

Electronic Supplementary Information

Magnetically Separable Gold Catalyst for Chemoselective Reduction of Nitro Compounds

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Table of Contents

1	Reagents and Materials	S2
2	Preparation of Au/Fe Oxide (1)	S2
3	General Procedure for Nitroarene Reductions	S2
4	Preparation of Au/Fe Oxide (2) from Commercial Iron Oxide	S2
5	Solvent Screening	S3
6	Recycling Test	S3
7	Catalytic Activity Comparison	S4
8	TEM Images of Our Catalyst after Recycling Test	S5
9	Large Scale Reaction	S5
10	Catalyst Systems for the Reduction of Nitroarenes	S6
11	Catalyst Systems for the Reduction of Nitroarenes with Hydrosilanes	S8
12	Spectral Data of Aniline Derivatives	S9
13	References	S11

1. Reagents and Materials

Commercial chemicals were used without further purification unless noted. *N,N*-dimethyl-4-nitrobenzamide,^[1] 4-benzyloxynitrobenzene^[2] and benzyl 4-nitrophenylcarbamate^[3] were prepared following literature procedures. 1-Fluoro-4-nitrobenzene and 4-nitrobenzyl alcohol were purified by column chromatography before use. Deionized water was used after degassing by Ar-bubbling. Flash column chromatography was carried out on silica-gel (Merck; 230-400 mesh) as the stationary phase. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded with 300 MHz instrument using TMS as internal standard and CDCl₃ as the solvent, unless otherwise noted.

2. Preparation of Au/Fe Oxide (1)

FeSO₄·7H₂O (800 mg, 2.9 mmol) aqueous solution (**A**) (15 mL, 0.19 M) was prepared in a 50 mL round bottom flask at r.t. The solution (**B**) of HAuCl₄·xH₂O (30 mg, 49% Au) in water (5.0 mL) was basified by adding NaOH solution (2.0 mL, 5.0 M) (pH >11). The solution (**B**) was quickly added to the solution (**A**) while vigorously stirring (600 rpm) to obtain black suspension. The mixture was stirred under air for 4 hours with mild stirring (200 rpm). After magnetic decantation, the resulting black solid was washed with water (2 x 20 mL) and ethanol (2 x 20 mL) successively and dried under vacuum at 80 °C overnight to give **1** as magnetic black solid catalyst (260 mg; 5.7 wt% of Au).

3. General Procedure for Nitroarene Reductions

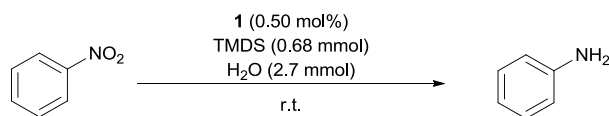
The catalyst **1** (1.0 mol%) was dispersed in ethanol (3.0 mL) with sonication and vigorous stirring (1100 rpm). A nitro compound (0.30 mmol), a hydrosilane and *p*-cymene (30 μL, 0.19 mmol) as an internal standard were added under argon. The reaction progress was monitored by GC. The catalyst was separated by magnetic decantation, and the volatiles were removed by rotary evaporator. The resulting residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel; *n*-hexane/ethyl acetate).

4. Preparation of Au/Fe Oxide (2) from Commercial Iron Oxide

The catalyst was prepared by deposition-precipitation method following the procedure in the reference.^[4] Fe(II, III) oxide nanopowder (<50 nm, Aldrich, 100 mg) was dispersed in H₂O (3.5 mg/mL) by mechanical stirring. HAuCl₄·xH₂O aqueous solution (0.29 mL, 0.1 M) was added dropwise to the suspension while vigorously stirring, followed by addition of NaOH solution (0.2 M) to adjust pH value to 9. The mixture was stirred overnight, washed with water and dried under vacuum at 100 °C to give black solid catalyst. (102 mg; 4.8 wt% of Au)

5. Solvent Screening

Table S1 Solvent screening for nitrobenzene hydrogenation^a



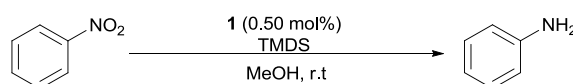
Entry	Solvent	Time (min)	Conv. (%) ^b	Yield (%) ^b
1	Toluene	720	14	6.3
2	THF	60	64	63
3	MeCN	60	31	31
4	Acetone	60	64	61
5	EtOAc	60	75	75
6 ^c	Methanol	15	>99	92
7 ^c	Ethanol	30	97	96
8 ^c	1-Propanol	30	93	90
9 ^c	2-Propanol	30	72	45

^a General conditions : nitrobenzene (0.30 mmol), **1** (0.50 mol%), solvent (3.0 mL), *p*-cymene (0.19 mmol), water (2.7 mmol), TMDS (0.68 mmol) at r.t. under Ar balloon. ^b Determined by GC using *p*-cymene as an internal standard. ^c The reaction was carried out without adding water.

6. Recycling Test

General recycling procedure: after designated time of the reaction, catalyst was isolated by magnetic decantation using an external magnet. As washed with the solvent (3 x 3.0 mL), the catalyst was used for the next run.

Table S2 Recycling test for **1** in the reduction of nitrobenzene using MeOH as solvent.^a

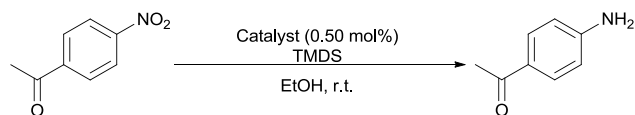


Run	1	2	3 ^c	4 ^c
Time (min)	15	15	45	45
Yield (%) ^b	>99	61	>99	46

^a General conditions : nitrobenzene (0.30 mmol), **1** (0.50 mol%), MeOH (3.0 mL) and TMDS (0.83 mmol) at r.t. under Ar. ^b Determined by GC using *p*-cymene as an internal standard. ^c 0.98 mmol of TMDS was used.

7. Catalytic Activity Comparison

Table S2 Activity Comparison of the Catalysts^a



Entry	Catalyst	Time (min)	Conv. (%) ^b	Yield (%) ^b
1	1	30	>99 ^b	99 ^b
2 ^{c,d}	2	30	88	35

^a General conditions : 1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethanone (0.30 mmol), Au catalyst (0.50 mol%), EtOH (3.0 mL) and TMDS (0.68 mmol) at r.t. 30 min under Ar. ^b Determined by GC using *p*-cymene as an internal standard. ^c Catalyst was prepared from commercial Fe₃O₄ support. ^d Corresponding hydroxylamine and azoxy compound were formed as side products (determined by ¹H NMR).

8. TEM Images of Our Catalyst after Recycling Test

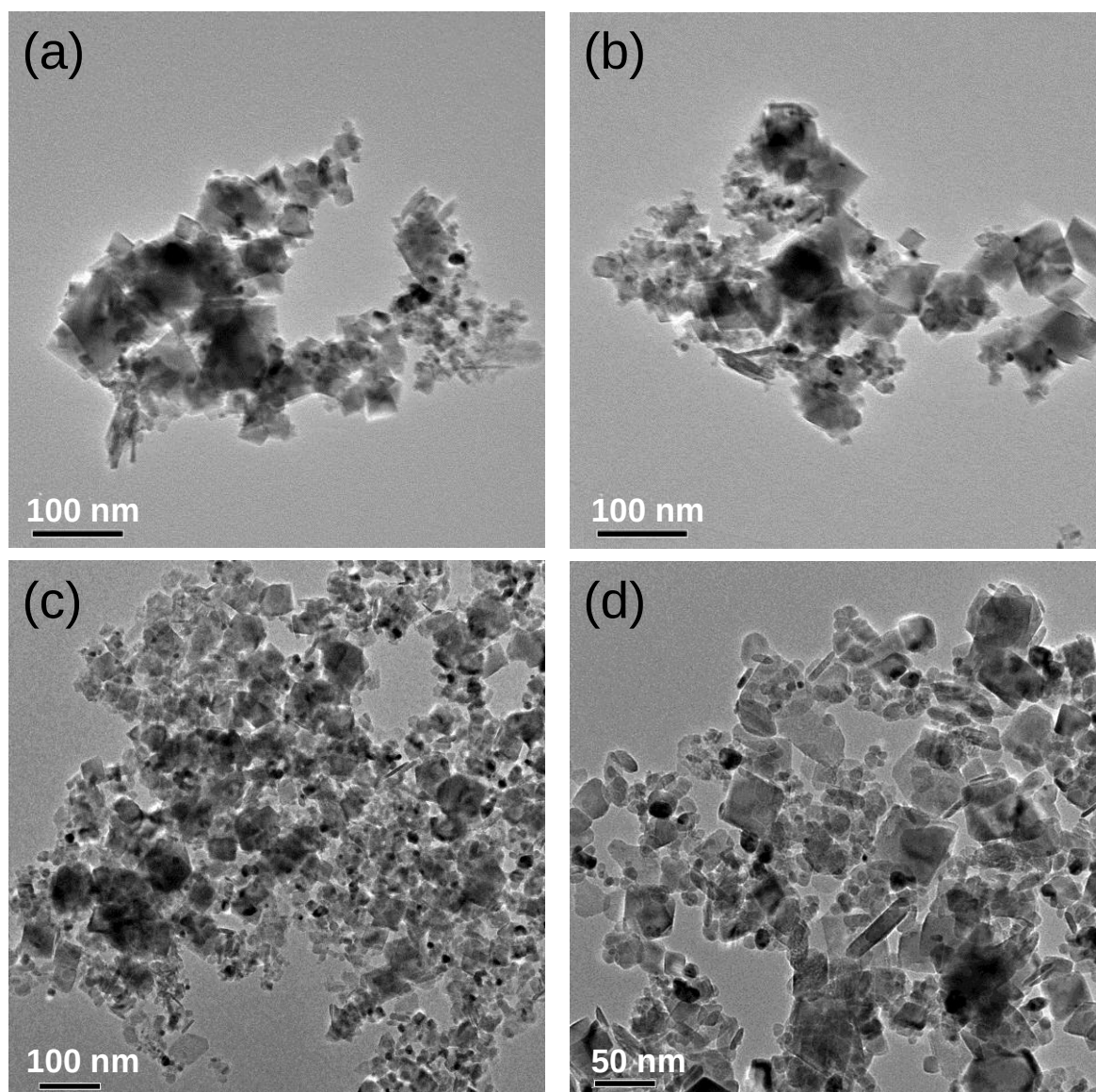


Fig. S1 TEM images of **1**: (a) and (b) before recycling test; (c) and (d) after recycling test.

9. Large Scale Reaction

1 (110 mg, 5.5 wt%) was dispersed in ethanol (30 mL) uniformly by magnetic stirring and sonication in a round bottom flask. 1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethanone (1.7 g, 10 mmol) and *p*-cymene (500 μ L, 3.2 mmol) were added to the flask. While vigorously stirring the solution under Ar, TMDS (3.3 mL, 18 mmol) was added portionwise (300 μ L added every 10 min). The reaction progress was monitored by GC.

10. Catalyst Systems for the Reduction of Nitroarenes

Ref.	Catalyst	Substrate	Reductant	Solvent	Substrate/ reductant (mmol/mmol)	Cat. (mol%)	Pressure	Temp. (°C)	Time (min)	Yield (%)	Remarks
This work	1	Nitrobenzene	TMDS	EtOH	0.3/ 0.68	1	ambient	r.t.	10	99	
[5]	Au-NAP-Mg	Nitrobenzene	NaBH ₄	H ₂ O	1.078/ 50	1	ambient	r.t.	60	91	
[6]	Au-Fe ₃ O ₄	4-nitrophenol	NaBH ₄	H ₂ O	0.0004/ 0.016	4.85	ambient	r.t.	600	>99	
[7]	Au/TiO ₂	Nitrobenzene	HCOONH ₄	EtOH	1/ 5	1	ambient	25	180	>99	
[8]	Au-Fe ₃ O ₄ -(core-shell)	4-nitrophenol	NaBH ₄	H ₂ O	□□□□8 / 1.2	10 mg	ambient	25	30	>99	
[9]	Au/Fe(OH) _x	4'-Nitro acetophenone	CO/H ₂ O	2-ethoxyethanol	15/5~15atm	5	5~15 atm (CO)	100	150	>99	
[10]	Au/TiO ₂ - VS	Nitrobenzene	CO/H ₂ O	EtOH/H ₂ O (2/1)	1/1~5atm	1	1~5 atm (CO)	25	60~180	>99	
[11]	Au/Fe(OH) _x	4'-Nitro acetophenone	H ₂	THF	1.2/ 10 atm	0.42	10 atm	95	45	99	
[12]	Au/TiO ₂	3-nitrostyrene	H ₂	Toluene	1/9 bar	0.23	9 bar	120	360	96	
[13]	AgNP-CeO ₂	3-nitrostyrene	H ₂	dodecane	0.5/ 6 atm	19	6 atm	110	360	98	
[14]	Cu or Co/phthalocyanine	Nitrobenzene	N ₂ H ₄ H ₂ O	ethylene glycol	0.67/ 1.34	0.5	ambient	70	120	93	
[15]	Fe(acac) ₃	Nitrobenzene	N ₂ H ₄ H ₂ O	MeOH	2/3.6	0.25	ambient	150	2	99	microwave
[16]	Fe(acac) ₃	Nitrobenzene	TMDS	THF	2/3	10	ambient	60	1440	>99	
[17]	Fe ₃ O ₄	Nitrobenzene	N ₂ H ₄ H ₂ O	EtOH	1/4	20	ambient	80	60	99	Low selectivity for the alkene functionality.
[18]	FePc/FeSO ₄ ·7H ₂ O	4-nitrobenzonitrile	N ₂ H ₄ H ₂ O	EtOH/H ₂ O (1/1)	0.67/ 1.34	0.5	ambient	120	420	99	
[19]	Fe-phenanthroline/C	Nitrobenzene	N ₂ H ₄ H ₂ O	THF	0.5/ 2	1	ambient	100	600	99	

[20]	FeBr ₂	Nitrobenzene	PhSiH ₃	Toluene	1/7.5	10	ambient	110	960	85	Phosphine ligand required, 3-nitro styrene is not available.
[21]	Fe(acac) ₃	Nitrobenzene	TMDS	THF	2/8	10	ambient	60	1440	>99	
[22]	Fe oxide hydroxide	Nitrobenzene	N ₂ H ₄ H ₂ O- polymer supported	<i>i</i> -PrOH	1/ 12	200 mg	ambient	reflux (82°C)	44	98	
[23]	FeCl ₃ -alumina	Nitrobenzene	N ₂ H ₄ H ₂ O	neat	10/ 30	5	ambient	108	7	89	Microwave
[24]	FeCl ₃ 6H ₂ O	Nitrobenzene	H ₂ N-NMe ₂	MeOH	3/ 31.6	1.3	ambient	85	1080	89	
[25]	InI ₃	Nitrobenzene	TMDS	CHCl ₃	0.6/1.2	5	ambient	r.t.	900	99	
[26]	[Mo ₃ S ₄ H ₃ (dmpe) ₃] BPh ₄	4-methylnitrobenzene	HCOOH/Et ₃ N (5:2)	THF	0.1/0.35	3	ambient	70	600	99	
[27]	Ni-Fe ₃ O ₄	Nitrobenzene	glycerol	glycerol	1/ 41	8.85	ambient	80	180	94	KOH (2 equiv.) required.
[28]	Ni-Fe mixed oxide	Nitrobenzene	N ₂ H ₄ H ₂ O	<i>i</i> -PrOH	4.1/ 21	150 mg	ambient	reflux (82°C)	89	93	
[29]	Pd(0) silica <i>Cat</i>	Nitrobenzene	H ₂	MeOH	2/ 1 atm	0.5	1 atm	r.t.	60	100	Dechlorination occurs.
[30]	Pd(0) silica-Ionic liquid	Nitrobenzene	H ₂	H ₂ O	17.5/ 1 atm	0.028	1 atm	30	480	100	Dechlorination occurs.
[31]	PdCl ₂	Nitrobenzene	Et ₃ SiH	EtOH	1.62/ 6.48	10	ambient	r.t.	10	100	No selectivity for carbonyl, hydroxyl functionalities.
[32]	Pd/AlO(OH)	2-nitroaniline	H ₂	neat	0.2/ 1 atm	2	1 atm	r.t.	5	99	No selectivity for the alkene functionality.
[33]	Pd-Fe ₃ O ₄	Nitrobenzene	H ₂	EtOH	2/ 1 atm	0.203	1 atm	r.t.	60	99	No selectivity for alkene, alkyne functionalities.
[34]	Pd-NAP-Mg	Nitrobenzene	H ₂	THF	1/1 atm	1.48	1 atm	r.t.	120	98	Alkene substance is not shown.
[35]	Pd(OAc) ₂	2-nitrotoluene	PMHS	THF	1/4	5	ambient	r.t.	30	>99	Alkene substance is not shown. Aromatic bromide, chloride is not available.
[36]	Pt/Fe ₃ O ₄	2-chloronitrobenzene	H ₂	neat	62/ 20 atm	0.099	20 atm	50	112	99	
[37]	Pt-polymer	Nitrobenzene	H ₂	THF	1/1 atm	0.5	1 atm	r.t.	60	99	No selectivity for 3-nitro styrene.

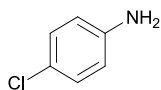
[38]	Pt/CNF-H	4-chloronitrobenzene	H ₂	EA	1 / 10 atm	0.077	10 atm	r.t.	360	98	
[39]	Pt/Carbon nanofiber	4-chloronitrobenzene	H ₂	EA	1/ 10 atm	0.082	10 atm	r.t.	120	99	No selectivity for the alkene functionality.
[40]	ReIO ₂ (PPh ₃) ₂	Nitrobenzene	PhMe ₂ SiH	Toluene	1/3.6	5	ambient	110	1440	95	Low selectivity for the alkene functionality.
[41]	Rh-polymer	Nitrobenzene	N ₂ H ₄ H ₂ O	EtOH	1/ 2	0.1	ambient	60	60	99	
[42]	Rh-Fe ₃ O ₄	Nitrobenzene	hydrazine	EtOH	1/2	1	ambient	80	60	99	No selectivity for the alkene functionality.
[43]	[{RuCl ₂ (p-cymene)} ₂]	Nitrobenzene	iPrOH	iPrOH	0.5/solvent	2.5	ambient	100	900	98	Ligand and base are required. Low selectivity for the alkene functionality.
[44]	Ru ₃ (CO) ₁₂ N(Et) ₃	Nitrobenzene	CO/H ₂ O	diglyme/H ₂ O (15/5)	5/ 20 atm	0.2	20 atm	150	120	99	
[45]	Zn-phthalocyanine	Nitrobenzene	N ₂ H ₄ H ₂ O	PEG-400	1.34/ 2.68	1	ambient	100	480	96	
[46]	reduced graphene oxide	Nitrobenzene	N ₂ H ₄ H ₂ O	N ₂ H ₄ H ₂ O /H ₂ O	0.81/ 41	10 wt%	ambient	30	2880	97	

11. Catalyst Systems for the Reduction of Nitroarenes with Hydrosilanes

Ref.	Catalyst	Substrate	Reductant	Solvent	Substrate/Reductant (mmol/mmol)	Cat. (mol%)	Pressure	Temp (°C)	Time (h)	Yield (%)	TON	TOF (h ⁻¹)
This work	1	1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethanone	TMDS	EtOH	10/ 18	0.3	ambient	r.t.	2.5	>99	333	130
This work	1	Nitrobenzene	"	"	"	0.3	ambient	"	3.5	>99	333	95
[16]	Fe(acac) ₃	"	TMDS	THF	2/ 3	10	ambient	60	24	>99	10	0.42
[20]	FeBr ₂	"	PhSiH ₃	Toluene	1/ 2.5	10	ambient	110	16	85	8.5	0.53
[25]	InI ₃	"	TMDS	CHCl ₃	0.6/ 1.2	5	ambient	r.t.	15	99	20	1.3
[35]	Pd(OAc) ₂	2-Nitrotoluene	PMHS	THF	1/ 4	5	ambient	r.t.	0.5	>99	20	40
[40]	ReIO ₂ (PPh ₃) ₂	Nitrobenzene	PhMe ₂ SiH	Toluene	1/ 3.6	5	ambient	110	24	95	19	0.79

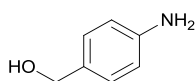
12. Spectral Data of Aniline Derivatives

4-Chloroaniline (Table 2, entry 3):^[39]



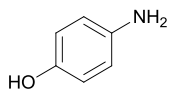
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ= 7.09 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.60 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.65 (bs, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=144.9, 129.1, 123.1, 116.2

4-Aminobenzylalcohol (Table 2, entry 5):^[47]



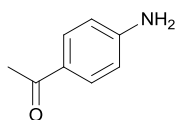
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=7.14 (d, J=8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (d, J=8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.53 (s, 2H), 3.42 (bs, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ= 146.0, 131.0, 128.7, 115.1, 65.2

4-Aminophenol (Table 2, entry 6):^[39]



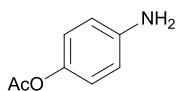
¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ=8.32 (s, 1H), 6.47 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.41 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.36 (bs, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ= 148.2, 140.7, 115.5, 115.2

4-Aminoacetophenone (Table 2, entry 7):^[39]



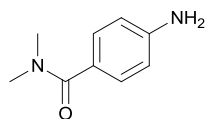
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ= 7.81 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.18 (bs, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ= 196.5, 151.1, 130.8, 127.8, 113.7, 26.0

4-Acetoxyaniline (Table 2, entry 8):^[35(b)]



¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ= 6.85 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.63 (d, J=7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.63 (bs, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ= 170.2, 144.2, 142.7, 122.0, 115.5, 21.0

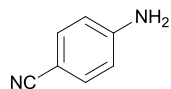
N,N-dimethyl-*p*-aminobenzamide (Table 2, entry 9):^[1]



¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) : δ= 7.27 (d, J=8.4, 2H), 6.63 (d, J=8.4, 2H), 3.92 (bs, 2H), 3.05 (s, 6H)

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) : δ= 171.9, 148.0, 129.2, 125.5, 114.0, 39.8, 35.7

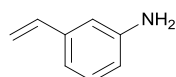
4-Cyanoaniline (Table 2, entry 10):^[39]



¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) : δ=7.42 (d, J=8.7, 2H), 6.65 (d, J=8.7, 2H), 4.15 (bs, 2H)

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) : δ= 150.4, 133.7, 120.1, 114.4, 100.0

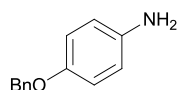
3-Vinylaniline (Table 2, entry 11):^[39]



¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) : δ= 7.11 (t, J=7.8, 1H), 6.82 (d, J=7.8, 1H), 6.72~6.56 (m, 3H), 5.68 (d, J=17.4, 1H), 5.20 (d, J=10.8, 1H), 3.63 (bs, 2H)

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) : δ=146.4, 138.6, 136.9, 129.4, 116.8, 114.7, 113.6, 112.7

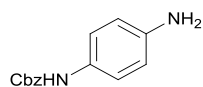
4-Benzyloxyaniline (Table 2, entry 12):^[39]



¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) : δ= 7.42~7.21 (m, 5H), 6.80 (d, J=6.6, 2H), 6.6 (d, J=6.6, 2H), 4.96 (s, 2H), 3.38 (bs, 2H)

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) : δ= 151.8, 140.2, 137.4, 128.4, 127.7, 127.4, 116.2, 115.9, 70.6

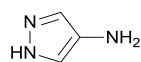
Benzyl-4-aminophenylcarbamate (Table 2, entry 13):^[48]



¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) : δ= 7.39 (m, 5H), 7.13 (d, J=7.2, 2H), 6.60 (m, 3H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 3.55 (bs, 2H)

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) : δ=153.8, 142.7, 136.2, 129.0, 128.5, 128.3, 128.1, 121.0, 115.5, 66.7

1H-pyrazol-4-amine (Table 2, entry 14): ^[49]



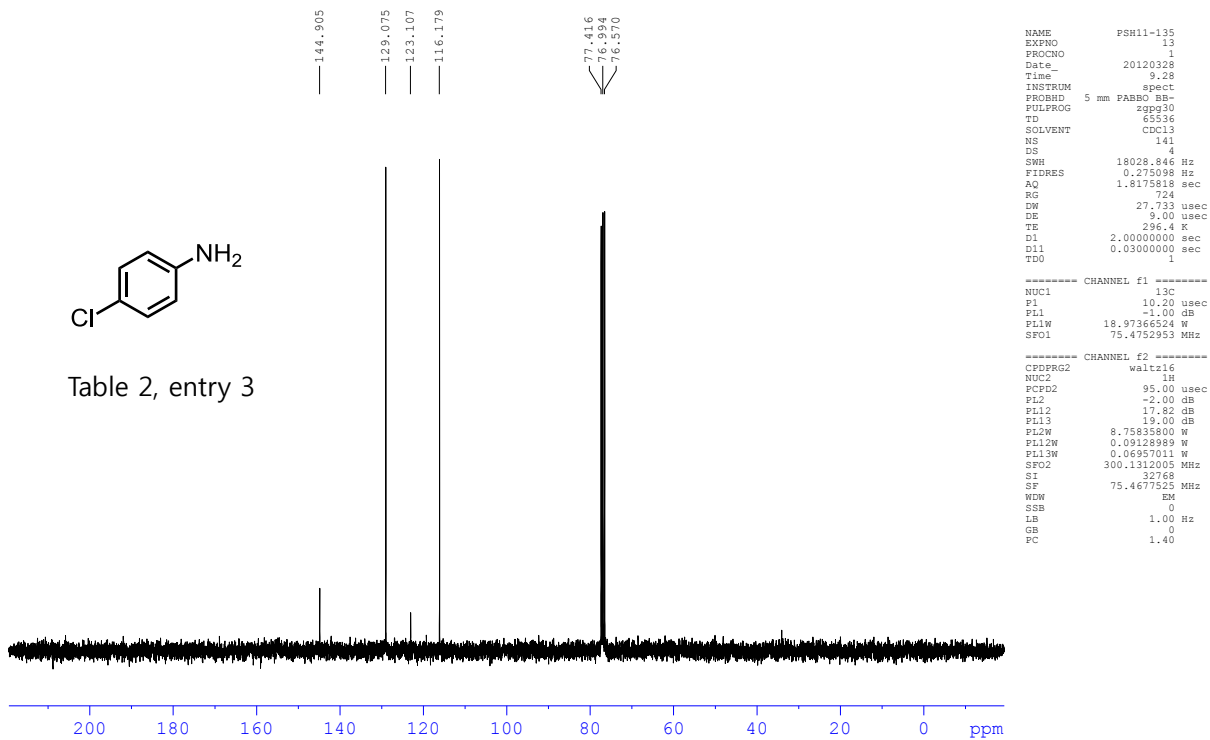
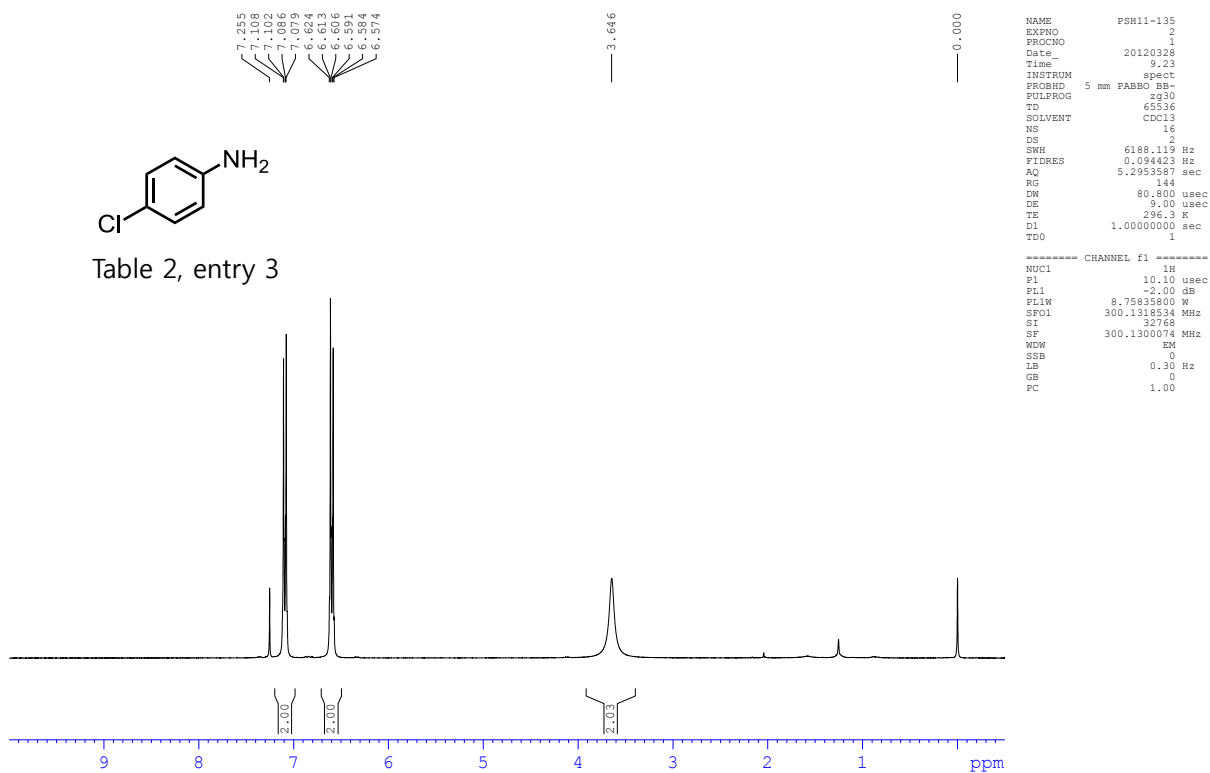
¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) : δ= 11.77 (bs, 1H), 6.99 (s, 2H), 3.42 (bs, 2H)

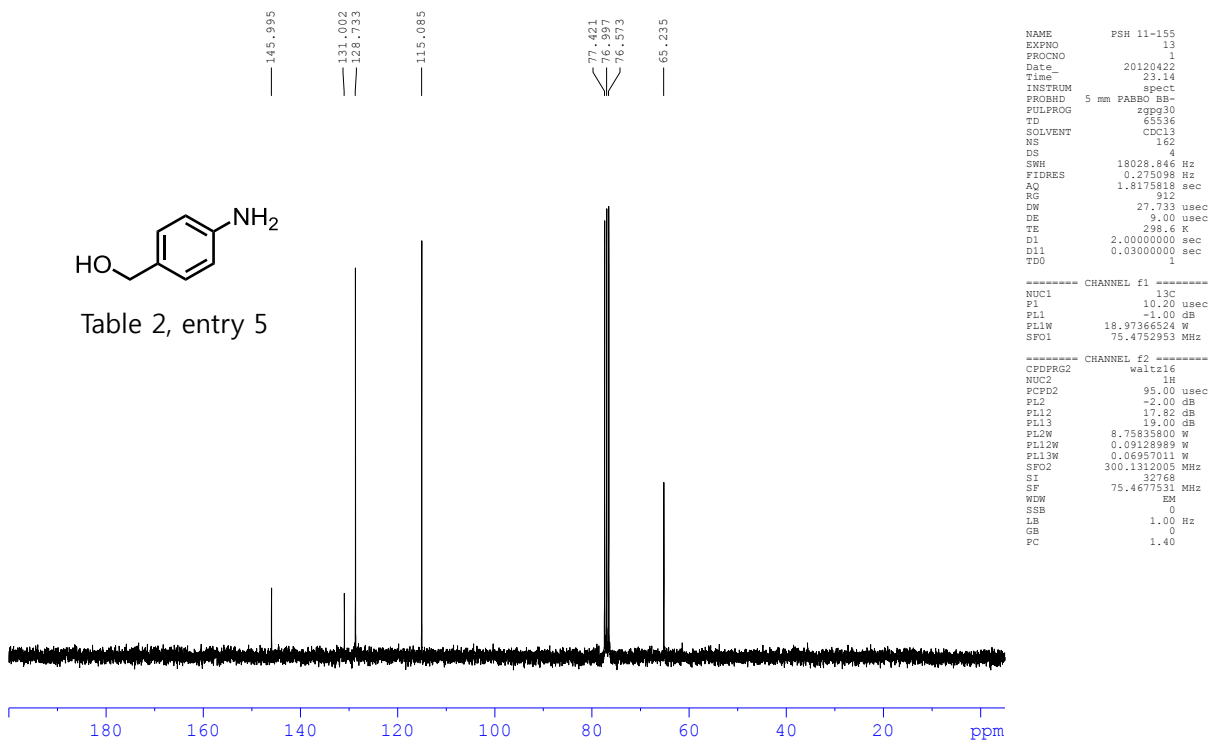
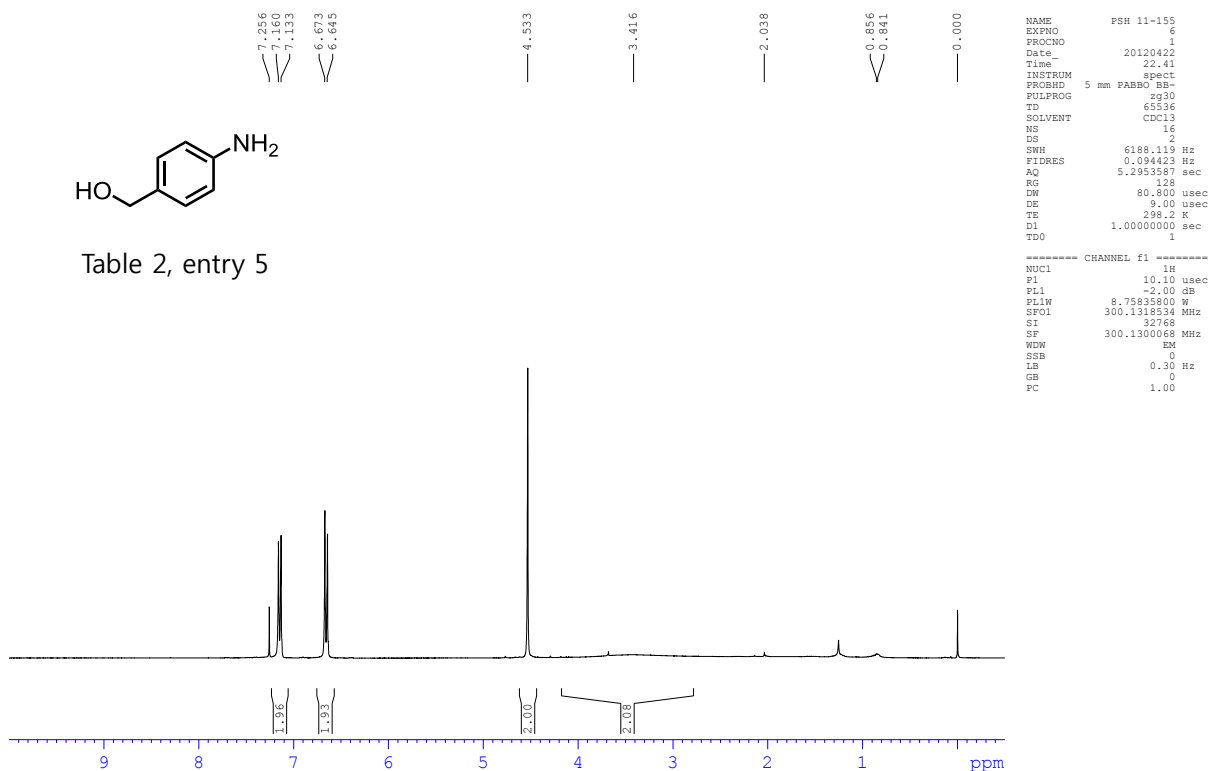
¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆) : δ= 130.1, 122.7

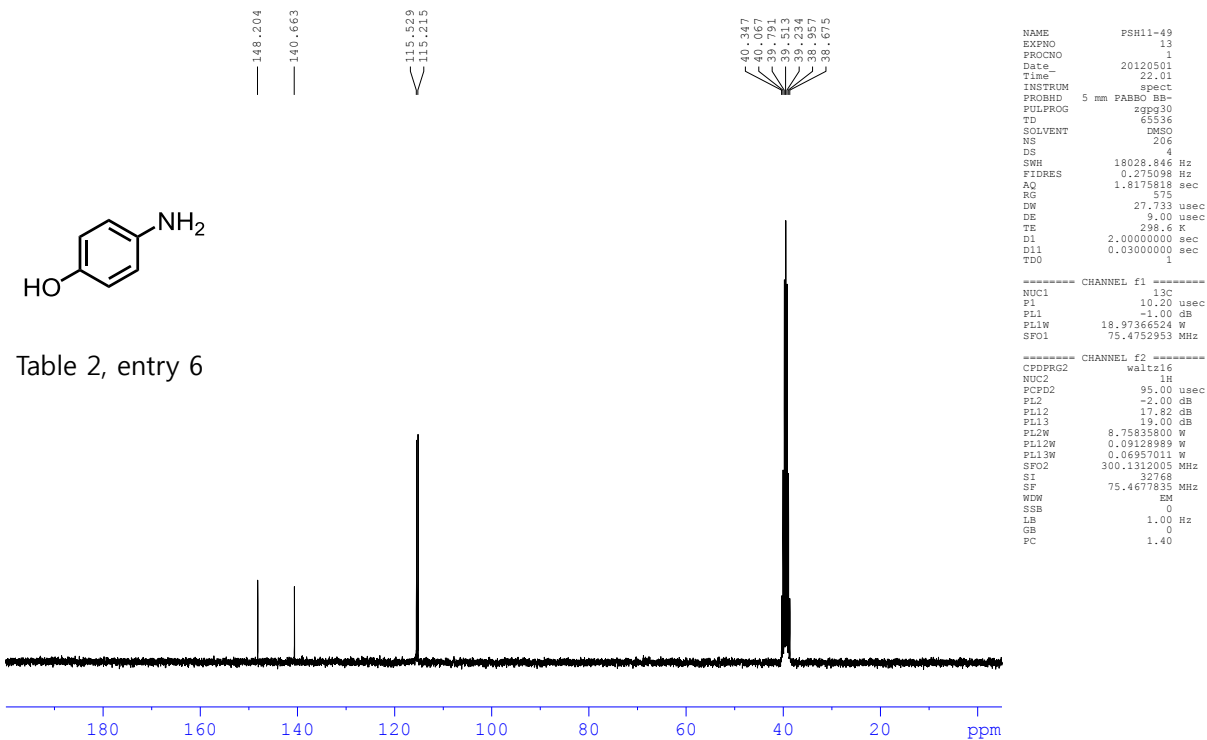
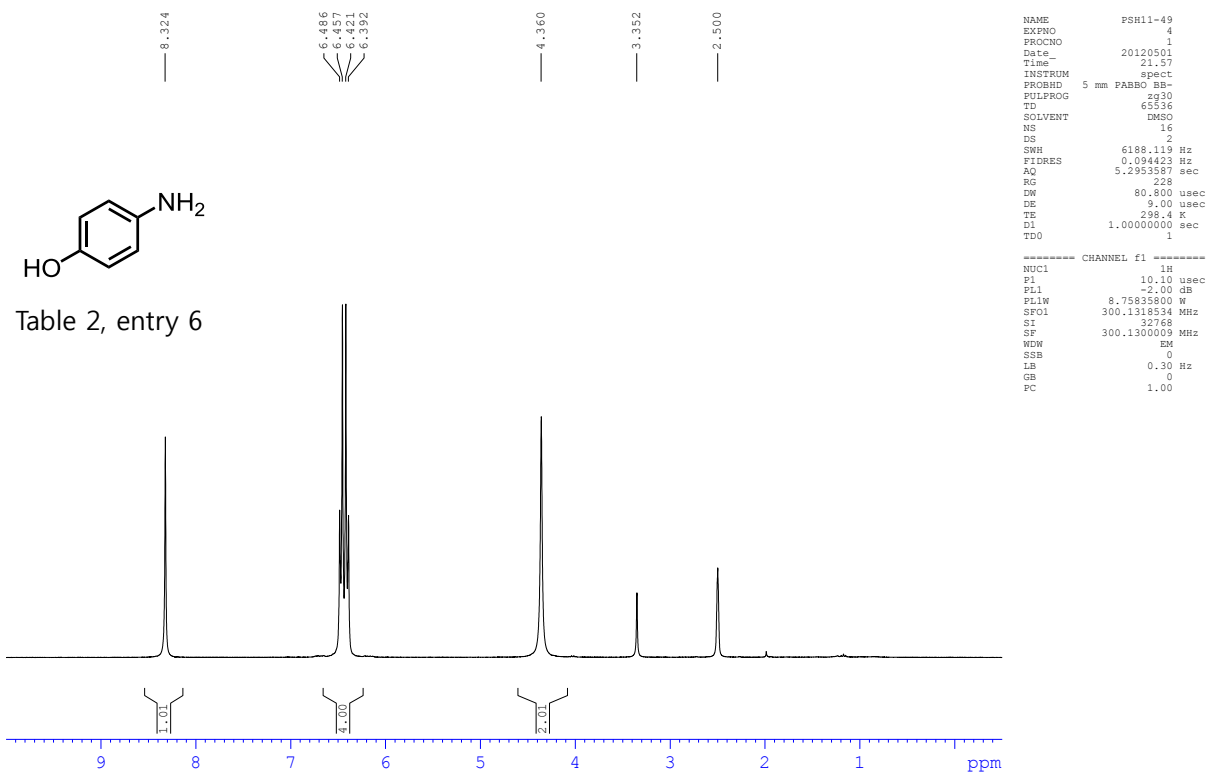
13. References

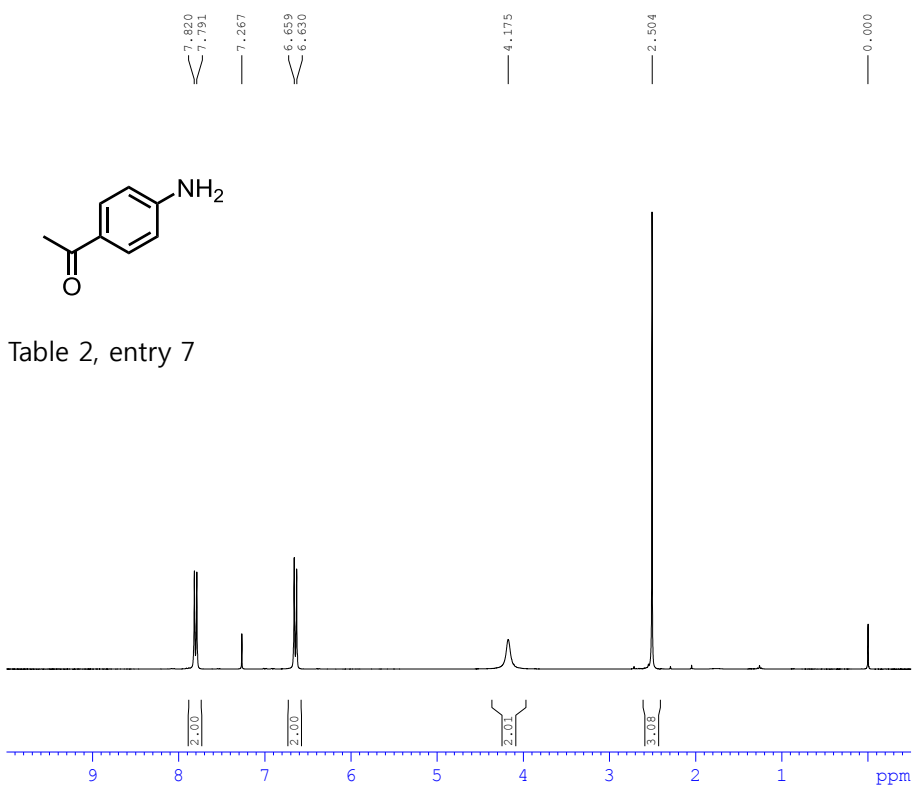
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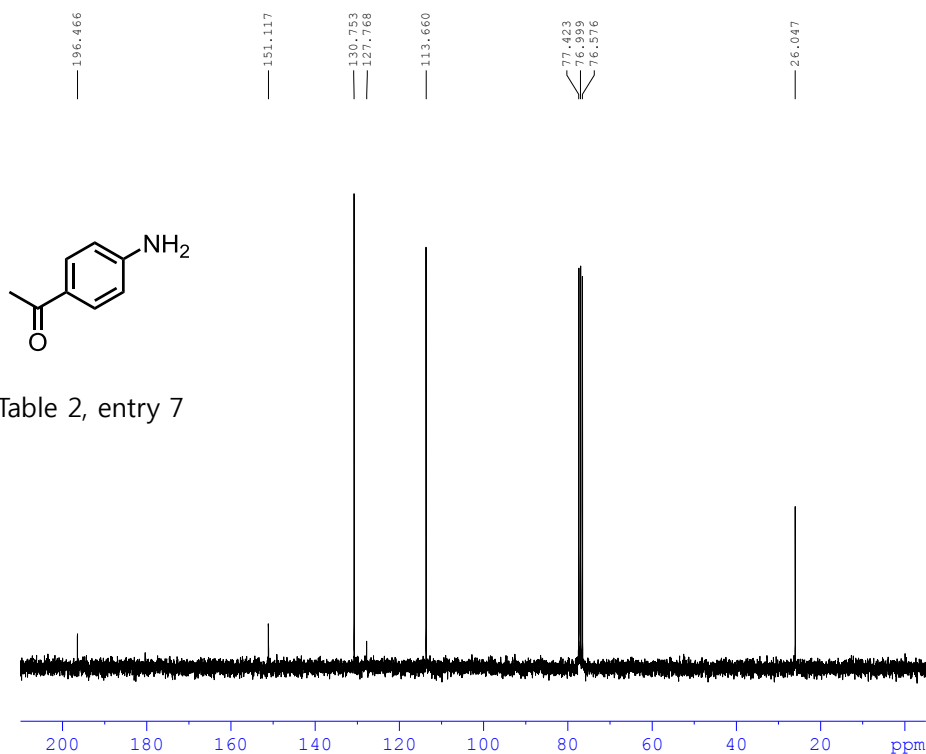






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PROCNO 1
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DE 9.00 usec
TE 296.6 K
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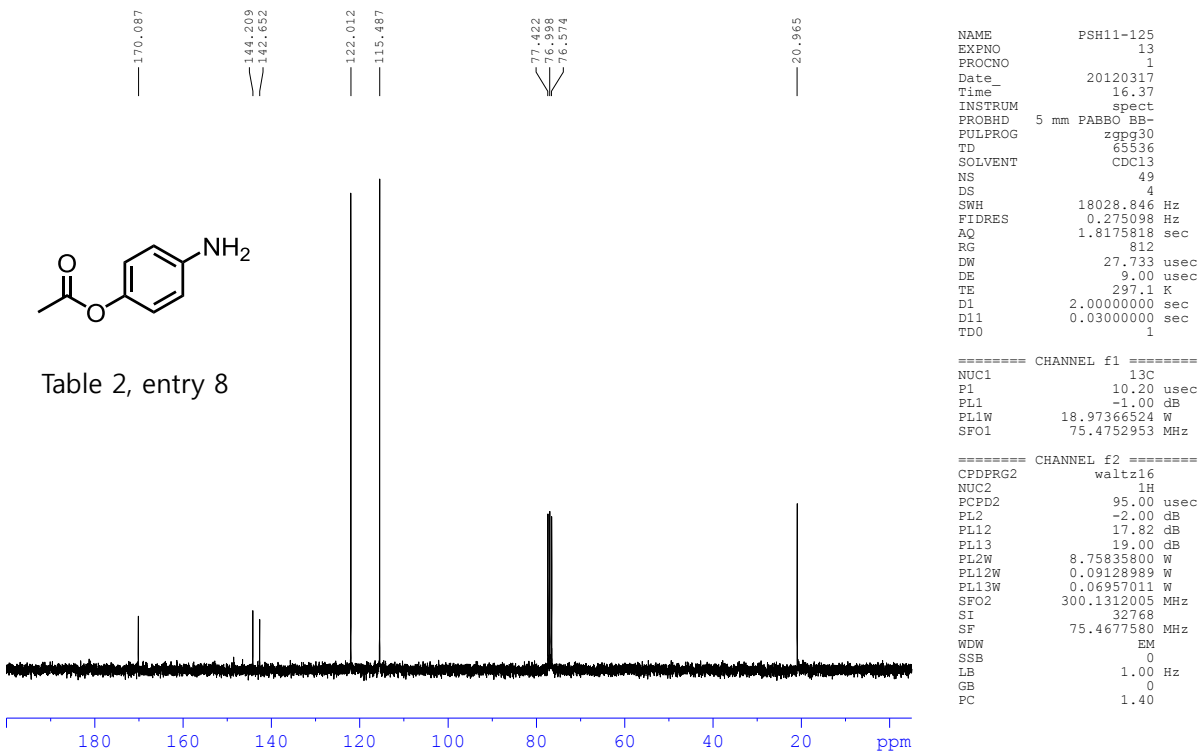
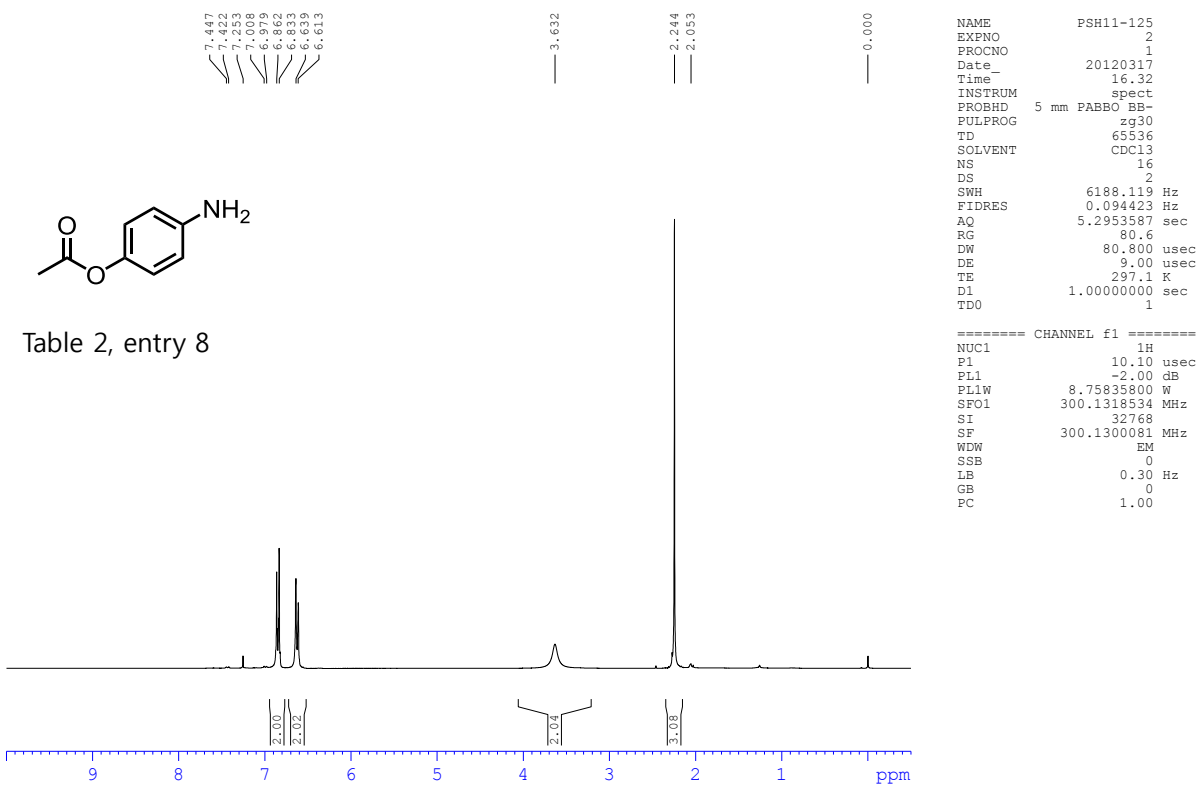
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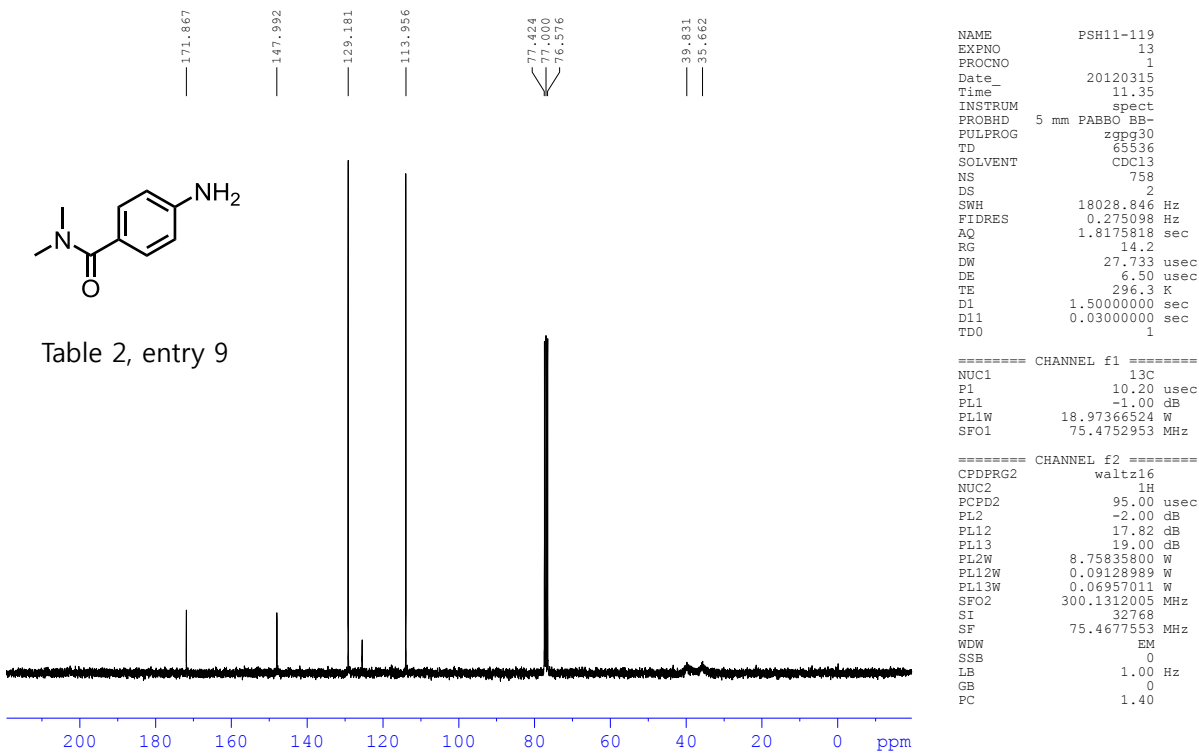
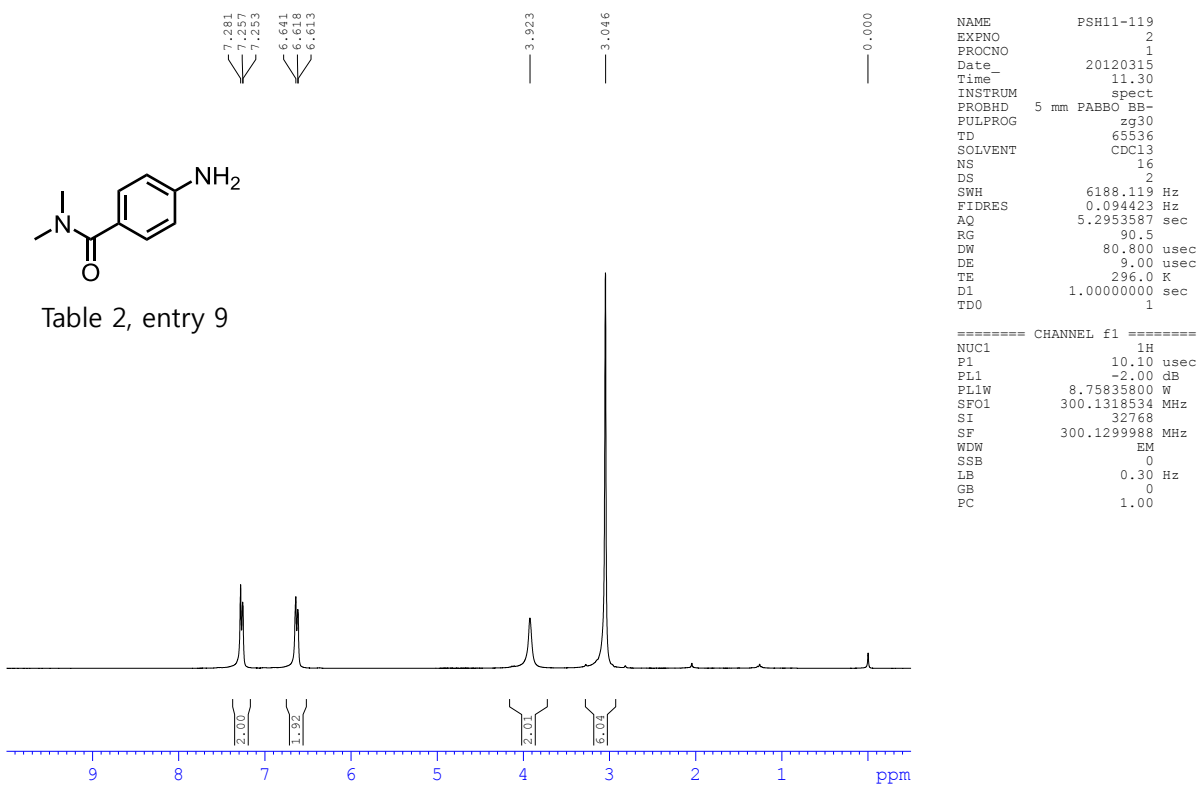


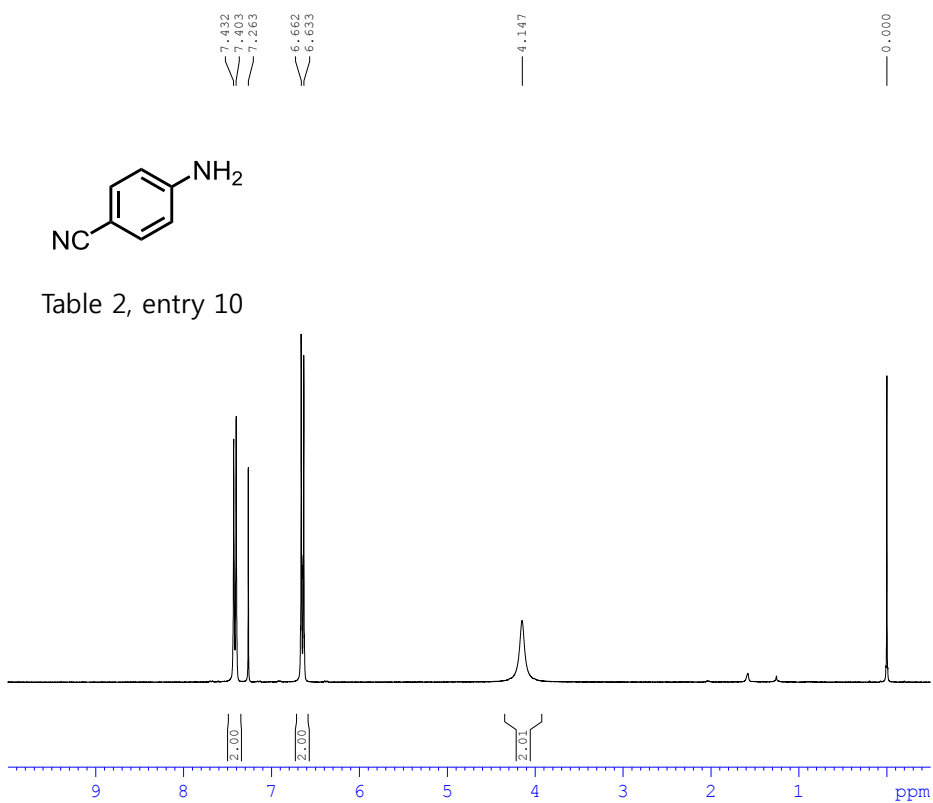
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DE 9.00 usec
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D1 2.00000000 sec
D11 0.03000000 sec
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SFO1 75.4752953 MHz

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NUC2 1H
PCPD2 95.00 usec
PL2 -2.00 dB
PL12 17.82 dB
PL13 19.00 dB
PL2W 8.75835800 W
PL12W 0.09128989 W
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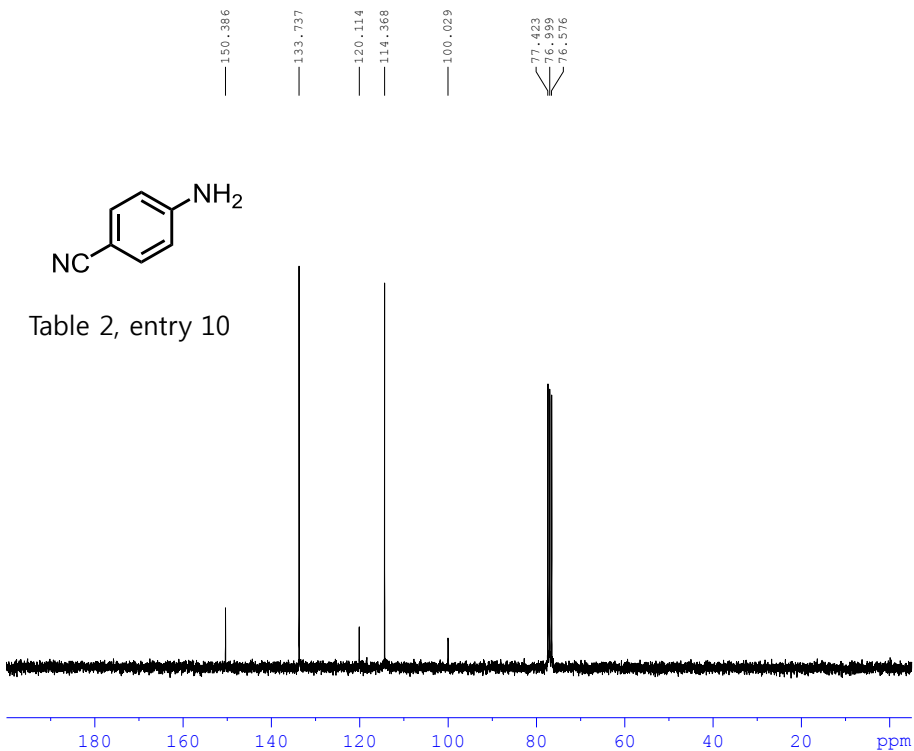






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FIDRES    0.094423 Hz
AQ        5.2953587 sec
RG        322
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DE        9.00 usec
TE        296.6 K
D1        1.00000000 sec
D10       1
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PL1       -2.00 dB
PL1W      8.75835800 W
SFO1      300.1318534 MHz
SI        32768
SF        300.1300055 MHz
WDW       EM
SSB       0
LB        0.30 Hz
GB        0
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RG        912
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DE        9.00 usec
TE        296.9 K
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D11       0.03000000 sec
D10       1
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```
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SFO1      75.4752953 MHz
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PL12      17.82 dB
PL13      19.00 dB
PL2W      8.75835800 W
PL12W     0.09128989 W
PL13W     0.06957011 W
SFO2      300.1312005 MHz
SI        32768
SF        75.4677547 MHz
WDW       EM
SSB       0
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GB        0
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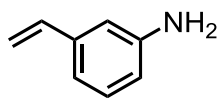


Table 2, entry 11

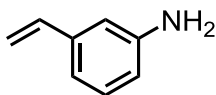


Table 2, entry 11

Table 2, entry 12

¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃) of compound 12. The spectrum shows peaks at approximately 7.2 ppm (multiplet, integration 4.95), 7.1 ppm (multiplet, integration 2.00), 6.9 ppm (multiplet, integration 1.97), 5.0 ppm (sharp singlet, integration 2.00), 3.5 ppm (broad singlet, integration 1.96), and 0 ppm (TMS). The x-axis is labeled from 9 to 0 ppm.

[illegible]

