

A Novel Base-Promoted Cyclization: Synthesis of Substituted Benzo[b]furans

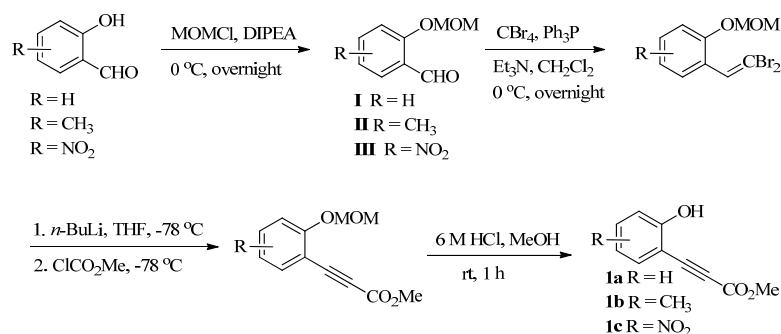
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Experimental Section

General methods and materials

All reagents and solvents were reagent grade or were purified by standard methods before use. Column chromatography was carried out on flash silica gel (Sorbent 230–400 mesh). TLC analysis was conducted on silica gel plates (Sorbent Silica G UV254). NMR spectra were recorded at ¹H (400 MHz) and ¹³C (100 MHz) on a Bruker instrument. Chemical shifts (δ values) and coupling constants (J values) are given in ppm and hertz, respectively, using solvents (¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR) as the internal standard.



Scheme 1

General procedure for the synthesis of Arylpropiolates (1a-c)

Preparation of 1b: To a solution of CBr₄ (3.03 g, 6.11 mmol) and PPh₃ (4.0 g, 15.27 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) was added drop wise a solution of aldehyde **II** (1.1 g, 0.611 mmol) and Et₃N (2.5 mL, 18.3 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) the solution was stirred at 0 °C for overnight, and then *n*-hexane (20 mL) was added and stirred for another 30 min at this temperature. After removing insoluble materials by filtration through Celite, the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel

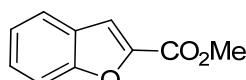
flash column chromatography (hexane- AcOEt 10:1) to give dibromoalkene (1.50 g, 75%) as pale yellow oil.

To a stirred solution of dibromoalkene (1.50 g, 0.93 mmol) was added drop wise *n*-BuLi (2.5 M solution in hexane, 4.5 mL) at -78 °C and the reaction mixture was stirred at this temperature for 30 min, and then at 0 °C for 2 h. To this solution methyl chloroformate (0.5 mL 1.1 mmol) was added at -78 °C, and the reaction mixture was further stirred at 0 °C for 2 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with sat. NH₄Cl (10 mL), and extracted with Et₂O (10 mL × 3). The combined organic layers was washed with H₂O (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (hexane-EtOAc 25:1) to give propiolate (0.85 g, 71%) as yellow oil.

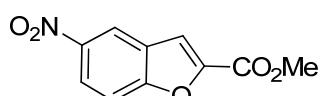
To a solution of arylpropionate (0.85 g, 3.2 mmol) in MeOH (4 mL) was added 6 M HCl (5 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The resultant mixture was extracted with AcOEt (10 mL × 3). The combined organic layers was washed with H₂O (10 mL), brine (10 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane-AcOEt 4:1) to give **1b** (0.51 g, 71%) as pale yellow oil.¹

General procedure and Spectral data for all final compounds (2a-d):

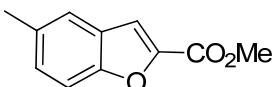
To the solution of arylpropiolate **1a** (40 mg, 0.22 mmol) in dry DMF (3 mL) was added Cs₂CO₃ (147 mg, 0.45 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C under N₂ atmosphere for 1 h. The resulting mixture was diluted with AcOEt (20 mL). The organic layer was washed with water (15 mL) and brine (15 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane-AcOEt 9:1) to give benzofuran **2a** (35 mg, 87%) as pale yellow syrup. The following spectral data were in good agreement with those reported previously.²



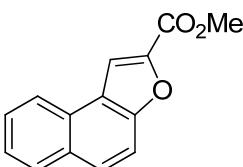
Methyl benzofuran-2-carboxylate (2a): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 3.98 (s, 3 H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.53 (s, 1 H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 21 Hz, 1 H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 52.38, 112.37, 114.01, 122.85, 123.82, 126.93, 127.68, 145.40, 155.73, 160.00.



Methyl 5-nitrobenzofuran-2-carboxylate (2b): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 4.01 (s, 3 H), 7.65 (s, 1 H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1 H), 8.38 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1 H), 8.66 (s, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 52.83, 113.00, 114.13, 119.55, 123.05, 127.22, 144.85, 148.39, 158.02, 159.03.



Methyl 5-methylbenzofuran-2-carboxylate (2c): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ = 2.35 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3 H), 7.17 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.36-7.38 (m, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ = 21.27, 52.30, 111.84, 113.79, 122.33, 127.01, 129.22, 133.41, 145.43, 154.24, 160.04.



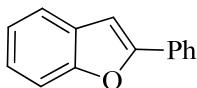
Methyl naphtho[1,2-b]furan-2-carboxylate (2d): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ = 3.93 (s, 3 H), 7.46 (t, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.56 (t, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.62 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.80 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.88 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.94 (s, 1 H), 8.08 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ = 52.35, 112.73, 113.00, 122.73, 123.32, 125.45, 127.31, 127.99, 129.01, 129.22, 130.51, 144.75, 154.04, 159.88; #ESIMS m/z: 227 (M+1).

General procedure for Sonogashira reaction:

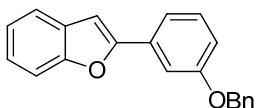
To a solution of 2-iodophenol (600 mg, 2.72 mmol) in a THF-Et₃N mixture (30 mL, 4:1, v/v) were added PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (380 mg, 0.054 mmol), CuI (22 mg, 0.11 mmol) and 1-ethynyl-4-methylbenzene (632 mg, 5.44 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 12 h. A saturated aqueous solution of saturated NH₄Cl was added and the mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄) and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography to give **6e** as a yellow solid 562 mg (97%).

General procedure and Spectral data for final compounds (4a-m):

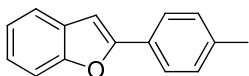
To the solution of 2-(*p*-tolylethynyl)phenol **3c** (104 mg, 0.5 mmol) in dry DMF (8 mL) was added Cs₂CO₃ (326 mg, 1 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C under Ar₂ for 1 h. The resulting mixture was diluted with AcOEt (30 mL). The organic layer was washed with water (30 mL) and brine (30 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane-AcOEt 15:1) to give 2-(*p*-tolyl)benzofuran (**4c**) (94 mg, 90%) as yellow oil. The following spectral data were in good agreement with those reported previously.³



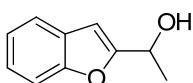
2-Phenylbenzofuran (4a)³ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.04 (s, 1H), 7.22–7.38 (m, 3H), 7.44–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.49–7.61 (m, 2H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 154.81, 154.80, 130.50, 129.23, 128.78, 128.54, 124.94, 124.25, 122.92, 120.90, 111.17, 101.29.



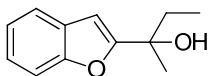
2-(3-(Benzoyloxy)phenyl)benzofuran (4b): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 5.18 (s, 2H), 7.01 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 7.62–7.24 (m, 12H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 70.17, 101.68, 111.21, 111.31, 115.19, 117.81, 120.96, 122.98, 124.37, 127.60, 128.09, 128.66, 129.18, 129.92, 131.84, 136.85, 154.88, 155.70, 159.19.



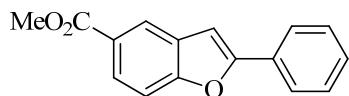
2-(*p*-Tolyl)benzofuran (4c)³: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 2.44 (s, 3H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 7.30–7.26 (m, 4H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 21.41, 100.59, 111.12, 120.77, 122.88, 124.02, 124.92, 127.79, 129.39, 129.52, 138.62, 154.81, 156.23.



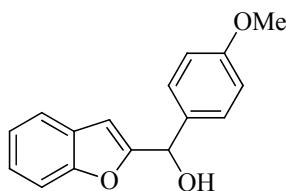
1-(Benzofuran-2-yl)ethanol (4d)⁴: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 1.65 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.55 (s, 1H), 5.02 (q, *J* = 6.4, 1H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 7.31–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 21.43, 64.78, 101.80, 111.22, 121.09, 122.79, 124.17, 128.18, 154.79, 160.28.



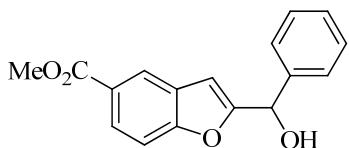
2-(Benzofuran-2-yl)butan-2-ol (4e): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 0.916 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H), 1.99 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.12 (s, 1H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 7.27–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 8.39, 26.27, 34.26, 72.38, 101.49, 111.15, 120.89, 122.69, 123.84, 128.34, 154.71, 162.31.



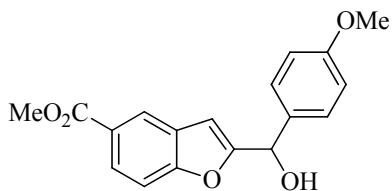
Methyl 2-phenylbenzofuran-5-carboxylate (4f): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ = 3.95 (s, 3H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 7.38 (t, 1H, J = 2.2 Hz), 7.46 (t, 2H, J = 1.9 Hz), 7.55 (d, 1H, J = 2.2 Hz), 7.88 (d, 2H, J = 19 Hz), 8.02 (d, 1H, J = 2.2 Hz), 8.32 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ = 52.11, 101.52, 111.00, 123.31, 125.08, 125.34, 126.06, 128.88, 129.04, 129.25, 129.89, 157.43, 16.30.



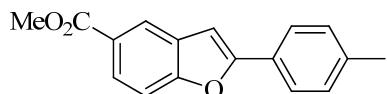
Benzofuran-2-yl(4-methoxyphenyl)methanol (4g): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ = 2.48 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 5.90 (s, 1H), 6.52 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, 2H, J = 2.2 Hz), 7.17-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.39 (d, 2H, J = 2.2 Hz), 7.44 (d, 1H, J = 19 Hz), 7.51 (d, 1H, J = 1.9 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ = 55.33, 70.38, 103.83, 111.32, 114.03, 121.10, 122.81, 124.23, 128.08, 132.56, 155.10, 158.80, 159.70; ESIMS m/z: 277 [M+Na]⁺.



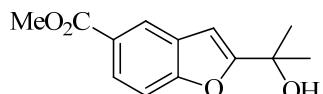
Methyl 2-(hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)benzofuran-5-carboxylate (4h): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ = 2.62 (s, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 7.33-7.42 (m, 4H), 7.49 (d, 2H, J = 2.3 Hz), 7.96 (d, 2H, J = 2.3 Hz), 8.24 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ = 52.14, 70.60, 104.31, 111.19, 123.61, 125.19, 126.11, 126.80, 128.07, 128.57, 128.72, 140.00, 157.66, 160.10, 167.30; ESIMS m/z: 305 [M+Na]⁺.



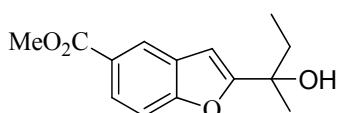
Methyl 2-(hydroxy(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl)benzofuran-5-carboxylate (4i): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ = 2.63 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 5.89 (s, 1H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 6.93 (d, 2H, J = 2.1 Hz), 7.41 (d, 2H, J = 2.1 Hz), 7.44 (d, 1H, J = 2.1 Hz), 7.98 (d, 1H, J = 2.1 Hz), 8.23 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ = 52.12, 55.33, 70.30, 104.10, 111.16, 114.11, 123.56, 125.19, 126.04, 128.20, 132.23, 157.66, 159.81, 160.37, 167.29; ESIMS m/z: 335 [M+Na]⁺.



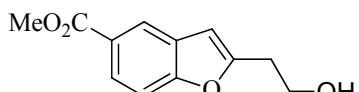
Methyl 2-(p-tolyl)benzofuran-5-carboxylate (4j): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 2.41$ (s, 3H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 7.27 (d, 2H, $J = 20$ Hz), 7.53 (d, 1H, $J = 21$ Hz), 7.76 (d, 2H, $J = 20$ Hz), 8.02 (d, 2H, $J = 21$ Hz), 8.30 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 21.41, 52.08, 100.75, 110.89, 123.12, 125.01, 125.23, 125.81, 127.14, 129.57, 139.14, 157.64, 167.33$.



Methyl 2-(2-hydroxypropan-2-yl)benzofuran-5-carboxylate (4k): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 1.67$ (s, 6H), 2.72 (s, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 7.44 (d, 1H, $J = 21$ Hz), 7.96 (d, 1H, $J = 21$ Hz), 8.21 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 28.68, 52.18, 69.20, 100.78, 110.98, 123.43, 124.96, 125.78, 128.35, 157.28, 164.72, 167.41$.



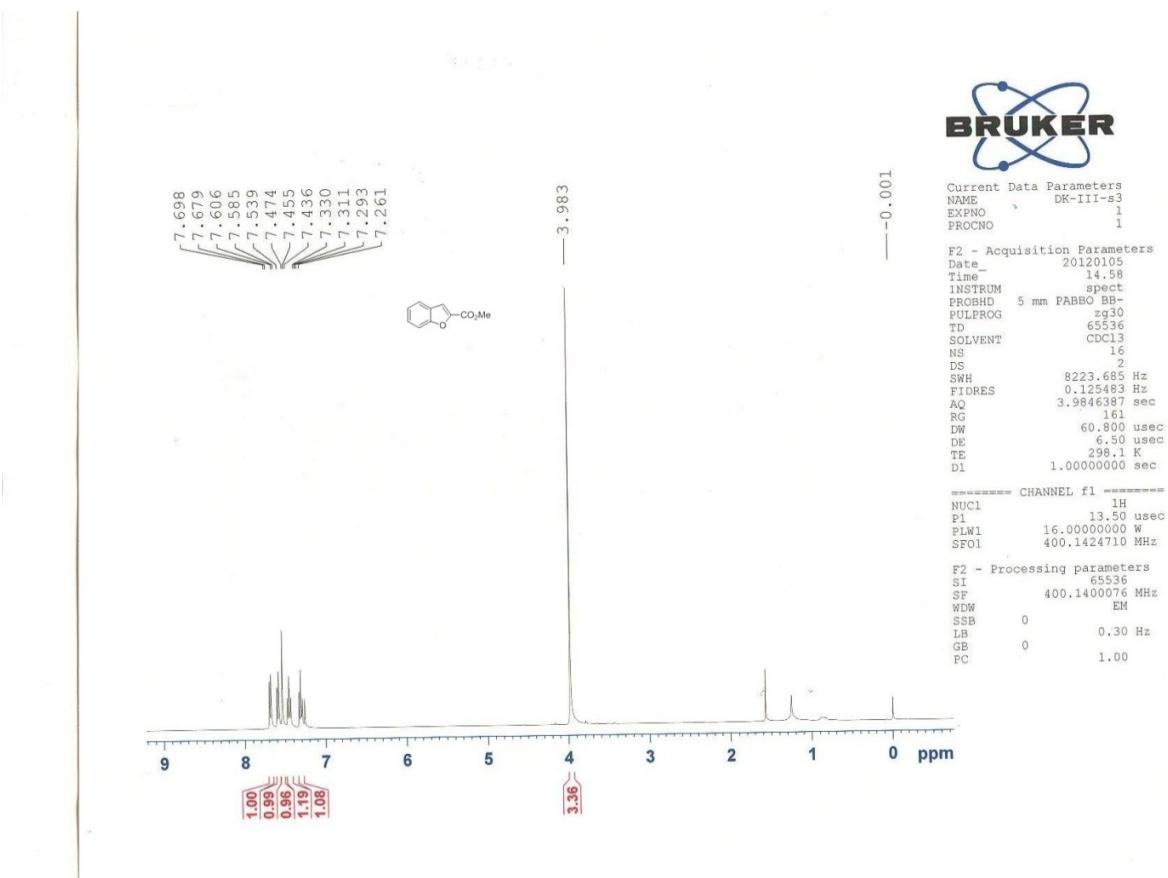
Methyl 2-(2-hydroxybutan-2-yl)benzofuran-5-carboxylate (4l): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 0.90$ (t, 3H, $J = 19$ Hz), 1.63 (s, 3H), 1.98 (q, 2H, $J = 19$ Hz), 2.32 (s, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 7.47 (d, 1H, $J = 21$ Hz), 7.99 (d, 1H, $J = 21$ Hz), 8.26 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 8.31, 26.24, 34.17, 52.10, 72.31, 101.95, 110.97, 123.35, 125.04, 125.70, 128.37, 157.32, 163.98, 167.36$.

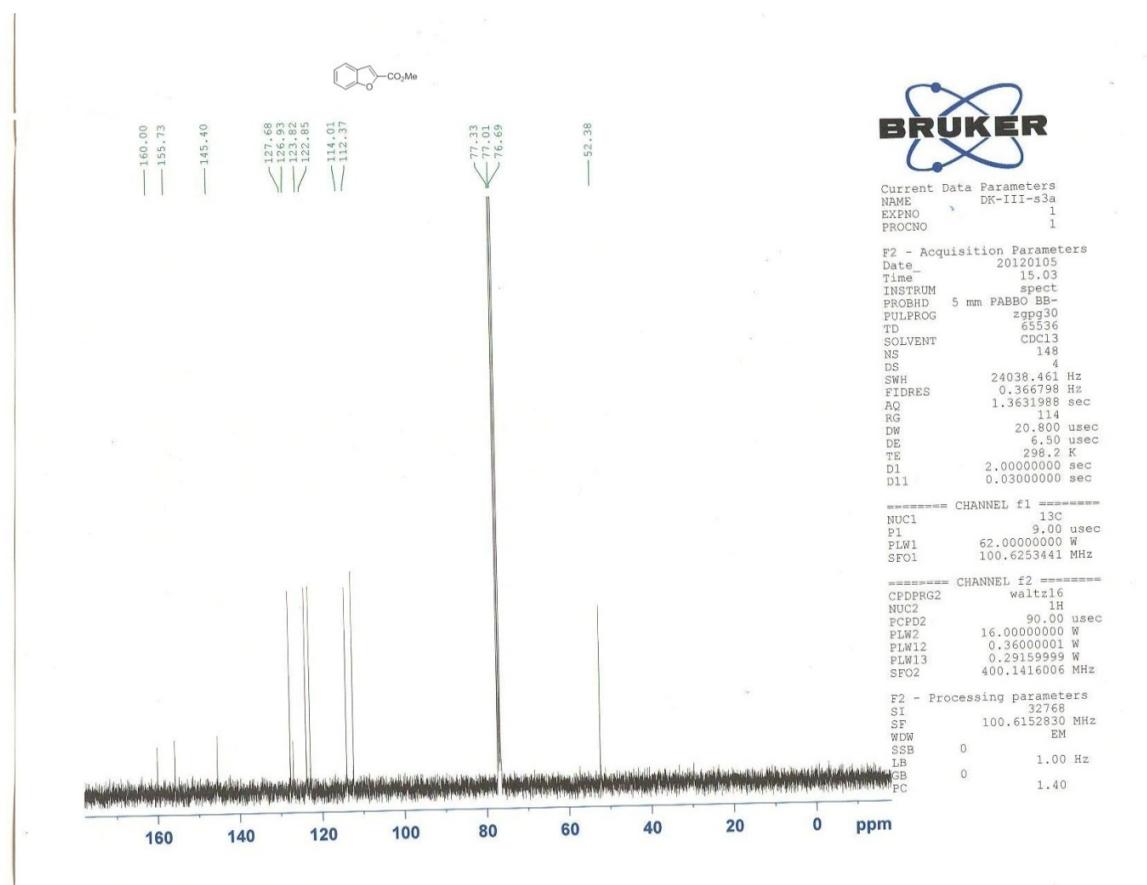


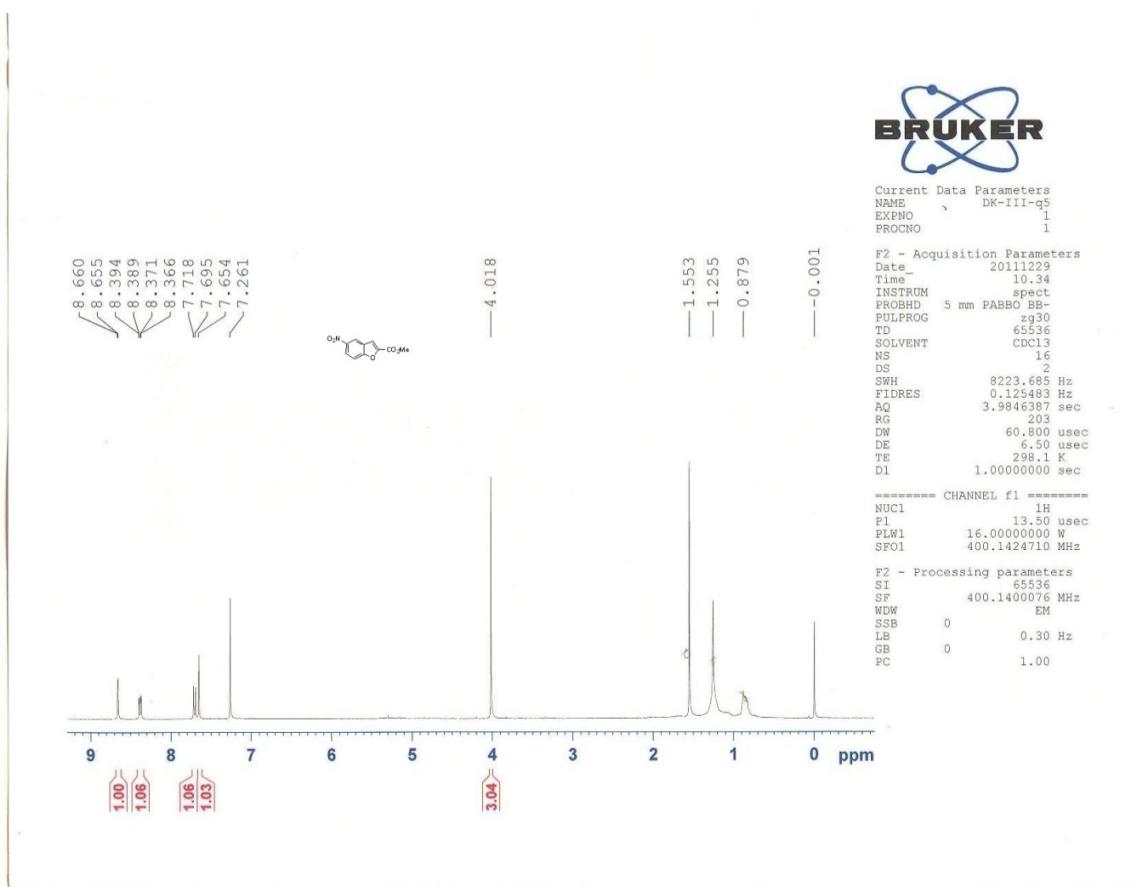
Methyl 2-(2-hydroxyethyl)benzofuran-5-carboxylate (4m): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 1.81$ (s, 1H), 3.07 (t, 2H, $J = 15$ Hz), 3.94 (s, 3H), 4.03 (t, 2H, $J = 15$ Hz), 6.58 (s, 1H), 7.46 (d, 1H, $J = 21$ Hz), 7.98 (d, 1H, $J = 21$ Hz), 8.24 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): $\delta = 32.03, 52.08, 60.53, 100.08, 110.69, 122.86, 124.99, 125.44, 128.75, 157.63, 167.40$.

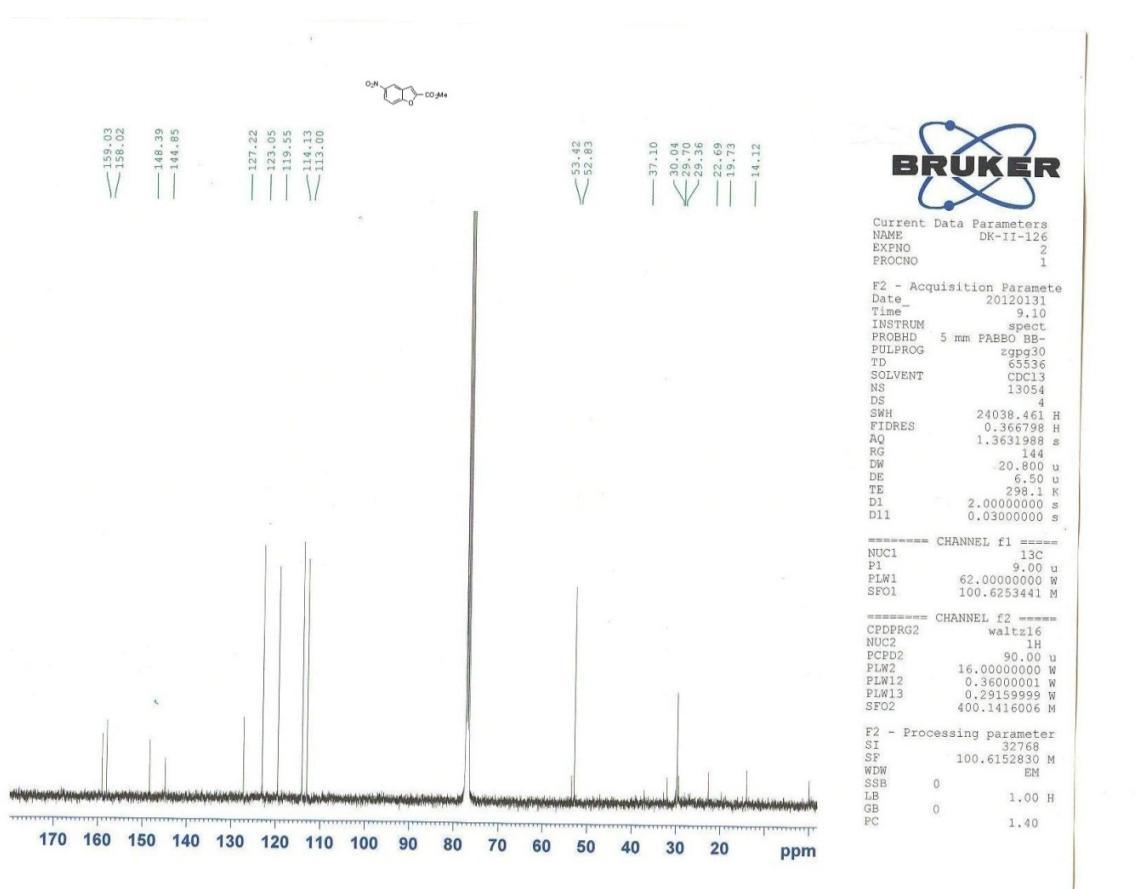
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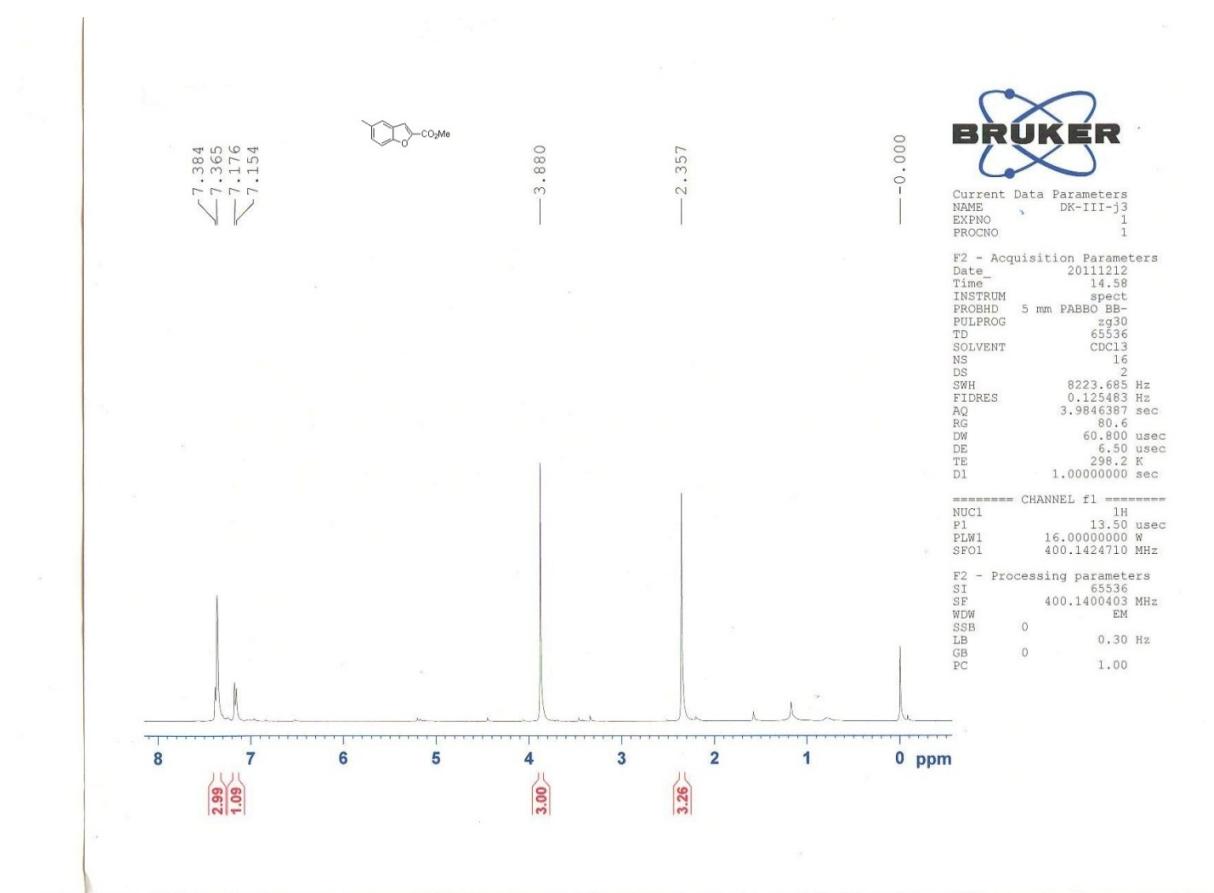
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4. M. Pal, V. Subramanian and K. R. Yeleswarapu, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2003, **44**, 8221-8225.

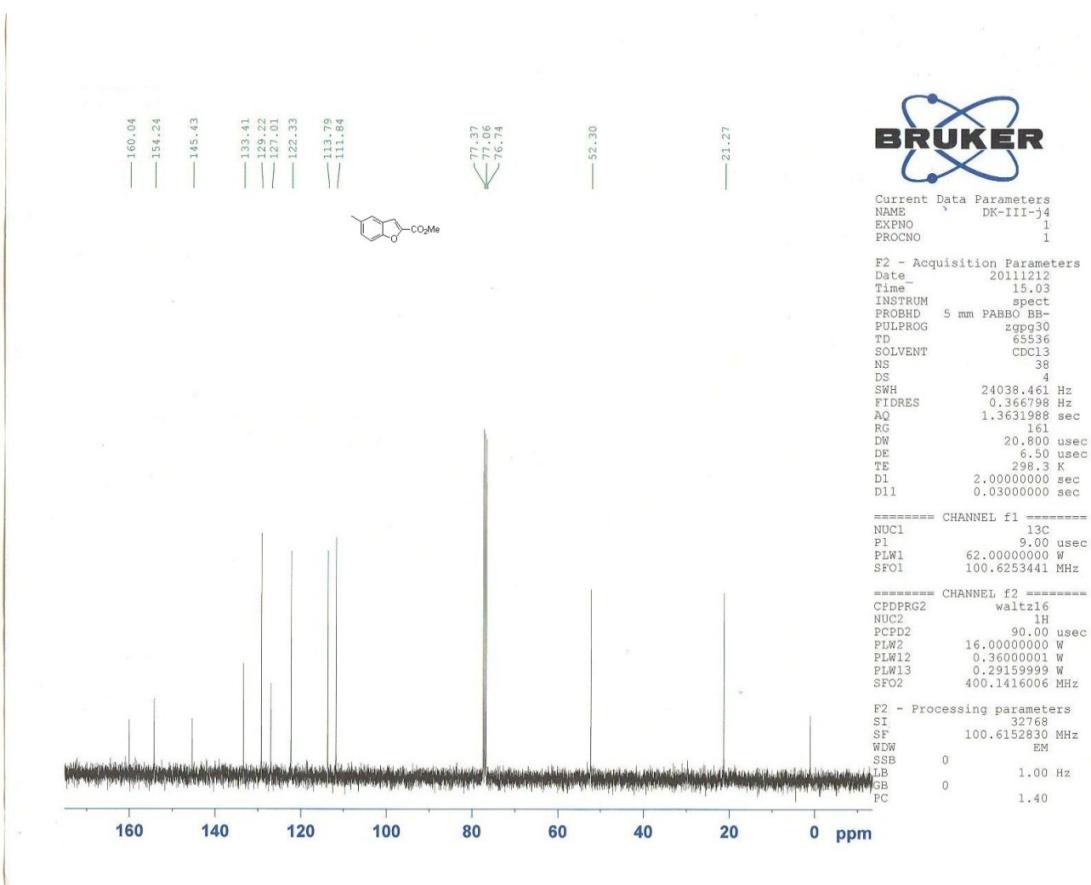


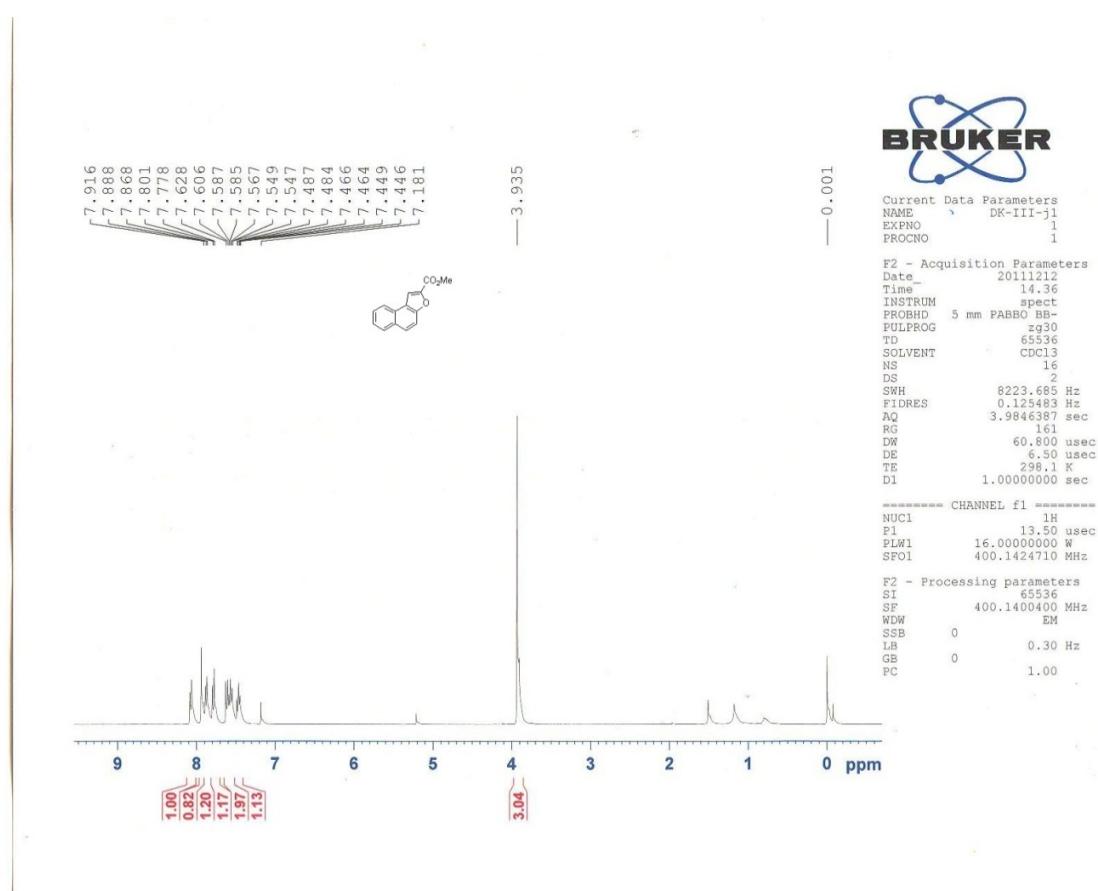


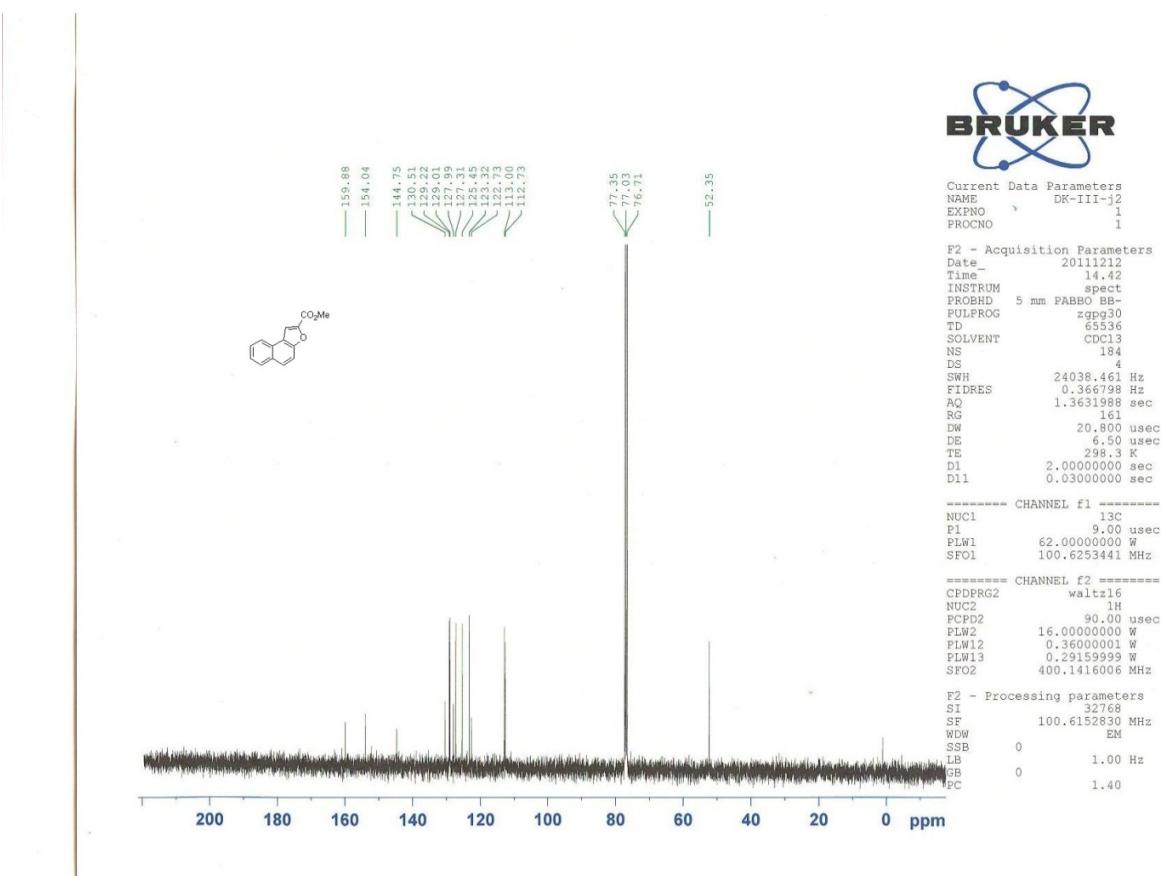


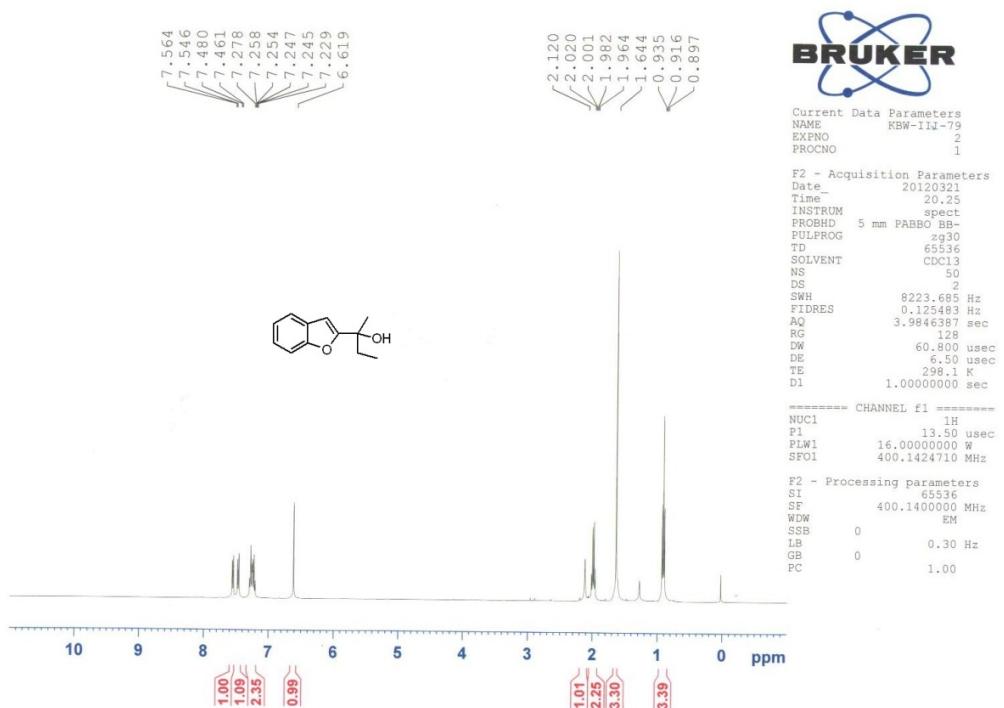


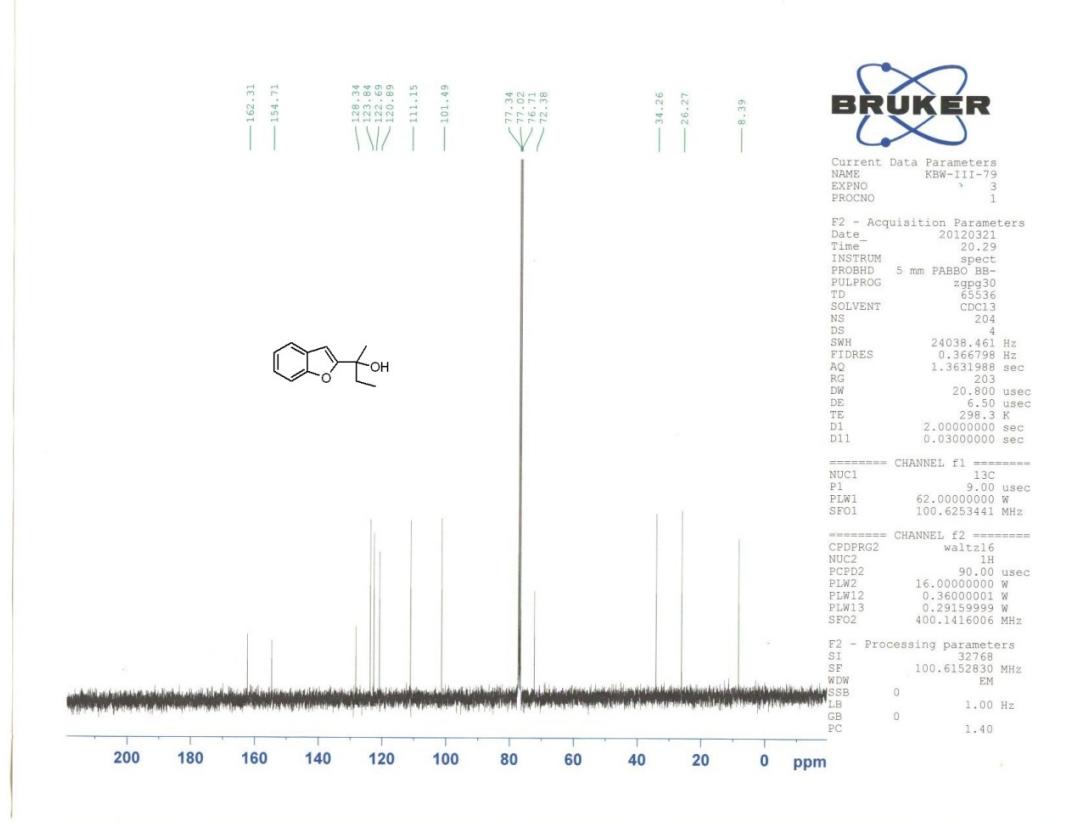


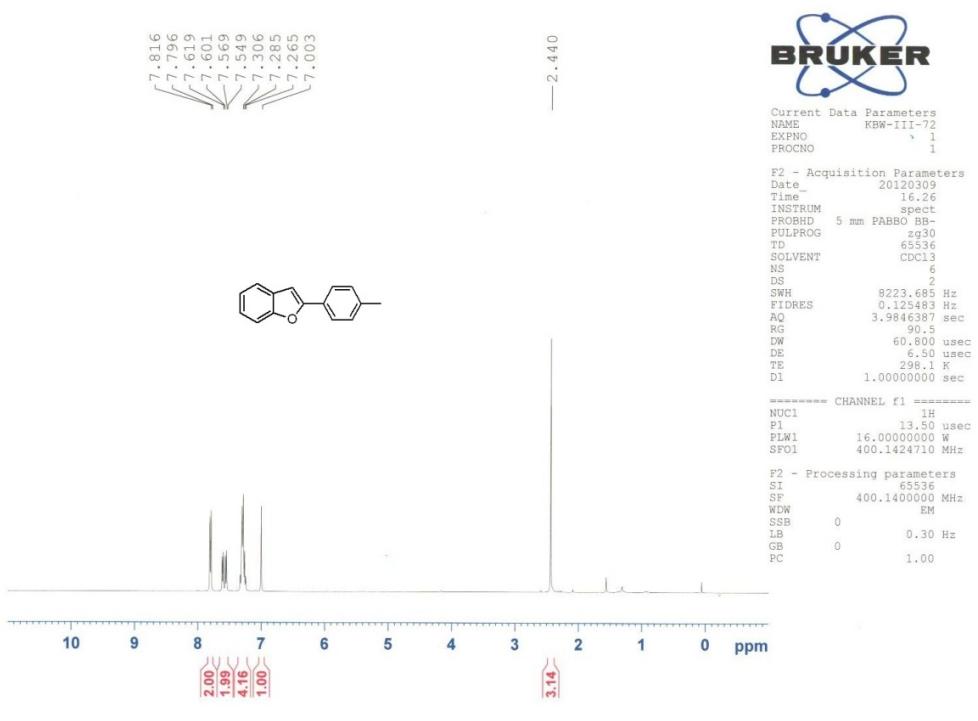


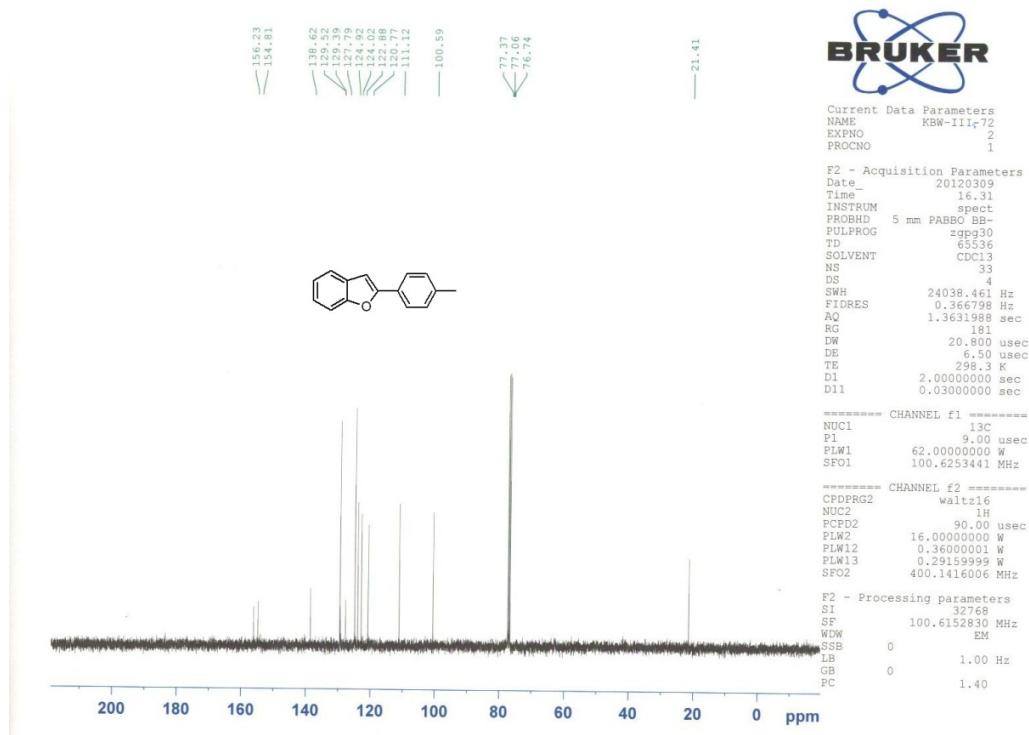


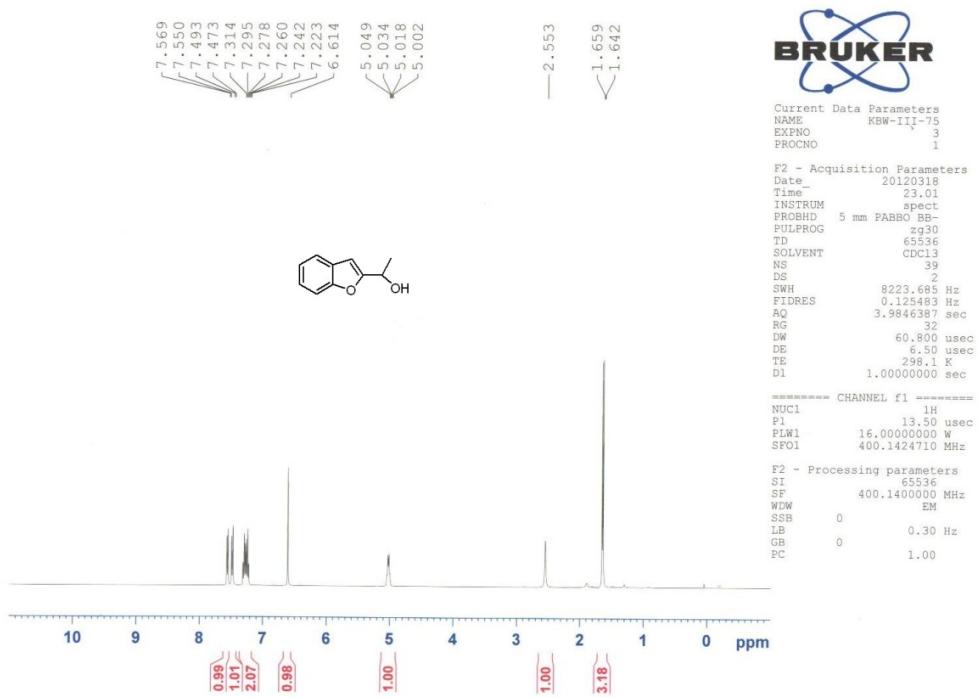


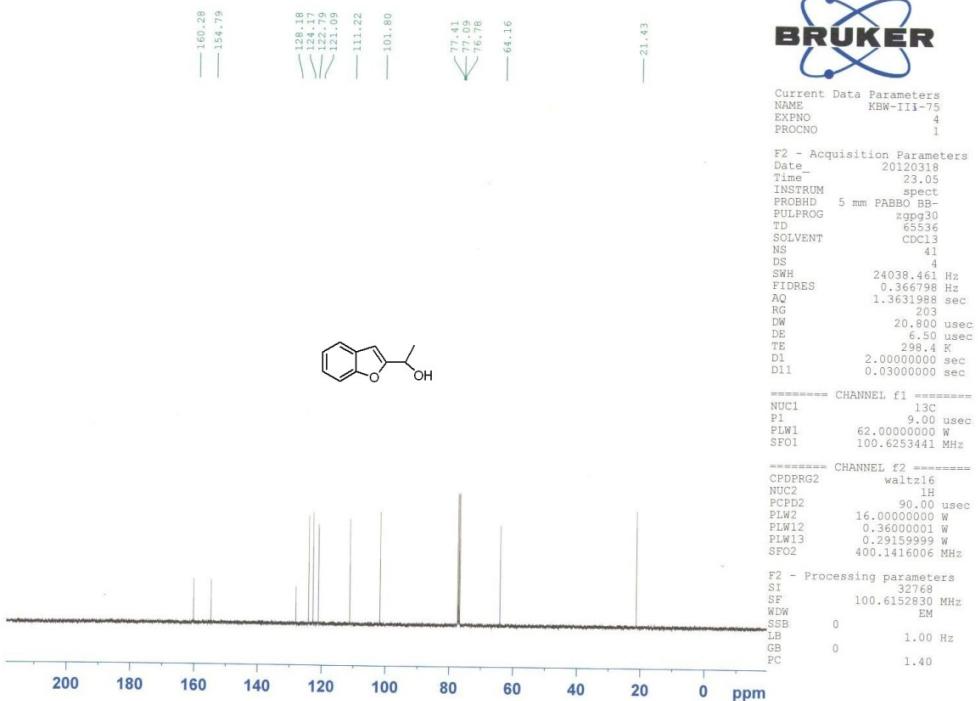


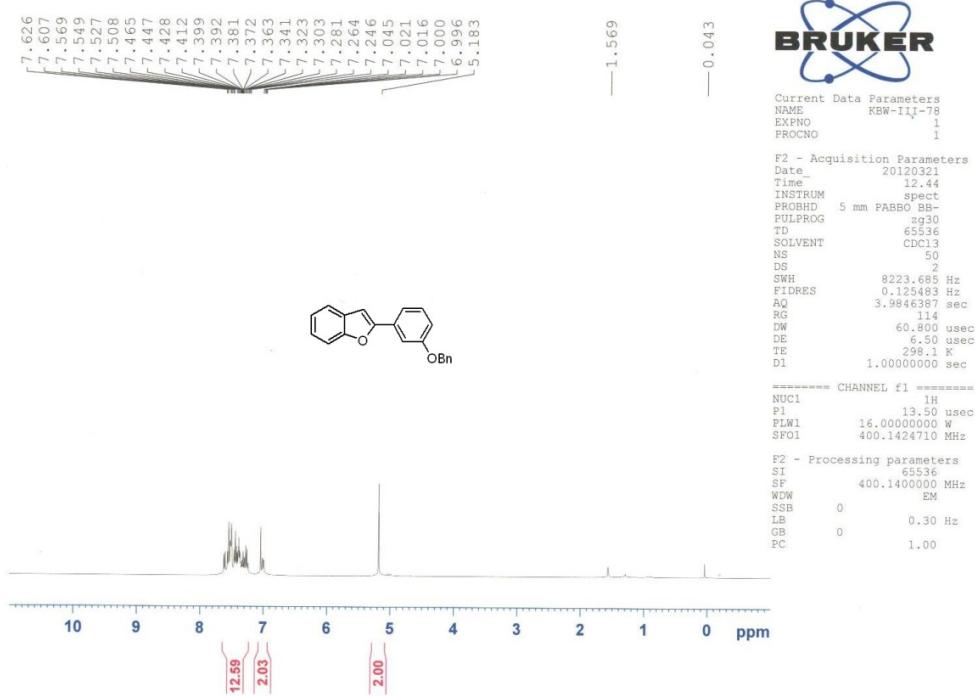


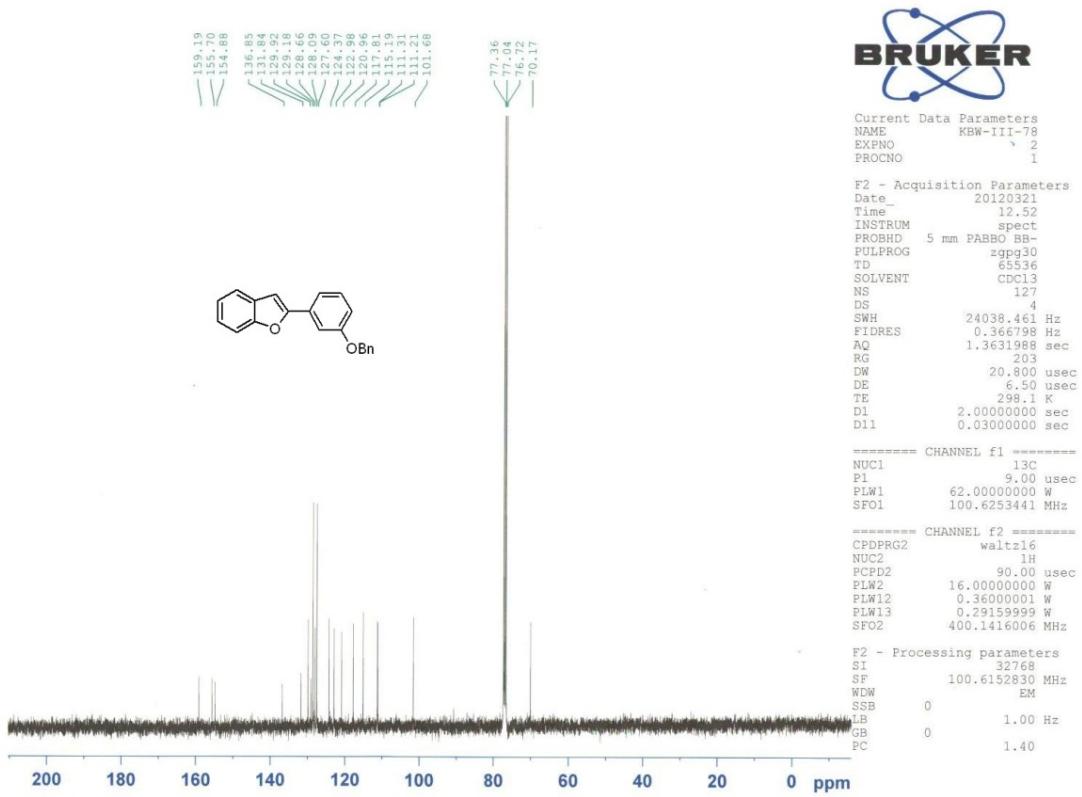


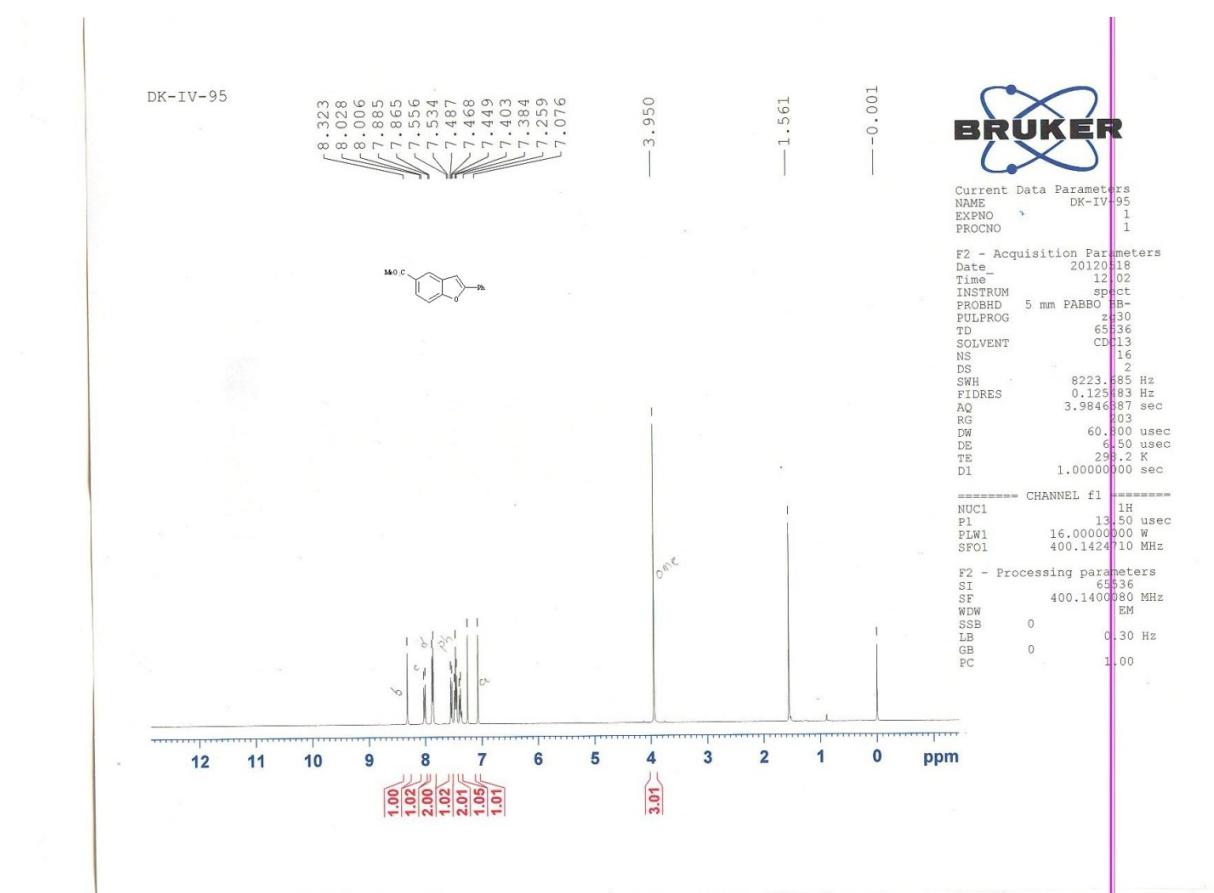


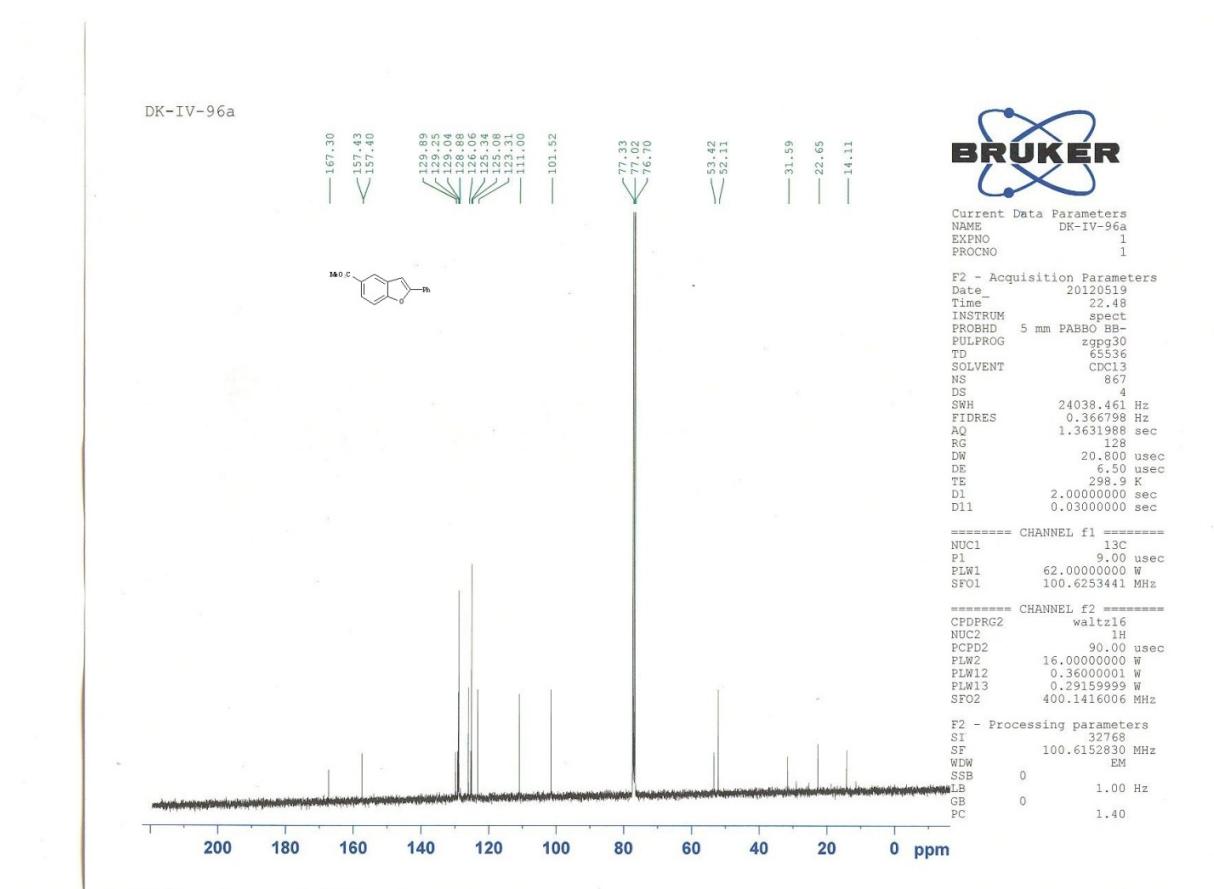


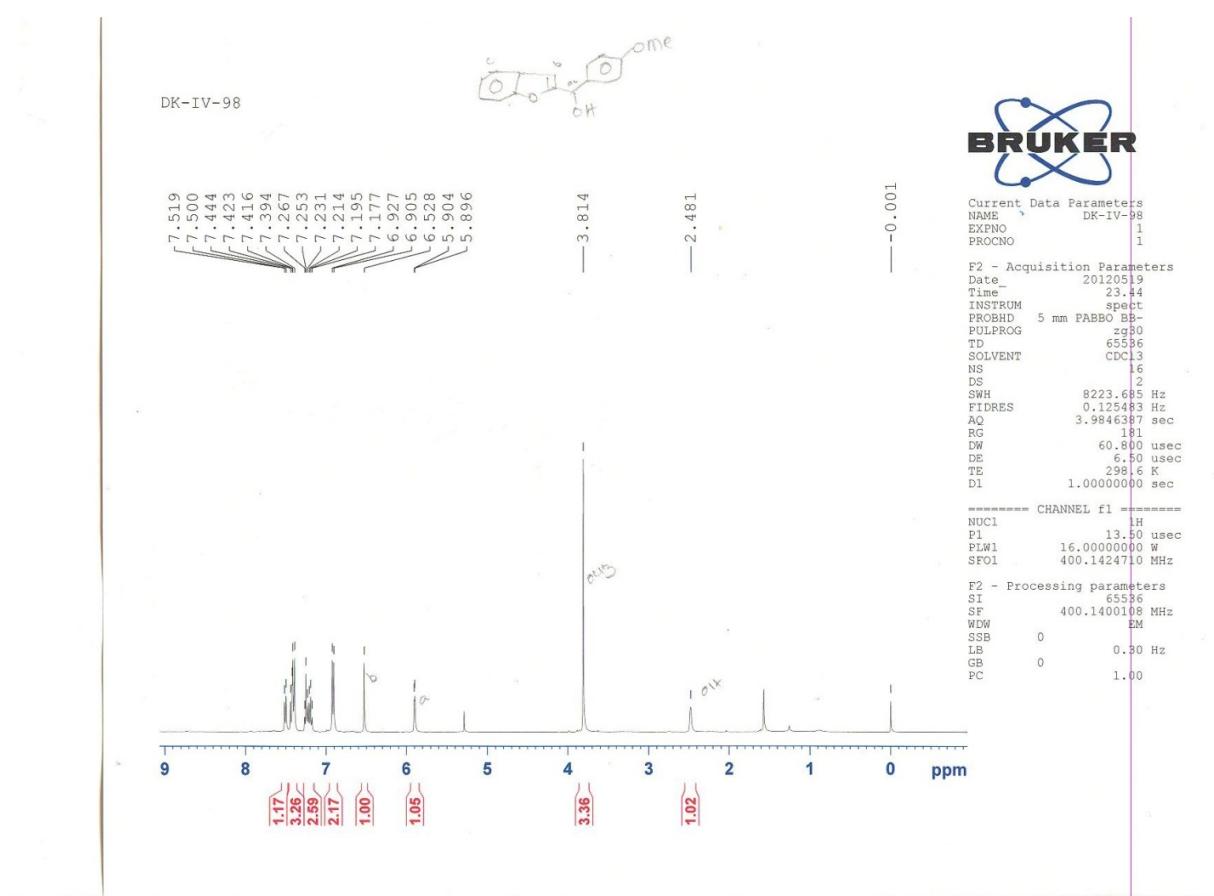


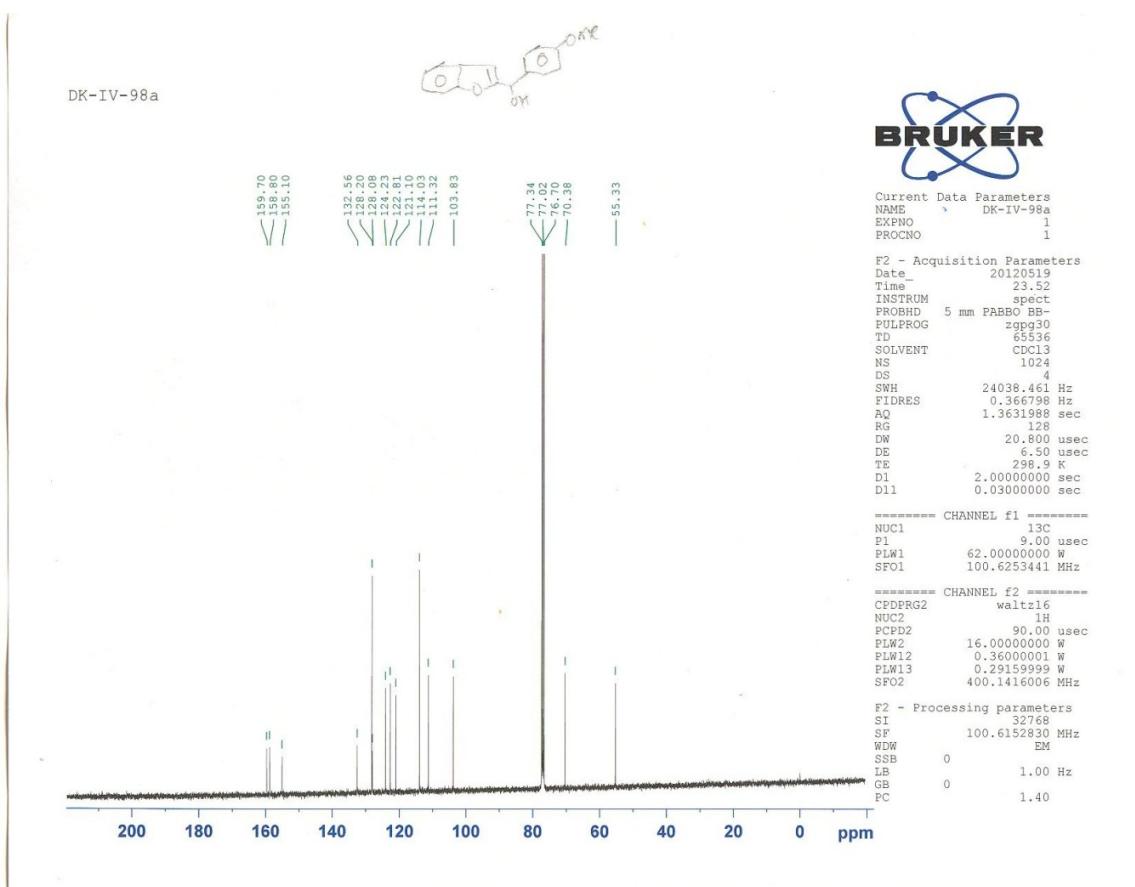


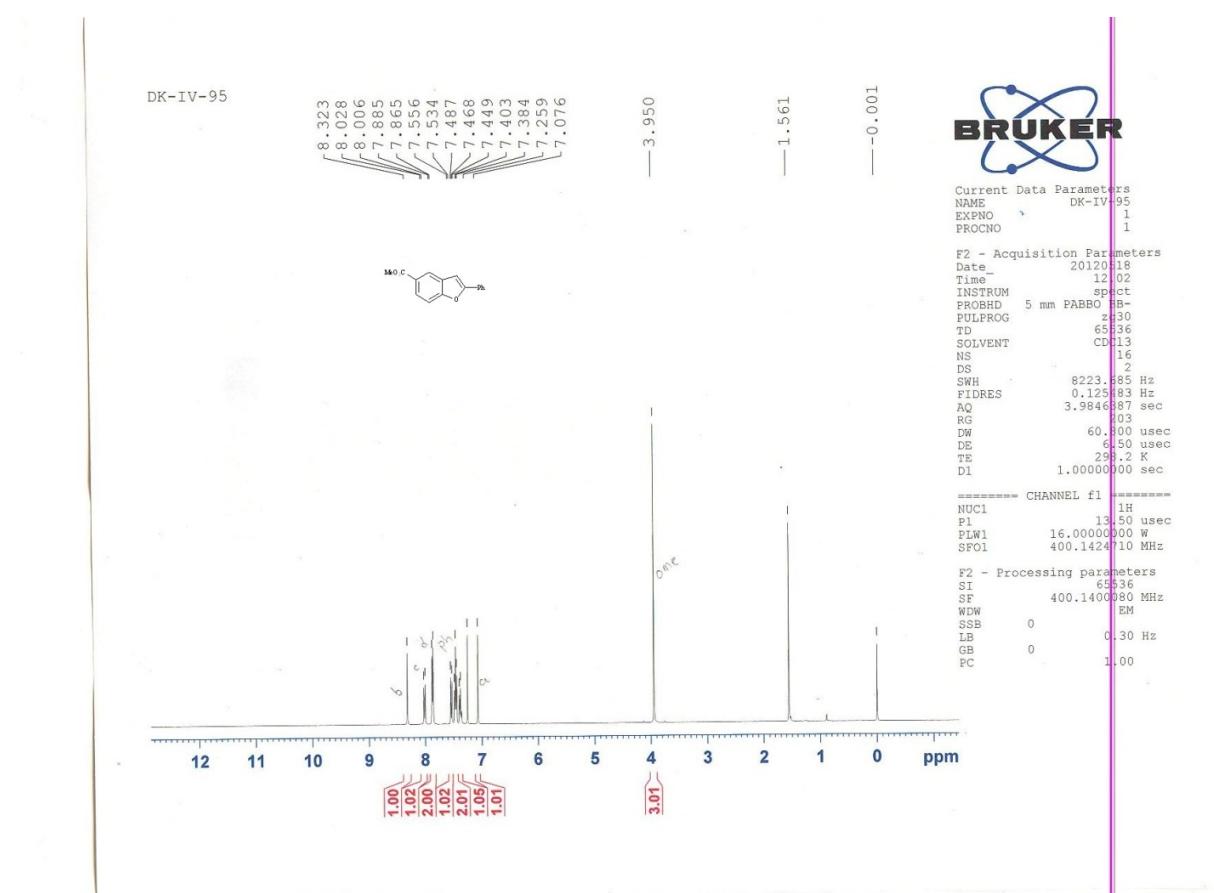


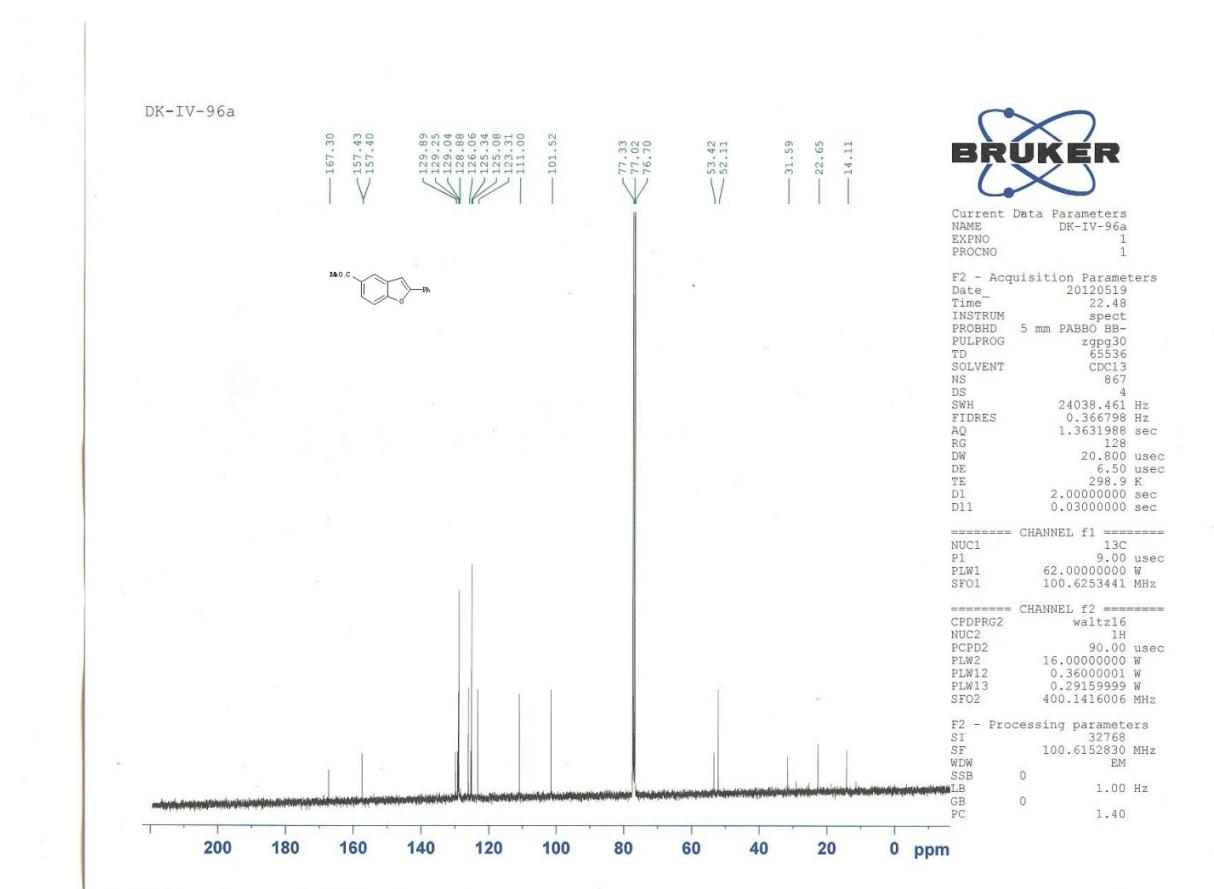


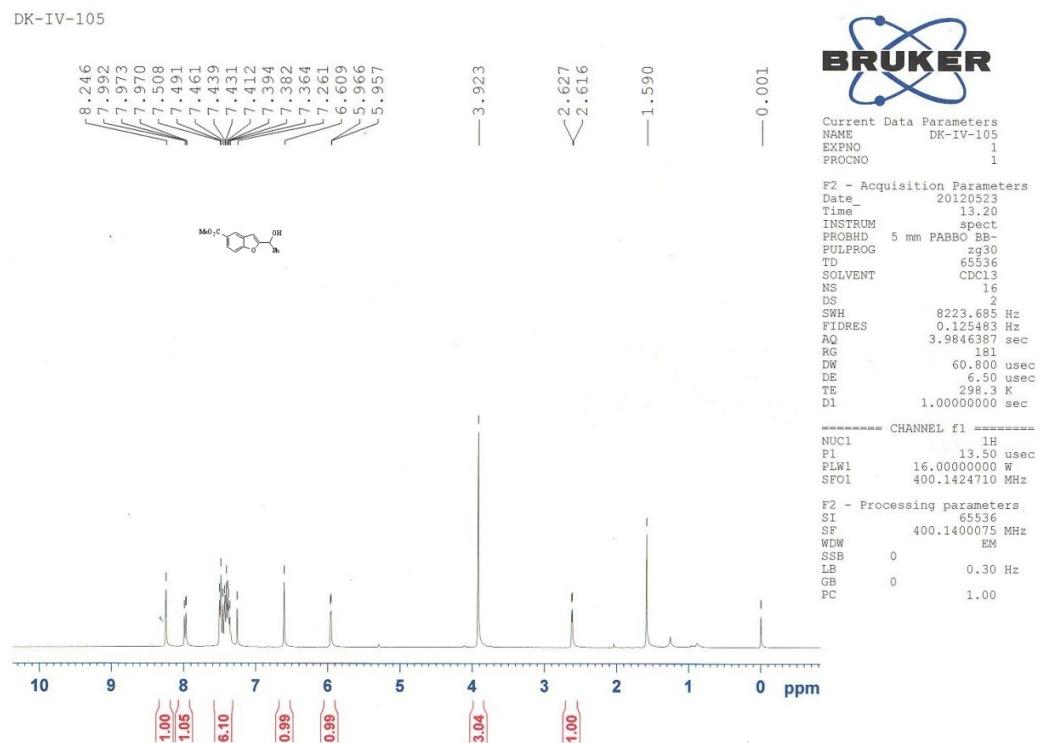


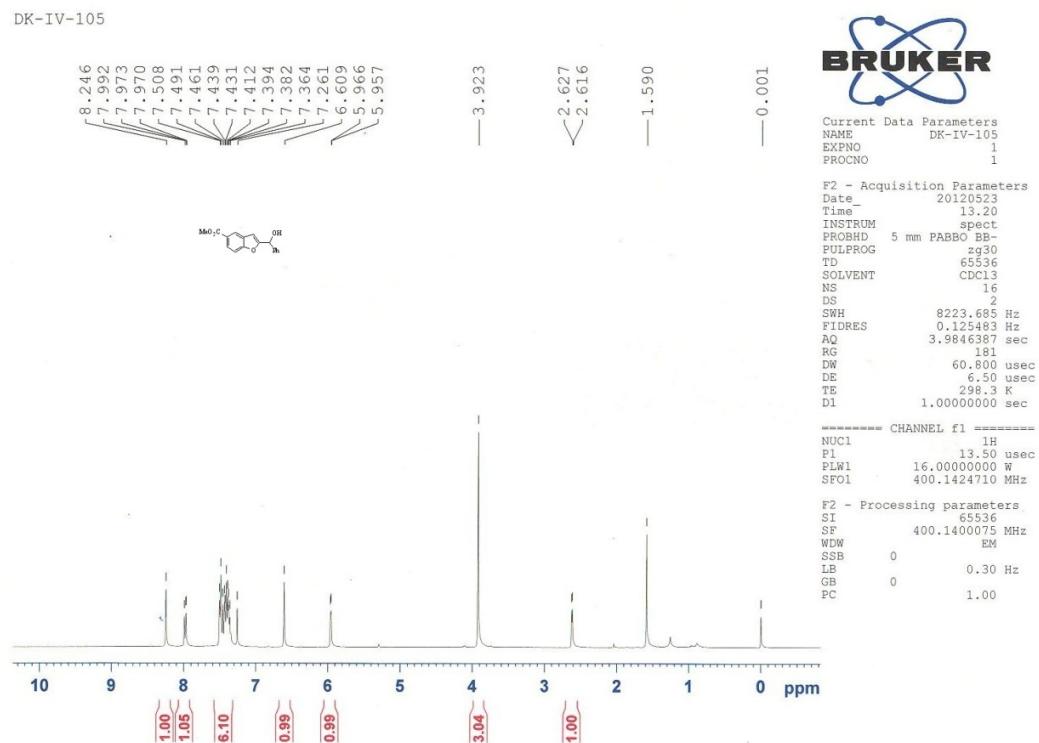


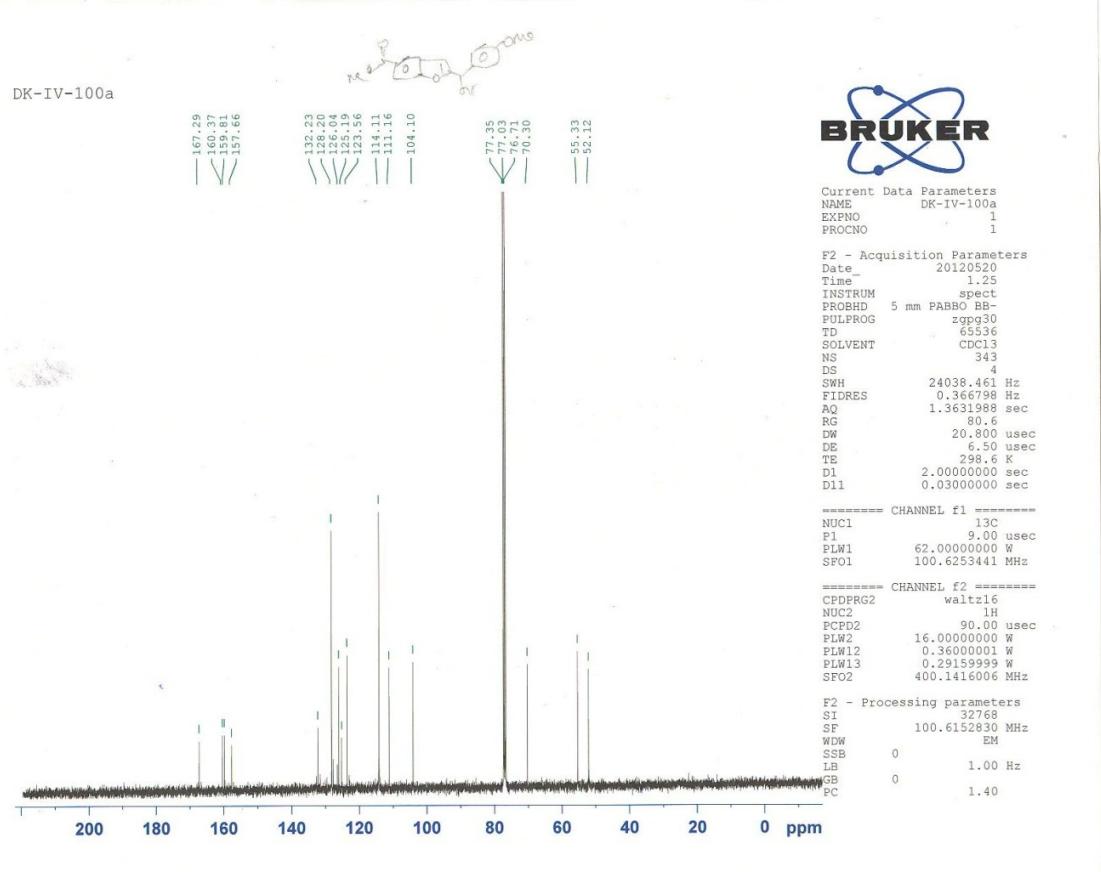


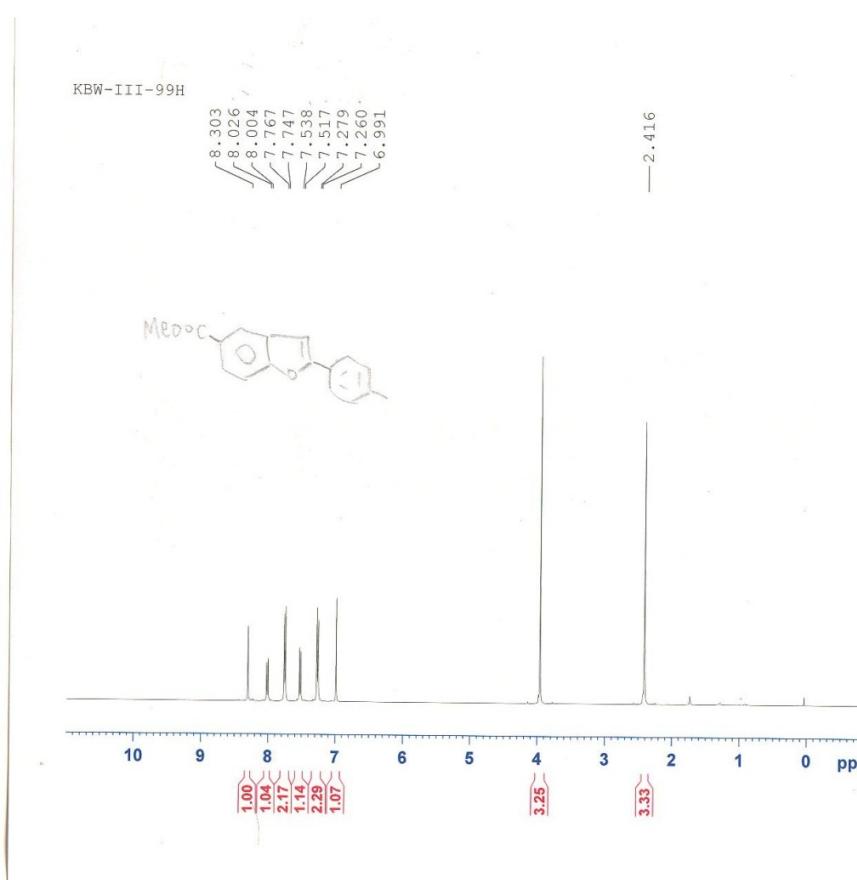










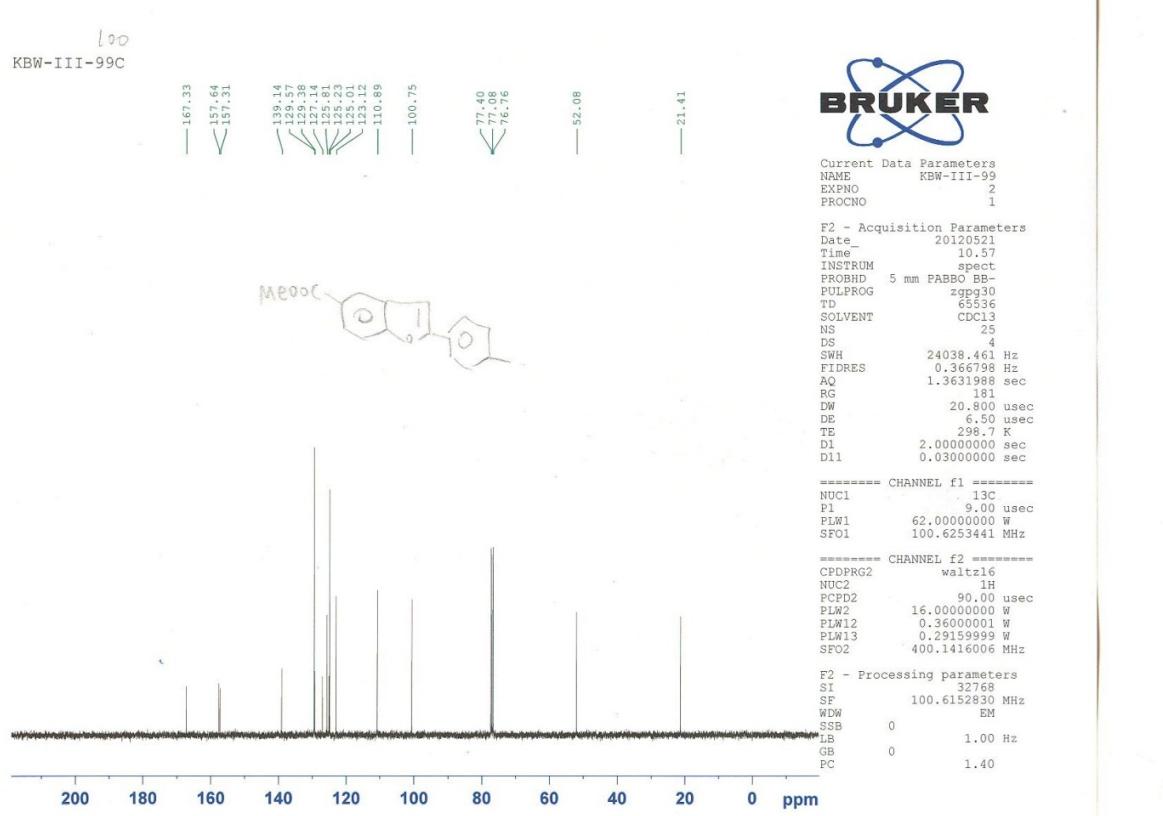


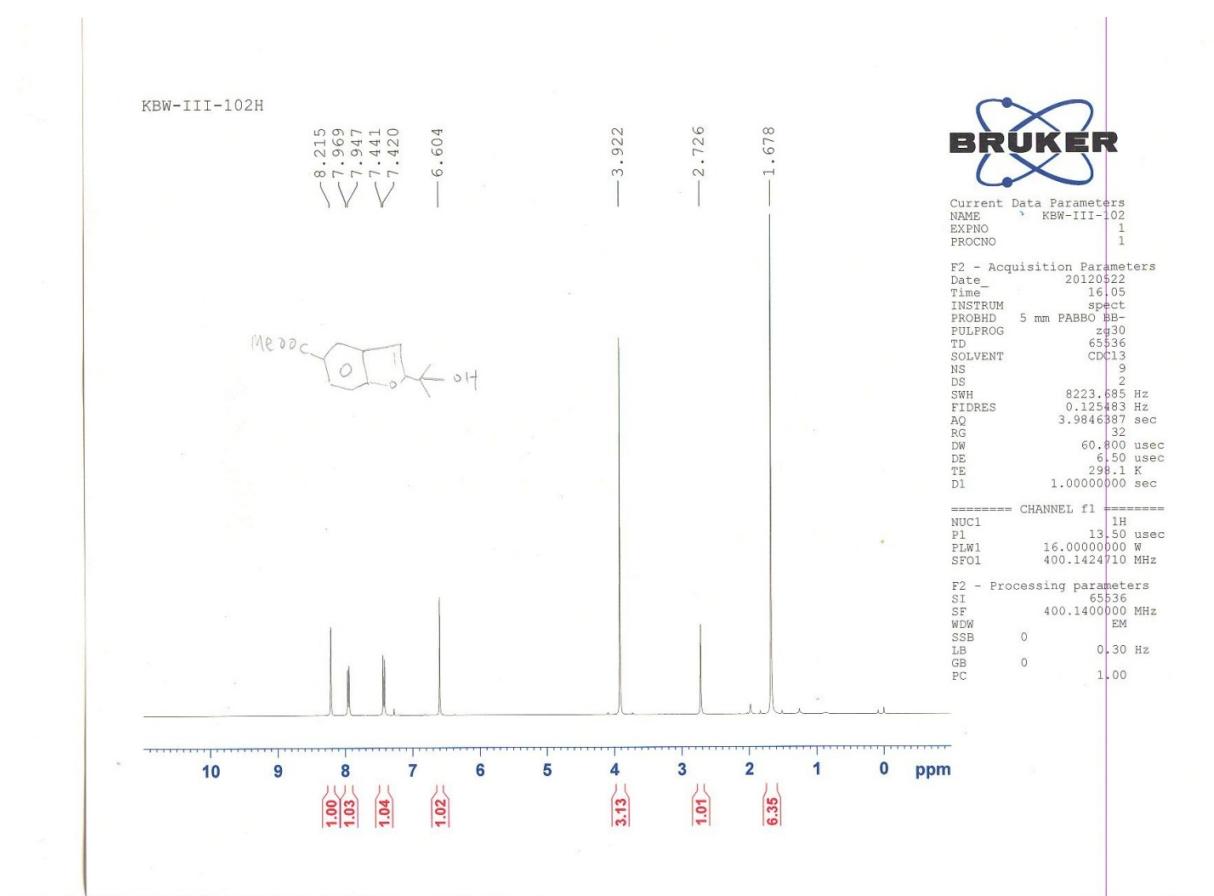
Current Data Parameters
NAME * KBW-III-99
EXPNO 1
PROCNO 1

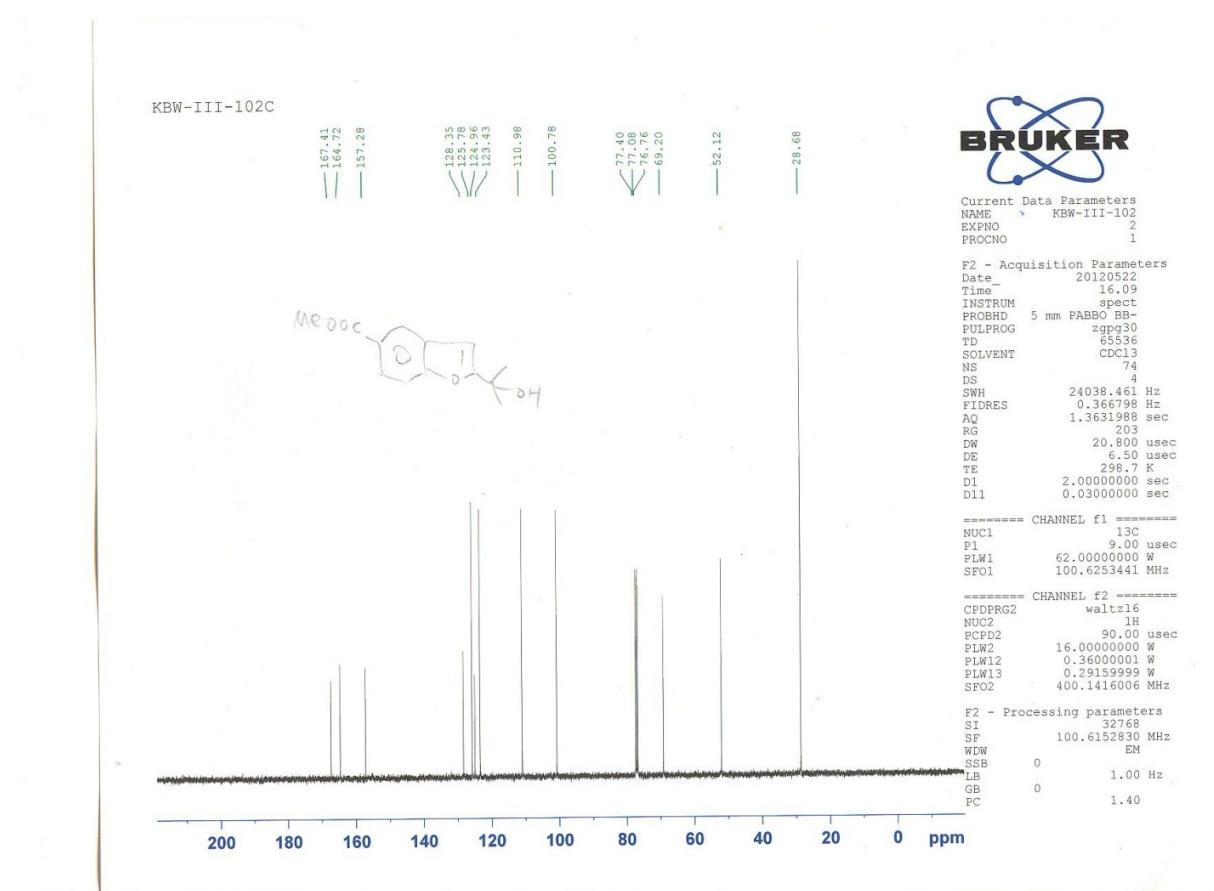
F2 - Acquisition Parameters
Date 20120521
Time 10.53
INSTRUM spect
PROBHD 5 mm PABBO BB-
PULPROG zg30
TD 65536
SOLVENT CDCl₃
NS 6
DS 2
SWH 8223.685 Hz
FIDRES 0.125483 Hz
AQ 3.9846387 sec
RG 57
DW 60.800 usec
DE 6.50 usec
TE 298.2 K
D1 1.0000000 sec

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1 1H
P1 13.50 usec
PLW1 16.0000000 W
SF01 400.1424710 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters
SI 65536
SF 400.1400000 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
LB 0.30 Hz
GB 0
PC 1.00







KBW-III-103H

