

Electronic Supplementary Information

Direct reductive amination of 5-hydroxymethylfurfural with primary/secondary amines via Ru-complex catalyzed hydrogenation

Zhanwei Xu, Peifang Yan, Wenjuan Xu, Songyan Jia, Zhi Xia, Benjamin Chung, Z. Conrad Zhang*

State Key Laboratory of Catalysis, Dalian National Lab for Clean Energy, Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 457 Zhongshan Road, Dalian, China.

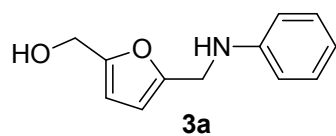
1. General Methods

NMR spectra were obtained in CDCl₃ on a 400 MHz instrument and recorded at the following frequencies: proton (¹H, 400 MHz), carbon (¹³C, 100 MHz). ¹H NMR chemical shifts were reported in ppm using tetramethylsilane (TMS, δ (ppm) = 0.00 ppm) as the internal standard. ¹³C NMR spectra were reported in ppm using CDCl₃ as the internal standard. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel and analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica gel plates. All the reagents used were of analytical grade, purchased locally and used without any purification unless otherwise specified.

2. Experimental Procedures

To a solution of 5-HMF (63.0 mg, 0.5 mmol) in solvent (1.0 mL) at room temperature was added a catalyst (0.5 mol% to 5-HMF) and amine (0.55 mmol, 1.1 equiv to 5-HMF). A high throughput reactor (Freeslate, USA) was used which was purged with H₂ (173 psi) three times at ambient temperature before heated to the set temperature. The reactors were shaking at a rate of 700 rpm/min until completion of reaction. After removing solvent, the residual in each vial was purified on silica gel column (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate, 5:2) to afford product.

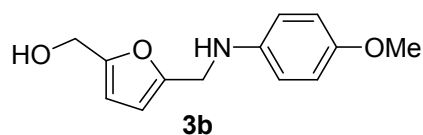
3. Analytical data



(5-((phenylamino)methyl)furan-2-yl)methanol (3a)

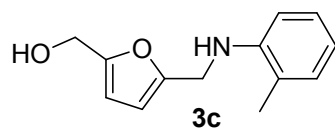
colorless oil, 94.4 mg, 93% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 3.13 (br s, 2H, NH and OH), 4.30 (s, 2H, CH₂NH), 4.54 (s, 2H, CH₂OH), 6.18 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.21 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.67–6.78 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.18–7.22 (m, 2H, ArH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 41.6, 57.4, 107.8, 108.6, 113.3, 118.2, 129.3,

147.6, 152.9, 153.5. IR $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3388, 3052, 2926, 2864, 1602, 1506, 1317, 1011, 795, 750, 692. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 204.1019, found: 204.1029.



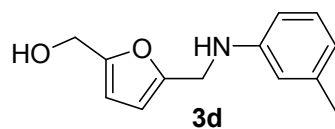
(5-(((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)methyl)furan-2-

yl)methanol (**3b**) yellow oil, 103.8 mg, 89% yield. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 3.27 (br s, 2H, NH and OH), 3.73 (s, 3H, OMe), 4.21 (s, 2H, CH_2NH), 4.51 (s, 2H, CH_2OH), 6.14 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.17 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.61–6.79 (m, 4H, ArH); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 42.6, 55.8, 57.3, 107.8, 108.5, 114.85, 114.86, 141.7, 152.6, 153.0, 153.5. IR $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3370, 2929, 1513, 1459, 1234, 1026, 821, 777. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 234.1125, found: 234.1122.



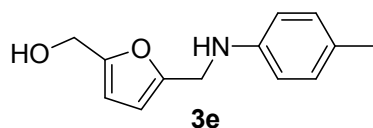
(5-((o-tolylamino)methyl)furan-2-yl)methanol (**3c**)

colorless oil, 85.8 mg, 79% yield. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 1.76 (br s, 1H, OH), 2.16 (s, 3H, Me), 3.86 (br s, 1H, NH), 4.35 (s, 2H, CH_2NH), 4.58 (s, 2H, CH_2OH), 6.19 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.22 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.67–7.13 (m, 4H, ArH); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 17.5, 41.6, 57.6, 107.8, 108.7, 110.2, 117.7, 122.4, 127.1, 130.2, 145.6, 153.0, 153.5. IR $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3402, 3016, 2925, 2857, 1606, 1512, 1011, 793, 748. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{NNaO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 240.0995, found: 240.0998.



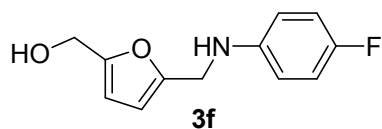
(5-((m-tolylamino)methyl)furan-2-yl)methanol (**3d**)

colorless oil, 98.0 mg, 90% yield. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 1.92 (br s, 1H, OH), 2.27 (s, 3H, Me), 3.95 (br s, 1H, NH), 4.28 (s, 2H, CH_2NH), 4.55 (s, 2H, CH_2OH), 6.17 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.20 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.47–6.49 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.57 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.05–7.09 (m, 1H, ArH); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 21.6, 41.6, 57.5, 107.8, 108.7, 110.3, 114.1, 119.1, 129.1, 139.1, 147.6, 153.0, 153.4. IR $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3380, 3024, 2920, 2862, 1606, 1591, 1491, 1177, 1011, 771, 692. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 218.1176, found: 218.1173.



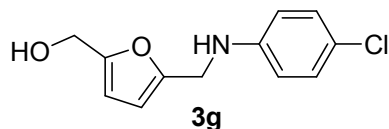
(5-((p-tolylamino)methyl)furan-2-yl)methanol (3e)

yellow solid, mp 53 °C, 99.2 mg, 91% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.23 (s, 3H, Me), 4.26 (s, 2H, CH₂NH), 4.54 (s, 2H, CH₂OH), 6.15 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.19 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.59 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, ArH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 20.4, 41.9, 57.5, 107.8, 108.7, 113.5, 127.4, 129.8, 145.3, 153.1, 153.4. IR ν_{max}/cm⁻¹ 3369, 3019, 2920, 2864, 1617, 1520, 1252, 1011, 806. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for C₁₃H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 218.1176, found: 218.1168.



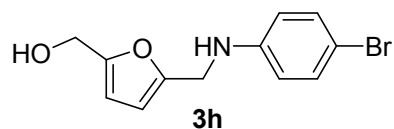
(5-(((4-fluorophenyl)amino)methyl)furan-2-yl)methanol

(3f) colorless oil, 104.0 mg, 94% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 3.11 (br s, 2H, OH and NH), 4.23 (s, 2H, CH₂NH), 4.53 (s, 2H, CH₂OH), 6.16 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.19 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.57–6.62 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.85–6.92 (m, 2H, ArH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 42.2, 57.4, 107.9, 108.6, 114.2 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 115.7 (d, *J* = 22.2 Hz), 143.9 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz), 152.6, 153.5, 156.2 (d, *J* = 234.2 Hz). IR ν_{max}/cm⁻¹ 3353, 2929, 2866, 1511, 1220, 1011, 822, 797. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for C₁₂H₁₂FNNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 244.0744, found: 244.0750.



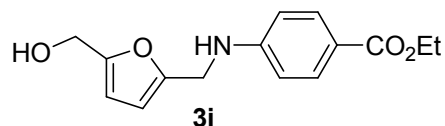
(5-(((4-chlorophenyl)amino)methyl)furan-2-

yl)methanol (3g) colorless oil, 113.0 mg, 95% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 3.11 (br s, 2H, OH and NH), 4.26 (s, 2H, CH₂NH), 4.55 (s, 2H, CH₂OH), 6.16 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.21 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.56–6.61 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.08–7.14 (m, 2H, ArH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 41.6, 57.5, 108.0, 108.7, 114.3, 122.7, 129.1, 146.1, 152.4, 153.6. IR ν_{max}/cm⁻¹ 3351, 2928, 2865, 1600, 1499, 1009, 816, 795. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for C₁₂H₁₂ClNNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 260.0449, found: 260.0453.

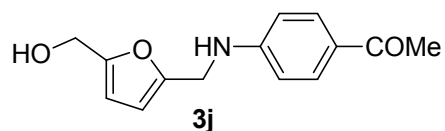


(5-(((4-bromophenyl)amino)methyl)furan-2-

yl)methanol (**3h**) yellow solid, mp 83 °C, 133.7 mg, 95% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.85 (br s, 1H, OH), 4.07 (br s, 1H, NH), 4.26 (s, 2H, CH₂NH), 4.56 (s, 2H, CH₂OH), 6.16 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.20 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.15–7.26 (m, 4H, ArH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 41.5, 57.5, 108.0, 108.7, 109.7, 114.8, 132.0, 146.5, 152.3, 153.6. IR ν_{max}/cm⁻¹ 3399, 2927, 2865, 1594, 1497, 1316, 1010, 813. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for C₁₂H₁₂BrNNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 303.9944, found: 303.9953.

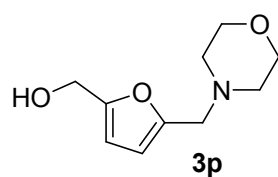


ethyl 4-(((5-(hydroxymethyl)furan-2-yl)methyl)amino)benzoate (**3i**) light yellow solid, mp 133 °C, 95.0 mg, 69% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, OCH₂CH₃), 4.30–4.35 (m, 4H), 4.58 (s, 2H, CH₂OH), 6.19 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.22 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.63 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H, ArH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 14.4, 40.9, 57.4, 60.3, 108.2, 108.6, 111.9, 131.5, 151.2, 151.8, 153.8, 168.9. IR ν_{max}/cm⁻¹ 3405, 2927, 2865, 1680, 1595, 1495, 1314, 1010, 815. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for C₁₅H₁₇NNaO₄ [M+Na]⁺: 298.1055, found: 298.1061.



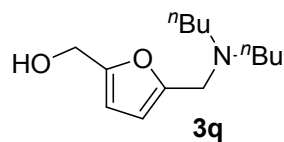
1-(4-(((5-(hydroxymethyl)furan-2-

yl)methyl)amino)phenyl)ethanone (**3j**) yellow solid, mp 154 °C, 80.8 mg, 66% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.39 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 4.30–4.35 (m, 4H), 4.30–4.35 (m, 1H), 6.19 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.23 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.67 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H, ArH), 6.99–7.02 (m, 1H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H, ArH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 26.4, 56.2, 108.0, 108.3, 111.6, 125.8, 130.8, 152.0, 152.9, 155.2, 195.5. IR ν_{max}/cm⁻¹ 3410, 2927, 2864, 1710, 1598, 1494, 1319, 1010, 813. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for C₁₄H₁₆NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 246.1130, found: 246.1135.

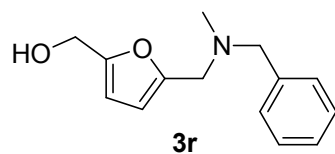


(5-(morpholinomethyl)furan-2-yl)methanol (**3j**) white solid, mp

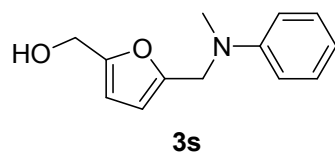
78 °C, 81.7 mg, 83% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.47 (t, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 4H, CH₂OCH₂), 2.65 (br s, 1H, OH), 3.51 (s, 2H, CH₂N(CH₂CH₂)₂), 3.71 (t, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 4H, CH₂N(CH₂CH₂)₂), 4.57 (s, 2H, CH₂OH), 6.17 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.21 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H, furanH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 53.3, 55.4, 57.4, 66.7, 108.2, 110.0, 151.0, 154.2. IR ν_{max}/cm⁻¹ 3397, 2922, 2858, 2816, 1453, 1115, 1006, 791. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for C₁₀H₁₆NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 198.1125, found: 198.1127.



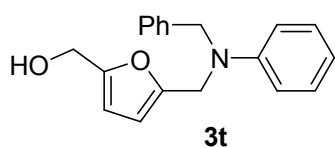
(5-((dibutylamino)methyl)furan-2-yl)methanol (**3k**) colorless oil, 80.5 mg, 67% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 0.90 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 6H, Me), 1.24–1.49 (m, 8H, CH₂CH₂), 2.41–2.45 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂), 2.49 (br s, 1H, OH), 3.61 (s, 2H, CH₂N), 4.55 (s, 2H, CH₂OH), 6.10 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.20 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, furanH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 14.0, 20.7, 29.0, 50.2, 53.6, 57.5, 108.1, 109.1, 152.8, 153.5. IR ν_{max}/cm⁻¹ 3367, 2957, 2932, 2871, 1459, 1377, 1015, 791. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for C₁₆H₂₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 240.1958, found: 240.1972.



(5-((benzyl(methyl)amino)methyl)furan-2-yl)methanol (**3l**) colorless oil, 100.6 mg, 87% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 2.23 (s, 3H, Me), 3.53 (s, 2H, CH₂N), 3.55 (s, 2H, CH₂N), 4.57 (s, 2H, CH₂OH), 6.15 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.21 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, furanH), 7.23–7.32 (m, 5H, ArH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 42.1, 53.5, 57.6, 61.3, 108.3, 109.4, 127.1, 128.3, 129.2, 138.5, 152.4, 153.7. IR ν_{max}/cm⁻¹ 3370, 2925, 2840, 2793, 1453, 1014, 794, 739, 699. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for C₁₄H₁₈NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 232.1332, found: 232.1347.

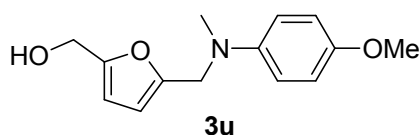


(5-((methyl(phenyl)amino)methyl)furan-2-yl)methanol (**3m**) colorless oil, 85.8 mg, 79% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.76 (br s, 1H, OH), 2.98 (s, 3H, Me), 4.43 (s, 2H, CH₂N), 4.54 (s, 2H, CH₂OH), 6.06 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.18 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.71–7.25 (m, 5H, ArH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 38.4, 50.1, 57.6, 108.0, 108.6, 113.1, 117.2, 129.1, 149.3, 152.5, 153.4. IR ν_{max}/cm⁻¹ 3369, 2928, 1599, 1506, 1011, 748, 794, 692. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for C₁₃H₁₅NNaO₂ [M+Na]⁺: 240.0995, found: 240.0984.



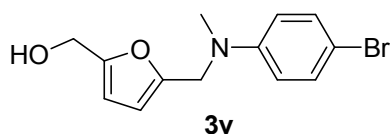
(5-((benzyl(phenyl)amino)methyl)furan-2-yl)methanol (**3n**)

colorless oil, 108.6 mg, 74% yield. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 1.74 (br s, 1H, OH), 4.51 (s, 4H, $\text{N}(\text{CH}_2)_2$), 4.60 (s, 2H, CH_2OH), 6.10 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.17 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.70–7.32 (m, 10H, ArH); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 47.8, 54.4, 57.6, 108.3, 108.6, 113.0, 117.3, 126.7, 126.9, 128.6, 129.2, 138.7, 148.8, 152.4, 153.5. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3368, 3060, 2925, 1598, 1505, 1011, 793, 748, 730, 693. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 294.1489, found: 294.1493.



(5-(((4-

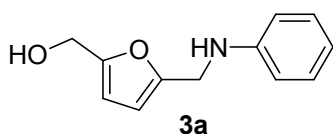
methoxyphenyl)(methyl)amino)methyl)furan-2-yl)methanol (**3o**) colorless oil, 89.1 mg, 72% yield. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 2.28 (br s, 1H, OH), 2.87 (s, 3H, NMe), 3.74 (s, 3H, OMe), 4.31 (s, 2H, CH_2N), 4.52 (s, CH_2OH), 6.04 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.16 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.79–6.82 (m, 4H, ArH); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 39.2, 51.5, 55.7, 57.5, 108.38, 108.43, 114.7, 115.8, 144.1, 152.3, 152.5, 153.5. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3393, 2933, 1513, 1244, 1036, 816. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 248.1281, found: 248.1287.

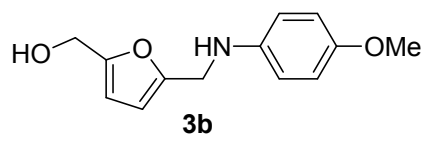
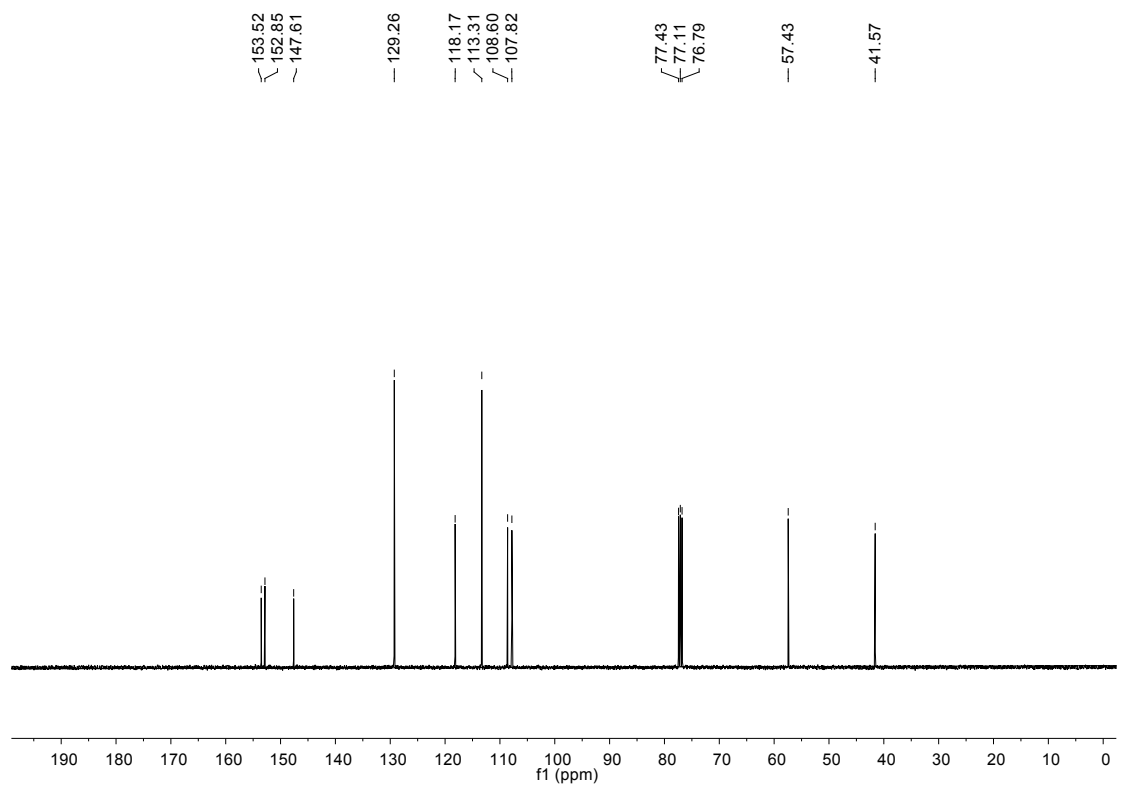
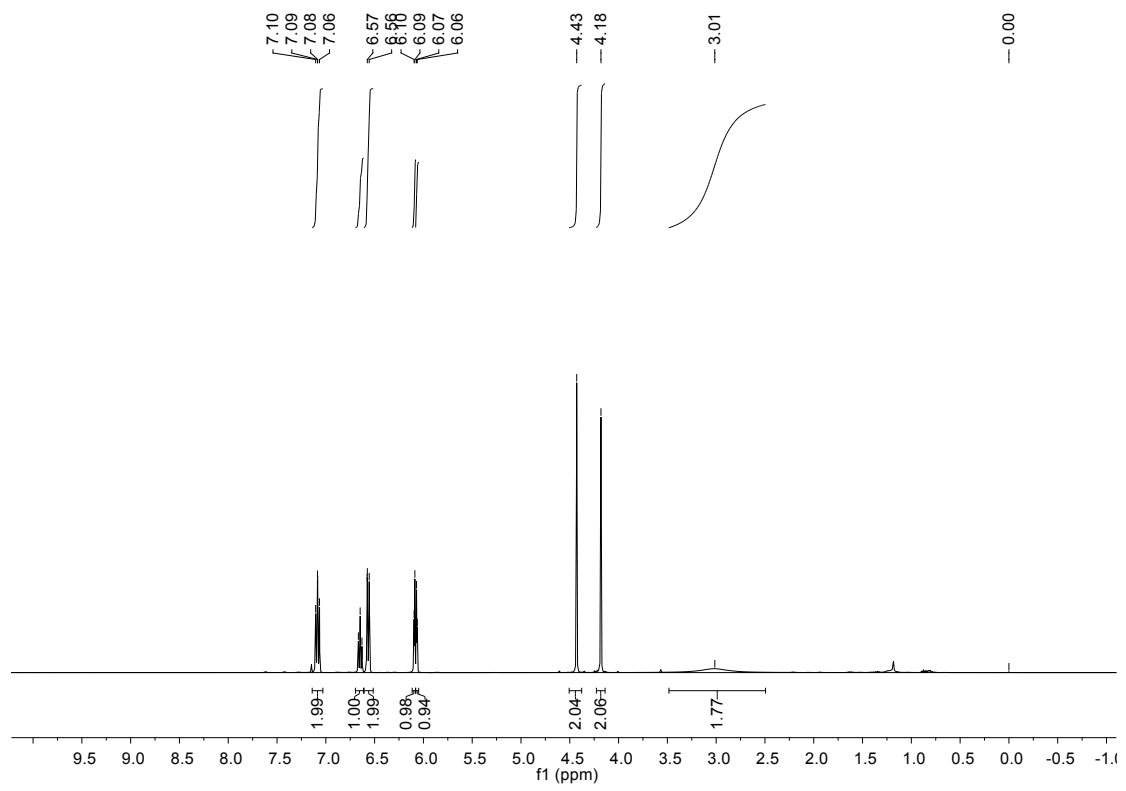


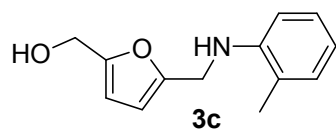
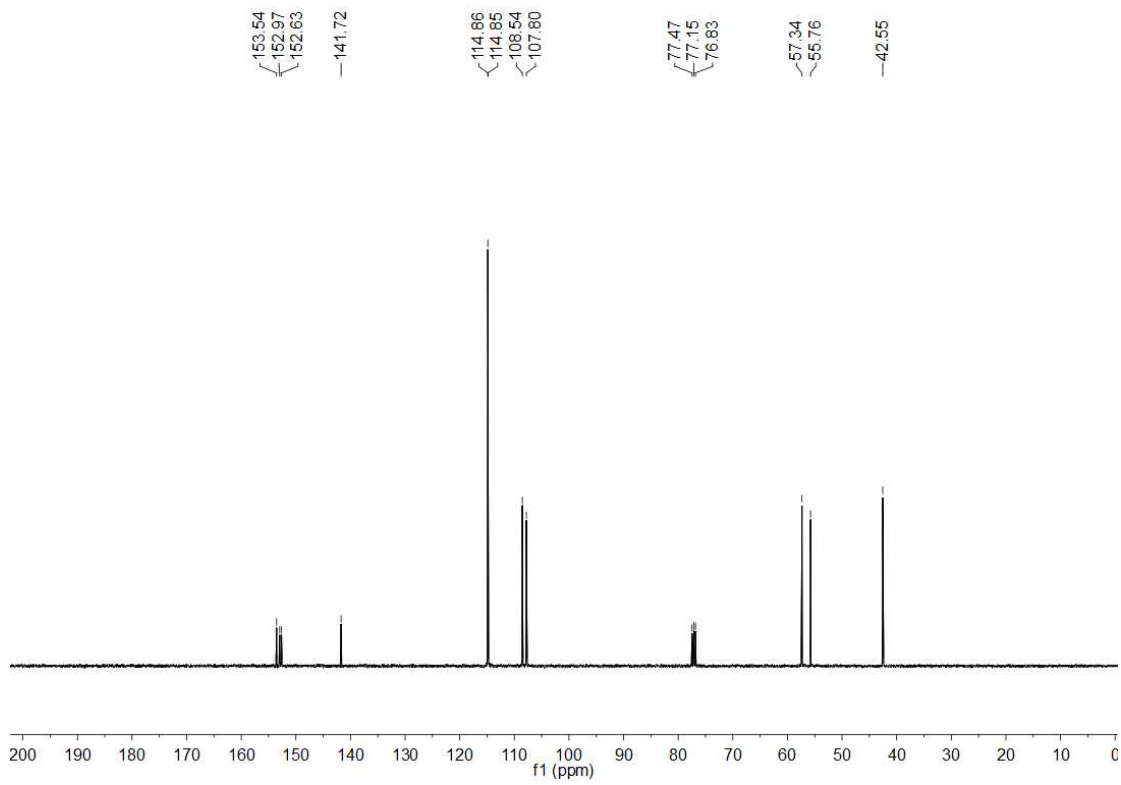
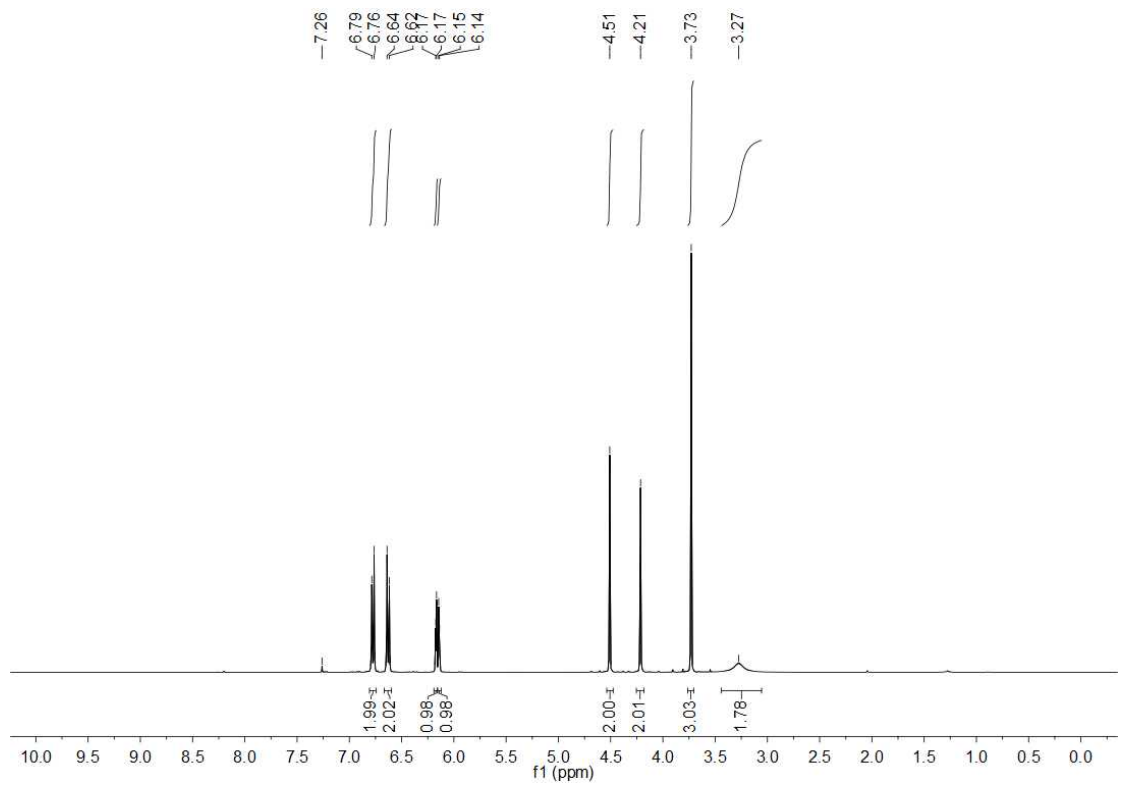
(5-(((4-bromophenyl)(methyl)amino)methyl)furan-2-

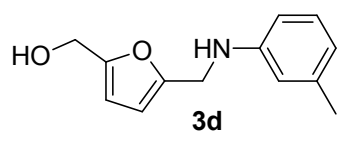
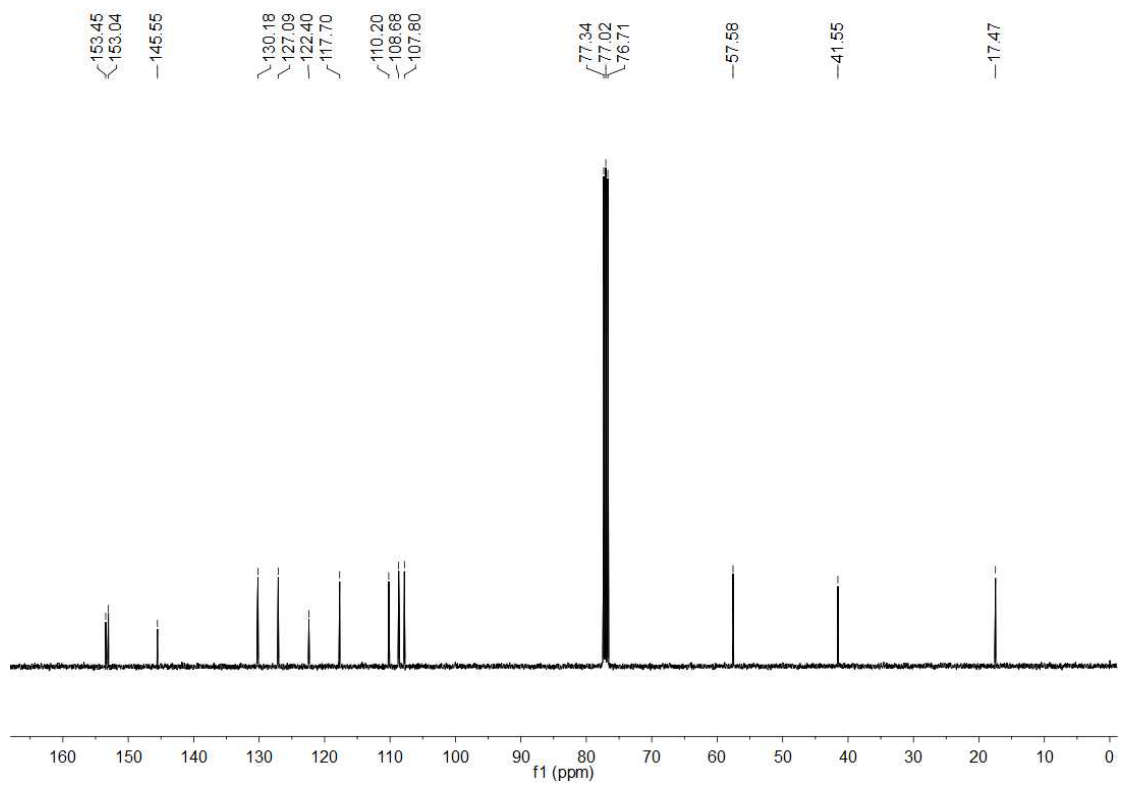
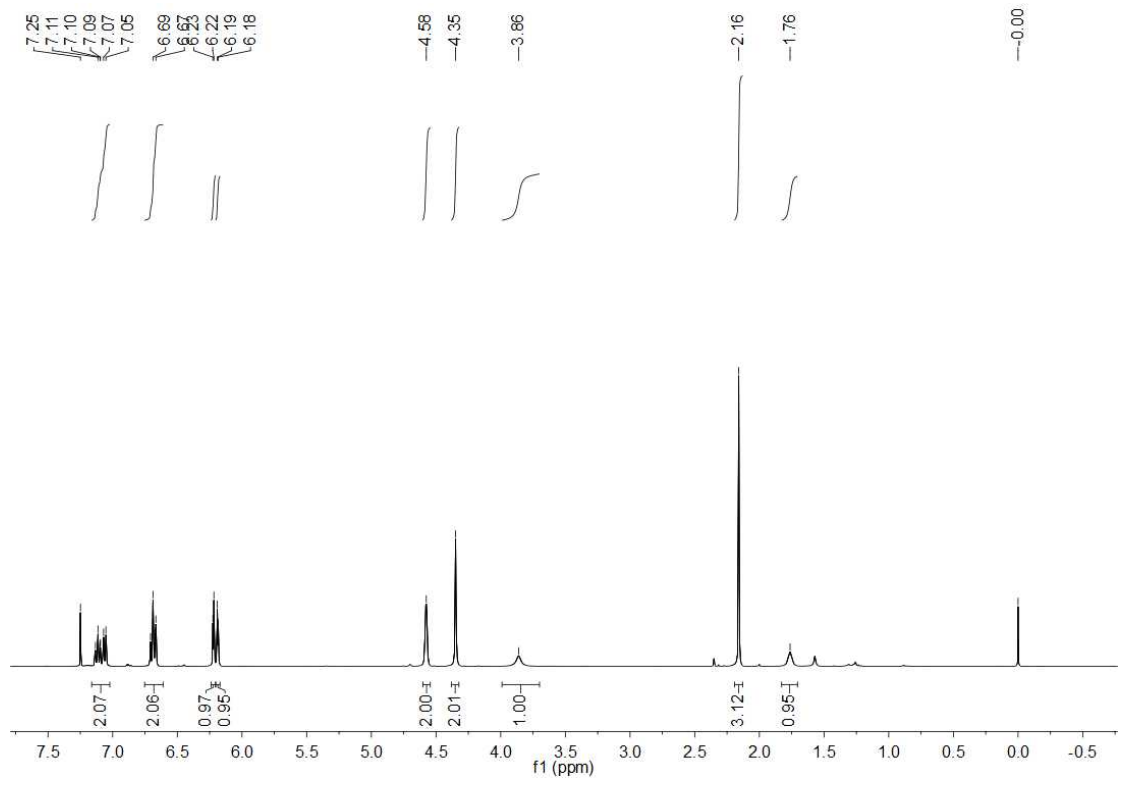
yl)methanol (**3p**) colorless oil, 99.3 mg, 67% yield. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 1.84 (br s, 1H, OH), 2.96 (s, 3H, NMe), 4.40 (s, 2H, NCH_2), 4.53 (s, 2H, CH_2OH), 6.04 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.17 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, furanH), 6.65–7.29 (m, 4H, ArH); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 38.5, 50.0, 57.5, 108.1, 108.6, 109.1, 114.6, 131.8, 148.2, 151.9, 153.5. IR $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3399, 2927, 2865, 1594, 1497, 1316, 1010, 813. HRMS (ESI) Calc. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrNO}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 296.0281, found: 296.0272.

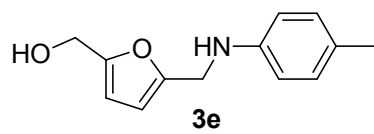
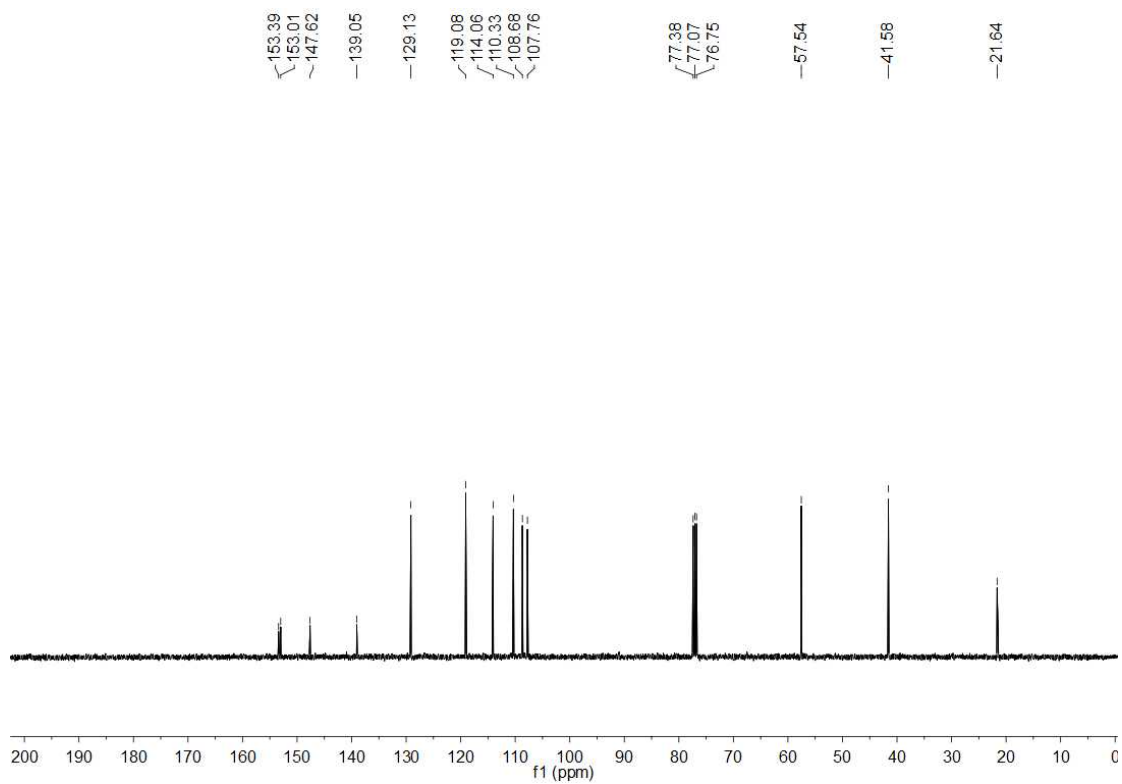
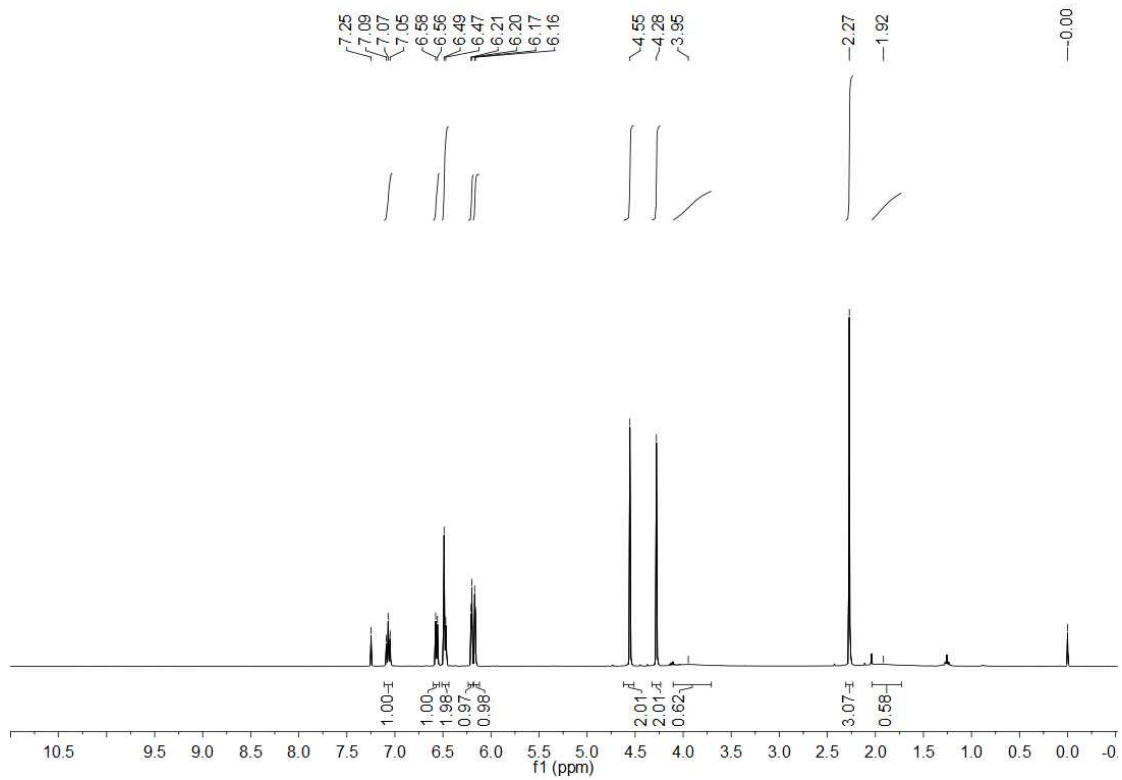
4. ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectra

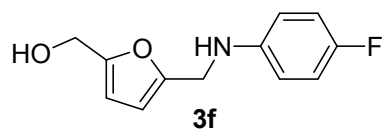
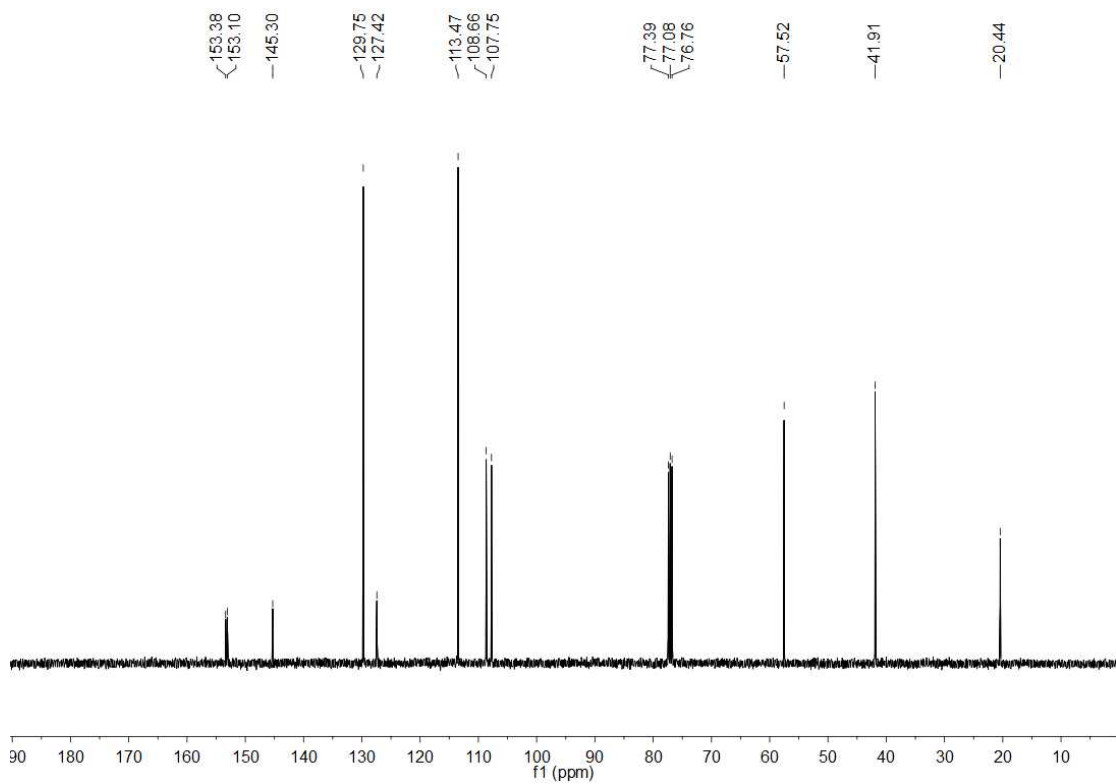
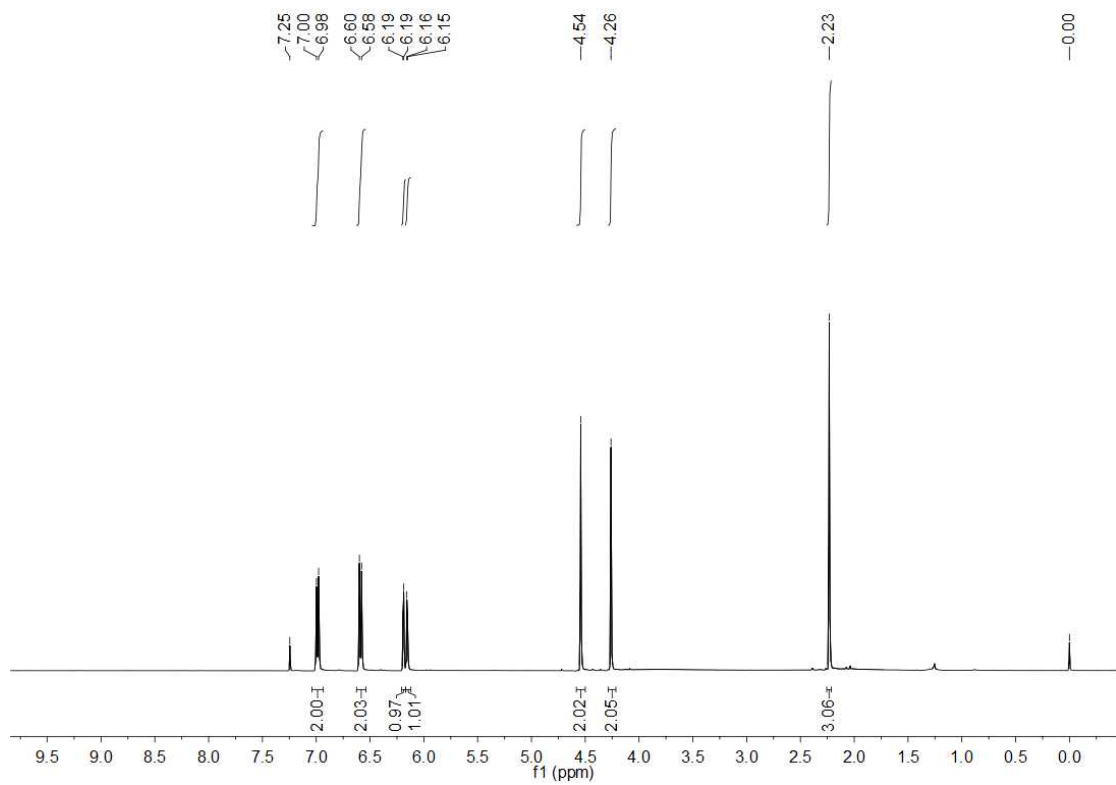


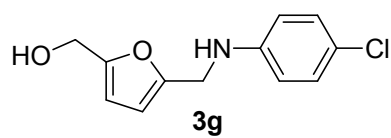
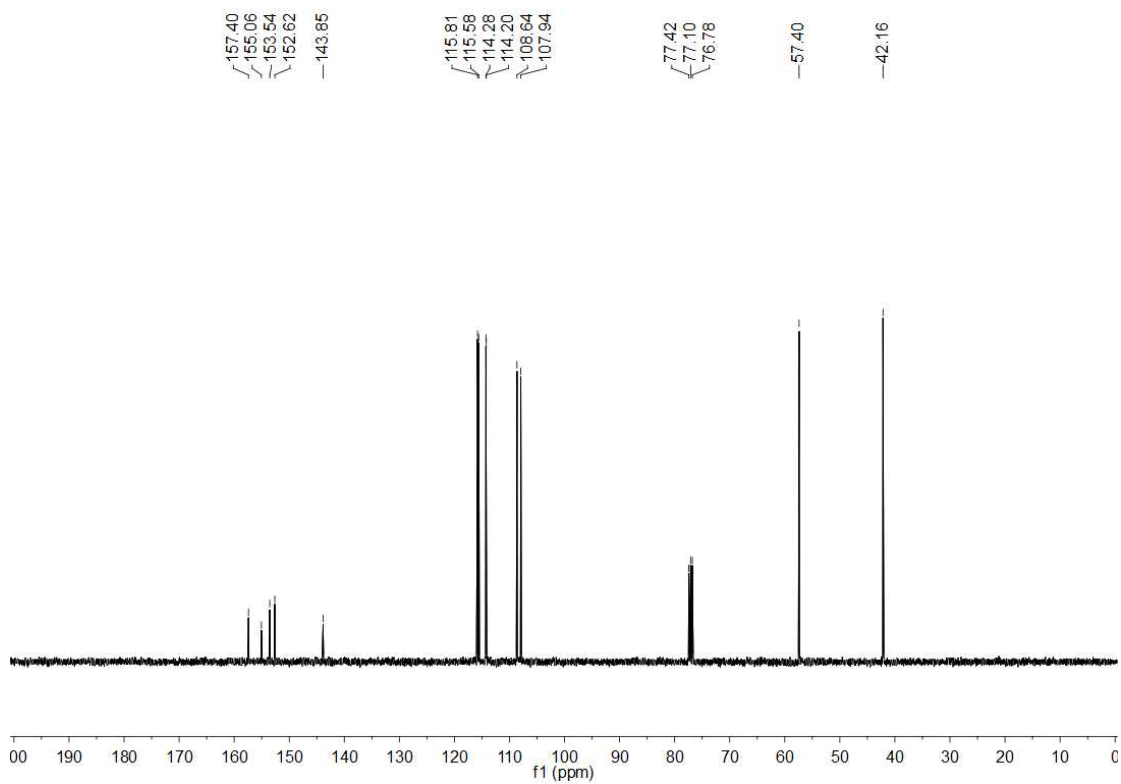
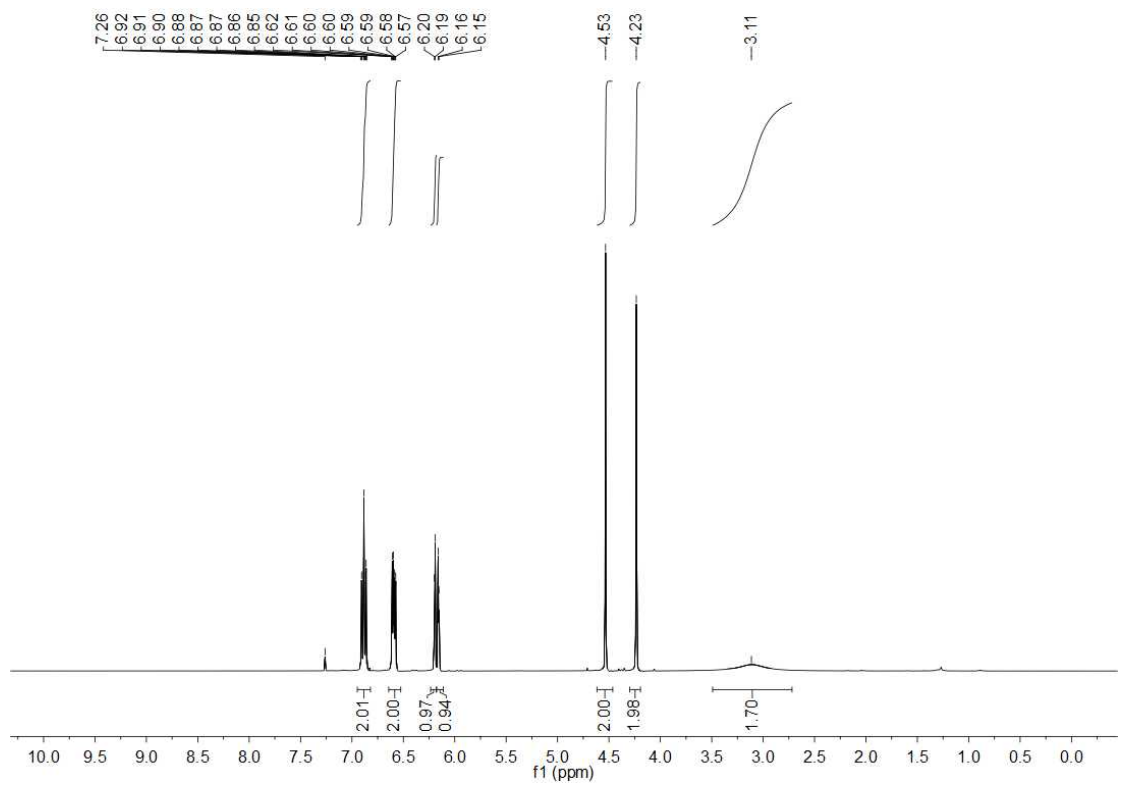


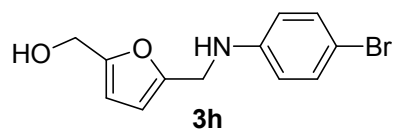
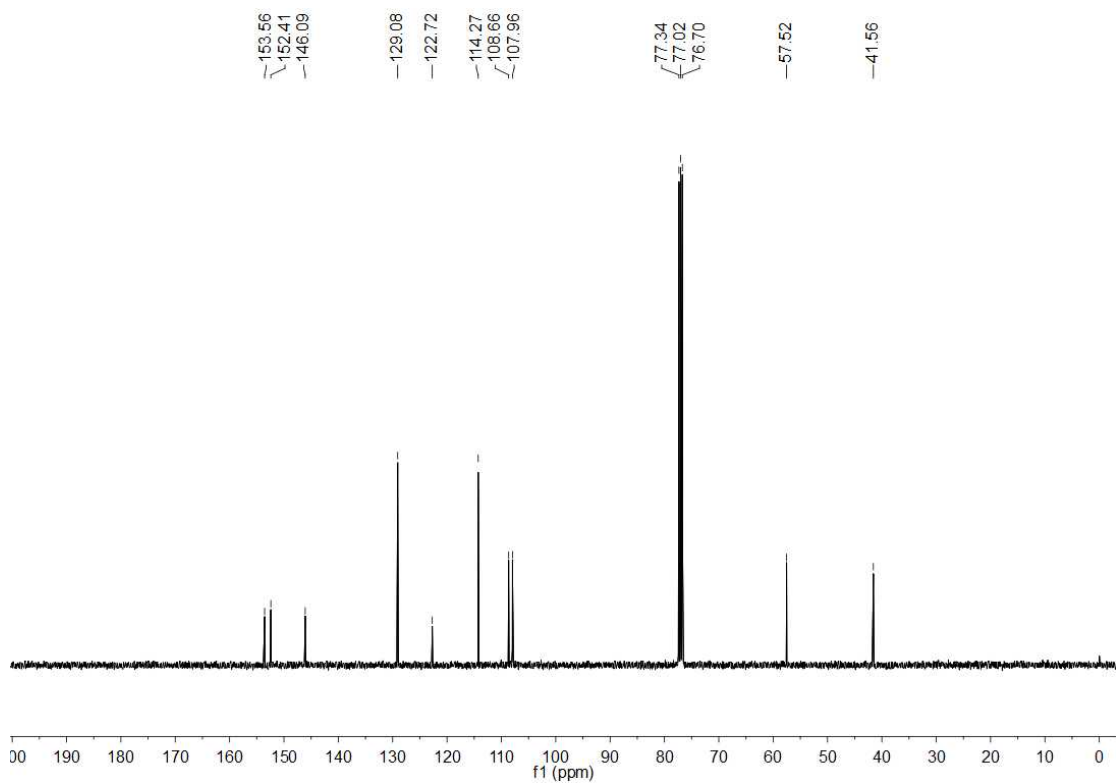
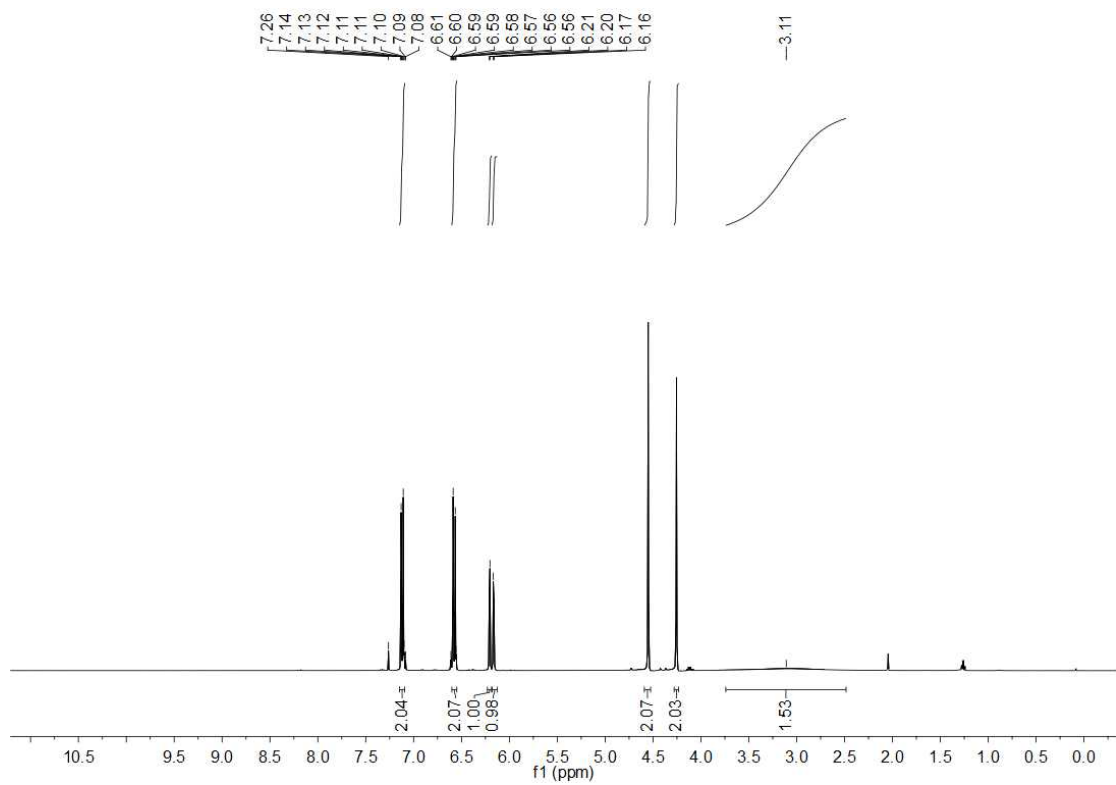


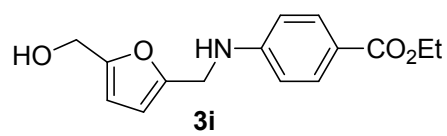
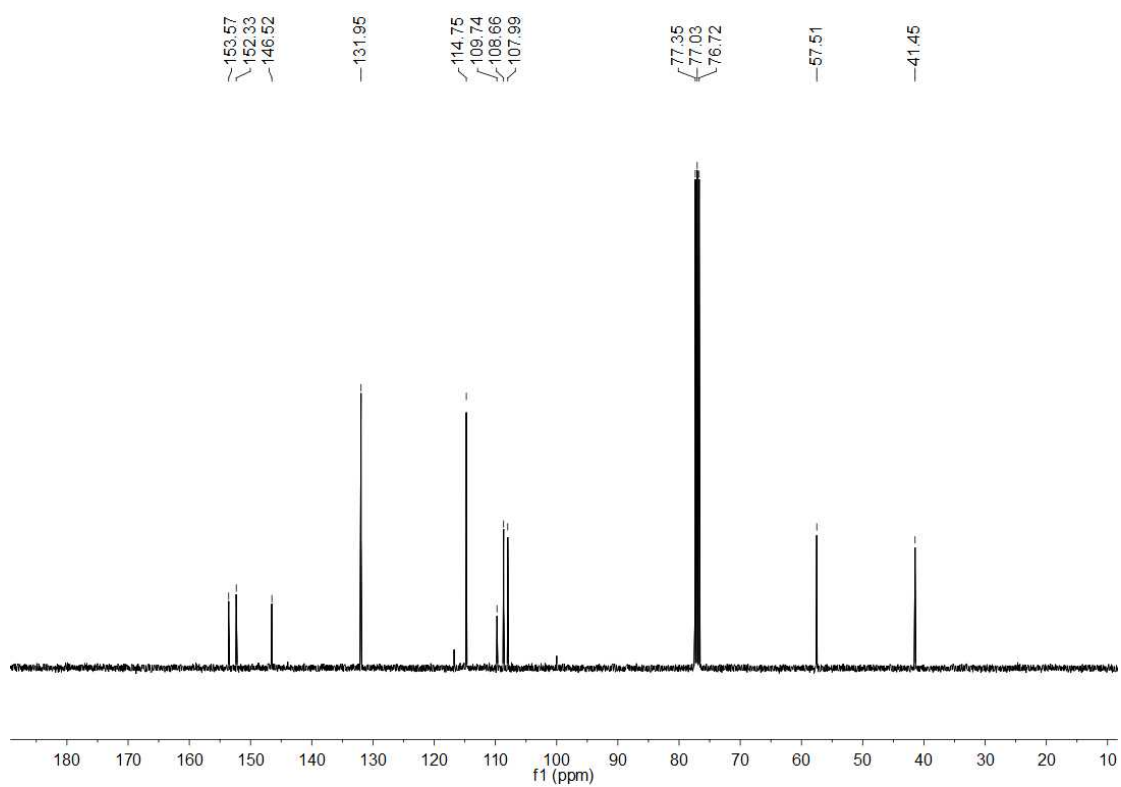
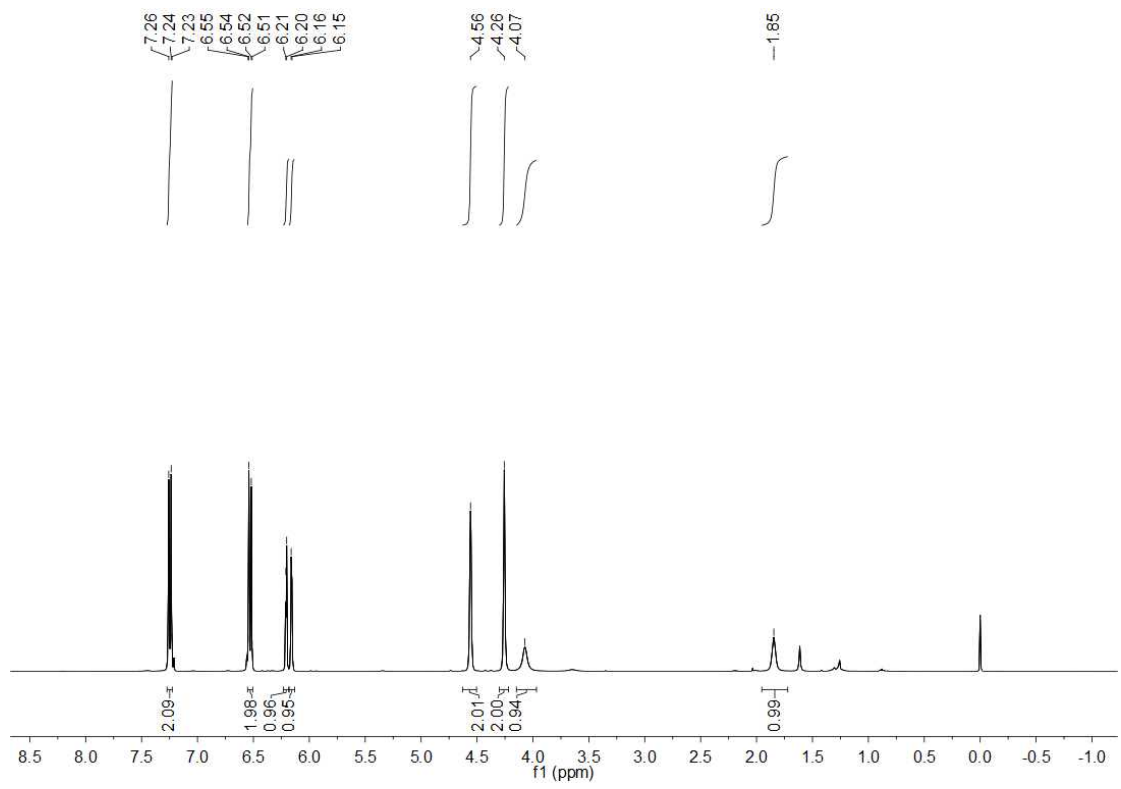


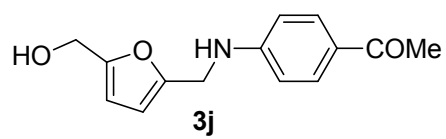
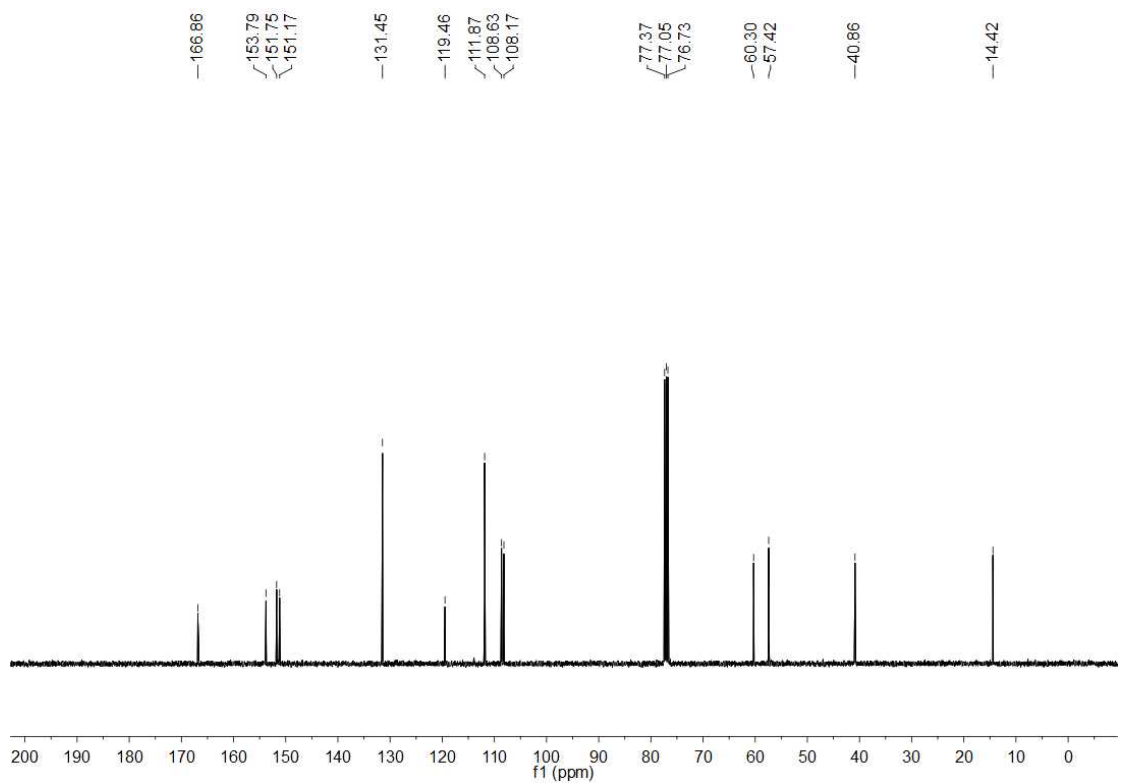
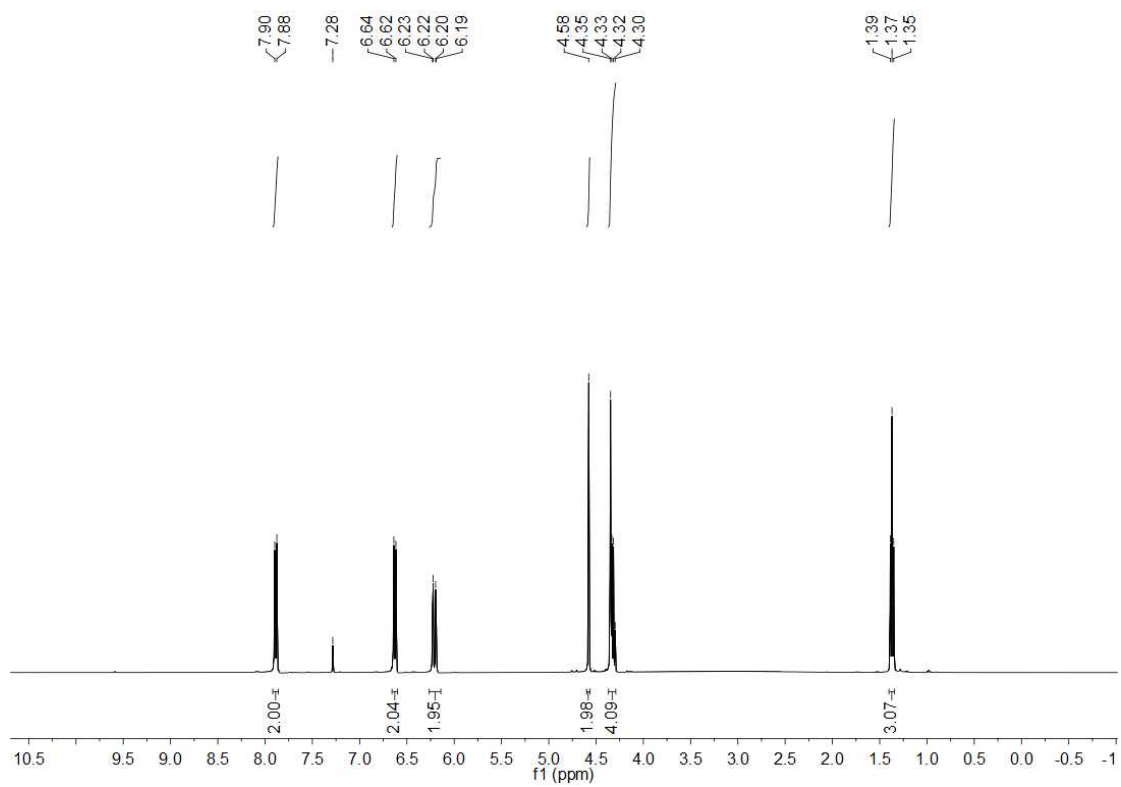


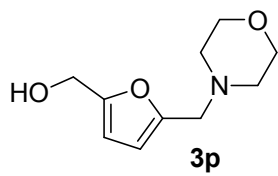
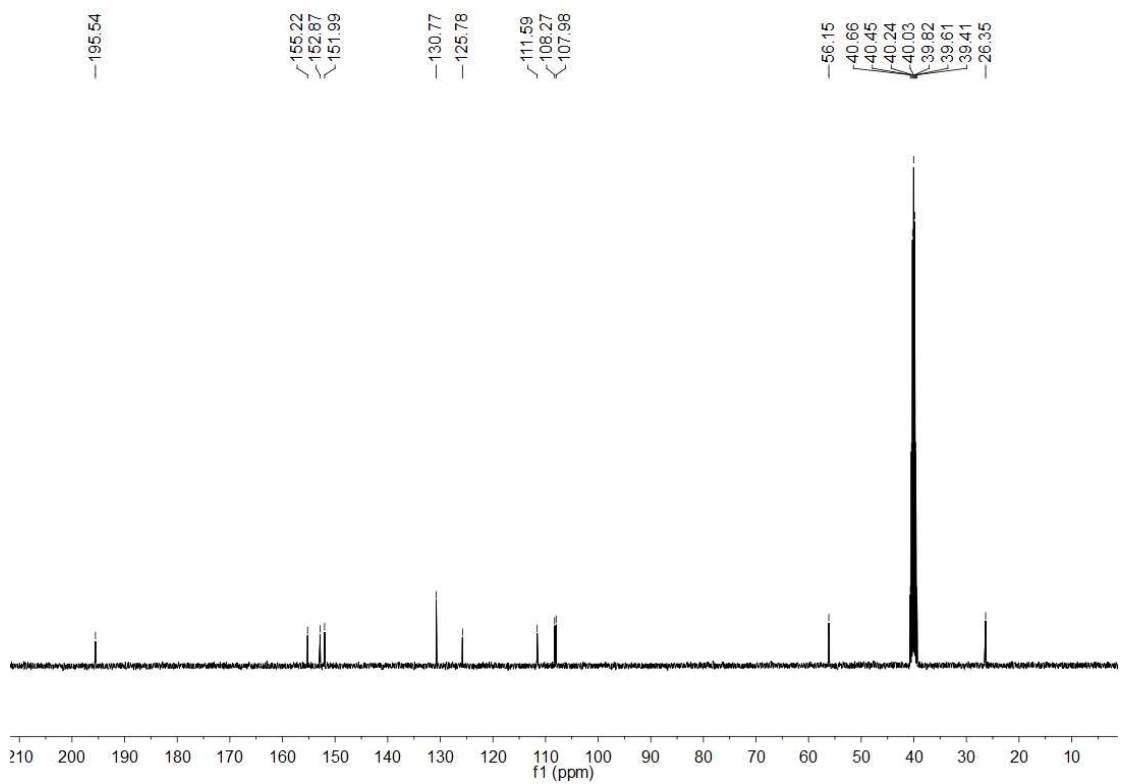
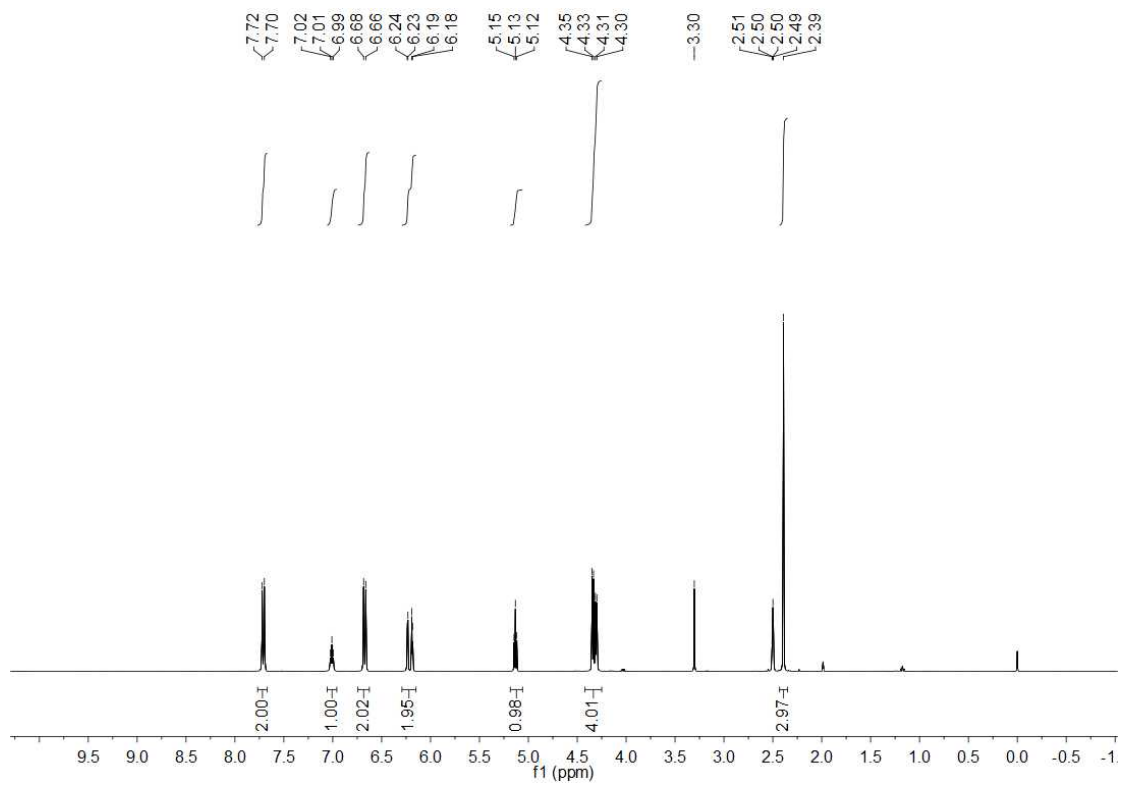


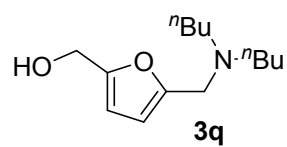
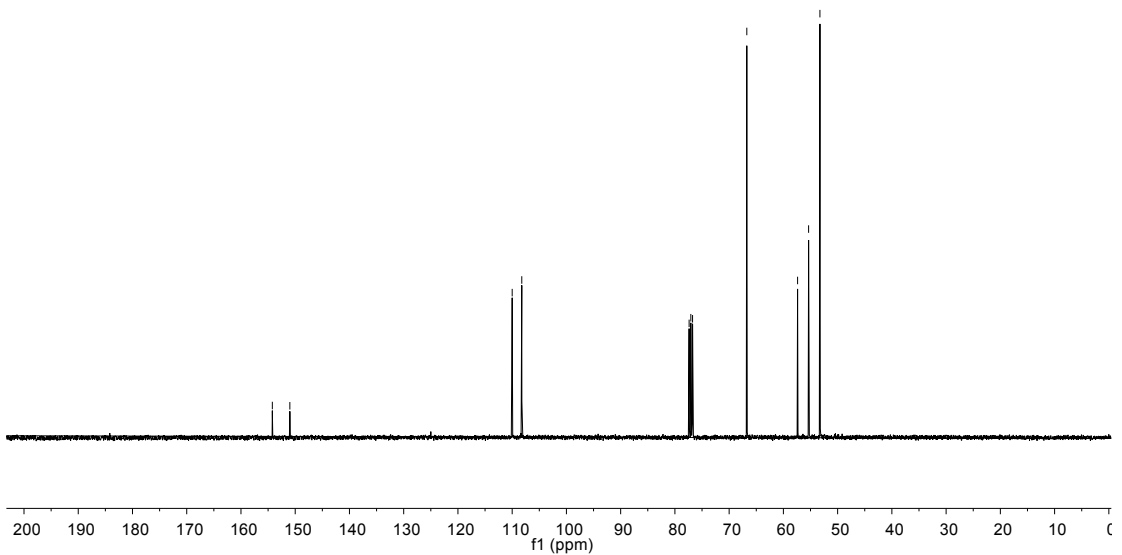
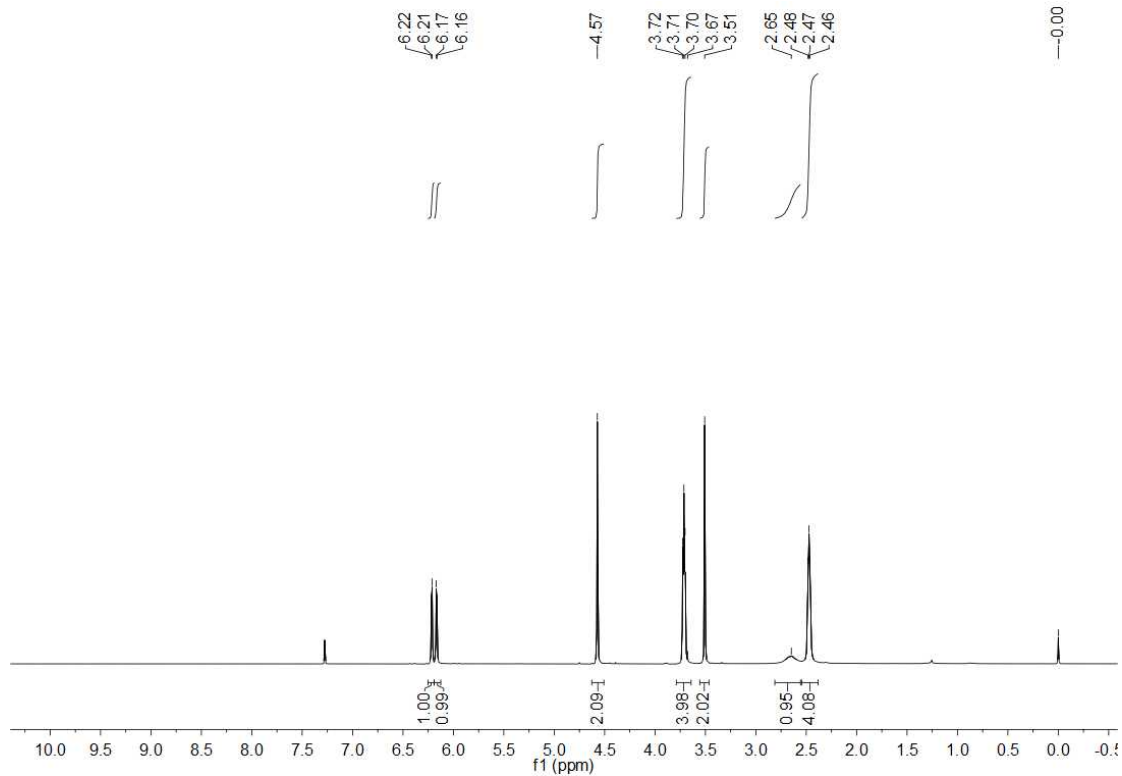


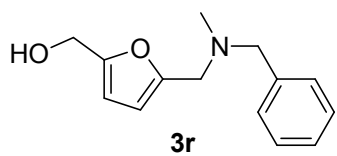
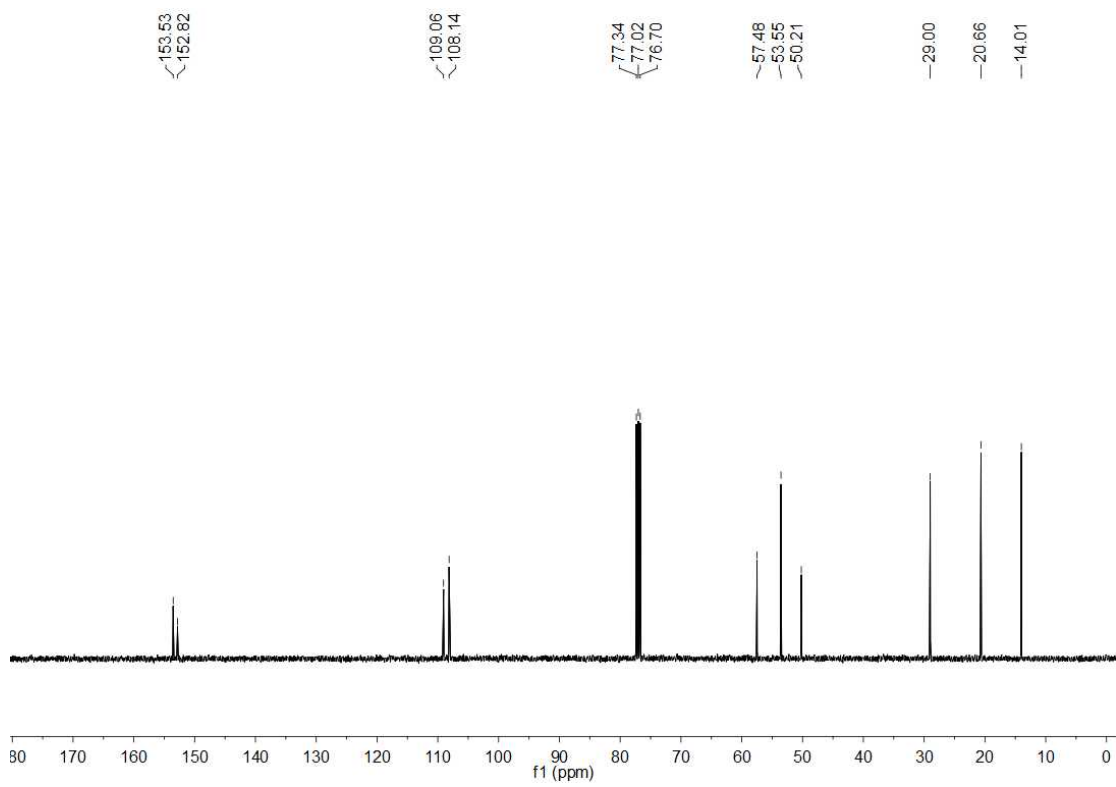
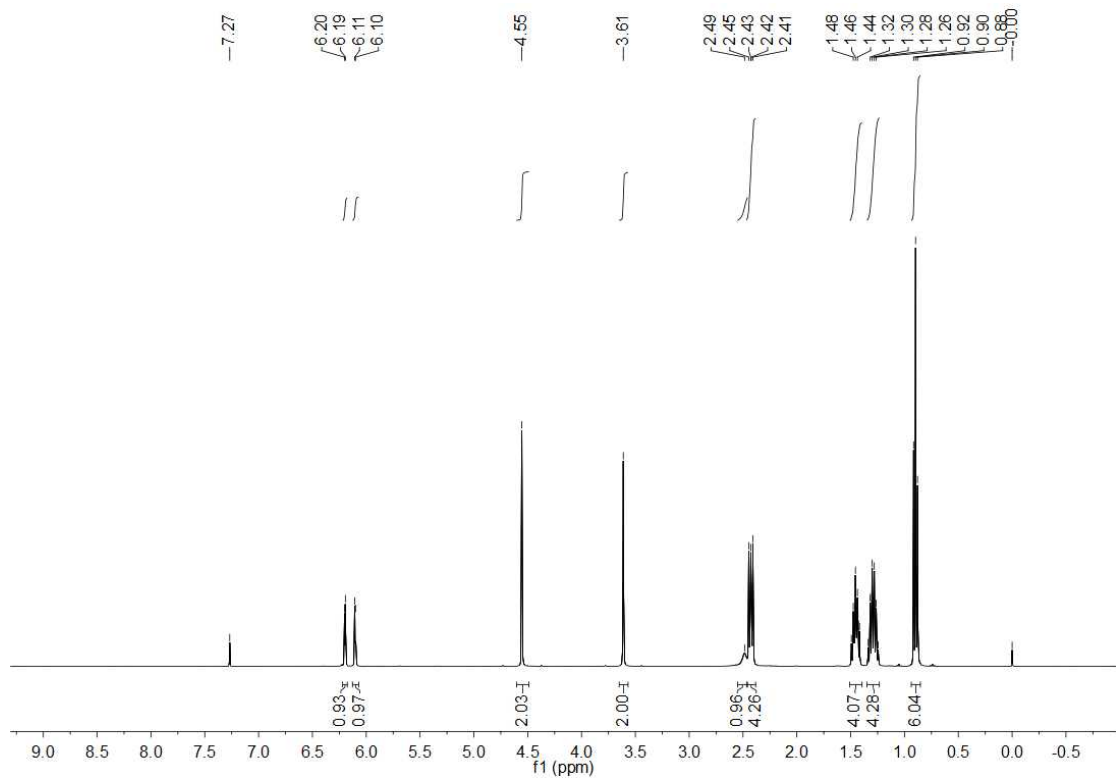


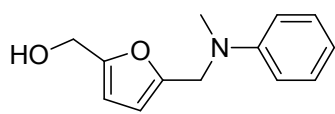
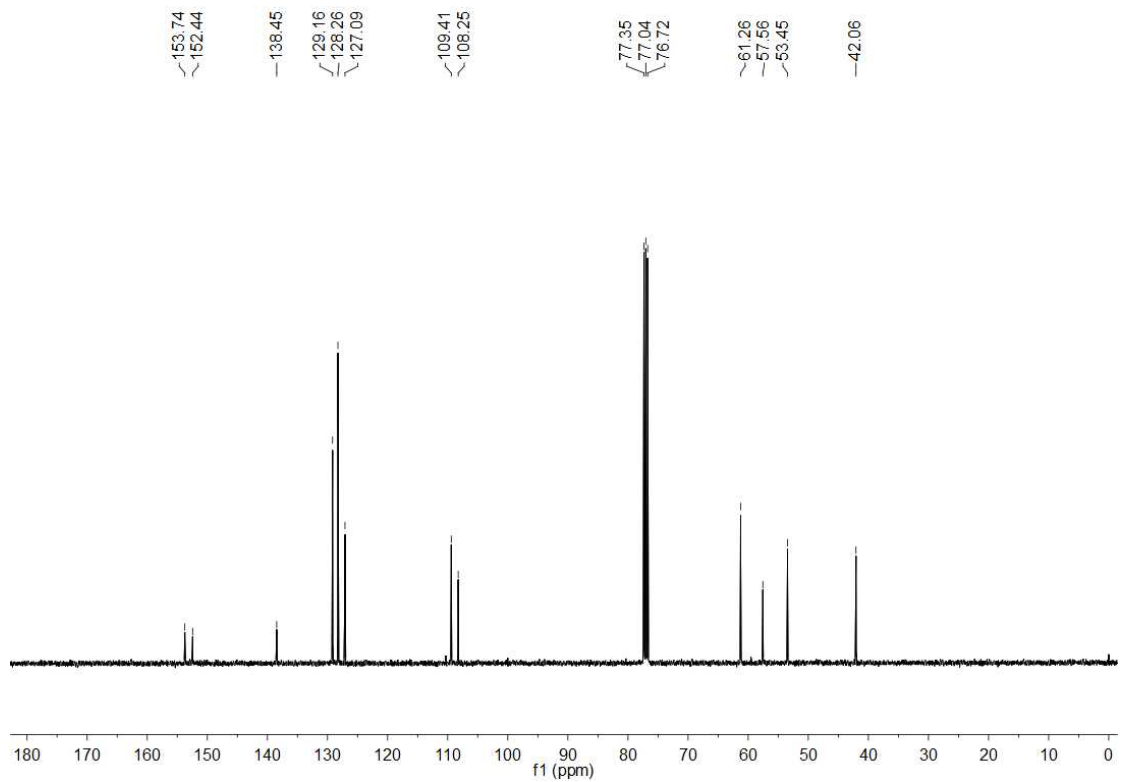
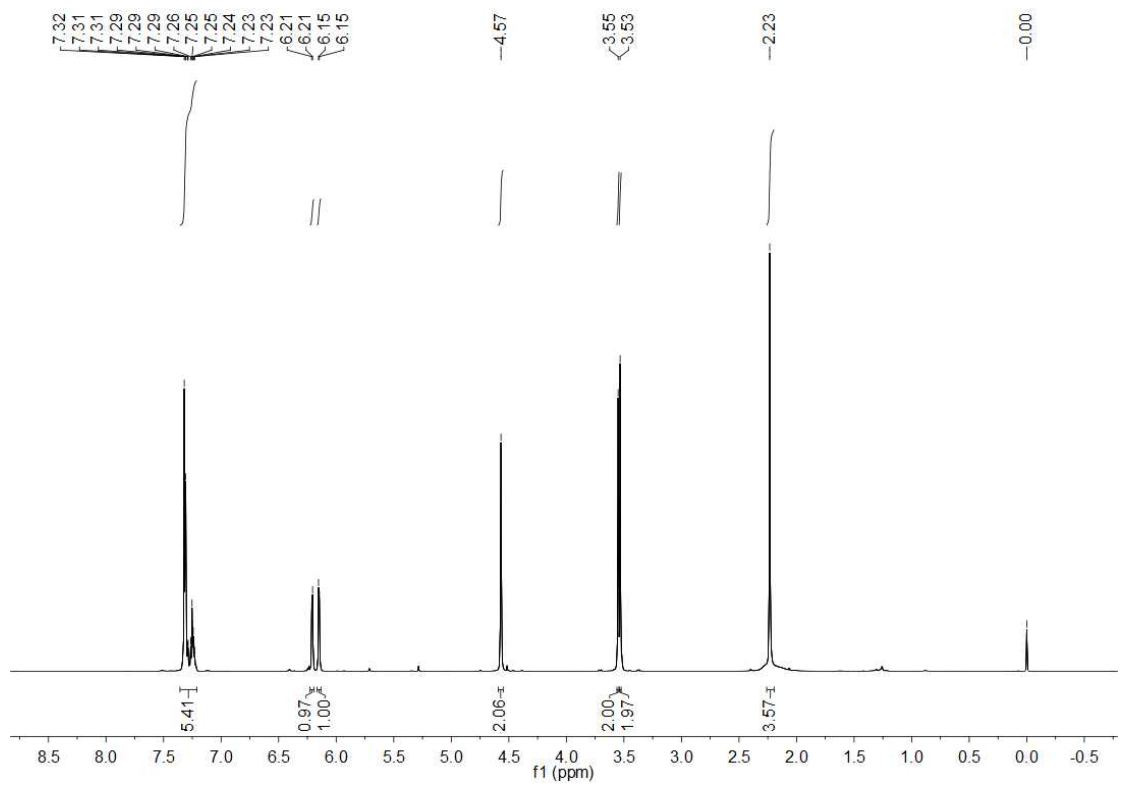












3s

