

Supporting Information

**Copper(II)-Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling between
Two Azoles**

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I. General Information

All reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. 5-Substituted oxazoles,¹ ethyl 4-methyloxazole-5-carboxylate,² ethyl 4-methylthiazole-5-carboxylate,² ethyl thiazole-5-carboxylate,² and 1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole³ were prepared according to the literature procedures. All solvents were purified and dried according to standard methods prior to use. The ¹H NMR (400 MHz or 600 MHz) chemical shifts were measured relative to CDCl₃ as the internal reference (CDCl₃: δ = 7.26 ppm). The ¹³C NMR (100 MHz or 150 MHz) chemical shifts were given using CDCl₃ as the internal standard (CDCl₃: δ = 77.16 ppm). The following abbreviations were used to designate the multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, bs = broad signal, m = multiplet. GC-MS analyses were performed using naphthalene as internal standard.

II. Optimization of the Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazole with 5-Phenyloxazole

A flame-dried Schlenk test tube with a magnetic stirring bar was charged with Cu salt (20 mol%), base (1.5 equiv), oxidant (1.5 equiv), additive (1.0 equiv), benzothiazole (0.25 mmol), 5-phenyloxazole (0.25 mmol) and solvent (1.0 mL) under O₂ (1 atm) atmosphere. The resulting mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature, and then heated at 140 °C for the indicated time. The reaction mixture was then cooled to ambient temperature, diluted with 20 mL of CH₂Cl₂, filtered through a Celite pad, and washed with 10-20 mL of CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic extracts were concentrated, and the resulting residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum/ethyl acetate = 10/1-5/1 v/v) to provide the desired product **3a**.

III. Detailed Hetero-Couplings and Homo-Couplings for all Described Reactions

Table S1. Selective Cross-Couplings of Benzothiazole with Azoles^{a,b}


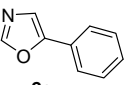
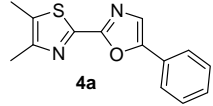

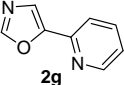
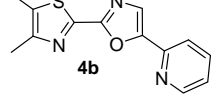

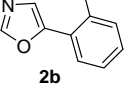
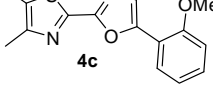

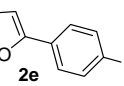
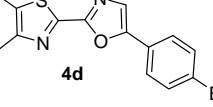

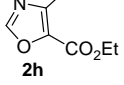
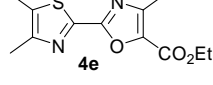
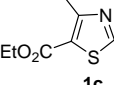
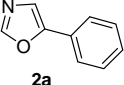
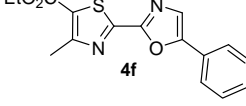
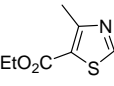
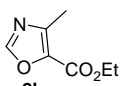
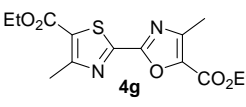
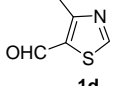
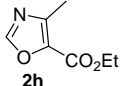
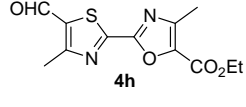
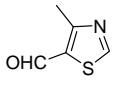
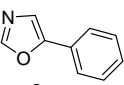
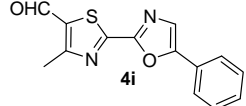
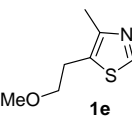
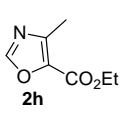
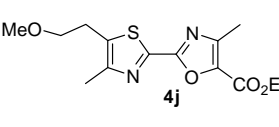
$20 \text{ mol\% Cu(OAc)}_2$
 $1.0 \text{ equiv pyridine}$
 $1.5 \text{ equiv Ag}_2\text{CO}_3$
 $\text{xylene, } 140^\circ\text{C, } 24 \text{ h, O}_2$

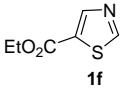
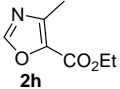
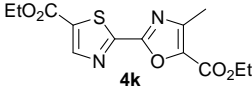
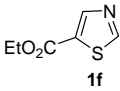
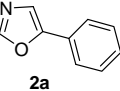
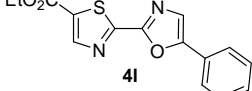

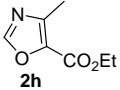
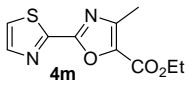
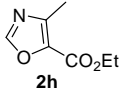

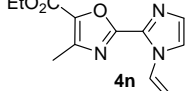
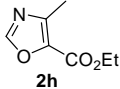

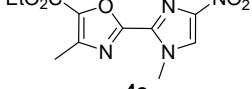
entry	benzothiazole	azole 2	heterocoupling product	yield (%)
1				76 (10, 17)
2				75 (13, 15)
3				75 (10, <5)
4				69 (10, 8)
5				69 (13, <5)
6				71 (13, <5)
7				70 (12, 18)
8				64 (10, <5)
9				78 (12, <5)
10				67 (13, 18)

^a Reactions were carried out using Cu(OAc)₂ (20 mol%), Ag₂CO₃ (1.5 equiv), pyridine (1.0 equiv), benzothiazole (0.5 mmol), and azole **2** (0.5 mmol) at 140 °C for 24 h under oxygen atmosphere. ^b

Yields of isolated product. The yields in parentheses refer to the homocoupling products of benzothiazole (**1a**) and azole **2**, respectively.

Table S2. Selective Cross-Couplings between Two Non-benzofused Azoles^{a,b}

$ \begin{array}{c} \text{R}^1 \\ \\ \text{X} \\ \\ \text{R}^2 \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{R}^3 \\ \\ \text{Y} \\ \\ \text{R}^4 \end{array} \xrightarrow[1.5 \text{ equiv Ag}_2\text{CO}_3]{20 \text{ mol\% Cu(OAc)}_2, 1.0 \text{ equiv pyridine}} \begin{array}{c} \text{R}^1 \\ \\ \text{X} \\ \\ \text{R}^2 \end{array} - \text{Y} - \begin{array}{c} \text{R}^3 \\ \\ \text{Y} \\ \\ \text{R}^4 \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{R}^1 \\ \\ \text{X} \\ \\ \text{R}^2 \end{array} - \text{X} - \begin{array}{c} \text{R}^1 \\ \\ \text{X} \\ \\ \text{R}^2 \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{R}^3 \\ \\ \text{Y} \\ \\ \text{R}^4 \end{array} - \text{Y} - \begin{array}{c} \text{R}^3 \\ \\ \text{Y} \\ \\ \text{R}^4 \end{array} $ <p>X = O, S Y = O, NR⁵ xylene, 140 °C, 24 h, O₂</p> <p>1b - 1g, 2h 2a - 2k 4a - 4o 1bb - 1gg, 2hh 2aa - 2kk</p>				
entry	azole 1	azole 2	heterocoupling Product	yield (%)
1				65 (13, 19)
2				62 (16, 18)
3				70 (21, trace)
4				73 (23, trace)
5				73 (18, 8)
6				61 (23, 12)
7				63 (21, <5)
8				70 (trace, <5)
9				65 (trace, 19)
10				66 (<5, trace)

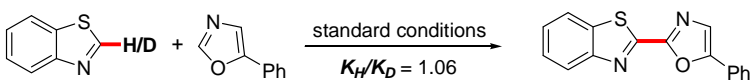
11				63 (15, 19)
12				65 (13, 11)
13				60 (<5, trace)
14				58 (<5, n.d)
15				52 ^c (<5, n.d)

^a Reactions were carried out using Cu(OAc)₂ (20 mol%), Ag₂CO₃ (1.5 equiv), pyridine (1.0 equiv), azole **1** (0.5 mmol), and azole **2** (0.5 mmol) at 140 °C for 24 h under oxygen atmosphere. ^b Yields of isolated product. The yields in parentheses refer to the homocoupling products of azole **1** and azole **2**, respectively. ^c Oxazole **1** (0.5 mmol), and imidazole **2** (0.75 mmol).

IV. Experimental Procedures for the KIE Study for Cross-Coupling of Benzothiazole with 5-Phenyloxazole

Two sets of reactions were carried out in a parallel manner. In each case 5-phenyloxazole was allowed to react with benzothiazole and 2-deuterio-benzothiazole, respectively.⁴ The conversion was measured carefully after designated time (0 h, 0.5 h, 1 h, 2 h) by GC-MS analyses (naphthalene as internal standard) to compare the initial reaction rates.

Table S3. Conversion (%) of the Reaction of Benzothiazole (2-H and 2-D)

		
reaction time (h)	2-deuterio-benzothiazole	benzothiazole
0	0.0%	0.0%

0.5	2.8%	5.6%
1	11.1%	14.1%
2	34.9%	37.5%

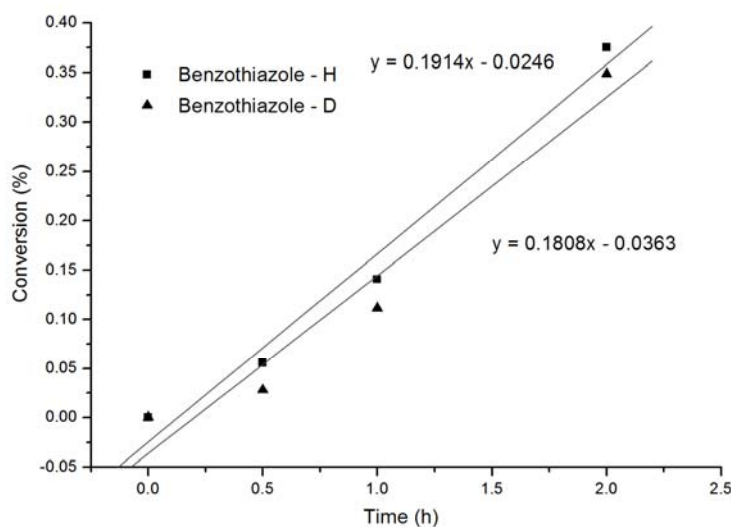


Figure S1 Conversion (%) versus Time (h)

Two sets of reactions were carried out in a parallel manner. In each case benzothiazole was allowed to react with 5-phenyloxazole and 2-deuterio-5-phenyloxazole, respectively.⁴ The conversion was measured carefully after designated time (0 h, 0.5 h, 1 h, 2 h) by GC-MS analyses (naphthalene as internal standard) to compare the initial reaction rates.

Table S4. Conversion (%) of the Reaction of 5-Phenyloxazole (2-H and 2-D)

reaction time (h)	2-deuterio-5-phenyloxazole	5-phenyloxazole
0	0.0%	0.0%
0.5	3.5%	6.3%

1	12.6%	15.2%
2	29.3%	31.1%

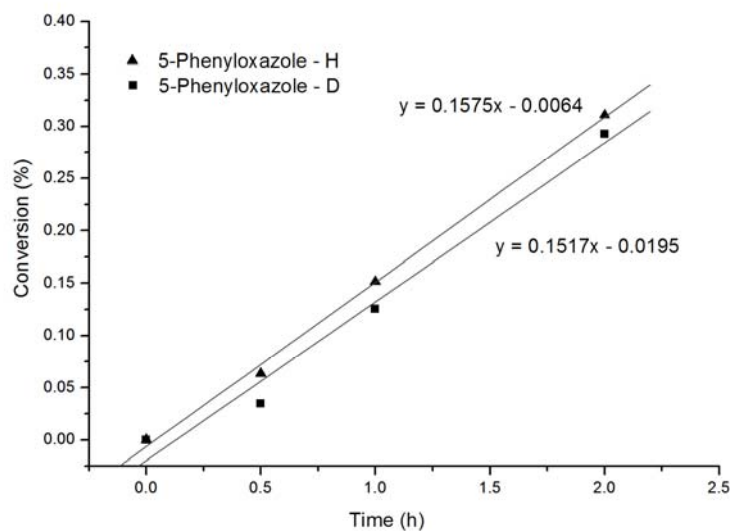
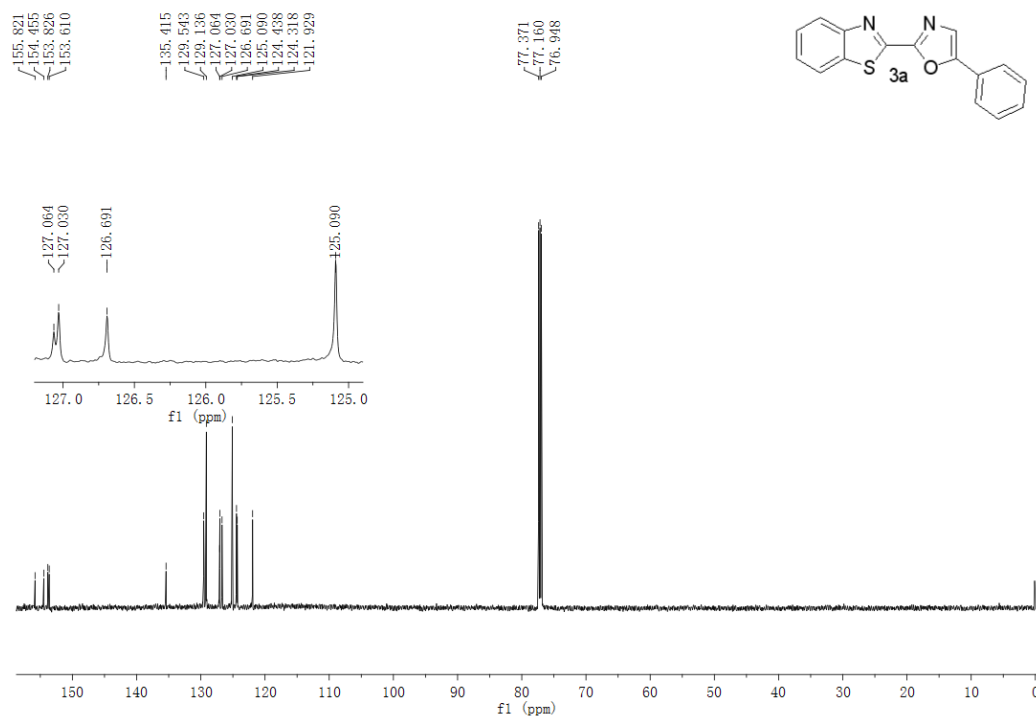
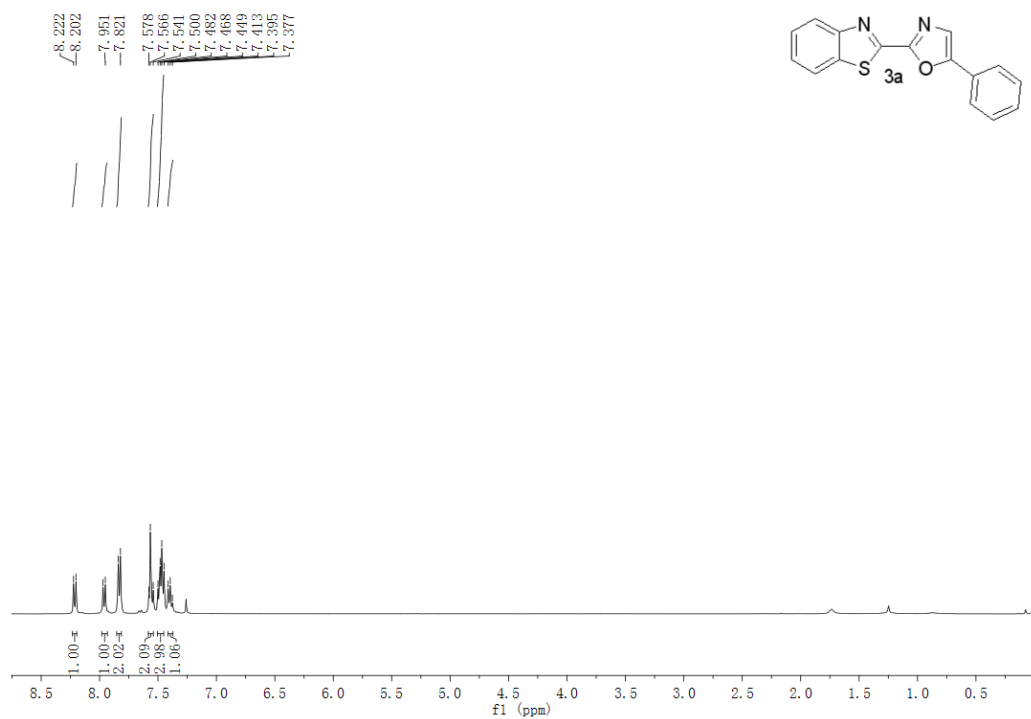


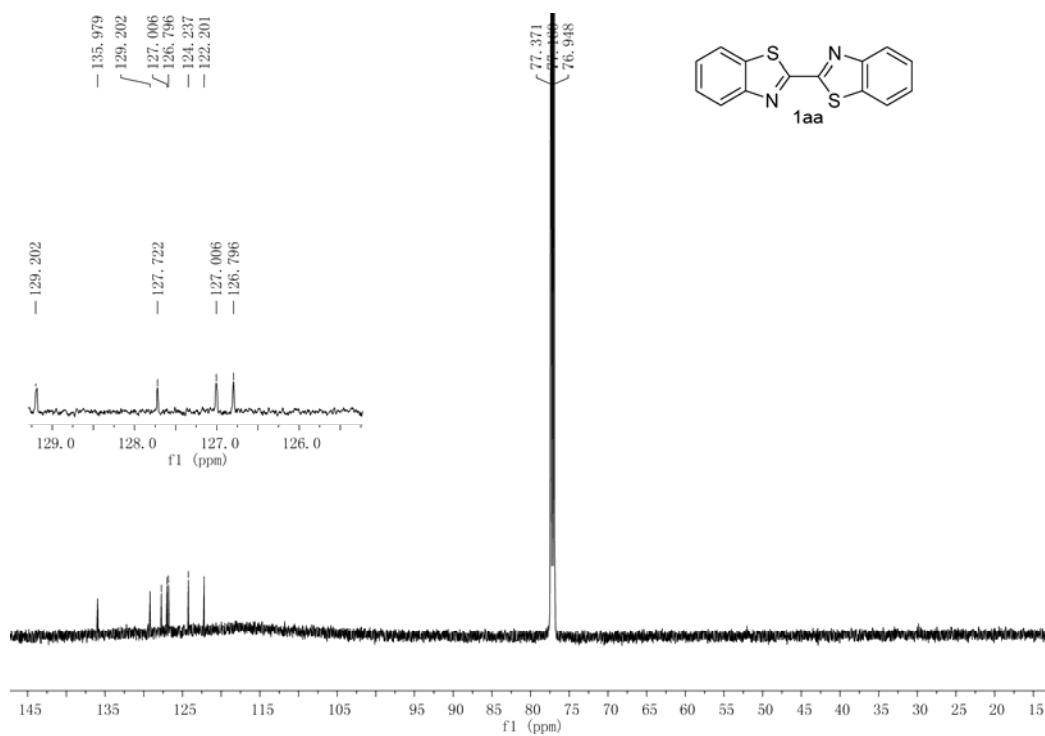
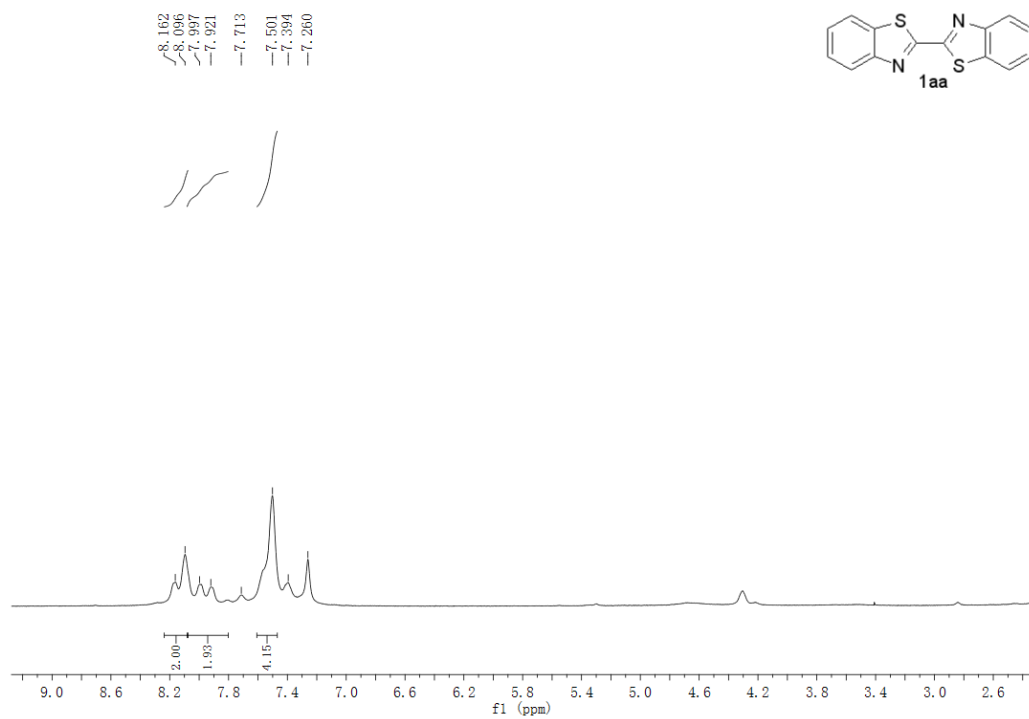
Figure S2 Conversion (%) versus Time (h).

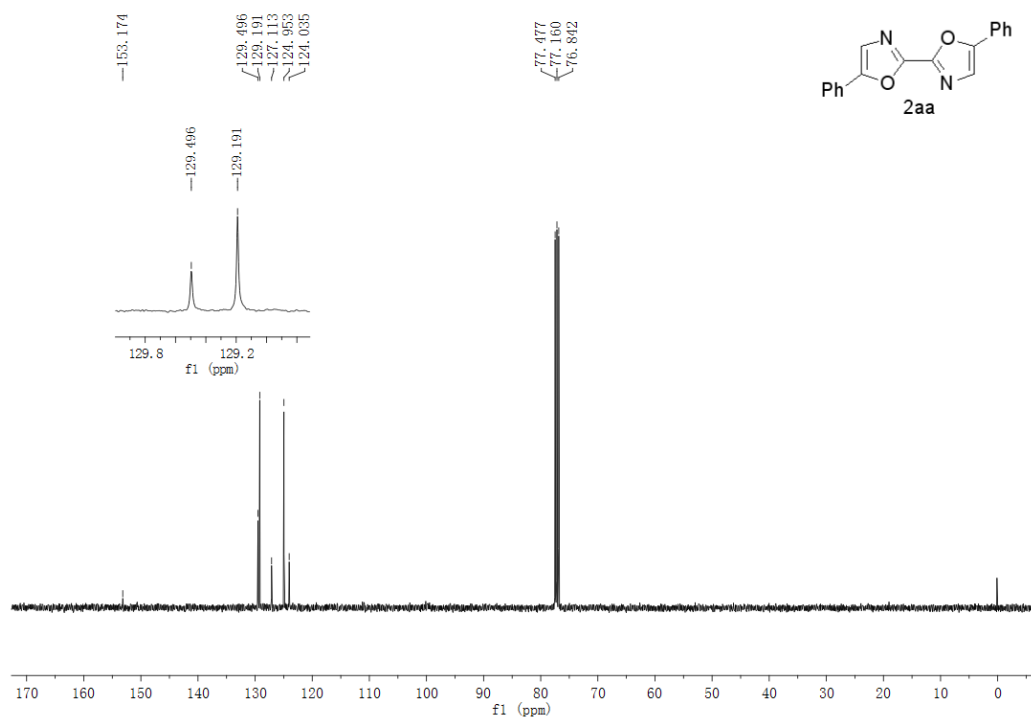
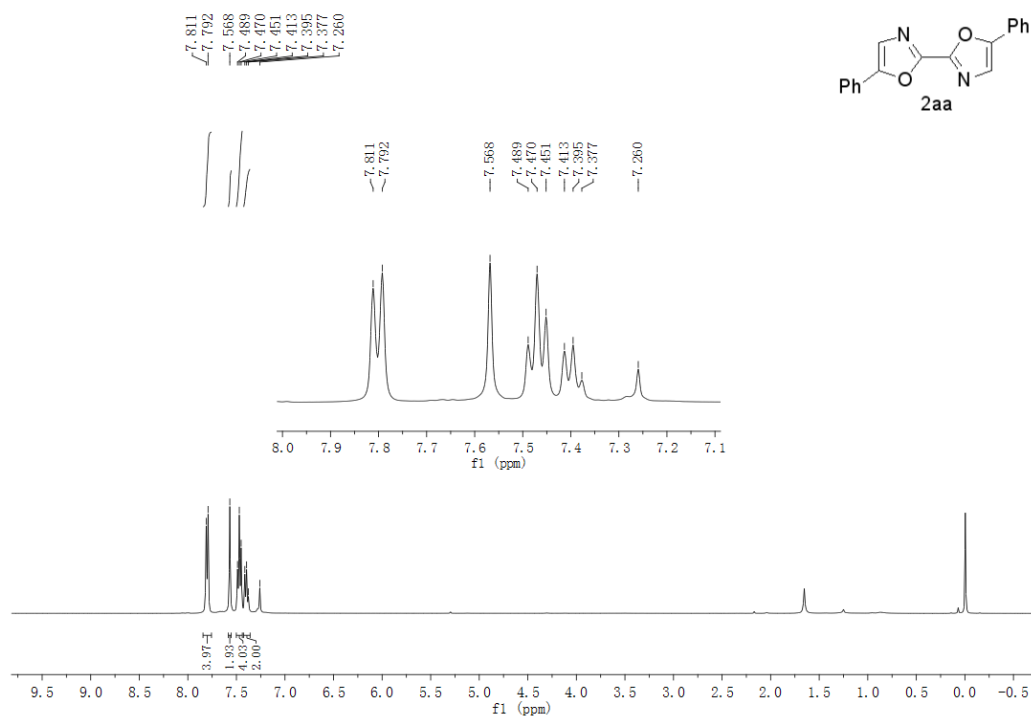
V. References

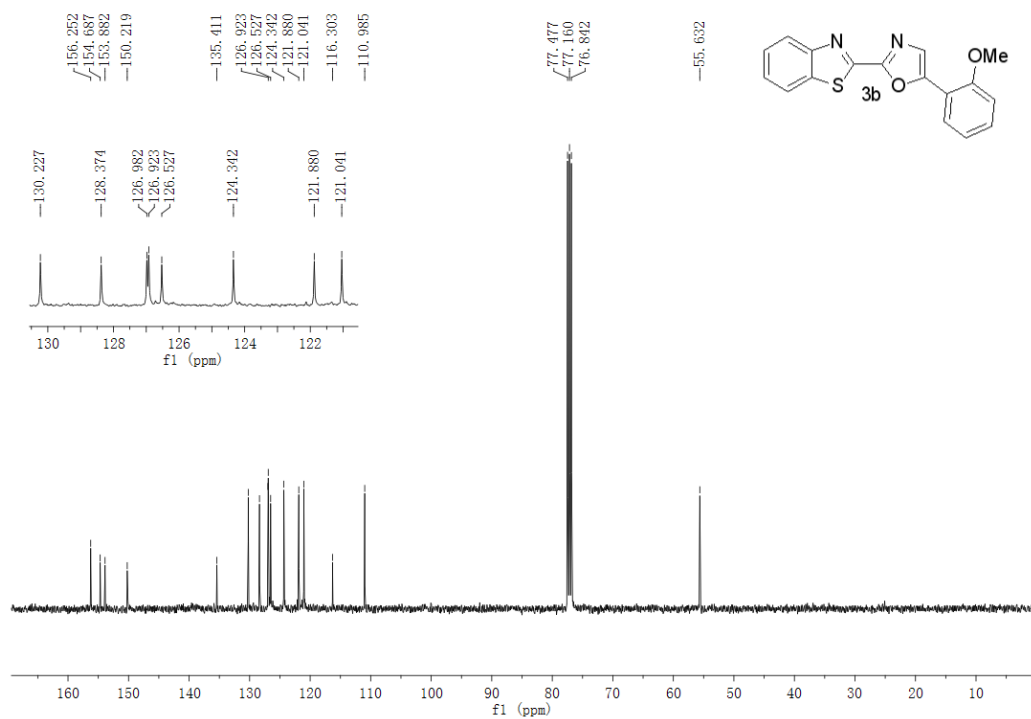
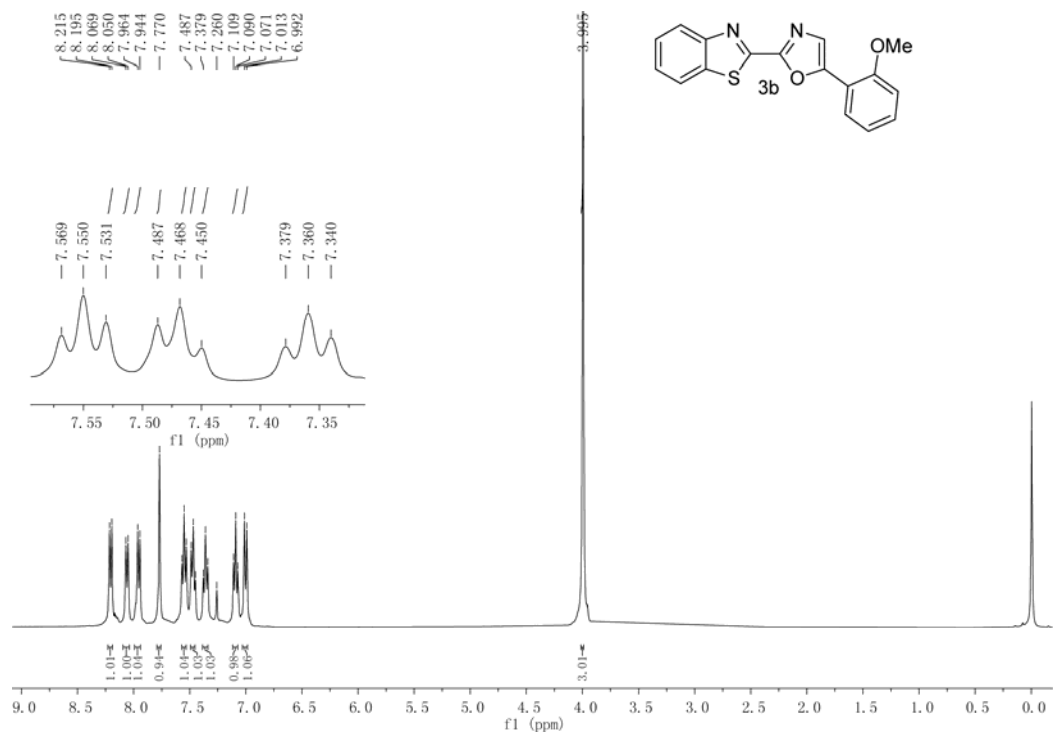
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- (2) Boulos, J. *J. Heterocyclic Chem.* **1998**, *35*, 859.
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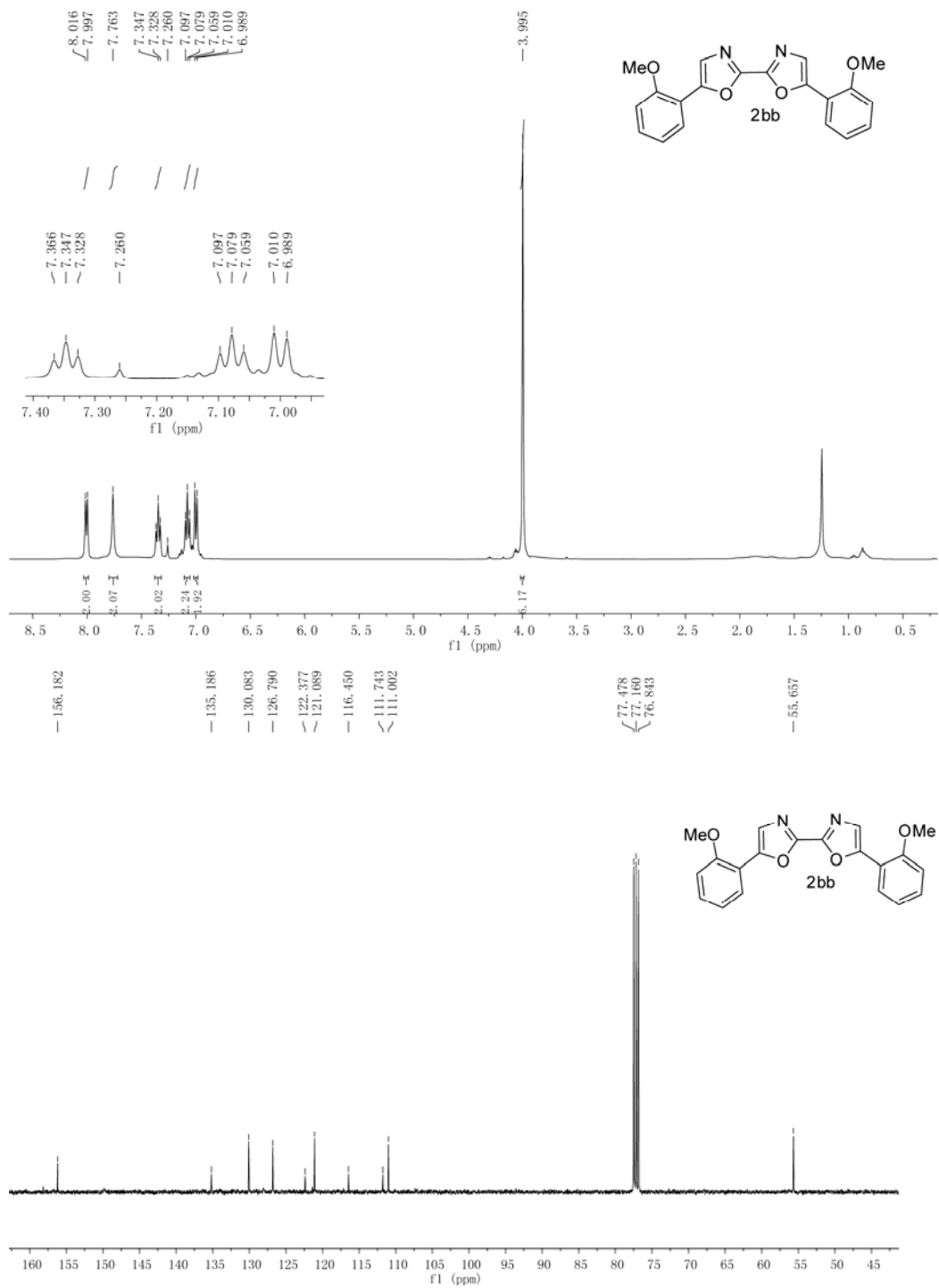
VI. Copies of ^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra

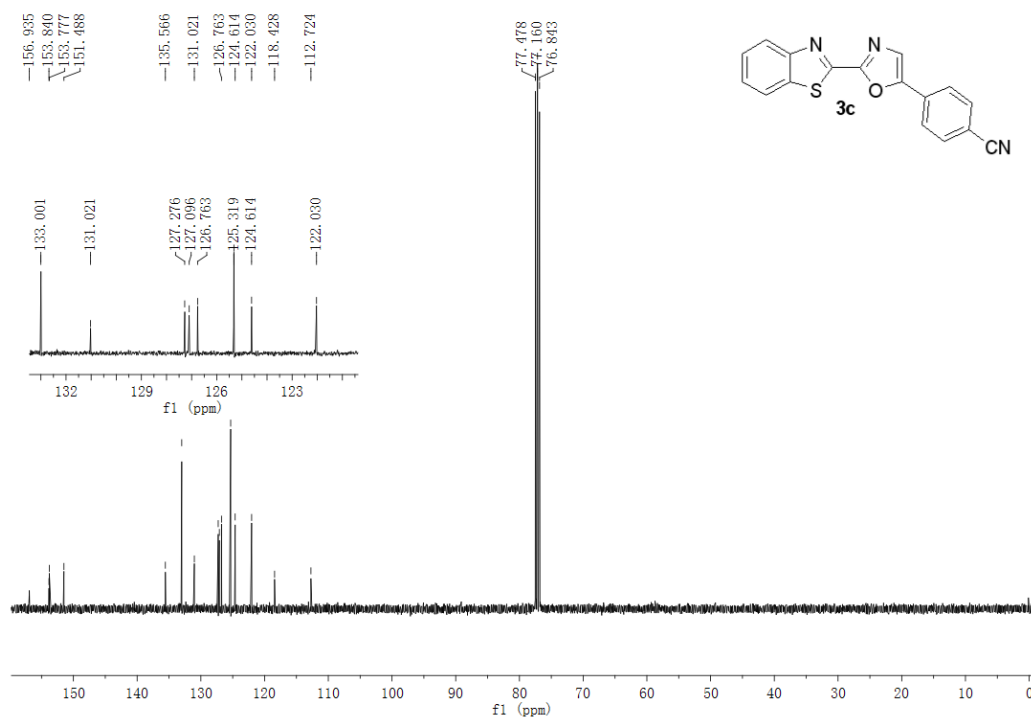
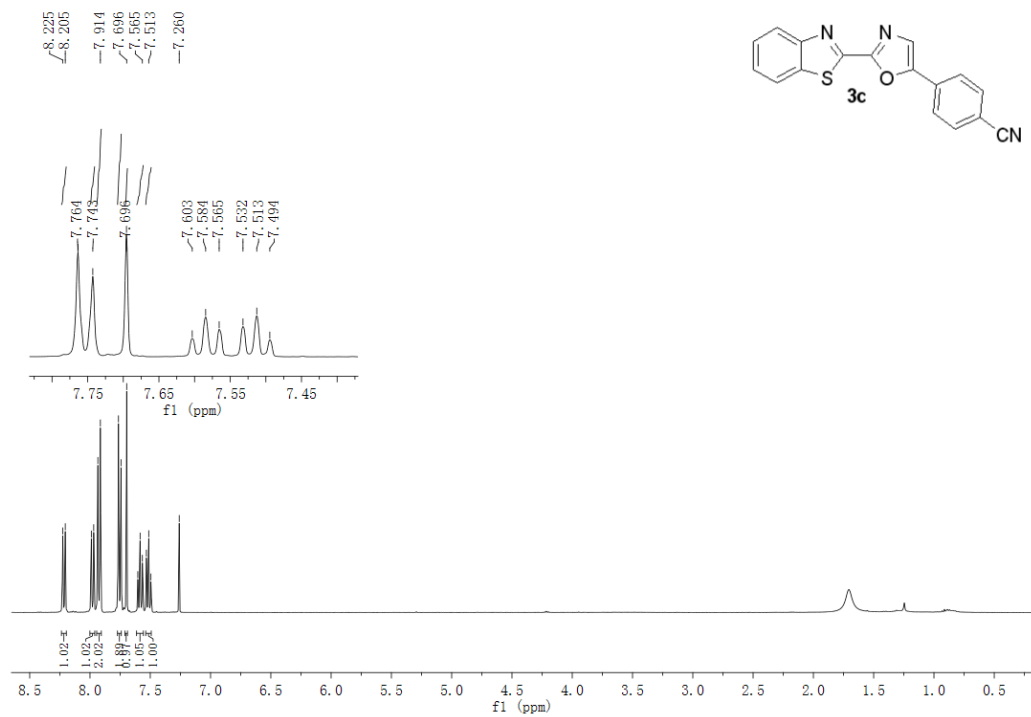


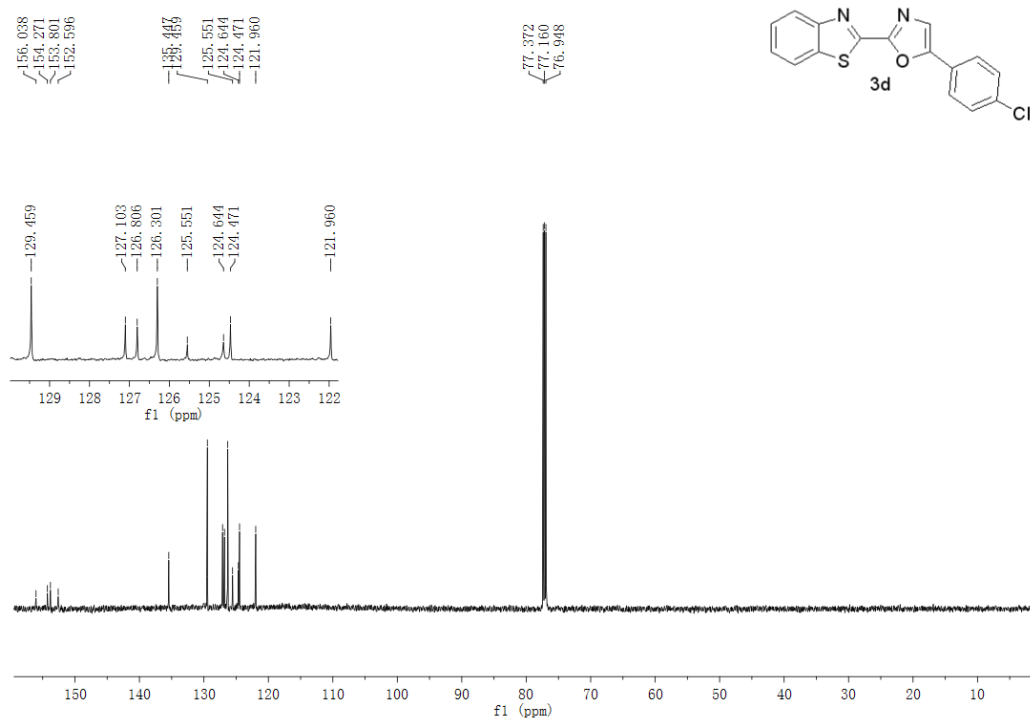
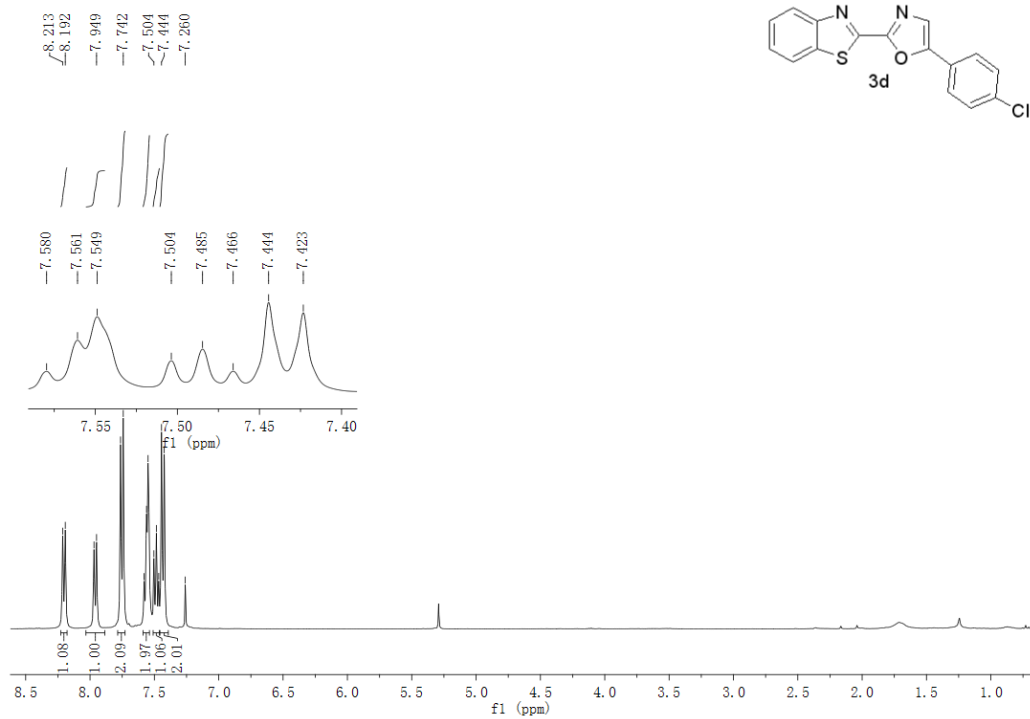


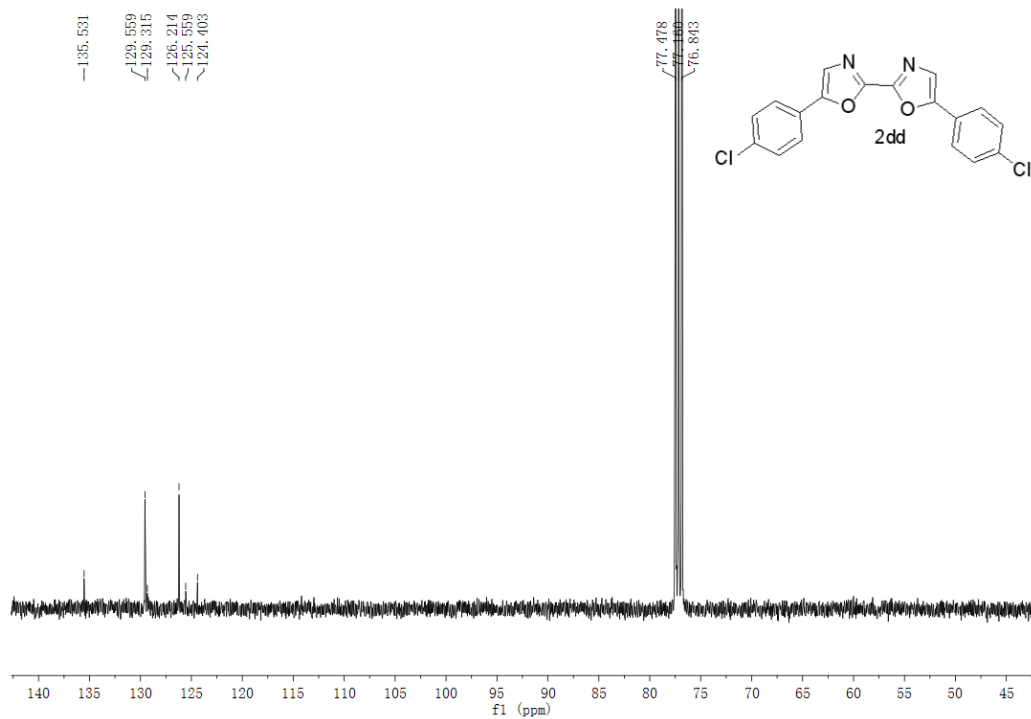
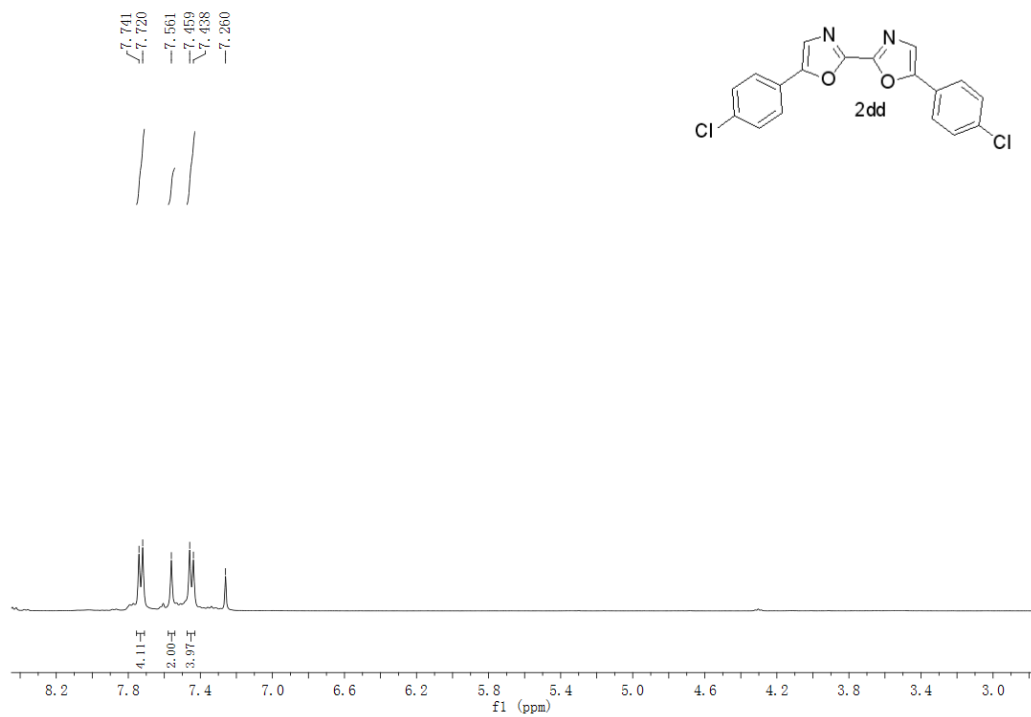


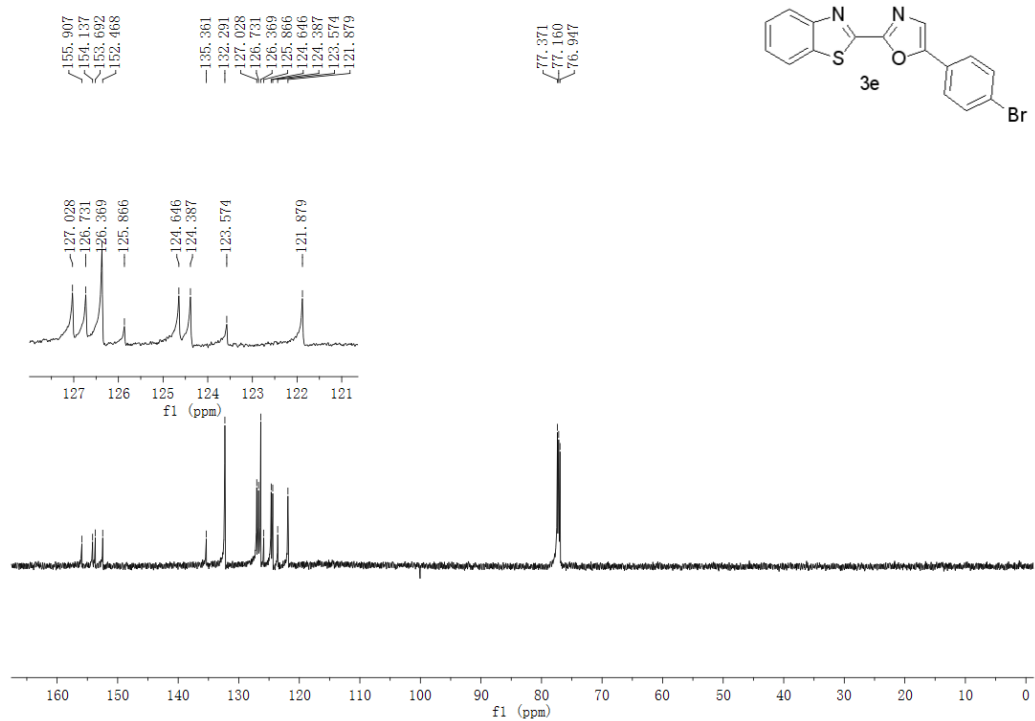
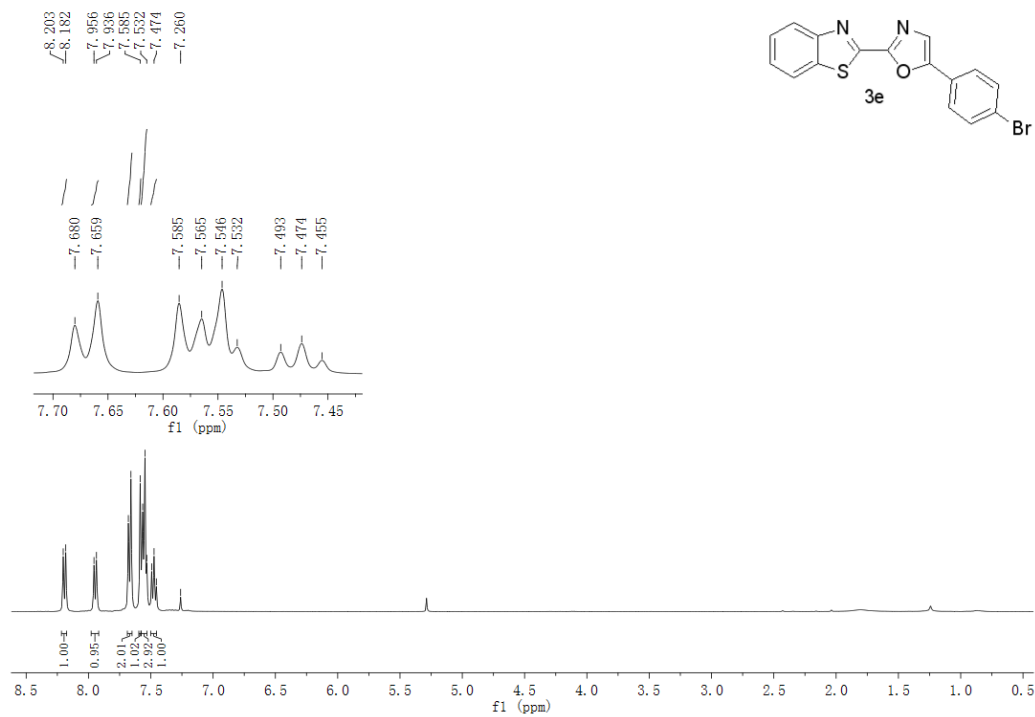




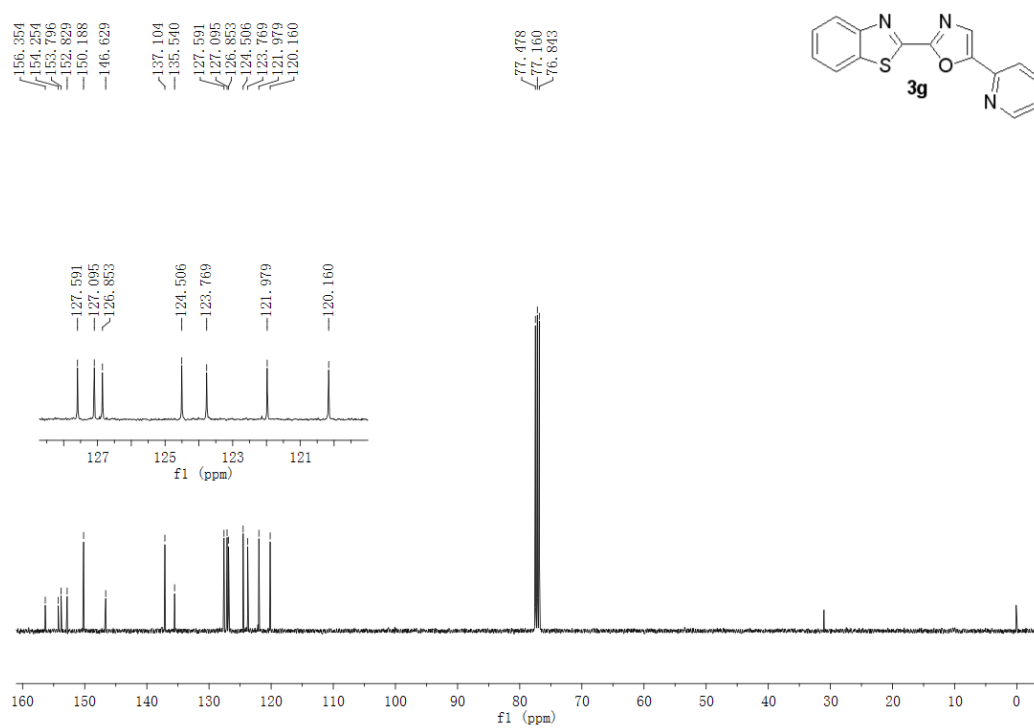
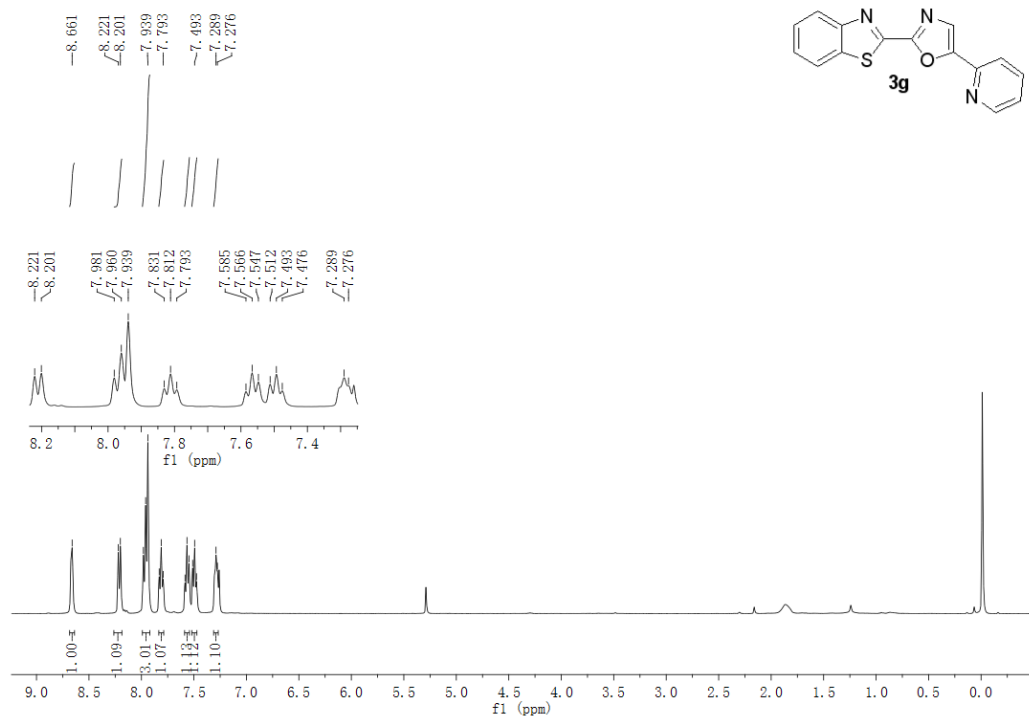


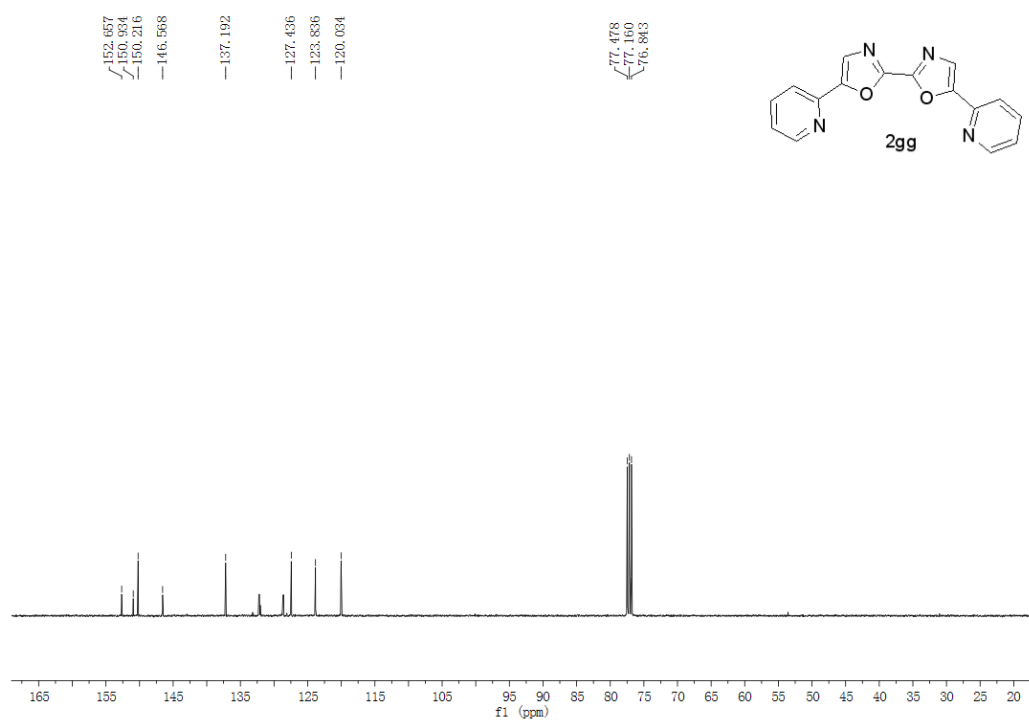
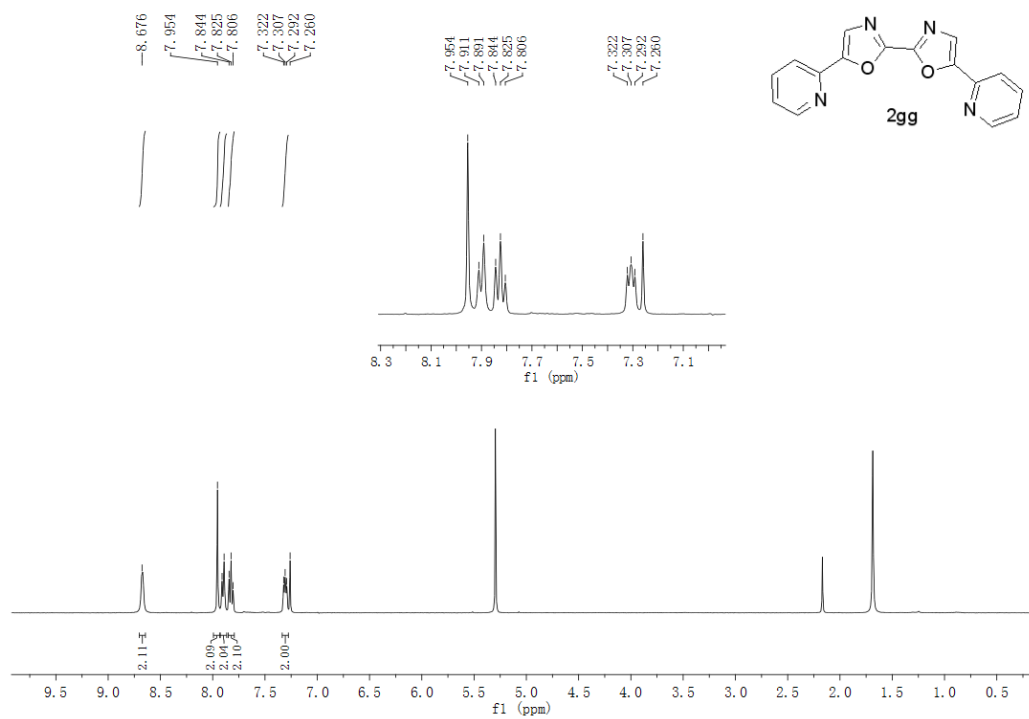


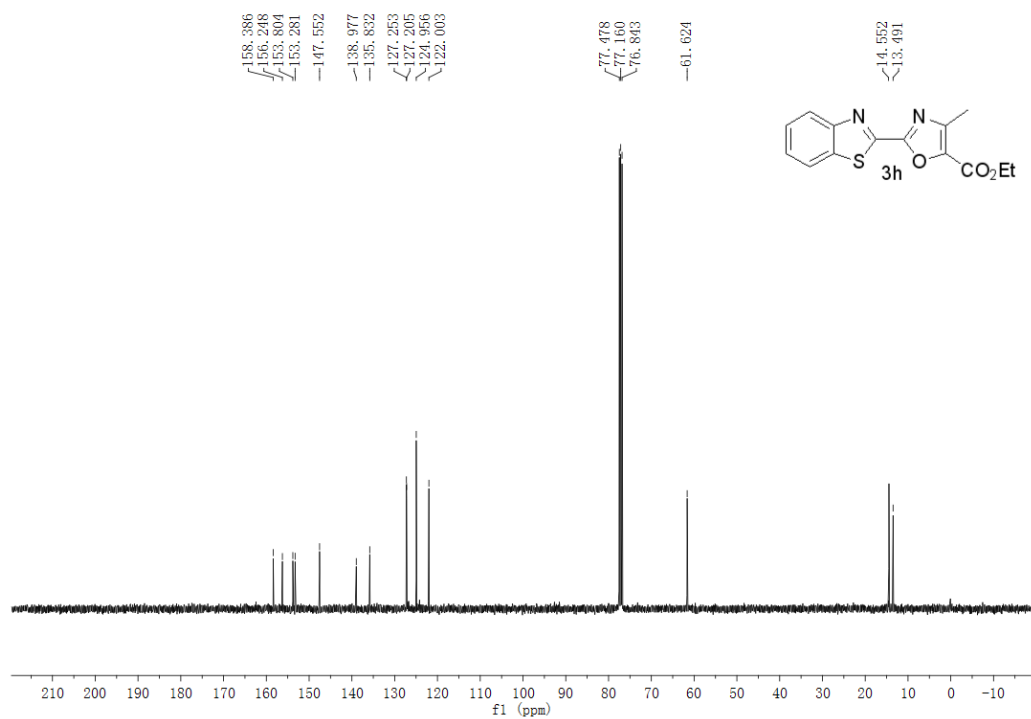
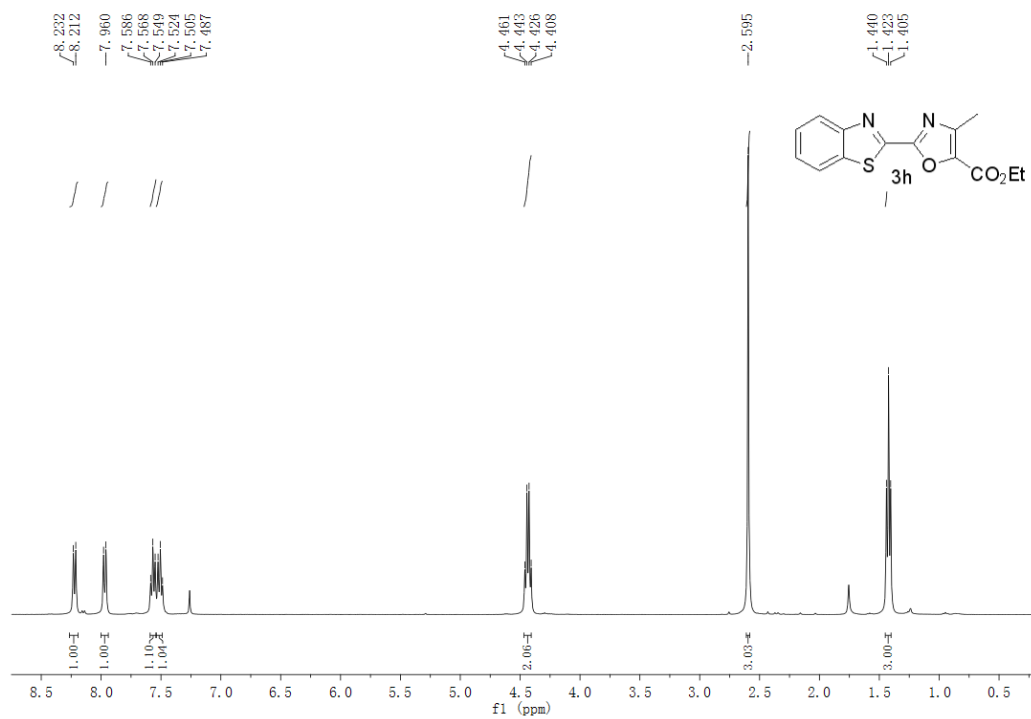


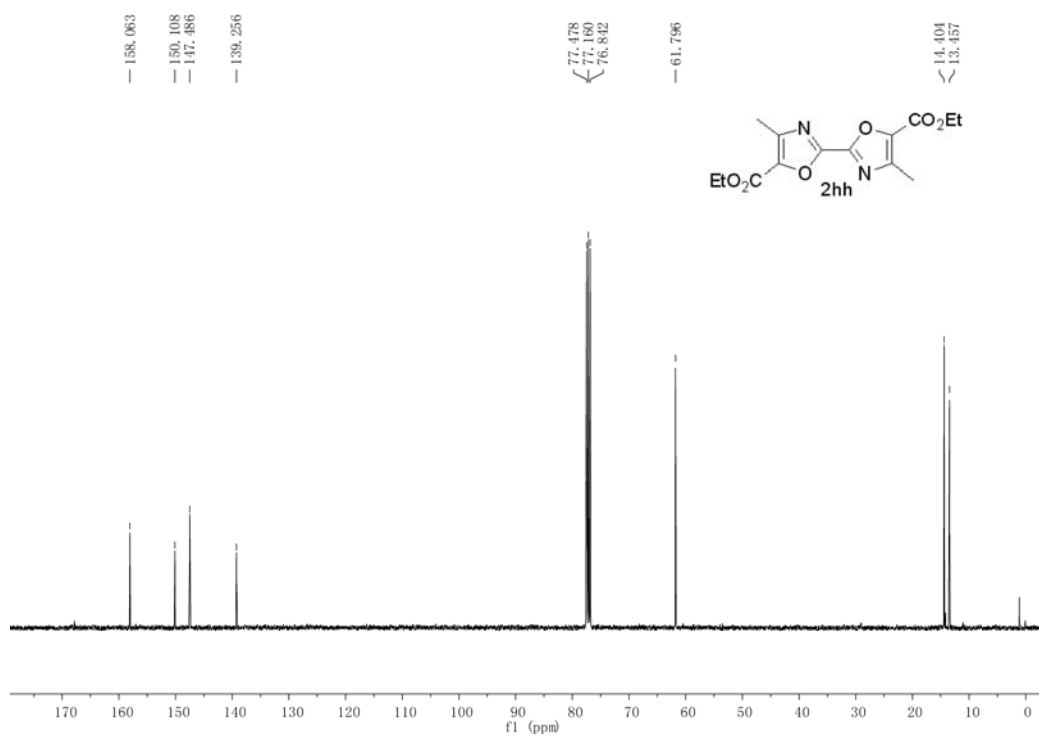
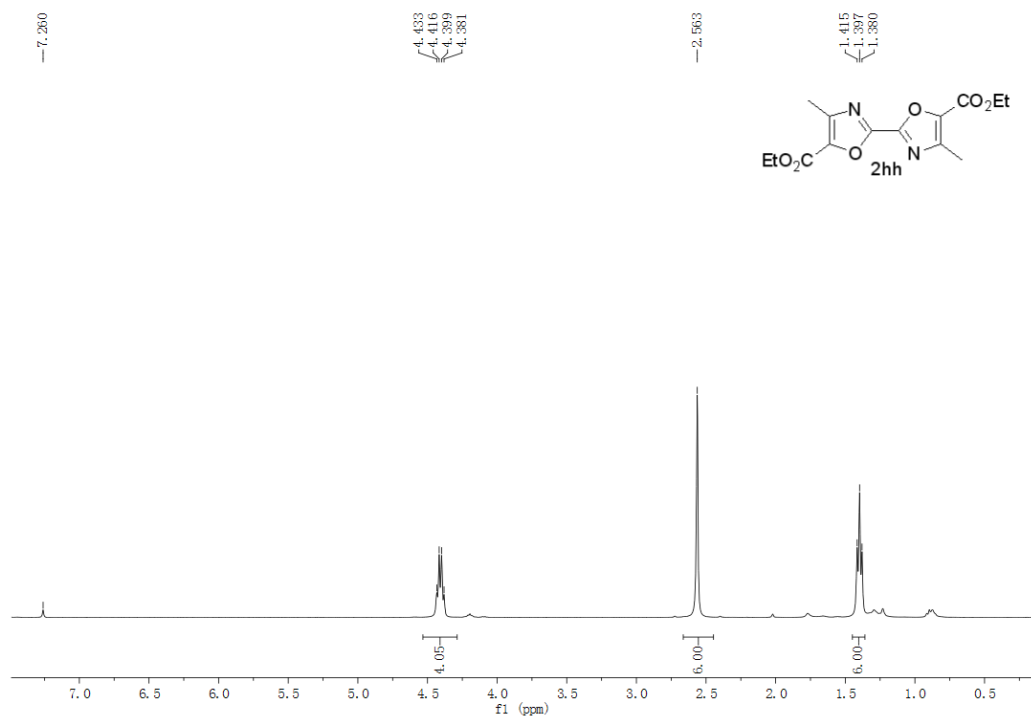




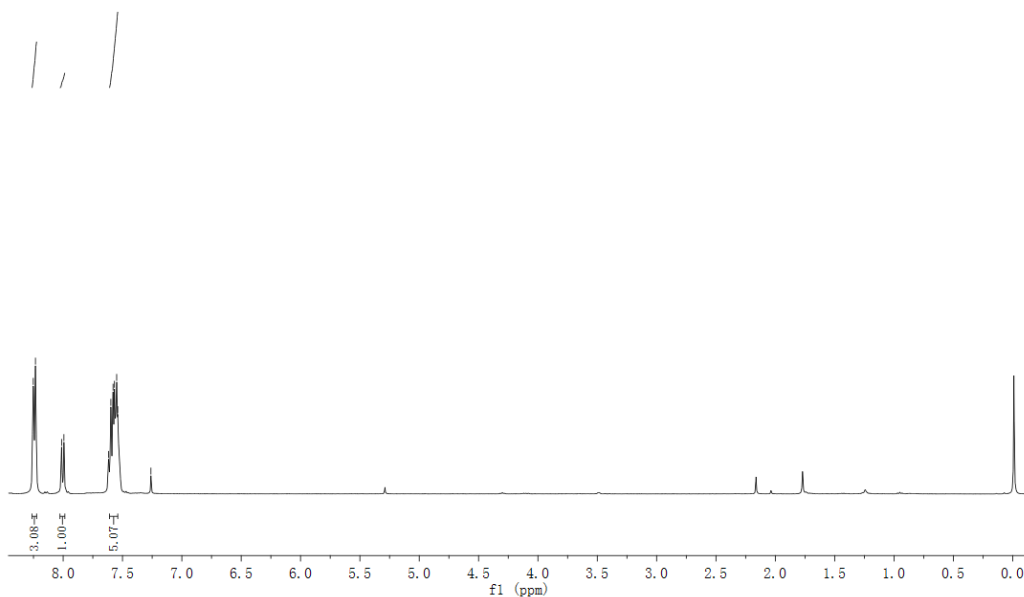
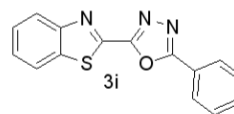








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8.013
7.587
7.568
7.549
7.500
7.260



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160.295
153.443
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135.565
132.591
129.277
127.656
127.468
127.357
124.788
123.126
122.080

77.477
77.160
76.842

