

## Supporting information for

### Iodine-promoted 2-arylsulfanylphenol formation using cyclohexanones as phenol source

Ya Chen<sup>a</sup>, Fuhong Xiao<sup>a</sup>, Hui Chen<sup>a</sup>, Saiwen Liu<sup>a</sup>, Guo-Jun Deng<sup>a,b \*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Key Laboratory of Environmentally Friendly Chemistry and Application of Ministry of Education, College of Chemistry, Xiangtan University, Xiangtan 411105, China  
Fax: (+86)-731-58292251; e-mail: gjdeng@xtu.edu.cn

<sup>b</sup> Key Laboratory of Molecular Recognition and Function, Institute of Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100080, China.

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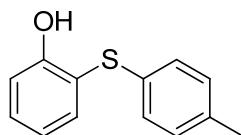
## General information

Flash column chromatography was performed over silica gel 48-75  $\mu\text{m}$ . Unless otherwise noted,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker-AV (400 and 100 MHz, respectively) instrument internally referenced to SiMe<sub>4</sub> or chloroform signals. MS analyses were performed on Agilent 5975 GC-MS instrument (EI). The new compounds were characterized by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, MS and HRMS. The structure of known compounds were further corroborated by comparing their  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data and MS data with those of literature. Reagents were used as received or prepared by our laboratory.

## General procedure for 3aa:

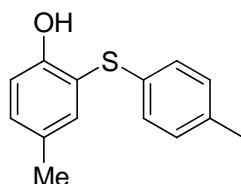
The reaction mixture of cyclohexanone (**1a**, 52  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.5 mmol), *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride (**2a**, 114 mg, 0.6 mmol), iodine (25.4 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 1,4-dioxane (1 mL) in a 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel was stirred at 150 °C for 18 h under an air atmosphere. After cooling to room temperature, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 95:5) to yield the desired product **3aa** as pale yellow liquid (88.6 mg, 82% yield).

### 2-(*p*-Tolylthio)phenol (**3aa**, CAS: 59010-83-2):<sup>[1]</sup>



$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  7.52 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.06-7.00 (m, 5H), 6.93 (t,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  157.1, 136.7, 136.3, 132.2, 132.1, 130.0, 127.5, 121.2, 117.2, 115.5, 21.0; MS (EI) m/z (%) 216 (100), 201, 183, 96, 91.

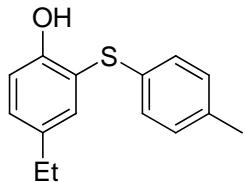
### 4-Methyl-2-(*p*-tolylthio)phenol (**3ba**):<sup>[1]</sup>



Pale yellow liquid; yield 80%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  7.33 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d,  $J$  = 8.0

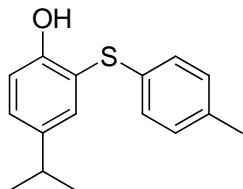
Hz, 1H), 7.06-7.01 (m, 4H), 6.95 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 2.28 (s, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  155.0, 136.7, 136.2, 132.8, 132.5, 130.5, 130.1, 127.6, 116.8, 115.3, 21.0, 20.4; MS (EI) m/z (%) 230 (100), 197, 110, 91, 77, 65.

**4-Ethyl-2-(*p*-tolylthio)phenol (**3ca**):<sup>[1]</sup>**



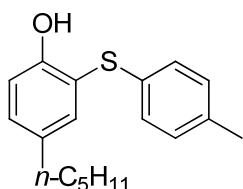
Pale yellow liquid; yield 70%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.35 (s, 1H), 7.19 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.06-6.97 (m, 5H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 2.58 (q,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H) 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.21 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  155.2, 137.1, 136.2, 135.6, 132.5, 131.6, 130.0, 127.5, 116.8, 115.4, 27.9, 21.0, 15.8; MS (EI) m/z (%) 244 (100), 229, 211, 124, 91, 77.

**4-(*iso*-Propyl)-2-(*p*-tolylthio)phenol (**3da**):**



Pale yellow liquid; yield 72%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.37 (s, 1H), 7.22 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.06-6.97 (m, 5H), 6.35 (s, 1H), 2.88-2.82 (m, 1H) 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.22 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  155.2, 141.8, 136.1, 134.4, 132.5, 130.3, 130.1, 127.3, 116.5, 115.3, 33.3, 24.2, 21.0; MS (EI) m/z (%) 258, 243 (100), 151, 123, 91, 79; HRMS calcd. for:  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{OS} [\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ : 257.0995, found 257.0999.

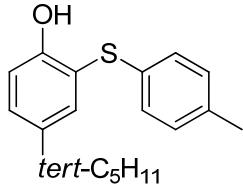
**4-Pentyl-2-(*p*-tolylthio)phenol (**3ea**):<sup>[1]</sup>**



Pale yellow liquid; yield 78%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.32 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.06-6.96 (m, 5H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 2.53 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.61-1.57 (m, 2H),

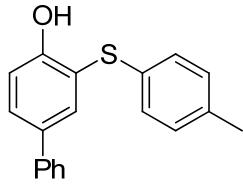
1.33-1.27 (m, 4H), 0.88 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  155.2, 136.2, 136.1, 135.8, 132.6, 132.1, 130.0, 127.4, 116.6, 115.3, 34.9, 31.4, 31.3, 22.6, 21.0, 14.0; MS (EI) m/z (%) 286, 229 (100), 137, 91, 77, 65.

**4-(*tert*-Pentyl)-2-(*p*-tolylthio)phenol (3fa):<sup>[1]</sup>**



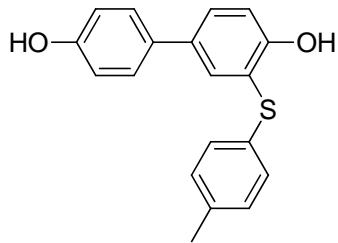
Pale yellow liquid; yield 78%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.46 (s, 1H), 7.33 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.98 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 3H), 6.34 (s, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.63-1.59 (m, 2H), 1.25 (s, 6H), 0.67 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  154.8, 142.4, 136.0, 134.3, 132.6, 130.0, 129.9, 126.9, 115.9, 114.9, 37.5, 37.0, 28.6, 20.9, 9.2; MS (EI) m/z (%) 286, 257 (100), 134, 91, 77, 65.

**3-(*p*-Tolylthio)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ol (3ga):<sup>[1]</sup>**



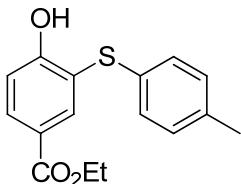
Pale yellow solid; yield 87%; mp 56-58 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.78 (s, 1H), 7.61-7.53 (m, 3H), 7.41 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.06 (m, 5H), 6.55 (s, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  156.7, 140.0, 136.5, 135.1, 134.6, 132.2, 130.8, 130.2, 129.0, 127.8, 127.2, 126.8, 118.0, 116.0, 21.1; MS (EI) m/z (%) 292 (100), 172, 139, 91, 77, 65.

**3-(*p*-Tolylthio)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4,4'-diol (3ha):**



White solid; yield 84%; mp 119-121 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.71-7.70 (m, 1H), 7.54-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.41 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.11-7.06 (m, 5H), 6.87 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 4.81 (s, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , ppm)  $\delta$  157.0, 155.5, 136.8, 132.8, 132.0, 131.0, 130.8, 130.4, 130.2, 127.5, 127.1, 121.5, 116.5, 116.2, 21.1; MS (EI) m/z (%) 308(100), 281, 207, 188, 91, 28; HRMS calcd. for:  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_2\text{S}$  [M-H] $^-$ : 307.0787, found 307.0791.

**Ethyl 4-hydroxy-3-(*p*-tolylthio)benzoate (3ia):<sup>[1]</sup>**



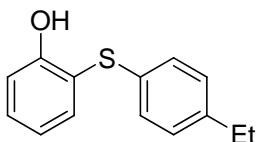
Pale yellow solid; yield 75%; mp 72-74 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  8.27 (s, 1H), 8.05 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.09-7.03 (m, 5H), 6.95 (s, 1H), 4.34 (q,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.38 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  165.7, 160.8, 138.4, 136.8, 133.5, 131.3, 130.2, 128.1, 123.7, 118.2, 115.4, 61.0, 21.0, 14.4; MS (EI) m/z (%) 288 (100), 260, 243, 171, 91, 63.

**2-(Phenylthio)phenol (3ab, CAS: 55214-86-3):<sup>[2]</sup>**



Pale yellow liquid; yield 65%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.54 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.17-7.13 (m, 1H), 7.09-7.07 (m, 3H) 6.96 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.52 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  157.3, 136.9, 135.9, 132.3, 129.2, 127.0, 126.2, 121.3, 116.5, 115.6; MS (EI) m/z (%) 202 (100), 169, 141, 96, 77, 51.

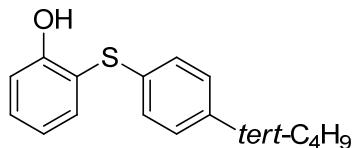
**2-((4-Ethylphenyl)thio)phenol (3ac):**



Pale yellow liquid; yield 83%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.52 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.36

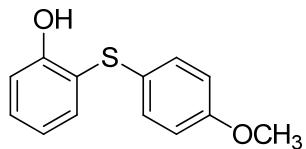
(t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.08-7.02 (m, 5H), 6.94 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.55 (s, 1H); 2.61-2.55 (m, 2H), 1.18 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  157.2, 142.7, 136.7, 132.4, 132.0, 128.8, 127.6, 121.1, 117.3, 115.5, 28.3, 15.4; MS (EI) m/z (%) 230 (100), 215, 105, 91, 77, 63; HRMS calcd. for:  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{13}\text{OS} [\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ : 229.0682, found 229.0686.

**2-((4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)thio)phenol (3ad, CAS: 2976-28-5):<sup>[3]</sup>**



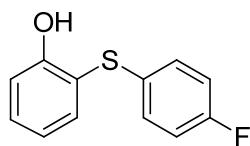
Pale yellow liquid; yield 85%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.53 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.08-7.03 (m, 3H), 6.95 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.55 (s, 1H), 1.27 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  157.3, 149.5, 136.9, 132.3, 132.2, 127.0, 126.4, 121.3, 116.9, 115.6, 34.5, 31.3; MS (EI) m/z (%) 258, 243(100), 125, 108, 97, 77.

**2-((4-Methoxyphenyl)thio)phenol (3ae):<sup>[1]</sup>**



Pale yellow solid; yield 64%; mp 62-64 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.50 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.03 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.91 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  159.0, 156.8, 136.1, 131.6, 130.3, 126.2, 121.2, 118.8, 115.5, 115.1, 55.4; MS (EI) m/z (%) 232 (100), 217, 171, 108, 96.

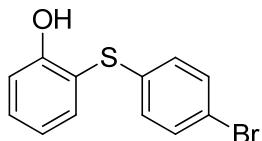
**2-((4-Fluorophenyl)thio)phenol (3af):<sup>[1]</sup>**



Pale yellow liquid; yield 80%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.51 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.11-7.06 (m, 3H), 6.97-6.93 (m, 3H), 6.49 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  161.7 (d,  $J = 243.0$  Hz), 157.1, 136.6, 132.3, 130.9 (d,  $J = 3.0$  Hz), 129.3 (d,  $J =$

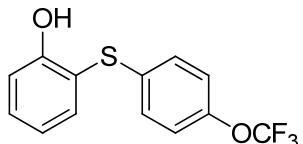
8.0 Hz), 121.4, 117.1, 116.4 (d,  $J$  = 22.0 Hz), 115.7; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (%) 220, 128, 96 (100), 75, 61.

**2-((4-Bromophenyl)thio)phenol (3ag, CAS: 1254831-59-8):<sup>[1]</sup>**



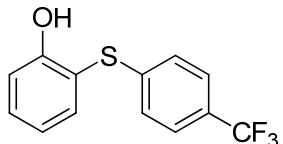
Pale yellow liquid; yield 70%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.51 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.08 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.99-6.92 (m, 3H), 6.42 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  157.3, 136.9, 135.2, 132.7, 132.3, 128.4, 121.6, 120.0, 115.8, 115.8; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (%) 282, 280, 201, 168, 96 (100).

**2-((4-(Trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)thio)phenol (3ah):**



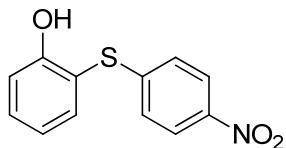
Pale yellow liquid; yield 66%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.53 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.08 (m, 5H), 6.98 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  157.3, 147.6, 136.9, 134.7, 132.7, 128.0, 121.9, 121.6, 120.4 (q,  $J$  = 256.0 Hz), 115.8, 115.7; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (%) 286 (100), 201, 171, 128, 96; HRMS calcd. for:  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{O}_2\text{F}_3\text{S}$  [M-H]<sup>-</sup>: 285.0192, found 285.0195.

**2-((4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)thio)phenol (3ai):**



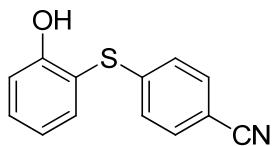
Pale yellow liquid; yield 46%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.53 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.12 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 7.01 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.37 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  157.4, 141.2, 137.1, 133.0, 128.1 (q,  $J$  = 32.0 Hz), 126.1, 126.0 (q,  $J$  = 3.7 Hz), 124.0 (q,  $J$  = 270.0 Hz), 121.7, 116.0, 114.5; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (%) 270 (100), 251, 171, 96, 69; HRMS calcd. for:  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{OF}_3\text{S}$  [M-H]<sup>-</sup>: 269.0243, found 269.0247.

**2-((4-Nitrophenyl)thio)phenol (3aj):<sup>[4]</sup>**



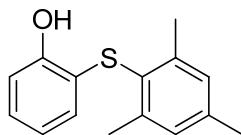
Yellow solid; yield 36%; mp 99-101 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.54-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.11 (m, 3H), 7.04 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), , 6.25 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 157.5, 145.9, 137.1, 133.4, 126.5, 126.0, 124.4, 124.2, 121.9, 116.3; MS (EI) *m/z* (%) 247 (100), 230, 200, 171, 97.

**4-((2-Hydroxyphenyl)thio)benzonitrile (3ak):<sup>[5]</sup>**



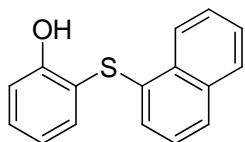
Pale yellow solid; yield 42%; mp 82-84 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 7.52-7.44 (m, 4H), 7.13-7.07 (m, 3H), 7.02 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), , 6.29 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 157.5, 143.5, 137.1, 133.3, 132.8, 132.6, 126.7, 126.3, 121.8, 118.5, 116.2; MS (EI) *m/z* (%) 227 (100), 198, 166, 96, 63.

**2-(Mesitylthio)phenol (3al):**



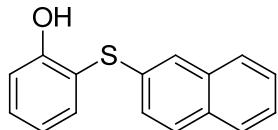
Pale yellow solid; yield 75%; mp 61-63 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 7.08 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (s, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 5.84 (s, 1H), 2.39 (s, 6H), 2.29 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 154.1, 142.9, 139.1, 129.9, 129.7, 127.9, 122.2, 121.4, 115.4, 110.0, 21.9, 21.1; MS (EI) *m/z* (%) 244, 150, 120 (100), 105, 91, 77; HRMS calcd. for: C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>OS [M-H]<sup>-</sup>: 243.0838, found 243.0842.

**2-(Naphthalen-1-ylthio)phenol (3am):**



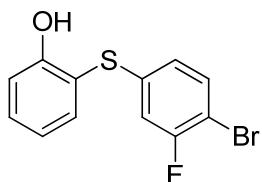
Pale yellow solid; yield 73%; mp 87-89 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  8.35 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.63-7.54 (m, 3H), 7.41 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.11 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.99 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.46 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  157.4, 136.9, 134.1, 133.0, 132.2, 131.4, 128.8, 126.9, 126.7, 126.5, 126.0, 124.6, 124.0, 121.6, 116.3, 115.9; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (%) 252, 189, 128 (100), 115, 77; HRMS calcd. for:  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{11}\text{OS} [\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ : 251.0525, found 251.0530.

### **2-(Naphthalen-2-ylthio)phenol (3an):<sup>[1]</sup>**



Pale yellow liquid; yield 79%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.77-7.58 (m, 4H), 7.48-7.40 (m, 4H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.11 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.99 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.54 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  157.4, 136.9, 133.8, 133.2, 132.3, 131.9, 129.0, 127.8, 127.2, 126.8, 125.9, 125.4, 125.3, 121.4, 116.6, 115.8; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (%) 252, 219, 128 (100), 115, 77.

### **2-((4-Bromo-3-fluorophenyl)thio)phenol (3ao):**



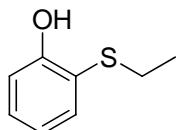
Pale yellow liquid; yield 56%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.51 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.10 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.77-6.74 (m, 2H), 6.35 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  159.4 (d,  $J = 248.0$  Hz), 157.3, 138.0 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz), 136.9, 133.9, 133.0, 123.4 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz), 121.7, 116.1, 115.0, 114.7 (d,  $J = 25.0$  Hz), 106.4 (d,  $J = 21.0$  Hz); MS (EI)  $m/z$  (%) 300 (100), 218, 186, 109, 96, 63; HRMS calcd. for:  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_7\text{BrFOS} [\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ : 296.9380, found 296.9382.

**2-(Thiophen-2-ylthio)phenol (**3ap**):**



Pale yellow solid; yield 43%; mp 39-41 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 7.00-6.87 (m, 3H), 6.48 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 156.0, 134.9, 133.6, 132.1, 131.5, 129.1, 127.6, 121.2, 120.4, 115.7; MS (EI) *m/z* (%) 208 (100), 175, 147, 96, 84, 71; HRMS calcd. for: C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>7</sub>OS<sub>2</sub> [M-H]<sup>+</sup>: 206.9933, found 206.9935.

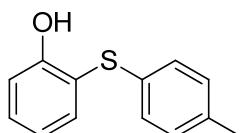
**2-(Ethylthio)phenol (**3aq**, CAS: 29549-60-8)<sup>[6]</sup>:**



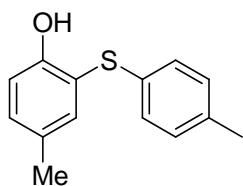
Pale yellow liquid; yield 43%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.26 (m, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 2.72 (q, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 157.1, 136.1, 131.1, 120.7, 118.8, 114.7, 30.8, 14.9; MS (EI) *m/z* (%) 154 (100), 139, 126, 97, 53.

**General procedure (**5aa**):**

Iodine (15.3 mg, 0.06 mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfinic acid sodium (**4a**, 107 mg, 0.6 mmol) were added to a 10 mL oven-dried reaction vessel. The reaction vessel was purged with argon for three times and was added diether phosphite (50 μL, 0.4 mmol), cyclohexanone (**1a**, 21 μL, 0.2 mmol), DMSO (0.1 mL) and toluene (0.5 mL) by syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at 130 °C for 24 h. After cooling to room temperature, the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 98:2) to yield the desired product **5aa** as pale yellow liquid (30.6 mg, 71% yield). The product is same as **3aa**.

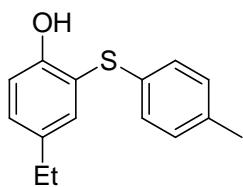


**4-Methyl-2-(*p*-tolylthio)phenol (**5ba**):<sup>[1]</sup>**



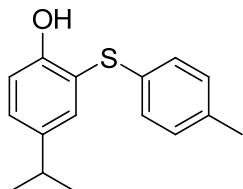
Pale yellow liquid; yield 75%. The product is same as **3ba**.

**4-Ethyl-2-(*p*-tolylthio)phenol (**5ca**):<sup>[1]</sup>**



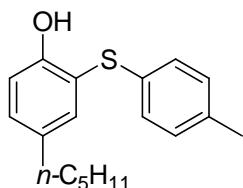
Pale yellow liquid; yield 83%. The product is same as **3ca**.

**4-(*iso*-Propyl)-2-(*p*-tolylthio)phenol (**5da**):**



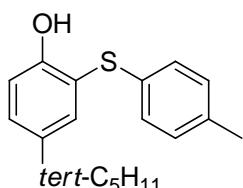
Pale yellow liquid; yield 81%. The product is same as **3da**.

**4-Pentyl-2-(*p*-tolylthio)phenol (**5ea**):<sup>[1]</sup>**



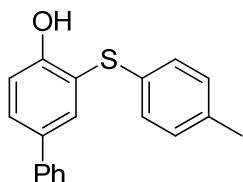
Pale yellow liquid; yield 83%. The product is same as **3ea**.

**4-(*tert*-Pentyl)-2-(*p*-tolylthio)phenol (**5fa**):<sup>[1]</sup>**



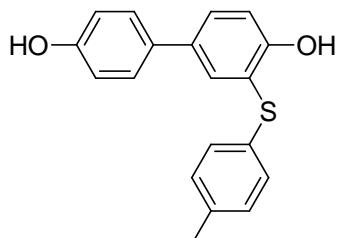
Pale yellow liquid; yield 85%. The product is same as **3fa**.

**3-(*p*-Tolylthio)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ol (**5ga**):<sup>[1]</sup>**



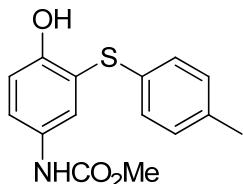
Pale yellow solid; yield 80%. The product is same as **3ga**.

**3-(*p*-Tolylthio)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4,4'-diol (**5ha**):**



White solid; yield 68%. The product is same as **3ha**.

**N-(4-Hydroxy-3-(*p*-tolylthio)phenyl)acetamide (**5ia**):<sup>[1]</sup>**



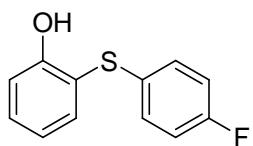
Pale yellow liquid; yield 50%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.62 (s, 1H), 7.48 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.05-6.99 (m, 6H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  168.5, 153.8, 136.6, 131.7, 131.2, 130.1, 128.1, 128.0, 124.5, 117.9, 115.6, 24.2, 21.0; MS (EI)  $m/z$  (%) 273 (100), 231, 207, 139, 111, 91.

**2-(Phenylthio)phenol (**5ab**, CAS: 55214-86-3):<sup>[2]</sup>**



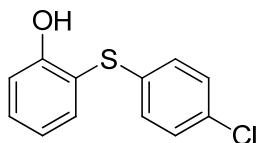
Pale yellow liquid; yield 64%. The product is same as **3ab**.

**2-((4-Fluorophenyl)thio)phenol (**5ac**):<sup>[1]</sup>**



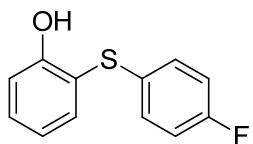
Pale yellow liquid; yield 75%. The product is same as **3af**.

**2-((4-Chlorophenyl)thio)phenol (**5ad**, CAS: 59010-71-8):<sup>[1]</sup>**



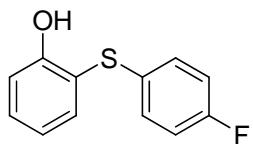
Pale yellow liquid; yield 70%; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.09-6.95 (m, 4H), 6.43 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 157.2, 136.8, 134.5, 132.5, 132.3, 129.3, 128.3, 121.4, 116.2, 115.8; MS (EI) *m/z* (%) 236 (100), 220, 200, 168, 96.

**2-((4-Bromophenyl)thio)phenol (**5ae**, CAS: 1254831-59-8):<sup>[1]</sup>**



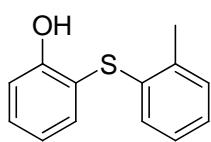
Pale yellow liquid; yield 68%; The product is same as **3ag**.

**2-((4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)thio)phenol (**5af**):**



Pale yellow liquid; yield 42%. The product is same as **3ai**.

**2-(*o*-Tolylthio)phenol (**5ag**):<sup>[1]</sup>**



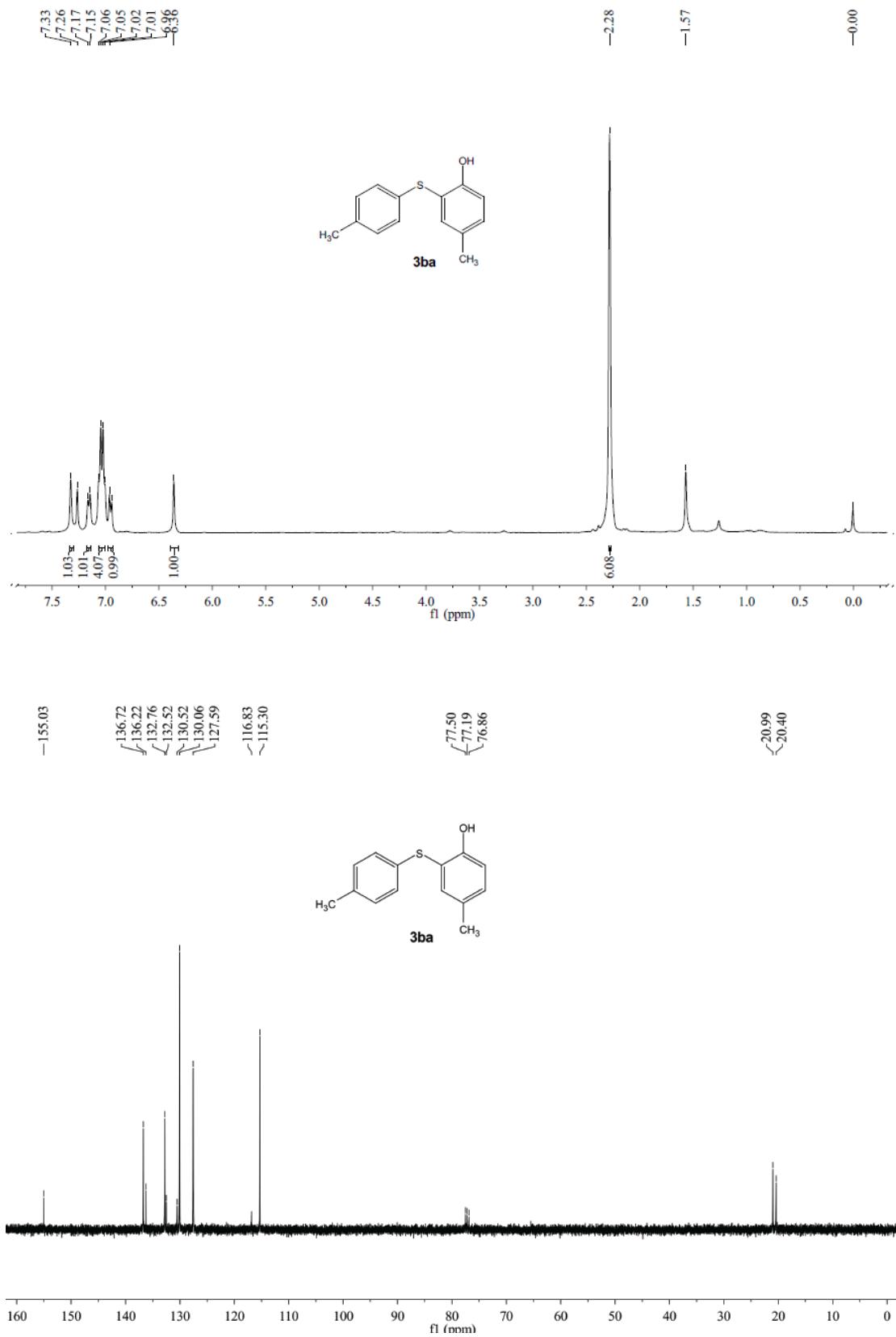
Pale yellow liquid; yield 56%;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  7.48 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.09-6.95 (m, 4H), 6.66 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.40 (s, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  157.4, 136.8, 135.7, 134.9, 134.9, 132.0, 130.4, 126.8, 126.2, 126.0, 121.4, 115.6, 20.0; MS (EI) m/z (%) 216 (100), 201, 122, 96, 91.

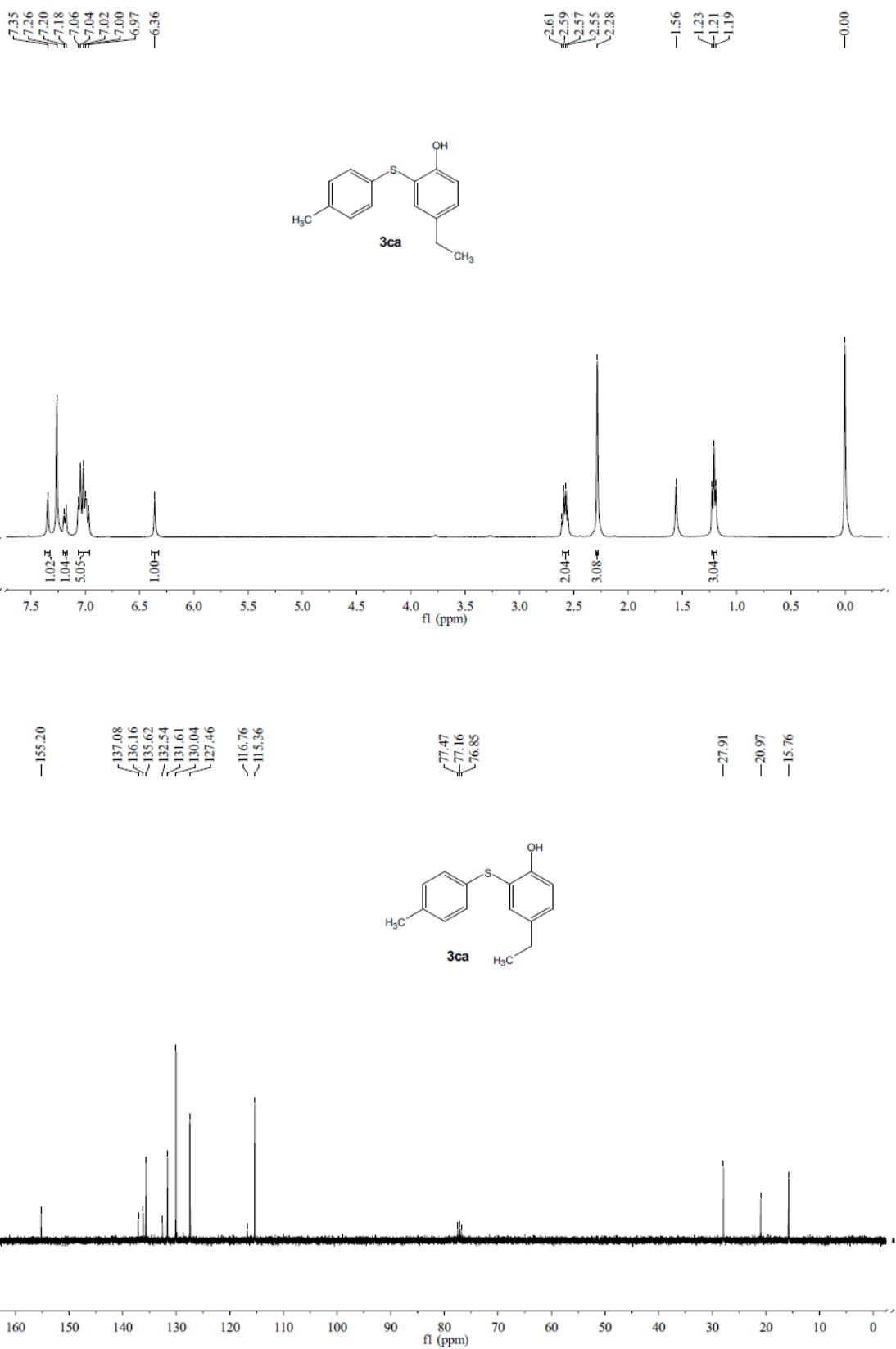
## References

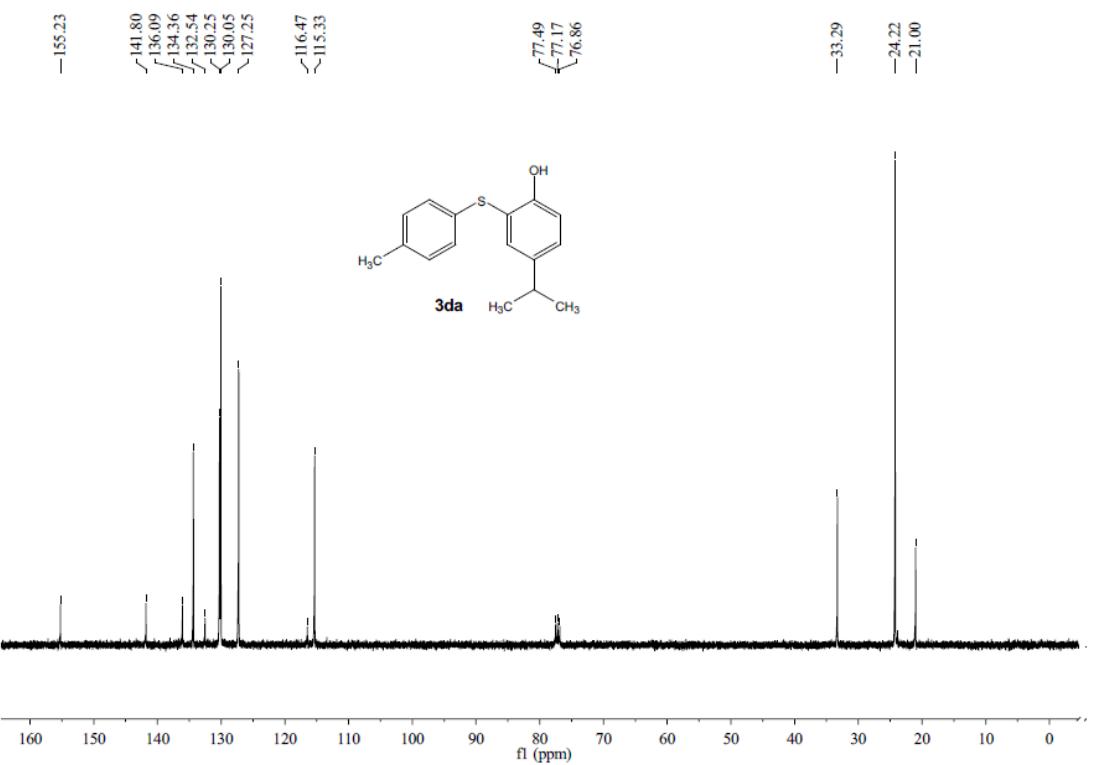
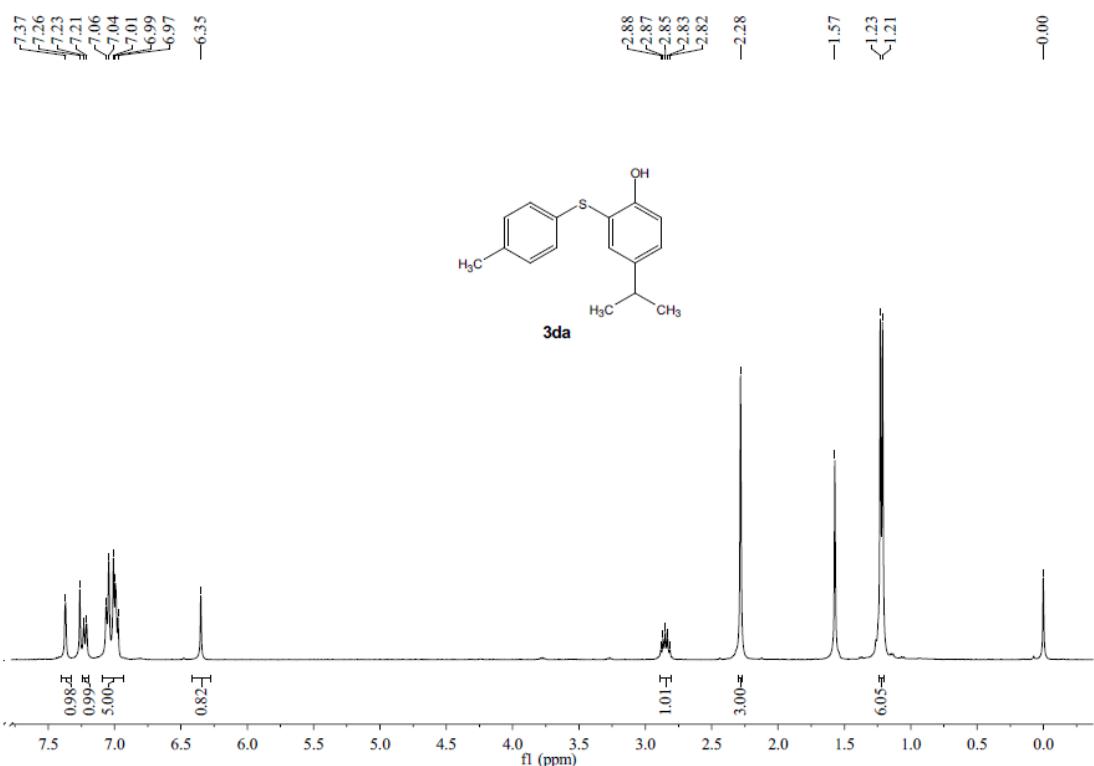
- [1] Y. F. Liao, P. C. Jiang, S. P. Chen, H. R. Qi, G. J. Deng, *Green Chem.* **2013**, *15*, 3302.
- [2] Z. He, T. F. Jamison, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 3353.
- [3] C. Dow, 1965, Patent No US3188352.
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- [6] W. E. Parham, G. L. Willette, *J. Org. Chem.* **1960**, *25*, 53.

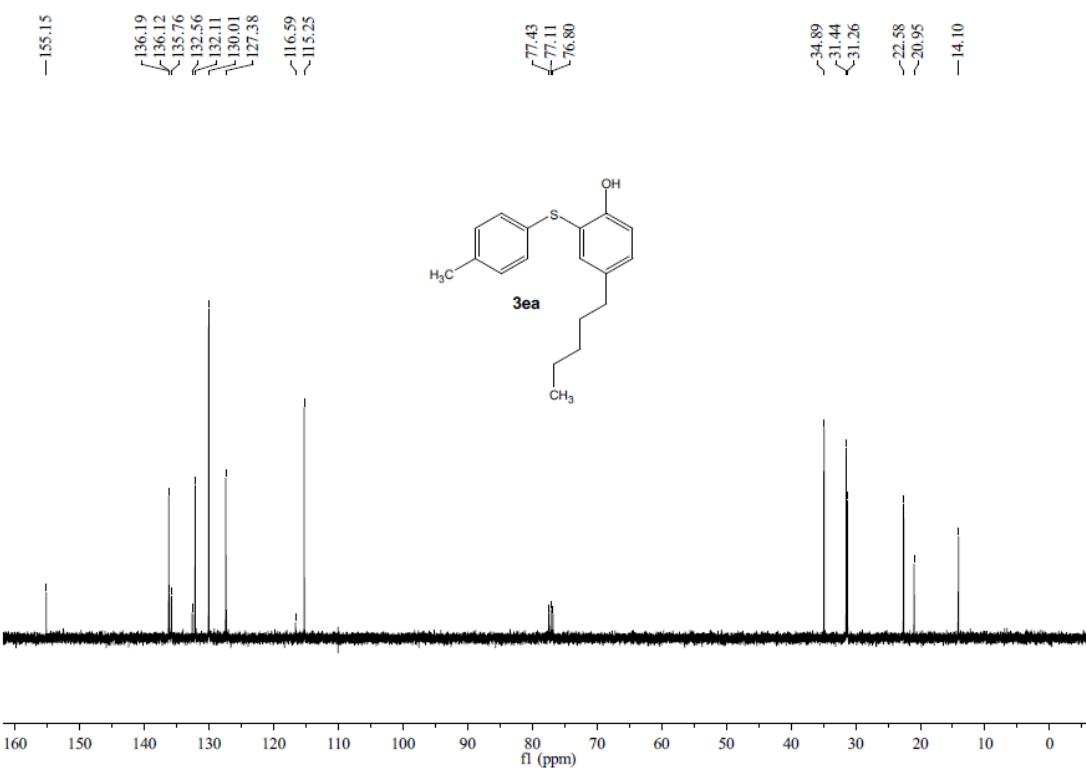
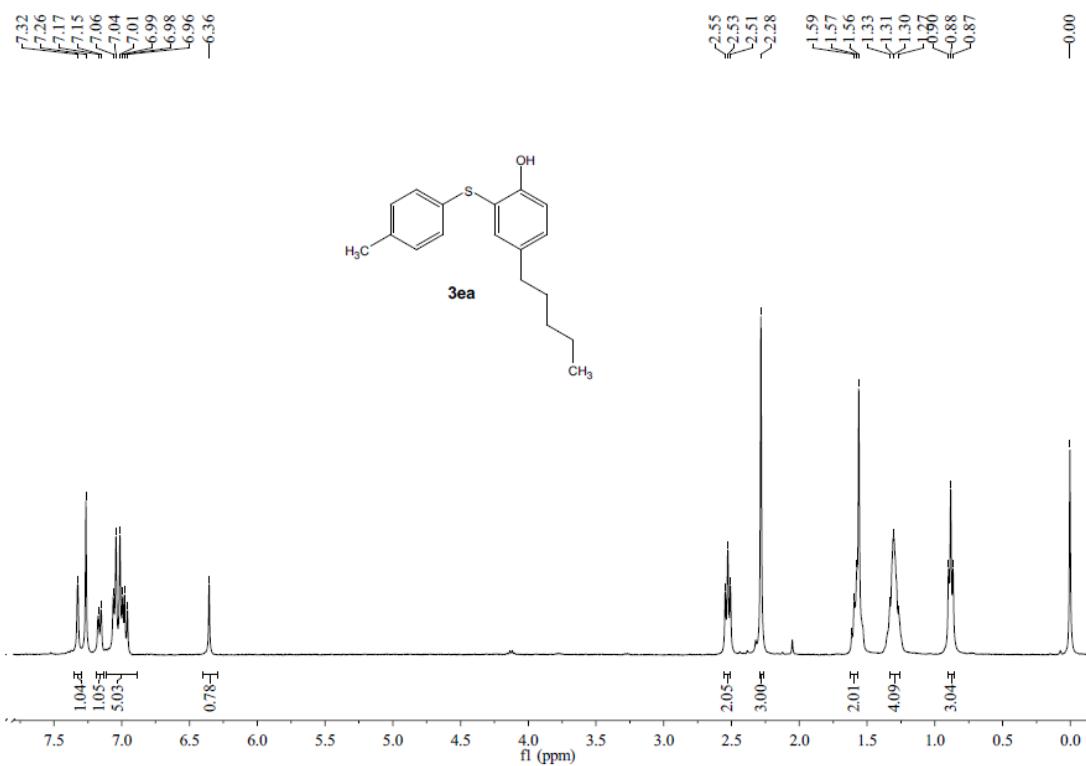
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra**



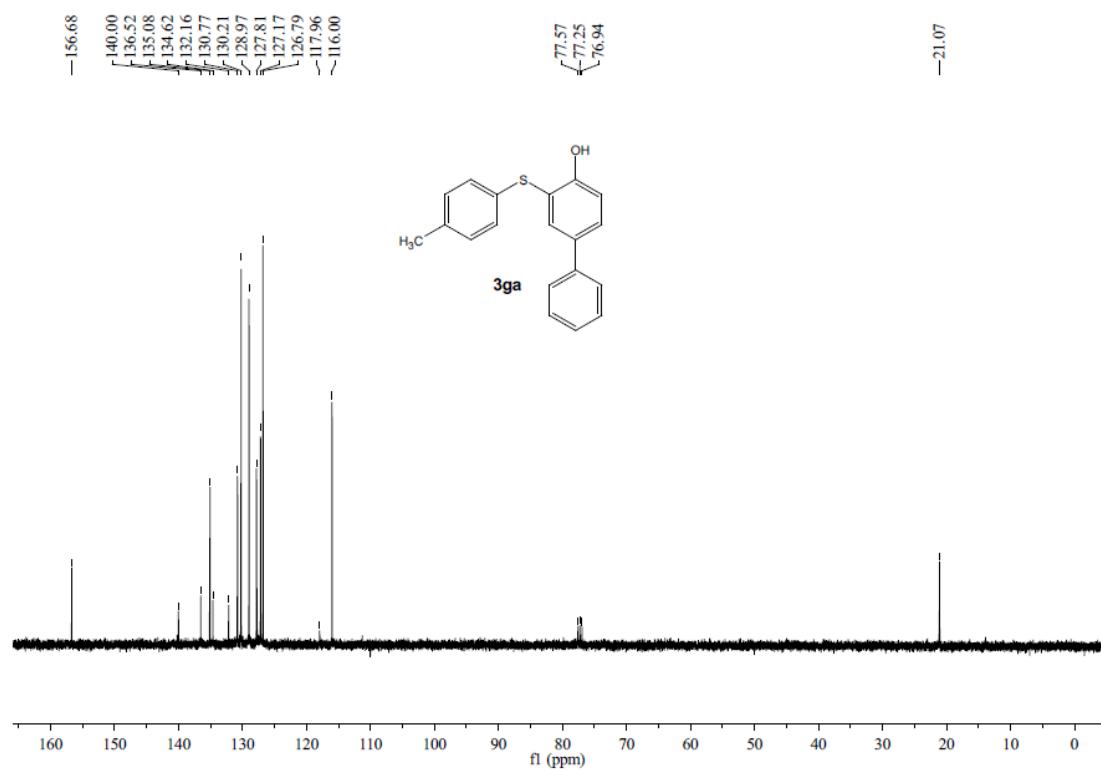
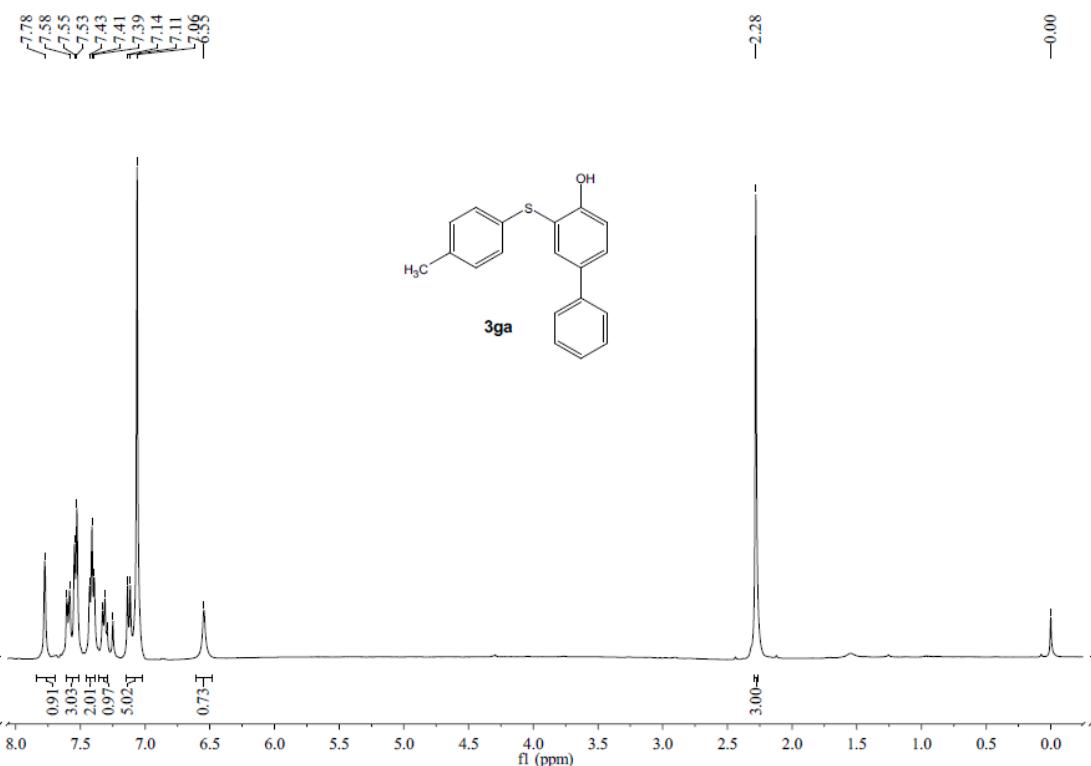


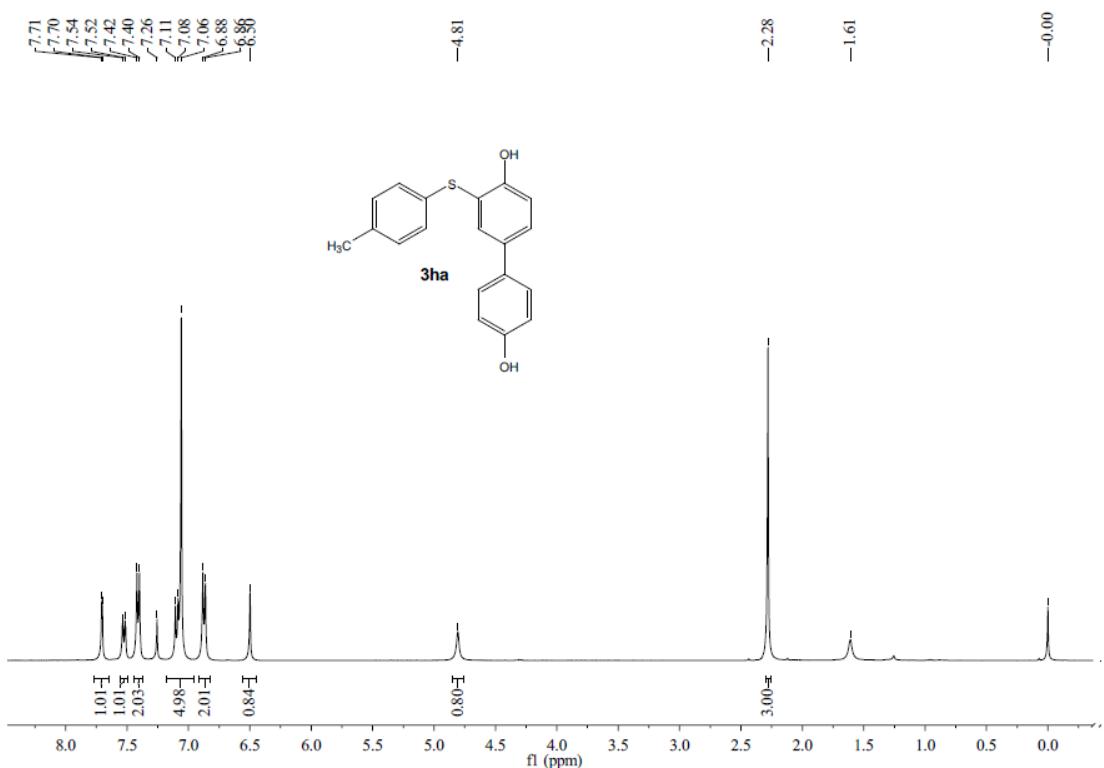


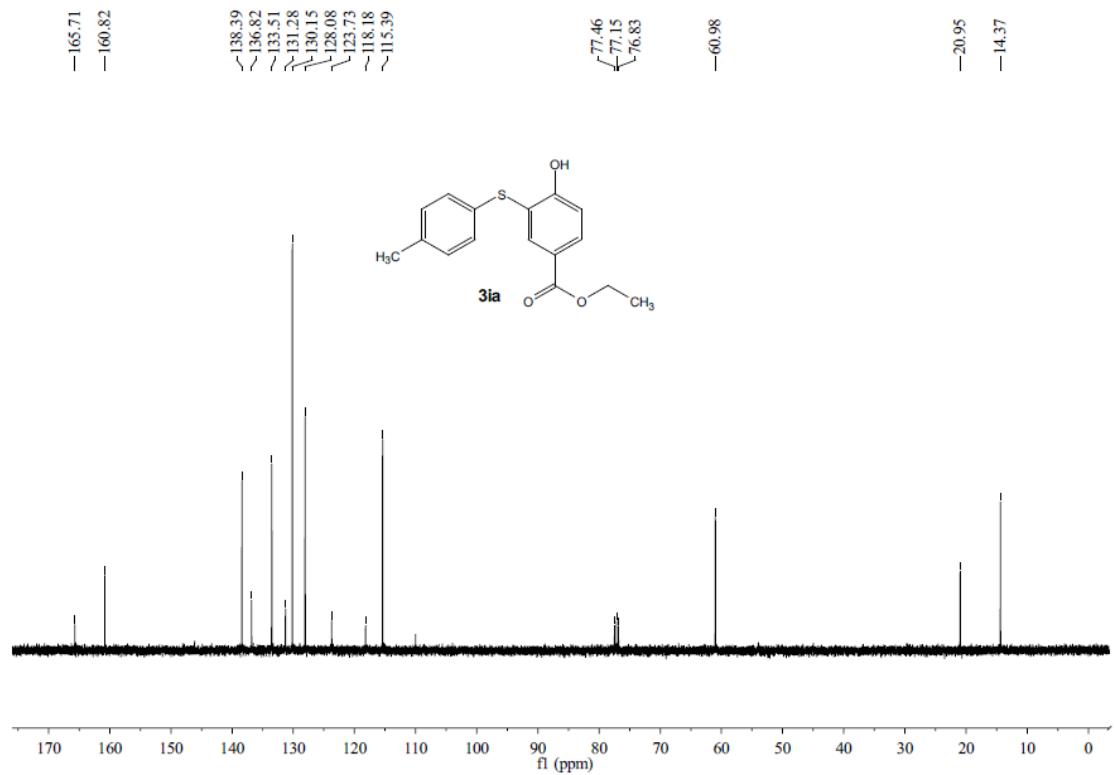
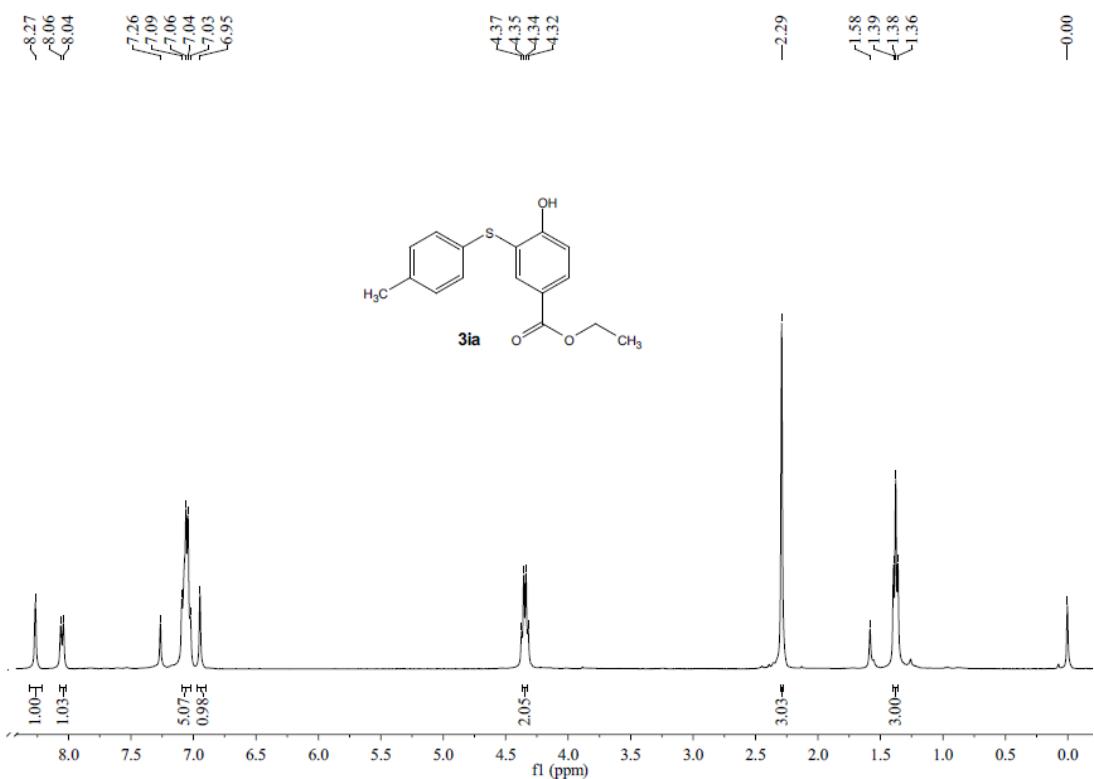


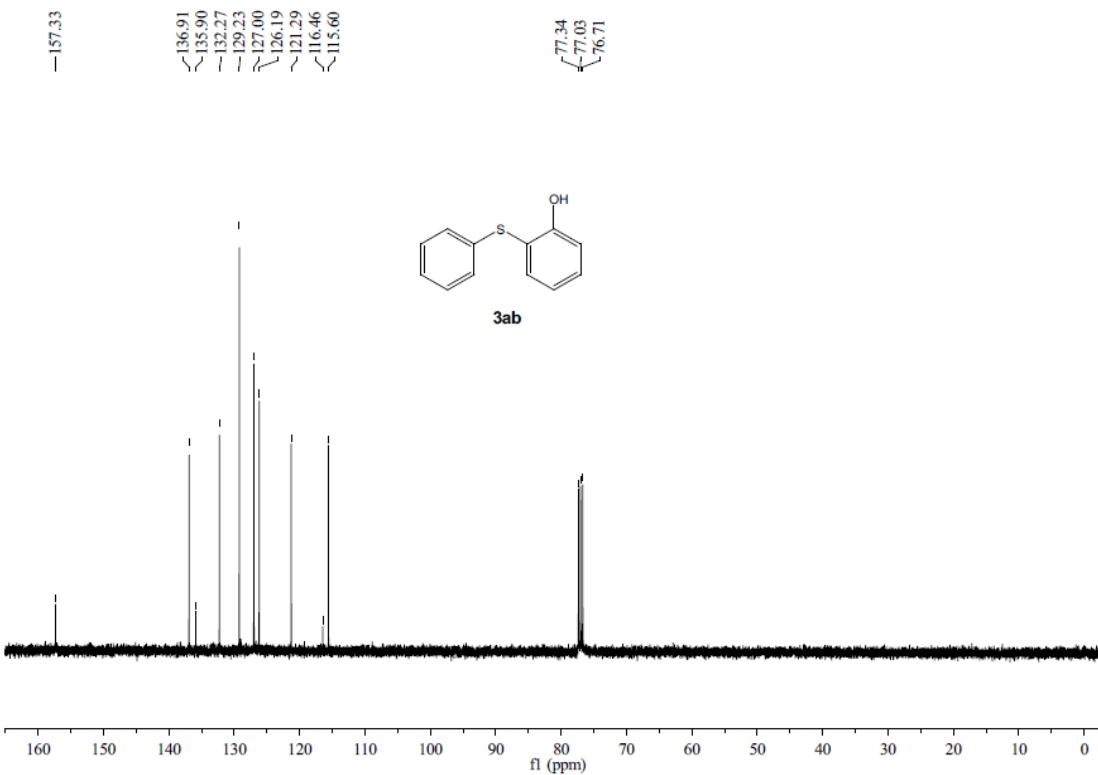
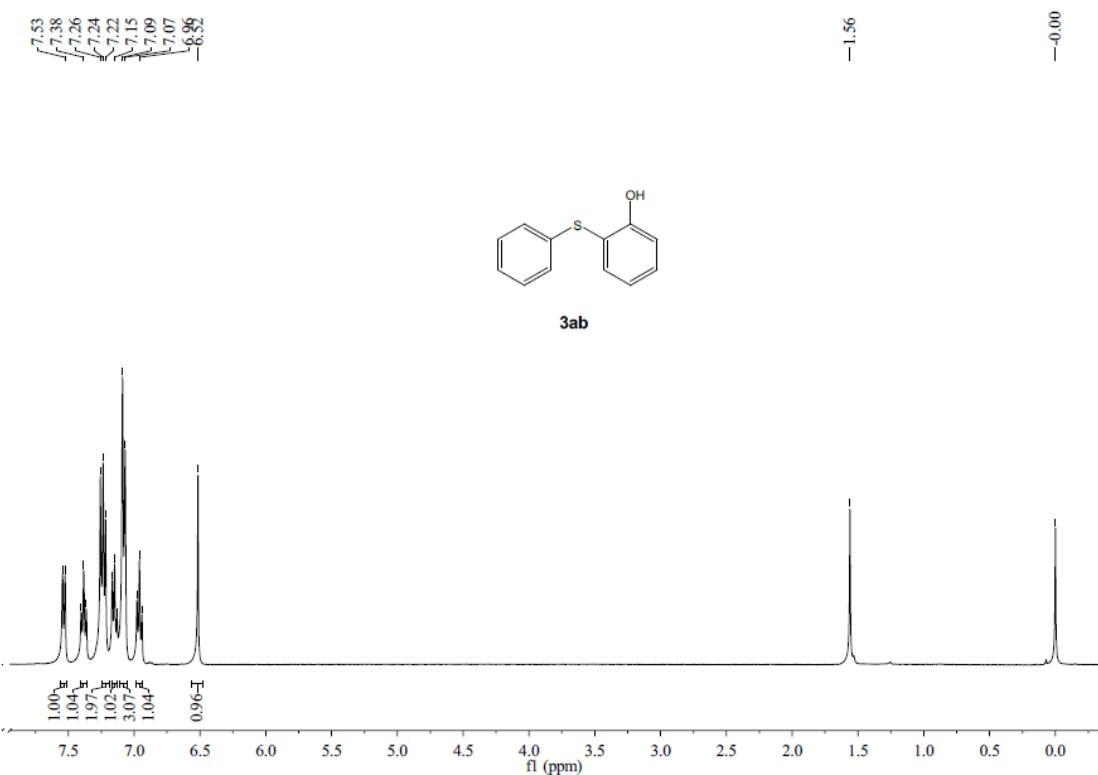


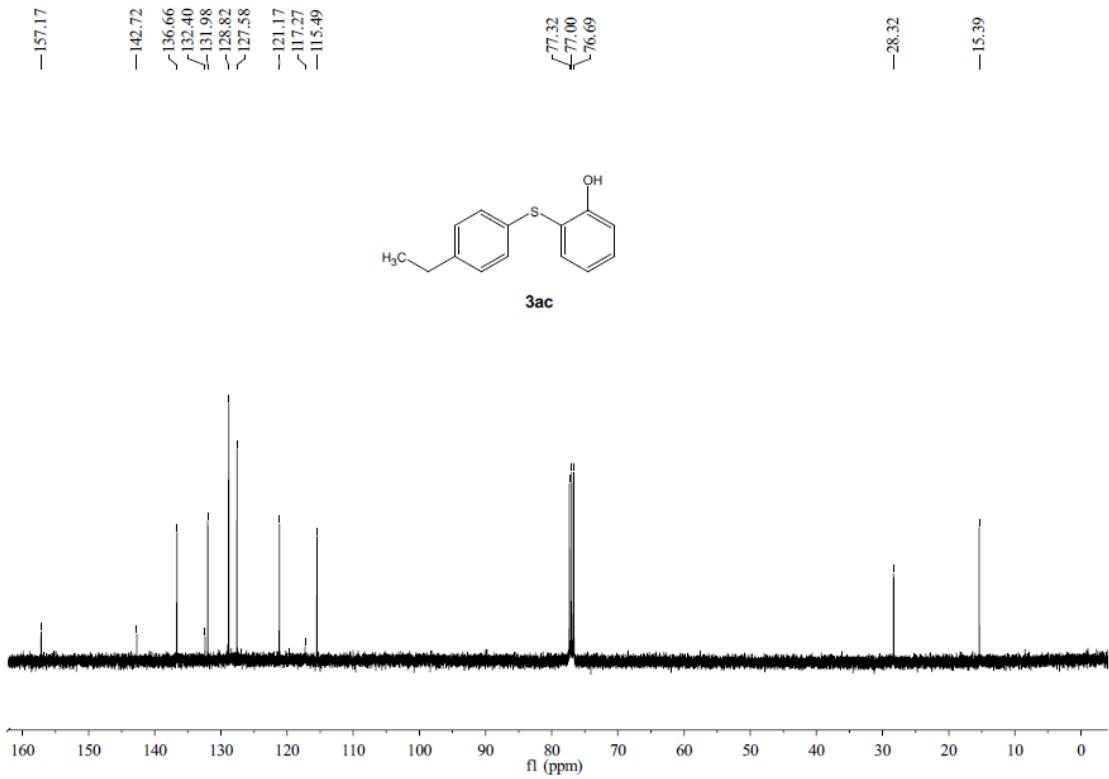
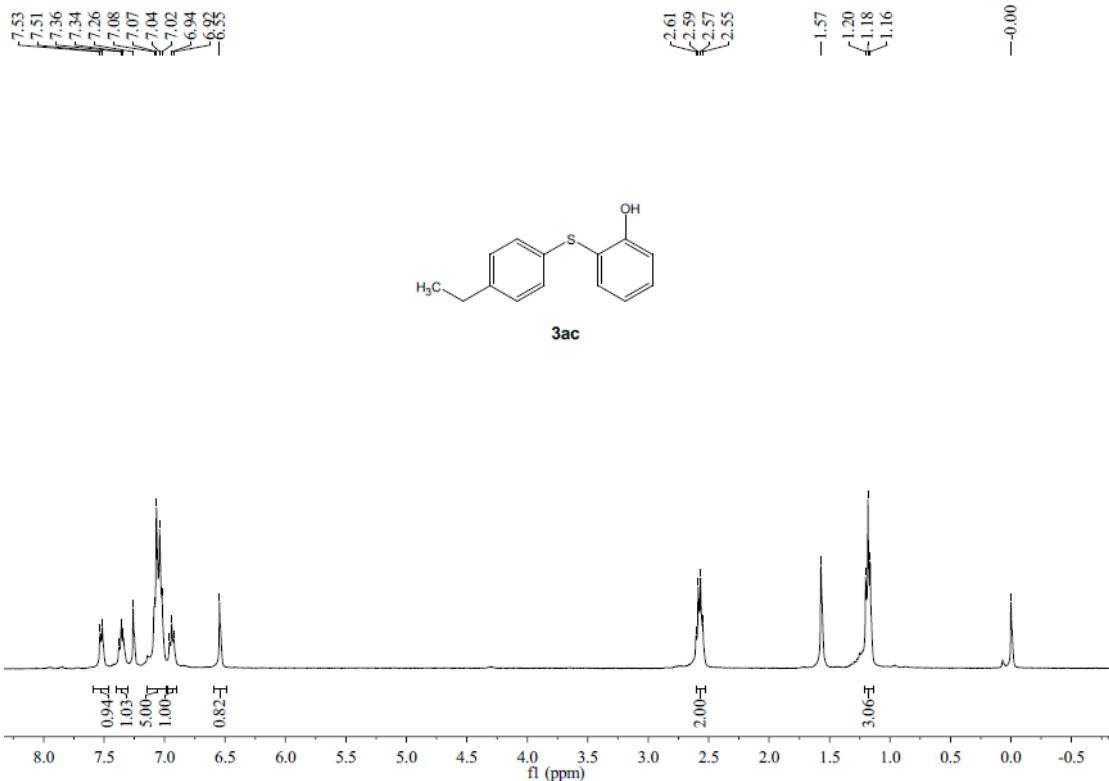


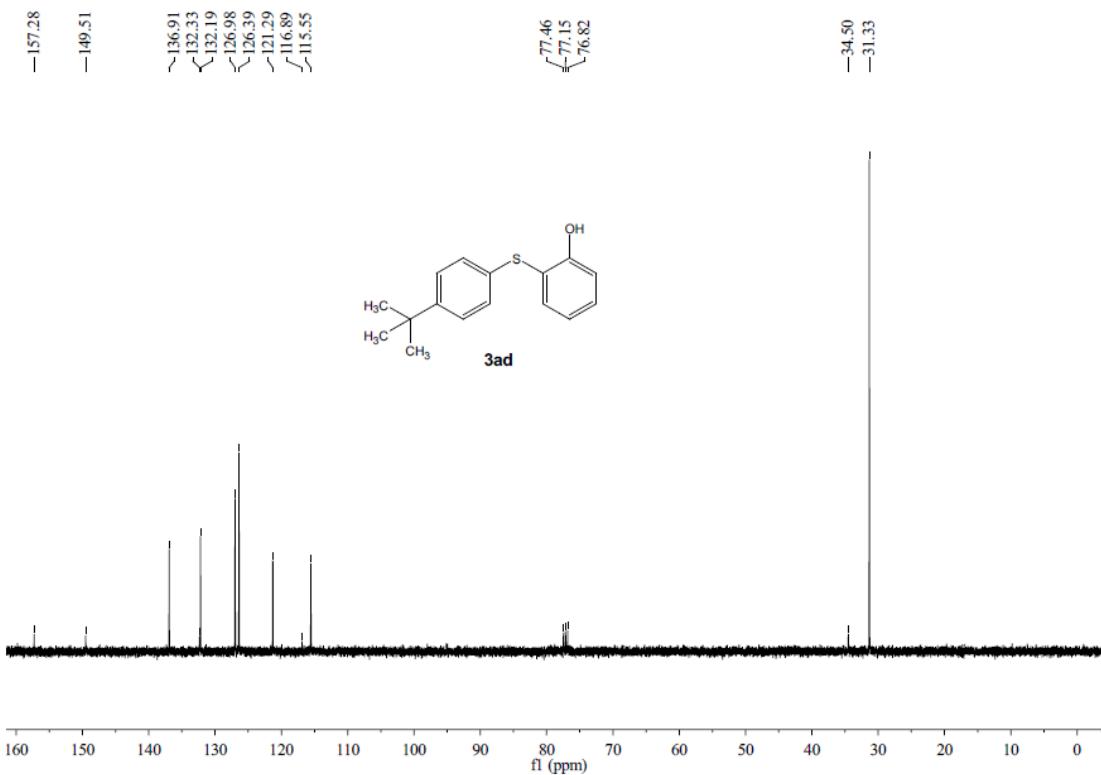
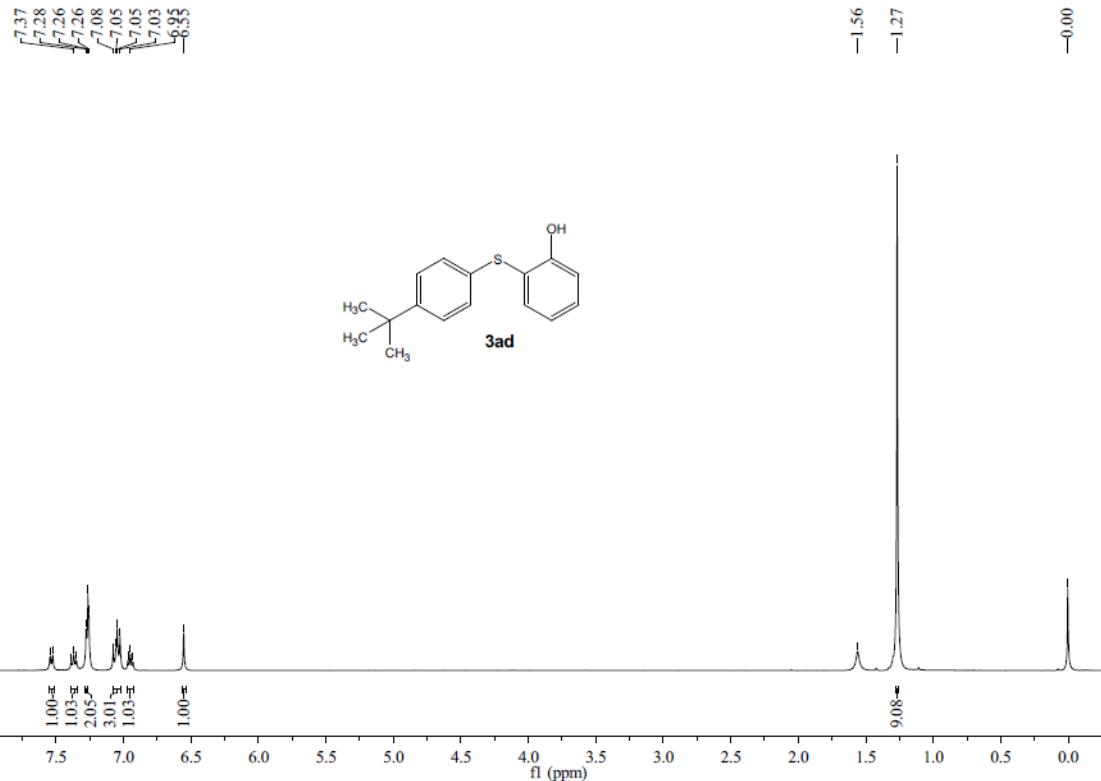


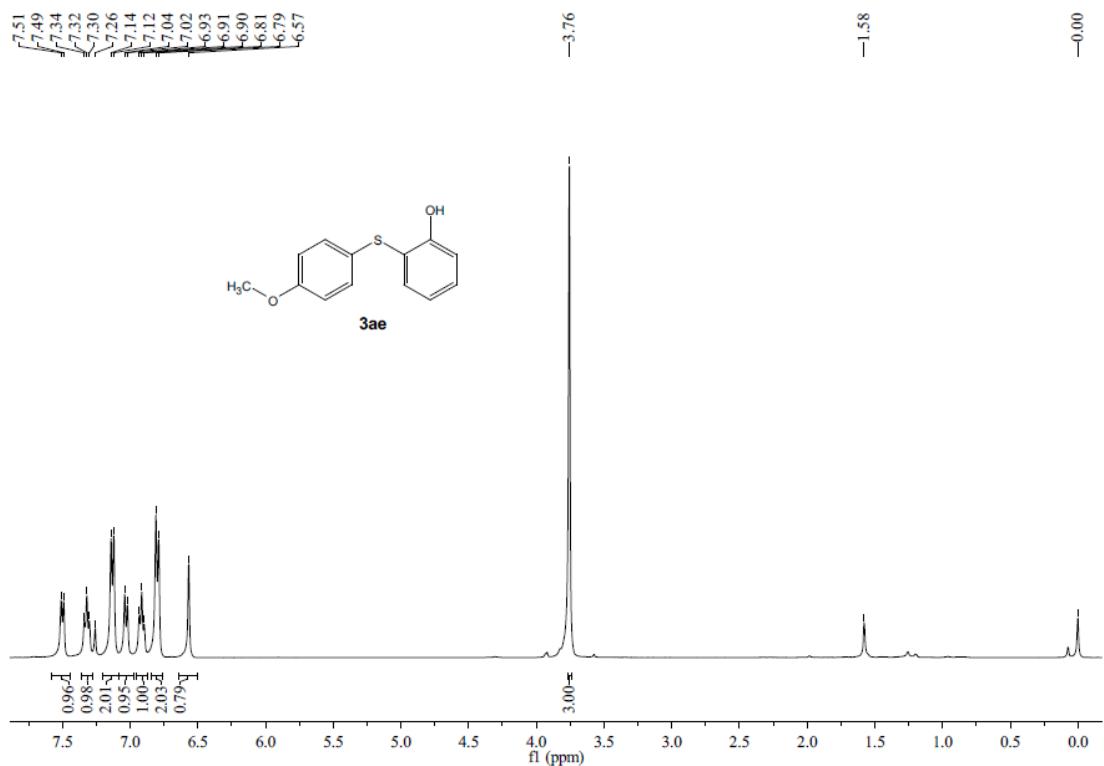


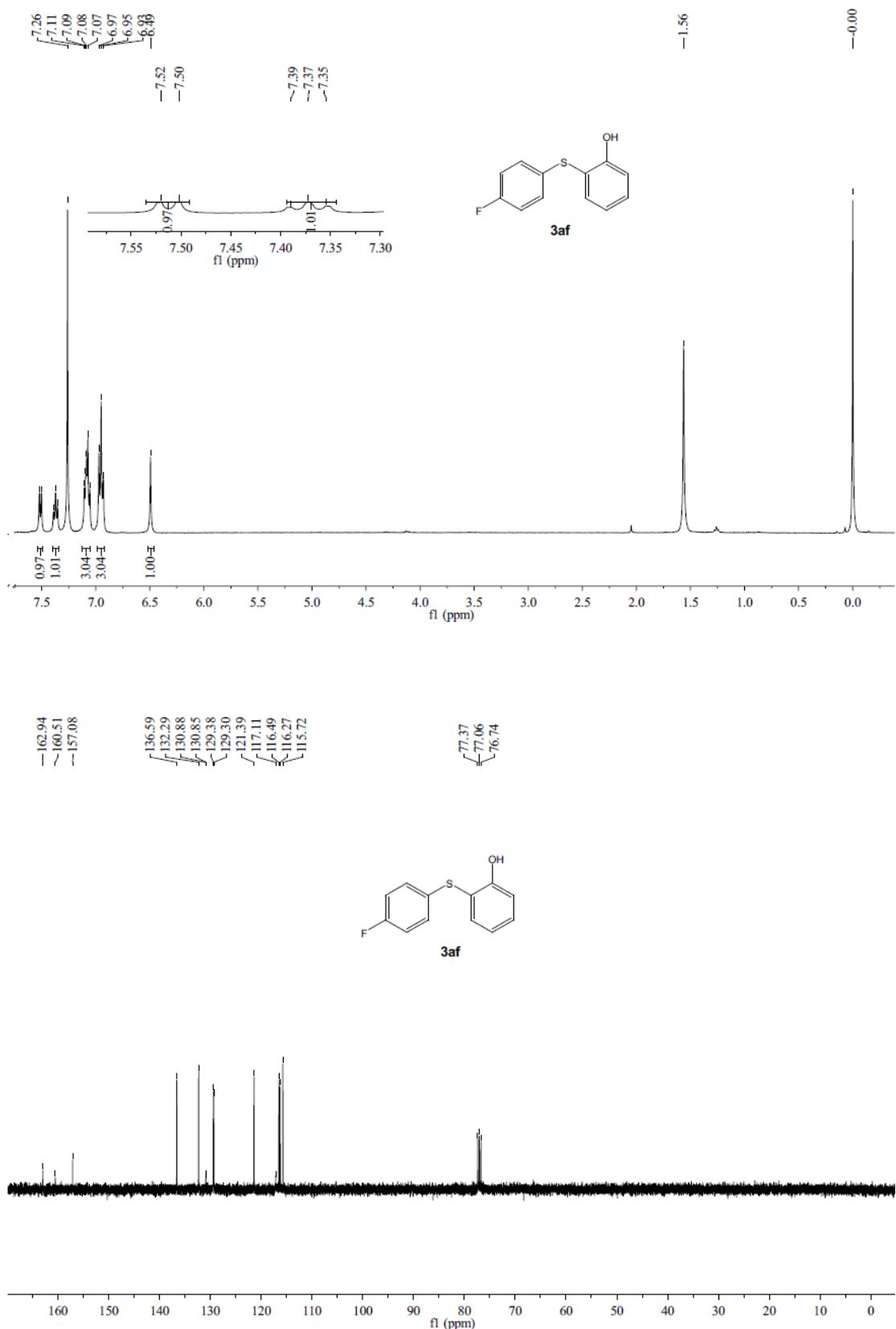


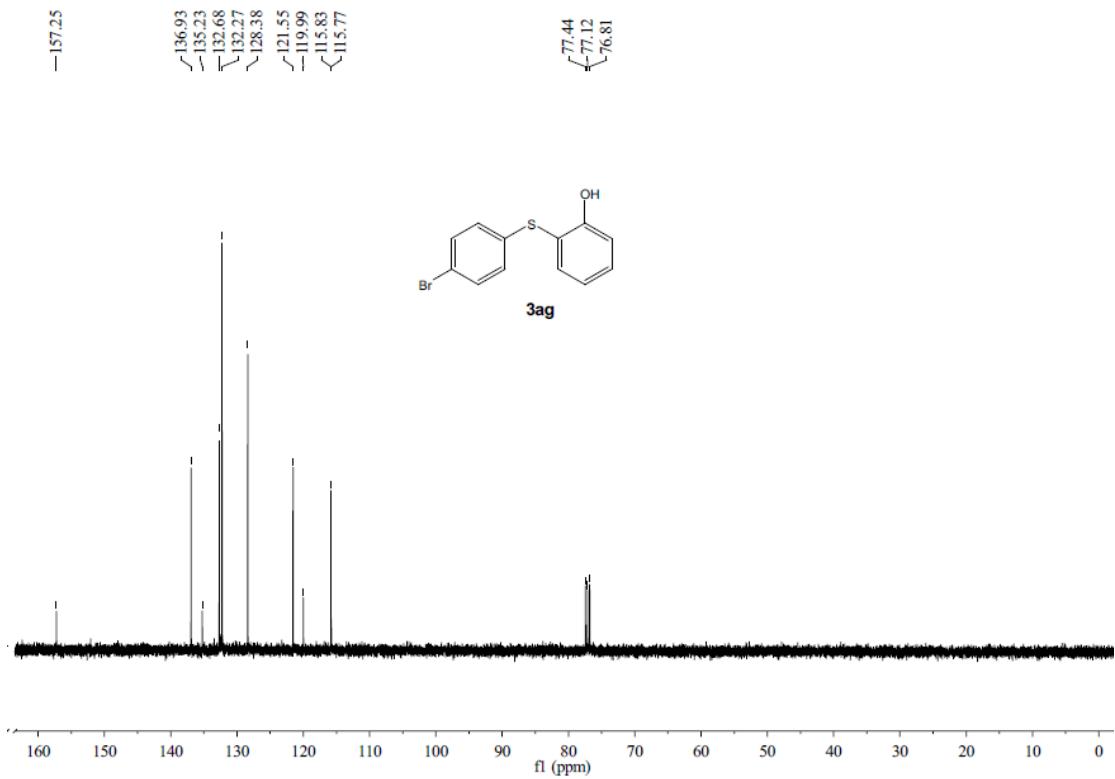
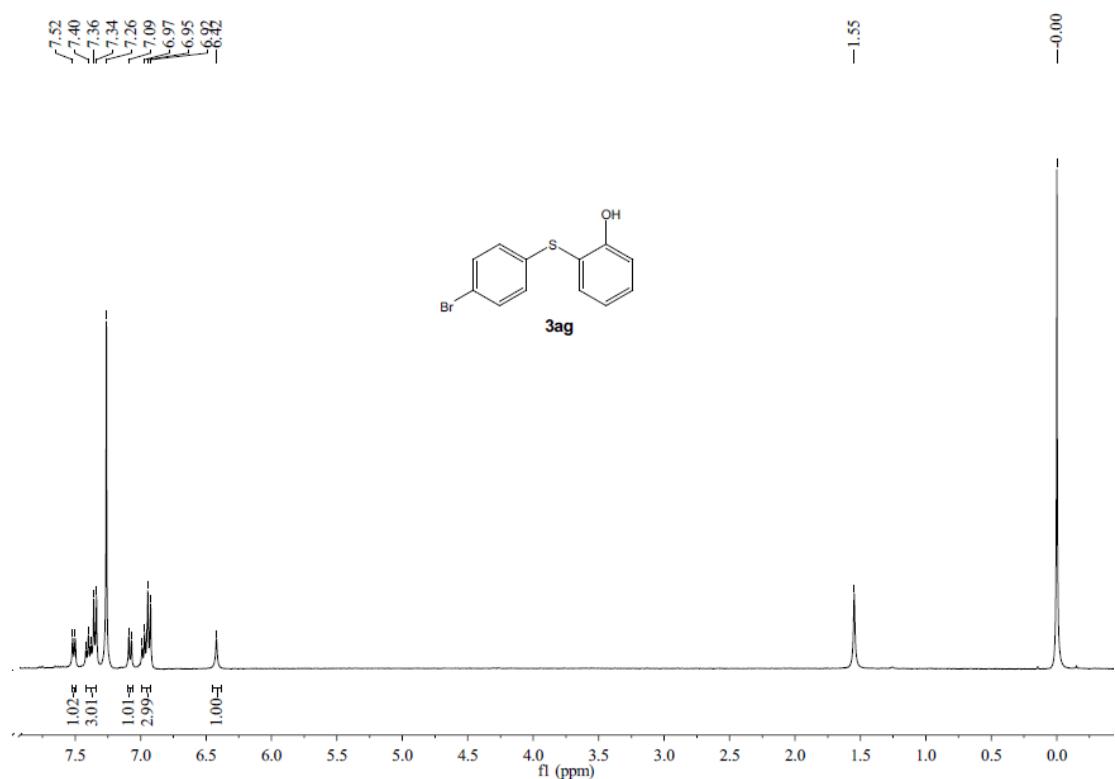


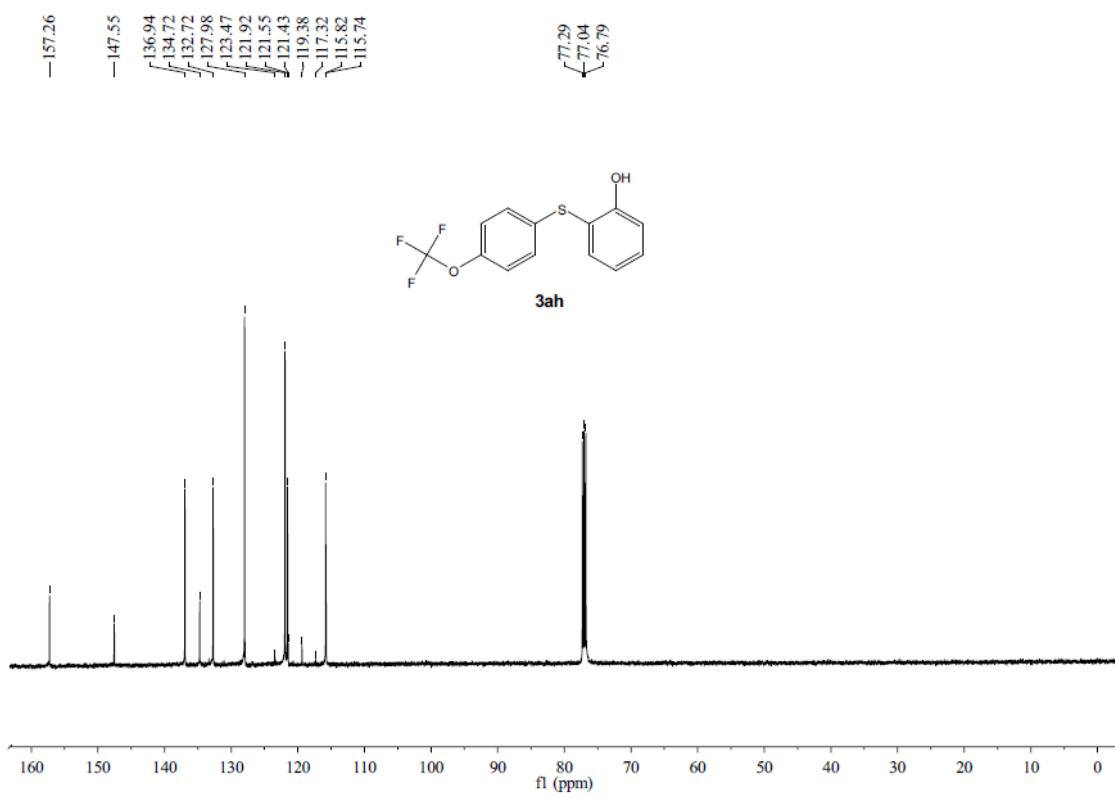
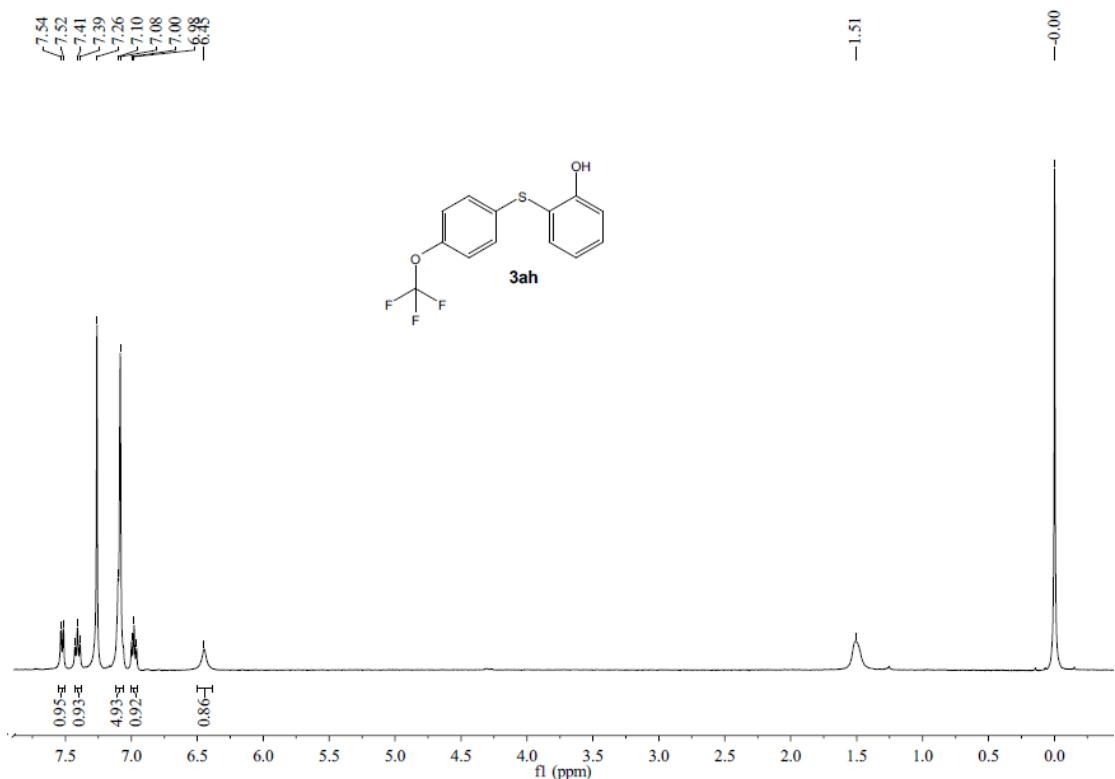


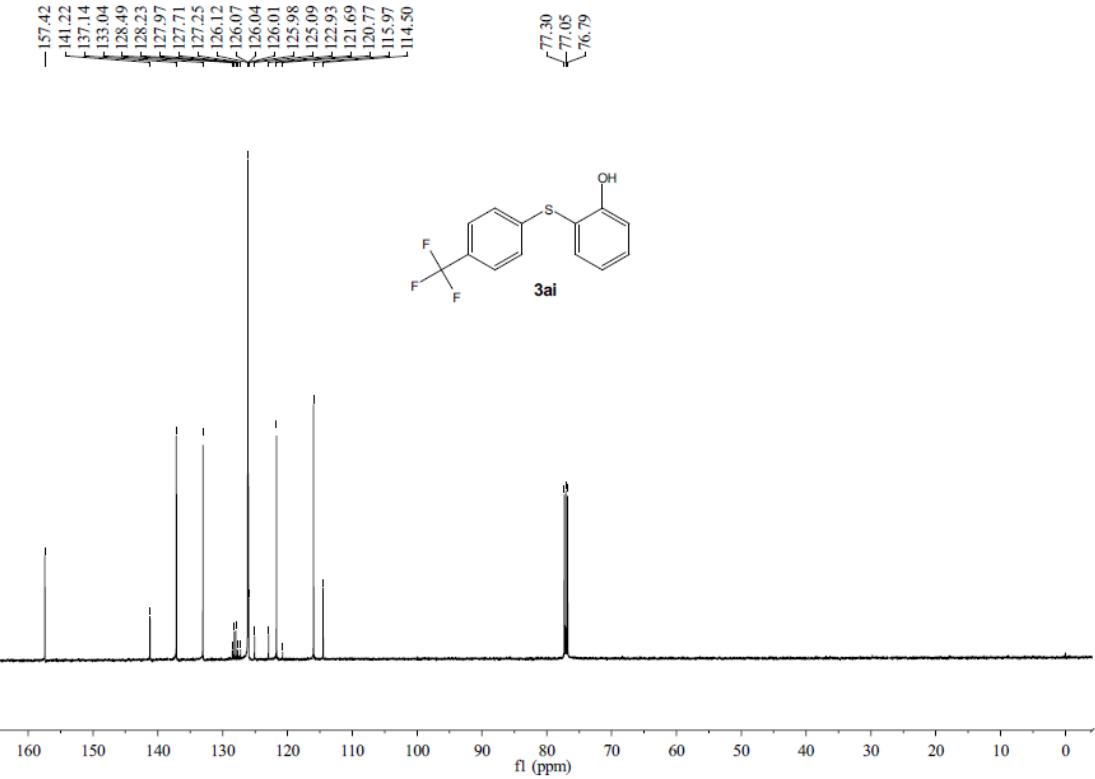
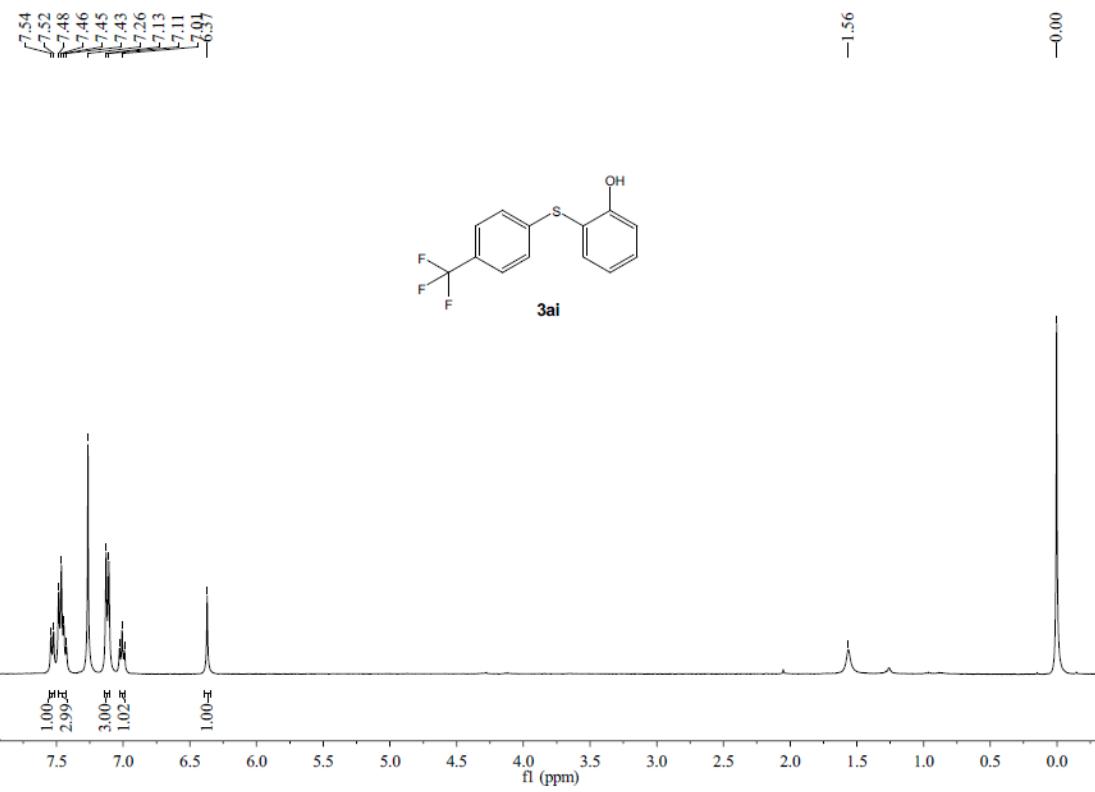


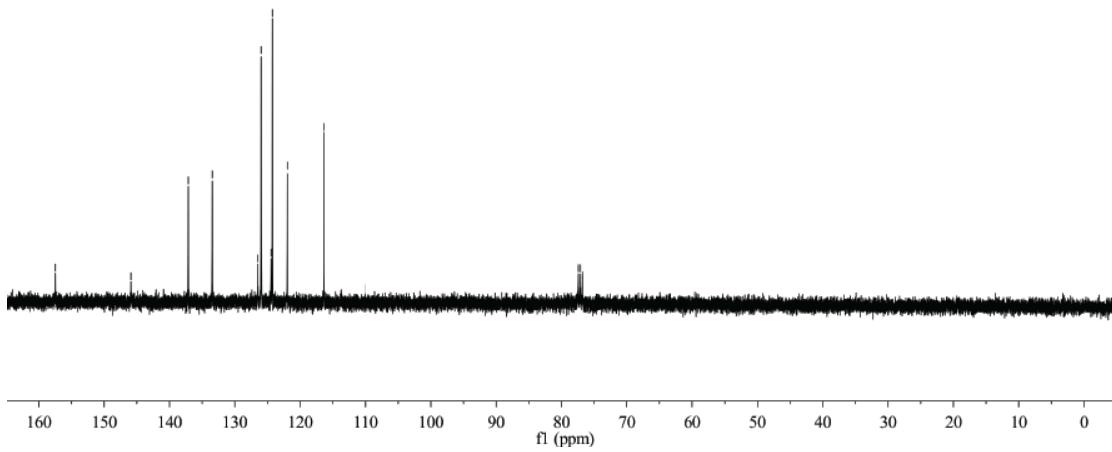
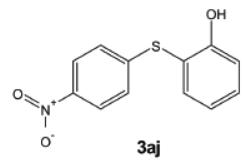
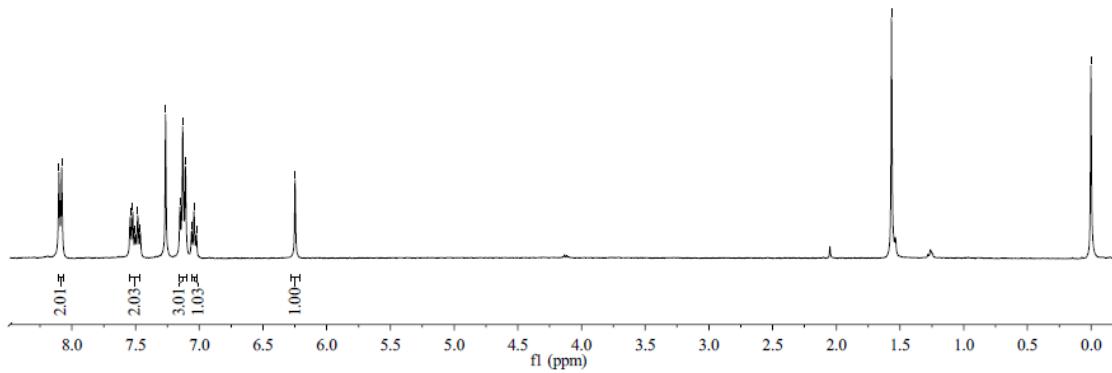


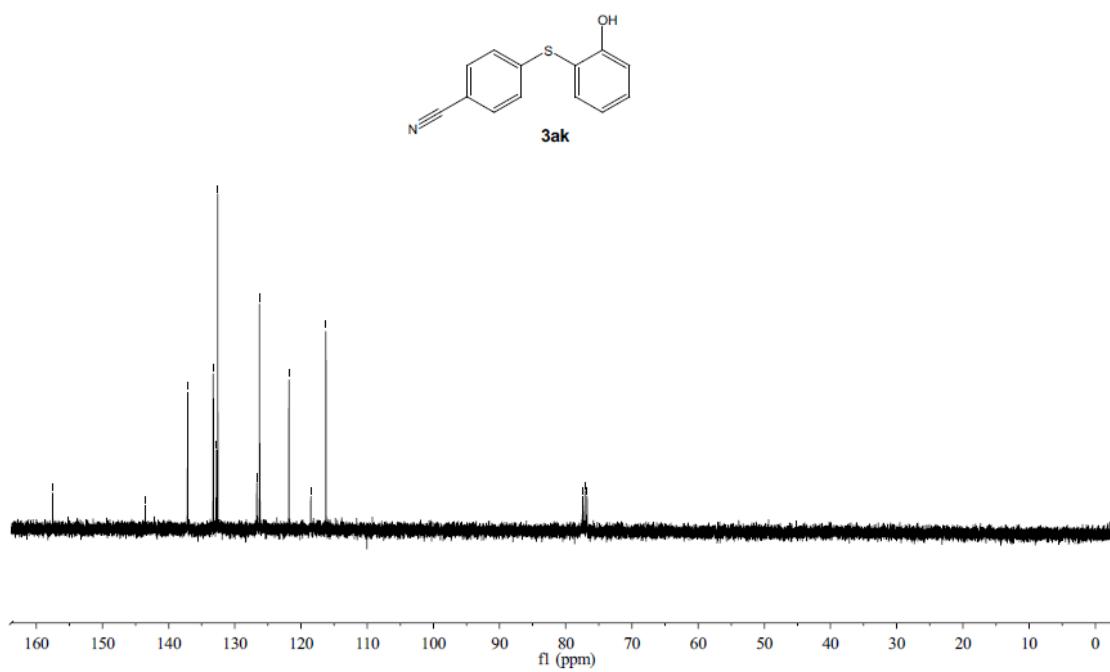
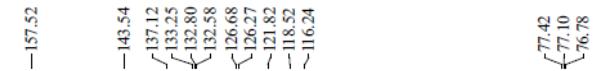
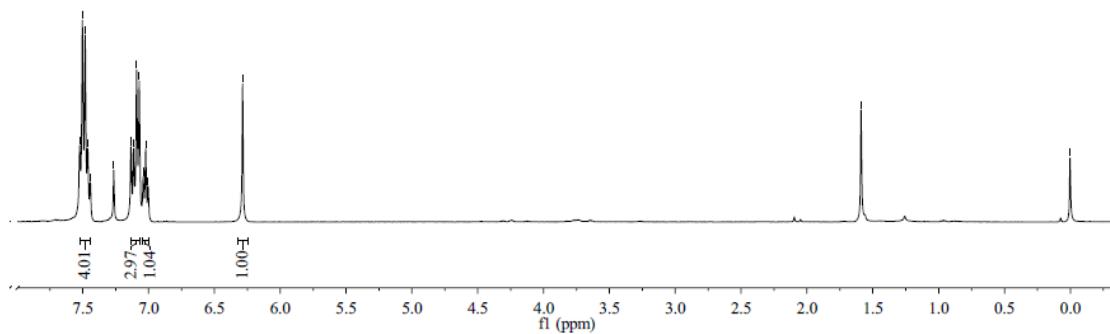


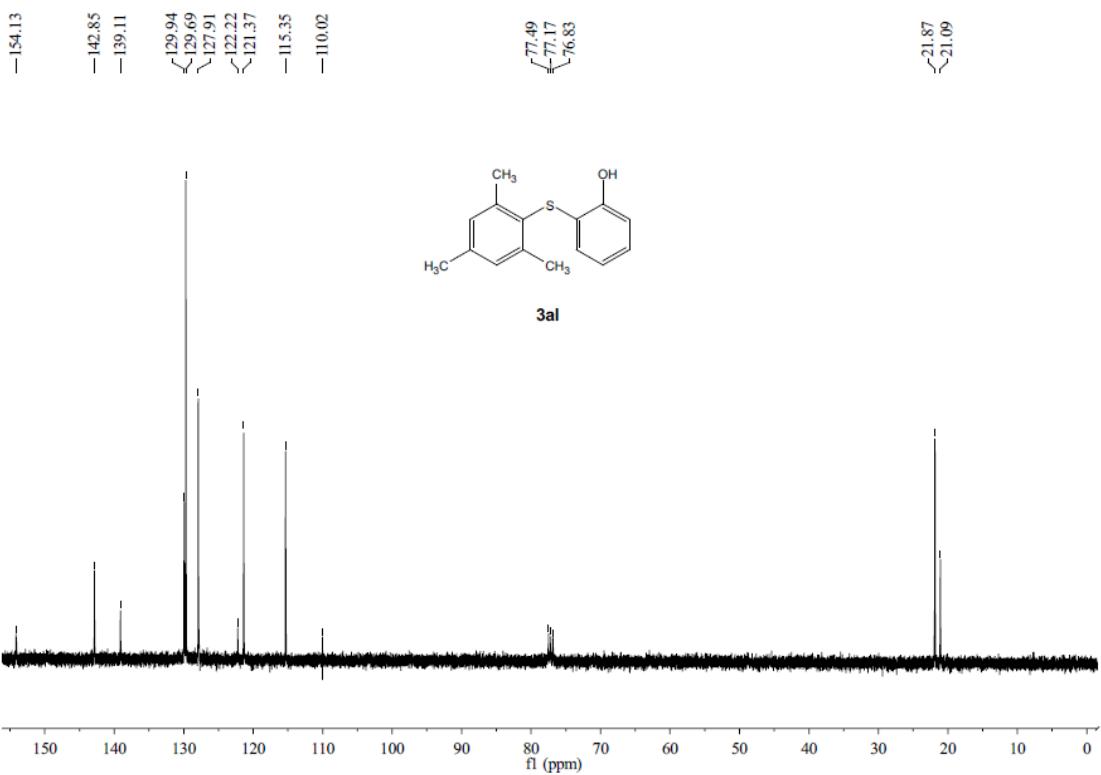
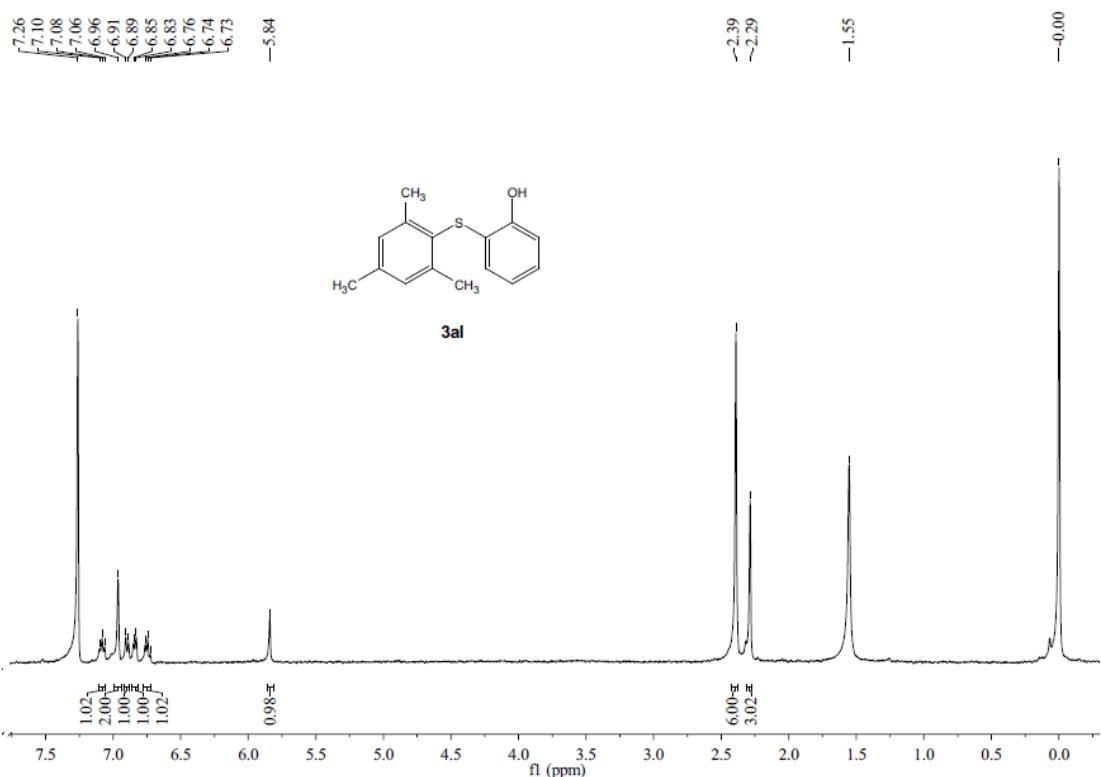


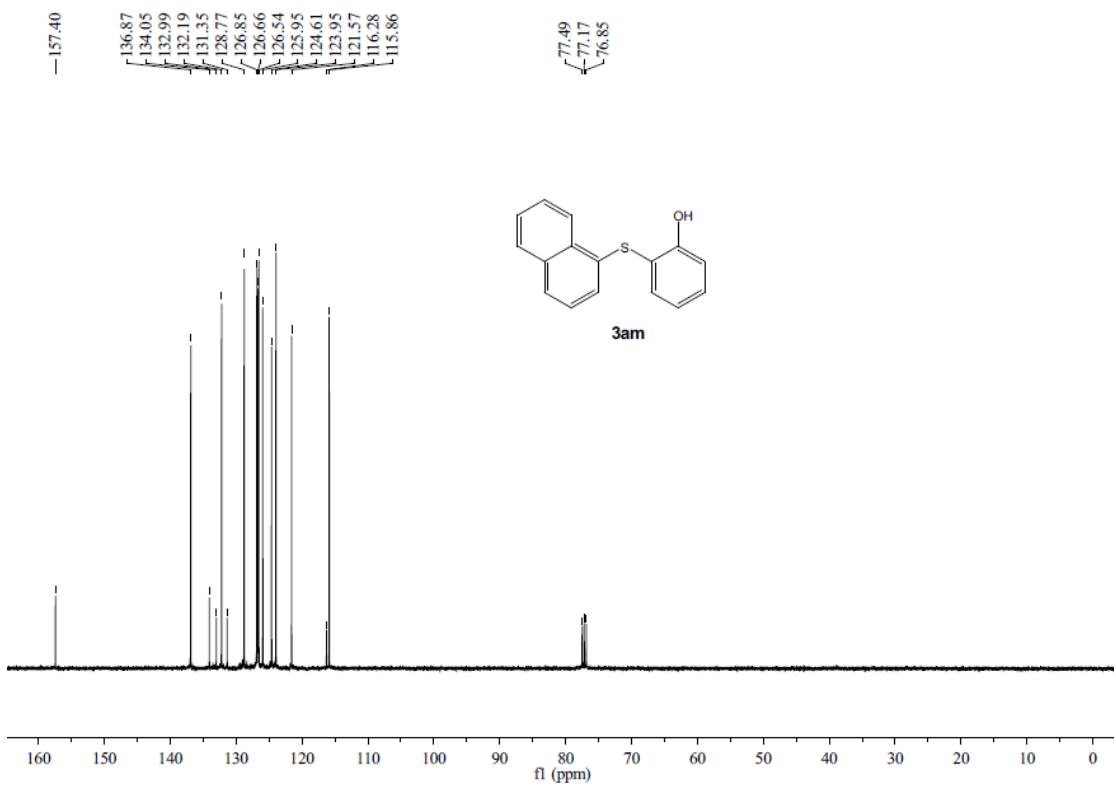
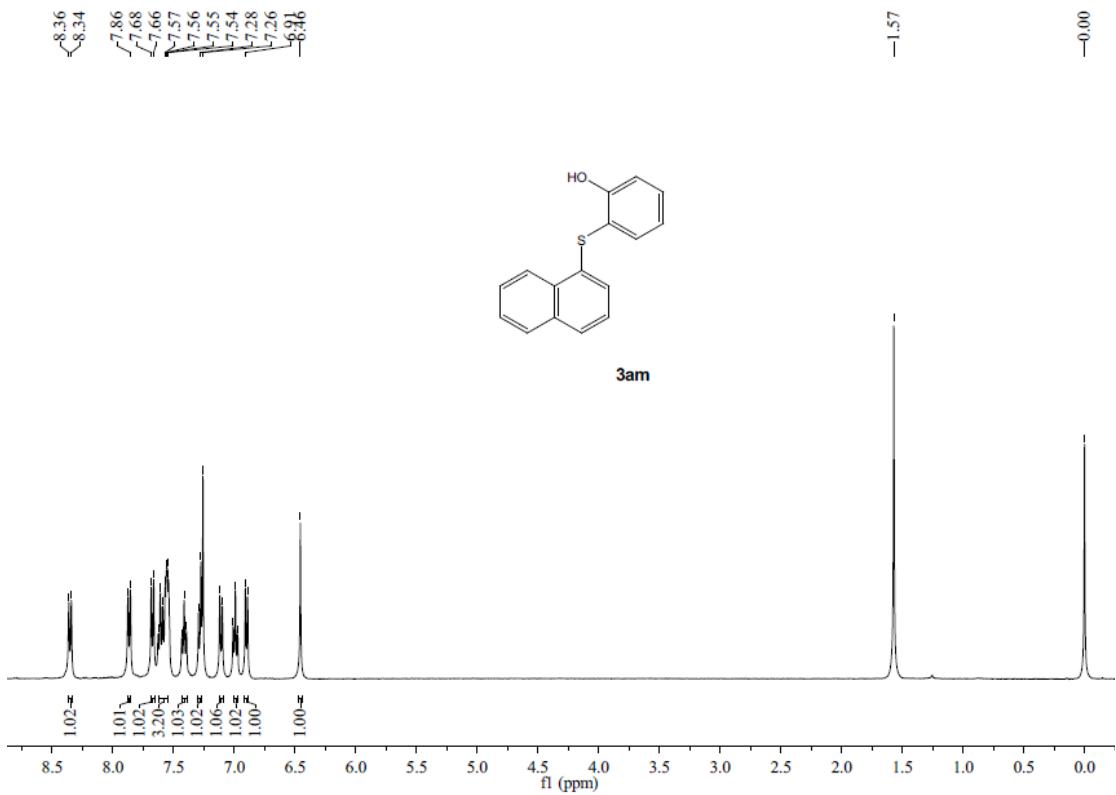


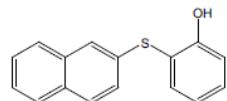
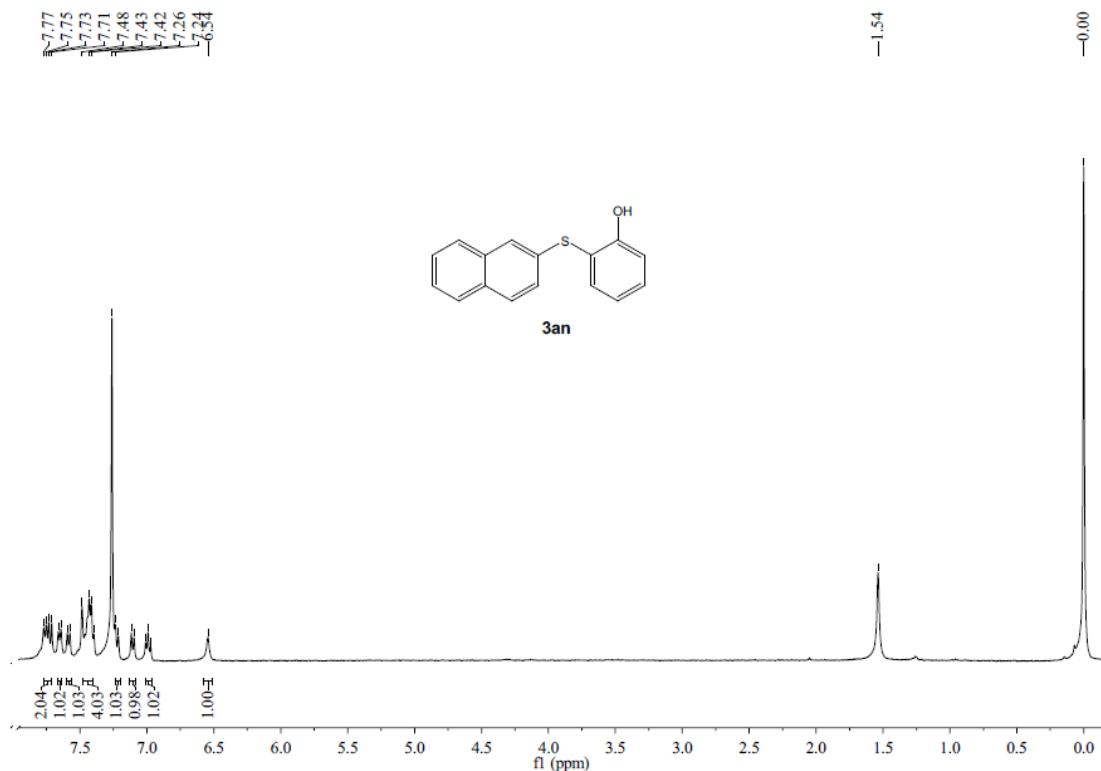




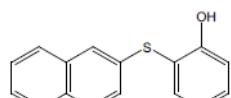
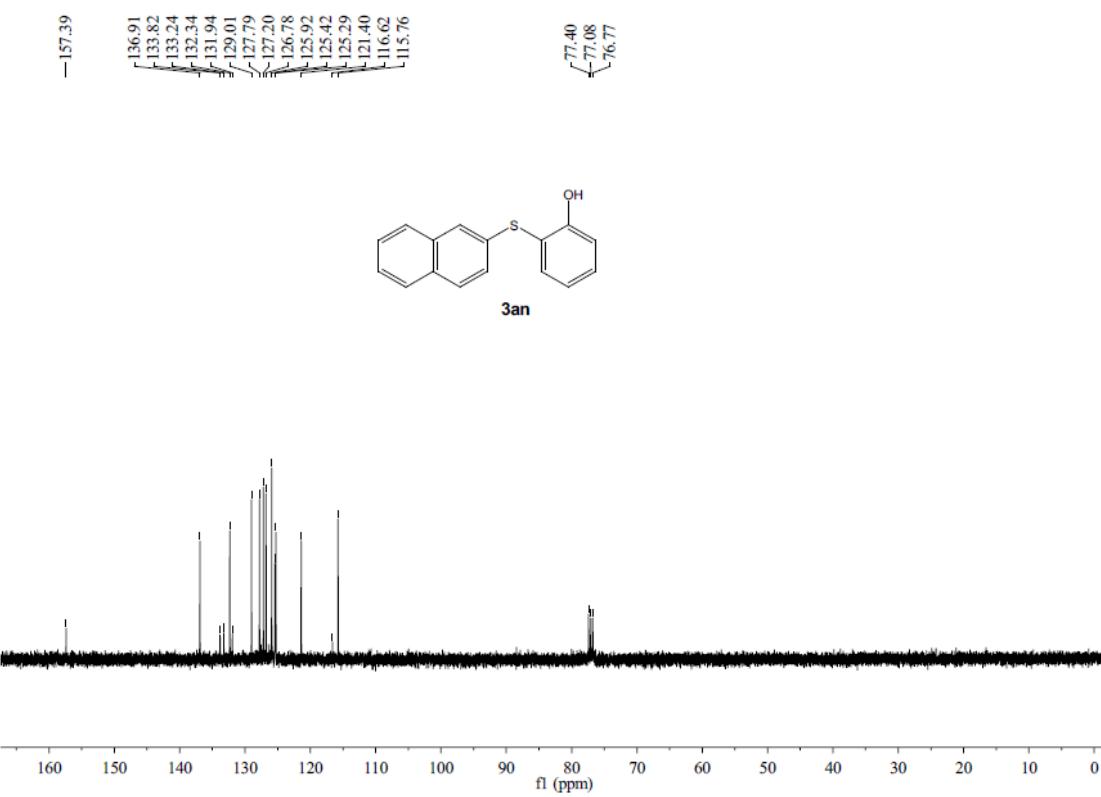








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