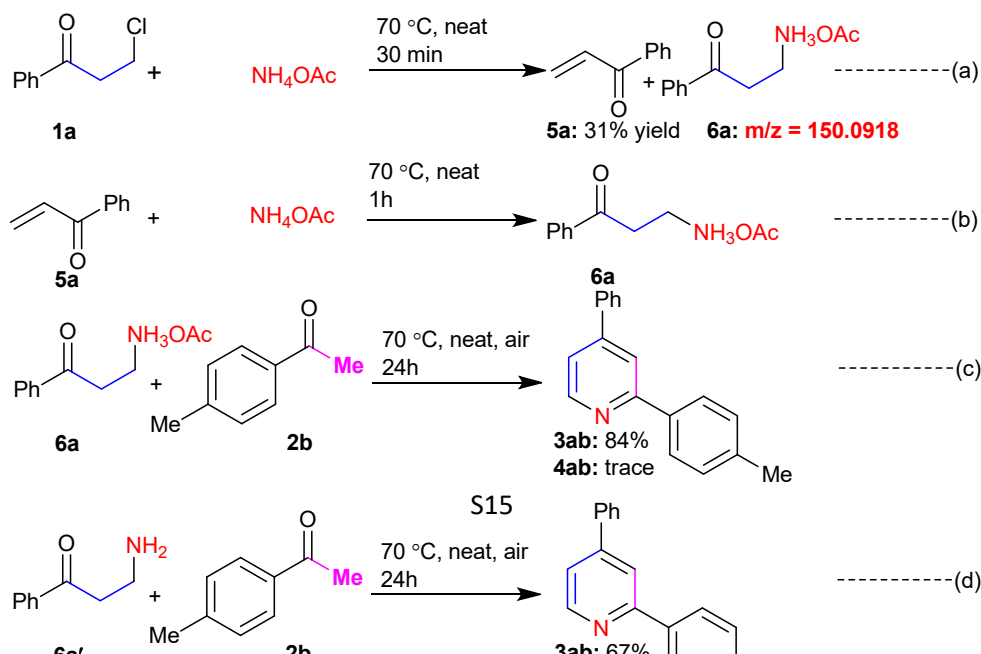


= 61%; mp 141-143 °C; time = 30h; $R_f = 0.48$ (EtOAc/ Hexane = 10:90); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.71 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.10-8.05 (m, 4H), 7.79 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.67 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 - 7.48 (m, 3H), 7.43 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 2.88 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 6H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.8, 157.2, 151.2, 146.5, 141.6, 139.5, 136.5, 135.0, 129.8, 129.2, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 127.2, 126.3, 123.6, 119.8, 49.4, 37.5, 28.4, 18.0 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2^+$ 351.1856, found 351.1860.

3-Bromo-1-phenylpropan-1-one:¹² White solid; mp 47-50°C; $R_f = 0.73$ (EtOAc/Hexane =



15:85); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.96 - 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.59 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 3.74 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 2H), 3.58 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 2H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.1, 136.3, 133.7, 128.8, 128.1, 41.6, 25.8 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_9^{79}\text{BrONa}^+$ 234.9729, found 234.9725; HRMS (ESI-TOF): m/z $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_9^{81}\text{BrONa}^+$ 236.9709, found 236.9699.



Scheme S1. Control experiment:

Scheme S1a: A mixture of compounds **1a** (1.0 mmol), **2a** (1.2 mmol) and NH₄OAc (2.5 mmol) was heated at 70 °C for 30 min. Afterwards, we have recorded the MS for the crude reaction mixture in MeCN. The MS indicated that both compounds **5a** and **6a**: ($m/z = 150.0918$) were formed. Next, the crude reaction mixture was extracted with ether (3 × 10 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of the solvent left the crude product which was purified by column chromatography over silica-gel using a mixture of diethyl ether/hexane (1:10) as an eluent give 31% yield of vinyl ketone **5a**.

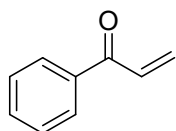
Scheme S1b: A mixture of compounds **5a** (0.1 mmol) and NH₄OAc (2.5 mmol) was heated at 70 °C for 1h. Afterwards, we have recorded the MS for the crude reaction mixture in MeCN. The mass value indicated that **6a**: ($m/z = 150.0918$) was formed. It is not possible to isolate this product.

Scheme S1c: The white solid compound **6a** (0.2 mmol, prepared by 1:1 mixture of β-amino ketone **6a'**¹⁴ and AcOH) was treated with **2b** (0.24 mmol) under standard conditions in an open-atmosphere. After usual work-up, the desired pyridine derivative **3ab** in 84% yield was purified through column chromatography over silica gel using a mixture of EtOAc/hexane (1:19, v/v) as the eluent. The product was fully characterized by its spectroscopic data (¹HNMR, ¹³C NMR, and HRMS).

Scheme S1d: The yellowish liquid compound **6a'** (0.2 mmol) was treated with **2b** (0.24 mmol) under standard conditions in an open atmosphere. After usual work-up, the desired pyridine derivative **3ab** in 67% yield was purified through column chromatography over silica gel using a mixture of EtOAc/hexane (1:19, v/v) as the eluent.

Scheme S1e: A mixture of vinyl ketone **5a** (0.2 mmol), ketone **2b** (0.24 mmol) and NH₄OAc (0.5 mmol) was heated at 70 °C for 24 h in an open atmosphere. After that, the desired pyridine derivative **3ab** in 73% yield was isolated by using purification technique as described in Scheme S1c.

1-Phenylprop-2-en-1-one:¹³ Colorless liquid; R_f = 0.66 (EtOAc/Hexane = 10:90); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92-7.90 (m, 2H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 17.1, 10.6 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (dd, *J* = 17.1, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (dd, *J* = 10.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.9, 137.2, 132.9, 132.3, 130.0, 128.6, 128.62 ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): *m/z* [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₉H₈O⁺ 133.0648, found 133.0665.



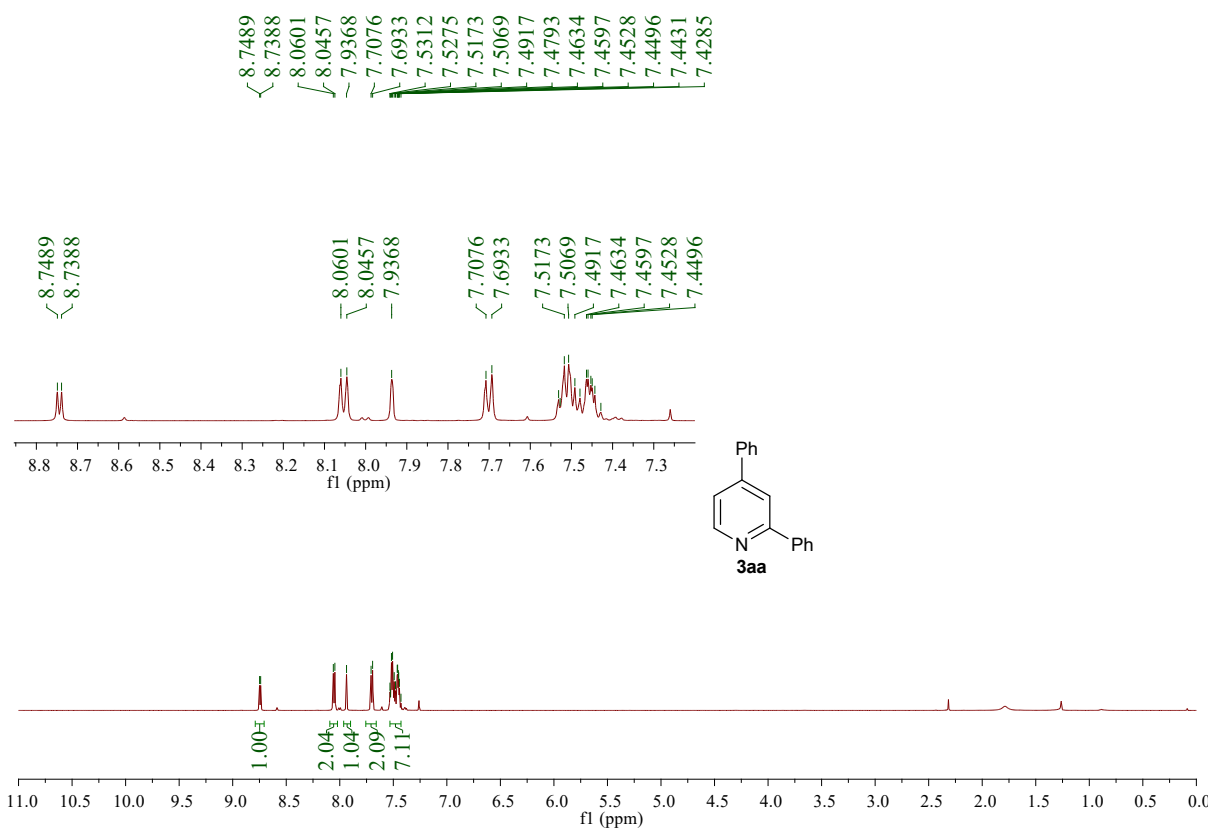
1-Phenylpropanone-3-ammonium acetate (6a): Colorless solid: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.54-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.43-7.46 (m, 2H), 6.23 (br s, 3H), 3.24-3.32 (m, 4H), 1.87 (s, 3H) ppm; HRMS (ESI-TOF): *m/z* [M]⁺ calcd for C₉H₁₂NO⁺ 150.0913, found 150.0918.

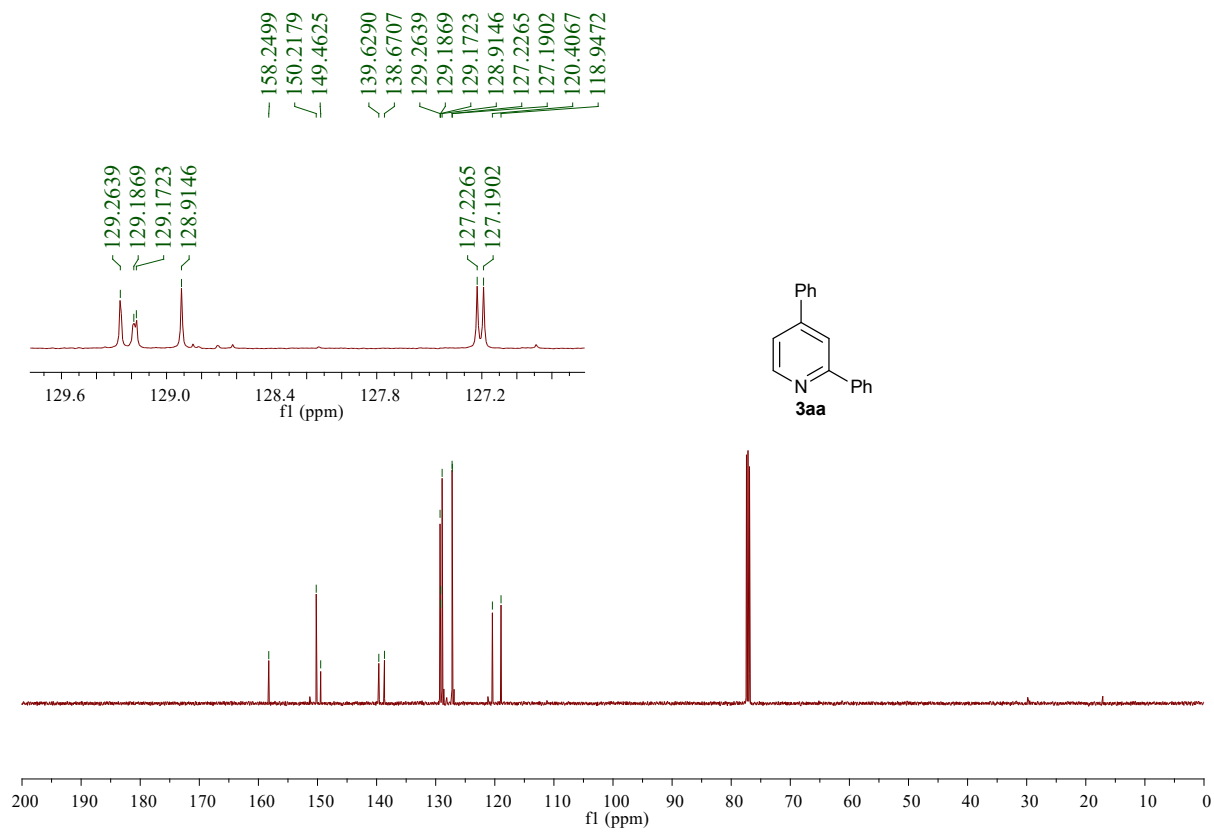
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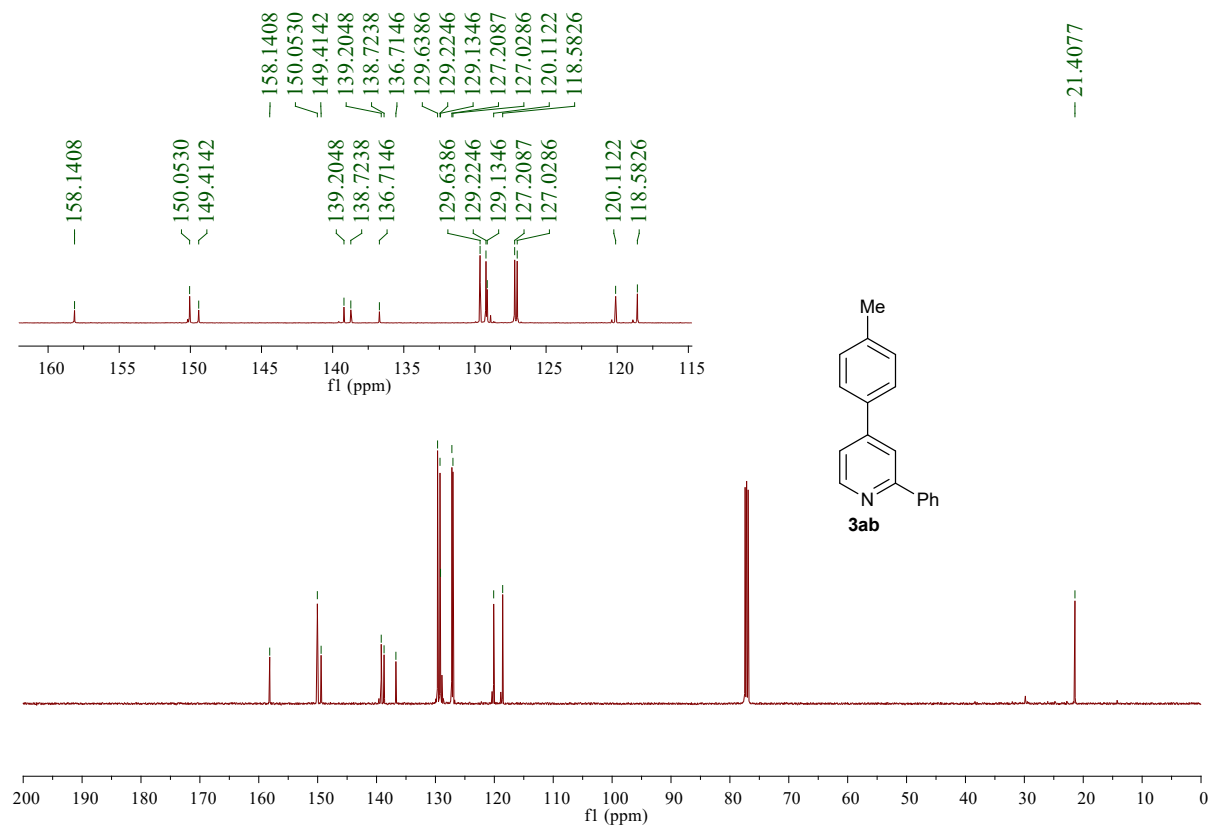
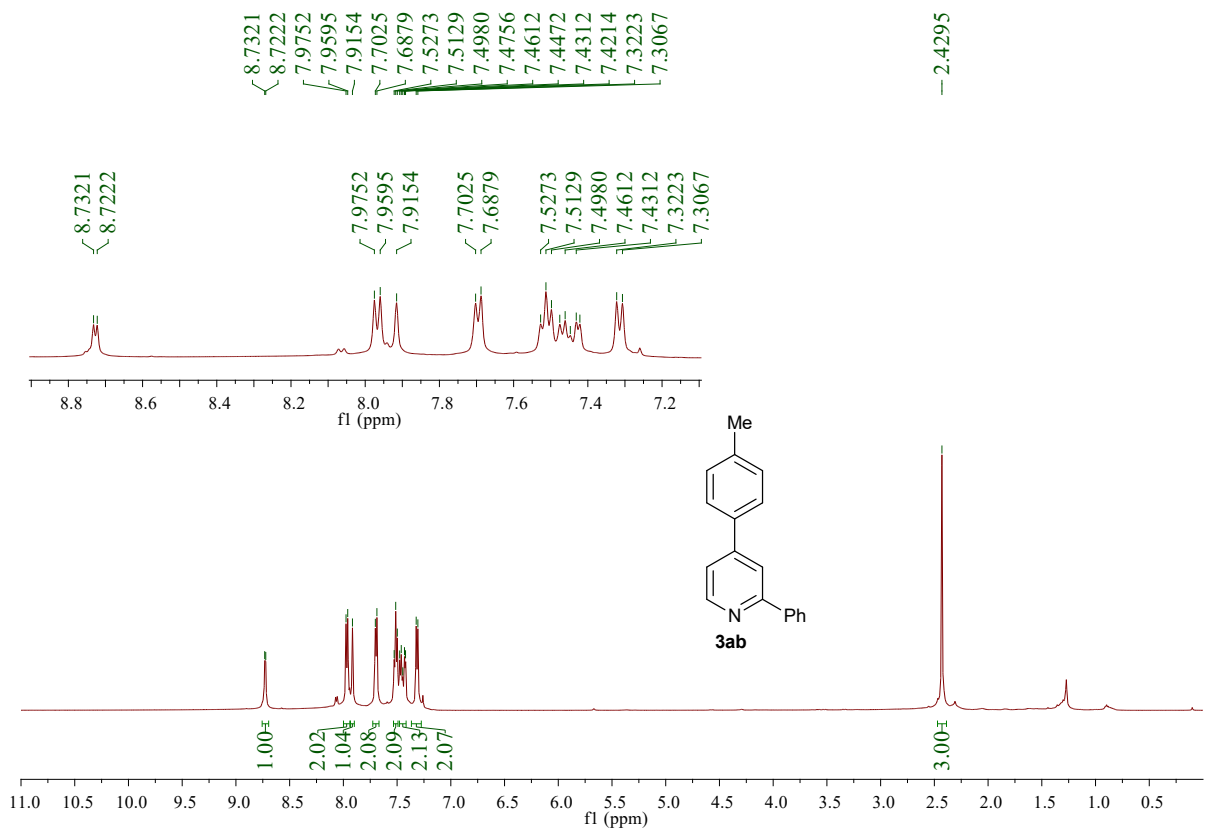
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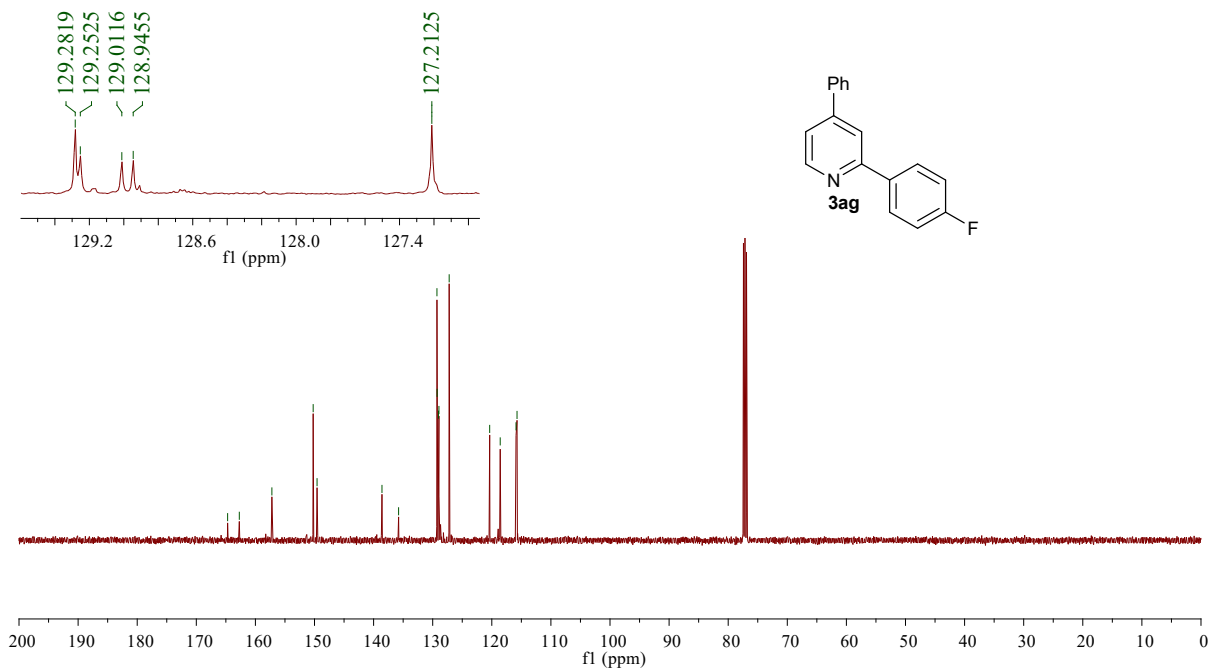
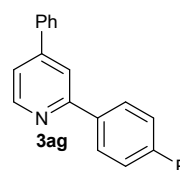
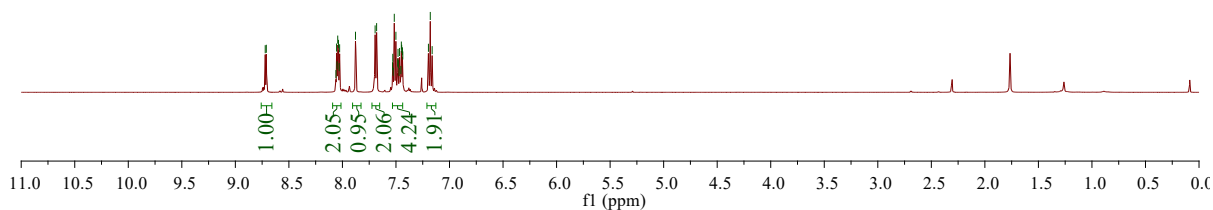
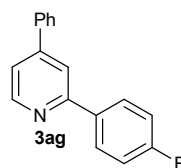
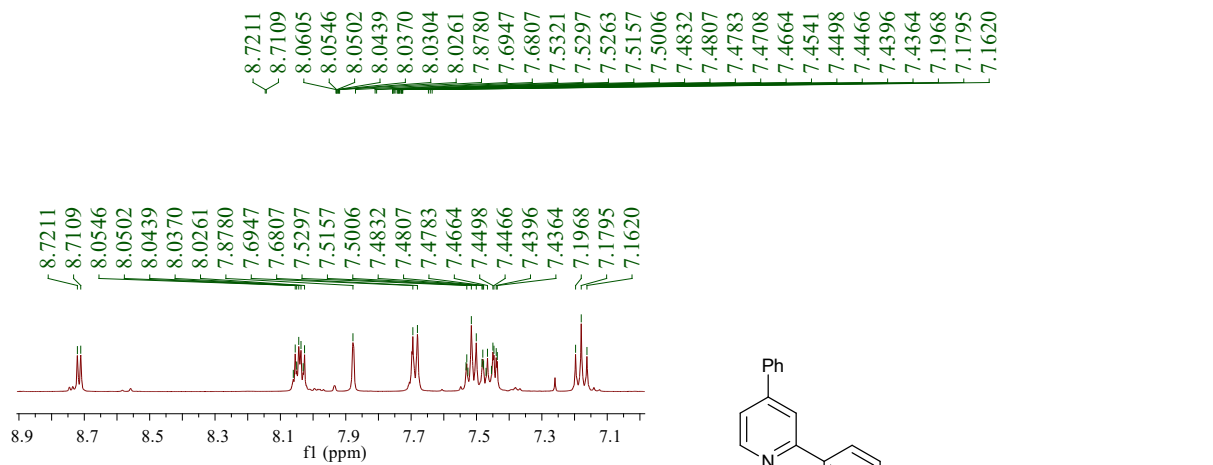
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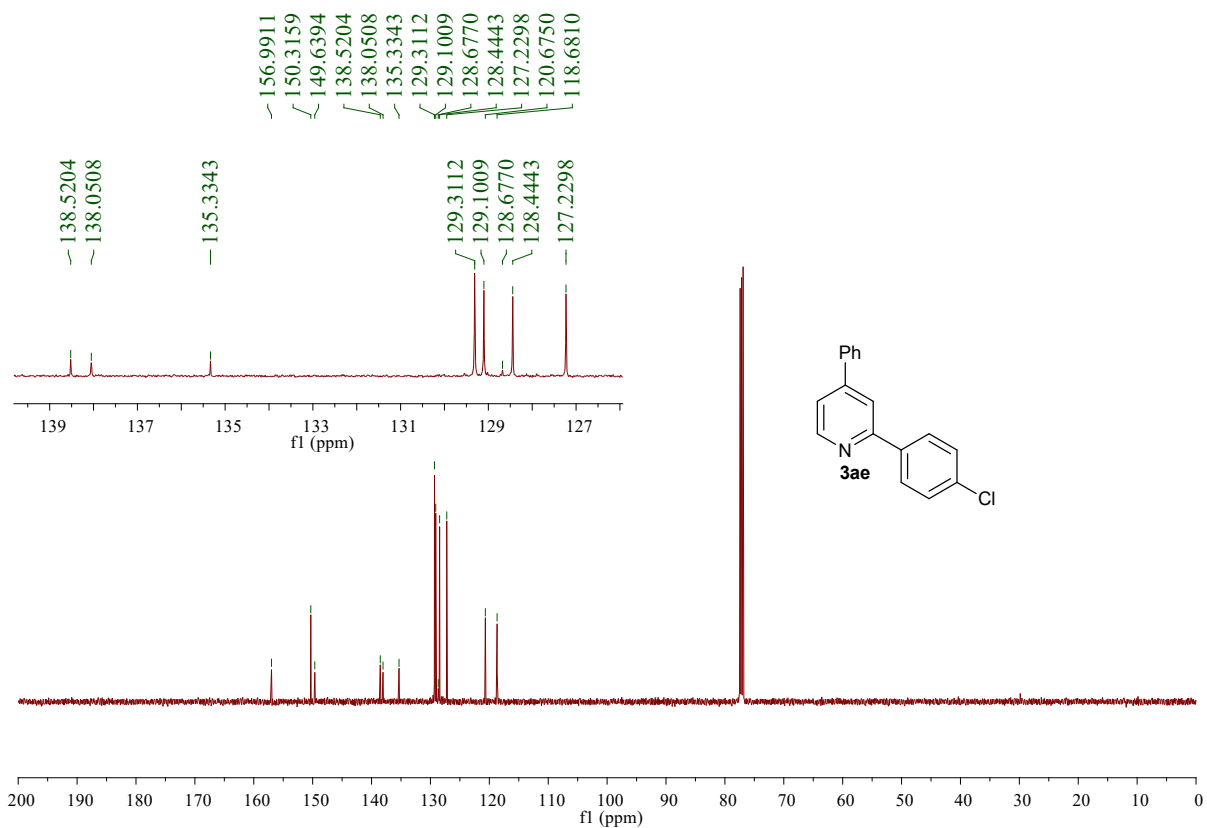
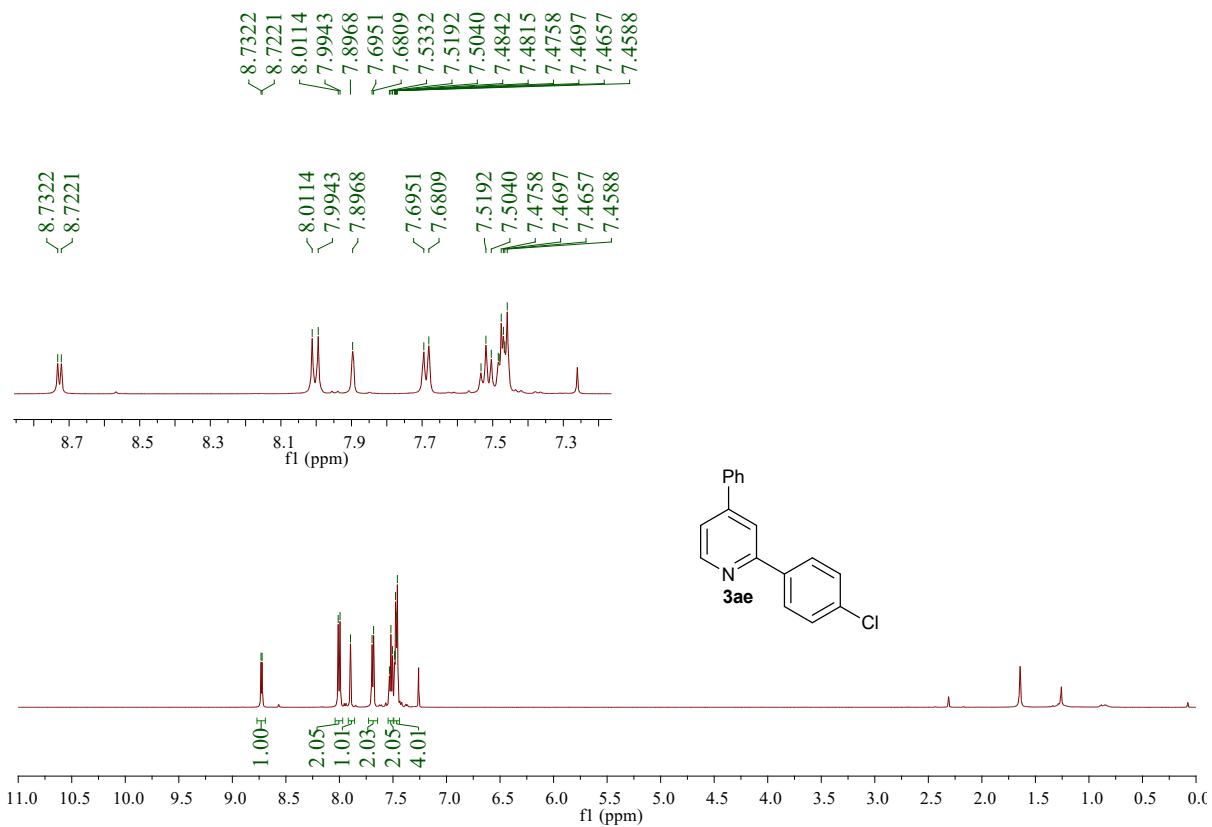
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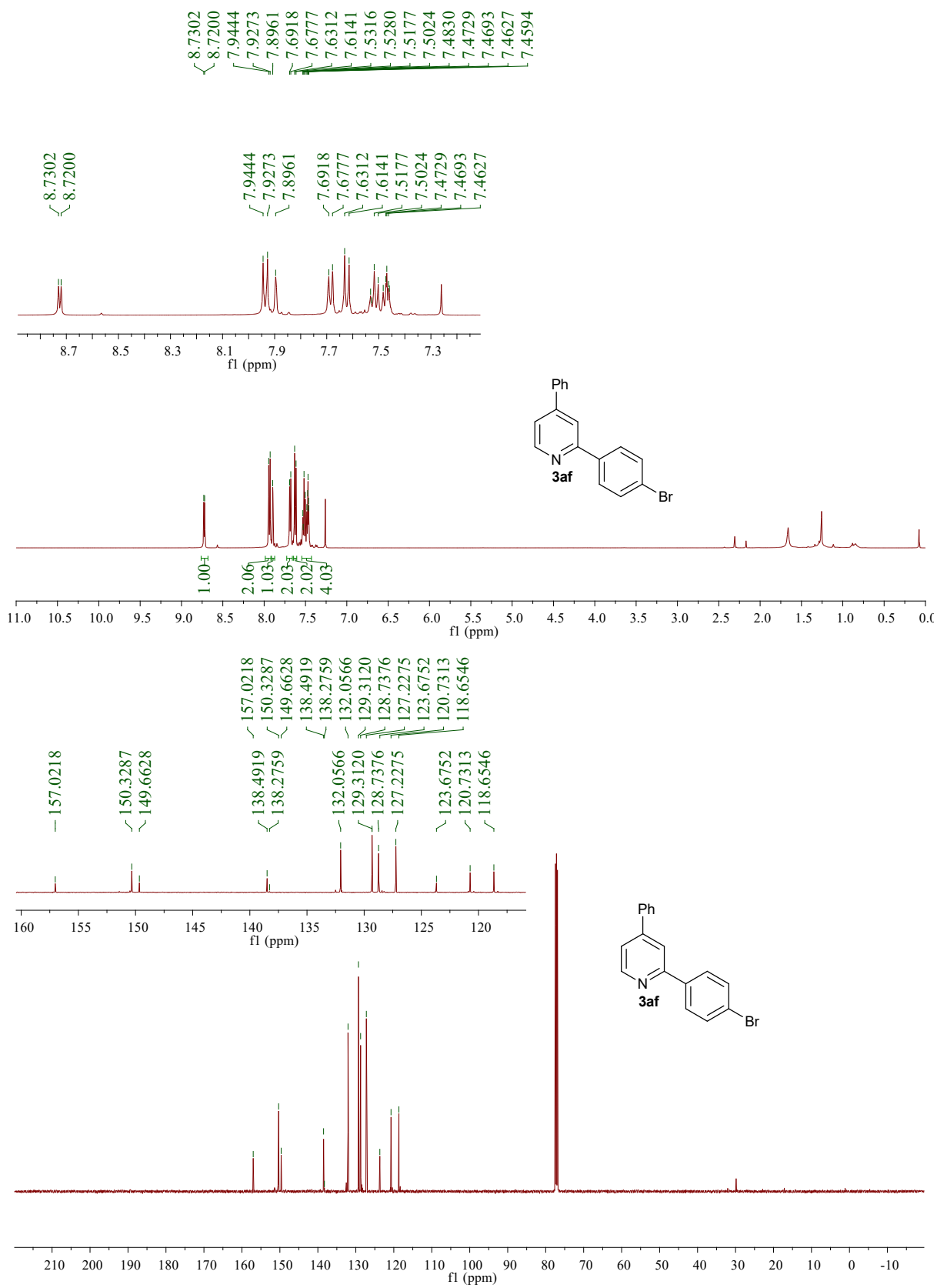


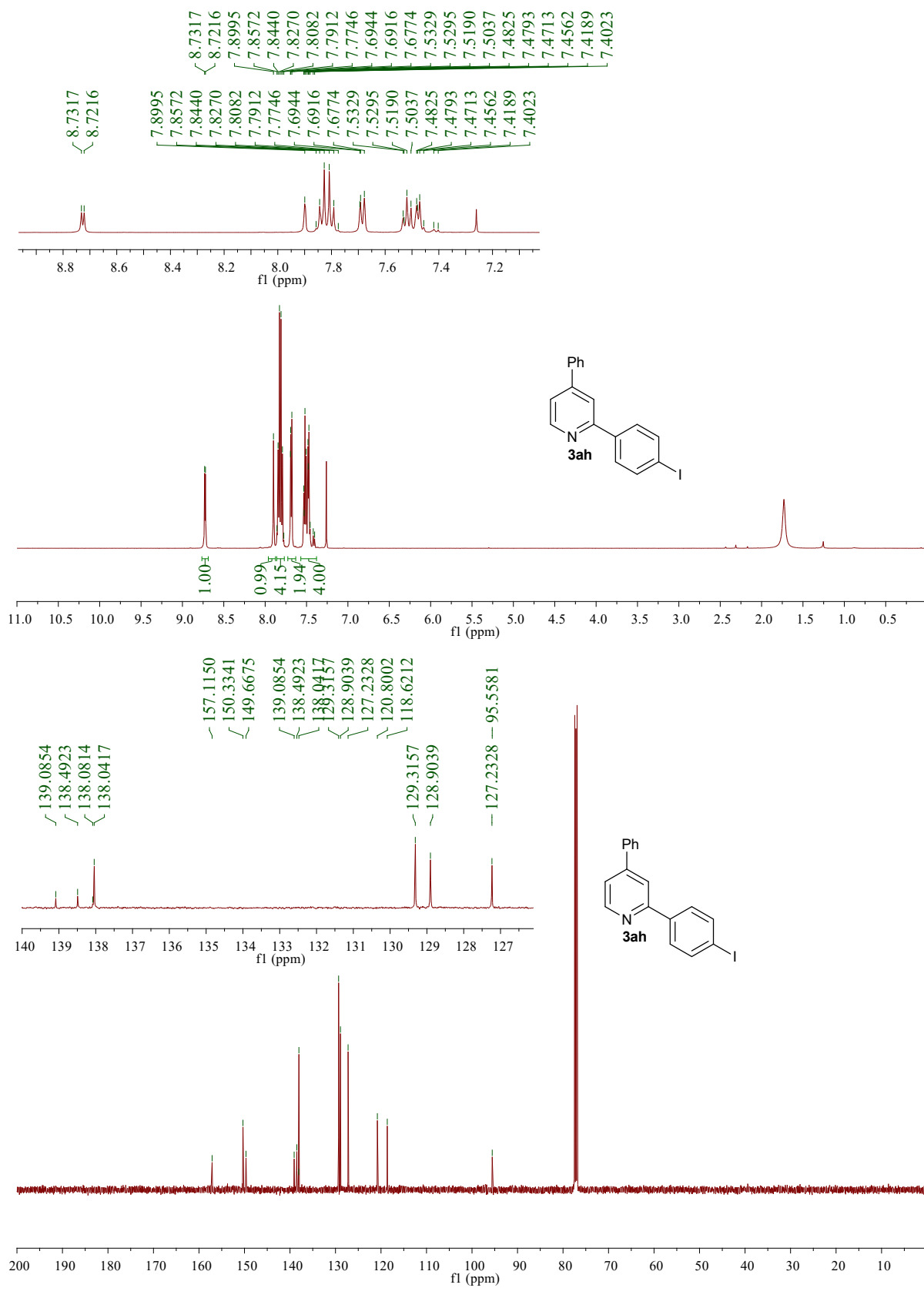


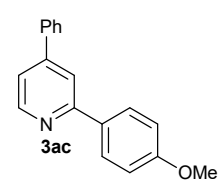
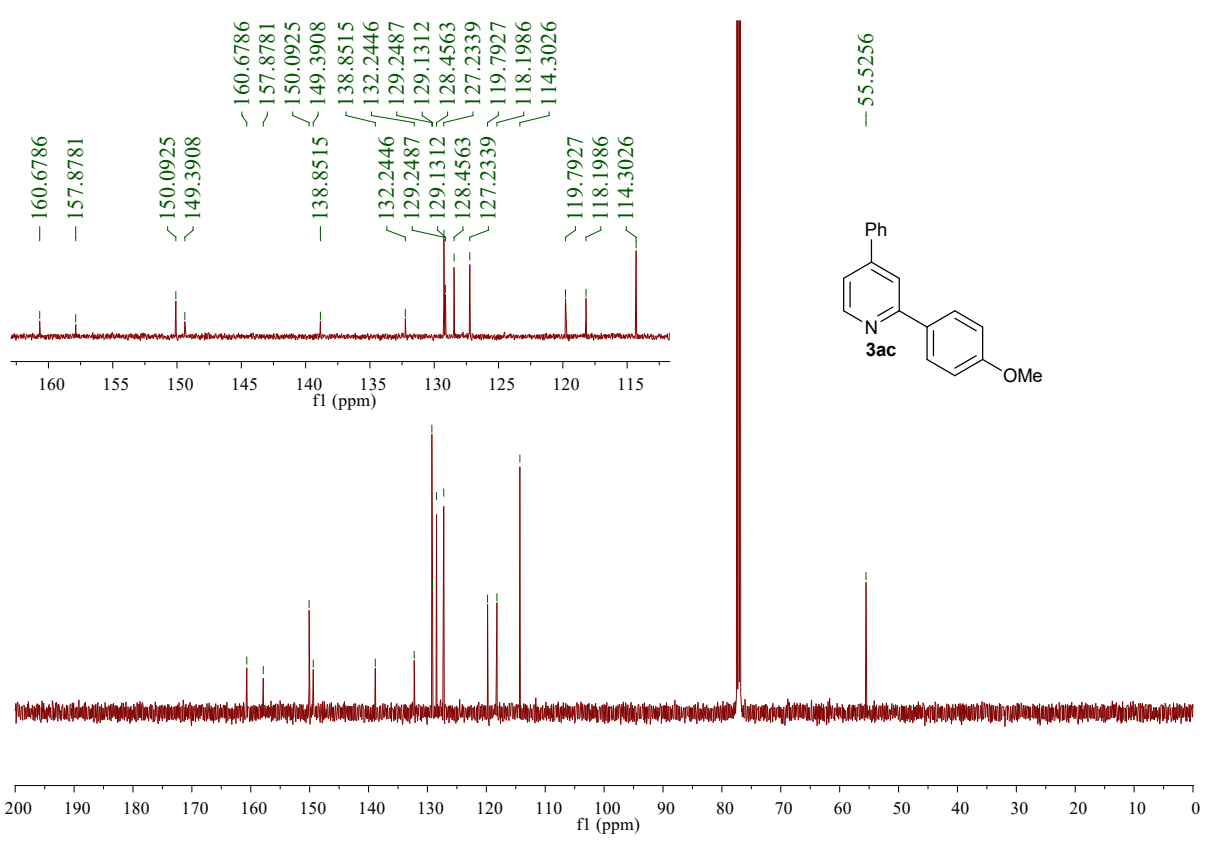
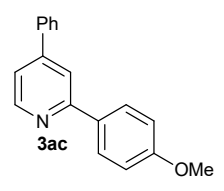
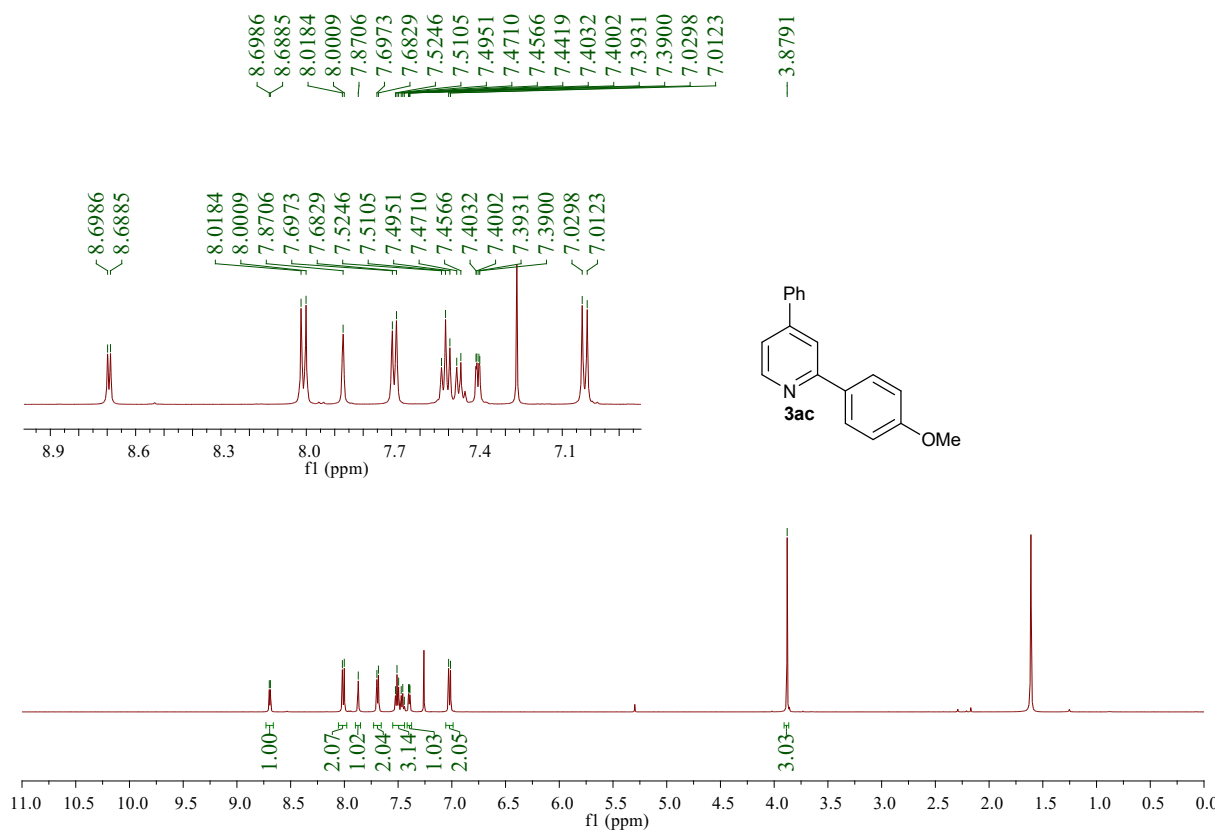












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