

Supporting Information

Methylations with Methanol via Bioinspired Catalytic C–O Bond Cleavage

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Table of contents

1 General information	3
2 Optimization of reaction conditions for Methylation/d ₃ -methylation with MeOH/MeOH- <i>d</i> ₃	4
3 Additional substrate scope	9
4 Syntheses of starting materials and spectroscopic data	10
5 General procedure for the Alkylation and Characterization of Alkylation Products.	13
6 Synthetic applications and spectroscopic data	56
6.1 Pridopidine derivatives	56
6.2 HIV virus inhibitor analogs	58
6.3 Derivatization of 2g	60
6.4 Ethylation with ethanol	62
6.5 Synthetic applications of monomethylation of benzene diols	63
7 Mechanistic experiments	66
7.1 Possibility of TfOH formation that leads to catalysis	66
7.2 Possibility of methyl sulfonates as a key intermediate	66
7.3 Kinetic Studies in HFIP	69
7.4 Kinetic Studies in Hexane	73
7.5 Hammett plot	79
7.6 DFT calculations	81
8 NMR spectroscopic data	83
9 Reference	194

1 General information

Unless otherwise stated, all chemicals used in this manuscript were purchased from Energy chemical company, Bide Pharmatech Ltd, Inno-Chem Ltd, Adamas Company, Sigma Aldrich and Alfa Aesar Company. Other commercially available compounds were used as provided without further purification. HFIP used in the reactions were dried from anhydrous Mg_2SO_4 and distilled in N_2 prior to use. Other solvents are used after processing in accordance with conventional methods. Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were performed under N_2 atmosphere. Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) on silica gel pre-coated plastic sheets (0.2 mm). Visualization was accomplished by irradiation with *p*-methoxybenzaldehyde, ultraviolet lamp (254 nm), alkaline potassium permanganate solution, iodine cylinder and phosphomolybdic acid solution. Flash column chromatography was performed over silica gel (200-300 mesh). The nuclear magnetic resonance data in this paper is measured by Bruker AVANCE III-400 or Bruker Ascend™ 600MHz nuclear magnetic resonance instrument at room temperature. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm on the scale relative to CDCl_3 ($\delta = 7.26$ for ^1H -NMR, $\delta = 77.16$ for ^{13}C -NMR). Proton spectrum description analysis is as follows: chemical shift (ppm), multiplet analysis (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), unidentified coupling the methods are all analyzed by multiple peak processing, and the carbon spectrum is described in ppm. Coupling constants (J) were reported in Hertz (Hz). High resolution mass spectra (HR-MS) were determined on Bruker Solarix 7.0T FT-MS (ESI source). Mass spectra (GC-MS) were determined on Agilent 7890A/5975C (EI source)

2 Optimization of reaction conditions for Methylation/*d*₃-methylation with MeOH/MeOH-*d*₃

Table S1. Acid screening

Clc1ccc(S)cc1 (1a) + MeOH $\xrightarrow[\text{HFIP}]{\text{Cat. (10 mol\%)}}$ Clc1ccc(SMe)cc1 (2a)

Entry	Additive	Cat.	Solvent	T (°C)	t (h)	2a
1	-	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	27
2	-	cat.2	HFIP	150	24	40
3	-	cat.3	HFIP	150	24	27
4	-	cat.4	HFIP	150	24	35
5	-	cat.5	HFIP	150	24	37
6	-	cat.6	HFIP	150	24	0
7	-	cat.7	HFIP	150	24	0
8	-	cat.8	HFIP	150	24	8
9	-	cat.9	HFIP	150	24	13
10	-	cat.10	HFIP	150	24	36
11	-	cat.11	HFIP	150	24	15
12	-	cat.12	HFIP	150	24	0
13	-	cat.13	HFIP	150	24	9
14	-	cat.14	HFIP	150	24	13
15	-	cat.15	HFIP	150	24	32

Unless mentioned otherwise, reactions were performed with **1a** (1.0 equiv.), MeOH (2.0 equiv.), HFIP (0.4 M), **Cat.** (10 mol%) at 150 °C for 24 hours. ^aYields were determined by analyzing ¹H NMR of the reaction mixture with an internal standard.

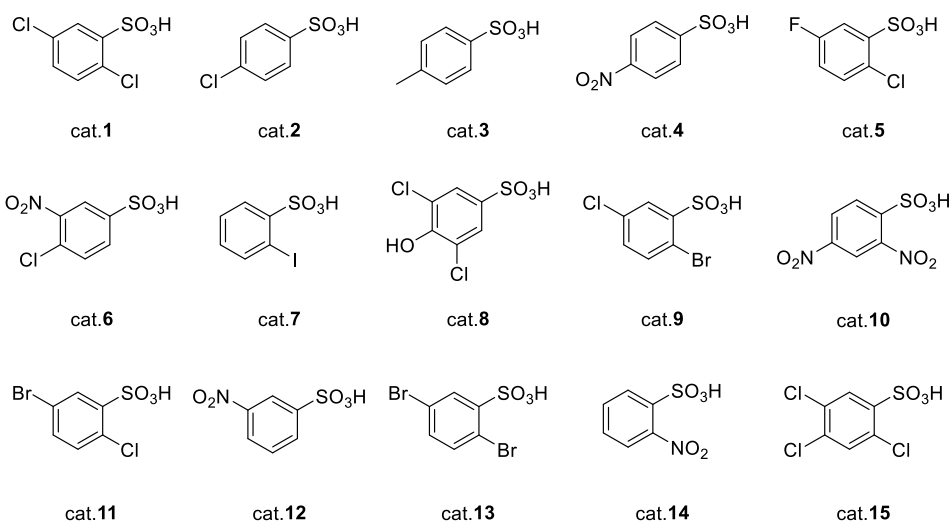
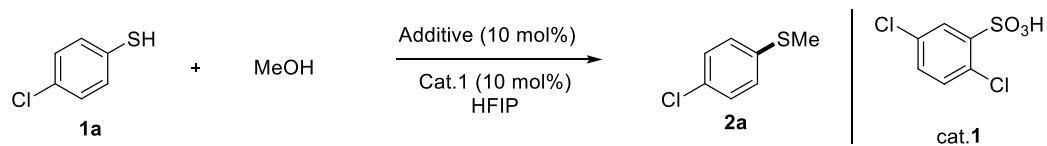


Table S2. Additive screening



Entry	Additive	Cat.	Solvent	T (°C)	t (h)	2a
1	ZnCl ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	80
2	ZnBr ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	88
3	ZnF ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	0
4	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	98(90) ^b
5	ZnSO ₄	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	78
6	Zn(OAc) ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	0
7	Zn(BF ₄) ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	34
8	Zn(CN) ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	0
9	Zn(BO ₄) ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	48
10	Zn ₃ (PO ₄) ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	54
11	Ba(OTf) ₃	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	43
12	Mg(OTf) ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	50
13	Cu(OTf) ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	28
14	Ni(OTf) ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	47

Unless mentioned otherwise, reactions were performed with **1** (1.0 equiv.), MeOH (2.0 equiv.), HFIP (0.4 M), **Cat.1** (10 mol%), Additive (10 mol%) at 150 °C for 24 hours. ^a Yields were determined by analyzing ¹H NMR of the reaction mixture with an internal standard. ^b Isolated yield.

Table S3. Acid screening + Zn(OTf)₂

Clc1ccc(S)cc1 (1a) + MeOH $\xrightarrow[\text{Cat. (10 mol\%)}]{\text{Zn(OTf)}_2(10 \text{ mol\%})}$ Clc1ccc(SMe)cc1 (2a)

Entry	Additive	Cat.	Solvent	T (°C)	t (h)	2a
1	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.1	HFIP	150	24	98(90) ^b
2	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.2	HFIP	150	24	43
3	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.3	HFIP	150	24	39
4	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.4	HFIP	150	24	0
5	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.5	HFIP	150	24	33
6	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.6	HFIP	150	24	48
7	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.7	HFIP	150	24	30
8	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.8	HFIP	150	24	66
9	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.9	HFIP	150	24	50
10	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.10	HFIP	150	24	55
11	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.11	HFIP	150	24	0
12	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.12	HFIP	150	24	0
13	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.13	HFIP	150	24	88
14	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.14	HFIP	150	24	92
15	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.15	HFIP	150	24	97
16	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.16	HFIP	150	24	97
17	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat.17	HFIP	150	24	57

Unless mentioned otherwise, reactions were performed with **1a** (1.0 equiv.), MeOH (2.0 equiv.), HFIP (0.4 M), **Cat.** (10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (10 mol%) at 150 °C for 24 hours. ^a Yields were determined by analyzing ¹H NMR of the reaction mixture with an internal standard. ^b Isolated yield.

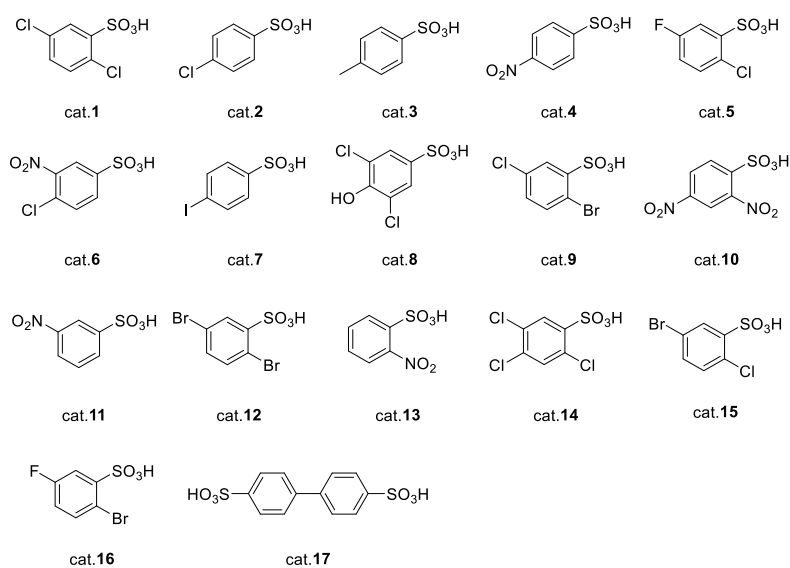


Table S4. Solvent screening

Clc1ccc(S)cc1 (**1a**) + MeOH $\xrightarrow[\text{Cat. (10 mol\%)\ Solvent}]{\text{Zn(OTf)}_2 \text{ (10 mol\%)}}$ Clc1ccc(SMe)cc1 (**2a**)

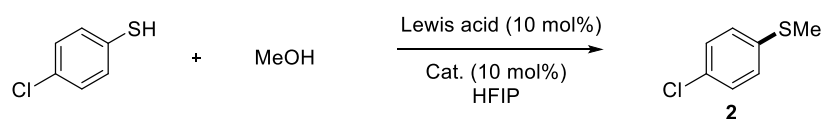
Entry	Additive	Cat.	Solvent	T (°C)	t (h)	2a
1	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	HFIP	150	24	98(90) ^b
2	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	DCE	150	24	29
3	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	toluene	150	24	0
4	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	dioxane	150	24	11
5	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	hexane	150	24	27
6	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	cyclohexan	150	24	31
7	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	DMSO	150	24	0
8	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	CH ₃ CN	150	24	27
9	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	THF	150	24	39
10	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	DCM	150	24	0
11	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	CDCl ₃	150	24	38
12	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	hexane	150	24	98 ^c
13	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	hexane	150	24	79 ^d
14	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	hexane	150	24	85 ^e

Unless mentioned otherwise, reactions were performed with **1a** (1.0 equiv.), MeOH (2.0 equiv.), HFIP (0.4 M), **Cat.1** (10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (10 mol%) at 150 °C for 24 hours.

^a Yields were determined by analyzing ¹H NMR of the reaction mixture with an internal standard. ^b Isolated yield. ^c MeOH (5.0 equiv.) was used. ^d MeOH (3.0 equiv.) was used.

^e MeOH (4.0 equiv.) was used.

Table S5. Other screening

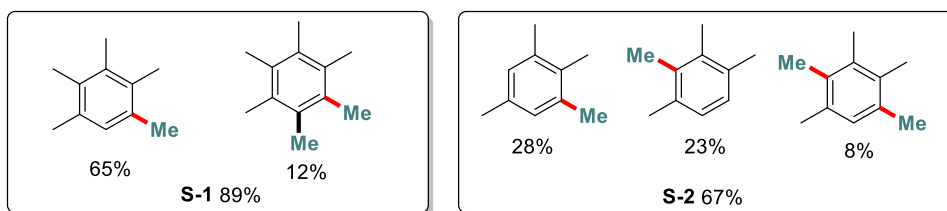


Entry	Additive	Cat.	Solvent	T (°C)	t (h)	2
1	Zn(OTf) ₂	-	HFIP	150	24	31
2	-	cat. 1	HFIP	150	24	27
3	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	HFIP	100	24	0
4	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	HFIP	120	24	35
5	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	HFIP	130	24	44
6	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	HFIP	140	24	86
7	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 1	HFIP	150	2	19
8	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 9	HFIP	150	4	24
9	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 10	HFIP	150	6	30
10	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 11	HFIP	150	8	31
11	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 12	HFIP	150	10	81
12	Zn(OTf) ₂	cat. 13	HFIP	150	12	84
13	Zn(OTf) ₂ (5 mol%)	cat. 1 (10 mol%)	HFIP	150	24	88
14	Zn(OTf) ₂ (5 mol%)	cat. 1 (5 mol%)	HFIP	150	24	90
15	Zn(OTf) ₂ (10 mol%)	cat. 1 (5 mol%)	HFIP	150	24	95
16	Zn(OTf) ₂ (10 mol%)	cat. 1 (10 mol%)	HFIP	150	24	98(90) ^b

Unless mentioned otherwise, reactions were performed with **1a** (1.0 equiv.), MeOH (2.0 equiv.), HFIP (0.4 M), **Cat.1** (10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (10 mol%) at 150 °C for 24 hours.

^a Yields were determined by analyzing ¹H NMR of the reaction mixture with an internal standard. ^b Isolated yield.

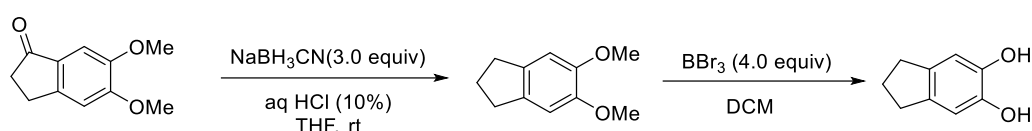
3 Additional substrate scope



4 Syntheses of starting materials and spectroscopic data

All substrates were prepared following the literature procedures or the procedures provided in this manuscript. ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR, ^{19}F -NMR, and HRMS were provided for all compounds not previously reported, for cases where HRMS were not obtained after several tries, GC-MS was provided. Only ^1H NMR (and ^{13}C NMR or ^{19}F -NMR) were provided for known compounds to show excellent agreement with reported data.

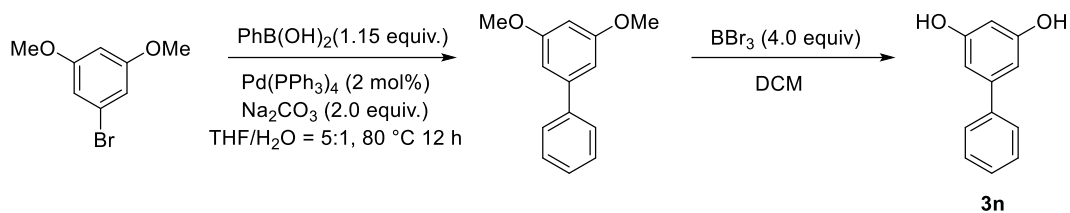
4.1 Procedure for synthesis **3e**¹⁻²



5,6-Dimethoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-indene: To a solution of commercially available 5,6-dimethoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (1.92 g, 10.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (20 mL) at room temperature was added NaBH_3CN (1.86 g, 30.0 mmol, 3.0 equiv). 10% aq HCl (20 mL) was then slowly added to the mixture. After stirring for 5 h, the resulting mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and concentrated. Flash column chromatography with (PE/EtOAc = 50:1) afforded (1.7 g, 96%) of 5,6-dimethoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-indene as a white solid. The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

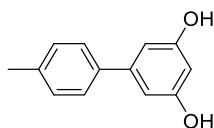
To a solution of 5,6-Dimethoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-indene (1.78 mg, 10 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (60 mL) was added BBr_3 (40 mmol, 4 equiv.) at 0 °C, and the mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for 2 h. Water was added dropwise to quench the reaction, and the mixture was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The organic phase was dried by Na_2SO_4 and evaporated under vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 4:1) to yield 2,3-dihydro-1H-indene-5,6-diol (**3e**) as a white solid (1.2 g, 80%). The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

4.2 Procedure for synthesis resorcinol derivatives **3n**³⁻⁴

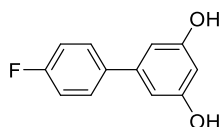


A suspension of 1-bromo-3,5-dimethoxybenzene (2.17 g, 10 mmol), phenylboronic acid (1.4 g, 11.5 mmol), $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$ (0.231 g, 0.2 mmol) and Na_2CO_3 (2.12 g, 20 mmol) in THF/water (5/1, 60 mL) was stirred for 12 h under reflux condition. After cooling, the reaction mixture was filtrated through Celite, quenched with sat. NH_4Cl aq., and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and evaporated under a vacuum. The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 50:1) to afford 3,5-dimethoxy-1,1'-biphenyl in 70% yield (1.49 g). BBr_3 (1.0 M in CH_2Cl_2 , 40 mL, 40 mmol) was added to a solution of 3,5-dimethoxy-1,1'-biphenyl (2.14 g, 10 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (40 mL) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. After cooling to 0 °C, the reaction was quenched with sat. NaHCO_3 aq. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and evaporated under a vacuum. The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 2:1) to afford **3n** in 90% yield (1.67 g, white solid). The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

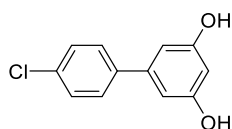
Compounds **3o**, **3p**, **3q**, and **3r** were prepared following the procedure for **3n**.



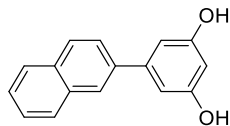
3,5-Dihydroxy-4'-methyl-1,1'-biphenyl (3o)⁴ (1.06 g, 53% yield), (2 steps from 1-bromo-3,5-dimethoxybenzene). White solid after isolation by silica-gel column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 2:1). The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



4'-Fluoro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,5-diol (3p)⁵ (898 mg, 44% yield), (2 steps from 1-bromo-3,5-dimethoxybenzene). White solid after isolation by silica-gel column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 1:1). The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



4'-Chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,5-diol (3q)⁶ (1.01 g, 46% yield), (2 steps from 1-bromo-3,5-dimethoxybenzene). White solid after isolation by silica-gel column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 1:1). The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



5-(Naphthalen-2-yl)benzene-1,3-diol (3r)³ (898 mg, 38% yield), (2 steps from 1-bromo-3,5-dimethoxybenzene). White solid after isolation by silica-gel column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 1:1). The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

5 General procedure for the Alkylation and Characterization of Alkylation Products.

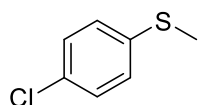
^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR, ^{19}F NMR and HRMS were provided for all compounds not previously reported, for cases where HRMS were not obtained after several tries, GC-MS were provided. Only ^1H NMR (and ^{13}C NMR or ^{19}F NMR) were provided for known compounds to show excellent agreement with reported data.

General procedure A: To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (10 mol%), **1** or **3** (1.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The Schlenk tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of an argon atmosphere, HFIP (0.4 M) and MeOH (2.0 equiv.) were added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h. The reaction was then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration, and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the products.

General procedure B: In a nitrogen-filled glove box, to a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (10 mol%), **1** or **3** (1.0 equiv.), Hexane (0.4 M), MeOH (5.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The tube was sealed and removed from the glove box. After degassing, the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h. The reaction was then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the products.

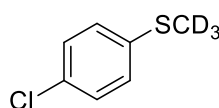
General procedure C: To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (10 mol%), **1** (5 equiv), HFIP (0.4 M), MeOH (8 μL , 1.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar under air. The reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C for 48 h. The reaction was then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), and dodecane or CH_2Br_2 as

an internal standard was added, take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC or ^1H NMR.



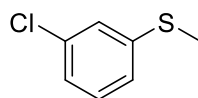
2a: (4-chlorophenyl)(methyl)sulfane.⁷

2a was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1a** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration, and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2a** (28.5 mg, 90%) as a colorless oil ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.29 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 2.49 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 137.1, 131.0, 129.0, 128.1, 16.2. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2a-d₃: (4-chlorophenyl)(methyl- d_3)sulfane⁸.

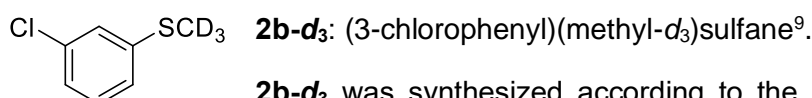
2a-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1a** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD_3OH (16 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2a-d₃** (31 mg, 97%) as a colorless oil. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.28 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.19 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 137.1, 131.0, 129.0, 128.0. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



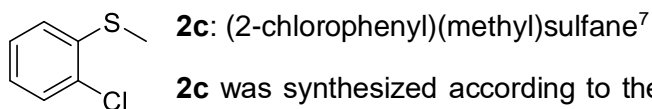
2b: (3-chlorophenyl)(methyl)sulfane⁷.

2b was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1b** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h

then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2b** (30.5 mg, 96%) as a colorless oil. 1H NMR (600 MHz, $CDCl_3$) 7.34 (dt, J = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 137.8, 132.0, 129.5, 127.3, 125.7, 125.6, 15.3. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

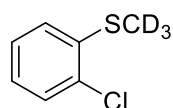


2b-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1b** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $Zn(OTf)_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD_3OH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2b-d₃** (30.1 mg, 94%) as a colorless oil. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.34 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.15 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (td, J = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 137.8, 132.0, 129.5, 127.3, 125.7, 125.6. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



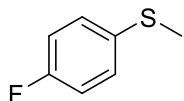
2c was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1c** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $Zn(OTf)_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2c** (29.8 mg, 93%) as a colorless oil. 1H NMR

(600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.21 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.13 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.8, 134.9, 129.9, 126.0, 125.2, 124.6, 15.7. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



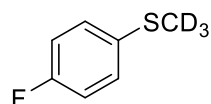
2c-d₃: (2-chlorophenyl)(methyl-d₃)sulfane⁹.

2c-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1c** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2c-d₃** (29.1 mg, 91%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 7.12 – 7.08 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.8, 134.9, 129.9, 126.0, 125.1, 124.6. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



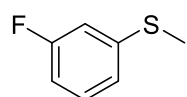
2d: (4-fluorophenyl)(methyl)sulfane¹⁰

2d was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1d** (0.2 mmol, 26 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2d** (25.6 mg, 90%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.25 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.01 – 6.98 (m, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.5 (d, *J* = 245 Hz), 133.5 (d, *J* = 3 Hz), 129.5 (d, *J* = 7 Hz), 116.1 (d, *J* = 22 Hz), 17.3. ¹⁹F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -117.3 The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



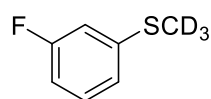
2d-d₃: (4-fluorophenyl)(methyl-d₃)sulfane

2d-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1d** (0.2 mmol, 26 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OD (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2d-d₃** (26.8 mg, 91%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.04 – 7.01 (m, 2H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.5 (d, *J* = 245 Hz), 133.4 (d, *J* = 2 Hz), 129.5 (d, *J* = 7 Hz), 116.2 (d, *J* = 22 Hz). **¹⁹F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -117.4. **HRMS** *m/z* (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₄D₃FS [M+H]⁺: 146.0514, found: 146.0512.



2e: (3-fluorophenyl)(methyl)sulfane¹¹

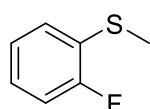
2e was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1e** (0.2 mmol, 26 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2e** (21.6 mg, 76%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.9 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 6.8 (t, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.4 (d, *J* = 247 Hz), 141.21 (d, *J* = 7 Hz), 130.2 (d, *J* = 9 Hz), 121.9 (d, *J* = 3 Hz), 113.2 (d, *J* = 24 Hz), 111.9 (d, *J* = 21 Hz), 15.5. **¹⁹F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -112.6. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2e-d₃: (3-fluorophenyl)(methyl-d₃)sulfane

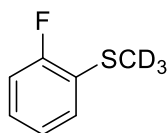
2e-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1e** (0.2 mmol, 26 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OD

(16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2e-d₃** (24.4 mg, 83%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.26 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.04 – 7.02 (m, 1H), 6.98 – 6.94 (m, 1H), 6.86 – 6.81 (m, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 164.4 (d, J = 166 Hz), 141.2 (d, J = 5 Hz), 130.2 (d, J = 6 Hz), 122.0 (d, J = 2 Hz), 113.2 (d, J = 16 Hz), 112.0 (d, J = 14 Hz). **¹⁹F NMR** (565 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ -112.6. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for $C_7H_4D_3FS$ $[M+H]^+$: 146.0514, found: 146.0510.



2f: (2-fluorophenyl)(methyl)sulfane¹¹

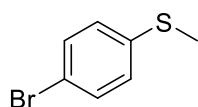
2f was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1f** (0.2 mmol, 26 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $Zn(OTf)_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2f** (25.3 mg, 89%). as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.29 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.19 – 7.01 (m, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 161.7 (d, J = 250 Hz), 128.7 (d, J = 3 Hz), 127.0 (d, J = 7 Hz), 125.6 (d, J = 17 Hz), 124.6 (d, J = 3 Hz), 115.4 (d, J = 21 Hz), 15.6. **¹⁹F NMR** (565 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ -111.4. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2f-d₃: (2-fluorophenyl)(methyl- d_3)sulfane

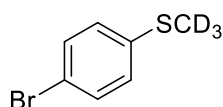
2f-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1f** (0.2 mmol, 26 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $Zn(OTf)_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD_3OD (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under

reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2f-d₃** (21.2 mg, 72%). as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.19 – 7.01 (m, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.4 (d, *J* = 163 Hz), 128.9(d, *J* = 2 Hz), 127.1(d, *J* = 5 Hz), 125.6(d, *J* = 11 Hz), 124.6 (d, *J* = 2 Hz), 115.5(d, *J* = 14 Hz). **¹⁹F NMR** (565 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -111.4. **HRMS** *m/z* (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₄D₃FS [M+H]⁺: 146.0514, found: 146.0514.



2g: (4-bromophenyl)(methyl)sulfane¹¹

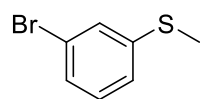
2g was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1g** (0.2 mmol, 38 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2g** (34.5 mg, 85%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.9, 131.9, 128.3, 118.8, 16.1. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2g-d₃: (4-bromophenyl)(methyl-d₃)sulfane⁹

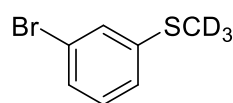
2g-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1g** (0.2 mmol, 38 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OD (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2g-d₃** (32.8 mg, 80%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.8, 131.9, 128.3, 118.7. The spectroscopic data were

according to the literature report.



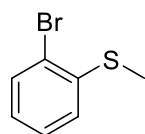
2h: (3-bromophenyl)(methyl)sulfane¹¹

2h was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1h** (0.2 mmol, 38 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2h** (37.8 mg, 93%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 (s, 1H), 7.27 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.18 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.2, 130.2, 128.9, 128.1, 125.2, 123.1, 15.8. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2h-d₃: (3-bromophenyl)(methyl-d₃)sulfane

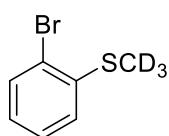
2h-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1h** (0.2 mmol, 38 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OD (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2h-d₃** (34 mg, 83%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.18 – 7.11 (m, 2H), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.1, 130.2, 128.8, 128.0, 125.1, 123.0. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₄D₃BrS [M+H]⁺: 205.9713, found: 205.9710



2i: (2-bromophenyl)(methyl)sulfane¹²

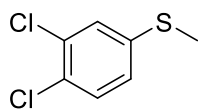
2i was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1i** (0.2 mmol, 38 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C

for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2i** (36.5 mg, 90%) as a colorless oil. 1H NMR (600 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.53 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 139.8, 132.8, 127.9, 125.8, 125.5, 121.9, 15.9. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2i-d₃: (2-bromophenyl)(methyl-d₃)sulfane¹³

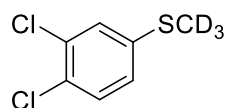
2i-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1i** (0.2 mmol, 38 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $Zn(OTf)_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD_3OD (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2i-d₃** (40 mg, 98%) as a colorless oil. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.51 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (td, J = 7.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (td, J = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 139.8, 132.8, 127.9, 125.8, 125.6, 122.0. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2j: (3,4-dichlorophenyl)(methyl)sulfane¹⁴

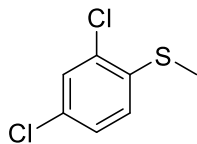
2j was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1j** (0.2 mmol, 36 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $Zn(OTf)_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 50:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2j** (38 mg, 98%) as a white solid. 1H NMR (600 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 7.33 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.06 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.1, 133.0, 130.5, 129.0, 127.8, 125.9, 16.0. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



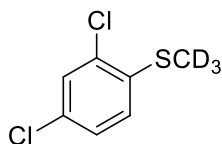
2j-d₃: (3,4-dichlorophenyl)(methyl-d₃)sulfane

2j-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1j** (0.2 mmol, 36 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OD (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 50:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2j-d₃** (36.1 mg, 92%) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.05 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.0, 133.1, 130.5, 129.0, 127.8, 125.9. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₃D₃Cl₂S [M+H]⁺: 195.9828, found: 195.9820.



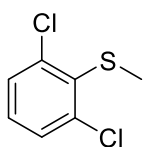
2k: (2,4-dichlorophenyl)(methyl)sulfane

2k was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1k** (0.2 mmol, 36 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 50:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2k** (33.5 mg, 87%) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 (s, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 136.6, 132.6, 130.8, 129.3, 127.5, 126.6, 15.5. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₆Cl₂S [M+H]⁺: 192.9640, found: 192.9644.



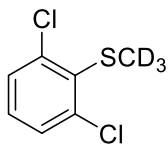
2k-d₃: (2,4-dichlorophenyl)(methyl-d₃)sulfane

2k-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1k** (0.2 mmol, 36 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OD (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 50:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2k-d₃** (38.4 mg, 98%) as a white solid. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 136.6, 132.6, 130.8, 129.3, 127.5, 126.6. **HRMS** *m/z* (ESI): calcd. for C₁₄H₁₂NO₅ [M-H]⁻: 274.0721, found: 274.0722 **HRMS** *m/z* (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₃D₃Cl₂S [M+H]⁺: 195.9828, found: 195.9825.



2l: (2,6-dichlorophenyl)(methyl)sulfane

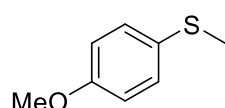
2l was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1l** (0.2 mmol, 36 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 50:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2l** (34.7 mg, 90%) as a white solid. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.1, 134.7, 129.8, 128.7, 18.4. **HRMS** *m/z* (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₆Cl₂S [M+H]⁺: 192.9640, found: 192.9647.



2l-d₃: (2,6-dichlorophenyl)(methyl-d₃)sulfane

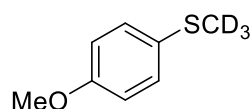
2l-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1l** (0.2 mmol, 36 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OD (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then

washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 50:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2l-d₃** (38.4 mg, 98%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.19 – 7.15 (m, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.1, 134.6, 129.8, 128.7. **HRMS** *m/z* (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₃D₃Cl₂S [M+H]⁺: 195.9828, found: 195.9823.



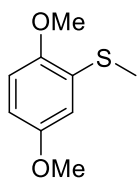
2m: (4-methoxyphenyl)(methyl)sulfane¹⁵

2m was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1m** (0.2 mmol, 28 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2m** (24.6 mg, 80%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.3, 130.3, 128.9, 114.7, 55.5, 18.2. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



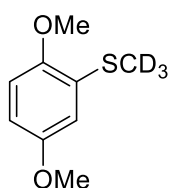
2m-d₃: (4-methoxyphenyl)(methyl d₃)sulfane¹⁶

2m-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1m** (0.2 mmol, 28 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OH (40 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2m-d₃** (20.4 mg, 65%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.3, 130.3, 128.8, 114.8, 55.5. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



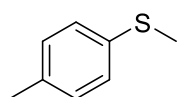
2n: (2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)(methyl)sulfane¹⁷

2n was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1n** (0.2 mmol, 34 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2n** (22.8 mg, 62%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.76 – 6.74 (m, 2H), 6.65 – 6.63 (m, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.3, 150.7, 128.5, 113.1, 111.1, 109.5, 56.5, 55.8, 14.8. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2n-d₃: (2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)(methyl-d₃)sulfane

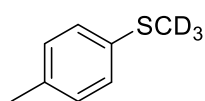
2n-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1n** (0.2 mmol, 34 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2n-d₃** (22.5 mg, 60%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.76 – 6.73 (m, 2H), 6.65-6.63 (m, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 1.92 H, 36% D). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.3, 150.8, 128.5, 113.2, 111.1, 109.5, 56.5, 55.9, 14.8. HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd. for C₉H₉D₃O₂S [M+H]⁺: 188.0819, found: 188.0816.



2o: methyl(*p*-tolyl)sulfane¹⁸

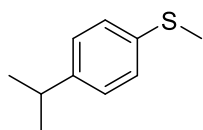
2o was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1o** (0.2 mmol, 25 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h

then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2o** (26.5 mg, 96%) as a colorless oil. **^1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.17 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 135.1, 134.8, 129.7, 127.4, 21.0, 16.6. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2o-d₃: (methyl-d₃)(*p*-tolyl)sulfane¹⁹

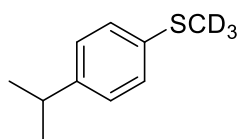
2o-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1o** (0.2 mmol, 25 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD_3OD (16 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2o-d₃** (27.6 mg, 98%) as a Colorless oil. **^1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.17 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 135.2, 134.8, 129.7, 127.4, 21.1. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2p: (4-isopropylphenyl)(methyl)sulfane²⁰

2p was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1p** (0.2 mmol, 31 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2p** (30.5 mg, 92%) as a colorless oil. **^1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.22 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.88 (p, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 1.24 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H). **^{13}C NMR**

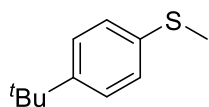
(101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.3, 135.2, 127.4, 127.1, 33.8, 24.1, 16.5. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2p-d₃: (4-isopropylphenyl)(methyl-d₃)sulfane

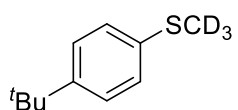
2p-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A**

With **1p** (0.2 mmol, 31 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OD (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2p-d₃** (30.5 mg, 90%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.87 (p, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.23 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 6H).; **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.2, 135.1, 127.4, 127.1, 33.8, 24.1. **HRMS** *m/z* (ESI): calcd. for C₁₀H₁₁D₃S [M+H]⁺: 170.1077, found: 170.1072.



2q: (4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)(methyl)sulfane²¹

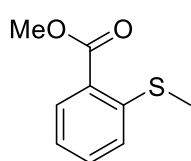
2q was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1q** (0.2 mmol, 34 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2q** (33.2 mg, 92%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 9H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 148.5, 135.0, 127.1, 126.0, 34.5, 31.4, 16.4. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2q-d₃: (4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)(methyl-d₃)sulfane¹⁶

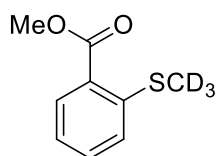
2q-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1q** (0.2 mmol, 34 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%),

CD₃OD (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2q-d₃** (35.6 mg, 97%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 1.31 (s, 9H), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 148.5, 134.9, 127.0, 126.0, 34.5, 31.4. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2r: methyl 2-(methylthio)benzoate²²

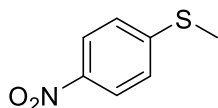
2r was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1r** (0.2 mmol, 34 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2r** (30.2 mg, 83%) as a white solid. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.17 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.0, 143.4, 132.6, 131.5, 126.9, 124.5, 123.6, 52.2, 15.7. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2r-d₃: methyl 2-((methyl-d₃) thio)benzoate²³

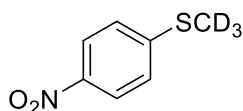
2r-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1r** (0.2 mmol, 34 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OD (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2r-d₃** (25.9 mg, 70%) as a

white solid. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, CDCl_3) 7.99 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.15 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 1.44H, 52%D), 2.46 (s, 0.7H, 77%D). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 167.0, 143.4, 132.6, 131.5, 127.0, 124.5, 123.6, 52.2, 15.7. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



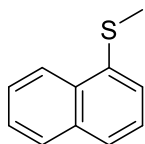
2s: methyl(4-nitrophenyl)sulfane⁷

2s was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1s** (0.2 mmol, 32 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), ZnI_2 (6.4 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2s** (28.7 mg, 74%) as a yellow solid. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.14 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 2.55 (s, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 149.0, 144.9, 125.2, 124.1, 15.0. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



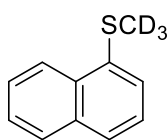
2s-d₃: (methyl- d_3) (4-nitrophenyl)sulfane²⁴

2s-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1s** (0.2 mmol, 32 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), ZnI_2 (6.4 mg, 10 mol%), CD_3OD (16 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2s-d₃** (31.5 mg, 80%) as a yellow solid. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.15 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 149.0, 144.9, 125.2, 124.1. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



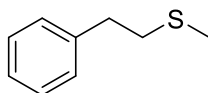
2t: methyl(naphthalen-1-yl)sulfane²¹

2t was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1t** (0.2 mmol, 32 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 µL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2t** (30.4 mg, 87%). as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79 – 7.73 (m, 3H), 7.60 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 2.59 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 136.2, 134.0, 131.5, 128.3, 127.9, 127.0, 126.7, 125.8, 125.4, 123.6, 16.0. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2t-d₃: (methyl- d₃)(naphthalen-1-yl)sulfane¹⁶

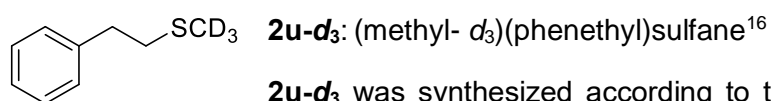
2t-d₃: was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1t** (0.2 mmol, 32 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OD (16 µL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2t-d₃** (34.8 mg, 98%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79 – 7.73 (m, 3H), 7.60 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.37 (m, 3H), ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 136.2, 134.1, 131.4, 128.3, 127.9, 127.0, 126.7, 125.9, 125.4, 123.5 The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



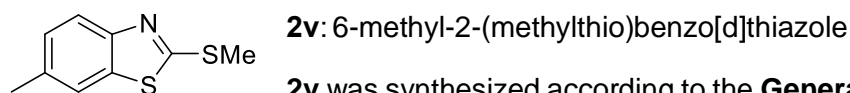
2u: methyl(phenethyl)sulfane²⁵

2u was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1u** (0.2 mmol, 28 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 µL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h

then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2u** (25.6 mg, 84%) as a colorless oil. **1H NMR** (600 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.32 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 2.92 – 2.88 (m, 2H), 2.78 – 2.75 (m, 2H), 2.13 (s, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 140.7, 128.6, 128.6, 126.5, 36.1, 36.0, 15.9. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

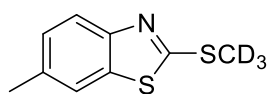


2u- d_3 was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1u** (0.2 mmol, 28 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $Zn(OTf)_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD_3OD (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2u- d_3** (22.1 mg, 71%) as a colorless oil. **1H NMR** (600 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.30 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 2.91 – 2.89 (m, 2H), 2.77 – 2.76 (m, 2H). **^{13}C NMR** (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 140.7, 128.6, 128.6, 126.5, 36.1, 35.8. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2v was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1v** (0.2 mmol, 36 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $Zn(OTf)_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10: 1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2v** (20.3 mg, 52%) as a colorless oil. **1H NMR** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.76 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 167.1, 151.4, 135.3, 134.4,

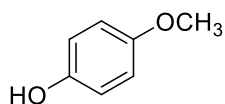
127.7, 121.0, 121.0, 21.5, 16.2. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for $C_9H_9NS_2$ $[M+H]^+$: 196.0249, found: 196.0249.



2v-d₃: 6-methyl-2-((methyl-d₃)thio)benzo[d]thiazole

2v-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A**

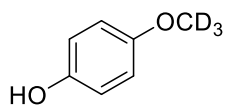
With **1v** (0.2 mmol, 36 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $Zn(OTf)_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD_3OD (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10: 1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2v-d₃** (19.9 mg, 50%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.76 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 166.8, 151.6, 135.4, 134.3, 127.6, 121.0, 121.0, 21.5. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for $C_9H_6D_3NS_2$ $[M+H]^+$: 199.0437, found: 199.0433.



2w: 4-methoxyphenol²⁶

2w was synthesized according to the **General procedure B**

With **1w** (2 mmol, 220 mg), **Cat.1** (55 mg, 10 mol%), $Zn(OTf)_2$ (72 mg, 10 mol%), CH_3OH (400 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/DCM=5:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2w** (156 mg, 63%) as a yellow oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 6.80 – 6.77 (m, 4H), 3.77 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 153.7, 149.6, 116.2, 115.1, 56.0. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

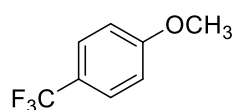


2w-d₃: 4-(methoxy-d₃)phenol

2w-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure B**

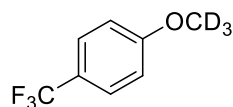
With **1w** (2 mmol, 220 mg), **Cat.1** (55 mg, 10 mol%), $Zn(OTf)_2$ (72 mg, 10 mol%), CD_3OH (400 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at

150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/DCM=5:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2w-d₃** (153 mg, 60%) as a yellow oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.81 – 6.75 (m, 4H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.8, 149.6, 116.2, 115.0. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₅D₃O₂ [M-H]⁻: 126.0640, found: 126.0643



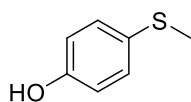
2x: 1-methoxy-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene²⁷

2x was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1x** (0.2 mmol, 32.4 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CH₃OH (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 5:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2x** (22 mg, 62%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H). The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



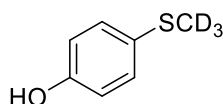
2x-d₃: 1-(methoxy-*d*₃)-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene

2x-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1x** (0.2 mmol, 32.4 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OH (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 5:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2x-d₃** (23.3 mg, 65%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.2, 160.0, 132.1, 122.8, 115.4. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for C₁₄H₁₂NO₅ [M+H]⁺: 180.0710, found: 180.0711.



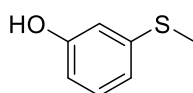
2y: 4-(methylthio)phenol²⁶

2y was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1y** (2 mmol, 252 mg), **Cat.1** (55 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (72 mg, 10 mol%), CH₃OH (400 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/DCM = 5:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2y** (236 mg, 84%) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.2, 130.6, 129.1, 116.2, 18.2. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2y-d₃: 4-((methyl-*d*₃)thio)phenol

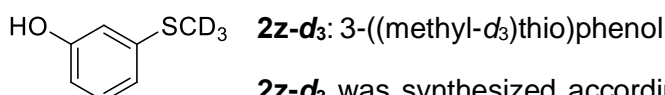
2y-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1y** (2 mmol, 252 mg), **Cat.1** (55 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (72 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OH (400 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/DCM = 5:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2y-d₃** (258 mg, 90%) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.2, 130.5, 129.0, 116.2. **HRMS** *m/z* (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₅D₃OS [M-H]⁻: 142.0411, found: 142.0415



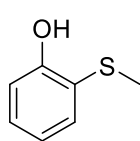
2z: 3-(methylthio)phenol²⁸

2z was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1z** (2 mmol, 252 mg), **Cat.1** (55 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (72 mg, 10 mol%), CH₃OH (400 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the

residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/DCM = 5:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2z** (230 mg, 82%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.15 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.0, 140.3, 130.0, 119.0, 113.3, 112.2, 15.7. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



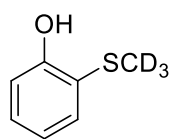
2z-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1z** (2 mmol, 252 mg), **Cat.1** (55 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (72 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OH (400 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/DCM = 5:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2z-d₃** (255 mg, 89%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.14 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.0, 140.2, 130.0, 119.0, 113.3, 112.2. **HRMS** *m/z* (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₅D₃OS [M-H]⁻: 142.0411, found: 142.0413



2aa: 2-(methylthio)phenol²⁹

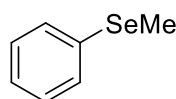
2aa was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1aa** (2 mmol, 252 mg), **Cat.1** (55 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (72 mg, 10 mol%), CH₃OH (400 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/DCM = 5:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2aa** (249 mg, 89%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.9 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ

156.5, 135.0, 130.9, 121.1, 115.0, 20.0. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



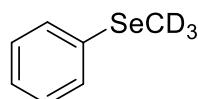
2aa-d₃: 2-((methyl-d₃)thio)phenol

2aa-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1aa** (2 mmol, 252 mg), **Cat.1** (55 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (72 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OH (400 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/DCM = 5:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2aa-d₃** (249 mg, 87%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.228 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.3, 134.7, 130.7, 121.0, 114.9. **HRMS** *m/z* (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₅D₃OS [M-H]⁻: 142.0411, found: 142.0411.



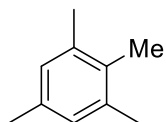
2bb: methyl(phenyl)selane

2bb was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1bb** (0.2 mmol, 252 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OH (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), and CH₂Br₂ as an internal standard Subsequently, take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by NMR (NMR yield by 92%).



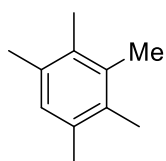
2bb-d₃: (methyl-d₃)(phenyl)selane

2bb-d₃ was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1bb** (0.2 mmol, 252 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CD₃OH (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), and CH₂Br₂ as an internal standard Subsequently, take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by NMR (NMR yield by 87%).



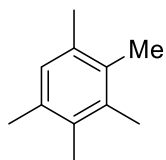
2cc: 1,2,3,5-tetramethylbenzene

2cc was synthesized according to the **General procedure C** With **1cc** (1 mmol, 120.2 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CH_3OH (8 μL , 1.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 48 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), and dodecane as an internal standard Subsequently, take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC (GC yield by 87%).



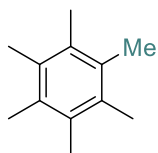
2dd: 1,2,3,4,5-pentamethylbenzene

2dd was synthesized according to the **General procedure C** With **1dd** (1 mmol, 134.2 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CH_3OH (8 μL , 1.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 48 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), and dodecane as an internal standard Subsequently, take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC (GC yield by 98%).



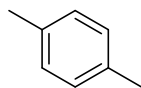
2ee: 1,2,3,4,5-pentamethylbenzene

2ee was synthesized according to the **General procedure C** With **1ee** (1 mmol, 134.2 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CH_3OH (8 μL , 1.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 48 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), and dodecane as an internal standard Subsequently, take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC (GC yield by 98%).



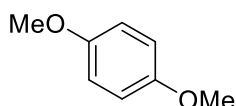
2ff: 1,2,3,4,5,6-hexamethylbenzene

2ff was synthesized according to the **General procedure C** With **1ff** (1 mmol, 148.2 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CH_3OH (8 μL , 1.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 48 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), and dodecane as an internal standard Subsequently, take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC (GC yield by 98%).



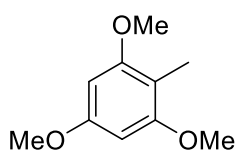
2gg: 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene

2gg was synthesized according to the **General procedure C** With **1gg** (1 mmol, 106.2 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CH₃OH (8 μL, 1.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 48 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), and dodecane as an internal standard. Subsequently, take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC (GC yield by 30%).



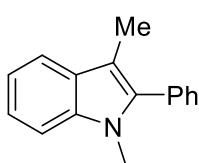
2hh: 1,4-dimethoxy-2-methylbenzene

2hh was synthesized according to the **General procedure C** With **1hh** (1 mmol, 138.2 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CH₃OH (8 μL, 1.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 48 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), and dodecane as an internal standard. Subsequently, take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC (GC yield by 30%).



2ii: 1,4-dimethoxy-2-methylbenzene

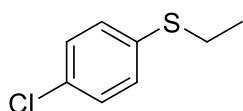
2ii was synthesized according to the **General procedure C** With **1ii** (1 mmol, 168.2 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CH₃OH (8 μL, 1.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 48 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), and dodecane as an internal standard. Subsequently, take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC (GC yield by 82%).



2jj: 1,3-dimethyl-2-phenyl-1H-indole³⁰

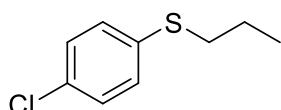
2jj was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1jj** (0.2 mmol, 41.5 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), CH₃OH (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2aa** (35.5 mg, 80%) as a

white solid. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.61 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.33 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.16 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 141.5, 138.3, 132.8, 129.3, 128.5, 127.9, 127.8, 121.6, 120.4, 119.8, 109.6, 101.6, 31.1 The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



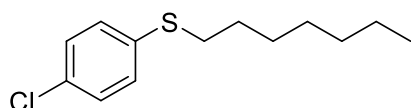
2kk: (4-chlorophenyl)(ethyl)sulfane³¹

2kk was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1a** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), alcohol (24 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2kk** (33.2 mg, 96%) as a colorless oil. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.24 (s, 4H), 2.93 (q, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 1.30 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 135.3, 131.9, 130.5, 129.1, 28.0, 14.4. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



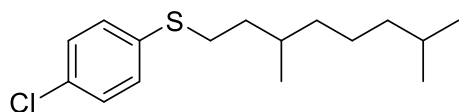
2II: (4-chlorophenyl)(propyl)sulfane³²

2II was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1a** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), alcohol (30 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2II** (36.2 mg, 97%) as a colorless oil. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.24 (s, 4H), 2.87 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 1.65 (q, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 1.02 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 135.6, 131.8, 130.4, 129.1, 36.0, 22.5, 13.5. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



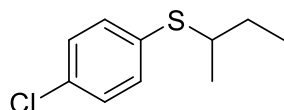
2mm: (4-chlorophenyl)(heptyl)sulfane

2mm was synthesized according to the **general procedure A** With **1a** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), alcohol (57 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2mm** (47.1 mg, 97%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.24 (s, 4H), 2.88 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.63 (p, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.42 – 1.38 (m, 2H), 1.30 – 1.26 (m, 6H), 0.88 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 135.7, 131.7, 130.3, 129.1, 34.0, 31.8, 29.2, 29.0, 28.9, 22.7, 14.2. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for C₁₃H₁₉ClS [M+H]⁺: 243.0969, found: 243.0967.



2nn: (4-chlorophenyl)(3,7-dimethyloctyl)sulfane

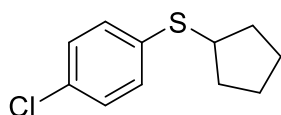
2nn: was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1a** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), alcohol (76 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2nn** (45 mg, 79%) as a white solid. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.24 (s, 4H), 2.96 – 2.84 (m, 2H), 1.65 – 1.61 (m, 1H), 1.52 – 1.42 (m, 2H), 1.31 – 1.19 (m, 4H), 1.15 – 1.12 (m, 3H), 0.9 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 0.87 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 135.7, 131.7, 130.3, 129.1, 39.3, 37.0, 36.3, 32.3, 31.9, 28.1, 24.8, 22.8, 22.7, 19.5. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for C₁₆H₂₆ClS [M+H]⁺: 285.1438, found: 285.1435.



2oo: sec-butyl(4-chlorophenyl)sulfane

2oo was synthesized according to the **General procedure A**

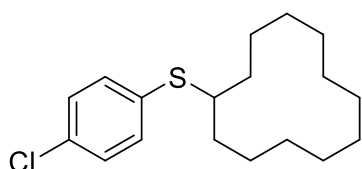
With **1a** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), alcohol (37 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2oo** (36.1 mg, 90%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 3.12 (p, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 1.66 – 1.50 (m, 2H), 1.26 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.00 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 134.2, 133.4, 132.8, 129.0, 45.4, 29.5, 20.6, 11.6. **HRMS** *m/z* (ESI): calcd. for C₁₀H₁₄ClS[M+H]⁺: 201.0499, found: 201.0497.



2pp: (4-chlorophenyl)(cyclopentyl)sulfane³³

2pp was synthesized according to the **General procedure A**

With **1a** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), alcohol (37 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2pp** (37 mg, 87%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 4H), 3.60 – 3.55 (p, *J* = 7.4, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.17 – 2.04 (m, 2H), 1.84 – 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.60 (m, 2H), 1.33 – 1.28 (m, 2H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 136.0, 132.1, 131.5, 129.0, 46.4, 33.6, 24.9.

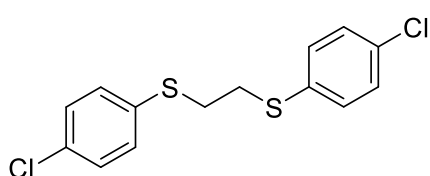


2qq: (4-chlorophenyl)(cyclododecyl)sulfane³⁴

2qq was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1a** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg,

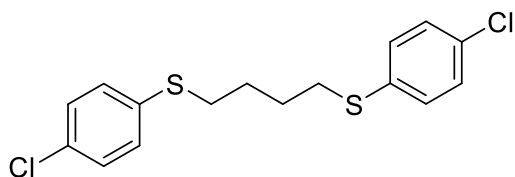
10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), alcohol (74 mg, 2.0 equiv.) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM,

the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2qq** (47.3 mg, 76%) as a white solid. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.27 – 7.23 (m, 2H), 3.26 – 3.19 (m, 1H), 1.76 – 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.60 – 1.49 (m, 4H), 1.47 – 1.31 (m, 16H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 134.7, 132.8, 132.6, 129.1, 45.4, 30.0, 24.3, 24.0, 23.5, 23.5, 22.3.



2rr: 1,2-bis((4-chlorophenyl)thio)ethane³⁵

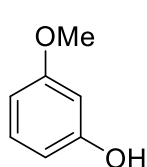
2rr was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1a** (0.6 mmol, 87 mg), **Cat.1** (11 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (14.4 mg, 10 mol%), alcohol (12 μL, 0.2 mmol) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2rr** (49 mg, 77%) as a white solid. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 8H), 3.03 (s, 4H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 133.6, 133.0, 131.7, 129.4, 33.8.



2ss: 1,2-bis((4-chlorophenyl)thio)ethane

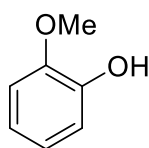
2ss was synthesized according to the **General procedure A** With **1a** (0.6 mmol, 87 mg), **Cat.1** (11 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (14.4 mg, 10 mol%), alcohol (18 μL, 0.2 mmol) and HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **2ss** (55.4 mg, 81%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 – 7.25 (m, 8H), 2.92 (s, 4H), 1.78 (s, 4H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 135.0, 132.1, 130.8, 129.2, 33.6, 28.0. **HRMS**

m/z (ESI): calcd. for C₁₀H₁₄ClS[M+H]⁺: 343.0143, found: 343.0140.



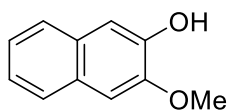
4b: 3-methoxyphenol²⁹

4b was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3b** (0.2 mmol, 22 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4b** (21 mg, 85%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.17 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.56 – 6.54 (m, 1H), 6.51 – 6.47 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.8, 156.8, 130.3, 108.1, 106.6, 101.7, 55.4. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



4c: 2-methoxyphenol³⁶

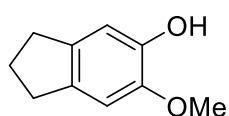
4c was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3c** (0.2 mmol, 22 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4c** (20 mg, 80%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.03 – 7.01 (m, 1H), 6.95 – 6.92 (m, 3H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.7, 145.7, 121.5, 120.2, 114.7, 110.9, 55.9. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



4d: 3-methoxynaphthalen-2-ol³⁷

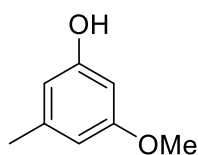
4d was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3d** (0.2 mmol, 32 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL, 2.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and

then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4d** (24.7 mg, 71%). as a yellow solid. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.68 (td, *J* = 8.2, 6.8, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.13 (s, 1H), 4.02 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.5, 145.8, 129.8, 129.1, 126.6, 126.5, 124.4, 124.0, 109.5, 105.8, 56.0. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



4e: 6-methoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-5-ol³⁸

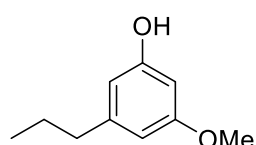
4e was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3e** (0.2 mmol, 30 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4e** (15.5 mg, 47%) (61% yield by nmr) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.80 (s, 1H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.83 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 2.05 (p, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.5, 145.8, 129.8, 129.1, 126.6, 126.5, 124.4, 124.0, 109.5, 105.8, 56.0. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



4f: 3-methoxy-5-methylphenol³⁹

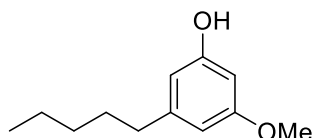
4f was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3f** (0.2 mmol, 25 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4f** (21 mg, 76%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.32 (s, 1H), 6.26 (s, 1H), 6.23 (s, 1H), 3.76

(s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 160.9, 156.7, 140.7, 108.7, 107.5, 98.7, 55.4, 21.7. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



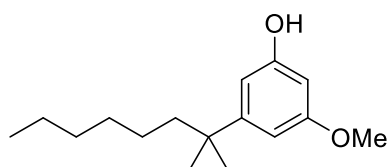
4g: 3-methoxy-5-propylphenol

4g was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3g** (0.2 mmol, 31 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μL , 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4g** (28.3 mg, 85%) as a yellow oil. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.35 (s, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 6.26 (t, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.52 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.68 – 1.59 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 160.9, 156.6, 145.7, 108.1, 107.0, 98.8, 55.4, 38.3, 24.4, 14.0. HRMS m/z (ESI): calcd. for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$: 165.0921, found: 165.0925



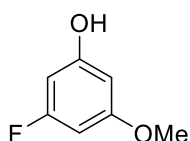
4h: 3-methoxy-5-pentylphenol⁴⁰

4h was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3h** (0.2 mmol, 36 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μL , 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4h** (32.2 mg, 83%) as a yellow oil. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.32 (s, 1H), 6.26 (s, 1H), 6.23 (t, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.51 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.32 – 1.25 (m, 6H), 0.89 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 161.0, 156.6, 145.9, 108.0, 106.9, 98.8, 55.4, 36.2, 31.6, 31.0, 22.7, 14.2. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



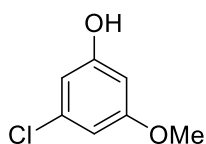
4i: 3-methoxy-5-(2-methyloctan-2-yl)phenol⁴¹

4i was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3i** (0.2 mmol, 47.3 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4i** (41 mg, 82%) as a yellow oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.47 (s, 1H), 6.40 (s, 1H), 6.24 (t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 1.55 – 1.52 (m, 2H), 1.23 (s, 6H), 1.21 – 1.17 (m, 6H), 1.01 – 1.01 (m, 2H), 0.84 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.7, 156.4, 153.2, 105.8, 105.3, 98.0, 55.3, 44.6, 38.0, 31.9, 30.2, 29.0, 24.8, 22.8, 14.2. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



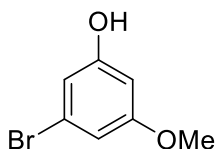
4j: 5-fluorobenzene-1,3-diol⁴²

4j was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3j** (0.2 mmol, 26 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4j** (10 mg, 36%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.22 (dt, *J* = 10.7, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.19 – 6.17 (m, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.1(d, *J* = 242 Hz), 161.8(d, *J* = 15.1 Hz), 157.6 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz), 97.7(d, *J* = 3 Hz), 96.1(d, *J* = 25.7 Hz), 94.6(d, *J* = 25.7 Hz), 55.7. ¹⁹F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -111.0 The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



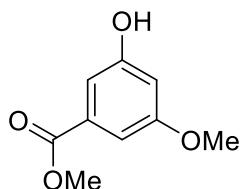
4k: 3-chloro-5-methoxyphenol⁴²

4k was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3k** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4k** (26.6 mg, 84%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.49 (s, 1H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 6.29 (t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.4, 157.2, 135.4, 108.7, 107.2, 100.5, 55.7. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



4l: 3-bromo-5-methoxyphenol⁴³

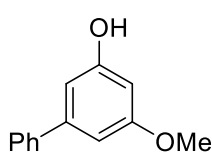
4l was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3l** (0.2 mmol, 38 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (100% petroleum ether) on silica gel to give the desired products **4l** (38.6 mg, 95%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.65 (s, 1H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 6.33 (t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.5, 157.3, 123.1, 111.6, 110.1, 101.0, 55.7. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



4m: methyl 3-hydroxy-5-methoxybenzoate⁴³

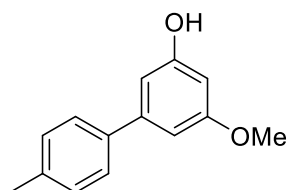
4m was synthesized according to the **general procedure B** With **3m** (0.2 mmol, 34 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase

was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 5:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4m** (18.2 mg, 50%) as a yellow solid. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.16 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 6.62 (t, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 167.1, 161.0, 156.9, 132.2, 109.4, 107.2, 106.8, 55.7, 52.5. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



4n: 5-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-ol⁴⁴

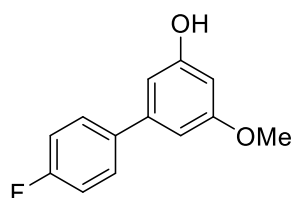
4n was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3n** (0.2 mmol, 37 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4n** (25.2 mg, 63%) as a colorless oil. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.56 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.72 – 6.73 (m, 1H), 6.67 – 6.66 (m, 1H), 6.42 (t, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 161.3, 157.1, 143.9, 140.9, 128.9, 127.8, 127.2, 107.0, 105.8, 100.5, 55.6. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



4o: 5-methoxy-4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-ol

4o was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3o** (0.2 mmol, 40 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4o** (30 mg, 70%) as a colorless oil. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.45 (d, J = 8.1 Hz,

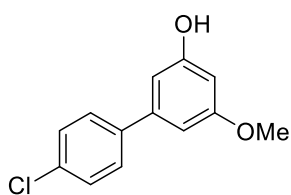
2H), 7.23 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.71 – 6.70 (m, 1H), 6.65 – 6.64 (m, 1H), 6.39 (t, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 161.3, 157.0, 143.8, 138.0, 137.6, 129.6, 127.1, 106.8, 105.6, 100.2, 55.6, 21.3. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M-H}]^-$: 213.0921, found: 213.0924



4p: 4'-fluoro-5-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-ol

4p was synthesized according to the **General procedure B**

With **3p** (0.2 mmol, 41 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4p** (33.6 mg, 77%) as a colorless oil. **^1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.10 (t, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 6.67 – 6.65 (m, 1H), 6.61 – 6.60 (m, 1H), 6.41 (t, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 164.0(d, $J = 247.5$ Hz), 161.4(d, $J = 428.2$ Hz), 142.9, 137.0 (d, $J = 3.03$ Hz), 128.8 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz), 115.8 (d, $J = 21.2$ Hz), 106.9, 105.8, 100.4, 55.6. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{11}\text{FO}_2$ $[\text{M-H}]^-$: 217.0670, found: 217.0677

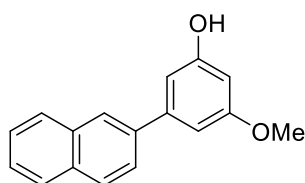


4q: 4'-chloro-5-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-ol

4q was synthesized according to the **General procedure B**

With **3q** (0.2 mmol, 45 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4q** (22.1 mg, 47%) as a colorless oil. **^1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.48 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.66 – 6.67 (m, 1H), 6.61 – 6.62 (m, 1H), 6.41

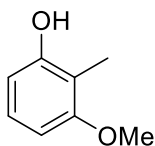
(t, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 161.4, 157.2, 142.6, 139.4, 133.8, 129.0, 128.5, 106.8, 105.8, 100.7, 55.6. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{11}\text{ClO}_2$ $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$: 233.0375, found: 233.0375



4r: 3-methoxy-5-(naphthalen-2-yl)phenol

4r was synthesized according to the **General procedure B**

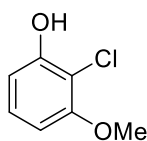
With **3r** (0.2 mmol, 48 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (16 μL , 2.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4r** (41 mg, 82%) as a colorless oil. **^1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.90 – 7.86 (m, 3H), 7.71 (dd, $J = 8.5, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 6.86 – 6.85 (m, 1H), 6.80 – 6.79 (m, 1H), 6.45 (t, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 161.4, 157.1, 143.8, 138.2, 133.7, 132.9, 128.5, 128.4, 127.8, 126.5, 126.2, 126.0, 125.6, 107.3, 106.1, 100.6, 55.6. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$: 249.0921, found: 249.0920



4s: 3-methoxy-2-methylphenol⁴⁵

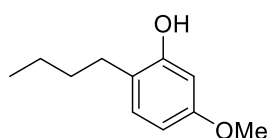
4s was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3s** (0.2 mmol, 25 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μL , 5.0 equiv) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4s** (12.7 mg, 46%) as a colorless oil. **^1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.03 (t, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.47 (dd, $J = 13.4, 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H). **^{13}C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 158.8, 154.6, 126.6, 112.2, 108.2, 103.2, 55.8, 8.1. The spectroscopic data were according to the

literature report.



4t: 2-chloro-3-methoxyphenol

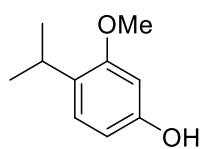
4t was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3t** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4t** (14 mg, 44%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.13 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.7, 152.7, 127.8, 108.7, 103.9, 56.5. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for C₇H₇ClO₂ [M-H]⁻: 157.0062, found: 257.0067



4u:**4u'** = 1.7:1

4u: 2-butyl-5-methoxyphenol

4u was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3u** (0.2 mmol, 34 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4u** (32.1 mg, 89%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.99 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.39 – 6.37 (m, 1H), 3.78 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.53 (q, J = 7.0, 6.5 Hz, 3H), 1.60 – 1.47 (m, 3H), 1.42 – 1.23 (m, 3H), 0.95 – 0.88 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.0, 158.5, 154.8, 154.3, 130.6, 130.2, 123.7, 120.9, 106.5, 106.0, 101.8, 98.9, 55.4, 55.4, 32.4, 32.3, 29.3, 29.1, 22.7, 22.7, 14.2, 14.1. **HRMS** m/z (ESI): calcd. for C₁₁H₁₆O₂ [M-H]⁻: 179.1078, found: 179.1077

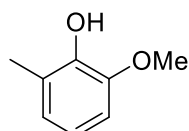


4v: 2-isopropyl-5-methoxyphenol⁴⁶

4v:4v' = 1.5:1

4v was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3v** (0.2 mmol, 30.4 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M).

The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4v** (27.2 mg, 82%) as a yellow oli. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 0.59H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.25 – 3.12 (m, 1H), 1.25 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 6H), 1.20 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H) ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.4, 157.9, 154.6, 153.7, 127.2, 127.2, 127.0, 126.6, 106.8, 106.0, 101.9, 99.1, 58.8, 55.4, 26.6, 26.3, 23.0, 22.9. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

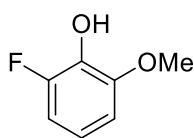


4w: 2-methoxy-6-methylphenol

4w:4w' = 3:1

4w was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3w** (0.2 mmol, 25 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The

reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4w** (18 mg, 65%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.76 – 6.71 (m, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.4, 143.9, 124.1, 123.3, 119.3, 108.4, 56.1, 15.5. **HRMS** *m/z* (ESI): calcd. for C₈H₁₀O₂ [M-H]⁻: 137.0608, found: 137.0607

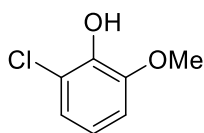


4x:4x' =3:1

4x: 2-fluoro-6-methoxyphenol^{47, 48}

4x was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3x** (0.2 mmol, 26 mg), **Cat.1** (16.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (21.6 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M).

The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4x** (15 mg, 49%), (67% yield by nmr) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.80 – 6.72 (m, 2.42H), 6.68 – 6.61 (m, 1.45H), 4.0 (s, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H). The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

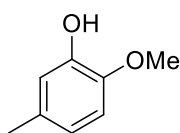


4y:4y' =6.7:1

4y: 2-chloro-6-methoxyphenol⁴⁸

4y was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3y** (0.2 mmol, 29 mg), **Cat.1** (16.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (21.6 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M).

The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4y** (20 mg, 63%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.98 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.84 – 6.80 (m, 2H), 3.96 (s, 0.45H), 3.93 (s, 3H). The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



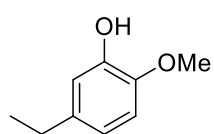
4z:4z' =1.2:1

4z: 2-methoxy-5-methylphenol⁴⁹

4z was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3z** (0.2 mmol, 25 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μ L, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The

reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was

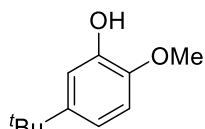
concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4z** (20.5 mg, 74%) as a colorless oil. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.81 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 0.81H), 6.76 – 6.72 (m, 2H), 6.68 – 6.63 (m, 2.67H), 3.87 (s, 2.45H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 2.49H), 2.26 (s, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 146.4, 145.5, 144.6, 143.5, 131.3, 129.8, 121.6, 120.4, 115.5, 114.2, 111.8, 110.8, 56.2, 56.0, 21.2, 20.9. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



4aa:4aa' = 1.3:1

4aa: 5-ethyl-2-methoxyphenol⁵⁰

4aa was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3aa** (0.2 mmol, 28 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μL , 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4aa** (20.4 mg, 67%) as a colorless oil. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.89– 6.84 (m, 1.15H), 6.81 – 6.77 (m, 1.65H), 6.72 – 6.67 (m, 2.58H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.87 (s, 2.58H), 2.63 – 2.54 (m, 3.71H), 1.25 – 1.20 (m, 5.54H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 146.5, 145.5, 144.7, 143.6, 137.8, 136.4, 120.4, 119.1, 114.3, 110.8, 110.6, 56.1, 56.0, 28.7, 28.4, 16.1, 15.9. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

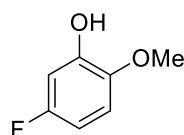


4bb:4bb' = 1.4:1

4bb: 5-(tert-butyl)-2-methoxyphenol⁵¹

4bb was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3bb** (0.2 mmol, 34 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μL , 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 h then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products

4bb (17 mg, 47%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.00 – 6.99 (m, 0.95H), 6.90 – 6.84 (m, 3.02H), 6.80 – 6.78 (m 1H), 3.9 (s, 2.15H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 6.42H), 1.29 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.1, 145.2, 144.9, 144.4, 143.5, 143.4, 118.0, 116.6, 113.9, 112.3, 110.3, 108.4, 56.1, 56.0, 34.6, 34.4, 31.7, 31.6. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

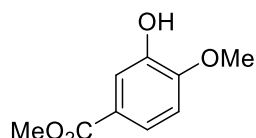


4cc:4cc' =2.4:1

4cc: 5-fluoro-2-methoxyphenol^{42,52}

4cc was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3cc** (0.2 mmol, 26 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M).

The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4cc** (14 mg, 50%), (63% yield by nmr) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.85 – 6.82 (m, 0.45H), 6.78 – 6.74 (m, 1.04H), 6.70 – 6.66 (m, 0.97H), 6.64 – 6.51 (m, 1.93H), 3.88 (s, 1.34H), 3.87 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.5 (d, *J* = 237.1 Hz), 157.6 (d, *J* = 237.1 Hz), 147.0 (d, *J* = 10.6 Hz), 146.6 (d, *J* = 12.1 Hz), 143.1(d, *J* = 3 Hz), 141.8(d, *J* = 3 Hz), 114.4 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz), 111.0 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz), 107.0 (d, *J* = 22.7 Hz), 105.8 (d, *J* = 22.7 Hz), 103.0 (d, *J* = 27.2 Hz), 99.5 (d, *J* = 27.2 Hz), 56.6, 56.2. ¹⁹F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -121.3, -121.9. The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



4dd:4dd' =1:1.7

4dd: methyl 3-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzoate^{53,54}

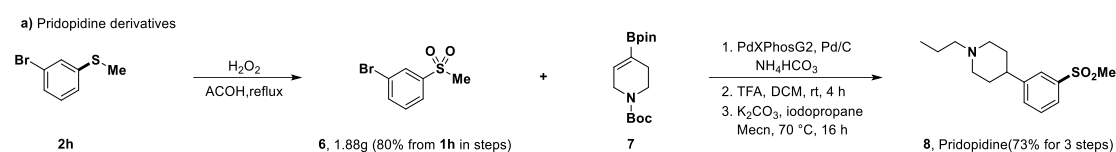
4dd was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **3dd** (0.2 mmol, 34 mg), **Cat.1** (5.5 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), MeOH (40 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (0.5

mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash

column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 5:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **4dd** (22.6 mg, 62%) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 – 7.54 (m, 1.16H), 6.94 – 6.86 (m, 0.61H), 3.94 (s, 1.71H), 3.88 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 0.63H). The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

6 Synthetic applications and spectroscopic data

6.1 Pridopidine derivatives



(3-bromophenyl)(methyl)sulfane(2h): To a 100 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (276mg 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (360mg 10 mol%), **1h** (10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The Schlenck tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of argon atmosphere, HFIP (0.4 M) and CH₃OH (810 μL, 2.0 equiv.) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h. The reaction was then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then washing the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was without purified for next step.

1-bromo-3-(methylsulfonyl)benzene (6)^{55,56}: Crude product (**2h**) was placed in 100 mL Schlenk tube, acetic acid (5 mL) was added, to the stirred reaction mixture H₂O₂ aq (5 mL, 30% v/v) was added dropwise, and reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C (oil bath). After 3 h reaction mixture was poured onto water/ice (100 mL), solid Na₂CO₃ was added to pH = 7, mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 20 mL), combined organic phases dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The mixture was filtered, evaporated, and The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography to afford **6** in 80% yield over 2 steps (1.88 g, white solid) The procedure and spectroscopic data were

according to the literature report.

Pridopidine (8)

Steps1: tert-butyl 4-(3-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (8-S1)⁵⁷

To an oven dried 10 mL Schlenk tube was added boronic ester (155mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.), PdXPhosG₂ (4 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.01 equiv.), 10% Pd/C (64 mg, 0.08 mmol, 0.12 equiv.), K₃PO₄ (318 mg, 0.15 mmol, 3 equiv.) and **6** (118mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.). The tube was capped and purged, then 1,4-dioxane (1.6 mL) and water (400 µL) were added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 4 h, followed by the addition of NH₄HCO₂ in MeOH (1.25 M) (316 mg NH₄HCO₂ in 4 mL MeOH). After this, the reaction was stirred for 16 h at room temperature, and the reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate, filtered through Celite and rinsed through with further ethyl acetate. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the crude product was purified by silica column chromatography to afford **8-S1** in 90% yield (152 mg, yellow oil). The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

Steps2: 4-(3-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)piperidine TFA-salt (8-S2)

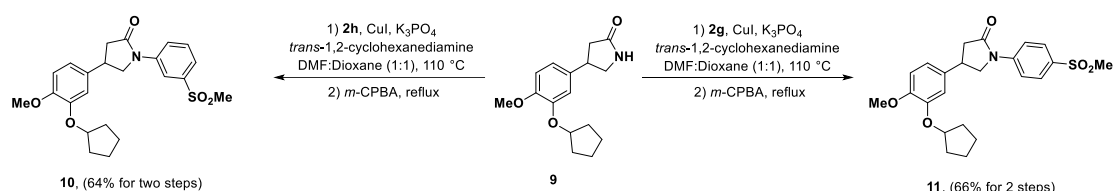
In a 10 mL Schlenk tube tert-butyl 4-(3-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (**8-S1**) (0.168 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were dissolved in 1 mL DCM/TFA (9:1). The mixture was stirred for 1 h. Afterwards the solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the residue was dissolved in fluorobenzene and the solvent was again removed under reduced pressure. The crude product (**8-S2**) was without purified for next step.

Steps3: 4-(3-(Methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-1-propylpiperidine / Pridopidine (8)⁵⁸

Crude 4-(3-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)piperidine TFA-salt was dissolved in 1 mL acetonitrile and 70 mg K₂CO₃ (0.5 mmol, 3.0 equiv) and 34 mg 1-iodopropane (0.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) were added. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt overnight. The mixture was quenched by the addition of water and then extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic phases were dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration the solvent was

removed under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography to afford **8** in 81% yield over 2 steps (38.3 mg, yellow oil). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 3.08 – 3.06 (m, 2H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 2.61 (td, *J* = 11.5, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (dt, *J* = 8.6, 4.1 Hz, 2H), 2.04 (dt, *J* = 11.8, 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.87 – 1.78 (m, 4H), 1.57 – 1.51 (m, 2H), 0.92 (td, *J* = 7.5, 2.7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 148.4, 140.7, 132.2, 129.5, 125.9, 125.1, 61.1, 54.2, 44.6, 42.7, 33.4, 20.3, 12.1. The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

6.2 HIV virus inhibitor analogs



4-(3-(cyclopentyloxy)-4-methoxyphenyl)-1-(3-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one(10)

Steps1: 4-(3-(cyclopentyloxy)-4-methoxyphenyl)-1-(3-(methylthio)phenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (10-S1)

A mixture of 4-(3-(cyclopentyloxy)-4-methoxy-phenyl)-pyrrolidin-2-one (276 mg, 1 mmol), (3-bromophenyl)(methyl)sulfane(**2h**) (283mg, 1.4 mmol), K₃PO₄ (318 mg, 1.5 mmol), DMF (3.0 mL), dioxane (3.0 mL) and 1,2-*trans*-cyclohexanediamine (25 μL) was stirred under N₂ for 5 min before CuI (35 mg) was added. The reaction mixture was heated at 110 °C for 20 h under N₂ with stirring, then cooled down to rt The mixture was diluted with EtOAc, washed with saturated NH₄Cl (3x10 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄ The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography to afford **10-S1** in 75% yield (298.1 mg, yellow oil).

Steps2: 4-(3-(cyclopentyloxy)-4-methoxyphenyl)-1-(3-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one(**10**)⁵⁹

10-S1 (398 mg, 1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ was cooled by an ice water bath, *m*-CPBA (379 mg,

2.2 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at rt. The reaction was quenched with 10% Na₂S₂O₃ and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was washed with sat. NaHCO₃ and dried over Na₂SO₄. The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography to afford **10** in 85% yield (365 mg, yellow solid). The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.14 (ddd, *J* = 8.3, 2.3, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (ddd, *J* = 7.8, 1.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.82 – 6.79 (m, 2H), 4.78 (tt, *J* = 6.0, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (dd, *J* = 9.4, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.90 – 3.88 (m, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.67 (p, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (s, 3H), 3.02 (dd, *J* = 17.1, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (dd, *J* = 17.1, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 1.94 – 1.81 (m, 6H), 1.64 – 1.59 (m, 2H). **¹³C NMR** (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.6, 149.5, 148.1, 141.2, 140.2, 133.4, 133.3, 130.1, 124.8, 124.8, 122.8, 122.8, 118.8, 117.7, 113.8, 112.4, 80.7, 56.2, 55.7, 44.4, 40.3, 36.7, 32.9, 32.9, 24.1. The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

4-(3-(cyclopentyloxy)-4-methoxyphenyl)-1-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (11)

Steps1: 4-(3-(cyclopentyloxy)-4-methoxyphenyl)-1-(4-(methylthio)phenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (11-S1)

A mixture of 4-(3-cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxy-phenyl)-pyrrolidin-2-one (276 mg, 1 mmol), (4-bromophenyl)(methyl)sulfane (**2g**) (283mg, 1.4 mmol), K₃PO₄ (318 mg, 1.5 mmol), DMF (3.0 mL), dioxane (3.0 mL) and 1,2-*trans*-cyclohexanediamine (25 μL) was stirred under N₂ for 5 min before CuI (35 mg) was added. The reaction mixture was heated at 110 °C for 20 h under N₂ with stirring, then cooled down to rt. The mixture was diluted with EtOAc, washed with saturated NH₄Cl (3x10 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography to afford **11-S1** in 80% yield (318 mg, yellow oil).

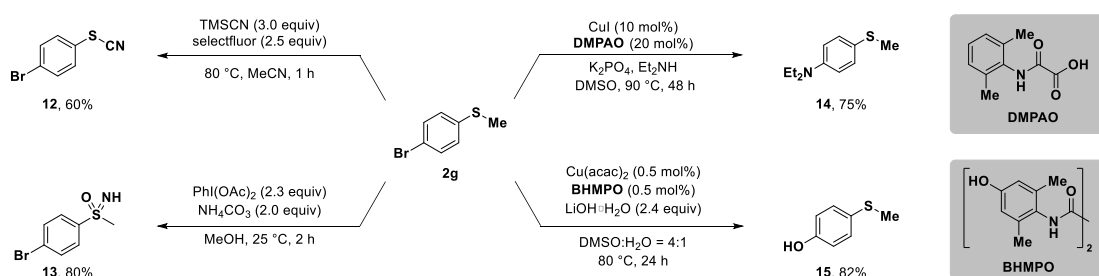
Steps2: 4-(3-(cyclopentyloxy)-4-methoxyphenyl)-1-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (11)⁵⁹

11-S1 (398 mg, 1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ was cooled by an ice water bath, *m*-CPBA (379 mg,

2.2 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at rt. The reaction was quenched with 10% Na₂S₂O₃ and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was washed with sat. NaHCO₃ and dried over Na₂SO₄. The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography to afford **11** in 83% yield (356 mg, yellow solid). The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.87 – 7.85 (m, 2H), 6.86 – 6.78 (m, 3H), 4.77 (tt, *J* = 5.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.89 – 3.87 (m, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.67 (p, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.07 – 3.00 (m, 4H), 2.83 (dd, *J* = 17.2, 9.1 Hz, 1H), 1.95 – 1.80 (m, 6H), 1.65 – 1.56 (m, 2H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.9, 149.7, 148.2, 143.9, 135.6, 133.3, 128.6, 119.5, 118.9, 113.9, 112.5, 80.8, 56.3, 55.7, 44.8, 40.6, 36.8, 33.0, 32.9, 24.1. The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

6.3 Derivatization of **2g**



1-bromo-4-thiocyanatobenzene (**12**)⁶⁰

To a reaction tube were sequentially added (4-bromophenyl)(methyl)sulfide **2g** (0.2 mmol), TMSCN (74 μL, 0.6 mmol, 3 equiv), Selectfluor reagent (177 mg, 0.5 mmol, 2.5 equiv). The tube was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen for three times. Then, 1 mL of dry acetonitrile was added via a syringe, and the resulting solution was stirred at 80 °C (oil bath). When the reaction was completed (monitored by TLC), the solvent was removed by distillation under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography to afford **12** in 60% yield (25.7 mg, white solid). **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.41 – 7.40 (m, 2H). The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

(4-bromophenyl)(imino)(methyl)-l6-sulfanone (13)⁶¹

Under an ambient atmosphere, to a stirred solution of (4-bromophenyl)(methyl)sulfide (**2g**) (203 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1.00 equiv) in MeOH (10.0 mL, 0.10 M) was added (NH₄)₂CO₃ (192 mg, 2.00 mmol, 2.00 equiv.). Subsequently, PhI(OAc)₂ (741 mg, 2.30 mmol, 2.30 equiv.) was added, then the reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 2 h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography to afford **13** in 80% yield (187 mg, colorless solid) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 2.05 (s, 1H). The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

***N,N*-diethyl-4-(methylthio)aniline (14)⁶²**

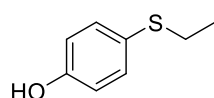
An oven-dried Schlenk tube was charged with CuI (19 mg, 0.1 mmol), DMPAO (38 mg, 0.2 mmol), (4-bromophenyl)(methyl)sulfide (**2g**) (1 mmol), K₃PO₄ (2 mmol). The tube was evacuated and backfilled with argon, and then amine (1.5 mmol) and DMSO (1 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 48 h. After aryl halide was consumed, water was added and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated. The residue was purified by chromatography to give the desired product. The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography to afford **14** in 75% yield (146 mg, colorless solid) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.26 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.32 (q, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 4H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.14 (t, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 6H), ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.9, 132.2, 121.8, 112.4, 44.5, 19.7, 12.6 The procedure and spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

4-(methylthio)phenol (15)⁴²

The (4-bromophenyl)(methyl)sulfide (**2g**) (4.0 mmol), Cu(acac)₂ (0.02 mmol, 5.3 mg), LiOH·H₂O (8.4 mmol, 352 mg) and BHMPO (0.02 mmol, 6.6 mg) were placed into a Schlenk tube (25 mL) with a magnetic stir bar. The reaction vessel was evacuated and backfilled with argon three times, then DMSO (3.2 mL) and degassed water (0.8 mL)

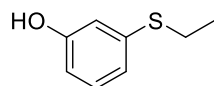
were added under a positive argon pressure (Note: for liquid substrates, they were added after the tube was backfilled with argon). The reaction mixture was heated at 80 °C for 24 h under vigorous stirring. The cooled solution was acidified with 2 N HCl, then diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with brine. The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄ and and evaporated. The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography to afford **15** in 82% yield (460 mg, colorless oil). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.2, 130.6, 129.1, 116.2, 18.2. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

6.4 Ethylation with ethanol



2y': 4-(ethylthio)phenol⁶³

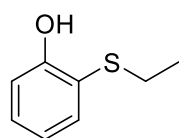
2y' was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1y** (2 mmol, 252 mg), **Cat.1** (55 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (72 mg, 10 mol%), EtOH (584 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then wash the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/DCM = 3:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **2y'** (281 mg, 91%) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 2.84 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.0, 133.5, 126.9, 116.1, 30.0, 14.8. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2z': 3-(ethylthio)phenol⁶⁴

2z' was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1z** (2 mmol, 252 mg), **Cat.1** (55 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (72 mg, 10 mol%), EtOH (584 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then wash the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/DCM = 3:1) on silica gel

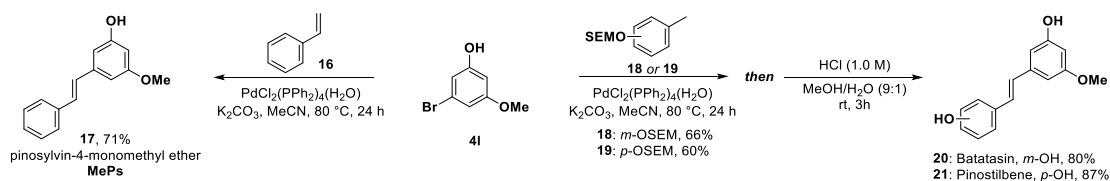
to give the desired products **2z'** (256 mg, 82%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.14 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.81 – 6.80 (m, 1H), 6.63 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.9, 138.5, 130.0, 121.1, 115.4, 113.0, 27.4, 14.4. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.



2aa': 2-(ethylthio)phenol⁶⁵

2aa' was synthesized according to the **General procedure B** With **1aa** (2 mmol, 252 mg), **Cat.1** (55 mg, 10 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (72 mg, 10 mol%), EtOH (584 μL, 5.0 equiv.) and Hexane (5 mL, 0.4 M). The reaction was stirred at 150 °C for 24 h then quenched by adding K₂CO₃ (20 mol%), filtration and then wash the solid with DCM, the combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified using flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the desired products **2aa'** (271mg, 88%) as a colorless oil. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.2, 136.2, 131.2, 120.8, 118.8, 114.8, 30.9, 15.0. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

6.5 Synthetic applications of monomethylation of benzene diols



PdCl₂(PPh₂)₄(H₂O)

A soln of Ph₂PCl (0.375 mL, 2.025 mmol) in THF (2.5 mL) was added dropwise with stirring to a Schlenk flask containing a soln of [PdCl₂(PhCN)₂] (0.38 g, 1.0 mmol) in THF (5 mL) at rt. When the complete formation of the dichlorophosphane complex had been confirmed by ³¹P NMR spectroscopy (δ = 87 ppm), H₂O (0.25 mL) was added to the mixture and it was stirred at r.t. After 48 h, ³¹P NMR analysis of an aliquot

exclusively showed one signal at (δ = 78.4 ppm). The solvent was removed under vacuum to give the complex **1** (0.5 g, 92%) as a yellow crystalline powder; ^{31}P NMR (121.4 MHz, CDCl_3): 78.4. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

Pinosylvins-4-monomethyl ether (17**)**⁶⁶

3-bromo-5-methoxyphenol (**4I**) (1 mmol), styrene (1.0 mmol), K_2CO_3 (2 mmol), and $\text{PdCl}_2(\text{PPh}_2)_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ (1 mol%) in MeCN (3 mL) was heated at 110 °C (oil bath) equipped with a condenser system for 12 h. When the reaction was complete, the mixture was cooled to rt., diluted with EtOAc (15 mL), washed with brine dried (Na_2SO_4), and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified using flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the desired products **17** (161mg, 71%) as a colorless oil. ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.50 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.28 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.08 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 6.64 (d, J = 26.7 Hz, 2H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H). The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

General method for prepare 18 and 19

N,N-Diisopropylethylamine (16.65 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethoxymethyl chloride (SEMCl) (13.32 mmol, 1.2 equiv) were added sequentially to a solution of compound Hydroxystyrene (11.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in anhydrous dichloromethane (30 mL) at room temperature. After stirring at room temperature for 16 hours, saturated sodium bicarbonate (50 mL) was added to quench the reaction. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane. The combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified using flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the desired products.

(E)-3-(3-hydroxystyryl)-5-methoxyphenol / Thunalbene (20**)**⁶⁷

(E)-3-methoxy-5-(3-((2-(trimethylsilyl)ethoxy)methoxy)styryl)phenol (20-S1**)**

3-bromo-5-methoxyphenol (**4I**) (1 mmol), styrene **18** (1.0 mmol), K₂CO₃ (2 mmol), and PdCl₂(PPh₂)₄(H₂O) (1 mol%) in MeCN (3 mL) was heated at 80 °C (oil bath) equipped with a condenser system for 12 h. When the reaction was complete, the mixture was cooled to r.t, diluted with EtOAc (15 mL), washed with brine dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified using flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the desired products **20-S1** (246mg, 66%).

To a solution of HCl (1 mL) in MeOH (9 mL) was added to the **20-S1** (1.0 mmol) at room temperature, When the reaction was complete, diluted with EtOAc (15 mL), washed with NaHCO₃, and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified using flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the desired products **20** (194mg, 80%). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 6.75 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 6.63 – 6.59 (m, 1H), 6.34 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.0 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.3, 157.0, 156.0, 139.7, 139.0, 130.0, 129.1, 128.9, 119.7, 115.0, 113.2, 106.1, 105.2, 101.2, 55.5. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

(E)-3-(4-hydroxystyryl)-5-methoxyphenol / Pinostilbene (21**)**⁶⁸

(E)-3-methoxy-5-(4-((2-(trimethylsilyl)ethoxy)methoxy)styryl)phenol (21-S1**)**

3-bromo-5-methoxyphenol (**4I**) (1 mmol), styrene **19** (1.0 mmol), K₂CO₃ (2 mmol), and PdCl₂(PPh₂)₄(H₂O) (1 mol%) in MeCN (3 mL) was heated at 80 °C (oil bath) equipped with a condenser system for 12 h. When the reaction was complete, the mixture was cooled to rt., diluted with EtOAc (15 mL), washed with brine dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified using flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to give the desired products **21-S1** (224mg, 60%).

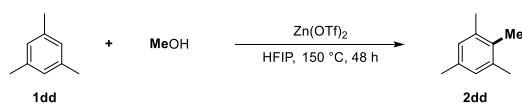
To a solution of HCl (1 mL) in MeOH (1 mL) was added to the **21-S1** (1.0 mmol) at room temperature, When the reaction was complete, diluted with EtOAc (15 mL), washed with NaHCO₃, and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified using flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the desired products **20**

(211mg, 87%). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (600 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.38 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.63 – 6.52 (m, 2H), 6.33 – 6.22 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (151 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 161.1, 158.3, 157.0, 139.9, 129.0, 128.3, 127.5, 125.5, 115.1, 105.3, 103.0, 100.0, 54.3, 48.0, 47.9, 47.8, 47.6, 47.5, 47.3, 47.2. The spectroscopic data were according to the literature report.

7 Mechanistic experiments

7.1 Possibility of TfOH formation that leads to catalysis

a) possibility of TfOH formation that leads to catalysis



catalyst loading

10% $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$: NR
 20% $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$: NR
 30% $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$: NR
 40% $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$: NR
 50% $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$: NR

test of adventitious H_2O

10% $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ + H_2O (10 μL): NR
 20% $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ + H_2O (10 μL): NR
 30% $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ + H_2O (10 μL): NR
 40% $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ + H_2O (10 μL): NR
 50% $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ + H_2O (10 μL): NR

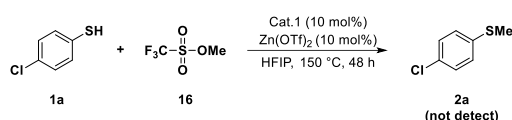
Catalyst loading:

To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (from 10 mol% to 50%), Mesitylene (**1dd**) (1 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M), MeOH (8 μL , 1.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar. the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C for 48 h, The reaction was then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (10 mol%), dodecane as an internal standard was added and take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC.

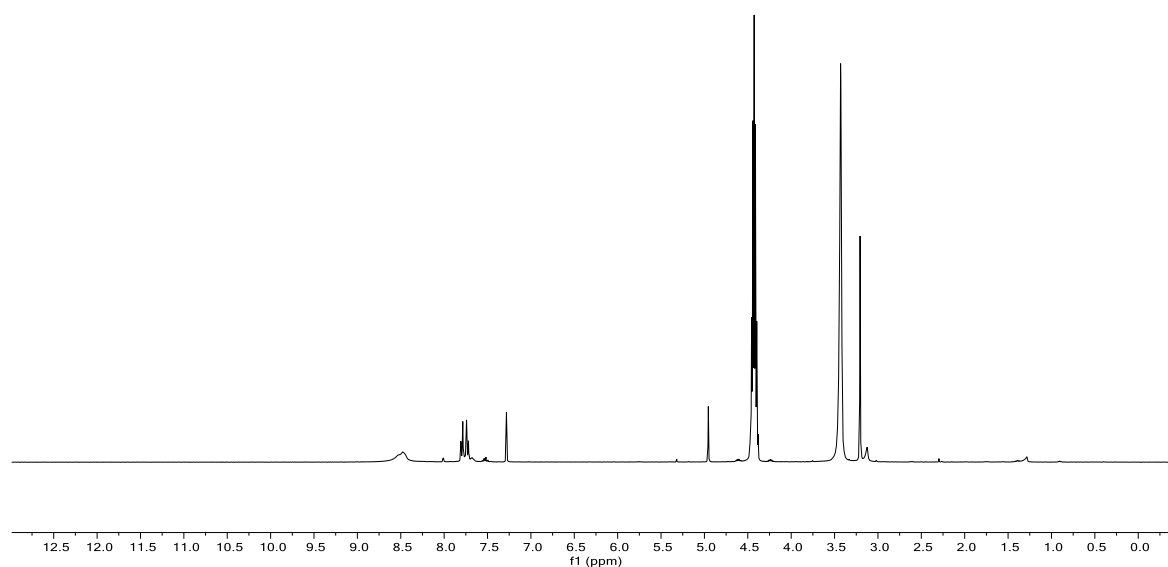
Test of adventitious H_2O

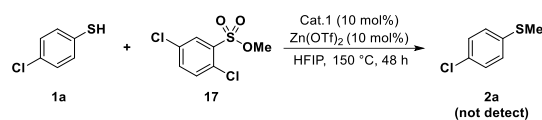
To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (from 10 mol% to 50%), Mesitylene (**1dd**) (1 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M), MeOH (8 μL , 1.0 equiv.), H_2O (10 μL) and an oven-dried stirring bar. the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C for 48h, The reaction was then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (10 mol%), dodecane as an internal standard was added and take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC.

7.2 Possibility of methyl sulfonates as a key intermediate

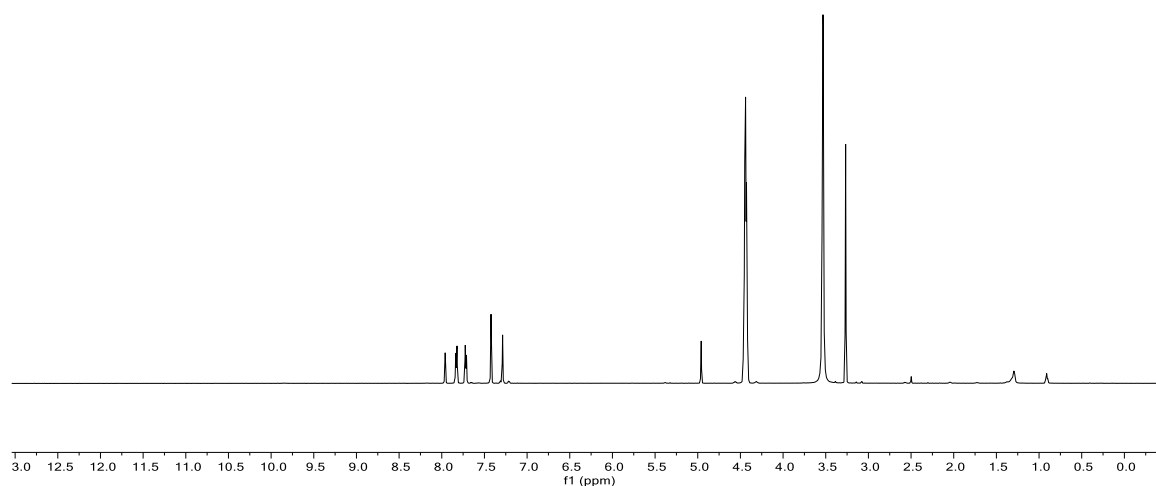


To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (5.5 mg 10%), Zn(OTf)_2 (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), 4-Chlorothiophenol (**1a**) (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The Schlenck tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of argon atmosphere, HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M), Methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (**16**) (45 μL , 2.0 equiv.) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 $^\circ\text{C}$. The reaction was then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), CH_2Br_2 (7 μL) was added as an internal standard. The composition of mixture was analyzed by ^1H NMR.





To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (5.5 mg 10%), $\text{Zn}(\text{OTf})_2$ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), 4-Chlorothiophenol (**1a**) (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) methyl 2,5-dichlorobenzenesulfonate (**17**) (90 mg, 2.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The Schlenck tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of argon atmosphere, HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M), was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C, The reaction was then quenched by adding K_2CO_3 (20 mol%), CH_2Br_2 (7 μL) was added as an internal standard, The composition of mixture was analyzed by ^1H NMR.

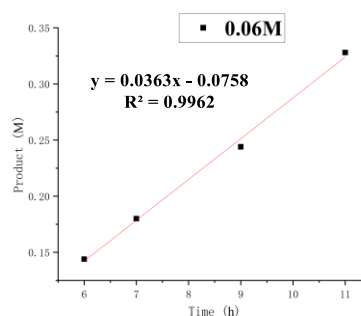
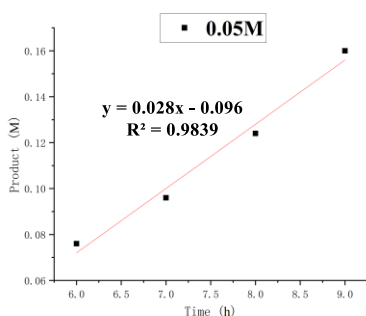
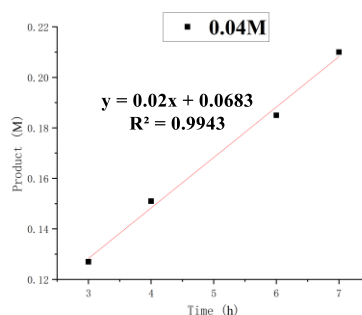
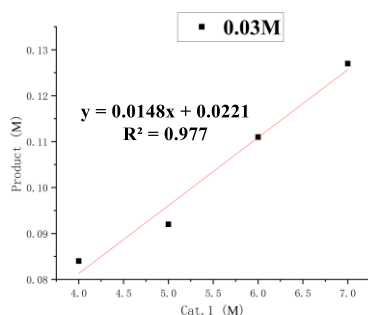


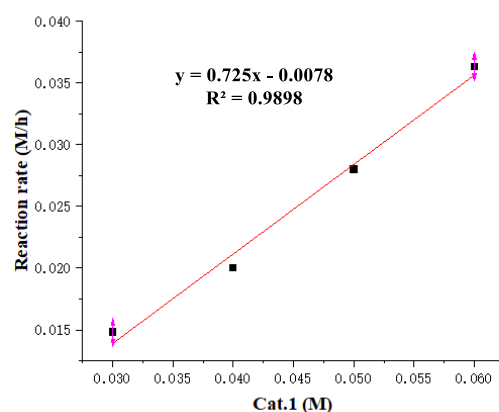
7.3 Kinetic Studies in HFIP

A: Kinetic Order in Cat.1 in HFIP

The order in **Cat.1** was determined according to the following procedure:

To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (from 0.03M to 0.06M), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), *p*-Toluenethiol (**1o**) (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The Schlenck tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of argon atmosphere, HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M), MeOH (16μL, 2.0 equiv.) and dodecane as an internal standard was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C. Subsequently, appropriate time to take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC.

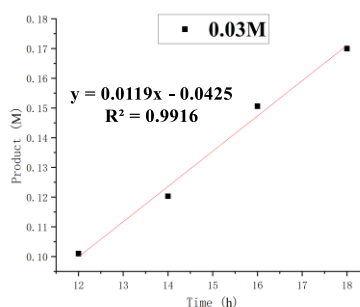
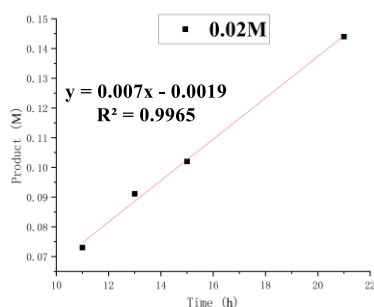


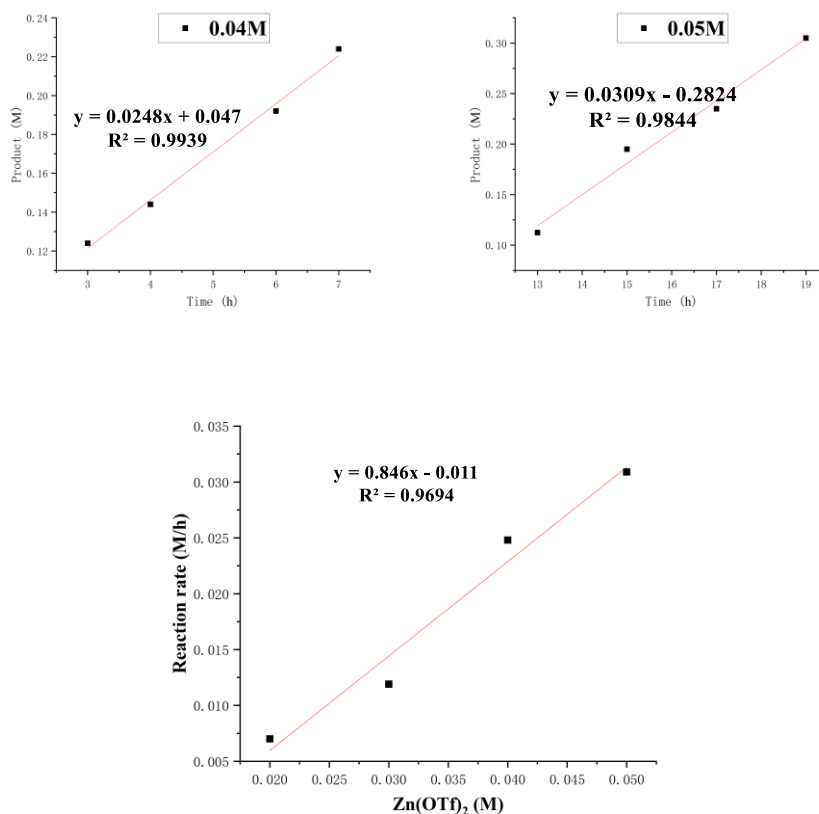


B: Kinetic Order in Zn(OTf)₂ in HFIP

The order in **Zn(OTf)₂** was determined according to the following procedure:

To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (5.5 mg 10%), Zn(OTf)₂ (from 0,02M to 0,05M), *p*-Toluenethiol (**1o**) (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The Schlenck tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of argon atmosphere, HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M), MeOH (16μL, 2.0 equiv.) and dodecane as an internal standard was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C. Subsequently, appropriate time to take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC.

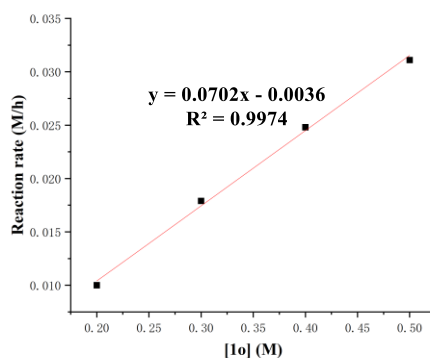
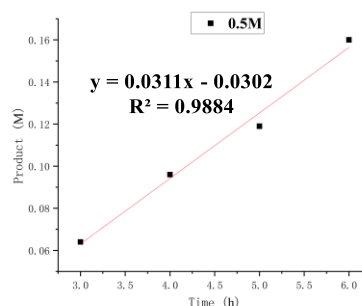
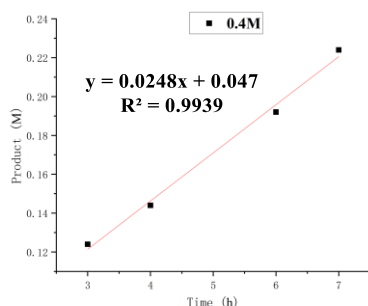
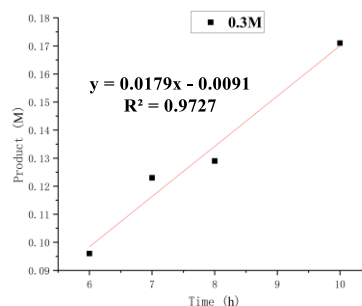
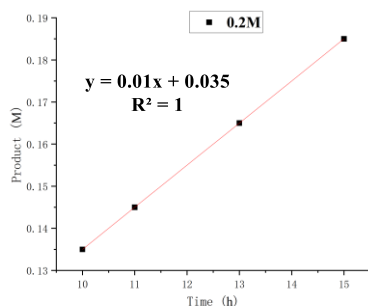




C: Kinetic Order in *p*-Toluenethiol (**1o**) in HFIP

The order in ***p*-Toluenethiol (**1o**)** was determined according to the following procedure:

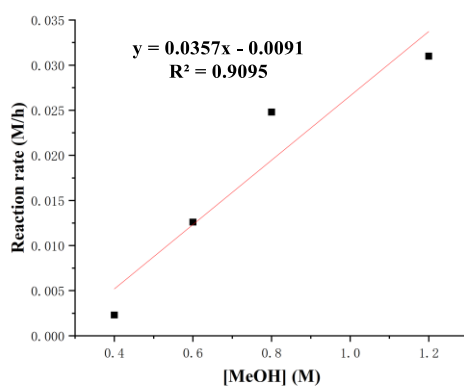
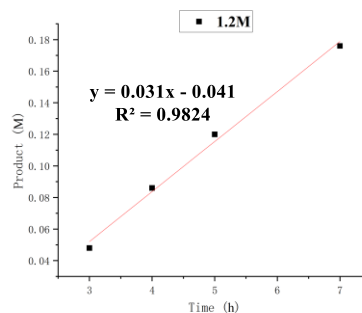
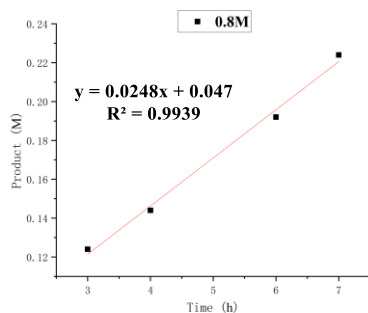
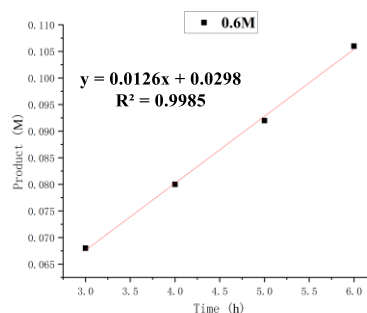
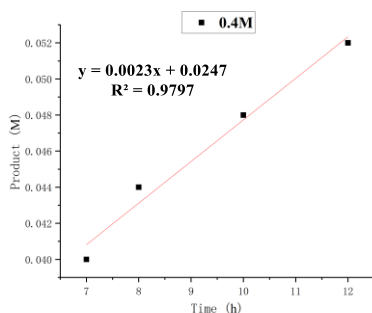
To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (5.5 mg 10%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), *p*-Toluenethiol (**1o**) (from 0.2M to 0.5M) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The Schlenk tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of argon atmosphere, HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M), MeOH (16μL, 2.0 equiv.) and dodecane as an internal standard was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C. Subsequently, appropriate time to take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC.



D: Kinetic Order in MeOH in HFIP

The order in **MeOH** was determined according to the following procedure:

To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (5.5 mg 10%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), *p*-Toluenethiol (**1o**) (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The Schlenk tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of argon atmosphere, HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M), MeOH (from 0.4M to 1.2M) and dodecane as an internal standard was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C, Subsequently, appropriate time to take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC.



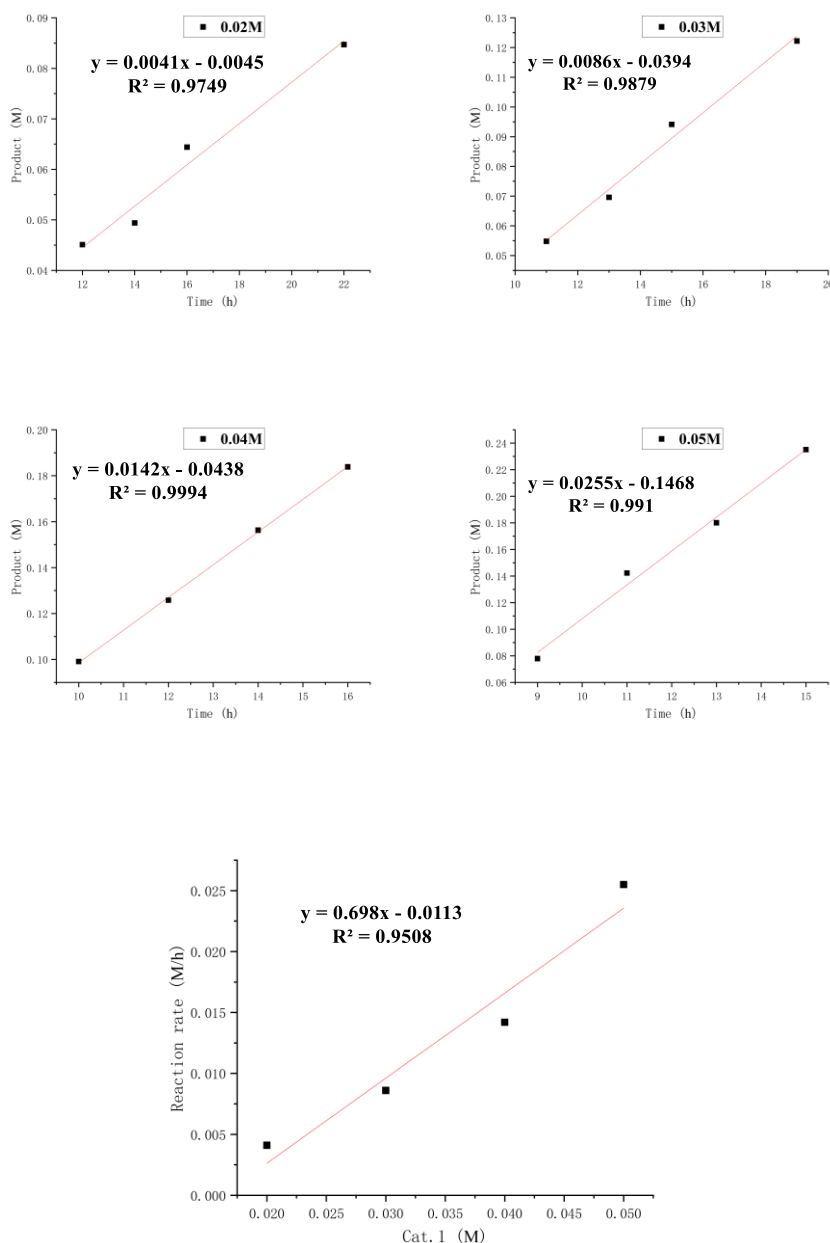
7.4 Kinetic Studies in Hexane

A: Kinetic Order in Cat.1 in Hexane

The order in **Cat.1** was determined according to the following procedure:

To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (from 0.02M to 0.05M), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), *p*-Toluenethiol (**1o**) (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The Schlenck tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–

depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of argon atmosphere, Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and dodecane as an internal standard was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C, Subsequently, appropriate time to take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC.

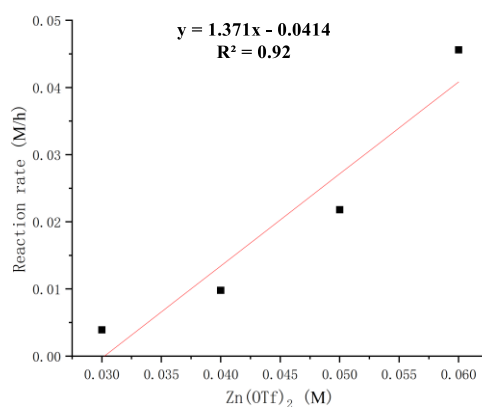
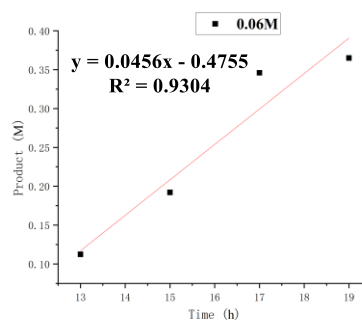
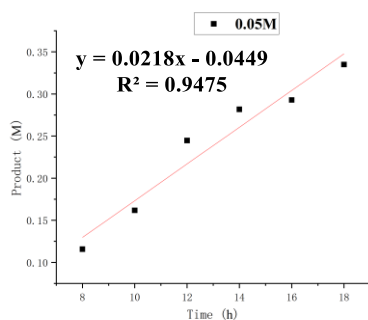
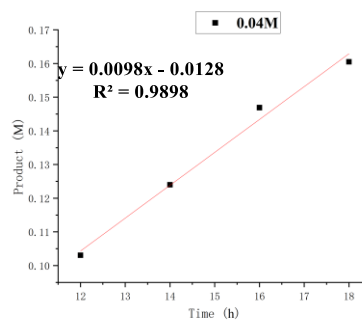
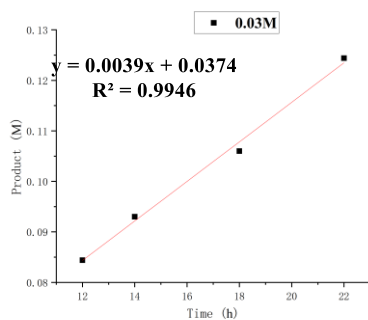


B: Kinetic Order in Zn(OTf)₂ in Hexane

The order in **Zn(OTf)₂** was determined according to the following procedure:

To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (5.5 mg 10%), Zn(OTf)₂ (from 0.03M to 0.06M), *p*-Toluenethiol (**1o**) (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar.

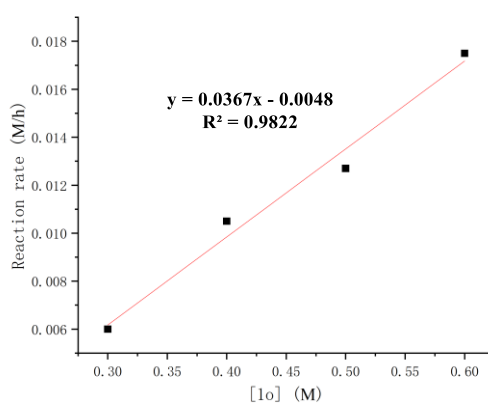
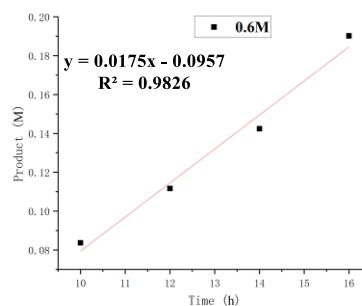
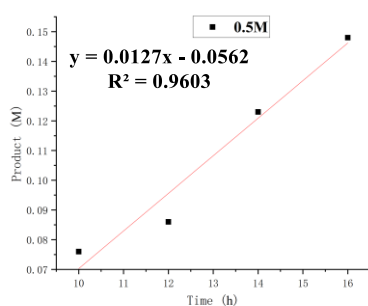
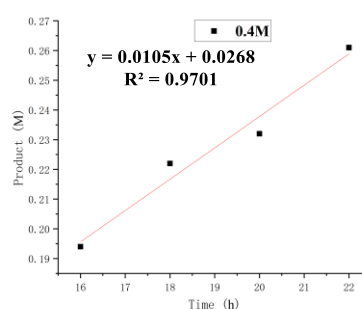
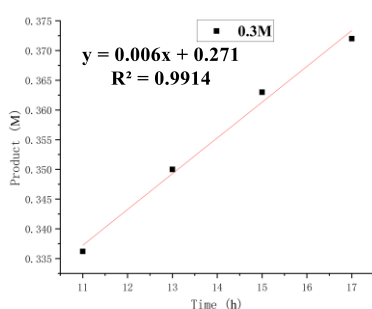
The Schlenk tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of argon atmosphere, Hexane (0.5 mL, 0.4 M), MeOH (16 μ L, 2.0 equiv.) and dodecane as an internal standard was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C, Subsequently, appropriate time to take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC.



C: Kinetic Order in *p*-Toluenethiol (1o) in Hexane

The order in *p*-Toluenethiol (1o) was determined according to the following procedure:

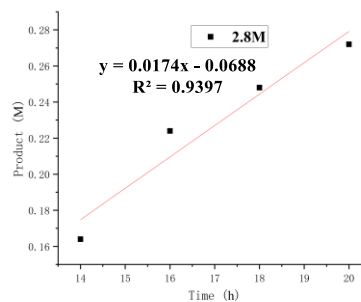
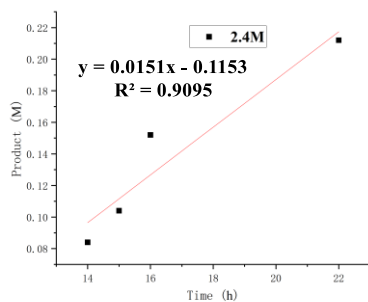
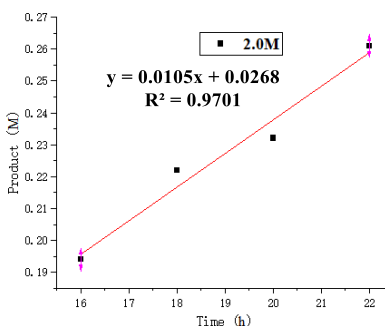
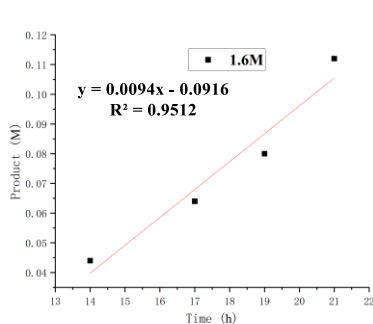
To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (5.5 mg 10%), Zn(OTf)₂(7.2 mg, 10 mol%), *p*-Toluenethiol (**1o**) (from 0.3M to 0.6M) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The Schlenck tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of argon atmosphere, HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M), MeOH (16μL, 2.0 equiv.) and dodecane as an internal standard was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C, Subsequently, appropriate time to take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC.

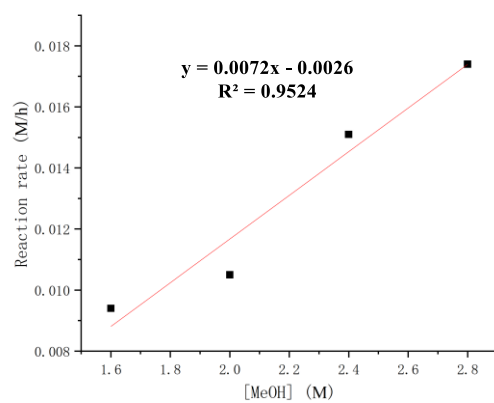


D: Kinetic Order in MeOH in Hexane

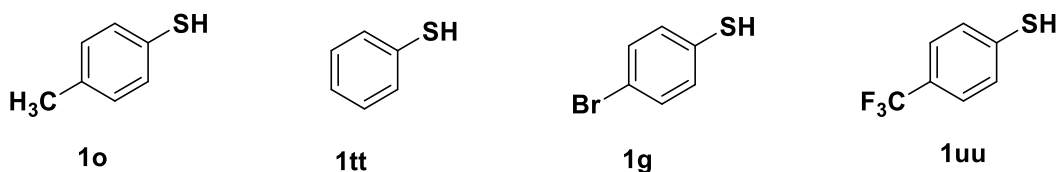
The order in **MeOH** was determined according to the following procedure:

To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (5.5 mg 10%), Zn(OTf)₂ (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), *p*-Toluenethiol (**1o**) (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and an oven-dried stirring bar. The Schlenk tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of argon atmosphere, HFIP (0.5 mL, 0.4 M), MeOH (from 1.6 M to 2.8 M) and dodecane as an internal standard was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C. Subsequently, appropriate time to take sample 1-2 drops to check yield by GC.





7.5 Hammett plot

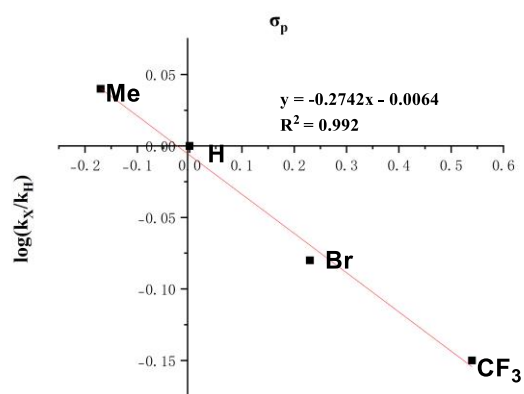


To a 10 mL Schlenk tube was charged with **Cat.1** (11 mg, 20 mol%), Zn(OTf)₂ (14.4 mg, 10 mol%), The Schlenck tube was subjected to three cycles of pressurization–depressurization using dry argon. After that, under the protection of argon atmosphere, mixture two different *p*-substituted substrates **1** (**1o** and **1tt**; **1g** and **1tt**; **1u** and **1tt**, 0.2 mmol each, 1.0 equiv), HFIP (1 mL), MeOH (32 μL 2.0 equiv.) and CH₂Br₂ (7 μL) was added as an internal standard and then the reaction mixture was stirred at 150 °C. The aliquot (approximately 50 μL) of the reaction mixture was taken at the indicated time intervals, and immediately added with CD₃Cl to filter with a filter head. The composition of mixture was analyzed by ¹H NMR to determine the reduced molar amount of **1**. The *k_X* / *k_H* data was calculated based on the reduced molar amount of **1** and the results were summarized as follows equation.

$$\frac{k_X}{k_H} = \frac{\frac{C_{X0}-C_{Xt}}{t}}{\frac{C_{H0}-C_{Ht}}{t}} = \frac{\frac{n_{X0}-n_{Xt}}{V}}{\frac{n_{H0}-n_{Ht}}{V}} = \frac{n_{X0}-n_{Xt}}{n_{H0}-n_{Ht}}$$

Entry	<i>k_X</i> / <i>k_H</i>	<i>p</i> -substituted X	σ _p ^a	log(<i>k_X</i> / <i>k_H</i>)
1	1.1	CH ₃	-0.17	0.04
2	1	H	0	0
3	0.827	Br	0.23	-0.08
4	0.7	CF ₃	0.54	-0.15

^aData from: Hansch, C.; Leo, A.; Taft, R. W. A survey of Hammett substituent constants and resonance and field parameters. *Chem. Rev.* **1991**, 91, 165–195.



Hammett plots of $\log(k_X/k_H)$ vs σ_p

7.6 DFT calculations

Section 1. Computational Details

All DFT calculations were using the Gaussian16 quantum chemistry package⁶⁹. Structures were optimized at the B3LYP^{70,71} theoretical levels in conjunction with the D3 dispersion correction,^{72–73} Stuttgart-Dresden ECP (SDD) basis set⁷⁴ was used for Zn and 6-31G(d, p) basis set for other atoms. Frequency calculations were carried out at the same level of theory to obtain free energy corrections at 423.15 K^{75–76} and to confirm the nature of the optimized geometries as minima (no imaginary frequency) or transition states (TS, one imaginary frequency). The single-point calculations of the optimized geometries were performed with B3LYP functional, SDD basis set for Zn and 6-311+G(2d,2p) basis set for other atoms. Solvent effects were considered in the single-point calculations with SMD continuum solvation model⁷⁷ in MeOH.

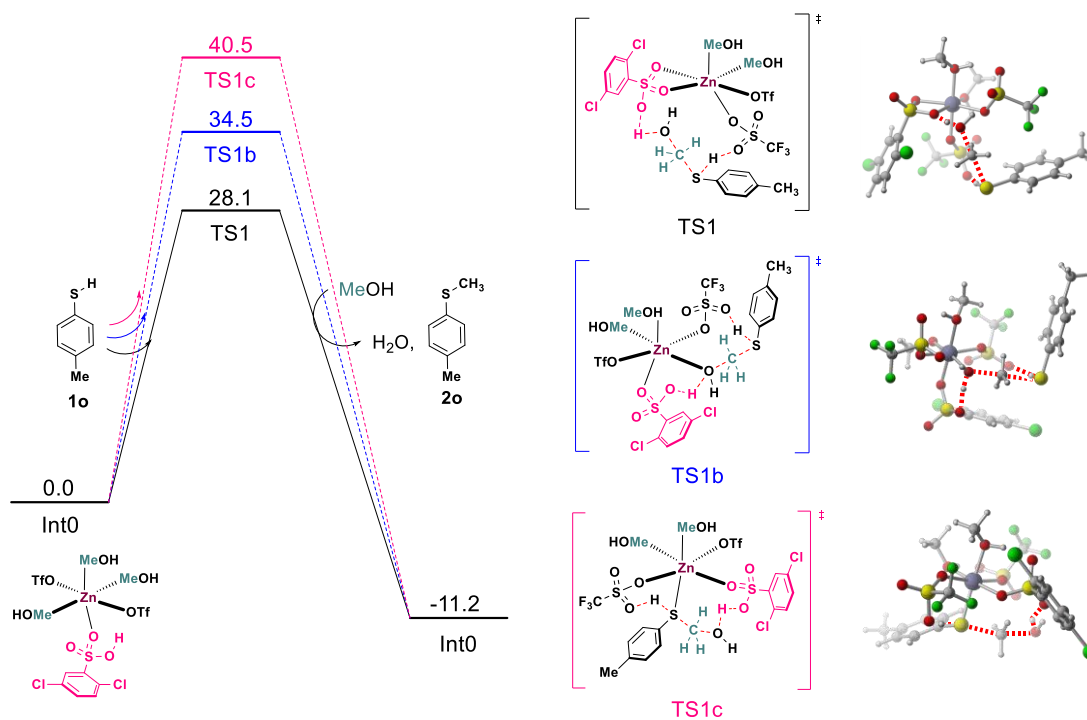


Fig. S1. Gibbs free energy profile (kcal/mol) for reaction profile of benzenethiol S-methylation (alternative pathways).

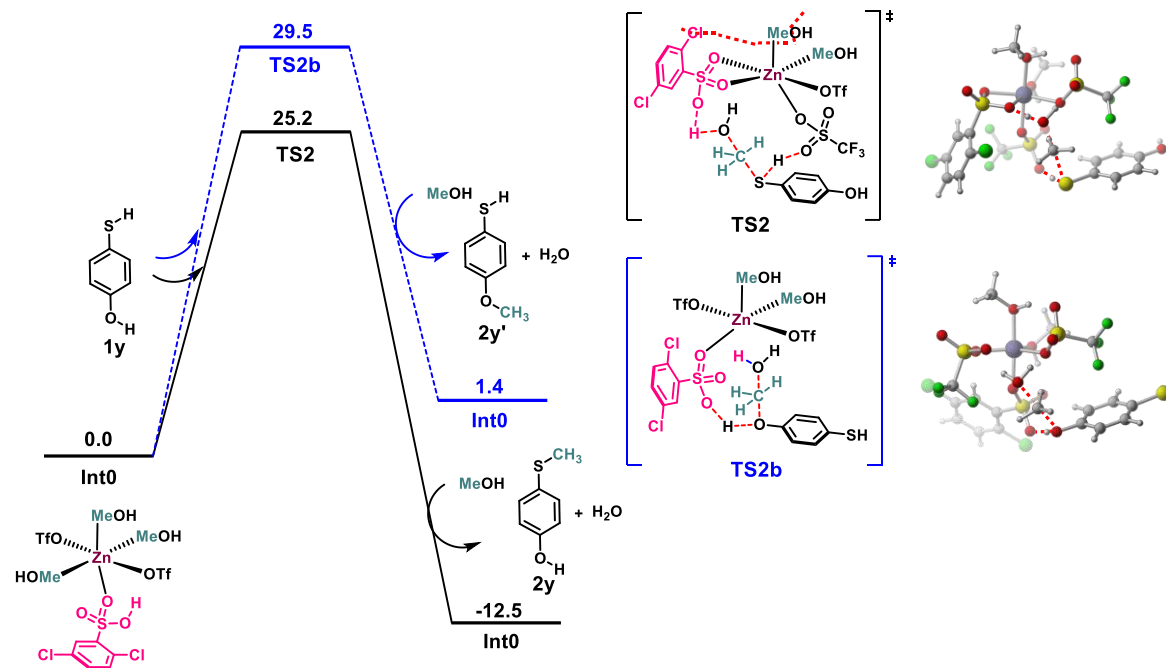
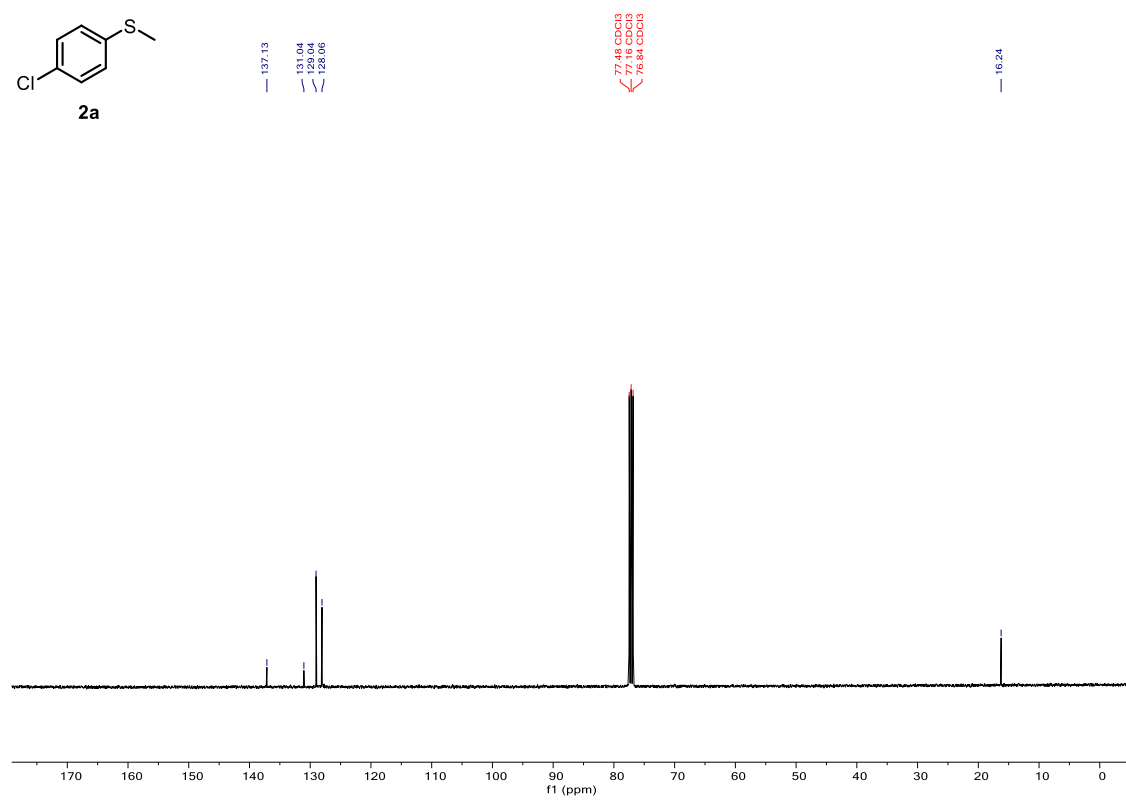
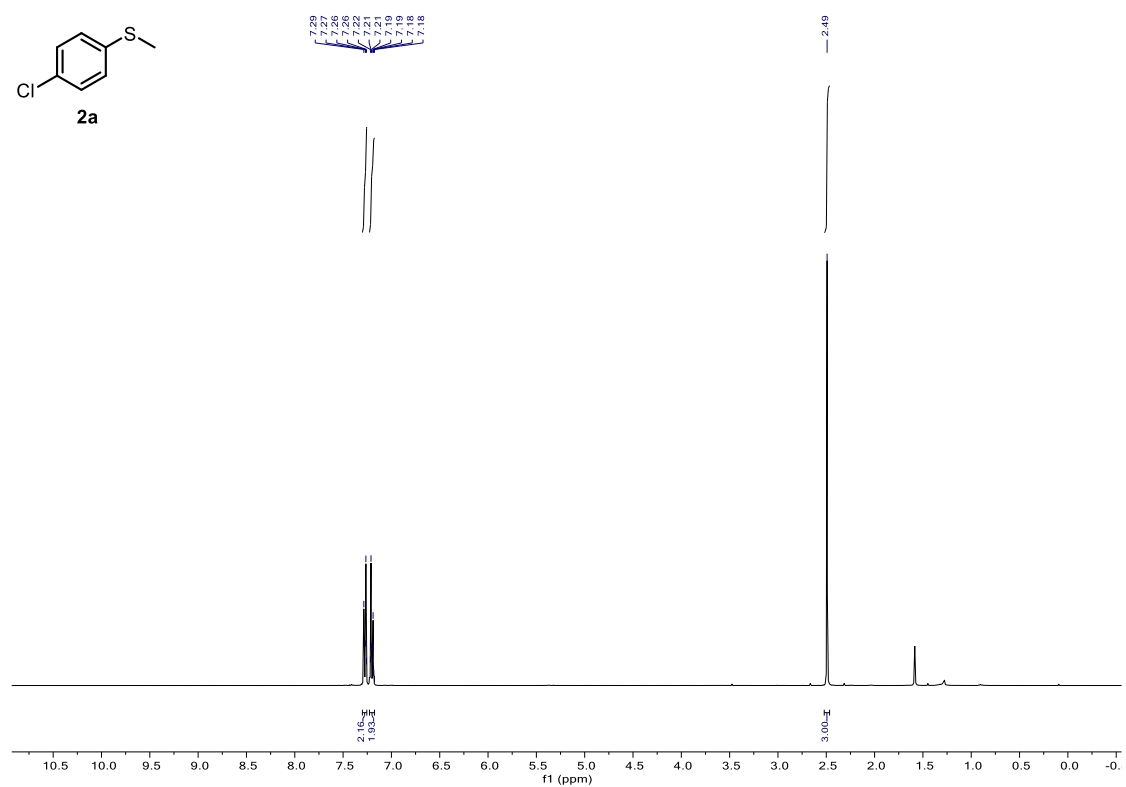
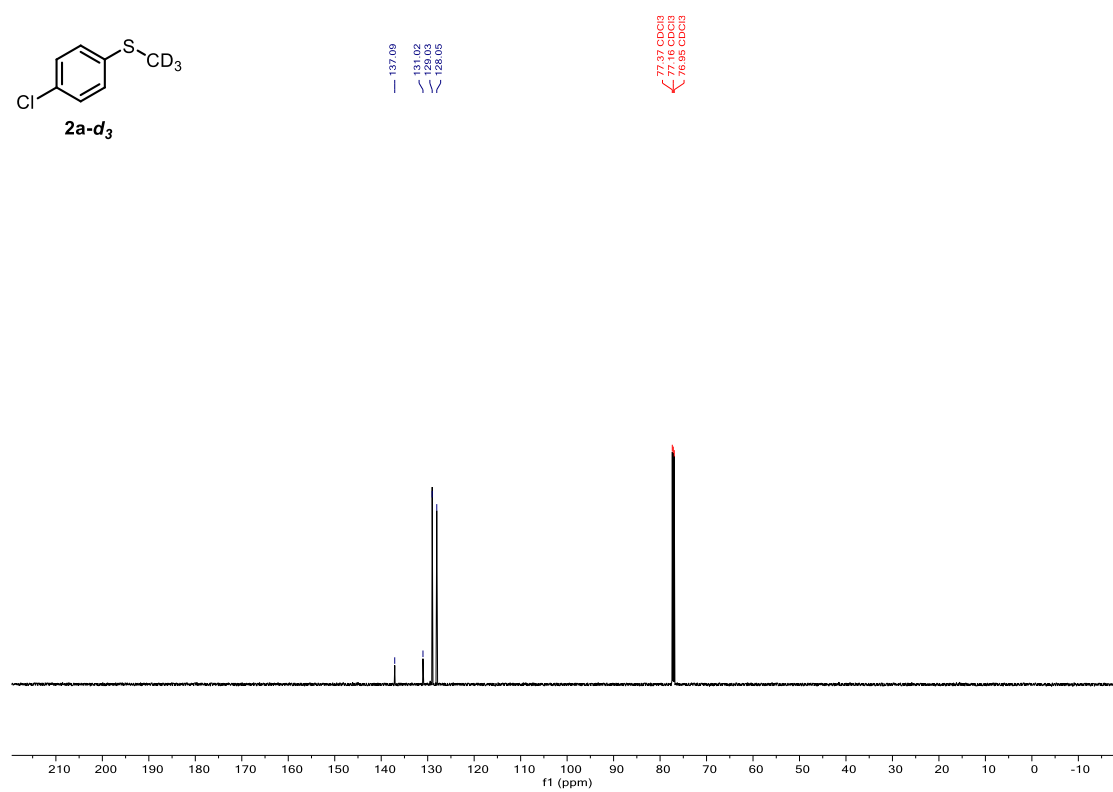
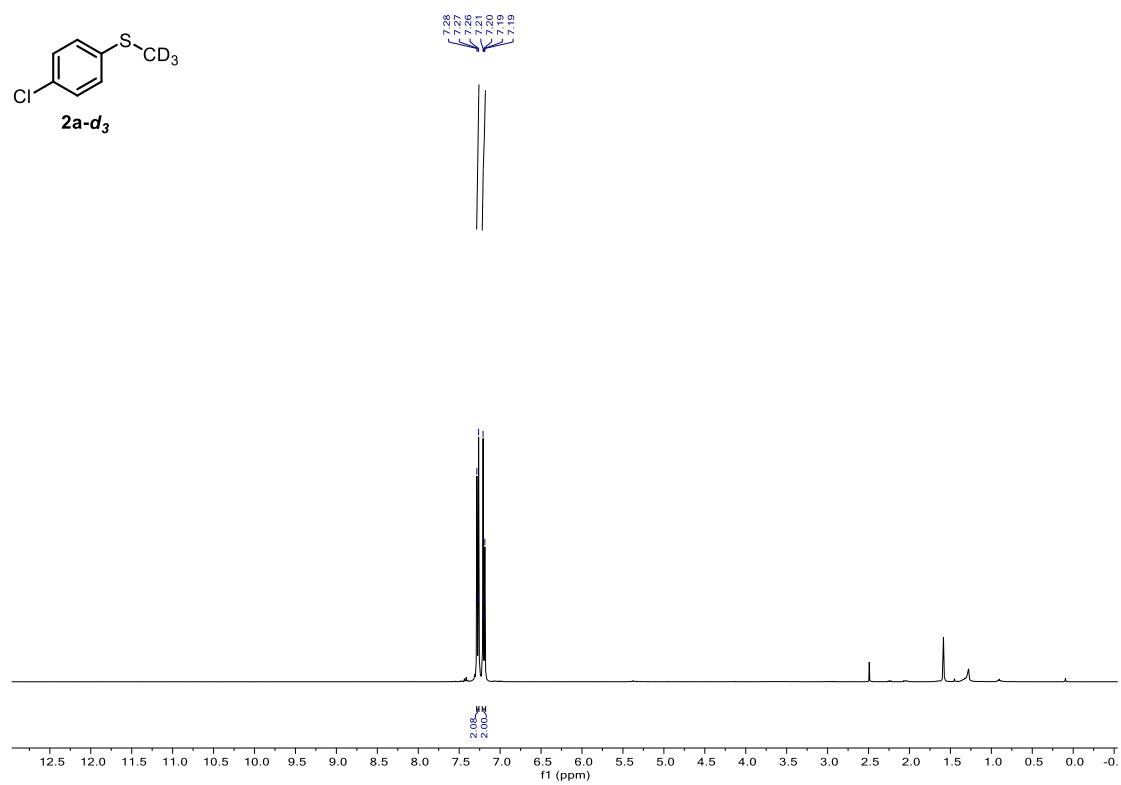
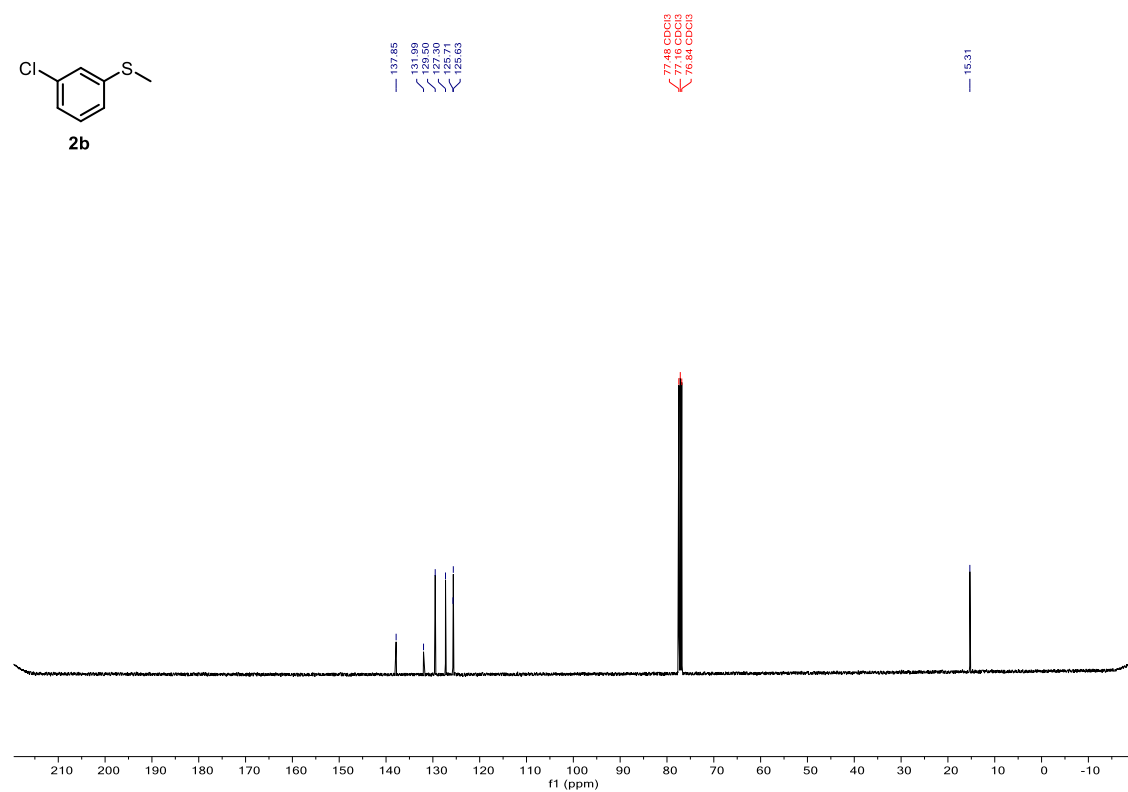
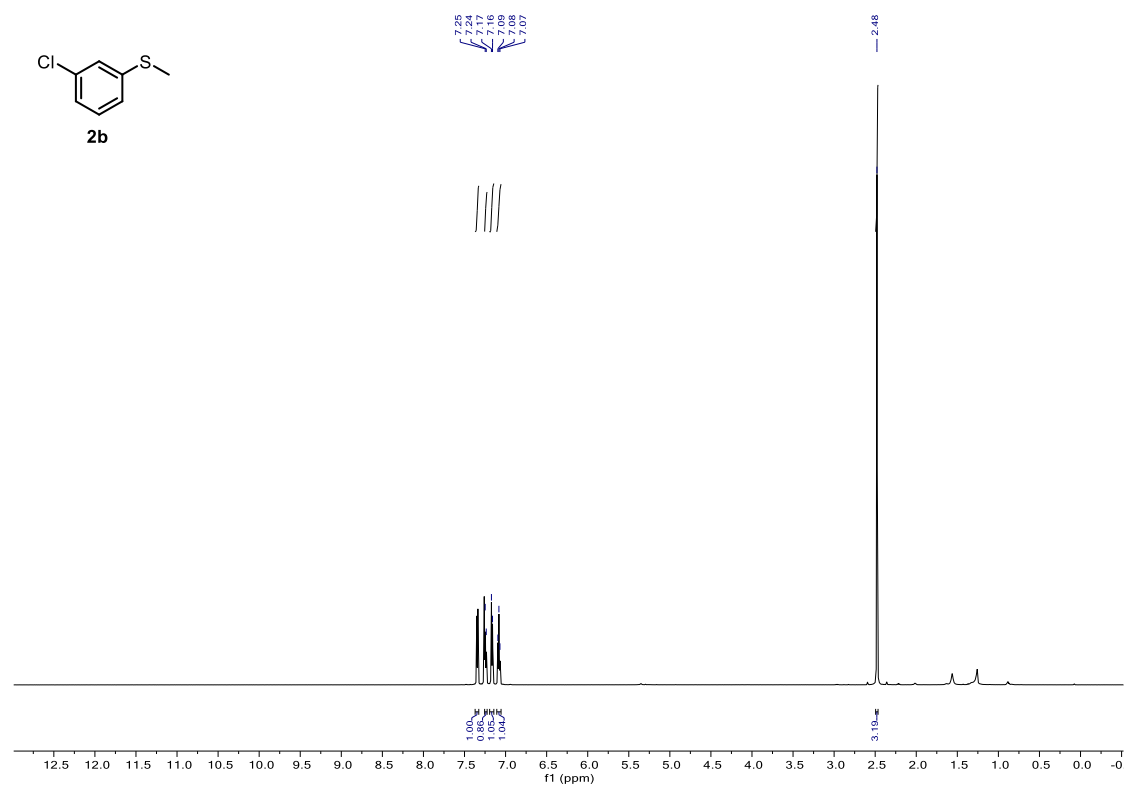


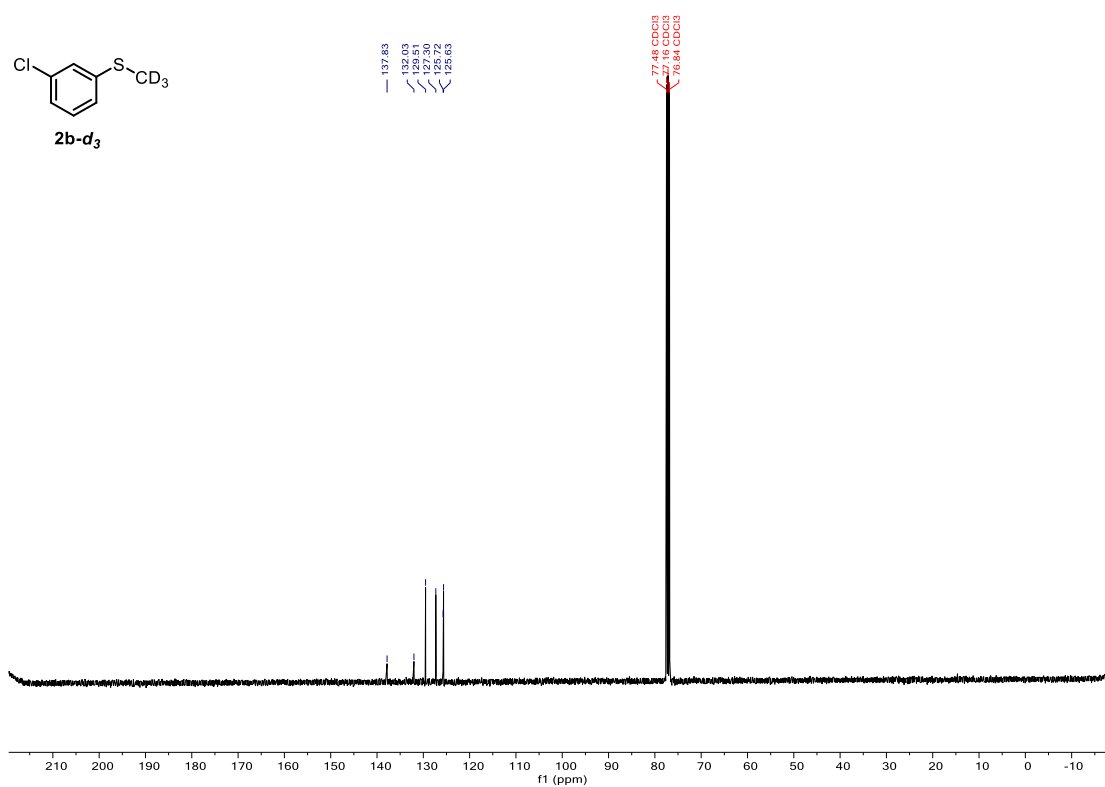
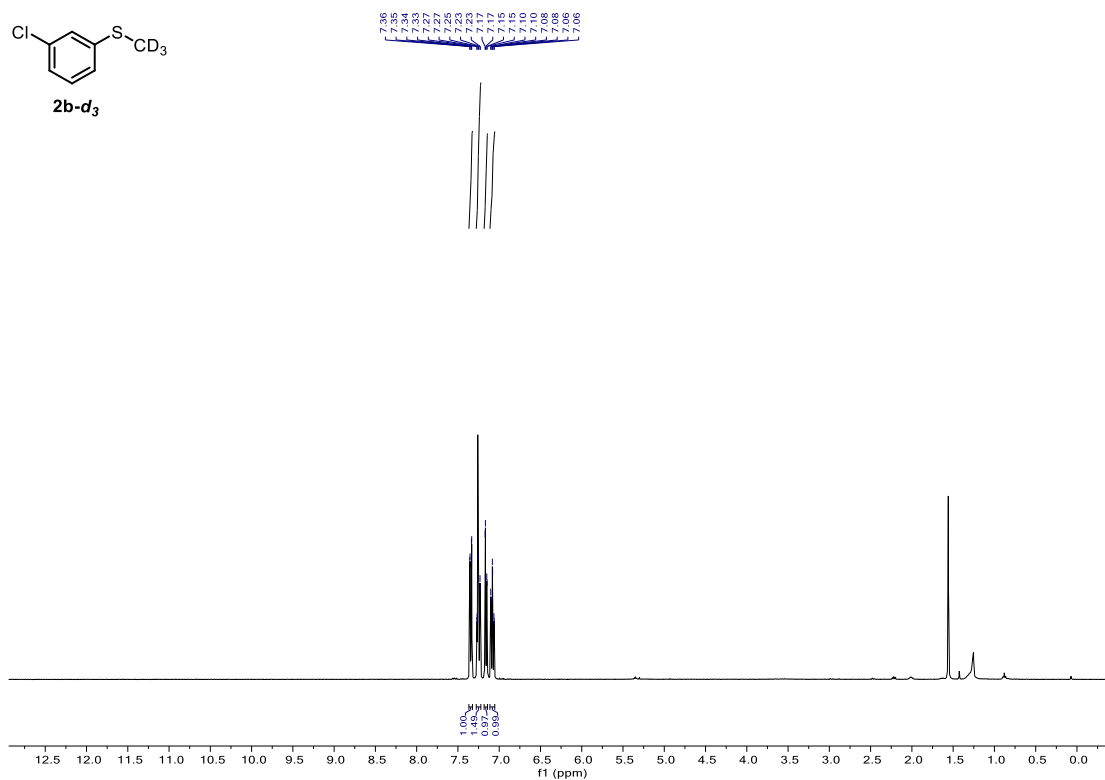
Fig. S2. Gibbs free energy profile (kcal/mol) for reaction profile of selective S-methylation over O-methylation

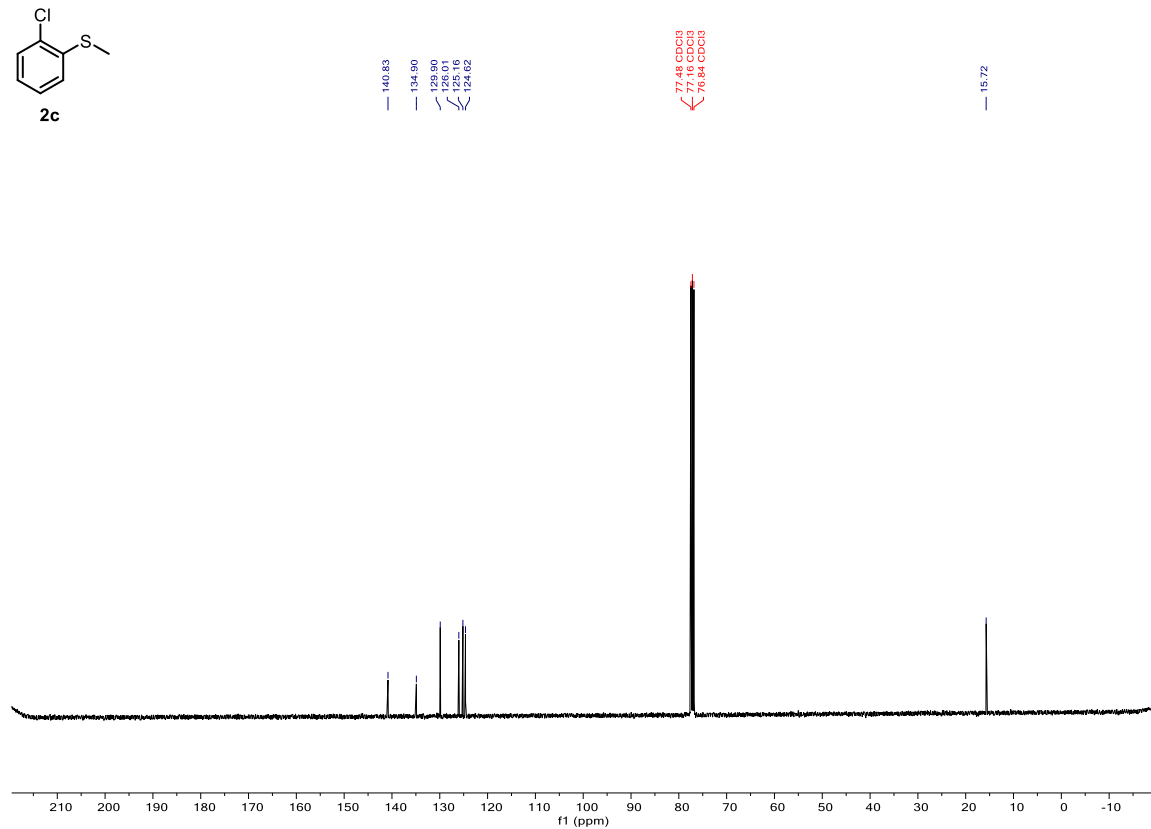
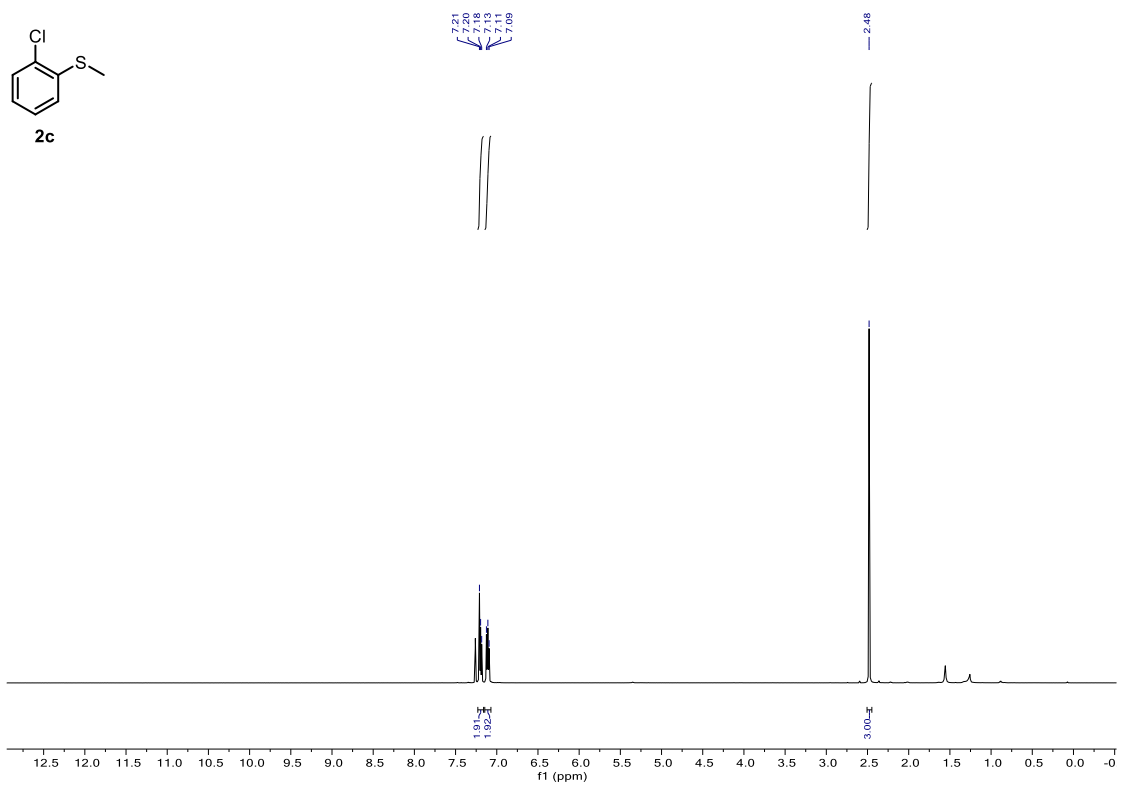
8 NMR spectroscopic data

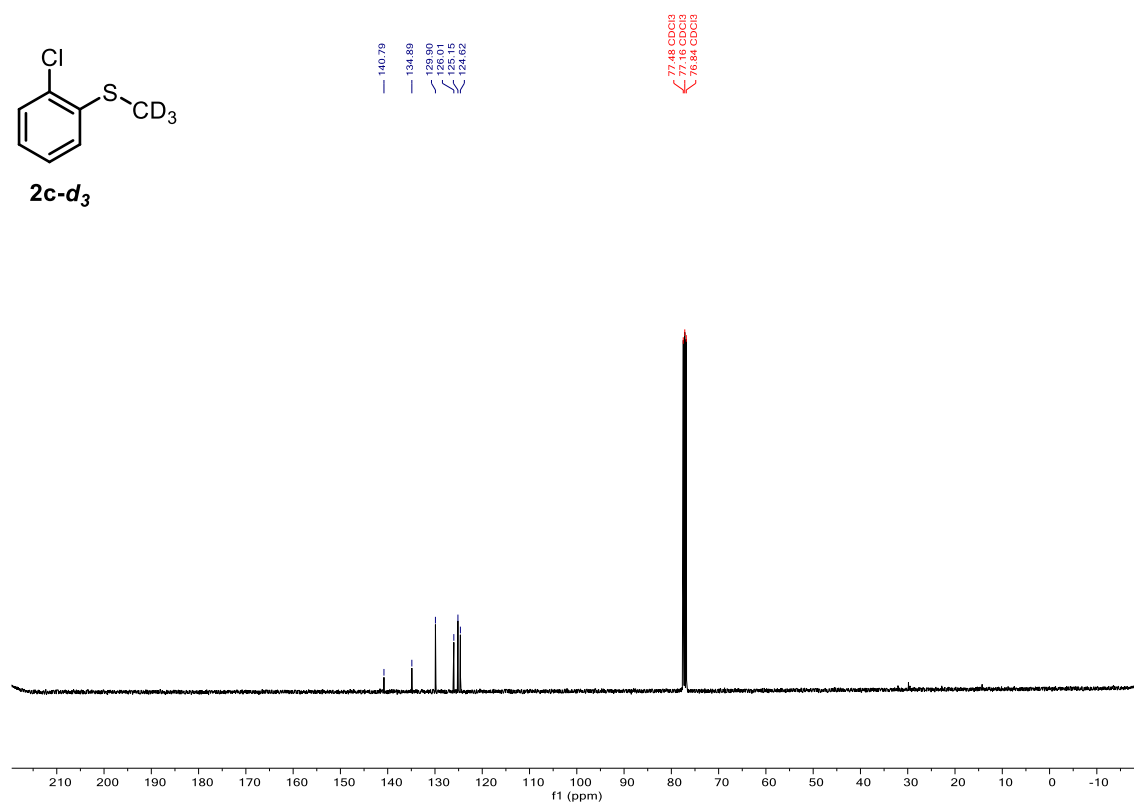
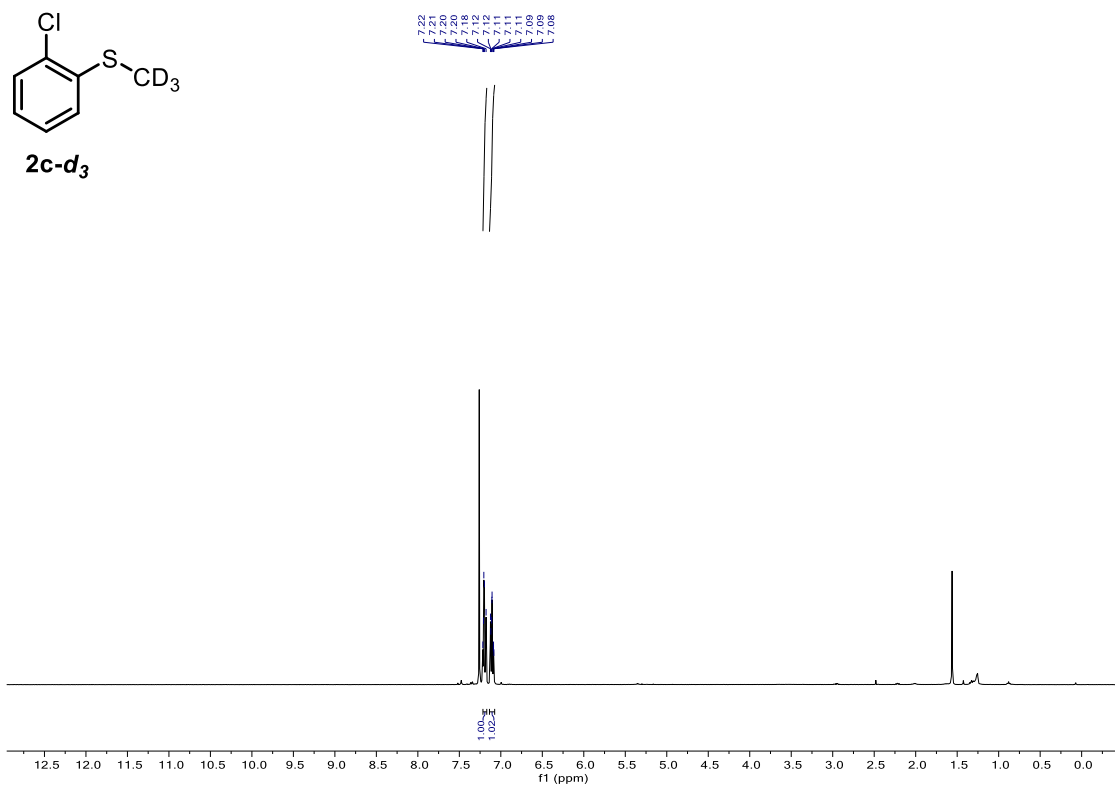


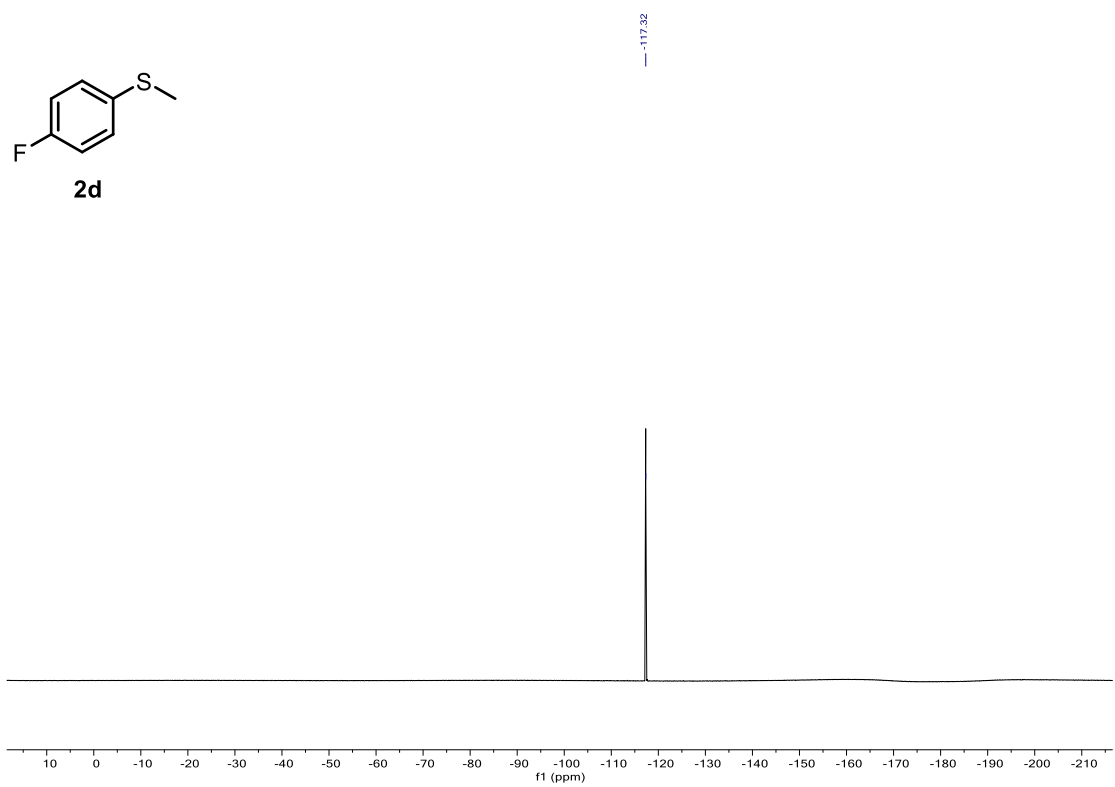
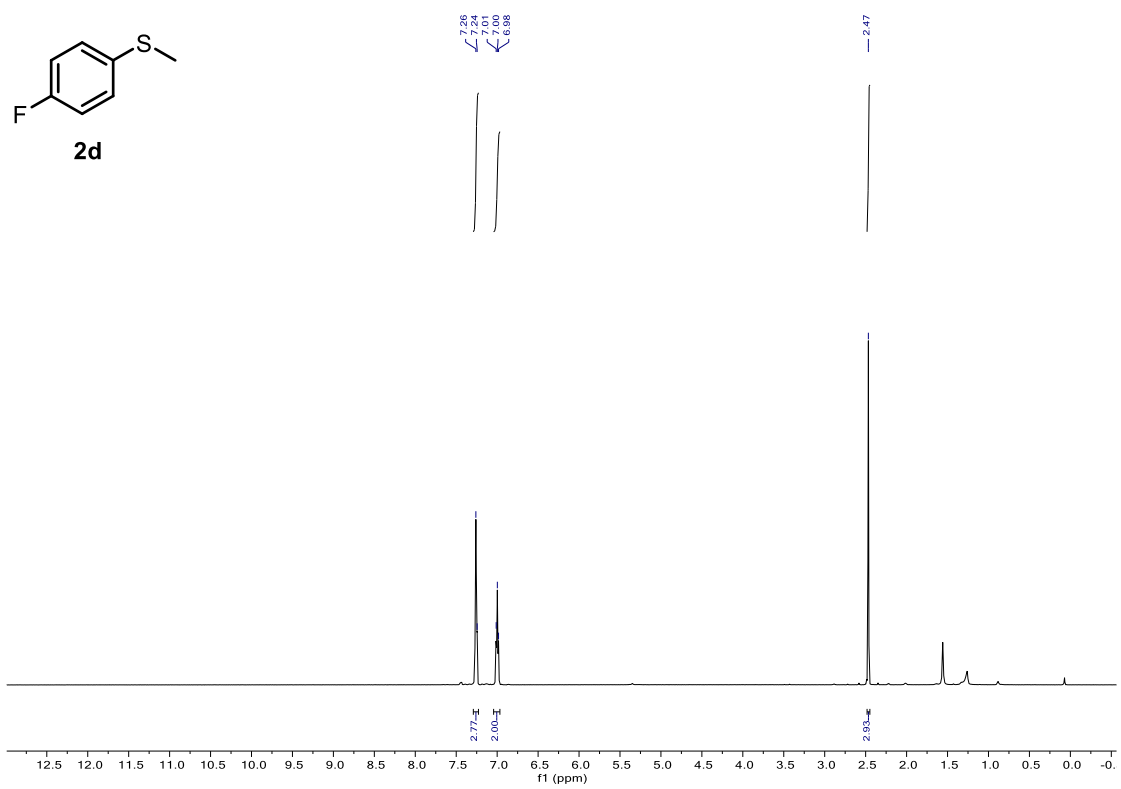


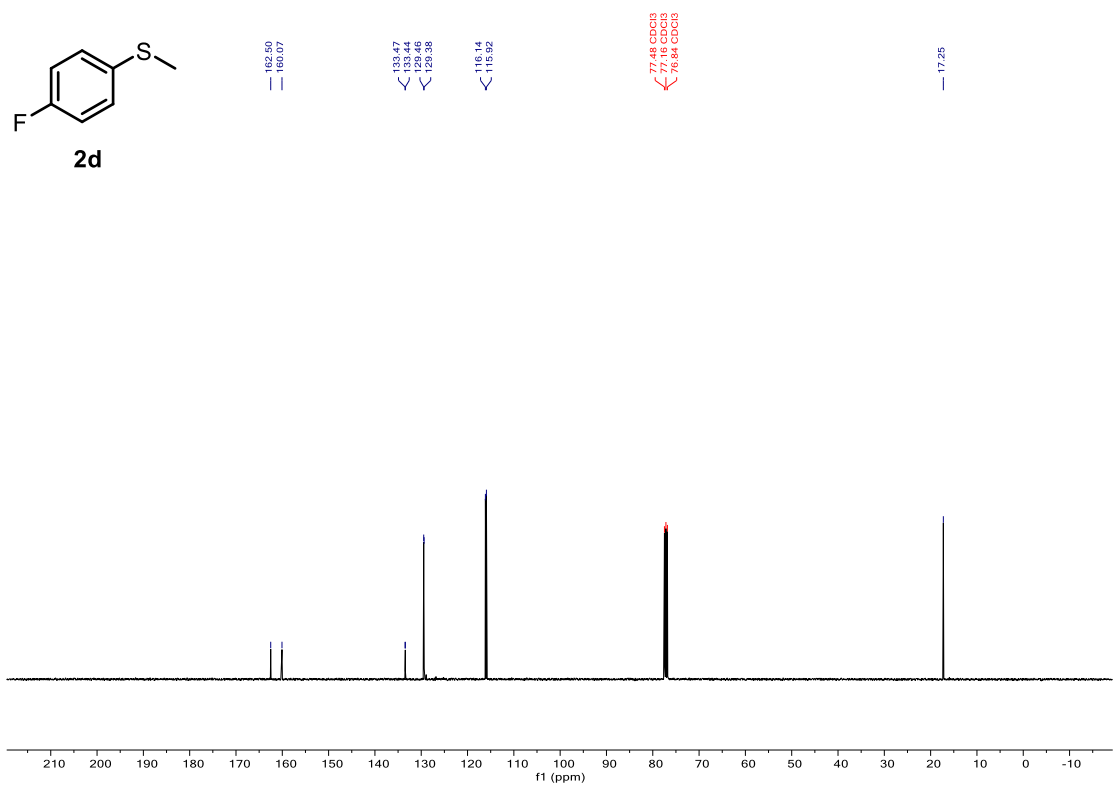


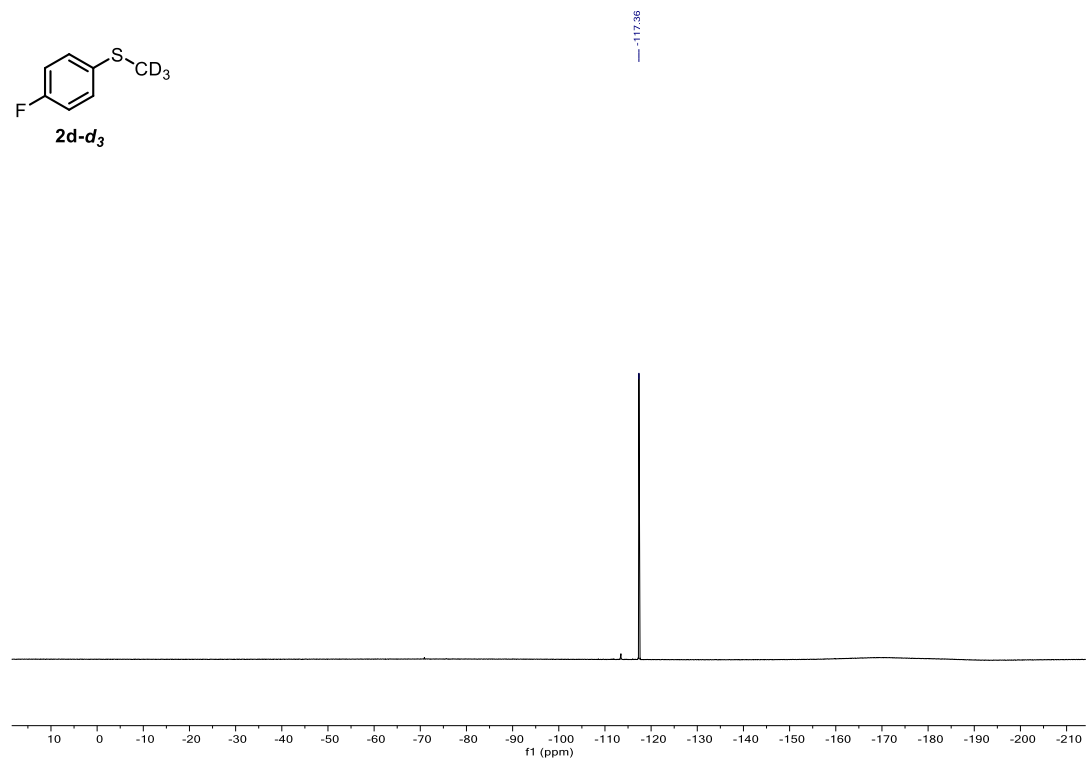
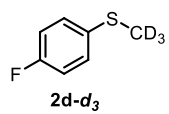
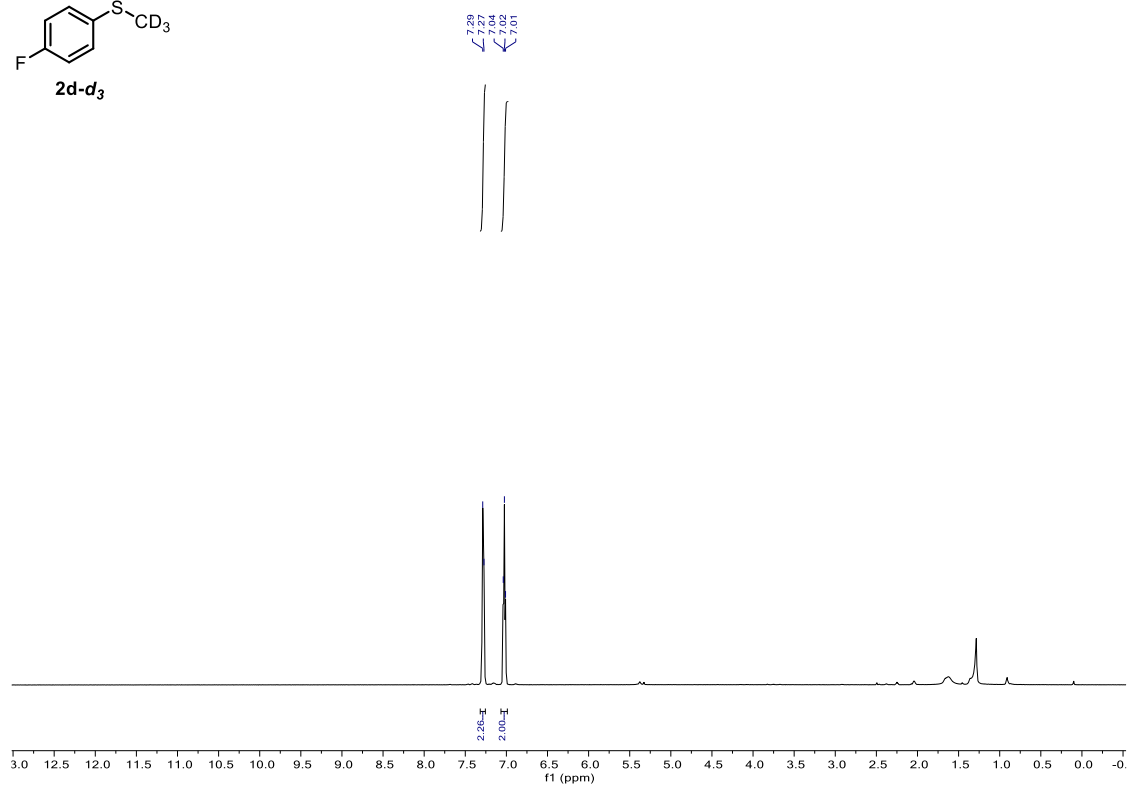
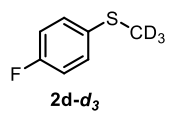


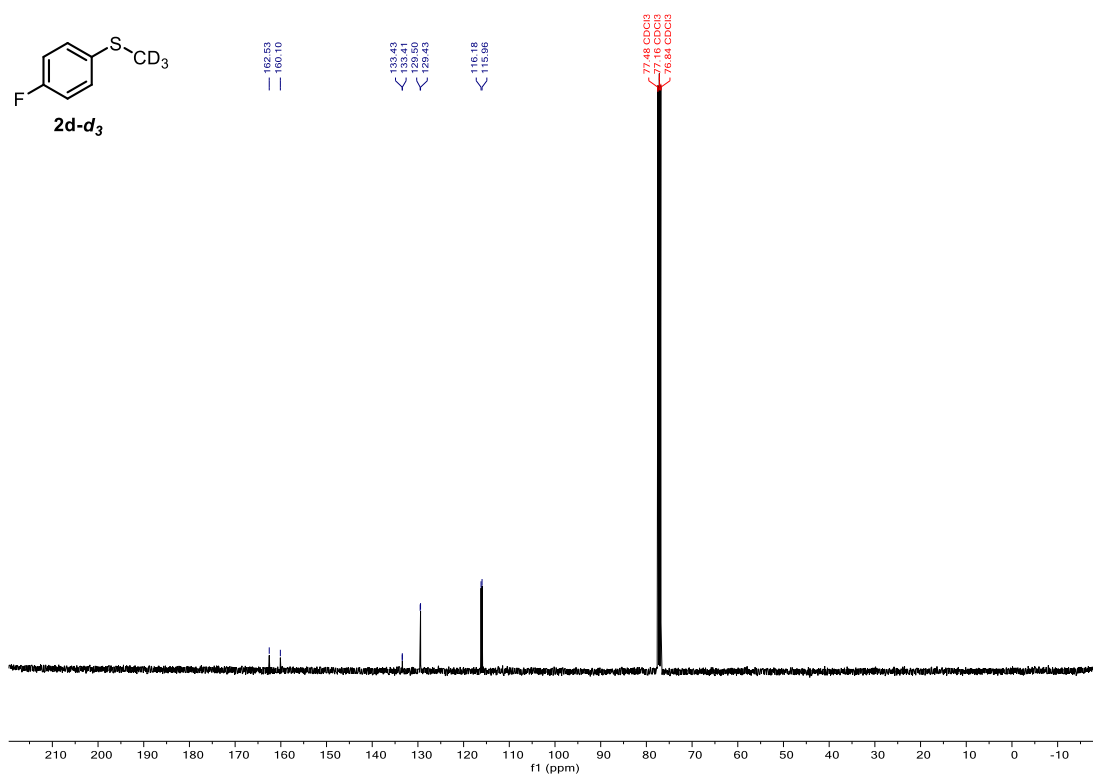


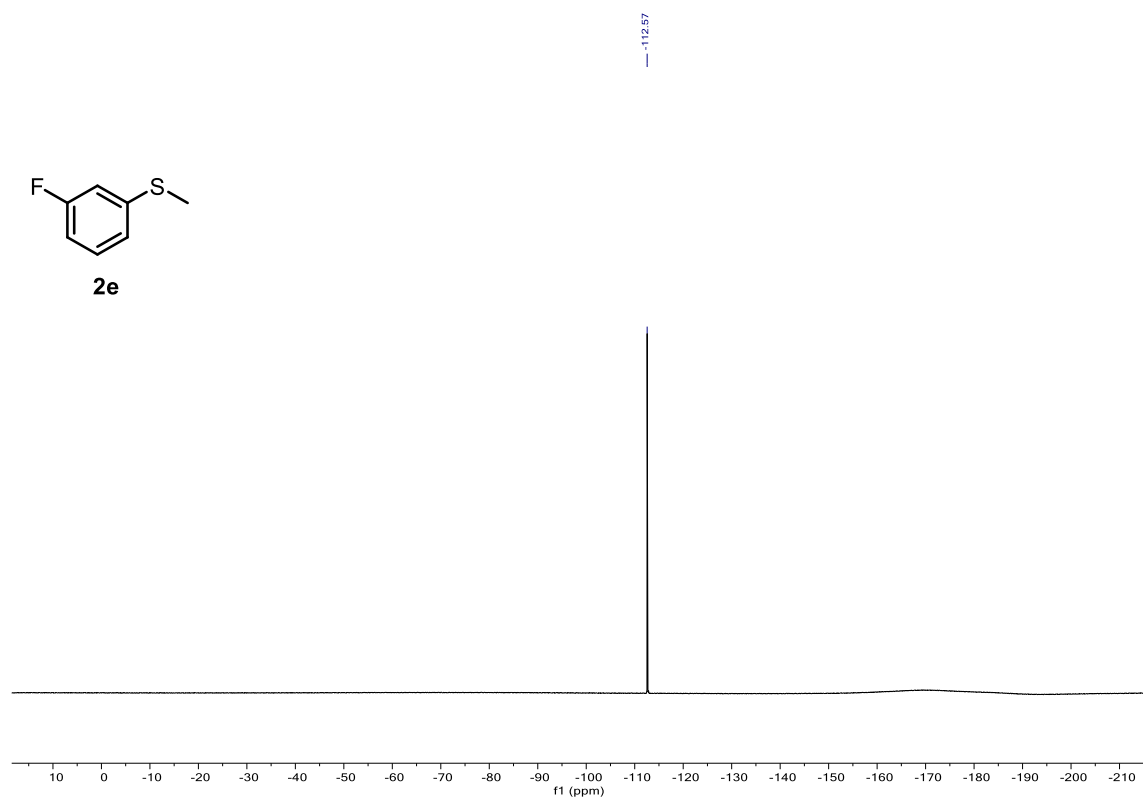
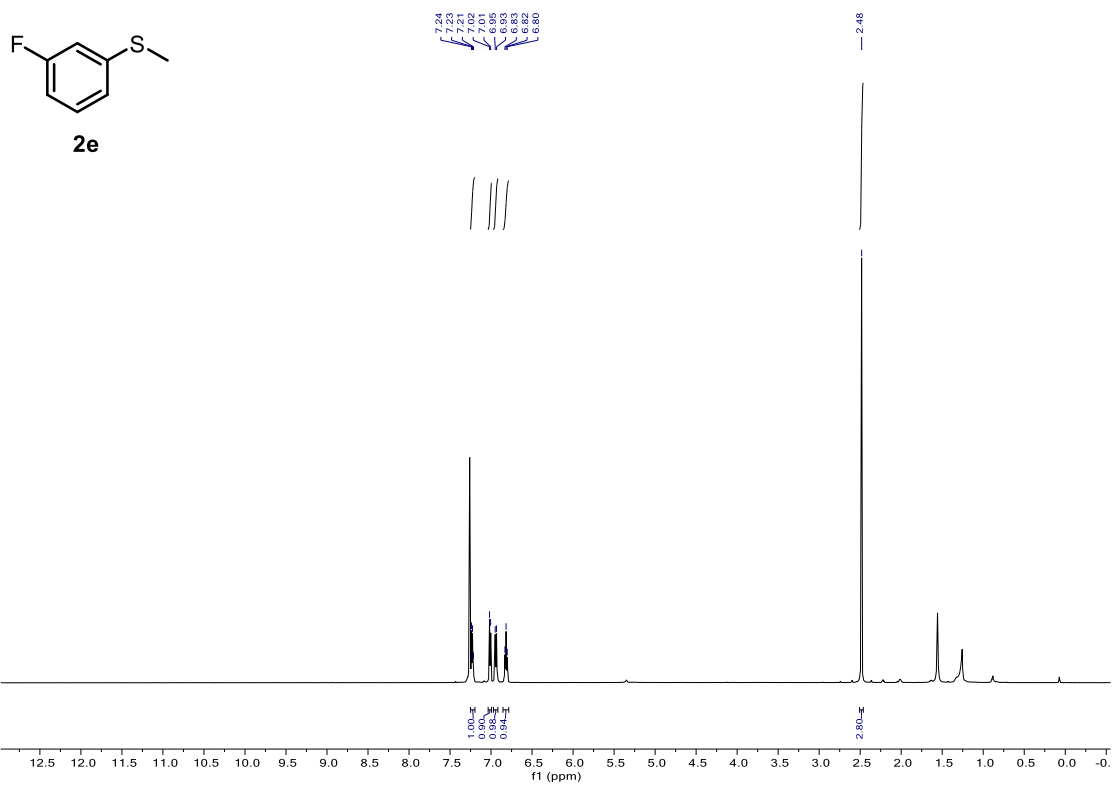


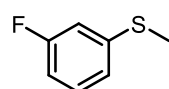




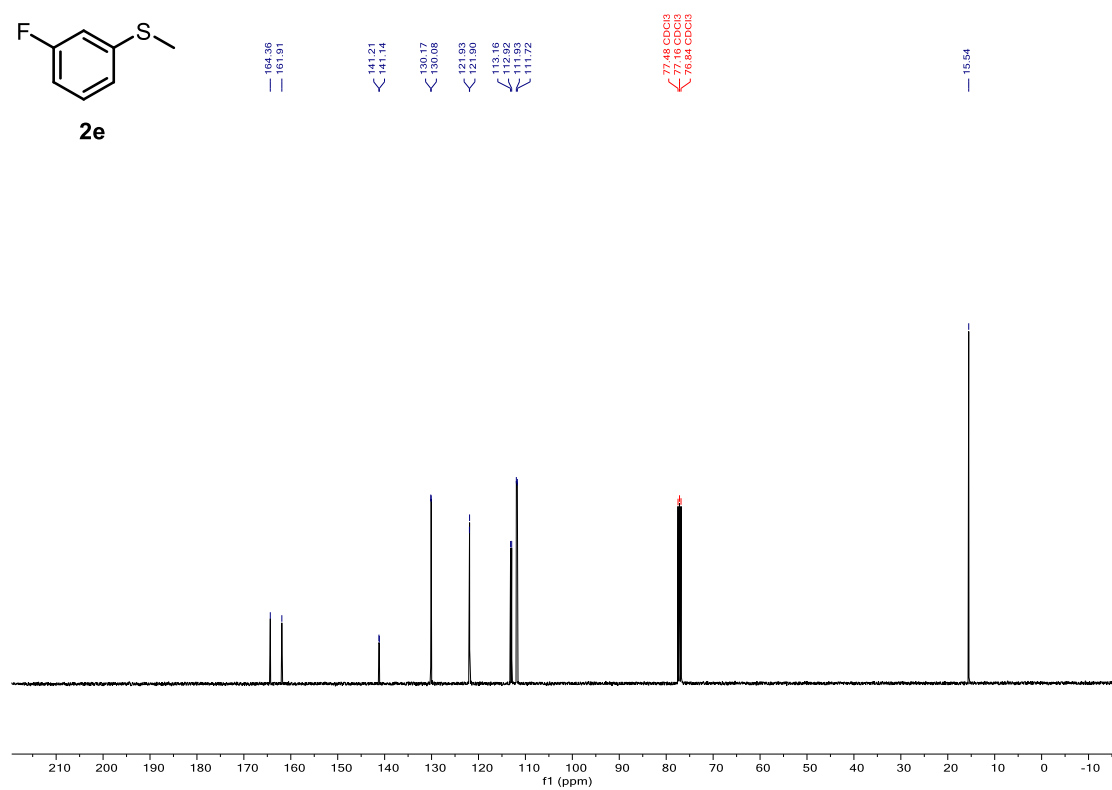


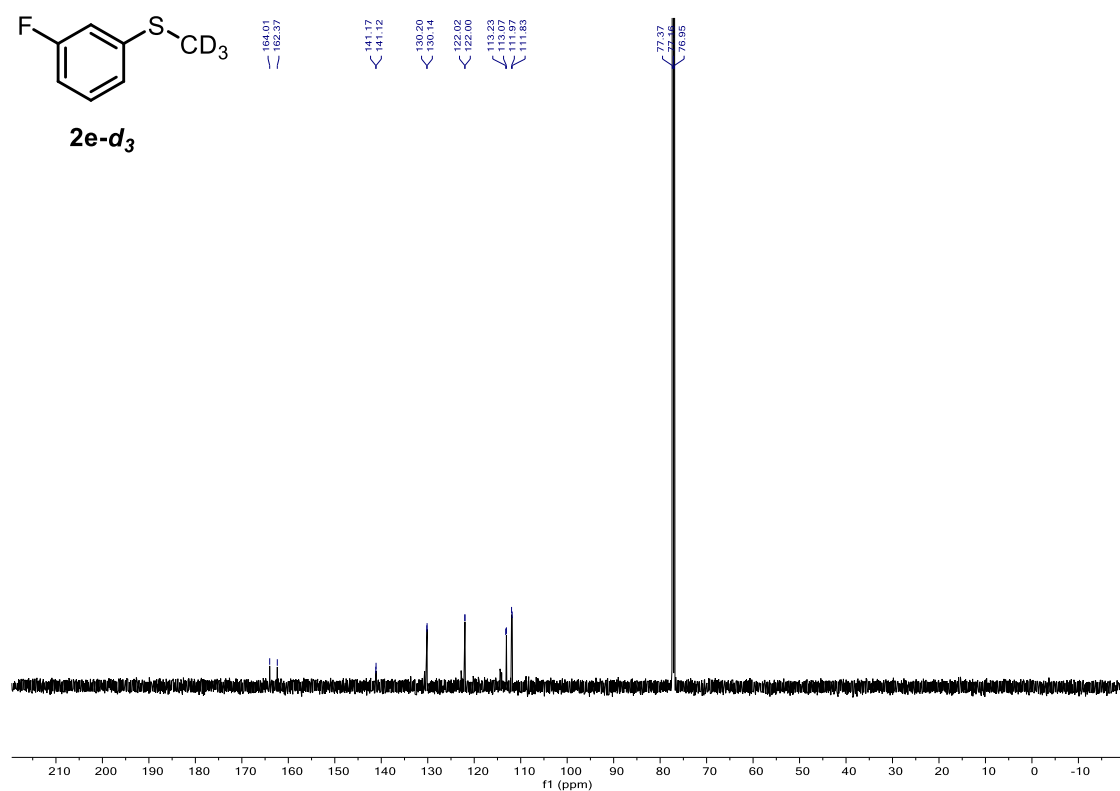
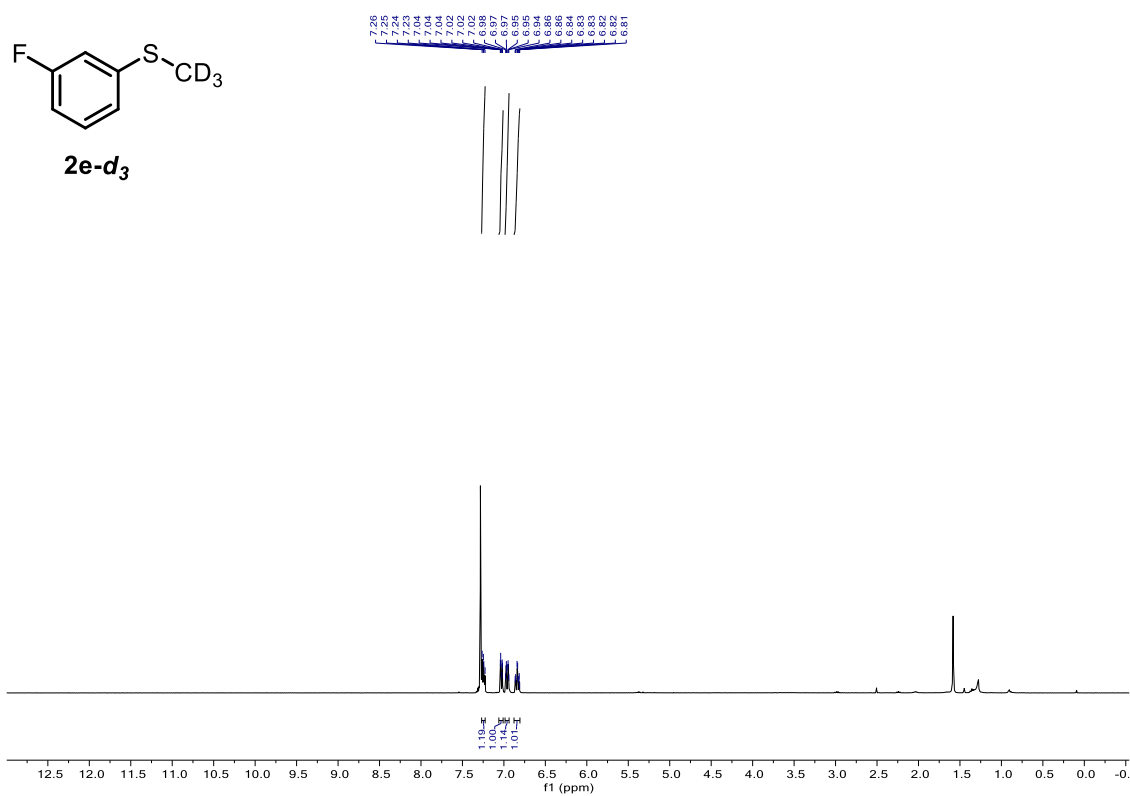


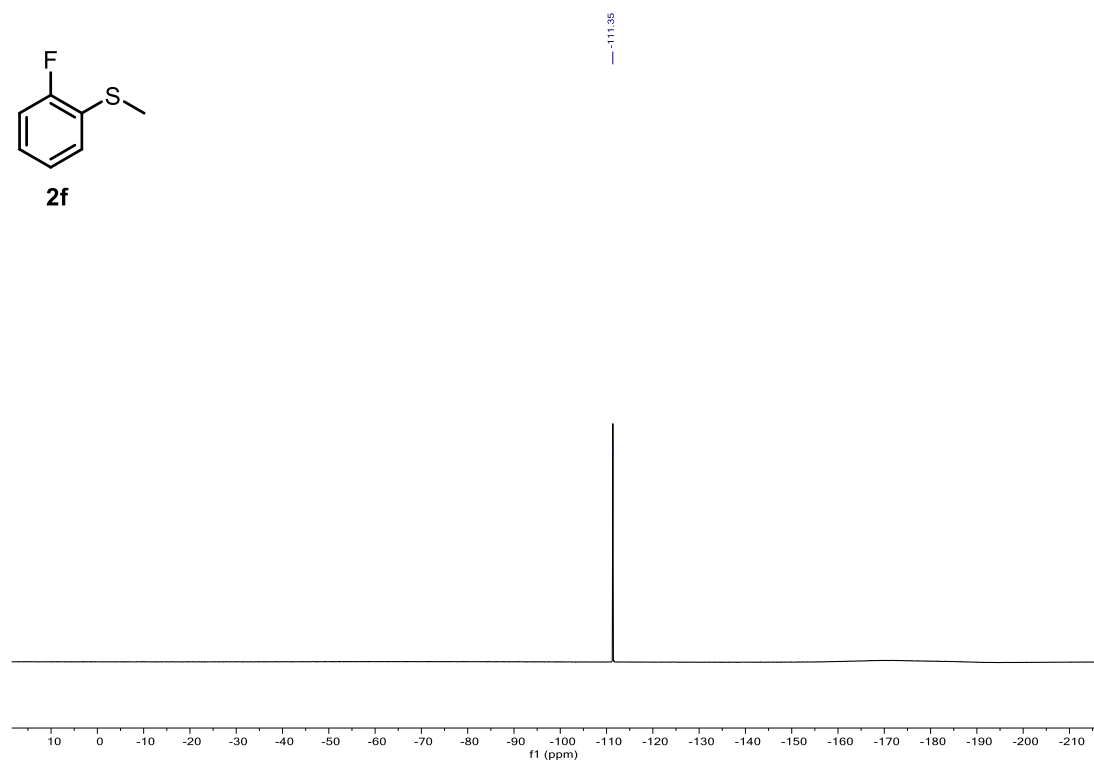
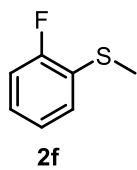
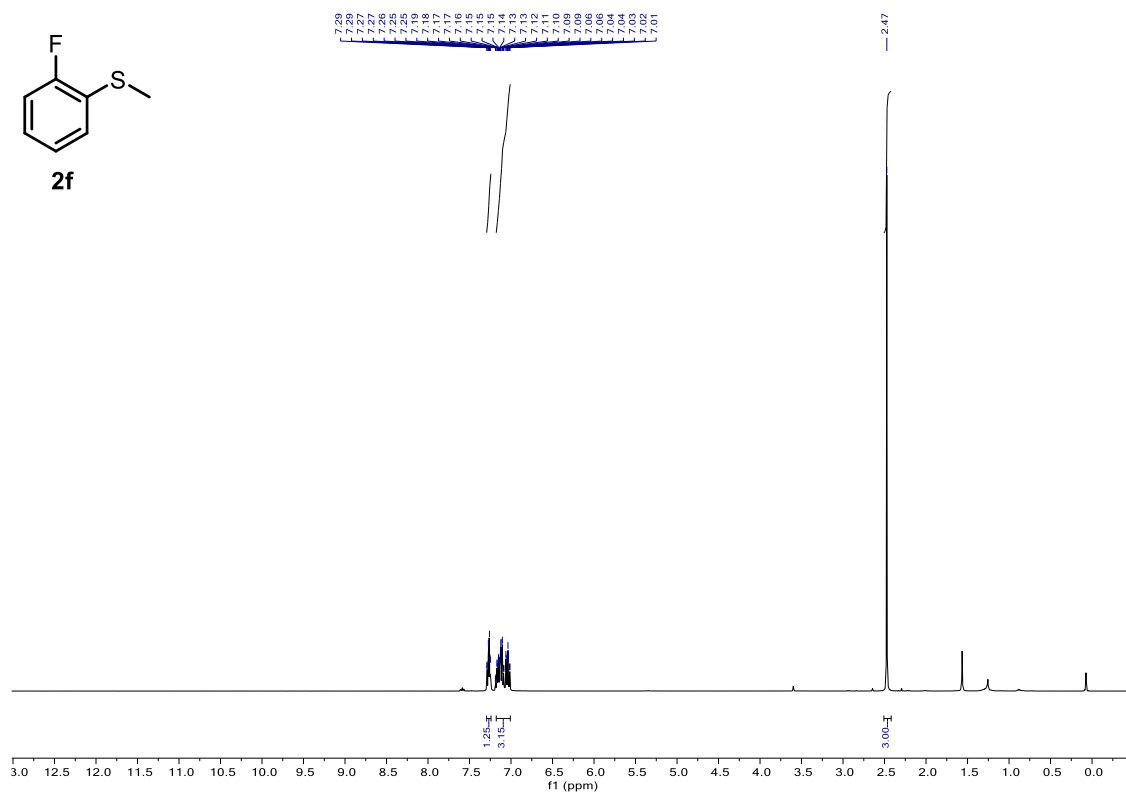
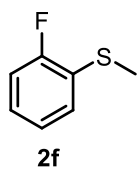


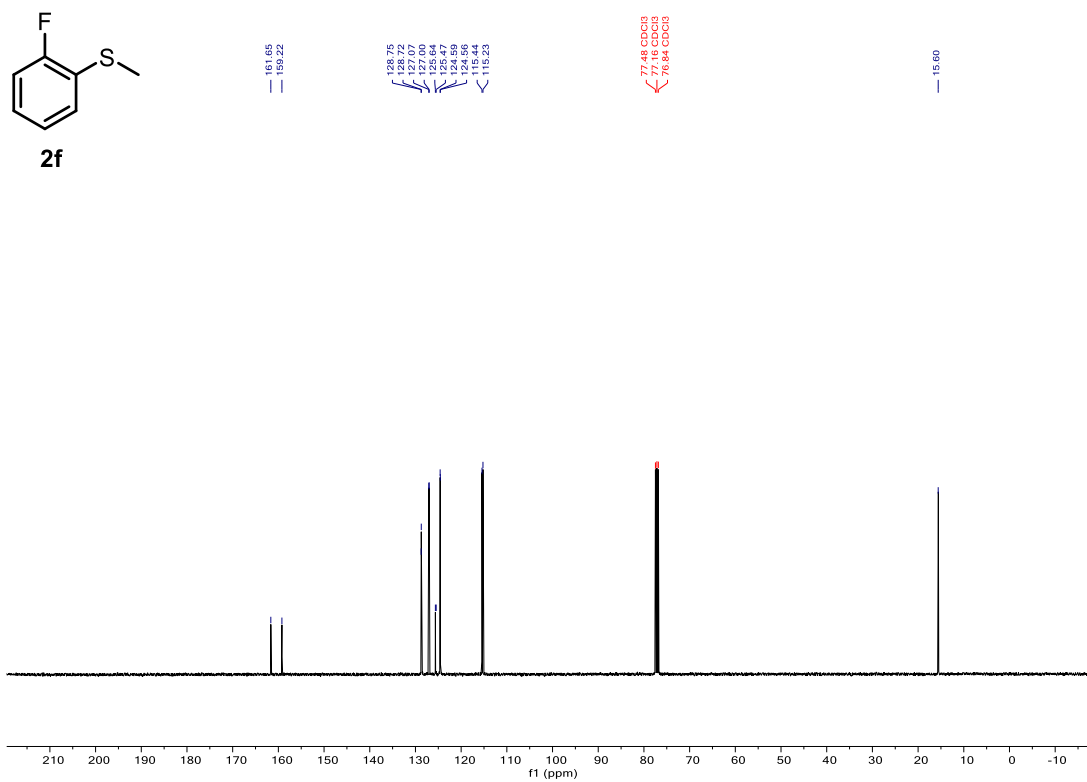


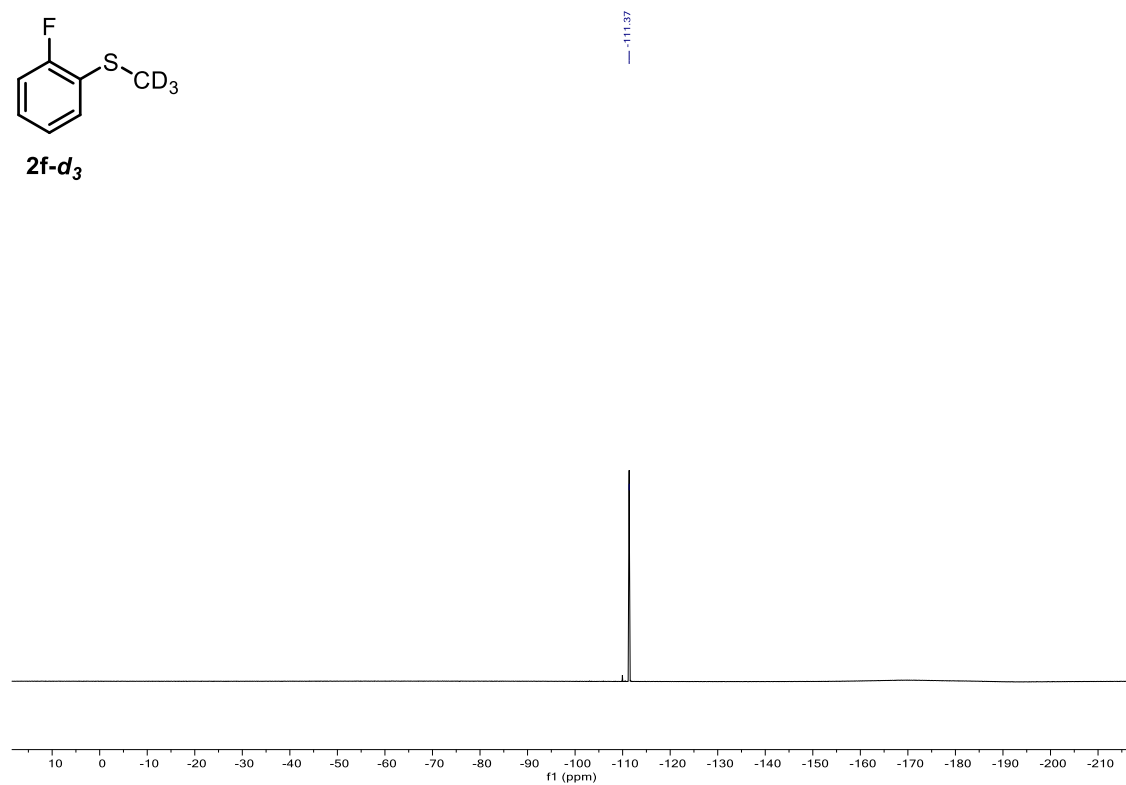
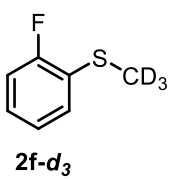
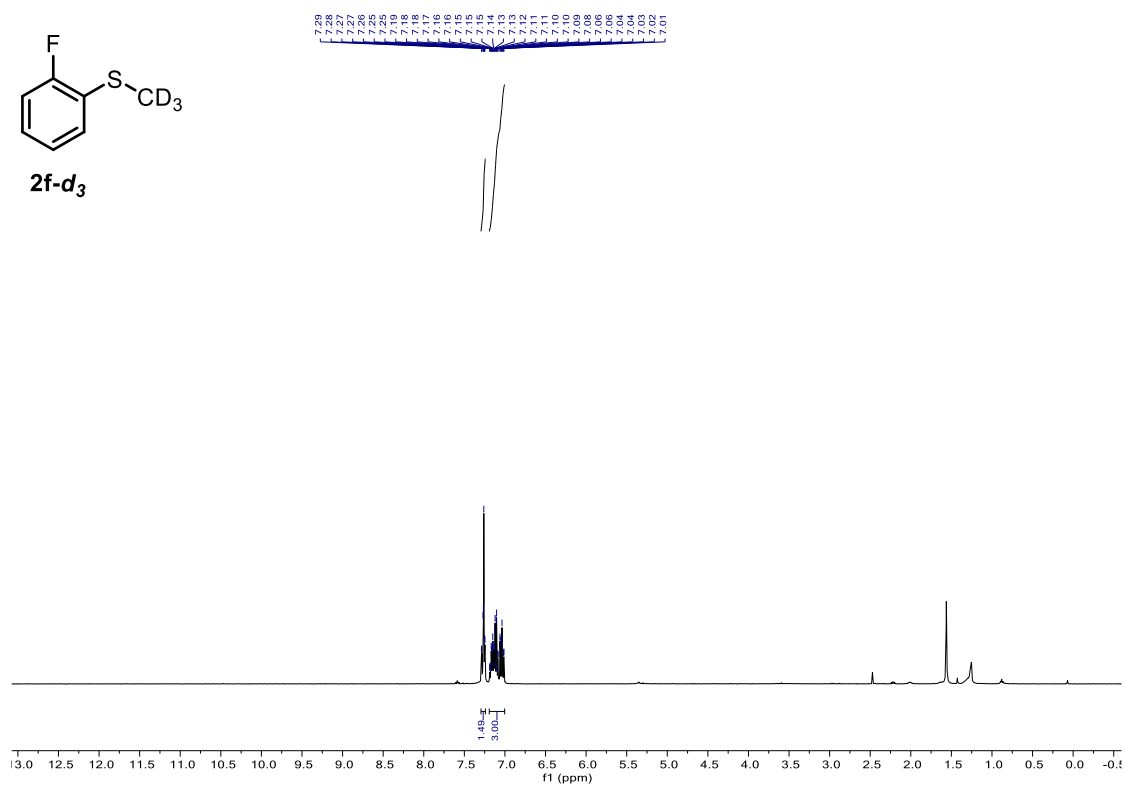
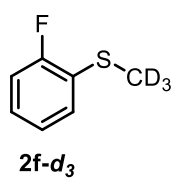
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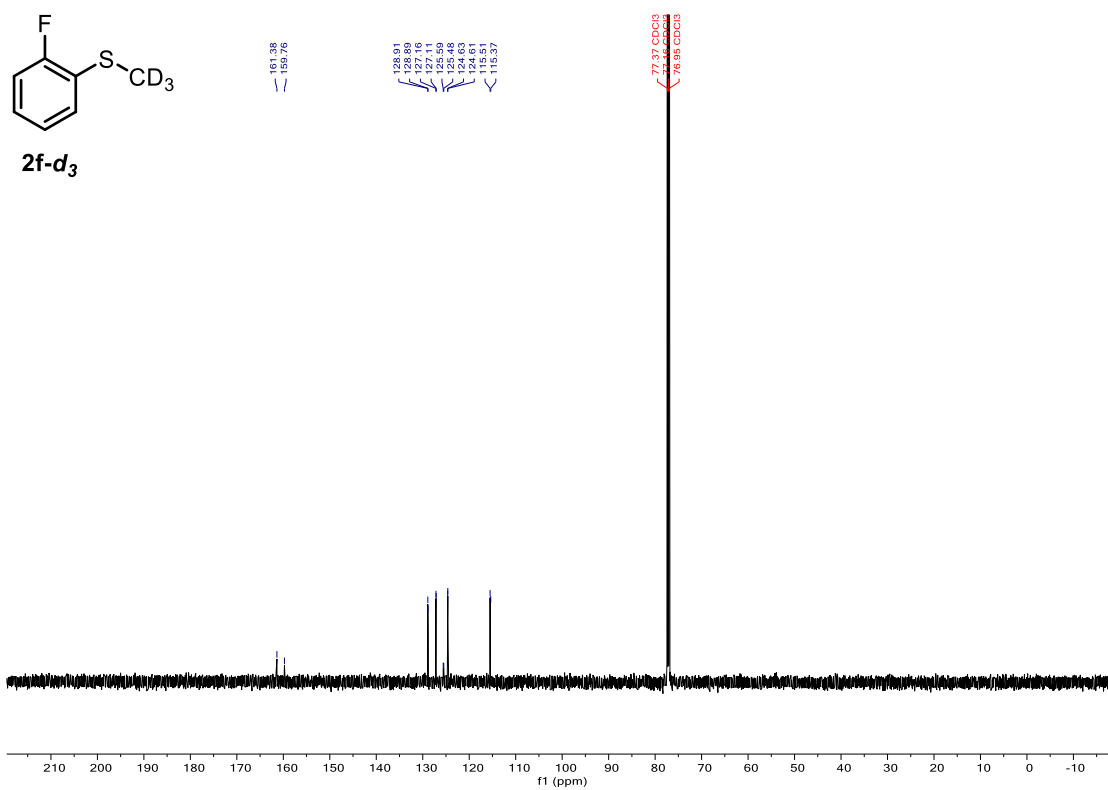


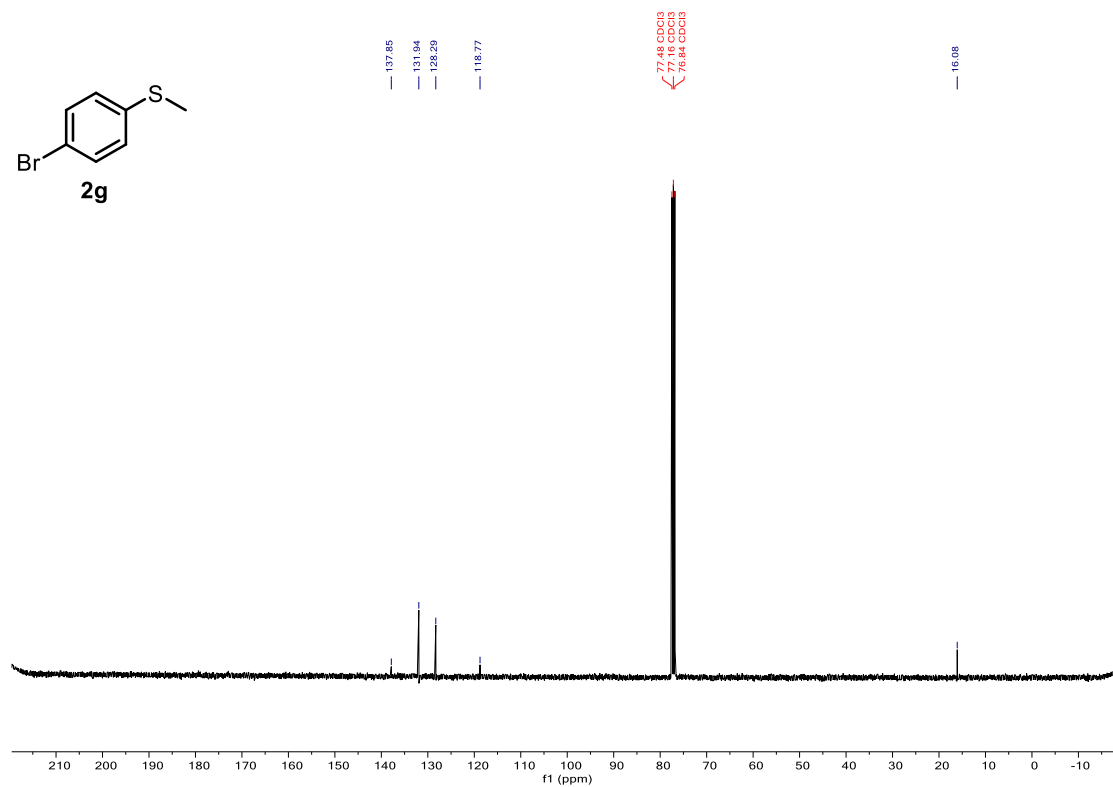
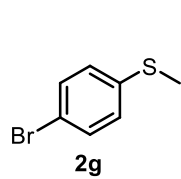
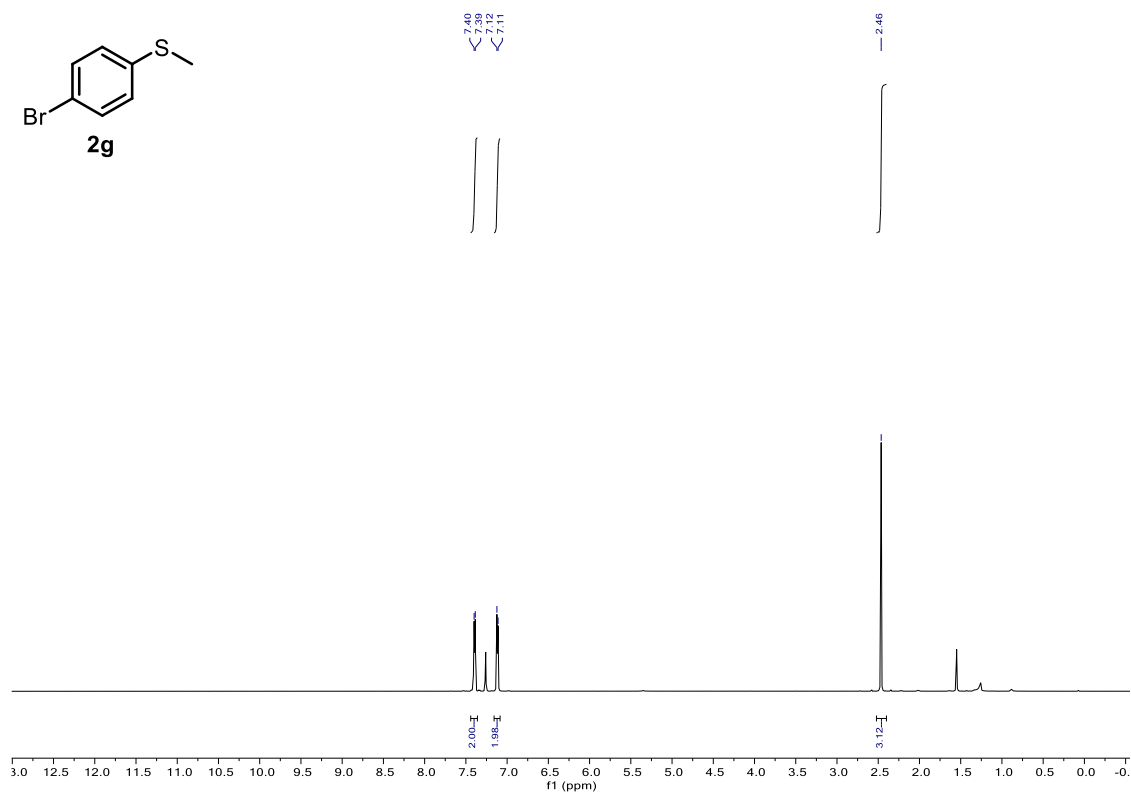
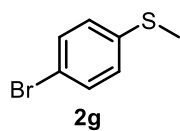


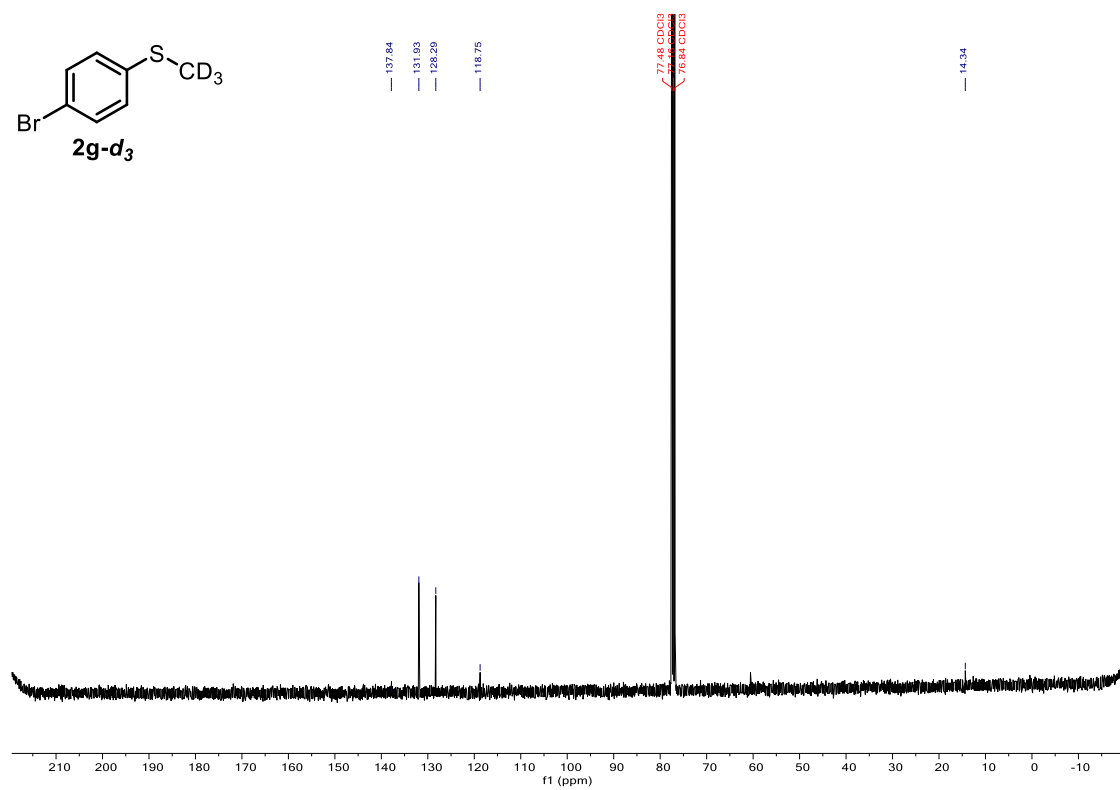
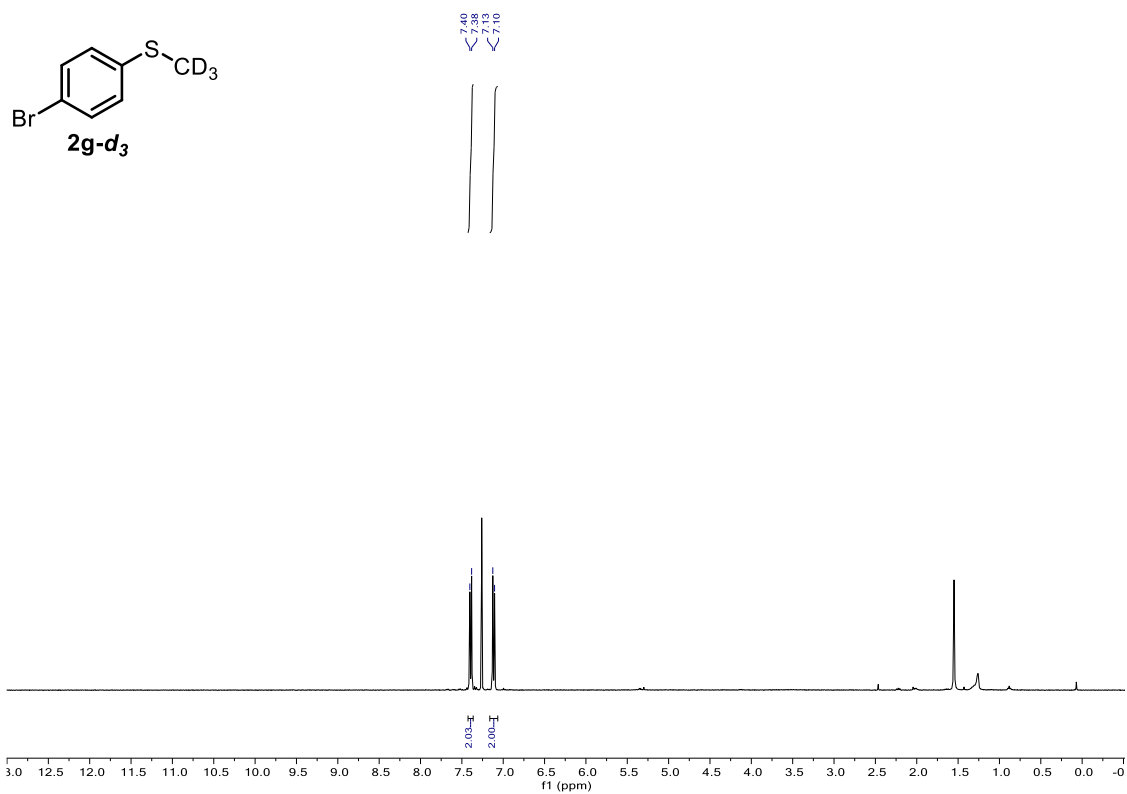


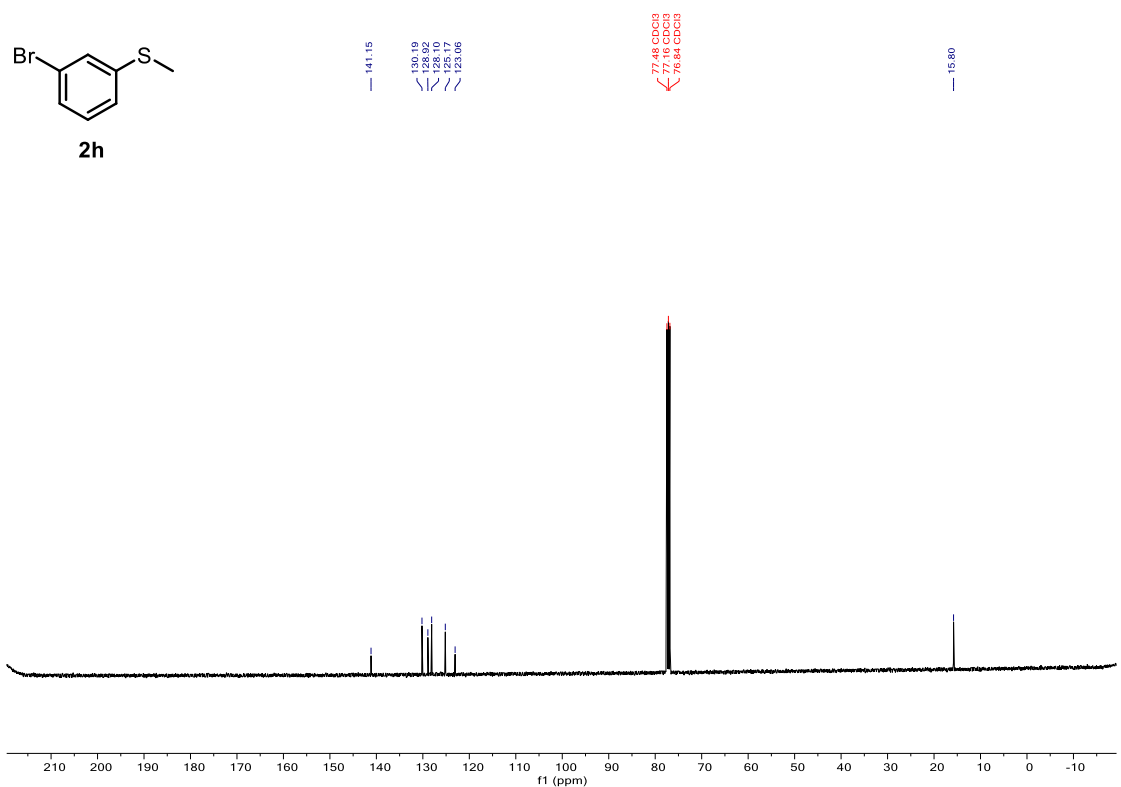
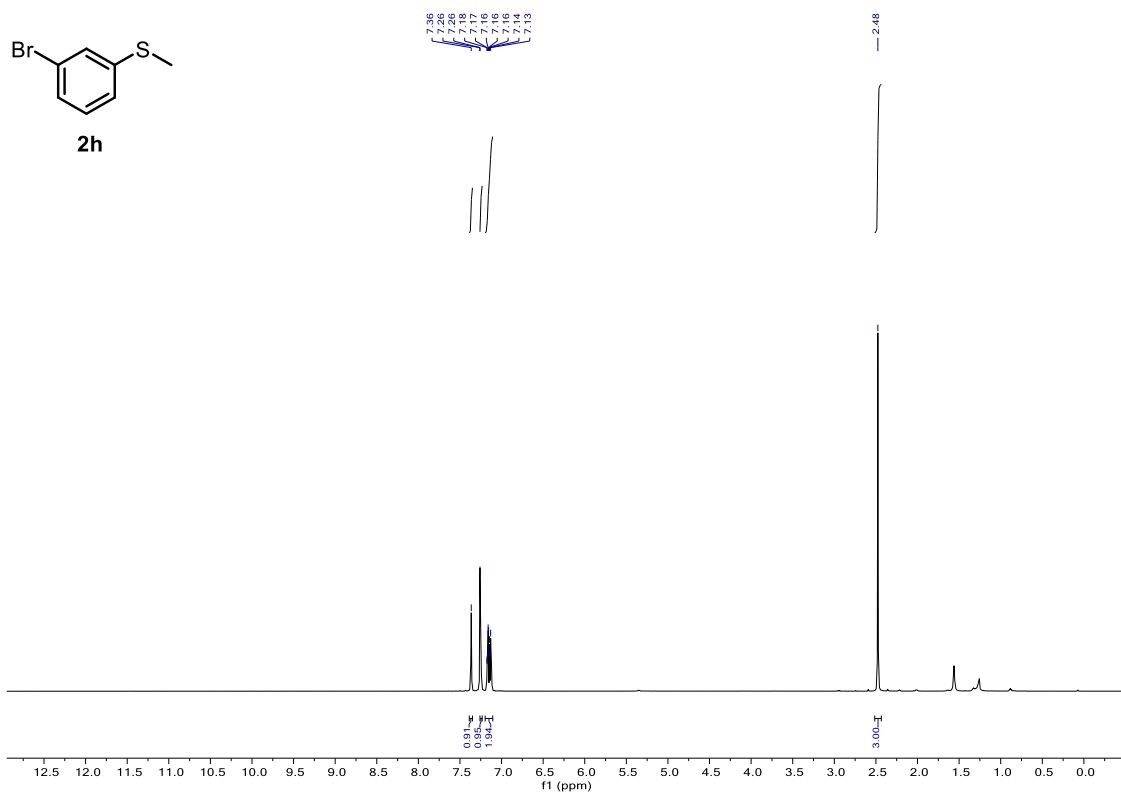


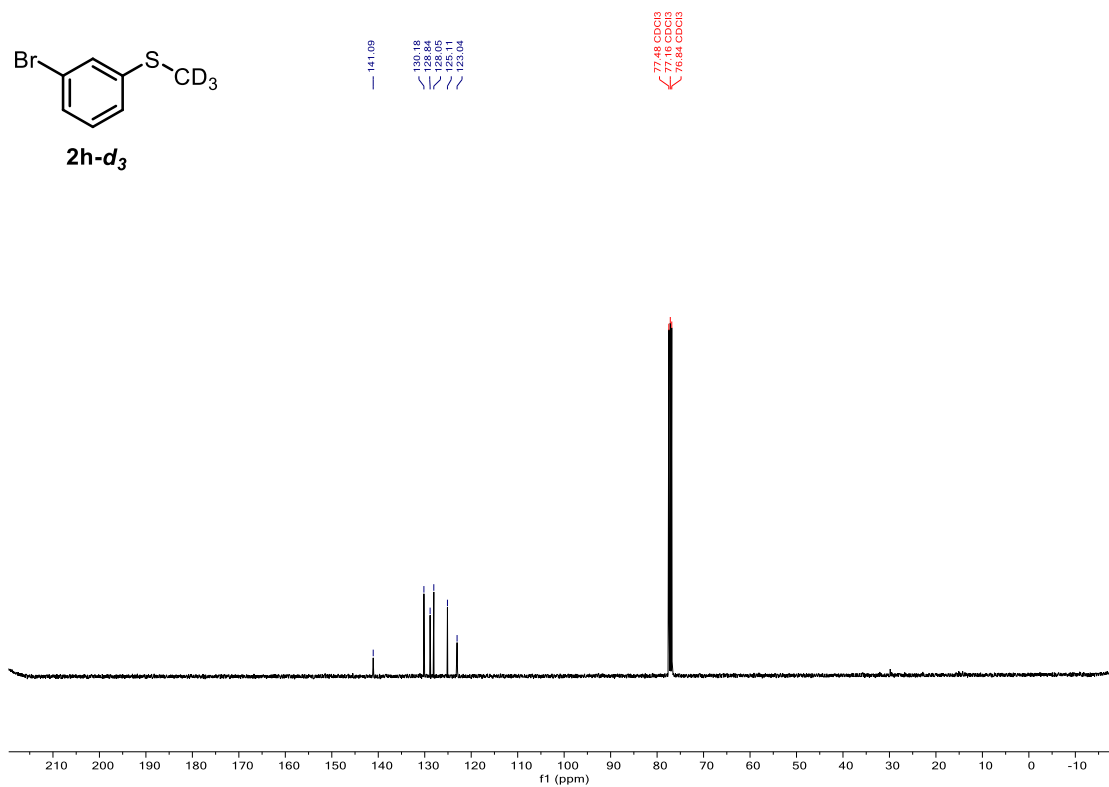
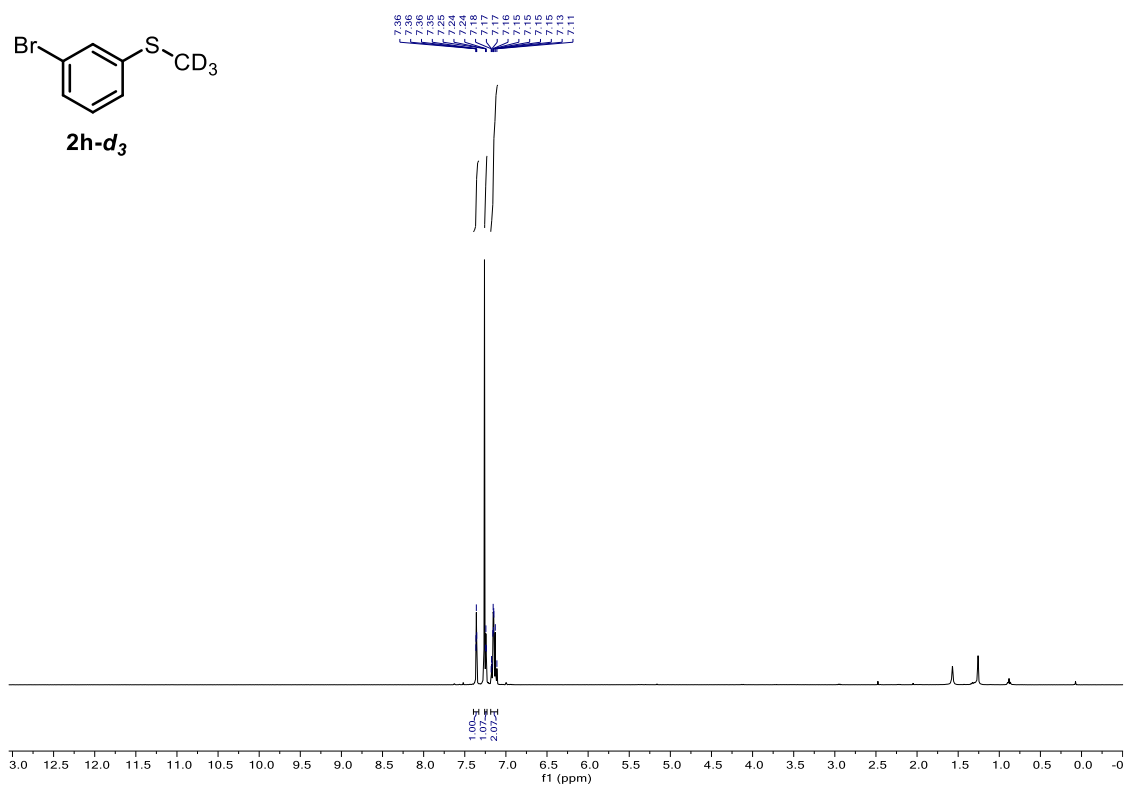


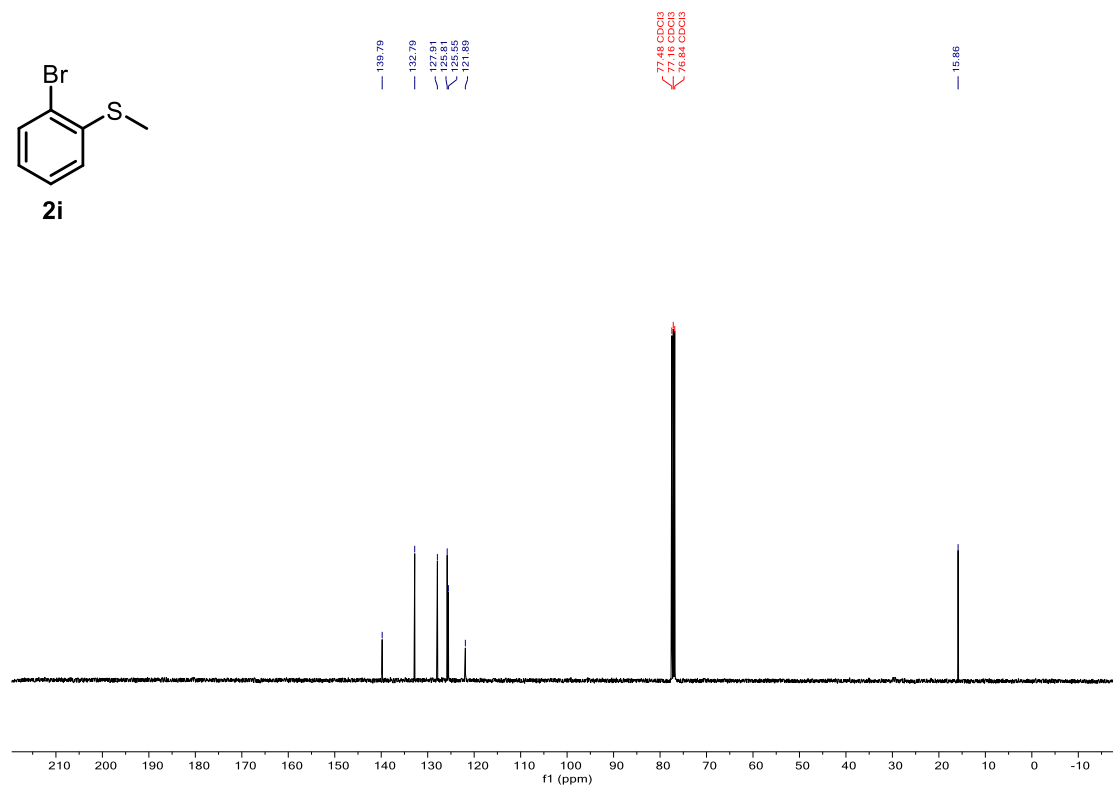
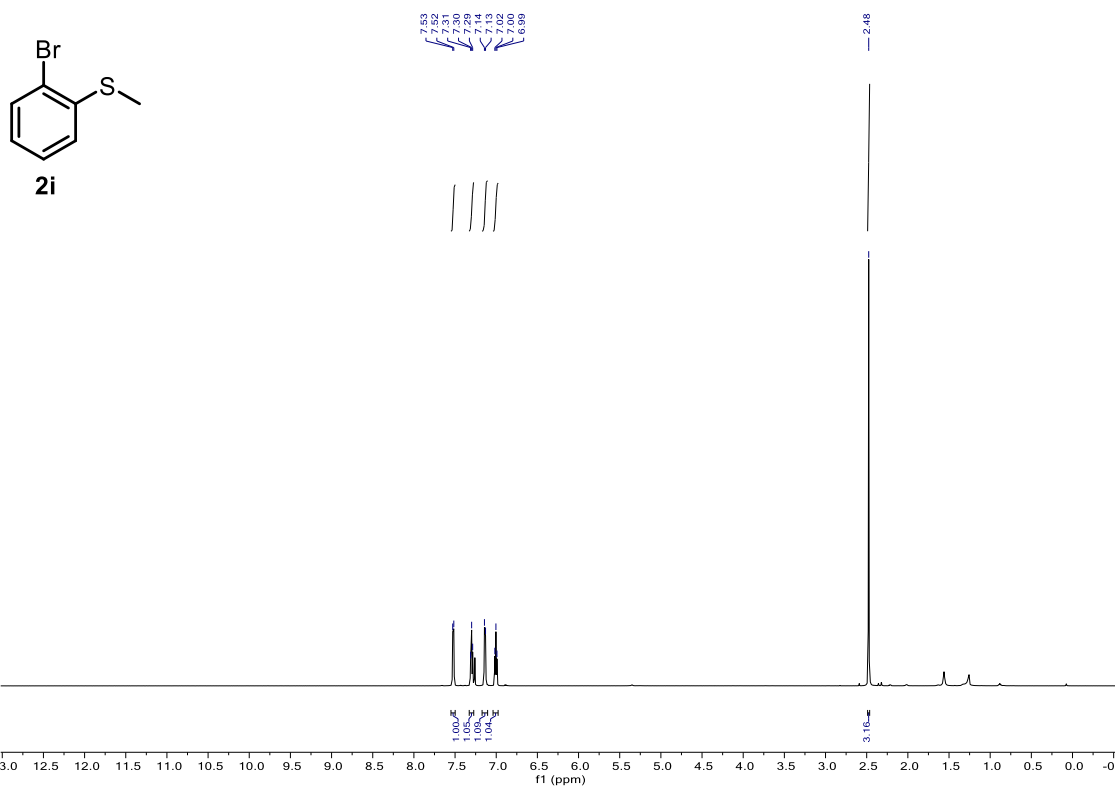


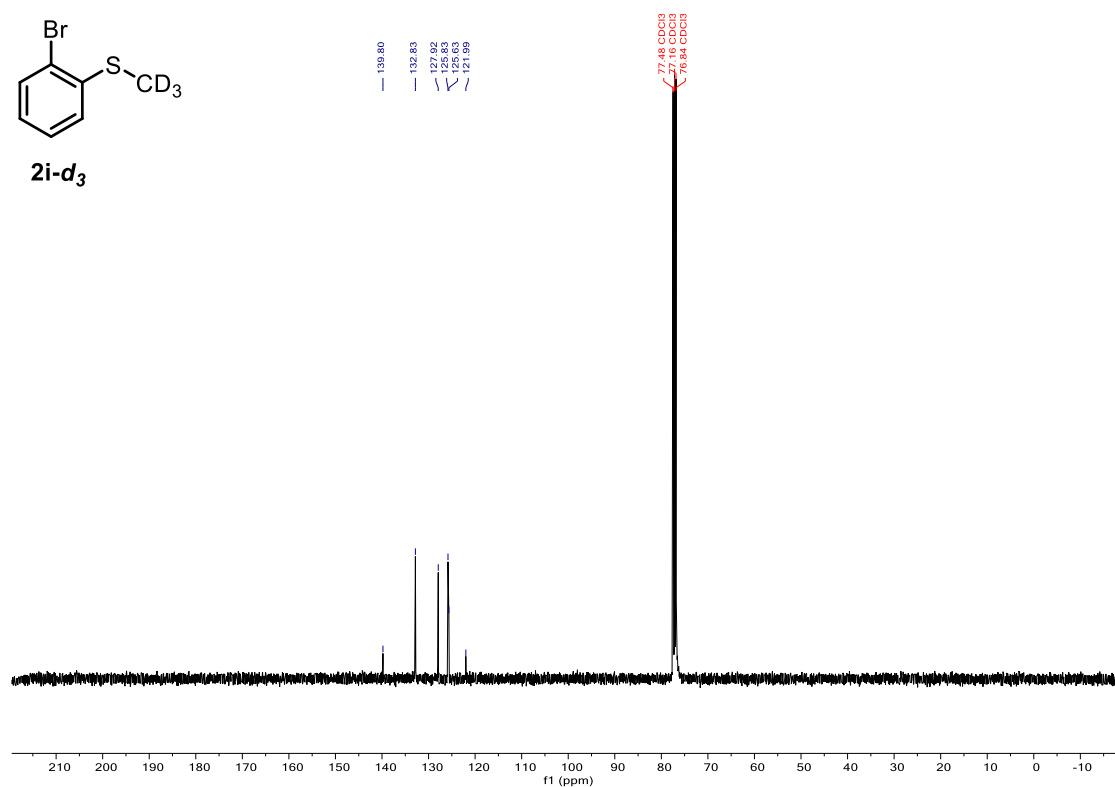
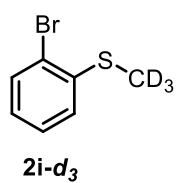
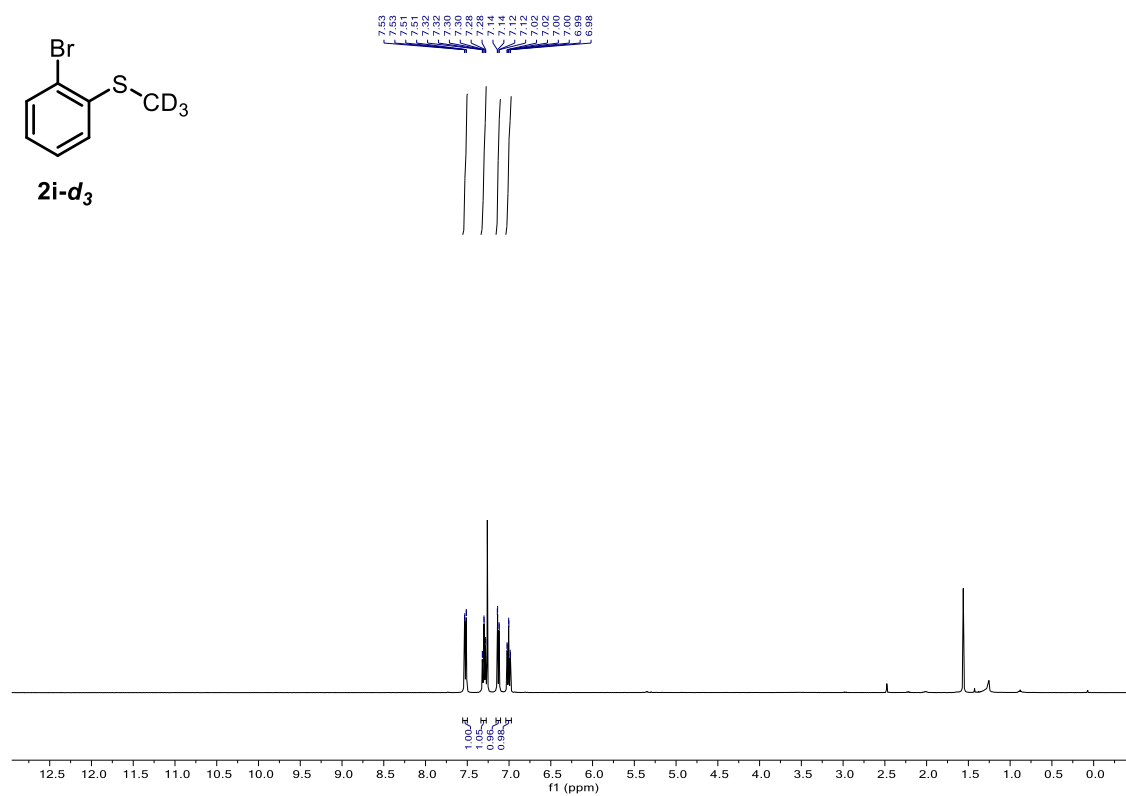
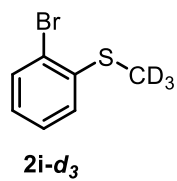


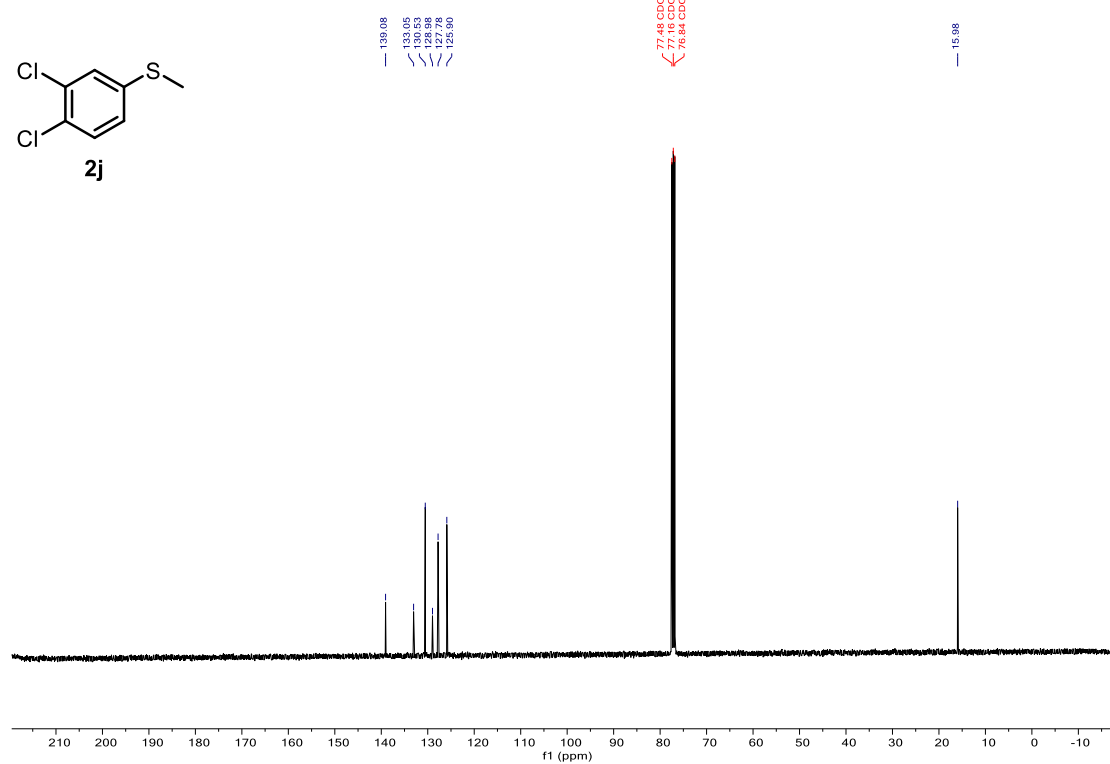
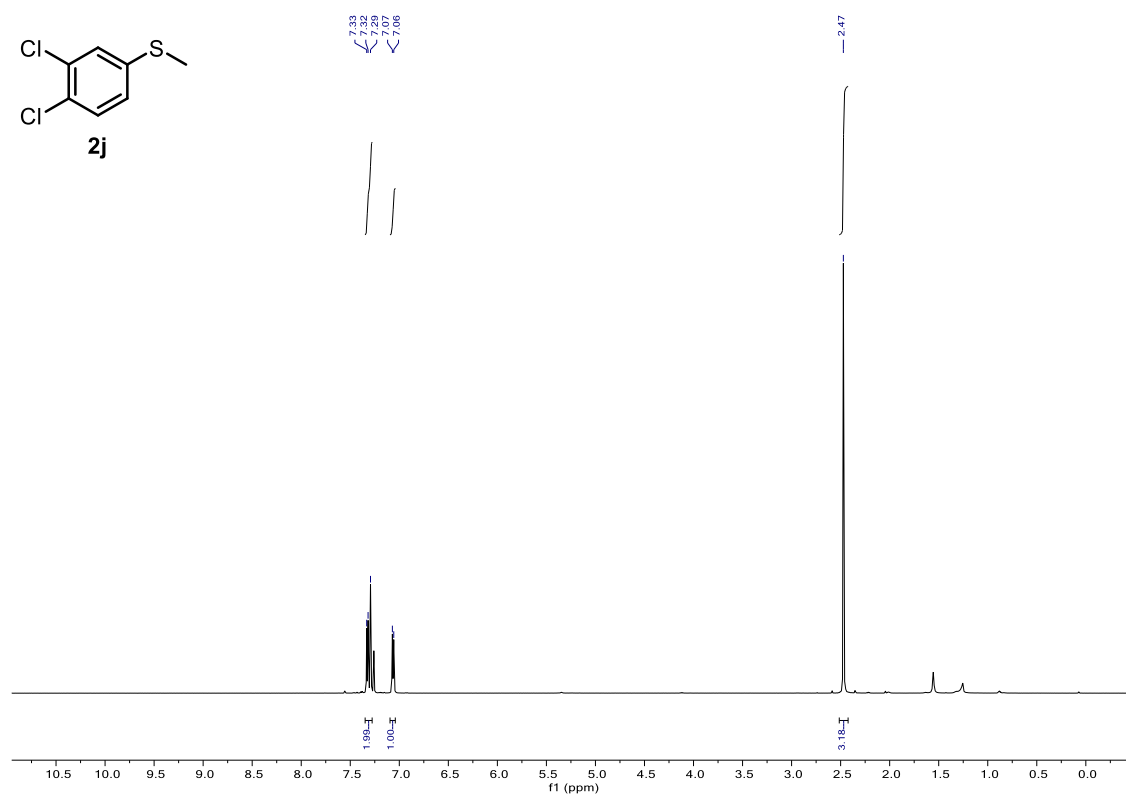


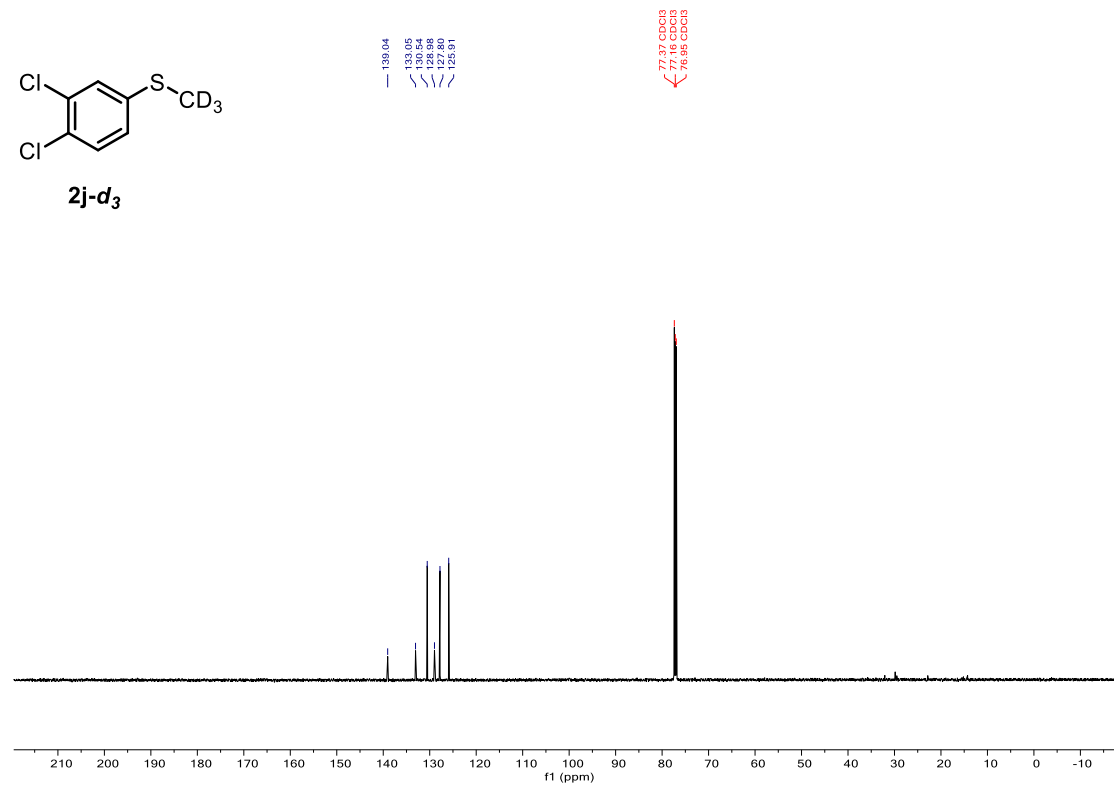
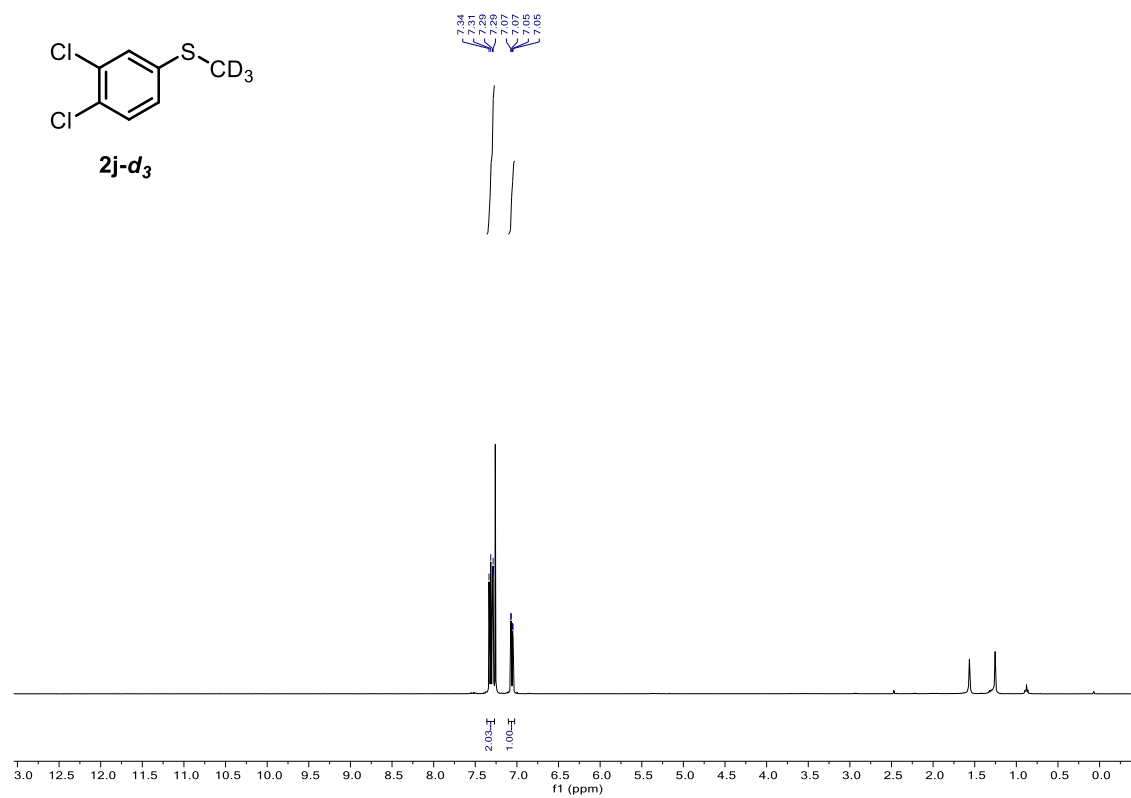


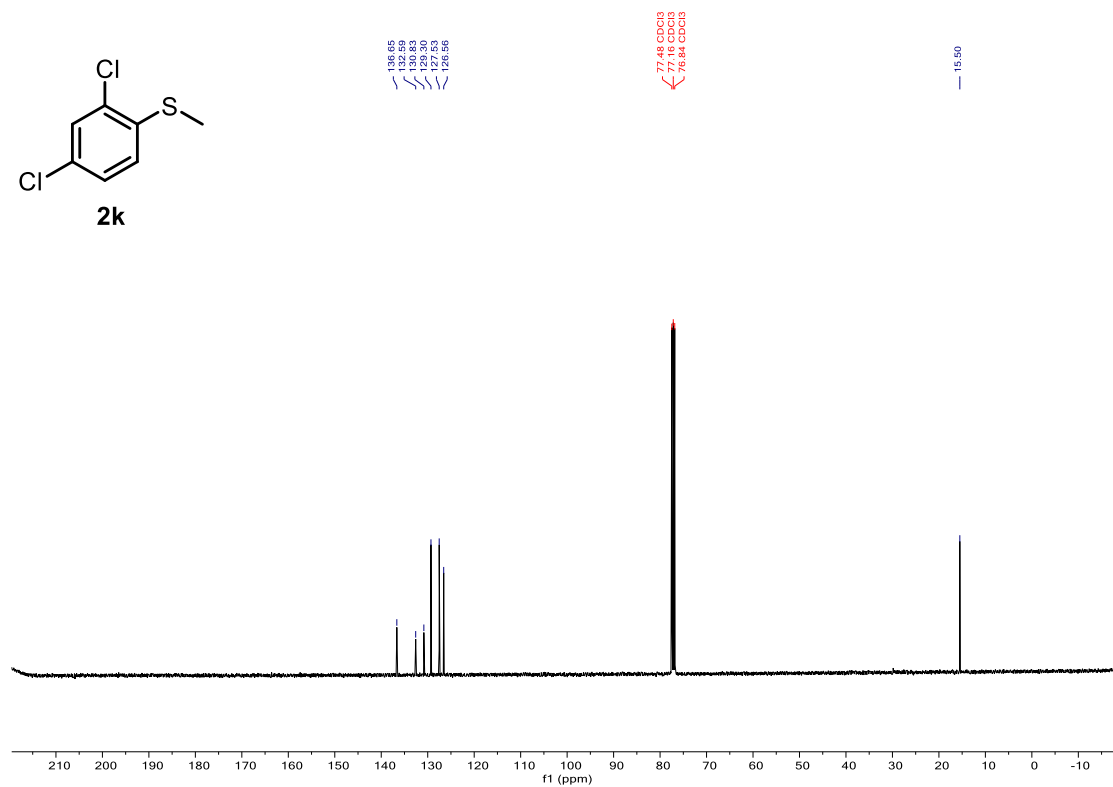
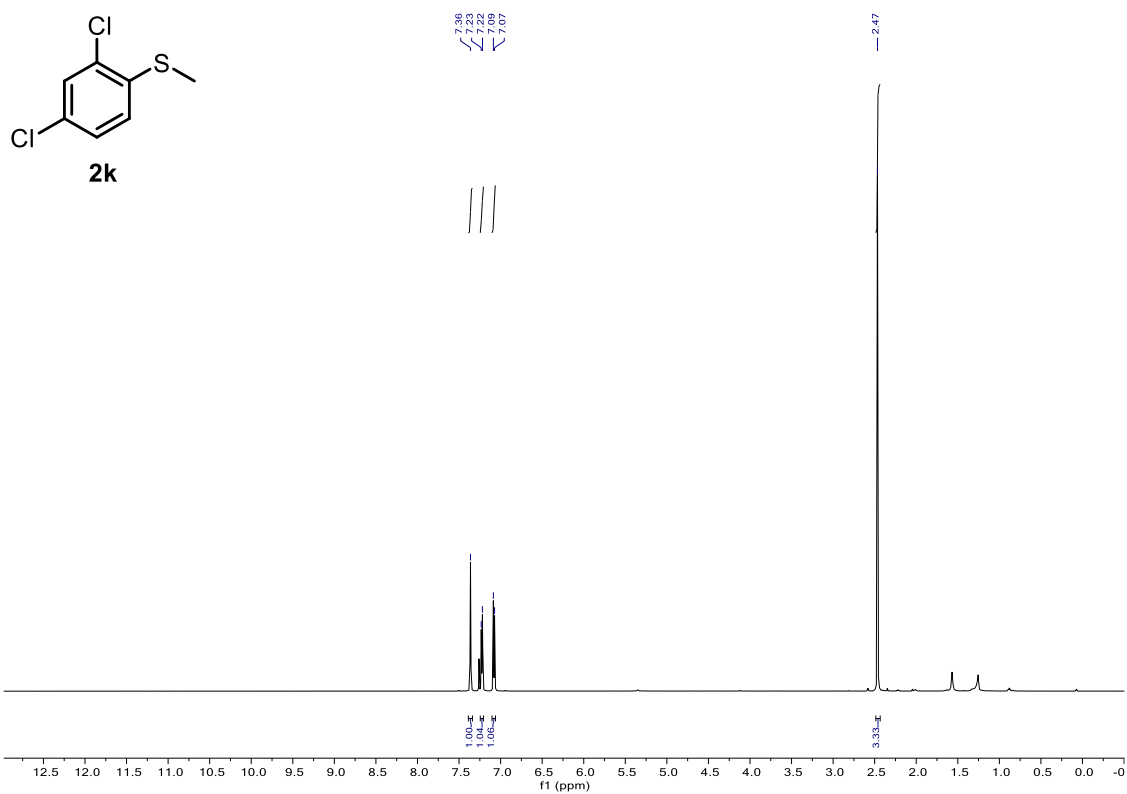


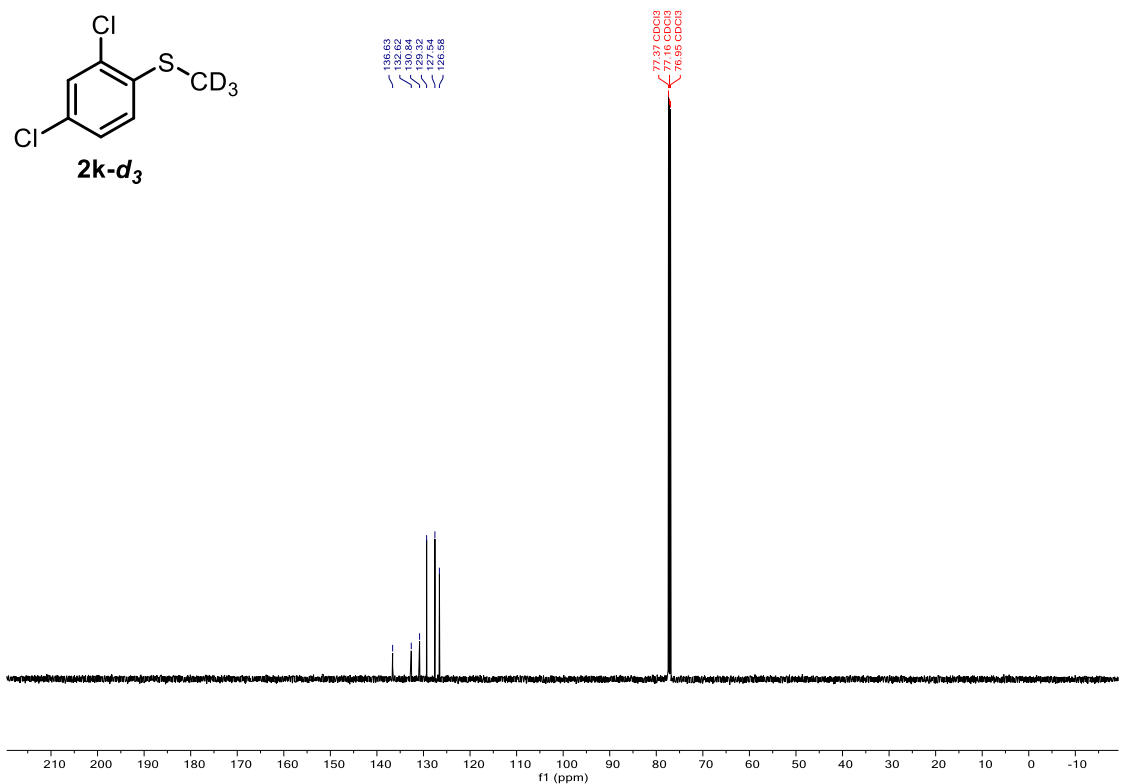


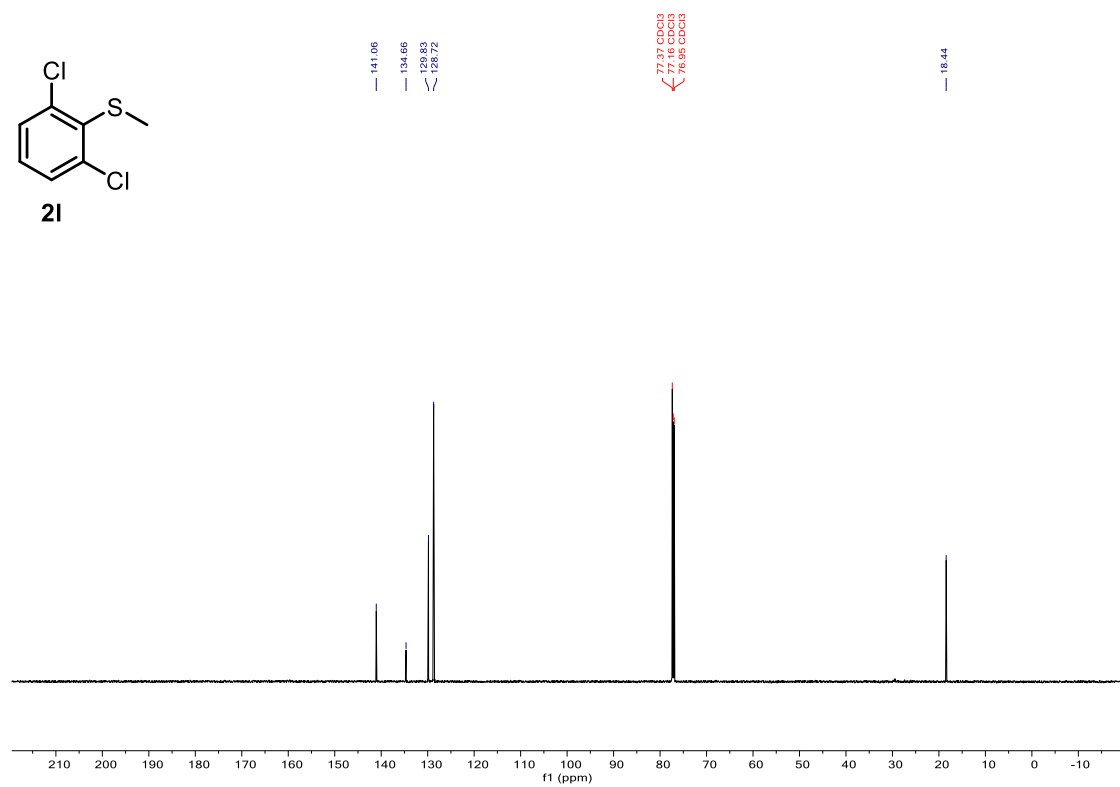
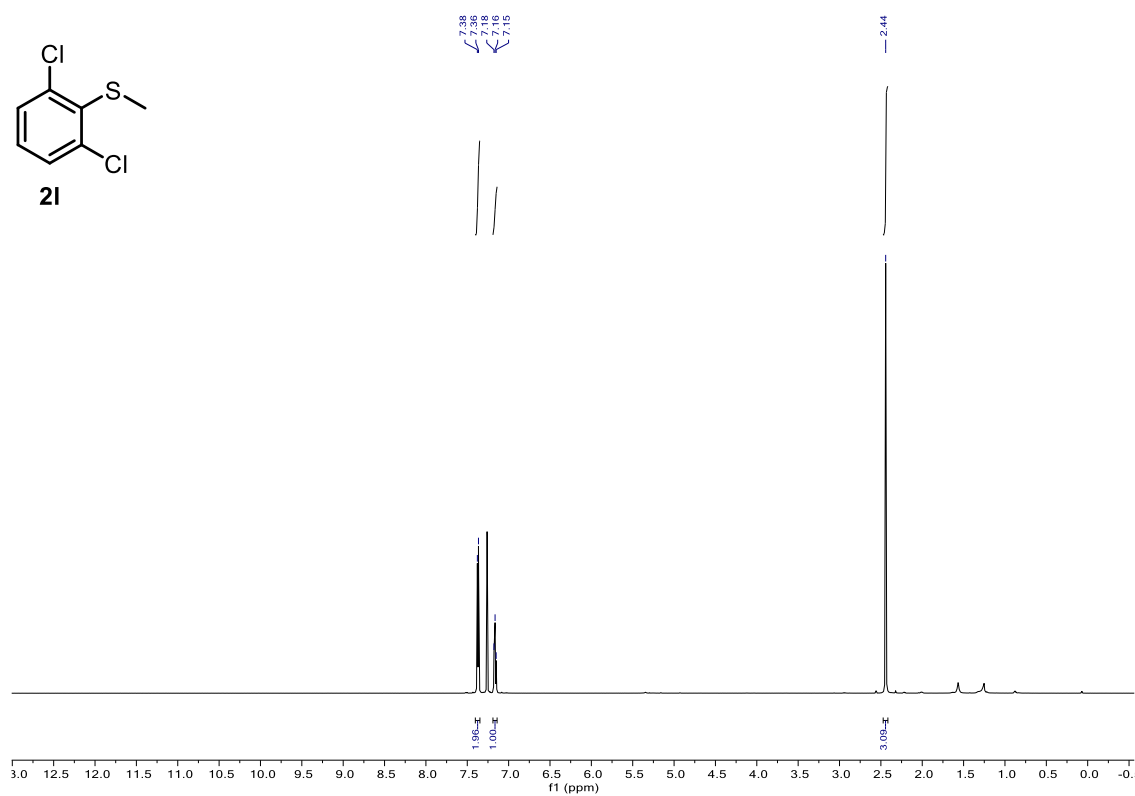


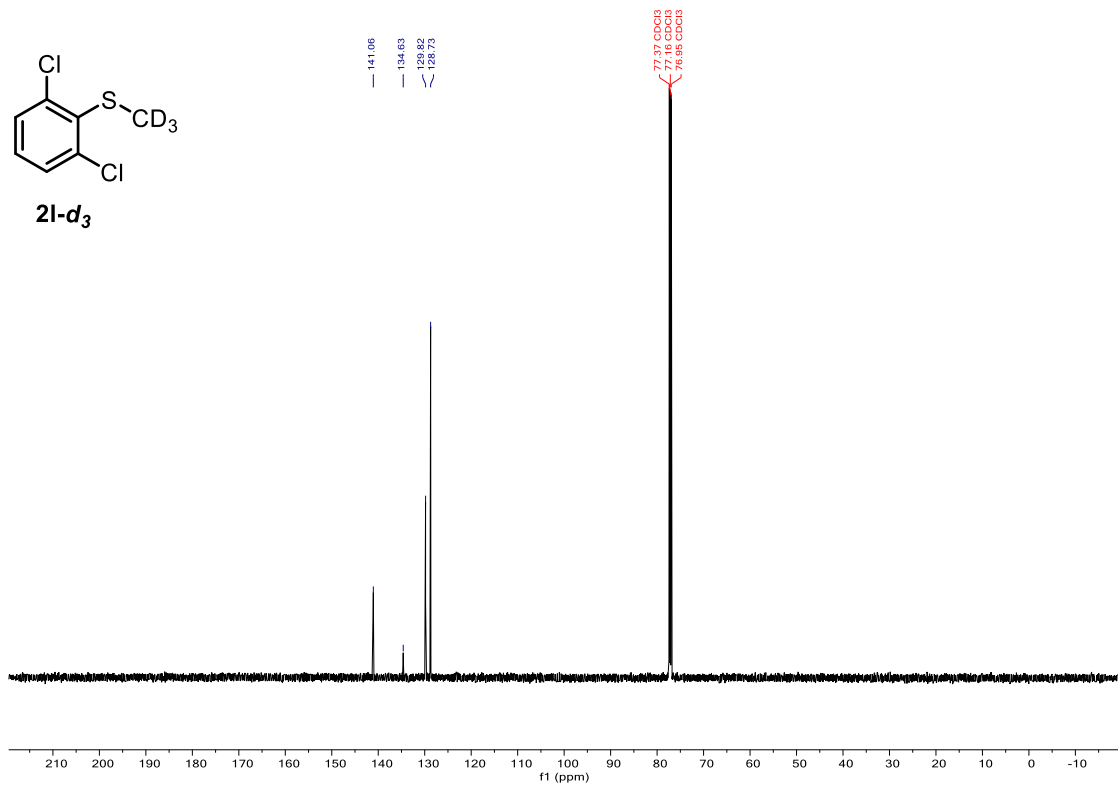
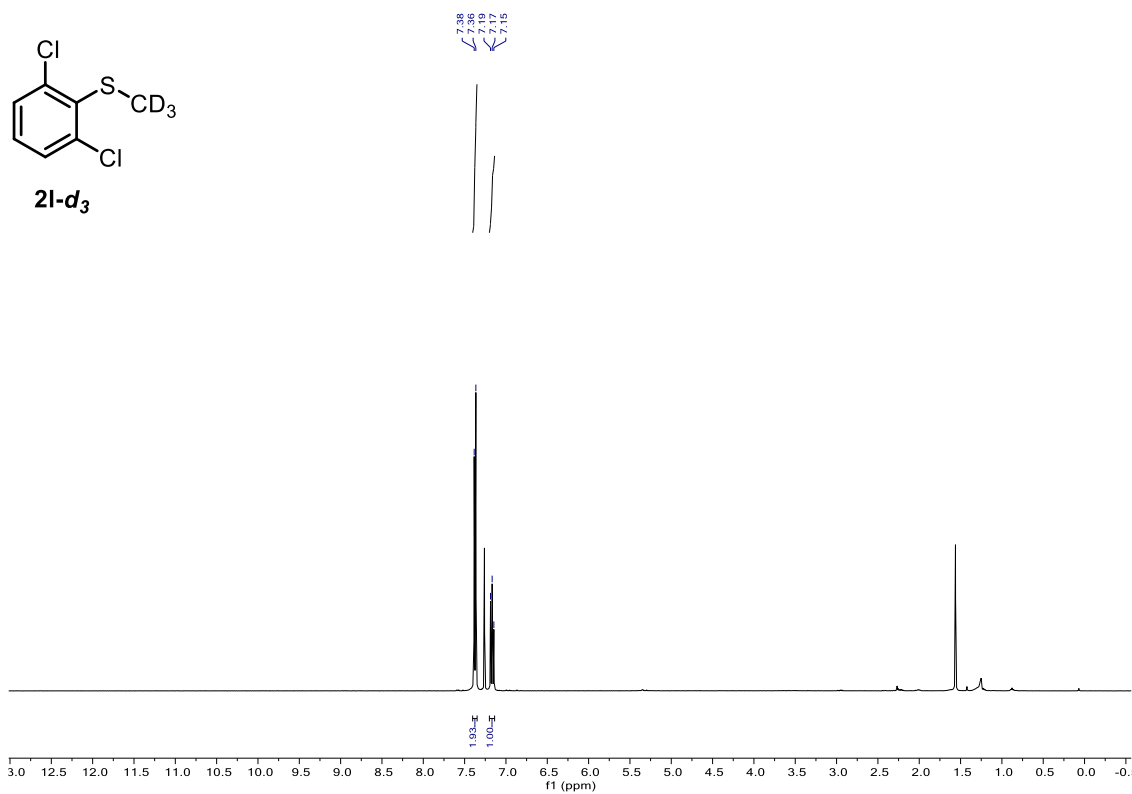


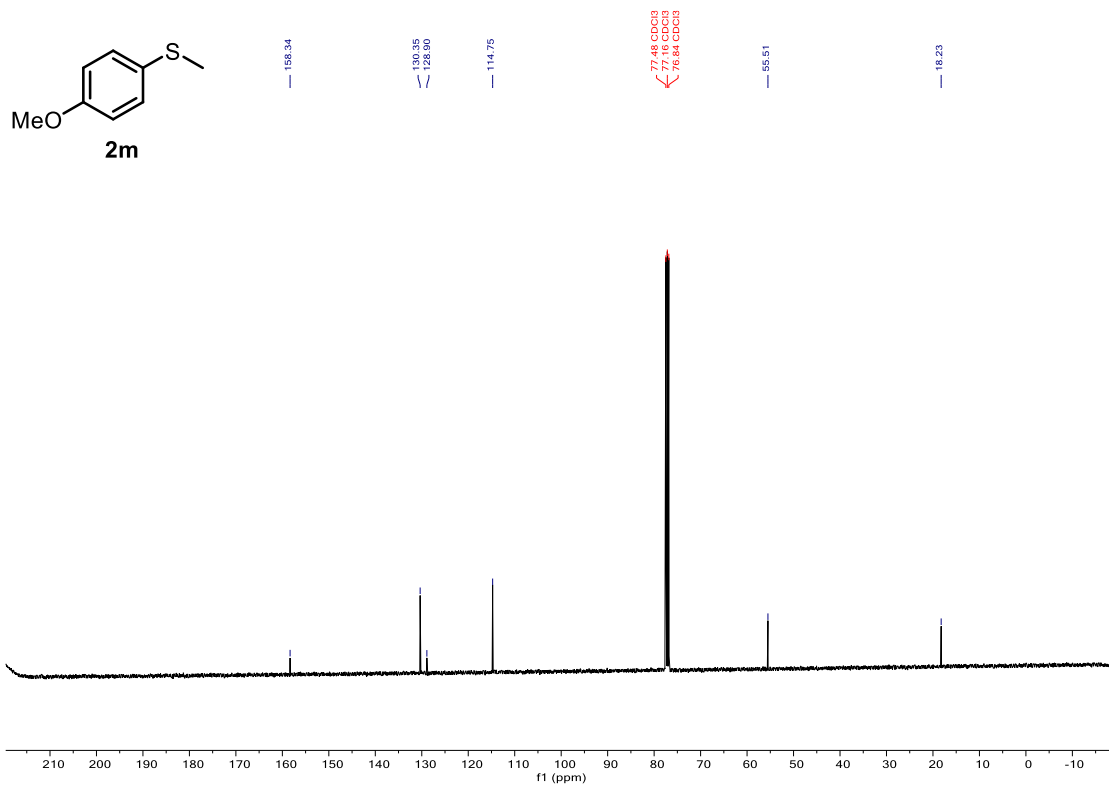
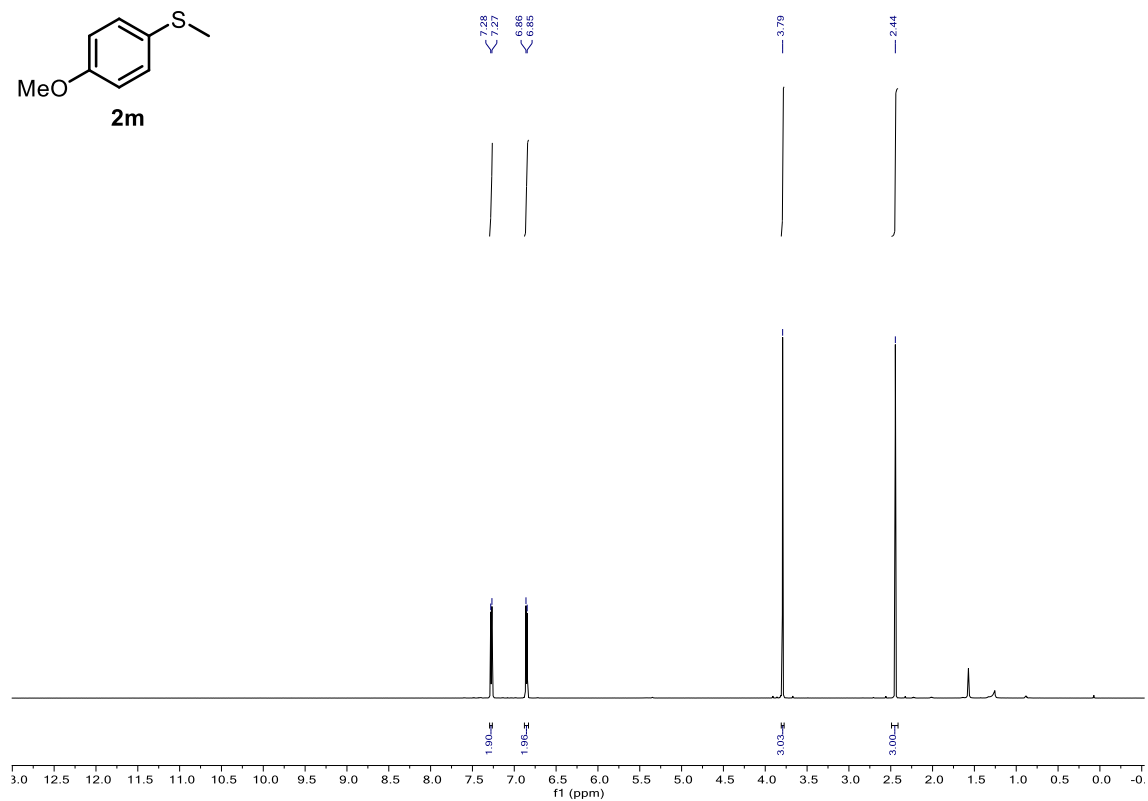


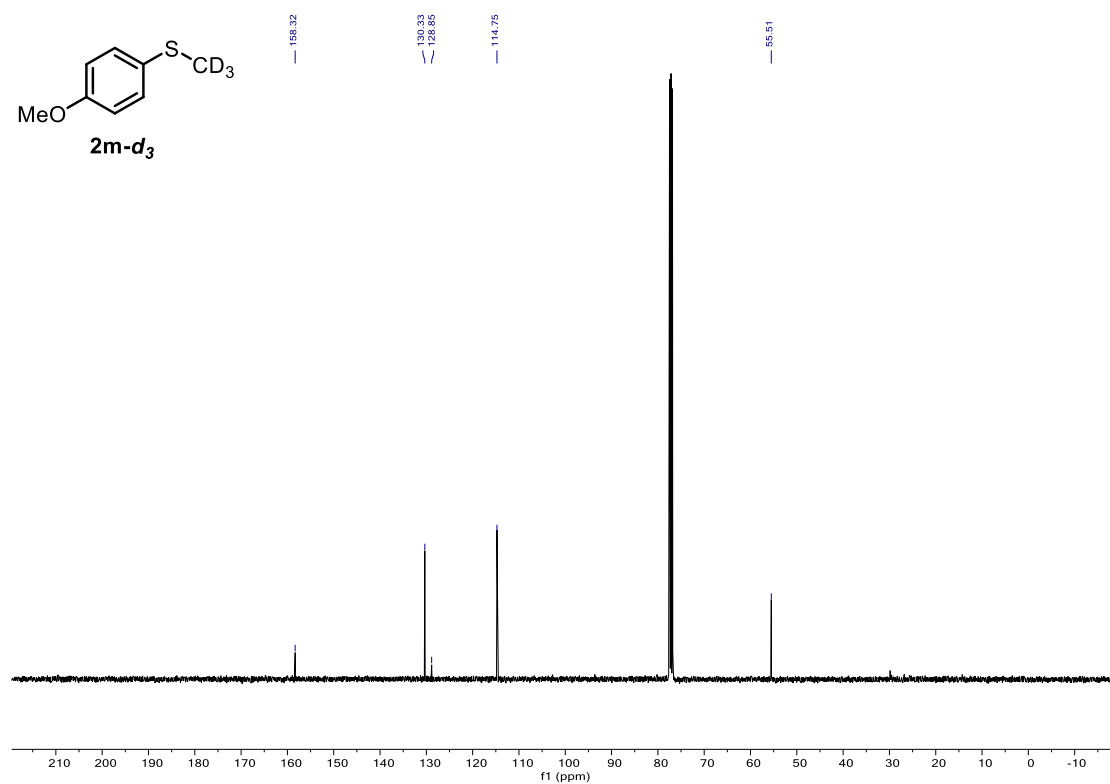
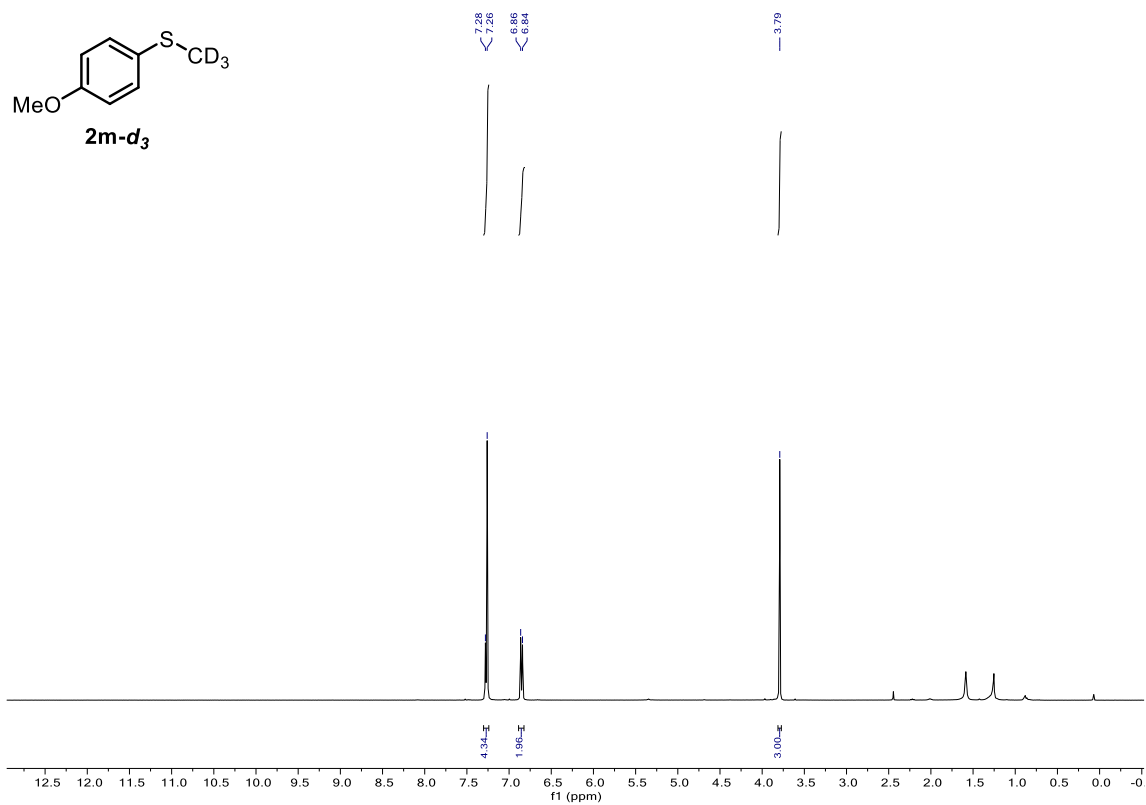


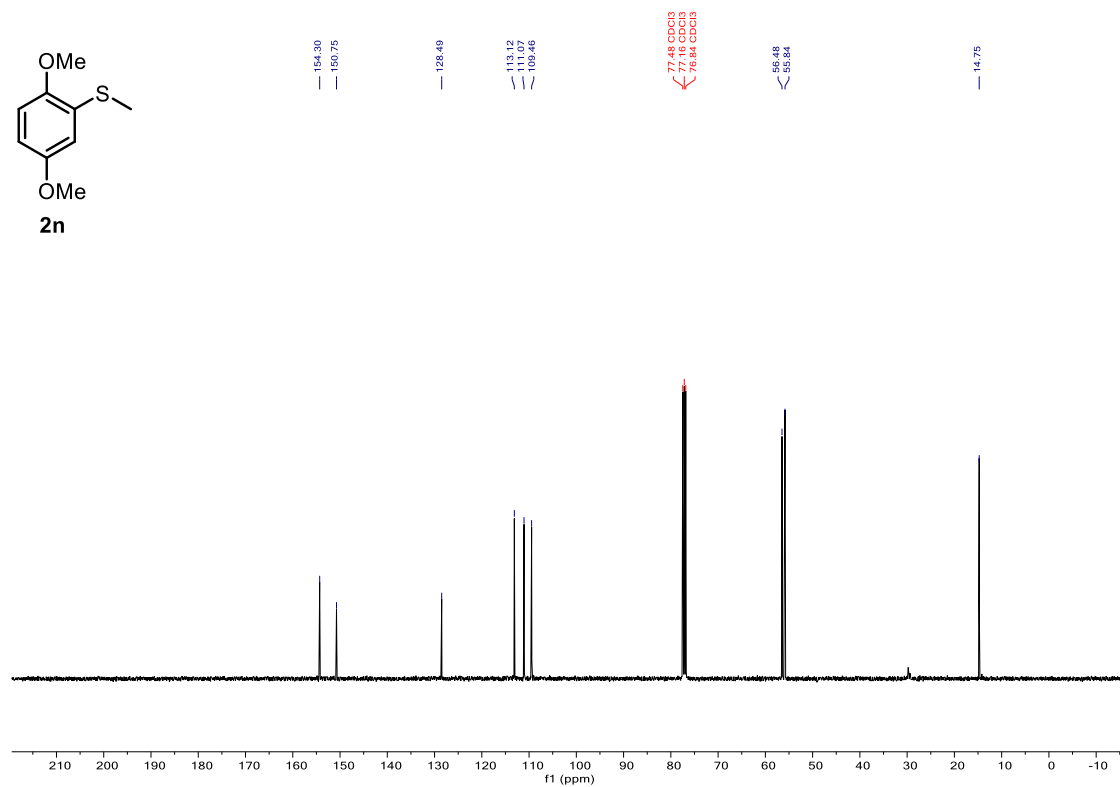
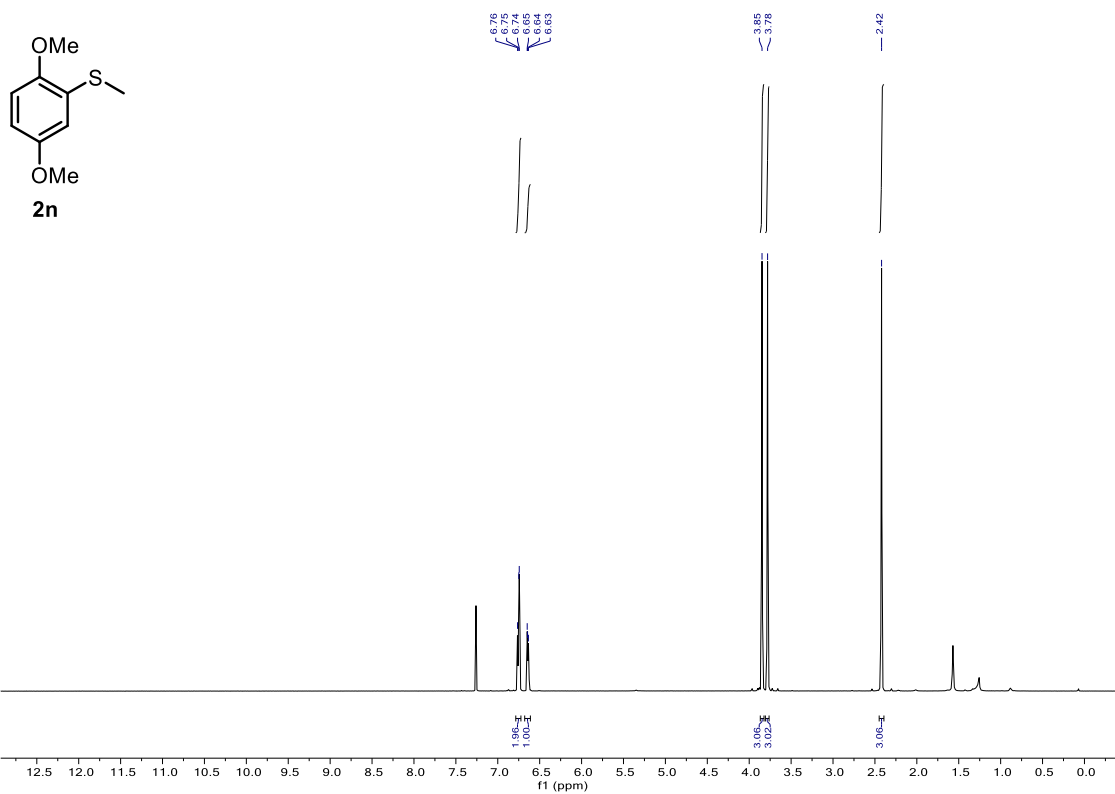


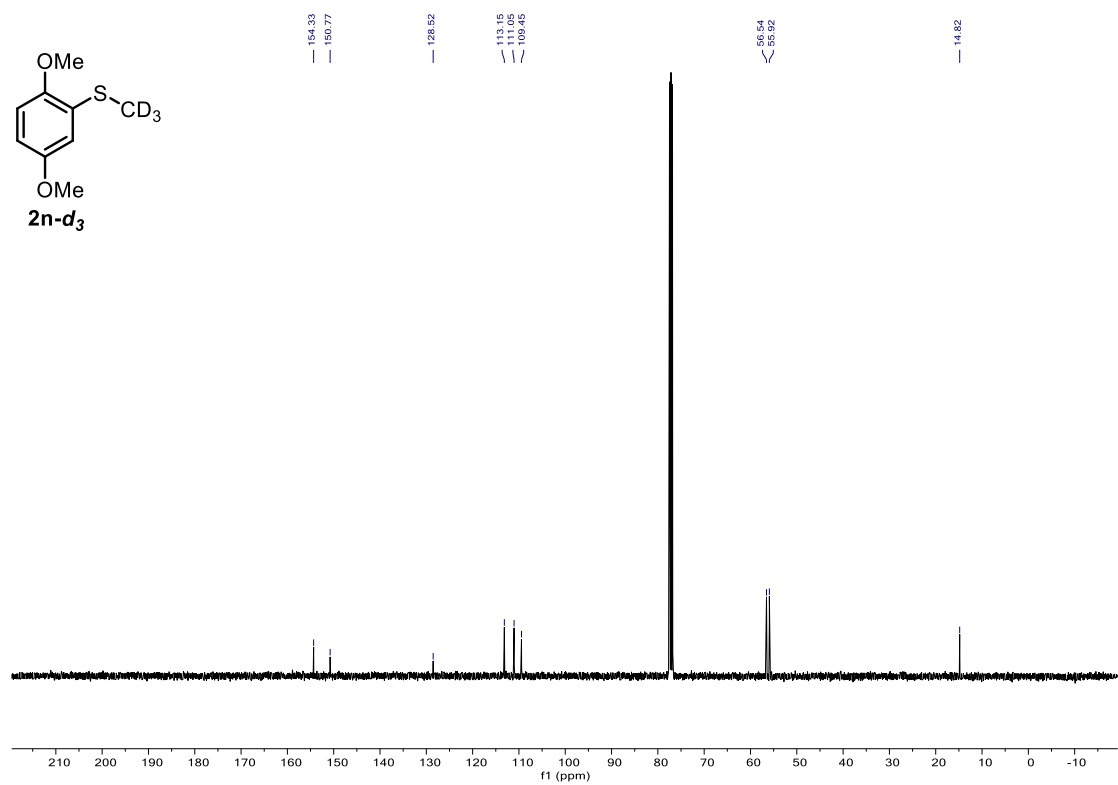
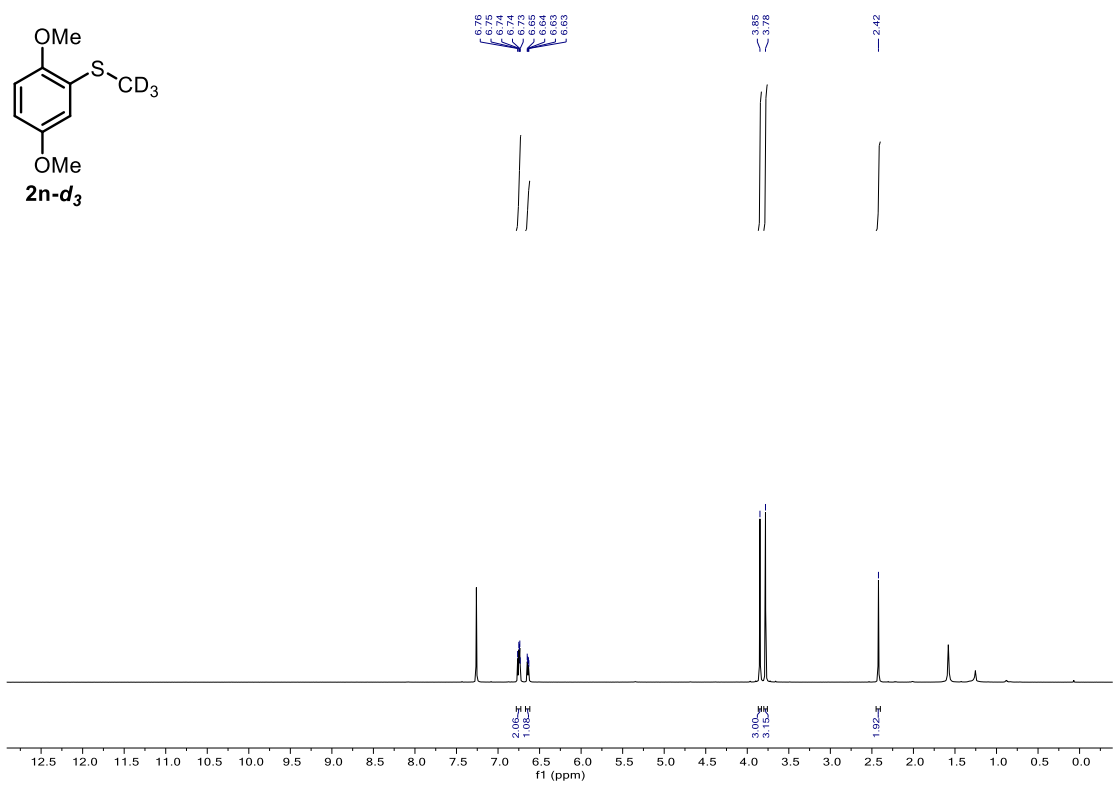


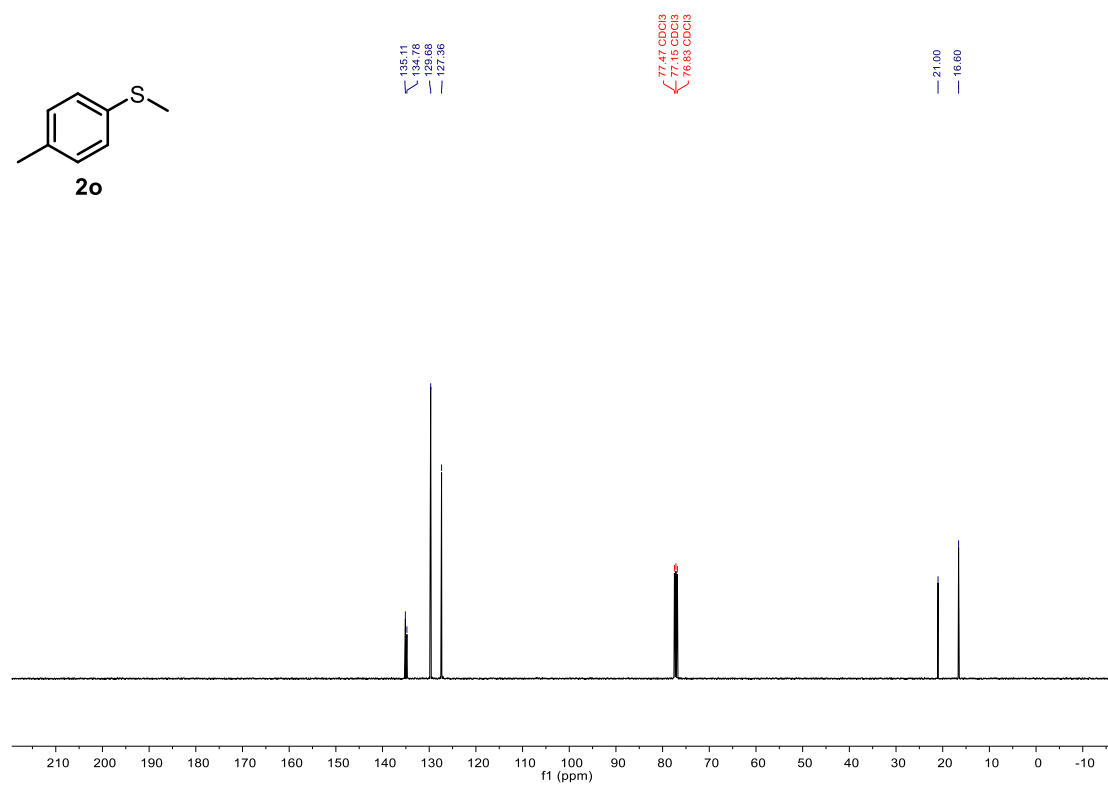
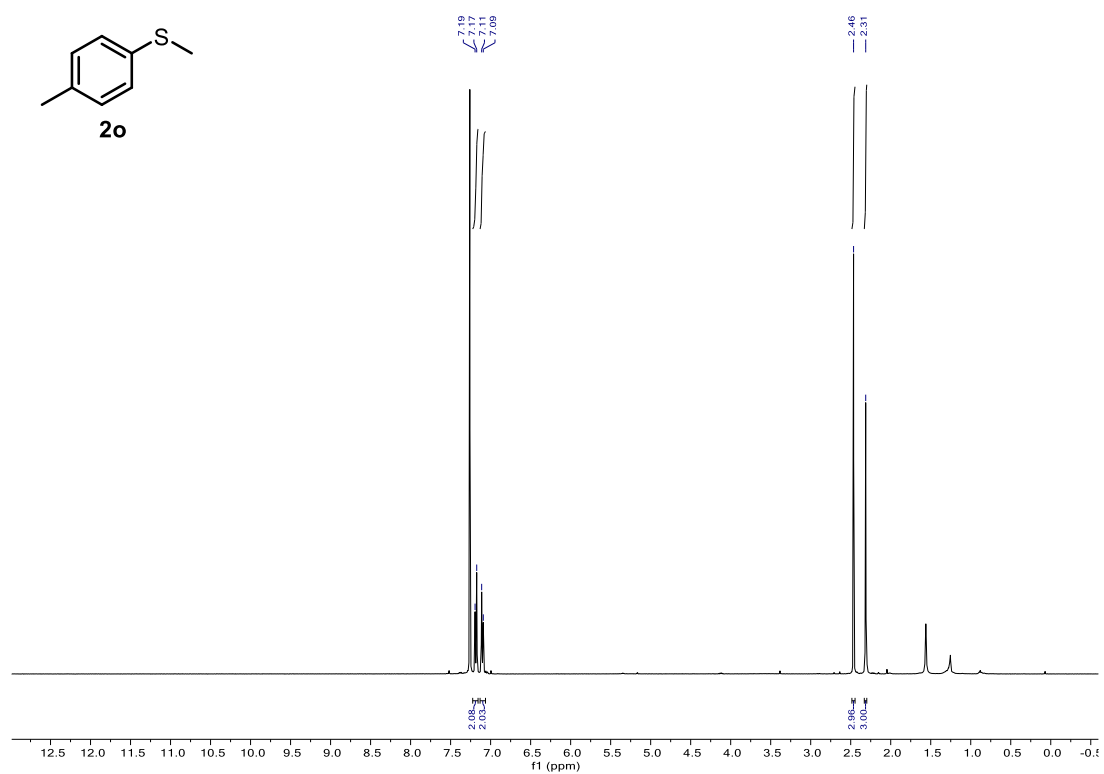


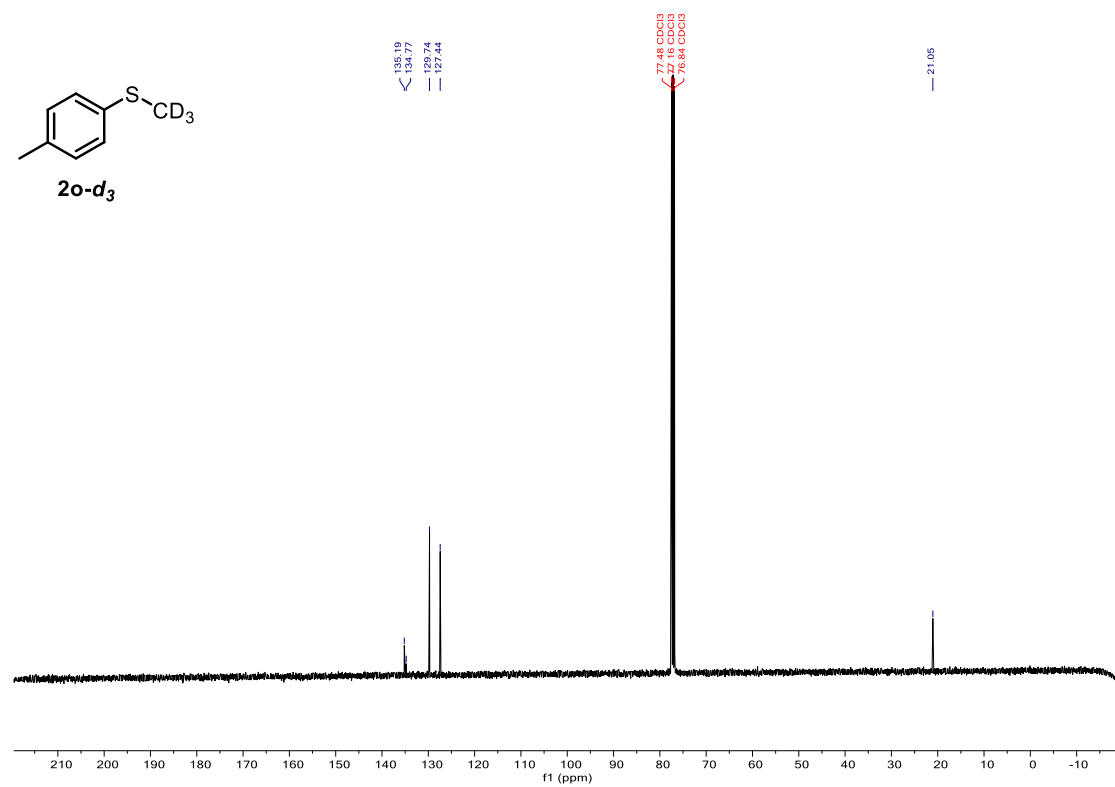
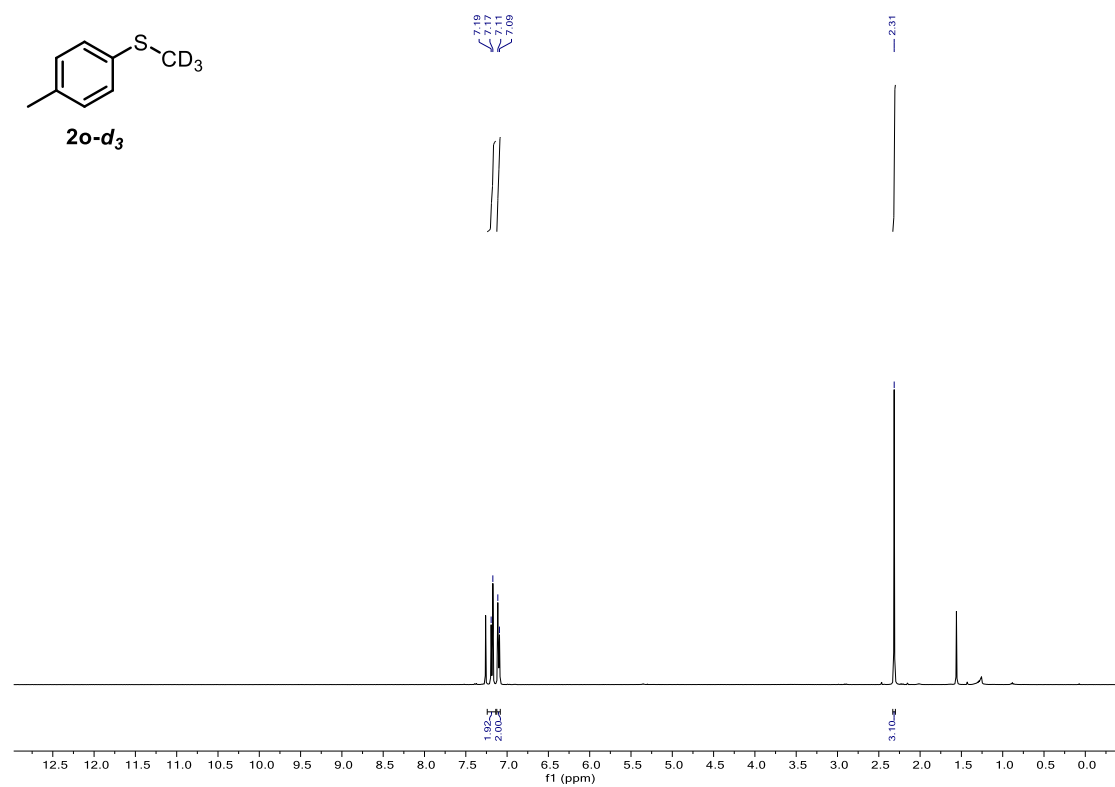


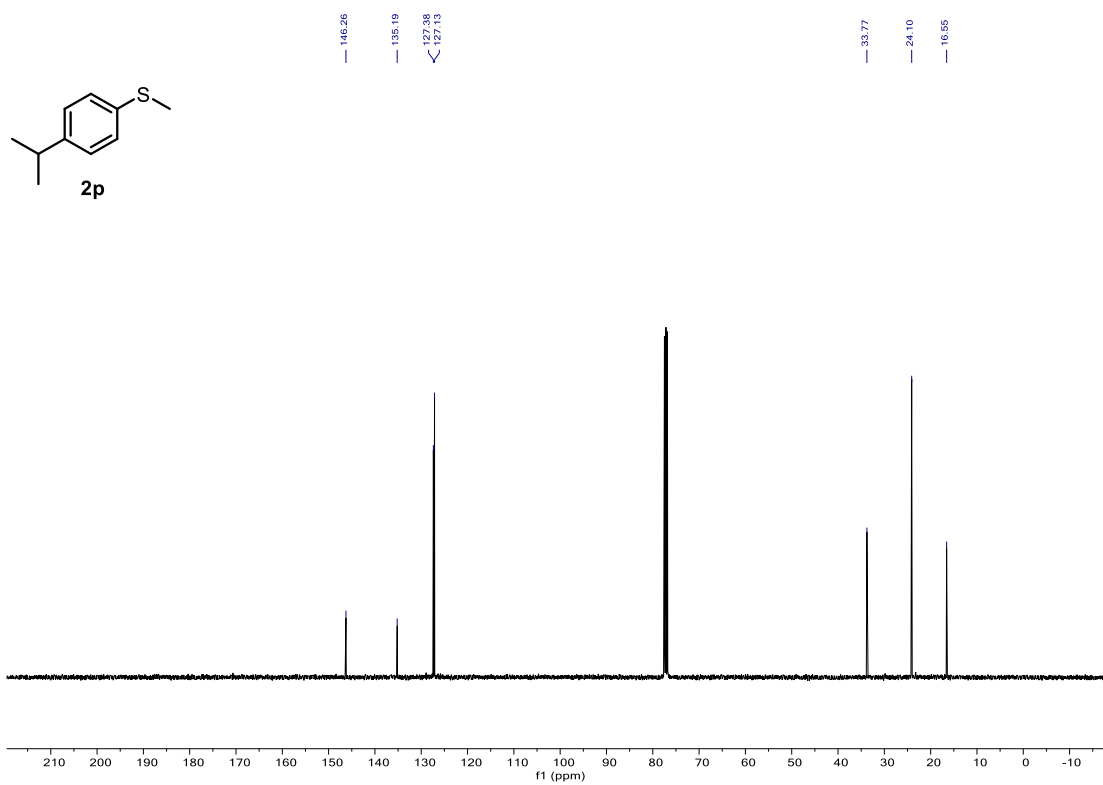
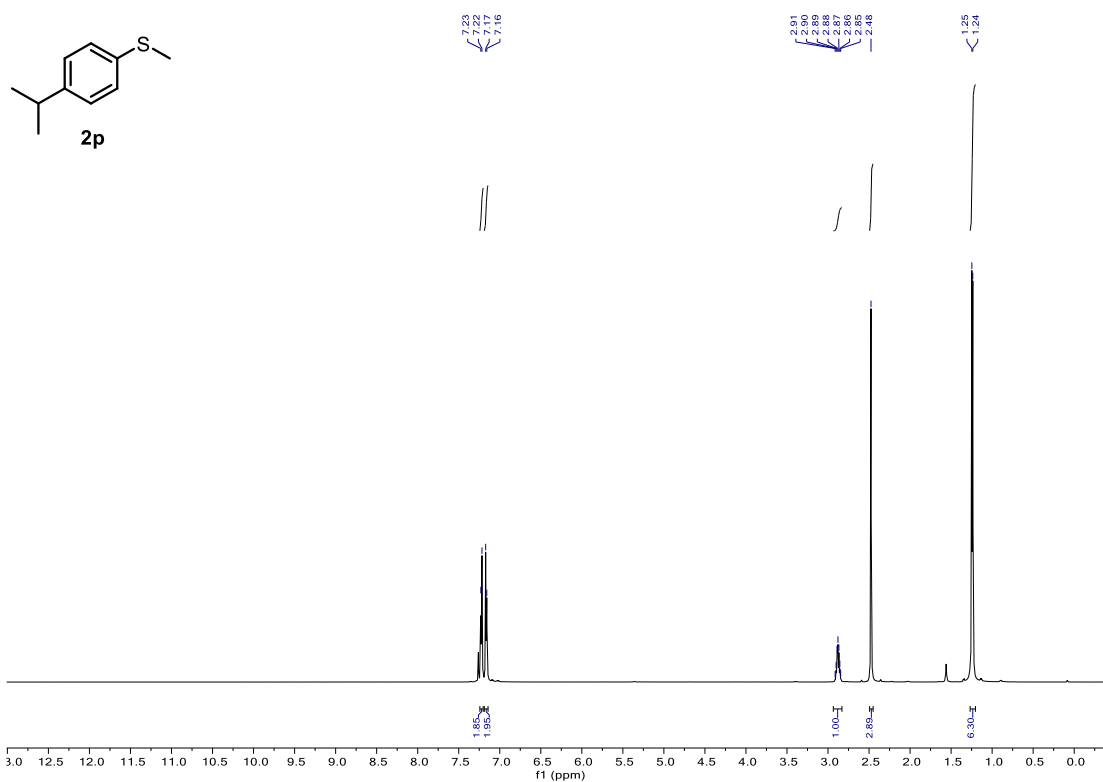


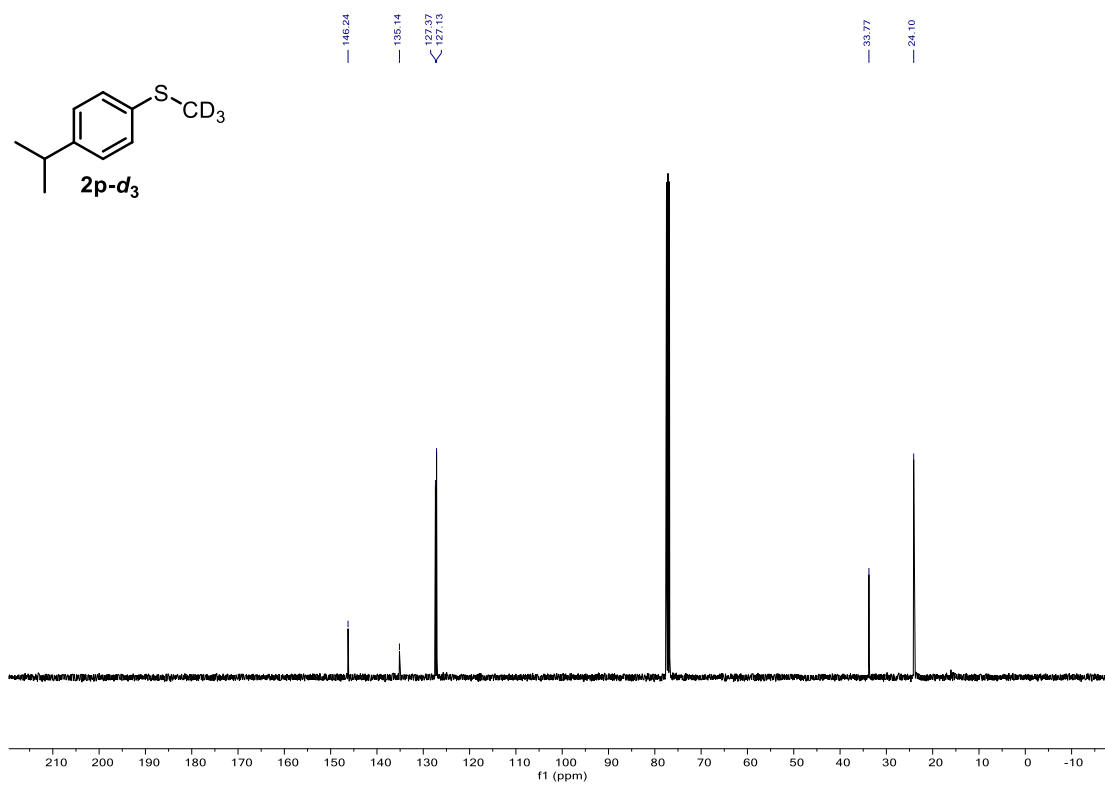
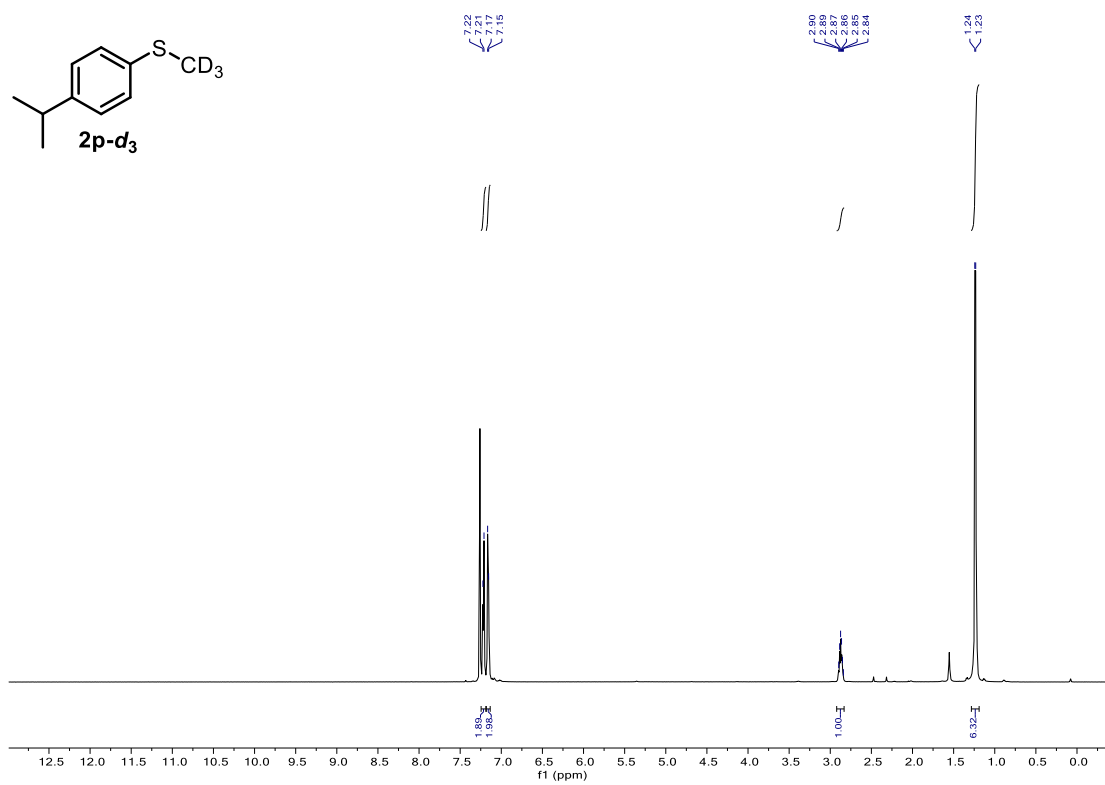


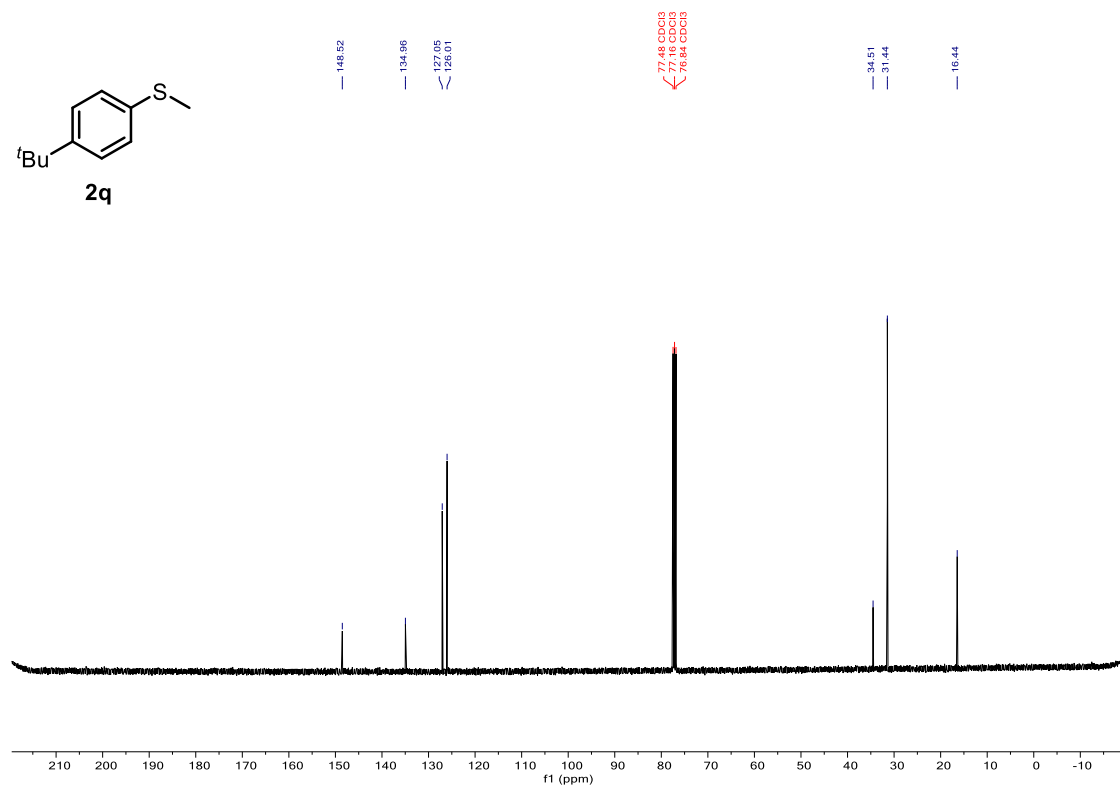
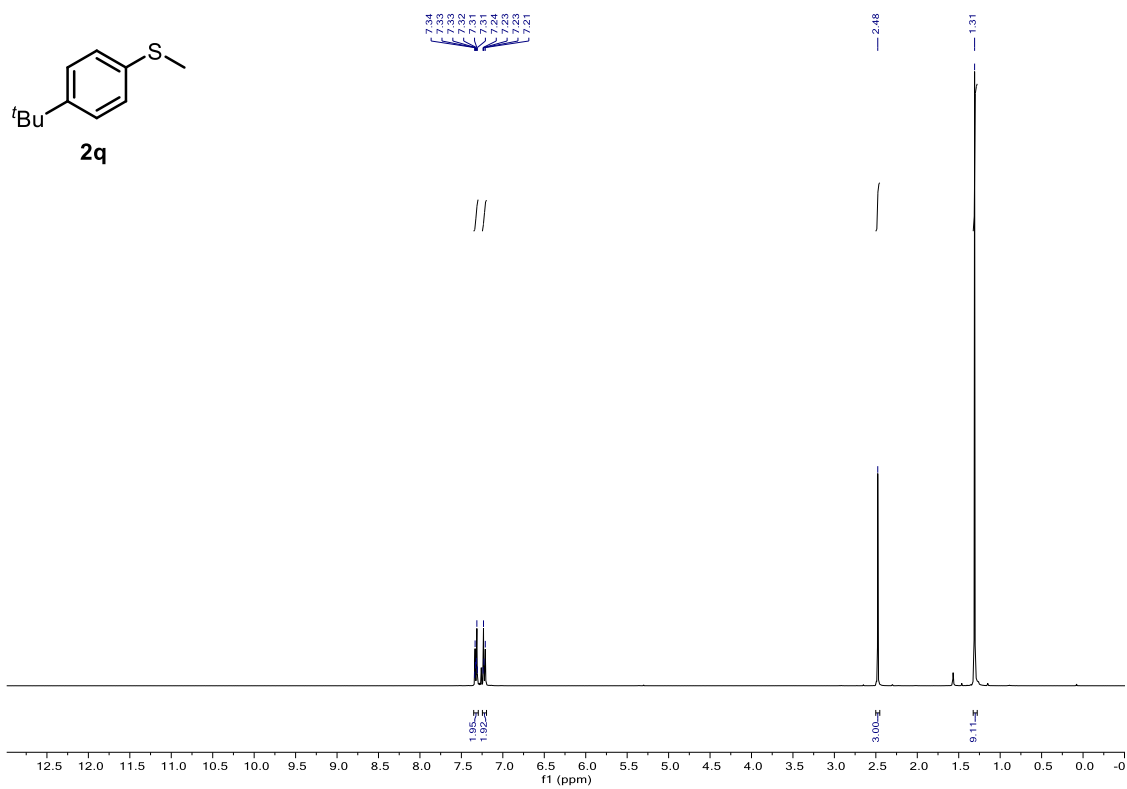


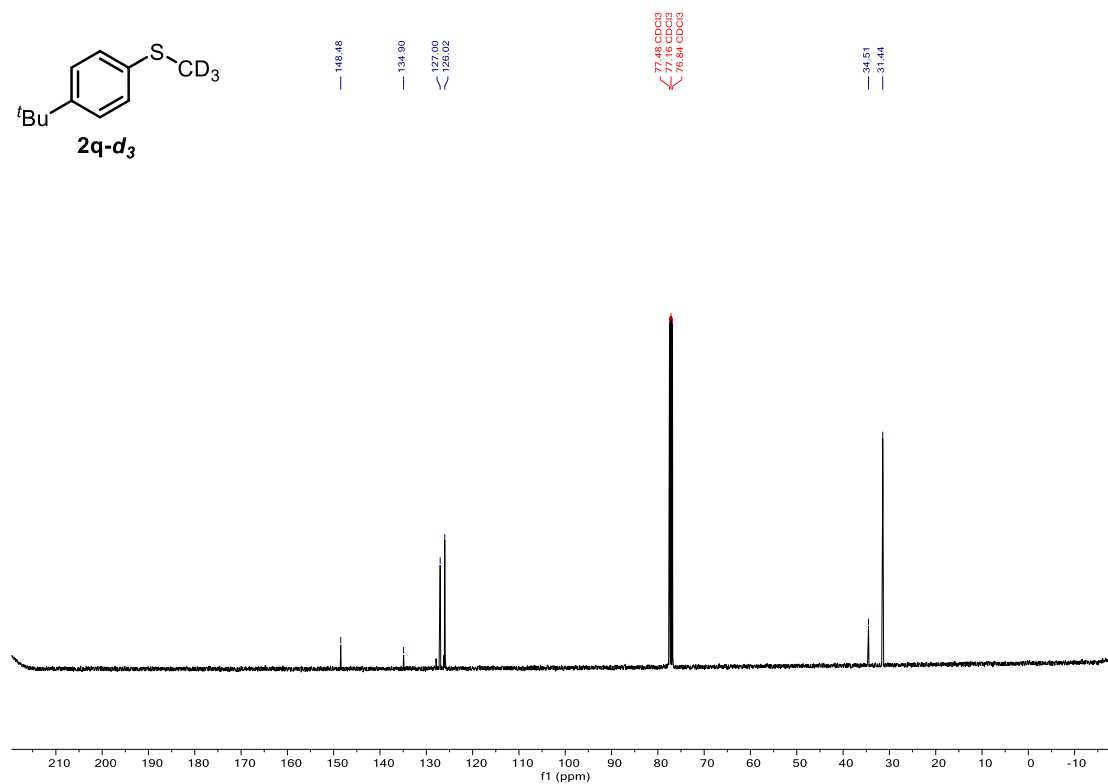
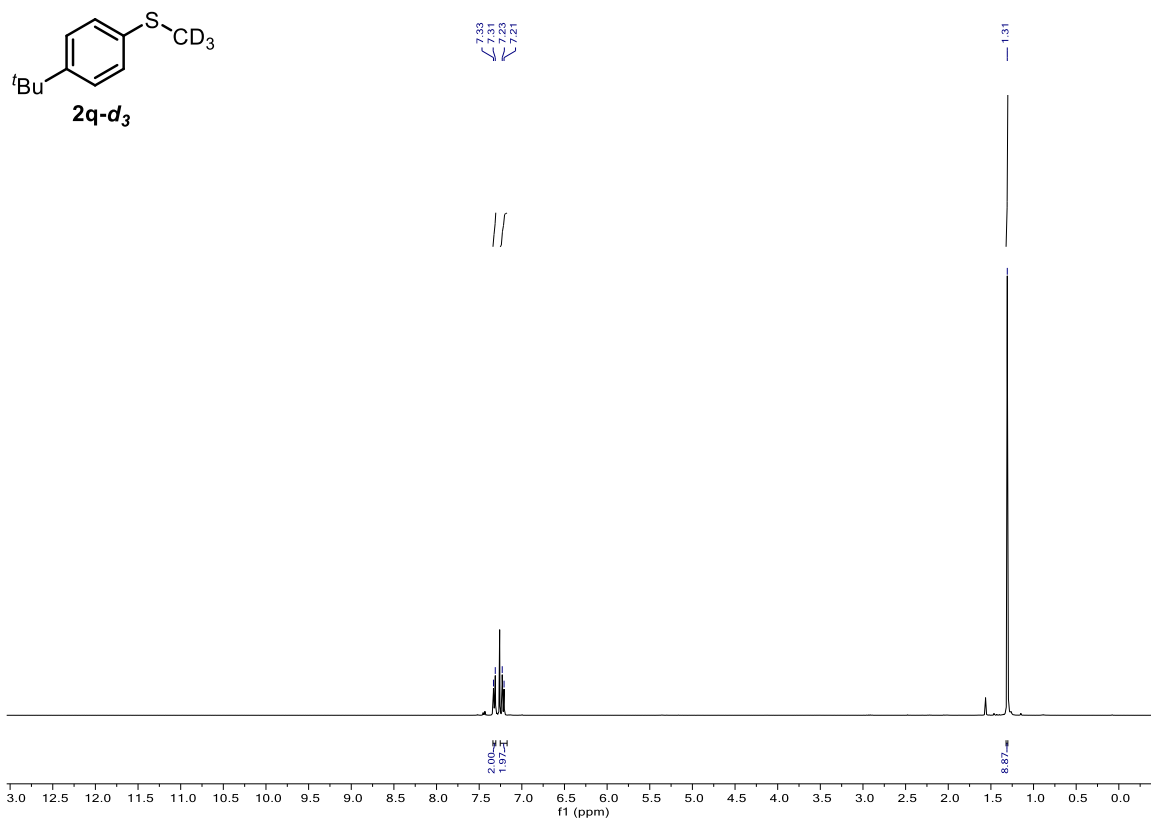


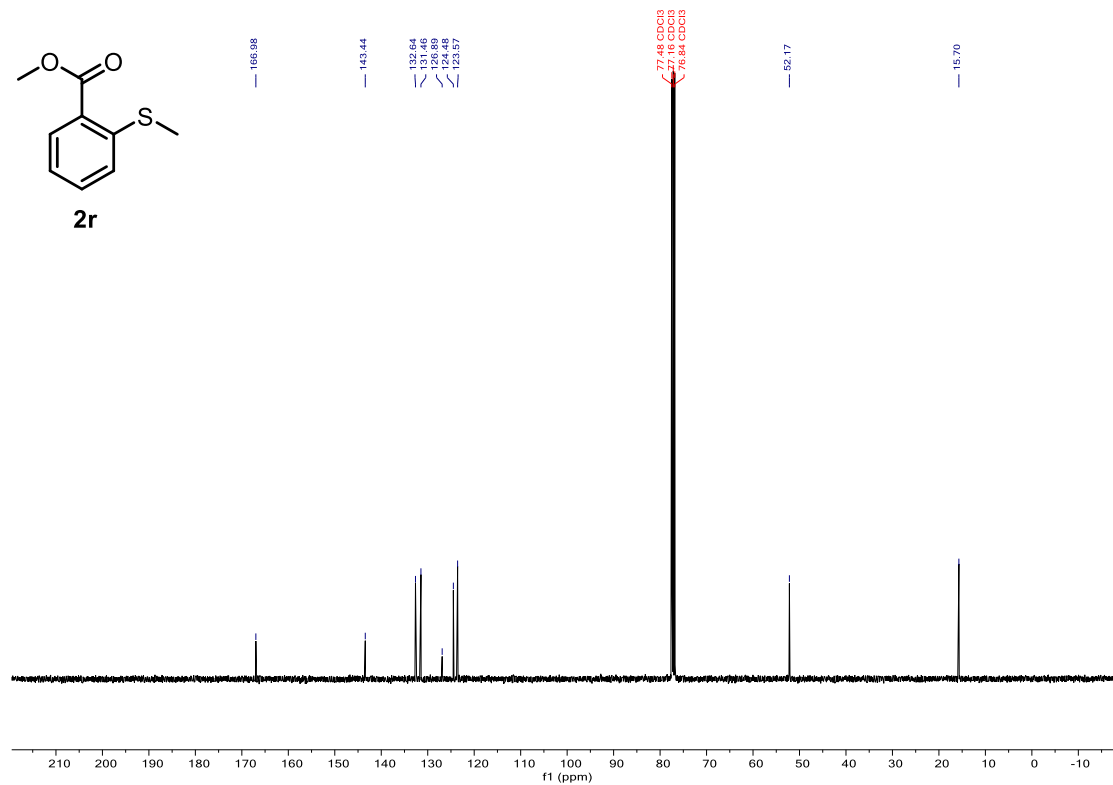
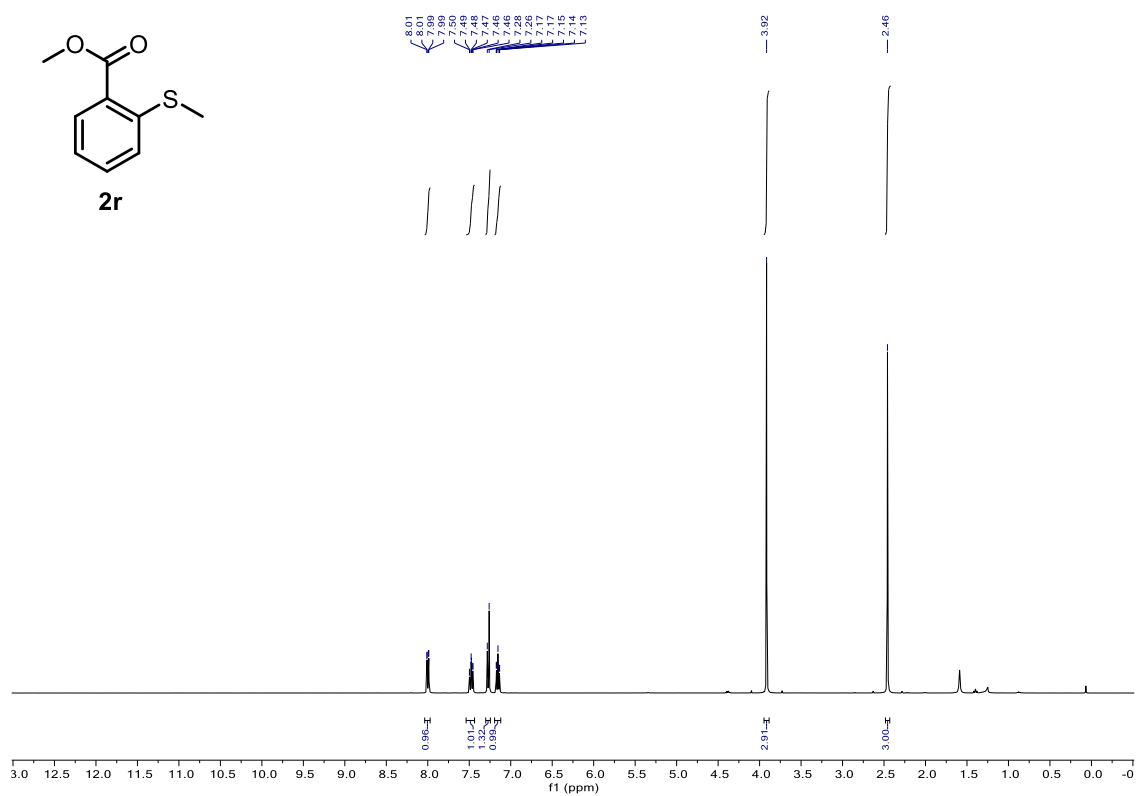


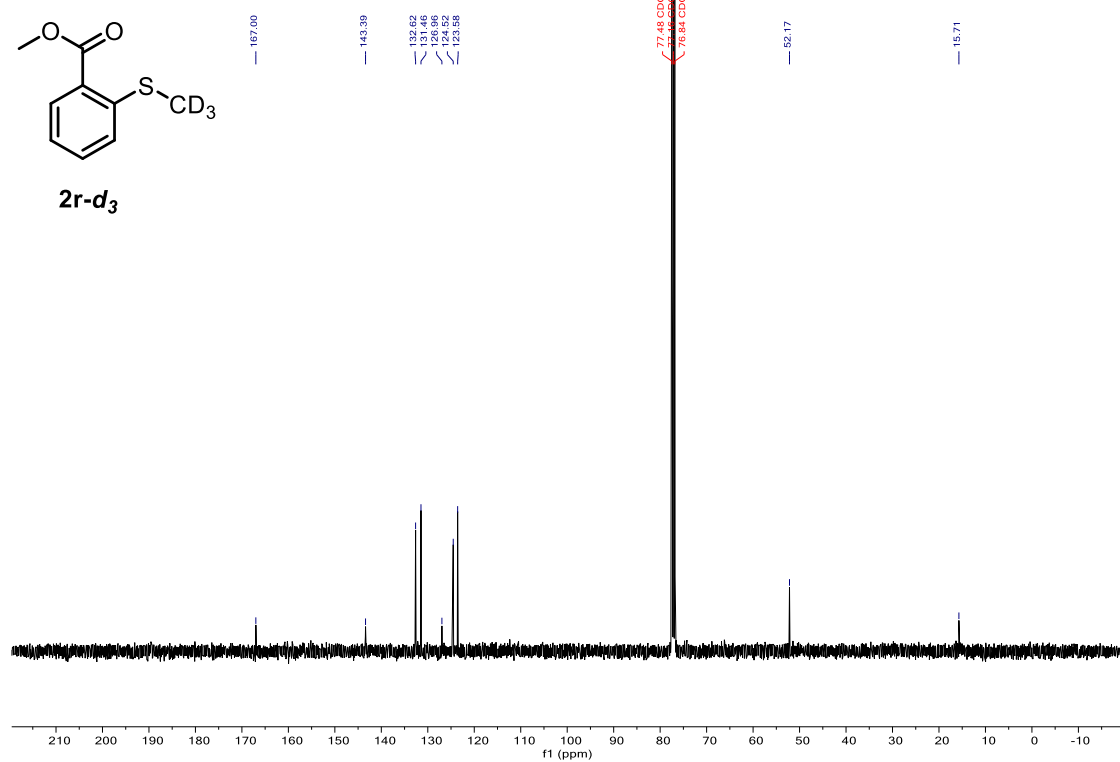
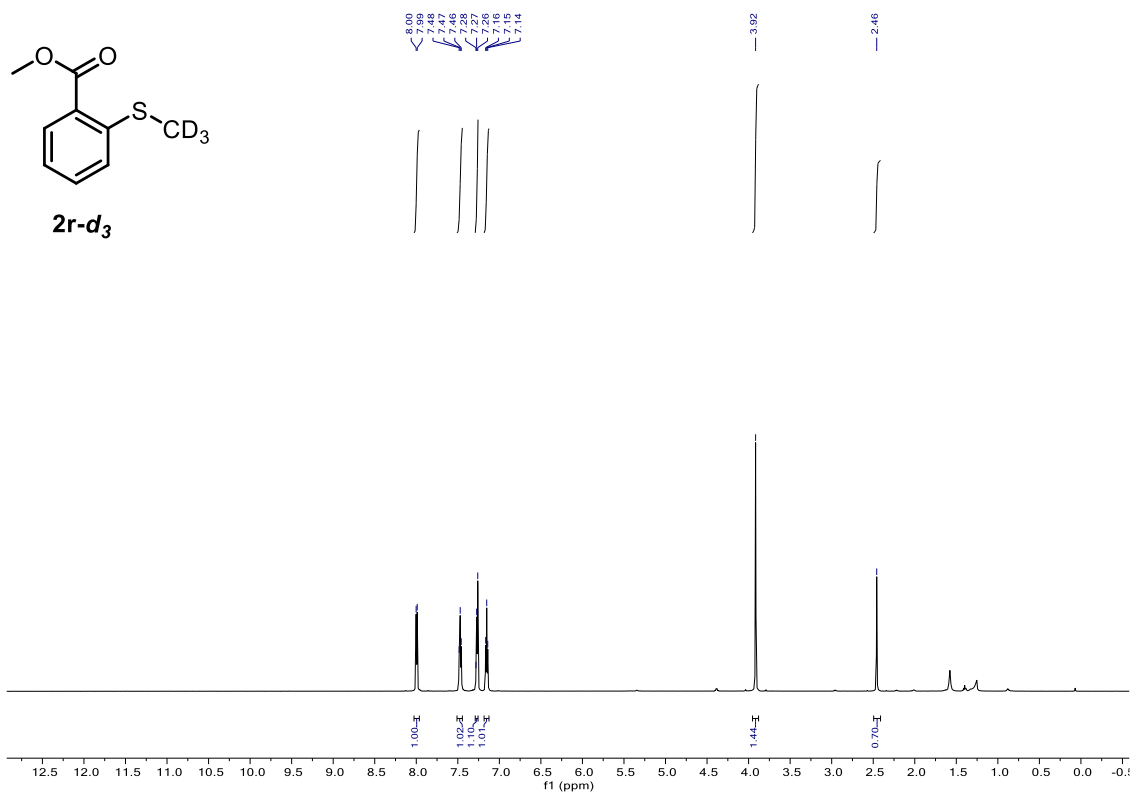


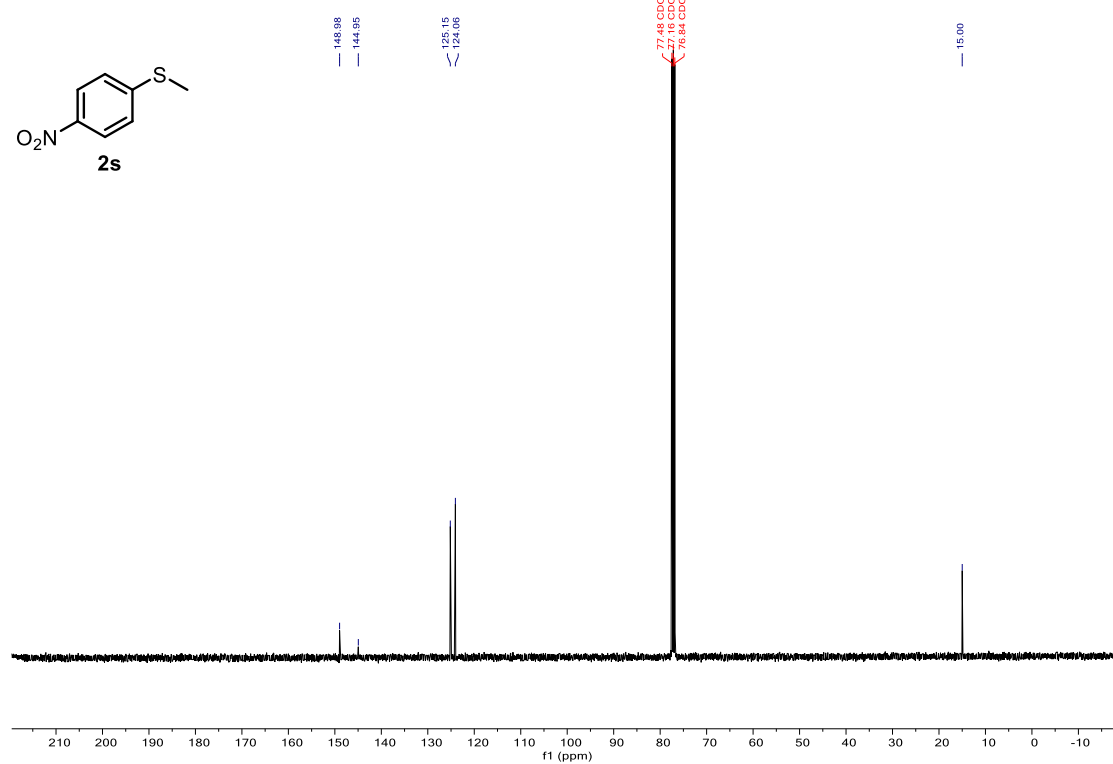
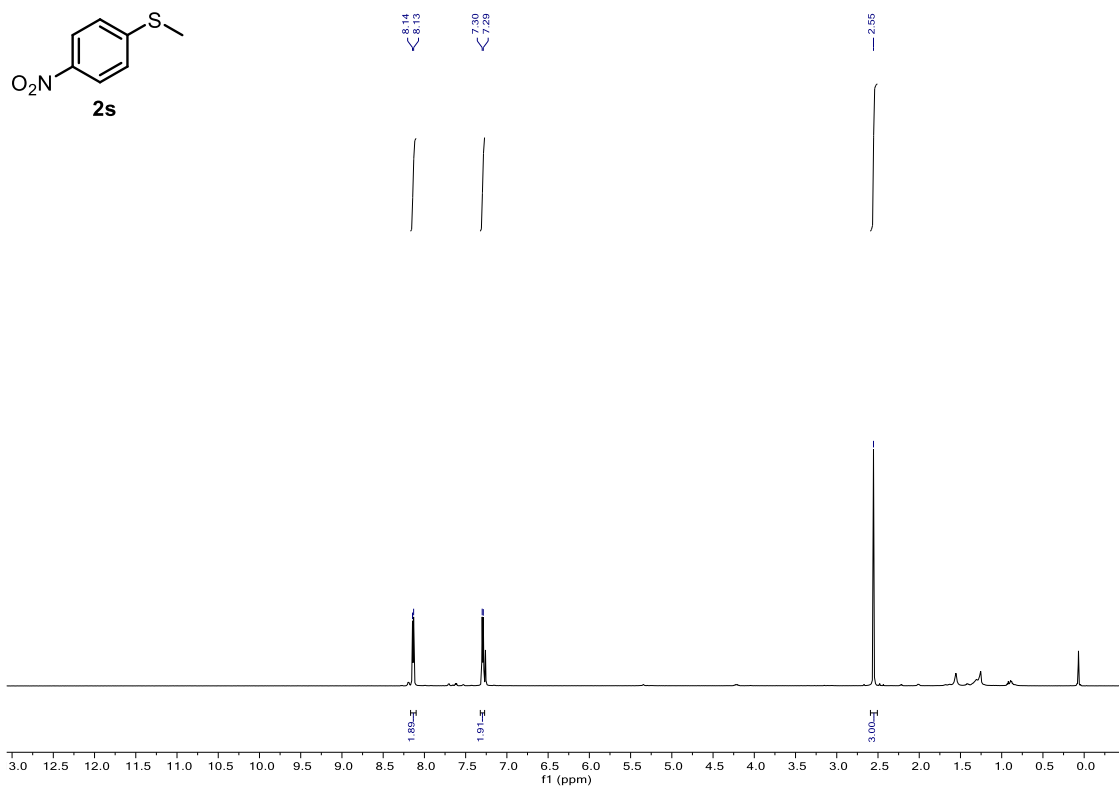


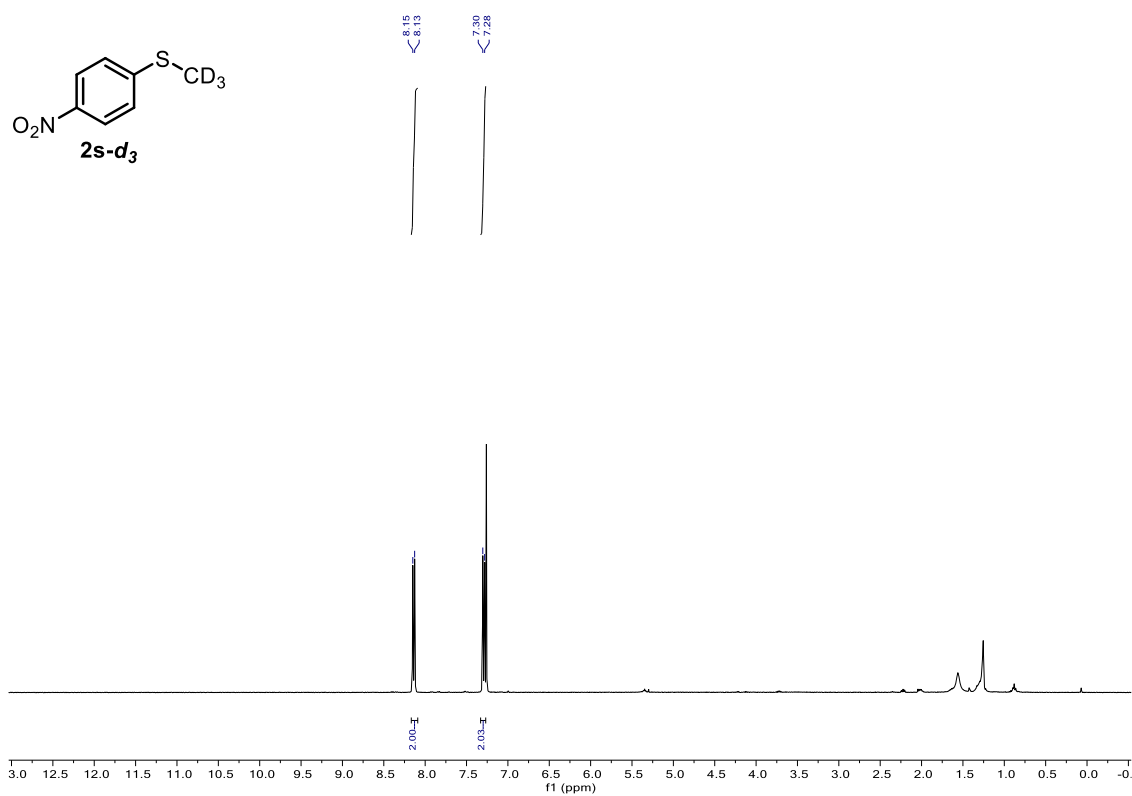


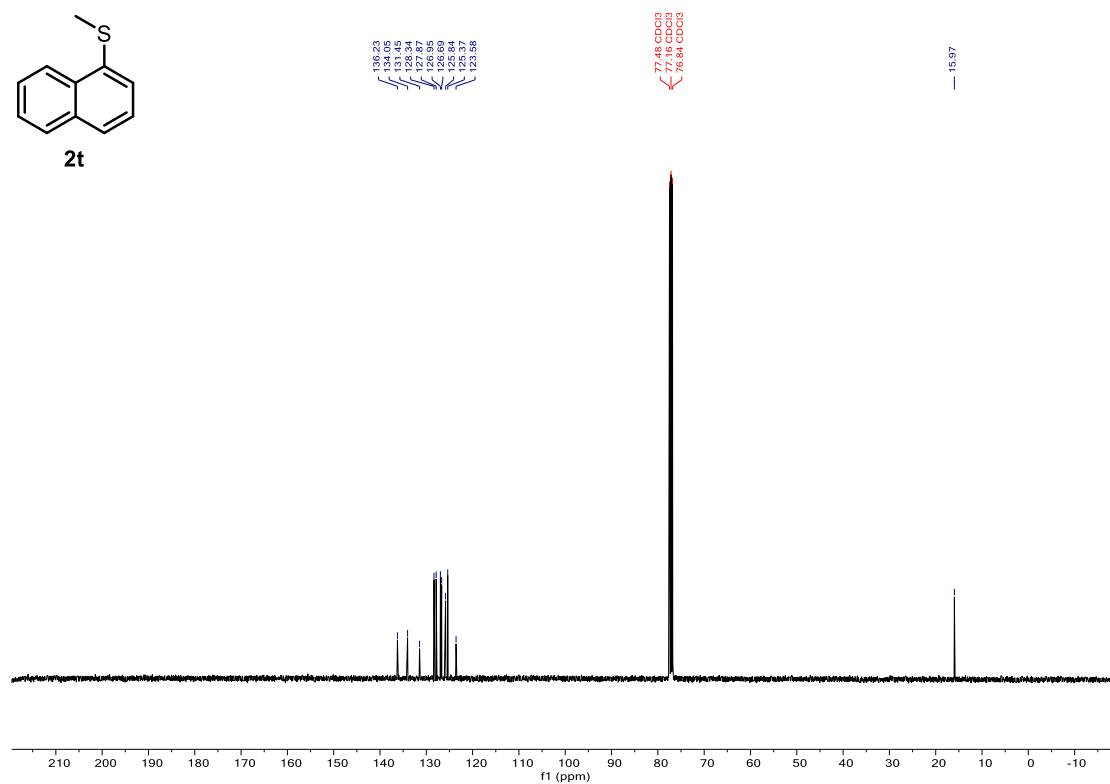
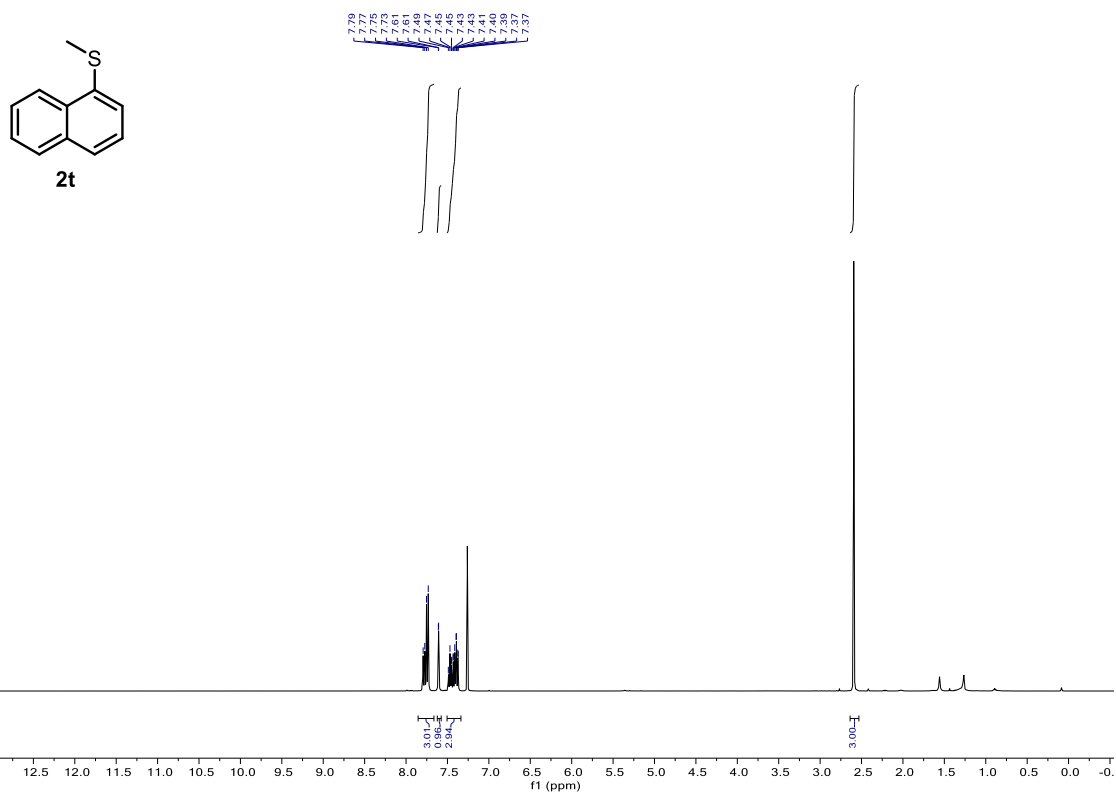


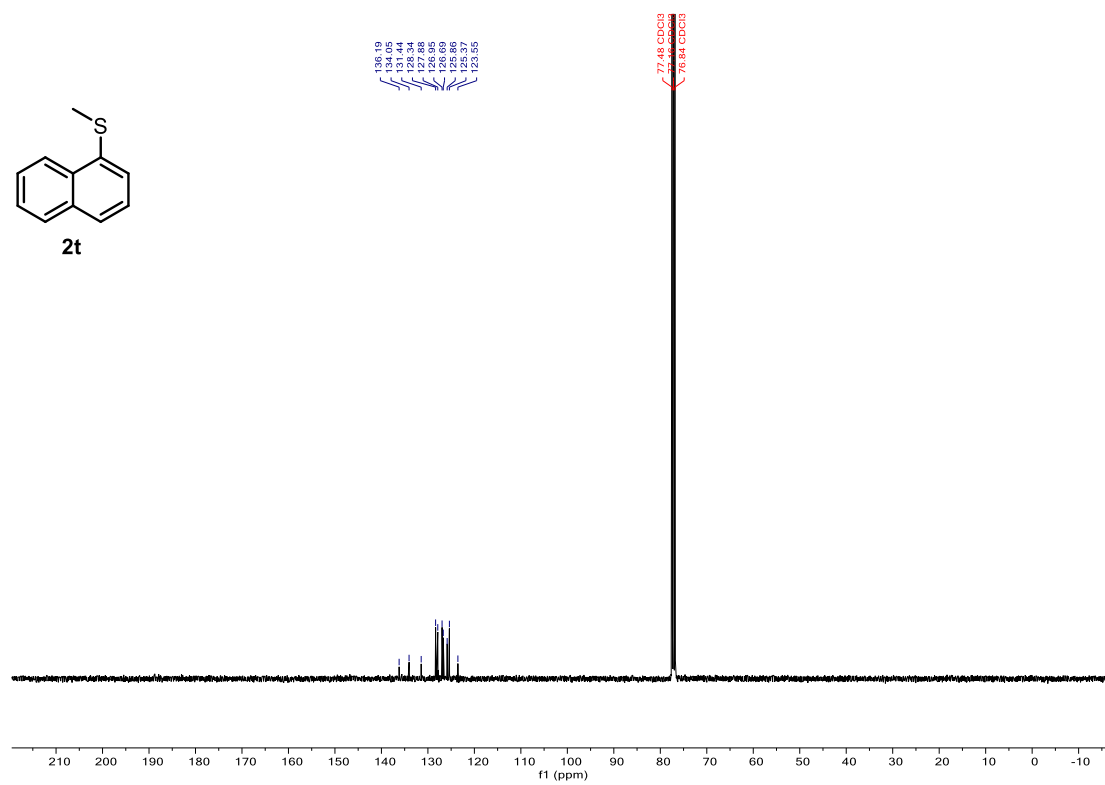
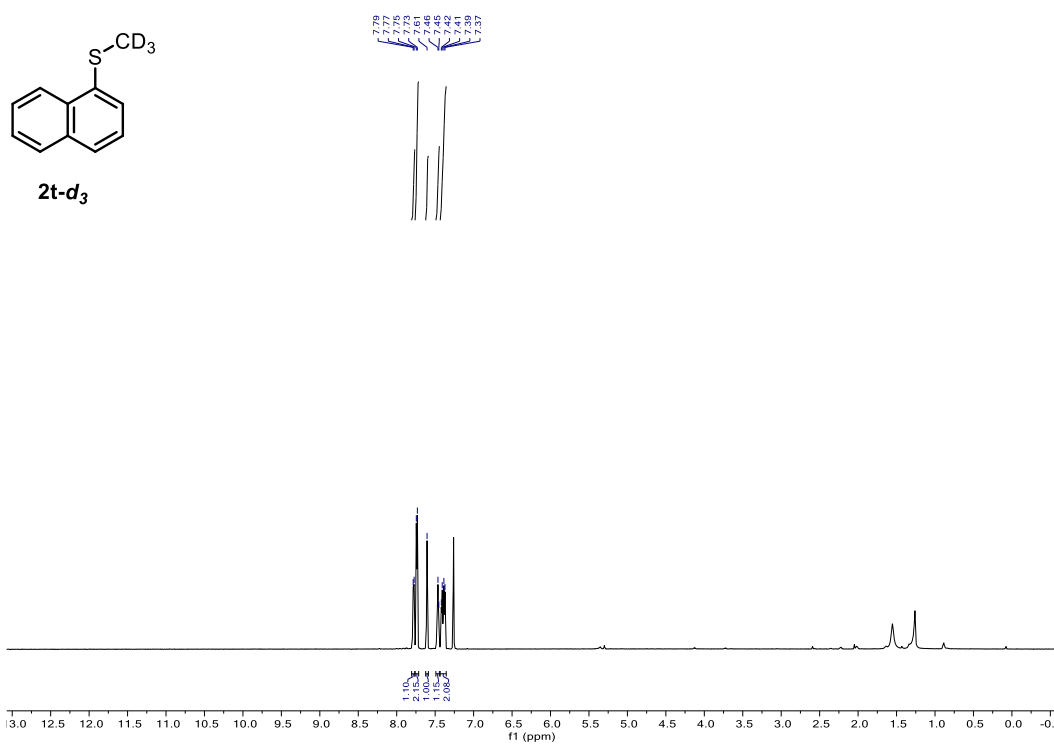


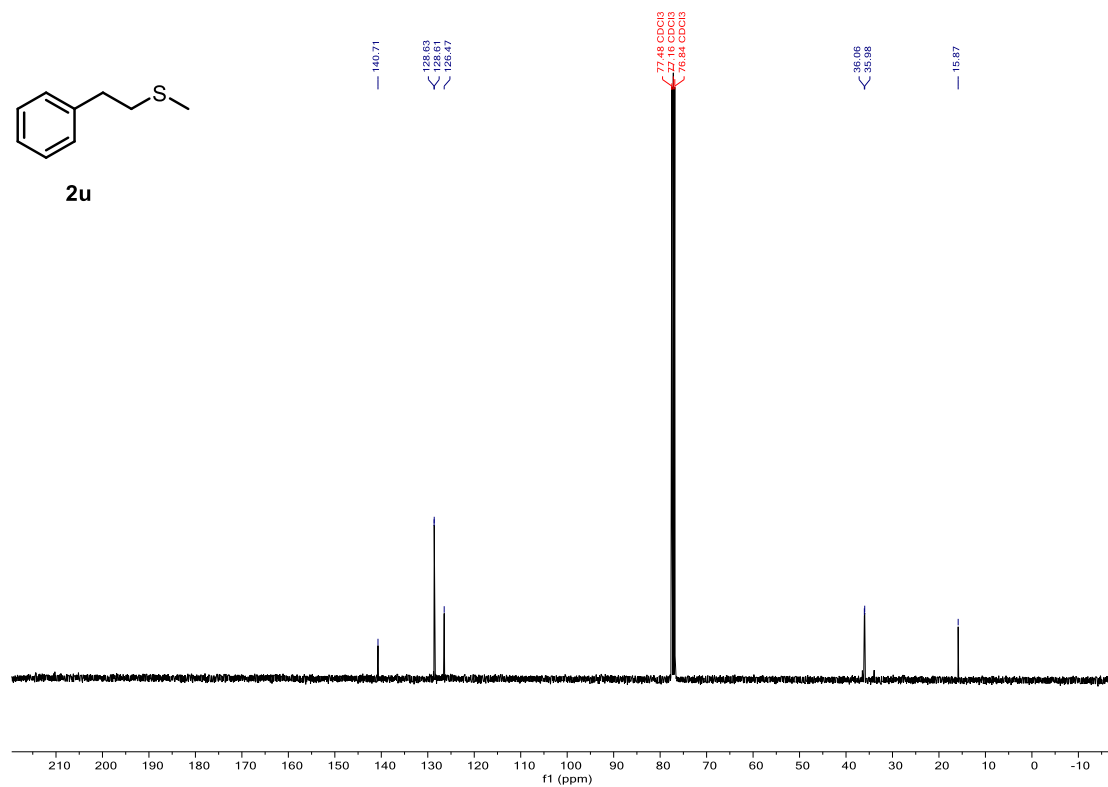
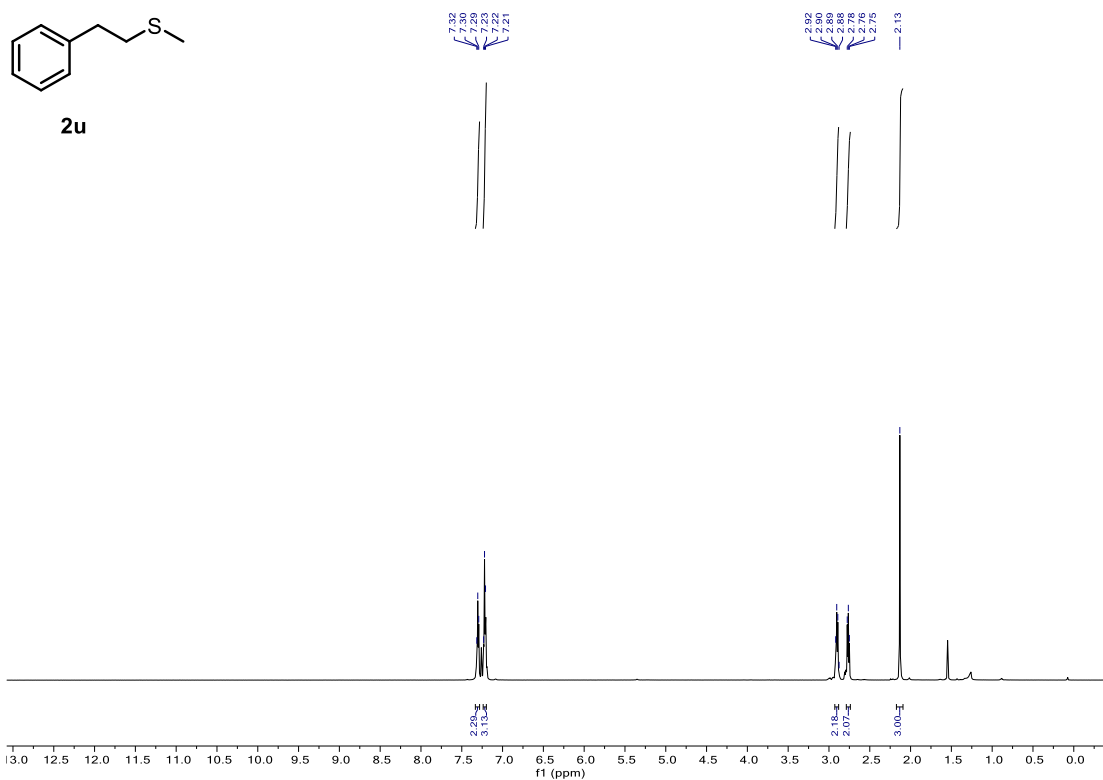


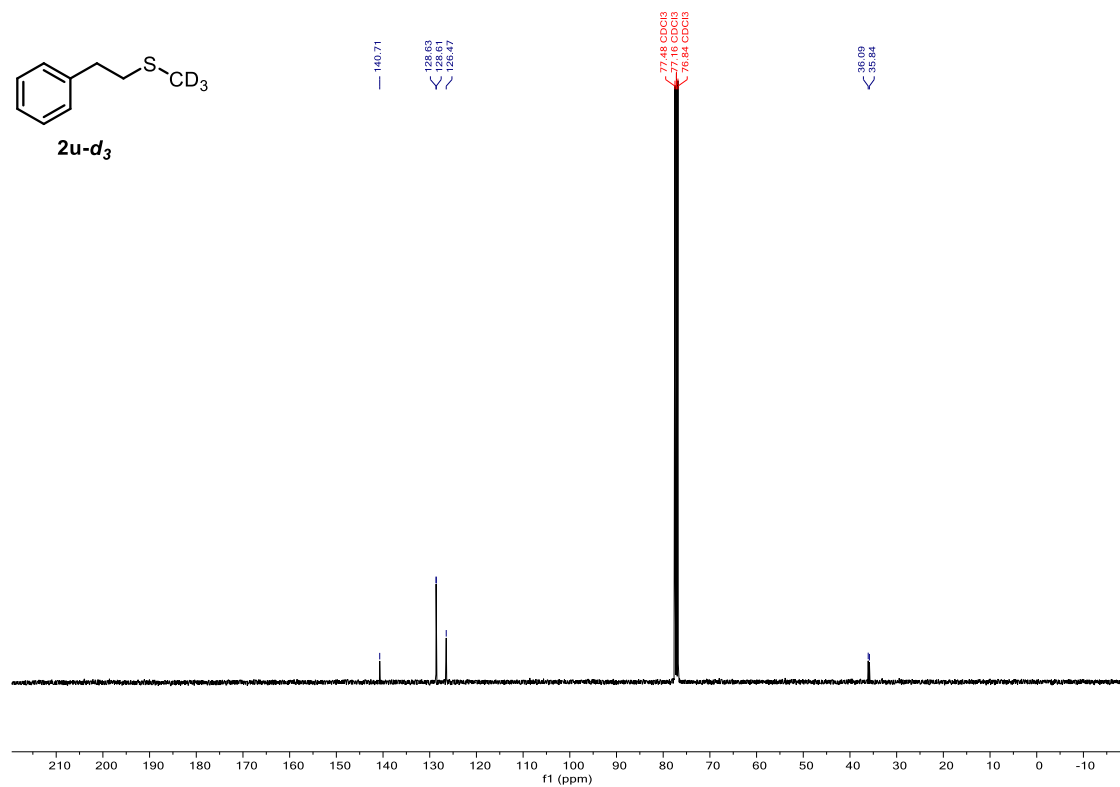
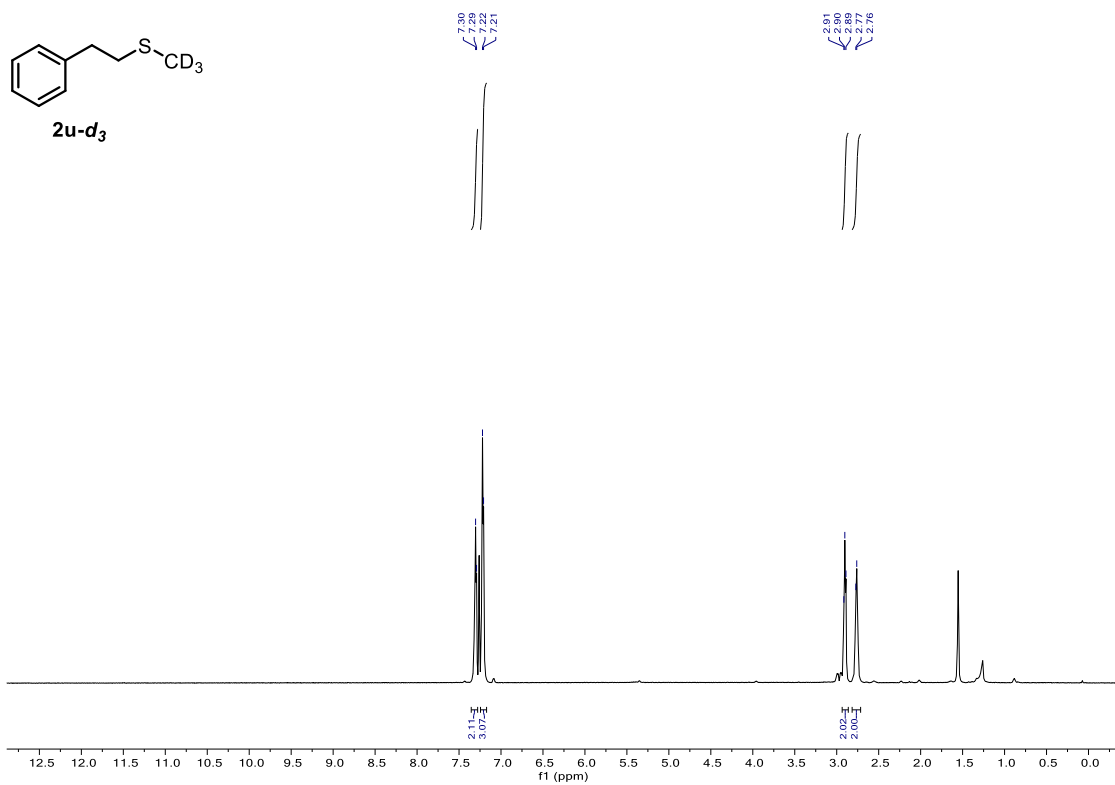


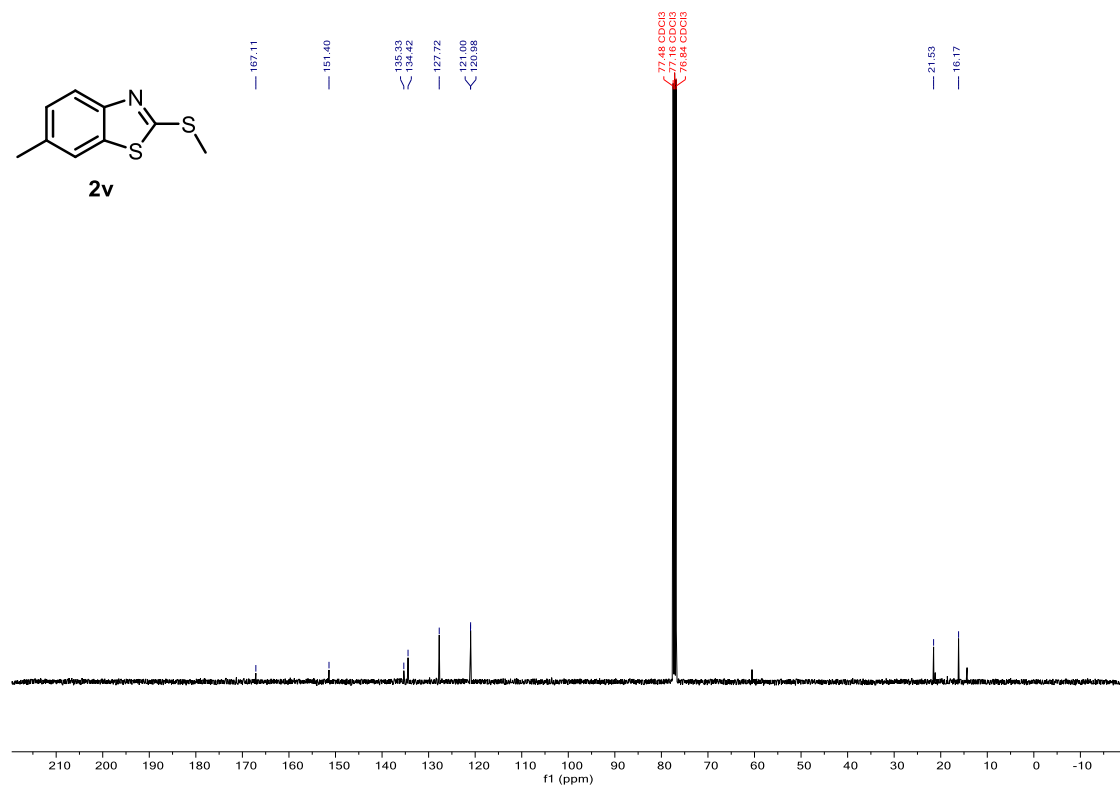
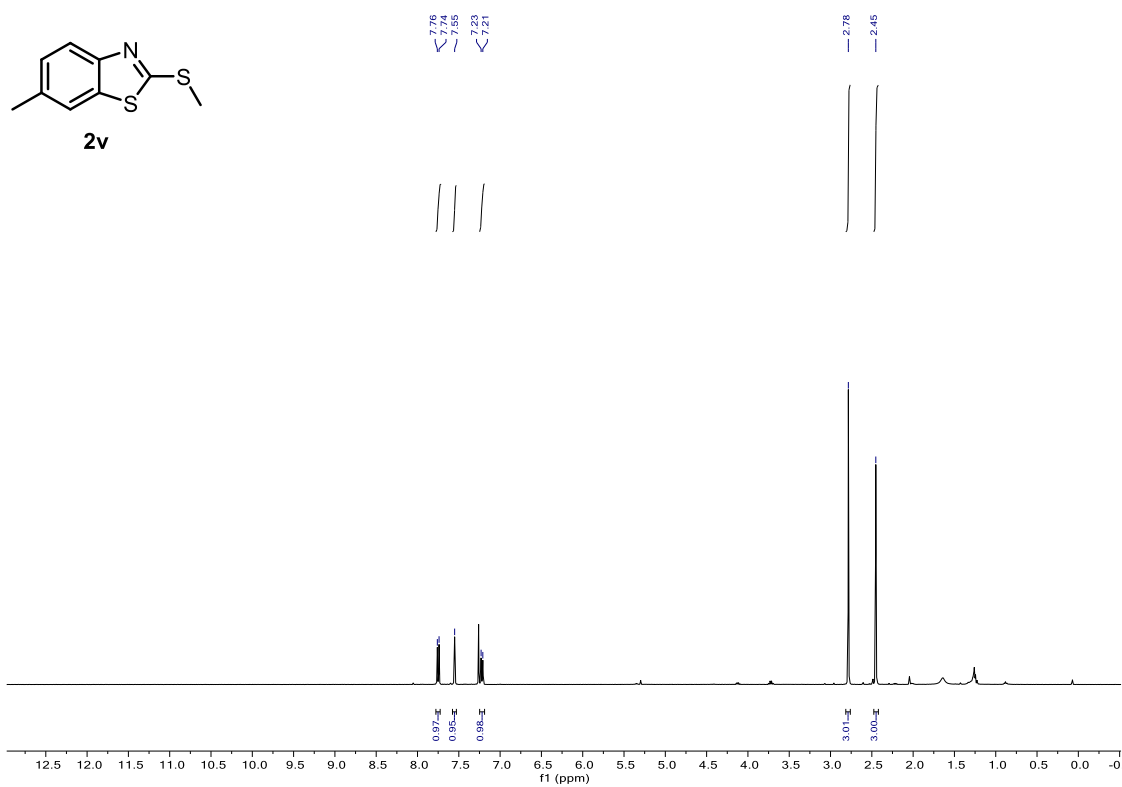


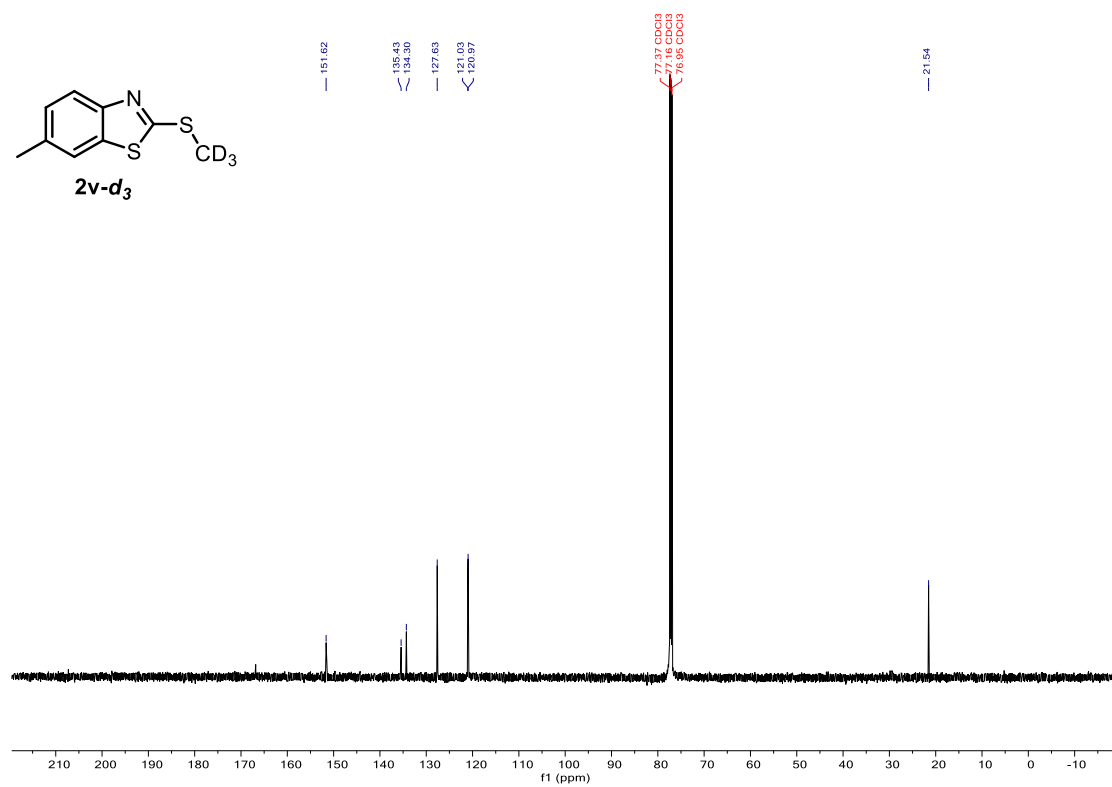
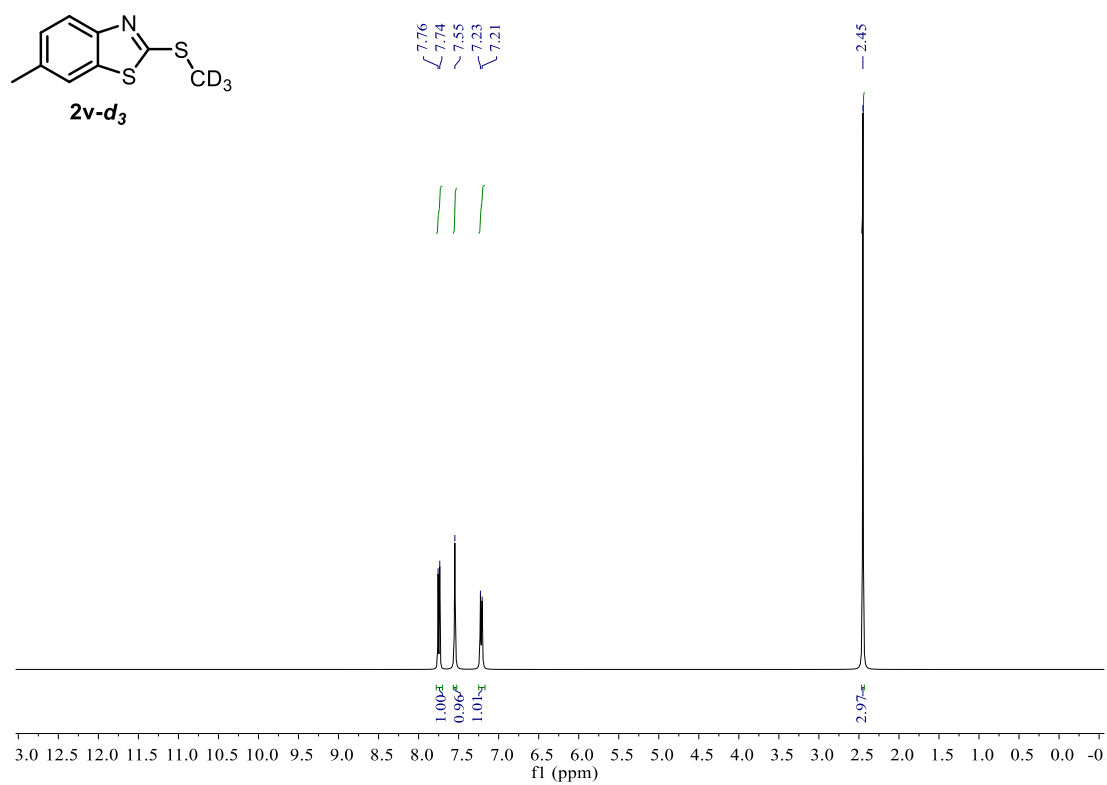


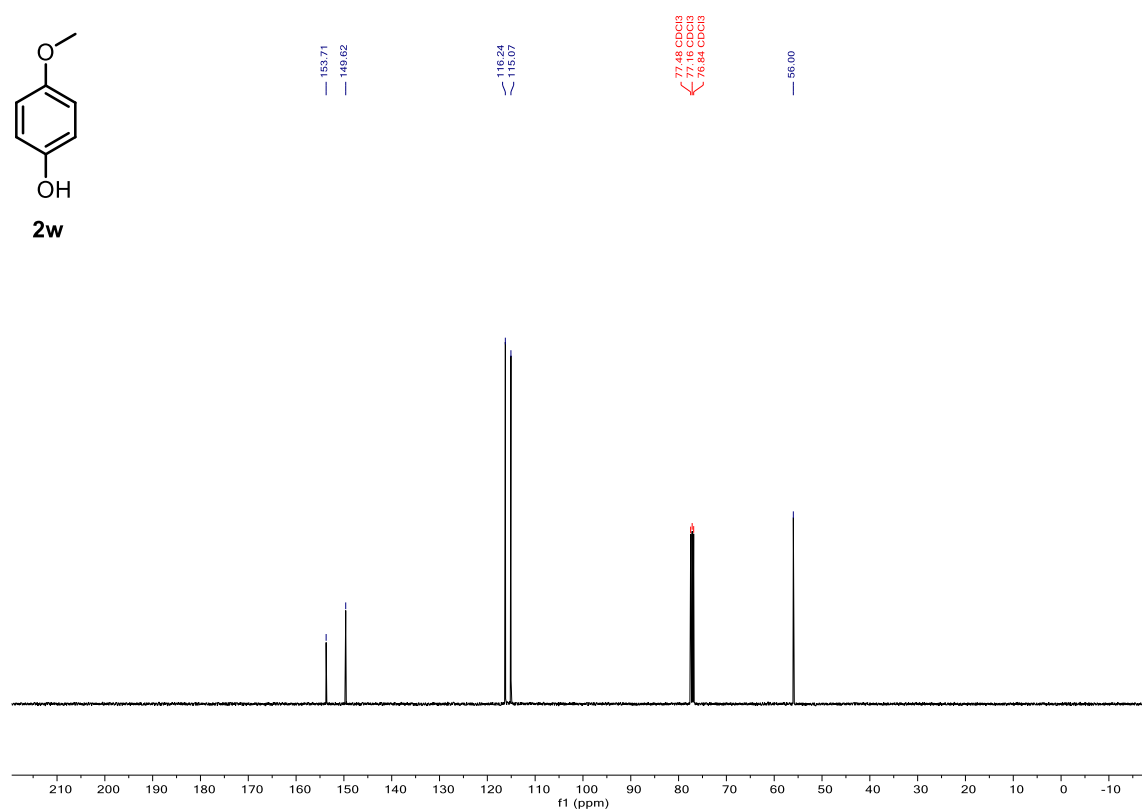
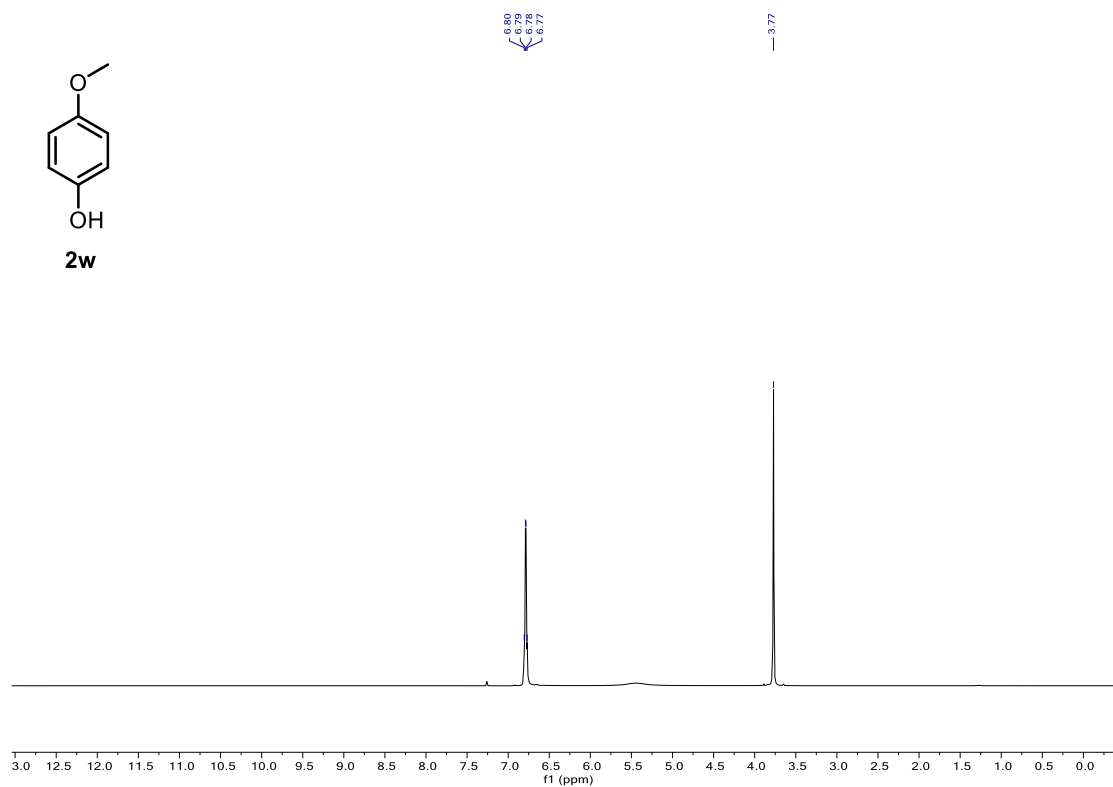


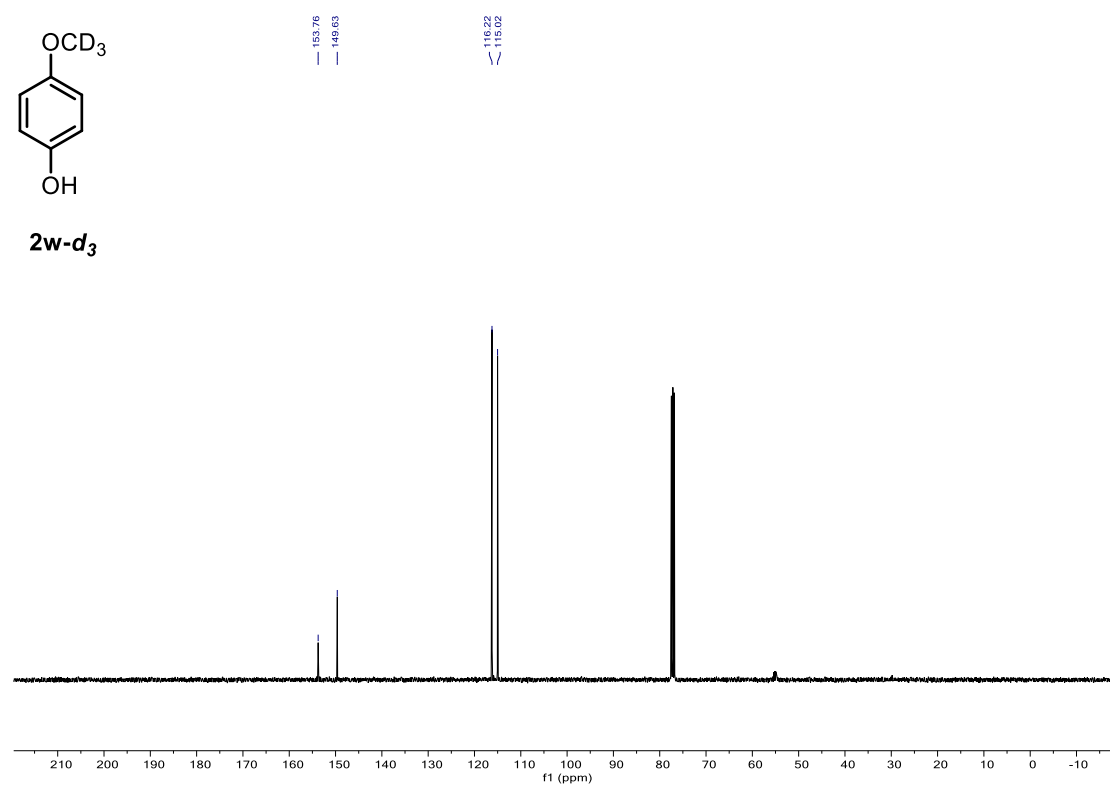
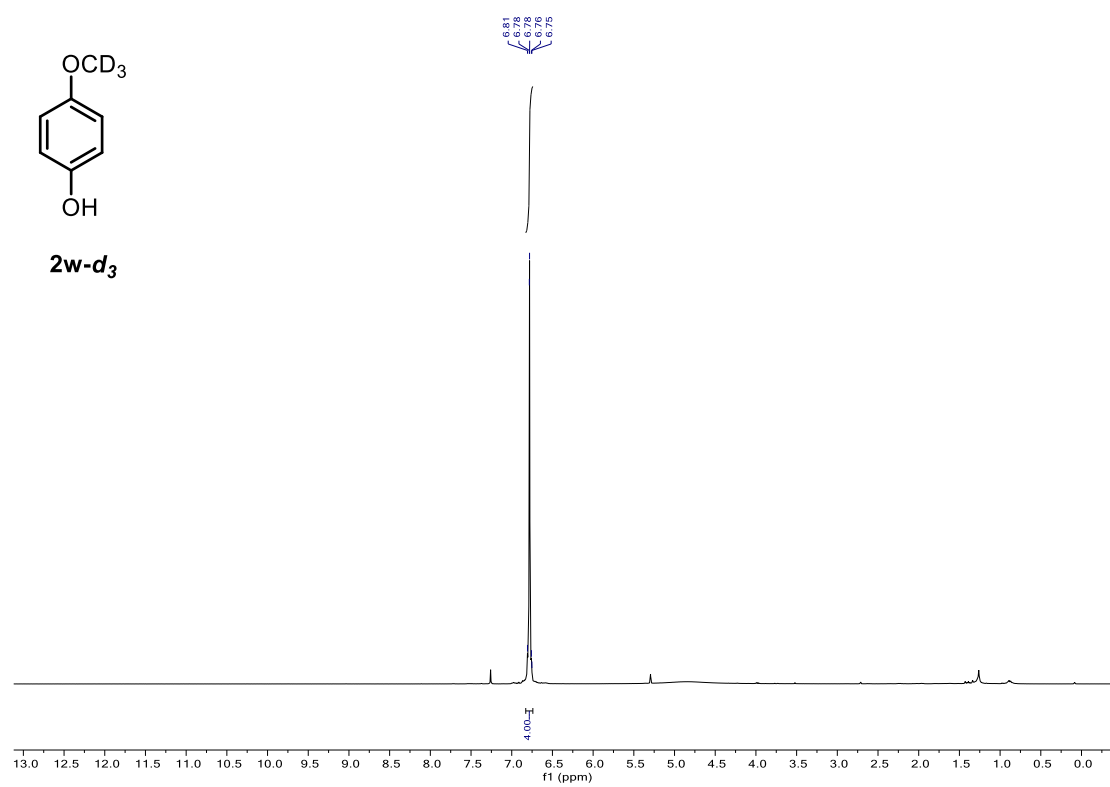


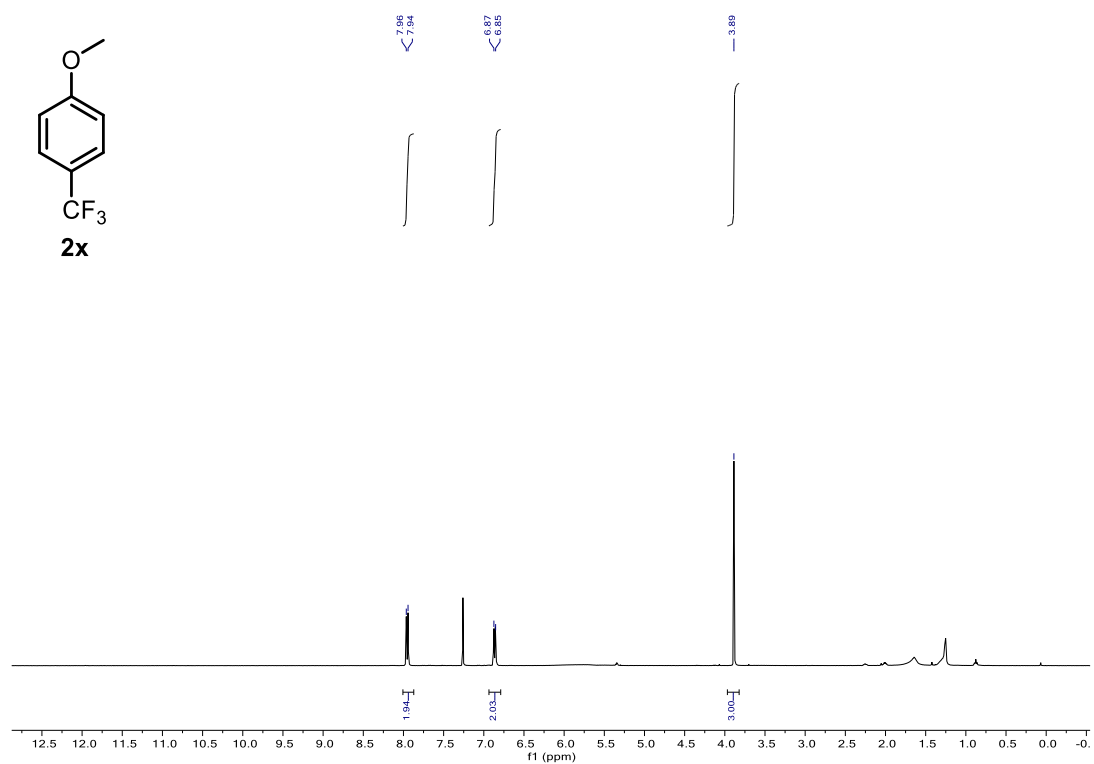
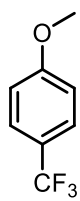


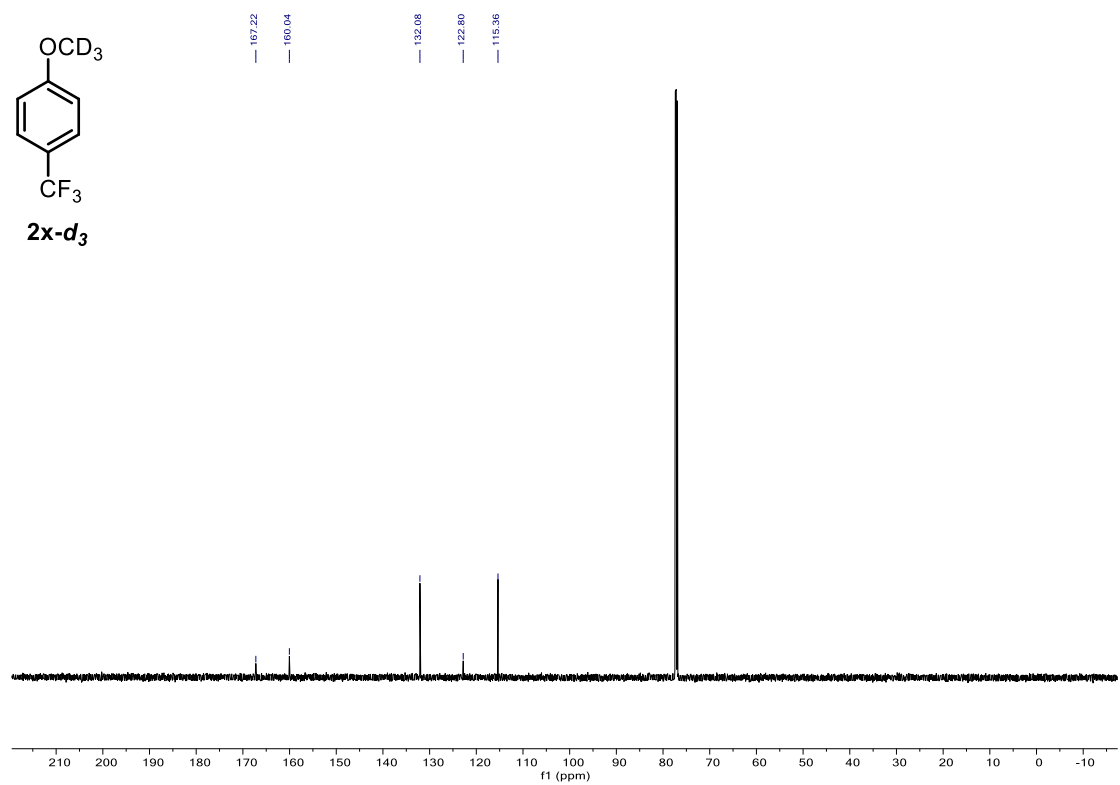
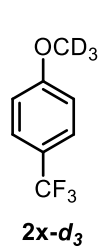
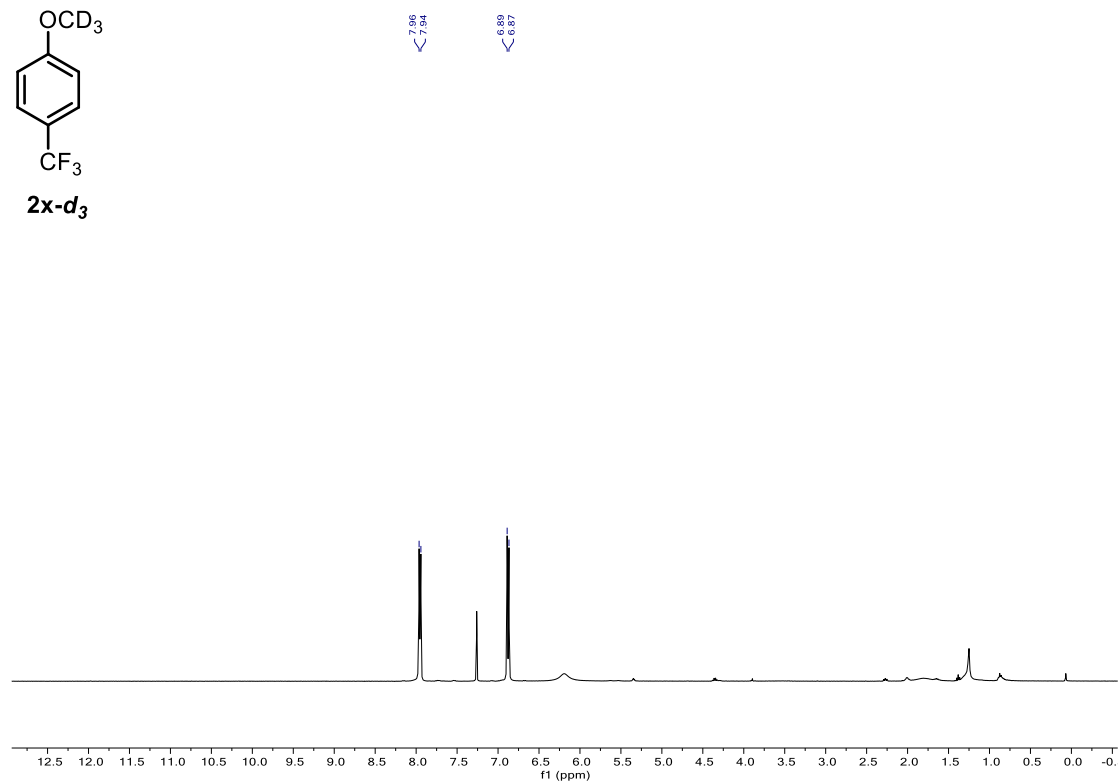
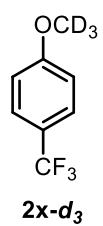


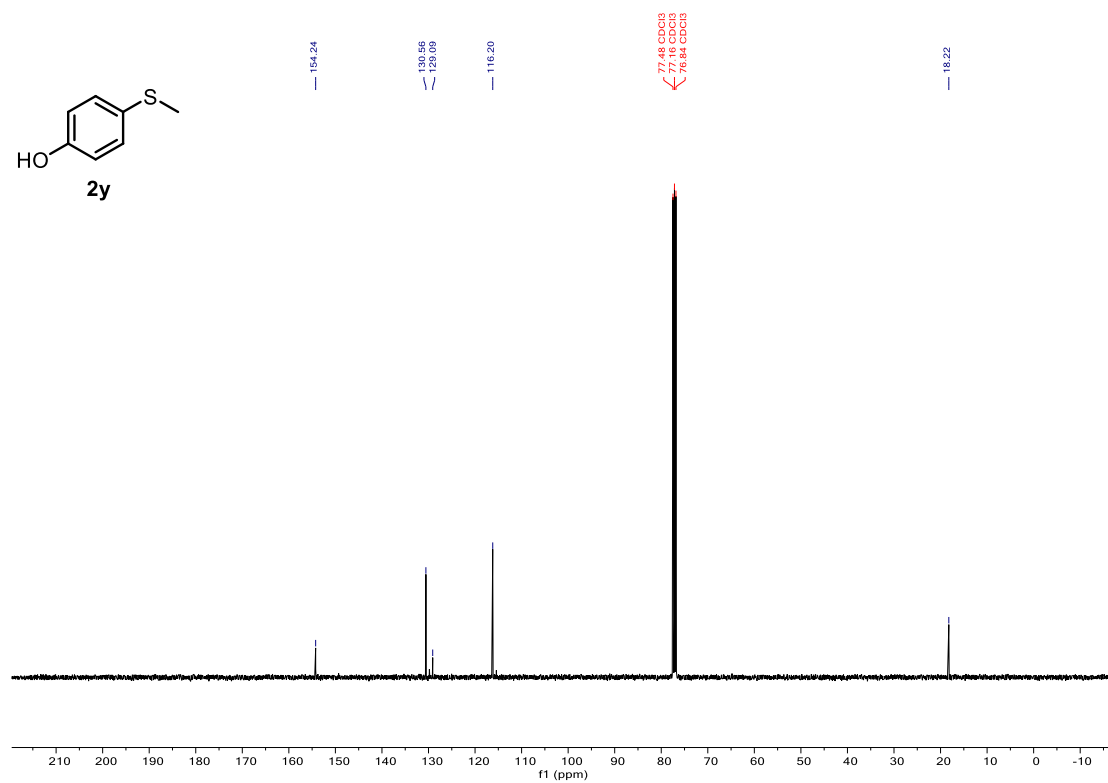
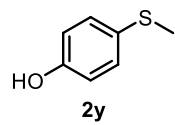
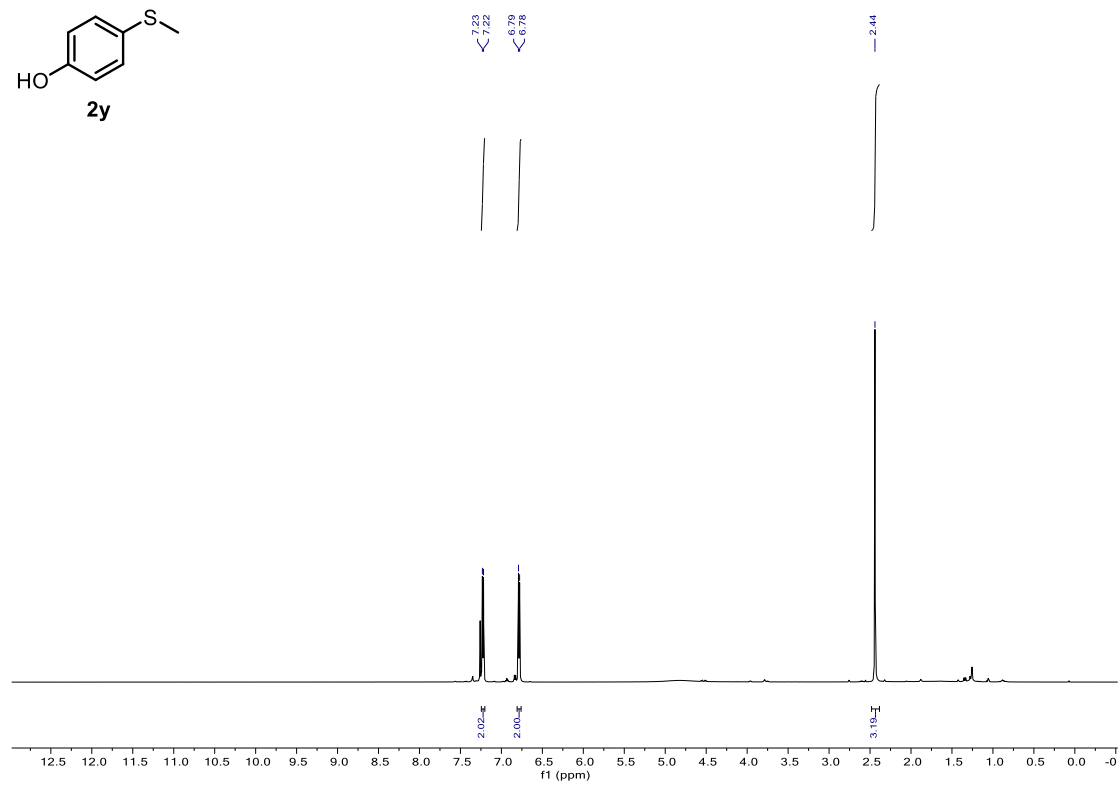
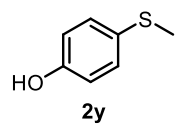


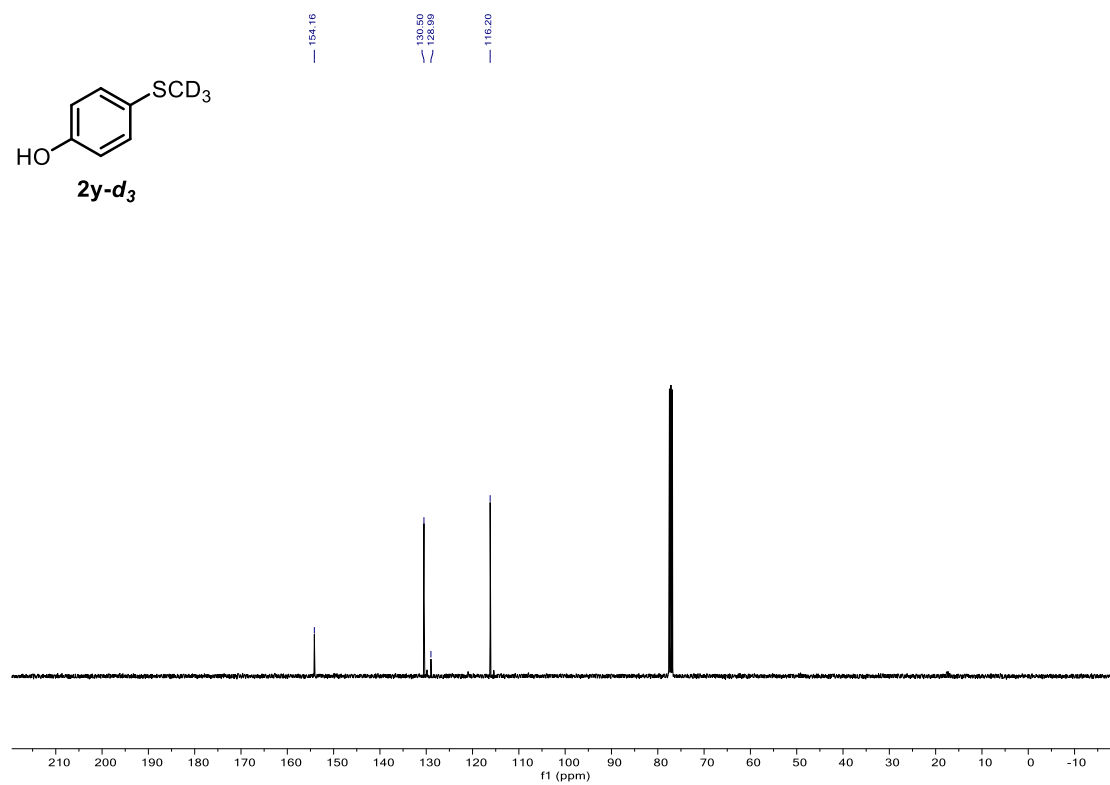
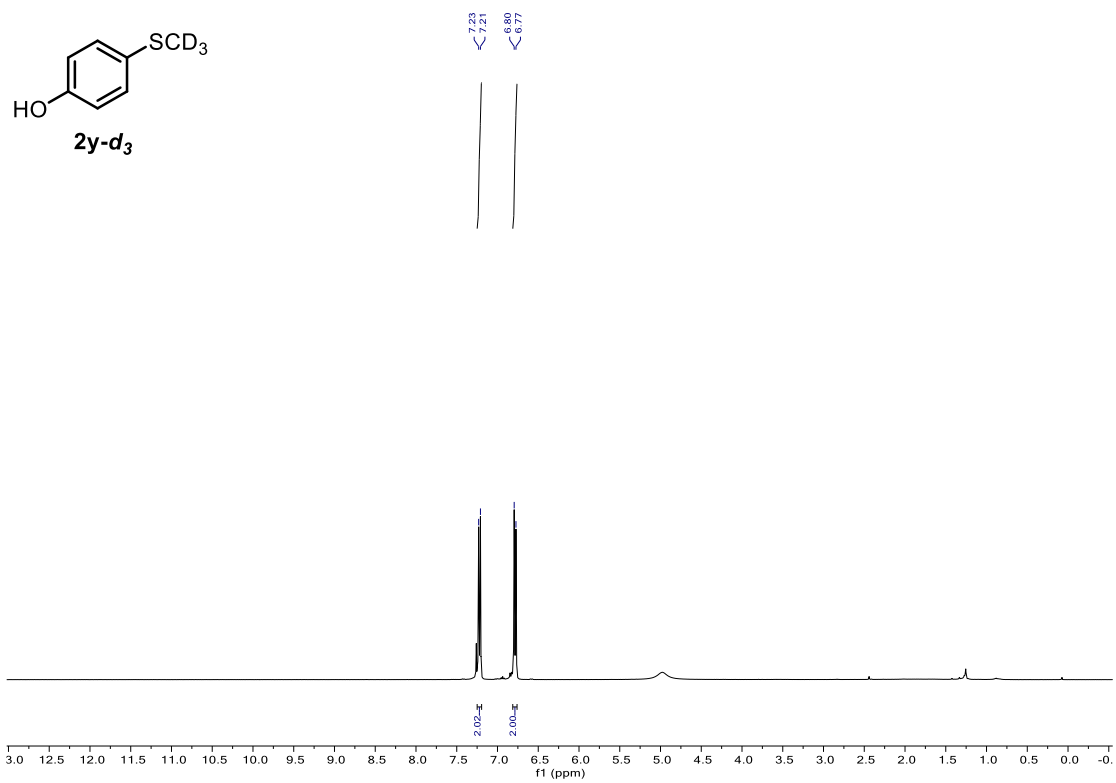


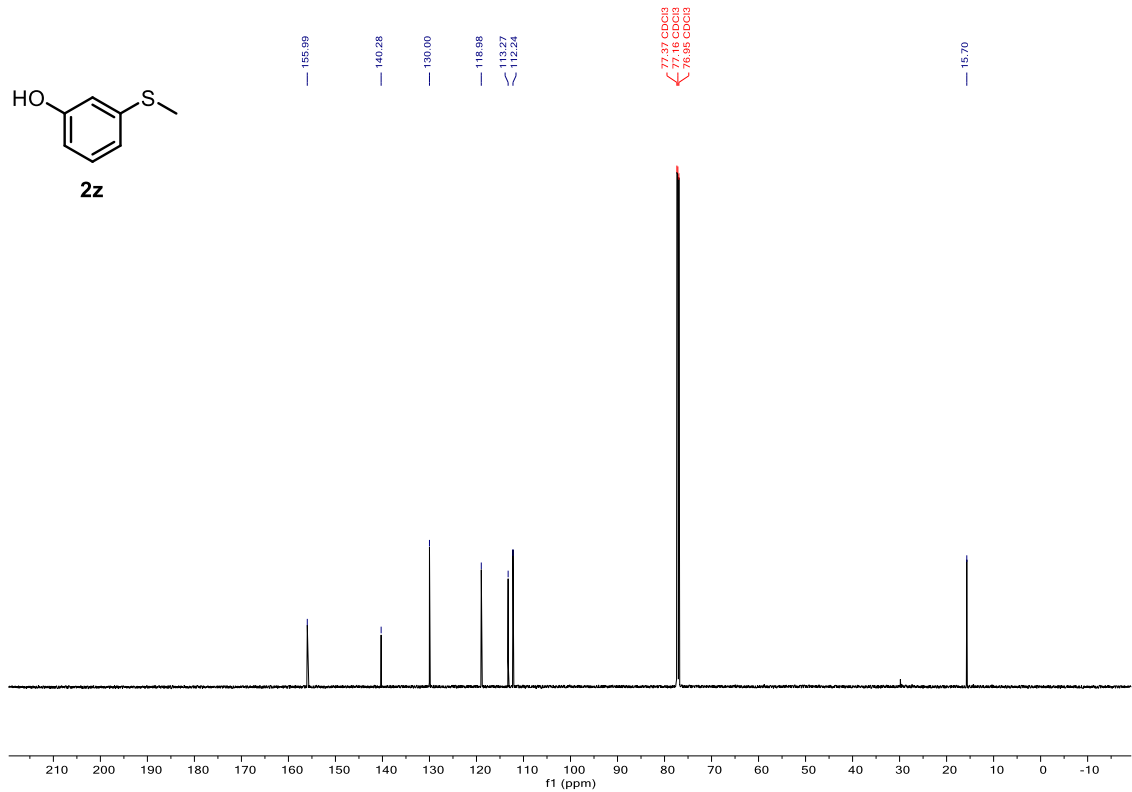
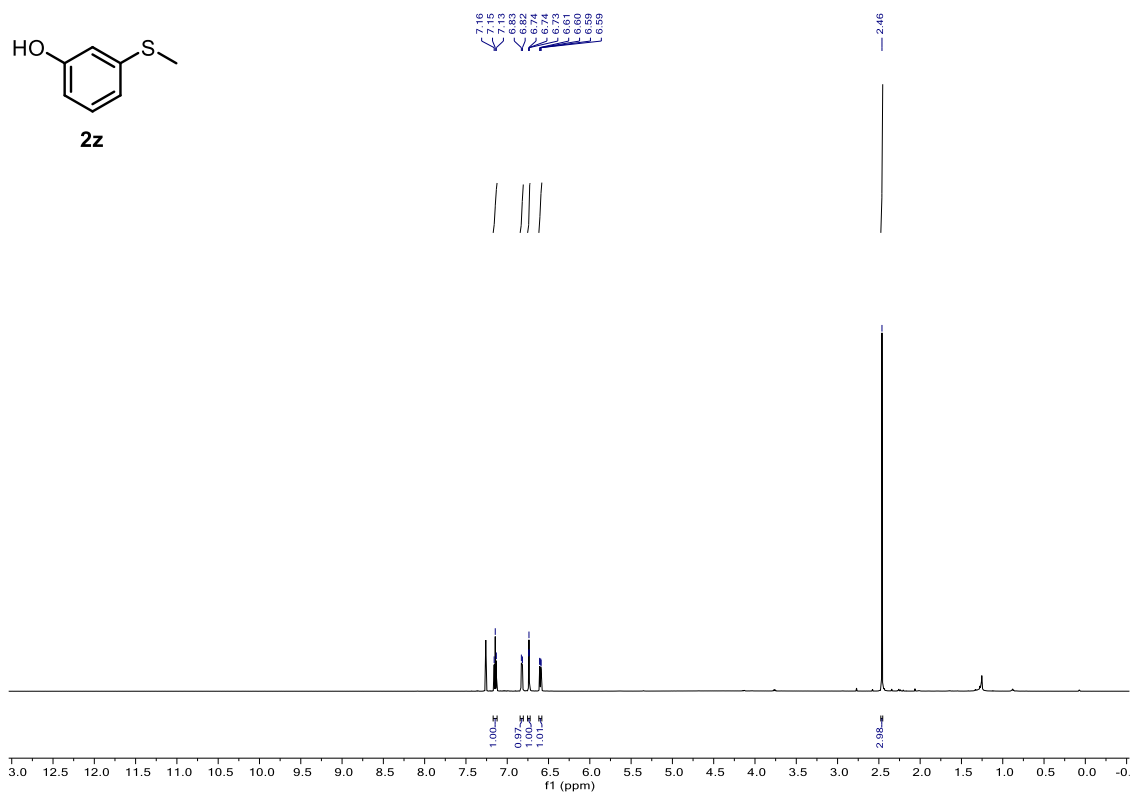


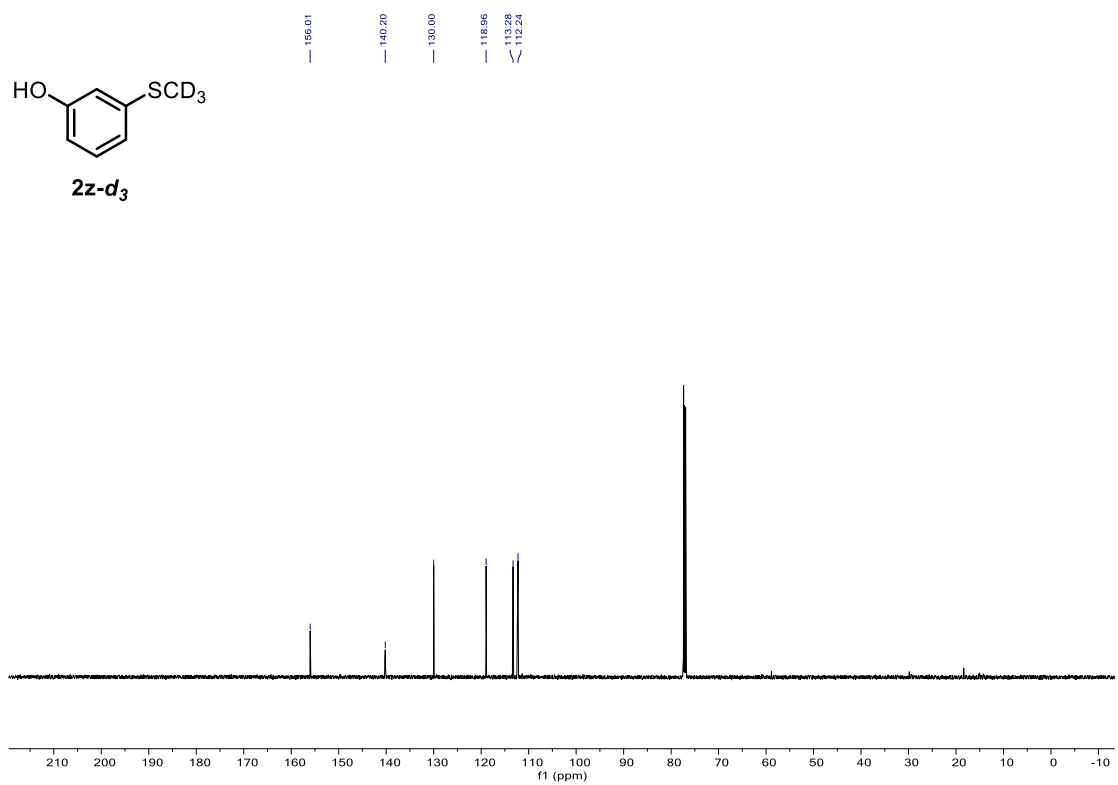
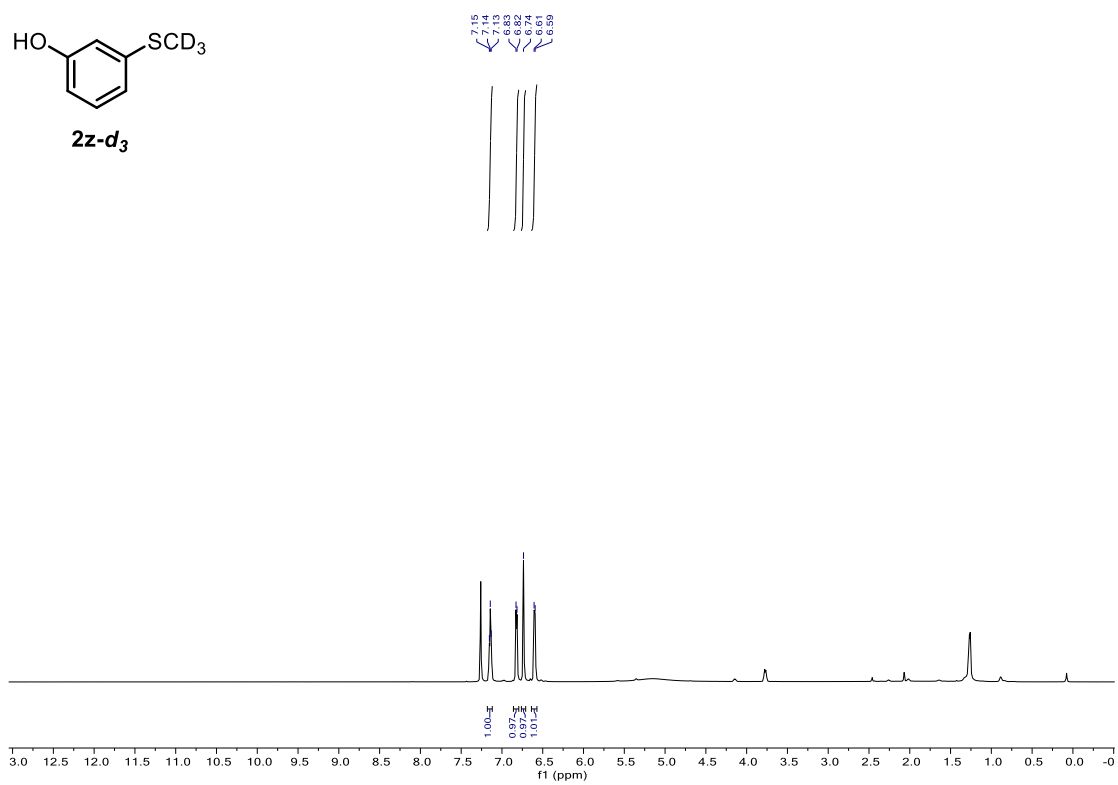


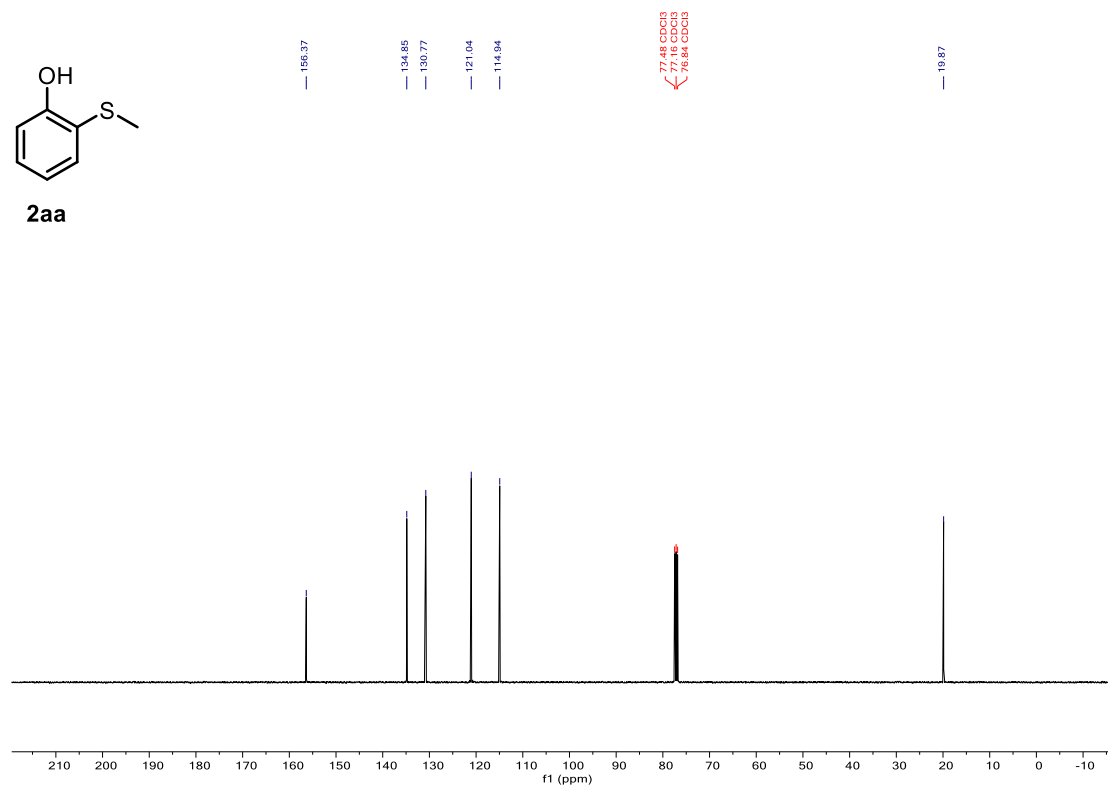
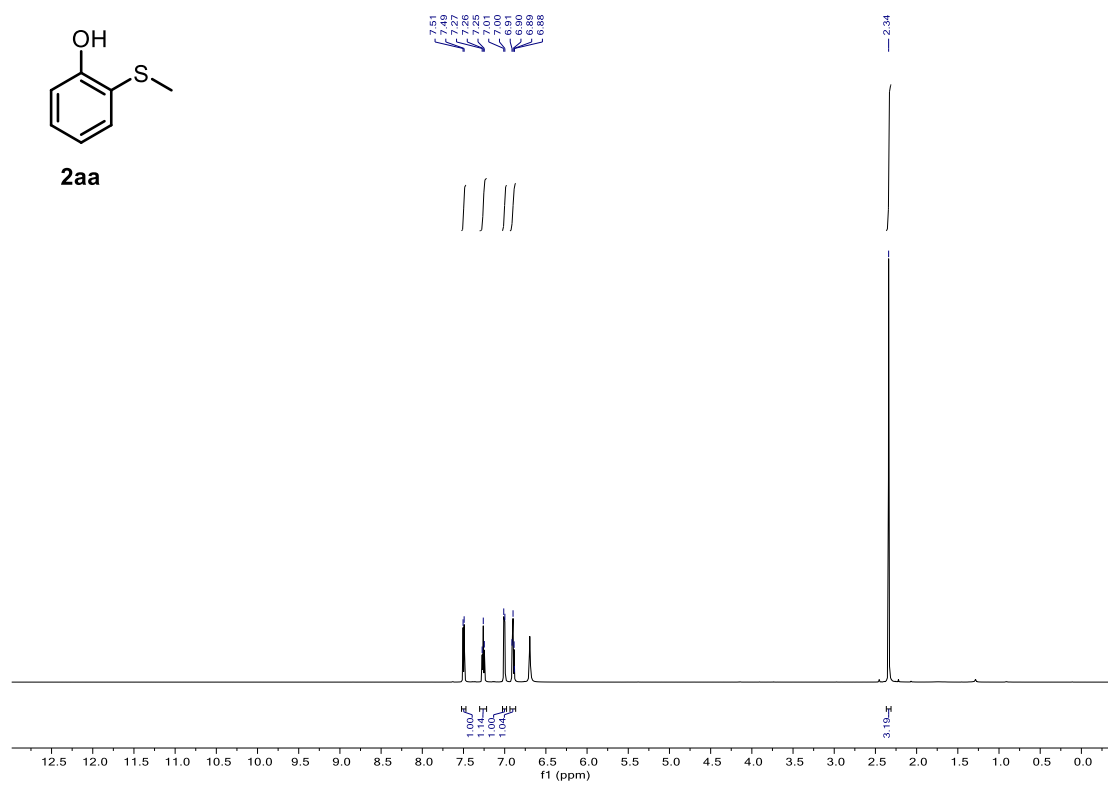


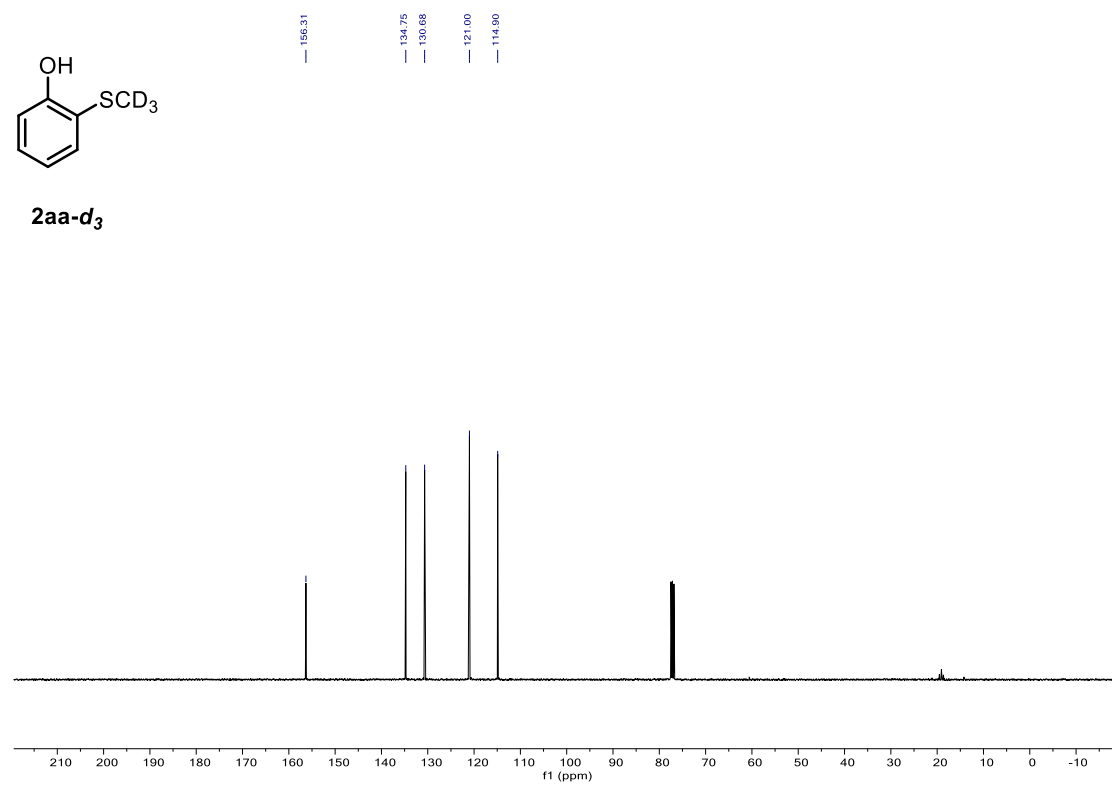
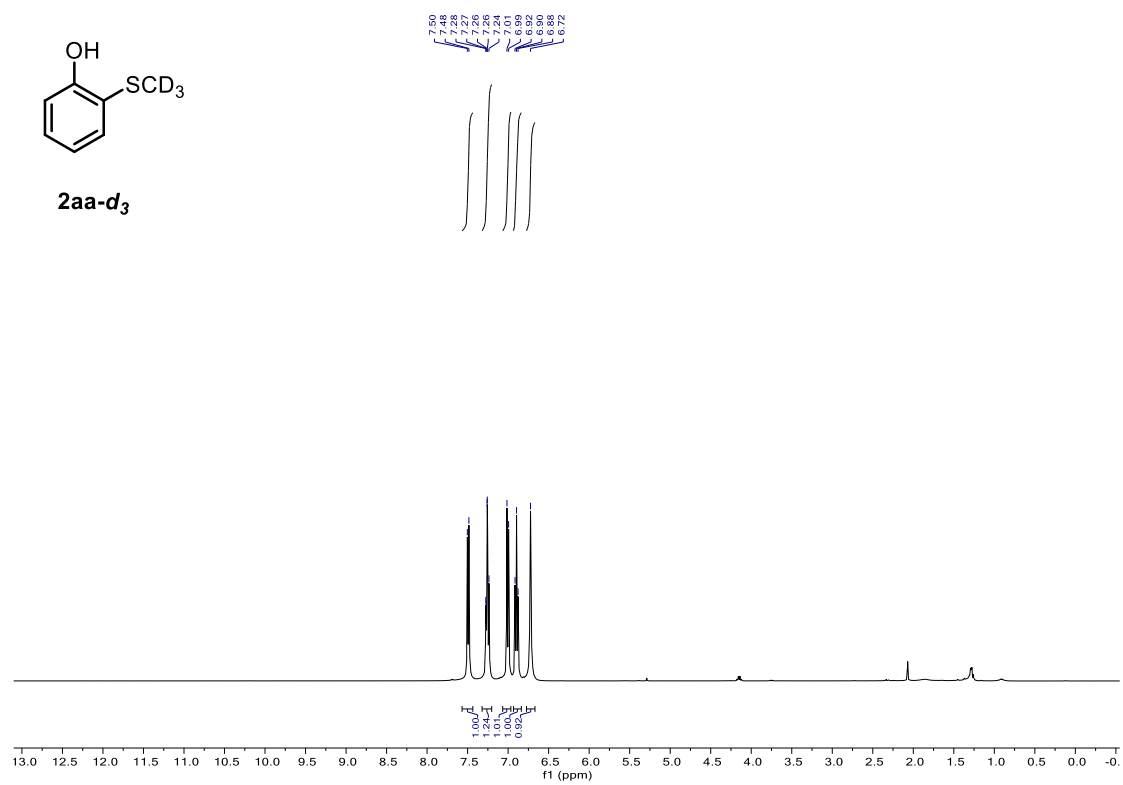


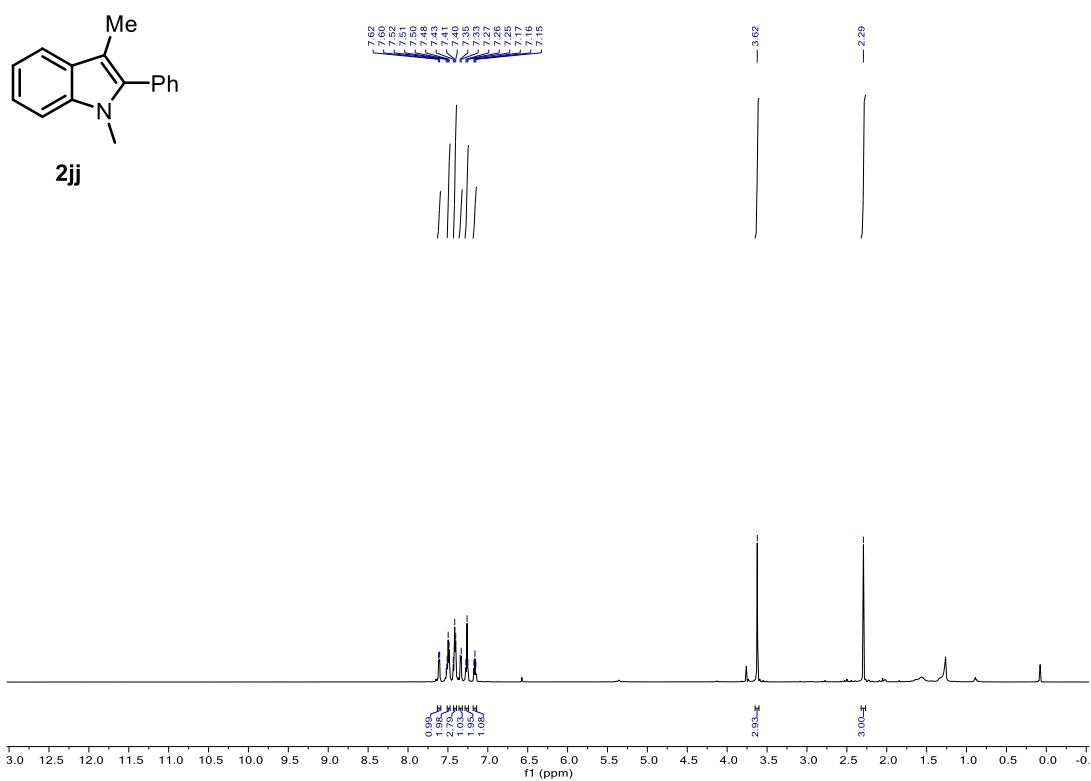


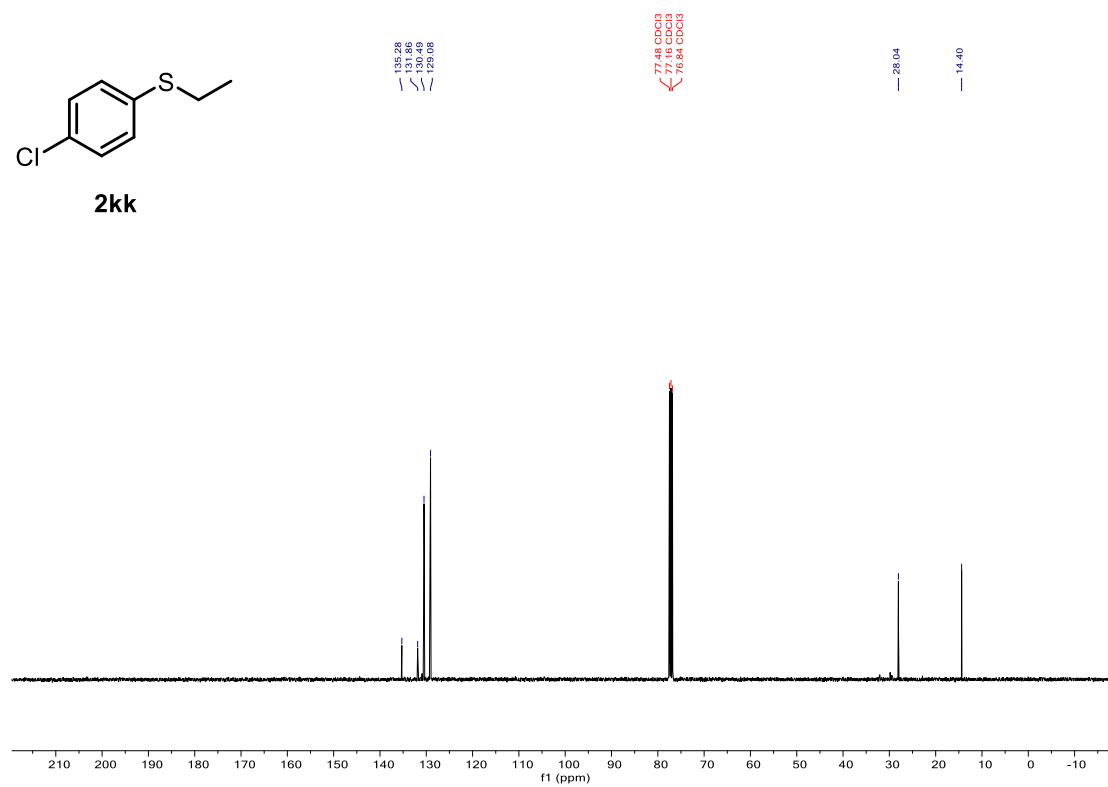
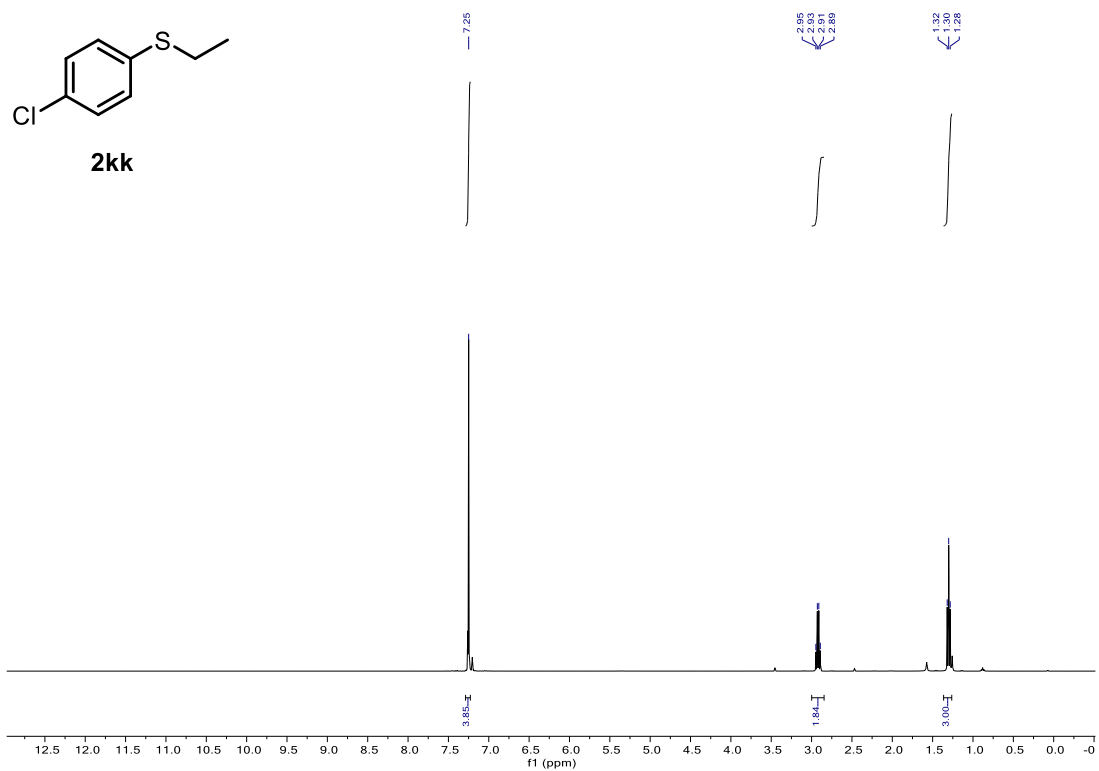


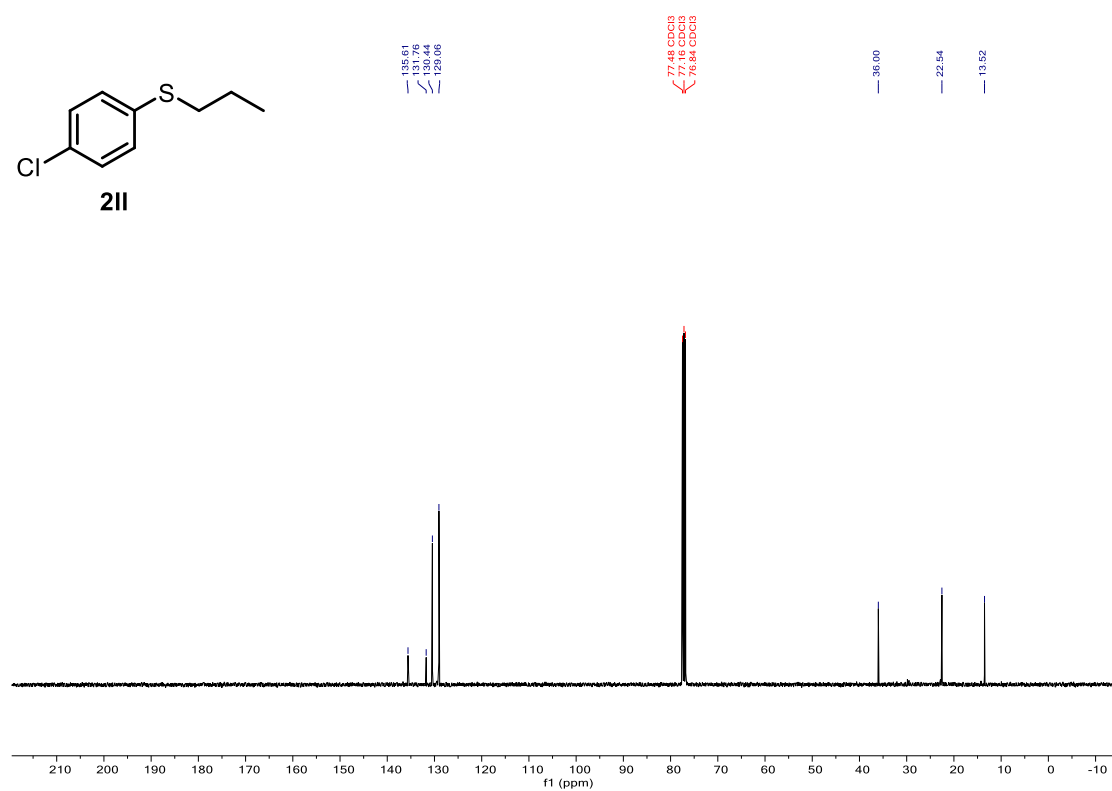
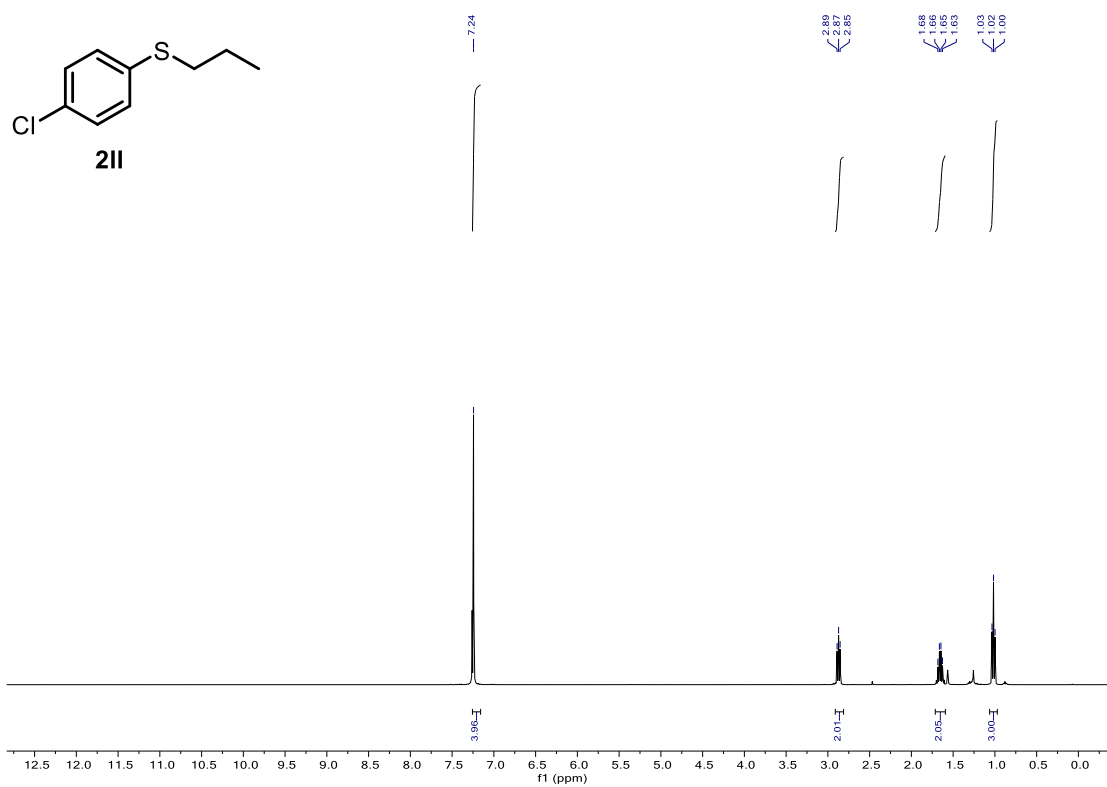


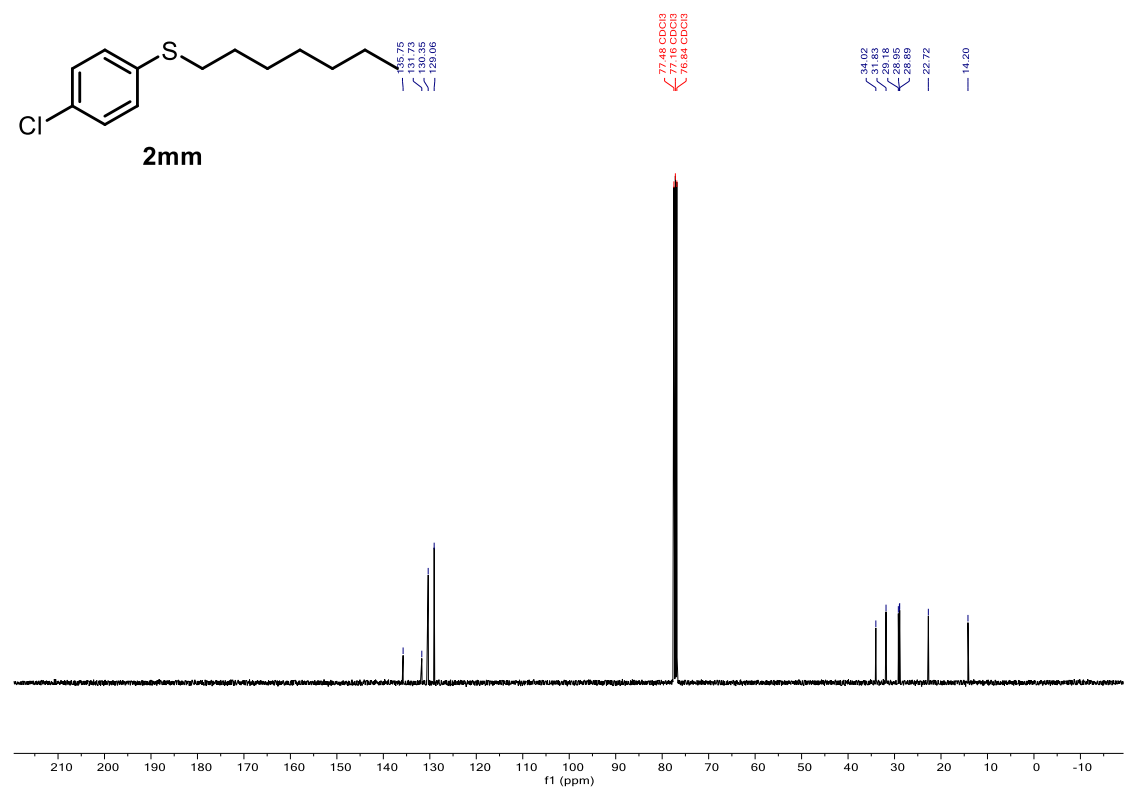
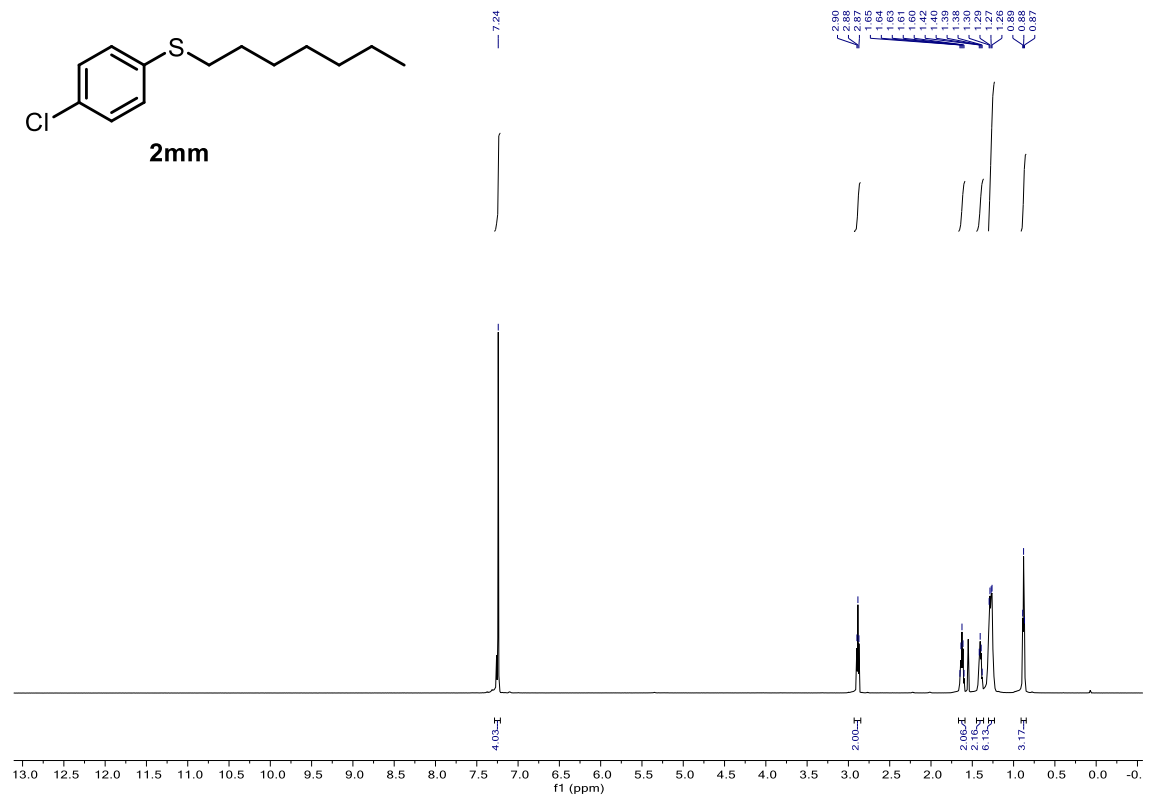


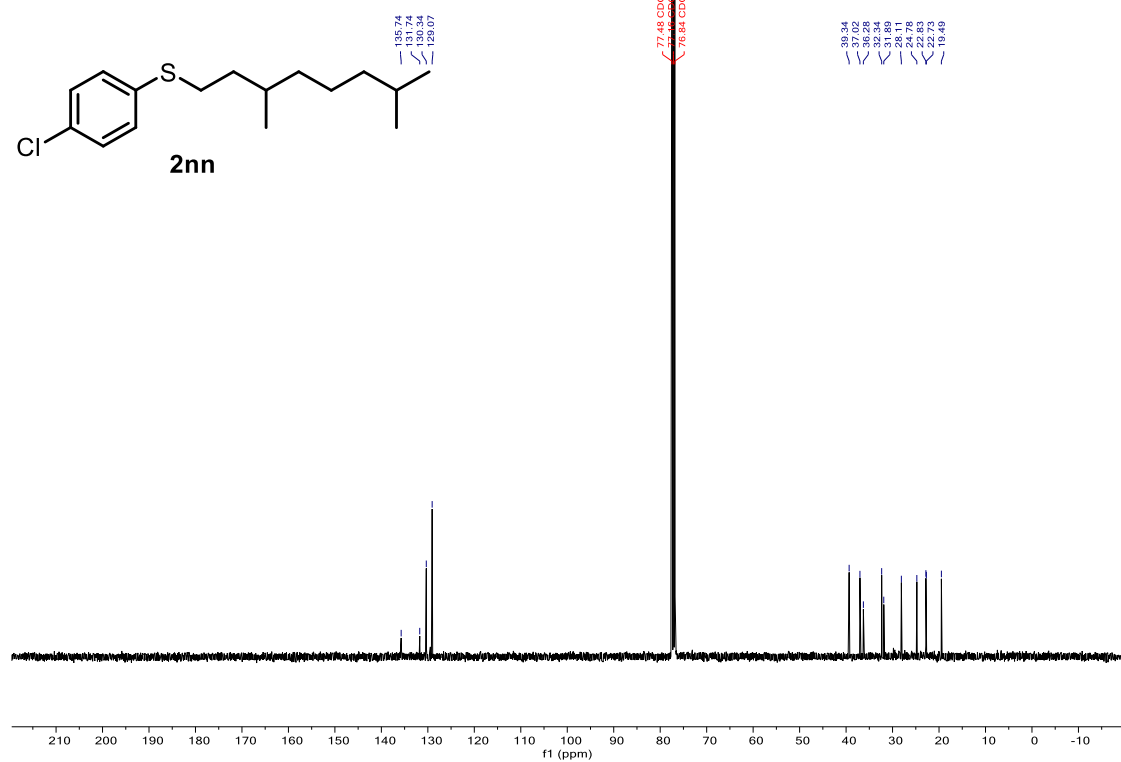
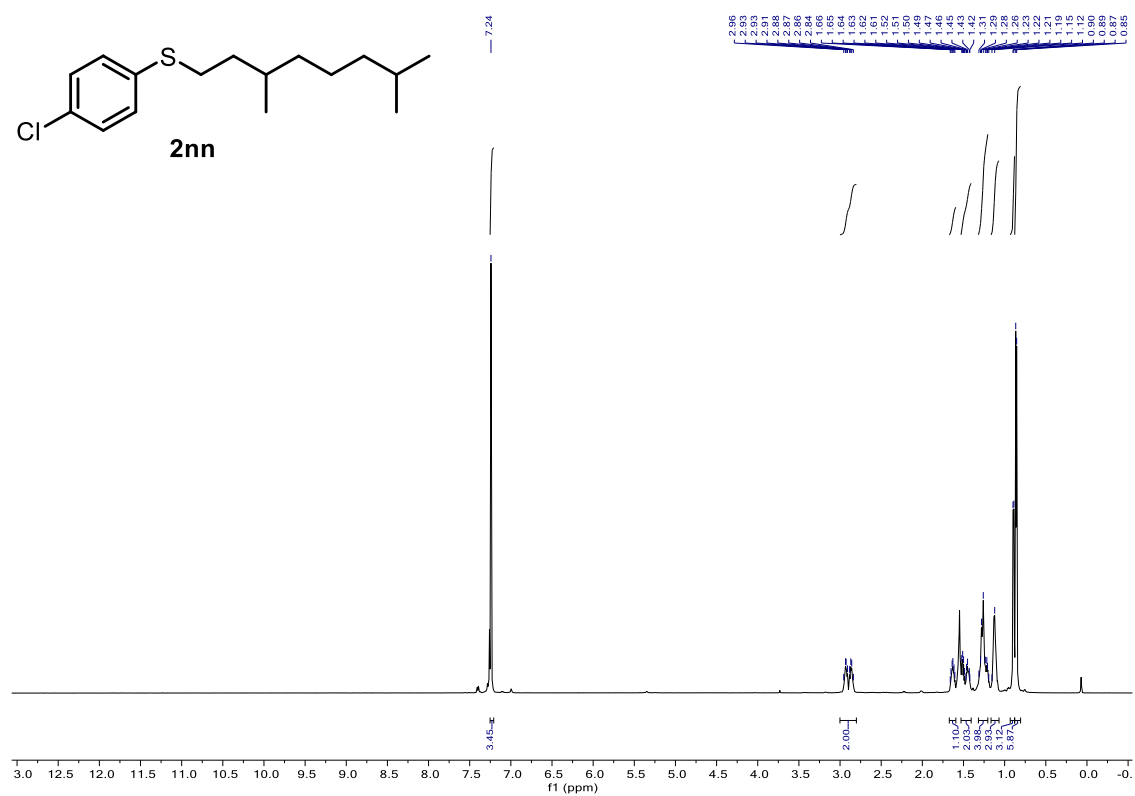


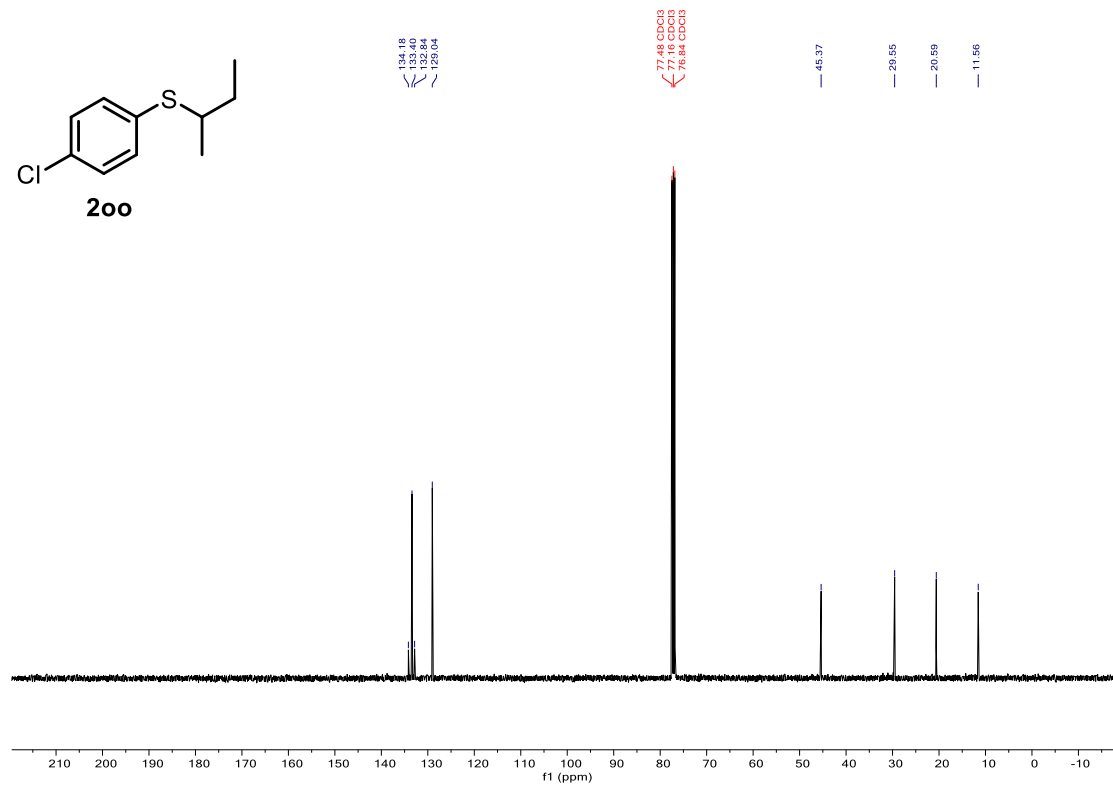
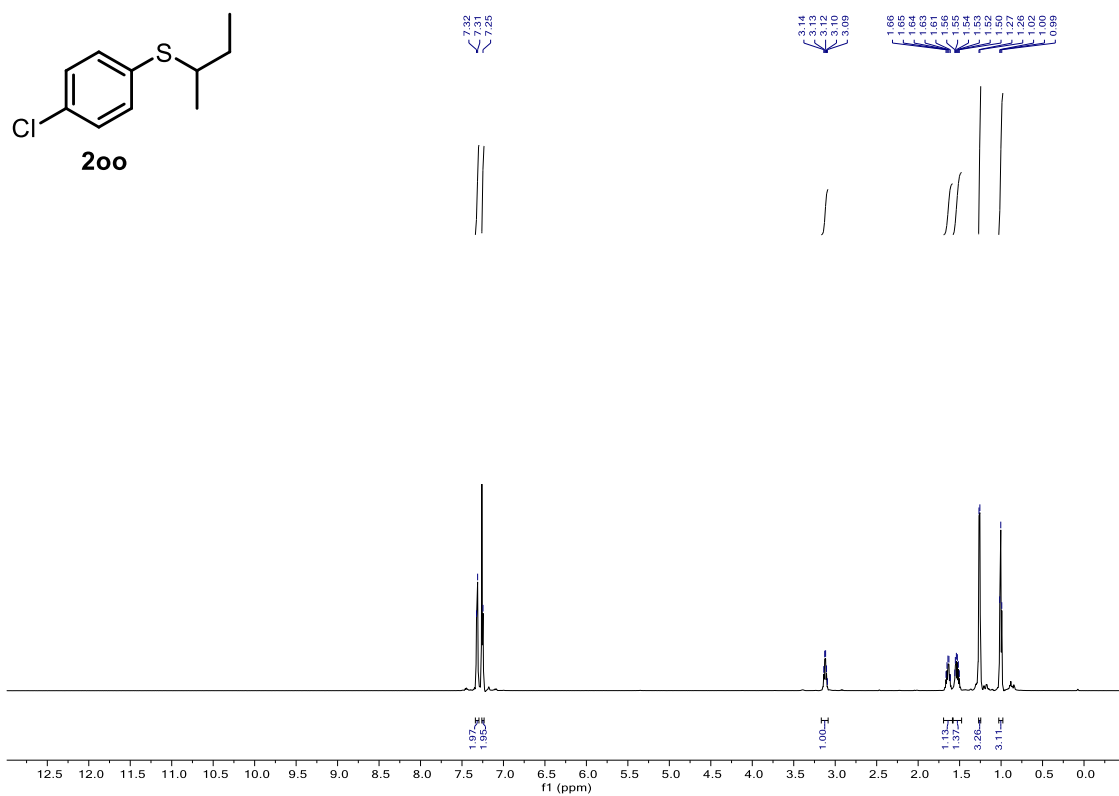


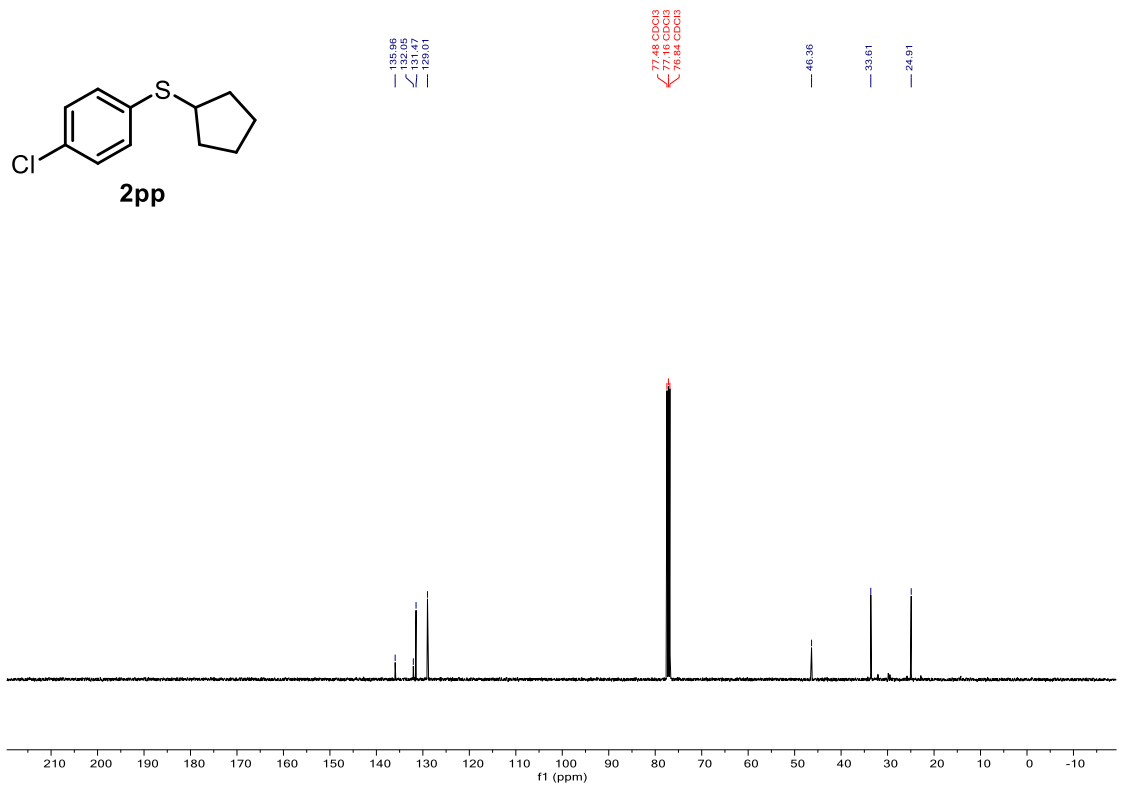
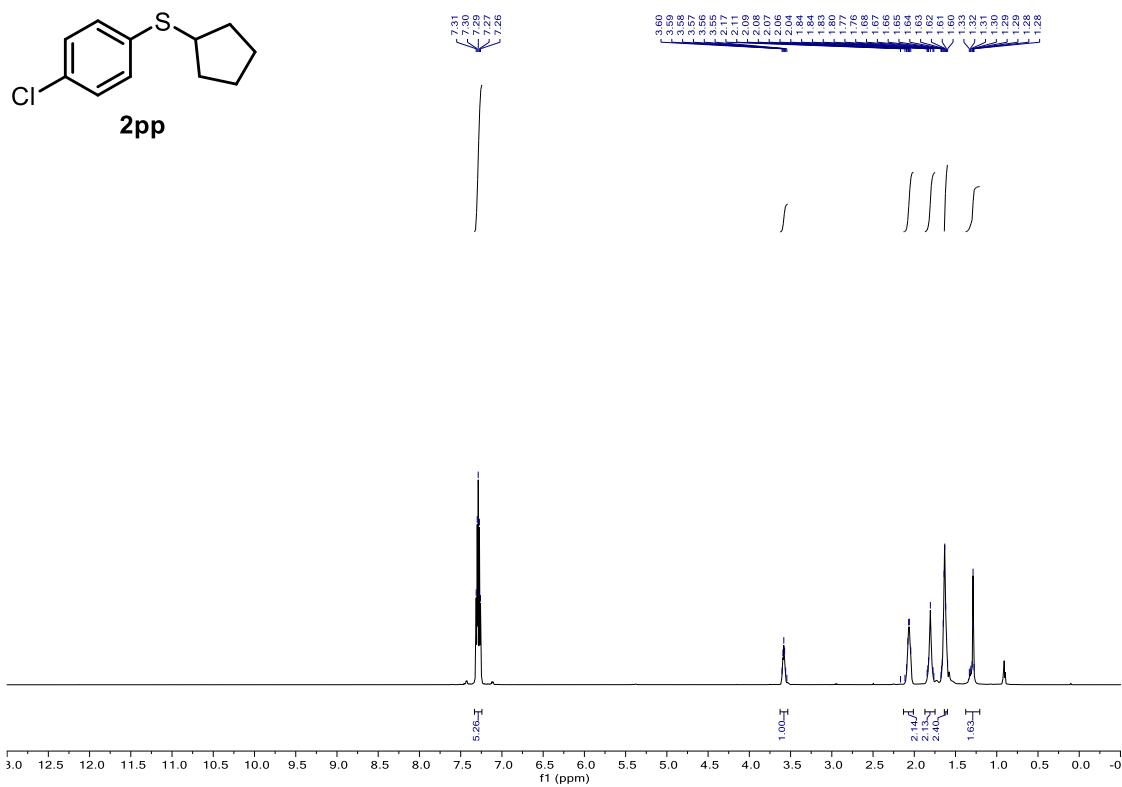


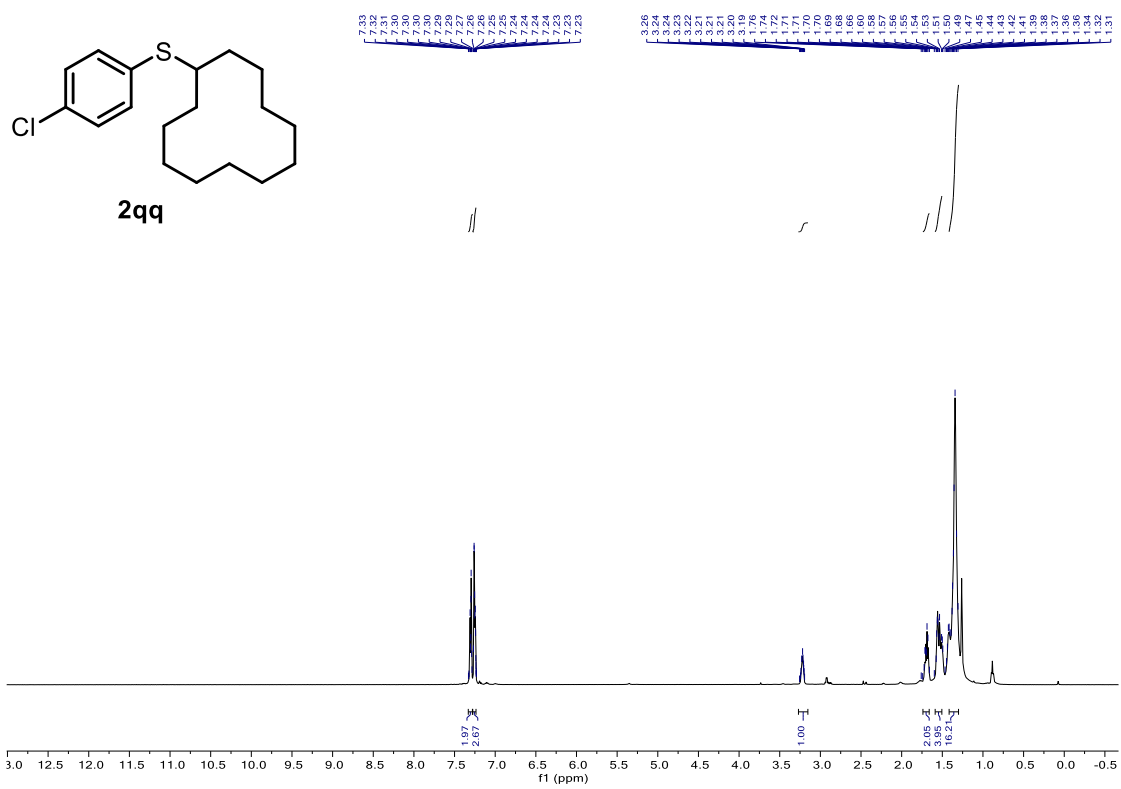


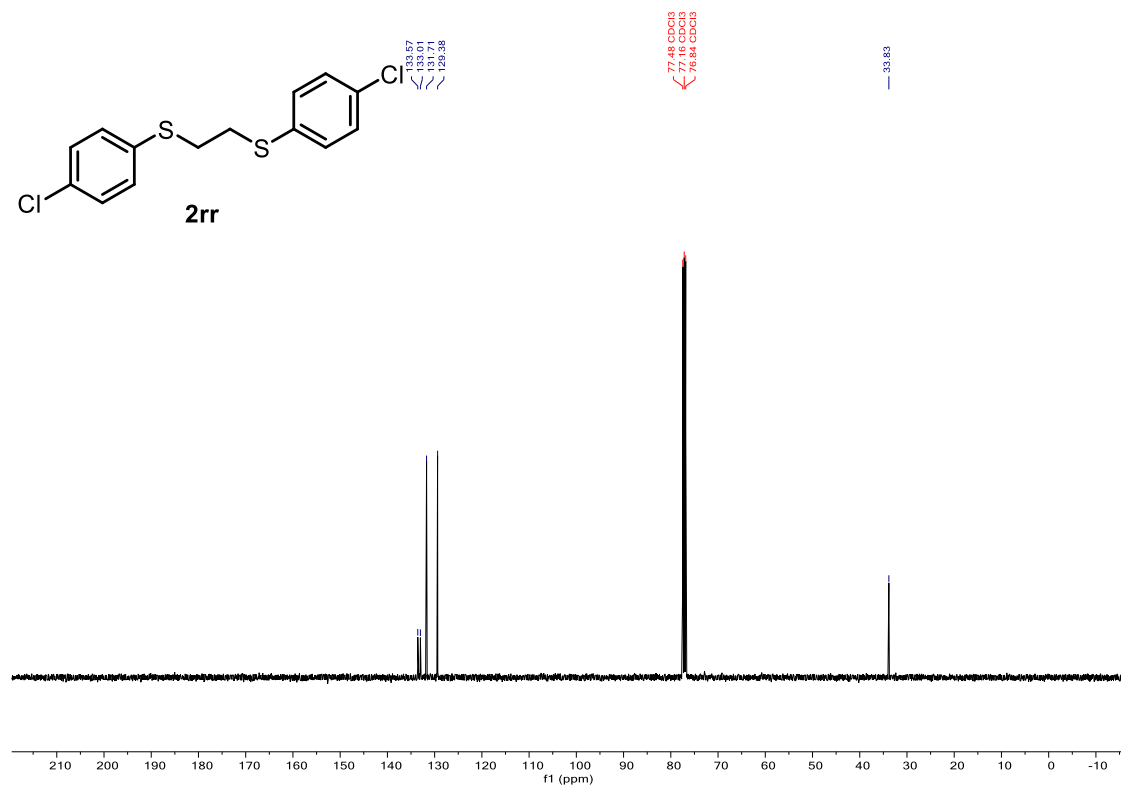
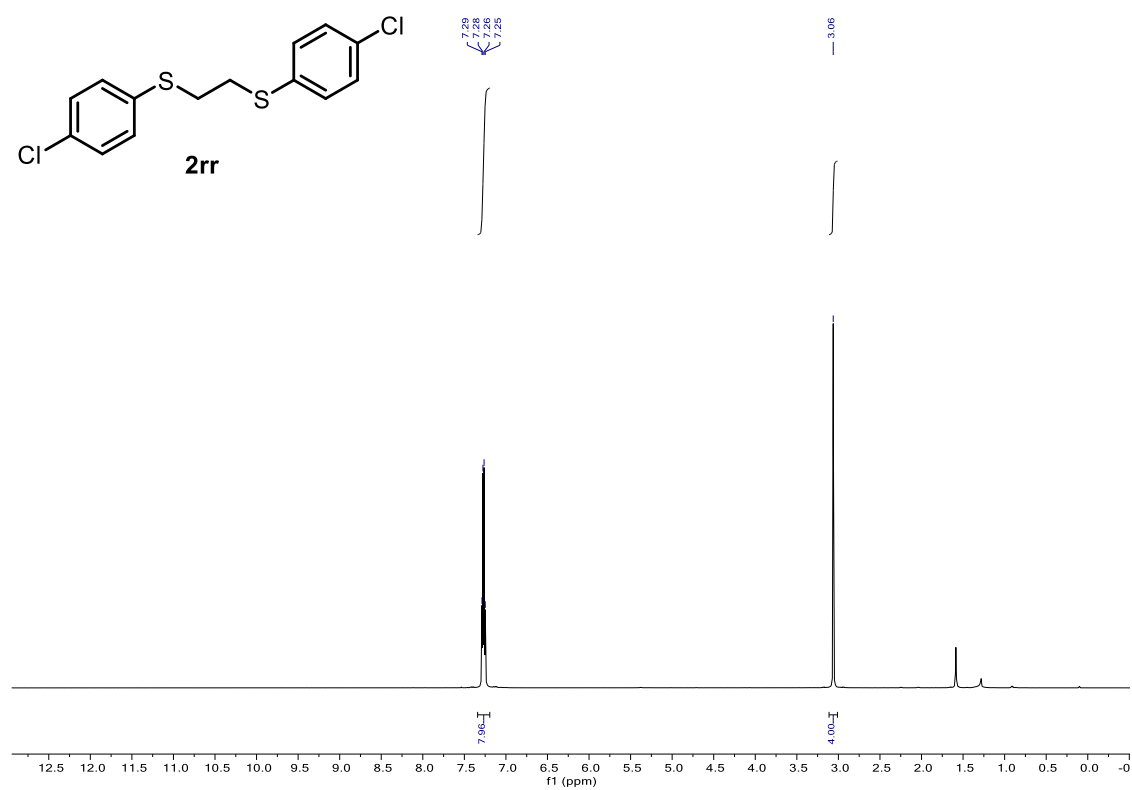


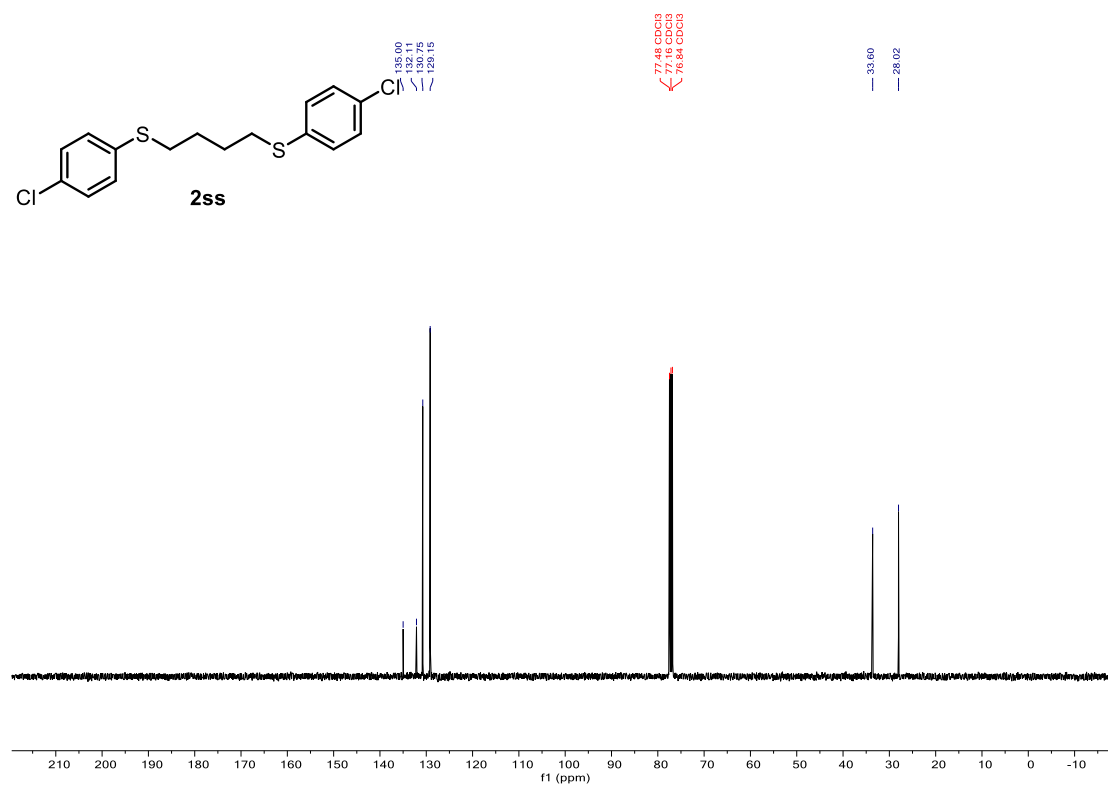
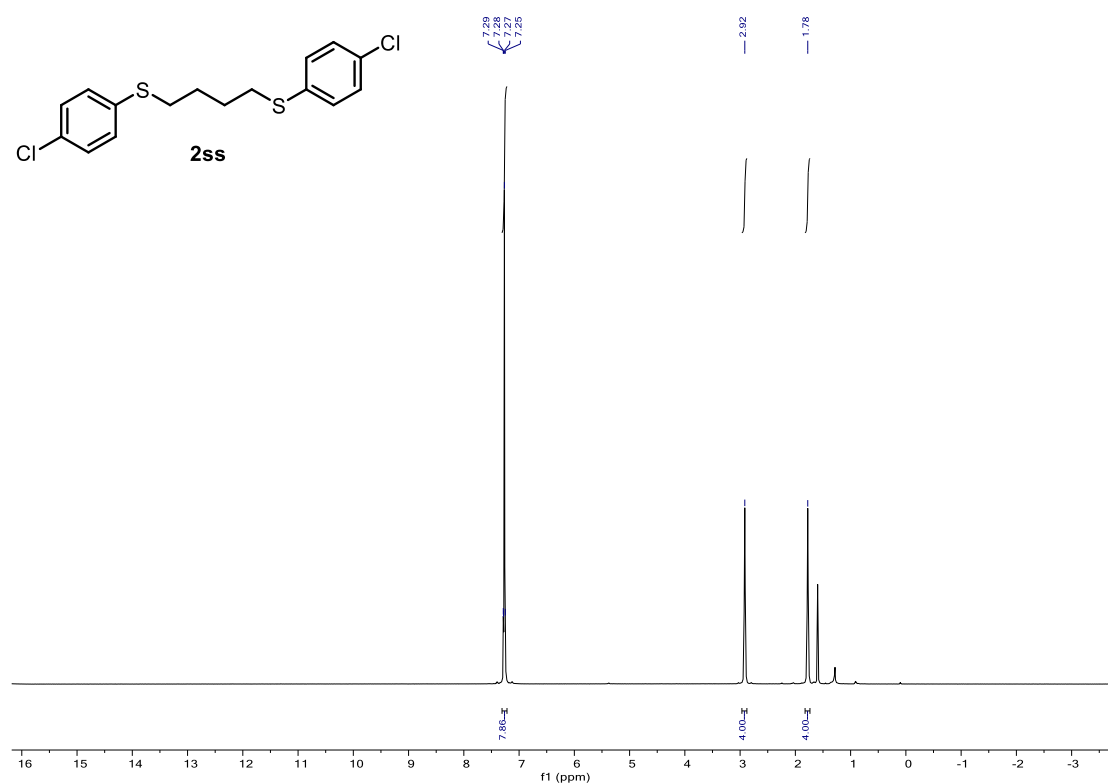


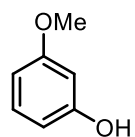




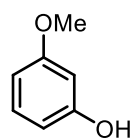
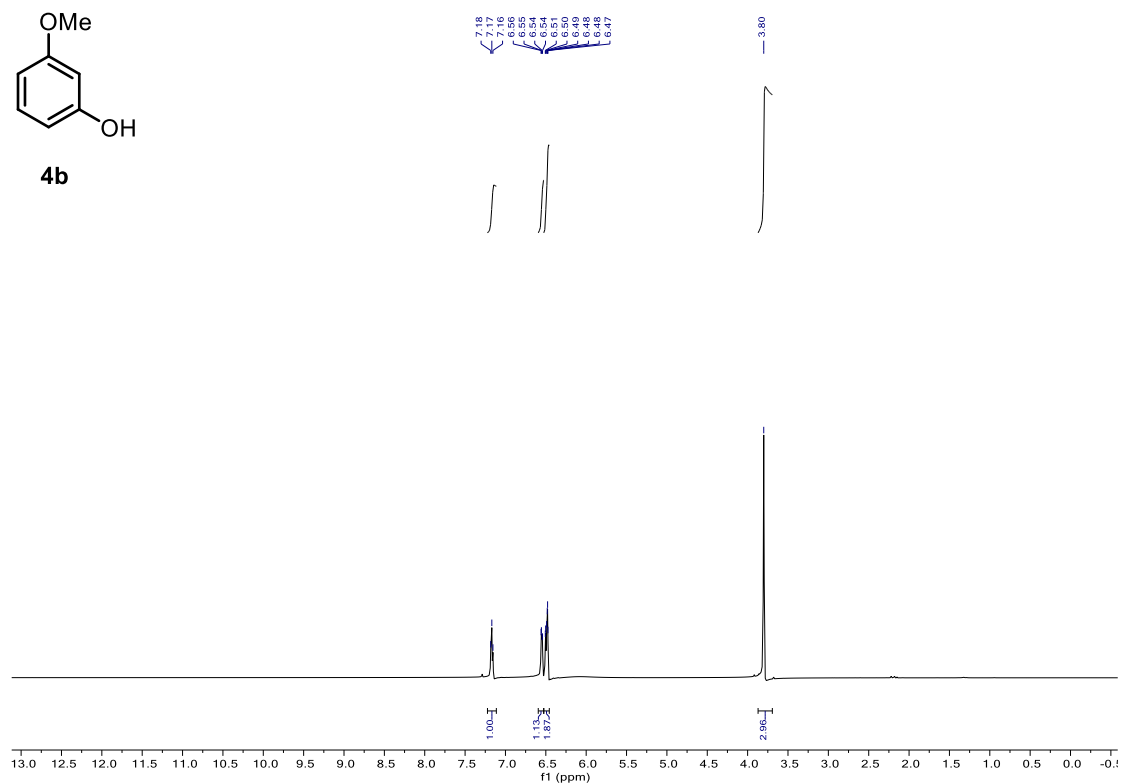




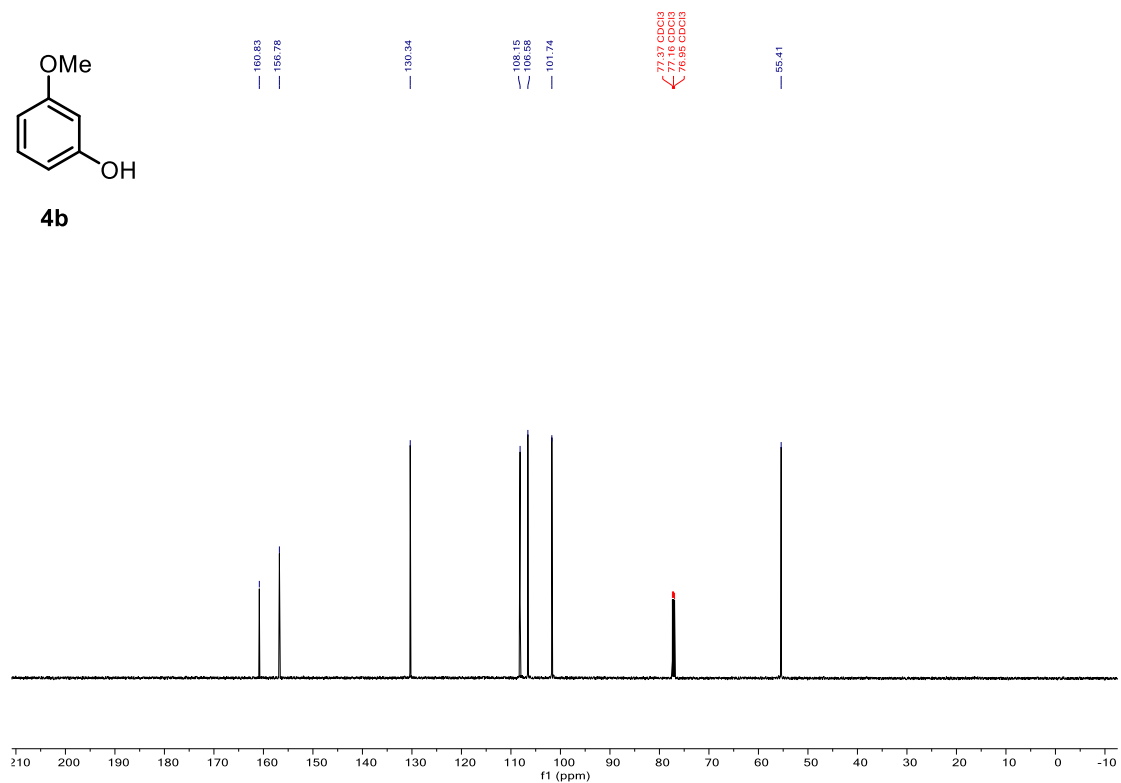


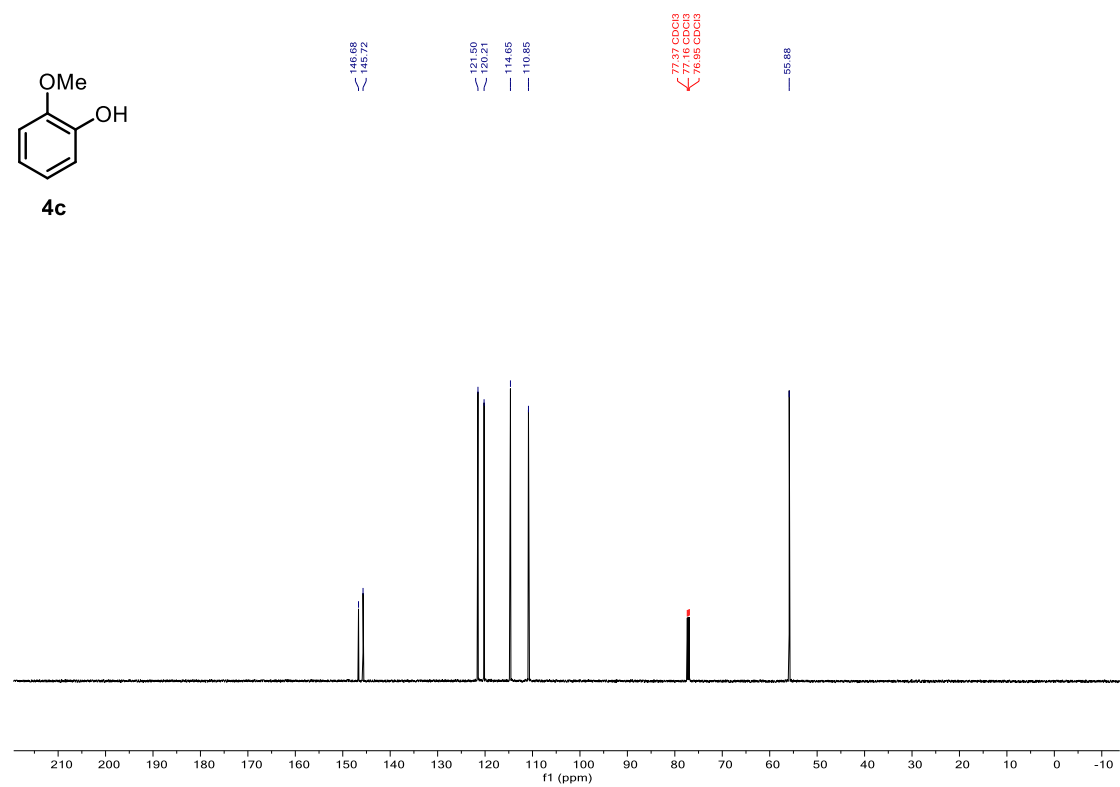
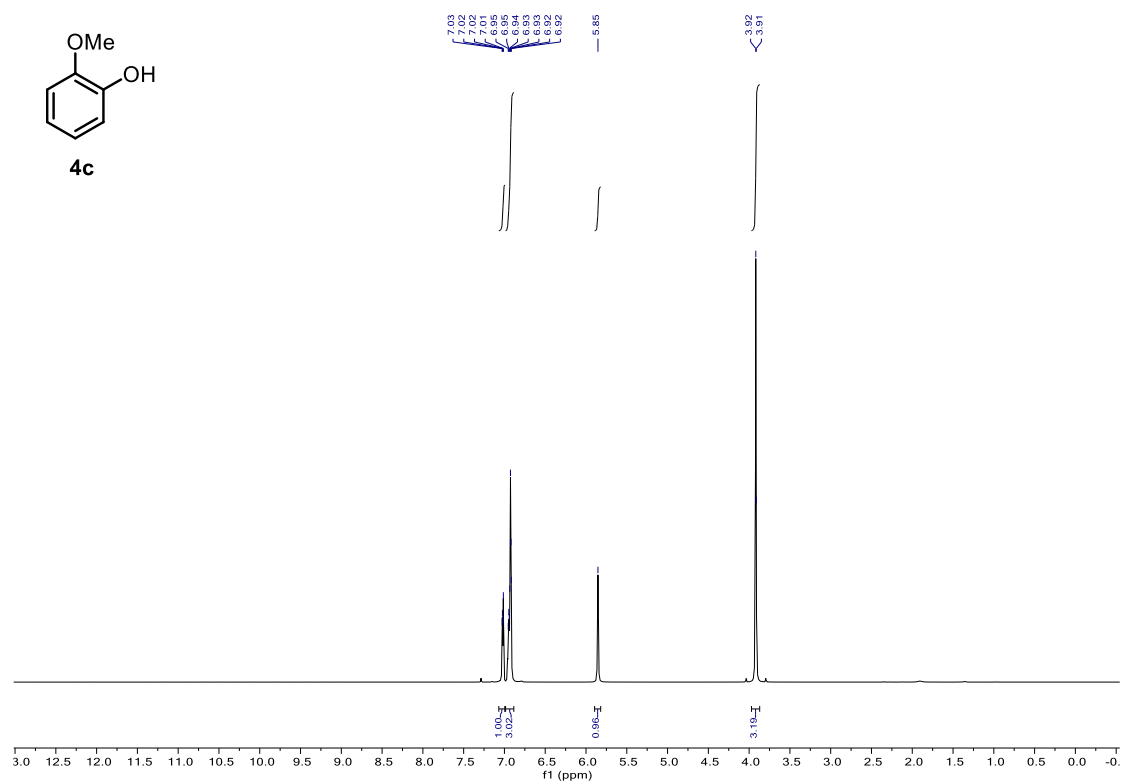


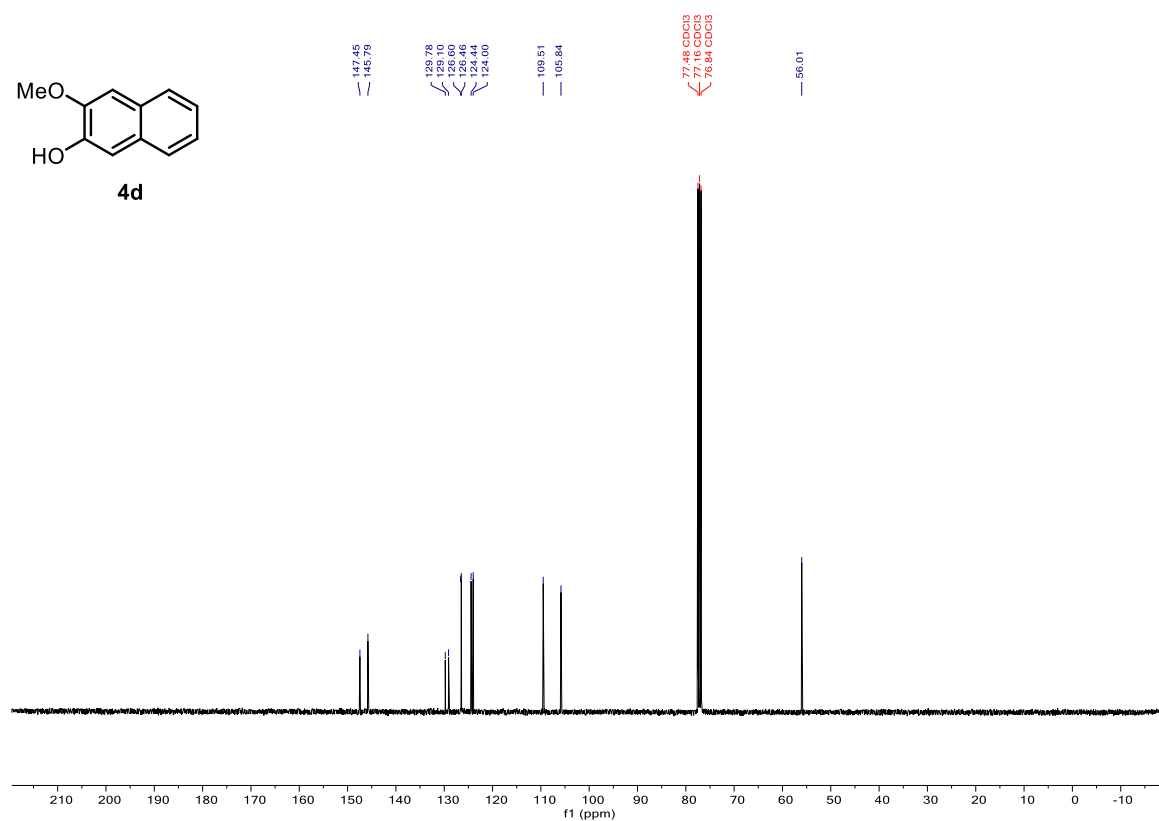
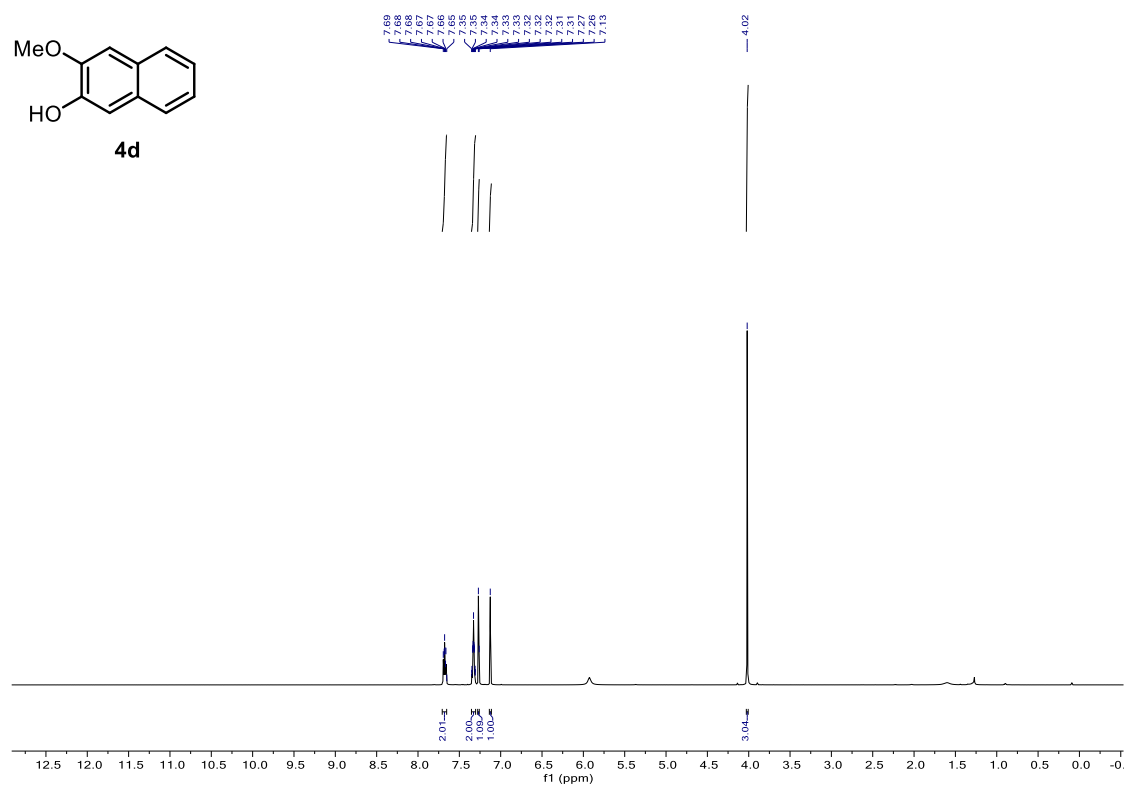
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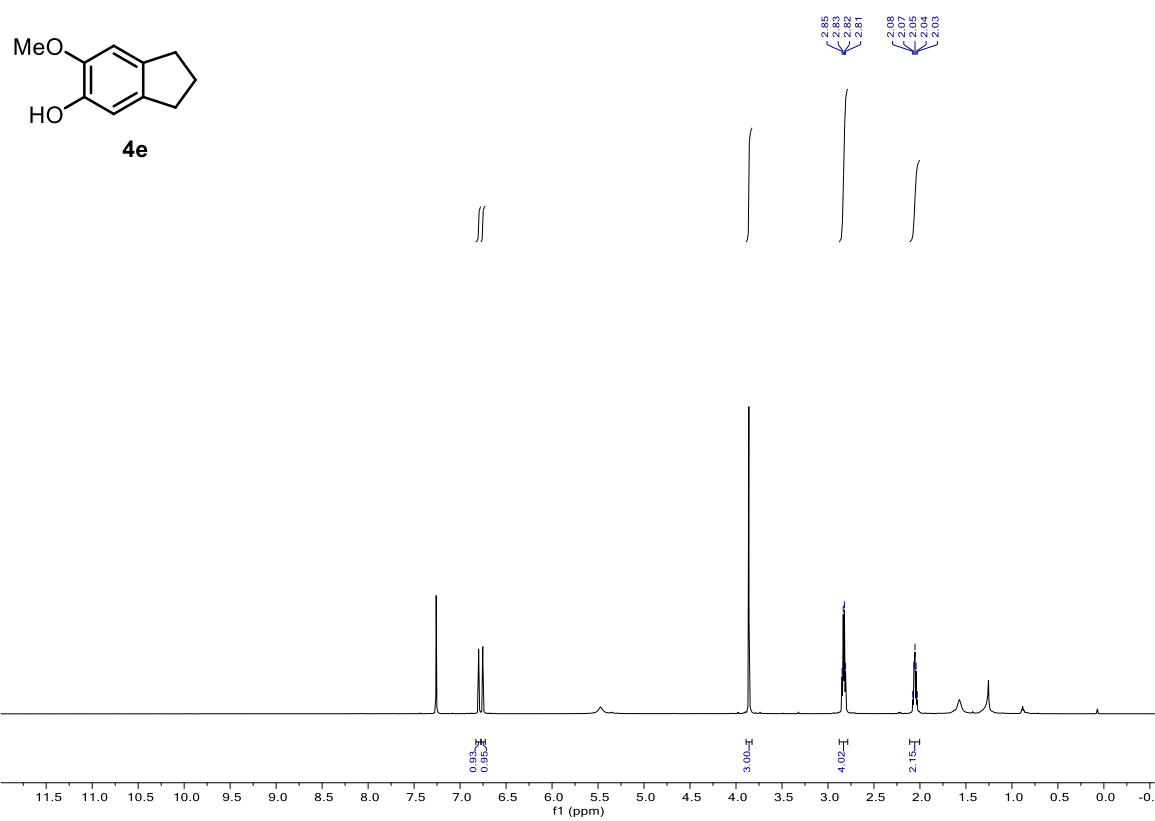


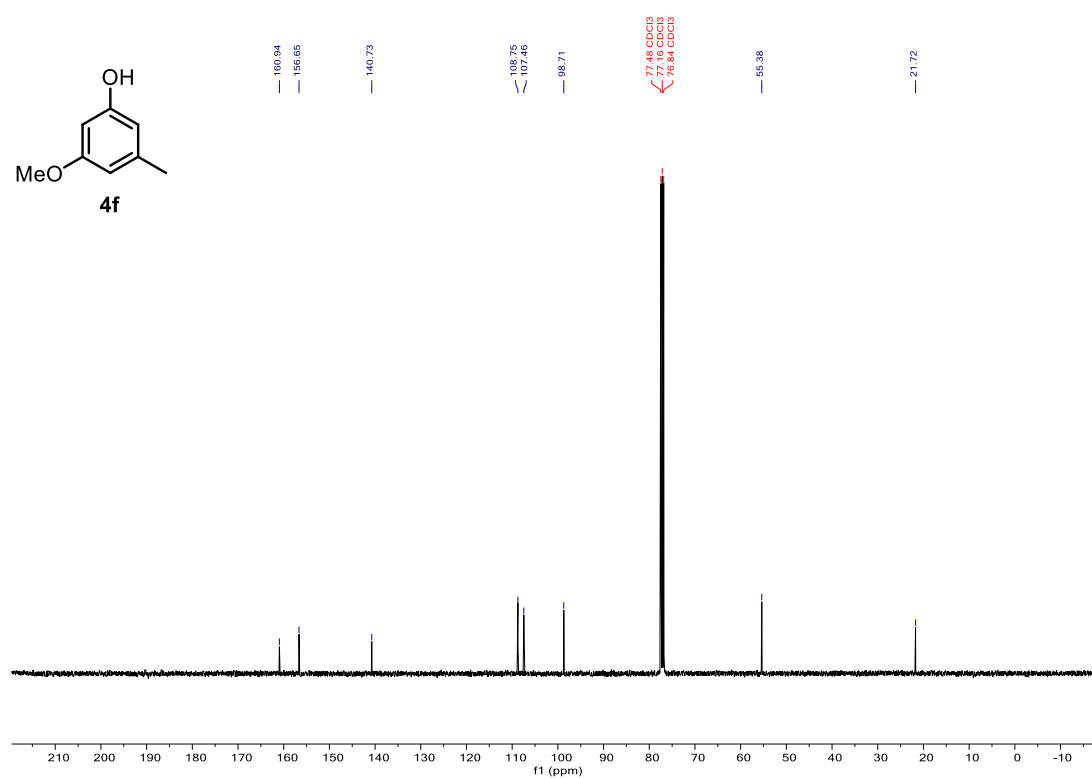
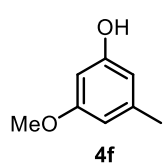
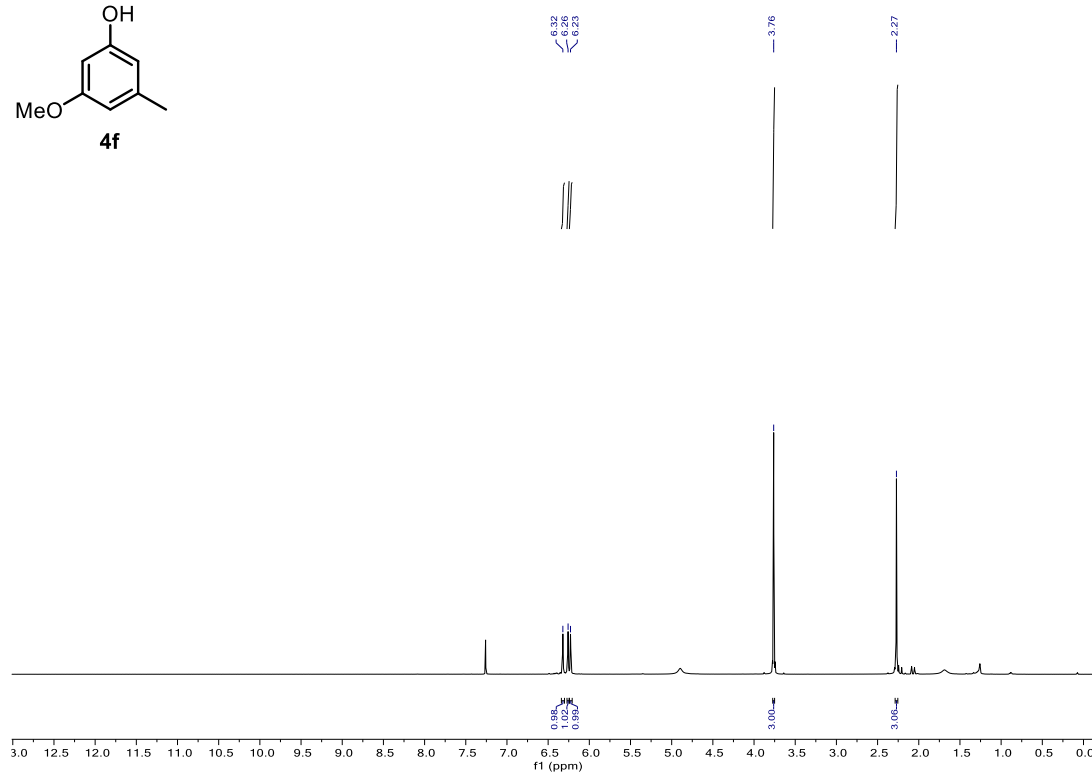
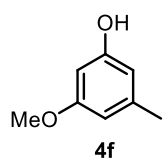
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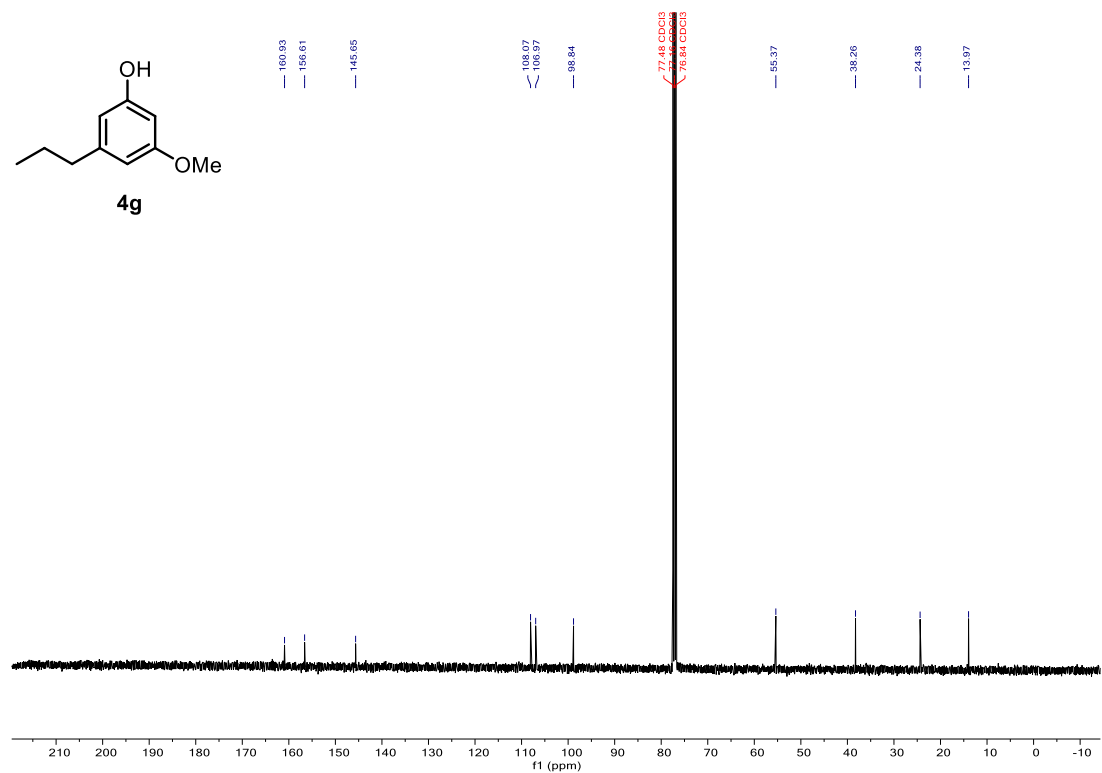
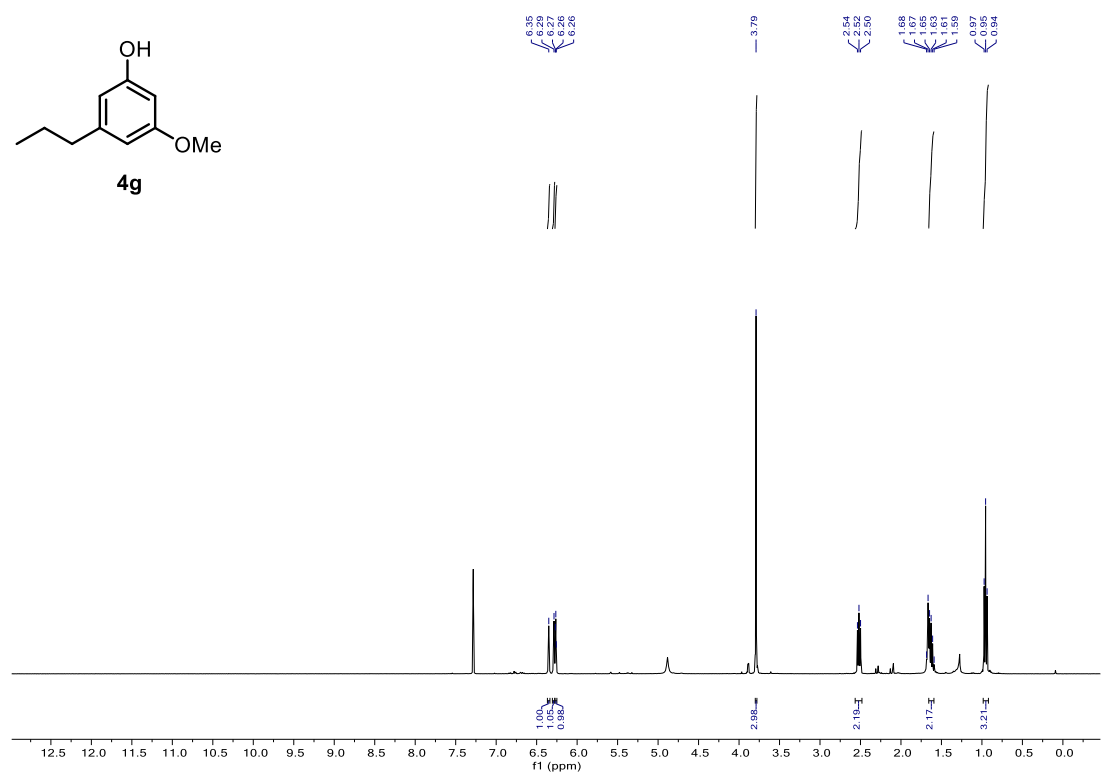


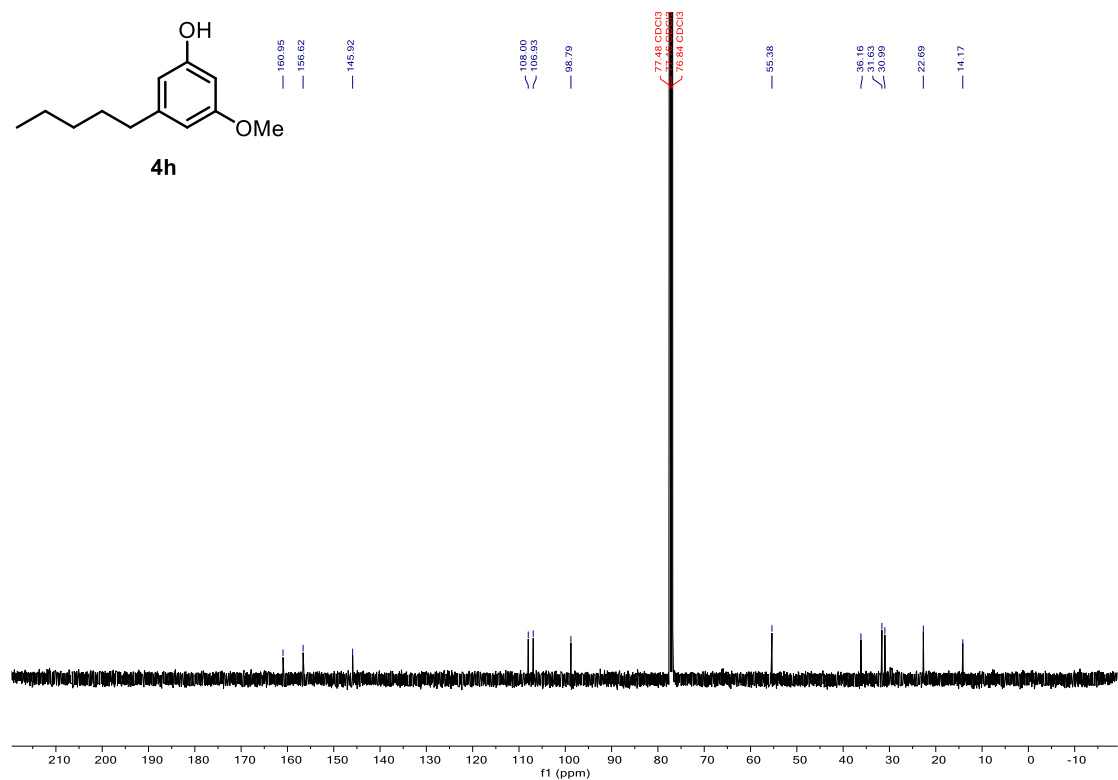
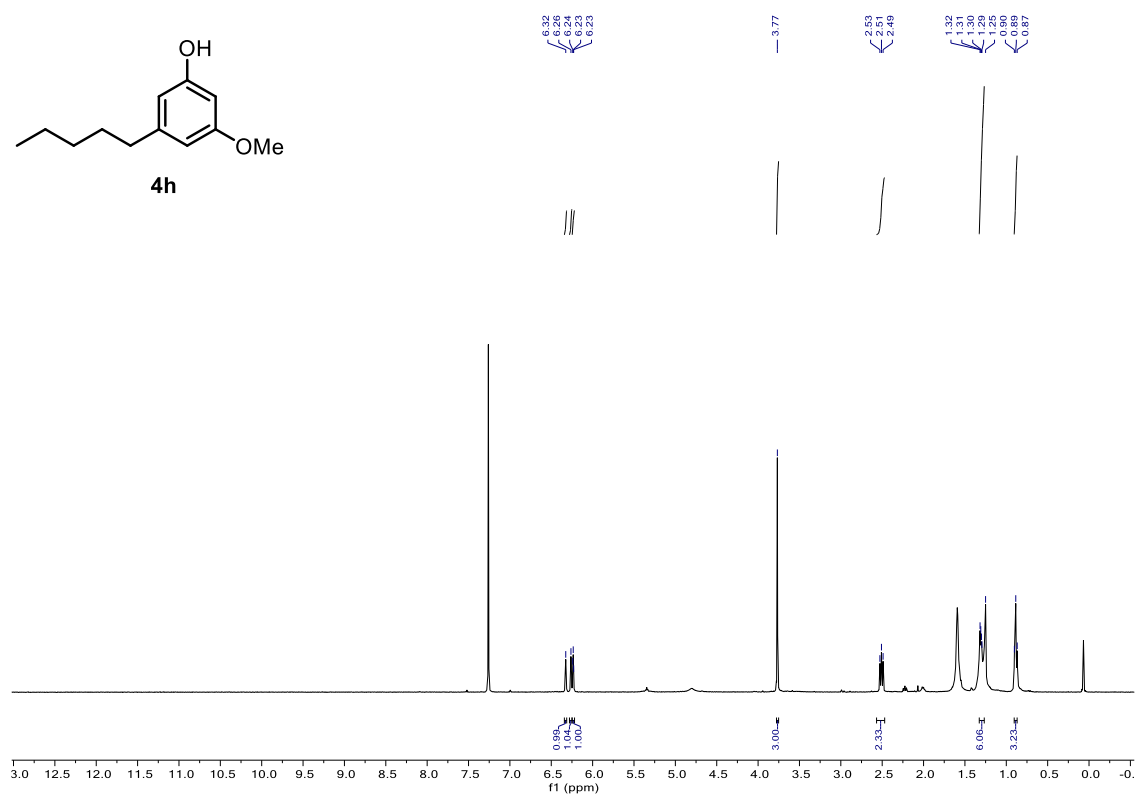


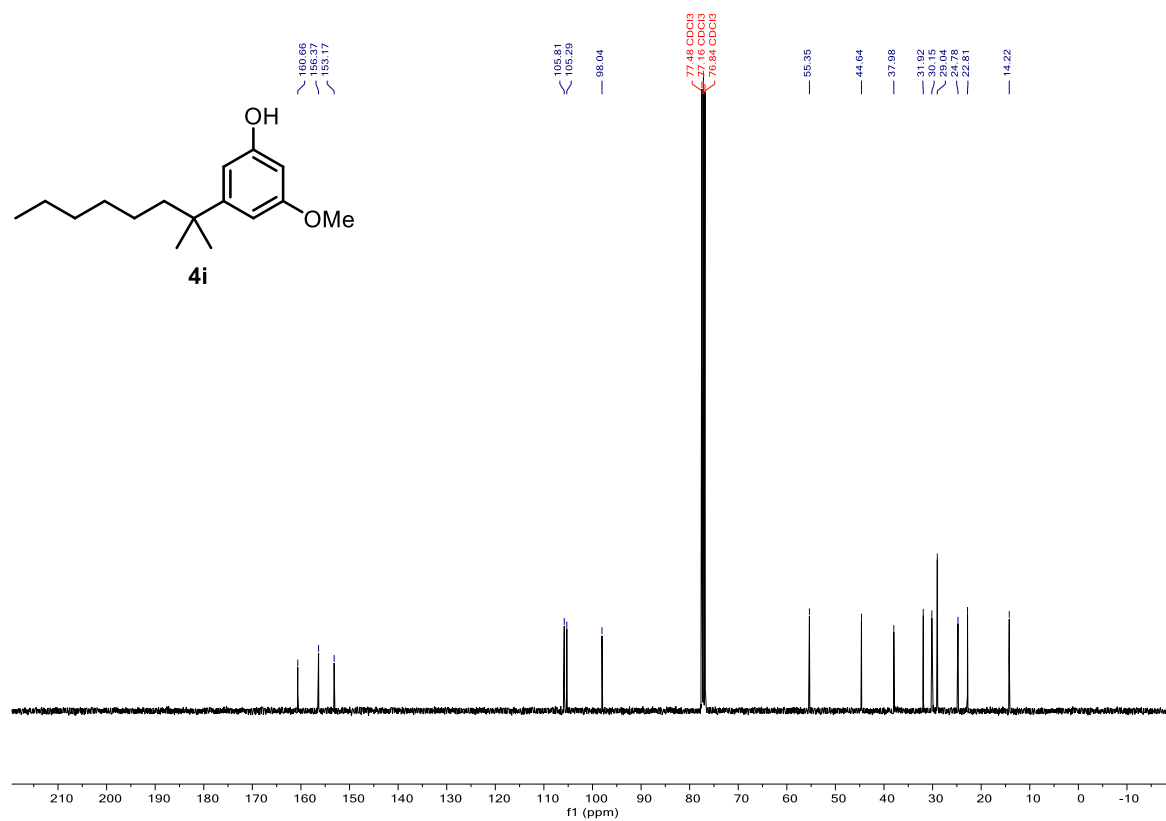
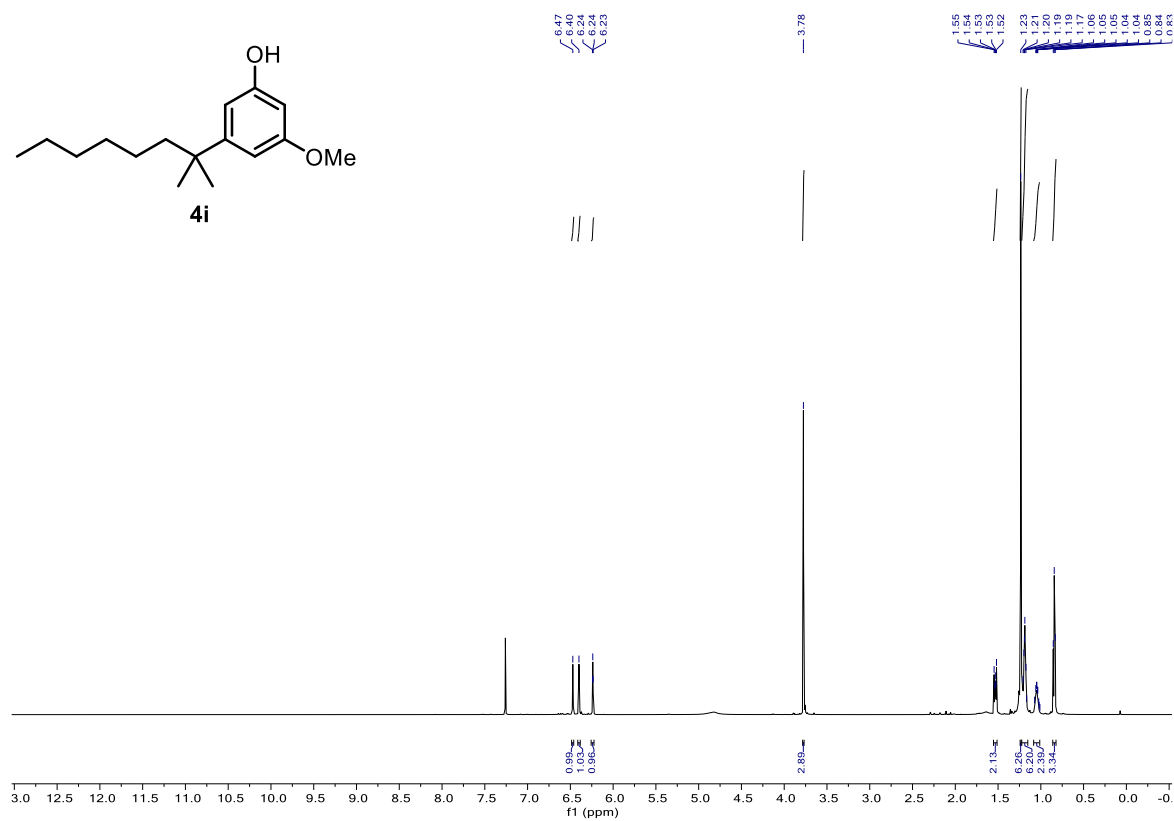


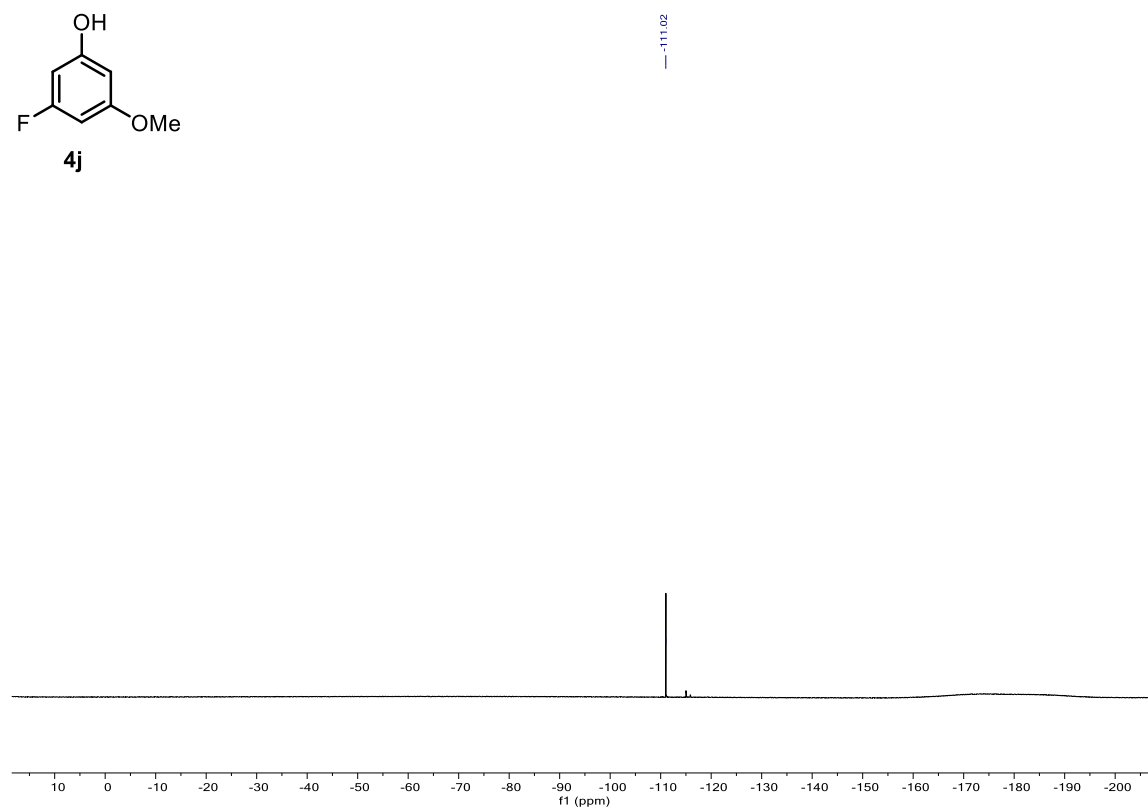
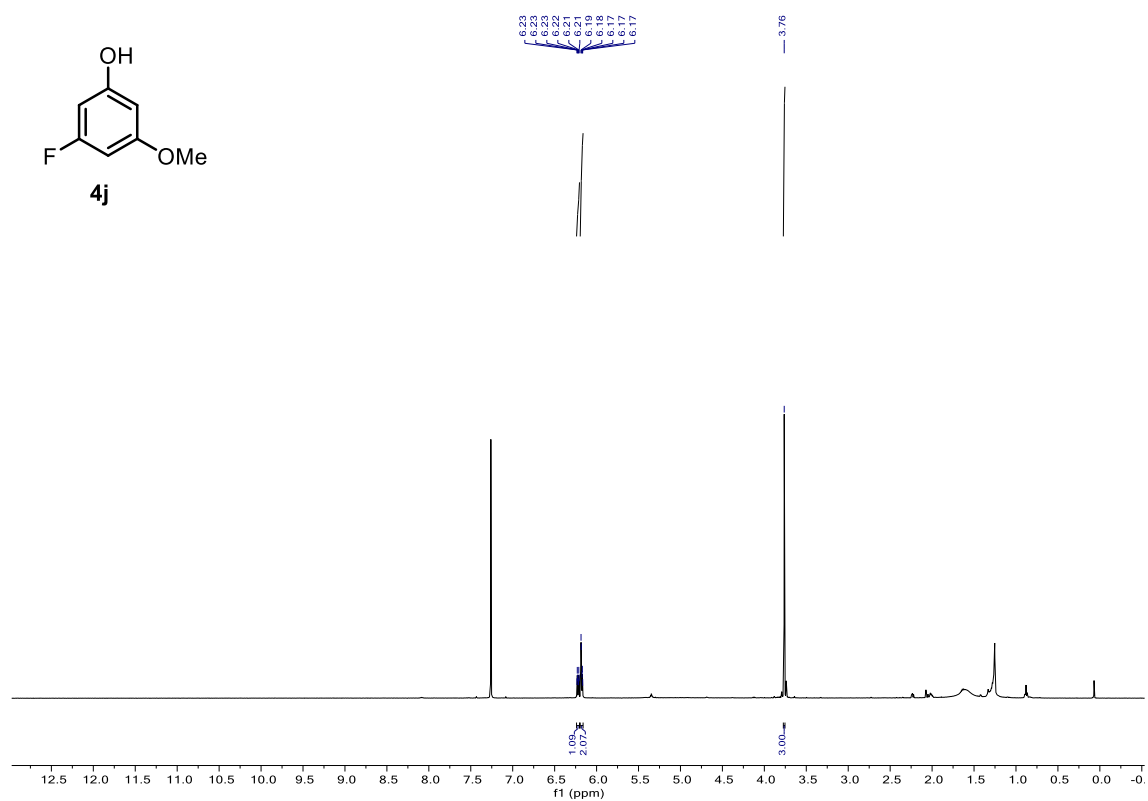


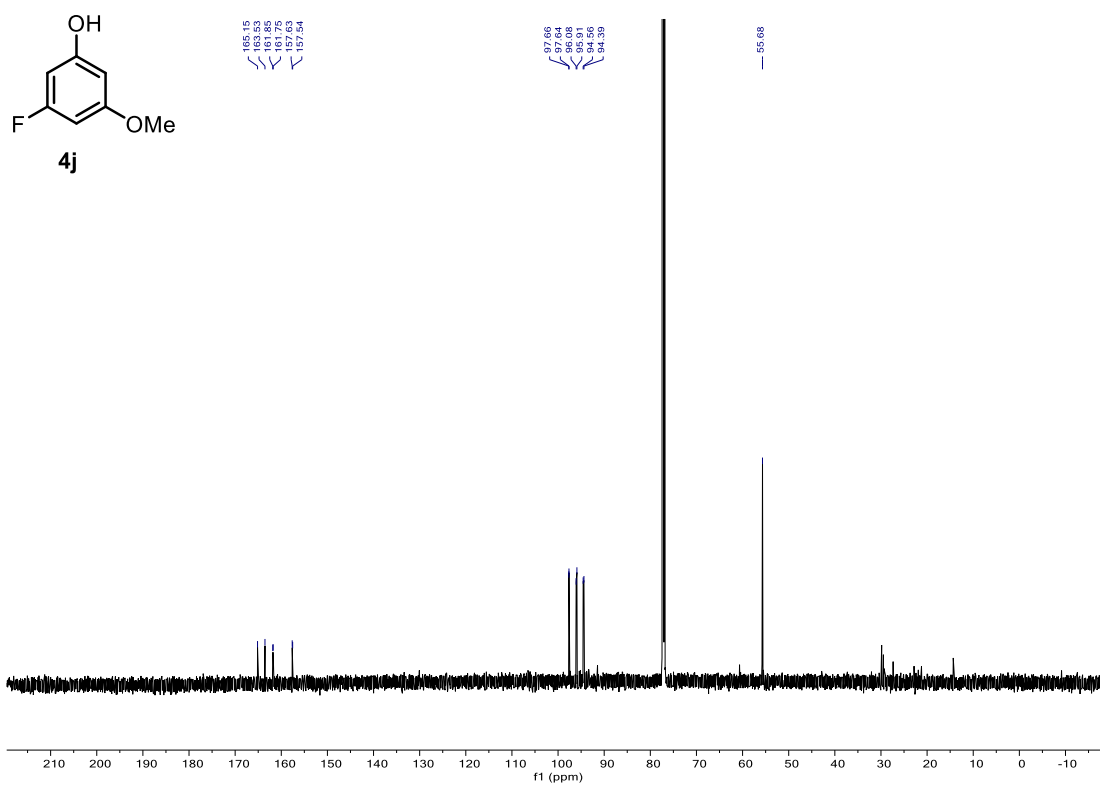


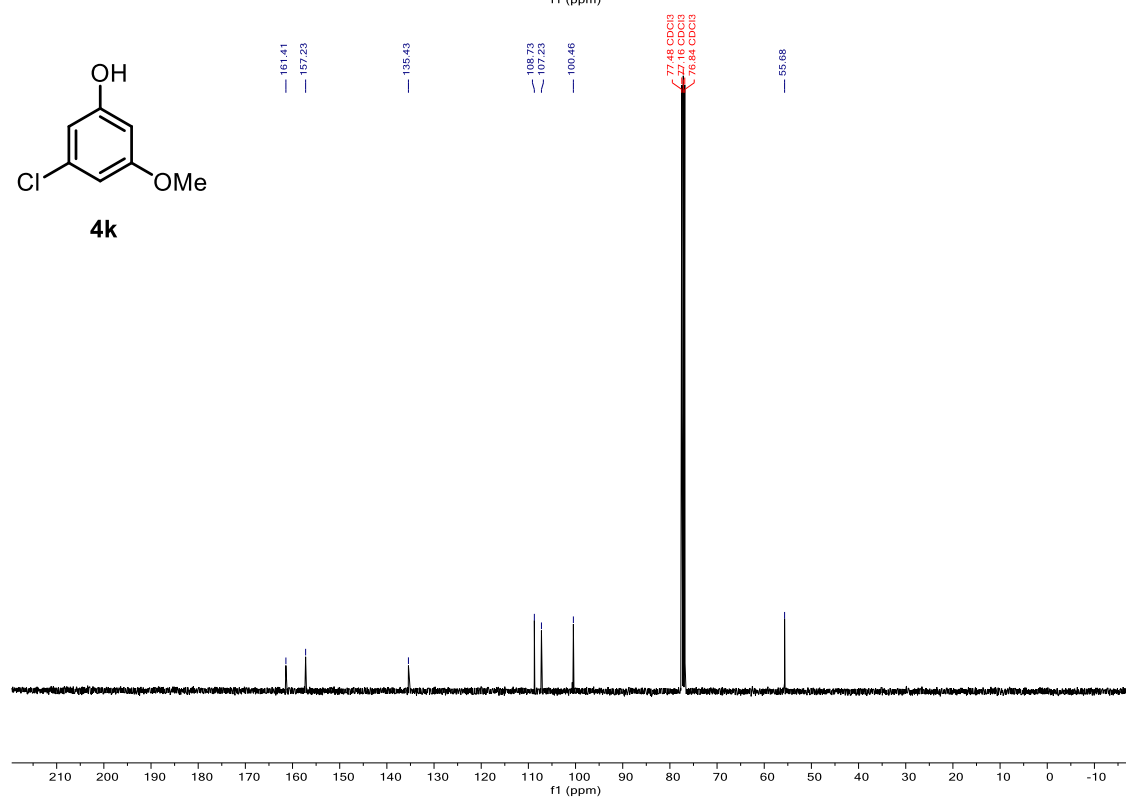
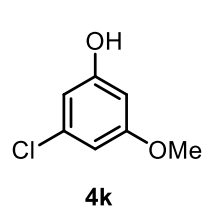
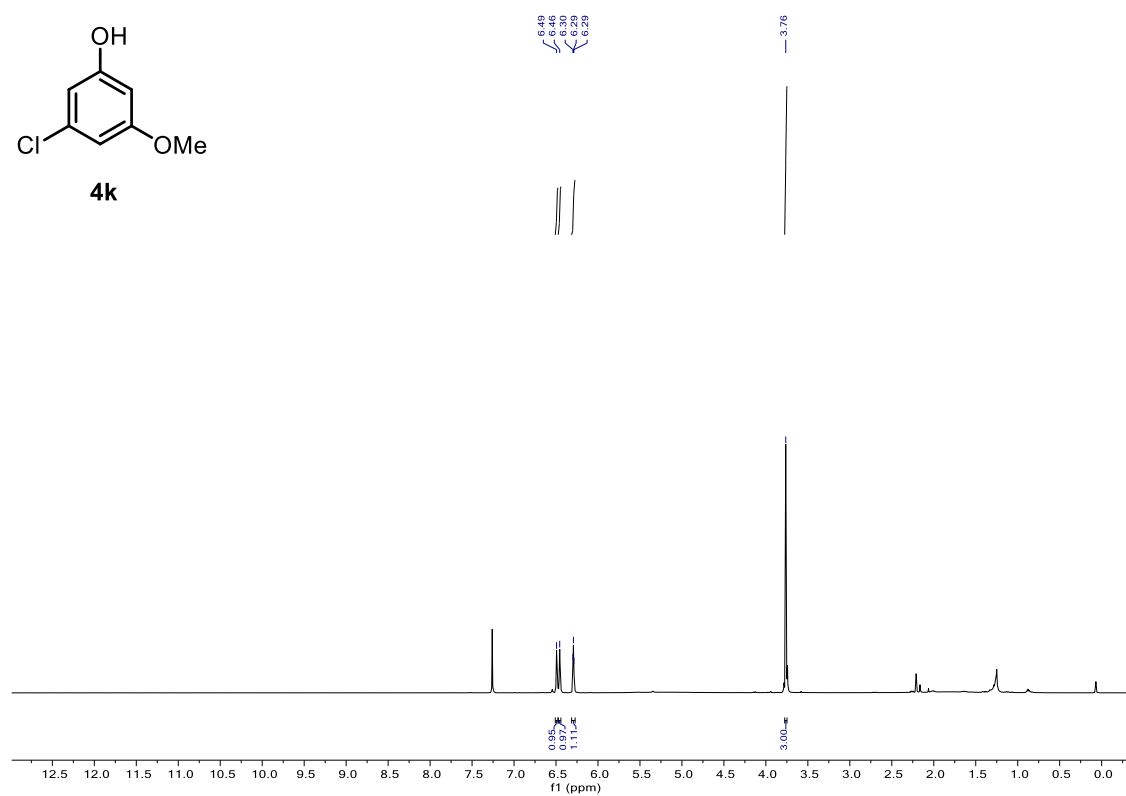
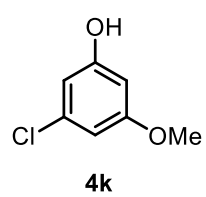


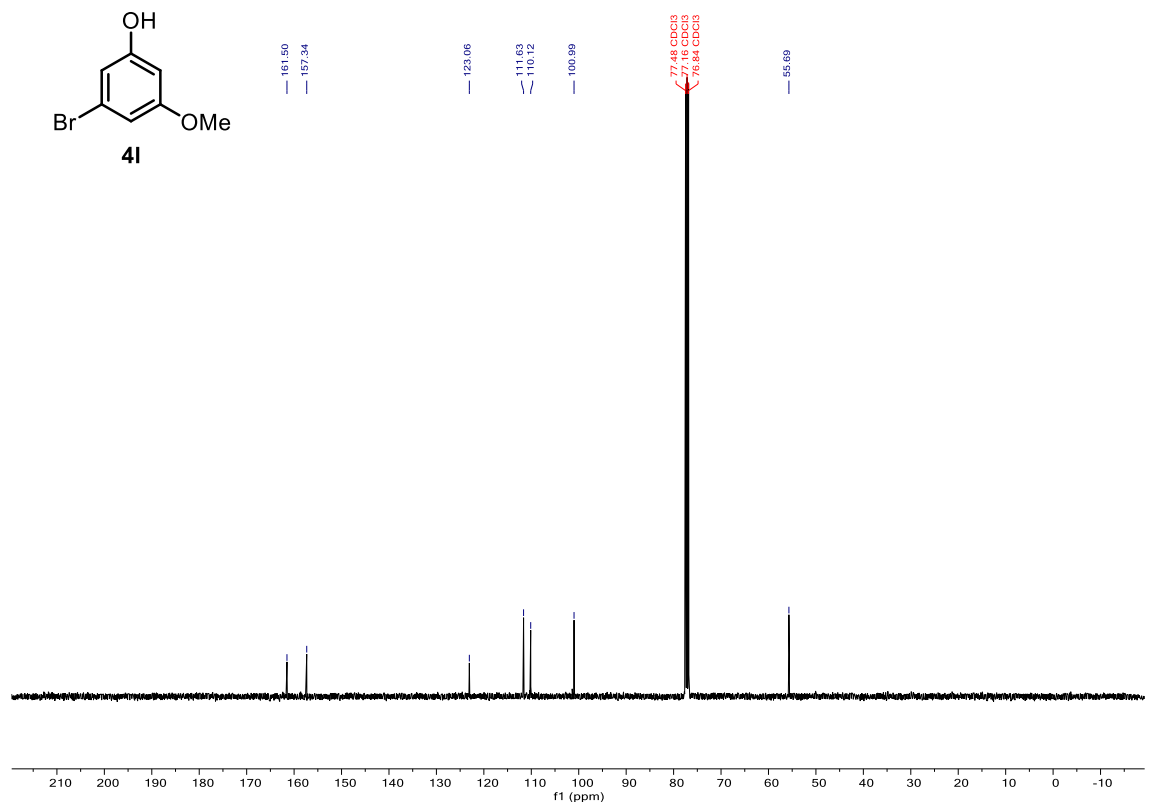
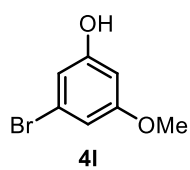
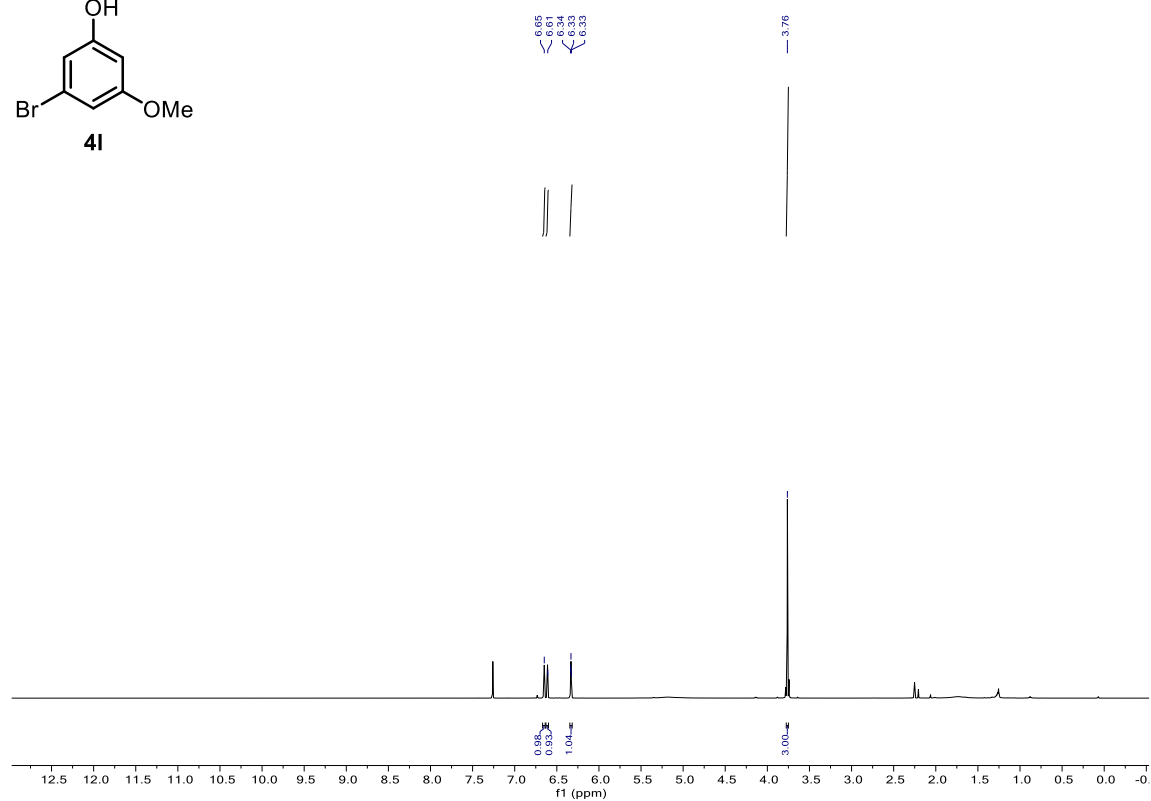
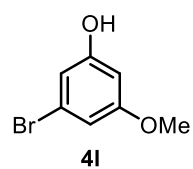


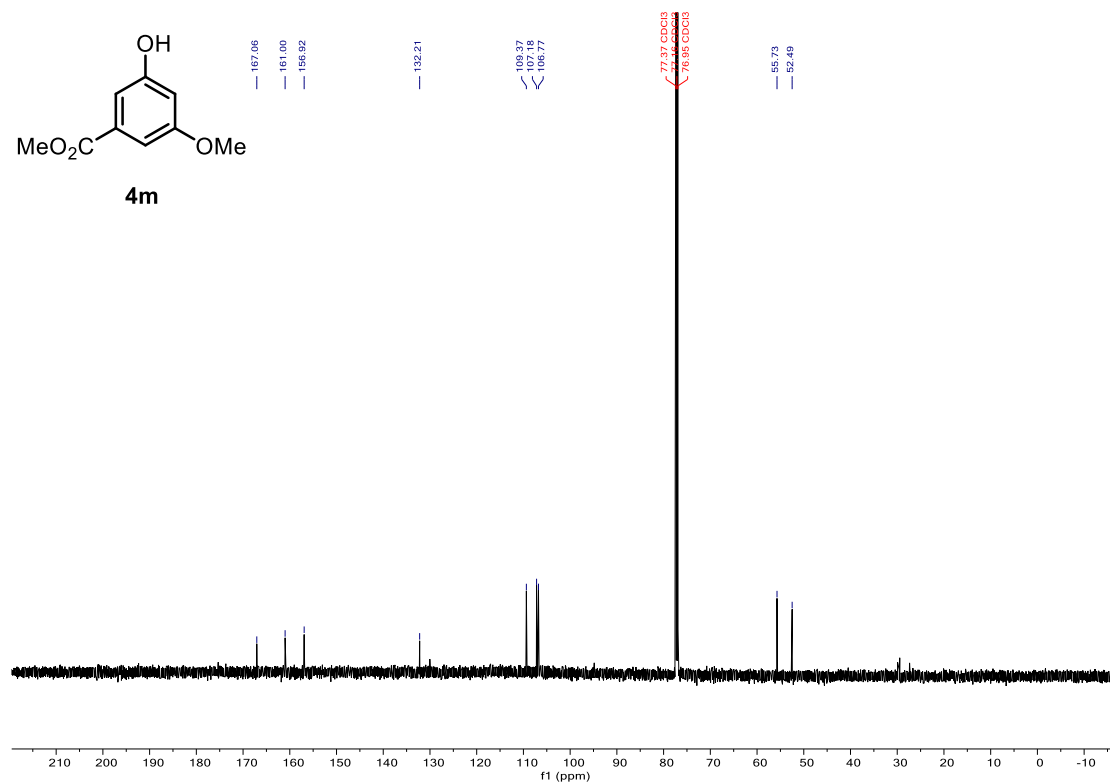
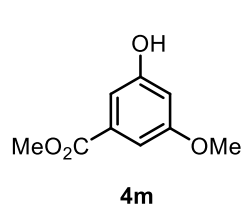
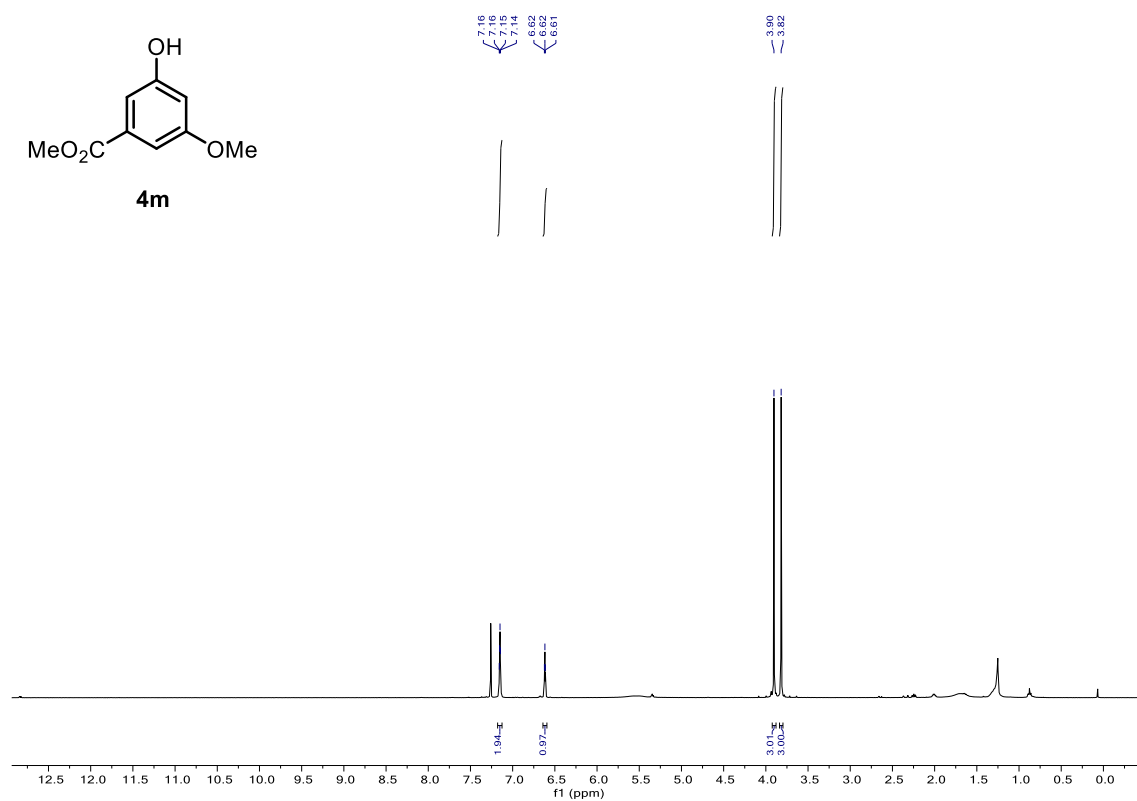
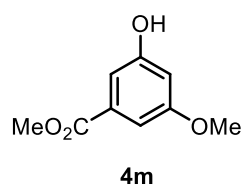


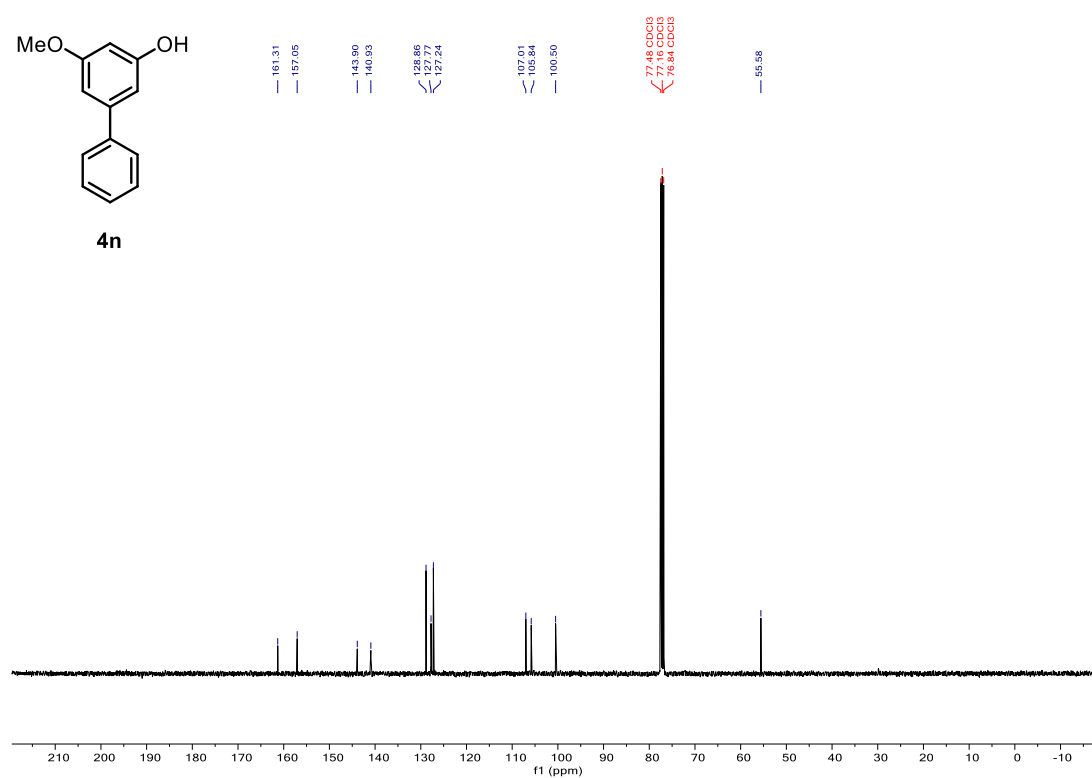
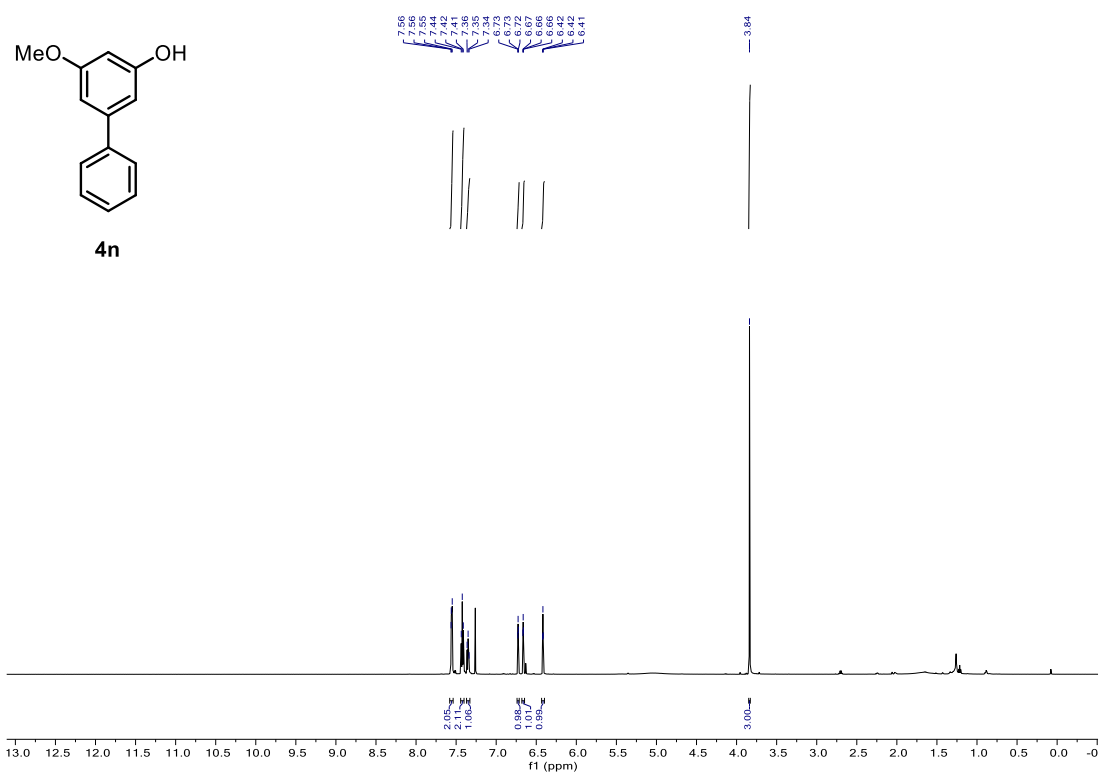


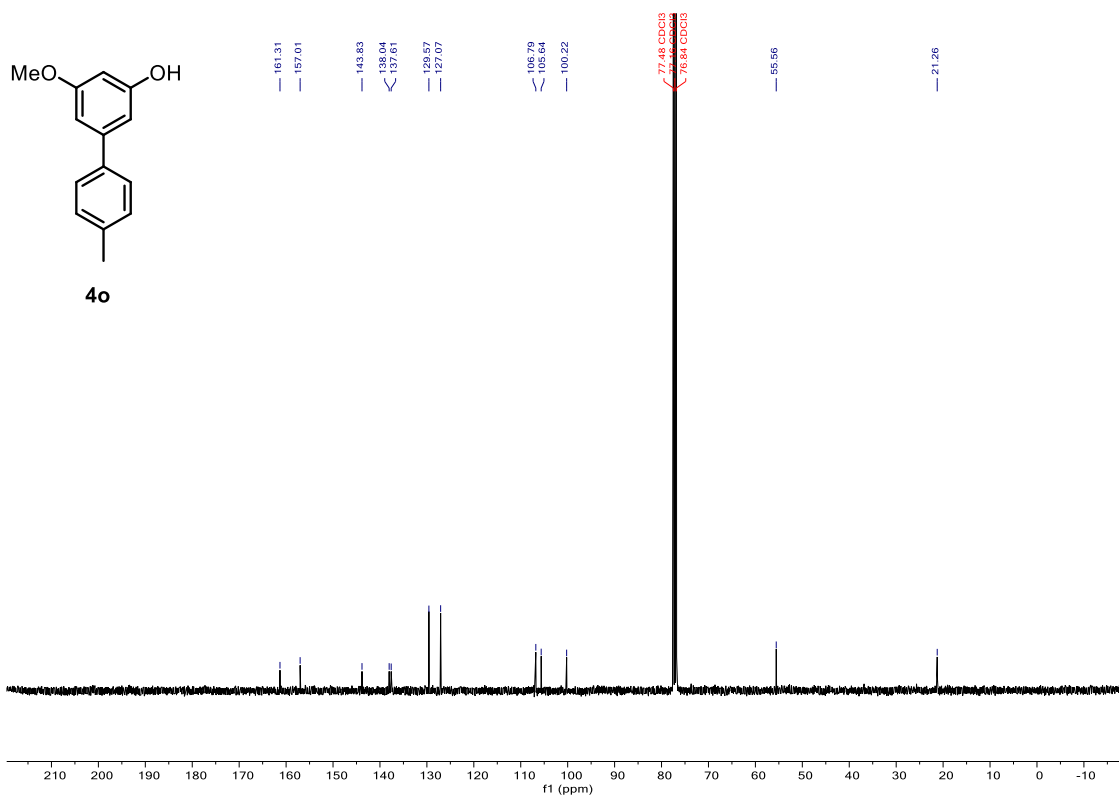
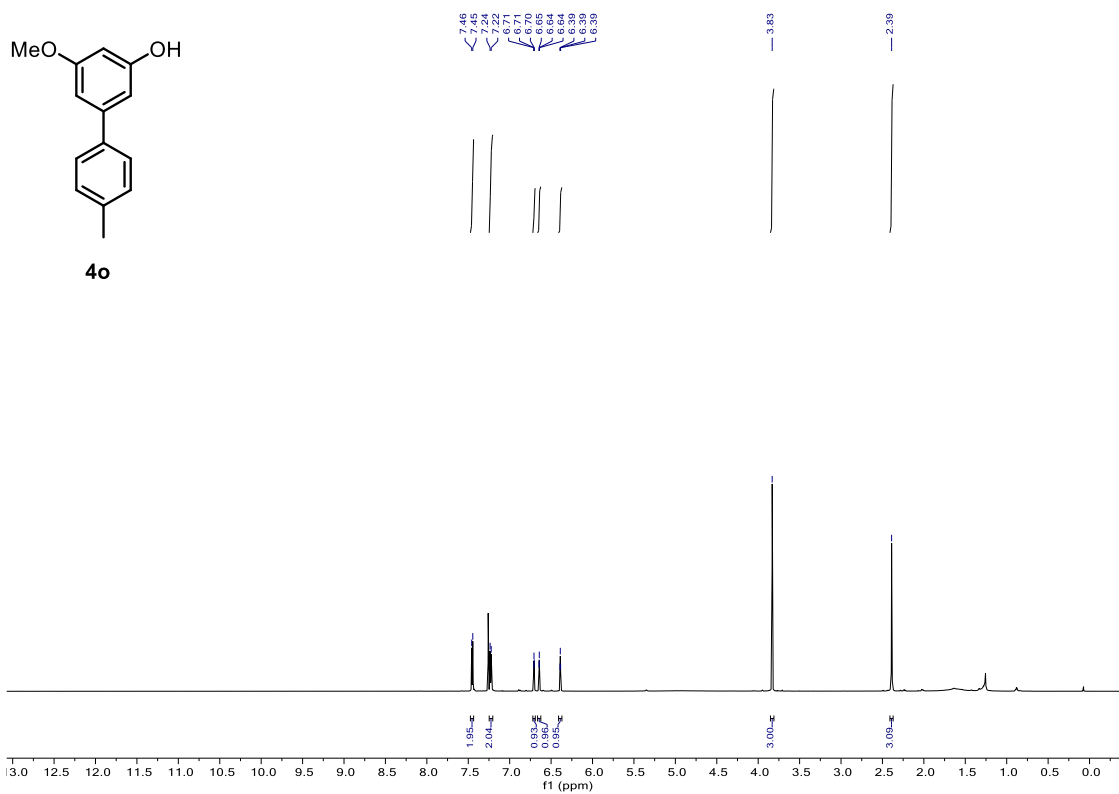


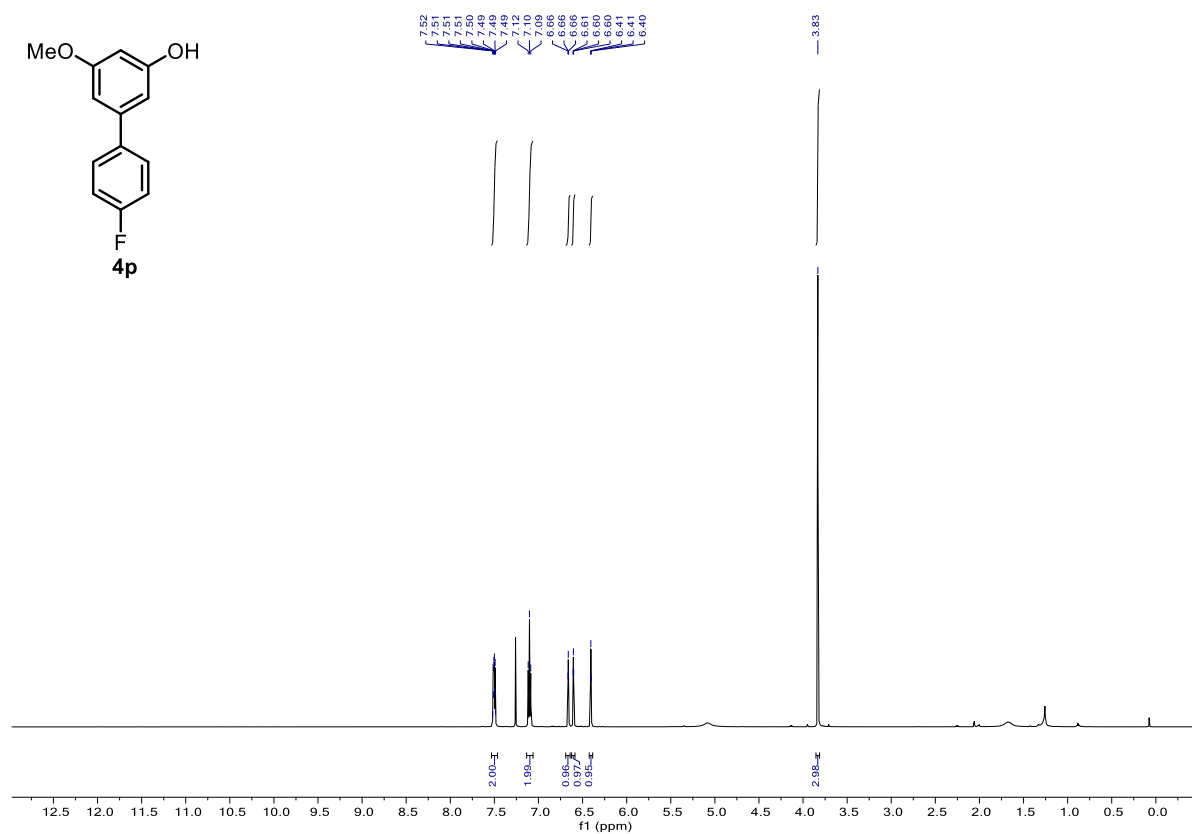


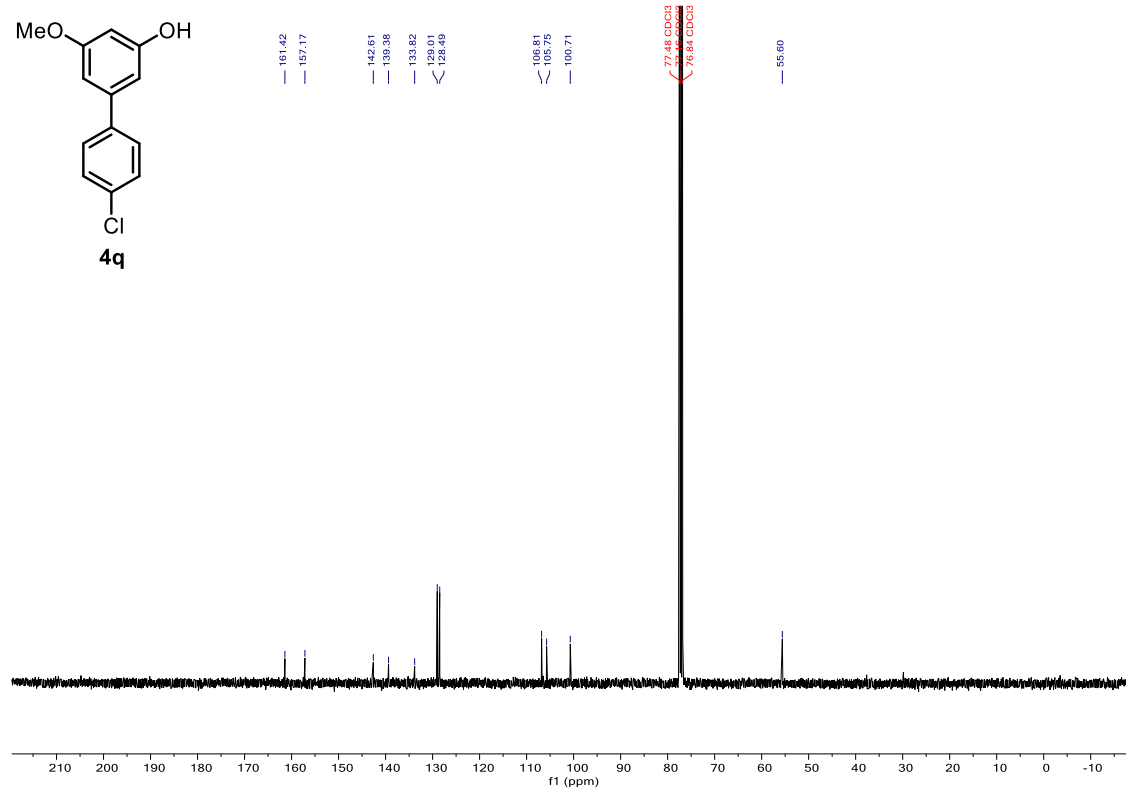
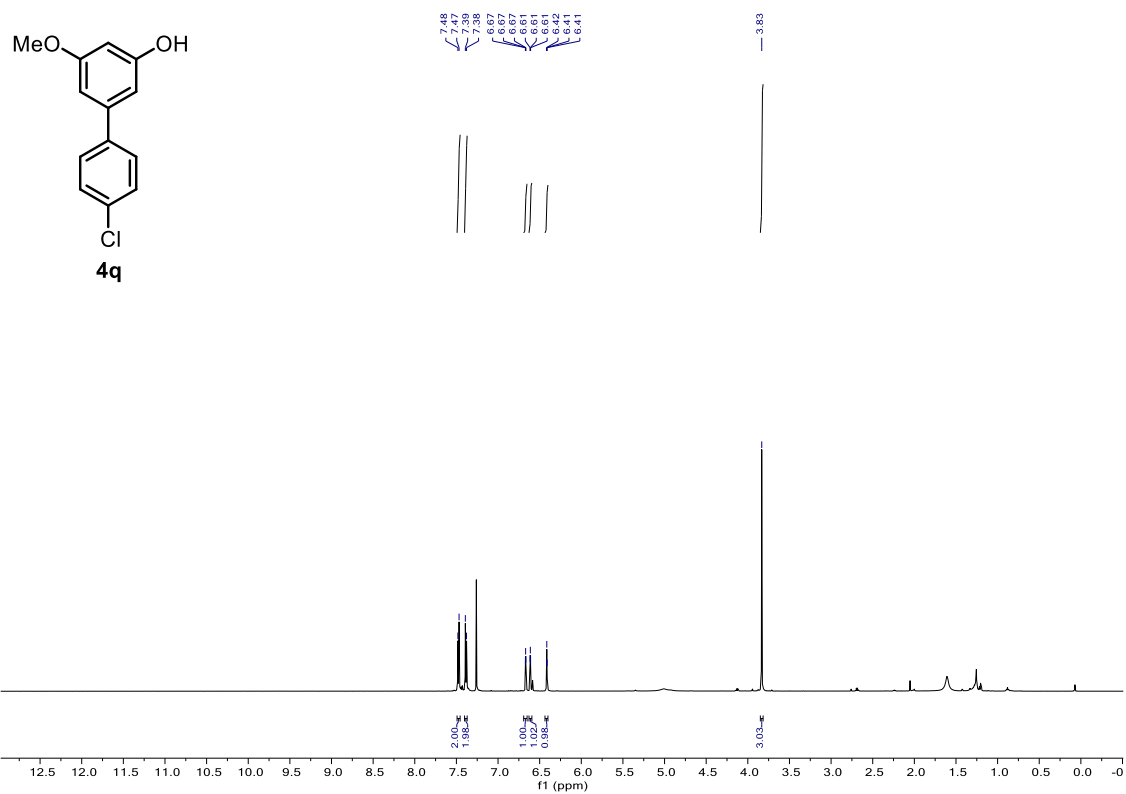


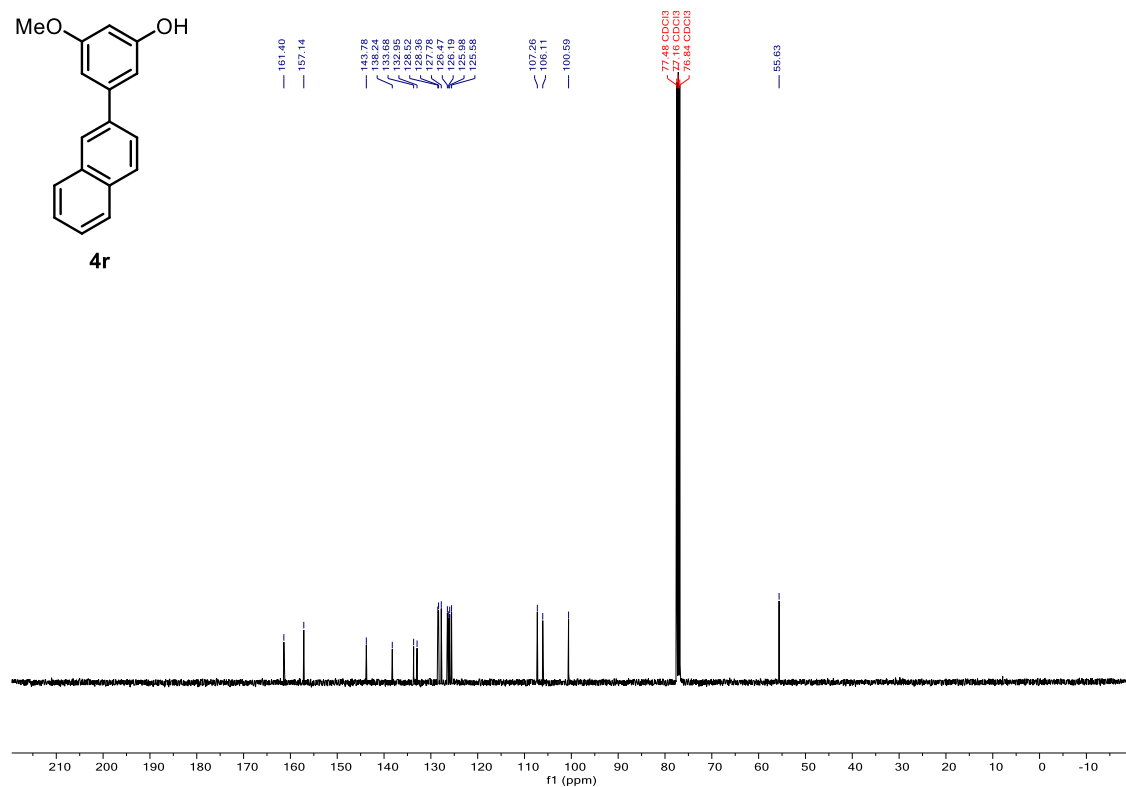
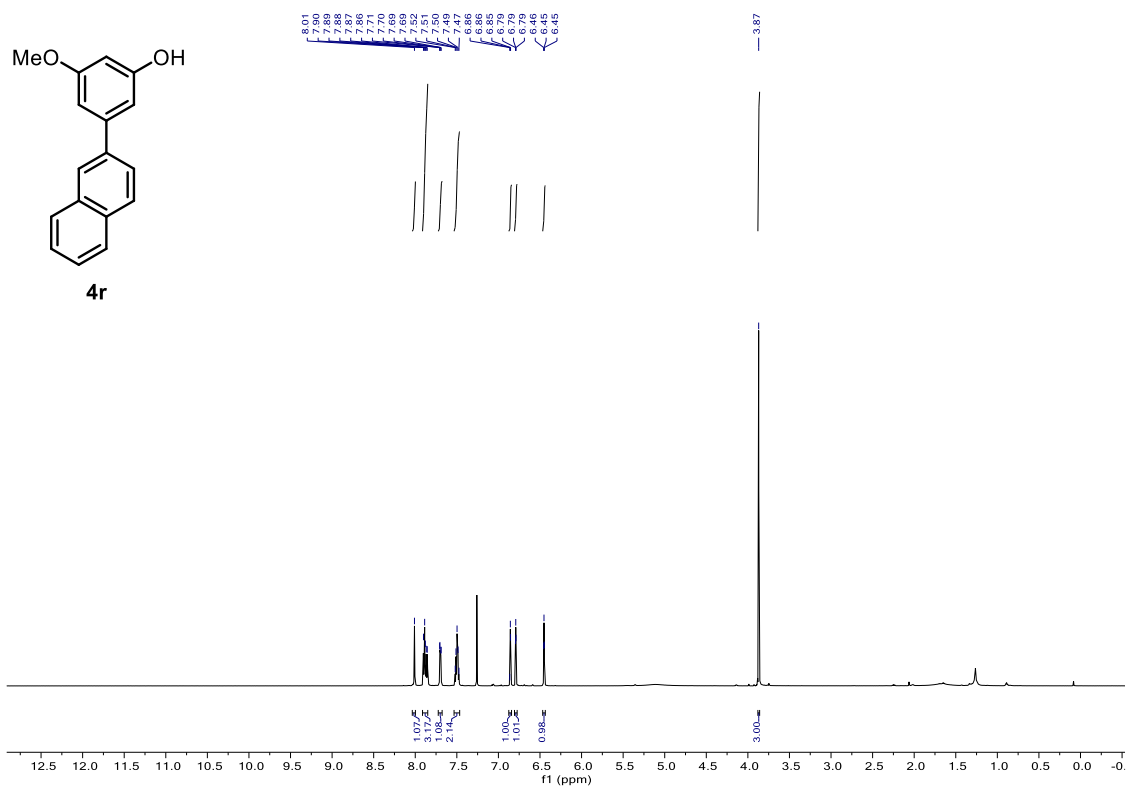


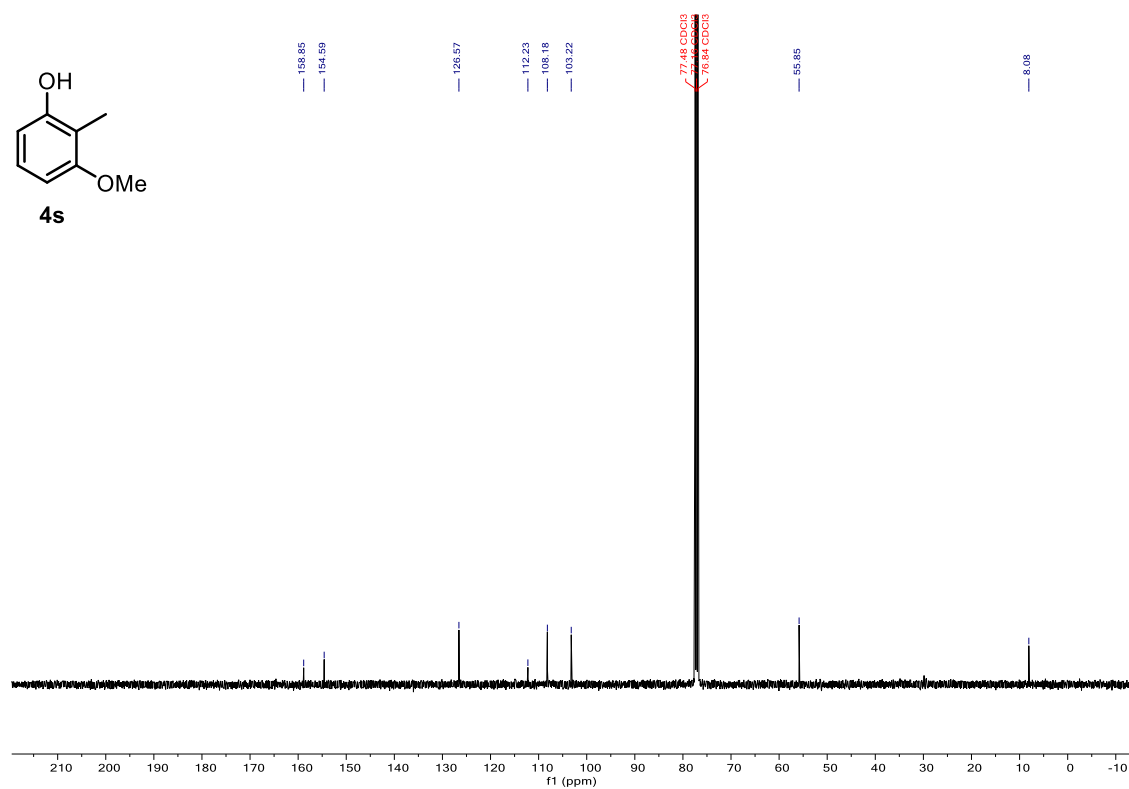
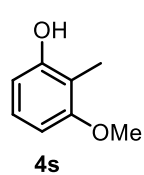
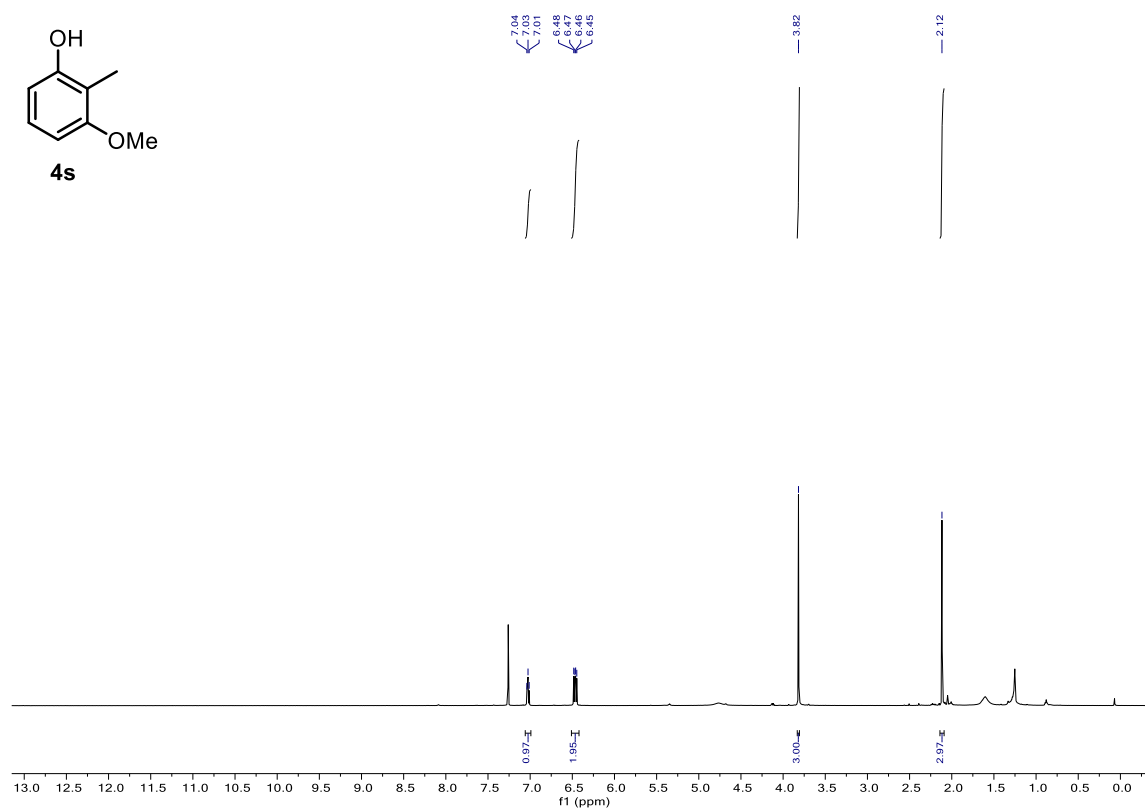
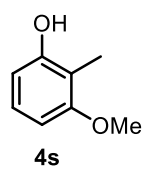


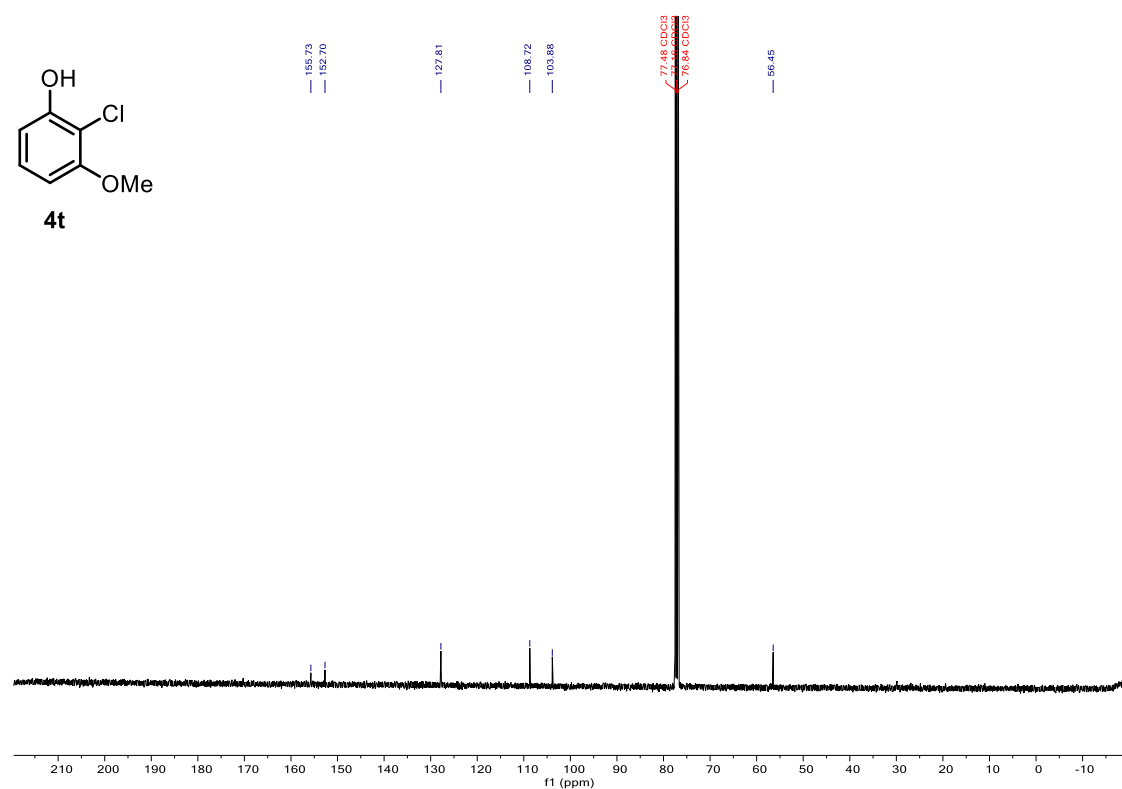
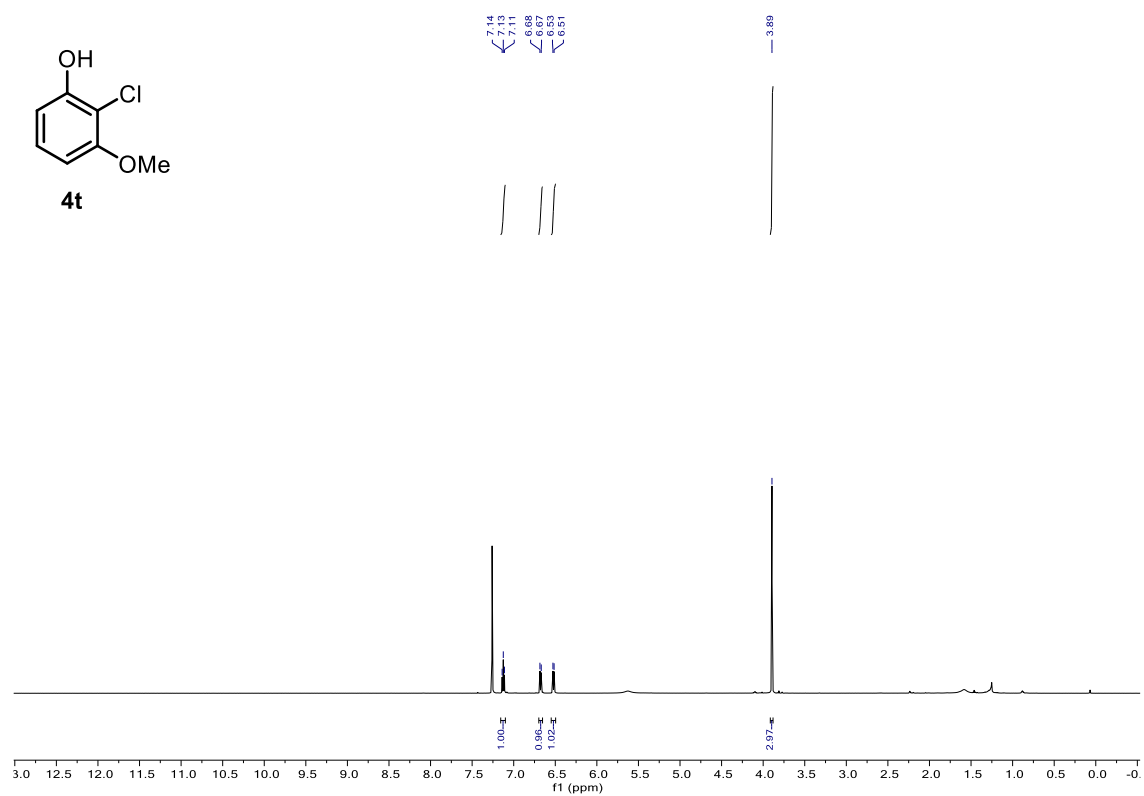


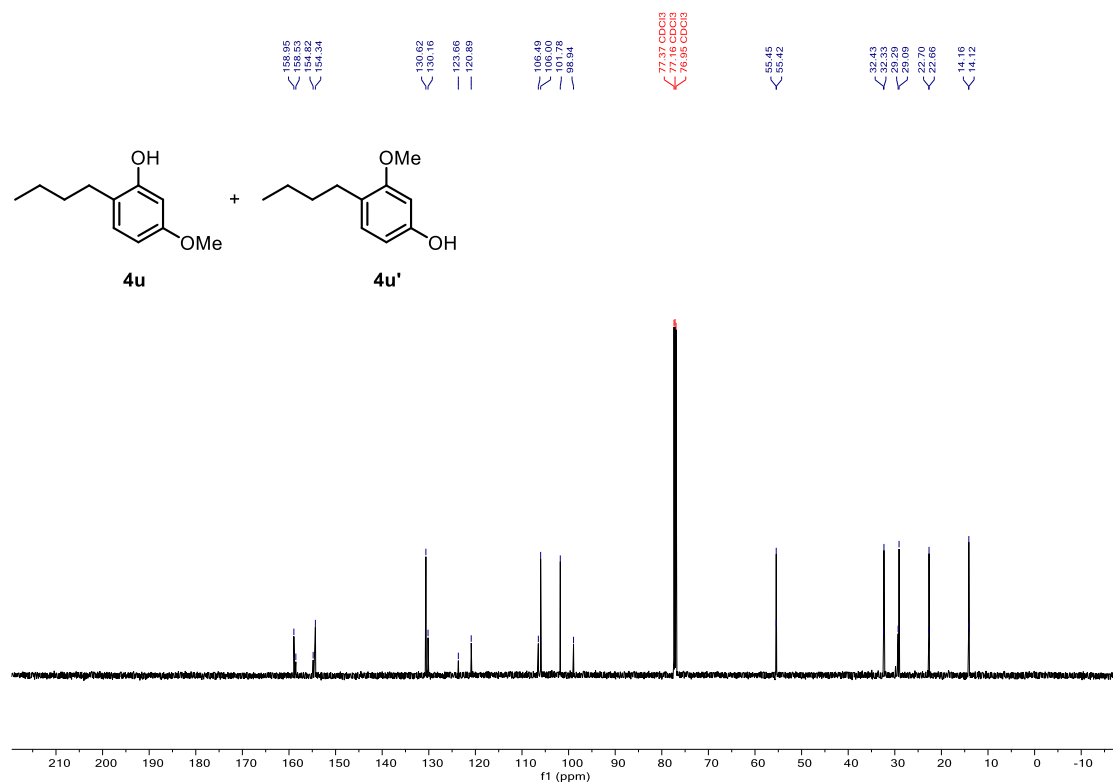
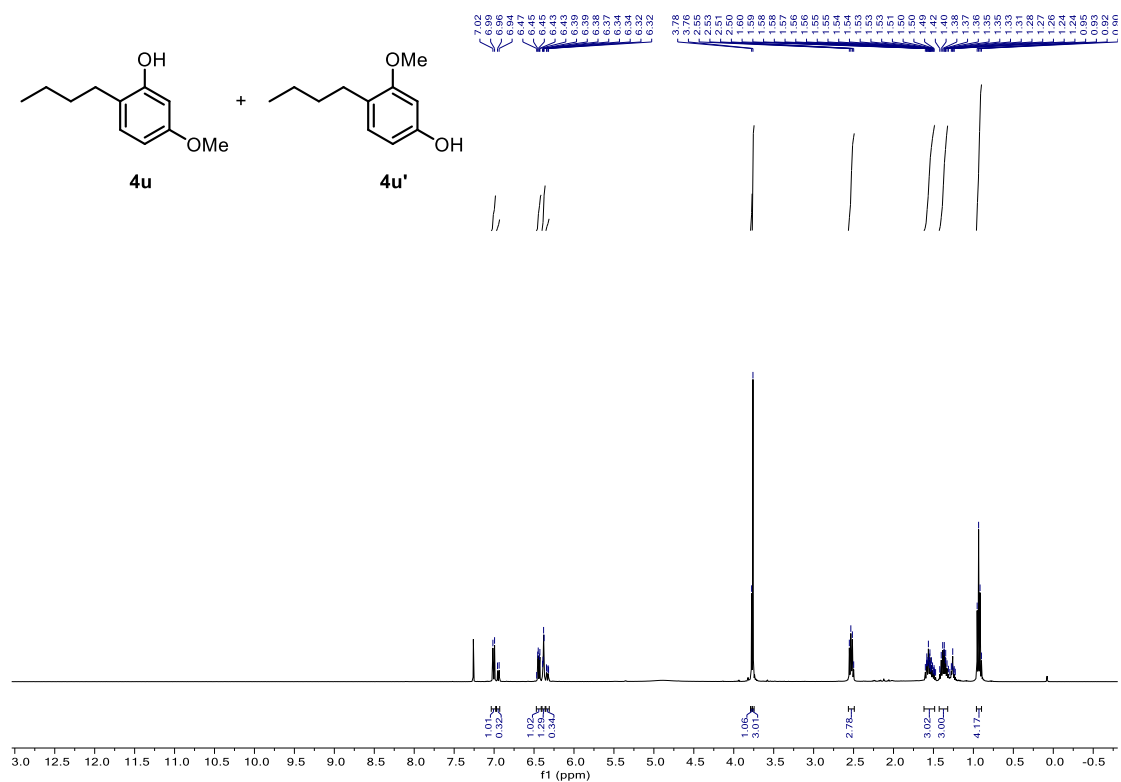


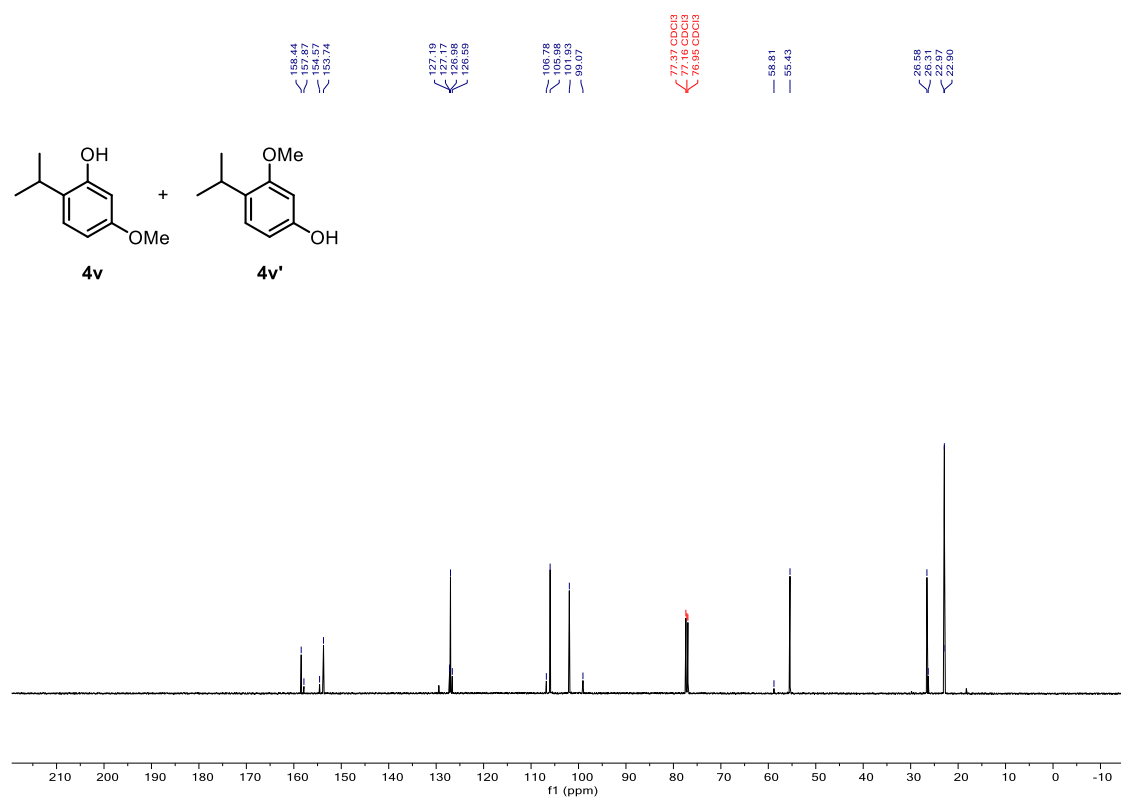
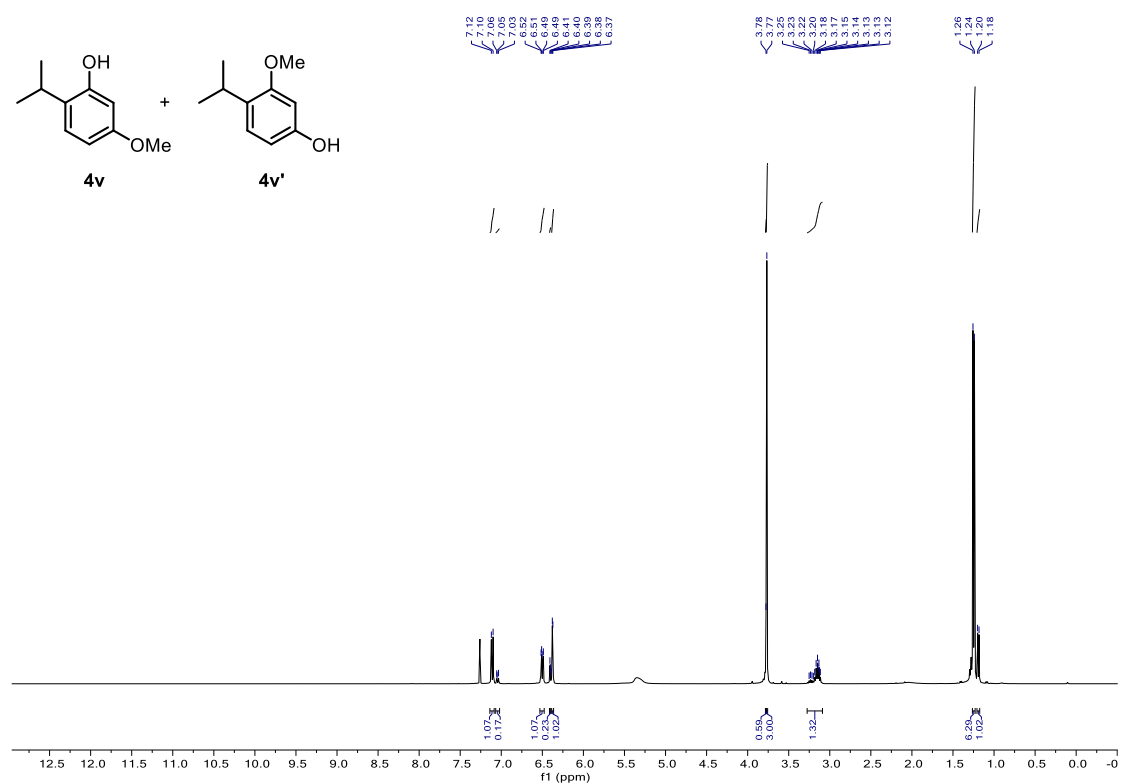


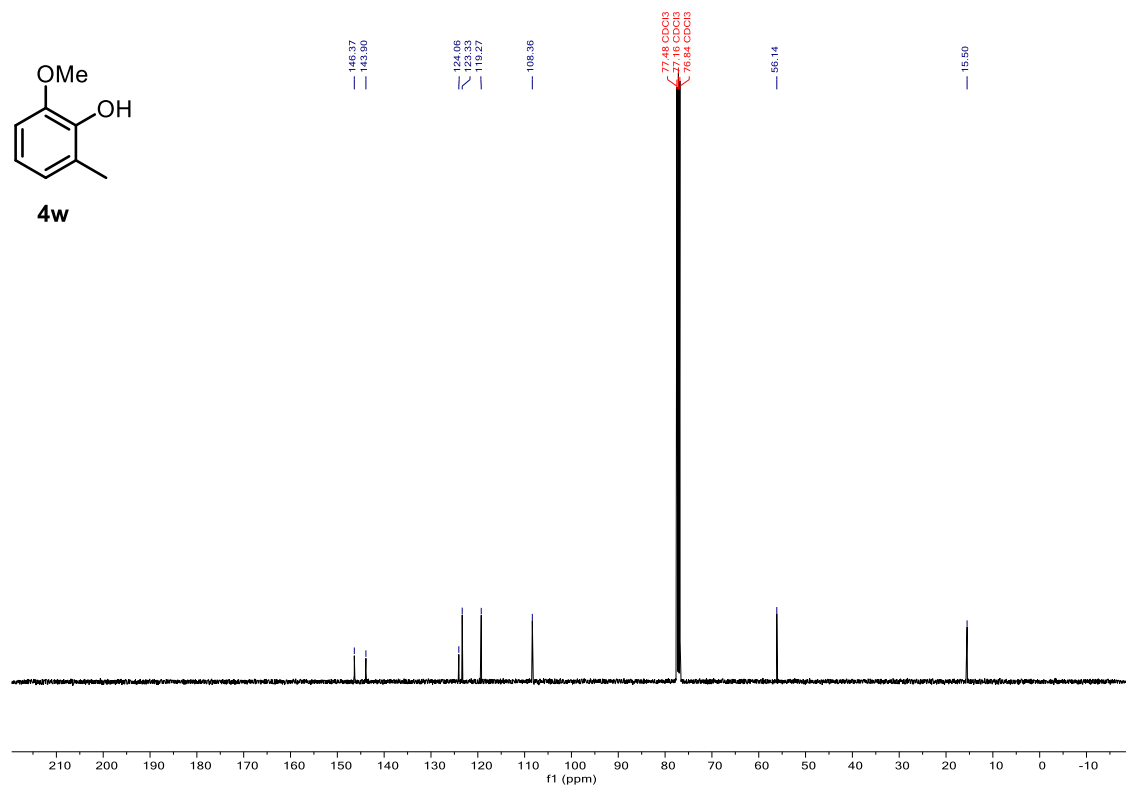
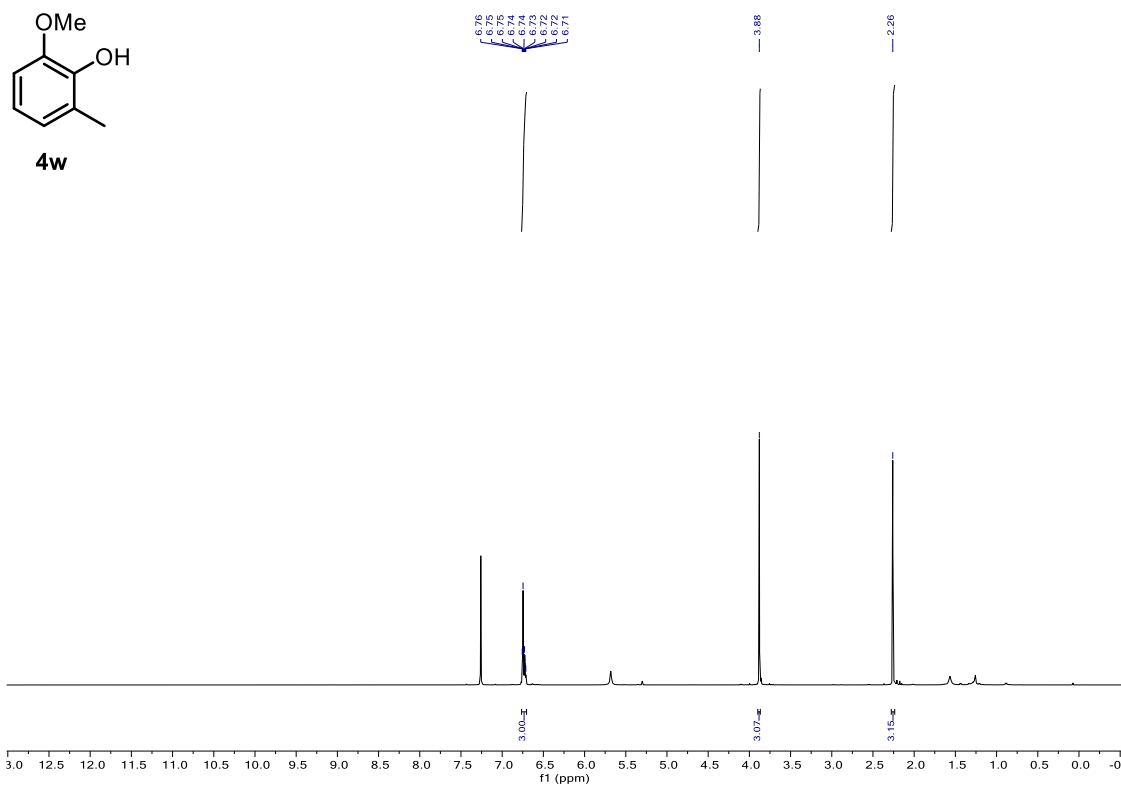


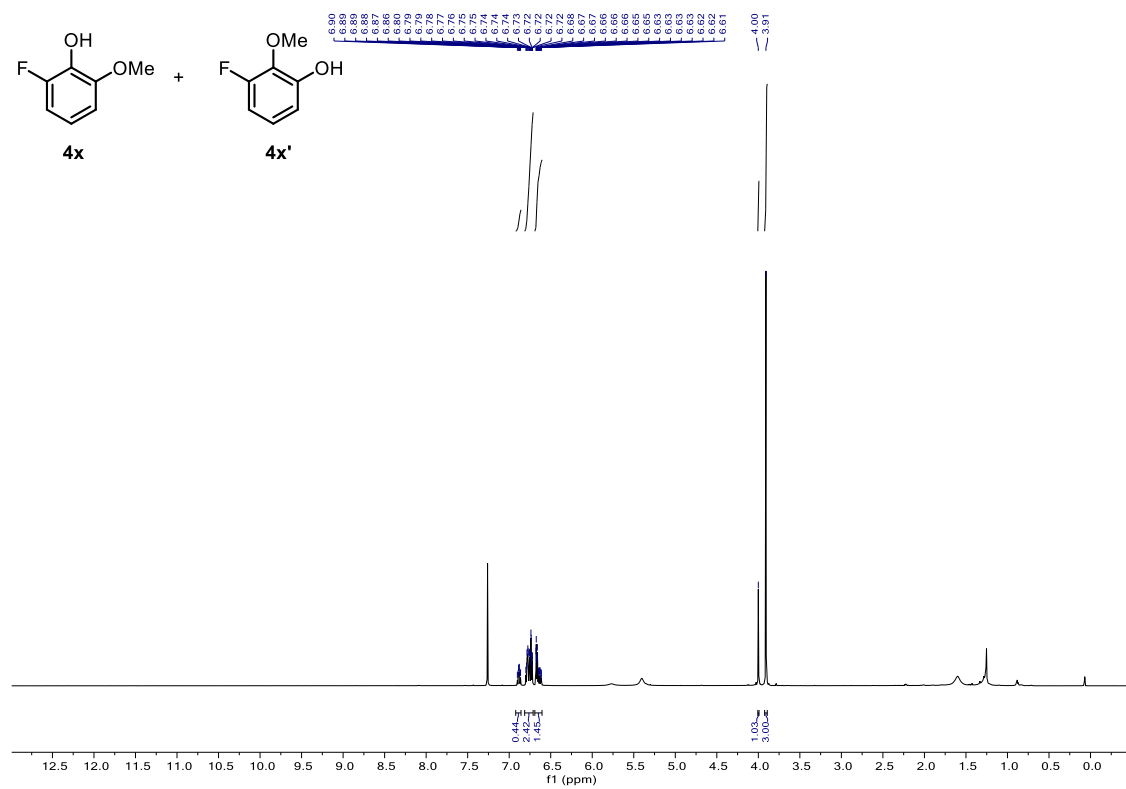


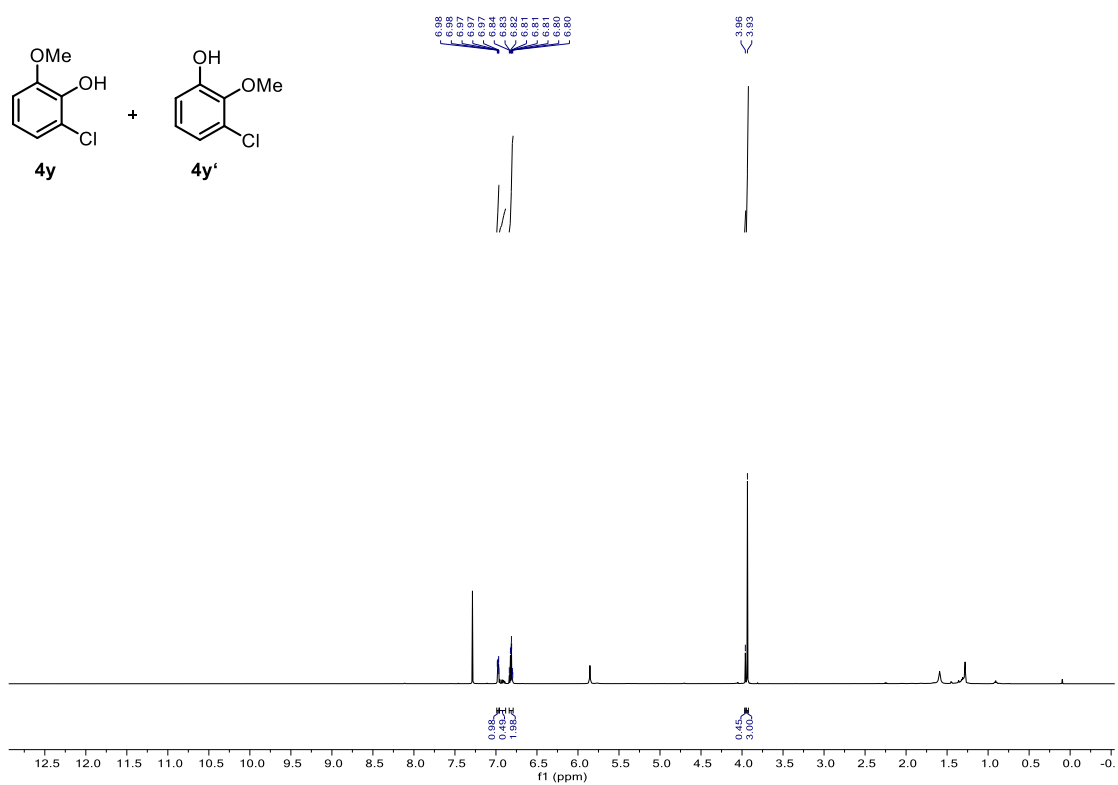


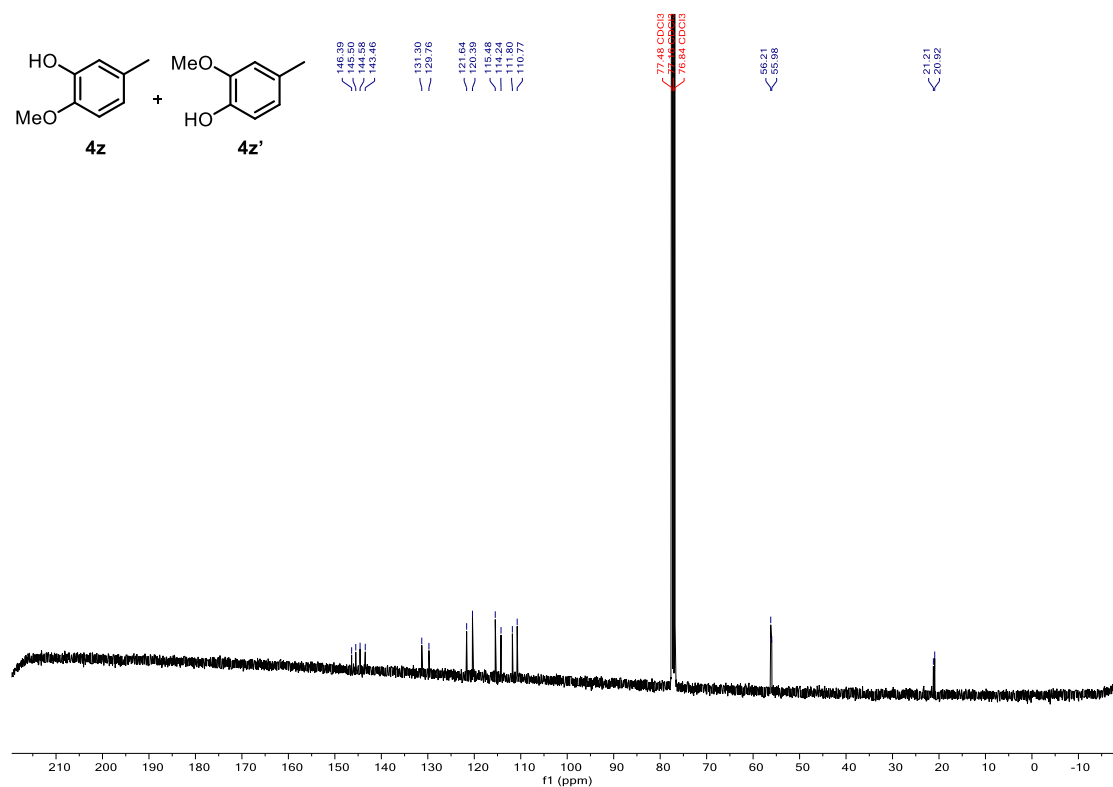
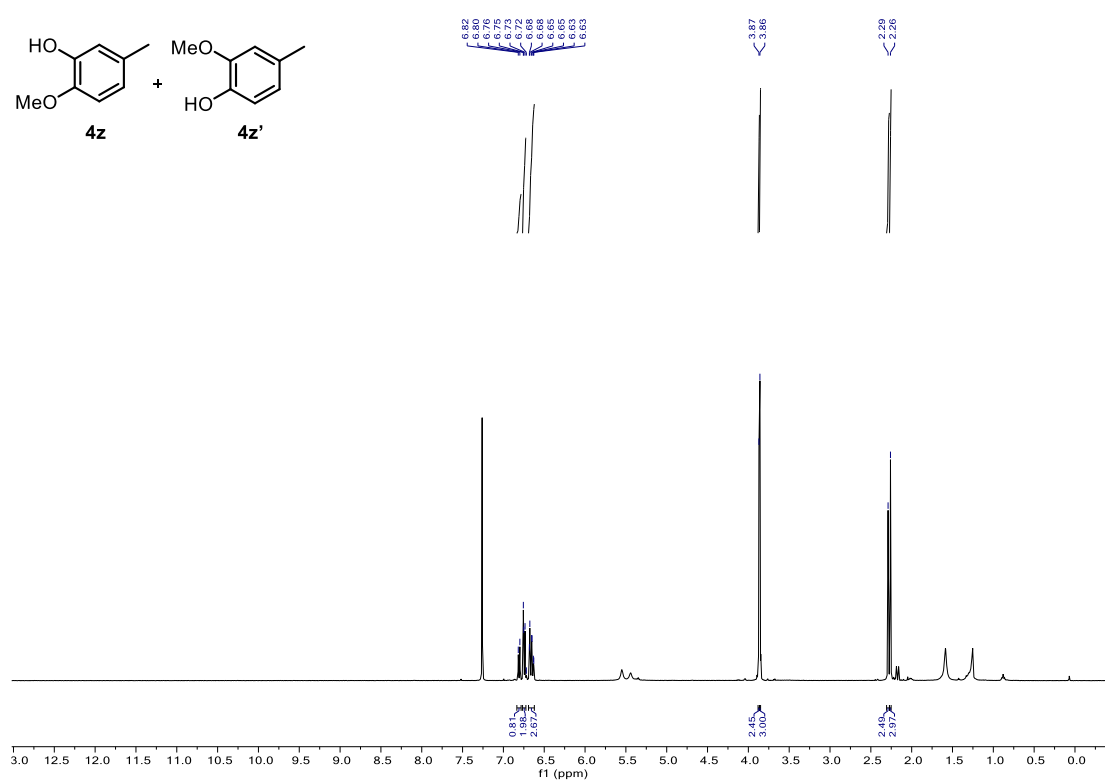


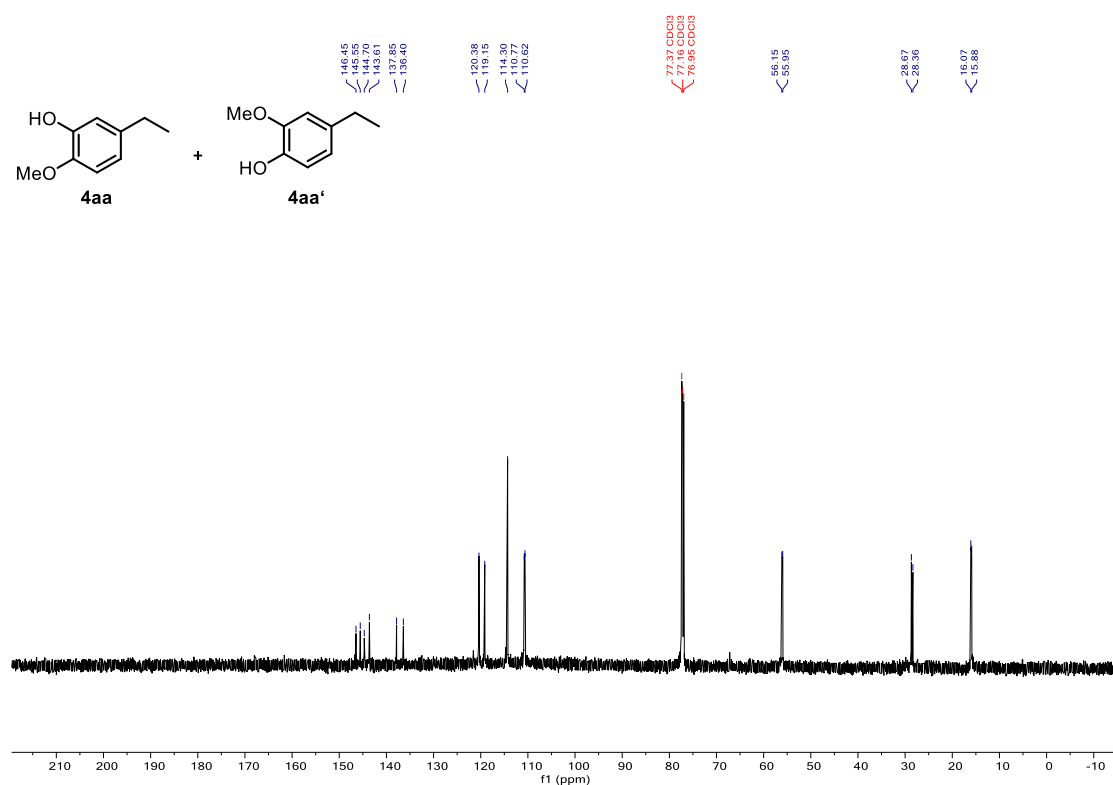
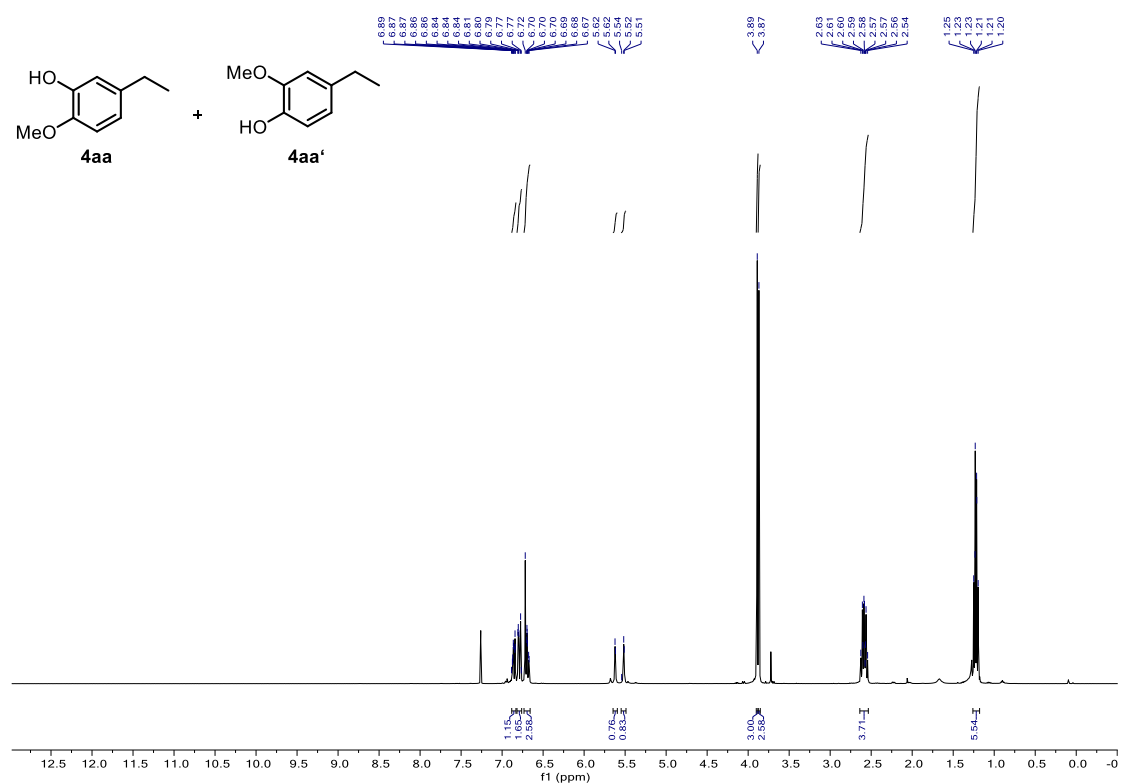


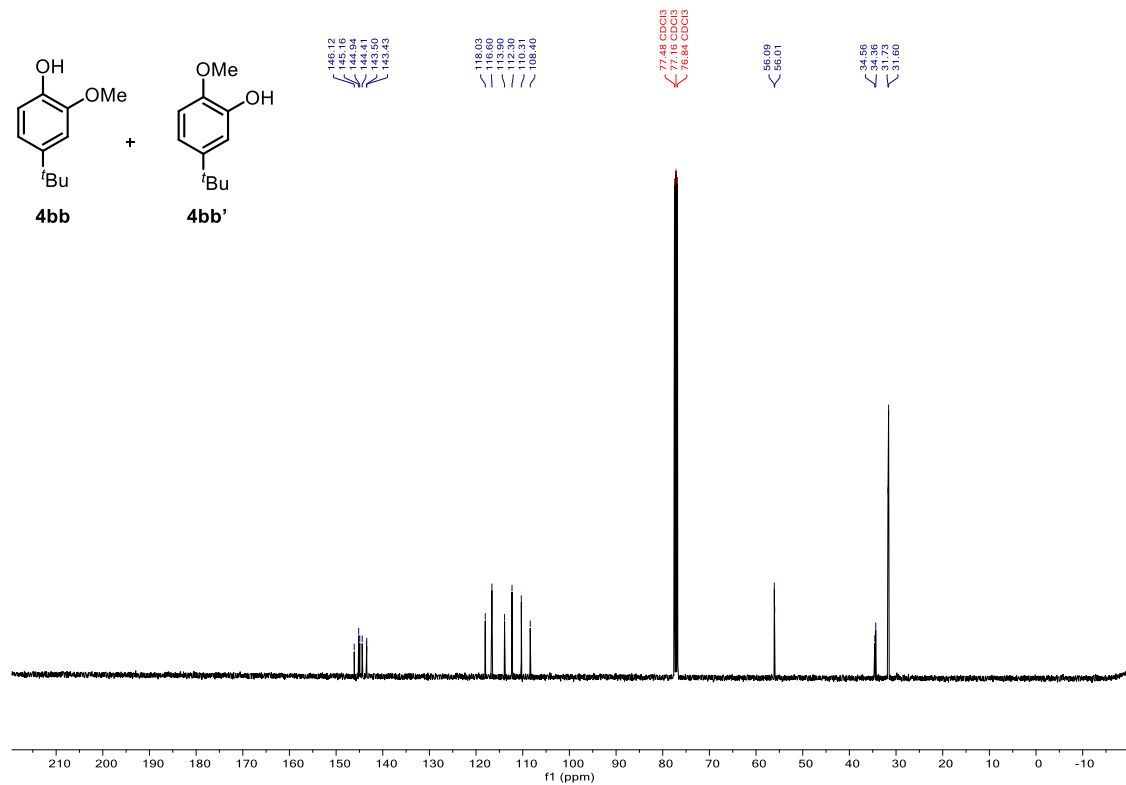
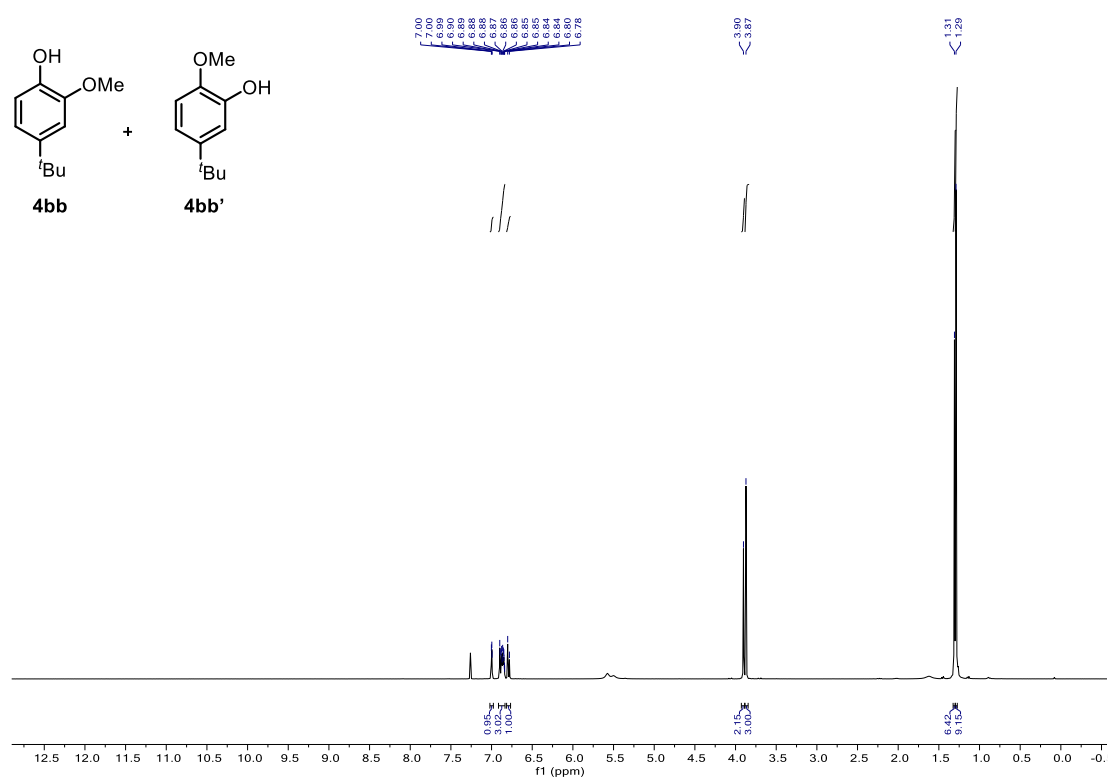


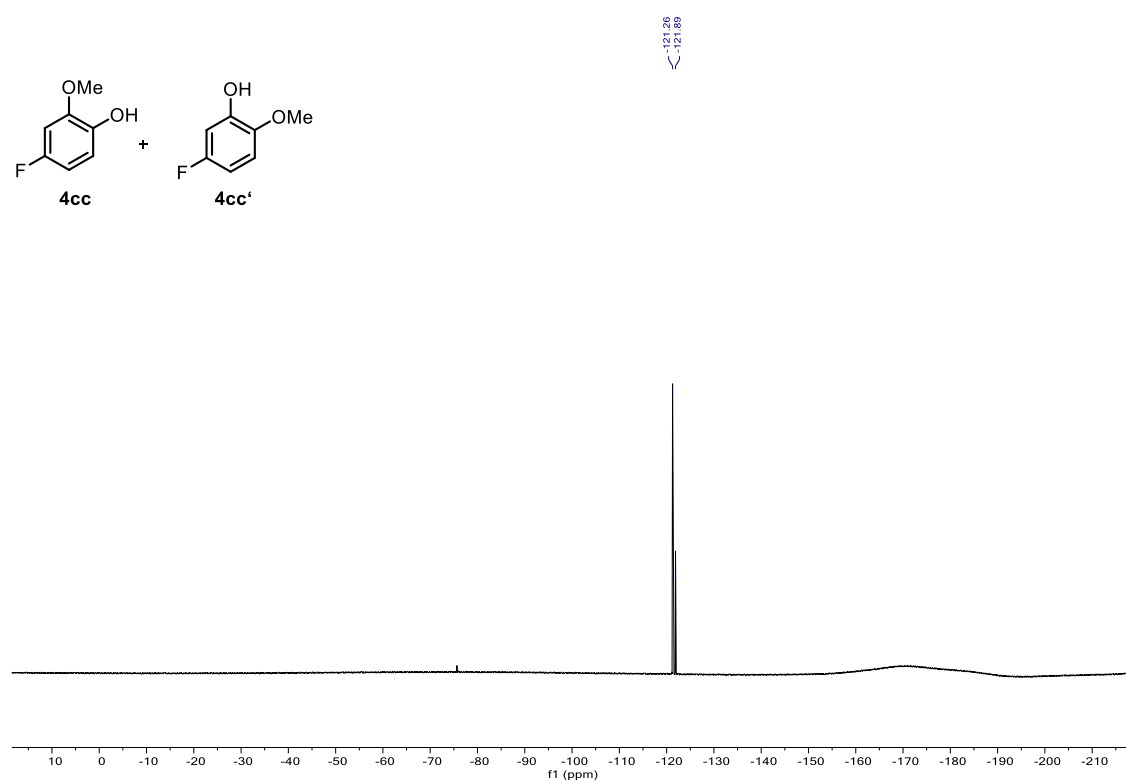
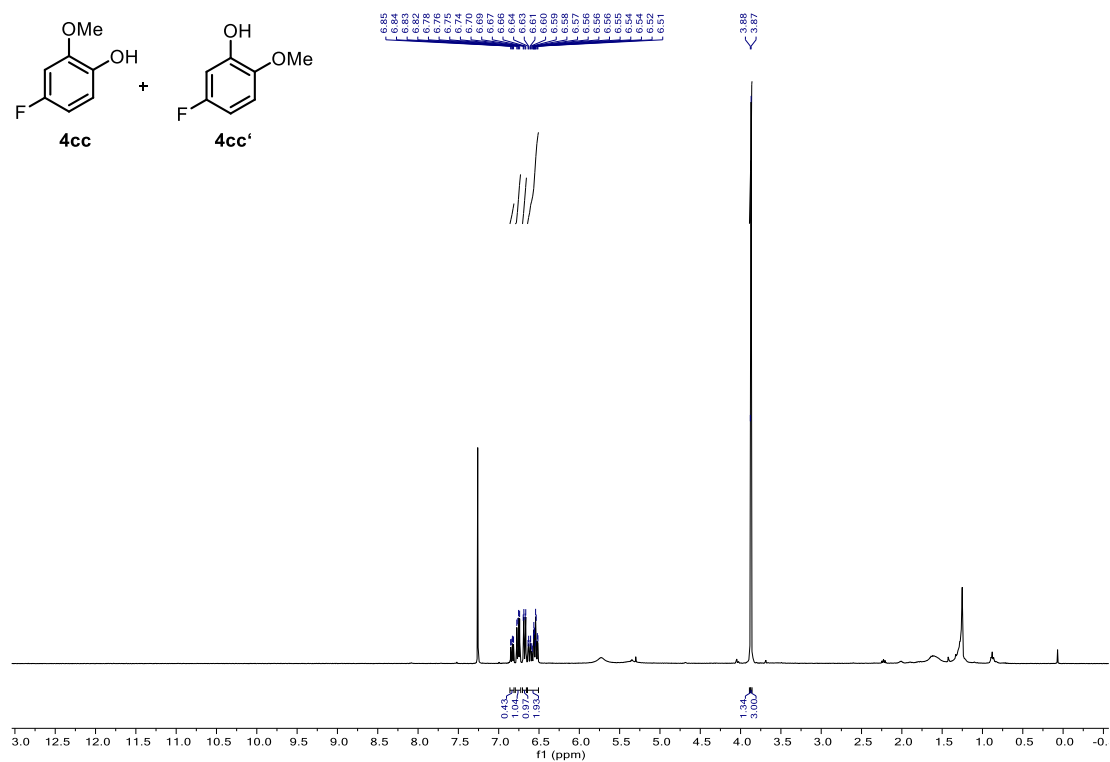


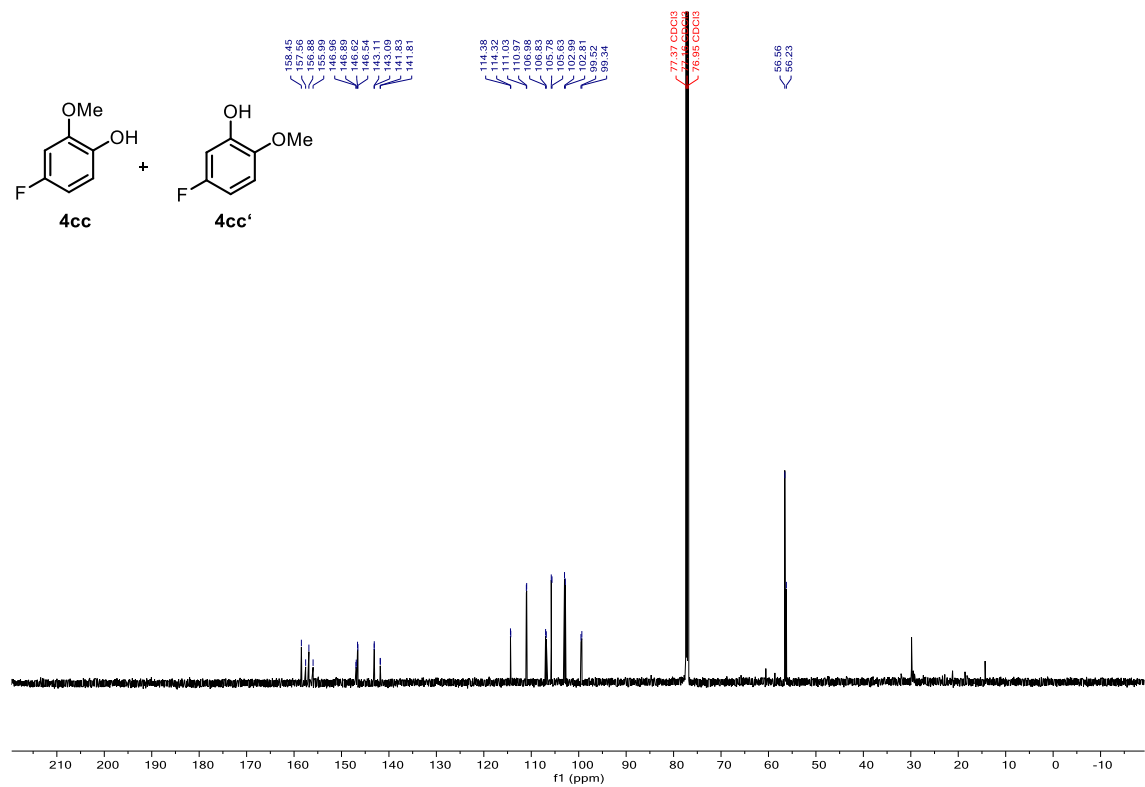


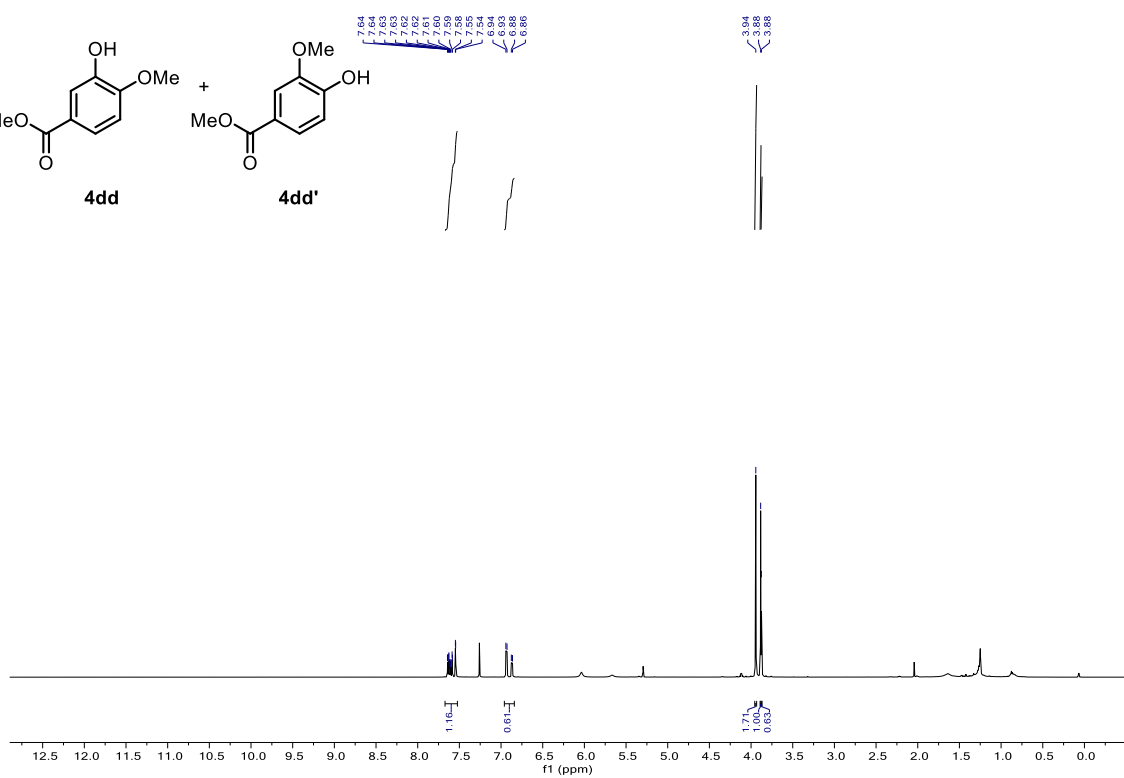
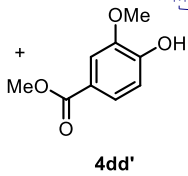
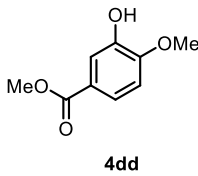


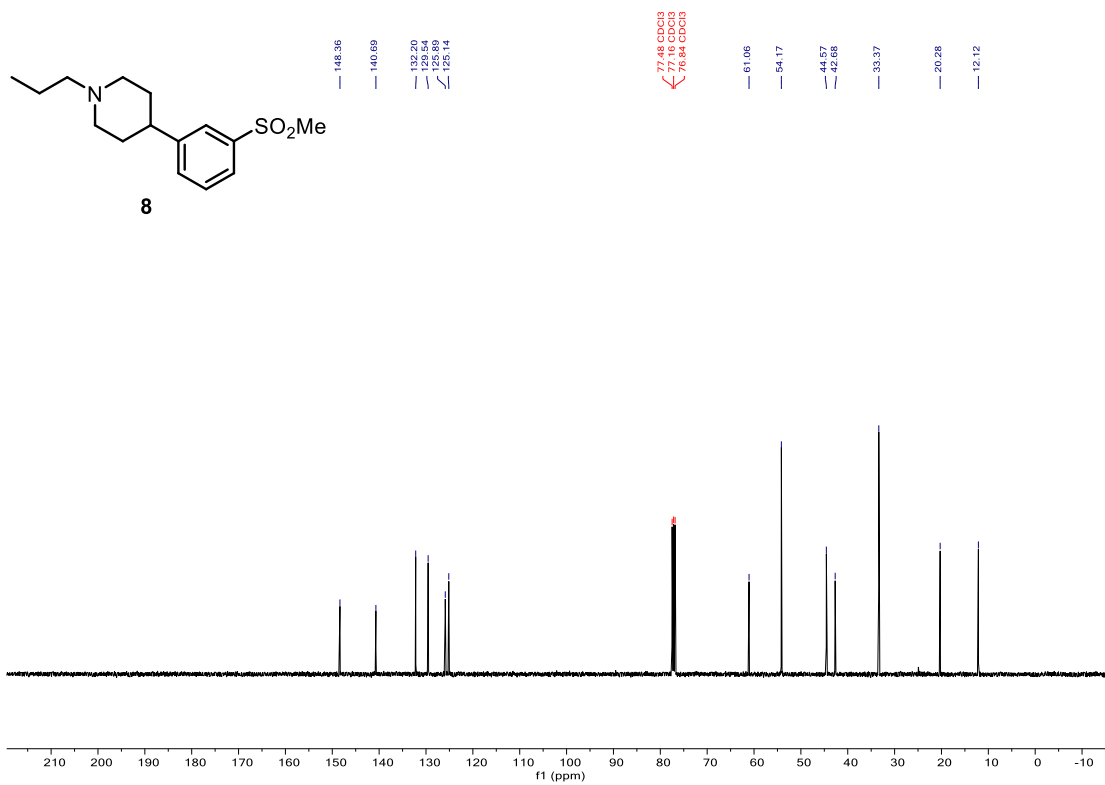
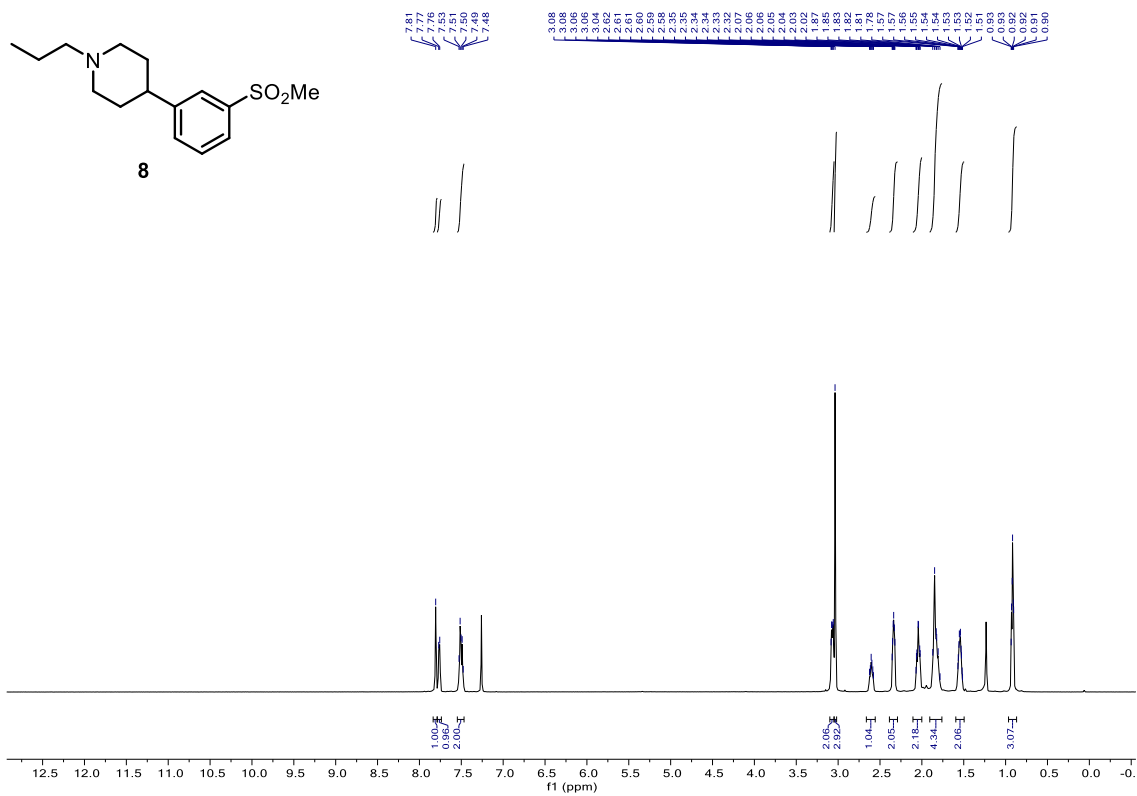


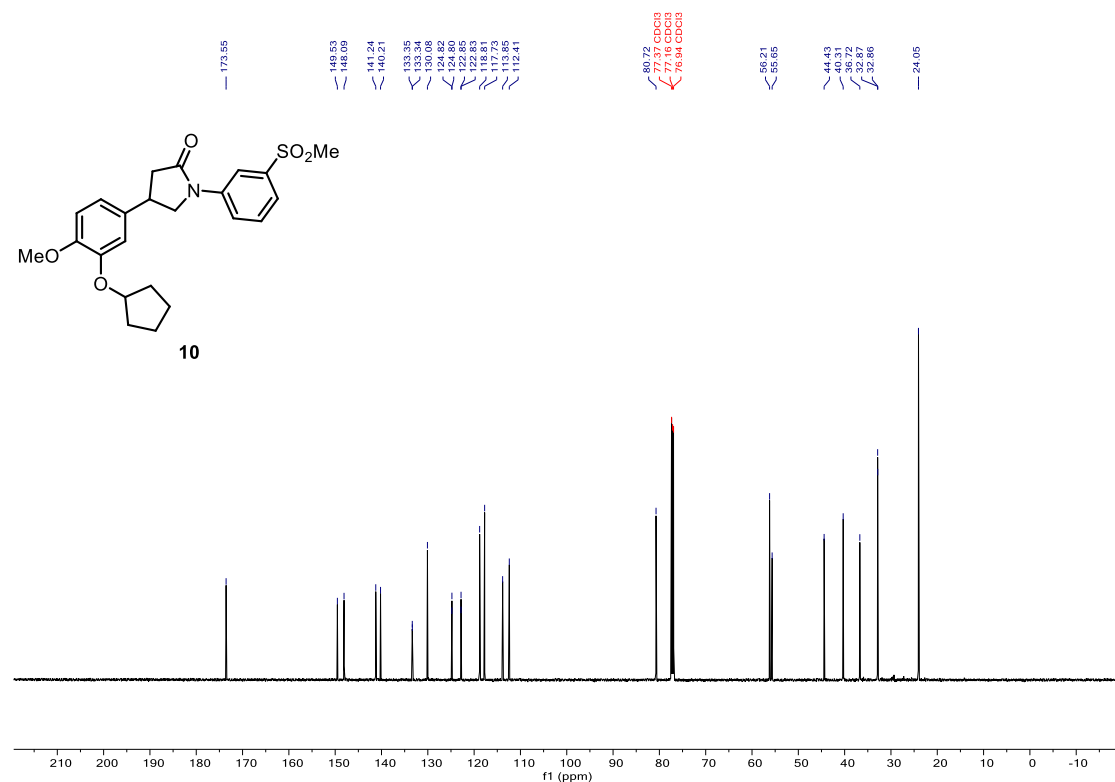
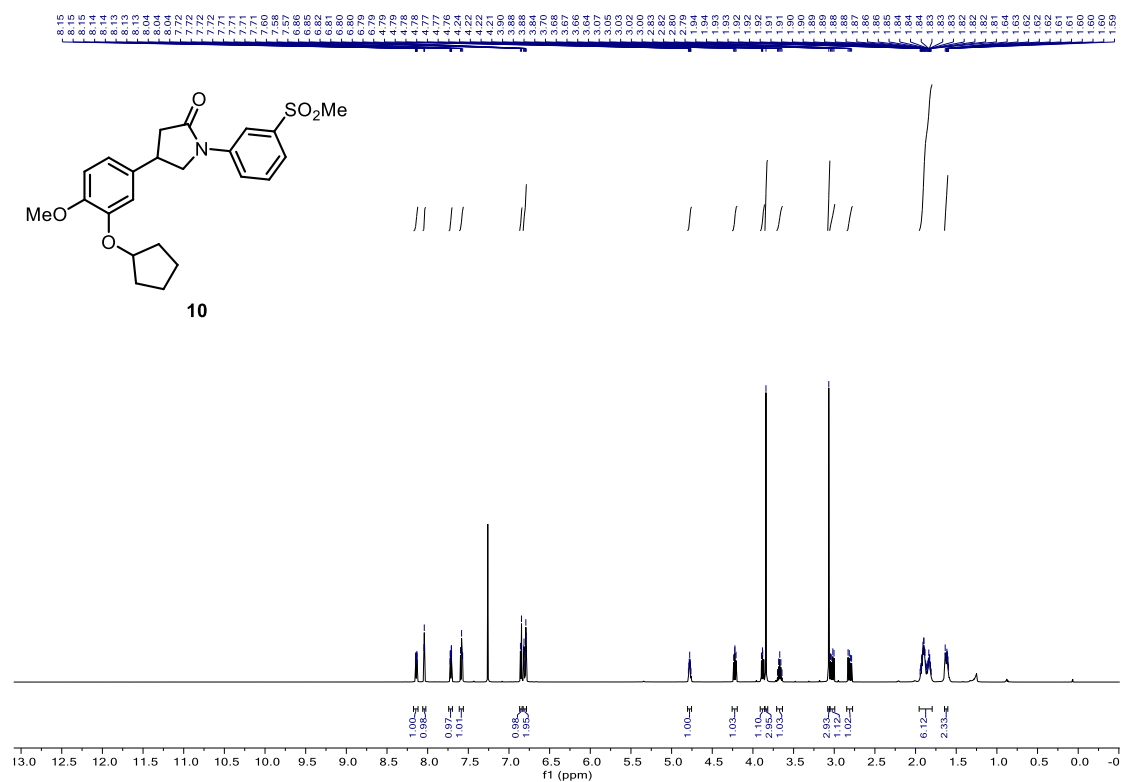


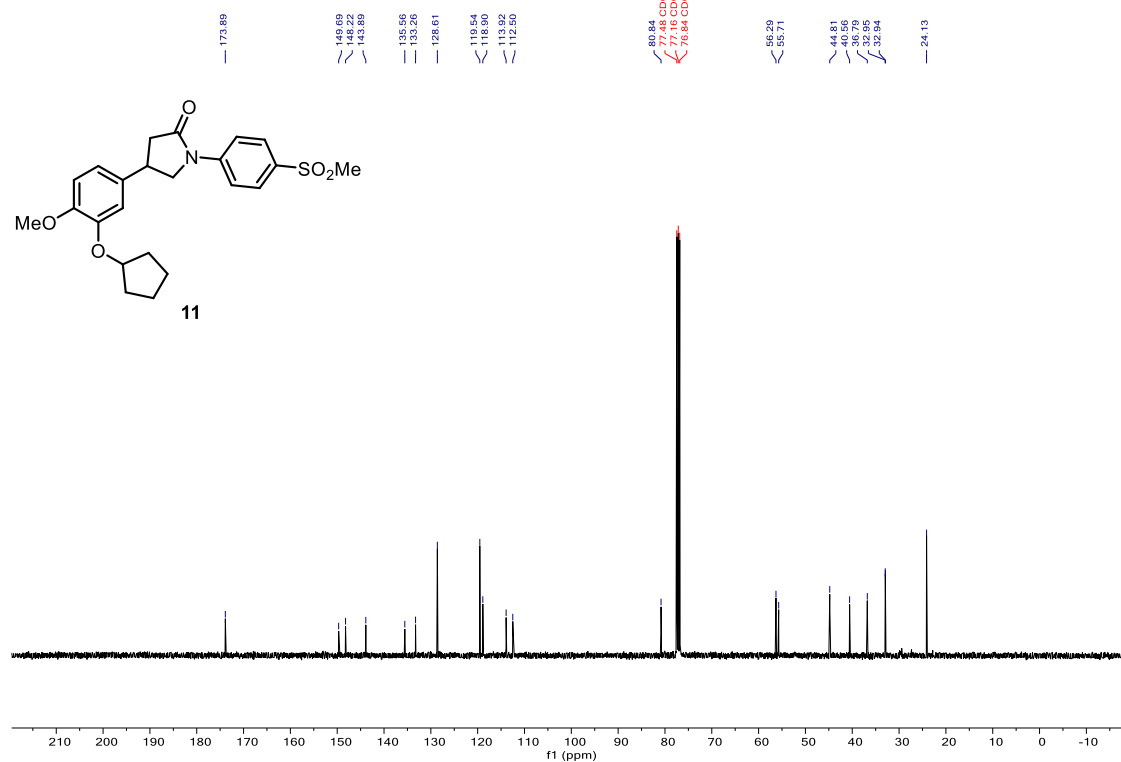
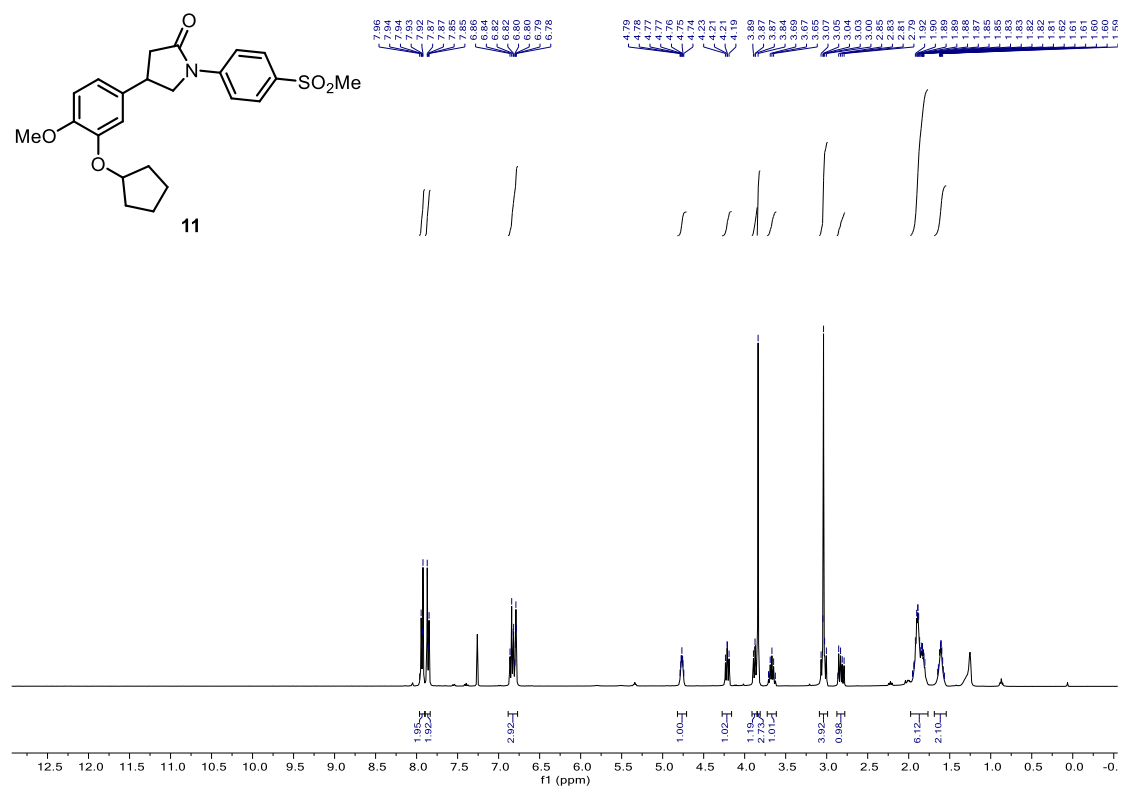


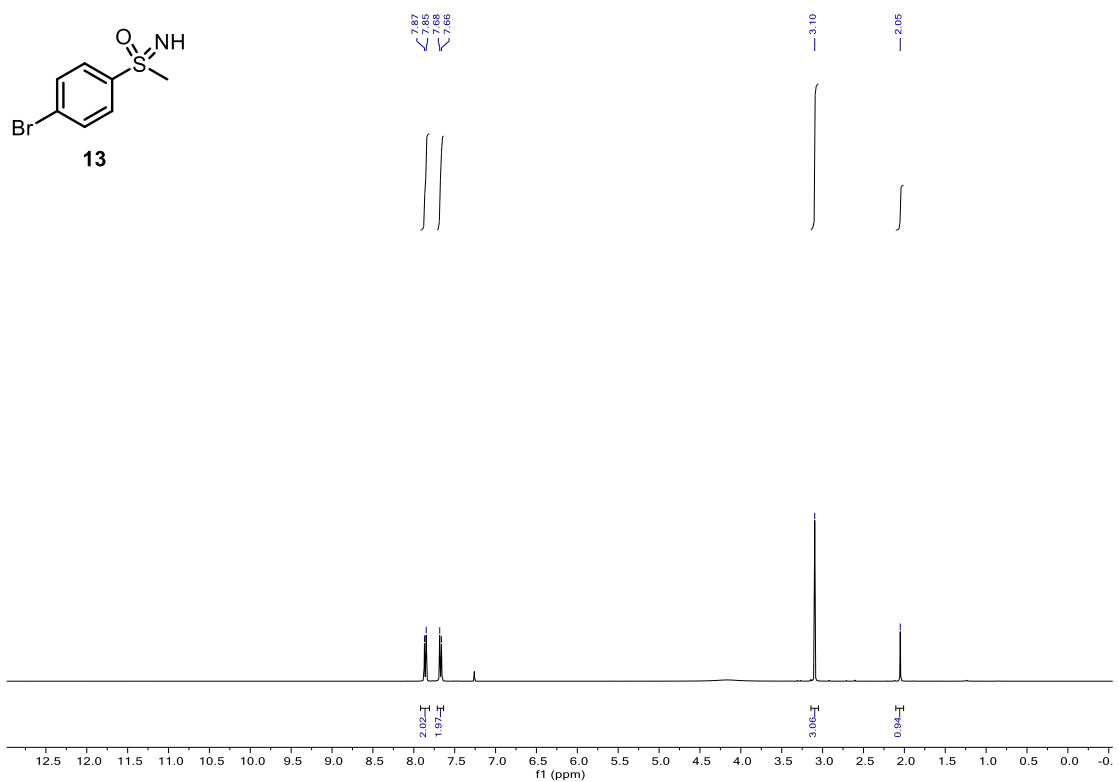
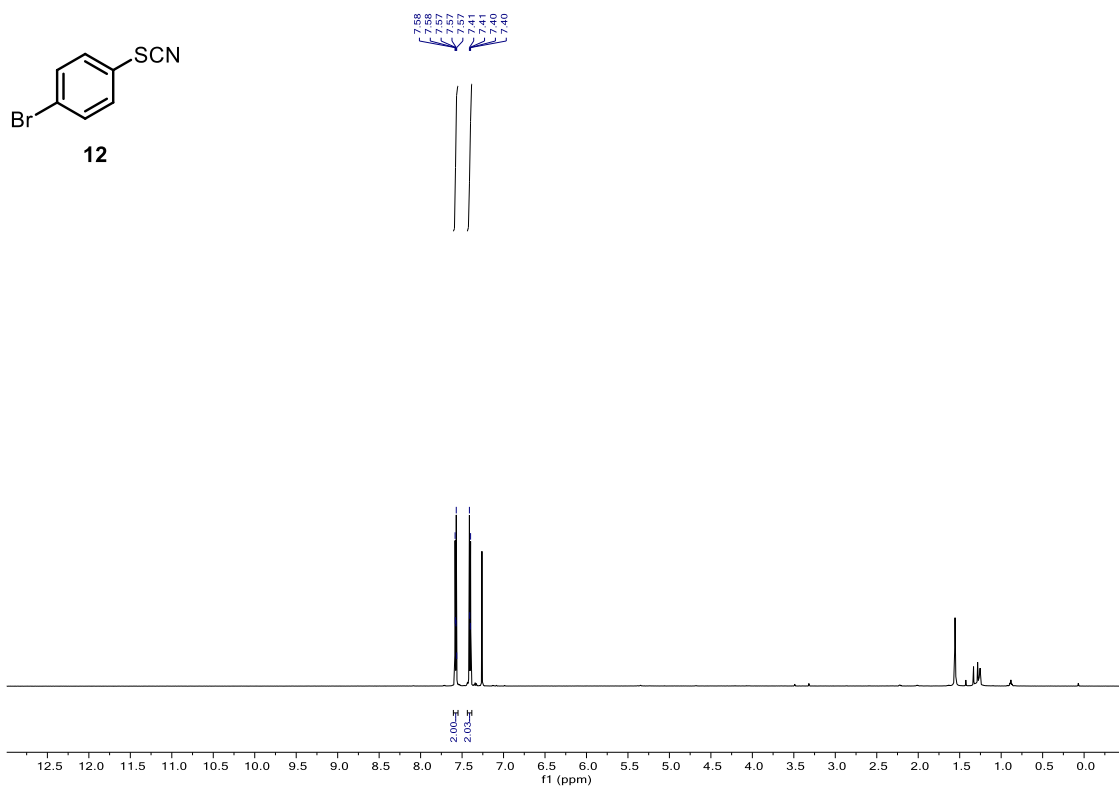


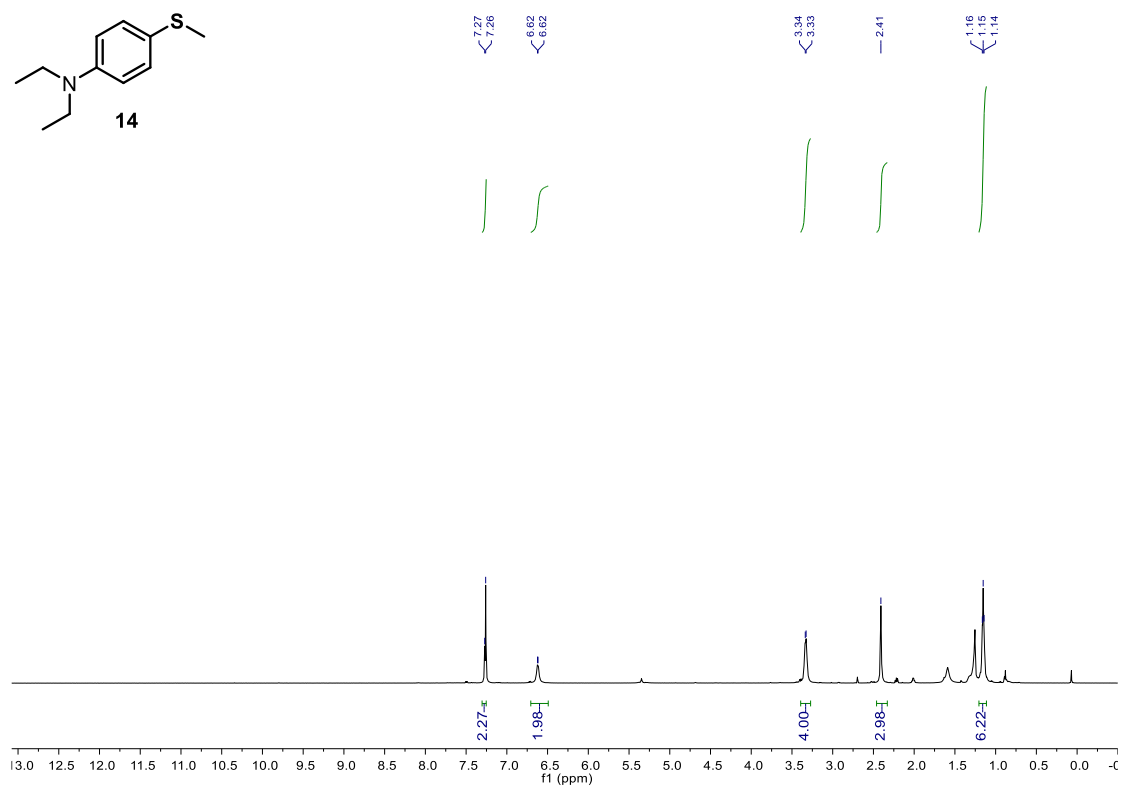
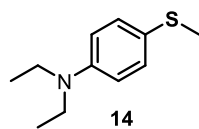


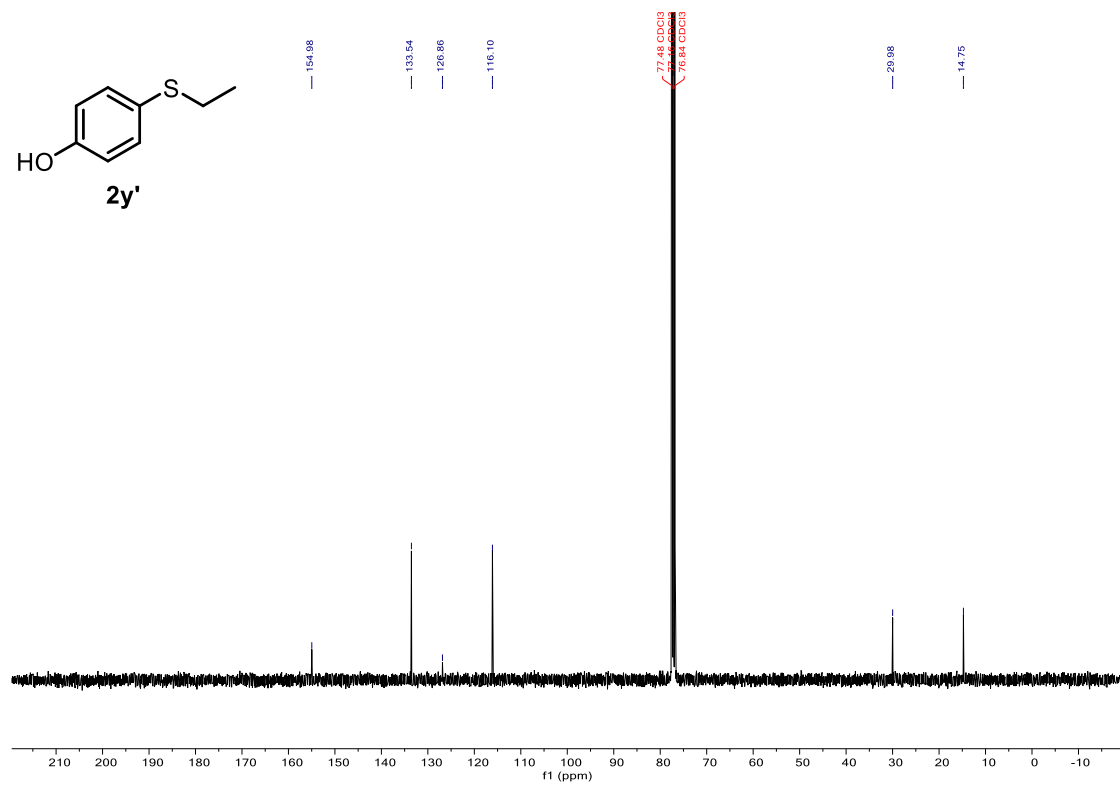
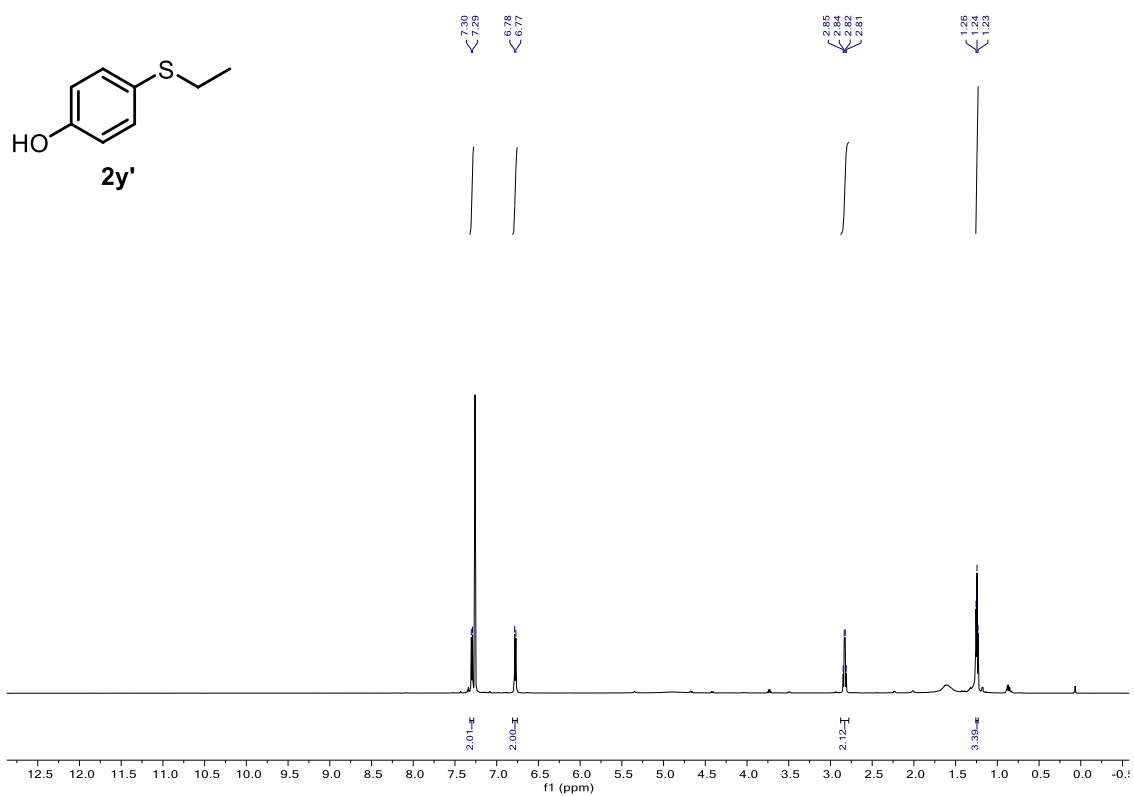


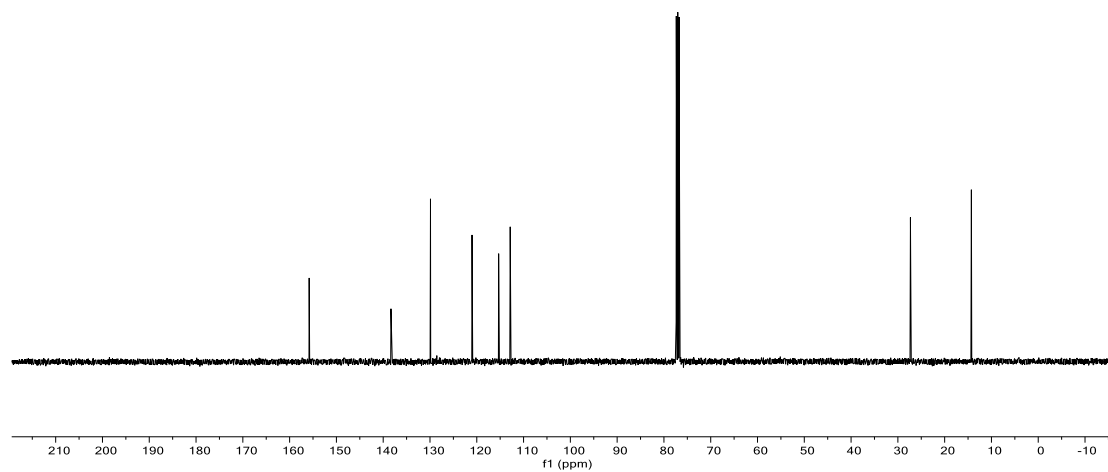
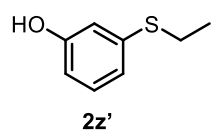
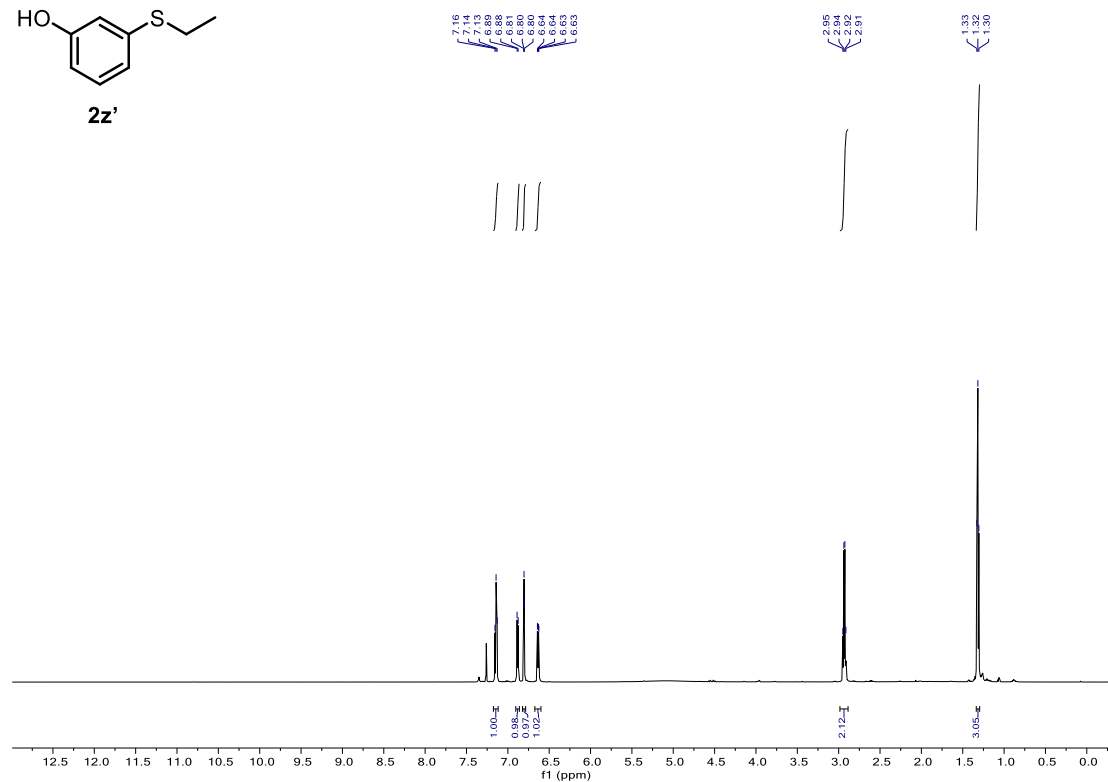
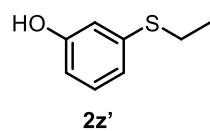


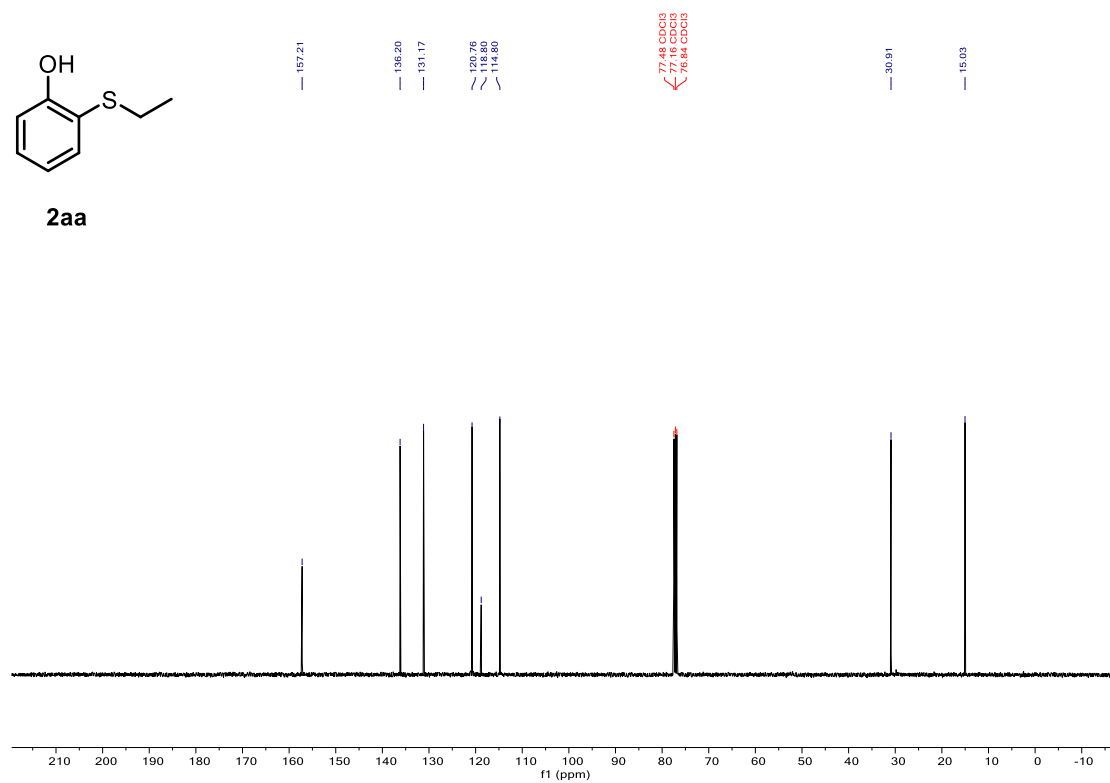
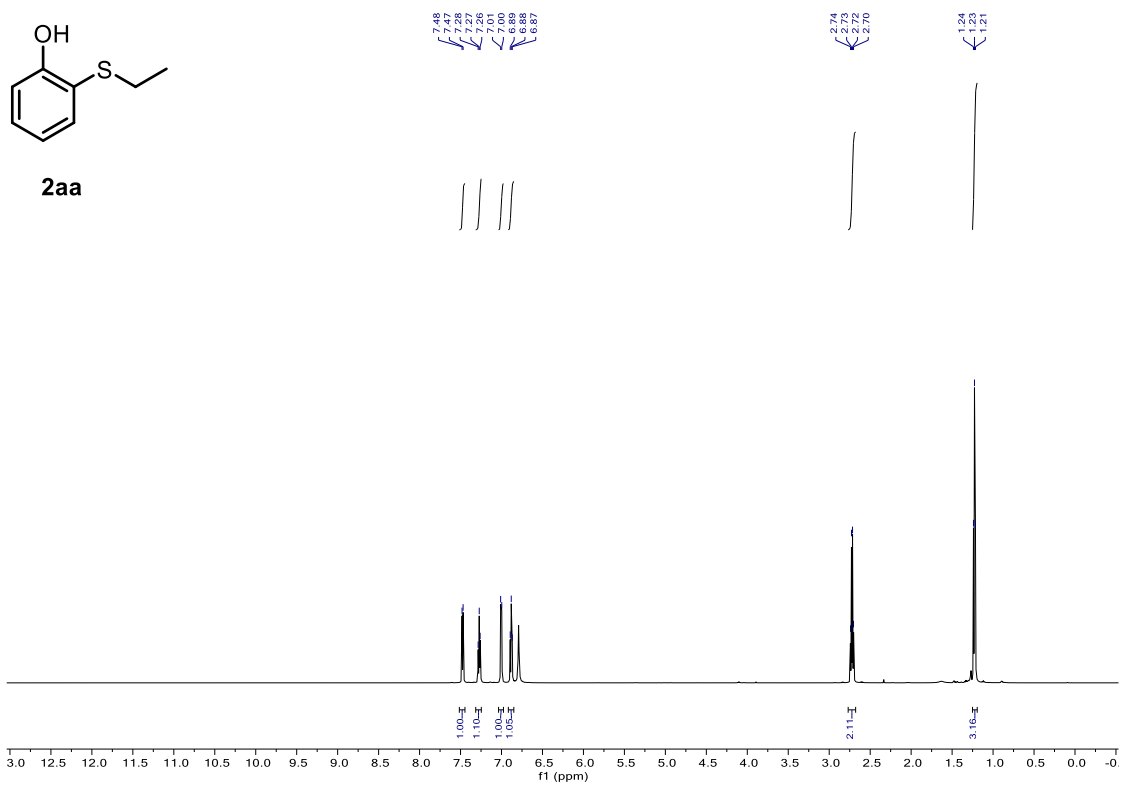




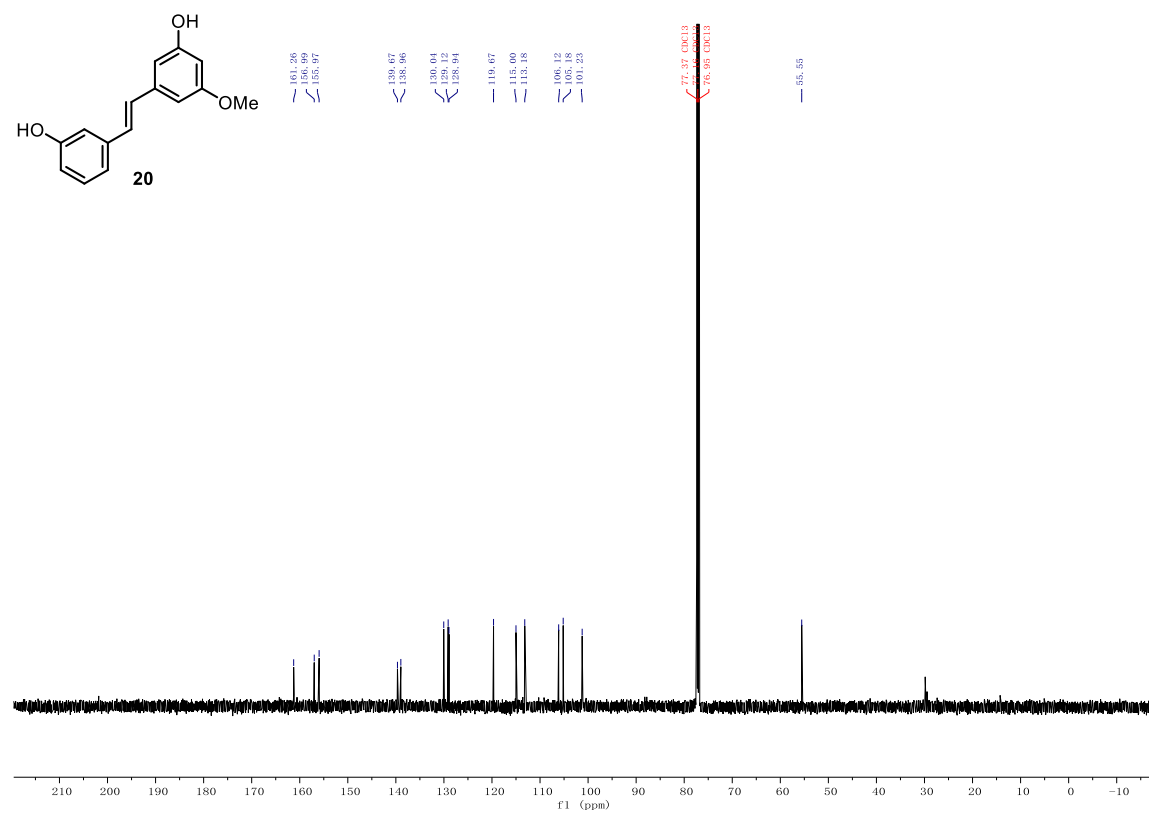
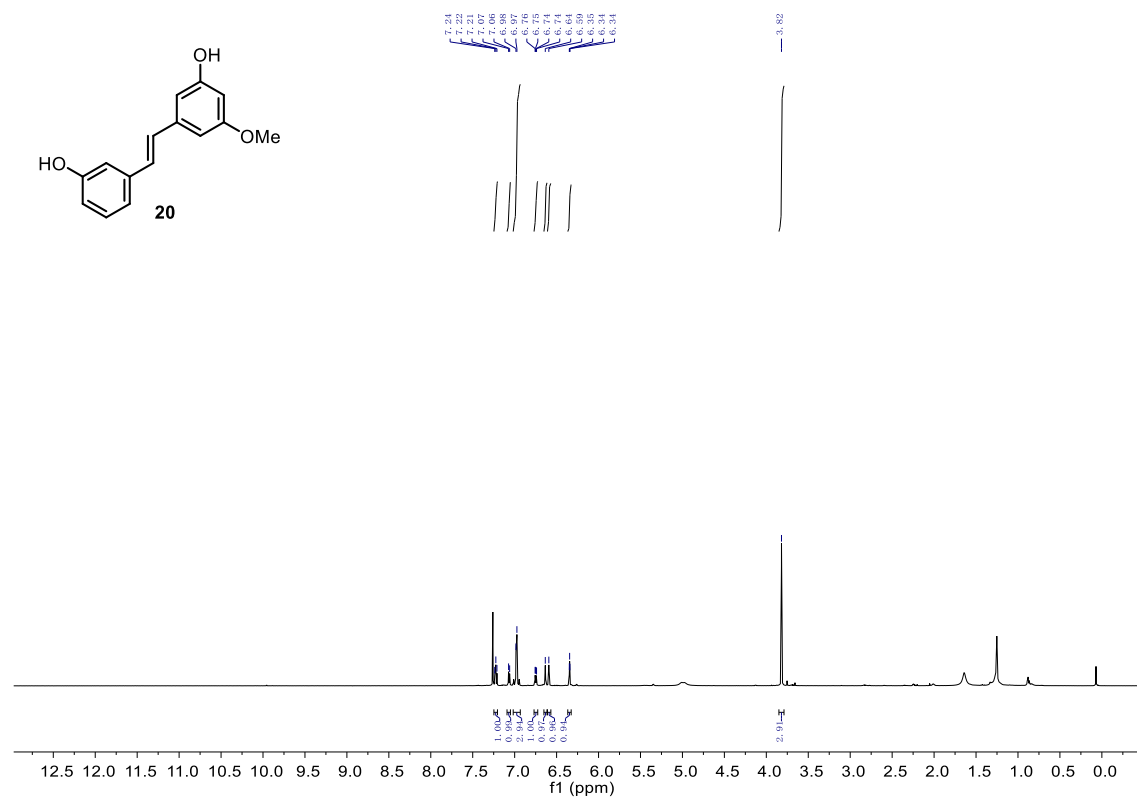


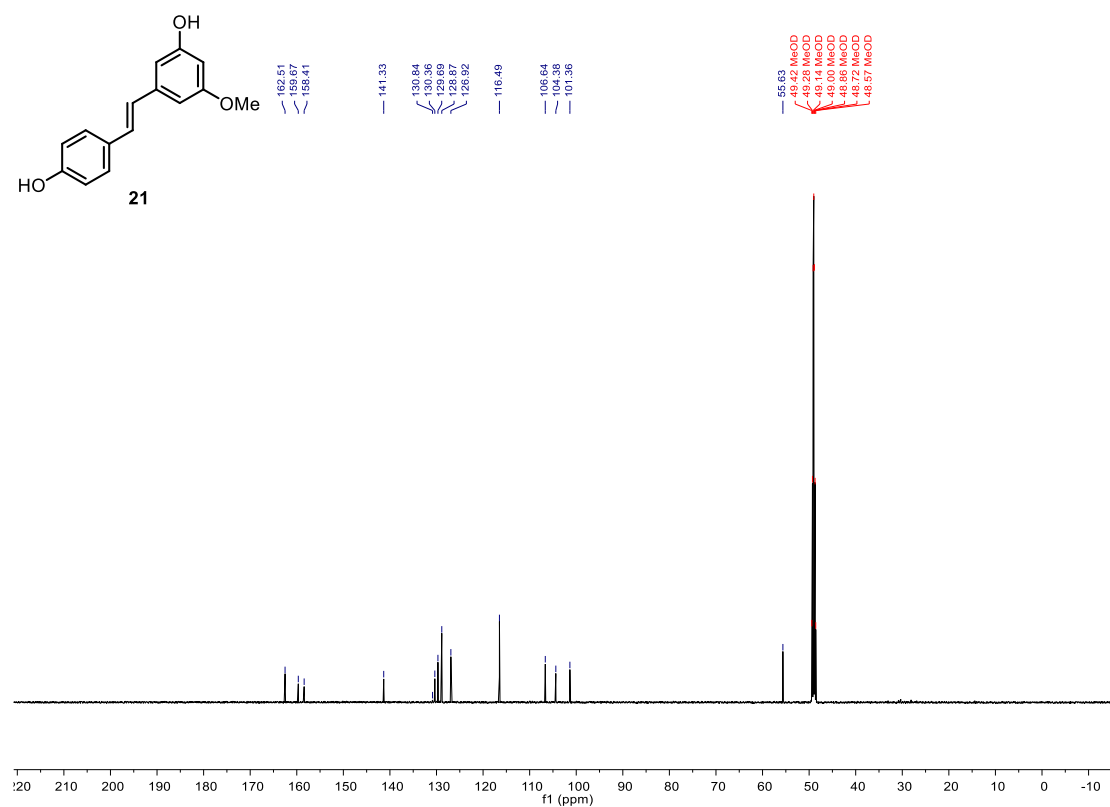
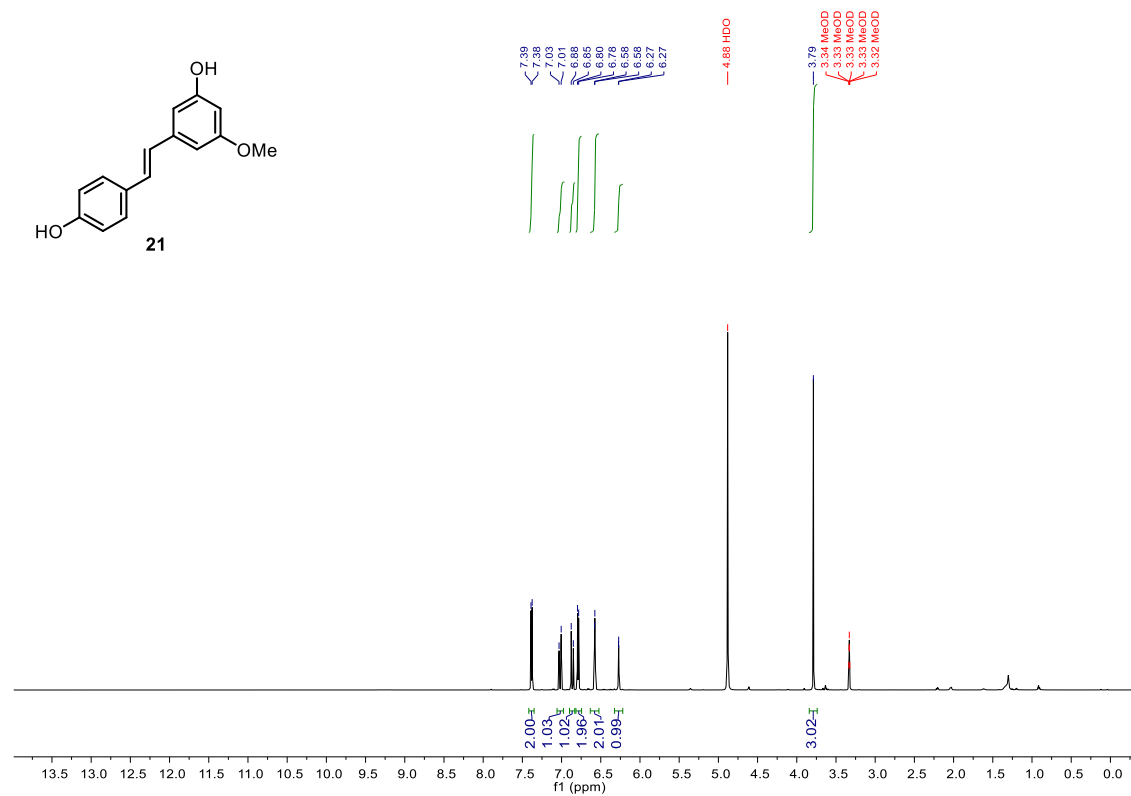












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