

## Supporting information

### **A Sequential Reaction of Picolinamide with Benzaldehydes Promoted by Pd(TFA)<sub>2</sub>: Rapid Access to 4,5-Disubstituted 2-(Pyridin-2-yl)oxazoles in *n*-Octane**

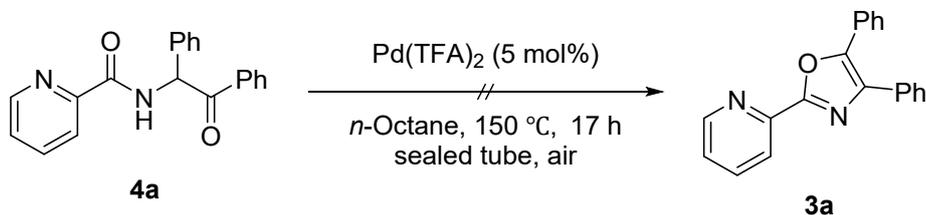
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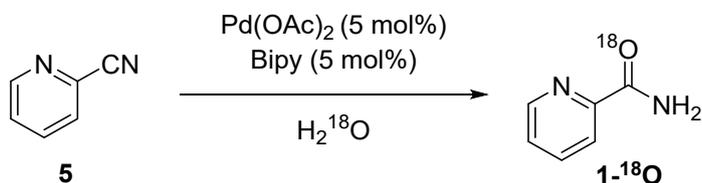
## Experimental Section

### Synthesis of oxazole 3a from 4a



A mixture of compound **4a** (316 mg, 1 mmol) and Pd(TFA)<sub>2</sub> (17 mg, 0.05 mmol) in octane (4 mL) was heated at 150 °C for 17 h in a sealed tube under air. After cooling, 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (168 mg, 1 mmol, internal standard) was added. The sample was dissolved in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, which was analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy.

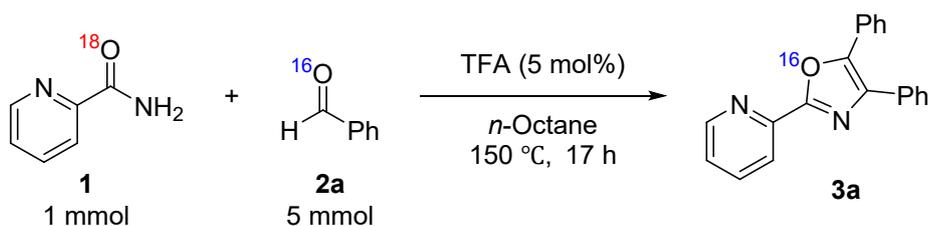
### Preparation of <sup>18</sup>O-picolinamide<sup>1</sup>



A mixture of 2-cyanopyridine (1.043 g, 10 mmol), palladium(II) acetate (112 mg, 0.5 mmol), 2,2'-bipyridyl (79 mg, 0.5 mmol) in H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O (1 mL) was heated at 120 °C for 20 h in a sealed tube under air. After cooling, the reaction mixture was poured into water and extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/EtOAc) to give desired product <sup>18</sup>O-picolinamide (879 mg, 71%) as a white solid.

mp: 106-107 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 7.59 (ddd, *J* = 7.3, 4.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (brs, 1H), 7.98 (ddd, *J* = 7.9, 7.3, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.02-8.05 (m, 1H), 8.12 (brs, 1H), 8.63 (ddd, *J* = 4.8, 1.6, 0.9 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 121.9, 126.5, 137.6, 148.5, 150.3, 166.0; FT-IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3419, 3182, 1603; HRMS (FAB): *m/z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O: 125.0601; found: 125.0601.

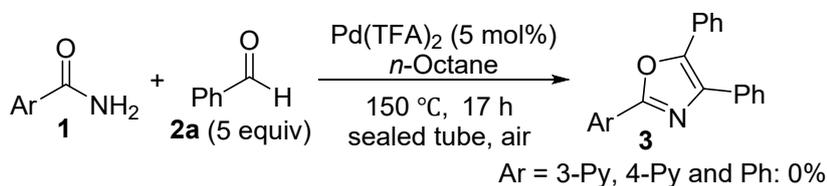
### Reaction using <sup>18</sup>O-labeled picolinamide<sup>2</sup>



Prepared according to the general procedure by using <sup>18</sup>O-2-picolinamide (124 mg, 1 mmol), Pd(TFA)<sub>2</sub> (17 mg, 5 mol %) and benzaldehyde (505 μL, 5 mmol) in octane (4 mL) at 150 °C for 17 h. The desired product 3a was obtained in 50% yield (150 mg) as a light yellow solid.

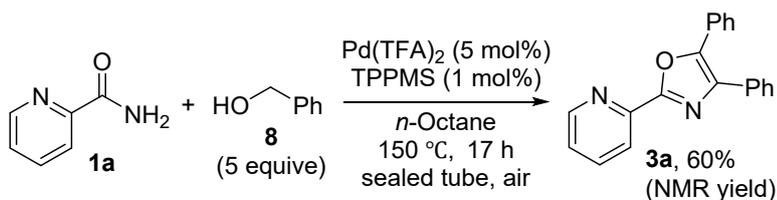
HRMS (EI): *m/z* [M]<sup>+</sup> calcd for [M]<sup>+</sup> = C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O: 298.1106; found:298.1106.

### The reaction of nicotinamide, isonicotinamide and benzamide.<sup>3</sup>



Prepared according to the general procedure by using nicotinamide (122 mg, 1 mmol) or isonicotinamide (122 mg, 1 mmol) or benzamide (121 mg, 1 mmol), Pd(TFA)<sub>2</sub> (17 mg, 5 mol %) and benzaldehyde (505 μL, 5 mmol) in octane (4 mL) at 150 °C for 17 h. After a cooling, 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (1 mmol) was added as an internal standard. The desired product was not be confirmed using <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrometry.

### Direct use of benzyl alcohol 8 for construction of the oxazole 3a



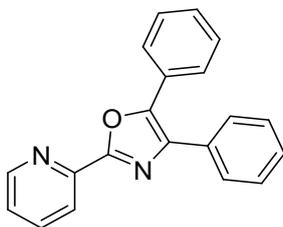
A mixture of picolinamide 1a (122 mg, 1 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (17 mg, 0.05 mmol), sodium diphenylphosphinobenzene-3-sulfonate (TPPMS, 4 mg, 0.01 mmol), and benzyl alcohol 2a (515 μL, 5 mmol), in octane (4 mL) was heated at 150 °C for 17 h in a sealed tube under air. After the reaction mixture was cooled, 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (168 mg, 1 mmol, internal standard) and CHCl<sub>3</sub> were added to the reaction mixture. The solution was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy.

## References

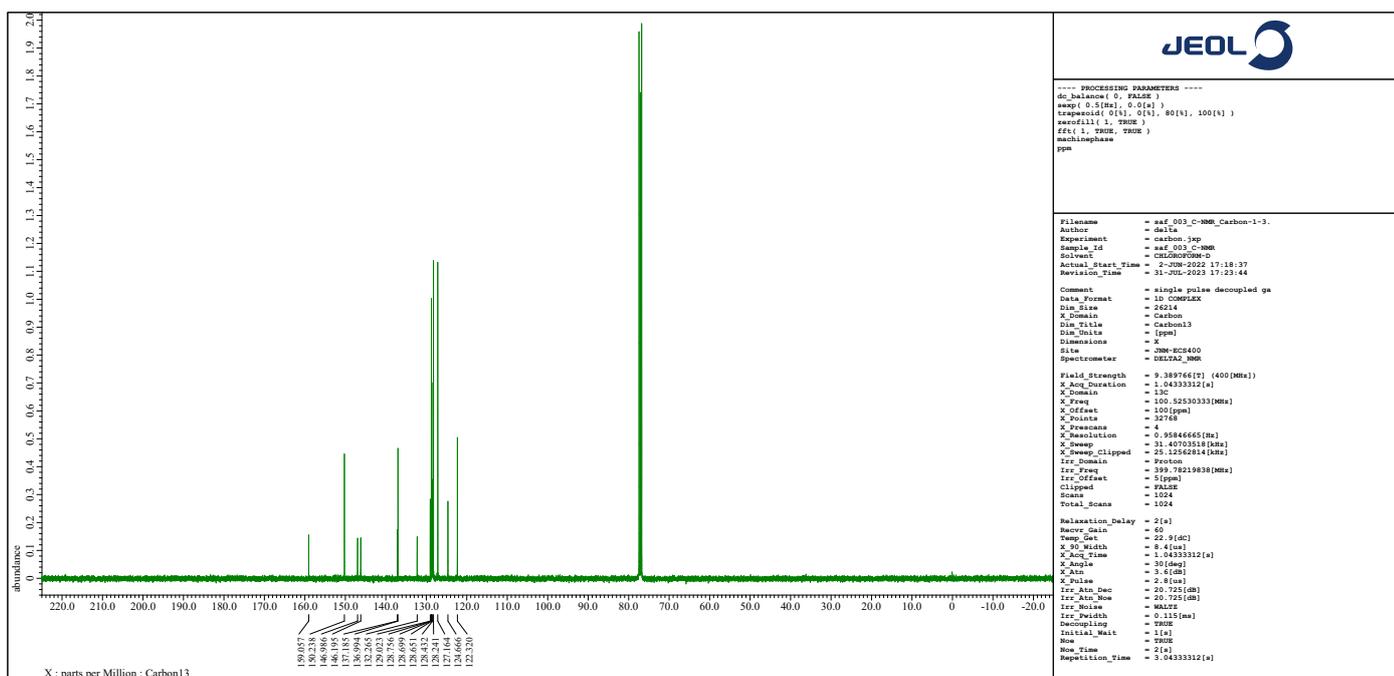
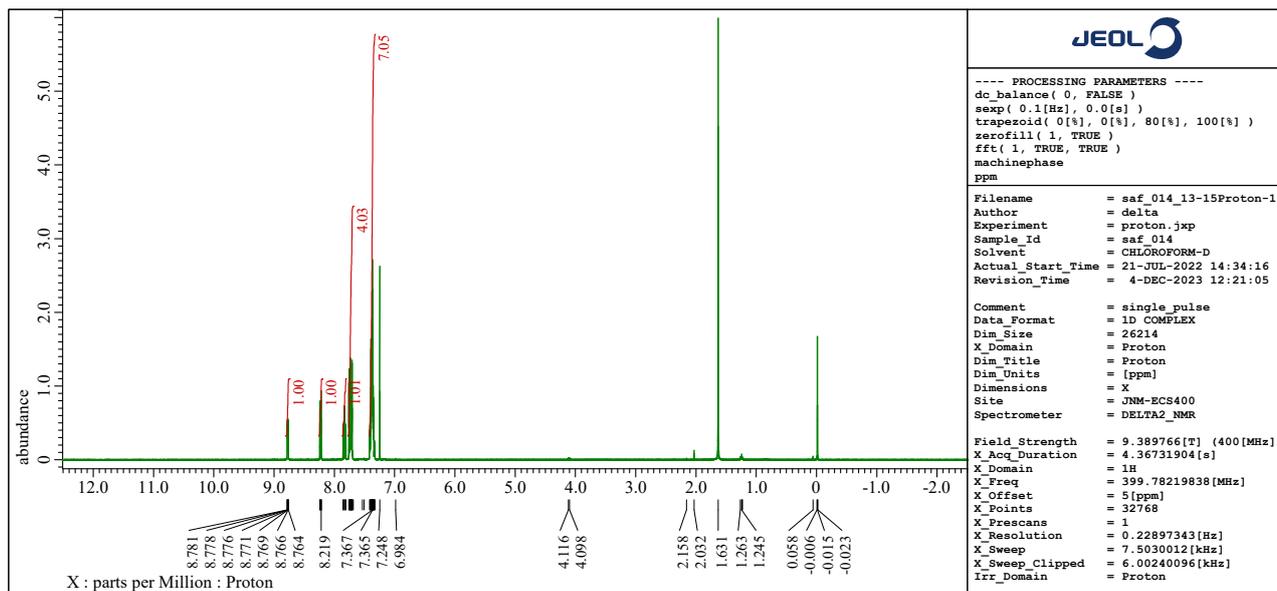
- 1) Sharley, Daniel D. Sanz; Jonathan MJ Williams. *Tetrahedron Letters*, **2017**, 58, 43, 4090-4093.
- 2) Wasserman, H. H.; Vinick, F. J. *The Journal of Organic Chemistry*, **1973**, 38, 13, 2407-2408.
- 3) Banerji, B.; Adhikary, S.; Majumder, L.; Ghosh, S. *Asian Journal of Organic Chemistry*, **2019**, 8, 4, 514-525.

# <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR

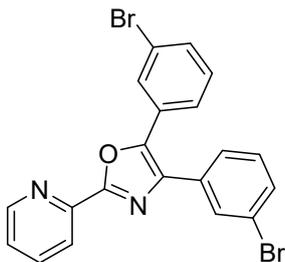
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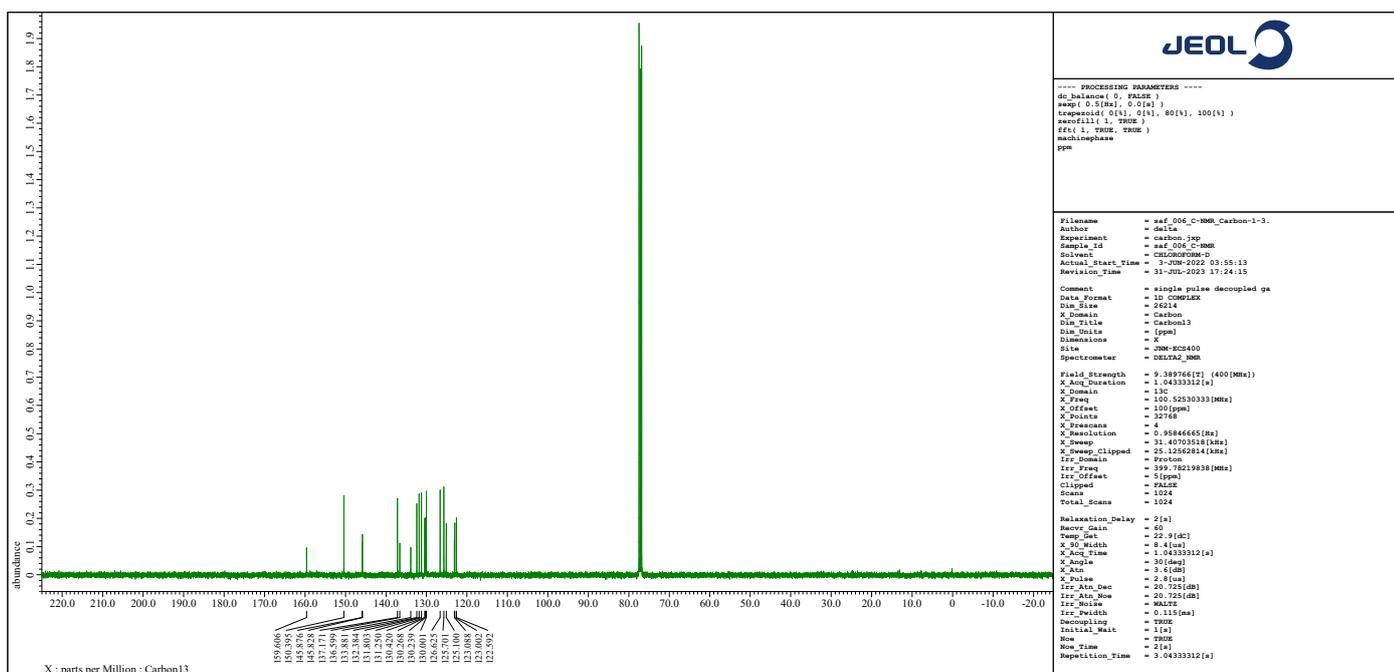
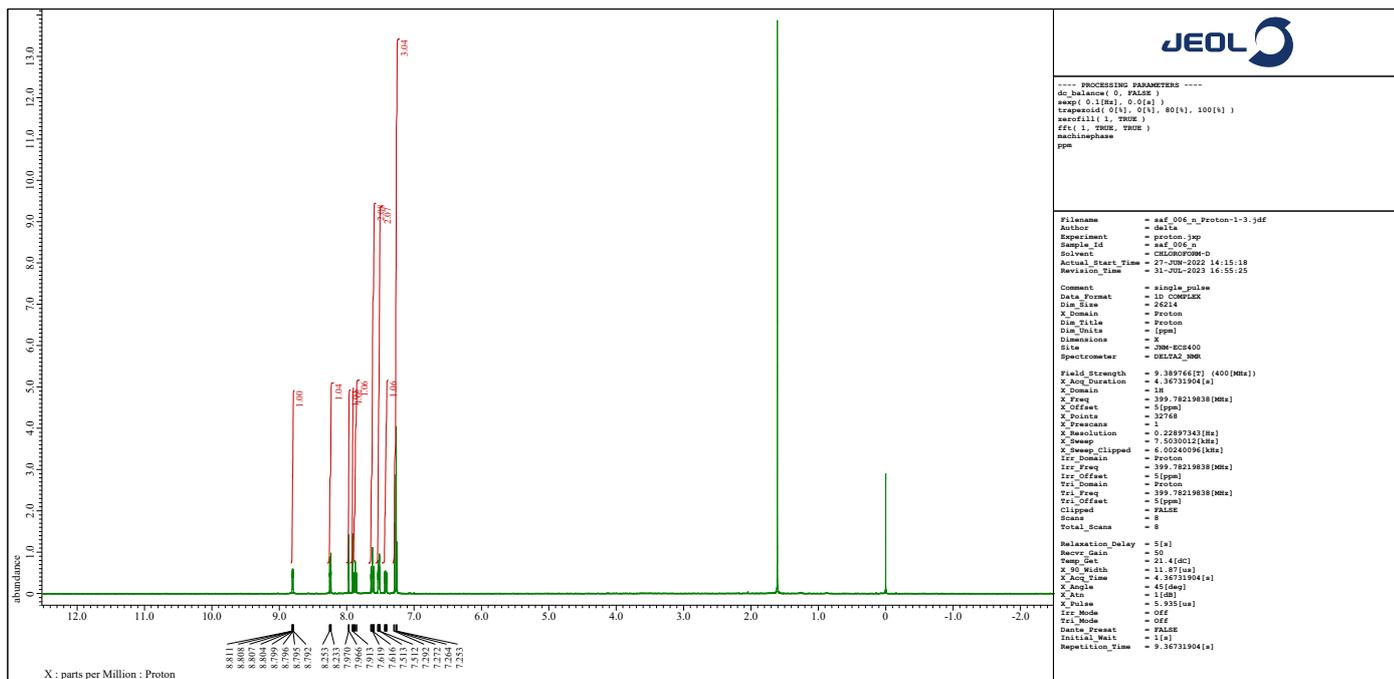
3a



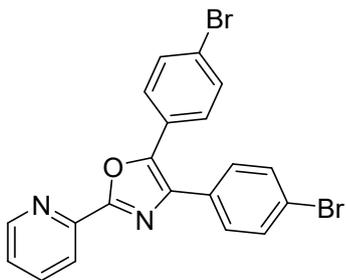
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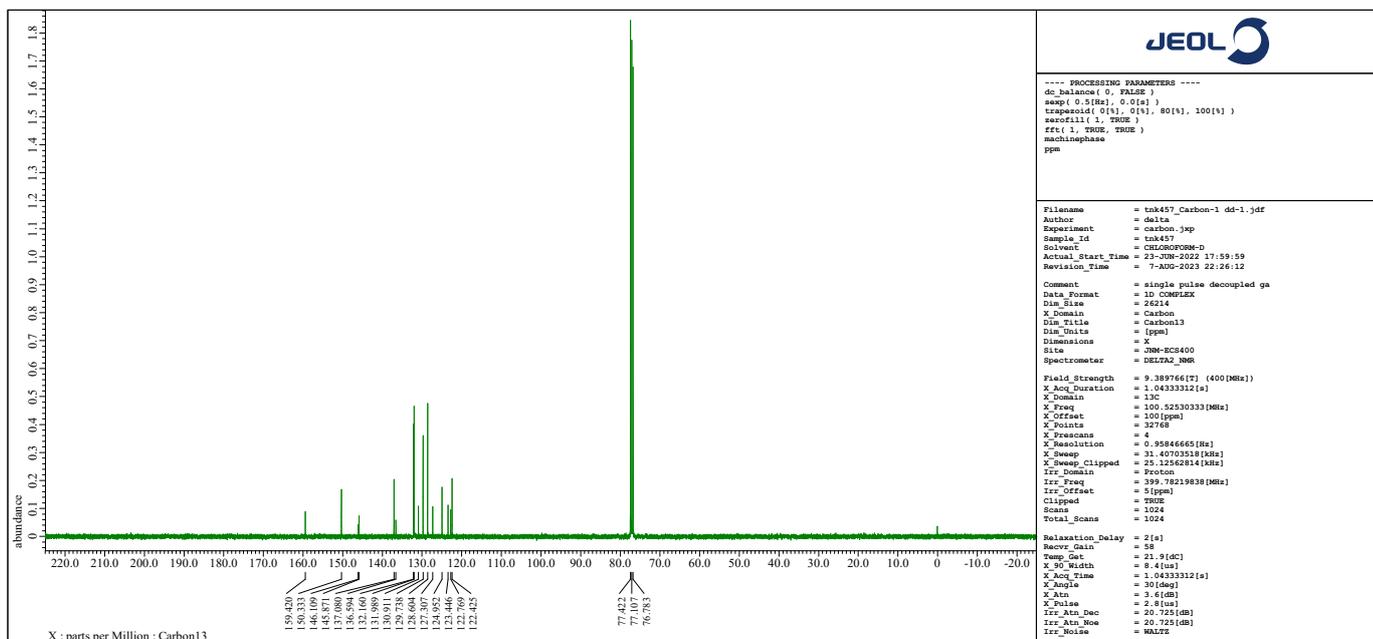
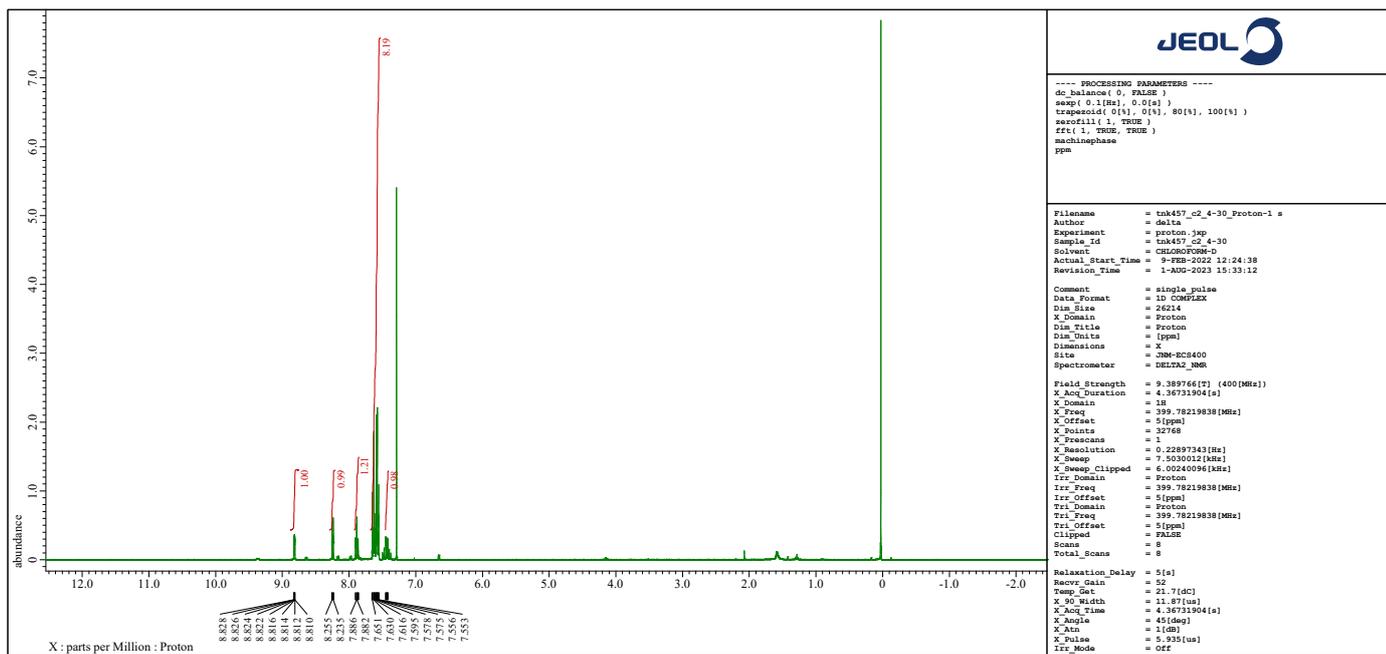
**3b**



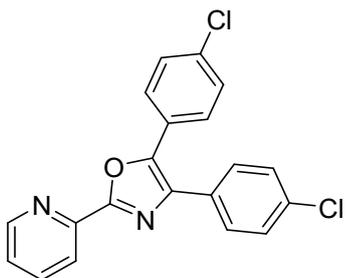
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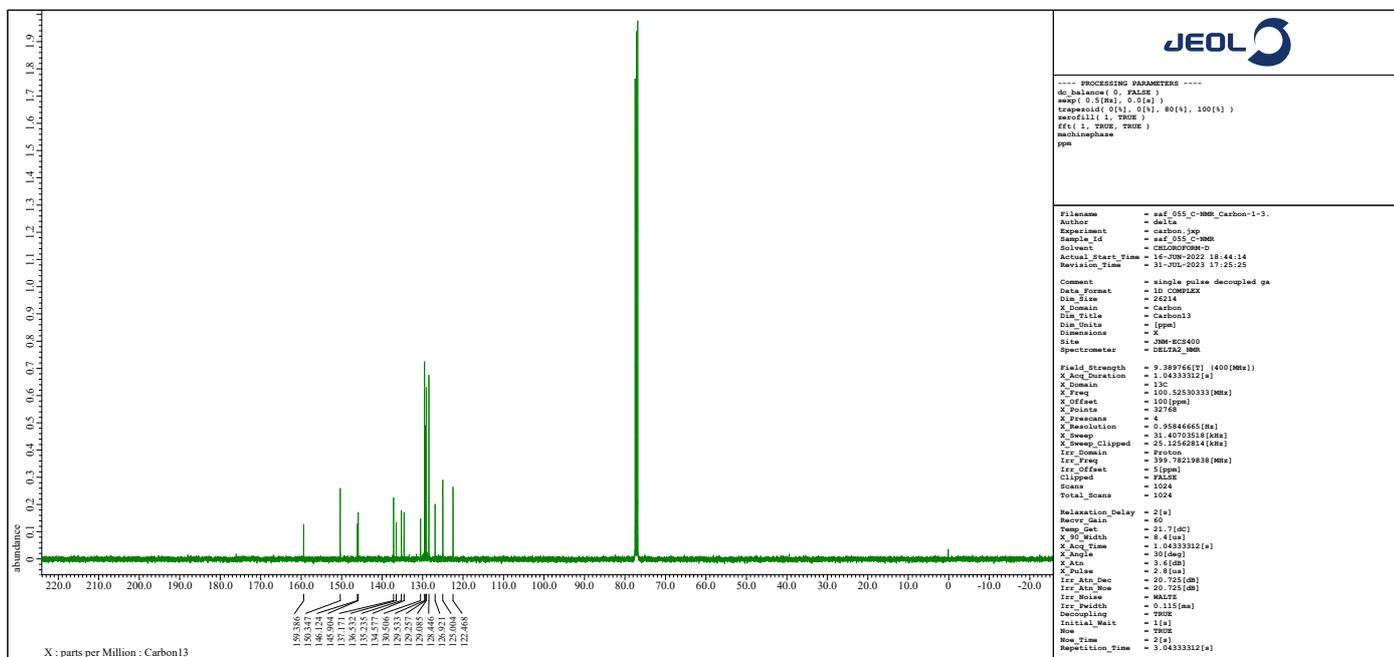
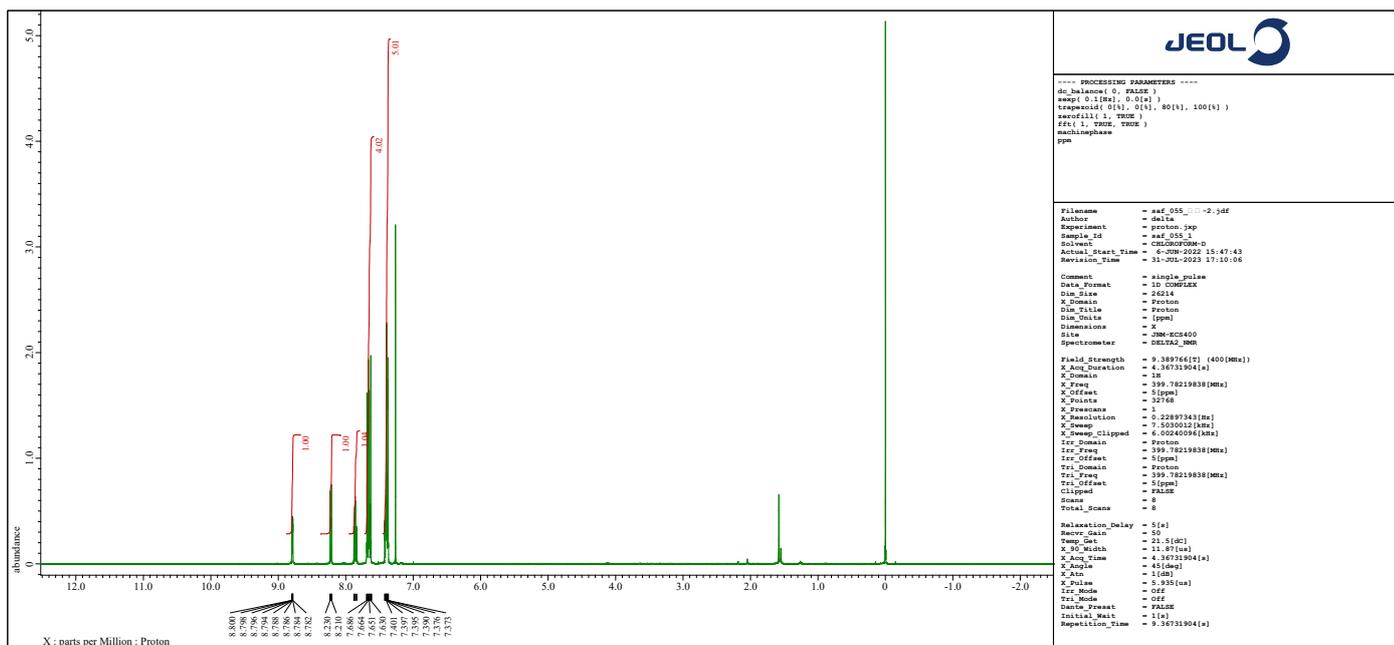
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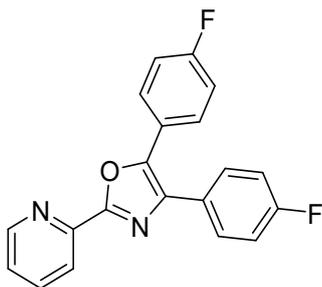
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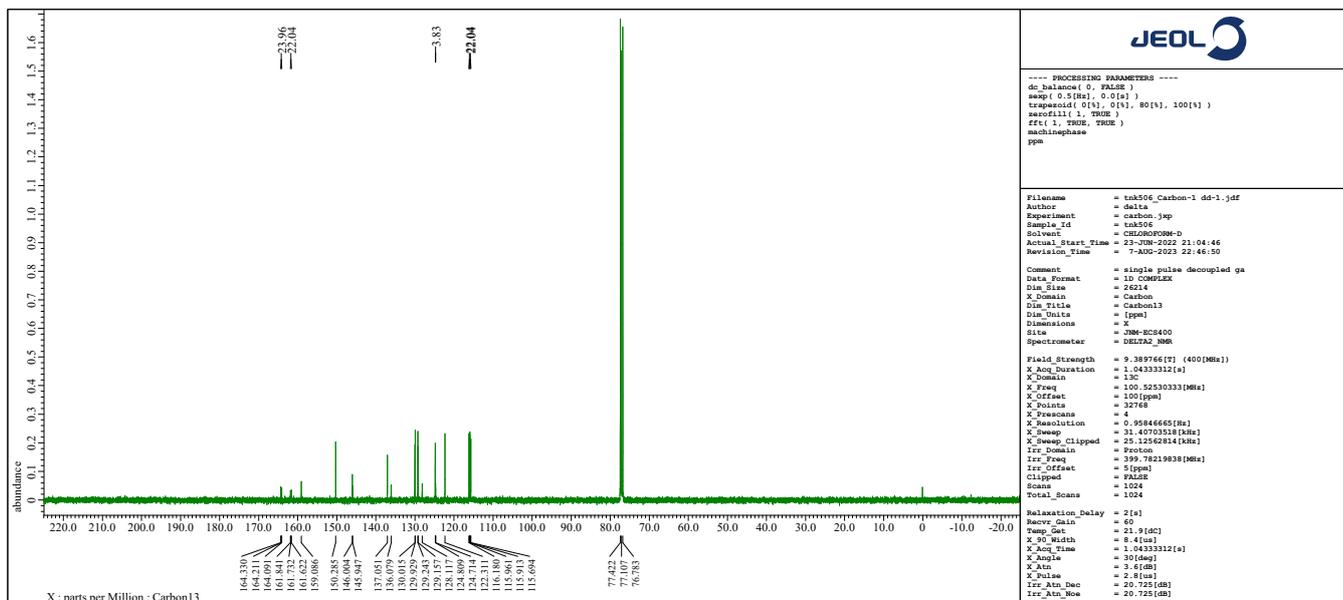
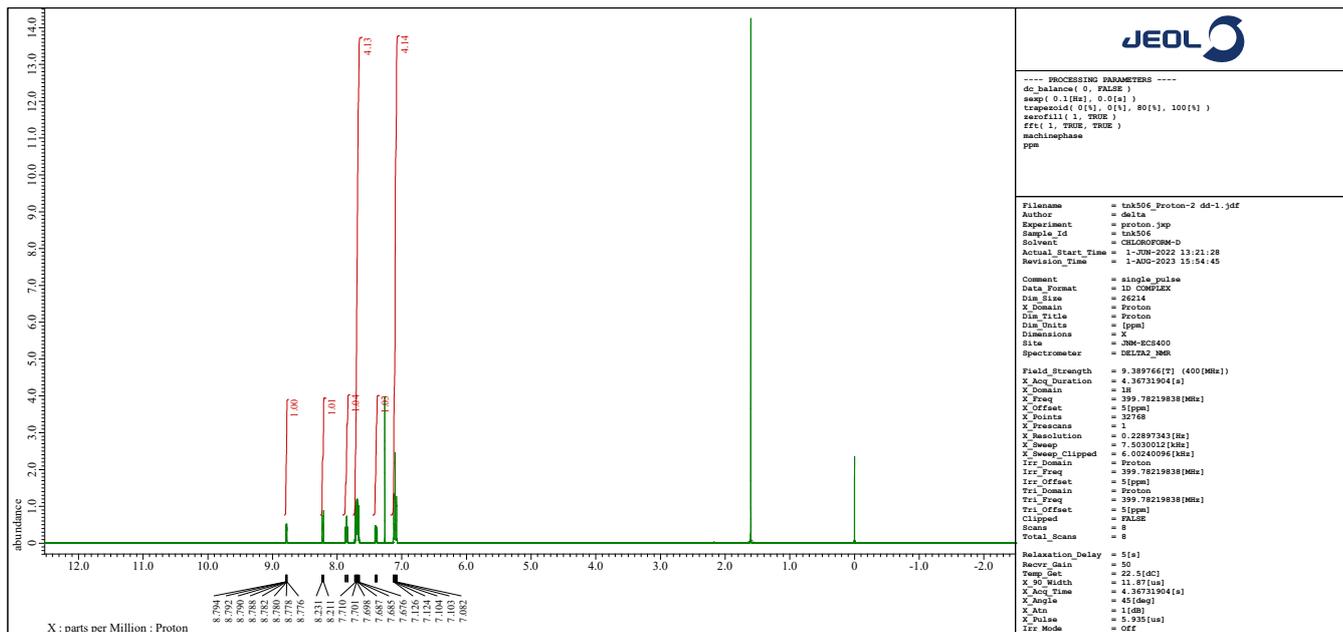
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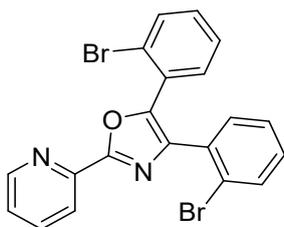
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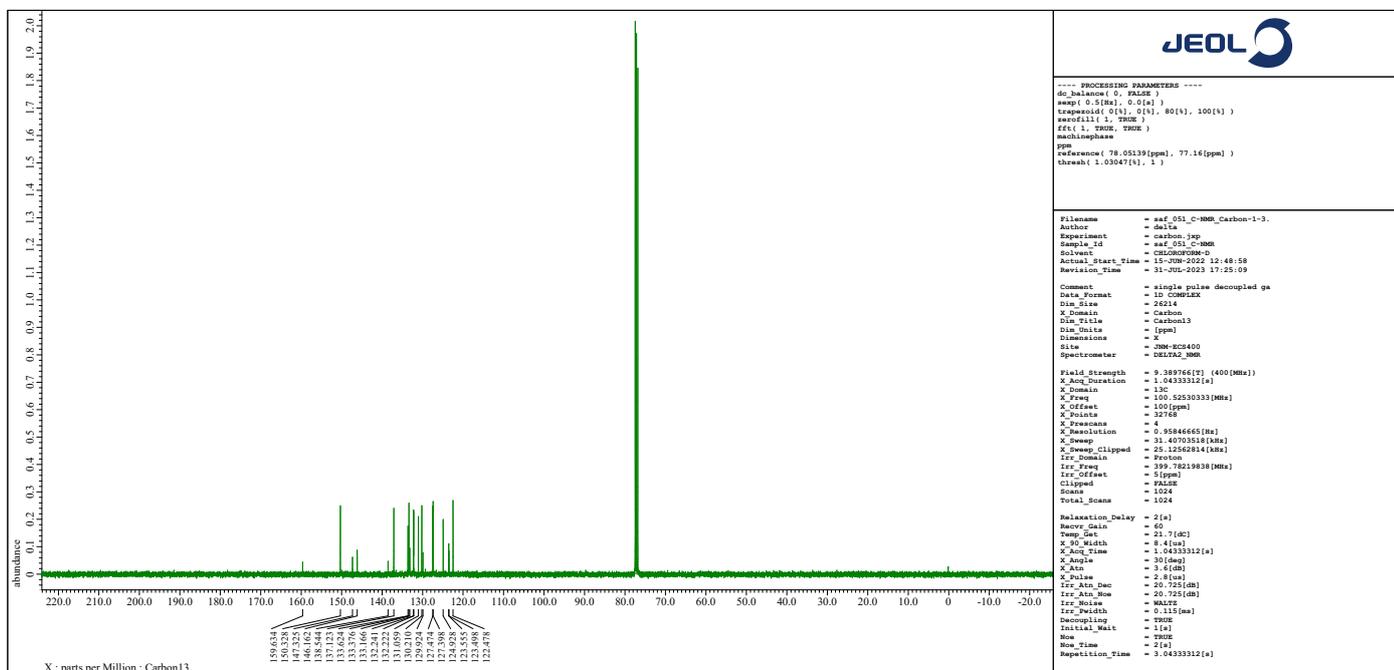
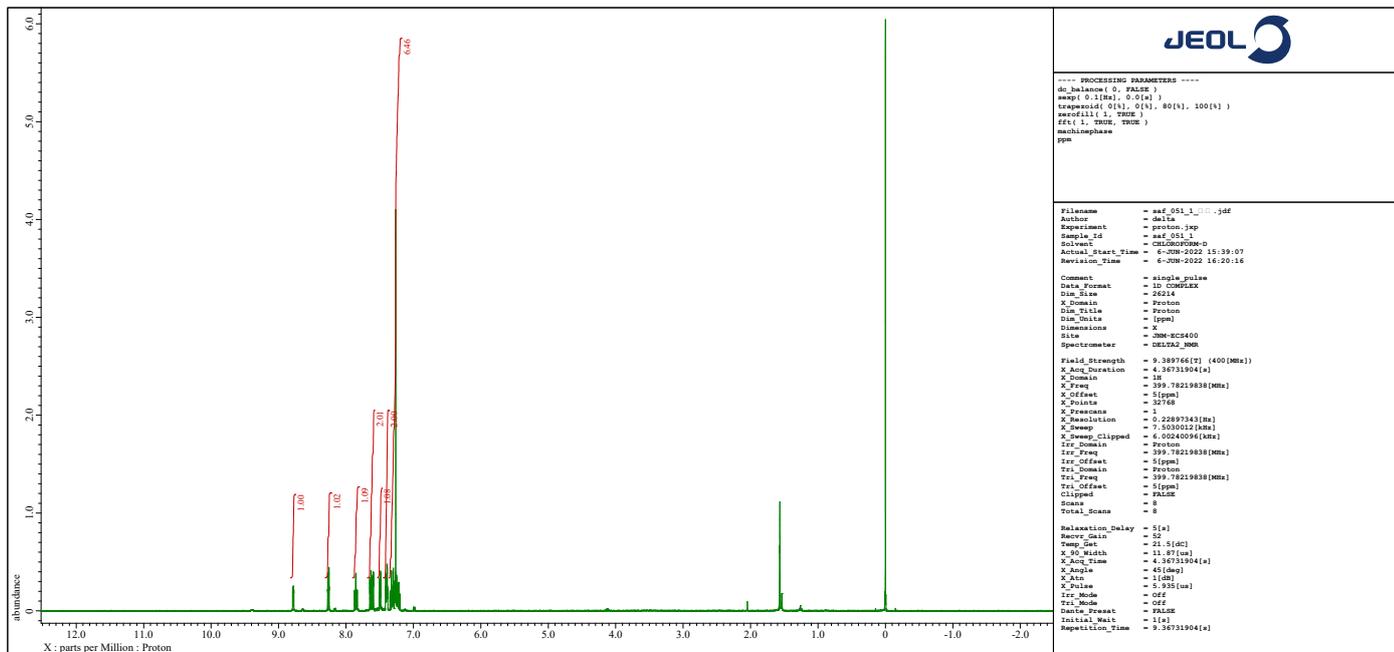
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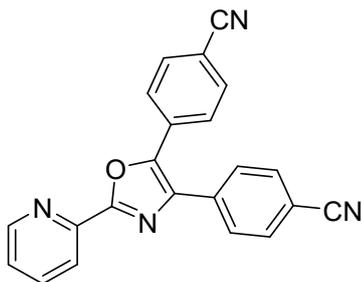
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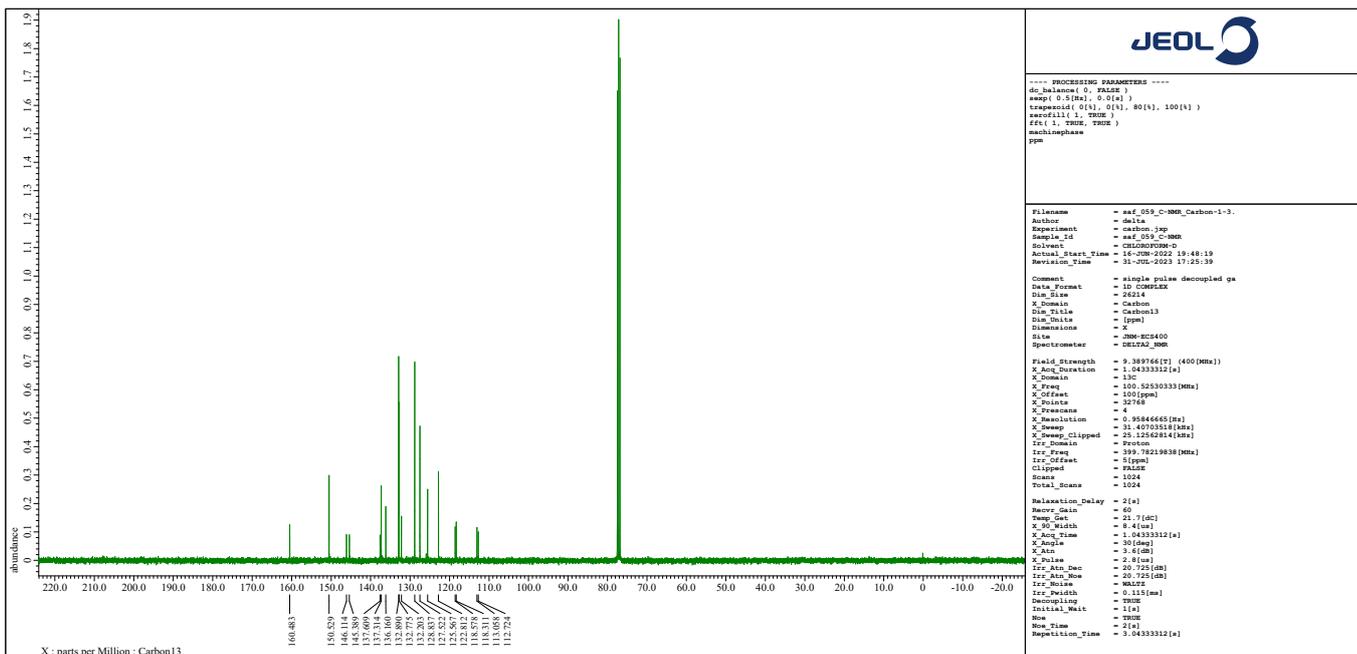
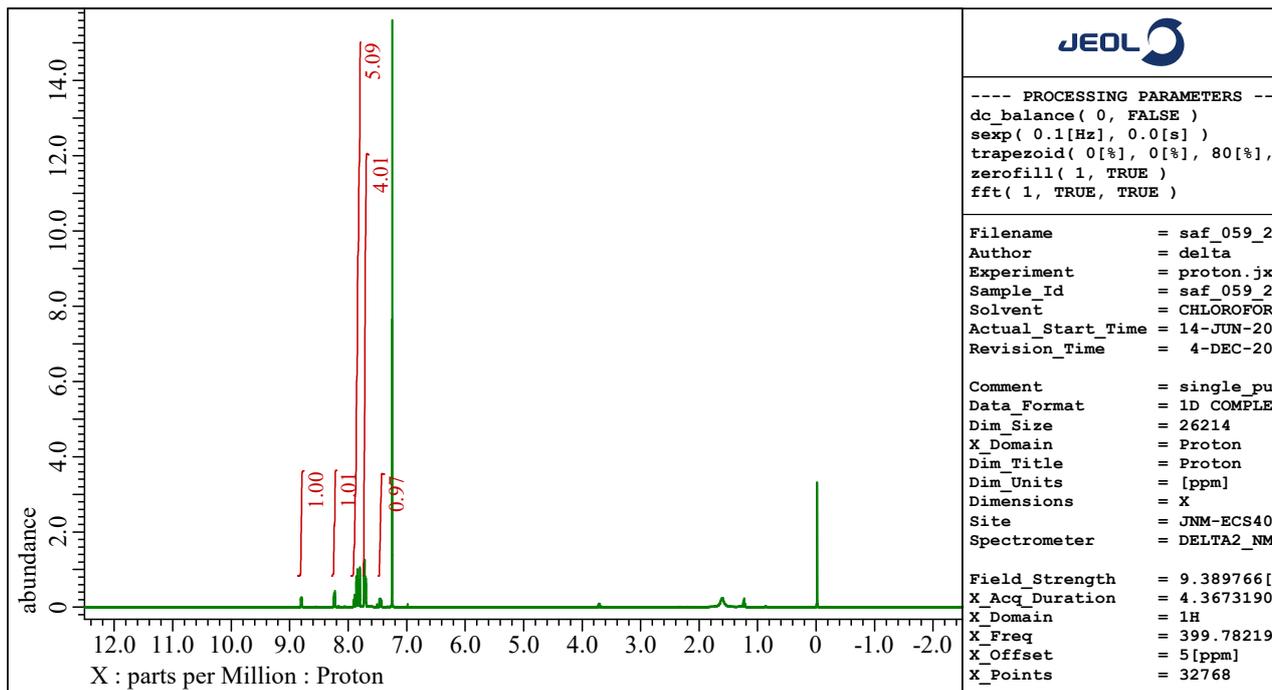
**3f**



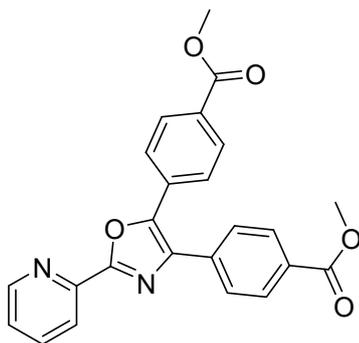
4,4'-(2-(Pyridin-2-yl)oxazole-4,5-diyl)dibenzonitrile (3g)



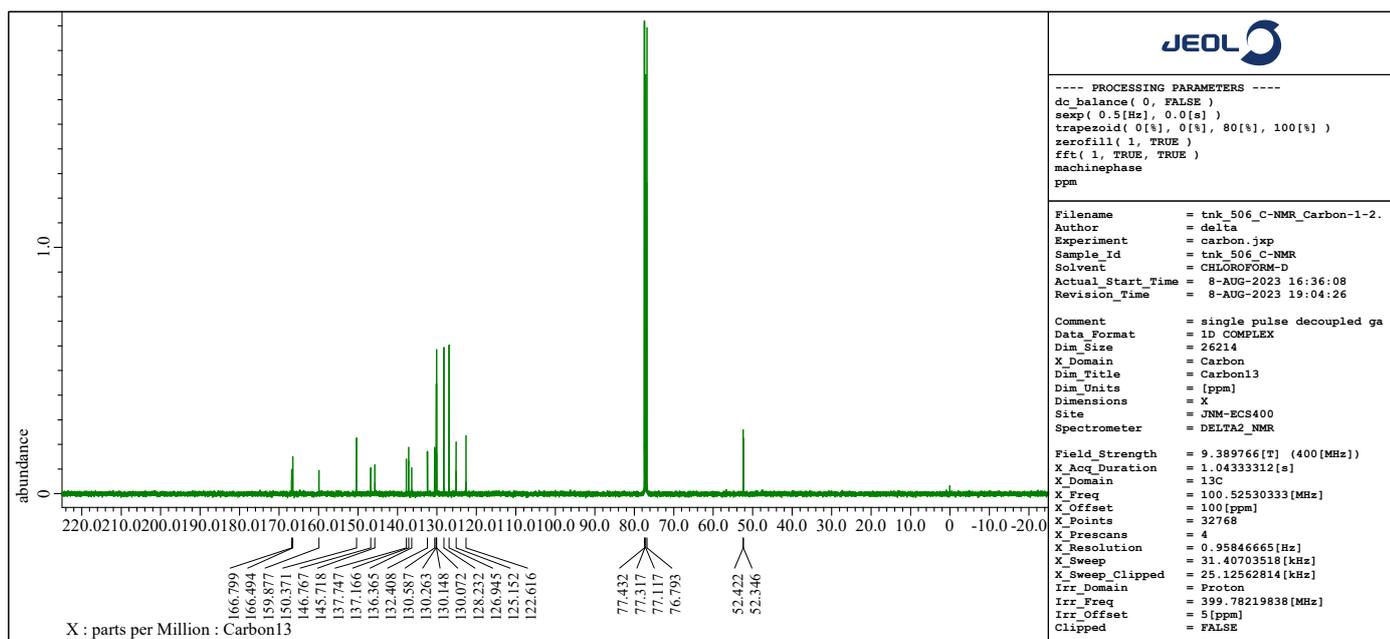
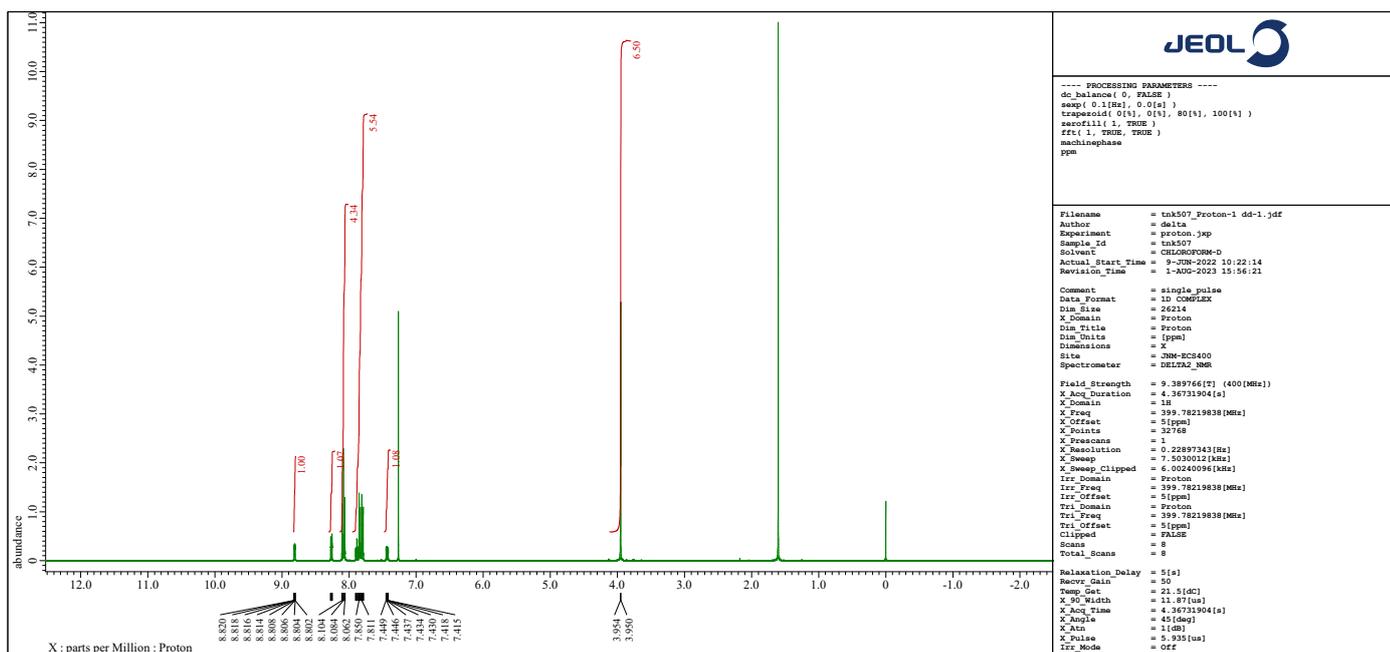
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### Dimethyl 4,4'-(2-(pyridin-2-yl)oxazole-4,5-diyl)dibenzoate (3h)

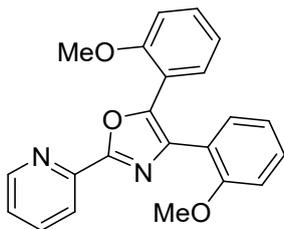


3h

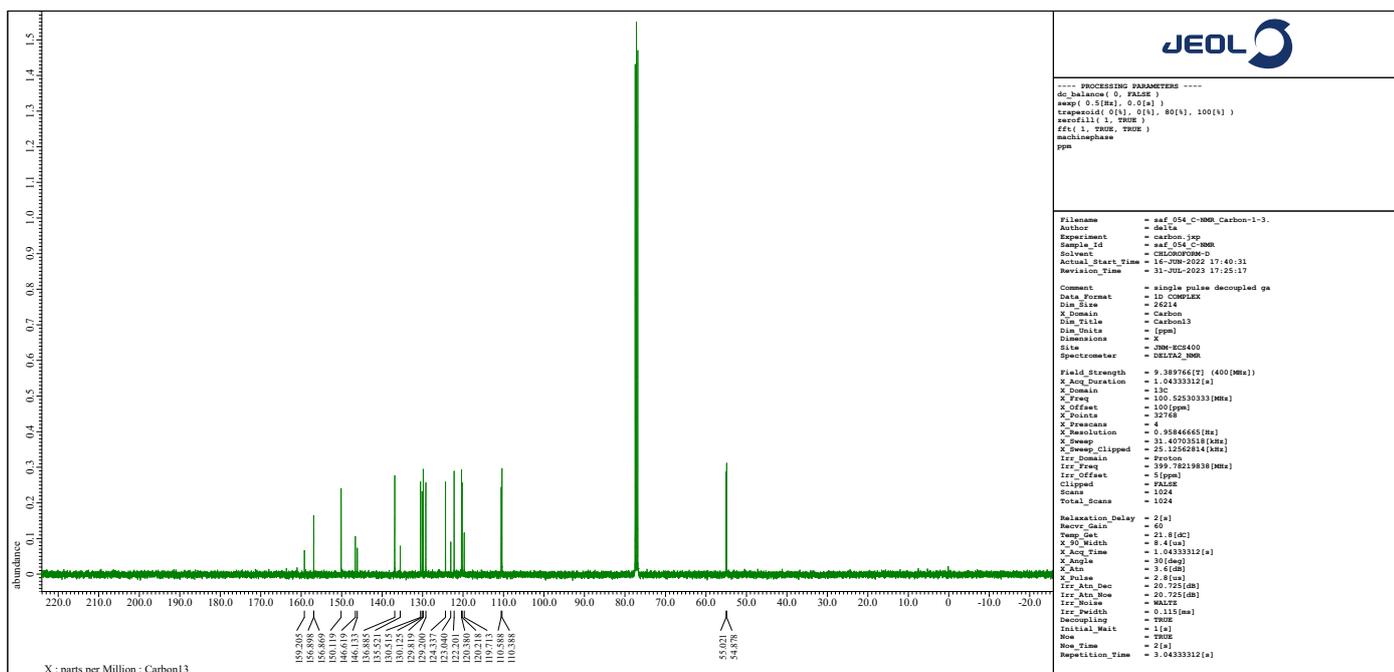
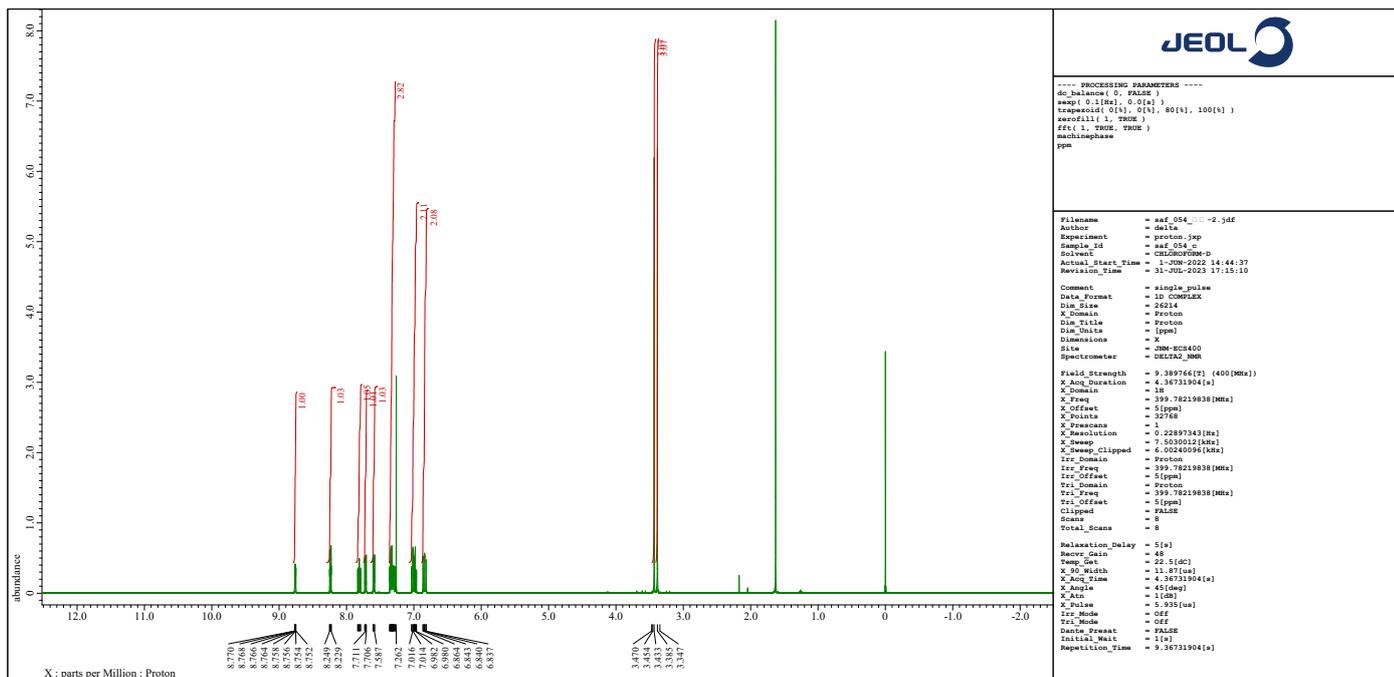




### 4,5-Bis(2-methoxyphenyl)-2-(pyridin-2-yl)oxazole (3j)

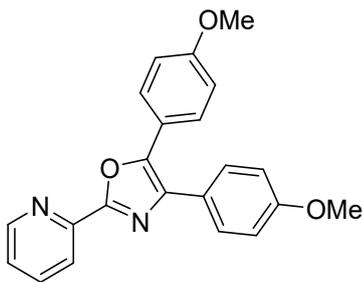


**3j**

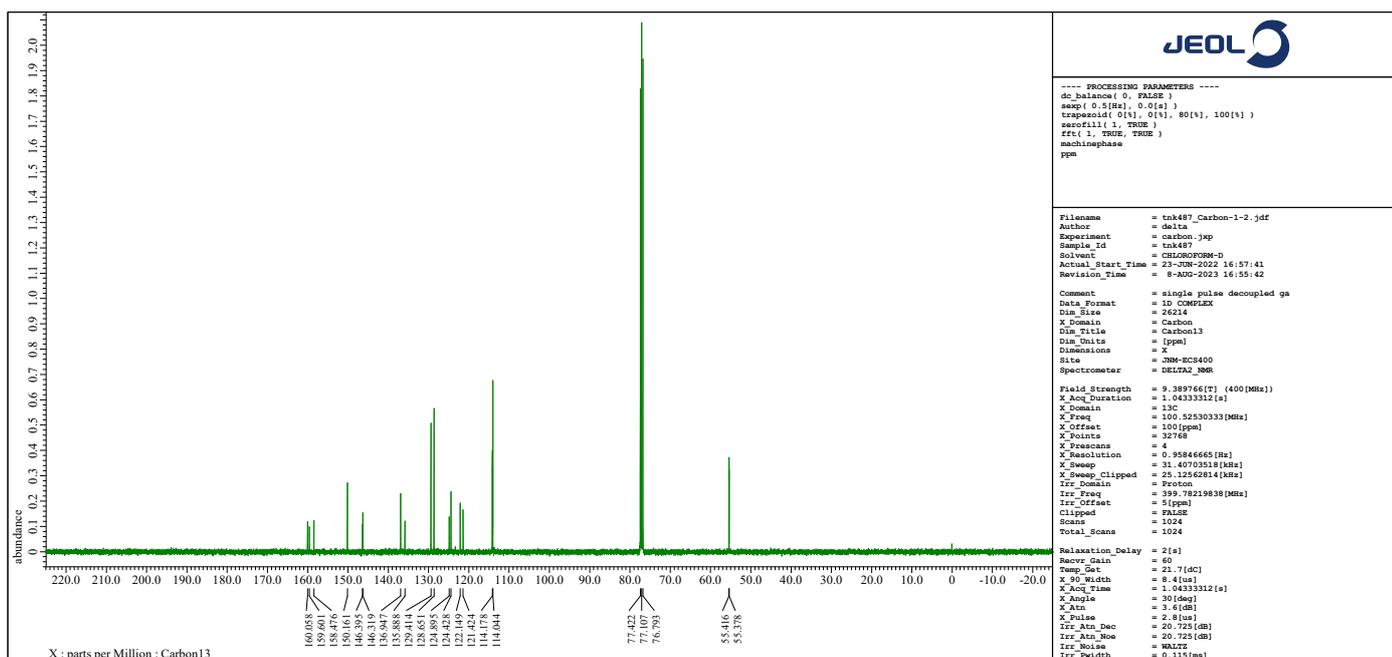
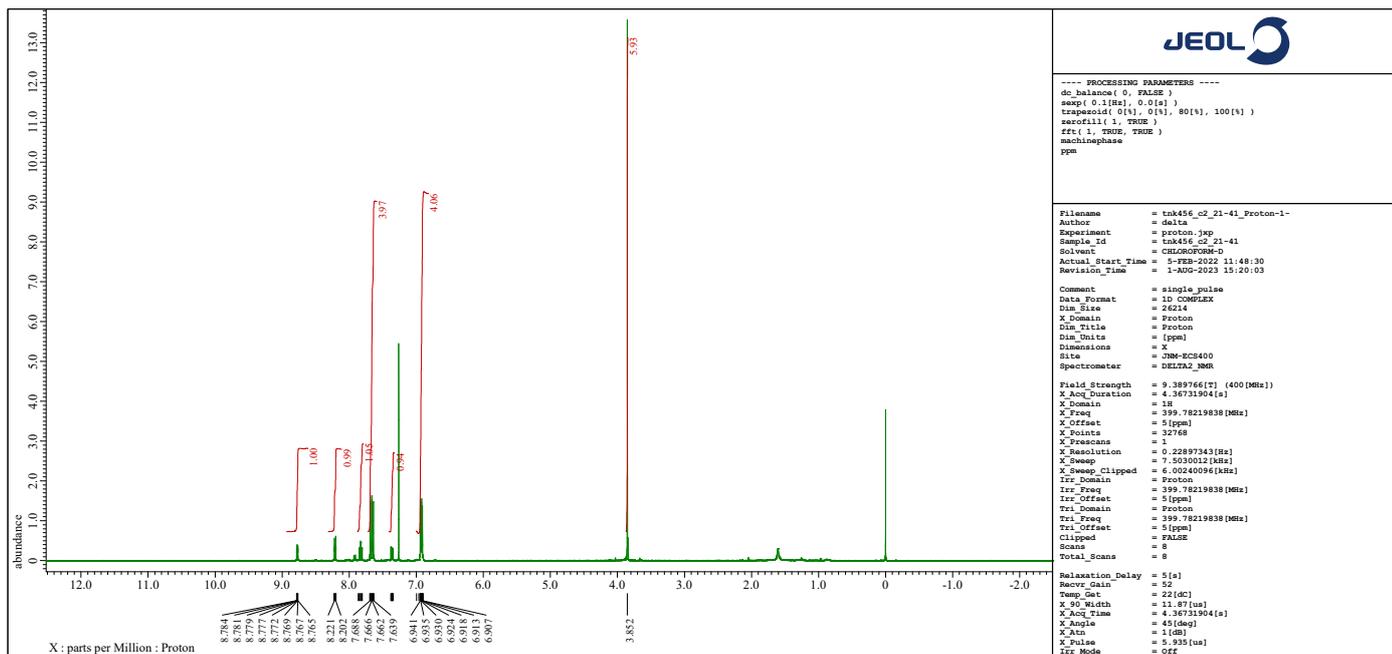




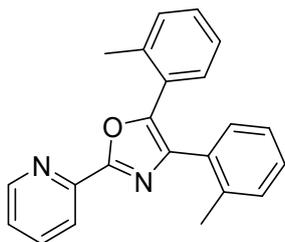
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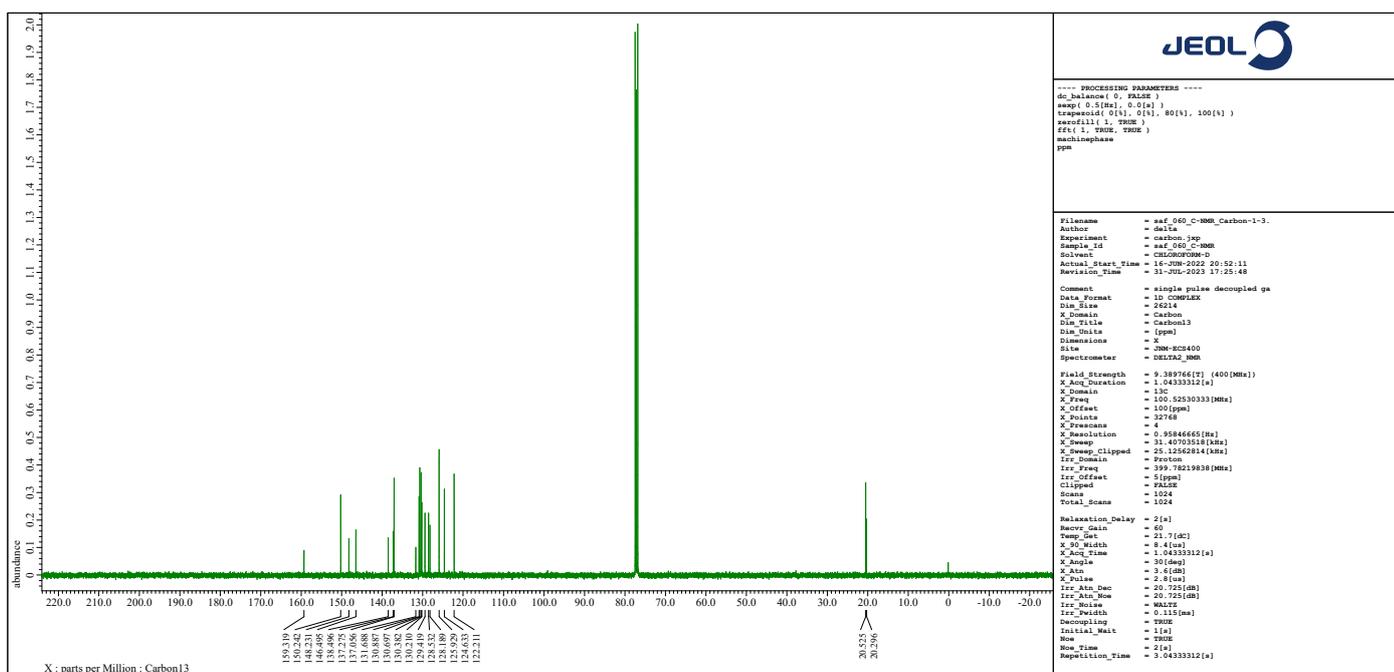
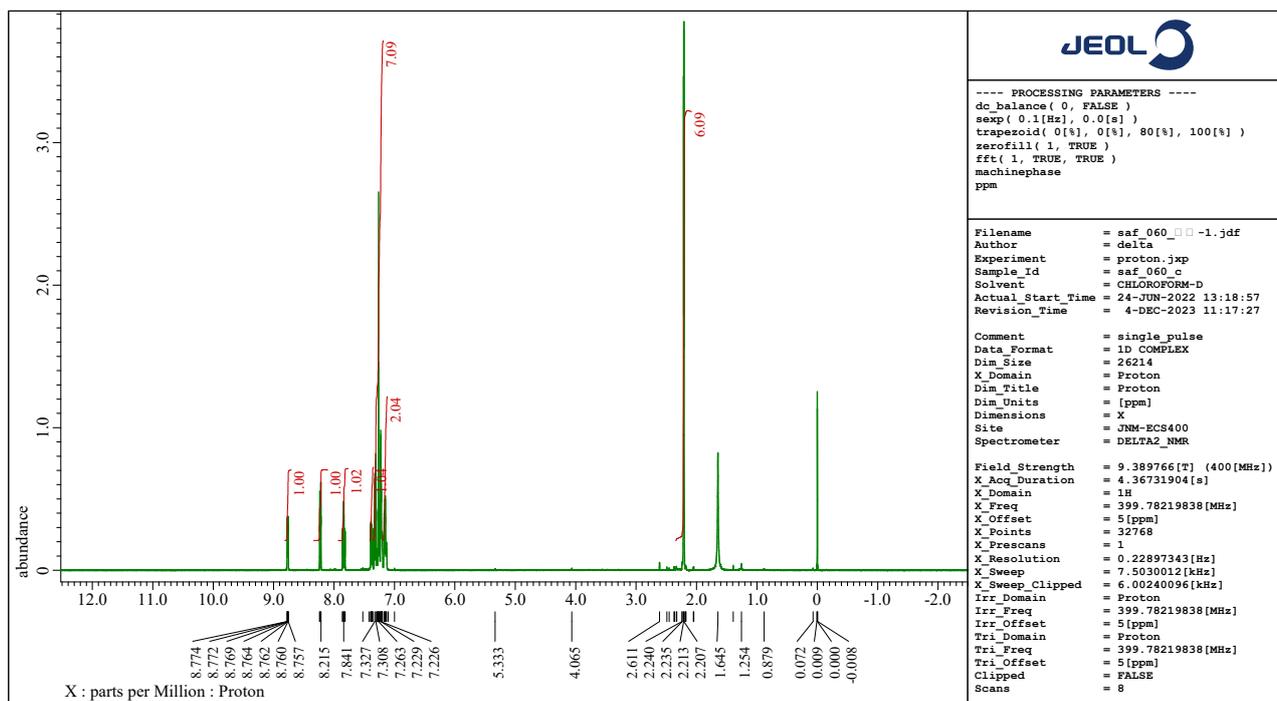
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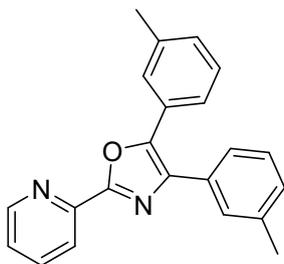
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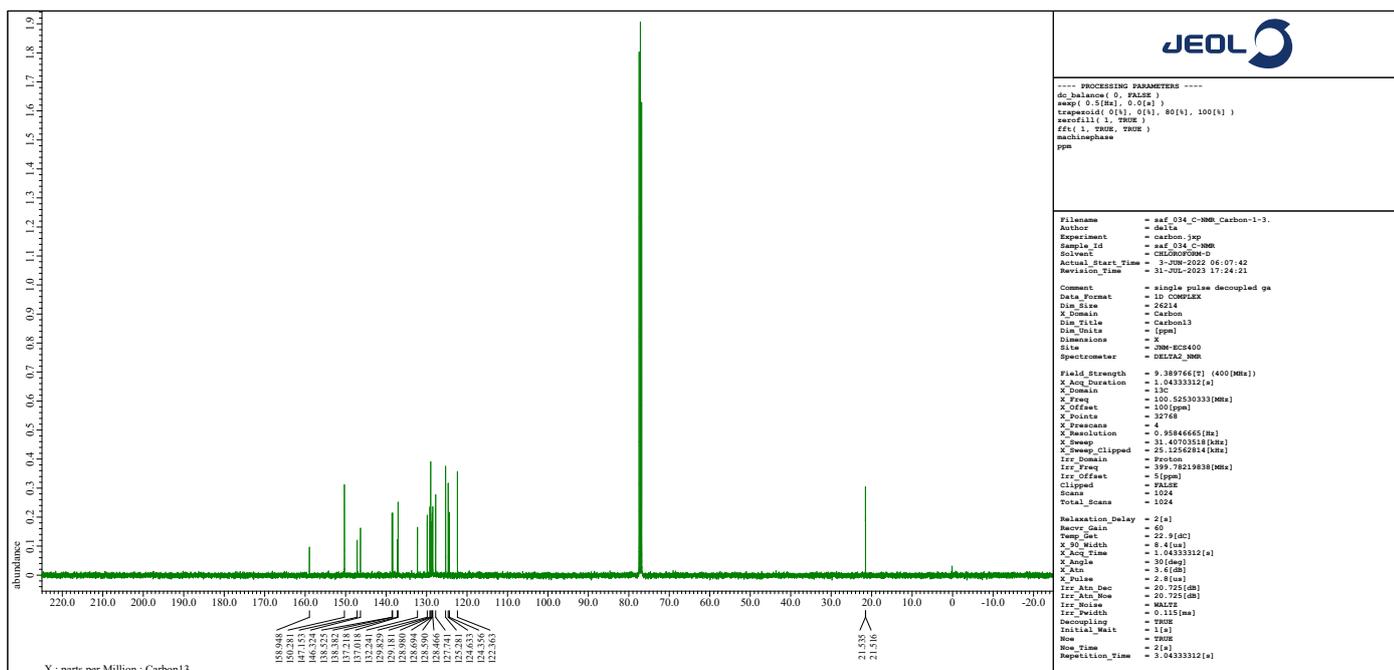
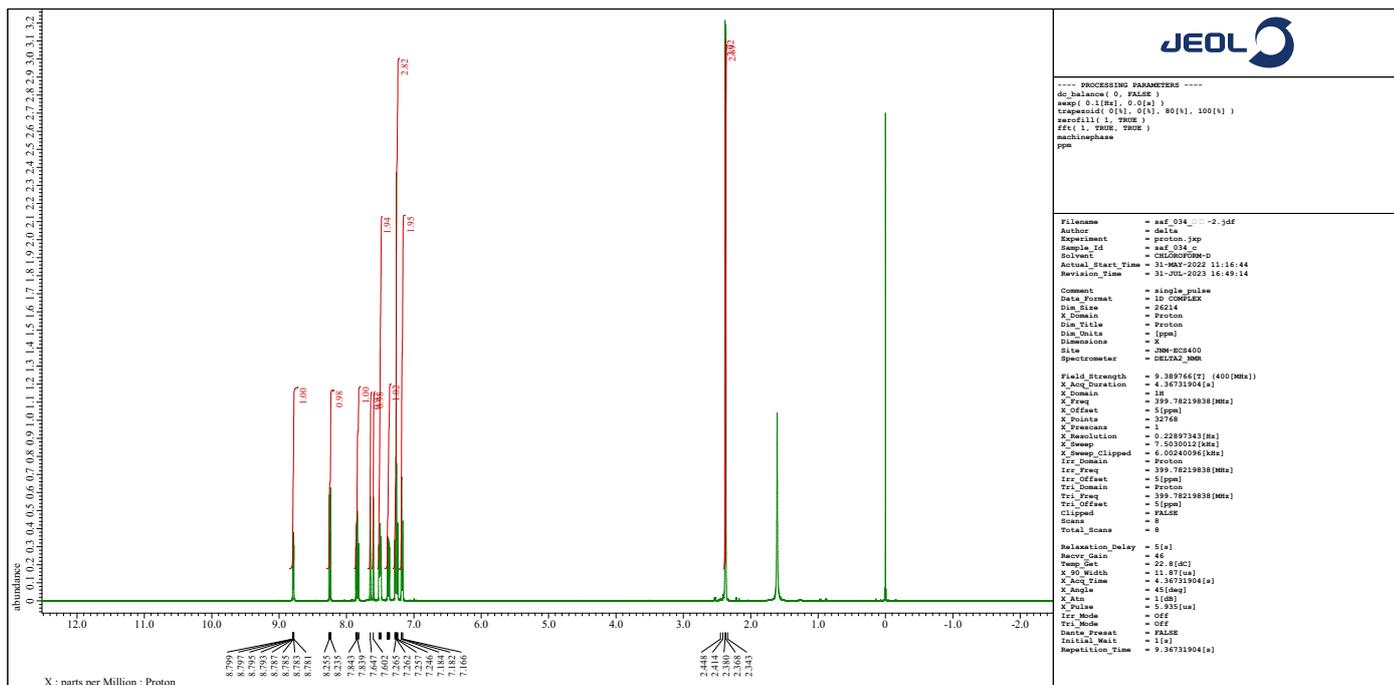
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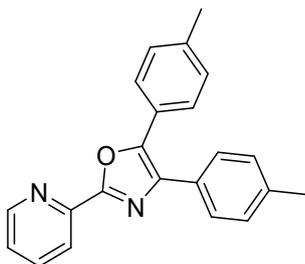
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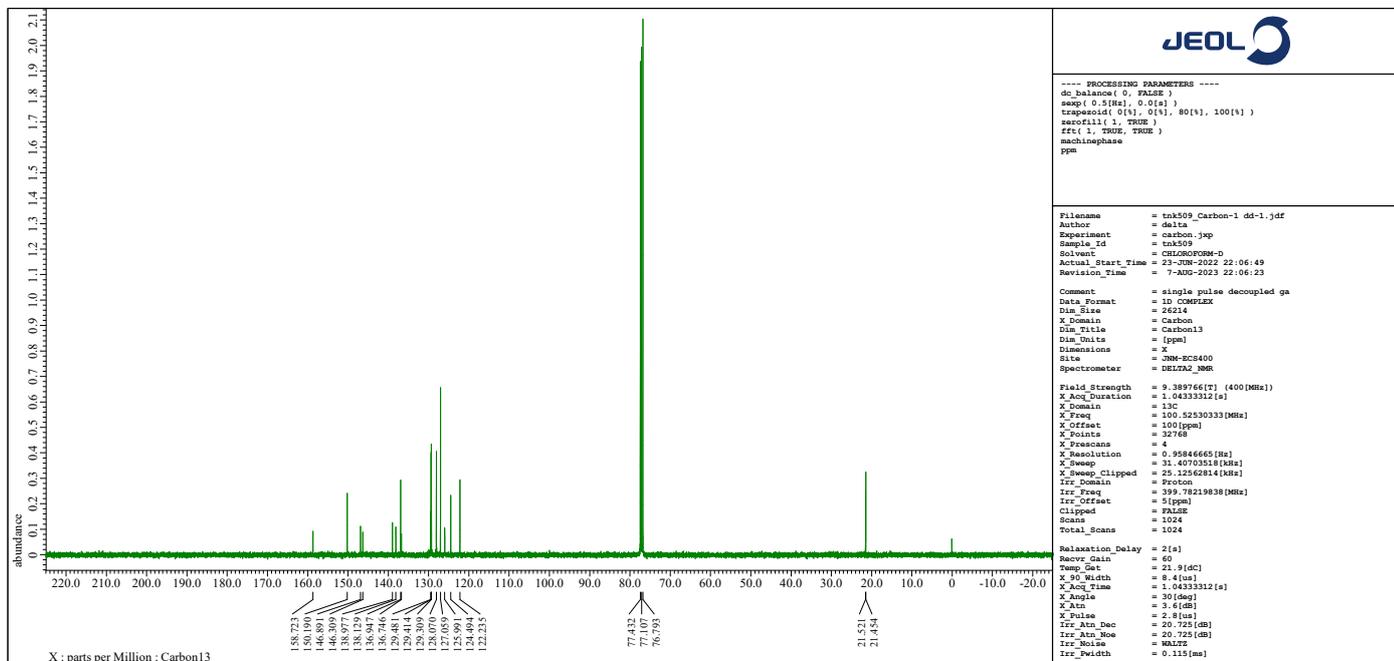
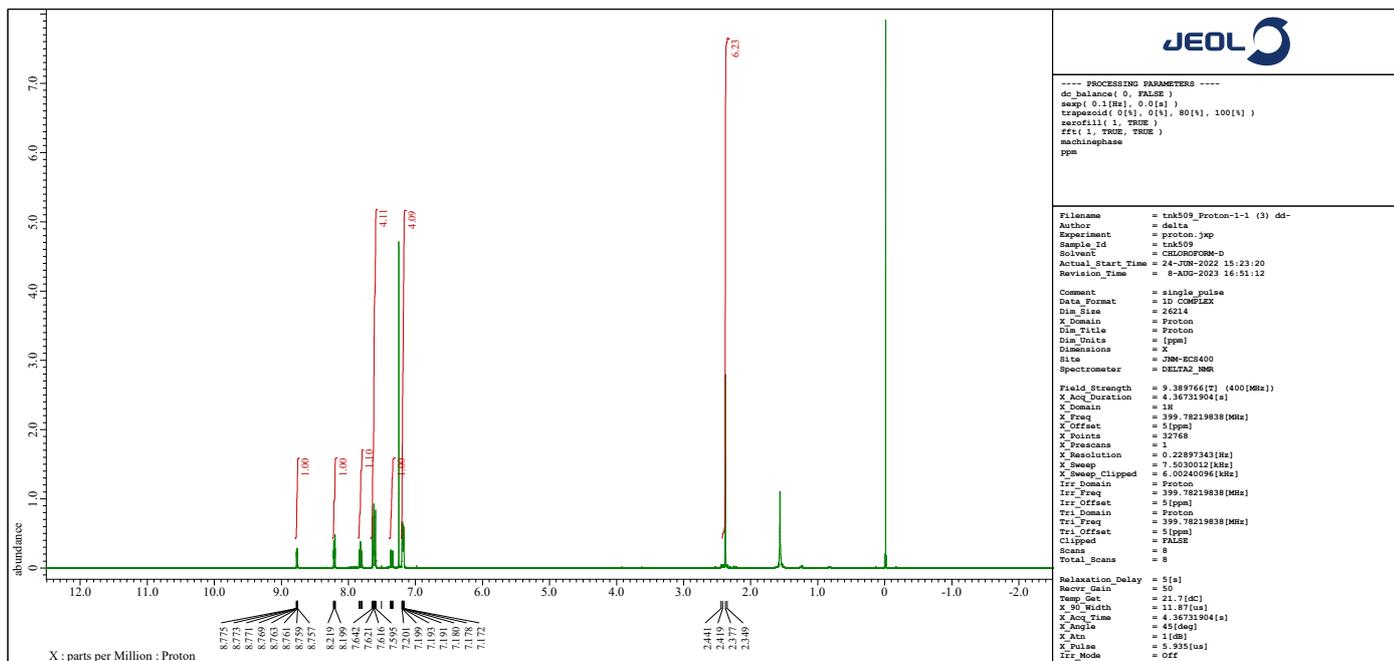
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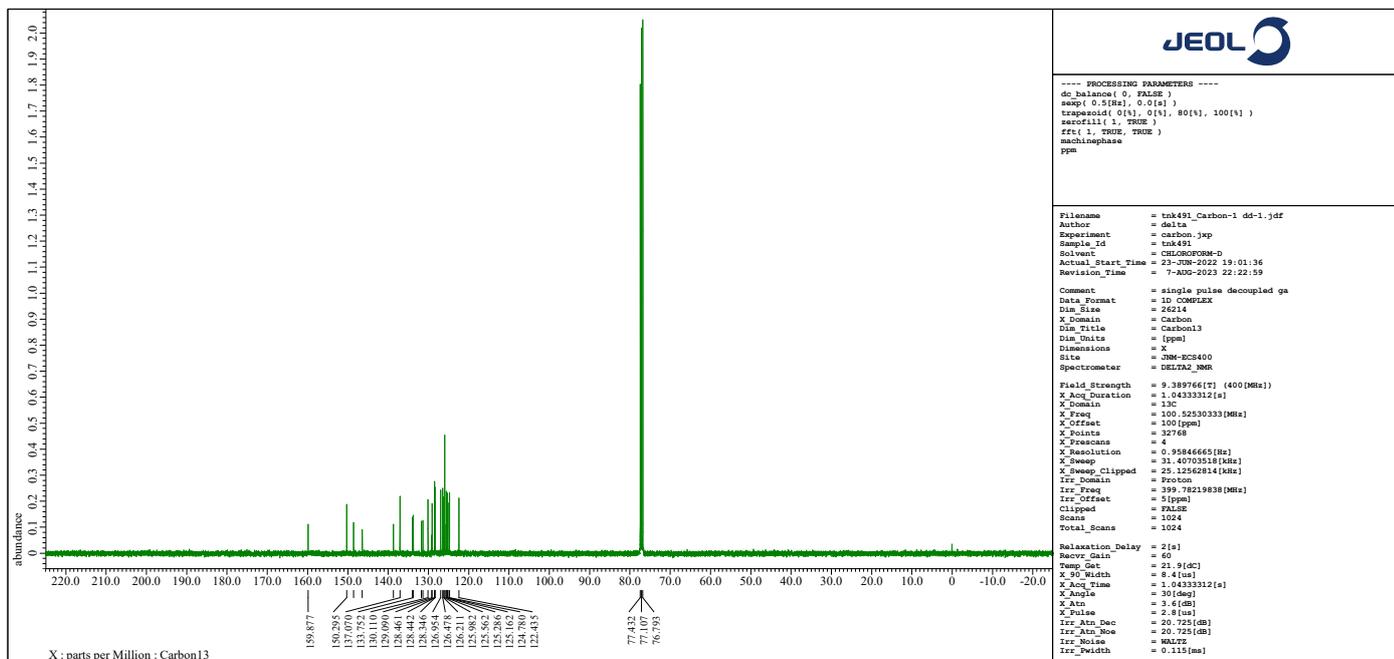
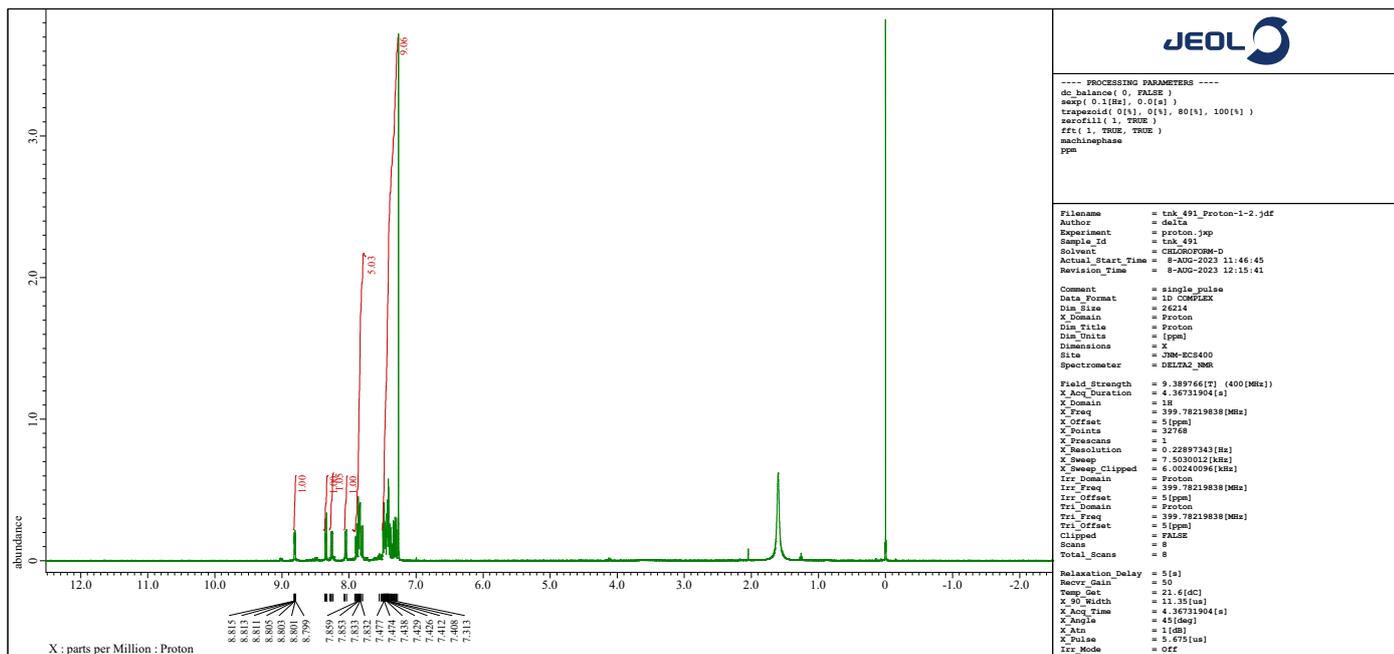
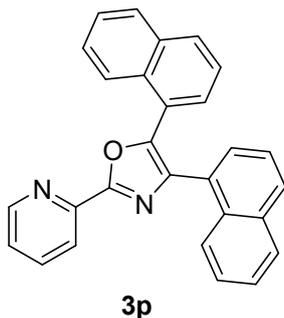
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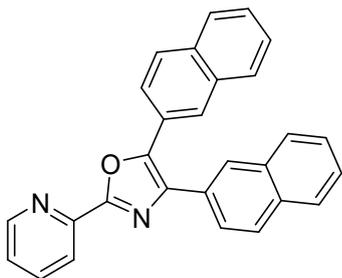
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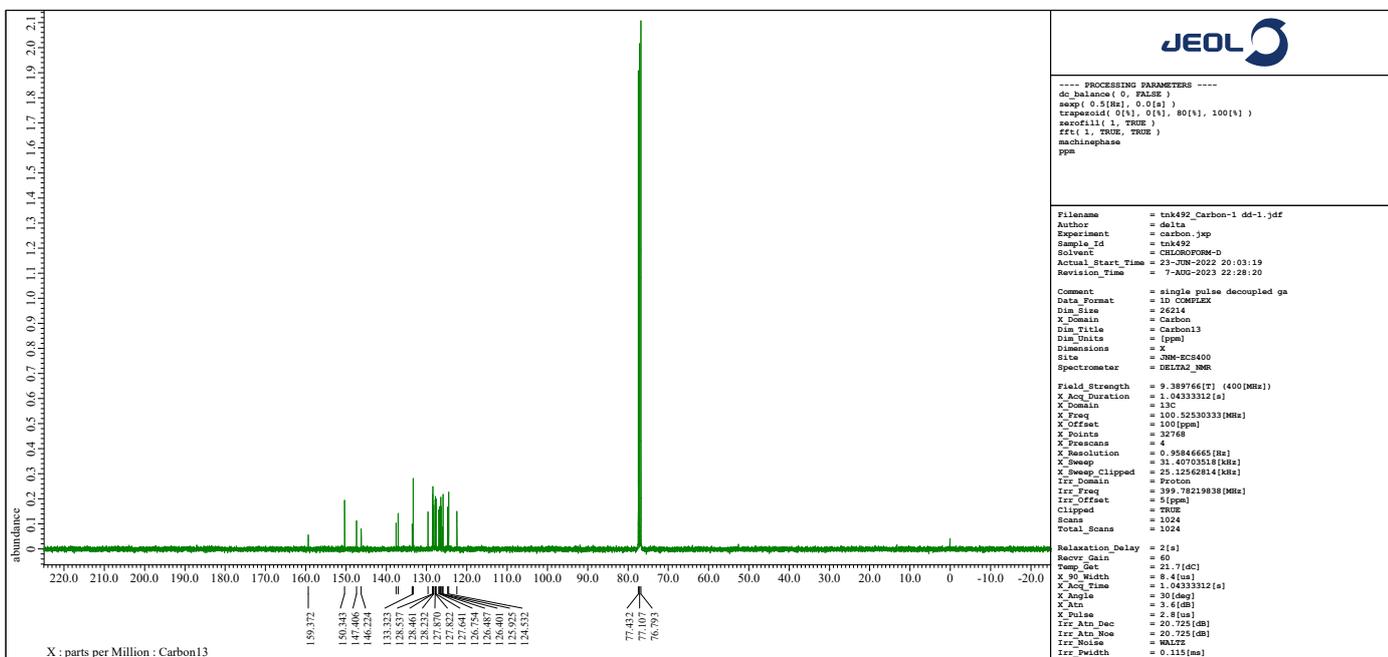
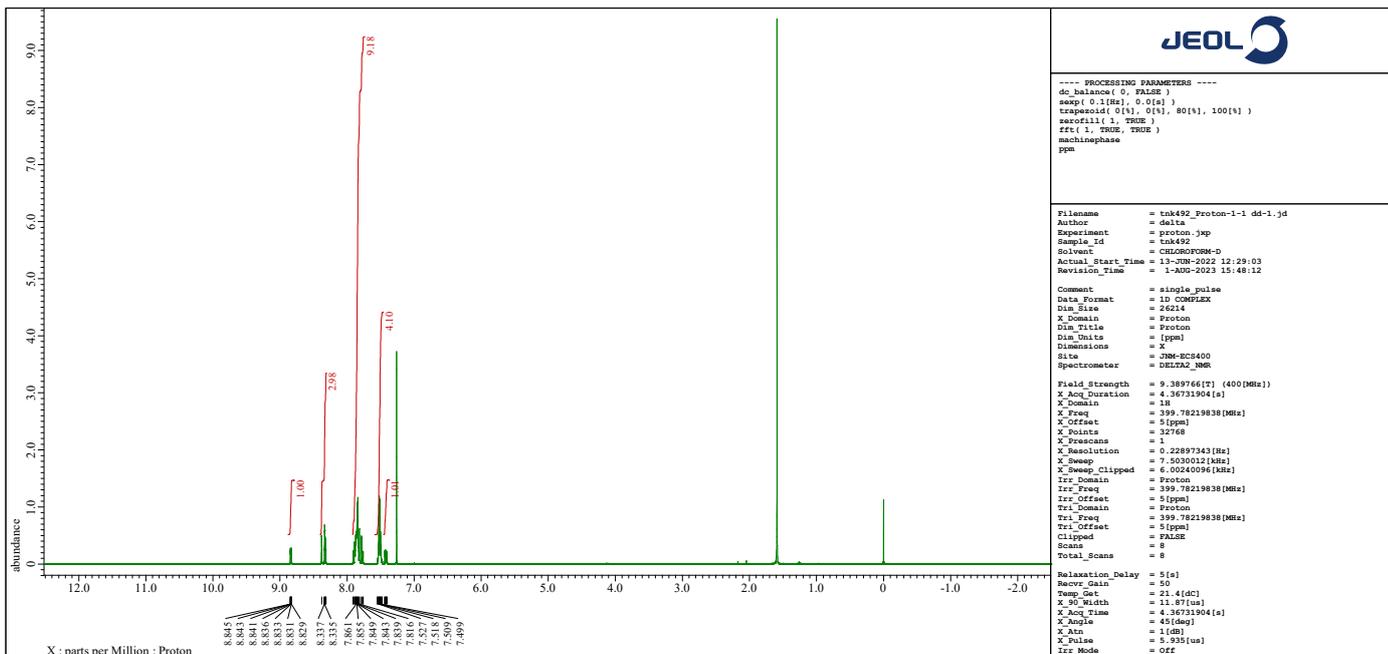
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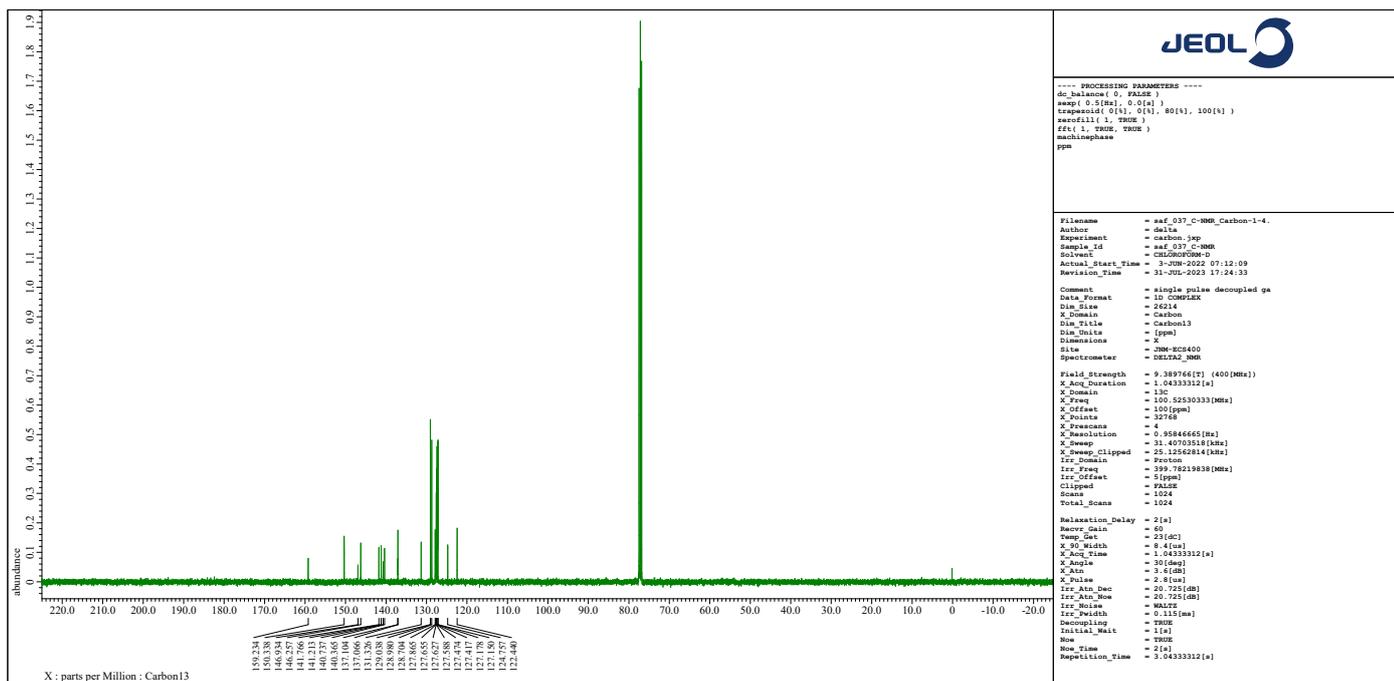
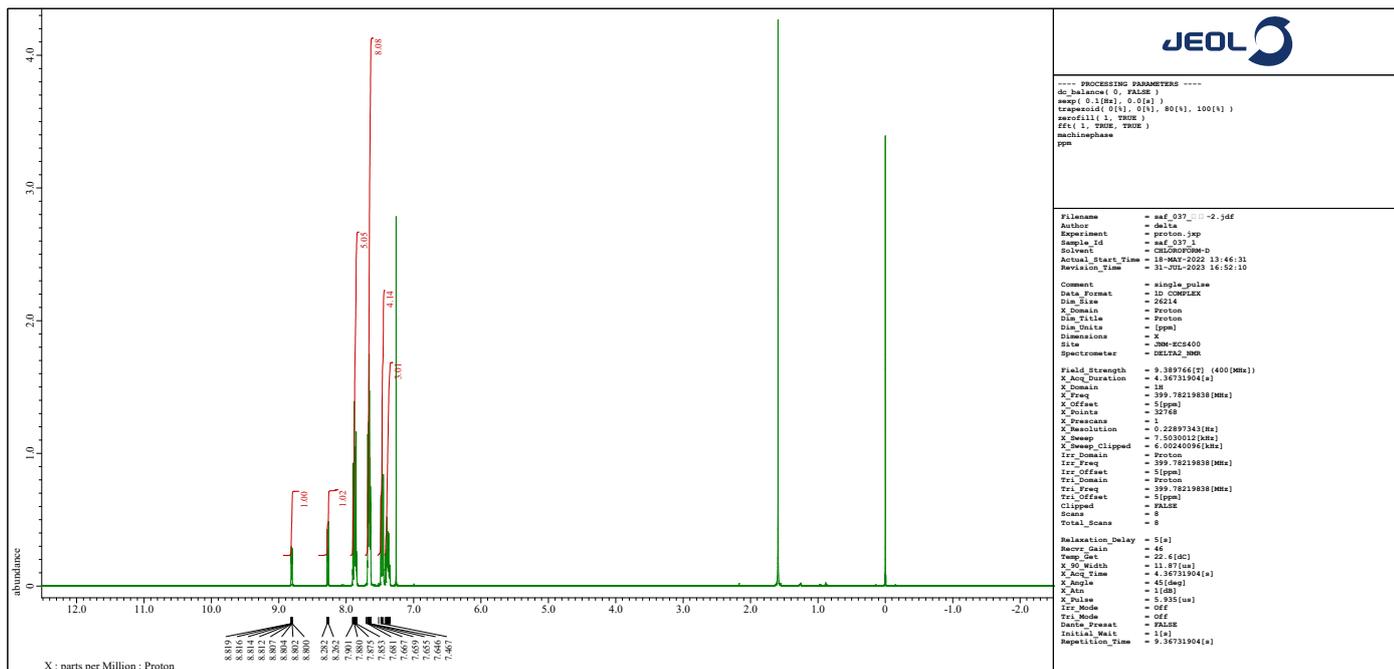
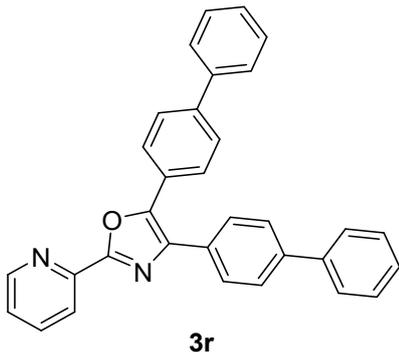
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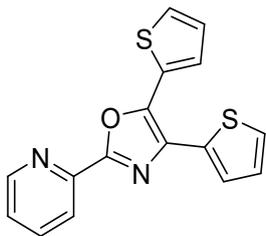
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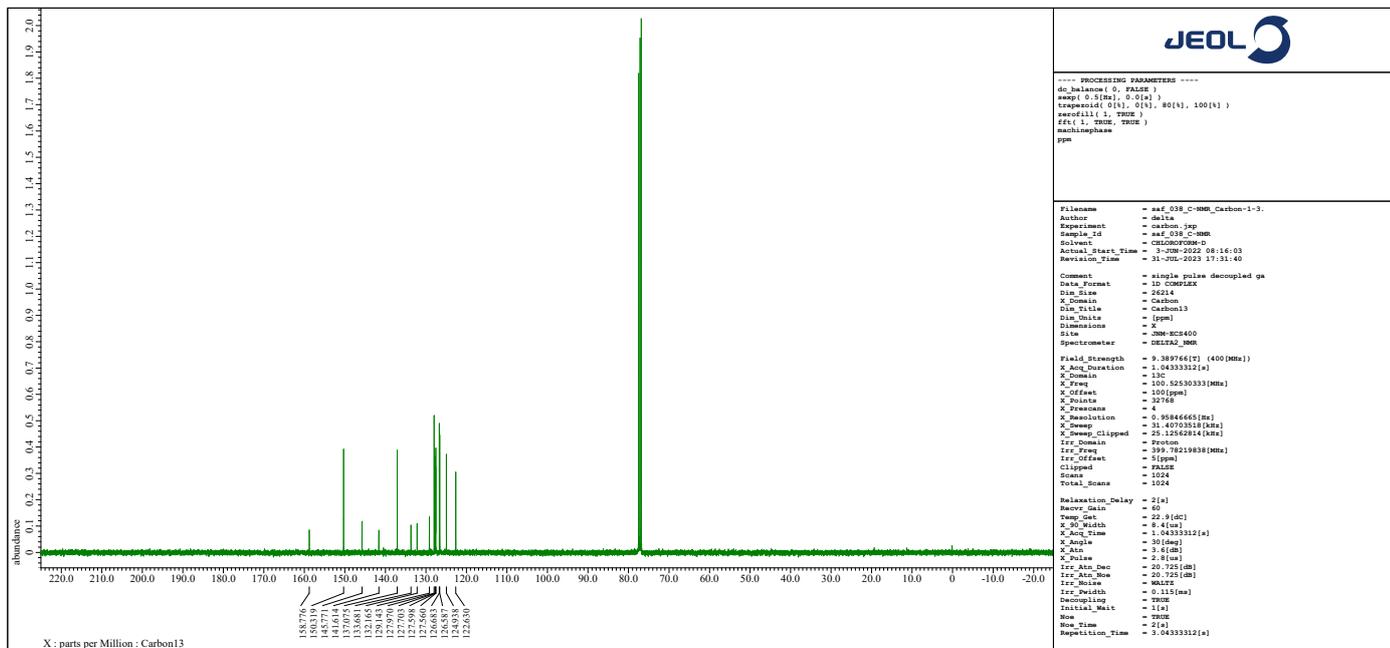
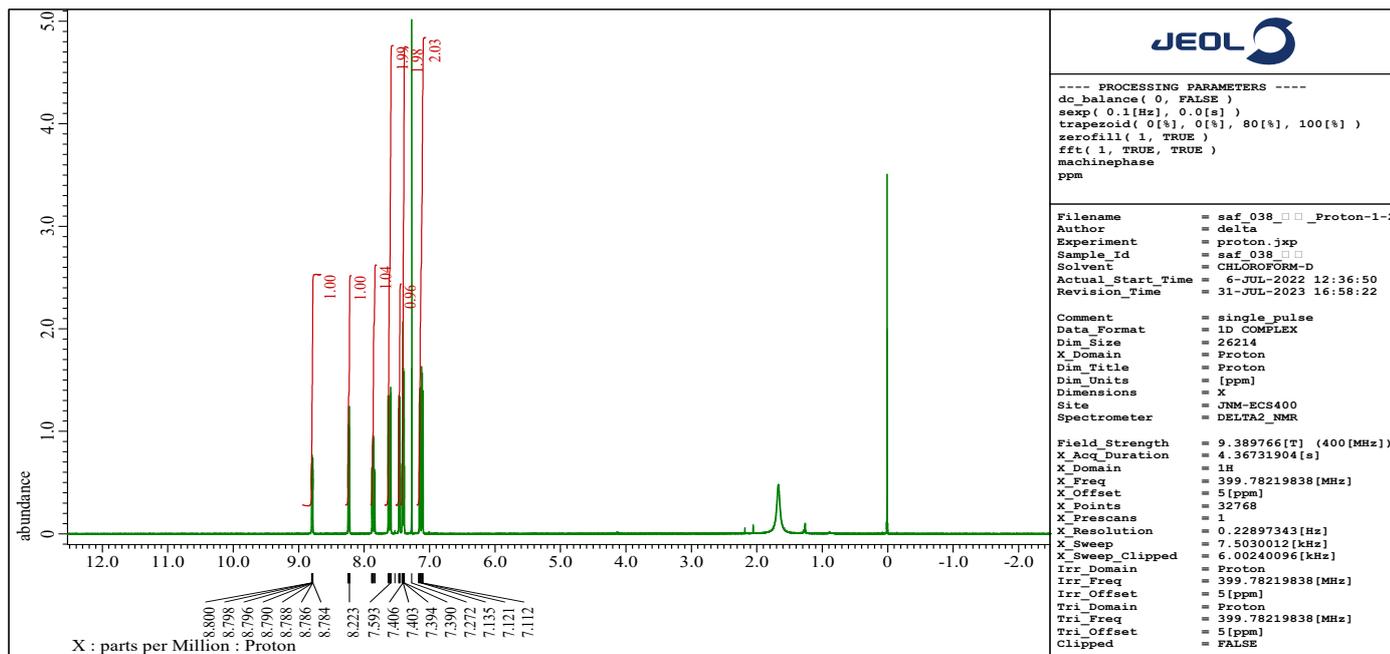
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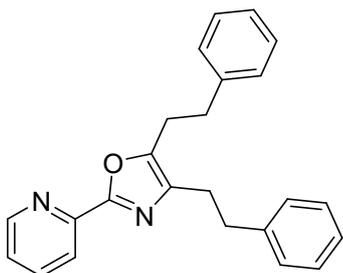
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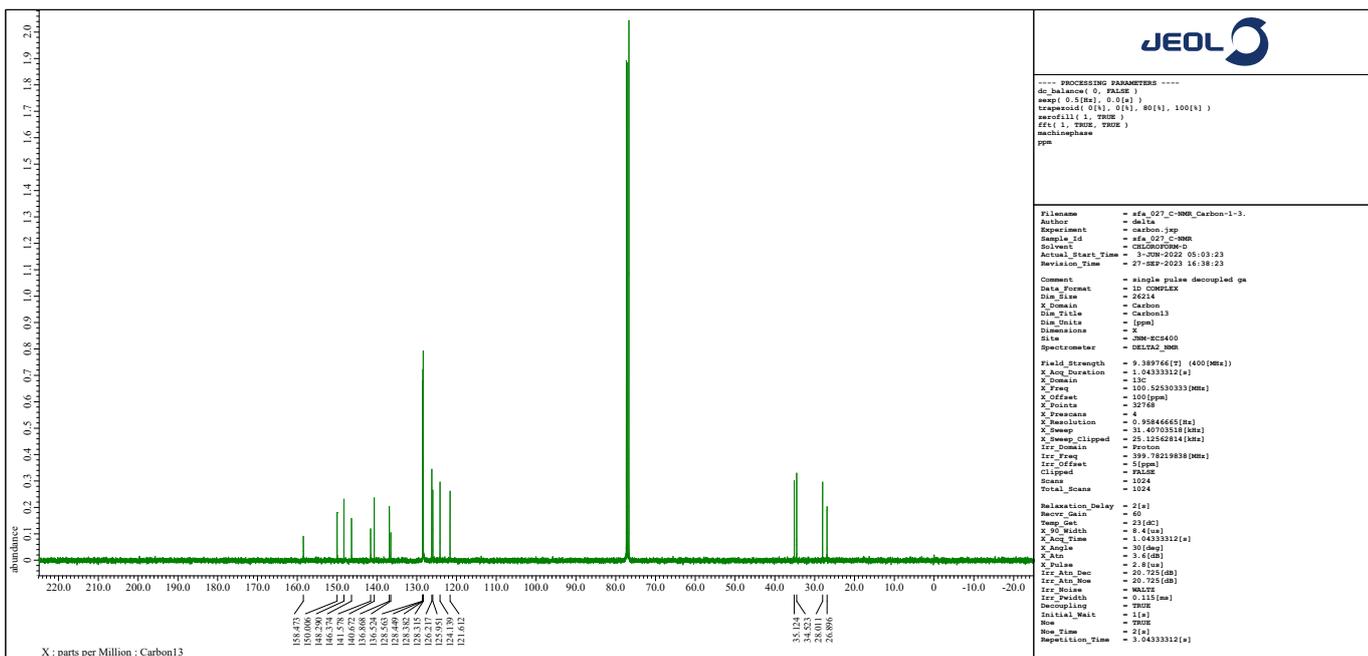
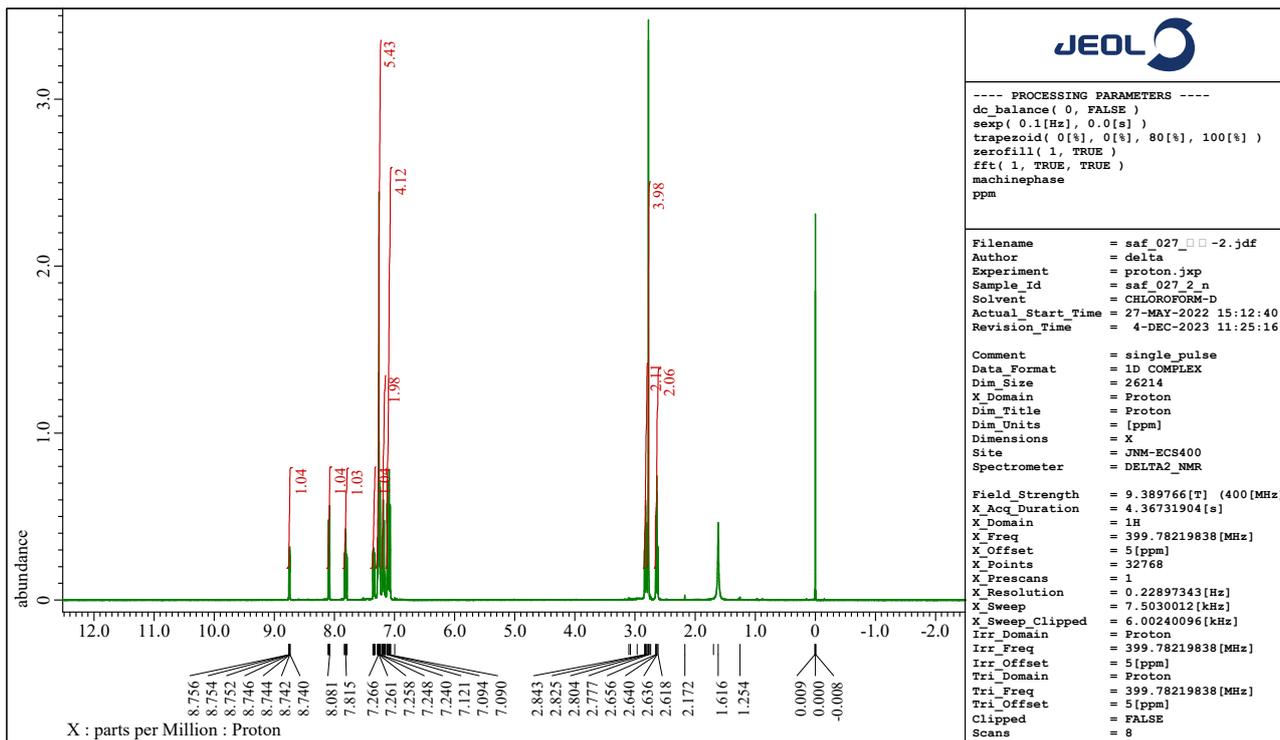
3s



### 4,5-Diphenethyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl)oxazole (3t)



3t



**<sup>18</sup>O-Picolinamide ([<sup>18</sup>O]-1a)**

