

Supporting Information

Lewis Acid-Mediated Formamidation Employing Carbohydrates as Synthons

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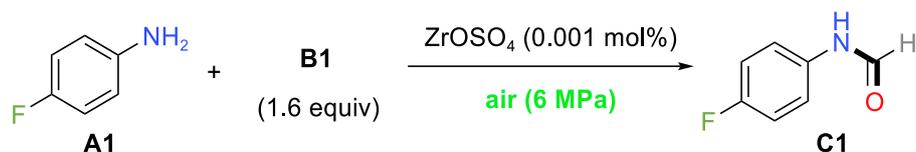
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1. General

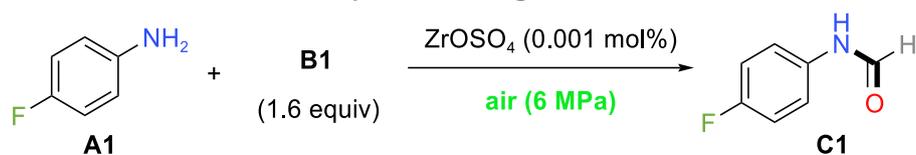
Experimental: Deuterated solvents were bought from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, distilled accordingly, and stored over molecular sieves (3 Å). Other chemicals were purchased from commercial vendors and used without further purification. NMR spectra were collected on a Varian INOVA 400 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm relative to residual solvent signal. Coupling constants (J) are given in Hz (coupling patterns: s: singlet, s_br: broad singlet, d: doublet, t: triplet, q: quartet, m: multiplet). GC analyses were carried out using an Agilent Technologies 6890N system equipped with a Machinery-Nagel (MN) Optima 5 HT column (30 m, 320 μ m, 0.25 μ m) or an Agilent Technologies 6850 system equipped with a MN Optima 17 column (30 m, 320 μ m, 0.25 μ m). GC-MS analyses were carried out on an Agilent 7890A/MSD 5975C system equipped with a HP-5MS column (30 m, 320 μ m, 0.25 μ m). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on Bruker MicroTOF-QII mass (ESI). MN silica gel 60 (0.040 – 0.063 mm particle size) was used for flash column chromatography.

2. Screening of reaction parameters



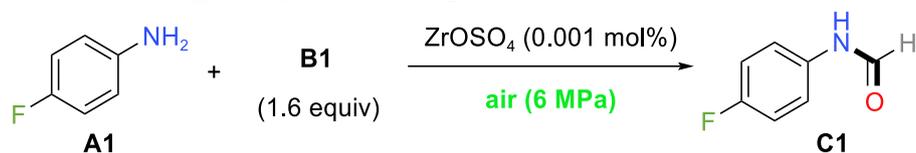
Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, 4-Fluorobenzeneamine (**A1**), carbon sources (**B1**), ZrOSO₄ and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C1**.

Entry	Parameter
Table S1	The difference of catalyst screening
Table S2	The loading catalyst screening
Table S3	The difference of solvent screening
Table S4	Reaction temperature screening
Table S5	Reaction time screening
Table S6	Reaction pressure screening
Table S7	The loading of B1 screening
Table S8	Screening studies on carbon sources

Table S1: The difference of catalyst screening ^a

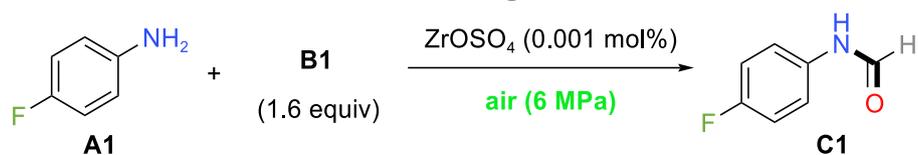
Entry	Catalyst (0.001 mol%)	C1 (%)
1	FeCl_3	<5
2	ZrOSO₄	81
3	ZrCl_4	<5
4	ZrO_2	<5
5	CuCl_2	11
6	CuSO_4	<5
7	AlCl_3	16
8	MnO_2	<5
9	$\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$	<5

^a Reaction condition: **A1** (0.5 mmol), Glucose (0.8 mmol), 1,4-dioxane (2.0 mL), air (6.0 MPa), 130 °C, 12 hr. Yields of **C1** was determined by GC analysis using *n*-cetane as the internal standard.

Table S2: The loading catalyst screening ^a

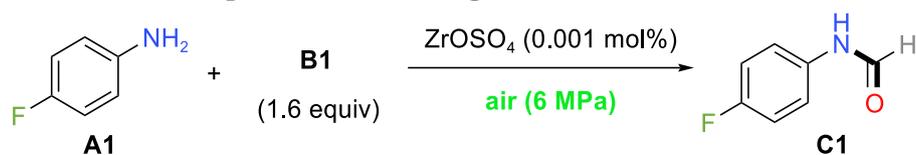
Entry	Cat. (mol%)	C1(%)
1	0.0001	5
2	0.00025	13
3	0.0005	47
4	0.001	81
6	0.0015	75
7	0.002	62

^a Reaction condition: **A1** (0.5 mmol), Glucose (0.8 mmol), 1,4-dioxane (2.0 mL), air (6.0 MPa), 130 °C, 12 hr. Yields of **C1** was determined by GC analysis using *n*-cetane as the internal standard.

Table S3: The difference of solvent screening ^a

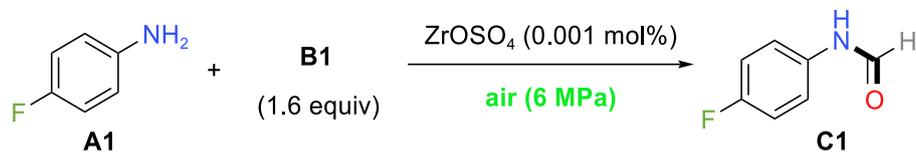
Entry	Solvent (2 mL)	C1 (%)
1	DMSO	0
2	DMF	23
3	H ₂ O	0
4	1,4-dioxane	81
5	THF	65
6	Et ₂ O	53
7	MeOH	12
8	DMAC	10
9	Toluene	13
10	MeCN	25
11	IPA	48
12	DMAC	13
13	DGME	64
14	NMP	16
15	DCE	18
16	<i>n</i> -Hexane	0
17	DGME	65
18	Propylene Carbonate	56
19	Ethylene Carbonate	52
20	Butylene Carbonate	48

^a Reaction condition: **A1** (0.5 mmol), Glucose (0.8 mmol), ZrOSO₄ (0.001 mol%), air (6.0 Mpa), 130 °C, 12 hr. Yields of **C1** was determined by GC analysis using *n*-cetane as the internal standard.

Table S4: Reaction temperature screening ^a

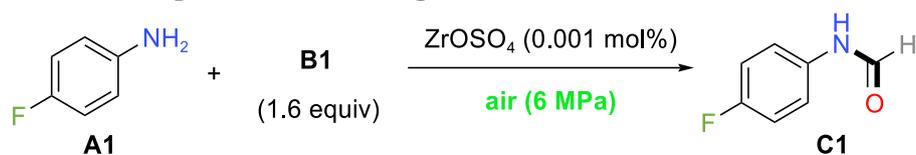
Entry	T [°C]	C1 (%)
1	25	0
2	50	0
3	80	0
4	100	74
5	120	76
6	130	82
7	140	78

^a Reaction condition: **A1** (0.5 mmol), Glucose (0.8 mmol), ZrOSO_4 (0.001 mol%), 1,4-dioxane (2.0 mL), air (6.0 MPa), x °C, 12 hr. Yields of **C1** was determined by GC analysis using *n*-cetane as the internal standard.

Table S5: Reaction time screening ^a

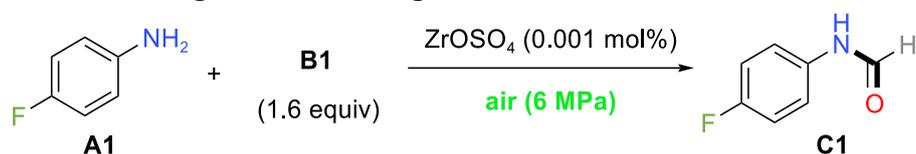
Entry	t [h]	C1 (%)
1	3	0
2	6	39
3	9	67
4	12	82
5	18	81
6	24	80
7	30	79

^a Reaction condition: **A1** (0.5 mmol), Glucose (0.8 mmol), ZrOSO_4 (0.001 mol%), 1,4-dioxane (2.0 mL), air (6.0 MPa), 130 °C, x hr. Yields of **C1** was determined by GC analysis using *n*-cetane as the internal standard.

Table S6: Reaction pressure screening^a

Entry	P [MPa]	C 1 (%)
1	0.1	23
2	0.5	41
3	1.0	55
4	2.0	63
5	4.0	71
6	5.0	75
7	6.0	82
8	8.0	78

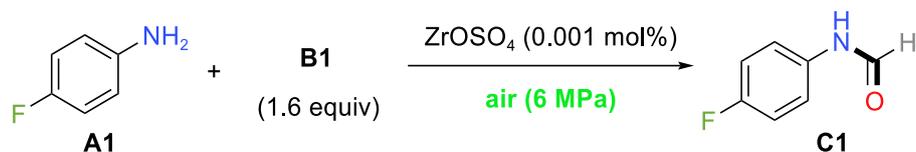
^a Reaction condition: **A1** (0.5 mmol), Glucose (0.8 mmol), ZrOSO_4 (0.001 mol%), 1,4-dioxane (2.0 mL), air (x MPa), 130 °C, 12 hr. Yields of **C1** was determined by GC analysis using *n*-cetane as the internal standard.

Table S7: The loading of B1 screening^a

Entry	B1 (mmol)	C1 (%)
1	0	0
2	0.2	14
3	0.5	22
4	0.6	59
5	0.8	81
6	1	72

^a Reaction condition: **A1** (0.5 mmol), ZrOSO_4 (0.001 mol%), 1,4-dioxane (2.0 mL), air (6.0 MPa), 130 °C, 12 hr. Yields of **C1** was determined by GC analysis using *n*-cetane as the internal standard.

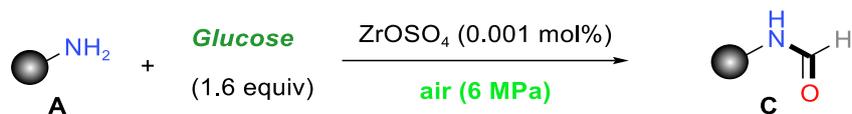
Table S8 Screening studies on carbon sources ^a



Entry	B	Loading	C1 (%)
1	B1	Formaldehyde (0.8 mmol)	<5
2	B2	Butyraldehyde (0.8 mmol)	9
3	B3	1,1-Dimethoxybutane (0.8 mmol)	<5
4	B4	Butyric acid (0.8 mmol)	<5
5	B5	(<i>E</i>)-3,6-dimethylhepta-2,5-dienal (0.8 mmol)	15
6	B6	(<i>E</i>)-1,1-dimethoxy-3,6-dimethylhepta-2,5-diene (0.8 mmol)	<5
7	B7	(<i>E</i>)-3,6-dimethylhepta-2,5-dienoic acid (0.8 mmol)	<5
8	B8	Furfural (0.8 mmol)	7
9	B9	5-Hydroxymethyl furfural (0.8 mmol)	<5
10	B10	D-arabinose (0.8 mmol)	53
11	B11	D-Glucurono-6,3-lactone (0.8 mmol)	31
12	B12	Glucose (0.8 mmol)	83
13	B13	Pentahydroxy hexanoic acid (0.8 mmol)	<5
14	B14	D-sorbitol (0.8 mmol)	<5
15	B15	Anhydrous lactose (0.8 mmol)	<5
16	B16	Sucrose (0.8 mmol)	<5
17	B17	Hydroxyethyl cellulose (0.10 g)	<5
18	B18	Microcrystalline cellulose (0.10 g)	<5

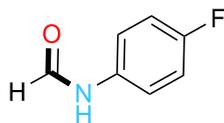
^a Reaction condition: **A1** (0.5 mmol), ZrOSO₄ (0.001 mol%), 1,4-dioxane (2.0 mL), air (6.0 MPa), 130 °C, 12 hr. Yields of **C1** was determined by GC analysis using *n*-cetane as the internal standard.

3. Experimental characterization data for products



Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (100.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, amines (**A**, 10 mmol), glucose (16 mmol), and ZrOSO_4 (0.001 mol%), 1,4-dioxane (30 mL) while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for 12 hours. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C**.

4. Characterization data



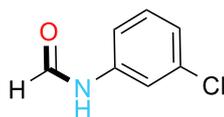
***N*-(4-fluorophenyl)formamide (C1)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale white solid, 1.16 g, 83% yield.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.59 – 8.49 (m, 1H, -CHO), 8.34 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 0.58 H), 7.60 (s, 0.42 H), 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.09 – 6.98 (m, 3H) ppm.

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 164.7, 161.8, 160.9, 159.4, 159.2, 158.5, 133.0, 132.9, 132.8, 132.81, 122.0, 121.9, 121.4, 121.3, 117.2, 116.6, 116.0, 115.8 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_7\text{FNO}[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 140.0512, found: 140.0507.



***N*-(3-chlorophenyl)formamide (C2)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale yellow solid, 1.26 g, 81% yield.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 8.72 – 8.64 (m, 1H, -CHO), 8.37 (d, $J=2.0$ Hz, 0.58H), 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.38 (m, 0.60H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.18 – 7.16 (m, 0.45H), 7.13 – 7.10 (m, 1H), 7.01 – 6.98 (m, 0.46H) ppm.

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 162.6, 159.3, 138.1, 138.05, 135.6, 134.9, 131.0, 130.3, 125.5, 125.0, 120.2, 118.9, 118.0, 116.8 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_7\text{ClNO}[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 156.0216, found: 156.0221.



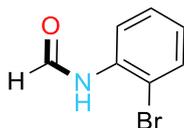
***N*-(2-chlorophenyl)formamide (C3)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale white solid, 1.09 g, 70% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.72 (d, *J*=11.6 Hz, 0.32H, -CHO), 8.50 (d, *J*=1.2 Hz, 0.70H, -CHO), 8.42 (dd, *J*=8.4 Hz, 2.1, 0.70H), 7.76 (s, 1H), 7.45 – 7.37 (m, 1H), 7.28 (dd, *J*=8.8, 2.2 Hz, 1.43H), 7.14 (m, 0.31H), 7.07 (m, 0.71H) ppm.

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.7, 161.66, 159.1, 159.0, 133.9, 130.4, 129.3, 129.2, 128.1, 128., 127.9, 126.1, 126.07, 125.33, 125.3, 125.26, 124.4, 122.8, 122.7, 122.2, 122.1, 119.1, 118.8 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₇H₇ClNO[M+H]⁺: 156.0216, found: 156.0211.



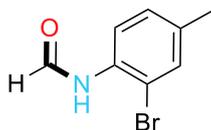
***N*-(2-bromophenyl)formamide (C4)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale yellow solid, 1.35 g, 68% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.70 (d, *J*=11.6 Hz, 0.31H, -CHO), 8.51 (s, 0.62H, -CHO), 8.40 (dd, *J*=8.4 Hz, 1.3, 0.62H), 7.73 (s, 0.80H), 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.24 (m, 1.45H), 7.13 – 6.95 (m, 1H) ppm.

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.4, 158.5, 137.6, 134.9, 133.6, 132.5, 129.8, 128.6, 126.9, 125.8, 121.8, 118.4, 114.6, 113.1 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₇H₇BrNO [M+H]⁺: 199.9711, found: 199.9715.



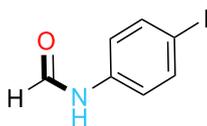
***N*-(2-bromo-4-methylphenyl)formamide (C5)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale yellow solid, 1.51 g, 71% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.61 (d, *J*=11.6 Hz, 0.31H, -CHO), 8.43 (d, *J*=1.2 Hz, 0.61H, -CHO), 8.21 (d, *J*=8.8 Hz, 0.65H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.41 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.11 (m, 1.35H), 2.30 (d, *J*=8.8 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.1, 159.0, 136.9, 135.9, 133.8, 132.7, 132.5, 132.3, 129.4, 129.1, 122.3, 119.6, 114.4, 113.1, 20.65, 20.59 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₈H₉BrNO [M+H]⁺: 213.9868, found: 213.9863.



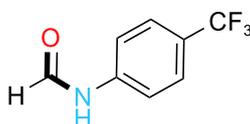
***N*-(4-iodophenyl)formamide (C6)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale white solid, 1.81 g, 73% yield.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 8.68 (d, J =11.6 Hz, 0.41H, -CHO), 8.35 (d, J =1.2 Hz, 0.60H, -CHO), 8.19 (s, 0.41H), 7.67 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 1.61H), 6.86 (dd, J =8.8, 2.2 Hz, 0.80H) ppm.

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 162.3, 159.0, 140.1 138.2, 135.0, 121.3, 120.6, 91.3, 88.3 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_7\text{INO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 247.9572, found: 247.9568.



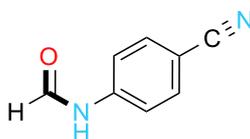
***N*-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)formamide (C7)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale yellow solid, 1.18 g, 62% yield.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.80 (d, J =11.6 Hz, 0.25H), 8.41 (d, J =1.2 Hz, 1H, -CHO), 7.68 (s, 1.20H), 7.61 (dd, J =13.6 Hz, 8.5, 2H), 7.49 (d, J =6.4 Hz, 0.57H), 7.20 (d, J =8.8 Hz, 0.81H).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.6, 159.2, 139.9, 127.4, 127.3, 127.28, 127.2, 127.0, 126.7, 126.6, 126.59, 125.55, 126.5, 119.7, 118.8.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{NOF}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 190.0480, found: 190.0485.



***N*-(4-cyanophenyl)formamide (C8)**

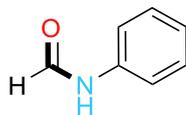
The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale white solid, 1.04 g, 71% yield.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 8.83 (d, J =10.8 Hz, 0.32H, -CHO), 8.41 (d, J =1.2 Hz, 0.66H, -CHO), 7.88 (s, 0.4H), 7.70 – 7.63 (m, 3.18H), 7.42 (d, J =10.4 Hz, 0.63H), 7.17 (d, J =8.8 Hz, 0.6H) ppm.

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 161.3, 158.5, 139.6, 134.2, 133.1, 119.9, 119.1, 118.0,

107.7 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $C_8H_7N_2O$ $[M+H]^+$: 147.0558, found: 147.0553.



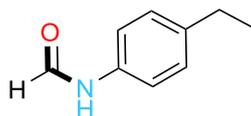
***N*-phenylformamide (C9)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale white solid, 1.09 g, 90% yield.

1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ = 8.71 (d, J =11.6 Hz, 0.51H, -CHO), 8.37 (d, J =2.4 Hz, 0.51H, -CHO), 8.31 (s, 0.40H), 7.53 (d, J =8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (s, 0.30H), 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.08 (m, 2H) ppm.

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 162.2, 158.4, 138.0, 137.6, 131.0, 129.3, 125.5, 124.4, 121.37, 118.6 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C_7H_8NO $[M+H]^+$: 122.0606, found: 122.0602.



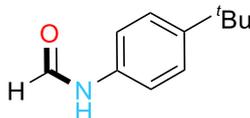
***N*-(4-ethylphenyl)formamide (C10)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale yellow solid, 1.36 g, 91% yield.

1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ = 8.64 (d, J =10.8 Hz, 0.53H), 8.35 (d, J =2.4 Hz, 1H, -CHO), 7.51 (s, 0.36H), 7.46 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.16 (dd, J =10.8 Hz, 8.4, 2H), 7.02 – 7.00 (m, 1H), 2.63 (m, 2H), 1.23 (m, 3H) ppm.

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 163.0, 159.1, 141.7, 140.7, 135.3, 134.4, 129.2, 128.5, 121.4, 119.3, 28.4, 28.3, 15.8, 15.7 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $C_9H_{12}NO$ $[M+H]^+$: 150.0919, found: 150.0916.



***N*-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)formamide (C11)**

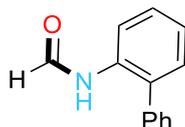
The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale yellow solid, 1.05 g, 87% yield.

1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ = 8.65 (d, J =12.4 Hz, 0.51H, -CHO), 8.47 (s, 0.50H, -CHO), 8.34 (d, J =1.6 Hz, 0.45H), 7.63 (s, 0.45H), 7.50 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.05 – 7.03 (m, 1H), 1.31 (d, J =6.0 Hz, 9H) ppm.

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 163.0, 159.7, 148.6, 147.9, 134.8, 134.2, 126.7, 126.0,

119.97, 118.9, 34.54, 34.5, 31.4, 31.3 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₁₁H₁₆NO [M+H]⁺ : 178.1232, found: 178.1230.



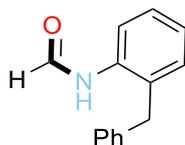
N-([1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)formamide (C12)

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale white solid, 1.44 g, 73% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.55 (m, 0.42H, -CHO), 8.31 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 0.50H, -CHO), 8.19 (s, 0.50H), 7.47 – 7.15 (m, 9H) ppm.

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.2, 162.1, 159.2, 159.1, 137.8, 137.4, 133.9, 133.8, 133.1 133.09, 132.14, 132.11, 131.2, 130.2, 129.4, 129.2, 129.16, 128.8, 128.5, 128.1, 128.09, 125.4, 124.7, 121.7, 121.68, 118.6, 118.57 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₁₃H₁₂NO [M+H]⁺ : 198.0918, found: 198.0920.



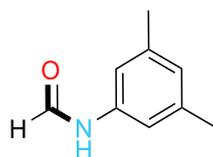
N-(2-benzylphenyl)formamide (C13)

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale white solid, 1.57 g, 74% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.48 (d, *J*=11.6 Hz, 0.54H, -CHO), 8.29 (s, 0.36H, -CHO), 7.96 (d, *J*=8.4, 0.36H), 7.48 (s, 0.64H), 7.35 – 7.00 (m, 9H), 4.04 (s, 2H) ppm.

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.1, 159.2, 138.8, 138.6, 135.2, 134.8, 132.8, 131.6, 131.2, 131.14, 129.1, 128.5, 128.48, 128.1, 127.8, 126.9, 126.6, 125.9, 124.2, 122.0, 38.2, 38.0 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₄NO [M+H]⁺ : 212.1075, found: 212.1070.



N-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)formamide (C14)

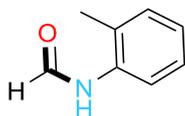
The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale white solid, 1.25 g, 84% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.68 (s, 0.54H, -CHO), 8.34 (m, 0.45H, -CHO), 8.07

(m, 0.55H), 7.34 (m, 0.41 H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 6.27– 6.21 (m, 2H), 3.78 (d, $J=8.8$ Hz, 6H) ppm.

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.6, 161.8, 161.2, 158.6, 138.7, 138.5, 98.4, 97.4, 97.2, 96.9, 55.6, 55.56 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 150.0919, found: 150.0920.



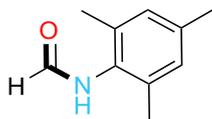
***N*-o-tolylformamide (C15)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale yellow solid, 0.94 g, 70% yield.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 8.53 (d, $J=11.6$ Hz, 0.61H, -CHO), 8.42 (d, $J=2.4$ Hz, 0.35H, -CHO), 8.23 (d, $J=10.8$ Hz, 0.60H), 7.88 (m, 0.35H), 7.24 – 7.07 (m, 4H), 2.29 (d, $J=14.4$ Hz, 3H) ppm.

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.6, 159.8, 135.2, 134.7, 131.7, 130.7, 129.9, 128.8, 127.2, 126.9, 126.2, 125.6, 124.0, 121.3, 17.9, 17.8 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{NO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 136.0762, found: 136.0760.



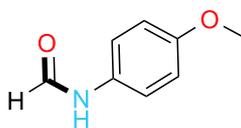
***N*-mesitylformamide (C16)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a white solid, 1.11 g, 68% yield.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 8.34 (d, $J=1.2$ Hz, 0.40H, -CHO), 8.03 (d, $J=12.4$ Hz, 0.45H, -CHO), 7.18 – 6.99 (m, 0.75H), 6.91 (d, $J=14.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.29 – 2.20 (m, 9H) ppm.

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 165.3, 159.8, 137.7, 137.6, 135.3, 135.1, 130.6, 129.8, 129.5, 129.1, 21.03, 21.0, 18.7, 18.6 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 164.1075, found: 164.1070.



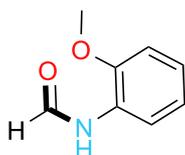
***N*-(4-methoxyphenyl)formamide (C17)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale white solid, 1.32 g, 87% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.51 (d, *J*=11.2 Hz, 0.50H, -CHO), 8.31 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 0.50H, -CHO), 8.04 (s, 0.50H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.38 (s, 0.50H), 7.05 – 7.01 (m, 1H), 6.89 – 6.83 (m, 2H), 3.78 (d, *J*=5.6 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.7, 160.1, 158.3, 157.3, 130.6, 129.2, 121.9, 121.8, 115.6, 114.4, 55.7, 55.6 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₈H₁₀NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 152.0711, found: 152.0706.



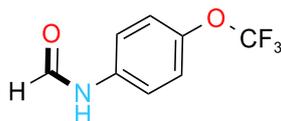
***N*-(2-methoxyphenyl)formamide (C18)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale white solid, 1.11 g, 73% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.74 (d, *J*=11.2 Hz, 0.25H, -CHO), 8.45 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 0.57H, -CHO), 8.35 (m, 0.75H), 7.88 (s, 0.48H), 7.81 (s, 0.45H), 7.20 – 6.85 (m, 3.32H), 3.86 (d, *J*=6.8 Hz, 3H) ppm.

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.0, 161.6, 159.8, 148.8, 147.9, 147.8, 128.6, 127.8, 126.8, 126.2, 125.3, 124.4, 123.7, 121.1, 120.5, 119.9, 116.0, 112.0, 110.1, 110.0, 55.8, 55.7 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₈H₁₀NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 152.0711, found: 152.0716.



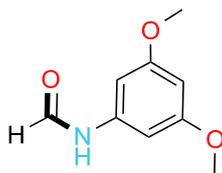
***N*-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)formamide (C19)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale yellow oil, 1.64 g, 80% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.74 – 8.64 (m, 0.80H, -CHO), 8.37 (d, *J*=1.2 Hz, 0.60H, -CHO), 7.79 (s, 0.55H), 7.59 – 7.56 (m, 1.22H), 7.23 – 7.08 (m, 3H) ppm.

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.9, 159.3, 146.53, 146.51, 145.76, 145.74, 135.6, 135.55, 123.1, 122.0, 121.3, 120.2, 119.5, 119.3 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₈H₇F₃NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 206.0429, found: 206.0426.



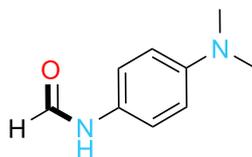
N-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)formamide (C20)

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale yellow solid, 1.47 g, 81% yield.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 8.68 (d, $J=11.6$ Hz, 0.52H, -CHO), 8.33 (d, $J=2.4$ Hz, 0.43H, -CHO), 8.10 (d, $J=10.8$ Hz, 0.51H), 7.38 (s, 0.40H), 6.76 (d, $J=2.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.27 – 6.19 (m, 2H), 3.76 (d, $J=4.8$ Hz, 6H) ppm.

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 162.5, 161.8, 161.2, 159.6, 138.7, 138.6, 98.4, 97.4, 97.2, 96.9, 55.6, 55.55 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 182.0817, found: 182.0812.



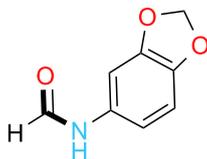
N-(4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)formamide (C21)

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale yellow solid, 1.48 g, 90% yield.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 8.43 (d, $J=11.2$ Hz, 0.52H, -CHO), 8.27 (d, $J=2.4$ Hz, 0.45H, -CHO), 7.92 (d, $J=11.6$ Hz, 0.52H), 7.38 – 7.36 (m, 1.35H), 6.99 – 6.97 (m, 1H), 6.69 – 6.68 (m, 2H), 2.92 (d, $J=8.4$ Hz, 6H) ppm.

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.4, 159.0, 149.1, 148.3, 126.8, 125.9, 122.3, 121.9, 113.4, 113.1, 41.0, 40.9 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 165.1027, found: 165.1032.



N-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)formamide (C22)

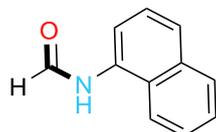
The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a white solid, 1.34 g, 81% yield.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 8.50 (d, $J=11.6$ Hz, 0.45H, -CHO), 8.30 (d, $J=1.2$ Hz,

0.52H, -CHO), 7.94 (s, 0.47H), 7.27 – 7.23 (m, 1.20H), 6.85 – 6.73 (m, 1.53H), 6.62 – 6.52 (m, 1H), 5.97 (d, $J=12.6$ Hz, 2H) ppm.

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.8, 159.0, 148.7, 148.0, 145.8, 144.8, 131.1, 130.8, 113.4, 113.3, 108.8, 108.3, 103.0, 102.3, 101.8, 101.5 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 166.0504, found: 166.0509.



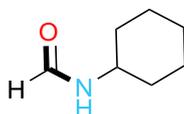
***N*-(naphthalen-1-yl)formamide (C23)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a pale brown solid, 1.27 g, 74% yield.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 8.78 (d, $J=11.6$ Hz, 0.51H), 8.45 – 8.37 (m, 1H, -CHO), 8.15 (d, $J=2.0$ Hz, 0.50H), 7.77 – 7.69 (m, 3H), 7.51 (s, 0.45H), 7.44 – 7.31 (m, 3H), 7.17 – 7.15 (m, 0.64H) ppm.

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 165.8, 159.3, 134.3, 133.9, 133.8, 133.4, 131.2, 130.9, 130.1, 129.1, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.4, 127.3, 126.9, 125.6, 125.4, 119.7, 118.9, 117.2, 115.9 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{10}\text{NO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 172.0762, found: 172.0767.



***N*-cyclohexylformamide (C24)**

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure and purified by column chromatography to give a white solid, 0.80 g, 63% yield.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 8.07 – 8.03 (m, 1H, -CHO), 6.10(m, 1H), 3.78 (m, 0.74H), 3.29 – 3.20 (m, 0.26H), 1.85 (m, 2H), 1.71 – 1.63 (m, 2H), 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.36 – 1.21 (m, 2.41H), 1.12 (m, 2.59H) ppm.

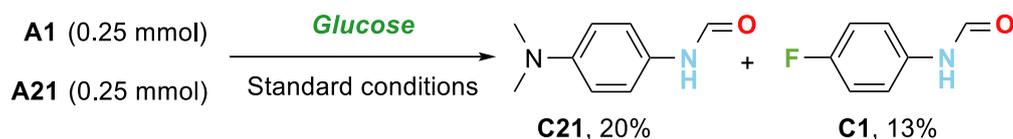
^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 164.3, 160.5, 51.1, 48.0, 34.7, 33.0, 27.0, 25.4, 25.0, 24.8 ppm.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 128.1075, found: 128.1080.

5. Mechanism investigations

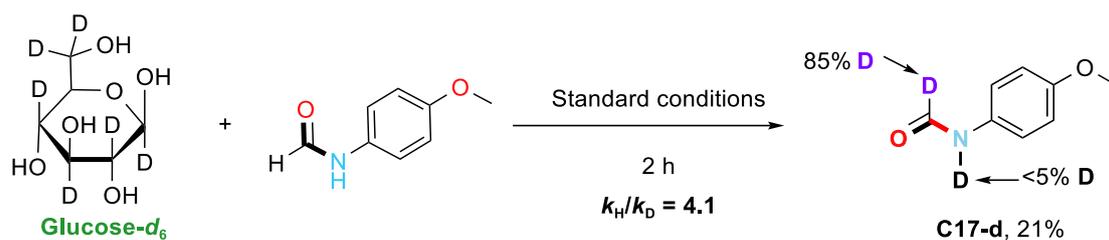
5.1 Competition experiments

5.1.1 Substrate Competition Experiments

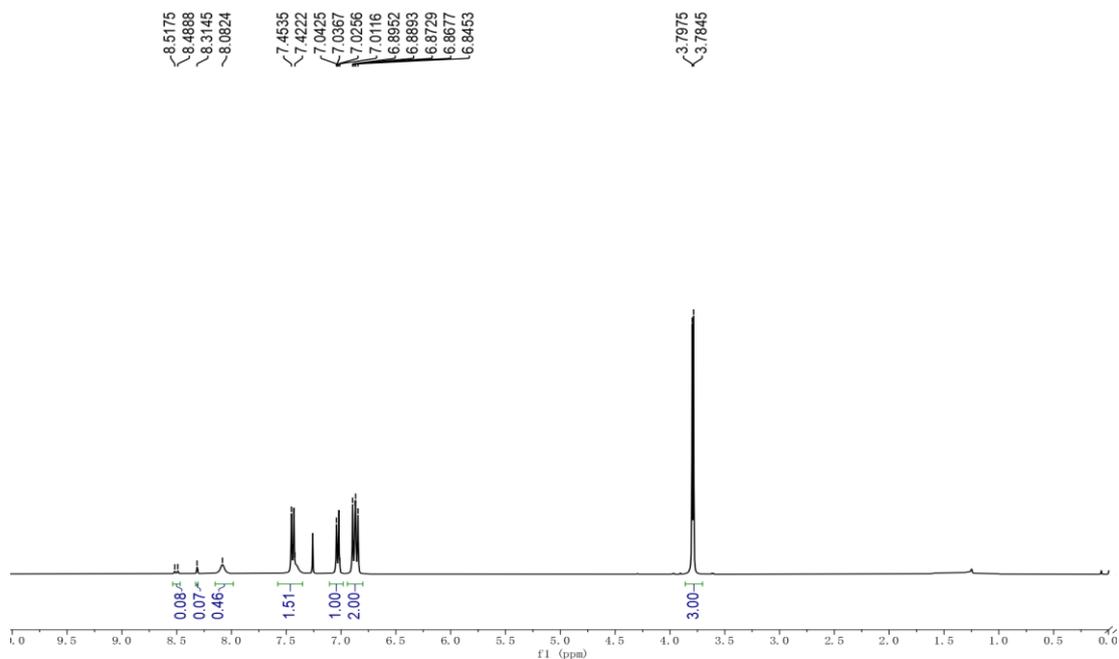


Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (25.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, 4-Fluorobenzamide (**A1**, 0.25 mmol), *N,N*-dimethyl-*p*-phenylenediamine (**A21**, 0.25 mmol), glucose (0.4 mmol), ZrOSO₄ (0.001 mol%), 1,4-dioxane (10 mL) while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for 2 hours. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding products **C21** (yield: 20%), **C1** (yield: 13%).

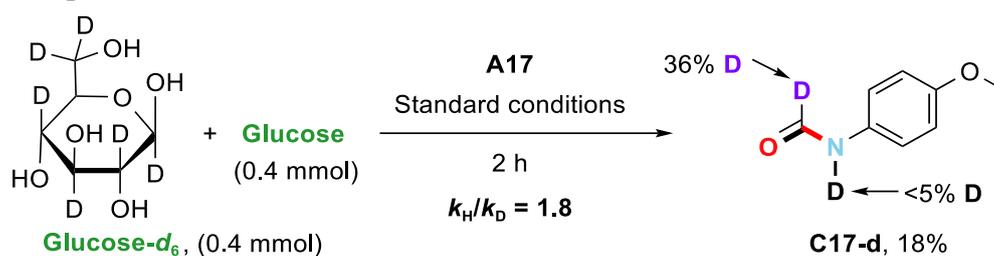
5.1.2 Experimental detail for determination of the intramolecular KIE



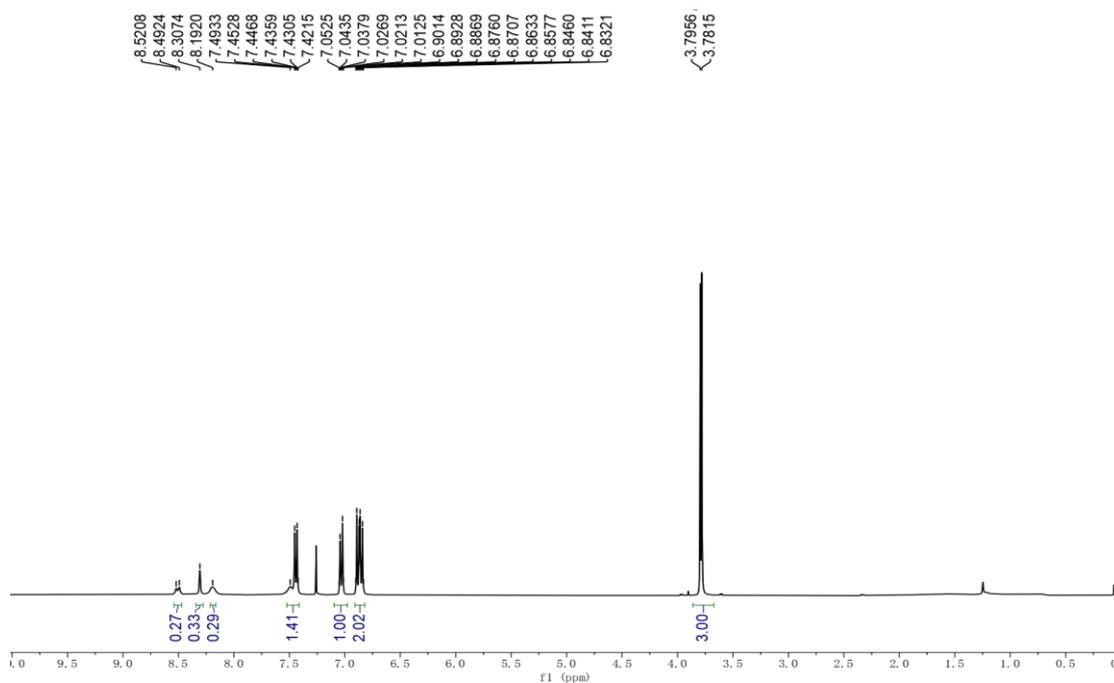
Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (5.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (**A17**, 0.5 mmol), glucose- d_6 (0.8 mmol), $ZrOSO_4$ (0.001 mol%) and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17-d** (yield: 21%).



5.1.3 Experimental detail for determination of the intermolecular KIE

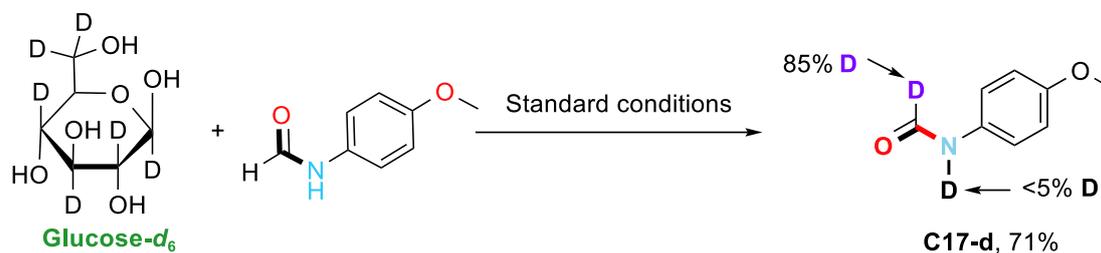


Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (5.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (A17, 0.25 mmol), glucose- d_6 (0.4 mmol), glucose (0.4 mmol), $ZrOSO_4$ (0.001 mol%) and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product C17-d (yield: 18%).

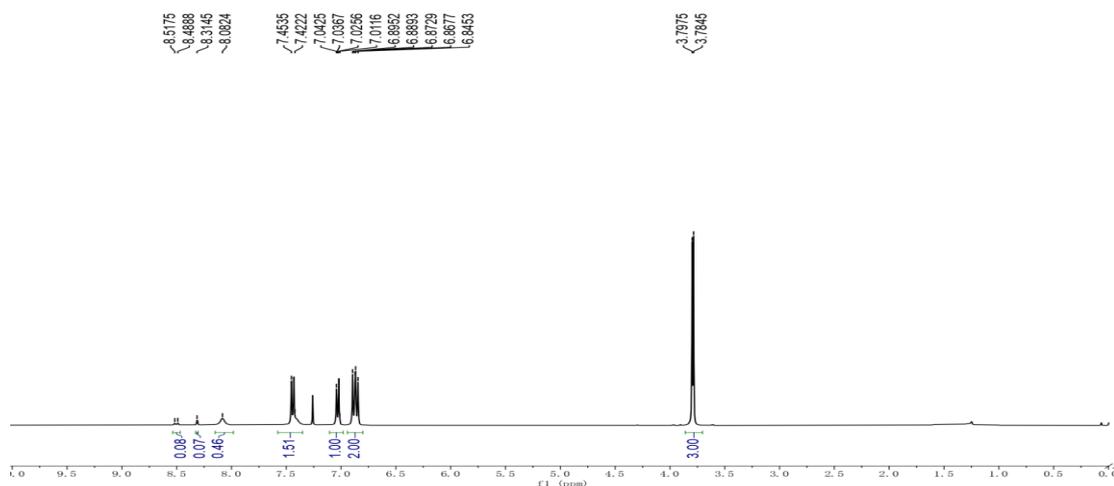


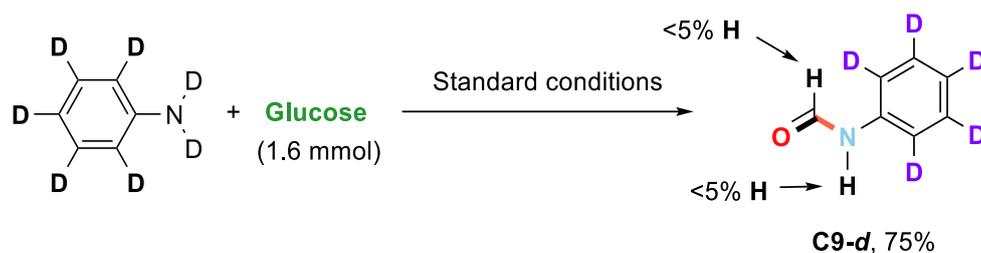
5.2 Labelled investigations

5.2.1 D-labelled experiments



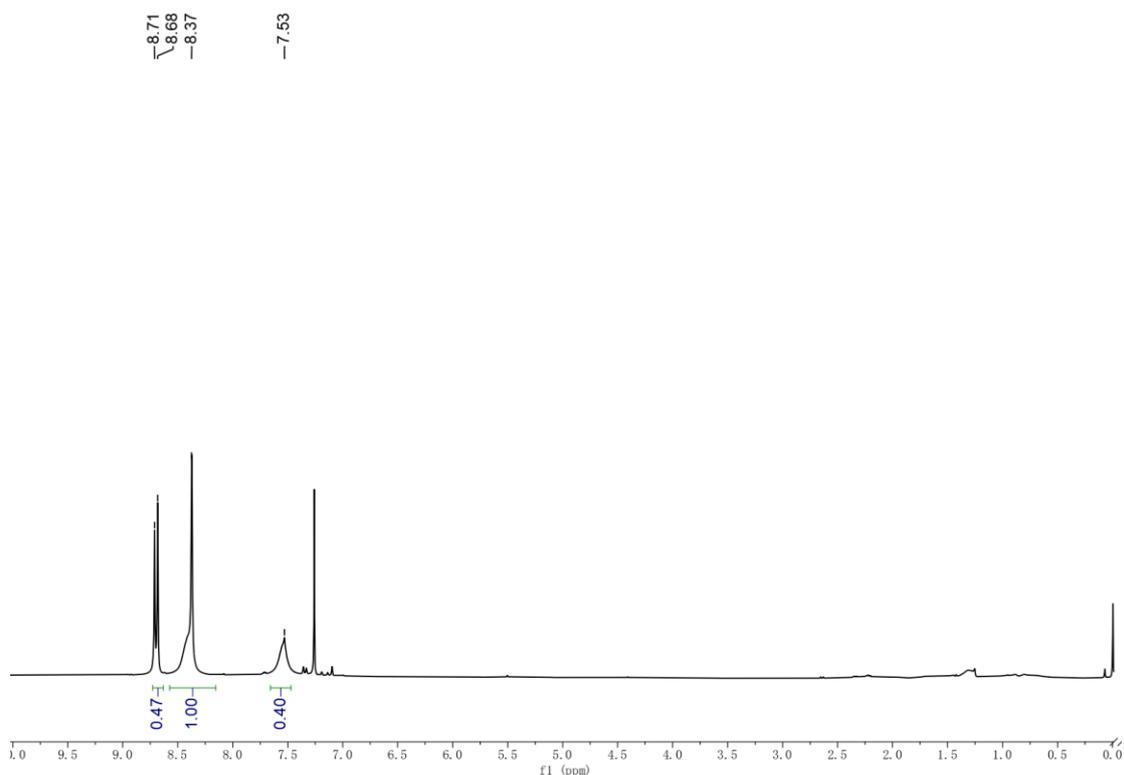
Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (**A17**, 0.5 mmol), glucose- d_6 (0.8 mmol), $ZrOSO_4$ (0.001 mol%) and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17-d** (yield: 71%).
HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $C_8H_9DNO_2$ $[M+H]^+$: 153.0711, found: 153.0712.

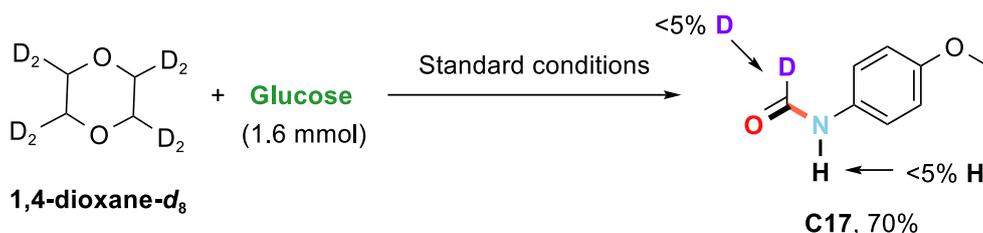




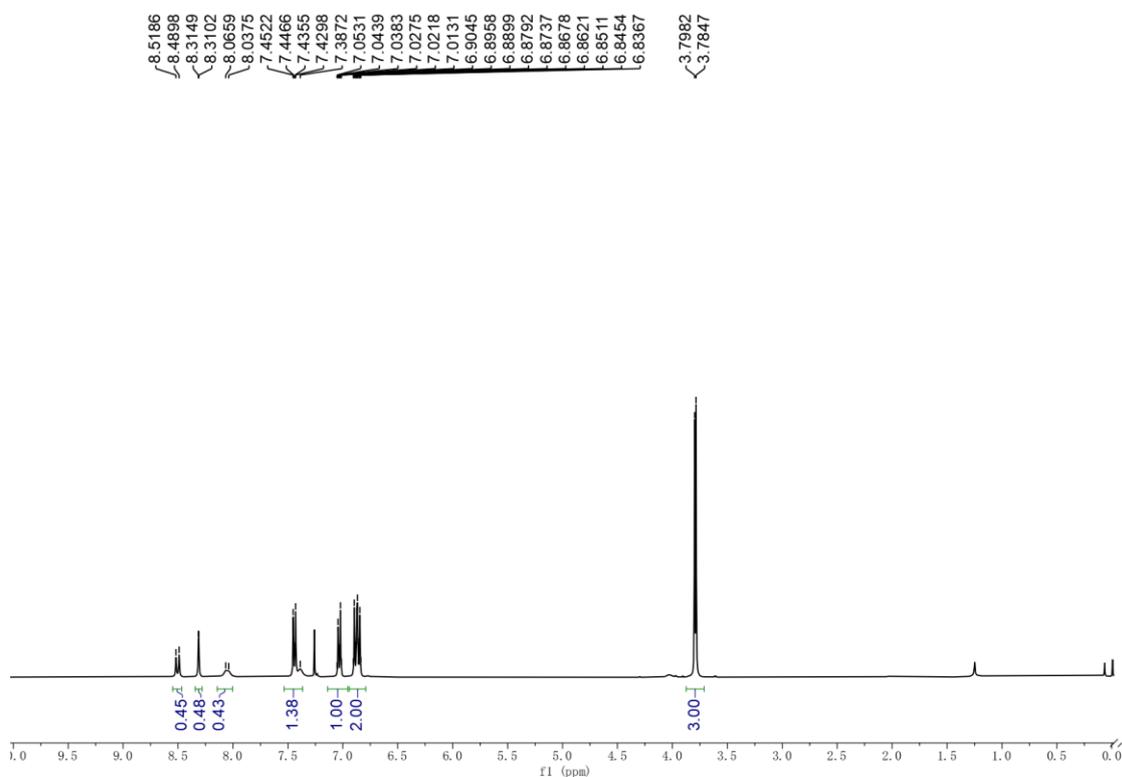
Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, aniline-d₇ (1 mmol), glucose (1.6 mmol), ZrOSO₄ (0.001 mol%) and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C9-d** (yield: 75%).

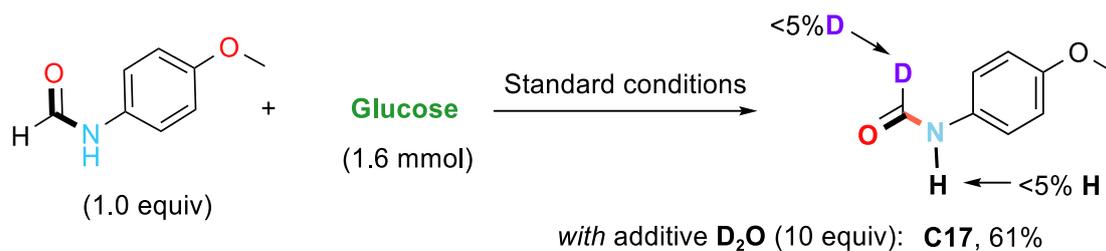
HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₇H₃D₅NO [M+H]⁺ : 127.0605, found: 127.0610.





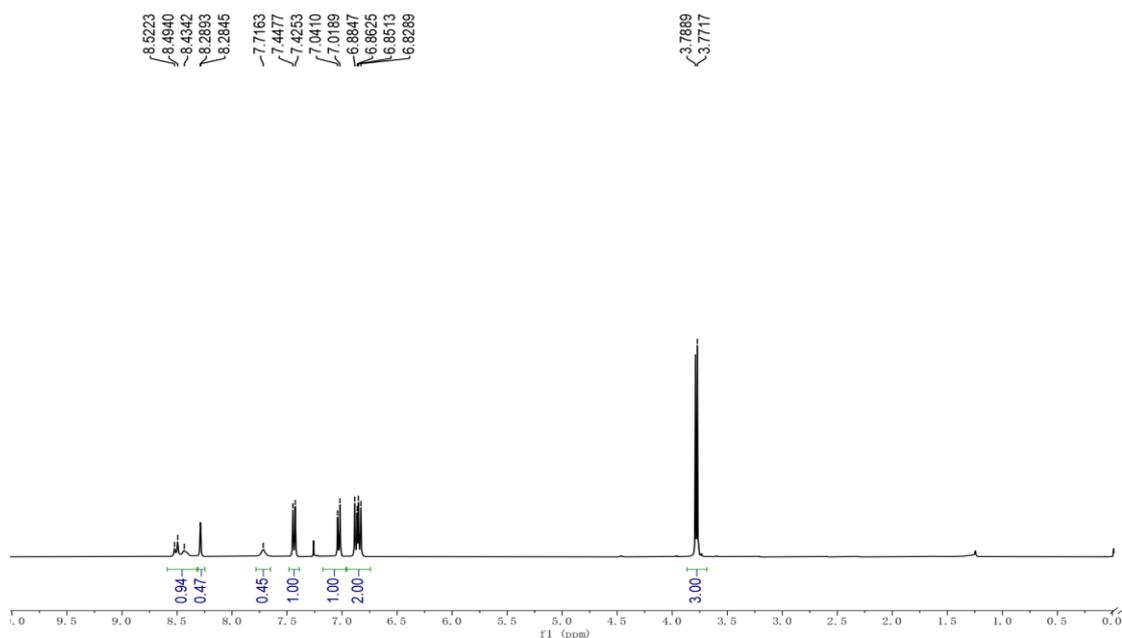
Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (1 mmol), glucose (1.6 mmol), ZrOSO₄ (0.001 mol%) and 1,4-dioxane-*d*₈ (4.0 mL) while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17** (yield: 70%).



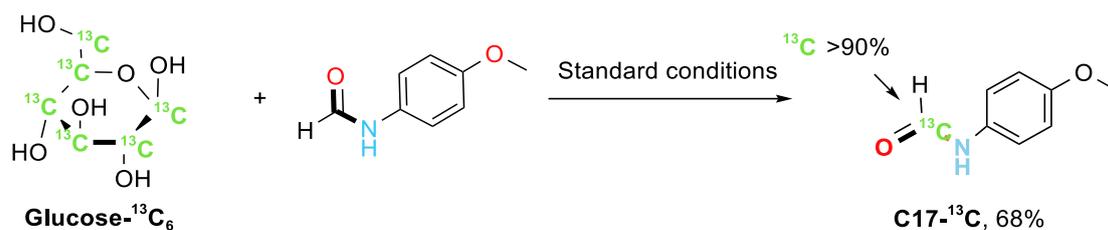


Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (**A17**, 1 mmol), glucose (1.6 mmol), $ZrOSO_4$ (0.001 mol%), D_2O (10 mmol, 10.0 equiv) and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17** (yield: 61%).

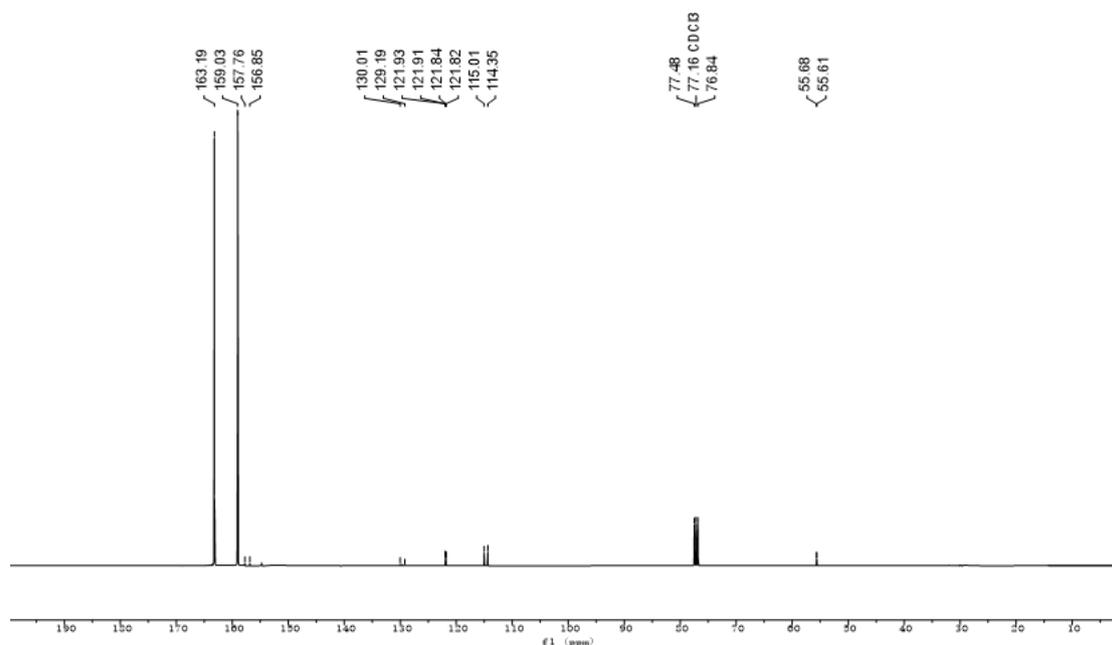
HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $C_8H_{10}NO_2$ $[M+H]^+$: 152.0712, found: 152.0717.

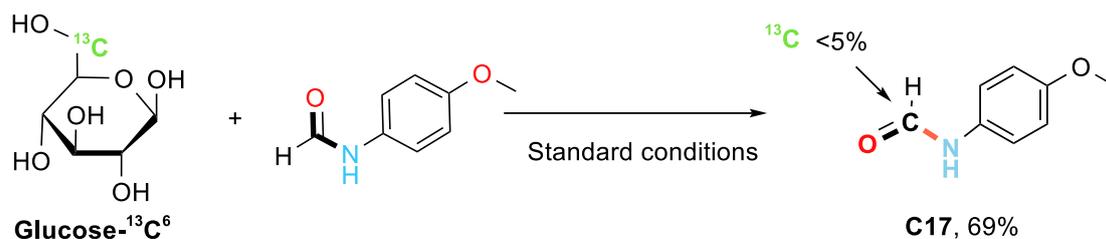


5.2.2 ^{13}C -labelled experiments



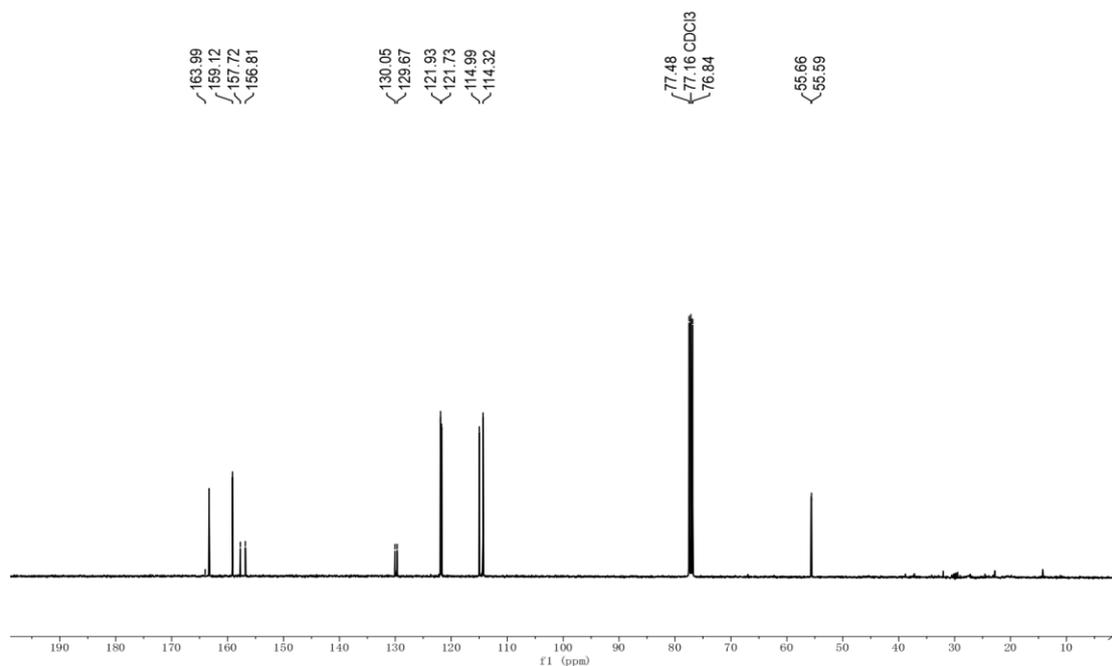
Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (**A17**, 0.5 mmol), glucose- $^{13}\text{C}_6$ (0.8 mmol), ZrOSO_4 (0.001 mol%) and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17- ^{13}C** (yield: 68%).
HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_7^{13}\text{CH}_{10}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 153.0712, found: 153.0717.

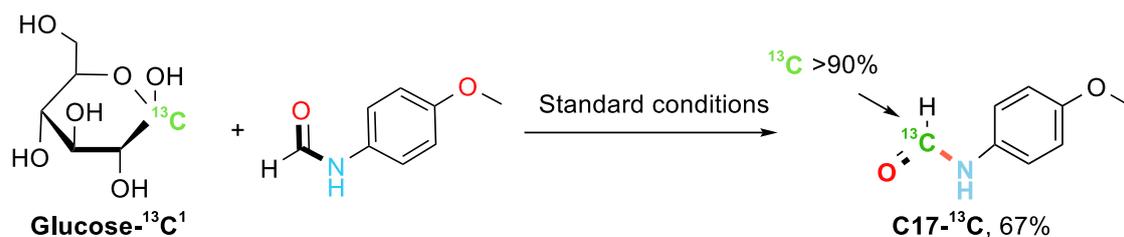




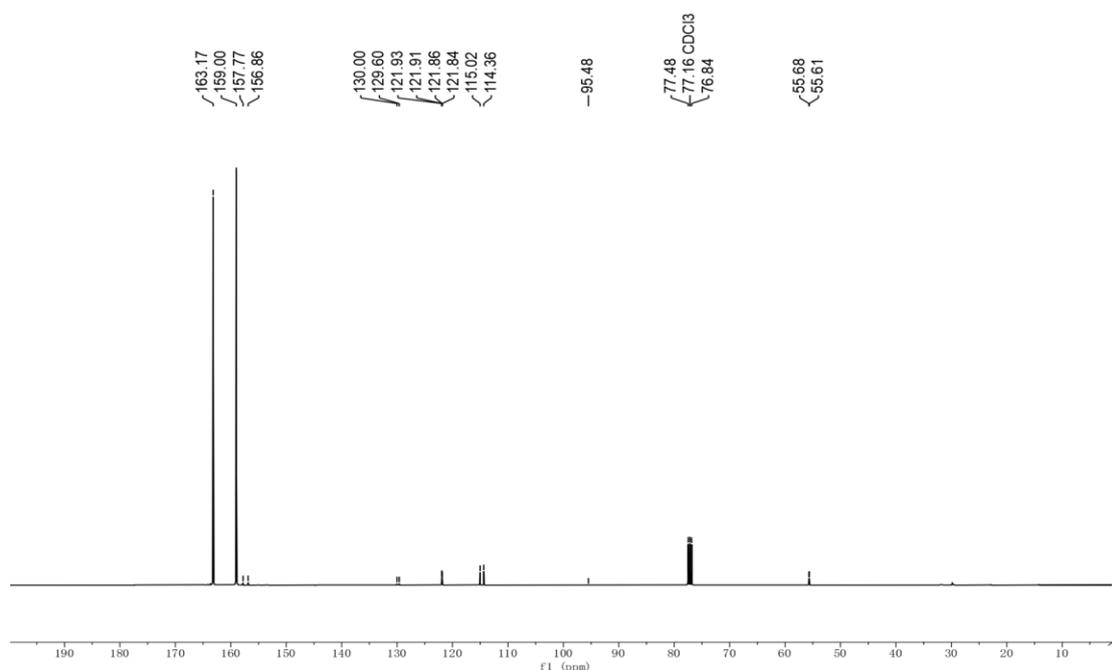
Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (A17, 0.5 mmol), glucose-¹³C₆ (0.8 mmol), ZrOSO₄ (0.001 mol%) and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product C17 (yield: 69%).

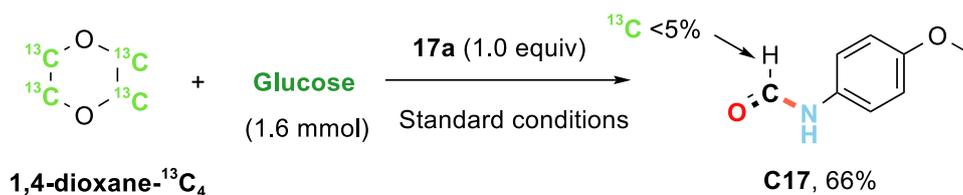
HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₈H₁₀NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 152.0712, found: 152.0717.





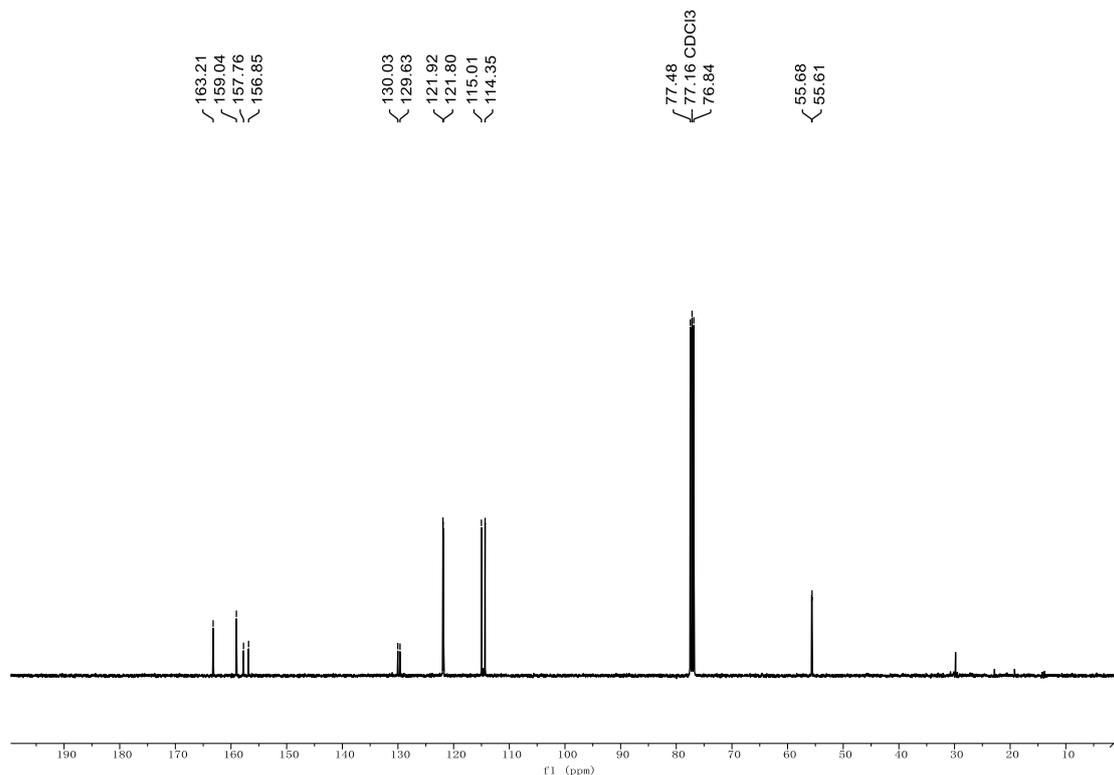
Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (**A17**, 0.5 mmol), glucose- $^{13}\text{C}^1$ (0.8 mmol), ZrOSO_4 (0.001 mol%) and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17- ^{13}C** (yield: 67%). **HRMS** (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_7^{13}\text{CH}_{10}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 153.0712, found: 153.0707.



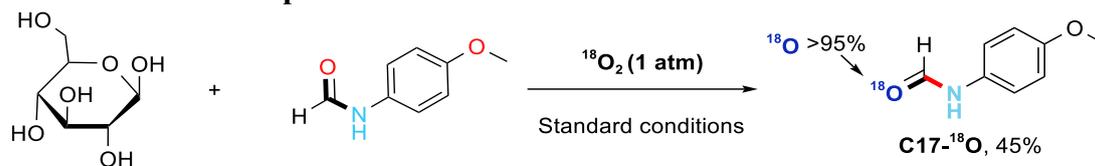


Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (1 mmol), glucose (1.6 mmol), ZrOSO₄ (0.001 mol%), and 1,4-dioxane-¹³C₄ (4.0 mL) while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17** (yield: 66%).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.5, 159.4, 158.1, 157.1, 130.3, 129.9, 122.2, 122.1, 115.3, 114.7, 56.0, 55.9 ppm.

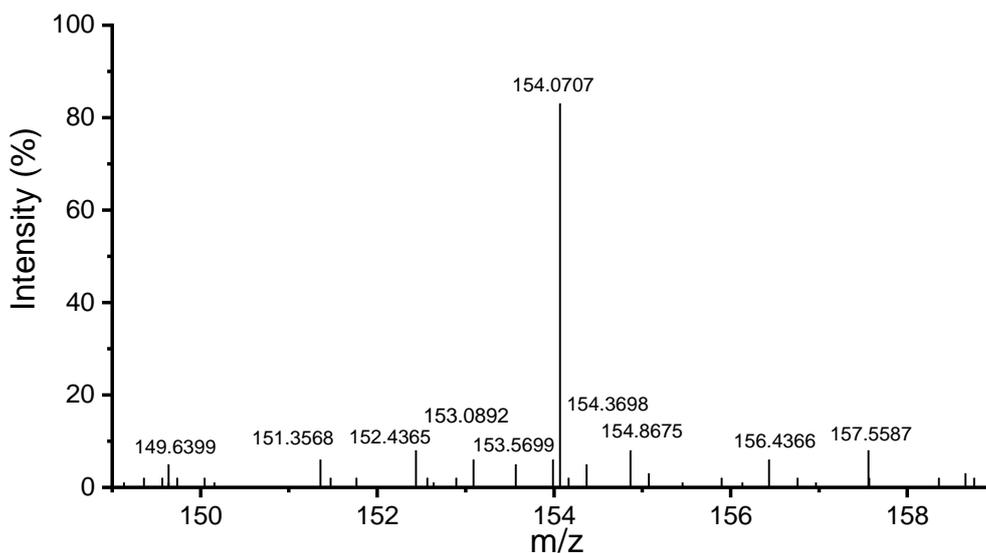


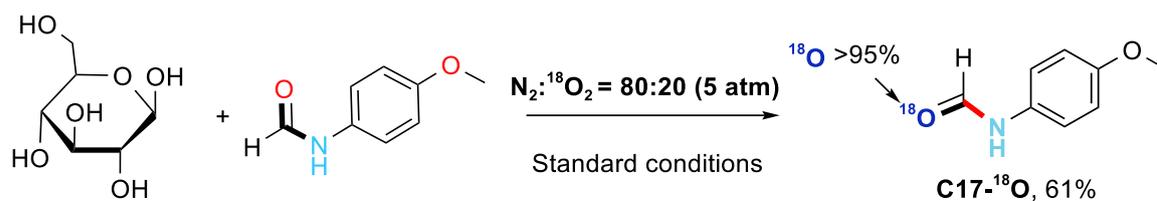
5.2.3 ^{18}O -labelled experiments



Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (1 mmol), glucose (1.6 mmol), ZrOSO_4 (0.001 mol%) and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with $^{18}\text{O}_2$ (1 atm) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17- ^{18}O** (yield: 45%).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{N}^{18}\text{OO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 154.0712, found: 154.0707.

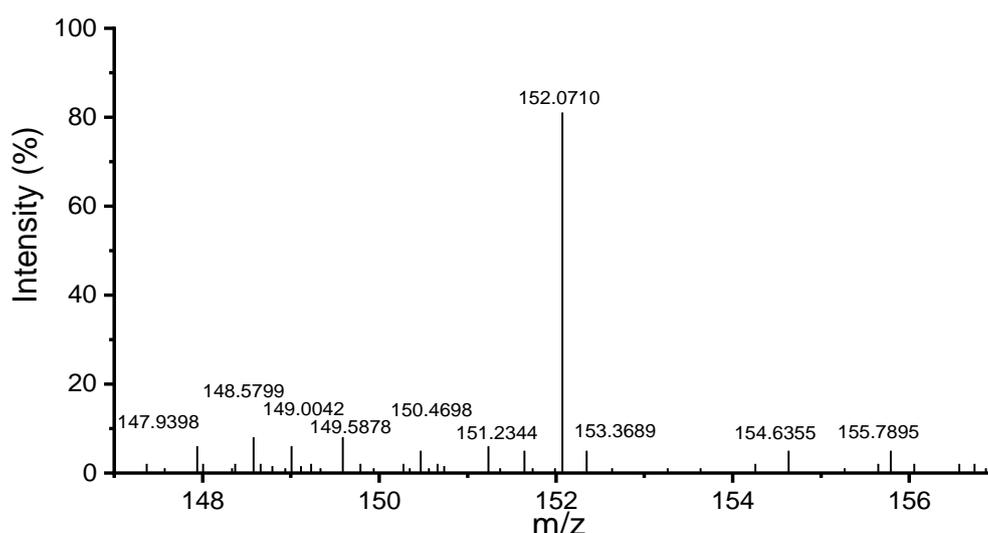


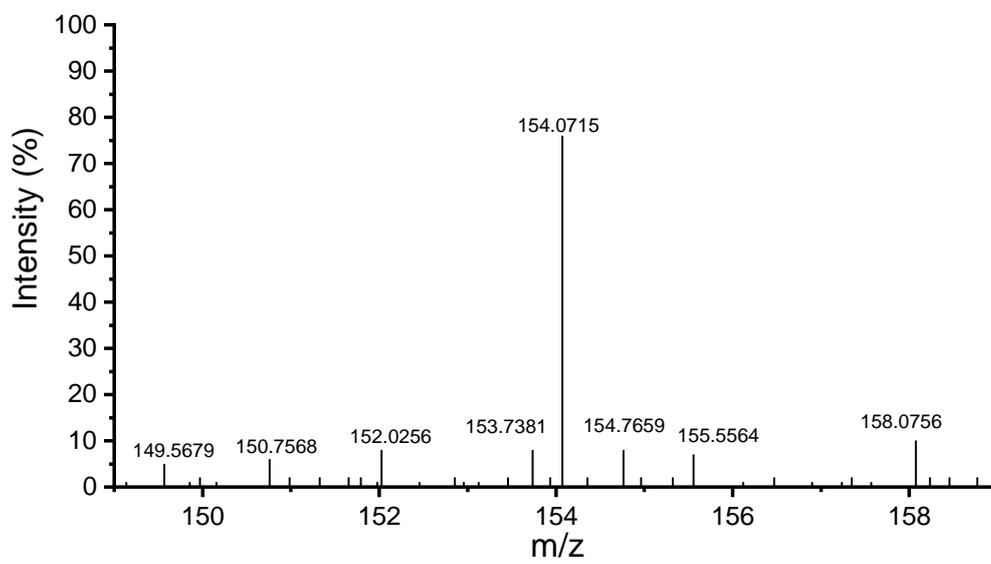


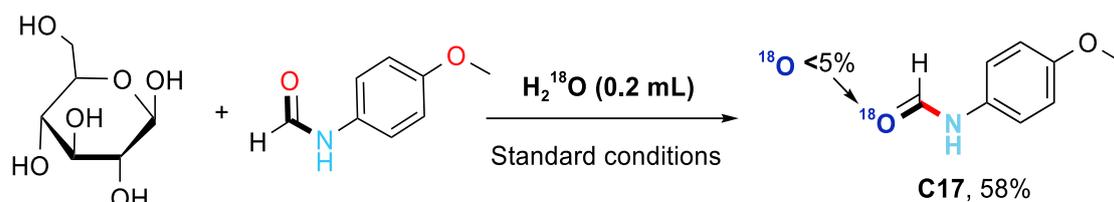
Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (1 mmol), glucose (1.6 mmol), ZrOSO₄ (0.001 mol%) and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged filled with 4 atm N₂ and 1 atm ¹⁸O₂ (N₂:¹⁸O₂=80:20) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17-¹⁸O** (yield: 61%).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₈H₁₀NO₂ [M+H]⁺ : 152.0712, found: 152.0710.

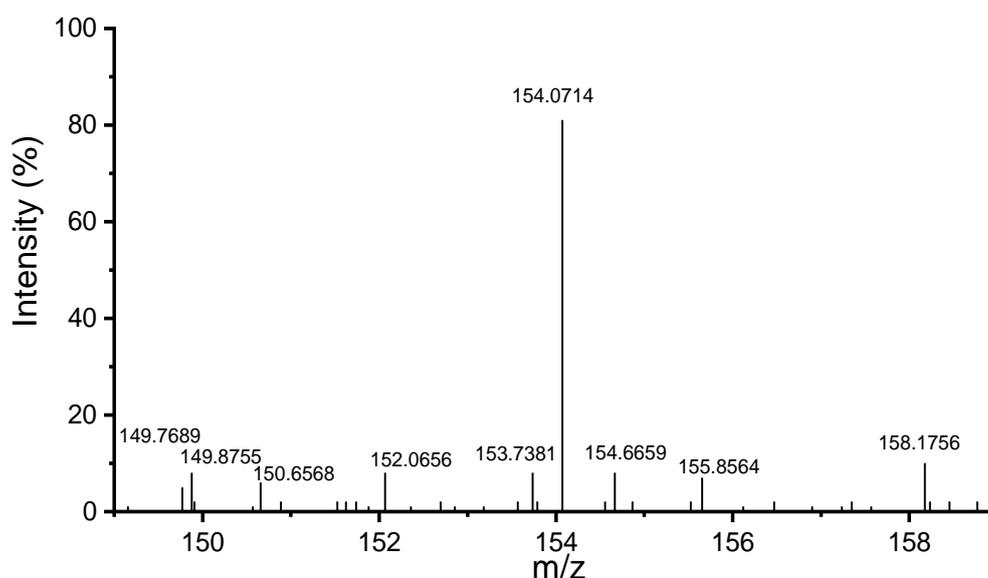
HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₈H₁₀N¹⁸OO [M+H]⁺ : 154.0712, found: 154.0715.







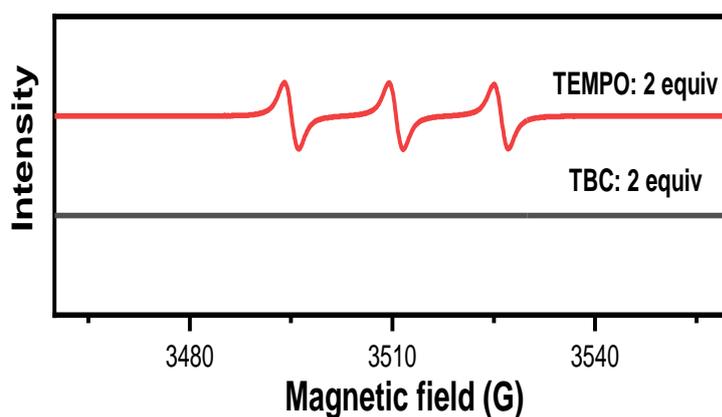
Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (1 mmol), glucose (1.6 mmol), ZrOSO_4 (0.001 mol%), H_2^{18}O (0.2 ml) and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged filled with air (6 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17** (yield: 58%). **HRMS** (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{N}^{18}\text{OO} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 154.0712, found: 154.0714.



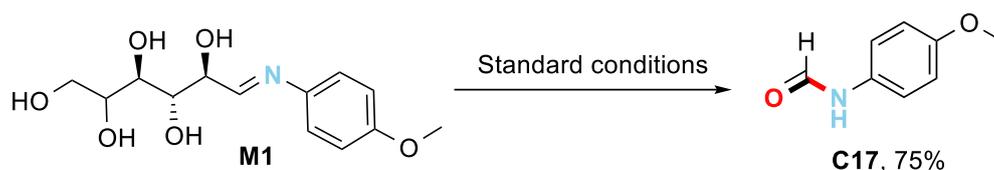
5.3 Control experiments for radical scavenger



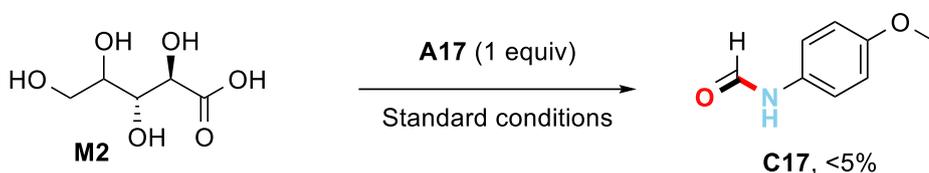
Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (5.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, 4-Fluorobenzeneamine (**A1**, 0.5 mmol), glucose (0.8 mmol), ZrOSO₄ (0.001 mol%), TEMPO or TBC (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and solvent while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C1** (with TEMPO: yield: 78%; with TBC: yield: 65%).



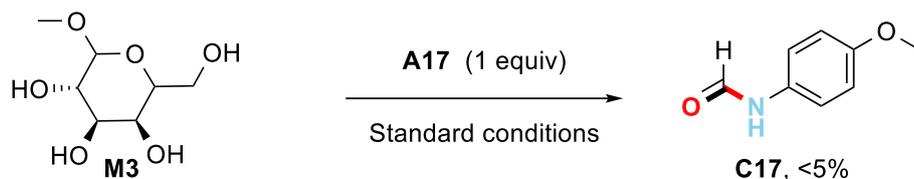
5.4 Intermediator investigation



Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (**A17**, 0.5 mmol), **M1** (0.8 mmol), ZrOSO₄ (0.001 mol%), and solvent. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17** (yield: 75%).

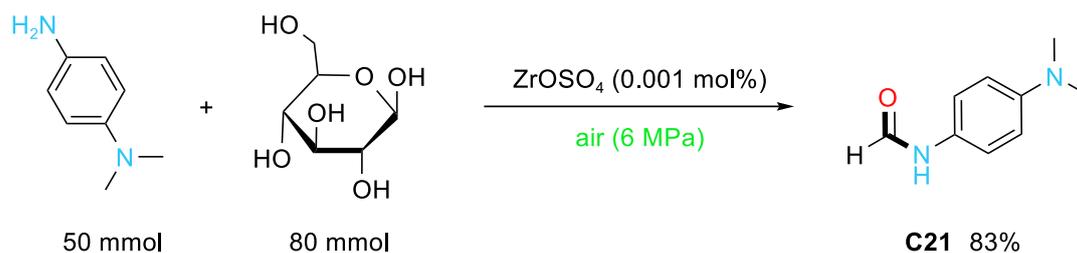


Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (**A17**, 0.5 mmol), **M2** (0.8 mmol), ZrOSO₄ (0.001 mol%), and solvent. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17** (yield<5%).



Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (10.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *p*-methoxyaniline (**A17**, 0.5 mmol), **M3** (0.8 mmol), ZrOSO₄ (0.001 mol%), and solvent. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for desired time. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C17** (yield < 5%).

6. Gram-scale experiment



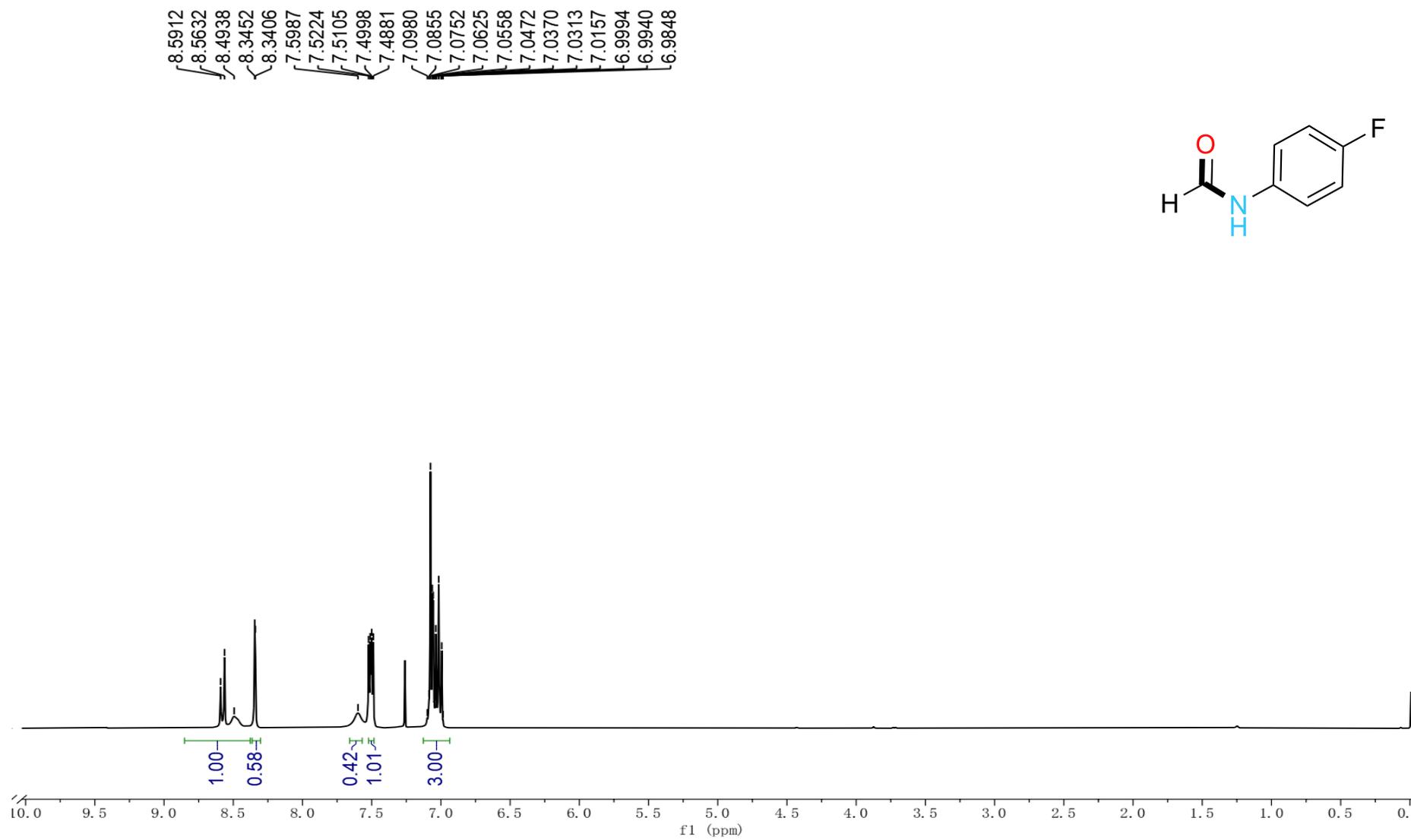
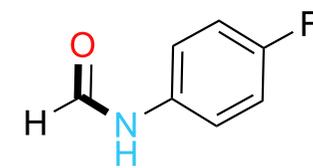
Utilizing a nitrogen-filled glove box, an oven-dried pressure tube (500.0 mL) was loaded with a magnetic stirring bar, *N,N*-Dimethyl-*p*-Phenylenediamine (**A21**, 50 mmol), glucose (80 mmol), ZrOSO_4 (0.001 mol%) and 1,4-dioxane (150 mL) while being stirred for 30 minutes. Then the glass tube was placed in an autoclave which was closed tightly and removed from the glove box. Then the autoclave was purged and charged with air (6.0 MPa) and immersed into a pre-heated metal bath for 12 hours. After the reaction was finished, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. A small aliquot of the reaction mixture was analyzed by GC and GC-MS to monitor product formation. Then the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 100:1 – 1:1) on silica gel to give the corresponding product **C21** in 83% yield (6.83 g).

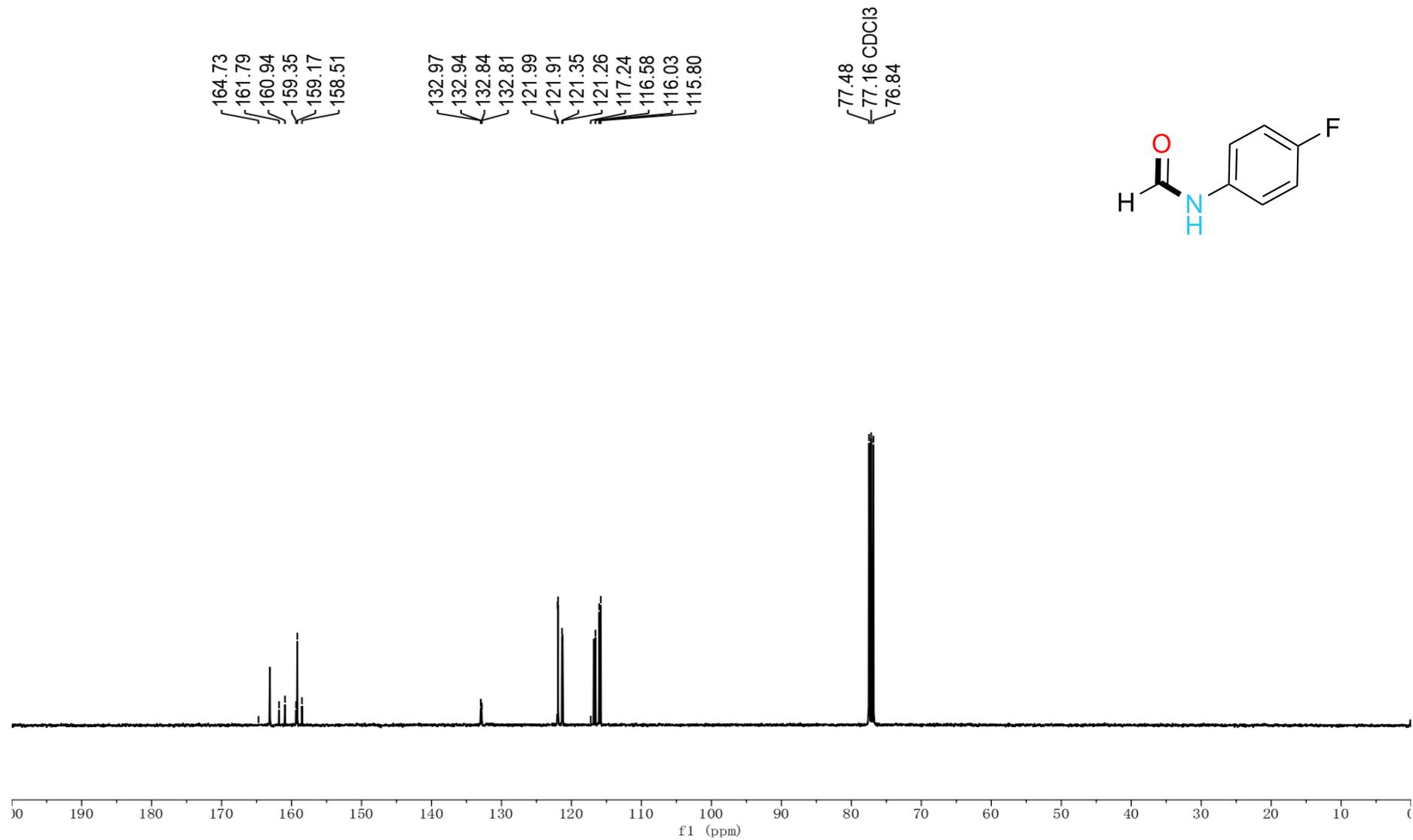
7. Comparison Table of Formamidation Reactions

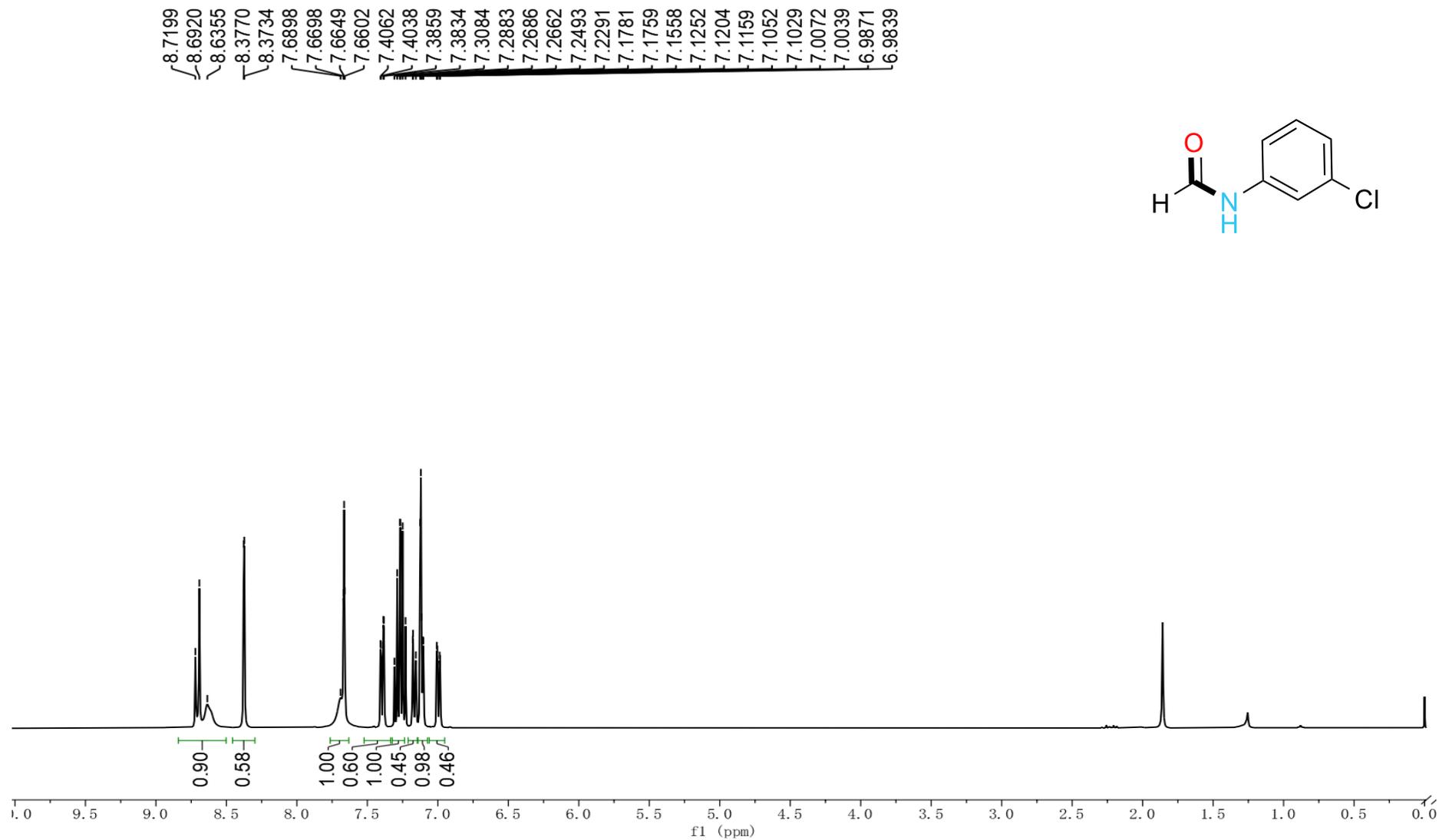
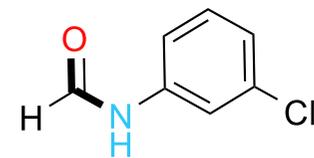
Table S9 Comparison Table of Formamidation Reactions

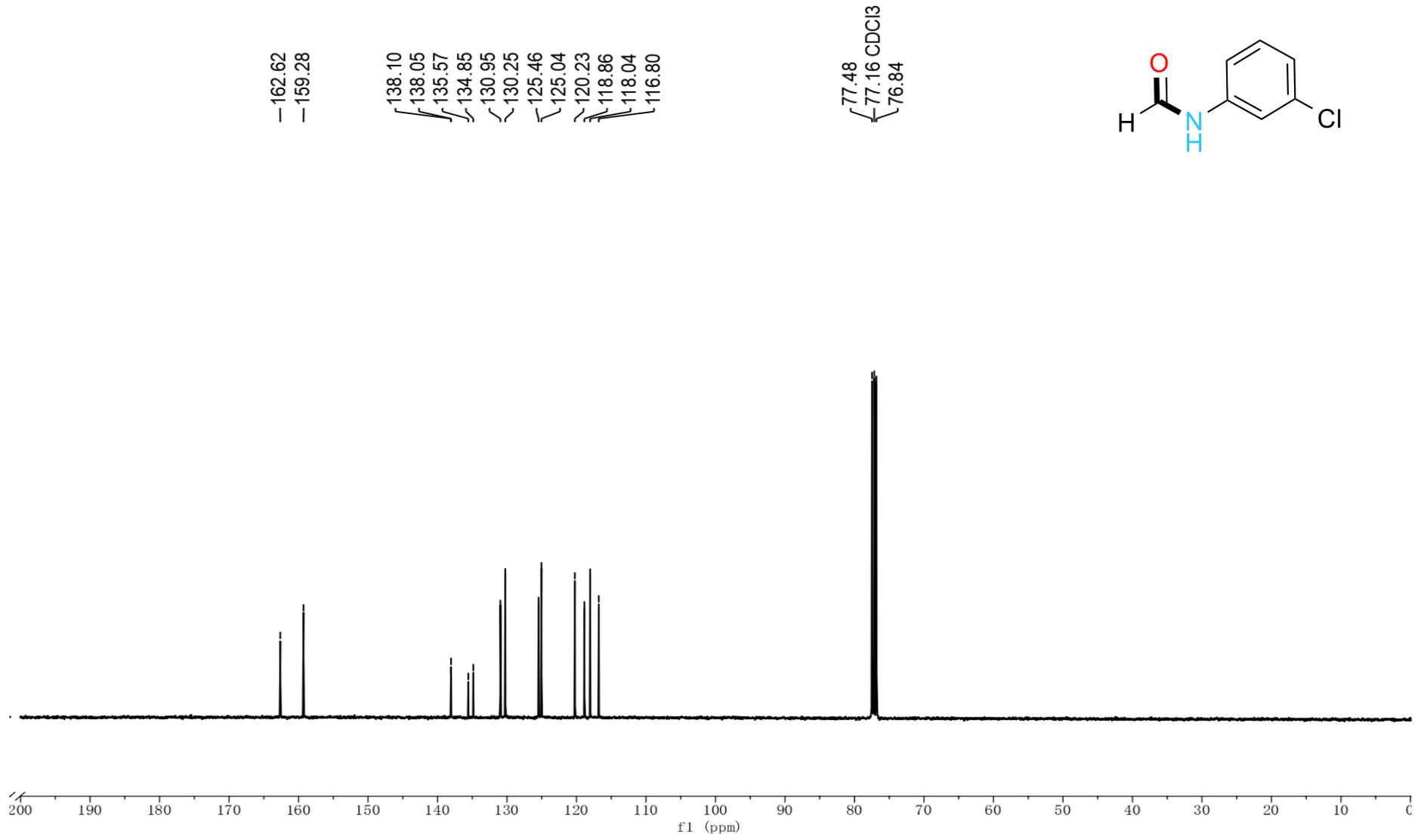
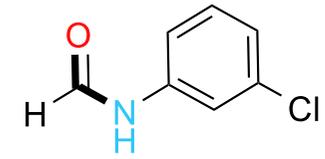
Entry	catalyst	loading	Carbonyl source	Substrate Scope	number of substrates types	Yield
1	KOH	40 mol%	CO	aliphatic secondary amines, aliphatic primary amines, benzyl-type amines, heterocyclic amines,	4	70%- 99%
2	Co (ClO ₄) ₂	5 mol%	CO ₂ +H ₂	aliphatic secondary amines, aliphatic primary amines, benzyl-substituted amines	3	82%- 95%
3	CuI bpy NMI TEMPO	CuI (5 mol%) bpy (5 mol%) NMI (10 mol%) TEMPO (10 mol%)	MeOH	aliphatic secondary amines, benzyl-type primary amines heterocyclic amines	3	40%- 96%
4	HClO ₄ - SiO ₂	2.5 mol%	HCOOH	aromatic amines aliphatic amines aromatic primary amines, polycyclic aromatic amines,	2	70%- 96%
5	ZrOSO ₄	0.001 mol%	Glucose	aliphatic amines, halogen-containing aromatic amines	4	63%- 91%

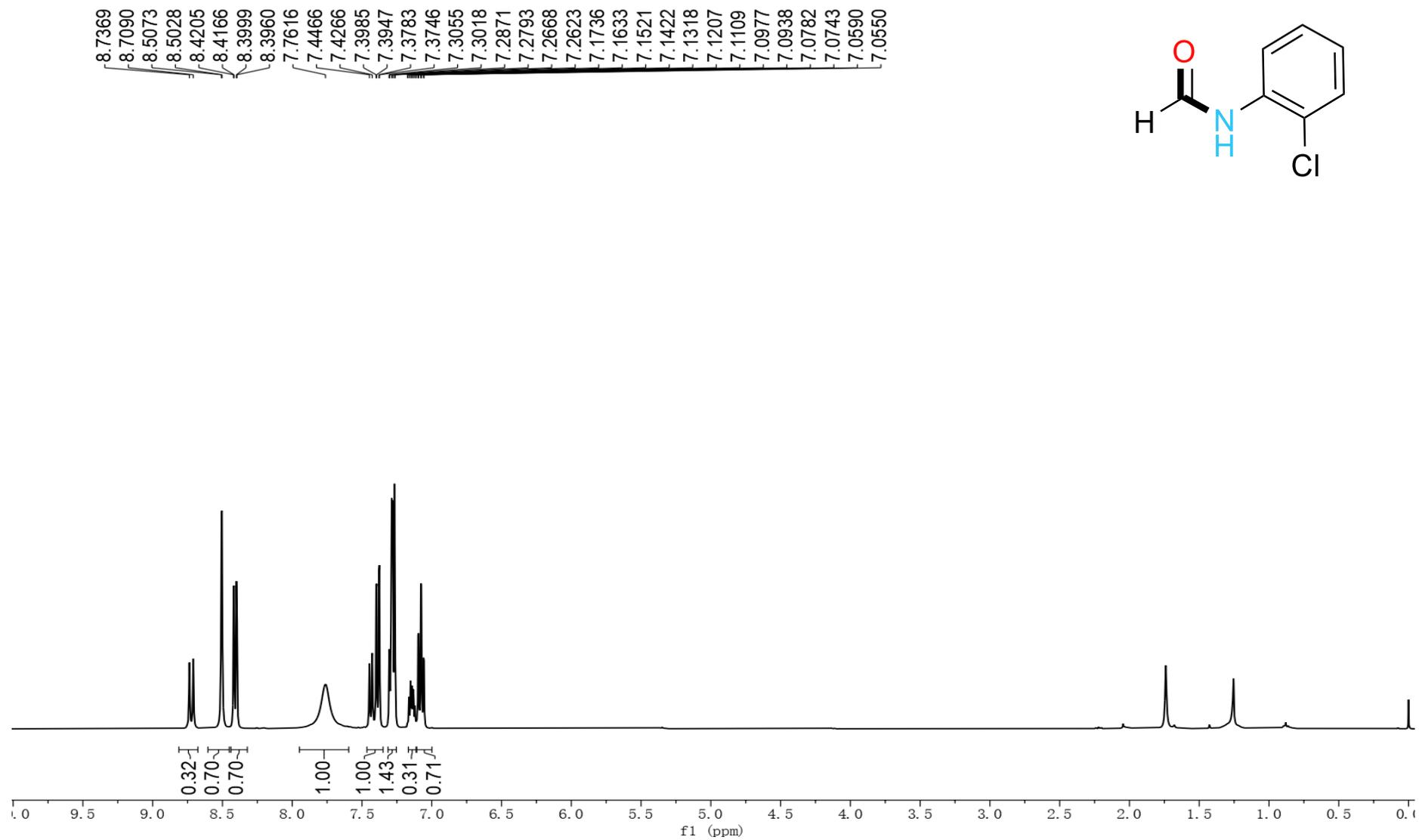
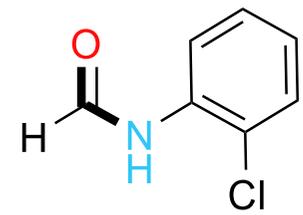
8. NMR Spectra

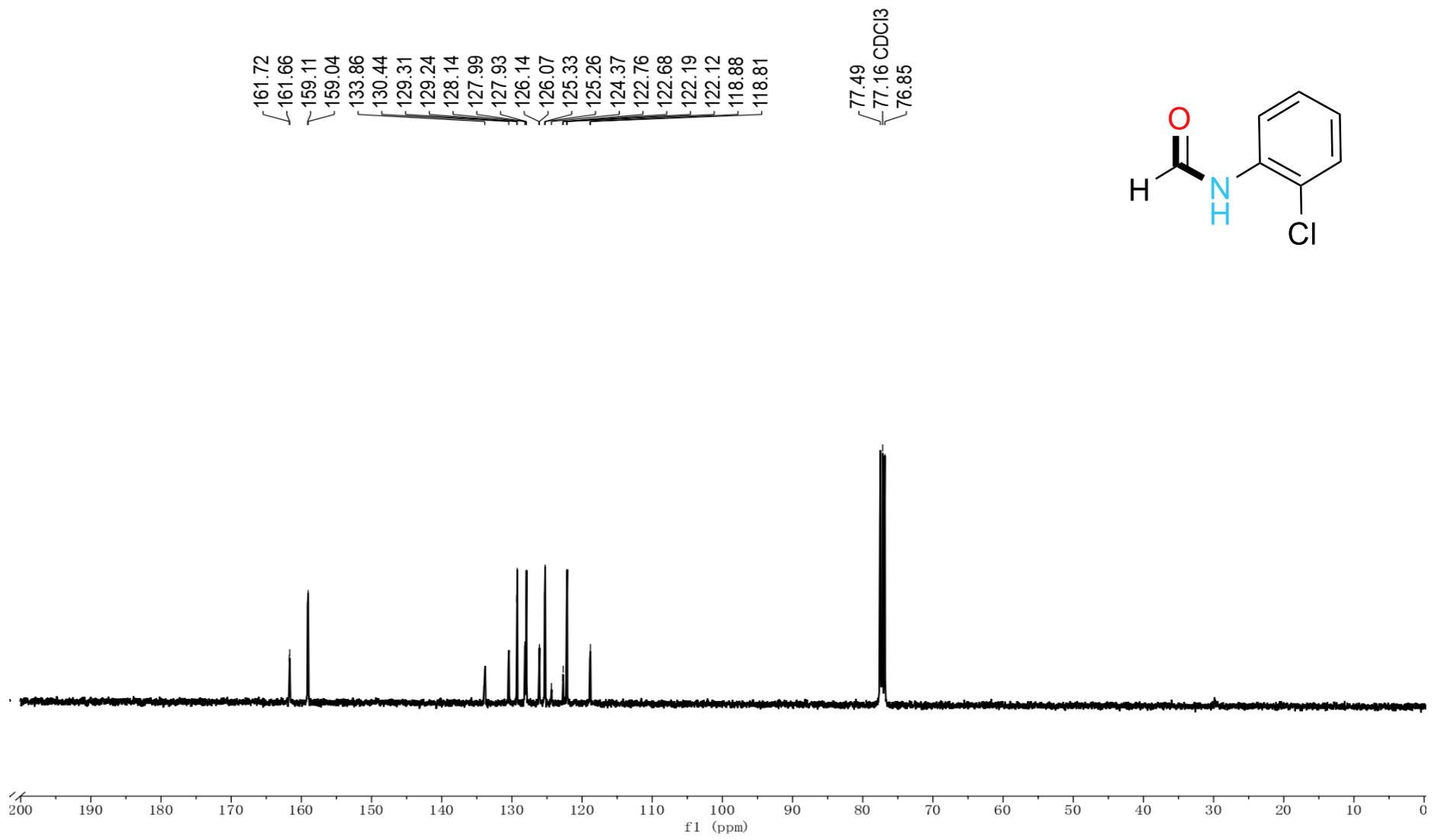
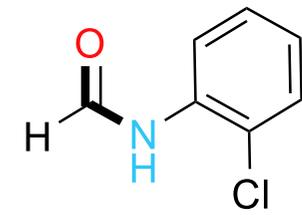


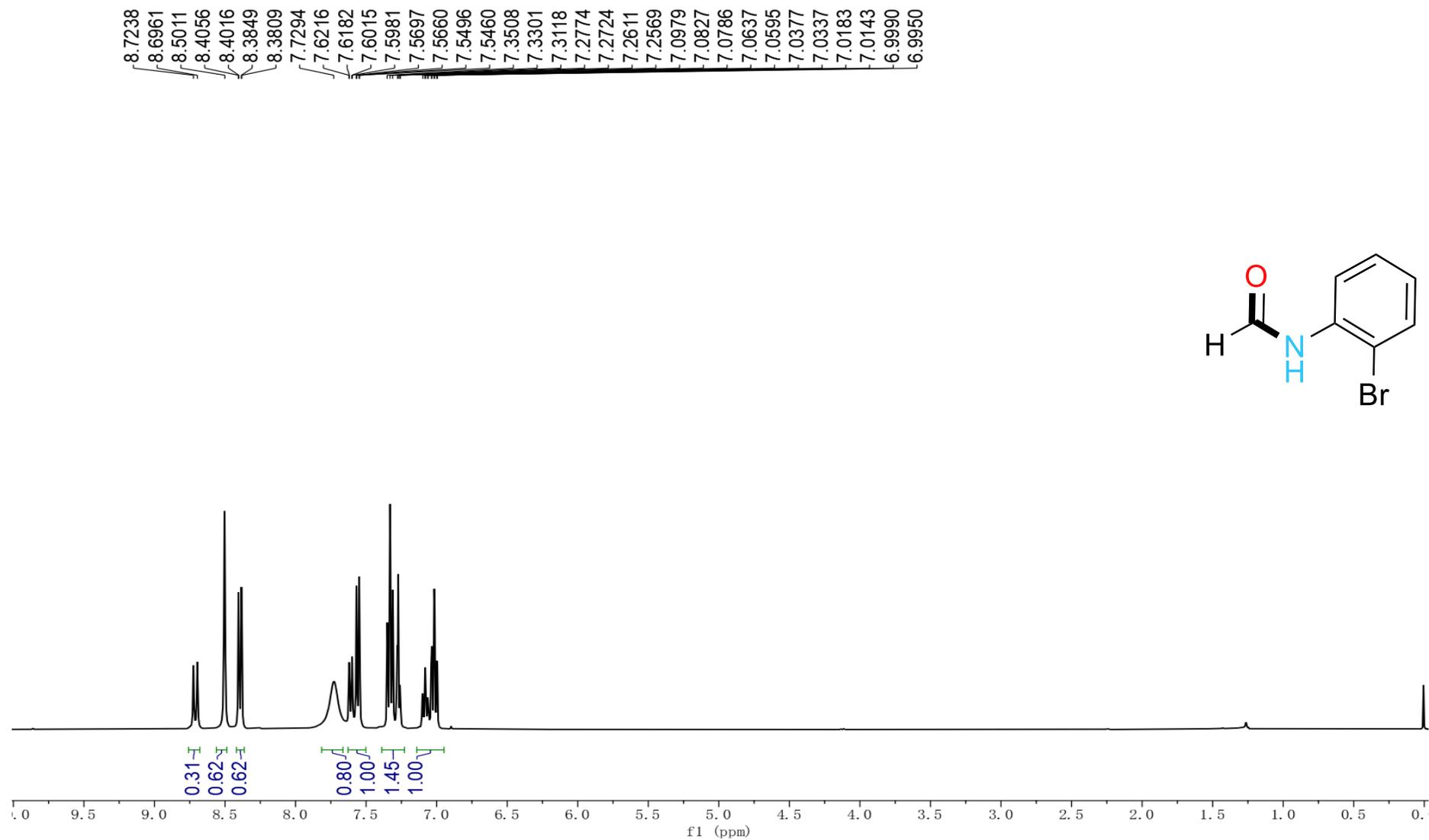
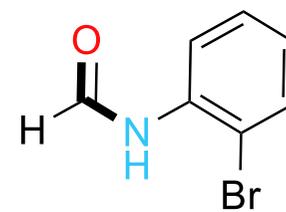


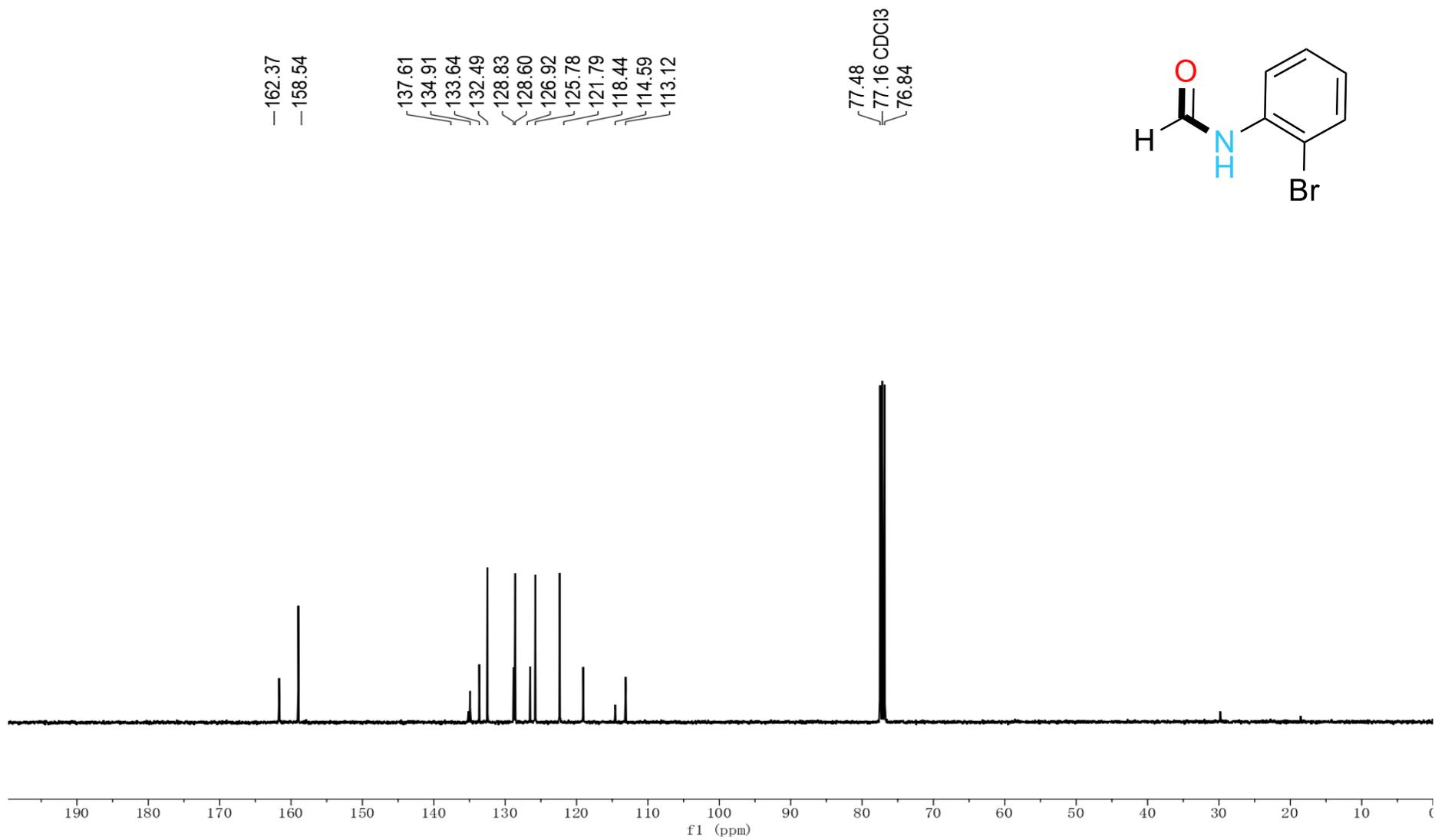


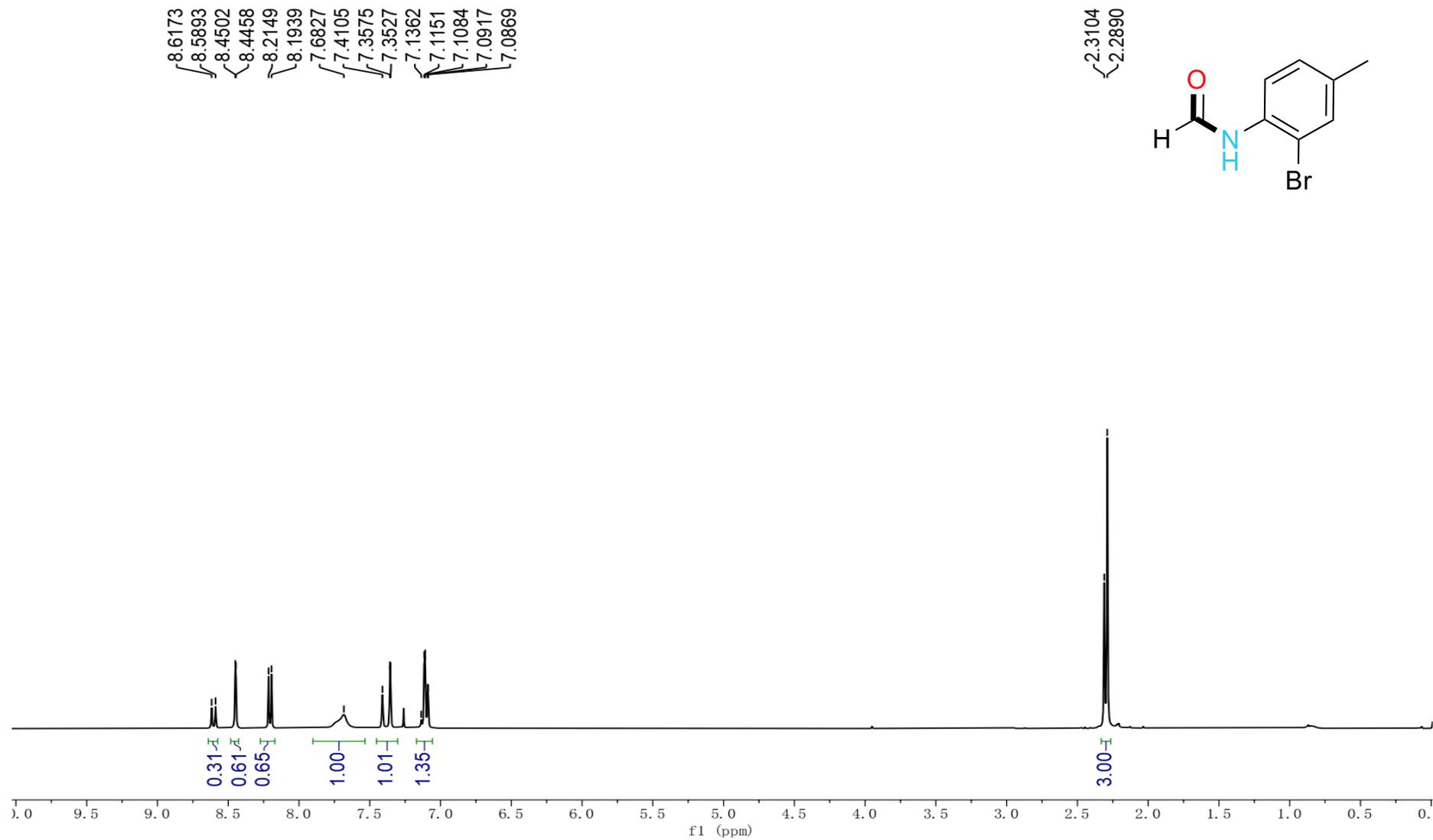


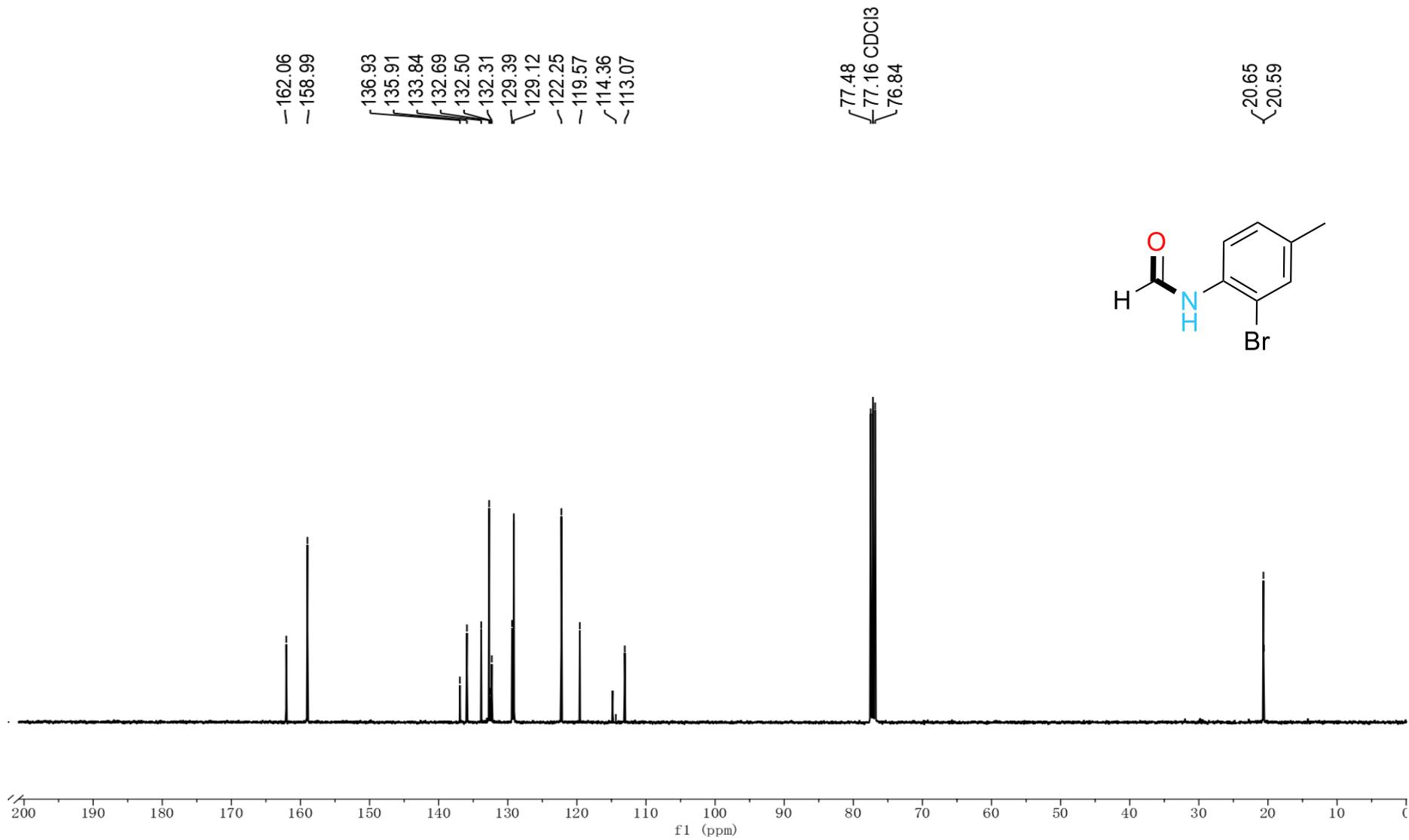












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