

# Copper-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazoles with Thiazoles and Polyfluoroarene

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## List of Contents

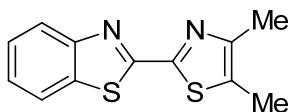
1) Screens for Copper-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazoles with Thiazoles (Table 1).....	S3
2) General Procedure for Copper-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazoles with Thiazoles .....	S3
3) Data for compounds <b>3</b> .....	S4
4) Screens for Cu-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazoles <b>1</b> with Pentafluorobenzene <b>4</b> .....	S10
5) Typical Procedure for Copper-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazoles with Pentafluorobenzene.....	S12
6) Data for compounds <b>5</b> .....	S13
7) Copies of $^1\text{H}$ NMR and $^{19}\text{F}$ NMR spectra of <b>3</b> .....	S16
8) Copies of $^1\text{H}$ NMR, $^{19}\text{F}$ NMR and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of <b>5</b> .....	S47

**General information:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AM300 and AM400 spectrometer.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR was recorded on a Bruker AM300 spectrometer ( $\text{CFCl}_3$  as outside standard and low field is positive). Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in ppm, and coupling constants ( $J$ ) are in Hertz (Hz). The following abbreviations were used to explain the multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad. NMR yield was determined by  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR using fluorobenzene as an internal standard before working up the reaction.

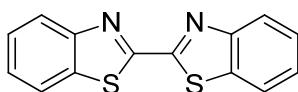
**Materials:** All reagents were used as received from commercial sources, unless specified otherwise, or prepared as described in the literature. All reagents were weighed and handled in air, and refilled with an inert atmosphere of  $\text{N}_2$  at room temperature. DMF, DMSO and DCE were distilled under reduced pressure from  $\text{CaH}_2$ . 1,4-Dioxane was distilled from sodium and benzophenone immediately before use.

**Screens for Copper-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazoles with Thiazoles (Table 1).** To a septum capped 25 mL of sealed tube were added Cu-catalyst (10 mol%), ligand (10 mol%), oxidant (2.0 equiv) and base (3.0 equiv) under  $\text{N}_2$ , followed by solvent (2.5 mL) with stirring. Benzothiazole **1a** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4,5-dimethylthiazole **2a** (2.0 equiv) were then added subsequently. The sealed tube was screw capped and heated to 80 °C (oil bath). After stirring for 10 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1) to give product.

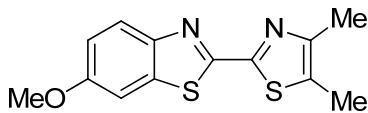
**General Procedure for Copper-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazoles with Thiazoles.** To a septum capped 25 mL of sealed tube were added CuI (10 mol%),  $\text{Ag}_2\text{CO}_3$  (2.0 equiv) and  $t\text{BuOLi}$  (3.0-4.0 equiv) under  $\text{N}_2$ , followed by solvent (2.5 mL) with stirring. Benzothiazole **1a** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and thiazole (2.0-3.0 equiv) were then added subsequently. The sealed tube was screw capped and heated to 80 °C (oil bath). After stirring for 10 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified with silica gel chromatography to provide pure product.



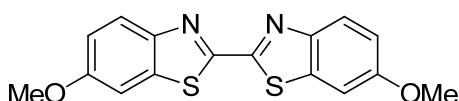
**2-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3a).** 3.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (52 mg, 71% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). This compound is known.<sup>1</sup> M.P. 194 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.06 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H).



**2,2'-Bibenzo[d]thiazole.** Homocoupling compound of **1a** (6 mg, 14% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H).

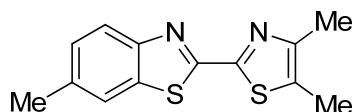


**2-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-6-methoxybenzo[d]thiazole (3b).** 3.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (45 mg, 54% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). M.P. 167 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.93 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (dd, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.3, 158.3, 156.6, 150.3, 148.1, 136.6, 130.2, 123.9, 116.1, 103.9, 55.8, 14.8, 11.7. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1603, 1465, 1266 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) 276 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 261. HRMS: Calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS<sub>2</sub>: 276.0391; Found: 276.0396.

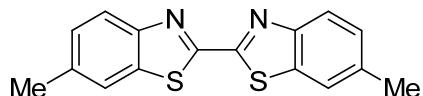


**6,6'-Dimethoxy-2,2'-bibenzo[d]thiazole.** Homocoupling compound of **1b** (9 mg, 20% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (s, 2H), 7.16 (dd, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2.4 Hz,

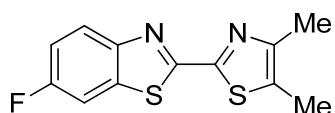
2H), 3.92 (s, 6H).



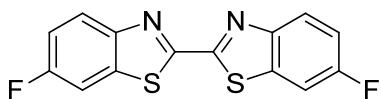
**2-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-6-methylbenzo[d]thiazole (3c).** 3.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (52 mg, 67% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). M.P. 173 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.5, 157.3, 152.4, 151.1, 136.8, 136.0, 131.3, 128.8, 123.6, 122.3, 22.3, 15.6, 12.5. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  2916, 1557, 1449 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) 260 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 86. HRMS: Calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 260.0442; Found: 260.0448.



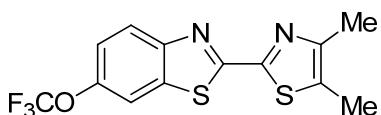
**6,6'-Dimethyl-2,2'-bibenzo[d]thiazole.** Homocoupling compound of **1c** (8 mg, 16% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (s, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 2.52 (s, 6H).



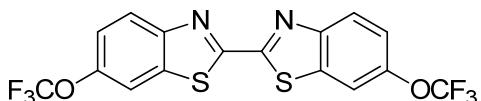
**2-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-6-fluorobenzo[d]thiazole (3d).** 3.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (51 mg, 64% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). M.P. 194 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.98 (dd, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -115.1 (m, 1F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.1, 161.6 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 157.8 (d, *J* = 273.9 Hz), 150.7, 150.2, 136.3 (d, *J* = 11.1 Hz), 131.0, 124.4 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz), 115.2 (d, *J* = 24.6 Hz), 108.0 (d, *J* = 26.8 Hz), 14.8, 11.8. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  2917, 1566, 1453 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) 264 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 86, 71. HRMS: Calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>2</sub>FS<sub>2</sub>: 264.0191; Found: 264.0186.



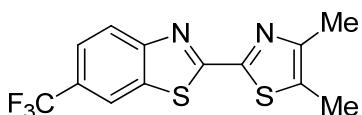
**6,6'-Difluoro-2,2'-bibenzo[d]thiazole.** Homocoupling compound of **1d** (5 mg, 12% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.12 (dd, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (td, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2.7 Hz, 2H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -116.3 (m, 2F).



**2-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)benzo[d]thiazole (3e).** 3.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (64 mg, 65% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). M.P. 172 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -58.4 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.0, 155.7, 152.0, 150.9, 146.9, 136.0, 131.5, 124.1, 120.5 (q, *J* = 256.8 Hz), 120.3, 114.3, 14.8, 11.8. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1603, 1465, 1266 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) 330 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 232, 71. HRMS: Calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OF<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 330.0108; Found: 330.0107.

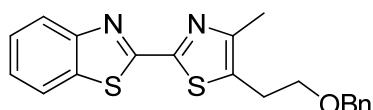


**6,6'-Bis(trifluoromethoxy)-2,2'-bibenzo[d]thiazole.** Homocoupling compound of **1e** (9 mg, 12% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.15 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (dd, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 0.9 Hz, 2H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -58.5 (s, 6F).

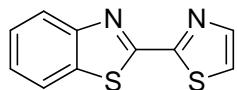


**2-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)benzo[d]thiazole (3f).** 3.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (52 mg, 55% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography

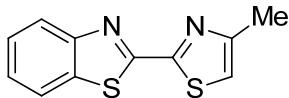
(Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). M.P. 181 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.21 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -61.9 (s, 3F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.8, 155.5, 151.2, 135.2, 132.1, 127.9, 127.6, 124.1 (q, *J* = 271.0 Hz), 123.6, 123.4 (q, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 119.5 (q, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 14.8, 11.8. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1321, 1142, 1109 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) 314 (M<sup>+</sup>), 232(100), 129. HRMS: Calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>2</sub>F<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 314.0159; Found: 314.0160.



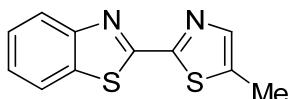
**2-(5-(2-(Benzylxy)ethyl)-4-methylthiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3g).** 3.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (59 mg, 54% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Diethyl Ether = 15:1). M.P. 161 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.06 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.25 (m, 5H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 3.70 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.09 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.9, 157.5, 153.6, 150.9, 137.9, 135.2, 133.0, 128.4, 127.7, 127.6, 126.5, 125.8, 123.4, 121.8, 73.2, 69.8, 27.6, 15.2. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  2856, 1482, 1175 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) 366 (M<sup>+</sup>), 245 (100), 91. HRMS: Calculated for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS<sub>2</sub>: 366.0861; Found: 366.0858. Homocoupling compound of **1a** (5 mg, 12% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1).



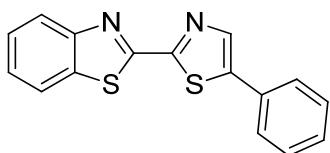
**2-(Thiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3h).** 3.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (34 mg, 52% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). This compound is known.<sup>1</sup> M.P. 138 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (td, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (td, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1H). Homocoupling compound of **1a** (3 mg, 8% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1).



**2-(4-Methylthiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3i).** 3.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (51 mg, 73% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). This compound is known.<sup>1</sup> M.P. 136 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.5, 160.6, 154.8, 153.5, 126.6, 126.1, 123.6, 122.0, 121.9, 117.2, 17.2. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1474, 1454, 1376 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) 232 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 72. HRMS: Calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 232.0129; Found: 232.0135. Homocoupling compound of **1a** (8 mg, 10% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1).

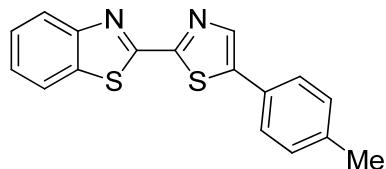


**2-(5-Methylthiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3j).** 3.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (49 mg, 70% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). M.P. 147 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.07 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.51 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.58 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.7, 159.8, 153.5, 142.3, 137.9, 135.2, 126.6, 126.0, 123.5, 121.9, 12.3. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1455, 1415, 939 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) 232 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 72. HRMS: Calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 232.0129; Found: 232.0131. Homocoupling compound of **1a** (3 mg, 8% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1).

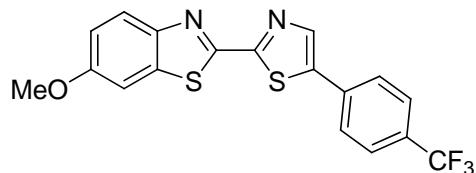


**2-(5-Phenylthiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3k).** 2.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (62 mg, 70% yield) as a yellow solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). M.P. 177 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 8.21 (s, 1H), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.81-7.72 (m, 4H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (td, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2.4 Hz,

1H).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (282 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -63.1 (s, 3F), -114.5 (m).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.4, 160.1, 153.5, 142.8, 139.8, 135.3, 130.7, 129.3, 129.1, 126.9, 126.7, 126.2, 123.6, 121.9. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1606, 1455  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . MS (EI):  $m/z$  (%) 380 (M $^+$ , 100), 202. HRMS: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_8\text{N}_2\text{F}_4\text{S}_2$ : 380.0069; Found: 380.0065. Homocoupling compound of **1a** (4 mg, 10% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1).

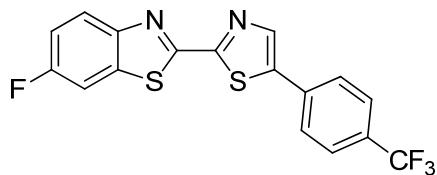


**2-(5-(p-Tolyl)thiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3l).** 2.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (56 mg, 61% yield) as a yellow solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). M.P. 150 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  8.21 (s, 1H), 8.04 (dd,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.81-7.72 (m, 4H), 7.65 (dd,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (td,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 2.4 Hz, 1H).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (282 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -63.1 (s, 3F), -114.5 (m).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.4, 159.5, 153.5, 143.1, 139.3, 135.3, 130.0, 127.8, 126.8, 126.7, 126.1, 123.6, 121.9, 21.3. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1606, 1455  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . MS (EI):  $m/z$  (%) 380 (M $^+$ , 100), 202. HRMS: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_8\text{N}_2\text{F}_4\text{S}_2$ : 380.0069; Found: 380.0065. Homocoupling compound of **1a** (3 mg, 8% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1).



**6-methoxy-2-(5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)thiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3m).** 2.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (96 mg, 82% yield) as a yellow solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). M.P. 160 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.14 (s, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74-7.68 (m, 4H), 7.37 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (282 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -63.1 (s, 3F).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.5, 158.7, 158.3, 148.1, 140.6, 140.2, 137.1, 134.2, 130.6 (q,  $J$  = 33.2 Hz), 127.0, 126.3 (q,  $J$  = 3.7 Hz), 124.3, 123.8 (q,  $J$  = 270.7 Hz), 116.7, 103.9, 55.8. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1615,

1464, 1326  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . MS (EI):  $m/z$  (%) 392 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 100), 377, 349. HRMS: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_2\text{OF}_3\text{S}_2$ : 392.0262; Found: 392.0261. Homocoupling compound of **1b** (7 mg, 14% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1).

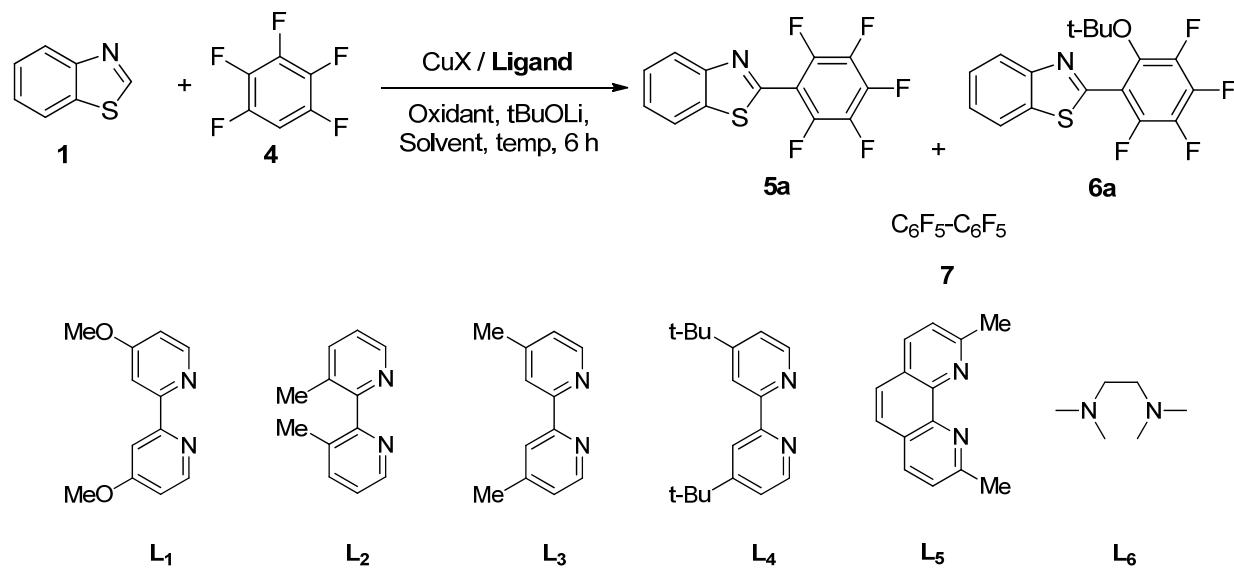


**6-Fluoro-2-(5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)thiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3n).** 2.0 equiv of thiazole was used. The product (73 mg, 64% yield) as a yellow solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1). M.P. 168 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  8.21 (s, 1H), 8.04 (dd,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.81-7.72 (m, 4H), 7.65 (dd,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (td,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 2.4 Hz, 1H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -63.1 (s, 3F), -114.5 (m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.1 (d,  $J$  = 246.0 Hz), 160.8, 150.3, 141.0, 140.8, 136.7, 134.2, 130.5 (q,  $J$  = 32.7 Hz), 127.1, 127.0, 126.2 (q,  $J$  = 3.5 Hz), 124.7 (d,  $J$  = 9.5 Hz), 123.9 (q,  $J$  = 270.9 Hz), 115.5 (q,  $J$  = 25.0 Hz), 108.1 (q,  $J$  = 26.9 Hz). IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1606, 1455  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . MS (EI):  $m/z$  (%) 380 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 100), 202. HRMS: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_8\text{N}_2\text{F}_4\text{S}_2$ : 380.0069; Found: 380.0065. Homocoupling compound of **1d** (5 mg, 12% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1).

### Screens for Cu-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazoles **1** with Pentafluorobenzene **4**

In a glove box, to a 25 mL of dry sealed tube were added Cu-catalyst (10 mol%), ligand (10 mol%), oxidant (2.0 equiv), base (3.0 equiv), then remove the sealed tube out of glove box. Solvent (2.5 mL) benzothiazole **1** (2.0 euqiv) and pentafluorobenzene **4** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were added subsequently under  $\text{N}_2$ . The sealed tube was screw capped and heated to 80 °C (oil bath). After stirring for 10 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Dichloromethane = 2:1) to provide pure product.

**Table S1. Screens for Cu-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazoles 1 with Pentafluorobenzene 4<sup>a</sup>**

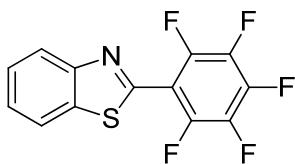


Entry	Cu (equiv)	ligand (equiv)	oxidant (equiv)	solvent	temp (°C)	Yield <sup>b</sup> <b>5a/6a/7/1</b>
1	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	phen(0.3)	air	DCE (1.5mL)	60	nr
2	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	phen(0.3)	$\text{O}_2$	DCE (1.5mL)	60	nr
3	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	phen(0.3)	BPO(3.0)	DCE (1.5mL)	60	trace
4	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	phen(0.3)	tBuOOH(3.0)	DCE (1.5mL)	60	nr
5	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	phen(0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE (1.5mL)	60	18/15/5/25
6	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	phen(0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DMF (1.5mL)	60	nr
7	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	phen(0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DMSO (1.5mL)	60	trace
8	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	phen(0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	Toluene (1.5mL)	60	trace
9	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	phen(0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	Dioxane (1.5mL)	60	trace
10	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	phen(0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DME (1.5mL)	60	trace
11	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	phen(0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	Diglyme (1.5mL)	60	trace
12	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	phen(0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	34/15/15/23
13	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	bpy(0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE (2.5mL)	60	15/0/0/85
14	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	<b>L<sub>1</sub></b> (0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	55(42)/22/5/14
15	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2(0.3)$	<b>L<sub>2</sub></b> (0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	41/15/17/10

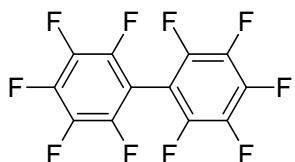
16	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.3)	<b>L<sub>3</sub></b> (0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	54/10/5/27
17	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.3)	<b>L<sub>4</sub></b> (0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	46/17/12/14
18	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.3)	<b>L<sub>5</sub></b> (0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	0/0/0/100
19	Cu(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.3)	<b>L<sub>6</sub></b> (0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	30/--/3/64
20	Cu(acac) <sub>2</sub> (0.3)	<b>L<sub>1</sub></b> (0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	60/15/4/17
21	CuBr <sub>2</sub> (0.3)	<b>L<sub>1</sub></b> (0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	37/6/5/48
22	CuCl (0.3)	<b>L<sub>1</sub></b> (0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	63/18/6/6
23	CuBr (0.3)	<b>L<sub>1</sub></b> (0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	48/10/4/33
24	CuI (0.3)	<b>L<sub>1</sub></b> (0.3)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	0/0/0/93
25 <sup>c</sup>	CuCl (0.2)	<b>L<sub>1</sub></b> (0.2)	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	60	63/0/3/31
<b>26<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>CuCl (0.2)</b>	<b>L<sub>1</sub>(0.2)</b>	<b>tBuOOtBu(3.0)</b>	<b>DCE(2.5mL)</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>67(71)/6/7/15</b>
27 <sup>c</sup>	CuCl (0.2)	<b>L<sub>1</sub>(0.2)</b>	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	100	59/0/6/30
28 <sup>c</sup>	CuCl (0.2)	<b>L<sub>1</sub>(0.2)</b>	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	120	45/0/2/50
29 <sup>c</sup>	----	<b>L<sub>1</sub>(0.2)</b>	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	80	0/0/0/100
30 <sup>c</sup>	CuCl (0.2)	----	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	80	0/0/0/100
31 <sup>d</sup>	CuCl (0.2)	<b>L<sub>1</sub>(0.2)</b>	tBuOOtBu(3.0)	DCE(2.5mL)	80	0/0/0/100

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions (unless otherwise specified): **1** (2.0 equiv), **4** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv), tBuOLi (2.5 equiv), 6 h. <sup>b</sup>NMR yield determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR using fluorobenzene as internal standard and number in parenthesis is isolated yield. <sup>c</sup>0.5 equiv of tBuOLi was used. <sup>d</sup>Reaction run in the absence of tBuOLi.

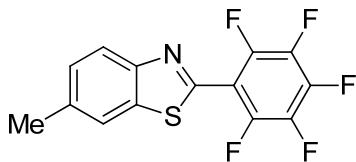
**Typical Procedure for Copper-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazoles with Pentafluorobenzene.** In glove box, to a 25 mL of dry sealed tube were added CuCl (10 mol%), **L<sub>1</sub>** (10 mol%), tBuOOtBu (2.0 equiv), tBuOLi (3.0 equiv), then remove the sealed tube out of glove box. DCE (2.5 mL), benzothiazole **1** (2.0 euqiv) and pentafluorobenzene (0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were added subsequently under N<sub>2</sub>. The sealed tube was screw capped and heated to 80 °C (oil bath). After stirring for 10 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Diethyl Ether = 250:1) to provide pure product (64 mg, 71% yield).



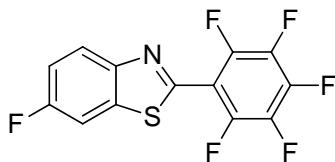
**2-(Perfluorophenyl)benzo[d]thiazole (5a).** 0.5 equiv of tBuOLi was used. The product (64 mg, 71% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Diethyl Ether = 250:1). This compound is known.<sup>2</sup> M.P. 125 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.20 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (td, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (td, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -138.7 (m, 2F), -150.6 (t, *J* = 21.7 Hz, 1F), -161.0 (m, 2F).



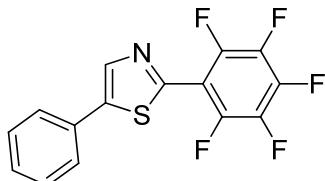
**Perfluoro-1,1'-biphenyl.** Homocoupling compound of **4** (9 mg, 18% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Diethyl Ether = 250:1). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -137.8 (dd, *J* = 21.7 Hz, 7.9 Hz, 4F), -150.1 (t, *J* = 19.7 Hz, 2F), -160.6 (m, 4F).



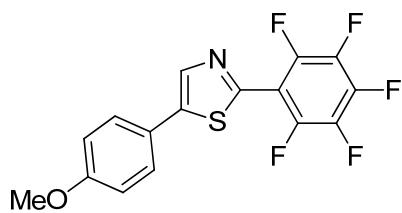
**6-Methyl-2-(perfluorophenyl)benzo[d]thiazole (5b).** 2.5 equiv of tBuOLi was used. The product (47 mg, 50% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Diethyl Ether = 250:1). M.P. 108 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -138.3 (dm, *J* = 25.7 Hz, 2F), -150.9 (t, *J* = 21.7 Hz, 1F), -161.2 (m, 2F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.0, 145.0 (dm, *J* = 258.1 Hz), 142.0 (dm, *J* = 257.1 Hz), 138.0 (dm, *J* = 244.9 Hz), 136.8, 135.8, 131.7, 128.4, 123.6, 121.0, 109.8 (m), 21.6. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  2923, 1652, 1554 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) 315 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 121, 77. HRMS: Calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>6</sub>NF<sub>5</sub>S: 315.0141; Found: 315.0143. Homocoupling compound of **4** (6 mg, 12% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Diethyl Ether = 250:1).



**6-Fluoro-2-(perfluorophenyl)benzo[d]thiazole (5c).** 0.5 equiv of tBuOLi was used. The product (52 mg, 55% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Diethyl Ether = 250:1). M.P. 82 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.14 (dd, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (td, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2.8 Hz, 1H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -113.9 (m, 1F), -138.7 (dm, *J* = 17.8 Hz, 2F), -150.2 (t, *J* = 21.7 Hz, 1F), -160.8 (m, 2F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.1 (d, *J* = 247.1 Hz), 152.3, 149.5, 144.9 (dm, *J* = 255.1 Hz), 142.2 (dm, *J* = 244.3 Hz), 138.0 (dm, *J* = 240.9 Hz), 136.5, 125.3 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 115.7 (d, *J* = 24.9 Hz), 109.3 (m), 107.5 (d, *J* = 26.9 Hz). IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  1614, 1576, 1474 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) 319 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 126, 69. HRMS: Calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>3</sub>NF<sub>6</sub>S: 318.9891; Found: 318.9890. Homocoupling compound of **4** (8 mg, 16% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Diethyl Ether = 250:1).



**2-(Perfluorophenyl)-5-phenylthiazole (5d).** 1.5 equiv of tBuOLi was used. The product (54 mg, 55% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Diethyl Ether = 250:1). M.P. 140 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.19 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.48-7.39 (m, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -139.4 (dm, *J* = 17.8 Hz, 2F), -152.2 (t, *J* = 21.7 Hz, 1F), -161.3 (m, 2F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 151.0, 144.6 (dm, *J* = 254.0 Hz), 142.8, 141.5 (dm, *J* = 256.5 Hz), 139.2, 138.0 (dm, *J* = 252.9 Hz), 130.3, 129.3, 129.0, 127.0, 109.5 (m). IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  2919, 1530, 1504 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) 327 (M<sup>+</sup>), 134 (100), 90. HRMS: Calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>6</sub>NF<sub>5</sub>S: 327.0141; Found: 327.0140. Homocoupling compound of **4** (7 mg, 14% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Diethyl Ether = 250:1).

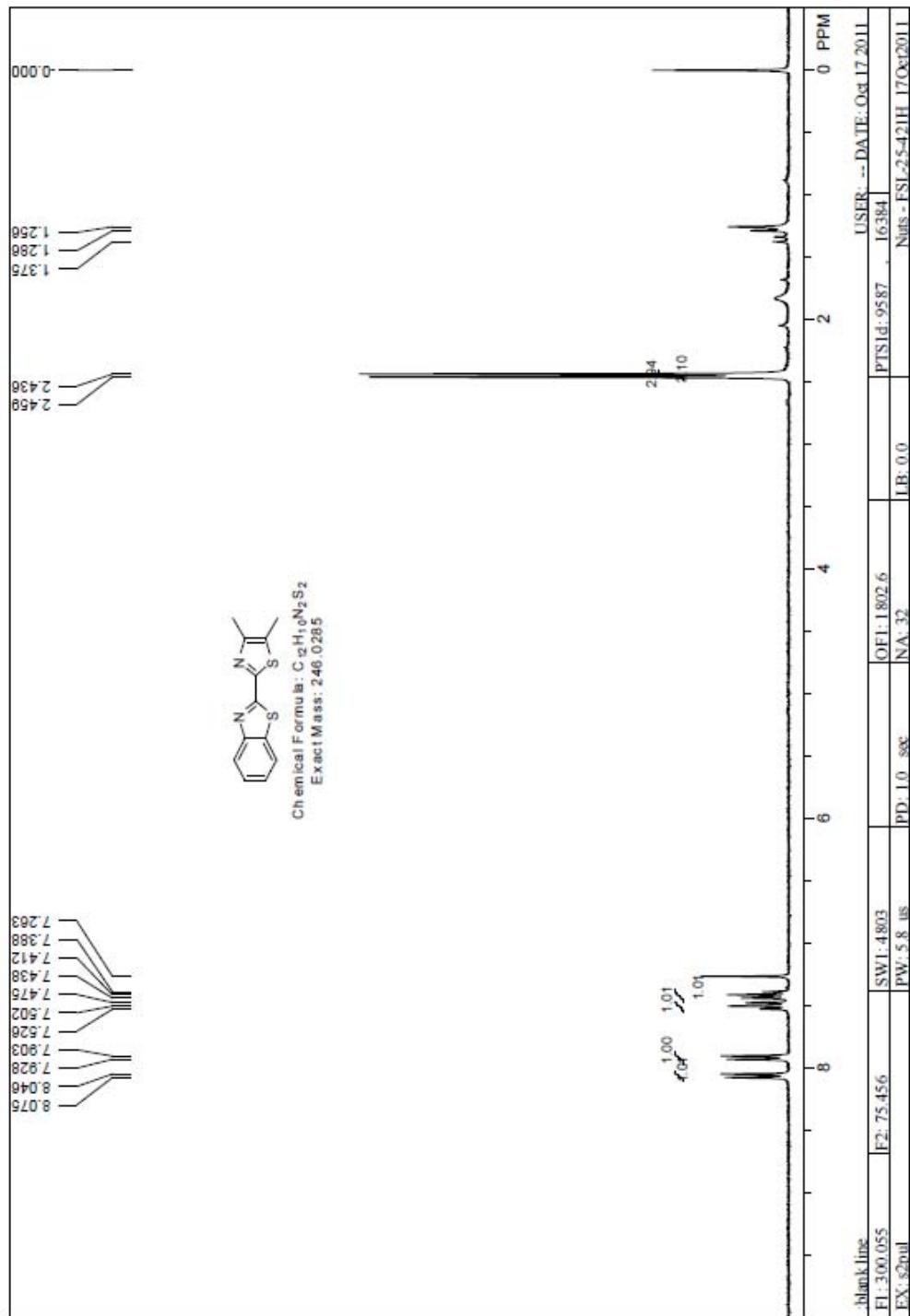


**5-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-(perfluorophenyl)thiazole (5e).** 1.5 equiv of tBuOLi was used. The product (43 mg, 41% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Diethyl Ether = 250:1). M.P. 145 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -139.6 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 2F), -152.5 (t, *J* = 21.7 Hz, 1F), -161.5 (m, 2F). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.3, 144.5 (dm, *J* = 257.0 Hz), 142.3, 141.4 (dm, *J* = 243.4 Hz), 138.2, 138.0 (dm, *J* = 252.7 Hz), 128.3, 122.8, 114.7, 109.6 (m), 55.4. IR (thin film):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  2921, 1574, 1039 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) 357 (M<sup>+</sup>), 149, 55 (100). HRMS: Calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>8</sub>NOF<sub>5</sub>S: 357.0247; Found: 357.0244. Homocoupling compound of 4 (10 mg, 20% yield) as a white solid was purified with silica gel chromatography (Petroleum ether / Diethyl Ether = 250:1).

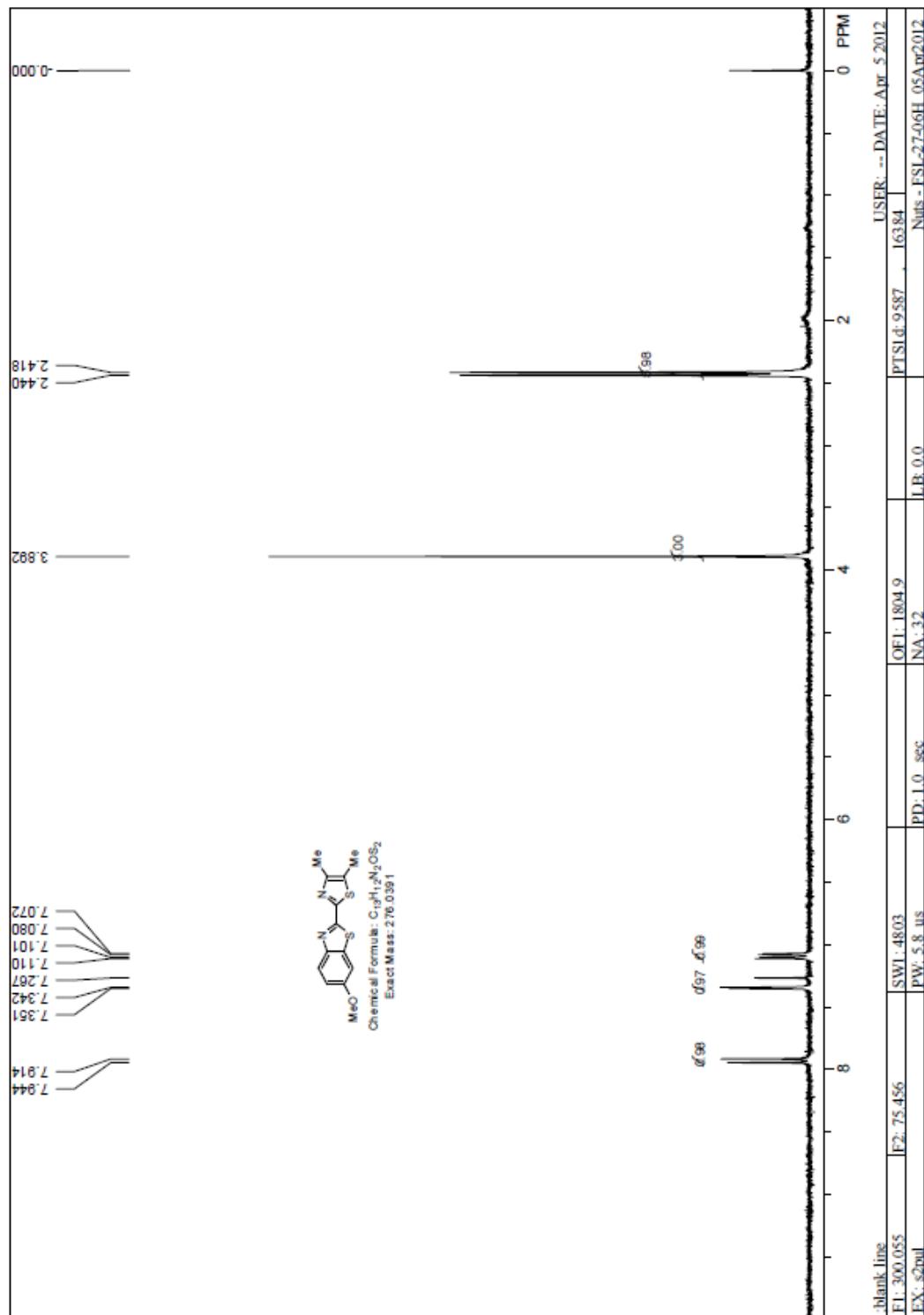
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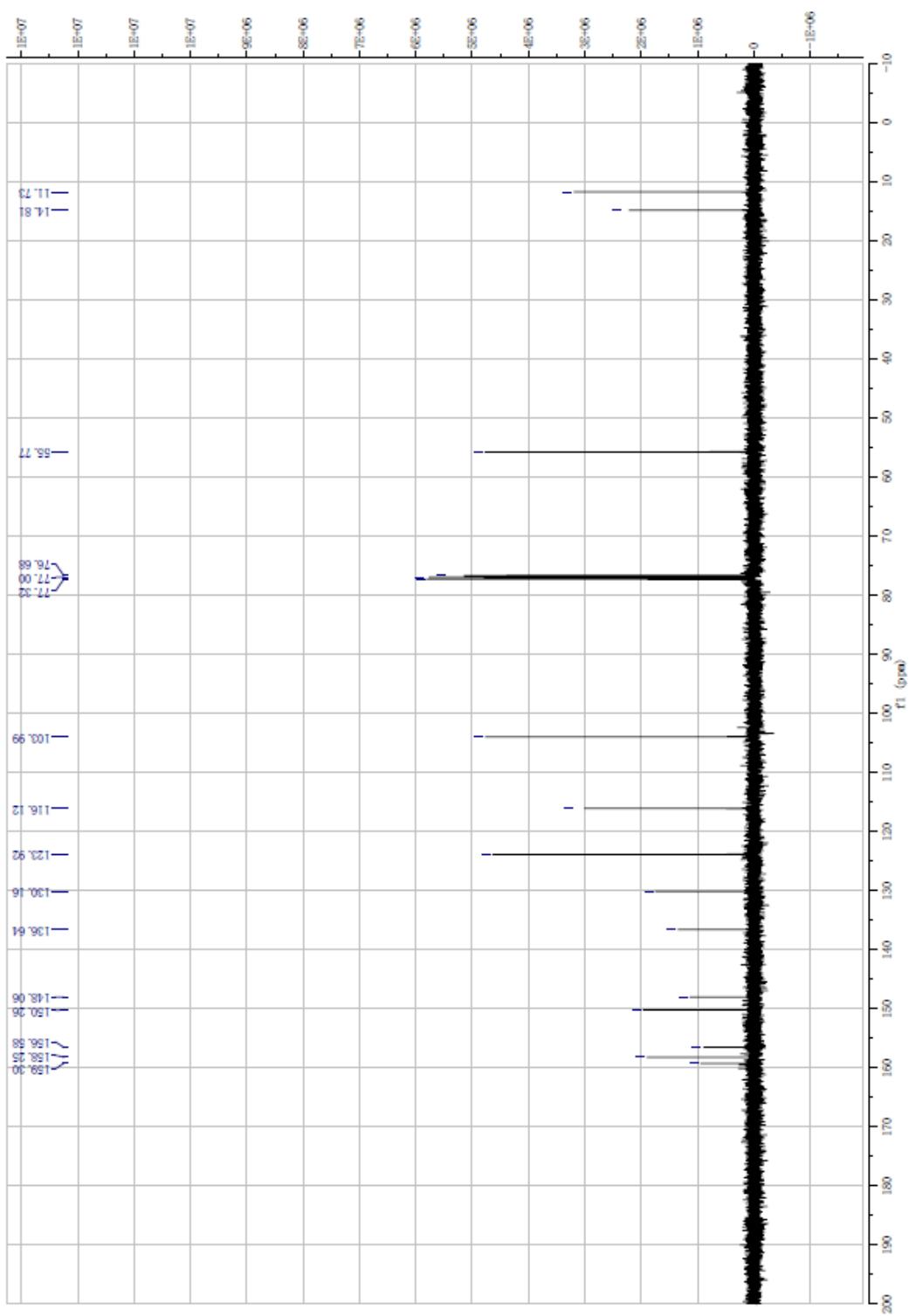
- 1) Han, W.; Mayer, P.; Ofial, A. R. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 2178.
- 2) Xie, K.; Yang, Z.; Zhou, X.; Li, X.; Wang, S.; Tan, Z.; An, X.; Guo, C.-C. *Org. Lett.* **2010**, *12*, 1564.

**2-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3a)**

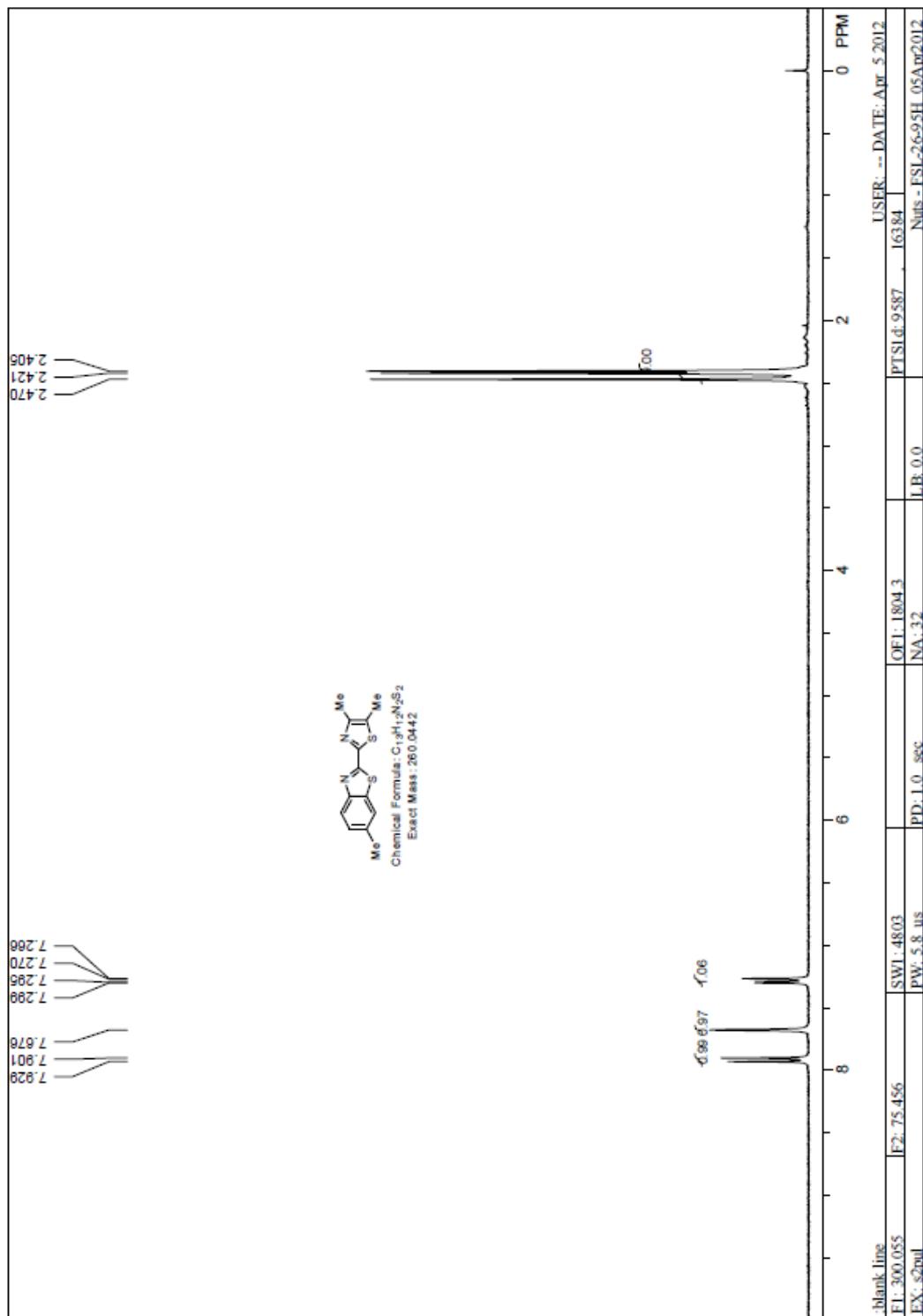


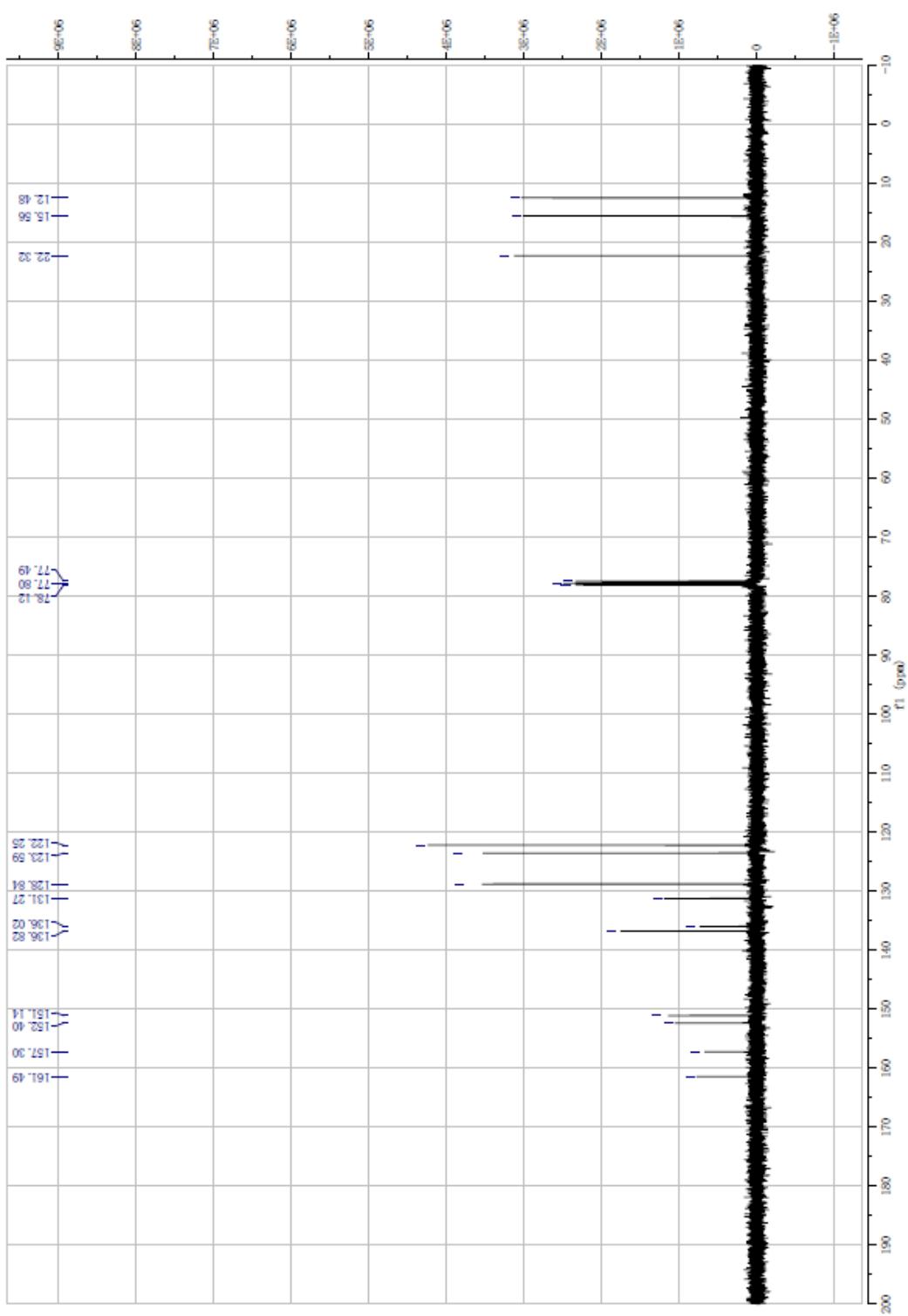
### 2-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-6-methoxybenzo[d]thiazole (3b)



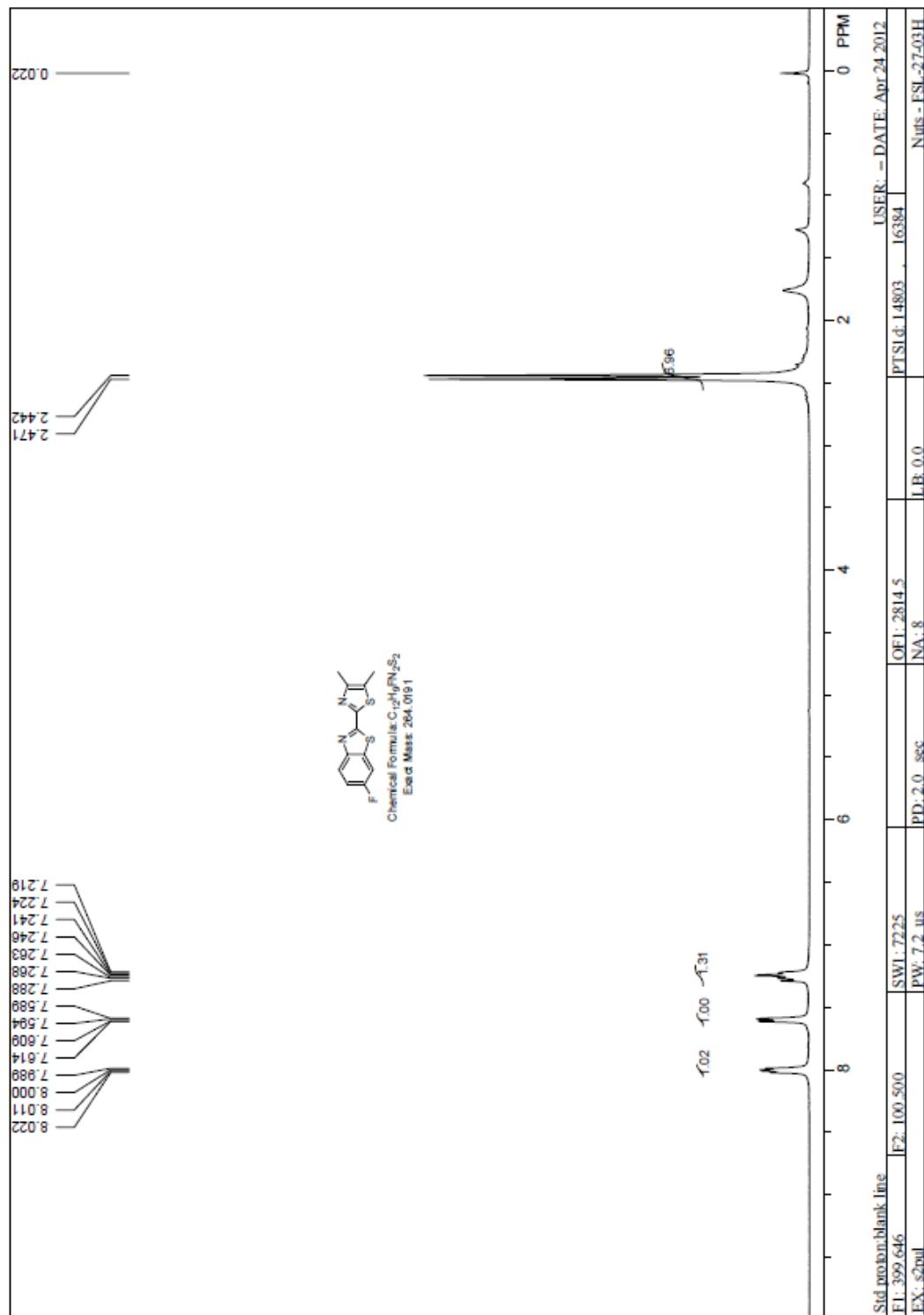


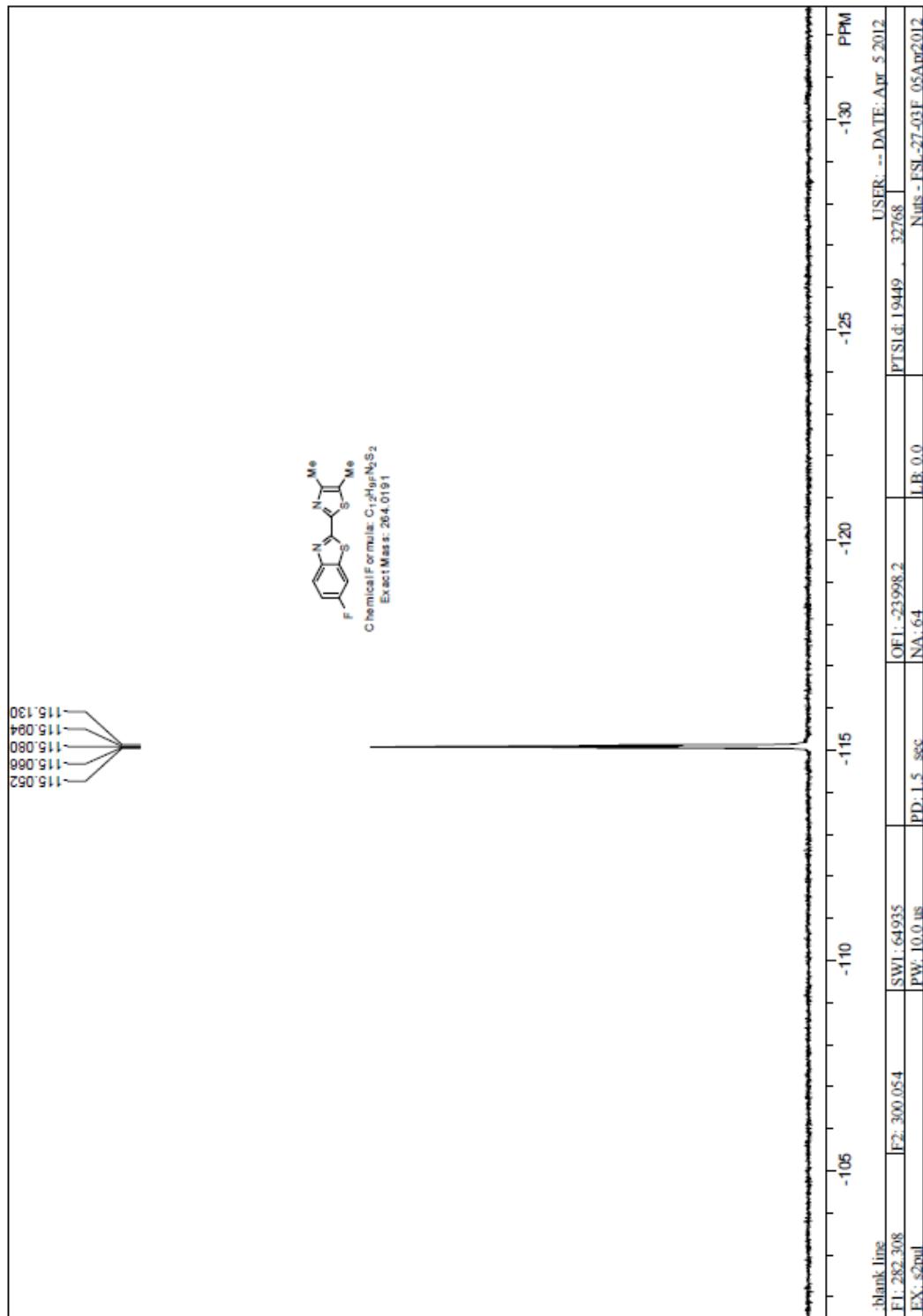
**2-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-6-methylbenzo[d]thiazole (3c)**

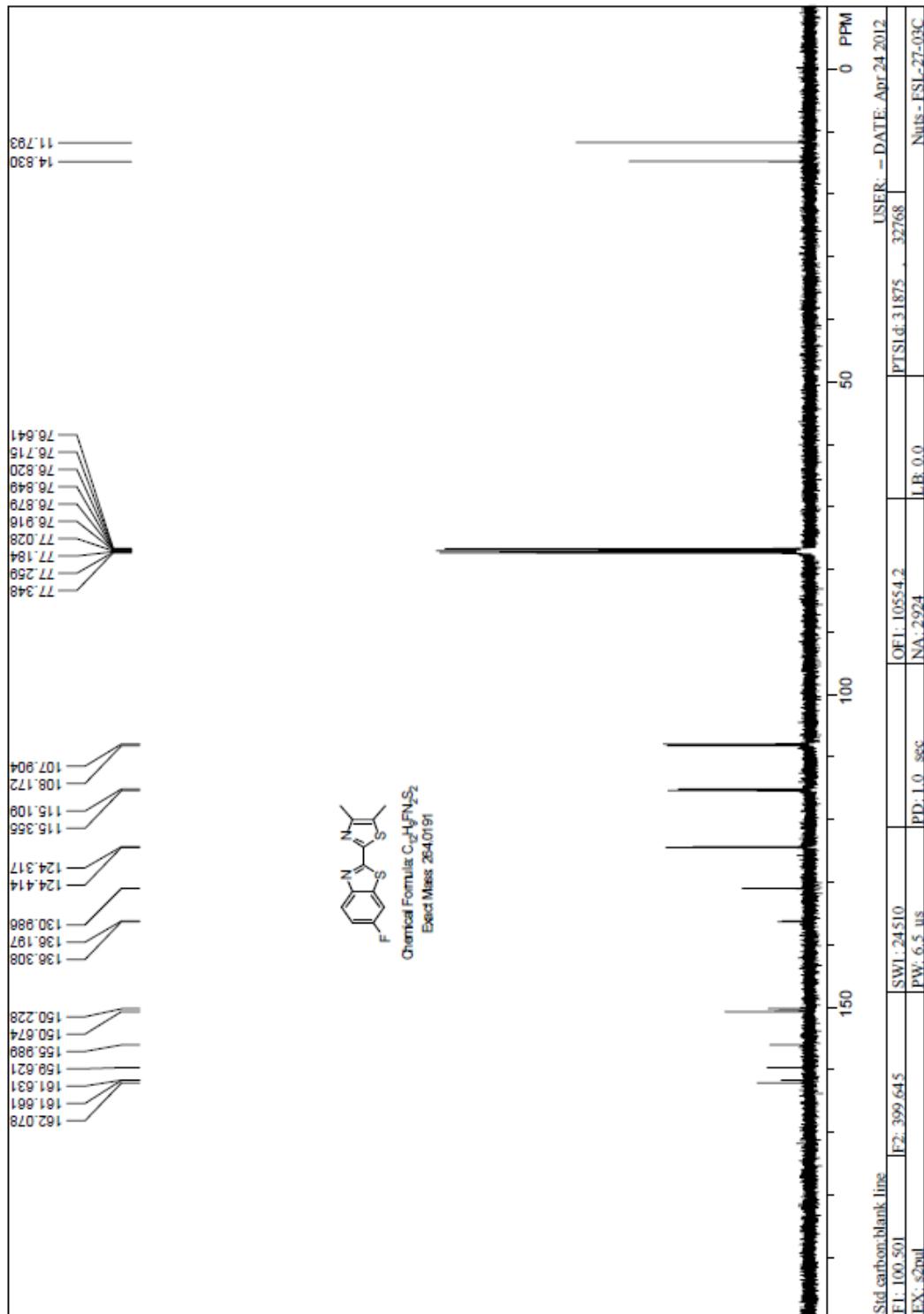




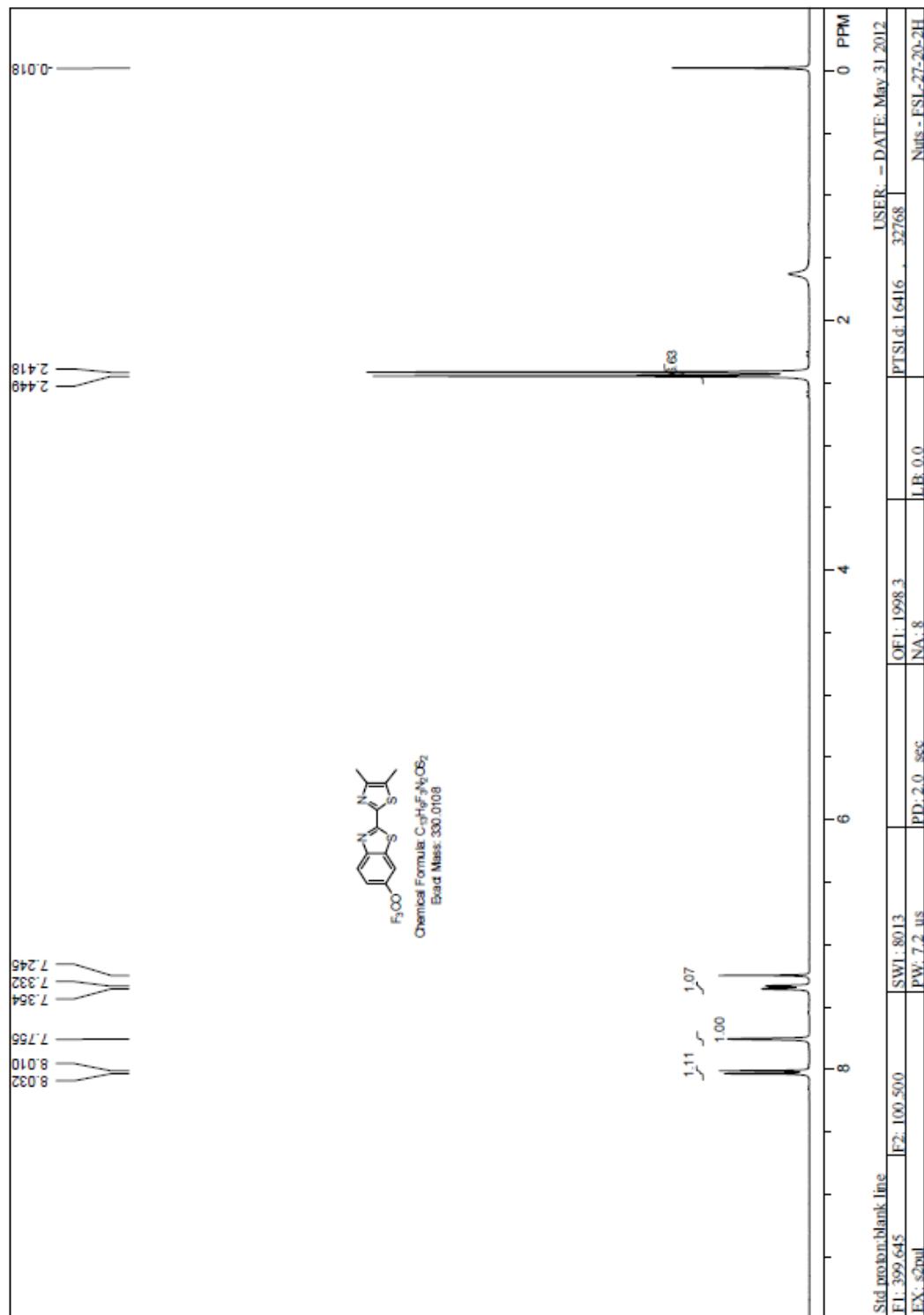
**2-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-6-fluorobenzo[d]thiazole (3d)**

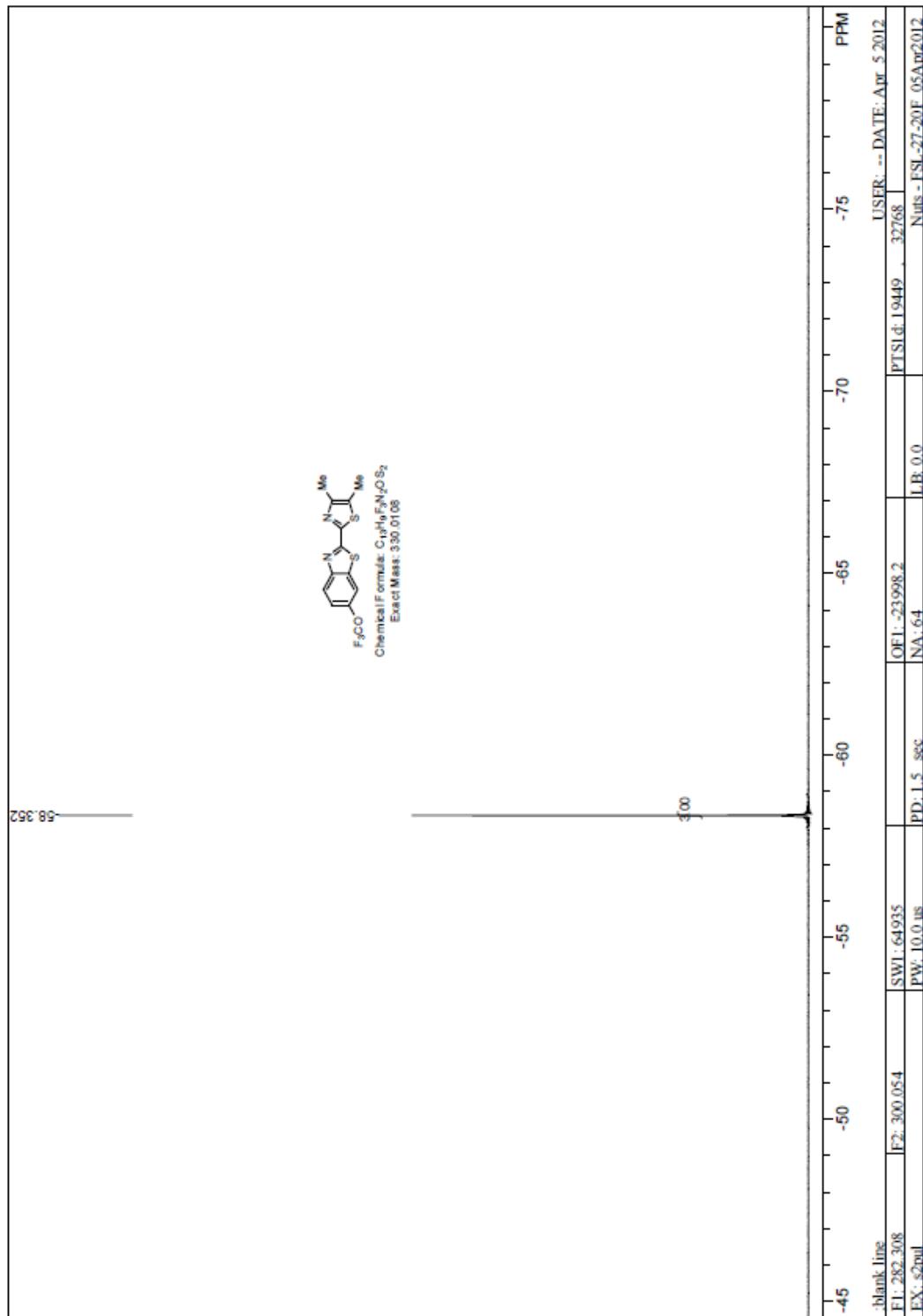


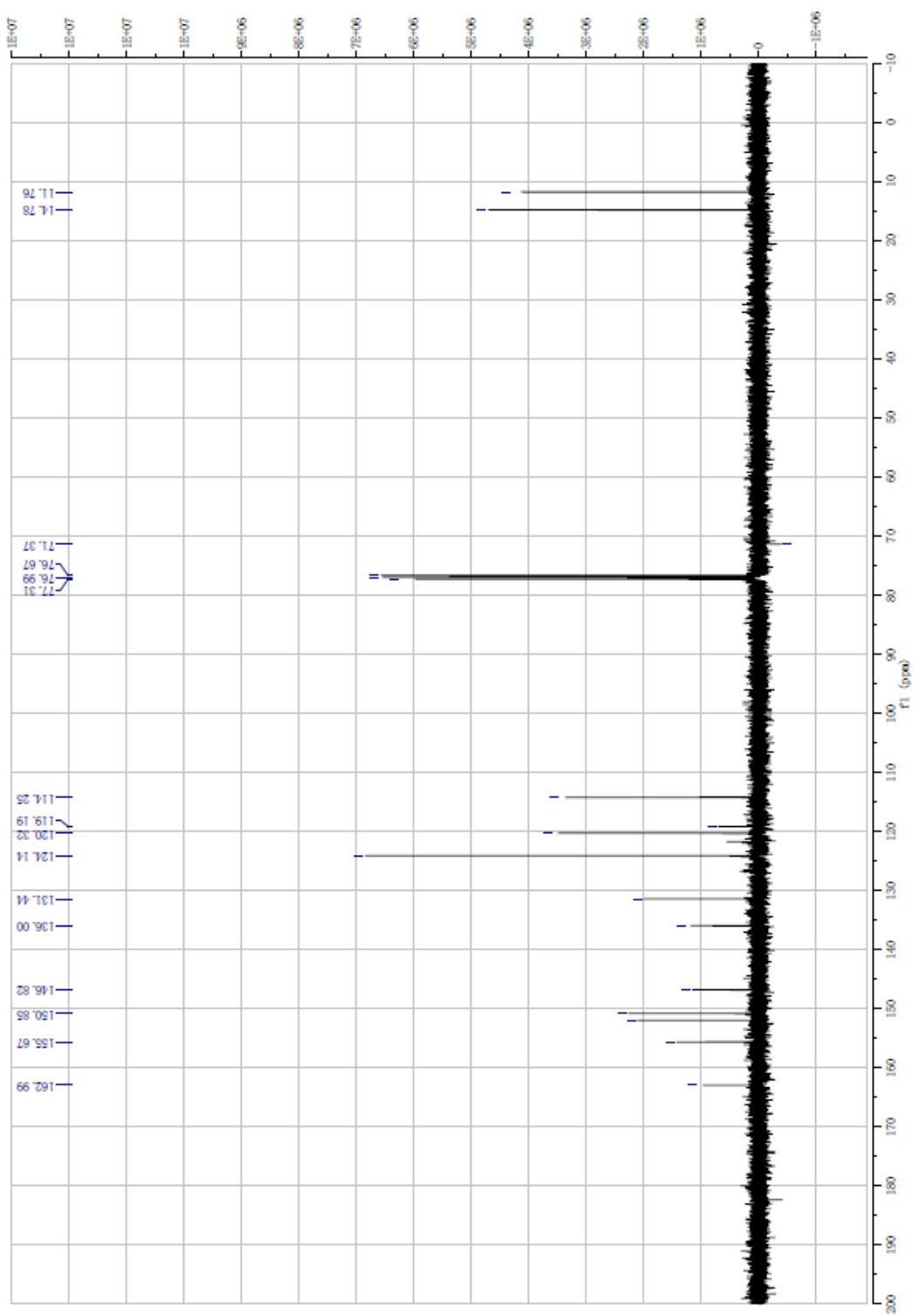




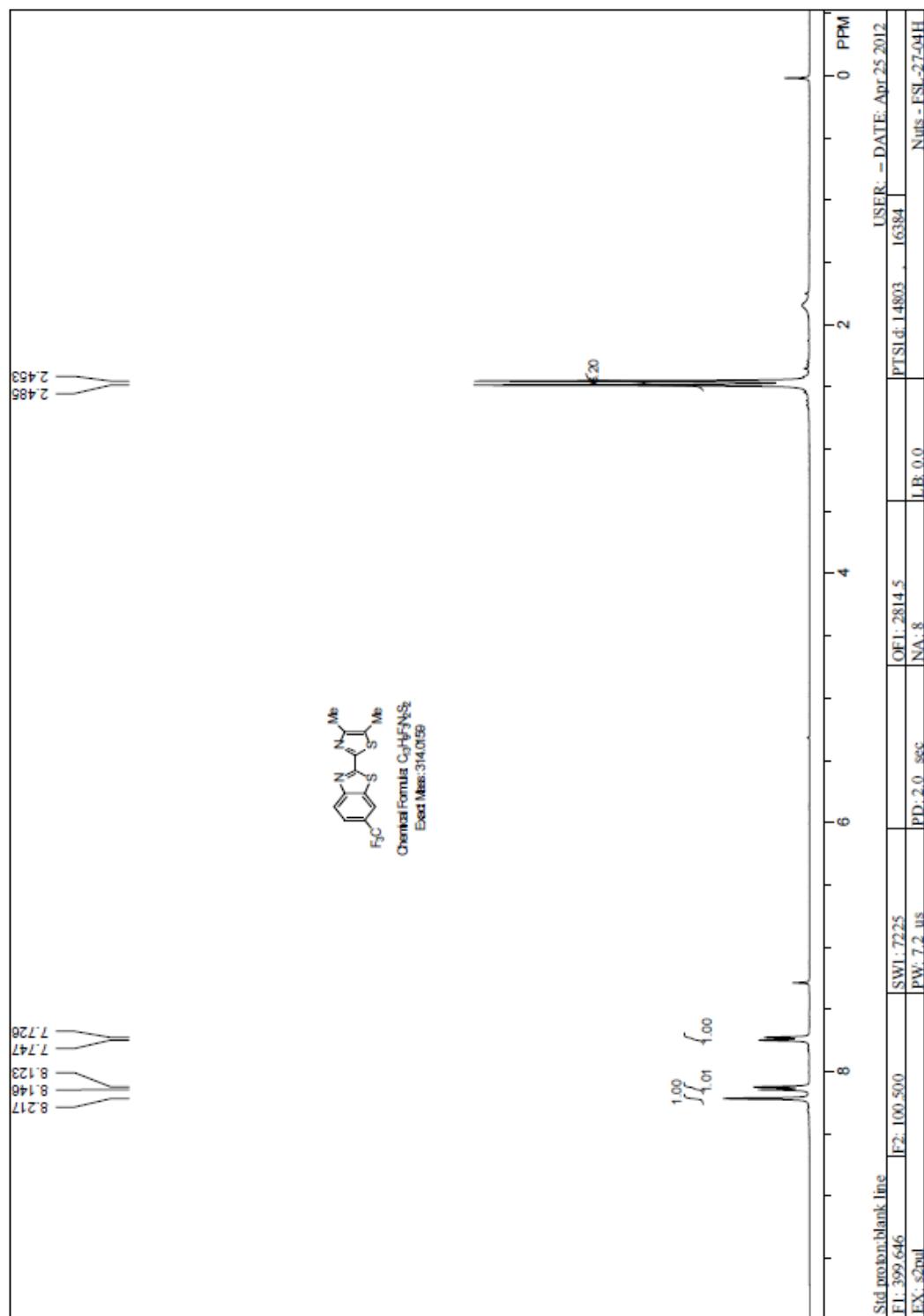
**2-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-6-(trifluoromethoxy)benzo[d]thiazole (3e)**

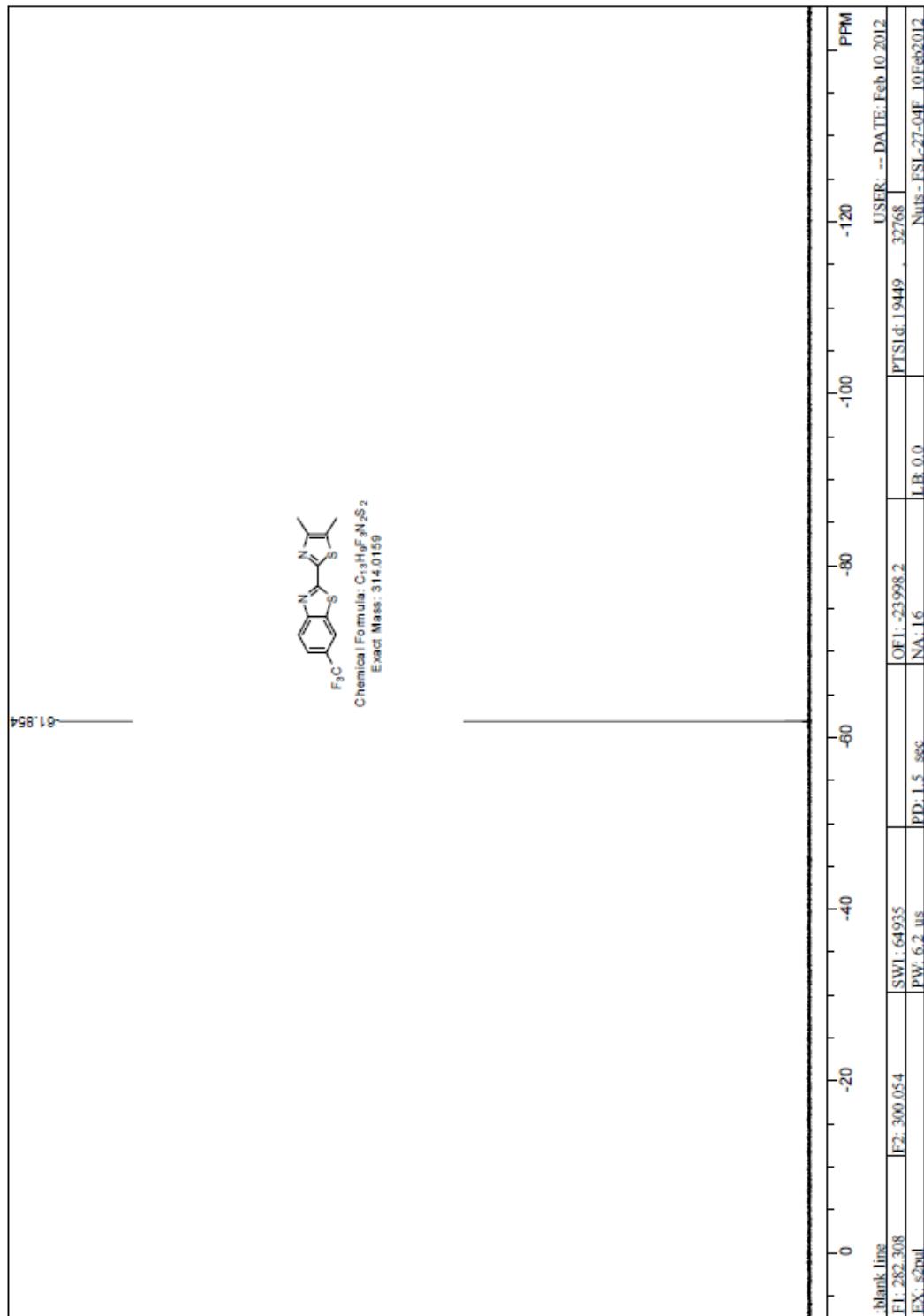


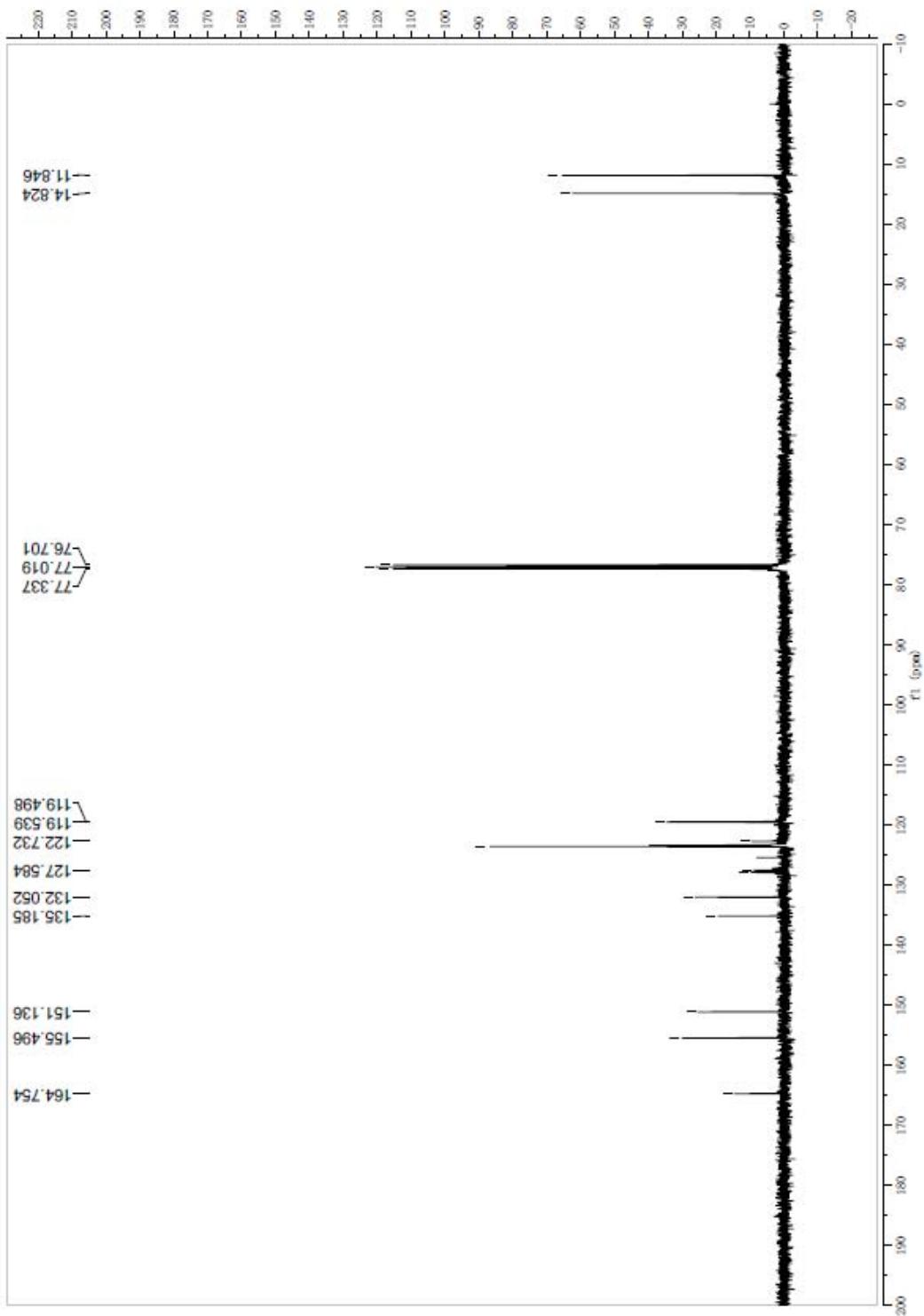




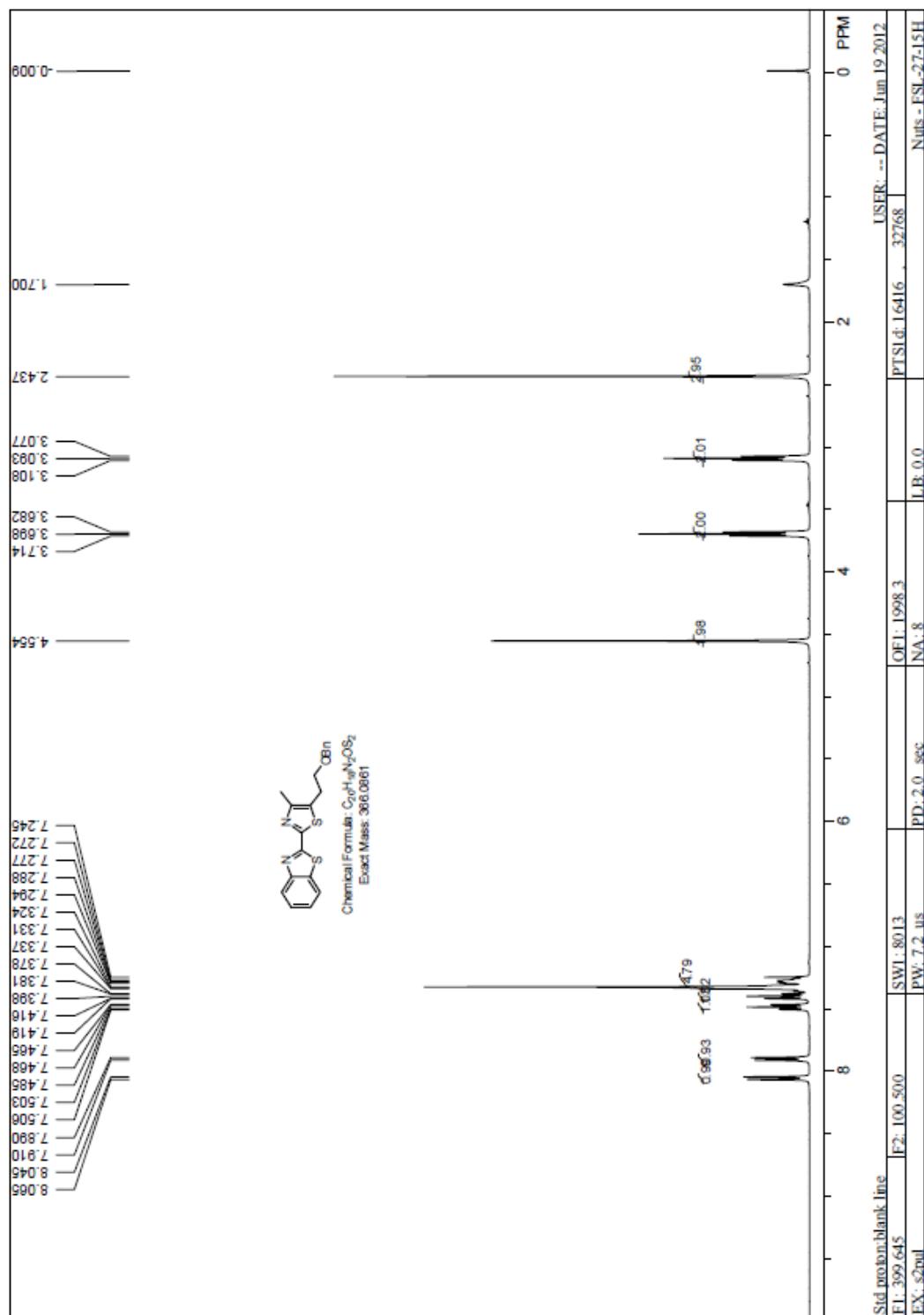
**2-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)benzo[d]thiazole (3f)**

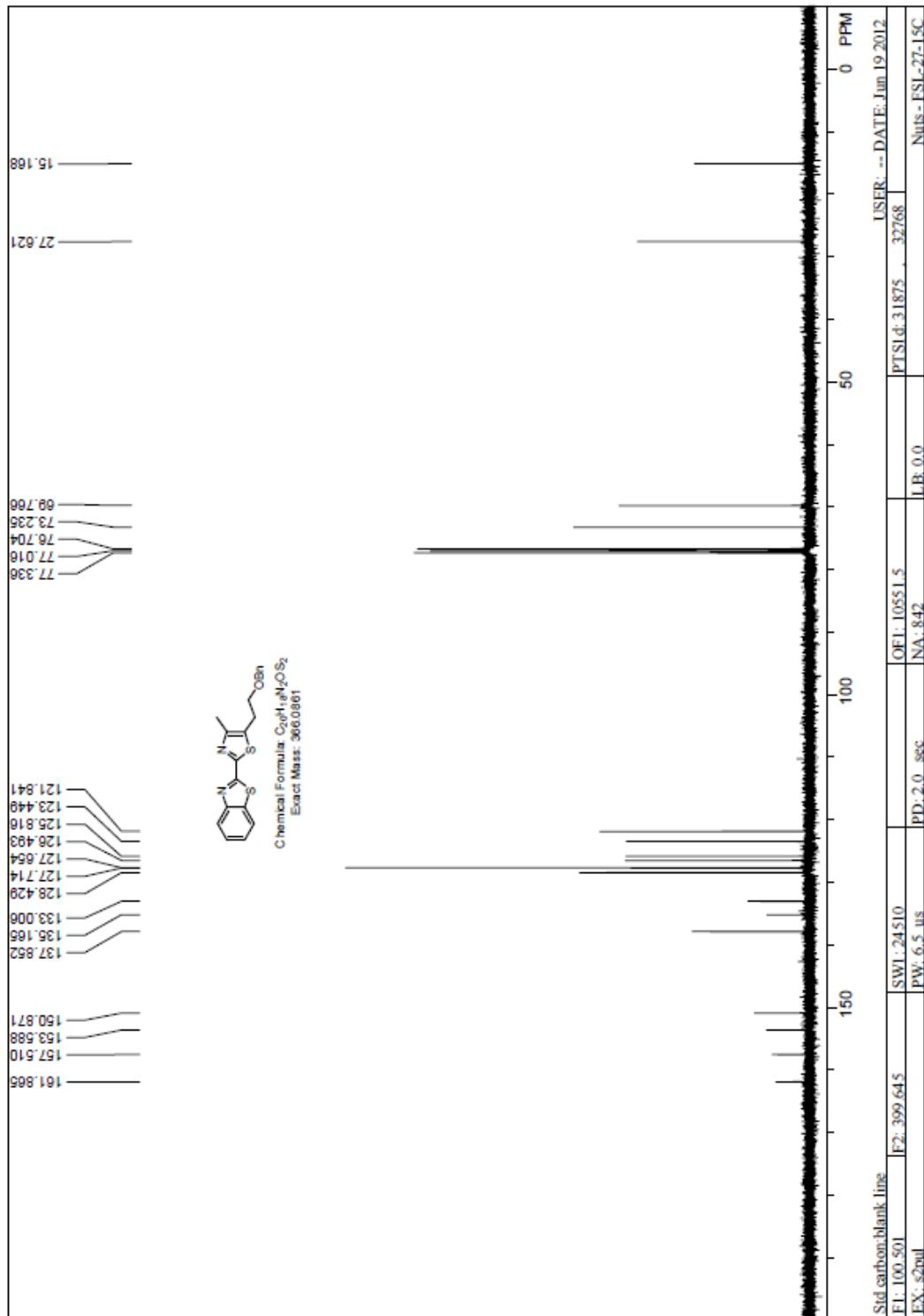




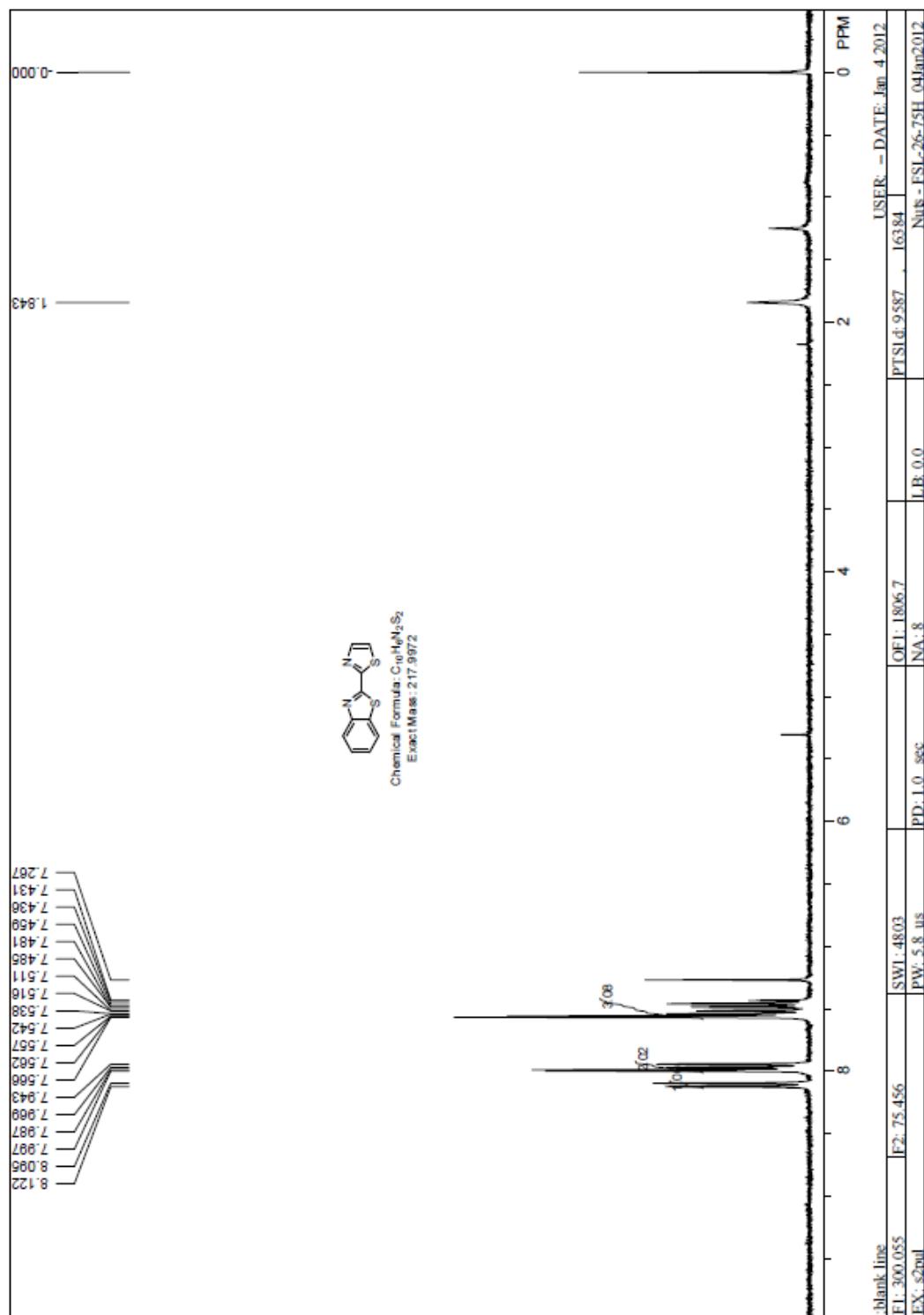


### 2-(5-(2-(BenzylOxy)ethyl)-4-methylthiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3g)

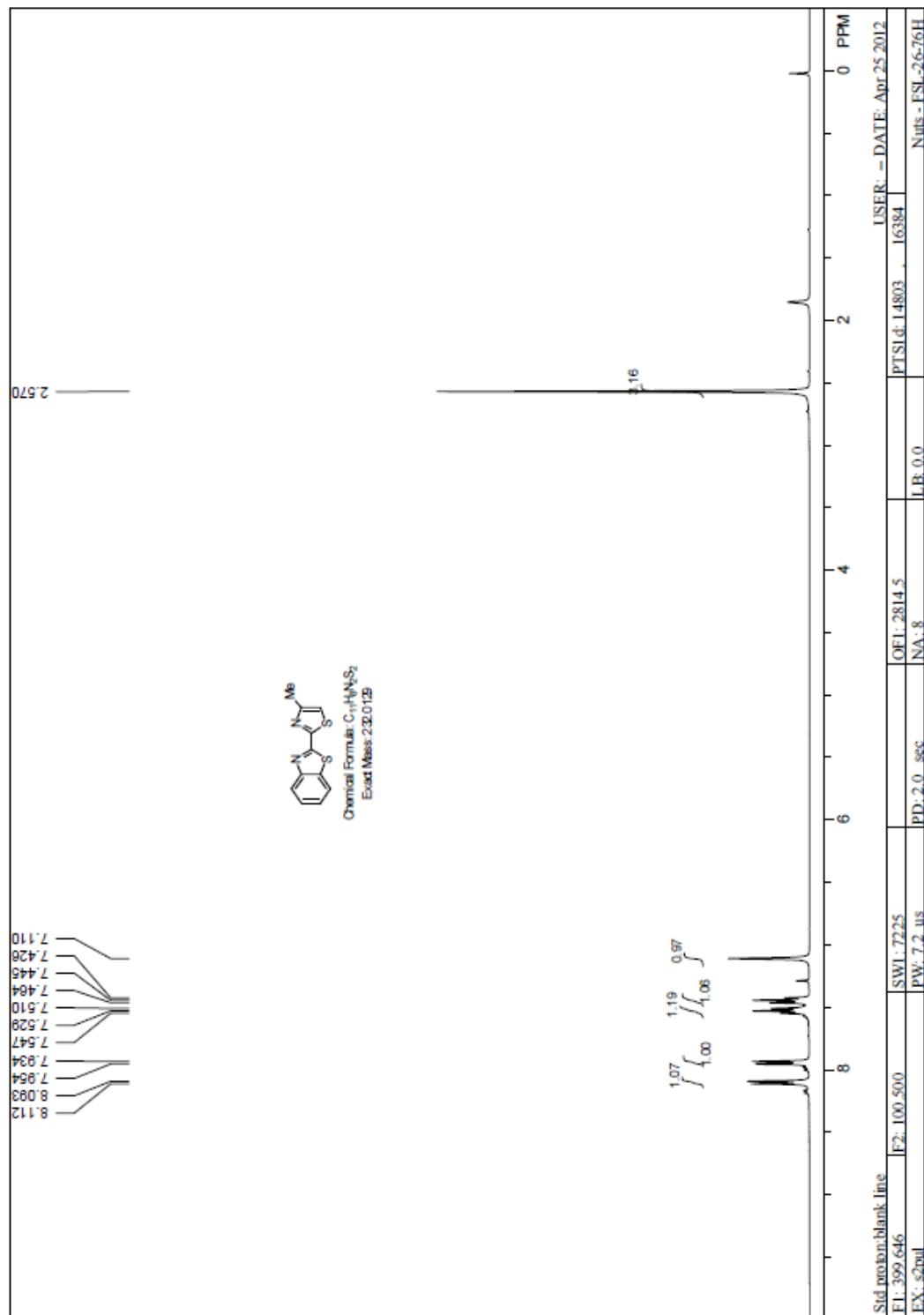


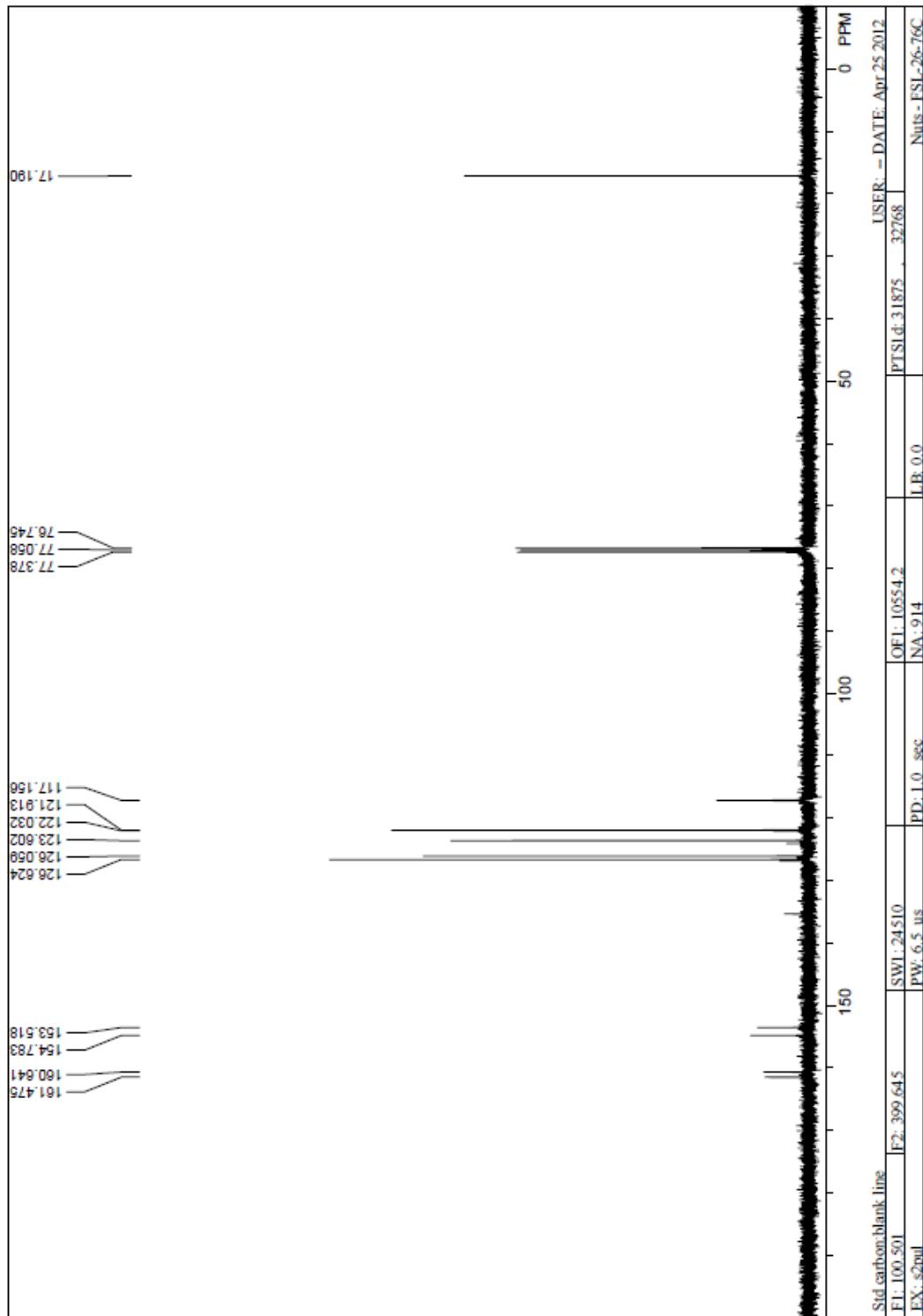


**2-(Thiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3h)**

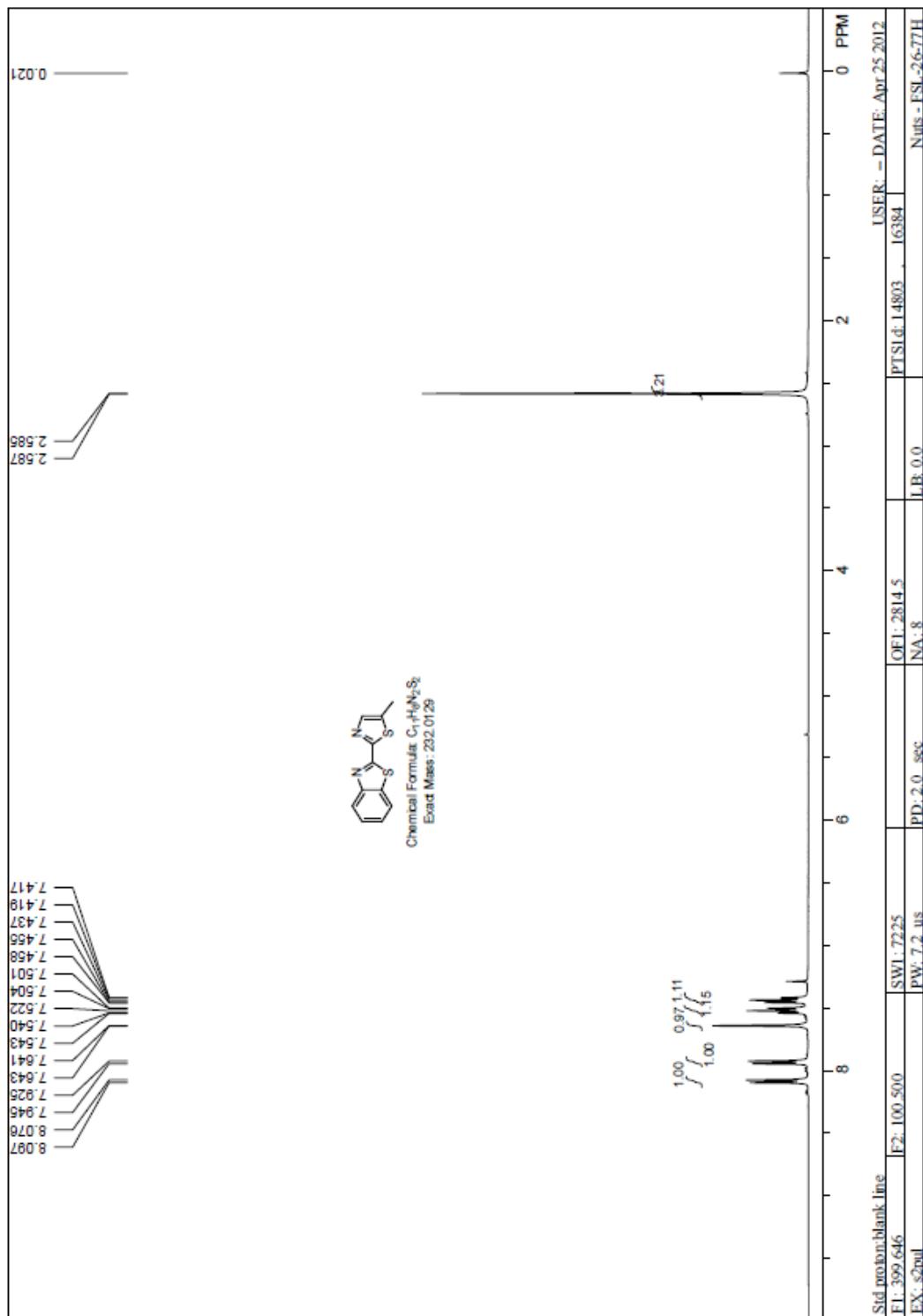


**2-(4-Methylthiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3i)**

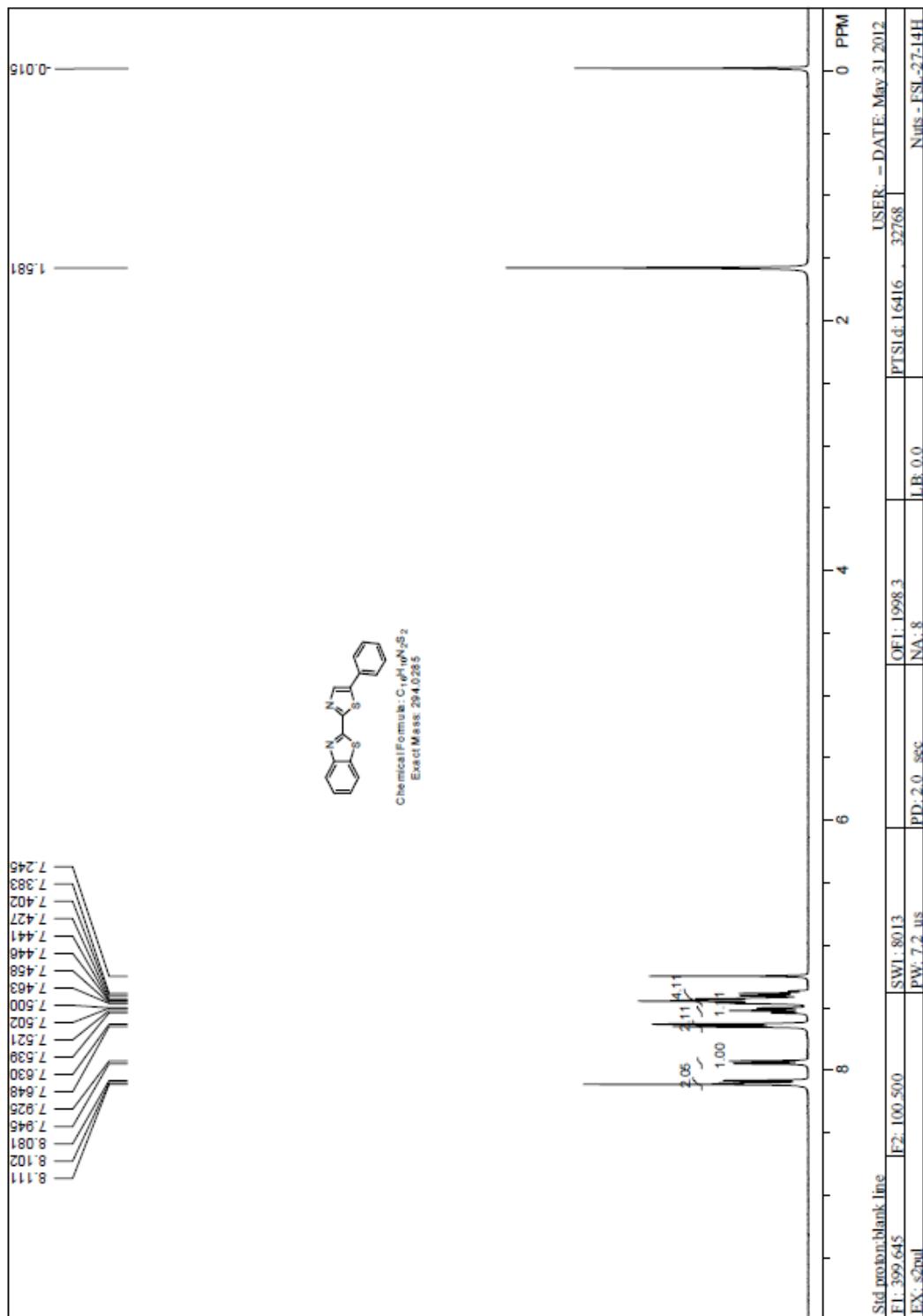


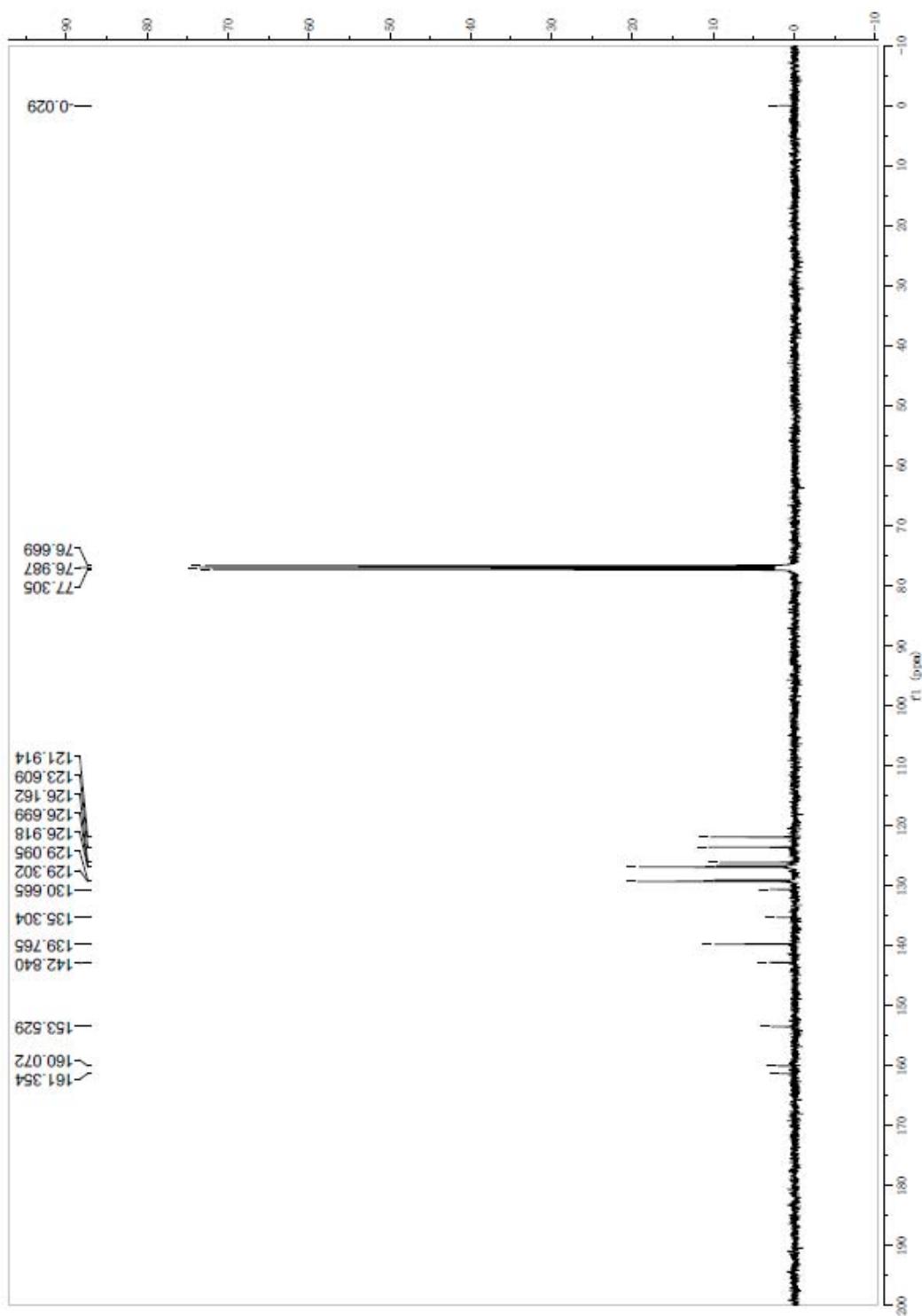


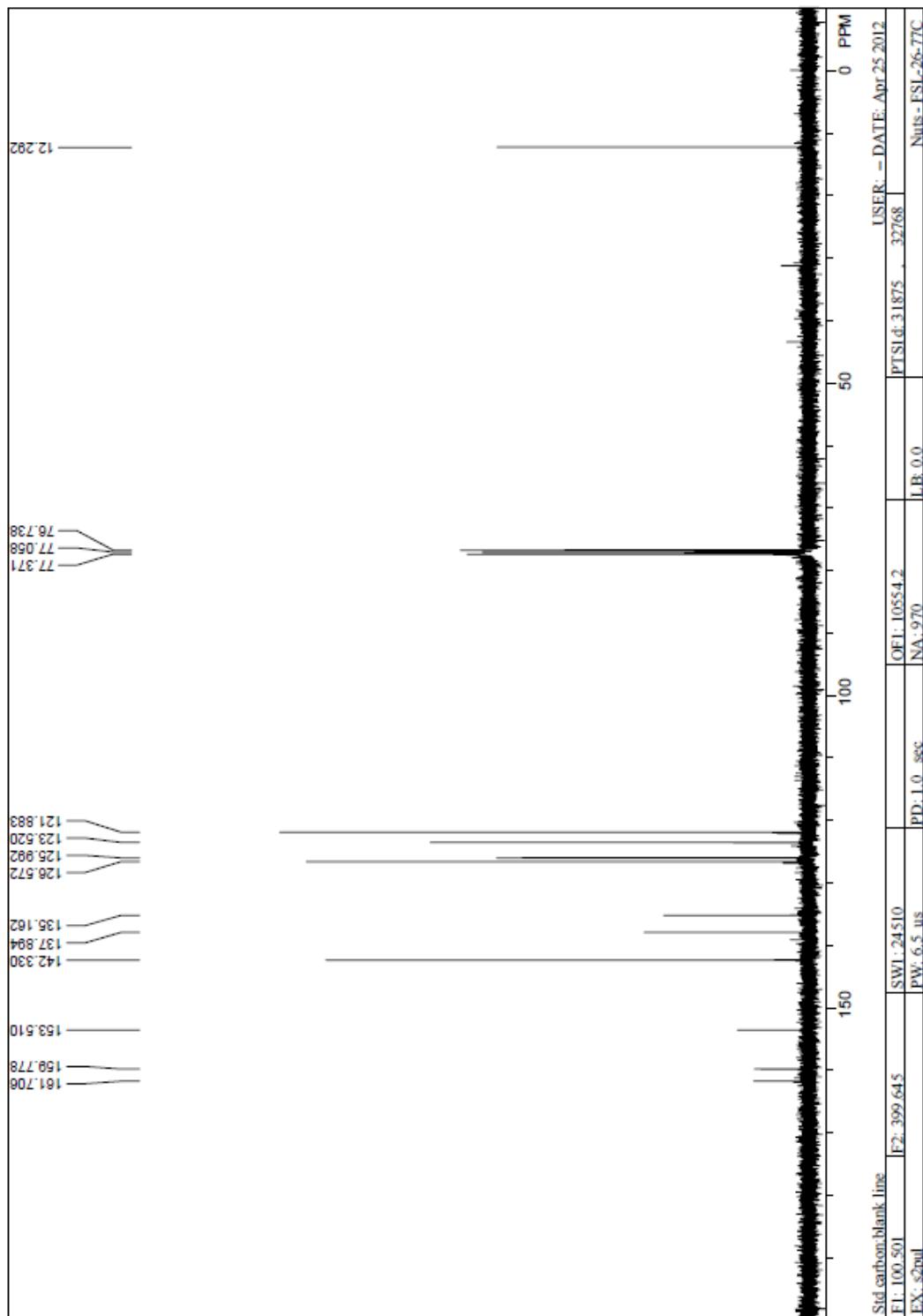
### 2-(5-Methylthiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3j)



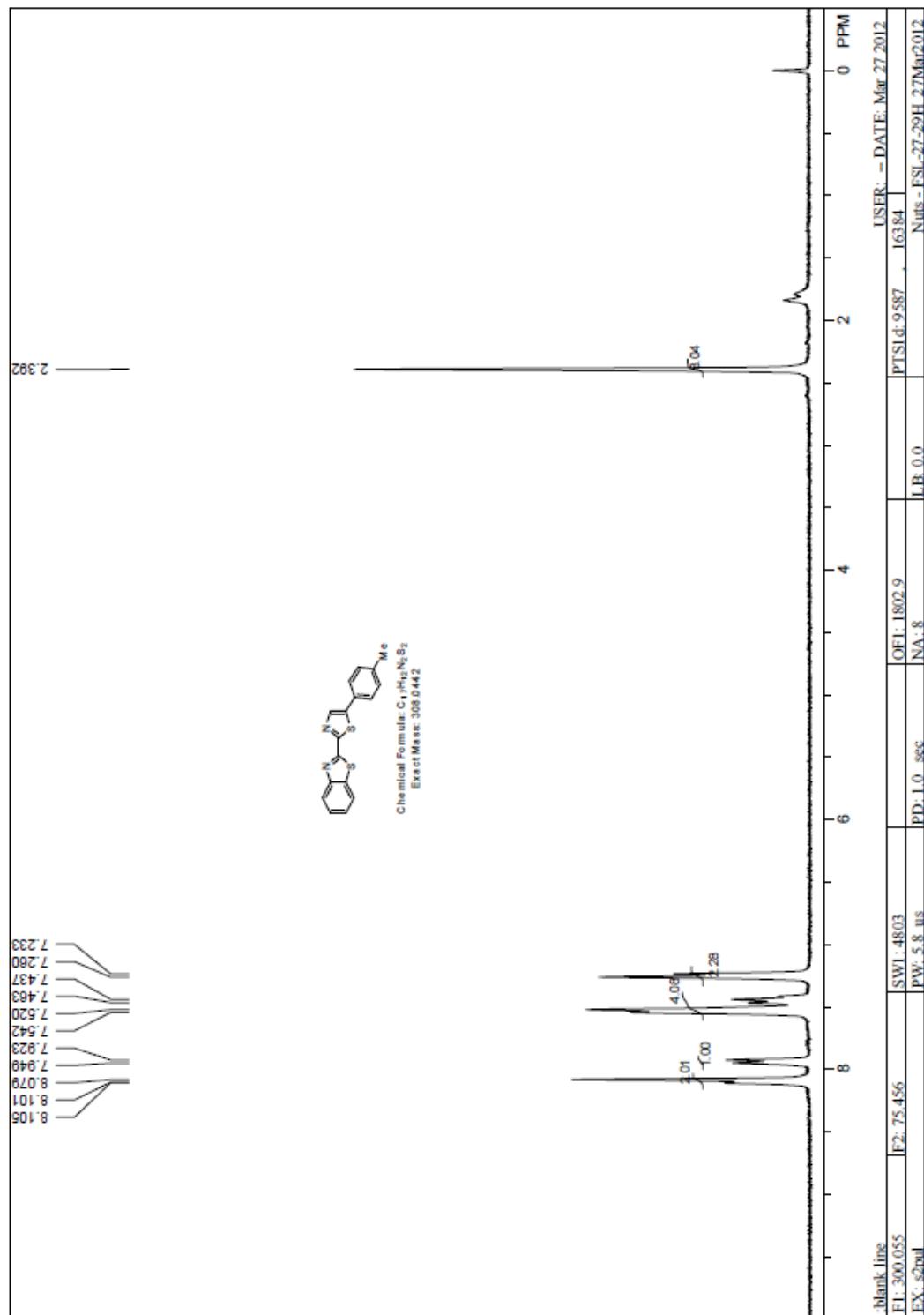
### 2-(5-Phenylthiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3k)

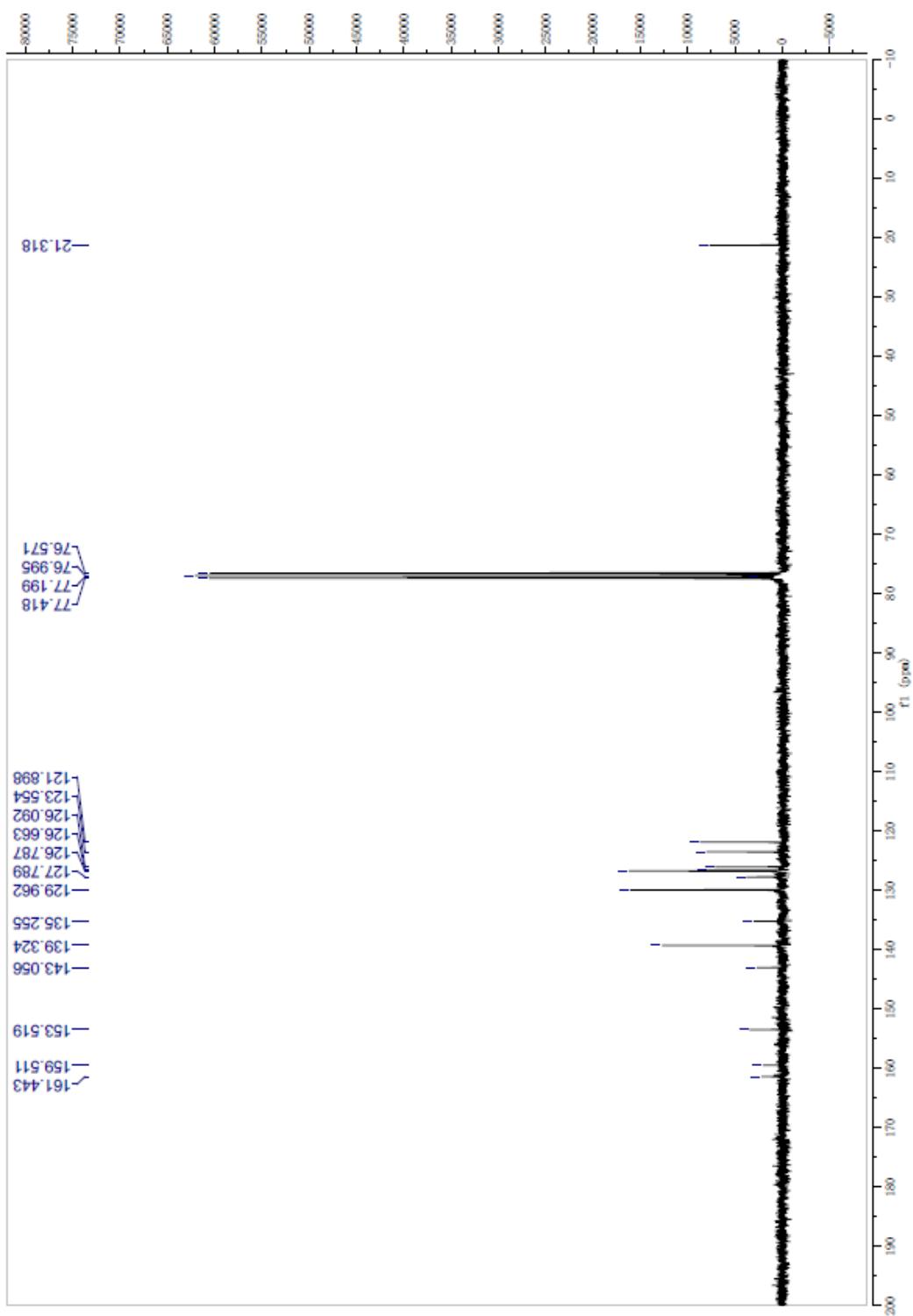




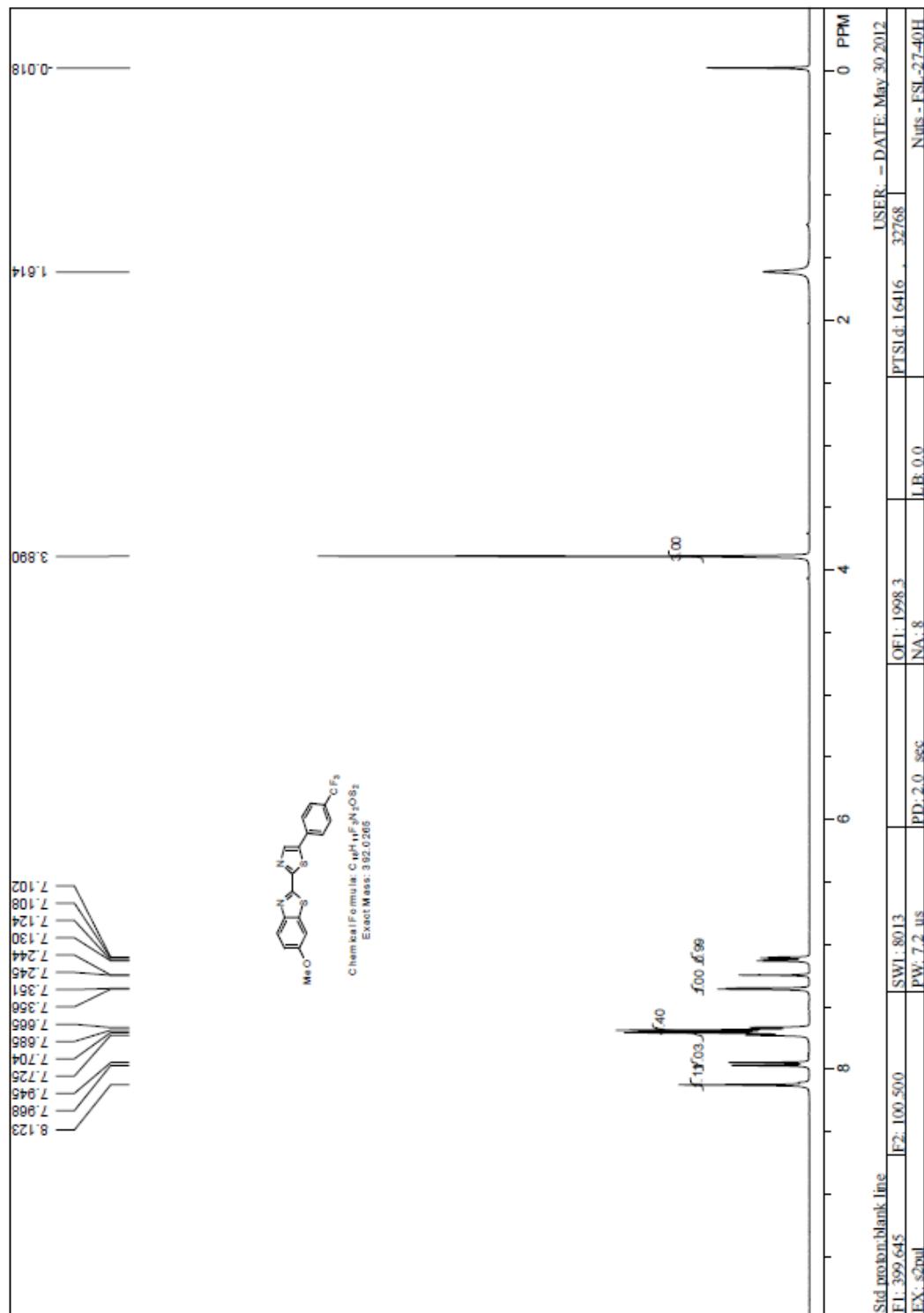


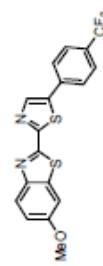
**2-(5-(p-Tolyl)thiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3l)**



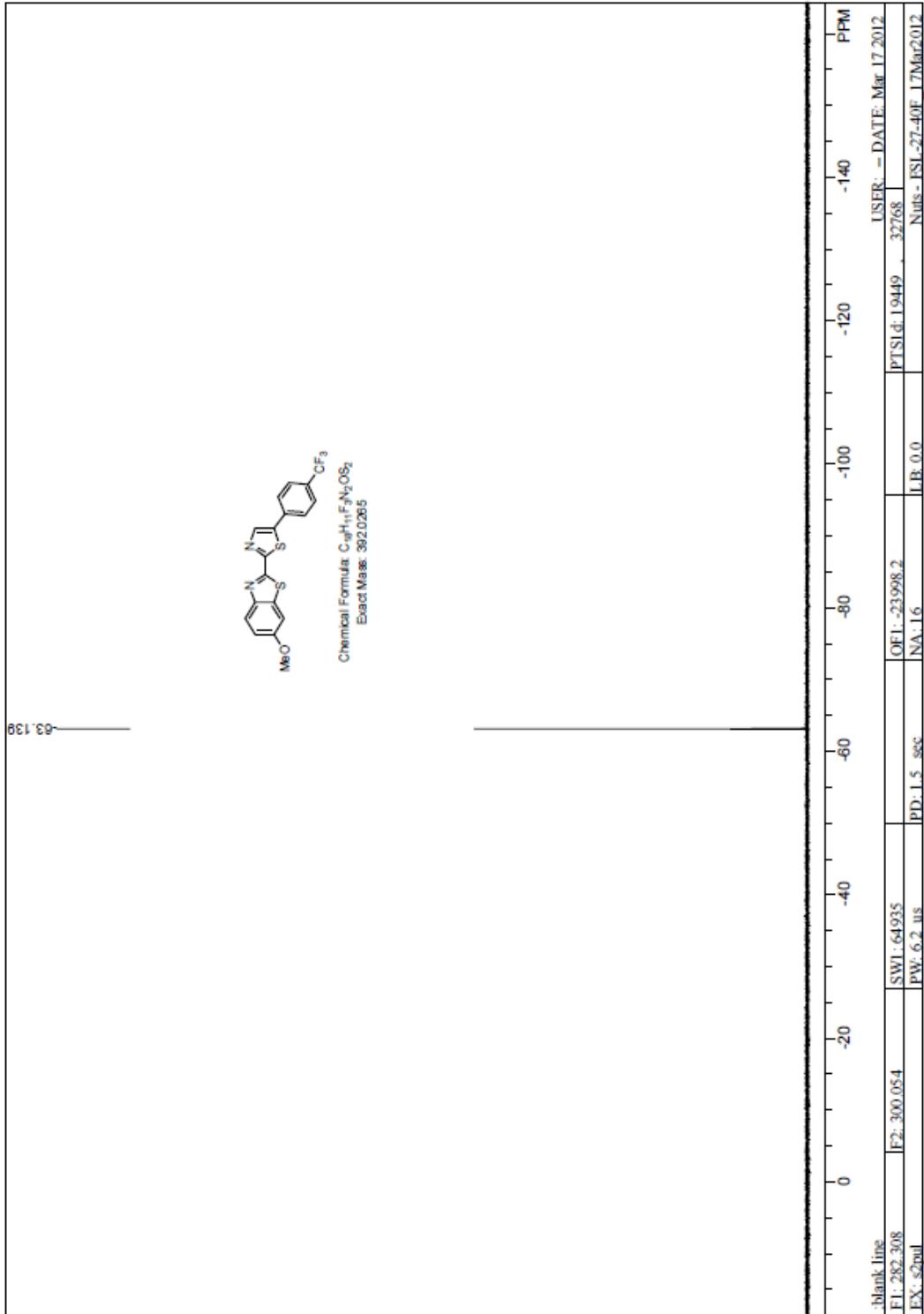


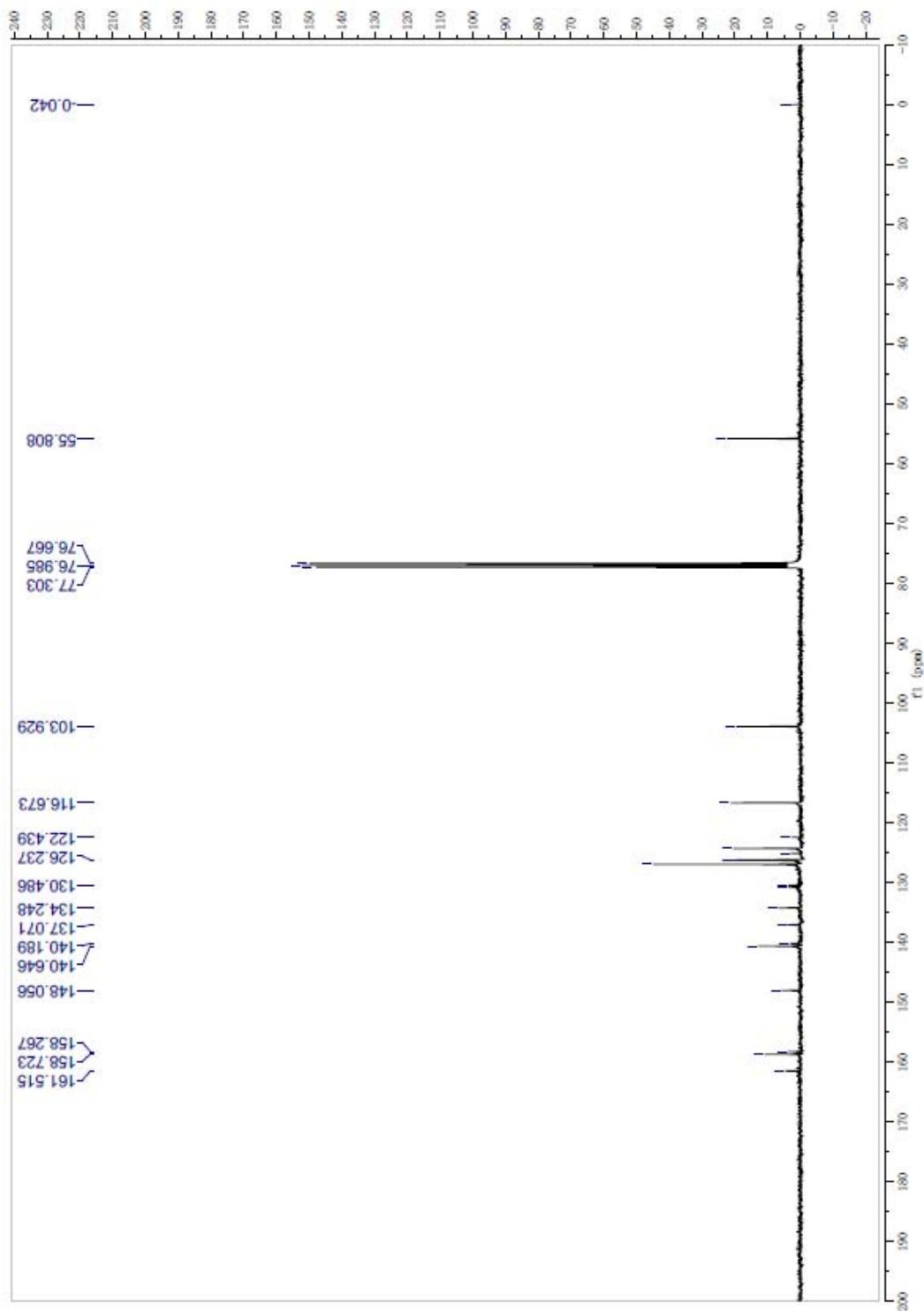
**6-Methyl-2-(5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)thiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3m).**



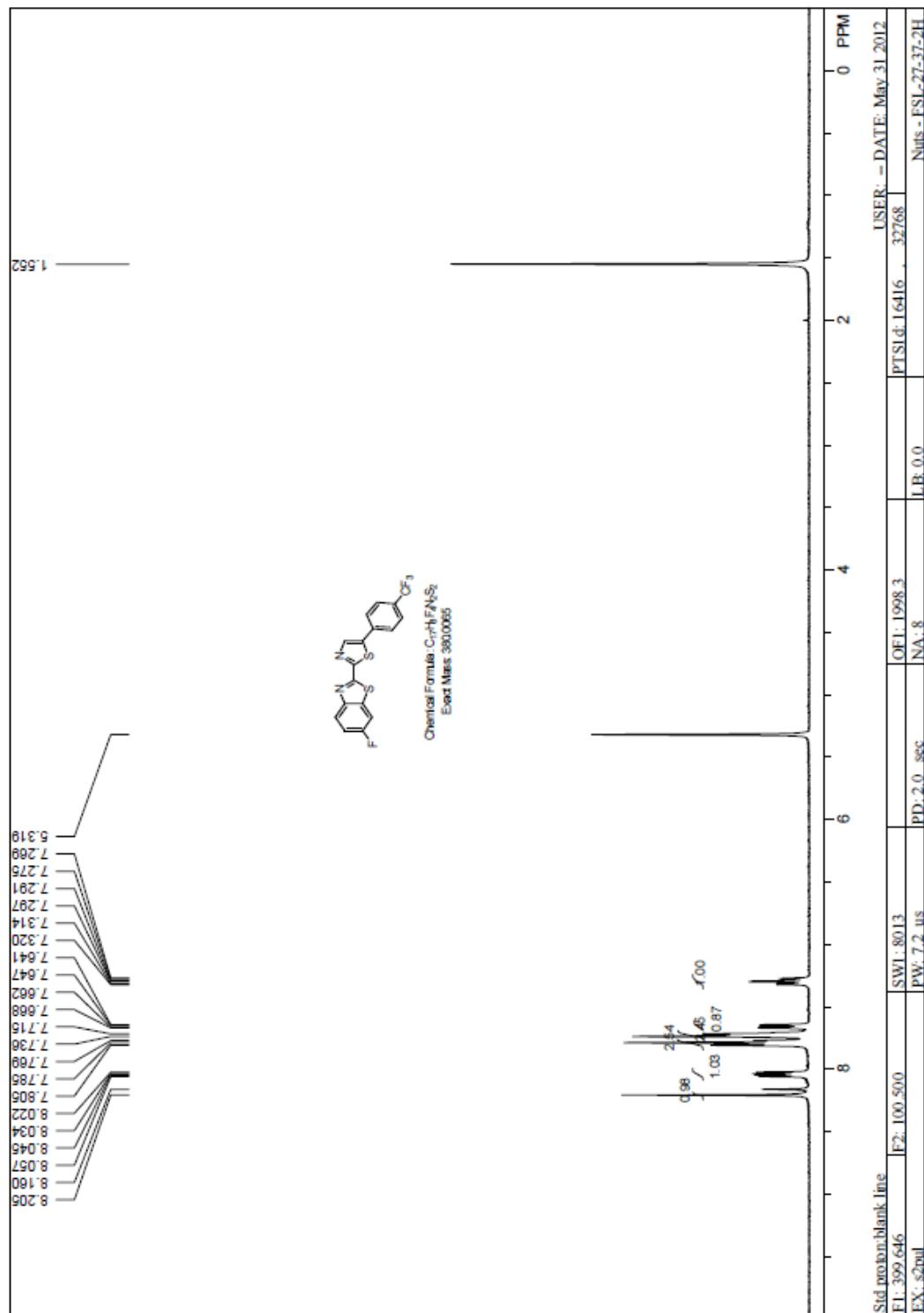


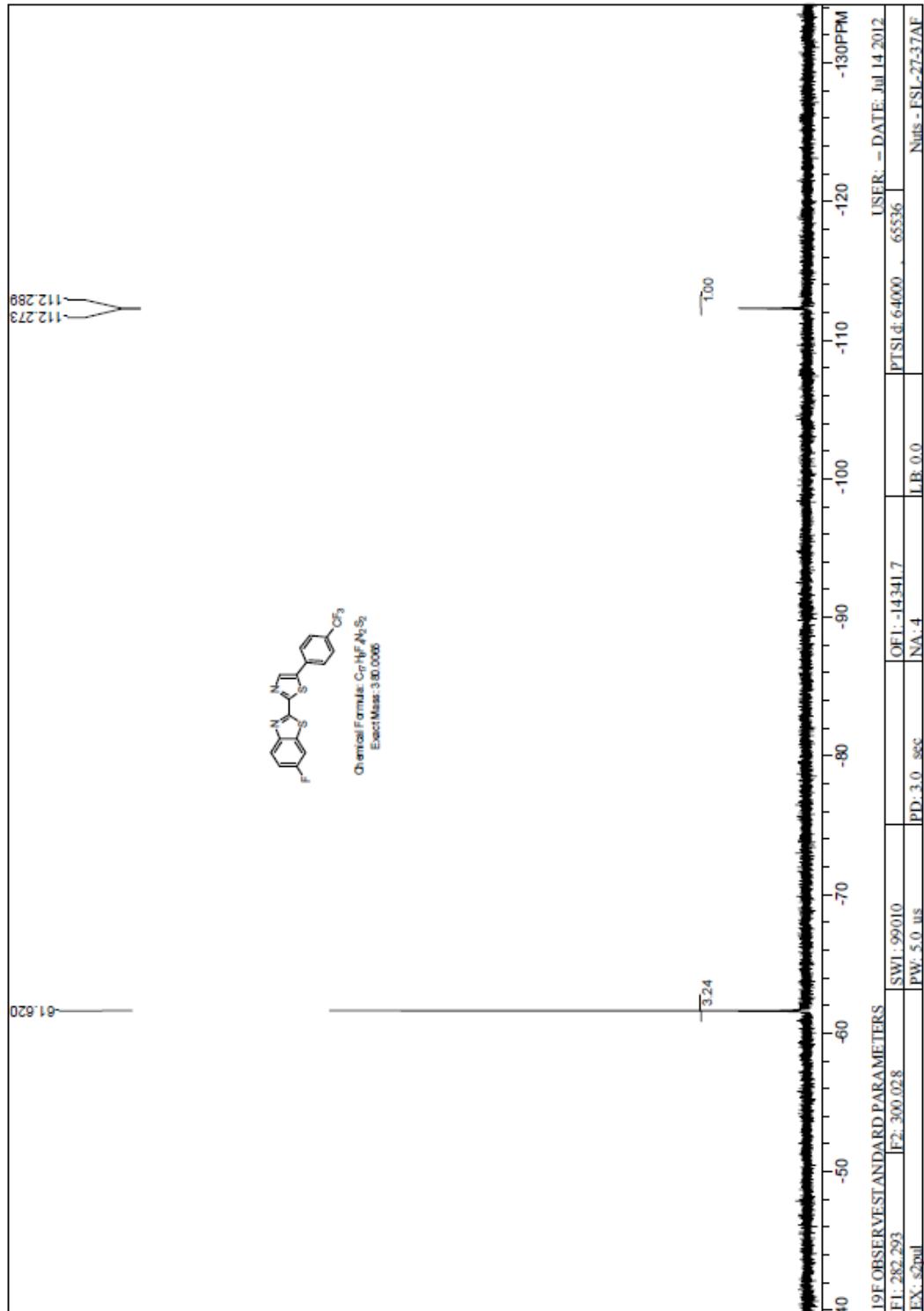
Chemical Formula: C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>OS<sub>2</sub>  
Exact Mass: 392.0265

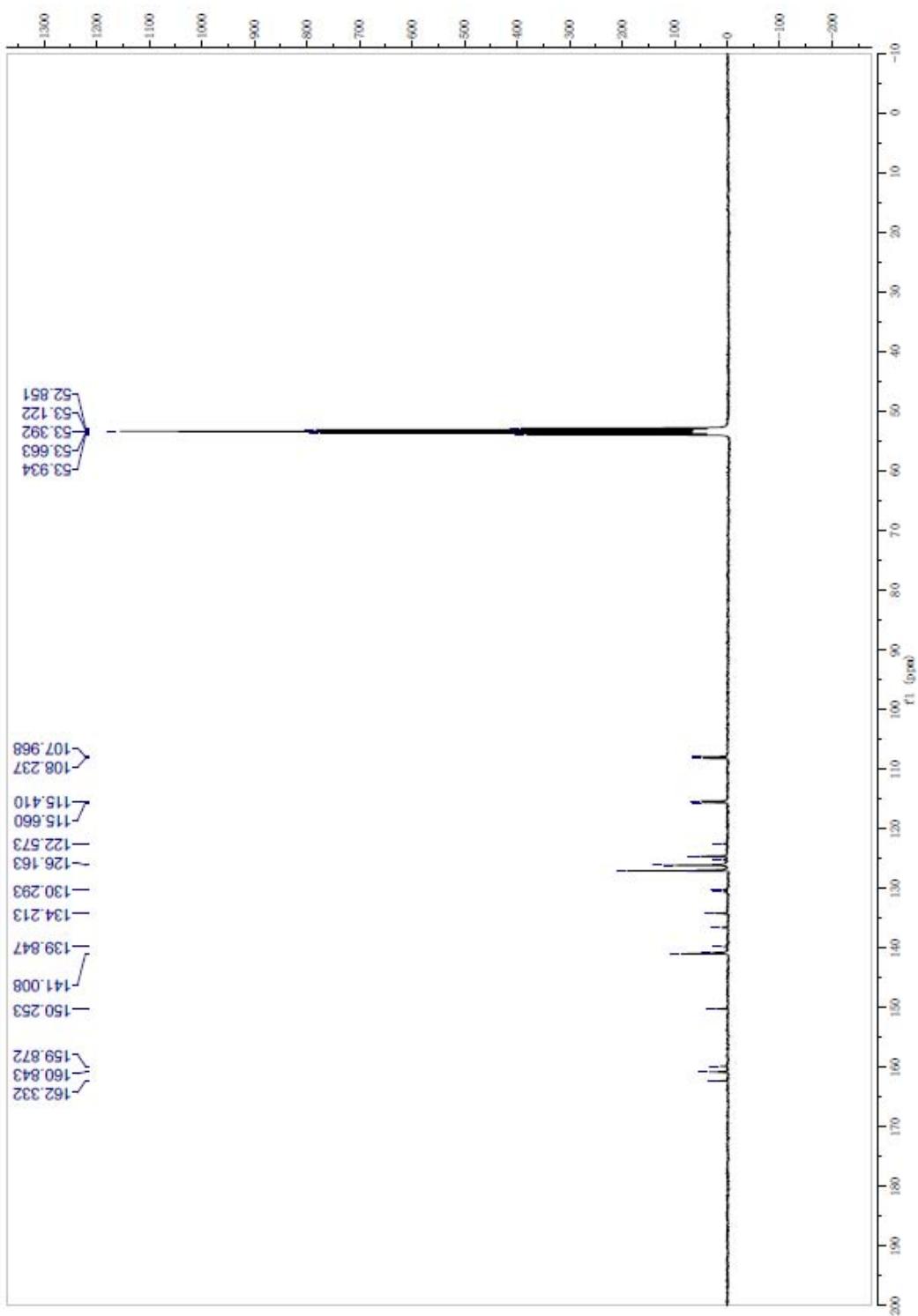




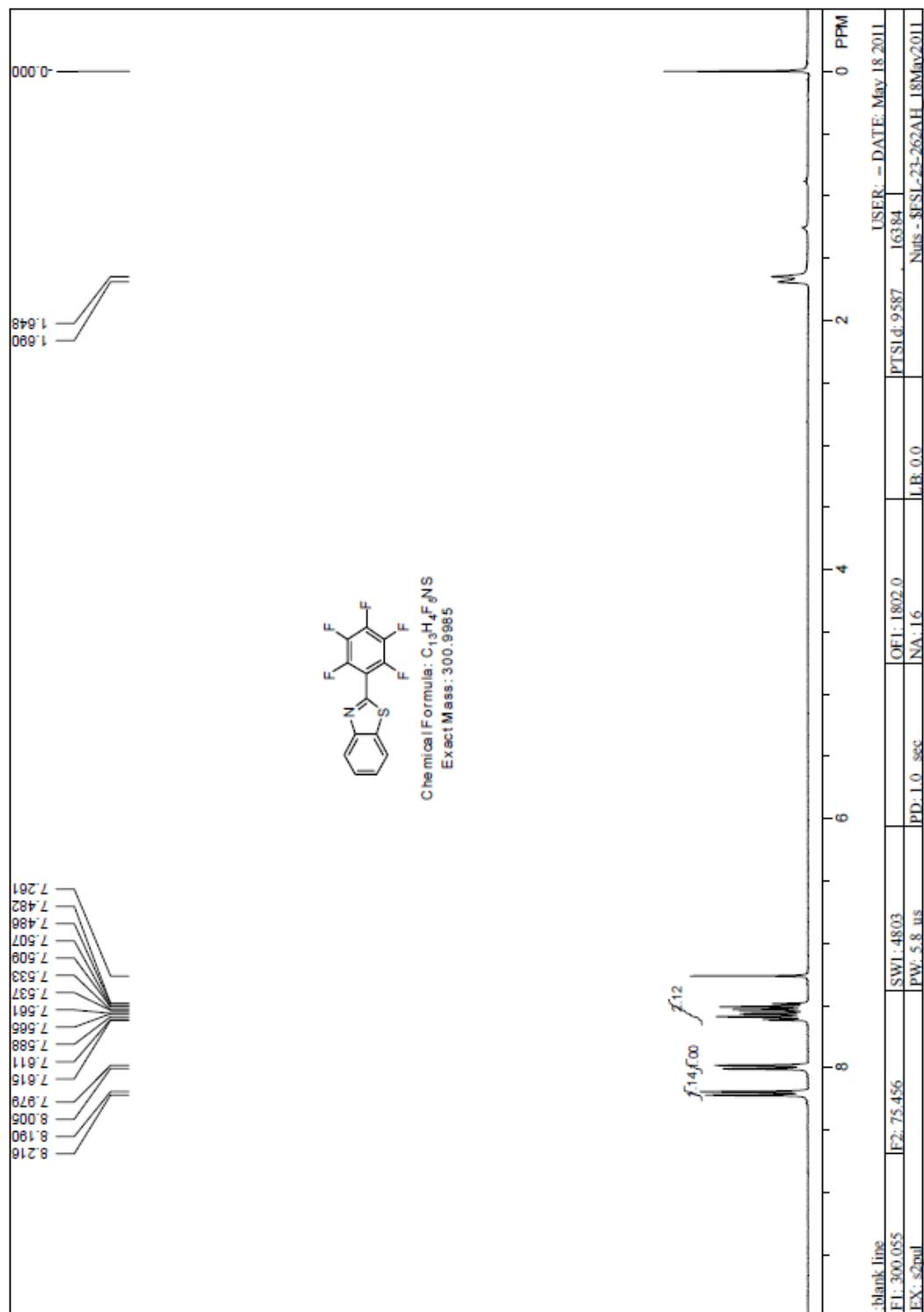
**6-Fluoro-2-(5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)thiazol-2-yl)benzo[d]thiazole (3n)**

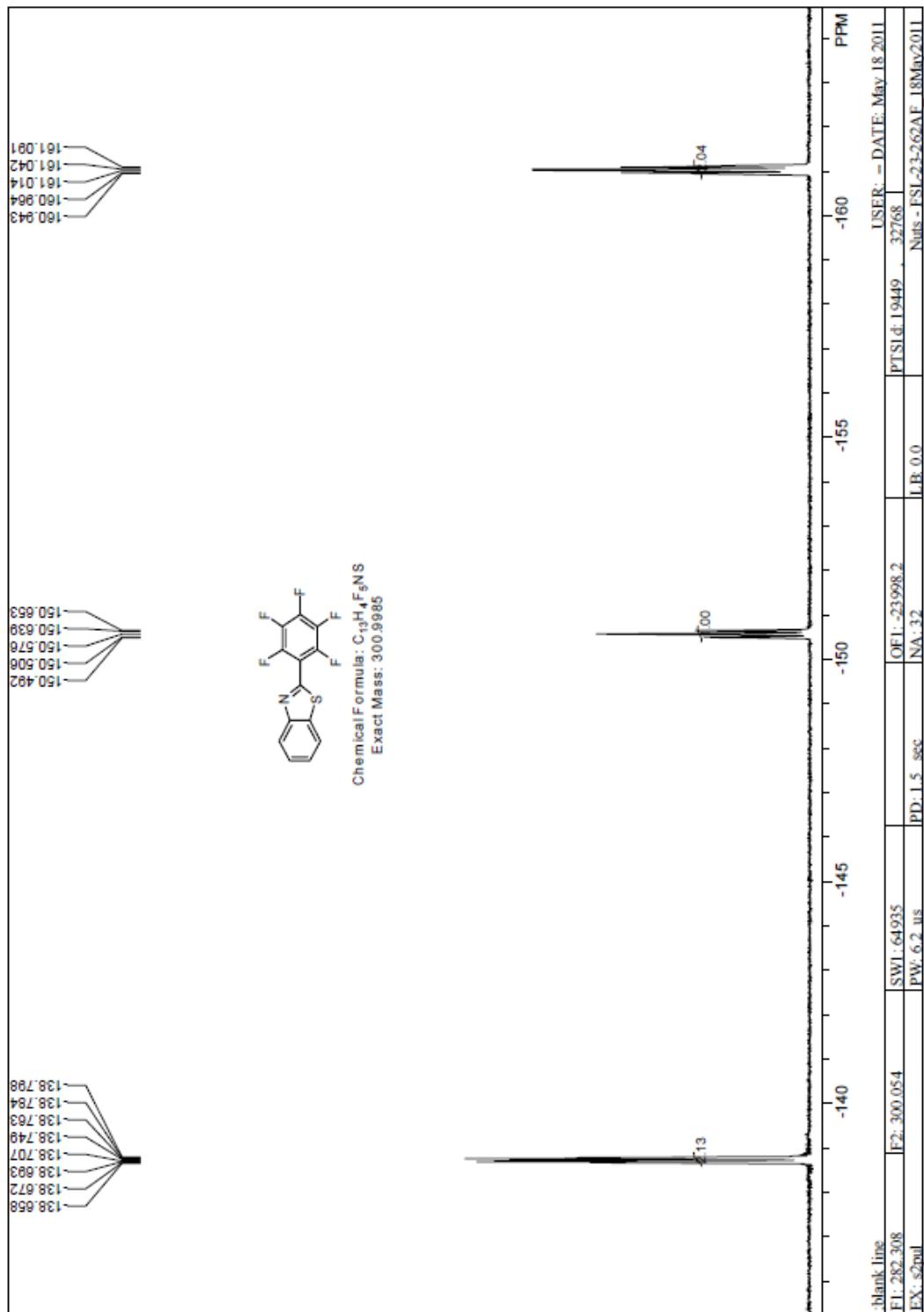




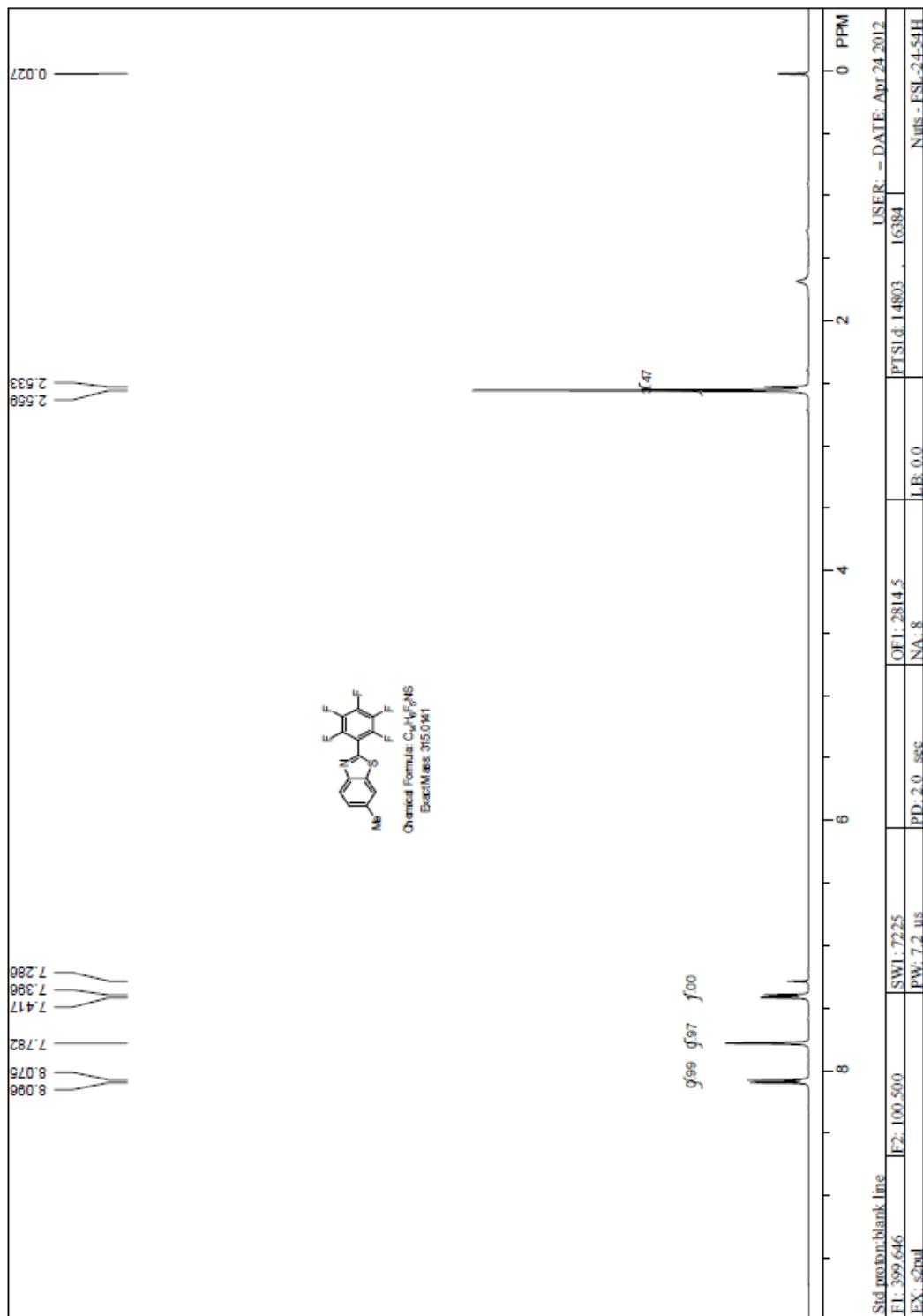


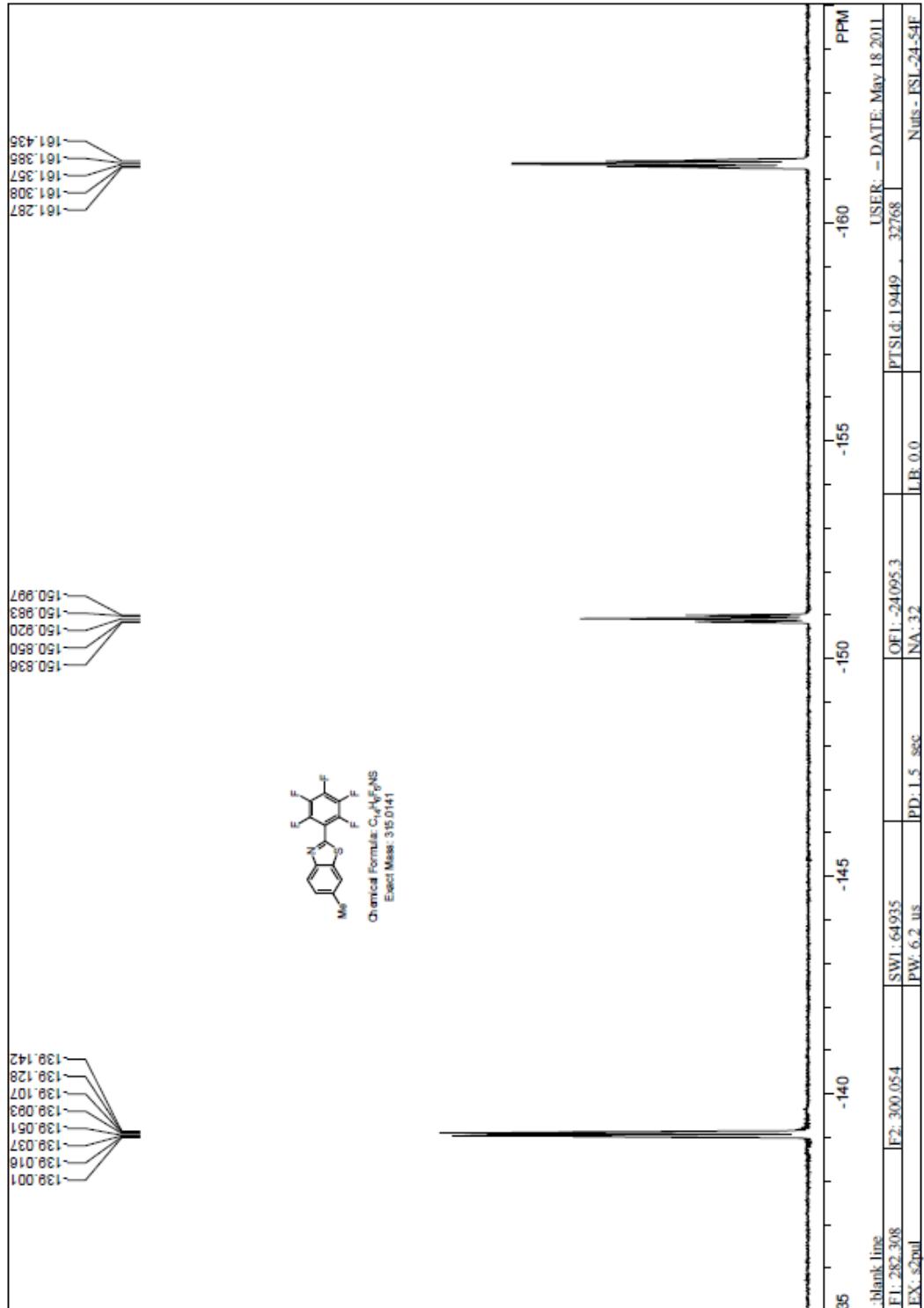
### 2-(Perfluorophenyl)benzo[d]thiazole (5a)

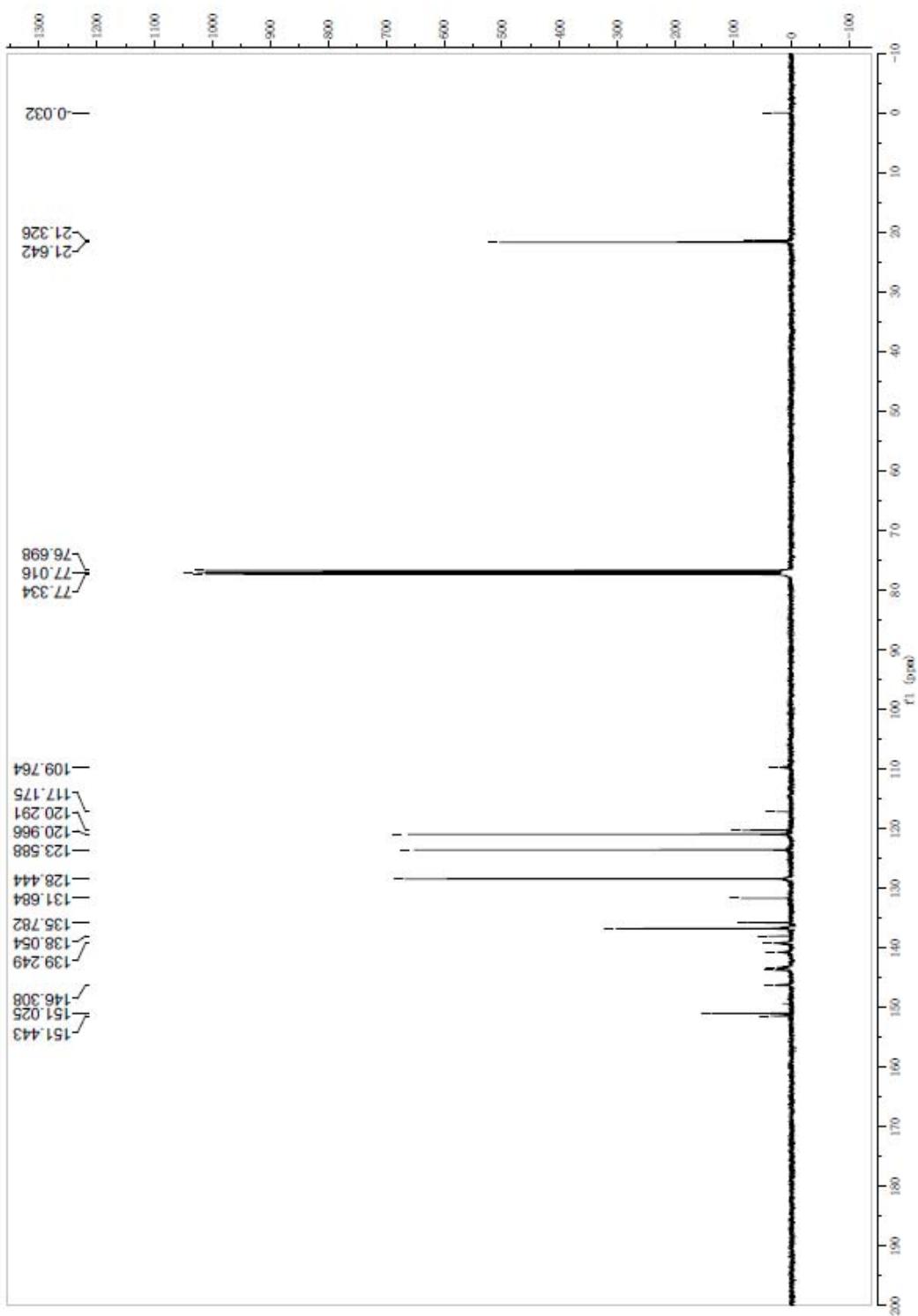




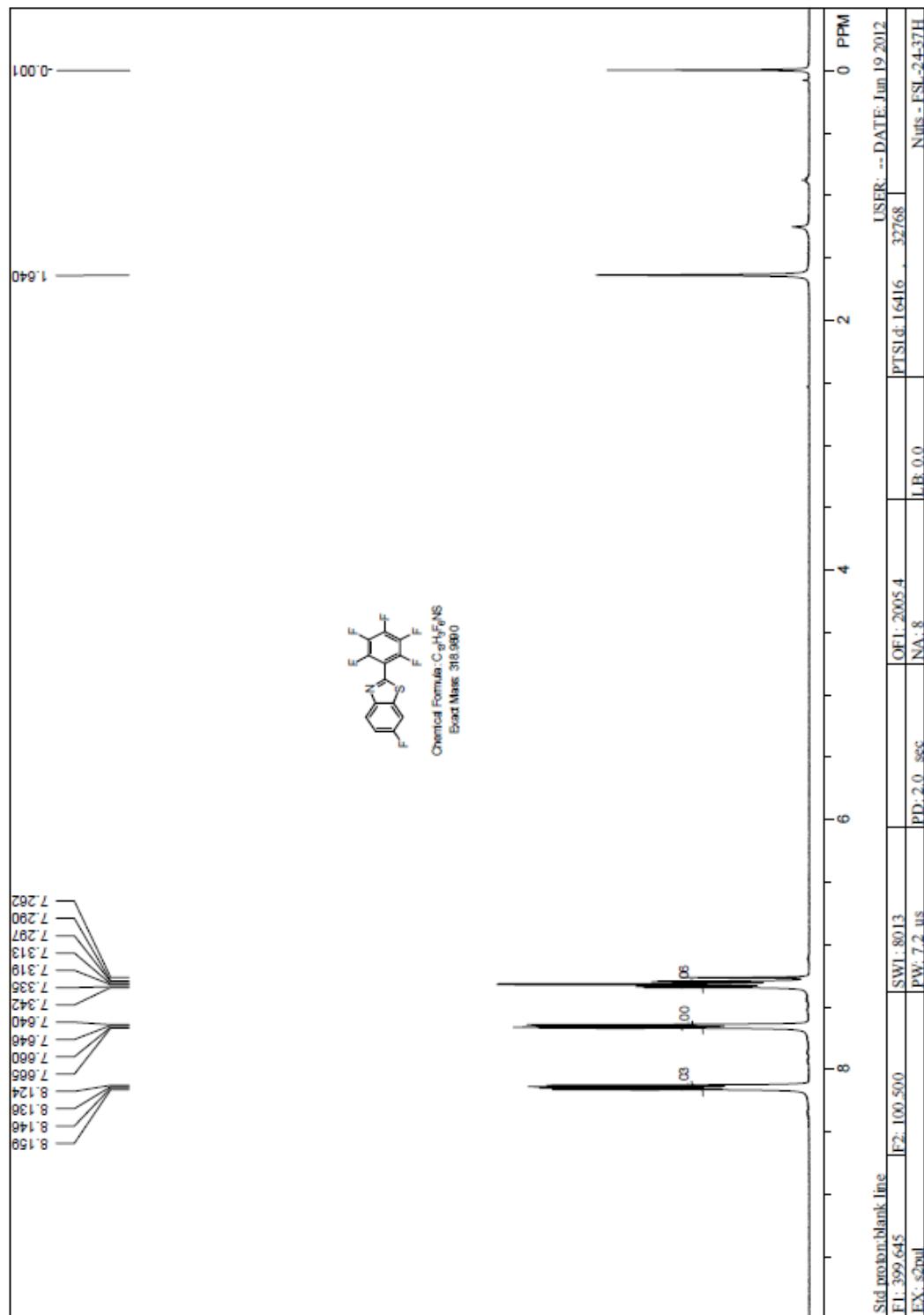
**6-Methyl-2-(perfluorophenyl)benzo[d]thiazole (5b)**

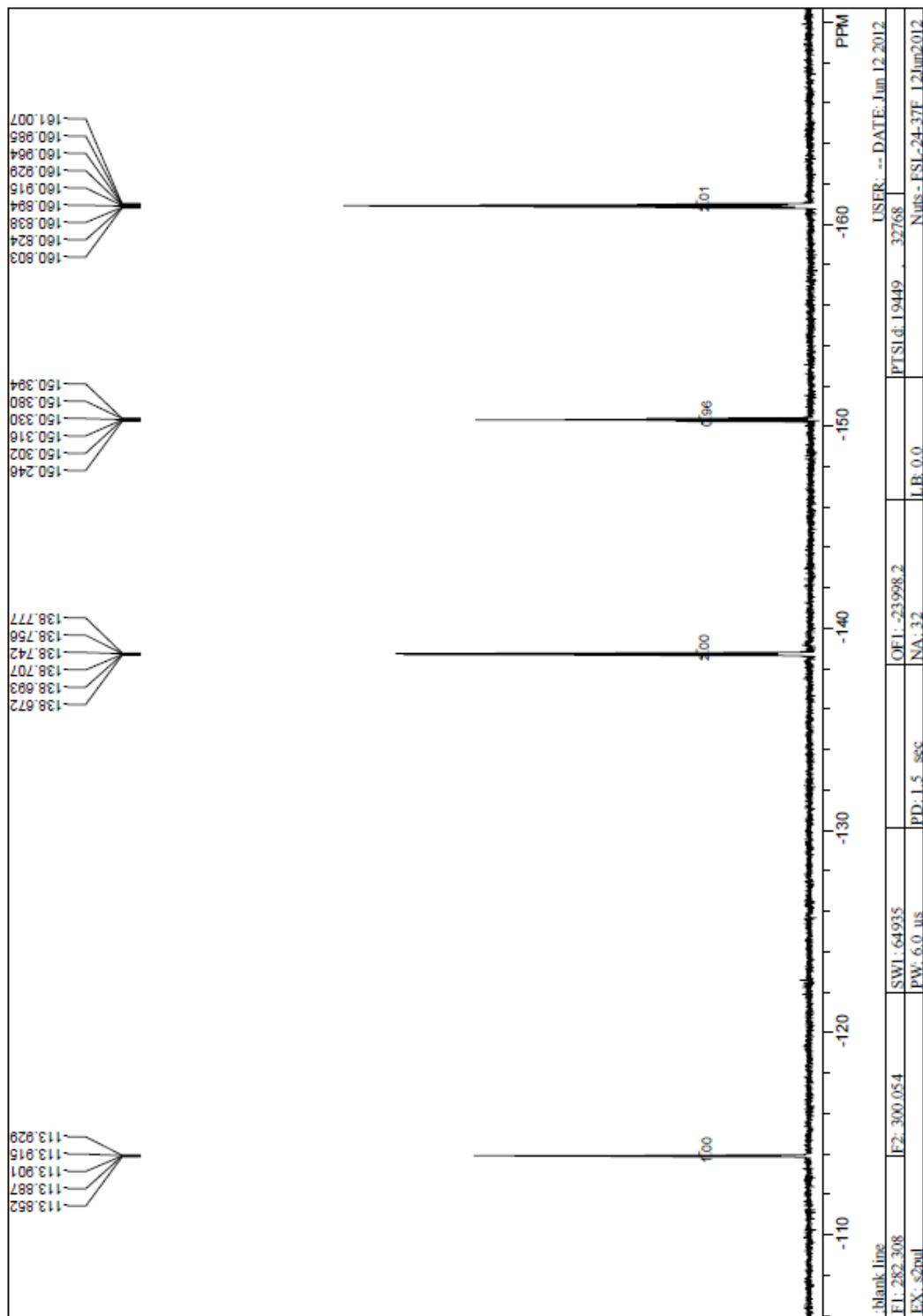


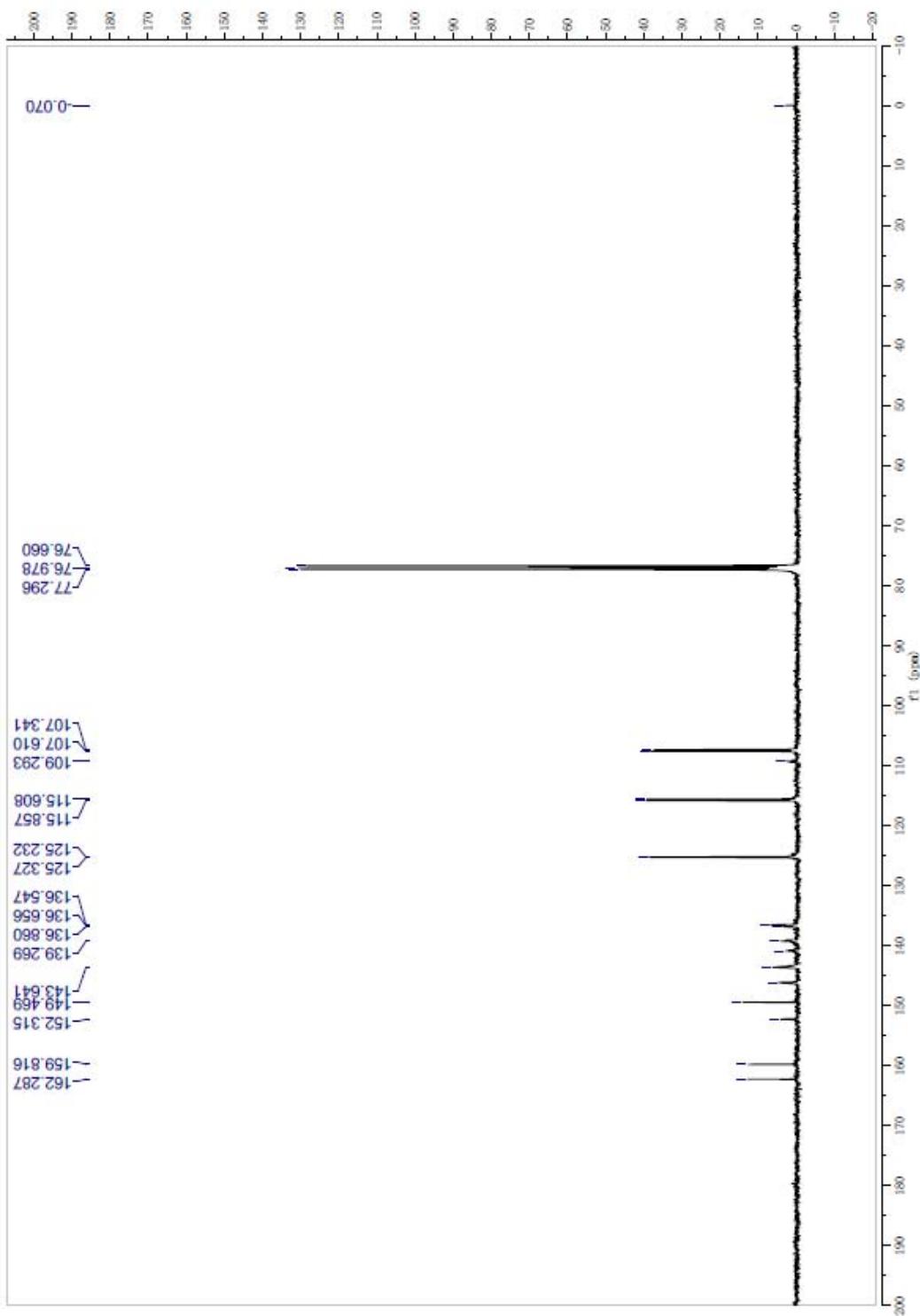




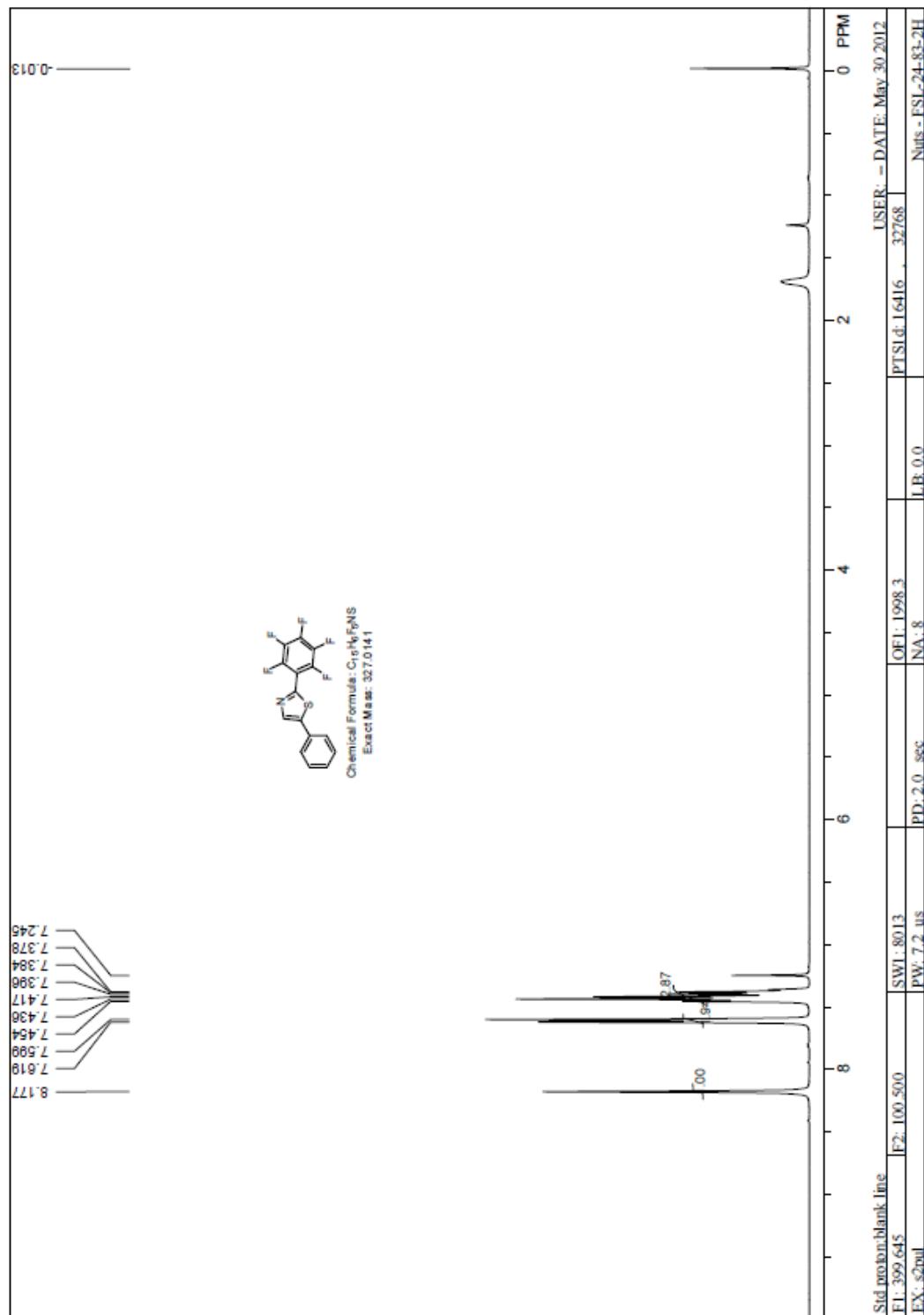
### 6-Fluoro-2-(perfluorophenyl)benzo[d]thiazole (5c)

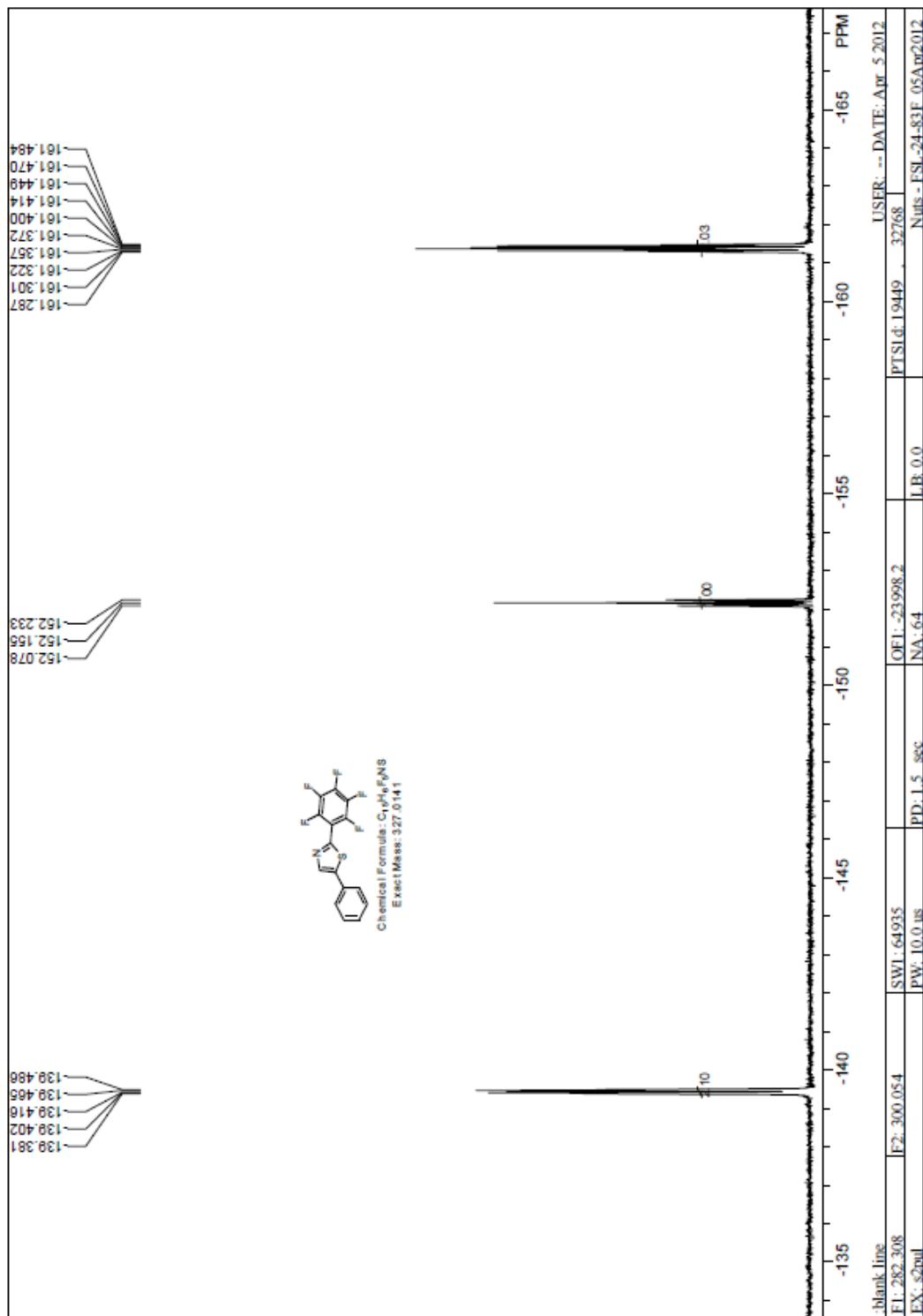


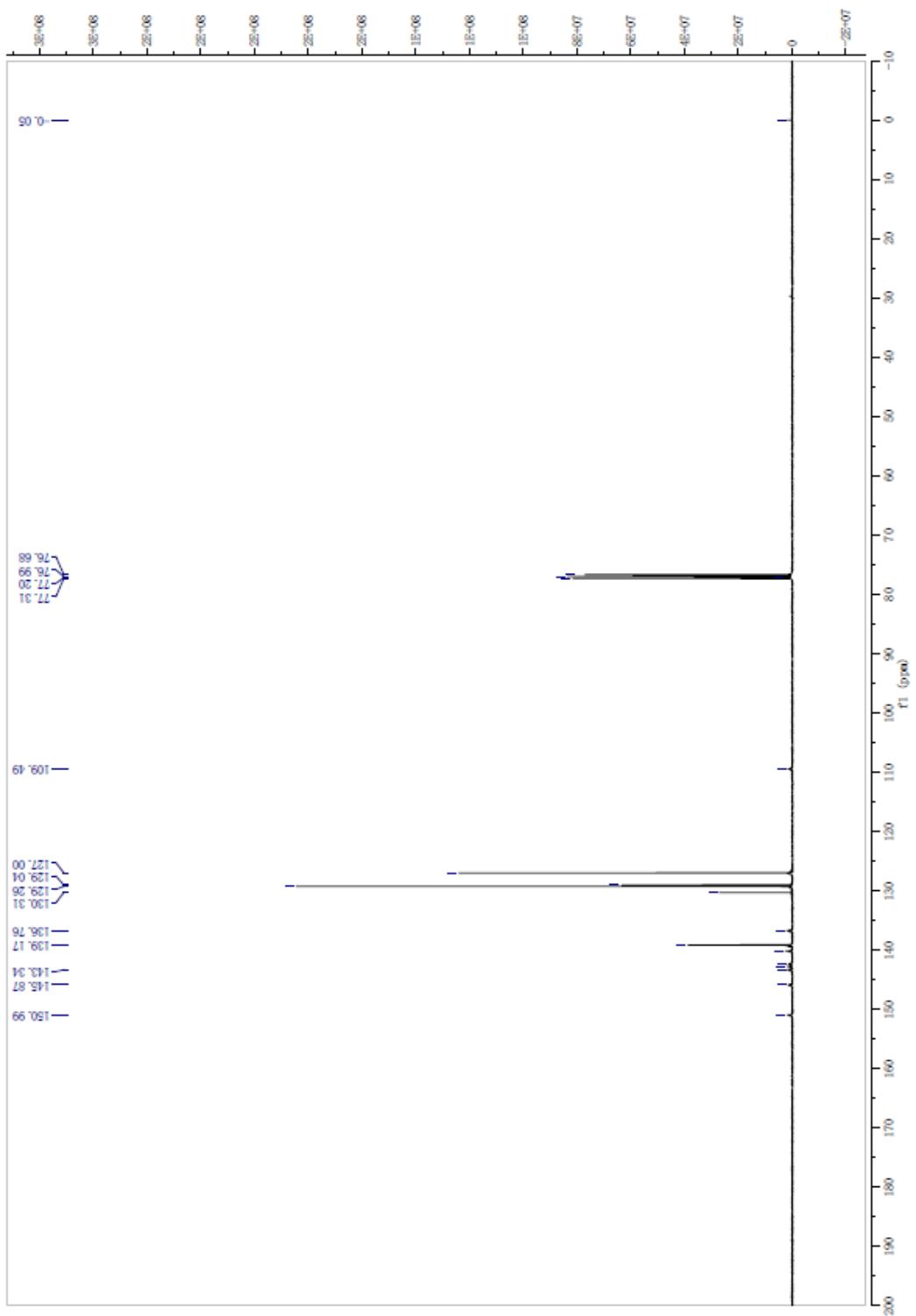




## 2-(Perfluorophenyl)-5-phenylthiazole (5d)







**5-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-(perfluorophenyl)thiazole (5e)**

