

An Eco-Sustainable Erbium(III)-Catalyzed Method for Formation/Cleavage of *O*-Boc-esters

**Antonio Procopio,^{*,a} Giancarlo Cravotto,^b Manuela Oliverio,^a Paola Costanzo,^a
Monica Nardi^c and Rosina Paonessa^a**

Supplementary Informations

^a *Dipartimento Farmaco-Biologico, Università degli Studi della Magna Græcia Complesso Nini` Barbieri, 88021 Roccelletta di Borgia (CZ), Italy.
Fax: +39 0961 369 5713; Tel: +39 0961 369 4120; E-mail: procopio@unicz.it*

^b *Dipartimento di Scienza e Tecnologia del Farmaco Università di Torino
Via Giuria 9, 10125 Torino (Italy)*

^c *Dipartimento di Chimica, Università della Calabria, Ponte Bucci, 87030, Arcavacata di Rende, (CS), Italy.*

Table of Contents

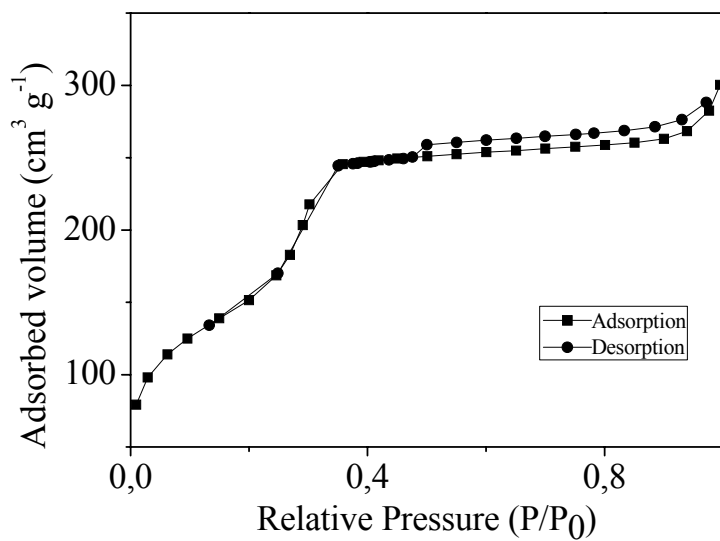
Experimental	3
N₂ absorption /desorption curves	
- Er ^{III} -MCM-41 before US-exposure	4
- Er ^{III} -MCM-41 after US exposure	4
Synthesis of <i>tert</i>-Butyl Carbonates	5
Cleavage of <i>tert</i>-Butyl Carbonates	8
GC-EI/MS Spectra:	
- Sample 1	9
- Sample 2	10
- Sample 3	11
- Sample 4	12
- Sample 5	13
- Sample 6	14
- Sample 7	15
- Sample 8	16
- Sample 9	17
- Sample 10	18
- Sample 11a	19
- Sample 11b	20
- Sample 12	21
- Sample 13	22
- Sample 14	23
¹H-NMR Spectra	
- Sample 1	24
- Sample 2	25
- Sample 4	26
- Sample 5	27
- Sample 6	28
- Sample 7	29
- Sample 8	30
- Sample 9	31
- Sample 10	32
- Sample 11a	33
- Sample 11b	34
- Sample 12	35
- Sample 13	36
- Sample 14	37

Experimental

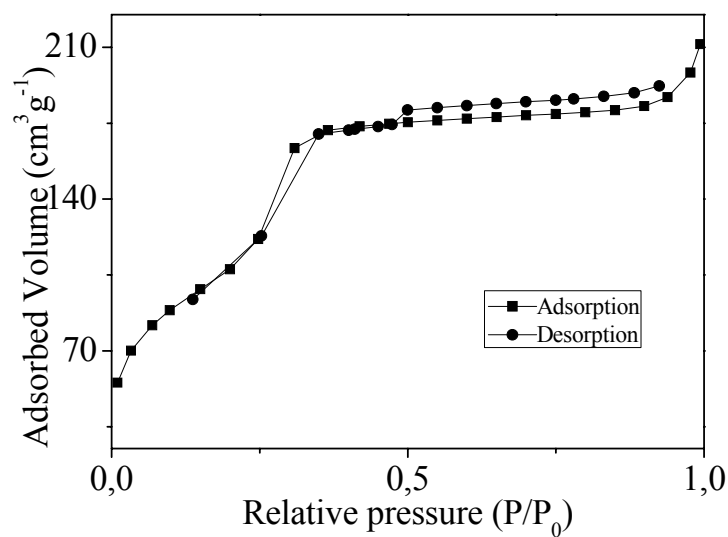
¹H spectra were recorded on a Bruker WM 300 instrument on samples dissolved in CDCl₃. Chemical shifts are given in parts per million (ppm) from tetramethylsilane as the internal standard (0.0 ppm). Coupling constants (J) are given in Hertz. Reactions were monitored by a GC–MS Agilent workstation, formed by a GC-6890N (30-m RESTEK-5SIL capillary column, working on splitless mode, 1 mL/min He as carrier gas) and by an 5973N mass detector. The characterization of the porous structure was obtained by N₂ adsorption/desorption isotherms, measured at 77 K on a Micromeritics ASAP 2010 volumetric adsorption analyser. Before measurements, samples were outgassed at 393 K for 6 hours. These isotherms were used to evaluate BET specific surface area, pore volume and pore size distributions. The pore size distribution has been calculated using an algorithm based on the BJH theory. ICP-MS measures were performed in a quadrupole-based ICP-MS system XSERIES 2 ICP-MS, from Thermo Fisher Scientific, working in standard mode. Samples were introduced in a quartz concentric nebulizer by a peristaltic pump (selected speed of 30 rpm). The element concentration was determined against external calibration using a synthetic acid multielement calibration standard. MW-assisted reactions were performed in Synthos 3000 instrument from Anton Paar, equipped with a 64MG5 rotor and an IR probe as external control of the temperature. Using a temperature controlled program the instrument is able to tune the power magnetron in order to reach and to maintain the fixed temperature throughout the experiment. For each run 16 positions of the rotor were occupied by 0.3-3 ml glass vials sealed with a dedicated PEEK screw-cup together with a reliable PTFE seal. US reaction were performed in an ultrasound bath ULTRASONIC 06 from Falc (Power 40W, frequency out 45/55 KHz). TLC were performed using silica plates 60-F264 on alumina, commercially available from Merk. Liquid Flash chromatography was performed on a Supelco VERSA FLASH HTFP station on silica cartridges commercially available from Supelco. All solvents were distilled before using by standard methods. All chemicals were used as commercially available.

N₂ absorption /desorption curves

Er^{III}-MCM-41 before US exposure



Er^{III}-MCM-41 after US exposure



Synthesis of *tert*-Butyl Carbonates

Room temperature synthesis of tert-butyl Carbonates

In a general procedure 2.0 mmol of alcohol were dissolved in 2.3 eq of di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate under soft heating ($T < 40^{\circ}\text{C}$). 20 mg of MCM-43 (1%mol of Er(III)) were added to the mixture under N_2 atmosphere and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. The reaction was monitored by TLC or GC/MS. On completion, the mixture was diluted with diethyl ether, the catalyst was filtered off and the solvent was evaporated under vacuum. 3 ml of trifluoroethanol were then added and the solution was put in a ultrasound bath for 30 minutes in order to decompose the excess of di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum and desired pure product was separated from the crude by flash chromatography. The catalyst was washed for three times with ether, dried under vacuum and reused for the next run.

US-assisted synthesis of tert-butyl Carbonates

In a general procedure 2.0 mmol of alcohol were dissolved in 2.3 eq of di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate under soft heating ($T < 40^{\circ}\text{C}$). 20 mg of MCM-43 (1%mol of Er(III)) were added to the mixture under N_2 atmosphere and the mixture was stirred in an ultrasound bath for 1 up to 5 hours. The reaction was monitored by TLC or GC/MS. On completion, the mixture was diluted with diethyl ether, the catalyst was filtered off and the solvent was evaporated under vacuum. 3 ml of trifluoroethanol were then added and the solution was put in a ultrasound bath for 30 minutes in order to decompose the excess of di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum and desired pure product was separated from the crude by flash chromatography. The catalyst was washed for three times with ether, dried under vacuum and reused for the next run.

tert-butyl 4-methoxyphenyl carbonate (1). Yield 99%; Rf (Petroleum Ether-Diethyl Ether 9:1) 0.50; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl_3): 1.55 (s, 9H, OtBut), 3.78 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 6.87 (ddd, 2H, H_C , H_B , $J_{\text{orto}}=8$ Hz, $J_{\text{meta}}=1.99$ Hz, $J_{\text{para}}=1.80$ Hz), 7.06 (ddd, 2H, H_A , H_D , $J_{\text{orto}}=8$.Hz, $J_{\text{meta}}=1.99$ Hz, $J_{\text{para}}=1.80$ Hz); m/z: 224 $[\text{M}]^+$, 209 $[\text{M}-\text{CH}_3]^+$, 124 $[\text{M}-\text{COOtBut}+\text{H}]^+$, 109 $[\text{M}-\text{CH}_3-\text{COOtBut}+\text{H}]^+$, 57 $[\text{tBut}]^+$.

tert-butyl octyl carbonate (2). Yield 71%; Rf (Petroleum Ether-Diethyl Ether 97.5:2.5) 0.66; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl_3): 0.88 (t, 3H, CH_3 , $J_{\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2}=6.5$ Hz), 1.17-1.44 (m, 8H, 2 x CH_2), 1.48 (s, 9H, OtBut), 1.58 – 1.71 (m, 4H, 2 x CH_2), 4.05 (t, 2H, CH_2OBoc , $J_{\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2}=6.86\text{Hz}$); m/z: 113 $[\text{M}-\text{CO}_2-\text{OtBut}]^+$, 112 $[\text{M}-\text{CO}_2-\text{HOTBut}]^+$, 57 $[\text{t-but}]^+$

sec-butyl tert-butyl carbonate (3). Yield 50%; volatile compound; $m/z = 119$ [M-isobutene]⁺, 57 [t-but]⁺.

tert-butyl pent-4-enyl carbonate (4). Yield 99%; Rf (Petroleum Ether-Diethyl Ether 8:2) 0.72; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl₃): 1.38 (s, 9H, -OtBut), 1.67-1.81 (m, 2H, H₂), 2.09-2.19 (m, 2H, H₃), 4.07 (t, 2H, H₁, J_{H1H2}=6.83 Hz), 4.96-5.10 (m, 2H, H₅, H_{5'}); 5.73-5.88 (m, 1H, H₄) $m/z =$: 130 [M-tBut]⁺, 69 [M-COOtBut]⁺, 57 [tBut]⁺.

tert-butyl cyclohexyl carbonate (5). Yield 92%; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl₃): 1.48 (s, 9H, OtBut), 1.22-1.62 (m, 6H, 2 x H₃, 2 x H₄, 2 x H₅), 1.74-1.78 (m, 2H, H₂, H_{2'}), 1.93-1.96 (m, 2H, H₆, H_{6'}), 4.48-4.57 (m, 1H, H₁); m/z : 145 [M-isobutene]⁺, 99 [M-COOtBut]⁺, 83 [M-CO₂-OtBut]⁺, 57 [tBut]⁺.

tert-butyl phenyl carbonate (6). Yield 99%; Rf (Petroleum Ether-Diethyl Ether 9:1) 0.64; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl₃): 1.56 (s, 9H, -OtBut), 7.08-7.44 (m, 5H, Ar) $m/z =$: 194 [M]⁺, 179 [M-CH₃]⁺, 94 [M-COOtBut]⁺, 57 [tBut]⁺.

4-bromophenyl tert-butyl carbonate (7). Yield 99%; Rf (Petroleum Ether-Diethyl Ether 9:1) 0.64; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl₃): 1.55 (s, 9H, OtBut), 7.06 (ddd, 2H, H_C, H_B, J_{ortho}=8 Hz, J_{meta}=1.99 Hz, J_{para}=1.80 Hz), 7.48 (ddd, 2H, H_A, H_D, J_{ortho}=8.Hz, J_{meta}=1.99 Hz, J_{para}=1.80 Hz); m/z : 272 [M]⁺, 274 (90%) [M+2]⁺, 253 [M-CH₃]⁺, 259 (90%) [M+2-CH₃]⁺, 199 [M-tBut]⁺, 201 (90%) [M+2-tBut]⁺, 172 [M-OtBut]⁺, 174 (90%) [M+2-tBut]⁺, 57 [tBut]⁺.

tert-butyl 4-ethylphenyl carbonate (8). Yield 99%; Rf (Petroleum Ether-Diethyl Ether 9:1) 0.66; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl₃): 1.22 (t, 3H, -CH₃CH₂, J_{CH₃CH₂}=7.67 Hz), 1.55 (s, 9H, OtBut), 2.63 (q, 2H, -CH₃CH₂, J_{CH₃CH₂}=7.67 Hz), 7.06 (ddd, 2H, H_C, H_B, J_{ortho}=8.Hz, J_{meta}=1.99 Hz, J_{para}=1.80 Hz), 7.19 (ddd, 2H, H_A, H_D, J_{ortho}=8.Hz, J_{meta}=1.99 Hz, J_{para}=1.80 Hz); m/z : 122 [M]⁺, 207 [M-CH₃]⁺, 122 [M-CO₂-isobutene]⁺, 107 [122-CH₃]⁺, 57 [tBut]⁺.

tert-butyl 4-nitrophenyl carbonate (9). Yield 99%; Rf (Petroleum Ether-Diethyl Ether 9:1) 0.46; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl₃): 1.58 (s, 9H, OtBut), 7.33 (ddd, 2H, H_A, H_D, J_{ortho}=8 Hz), 8.25 (ddd, 2H, H_C, H_B, J_{ortho}=8) m/z : 224 [M-CH₃]⁺, 176 [M-OtBut]⁺, 139 [M-COOtBut+H]⁺, 57 [tBut]⁺.

methyl 2-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)-3-(4-(tert-butoxycarbonyloxy)phenyl)propanoate (10). Yield 99%; Rf (CH₂Cl₂-MeOH 98:2) 0.68; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl₃): 1.42 (s, 9H, NHBoc), 1.55 (s, 9H, PhOtBut), 3.00-3.150 (m, 1H, H₁), 3.71 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 4.50-4.65 (m, 1H, H₂), 4.9-5.1 (m, 1H, H_{2'}), 7.05-7.20 (m, 4H, Ar), ; m/z : 280 [M-NHBoc]⁺, 178 [M-NHBoc-COOMe]⁺, 107 [Boc]⁺, 57 [tBut]⁺.

tert-butyl 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-2-methoxyphenyl carbonate (11a). Yield 73%; Rf (Petroleum Ether-Diethyl Ether 9:1) 0.60; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl₃): 1.55 (s, 9H, OtBut),

2.83 (t, 2H, $-\underline{\text{CH}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OtBut}$, $J_{\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2}=6.59$ Hz), 3.77-3.91 (m, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OtBut}$), 3.84 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 6.78 (dd, 1H, H_B , $J_{\text{orto}}=8.07$ Hz, $J_{\text{meta}}=1.89$ Hz), 6.82 (d, 1H, H_C , $J_{\text{meta}}=1.85$ Hz), 7.05 (d, 1H, H_D , $J_{\text{orto}}=8.07$ Hz); m/z: 195 $[\text{M-OtBut}]^+$, 168 $[\text{M-COOtBut-H}]^+$, 137 $[\text{M-COOtBut-OCH}_3]^+$.

tert-butyl 4-(2-tert-butoxyethyl)-2-methoxyphenyl carbonate (11b). Yield 86%; Rf (CH_2Cl_2 -MeOH 9:1) 0.8; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl_3): 1.48 (s, 9H, OtBoc), 1.55 (s, 9H, PhOtBut), 2.99 (t, 2H, $-\underline{\text{CH}}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OtBut}$, $J_{\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2}=7.3$ Hz), 3.84 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 4.25 (t, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OPh}$, $J_{\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2}=7.3$ Hz), 6.79 (dd, 1H, H_B , $J_{\text{orto}}=8.07$ Hz, $J_{\text{meta}}=1.89$ Hz), 6.8 (d, 1H, H_C , $J_{\text{meta}}=1.85$ Hz), 7.04 (d, 1H, H_D , $J_{\text{orto}}=8.07$ Hz) m/z: 295 $[\text{M-OtBut}]^+$, 168 $[\text{M-2 x COOtBut}]^+$, 150 $[\text{M-2 x COOtBut-2 x CO}_2]^+$, 137 $[\text{M-2 x COOtBut-OCH}_3]^+$.

tert-butyl 2-methoxyphenyl carbonate (12). Yield 98%; Rf (Petroleum Ether-Diethyl Ether 9:1) 0.38; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl_3): 1.55 (s, 9H, OtBut), 3.85 (s, 3H, $-\text{OCH}_3$), 6.90-7.19 (m, 4H, Ar); m/z: 224 $[\text{M}]^+$, 151 $[\text{M-OtBut}]^+$, 124 $[\text{M-COOtBut}]^+$, 109 $[\text{M-OCOOtBut}]^+$, 92 $[\text{M-OCOOtBut-CH}_3]^+$, 77 $[\text{Ph}]^+$.

tert-butyl 4-methylphenyl carbonate (13). Yield 99%; Rf (Petroleum Ether-Diethyl Ether 9:1) 0.7; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl_3): 1.55 (s, 9H, OtBut), 2.33 (s, 3H, $-\text{CH}_3$), 7.04 (ddd, 2H, H_C , H_B , $J_{\text{orto}}=7.30$ Hz, $J_{\text{meta}}=3.01$ Hz, $J_{\text{para}}=1.00$ Hz), 7.15 (ddd, 2H, H_A , H_D , $J_{\text{orto}}=7.30$ Hz, $J_{\text{meta}}=3.01$ Hz, $J_{\text{para}}=1.00$ Hz); m/z: 208 $[\text{M}]^+$, 193 $[\text{M-CH}_3]^+$, 108 $[\text{M-CO}_2\text{-isobutene}]^+$, 91 $[\text{M-COOtBut}]^+$, 77 $[\text{Ph}]^+$.

tert-butyl 2-methylphenyl carbonate (14). Yield 97%; Rf (Petroleum Ether-Diethyl Ether 9:1) 0.7; δ (ppm)(300MHz, CDCl_3): 1.55 (s, 9H, OtBut), 2.33 (s, 3H, $-\text{CH}_3$), 7.06-7.22 (m, 4H, Ar); m/z: 208 $[\text{M}]^+$, 193 $[\text{M-CH}_3]^+$, 108 $[\text{M-CO}_2\text{-isobutene}]^+$, 91 $[\text{M-COOtBut}]^+$, 77 $[\text{Ph}]^+$.

Cleavage of *tert*-Butyl Carbonatess

Oil Bath Heating Cleavage of tert-Butyl Ethers

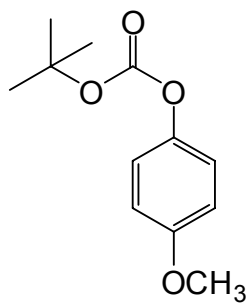
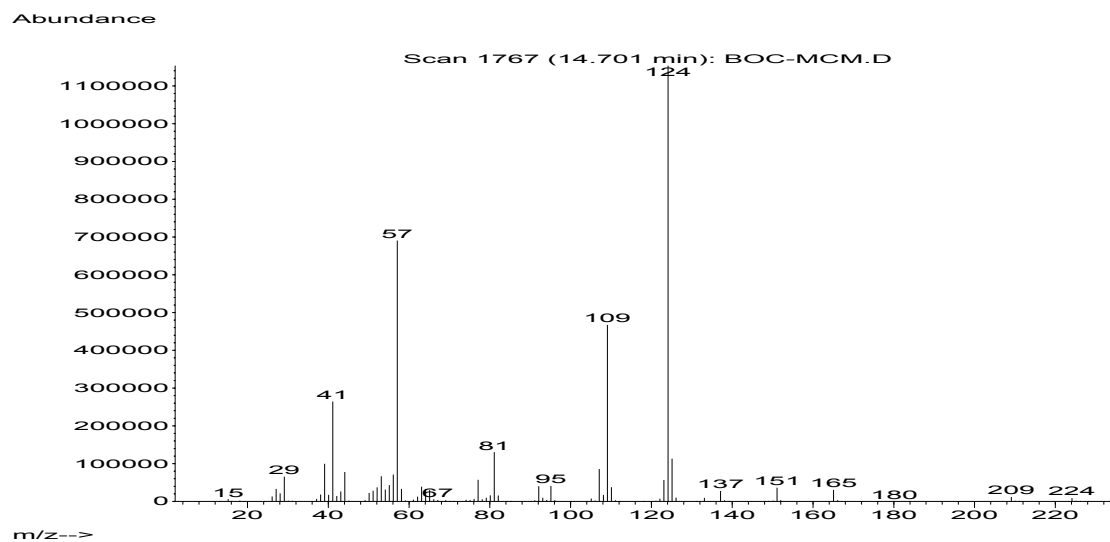
In a general procedure 1.0 mmol of *tert*-butyl ether was solved in 2.0 ml of EtOH and, after addition of 5%mol of Er (OTf)₃ (0.50 mmol, 30.70 mg), the mixture was heated until reflux temperature (70°C) in an oil bath. The reaction was monitored by TLC or GC/MS. On completion, the mixture was diluted with ether, then extracted for three times with water. The organic phases collected were dried on Na₂SO₄, filtered and then evaporated under vacuum giving rise to the pure product.

MW-Assisted Cleavage of tert-Butyl Ethers

In a general procedure 1.0 mmol of *tert*-butyl ether was solved in 2.0 ml of EtOH and 1%mol of Er (OTf)₃ (0.010 mmol, 6.140 mg) were added in a 0.3-3 ml glass vials from Anton Paar sealed with a dedicated PEEK screw-cup together with a reliable PTFE seal. The mixture was reacted for 25 min. in a Synthos 3000 instrument from Anton Paar, equipped with a 64MG5 rotor and an IR probe as external control of the temperature, fixed on the temperature value of 80°C. On completion, the mixture was diluted with ether, then extracted for three times with water. The organic phases collected were dried on Na₂SO₄, filtered and then evaporated under vacuum giving rise to the pure product.

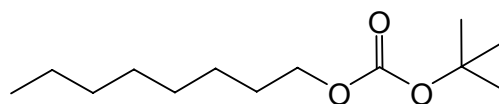
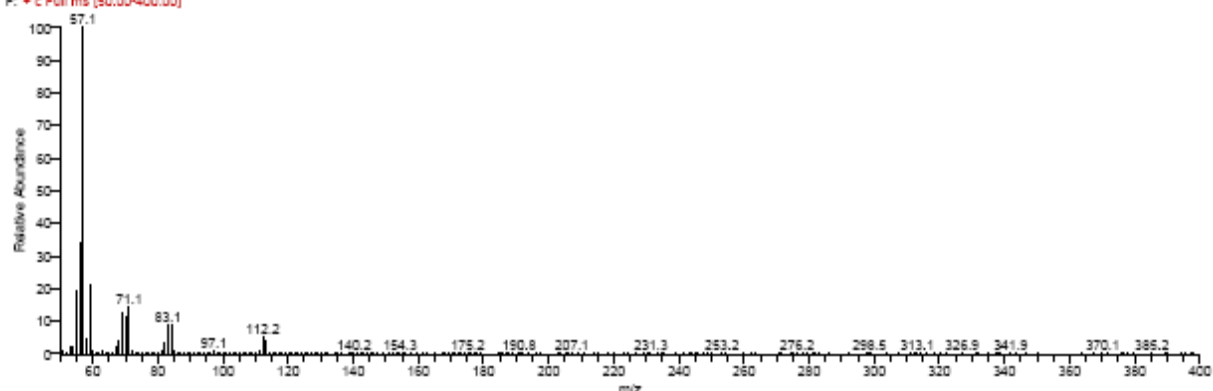
EI/MS Spectra

Sample 1

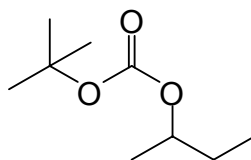
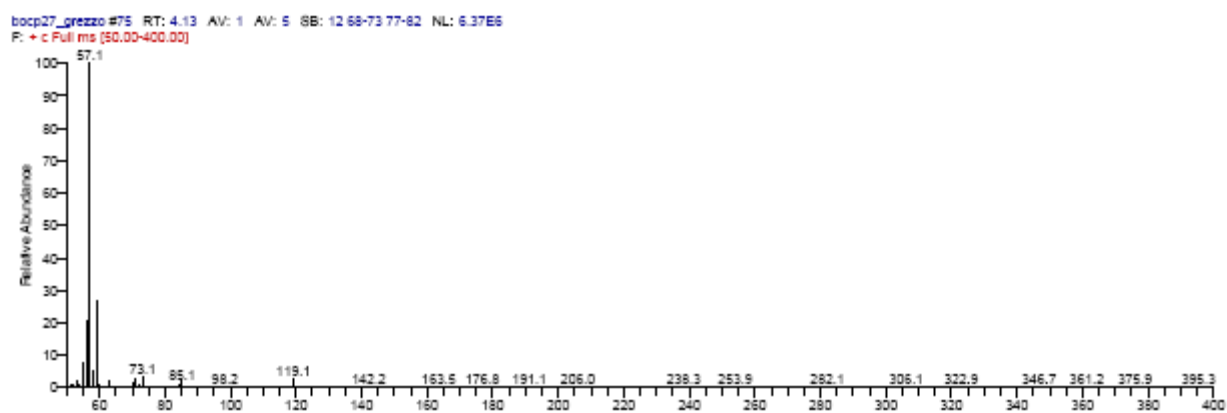


Sample 2

bocp26 #3648 RT: 10.34 AV: 1 AV: 5 (S): 12 3641-3646 3650-3655 NL: 4,58E8
F: + c Full ms (50.00-400.00)

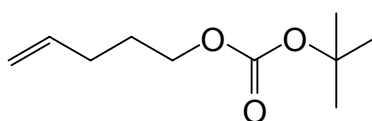
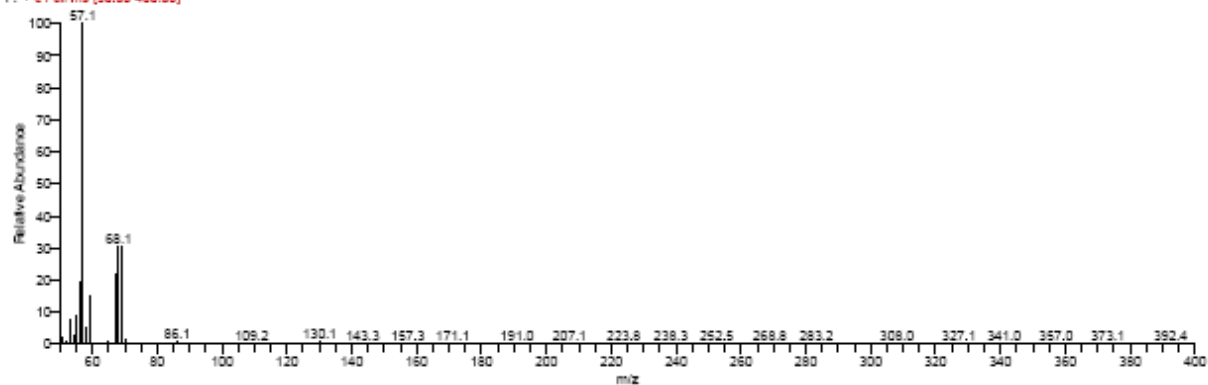


Sample 3



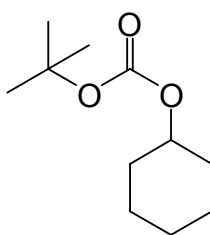
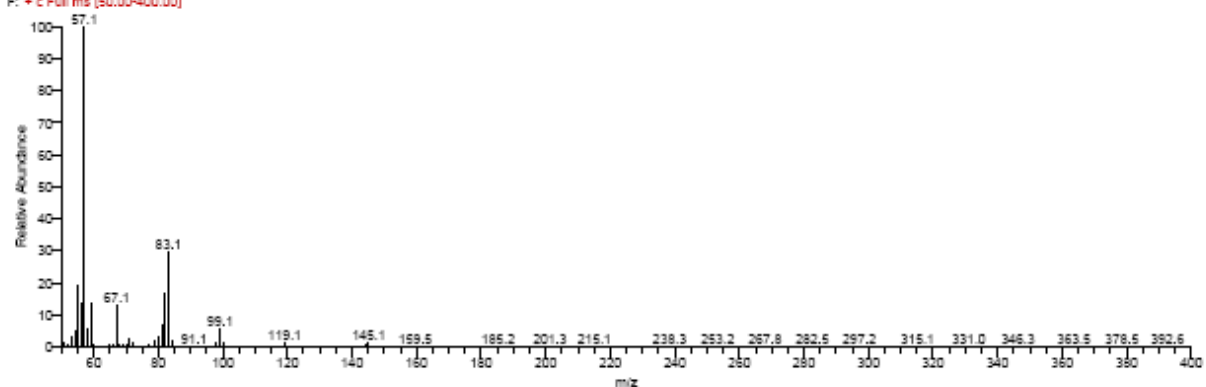
Sample 4

bocp42_US_2h #1892 RT: 6.29 AM: 1 AV: 5 SB: 12 1885-1890 1894-1899 NL: 3.58E8
F: + c Full ms (50.00-400.00)

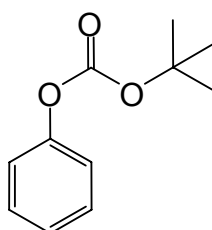
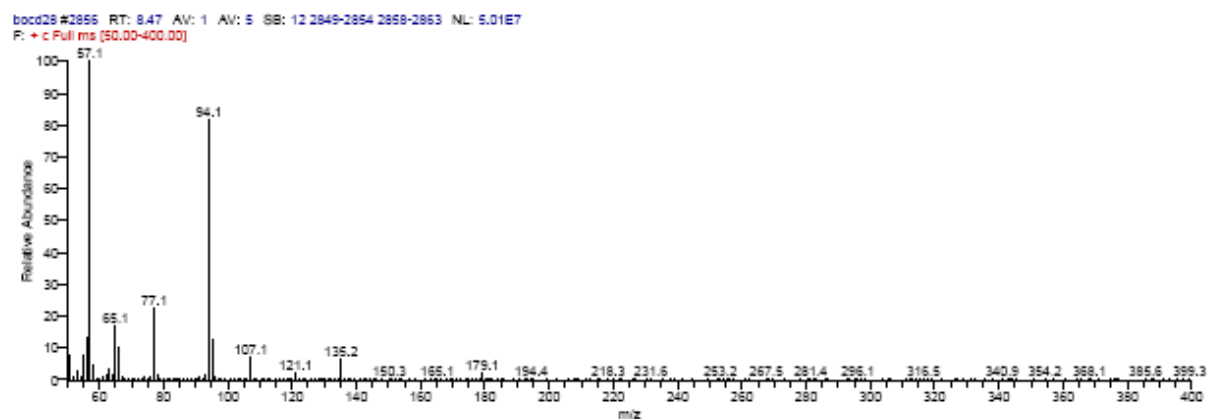


Sample 5

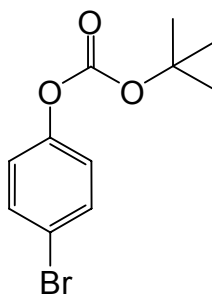
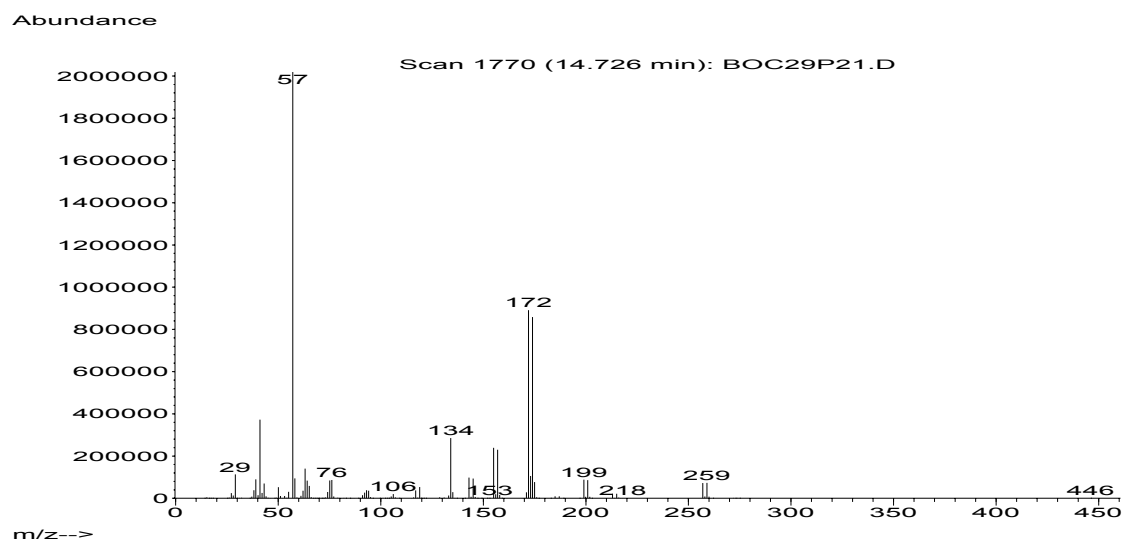
bocp30_US_5h #2459 RT: 8.28 AV: 1 AV: 5 SB: 12 2452-2457 2461-2466 NL: 5.63E8
F: + c Full ms (50.00-400.00)



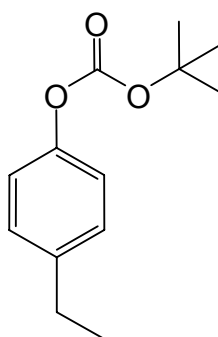
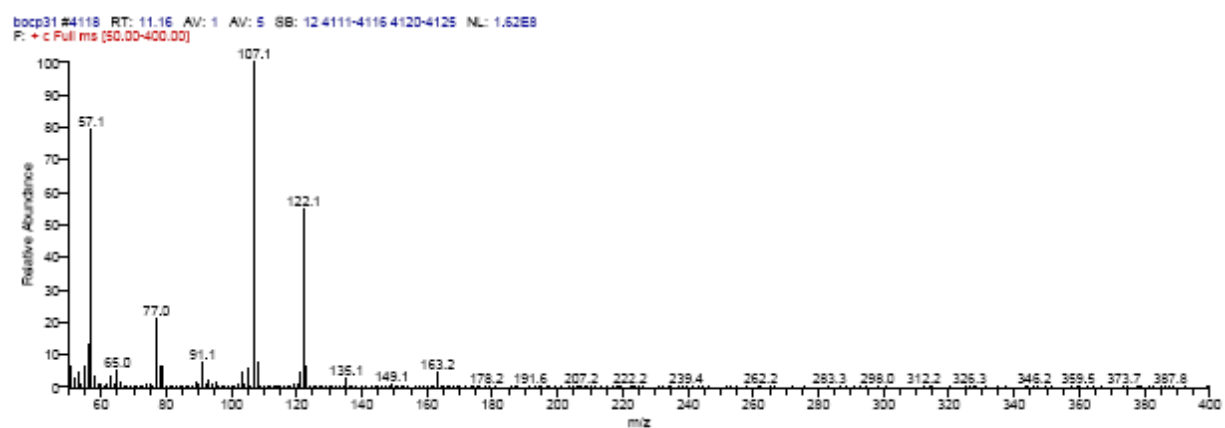
Sample 6



Sample 7

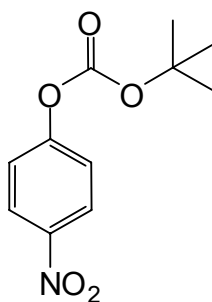
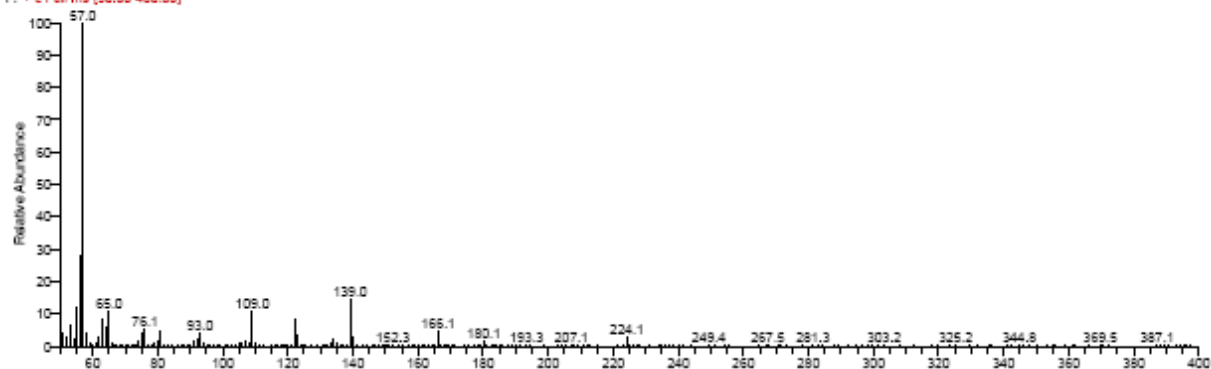


Sample 8



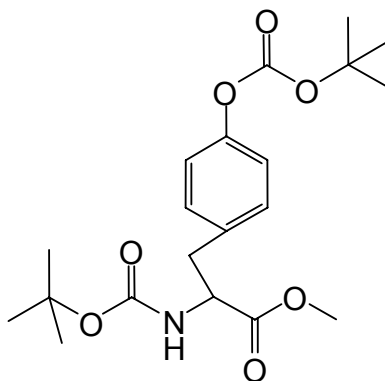
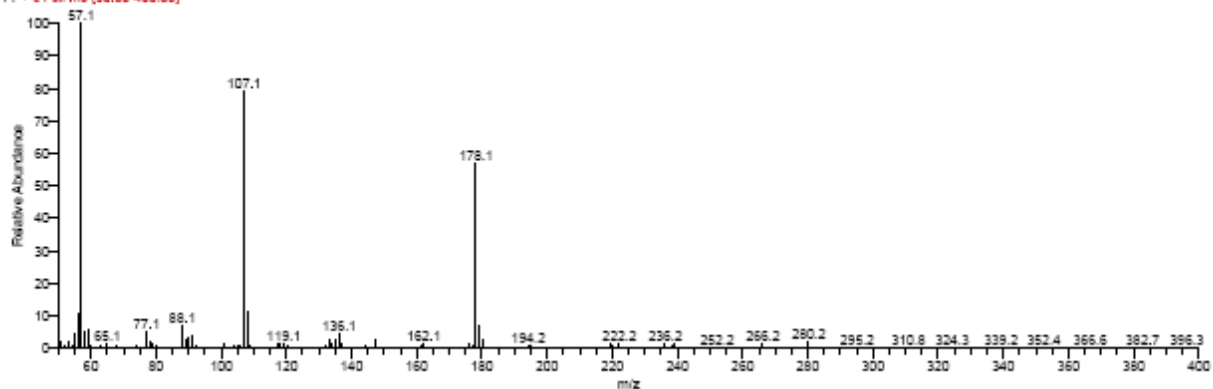
Sample 9

bocp40_CF3 #5316 RT: 13.24 AV: 1 AV: 5 SB: 12 5309-5314 5316-5323 NL: 6.7266
F: + c Full ms (50.00-400.00)

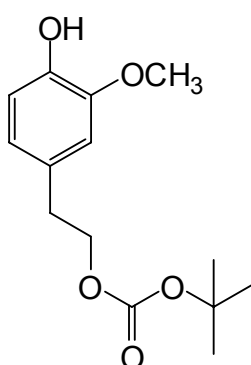
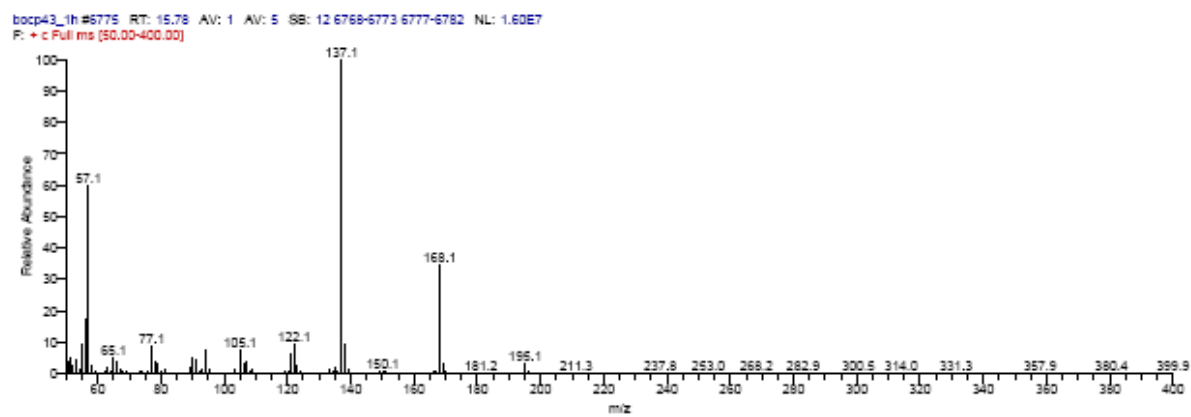


Sample 10

bocD33C #9092 RT: 20.15 AV: 1 AV: 5 SB: 12 9085-9090 9094-9099 NL: 2.53E8
F: + c Full ms (50.00-400.00)

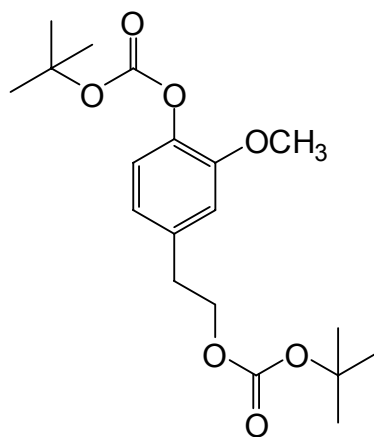
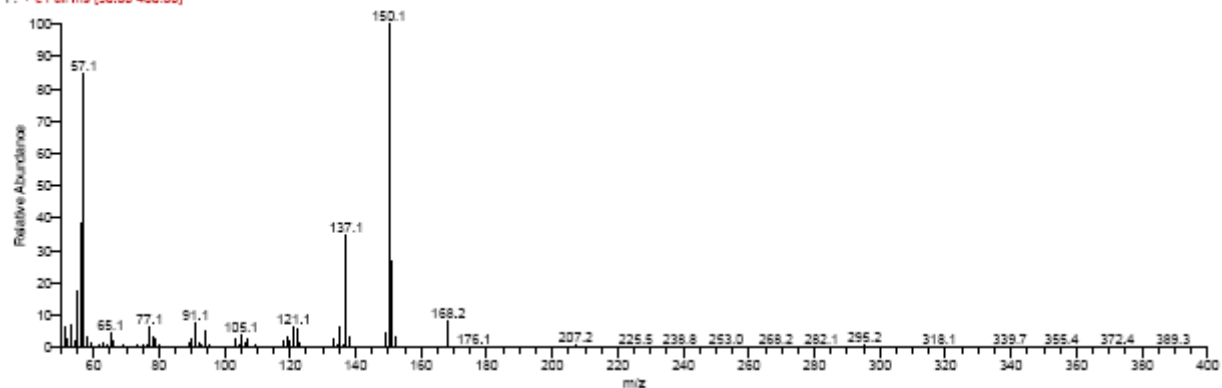


Sample **11a**

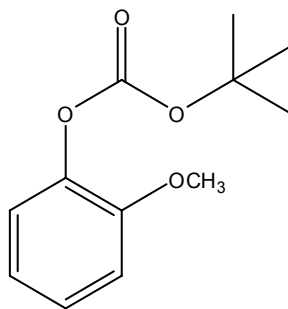
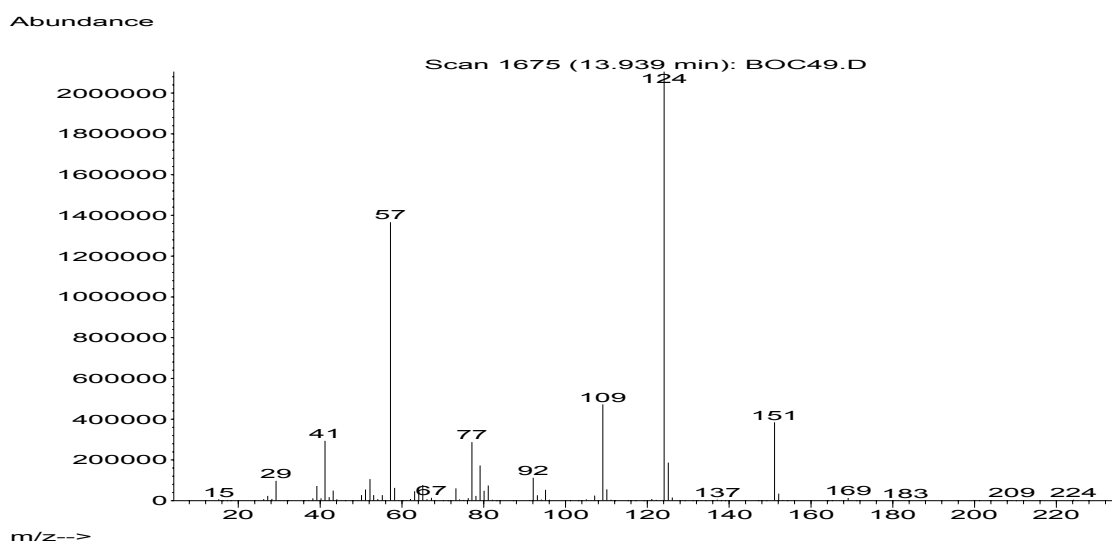


Sample **11b**

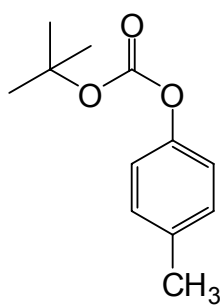
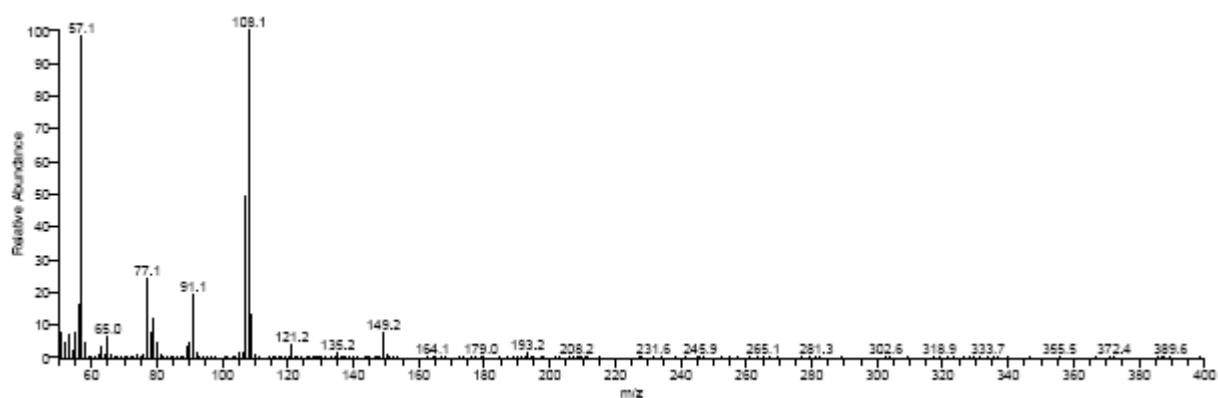
hscp43_1h#8519 RT: 18.82 AV: 1 AV: 5 (S: 12 8512-8517 8521-8526 NL: 1.85E6
F: + c Full ms [50.00-400.00])



Sample 12

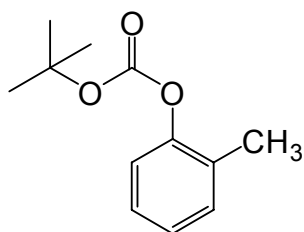
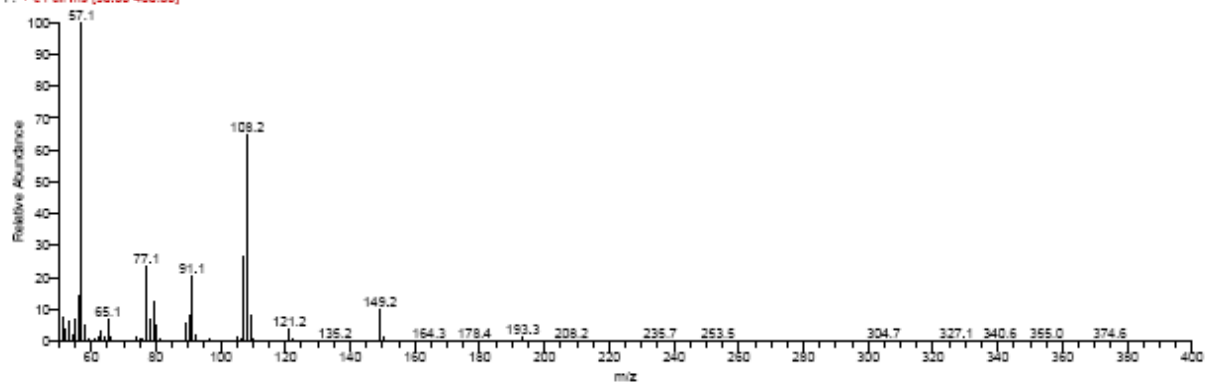


Sample 13



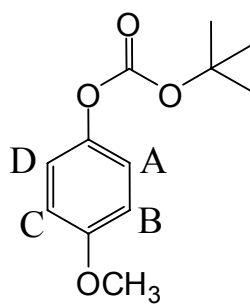
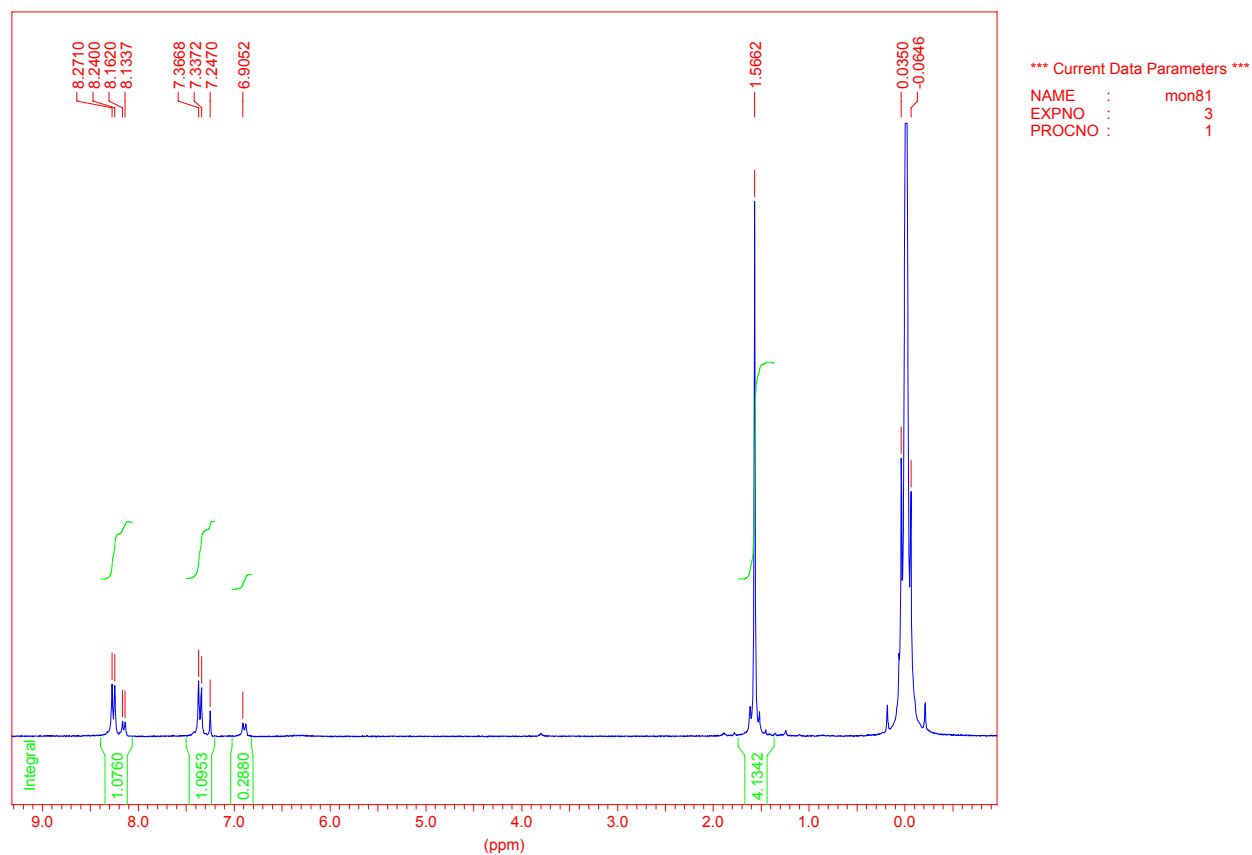
Sample 14

bocp_468_greazo #3034 RT: 9.26 AV: 1 AV: 5 (SE: 12 3017-3022 3026-3031 NL: 3.18E7
F: + c Full ms (50.00-400.00)

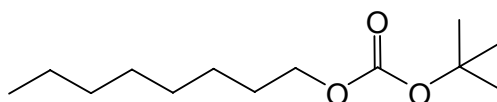
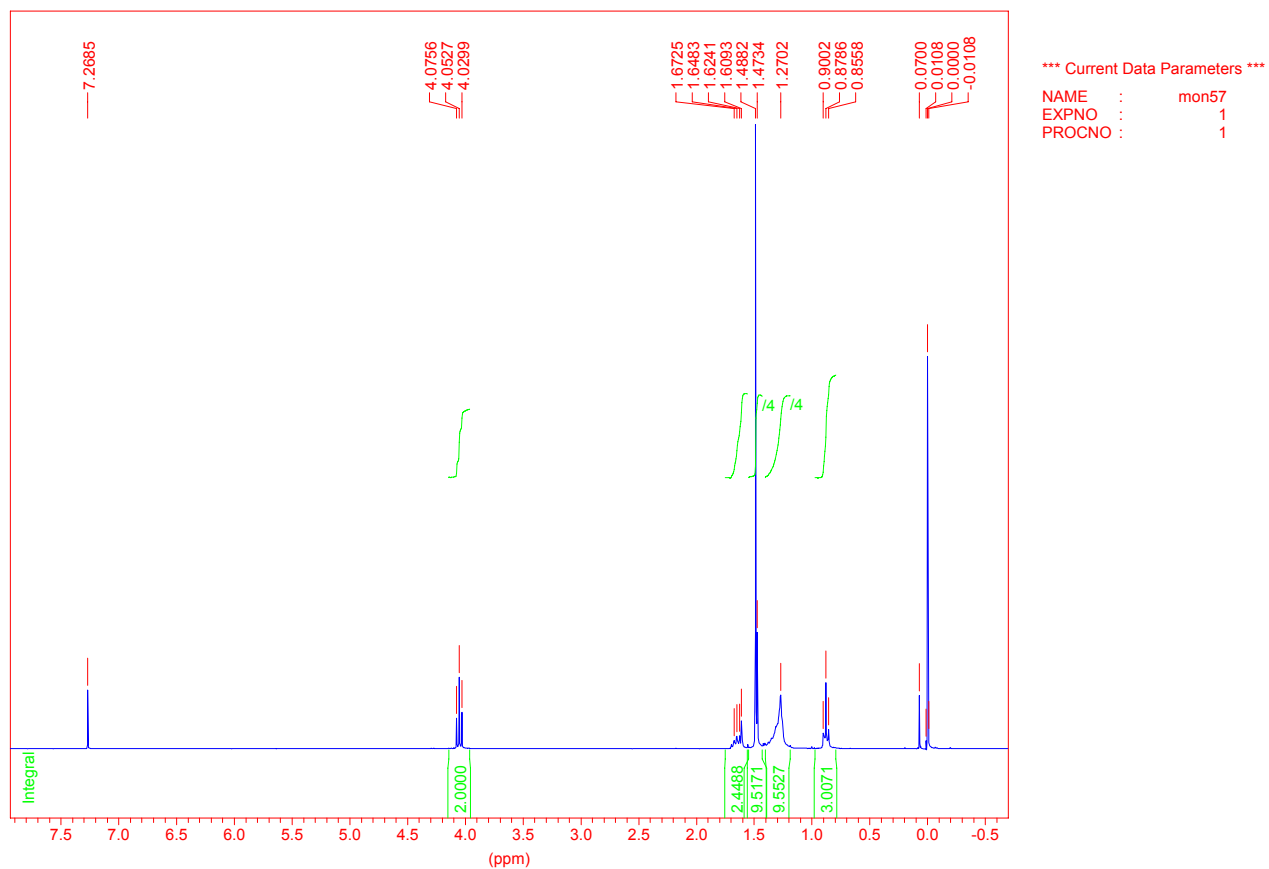


¹H-NMR Spectra

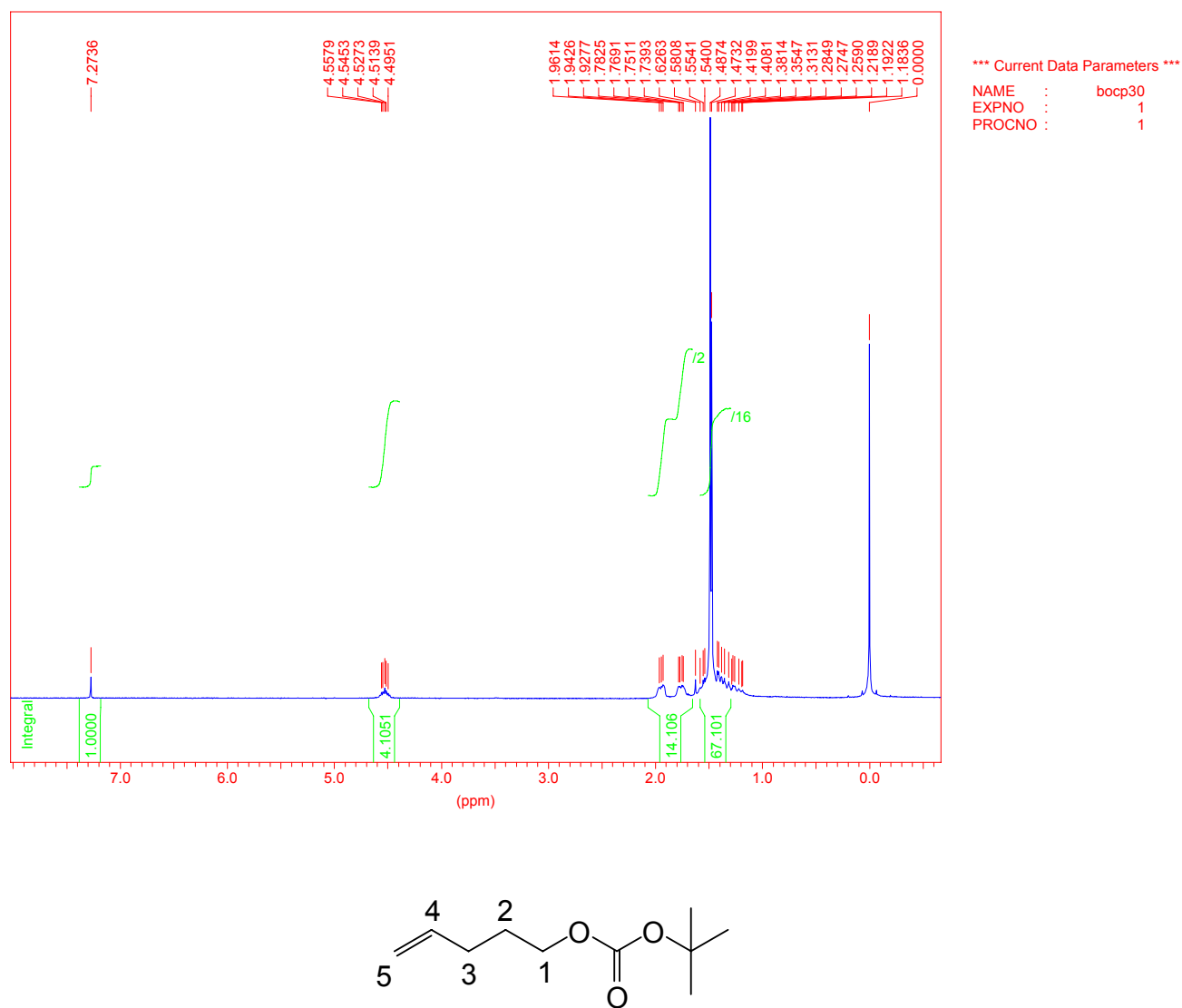
Sample 1



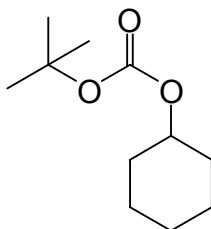
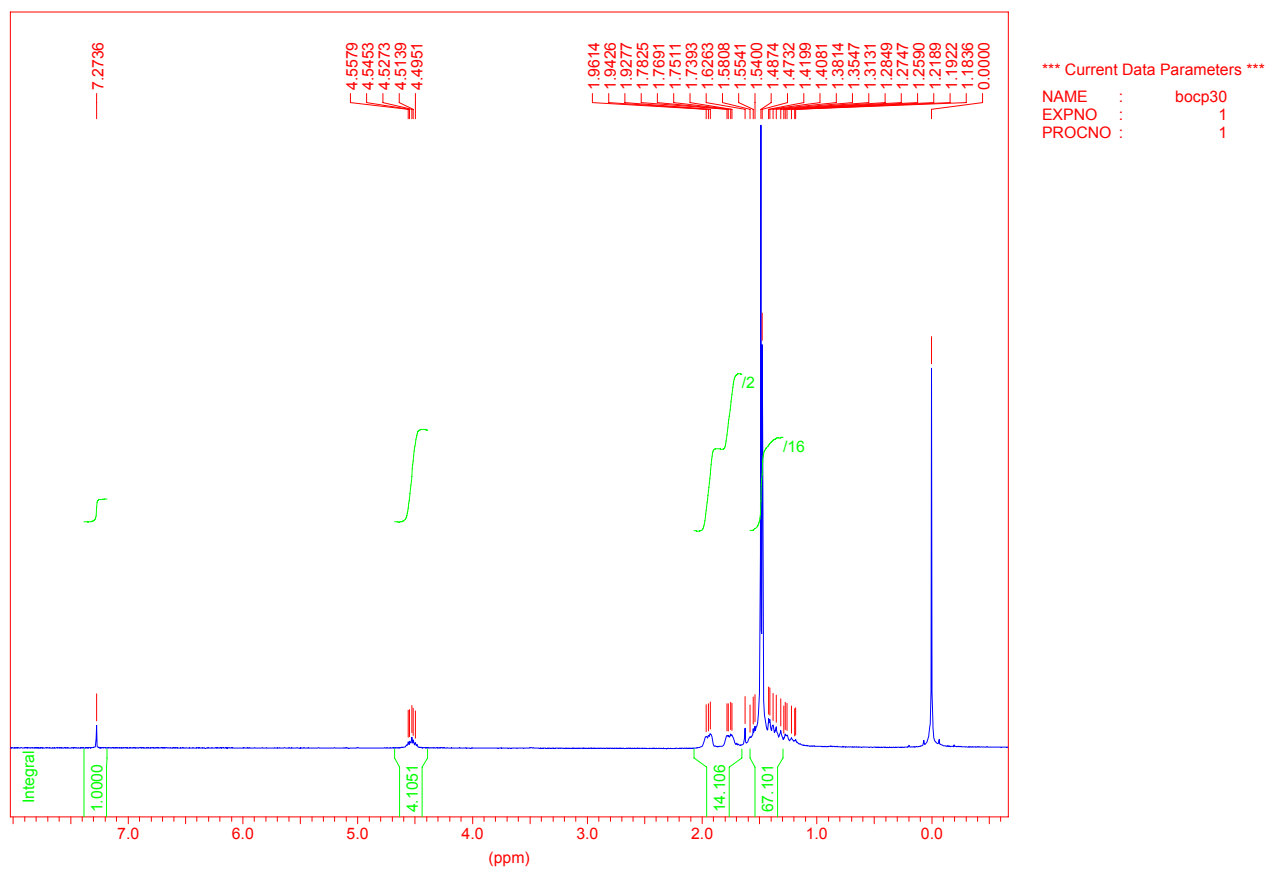
Sample 2



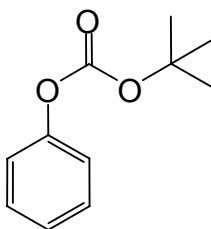
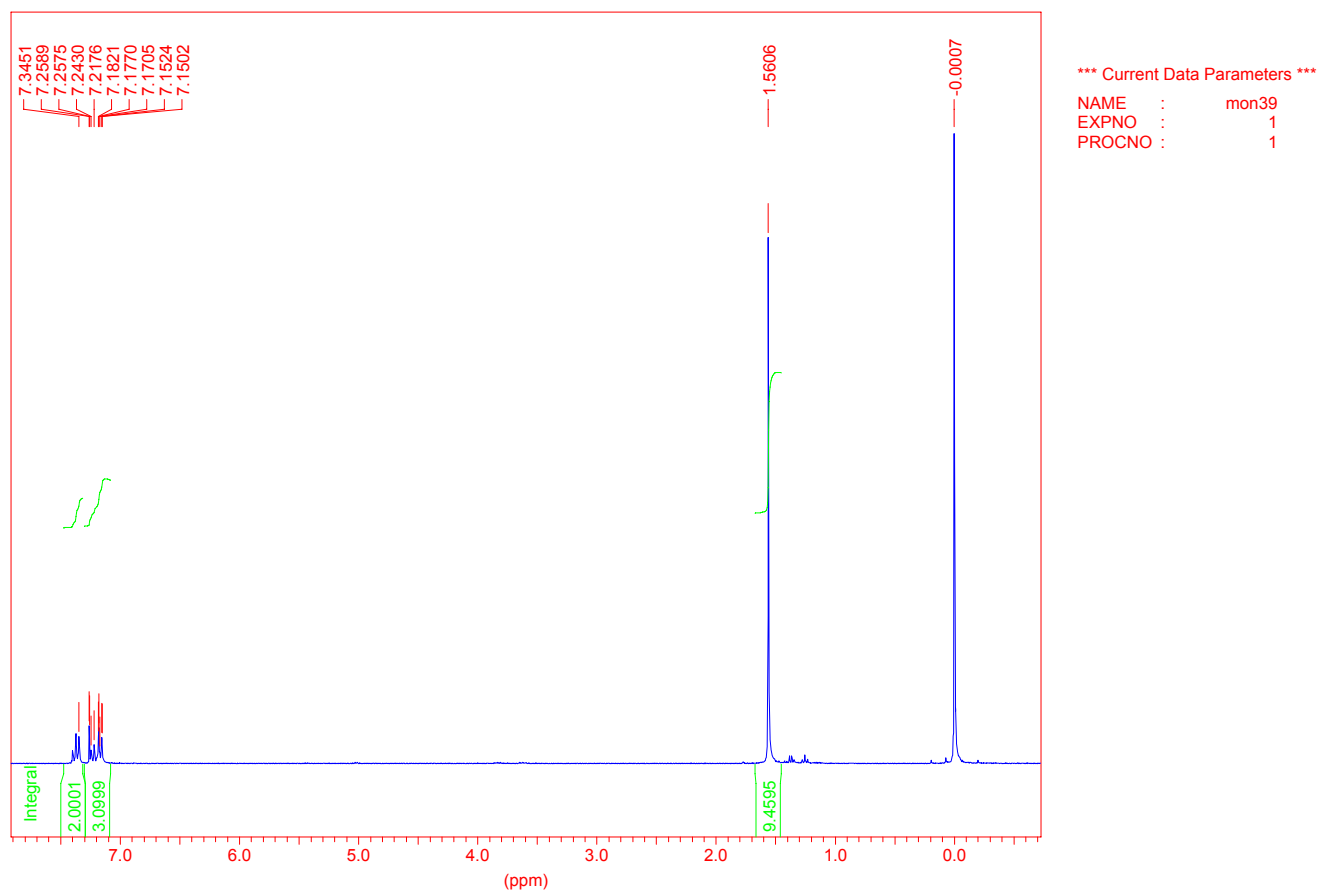
Sample 4



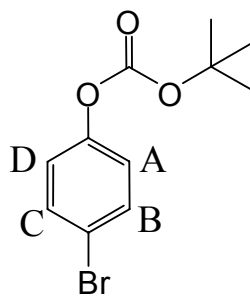
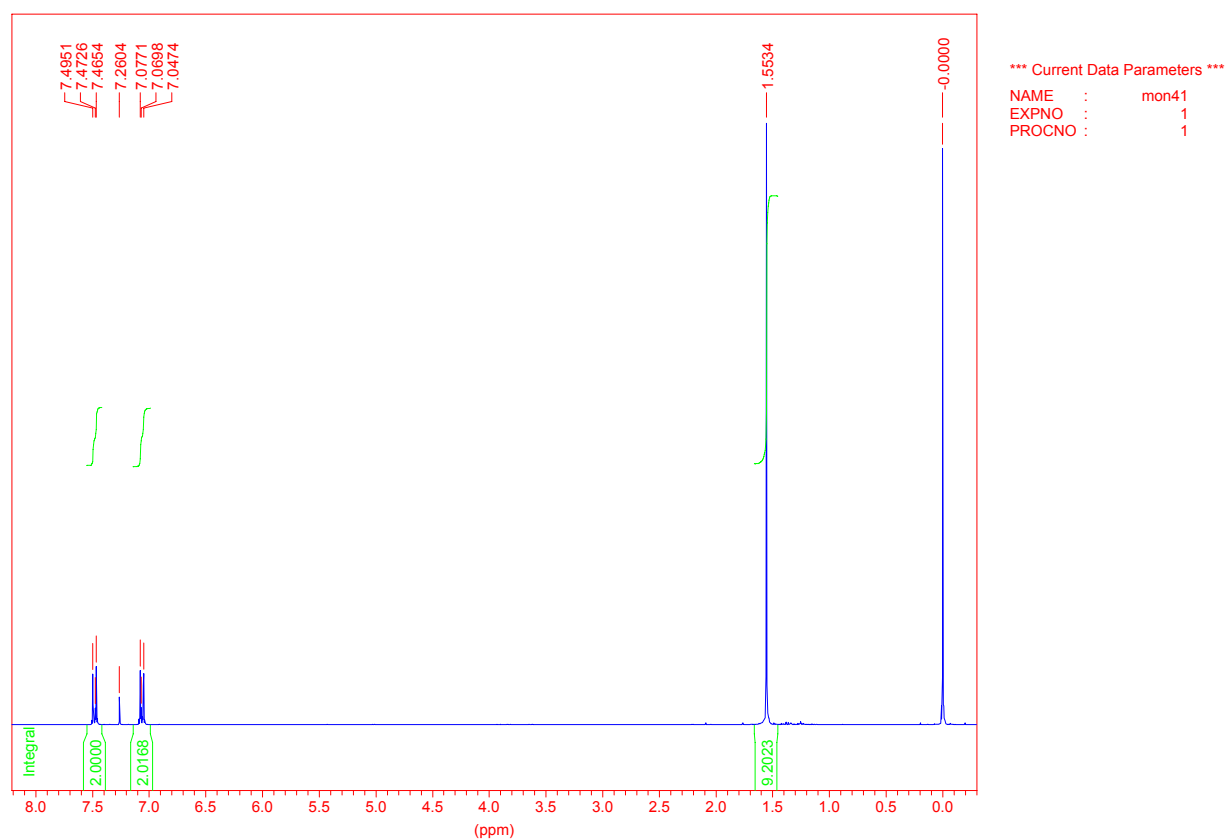
Sample 5



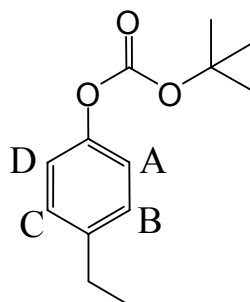
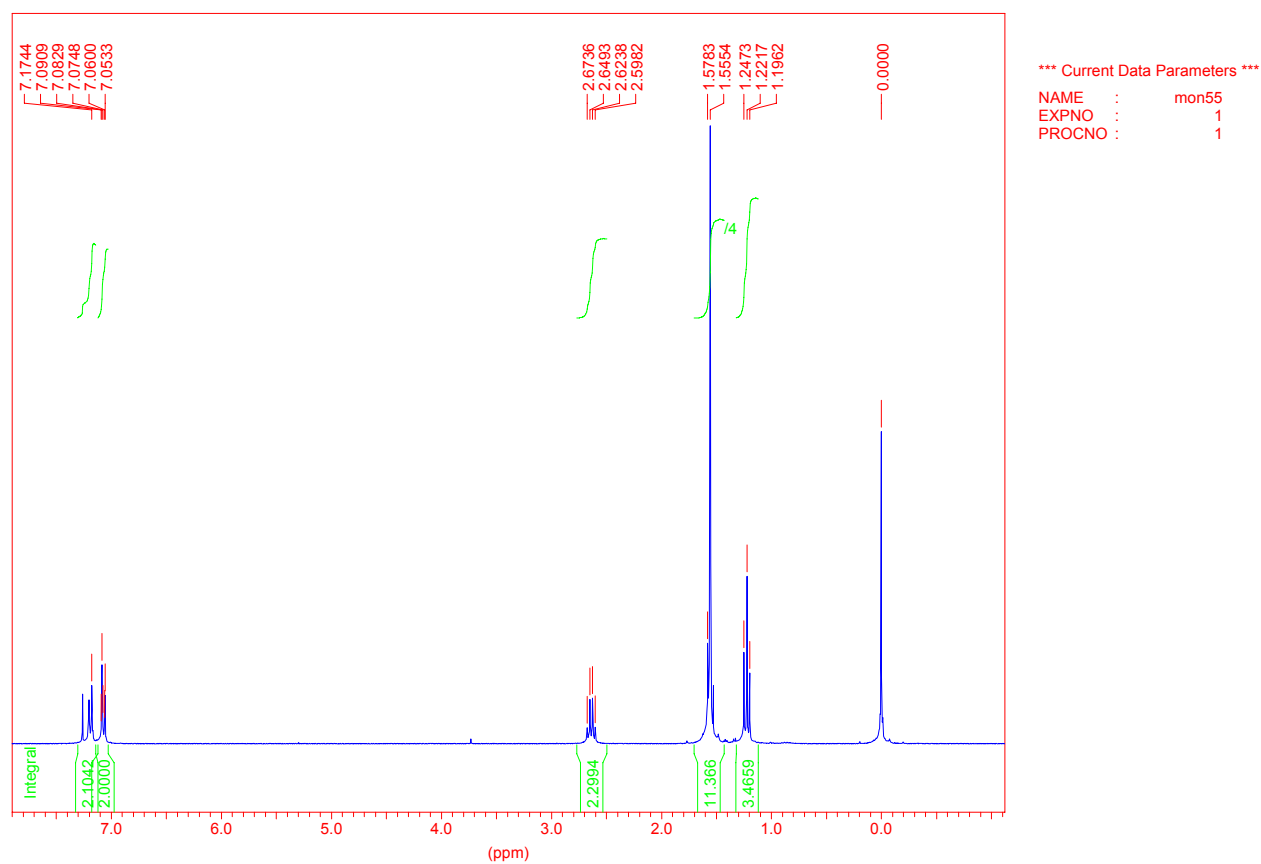
Sample 6



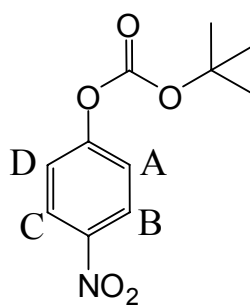
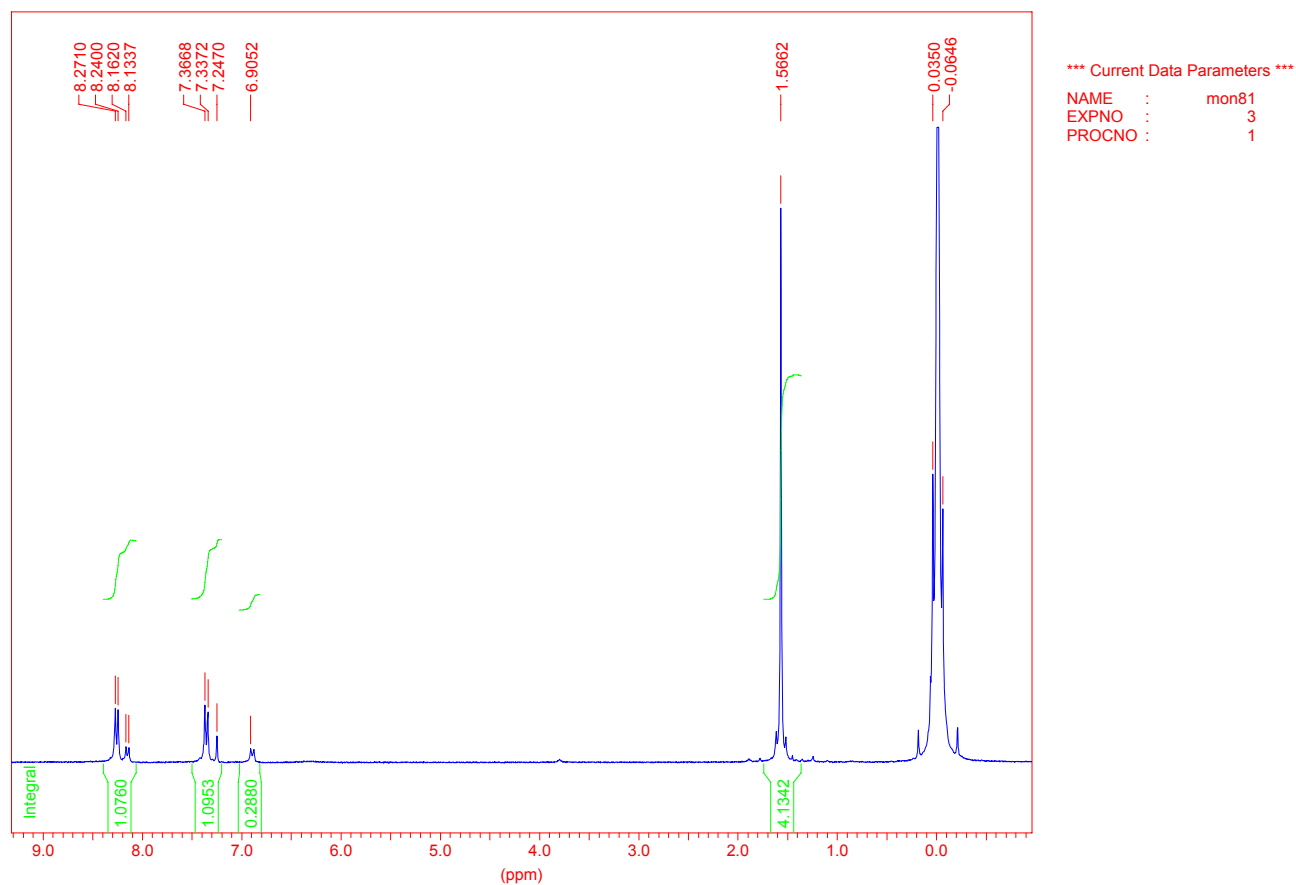
Sample 7



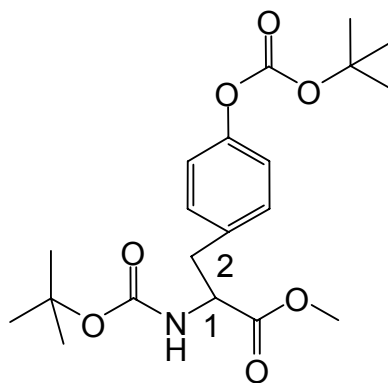
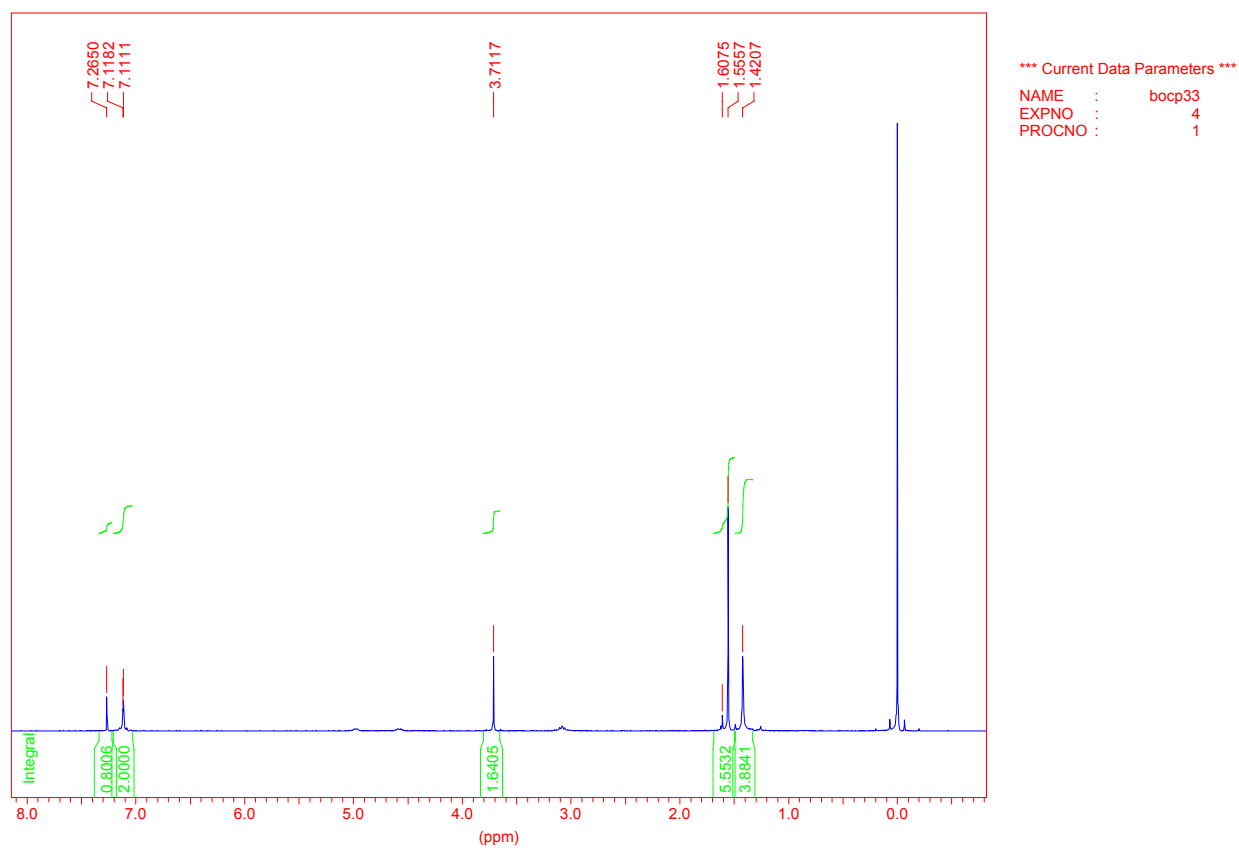
Sample 8



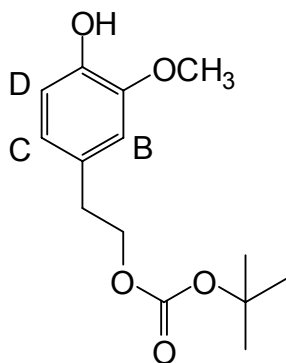
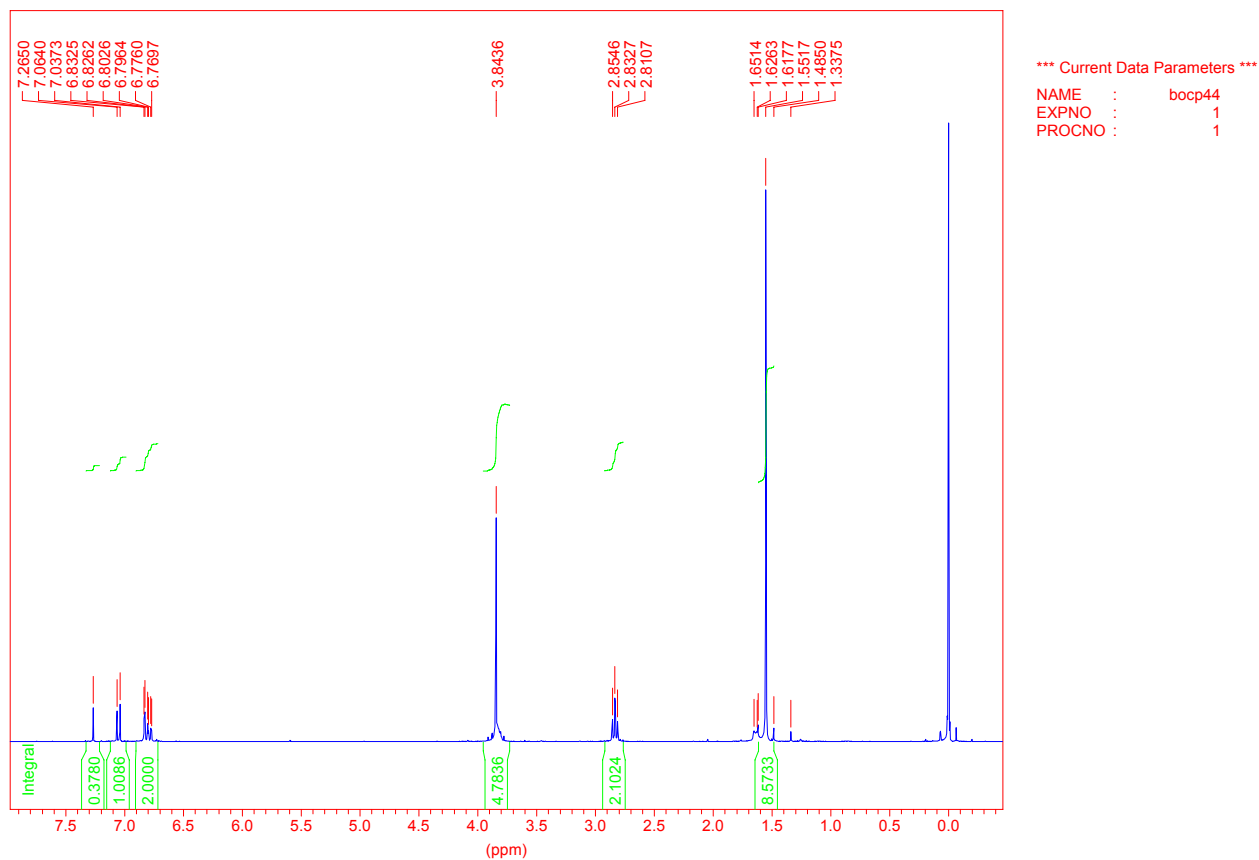
Sample 9



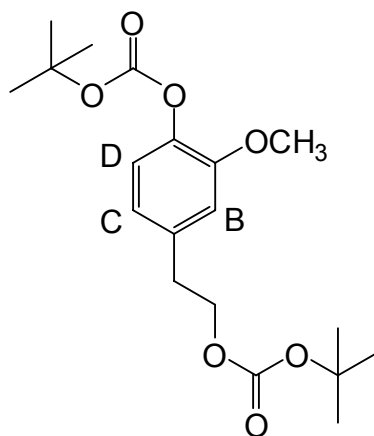
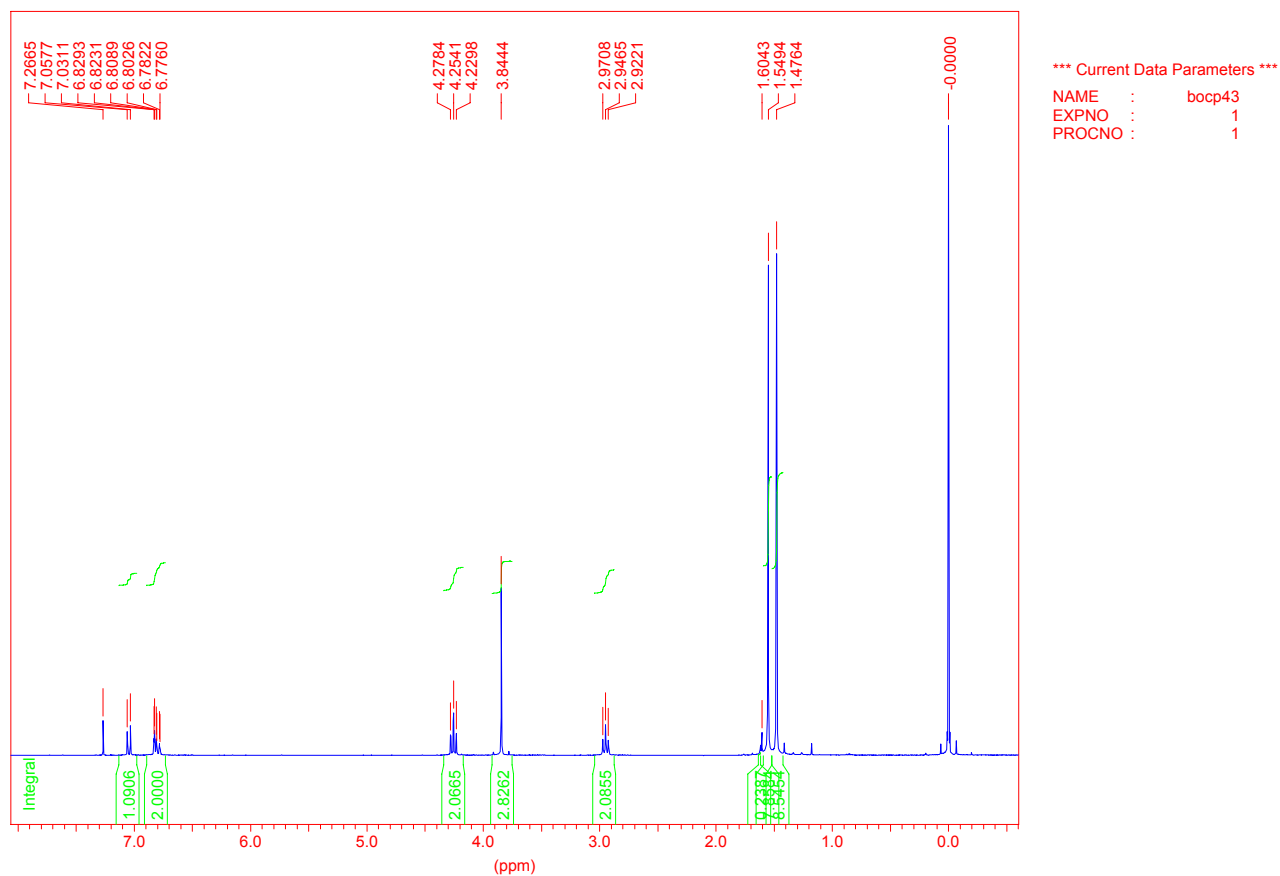
Sample 10



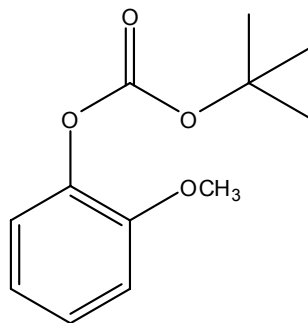
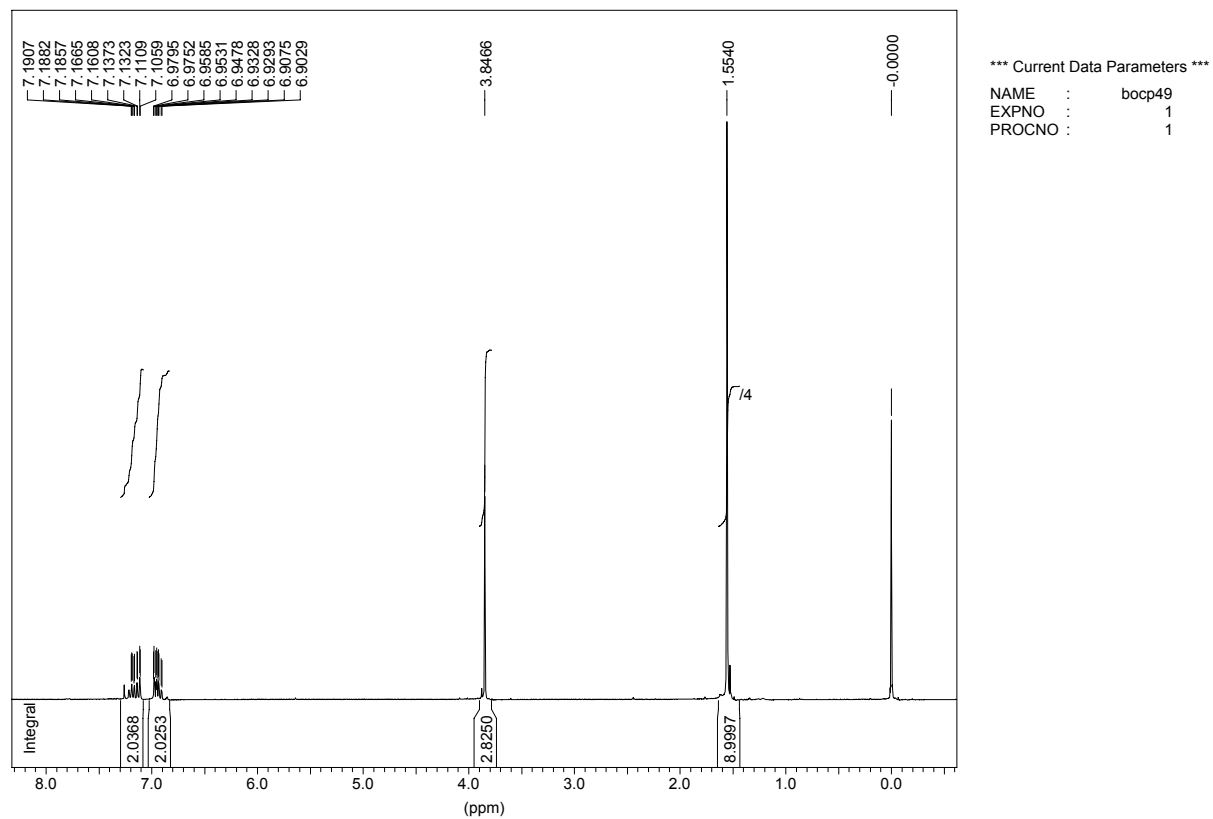
Sample **11a**



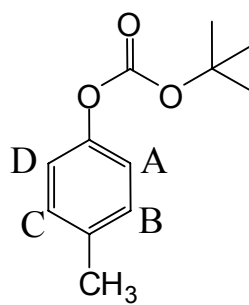
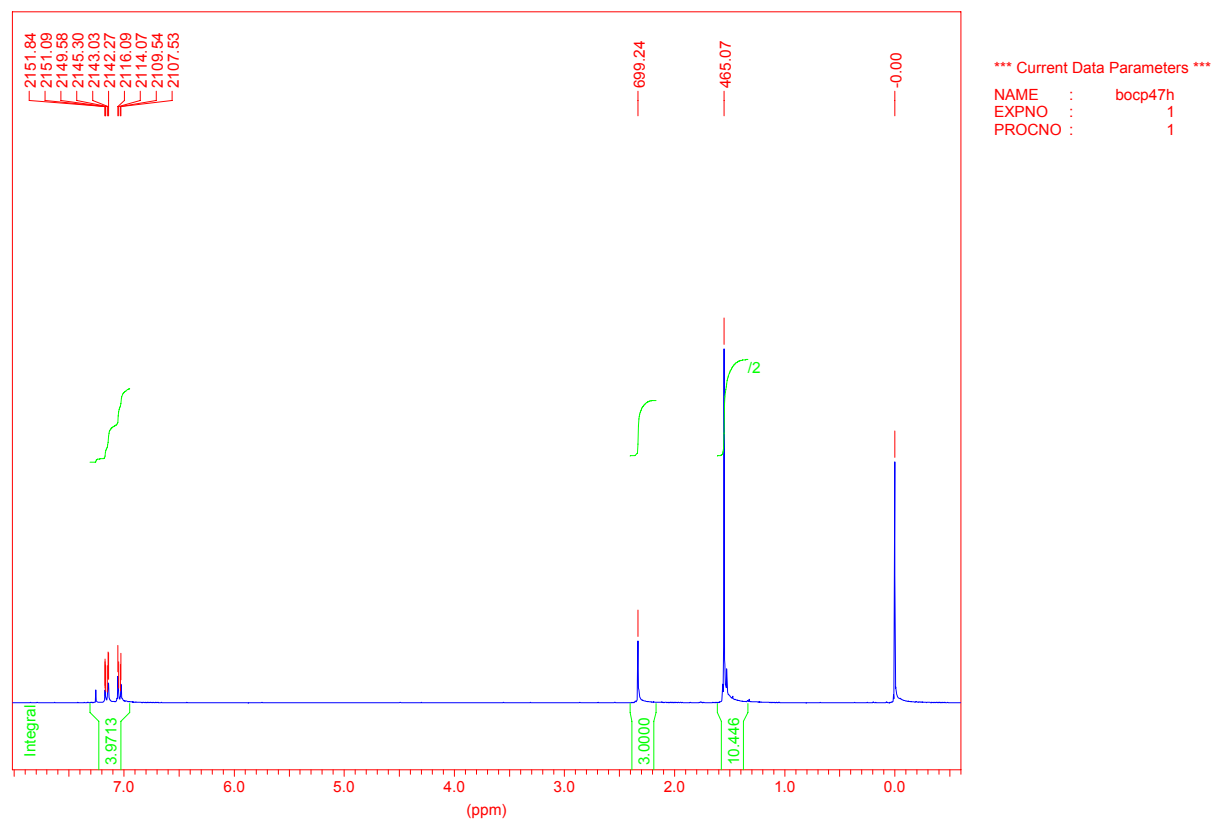
Sample **11b**



Sample 12



Sample 13



Sample 14

