

## Supporting Information

# Copper-catalyzed Oxidative Condensation of $\alpha$ -Oxocarboxylic Acids with Formamides: Synthesis of $\alpha$ -Ketoamides

Hua Wang, Li-Na Guo,\* Xin-Hua Duan\*

*Department of Chemistry, School of Science and MOE Key Laboratory for  
Nonequilibrium Synthesis and Modulation of Condensed Matter, Xi'an Jiaotong  
University, Xi'an 710049, China*

duanxh@mail.xjtu.edu.cn; guoln81@mail.xjtu.edu.cn

## Table of Contents

General Information	S2
Starting Materials	S2
General Procedure for the Coupling of Formamides with $\alpha$ -Oxocarboxylic acids	S3
Characterization of Products <b>3</b>	S4
Characterization of Products <b>4</b>	S9
Investigation of the Reaction Mechanism	S11
C <sup>13</sup> -Isotope Labeling Experiment	S12
Competing Kinetic Isotope Effect (KIE) Experiment	S15
References	S16
<sup>1</sup> H NMR and <sup>13</sup> C NMR Spectra of the Products <b>3</b> and <b>4</b>	S17

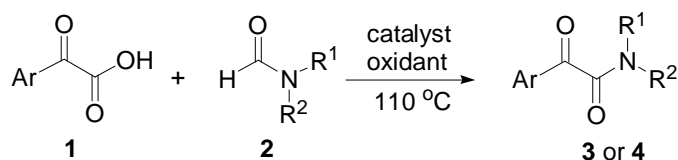
## General Information

All Reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of nitrogen with the strict exclusion of moisture. The dry DMF were distilled from CaH<sub>2</sub> under nitrogen and stored over molecular sieves under nitrogen. Column chromatography was carried out on silica gel. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Advance III-400 in solvents as indicate. Chemical shift are reported in ppm from CDCl<sub>3</sub> using TMS as internal standard. IR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Tensor 27 spectrometer and only major peaks are reported in cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS were obtained on a Q-TOF micro spectrometer. Melting points were determined on a microscopic apparatus and were uncorrected.

## Starting Materials

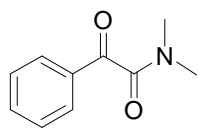
*N,N*-Diethylformamide, *N*-formylpiperidine, and *N*-formylmorpholine were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and TCI. Phenylglyoxylic acid **1a** was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Other  $\alpha$ -oxocarboxylic acids were prepared from the corresponding methyl ketones according to the reported procedure.<sup>1</sup>

## General Procedure for the Coupling of Formamides with $\alpha$ -Oxocarboxylic acids

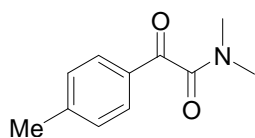


A 10 mL oven-dried Schlenk-tube was charged with  $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$  (1.8 mg, 5 mol %). The tube was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen (three times).  $\alpha$ -Oxocarboxylic acids (**1**, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and Di-*tert*-butyl peroxide (DTBP, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in substituted formamides (2 mL) were added by syringe under nitrogen. The tube was then sealed and the mixture was stirred for 3 h at 110 °C. Upon completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), the mixture was diluted with EtOAc, filtered through a pad of Celite, and the filtrate was washed with water, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After the solvent was removed, the residue was purified with chromatography column on silica gel (gradient eluent of EtOAc/petroleum ether: 1/10 to 1/5) to give the corresponding products **3** or **4** in yields listed in Table 2 and Table 3.

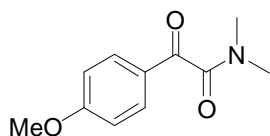
### Characterization of Products 3



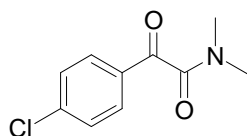
***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-oxo-2-phenyl-acetamide (3a):**<sup>2a,2d</sup> A pale yellow oil,  $R_f$  0.3 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.94-7.92 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.65-7.61 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.48 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.11 (s, 3H), 2.95 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 191.7, 167.0, 134.7, 133.0, 129.6, 129.0, 37.0, 33.9 ppm.



***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-oxo-2-*p*-tolyl-acetamide (3b):**<sup>2f</sup> A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.3 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5), mp: 46-48 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.83-7.81 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.28 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 2.94 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 191.5, 167.2, 145.9, 130.6, 129.7, 37.0, 33.9, 21.9 ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1651, 1406, 1254, 1144  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

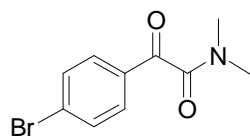


**2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-oxo-acetamide (3c):**<sup>2b</sup> A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.1 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.91-7.89 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.97-6.95 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 2.94 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 190.5, 167.3, 164.8, 132.1, 126.1, 114.3, 55.6, 37.1, 33.9 ppm.

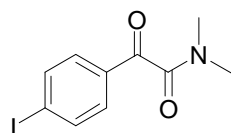


**2-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-oxo-acetamide (3d):**<sup>2f</sup> A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.3 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5), mp: 113-115 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.90-7.88 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.49-7.47 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.11 (s, 3H), 2.95 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 190.3, 166.4, 141.3, 131.4, 131.0, 129.4, 37.0, 34.1

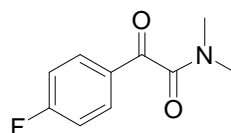
ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  1641, 1406, 1246, 1147  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



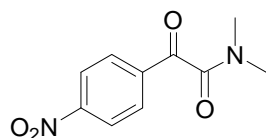
**2-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-oxo-acetamide (3e):** A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.3 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5), mp: 68-70 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.82-7.80 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.66-7.64 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.11 (s, 3H), 2.95 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 190.5, 166.4, 132.4, 131.8, 131.0, 130.2, 37.0, 34.1 ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  1641, 1400, 1246, 1145  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{10}\text{BrNNaO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  277.9787, found 277.9794.



**2-(4-Iodo-phenyl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-oxo-acetamide (3f):** A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.3 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5), mp: 96-98 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.88-7.87 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.65-7.63 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 2.95 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 190.8, 166.4, 138.3, 132.4, 130.8, 103.3, 37.0, 34.1 ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  1637, 1396, 1247, 1144  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{10}\text{INNaO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  325.9648, found 325.9658.

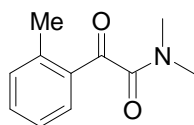


**2-(4-Fluoro-phenyl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-oxo-acetamide (3g):**<sup>2f</sup> A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.3 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5), mp: 63-65 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.00-7.97 (t,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20-7.16 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 2.97 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 190.0, 166.7 (d,  $J_{\text{C,F}}$  = 256.0 Hz), 166.6, 132.5 (d,  $J_{\text{C,F}}$  = 9.8 Hz), 129.6, 116.3 (d,  $J_{\text{C,F}}$  = 22.1 Hz), 37.1, 34.1 ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  1648, 1409, 1239, 1147  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

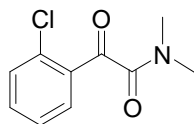


***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-(4-nitro-phenyl)-2-oxo-acetamide (3h):**<sup>2f</sup> A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.2 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:2), mp: 136-138 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  =

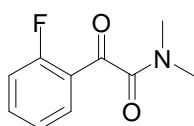
8.36-8.34 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 8.16-8.14 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 3.00 (s, 3H);  
 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 189.2, 165.6, 151.1, 137.5, 130.8, 124.1, 37.1, 34.3$   
ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1645, 1451, 1245, 1148  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



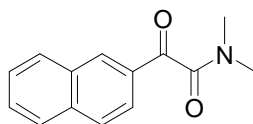
***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-oxo-2-o-tolyl-acetamide (3i):**<sup>2f</sup> A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.25 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5), mp: 43-45 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.68$ -7.66 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.44 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.28 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 2.64 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 193.7, 167.7, 141.4, 133.6, 132.6, 132.5, 131.4, 126.1, 37.0, 34.0, 21.7$  ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1638, 1405, 1240, 1153  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



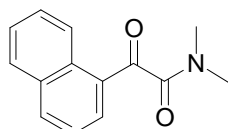
**2-(2-Chloro-phenyl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-oxo-acetamide (3j):** A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.3 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5), mp: 76-78 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.89$ -7.87 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.48 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.38 (m, 2H), 3.07 (s, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 190.1, 166.9, 134.3, 133.7, 133.4, 132.2, 130.7, 127.3, 37.0, 34.5$  ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1644, 1412, 1275, 1151  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{10}\text{ClNNaO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  234.0292, found 234.0304.



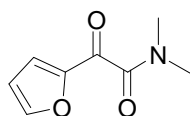
**2-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-oxo-acetamide (3k):** A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.2 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5), mp: 53-55 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.99$ -7.95 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.63-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.28 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.13 (t,  $J = 9.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 3.01 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 188.2, 167.4, 162.6$  (d,  $J_{\text{C,F}} = 256.5$  Hz), 136.5 (d,  $J_{\text{C,F}} = 9.3$  Hz), 131.0, 124.8 (d,  $J_{\text{C,F}} = 3.5$  Hz), 122.2, 116.7 (d,  $J_{\text{C,F}} = 21.6$  Hz), 36.8, 34.1 ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1659, 1409, 1289, 1150  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{10}\text{FNNaO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  218.0588, found 218.0591.



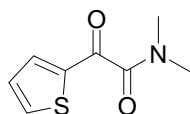
***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-naphthalen-2-yl-2-oxo-acetamide (3l):** A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.15 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5), mp: 112-114 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.43 (s, 1H), 8.04-8.02 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.98-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.90-7.88 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66-7.62 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.55 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 3.00 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 191.9, 167.1, 136.3, 133.0, 132.4, 130.4, 129.9, 129.4, 129.1, 127.9, 127.1, 123.6, 37.1, 34.1 ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1641, 1458, 1274, 1145  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{13}\text{NNaO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  250.0838, found 250.0850.



***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-naphthalen-1-yl-2-oxo-acetamide (3m):**<sup>2f</sup> A pale yellow oil,  $R_f$  0.15 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 9.27-9.24 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.11-8.09 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.00-7.98 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.92-7.90 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.68 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61-7.57 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.56-7.52 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 3.01 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 194.2, 167.6, 135.9, 134.3, 134.0, 130.9, 129.3, 128.7, 128.3, 126.9, 125.7, 124.5, 37.2, 34.1 ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1647, 1404, 1270, 1069  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

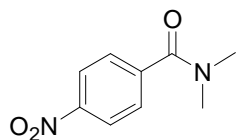


**2-Furan-2-yl-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-oxo-acetamide (3n):**<sup>2f</sup> A yellow oil,  $R_f$  0.1 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d,  $J$  = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d,  $J$  = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 178.5, 165.4, 150.1, 148.7, 122.4, 112.8, 37.2, 34.5 ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1637, 1460, 1259, 1150  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-oxo-2-thiophen-2-yl-acetamide (3o):** A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.15 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5), mp: 57-59 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  =

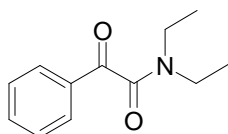
7.80-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.16 (t,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.08 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 183.5, 165.8, 140.3, 136.4, 136.1, 128.6, 37.3, 34.4$  ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1648, 1407, 1246, 1142  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_9\text{NNaO}_2\text{S}$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  206.0246, found 206.0253.



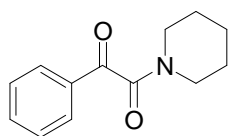
***N,N*-dimethyl-4-nitrobenzamide (3h')**:<sup>3</sup> A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.2 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5),  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 8.28\text{-}8.27$  (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.59-7.57 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 3.14 (s, 3H), 2.96 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 169.2, 148.2, 142.5, 128.0, 123.8, 39.3, 35.3$  ppm



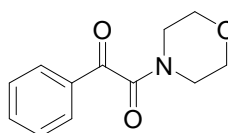
## Characterization of Products 4



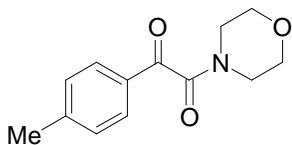
***N,N*-Diethyl-2-oxo-2-phenylacetamide (4a):**<sup>2e</sup> A pale yellow oil,  $R_f$  0.3 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.93-7.92 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.64-7.61 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.48 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.58-3.53 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.25-3.20 (q,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.29-1.26 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.16-1.12 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 191.6, 166.7, 134.5, 133.2, 129.6, 128.9, 42.0, 38.7, 14.1, 12.8 ppm.



**1-Phenyl-2-piperidin-1-yl-ethane-1,2-dione (4b):**<sup>2c, 2d</sup> A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.4 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5), mp: 102-104 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.95-7.93 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.65-7.61 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.48 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.70 (s, 2H), 3.29-3.26 (t,  $J$  = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 1.69-1.68 (m, 4H), 1.55-1.53 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 191.1, 165.4, 134.6, 133.2, 129.5, 128.9, 47.0, 42.1, 26.1, 25.4, 24.3 ppm; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1645, 1446, 1216, 1137  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

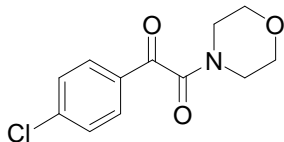


**1-Morpholin-4-yl-2-phenyl-ethane-1,2-dione (4c):**<sup>2c, 2d</sup> A pale yellow oil,  $R_f$  0.2 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:2);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.96-7.94 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.68-7.64 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.50 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 4H), 3.66-3.64 (t,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 3.39-3.37 (t,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 191.1, 165.4, 134.9, 133.0, 129.7, 129.1, 66.7, 46.2, 41.6 ppm.



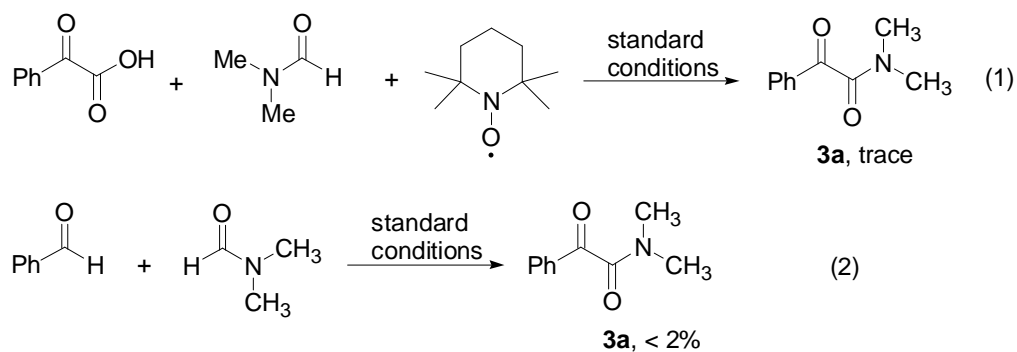
**1-Morpholin-4-yl-2-*p*-tolyl-ethane-1,2-dione (4d):**<sup>2d</sup> A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.15 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.85-7.83 (d,  $J$  = 7.6

Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.30 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 4H), 3.65-3.62 (t,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.37-3.35 (t,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 190.9$ , 165.6, 146.3, 130.6, 129.8, 129.7, 66.7, 66.6, 46.2, 41.5, 21.9 ppm.



**1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-2-morpholin-4-yl-ethane-1,2-dione (4e):**<sup>2d</sup> A pale yellow solid,  $R_f$  0.2 (EtOAc/petroleum ether = 1:5);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.92$ -7.90 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.51-7.49 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 4H), 3.67-3.65 (t,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.39-3.37 (t,  $J = 5.2$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 189.7$ , 164.9, 141.6, 131.4, 131.0, 129.5, 66.7, 66.6, 46.3, 41.7 ppm.

## Investigation of the Reaction Mechanism



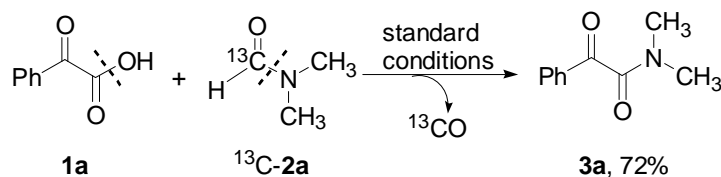
When the TEMPO was added to the reaction of DMF with phenylglyoxylic acid **2a** under the standard condition, only a trace amount of the desired product **3a** was obtained suggesting that free radical intermediate was involved in the reaction (eq 1). In addition, benzaldehyde was used instead of phenylglyoxylic acid under the standard conditions, only a trace amount of  $\alpha$ -ketoamide **3a** was detected (eq 2). The result indicated that aldehyde was not the intermediates in this reaction.

## C<sup>13</sup>-Isotope Labeling Experiment

*N,N*-dimethylformamide (carbonyl-<sup>13</sup>C, 99%, cat. No. CLM-503-0) were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories. The isotope reagent was used without further purification.

	<b>Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, Inc.</b>	50 Frontage Road, Andover, MA 01810-5413 USA 800.322.1174 (N.AMERICA) 978.749.8000 (INTERNATIONAL) www.isotope.com
<b>CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS</b>		
<b>Product Name:</b> <small>(Isotopic Label &amp; Enrichment Specification)</small>	<b>N,N-DIMETHYLFORMAMIDE</b> (CARBONYL- <sup>13</sup> C, 99%)	
<b>Lot Number:</b>	11-11572	
<b>Catalog Number:</b>	CLM-503-0	
<b>Product Information</b>		
Chemical Purity Specification:	≥ 98%	
Labeled CAS Number:	32488-43-0	
Unlabeled CAS Number:	68-12-2	
MW of fully enriched product:	74.09	
Chemical Formula:	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> N*CHO	
Storage:	Store at room temperature away from light and moisture.	
Stability:	Stable if stored under recommended conditions.	
<b>Certification</b>		
Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, Inc. guarantees that this material meets or exceeds the specifications stated. Absolute identity as well as chemical and isotopic purities are assured by the use of unambiguous synthetic routes and multiple chemical analyses whenever possible. Results are representative of QC testing at time of release from Quality Control unless otherwise stated.		
<b>Approved by:</b> <i>Jeffrey O'Neill</i>		
<small>Jeffrey O'Neill, Quality Assurance</small>		
<b>Quality Control Tests and Results</b>		
13C NMR for Identification	Conforms	
1H NMR for Chemical Purity	Pass	
GC/MS for Chemical Purity	100%	
GC/MS for Isotopic Enrichment	99.3%	

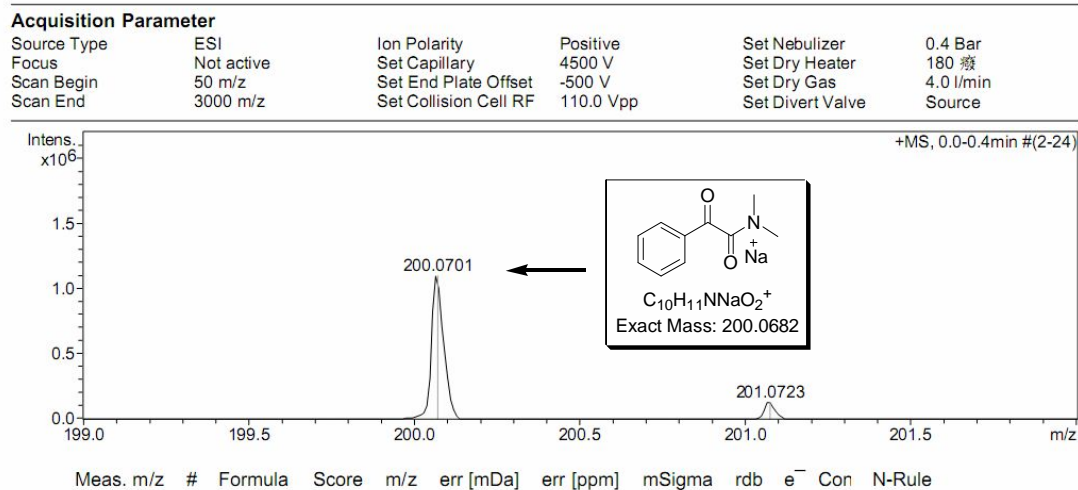
## The Coupling of Phenylglyoxylic Acid with $^{13}\text{C}$ -Labeling DMF



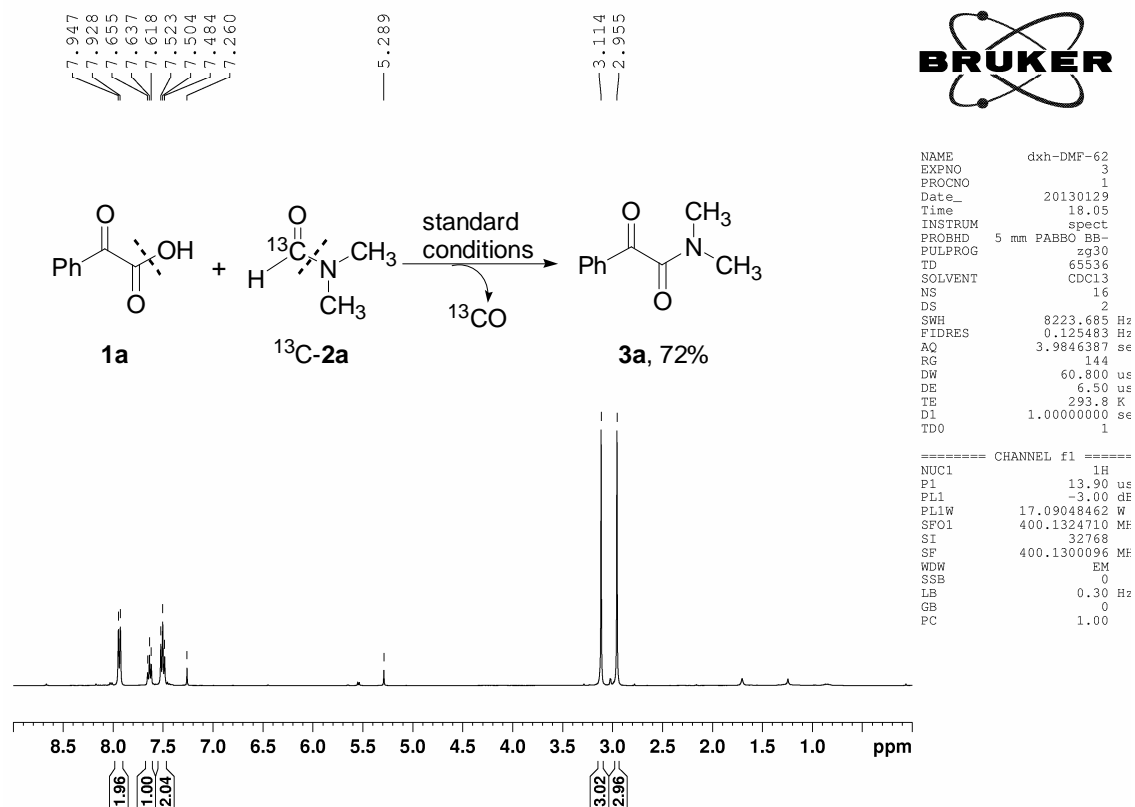
Phenylglyoxylic acid (**1**, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and Di-*tert*-butyl peroxide (DTBP, 0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in  $^{13}\text{C}$ -labeling DMF (1 mL) were added by syringe under nitrogen. The tube was then sealed and the mixture was stirred for 3 h at 110 °C. Upon completion of the reaction, the mixture was diluted with EtOAc, filtered through a pad of Celite, and the filtrate was washed with water, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After the solvent was removed, the residue was purified with chromatography column on silica gel (gradient eluent of EtOAc/petroleum ether: 1/10 to 1/5) to give the corresponding products **3a** in 72% yield.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-oxo-2-phenylacetamide (3a)**: HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{NNaO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  200.0682, found 200.0701.

### The HRMS Spectra of **3a**



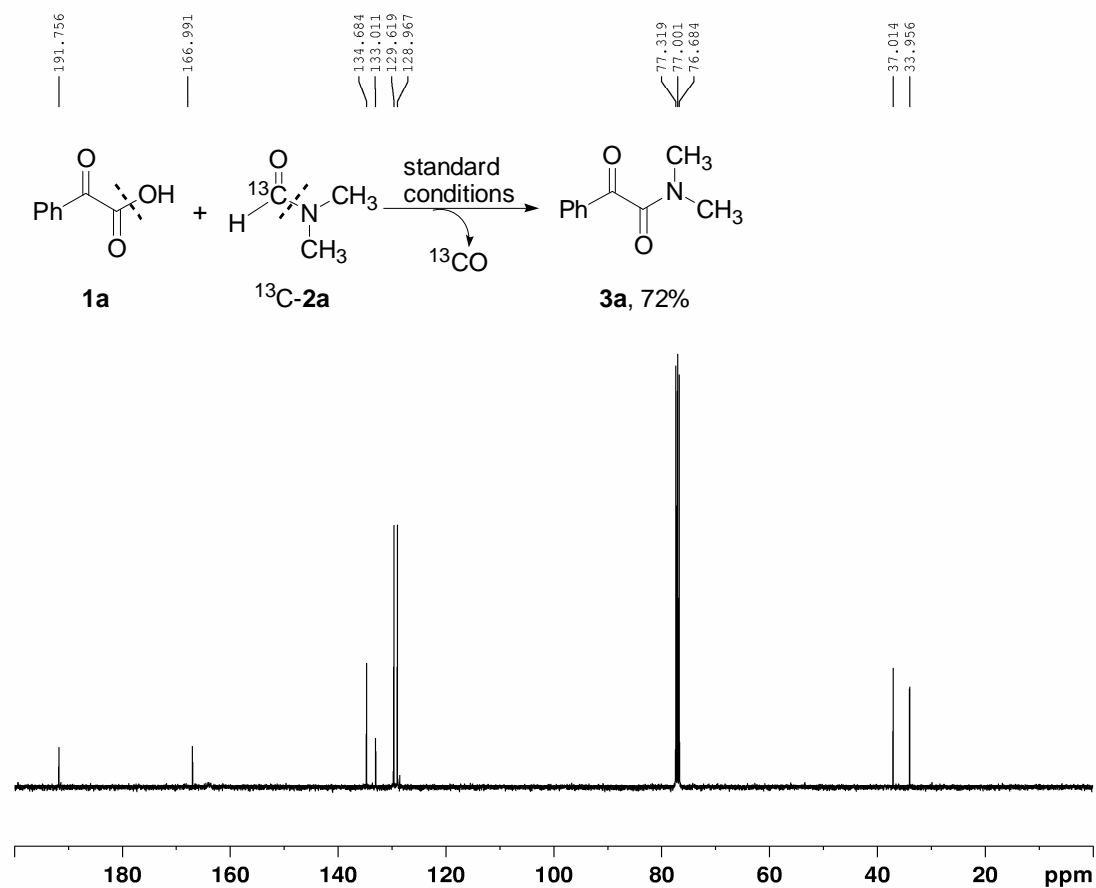
## The NMR Spectra of 3a



```

NAME      dxh-DMF-62
EXPNO     3
PROCNO    1
Date_     20130129
Time      18.05
INSTRUM   spect
PROBHD    5 mm PABBO BB-
PULPROG   zg30
TD         65536
SOLVENT   CDCl3
NS         16
DS         2
SWH        8223.685 Hz
FIDRES     0.125483 Hz
AQ         3.9846387 se
RG         144
DW         60.800 us
DE         6.50 us
TE         293.8 K
D1         1.00000000 se
TDO        1

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1      1H
P1         13.90 us
PL1        -3.00 dB
PL1W      17.09048462 W
SFO1      400.1324710 MHz
SI         32768
SF         400.1300096 MHz
WDW        EM
SSB         0
LB         0.30 Hz
GB         0
PC         1.00
    
```



## Competing Kinetic Isotope Effect (KIE) Experiment

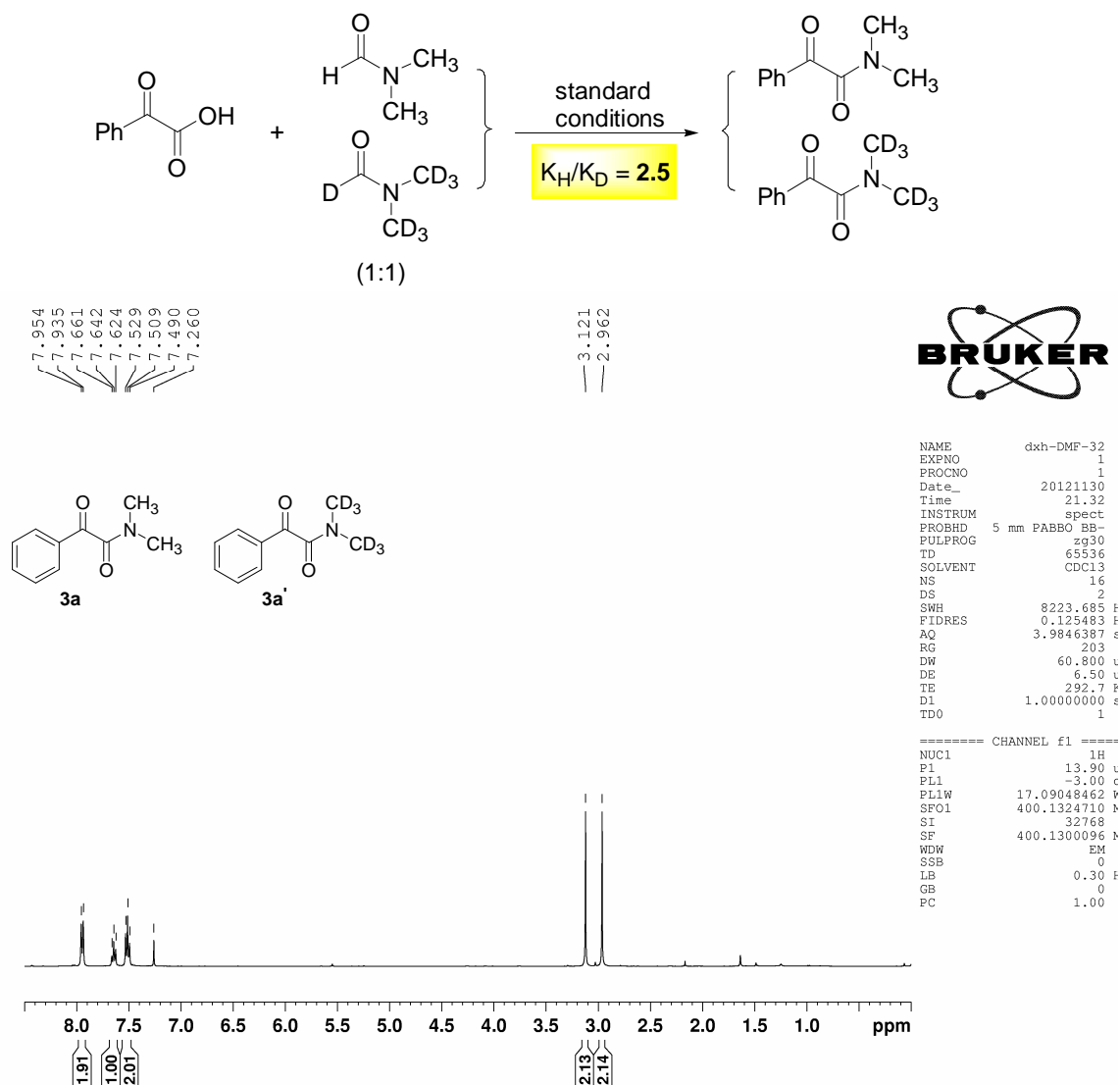


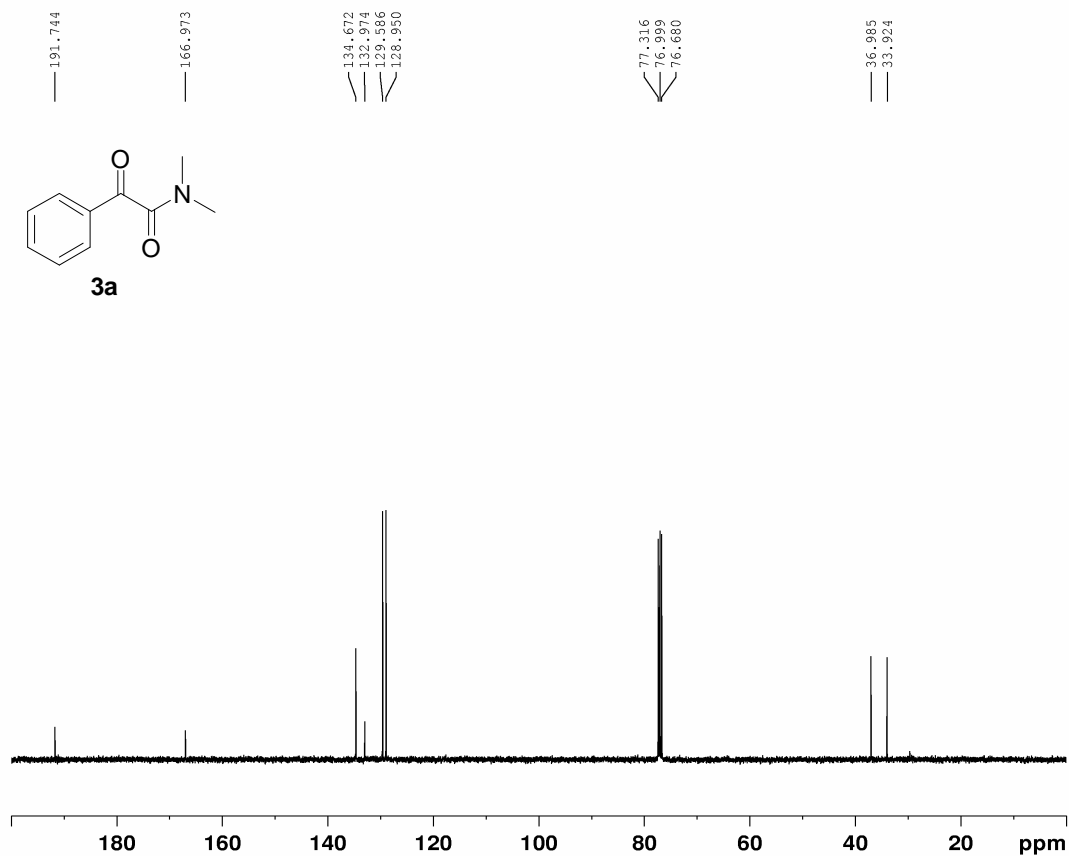
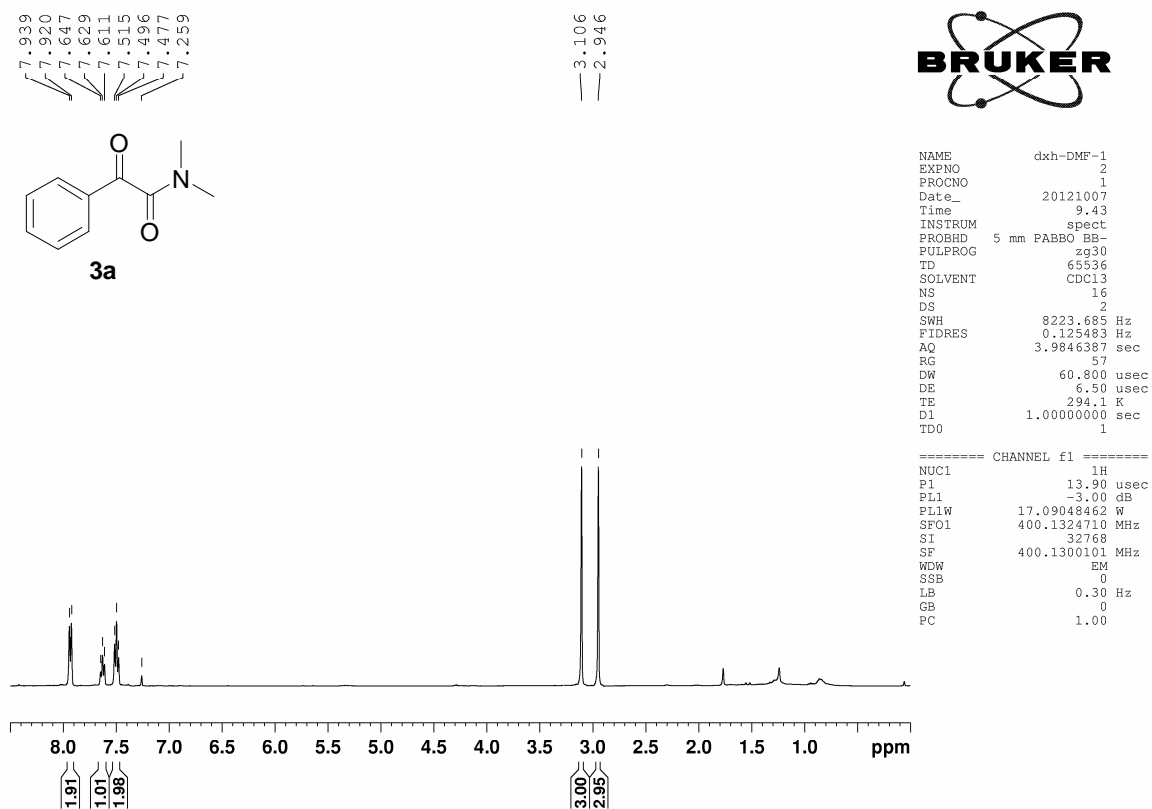
Figure.  $^1H$  NMR spectra of the mixture of the product **3a** and **3a'**.

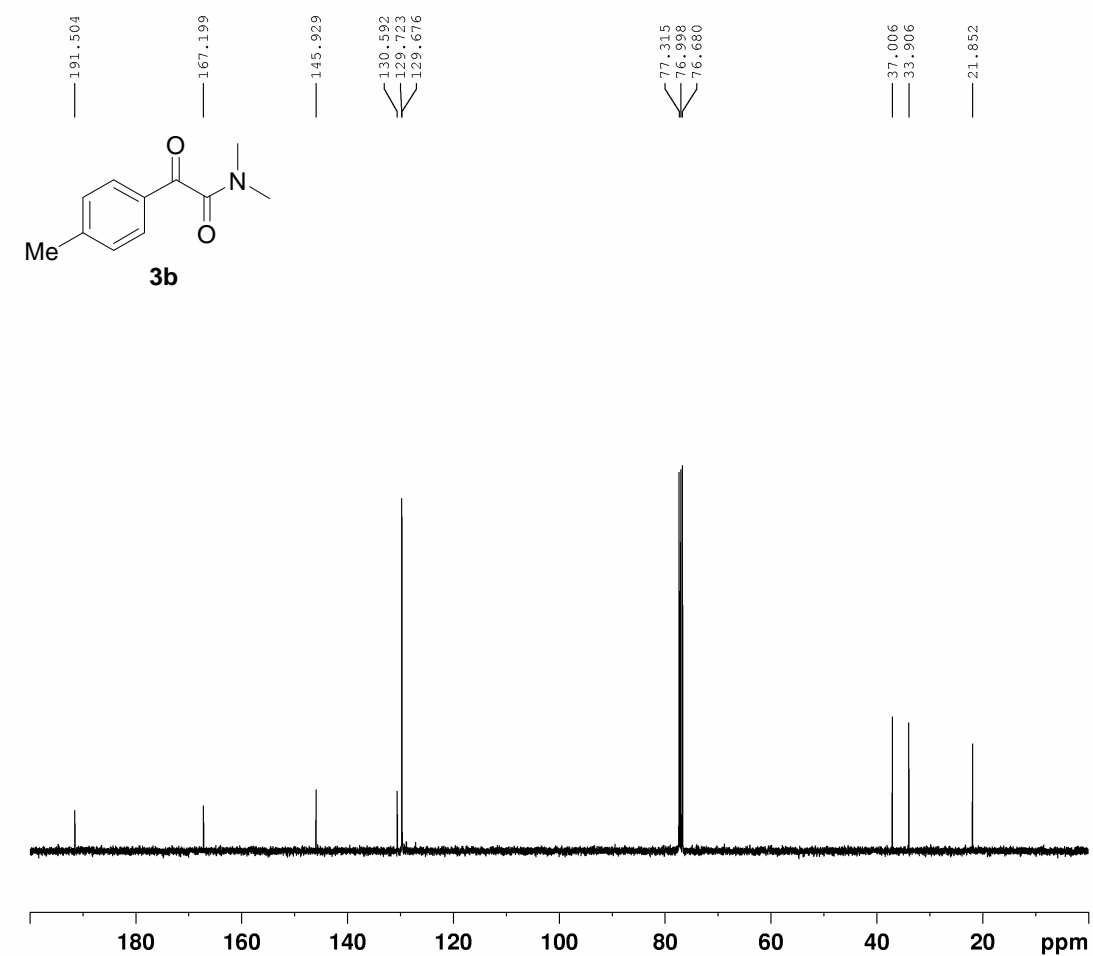
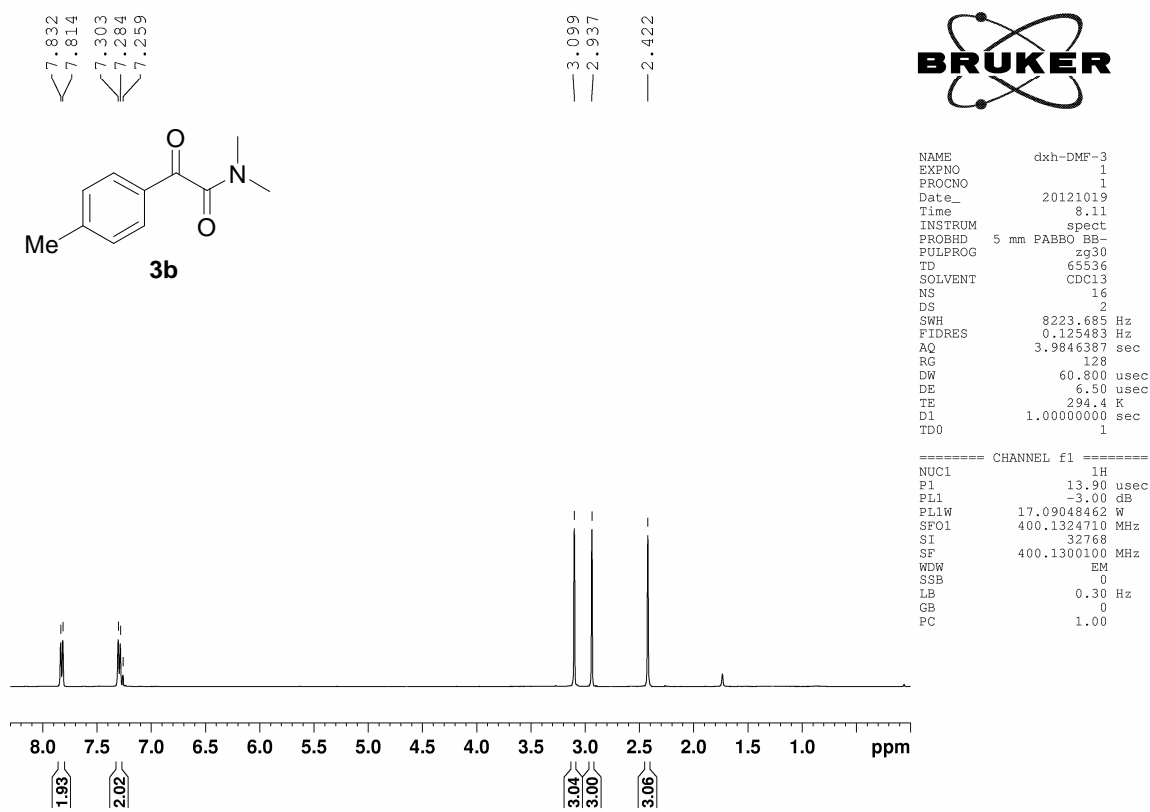
## References

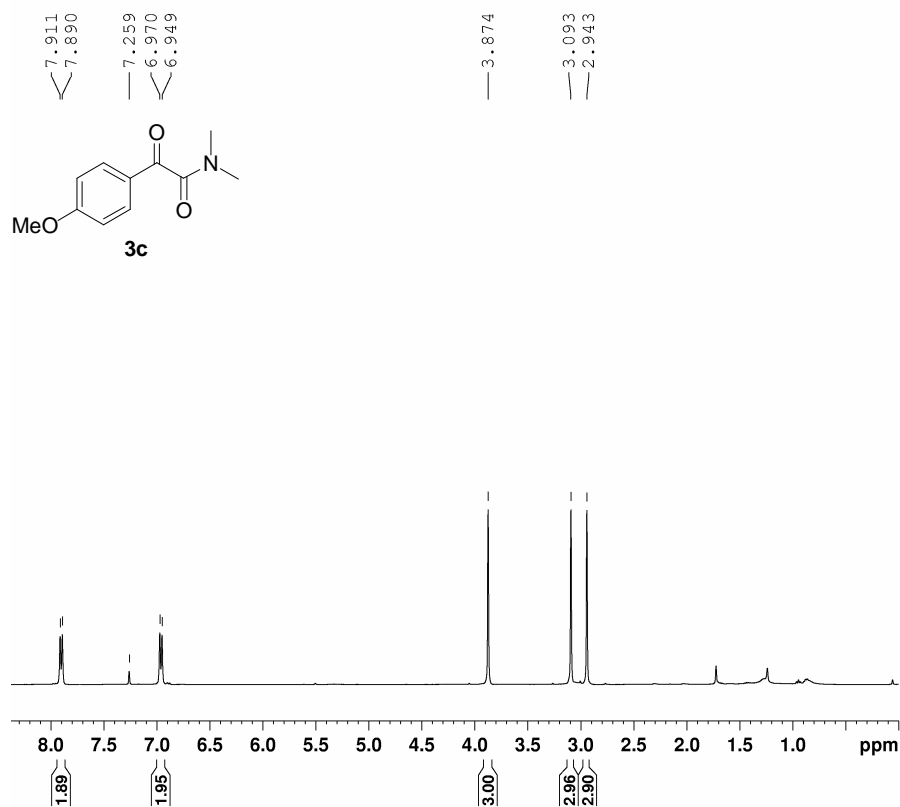
1. K. Wadhwa, C. Yang, P. R. West, K. C. Deming, S. R. Chemburkar and R. E. Reddy, *Synth. Commun.*, 2008, **38**, 4434.
2. (a) J. Chen and R. F. Cunico, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2004, **69**, 5509; (b) D. Bonne, M. Dekhane and Zhu. J, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2005, **127**, 6926; (c) F.-T. Du and J.-X. Ji, *Chem. Sci.*, 2012, **3**, 460; (d) W. Wei, Y. Shao, H. Hu, F. Zhang, C. Zhang, Y. Xu and X. Wan, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2012, **77**, 7157; (e) X. Zhang and L. Wang, *Green. Chem.*, 2012, **14**, 2141; (f) W.-P. Mai, H.-H. Wang, Z.-C. Li, J.-W. Yuan, Y.-M. Xiao, L.-R. Yang, P. Mao and L.-B. Qu, *Chem. Commun.*, 2012, **48**, 10117.
3. Z. Liu, J. Zhang, S. Chen, E. Shi, Y. Xu and X. Wan, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2012, **51**, 3231.



## <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra of the Products

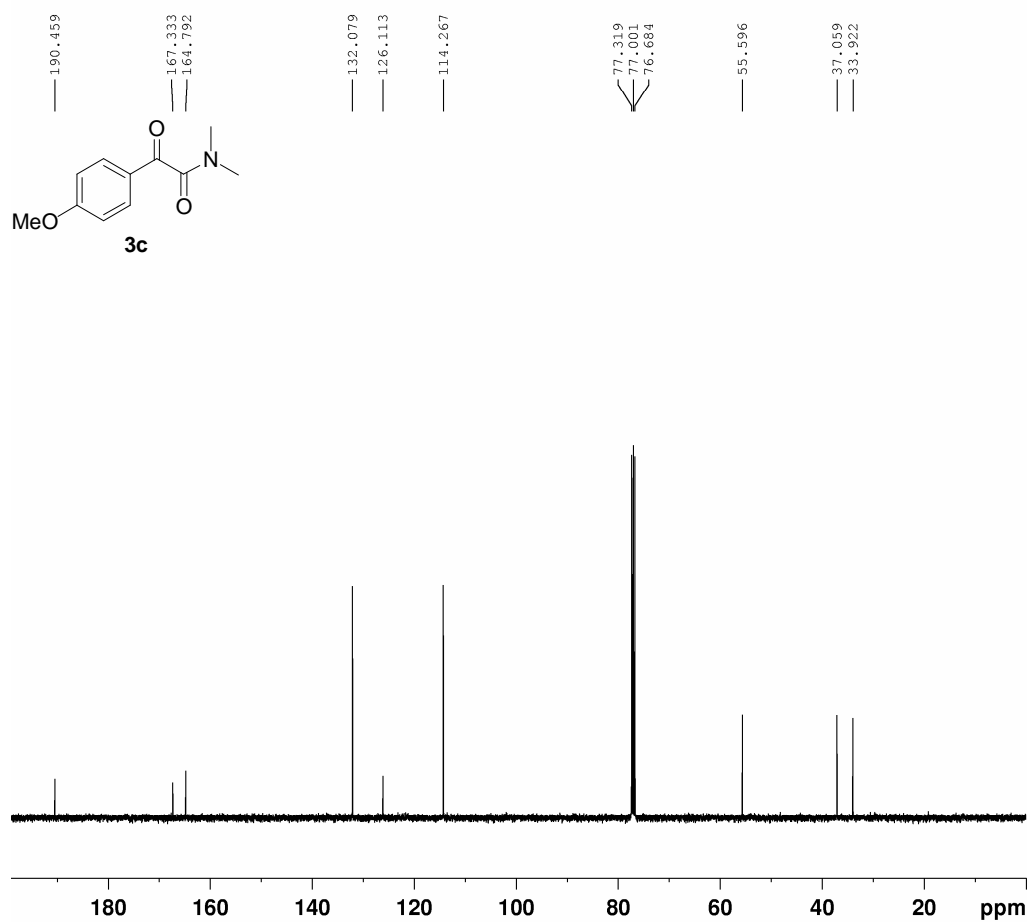


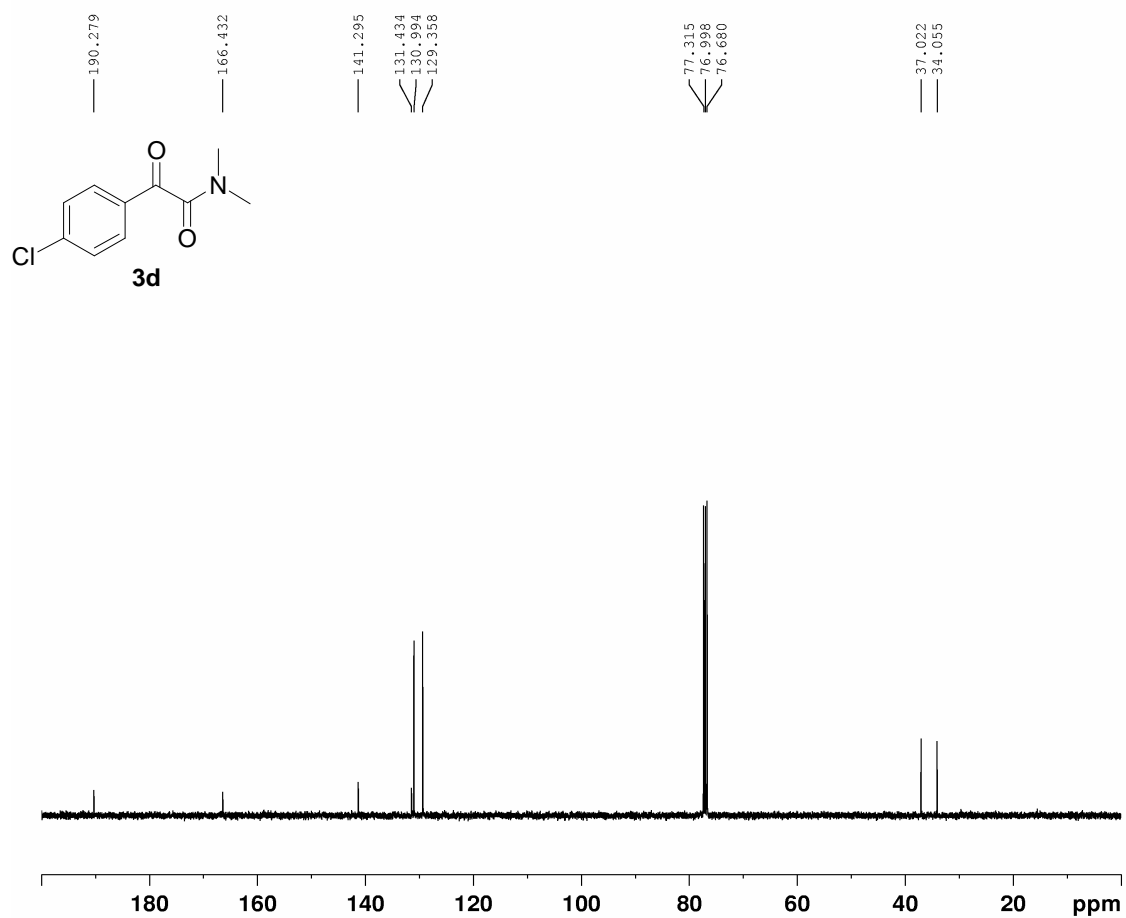
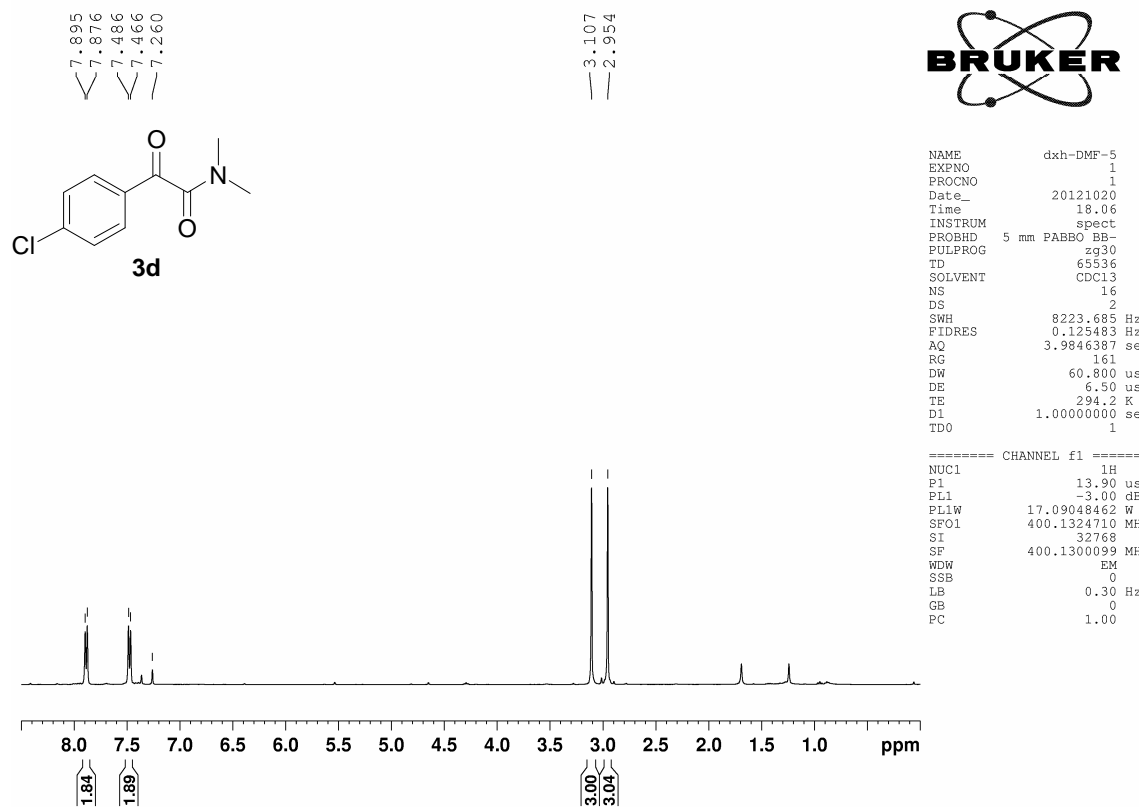


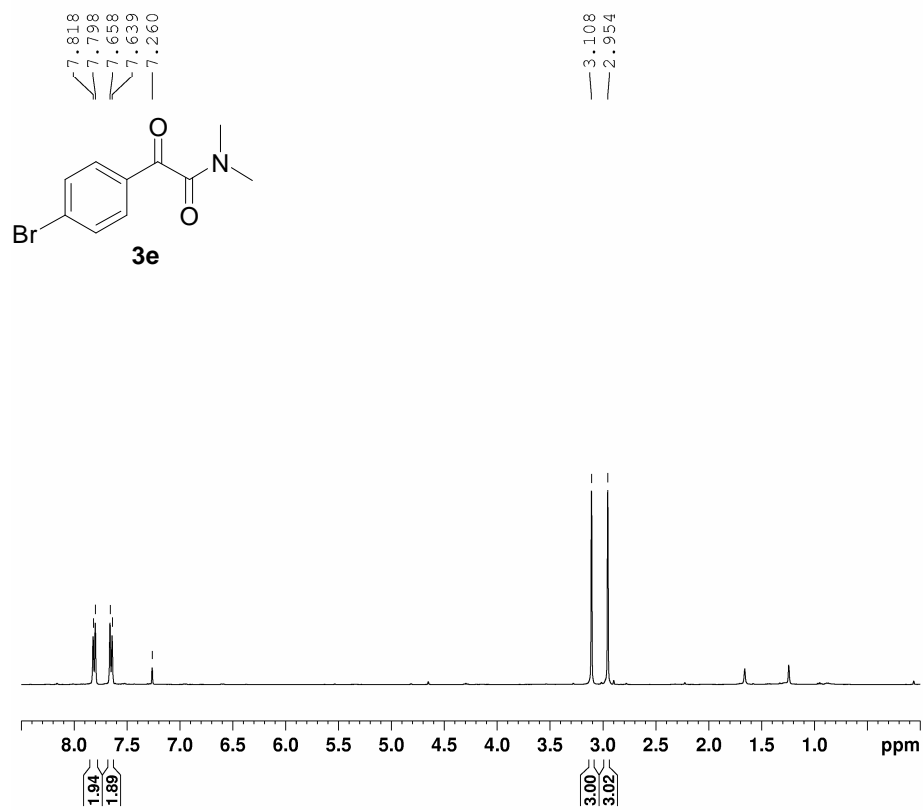


NAME dxh-DMF-4  
EXPNO 1  
PROCNO 1  
Date\_ 20121019  
Time 9.32  
INSTRUM spect  
PROBHD 5 mm F4BBO BB-  
PULPROG zg30  
TD 65536  
SOLVENT CDC13  
NS 16  
DS 2  
SWH 8223.685 Hz  
FIDRES 0.125483 Hz  
AQ 3.9846387 sec  
RG 128  
DW 60.800 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 294.2 K  
D1 1.00000000 sec  
TD0 1

===== CHANNEL f1 =====  
NUC1 1H  
P1 13.90 usec  
PL1 -3.00 dB  
PL1W 17.09048462 W  
SFO1 400.1324710 MHz  
SI 32768  
SF 400.1300103 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 0.30 Hz  
GB 0  
PC 1.00

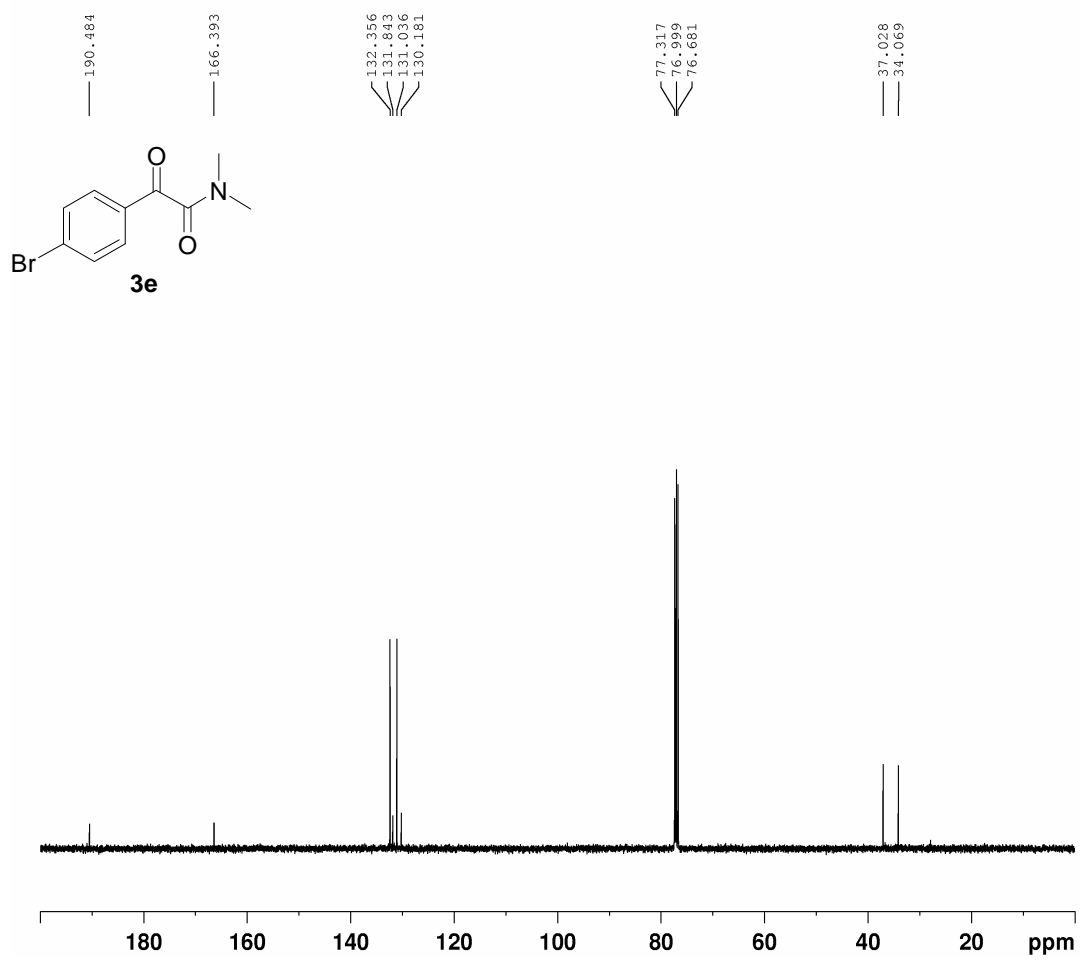


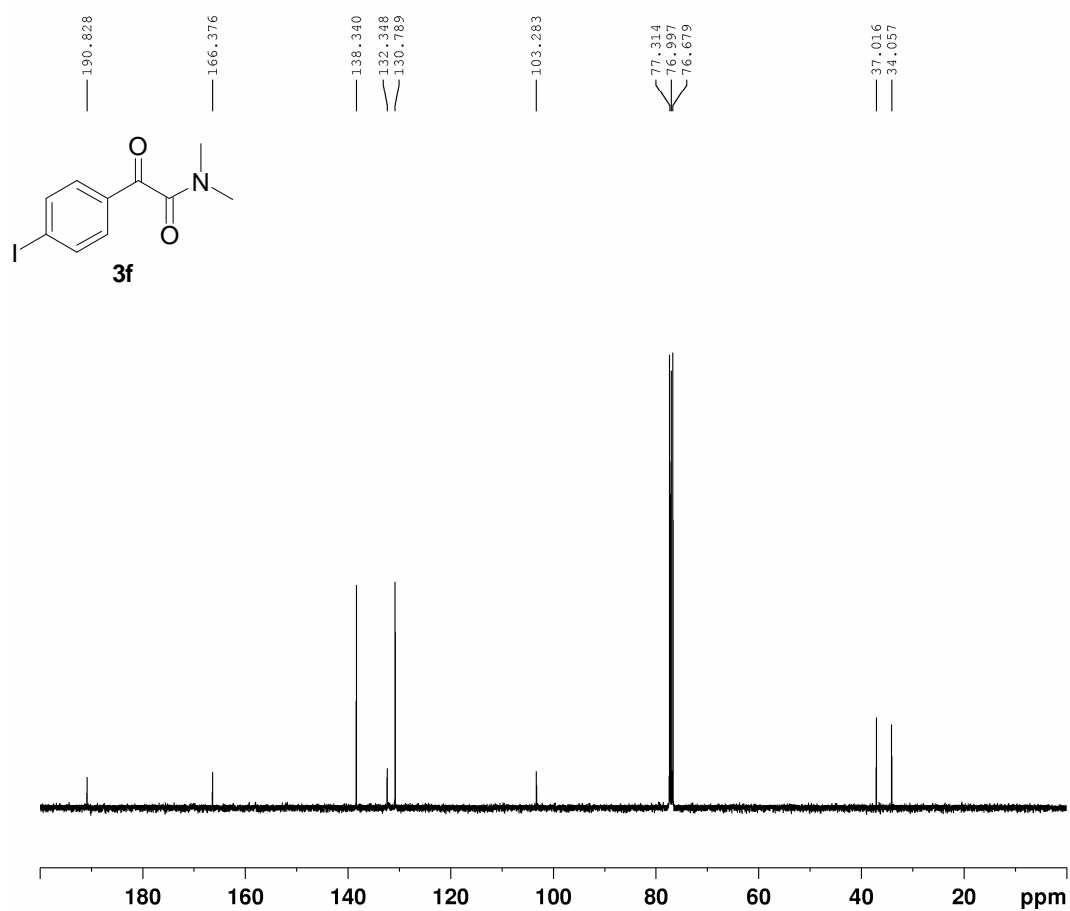
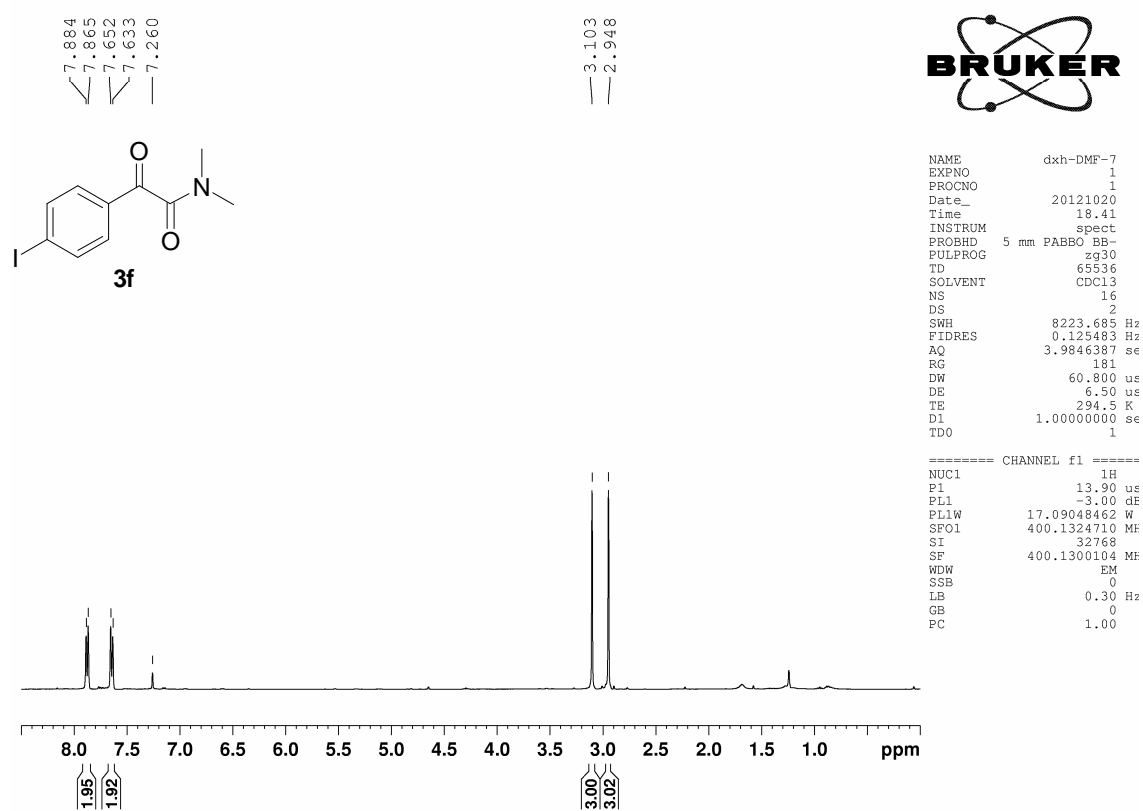


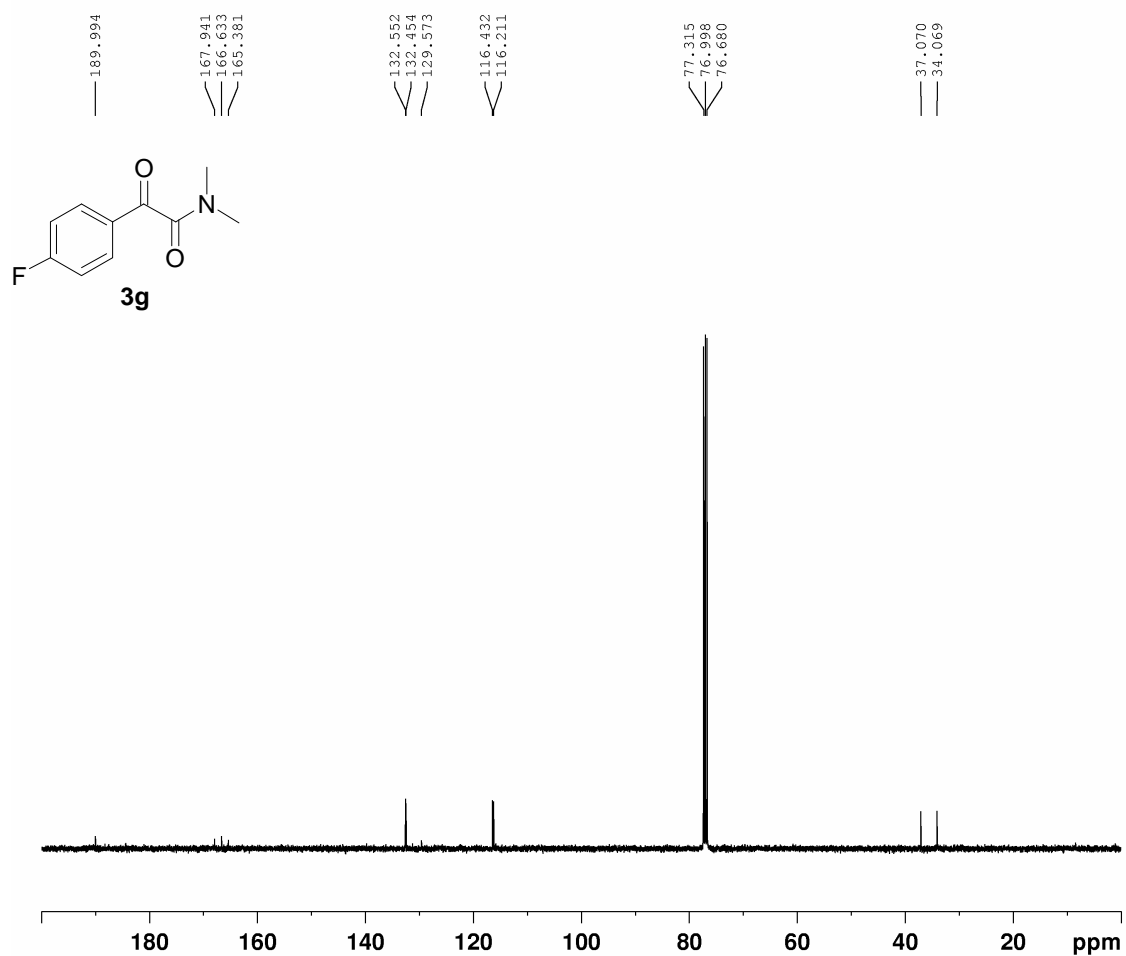
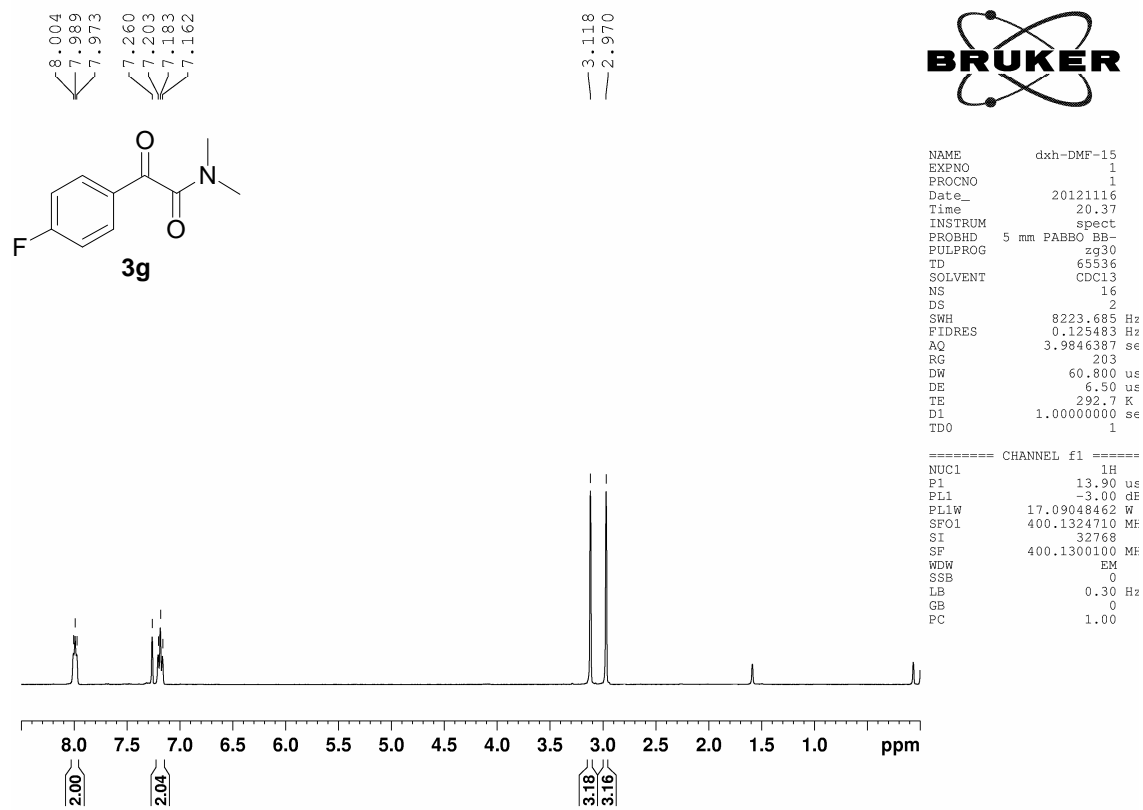


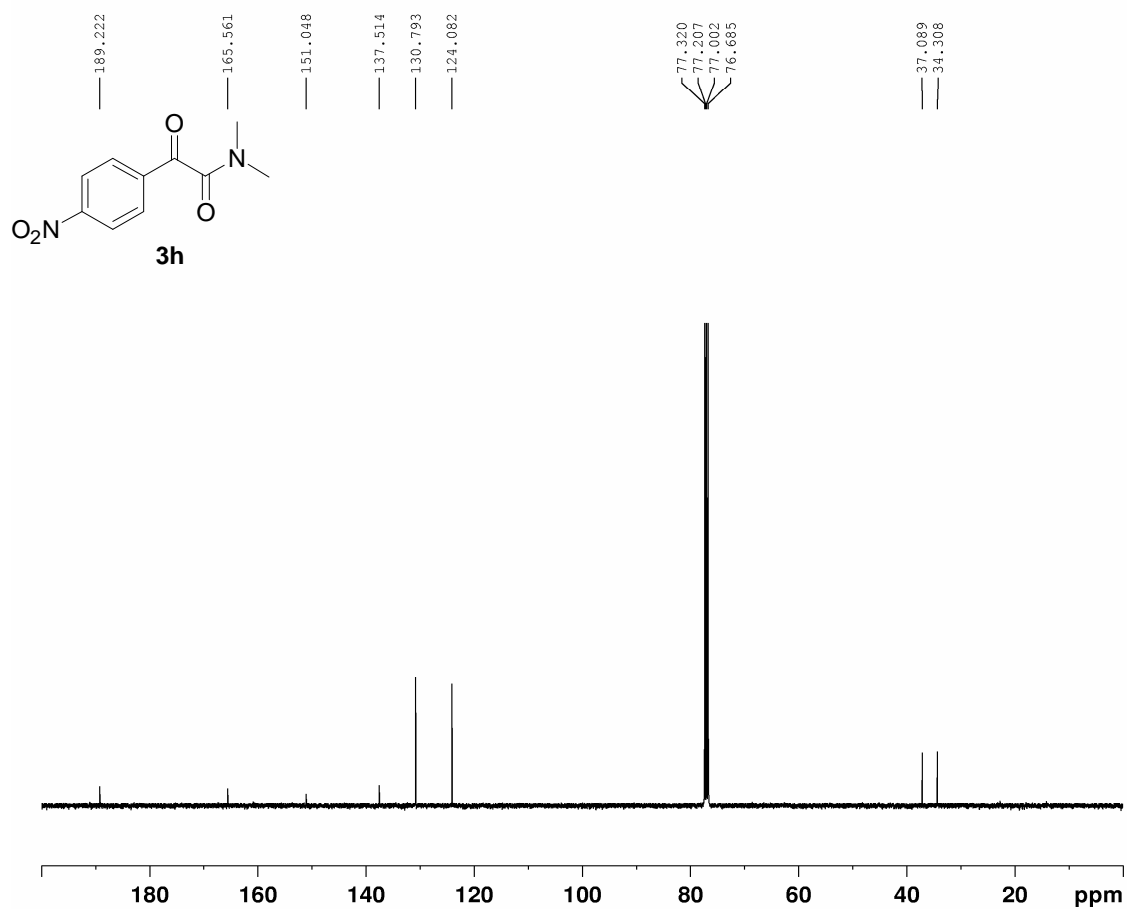
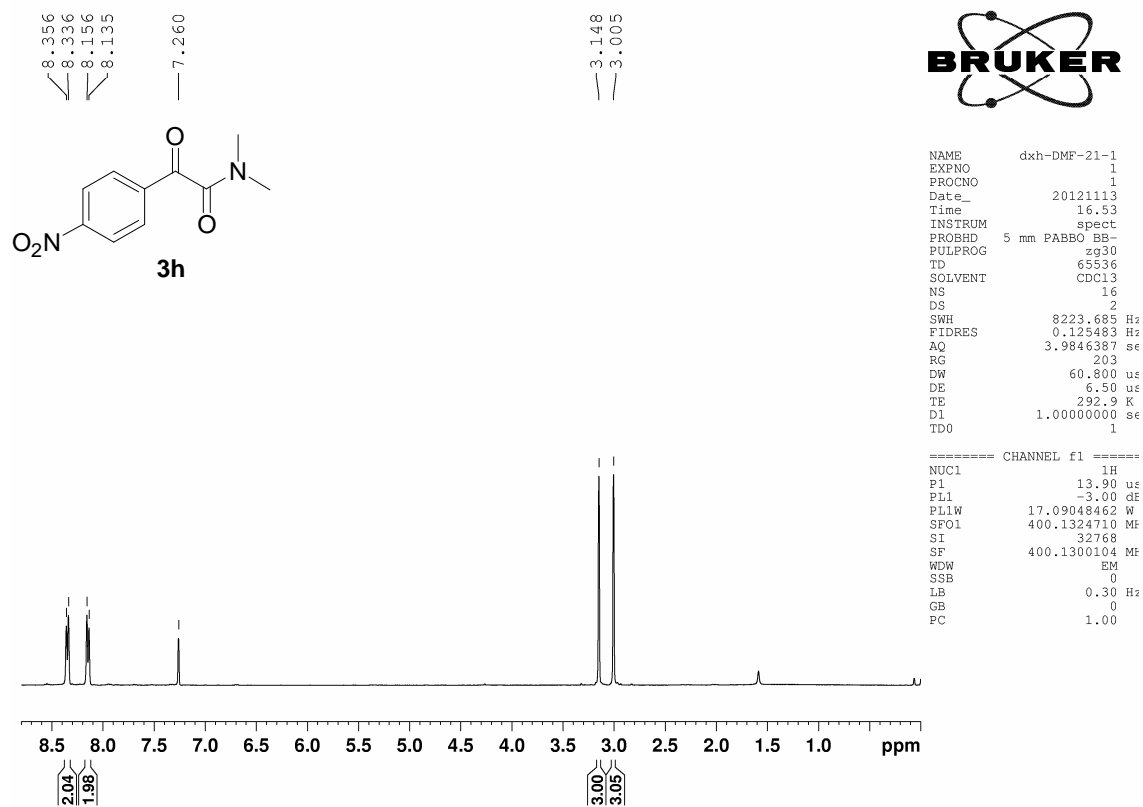
NAME dxh-DMF-6  
EXPNO 1  
PROCNO 1  
Date\_ 20121020  
Time 18.22  
INSTRUM spect  
PROBHD 5 mm PABBO BB-  
PULPROG zg30  
TD 65536  
SOLVENT CDCl3  
NS 16  
DS 2  
SWH 8223.685 Hz  
FIDRES 0.125483 Hz  
AQ 3.9846387 se  
RG 181  
DW 60.800 us  
DE 6.50 us  
TE 294.3 K  
D1 1.00000000 se  
TD0 1

===== CHANNEL f1 =====  
NUC1 1H  
P1 13.90 us  
PL1 -3.00 dB  
PL1W 17.09048462 W  
SFO1 400.1324710 MHz  
SI 32768  
SF 400.1300101 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 0.30 Hz  
GB 0  
PC 1.00

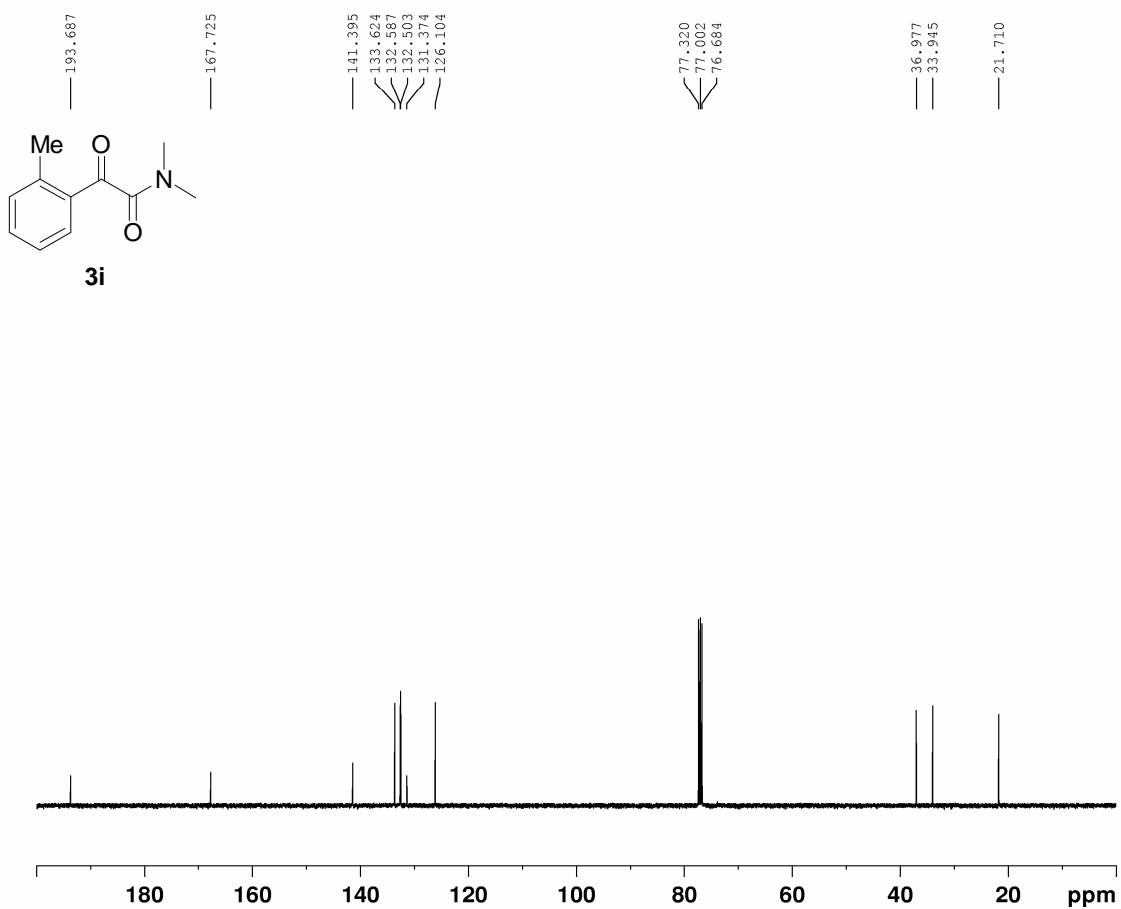
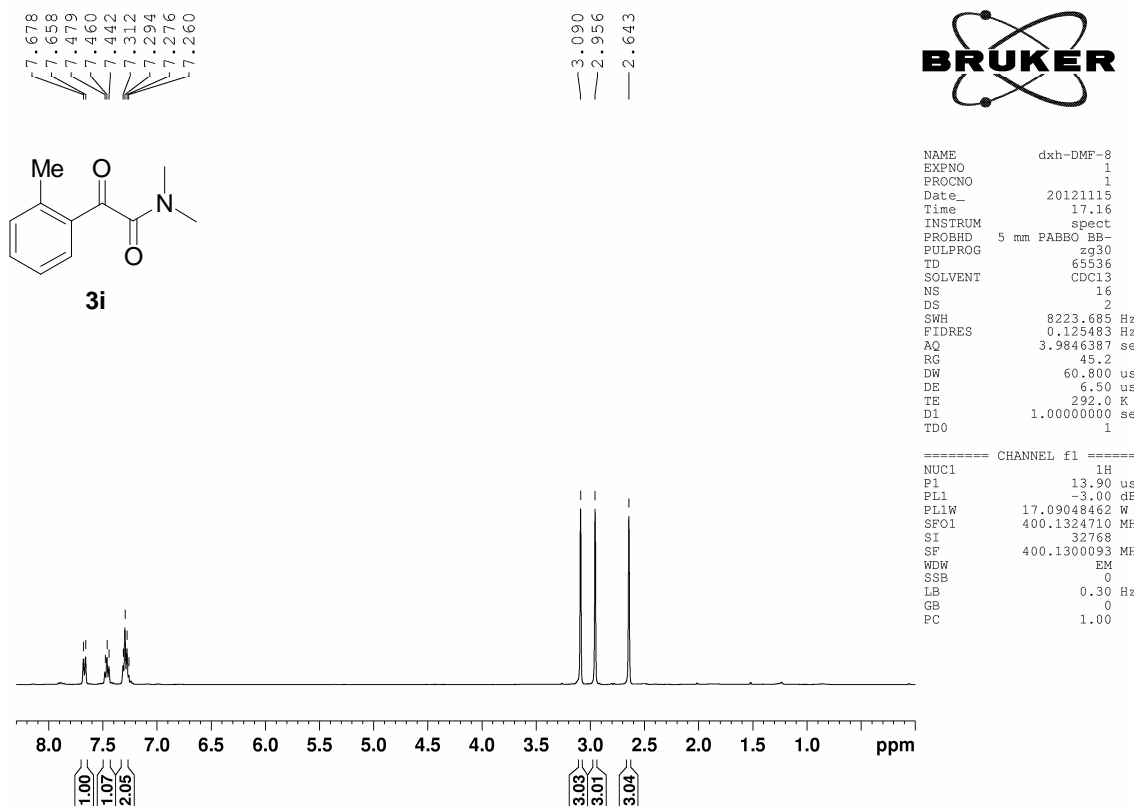


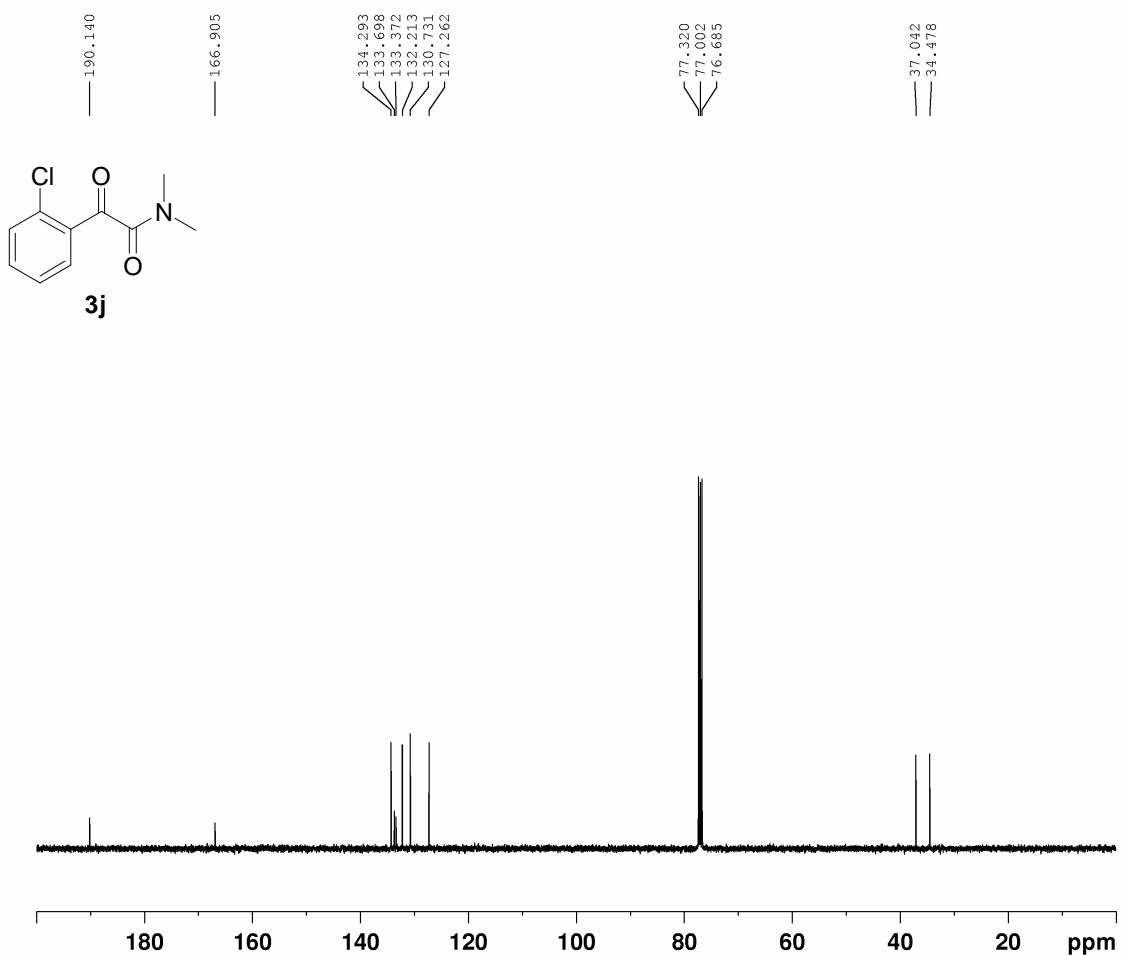
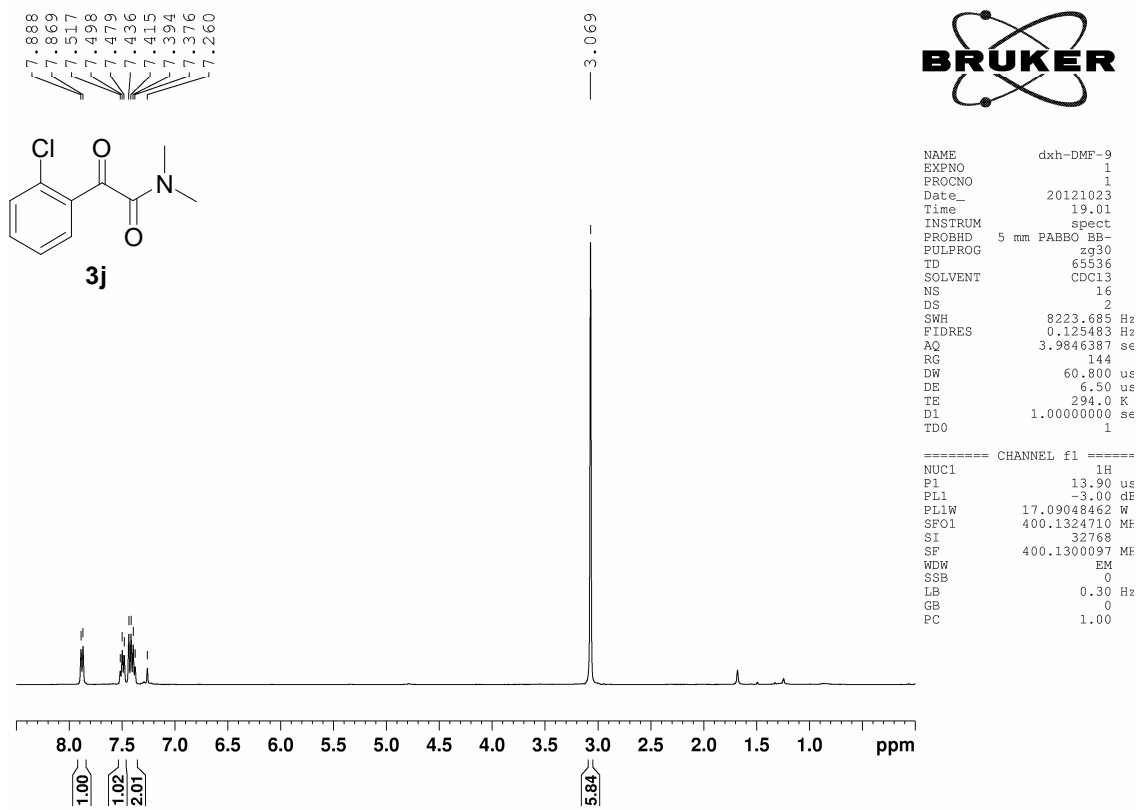


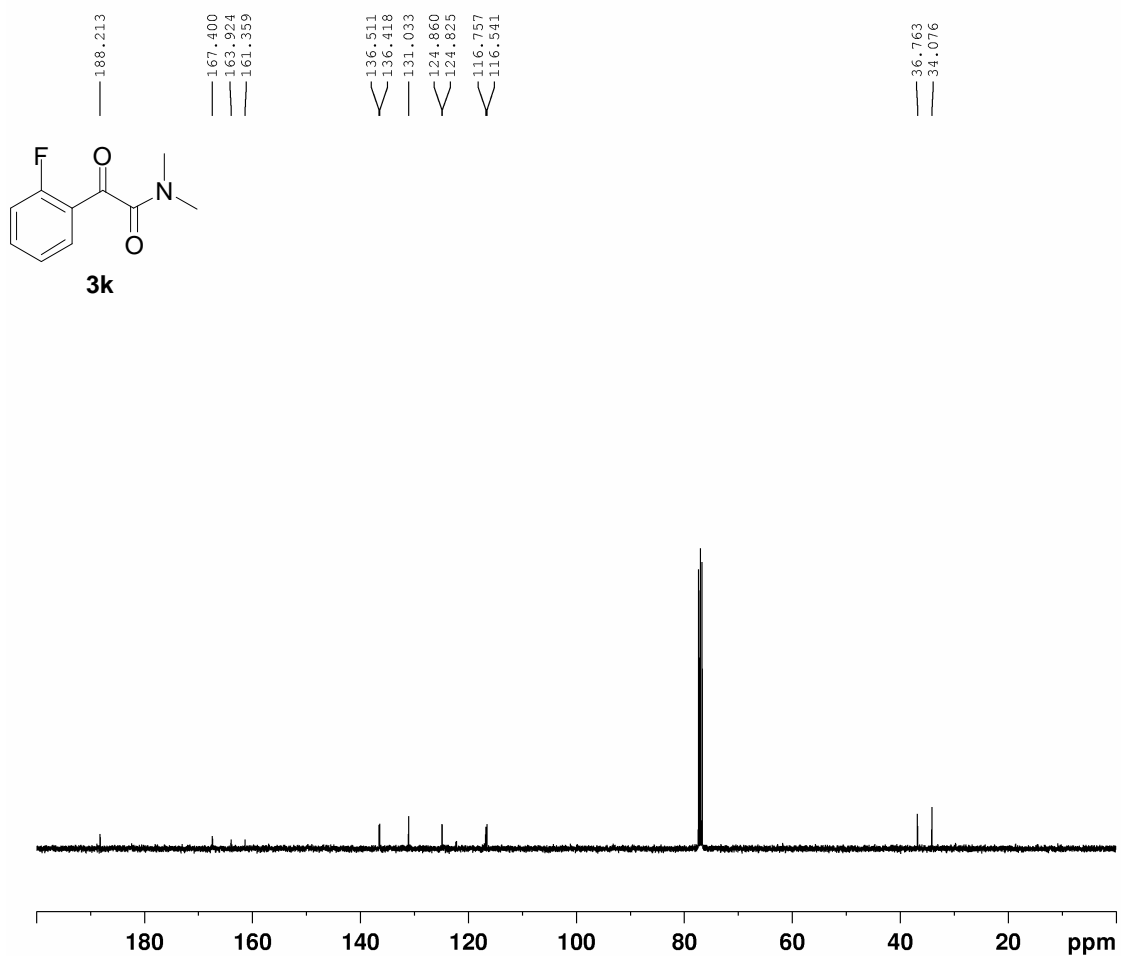
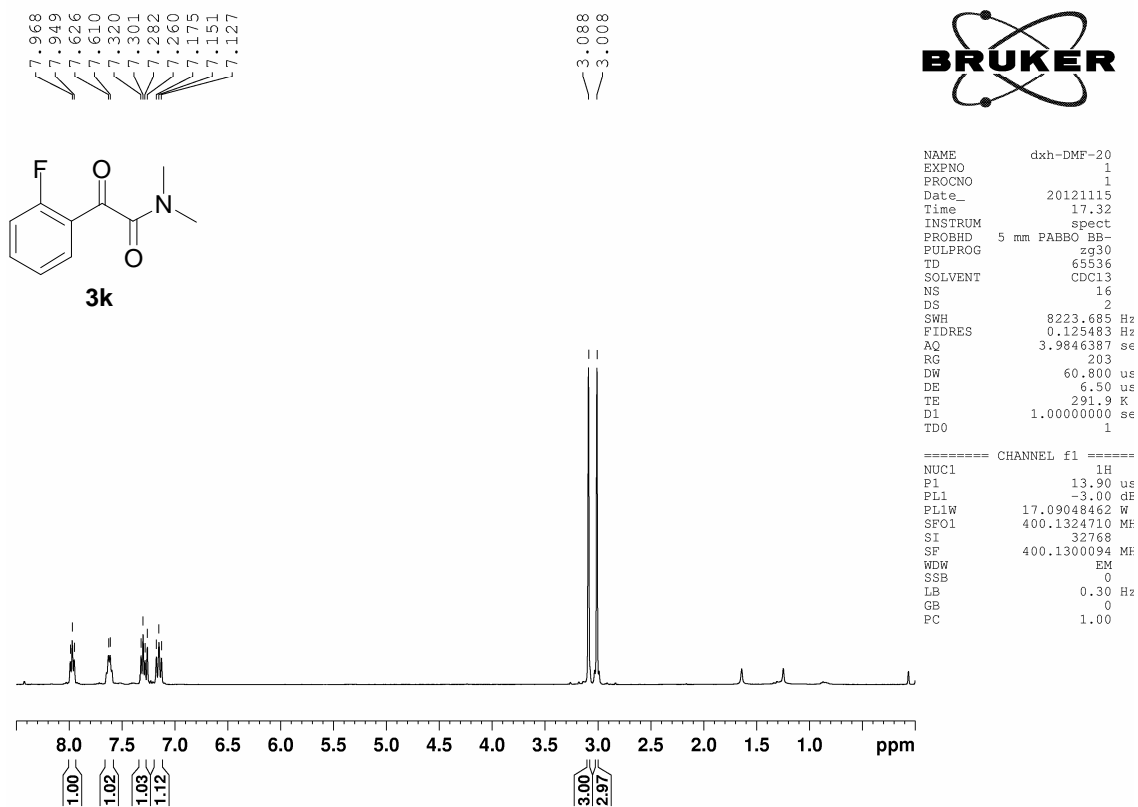


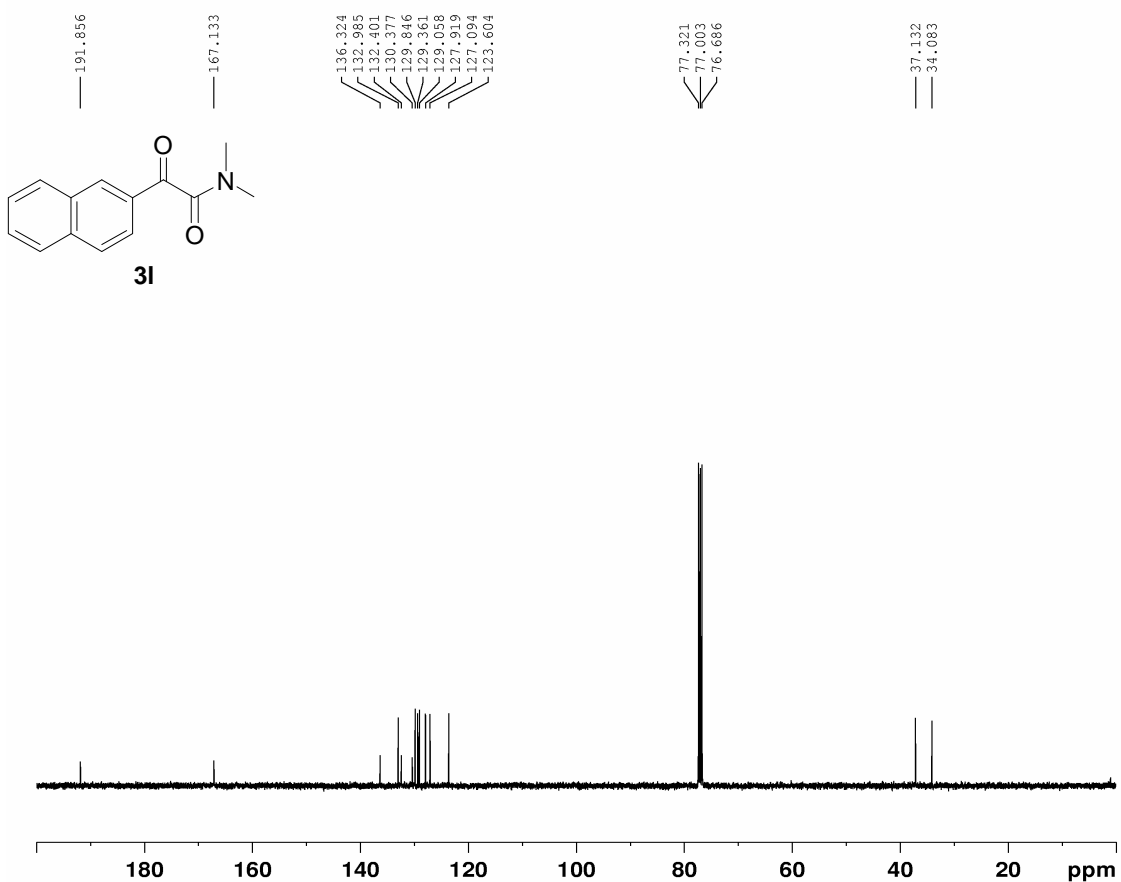
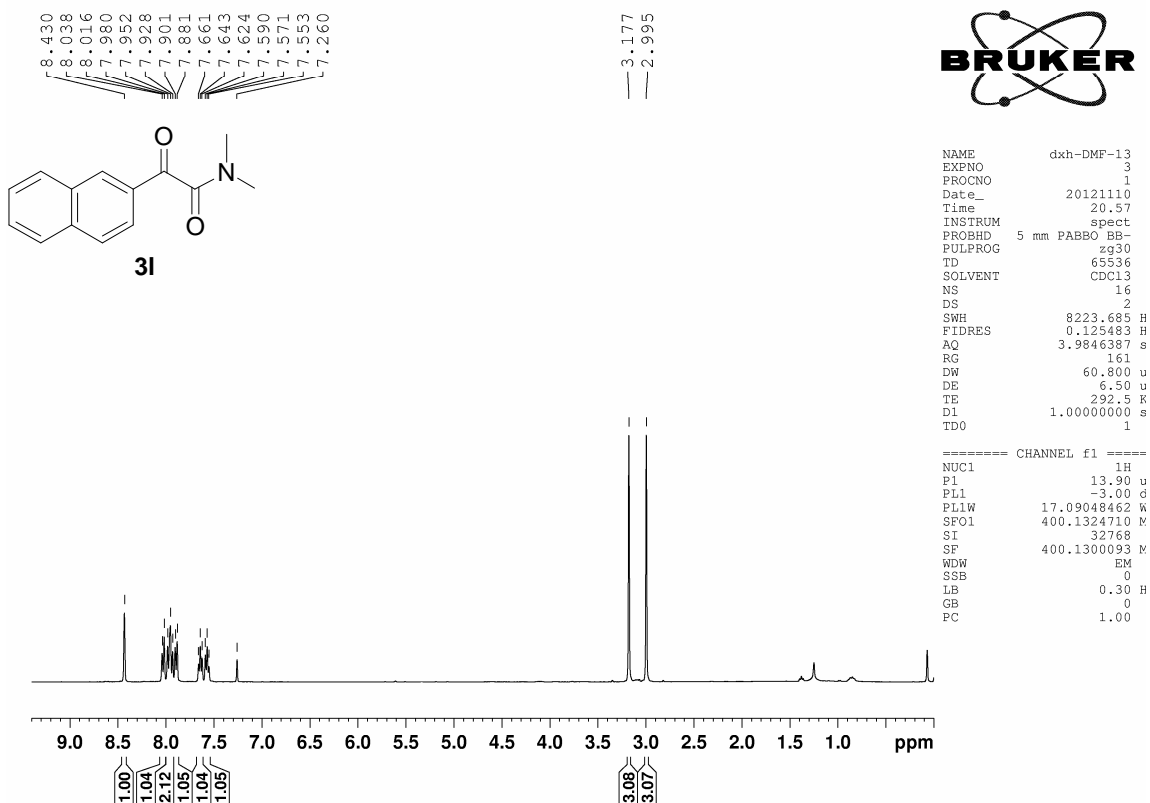


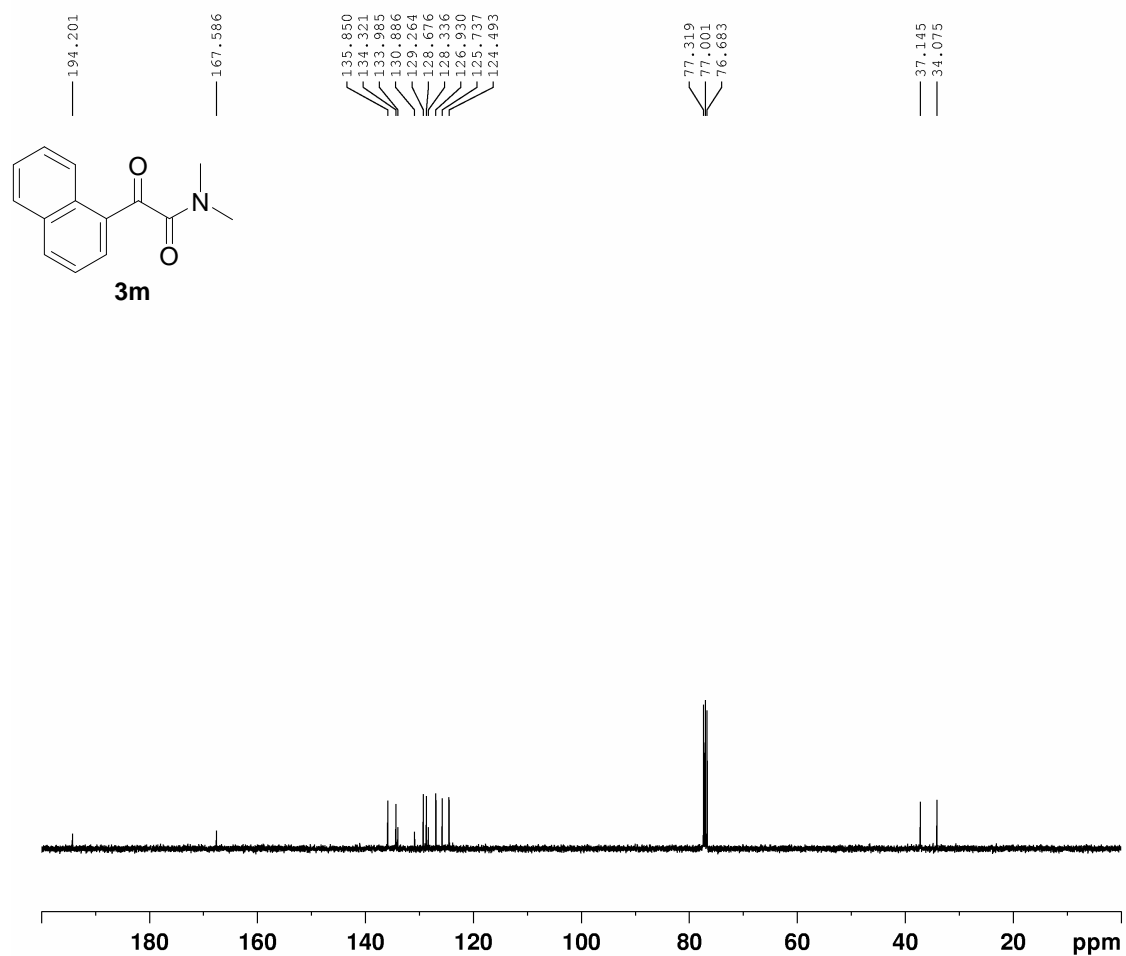
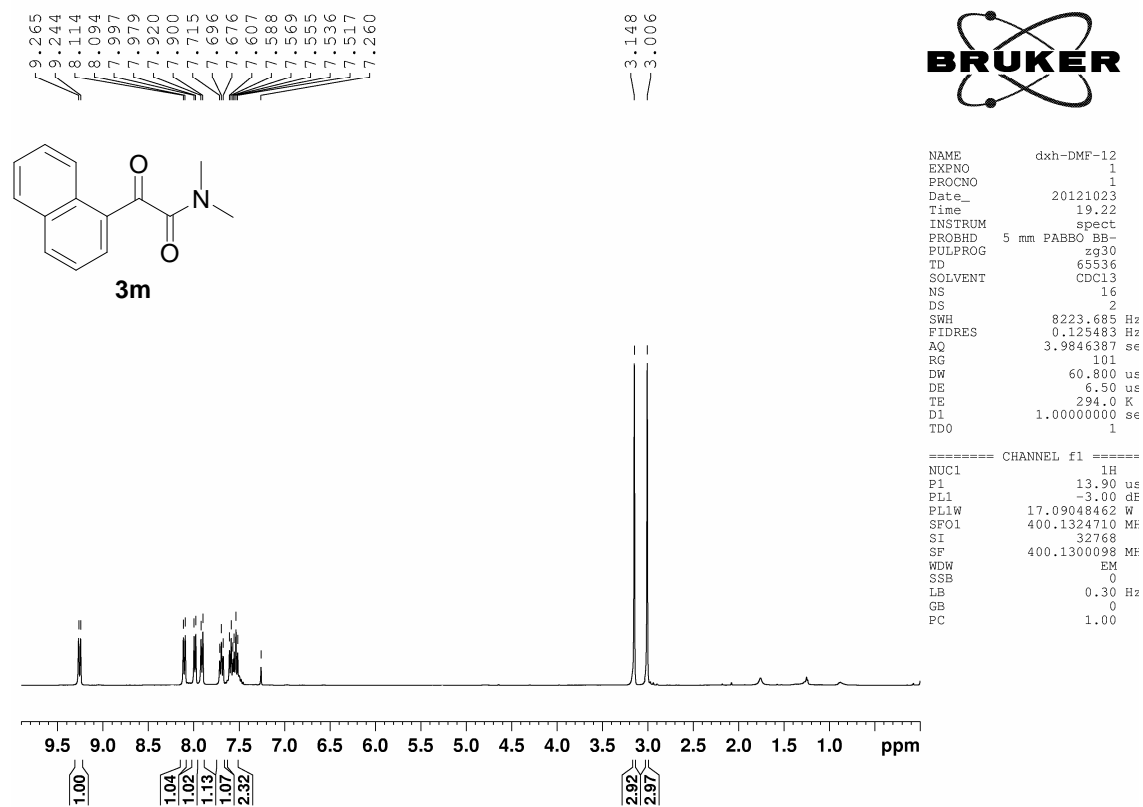


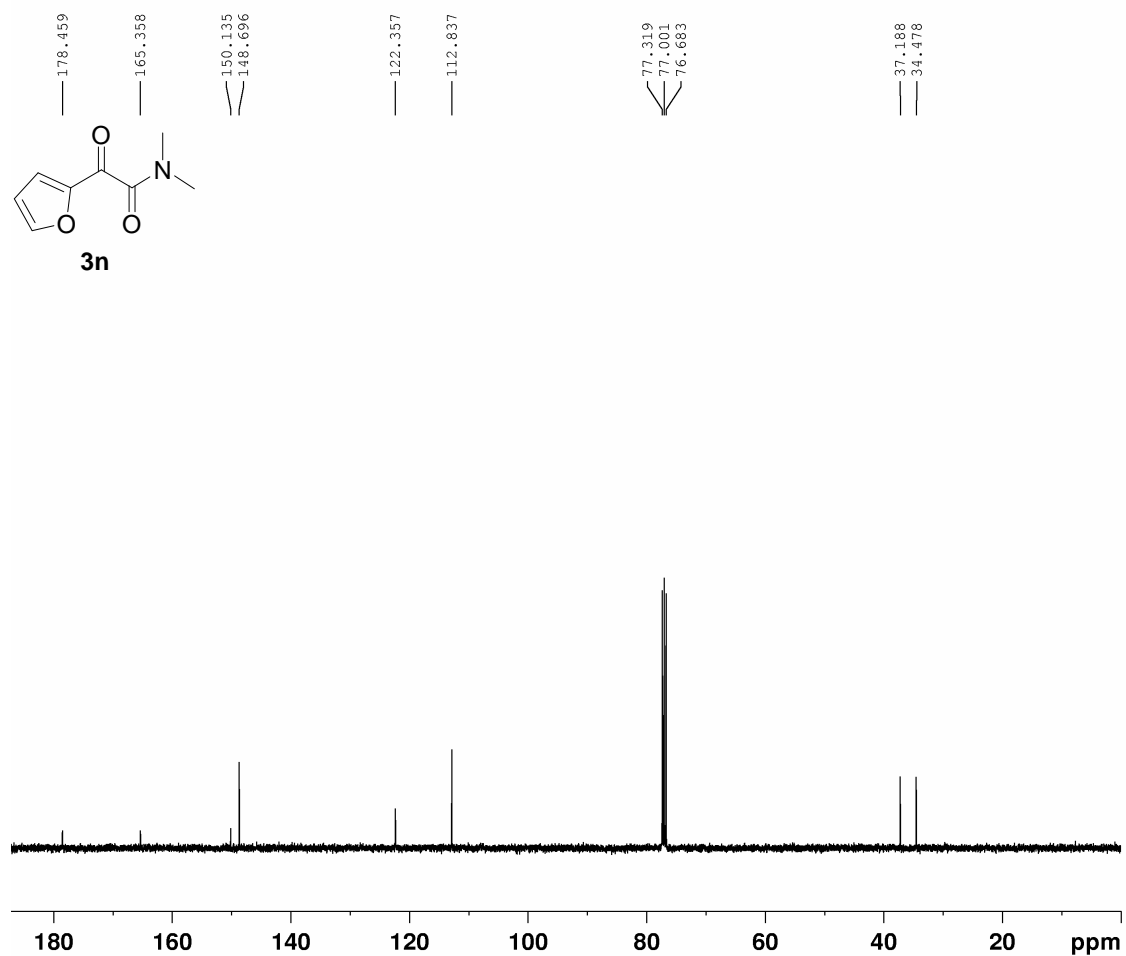
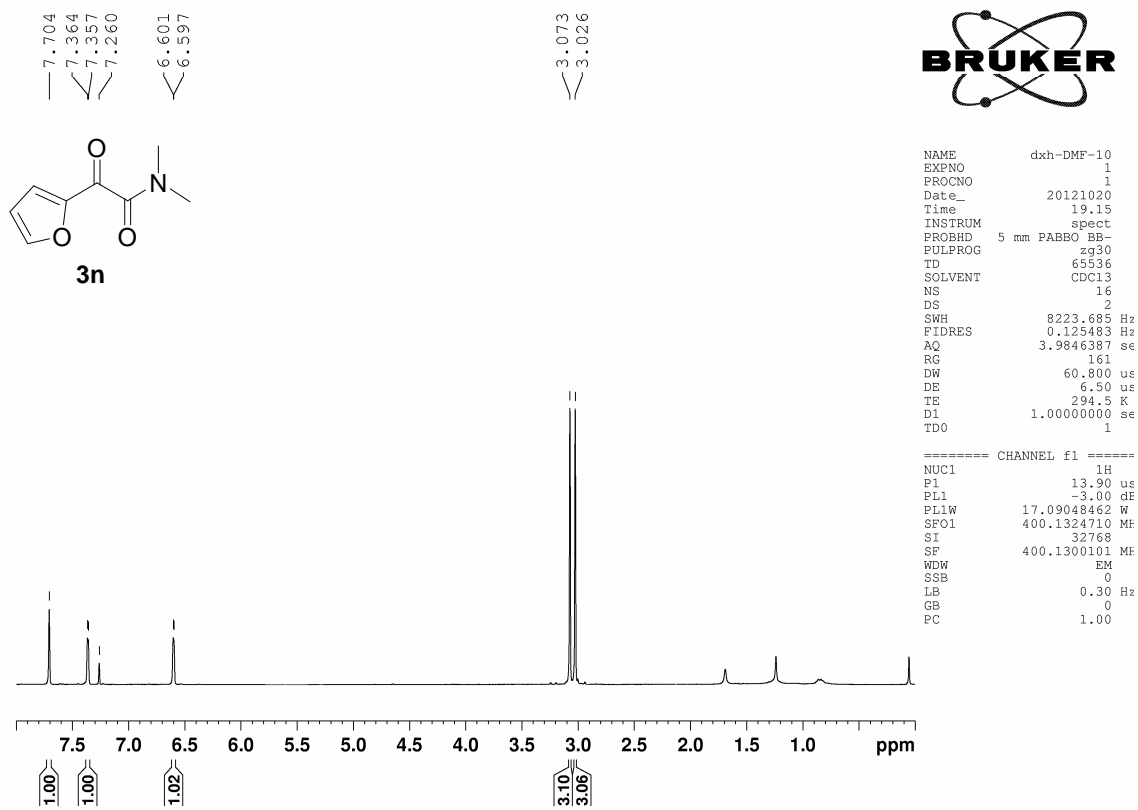


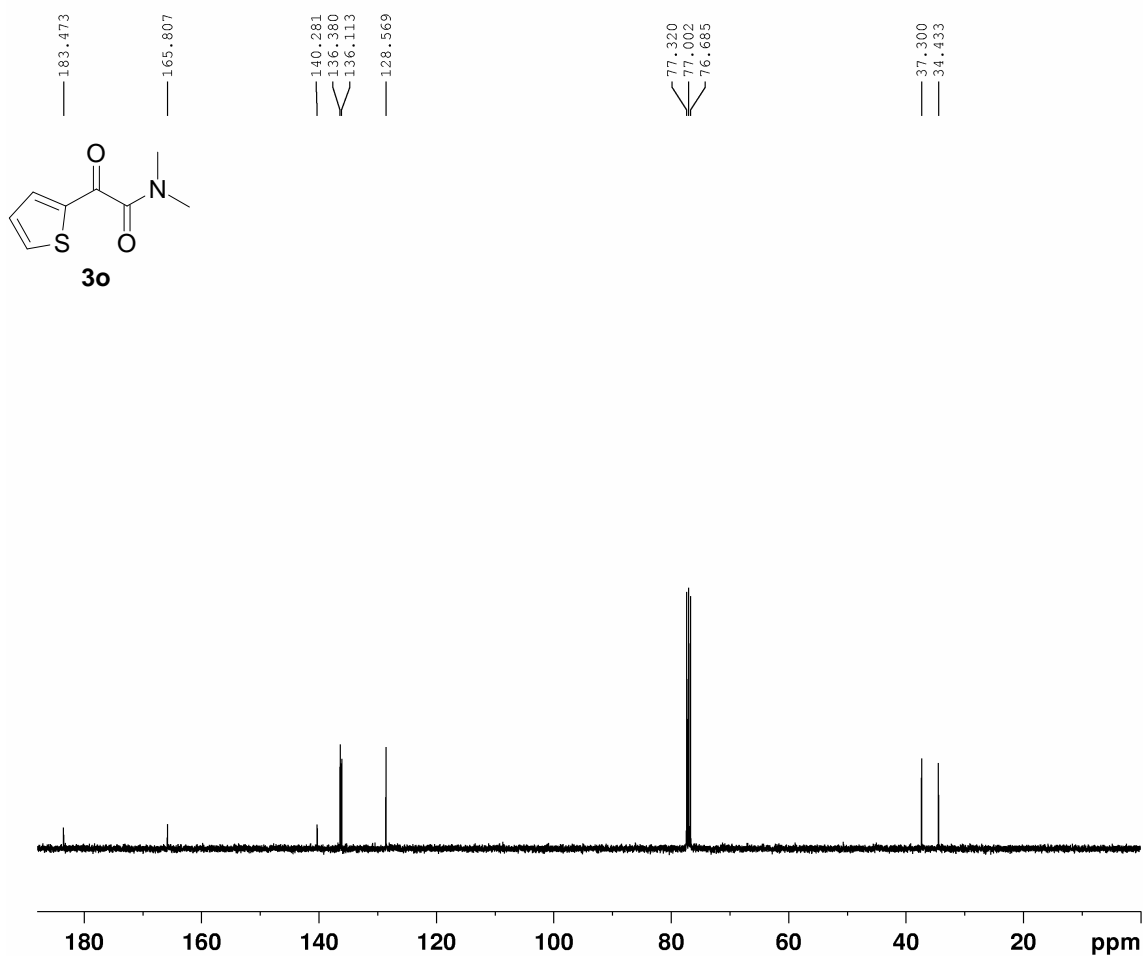
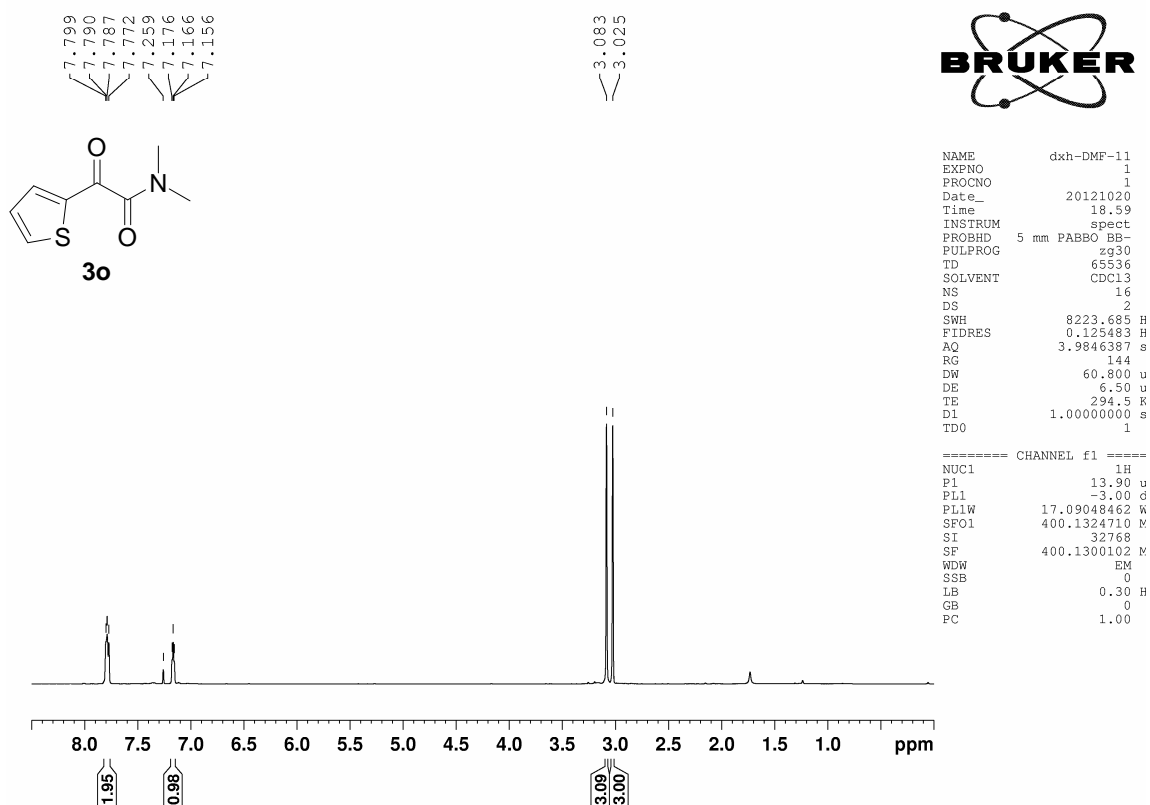


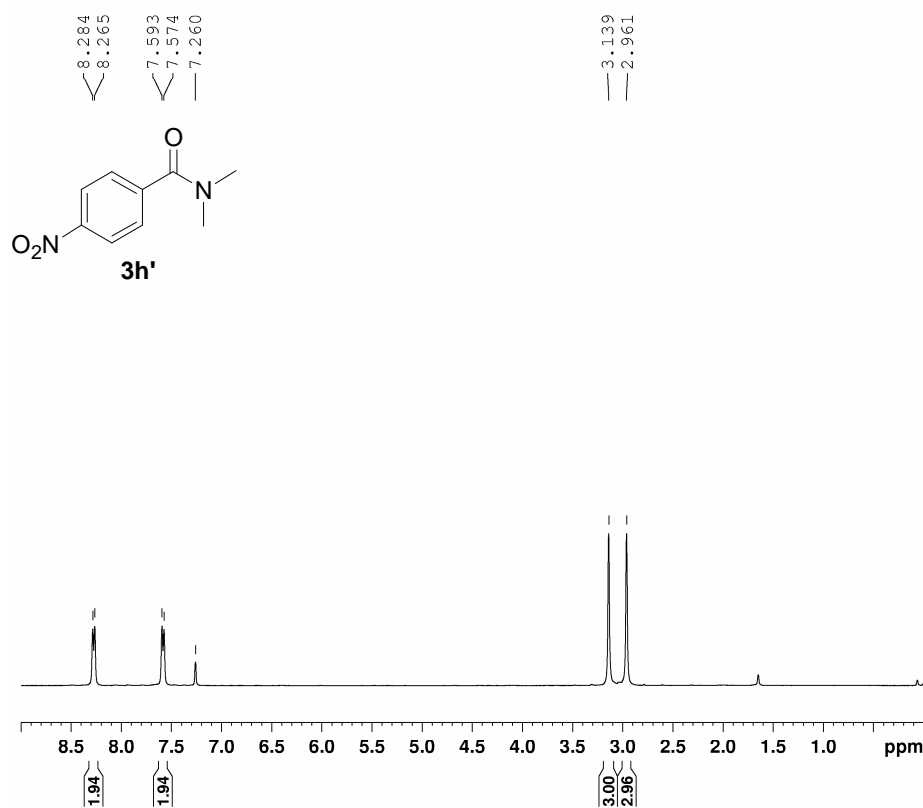












```

NAME      dxh-DMF-21
EXPNO     1
PROCNO    1
Date_     20121113
Time      14.35
INSTRUM   spect
PROBHD    5 mm PABBO BB-
PULPROG   zg30
TD         65536
SOLVENT   CDCl3
NS         16
DS         2
SWH        8223.685 Hz
FIDRES     0.125483 Hz
AQ         3.9846387 s
RG         181
DW         60.800 us
DE         6.50 us
TE         292.8 K
D1         1.0000000 s
TD0        1
    
```

```

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1       1H
P1         13.90 us
PL1        -3.00 dB
PL1W       17.09048462 W
SFO1       400.1324710 MHz
SI         32768
SF         400.1300099 MHz
WDW        EM
SSB        0
LB         0.30 Hz
GB         0
PC         1.00
    
```

