

# Indirect *Ortho* Functionalization of Substituted Toluenes through *Ortho* Olefination of N,N-Dimethylbenzylamines Tuned by Acidity of Reaction Conditions

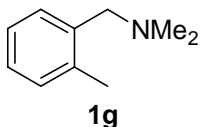
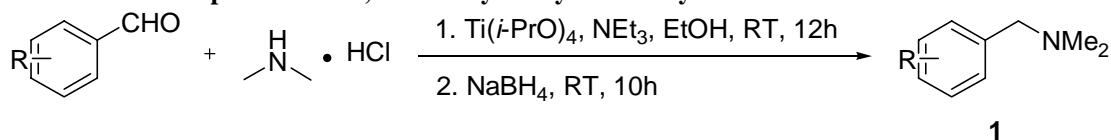
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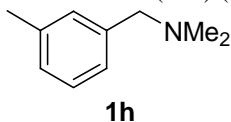
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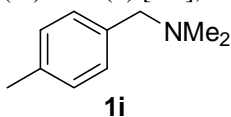
Preparation of N,N-dimethylbenzylamines by Reductive Amination.



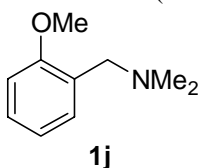
**N,N-dimethyl(o-tolyl)methanamine (1g):** **1g** was obtained as a light yellow oil (1.4 g, 65% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300MHz) δ 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.22 (m, 3H), 3.39 (s, 2H), 2.39(s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75MHz) 137.2, 137.0, 130.2, 129.8, 126.9, 125.5, 62.0, 45.5, 19.0 ppm; IR ν 2942, 2855, 2762, 1459, 1021, 741 cm<sup>-1</sup> MS: (m/z) (%): 149 (6) [M<sup>+</sup>], 42 (100).



**N, N, 3-trimethylbenzylamine(1h):** **1h** was obtained as red oil (2.2 g, 63% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300MHz) δ 7.08 (m, 4H), 3.33 (s, 2H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75MHz) 138.7, 137.7, 129.7, 128.0, 127.7, 126.0, 64.3, 45.3, 21.2 ppm; IR ν 2941, 2814, 2769, 1456, 1032, 844, 779, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup> MS: (m/z) (%): 149 (2) [M<sup>+</sup>], 58 (100).



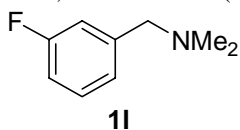
**N, N, 4-trimethylbenzylamine(1i):** **1i** was obtained as a light yellow oil (1.2 g, 52% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300MHz) δ 7.19 (d, 2H, J=7.2), 7.12 (d, 2H, J=7.5), 3.37 (s, 2H), 2.32(s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75MHz) 136.5, 135.6, 129.0, 128.9, 64.0, 45.2, 21.0 ppm; IR ν 2943, 2858, 2766, 1456, 1031, 855, 800 cm<sup>-1</sup> MS: (m/z) (%): 149 (5) [M<sup>+</sup>], 42 (100).



**N, N-dimethyl-2-methoxybenzylamine(1j):** **1j** was obtained as a light yellow oil (1.3 g, 53% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300MHz) δ 7.22 (m, 2H), 6.87 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.43(s, 2H), 2.24(s, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) 157.8, 130.7, 128.1, 126.7, 120.0, 110.3, 57.8, 55.3, 45.4 ppm; IR ν 2960, 2858, 1713, 1255, 1177, 1020, 788 cm<sup>-1</sup> MS: (m/z) (%): 165 (9) [M<sup>+</sup>], 58 (100).

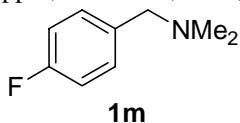


**N, N-dimethyl-4-methoxybenzylamine(1k):** **1k** was obtained as a light yellow oil (0.9 g, 35% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300MHz) δ 7.18 (d, 2H, J=9), 6.82 (d, 2H, J=9), 3.76(s, 3H), 3.32 (s, 2H), 2.18(s, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75MHz) 158.6, 130.8, 130.2, 113.5, 63.6, 55.1, 45.1 ppm; IR ν 2942, 2813, 2768, 1511, 1243, 1028, 811 cm<sup>-1</sup> MS: (m/z) (%): 165 (2) [M<sup>+</sup>], 58 (100).

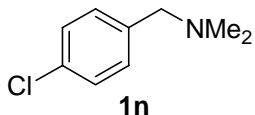


**N, N-dimethyl-3-fluorobenzylamine(1l):** **1l** was obtained as a light yellow oil (1.4 g, 61% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300MHz) δ 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.03 (m, 2H), 6.88(m, 1H), 3.38 (s, 2H), 2.21(s, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75MHz) 164.5, 161.2, 141.6, 141.5, 129.6, 129.5, 124.5, 124.4, 115.8, 115.5, 114.0, 113.7, 63.8, 63.7, 45.3

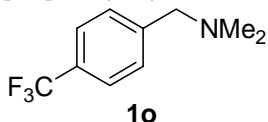
ppm; IR  $\nu$  2945, 2819, 2775, 1590, 1487, 1455, 1256, 783, 687  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 153 (6) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 58 (100).



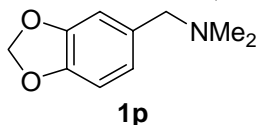
**N, N-dimethyl-4-fluorobenzylamine(1m):** **1m** was obtained as a light yellow oil (1.5 g, 60% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  7.22 (m, 2H), 6.95 (m, 2H), 3.33 (s, 2H), 2.19(s, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 163.5, 160.3, 134.6, 134.5, 130.5, 130.4, 130.0, 115.0, 114.8, 112.4, 63.5, 45.1 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2925, 2854, 1614, 1525, 1361, 1168, 803.6  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 153 (51) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 58 (100).



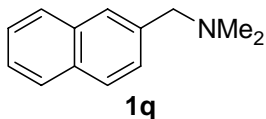
**N, N-dimethyl-3-fluorobenzylamine(1n):** **1n** was obtained as a light yellow oil (1.8 g, 71% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  7.26 (m, 4H), 3.37 (s, 2H), 2.21(s, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 137.4, 132.7, 130.3, 128.3, 63.5, 45.2 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2944, 2817, 2769, 1490, 1086, 1015, 857, 801  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 169 (1) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 58 (100).



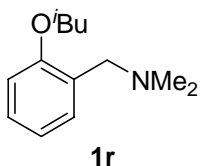
**N, N-dimethyl-3-fluorobenzylamine(1o):** **1o** was obtained as a light yellow oil (1.8 g, 58% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  7.55 (d, 2H, J=8.1), 7.40 (d, 2H, J=7.8), 3.44 (s, 2H), 2.21(s, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 142.9, 129.4, 125.14, 125.09, 125.04, 124.99, 63.7, 45.3 ppm; IR  $\nu$  1329, 1171, 1129, 1069, 1020, 870, 817  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 203 (3) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 58 (100).



**N, N-dimethyl-piperonylamine(1p):** **1p** was obtained as light yellow oil (2.0 g, 73% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  6.79 (s, 1H), 6.70 (m, 2H), 5.89 (s, 2H), 3.27 (s, 2H), 2.17 (s, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 147.5, 146.5, 132.7, 122.0, 109.4, 107.7, 100.8, 64.0, 45.1 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2943, 2815, 2768, 1499, 1442, 1240, 1040, 930, 805  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 179 (2) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 58 (100).

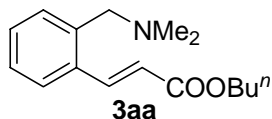
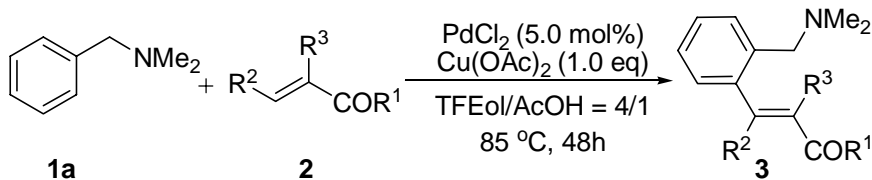


**N, N-dimethyl-2-naphthalenemethanamine (1q):** **1q** was obtained as a colorless oil (0.8 g, 30% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  7.20 (m, 10H), 3.43 (s, 2H), 2.09(s, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 138.3, 128.9, 128.2, 126.9, 61.8, 42.2 ppm; IR  $\nu$  3055, 2941, 2854, 2768, 1455, 1366, 1261, 1031, 894, 814, 752  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 185 (60) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 141 (100).

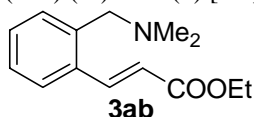


**(2-isobutoxyphenyl)-N,N-dimethylmethanamine (1r):** **1r** was obtained as a colorless oil (3.5 g, 68% yield).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  7.29 (m, 1H), 7.20 (m, 1H), 6.90 (m, 1H), 6.82 (m, 1H), 3.71 (d, 2H, J=6.3), 3.48 (s, 2H), 2.27 (s, 6H), 2.09 (m, 1H), 1.04 (d, 6H, J=6.9) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 157.2, 130.5, 127.8, 127.0, 119.9, 111.1, 74.2, 57.3, 45.4, 28.3, 19.3 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2960, 2911, 2815, 2766, 1495, 1287, 1031, 753  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 233 (5) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 58 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}$  207.16231, Found: 207.16237.

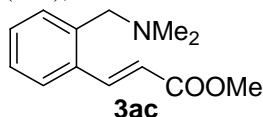
**Ortho-Functionalization of N,N-Dimethylbenzylamine with Different Alkenes.**



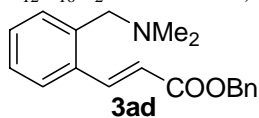
**(E)-butyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)phenyl)acrylate (3aa):** Starting from **1a** (75  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol) with **2a** (145  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3aa** (112 mg), yield 86%.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.21 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 7.61 (d, 1H,  $J=6.3$ ), 7.33-7.27 (m, 3H), 6.39 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 4.23 (t, 2H,  $J=6.6$ ), 3.51 (s, 2H), 2.26 (s, 6H), 1.71 (m, 2H), 1.46 (m, 2H), 0.98 (t, 3H,  $J=7.2$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 167.3, 142.3, 138.3, 134.4, 130.9, 129.7, 127.7, 126.6, 119.3, 64.3, 61.7, 45.2, 30.7, 19.1, 13.7 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2959, 1713, 1308, 1170, 766  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS: (m/z) (%): 261 (8) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 115 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_2$  261.17310, Found: 261.17288.



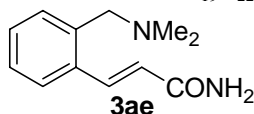
**(E)-ethyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)phenyl)acrylate (3ab):** Starting from **1a** (75  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol) with **2b** (108  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3ab** (99 mg), yield 85%.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.09 (d, 1H,  $J=15.6$ ), 7.50 (d, 1H,  $J=6.3$ ), 7.22-7.18 (m, 3H), 6.27 (d, 1H,  $J=15.0$ ), 4.16 (q, 2H,  $J=6.6$ ), 3.40 (s, 2H), 2.15 (s, 6H), 1.24 (t, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 167.0, 142.5, 138.1, 134.2, 130.7, 129.5, 127.6, 126.4, 119.1, 61.6, 60.3, 45.1, 14.22 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2978, 2768, 1712, 1174, 766  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS: (m/z) (%): 233 (10) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 43 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_2$  233.14158, Found: 233.14123.



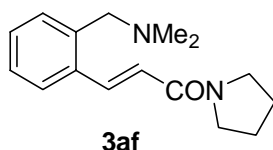
**(E)-3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)phenyl)acrylamide (3ac):** Starting from **1a** (75  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol) with **2c** (71 mg, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3ac** (84 mg), yield 66%.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.03 (d, 1H,  $J=15.6$ ), 7.53 (d, 1H,  $J=7.2$ ), 7.29-7.24 (m, 3H), 6.39 (d, 1H,  $J=17.4$ ), 5.9 (br, 2H), 3.50 (s, 2H), 2.22 (s, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 168.1, 139.6, 137.8, 134.4, 130.8, 129.3, 127.6, 126.4, 121.2, 61.5, 45.1 ppm; IR  $\nu$  3441, 3173, 2819, 1669, 1601, 1396, 741  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS: (m/z) (%): 204 (10) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 116 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}$  204.12626, Found: 204.12617.



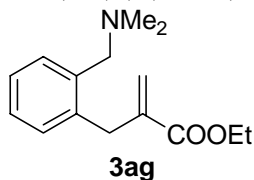
**(E)-benzyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)phenyl)acrylate (3ad):** Starting from **1a** (75  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol) with **2d** (162 mg, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3ad** (127 mg), yield 86%.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.26 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 7.59 (d, 1H,  $J=8.1$ ), 7.44-7.24 (m, 9H), 6.42 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 5.25 (s, 2H), 3.48 (s, 2H), 2.19 (s, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 166.7, 142.9, 138.2, 136.0, 134.0, 130.7, 129.6, 128.4, 128.1, 127.6, 126.5, 118.6, 66.2, 61.7, 45.2 ppm; IR 2817, 1713, 1456, 1308, 1164, 766  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS: (m/z) (%): 295 (10) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 204 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$  295.15723, Found: 295.15774.



**(E)-3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)phenyl)acrylamide (3ae):** Start from **1a** (75  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol) with **2e** (71 mg, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3ae** (84 mg), yield 82%.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.03 (d, 1H,  $J=15.6$ ), 7.53 (d, 1H,  $J=7.2$ ), 7.29-7.24 (m, 3H), 6.39 (d, 1H,  $J=17.4$ ), 5.9 (br, 2H), 3.50 (s, 2H), 2.22 (s, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 168.1, 139.6, 137.8, 134.4, 130.8, 129.3, 127.6, 126.4, 121.2, 61.5, 45.1 ppm; IR 3441, 3173, 2819, 1669, 1601, 1396, 741  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS: (m/z) (%): 204 (110) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 116 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}$  204.12626, Found: 204.12617.

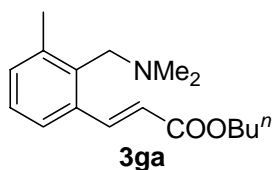
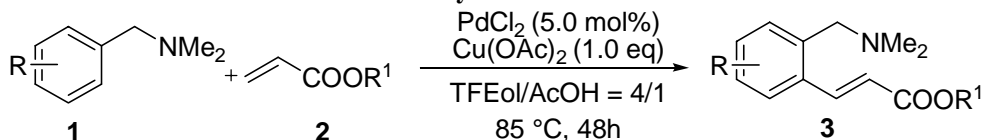


**(E)-3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)phenyl)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)prop-2-en-1-one (3af):** Starting from **1a** (75  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol) with **3f** (125 mg, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3af** (71 mg), yield 54%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.13 (d, 1H,  $J=15.6$ ), 7.57 (d, 1H,  $J=6.6$ ), 7.33-7.26 (m, 3H), 6.68 (d, 1H,  $J=15.6$ ), 3.61 (m, 4H), 3.52 (s, 2H), 2.25 (s, 6H), 2.03-1.88 (m, 4H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 164.7, 139.3, 138.1, 135.0, 128.8, 127.2, 126.4, 120.2, 61.4, 45.4, 45.9, 45.3, 26.0, 24.2 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2972, 2872, 1652, 1609, 1426, 1167, 1014, 768  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS: (m/z) (%): 258 (30) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 70 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}$  258.17321, Found: 258.17318.

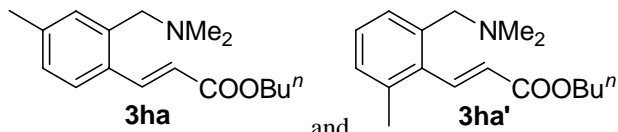


**Ethyl 2-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)benzyl)acrylate (3ag):** Starting from **1a** (75  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol) with **2g** (124  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3ag** (66 mg), yield 53%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  7.27-7.10 (m, 4H), 6.17 (q, 1H,  $J=1.2$ ), 5.16 (t, 1H), 4.19 (q, 2H,  $J=6.9$ ), 3.73 (s, 2H), 3.32 (s, 2H), 2.18 (s, 6H, 2.4), 1.26 (t, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 167.0, 140.1, 137.6, 137.3, 130.2, 130.1, 127.1, 126.3, 125.4, 61.6, 60.6, 45.4, 34.2, 14.1 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2941, 2765, 1717, 1134, 1024, 753  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS: (m/z) (%): 247 (15) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 129 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_2$  247.15709, Found: 247.15723.

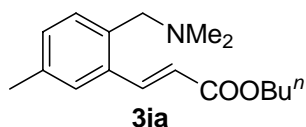
#### Ortho Olefination of Different Substituted Benzyl Amines.



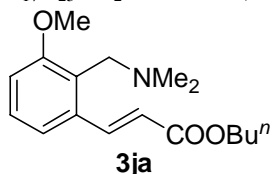
**(E)-butyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)-3-methylphenyl)acrylate (3ga):** Start from **1g** (75 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2a** (145  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3ga** (103 mg), yield 75%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.25 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.15 (m, 2H), 6.29 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 4.18 (t, 2H,  $J=6.6$ ), 3.47 (s, 2H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 6H), 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.41 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, 3H,  $J=7.8$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 167.2, 143.6, 138.3, 136.5, 135.1, 131.9, 127.2, 124.4, 119.0, 64.2, 56.3, 45.0, 30.7, 20.0, 19.2, 13.7 ppm; IR 2960, 1714, 1311, 1164, 788  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS: (m/z) (%): 275 (33) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 129 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$  275.18853, Found: 275.18934.



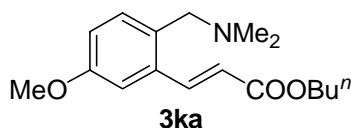
**(E)-butyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)-3-methylphenyl)acrylate (3ha)** and **(E)-butyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)-6-methylphenyl)acrylate (3ha')**: Start from **1h** (75 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2a** (145  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford a mixture of **3ha** and **3ha'** (104 mg, **3ha**:**3ha'**=9:1), yield 75%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.12 (d, 0.69H,  $J=16.2$ ), 7.95 (d, 0.04H,  $J=16.2$ ), 7.47 (d, 0.76H,  $J=7.8$ ), 7.06 (m, 2.06H), 6.30 (d, 0.76H,  $J=15.9$ ), 6.18 (d, 0.10H,  $J=16.5$ ), 4.16 (t, 2.00H), 3.41 (s, 1.77H), 3.32 (s, 0.25H), 2.30 (s, 3.16H), 2.20 (s, 6.73H), 1.65 (m, 2.21H), 1.40 (m, 2.13H), 0.92 (t, 3.12H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 167.2, 143.0, 142.0, 139.7, 138.1, 137.4, 131.3, 131.2, 129.4, 128.2, 128.0, 127.8, 126.3, 124.0, 117.9, 64.0, 62.1, 61.6, 45.2, 45.0, 30.6, 21.0, 19.1, 13.6 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2816, 1713, 1633, 1464, 1311, 1261, 1173, 1029, 842  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; MS: (m/z) (%): 275 (28) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 58 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$  275.18853, Found: 275.18849.



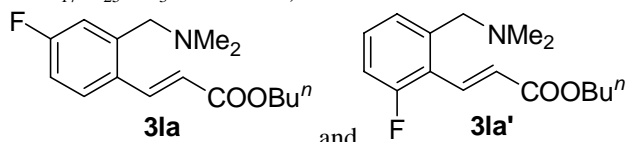
**(E)-butyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)-5-methylphenyl)acrylate (3ia):** Start from **1i** (75 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2a** (145  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3ia** (97 mg), yield 70%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.14 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.11 (m, 2H), 6.34 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 4.17 (t, 2H), 3.41 (s, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 6H), 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.42 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, 3H,  $J=7.2$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 170.9, 146.1, 140.8, 139.1, 137.7, 134.5, 134.1, 132.8, 132.6, 130.8, 122.5, 67.9, 65.2, 48.9, 34.5, 24.7, 22.9, 17.4 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2959, 2816, 2766, 1713, 1306, 1171, 1024  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 275 (30) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 218 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$  275.18853, Found: 275.18823.



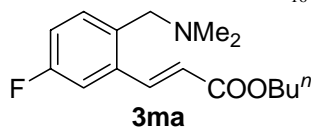
**(E)-butyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)-3-methoxyphenyl)acrylate (3ja):** Start from **1j** (82 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2a** (145  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3ja** (110 mg), yield 75%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.16 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 7.21 (m, 2H), 6.87 (m, 1H), 6.33 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 4.17 (t, 2H,  $J=6.6$ ), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 2H), 2.22 (s, 6H), 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.42 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, 3H,  $J=7.5$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 167.1, 158.4, 142.7, 136.1, 128.3, 126.6, 119.7, 118.7, 111.8, 64.3, 55.7, 52.4, 45.0, 30.7, 19.2, 13.7 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2959, 2815, 2766, 1713, 1171, 1022  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 291 (45) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 234 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_3$  291.18344, Found: 291.18360.



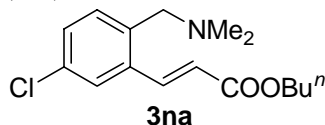
**(E)-butyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)-5-methoxyphenyl)acrylate (3ka):** Start from **1k** (82 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2a** (145  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3ka** (111 mg), yield 76%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.15 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 7.19 (d, 1H,  $J=8.4$ ), 7.12 (d, 1H, 2.1), 6.88 (m, 1H), 6.37 (d, 1H,  $J=16.2$ ), 4.21 (t, 2H,  $J=6.6$ ), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.43 (s, 2H), 2.22 (s, 6H), 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.47 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, 3H,  $J=6.9$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 167.0, 158.8, 142.2, 135.2, 132.0, 130.7, 119.1, 115.3, 111.1, 64.2, 61.1, 55.1, 45.0, 30.6, 19.1, 13.6 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2960, 2815, 1713, 1173, 1022, 852, 805  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 291 (40) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 234 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_3$  291.18344, Found: 291.18281.



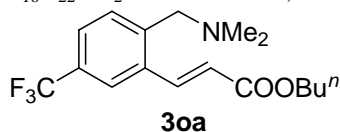
**(E)-butyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)-4-fluorophenyl)acrylate (3la) and (E)-butyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)-6-fluorophenyl)acrylate (3la'):** Start from **1l** (76 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2a** (145  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford a mixture of **3la** and **3la'** (122 mg, **3la**:**3la'**=5:3), yield 86%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.11 (d, 0.69H,  $J=16.2$ ), 7.95 (d, 0.04H,  $J=16.2$ ), 7.46 (d, 0.76H,  $J=8.1$ ), 7.05 (m, 2.06H), 6.30 (d, 0.76H,  $J=15.6$ ), 6.18 (d, 0.10H,  $J=16.2$ ), 4.16 (t, 2.00H,  $J=6.9$ ), 4.41 (s, 1.77H), 4.32 (s, 0.25H), 2.31 (s, 3.16H), 2.20 (s, 6.73H), 1.64 (m, 2.21H), 1.39 (m, 2.13H), 0.92 (t, 3.12H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 167.3, 163.6, 161.7, 160.3, 141.0, 140.9, 136.0, 130.1, 129.9, 129.7, 128.4, 128.3, 126.3, 126.2, 123.8, 123.6, 122.3, 122.2, 118.8, 117.2, 116.9, 115.3, 115.0, 114.6, 114.3, 64.2, 61.8, 61.3, 45.2, 45.1, 30.6, 19.1, 13.6 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2960, 2866, 2819, 2770, 1715, 1313, 1252, 1173, 1029, 844  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 279 (40) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 178 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2\text{F}$  279.16346, Found: 279.16296.



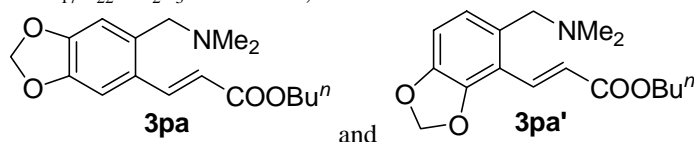
**(E)-butyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)-5-fluorophenyl)acrylate (3ma):** Start from **1m** (76 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2a** (145  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3ma** (106 mg), yield 76%.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.13 (d, 1H,  $J=16.2$ ), 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.00 (m, 1H), 6.34 (d, 1H,  $J=16.2$ ), 4.21 (t, 2H,  $J=6.9$ ), 3.45 (s, 2H), 2.22 (s, 6H), 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.43 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, 3H,  $J=7.2$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 166.7, 163.7, 160.4, 141.1, 141.1, 136.2, 136.1, 134.12, 134.08, 132.4, 132.3, 120.2, 116.4, 116.1, 113.1, 112.8, 64.4, 61.1, 45.1, 30.7, 19.1, 13.7 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2961, 2818, 2769, 1717, 1363, 1273, 1173, 1024, 990, 863  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 279 (20) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 222 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2\text{F}$  279.16346, Found: 279.16329.



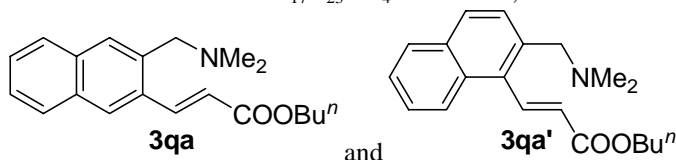
**(E)-butyl 3-(5-chloro-2-((dimethylamino)methyl)phenyl)acrylate (3na):** Start from **1n** (85 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2a** (145  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3na** (127 mg), yield 85%.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.06 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.20 (m, 2H), 6.33 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 4.17 (t, 2H,  $J=6.6$ ), 3.40 (s, 2H), 2.18 (s, 6H), 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.41 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, 3H,  $J=7.8$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 166.7, 140.8, 136.7, 135.9, 133.4, 131.9, 129.2, 26.3, 120.3, 64.4, 61.1, 45.1, 30.6, 19.1, 13.7 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2960, 2866, 2818, 2769, 1715, 1637, 1464, 1310, 1173, 1025, 863  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 321 (8) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 238 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2\text{Cl}$  295.13391, Found: 295.13509.



**(E)-butyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylate (3oa):** Start from **1o** (102 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2a** (145  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3oa** (123 mg), yield 74%.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.13 (d, 1H,  $J=16.2$ ), 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d, 1H,  $J=7.8$ ), 7.43 (d, 1H,  $J=7.8$ ), 6.39 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 4.19 (t, 2H,  $J=6.9$ ), 3.50 (s, 2H), 2.21 (s, 6H), 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.41 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, 3H,  $J=7.2$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 166.7, 140.8, 136.7, 135.9, 133.4, 131.9, 129.2, 26.3, 120.3, 64.4, 61.1, 45.1, 30.6, 19.1, 13.7 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2962, 2822, 2771, 1717, 1335, 1266, 1166, 1137  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 329 (40) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 272 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2\text{F}_3$  329.16026, Found: 329.16037.

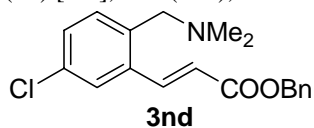


**(E)-butyl 3-(6-((dimethylamino)methyl)benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)acrylate (3pa) and (E)-butyl 3-(5-((dimethylamino)methyl)benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-4-yl)acrylate (3pa'):** Start from **1p** (90 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2a** (145  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3pa** and **3pa'** (122 mg, **3pa:3pa'**=12:1), yield 80%.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.05 (d, 0.08H,  $J=15.9$ ), 7.92 (d, 1.00H,  $J=16.2$ ), 6.98 (d, 0.17H,  $J=9.9$ ), 6.70 (d, 1.10H, 17.1), 6.65 (s, 1.92H), 6.15 (d, 0.19H, 15.6), 5.97 (s, 2.29H), 5.90 (s, 0.38H), 4.13 (t, 2.85H,  $J=6.6$ ), 3.49 (s, 0.24H), 3.31 (s, 2.47H), 2.20 (s, 1.19H), 5.15 (s, 7.31H), 1.56 (m, 2H), 1.38 (m, 2H), 0.89 (t, 3H,  $J=7.5$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 167.5, 167.3, 149.0, 147.2, 142.1, 141.4, 137.0, 133.6, 132.0, 128.9, 127.6, 123.6, 122.9, 121.9, 118.6, 117.7, 116.9, 110.5, 108.2, 106.4, 105.5, 101.3, 64.2, 64.0, 61.8, 61.1, 55.214, 44.8, 44.5, 30.6, 19.0, 13.6 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2960, 2766, 1458, 1239, 1174, 1070, 979  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 305 (20) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 29 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_4$  305.16271, Found: 305.16328.

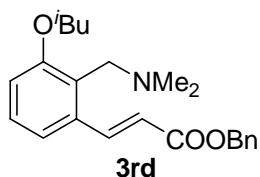


**(E)-butyl 3-(3-((dimethylamino)methyl)naphthalen-2-yl)acrylate (3qa) and (E)-butyl 3-(2-((dimethylamino)methyl)naphthalen-1-yl)acrylate (3qa'):** Starting from **1q** (92 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2a** (145  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3qa** and **3qa'** (133 mg, **3qa:3qa'**=11:1), yield 85%.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.31 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.44 (m, 2H), 6.52 (d, 1H,  $J=16.5$ ), 4.23 (t, 2H), 3.56 (s, 2H), 2.26 (s, 6H), 1.69 (m, 2H), 1.45 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 167.0, 142.8, 135.2, 133.6, 132.7, 132.4, 129.0, 128.0, 127.3, 126.8, 126.3, 126.1, 119.3, 64.2, 62.4,

45.2, 30.7, 19.1, 13.7 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2960, 2817, 2767, 1712, 1638, 1304, 1171, 1025, 749  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 311 (30) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 165 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$  311.18853, Found: 311.18901.

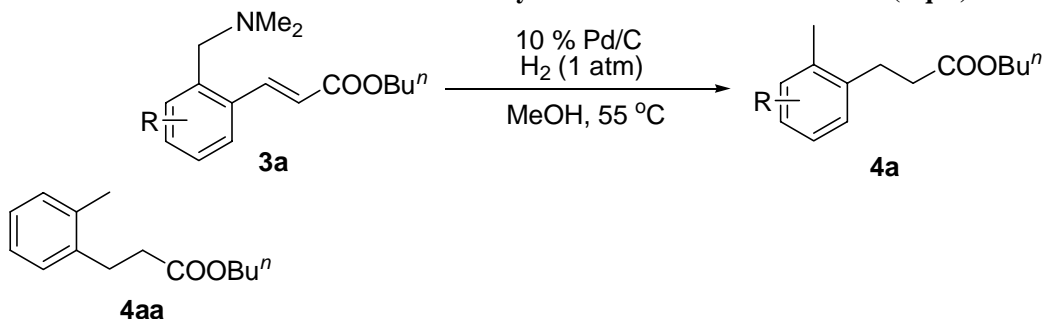


**(E)-benzyl 3-(5-chloro-2-((dimethylamino)methyl)phenyl)acrylate (3nd):** Starting from **1n** (85 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2d** (162 mg, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3nd** (136 mg), yield 82%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.13 (d, 1H,  $J=16.2$ ), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.40-7.22 (m, 7H), 6.38 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 5.24 (s, 2H), 3.42 (s, 2H), 2.20 (s, 6H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 166.3, 141.4, 136.6, 135.8, 135.7, 133.3, 131.9, 129.3, 128.4, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 126.3, 119.8, 66.2, 61.0, 45.0 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2948, 2818, 2768, 1716, 1636, 1456, 1304, 1166, 1024, 863, 744, 697,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 329 (1) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 238 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2^{35}\text{Cl}$  329.11826, Found: 329.11885.

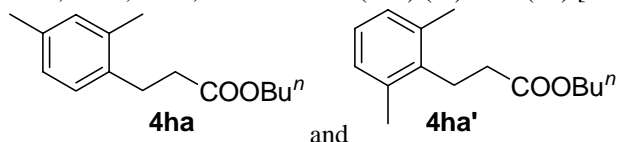


**(E)-benzyl 3-(3-butoxy-2-((dimethylamino)methyl)phenyl)acrylate (3rd):** Starting from **1r** (104 mg, 0.5 mmol) with **2d** (162 mg, 1.0 mmol) to afford **3rd** (148 mg), yield 81%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  8.26 (d, 1H,  $J=15.9$ ), 7.43-7.20 (m, 7H), 6.86 (m, 1H), 6.43 (d, 1H,  $J=16.2$ ), 5.24 (s, 2H), 3.71 (d, 2H,  $J=6.6$ ), 3.575 (s, 2H), 2.24 (s, 6H), 2.12 (m, 1H), 1.05 (d, 6H,  $J=6.6$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 166.8, 157.7, 143.5, 136.1, 135.9, 128.5, 128.4, 128.1, 128.1, 127.2, 118.8, 118.4, 112.5, 74.6, 52.5, 45.3, 28.4, 19.4 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2958, 2856, 2817, 2768, 1715, 1578, 1467, 1258, 1162, 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 367 (20) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 91 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_3\text{N}$  367.21474, Found: 367.21367.

#### Transformation from Functionalized Tertiary Amines to Toluene Derivatives (Eq. 4).

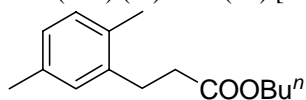


**butyl 3-*o*-tolylpropanoate (4aa):** **4aa** (118 mg) was obtained from **3aa** (130 mg, 0.5 mmol) with a reaction time of 8h, yield 81%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  7.14-7.12 (m, 4H), 4.09 (t, 2H,  $J=6.6$ ), 2.95 (t, 2H,  $J=7.5$ ), 2.59 (t, 2H,  $J=7.5$ ), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.60 (m, 2H), 1.35 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, 3H,  $J=6.9$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 173.1, 136.6, 135.9, 130.2, 130.2, 128.4, 126.3, 126.0, 64.3, 34.5, 30.6, 28.3, 19.2, 13.6 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2960, 1735, 1176, 750  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 220 (40) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 105 (100).



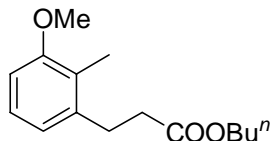
**butyl 3-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)propanoate (4ha) and butyl 3-(2,6-dimethylphenyl) propanoate (4ha'):** **4ha** and **4ha'** (57 mg, **4ha:4ha'**=9:1) was obtained from **3ha** and **3ha'** (75 mg, 0.27 mmol, **3ha:3ha'**=9:1) with a reaction time of 8h, yield 90%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  7.05-7.00 (m, 3H), 4.10 (t, 2H,  $J=6.6$ ), 2.92 (t, 2H,  $J=7.5$ ), 2.58 (t, 2H,  $J=7.5$ ), 2.29 (s, s, 6H), 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.38 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t, 3H,  $J=7.4$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 173.1(h), 136.0, 135.64, 135.59, 135.5, 131.0(h), 128.3(h), 128.1, 126.6, 126.0, 64.3, 64.2(h), 34.7(h), 34.4, 33.3, 30.5(h), 27.9(h), 25.0, 20.7(h), 19.6, 19.0(h), 13.6(h) ppm; IR  $\nu$  2960, 1736, 1172, 819  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

MS: (m/z) (%): 234 (30) [M<sup>+</sup>], 119 (100).



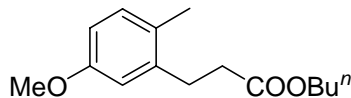
**4ia**

**butyl 3-(2,5-dimethylphenyl)propanoate (4ia):** **4ia** (52 mg) was obtained from **3ia** (66 mg, 0.24 mmol) with a reaction time of 8h, yield 90%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300MHz) δ 7.02 (d, 1H, J=7.8), 6.94 (m, 2H), 4.09 (t, 2H, J=6.9), 2.90 (t, 2H, J=7.8), 2.57 (t, 2H, J=8.7), 2.28 (s, s, 6H), 1.60 (m, 2H), 1.35 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, 3H, J=6.9) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75MHz) 173.1, 138.4, 135.4, 132.6, 130.1, 138.2, 136.9, 64.3, 34.6, 30.6, 28.3, 20.9, 19.0, 18.7, 13.6 ppm; IR ν 2960, 1736, 1468, 1171, 810 cm<sup>-1</sup> MS: (m/z) (%): 234 (50) [M<sup>+</sup>], 119 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 234.16198, Found: 234.16181.



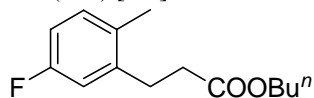
**4ja**

**butyl 3-(3-methoxy-2-methylphenyl)propanoate (4ja):** **4ja** (48 mg) was obtained from **3ja** (63 mg, 0.22 mmol) with a reaction time of 20 h, yield 89%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300MHz) δ 7.02 (t, 1H, J=7.8), 6.69 (m, 2H), 4.01 (t, 2H, J=6.9), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.89 (t, 2H, J=7.8), 2.49 (t, 2H, J=8.4), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.53 (m, 2H), 1.29 (m, 2H), 0.86 (t, 3H, J=7.8) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75MHz) 173.1, 157.7, 140.0, 131.0, 127.8, 114.3, 111.2, 64.3, 55.1, 34.5, 30.6, 28.5, 19.0, 18.2, 13.6 ppm; IR ν 2958, 1734, 1468, 1258, 1176, 1102, 780 cm<sup>-1</sup> MS: (m/z) (%): 234 (50) [M<sup>+</sup>], 119 (100).



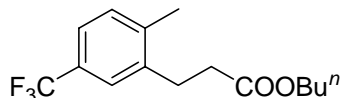
**4ka**

**butyl 3-(5-methoxy-2-methylphenyl)propanoate(4ka):** **4ka** (57 mg) was obtained from **3ka** (81 mg, 0.28 mmol) with a reaction time of 8 h, yield 82%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300MHz) δ 7.02 (d, 1H, J=8.4), 6.67 (m, 2H), 4.07 (t, 2H, J=6.6), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.89 (t, 2H, J=7.5), 2.55 (t, 2H, J=8.0), 2.23 (s, 3H), 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.33 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, 3H, J=7.2) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75MHz) 173.0, 157.8, 140.0, 126.1, 124.5, 121.1, 108.2, 64.3, 55.4, 34.9, 30.6, 28.7, 19.1, 13.7, 11.1 ppm; IR ν 2959, 1734, 1504, 1252, 1162, 1047, 812 cm<sup>-1</sup> MS: (m/z) (%): 250 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>].



**4ma**

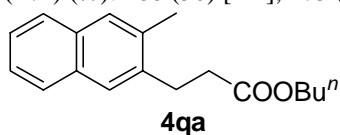
**butyl 3-(5-fluoro-2-methylphenyl)propanoate (4ma):** **4ma** (40 mg) and **methyl 3-(5-fluoro-2-methylphenyl)propanoate (4mc)** (11 mg) was obtained from **3ma** (96 mg, 0.34 mmol) with a reaction time of 36 h, yield 67%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300MHz) δ 7.10 (m, 1H), 6.86-6.77 (m, 2H), 4.08 (t, 2H, J=6.9), 2.91 (t, 2H, J=7.2), 2.57 (t, 2H, J=8.4), 2.27 (s, 3H), 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.35 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, 3H, J=6.9) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75MHz) 172.8, 162.8, 159.6, 140.6 (d, J=6.4), 131.4, 131.2, 115.0 (d, J=21.4), 112.8 (d, J=20.2), 64.4, 34.1, 30.6, 28.3, 28.2, 19.1, 18.5, 13.6 ppm; IR ν 2961, 2935, 2874, 1735, 1499, 1458, 1248, 1178, 810 cm<sup>-1</sup> MS: (m/z) (%): 238 (60) [M<sup>+</sup>], 123 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>2</sub>F 238.13691, Found: 238.13686



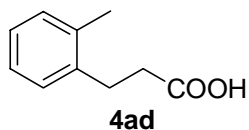
**4oa**

**butyl 3-(2-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (4oa):** **4oa** (85 mg) was obtained from **3oa** (98 mg, 0.30 mmol) with a reaction time of 48 h, yield 47%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300MHz) δ 7.30 (d, 2H, J=8.4), 7.17 (d, 1H, J=7.5), 4.01 (t, 2H, J=6.6), 2.91 (t, 2H, J=7.2), 2.54 (t, 2H, J=7.8), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.53 (m, 2H), 1.27 (m, 2H), 0.85 (t, 3H, J=7.2) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75MHz) 172.6, 140.2, 139.4, 130.5, 125.2, 125.1, 125.0,

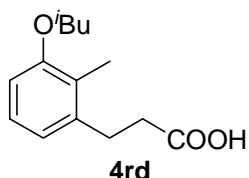
123.13, 123.09, 64.5, 34.2, 30.6, 28.1, 19.3, 19.0, 13.6 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2962, 1736, 1330, 1161, 1130, 826  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 288 (30) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 173 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_2\text{F}_3$  288.13371, Found: 288.13329.



**butyl 3-(3-methylnaphthalen-2-yl)propanoate (4qa):** **4qa** (55 mg) was obtained from **3qa** (64 mg, 0.20 mmol) with a reaction time of 48 h, yield 66%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  7.73 (m, 2H), 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.39 (m, 2H), 4.10 (t, 2H,  $J=6.6$ ), 3.10 (t, 2H,  $J=7.5$ ), 2.70 (t, 2H,  $J=7.8$ ), 2.50 (s, 3H), 1.60 (m, 2H), 1.31 (m, 2H), 0.90 (t, 3H,  $J=7.5$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 173.1, 137.5, 134.6, 132.4, 132.2, 128.2, 128.1, 127.1, 126.8, 125.4, 125.3, 125.11, 125.08, 64.4, 34.5, 30.6, 28.4, 19.7, 19.1, 13.6 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2960, 1735, 1173, 747  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 270 (55) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 155 (100), HRMS: Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_2$  270.16198, Found: 270.16159.



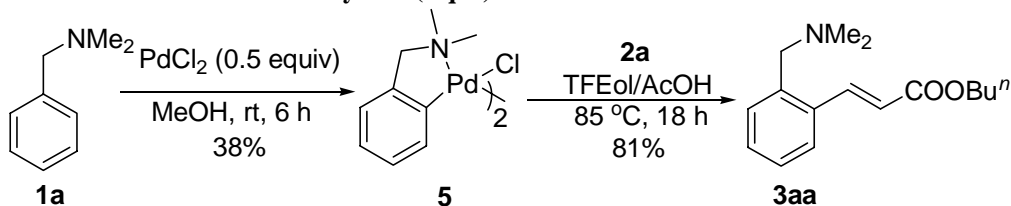
**3-o-tolylpropanoic acid (4ad):** Follow the general procedure for reduction of functionalized amine to substituted toluene from the starting **3ad** (79 mg, 0.27 mmol) with a reaction time of 12h, after the evaporation of MeOH, the residue was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and washed with HCl (2N), the water phase was extracted by  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  twice, the organic layer was combined, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and evaporated to give **4ad** (37.7 mg) as a white needle crystal, yield 77%. m. p. 104-106  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  11.3 (br, 1H), 7.15 (m, 4H), 2.96 (t, 2H,  $J=7.8$ ), 2.65 (t, 2H,  $J=8.0$ ), 2.33 (s, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 179.5, 138.2, 135.9, 130.3, 128.4, 126.5, 126.2, 34.3, 27.9, 19.2 ppm; IR  $\nu$  3394, 2927, 2470, 1718, 1461, 1261, 1159, 1024, 745  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 162 (50) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 105 (100).



**3-(3-isobutoxy-2-methylphenyl)propanoic acid (4rd):** Follow the procedure of **4ad**, **4rd** (57.0 mg) was obtained as a white needle crystal from the starting **3rd** (110 mg, 0.3 mmol) in 2-methoxyethanol (3.0 mL) with a reaction time of 22h, yield 81%. m. p. 105-107  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  7.07 (t, 1H,  $J=8.1$ ), 6.77-6.68 (m, 2H), 3.69 (d, 2H,  $J=6.3$ ), 2.95 (t, 2H,  $J=7.8$ ), 2.61 (t, 2H,  $J=8.7$ ), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.08 (m, 1H), 1.03 (d, 6H,  $J=6.9$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz) 178.8, 157.3, 139.5, 126.2, 124.8, 120.7, 109.2, 74.4, 34.5, 28.44, 28.40, 19.3, 11.2 ppm; IR  $\nu$  2957, 2926, 2873, 1740, 1462, 1260, 1173, 1096, 778  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 236 (10) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 134 (100).

## Mechanistic Investigation

### Ortho Olefination of Palladacycle **5** (Eq. 5)

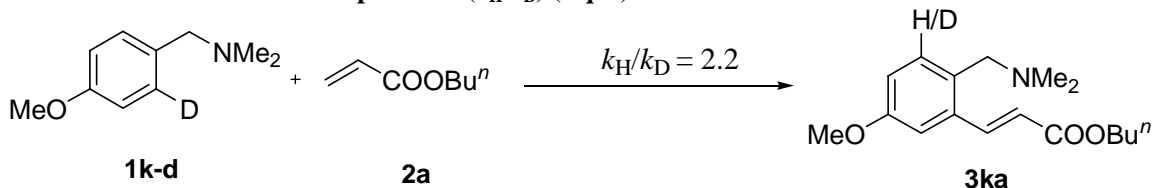


**Preparation of  $\mu$ -(Dichloro)-bis(N, N-dimethylbenzylamine- $\kappa$ -C, N)dipalladium (**5**):** The Pd-complex was prepared according to the literature<sup>1</sup> from **1a** (270 mg, 2 mmol), and palladium dichloride (177 mg, 1 mmol) in methanol at RT, recrystallization in benzene and hexane give **5** (106 mg, 38%). m. p. 184-186  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300MHz)  $\delta$  6.85–7.24 (m, 4H), 3.91 (s, 2H), 2.83 (d, 6H,  $J=7.8$ ) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75MHz)

146.9, 143.0, 133.3, 132.8, 125.1, 124., 121.5, 73.2, 73.1, 52.8, 52.5 ppm; IR  $\nu$  3002, 2911, 1578, 1448, 1286, 1044, 1026, 983, 861, 734  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  MS: (m/z) (%): 552 (6) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 134 (100).

**Procedure from 5 to 3aa:** **5** (55.2 mg, 0.1 mmol) was dissolved in  $\text{CF}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$  (0.4 mL) in a Schlenck tube. Then **2a** (29  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.2 mmol) and HOAc (0.1 ml, 3.2 mmol) were added. The flask was stoppered and heated at 85  $^\circ\text{C}$  in an oil bath for 18 h. Work up was the same as the general procedure and afforded **3aa** (42.1 mg, 81%).

#### Determination of Kinetic Isotope Effect ( $k_{\text{H}}/k_{\text{D}}$ ) (Eq. 6)



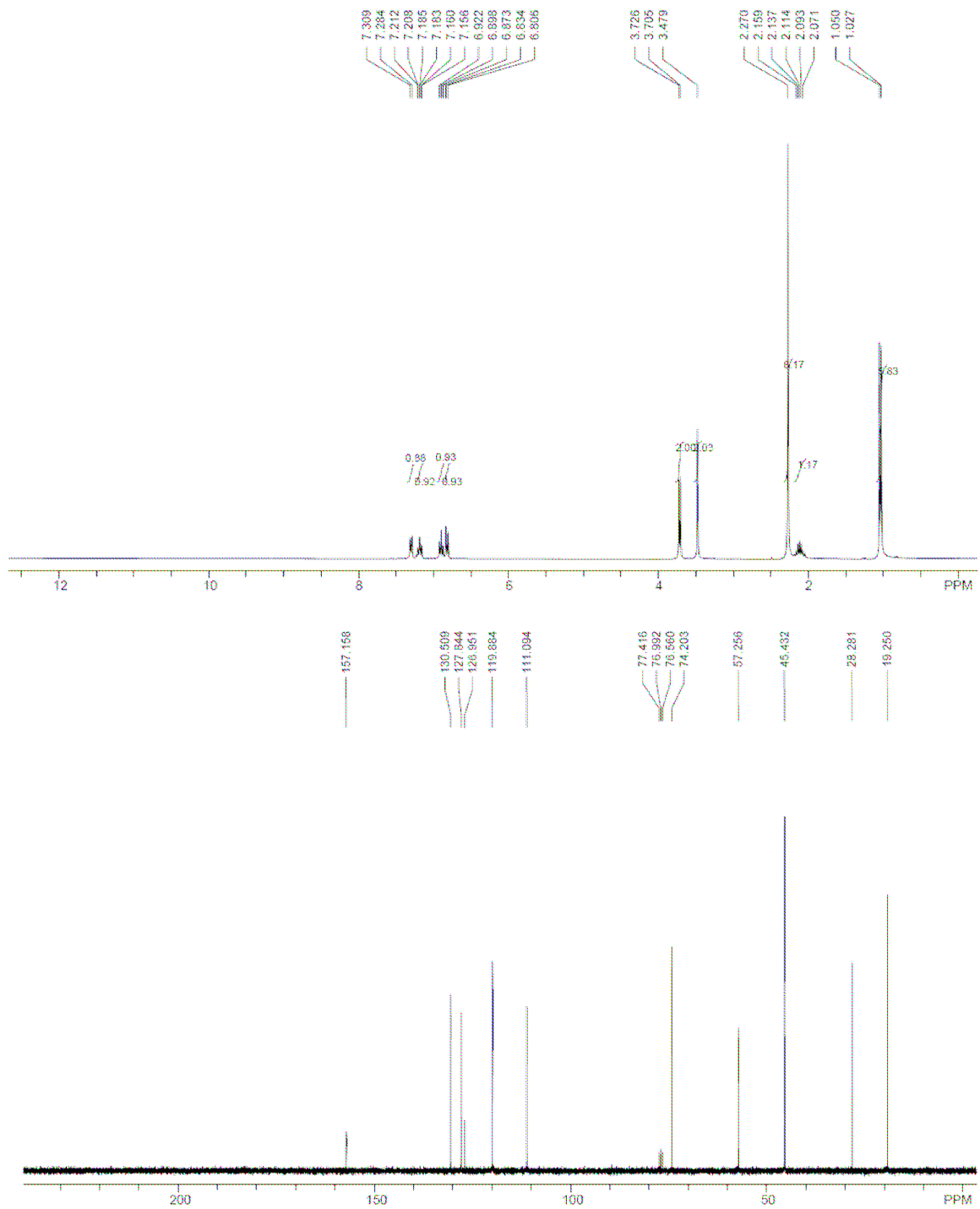
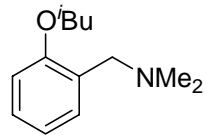
**2-Deuterated N,N-dimethyl-4-methoxybenzylamine (1k-d):** **1k-d** was prepared from **1k** according to the literature.<sup>2</sup> In a dried Schlenck tube were combined **1k** (330 mg, 2 mmol), dried ether (3 mL) and *n*-BuLi (2.5 mL, 4 mmol), tightly stoppered, and stirred at RT for 22 h. Then  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (0.5 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added with an ice bath. The mixture was stirred at RT for 1h. After that, the organic layer was filtered free of the damp solid which had separated, dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , and evaporated the solvent to get **1k-d** quantitatively (deuterated rate 79%).

**Procedure of determination of isotope effect:** Olefination of **1k-d** (84mg, 0.5mmol) according to the general procedure afforded **3ka** (106 mg, yield 73%, deuterated rate 48%). The kinetic isotope effect ( $k_{\text{H}}/k_{\text{D}}$ ) was determined to be 2.2.

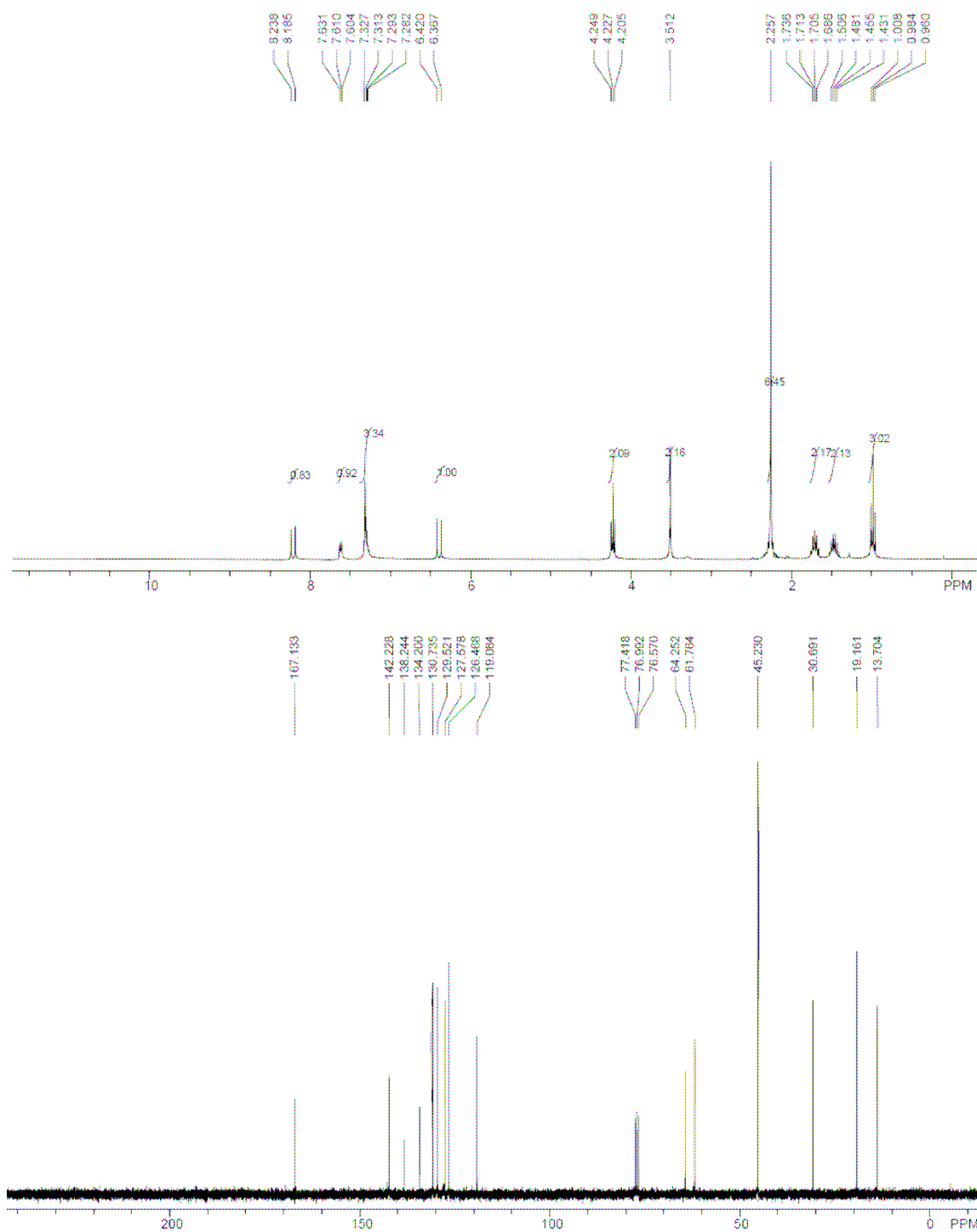
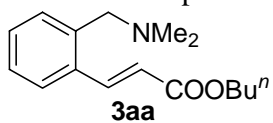
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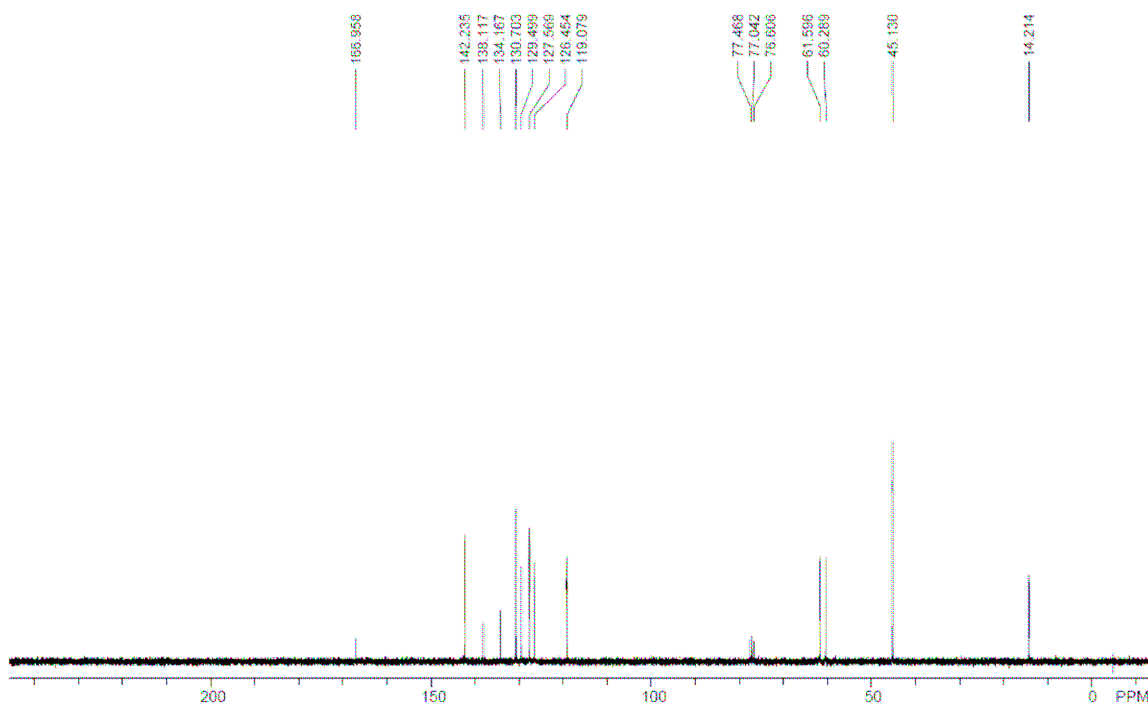
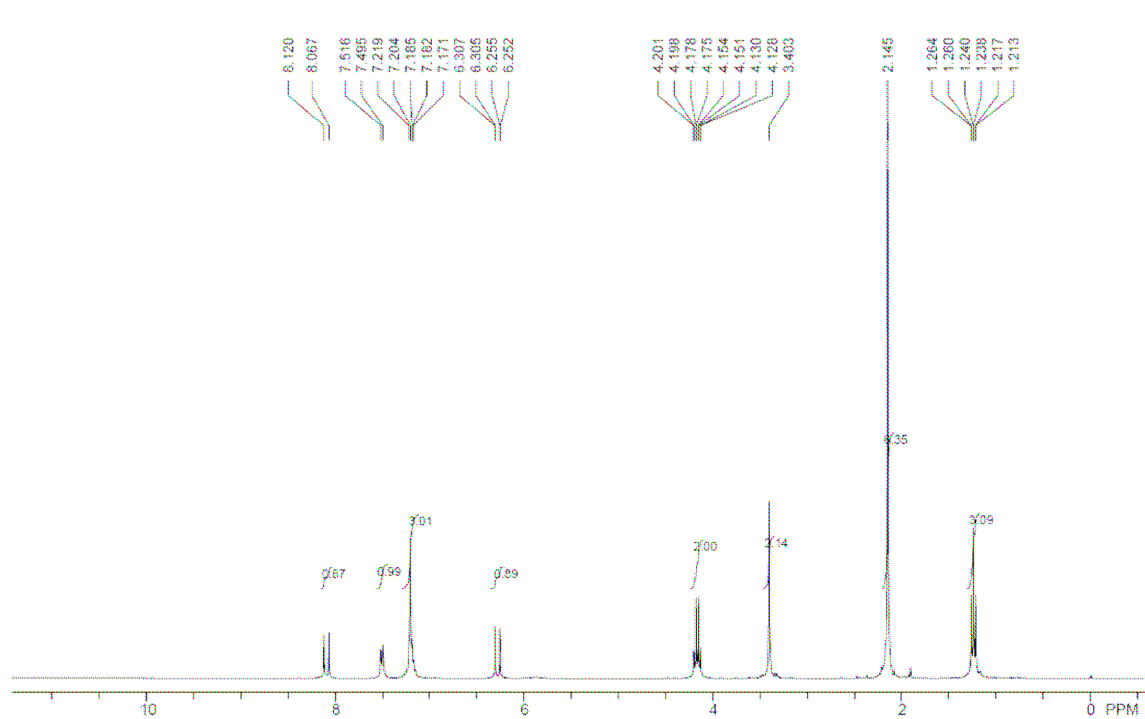
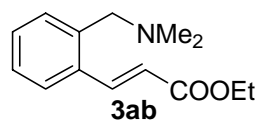
1. Cope, A. C.; Friedrich, E. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1968**, *90*, 909.
2. Jones, F. N.; Zinn, M. F.; Hauser, C. R. *J. Org. Chem.* **1963**, *28*, 663.

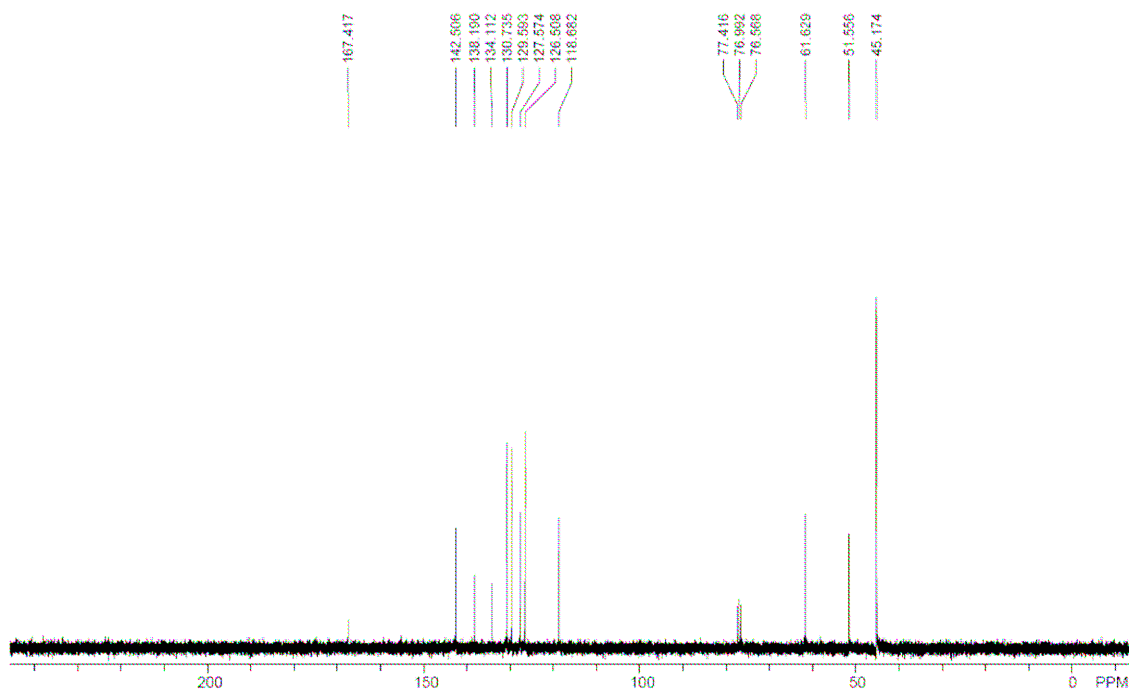
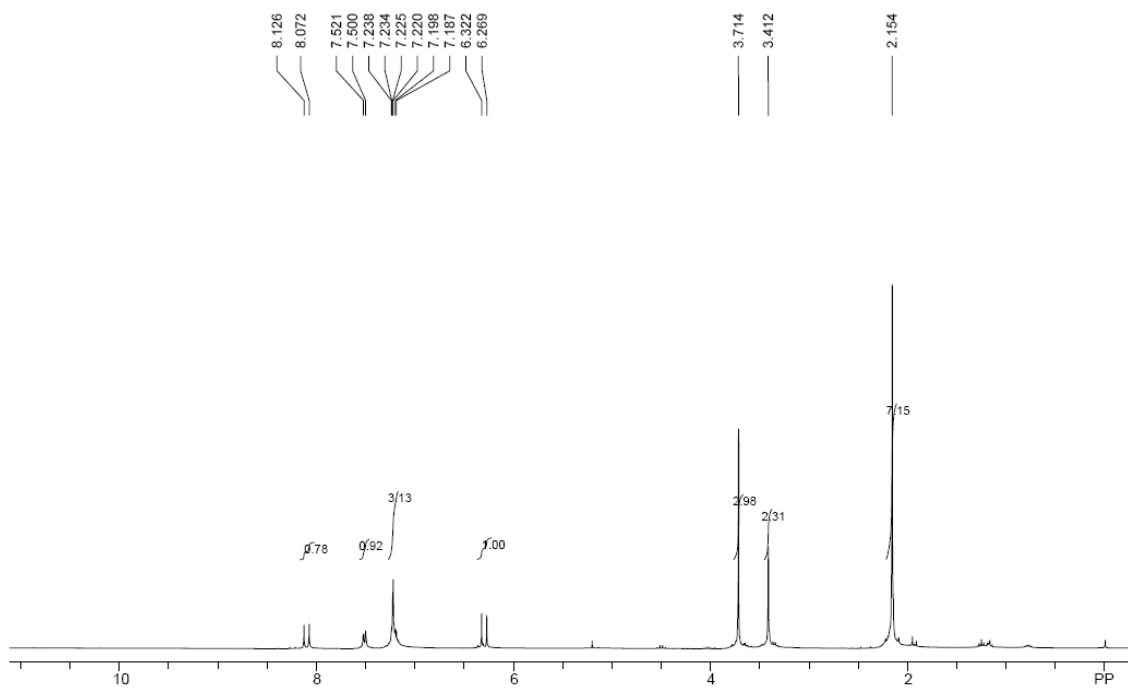
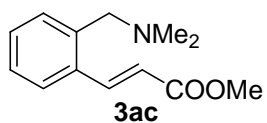
NMR spectrum of compounds **1r**

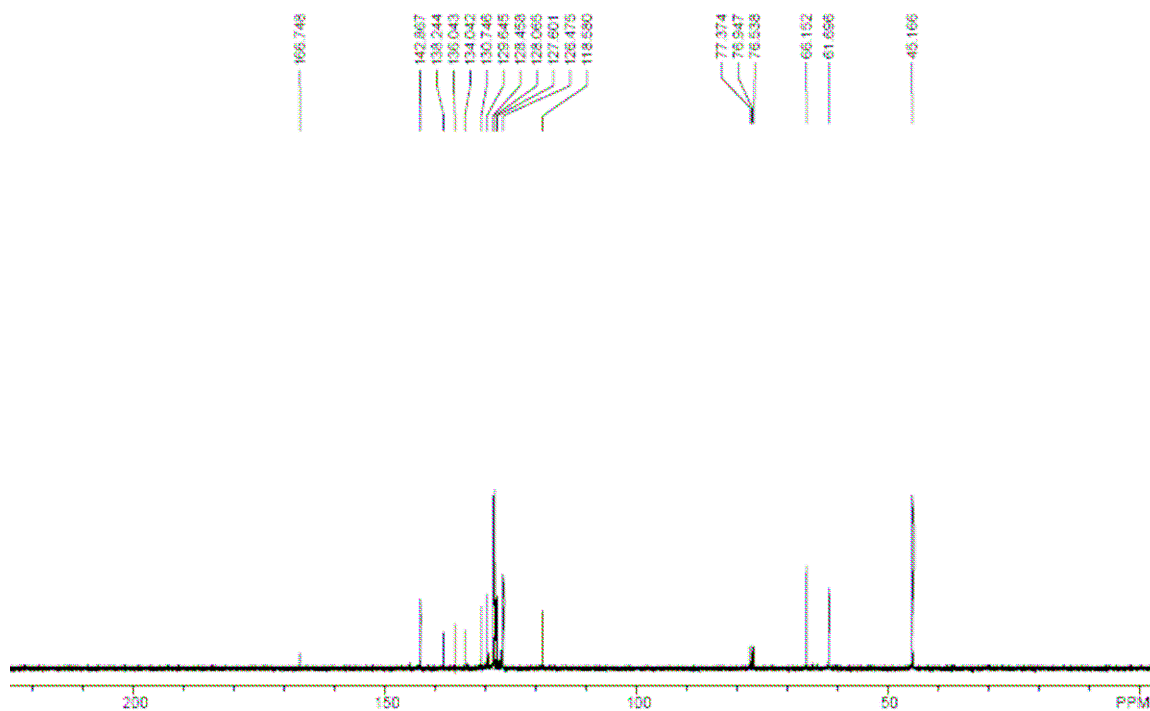
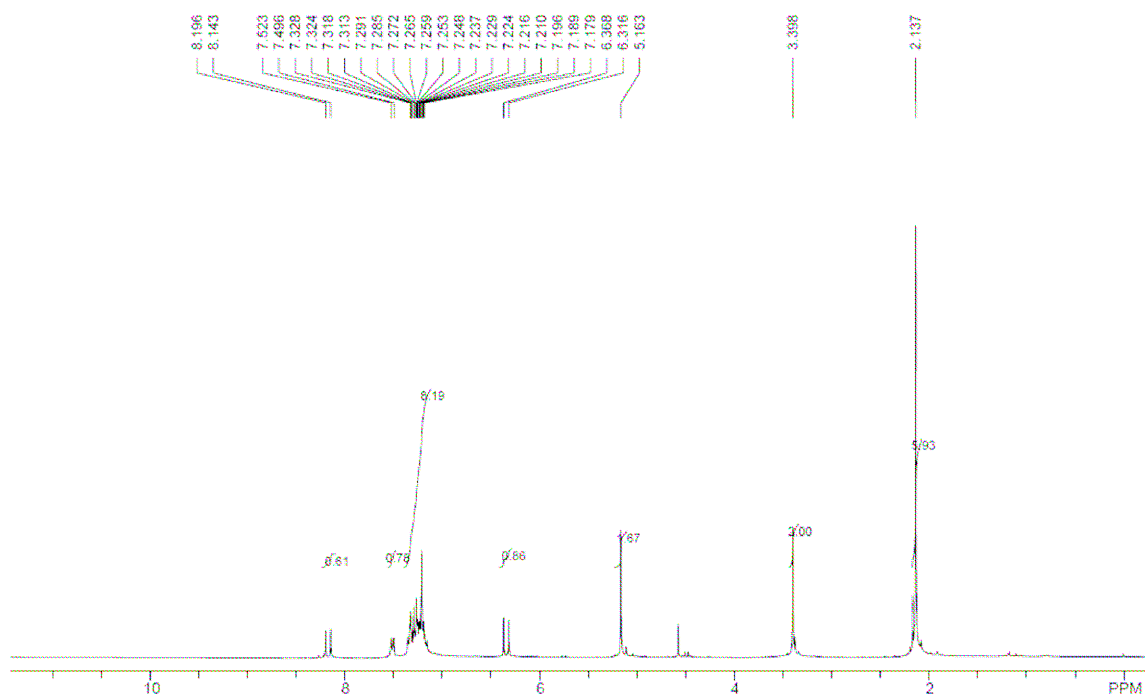
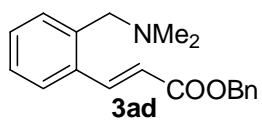


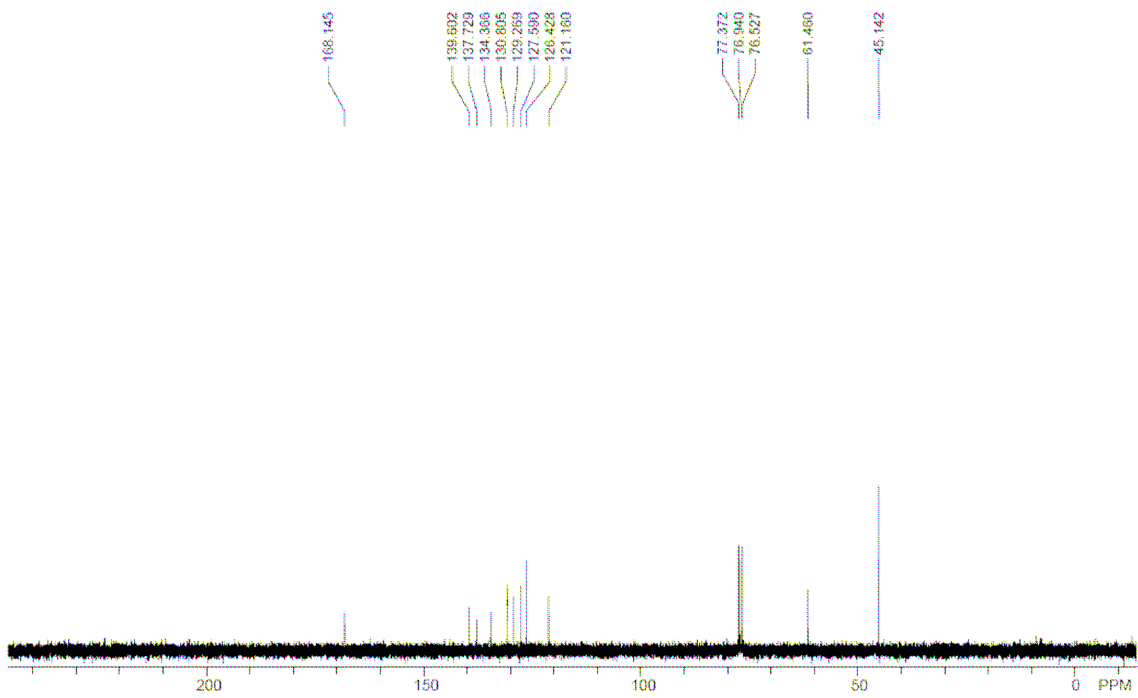
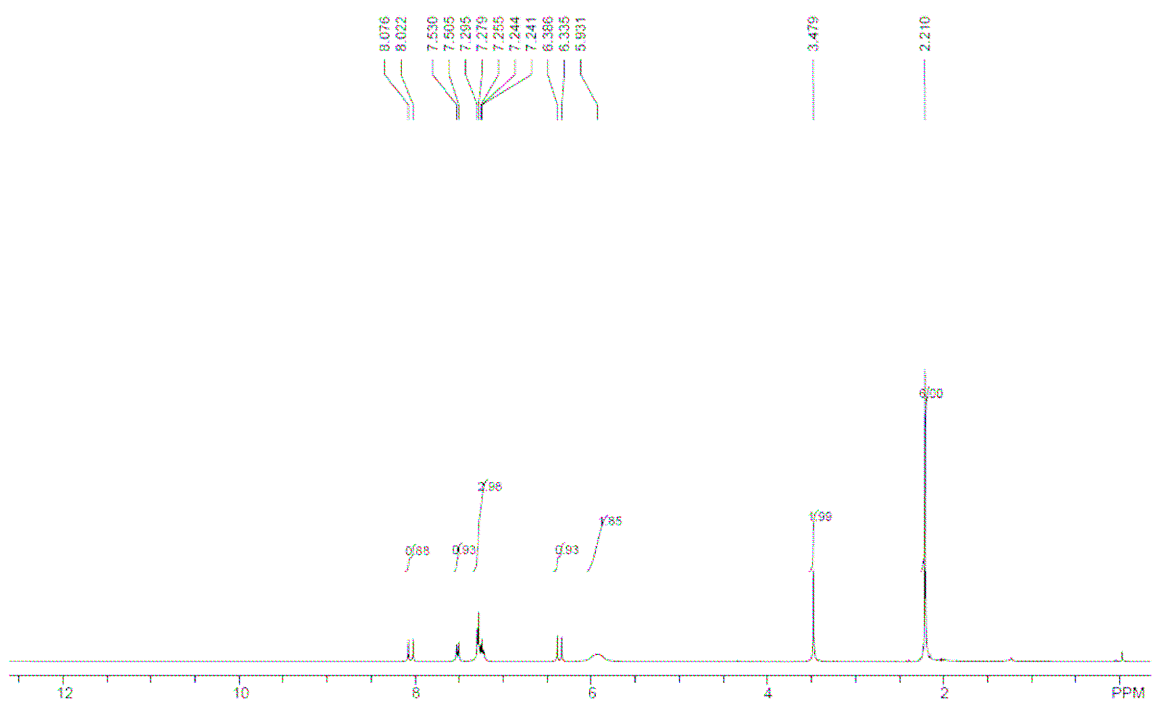
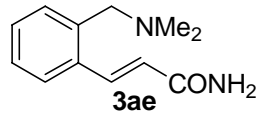
NMR spectrum of compounds **3aa-3rd**



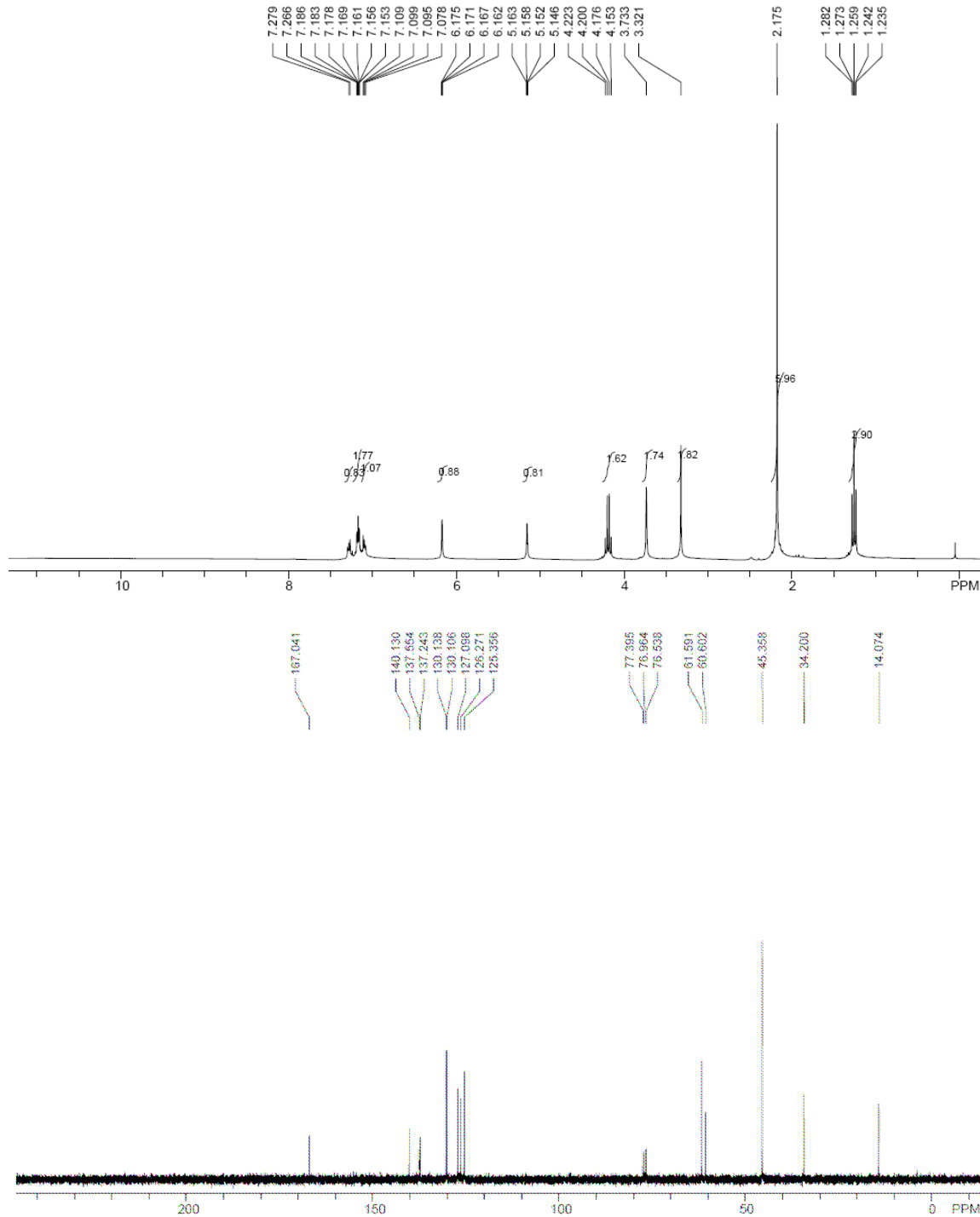
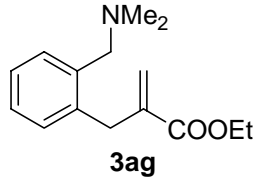




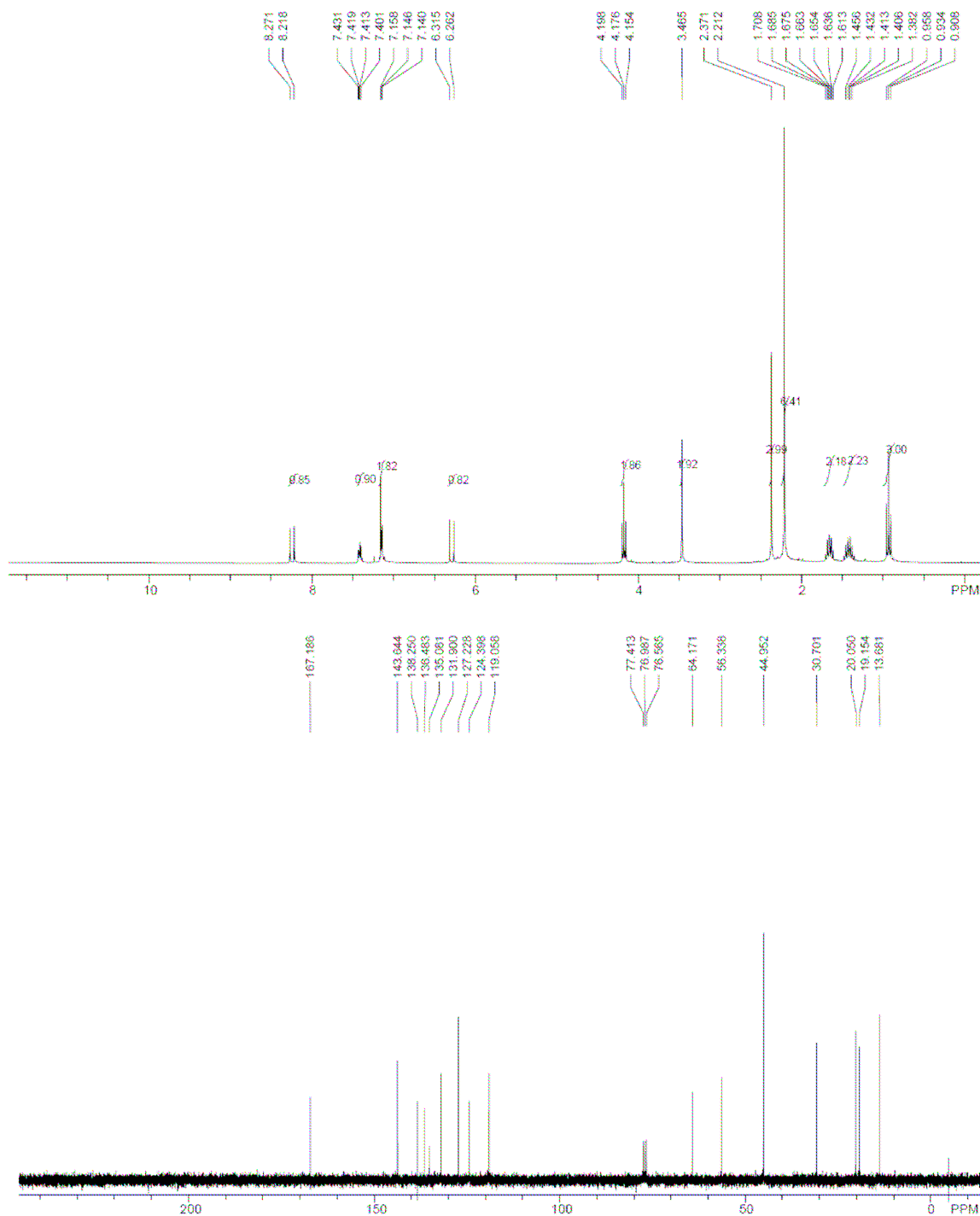
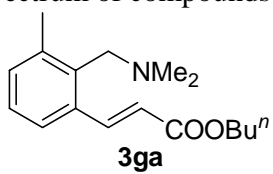


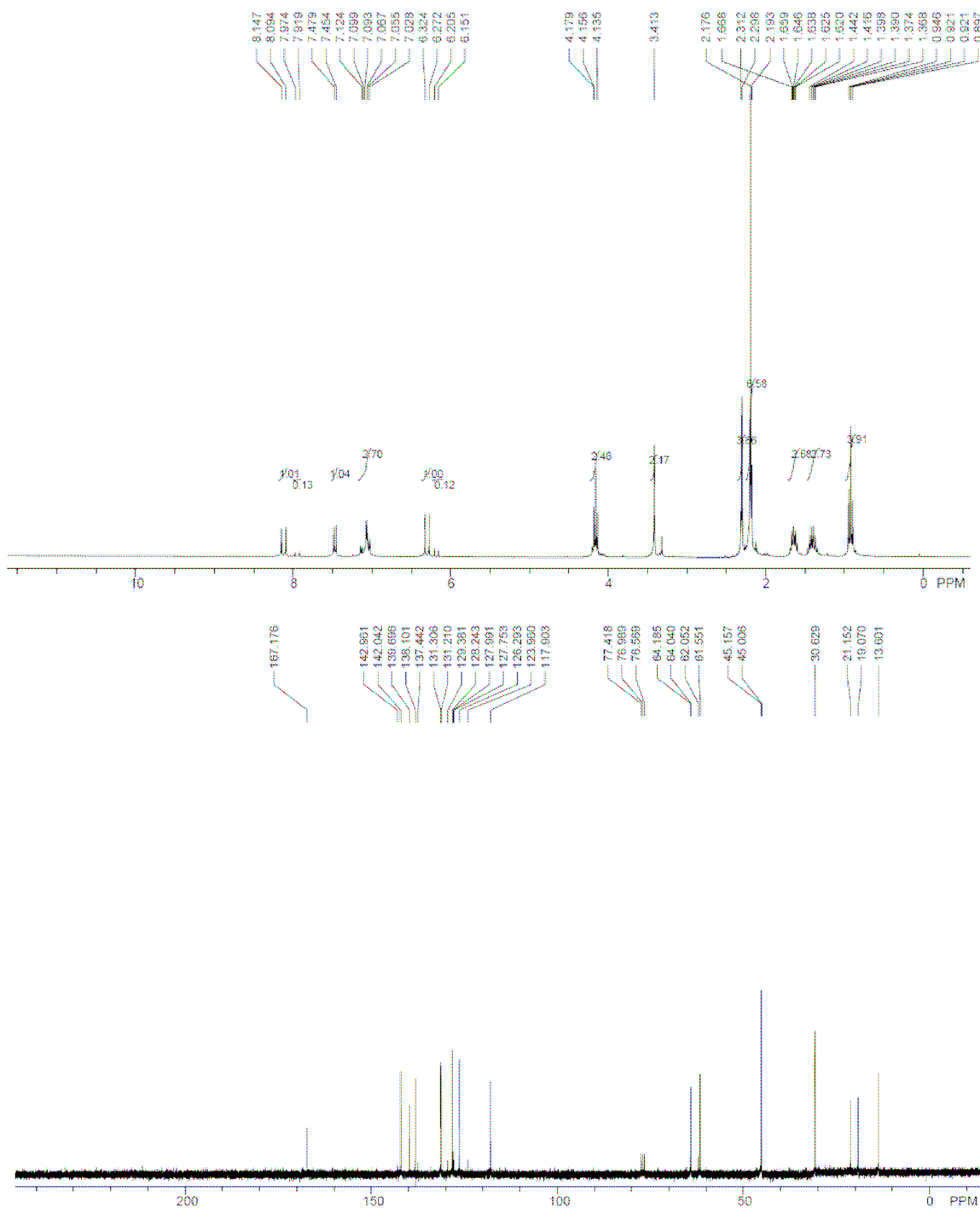
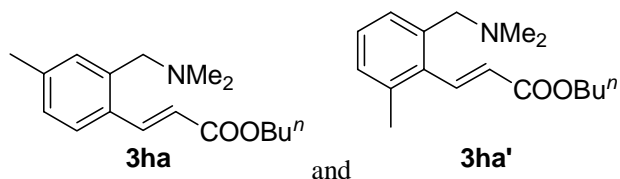


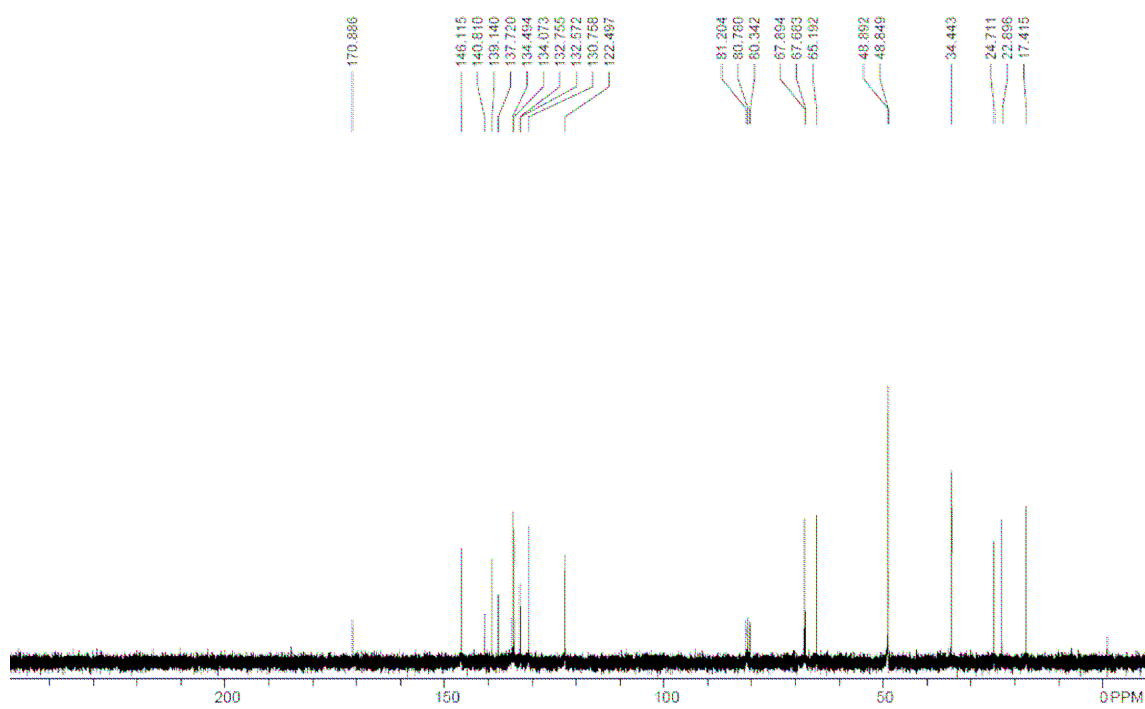
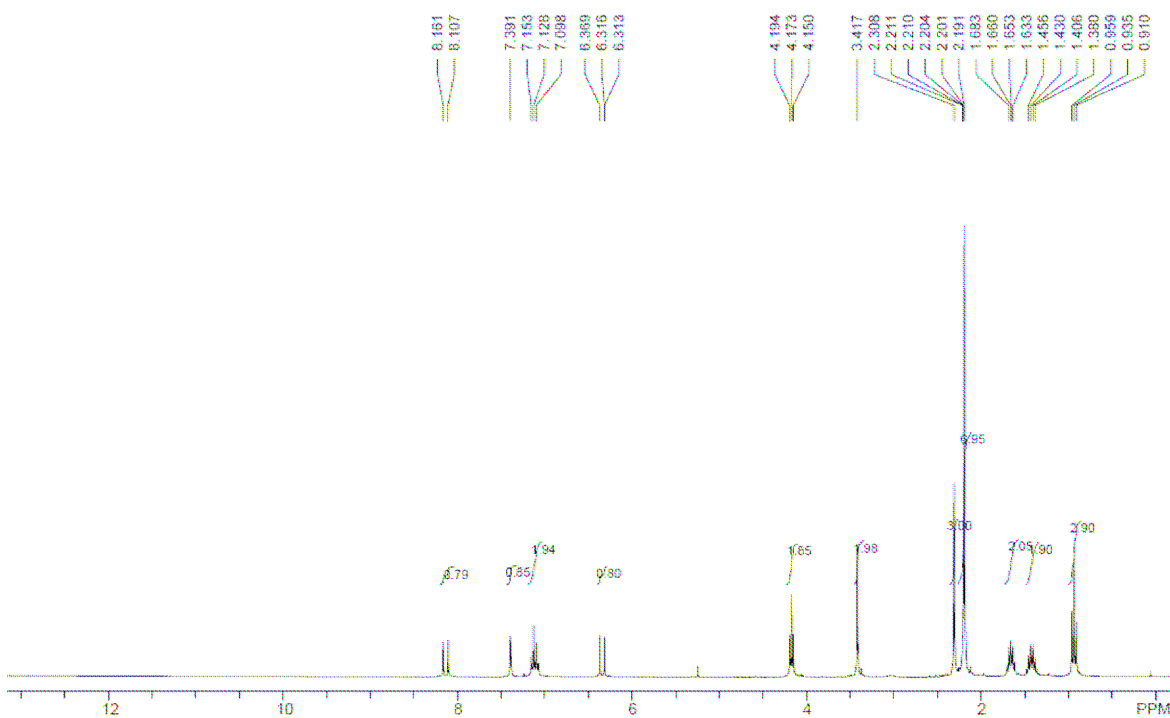
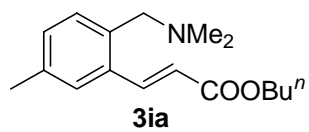


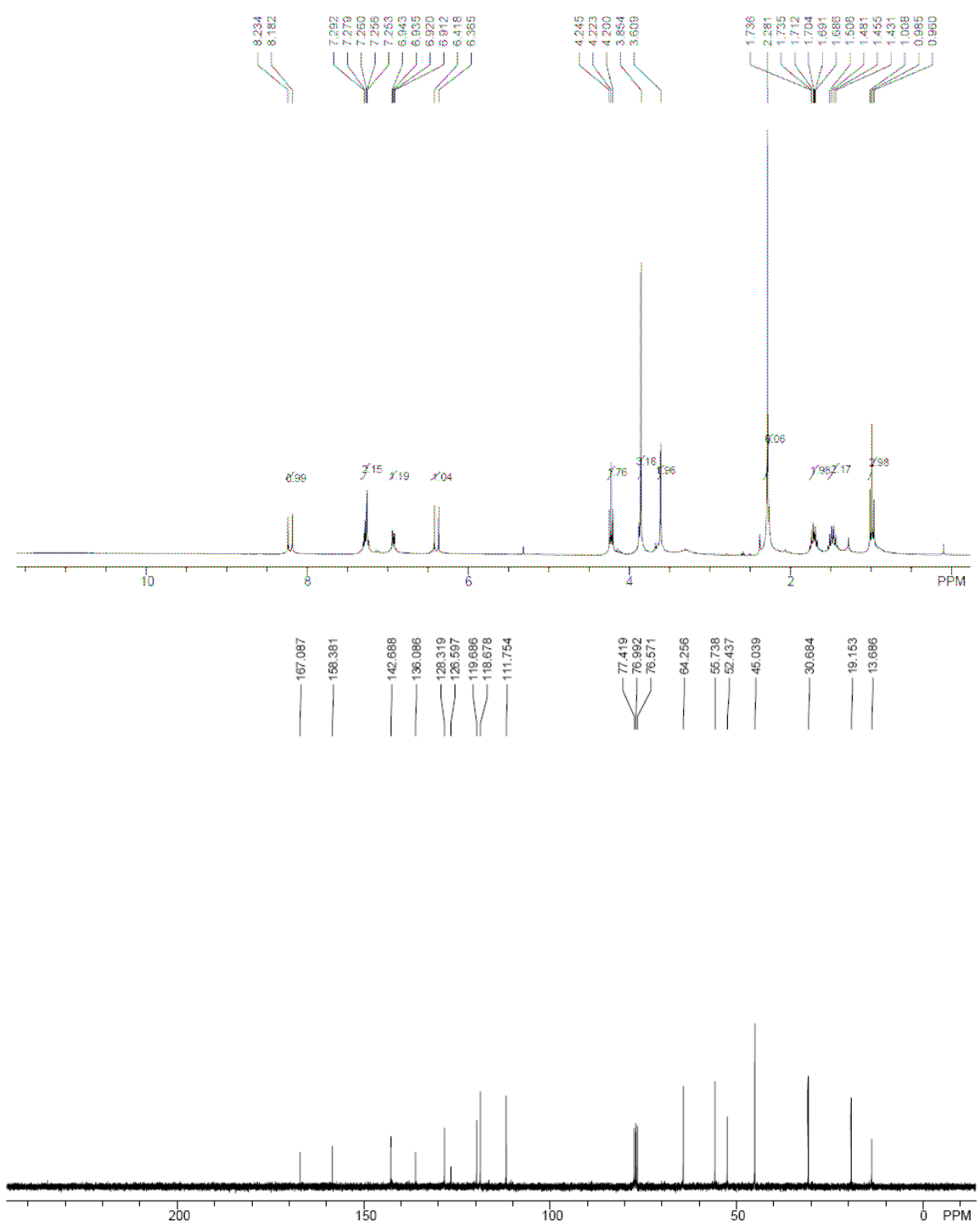
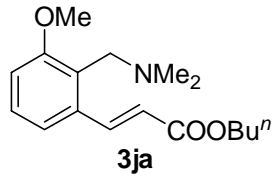


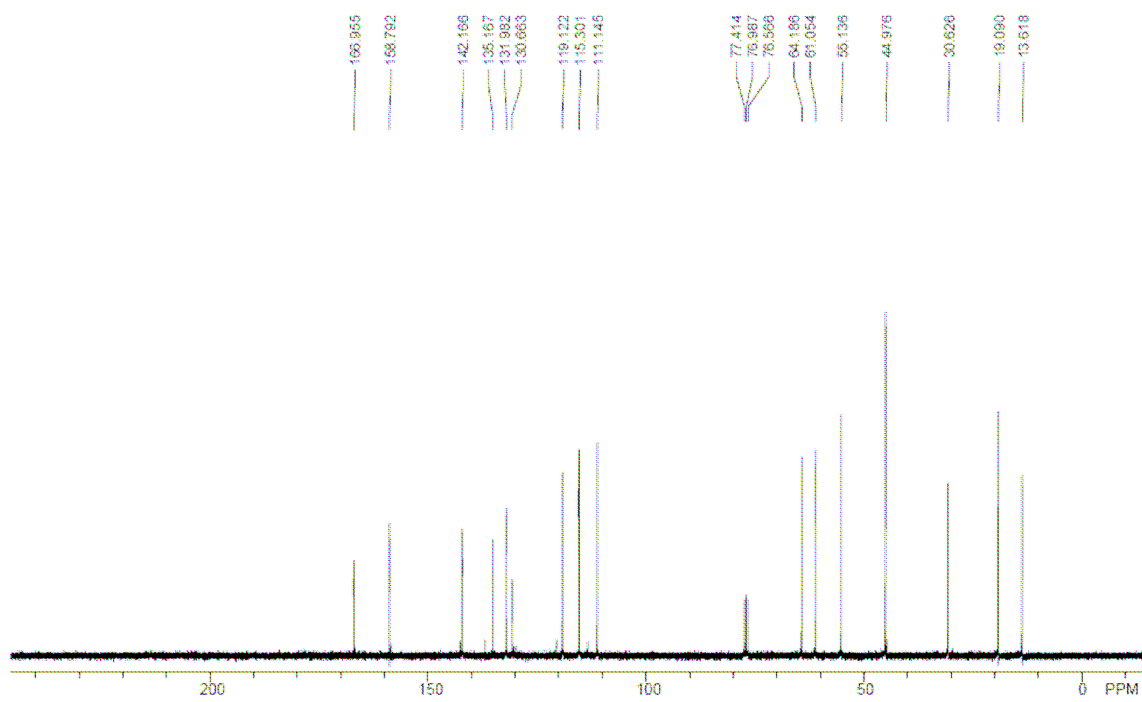
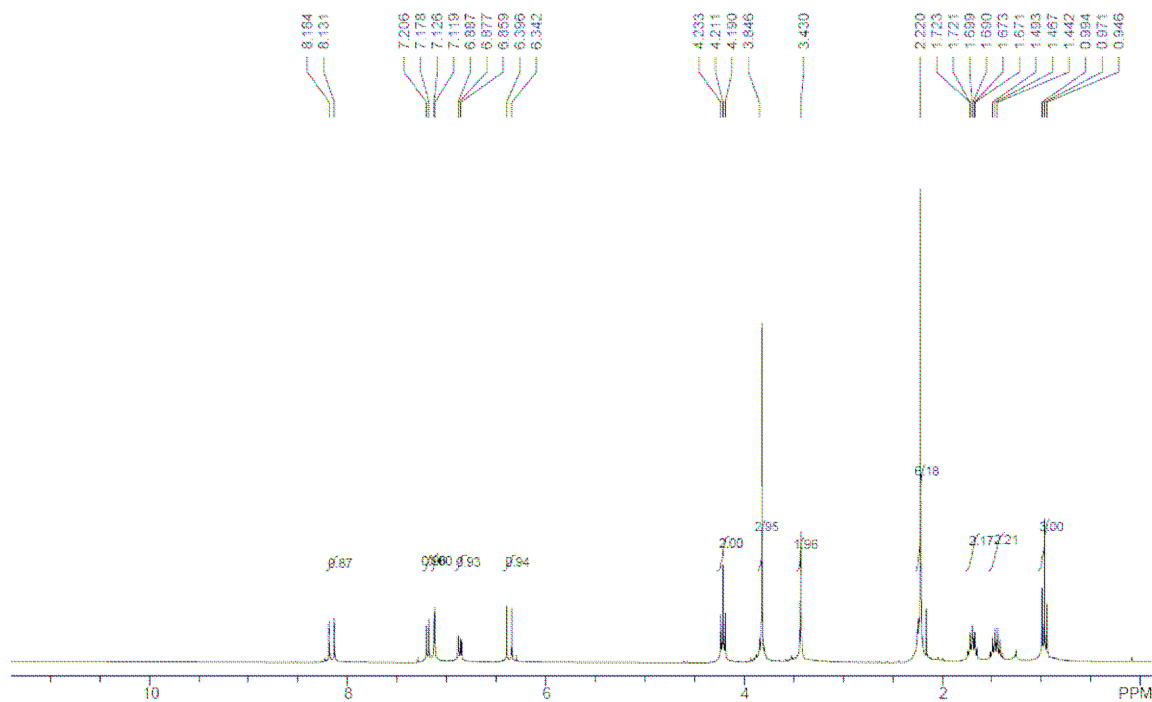
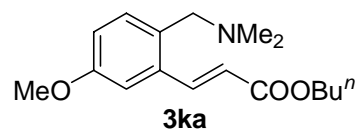
NMR spectrum of compounds **3ga-3rd**

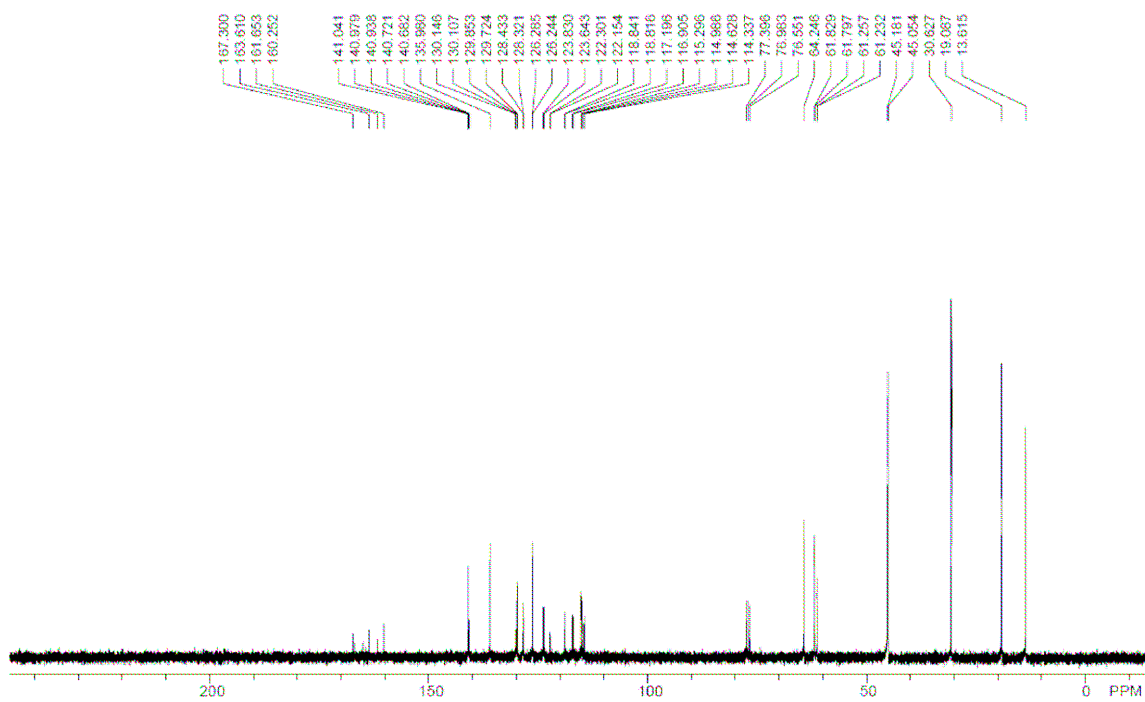
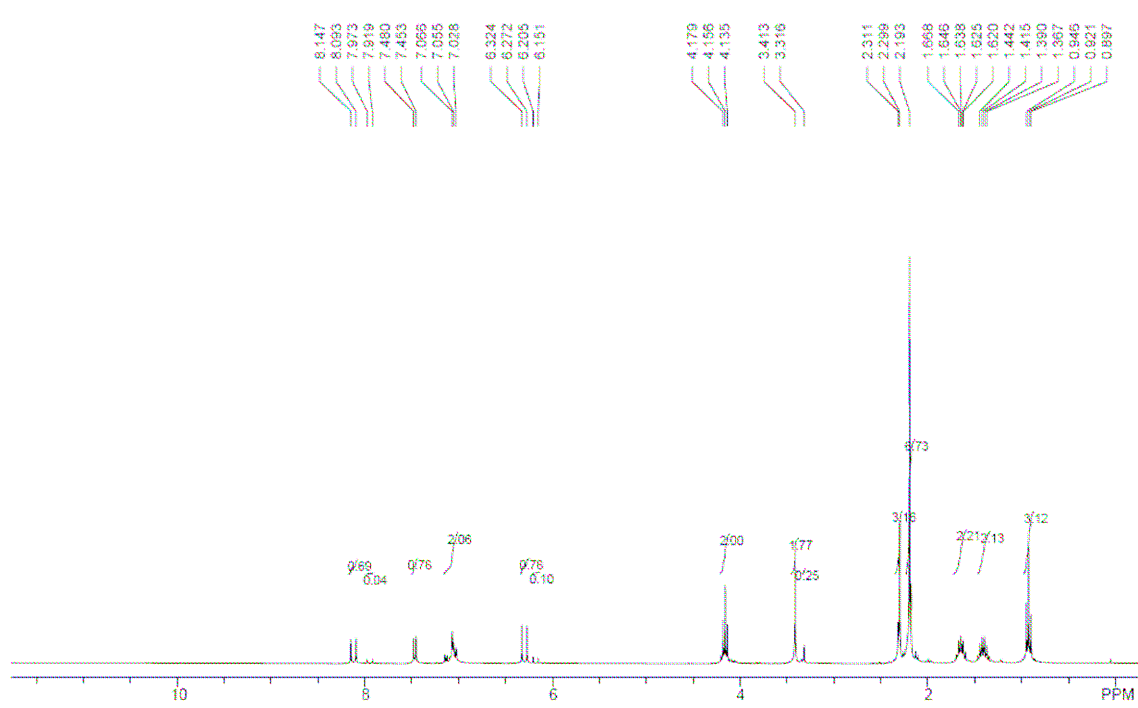
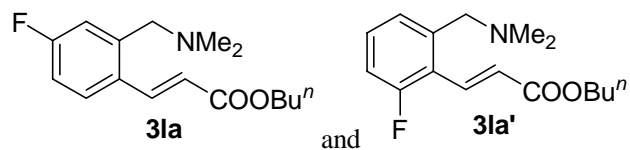


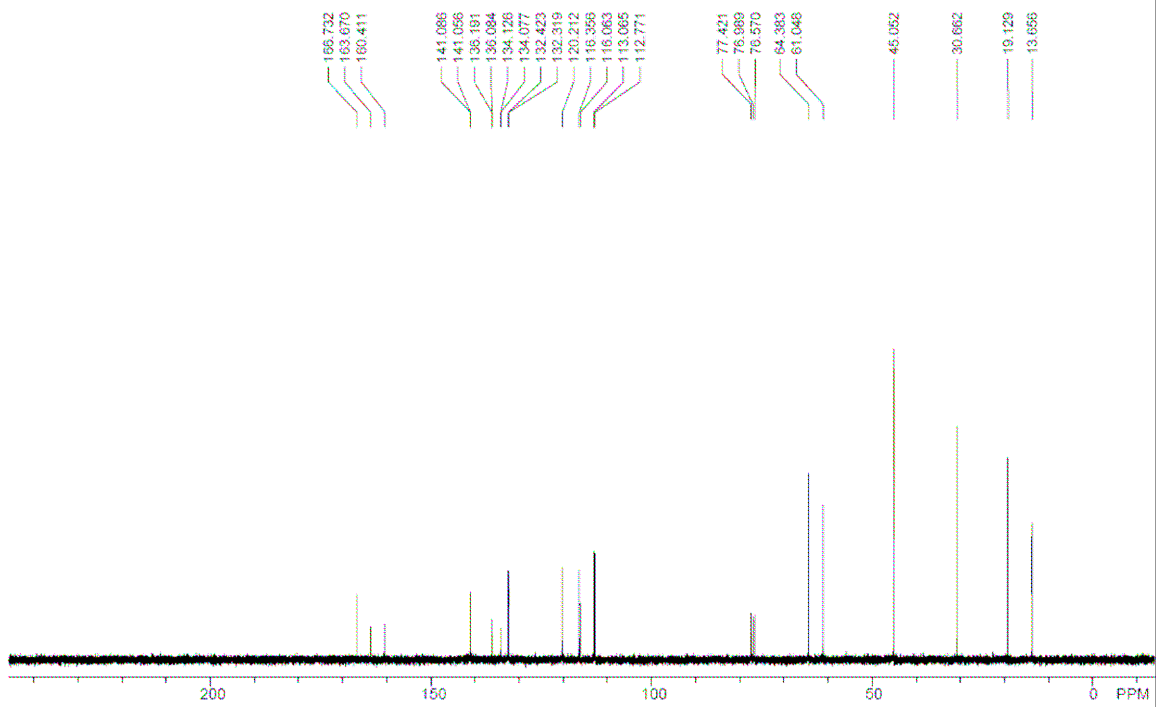
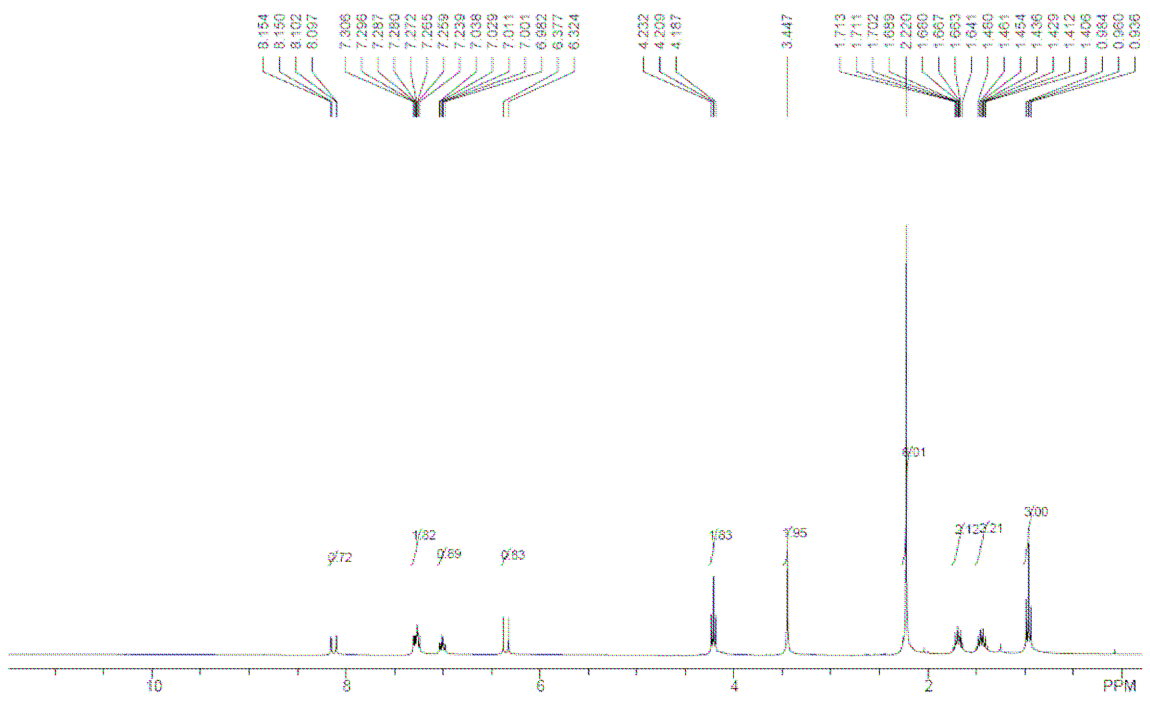
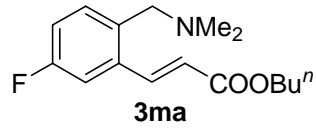


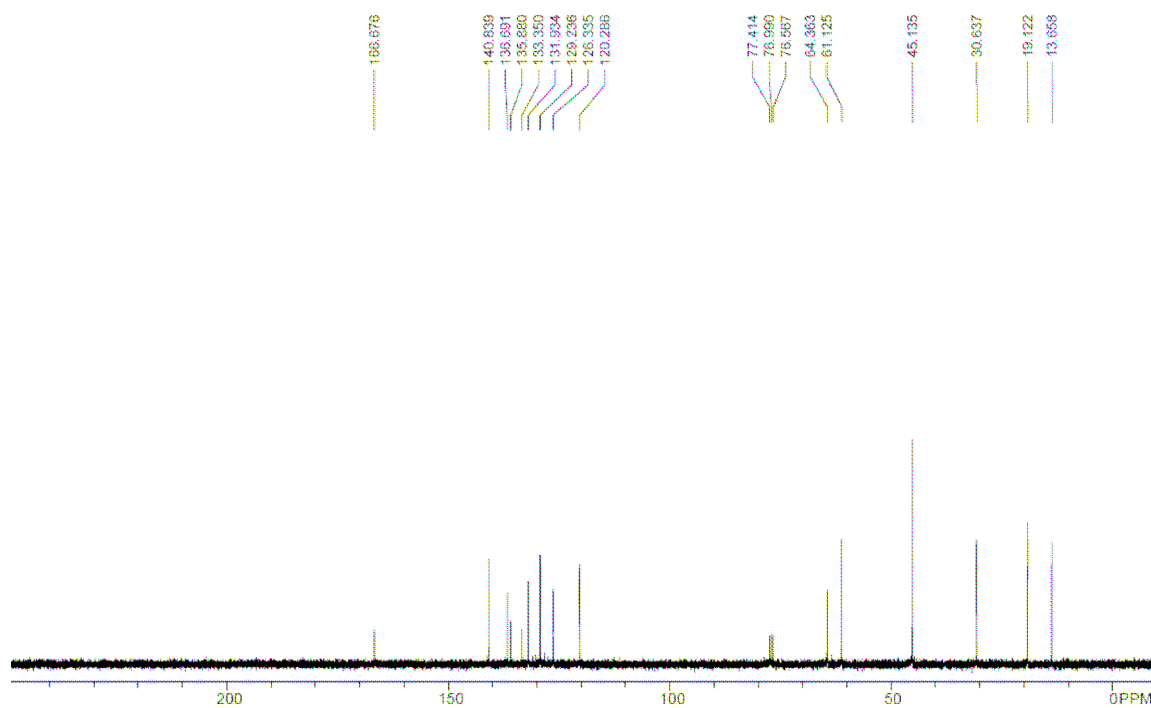
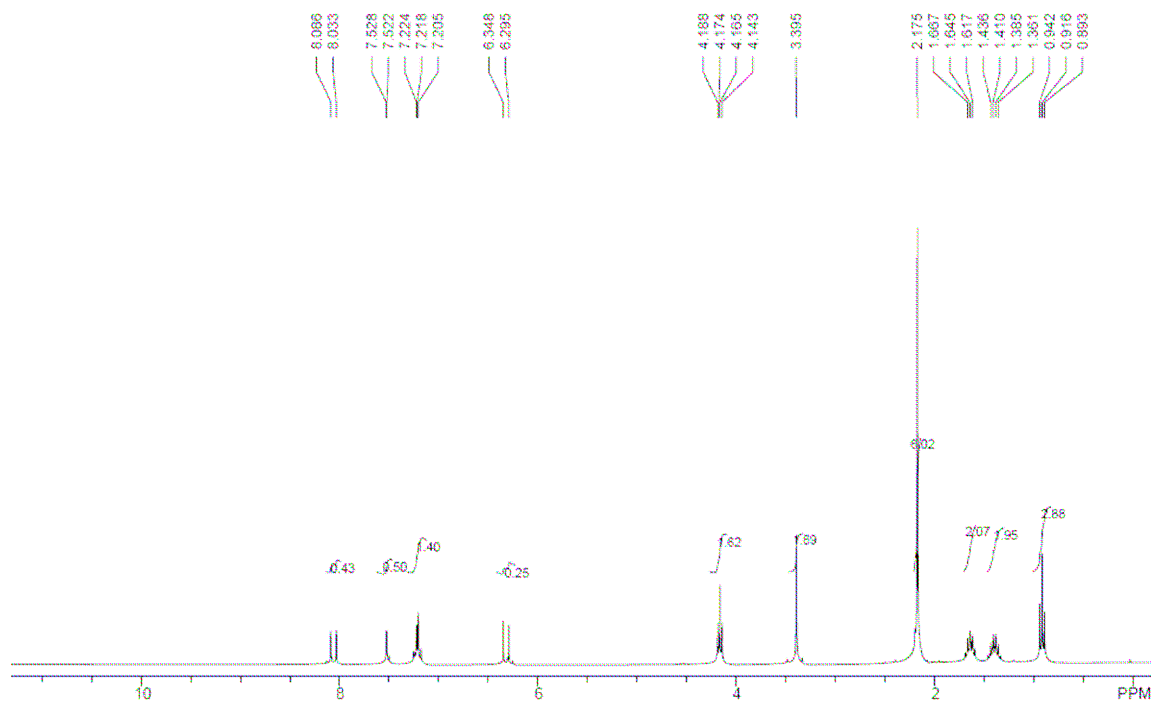
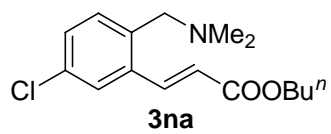


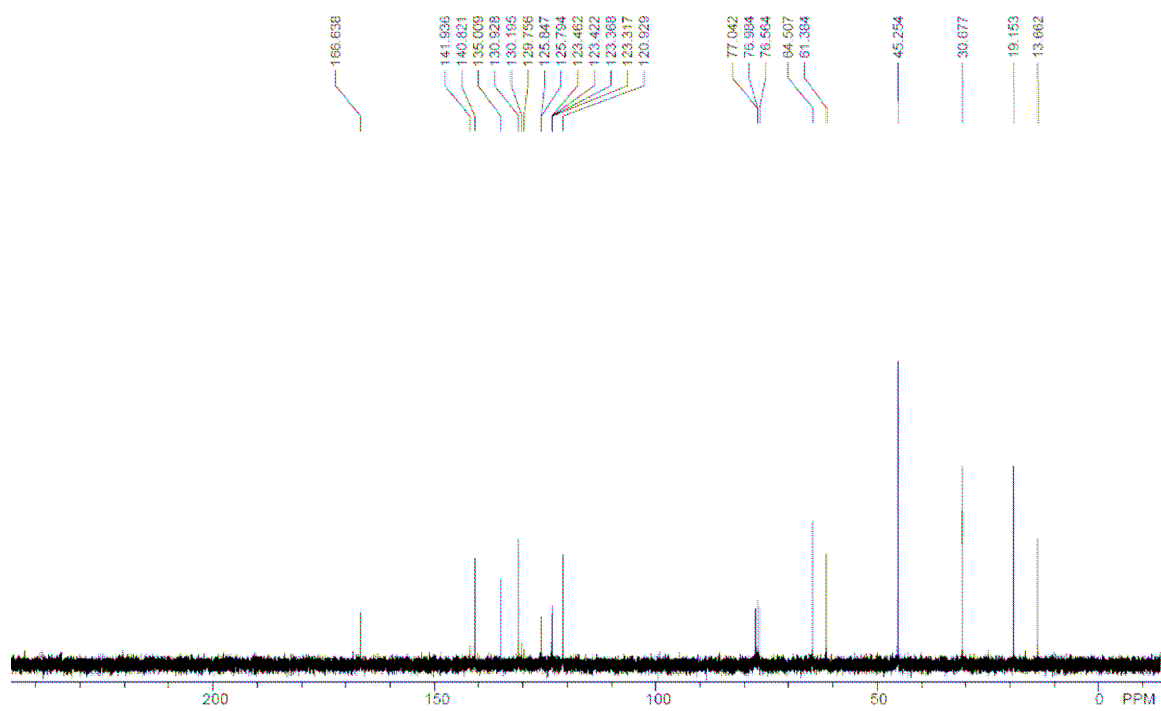
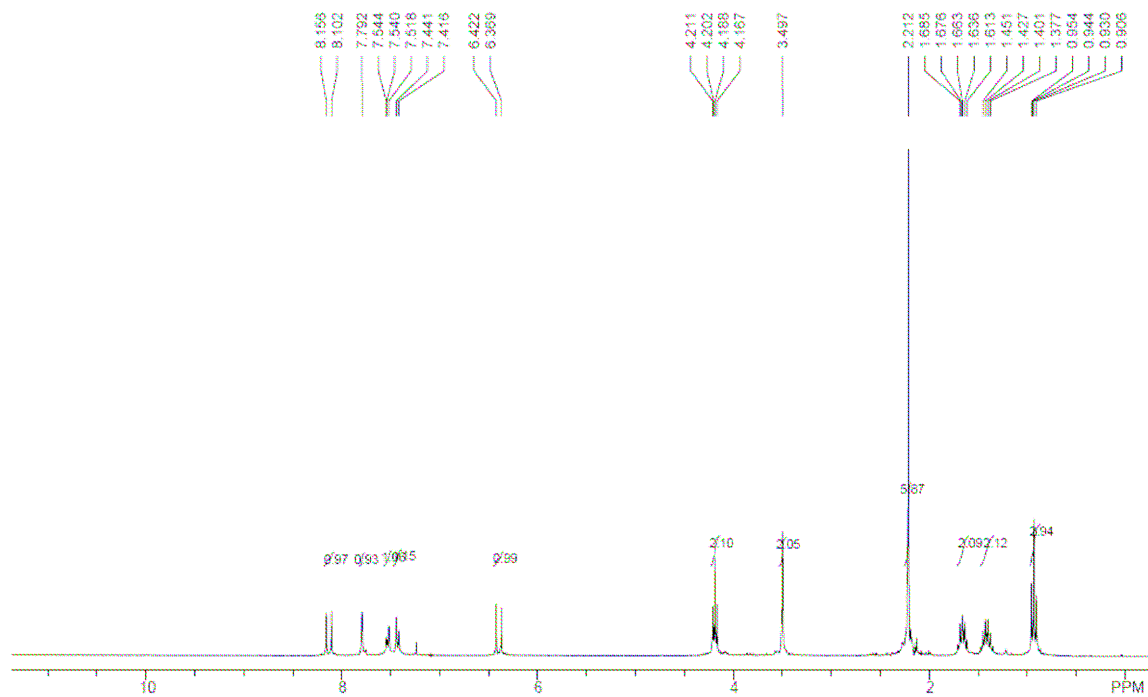
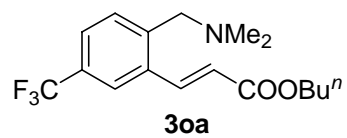


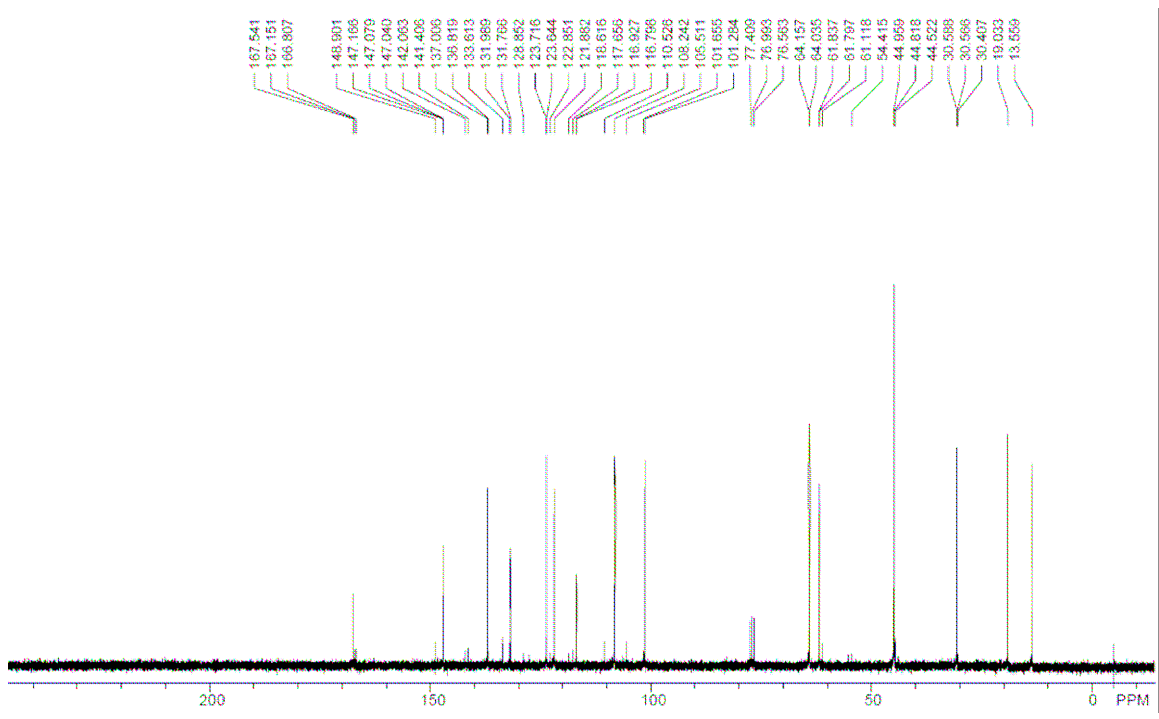
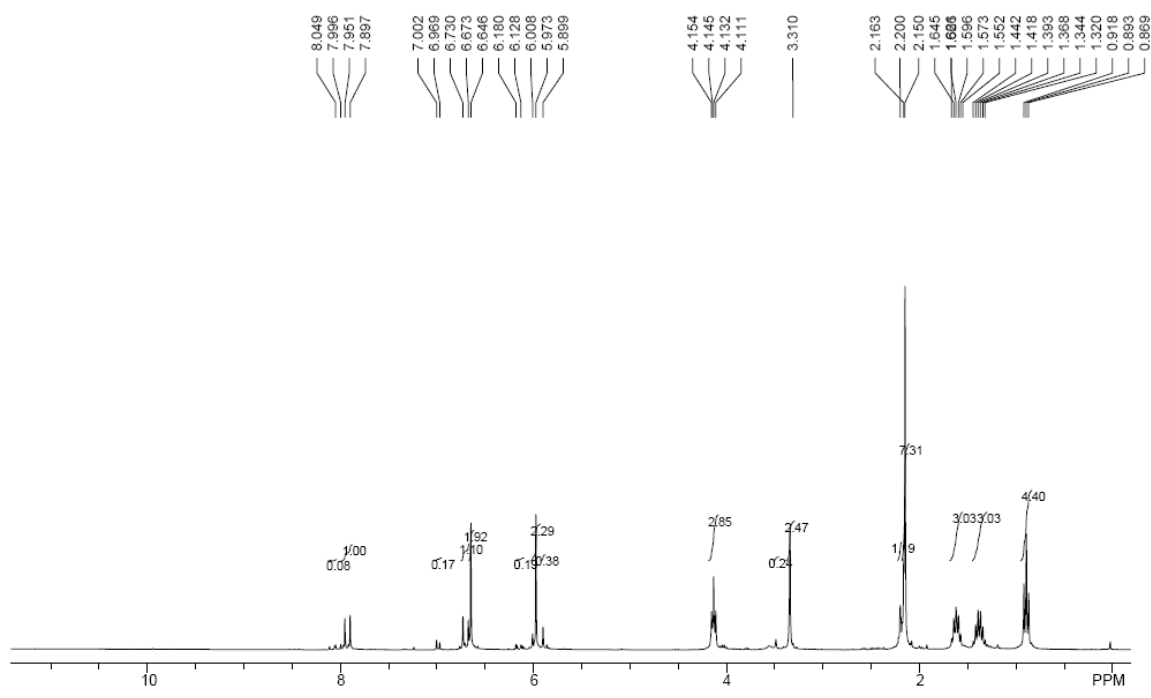
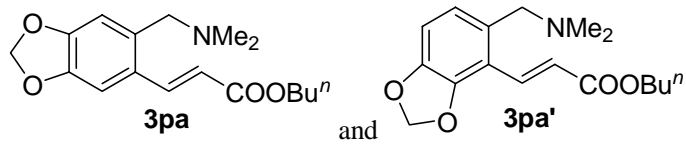


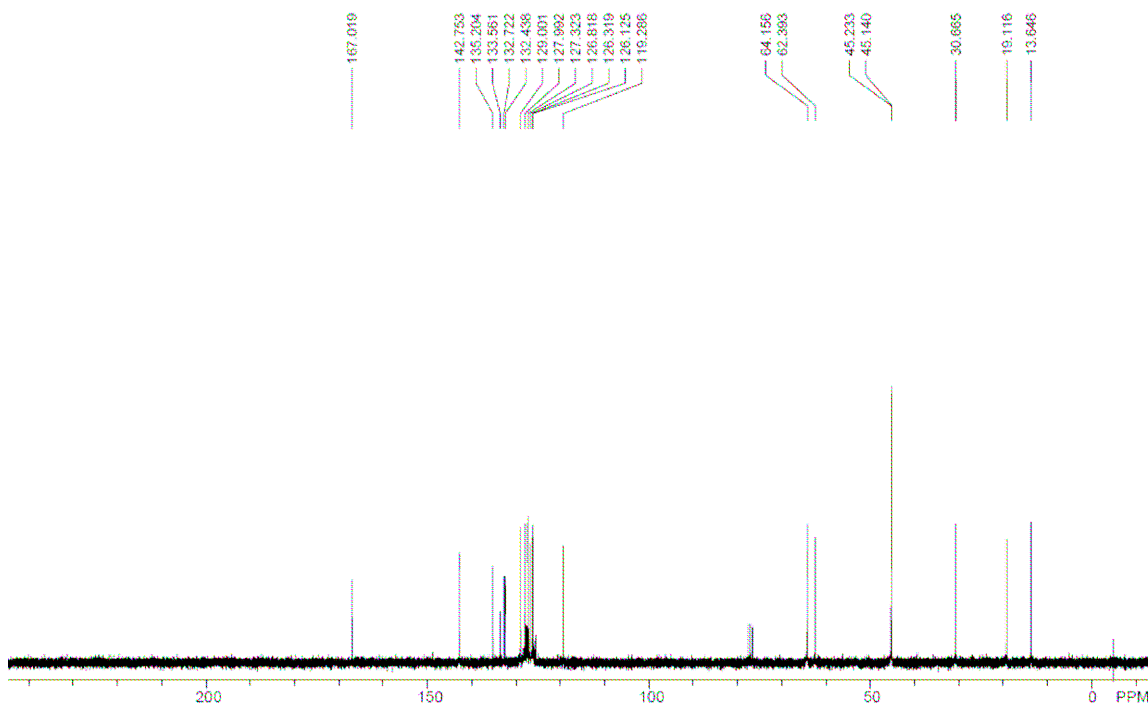
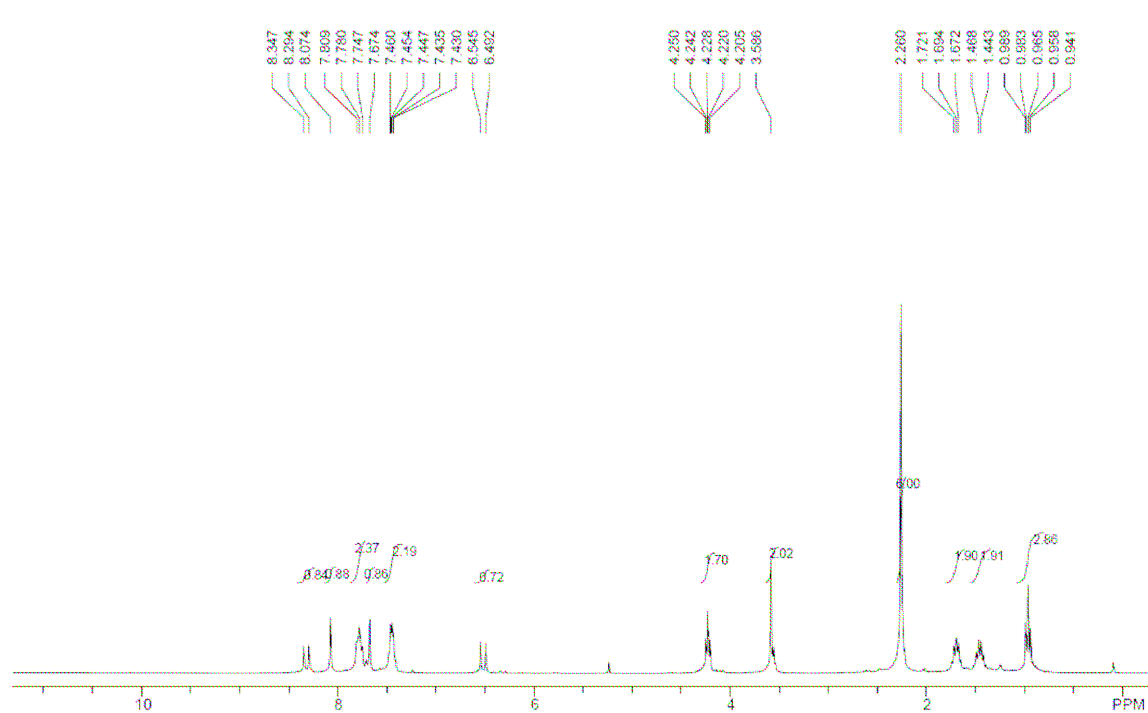
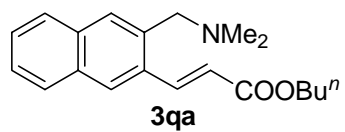


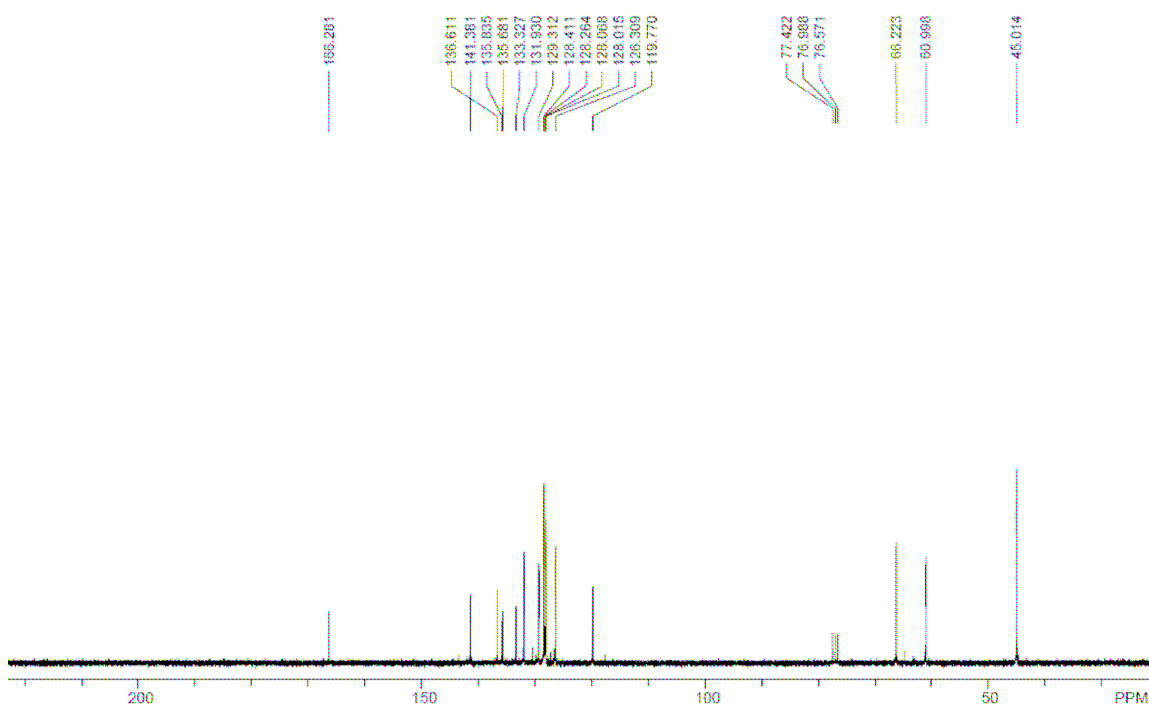
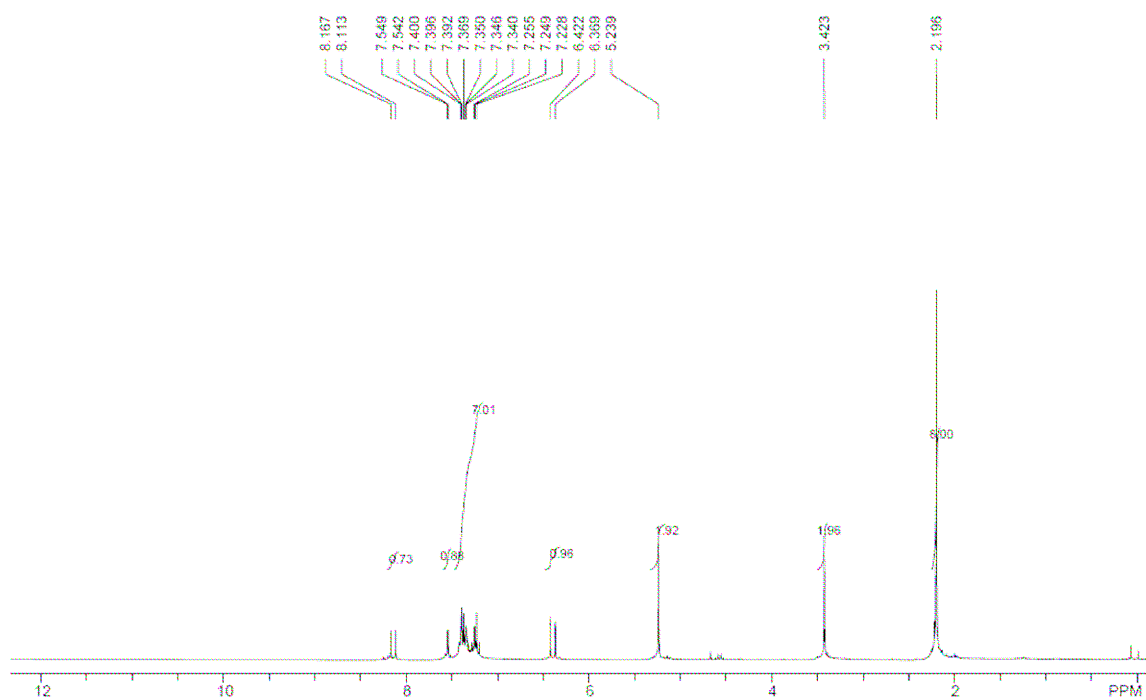
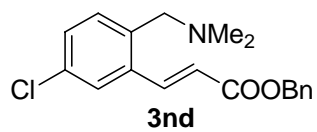


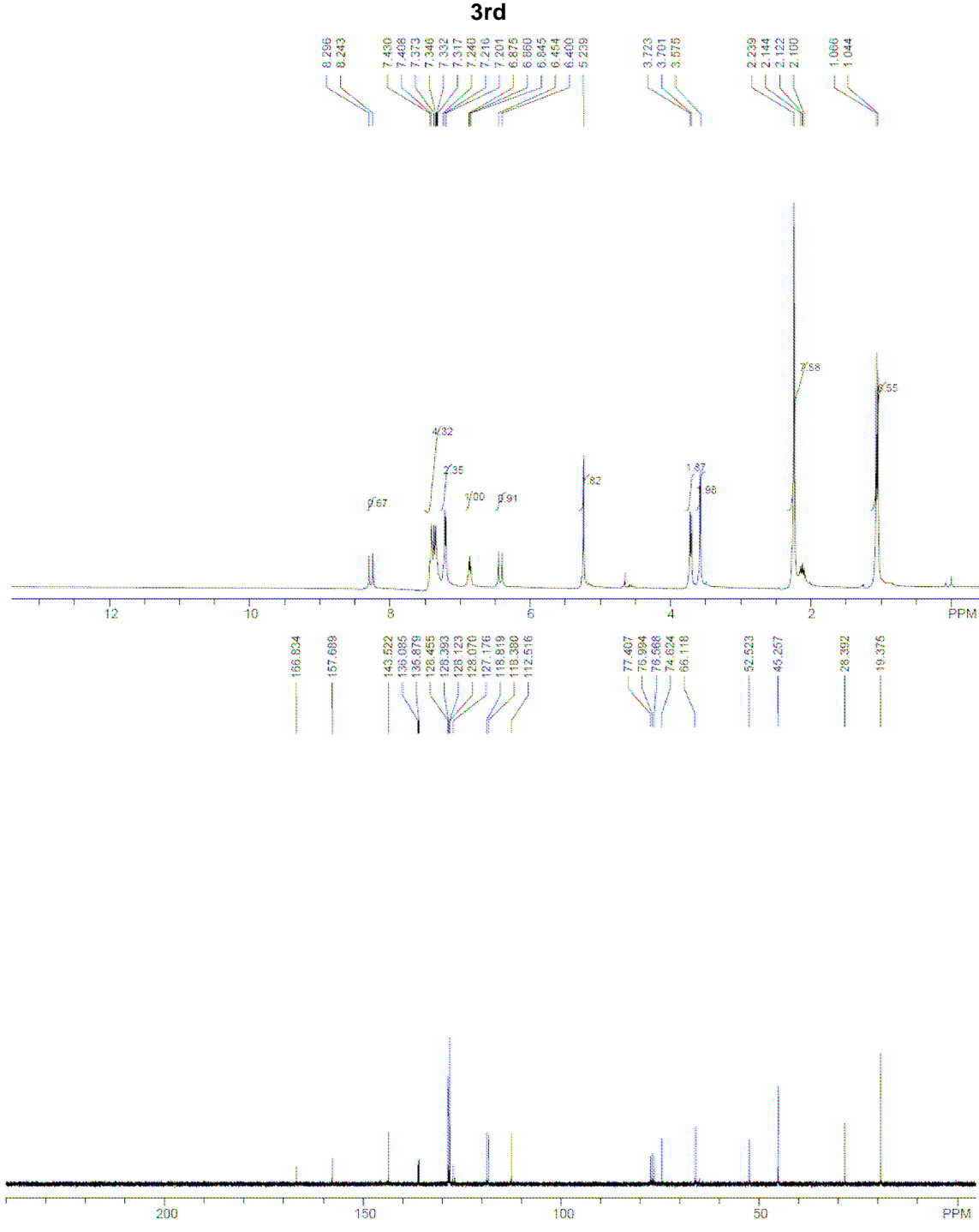
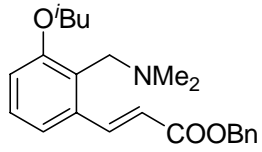




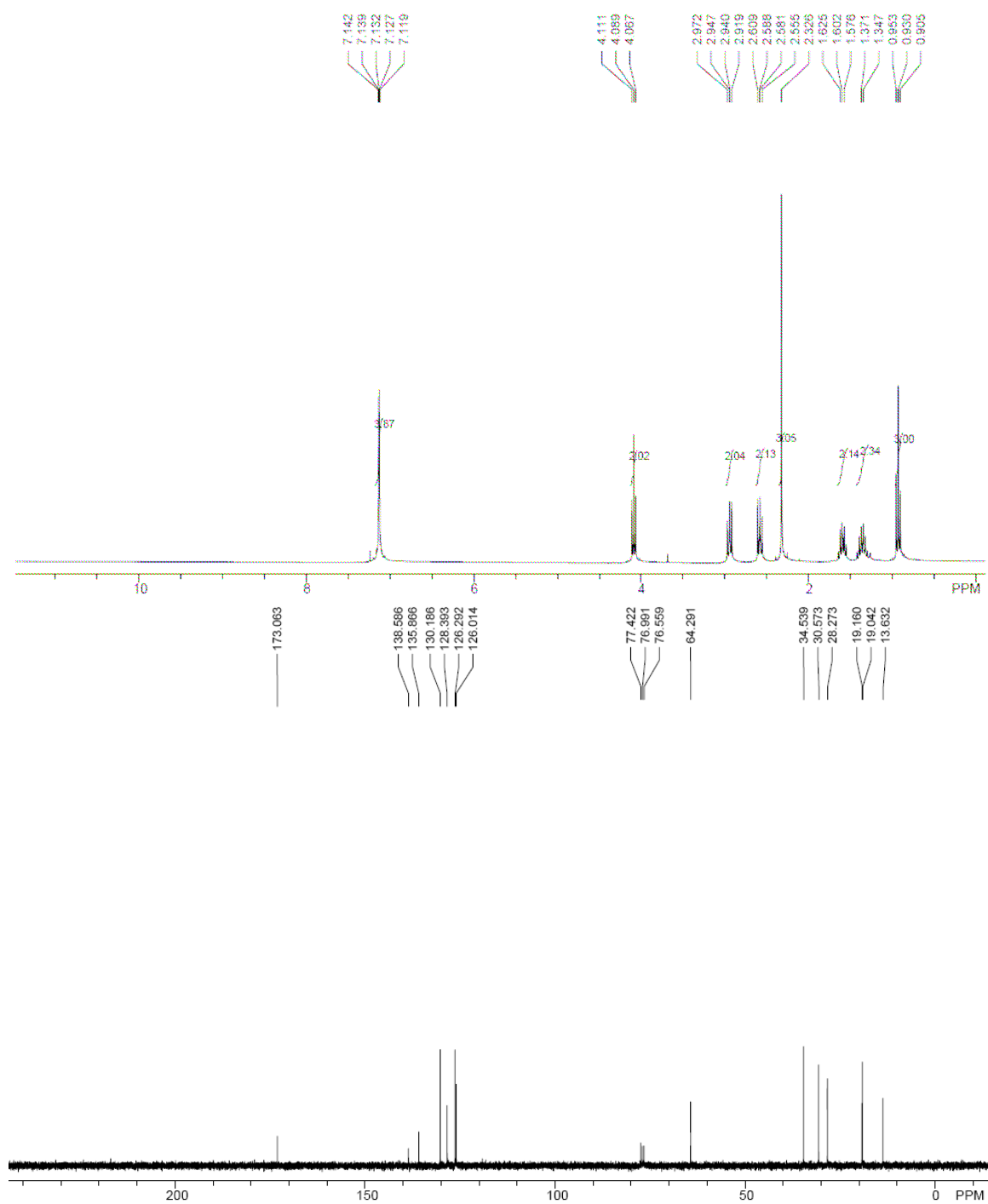
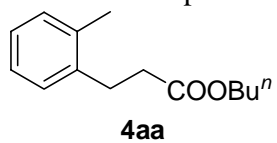


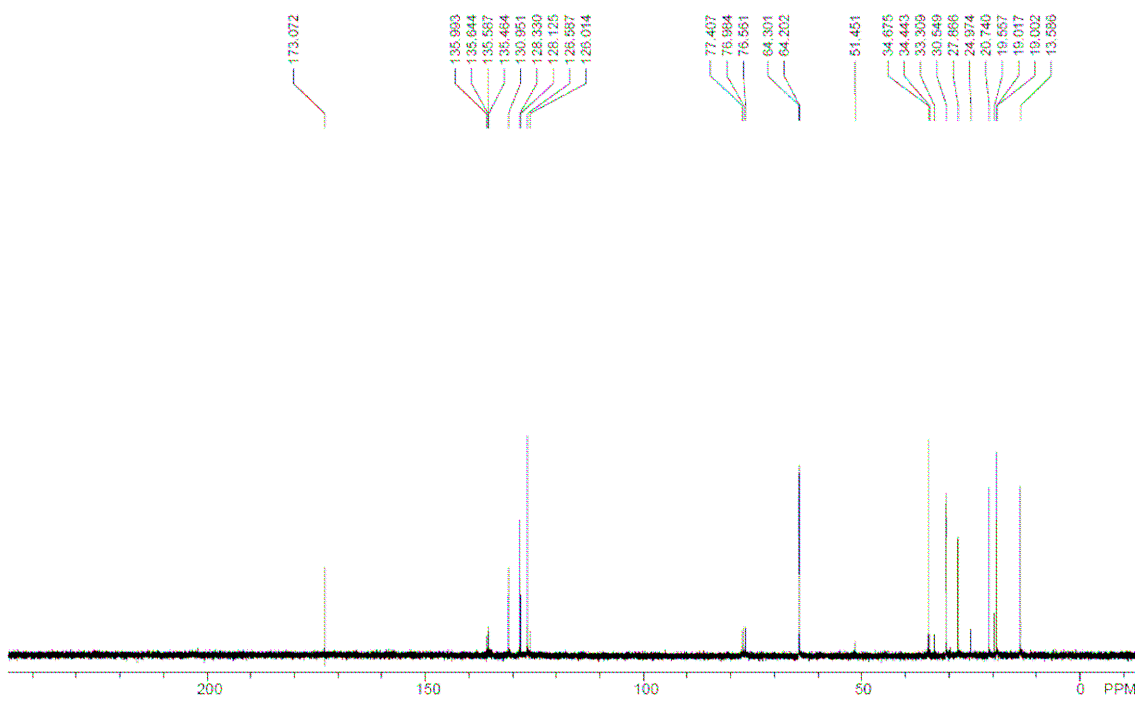
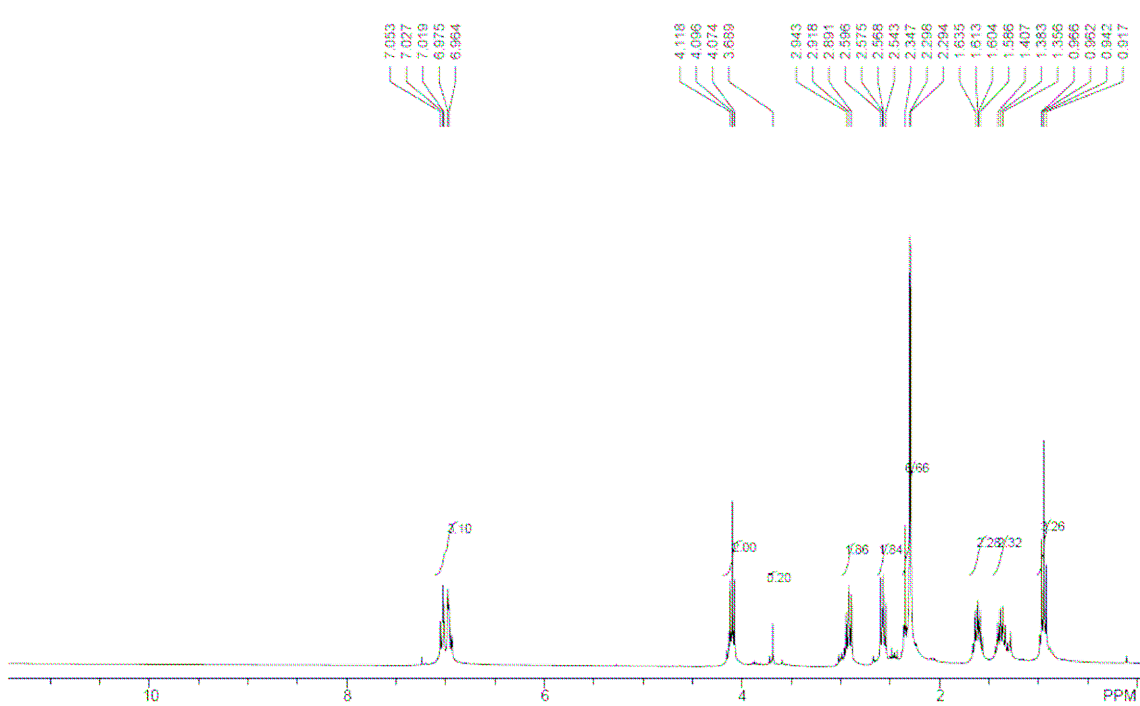
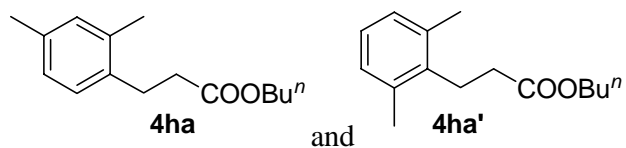


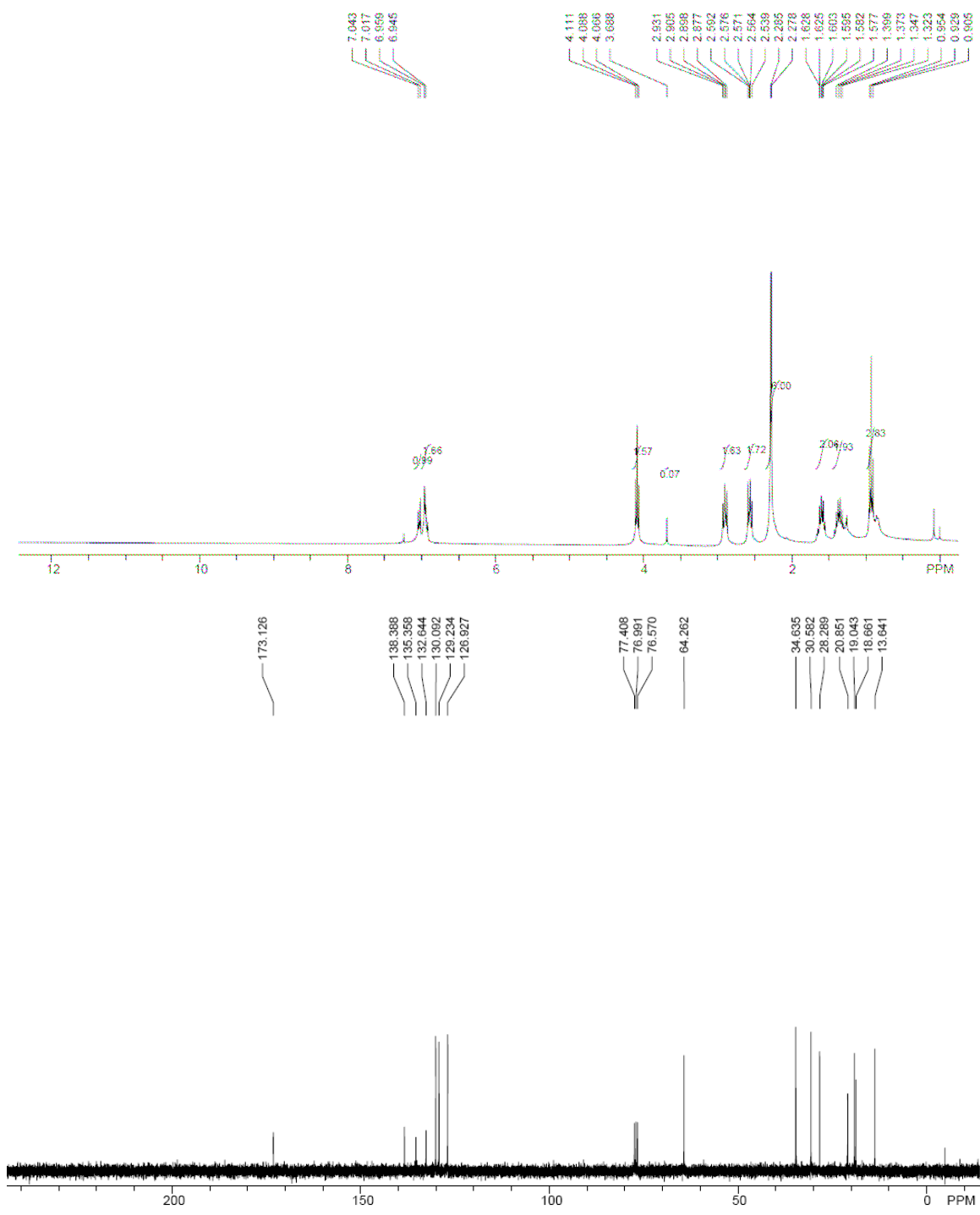
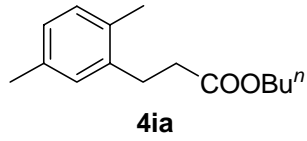


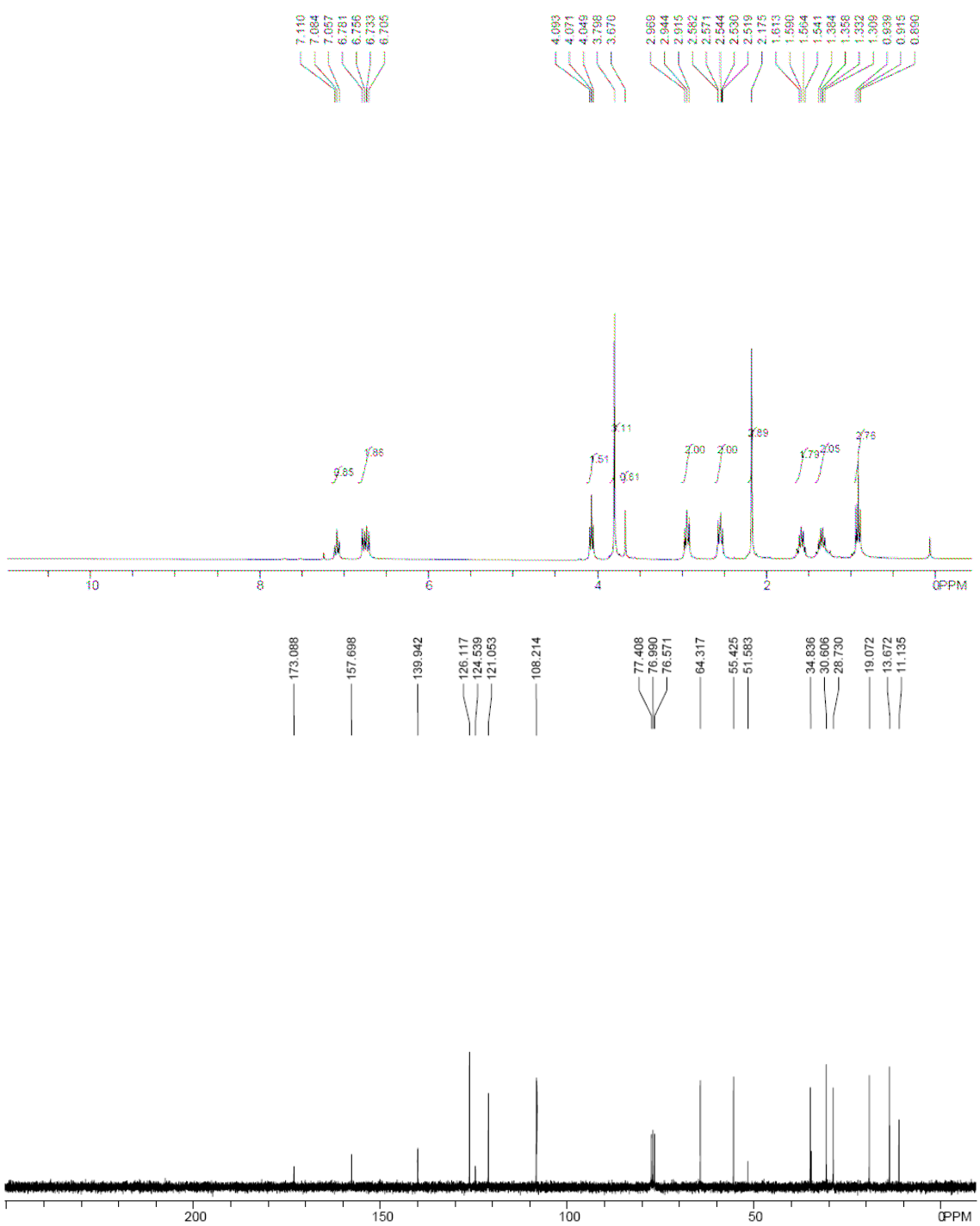
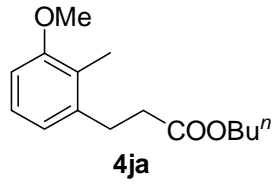


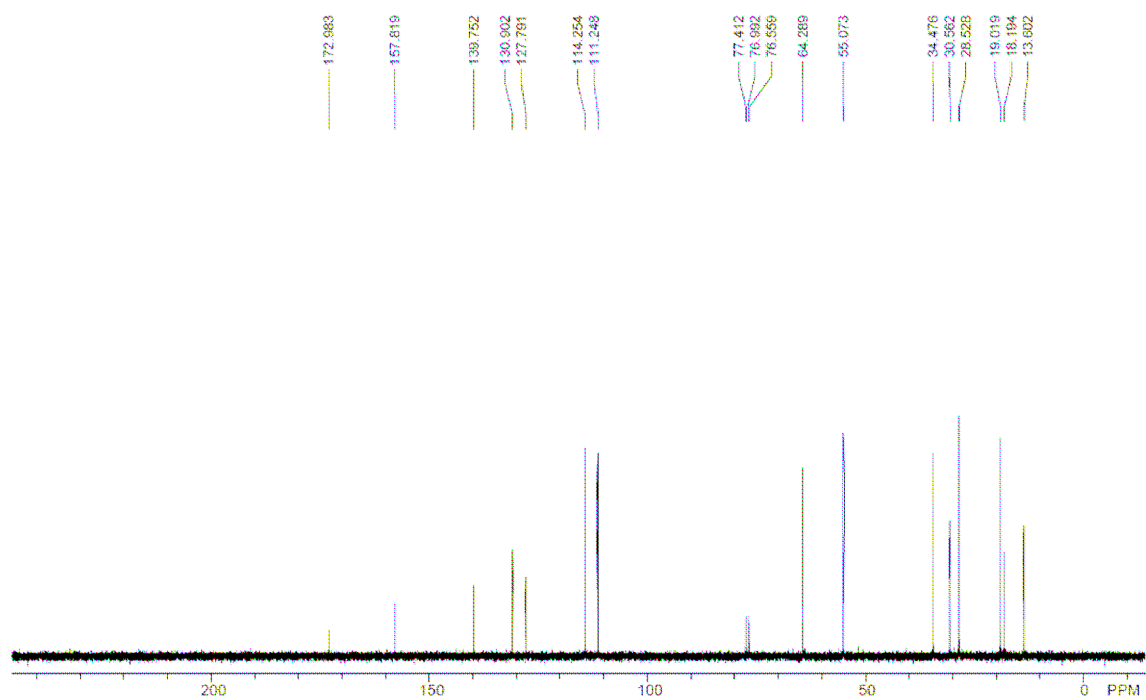
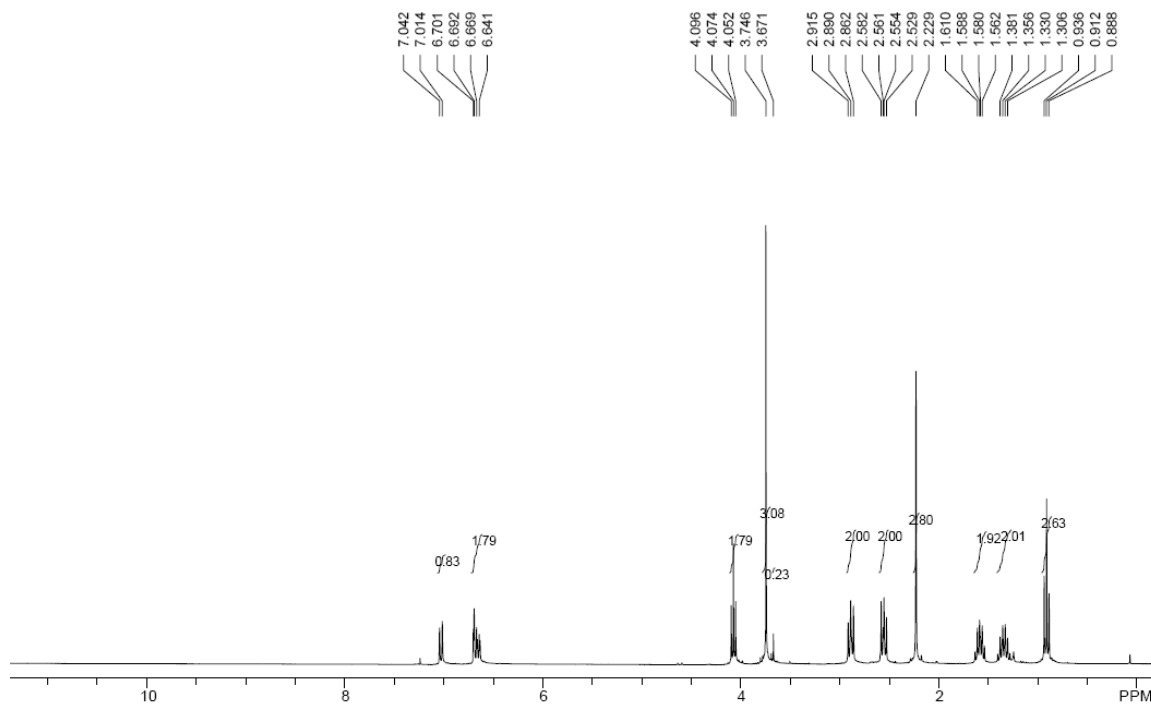
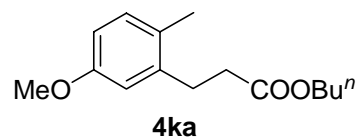
# NMR spectrum of compounds **4aa-4rd**

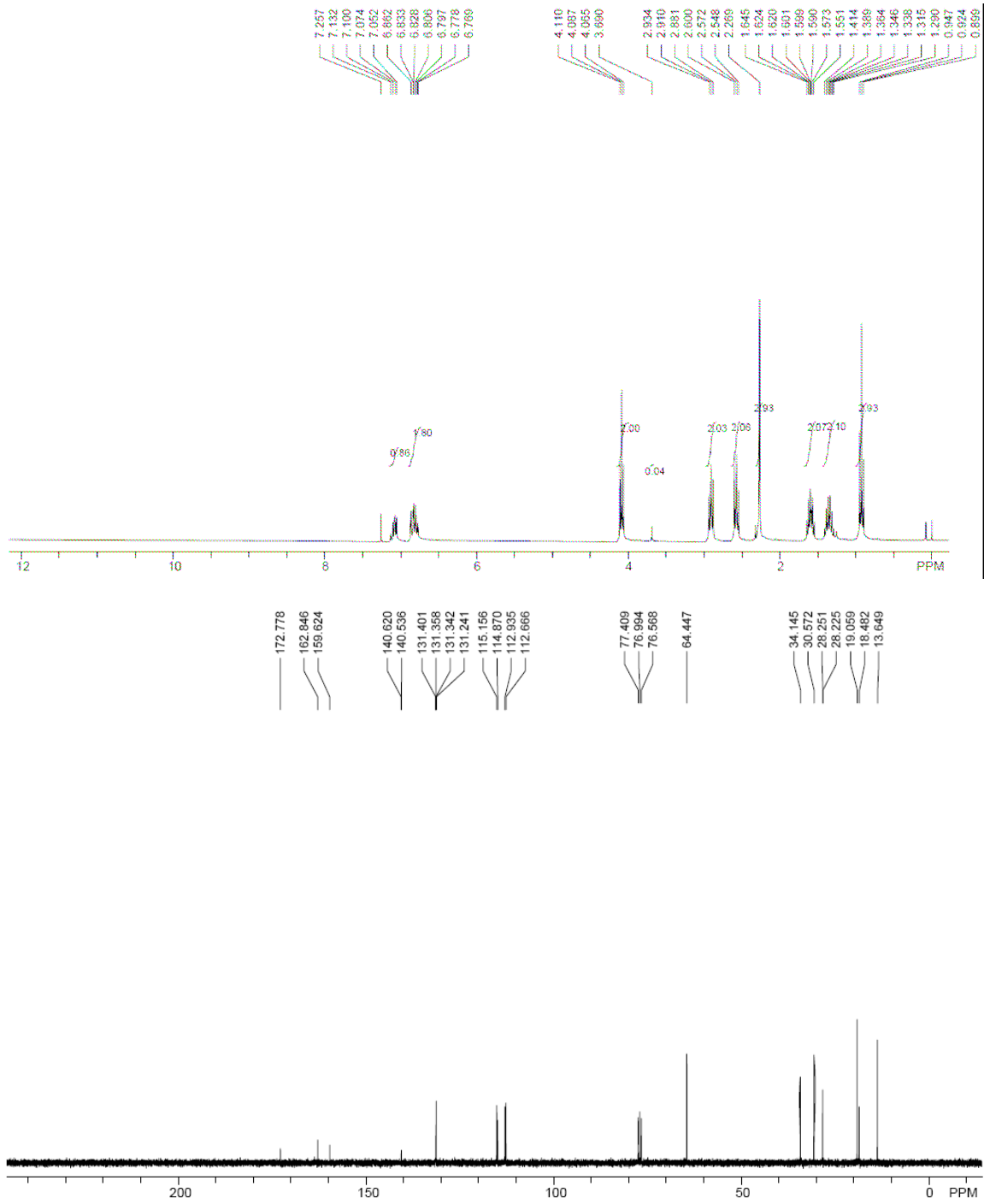
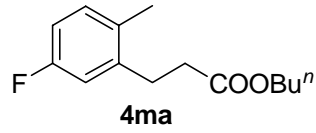


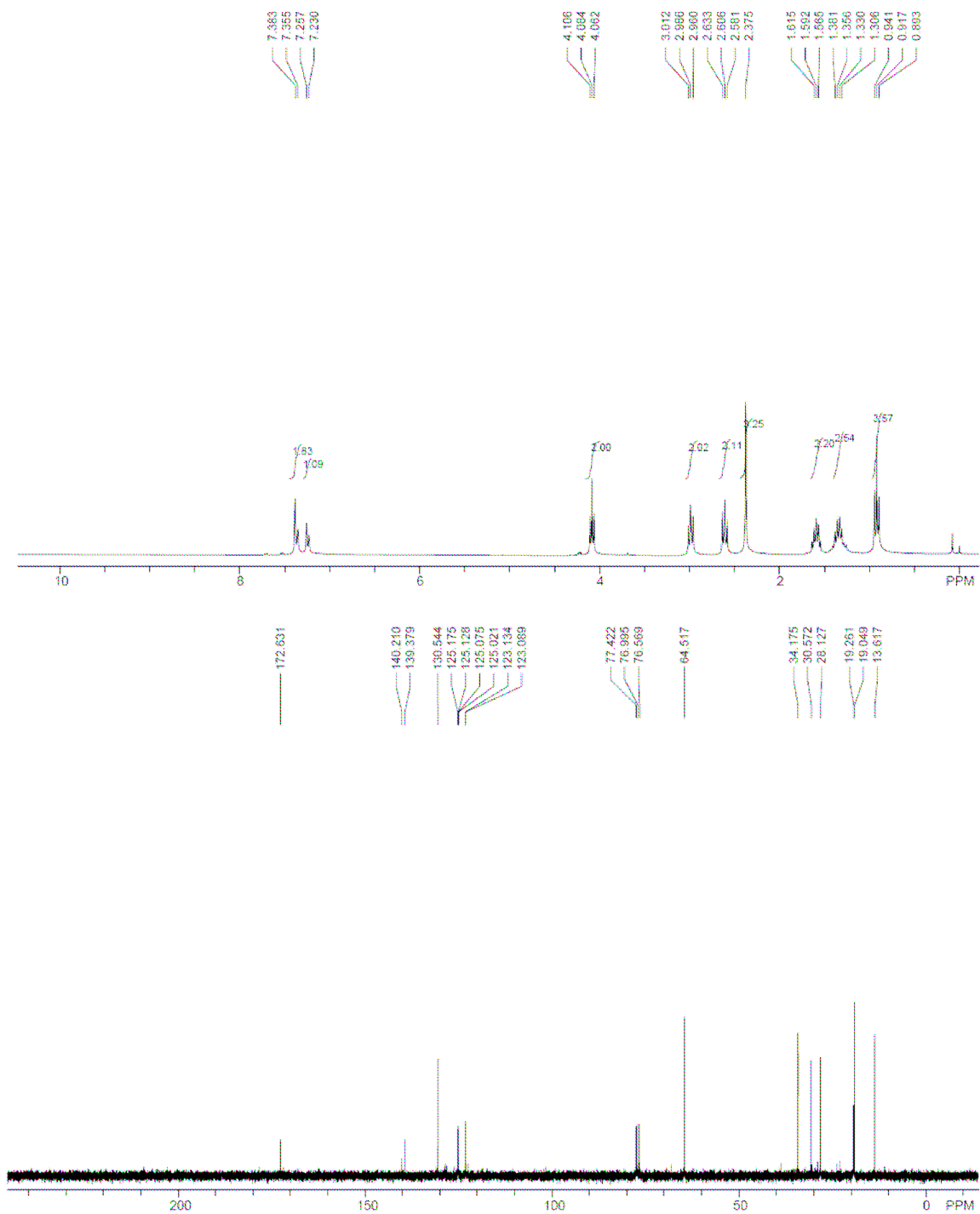
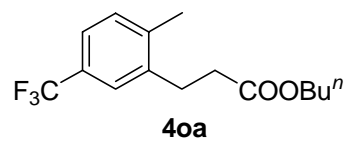


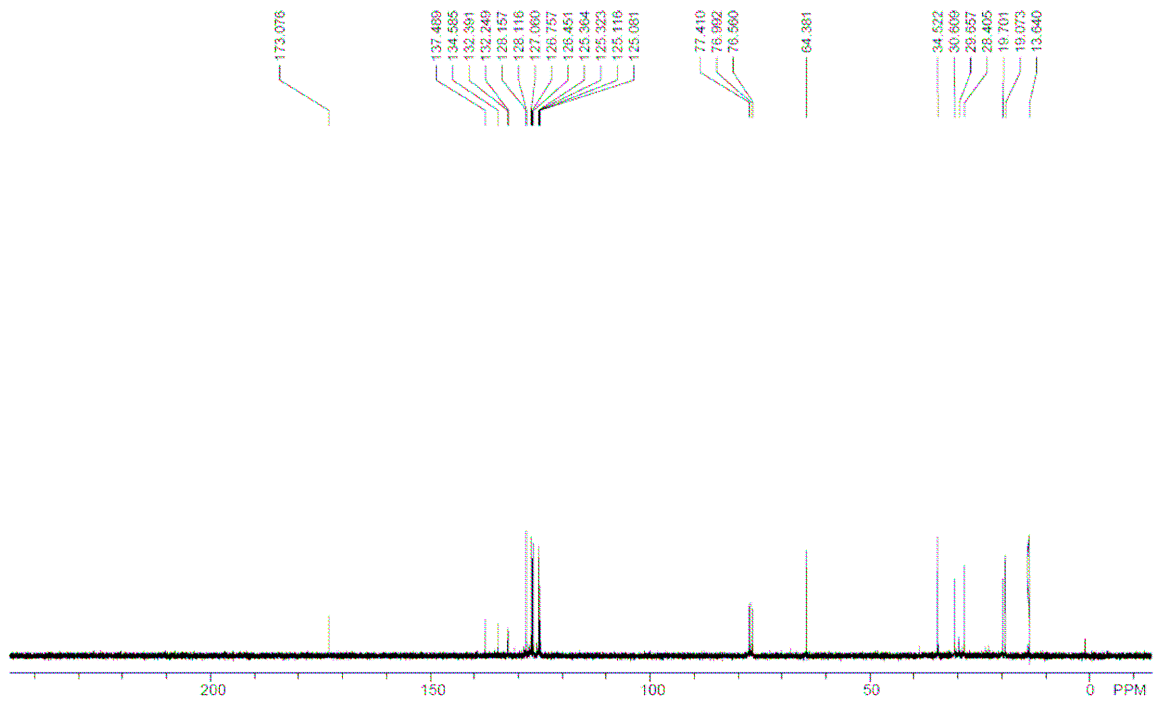
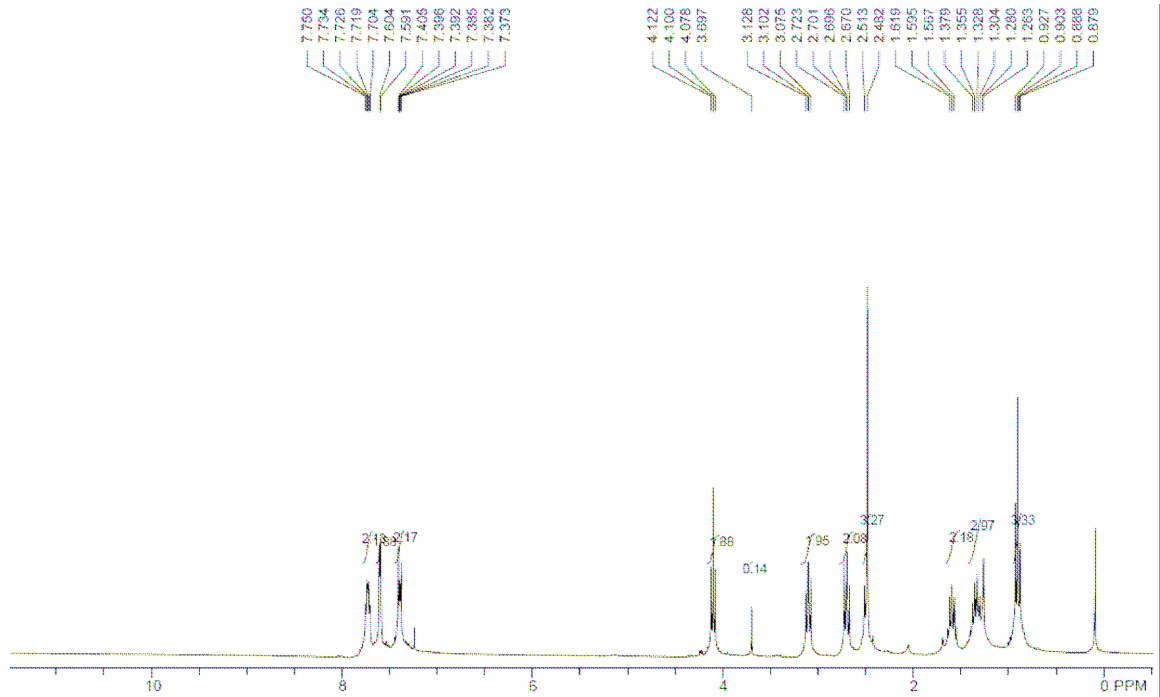
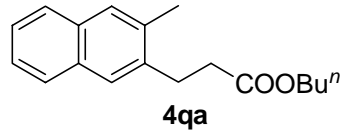


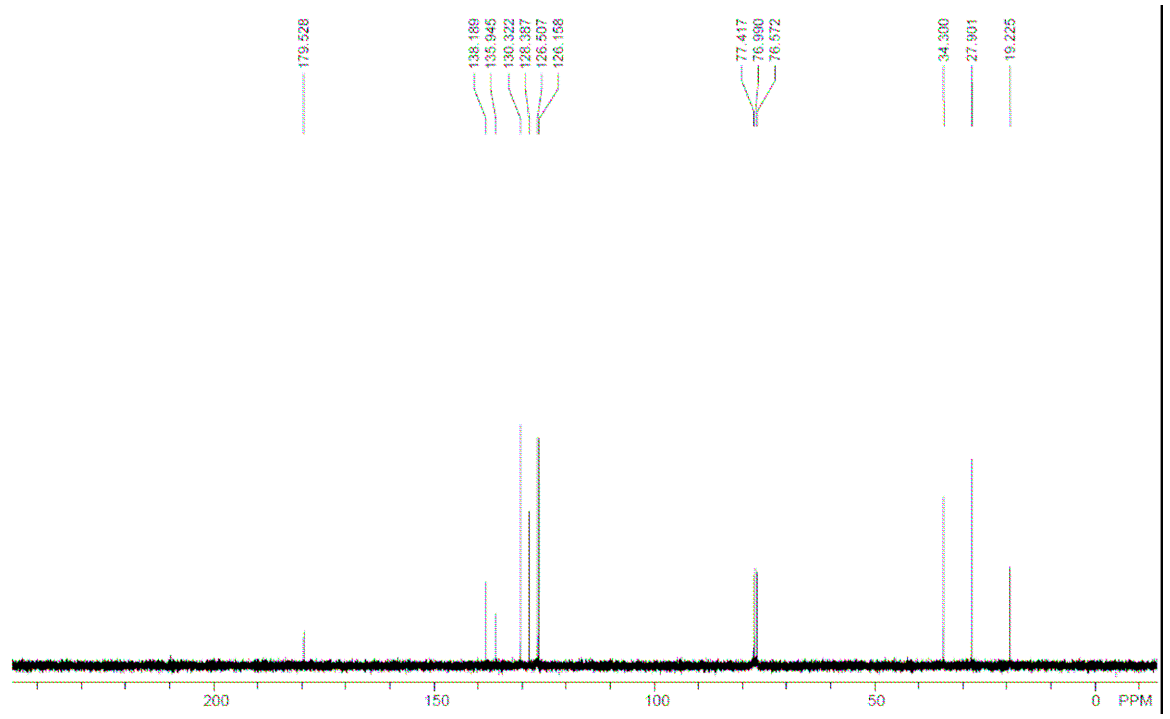
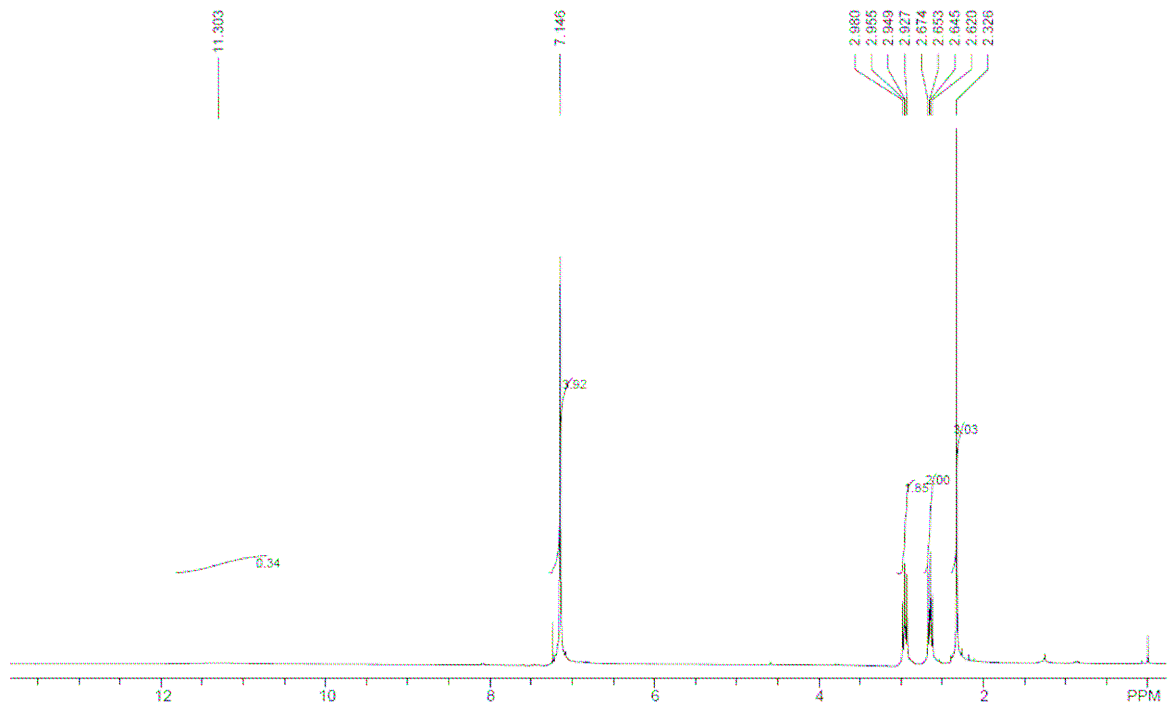
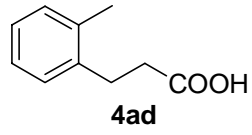


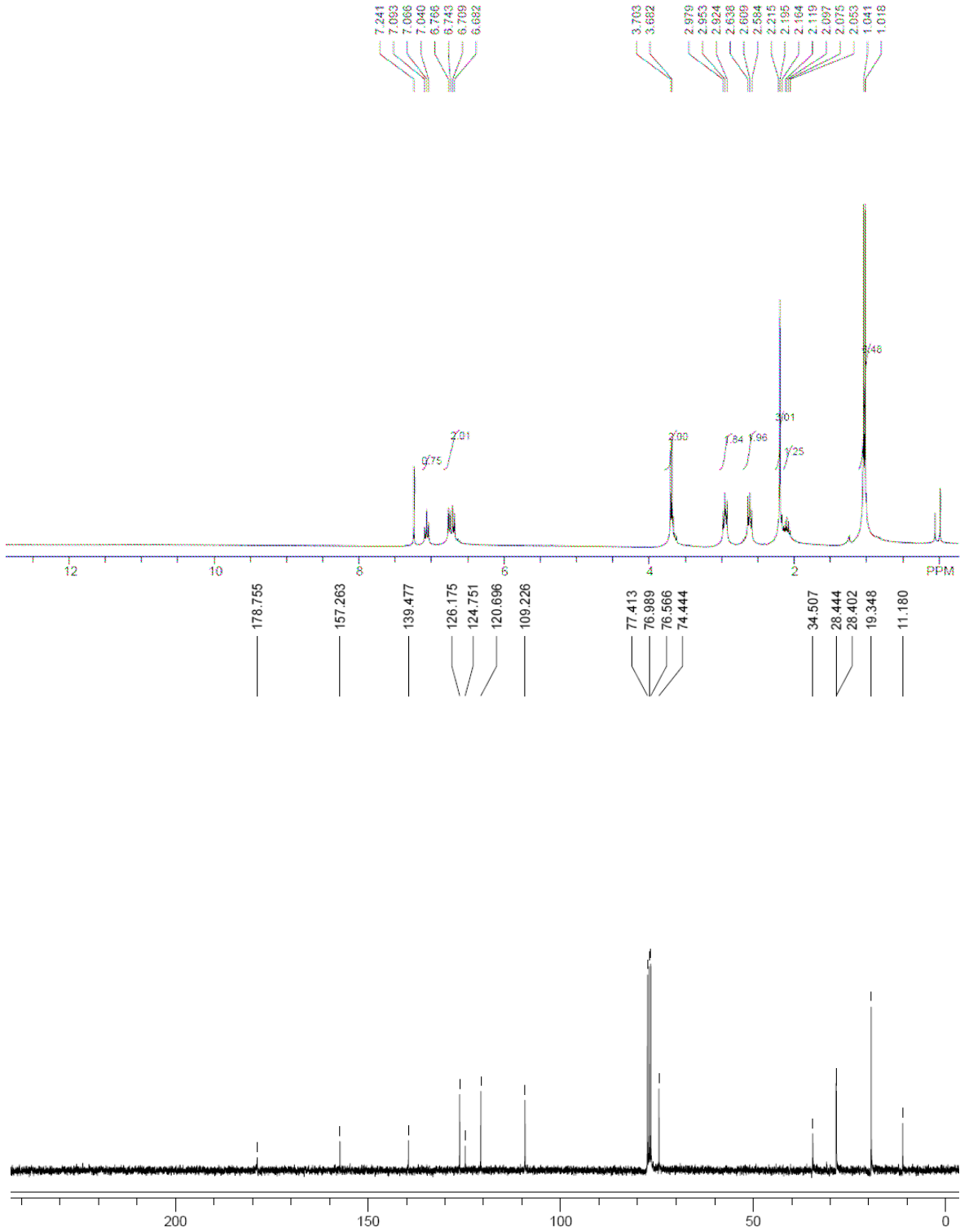
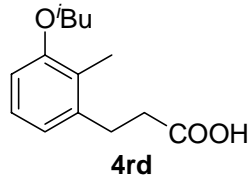


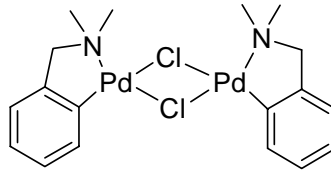












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