

# Supporting Information

## Momentary Clicking Nitrile Synthesis by an Aminoazanium Reagent

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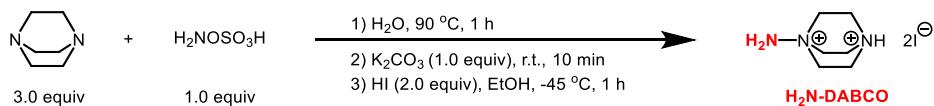
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## General Information

All air and water sensitive reactions were carried out in oven-dried glassware under nitrogen. Toluene was purified using Pure Solv 7-SDS solvent drying system. THF (Superdry, water  $\leq 50.0$  ppm) was purchased from Adamas-beta®.  $^7\text{BuLi}$  (2.5 M in hexane) and  $^6\text{BuLi}$  (1.3 M in pentane) were purchased from *J&K*. Unless otherwise noted, chemicals were purchased from Acros Organics, Alfa Aesar, TCI, Adamas-beta® and *J&K* without further purification. 3-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)propiolaldehyde (**A-43**) was prepared according to the literature.<sup>1</sup> Thin layer chromatography (TLC) employed glass 0.25 mm silica gel plates. Flash chromatography columns were packed with 100-200 mesh silica gel or through SepaBeam™ Machine SPB-3006012. Gas chromatographic analysis were performed on GC-2010 Plus gas chromatography instrument with FID detector and 1-cyanonaphthalene was added as an internal standard. GC-MS spectra were recorded on a GCMS-QP2010 SE. The High Resolution MS analyses were performed on Agilent 6530 Accurate-Mass Q-TOF LC/MS with ESI mode. The  $^1\text{H}$  (400 MHz),  $^{13}\text{C}$  (101 MHz),  $^{19}\text{F}$  (376 MHz) and  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162 MHz) data were recorded on 400 MHz spectrometer using  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  or  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  as solvent. For  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra was recorded with tetramethylsilane ( $\delta = 0.000$  ppm) as the internal reference;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra was recorded with  $\text{CDCl}_3$  ( $\delta = 77.00$  ppm) as the internal reference. For  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra was recorded with  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  ( $\delta = 5.320$  ppm) as the internal reference;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra was recorded with  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  ( $\delta = 53.84$  ppm) as the internal reference. For  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra was recorded with DMSO ( $\delta = 2.500$  ppm) as the internal reference;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra was recorded with DMSO ( $\delta = 39.52$  ppm) as the internal reference.

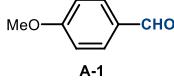
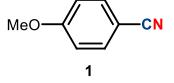
## Modified Synthetic Procedure for $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$



$\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  was synthesized according to our previous procedure with modifications.<sup>2</sup> To a 500 mL round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was added a solution of DABCO (168.3 g, 1.5 mol) in water (200 mL). Subsequently, a solution of  $\text{H}_2\text{NOSO}_3\text{H}$  (56.6 g, 0.5 mol) in water (100 mL) was added dropwise within 5 min. Then the mixture was heated at  $90^\circ\text{C}$  for 1 hour. Upon completion, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, and  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (69.1 g, 0.5 mol) was added. The resulting

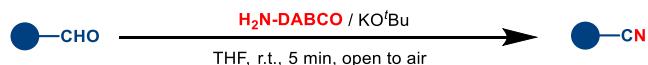
mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min. Then, the solvent was removed by vacuum-rotary evaporation, and the crude residue was washed by THF for 5 times (5 x 600 mL) to remove the excess DABCO. The residue was dissolved in 300 mL EtOH, followed by the filtration of  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ . The solution was cooled to -45 °C. Subsequently, 140 mL hydriodic acid (224.4 g, 1.0 mol, 57 wt.%) was added dropwise to the solution at -45 °C with stirring for 1 hour. Upon completion, the pale-yellow precipitate was filtrated and washed by cold EtOH to afford the desired product as a white powder (153.4 g, 80% yield).

### Reaction Parameters for the Synthesis of Nitriles from Aldehydes

|  <b>A-1</b> |                    |  <b>1</b> |              |            |                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|------------------------------|
| Entry                                                                                        | Solvent            | Base (x equiv)                                                                               | Temp.        | Time (min) | Yield <sup>a</sup>           |
| 1                                                                                            | THF                | none                                                                                         | 25 °C        | 30         | n.d.                         |
| 2                                                                                            | THF                | KO <i>i</i> Bu (1.0)                                                                         | 25 °C        | 30         | trace                        |
| 3                                                                                            | THF                | KO <i>i</i> Bu (1.5)                                                                         | 25 °C        | 30         | 37%                          |
| 4                                                                                            | THF                | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | <b>25 °C</b> | <b>2</b>   | <b>96% (91%)<sup>b</sup></b> |
| 5                                                                                            | THF                | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | <b>25 °C</b> | <b>5</b>   | <b>96%</b>                   |
| 6                                                                                            | THF                | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | -60 °C       | 5          | 49%                          |
| 7                                                                                            | THF                | KO <i>i</i> Bu (3.0)                                                                         | -60 °C       | 5          | 90%                          |
| 8                                                                                            | CH <sub>3</sub> OH | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | 25 °C        | 5          | 7%                           |
| 9                                                                                            | EtOH               | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | 25 °C        | 5          | 52%                          |
| 10                                                                                           | <i>i</i> PrOH      | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | <b>25 °C</b> | <b>5</b>   | <b>94%</b>                   |
| 11                                                                                           | <i>t</i> BuOH      | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | <b>25 °C</b> | <b>5</b>   | <b>92%</b>                   |
| 12                                                                                           | DMF                | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | 25 °C        | 5          | 31%                          |
| 13                                                                                           | DMAc               | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | 25 °C        | 5          | 80%                          |
| 14                                                                                           | Toluene            | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | 25 °C        | 5          | 42%                          |
| 15                                                                                           | CH <sub>3</sub> CN | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | 25 °C        | 5          | 52%                          |
| 16                                                                                           | Et <sub>2</sub> O  | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | 25 °C        | 5          | 11%                          |
| 17                                                                                           | DCM                | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | 25 °C        | 5          | 26%                          |
| 18                                                                                           | DMSO               | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | 25 °C        | 5          | 45%                          |
| 19                                                                                           | Dioxane            | KO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                         | 25 °C        | 5          | 60%                          |
| 20                                                                                           | THF                | K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (2.0)                                                         | 25 °C        | 5          | N.R.                         |
| 21                                                                                           | THF                | KOH (2.0)                                                                                    | 25 °C        | 5          | N.R.                         |
| 22                                                                                           | THF                | K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> (2.0)                                                         | 25 °C        | 5          | N.R.                         |
| 23                                                                                           | THF                | NaOEt (2.0)                                                                                  | 25 °C        | 5          | 60%                          |
| 24                                                                                           | THF                | NaO <i>i</i> Bu (2.0)                                                                        | 25 °C        | 5          | 75%                          |

Conditions: **A-1** (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), Solvent (2.0 mL), open to air. <sup>a</sup> Yield was determined by GC analysis with 1-cyanonaphthalene as the internal standard. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield.

## General Procedure A: Synthesis of Nitriles from Aldehydes



To a 15 mL vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was added H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL) in air. The reaction mixture was stirred for 5 min before adding aldehyde (0.25 mmol). Then the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 5 min. Upon completion, the crude mixture was quenched by saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography through silica gel and eluted with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to afford the desired nitrile. Products **2-66** in Fig. 2 were prepared according to this procedure.

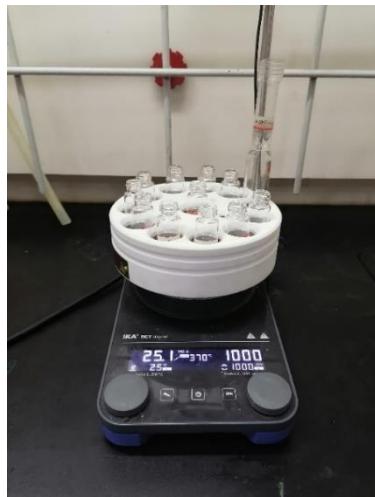
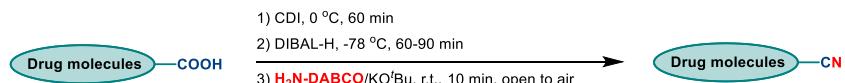


Figure S1. Reaction Setup for Procedure A

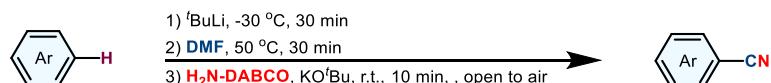
## General Procedure B: Synthesis of Nitriles from Carboxylic Acids



To a 25 mL flame-dried resealable reaction tube of solvent flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was added carboxylic acid (0.50 mmol) and anhydrous dichloromethane (3.0 mL) under nitrogen. The solution was cooled to 0 °C. Then, 1,1'-carbonyldiimidazole (CDI, 0.75 mmol) was added. After stirring for 60 min, the reaction mixture was cooled to -78 °C for 15 min. Subsequently, DIBAL-H solution (2.0

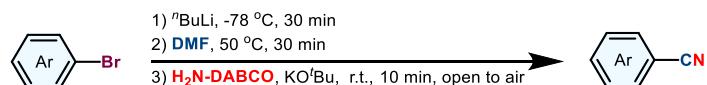
mmol, 1.0 M in hexane) was added dropwise with a syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C until completion with the indication by TLC (60 - 90 min). The resulting solution was added to the pre-prepared mixture (stirred for 5 min) of H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (5.0 mmol) and THF (10 mL) in a 40 mL vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min. Upon completion, the crude mixture was quenched by saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography through silica gel and eluted with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to afford the desired nitriles. Products **67-72** in Fig. 3A were prepared according to this procedure.

### General Procedure C: Synthesis of Nitriles from Aromatics



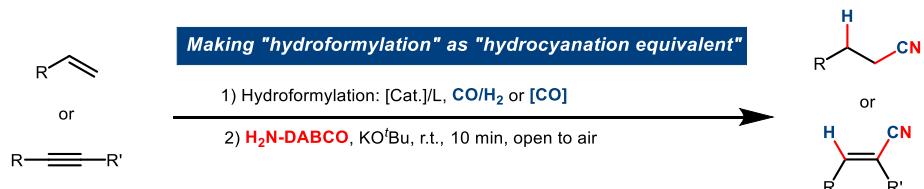
To a 25 mL flame-dried resealable reaction tube of solvent flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was added aromatic compound (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL) under nitrogen. The tube was sealed with Teflon screw cap and the reaction mixture was cooled to -30 °C. Subsequently,  $^t\text{BuLi}$  (0.60 mmol, 1.3 M in pentane) was added to the mixture at this temperature and the resulting solution was stirred for 30 min before adding DMF (0.75 mmol). Then, the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at 50 °C. The resulting solution was added to the pre-prepared mixture (stirred for 5 min) of H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL) in a 25 mL vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min. Upon completion, the crude mixture was quenched by saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 10.0 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography through silica gel and eluted with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to afford the desired nitriles. Products **26, 27, 73-79** in Fig. 3B were prepared according to this procedure.

### General Procedure D: Synthesis of Nitriles from Aryl Bromides



To a 25 mL flame-dried resealable reaction tube of solvent flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was added aryl bromide (0.50 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and THF (2.0 mL) under nitrogen. The tube was sealed with Teflon screw cap and the reaction mixture was cooled to -78 °C. Subsequently, <sup>7</sup>BuLi (1.2 equiv, 1.3 M in pentane) or <sup>6</sup>BuLi (1.1 ~ 3.3 equiv, 2.5 M in hexane) was added to the mixture at -78 °C and the resulting solution was stirred for 30 min before adding DMF (1.5 ~ 4.5 equiv). Then, the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at 50 °C. The resulting solution was added to the pre-prepared mixture (stirred for 5 min) of H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (1.5 ~ 4.5 equiv), KO<sup>7</sup>Bu (3.0 ~ 9.0 equiv) and THF (4.0 mL) in a 25 mL vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min. Upon completion, the crude mixture was quenched by saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography through silica gel and eluted with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to afford the desired nitriles. Products **2**, **4**, **33**, **34**, **80-93** in Fig. 3C were prepared according to this procedure.

### General Procedure E: Synthesis of nitriles from alkenes and alkynes

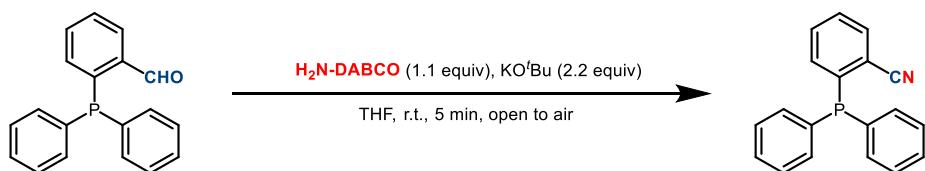


The hydroformylation of **HF-1** – **HF-9** was according to the literature,<sup>3</sup> the hydroformylation of **HF-10** was according to the literature,<sup>4</sup> the hydroformylation of **HF-11** was according to the literature<sup>5</sup> and the hydroformylation of **HF-12** was according to the literature.<sup>6</sup>

Synthesis of nitriles **44**, **94-101** by the “Hydrocyanation”: In a glove box, to a glass tube equipped with a magnetic bar was added Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mol%), BISBI (2.2 mol%) and toluene (0.5 mL). After stirring for 10 min, alkene (0.50 mmol) was charged to the reaction mixture. The glass tube was transferred into an autoclave and taken out of the glovebox. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with CO/H<sub>2</sub> (1:1, 10 bar). The reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 12 hours. After the completion of the reaction, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. The resulting solution was added to the pre-prepared mixture (stirred for 5 min) of KO<sup>7</sup>Bu (1.20 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.60 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL) in a 25 mL vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. The

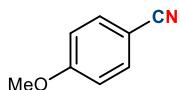
resulting mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min. Upon completion, the crude mixture was quenched by saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and extracted by ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 10 \text{ mL}$ ). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography through silica gel and eluted with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to afford the desired nitriles. Products **44**, **94-101** in Fig. 3D were prepared according to this procedure.

### Gram-Scale Synthesis of 2-(Diphenylphosphaneyl)benzonitrile (**38**)

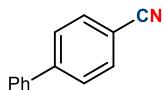


To a 250 mL round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was added H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (22.0 mmol), KO'Bu (44.0 mmol) and THF (100 mL) in air. The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min before adding 2-(diphenylphosphanoyl)benzaldehyde (**A-38**, 20.0 mmol). Then the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 5 min. Upon completion, the crude mixture was quenched by saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and extracted by ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 50 \text{ mL}$ ). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give 5.34 g (93% yield) of the desired product **38** as a white solid.

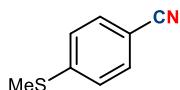
## Detailed Descriptions for Products



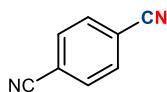
**4-Methoxybenzonitrile (1).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 61-62 °C, 30.1 mg, 96% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.8, 133.9, 119.2, 114.7, 103.9, 55.5 ppm.



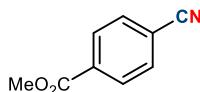
**[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-carbonitrile (2).**<sup>8</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using [1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 83-85 °C, 42.9 mg, 96% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.73 – 7.66 (m, 4H), 7.59 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.40 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 145.6, 139.1, 132.5, 129.0, 128.6, 127.7, 127.2, 118.9, 110.8 ppm.



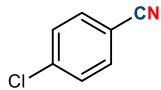
**4-(Methylthio)benzonitrile (3).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4-(methylthio)benzaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 61-63 °C, 33.5 mg, 90% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 146.1, 132.1, 125.4, 118.9, 107.5, 14.6 ppm.



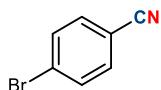
**Terephthalonitrile (4).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4-formylbenzonitrile (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 219-221 °C, 27.2 mg, 85% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.08 (s, 4H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 133.3, 117.6, 115.8 ppm.



**Methyl-4-cyanobenzoate (5).**<sup>9</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using methyl-4-formylbenzoate (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.28 mmol), KO'Bu (0.55 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 65-68 °C, 31.4 mg, 78% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.16 – 8.13 (m, 2H), 7.77 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 3.97 (s, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 165.4, 133.9, 132.2, 130.1, 117.9, 116.3, 52.7 ppm.

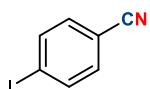


**4-Chlorobenzonitrile (6).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4-chlorobenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 93-95 °C, 28.2 mg, 82% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 139.3, 133.2, 129.5, 117.8, 110.6 ppm.

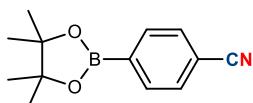


**4-Bromobenzonitrile (7).**<sup>9</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4-bromobenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL).

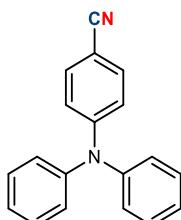
Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 112-114 °C, 38.6 mg, 85% yield.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.66 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 2H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  133.4, 132.6, 128.0, 118.0, 111.2 ppm.



**4-Iodobenzonitrile (8).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4-iodobenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 122-125 °C, 48.2 mg, 84% yield.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.86 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  138.4, 133.1, 118.2, 111.7, 100.3 ppm.

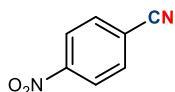


**4-(4,4,5,5-Tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)benzonitrile (9).**<sup>10</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)benzaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.55 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (1.10 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 96-97 °C, 49.8 mg, 87% yield.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.89 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (s, 12H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  135.0, 131.0, 118.7, 114.5, 84.4, 24.8 ppm.

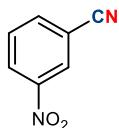


**4-(Diphenylamino)benzonitrile (10).**<sup>11</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4-(diphenylamino)benzaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF

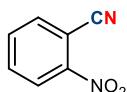
(2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 125-126 °C, 64.2 mg, 95% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.42 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.15 (m, 6H), 6.99 – 6.92 (m, 2H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  151.5, 145.9, 133.1, 129.7, 126.1, 125.1, 119.6, 102.4 ppm.



**4-Nitrobenzonitrile (11).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 143-146 °C, 31.2 mg, 84% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.39 – 8.35 (m, 2H), 7.92 – 7.89 (m, 2H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  150.0, 133.4, 124.3, 118.3, 116.8 ppm.

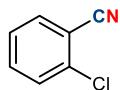


**3-Nitrobenzonitrile (12).**<sup>10</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 3-nitrobenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a yellow solid, m.p. 113-115 °C, 29.5 mg, 80% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.55 – 8.54 (m, 1H), 8.51 – 8.48 (m, 1H), 8.03 – 8.01 (m, 1H), 7.78 – 7.74 (m, 1H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  148.2, 137.6, 130.6, 127.5, 127.2, 116.5, 114.1 ppm.

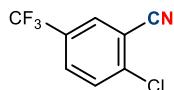


**2-Nitrobenzonitrile (13).**<sup>9</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 2-nitrobenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 107-109 °C, 37.1 mg, 90% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,

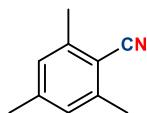
$\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.38 – 8.34 (m, 1H), 7.97 – 7.93 (m, 1H), 7.89 – 7.84 (m, 2H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  148.5, 135.6, 134.3, 133.7, 125.5, 114.9, 108.0 ppm.



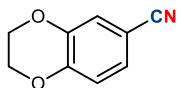
**2-Chlorobenzonitrile (14).**<sup>12</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 2-chlorobenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 43–44 °C, 30.0 mg, 87% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.69 – 7.63 (m, 1H), 7.62 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.40 (m, 1H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  136.7, 133.9, 133.8, 130.0, 127.1, 115.9, 113.3 ppm.



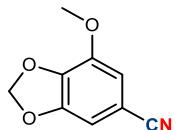
**2-Chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzonitrile (15).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 2-chloro-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 48.8 mg, 95% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.95 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  140.5, 130.8, 130.7, 130.4 (q,  $J$  = 3.0 Hz), 129.7 (q,  $J$  = 34.3 Hz), 122.5 (q,  $J$  = 273.7 Hz), 114.4, 114.1 ppm;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -63.10 ppm.



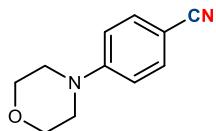
**2,4,6-Trimethylbenzonitrile (16).**<sup>10</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 2,4,6-trimethylbenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 54–56 °C, 33.3 mg, 92% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.93 (s, 2H), 2.48 (s, 6H), 2.32 (s, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  142.8, 142.0, 128.2, 117.6, 110.3, 21.6, 20.6 ppm.



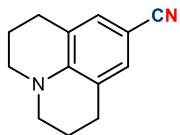
**2,3-Dihydrobenzo[b][1,4]dioxine-6-carbonitrile (17).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 2,3-dihydrobenzo[b][1,4]dioxine-6-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.28 mmol), KO'Bu (0.55 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 103-105 °C, 38.2 mg, 95% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.15 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 6.93 – 6.90 (m, 1H), 4.34 – 4.31 (m, 2H), 4.30 – 4.27 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 147.7, 143.7, 125.8, 121.2, 118.8, 118.2, 104.4, 64.5, 64.0 ppm.



**7-Methoxybenzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carbonitrile (18).**<sup>13</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 7-methoxybenzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.28 mmol), KO'Bu (0.55 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 5 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 115-116 °C, 93% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 6.88 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 149.6, 144.4, 140.2, 119.2, 113.6, 106.4, 105.4, 103.2, 57.3 ppm.



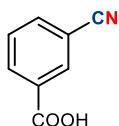
**4-Morpholinobenzonitrile (19).**<sup>10</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4-morpholinobenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.28 mmol), KO'Bu (0.80 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 82-83 °C, 42.1 mg, 89% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 6.89 – 6.85 (m, 2H), 3.86 – 3.84 (m, 4H), 3.29 – 3.27 (m, 4H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 153.4, 133.4, 119.8, 114.0, 100.8, 66.4, 47.2 ppm.



**2,3,6,7-Tetrahydro-1*H*,5*H*-pyrido[3,2-*i,j*]quinoline-9-carbonitrile (20).** Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1*H*,5*H*-pyrido[3,2-*i,j*]quinoline-9-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.28 mmol), KO'Bu (0.80 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 115–117 °C, 48.5 mg, 98% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.99 (s, 2H), 3.24 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 4H), 2.69 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 4H), 1.96 – 1.90 (m, 4H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 145.7, 130.5, 121.2, 120.8, 95.5, 49.7, 27.4, 21.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 199.1230; found: 199.1232.

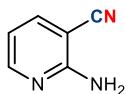


**4-Hydroxy-3-methoxybenzonitrile (21).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.63 mmol), KO'Bu (1.25 mmol) and THF (5.0 mL) + DMF (1.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 2 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 85–87 °C, 28.0 mg, 75% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 150.0, 146.7, 126.7, 119.1, 115.2, 113.8, 102.7, 56.0 ppm.

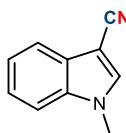


**3-Cyanobenzoic acid (22).**<sup>14</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 3-formylbenzoic acid (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.63 mmol), KO'Bu (1.25 mmol) and THF (5.0 mL) + DMF (1.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 2 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 221–222 °C, 30.2 mg, 82% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 13.55 (s, 1H), 8.31 – 8.23 (m, 2H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.78 –

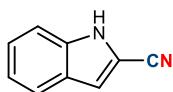
7.74 (m, 1H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 165.7, 136.2, 133.7, 132.8, 132.2, 130.0, 118.1, 112.0 ppm.



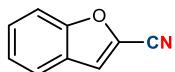
**2-Aminonicotinonitrile (23).**<sup>15</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 2-aminonicotinaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.28 mmol), KO'Bu (0.55 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 5 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 127-139 °C, 28.8 mg, 97% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.19 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (s, 2H), 6.63 (m, 1H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.0, 153.2, 142.2, 117.0, 112.0, 89.2 ppm.



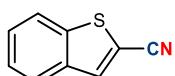
**1-Methyl-1H-indole-3-carbonitrile (24).**<sup>16</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 1-methyl-1H-indole-3-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.28 mmol), KO'Bu (0.80 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 35.9 mg, 92% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.74 – 7.72 (m, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.39 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 135.9, 135.5, 127.7, 123.7, 122.0, 119.7, 115.9, 110.3, 85.2, 33.5 ppm.



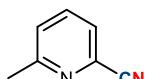
**1H-indole-2-carbonitrile (25).**<sup>17</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 1H-indole-2-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.28 mmol), KO'Bu (0.80 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, 33.8 mg, 95% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.00 (s, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.12 (m, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 136.9, 126.2, 126.1, 122.0, 121.6, 114.4, 111.8(1), 111.8(0), 105.9 ppm.



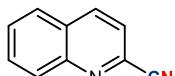
**Benzofuran-2-carbonitrile (26).**<sup>10</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using benzofuran-2-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 35.8 mg, 84% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 7.18 – 7.16 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.7, 128.4, 127.3, 125.5, 124.5, 122.5, 118.4, 112.1, 111.8 ppm.



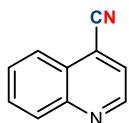
**Benzo[b]thiophene-2-carbonitrile (27).**<sup>18</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using benzo[b]thiophene-2-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 39.8 mg, 87% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.90 – 7.84 (m, 3H), 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.45 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.3, 137.4, 135.0, 127.8, 125.7, 125.2, 122.3, 114.4, 109.6 ppm.



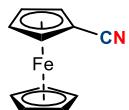
**6-Methylpicolinonitrile (28).**<sup>19</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 6-methylpicolinaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 70-73 °C, 23.1 mg, 78% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.75 – 7.71 (m, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 2.62 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.6, 137.0, 133.1, 126.9, 125.7, 117.4, 24.4 ppm.



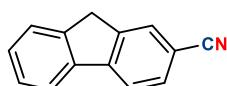
**Quinoline-2-carbonitrile (29).**<sup>18</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using quinoline-2-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 94-96 °C, 36.9 mg, 96% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.32 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.98 – 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.73 – 7.69 (m, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 148.1, 137.4, 133.5, 131.2, 129.9, 129.4, 128.6, 127.7, 123.2, 117.5 ppm.



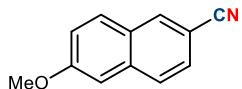
**Quinoline-4-carbonitrile (30).**<sup>18</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using quinoline-4-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 101-103 °C, 36.1 mg, 94% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.06 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.23 – 8.19 (m, 2H), 7.90 – 7.86 (m, 1H), 7.79 – 7.74 (m, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 149.4, 148.1, 131.1, 130.3, 129.2, 125.7, 124.9, 124.8, 118.6, 115.5 ppm.



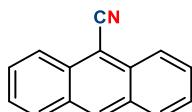
**Ferrocenecarbonitrile (31).**<sup>20</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using ferrocenecarboxaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.28 mmol), KO'Bu (0.55 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 5 : 1) to give a yellow solid, m.p. 106-109 °C, 48.8 mg, 93% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 4.66 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 4.39 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 4.34 (m, 5H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 120.2, 71.7, 70.7, 70.5, 51.8 ppm.



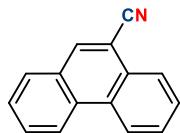
**9H-fluorene-2-carbonitrile (32).**<sup>21</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 9H-fluorene-2-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL), N<sub>2</sub> protection. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 50 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 90-91 °C, 40.1 mg, 85% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.77 – 7.71 (m, 3H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 3.83 (s, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 146.1, 143.8, 143.5, 139.8, 131.0, 128.5, 127.2, 125.2, 120.9, 120.2, 119.6, 109.5, 36.6 ppm.



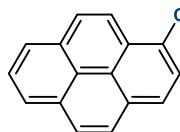
**6-Methoxy-2-naphthonitrile (33).**<sup>22</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 6-methoxy-2-naphthaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 105-106 °C, 42.2 mg, 92% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.78 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.0, 136.4, 133.7, 129.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.0, 120.6, 119.5, 106.7, 105.9, 55.4 ppm.



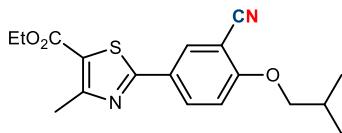
**Anthracene-9-carbonitrile (34).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using anthracene-9-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a yellow solid, m.p. 175-178 °C, 49.5 mg, 98% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.52 (s, 1H), 8.32 – 8.30 (m, 2H), 7.98 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.66 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.53 – 7.49 (m, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 133.1, 132.6, 130.4, 128.8(3), 128.8(0), 126.2, 125.1, 117.2, 105.2 ppm.



**Phenanthrene-9-carbonitrile (35).**<sup>23</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using phenanthrene-9-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 109-111 °C, 48.6 mg, 96% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.63 – 8.58 (m, 2H), 8.25 – 8.21 (m, 1H), 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.86 – 7.83 (m, 1H), 7.77 – 7.68 (m, 3H), 7.65 – 7.61 (m, 1H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 135.5, 131.6, 129.8, 129.7, 129.6, 129.4, 128.7, 128.1, 128.0, 127.5, 125.9, 123.0, 122.7, 117.9, 109.2 ppm.

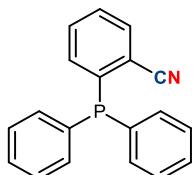


**Pyrene-1-carbonitrile (36).**<sup>10</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using pyrene-1-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a yellow solid, m.p. 148-150 °C, 54.3 mg, 96% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.13 – 8.08 (m, 3H), 8.00 – 7.94 (m, 4H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 133.7, 132.4, 130.4, 130.1(0), 130.0(8), 130.0, 129.1, 126.8, 126.6(9), 126.6(6), 126.5, 124.0, 123.4(2), 123.3(7), 123.0, 118.7, 105.1 ppm.

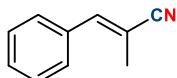


**Ethyl 2-(3-cyano-4-isobutoxyphenyl)-4-methylthiazole-5-carboxylate (37).**<sup>24</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using ethyl 2-(3-formyl-4-isobutoxyphenyl)-4-methylthiazole-5-carboxylate (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 5 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 168-170 °C, 73.2 mg, 85% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.17 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (m, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.36 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (d, *J* =

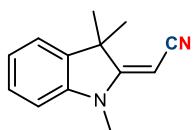
6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.76 (s, 3H), 2.24 – 2.17 (m, 1H), 1.39 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.09 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  167.1, 162.5, 162.0, 161.1, 132.5, 132.0, 126.1, 121.9, 115.3, 112.6, 103.0, 75.7, 61.3, 28.1, 19.0, 17.4, 14.3 ppm.



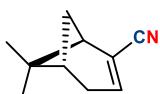
**2-(Diphenylphosphanoyl)benzonitrile (38).**<sup>25</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 2-(diphenylphosphanoyl)benzaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 154–155 °C, 63.9 mg, 89% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.70 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.26 (m, 12H), 7.04 (m, 1H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  143.0 (d,  $J$  = 20.2 Hz), 134.7 (d,  $J$  = 10.1 Hz), 134.0 (d,  $J$  = 20.2 Hz), 133.7 (d,  $J$  = 5.1 Hz), 133.4, 132.3, 129.4, 128.8 (d,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz), 118.1, 117.8, 117.5 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz) ppm;  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -8.46 ppm.



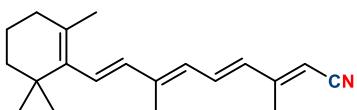
**(E)-2-Methyl-3-phenylacrylonitrile (39).**<sup>26</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using (E)-2-methyl-3-phenylacrylaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.28 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.55 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a yellow oil, 31.8 mg, 89% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.44 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.34 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 2.15 (d,  $J$  = 1.6 Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.4, 134.1, 129.3, 129.2, 128.6, 121.3, 109.6, 16.8 ppm.



**(E)-2-(1,3,3-Trimethylindolin-2-ylidene)acetonitrile (40).**<sup>27</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using (E)-2-(1,3,3-trimethylindolin-2-ylidene)acetaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.28 mmol), KO'Bu (0.80 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1, *E/Z* = 98 : 2) to give a white solid, m.p. 113–116 °C, 45.7 mg, 92% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.25 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.00 – 6.95 (m, 1H), 6.79 – 6.71 (m, 1H), 4.11 – 4.03 (m, 1H), 3.11 (s, 3H), 1.67 (s, 6H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.5, 143.7, 137.7, 127.8, 121.8, 121.6, 120.2, 106.8, 58.1, 46.9, 29.0, 25.7 ppm.

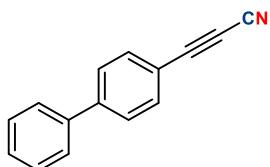


**(1*R*,5*S*)-6,6-Dimethylbicyclo[3.1.1]hept-2-ene-2-carbonitrile (41).**<sup>28</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using (1*R*,5*S*)-6,6-dimethylbicyclo[3.1.1]hept-2-ene-2-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.28 mmol), KO'Bu (0.80 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 27.3 mg, 74% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.57 – 6.56 (m, 1H), 2.53 – 2.38 (m, 4H), 2.19 – 2.14 (m, 1H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 1.27 – 1.24 (m, 1H), 0.89 (s, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 142.1, 120.9, 118.5, 44.5, 39.7, 38.1, 32.6, 31.2, 25.6, 20.9 ppm.

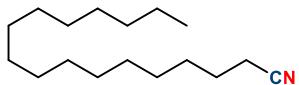


**(2*E*,4*E*,6*E*,8*E*)-3,7-Dimethyl-9-(2,6,6-trimethylcyclohex-1-en-1-yl)nona-2,4,6,8-tetraenonitrile (42).**<sup>29</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using (2*E*,4*E*,6*E*,8*E*)-3,7-dimethyl-9-(2,6,6-trimethylcyclohex-1-en-1-yl)nona-2,4,6,8-tetraenal (0.25 mmol, *E/Z* = 96 : 4), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1, *E/Z* = 94 : 6) to give a yellow oil, 60.3 mg, 86% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.98 – 6.79 (m, 1H), 6.35 – 6.27 (m, 2H), 6.16 – 6.10 (m, 2H), 5.18 (s, 0.94H), 5.07 (s, 0.06H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.04 – 2.01 (m, 5H), 1.72 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 1.65 – 1.59 (m, 2H), 1.49 – 1.46 (m, 2H), 1.03 (s, 6H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101

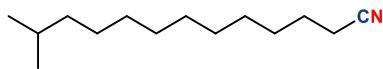
MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  156.9, 141.3, 137.5, 136.9, 132.5, 131.2, 130.4, 129.6, 128.7, 118.2, 96.4, 39.5, 34.2, 33.1, 28.9, 21.7, 19.1, 16.6, 12.9 ppm.



**3-((1,1'-biphenyl)-4-yl)propiolonitrile (43).**<sup>30</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 3-((1,1'-biphenyl)-4-yl)propiolaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and  $^i\text{PrOH}$  (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 98-100 °C, 39.1 mg, 77% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.73 – 7.53 (m, 6H), 7.51 – 7.37 (m, 3H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.6, 139.3, 133.9, 129.0, 128.5, 127.4, 127.1, 116.0, 105.5, 83.1, 63.6 ppm.

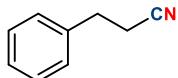


**Heptadecanenitrile (44).**<sup>31</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using heptadecanal (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 50 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 34-35 °C, 46.4 mg, 74% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.33 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 1.69 – 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.33 – 1.21 (m, 26H), 0.88 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  119.8, 31.9, 29.7, 29.6(4), 29.6(3), 29.6(2), 29.6(0), 29.5(5), 29.5, 29.3(2), 29.2(6), 28.7, 28.6, 25.4, 22.7, 17.1, 14.1 ppm.

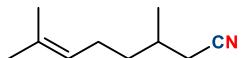


**12-Methyltridecanenitrile (45).**<sup>32</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 12-methyltridecanal (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE) to give a colorless oil, 42.0 mg, 80% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.33 (t,

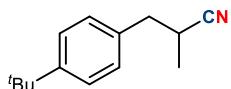
$J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.69 – 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.61 – 1.49 (m, 1H), 1.49 – 1.40 (m, 2H), 1.33 – 1.23 (m, 12H), 1.15 (m, 2H), 0.86 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  119.8, 39.0, 29.8, 29.6, 29.5, 29.3, 28.7, 28.6, 27.9, 27.3, 25.4, 22.6, 17.1 ppm.



**3-Phenylpropanenitrile (46).**<sup>9</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 3-phenylpropanal (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 25.5 mg, 78% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.34 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 2.91 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.57 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  138.0, 128.7, 128.1, 127.1, 119.0, 31.4, 19.1 ppm.

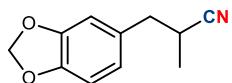


**3,7-Dimethyloct-6-enenitrile (47).**<sup>10</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 3,7-dimethyloct-6-enal (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 26.9 mg, 71% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.09 – 5.05 (m, 1H), 2.36 – 2.21 (m, 2H), 2.04 – 1.98 (m, 2H), 1.91 – 1.82 (m, 1H), 1.69 (d,  $J = 1.2$  Hz, 3H), 1.61 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 3H), 1.51 – 1.42 (m, 1H), 1.39 – 1.30 (m, 1H), 1.09 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  132.2, 123.4, 118.9, 35.8, 29.9, 25.7, 25.2, 24.4, 19.3, 17.7 ppm.

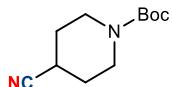


**3-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)-2-methylpropanenitrile (48).**<sup>33</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 3-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)-2-methylpropanal (0.25 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.25 mmol),  $\text{KO}'\text{Bu}$  (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 42.3 mg, 84% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.36 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 2.94 – 2.89 (m,

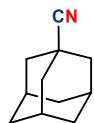
1H), 2.85 – 2.76 (m, 2H), 1.33 – 1.31 (m, 12H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 150.1, 133.8, 128.7, 125.6, 122.7, 39.5, 34.5, 31.3, 27.5, 17.6 ppm.



**3-(Benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-2-methylpropanenitrile (49).**<sup>10</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 3-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-2-methylpropanal (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 40.5 mg, 86% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.78 – 6.76 (m, 1H), 6.71 – 6.67 (m, 2H), 5.94 (s, 2H), 2.86 – 2.72 (m, 3H), 1.32 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 147.8, 146.7, 130.5, 122.4, 122.2, 109.2, 108.3, 101.0, 39.6, 27.7, 17.4 ppm.

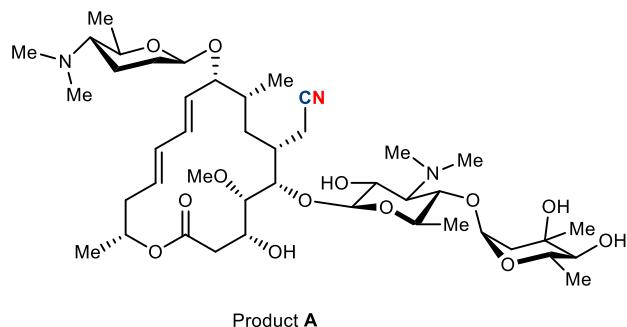


**tert-Butyl 4-cyanopiperidine-1-carboxylate (50).**<sup>34</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using *tert*-butyl-4-formylpiperidine-1-carboxylate (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 49-51 °C, 49.6 mg, 94% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.69 – 3.63 (m, 2H), 3.37 – 3.30 (m, 2H), 2.84 – 2.78 (m, 1H), 1.92 – 1.85 (m, 2H), 1.83 – 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.46 (s, 9H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 154.3, 121.0, 80.0, 41.6, 28.3(3), 28.2(7), 26.2 ppm.

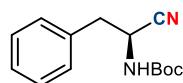


**1-Adamantanecarbonitrile (51).**<sup>20</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using (3*r*,5*r*,7*r*)-adamantane-1-carbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol), KO'Bu (0.50 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 186-187 °C, 38.5 mg, 96%

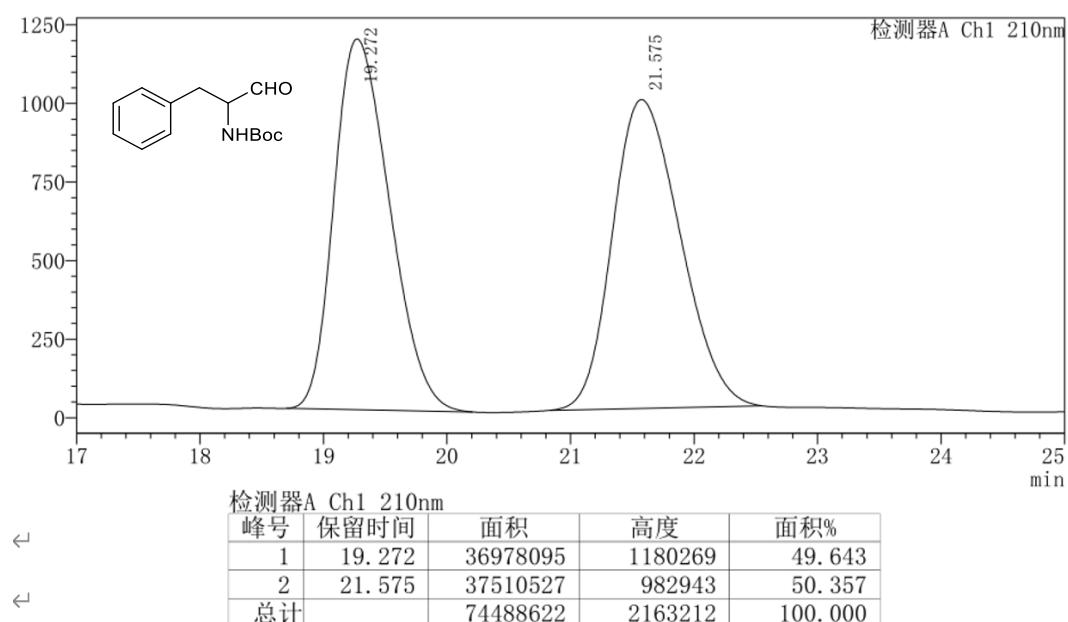
yield. **1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.05 – 2.02 (m, 9H), 1.77 – 1.70 (m, 6H) ppm; **13C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 125.2, 39.8, 35.7, 30.1, 27.0 ppm.

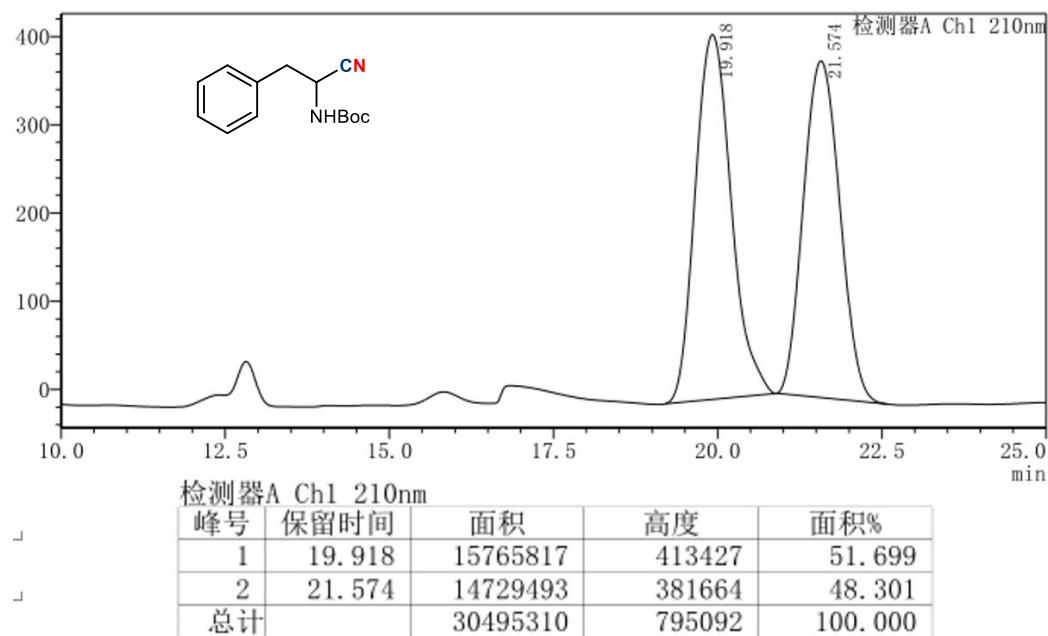
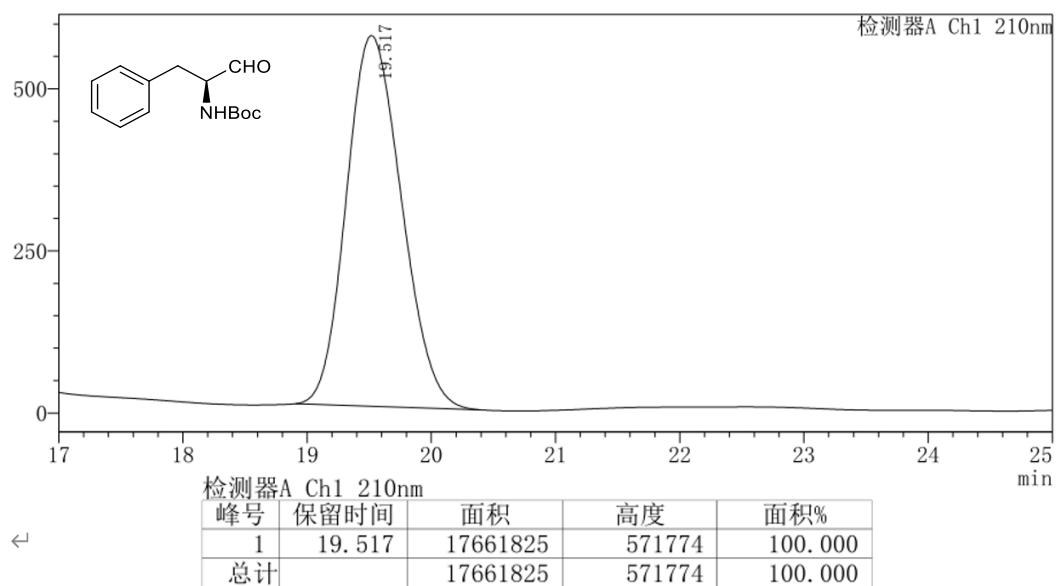


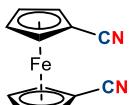
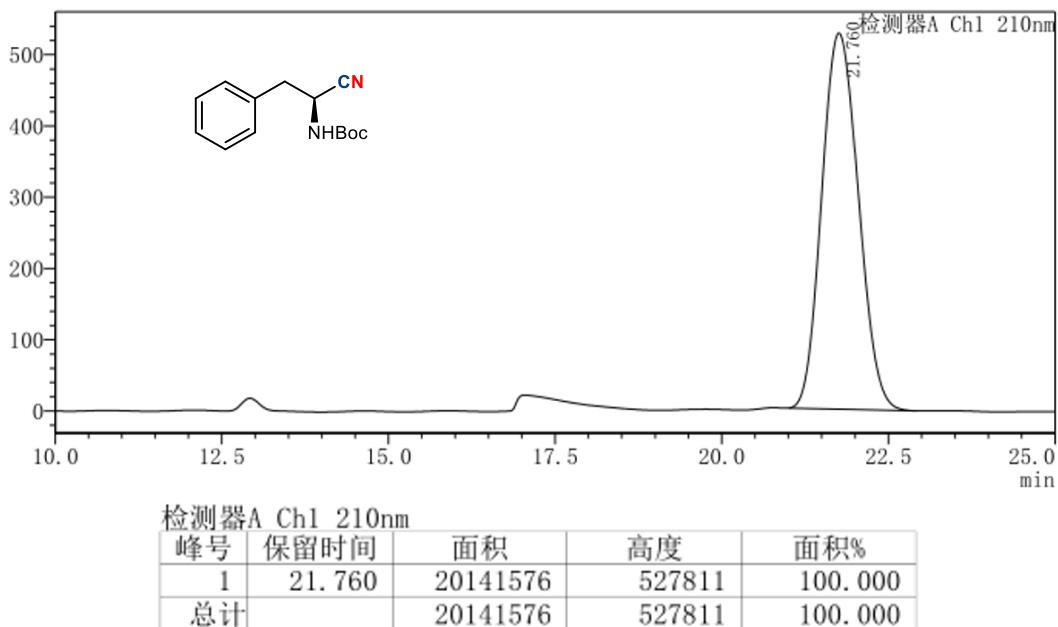
**Product A (52).**<sup>35</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using spiramycin (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.28 mmol), KO'Bu (0.55 mmol) and THF (5.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and the organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EA (2 × 10.0 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with saturated brine (10.0 mL) and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Then solvent was evaporated in vacuum. The crude product was dissolved in 1.0 mL of DCM. Then, 5.0 mL of hexane was added. After 10 min, the by-products were settled on the bottom of the flask. The milk white upper layer was filtered out and concentrated under vacuum to remove solvents to afford purified Product A (white solid), 199.2 mg, 95% yield, [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = -29.8 (c 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). **1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.21 – 6.15 (m, 1H), 6.03 – 5.89 (m, 1H), 5.66 – 5.60 (m, 1H), 5.56 – 5.48 (m, 1H), 5.23 – 5.18 (m, 1H), 5.03 – 5.01 (m, 1H), 4.53 – 4.51 (m, 1H), 4.40 – 4.37 (m, 1H), 4.14 – 4.11 (m, 1H), 4.06 – 4.00 (m, 2H), 3.67 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 3.57 – 3.52 (m, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 3.40 – 3.56 (m, 1H), 3.33 – 3.29 (m, 1H), 3.25 – 3.21 (m, 1H), 3.00 – 2.98 (m, 1H), 2.88 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 2.78 (s, 2H), 2.66 – 2.53 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 9H), 2.15 (s, 8H), 2.07 – 1.89 (m, 4H), 1.83 – 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.72 – 1.67 (m, 1H), 1.56 – 1.35 (m, 3H), 1.27 – 1.16 (m, 16H), 0.99 – 0.89 (m, 4H), 0.85 – 0.78 (m, 1H) ppm; **13C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.9, 134.4, 132.6, 130.9, 128.5, 119.4, 103.5, 100.3, 96.4, 84.6, 79.2, 78.7, 76.2, 75.1, 73.7, 72.9, 71.1, 69.3, 69.2, 68.7, 68.1, 65.8, 64.7, 61.6, 46.7, 41.8, 41.7, 40.8, 40.5, 37.5, 31.4, 31.1, 30.6, 29.1, 25.3, 22.4, 19.9, 18.8(3), 18.8(1), 18.7, 18.2, 18.1, 15.2, 13.9 ppm.



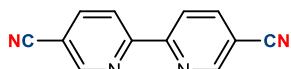
**tert-Butyl (S)-(1-cyano-2-phenylethyl)carbamate (53).**<sup>35</sup> To a 15 mL vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was added KO'Bu (1.00 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.25 mmol) and THF (2.0 mL) in air. The reaction mixture was stirred for 5 min and then cooled to -60 °C stirring for 5 min. Subsequently, *tert*-butyl (S)-(1-cyano-2-phenylethyl)carbamate (0.25 mmol) was added to the mixture at -60 °C and the resulting solution was stirred for 1 hour. Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : MTBE = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 113-115 °C, 44.3 mg, 72% yield. The ee of the product was determined by HPLC using an AD-H column (*n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95:5), flow rate 0.75 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 210 nm,  $\tau_{\text{maj}} = 21.7$  min,  $\tau_{\text{min}} = 20.8$  min;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -9.7$  (*c* 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), ee > 99%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.46 – 7.19 (m, 5H), 4.88 (m, 2H), 3.18 – 2.99 (m, 2H), 1.44 (s, 9H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  154.1, 133.9, 129.4, 128.9, 127.8, 118.4, 81.2, 43.3, 39.1, 28.1 ppm.



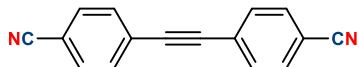




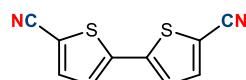
**1,1'-Ferrocenedicarbonitrile (54).**<sup>36</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 1,1'-Ferrocenedicarboxaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.55 mmol), KO'Bu (1.10 mmol) and THF (5.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 5 : 1) to give a yellow solid, m.p. 200-201 °C, 57.2 mg, 97% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 4.83 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 4H), 4.61 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 4H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 118.1, 73.7, 73.3, 54.6 ppm..



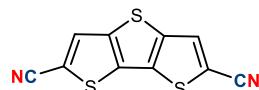
**[2,2'-Dipyridine]-5,5'-dicarbonitrile (55).**<sup>37</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using [2,2'-bipyridine]-5,5'-dicarbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.55 mmol), KO'Bu (1.10 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (DCM) to give a white solid, m.p. 287–289 °C, 33.0 mg, 64% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.97 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 8.64 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.15 – 8.13 (m, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.0, 152.1, 140.5, 121.6, 116.5, 110.8 ppm.



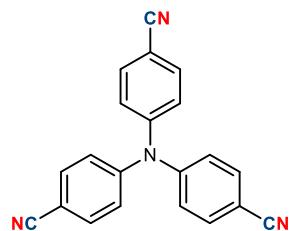
**4,4'-(Ethyne-1,2-diyl)dibenzonitrile (56).**<sup>38</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4,4'-(ethyne-1,2-diyl)dibenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.55 mmol), KO'Bu (1.10 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (DCM : PE = 3 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 260-261 °C, 52.5 mg, 92% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 132.3, 132.2, 127.1, 118.2, 112.4, 91.5 ppm.



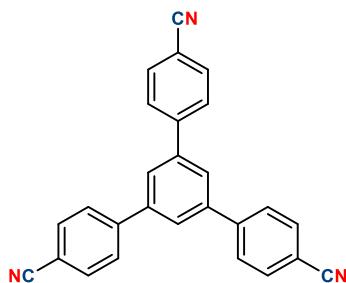
**[2,2'-Bithiophene]-5,5'-dicarbonitrile (57).**<sup>39</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using [2,2'-bithiophene]-5,5'-dicarbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.55 mmol), KO'Bu (1.10 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (DCM : PE = 3 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 260-262 °C, 40.6 mg, 75% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 7.60 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 141.9, 138.9, 126.3, 113.8, 110.6 ppm.



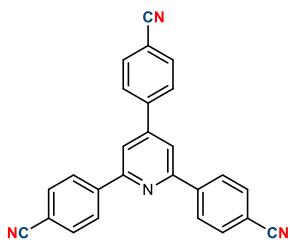
**Dithieno[3,2-*b*:2',3'-*d*]thiophene-2,6-dicarbonitrile (58).** Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using dithieno[3,2-*b*:2',3'-*d*]thiophene-2,6-dicarbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.55 mmol), KO'Bu (1.10 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (DCM) to give a yellow solid, m.p. 328-330 °C, 50.5 mg, 82% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 7.91 (s, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 144.4, 134.4, 131.5, 114.1, 112.3 ppm. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 246.9453; found: 246.9450.



**4,4',4''-Nitrilotribenzonitrile (59).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4,4',4''-nitrilotribenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.83 mmol), KO'Bu (1.65 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (DCM) to give a white solid, m.p. 351-353 °C, 61.7 mg, 77% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 6H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 6H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 149.2, 134.0, 124.6, 118.3, 108.1 ppm.

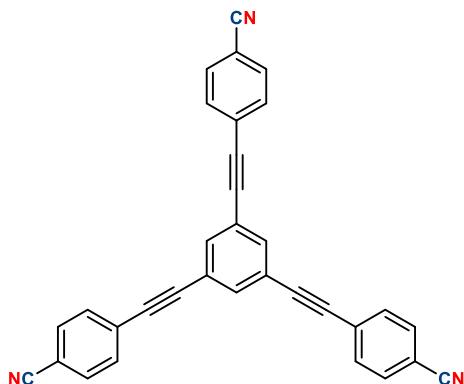


**5'-(4-Cyanophenyl)-[1,1':3',1''-terphenyl]-4,4''-dicarbonitrile (60).**<sup>40</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 5'-(4-formylphenyl)-[1,1':3',1''-terphenyl]-4,4''-dicarbaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.83 mmol), KO'Bu (1.65 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (DCM) to give a white solid, m.p. 349-350 °C, 80.1 mg, 84% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 6H), 8.15 (s, 3H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 6H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 143.9, 140.1, 132.8, 128.3, 126.2, 118.8, 110.6 ppm.

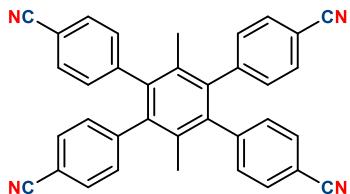


**4,4',4''-(Pyridine-2,4,6-triyl)tribenzonitrile (61).** Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4,4',4''-(pyridine-2,4,6-triyl)tribenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.83 mmol), KO'Bu (1.65 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (DCM) to give a yellow solid, m.p. 391-393 °C, 53.5 mg, 56% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.58 – 8.50 (m, 6H), 8.33 (s, 2H), 8.08 – 8.02 (m, 6H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 155.0, 148.3, 142.3, 141.4, 132.9, 132.7, 128.5, 127.8,

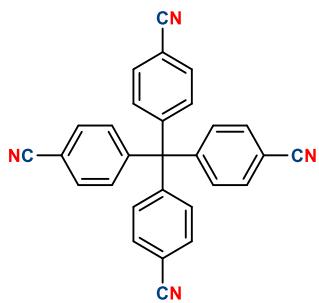
118.8, 118.7, 112.1, 111.9 ppm. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for  $C_{26}H_{15}N_4$   $[M+H]^+$ : 383.1291; found: 383.1288.



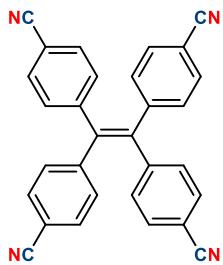
**4,4',4''-(Benzene-1,3,5-triyltris(ethyne-2,1-diyl))tribenzonitrile (62).**<sup>41</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4,4',4''-(benzene-1,3,5-triyltris(ethyne-2,1-diyl))tribenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $H_2N$ -DABCO (0.83 mmol),  $KO'Bu$  (1.65 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $NaHCO_3$  and purified by column chromatography (DCM) to give a yellow solid, m.p. 267-269 °C, 88.4 mg, 78% yield.  **$^1H$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ )  $\delta$  7.72 (s, 3H), 7.67 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 6H), 7.64 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 6H) ppm;  **$^{13}C$  NMR** (101 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ )  $\delta$  135.3, 132.6, 127.6, 123.9, 118.7, 112.6, 91.5, 89.6 ppm.



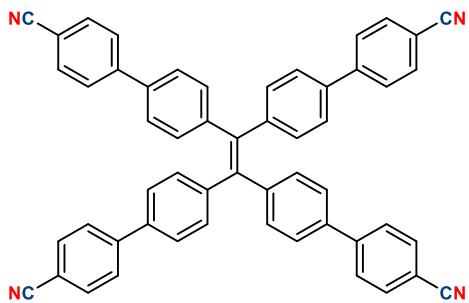
**4',5'-Bis(4-cyanophenyl)-3',6'-dimethyl-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-4,4''-dicarbonitrile (63).**<sup>42</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4',5'-bis(4-formylphenyl)-3',6'-dimethyl-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-4,4''-dicarbaldehyde (0.25 mmol),  $H_2N$ -DABCO (1.10 mmol),  $KO'Bu$  (2.20 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $NaHCO_3$  and purified by column chromatography (DCM) to give a white solid, m.p. > 400 °C, 125.1 mg, 98% yield.  **$^1H$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ )  $\delta$  7.50 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 8H), 7.15 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 8H), 1.72 (s, 6H) ppm;  **$^{13}C$  NMR** (101 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ )  $\delta$  145.6, 140.2, 132.3, 131.6, 131.2, 119.0, 111.3, 19.3 ppm.



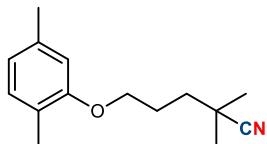
**4,4',4'',4'''-Methanetetrabenzonitrile (64).**<sup>43</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4,4',4'',4'''-methanetetrabenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (1.10 mmol), KO'Bu (2.20 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (DCM) to give a white solid, m.p. 316-317 °C, 88.3 mg, 84% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 8H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 8H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 149.1, 132.7, 131.6, 118.5, 111.8, 66.1 ppm.



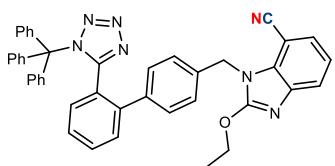
**4,4',4'',4'''-(Ethene-1,1,2,2-tetrayl)tetrabenzonitrile (65).**<sup>44</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4,4',4'',4'''-(ethene-1,1,2,2-tetrayl)tetrabenzaldehyde (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (1.10 mmol), KO'Bu (2.20 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (DCM) to give a white solid, m.p. 365-367 °C, 100.6 mg, 93% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 8H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 8H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 145.4, 141.4, 132.1, 131.5, 117.9, 111.8 ppm.



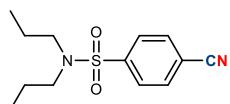
**4',4'',4''',4''''-(Ethene-1,1,2,2-tetrayl)tetrakis([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carbonitrile) (66).**<sup>45</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure A** using 4',4'',4''',4''''-(ethene-1,1,2,2-tetrayl)tetrakis([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carbaldehyde) (0.25 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (1.10 mmol), KO'Bu (2.20 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (DCM) to give a green solid, m.p. 344–345 °C, 175.0 mg, 95% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.71 – 7.64 (m, 16H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 8H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 8H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 144.7, 143.6, 140.7, 137.5, 132.6, 132.1, 127.4, 126.7, 118.8, 111.0 pm.



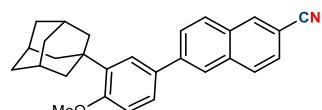
**5-(2,5-Dimethylphenoxy)-2,2-dimethylpentanenitrile (67).** Prepared according to the **General Procedure B** using gemfibrozil (0.50 mmol), CDI (0.75 mmol) and anhydrous dichloromethane (3.0 mL), 0 °C, 1 hour, N<sub>2</sub>, then DIBAL-H (2.00 mmol), -78 °C, 1 hour, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (5.00 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 95.7 mg, 83% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.01 – 6.99 (m, 1H), 6.68 – 6.61 (m, 2H), 3.98 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 2.02 – 1.94 (m, 2H), 1.76 – 1.71 (m, 2H), 1.38 (s, 6H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 156.7, 136.4, 130.3, 124.8, 123.4, 120.9, 111.9, 67.1, 37.8, 32.1, 26.6, 25.5, 21.3, 15.7 ppm. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NONa [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 254.1515; found: 254.1517.



**2-Ethoxy-1-((2'-(1-trityl-1*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)methyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-7-carbonitrile (68).** Prepared according to the **General Procedure B** using N-Trityl Candesartan (0.50 mmol), CDI (0.75 mmol) and anhydrous dichloromethane (3.0 mL), 0 °C, 1 hour, N<sub>2</sub>, then DIBAL-H (2.00 mmol), -78 °C, 1 hour, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (5.00 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 4 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 177 - 179 °C, 162.5 mg, 49% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.80 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.10 (m, 10H), 7.09 – 7.01 (m, 5H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6H), 5.32 (s, 2H), 4.53 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.9, 158.4, 141.5, 141.2(2), 141.1(7), 140.8, 134.3, 133.2, 130.7, 130.2, 130.1, 129.8, 129.6, 128.1, 127.5(3), 127.4(8), 126.8, 126.3, 126.2, 122.6, 121.6, 117.0, 92.9, 82.8, 67.1, 45.4, 14.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>33</sub>N<sub>7</sub>ONa [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 686.2639; found: 686.2643.

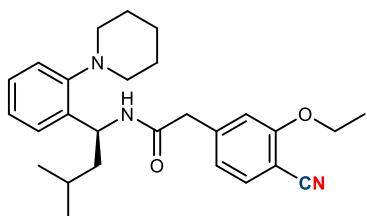


**4-Cyano-N,N-dipropylbenzenesulfonamide (69).**<sup>46</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure B** using probenecid (0.50 mmol), CDI (0.75 mmol) and anhydrous dichloromethane (3.0 mL), 0 °C, 1 hour, N<sub>2</sub>, then DIBAL-H (2.00 mmol), -78 °C, 1 hour, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (5.00 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 48-49 °C, 107.9 mg, 81% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.12 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 1.59 – 1.53 (m, 4H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 144.5, 132.8, 127.5, 117.3, 115.8, 49.8, 21.8, 11.0 ppm.



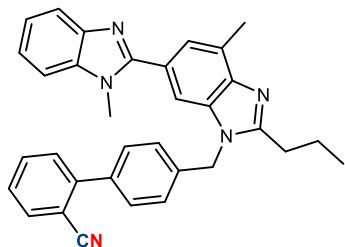
**6-((3r,5r,7r)-Adamantan-1-yl)-4-methoxyphenyl-2-naphthonitrile (70).** Prepared according to the **General Procedure B** using adapalene (0.50 mmol), CDI (0.75 mmol) and anhydrous dichloromethane (3.0 mL), 0 °C, 1 hour, N<sub>2</sub>, then DIBAL-H (2.00 mmol), -78 °C, 1.5 hours, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (5.00 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture

was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : DCM = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 247-248  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 123.1 mg, 63% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.12 (s, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.85 – 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.76 – 7.74 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 6.91 – 6.89 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 6H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 1.72 (s, 6H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  159.1, 142.1, 139.1, 135.1, 133.8, 131.9, 130.9, 129.2, 128.7, 127.4, 126.6, 125.9, 125.7, 124.8, 119.4, 112.1, 108.6, 55.1, 40.5, 37.2, 37.1, 29.0 ppm. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{28}\text{NO} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 394.2165; found: 394.2169.

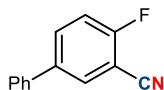


**2-(4-Cyano-3-ethoxyphenyl)-N-(3-methyl-1-(2-(piperidin-1-yl)phenyl)butyl)acetamide (71).**

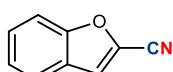
Prepared according to the **General Procedure B** using repaglinide (0.50 mmol), CDI (0.75 mmol) and anhydrous dichloromethane (3.0 mL), 0  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 1 hour,  $\text{N}_2$ , then DIBAL-H (2.00 mmol), -78  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 1 hour,  $\text{N}_2$ ;  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.75 mmol),  $\text{KO}^{\prime}\text{Bu}$  (5.00 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 102-104  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , 123.7 mg, 57% yield,  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = 3.2$  ( $c$  1.00,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.45 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.14 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 7.09 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.87 – 6.84 (m, 2H), 5.40 – 5.34 (m, 1H), 4.07 – 3.97 (m, 2H), 3.57 – 3.49 (m, 2H), 2.97 – 2.92 (m, 2H), 2.66 – 2.61 (m, 2H), 1.76 – 1.47 (m, 9H), 1.41 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.92 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 6H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  168.1, 160.7, 152.3, 142.6, 138.5, 133.6, 127.9, 127.6, 125.0, 122.8, 121.2, 116.5, 112.8, 100.3, 64.5, 49.8, 46.6, 44.1, 26.7, 25.2, 24.0, 22.7, 22.4, 14.3 ppm. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2 [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 434.2802; found: 434.2807.



**4'-(1,7'-Dimethyl-2'-propyl-1*H*,3'*H*-[2,5'-bibenzo[*d*]imidazol]-3'-yl)methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbonitrile (72).**<sup>47</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure B** using telmisartan (0.50 mmol), CDI (0.75 mmol) and anhydrous dichloromethane (3.0 mL), 0 °C, 1 hour, N<sub>2</sub>, then DIBAL-H (2.00 mmol), -78 °C, 1 hour, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (5.00 mmol) and THF (10.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 1 : 1) to give a yellow solid, m.p. 176-178 °C, 118.2 mg, 48% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.80 – 7.78 (m, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.37 (m, 6H), 7.30 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.42 (s, 2H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.91 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.77 (s, 3H), 1.91 – 1.81 (m, 2H), 1.05 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 156.3, 154.3, 144.3, 143.0, 142.5, 137.6, 136.4, 136.3, 134.7, 133.5, 132.7, 129.8, 129.3, 129.2, 127.6, 126.3, 123.8, 123.6, 122.3, 122.1, 119.2, 118.4, 110.9, 109.5, 108.6, 46.7, 31.6, 29.6, 21.7, 16.7, 13.9 ppm.

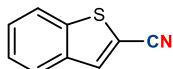


**4-Fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carbonitrile (73).**<sup>48</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure C** using 4-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl (0.50 mmol), 'BuLi (0.60 mmol, 1.3 M in pentane) and THF (2.0 mL), -30 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 71-74 °C, 79.8 mg, 81% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.80 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.44 (m, 4H), 7.43 – 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.7 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 260.3 Hz), 138.5 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 3.6 Hz), 137.9, 133.6 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 8.5 Hz), 131.8, 129.1, 128.4, 126.9, 116.9 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 20.1 Hz), 113.9, 101.9 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 16.0 Hz) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -109.50 ppm.

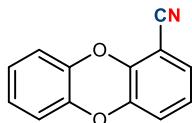


**Benzofuran-2-carbonitrile (26).**<sup>10</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure C** using benzofuran (0.50 mmol), 'BuLi (0.60 mmol, 1.3 M in pentane) and THF (2.0 mL), -30 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL).

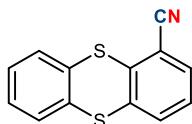
Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 53.6 mg, 75% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.49 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 7.18 – 7.16 (m, 1H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  155.7, 128.4, 127.3, 125.5, 124.5, 122.5, 118.4, 112.1, 111.8 ppm.



**Benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carbonitrile (27).**<sup>18</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure C** using benzo[*b*]thiophene (0.50 mmol),  $^3\text{BuLi}$  (0.60 mmol, 1.3 M in pentane) and THF (2.0 mL), -30 °C, 30 min,  $\text{N}_2$ , then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min,  $\text{N}_2$ ;  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.75 mmol),  $\text{KO}^3\text{Bu}$  (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 70.0 mg, 88% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.90 – 7.84 (m, 3H), 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.45 (m, 1H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  141.3, 137.4, 135.0, 127.8, 125.7, 125.2, 122.3, 114.4, 109.6 ppm.

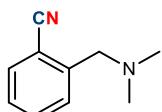


**Dibenzo[*b,e*][1,4]dioxine-1-carbonitrile (74).**<sup>49</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure C** using dibenzo[*b,e*][1,4]dioxine (0.50 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.75 mmol),  $\text{KO}^3\text{Bu}$  (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 141-143 °C, 79.4 mg, 76% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.06 – 7.03 (m, 1H), 6.94 – 6.92 (m, 1H), 6.88 – 6.81 (m, 4H), 6.78 – 6.72 (m, 1H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.6, 142.6, 141.2, 140.8, 127.2, 125.0, 124.6, 123.8, 120.7, 116.8, 116.4, 114.4, 101.0 ppm.

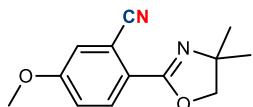


**Thianthrene-1-carbonitrile (75).** The *in situ* generated aldehyde was synthesized according to this literature.<sup>50</sup> Prepared according the **General Procedure C** using thianthrene (0.50 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$

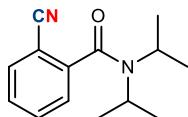
(0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 190–191 °C, 82.0 mg, 68% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.54–7.52 (m, 1H), 7.48–7.41 (m, 2H), 7.40–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.16 (m, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 139.7, 137.8, 134.4, 133.2, 132.3, 131.9, 129.1, 128.7, 128.4, 128.3, 127.6, 116.3, 112.8 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>8</sub>NS<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 242.0093; found: 242.0092.



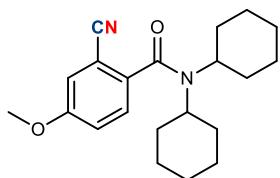
**2-((Dimethylamino)methyl)benzonitrile (76).**<sup>51</sup> The in situ generated aldehyde was synthesized according to this literature.<sup>52</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure C** using *N,N*-dimethyl-1-phenylmethanamine (0.50 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a yellow oil, 76.0 mg, 95% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.59–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.35 (m, 1H), 3.63 (s, 2H), 2.29 (s, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 142.9, 132.7, 132.5, 130.0, 127.5, 117.7, 112.9, 61.7, 45.3 ppm.



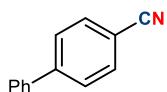
**2-(4,4-Dimethyl-4,5-dihydrooxazol-2-yl)-5-methoxybenzonitrile (77).** The in situ generated aldehyde was synthesized according to this literature.<sup>53</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure C** using 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4,4-dimethyl-4,5-dihydrooxazole (0.50 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 2 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 92.0 mg, 80% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.8, 1H), 7.21–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.13–7.10 (m, 1H), 4.17 (s, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.1, 159.5, 131.8, 122.9, 119.1, 118.3, 117.5, 112.9, 79.6, 67.9, 55.7, 28.2 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 231.1128; found: 231.1123.



**2-Cyano-*N,N*-diisopropylbenzamide (78).**<sup>54</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure C** using *N,N*-diisopropylbenzamide (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.60 mmol, 1.3 M in pentane) and THF (2.0 mL), -30 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO<sup>7</sup>Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 103-105 °C, 103.6 mg, 90% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.69 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.34 (m, 1H), 3.63 – 3.53 (m, 2H), 1.60 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 1.22 – 1.17 (m, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.8, 142.5, 133.0, 132.8, 128.6, 125.8, 116.8, 109.1, 51.4, 46.2, 20.7, 20.3 ppm.

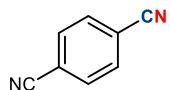


**2-Cyano-*N,N*-dicyclohexyl-4-methoxybenzamide (79).** Prepared according to the **General Procedure C** using *N,N*-dicyclohexyl-4-methoxybenzamide (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.60 mmol, 1.3 M in pentane) and THF (2.0 mL), -30 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO<sup>7</sup>Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 118-120 °C, 149.7 mg, 88% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.15 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.14 – 3.06 (m, 2H), 1.82 – 1.43 (m, 13H), 1.30 – 0.97 (m, 7H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.2, 159.0, 135.3, 127.1, 119.2, 117.3, 116.8, 110.1, 60.3, 56.4, 55.6, 31.1, 29.6, 26.8, 26.4, 25.6, 25.1 ppm. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 341.2224; found: 341.2226.

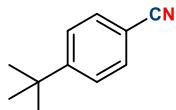


**[1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-carbonitrile (2).**<sup>8</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 4-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO<sup>7</sup>Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF

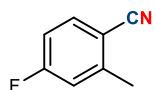
(4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 83-85 °C, 78.8 mg, 88% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.73 – 7.66 (m, 4H), 7.59 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.40 (m, 1H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  145.6, 139.1, 132.5, 129.0, 128.6, 127.7, 127.2, 118.9, 110.8 ppm.



**Terephthalonitrile (4).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 4-bromobenzonitrile (0.50 mmol),  $^7\text{BuLi}$  (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min,  $\text{N}_2$ , then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min,  $\text{N}_2$ ;  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.75 mmol),  $\text{KO}^+\text{Bu}$  (1.5 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 219-221 °C, 46.1 mg, 72% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.05 (s, 4H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$  133.3, 117.6, 115.8 ppm.

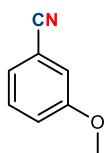


**4-(tert-Butyl)benzonitrile (80).**<sup>22</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 1-bromo-4-(tert-butyl)benzene (0.50 mmol),  $^7\text{BuLi}$  (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min,  $\text{N}_2$ , then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min,  $\text{N}_2$ ;  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.75 mmol),  $\text{KO}^+\text{Bu}$  (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 66.1 mg, 83% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.61 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 1.33 (s, 9H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  156.6, 131.9, 126.1, 119.1, 109.3, 35.2, 30.9 ppm.

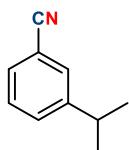


**4-Fluoro-2-methylbenzonitrile (81).**<sup>55</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 1-bromo-4-fluoro-2-methylbenzene (0.50 mmol),  $^7\text{BuLi}$  (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min,  $\text{N}_2$ , then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min,  $\text{N}_2$ ;  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.75 mmol),  $\text{KO}^+\text{Bu}$  (1.50 mmol)

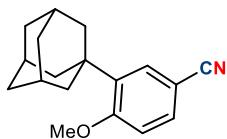
and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 101-103 °C, 50.7 mg, 75% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.62 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.05 – 7.02 (m, 1H), 7.01 – 6.96 (m, 1H), 2.56 (s, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.8 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 257.6 Hz), 145.3 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 9.1 Hz), 134.7 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 10.1 Hz), 117.5 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 23.2 Hz), 117.3, 113.9 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 22.2 Hz), 108.9 (d, *J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 4.0 Hz), 20.4 ppm; **<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -103.74 ppm.



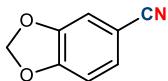
**3-Methoxybenzonitrile (82).**<sup>35</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 1-bromo-3-methoxybenzene (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 40.0 mg, 60% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.61 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 3.93 (s, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.2, 134.3, 133.7, 120.7, 116.4, 111.3, 101.8, 56.0 ppm.



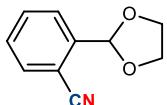
**3-Isopropylbenzonitrile (83).**<sup>56</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 1-bromo-3-isopropylbenzene (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 54.5 mg, 75% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.55 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.41 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 2.94 (m, 1H), 1.26 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 150.1, 131.2, 130.2, 129.6, 129.1, 119.2, 112.3, 33.9, 23.6 ppm.



**3-((3r,5r,7r)-adamantan-1-yl)-4-methoxybenzonitrile (84).** Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using (3r,5r,7r)-1-(5-bromo-2-methoxyphenyl)adamantane (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 177-179 °C, 127.7 mg., 92% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.49 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.07 – 2.04 (m, 9H), 1.73 (s, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.0, 139.5, 131.5, 130.6, 119.8, 111.6, 103.5, 55.1, 40.0, 37.1, 36.7, 28.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 268.1696; found: 268.1698.

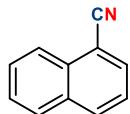


**Benzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carbonitrile (85).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 5-bromobenzo[d][1,3]dioxole (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 96-98 °C, 54.5 mg, 74% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.19 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.5, 148.0, 128.1, 118.8, 111.3, 109.0, 104.9, 102.2 ppm.

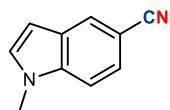


**2-(1,3-Dioxolan-2-yl)benzonitrile (86).**<sup>57</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 2-(2-bromophenyl)-1,3-dioxolane (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous

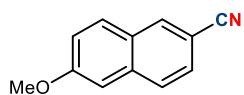
NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a yellow oil, 49.0 mg, 56% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 5.99 (s, 1H), 4.28 – 4.24 (m, 2H), 4.12 – 4.08 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.1, 133.7, 132.6, 129.7, 127.9, 117.1, 111.4, 102.0, 66.0 ppm.



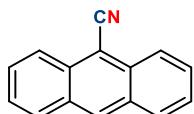
**1-Naphthonitrile (87).**<sup>10</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 1-bromonaphthalene (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 60.5 mg, 79% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.22 – 8.20 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.05 – 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.90 – 7.86 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.68 – 7.64 (m, 1H), 7.61 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.47 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 133.2, 132.8, 132.5, 132.2, 128.6, 128.5, 127.4, 125.0, 124.8, 117.7, 110.1 ppm.



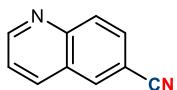
**1-Methyl-1*H*-indole-5-carbonitrile (88).**<sup>58</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 5-bromo-1-methyl-1*H*-indole (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.60 mmol, 1.3 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 76-77 °C, 62.0 mg, 80% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.95 – 7.94 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.17 – 7.16 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.56 – 6.55 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 138.1, 131.1, 128.1, 126.4, 124.4, 120.8, 110.0, 102.3, 102.1, 33.0 ppm.



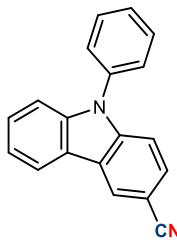
**6-Methoxy-2-naphthonitrile (33).**<sup>22</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 2-bromo-6-methoxynaphthalene (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 105-106 °C, 62.3 mg, 68% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.78 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.0, 136.4, 133.7, 129.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.0, 120.6, 119.5, 106.7, 105.9, 55.4 ppm.



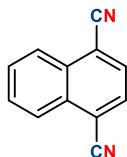
**Anthracene-9-carbonitrile (34).**<sup>7</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 9-bromoanthracene (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a yellow solid, m.p. 175-178 °C, 70.1 mg, 69% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.52 (s, 1H), 8.32 – 8.30 (m, 2H), 7.98 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.66 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.53 – 7.49 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 133.1, 132.6, 130.4, 128.8(3), 128.8(0), 126.2, 125.1, 117.2, 105.2 ppm.



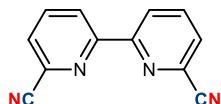
**Quinoline-6-carbonitrile (89).**<sup>22</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 6-bromoquinoline (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 132-135 °C, 50.2 mg, 65% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.09 – 9.07 (m, 1H), 8.28 – 8.15 (m, 3H), 7.89 – 7.86 (m, 1H), 7.60 – 7.56 (m, 1H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 152.9, 148.6, 136.7, 134.0, 130.6, 130.2, 127.5, 122.7, 118.3, 110.5 ppm.



**9-Phenyl-9H-carbazole-3-carbonitrile (90).**<sup>59</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 3-bromo-9-phenyl-9H-carbazole (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (0.55 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (0.75 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.75 mmol), KO'Bu (1.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 201-202 °C, 115.0 mg, 86% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 8.26 (m, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.41 – 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 142.6, 141.7, 136.5, 130.2, 129.2, 128.4, 127.4, 127.1, 125.2, 123.5, 122.3, 121.2, 120.7, 120.3, 110.5, 110.4, 102.8, ppm.

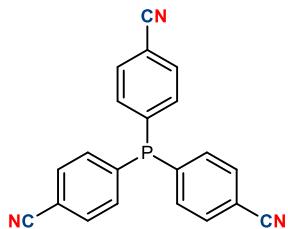


**Naphthalene-1,4-dicarbonitrile (91).**<sup>60</sup> The in situ generated aldehyde was synthesized according to this literature.<sup>61</sup> Then prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (1.50 mmol), KO'Bu (3.00 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 208-210 °C, 59.0 mg, 66% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.39 – 8.32 (m, 2H), 7.97 (s, 2H), 7.90 – 7.84 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 132.0, 131.1, 130.3, 126.0, 116.2, 115.2 ppm.

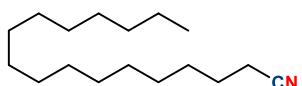


**[2,2'-Bipyridine]-6,6'-dicarbonitrile (92).**<sup>62</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using 6,6'-dibromo-2,2'-bipyridine (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (1.10 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (1.50 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (1.50 mmol), KO'Bu (3.00

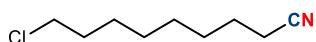
mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 3 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 319-320 °C, 60.0 mg, 58% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.74 – 8.71 (m, 2H), 8.04 – 8.00 (m, 2H), 7.79 – 7.77 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.6, 138.4, 133.4, 129.1, 124.7, 117.0 ppm.



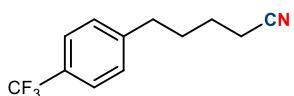
**4,4',4''-Phosphanetriyltribenzonitrile (93).**<sup>63</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure D** using tris(4-bromophenyl)phosphane (0.50 mmol), <sup>7</sup>BuLi (1.65 mmol, 2.5 M in hexane) and THF (2.0 mL), -78 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>, then DMF (2.25 mmol), 50 °C, 30 min, N<sub>2</sub>; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (2.25 mmol), KO'Bu (4.50 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 5 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 220-221 °C, 73.8 mg, 44% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 7.69 – 7.67 (m, 6H), 7.41 – 7.37 (m, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 141.4 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz), 134.5 (d, *J* = 20.2 Hz), 132.7 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 118.5, 113.8 ppm; <sup>31</sup>P NMR (162 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ -3.96 ppm.



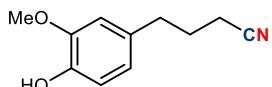
**Heptadecanenitrile (44).**<sup>31</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure E** using hexadec-1-ene (0.50 mmol), Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mol%), BISBI (2.2 mol%), CO/H<sub>2</sub> (5 bar : 5 bar) and toluene (0.5 mL), 50 °C, 12 hours; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.60 mmol), KO'Bu (1.20 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 34-35 °C, 91.8 mg, 73% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.33 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.69 – 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.33 – 1.21 (m, 26H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 119.8, 31.9, 29.7, 29.6(4), 29.6(3), 29.6(2), 29.6(0), 29.5(5), 29.5, 29.3(2), 29.2(6), 28.7, 28.6, 25.4, 22.7, 17.1, 14.1 ppm.



**9-Chlorononanenitrile (94).**<sup>64</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure E** using 8-chlorooct-1-ene (0.50 mmol), Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mol%), BISBI (2.2 mol%), CO/H<sub>2</sub> (5 bar : 5 bar) and toluene (0.5 mL), 50 °C, 12 hours; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.60 mmol), KO'Bu (1.20 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 54.5 mg, 63% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.53 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.82 – 1.72 (m, 2H), 1.69 – 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.52 – 1.40 (m, 4H), 1.34 (m, 4H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 119.7, 44.9, 32.5, 28.5(3), 28.4(9), 28.4(7), 26.6, 25.3, 17.0 ppm.

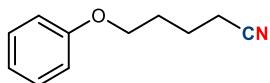


**5-(4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pentanenitrile (95).** Prepared according to the **General Procedure E** using 1-(but-3-en-1-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (0.50 mmol), Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mol%), BISBI (2.2 mol%), CO/H<sub>2</sub> (5 bar : 5 bar) and toluene (0.5 mL), 50 °C, 12 hours; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.60 mmol), KO'Bu (1.2 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 73.8 mg, 65% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.72 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.87 – 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.73 – 1.64 (m, 2H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 145.3, 128.6, 128.3, 125.4 (q, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 124.3 (q, *J* = 272.7 Hz), 119.3, 34.8, 29.9, 24.7, 17.0 ppm; **<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -62.34 ppm. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNa [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 250.0814; found: 250.0812.

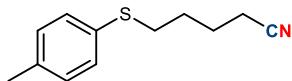


**4-(4-Hydroxy-2-methoxyphenyl)butanenitrile (96).**<sup>65</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure E** using 4-allyl-2-methoxyphenol (0.50 mmol), Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mol%), BISBI (2.2 mol%), CO/H<sub>2</sub> (5 bar : 5 bar) and toluene (0.5 mL), 50 °C, 12 hours; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.60 mmol), KO'Bu (1.70 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 2 : 1) to give a yellow oil, 60.2 mg, 63% yield. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.84 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.70 – 6.64 (m, 2H), 5.60 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s,

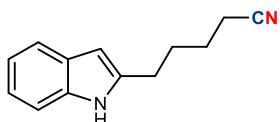
3H), 2.70 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.30 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.97 – 1.90 (m, 2H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  146.6, 144.2, 131.5, 121.0, 119.5, 114.4, 111.0, 55.9, 34.0, 27.1, 16.2 ppm.



**5-Phenoxyhexanenitrile (97).**<sup>66</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure E** using (but-3-en-1-yloxy)benzene (0.50 mmol), Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mol%), BISBI (2.2 mol%), CO/H<sub>2</sub> (5 bar : 5 bar) and toluene (0.5 mL), 50 °C, 12 hours; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.60 mmol), KO'Bu (1.20 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 58.6 mg, 67% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.30 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 6.97 – 6.92 (m, 1H), 6.90 – 6.86 (m, 2H), 3.99 (t,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.42 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 1.98 – 1.82 (m, 4H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  158.6, 129.4, 120.8, 119.4, 114.4, 66.5, 28.2, 22.4, 16.9 ppm.

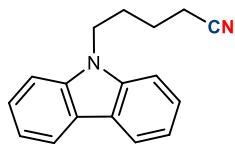


**5-(p-Tolylthio)hexanenitrile (98).** Prepared according to the **General Procedure E** using but-3-en-1-yl(p-tolyl)sulfane (0.50 mmol), Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mol%), BISBI (2.2 mol%), CO/H<sub>2</sub> (5 bar : 5 bar) and toluene (0.5 mL), 50 °C, 12 hours; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.60 mmol), KO'Bu (1.20 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 58.5 mg, 57% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.25 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.89 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.32 (m, 5H), 1.83 – 1.71 (m, 4H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  136.5, 131.9, 130.4, 129.7, 119.2, 33.6, 28.0, 24.2, 20.9, 16.7 ppm. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NS [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 206.0998; found: 206.0999.

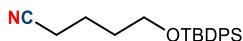


**5-(1H-indol-2-yl)hexanenitrile (99).** Prepared according to the **General Procedure E** using 2-(but-3-en-1-yl)-1H-indole (0.50 mmol), Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mol%), BISBI (2.2 mol%), CO/H<sub>2</sub> (5 bar : 5 bar)

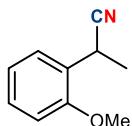
and toluene (0.5 mL), 50 °C, 12 hours; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.60 mmol), KO'Bu (1.70 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 5 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 64.0 mg, 65% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.08 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 6.14 (s, 1H), 2.64 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.20 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.78 – 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.64 – 1.52 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 138.2, 135.9, 128.6, 121.1, 119.7, 119.6(2), 119.5(5), 110.4, 99.8, 27.9, 27.2, 24.6, 16.8 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 199.1230; found: 199.1231.



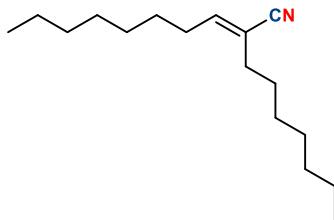
**5-(9H-carbazol-9-yl)pentanenitrile (100).** Prepared according to the **General Procedure E** using 9-(but-3-en-1-yl)-9H-carbazole (0.50 mmol), Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mol%), BISBI (2.2 mol%), CO/H<sub>2</sub> (5 bar : 5 bar) and toluene (0.5 mL), 50 °C, 12 hours; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.60 mmol), KO'Bu (1.20 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 5 : 1) to give a white solid, m.p. 150–151 °C, 65.8 mg, 53% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.07 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 4.30 – 4.23 (m, 2H), 2.17 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.03 – 1.91 (m, 2H), 1.62 – 1.55 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 140.2, 125.8, 122.9, 120.4, 119.0, 108.4, 42.0, 28.1, 23.1, 16.9 ppm. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 249.1386; found: 249.1385.



**5-((tert-Butyldiphenylsilyl)oxy)pentanenitrile (101).**<sup>67</sup> Prepared according to the **General Procedure E** using (but-3-en-1-yloxy)(tert-butyl)diphenylsilane (0.50 mmol), Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mol%), BISBI (2.2 mol%), CO/H<sub>2</sub> (5 bar : 5 bar) and toluene (0.5 mL), 50 °C, 12 hours; H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.60 mmol), KO'Bu (1.20 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 80.0 mg, 48% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.68 – 7.61 (m, 4H), 7.45 – 7.34 (m, 6H), 3.69 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.84 – 1.73 (m, 2H), 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.05 (s, 9H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 135.5, 133.6, 129.7, 127.7, 119.6, 62.6, 31.2, 26.8, 22.2, 19.1, 16.8 ppm.

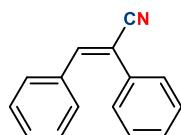


**2-(2-Methoxyphenyl)propanenitrile (102).**<sup>4</sup> In a glovebox filled with nitrogen, to a 5 mL vial equipped with a magnetic bar was added (S,S)-Ph-BPE (3 mol%) and Rh(acac)(CO)<sub>2</sub> (1 mol% in 1.0 mL THF). After stirring for 10 min, 1-methoxy-2-vinylbenzene (0.50 mmol), 1-aminopiperidine (1.50 mmol), PhCOOH (0.05 mmol) and additional solvent (1.5 mL THF) were charged to bring the total volume of the reaction mixture to 2.5 mL. The vial was transferred into an autoclave and taken out of the glovebox. H<sub>2</sub> (5 bar) and CO (5 bar) were charged in sequence. The reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 24 h. Upon completion, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. The resulting solution was added to the pre-prepared mixture (stirred for 5 min) of KO'Bu (1.20 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.60 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL) in a 25 mL vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min. After the reaction was completed, the crude mixture was quenched by saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 10.0 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a colorless oil, 66.1 mg, 83% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.00 – 6.96 (m, 1H), 6.90 – 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 1.57 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.9, 129.2, 127.5, 125.3, 121.9, 120.9, 110.7, 55.4, 25.5, 19.4 ppm.

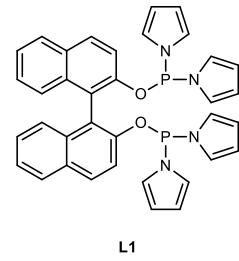


**(E)-2-Heptyldec-2-enenitrile (103).** A Schlenk tube with a magnetic stir bar was charged with [Rh(cod)OMe]<sub>2</sub> (0.01 mmol), Xantphos (0.02 mmol), 4-NO<sub>2</sub>-PhCO<sub>2</sub>H (0.02 mmol), hexadec-8-yne (1.00 mmol), and n-butyraldehyde (0.50 mmol) in THF (0.25 mL) under nitrogen. The resulting mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 24 h. The resulting solution was added to the pre-prepared mixture (stirred for 5 min) of KO'Bu (1.20 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>N-DABCO (0.60 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL) in a 25 mL vial equipped with a

magnetic stirring bar. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min. Upon completion, the crude mixture was quenched by saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE) to give a colorless oil, 85.1 mg, 68% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.32 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.21 – 2.13 (m, 4H), 1.55 – 1.28 (m, 20H), 0.89 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 6H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  148.0, 120.1, 114.9, 31.6, 29.1, 28.9(2), 28.8(9), 28.8, 28.3(9), 28.3(6), 28.3(5), 27.9, 22.5, 14.0 ppm. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 250.2529; found: 250.2523.

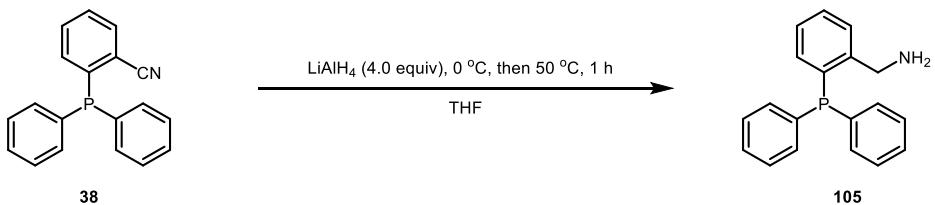


**(E)-2,3-Diphenylacrylonitrile (104).**<sup>22</sup> In a glove box, a Parr autoclave equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with the biphenylacetylene (0.50 mmol), **L1** (1 mol%),  $\text{Rh}(\text{acac})(\text{CO})_2$  (0.5 mol%), and toluene (1.0 mL). The vial was transferred into an autoclave and taken out of the glovebox.  $\text{H}_2$  (10 bar) and  $\text{CO}$  (10 bar) were charged in sequence. The autoclave was then heated at 60 °C for 12 h. After the reaction finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. The resulting solution was added to the pre-prepared mixture (stirred for 5 min) of  $\text{KO}^\circ\text{Bu}$  (1.20 mmol),  $\text{H}_2\text{N-DABCO}$  (0.60 mmol) and THF (4.0 mL) in a 25 mL vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir for 10 min. Upon completion, the crude mixture was quenched by saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 10.0 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE) to give a colorless oil, 73.9 mg, 72% yield.  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38 – 7.32 (m, 6H), 7.27 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.23 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.15 – 7.13 (m, 2H) ppm;  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.1, 133.4, 132.5, 129.8, 129.7, 129.2, 129.0, 128.7, 128.4, 120.0, 114.2 ppm.

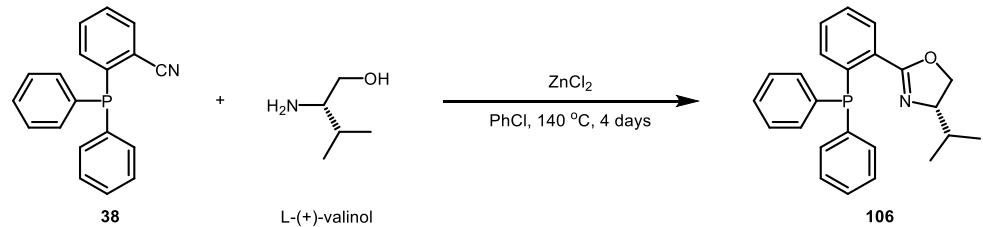


**L1**

## Synthetic application of nitriles

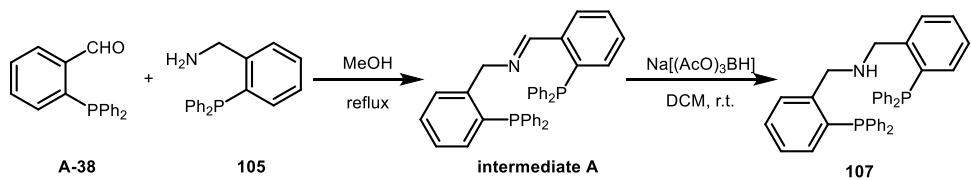


**(2-(Diphenylphosphanyl)phenyl)methanamine.**<sup>68</sup> A round-bottomed flask was charged with **38** (71.8 mg, 0.25 mmol) and anhydrous THF (2.0 mL). The reaction flask was then cooled to 0 °C in an ice bath before LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (38.0 mg, 1.0 mmol) was added slowly. Then the reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 1 hour. Upon completion, the crude mixture was quenched by H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 5.0 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography (PE : EA = 2 : 1) to give a white solid (**105**), m.p. 95-97 °C, 62.7 mg, 86% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.45 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.21 (m, 11H), 7.17 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 6.89 – 6.86 (m, 1H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 1.50 (s, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 147.5, 147.3, 136.4(4), 136.3(5), 135.0, 134.0, 133.8, 133.5, 129.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 127.9, 127.1, 45.2, 45.0 ppm; <sup>31</sup>P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -15.80 ppm.

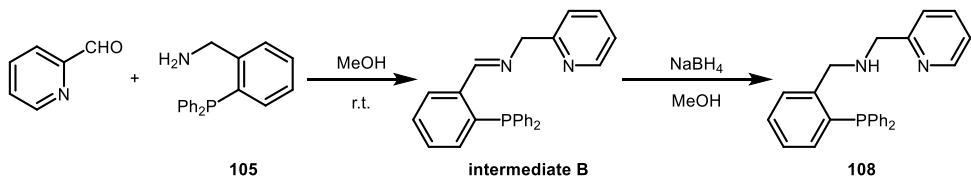


**(S)-2-(2-(diphenylphosphanyl)phenyl)-4-isopropyl-4,5-dihydrooxazole (106).**<sup>69</sup> A 25 mL flask was charged with **38** (71.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), ZnCl<sub>2</sub> (51.1 mg, 0.38 mmol) and L-(+)-valinol (39.2 mg, 0.38 mmol). Degassed PhCl (2.0 mL) was added under argon. The reaction mixture was stirred at 140 °C for 4 days. After cooled to room temperature, 2,2-bipyridine (78.1 mg, 0.50 mmol) in degassed CHCl<sub>3</sub> (5.0 mL) was added to the mixture, which was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. Then, the reaction mixture was filtered by celite and evaporated most solvent under reduced pressure. The residue was further purified by silica column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid (**106**), m.p. 80-82 °C, 82.1 mg, 88%, [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = -16.5 (c 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.96 – 7.84 (m, 1H), 7.28 (m, 12H), 6.94 – 6.81 (m, 1H), 4.22 – 4.06 (m, 1H), 3.95 – 3.76 (m, 2H), 1.57 – 1.41 (m, 1H), 0.81 (d, *J*

$\delta$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.71 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  162.8, 138.7 (d,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz), 138.3 – 138.0 (m), 134.3 – 133.5 (m), 131.9 (d,  $J$  = 19.6 Hz), 130.2, 129.7 (d,  $J$  = 3.0 Hz), 128.4 – 128.1 (m), 127.8, 73.0, 69.9, 32.6, 18.8, 18.3 ppm;  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -5.50 ppm.

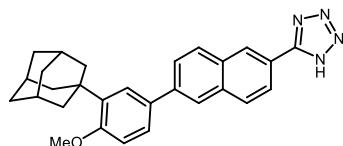


**Bis(2-(diphenylphosphanoyl)benzyl)amine (107).**<sup>70</sup> Methanol (2.0 mL) was added to a mixture of 2-(diphenylphosphino)-benzaldehyde **A-38** (72.5 mg, 0.25 mmol) and 2-(diphenylphosphino)-benzylamine **105** (72.8 mg, 0.25 mmol) and the resulting suspension was heated to reflux for 2.5 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and the precipitate was collected by filtration. After washing with methanol (2  $\times$  1.5 mL) and drying in vacuum, the product was obtained as a slightly yellowish powder intermediate **A**. Solid sodium triacetoxy borohydride (63.3 mg, 0.30 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of intermediate **A** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (4.0 mL). After stirring was continued at room temperature for 12 h, the reaction mixture was filtered over Celite and water (5.0 mL) was added to the filtrate. The organic phase was separated and the aqueous one was extracted with dichloromethane (3  $\times$  5.0 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with water (5.0 mL) and brine (5.0 mL) and then dried over magnesium sulfate. The desired product was purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to give a white solid (**107**), m.p. 148–150 °C, 70.7 mg, 50% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.39 – 7.17 (m, 24H), 7.11 (m, 2H), 6.85 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 4H), 1.66 (s, 1H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.5 (d,  $J$  = 23.2 Hz), 136.9 (d,  $J$  = 11.1 Hz), 135.6 (d,  $J$  = 14.1 Hz), 133.9 (d,  $J$  = 20.2 Hz), 133.4, 128.9 – 128.8 (m), 128.6 – 128.4 (m), 127.0, 51.8 (d,  $J$  = 22.2 Hz) ppm;  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -15.73 ppm.



**N-(2-(Diphenylphosphanoyl)benzyl)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)methanamine (108).**<sup>71</sup> Picinaldehyde (26.8 mg, 0.25 mmol) and (2-(diphenylphosphino)phenyl)methanamine **105** (76.4 mg, 0.26 mmol) were stirred at room temperature in methanol (2.0 mL) in the presence of an excess of  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  (88.8 mg, 0.63 mmol).

mmol) for 3 h. Then, after elimination of the solid by filtration,  $\text{NaBH}_4$  (11.4 mg, 0.30 mmol) was added, and the mixture was gently warmed for 30 min at 45 °C. The solvent was eliminated under reduced pressure, and after the addition of water (5.0 mL), the organic material was extracted with ethyl ether (3  $\times$  5.0 mL). The desired product was purified by column chromatography (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to give a colorless oil (**108**), 62.1 mg, 65% yield.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.36 (d,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.12 (m, 11H), 7.03 – 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.95 – 6.92 (m, 1H), 6.81 – 6.78 (m, 1H), 3.94 (s, 2H), 3.70 (s, 2H), 2.14 (s, 1H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  159.7, 148.9, 144.2 (d,  $J$  = 24.2 Hz), 136.6 (d,  $J$  = 11.1 Hz), 136.0, 135.6 (d,  $J$  = 14.1 Hz), 133.6 (d,  $J$  = 19.2 Hz), 133.5, 128.9 (d,  $J$  = 6.1 Hz), 128.8, 128.4, 128.3 (d,  $J$  = 6.1 Hz), 127.1, 121.8, 121.5, 54.3, 51.8 (d,  $J$  = 21.2 Hz) ppm;  $^{31}\text{P NMR}$  (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -15.78 ppm.



**5-(6-((3r,5r,7r)-Adamantan-1-yl)-4-methoxyphenyl)naphthalen-2-yl)-2-benzyl-2H-tetrazole (109).** To a 25 mL flame-dried resealable reaction tube of solvent flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar was added 6-((3r,5r,7r)-adamantan-1-yl)-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-naphthonitrile **70** (98.4 mg, 0.25 mmol), TBAF (0.25 mmol, 1 M in THF), TMS-N<sub>3</sub> (57.6 mg, 0.50 mmol) and THF (0.2 mL) under nitrogen and the resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at 85 °C for 24 h. The reaction mixture was then transferred to a separatory funnel and TBAF was removed by washing the organic phase with 1 M aqueous HCl solution (10.0 mL). After the organic phase was removed under reduced pressure, the crude product was washed with the mixed solvent ( $V_{\text{DCM}} : V_{\text{PE}} = 1 : 4$ , 3  $\times$  5.0 mL) to give a white solid, m.p. 306-308 °C, 76.5 mg, 70% yield.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.64 (s, 1H), 8.25 – 8.15 (m, 2H), 8.15 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.99 – 7.80 (m, 1H), 7.71 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 6H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.73 (s, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ )  $\delta$  158.6, 155.8, 139.7, 138.1, 134.4, 131.5, 131.4, 129.3, 129.2, 126.6, 126.3, 125.7, 125.0, 124.3, 124.0, 121.4, 112.7, 55.3, 40.1, 36.6(2), 36.5(6), 28.4 ppm.  $\text{HRMS}$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_4\text{O}$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 437.2336; found: 437.2332.

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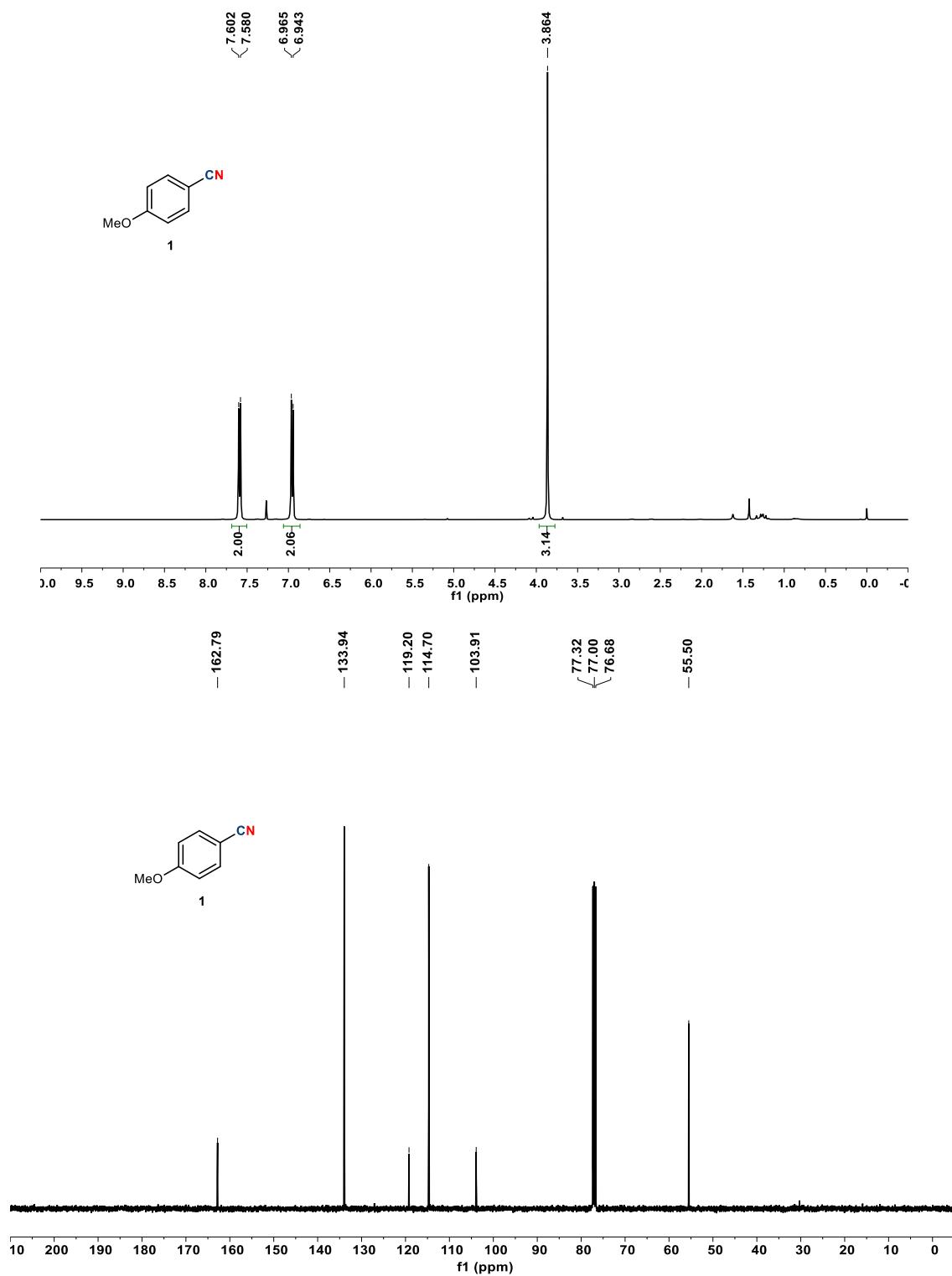
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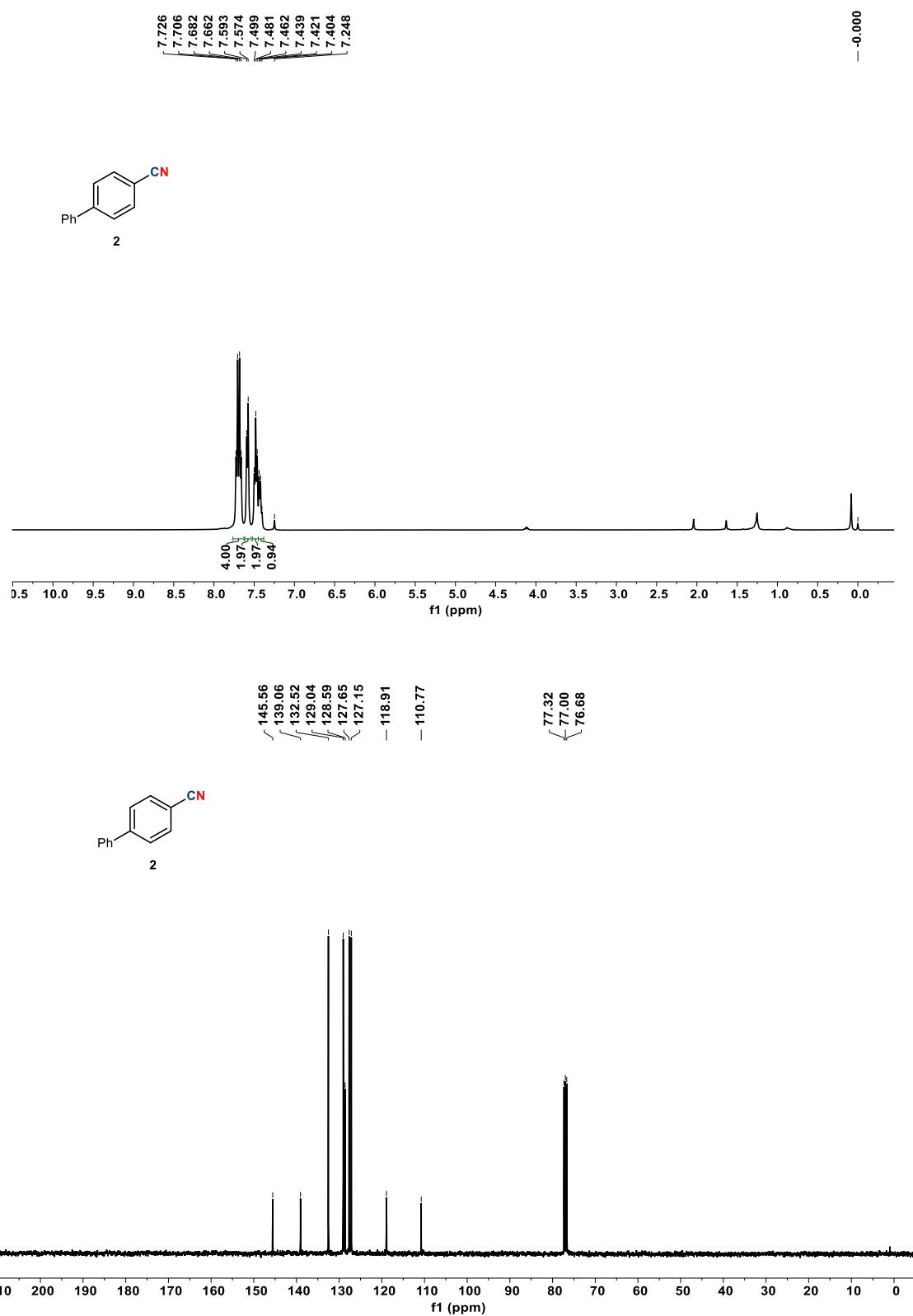
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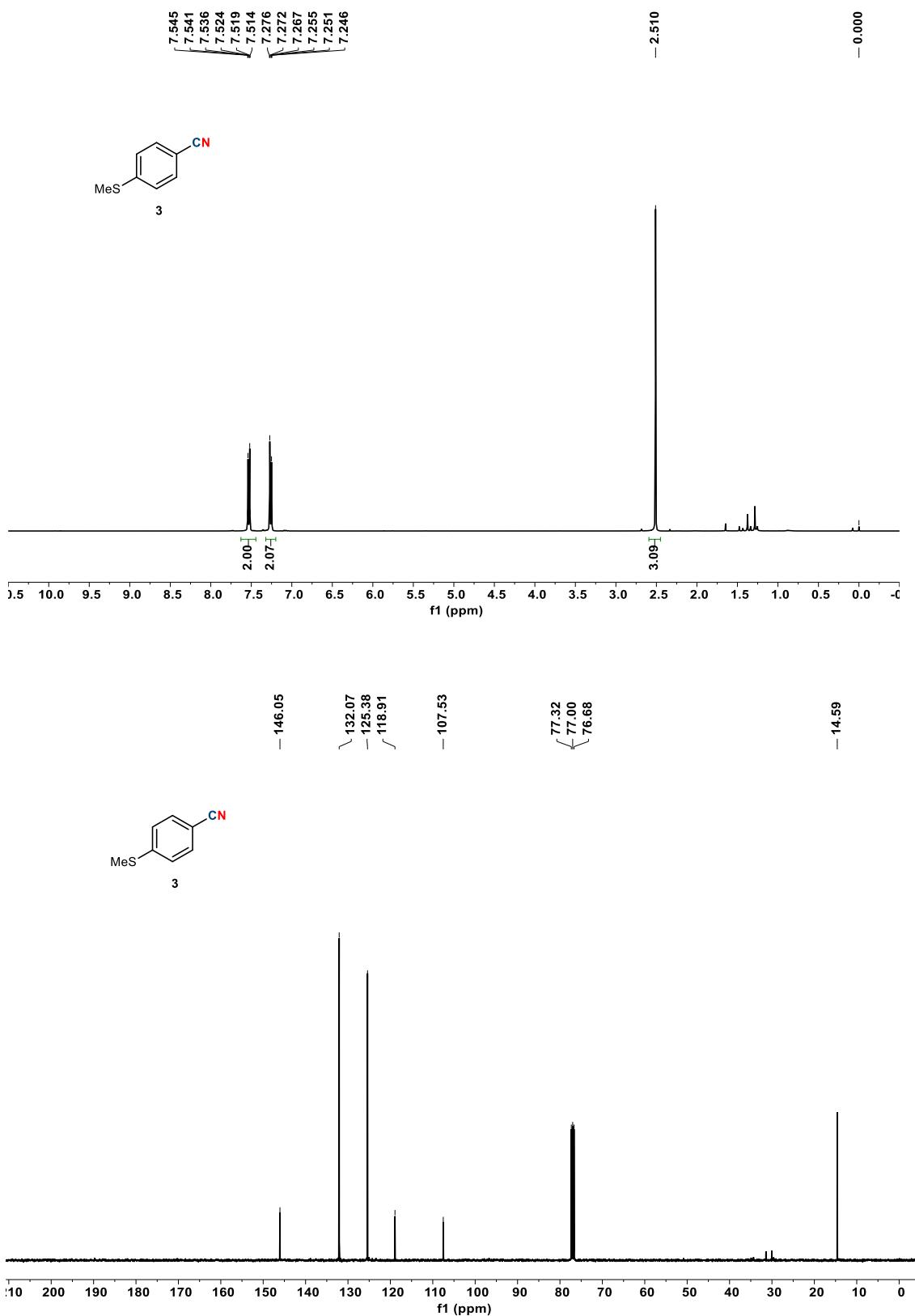
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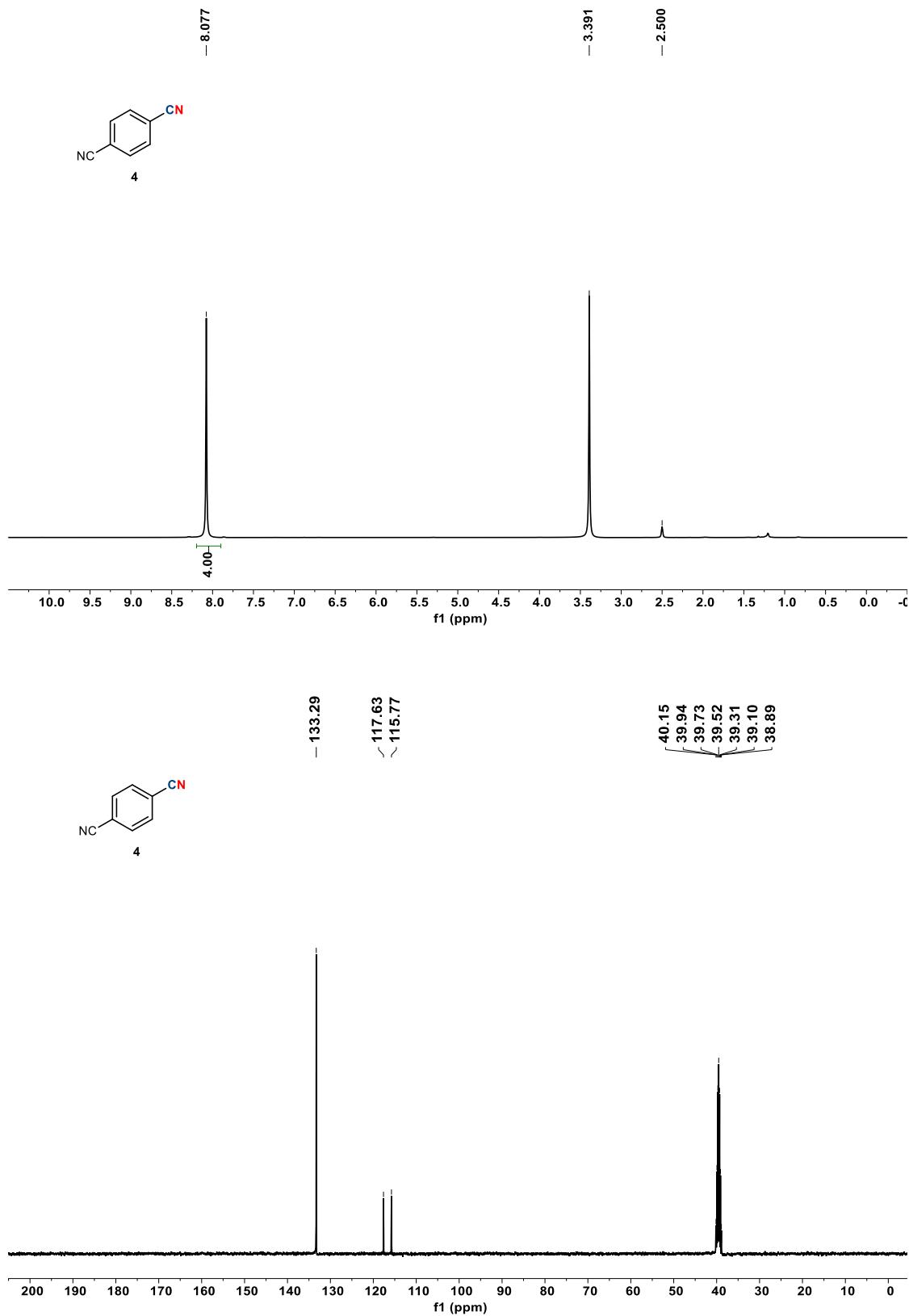
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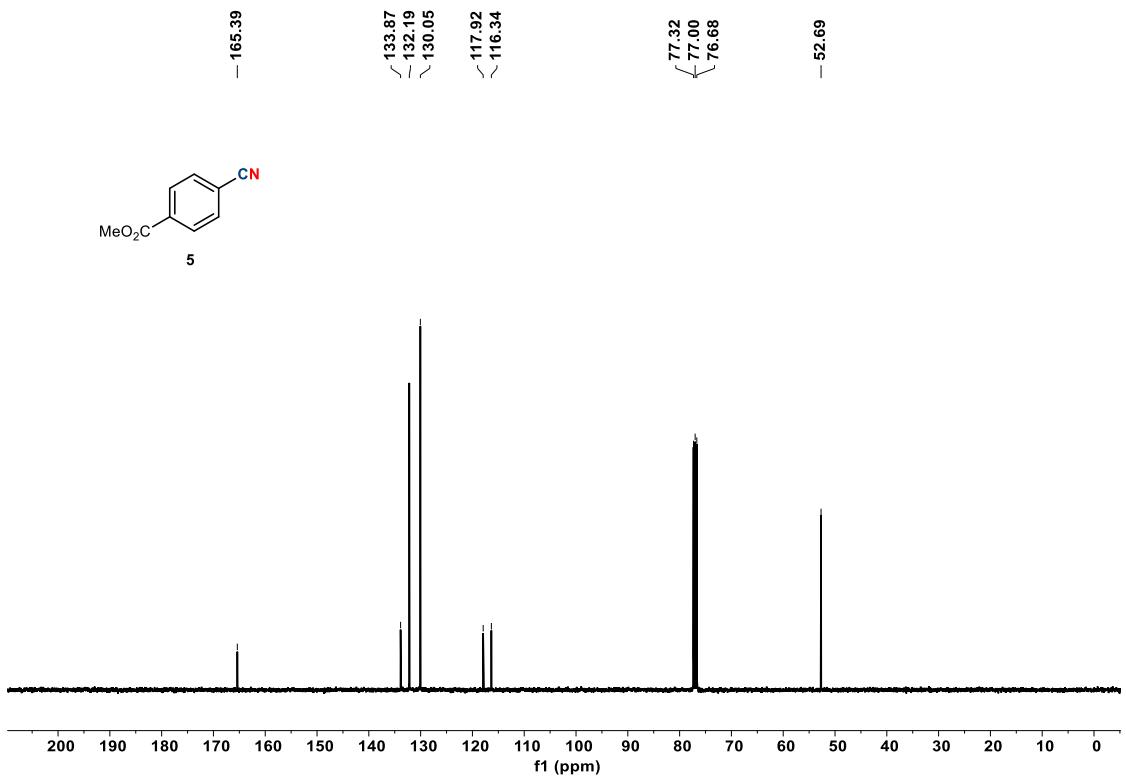
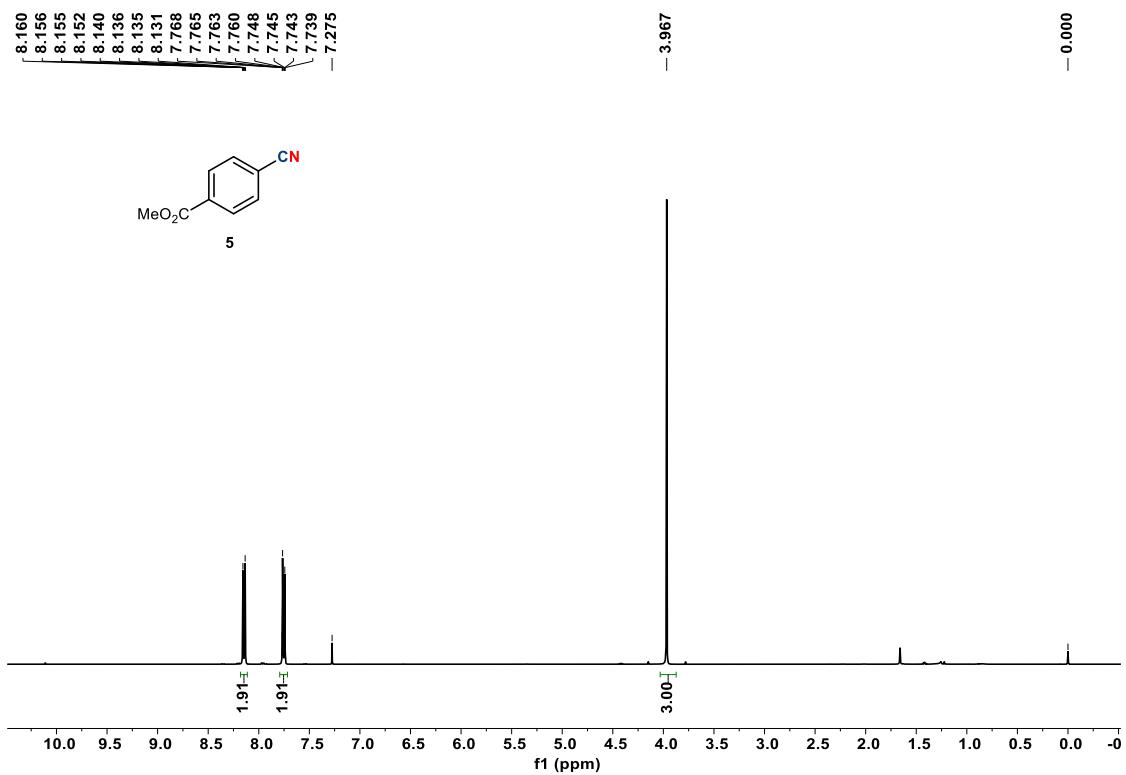
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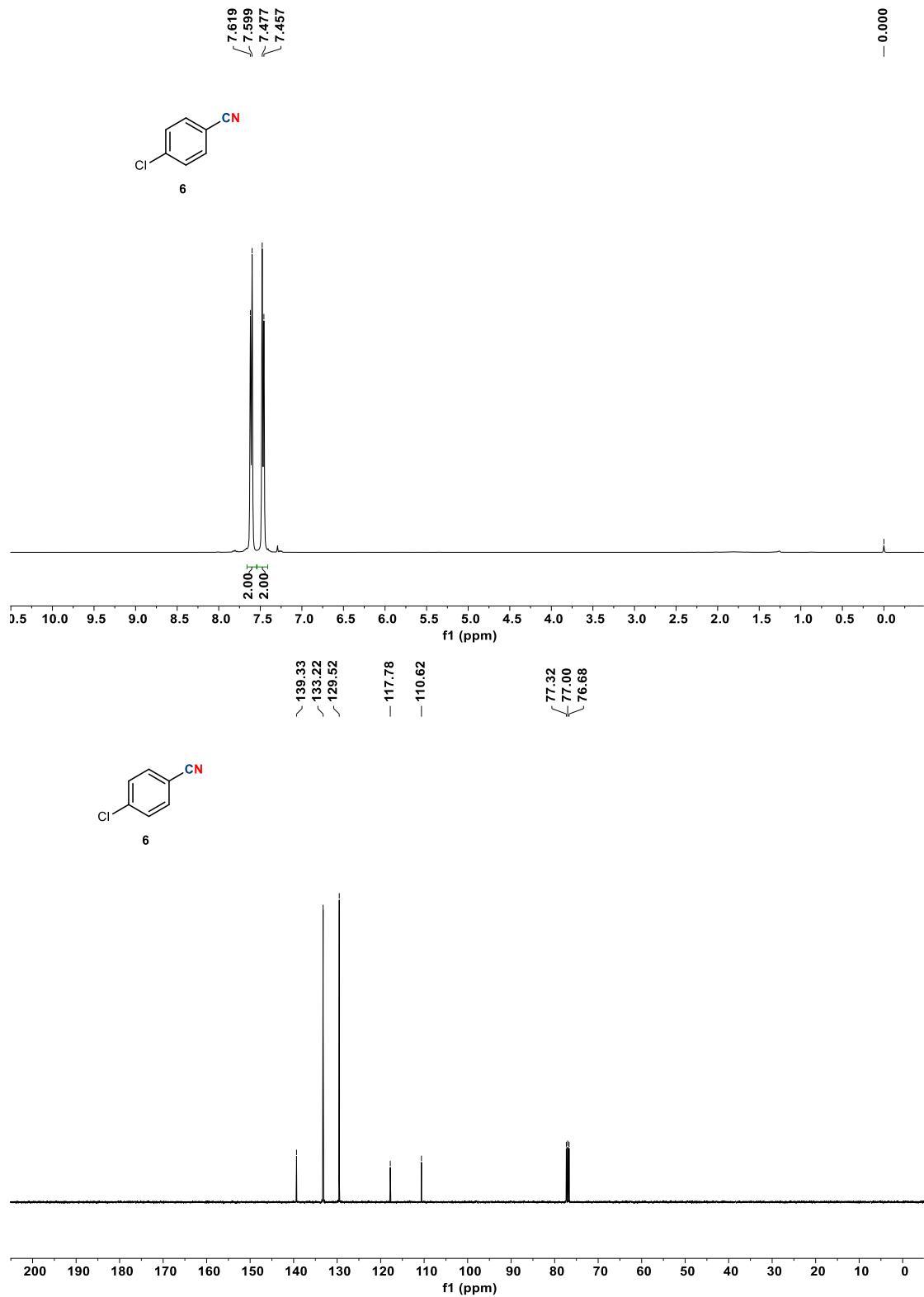


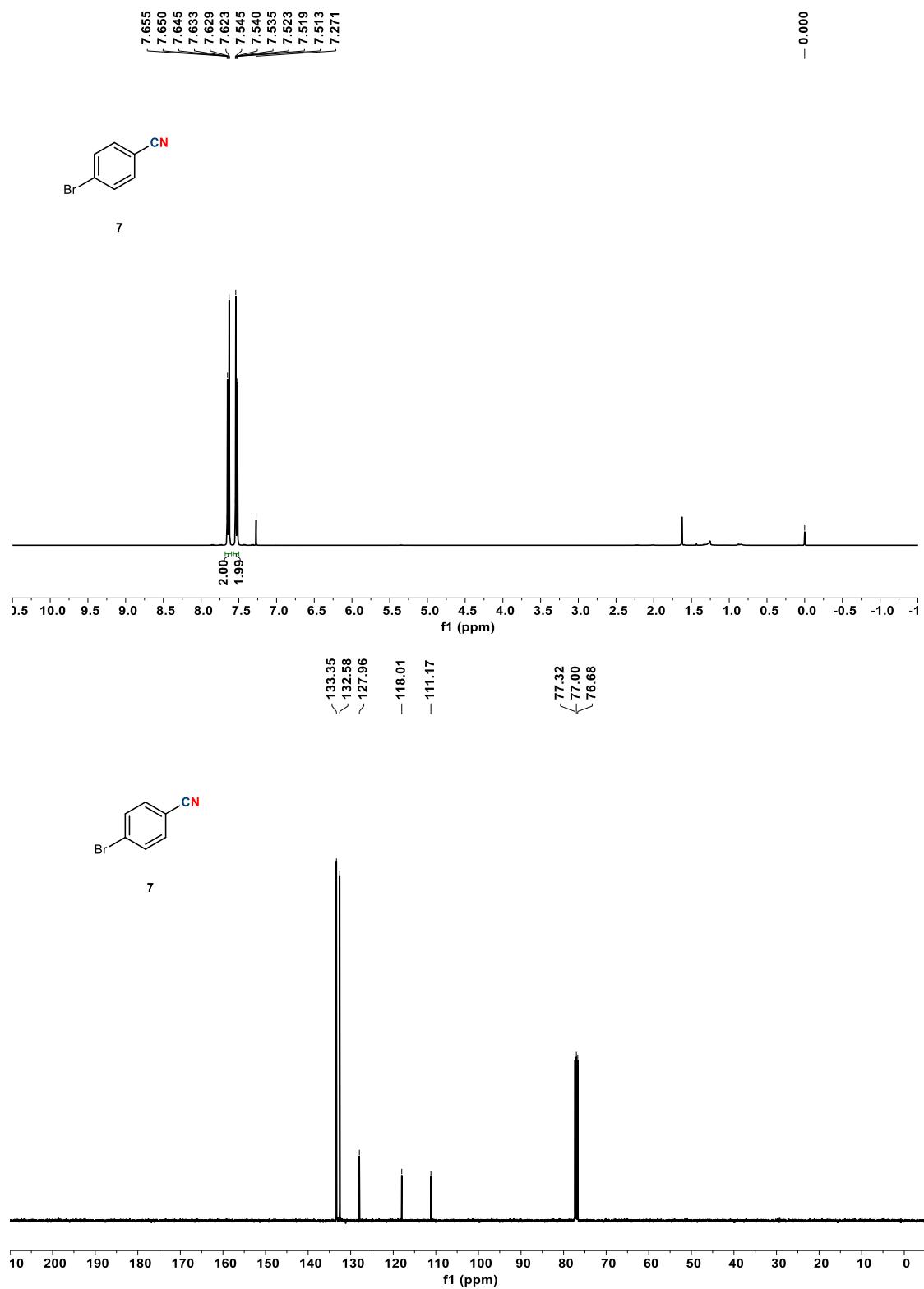


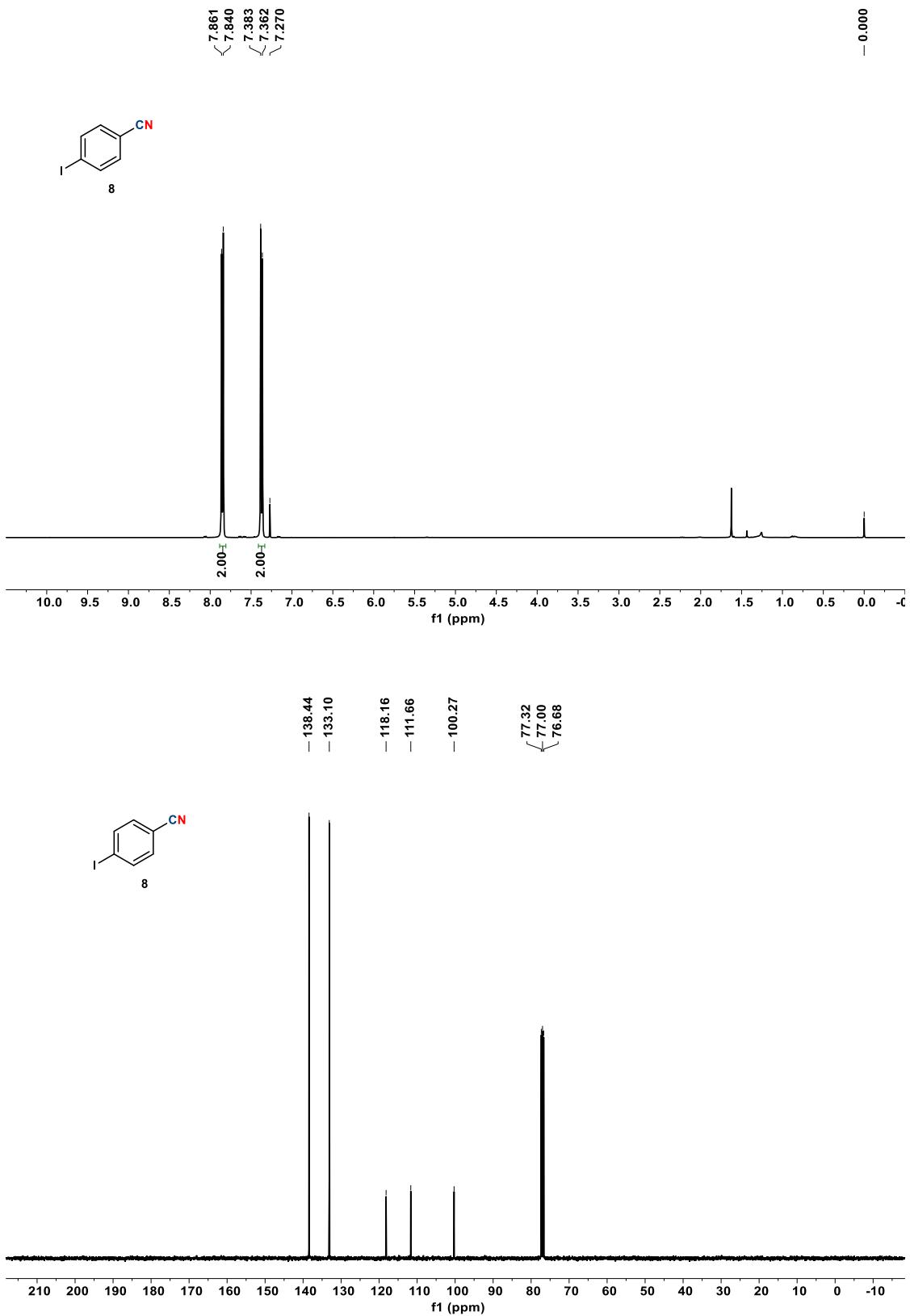


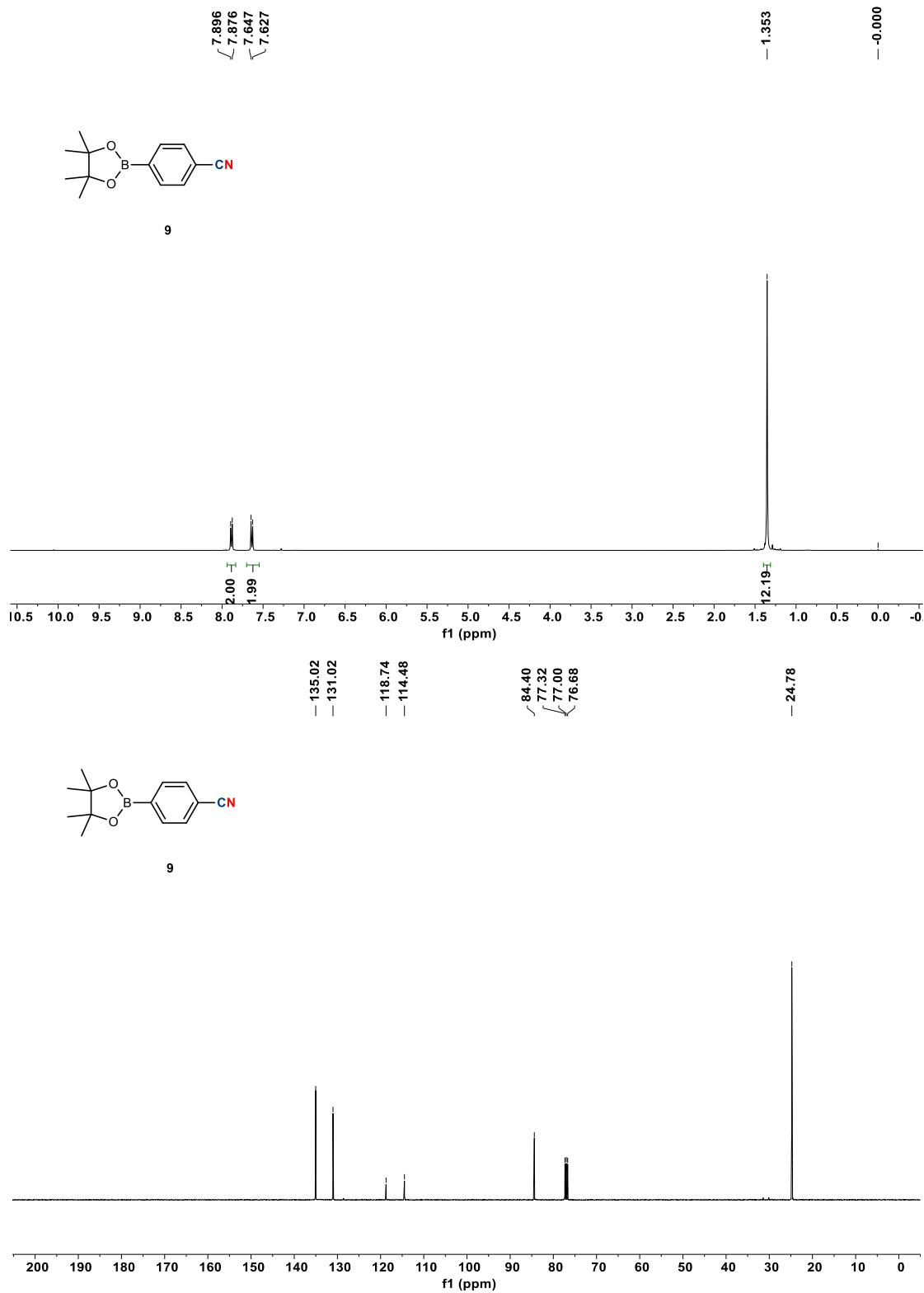


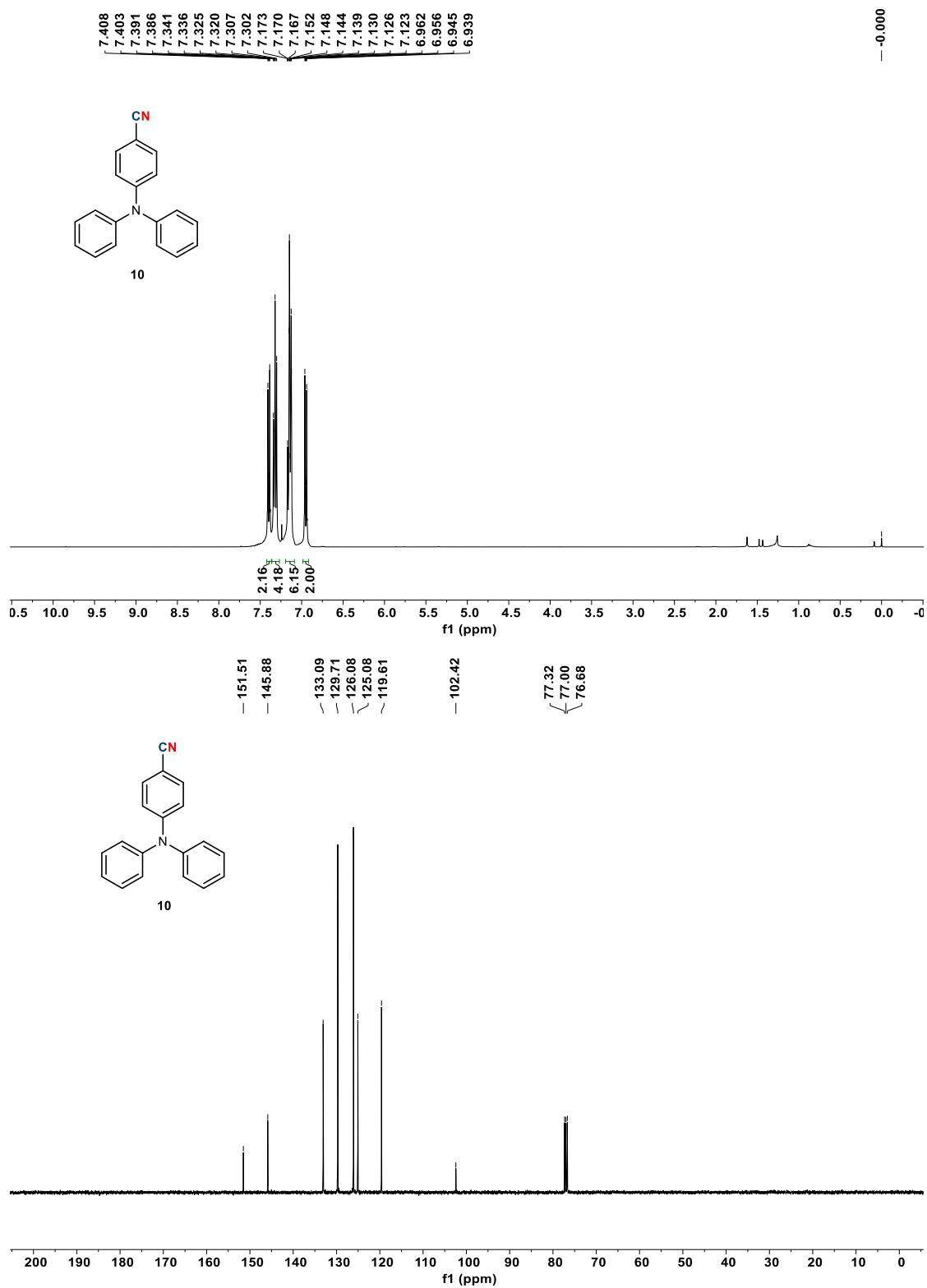


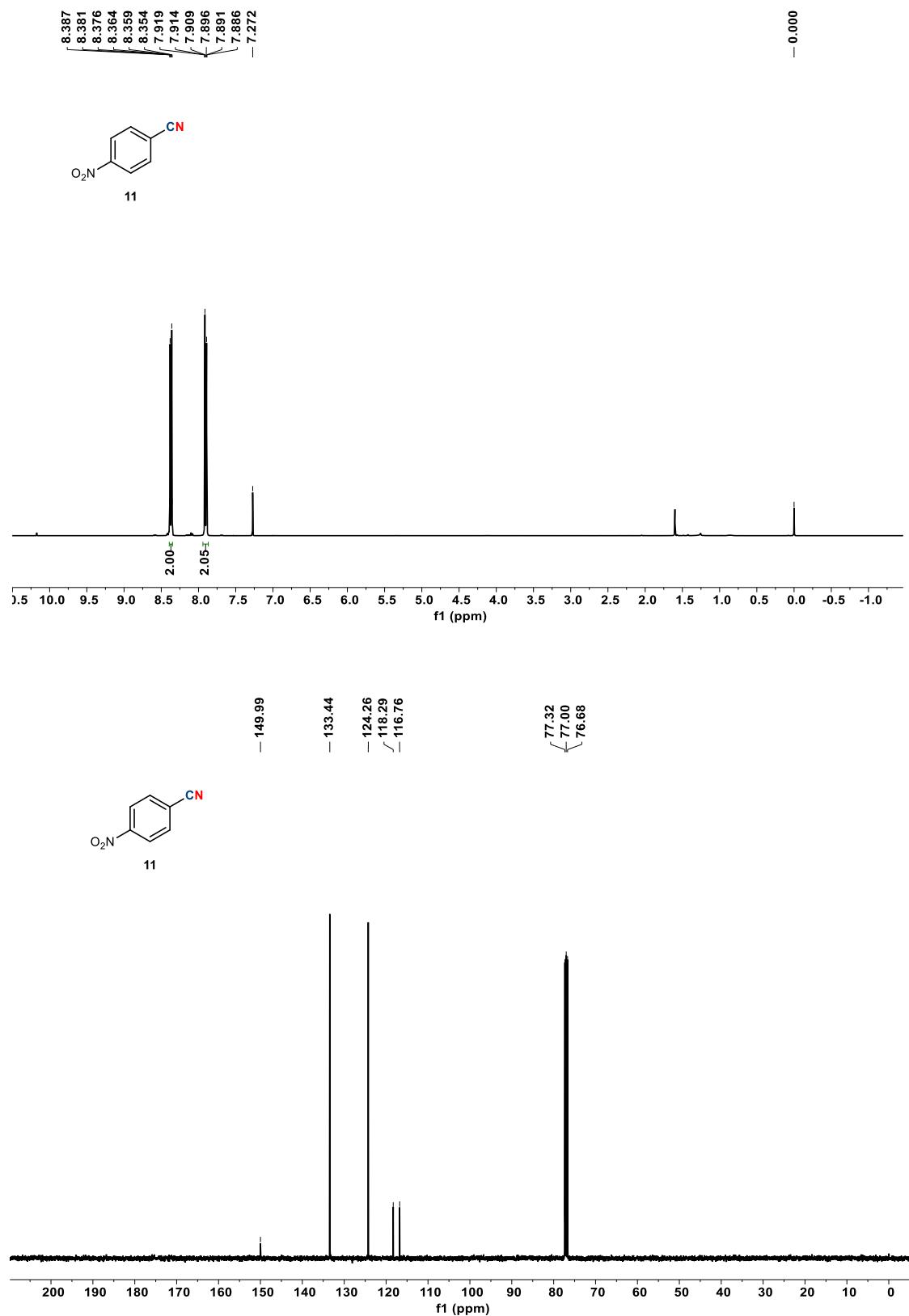


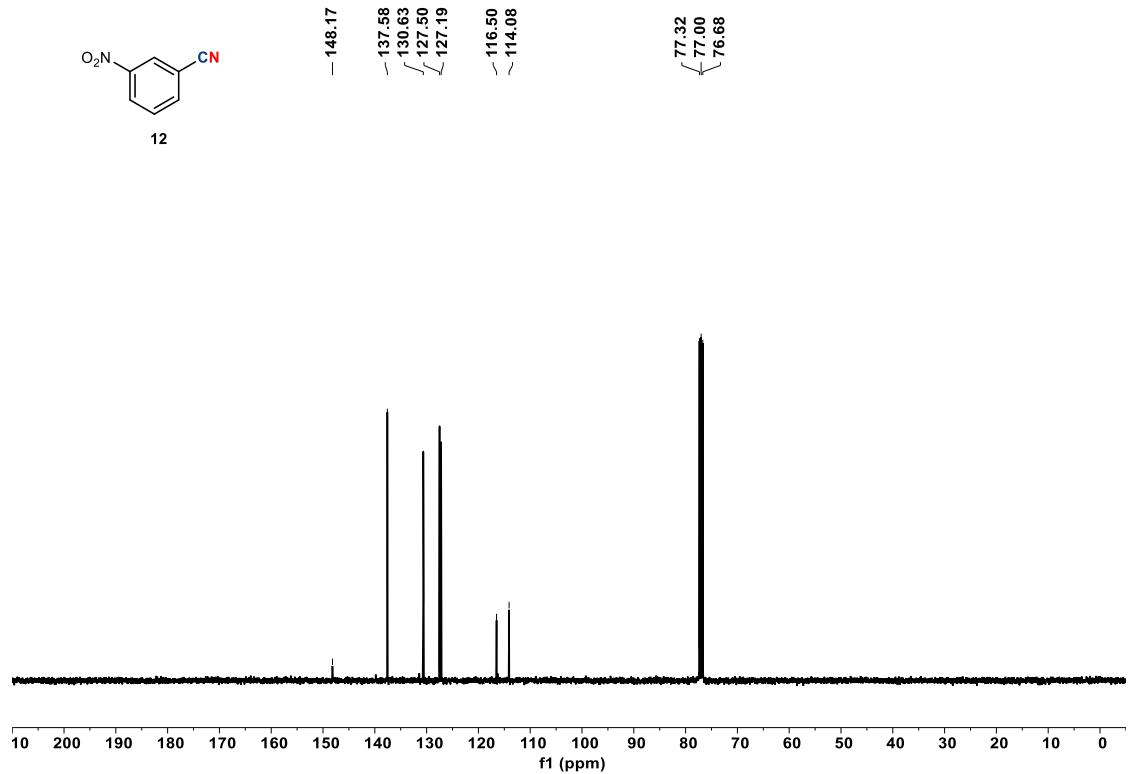
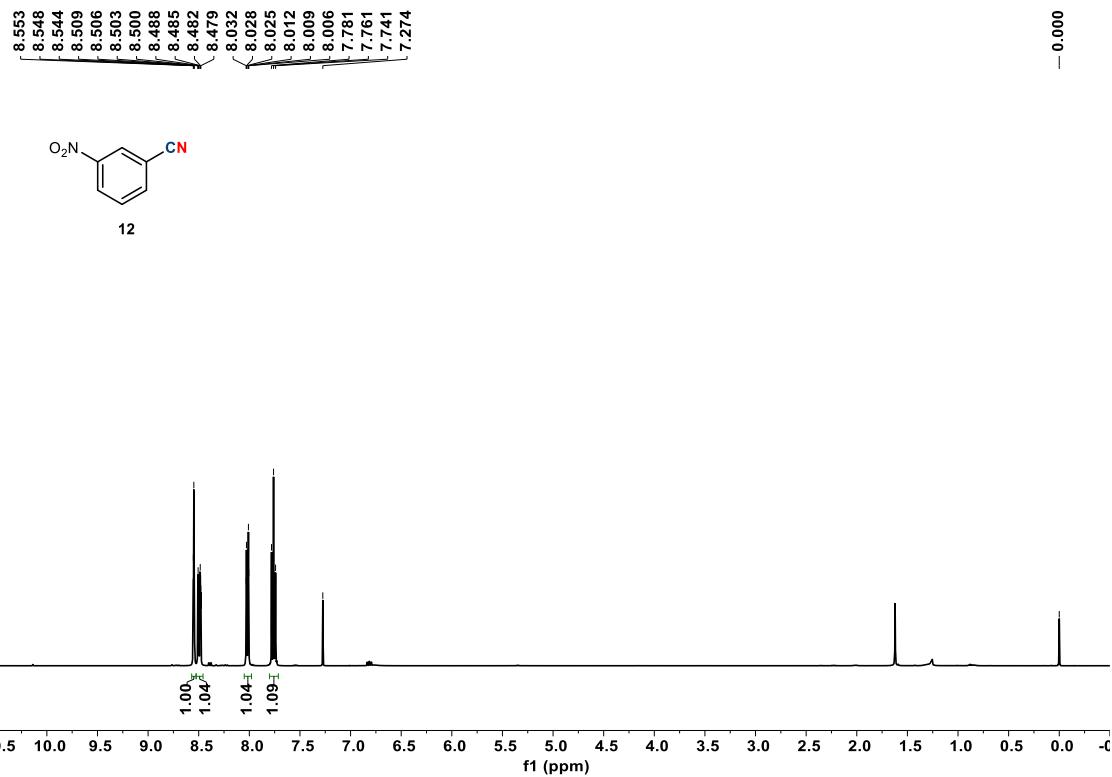


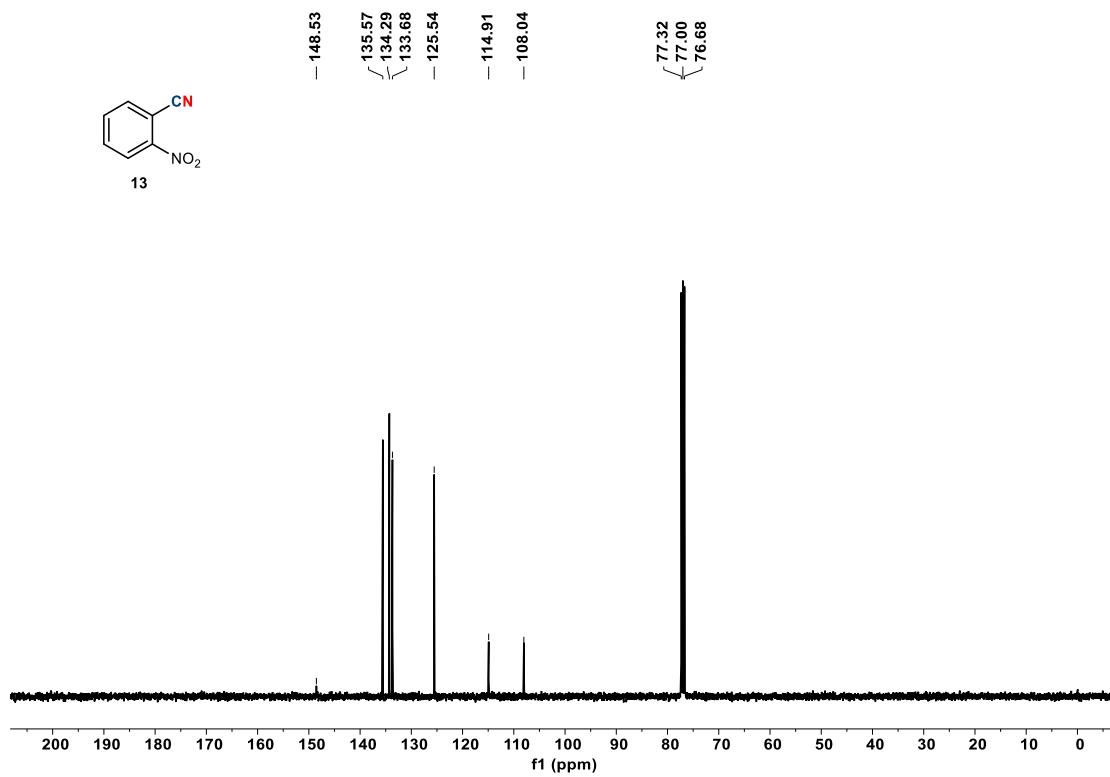
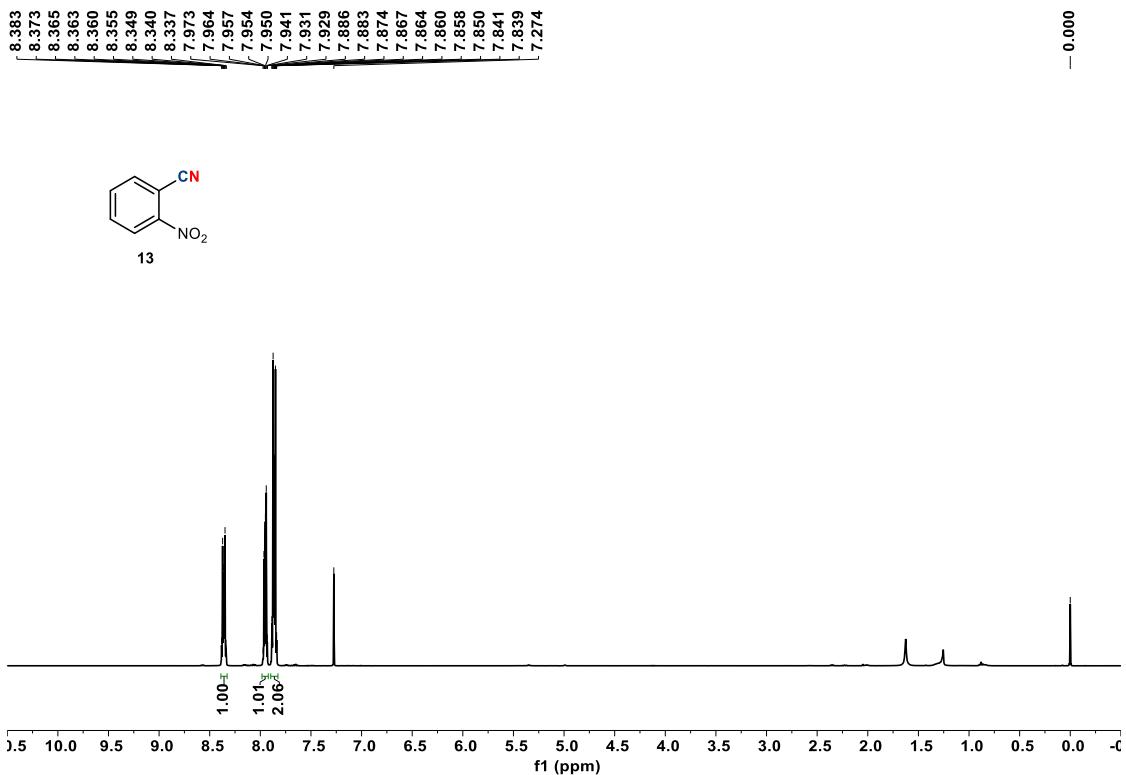


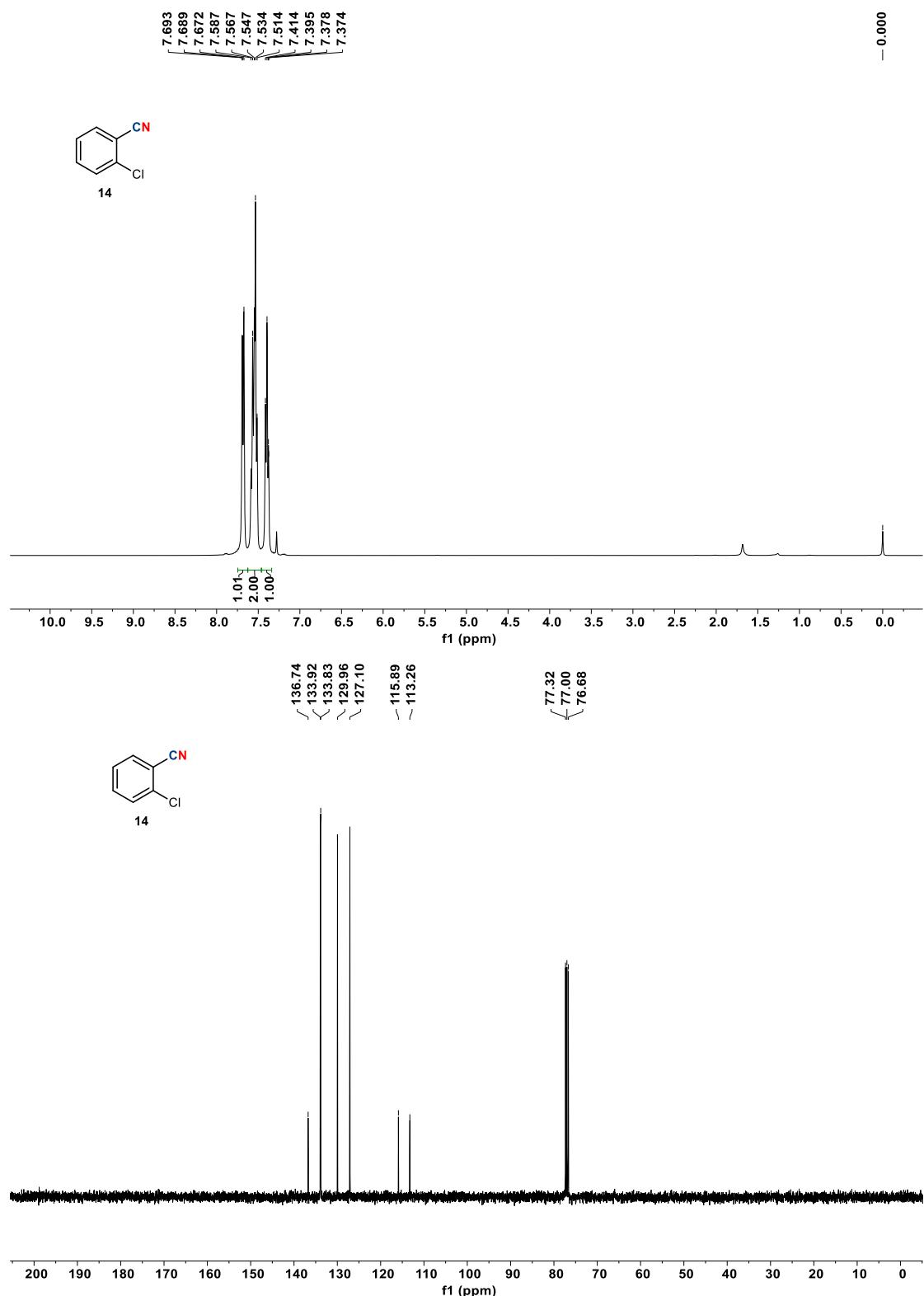


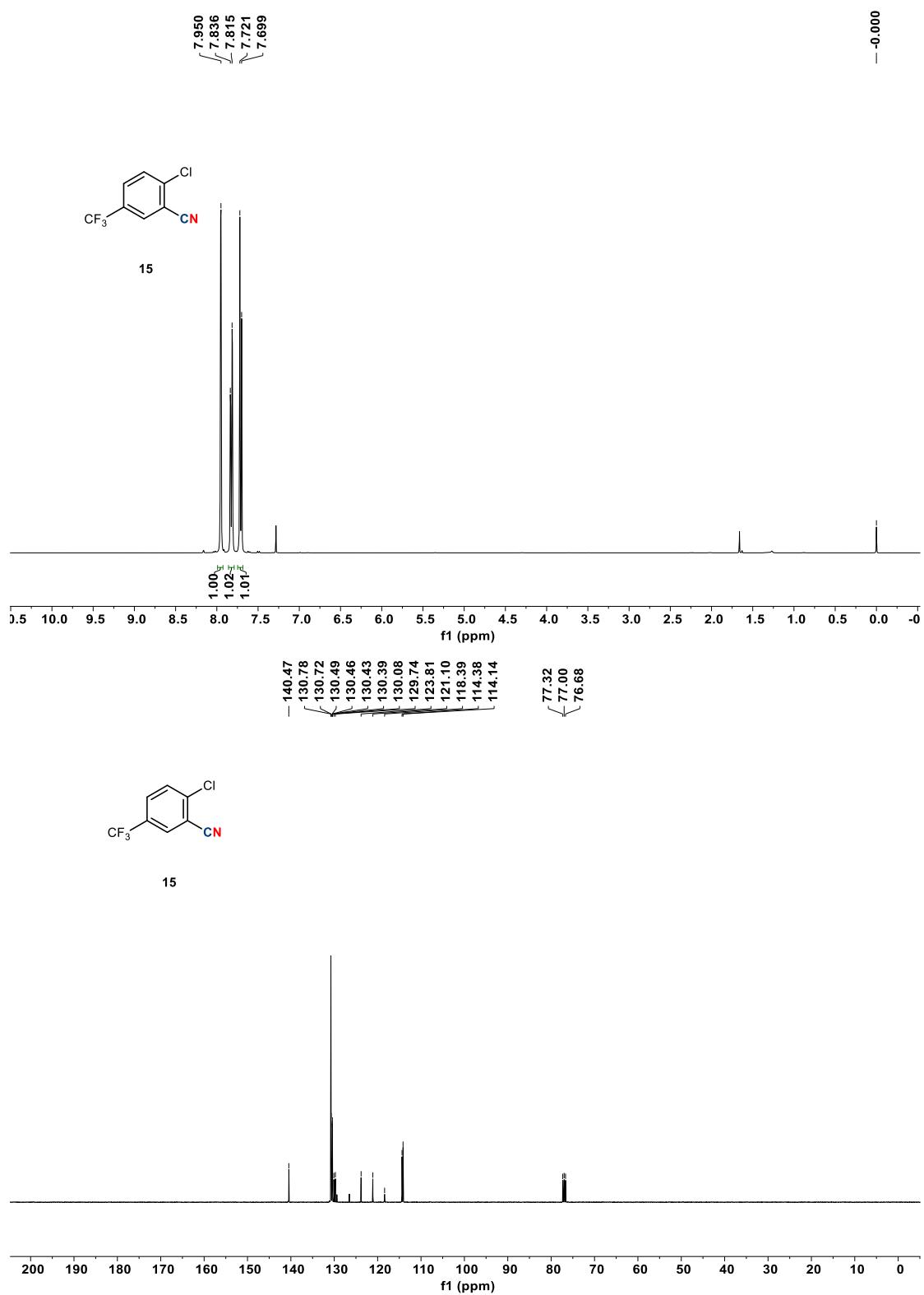


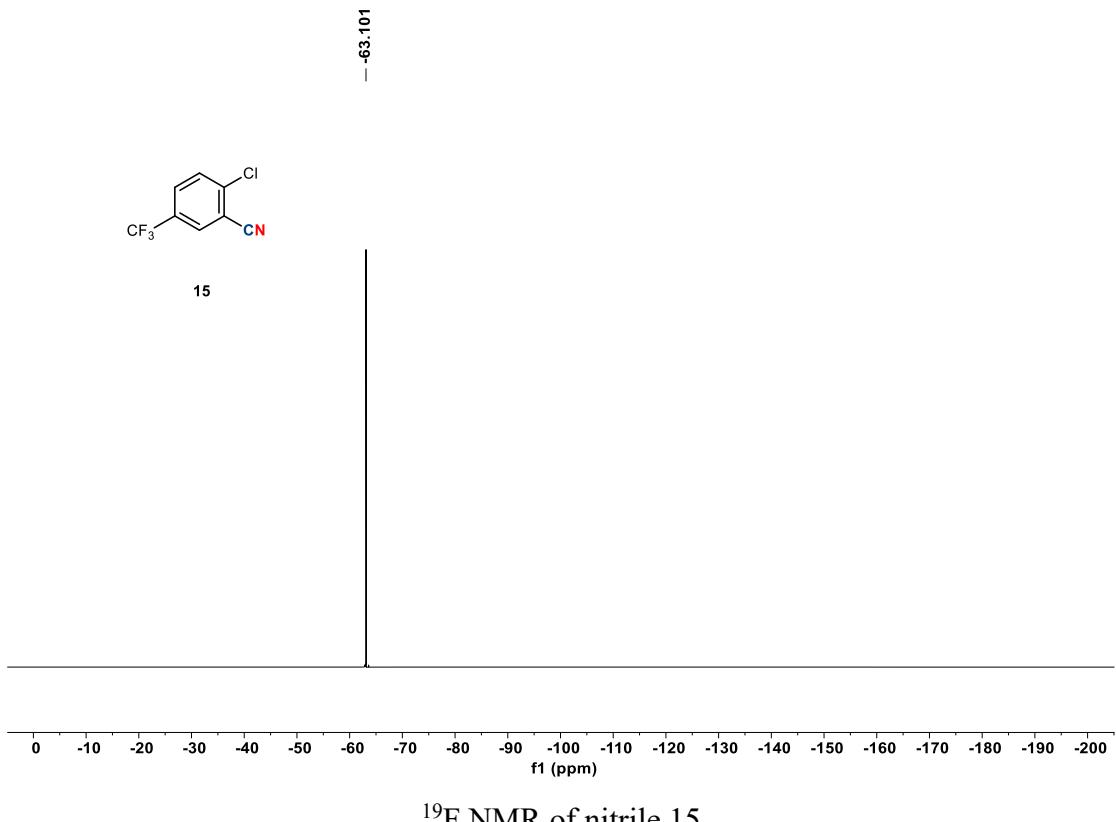


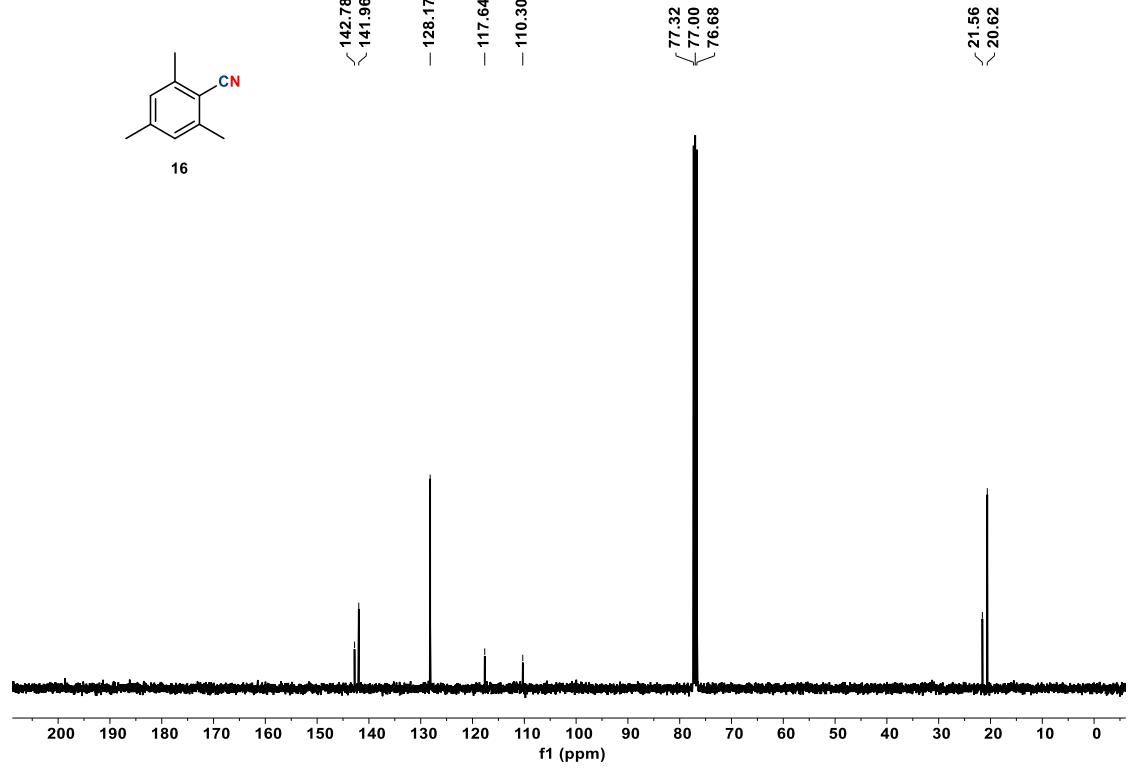
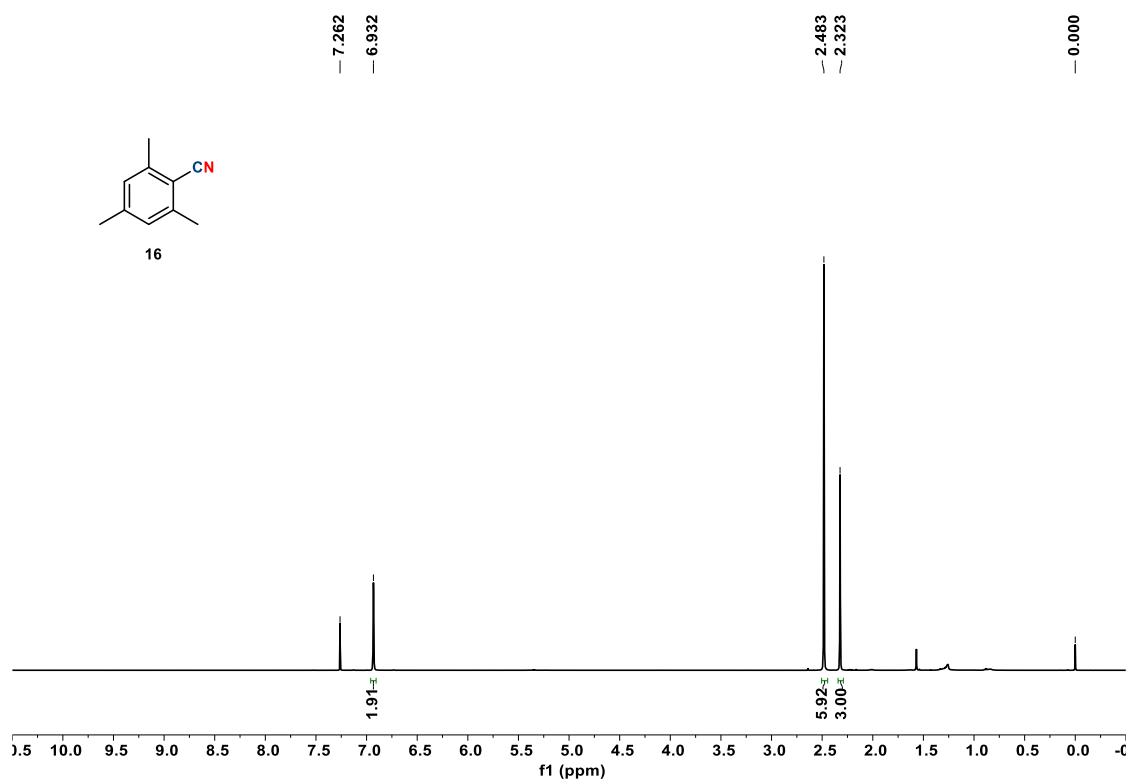


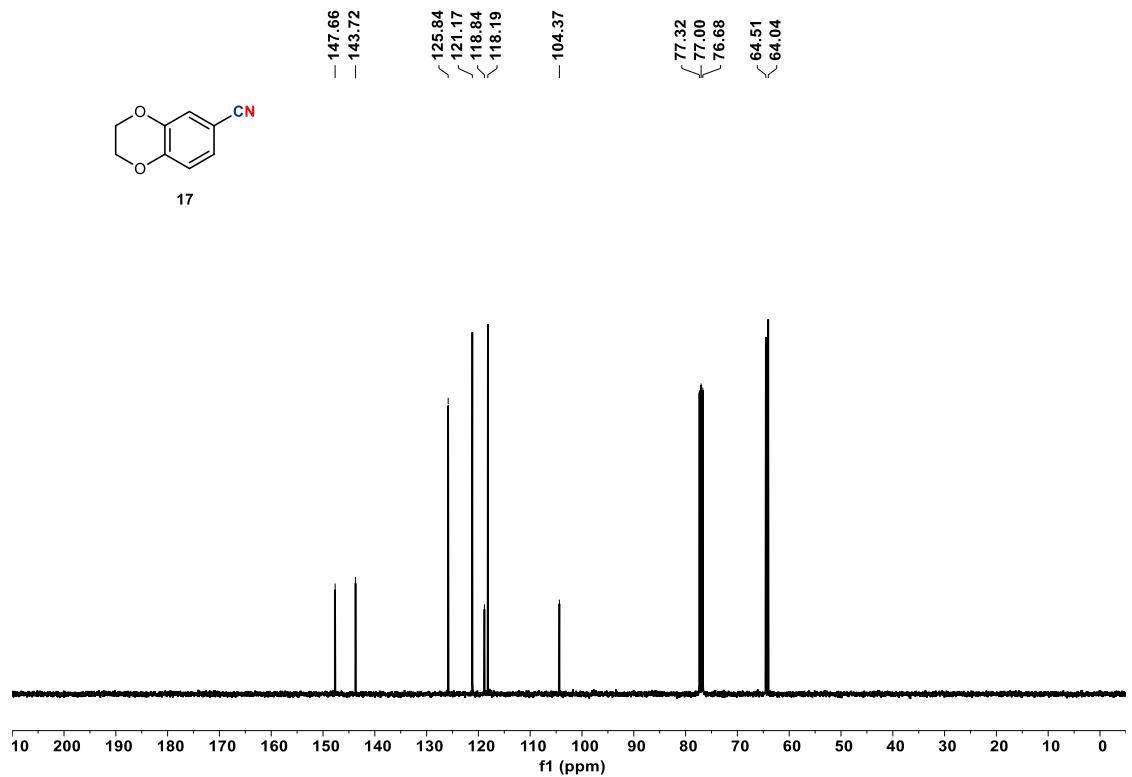
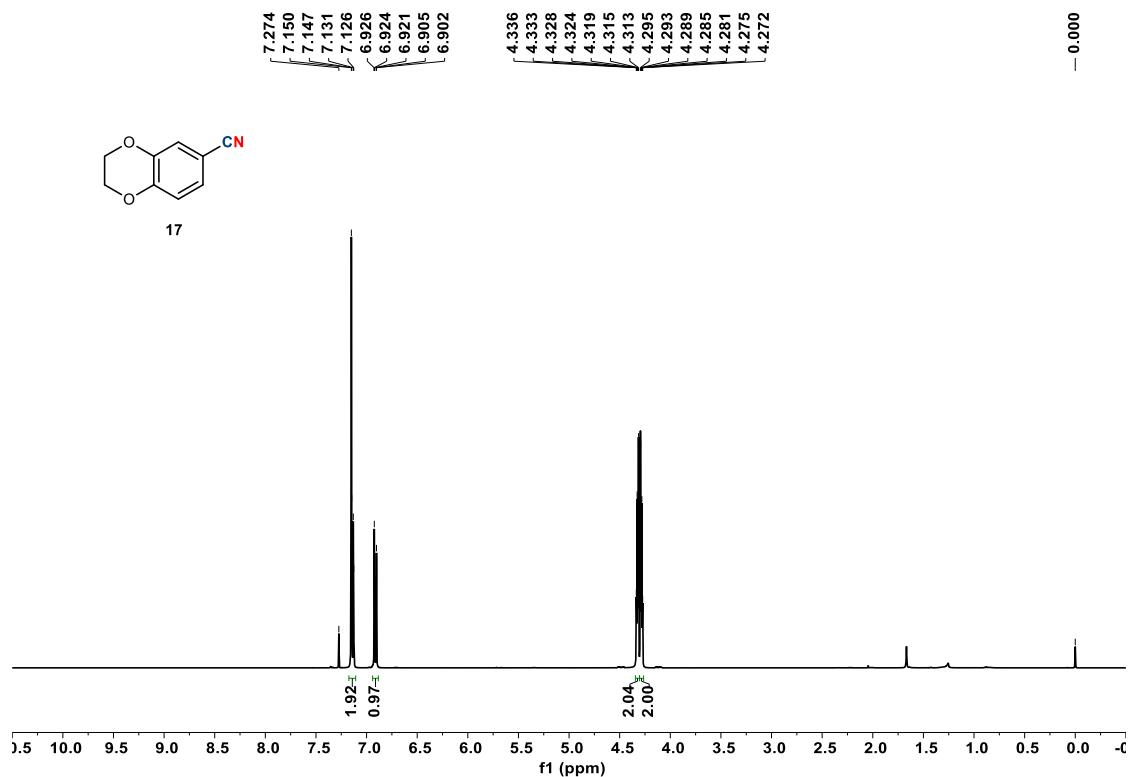


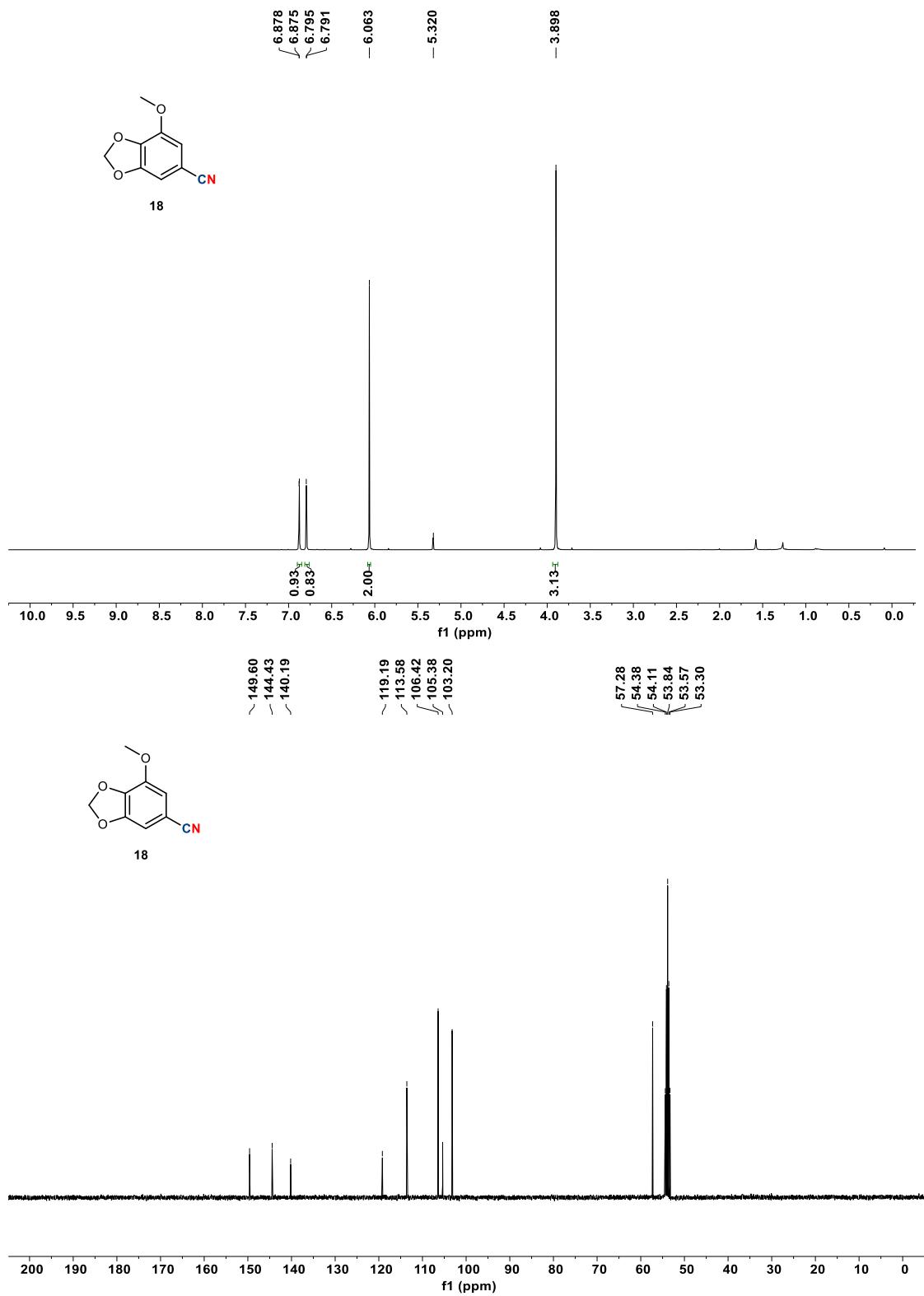


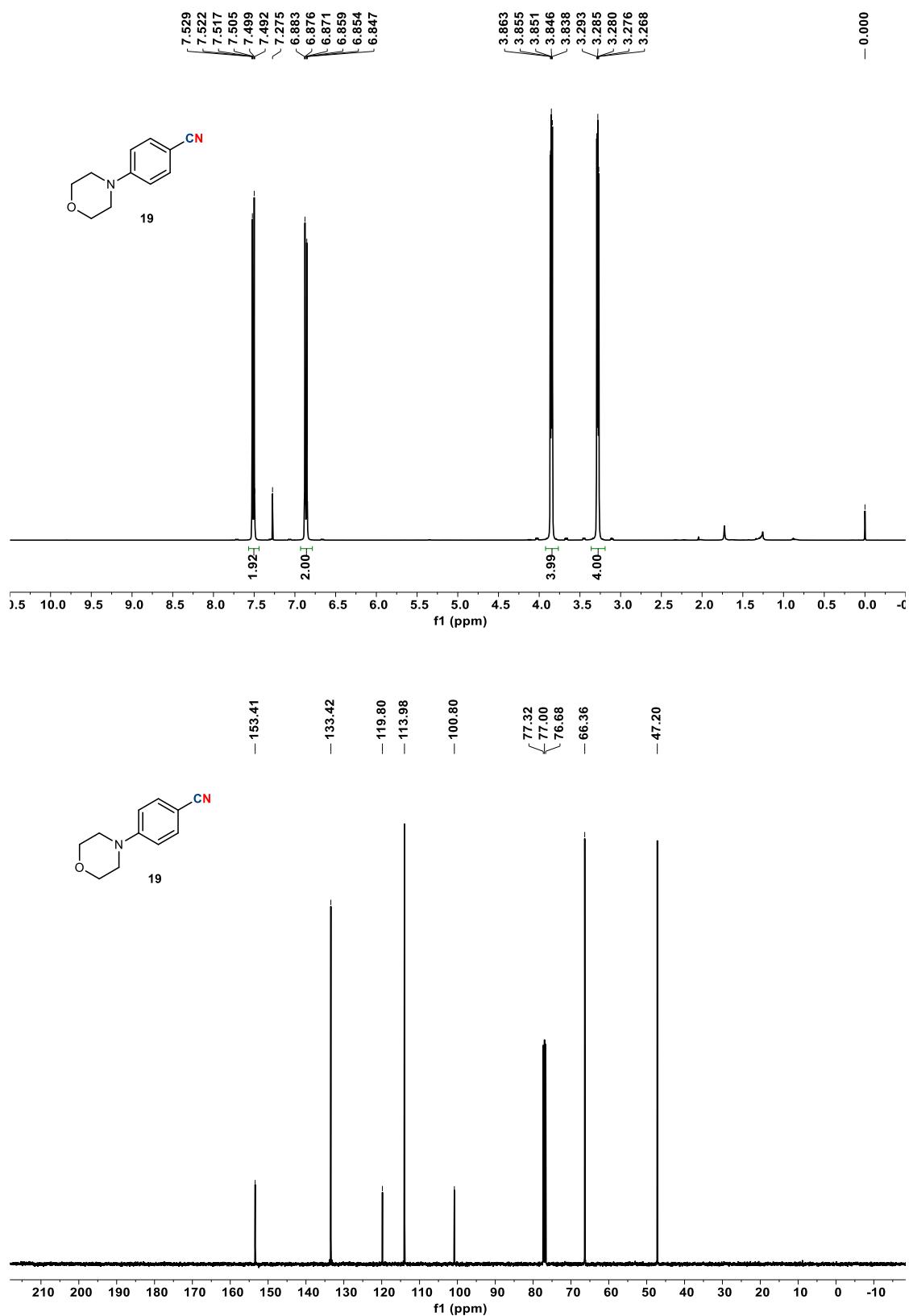


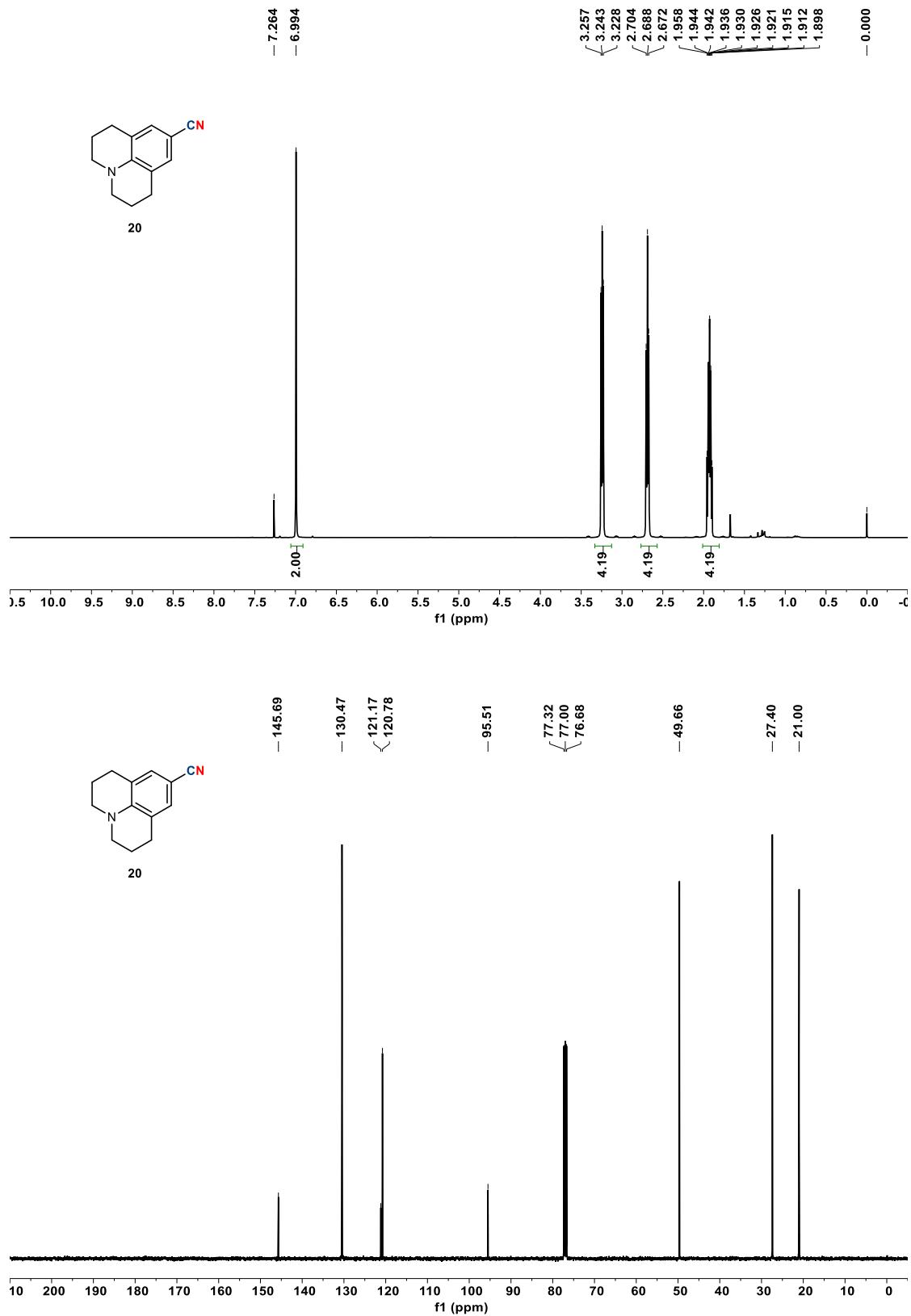


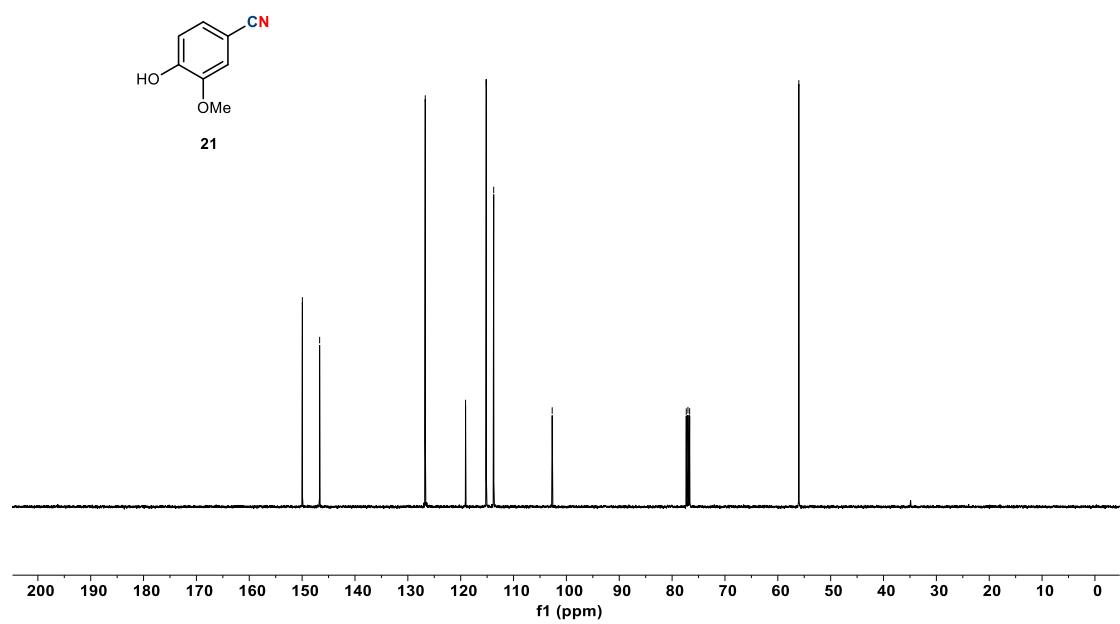
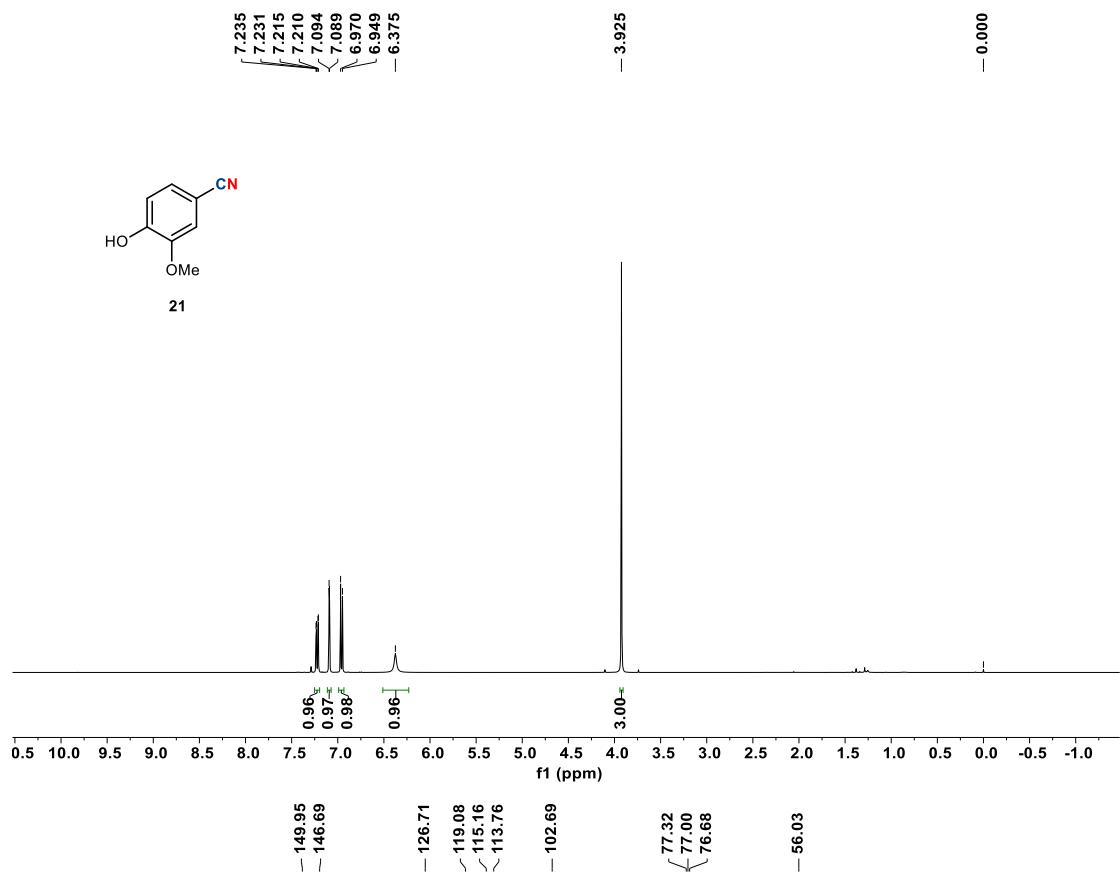


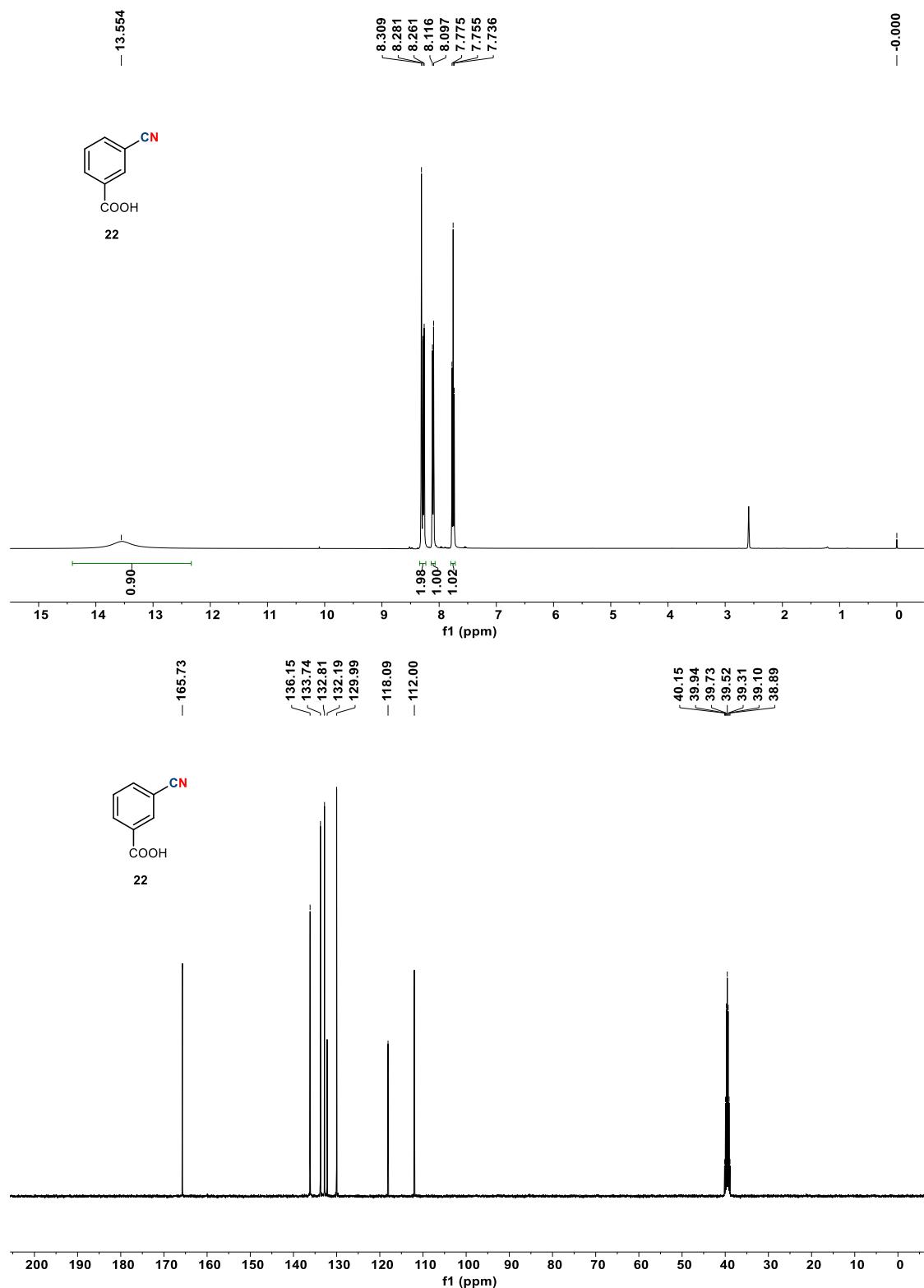


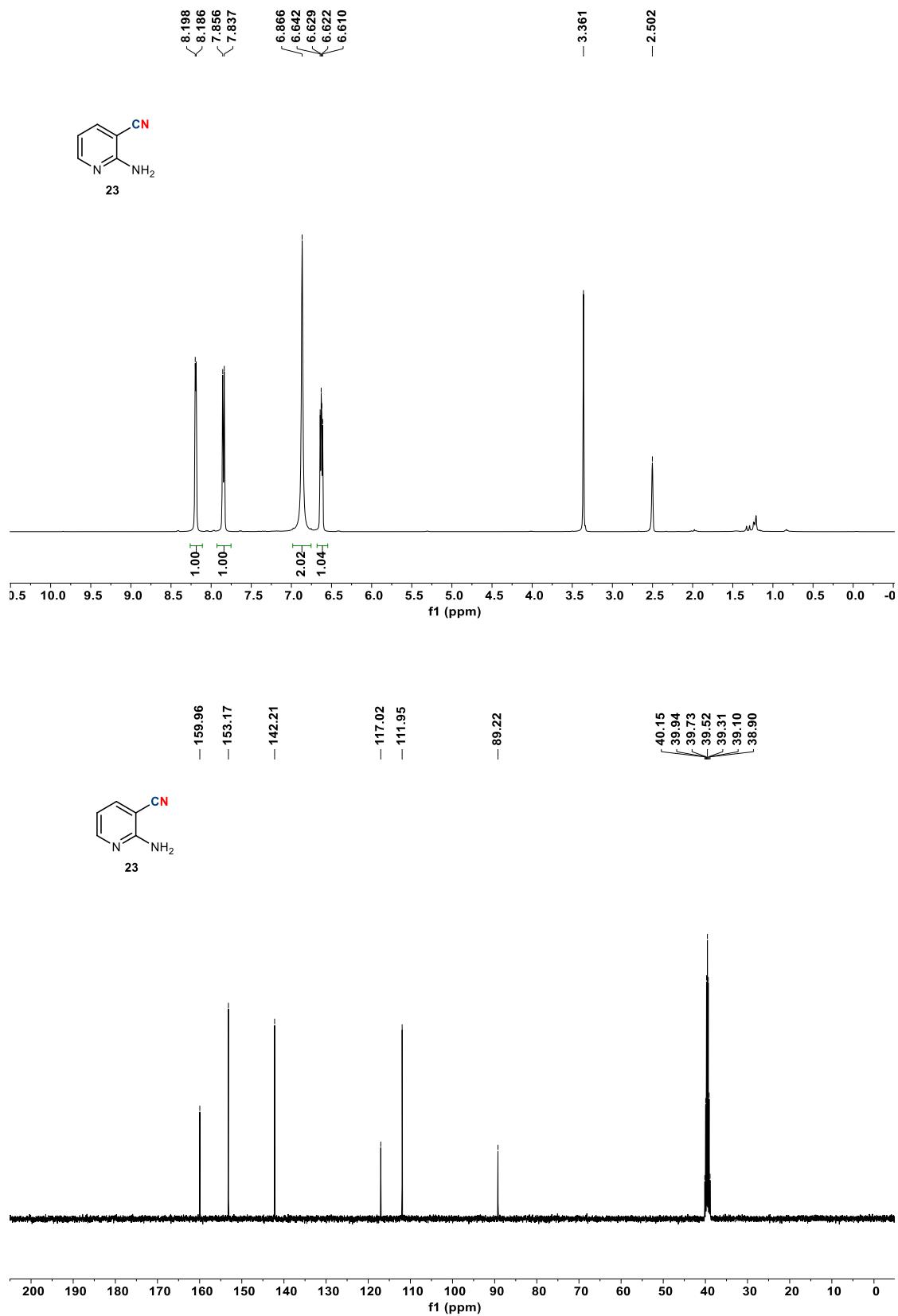


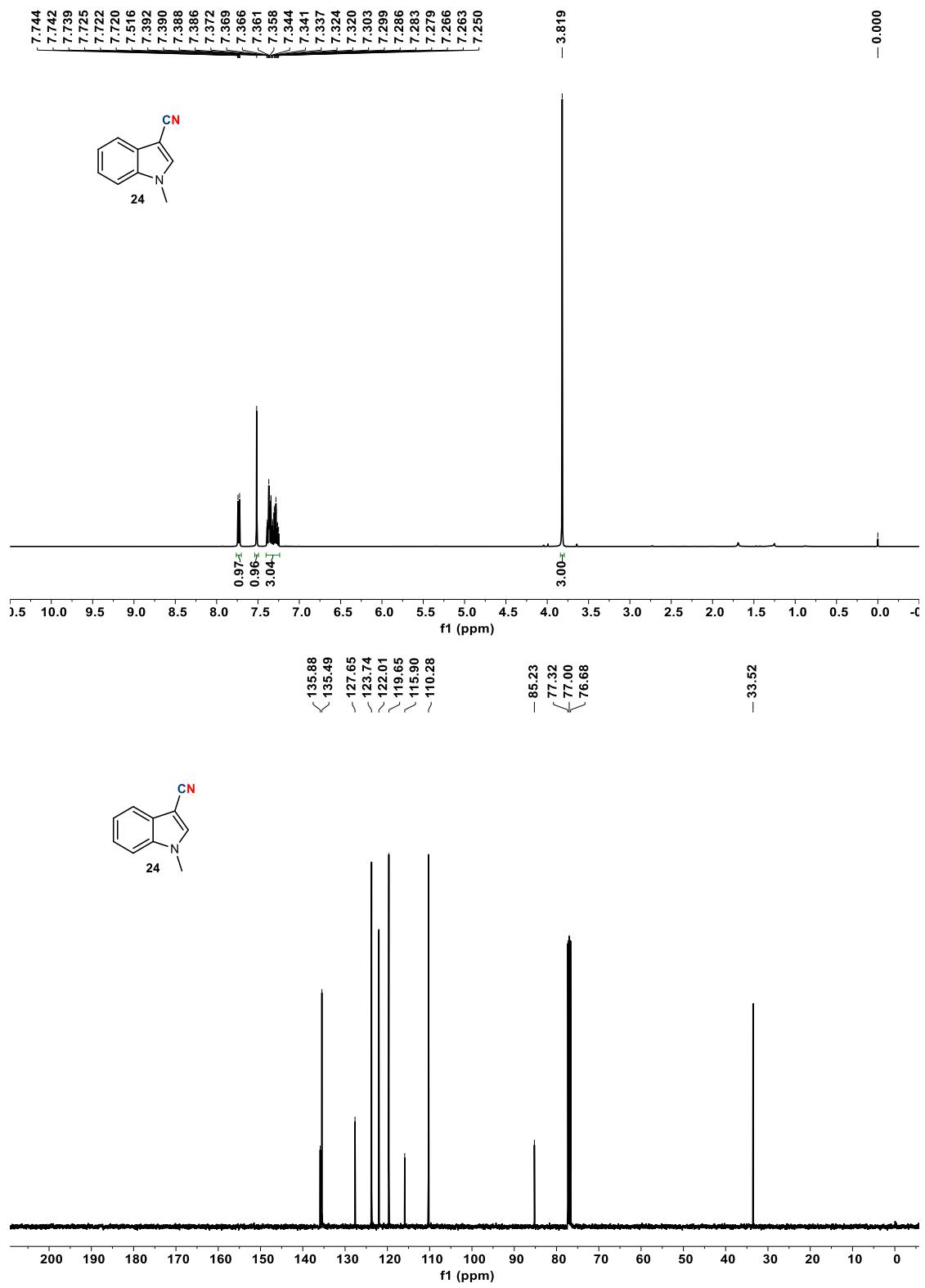


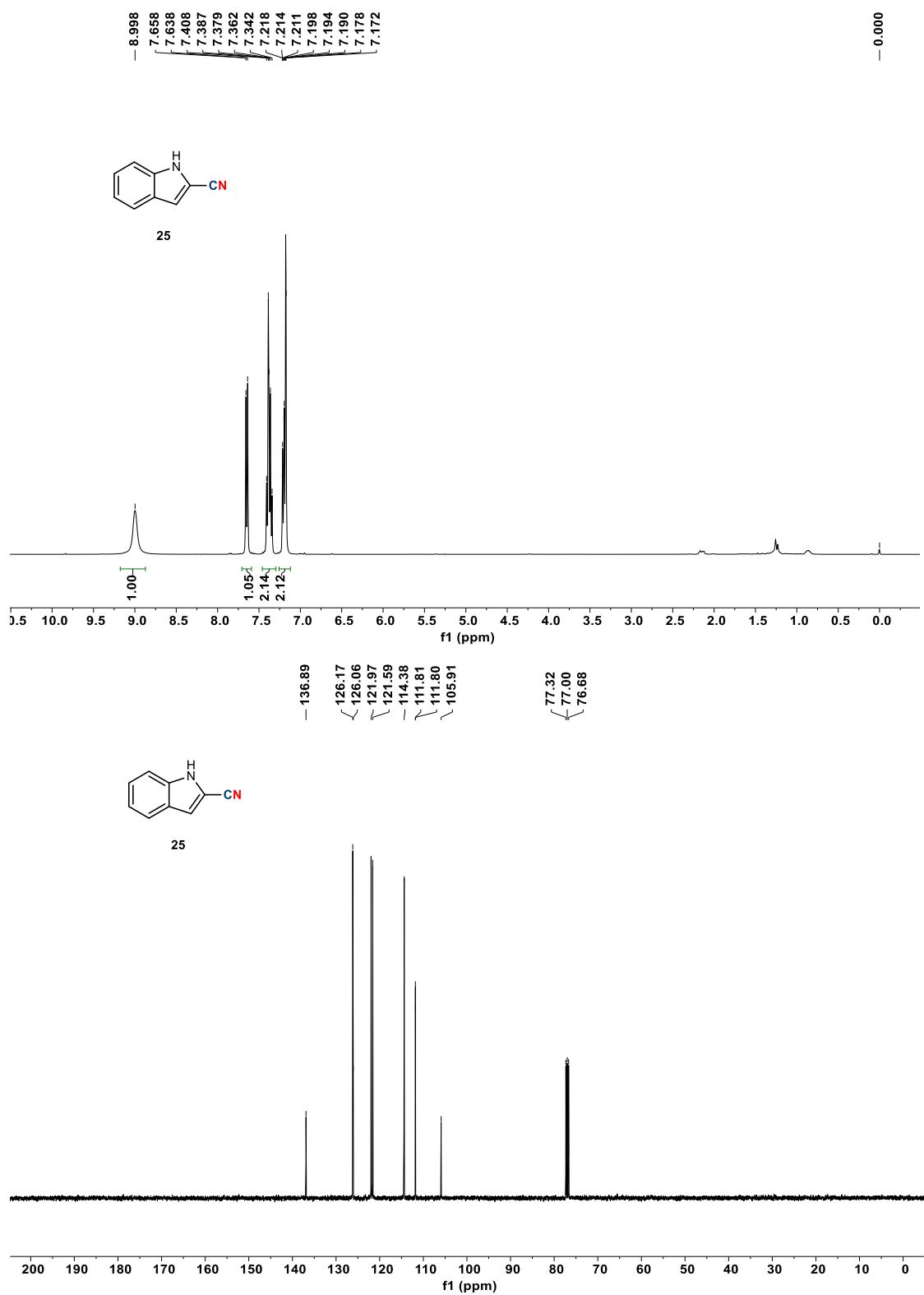






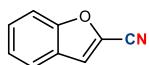




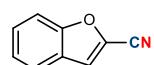
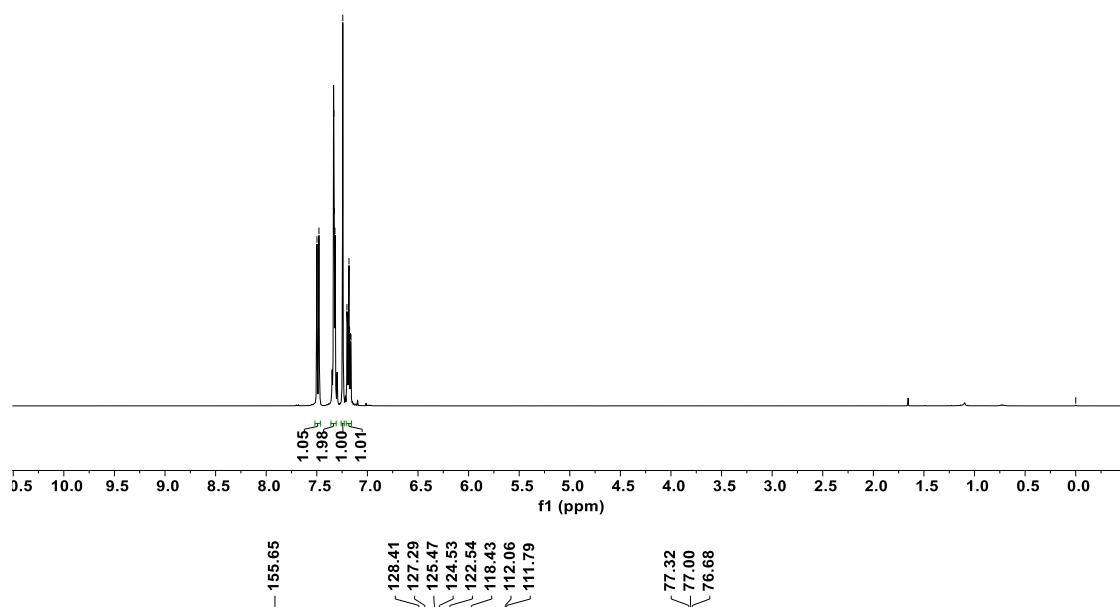


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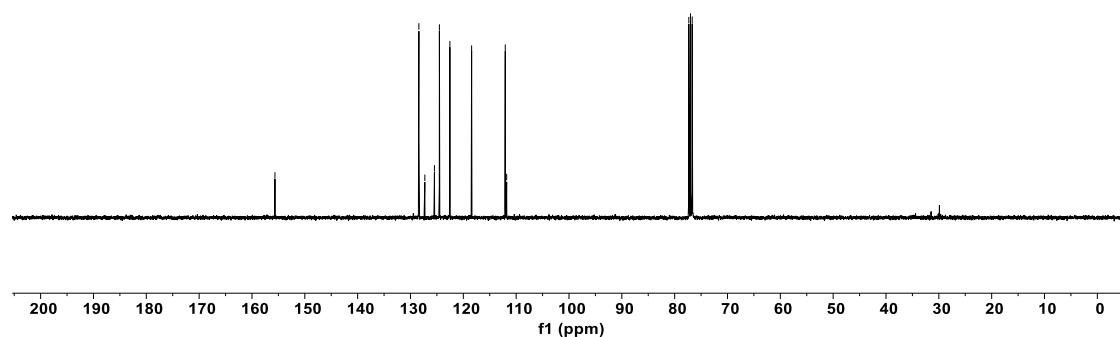
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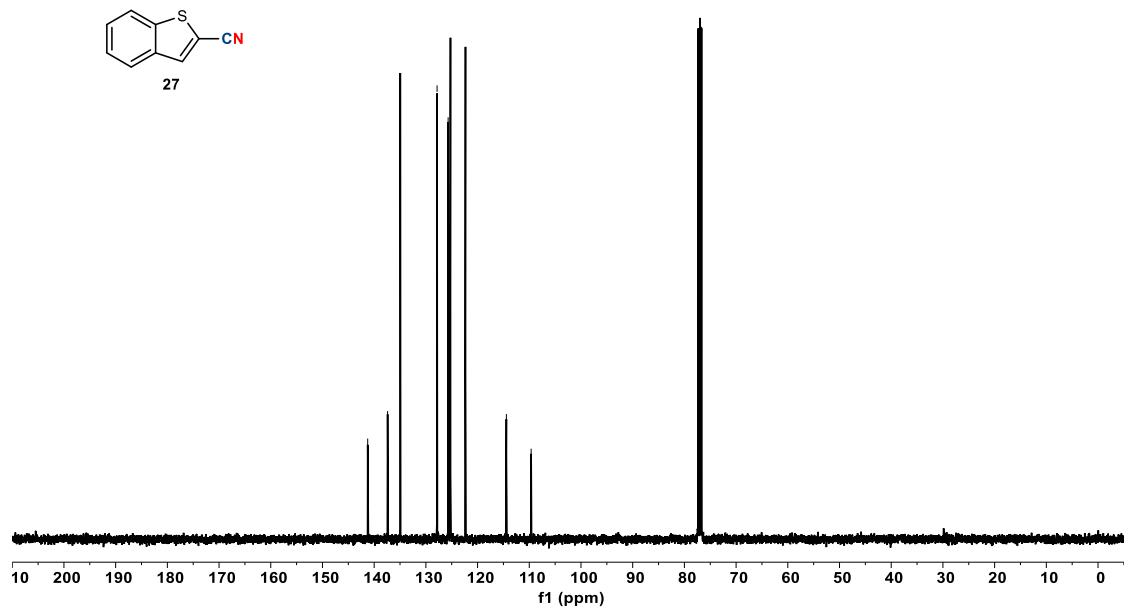
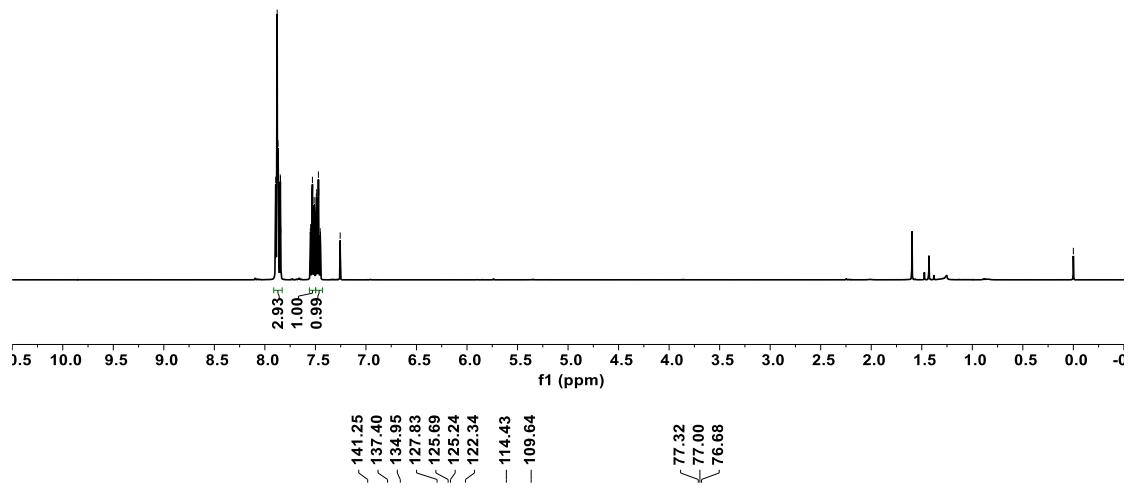
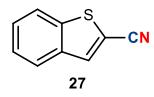


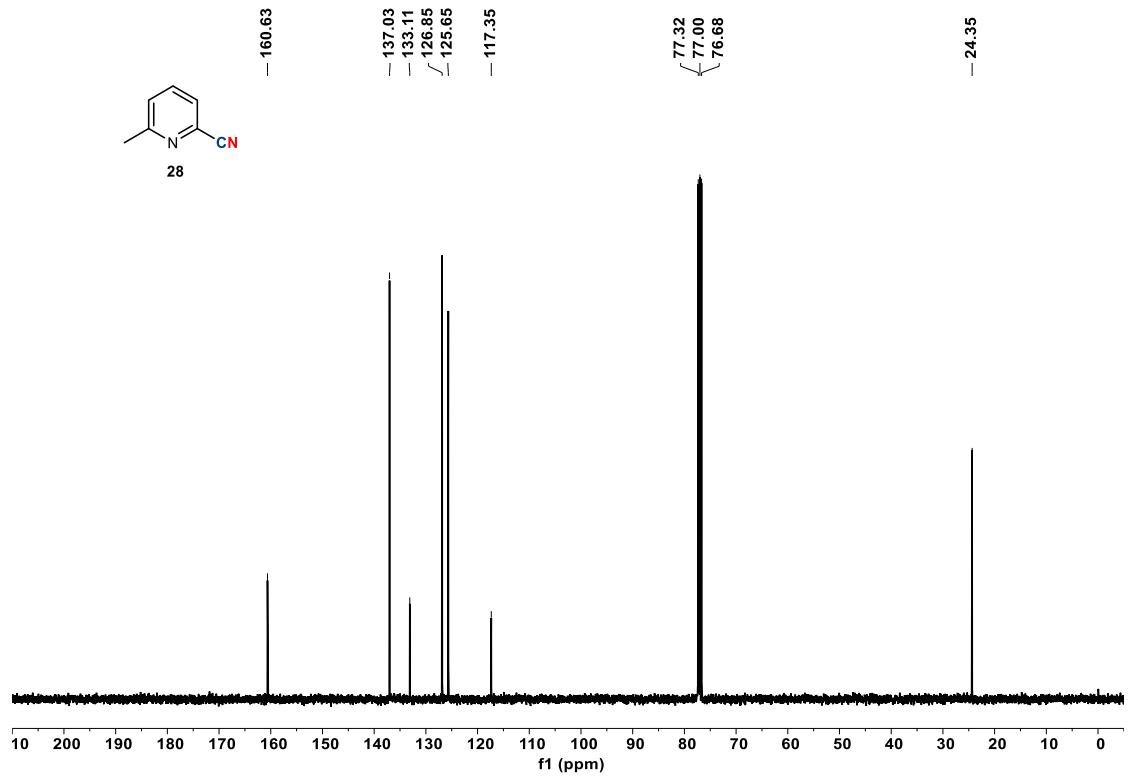
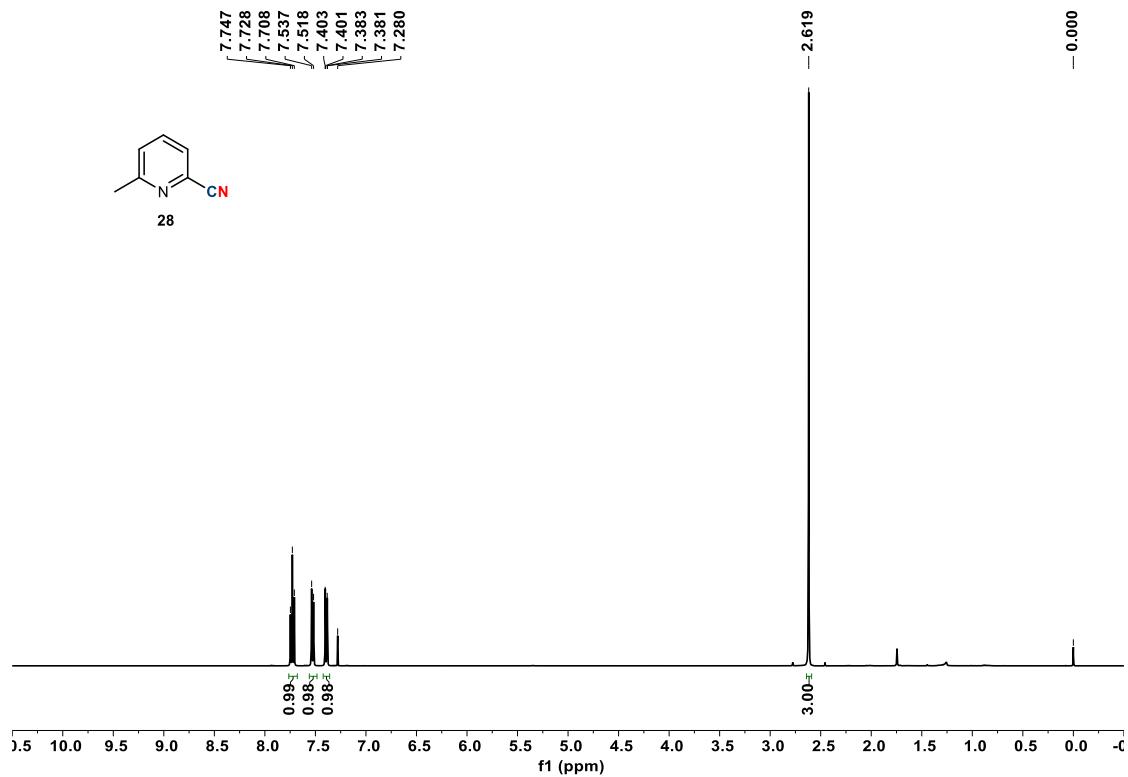
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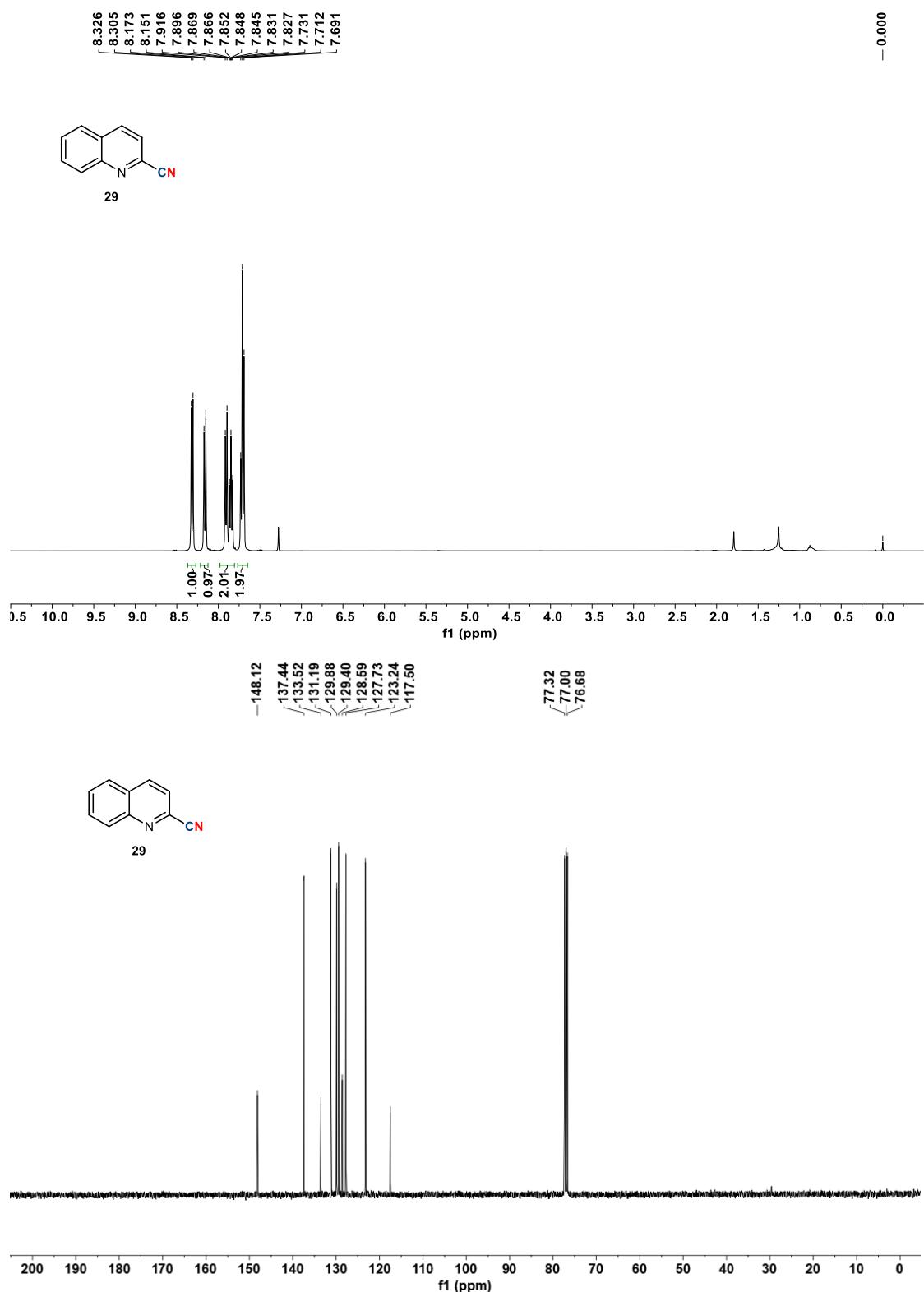


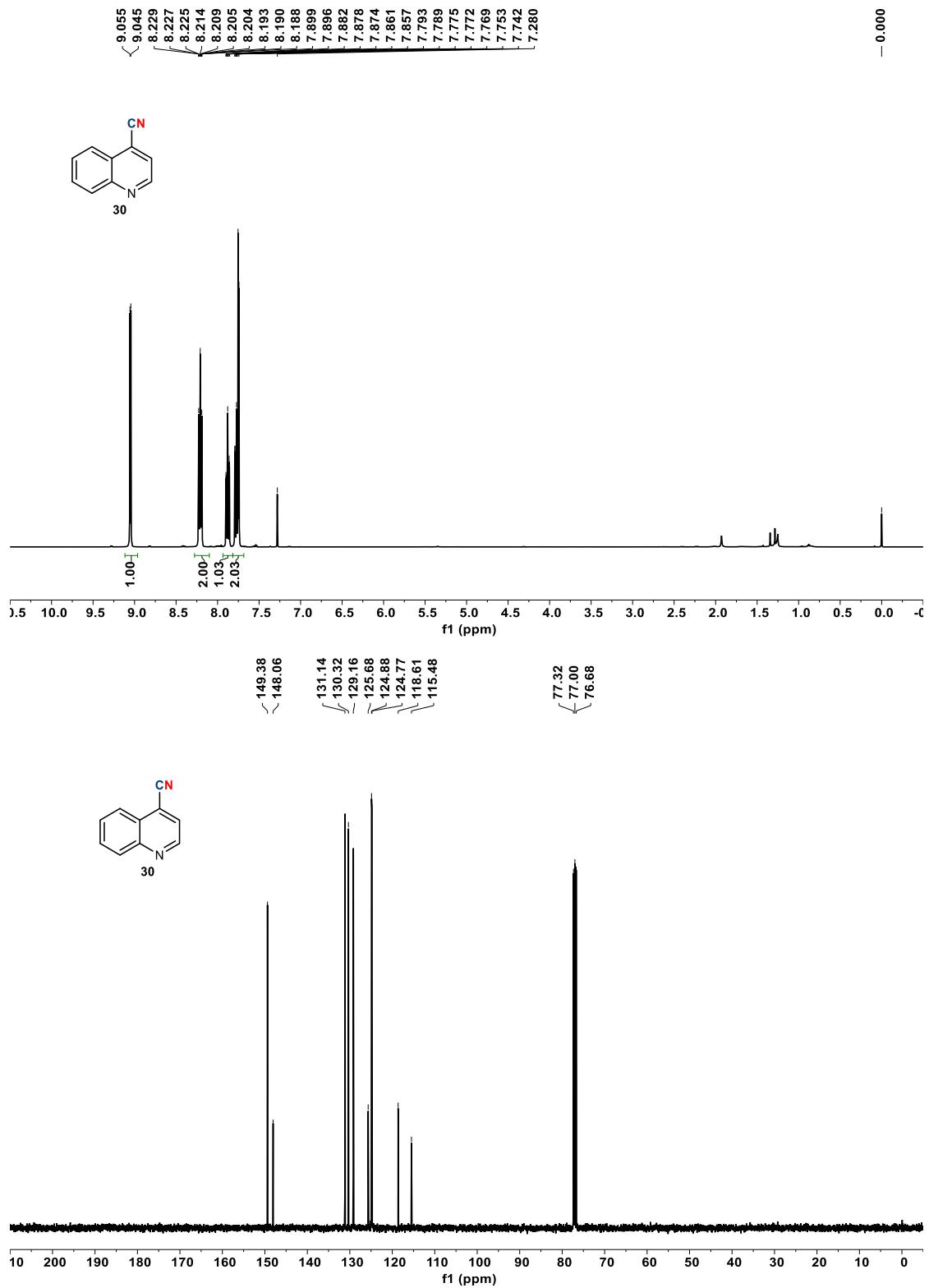
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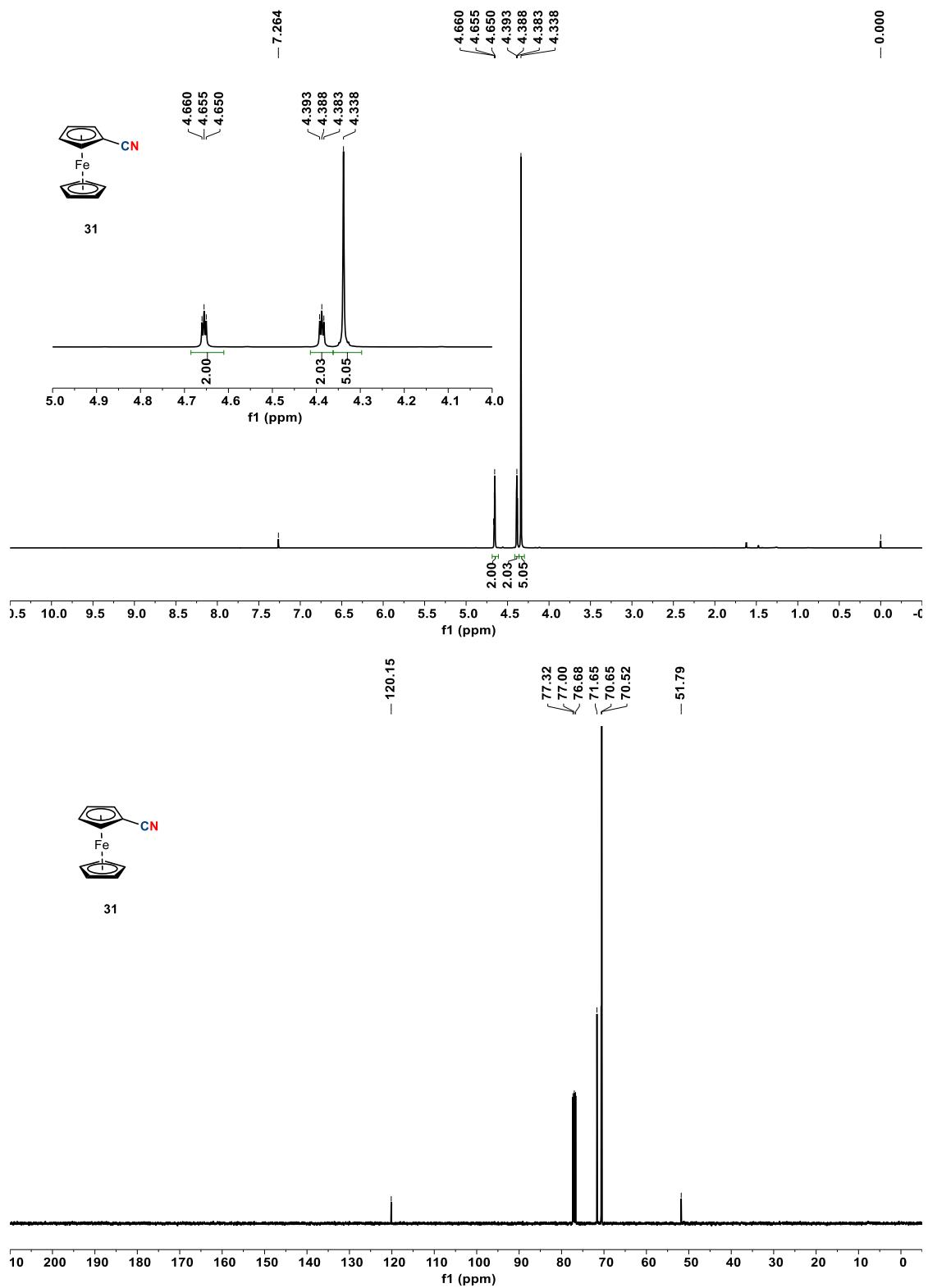


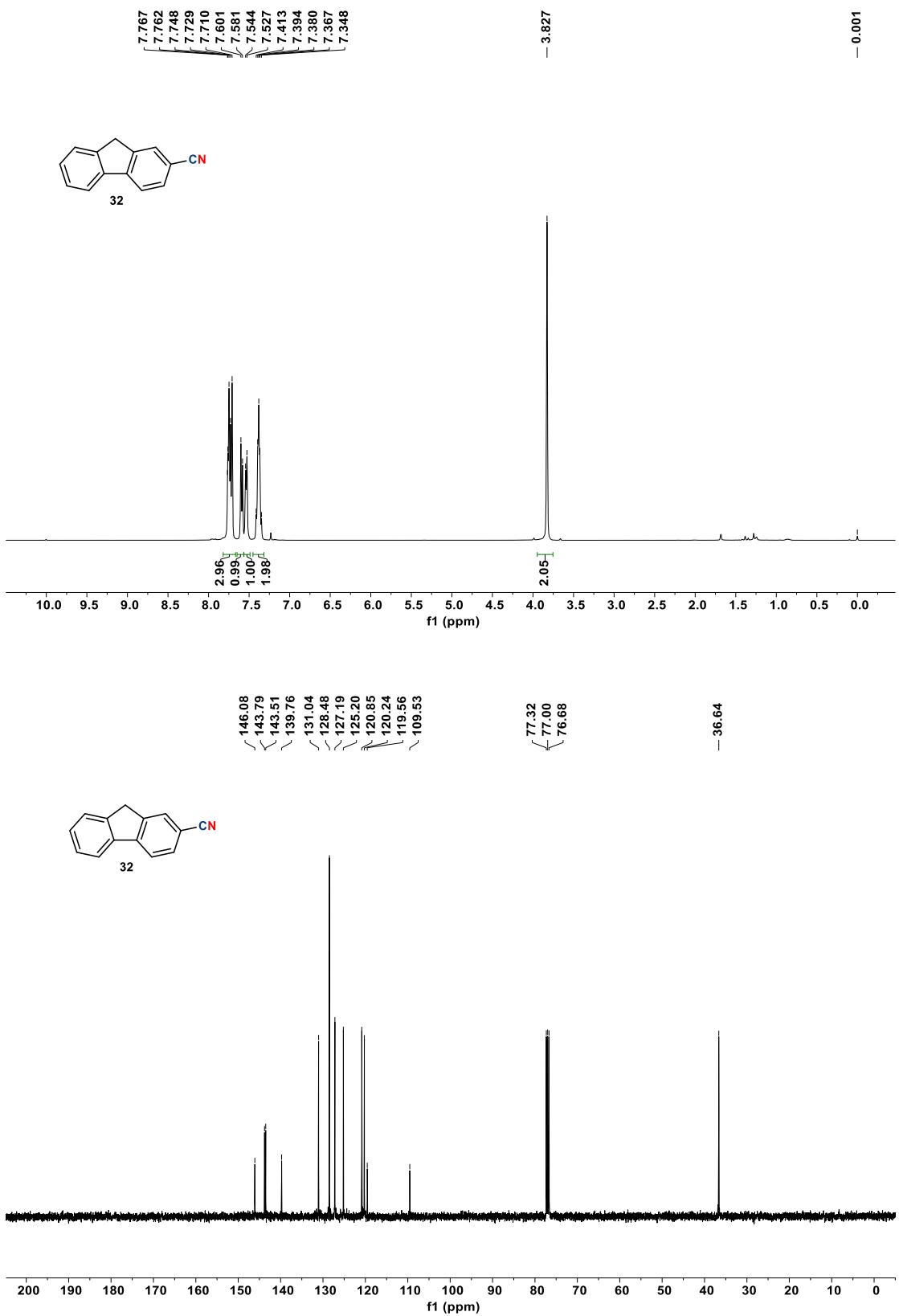


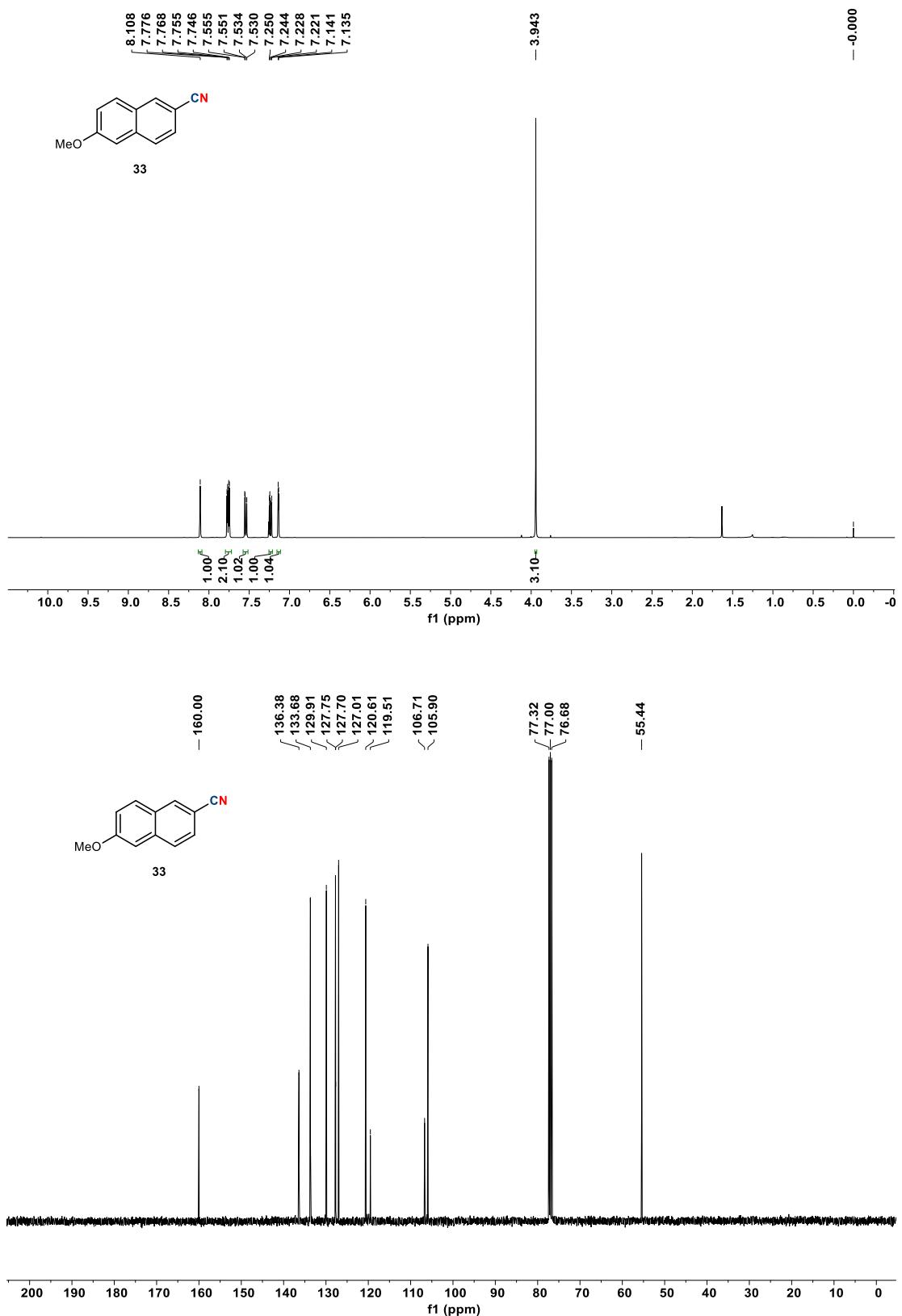


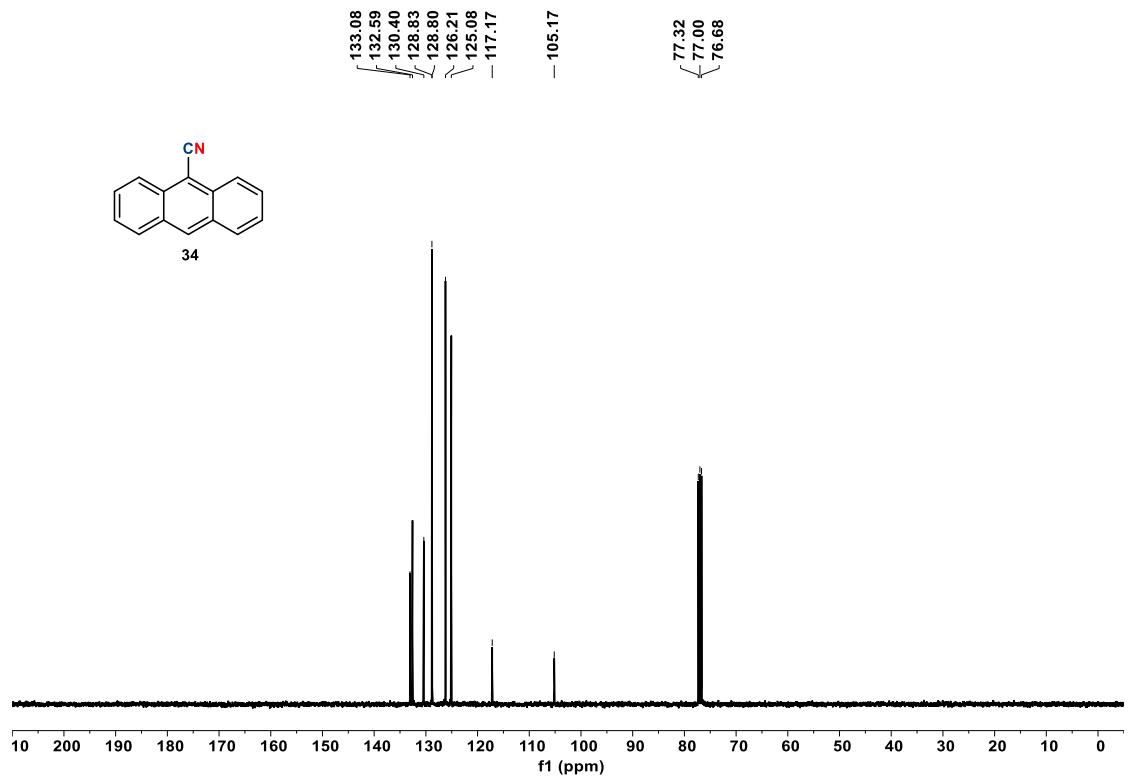
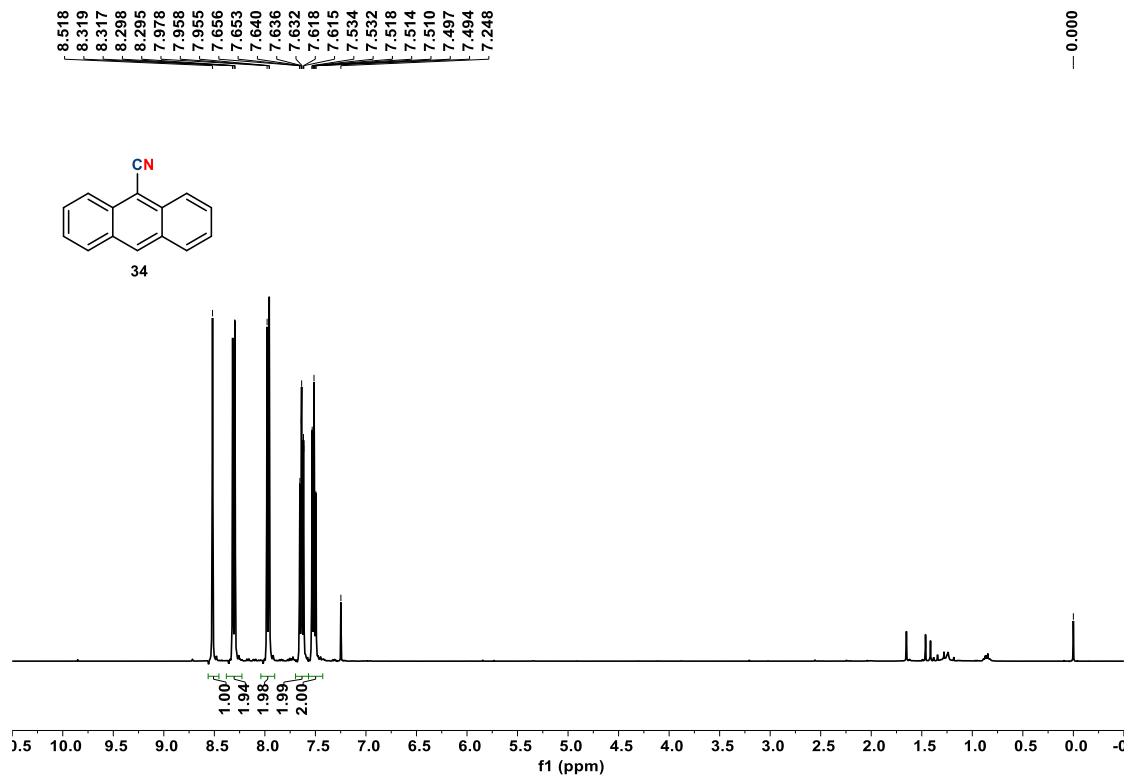


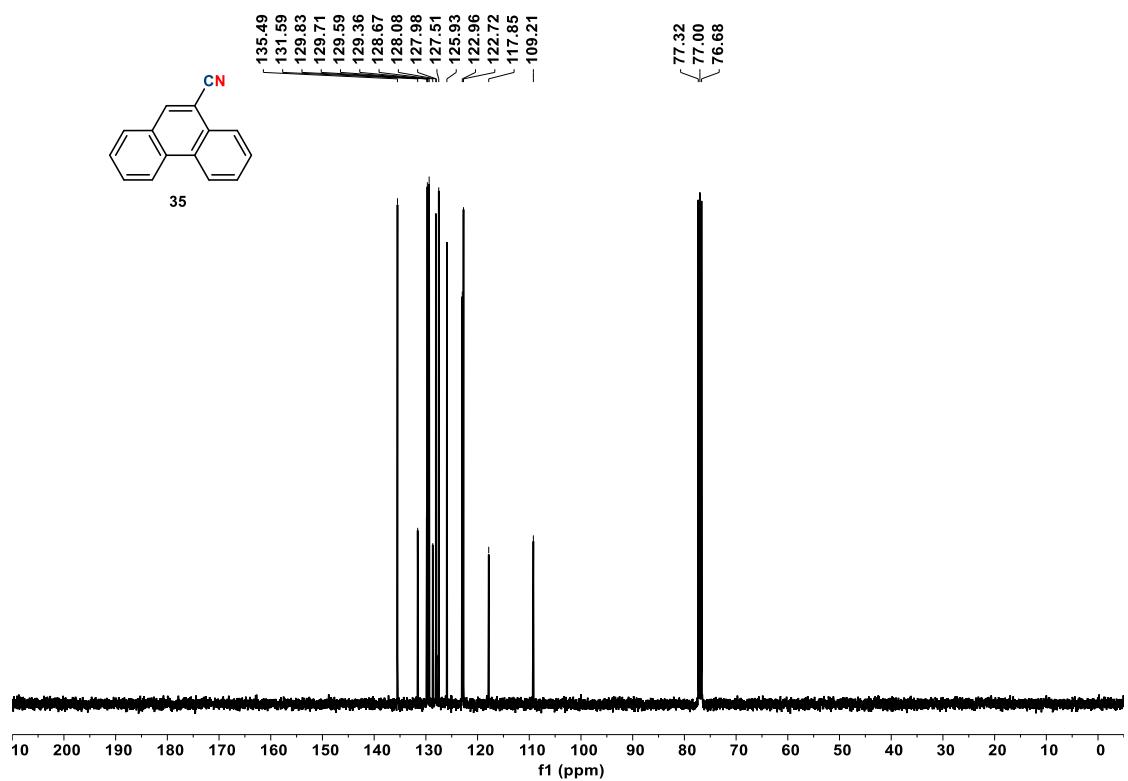
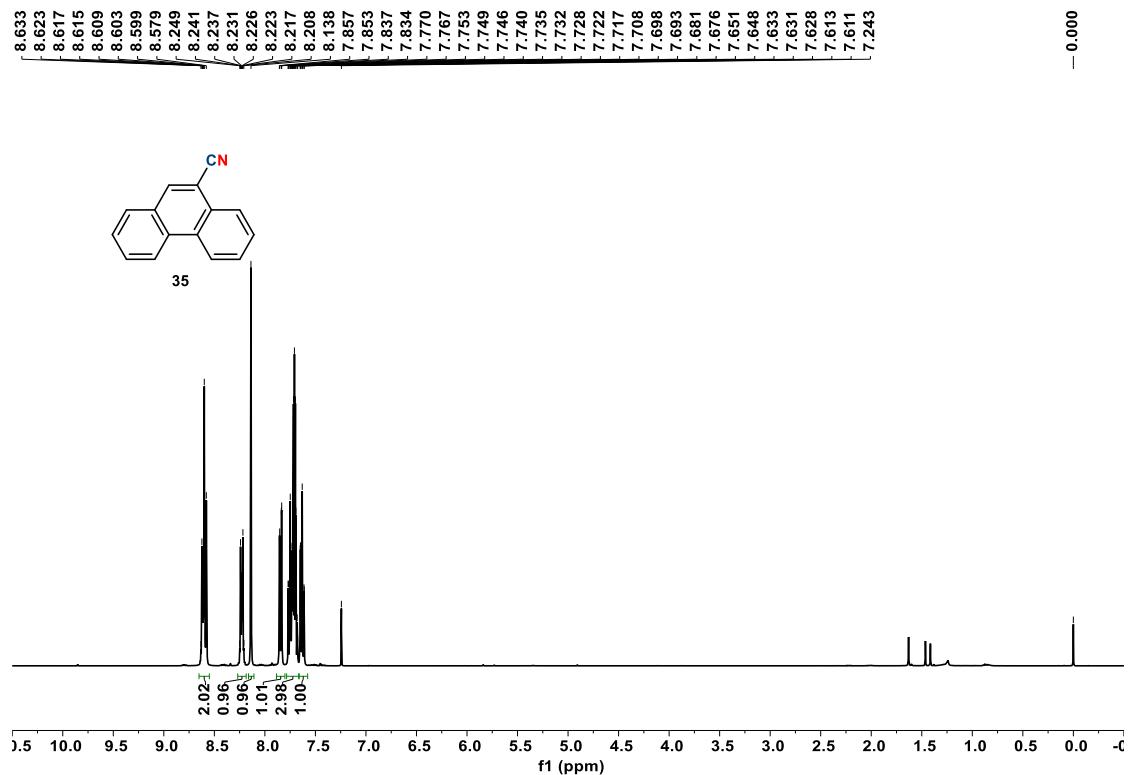


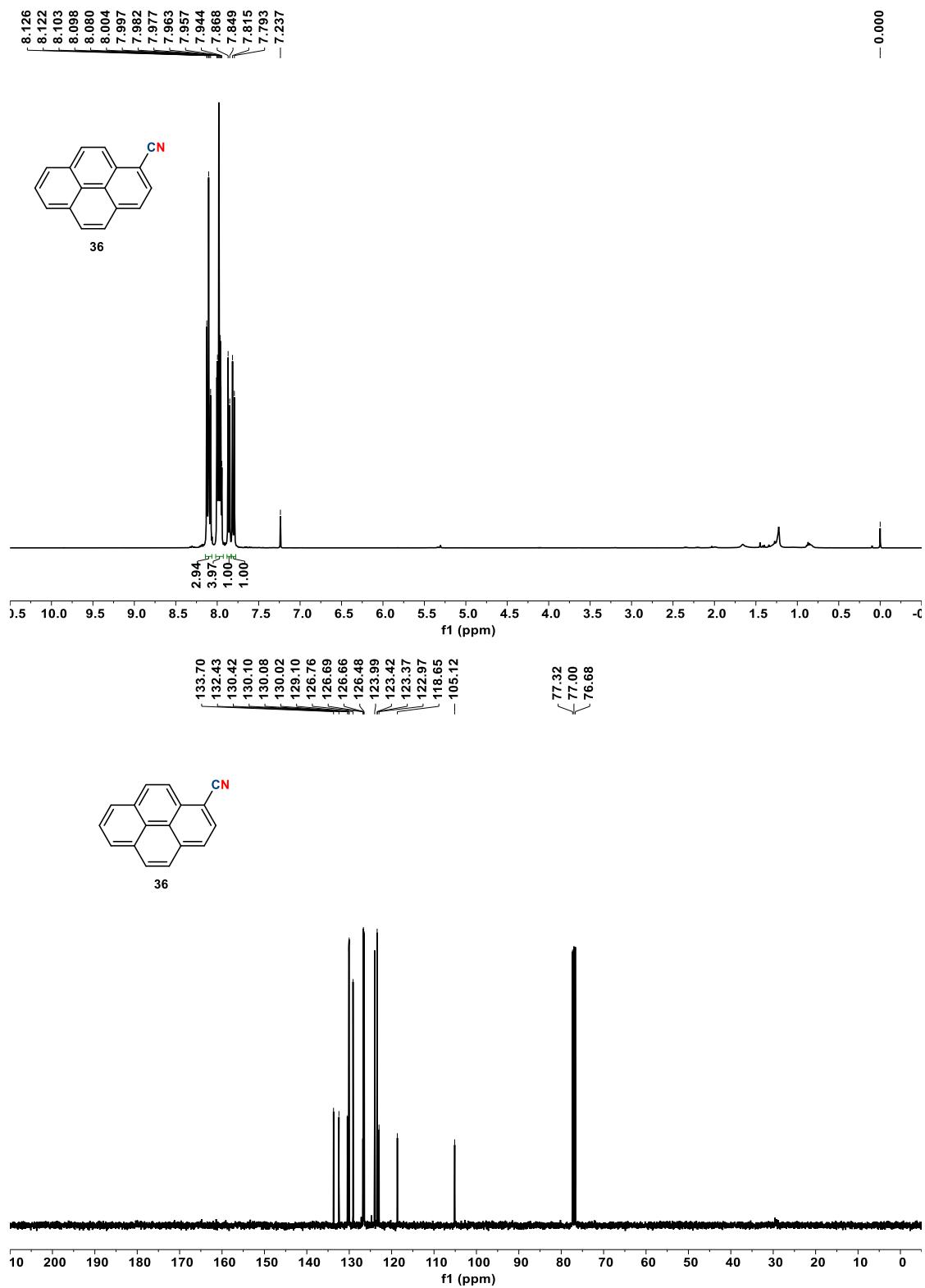


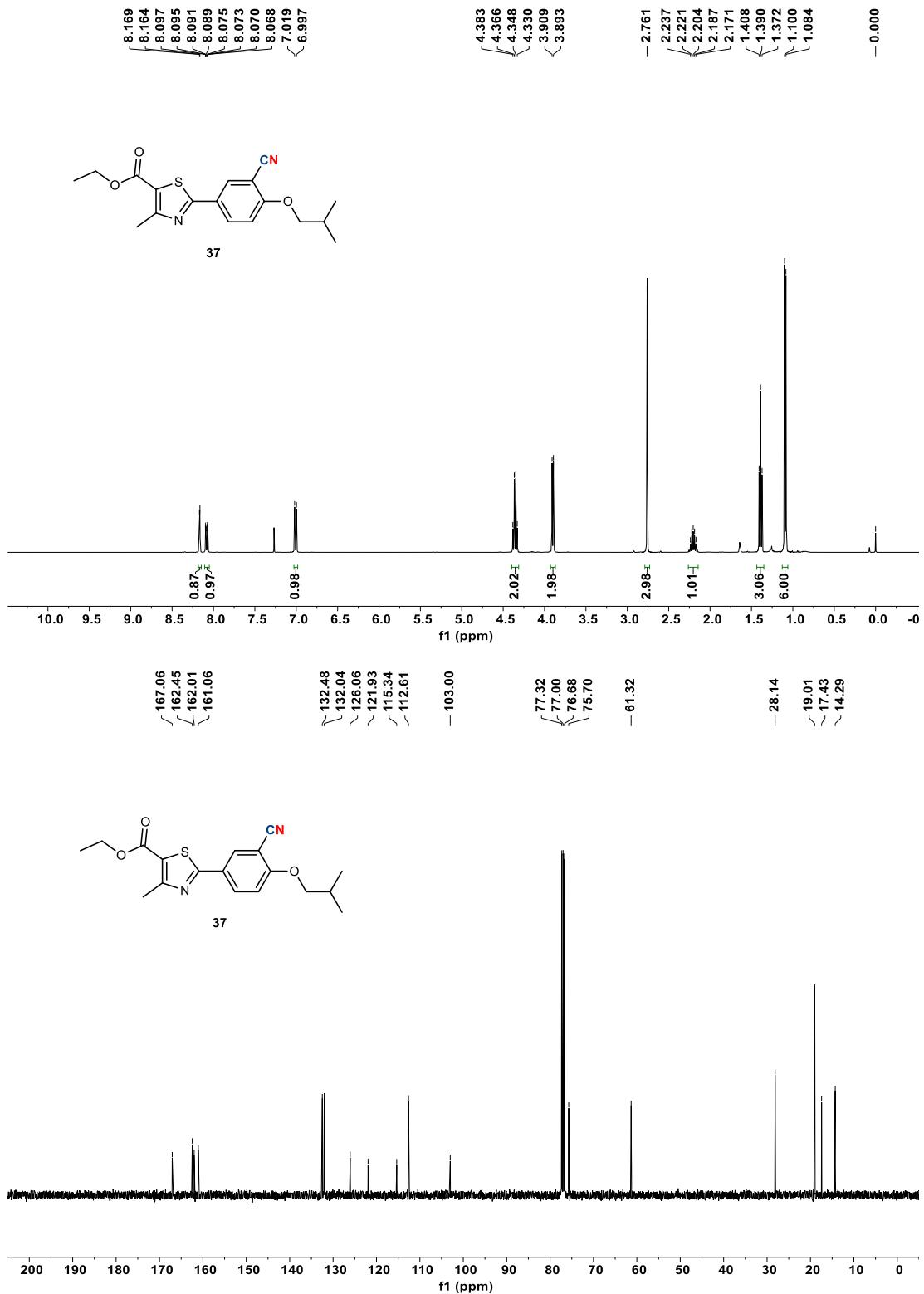


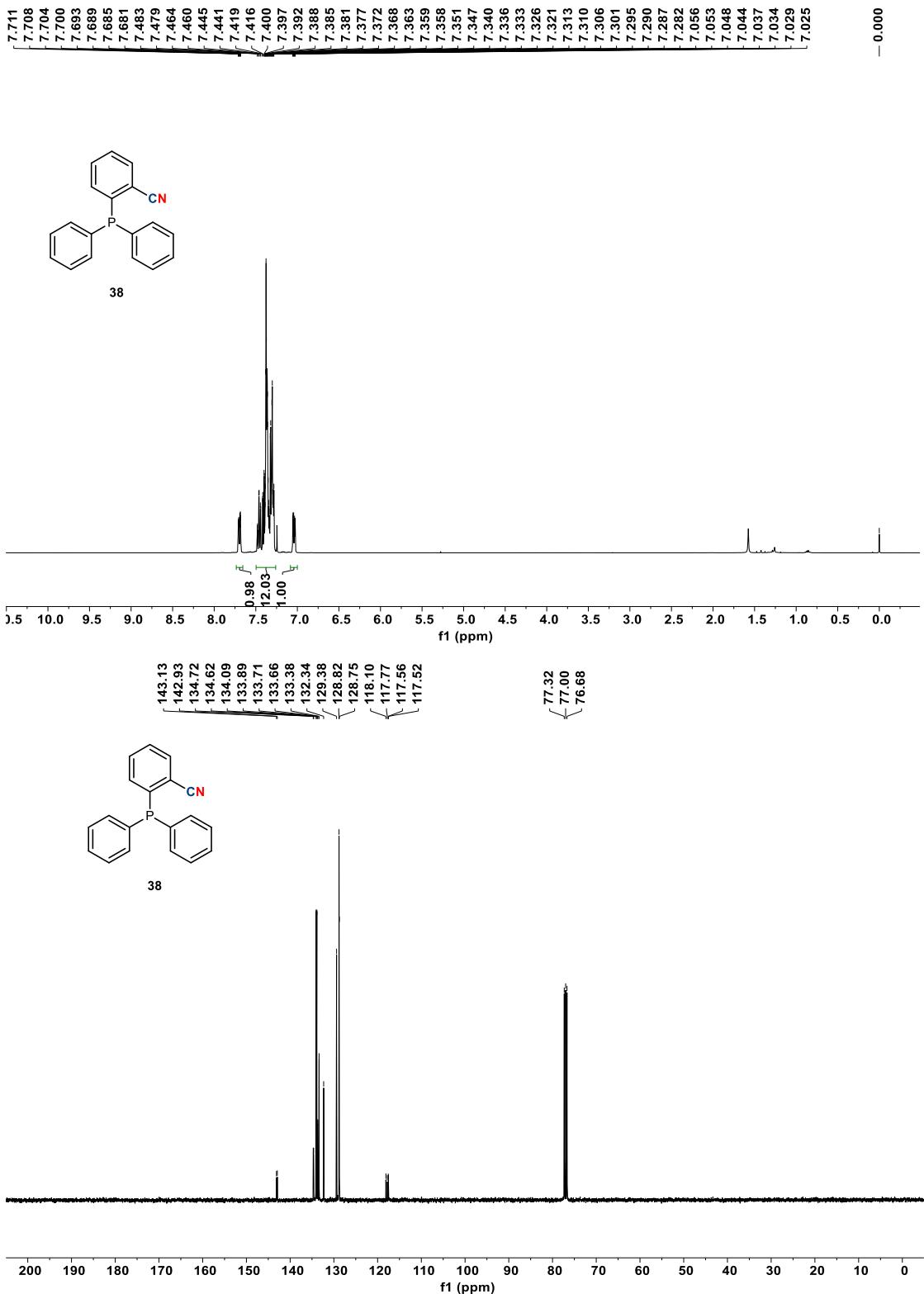


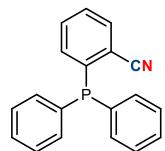






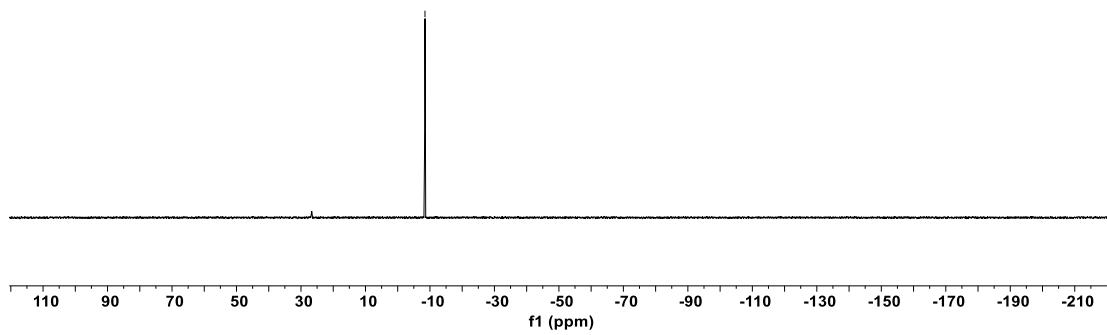




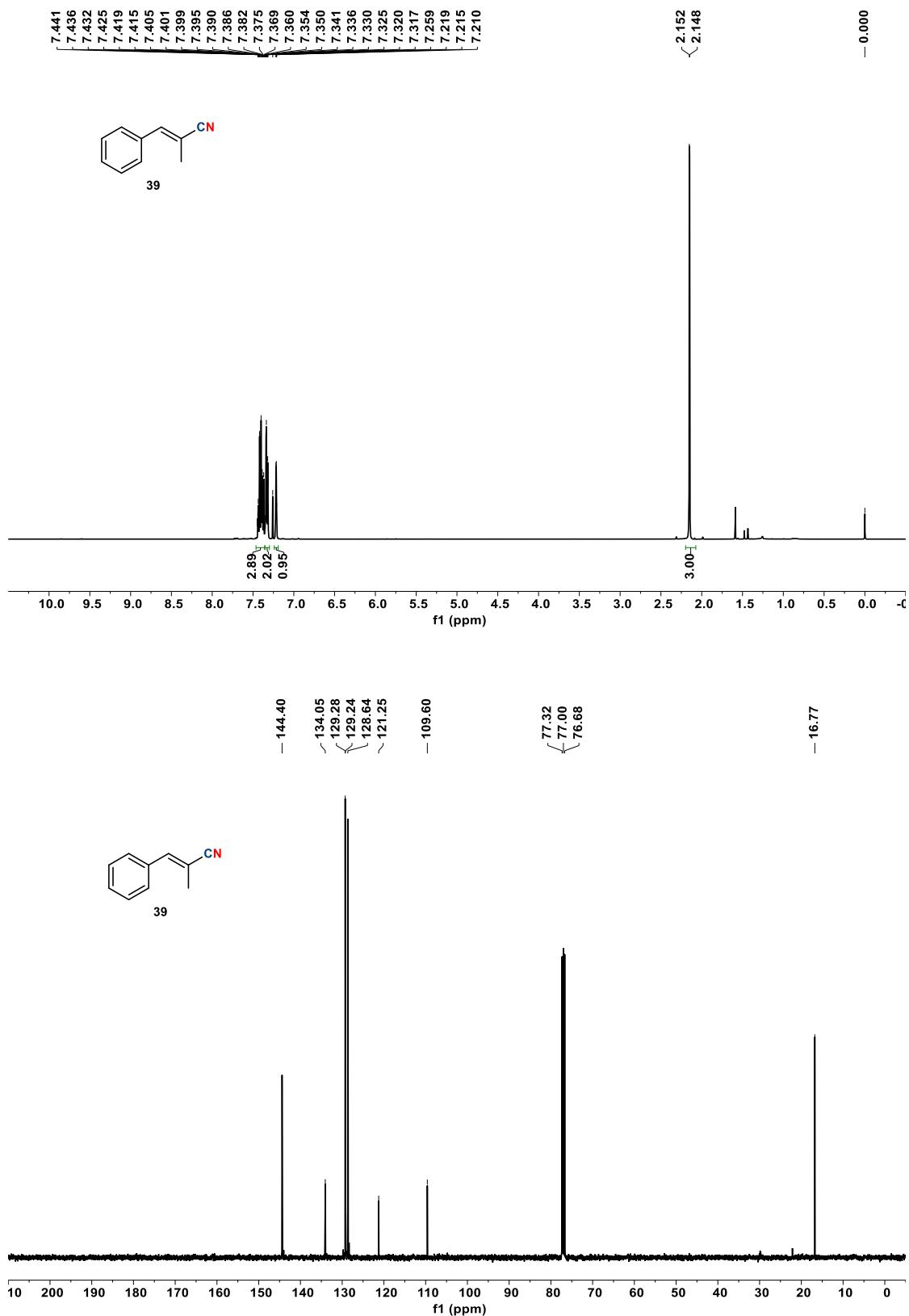


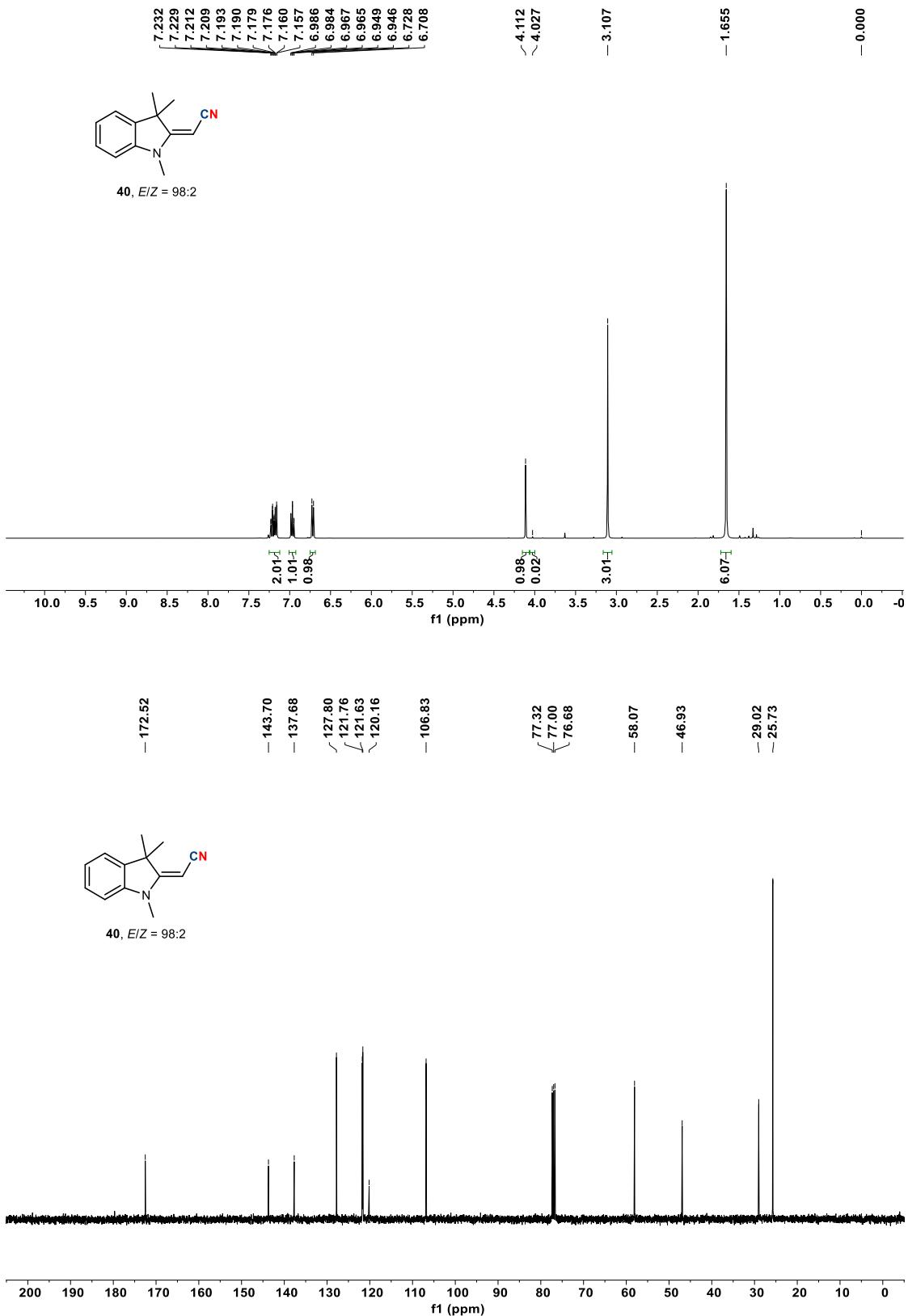
38

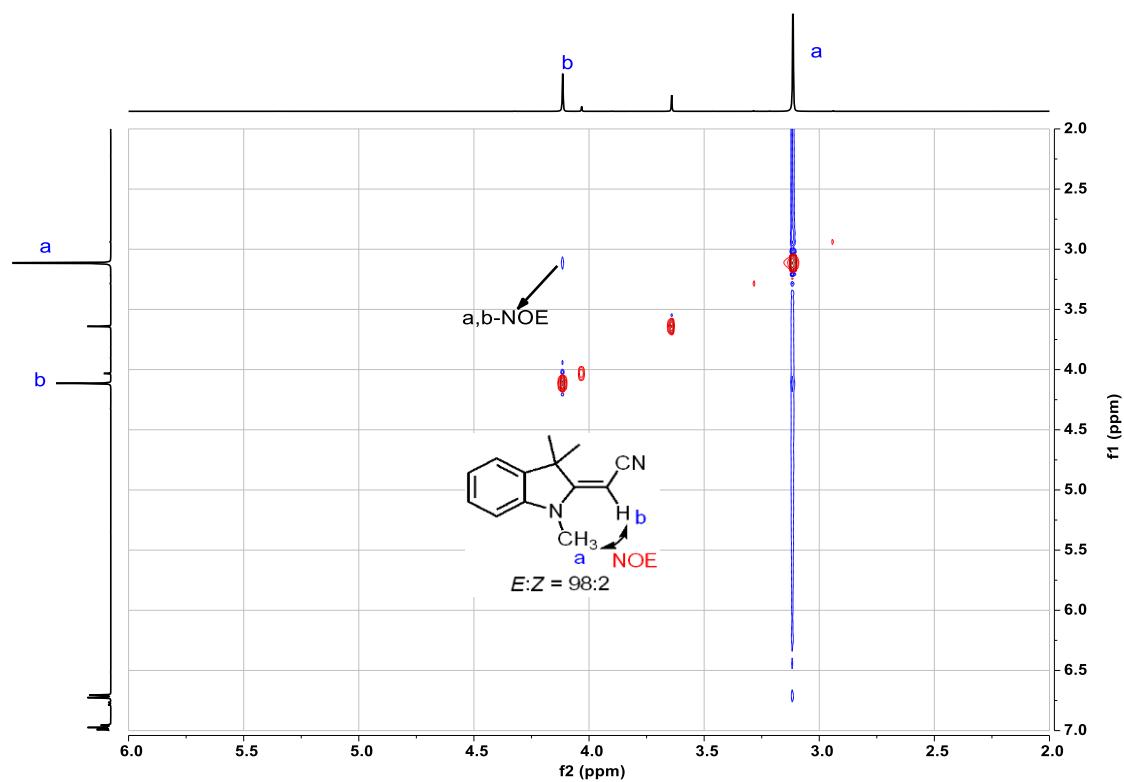
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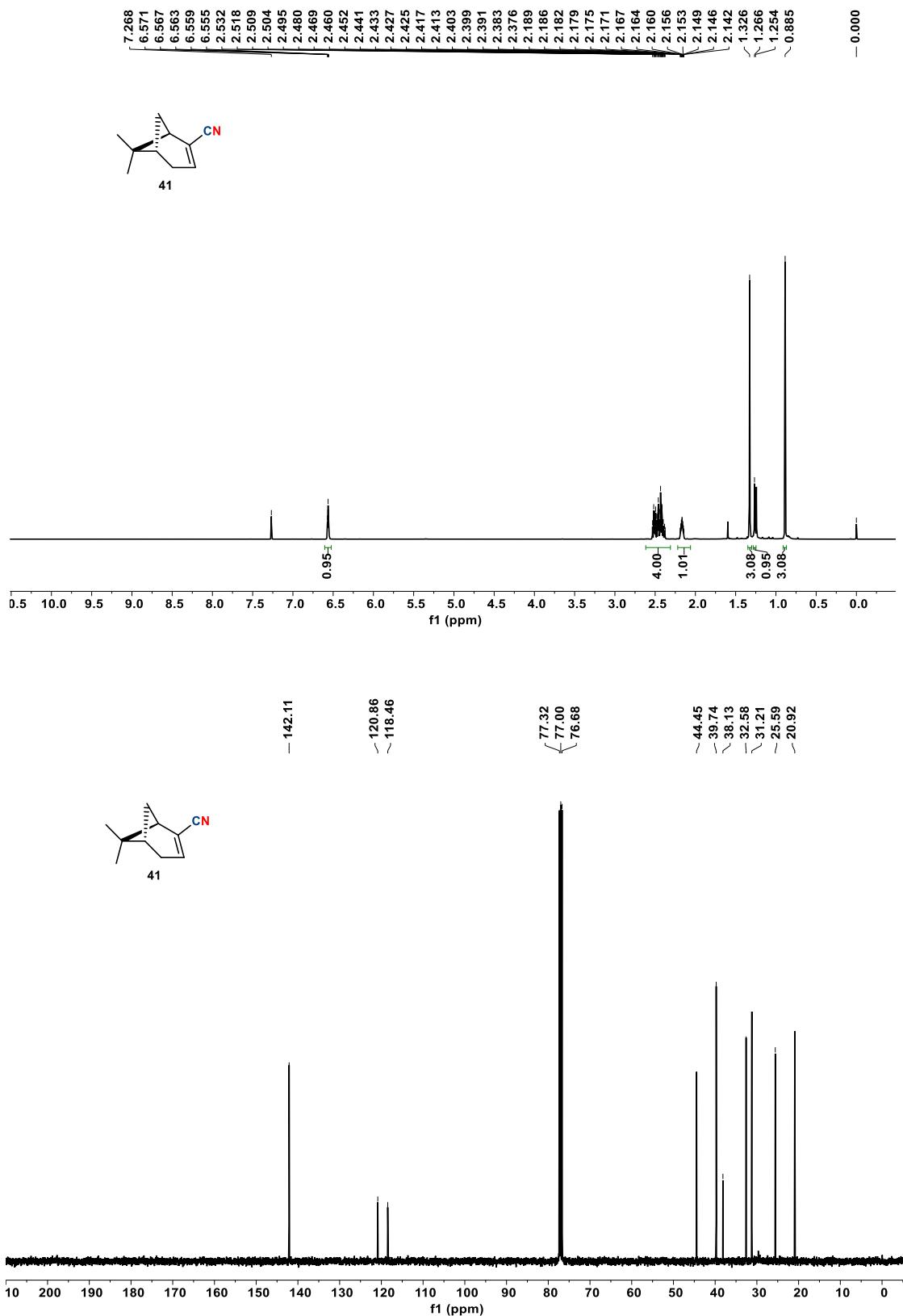


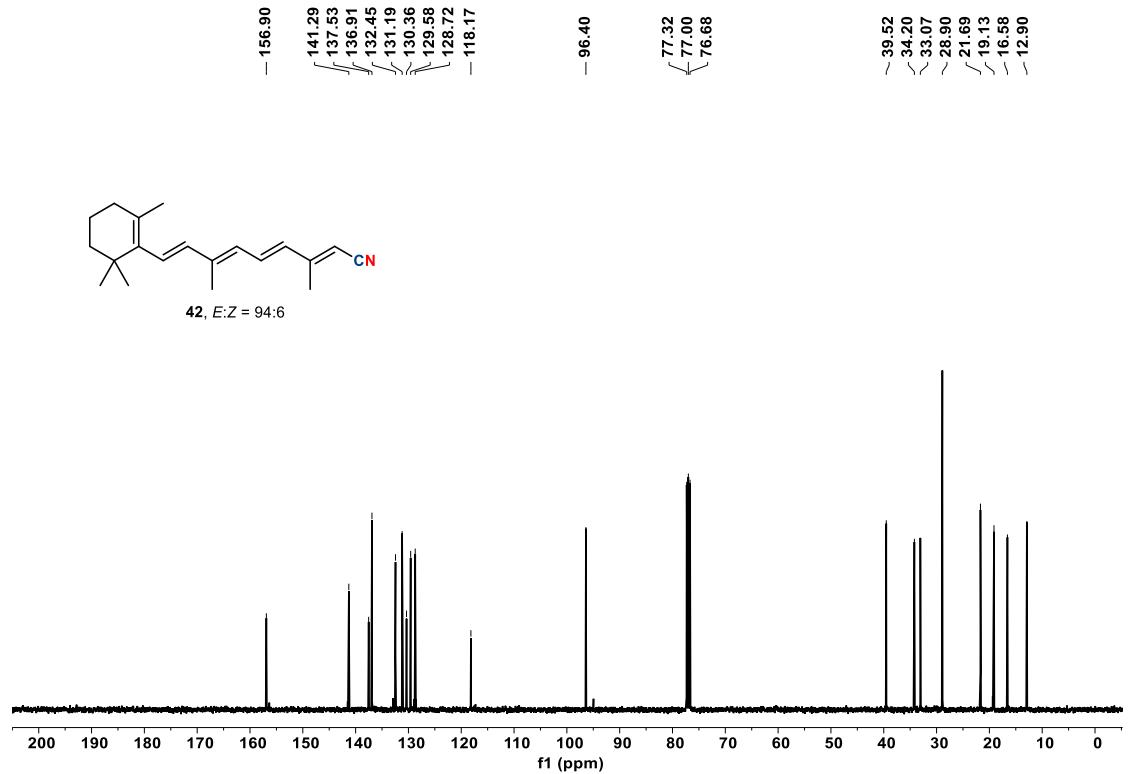
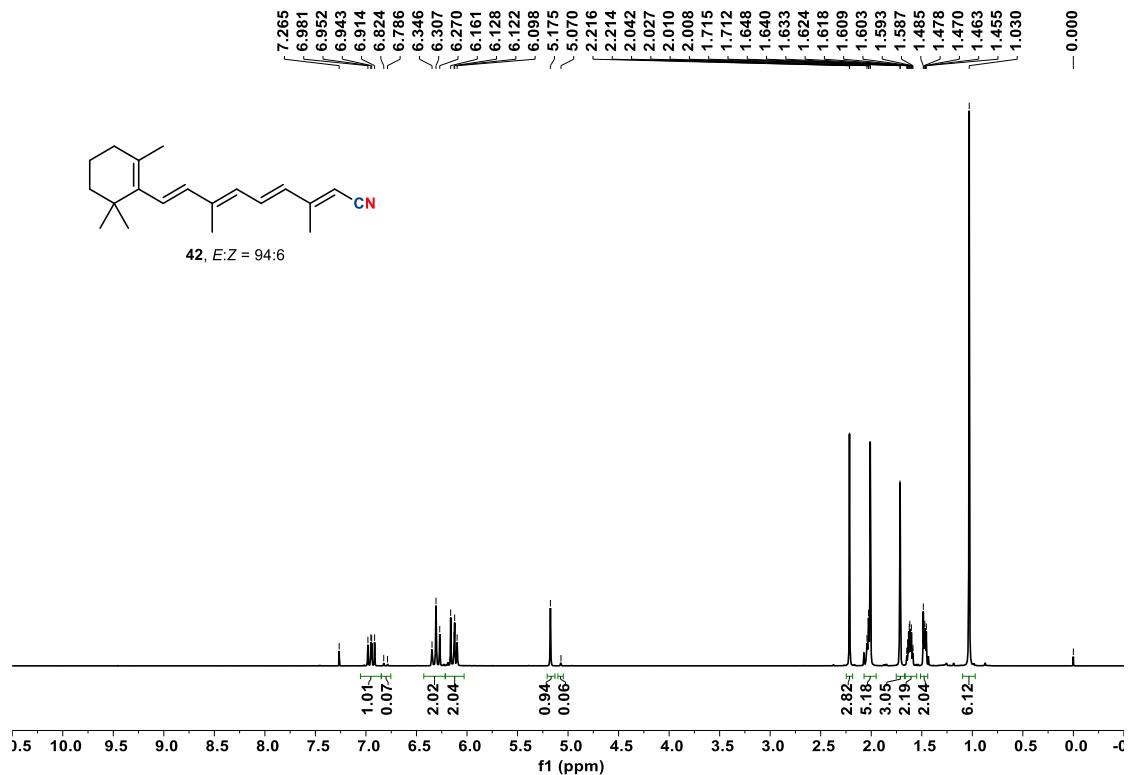
$^{31}\text{P}$  NMR of nitrile 38

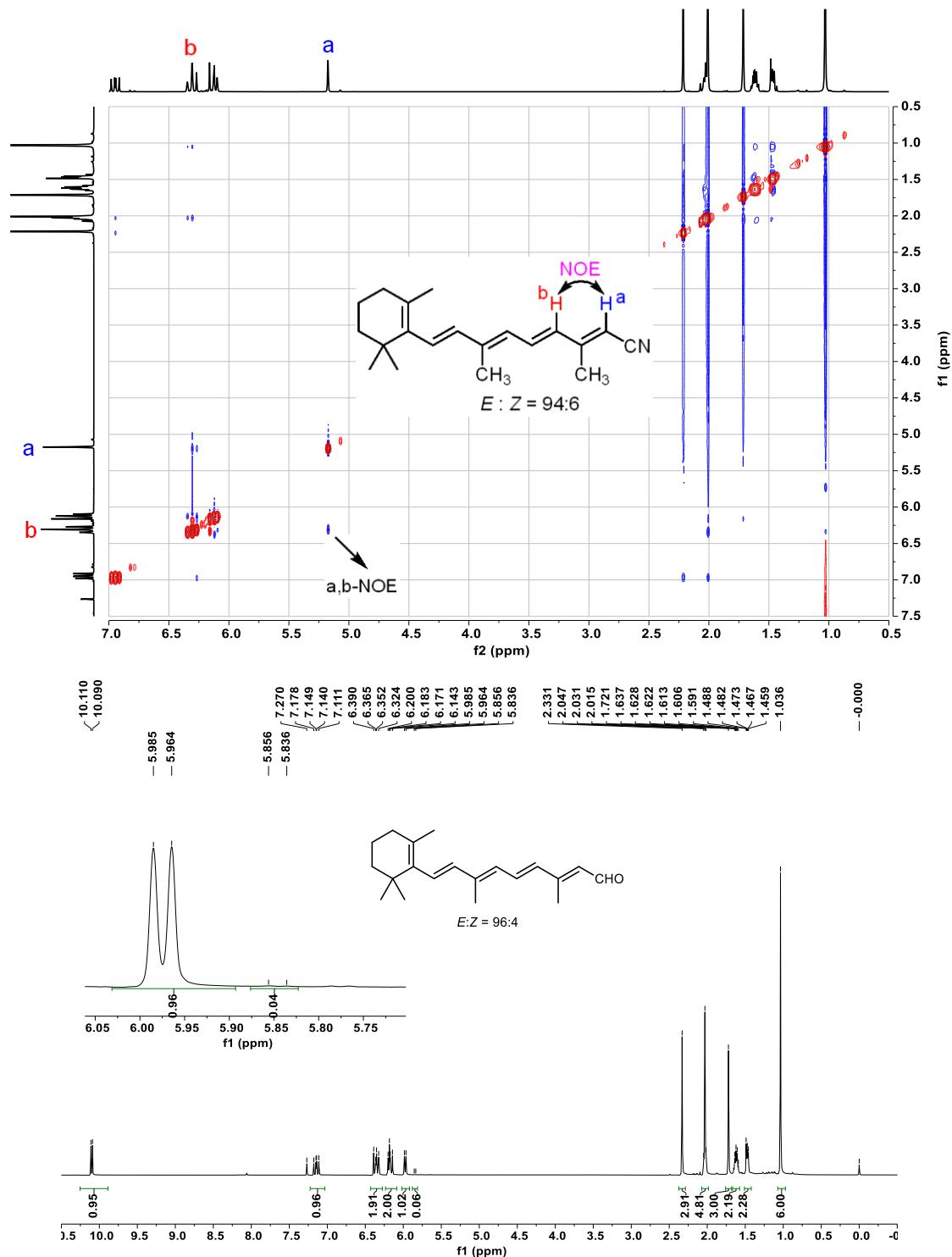


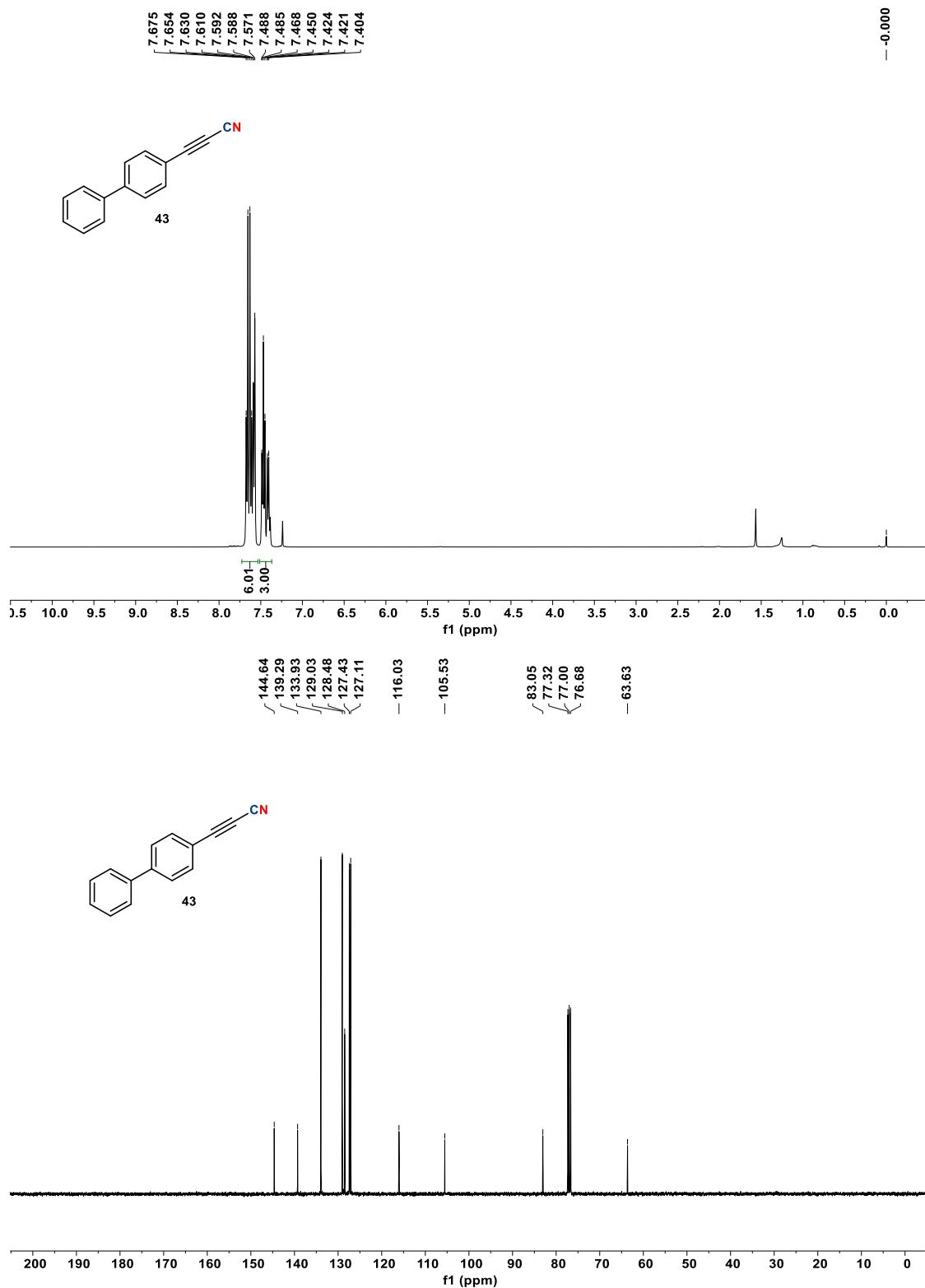


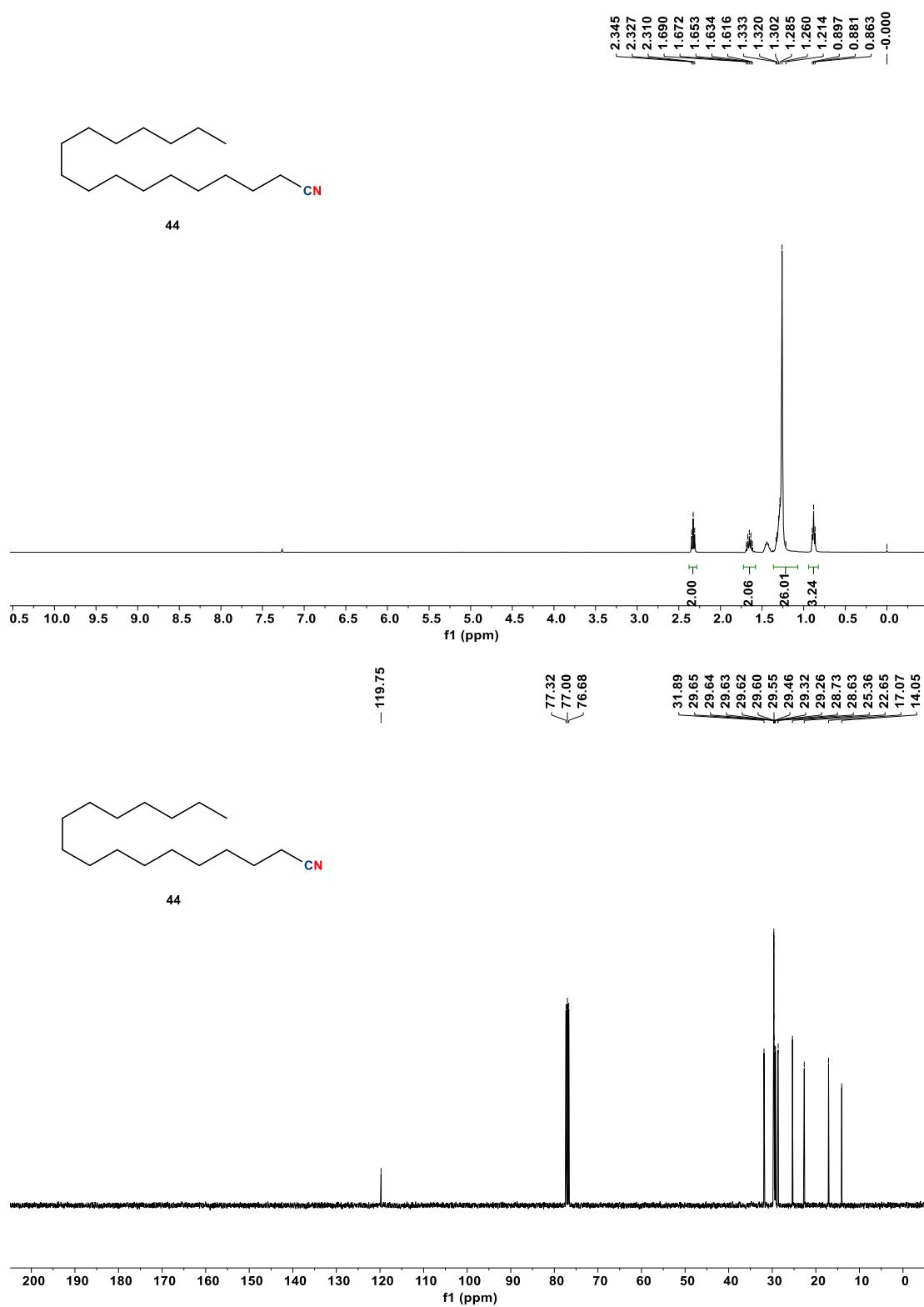


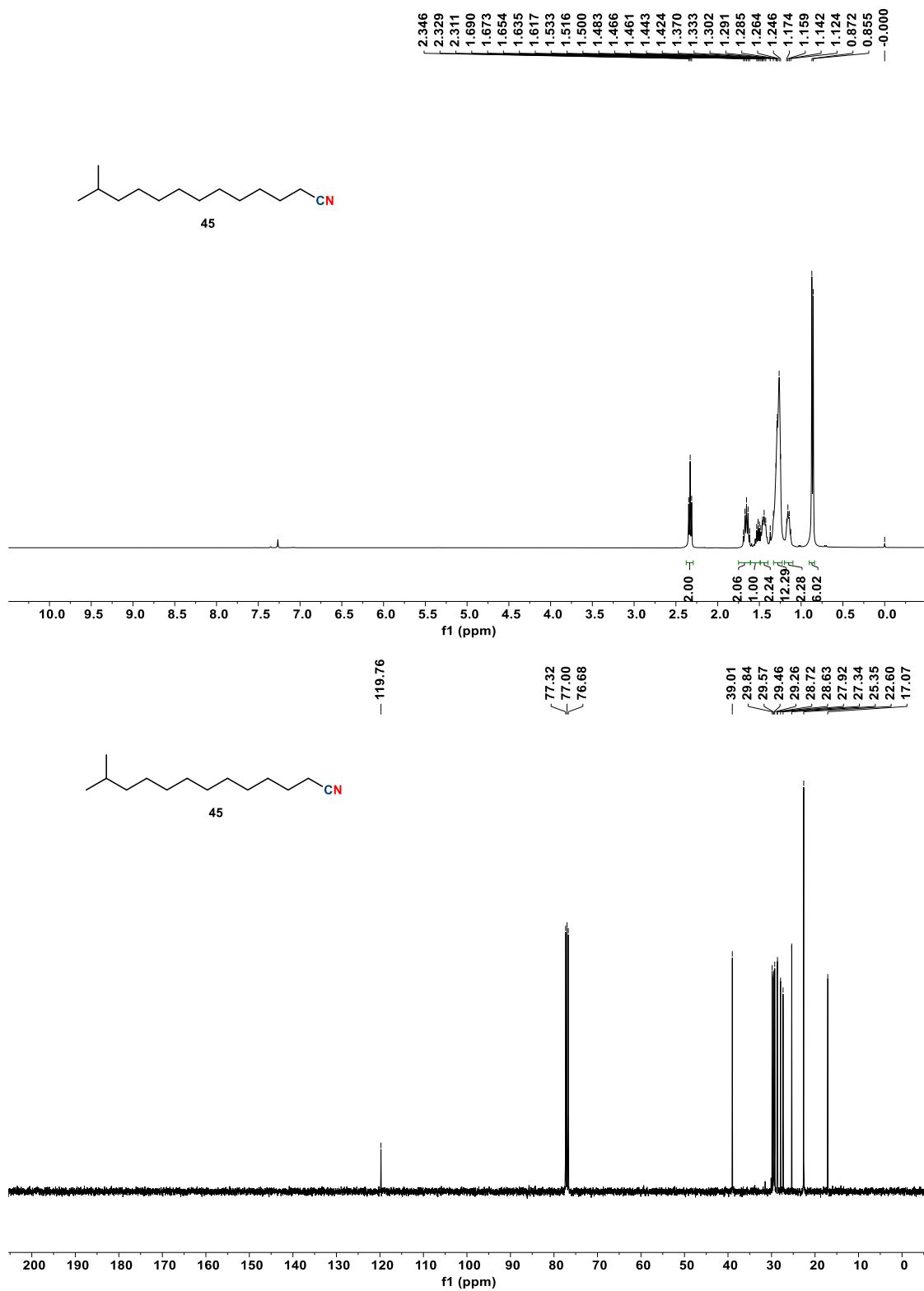


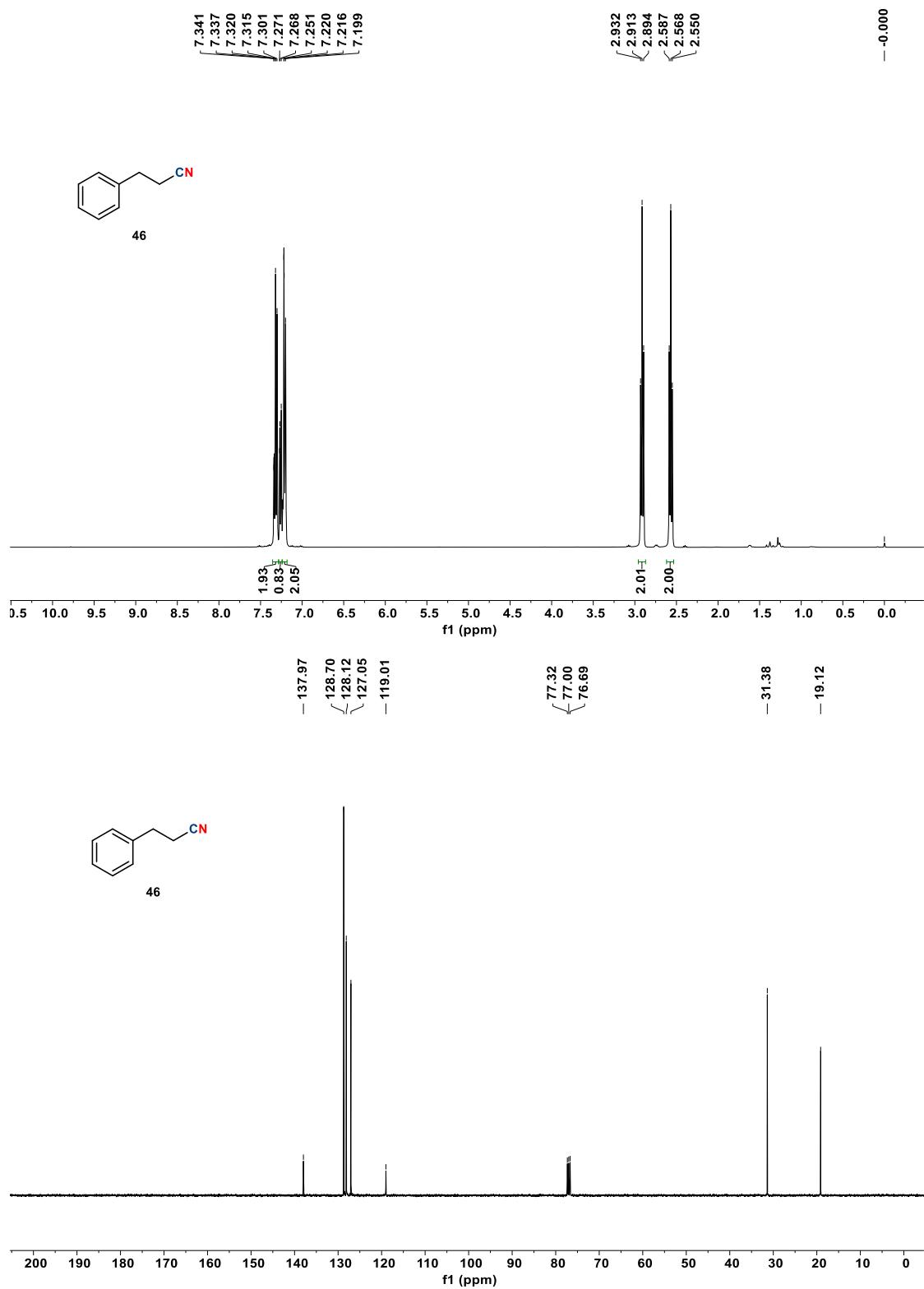


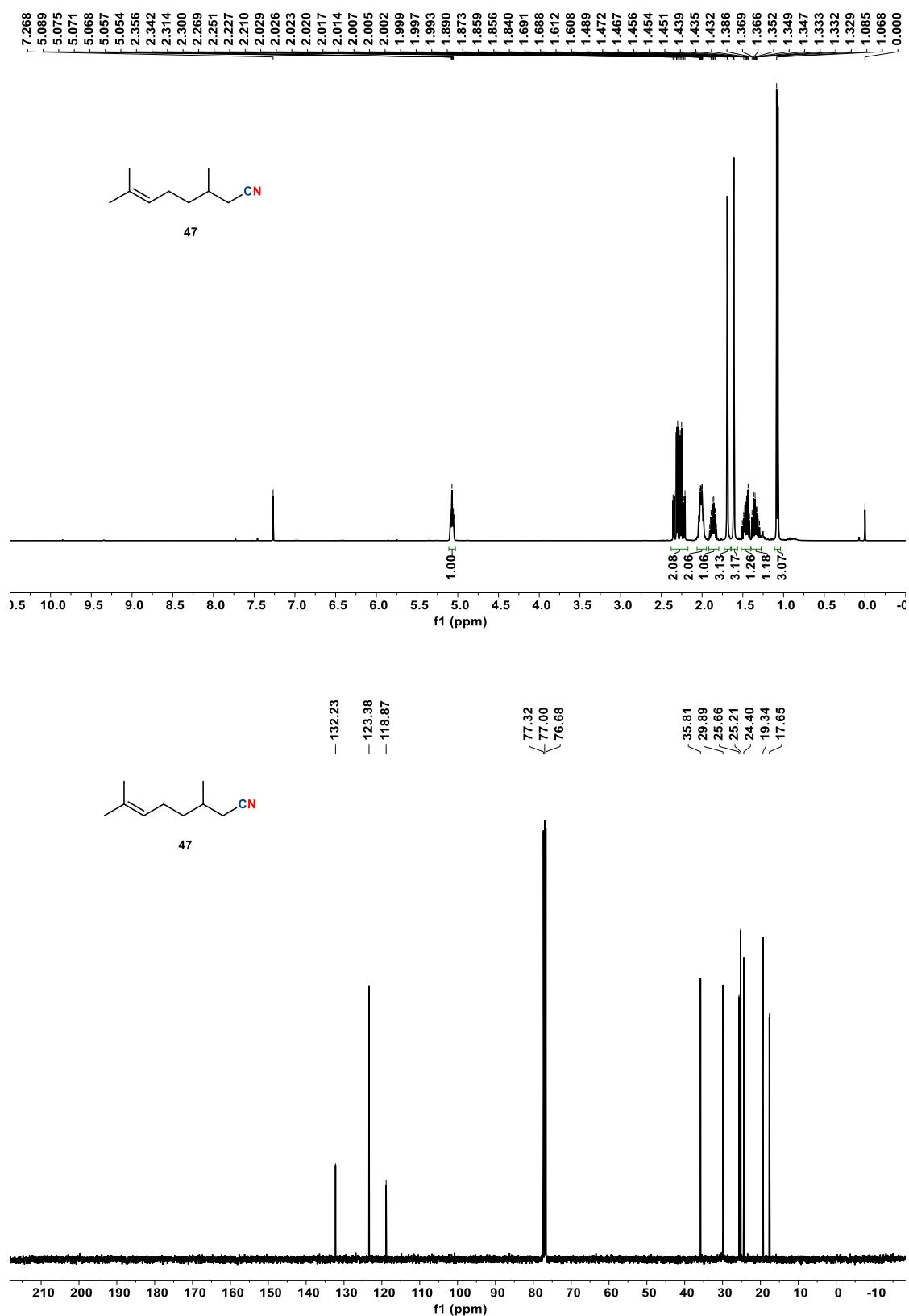


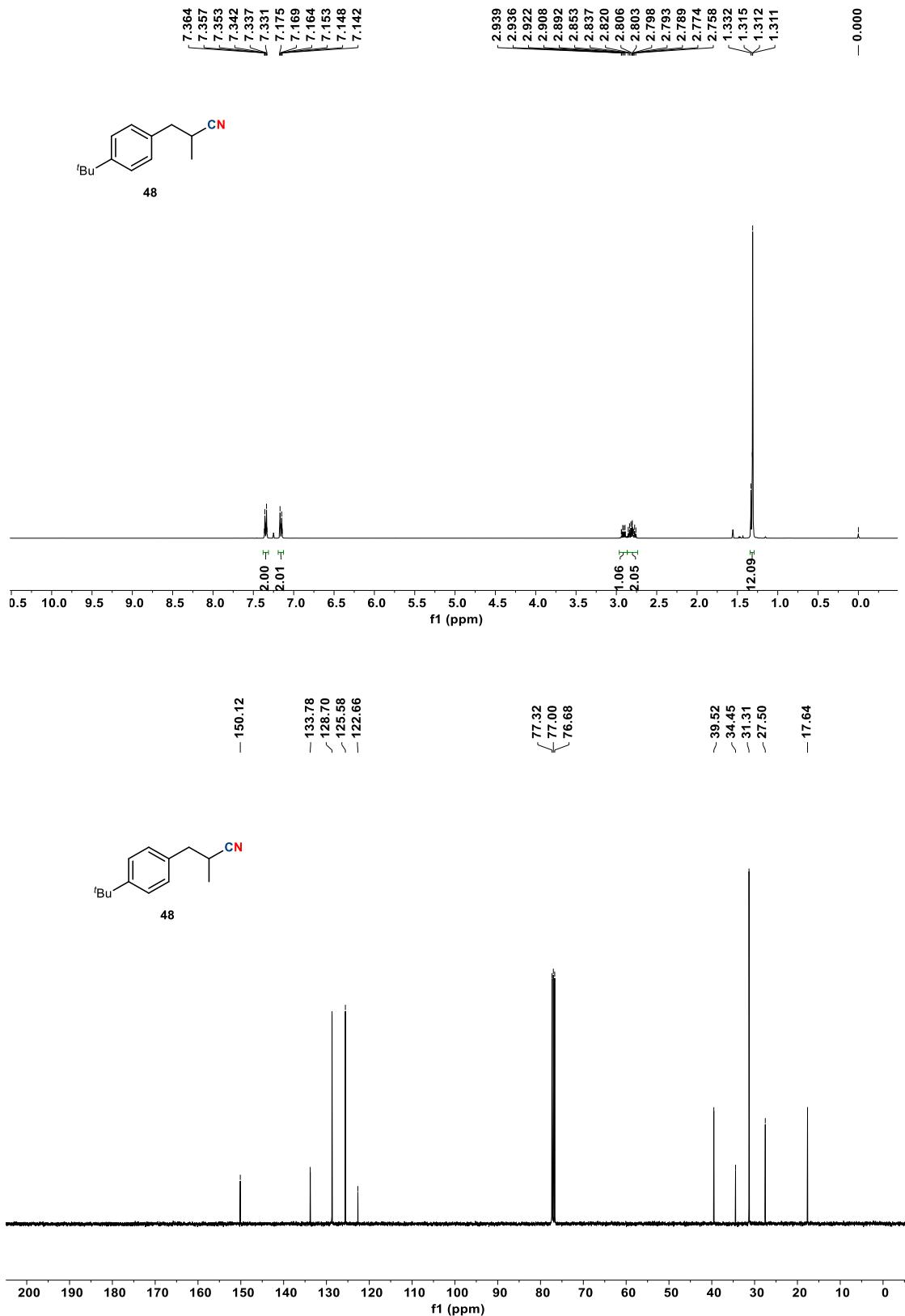


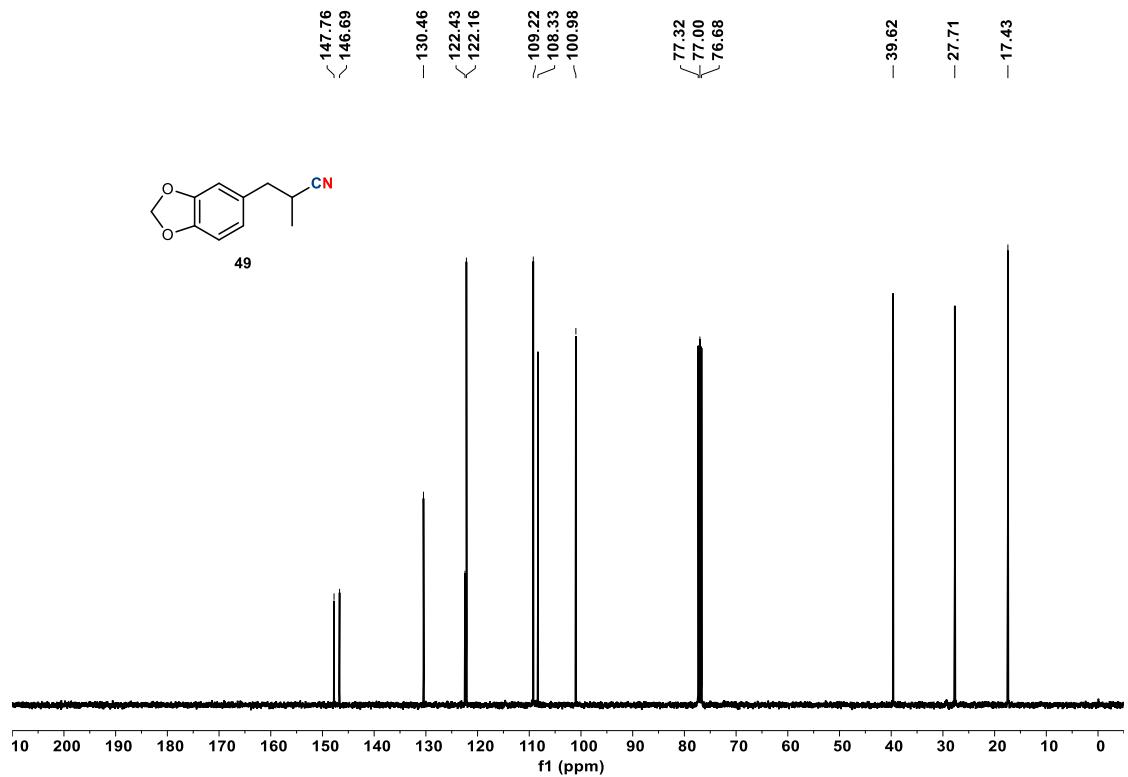
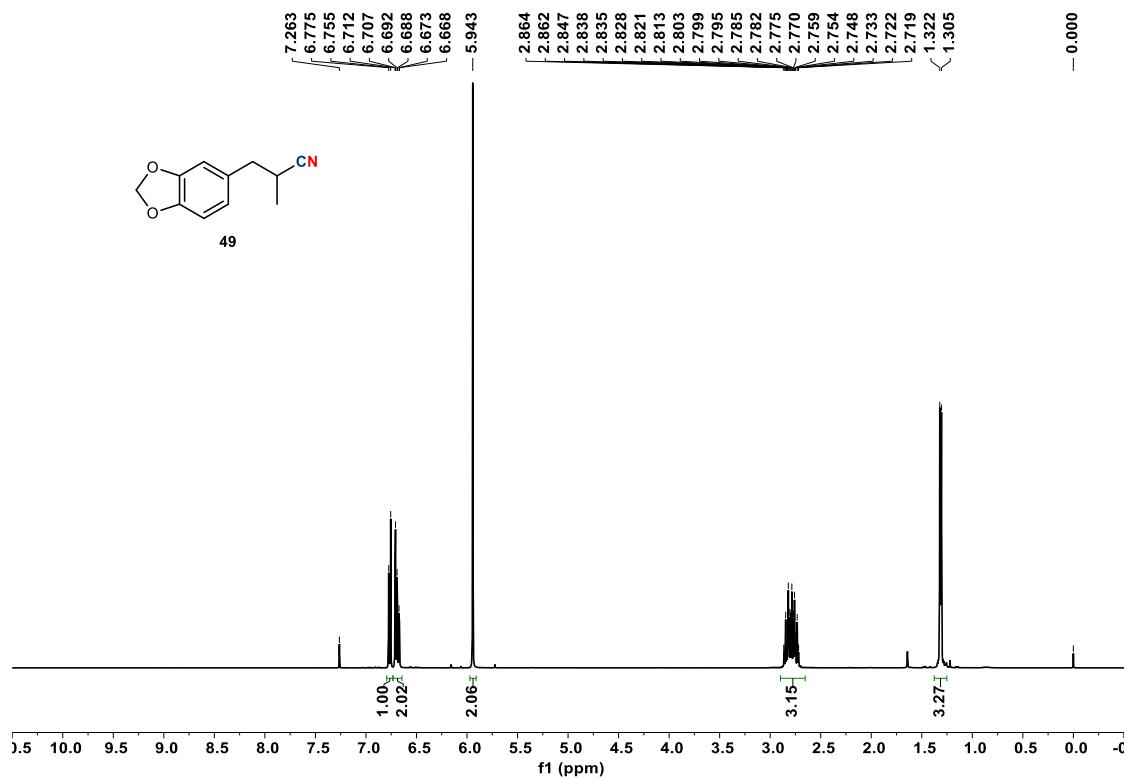


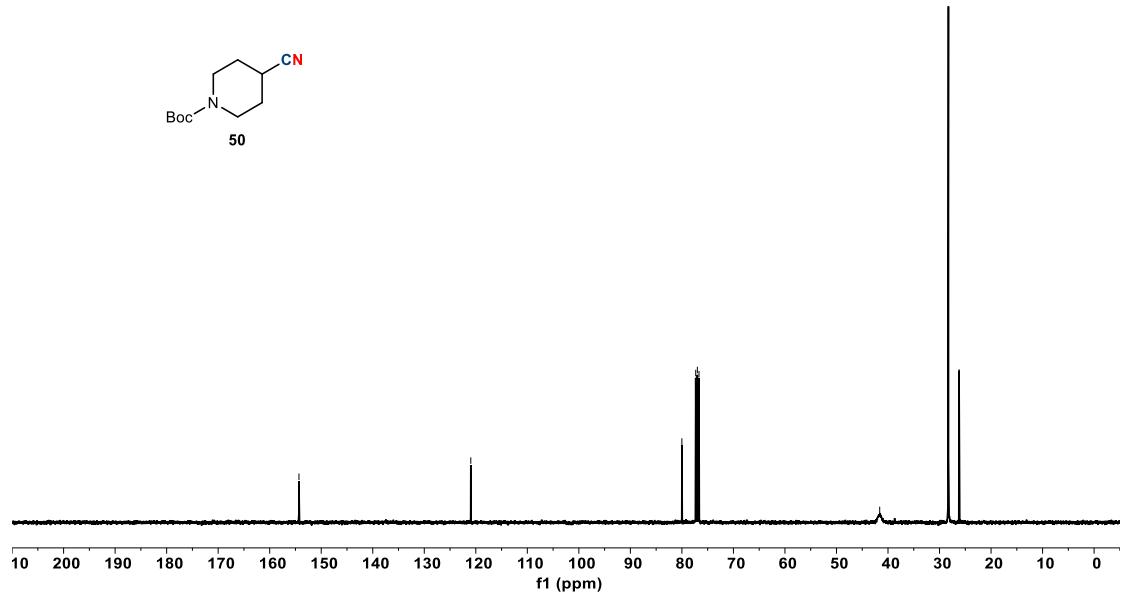
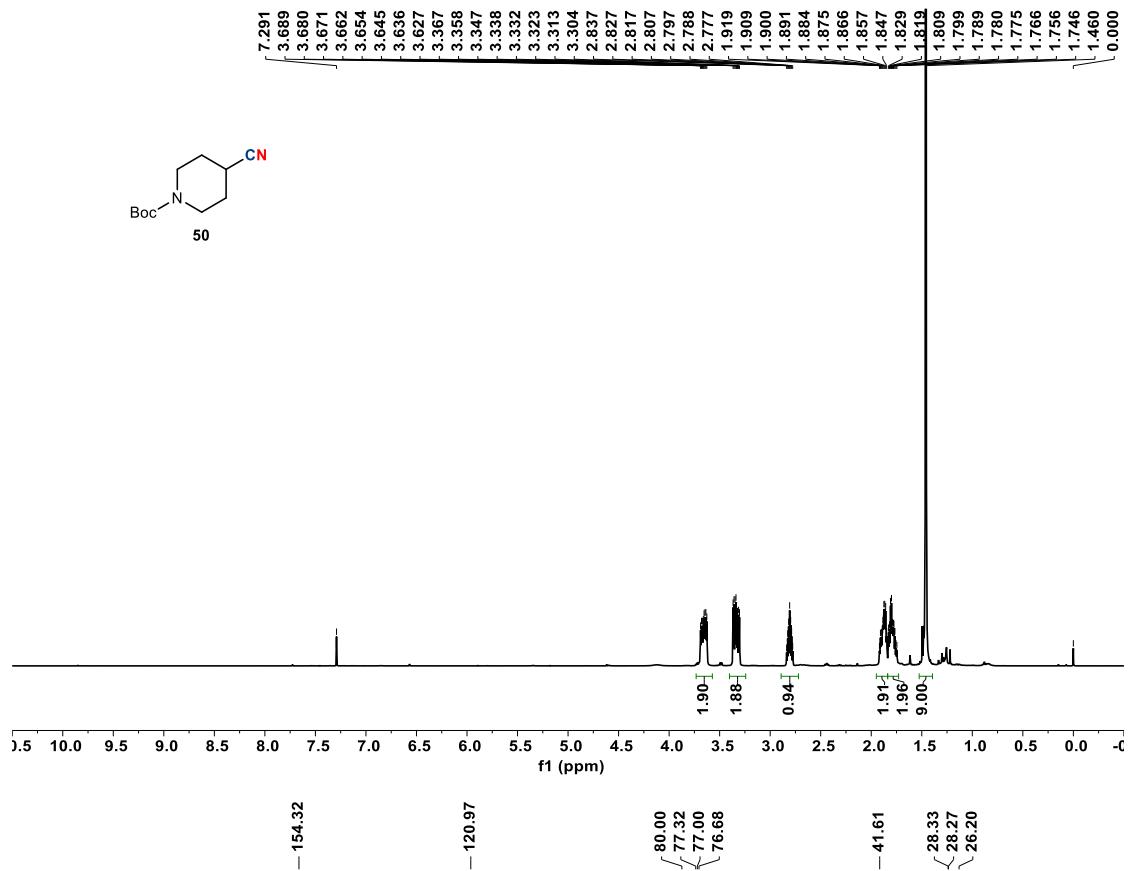


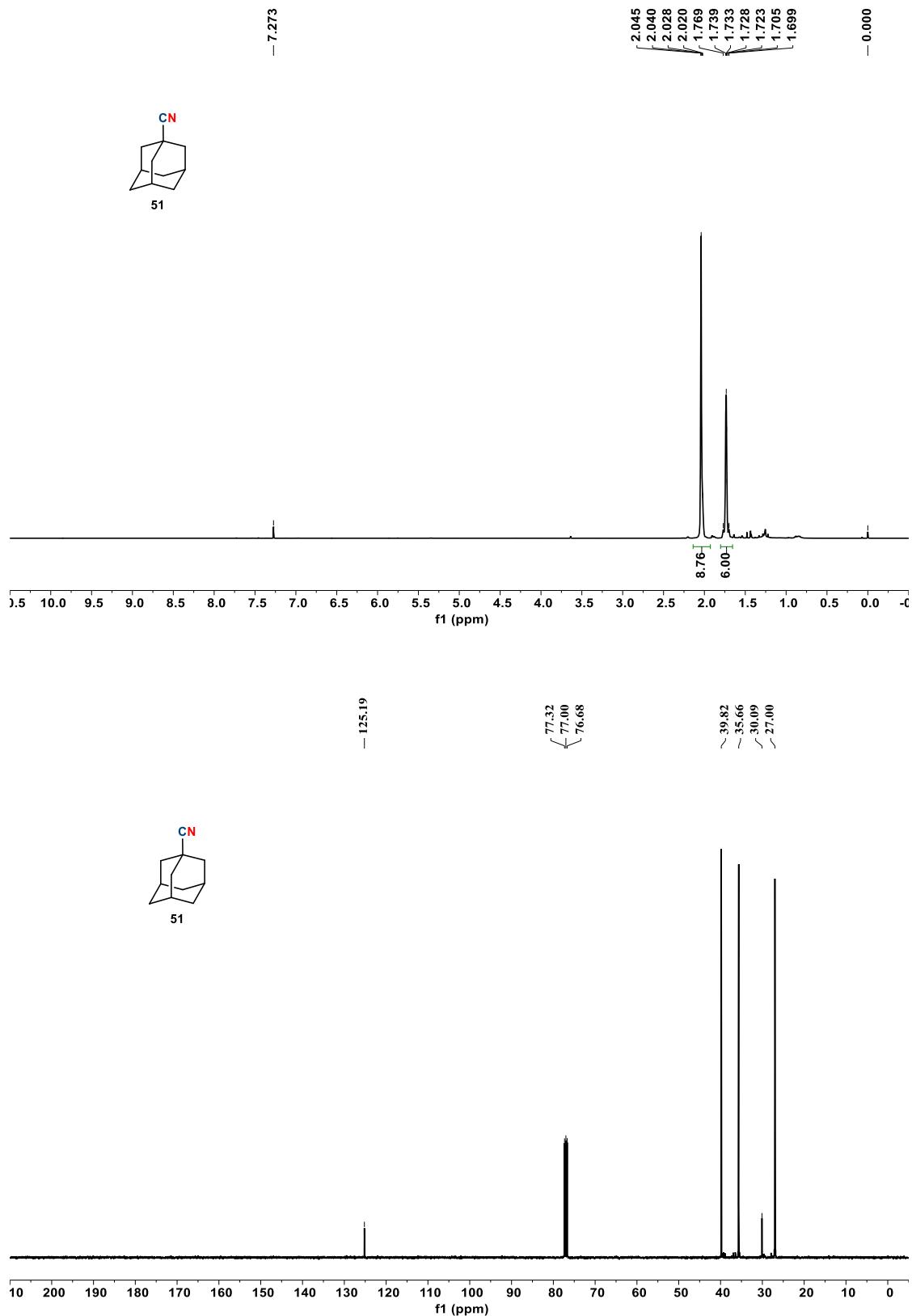


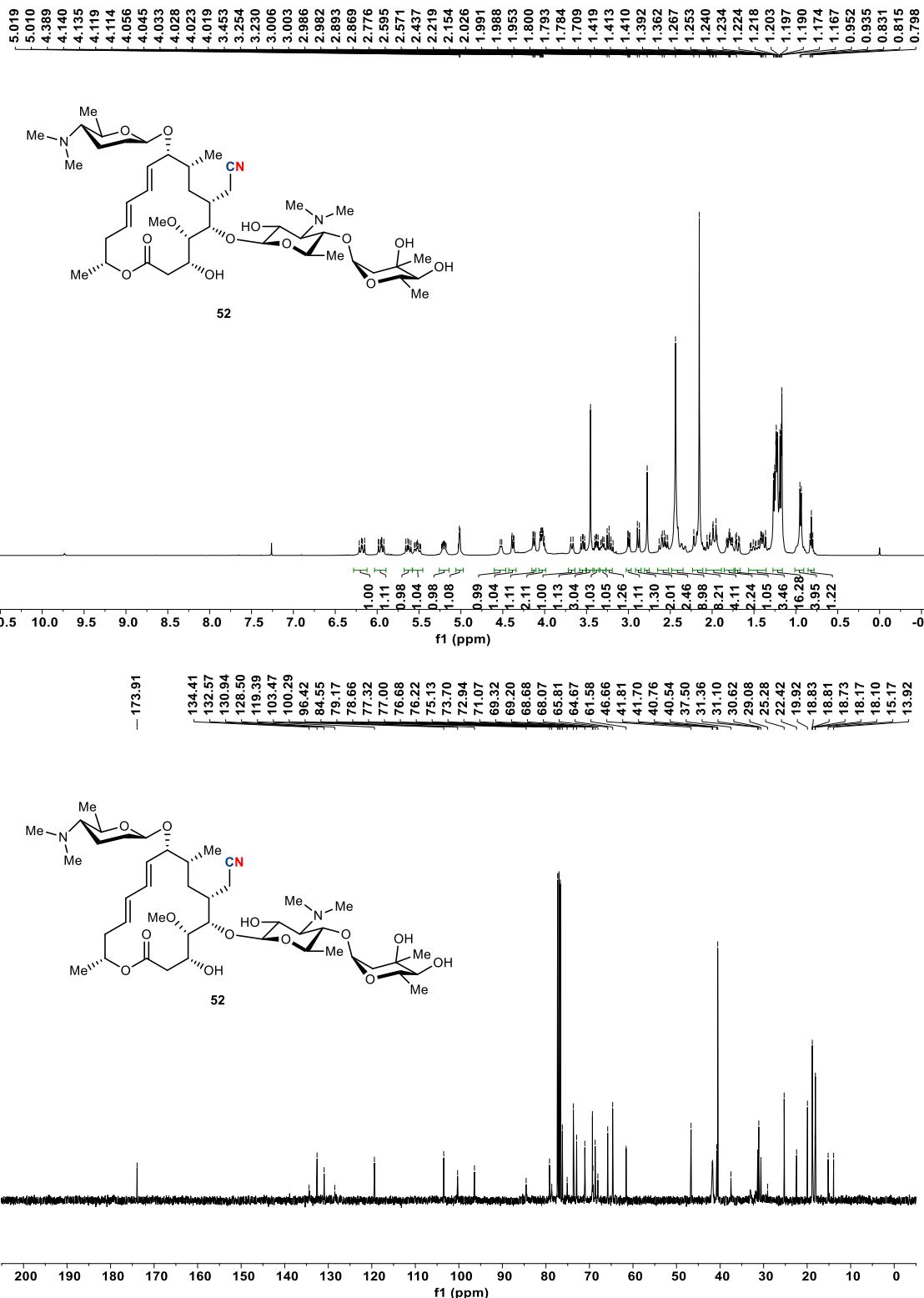


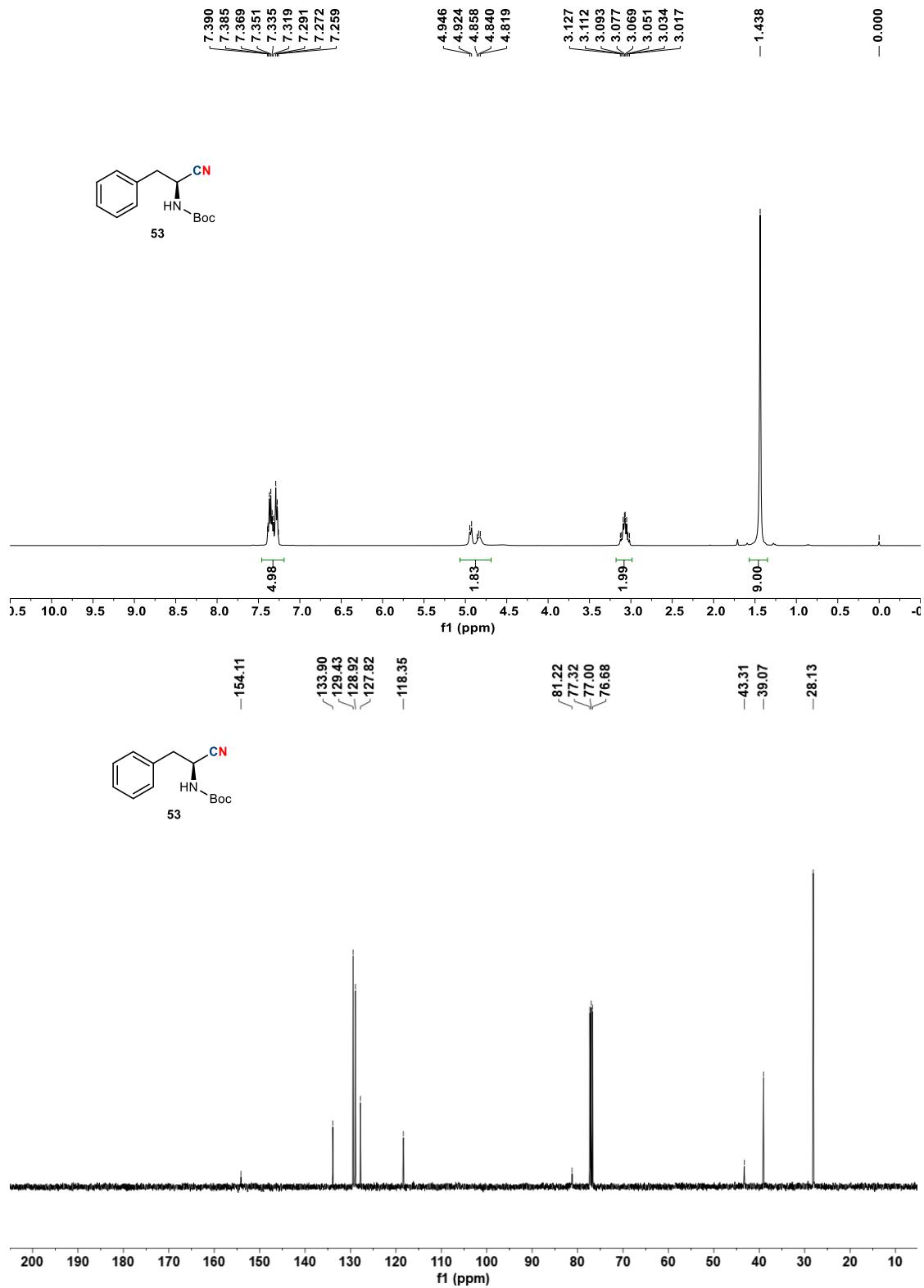


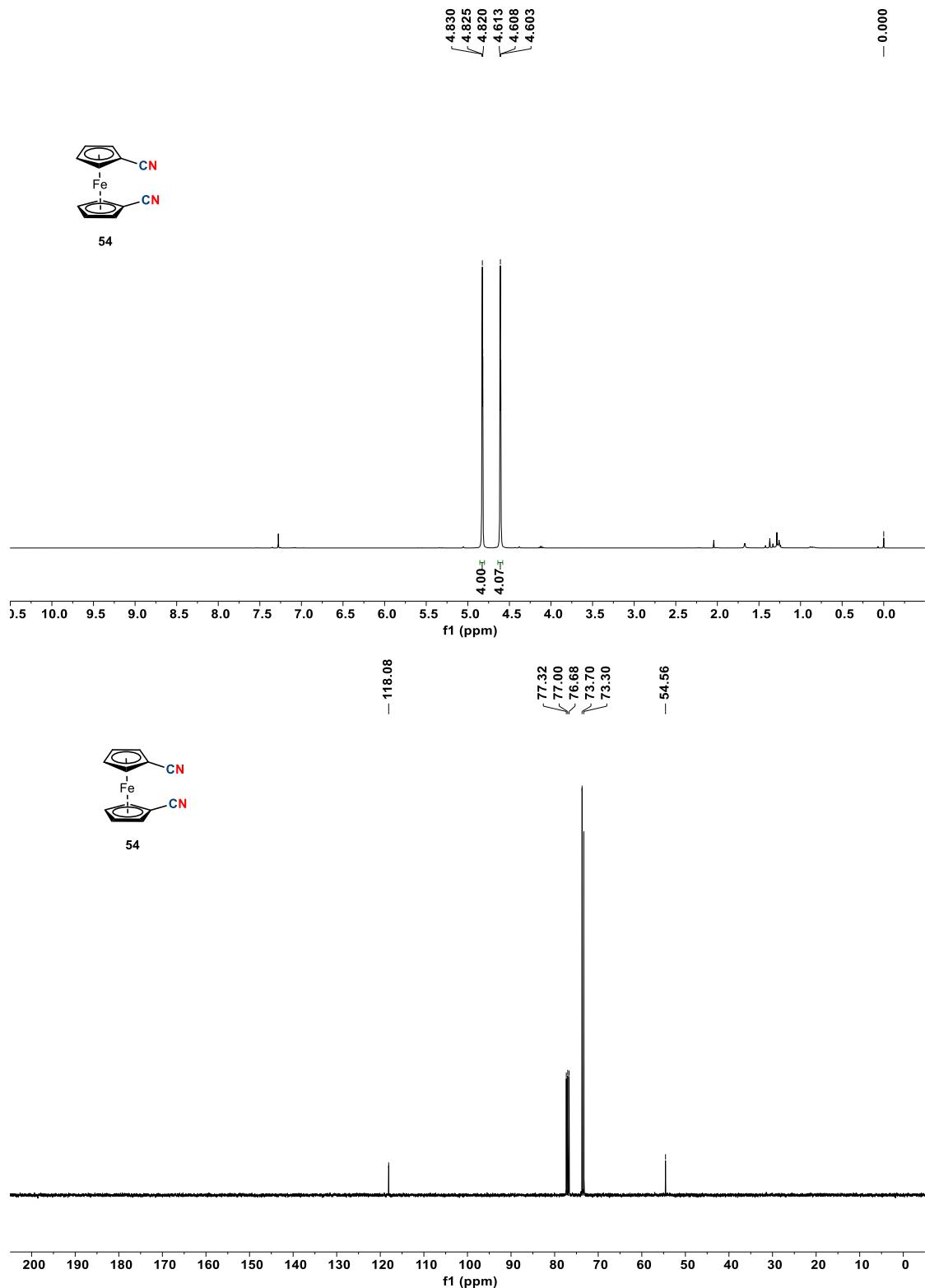


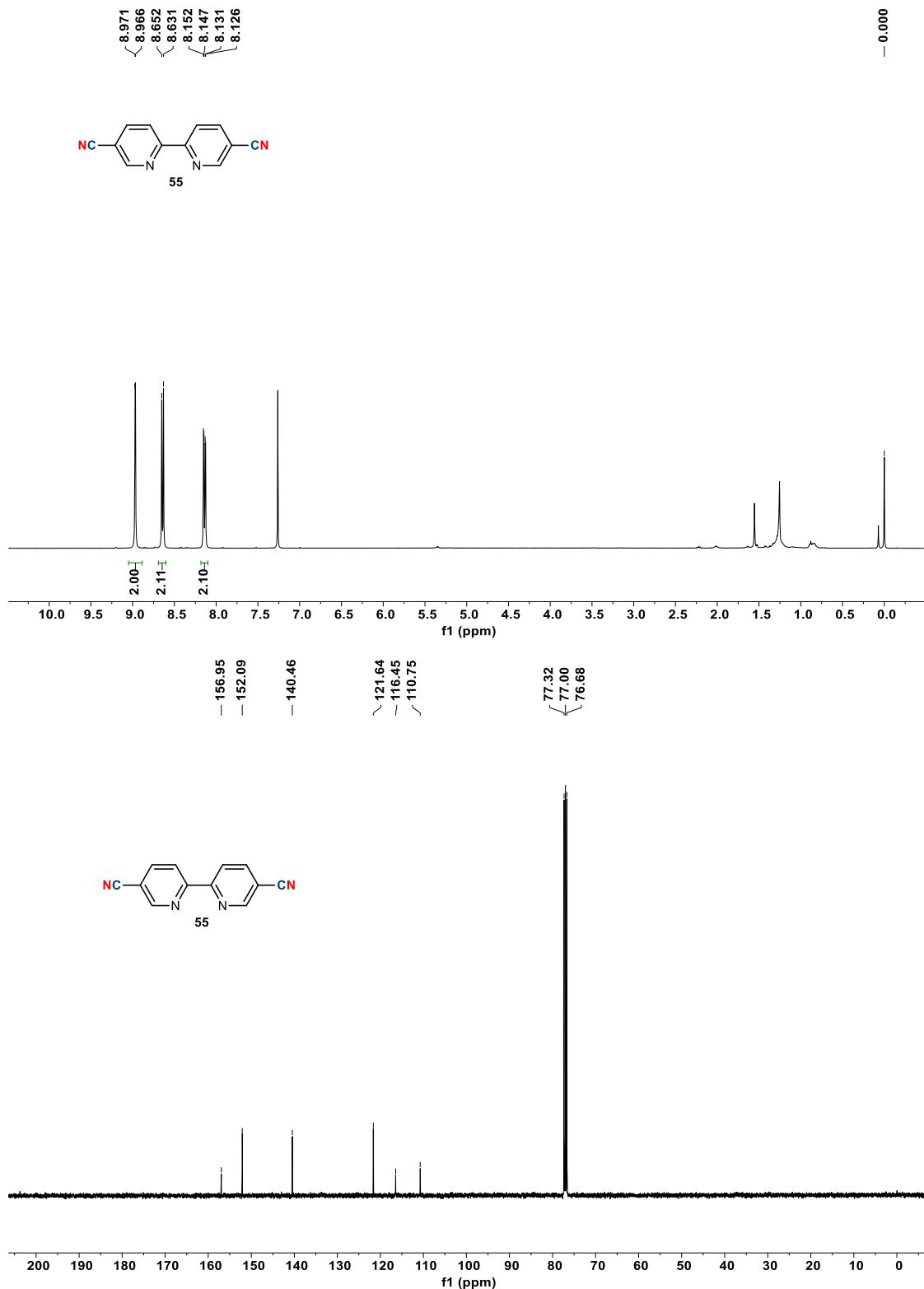


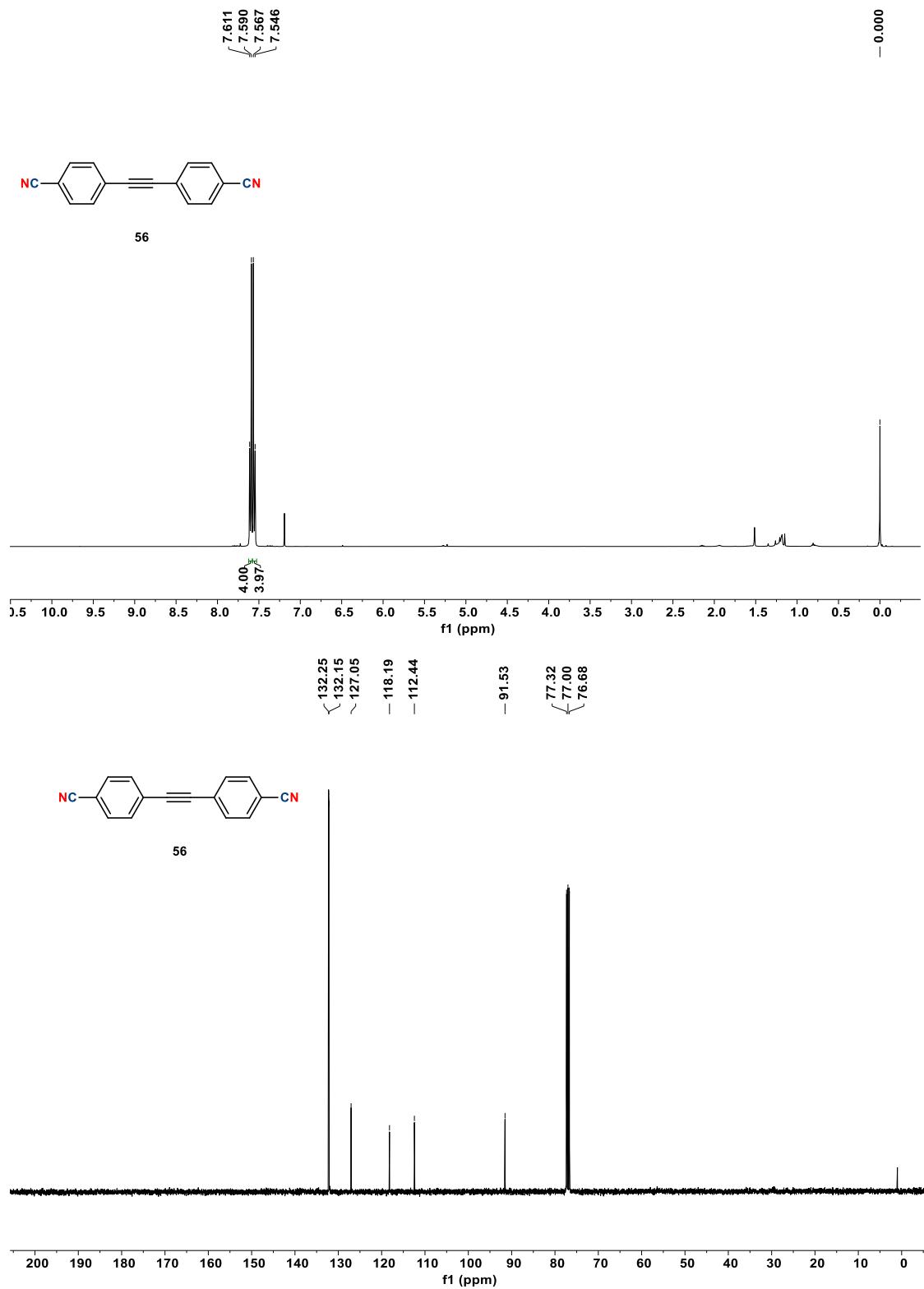




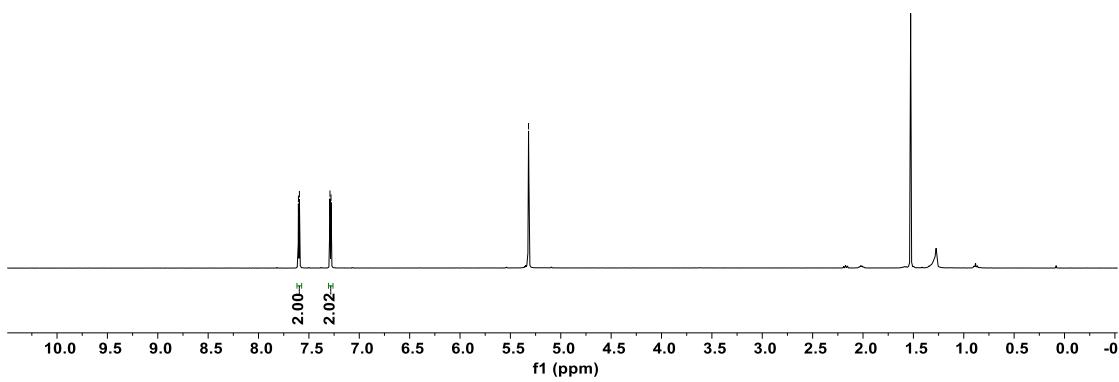
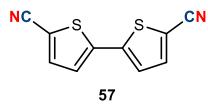




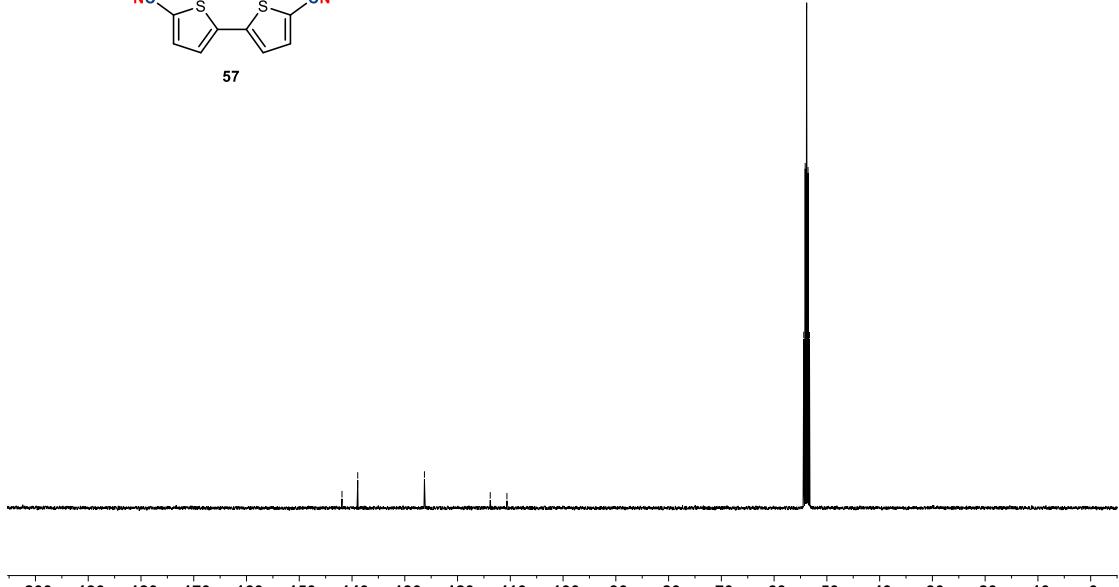
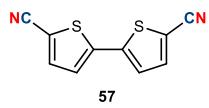


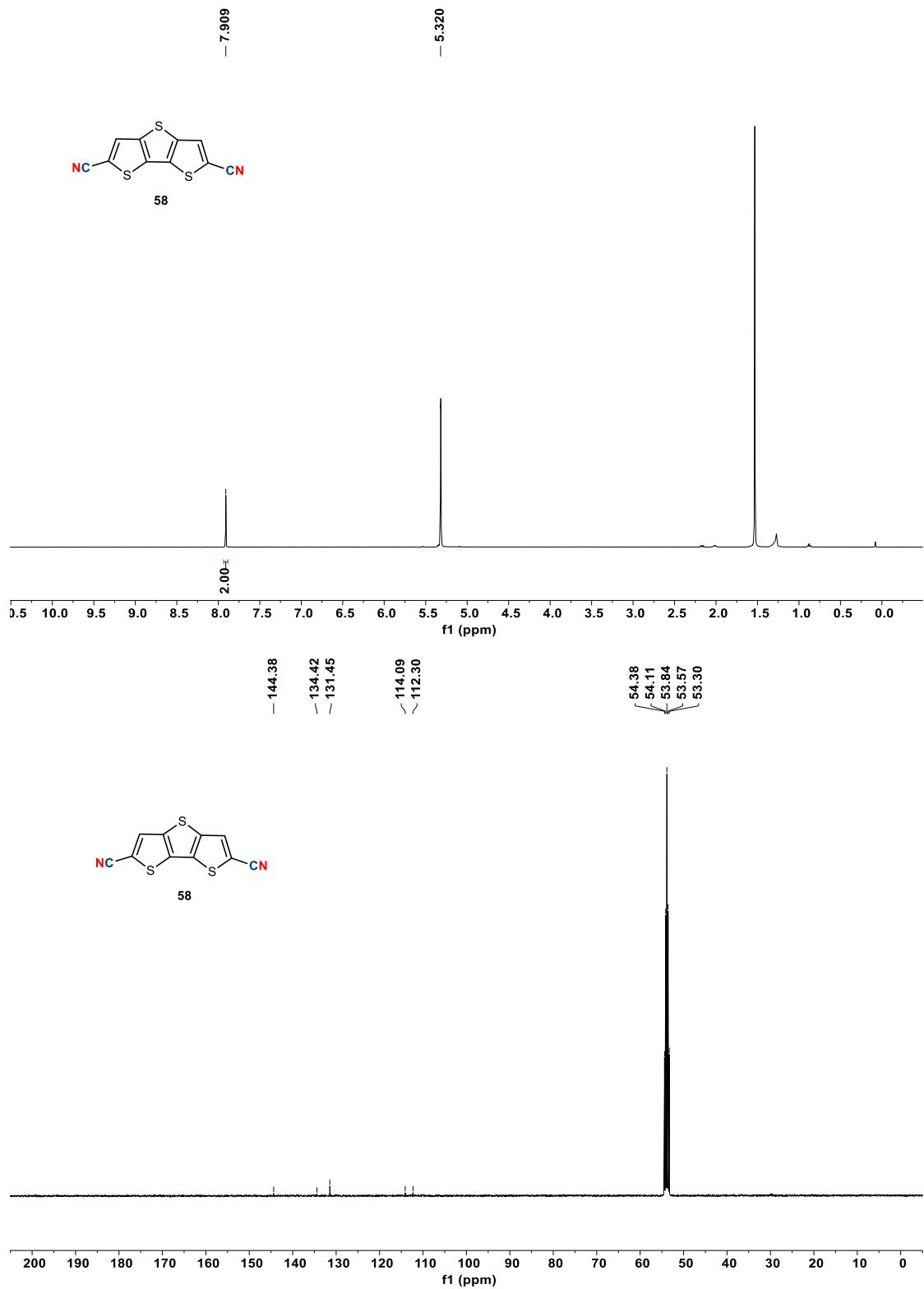


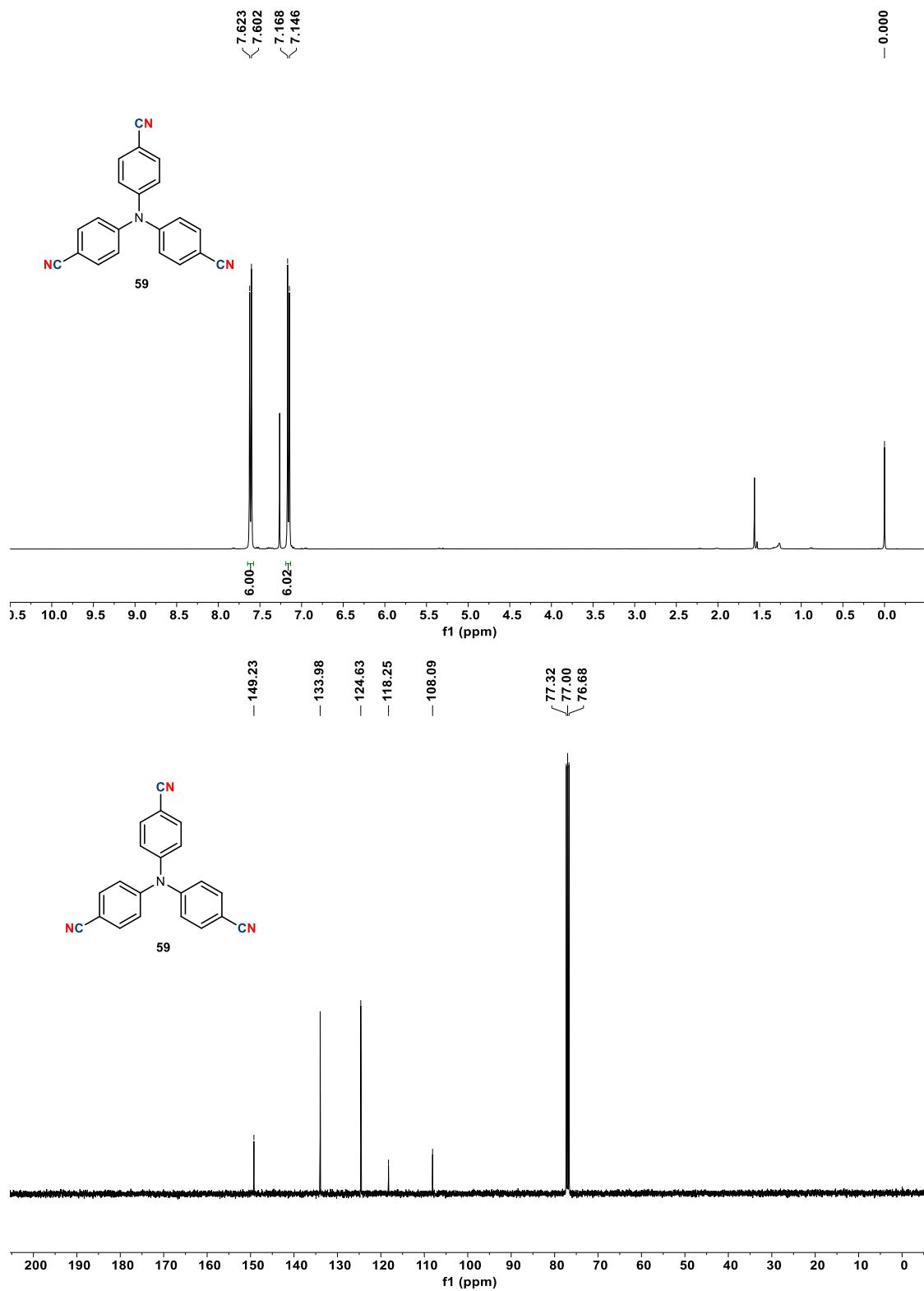
7.604  
7.594  
7.291  
7.281  
- 5.320

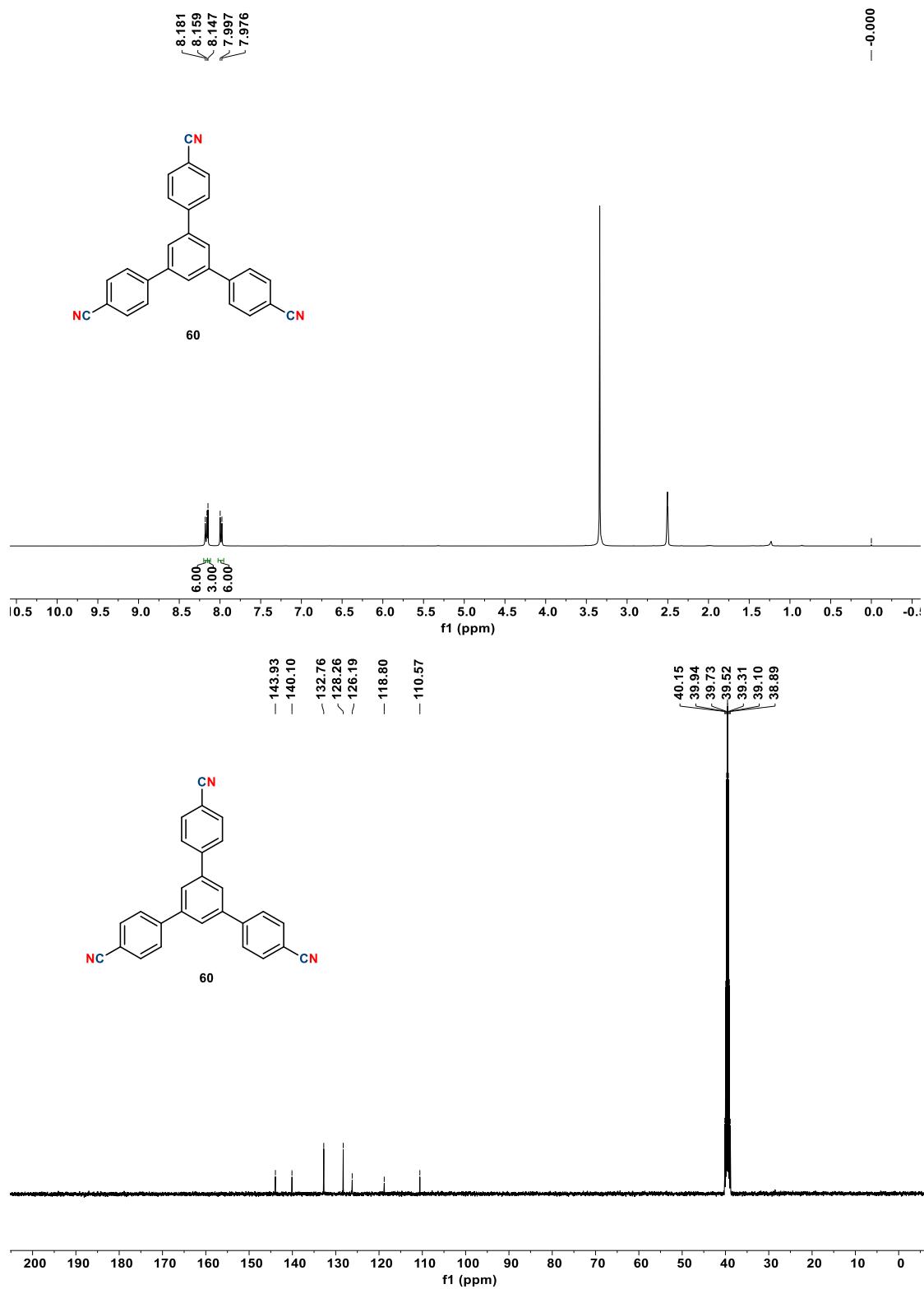


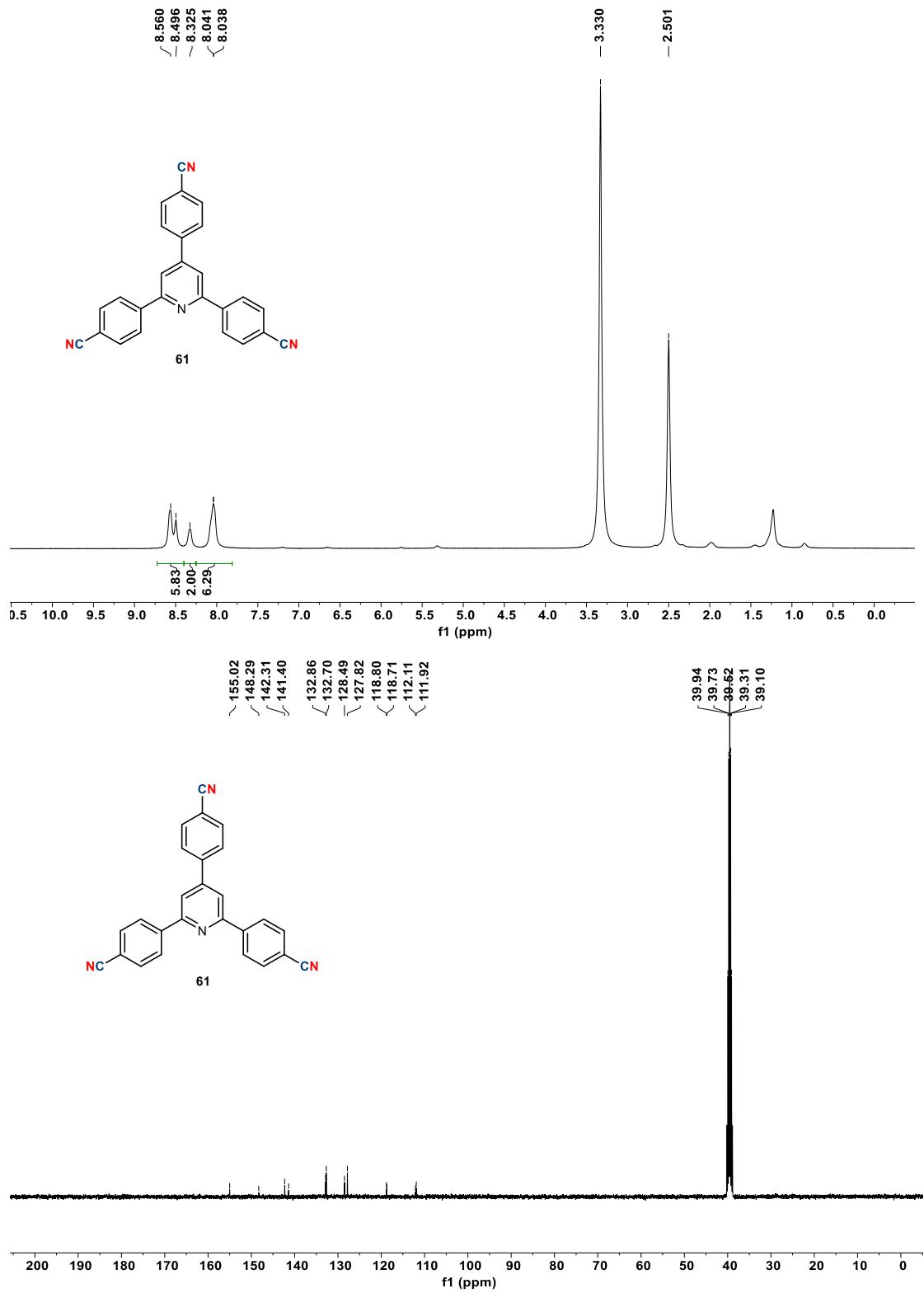
-141.91  
-138.92  
-126.28  
-113.80  
-110.64

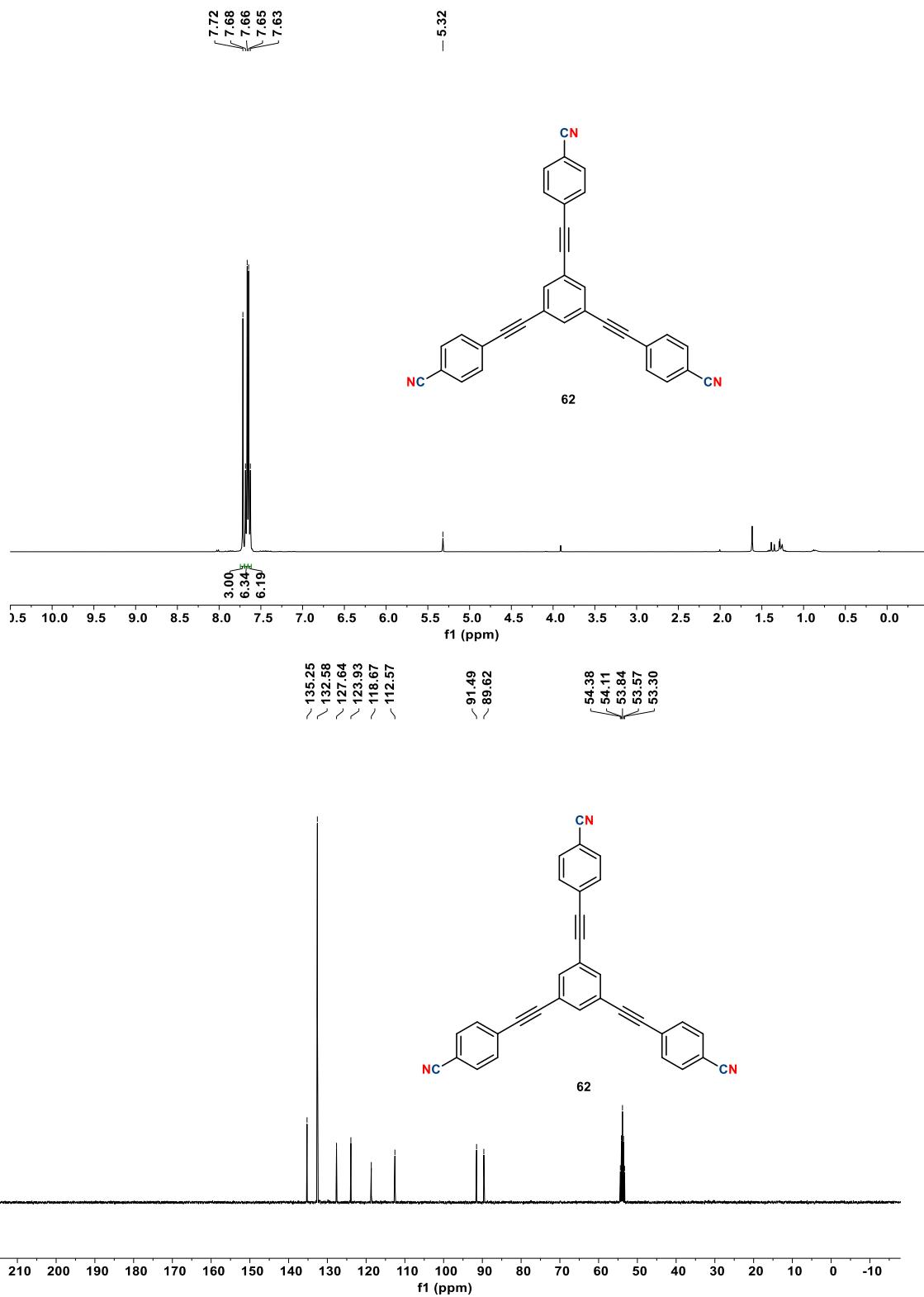


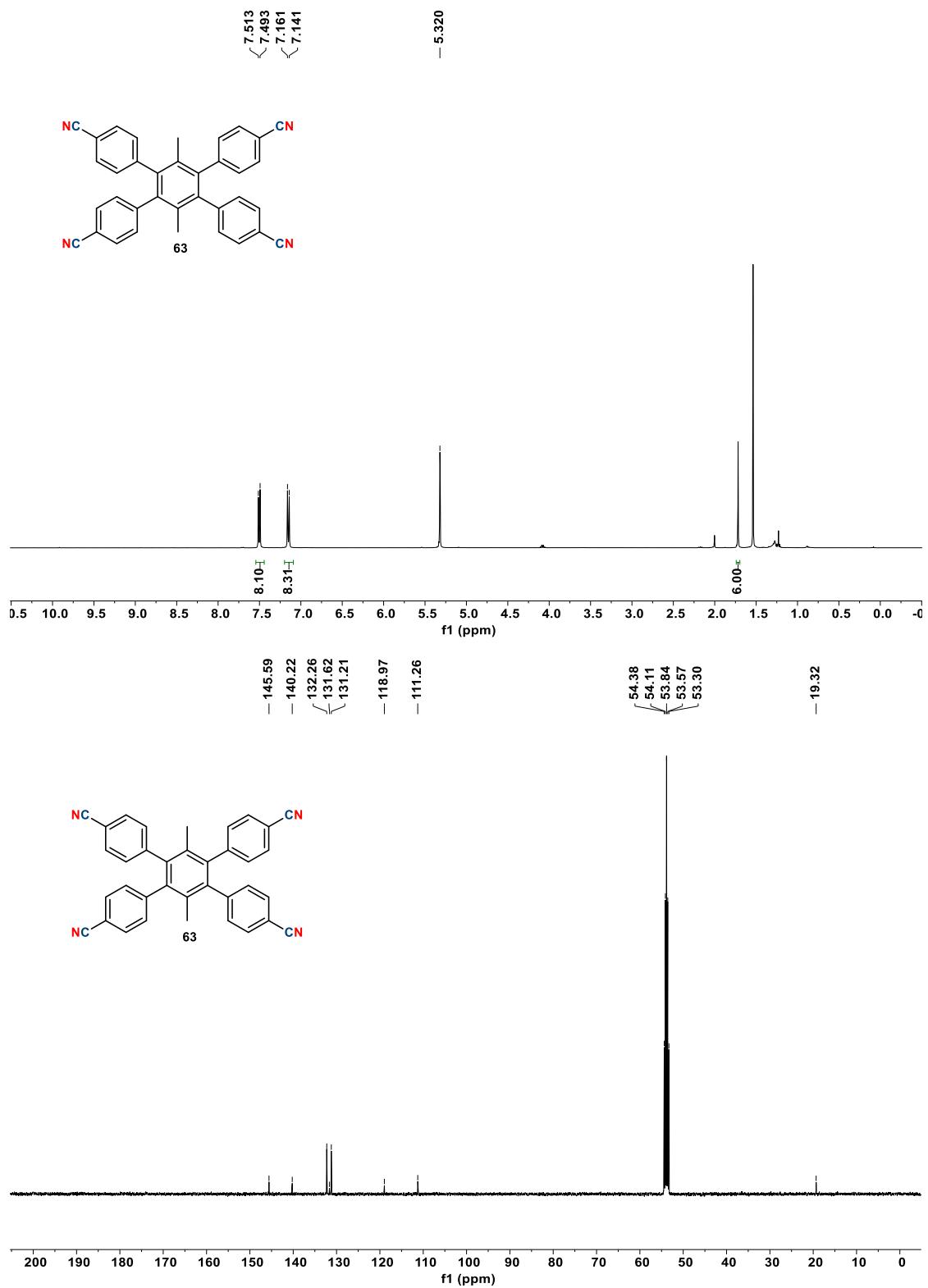


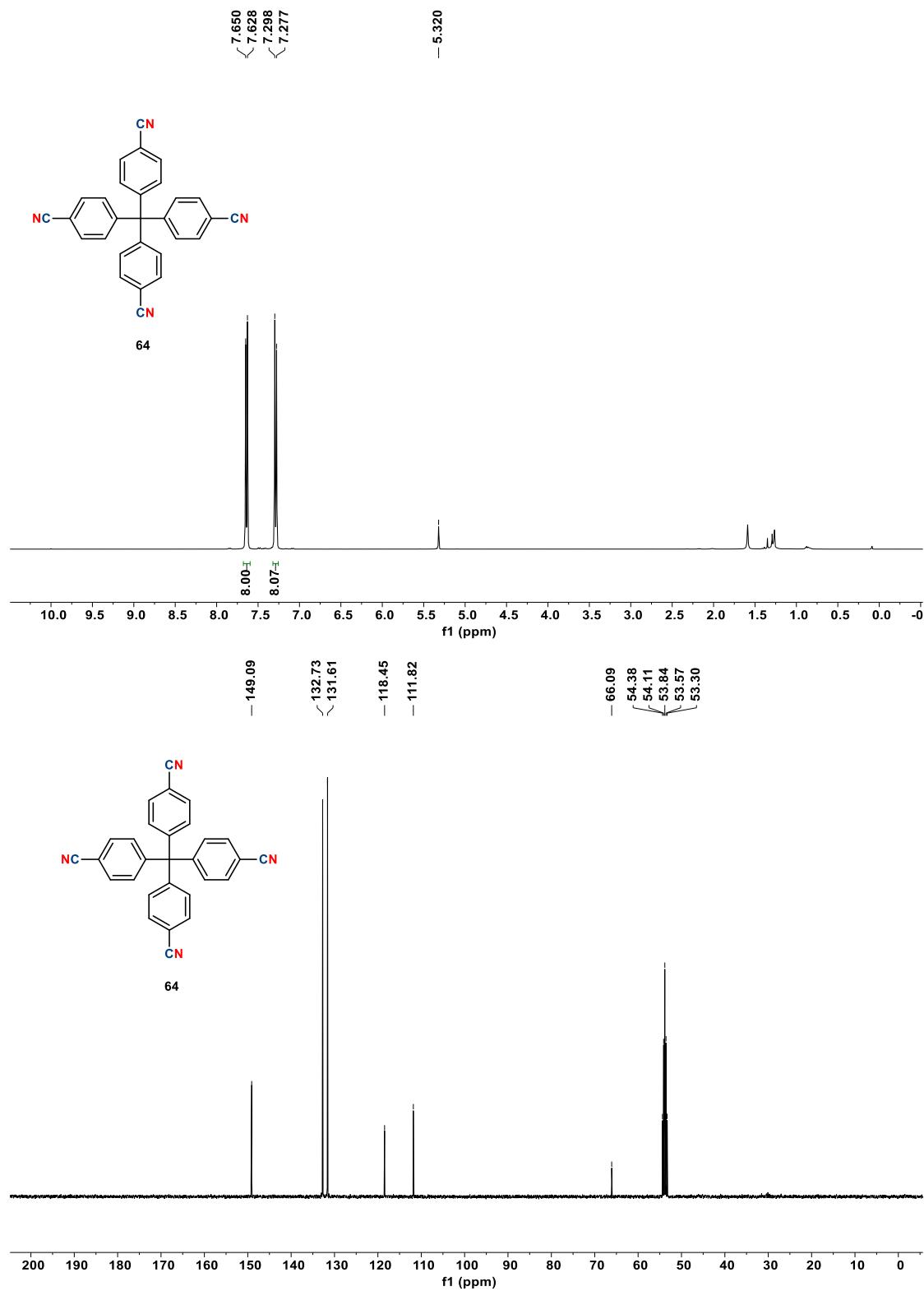


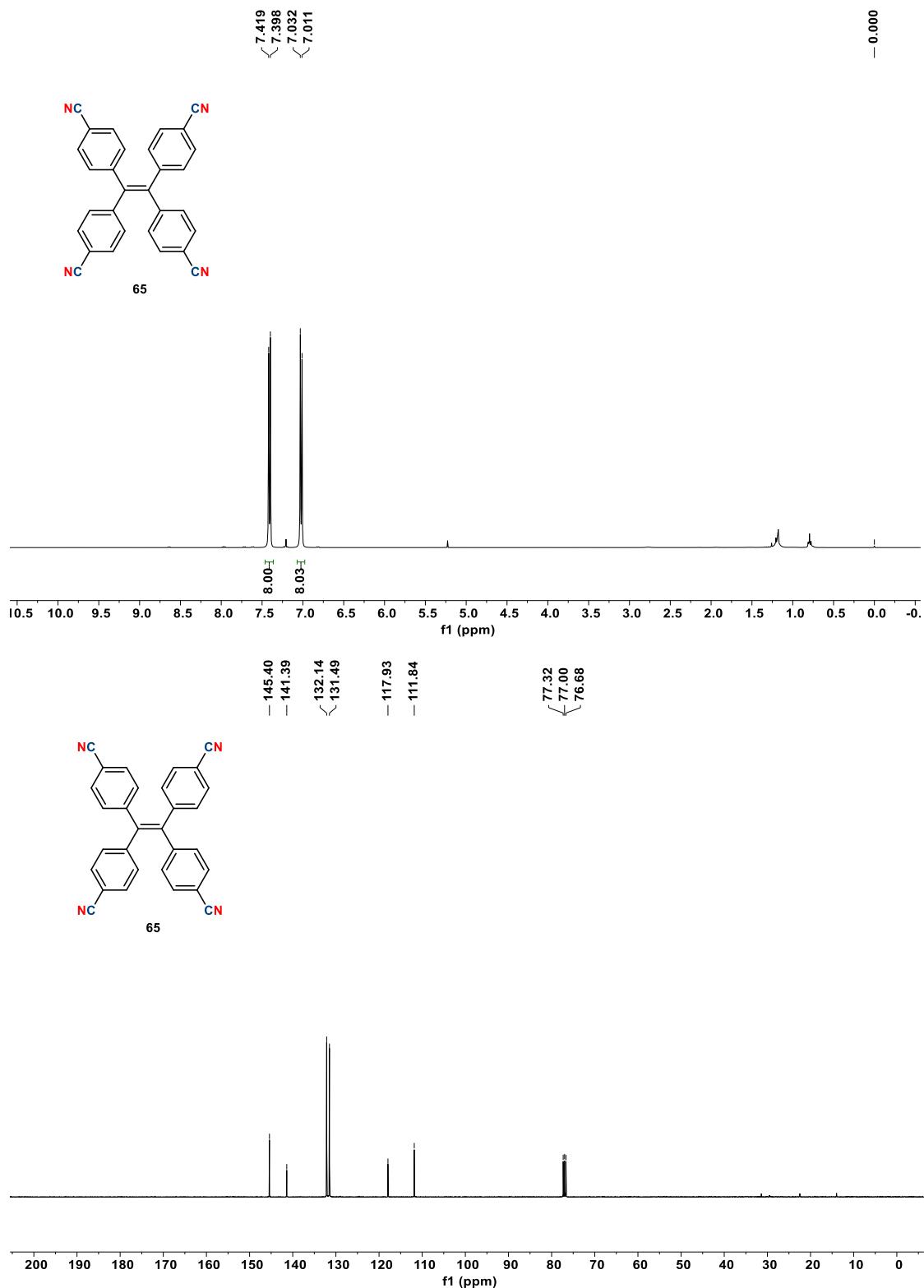


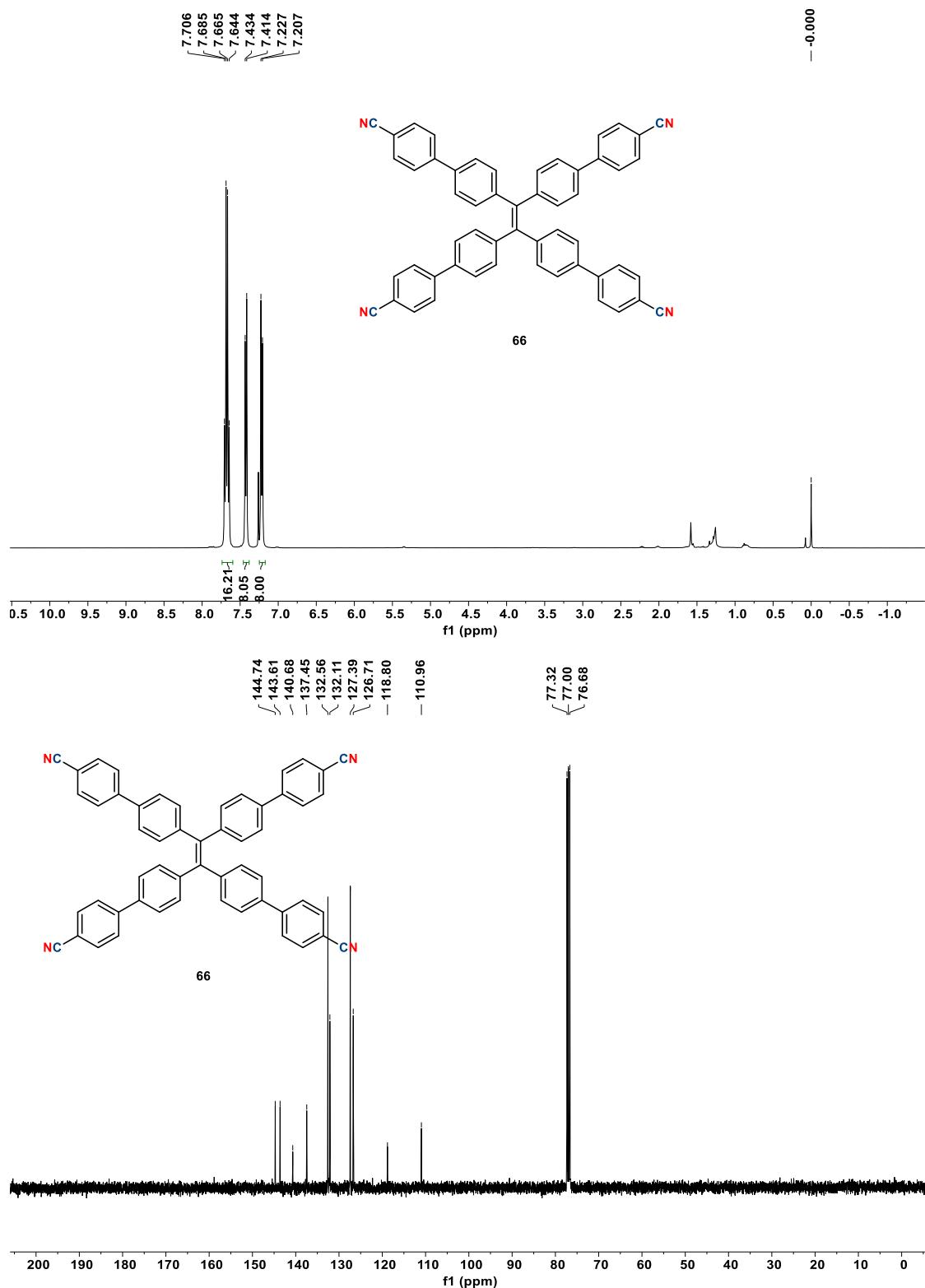


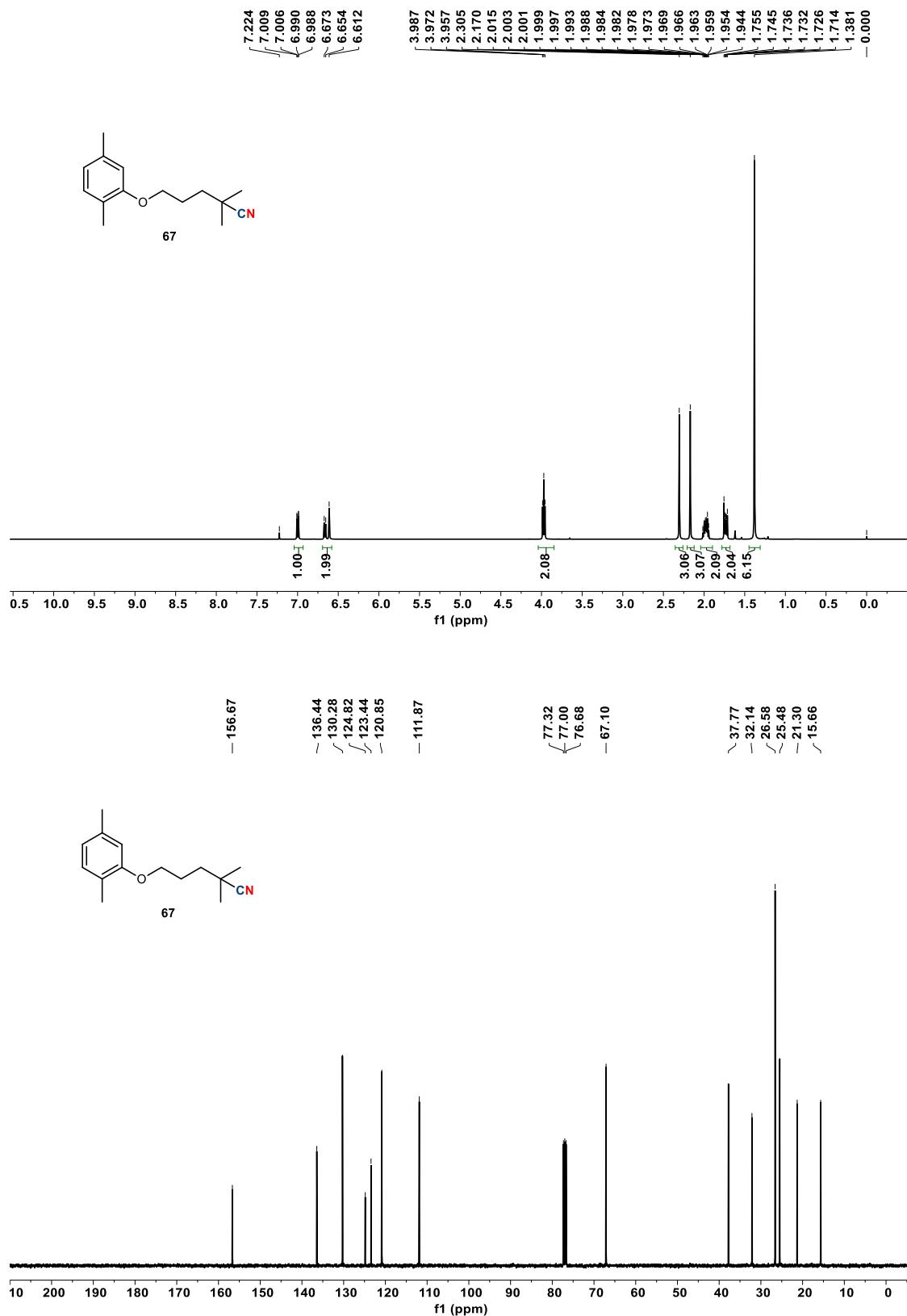


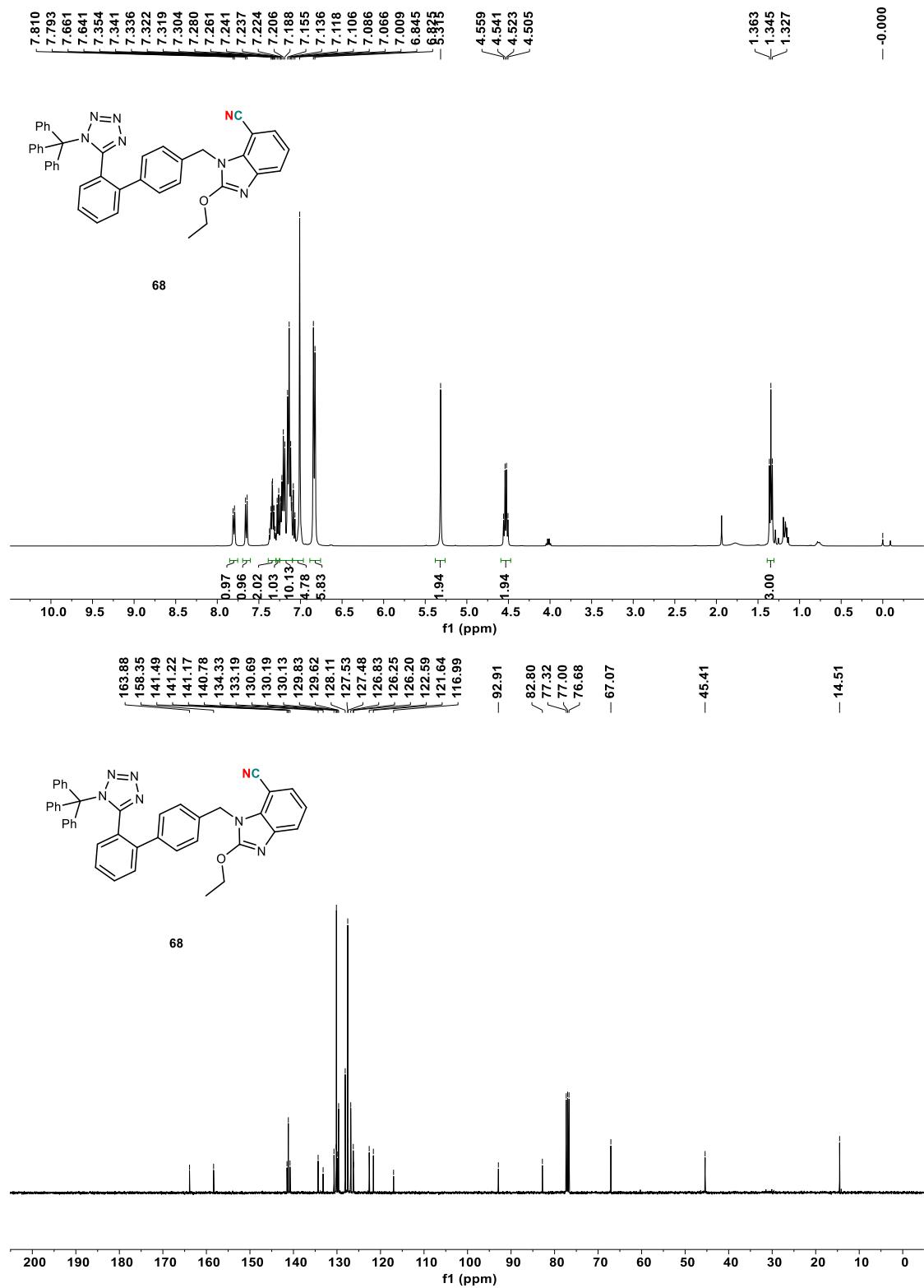


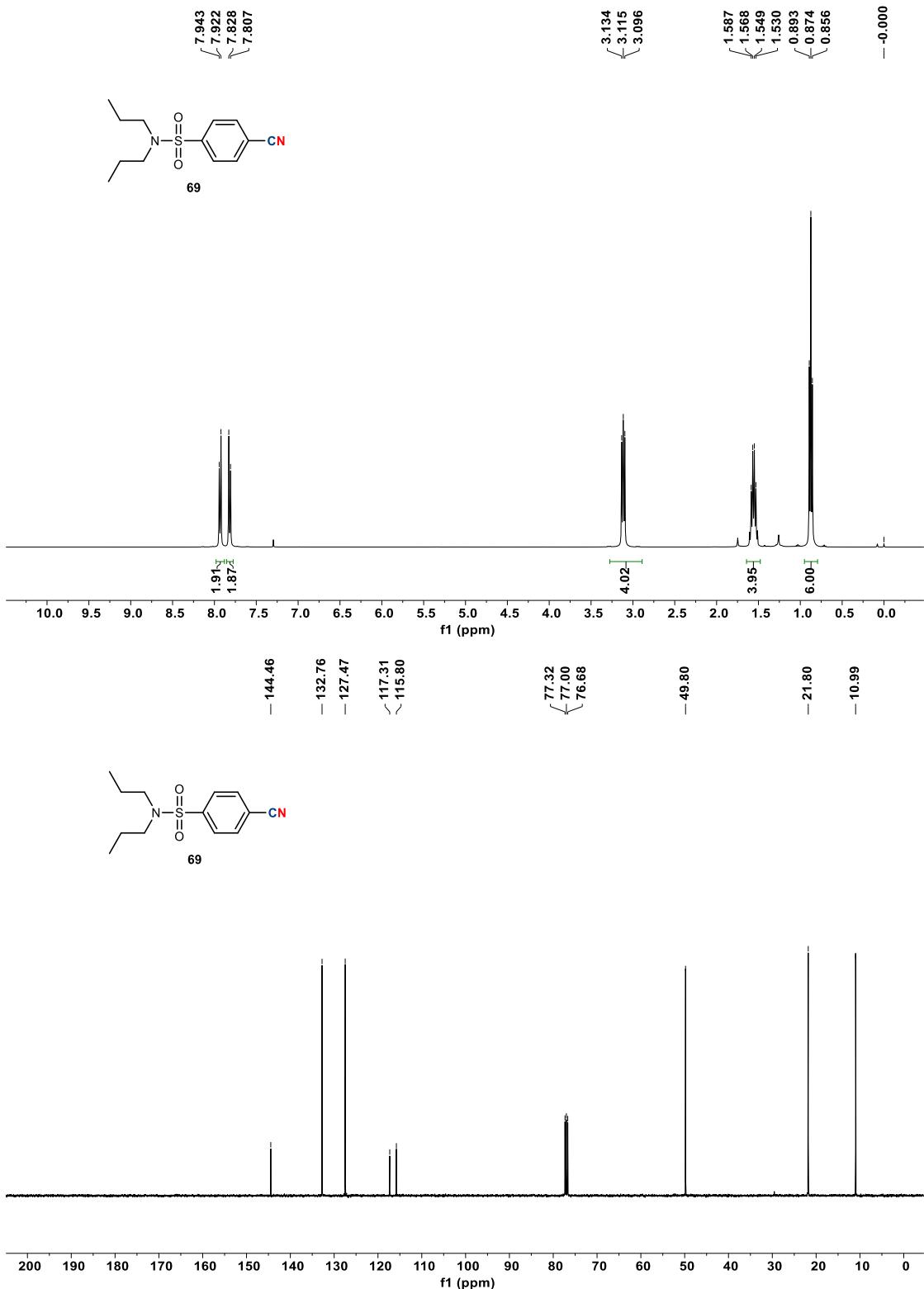


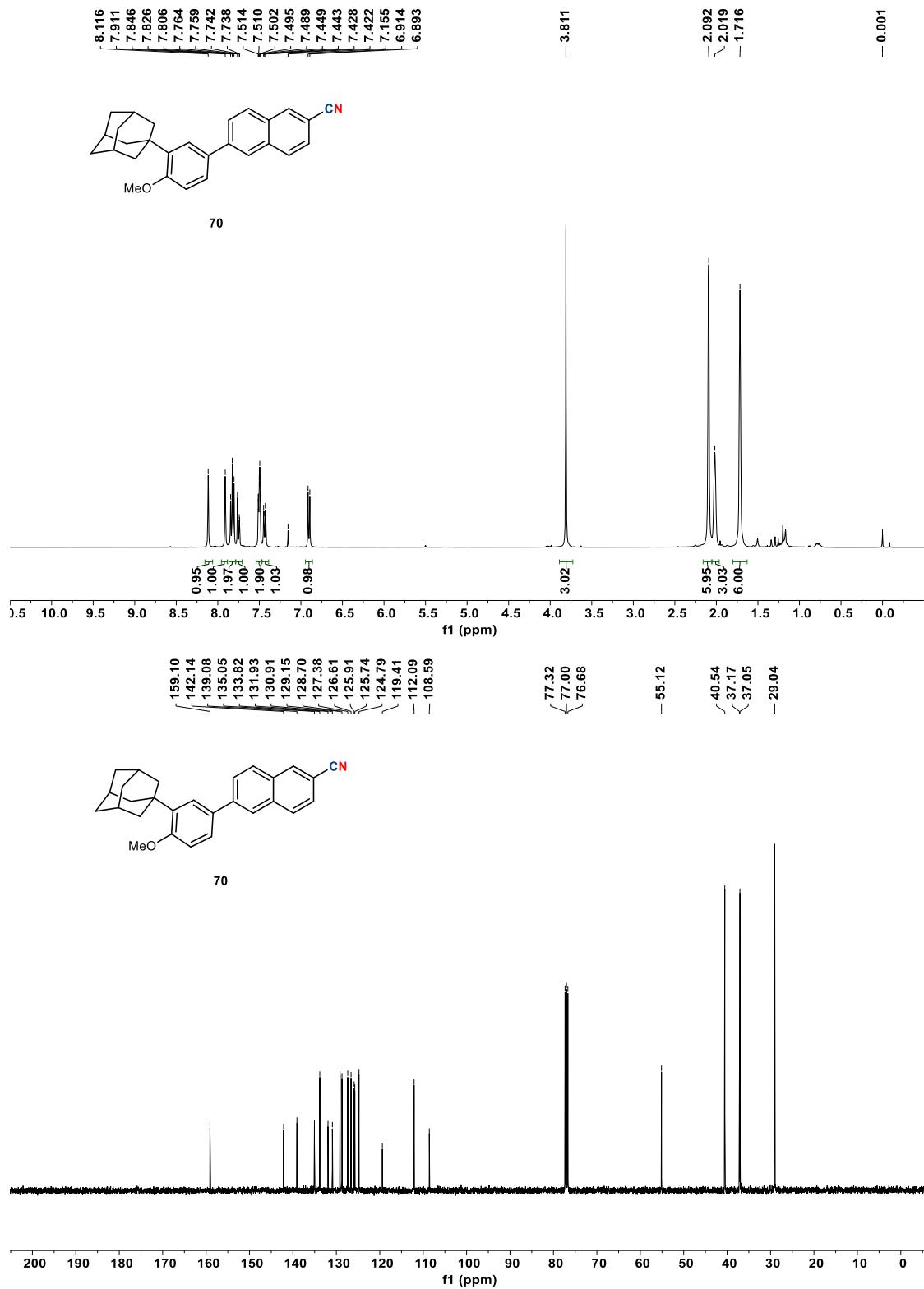


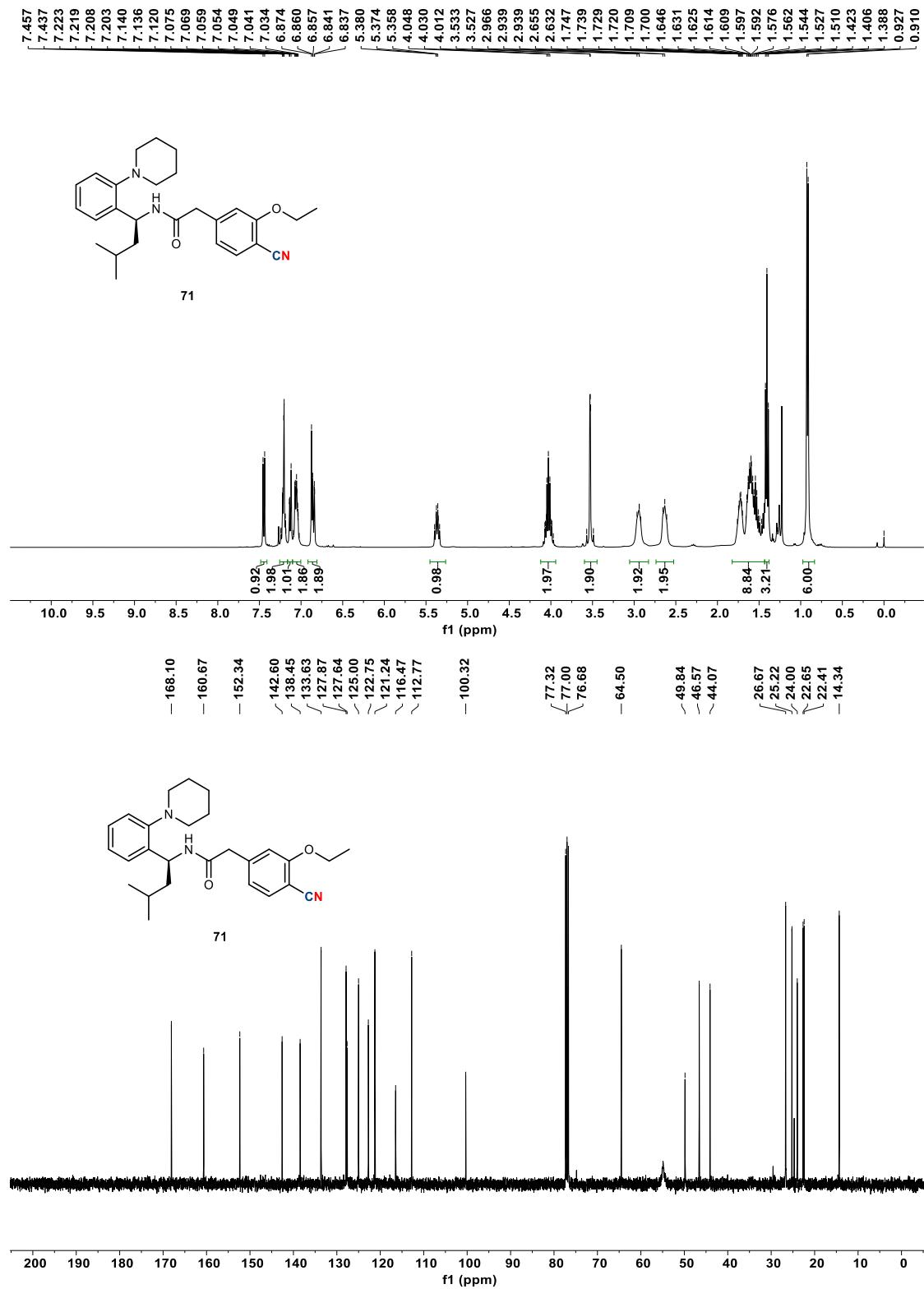


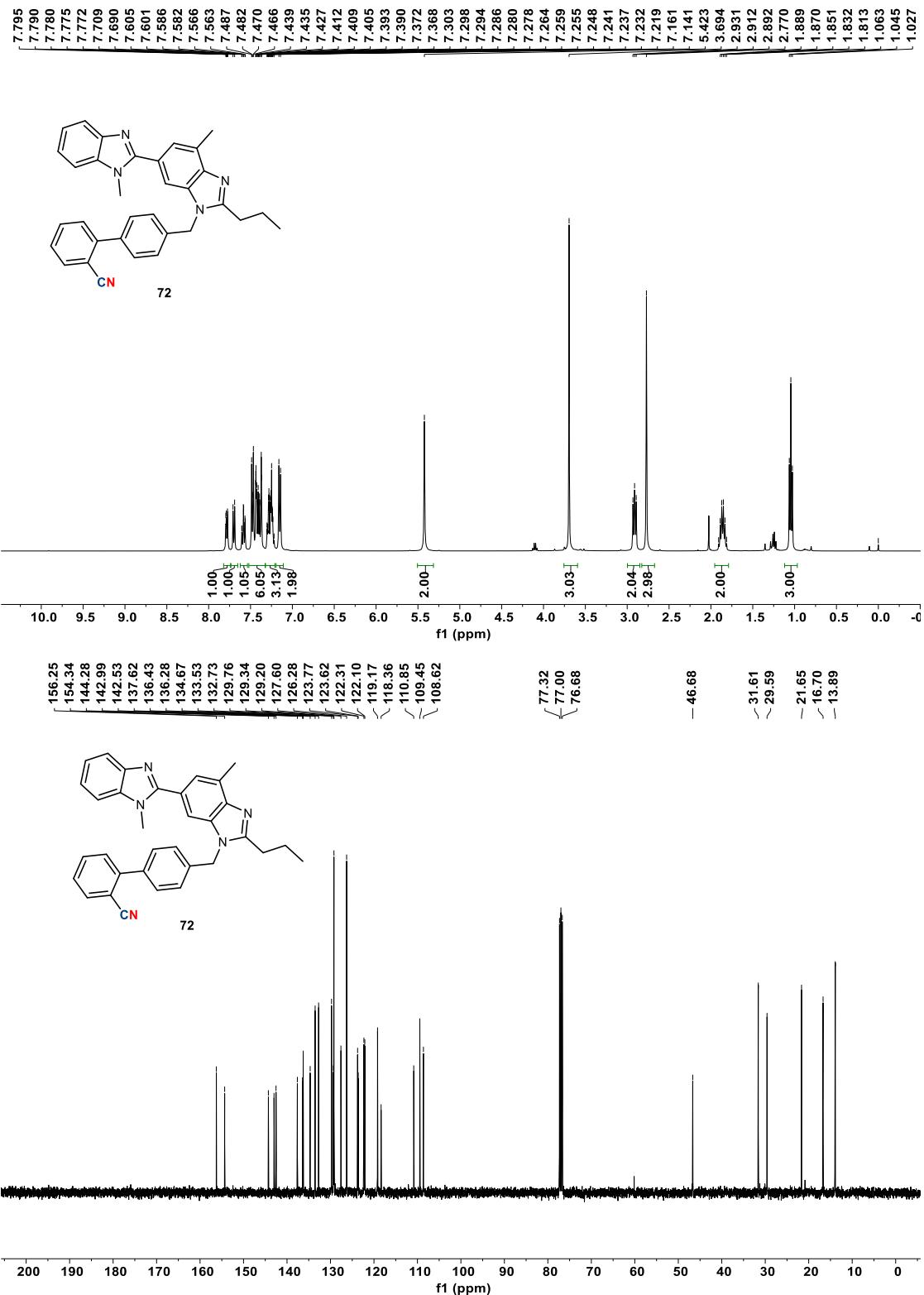


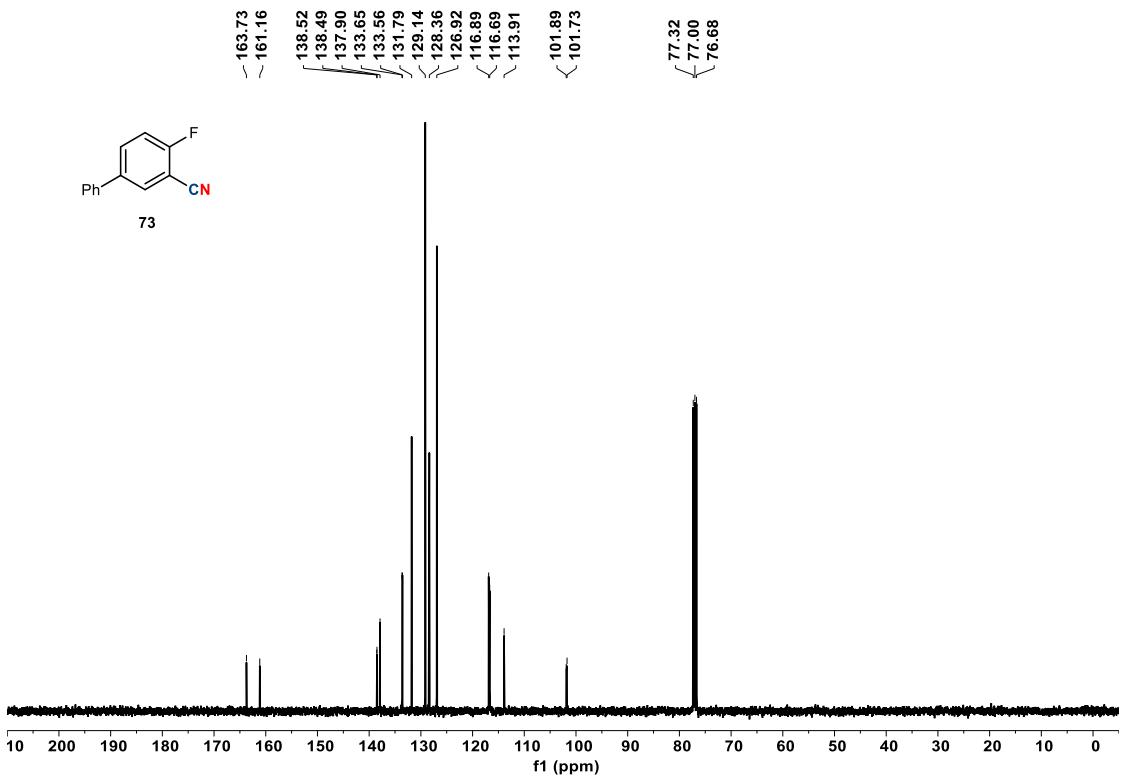
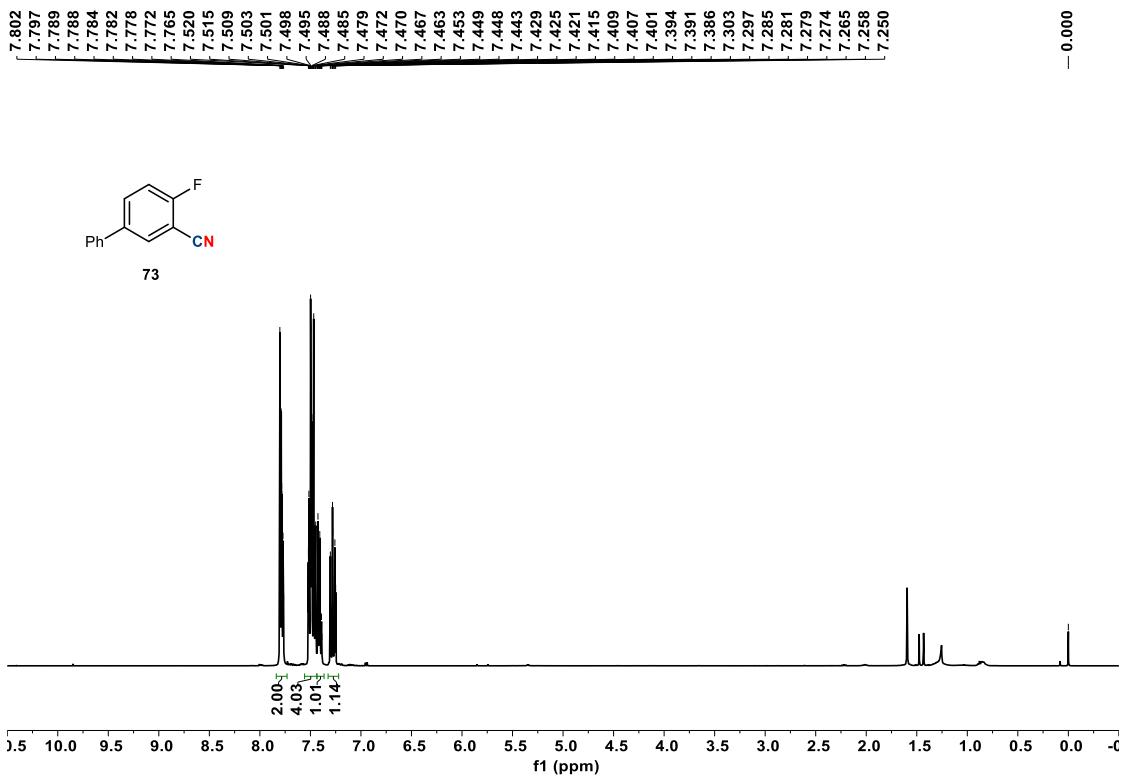




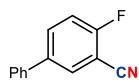




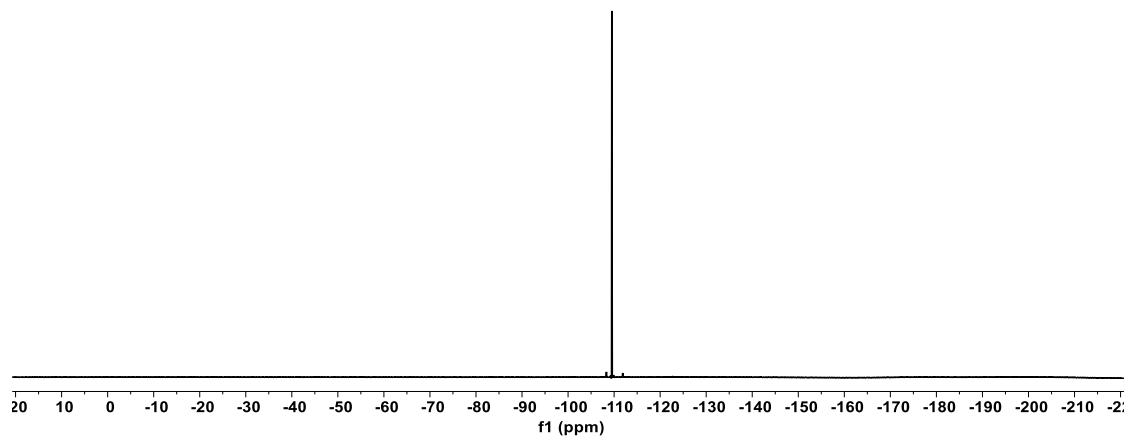




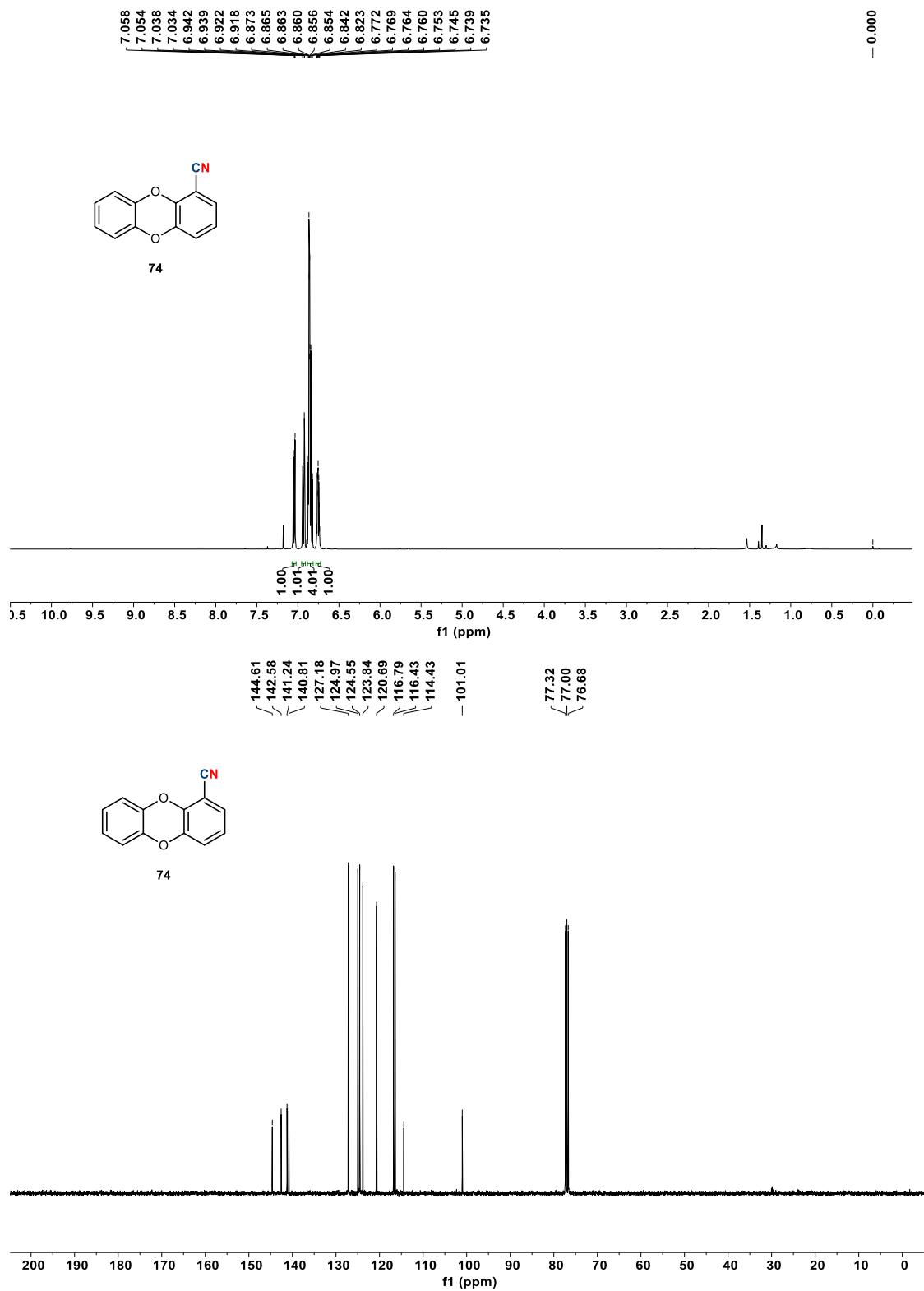
-109.498



73

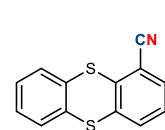
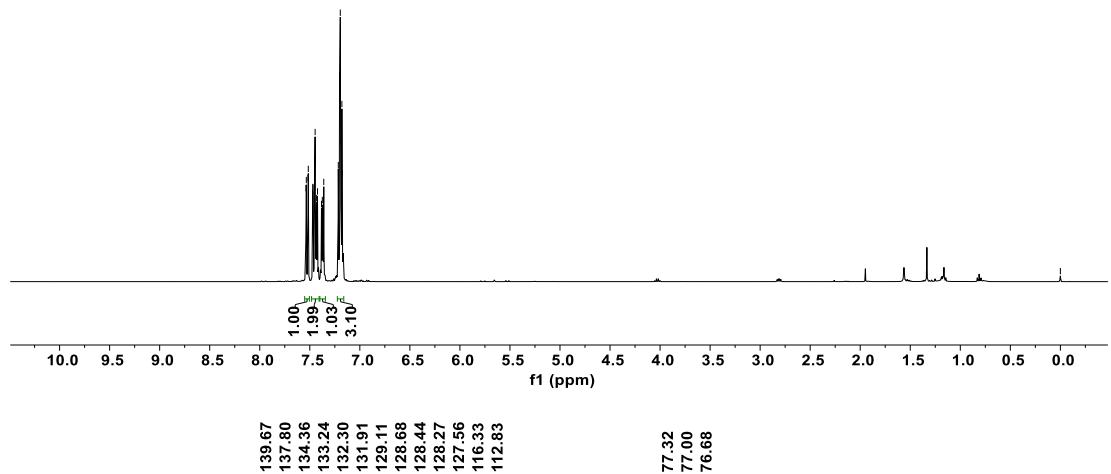


$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR of nitrile 73

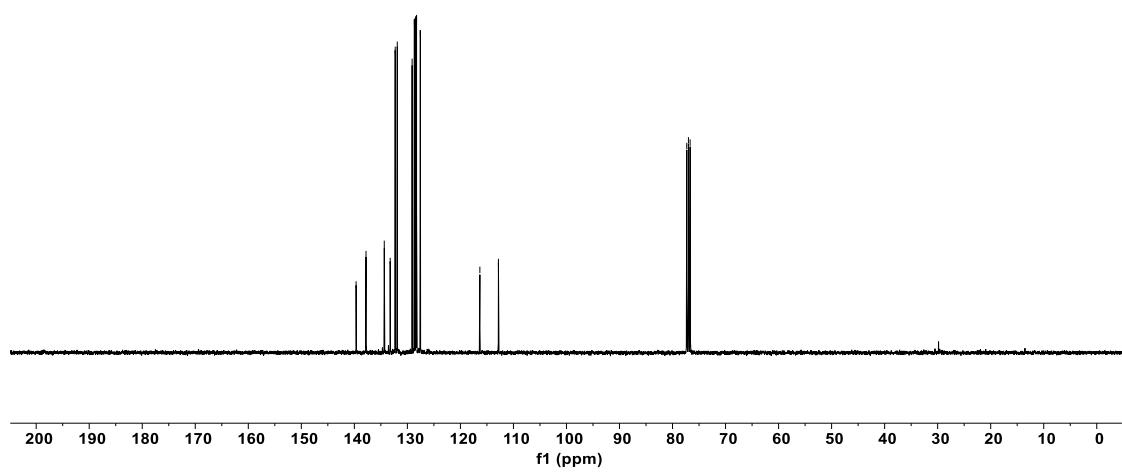


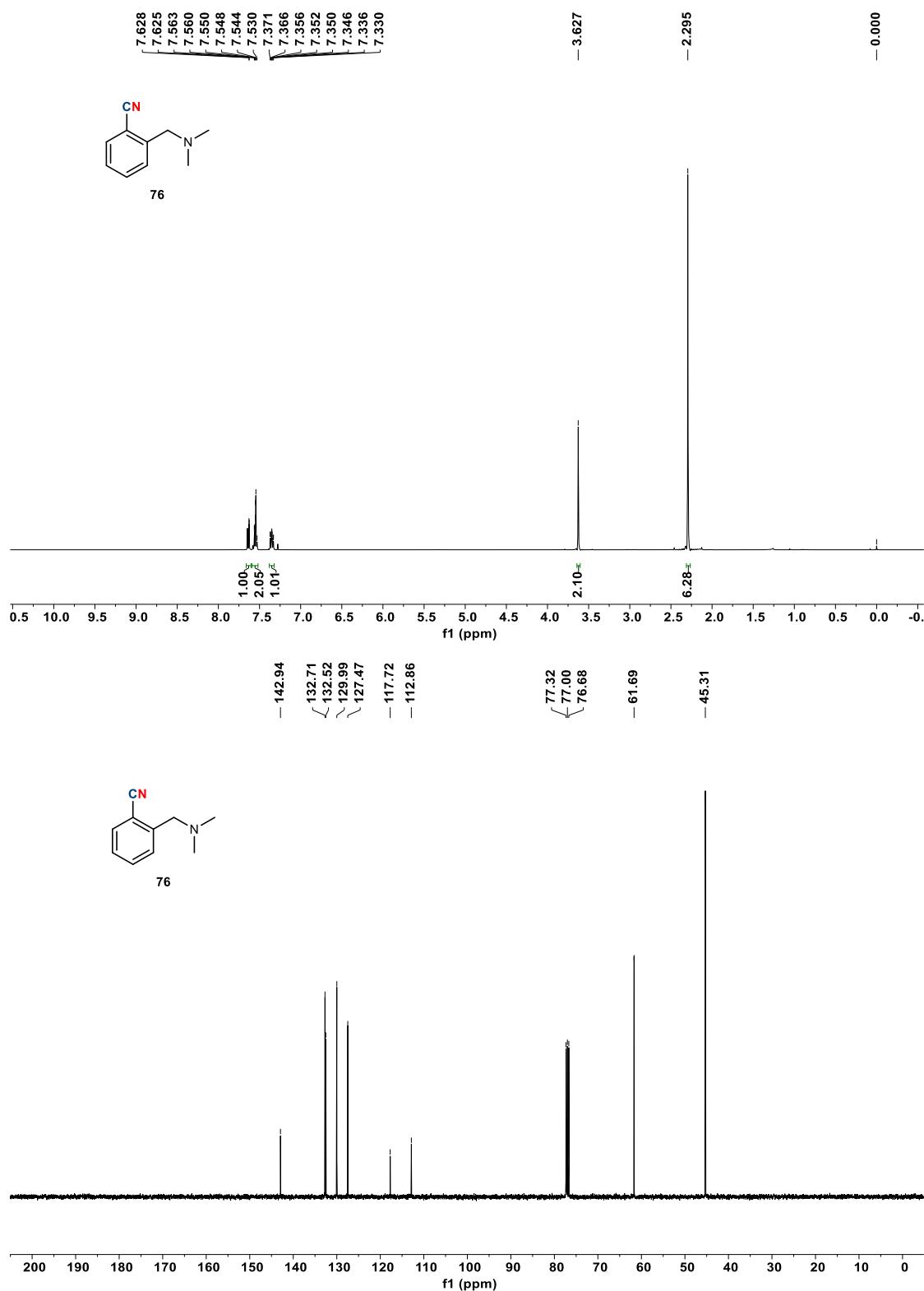


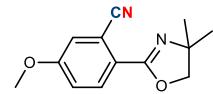
75



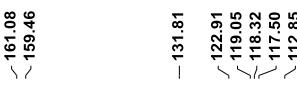
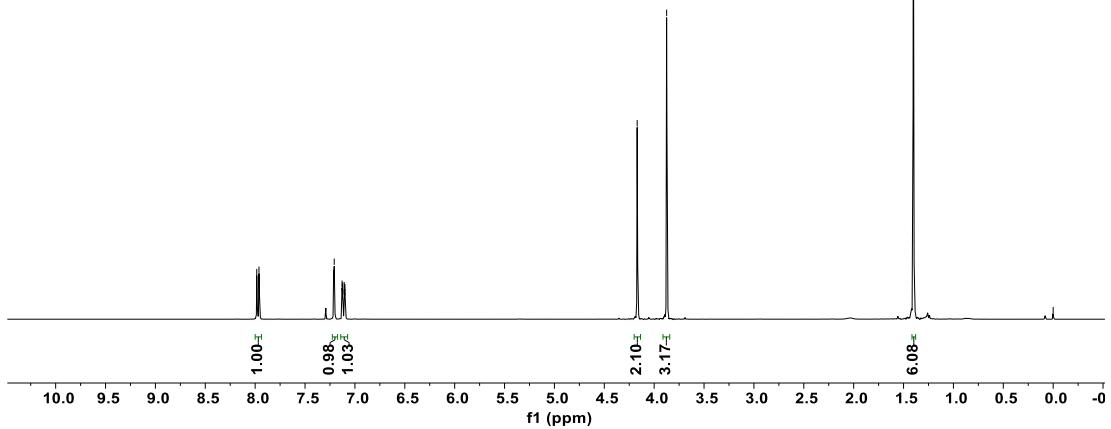
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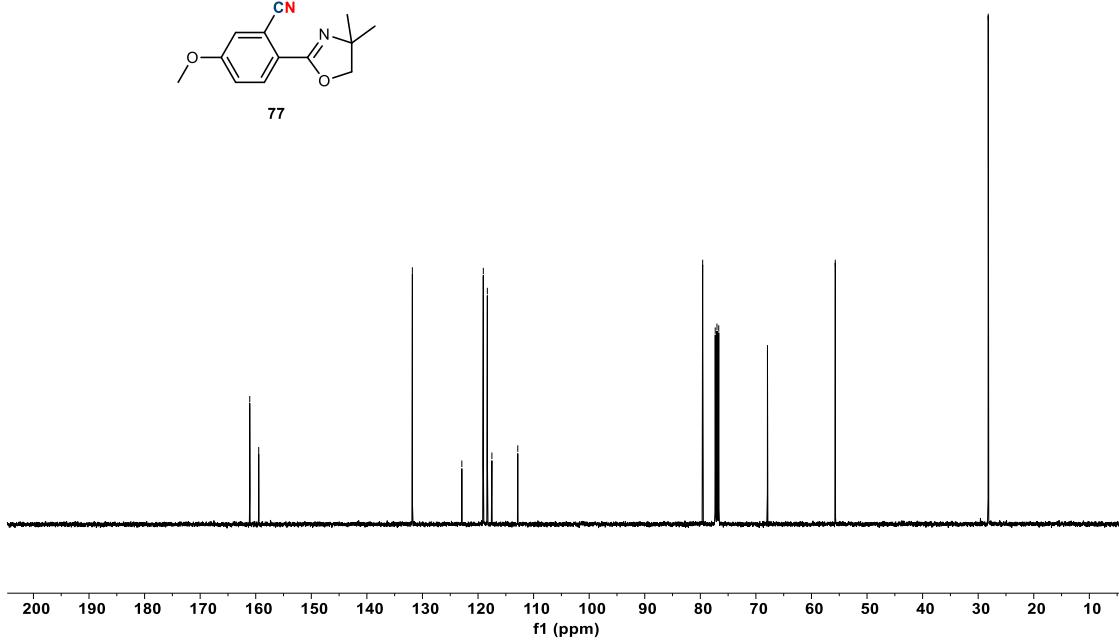
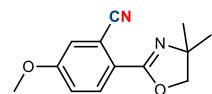


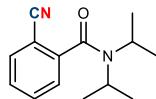


77

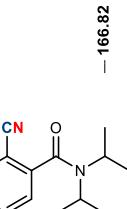
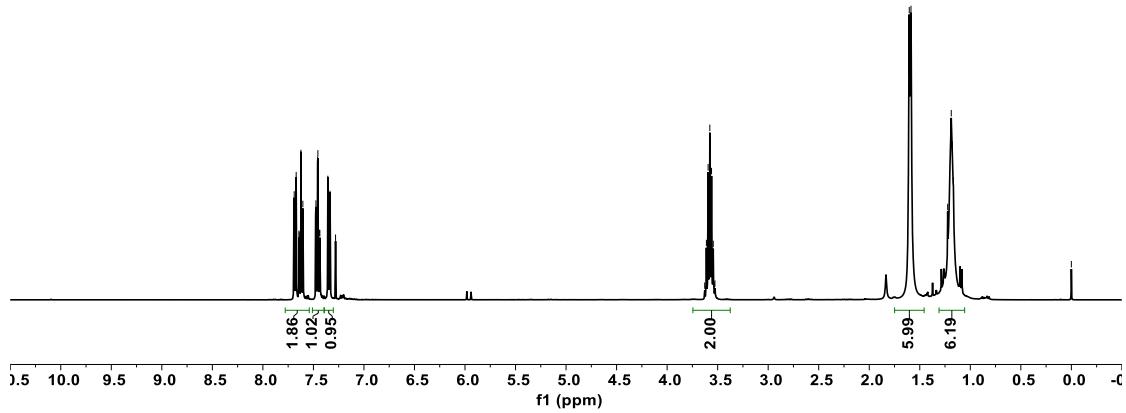


77

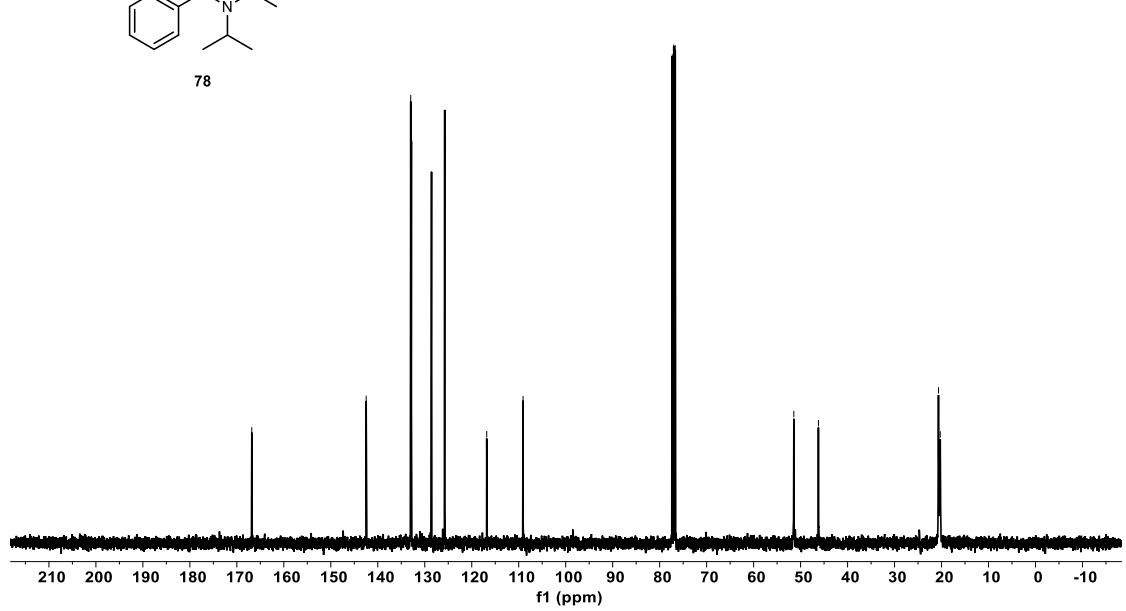


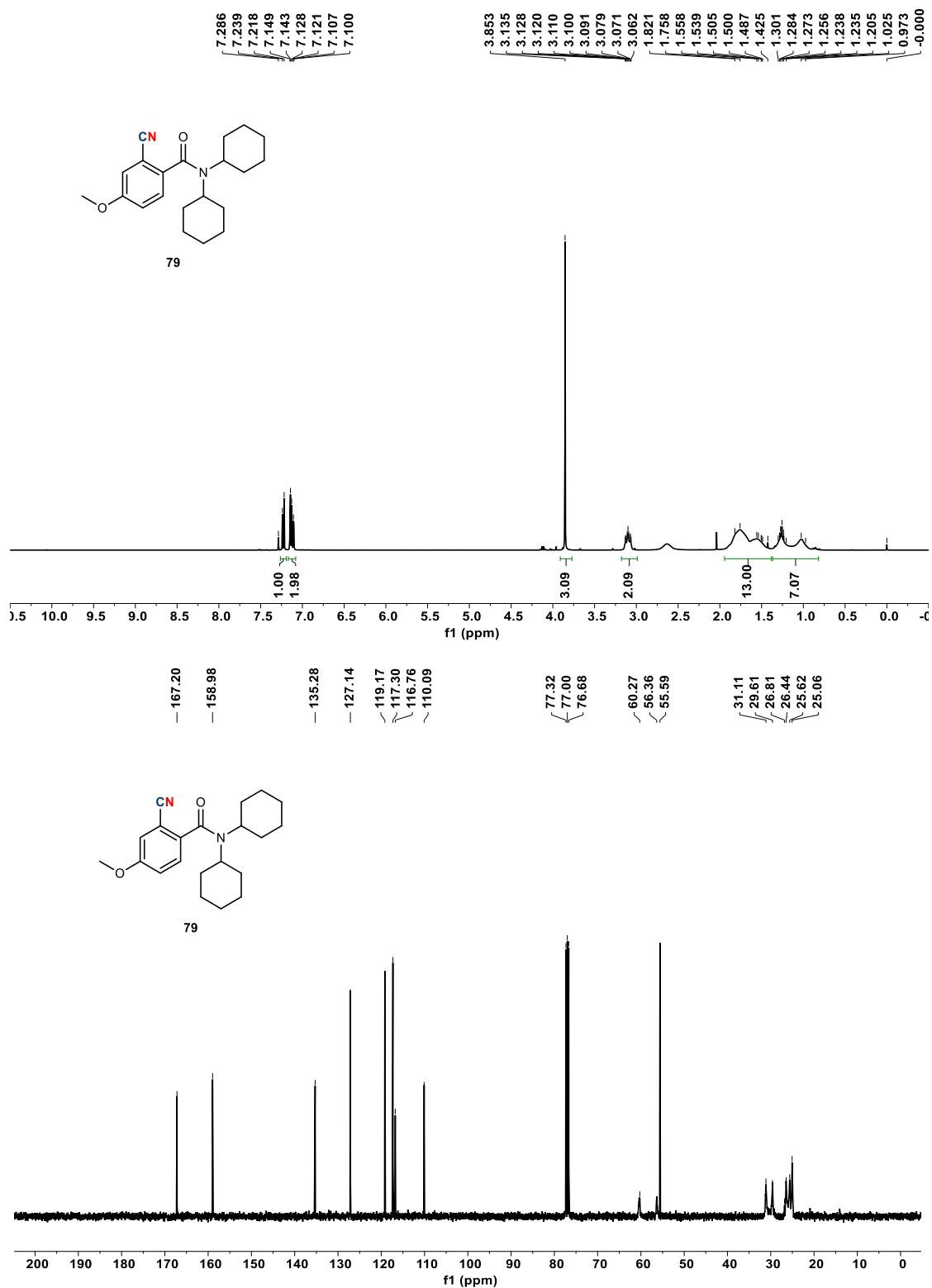


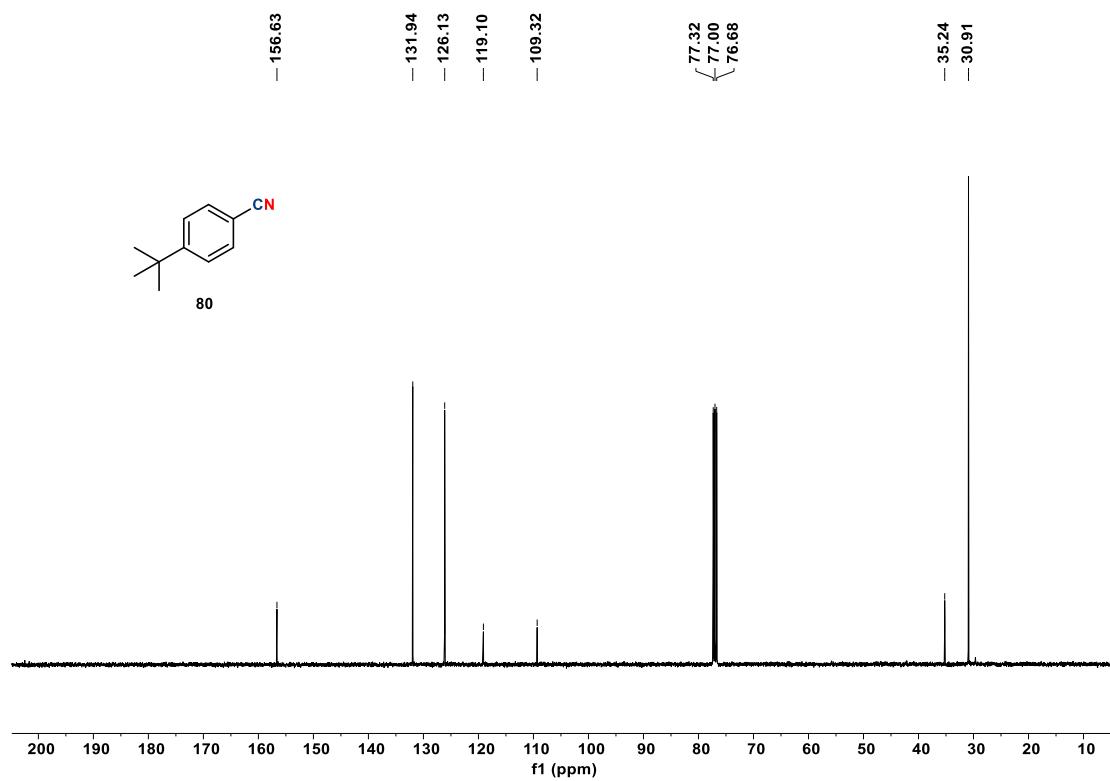
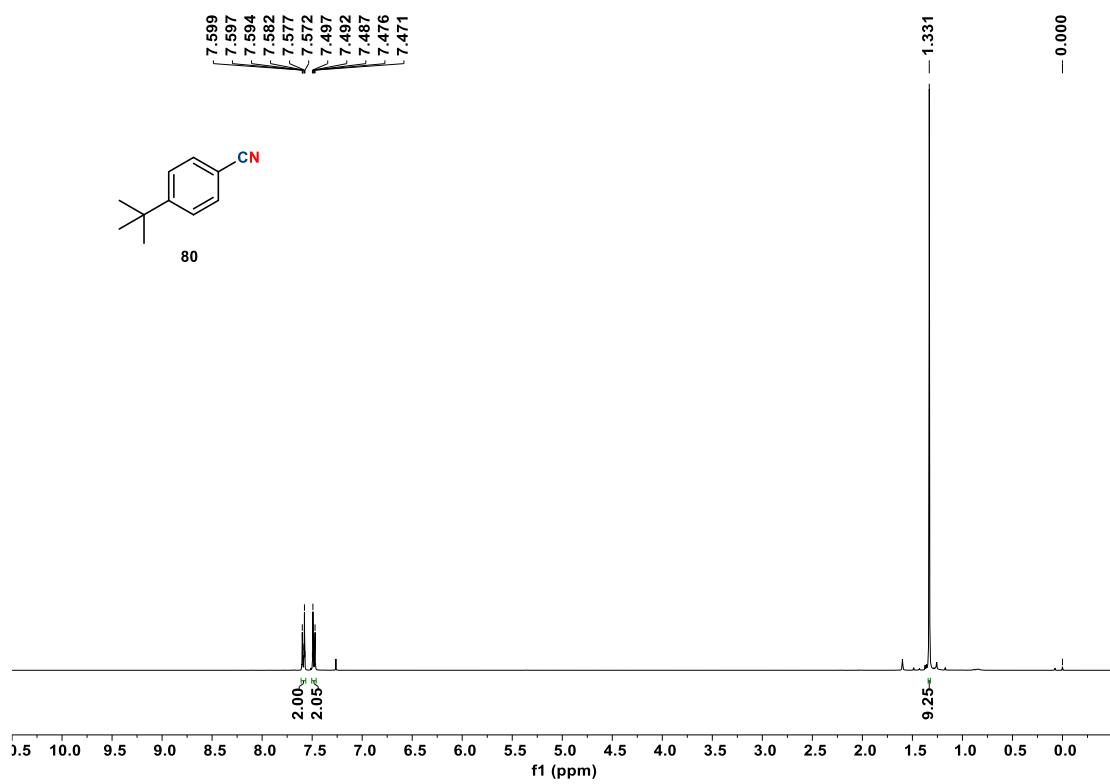
78

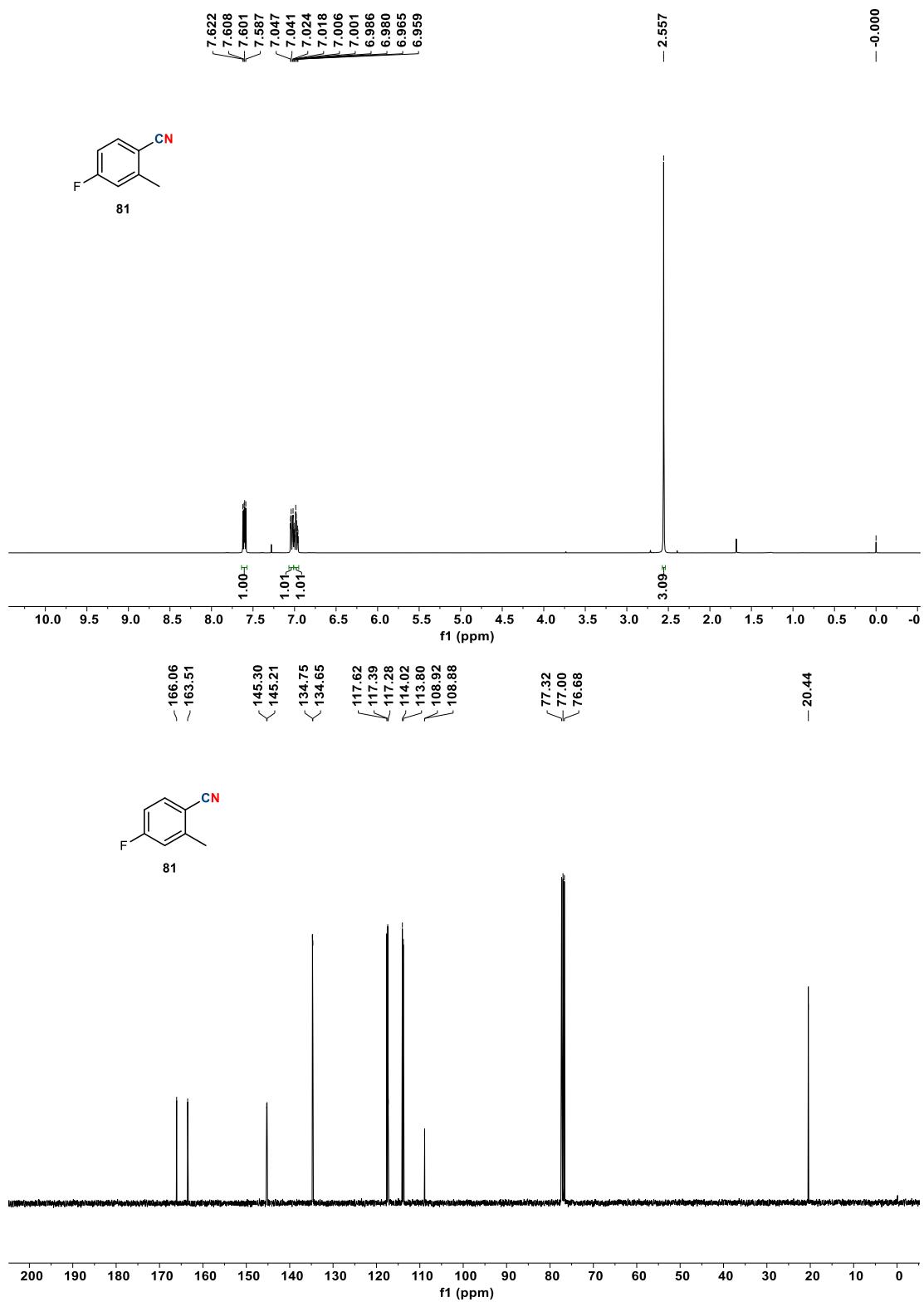


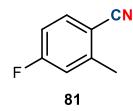
78



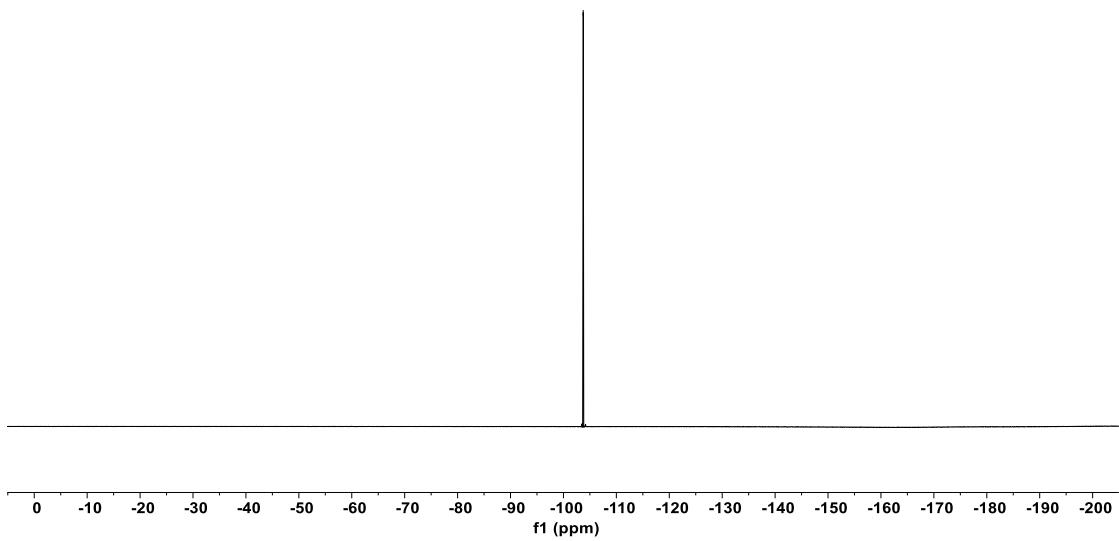




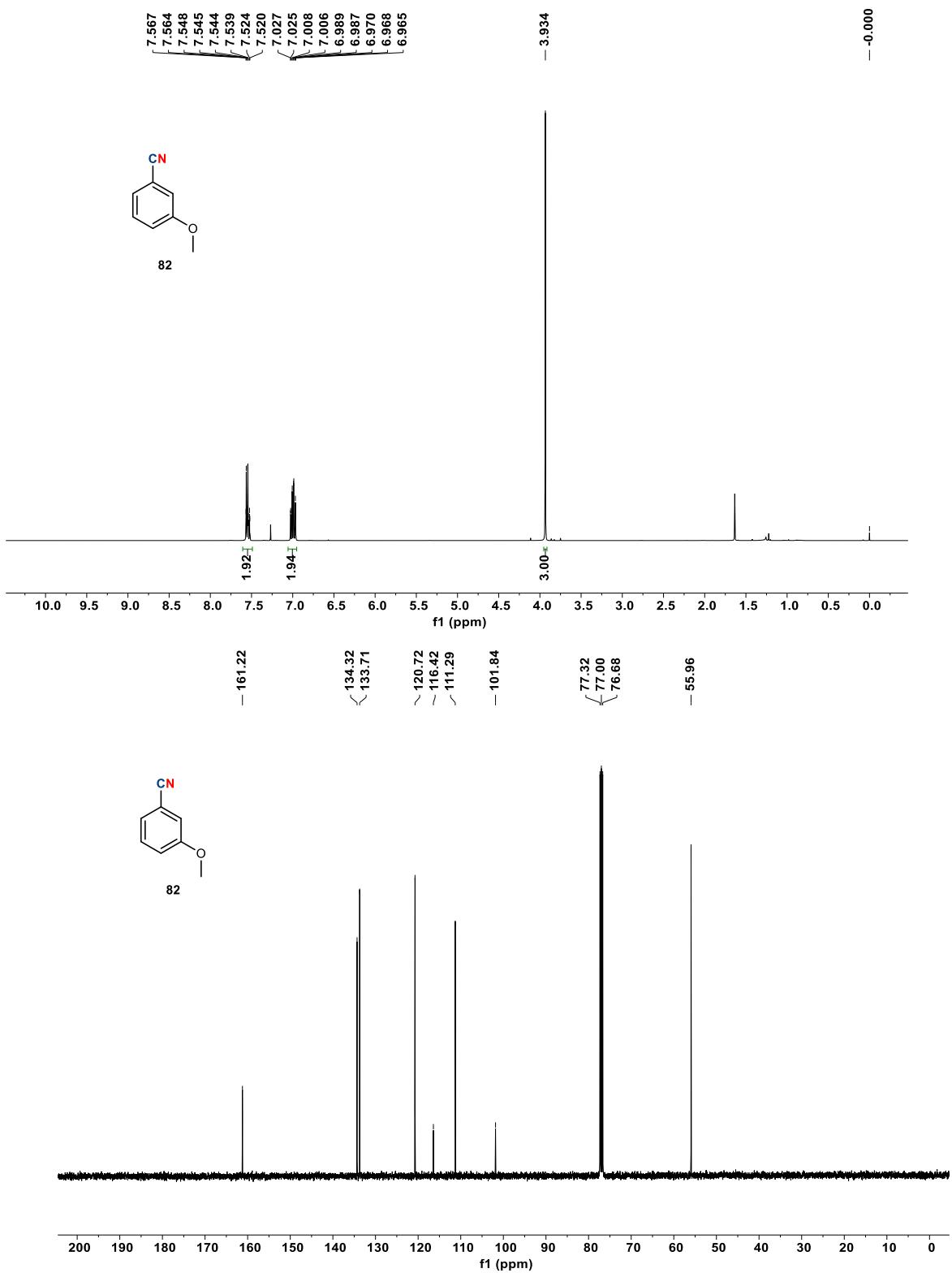


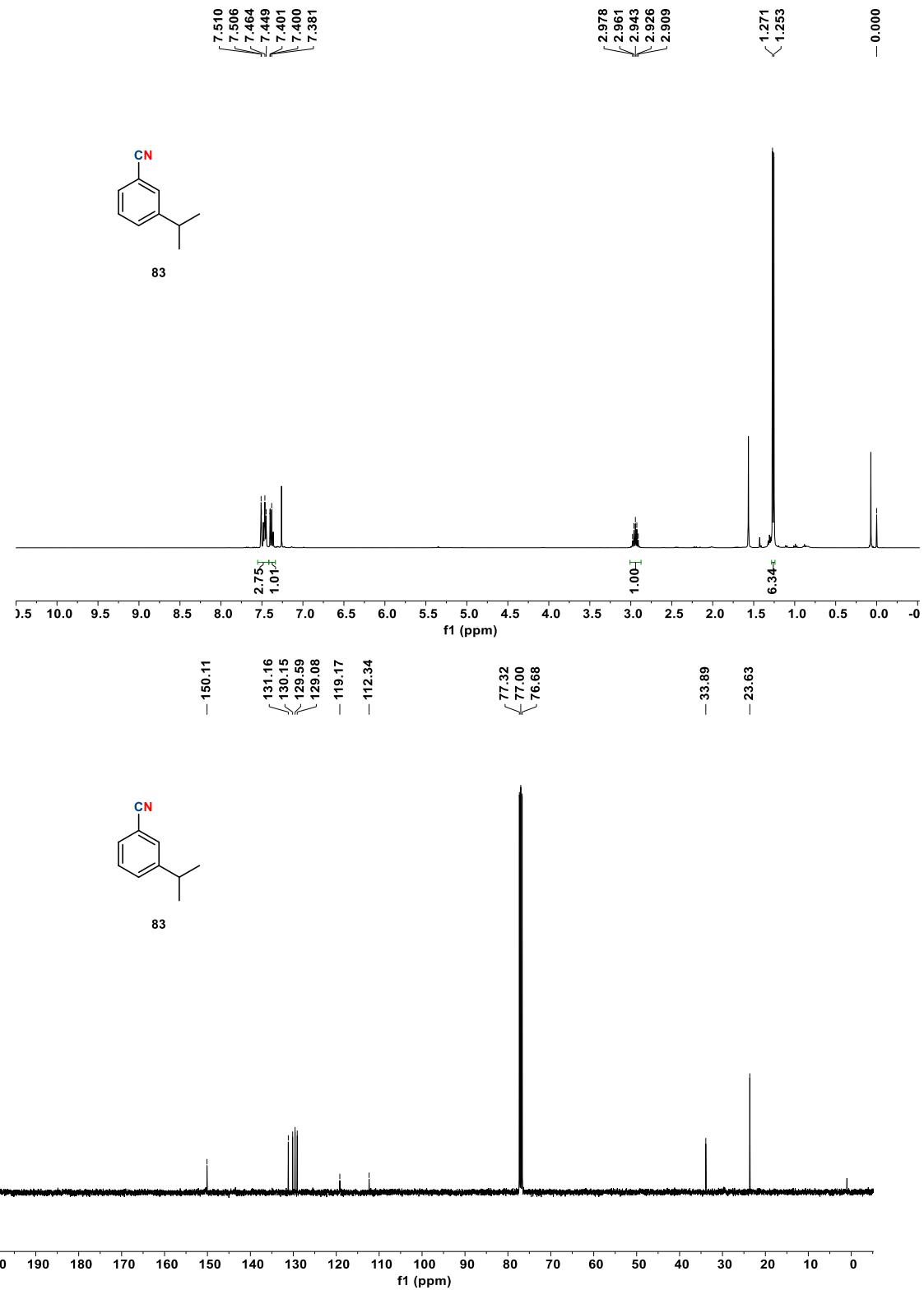


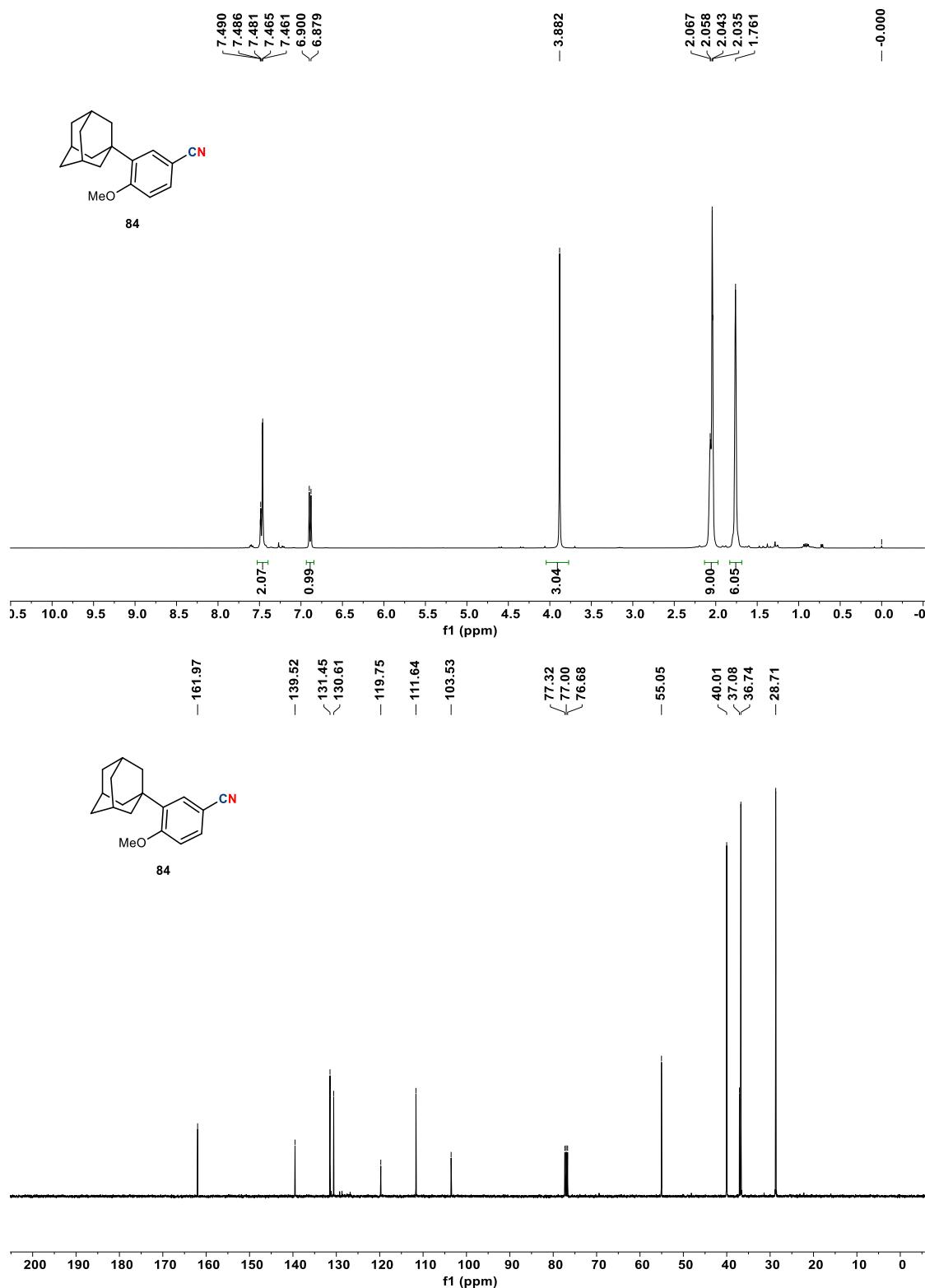
-103.736

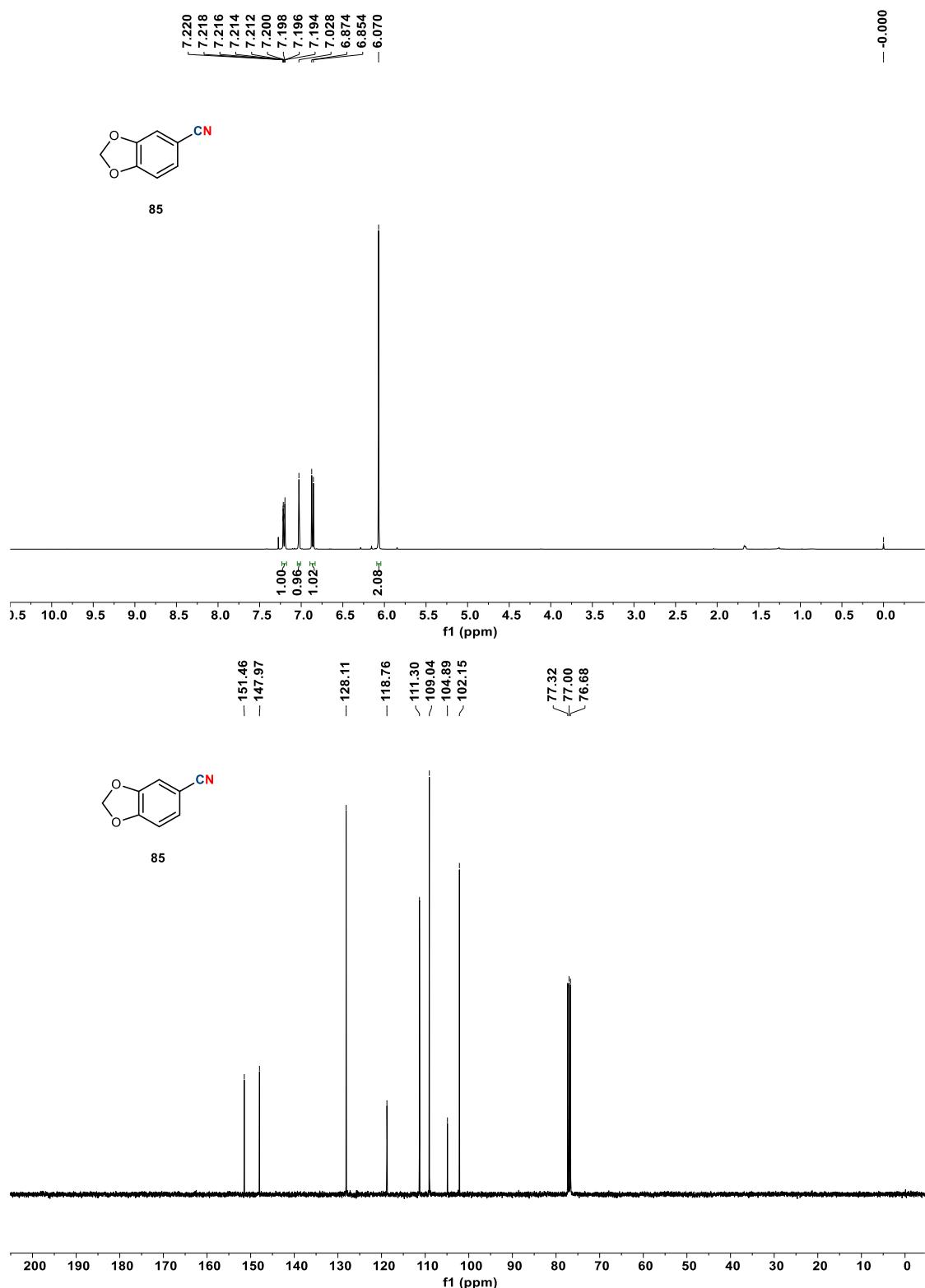


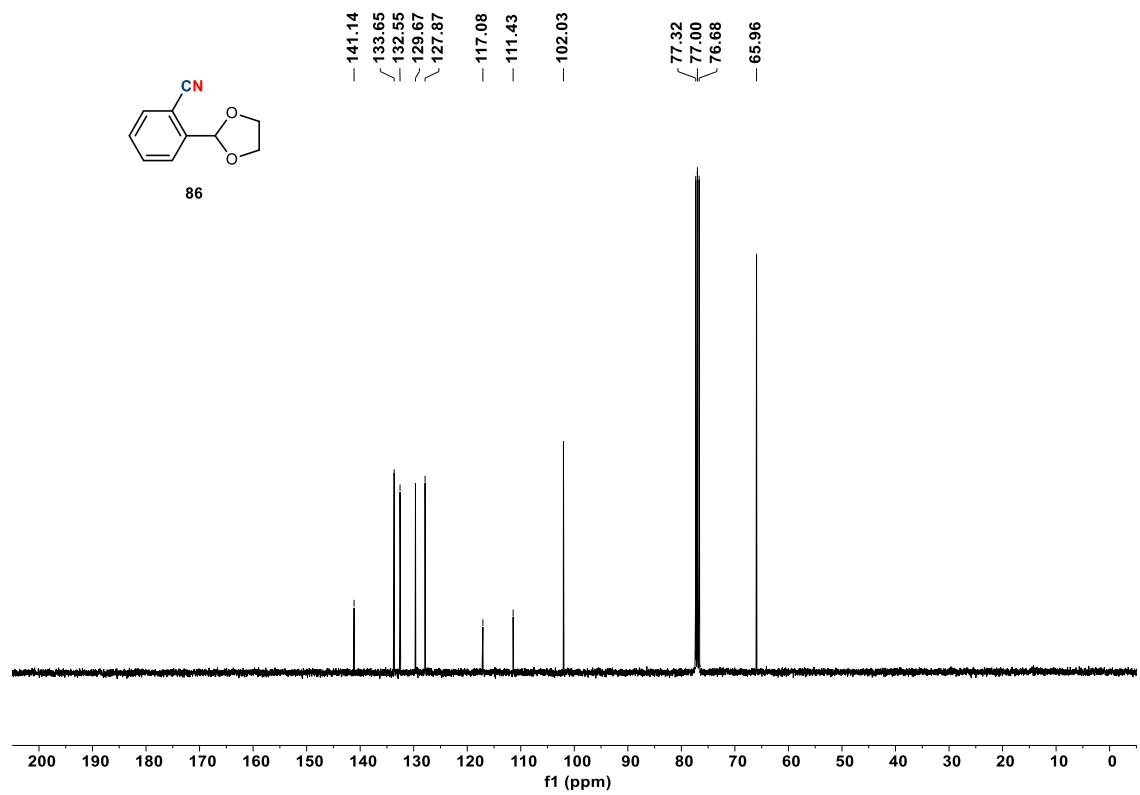
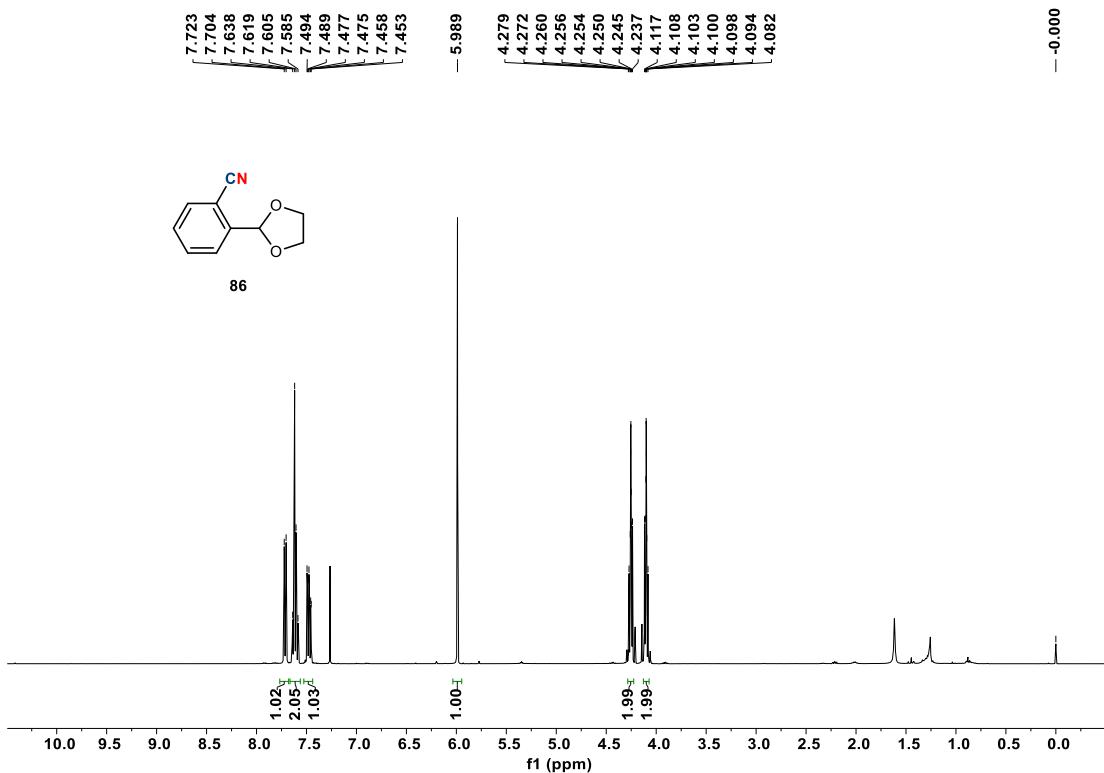
<sup>19</sup>F NMR of nitrile 81

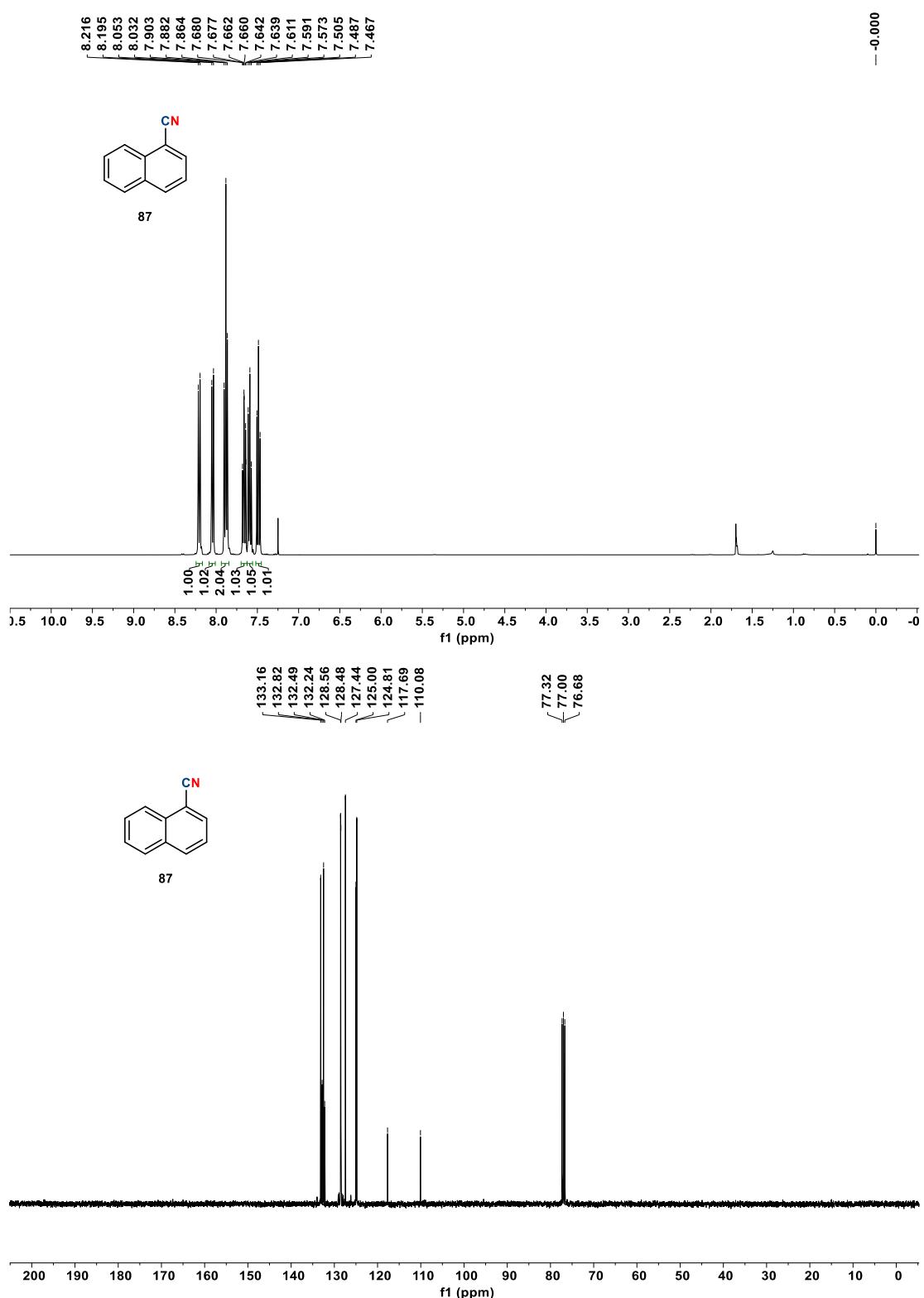


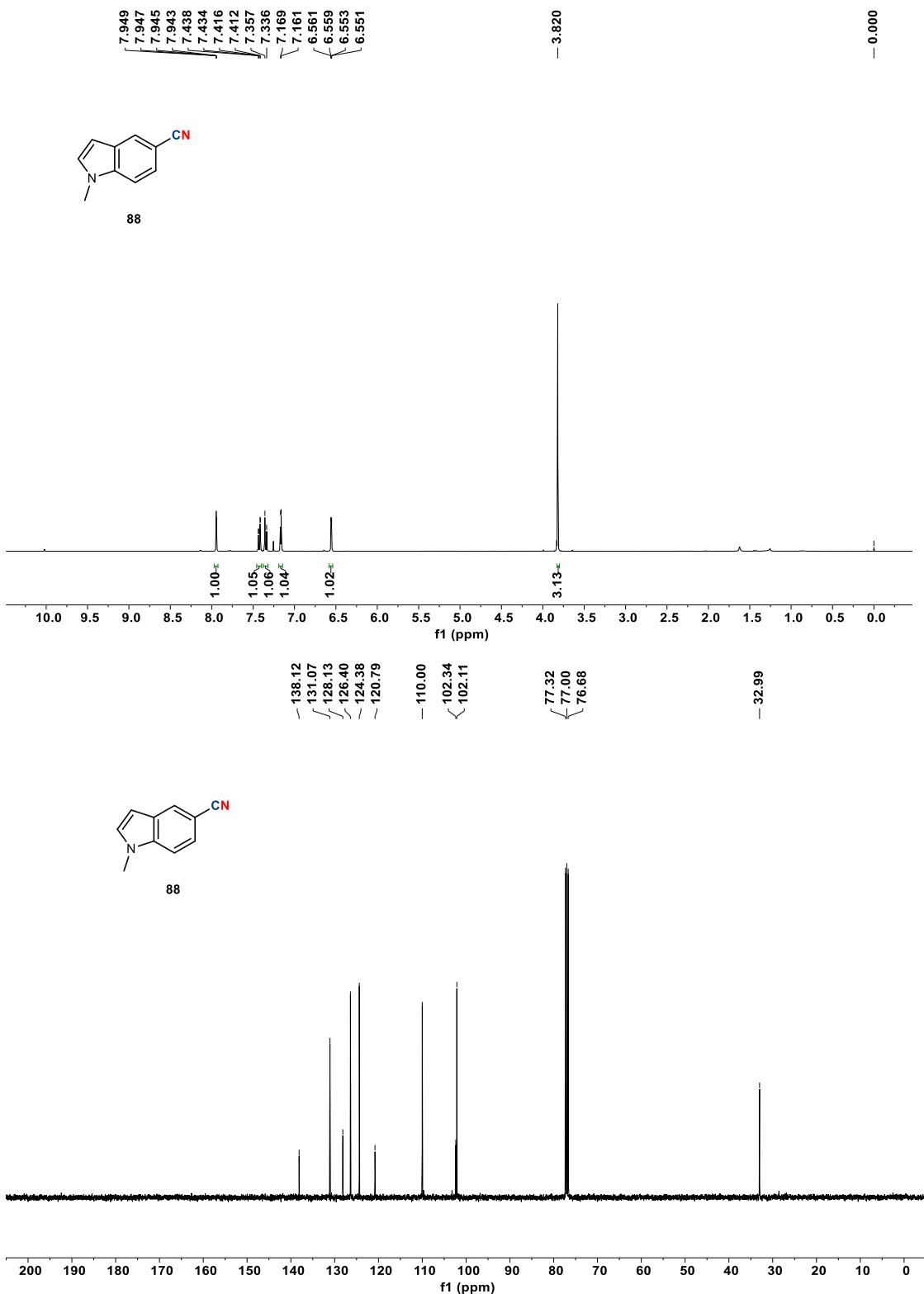


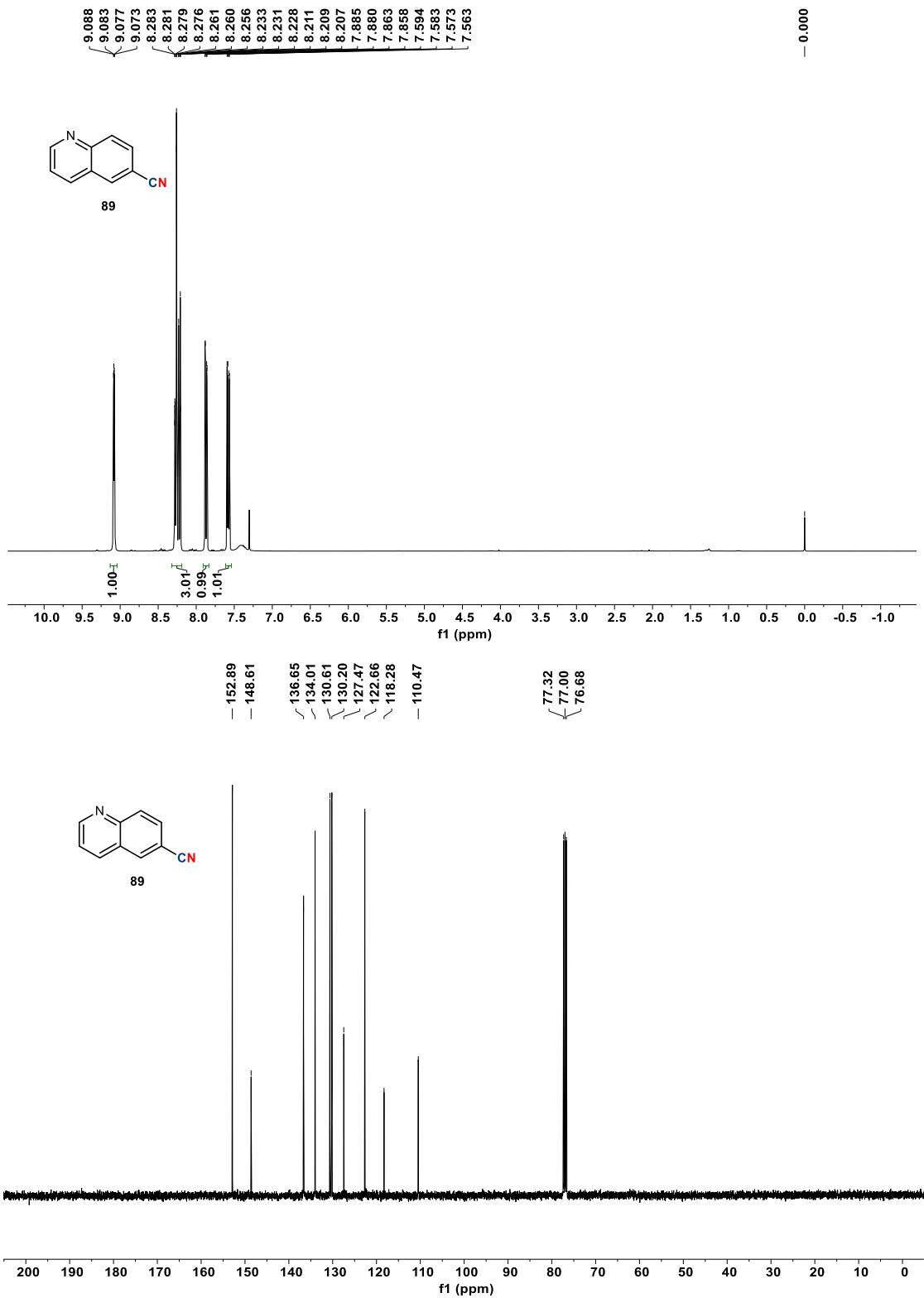


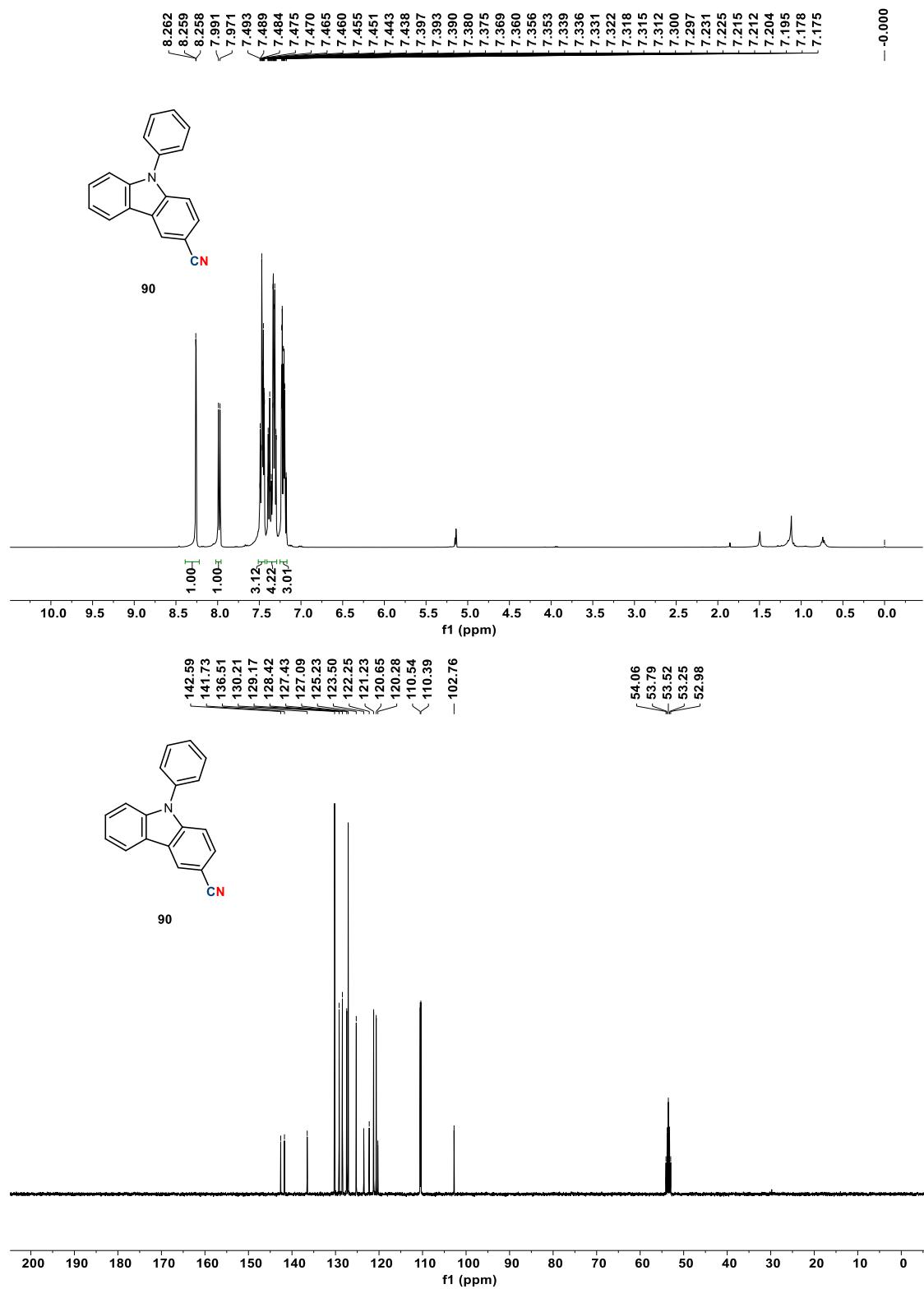


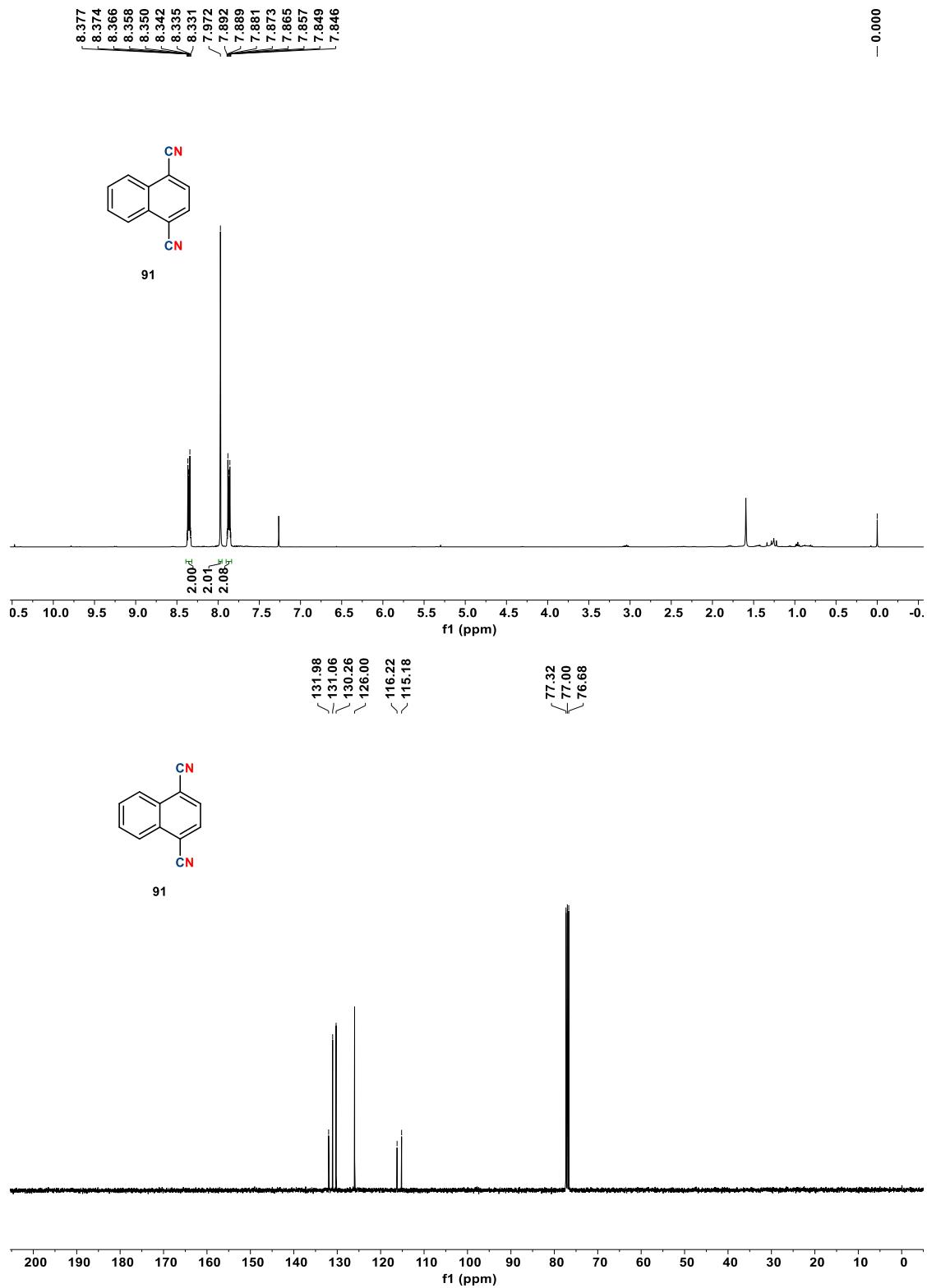


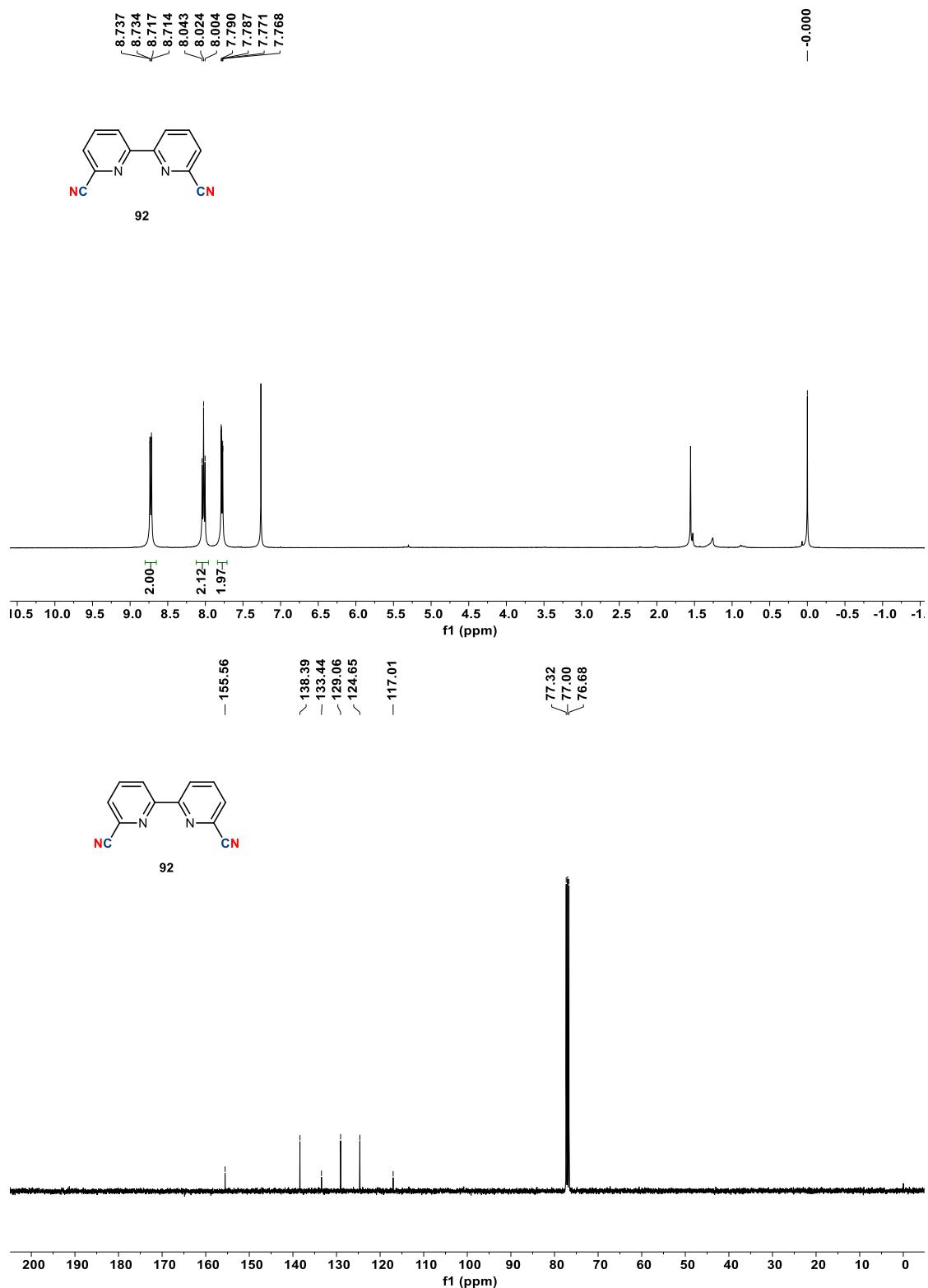


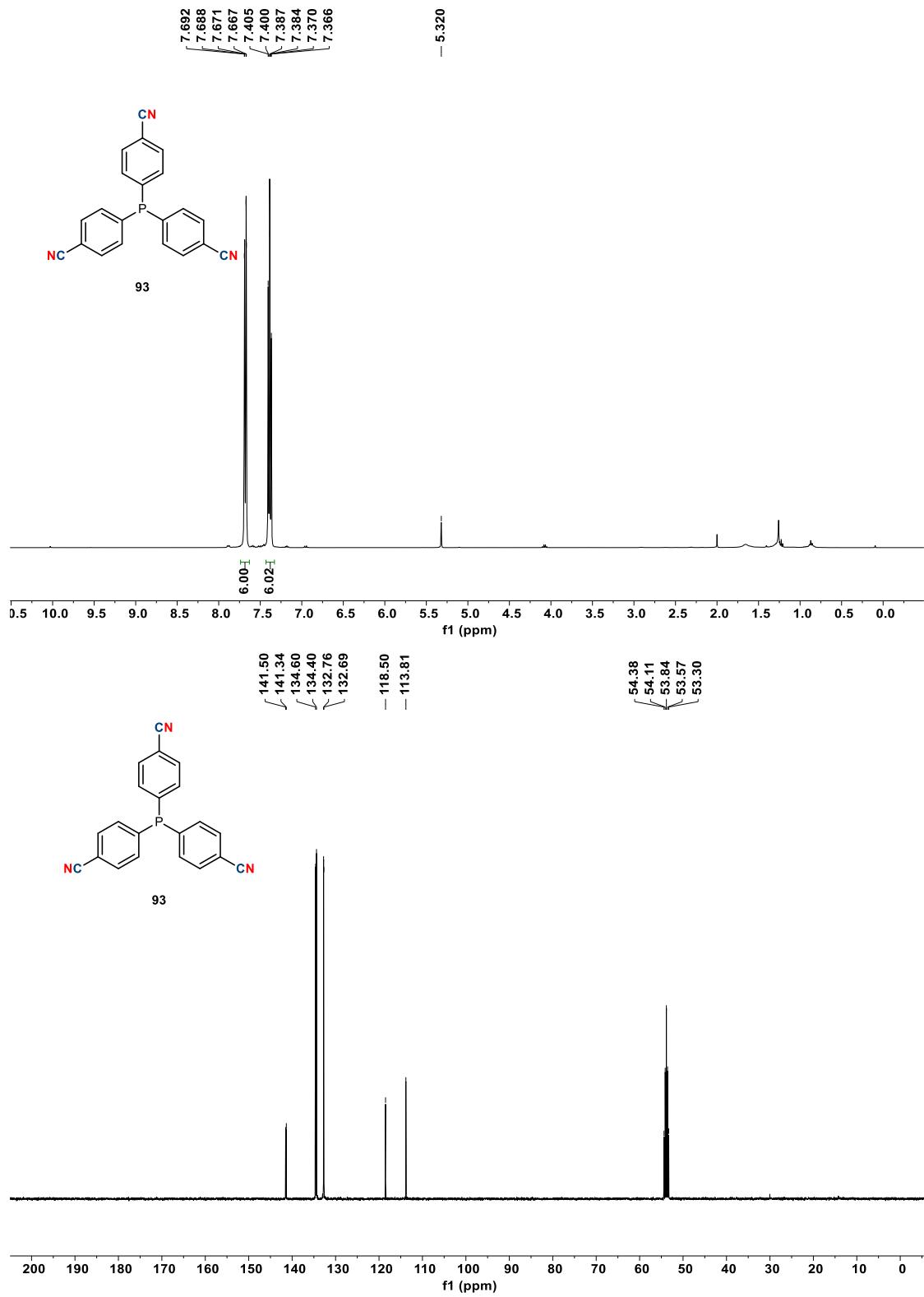


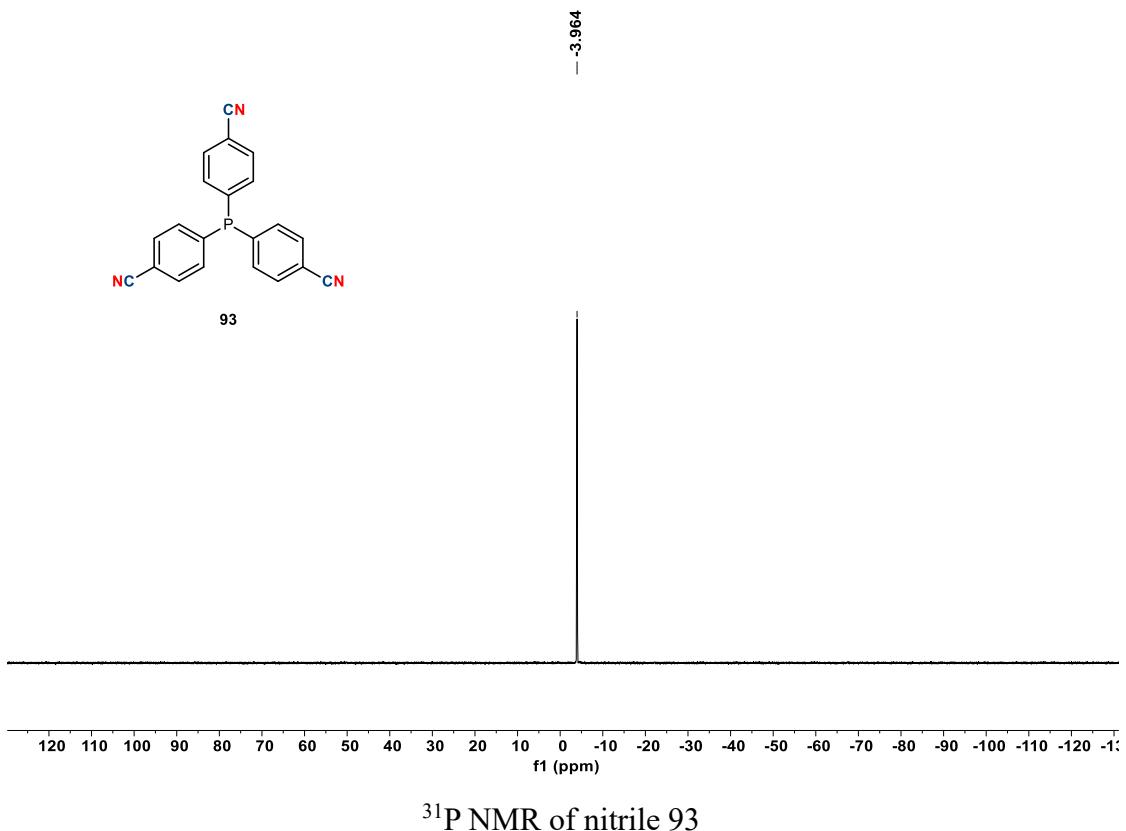


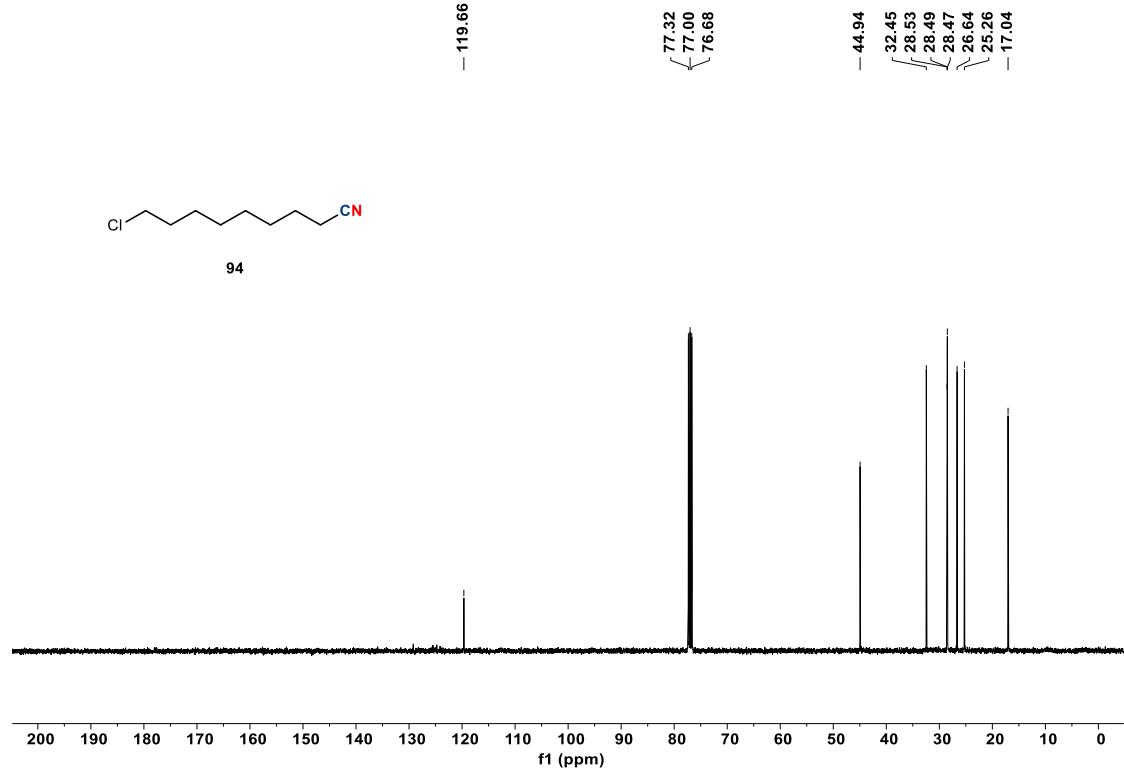
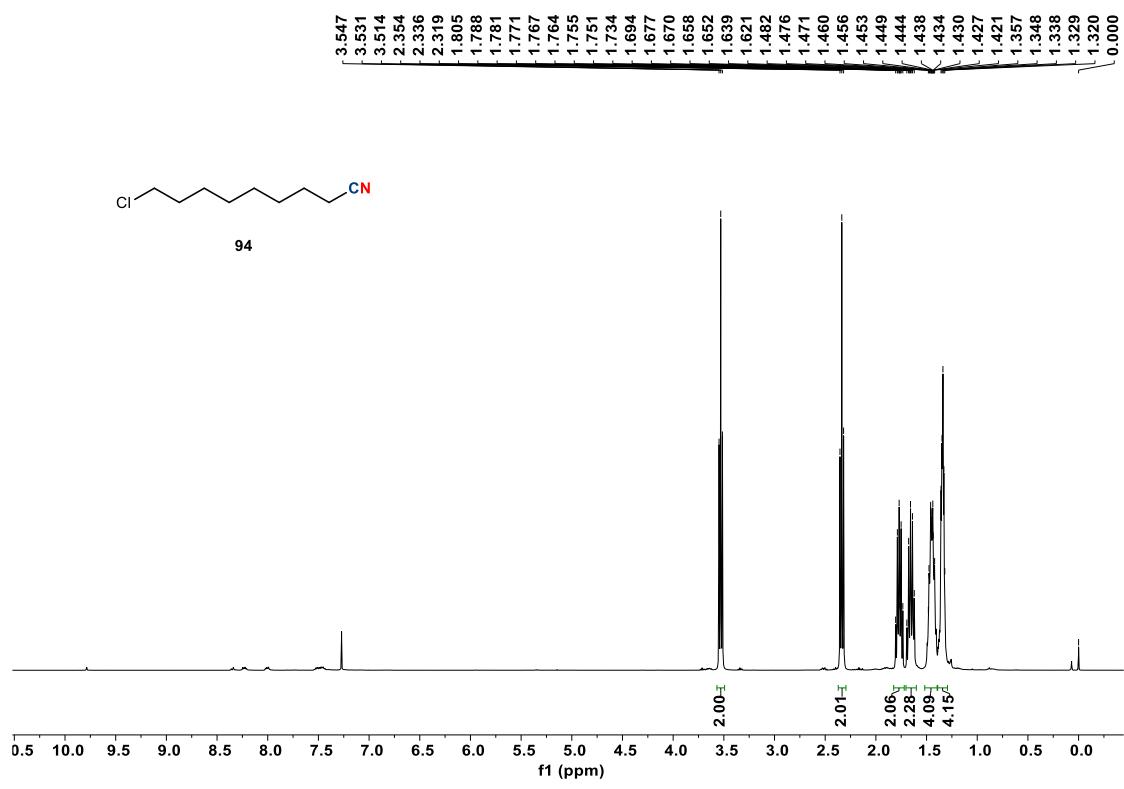


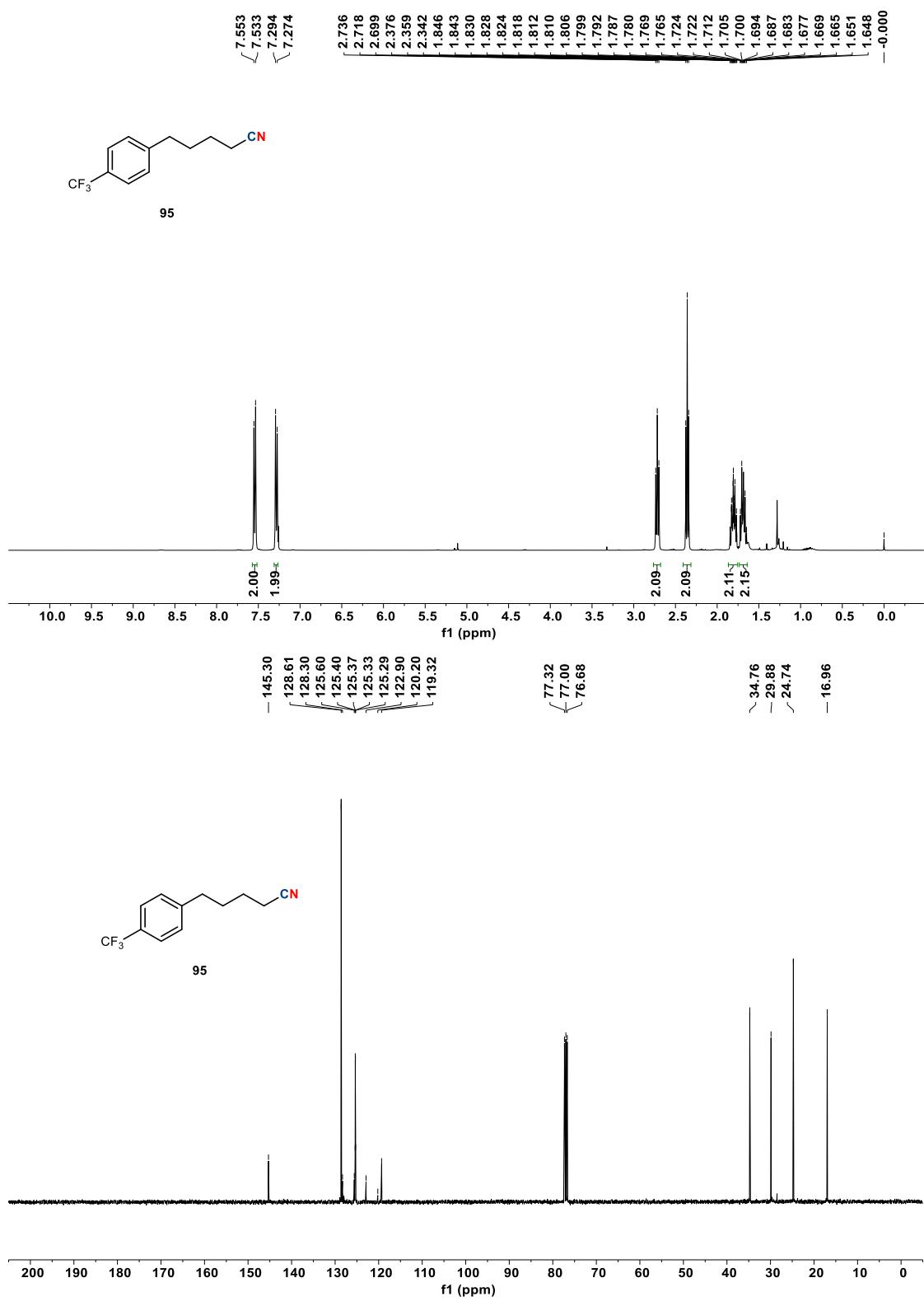


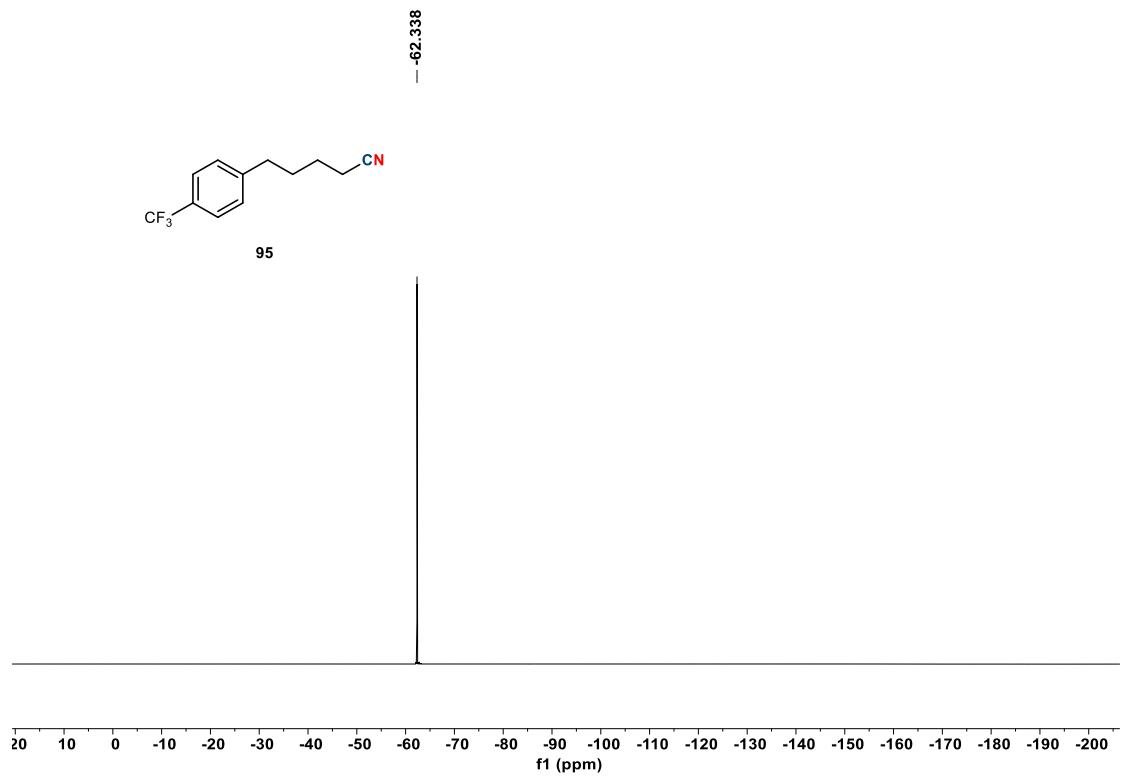




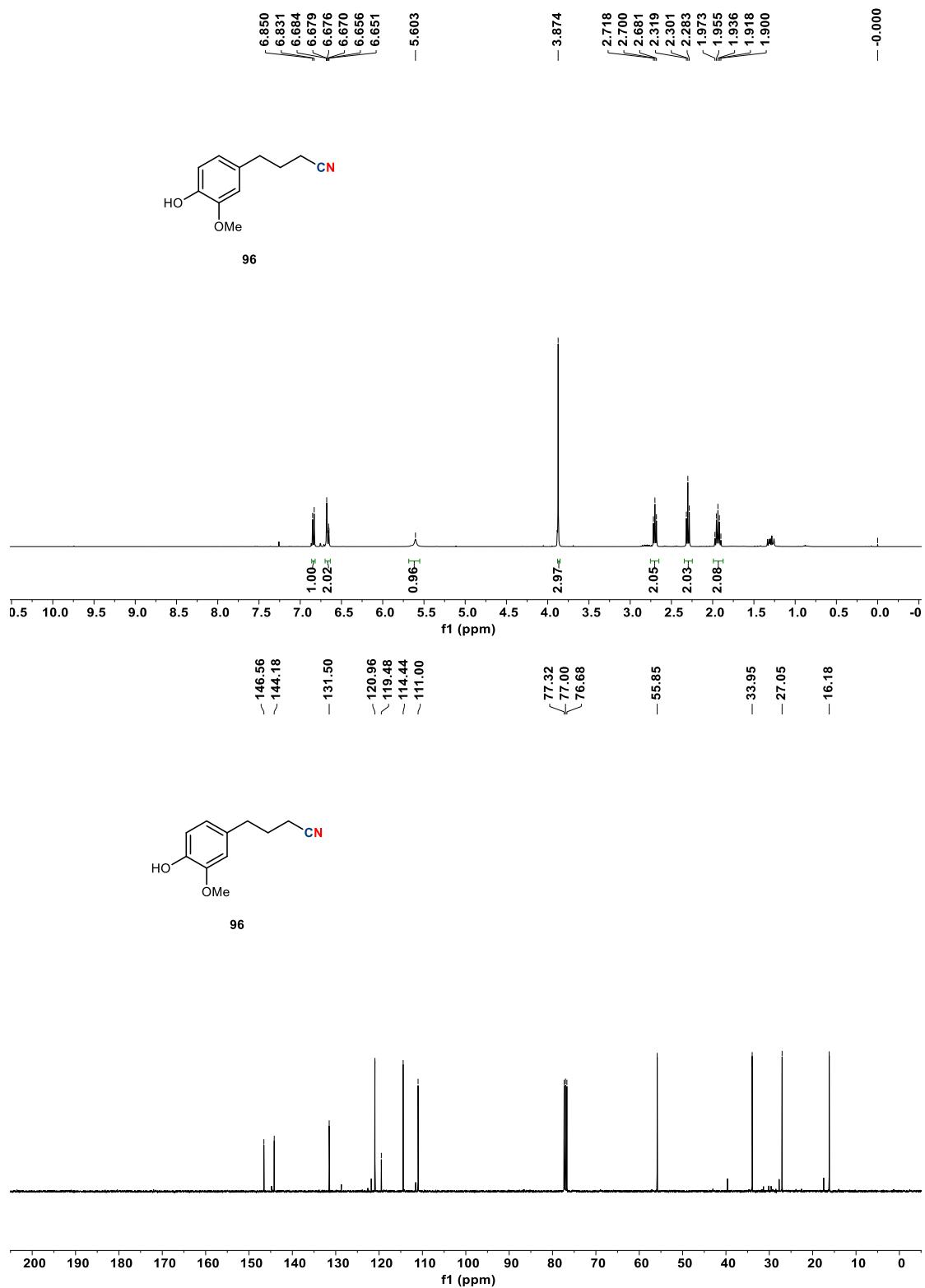


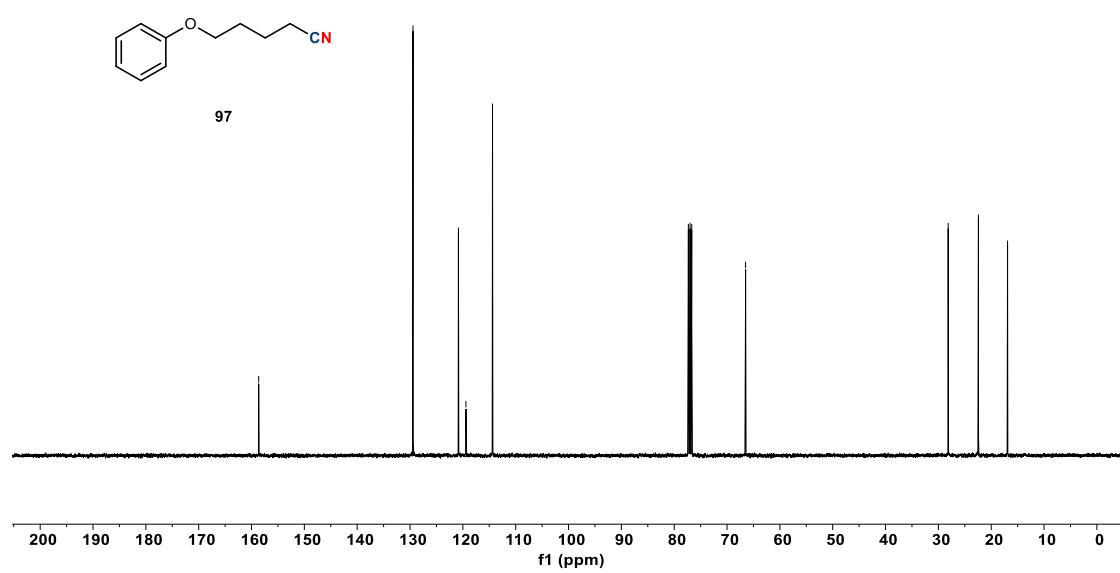
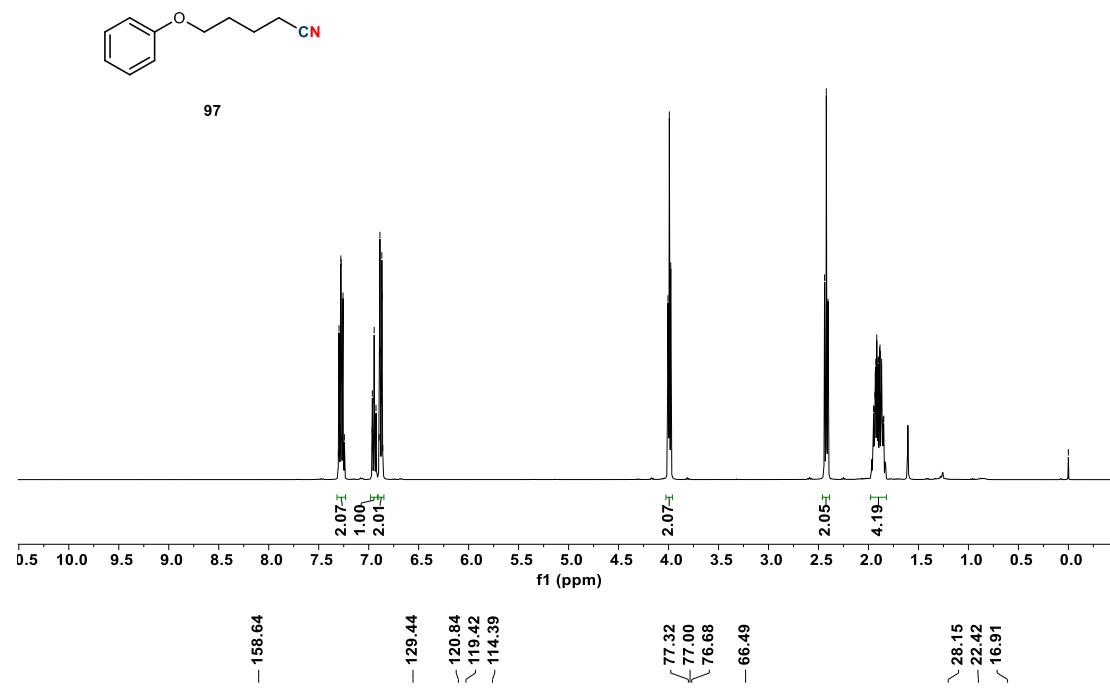
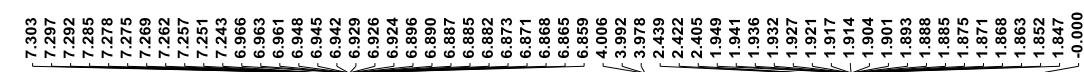


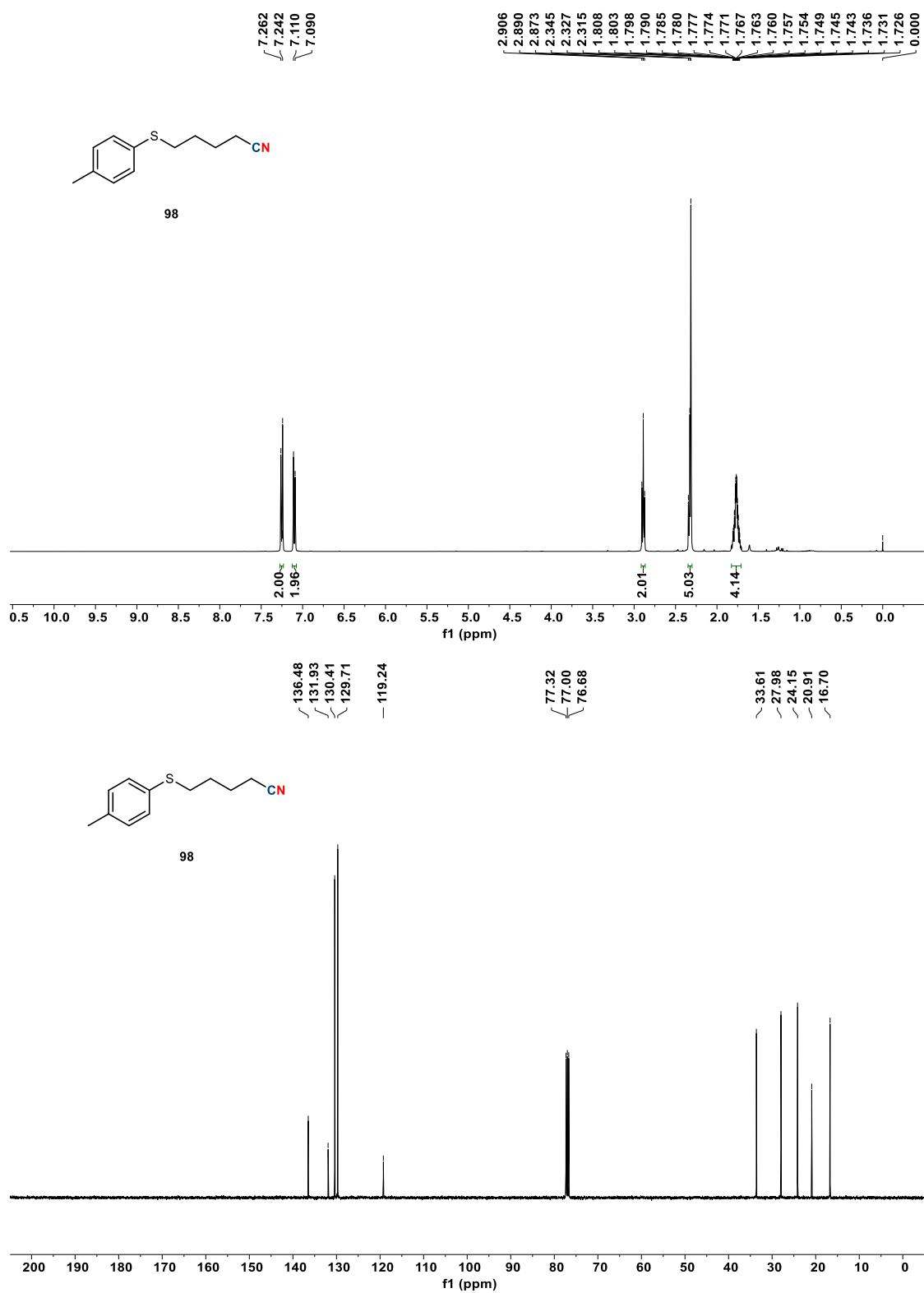


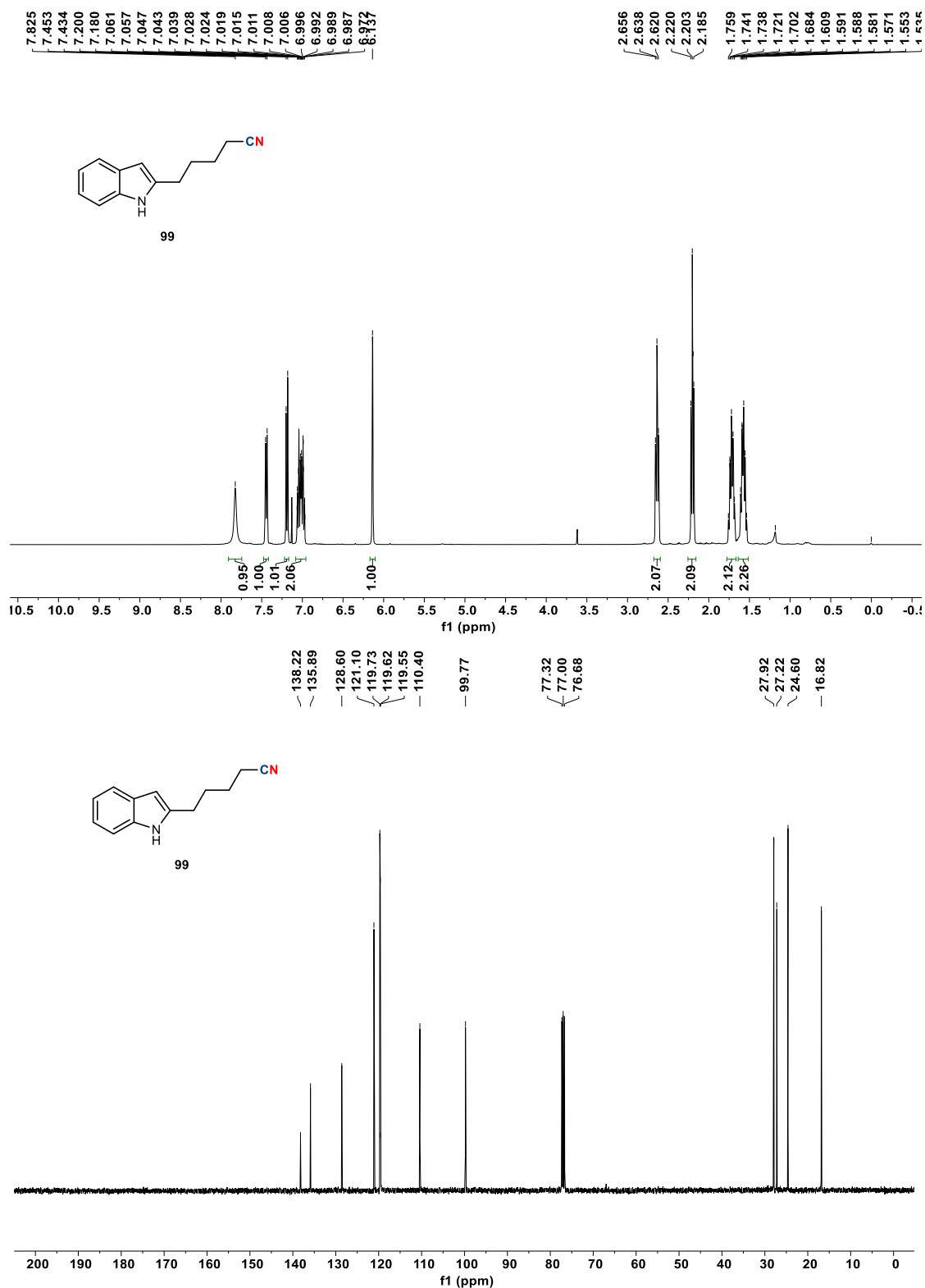


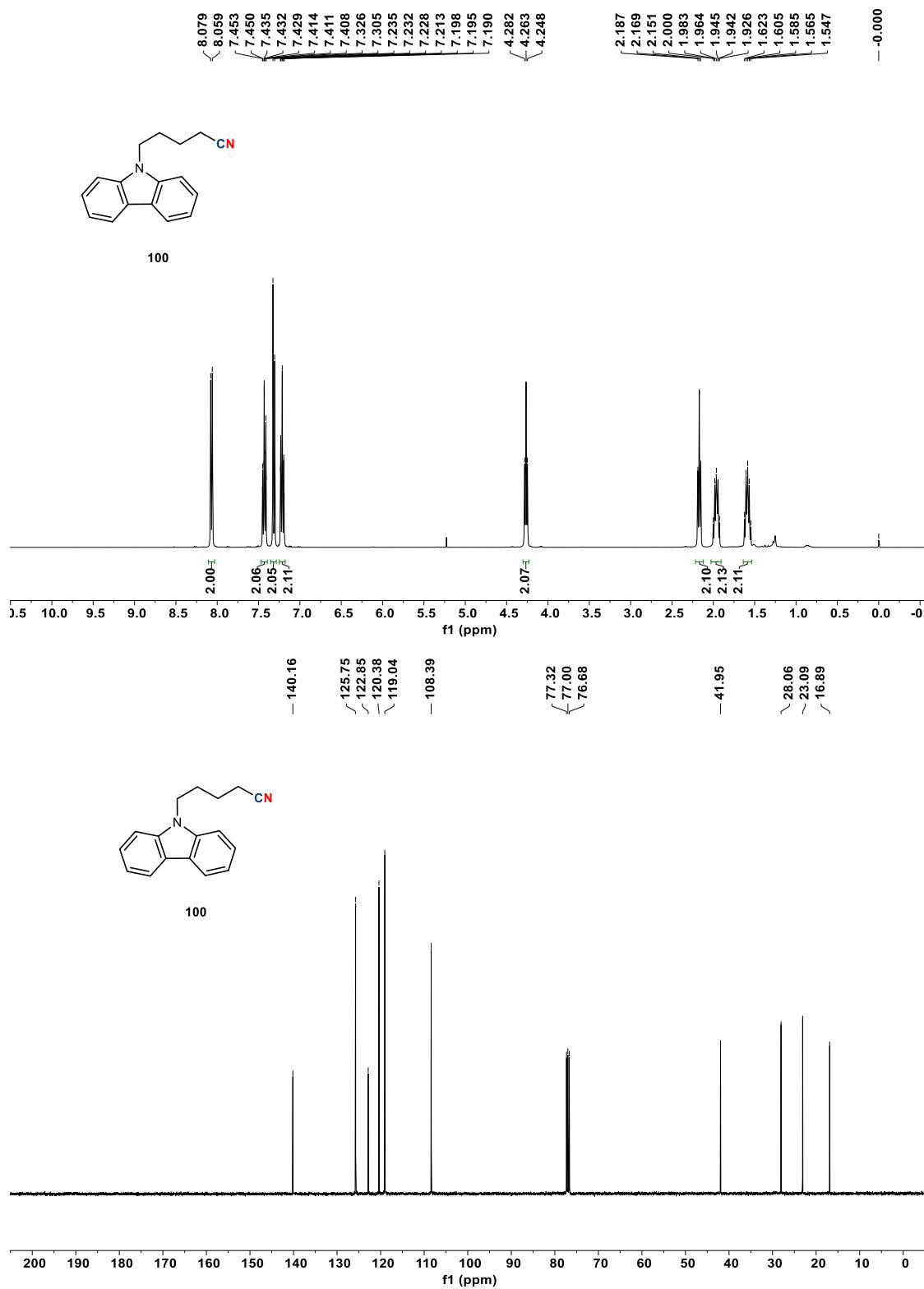
### <sup>19</sup>F NMR of nitrile 95

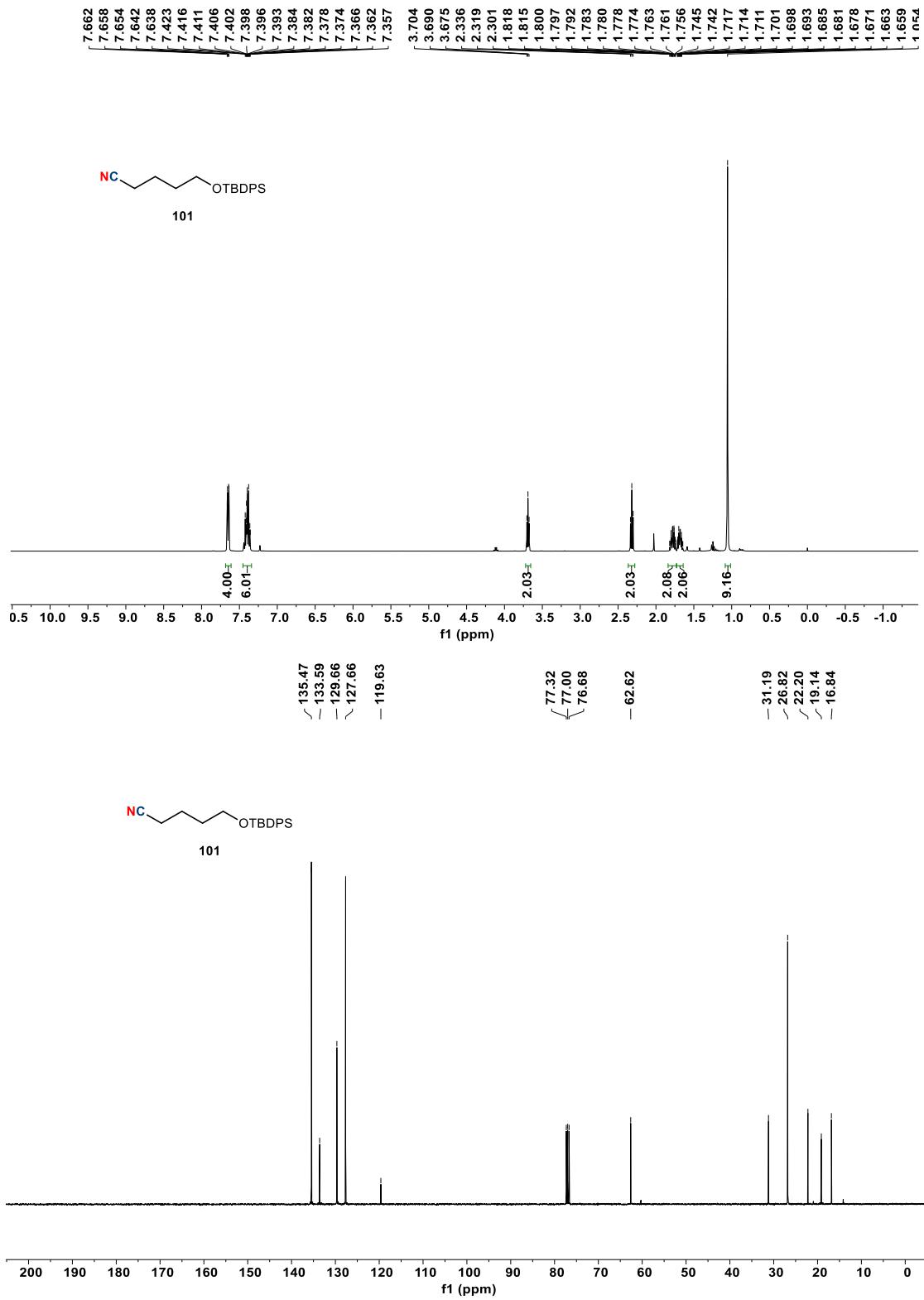


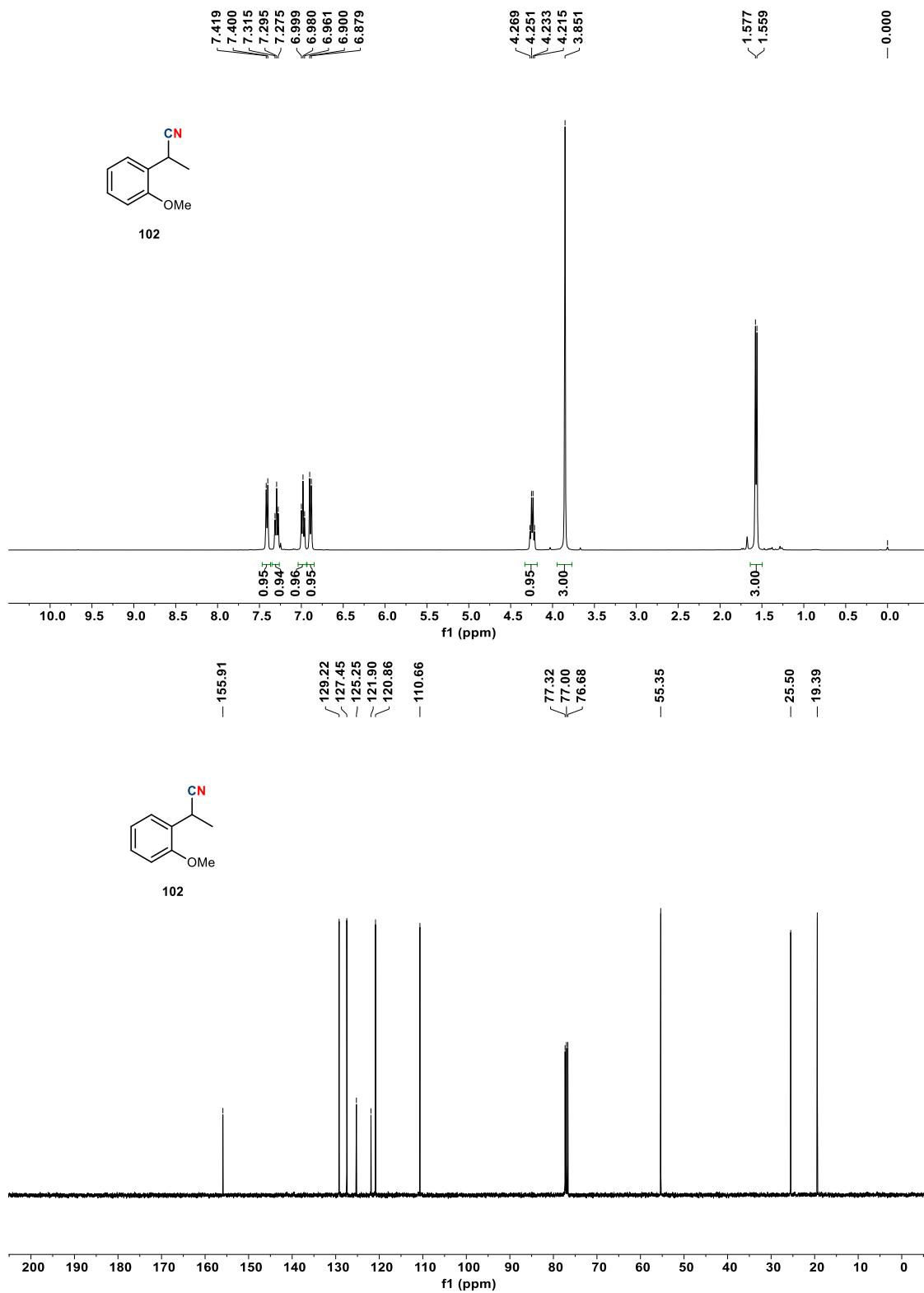


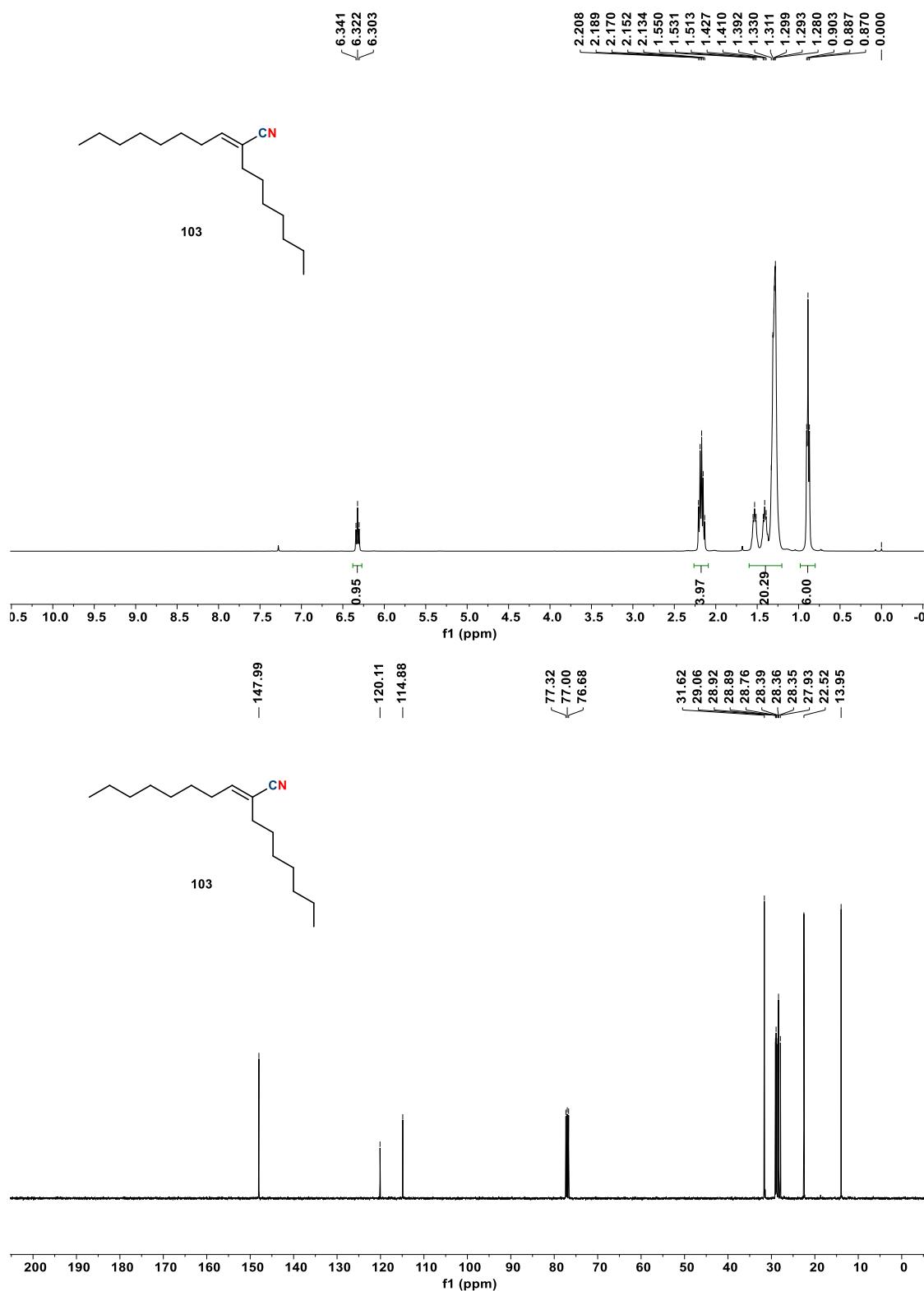


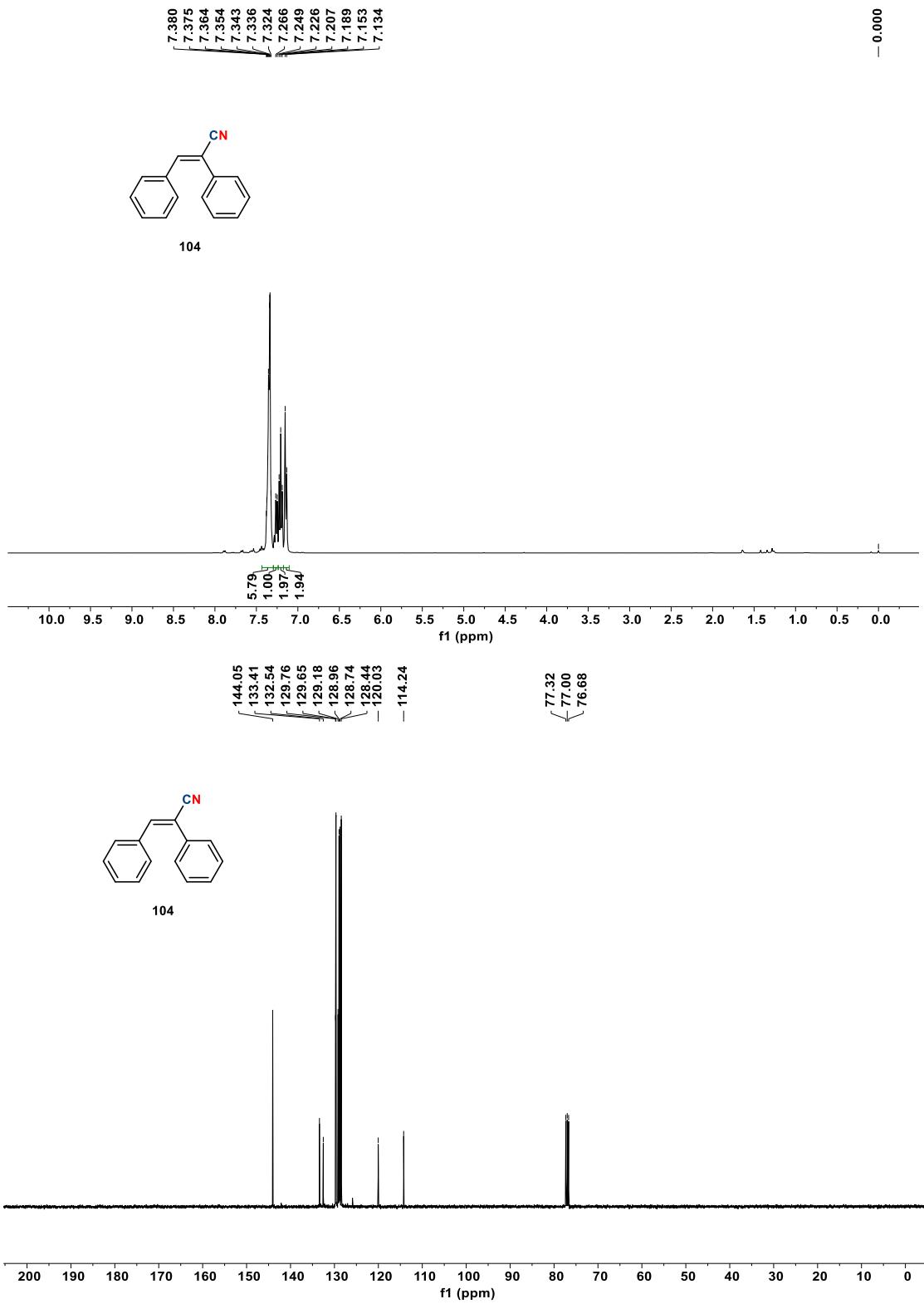


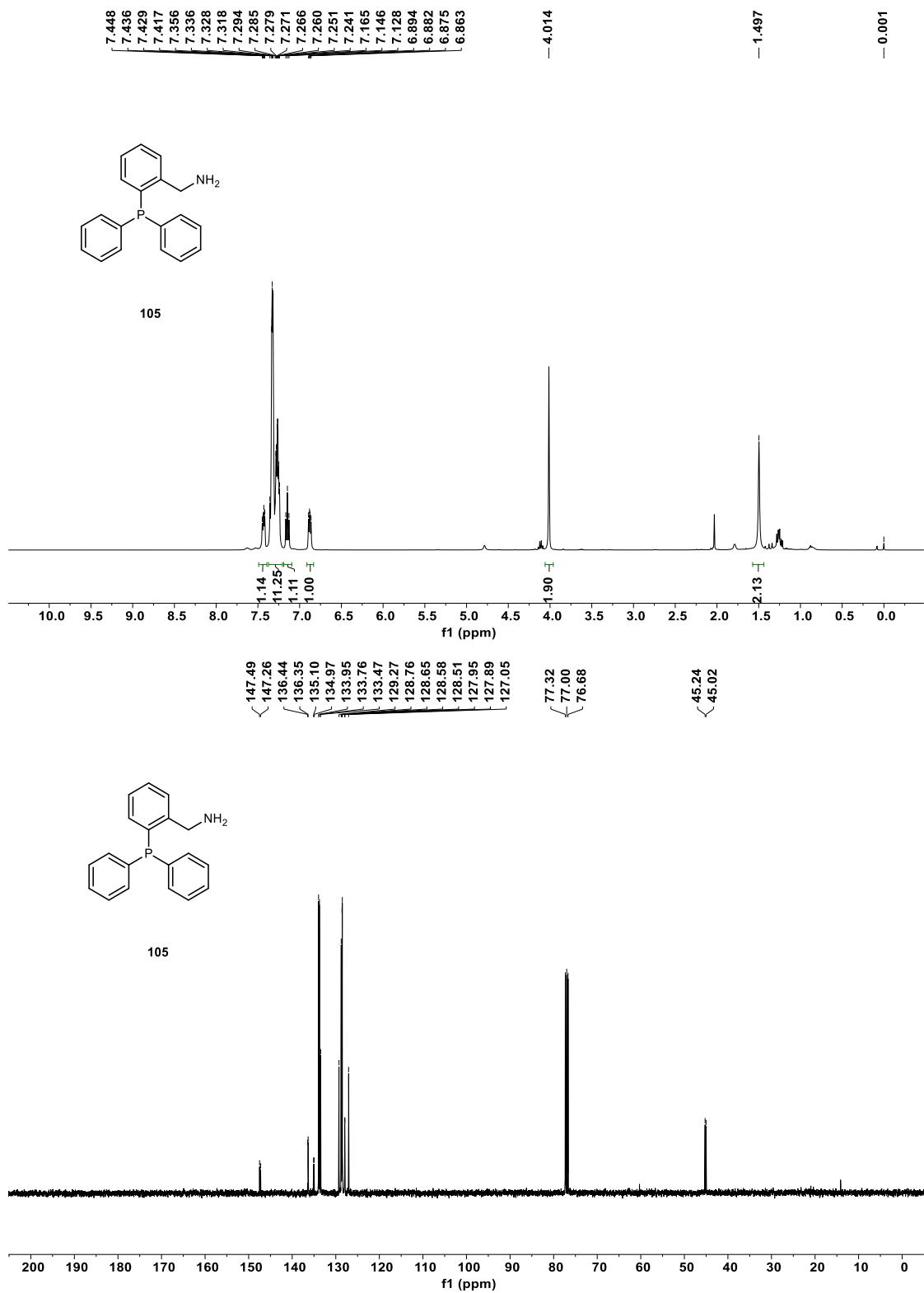


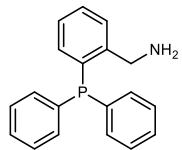






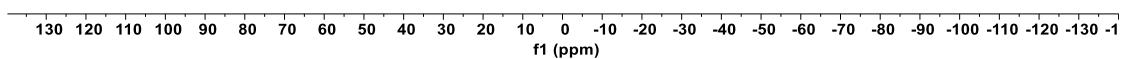




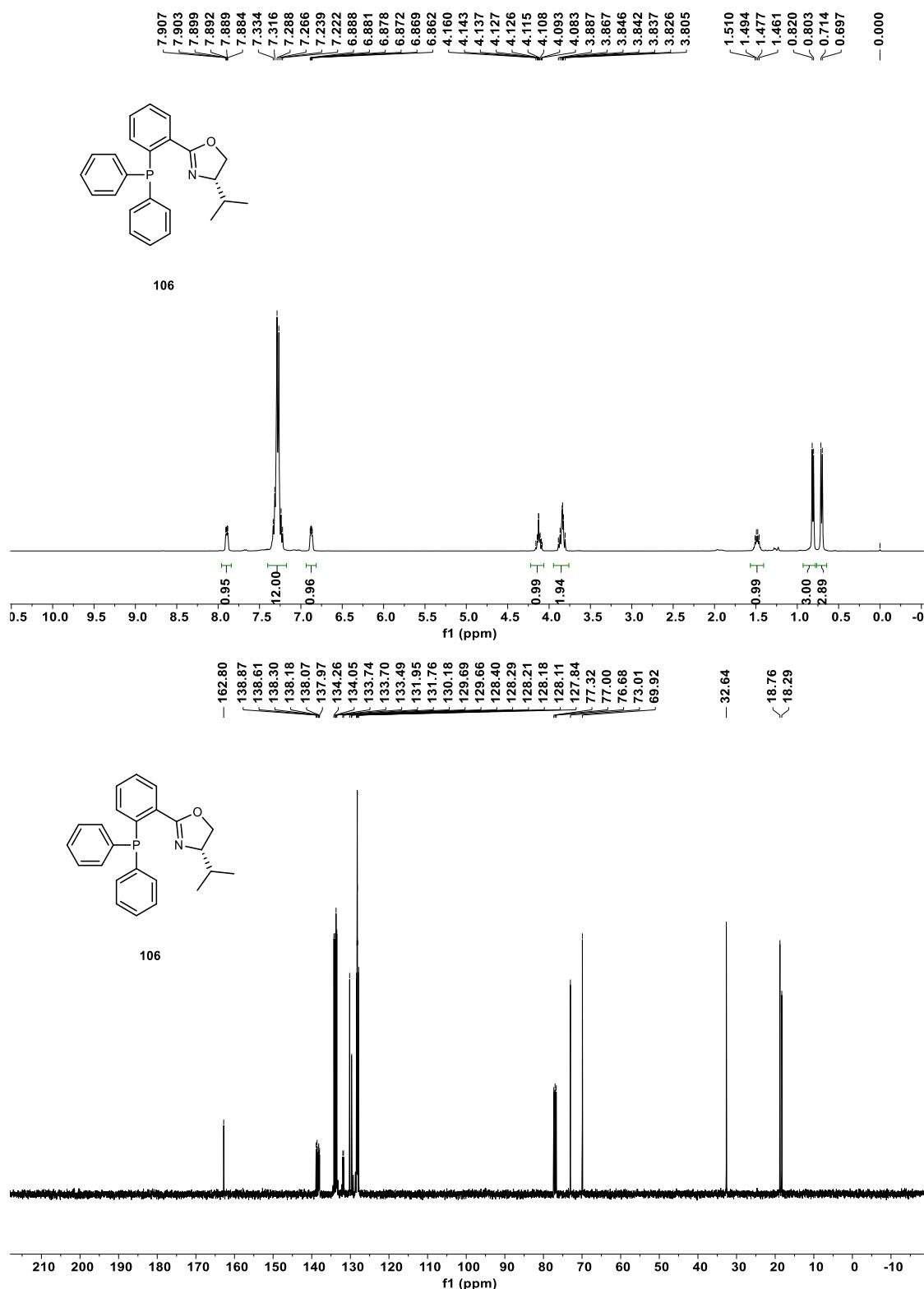


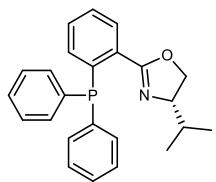
105

-15.798



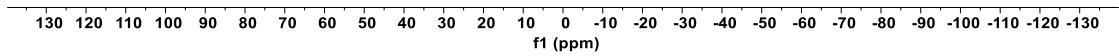
$^{31}\text{P}$  NMR of 105



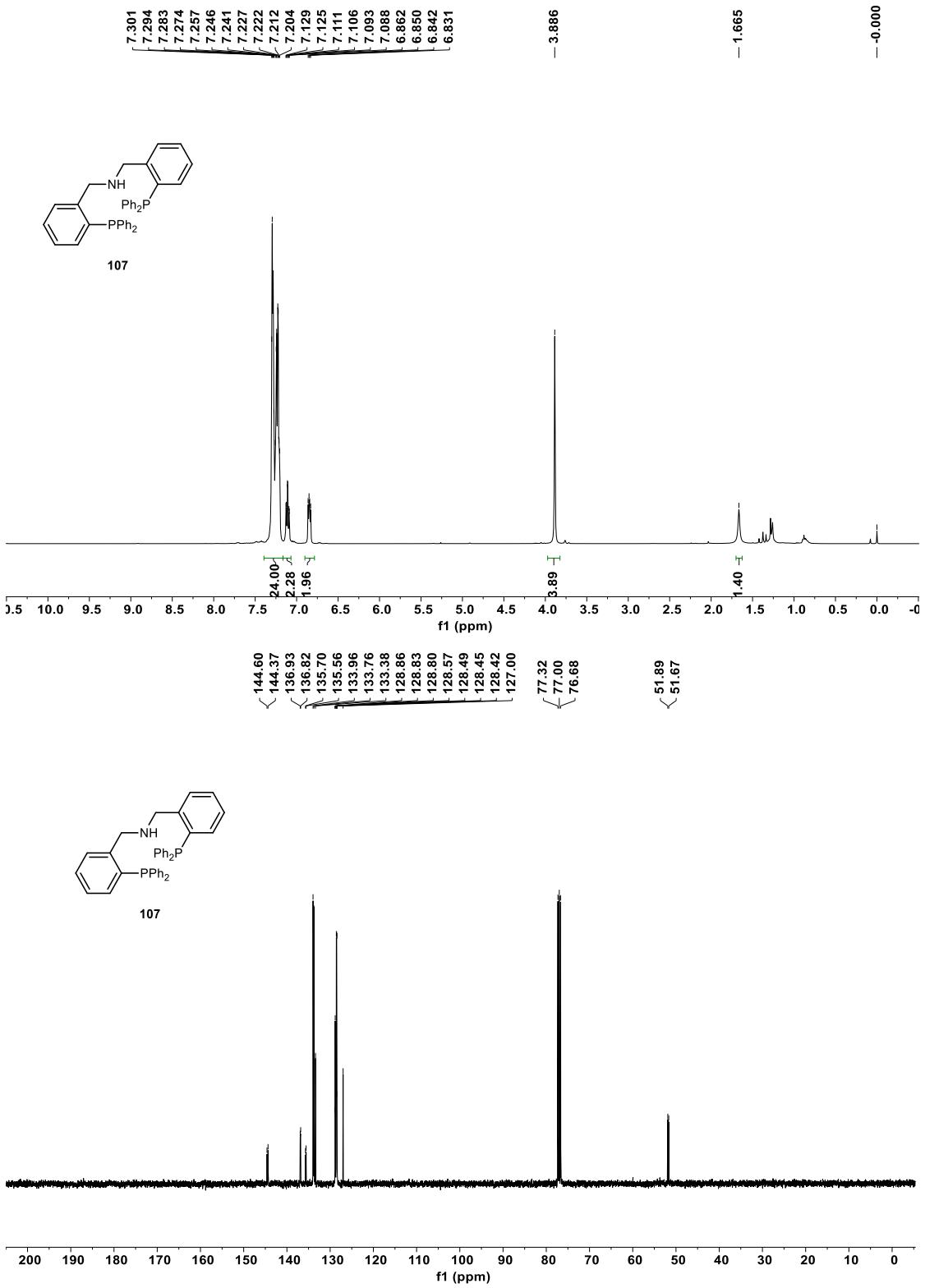


106

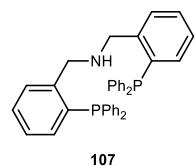
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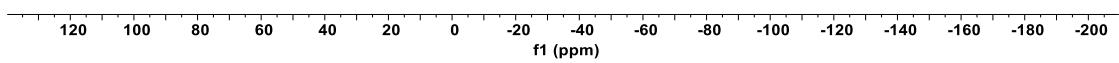
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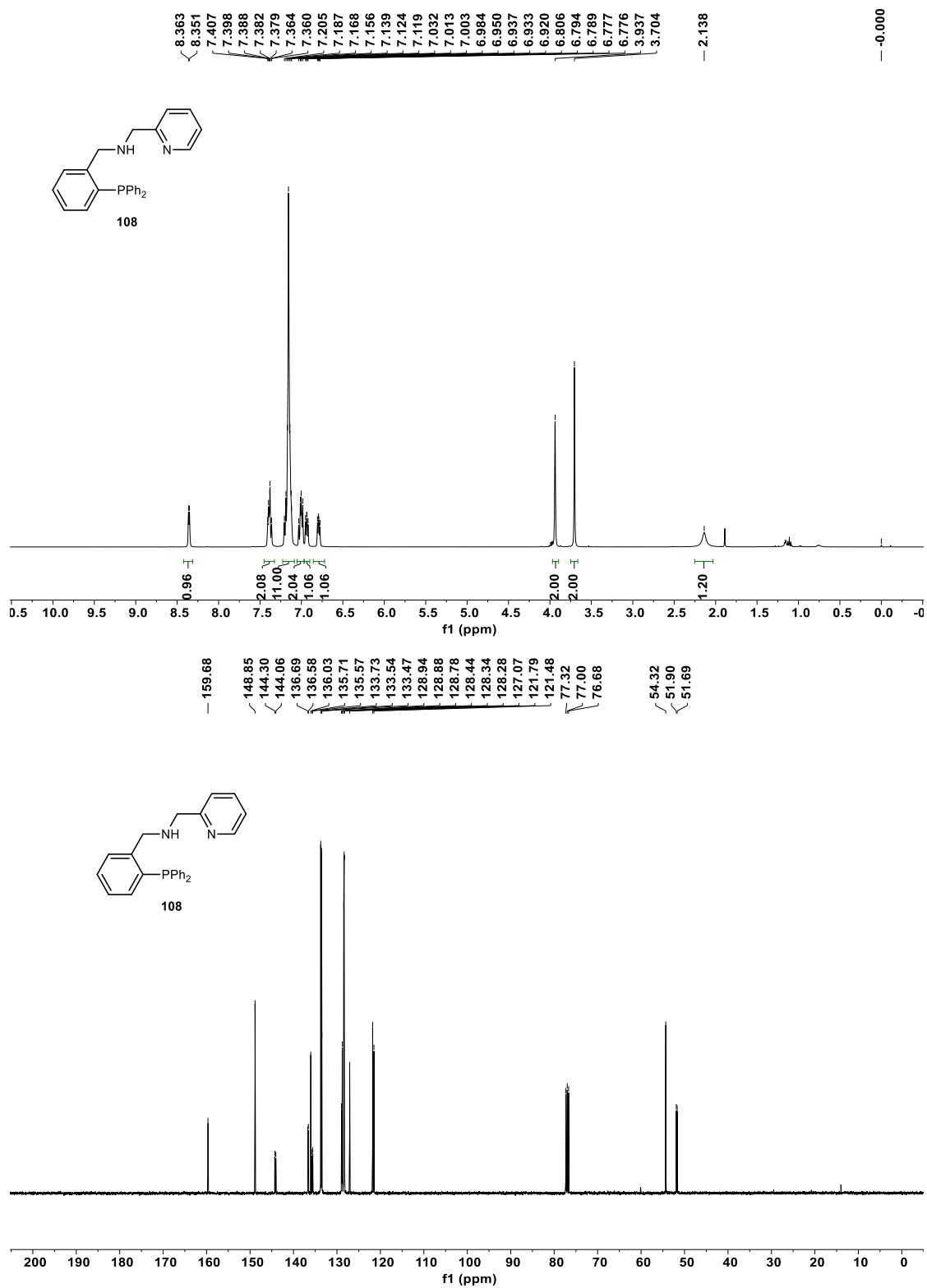
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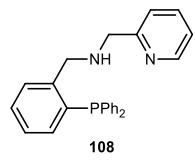
**107**



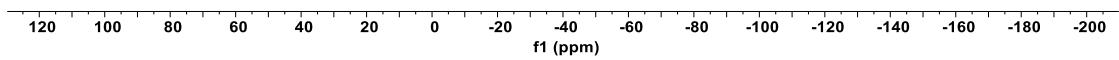
$^{31}\text{P}$  NMR of 107



-15.778



108



<sup>31</sup>P NMR of 108

