

# Chemoselective Synthesis of Tetrasubstituted Furans via Intramolecular Wittig Reactions: Mechanism and Theoretical Analysis

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## Supporting Information

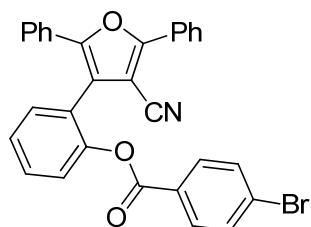
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**TP** : Typical procedure for the preparation of compounds **3** and **14**:

A dry and nitrogen-flushed 10-mL Schlenk tube, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum, was charged with a solution of **1** (0.5 mmol) or **12** (0.3 mmol) and **4** (1.1 equiv) in dry THF (1.0 mL or 0.6 mL). Bu<sub>3</sub>P (1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.3 equiv) were sequentially added, and the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 minutes to 3 hours at room temperature (27-30 °C). Thereafter, the solvent was removed by evaporation *in vacuo*. Purification by flash chromatography furnished **3** and **14**.

**Synthesis of 2-(4-cyano-2,5-diphenylfuran-3-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate (3a):**



Prepared according to **TP** from (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate **1a** (215.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), benzoyl chloride **4a** (64.0 μL, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P (150.0 μL, 1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (91.0 μL, 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27-30 °C for 15 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3a** as white solid (228.4 mg, 88%).

**mp:** 158.8-159.3 °C

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.04 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.73 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 7.59-7.36 (m, 11H), 7.36-7.30 (m, 3H).

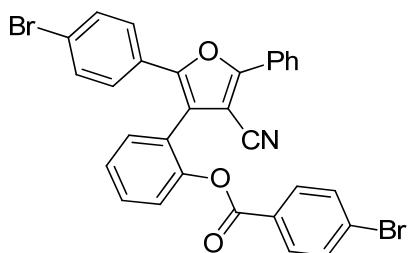
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 163.5, 158.2, 149.4, 148.6, 131.6, 131.5, 131.4, 130.3, 130.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 127.6, 127.5, 126.7, 126.0, 125.2, 123.6, 123.3, 118.9, 114.2, 95.7.

**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 521 [M+2]<sup>+</sup> (100), 519 [M]<sup>+</sup> (80), 183 (85), 155 (30), 105 (70), 77 (30) ;

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3063 (w), 2221 (m), 1738 (s), 1587 (m), 1491 (m), 1259 (s), 1063 (s), 750 (m).

**HRMS** (ESI) for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BrNO<sub>3</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (542.0368) found: 542.0369.

**Synthesis of 2-(2-(4-bromophenyl)-4-cyano-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate (3b):**



Prepared according to **TP** from starting material (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate **1a** (215.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), 4-bromobenzoyl chloride **4b** (120.7 mg, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P (150.0 µL, 1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (91.0 µL, 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27–30 °C for 15 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3b** as white solid (256.7 mg, 86%).

**mp:** 180.5–181.3 °C

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.02 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 7.77 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.60–7.32 (m, 13H).

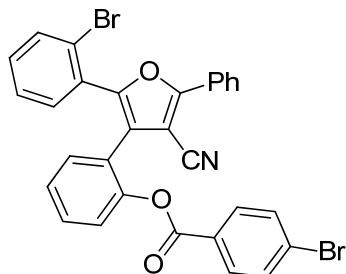
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 163.7, 158.7, 148.9, 148.6, 132.2, 131.9, 131.8, 131.6, 131.5, 130.7, 130.4, 129.2, 129.0, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 127.0, 125.5, 123.5, 123.2, 119.8, 114.1, 96.0.

**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 598 [M+1]<sup>+</sup> (25), 596 [M-1]<sup>+</sup> (17), 185(65), 183 (100), 157 (17), 155 (20), 105 (53), 77 (22).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3063 (w), 2229 (m), 1738 (s), 1591 (m), 1491(m), 1255 (s), 1067 (s), 750 (m).

**HRMS** (ESI) for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>17</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (619.9473) found: 619.9468.

**Synthesis of 2-(2-(2-bromophenyl)-4-cyano-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate (3c):**



Prepared according to **TP** from (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate **1a** (215.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), 2-bromobenzoyl chloride **4c** (72.0 µL, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P (150.0 µL, 1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (91.0 µL, 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27–30 °C for 15 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3c** as white solid (274.6 mg, 92%).

**mp:** 160.3-160.9 °C

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.04 (*pseudo* dd, 2H, *J* = 8.2, 1.4 Hz), 7.97 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 7.66-7.56(m, 3H), 7.53-7.41 (m, 4H), 7.34-7.18 (m, 6H).

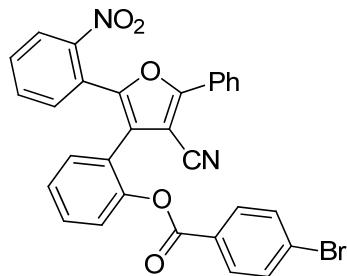
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 163.8, 159.4, 149.1, 148.8, 133.7, 132.4, 131.9, 131.8, 131.6, 130.9, 130.4, 130.2, 129.1, 127.9, 127.8, 127.5, 126.6, 125.6, 123.3, 123.2, 123.1, 122.0, 114.5, 94.7.

**MS** (20 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 601 [M+4]<sup>+</sup> (25), 599 [M+2]<sup>+</sup> (88), 597 [M]<sup>+</sup> (46), 185 (100), 183 (100), 105 (3).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3063 (w), 2229 (m), 1738 (s), 1587 (m), 1488 (m), 1259 (s), 1067 (s), 750 (m).

**HRMS** (EI) for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>17</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>, [M]<sup>+</sup> (596.9575) found: 596.9581.

**Synthesis of 2-(4-cyano-2-(2-nitrophenyl)-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate (3d):**



Prepared according to **TP** from (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate **1a** (215.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), 2-nitrobenzoyl chloride **4d** (73.0 μL, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P (150.0 μL, 1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (91.0 μL, 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27-30 °C for 15 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3d** as yellow solid (248.2 mg, 88%).

**mp:** 201.3-202.2 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.97 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.93-7.85 (m, 3H), 7.58 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.55-7.28 (m, 10H).

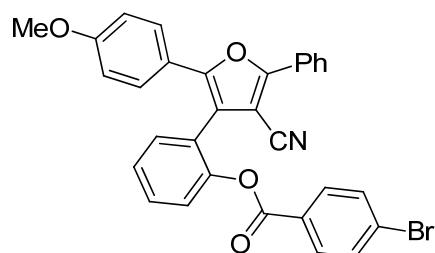
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 164.1, 160.1, 148.9, 148.5, 145.7, 132.9, 131.9, 131.8, 131.7, 131.6, 130.7, 130.1, 129.2, 129.1, 127.6, 127.3, 126.9, 125.6, 124.6, 123.4, 122.9, 122.8, 114.1, 95.0.

**MS** (20 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 564 [M]<sup>+</sup> (2), 365 (30), 260 (14), 185 (36), 183 (38), 105 (100).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3063 (w), 2229 (m), 1738 (s), 1587 (m), 1528 (s), 1491 (m), 1347 (m), 1255 (s), 1067 (s), 750 (s).

**HRMS (EI)** for  $\mathbf{C}_{30}\mathbf{H}_{17}\mathbf{BrN}_2\mathbf{O}_5$ ,  $[\mathbf{M}]^+$  (564.0321) found: 564.0317.

**Synthesis of 2-(4-cyano-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate (3e):**



Prepared according to **TP** from (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate **1a** (215.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), 4-methoxybenzoyl chloride **4e** (75.0  $\mu$ L, 1.1 equiv),  $\text{Bu}_3\text{P}$  (150.0  $\mu$ L, 1.2 equiv) and  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (91.0  $\mu$ L, 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27–30 °C for 30 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3e** as white solid (222.4 mg, 81%).

**mp:** 93.2–94.0 °C.

**$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C)  $\delta/\text{ppm}$ : 8.01 (*pseudo d*, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 7.77 (*pseudo d*, 2H,  $J = 8.4$  Hz), 7.59–7.33 (m, 11H), 6.83 (*pseudo d*, 2H,  $J = 8.8$  Hz), 3.81 (s, 3H).

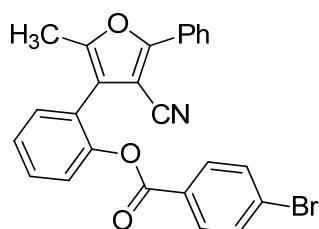
**$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C)  $\delta/\text{ppm}$ : 163.8, 160.1, 157.9, 149.8, 148.9, 131.8, 131.7, 131.6, 130.2, 130.0, 129.1, 128.8, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 126.8, 125.3, 124.0, 123.4, 121.5, 117.5, 114.5, 114.1, 95.7, 55.3.

**MS** (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$  (%): 550 [ $\mathbf{M}+2]^+$  (70), 548 (70), 185 (74), 183 (100), 155 (18), 135 (48), 105 (48), 77 (18).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3077 (w), 2221 (m), 1735 (s), 1613 (m), 1513 (m), 1255 (s), 1071 (s), 750 (m).

**HRMS (ESI)** for  $\mathbf{C}_{30}\mathbf{H}_{21}\mathbf{BrNO}_4$ ,  $[\mathbf{M}+\mathbf{H}]^+$  (550.0654) found: 550.0634.

**Synthesis of 2-(4-cyano-2-methyl-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate (3f):**



Prepared according to **TP** from (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate **1a** (215.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), acetyl chloride **4f** (40.0  $\mu$ L, 1.1 equiv),

Bu<sub>3</sub>P (150.0 µL, 1.2 equiv) and EtN<sub>3</sub> (91.0 µL, 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27-30 °C for 15 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3f** as white solid (102.8 mg, 45%).

**mp:** 130.0-130.8 °C

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.02 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.92 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.59 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.54-7.33 (m, 7H), 2.31 (s, 3H).

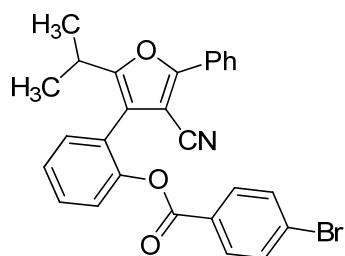
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 163.9, 158.1, 149.8, 148.9, 132.0, 131.6, 131.4, 130.0, 129.8, 129.0, 128.0, 127.9, 126.6, 125.1, 123.5, 123.1, 119.2, 114.8, 93.8, 12.1.

**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 459 [M+2]<sup>+</sup> (27), 457 [M]<sup>+</sup> (36), 185 (64), 183 (100), 105 (35).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2915 (w), 2221 (m), 1738 (s), 1587 (m), 1491 (m), 1255 (s), 1067 (s), 750 (m).

**HRMS** (ESI) for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrNO<sub>3</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (480.0211) found: 480.0216.

### Synthesis of 2-(4-cyano-2-isopropyl-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate (**3g**):



Prepared according to **TP** from (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate **1a** (215.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), isobutyryl chloride **4g** (58.0 µL, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P (150.0 µL, 1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (91.0 µL, 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27-30 °C for 15 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3g** as white solid (179.5 mg, 74%).

**mp:** 180.5-181.2 °C

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.01 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.91 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.61-7.28 (m, 9H), 3.02 (hept, 1H, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 1.48-0.97 (brs, 6H), 7.51-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.33-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.03 (*pseudo* t, 1H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 6.96 (*pseudo* d, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 5.50-5.09 (brs, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H).

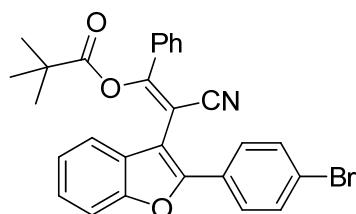
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 163.9, 158.0, 157.7, 149.2, 132.0, 131.6, 131.5, 130.1, 129.8, 129.0, 128.2, 128.0, 126.5, 125.1, 123.7, 123.1, 117.4, 114.8, 93.9, 26.5, 21.3.

**MS** (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$  (%): 487 [ $M+2]^+$  (20), 485 [ $M]^+$  (20), 302 (18), 272 (10), 183 (100), 155 (35), 105 (58), 77 (53).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3063 (w), 2967 (w), 2214 (m), 1738 (s), 1587 (m), 1488 (m), 1255 (s), 1067 (s), 750 (m).

**HRMS** (ESI) for  $\mathbf{C}_{27}\mathbf{H}_{20}\mathbf{BrNO}_3\mathbf{Na}$ ,  $[\mathbf{M}+\mathbf{Na}]^+$  (508.0524) found: 508.0527.

**Synthesis of (*E*)-2-(2-(4-bromophenyl)benzofuran-3-yl)-2-cyano-1-phenylvinyl pivalate (**3'h**):**



Prepared according to **TP** from (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate **1a** (215.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), trimethylacetyl chloride **4h** (68.0  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.1 equiv),  $\text{Bu}_3\text{P}$  (150.0  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.2 equiv) and  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (91.0  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27–30 °C for 15 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3'h** as yellow solid (222.1 mg, 89%).

**mp:** 142.1–142.9 °C.

**$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 7.93–7.80 (m, 4H), 7.63 (*pseudo d*, 2H,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz), 7.59–7.49 (m, 5H), 7.39–7.27 (m, 2H), 94.0–81.9 (s, 9H).

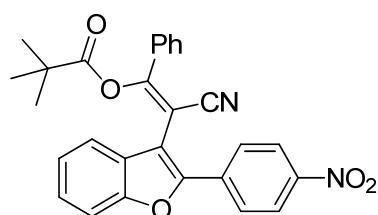
**$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 174.6, 163.1, 153.8, 152.1, 132.3, 132.1, 131.7, 128.9, 128.4, 128.3, 127.9, 127.8, 125.5, 123.9, 123.5, 120.4, 116.5, 111.3, 107.6, 95.4, 39.0, 26.3.

**MS** (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$  (%): 501 [ $M+2]^+$  (12), 499 [ $M]^+$  (12), 417 (40), 415 (60), 105 (70), 85 (25), 57 (100).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2967 (m), 2214 (m), 1760 (s), 1480 (m), 1451 (s), 1093 (s), 1074 (s), 743 (s).

**HRMS** (ESI) for  $\mathbf{C}_{28}\mathbf{H}_{22}\mathbf{BrNO}_3\mathbf{Na}$ ,  $[\mathbf{M}+\mathbf{Na}]^+$  (522.0681) found: 522.0683.

**Synthesis of (*E*)-2-cyano-2-(2-(4-nitrophenyl)benzofuran-3-yl)-1-phenylvinyl pivalate (**3'i**):**



Prepared according to **TP** from (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 4-nitrobenzoate **1b** (199.0 mg, 0.5 mmol), trimethylacetyl chloride **4h** (68.0  $\mu$ L, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P (150.0  $\mu$ L, 1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (91.0  $\mu$ L, 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27-30 °C for 15 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3'i** as yellow solid (202.8 mg, 87%).

**mp:** 171.5-172.5 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 8.36 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 8.15 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.90 (*pseudo* dd, 2H, *J* = 7.8, 1.8 Hz), 7.64-7.52 (m, 5H), 7.43 (*pseudo* t, 1H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.36 (*pseudo* t, 1H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 0.81 (s, 9H).

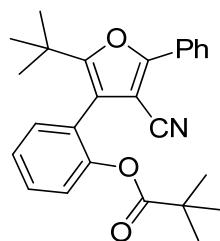
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 174.6, 163.6, 154.2, 150.4, 147.7, 135.2, 132.0, 131.9, 129.0, 127.8, 127.5, 126.6, 124.1, 123.9, 120.8, 116.3, 111.6, 110.4, 94.7, 39.0, 26.3.

**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 382 [M-84]<sup>+</sup> (5), 105 (100), 77 (40).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2967 (w), 2214 (w), 1760 (m), 1598 (m), 1517 (s), 1340 (s), 1097 (s), 1074 (s).

**HRMS** (ESI) for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (489.1426) found: 489.1421.

### Synthesis of 2-(2-*tert*-butyl-4-cyano-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)phenyl pivalate (3j):



Prepared according to **TP** from (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl pivalate **1c** (166.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), trimethylacetyl chloride **4h** (68.0  $\mu$ L, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P (150.0  $\mu$ L, 1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (91.0  $\mu$ L, 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27-30 °C for 15 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3j** as colorless oil (154.5 mg, 77%).

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 7.98 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.52-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.34 (*pseudo* dd, 1H, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz), 7.28 (*pseudo* t, 1H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.18 (*pseudo* d, 1H, *J* = 8.0), 1.24 (s, 9H), 1.15 (s, 9H).

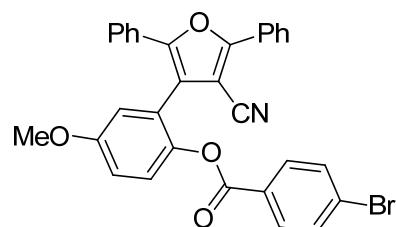
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 176.2, 159.0, 156.4, 149.6, 132.4, 130.0, 129.8, 129.0, 128.2, 125.4, 125.1, 124.5, 122.8, 117.2, 114.2, 95.8, 38.9, 34.5, 29.5, 26.8.

**MS** (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$  (%): 401 [M]<sup>+</sup> (25), 343 (76), 302 (88), 105 (30), 85 (30), 57 (100).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3395 (brs), 2959 (s), 2229 (s), 1620 (m), 1513 (s), 1451 (s), 1262 (s).

**HRMS** (ESI) for  $\mathbf{C}_{26}\mathbf{H}_{27}\mathbf{NO}_3\mathbf{Na}$ , [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (424.1889) found: 424.1895.

**Synthesis of 2-(4-cyano-2,5-diphenylfuran-3-yl)-4-methoxyphenyl 4-bromo benzoate (3k):**



Prepared according to **TP** from (E)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)-4-methoxyphenyl 4-bromobenzoate **1d** (230.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), benzoyl chloride **4a** (64.0  $\mu$ L, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P (150.0  $\mu$ L, 1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (91.0  $\mu$ L, 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27-30 °C for 15 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3k** as white solid (258.1 mg, 94%).

**mp:** 153.0-153.8 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 8.03 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.68 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.56-7.40 (m, 7H), 7.36-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.06 (*pseudo* dd, 1H, *J* = 9.0, 3.0 Hz), 7.00 (d, 1H, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 3.82 (s, 3H).

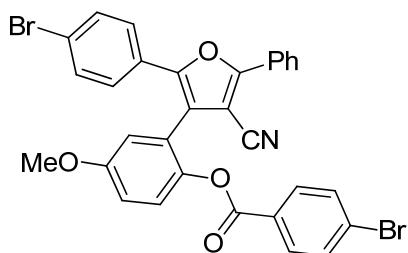
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 164.0, 158.4, 157.8, 149.6, 142.2, 131.7, 131.5, 130.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 127.9, 127.8, 126.1, 125.5, 124.4, 124.2, 119.1, 116.2, 115.9, 114.3, 95.9, 55.8.

**MS** (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$  (%): 551 [M+2]<sup>+</sup> (40), 549 [M]<sup>+</sup> (40), 185 (75), 183 (100), 155 (20), 105 (55), 77 (15).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3063 (w), 2827 (w), 2229 (m), 1735 (s), 1587 (m), 1488 (m), 1252 (s), 1193 (s), 1067 (s), 688 (m).

**HRMS** (ESI) for  $\mathbf{C}_{31}\mathbf{H}_{20}\mathbf{BrNO}_4\mathbf{Na}$ , [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (572.0473) found: 572.0490.

**Synthesis of 2-(2-(4-bromophenyl)-4-cyano-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)-4-methoxyphenyl 4-bromobenzoate (3l):**



Prepared according to **TP** from  
(*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)-4-methoxyphenyl 4-bromobenzoate **1d** (230.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), 4-bromobenzoyl chloride **4b** (120.7  $\mu$ L, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P (150.0  $\mu$ L, 1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (91.0  $\mu$ L, 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27–30 °C for 15 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3l** as white solid 282.1 mg, 90%).

**mp:** 148.3–149.1 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 8.02 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 7.73 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.53–7.42 (m, 7H), 7.38 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.29 (*pseudo* d, 1H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.07 (*pseudo* dd, 1H, *J* = 9.0, 3.0 Hz), 6.97 (*pseudo* d, 1H, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 3.82 (s, 3H).

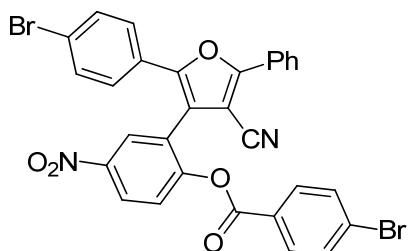
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 164.0, 158.6, 157.8, 148.4, 142.0, 131.9, 131.8, 131.5, 130.4, 129.1, 128.8, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 125.4, 124.3, 124.1, 123.1, 119.6, 116.1, 115.9, 114.1, 95.9, 55.8.

**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 183 [M-444]<sup>+</sup> (100), 155 (12), 105 (24), 77 (5).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3070 (w), 2930 (w), 2229 (m), 1738 (s), 1587 (m), 1488 (m), 1252 (s), 1189 (s), 1067 (s), 728 (m).

**HRMS** (ESI) for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>19</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (649.9579) found: 649.9579.

### Synthesis of 2-(2-(4-bromophenyl)-4-cyano-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)-4-nitrophenyl 4-bromobenzoate (**3m**):



Prepared according to **TP** from  
(*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)-4-nitrophenyl 4-bromobenzoate **1e** (230.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), 4-bromobenzoyl chloride **4b** (120.7  $\mu$ L, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P

(150.0  $\mu$ L, 1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (91.0  $\mu$ L, 1.3 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL) [reaction condition: 27-30 °C for 15 min]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **3m** as white solid (250.4 mg, 78%).

**mp:** 157.0-158.0 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 8.44 (*pseudo* dd, 1H,  $J$  = 8.8, 2.8 Hz), 8.37 (*pseudo* d, 1H,  $J$  = 2.8 Hz), 8.02 (*pseudo* d, 2H,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz), 7.77 (*pseudo* d, 2H,  $J$  = 7.77 Hz), 7.64-7.43 (m, 8H), 7.32 (*pseudo* d, 2H,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz).

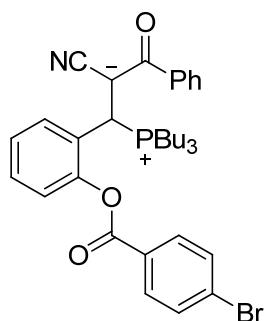
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 163.0, 159.3, 153.7, 149.4, 146.1, 132.3, 132.1, 131.7, 130.9, 129.8, 129.3, 127.6, 127.3, 127.1, 127.0, 126.7, 125.8, 125.6, 125.3, 124.8, 124.0, 117.6, 113.6, 95.5.

**MS** (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$  (%): 183 [M-459]<sup>+</sup> (100), 155 (16), 105 (45), 77 (15).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3077 (w), 2229 (m), 1742 (s), 1587 (m), 1528 (s), 1488 (m), 1347 (s), 1211 (s), 1048 (s), 743 (m).

**HRMS** (FAB) for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>16</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, [M]<sup>+</sup> (641.9426) found: 641.9419.

### Synthesis of 1-(2-(4-bromobenzoyloxy)phenyl)-2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenyl-1-(tributylphosphonio)propan-2-ide (**5a**):



A dry and nitrogen-flushed 10-mL Schlenk tube, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum, was sequentially charged with a solution of **1a** (0.5 mmol) and Bu<sub>3</sub>P (150.0  $\mu$ L, 1.2 equiv) in THF (1.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for one minute at room temperature (27-30 °C). Thereafter, the solvent was removed by evaporation *in vacuo* and washed by *n*-pentane yielded **5a** as white solid (284.9 mg, 90%).

**mp:** 93.3-94.0 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 8.20 (*pseudo* d, 2H,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz), 8.02 (*pseudo* d, 1H,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz), 7.79-7.68 (m, 4H), 7.43-7.24 (m, 6H), 5.54 (d, 1H,  $J$  =

13.2 Hz), 2.30-2.13 (m, 3H), 2.13-1.97 (m, 3H), 1.49-1.16 (m, 12H), 0.87-0.75 (m, 9H).

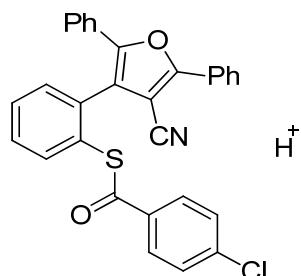
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 164.6, 147.9 (*J* = 6.0 Hz), 132.4, 131.9, 131.0 (*J* = 2.0 Hz), 129.7, 129.2, 128.8, 127.7, 127.6, 126.8 (*J* = 2.0 Hz), 122.9, 31.5 (*J* = 38.0 Hz), 24.2 (*J* = 4.0 Hz), 24.0 (*J* = 11.0 Hz), 20.1 (*J* = 36.0 Hz), 13.2.

**<sup>31</sup>P** (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 34.4.

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2959 (m), 2915 (m), 2148 (m), 1735 (m), 1484 (s), 1207 (m) ;

**HRMS** (ESI) for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>42</sub>BrNO<sub>3</sub>P, [M]<sup>+</sup> (634.2086) found: 634.2096.

### Synthesis of *S*-(2-(4-cyano-2,5-diphenylfuran-3-yl)phenyl) 4-chlorobenzothioate (14a):



Prepared according to TP **1** from (E)-S-(2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl) 4-chlorobenzothioate **12** (120.9 mg, 0.3 mmol), benzoyl chloride **4a** (38.3 μL, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P (92.0 μL, 1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (54.2 μL, 1.3 equiv) in THF (0.6 mL) [reaction condition: 27-30 °C for 1.5 h. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **14a** as white solid (120.8 mg, 82%).

R<sub>f</sub> 0.4 (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20); **mp**: 164.8-165.1 °C.

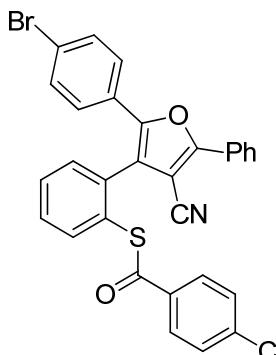
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.1(t, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.70-7.85 (m, 3H), 7.54-7.63 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.53 (m, 6H), 7.34 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.28-7.32 (m, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 187.7, 157.9, 148.3, 139.9, 137.9, 134.7, 131.7, 130.7, 130.2, 129.9, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 127.9, 127.4, 127.1, 125.9, 125.5, 125.4, 122.3, 114.3, 96.6.

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3042 (w), 1754 (s), 1624(w), 1215 (s), 1163 (s).

**HRMS** (EI) for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>20</sub>BrO<sub>3</sub>, [M]<sup>+</sup> (492.0819) found: 492.0825

### Synthesis of *S*-(2-(2-(4-bromophenyl)-4-cyano-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)phenyl) 4-chlorobenzothioate (14b):



Prepared according to **TP** **1** from (*E*)-S-(2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl) 4-chlorobenzothioate **12** (121.16 mg, 0.3 mmol), 4-bromobenzoyl chloride **4b** (72.5  $\mu$ L, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P (92.0  $\mu$ L, 1.2 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (54.2  $\mu$ L, 1.3 equiv) in THF (0.6 mL) [reaction condition: 27–30 °C for 1 h]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **14b** as yellow solid (131.4 mg, 77%).

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.4 (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/10); **mp**: 154.8–155.3 °C.

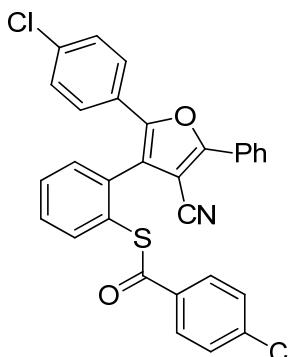
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 8.10 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 7.8 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.76–7.77 (m, 1H), 7.59–7.64 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.56 (m, 4H), 7.45–7.56 (m, 4H), 7.42 (d, 2H *J* = 8.5 Hz), 7.36 (t, 3H *J* = 8.5 Hz).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 187.8, 158.1, 148.4, 140.1, 138.0, 135.1, 134.6, 131.9, 131.8, 131.6, 130.9, 130.4, 130.2, 129.2, 128.9, 128.8, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 127.4, 127.2, 125.5, 122.9, 114.1, 96.7.

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3002 (w), 1760 (s), 1644 (w), 1323 (s), 1065 (s).

**HRMS** (EI) for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BrO<sub>3</sub>, [M]<sup>+</sup> (568.9852) found: 568.9954.

### Synthesis of S-(2-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-cyano-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)phenyl 4-chlorobenzothioate (14c):



Prepared according to **TP** **1** from (*E*)-S-(2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl) 4-chlorobenzothioate **12** (121.16 mg, 0.3 mmol), 4-Chlorobenzoyl chloride **4i** (42.3  $\mu$ L, 1.1 equiv), Bu<sub>3</sub>P (92.0

$\mu\text{L}$ , 1.2 equiv) and  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (54.2  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.3 equiv) in THF (0.6 mL) [reaction condition: 27-30 °C for 3 h]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/50) furnished **14c** as white solid (147.9 mg, 90%).

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.3 (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/50); **mp:** 149.8-151.3 °C.

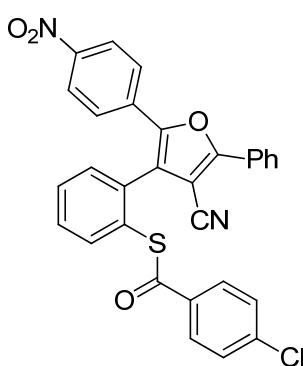
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C)  $\delta/\text{ppm}$ : 8.1(d, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 7.75 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.5$  Hz), 7.75 (d, 1H,  $J = 6.6$  Hz), 7.60-7.64 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.56 (m, 4H), 7.4 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.5$  Hz), 7.37 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.5$  Hz), 7.23 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.5$  Hz).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C)  $\delta/\text{ppm}$ : 187.6, 157.9, 148.3, 139.9, 137.9, 134.9, 134.5, 131.5, 130.8, 130.1, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 127.8, 127.7, 127.1, 125.3, 122.7, 114.1, 96.6.

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3011 (w), 1724 (s), 1651 (w), 1203 (s), 1112 (s).

**HRMS** (ESI) for  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{17}\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}_2\text{SNa}$ ,  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  (548.0254) found: 548.0250

**Synthesis of S-(2-(4-cyano-2-(4-nitrophenyl)-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)phenyl) 4-chlorobenzothioate (14d):**



Prepared according to **TP 1** from (*E*)-S-(2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl) 4-chlorobenzothioate **12** (120.9 mg, 0.3 mmol), 4-nitrobenzoyl chloride **4d** (61.2  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.1 equiv),  $\text{Bu}_3\text{P}$  (92.0  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.2 equiv) and  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (54.2  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.3 equiv) in THF (0.6 mL) [reaction condition: 27-30 °C for 1.5 h]. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/20) furnished **14d** as white solid (120.8 mg, 82%).

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.4 (ethyl acetate/hexanes: 1/15); **mp:** 176.8-177.3 °C.

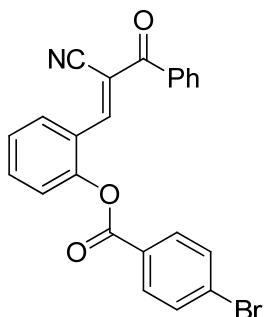
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C)  $\delta/\text{ppm}$ : 8.10 (dd, 4H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 7.64-7.70 (m, 3H), 7.50-7.60 (m, 4H), 7.25 (d, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C)  $\delta/\text{ppm}$ : 187.6, 159.2, 147.1, 146.9, 140.3, 138.2, 134.7, 134.4, 134.3, 131.4, 131.1, 130.9, 130.6, 129.2, 128.9, 128.8, 127.8, 127.3, 126.2, 125.9, 125.7, 123.9, 113.7, 97.2.

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3047 (w), 1734 (s), 1653 (w), 1233 (s), 1063 (s), 683 (s).

**HRMS (ESI) for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>17</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>** (559.0495) found: 559.0499.

**Synthesis of (E)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate (1a)<sup>1</sup>:**



According to reported literature, compound **1a** was furnished as pale yellow solid (353.4 mg, 82%).

**mp:** 157.9-158.8 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.49 (dd, 1H, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz), 8.17 (s, 1H), 7.97 (d, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.75 (dd, 2H, J = 8.2, 1.0 Hz), 7.70-7.62 (m, 3H), 7.54-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.28 (m, 3H).

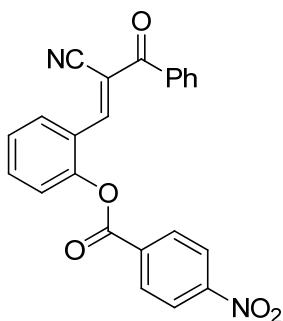
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 188.9, 163.8, 150.5, 148.3, 135.4, 134.2, 133.3, 132.2, 131.6, 129.6, 129.2, 129.1, 128.5, 127.2, 127.0, 124.9, 123.2, 116.0, 112.7.

**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 432 [M+1]<sup>+</sup> (13), 430 [M-1]<sup>+</sup> (13), 326 (7), 248 (16), 183 (100), 155 (34), 105 (40), 77 (65).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3077(w), 2214 (w), 1738 (s), 1665 (m), 1587 (m), 1258 (s), 1215 (s), 746 (m).

**HRMS (ESI) for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrNO<sub>3</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>** (454.0055) found: 454.0060.

**Synthesis of (E)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 4-nitrobenzoate (1b)<sup>1</sup>:**



According to reported literature, compound **1b** was furnished as white solid (167.2 mg, 42%).

**mp:** 151.6-152.0 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.50 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 8.36-8.27 (m, 4H), 8.18 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.67 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.55-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.31 (m, 3H).

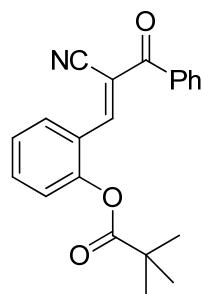
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 188.5, 162.6, 151.2, 150.1, 147.9, 135.4, 134.2, 133.7, 133.4, 131.3, 129.3, 129.2, 128.6, 127.2, 124.8, 123.9, 123.0, 115.9, 112.9.

**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 398 [M]<sup>+</sup> (30), 341 (10), 293 (14), 248 (34), 150 (100), 104 (70), 77 (50).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3070 (w), 2214 (w), 1741 (s), 1661 (m), 1598 (m), 1524 (s), 1347 (m), 1263 (s), 1215 (s), 1064 (m).

**HRMS** (ESI) for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (421.0800) found: 421.0805.

#### Synthesis of (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl pivalate (**1c**)<sup>1</sup>:



According to reported literature, compound **1c** was furnished (209.9 mg, 63%).

**mp:** 109.9-110.5 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.45 (dd, 1H, *J* = 8.0, 1.2 Hz), 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.77 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.58-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.44 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.34 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.10 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 1.18 (s, 9H).

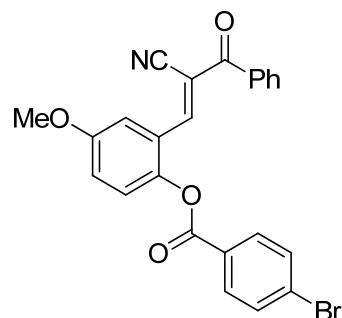
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 189.0, 176.3, 151.1, 148.3, 135.7, 134.3, 133.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.7, 126.5, 124.7, 123.1, 116.3, 111.8, 39.3, 26.9.

**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 276 [M-57]<sup>+</sup> (72), 220 (72), 105 (50), 77 (50), 57 (100).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3062 (w), 2974 (w), 2221 (w), 1757 (s), 1646 (s), 1598 (s), 1306 (m), 1259 (m), 1104 (s).

**HRMS** (ESI) for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (356.1263) found: 356.1225.

**Synthesis of (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)-4-methoxyphenyl 4-bromobenzoate (1d)<sup>1</sup>:**



According to reported literature, compound **1d** was furnished as yellow solid (355.0 mg, 77%).

**mp:** 169.3-169.6 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.10 (s, 1H), 8.02 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 7.95 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.73 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.64 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.49 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.31 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.25 (d, 1H, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 7.18 (dd, 2H, *J* = 8.8, 2.8 Hz), 3.92 (s, 3H).

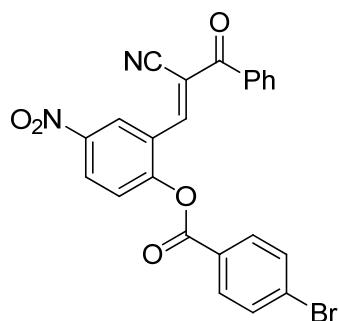
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 189.0, 164.2, 157.7, 148.3, 144.2, 135.4, 133.2, 132.2, 131.6, 129.5, 129.1, 128.5, 127.3, 125.2, 124.1, 121.5, 116.1, 112.5, 111.9, 55.9.

**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 463 [M+2]<sup>+</sup> (10), 461 [M]<sup>+</sup> (10), 358 (5), 356 (5), 278 (7), 262 (5), 185 (100), 183 (100), 157 (12), 155 (12), 105 (10).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3063 (w), 2915 (w), 2206 (w), 1738 (s), 1587 (m), 1488 (m), 1248 (m), 1204 (s).

**HRMS** (ESI) for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrNO<sub>4</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (484.0160) found: 484.0165.

**Synthesis of (*E*)-2-(2-cyano-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)-4-nitrophenyl 4-bromobenzoate (1e)<sup>1</sup>:**



According to reported literature, compound **1e** was furnished as yellow solid (166.6 mg, 35%).

**mp:** 196.7-197.5 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 9.23 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 8.50 (dd, 1H, *J* = 9.0, 2.6 Hz), 8.17 (s, 1H), 8.02 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.84 (dd, 2H, *J* = 8.2, 1.4 Hz), 7.70 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.65-7.56 (s, 2H), 7.42 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.8 Hz).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 187.3, 163.0, 154.2, 146.1, 145.8, 134.9, 134.0, 132.6, 131.8, 130.4, 129.4, 128.8, 128.0, 126.5, 126.4, 124.6, 124.3, 115.9, 115.1.

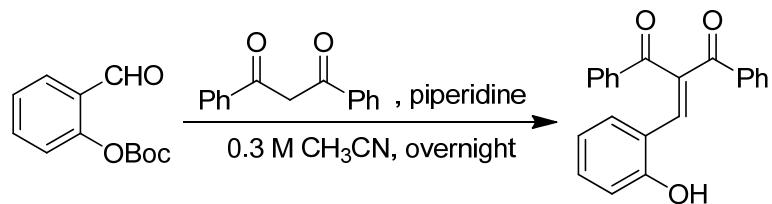
**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 293 [M-183]<sup>+</sup> (5), 183 (100), 155 (17), 105 (28), 77 (23).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3136 (w), 2214 (w), 1742 (m), 1657 (s), 1524 (m), 1344(m), 1215 (s), 1048 (m).

**HRMS** (EI) for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, [M]<sup>+</sup> (476.0008) found: 476.0015.

## Synthesis of Starting Material **1f-1h**

### Synthesis of 2-(2-hydroxybenzylidene)-1,3-diphenylpropane-1,3-dione (**15**):



A 50-mL Schlenk flask, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum, was charged with a solution of *tert*-butyl 2-formylphenyl carbonate (222.0 mg, 1 mmol) in acetonitrile (3.3 mL). Dibenzoylmethane (224.0 mg, 1 equiv) and piperidine (50.0 μL) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. Thereafter, the solvent was removed by evaporation *in vacuo*. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/ hexanes: 1/6) furnished **15** as yellow oil (82.6 mg, 24%).

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.78 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 7.70 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.60 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.47 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.42-7.28 (m, 4H), 7.22 (dd, 1H, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz), 7.20 (s, 1H), 7.07-6.98 (m, 2H), 5.01 (s, 1H).

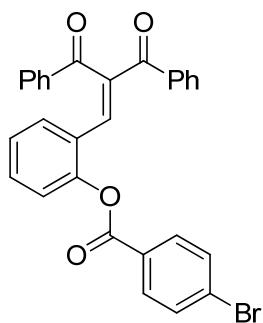
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 195.4, 152.1, 142.7, 136.5, 135.0, 133.2, 133.1, 132.7, 129.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 125.9, 122.1, 118.0, 117.1, 99.0.

**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 251 [M-77]<sup>+</sup> (15), 223 (18), 105 (100), 77 (45).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3328 (brs), 3055 (w), 2922 (w), 1627 (s), 1601 (s), 1572 (m), 1447 (m), 1222 (s).

**HRMS** (ESI) for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (351.0997) found: 351.0997.

**Synthesis of 2-(2-benzoyl-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-enyl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate (1f):**



A dry and nitrogen-flushed 50-mL Schlenk flask, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum, was sequentially charged with a solution of **15** (344.1 mg, 1.0 mmol), 4-bromobenzoyl chloride **4b** (230.4 mg, 1.05 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (210.0 μL, 1.5 equiv) in dry THF (10 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 minutes at room temperature (27-30 °C). Thereafter the resulting mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phase was washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then evaporated to afford **1f** white solid (1.11 g, 97%).

**mp:** 102.1-102.5 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.95 (*pseudo* d, 4H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.73 (*pseudo* d, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.65-7.59 (m, 3H), 7.51 (*pseudo* t, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.47-7.30 (m, 5H), 7.22 (*pseudo* t, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.17 (*pseudo* d, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.08 (*pseudo* t, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz).

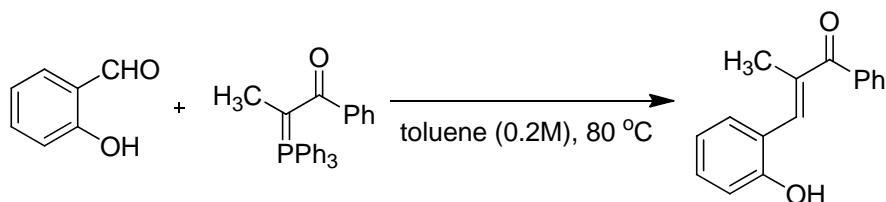
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 195.7, 194.3, 163.9, 149.2, 140.9, 137.2, 136.9, 135.9, 133.8, 132.3, 132.0, 131.5, 131.4, 129.9, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 128.7, 128.2, 127.5, 126.4, 126.3, 122.6.

**MS** (20 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 404 [M-105]<sup>+</sup> (50), 327 (5), 311 (50), 183 (100), 155 (25), 105 (53), 77 (50).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3062 (w), 2922 (w), 1738 (s), 1671 (m), 1642 (m), 1587 (m), 1258 (s), 1214 (s), 1067 (s).

**HRMS** (ESI) for  $\mathbf{C}_{29}\mathbf{H}_{19}\mathbf{BrO}_4\mathbf{Na}$ , [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (533.0364) found: 533.0345.

**Synthesis of (*E*)-3-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-2-methyl-1-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (16):**



A 50-mL Schlenk flask, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum, was sequentially charged with a solution of salicylaldehyde (488.0  $\mu$ L, 4.2 mmol) and 1-phenyl-2-(triphenylphosphoranylidene)propan-1-one (1576.0 mg, 4.0 mmol) in toluene (20.0 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at 80 °C. Thereafter, the solvent was removed by evaporation *in vacuo*. Purification by flash chromatography (ethyl acetate/ hexanes: 1/ 10) furnished **16** as white solid (771.1 mg, 81%).

**mp:** 128.2-129.0 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 7.75 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.49 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.44-7.30 (m, 4H), 7.19 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 6.94 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 6.87 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 6.80-6.69 (brs, 1H), 2.16 (s, 3H).

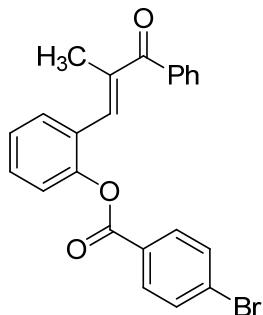
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 200.3, 154.1, 138.4, 138.1, 137.2, 131.9, 130.1, 129.9, 129.7, 128.1, 122.9, 120.1, 115.9, 14.4.

**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 221 [M-16]<sup>+</sup> (100), 105 (18).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3269 (brs), 3062 (w), 2929 (w), 1598 (s), 1450 (s), 1258 (s), 1011 (m).

**HRMS** (ESI) for  $\mathbf{C}_{16}\mathbf{H}_{14}\mathbf{O}_2\mathbf{Na}$ , [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (261.0891) found: 261.0872.

**Synthesis of (*E*)-2-(2-methyl-3-oxo-3-phenylprop-1-en-1-yl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate (1g):**



A dry and nitrogen-flushed 50-mL Schlenk flask, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum, was sequentially charged with a solution of **16** (599.9 mg, 3.0 mmol), acyl chloride **4b** (686.4 mg, 1.05 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (628.0 μL, 1.5 equiv) in dry THF (10 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 minutes at room temperature (27-30 °C). Thereafter the resulting mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phase was washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then evaporated to afford **1g** as white solid (1247.4 mg, 99%).

**mp:** 91.5-92.5 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 7.97 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.65 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.57-7.47 (m, 3H), 7.43 (td, 1H, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz), 7.39-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.24 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.11 (s, 1H), 7.07 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 2.16 (s, 3H).

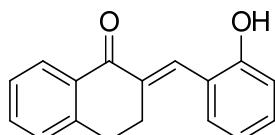
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 198.8, 163.9, 148.8, 139.1, 137.9, 135.7, 132.1, 131.6, 131.5, 130.0, 129.7, 129.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.0, 127.9, 126.1, 122.5, 14.3.

**MS** (70 eV, EI) *m/z* (%): 422 [M+2]<sup>+</sup> (13), 420 [M]<sup>+</sup> (10), 405 (32), 403 (32), 221 (100), 185 (82), 183 (82), 157 (35), 155 (35), 105 (30).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3062 (w), 2922 (w), 1738 (s), 1646 (m), 1587 (m), 1262 (s), 1070 (s).

**HRMS** (EI) for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Br, [M]<sup>+</sup> (420.0361) found: 420.0366.

### Synthesis of (*E*)-2-(2-hydroxybenzylidene)-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one (17):



A dry and nitrogen-flushed 100-mL Schlenk flask, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum, was sequentially charged with a solution of salicylaldehyde (2.0 g, 10.0 mmol) and 1-tetralone (1.46 mL, 1.1 equiv) in 50% KOH solution (12 mL, methane: water = 5:1). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature (27-30 °C). Thereafter the resulting mixture was neutralized by adding 1N HCl solution then extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then evaporated to furnish **17** as brown solid (1075.0 mg, 43%).

**mp:** 137.5-138.5 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) δ/ppm: 8.11 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.93 (s, 1H),

7.47 (td, 1H,  $J$  = 7.4, 1.2 Hz), 7.34 (t, 1H,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz), 7.25-7.17 (m, 3H), 7.03-6.87 (m, 2H), 3.03-2.93 (m, 2H), 2.92-2.82 (m, 2H).

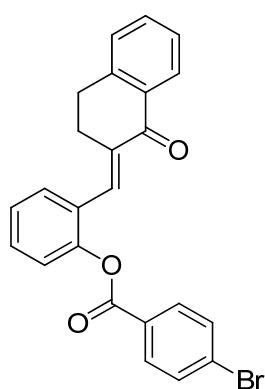
**$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 188.2, 154.8, 143.7, 136.8, 133.5, 133.3, 132.1, 130.3, 129.9, 128.3, 128.2, 127.0, 122.7, 120.1, 116.2, 29.0, 27.5.

**MS** (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$  (%): 250 [M]<sup>+</sup> (20), 233 (100), 90 (30), 77 (20).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3225 (brs), 3062 (w), 2944 (w), 1658 (m), 1651 (m), 1598 (s), 1450 (s), 1299 (s), 1229 (s).

**HRMS** (ESI) for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ , [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (273.0891) found: 273.0876.

**Synthesis of (*E*)-2-((1-oxo-3,4-dihydroronaphthalen-2(1H)-ylidene)methyl)phenyl 4-bromobenzoate (1h):**



A dry and nitrogen-flushed 50-mL Schlenk flask, equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum, was sequentially charged with a solution of **17** (750.0 mg, 3.0 mmol), 4-bromobenzoyl chloride **4b** (686.4 mg, 1.05 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (628.0 μL, 1.5 equiv) in dry THF (10 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 minutes at room temperature (27-30 °C). Thereafter the resulting mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phase was washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and then evaporated to afford **1h** as purple solid (1023.9 mg, 79%).

**mp:** 139.1-140.0 °C.

**$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 8.07 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 8.02 (d, 2H,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, 2H,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz), 7.49-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.37-7.19 (m, 4H), 3.05-2.97 (m, 2H), 2.96-2.88 (m, 2H).

**$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C)  $\delta$ /ppm: 187.3, 164.0, 149.4, 143.5, 137.9, 133.4, 133.2, 132.0, 131.6, 130.7, 130.2, 129.7, 129.2, 129.0, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 127.0, 125.9, 122.7, 29.1, 27.5.

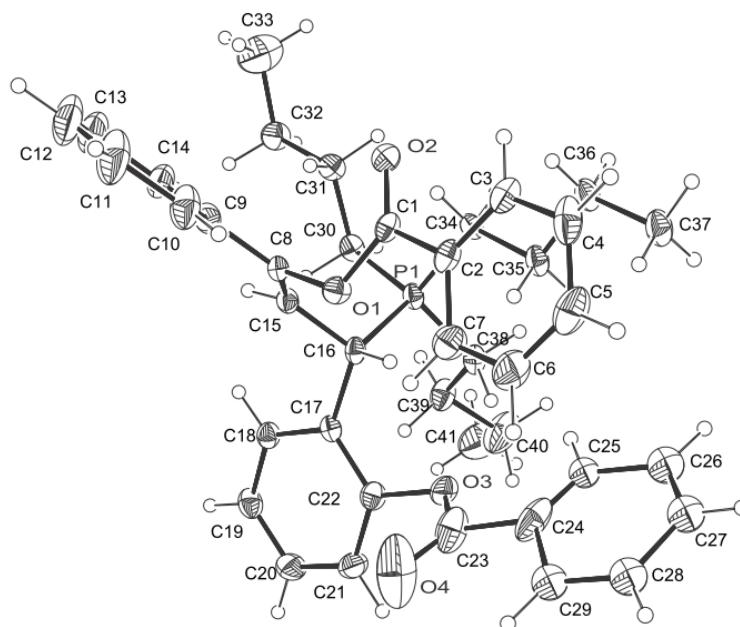
**MS** (70 eV, EI)  $m/z$  (%): 185 [M-199]<sup>+</sup> (100), 183 [M-201]<sup>+</sup> (85).

**IR** (KBr)  $\tilde{\nu}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3048 (w), 2915 (w), 1738 (s), 1668 (m), 1587 (m), 1480 (m), 1255 (s), 1211 (s), 1067 (s).

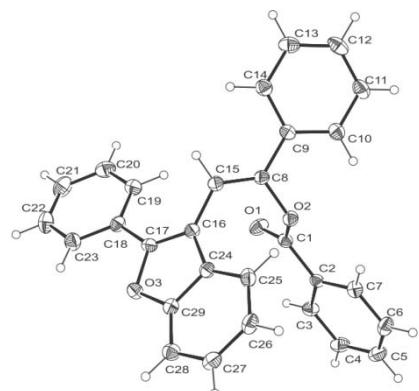
**HRMS** (EI) for **C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>3</sub>BrNa, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>** (455.0259) found: 455.0254.

Reference (reported literature for synthesis of starting material **1**):

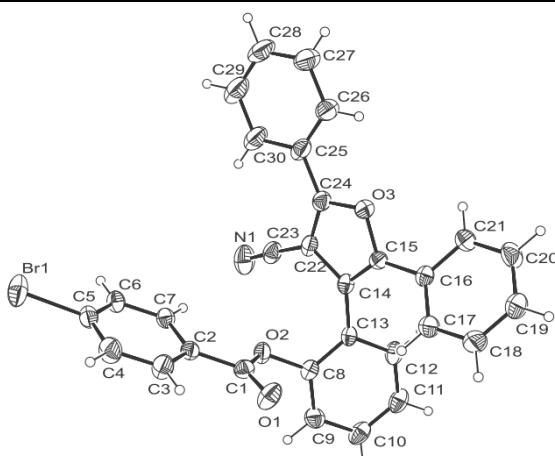
<sup>1</sup> P. K. Amancha, Y.-C. Lai, I-C. Chen, H.-J. Liu, J.-L. Zhu, *Tetrahedron* **2010**, *66*, 871



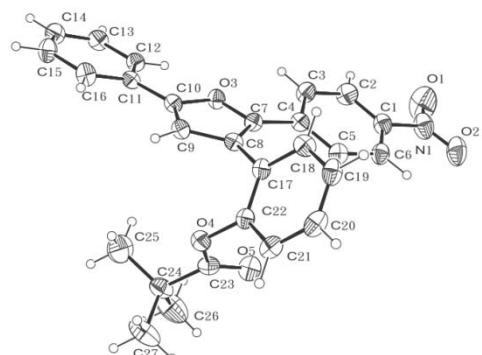
3a\*



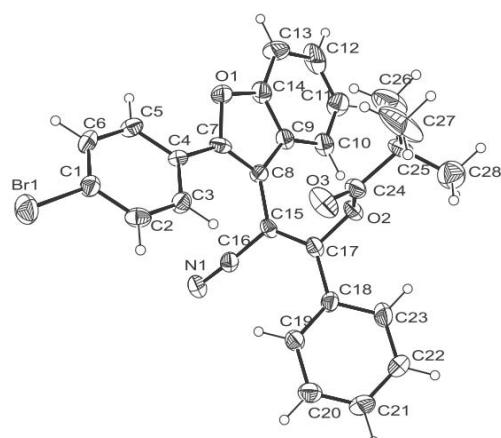
4a\*



3a



4q\*



3'h

**Figure S1** Geometrical structures of reactants and products for intramolecular Wittig reactions. The geometrical parameters of the structures are listed in Table S1. The compounds without  $\alpha$ -substitution, denoted with \*, were reported from reference 9f (Y.-T. Lee, Y.-J. Jang, S. Syu, S.-C. Chou, C.-J. Lee, W. Lin, *Chem. Commun.*, 2012, **48**, 8135-8137).



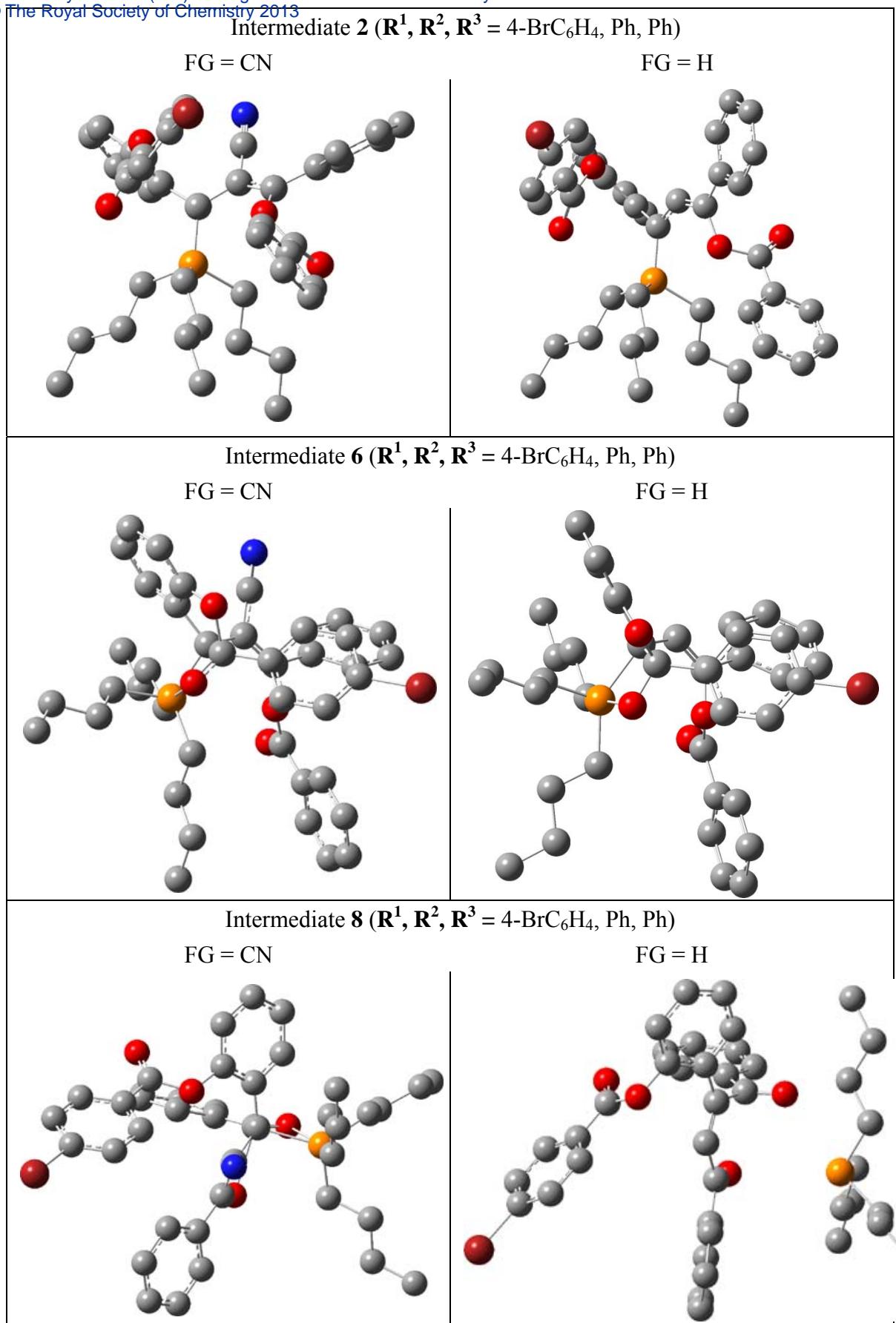
Angle	Exp.	Theo.	Angle	Exp.	Theo.	Angle	Exp.	Theo.
C(32)-C(33)-H(33B)	109.5	111.1	H(37C)-C(37)-H(37B)	109.5	107.8	C(30)-P(1)-C(34)	111.9	114.2
H(33A)-C(33)-H(33B)	109.5	107.7	C(39)-C(38)-P(1)	115.2	114.8	C(38)-P(1)-C(34)	109.4	105.5
C(32)-C(33)-H(33C)	109.5	111.2	C(39)-C(38)-H(38A)	108.5	109.5	C(30)-P(1)-C(16)	109.8	112.4
H(33A)-C(33)-H(33C)	109.5	107.8	P(1)-C(38)-H(38A)	108.5	105.6	C(38)-P(1)-C(16)	107.2	101.0
H(33C)-C(33)-H(33B)	109.5	107.8	C(39)-C(38)-H(38B)	108.5	111.0	C(34)-P(1)-C(16)	109.7	113.7
C(35)-C(34)-P(1)	114.1	117.5	P(1)-C(38)-H(38B)	108.5	106.5			
C(35)-C(34)-H(34A)	108.7	110.1	H(38A)-C(38)-H(38B)	107.5	109.0			
P(1)-C(34)-H(34A)	108.7	104.7	C(40)-C(39)-C(38)	111.5	111.1			
C(35)-C(34)-H(34B)	108.7	112.1	C(40)-C(39)-H(39A)	109.3	108.9			
P(1)-C(34)-H(34B)	108.7	105.1	C(38)-C(39)-H(39A)	109.3	109.0			
H(34A)-C(34)-H(34B)	107.6	106.6	C(40)-C(39)-H(39B)	109.3	108.9			
C(34)-C(35)-C(36)	110.8	110.7	C(38)-C(39)-H(39B)	109.3	111.1			
C(34)-C(35)-H(35A)	109.5	110.8	H(39A)-C(39)-H(39B)	108.0	107.7			
C(36)-C(35)-H(35A)	109.5	108.6	C(39)-C(40)-C(41)	112.4	112.4			
C(34)-C(35)-H(35B)	109.5	110.6	C(39)-C(40)-H(40A)	109.1	109.0			
C(36)-C(35)-H(35B)	109.5	108.9	C(41)-C(40)-H(40A)	109.1	109.6			
H(35A)-C(35)-H(35B)	108.1	107.2	C(39)-C(40)-H(40B)	109.1	109.5			
C(37)-C(36)-C(35)	111.8	112.5	C(41)-C(40)-H(40B)	109.1	109.5			
C(37)-C(36)-H(36A)	109.3	109.7	H(40A)-C(40)-H(40B)	107.8	106.7			
C(35)-C(36)-H(36A)	109.3	109.1	C(40)-C(41)-H(41A)	109.5	110.9			
C(37)-C(36)-H(36B)	109.3	109.6	C(40)-C(41)-H(41B)	109.5	111.2			
C(35)-C(36)-H(36B)	109.3	109.3	H(41A)-C(41)-H(41B)	109.5	107.8			
H(36A)-C(36)-H(36B)	107.9	106.4	C(40)-C(41)-H(41C)	109.5	111.2			
C(36)-C(37)-H(37A)	109.5	111.1	H(41A)-C(41)-H(41C)	109.5	107.8			
C(36)-C(37)-H(37B)	109.5	111.1	H(41C)-C(41)-H(41B)	109.5	107.8			
H(37A)-C(37)-H(37B)	109.5	107.8	C(1)-O(1)-C(8)	116.8	124.6			
C(36)-C(37)-H(37C)	109.5	111.2	C(23)-O(3)-C(22)	119.1	120.0			
H(37A)-C(37)-H(37C)	109.5	107.8	C(30)-P(1)-C(38)	108.7	108.7			

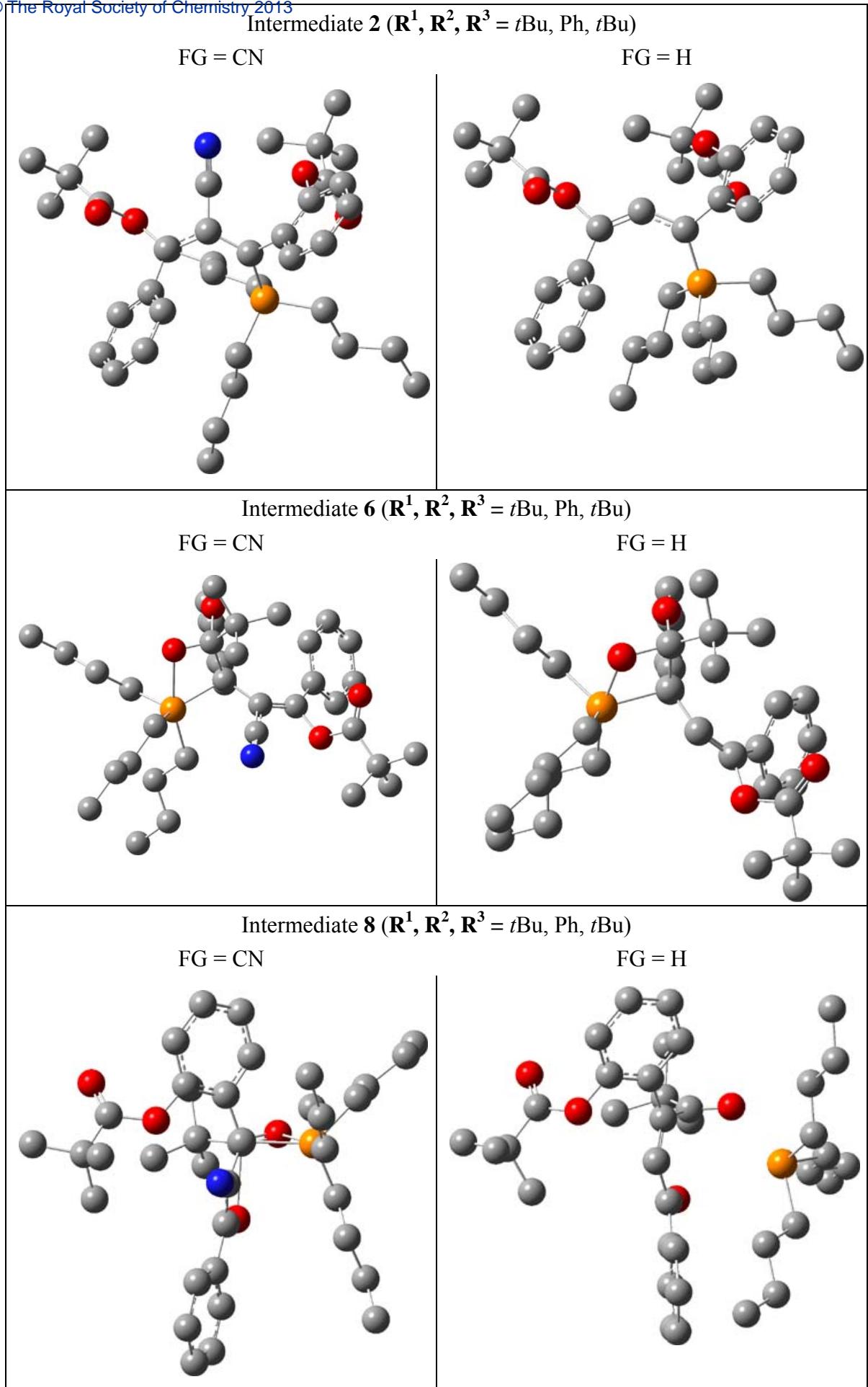












**Figure S2** Optimized structures of intermediates **2**, **6** (from path **a**) and **8** (from path **b**) with and without CN substitution (FG = CN and H). The Cartesian coordinates of them are listed in Table S2.







**Table S3** APT charge analysis for the ylide intermediate **2** in Scheme 6 with and without CN substitution.

	<b>R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> = 4-BrC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, Ph, Ph (3a)<sup>a</sup></b>		<b>R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> = tBu, Ph, tBu (3j)</b>	
	CN substitution	No substitution	CN substitution	No substitution
<b>FG</b>	-0.16	0.00	-0.14	0.00
<b>C(-FG)</b>	0.67	0.77	0.53	0.63
<b>C(-PBu<sub>3</sub>)</b>	-0.98	-1.15	-0.80	-0.96
<b>PBu<sub>3</sub></b>	0.95	0.95	0.82	0.82
<b>R</b>	0.29	0.20	0.45	0.38
<b>R<sup>1</sup></b>	-0.13	-0.13	0.10	0.09
<b>R<sup>2</sup></b>	0.13	0.14	0.02	0.06
<b>R<sup>3</sup></b>	-0.06	-0.07	0.06	0.05
<b>OCO(-R<sup>1</sup>)</b>	-0.38	-0.38	-0.54	-0.52
<b>OCO(-R<sup>3</sup>)</b>	-0.33	-0.35	-0.50	-0.54
<b>C(-R<sup>1</sup>)</b>	1.32	1.31	1.03	1.00
<b>C(-R<sup>3</sup>)</b>	1.21	1.22	1.00	1.02

<sup>a</sup> The notation in the parentheses correspond to the final products in from Scheme 2.

**Table S4** The computed activation barrier ( $E_a$ ) and reaction energy ( $\Delta H$ ), in kcal/mol, through paths **a** and **b** (Scheme 6) for several  $R^1$  and  $R^3$  combinations at the B3LYP/LanL2DZ level.

$R^1, R^2, R^3$	Path <b>a</b>		Path <b>b</b>	
	$E_a$	$\Delta H$	$E_a$	$\Delta H$
4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , Ph, Ph ( <b>a</b> ) <sup>a</sup>	7.3	4.4	3.9	-11.1
4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , Ph, 4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ( <b>b</b> )	7.2	4.6	2.4	-12.5
4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , Ph, 2-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ( <b>c</b> )	12.2	11.6	9.0	-5.3
4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , Ph, 4-NO <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ( <b>d</b> )	9.3	8.6	8.4	-12.6
4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , Ph, 4-MeOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ( <b>e</b> )	6.1	3.6	3.6	-9.7
4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , Ph, Me ( <b>f</b> )	6.9	4.4	3.6	-16.3
4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , Ph, <i>i</i> Pr ( <b>g</b> )	7.8	4.9	4.2	-10.6
4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , Ph, <i>t</i> Bu ( <b>h</b> )	5.8	-2.2	6.4	-11.4
4-NO <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , Ph, <i>t</i> Bu ( <b>i</b> )	5.2	-5.2	6.0	-11.4
<i>t</i> Bu, Ph, <i>t</i> Bu ( <b>j</b> )	12.5	8.8	8.8	-10.9

<sup>a</sup> The notation in the parentheses corresponds to ylide with  $R^1$  and  $R^3$  combinations that give final products of **3a** – **3j**, respectively, in Scheme 2.

















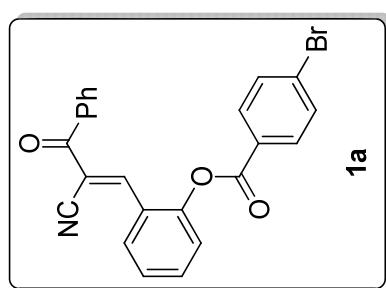
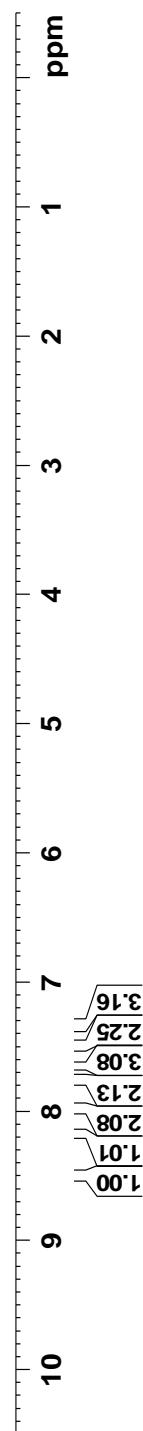


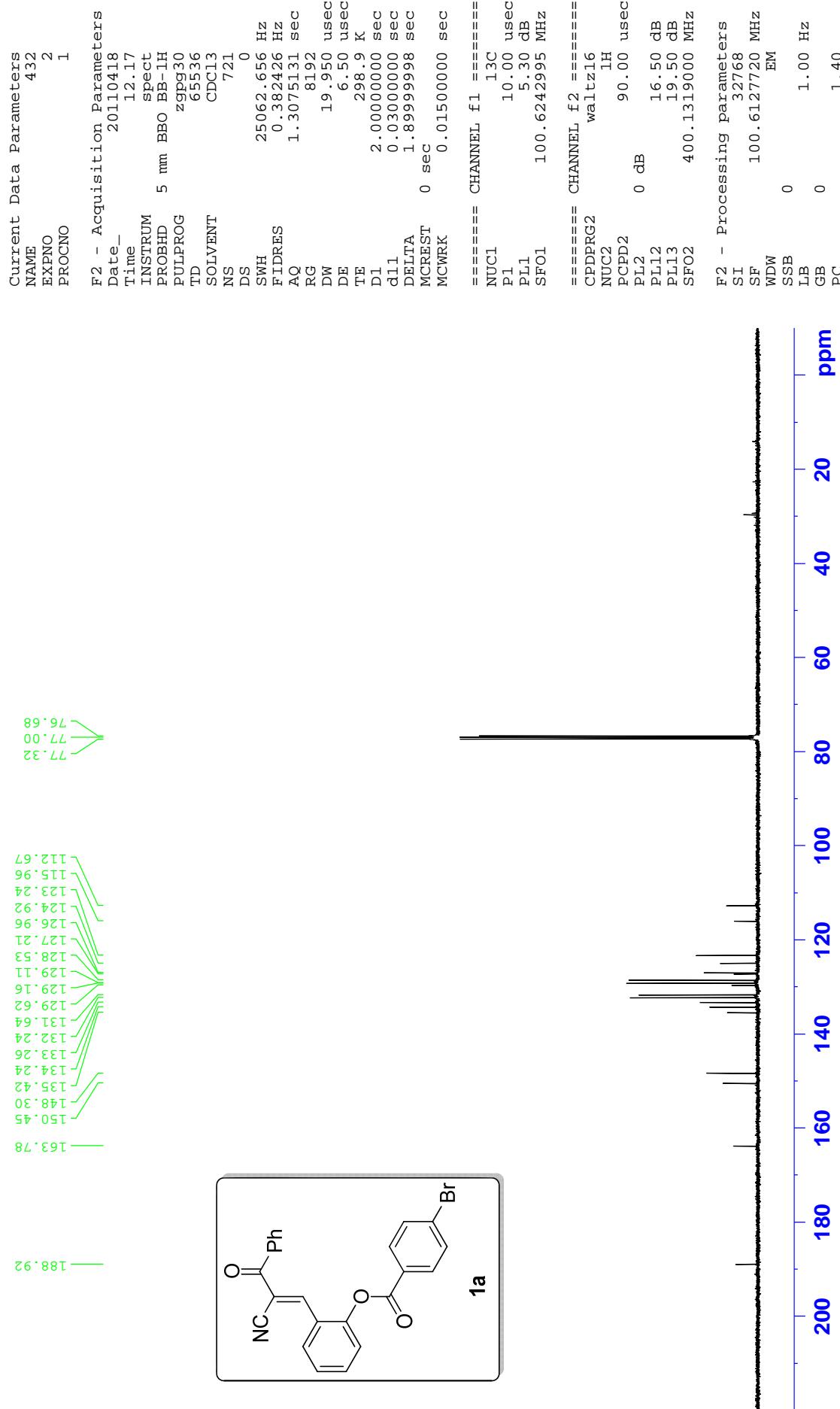


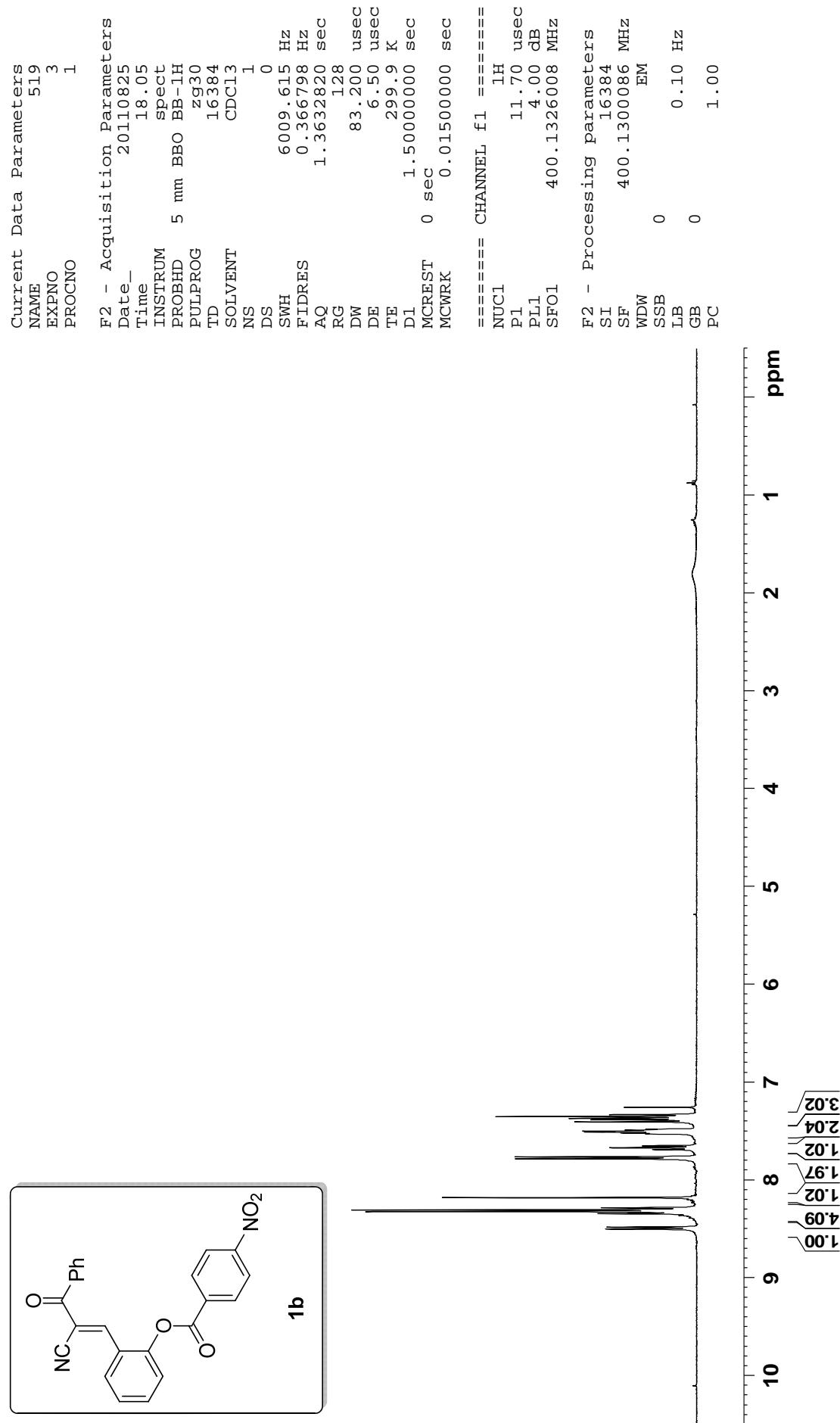
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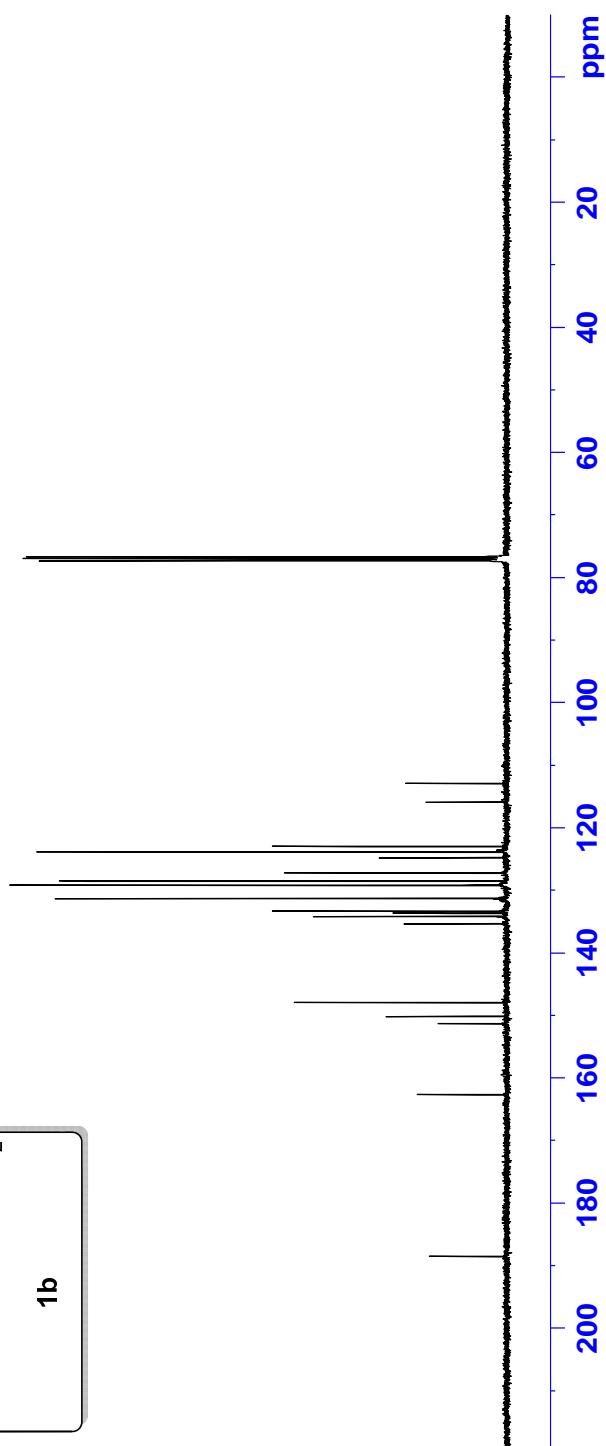
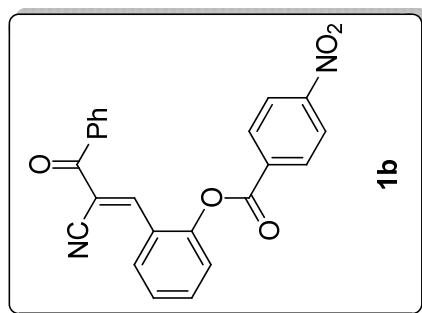


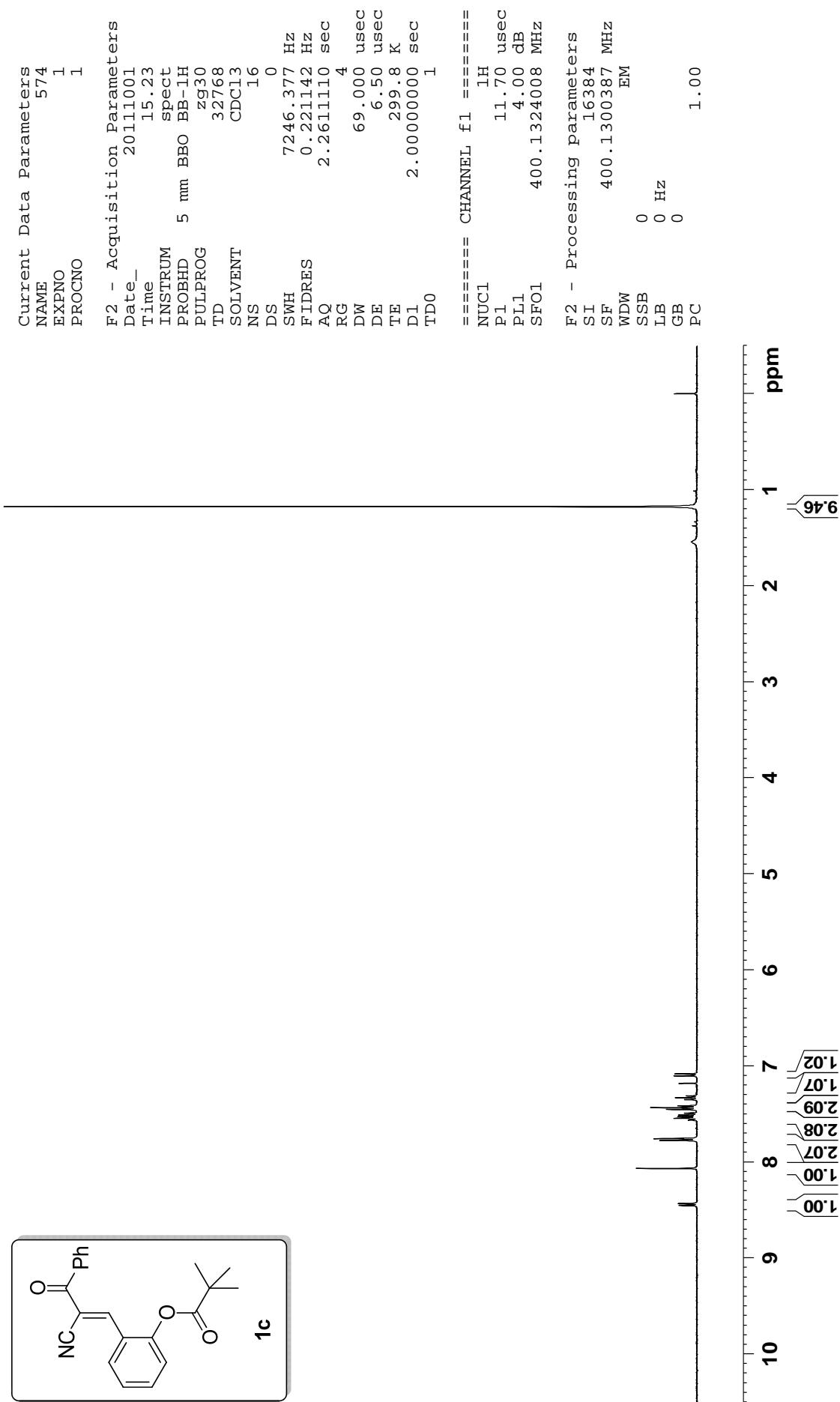
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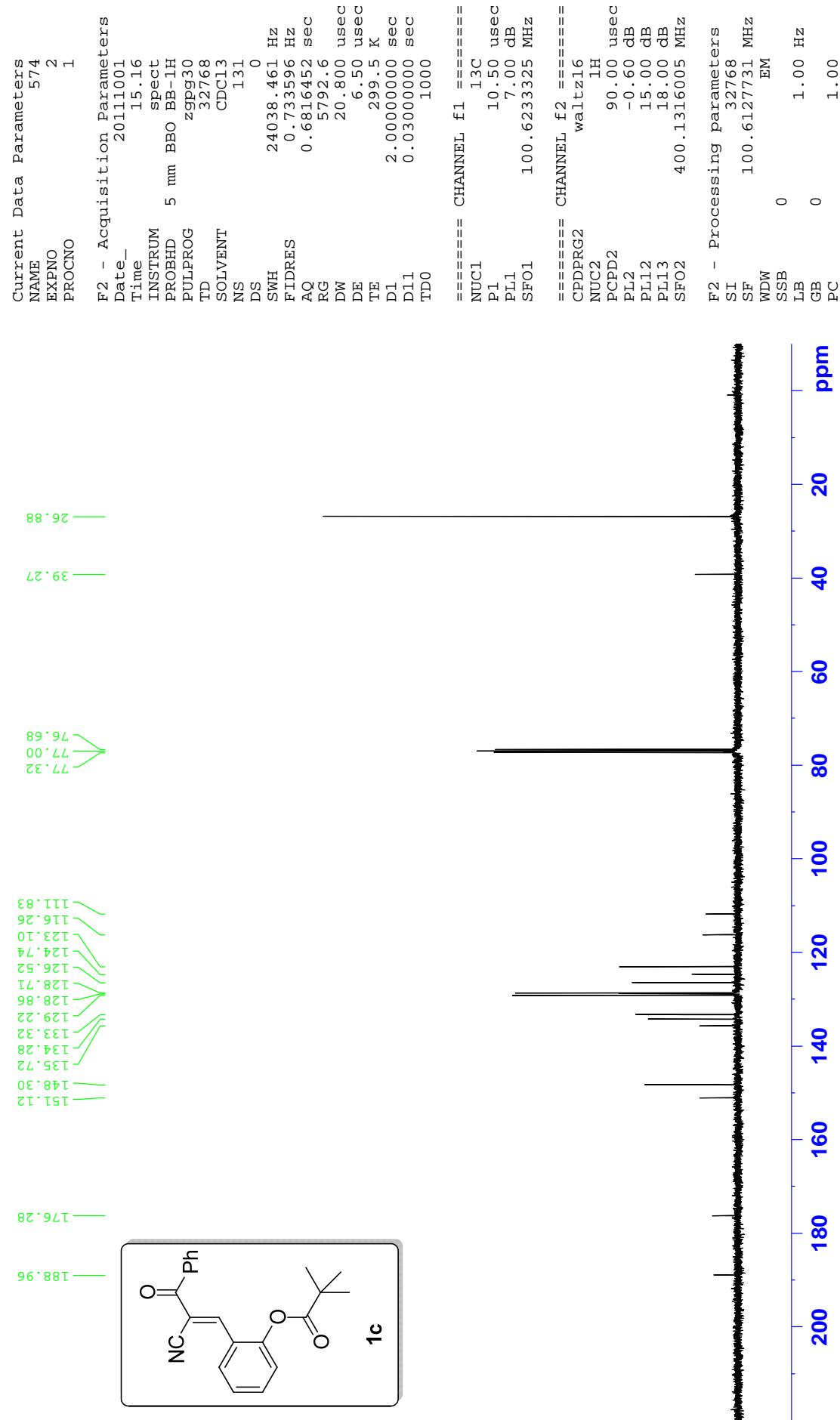
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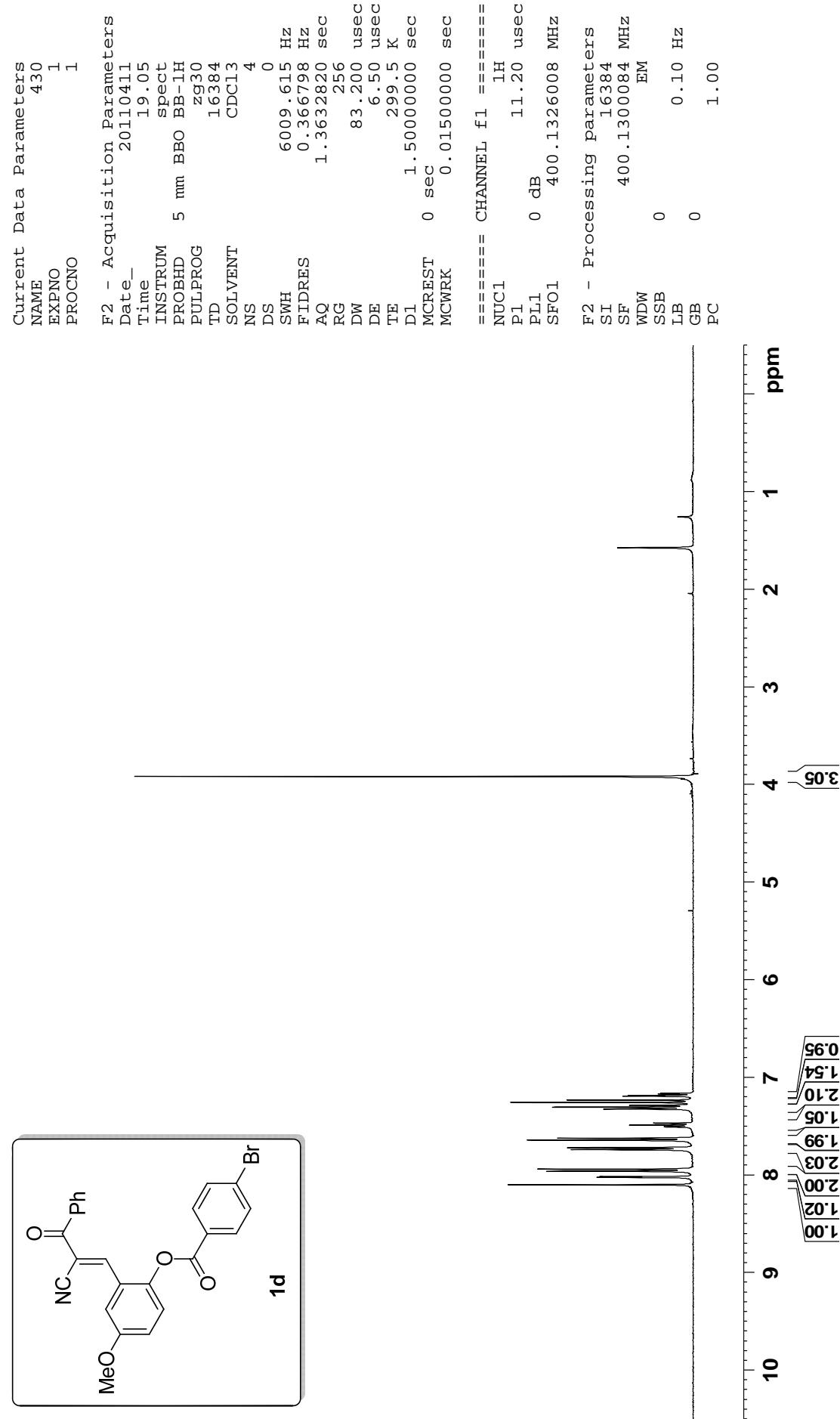
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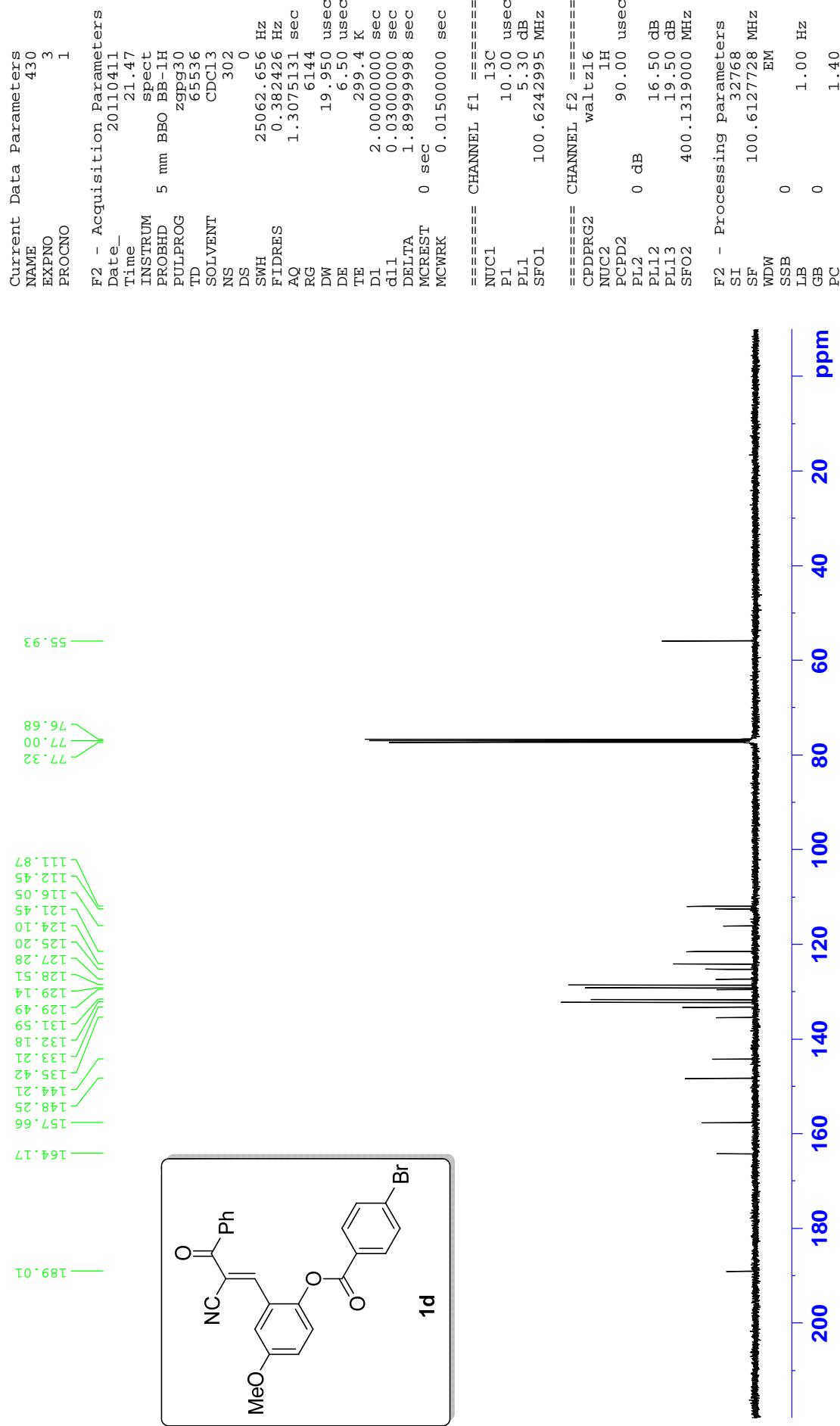
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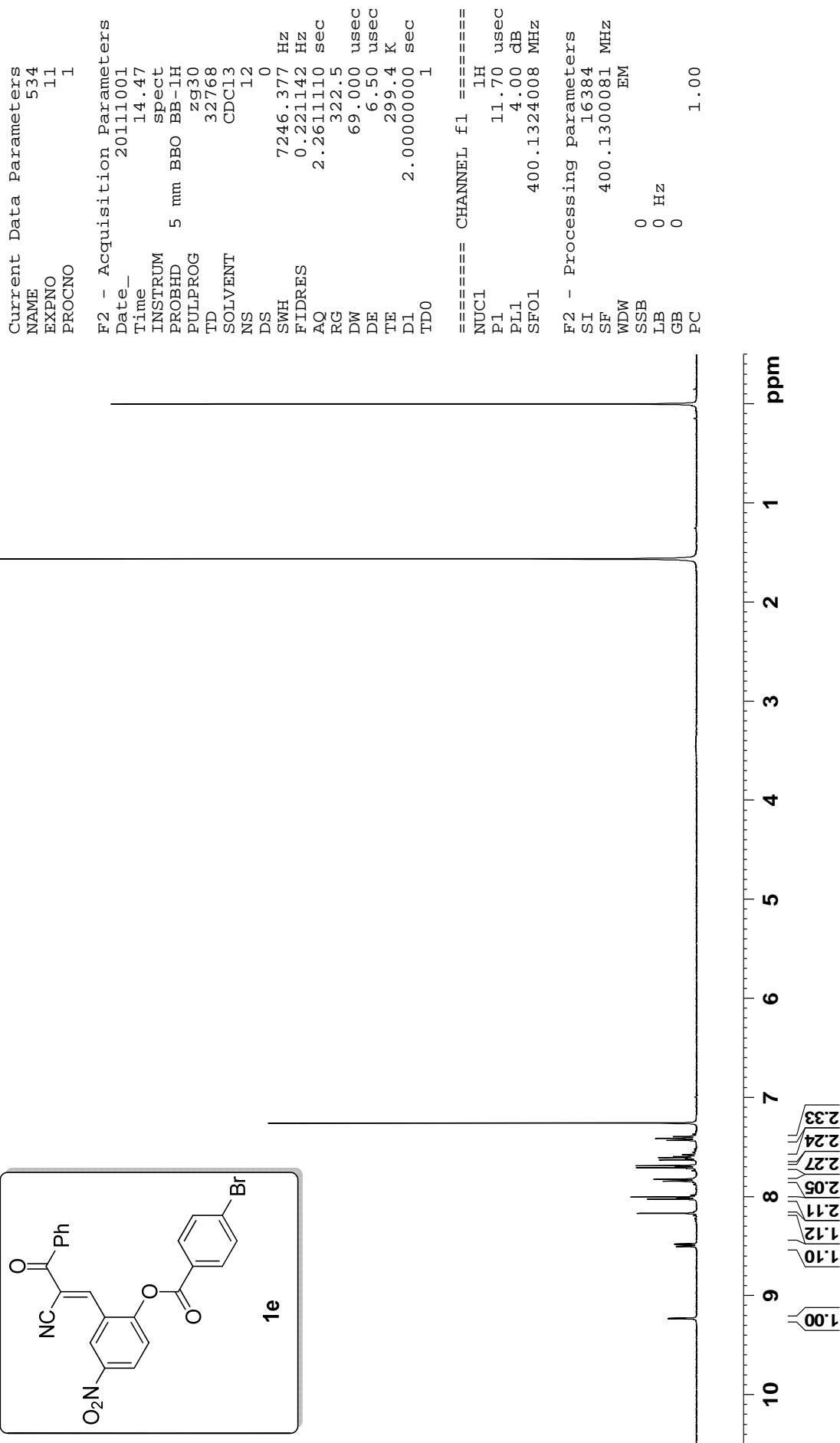


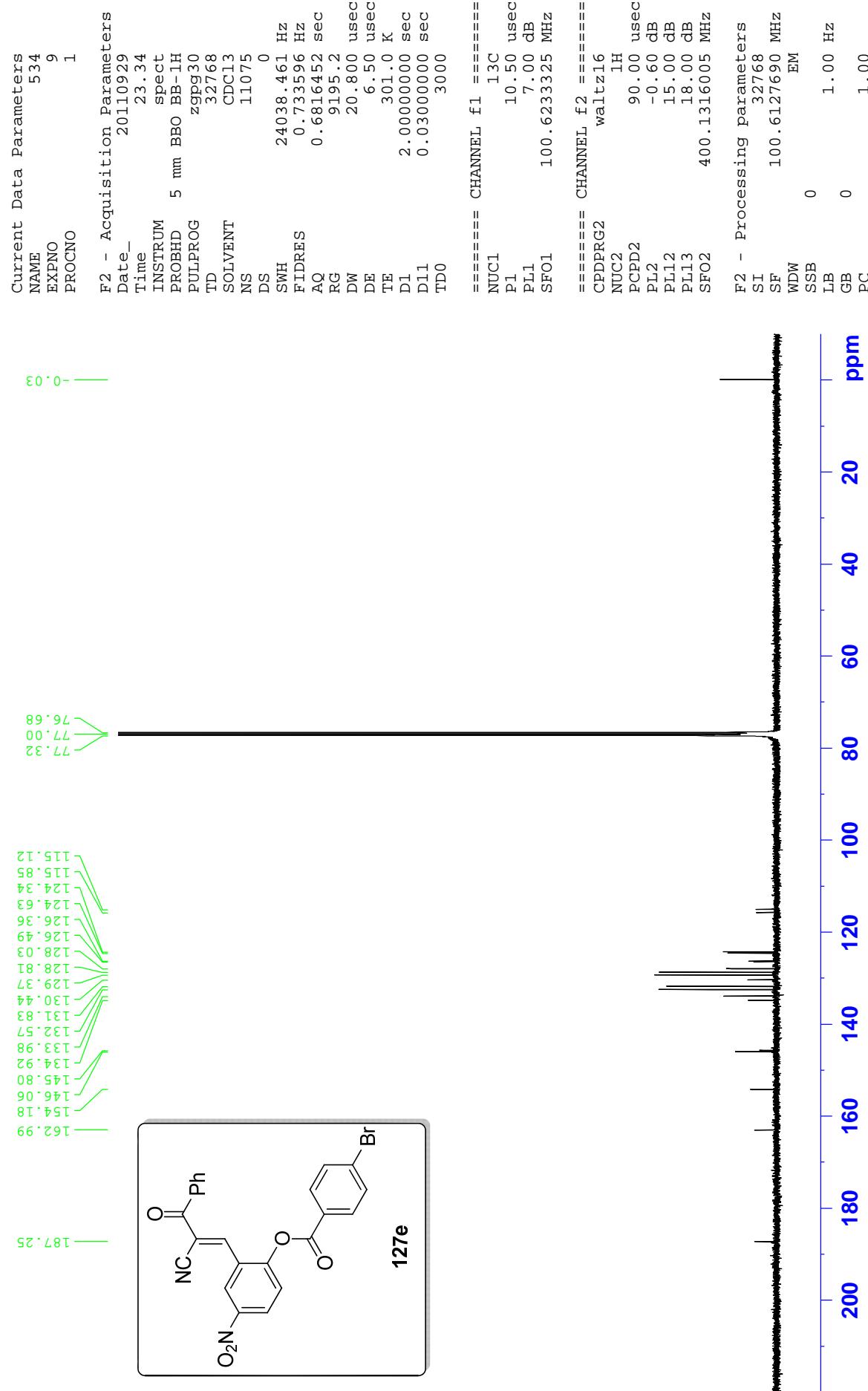


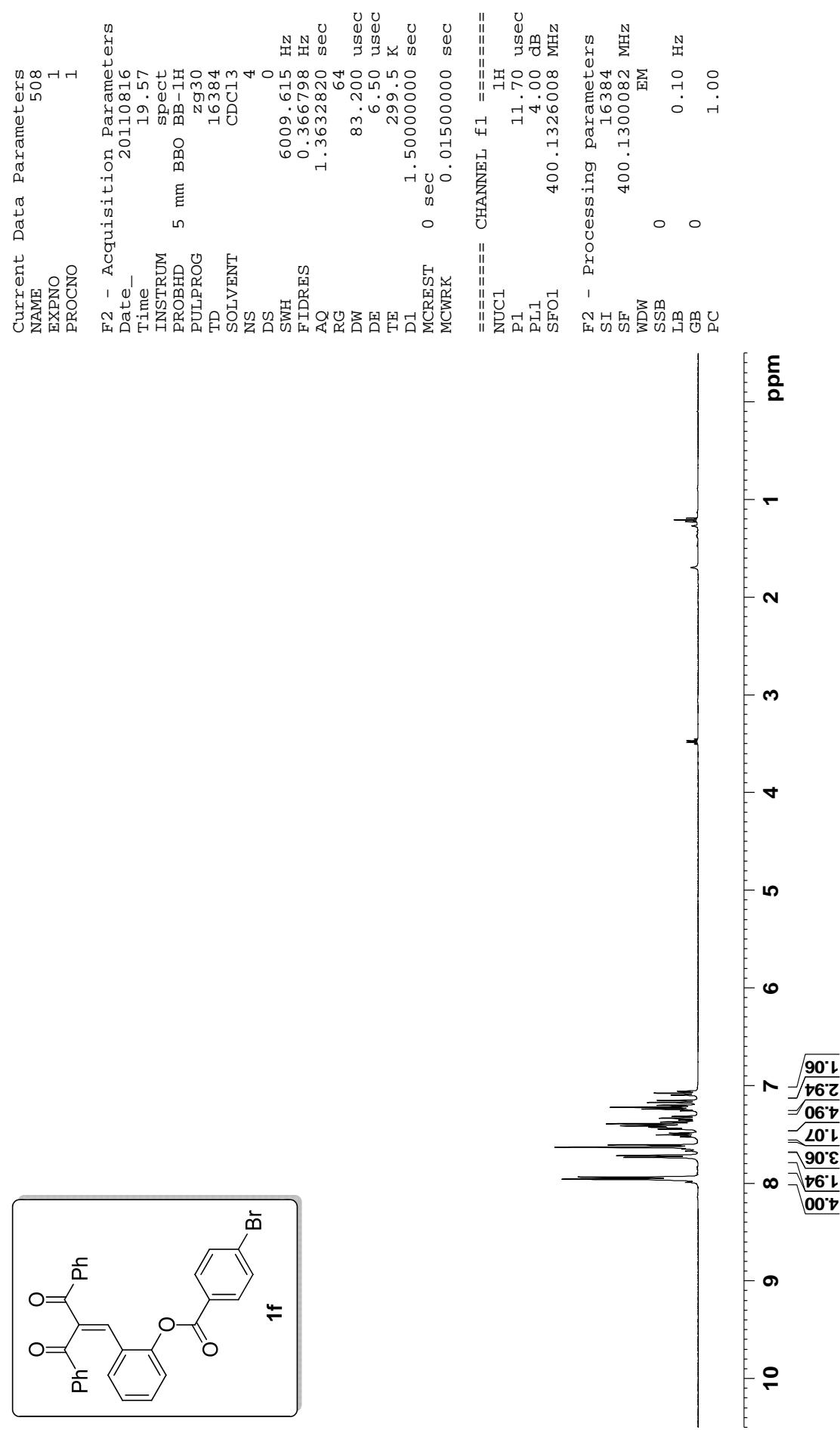












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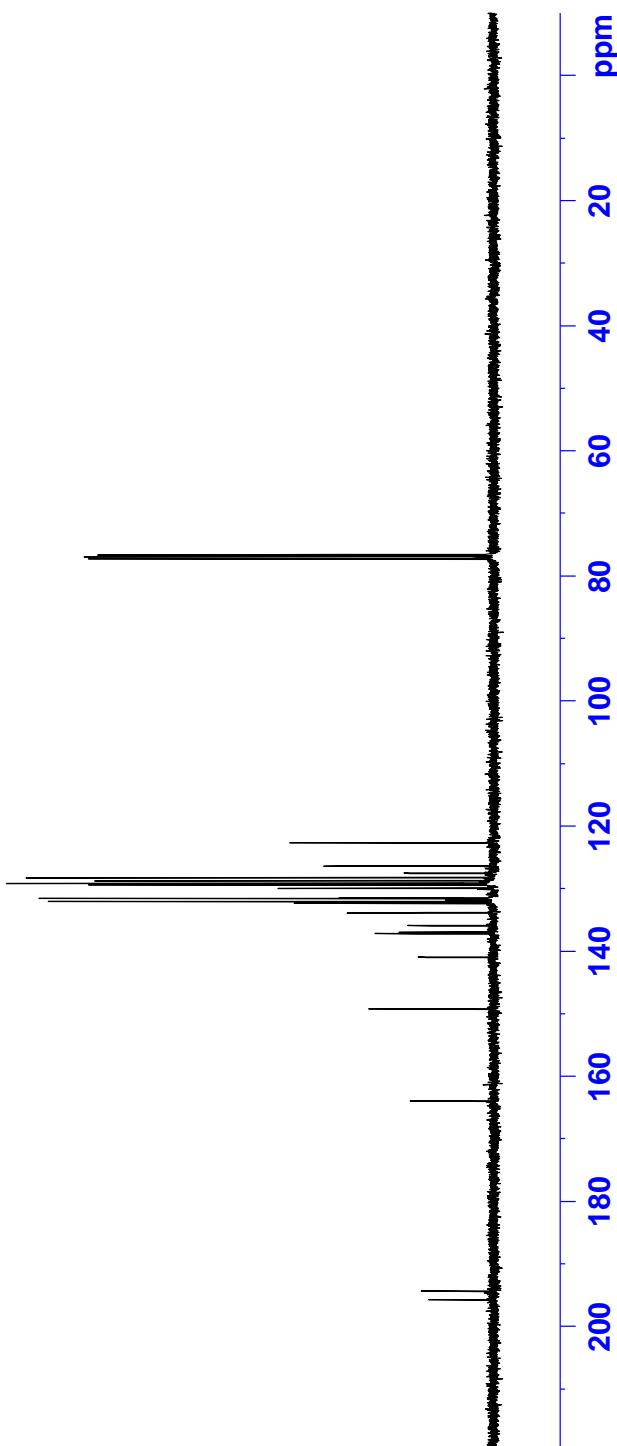
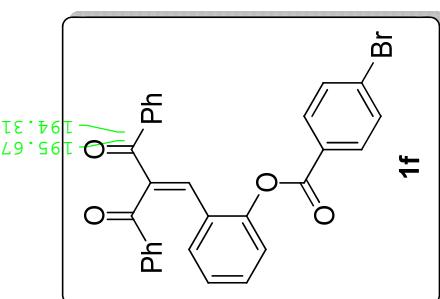
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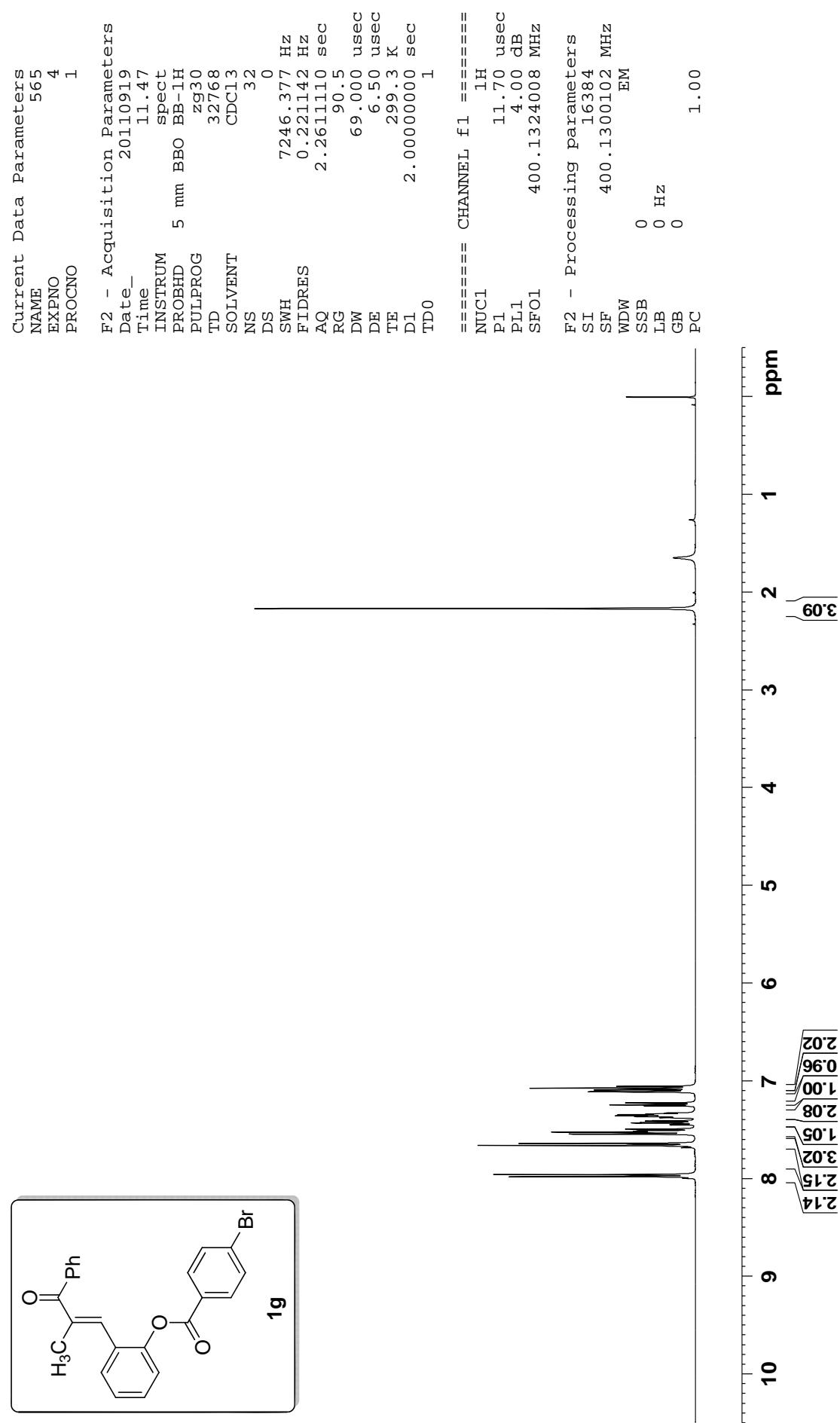
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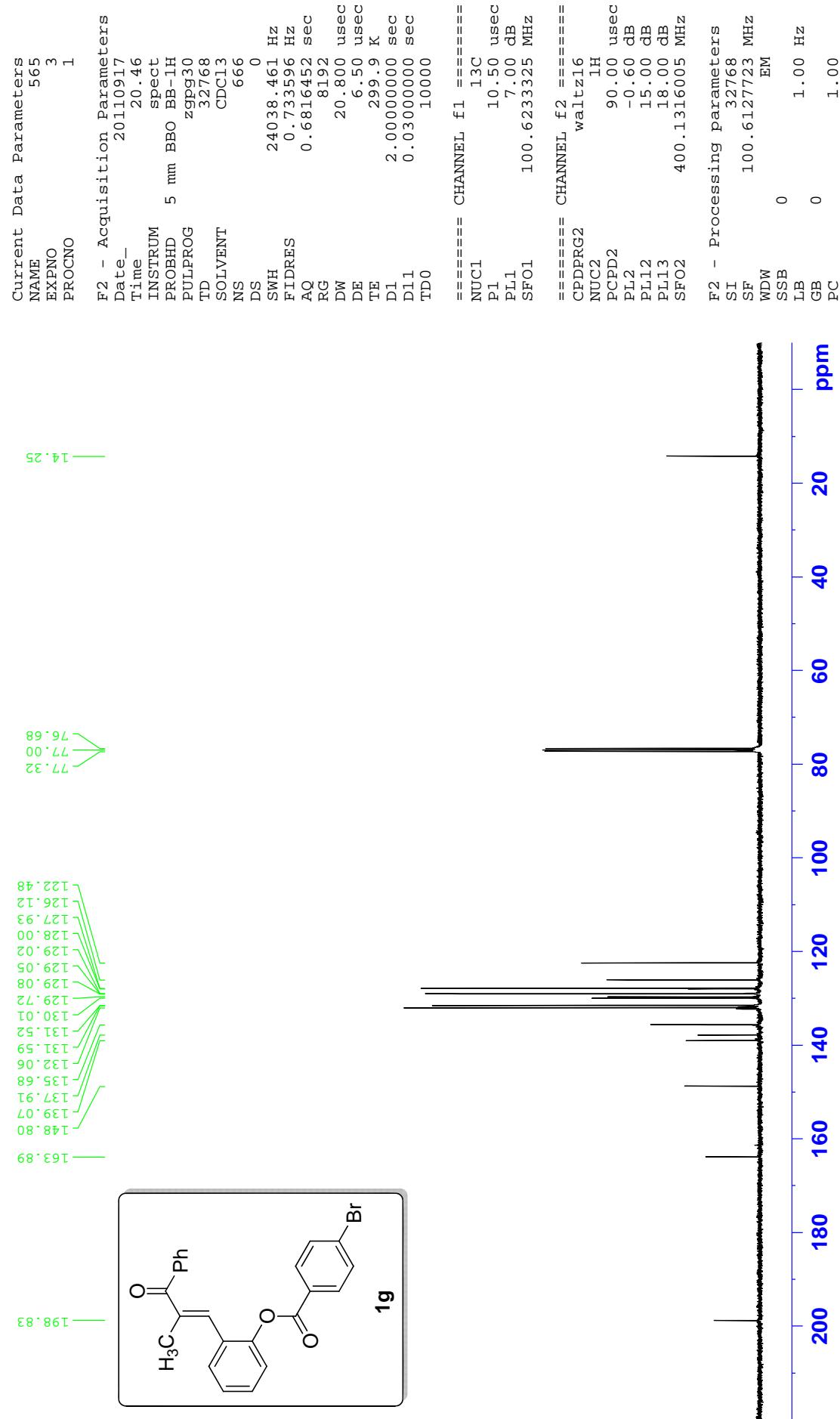
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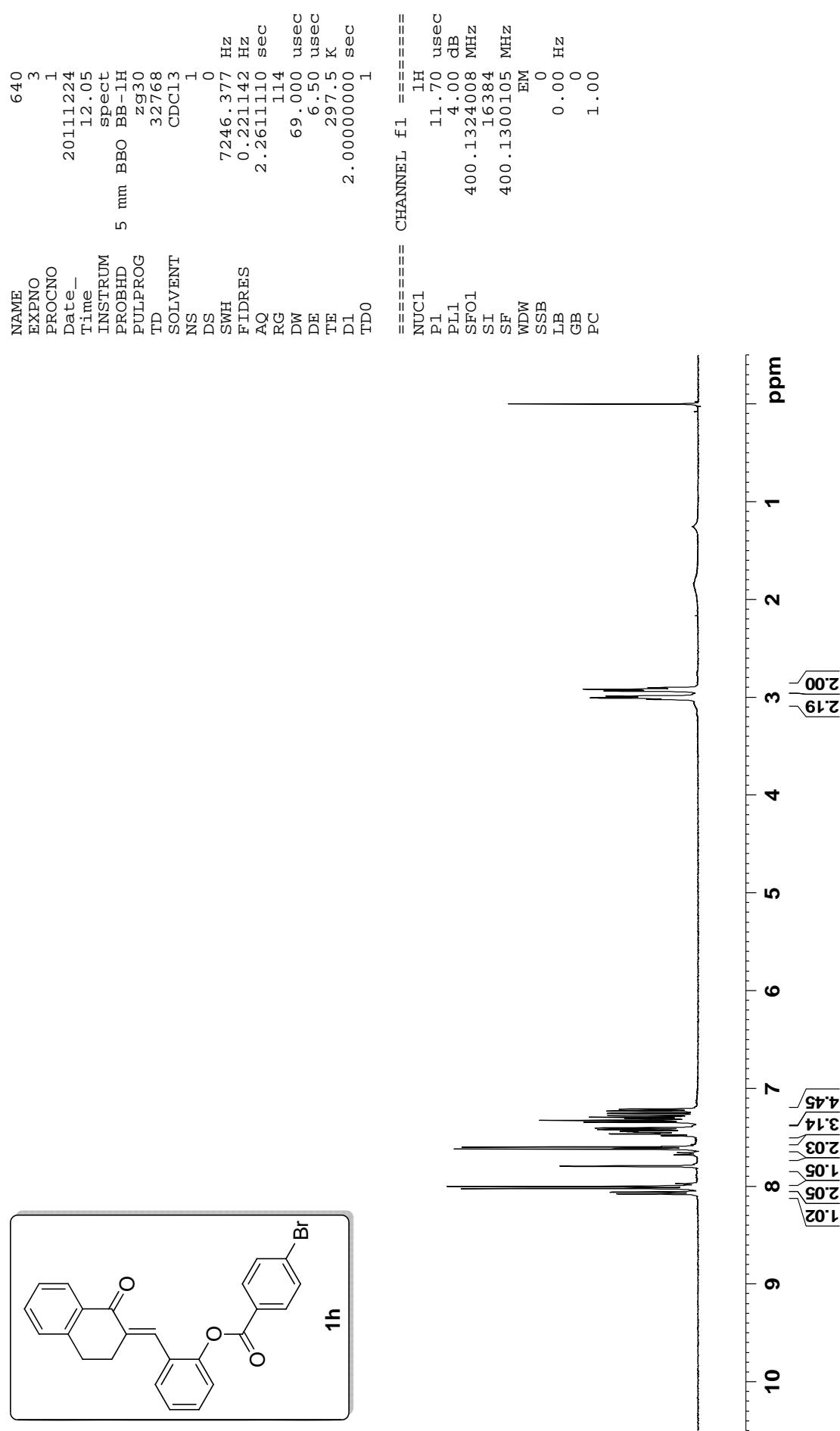
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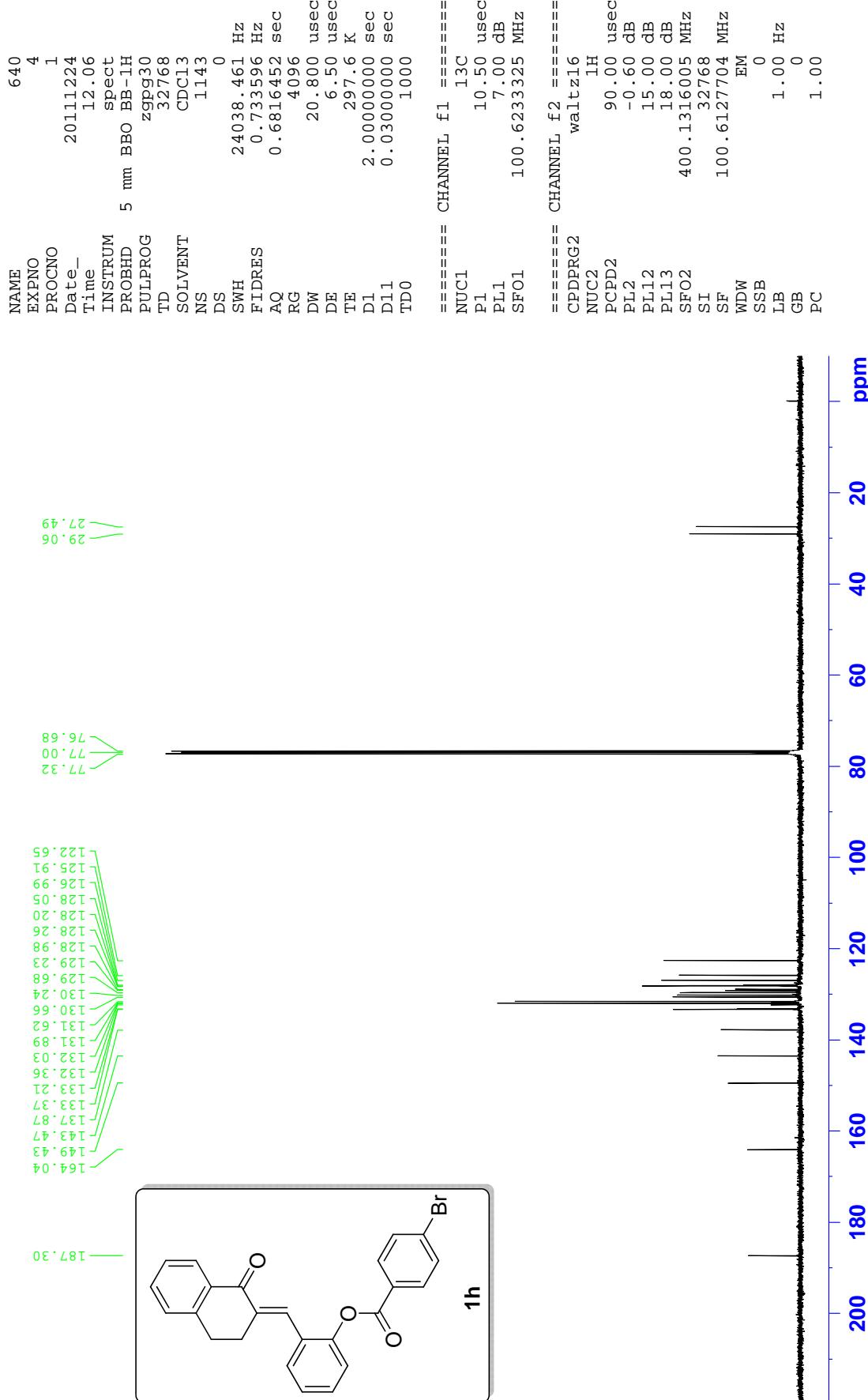
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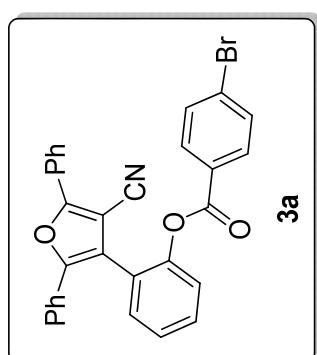
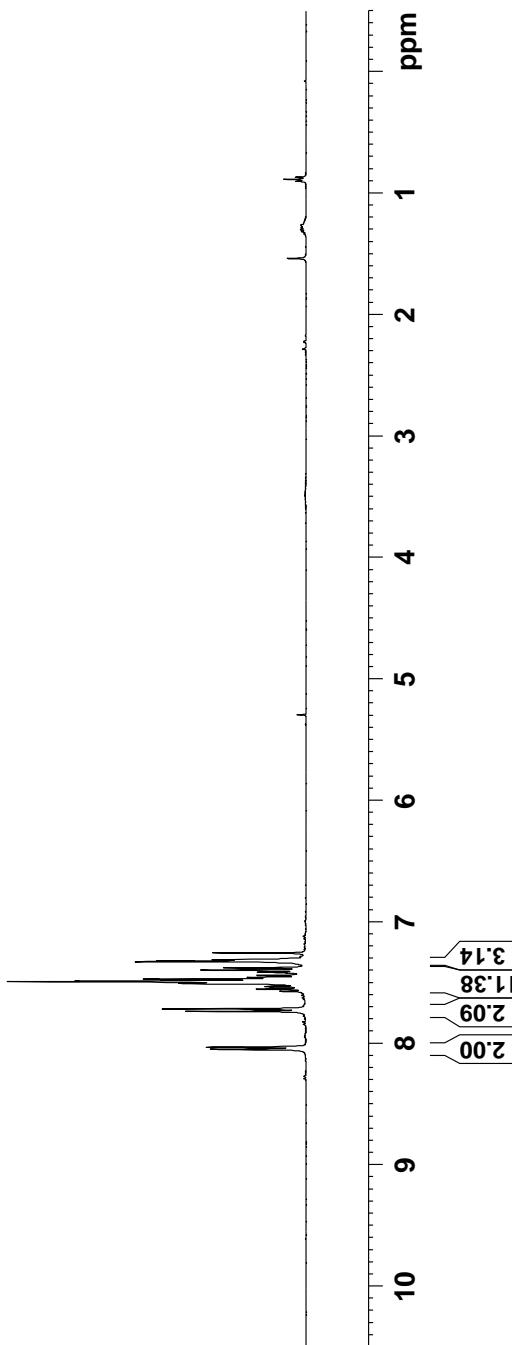


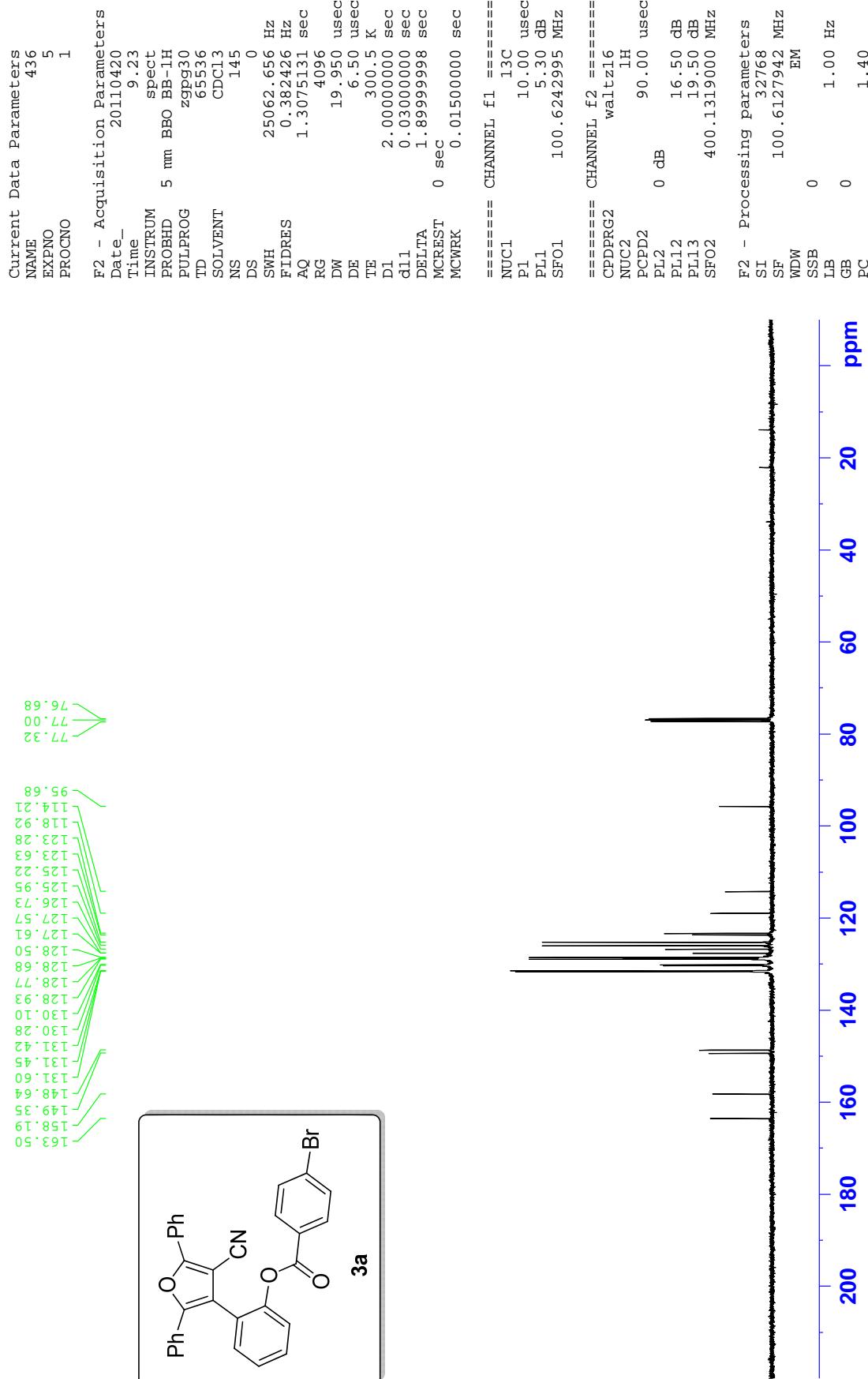


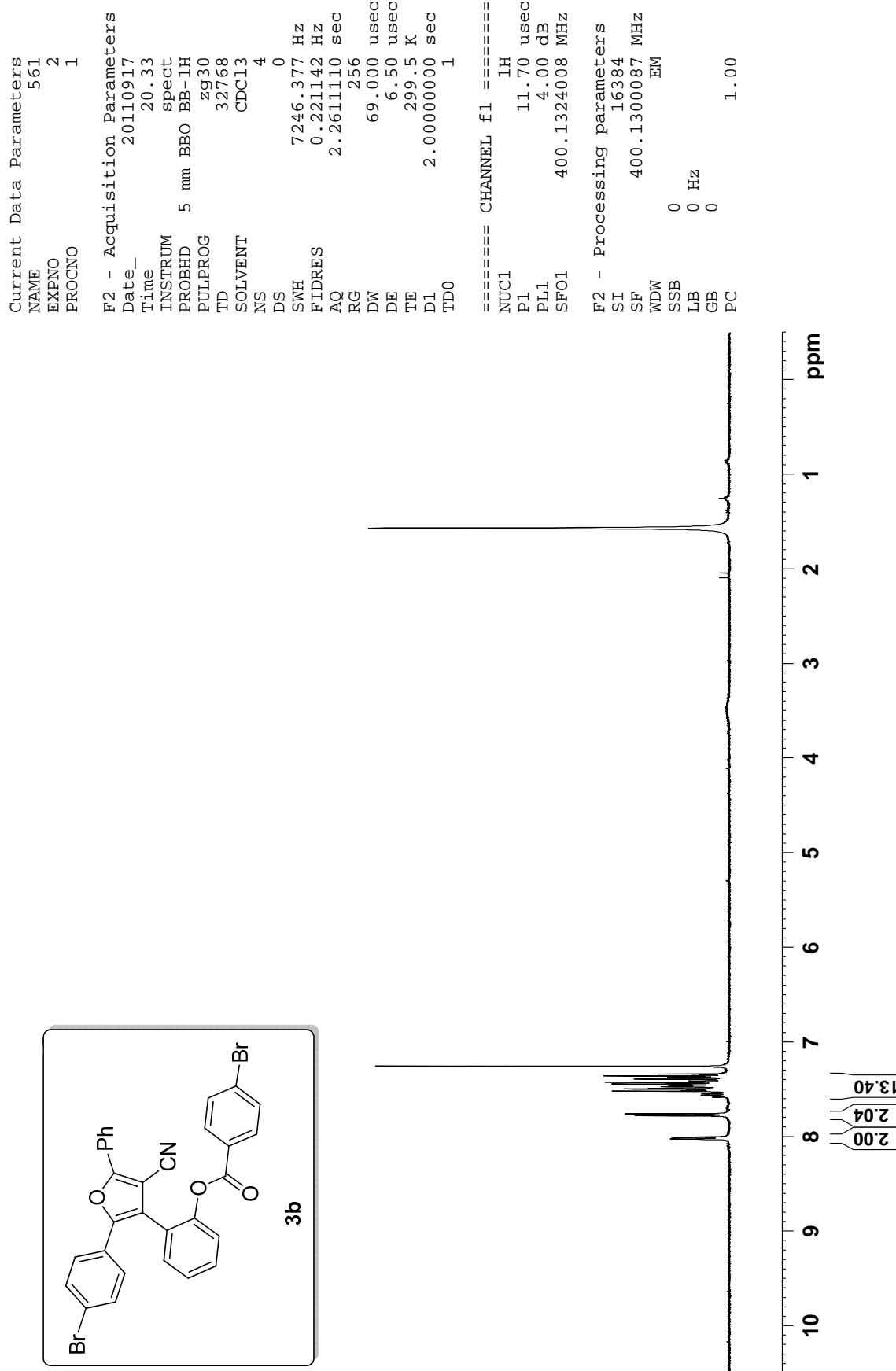
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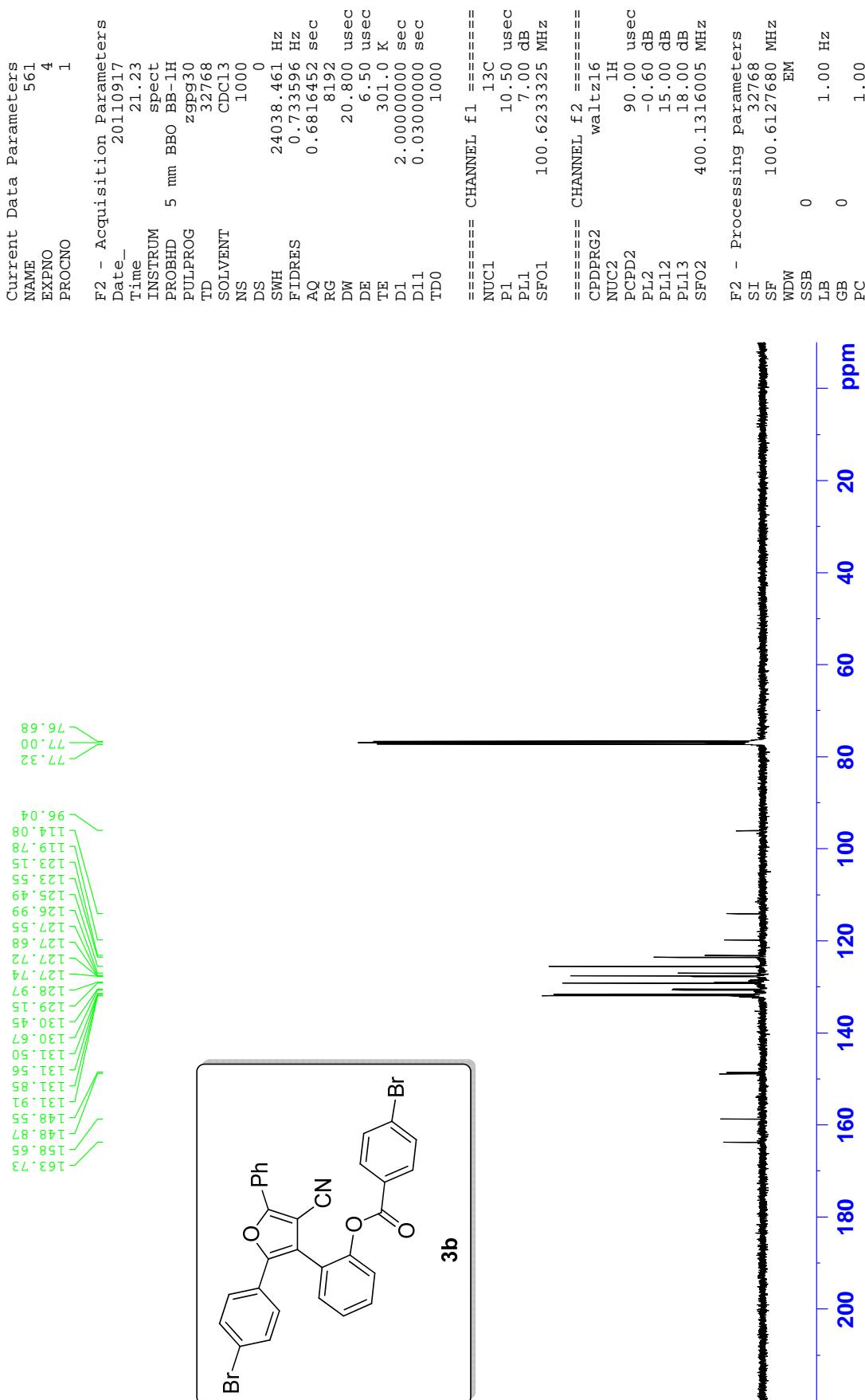
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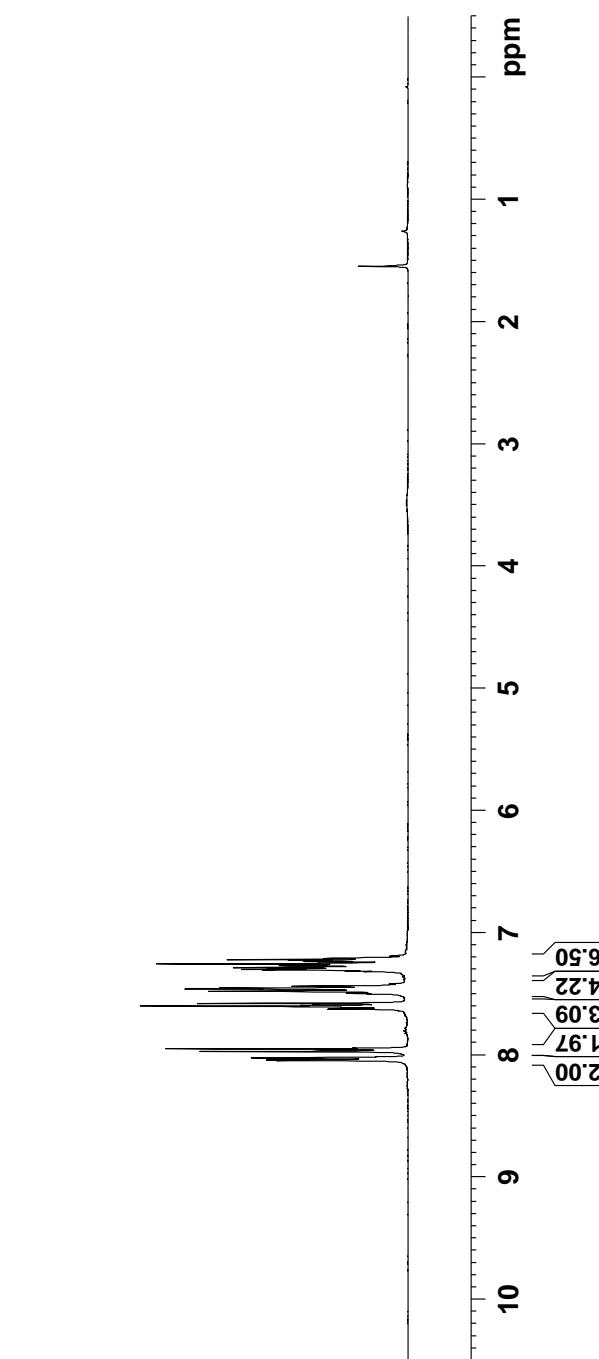
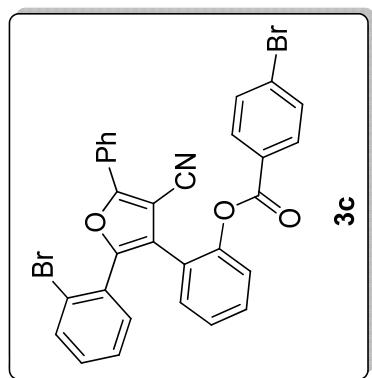
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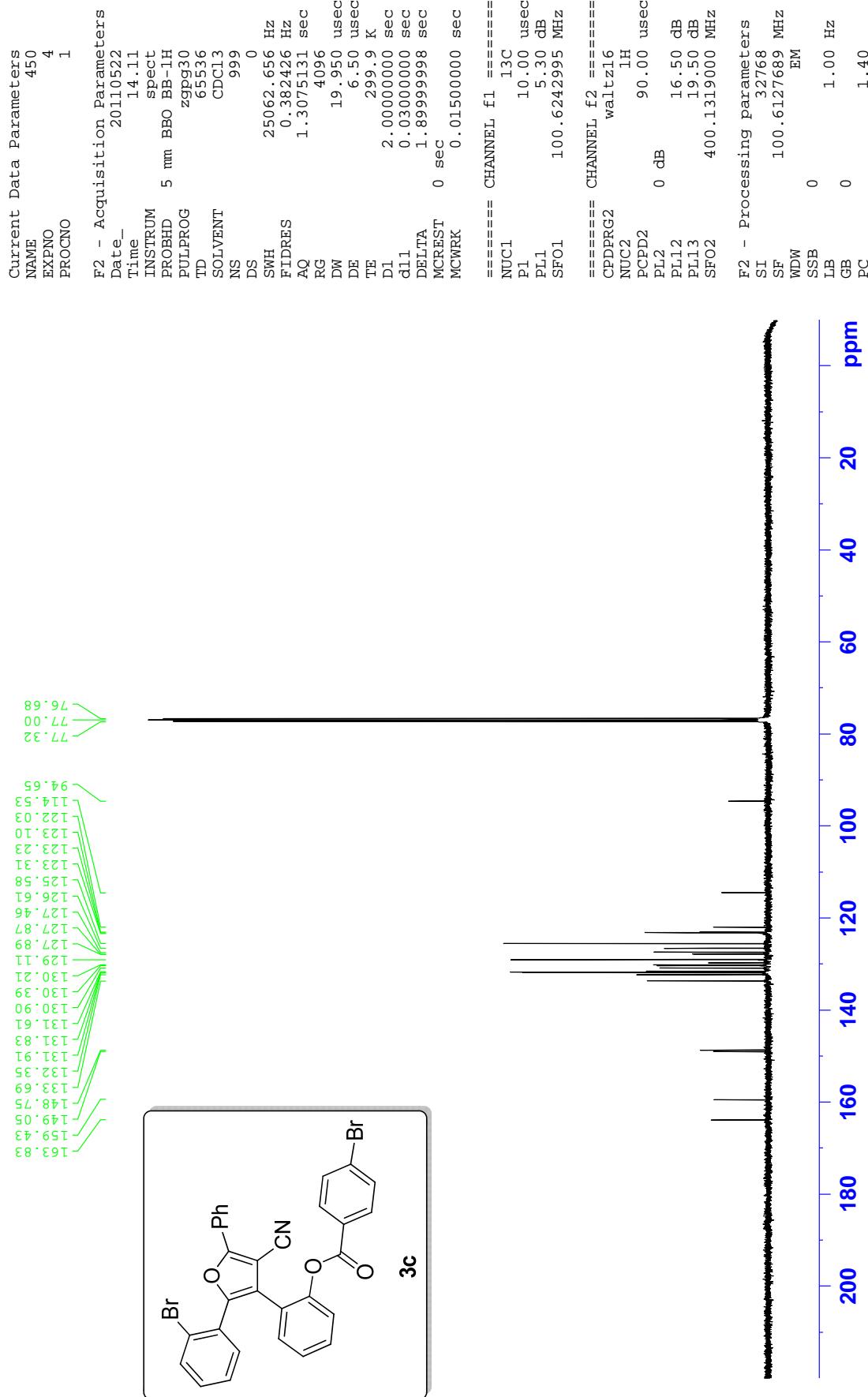
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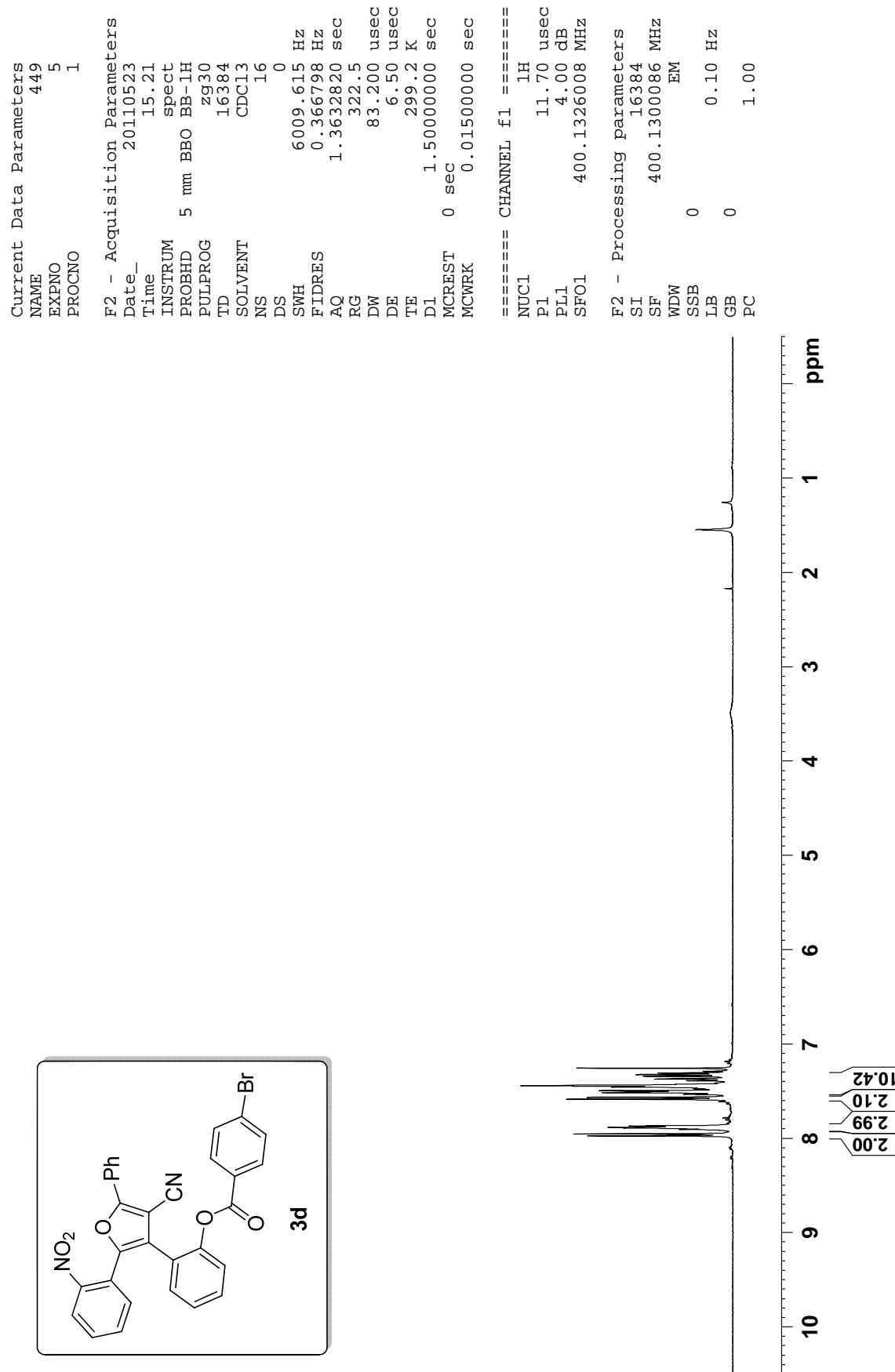
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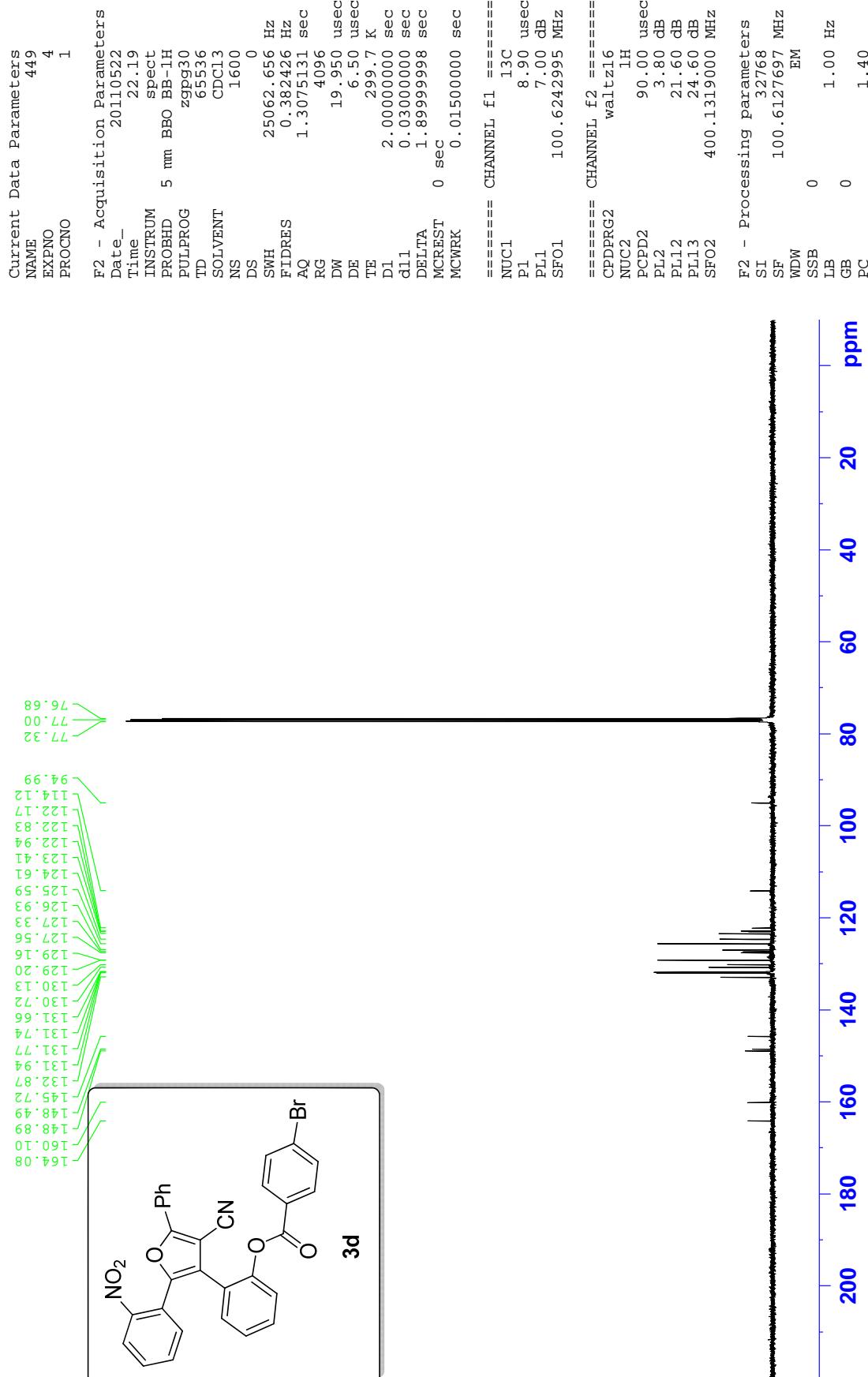
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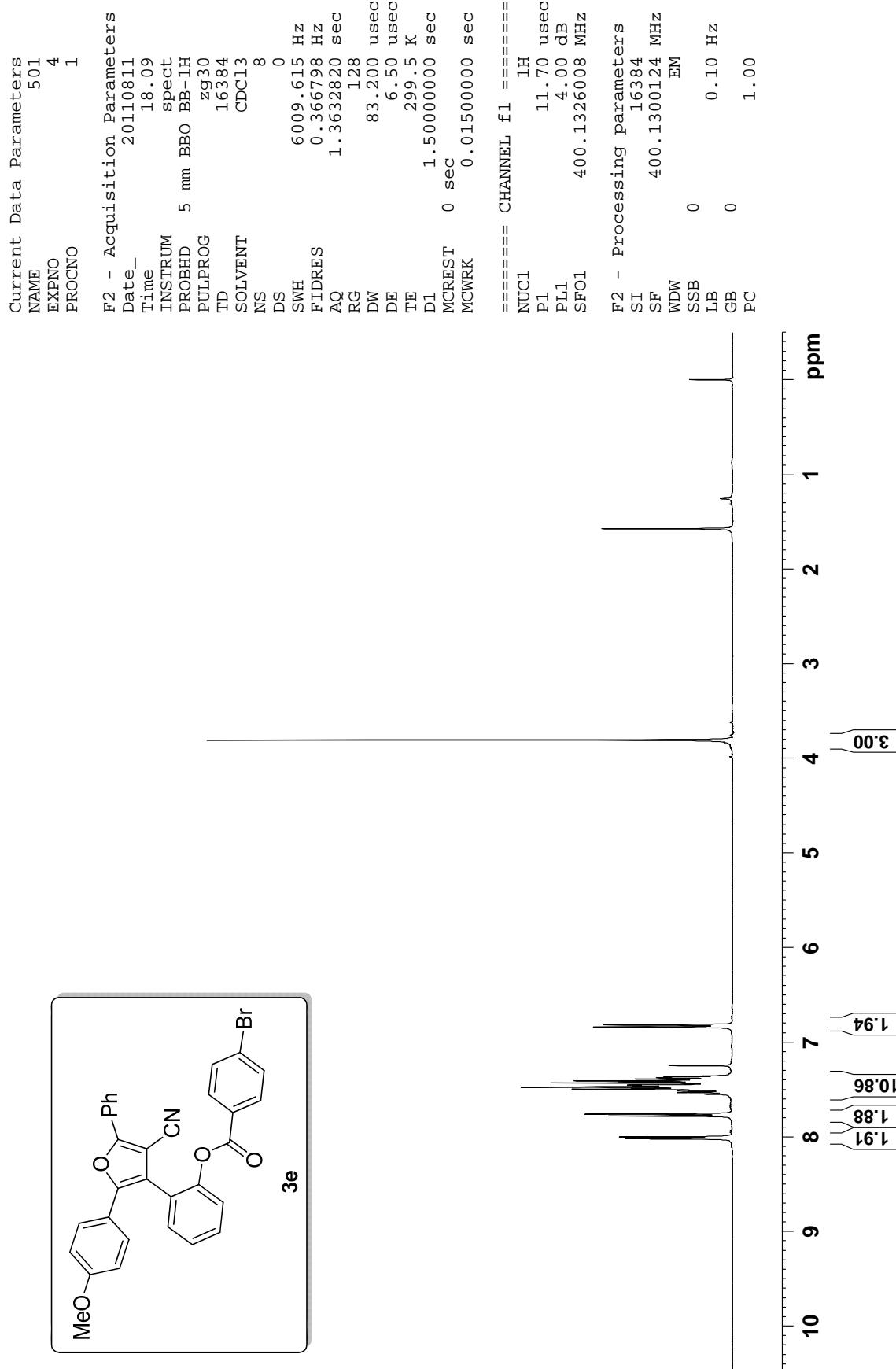
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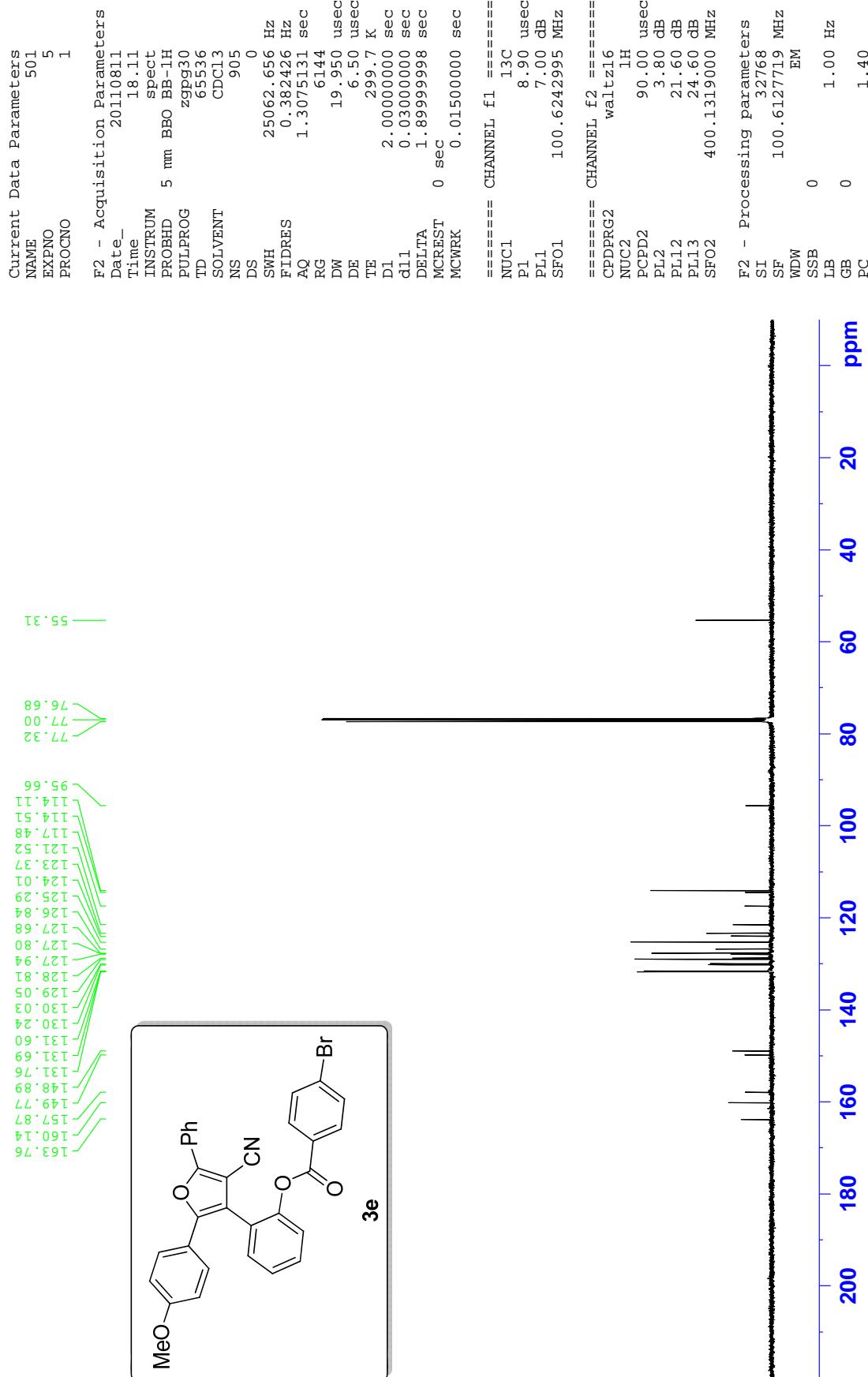


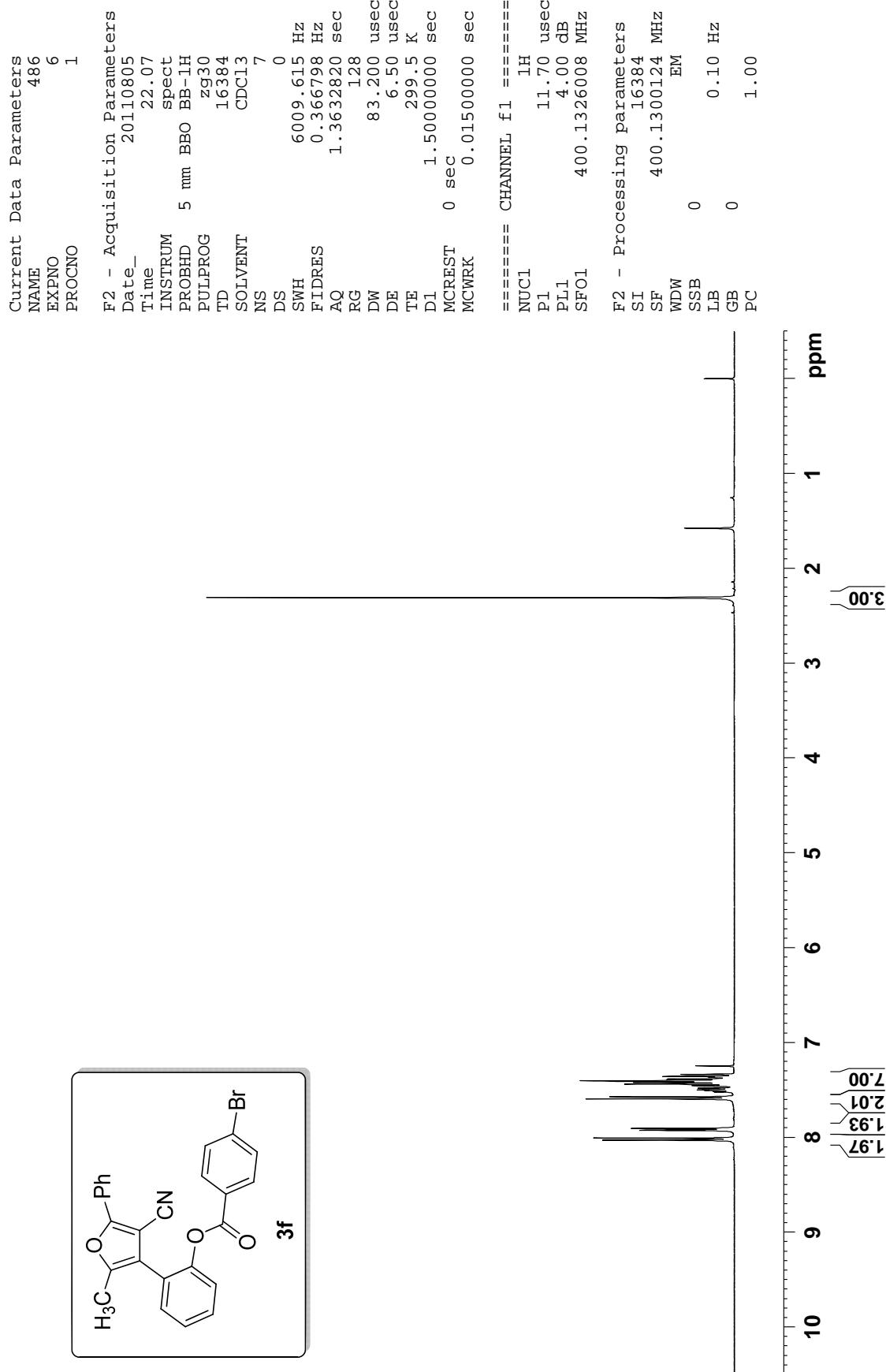


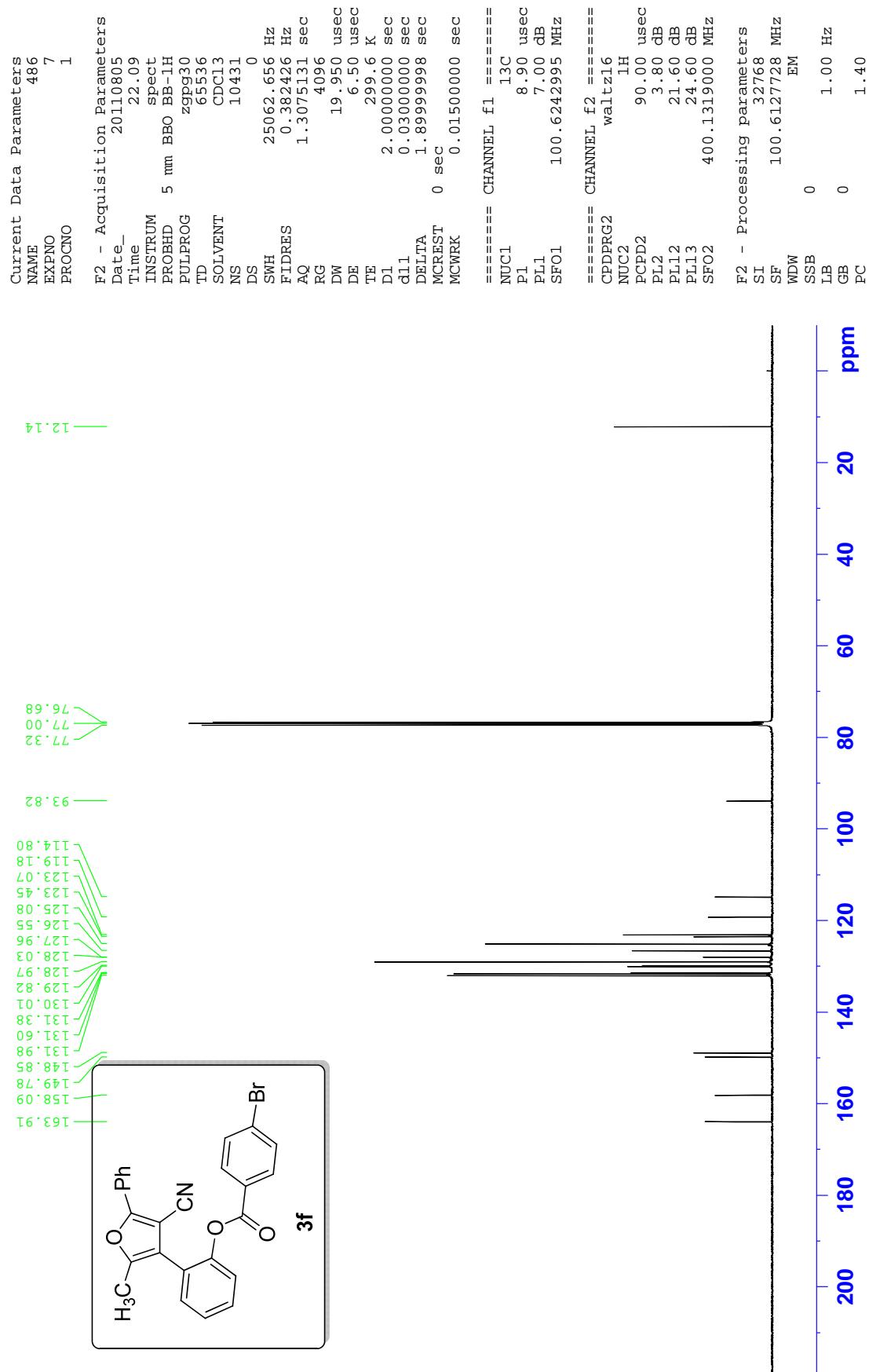


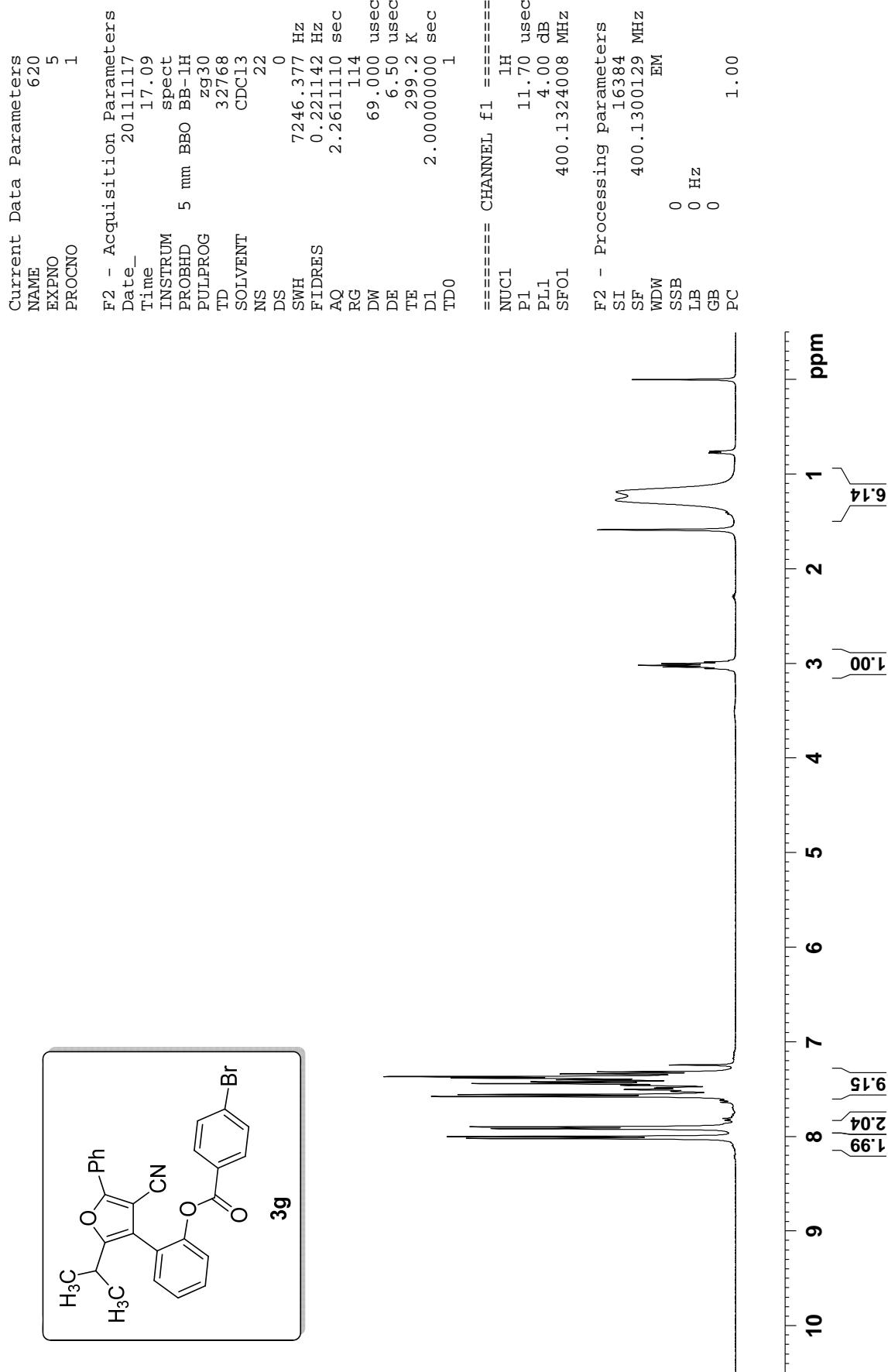


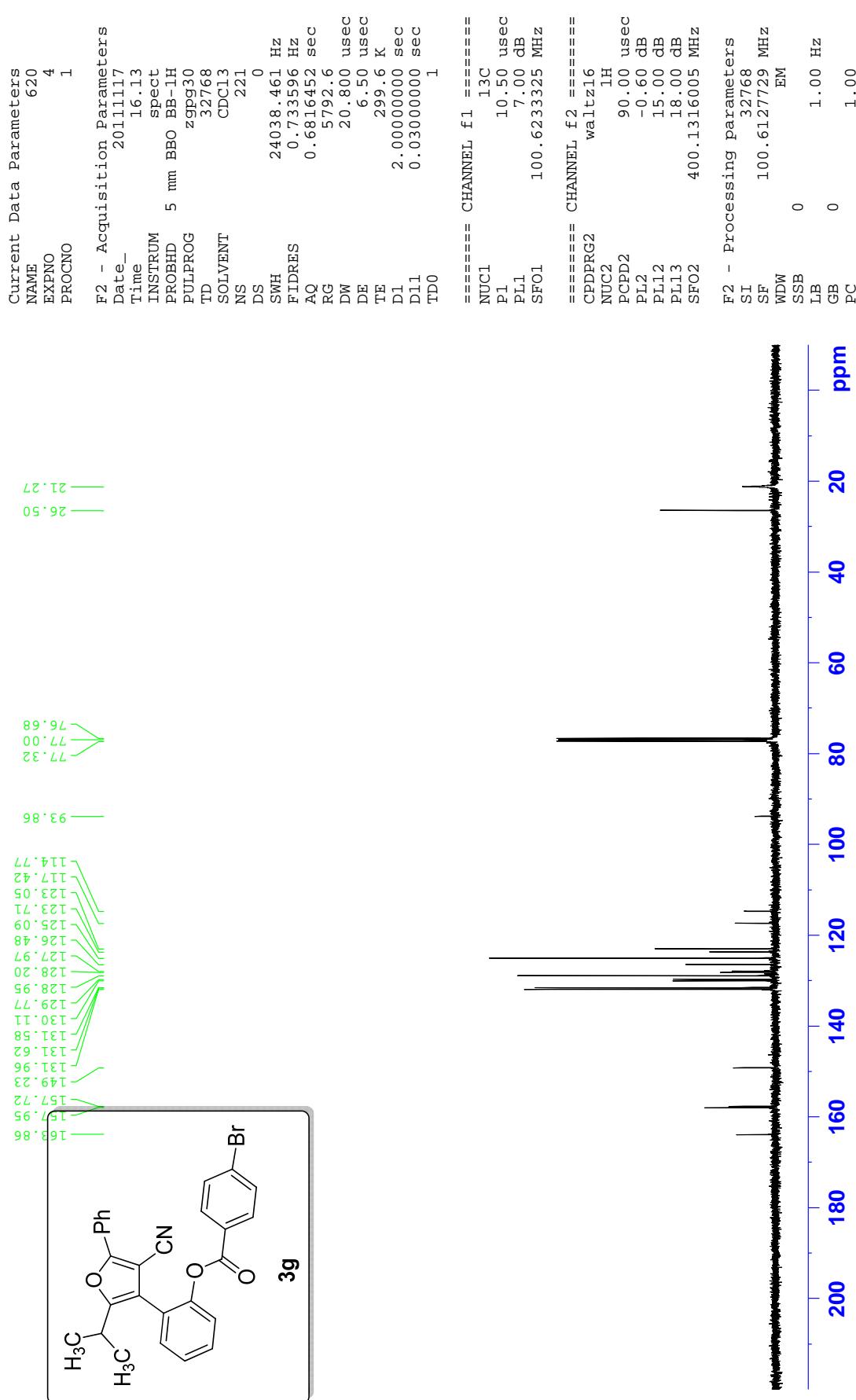


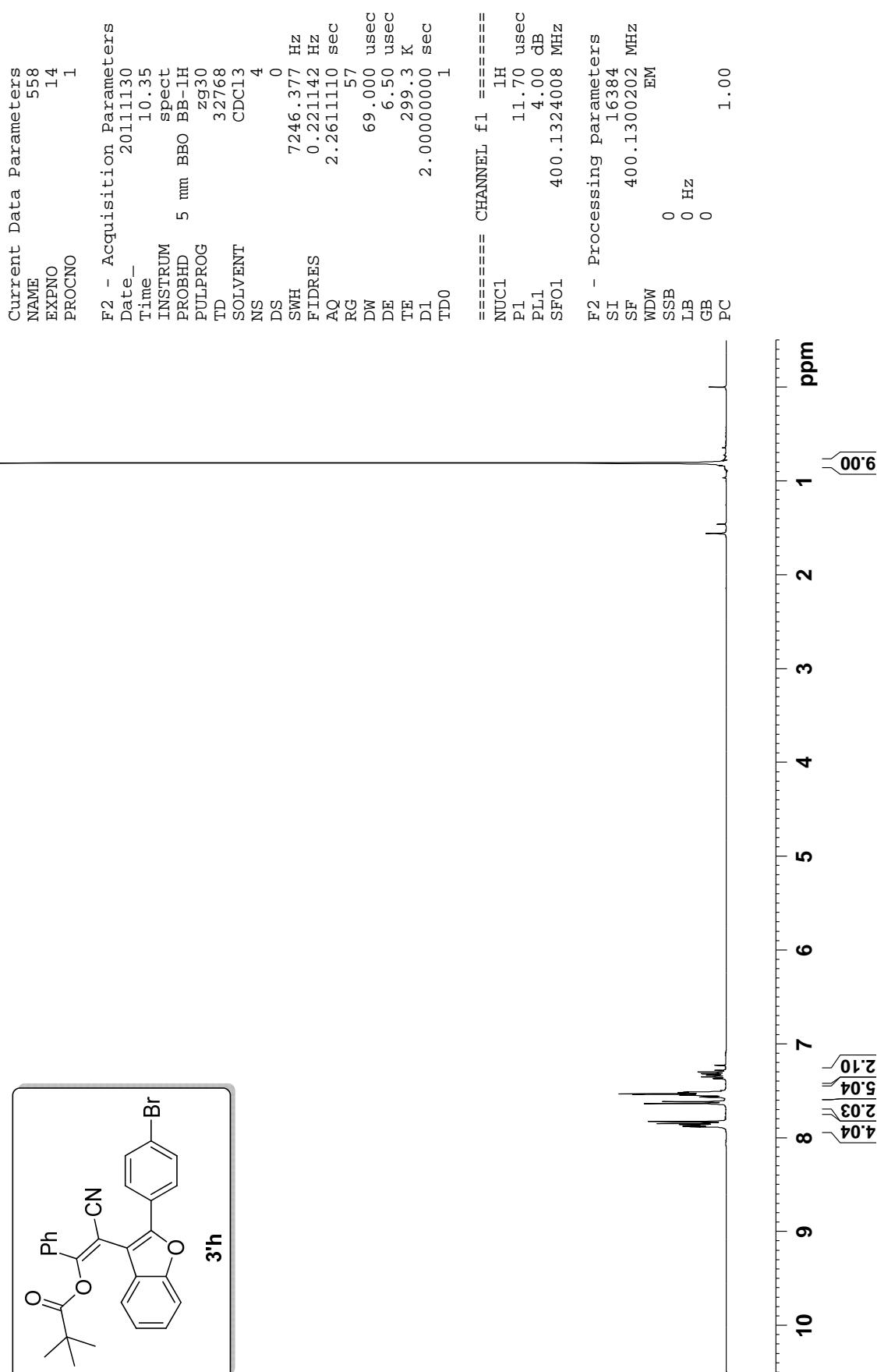


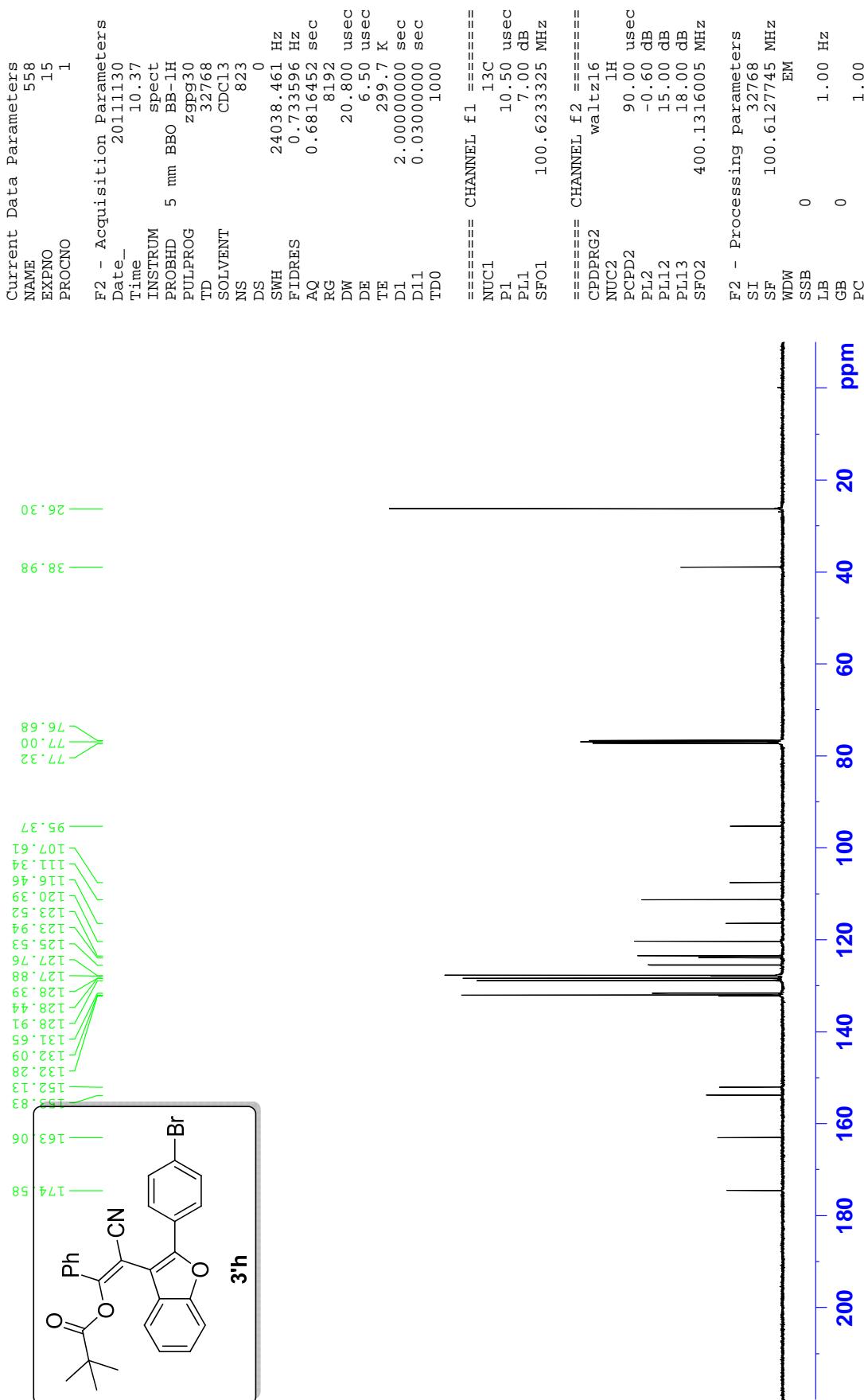








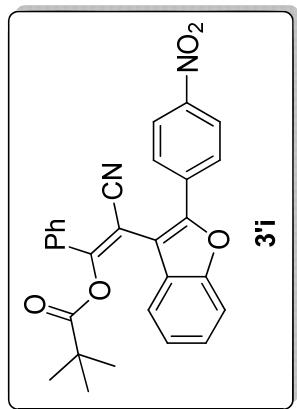
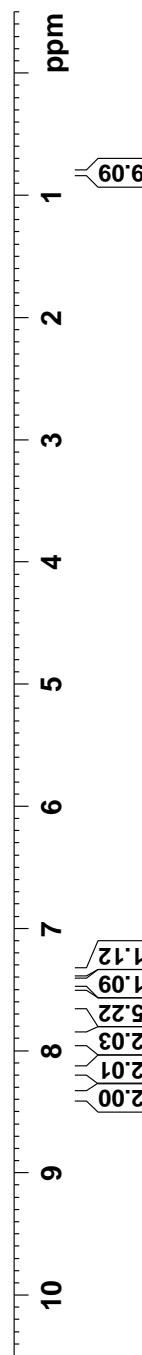


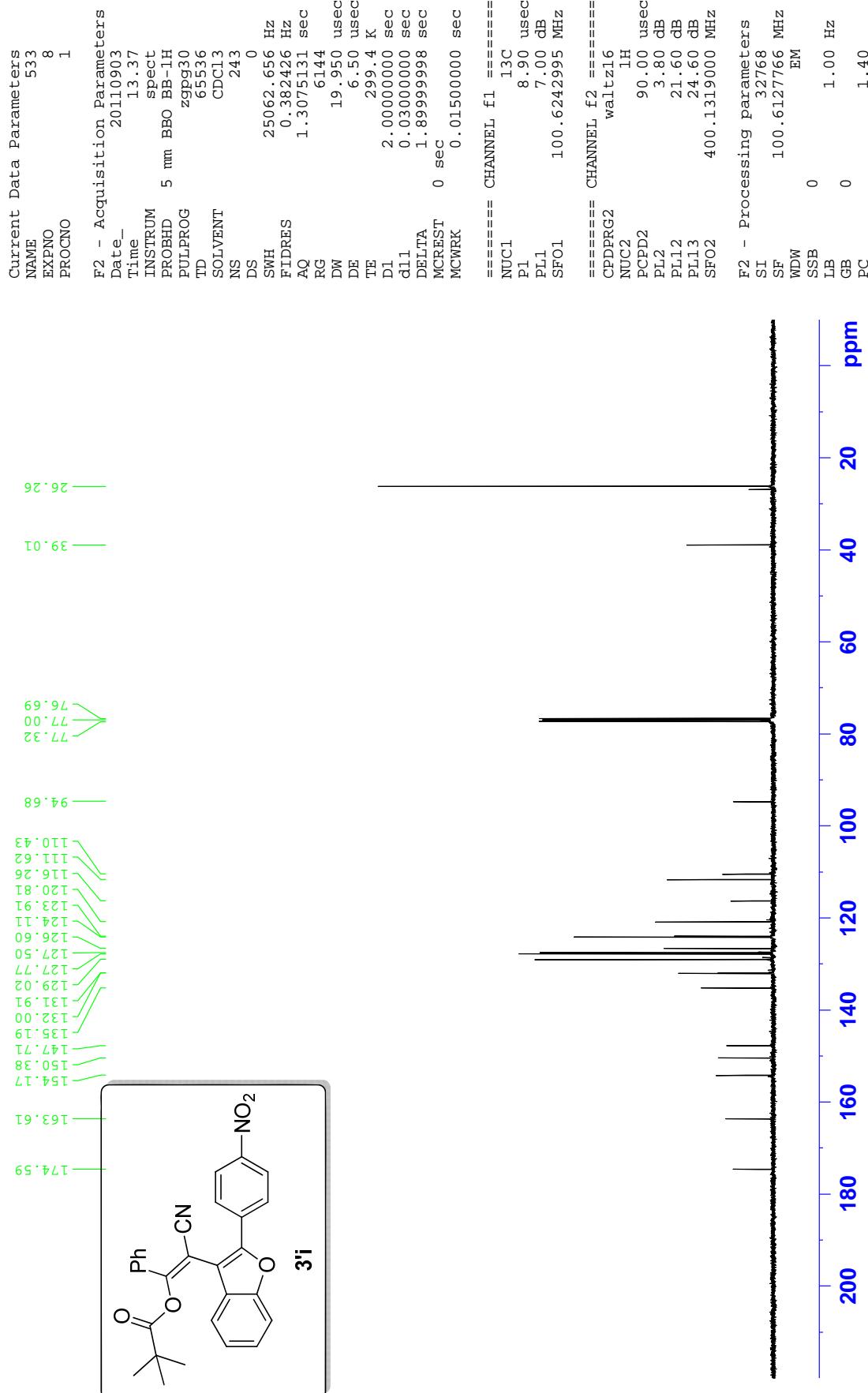


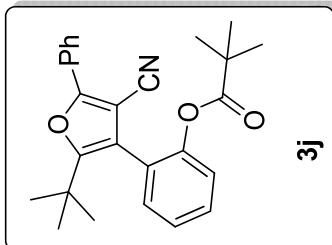
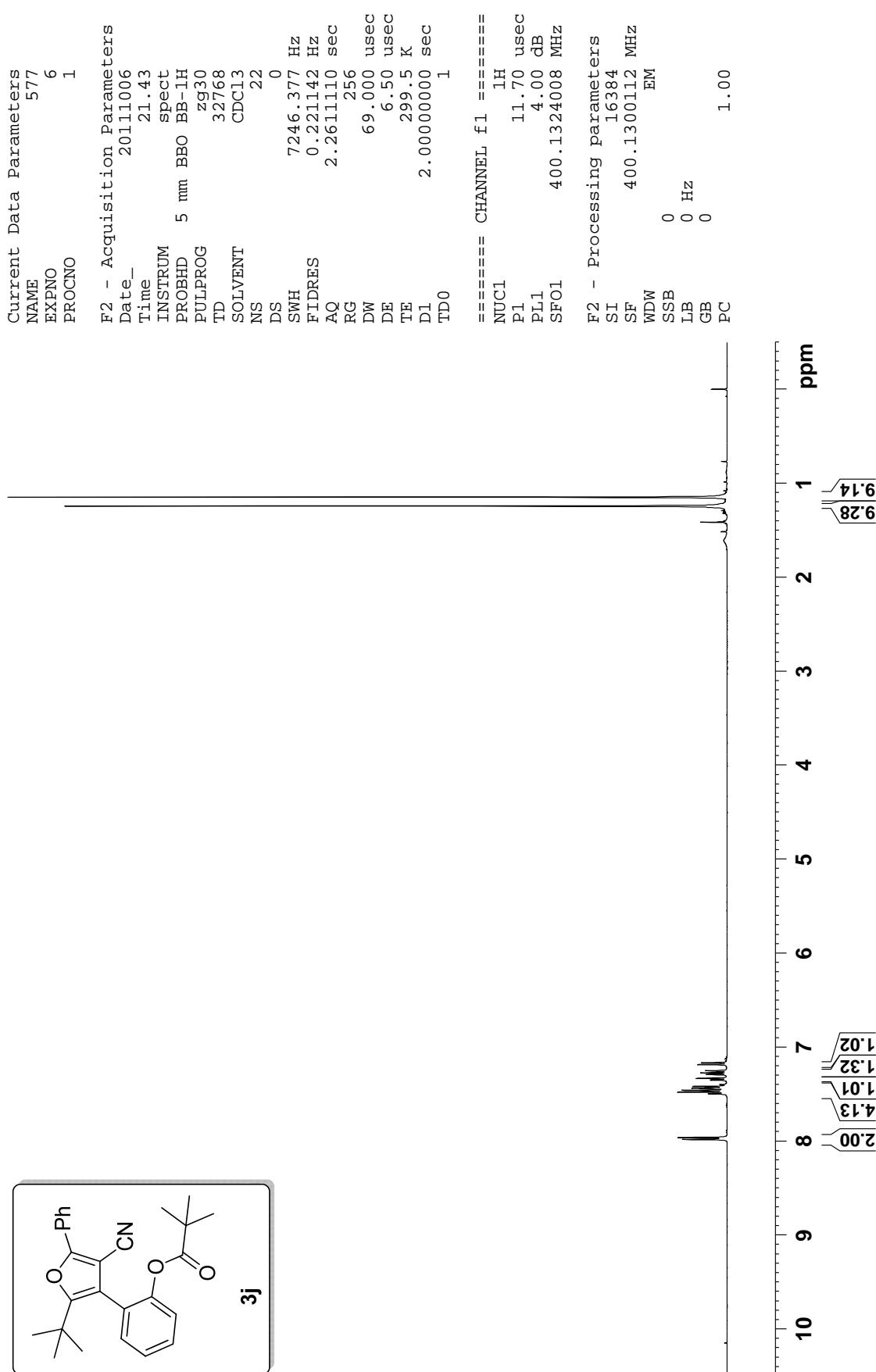
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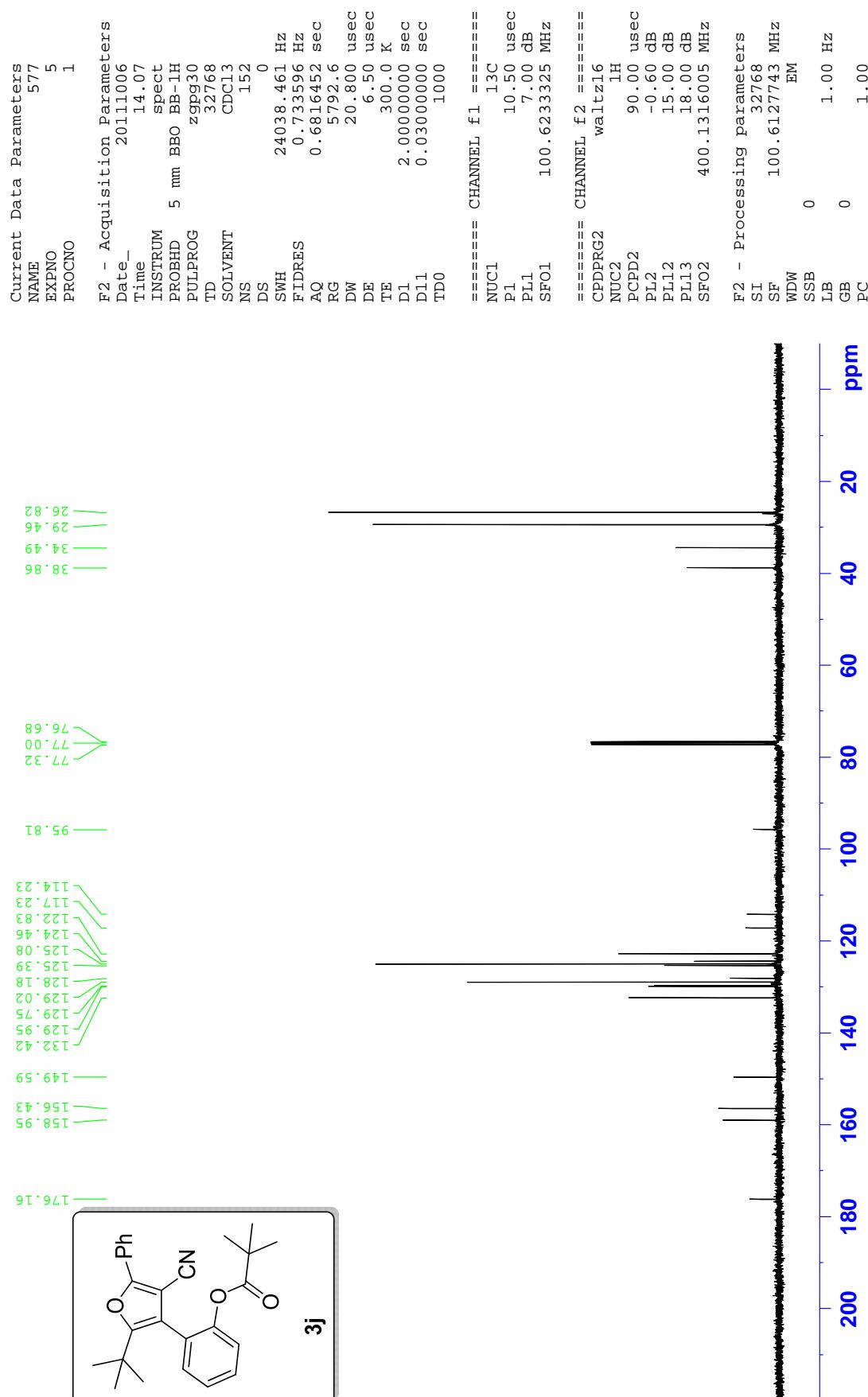
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DS 0  
SWH 6009.615 Hz  
FIDRES 0.366798 Hz  
AQ 1.3632820 sec  
RG 143.7  
DW 83.200 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 299.4 K  
D1 1.5000000 sec  
MCREST 0 sec  
MCWRK 0.01500000 sec

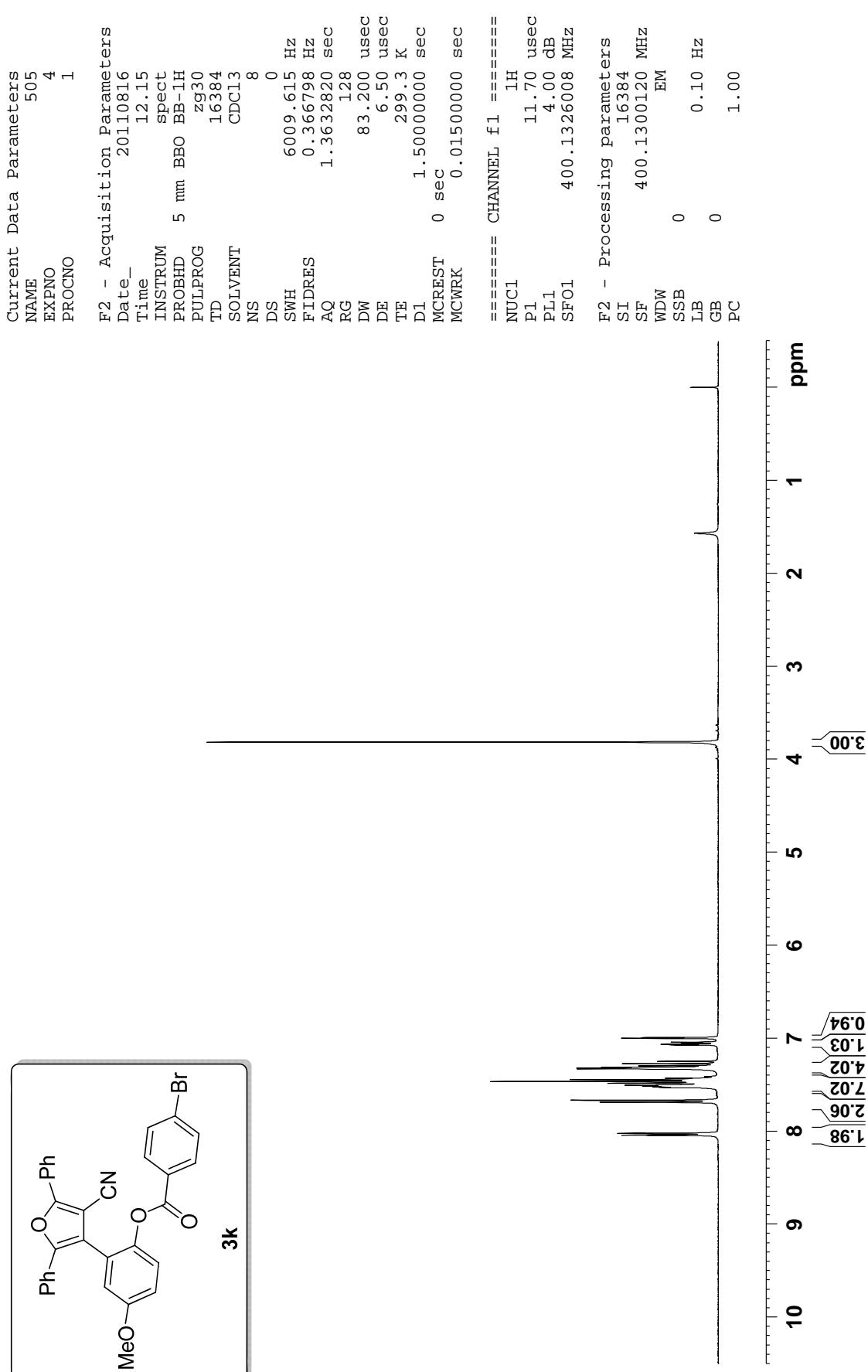
===== CHANNEL f1 =====  
NUC1 1H  
P1 11.70 usec  
PL1 4.00 dB  
SFO1 400.1326008 MHz  
F2 - Processing parameters  
SI 16384  
SF 400.1300115 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 0  
GB 0  
PC 1.00

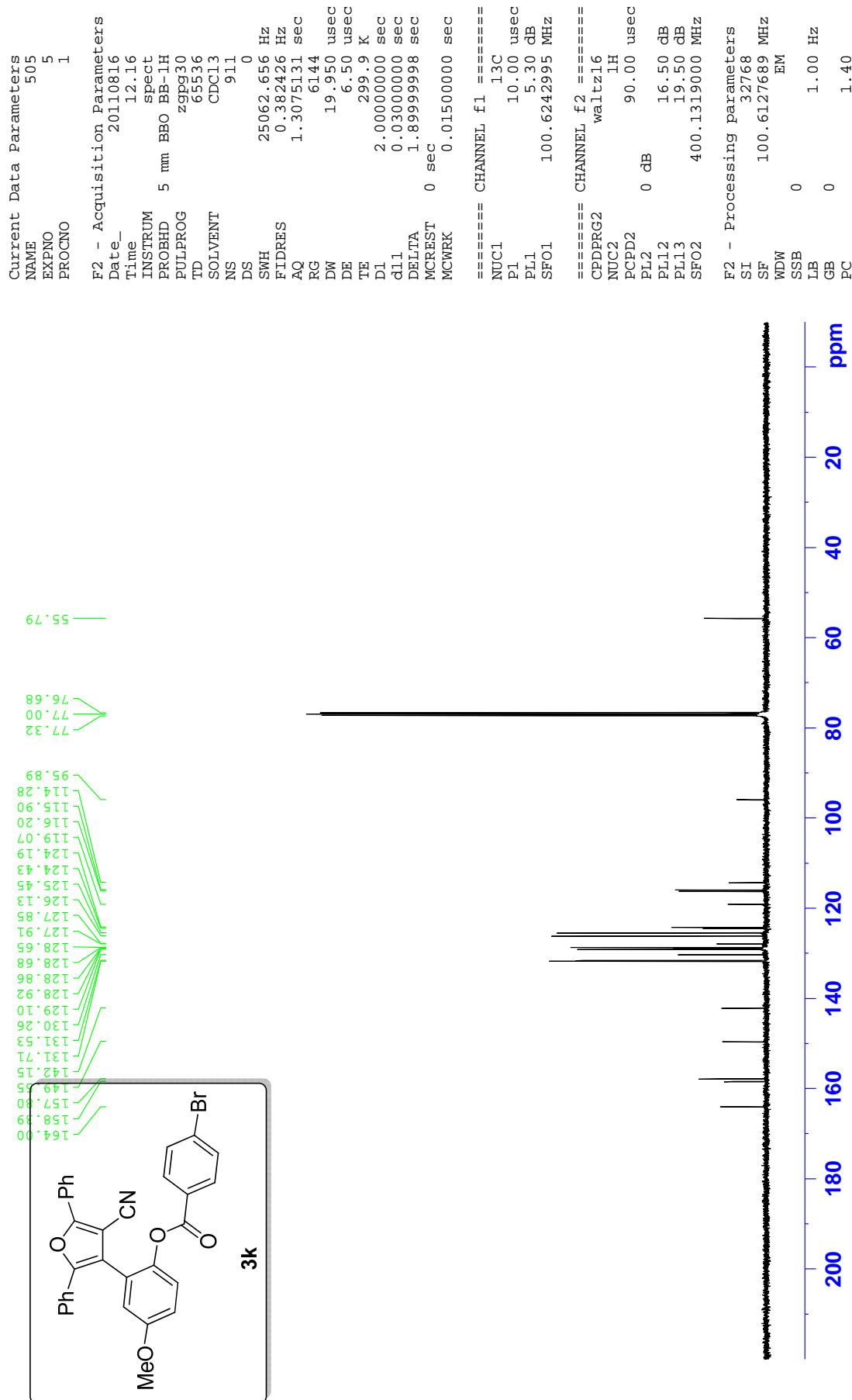


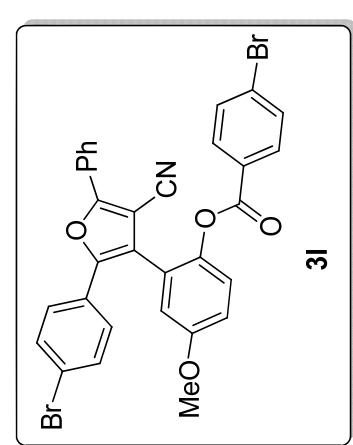




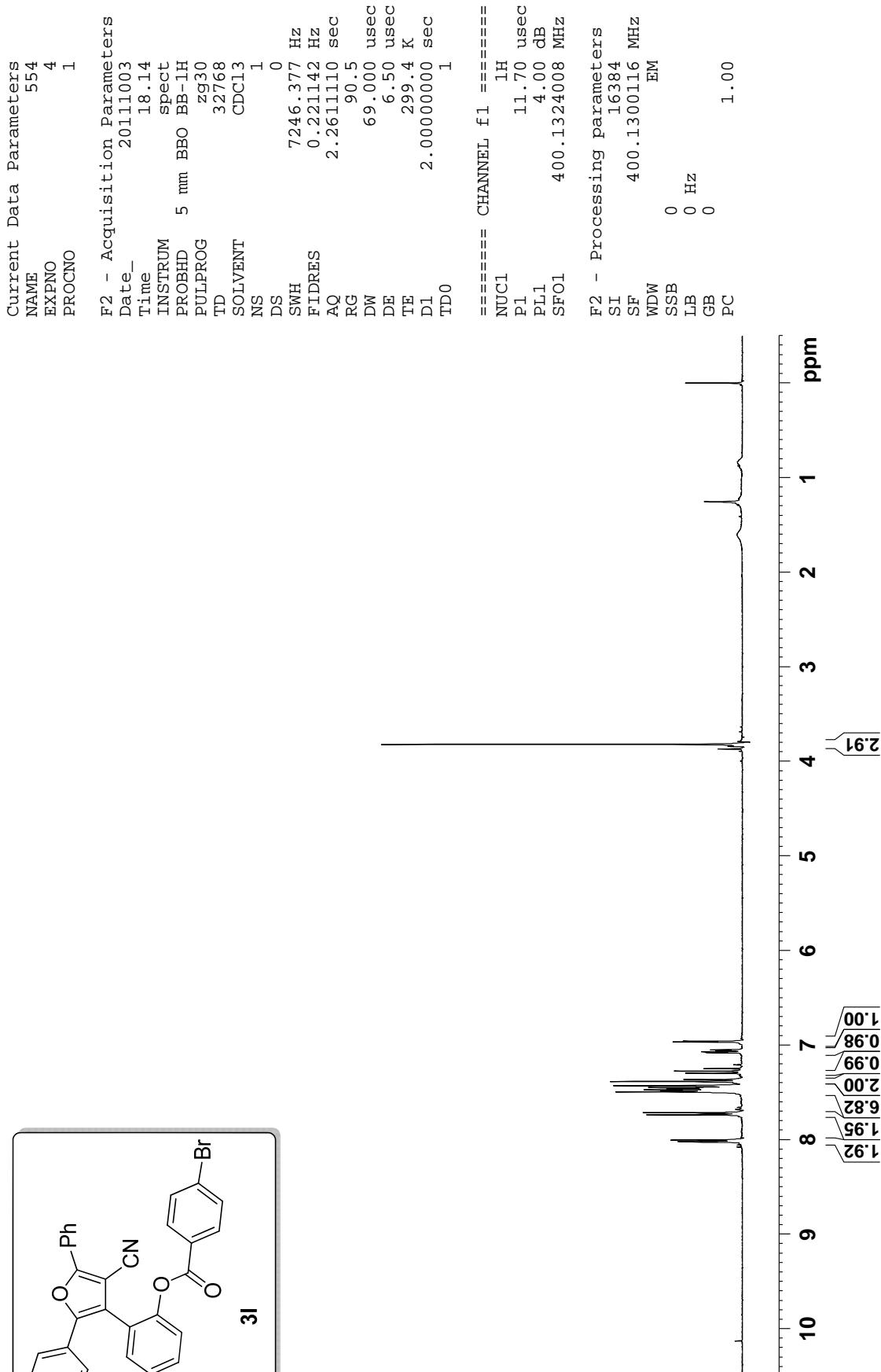


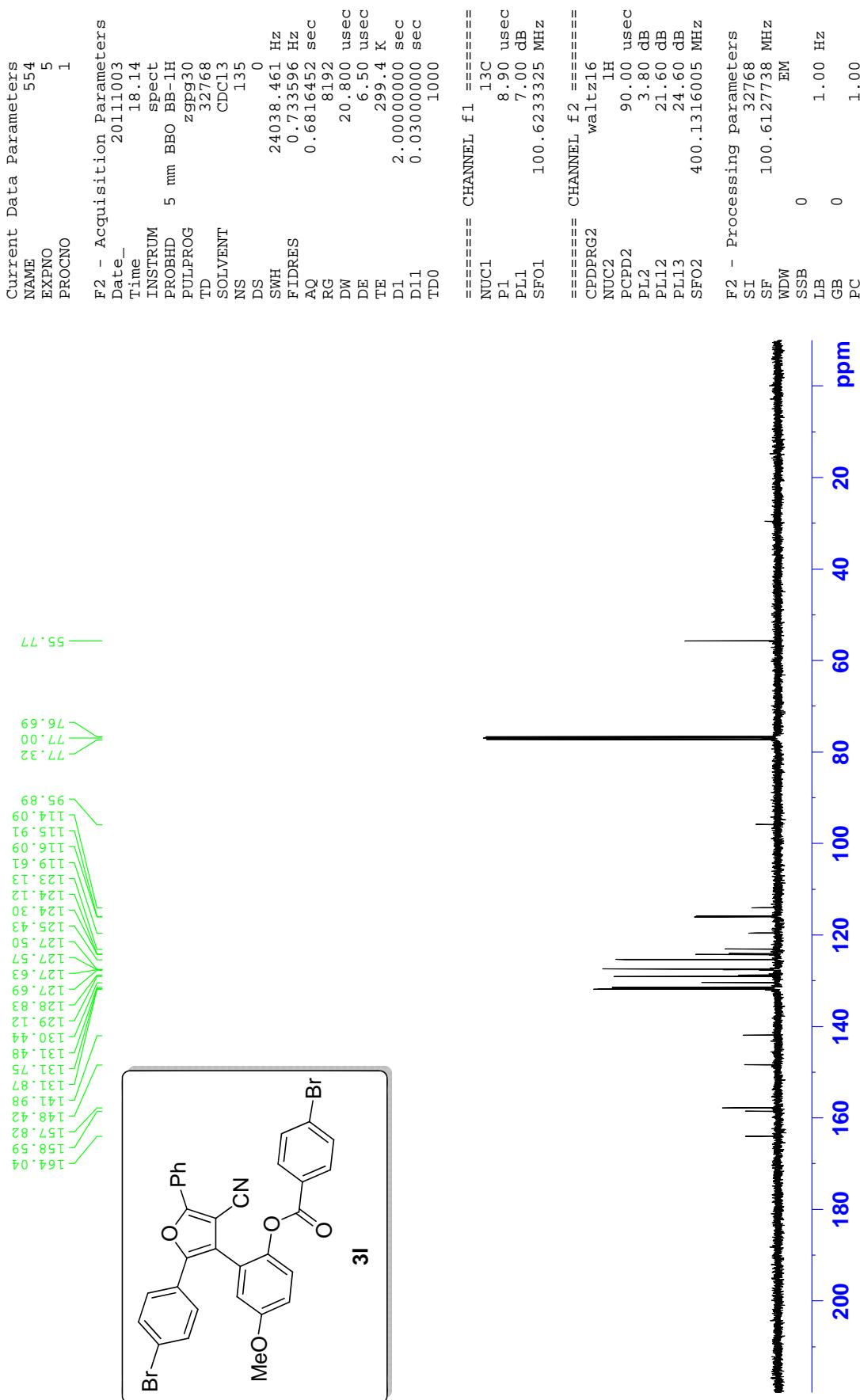


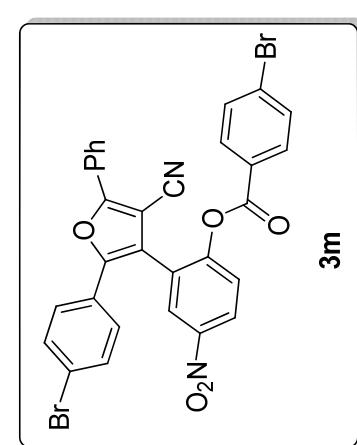




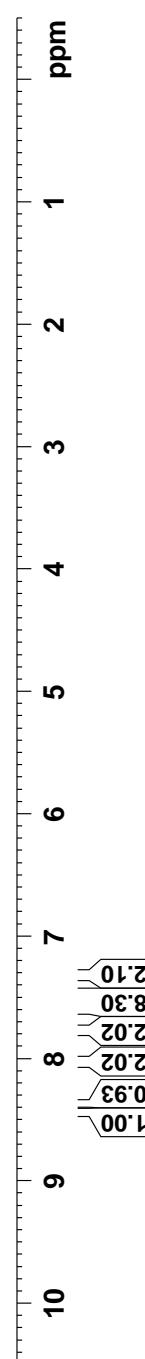
**3l**

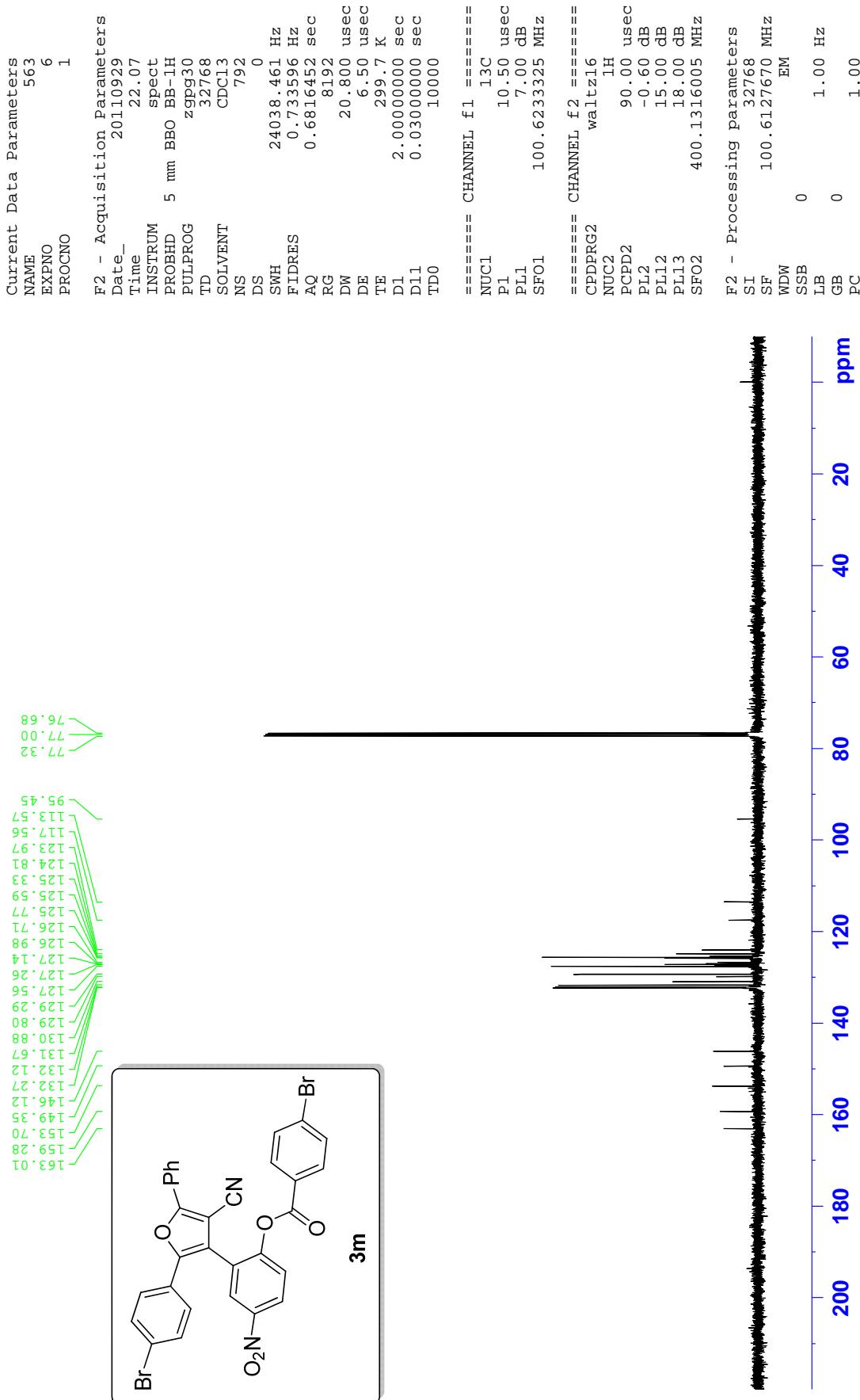


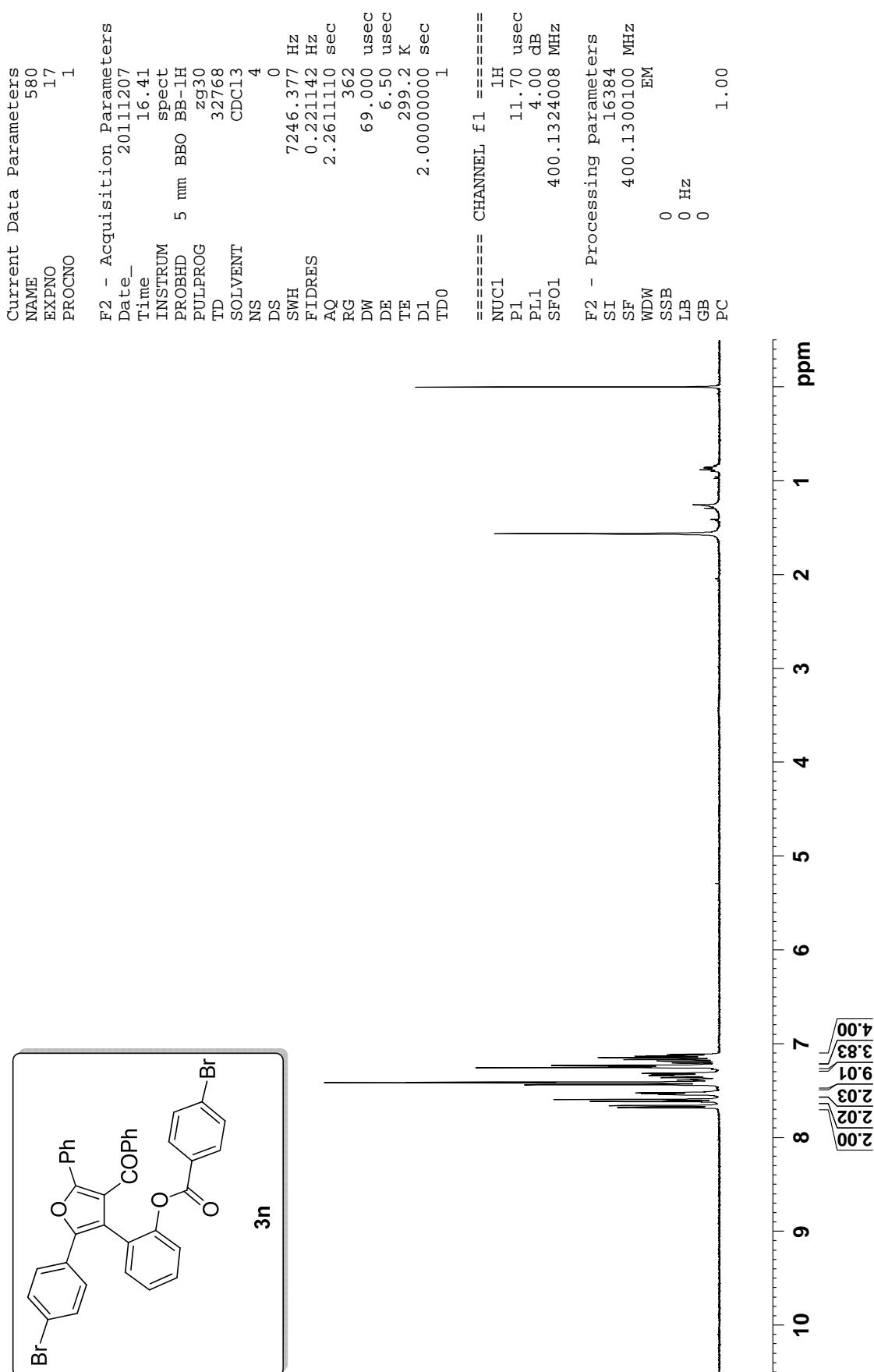


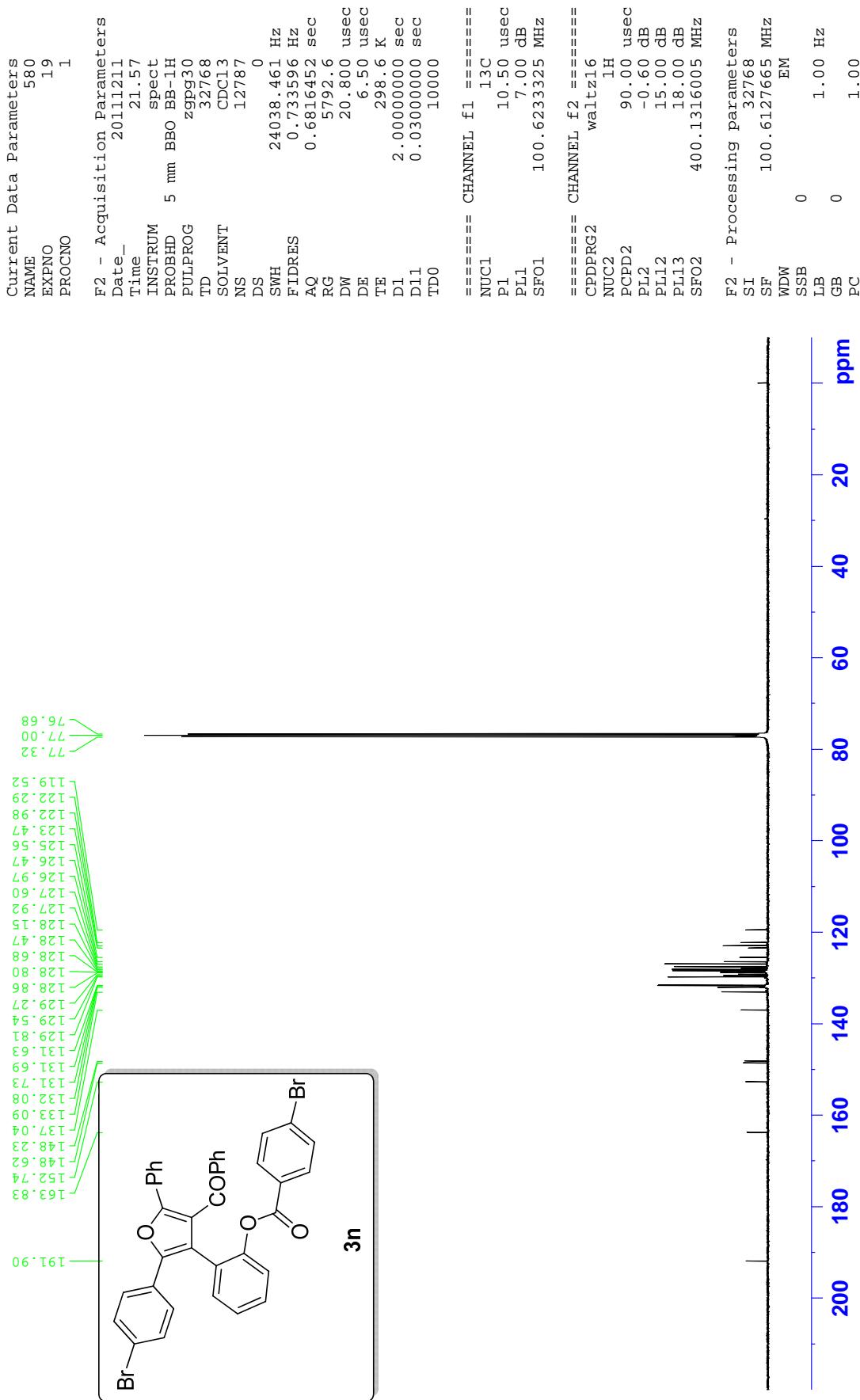


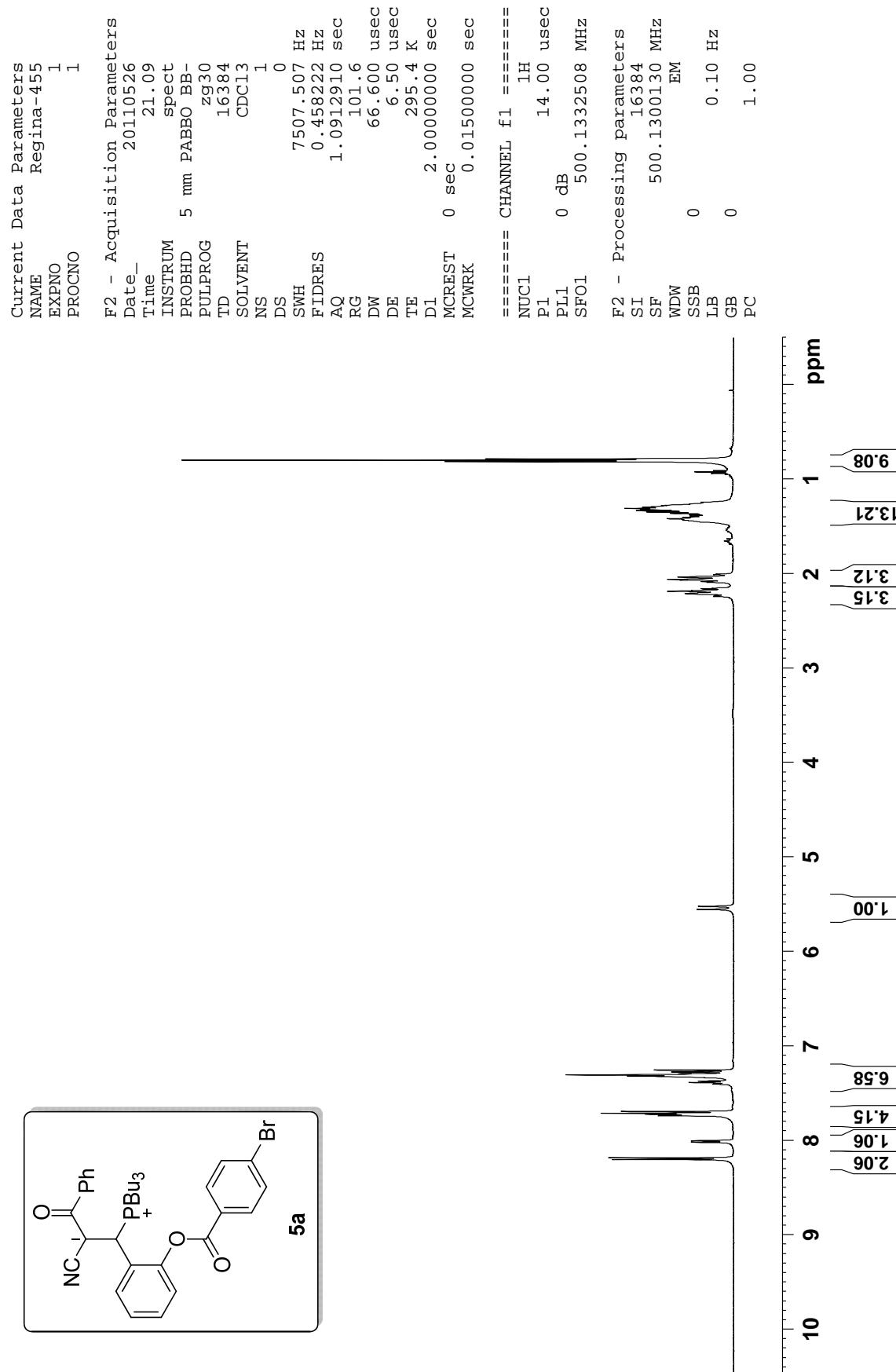
Current Data Parameters  
NAME 563  
EXPNO 7  
PROCNO 1  
  
F2 - Acquisition Parameters  
Date\_ 20110930  
Time 21.38  
INSTRUM spect  
PROBHD 5 mm BBO BB-1H  
PULPROG zg30  
TD 32768  
SOLVENT CDCl<sub>3</sub>  
NS 11  
DS 0  
SWH 7246.377 Hz  
FIDRES 0.221142 Hz  
AQ 2.2611110 sec  
RG 228.1  
DW 69.000 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 299.5 K  
D1 2.0000000 sec  
TDD0 1  
  
===== CHANNEL f1 =====  
NUC1 <sup>1</sup>H  
P1 11.70 usec  
PL1 4.00 dB  
SF01 400.1324008 MHz  
  
F2 - Processing parameters  
SI 16384  
SF 400.1300086 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 0 Hz  
GB 0  
PC 1.00

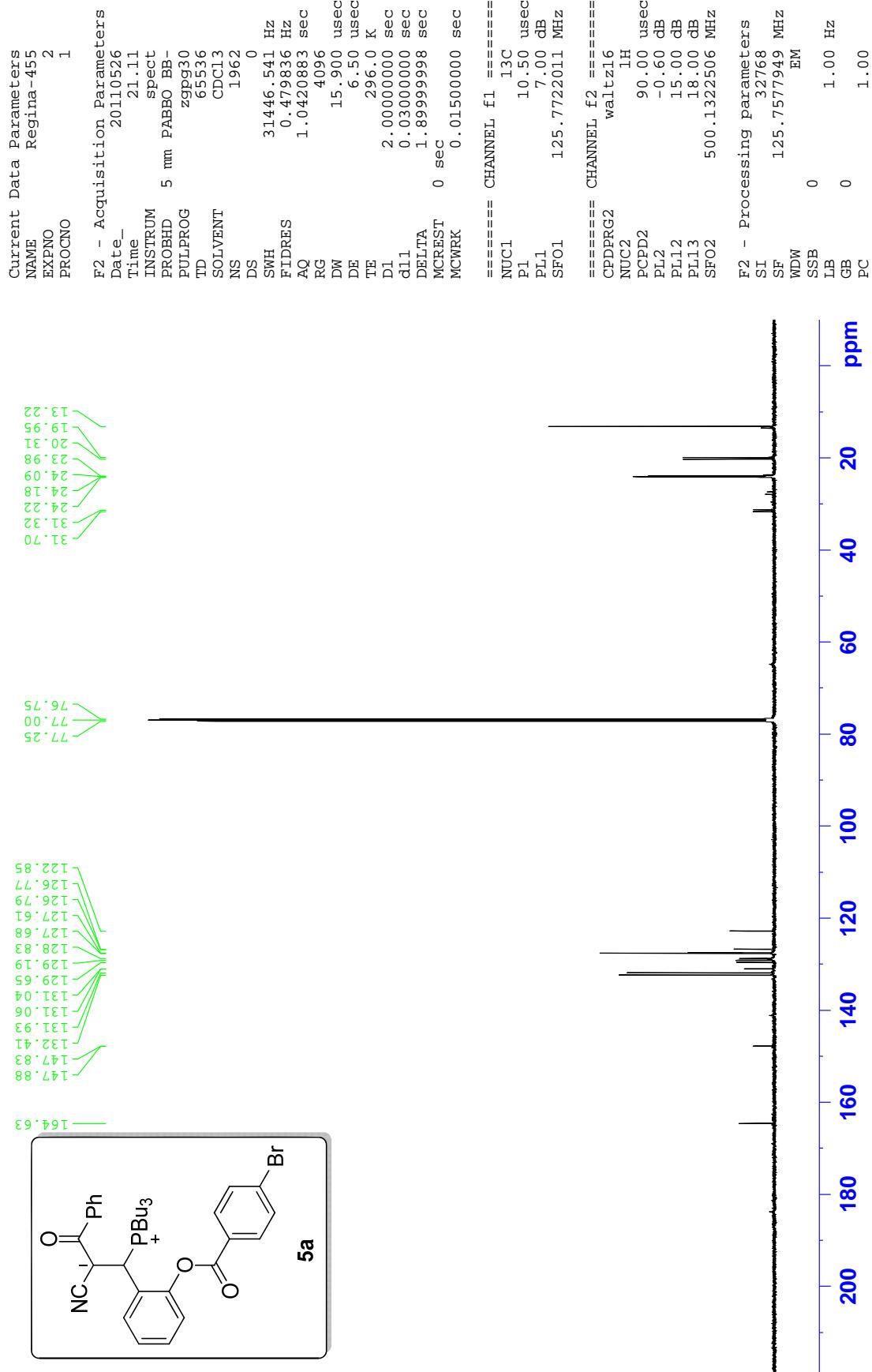












Current Data Parameters  
NAME Jimmy-84 (-Ph 13C)  
EXPNO 3  
PROCNO 1

F2 - Acquisition Parameters  
Date\_ 20130225  
Time 12.04  
INSTRUM PROBHD spect  
PROBHD 5 mm BBO BB-1H  
PULPROG TD zg30  
TD 32768  
SOLVENT CDCl3  
NS 16  
DS 0  
SWH 7246.377 Hz  
FIDRES 0.221142 Hz  
AQ 2.2610421 sec  
RG 114  
DW 69.000 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 299.6 K  
D1 2.0000000 sec  
TD0 1

===== CHANNEL f1 =====  
NUC1 1H  
P1 11.90 usec  
PL1 3.00 dB  
SF01 400.1324008 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters  
SI 16384  
SF 400.1300118 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 0 Hz  
GB 0  
PC 1.00

