

Supporting Information

X-ray Absorption and Electron Paramagnetic Resonance Guided Discovery of the Cu-Catalyzed Synthesis of Multiaryl-Substituted Furans from Aryl Styrene and Ketones Using DMSO as the Oxidant

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1. EPR Data Collection and Analysis

1.1 General Information

EPR spectra were recorded on a Bruker X-band A200 spectrometer. The samples were taken out into a small tube, and then recorded by EPR spectrometer at indicated temperature and parameters. DMSO was degassed the air by the method of freeze-pump-thaw cycle for 5 times.

1.2 Experimental Details

1.2.1 The interaction between DMSO and CuBr

To an oven-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was loaded with *CuBr* (72 mg, 0.5 mmol) in glovebox, subsequently, *DMSO* (5 mL) was injected into the tube, the solution sample was taken out into a small tube, then analyzed by EPR at 5 mins, 30 mins, 60 mins and 120 mins. EPR spectrum was recorded at 298 K on EPR spectrometer operated at 9.4158 GHz. Typical spectrometer parameters are shown as follows: Scan range: 100 G; center field set: 3359.8 G; time constant: 163.84 ms; scan time: 30.72 s; modulation amplitude: 1.0 G; modulation frequency: 100 kHz; receiver gain: 1.00×10^5 ; microwave power: 19.05 mW.

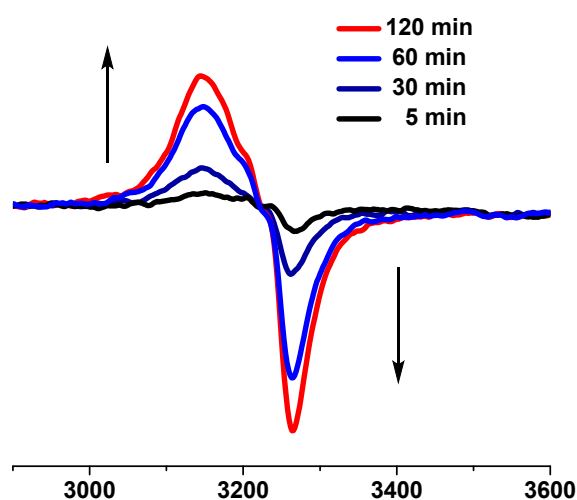


Fig S1. *CuBr* (0.5 mmol) in *DMSO* (5.0 mL) at rt under N_2 .

1.2.2 The interaction between deoxybenzoin and $CuBr_2$

A dried Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was loaded with *CuBr₂* (0.5 mmol, 112 mg), deoxybenzoin (1.0 mmol, 196 mg) and *DMF* (5 mL) under the atmosphere of nitrogen at 100 °C. The solution sample was taken out into a small tube, then analyzed by EPR at 5 mins, 30 mins, 60

mins and 120 mins. EPR spectrum was recorded at 298 K on EPR spectrometer operated at 9.4158 GHz. Typical spectrometer parameters are shown as follows: Scan range: 100 G; center field set: 3359.8 G; time constant: 163.84 ms; scan time: 30.72 s; modulation amplitude: 1.0 G; modulation frequency: 100 kHz; receiver gain: 1.00×10^5 ; microwave power: 19.05 mW.

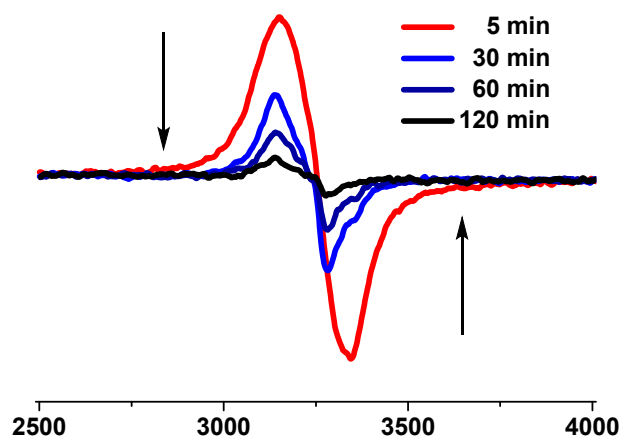


Fig S2. CuBr_2 (0.5 mmol) in DMF (5.0 mL), deoxybenzoin (1.0 mmol) at 100 °C under N_2 .

2. XANES and EXAFS Data Collection and Analysis

2.1 General Information

X-ray absorption measurements were acquired on the insertion device beam line of the Materials Research Collaborative Access Team (MRCAT) at the Advanced Photon Source, Argonne National Laboratory and the beamline 17C1 of National Synchrotron Radiation Research Center (NSSRC) in Taiwan. The data were collected in transmission quick scan mode. Insertion device experiments utilized a cryogenically cooled double-crystal Si (111) monochromator. The monochromator was scanned continuously during the measurements with data points integrated over 0.5 eV for 0.03 s per data point. The ionization chambers were optimized for the maximum current with linear response ($\sim 10^{10}$ photons detected/sec) with 10% absorption (N_2) in the incident ion chamber and 70% absorption (60% N_2 and 40% Ar) in the transmission detector. A Cu foil spectrum (edge energy 8979 eV) was acquired simultaneously with each measurement for energy calibration. Multiple scans were taken to reduce the noise.

All solution samples were placed in a sample holder (the XAS solution cell) made of PEEK (polyether ether ketone) equipped with a screw top and O-ring fitting to prevent exposure to air and water.^[1] For solution samples, the Cu concentration was adjusted to be 0.05 - 0.1 M with a path length of 3.5 mm. The sample holder was placed in a quartz tube (1-in. OD, 10-in. length) sealed with Kapton windows by two Ultra-Torr fittings and then used for transmission mode measurement.

The edge energy of the X-Ray absorption near edge structure (XANES) spectrum was determined from the inflection point in the edge, i.e., the maximum in the first derivative of the XANES spectrum. The pre-edge energy was determined from the maximum of the pre-edge peak.

Background removal and normalization procedures were carried out using the Athena software package using standard methods.^[2] Standard procedures based on Artemis software (Demeter 0.9.20) were used to extract the extended X-ray absorption fine structure (EXAFS) data. The coordination parameters were obtained by a least square fit in R-space of the nearest neighbor, k^2 weighted Fourier transform data.

2.2 Experimental Details

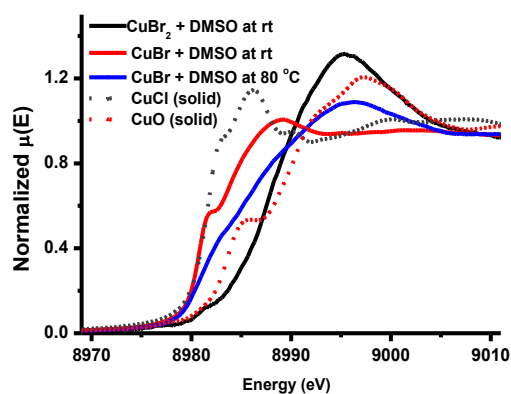
CuBr₂ / DMSO solution: CuBr₂ (0.1 mmol, 11.2 mg) was added to the XAS solution cell in a glovebox beforehand. Then, 5.0 mL of DMSO was injected into the cell and the solution was stirred under N_2 at room temperature for 5 minutes. XANES spectrum was measured at room temperature.

CuBr / DMSO solution: CuBr (0.1 mmol, 7.2 mg) was added to the XAS solution cell in a glovebox beforehand. Then, 5.0 mL of DMSO was injected into the cell and the solution was stirred under N_2 at room temperature for 5 minutes. XANES spectrum was measured at room temperature.

CuBr / DMSO solution at 80 °C: CuBr (0.1 mmol, 7.2 mg) was added to the XAS solution cell in a glovebox beforehand. Then, 5.0 mL of DMSO was injected into the cell and the solution was stirred under N_2 at 80 °C for 120 minutes. XANES spectrum was measured at room temperature.

CuCl solid sample: CuCl was mixed with boron nitride to a weight ratio of about 2% (Cu) in the glove box. The mixture was grinded well with mortar and pestle, and then 25 mg of the mixture was pressed into a cylindrical sample holder consisting of six wells with a radius of 2.0 mm, forming a self-supporting wafer. The sample holder was placed in a quartz tube (1-in. OD, 10-in. length) sealed with Kapton windows by two Ultra-Torr fittings and then used for transmission mode measurement.

CuO solid sample: CuO was mixed with boron nitride to a weight ratio of about 2% (Cu) in air. The mixture was grinded well with mortar and pestle, and then 25 mg of the mixture was pressed into a cylindrical sample holder consisting of six wells with a radius of 2.0 mm, forming a self-supporting wafer. The sample holder was placed in a quartz tube (1-in. OD, 10-in. length) and then used for transmission mode measurement.



XANES spectra of the oxidation process: CuBr (0.1 mmol, 7.2 mg) was added to the XAS solution cell in a glovebox beforehand. Then, 5.0 mL of DMSO was injected into the cell and the solution was stirred under N₂ at room temperature for 5 minutes. XANES spectrum was measured at intervals (2 minutes) at room temperature.

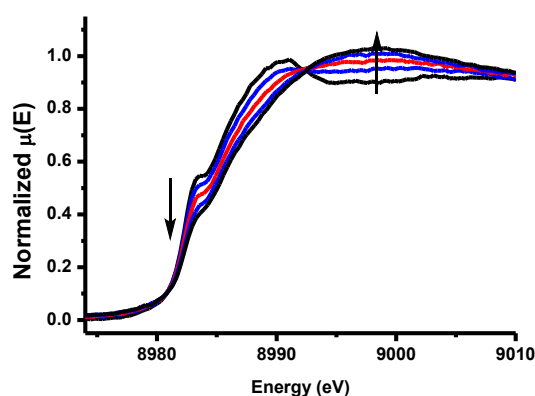


Table S1 Edge Energy and Oxidation States

sample	Pre-edge Energy (eV)	Edge Energy (eV)	Oxidation State
Cu foil	N.A.	8979.0	0
CuCl (Solid)	N.A.	8982.0	+1
CuO (solid)	8978.3	8983.3	+2

3. Detail of the reaction

3.1 General considerations

Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without purification. All the solvents were purified according to the solvents handbook. All reactions were performed in resealable screw-capped Schlenk tube (approx. 20 mL volume) in the presence of Teflon-coated magnetic stirrer bar (4 mm × 10 mm). General procedures for coupling reactions. Thin layer chromatography was performed on Merck precoated silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ plates. Silica gel (Merck, 70-230 and 230-400 mesh) was used for column chromatography. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were measured with a Waters Micromass GCT instrument. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded with ADVANCE III (400 MHz). Spectra were referenced internally to the residual proton resonance in CDCl₃ (δ 7.27 ppm), or with tetramethylsilane (TMS, δ 0.00 ppm) as the internal standard. Chemical shifts (δ) were reported as part per million (ppm) in δ scale downfield from TMS. ¹³C NMR spectra were referenced to CDCl₃ (δ 77.0 ppm, the middle peak). Coupling constants (*J*) were reported in Hertz (Hz).

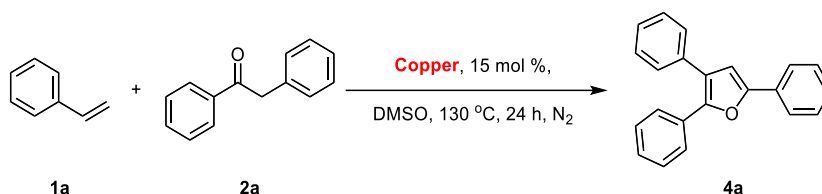
3.2 Experimental details

3.2.1 General Procedure for synthesis of Multiaryl-Substituted Furan:

To an oven-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was added CuCl_2 (0.037 mmol, 5 mg), *deoxybenzoin* (0.4 mmol, 78.4 mg), Then, *styrenes* (0.25 mmol, 28.6 μL) and *DMSO* (1 mL) were successively injected in the reaction tube with magnetic stirring. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir vigorously at 120 °C for 40 h. Thereafter, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and extracted thrice with ethyl acetate (3 * 5 mL). The organic layer was collected and dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . After filtration and evaporation of the solvent, the resulting crude product was separated on a silica gel column with hexane and dichloromethane as eluent to afford the desired product.

3.2.2 Impact of reaction parameters

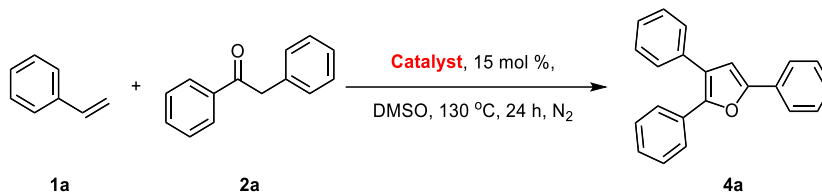
Table S1: Impact of varying copper catalyst ^a



entry	Copper	4a yield (%) ^b
1	none	n.d.
2	CuBr_2	26
3	CuBr	13
4	CuCl_2	67
5	CuCl	9
6	CuI	15
7	$\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$	Trace
8	$\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2$	n.d.
9	$\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$	n.d.
10	$\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$	15
11	CuF_2	n.d.
12	CuCN	n.d.
13 ^d	CuCl_2	20

^a Conditions: styrene (0.25 mmol), ketone (0.4 mmol), catalyst (15 mol %), DMSO (1 mL), 130 °C for 24 h under N_2 . ^b calibrated GC yields were reported using dodecane as the internal standard. ^c 120 °C for 40 h. ^d DMF was used as solvent, under air atmosphere.

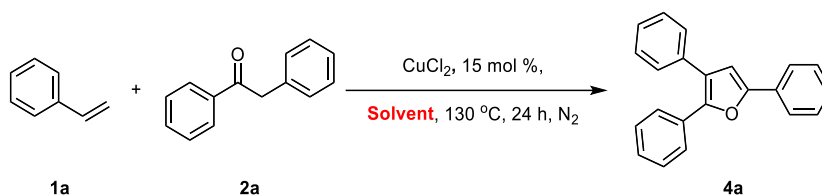
Table S2: Impact of varying different catalyst ^a



entry	Catalyst	4a yield (%) ^b
1	CuCl ₂	67
2	CuCl ₂ •2H ₂ O	64
3	NiBr ₂	n.d.
4	NiCl ₂	n.d.
5	CoCl ₂	n.d.
6	MnCl ₂	n.d.
7	AgI	n.d.
8	PdCl ₂	trace.
9	I ₂	trace.
10	Bu ₄ NI	n.d.
11	NBS	trace.
12	Bu ₄ NCl	n.d.
13	ZnCl ₂	n.d.
14	AlCl ₃	n.d.

^a Conditions: styrene (0.25 mmol), ketone (0.4 mmol), catalyst (15 mol %), DMSO (1 mL), 130 °C for 24 h under N₂. ^b calibrated GC yields were reported using dodecane as the internal standard.

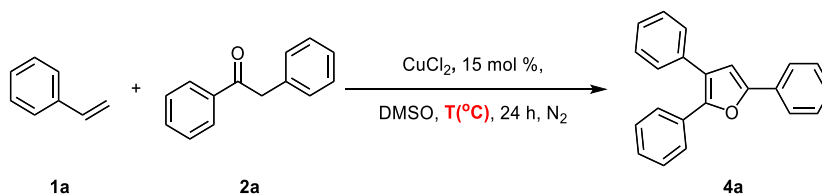
Table S3: Impact of different solvent ^a



entry	solvent	4a yield (%) ^b
1	DMF	n.d.
2	NMP	n.d.
3	toluene	n.d.
4	dioxane	n.d.
5	MeCN	n.d.
6	t-BuOH	n.d.

^a Conditions: styrene (0.25 mmol), ketone (0.4 mmol), CuCl₂ (15 mol %), Solvent (1 mL), 130 °C for 24 h under N₂. ^b calibrated GC yields were reported using dodecane as the internal standard.

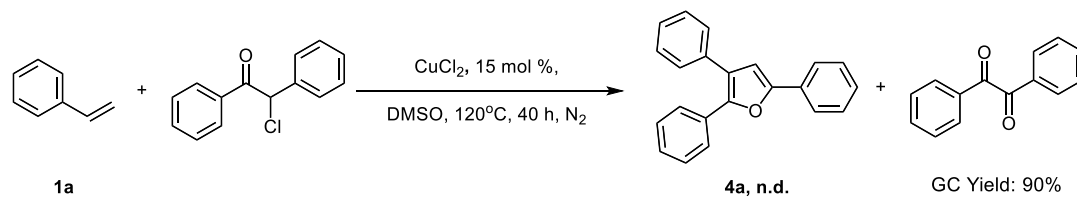
Table S4: Optimization of reaction Temperature ^a



entry	temperature (°C)	4a yield (%) ^b
1	140	20
2	130	67
3	120	52
4	110	13
5	100	trace
6 ^c	120	82

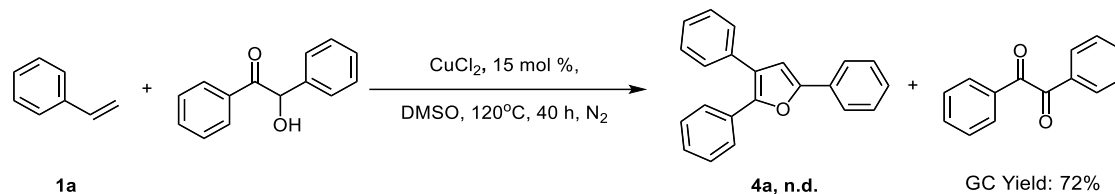
^a Conditions: styrene (0.25 mmol), ketone (0.4 mmol), CuCl₂ (15 mol %), DMSO (1 mL), T °C for 24 h under N₂. ^b calibrated GC yields were reported using dodecane as the internal standard. ^c 40 h.

3.2.3 Intermediate experiments



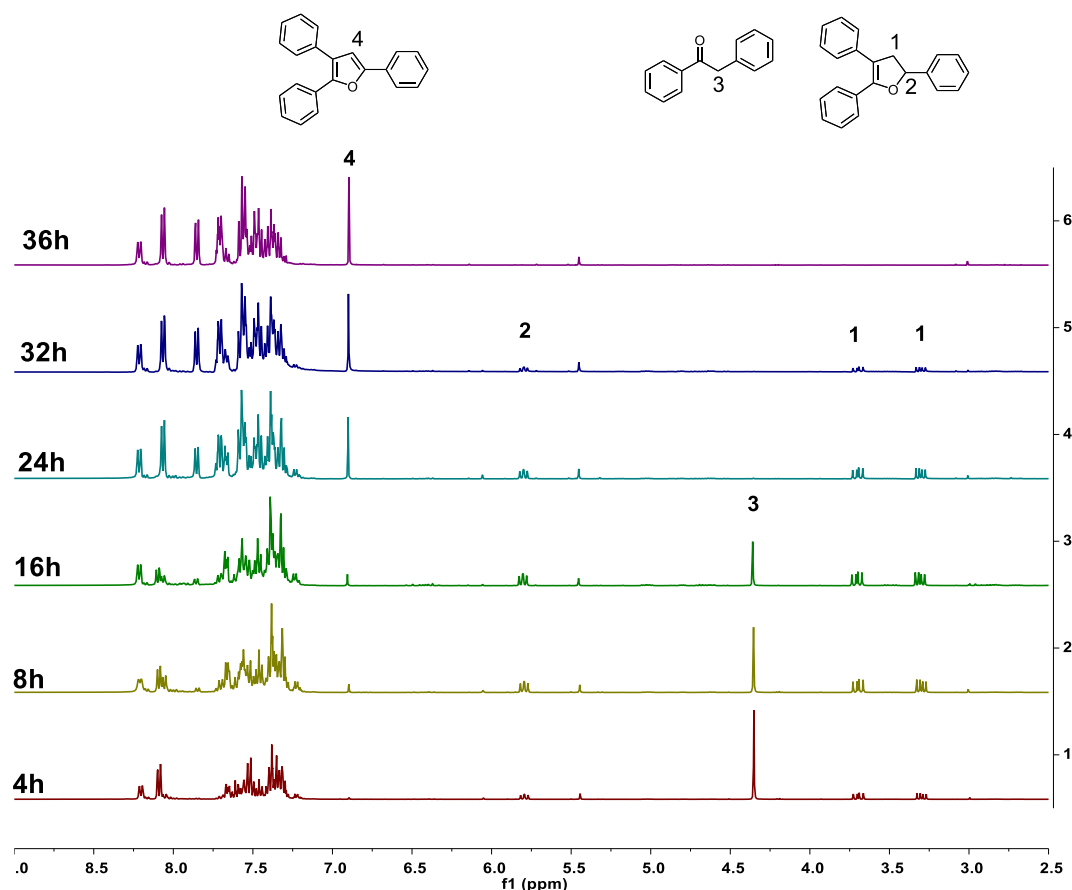
To an oven-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was added CuCl₂ (0.037 mmol, 5 mg), desyl chloride (0.4 mmol, 92 mg), Then, styrenes (0.25 mmol, 28.6 μL) and DMSO (1 mL) were successively injected in the reaction tube with magnetic stirring. The reaction mixture was allowed

to stir vigorously at 120 °C for 40 h. Thereafter, ethyl acetate (~3 mL), dodecane (57 mg, internal standard) and water (~2 mL) were added. The organic layer was subjected to GC analysis. The GC yield was previously calibrated by authentic sample/dodecane calibration curve.



To an oven-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was added CuCl_2 (0.037 mmol, 5 mg), 2-hydroxy-2-phenylacetophenone (0.4 mmol, 84.8 mg), Then, styrenes (0.25 mmol, 28.6 μL) and DMSO (1 mL) were successively injected in the reaction tube with magnetic stirring. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir vigorously at 120 °C for 40 h. Thereafter, ethyl acetate (~3 mL), dodecane (57 mg, internal standard) and water (~2 mL) were added. The organic layer was subjected to GC analysis. The GC yield was previously calibrated by authentic sample/dodecane calibration curve.

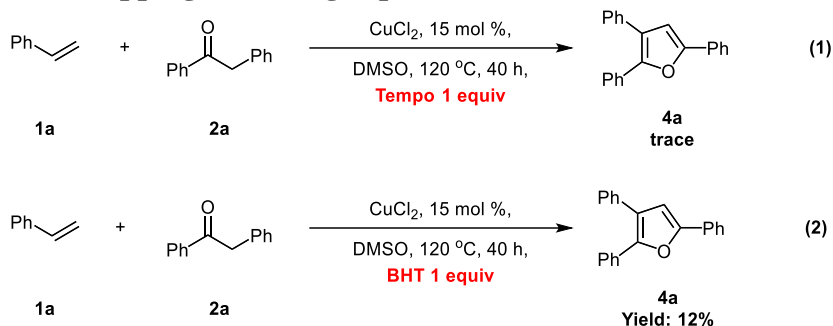
3.2.4 ^1H NMR experiment



The reaction between **1a** and **2a** in DMSO monitored by ^1H NMR: To an oven-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was added CuCl_2 (0.037 mmol, 5 mg), **2a** (0.4 mmol, 78.4 mg), Then, styrenes (0.25 mmol, 28.6 μL) and DMSO (1 mL) were successively injected in the reaction tube with magnetic stirring. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir vigorously at 120 °C for 4 h, 8 h,

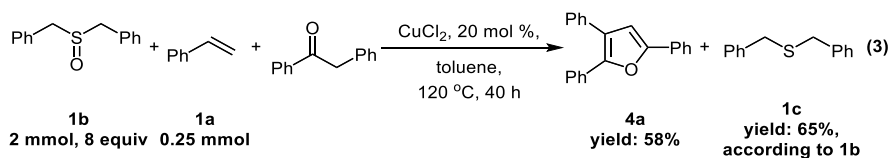
16 h, 24 h, 32 h and 36 h, respectively. Then, ethyl acetate (~3 mL) and water (~5 mL) were added. The organic layer was collected and concentrated. Thereafter, 0.5 mL of CDCl₃ was added, the mixture was detected by ¹H NMR.

3.2.5 Radical-trapping/inhibiting experiments



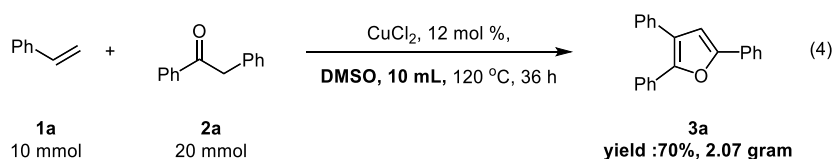
To an oven-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was added *CuCl*₂ (0.037 mmol, 5 mg), **2a** (0.4 mmol, 78.4 mg), Then, *styrenes* (0.25 mmol, 28.6 μL), Tempo (0.25 mmol, 39 mg) or BHT (0.25 mmol, 55 mg) and *DMSO* (1 mL) were successively injected in the reaction tube with magnetic stirring. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir vigorously at 120 °C for 40 h. Thereafter, ethyl acetate (~3 mL), dodecane (57 mg, internal standard) and water (~2 mL) were added. The organic layer was subjected to GC analysis. The GC yield was previously calibrated by authentic sample/dodecane calibration curve.

3.2.6 Reaction with dibenzyl sulfoxide instead of DMSO



To an oven-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was added *CuCl*₂ (0.05 mmol, 6.7 mg), **2a** (0.4 mmol, 78.4 mg), Then, *styrenes* (0.25 mmol, 28.6 μL), **1b** (2 mmol, 460 mg) and toluene (1 mL) were successively injected in the reaction tube with magnetic stirring. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir vigorously at 120 °C for 40 h. Thereafter, ethyl acetate (~3 mL), dodecane (57 mg, internal standard) and water (~2 mL) were added. The organic layer was subjected to GC analysis. The GC yield was previously calibrated by authentic sample/dodecane calibration curve.

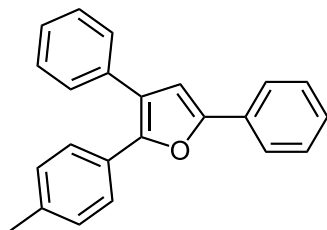
3.2.7 Gram-scale reaction



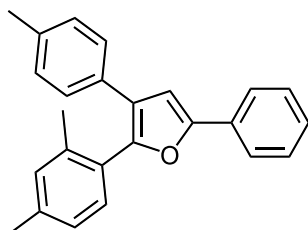
To an oven-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was added *CuCl*₂ (1.2 mmol, 160.8 mg), **2a** (20 mmol, 3920 mg), Then, *styrenes* (10 mmol, 1040 mg) and *DMSO* (10 mL) were successively

injected in the reaction tube with magnetic stirring. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir vigorously at 120 °C for 36 h. Thereafter, ethyl acetate (~30 mL) and water (~30 mL) were added. The organic layer was collected and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After filtration and evaporation of the solvent, the resulting crude product was separated on a silica gel column with hexane and dichloromethane as eluent to afford the desired product.

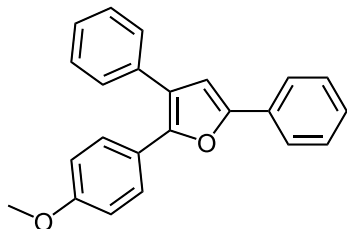
3.3 Characterization of Products



3,5-Diphenyl-2-(p-tolyl)furan (3a)^[3]: Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 77% (59.7 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.47 (m, 4H), 7.42 (m, 4H), 7.37 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.2, 148.2, 137.4, 134.4, 130.6, 129.1, 128.69, 128.65, 128.6, 128.3, 127.4, 127.2, 126.1, 123.8, 123.7, 109.3, 21.3.

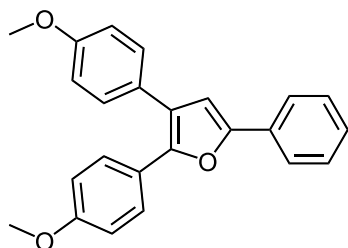


2-(2,4-Dimethylphenyl)-5-phenyl-3-(p-tolyl)furan (3b): Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 66% (55.8 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.40 (m, 4H), 7.35 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.20 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 2.39 (s, 6H), 2.19 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.6, 147.9, 136.8, 135.5, 134.0, 133.6, 130.6, 130.1, 129.1, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 127.3, 124.5, 123.6, 123.1, 110.3, 21.2, 20.9, 19.6. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C₂₅H₂₃O⁺: 339.1743, found: 339.1742.

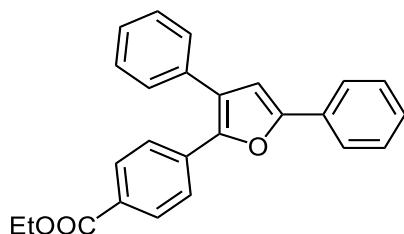


2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3,5-diphenylfuran (3c)^[4]: Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (95:5 v/v); white solid; isolated yield: 71% (57.9 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.66 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.50 – 7.42 (m, 4H), 7.36 (m, 2H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.8

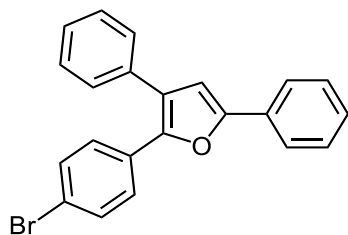
Hz, 2H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.1, 152.0, 148.0, 134.4, 130.6, 128.64, 128.58, 128.56, 127.6, 127.2, 127.0, 123.9, 123.6, 123.0, 113.8, 109.2, 55.2.



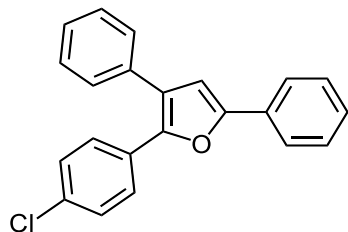
2,3-Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylfuran (3d)^[5]: Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (90:10 v/v); white solid; isolated yield: 52% (46.3 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.78 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.60 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.39 (m, 4H), 7.32 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 6.98 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 6.91 – 6.87 (m, 2H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 3.87 (d, *J* = 0.6 Hz, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.9, 158.7, 151.8, 147.6, 130.6, 129.7, 128.6, 127.5, 127.2, 126.7, 124.0, 123.6, 122.7, 114.0, 113.8, 109.3, 55.21, 55.20.



Ethyl 4-(3,5-diphenylfuran-2-yl)benzoate (3e): Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (95:5 v/v); colorless liquid; isolated yield: 53% (58.8 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.82 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.63 – 7.53 (m, 4H), 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.29 (m, 4H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 4.42 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.4, 152.9, 148.6, 138.9, 130.7, 130.2, 129.9, 129.1, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 127.9, 127.7, 126.4, 123.8, 123.5, 108.8, 61.0, 31.6, 22.6, 14.3, 14.1. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C₂₅H₂₁O₃⁺: 369.1485, found: 369.1480.

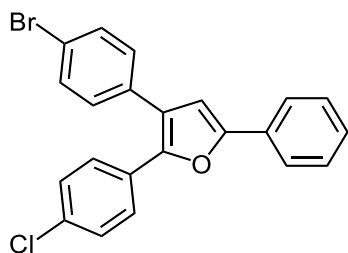


2-(4-Bromophenyl)-3,5-diphenylfuran (3f)^[3]: Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 68% (63.6 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.37 (m, 11H), 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.8, 146.7, 133.9, 131.5, 130.2, 129.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 127.7, 127.5, 127.4, 125.1, 123.8, 121.3, 109.6.

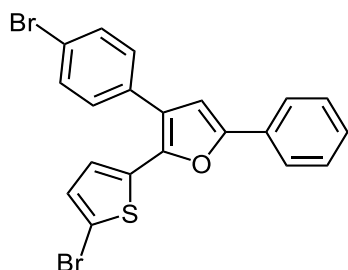


2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3,5-diphenylfuran (3g): Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 72% (59.4 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.50

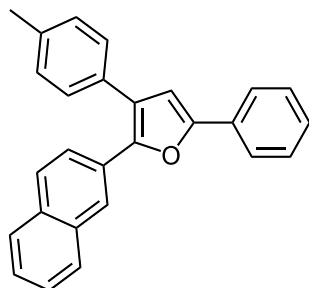
– 7.29 (m, 10H), 6.84 (s, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.7, 146.7, 133.9, 133.1, 130.2, 129.5, 128.7, 128.7, 128.6, 127.7, 127.5, 127.2, 125.0, 123.8, 109.5. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{ClO}^+$: 331.0884, found: 331.0879.



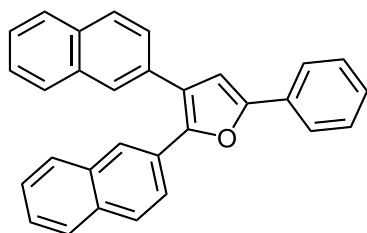
3-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-phenylfuran (3h): Eluent: petroleum ether; white solid; isolated yield: 74% (75.3 mg). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.78 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.50 (m, 4H), 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.32 (m, 5H), 6.78 (s, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 153.0, 146.8, 133.4, 132.9, 131.9, 130.2, 130.0, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 127.8, 127.3, 123.8, 123.7, 121.5, 109.0. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrClO}^+$: 408.9989, found: 408.9980.



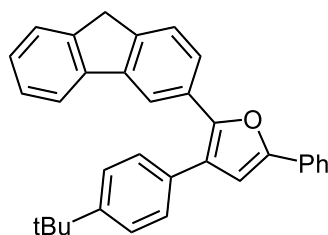
3-(4-bromophenyl)-2-(5-bromothiophen-2-yl)-5-phenylfuran (3i): Eluent: petroleum ether; light yellow solid; isolated yield: 74% (85.1 mg). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.80 – 7.72 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.05 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 6.75 (s, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.8, 142.7, 134.1, 131.9, 131.9, 130.2, 130.1, 129.7, 128.7, 127.9, 124.1, 123.7, 123.3, 121.8, 111.9, 108.7. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{13}\text{Br}_2\text{OS}^+$: 458.9048, found: 458.9031.



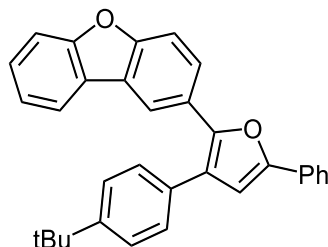
2-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-5-phenyl-3-(p-tolyl)furan (3j): Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (99:1 v/v); white solid; isolated yield: 61% (54.9 mg). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.00 (d, $J = 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.92 – 7.81 (m, 5H), 7.62 – 7.51 (m, 5H), 7.46 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.14 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.4, 148.5, 137.5, 133.6, 132.6, 131.9, 130.6, 129.1, 128.7, 128.3, 128.1, 127.9, 127.7, 127.4, 127.2, 127.1, 126.2, 125.9, 123.8, 123.8, 109.4, 21.3. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}^+$: 361.1587, found: 361.1592.



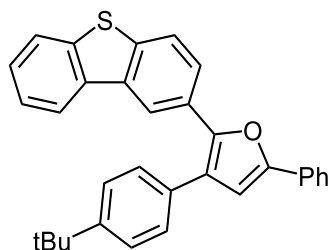
2,3-Di(naphthalen-2-yl)-5-phenylfuran (3k)^[5]: Eluent: petroleum ether/dichloromethane (95:5 v/v); white solid; isolated yield: 69% (68.3 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.30 (s, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.99 – 7.85 (m, 7H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.69 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 – 7.53 (m, 6H), 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.9, 148.2, 133.6, 133.3, 132.62, 132.58, 131.7, 130.4, 128.7, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 127.95, 127.91, 127.86, 127.7, 127.60, 127.56, 127.2, 127.0, 126.2, 126.1, 126.0, 124.95, 124.88, 124.2, 123.8, 109.7.



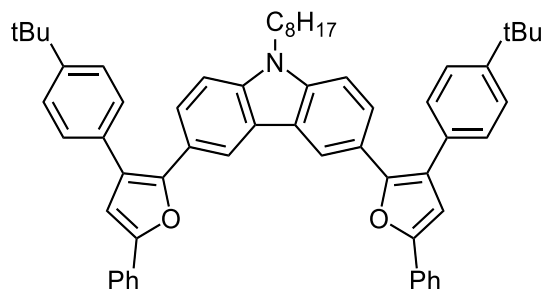
3-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-2-(9H-fluoren-3-yl)-5-phenylfuran (3l): Eluent: petroleum ether/dichloromethane (95:5 v/v); white solid; isolated yield: 75% (82.5 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 – 7.96 (m, 1H), 7.94 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.87 – 7.84 (m, 1H), 7.81 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.65 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.59 – 7.52 (m, 6H), 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.40 (m, 2H), 6.95 (s, 1H), 3.97 (s, 2H), 1.52 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.2, 150.1, 148.2, 143.5, 143.3, 141.3, 140.9, 131.3, 130.5, 129.6, 128.6, 128.2, 127.3, 126.72, 126.66, 125.5, 125.0, 124.9, 124.1, 123.7, 122.6, 119.8, 119.7, 109.6, 36.9, 34.5, 31.3. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C₃₃H₂₉O⁺: 441.2213, found: 441.2190.



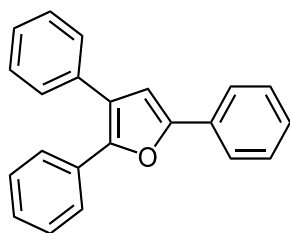
2-(3-(4-(Tert-butyl)phenyl)-5-phenylfuran-2-yl)dibenzo[b,d]furan (3m): Eluent: petroleum ether/dichloromethane (95:5 v/v); white solid; isolated yield: 65% (71.8 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.27 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.95 – 7.91 (m, 1H), 7.89 – 7.85 (m, 2H), 7.78 (m, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 7H), 7.41 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 1.45 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.5, 155.5, 152.3, 150.3, 147.9, 131.2, 130.6, 128.7, 128.2, 127.4, 127.3, 126.3, 126.0, 125.6, 124.4, 124.1, 123.7, 122.8, 120.7, 118.5, 111.7, 111.5, 109.4, 34.6, 31.4. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C₂₇H₂₁O⁺: 443.2006, found: 443.2013.



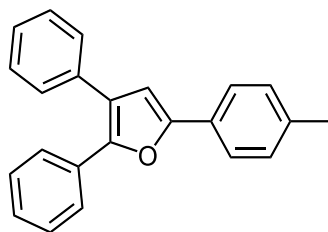
3-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-2-(dibenzo[b,d]thiophen-2-yl)-5-phenylfuran (3n): Eluent: petroleum ether/dichloromethane (95:5 v/v); white solid; isolated yield: 63% (72.1 mg). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.37 – 8.34 (m, 1H), 8.00 – 7.95 (m, 1H), 7.86 (m, 3H), 7.82 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.42 (m, 8H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 1.44 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.4, 150.5, 147.8, 139.7, 138.3, 135.6, 135.4, 131.3, 130.5, 128.7, 128.4, 127.7, 127.5, 126.8, 125.6, 124.8, 124.4, 124.3, 123.8, 122.8, 122.6, 121.6, 118.9, 109.5, 34.6, 31.4. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{27}\text{OS}^+$: 459.1777, found: 459.1752.



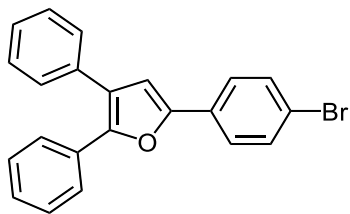
3,6-Bis(3-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-5-phenylfuran-2-yl)-9-octyl-9H-carbazole (3o): Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (95:5 v/v); white solid; isolated yield: 44% (91.0 mg). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.38 (d, $J = 1.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.86 – 7.81 (m, 4H), 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.39 (m, 12H), 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 6.91 (s, 2H), 4.29 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.90 (p, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 1.36 (s, 22H), 1.28 (m, 6H), 0.92 – 0.86 (m, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.0, 149.9, 149.2, 140.2, 131.4, 130.8, 128.7, 128.1, 127.1, 125.5, 125.2, 123.7, 123.0, 122.7, 118.9, 109.2, 108.7, 99.9, 43.3, 34.6, 31.8, 31.4, 29.3, 29.2, 29.0, 27.3, 22.6, 14.1. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for $\text{C}_{60}\text{H}_{62}\text{NO}_2^+$: 828.4775, found: 828.4778.



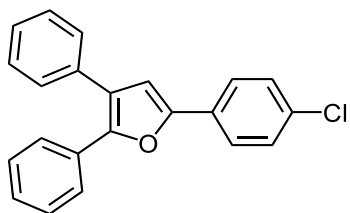
2,3,5-Triphenylfuran (4a)^[3]: Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 82% (60.7 mg). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.85 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.52 – 7.44 (m, 4H), 7.44 – 7.35 (m, 4H), 7.35 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.5, 147.9, 134.3, 131.1, 130.5, 128.7, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.49, 127.46, 127.3, 126.1, 124.5, 123.8, 109.4.



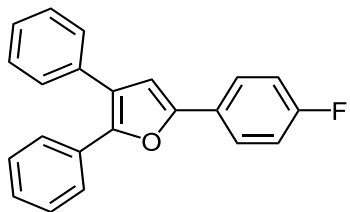
2,3-Diphenyl-5-(p-tolyl)furan (4b)^[3]: Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 74% (57.3 mg). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.71 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.40 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.28 (t, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 3H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.8, 147.5, 137.4, 134.4, 131.2, 129.4, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.8, 127.3, 127.2, 126.1, 124.5, 123.8, 108.8, 21.3.



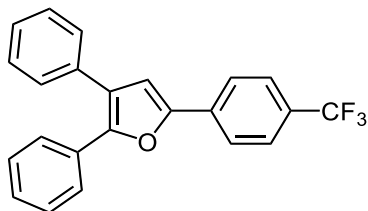
5-(4-Bromophenyl)-2,3-diphenylfuran (4c)^[3]: Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 67% (62.6 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.70 – 7.62 (m, 4H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.54 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.30 (m, 6H), 6.84 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.8, 146.7, 133.9, 131.5, 130.2, 129.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 127.7, 127.5, 127.4, 125.1, 123.8, 121.3, 109.6.



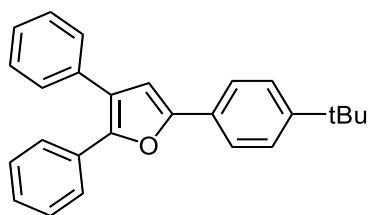
5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2,3-diphenylfuran (4d)^[5]: Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 71% (58.6 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.75 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (m, 8H), 6.83 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.5, 148.2, 134.1, 133.1, 130.9, 129.0, 128.9, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.7, 127.4, 126.1, 125.0, 124.6, 109.9.



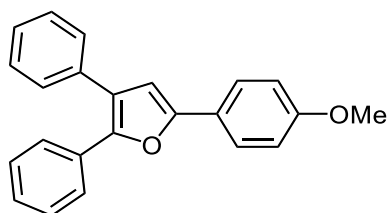
5-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2,3-diphenylfuran (4e)^[3]: Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 72% (56.5 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.67 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.14 (m, 6H), 7.05 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 6.65 (s, 1H). ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -113.9. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.3 (d, *J* = 248.0 Hz), 151.7, 147.9, 134.2, 131.0, 128.68, 128.66, 128.4, 127.4 (d, *J* = 20.0 Hz), 126.92, 126.89, 126.1, 125.5 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 124.5, 115.8 (d, *J* = 22.1 Hz), 109.1. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -113.9.



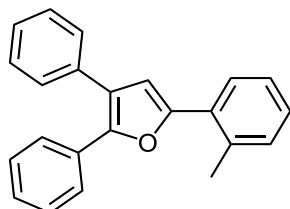
2,3-Diphenyl-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)furan (4f): Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 62% (56.4 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.72 – 7.61 (m, 4H), 7.52 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.28 (m, 6H), 6.94 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.0, 149.0, 133.8, 133.6, 130.7, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 127.9, 127.5, 126.3, 125.8 (q, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 124.7, 123.7, 111.3. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.4. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C₂₃H₁₆F₃O⁺: 365.1148, found: 365.1141.



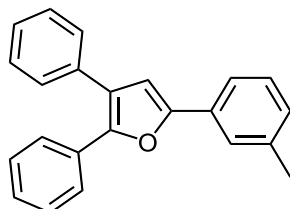
5-(4-(Tert-butyl)phenyl)-2,3-diphenylfuran (4g)^[3]: Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 80% (70.4 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 7.72 – 7.66 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.50 (m, 4H), 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 1.43 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.8, 150.6, 147.5, 134.4, 131.2, 128.7, 128.6, 128.3, 127.8, 127.3, 127.2, 126.0, 125.6, 124.5, 123.7, 108.9, 34.6, 31.3.



5-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2,3-diphenylfuran (4h)^[4]: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (95:5 v/v); white solid; isolated yield: 72% (58.4 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.2, 152.6, 147.1, 134.4, 131.2, 128.6, 128.6, 128.3, 127.20, 127.15, 125.9, 125.2, 124.4, 123.5, 114.1, 107.9, 55.2.

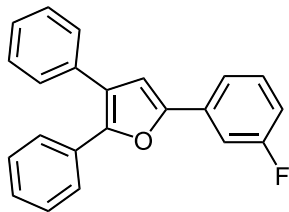


2,3-Diphenyl-5-(o-tolyl)furan (4i): Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 65% (50.4 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (m, 1H), 7.70 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.29 (m, 7H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 2.66 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.2, 147.4, 134.5, 134.4, 131.3, 131.1, 129.7, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.5, 127.4, 127.2, 126.8, 126.04, 126.01, 124.1, 112.9, 22.1. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C₂₃H₁₉O⁺: 311.1430, found: 311.1427.

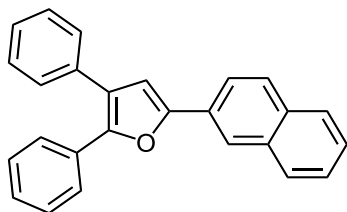


2,3-Diphenyl-5-(m-tolyl)furan (4j): Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 74% (57.4 mg). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.71 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.37 (m, 4H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.20 (dq, *J* = 7.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.6, 147.7, 138.2, 134.3, 131.1, 130.4,

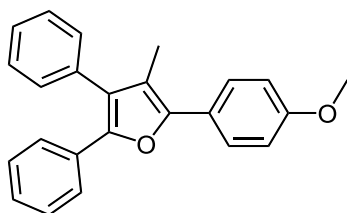
128.62, 128.60, 128.59, 128.33, 128.32, 127.4, 127.2, 126.1, 124.4, 124.3, 121.0, 109.3, 21.5.
HRMS (ESI): calcd. for $C_{23}H_{19}O^+$: 311.1430, found: 311.1431.



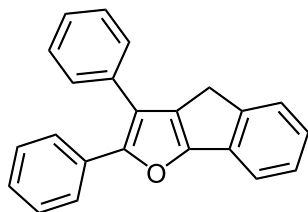
5-(3-Fluorophenyl)-2,3-diphenylfuran (4k): Eluent: petroleum ether; colorless liquid; isolated yield: 72% (56.5 mg). 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.68 – 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.49 (m, 3H), 7.46 – 7.30 (m, 7H), 7.01 (m, 2.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 163.2 (d, $J = 246.0$ Hz), 151.3, 151.2, 148.4, 134.0, 132.5 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz), 130.8, 130.3 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz), 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.6 (d, $J = 31.4$ Hz), 126.2, 124.6, 119.4 (d, $J = 2.8$ Hz), 114.2 (d, $J = 21.5$ Hz), 110.6 (d, $J = 23.6$ Hz), 110.4. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for $C_{22}H_{16}FO^+$: 315.1180, found: 315.1189.



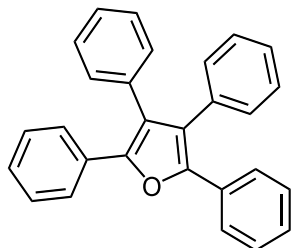
5-(Naphthalen-2-yl)-2,3-diphenylfuran (4l)^[5]: Eluent: petroleum ether; white solid; isolated yield: 69% (59.7 mg). 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.31 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 8.01 – 7.84 (m, 4H), 7.79 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.32 (m, 10H), 6.99 (s, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 152.5, 148.1, 134.2, 133.5, 132.7, 131.0, 128.6, 128.4, 128.1, 127.7, 127.5, 127.3, 126.5, 126.1, 125.9, 124.6, 122.2, 122.1, 110.1.



2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-4,5-diphenylfuran (4m): Eluent: petroleum ether; white solid; isolated yield: 57% (48.4 mg). 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.72 – 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.40 (m, 4H), 7.40 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 7.02 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 158.6, 147.8, 146.5, 134.0, 131.1, 130.2, 128.7, 128.2, 127.3, 127.0, 126.7, 125.9, 125.3, 124.6, 117.3, 114.0, 55.3, 10.3. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for $C_{24}H_{21}O_2^+$: 341.1536, found: 341.1532.

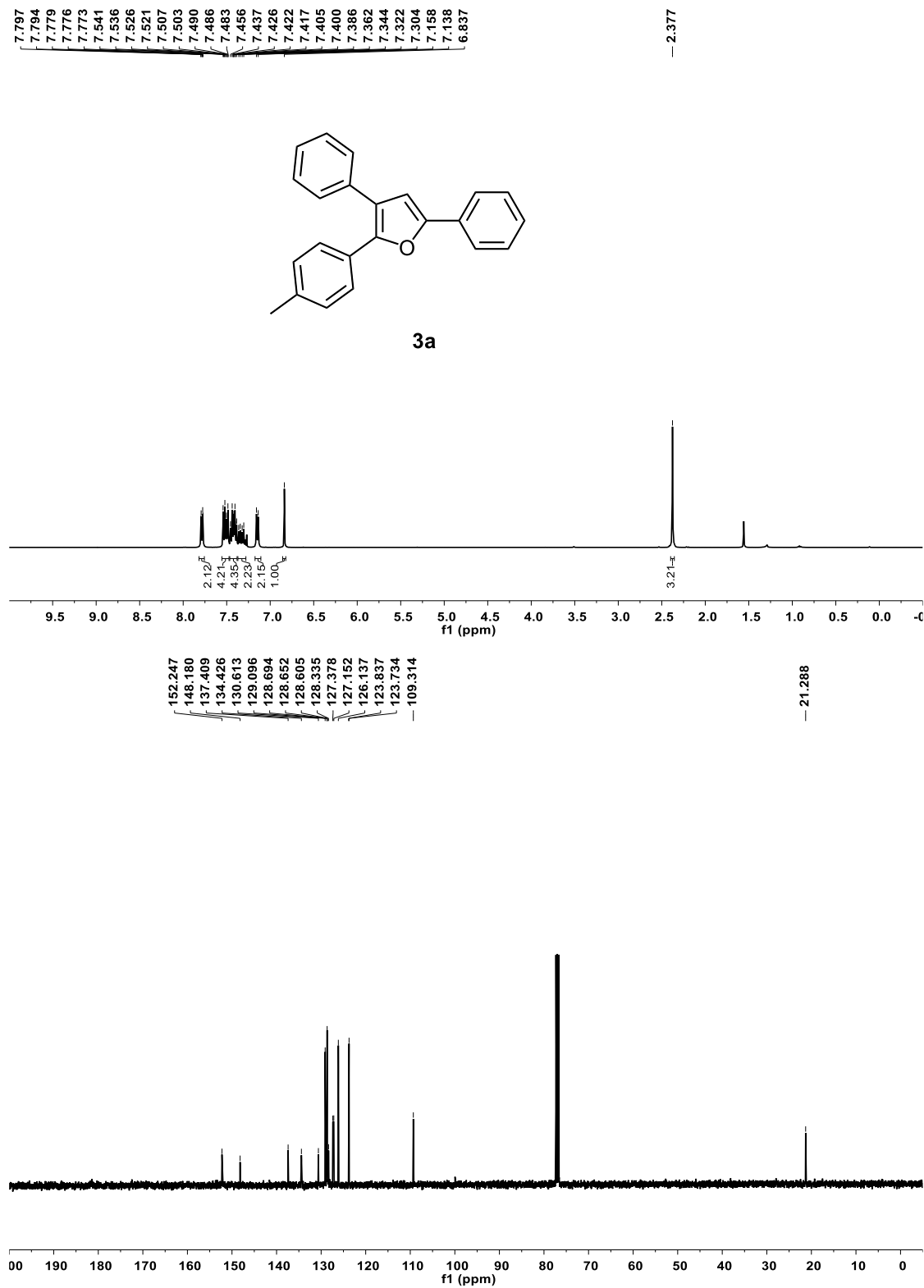


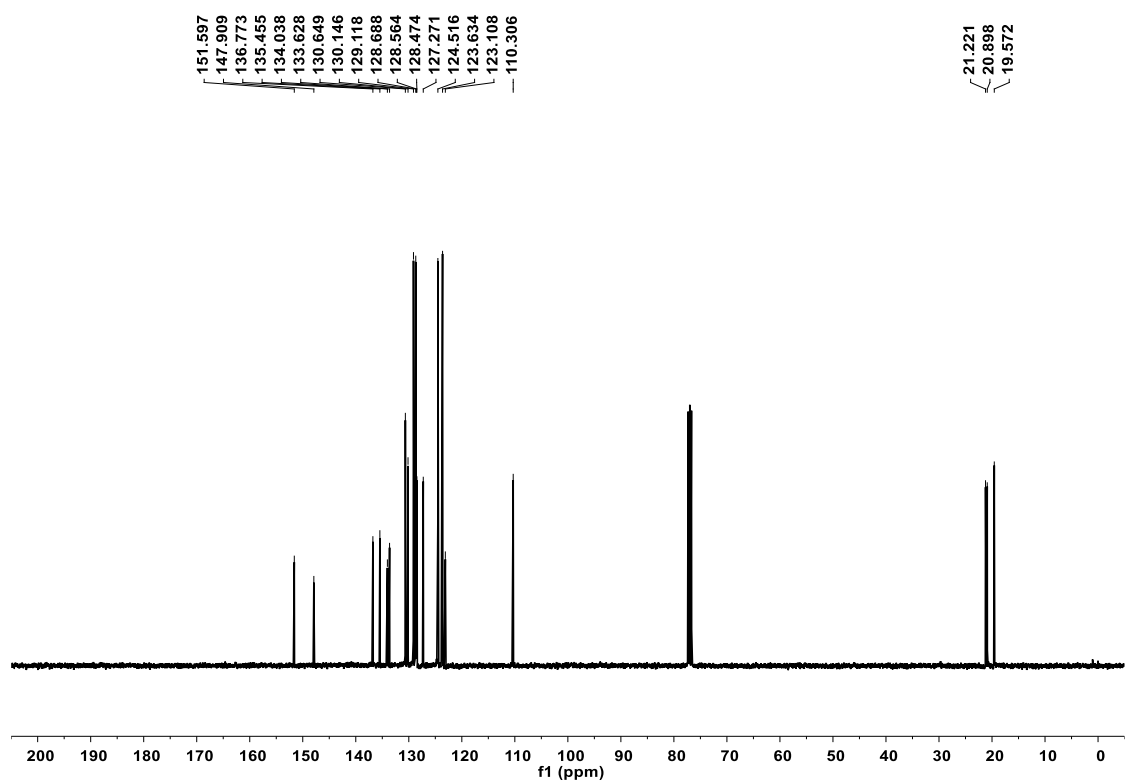
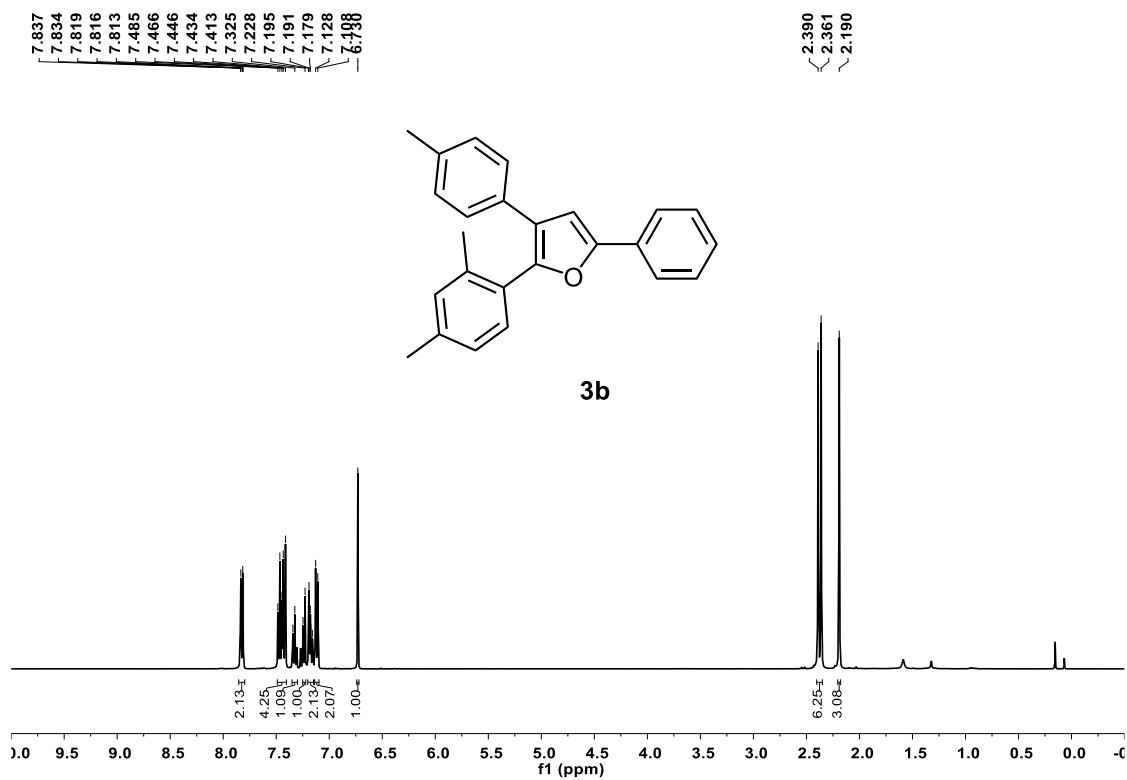
2,3-Diphenyl-4H-indeno[1,2-b]furan (4n): Eluent: petroleum ether; white solid; isolated yield: 40% (30.8mg). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.53 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.37 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.31 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.28 – 7.19 (m, 4H), 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.09 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.46 (s, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 158.3, 152.0, 146.0, 133.8, 133.3, 131.8, 130.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.4, 127.3, 126.9, 126.3, 125.4, 124.5, 121.4, 116.6, 29.6. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}^+$: 309.1274, found: 309.1283.

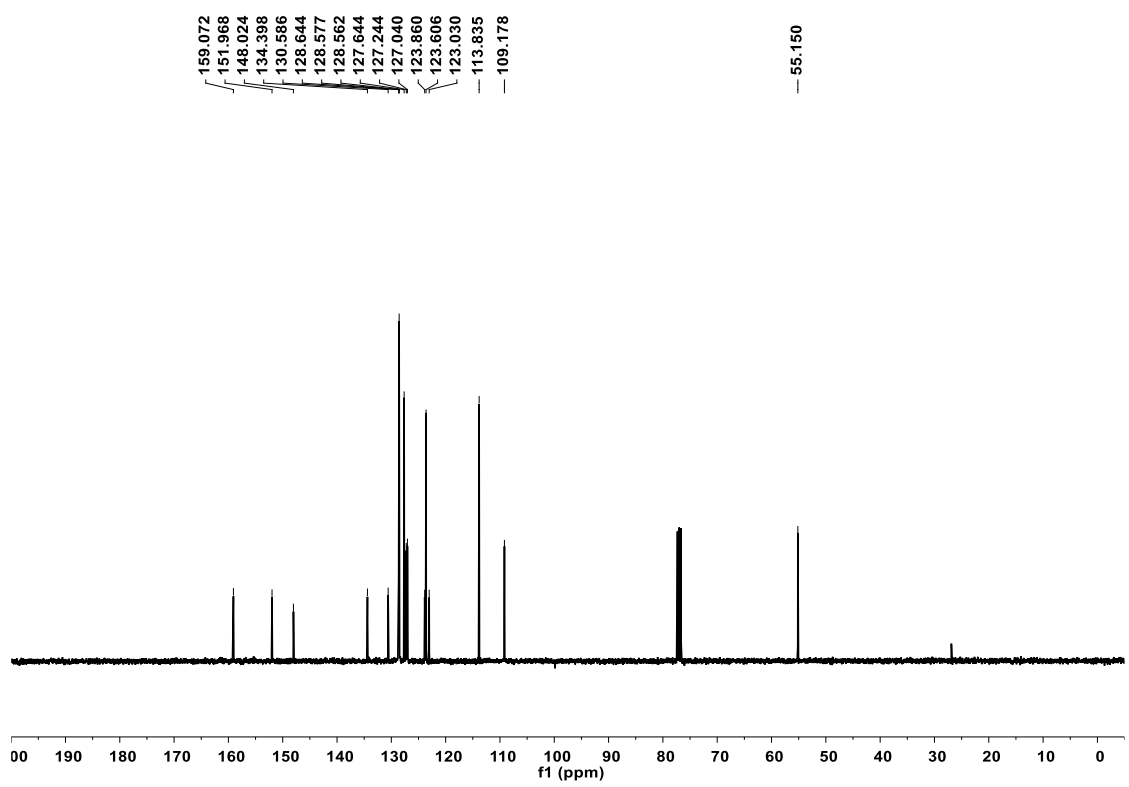
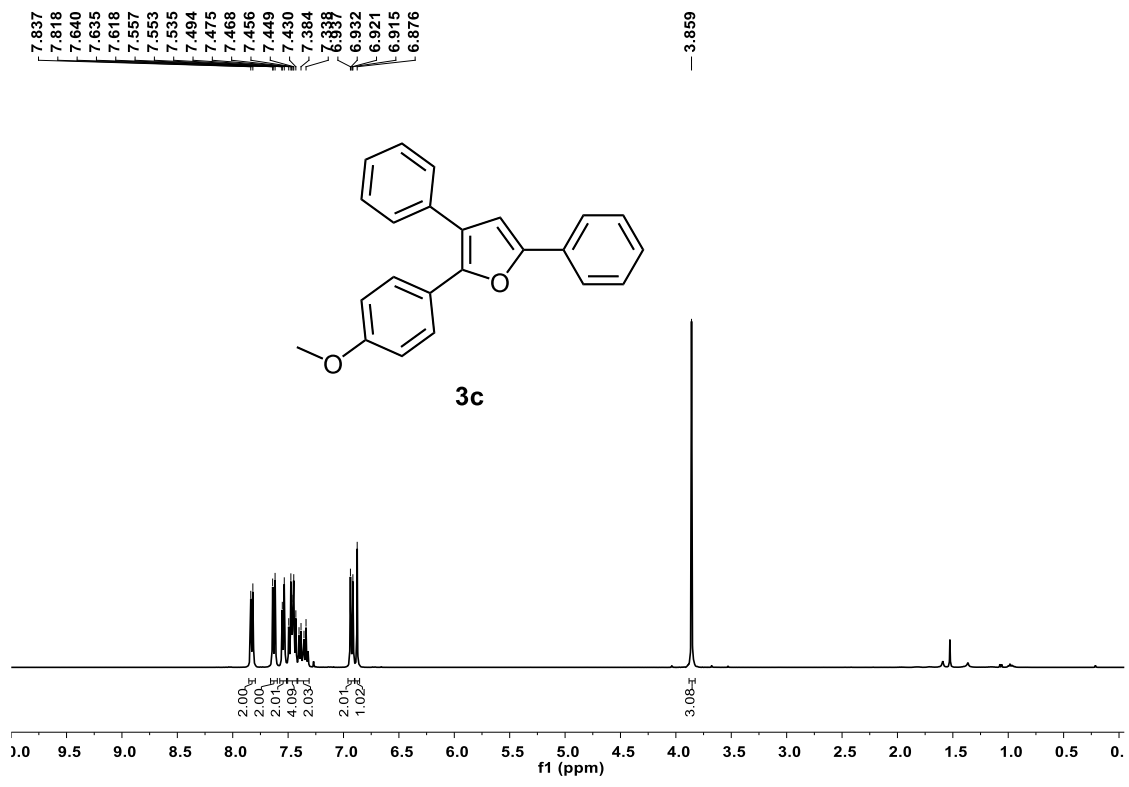


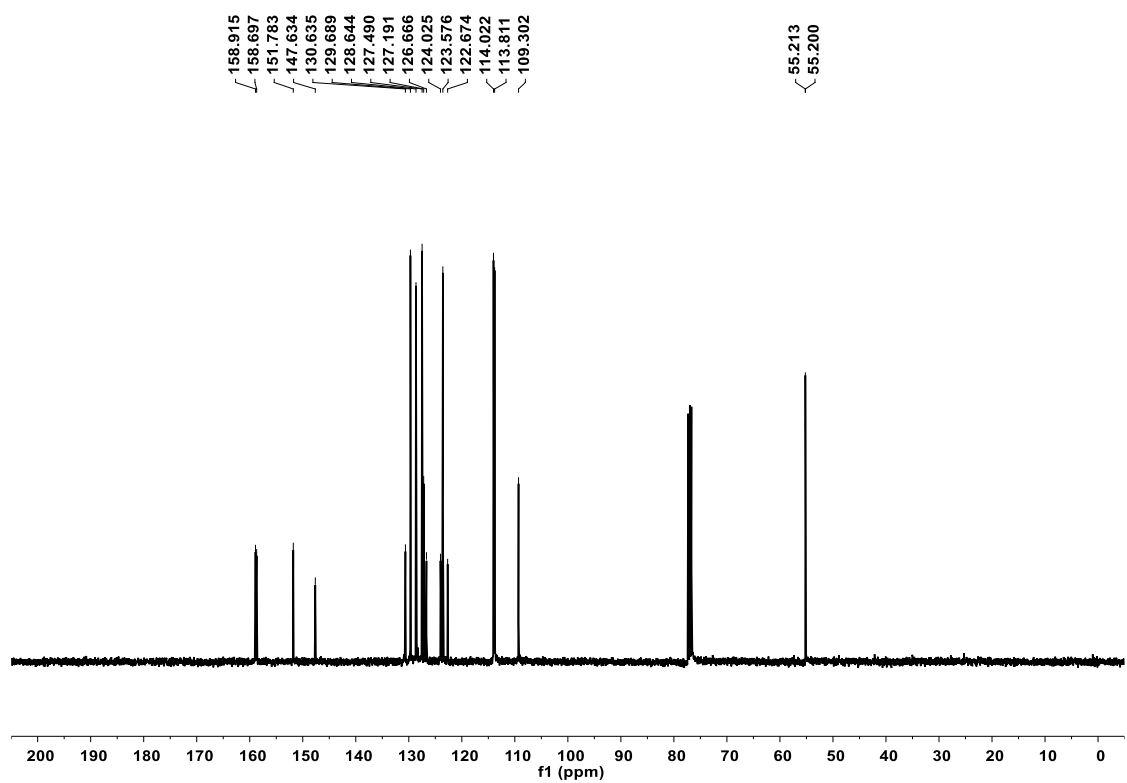
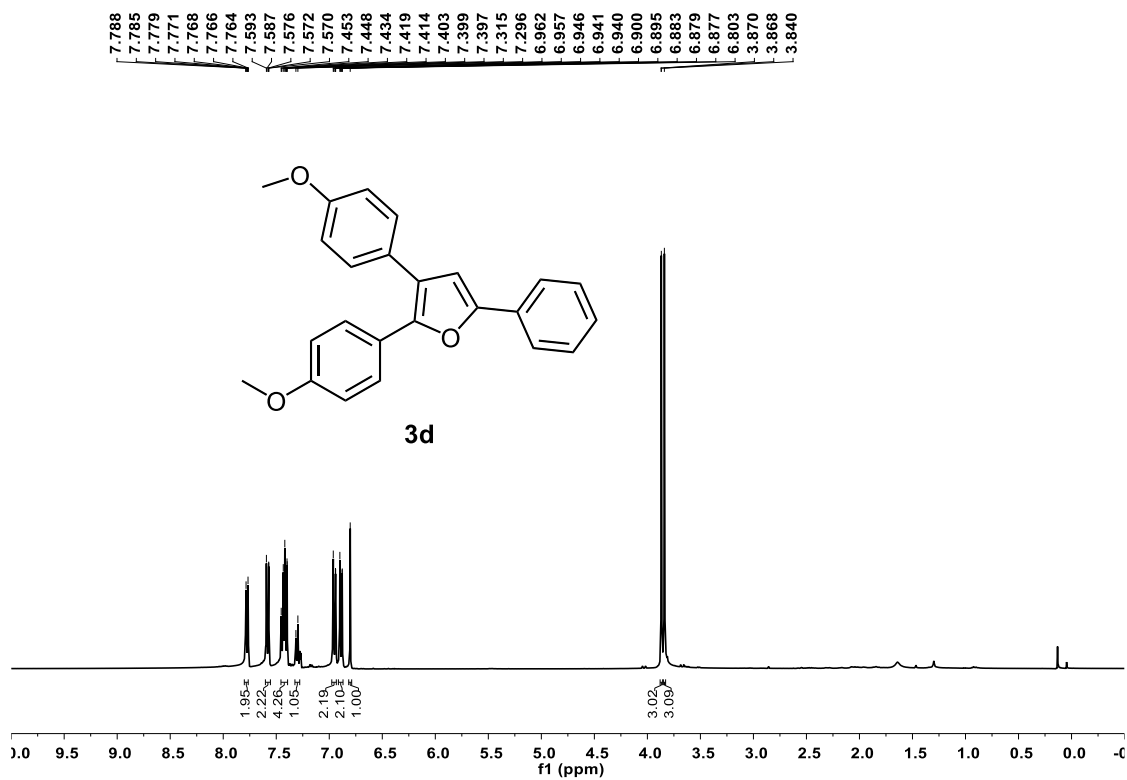
2,3,4,5-Tetraphenylfuran (4o)^[6]: Eluent: petroleum ether; white solid; isolated yield: 24% (22.3 mg). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.60 – 7.52 (m, 4H), 7.29 (m, 12H), 7.21 (m, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 147.6, 133.1, 130.8, 130.4, 128.35, 128.32, 127.3, 127.1, 125.8, 125.1.

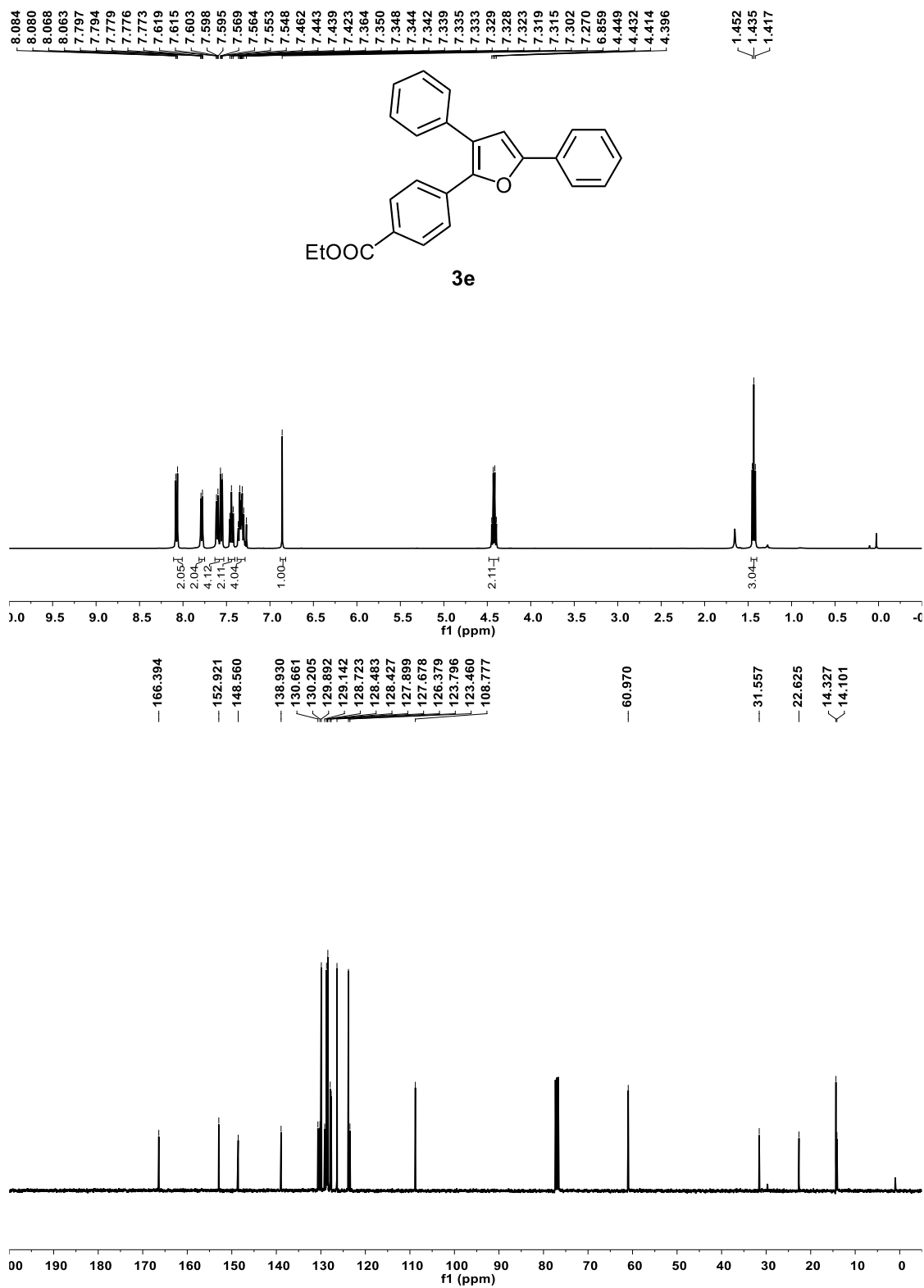
3.4 NMR Spectra of Products



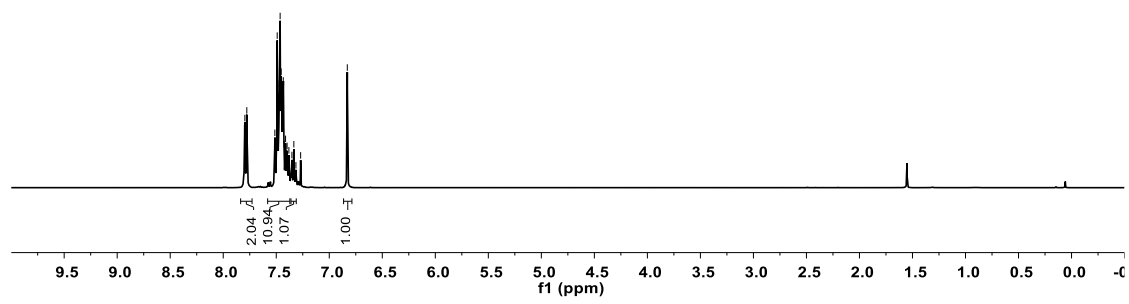
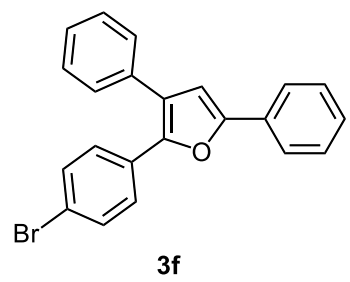




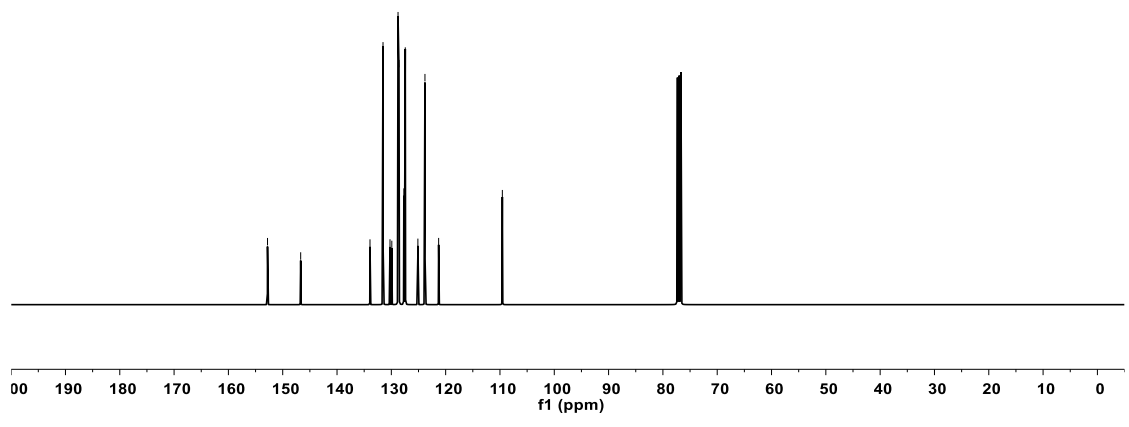




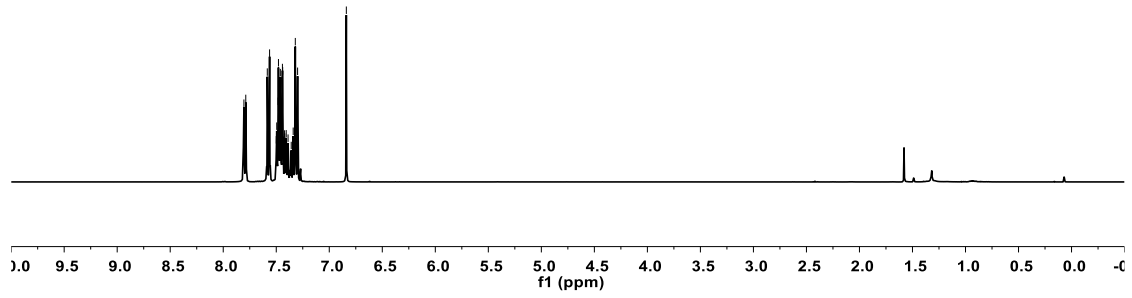
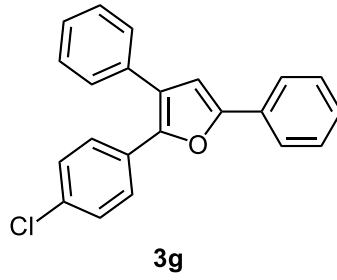
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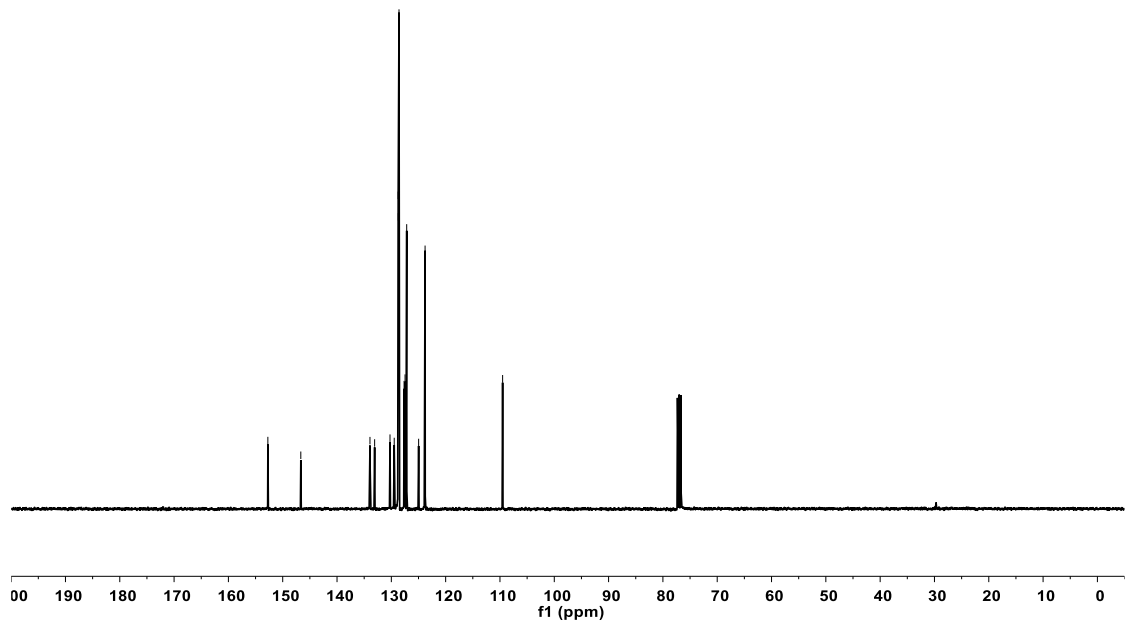
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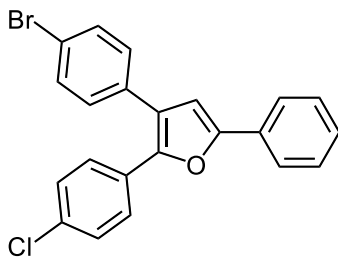
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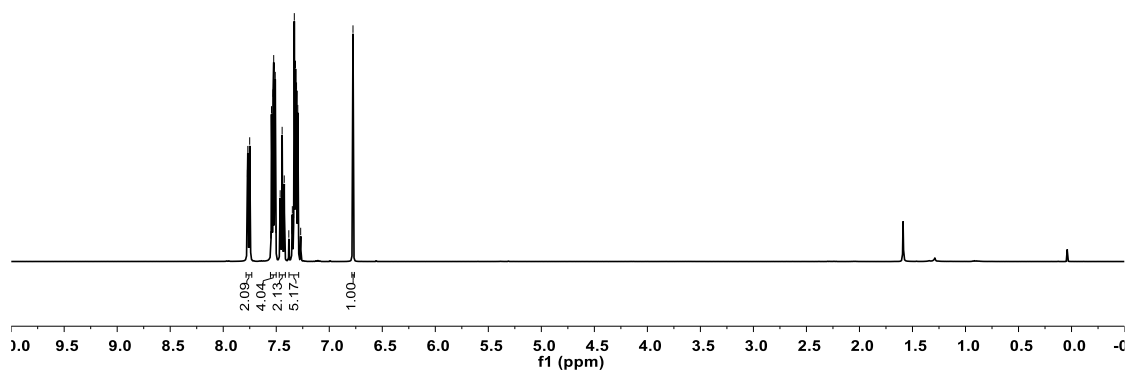
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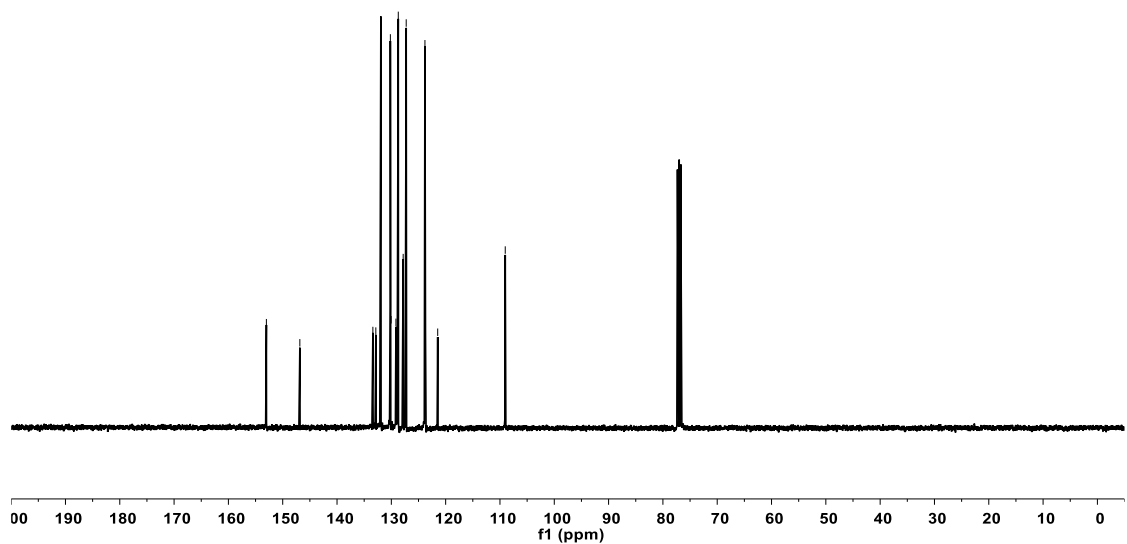
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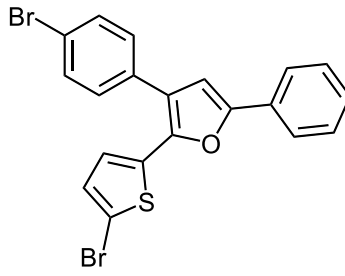
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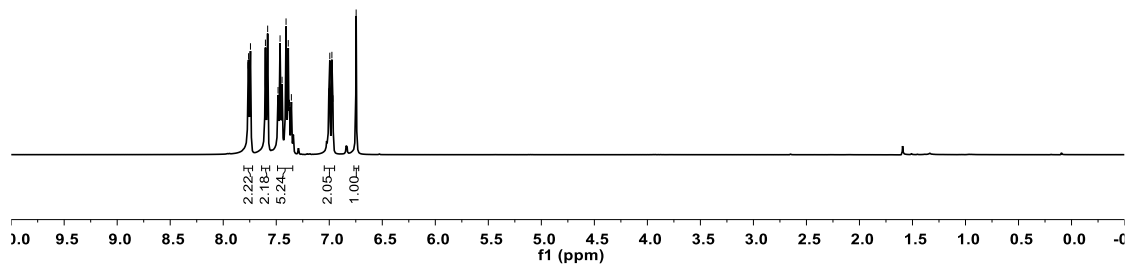
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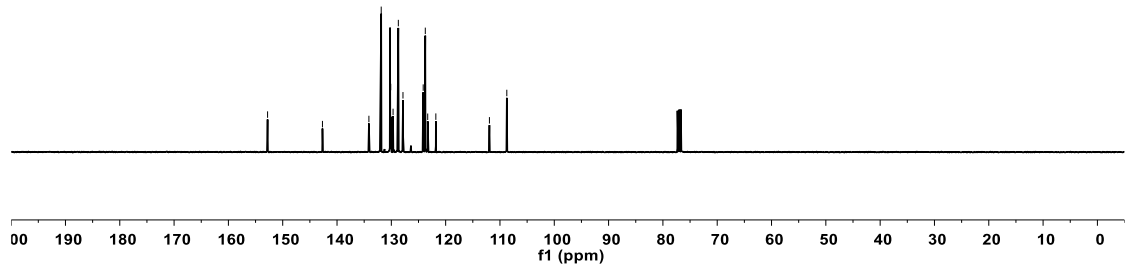
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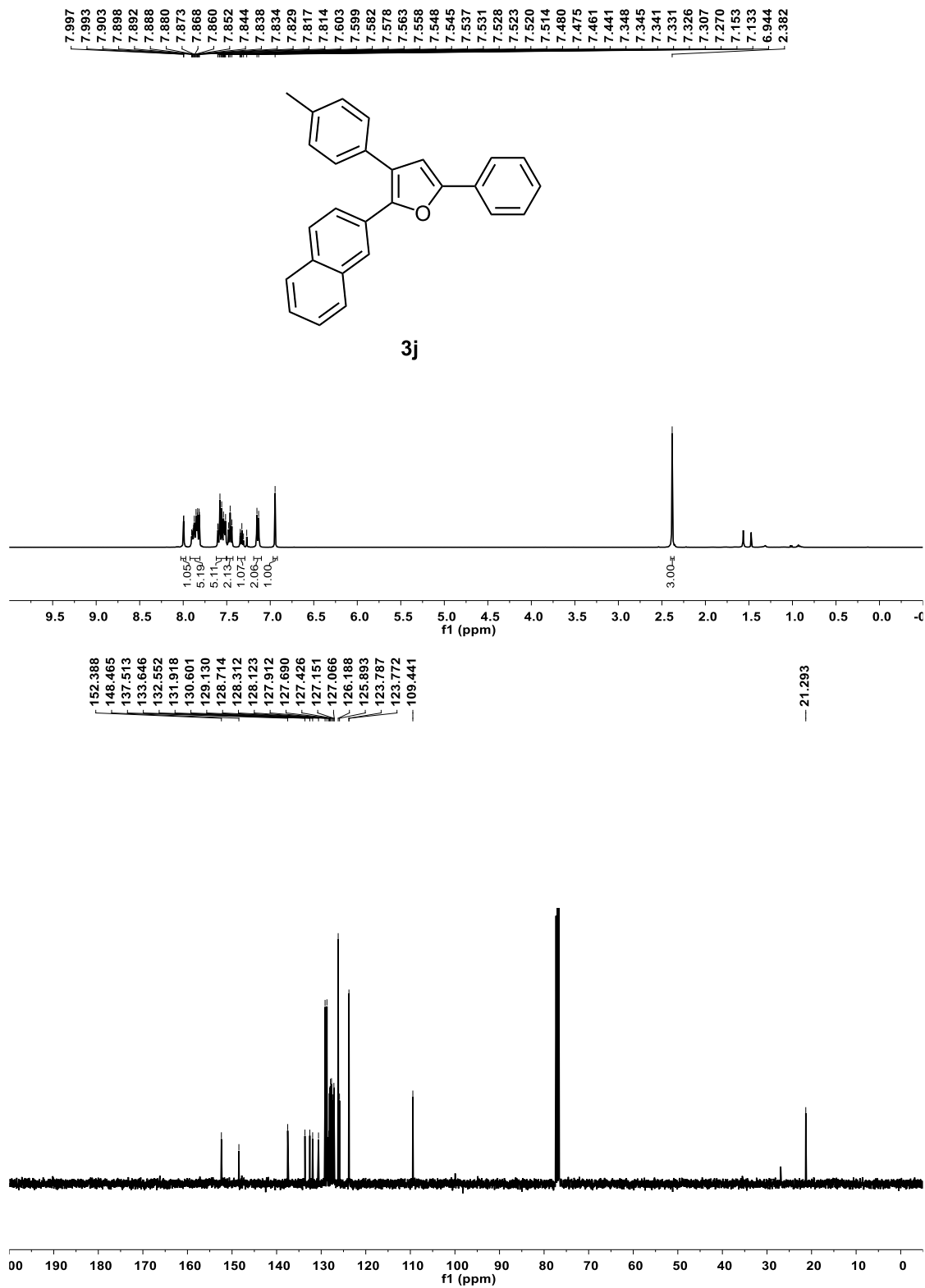


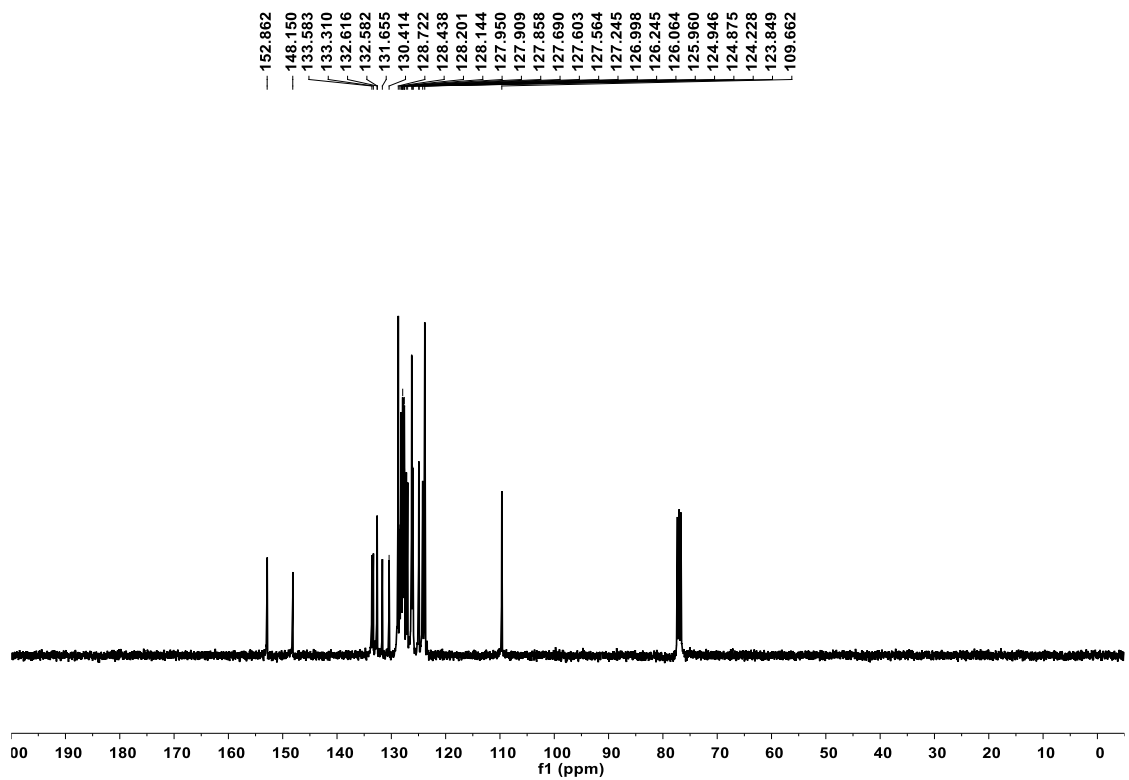
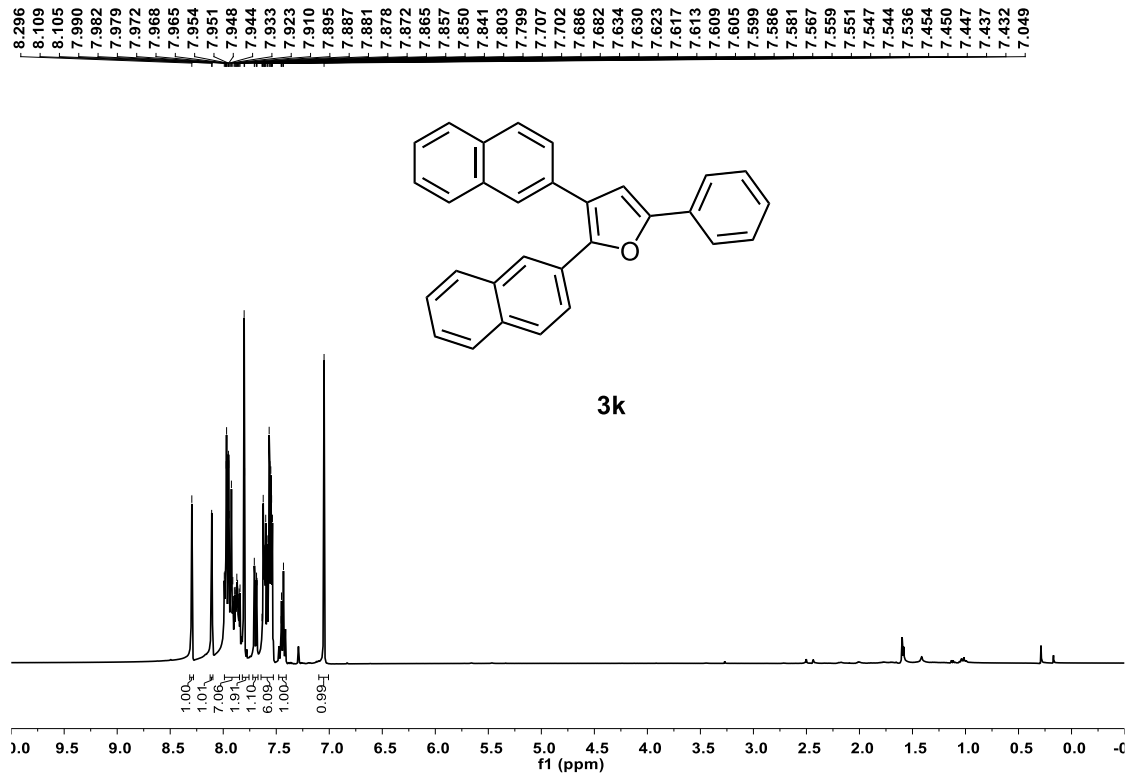
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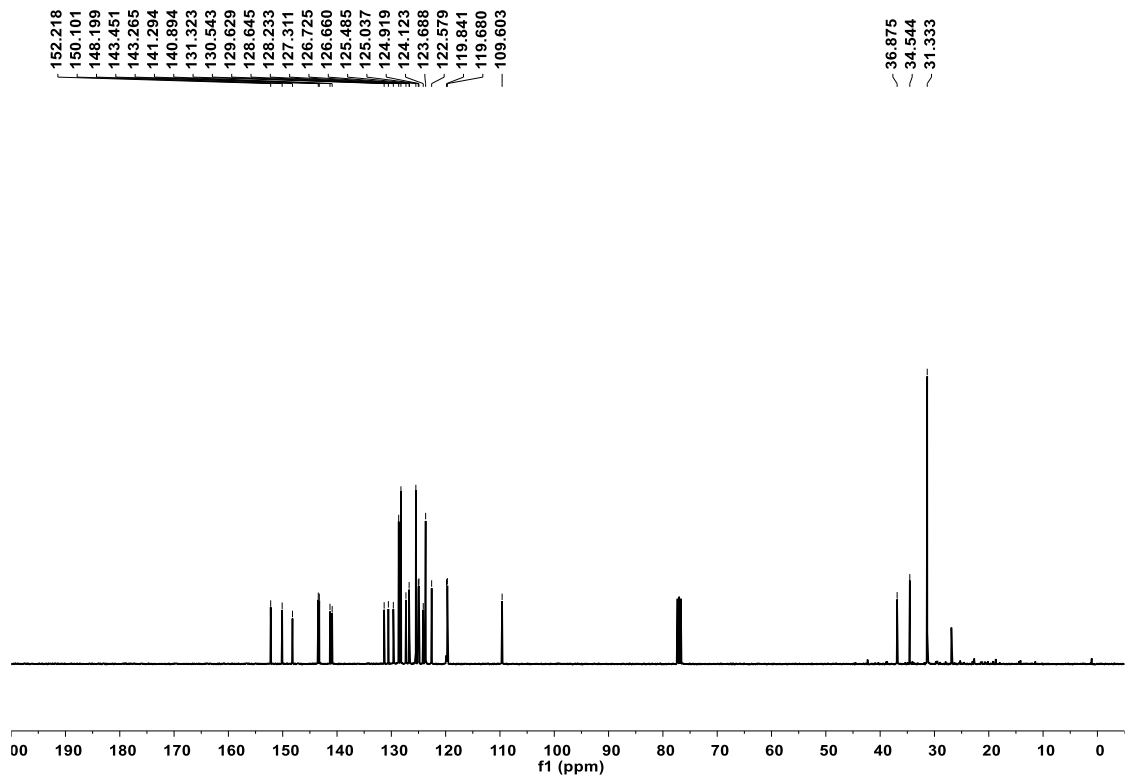
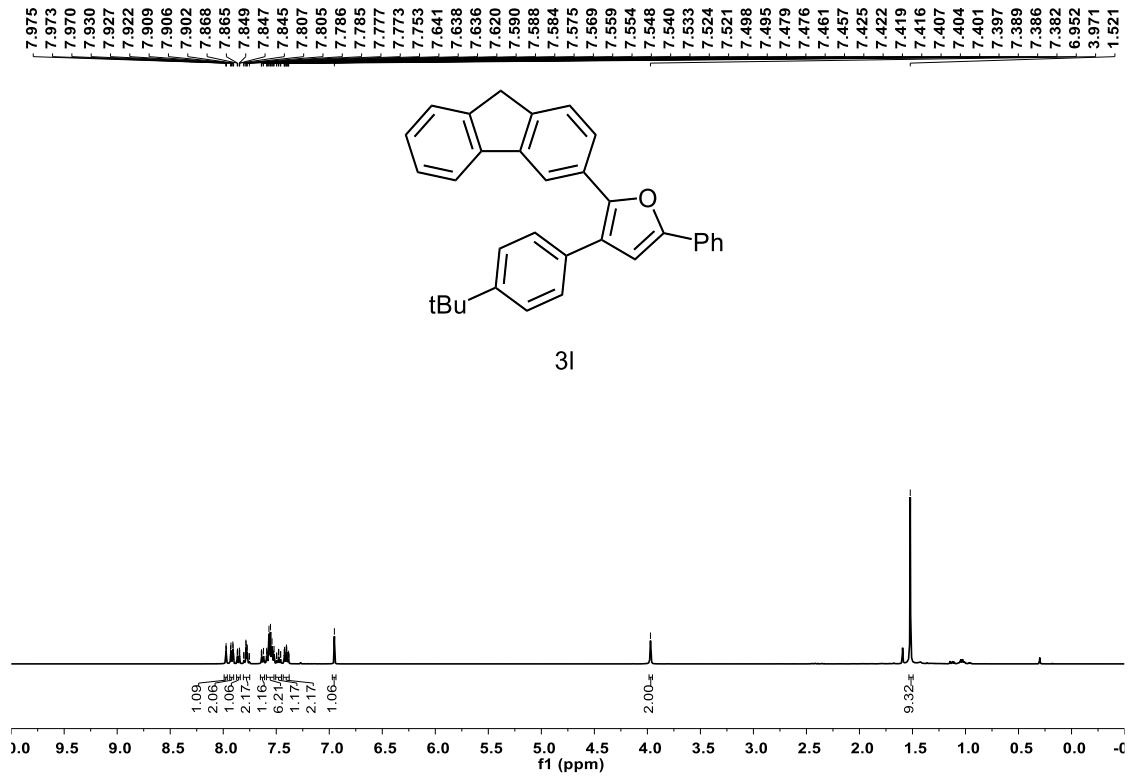


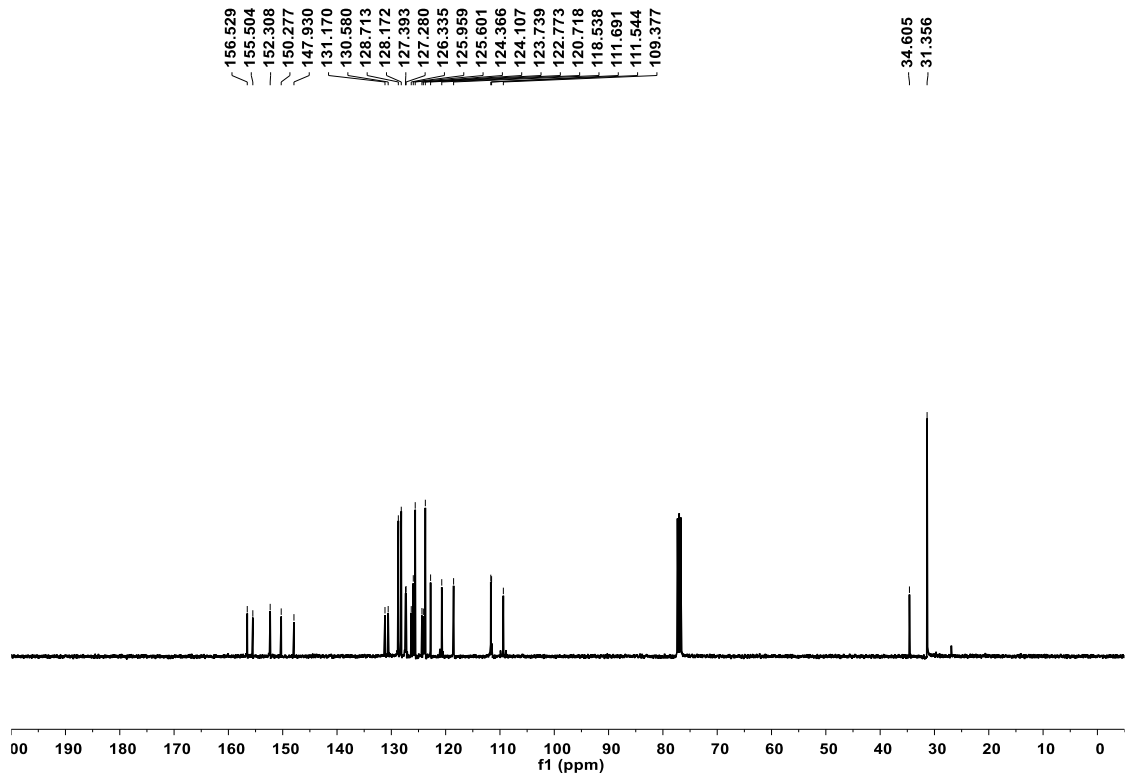
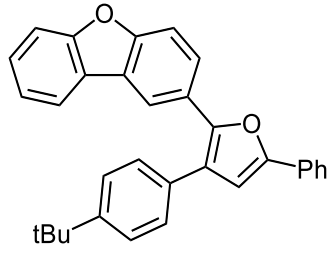
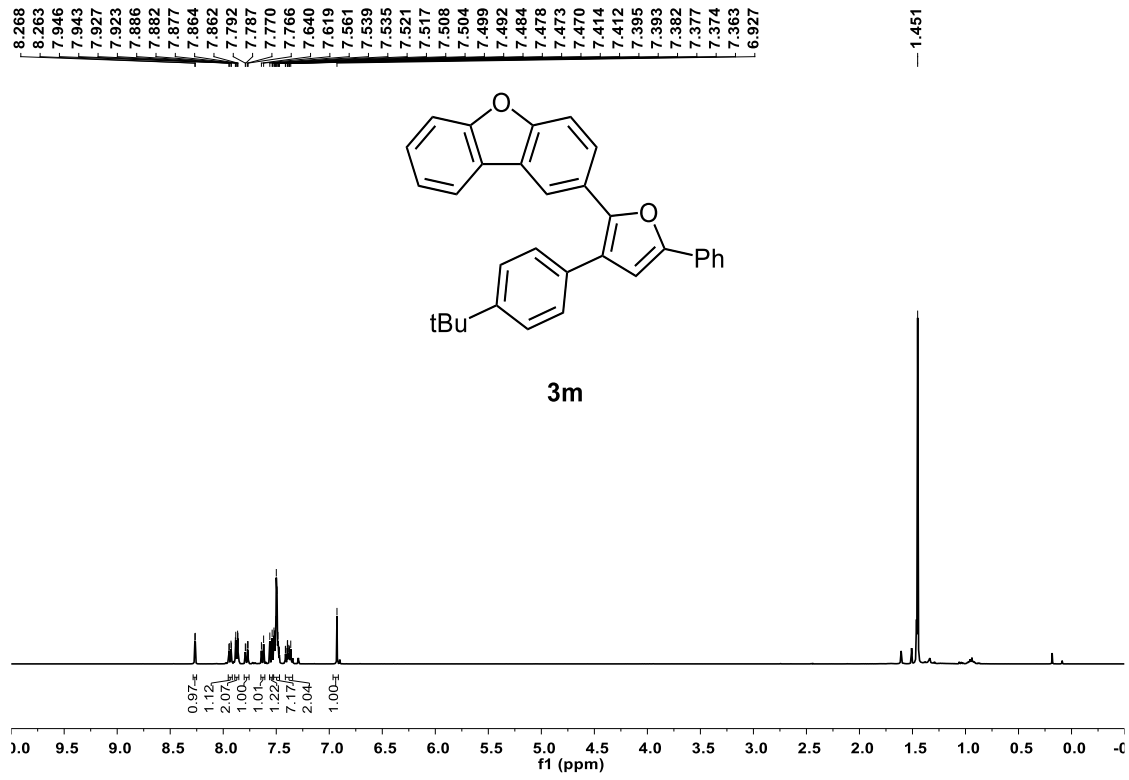
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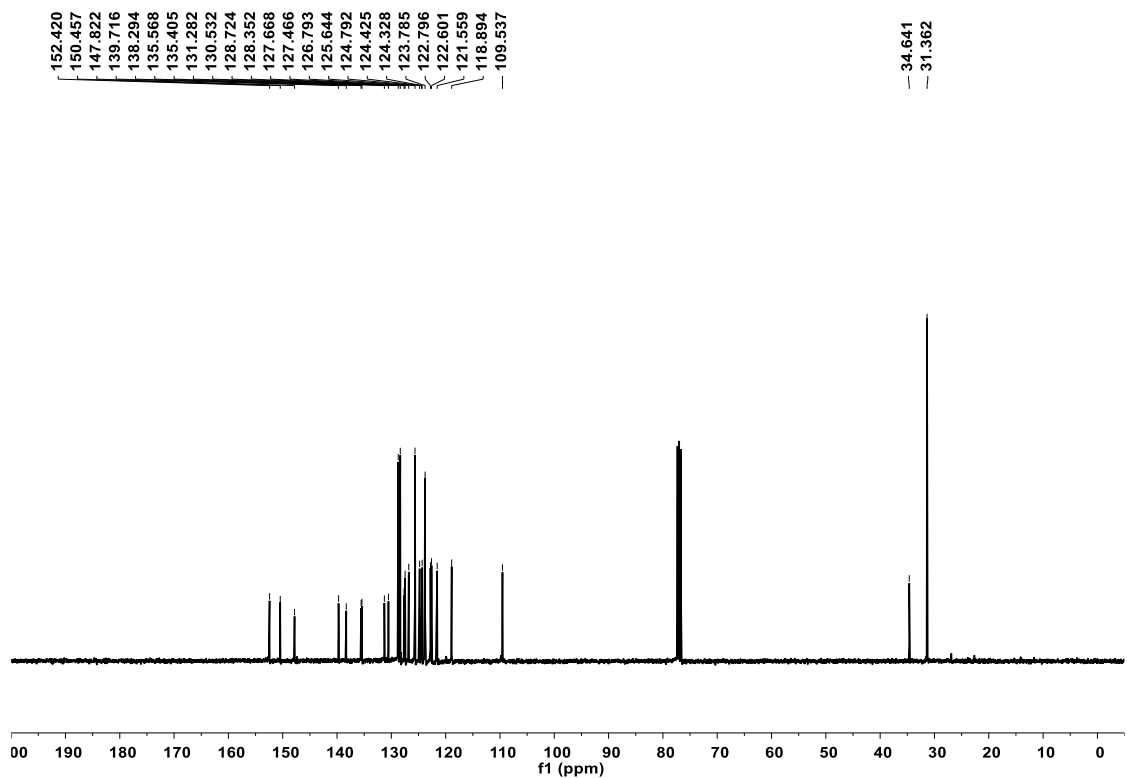
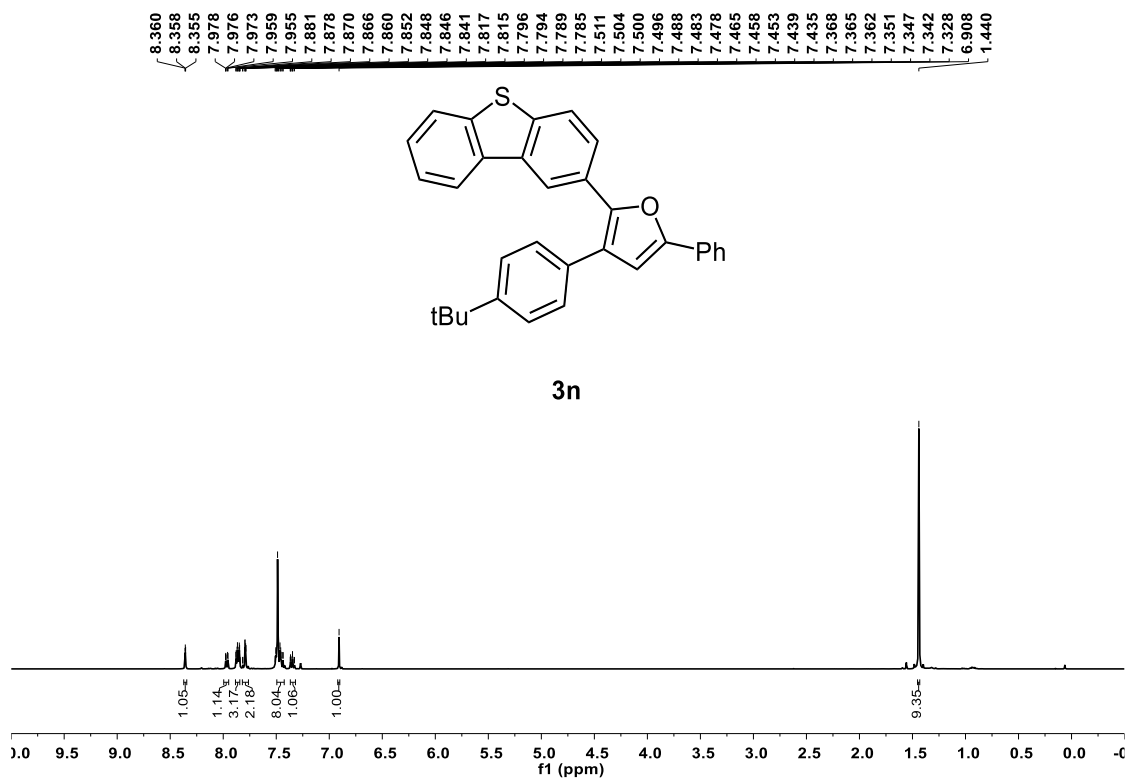


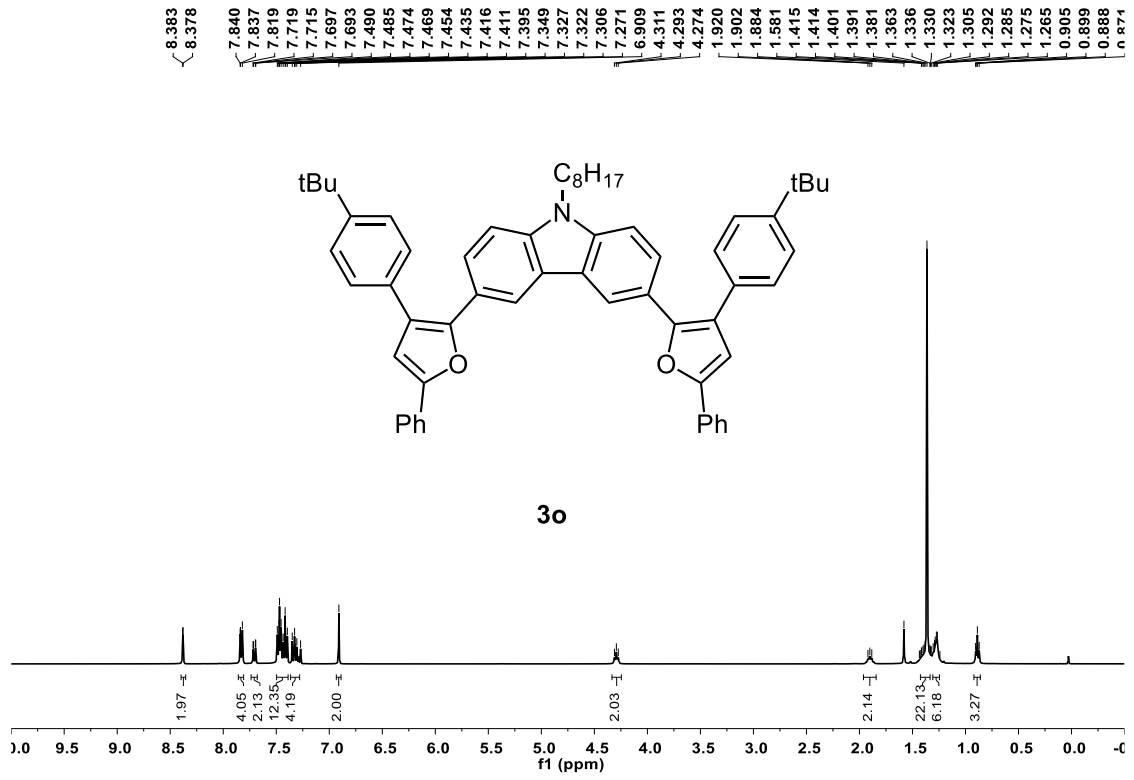




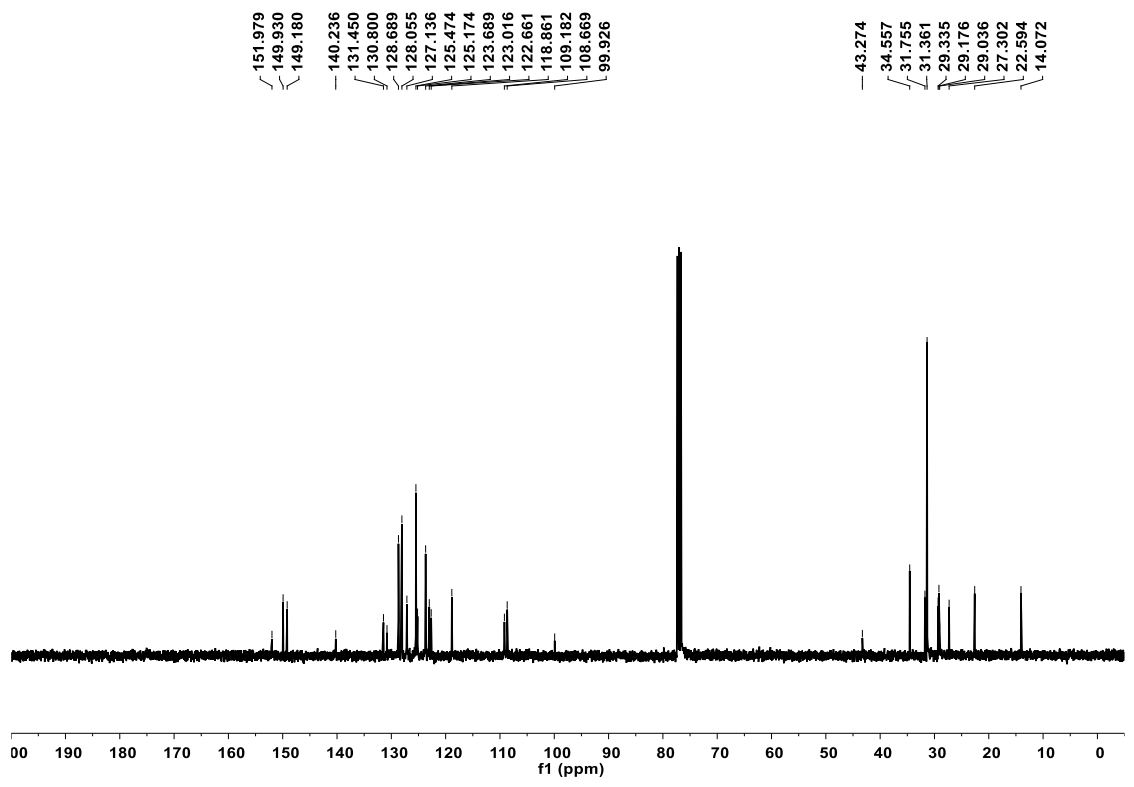


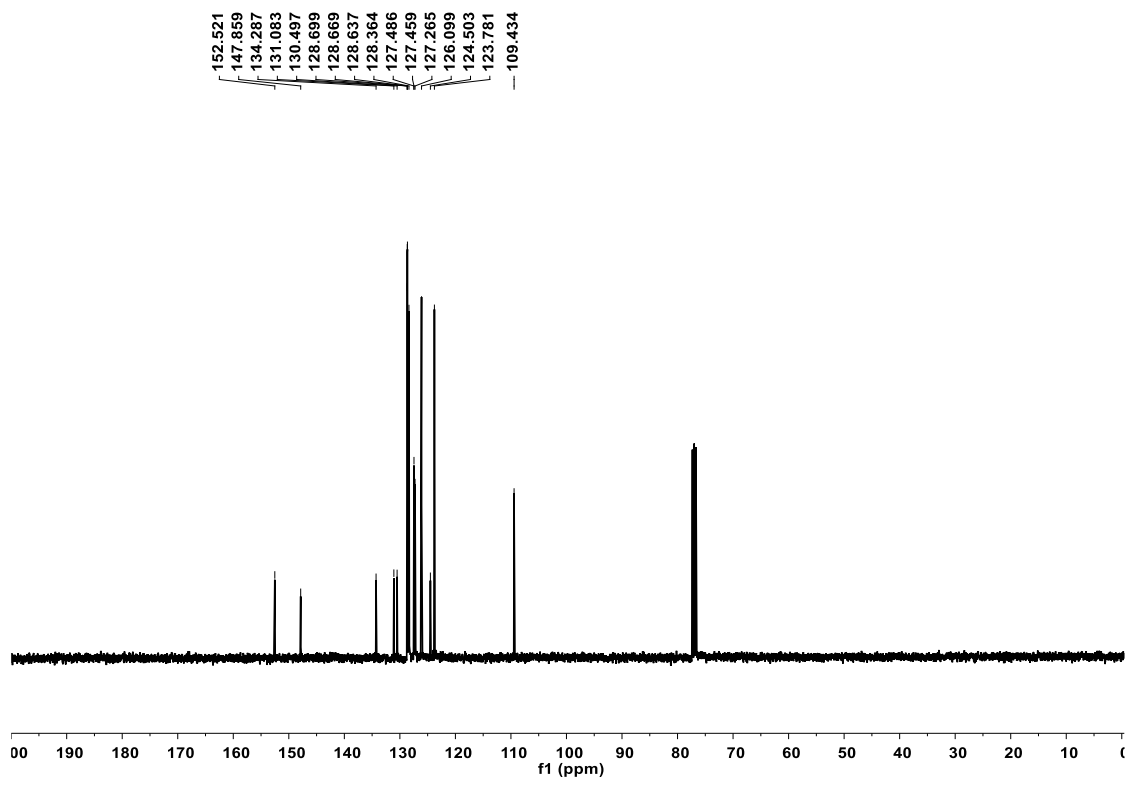
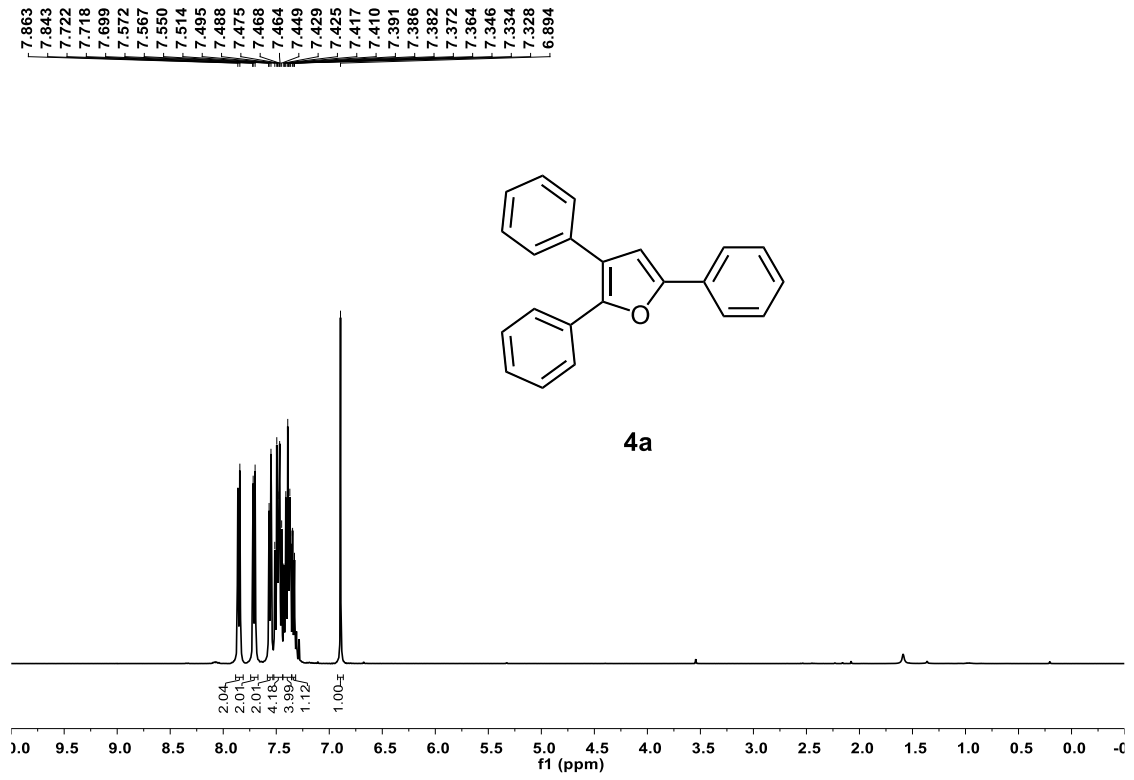


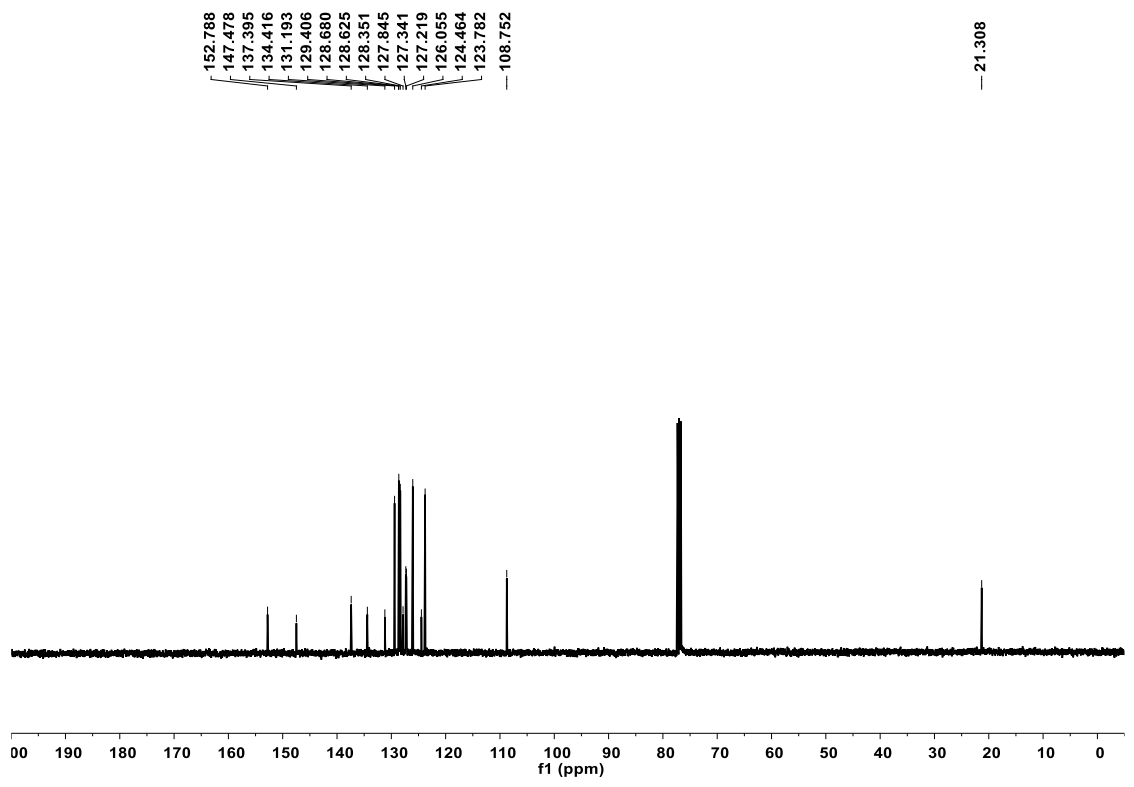
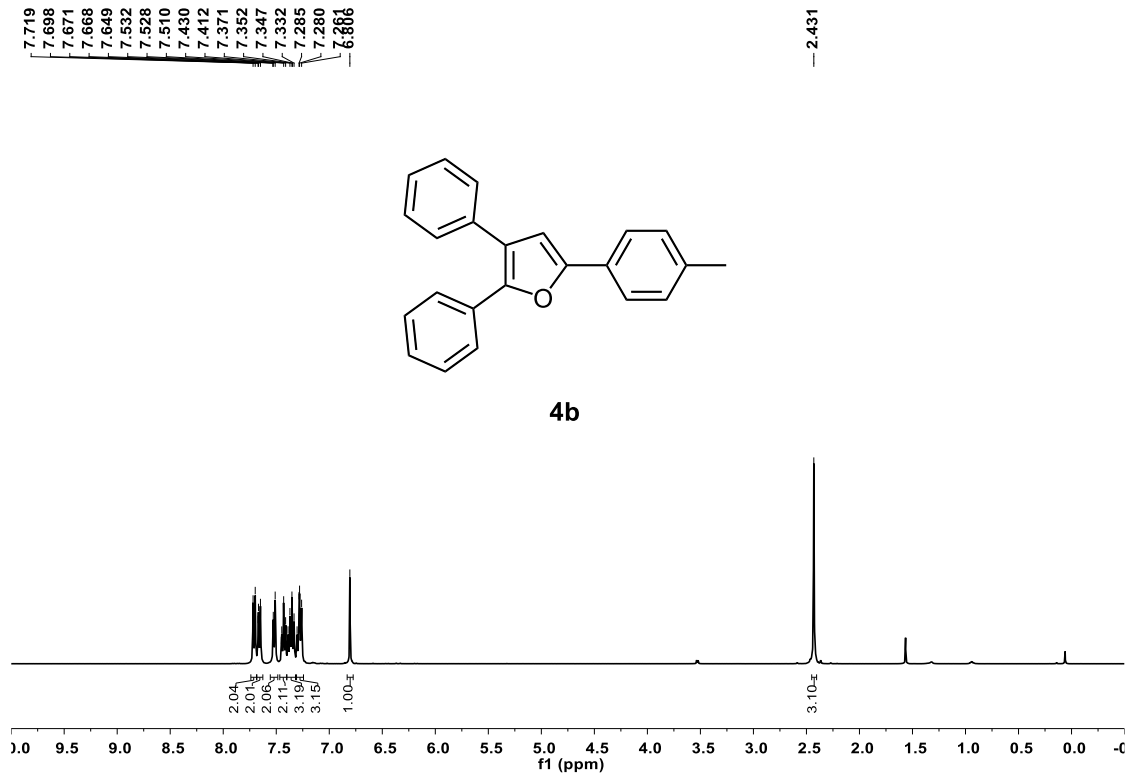




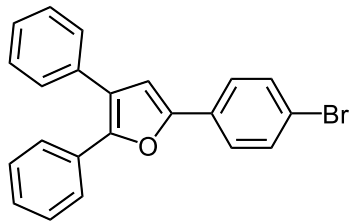
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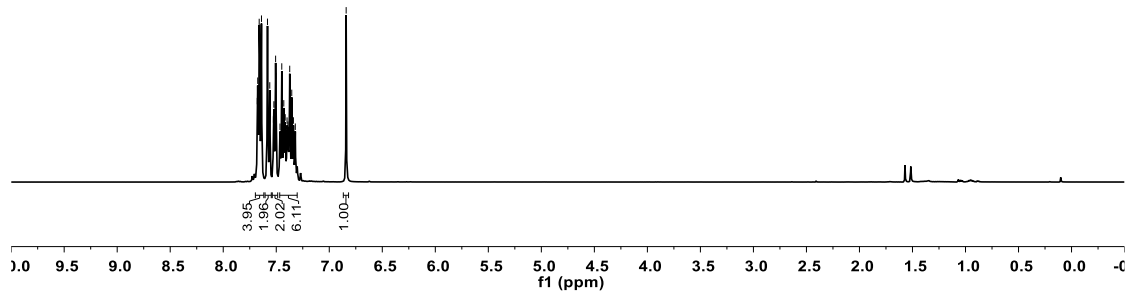




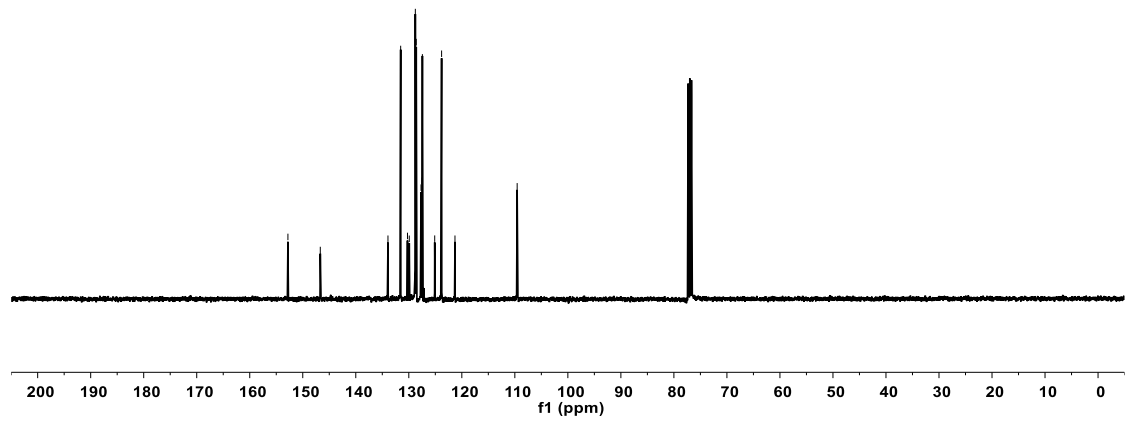
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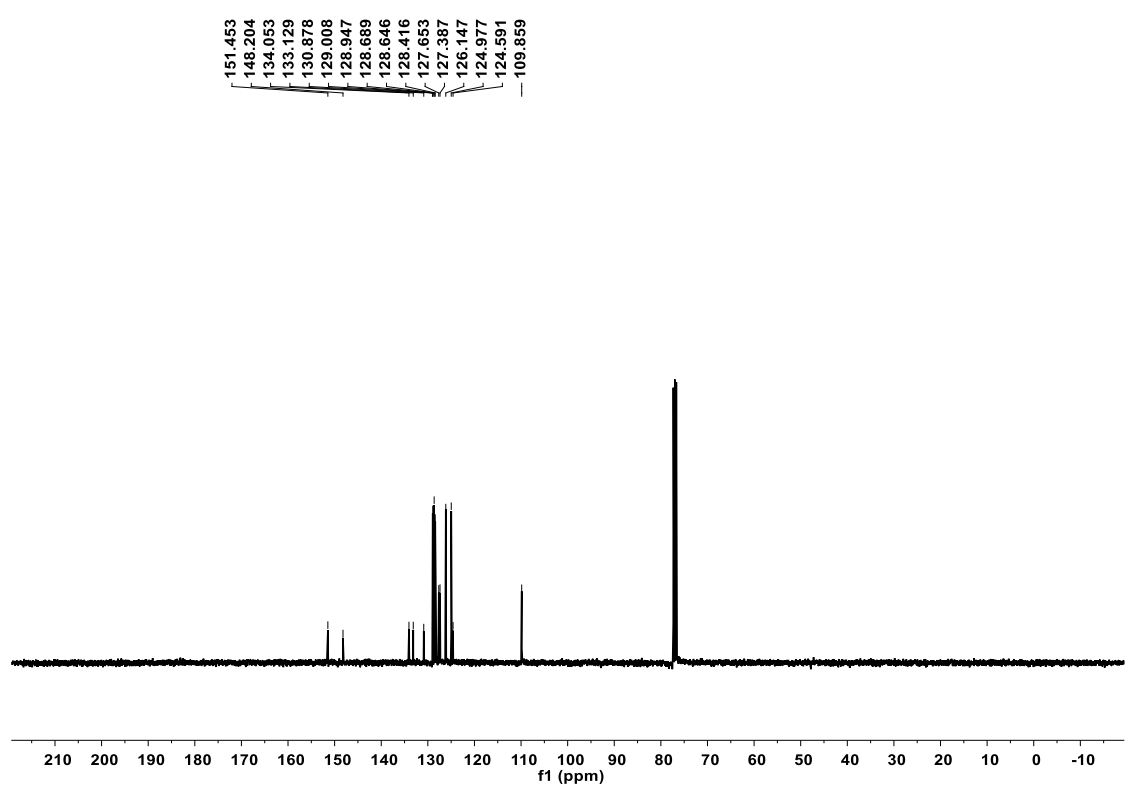
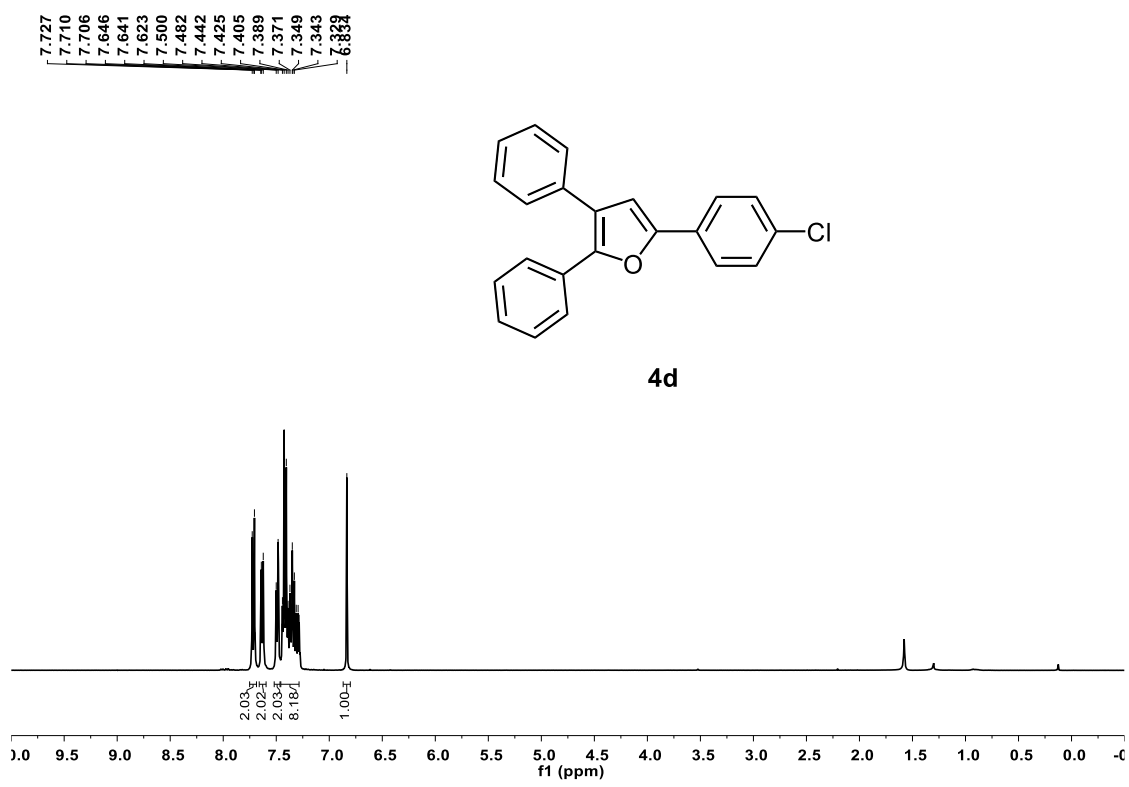


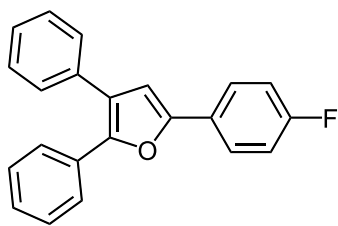
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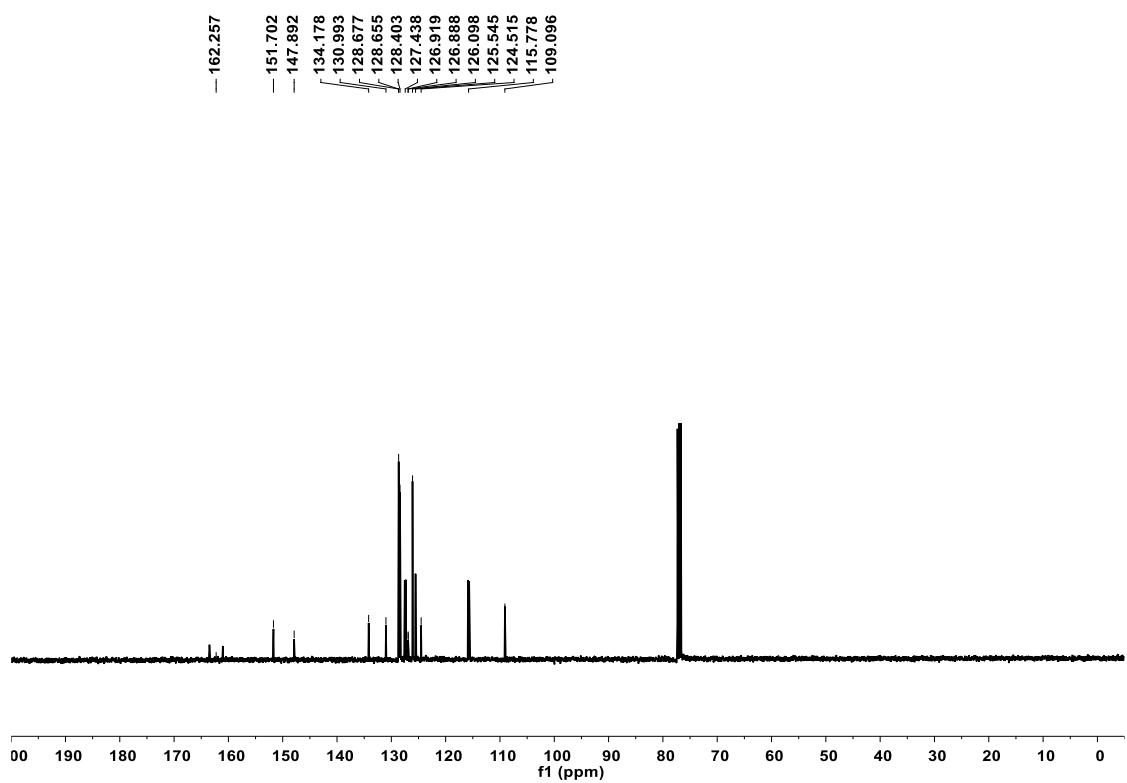
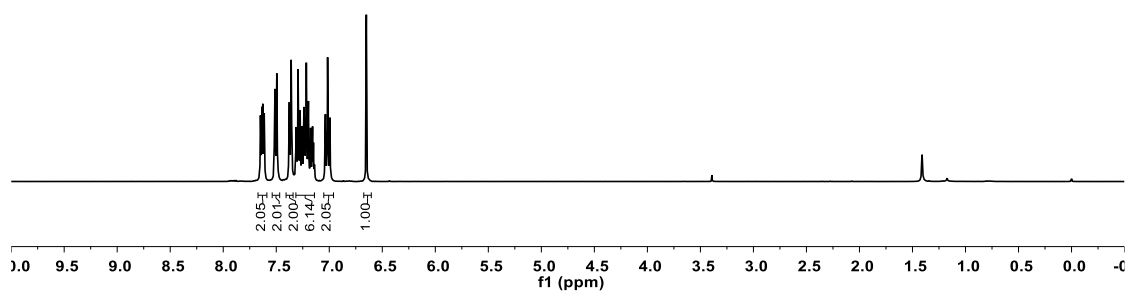
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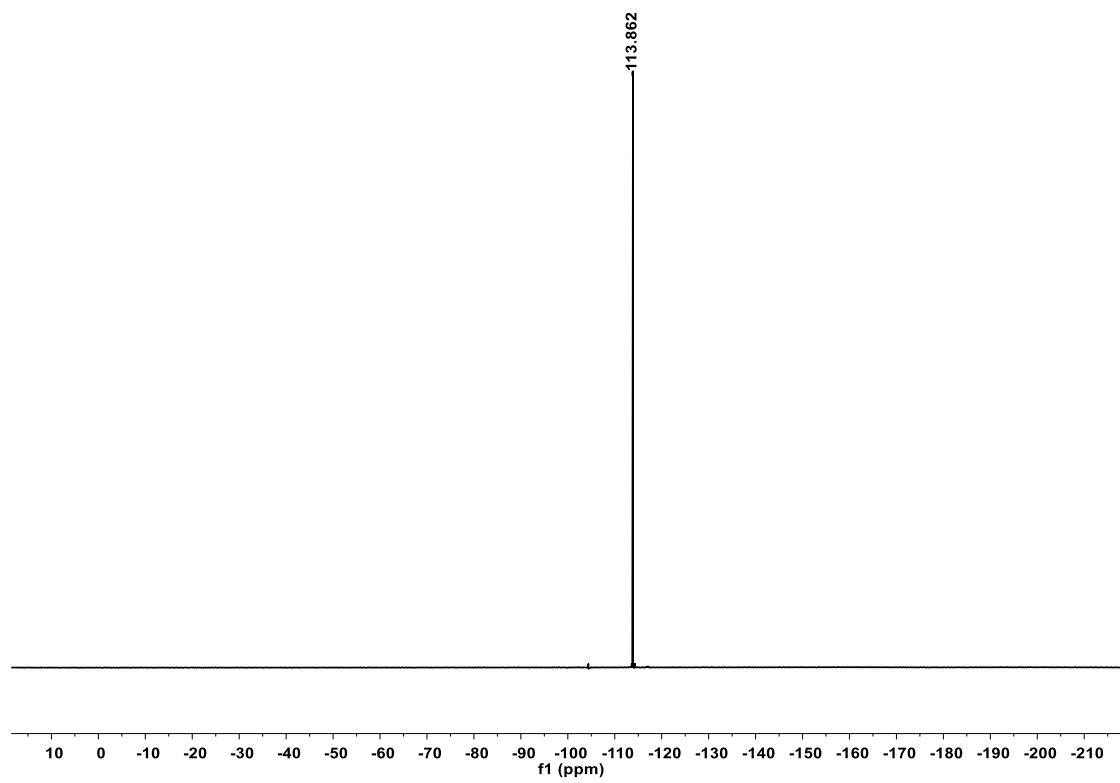




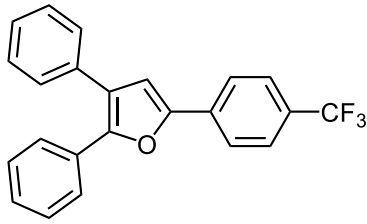


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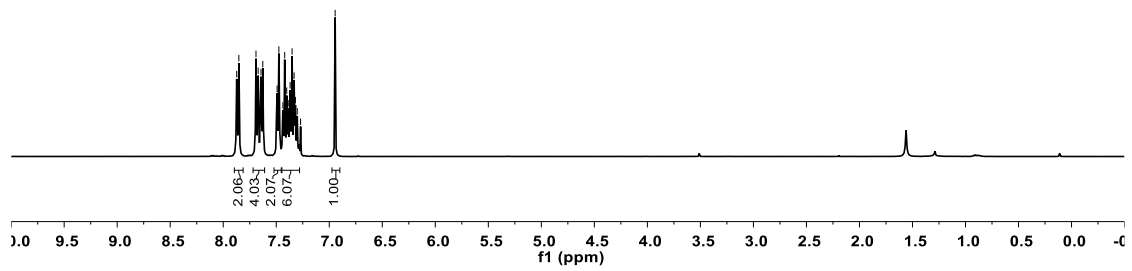




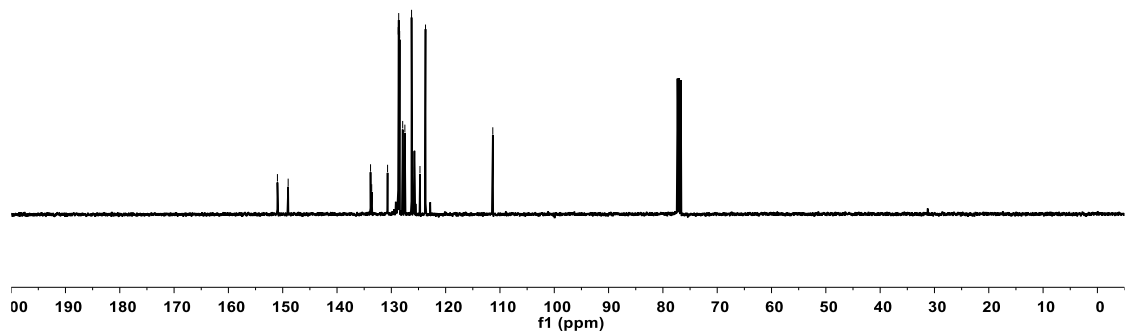
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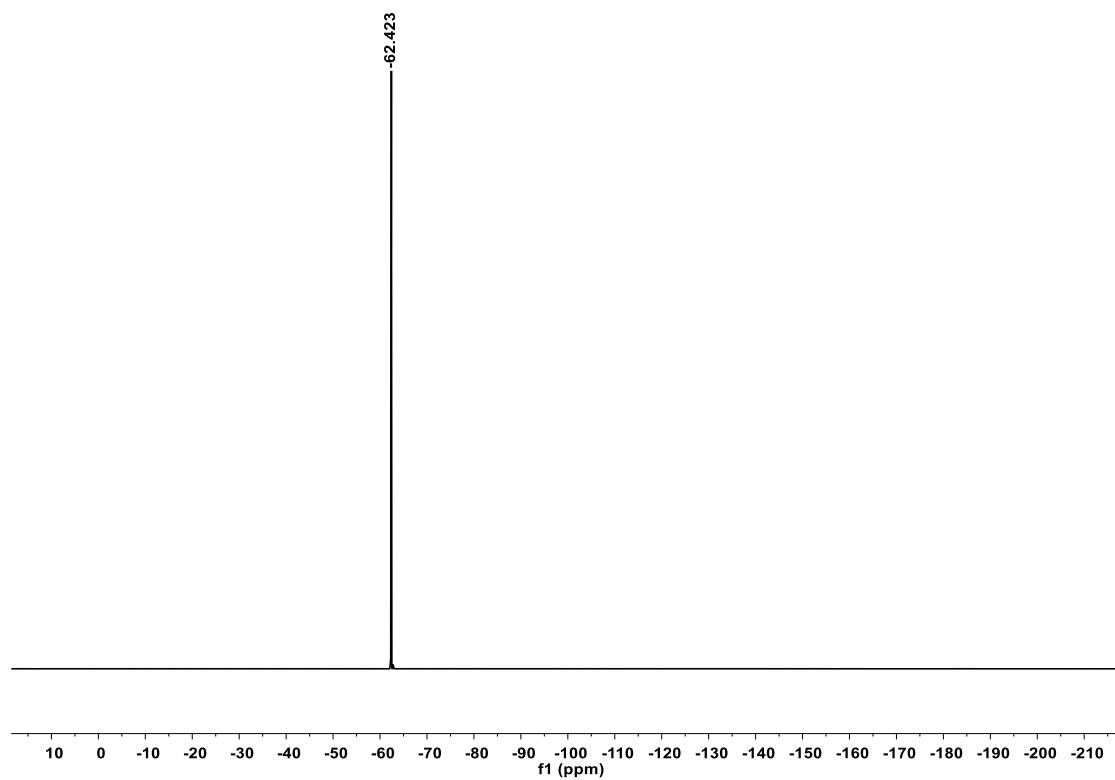


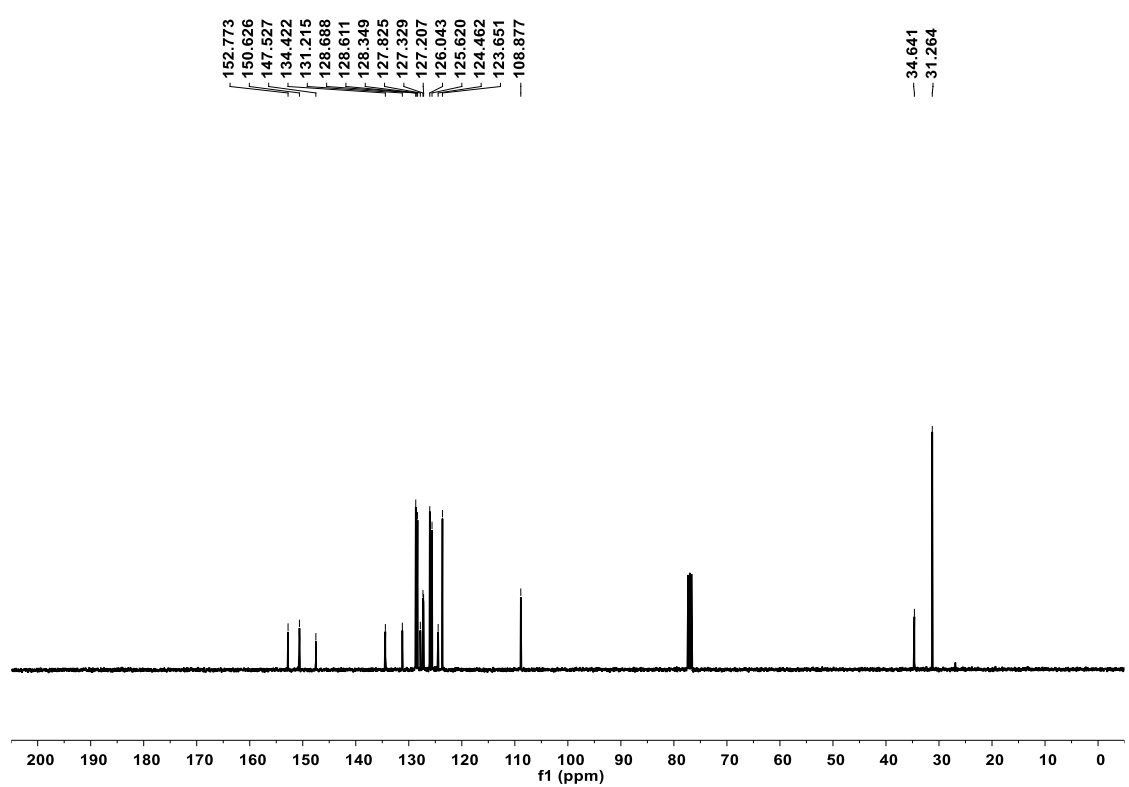
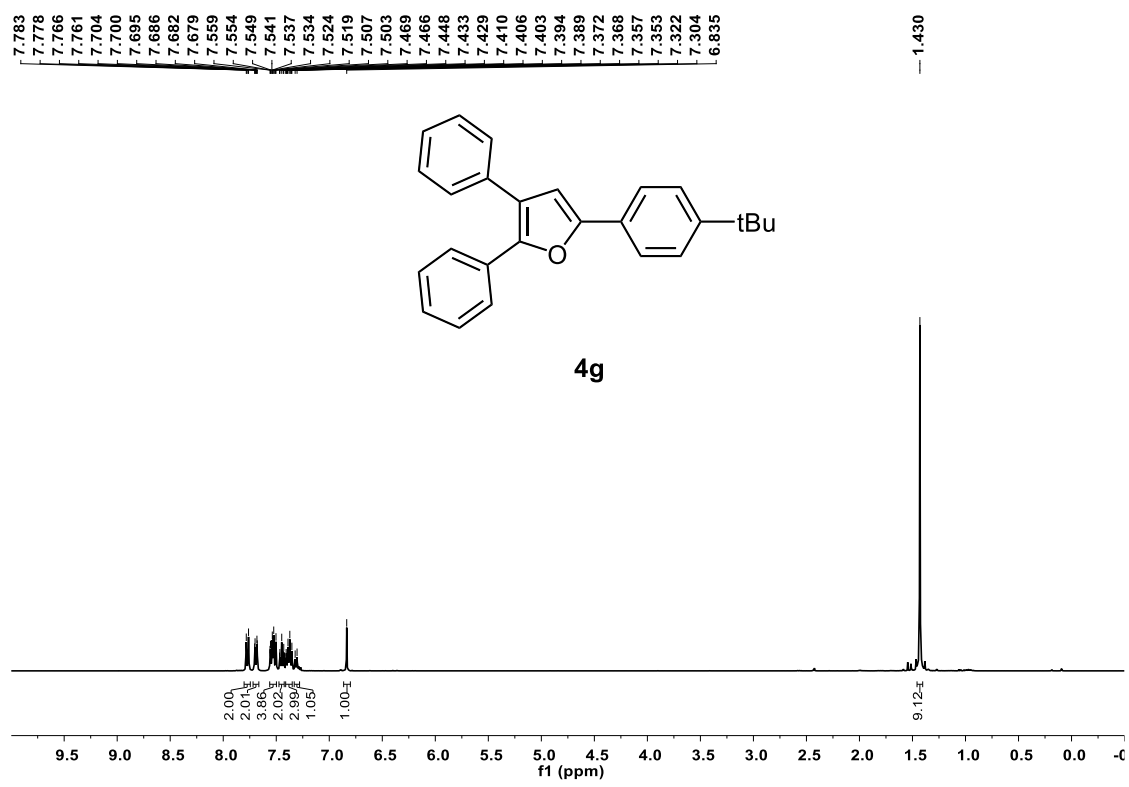
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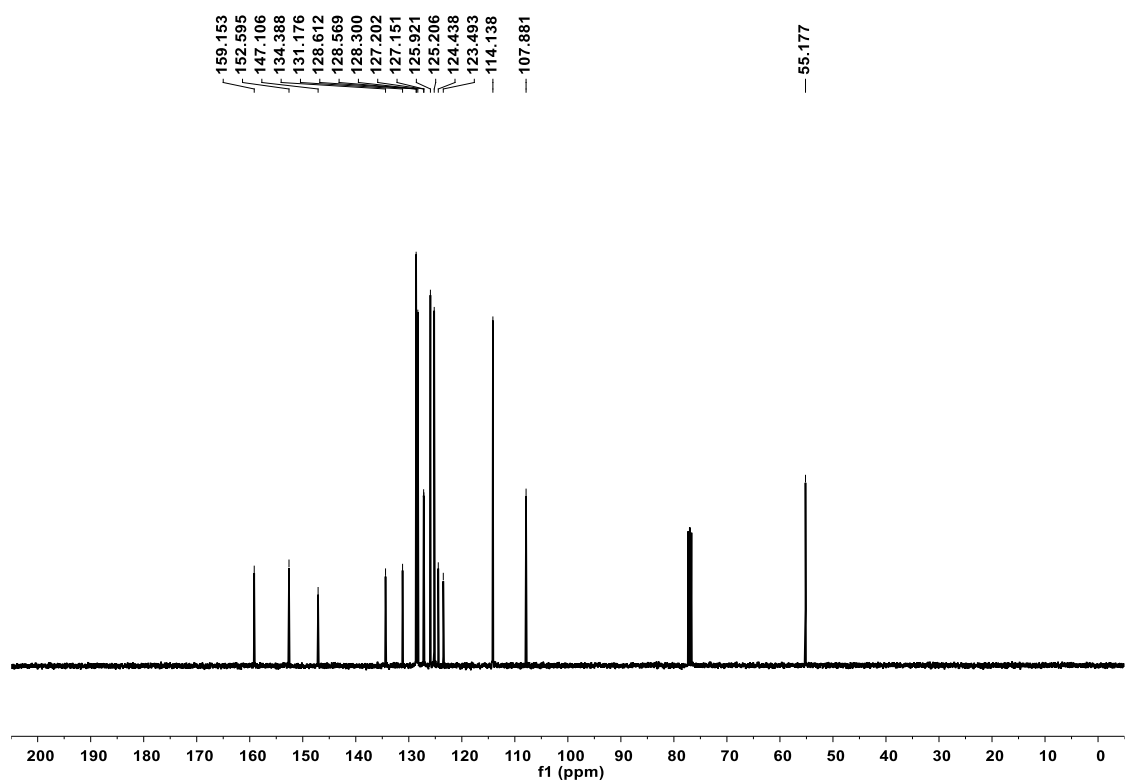
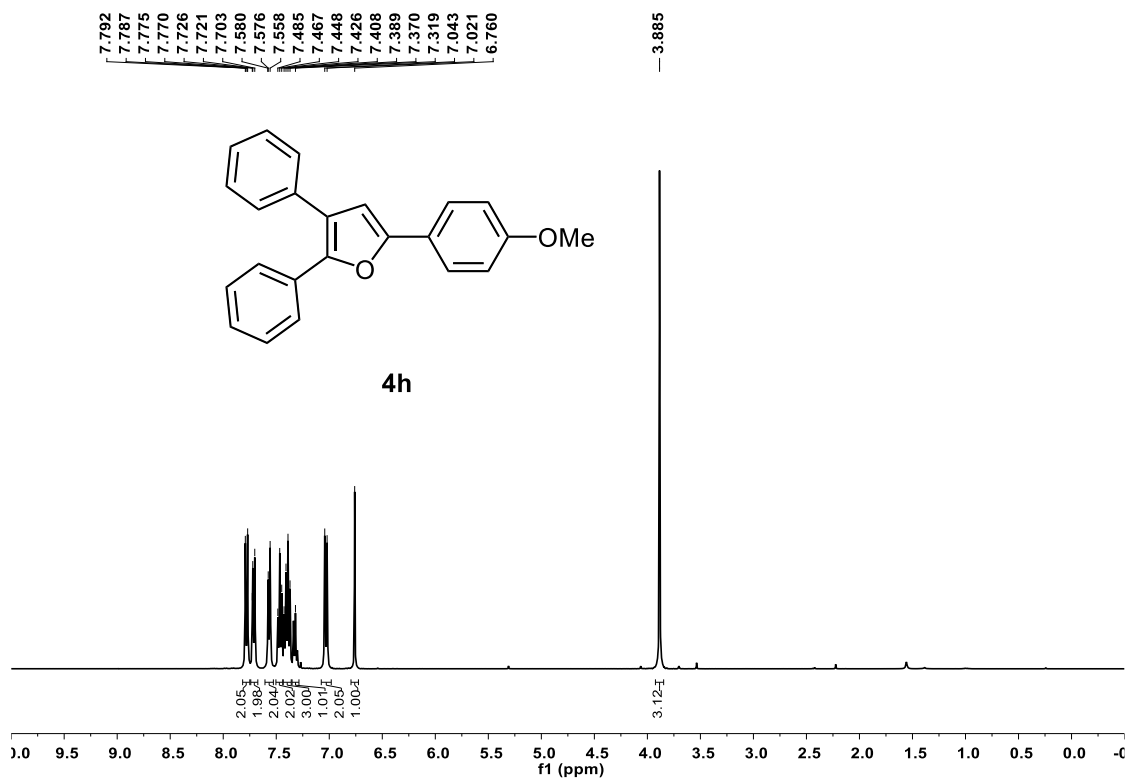


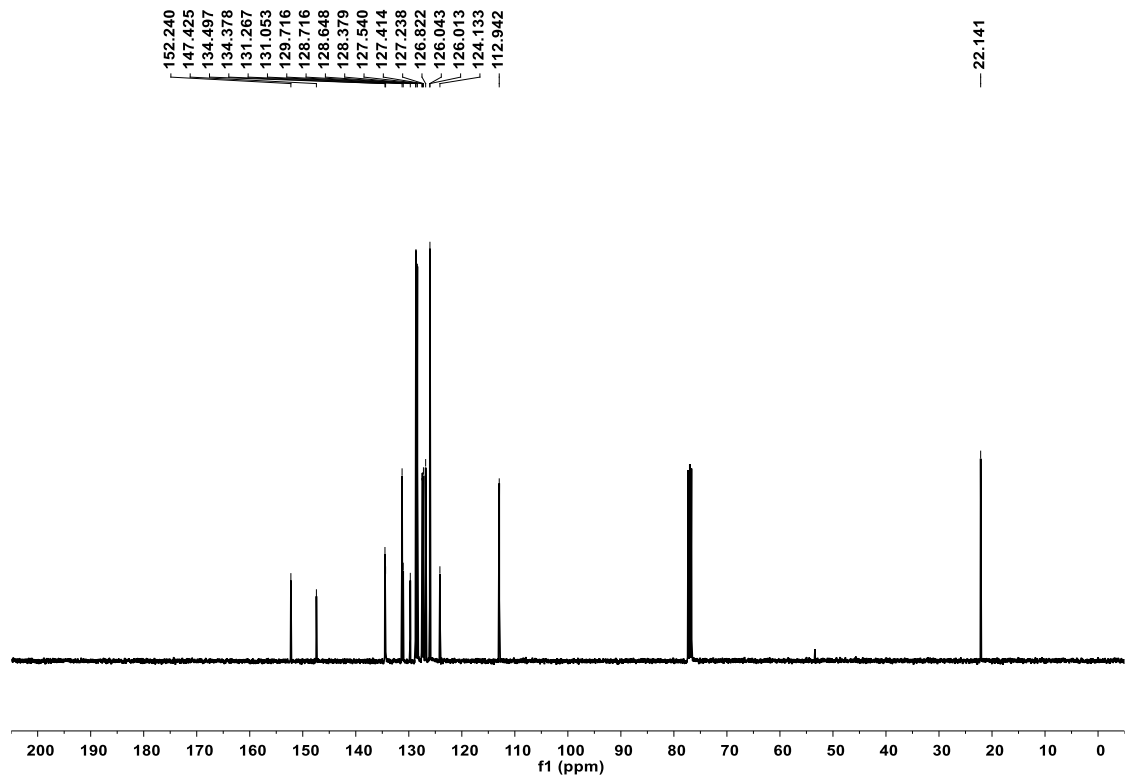
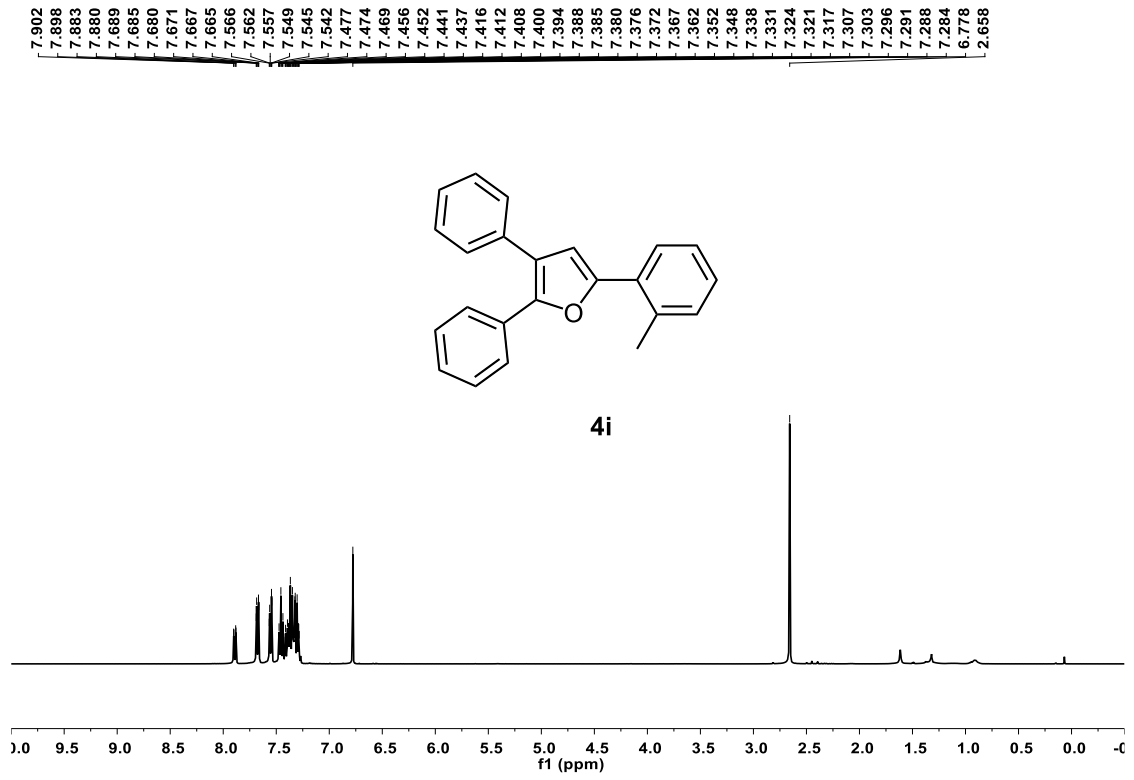
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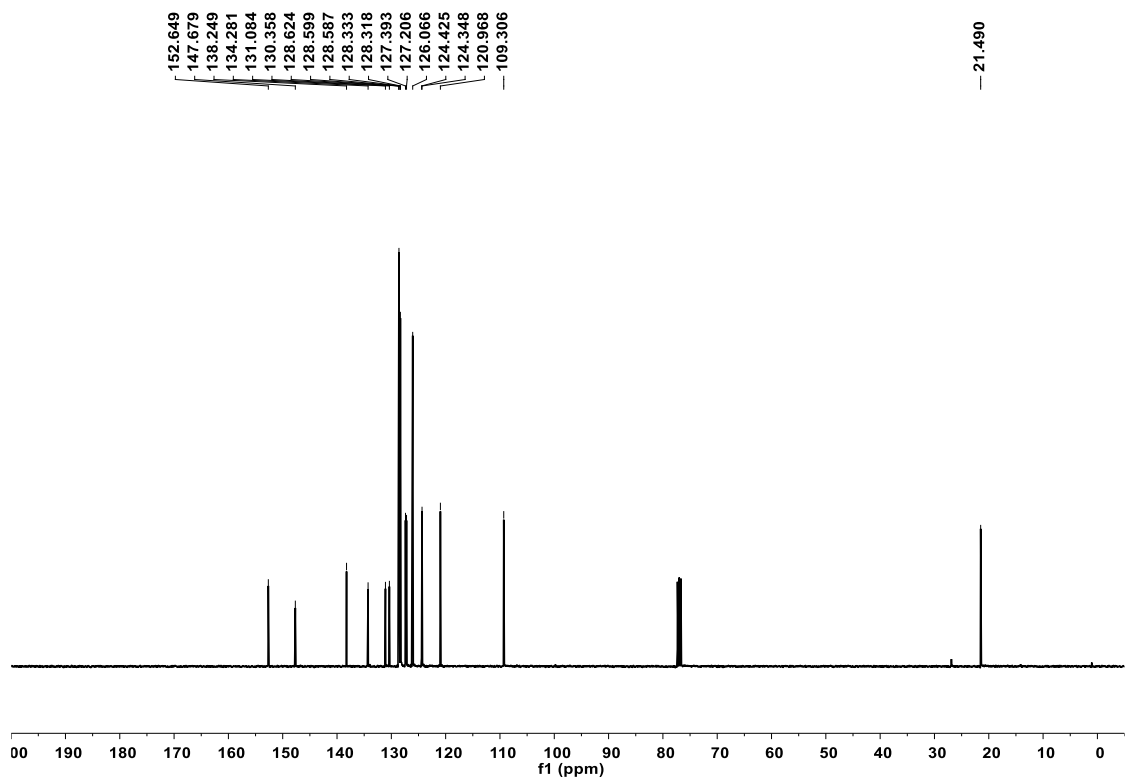
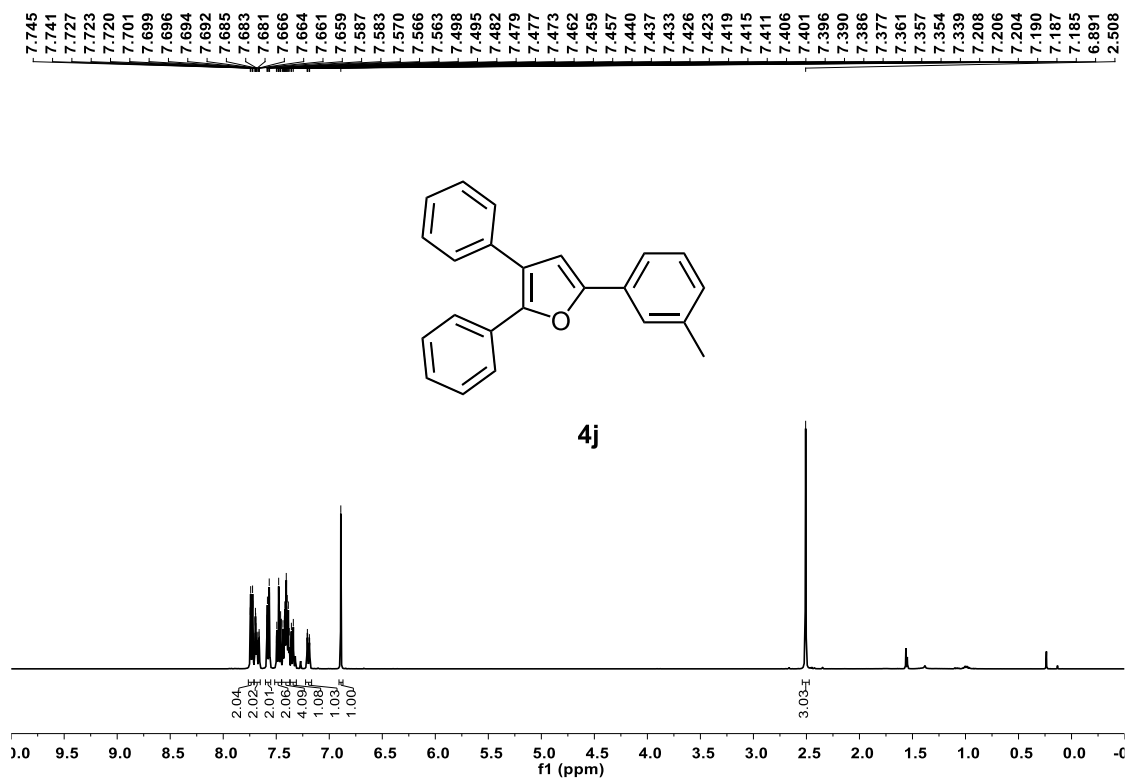


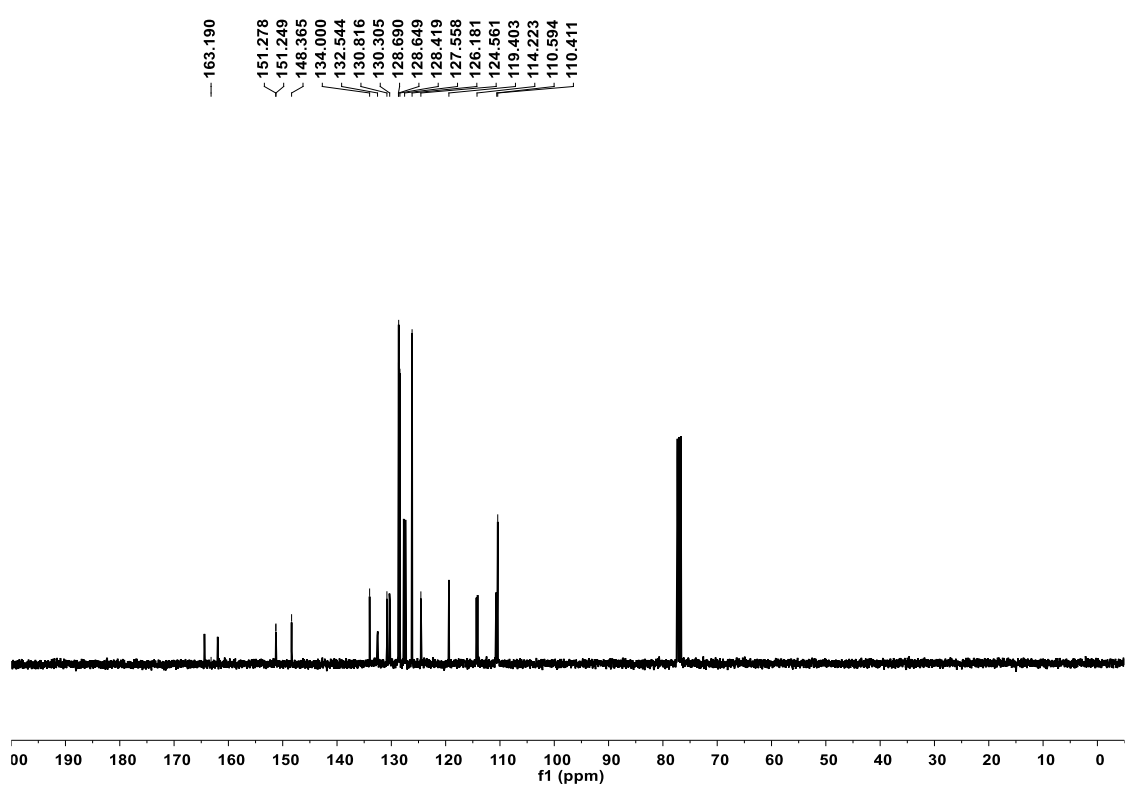
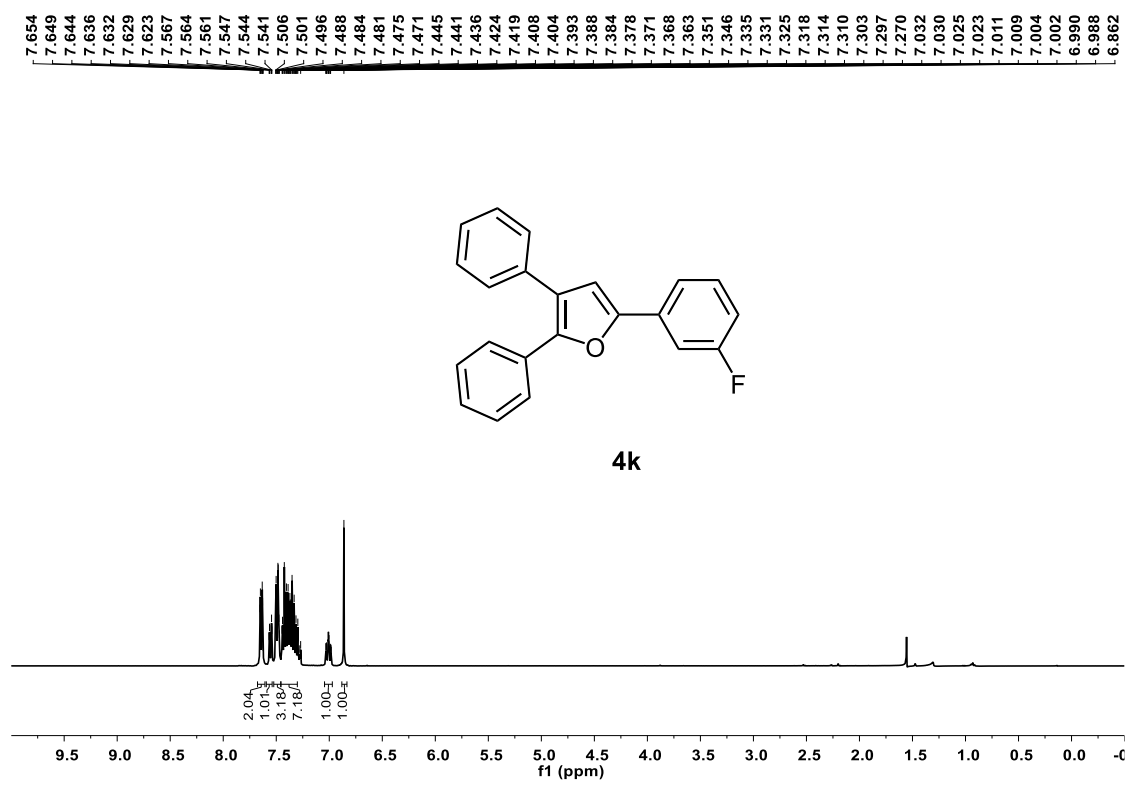


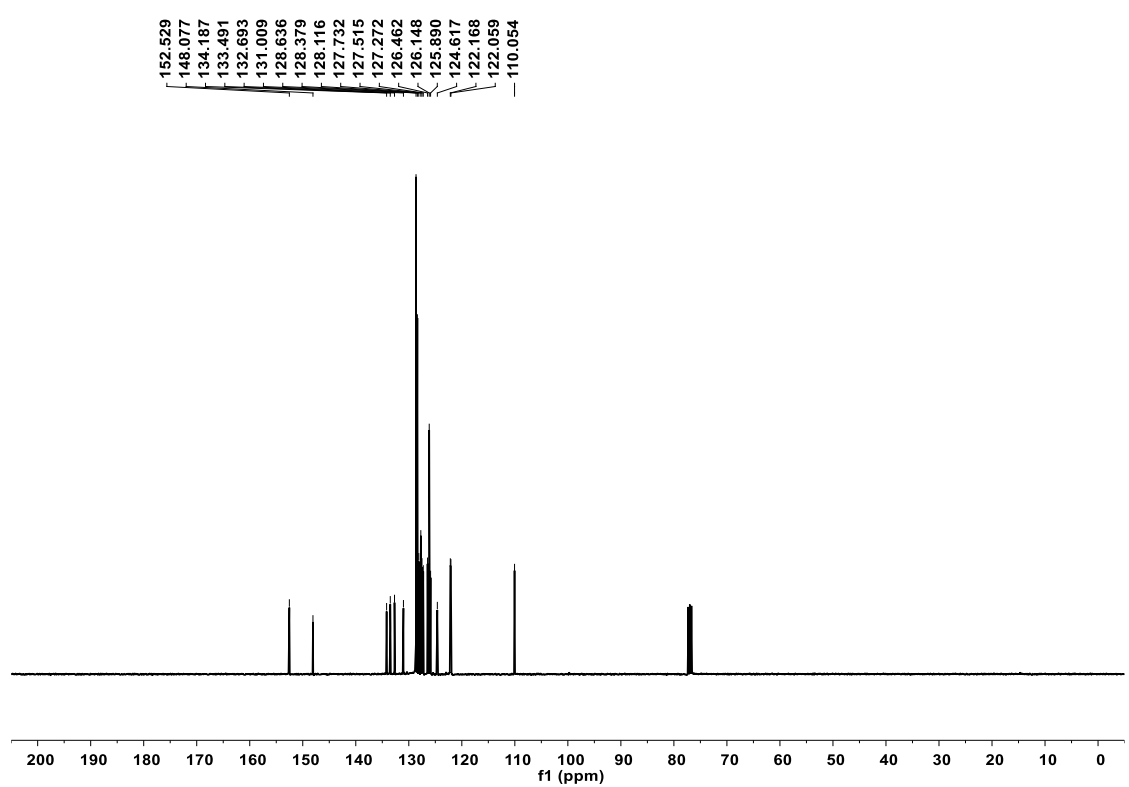
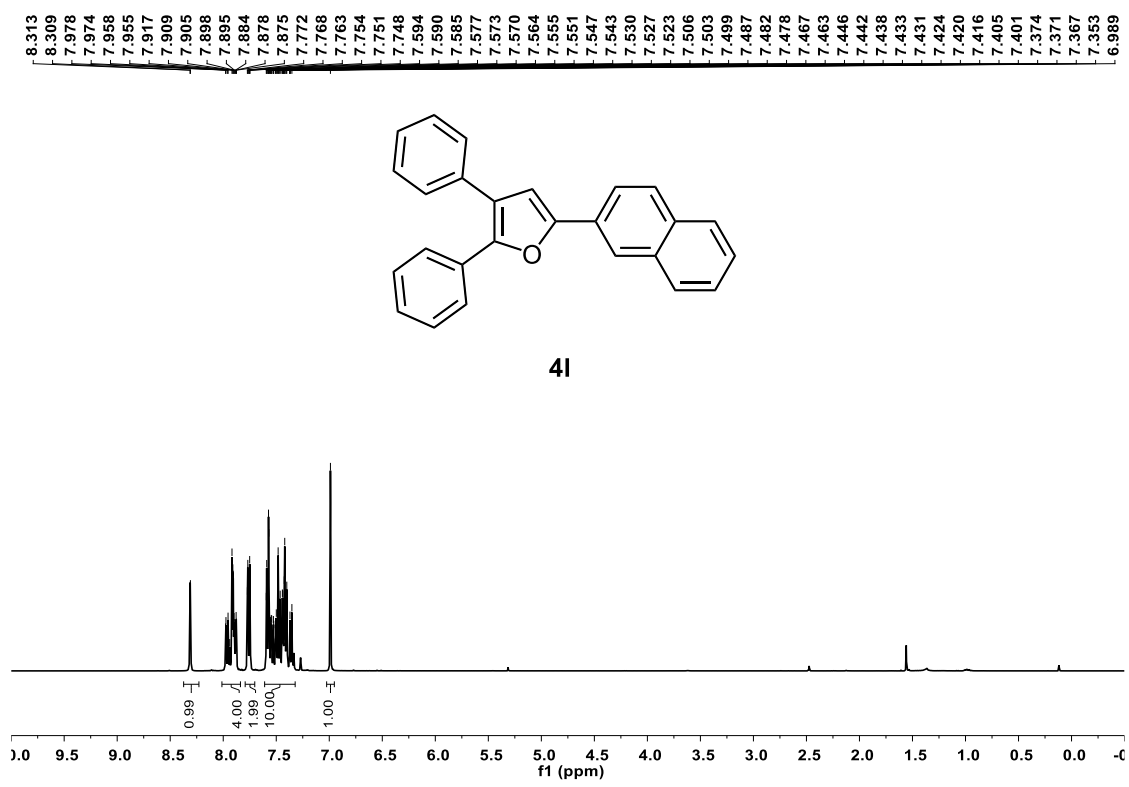


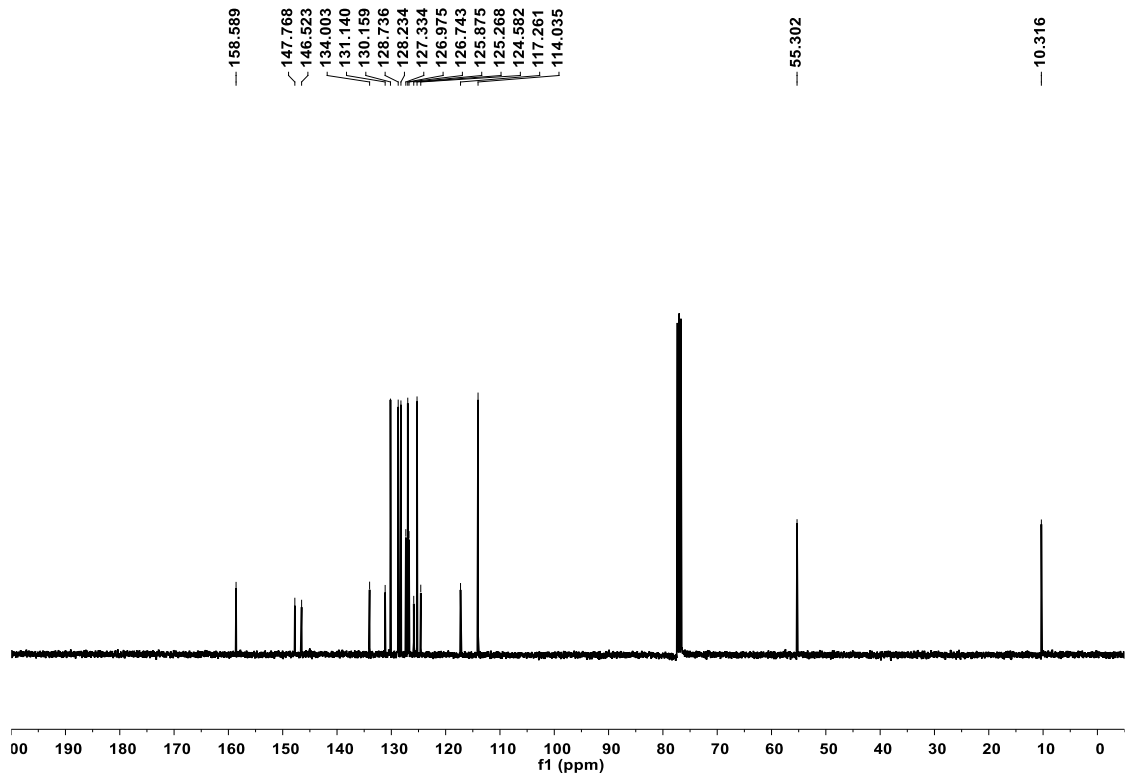
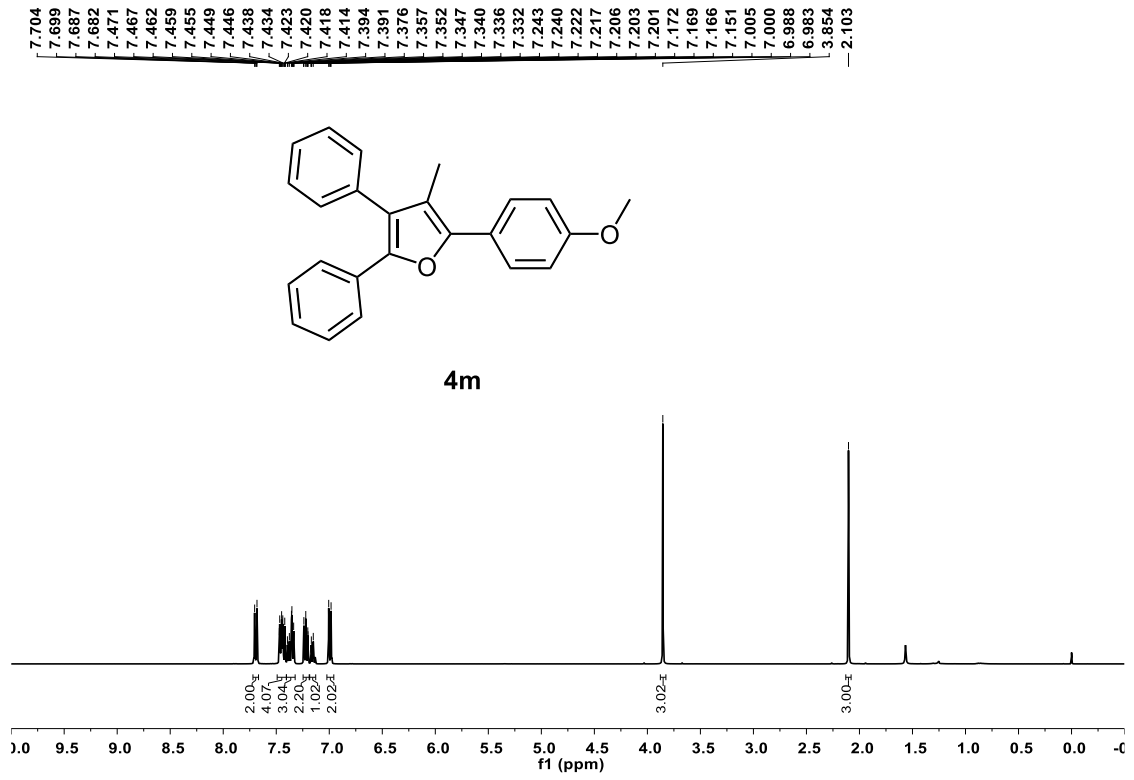


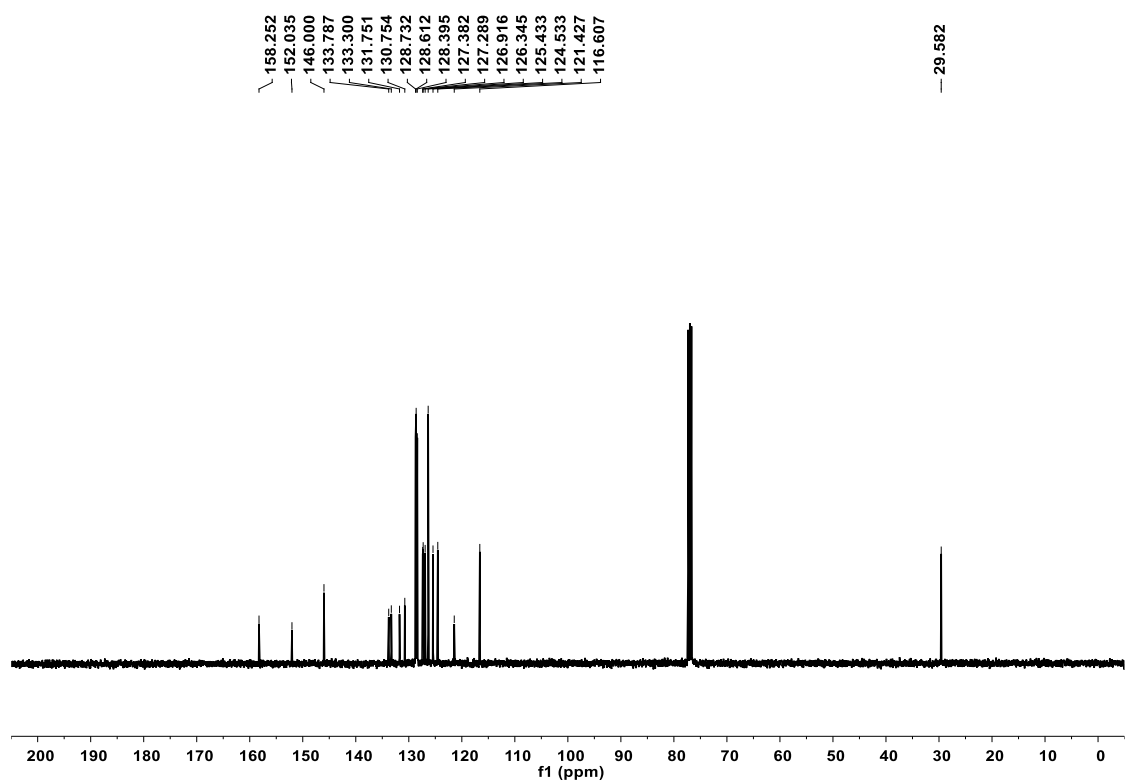
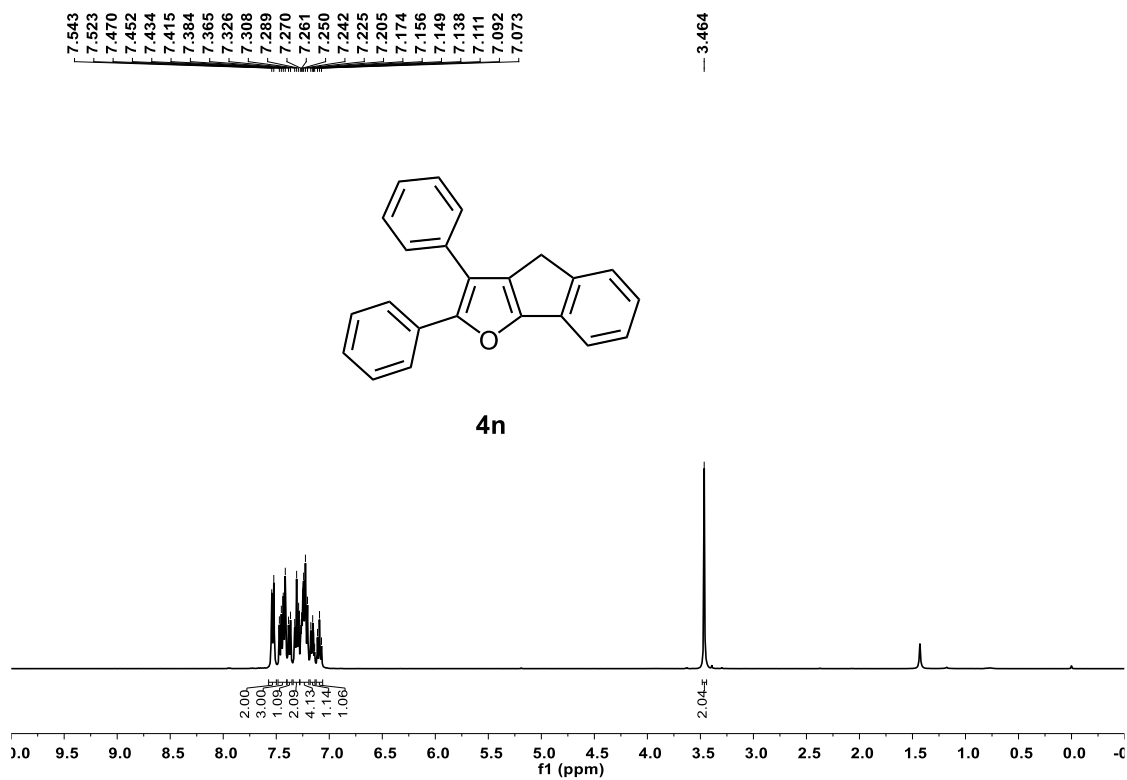




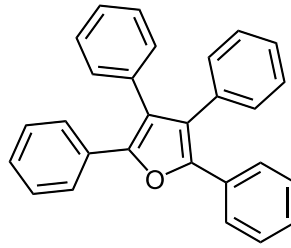




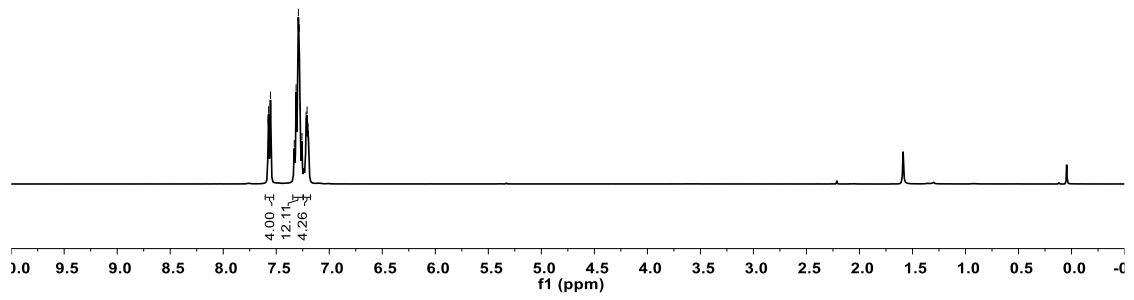




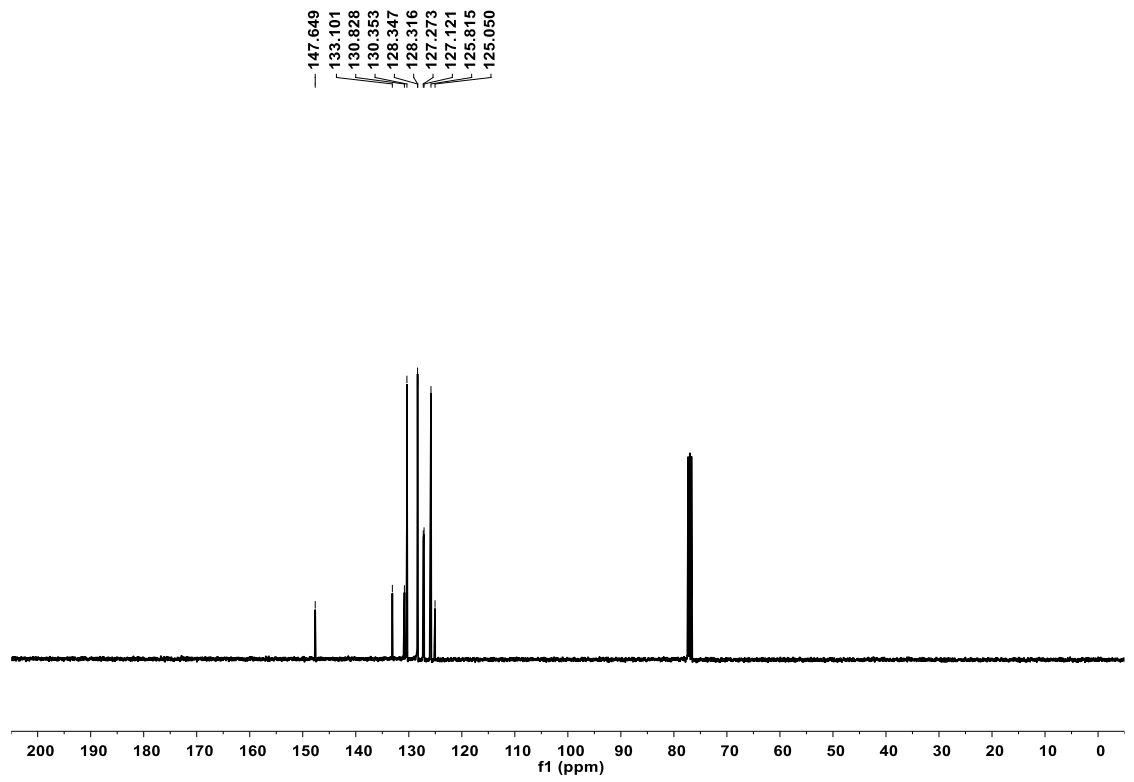
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7.209
7.200
7.194



4o



147.649
133.101
130.828
130.353
128.347
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127.121
125.815
125.050



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