

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

For

# Highly Selective Direct Oxidative Arylation with Arylsilanes *via* Rhodium-Catalyzed C—C Bond Cleavage of Secondary Benzyl Alcohols Directed by Pyridinyl Group

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## General Experimental Section

**Analytic methods.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data were obtained on Varian 300 M and Bruker 400 M nuclear resonance spectrometers unless otherwise specified, respectively.  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as solvent and tetramethylsilane (TMS) as the internal standard were employed. Chemical shifts were reported in units (ppm) by assigning TMS resonance in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum as 0.00 ppm. The data of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR was reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m =multiplet and br = broad), coupling constant ( $J$  values) in Hz and integration. Chemical shifts for  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded in ppm from TMS using the central peak of  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (77.0 ppm) as the internal standard. Flash chromatography was performed using 200-300 mesh silica gel with the indicated solvent system according to standard techniques. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on pre-coated, glass-backed silica gel plates. Visualization of the developed chromatogram was performed by UV absorbance (254 nm). HRMS (ESI) analysis was performed by Analytical Instrumentation Center, Peking University.

**Source of Chemicals.**  $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})_3][\text{SbF}_6]_2$  was prepared from  $[\text{Cp}^*\text{RhCl}_2]_2$  (Sinocompound Technology Co., Ltd.) and  $\text{AgSbF}_6$  (Alfa Aesar)<sup>1</sup>.  $\text{AgF}$ , Trimethoxyphenyl silane and Triethoxyphenyl silane was purchased from Alfar Aesar. Other arylsilanes were prepared from corresponding Grignard reagents and tetraethoxysilane (Alfa Aesar)<sup>2</sup>. Alcohol substrates were synthesized by the reported method<sup>3</sup>. All the solvents were freshly distilled before used, and all the other reagents were directly used from purchased without any further purification unless otherwise specified.

## General Experimental Procedure

### General Procedure for Rh(III)-catalyzed oxidative arylation with arylsilanes via C—C Bond Cleavage of Secondary Benzyl Alcohols:

Under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, an oven-dried Schlenk tube containing a stir bar was charged with 1-phenyl-(4-methyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl))benzyl alcohol (**1a**) (55.1 mg, 0.20 mmol), [Cp<sup>\*</sup>Rh(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>3</sub>][SbF<sub>6</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (8.3 mg, 0.01 mmol) and AgF (101.5 mg, 0.80 mmol). Then THF (0.50 mL), PhSi(OMe)<sub>3</sub> (**2a**) (158.6 mg, 0.80 mmol) and *t*-BuOH (0.50 mL) were injected sequently by syringe. The tube was placed on the parallel reactor and stirred at 90 °C for 16 hours. Then the mixture was cooled to room temperature and evaporated in vacuum. Further purification by flash chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> 50:1:1 to 20:1:1 gradually) afforded the product **3a** as a white solid (41.2 mg, 84%).

### Procedure for the deuterium labeling experiment:

Under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, an oven-dried Schlenk tube containing a stir bar was charged with 1-phenyl-(3,4,5,6-4*D*-2-(pyridin-2-yl))benzyl alcohol (**7**) (26.5 mg, 0.10 mmol), [Cp<sup>\*</sup>Rh(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>3</sub>][SbF<sub>6</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (4.2mg, 0.005 mmol) and AgF (50.7 mg, 0.40 mmol). Then THF (0.50 mL), PhSi(OMe)<sub>3</sub> (**2a**) (79.3mg, 0.40 mmol) and *t*-BuOH (0.50 mL) were injected sequently by syringe. The tube was placed on the parallel reactor and stirred at 90 °C for 16 hours. Then the mixture was cooled to room temperature and evaporated in vacuum. Further purification by flash chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> 50:1:1 to 20:1:1 gradually) afforded a mixture of monoaryl (**3ba-d<sub>4</sub>**) and diaryl product (**3ba'-d<sub>4</sub>**). (13.2 mg, 49% for **3ba-d<sub>4</sub>** 9:1 in <sup>1</sup>H NMR). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 8.63 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 0.11H), 7.70 (s, 0.97H), 7.38 (td, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.17-7.08 (m, 4H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1.23H). HRMS: m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>11</sub>D<sub>3</sub>N: 235.13091; found 235.13070 and C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>15</sub>D<sub>3</sub>N: 311.16221; found: 311.16156. 97% H/D crossover was observed.

### Procedure for the competition experiment of C—C cleavage versus C—H activation:

Under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, 1-phenyl-(4-methyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl))benzyl alcohol (**1a**) (55.1 mg, 0.20 mmol), 2-(3-ethylphenyl)pyridine (**8**) (36.6 mg, 0.20 mmol), [Cp<sup>\*</sup>Rh(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>3</sub>][SbF<sub>6</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (8.3 mg, 0.01 mmol) and AgF (101.5 mg, 0.80 mmol) were charged into an oven-dried Schlenk tube. Then THF (0.50 mL), PhSi(OMe)<sub>3</sub> (**2a**) (79.3mg, 0.40 mmol) and *t*-BuOH (0.50 mL) were injected sequently by syringe. The tube was placed on the parallel reactor and stirred at 90 °C for 2 h. Then the mixture was cooled to room temperature and evaporated in vacuum. Further purification by flash chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> 50:1:1 to 20:1:1 gradually) afforded the mixture of 2-(3-ethylphenyl)pyridine (**8**) and 2-(3-ethylphmnyl)pyridine (**5**) (25.5 mg), mixture of 2-(4-methylbiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (**3aa**) and 2-(4-ethylbiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (**3ja**) (31.6 mg), respectively.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of mixture **5** and **8**: δ = 8.69 (m, 1.23 H), 7.87-7.84 (m, 1.25H), 7.76- 7.13 (m, 3.79H), 7.40-7.34 (m, 1.28H), 7.26-7.19 (m, 2.62H), 2.74 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 0.81H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H).

The ratio of **5** and **8** = 1 : 3.7, the yield of **5** was 15%, and 56% **8** was recovered.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of mixture **3aa** and **3ja**: δ = 8.64-8.63 (m, 1.13H), 7.54-7.53 (m,

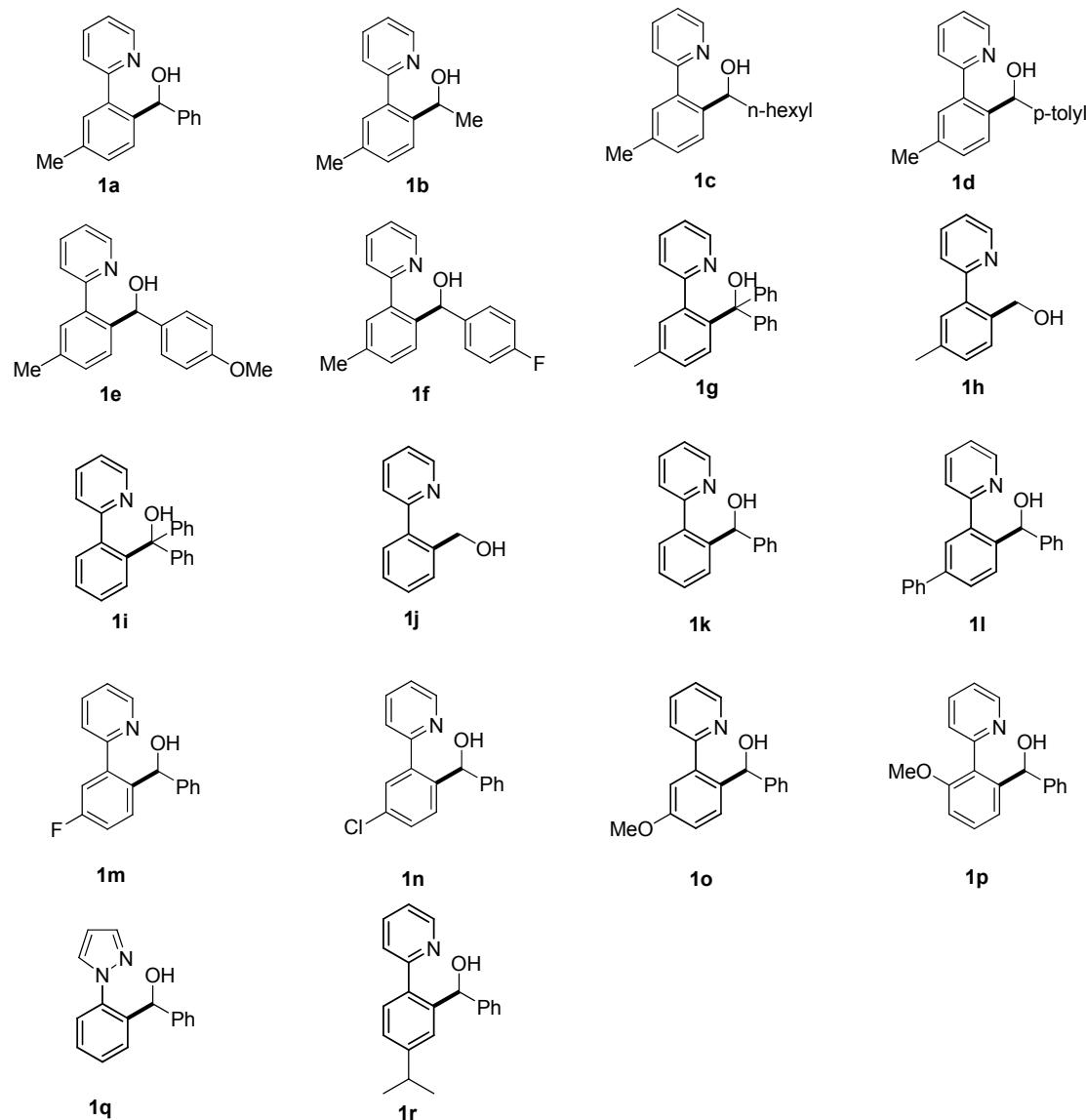
1.12H), 7.37-7.32 (m, 2.41H), 7.28-7.25 (m, 1.23H), 7.21-7.19 (m, 3.38H), 7.15-7.12 (m, 2.30), 7.09-7.06 (m, 1.17H), 2.75 (q,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 0.31H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.31 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 0.53H).

The ratio of **3aa** and **3ja** = 6.4 : 1, theyield of **3aa** and **3ja** was 55% and 9% respectively.

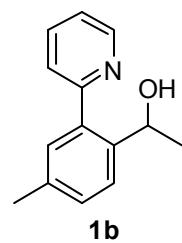
**Procedure for the Rh(III) catalyzed directed C—H arylation:**

Under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, 2-(3-ethylphmnyl)pyridine (**5**) (33.8 mg, 0.20 mmol), [Cp<sup>\*</sup>Rh(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>3</sub>][SbF<sub>6</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (4.2 mg, 0.005 mmol) and AgF (50.7 mg , 0.40 mmol) were charged into an oven-dried Schlenk tube. Then THF (0.50 mL), PhSi(OMe)<sub>3</sub> (**2a**) (79.3mg, 0.40 mmol) and *t*-BuOH (0.50 mL) were injected sequently by syringe. The tube was placed on the parallel reactor and stirred at 90 °C for 16 h. Then the mixture was cooled to room temperature and evaporated in vacuum. Further purification by flash chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> 50:1:1 to 20:1:1 gradually) afforded the product **3aa** (30.6 mg, 62%). For 2-phenylpyridine (**5'**), a mixture of monoaryl (**3ba**) and diaryl product (**3ba'**) was obtained (24.5 mg, 44% for **3ba** , **3ba** : **3ba'** = 6.6 : 1 by <sup>1</sup>H NMR)

### Characterization of alcohol substrates 1

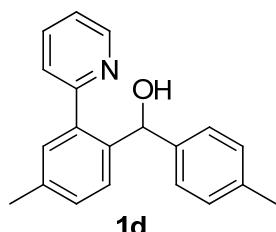


All the alcohol substrates were prepared by the methods reported in reference 3 except **1h**, which was obtained from the reduction of ethyl 4-methyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl)benzoate (see ref 4). Among the alcohol substrates, **1b**, **1d**, **1e**, **1f**, **1g**, **1h**, **1o** and **1p** have not been reported. The rest ones were all characterized in reference 3.



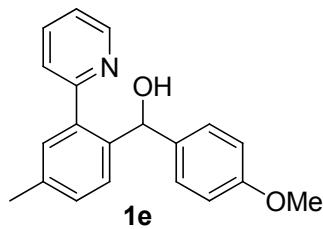
**1-(4-methyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)ethanol (**1b**)**. Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 8.62 (d,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.83 (t,  $J = 7.5$ , 1H), 7.58-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.28 (m, 3H), 6.37 (br,

1H), 4.76-4.69 (q,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.49 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 159.9, 147.8, 140.5, 139.4, 137.4, 137.1, 131.3 (2C), 129.7, 126.4, 124.1, 122.0, 66.5, 21.0, 20.4. HRMS: m/z:  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$ : 212.12264; found: 212.12242.



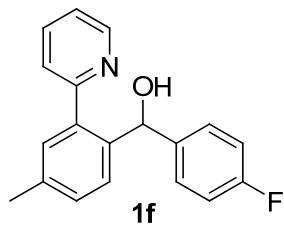
**1d**

**(4-methyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)(p-tolyl)methanol (1d).** Slabby oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 8.58$  (d, 1H,  $J = 4.5$  Hz), 7.75 (td,  $J = 7.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.46 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.15 (m, 3H), 7.08-7.01 (m, 3H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 159.8, 147.6, 141.2, 139.9, 139.5, 137.4, 137.3, 135.8, 131.4, 129.8, 129.6, 128.3, 126.3, 124.1, 122.0, 21.0$ . HRMS: m/z:  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}$ : 290.15394; found: 290.15390.



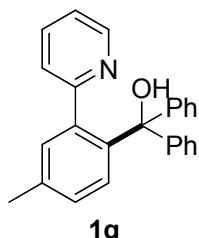
**1e**

**(4-methoxyphenyl)(4-methyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)methanol (1e).** Slabby oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 8.50-8.49$  (m, 1H), 7.64 (td,  $J = 7.8, 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.06 (m, 7H), 6.72 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 5.73 (s, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 159.5, 157.9, 147.3, 141.0, 139.4, 137.1, 137.0, 135.1, 131.1, 129.4, 129.3, 127.2, 123.9, 121.8, 112.9, 73.0, 54.9, 20.8$ . HRMS: m/z:  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2$ : 306.14940; found: 306.14886.



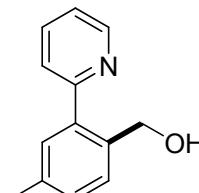
**1f**

**4-fluorophenyl)(4-methyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)methanol (1f).** White solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 8.56-8.54$  (dt,  $J = 5.1, 0.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.74 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.42 (dd,  $J = 0.9, 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.16 (m, 5H), 7.09-7.07 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.86 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 161.5$  (d,  $J = 242.5$  Hz), 159.7, 147.4, 140.8, 139.5, 138.9 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz), 137.6, 137.5, 131.6, 130.0, 129.7, 127.8 (2C), 124.1, 122.1, 114.3 (d,  $J = 21.1$  Hz), 73.5, 21.0. HRMS: m/z:  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{17}\text{FNO}$ : 294.12887; found 294.12883.



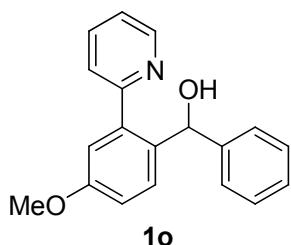
**1g**

**(4-methyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)diphenylmethanol (1g).** White solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 9.13 (s, 1H), 8.28 (d,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (td,  $J$  = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.31 (m, 4H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 7.13-7.09 (m, 5H), 7.06-7.03 (m, 3H), 6.94 (m, 1H), 6.74 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 161.4, 147.2, 146.3, 144.9, 140.1, 137.1(2C), 133.1, 130.3, 128.7, 127.6, 127.3, 126.2, 125.0, 121.4, 81.3, 20.8.



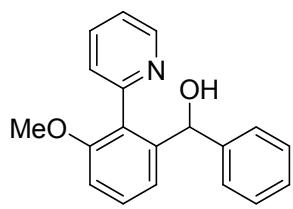
**1h**

**(4-methyl-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)methanol (1h).** Yellow oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.62 (d,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.21 (m, 4H), 6.30 (br, 1H), 4.43 (s, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 159.3, 147.9, 139.7, 137.7, 137.5, 137.4, 131.1, 130.8, 129.8, 123.7, 122.1, 64.2, 21.1. HRMS: m/z: [M + H] $^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}$ : 200.10699; found: 200.10674.



**1o**

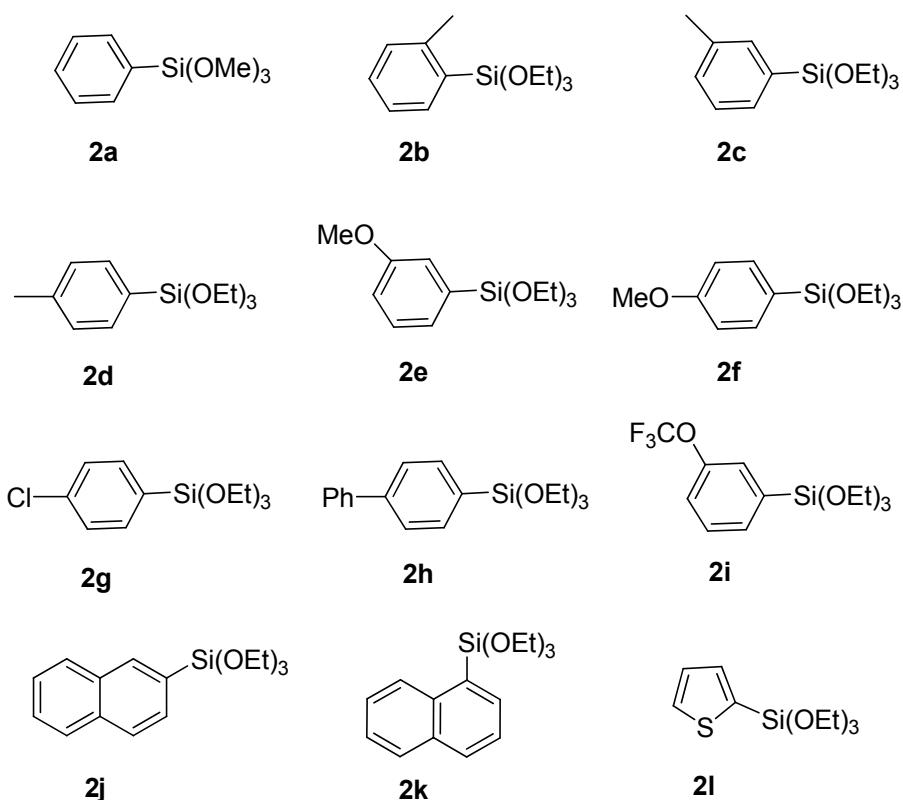
**(4-methoxy-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)(phenyl)methanol (1o).** White solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.59-8.57 (m, 1H), 7.74 (td,  $J$  = 7.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dt,  $J$  = 8.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.11 (m, 7H), 7.00-6.98 (m, 2H), 6.89-6.86 (dd,  $J$  = 2.7, 8.4 Hz), 5.76 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 159.4, 158.8, 147.6, 143.2, 141.0, 137.4, 136.3, 131.3, 127.6, 126.3, 124.0, 122.2, 116.7, 113.5, 73.4, 55.4. HRMS: m/z: [M + H] $^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$ : 292.13320; found: 292.13274.



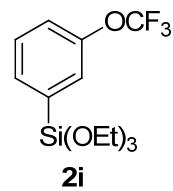
**1p**

**(3-methoxy-2-(pyridin-2-yl)phenyl)(phenyl)methanol (1p).** slight pink solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.54-8.52 (m, 1H), 7.54 (td,  $J$  = 12.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.19-7.07 (m, 6H), 6.88 (dd,  $J$  = 2.1, 6.3 Hz, 2H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 156.5, 155.4, 147.7, 145.0, 142.8, 135.4, 129.3, 128.3, 127.2, 126.9, 126.0, 125.8, 121.6, 121.1, 110.2, 73.1, 55.3. HRMS: m/z:  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$ : 292.13375; found: 292.13270.

## Characterization of Arylsilanes 2

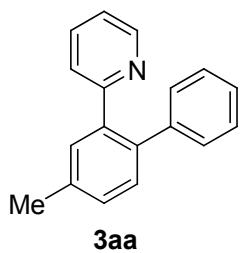


All the arylsilanes except triethoxyl(3-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)silane (**2i**) in this work were known compounds (**2a-2f** in ref. 2, **2g** and **2h** in ref. 4, **2j** in ref. 5, **2k** in ref. 6, **2l** in ref. 7). The spectral data match those reported previously.



**triethoxyl(3-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)silane (**2i**).** Yellow liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.60-7.57 (td,  $J$  = 0.9, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.41 (t,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 3.88 (q,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 6H), 1.25 (t,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 149.1 (d,  $J$  = 1.6 Hz), 134.2, 133.0, 129.4, 126.9, 122.7, 120.5 (q,  $J$  = 255.3 Hz), 58.9, 18.1. HRMS: m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>SiNa: 347.08969; found 347.08941.

### Characterization of Products 3



**2-(4-methylbiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3aa).** White solid (41.2mg, 84%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.63 (dt,  $J$  = 4.8, 0.9 Hz), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.37-7.07 (m, 9H), 6.85 (dd,  $J$  = 0.9, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 159.3, 149.3, 141.2, 139.2, 137.7, 137.3, 135.0, 131.0, 130.4, 129.7, 129.2, 127.9, 126.4, 125.4, 121.2, 21.0.

For the reaction between **1a** and  $\text{PhSi(OEt)}_3$  (**2a'**): **3aa** (37.7 mg, 77%)

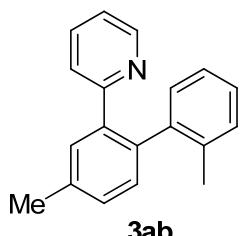
For the reaction between **1b** and **2a**: 42.9 mg (0.20 mmol) **1b** was used. **3aa** (30.1 mg, 61%).

For the reaction between **1c** and **2a**: 50.9 mg (0.20 mmol) **1c** was used. **3aa** (23.3 mg, 47%).

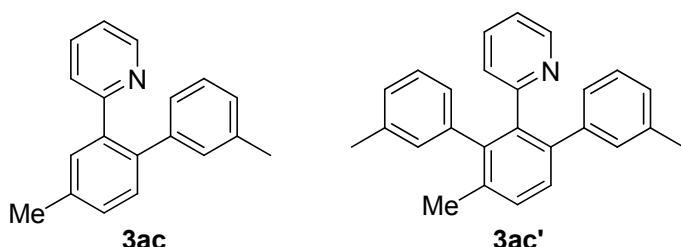
For the reaction between **1d** and **2a**: 55.5 mg (0.19 mmol) **1d** was used. **3aa** (25.7 mg, 55%).

For the reaction between **1e** and **2a**: 47.4 mg (0.16 mmol) **1e** was ussd. **3aa** (32.1 mg, 84%).

For the reaction between **1f** and **2a**: 58.7 mg (0.20 mmol) **1f** was ussd. **3aa** (34.3 mg, 70%).

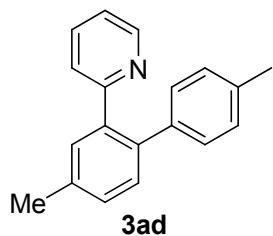


**2-(2',4-dimethylbiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3ab).** White solid (41.2 mg, 79%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.61 (d,  $J$  = 4.8Hz, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.30-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.17-7.12 (m, 3H), 7.07-7.00 (m, 2H), 6.85 (td,  $J$  = 8.1, 0.9 Hz), 2.46(s, 3H), 1.88(s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 158.8, 149.3, 141.1, 139.5, 137.3 (2C), 136.0, 135.0, 130.5 (3C), 129.8, 129.0, 127.1, 125.5, 124.5, 121.2, 21.1, 19.9. HRMS: m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calculated for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}$ : 260.14338; found: 260.14309.

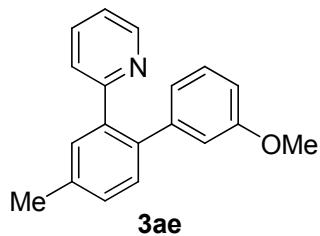


**2-(3',4-dimethylbiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3ac).** White solid (50.1 mg, 82%, **3ac** : **3ac'** = 7.7 : 1 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.63 (d,  $J$  = 4.2, 1H), 7.51 (s, 1H), 7.39-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.10-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.00 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 159.4, 149.2, 141.2, 139.2, 137.9, 137.5, 137.2, 135.0, 131.0, 130.4 (2C), 129.2,

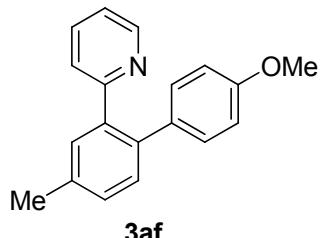
127.8, 127.2, 126.8, 125.4, 121.2, 21.3, 21.1. HRMS: m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> and calculated for **3ac** C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N: 260.14338; found 260.14345 and **3ac'** [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N: 350.10933; found 350.19018.



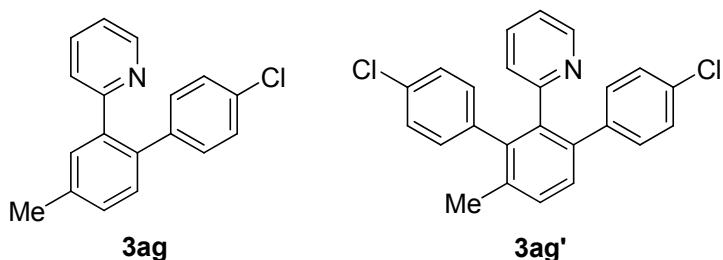
**2-(4,4'-dimethylbiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3ad).** White solid (46.0 mg, 89%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 8.65(d, J = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.38 (td, J = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.11 (ddd, J = 7.5, 5.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.02(s, 4H), 6.88 (d, J = 7.8, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 159.5, 149.3, 139.2, 138.3, 137.7, 137.1, 136.1, 135.0, 131.0, 130.4, 129.5, 129.2, 128.7, 125.4, 121.1, 21.0 (2C). HRMS: m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N: 260.14338; found: 260.14312.



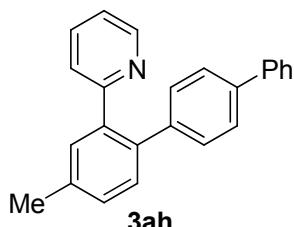
**2-(3'-methoxy-4-methylbiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3ae).** Colorless oil (39.6 mg, 72%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 8.63 (m, 1H), 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.40-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.15-7.07 (m, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.77-6.73 (m, 2H), 6.66 (m, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 159.4, 159.2, 149.3, 142.7, 139.3, 137.7, 137.5, 135.2, 131.0, 130.3, 129.3, 129.0, 125.4, 122.2, 121.3, 115.0, 112.7, 55.0, 21.0. HRMS: m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO: 276.13829; found: 276.13819.



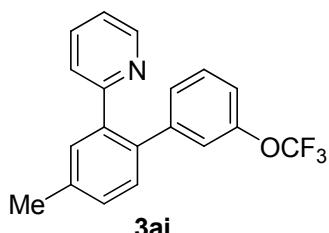
**2-(4'-methoxy-4-methylbiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3af).** White solid (53.1 mg, 96%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 8.66 (d, J = 4.8, 1H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.39 (td, J = 7.8, 1.5Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.06 (m, 3H), 6.89 (d, J = 7.8, 1H), 6.80-6.77 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 159.5, 158.4, 149.3, 139.1, 137.4, 136.9, 135.1, 133.7, 131.0, 130.7, 130.3, 129.2, 125.4, 121.1, 113.5, 55.1, 21.0. HRMS: m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO: 276.13829; found: 276.13805.



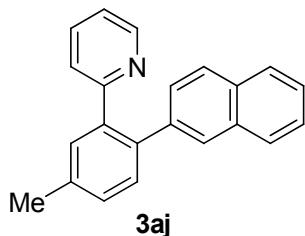
**2-(4'-chloro-4-methylbiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3ag).** White solid (54.9 mg, 67%, **3ag** : **3ag'** = 7.7 : 1 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.63 (d,  $J$  = 4.8, 1H), 7.49 (s, 1H), 7.42 (td,  $J$  = 7.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.25(m, 2H), 7.19-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.12 (dd,  $J$  = 7.5, 4.8Hz, 1H), 7.07-7.03 (m, 2H), 6.88 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 159.1, 149.4, 139.8, 139.2, 137.7, 136.5, 135.3, 132.6, 131.1, 130.9, 130.2, 129.3, 128.2, 125.3, 121.4, 21.0. HRMS: m/z: [M + H] $^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}$ : 280.08875; found: 280.08862. and **3ag'**: [M + H] $^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{18}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}$ : 390.08108; found: 390.08089.



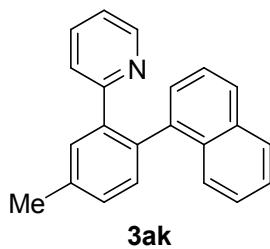
**2-(4'-phenyl-4-methylbiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3ah).** White solid (51.8 mg, 81%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.64 (d,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.54 (m, 3H), 7.48-7.29 (m, 8H), 7.22-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.08 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.5, 5.1, 1.2Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 159.4, 149.4, 140.6, 140.3, 139.3, 139.2, 137.5, 137.3, 135.2, 131.2, 130.4, 130.1, 129.3, 128.7, 127.2, 126.9, 126.7, 125.5, 121.3, 21.1. HRMS: m/z: [M + H] $^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}$ : 322.15903; found: 322.15884.



**2-(4-methyl-3'-(trifluoromethoxy)biphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3ai).** Colorless oil (60.4 mg, 92%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.61 (m, 1H), 7.51 (s, 1H), 7.40 (td,  $J$  = 7.8, 1.8 Hz), 7.34-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.13-7.02 (m, 3H), 6.94-6.87 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 158.9, 149.5, 148.8 (d,  $J$  = 1.7), 143.4, 139.4, 138.1, 136.2, 135.4, 131.3, 130.2, 129.4 (d,  $J$  = 5.1 Hz), 128.0, 125.2, 122.3, 122.0, 121.5, 120.3 (q,  $J$  = 255.6), 119.0, 21.1. HRMS: m/z: [M + H] $^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{NO}$ : 330.11003; found: 330.11011.

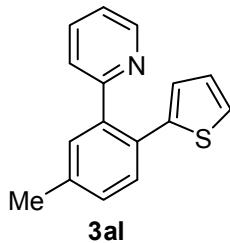


**2-(5-methyl-2-(naphthalen-2-yl)phenyl)pyridine (3aj).** Yellow solid (54.2 mg, 92%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.64 (d,  $J$  = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.77-7.73 (m, 3H), 7.63-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.32-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.14 (dd,  $J$  = 1.8, 8.4, 1H), 7.04 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.5, 1.8, 0.9, 1H), 6.87 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 159.2, 149.4, 139.3, 139.0, 137.6, 137.5, 135.2, 133.4, 132.0, 131.1, 130.8, 129.3, 128.3, 128.1, 127.5, 127.2, 125.9, 125.7, 125.4, 121.3, 21.1. HRMS: m/z:  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}$ : 296.14338; found: 296.14333.



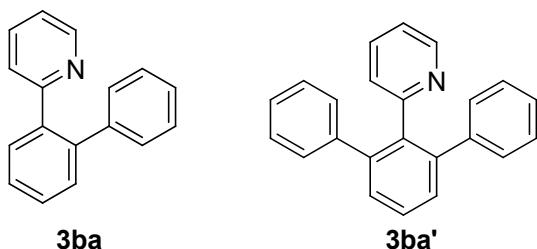
**3ak**

**2-(5-methyl-2-(naphthalen-1-yl)phenyl)pyridine (3ak).** Yellow oil (44.7 mg, 76%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.53 (d,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.70-7.67 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.24 (m, 6H), 7.03 (td,  $J$  = 7.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.5, 5.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 158.7, 149.2, 140.4, 139.3, 137.7, 135.9, 134.8, 133.5, 132.1, 131.5, 130.8, 129.0, 128.0, 127.9, 127.3, 126.2, 125.8, 125.5, 125.1, 124.2, 121.1, 21.2. HRMS: m/z:  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}$ : 296.14338; found: 296.14318



**3al**

**2-(5-methyl-2-(thiophen-2-yl)phenyl)pyridine (3al).** Yellow solid (43.2 mg, 86%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.65 (d,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.25-7.07 (m, 4H), 6.85 (dd,  $J$  = 3.6, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d,  $J$  = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 159.3, 149.3, 142.9, 139.6, 137.9, 135.4, 131.1, 130.6, 130.2, 129.2, 127.0, 126.7, 125.3, 124.9, 121.6, 21.0. HRMS: m/z:  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{NS}$ : 252.08415; found: 252.08401.



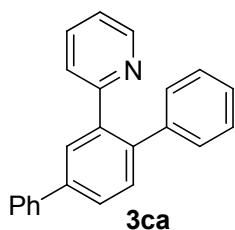
**3ba**

**3ba'**

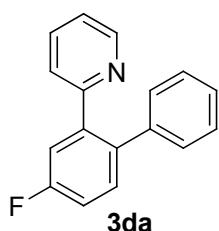
**2-(biphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3ba).** White solid (36.0 mg, 68% , **3ba : 3ba'** = 8.3 : 1 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.63 (d,  $J$  = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.71-6.68 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.37 (td,  $J$  = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 3H), 7.17-7.14 (m, 2H), 9.09 (dd,  $J$  = 6.6, 5.1Hz, 1H ), 6.88(d,  $J$  = 8.1, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 159.3, 149.4, 141.4, 140.7, 139.5, 135.1, 130.5(2C), 129.7, 128.5, 128.0, 127.6, 126.7, 125.4, 121.3. HRMS: m/z: [M + H] $^+$  calculated for **3ba'**  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}$ : 308.14338; found: 308.14339.

For the reaction between **1g** and **2a**: 67.5 mg **1g** was used (47.5 mg, 88%, **3ba : 3ba'** = 8.3 : 1 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR).

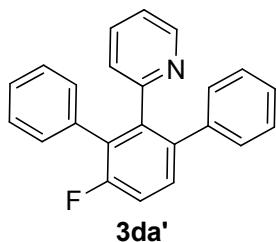
For the reaction between **1h** and **2a**: 37.9 mg **1h** was used. (7.6 mg, 16%, trace **3ba'** was observed).



**2-(4-phenylbiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3ca).** White solid (52.4 mg, 85%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.66 (ddd,  $J$  = 5.1, 1.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d,  $J$  = 2.1Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.69 (m, 3H), 7.52 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.18 (m, 5H ), 7.12 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.5, 4.8, 1.6Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dt,  $J$  = 7.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 159.2, 149.4, 141.0, 140.5, 140.4, 139.8, 139.6, 135.2, 131.0 , 129.6, 129.3 , 128.7, 128.0, 127.4, 127.1, 127.0, 126.7, 125.4, 121.4. HRMS: m/z: [M + H] $^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}$ : 308.14338; found 308.14304.

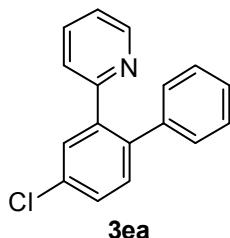


**2-(4-fluorobiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3da).** White solid (28.3, mg 57%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.64 (ddd,  $J$  = 4.8, 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.26-7.18 (m, 4H), 7.17-7.10 (m, 4H), 6.86 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 162.3(d,  $J$  = 245.4 Hz), 158.0, 149.5, 141.3 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz), 140.5, 136.7 (d,  $J$  = 3.2 Hz), 135.3, 132.1 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz), 129.7, 128.1, 126.8, 125.3, 121.8, 117.2 (d,  $J$  = 22.3 Hz), 115.4 (d,  $J$  = 21.1 Hz).



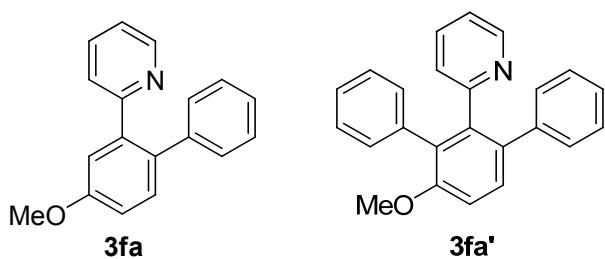
**3da'**

**2-(3-phenyl-4-fluorobiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3da').** White solid (7.4 mg, 11%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.27 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd,  $J$  = 5.2, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.19-7.10 (m, 8H), 7.08-7.06 (m, 2H), 6.89-6.86 (m, 1H), 6.83 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 159.2 (d,  $J$  = 244.6 Hz), 157.7 (d,  $J$  = 2.6 Hz), 148.5, 140.9 (d,  $J$  = 2.7 Hz), 140.8, 137.7 (d,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz), 134.9, 134.2, 130.7, 130.5, 129.6, 129.2 (d,  $J$  = 16.1), 127.7, 127.5, 126.9, 126.5, 126.4, 121.1, 115.4 (d,  $J$  = 23.1 Hz).  $^1\text{H}$  RMS: m/z: [M + H] $^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{FN}$ : 326.13395; found: 326.13398.

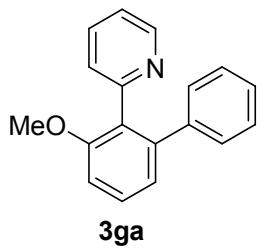


**3ea**

**2-(4-chlorobiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3ea).** White solid (25.2 mg, 47%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.63 (d,  $J$  = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.67-7.59 (m, 3H), 7.57-7.49 (m, 4H), 7.39 (td,  $J$  = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.10 (m, 5H), 7.11 (ddd,  $J$  = 7.5, 5.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 157.9, 149.5, 140.9, 140.2, 139.0, 135.3, 133.6, 131.8, 130.4, 129.5, 128.5, 128.2, 127.0, 125.2, 121.8. HRMS: m/z: [M + H] $^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClN}$ : 266.07310; found: 266.07289.

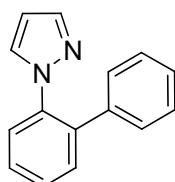


**2-(4-methoxybiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3fa).** 49.4 mg(0.17 mmol) **11** was used. White solid (44.6 mg, 61%, **3fa** : **3fa'** = 2 : 1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.63 (d,  $J$  = 4.5, 1H), 7.37-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.17 (m, 4H), 7.12-7.08 (m, 3H), 6.86 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 159.1 (2C), 149.4, 141.1, 140.5, 135.2, 133.3, 131.7, 129.8, 128.0, 126.3, 125.4, 121.4, 115.0 (2C), 55.5. HRMS: m/z: [M + H] $^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$ : 262.12264; found: 262.12238. and **3fa'**: [M + H] $^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}$ : 338.15394; found: 338.15374.

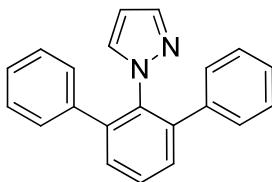


**3ga**

**2-(3-methoxybiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3ga).** 67.5 mg(0.23 mmol) **1m** was used. White solid. (37.9 mg, 63%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.57 (d,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.14-6.99 (m, 9H), 3.78 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 157.2, 156.8, 148.7, 142.7, 141.0, 135.3, 129.5, 129.1, 127.5, 126.3, 126.2, 122.4, 121.2, 110.0, 55.9.



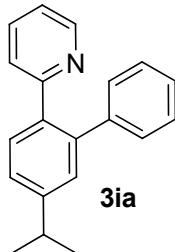
**3ha**



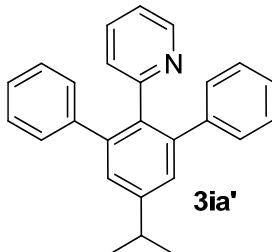
**3ha'**

**1-(biphenyl-2-yl)-1H-pyrazole (3ha).** White solid (23.8 mg, 46%, **3ha : 3ha'** = 8.3 : 1).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.63-7.60 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.12-7.09 (m, 2H), 7.07 (dd,  $J$  = 2.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 6.18 (dd,  $J$  = 2.4, 2.1 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 140.2, 138.6, 136.7, 131.2, 131.0, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 127.4, 126.5, 106.3. HRMS: m/z:  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated for **3ha'**:  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2$ : 297.13862; found: 297.13844.



**3ia**



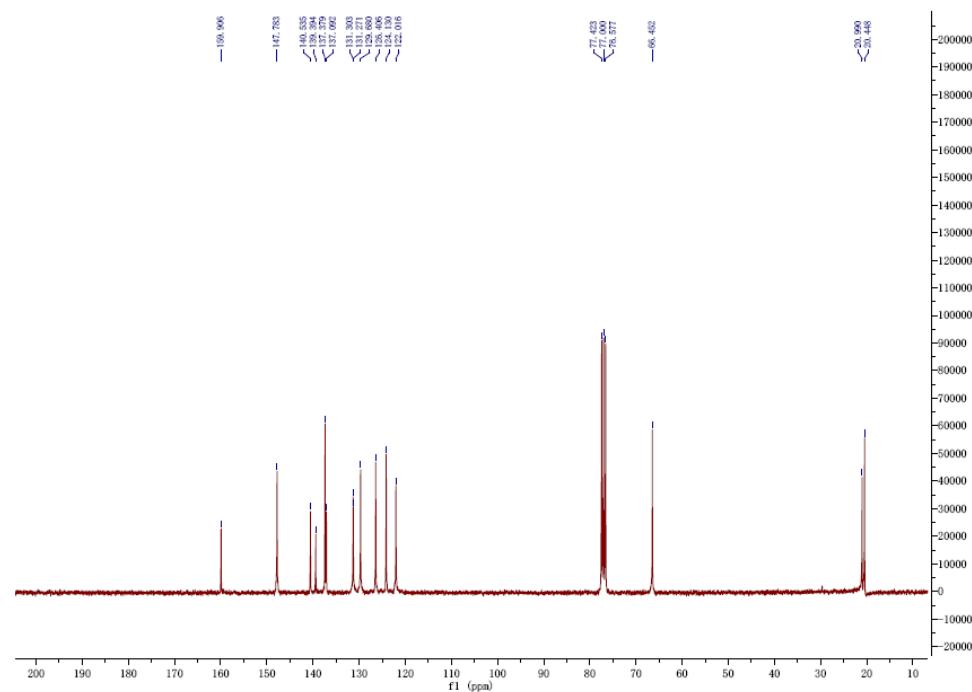
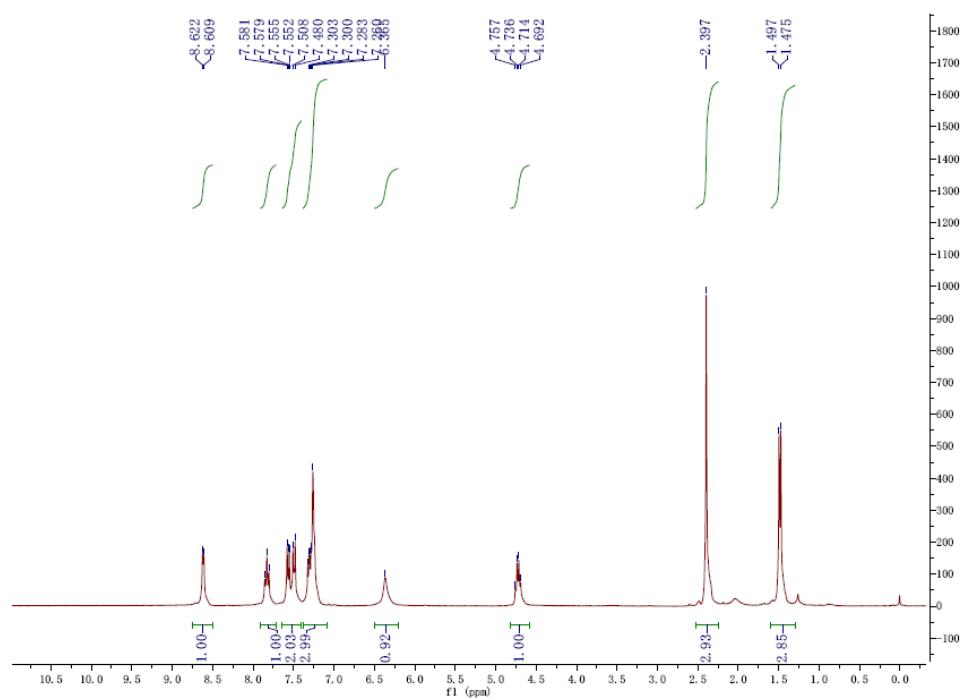
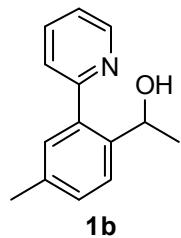
**3ia'**

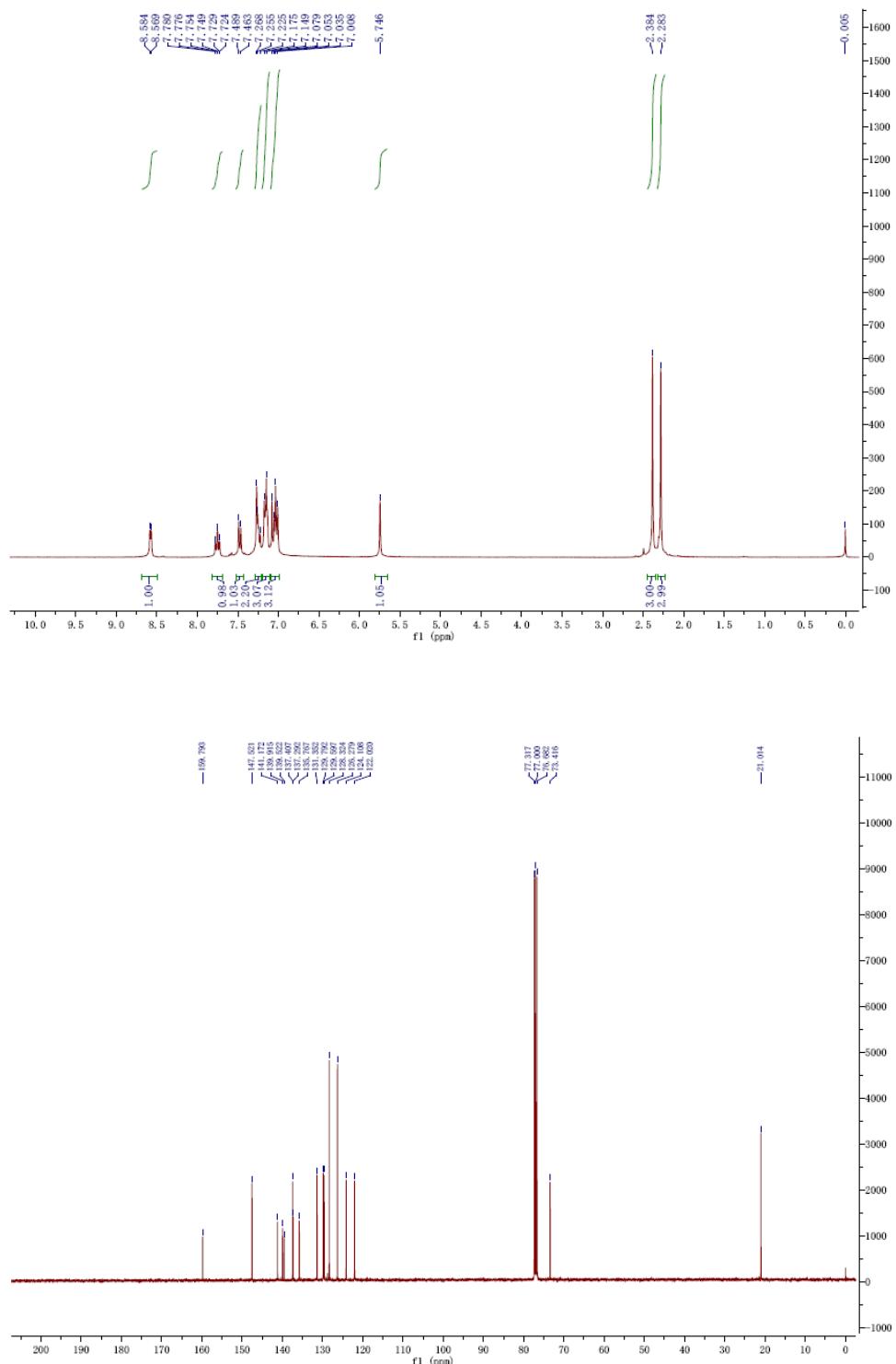
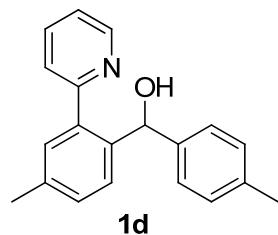
**2-(5-isopropylbiphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3ia).** 58.4 mg(0.19 mmol) **1p** was used. White solid (25.4 mg, 41%, **3ia : 3ia'** = 9.1 : 1).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.61 (d,  $J$  = 4.8Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J$ =7.8, 1H), 7.39-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d,  $J$ =1.8, 1H), 7.25-7.21 (m, 3H), 7.19-7.15 (m, 2H), 7.07 (ddd,  $J$ =7.5, 5.1, 1.2Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d,  $J$  = 7.8Hz, 1H), 3.0(m, 1H), 1.33(s, 3H), 1.31(s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 159.3, 149.3 (2C), 141.7, 140.5, 137.1, 135.0, 130.5, 129.7, 128.6, 128.0 , 126.5, 125.7, 125.3, 121.0, 33.9, 23.9. HRMS: m/z:  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}$ : 274.15903; found 274.15872. and **3ia'**  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}$ : 350.19033; found: 350.19009.

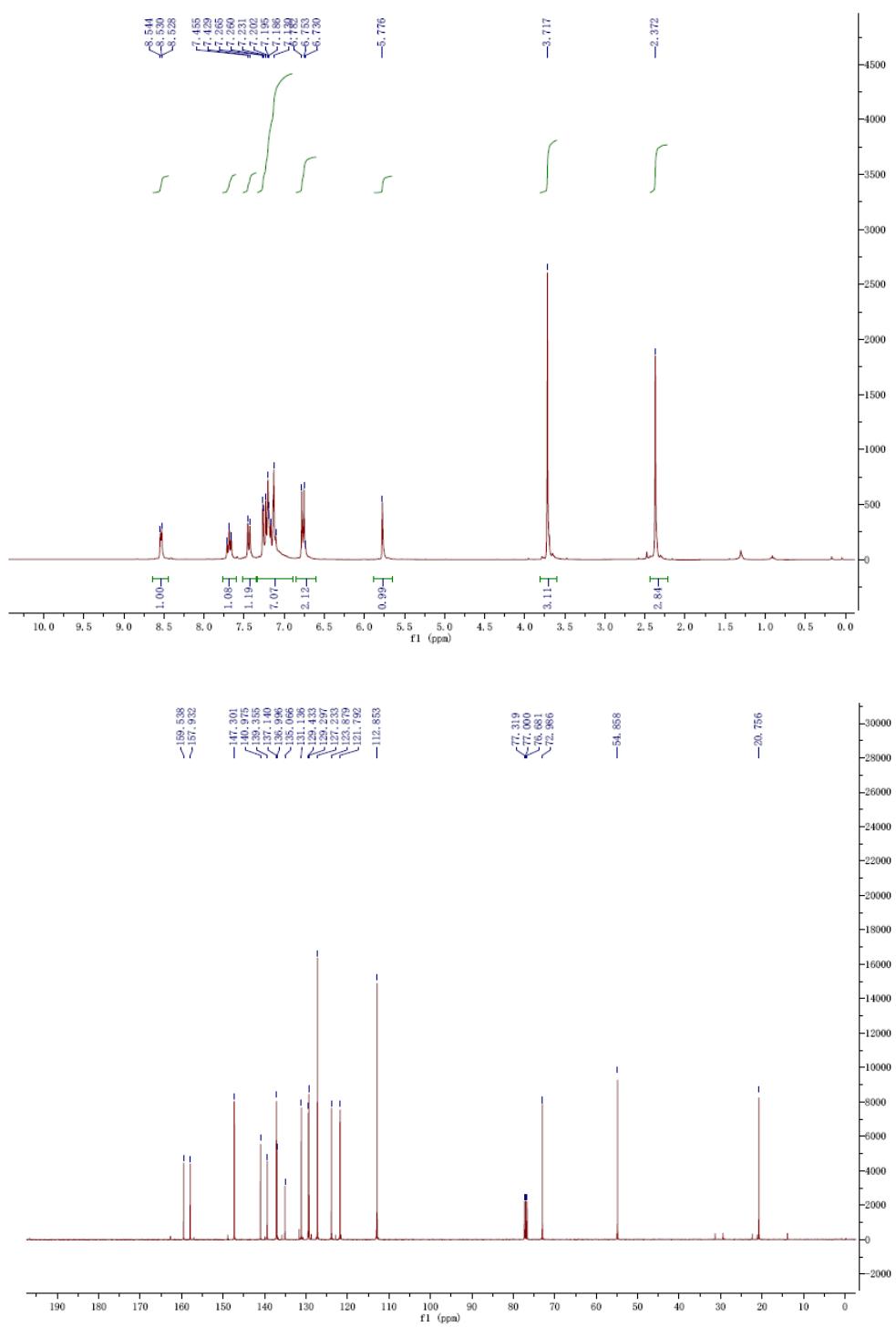
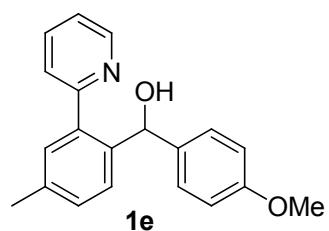
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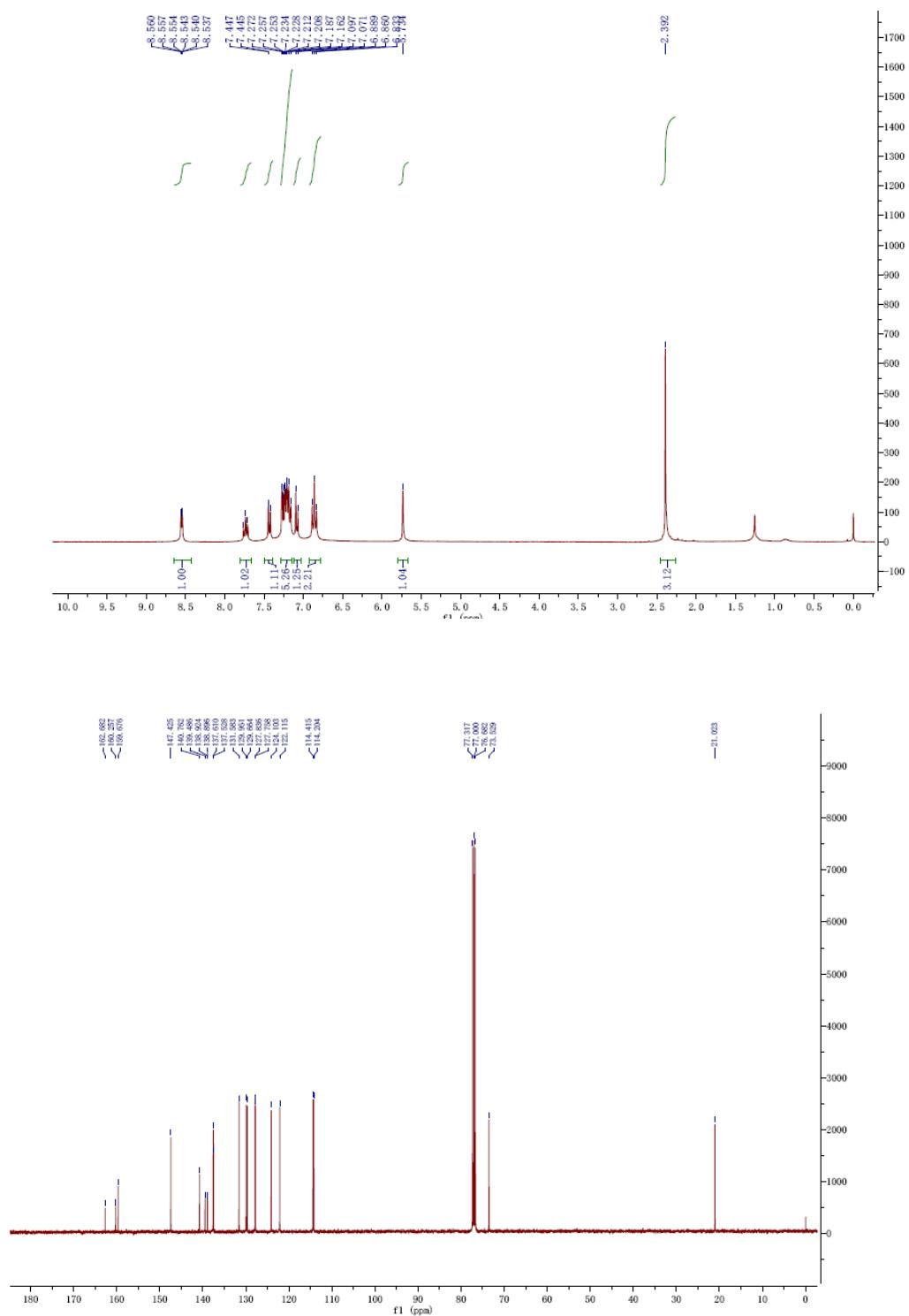
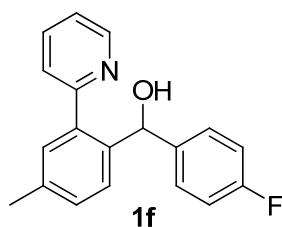
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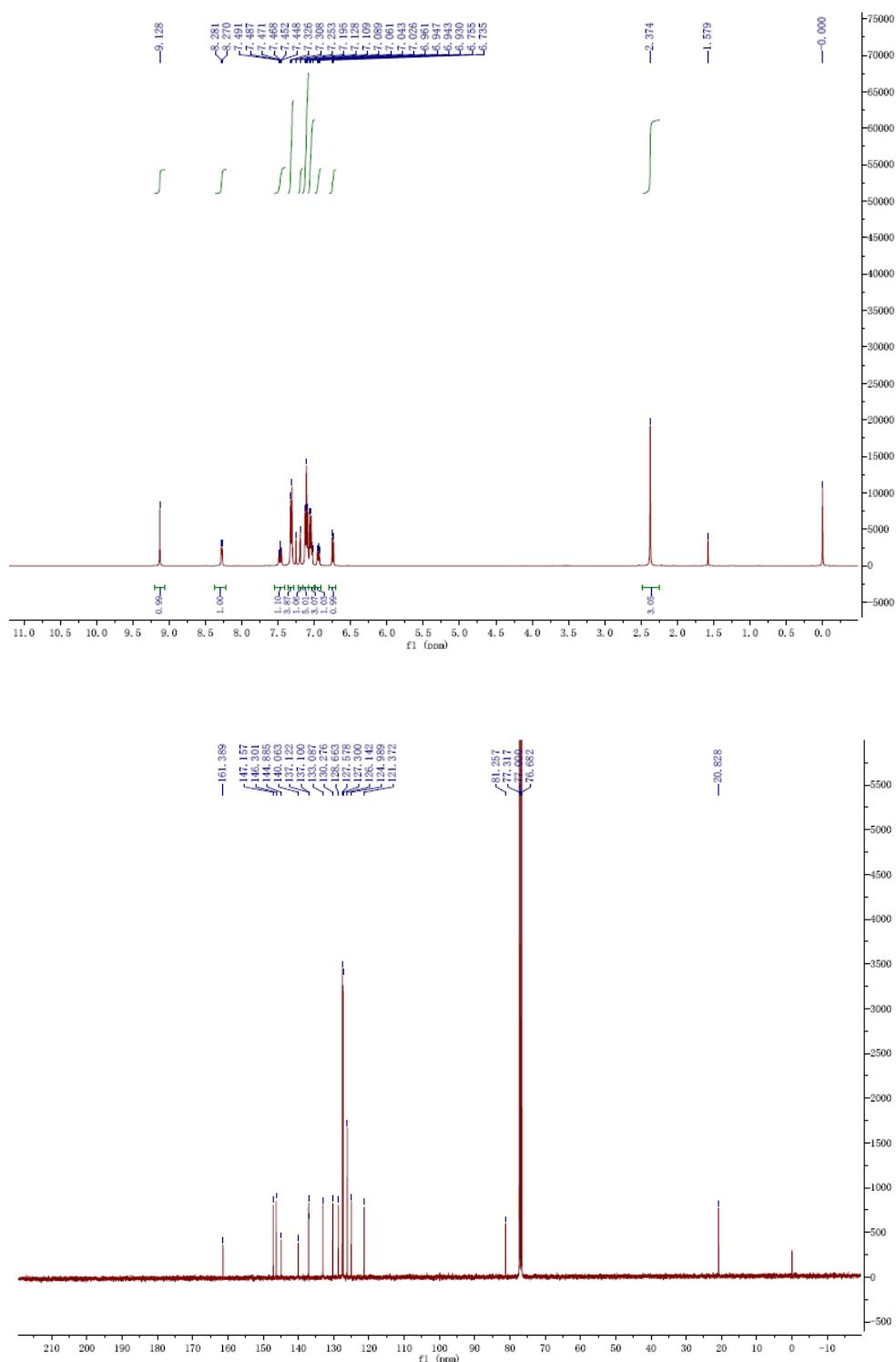
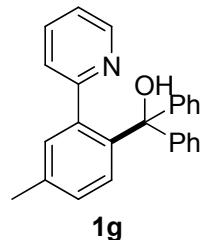
### NMR Spectra of Alcohol Substrates 1

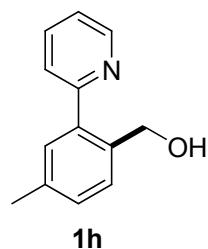




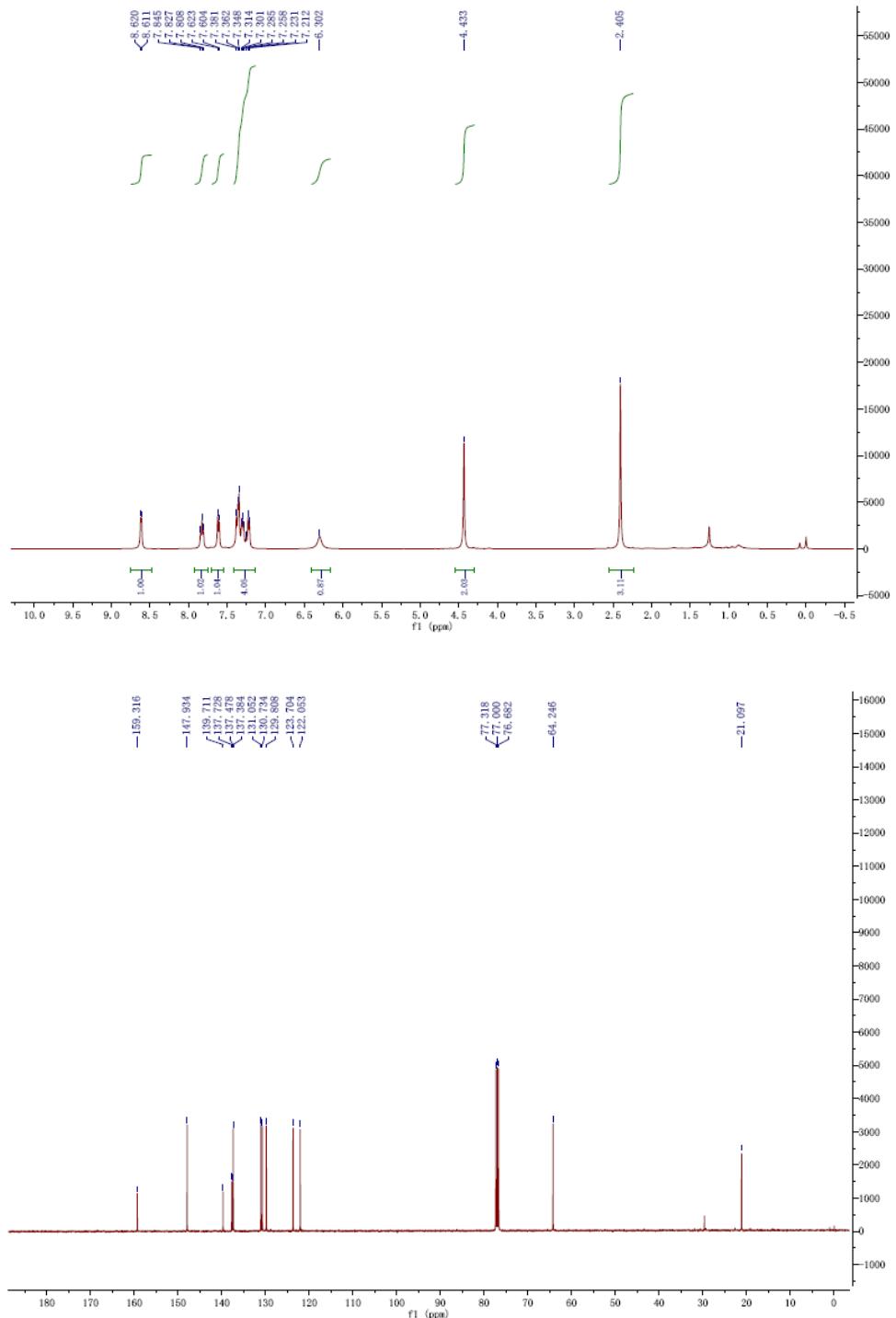


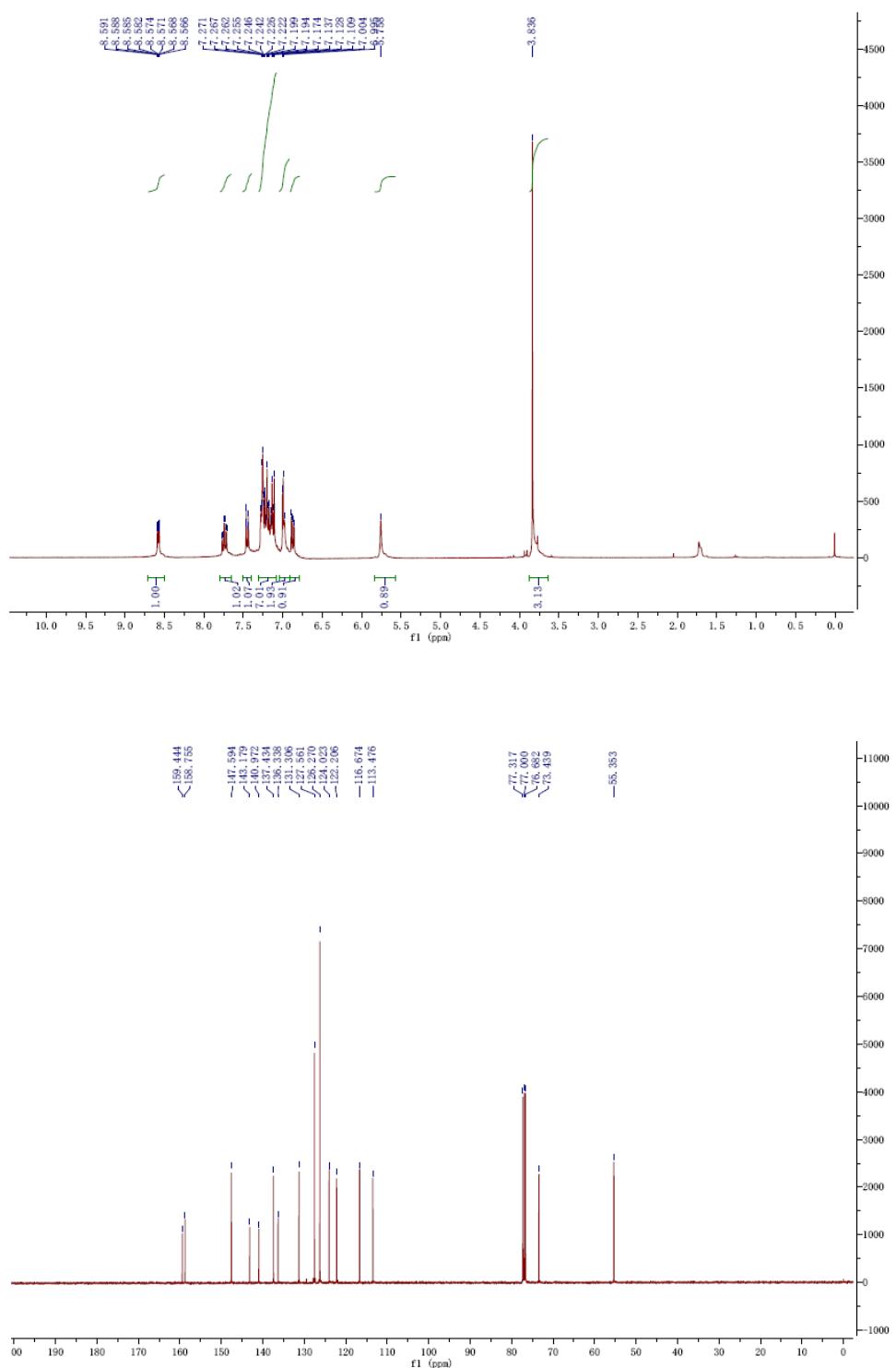
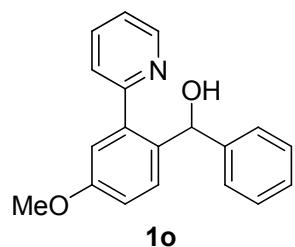


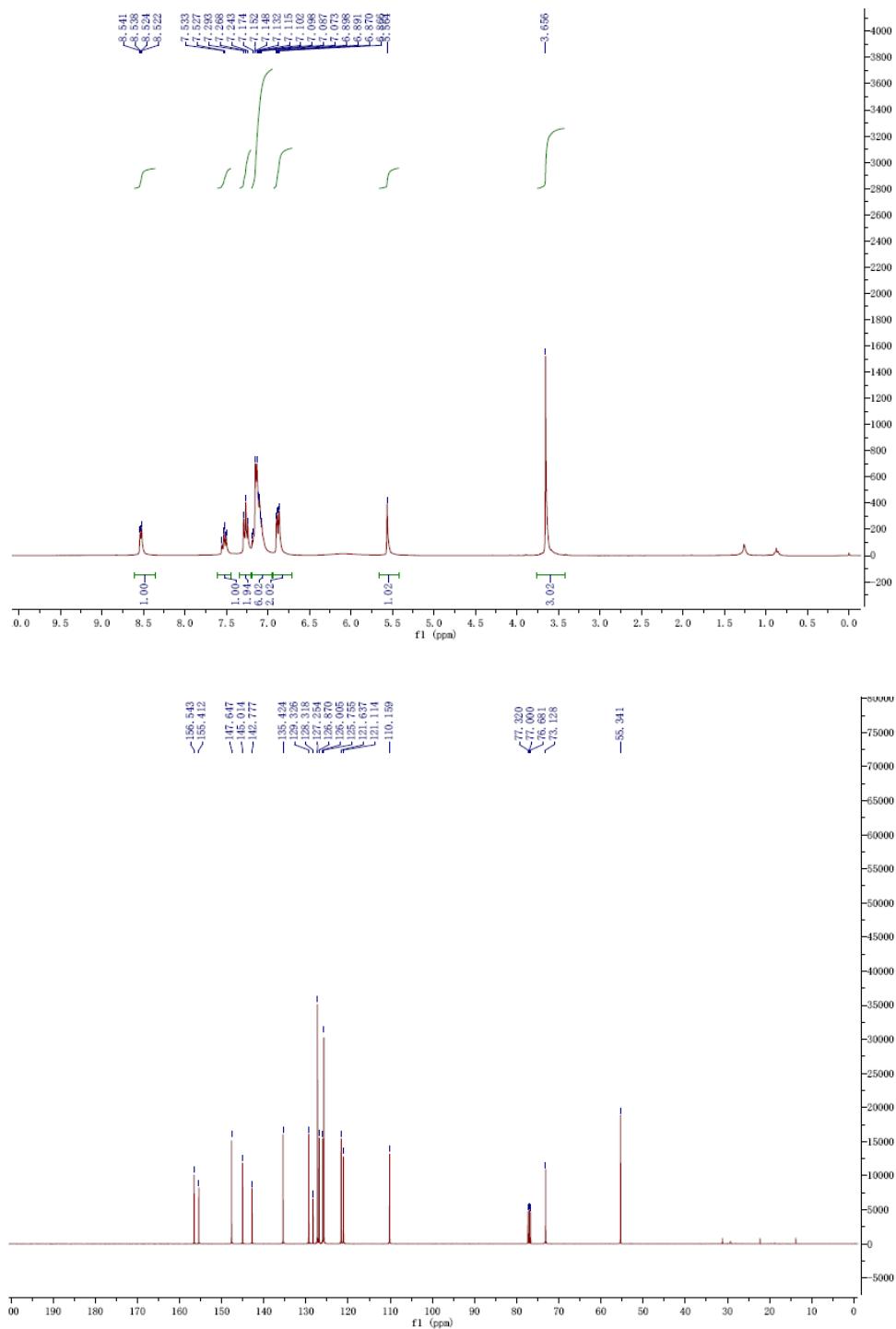
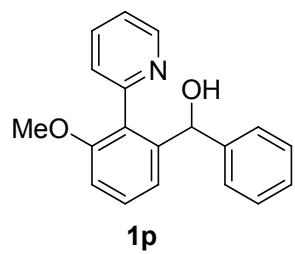




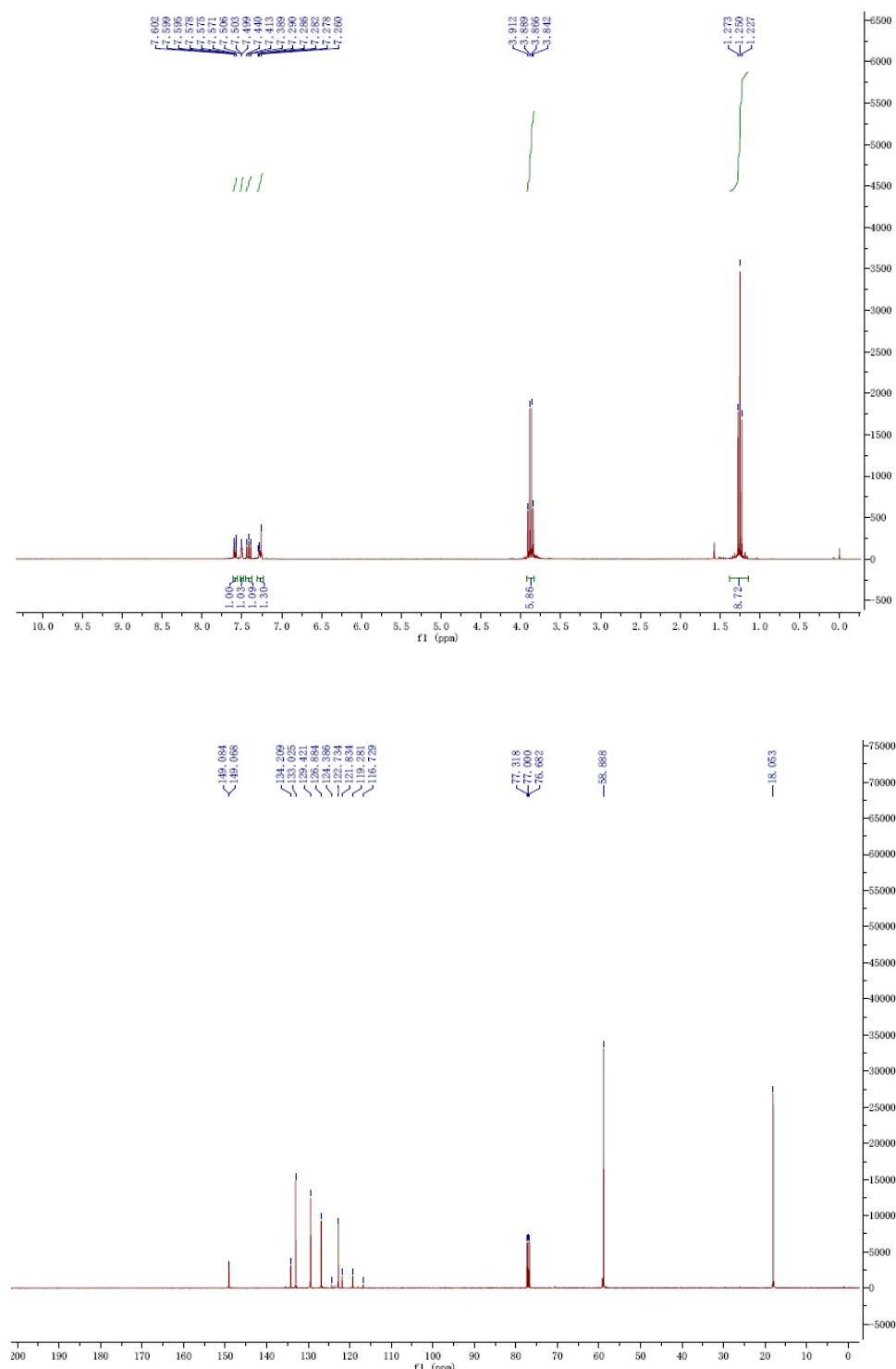
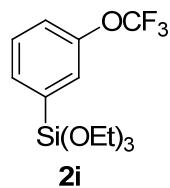
**1h**



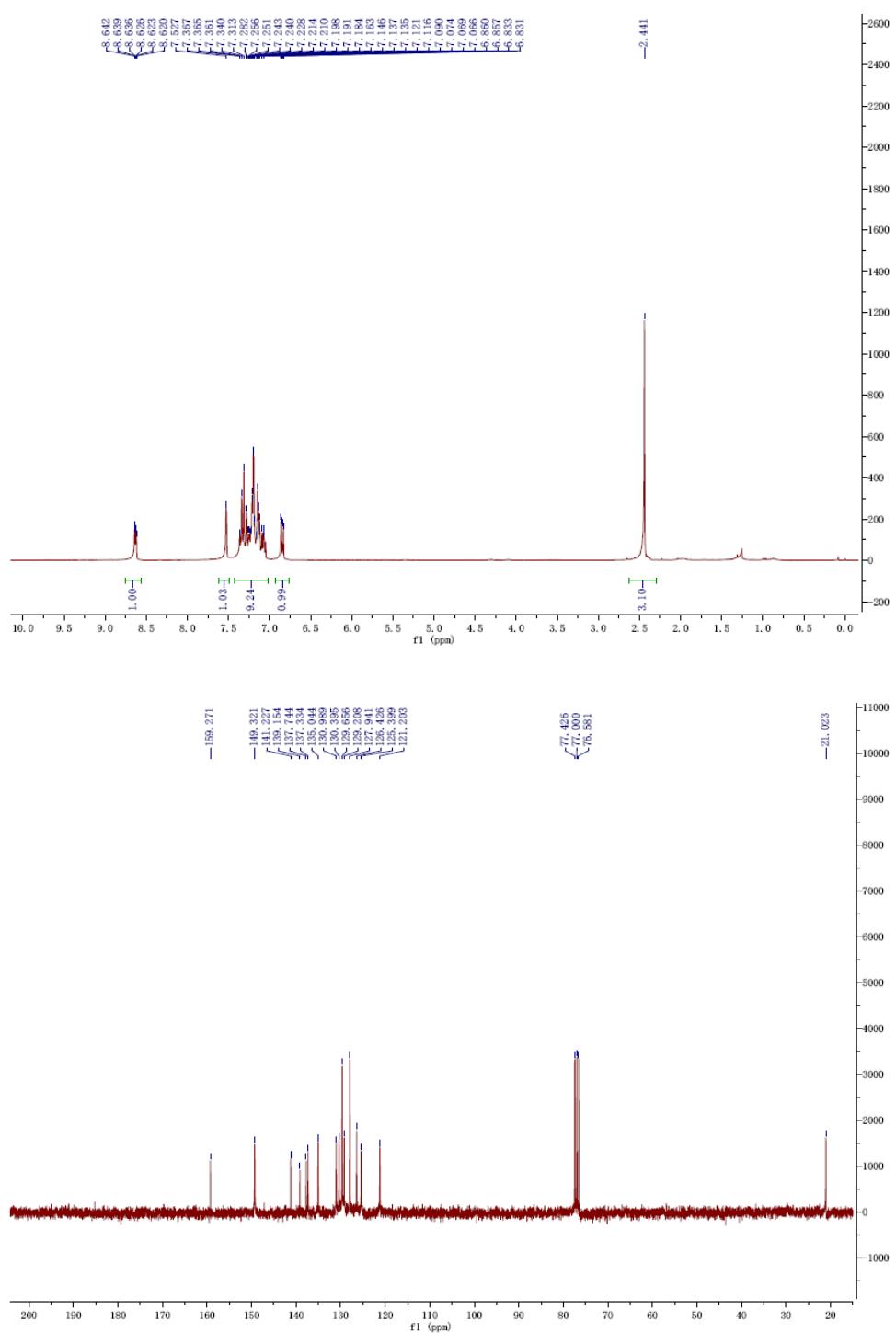
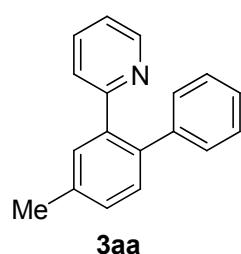


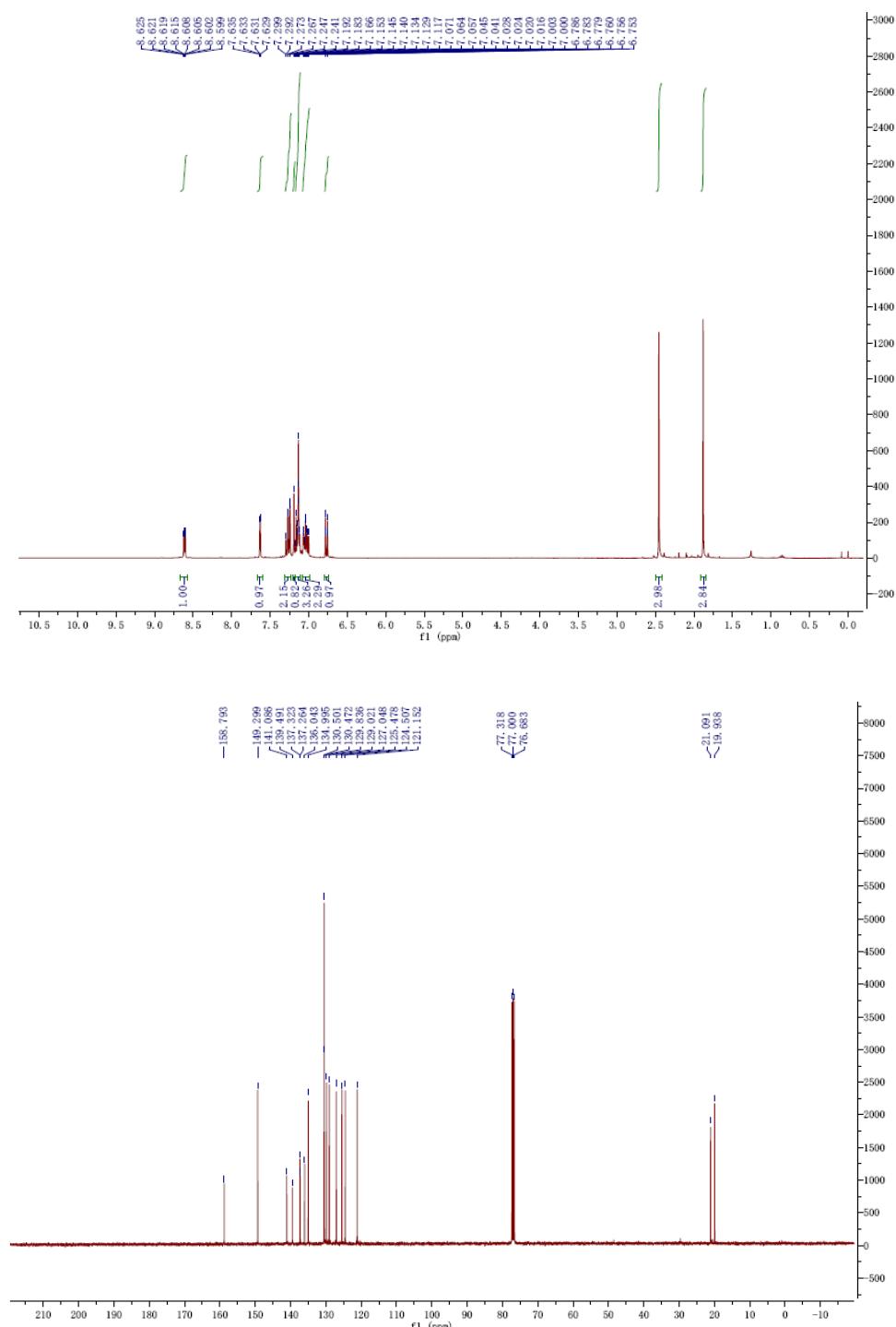
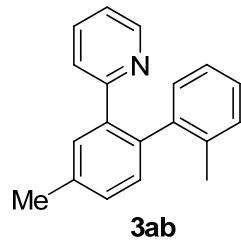


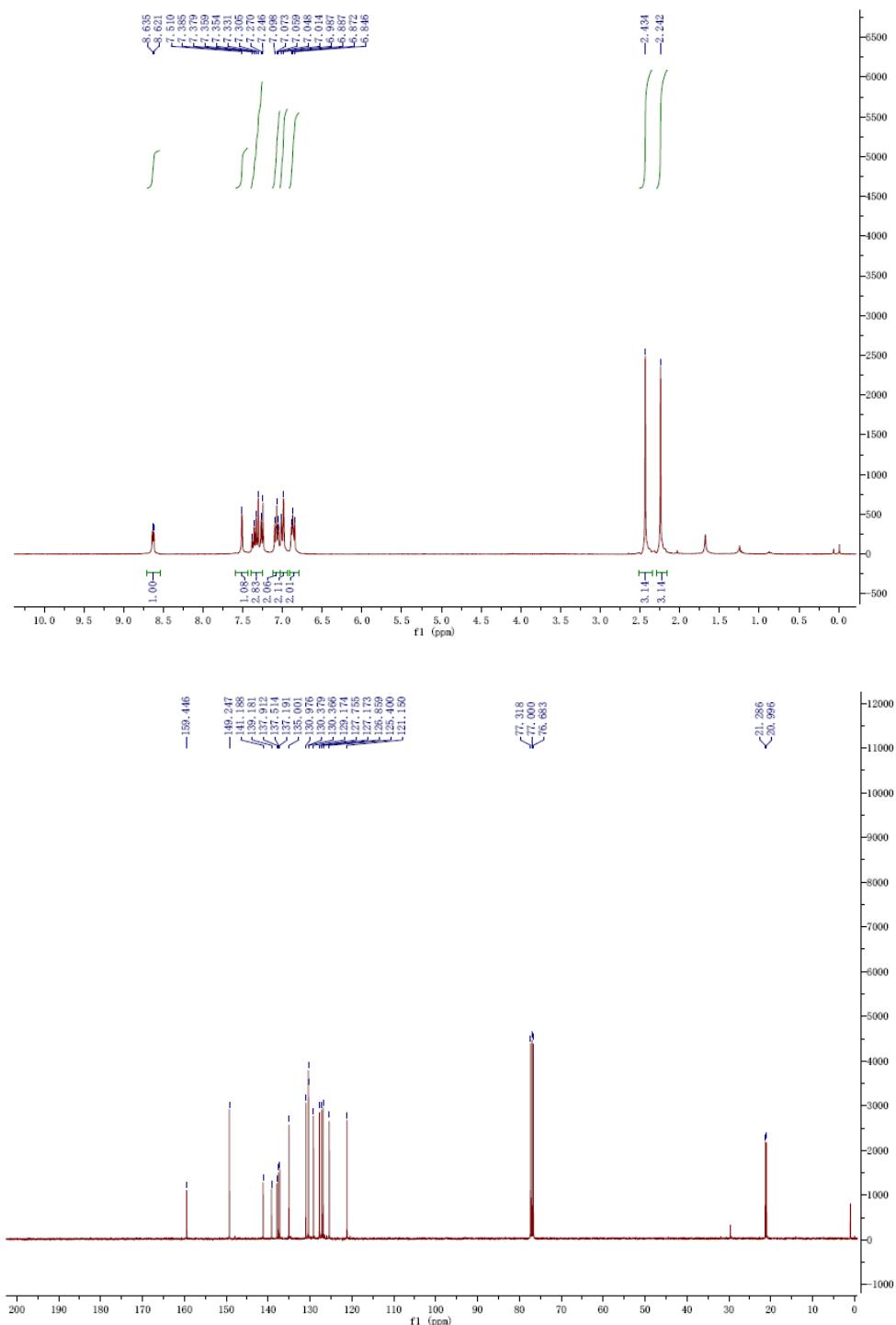
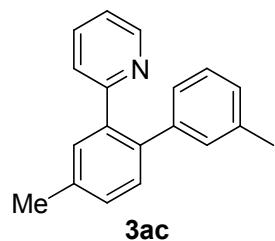
### NMR Spectra of Arylsilane 2

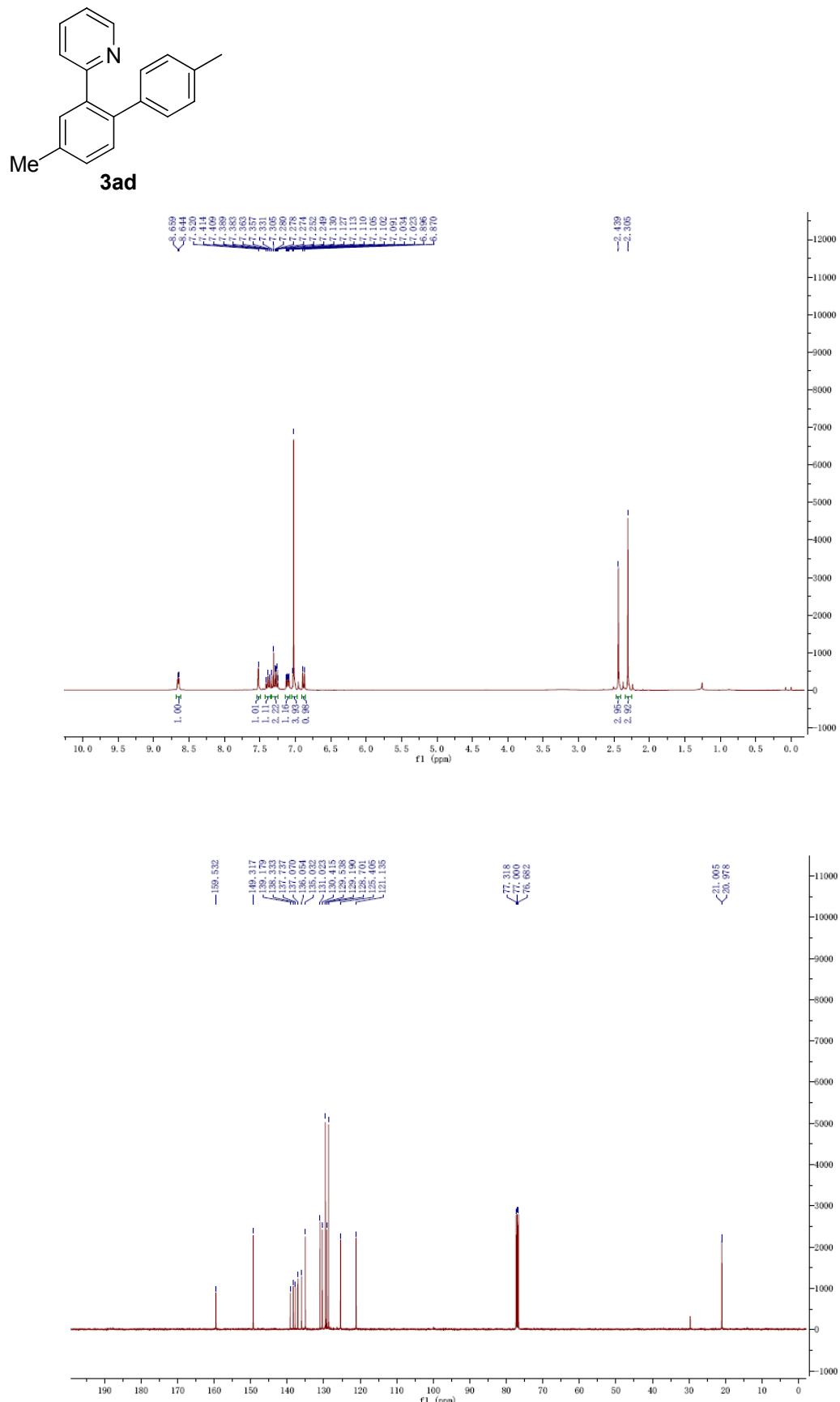


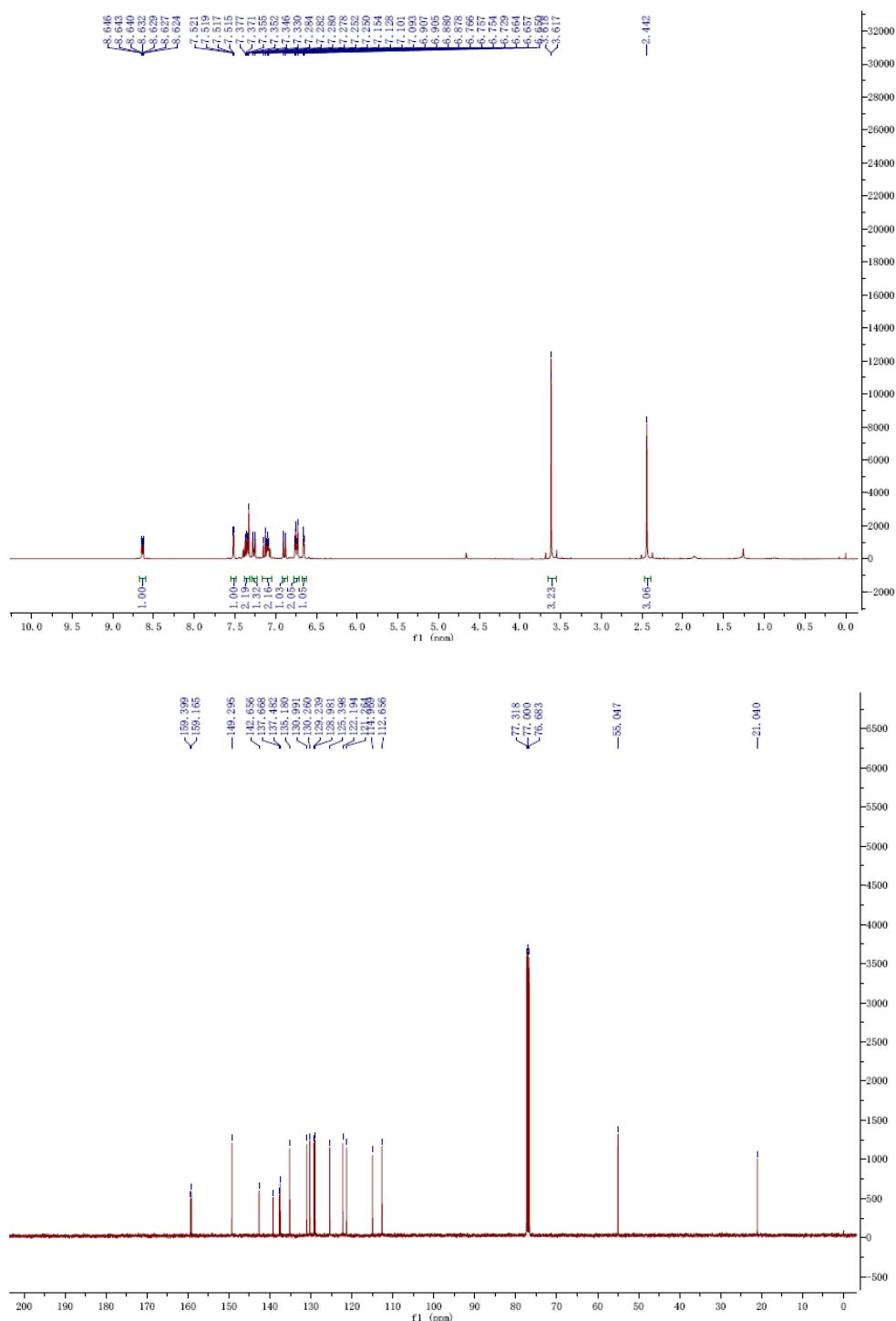
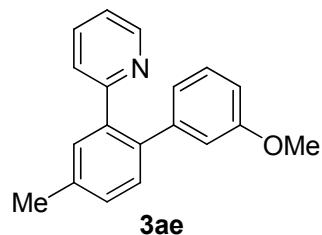
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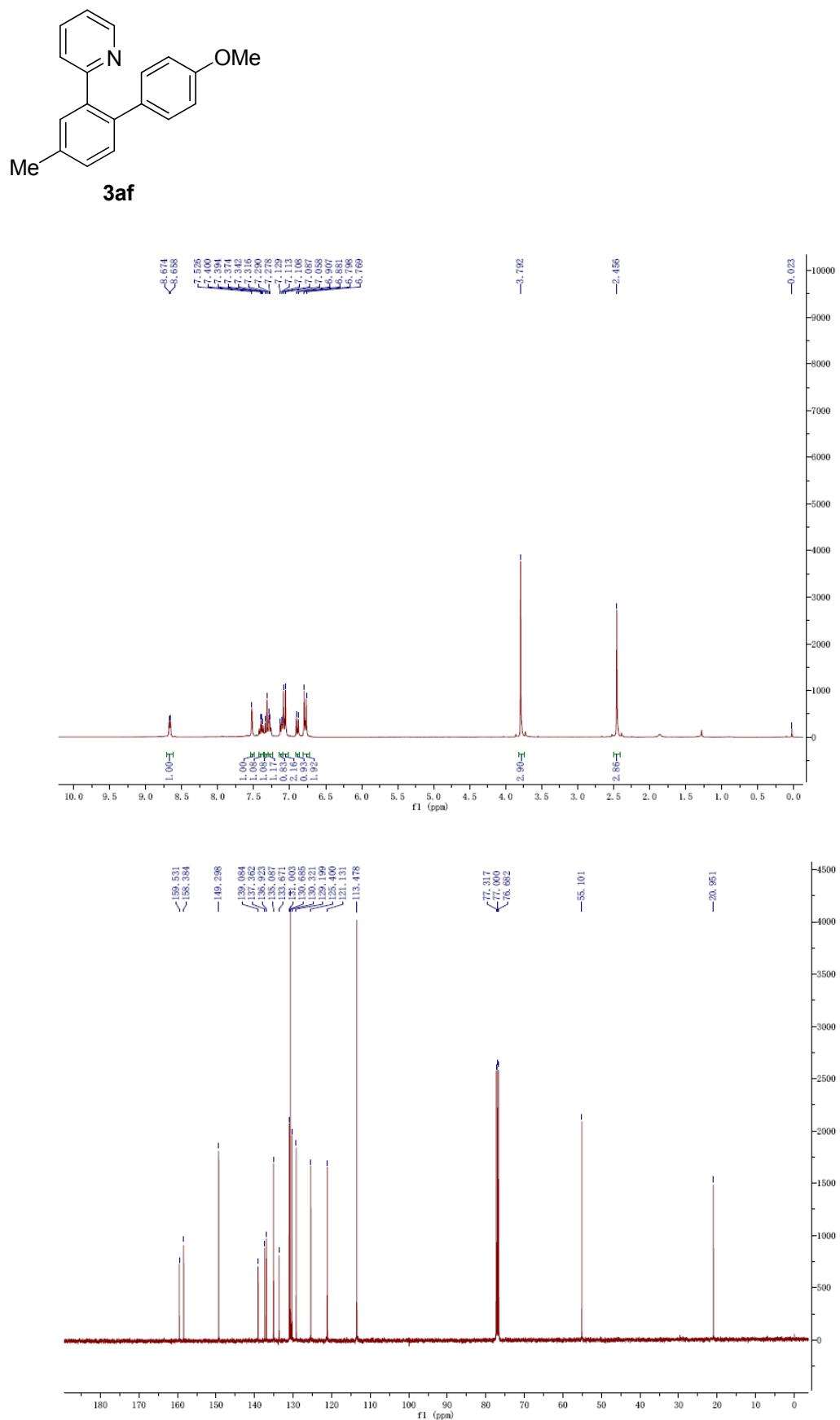


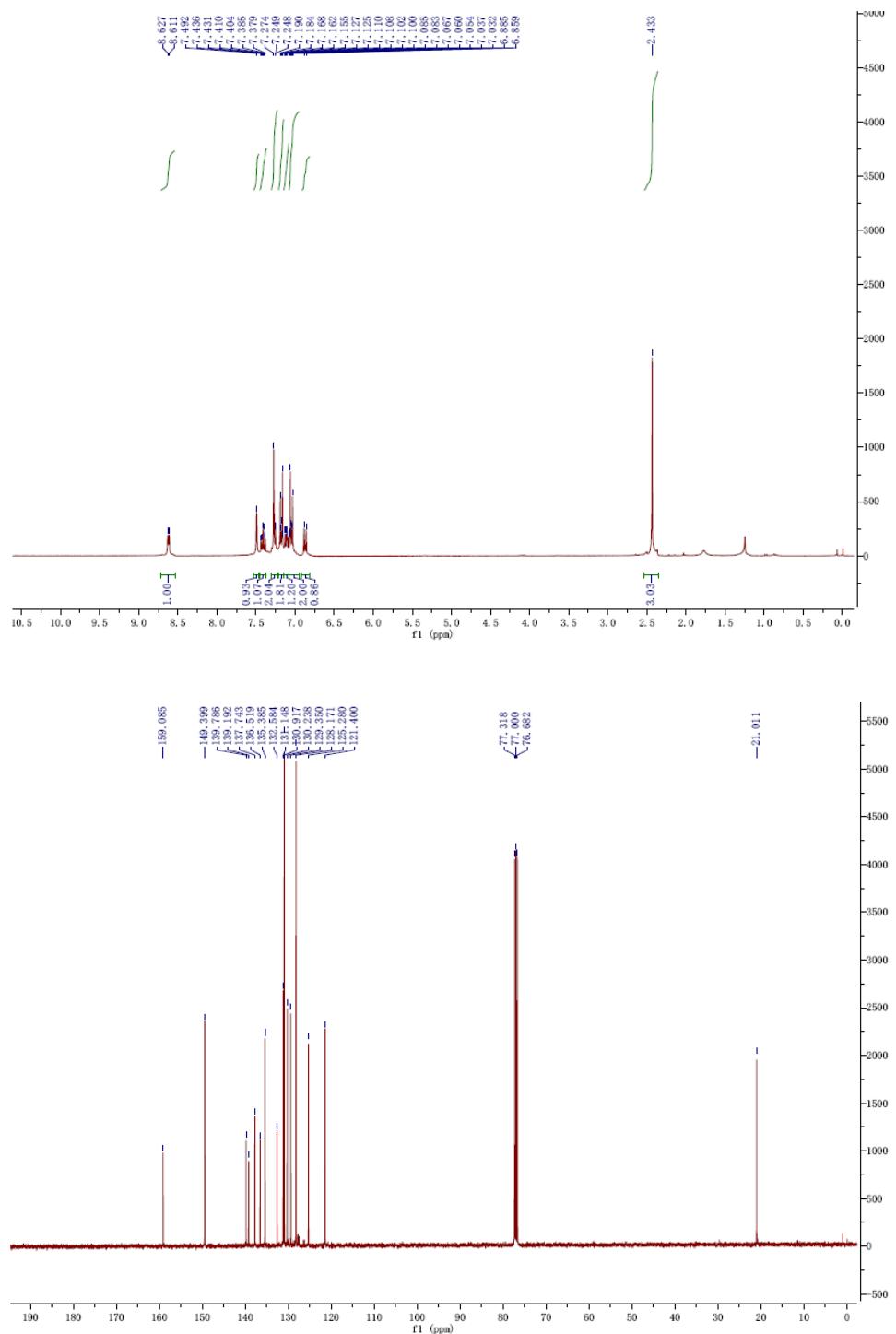
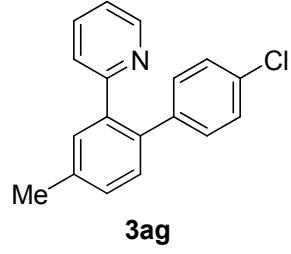


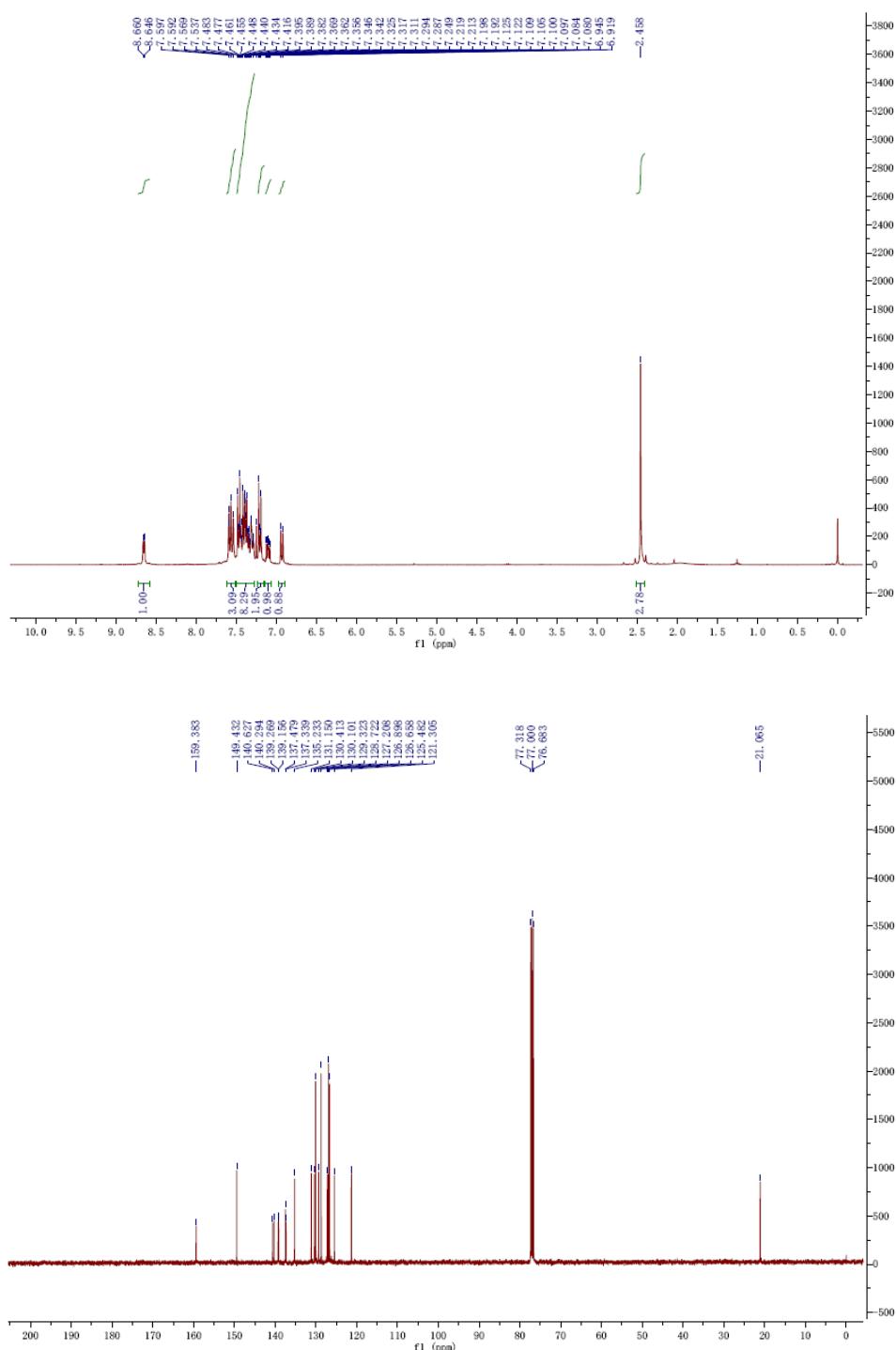
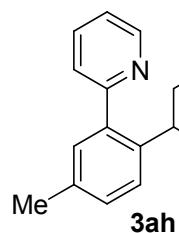


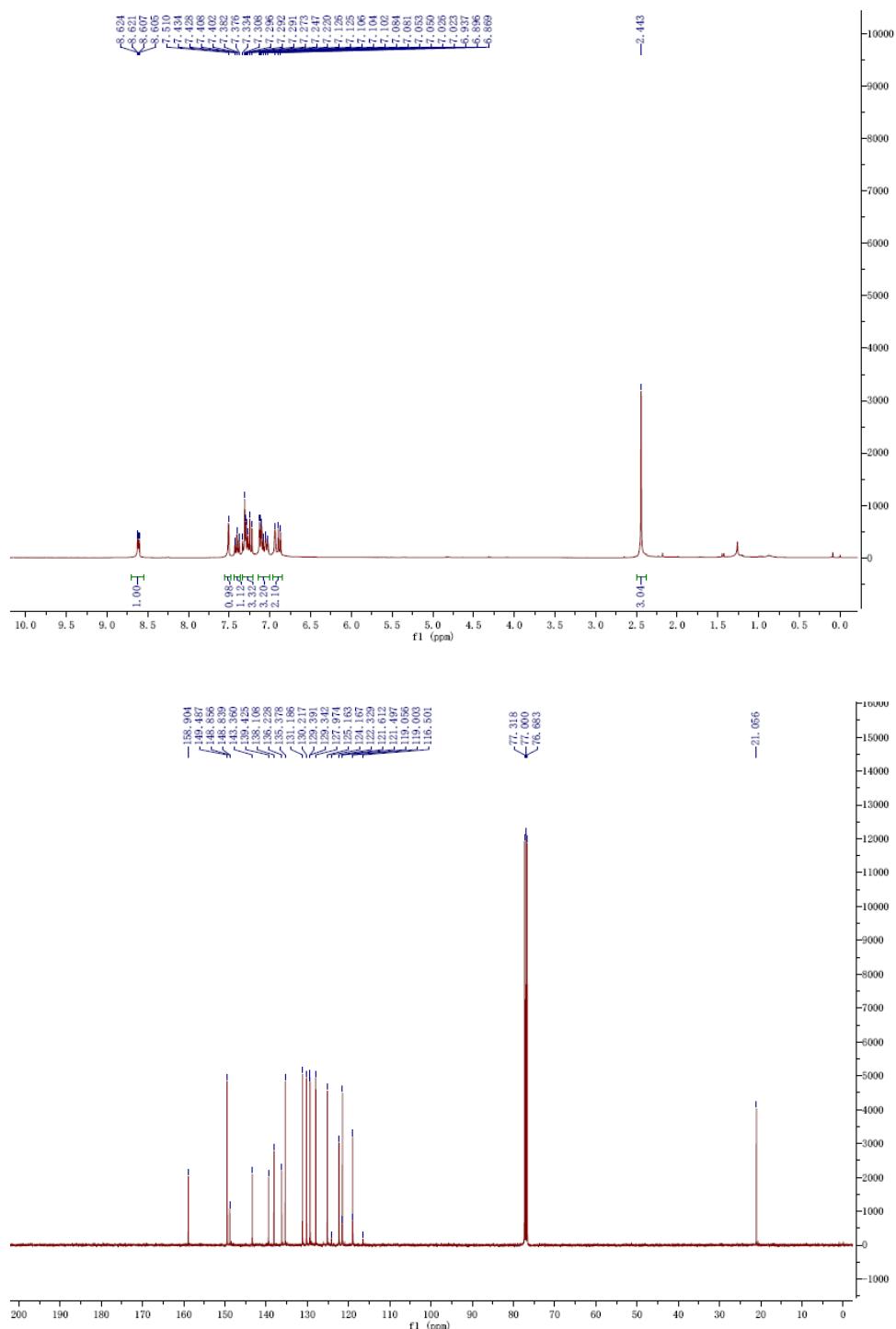
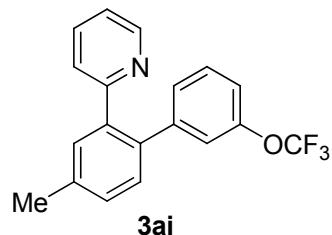


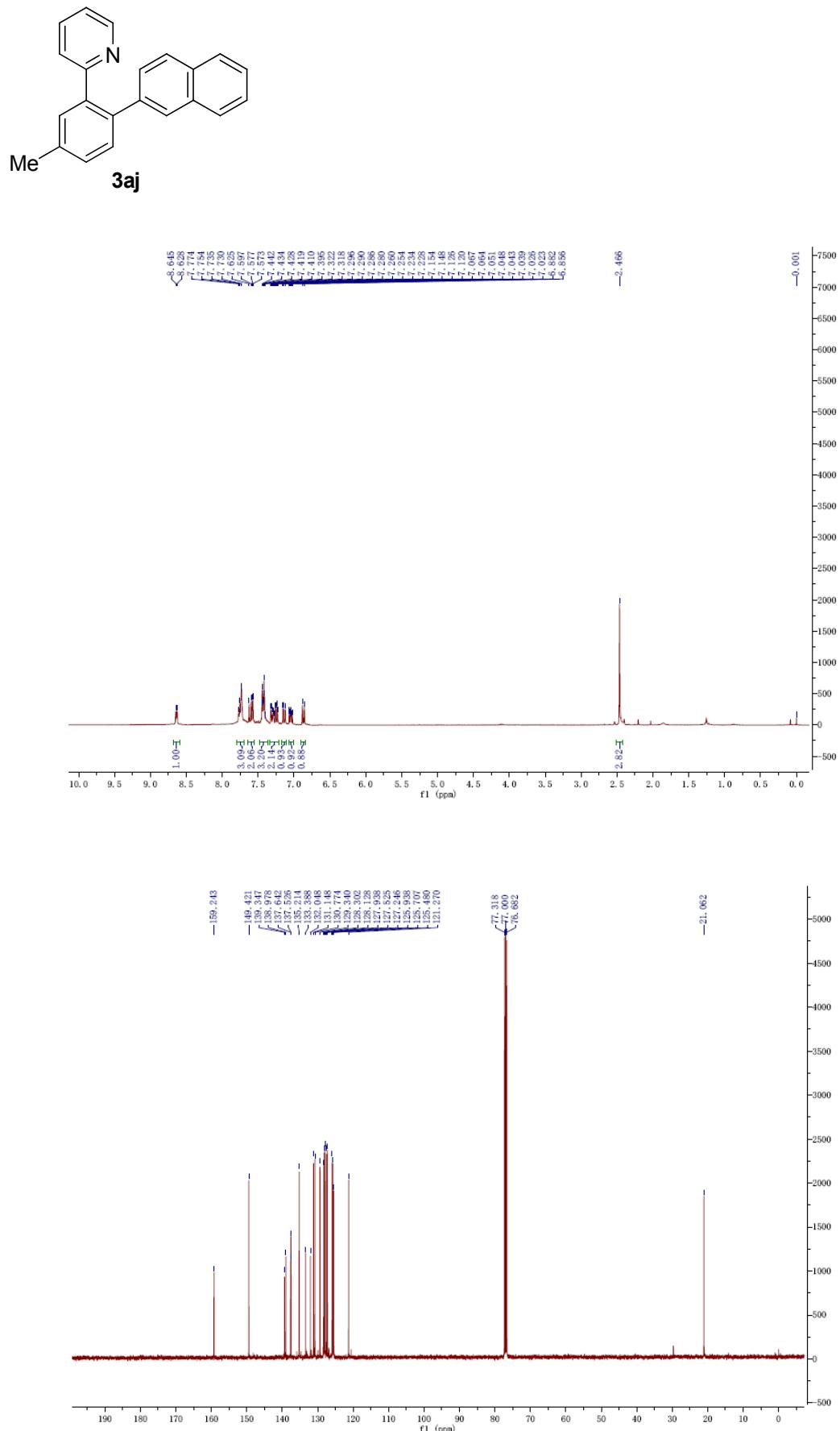


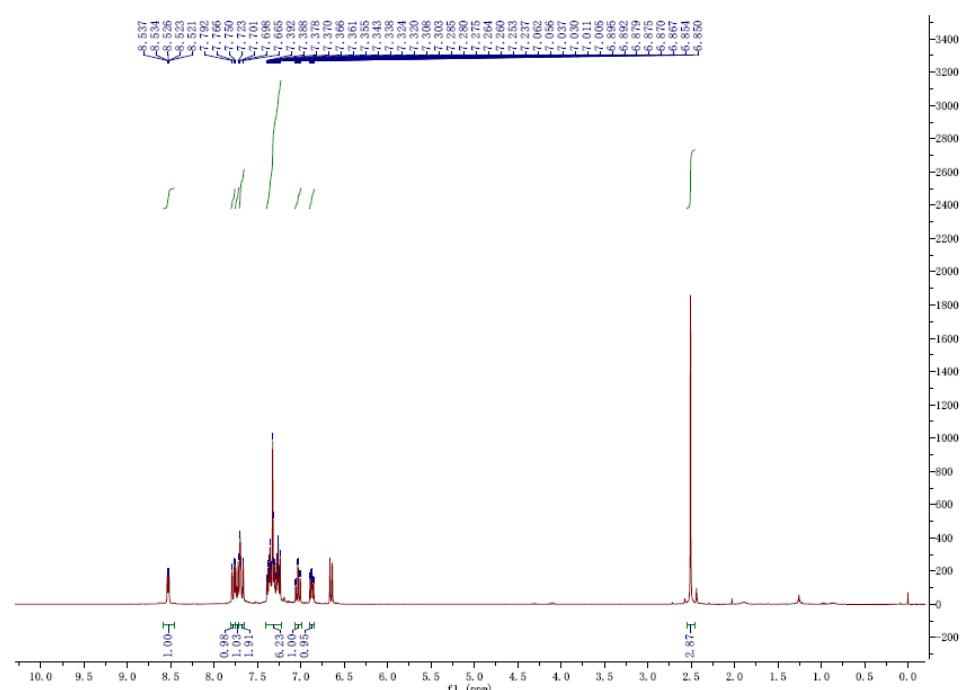
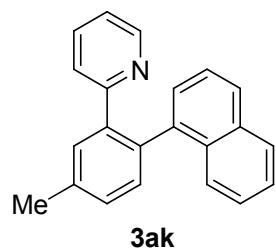


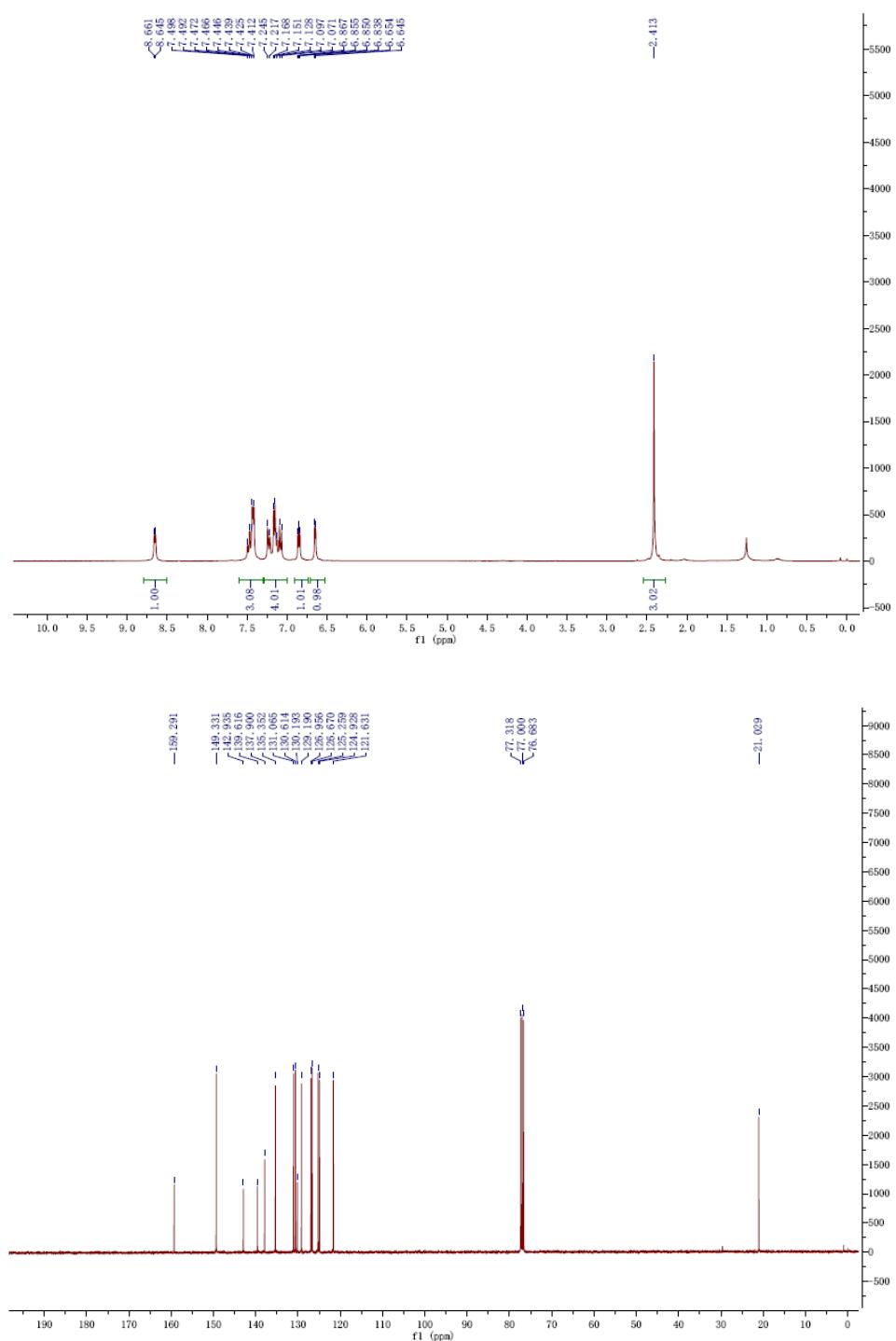


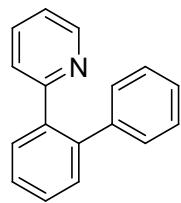




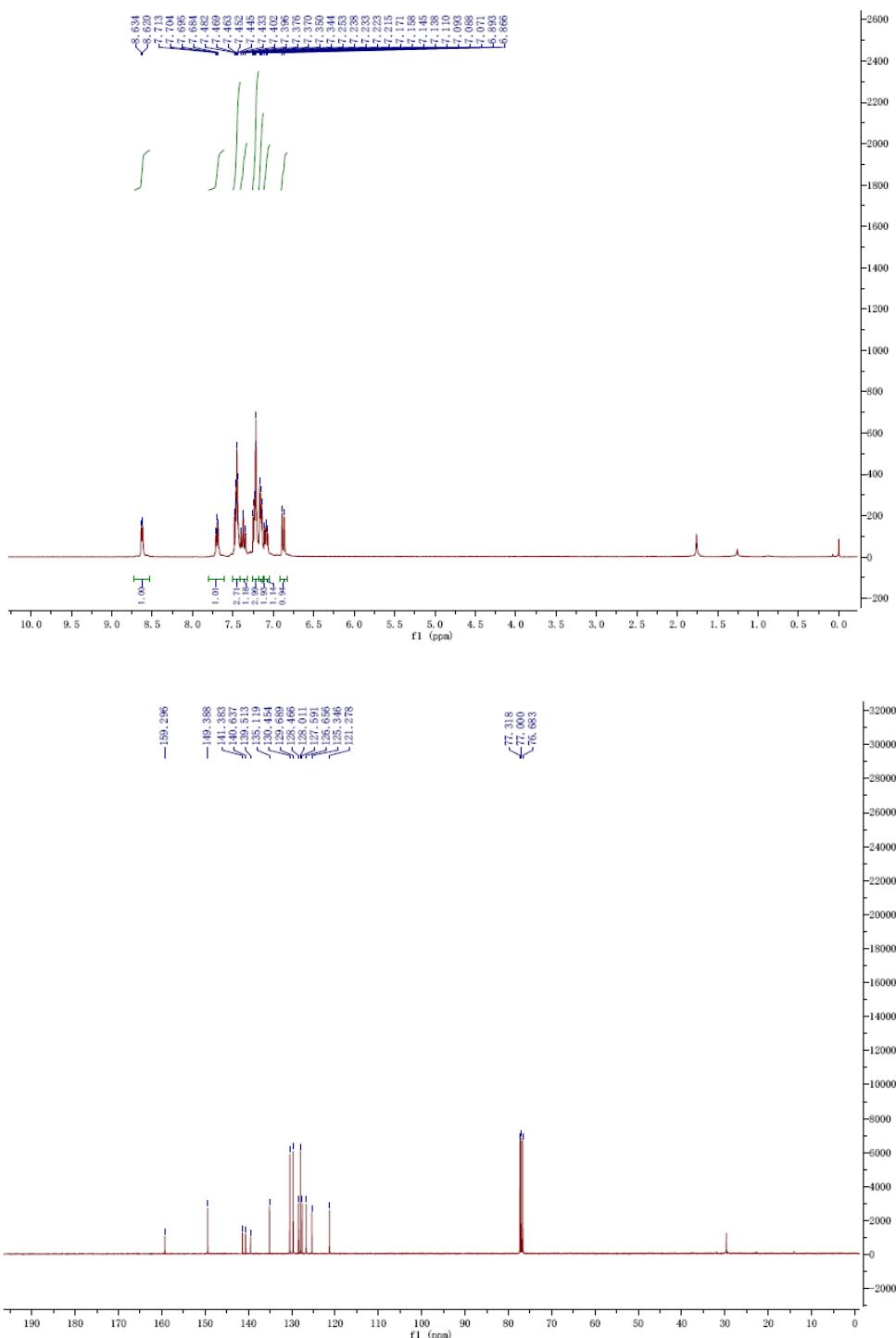


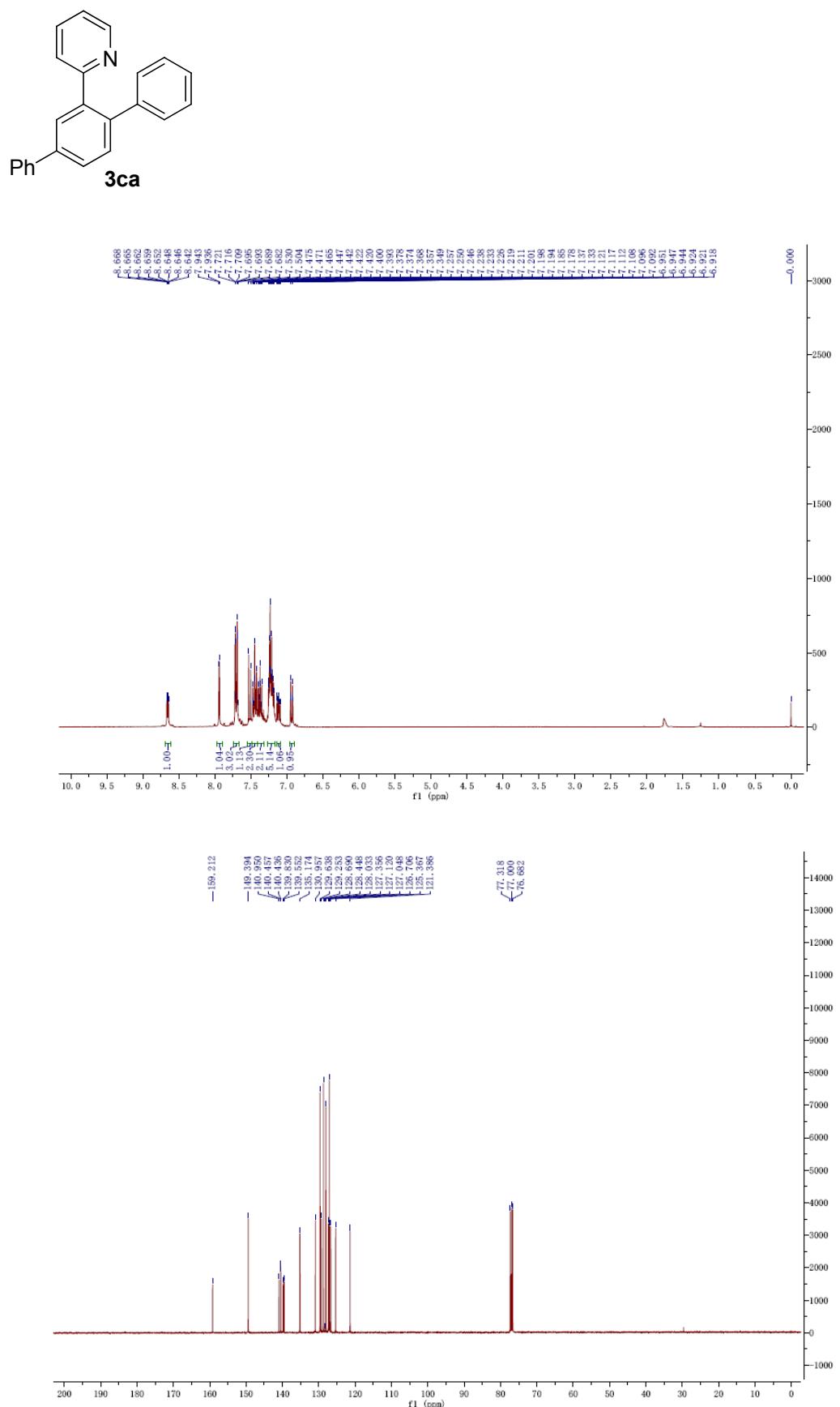


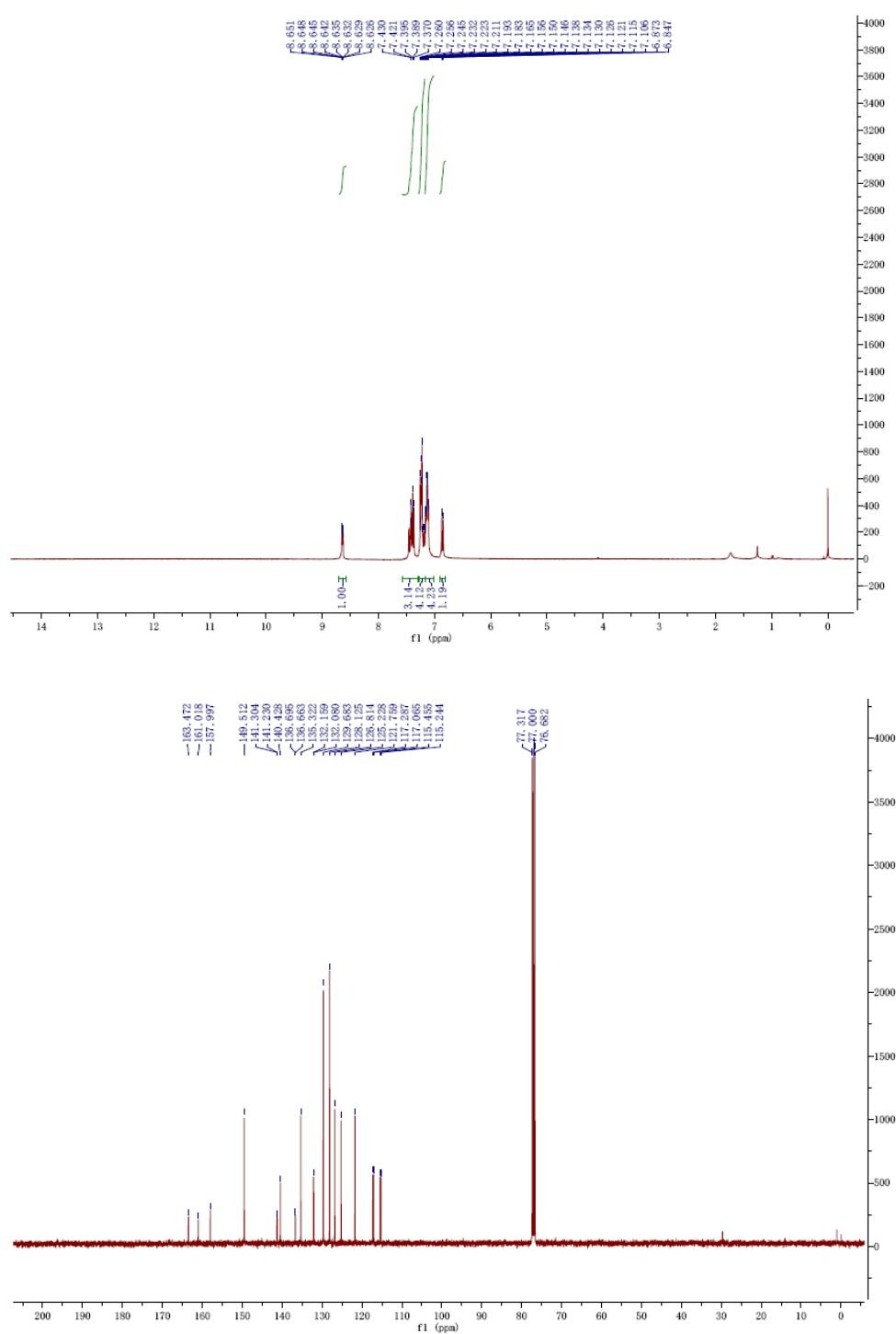
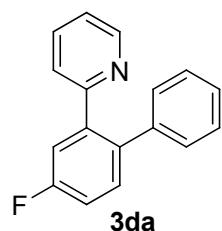


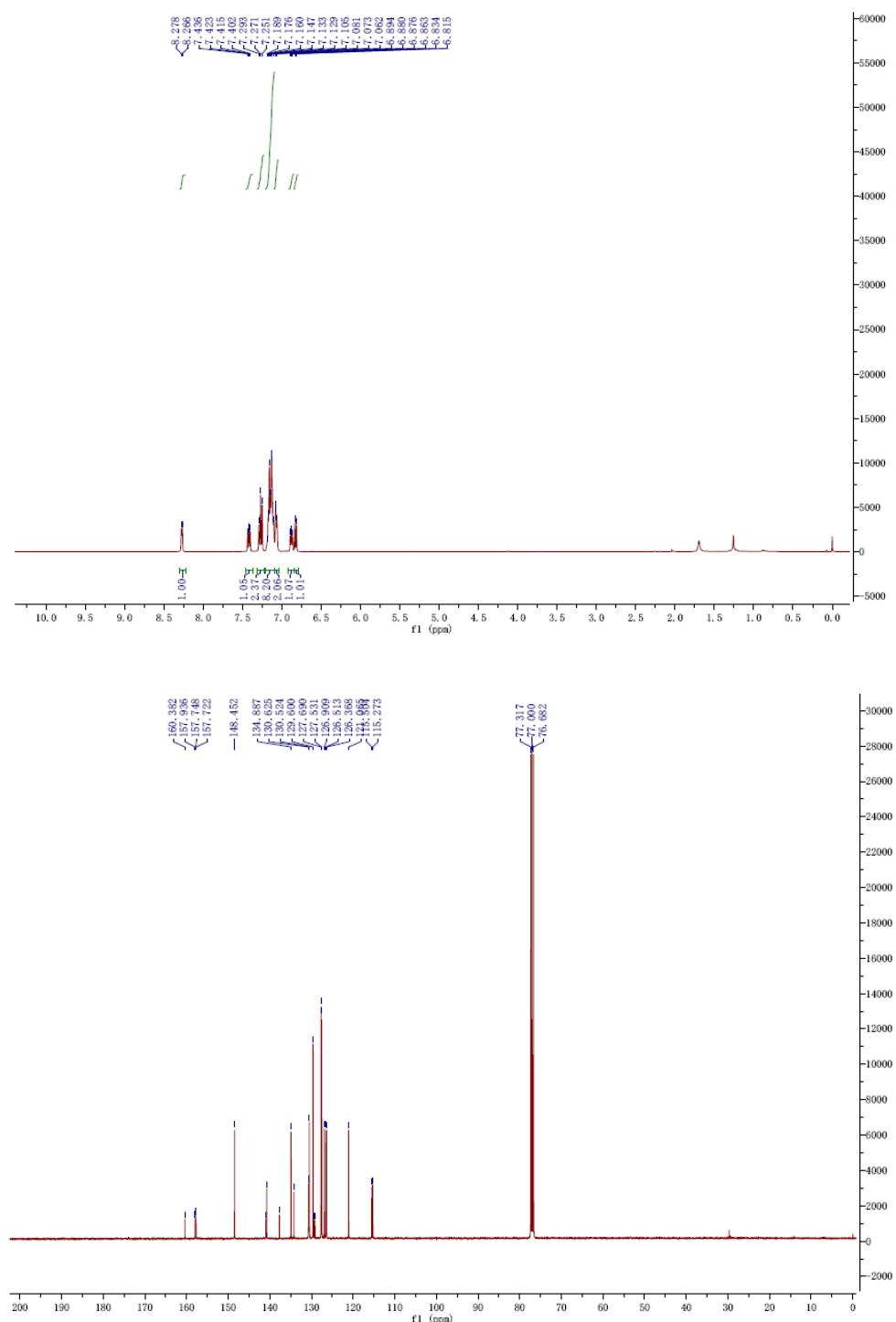
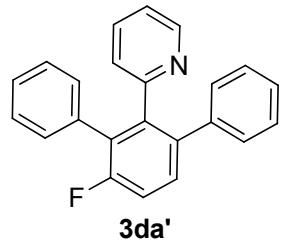


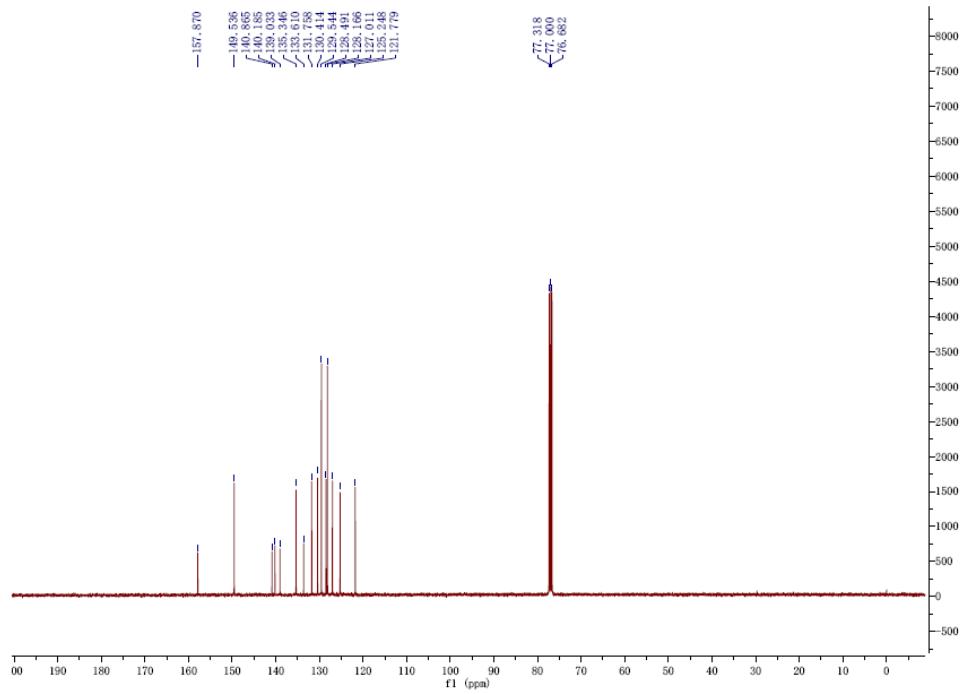
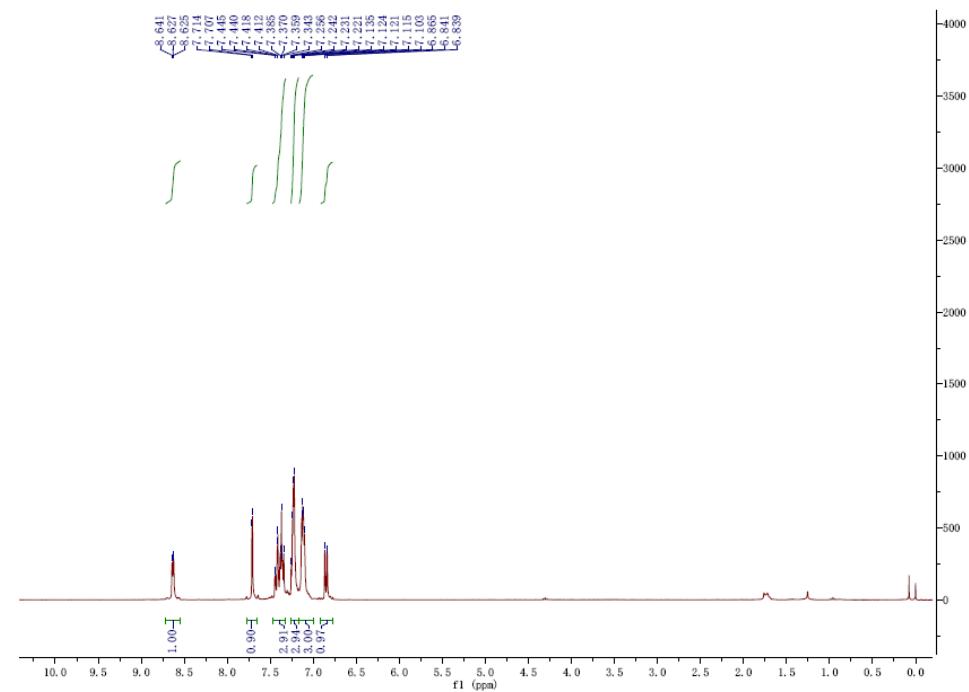
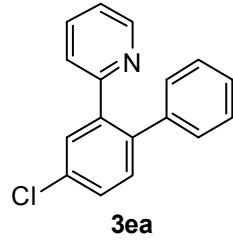
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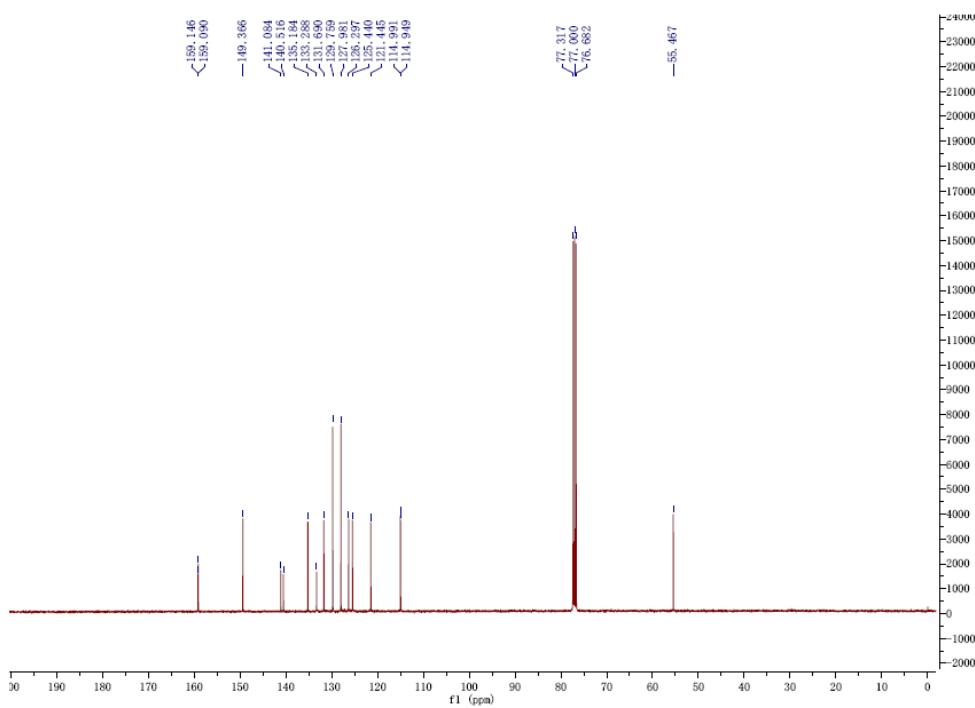
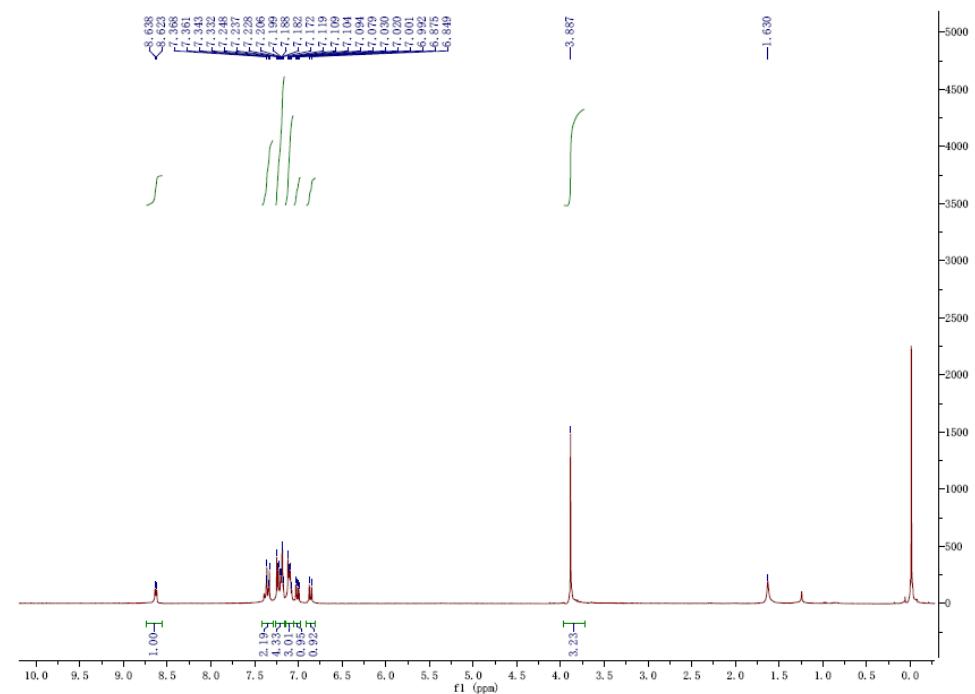
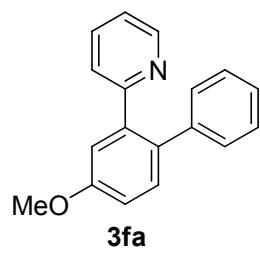


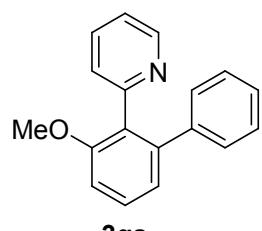




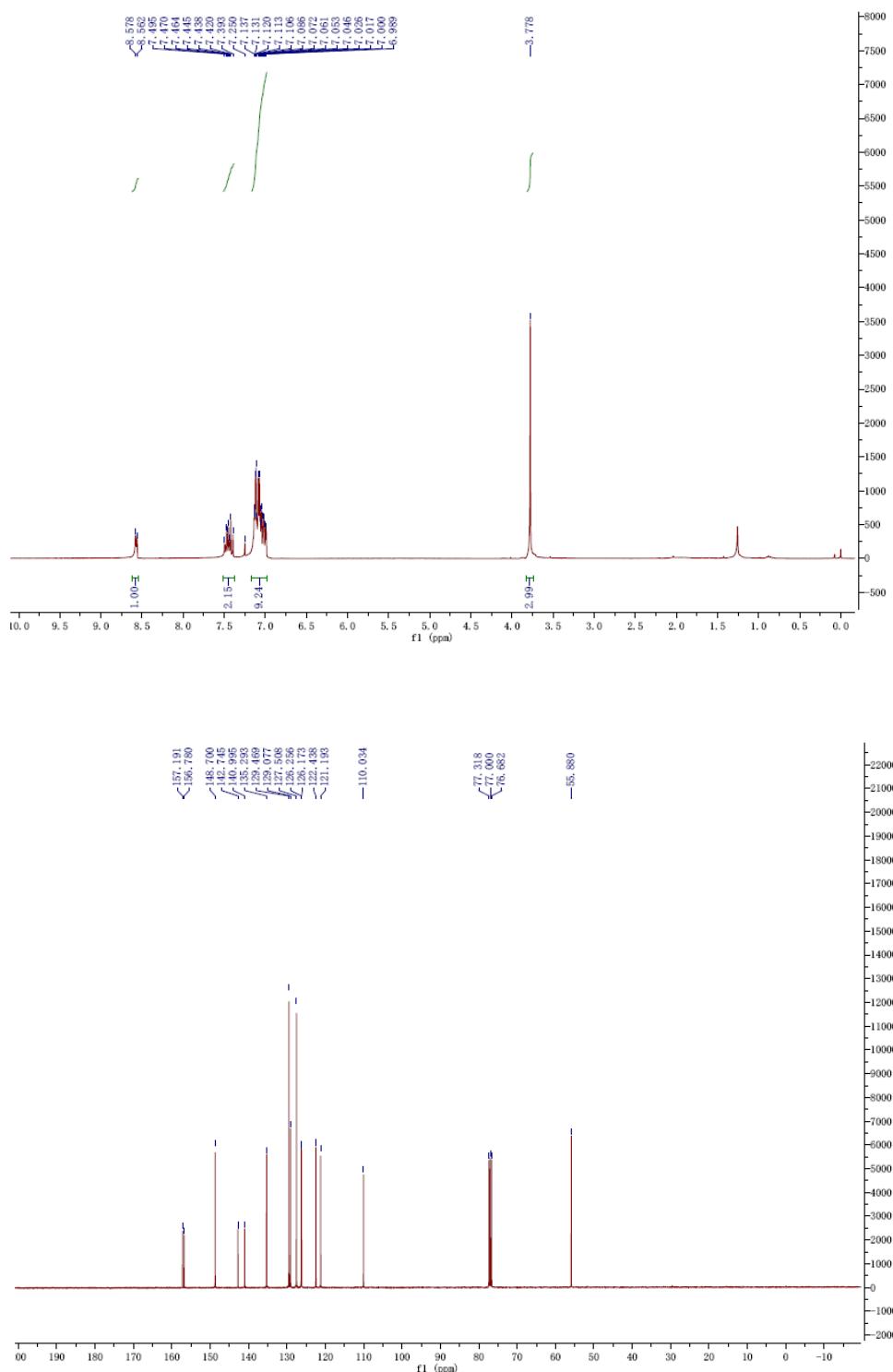


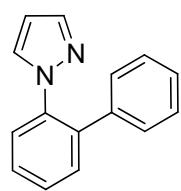




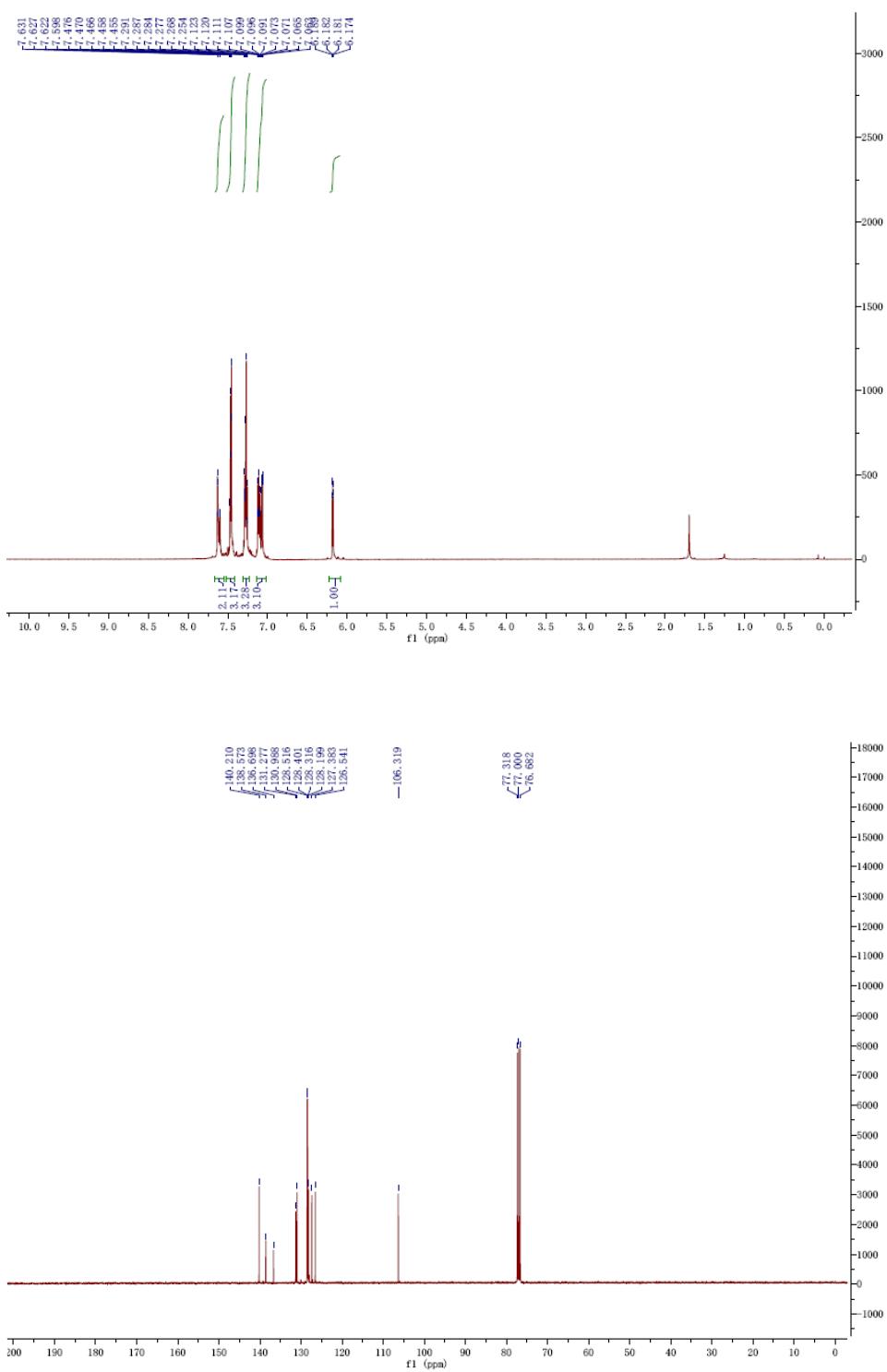


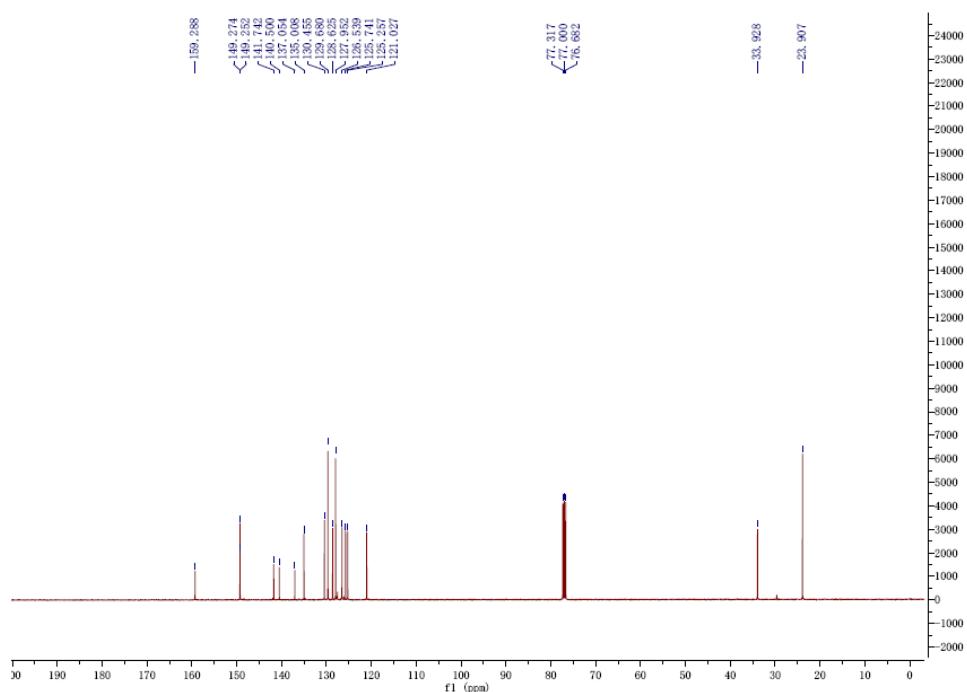
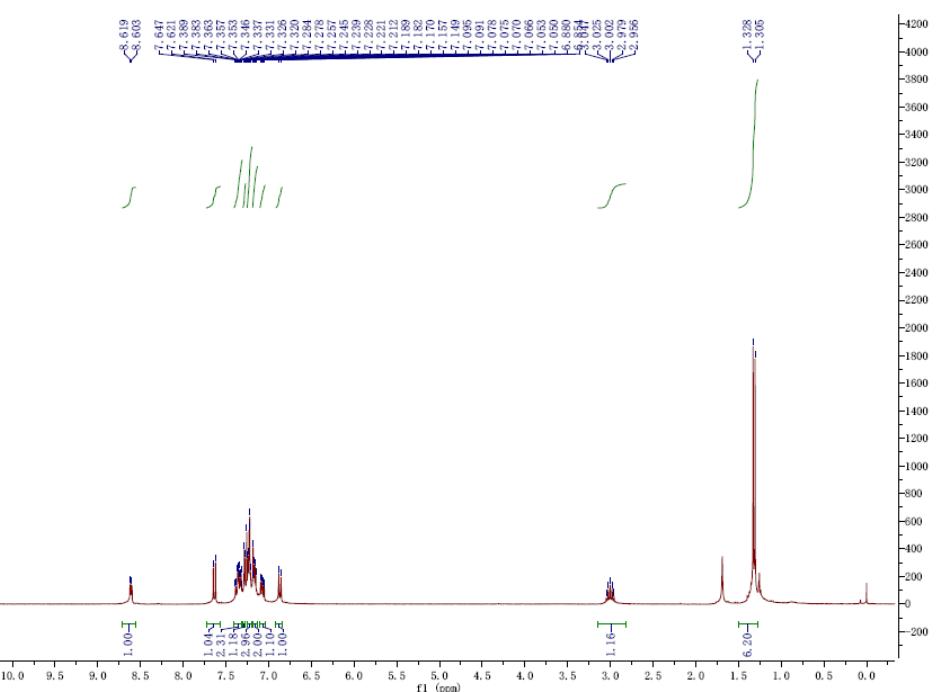
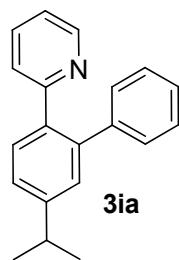
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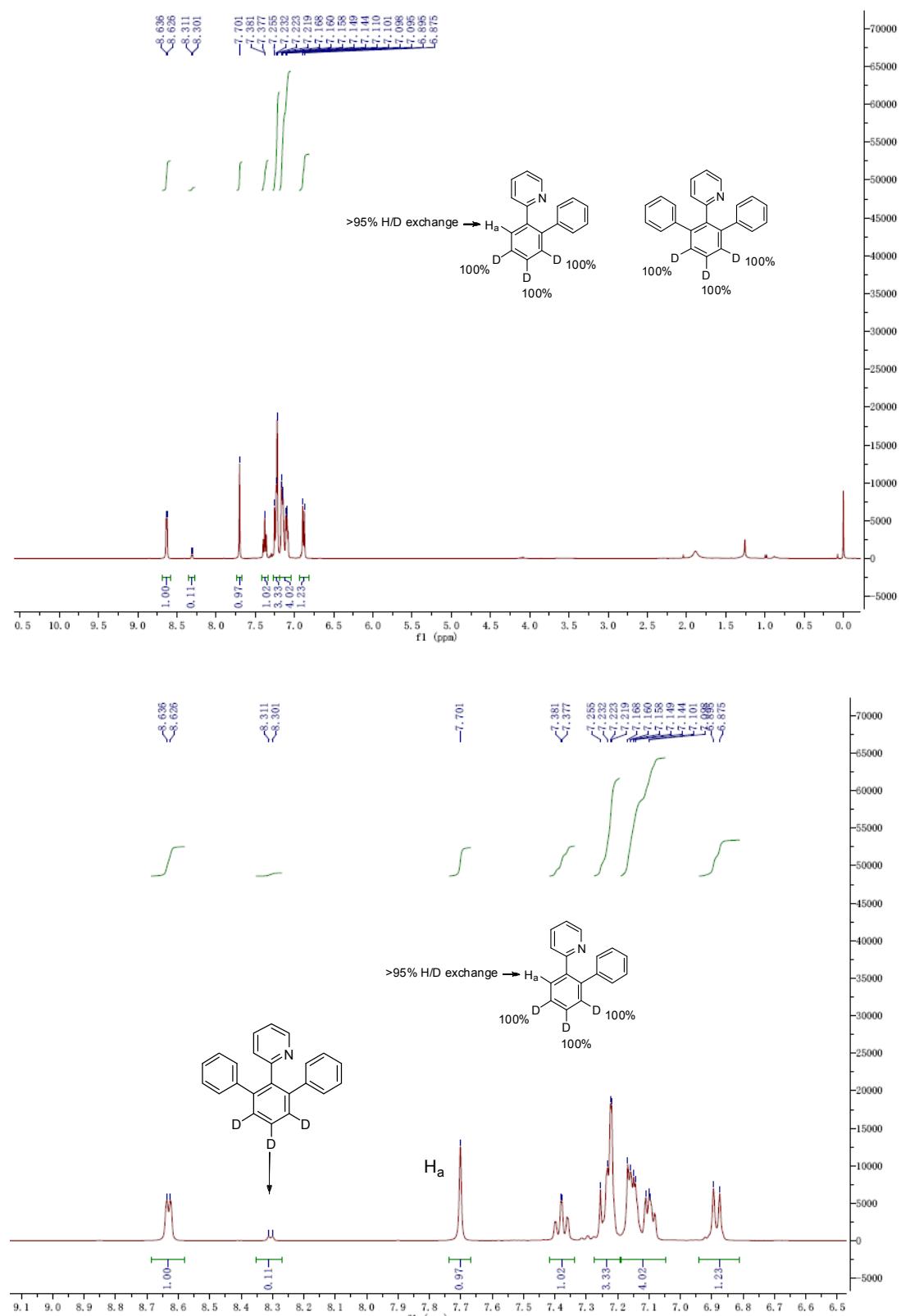


3ha





## NMR Spectra of Deuterium Labeling Experiment



NMR Spectra of the competition experiment of C—C cleavage versus C—H activation

