

# Supporting Information

for

## **Encaging palladium(0) in layered double hydroxide: A sustainable catalyst for solvent-free and ligand-free Heck reaction in a ball mill**

Wei Shi, Jingbo Yu, Zhijiang Jiang, Qiaoling Shao and Weike Su \*

Address: National Engineering Research Center for Process Development of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, Collaborative Innovation Center of Yangtze River Delta Region Green Pharmaceuticals, Zhejiang University of Technology, Hangzhou, 310014, Zhejiang, China

Email: Weike Su - [pharmlab@zjut.edu.cn](mailto:pharmlab@zjut.edu.cn)

\* Corresponding author

### **Details of experimental procedures and characterization data of prepared compounds, $^1\text{H}$ , $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR, and MS spectra of all coupling compounds**

#### **Table of Content**

<b>1. Experimental section .....</b>	<b>S2</b>
1.1 Materials .....	S2
1.2 Method .....	S3
1.3 Preparation of Pd/MgAl-LDHs .....	S3

1.3.1 Synthesis of MgAl-LDHs .....	S3
1.3.2 Synthesis of MgAl-LDHs- $\text{PdCl}_4^{2-}$ .....	S4
1.3.3 Synthesis of Pd/MgAl-LDHs .....	S4
1.4 General procedure of Heck reaction and catalyst recycling .....	S4
<b>2. Characterization of Pd/MgAl-LDHs.....</b>	<b>S5</b>
<b>3. Characterization data of 3.....</b>	<b>S6</b>
<b>4. <math>^1\text{H}</math>, <math>^{13}\text{C}</math> NMR spectra of 3.....</b>	<b>S13</b>
<b>5. References .....</b>	<b>S39</b>

## **1. Experimental section**

### **1.1 Materials**

Magnesium nitrate hexahydrate ( $\text{Mg}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ), aluminium nitrate nonahydrate ( $\text{Al}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ), sodium hydroxide ( $\text{NaOH}$ ),  $\text{Na}_2\text{PdCl}_4$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  and ethanol were analytical reagent (AR) and purchased from Aladdin Chemistry Co., Ltd. All aryl bromides and olefinic derivatives used for the Heck coupling reactions were purchased from Energy Chemical Co., Ltd. All the above chemicals were used as purchased without further purification. Besides that, decarbonated water was prepared by boiling deionized water to avoid contamination with carbonate anions before employing in synthetic process of Pd/MgAl-LDHs.

## 1.2 Method

Power X-ray diffraction (XRD) measurements were recorded on a X'pert pro diffractometer (PANalytical Corporation, Netherlands), operating on Cu K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.1542$  nm) with the voltage and anode current of 40 kV and 40 mA at room temperature. The scanning speed was in steps of 5°/min over the angular variation range of 5–80 ( $2\theta$ ). The Pd loading as well as the content of Mg, Al element in Pd/MgAl-LDHs were determined by using inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP–MS) on an Elan DRC-e instrument (PerkinElmer Corporation, USA). X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) studies were carried out on a Kratos Axis Ultra DLD spectrometer (Kratos Corporation, UK) with the help of monochromatic Al K $\alpha$  excitation (1486.6 eV) operated at 45 W. The peak of C 1s at 284.6 eV was employed to calibrate the binding energies. All coupling products were purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel. Melting points (mp) were measured on a digital melting point instrument.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded using  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as the solvent at 400 (or 500) MHz and 100 MHz respectively, and TMS was used as the internal standard. Mass spectra were measured with a HRMS-ESI-Q-TOF and a low-resolution MS instrument using an ESI ion source.

## 1.3 Preparation of Pd/MgAl-LDHs

### 1.3.1 Synthesis of MgAl-LDHs

The MgAl-LDHs by fixing the molar ratio of Mg:Al at 3:1 was prepared by using co-precipitation route under nitrogen atmosphere as described below: A 80mL aqueous solution containing 0.2 mol (8.0 g) NaOH and a 80mL aqueous solution containing 0.075 mol (19.2 g)  $\text{Mg}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and 0.025 mol (9.4 g)  $\text{Al}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$  were added dropwise to a flask (500 mL) with 80 mL decarbonated water under vigorous stirring at 25 °C. At the same time, the pH of mixed solution was kept constant at 9–10 and stirred strongly for 45 min.

After that, the resulting mixture was aged at 65 °C for 18 h, filtered and rinsed several times with deionized water until pH reached 7. Finally, it was dried in vacuum oven for 18 h at 65 °C to obtain the product of MgAl-LDHs.

### 1.3.2 Synthesis of MgAl-LDHs-PdCl<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>

MgAl-LDHs-PdCl<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> was prepared by use of anionic exchange reaction. For this reason, the previously synthesized MgAl-LDHs (3.0 g) was added to 0.833 g of Na<sub>2</sub>PdCl<sub>4</sub> in 300 mL of decarbonated water under nitrogen atmosphere and maintained with constant stirring for 12 h at 25 °C. The brown product of MgAl-LDHs-PdCl<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> was isolated by centrifugation, and washed with distilled water for five times, subsequently dried overnight in vacuum oven at 60 °C.

### 1.3.3 Synthesis of Pd/MgAl-LDHs

A reduction process was chosen to prepare Pd/MgAl-LDHs as shown below: 50 mL of ethanol was added to 6.0 g dried powder of MgAl-LDHs-PdCl<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>. Then the ethanol solution of MgAl-LDHs-PdCl<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> was reduced by N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL) for 3 h at 25 °C. Finally, the catalyst was centrifuged and washed with ethanol, and vacuum-dried under 60 °C for 12 h.

## 1.4 General procedure of Heck reaction and catalyst recycling

In a mechanically assisted Heck reaction, Pd/MgAl-LDHs (2.5 mol%) was added to a ball-milling jar (80 mL) together with aryl bromides (1.5 mmol), olefinic derivatives (2.1 mmol), potassium carbonate (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) (3.6 mmol), tetra-*n*-butylammonium bromide (TBAB) (1.5 mmol) and silica gel (5.0 g). After that, designated amount ( $\Phi_{MB} = 0.25$ ) of stainless steel balls with  $d_{MB}$  of 5 mm were added and the jar was locked with a lid and gasket. The reaction mixture

was then ball-milled with rotational speed of 800 rpm for 60 min. After end up of the reaction, all the mixture was dissolved by using ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (50 mL) and centrifugated to get the filtrate and residue. The filtrate was dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) and concentrated by rotary evaporation. The products were purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate). After each reaction, the residue was washed with decarbonated water, ethanol and EtOAc three times to obtain the mixture of catalyst and silica gel, which was vacuum-dried to applied in Heck reaction for the next run.

## 2. Characterization of Pd/MgAl-LDHs

Table S1 The metallic composition of Pd/MgAl-LDHs

Catalyst	Mg (wt %)	Al (wt %)	Pd (wt %)
Pd/MgAl-LDHs	33.9	12.8	8.5

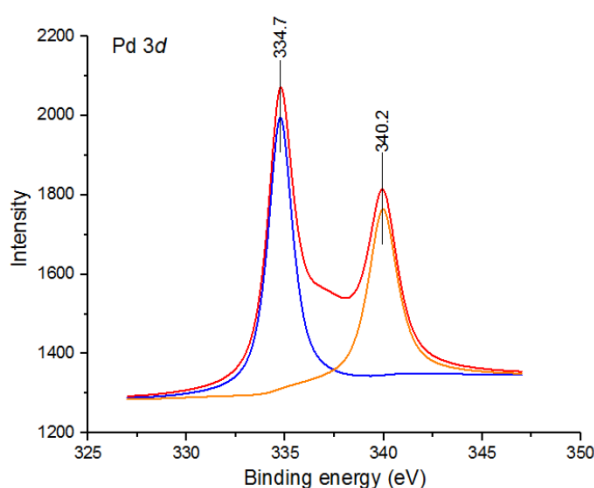


Figure S1. XPS spectra of Pd 3d for Pd/MgAl-LDHs (red line), Pd 3d<sub>5/2</sub> (blue line), Pd 3d<sub>3/2</sub> (yellow line)

### 3. Characterization data of 3

#### 3aa: (*E*)-1-(3-Styrylphenyl)ethanone

White solid; mp: 71-72 °C (lit 70-74 °C [1]); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.07(s, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.45-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19-7.09 (m, 2H), 2.63 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 197.5, 138.0, 137.8, 137.1, 130.7, 130.2, 128.8 (2C), 128.7, 128.0, 127.7, 126.3, 126.7 (2C), 126.2, 26.7; MS (ESI) 223.2 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>).

#### 3ba: (*E*)-4-Acetylstilbene

White solid; mp: 140-142 °C (lit 141-142 °C [2]); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.95 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.54(d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.31 - 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.11 (m, 2H), 2.61 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 197.2, 142.0, 136.7, 136.0, 131.5, 128.9 (2C), 128.8 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 127.5, 126.8 (2C), 126.5, 26.8; MS (ESI) 223.1 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>).

#### 3ca: (*E*)-1-(2-Styrylphenyl)ethanone

Colourless oil [3]; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.68-7.62 (m, 3H), 7.51-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.45 (td, *J* = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 1H), 6.95(d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 202.0, 137.3 (2C), 137.2, 131.6, 131.5, 129.1, 128.6 (2C), 127.8, 127.4, 127.3 (2C), 127.2, 126.8, 30.1; MS (ESI) 223.1 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>).

**3da: (E)-1,2-Diphenylethene**

White solid; mp: 120-121 °C (lit 120-121 °C [4]);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.49 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.34 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.10 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  137.3 (2C), 128.7 (6C), 127.6 (2C), 126.5 (4C); MS (ESI) 181.1 ( $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ ).

**3ea: (E)-Methyl 2-[2-phenylethenyl]benzoate**

Yellow oil [5];  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.96 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.22 (m, 4H), 6.98 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 167.8, 139.2, 137.4, 134.3, 132.1, 131.5, 130.7, 128.7 (2C), 127.9, 127.5, 127.1, 127.0 (2C), 126.9, 52.3; MS (ESI) 239.1 ( $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ ).

**3fa: (E)-4-Ethoxycarbonylstilbene**

Colorless solid; mp: 106-107 °C (lit 106-106.5 °C [6]);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.02 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.57-7.52 (m, 4H), 7.42-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.21 (d,  $J$  = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d,  $J$  = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 4.41-4.35 (m, 2H), 1.40 (t,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  166.3, 141.7, 136.8, 131.2, 130.0 (2C), 129.4, 128.8 (2C), 128.2, 127.7 (2C), 126.8 (2C), 126.3, 61.1, 14.7; MS (ESI) 253.2 ( $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ ).

**3ga: (E)-Methyl 2-chloro-5-styrylbenzoate**

Colourless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.94 (d,  $J$  = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 3H), 7.41 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.12 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$

NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 166.2, 136.7, 136.2, 132.4, 131.4, 130.6, 130.3, 130.1, 129.4 (2C), 128.9, 128.3, 126.8, 126.4 (2C), 52.6; HRMS (ESI) C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NaClO<sub>2</sub> ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>) calcd 295.0496, found 295.0488.

### **3ha: (*E*)-3,4,5-Trifluorostilbene**

Colourless oil [1]; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.45 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.36-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.07-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  152.6 (2C), 150.1, 136.2, 133.7, 131.1, 128.8 (2C), 128.4, 126.7(2C), 125.7, 110.1 (2C); MS (ESI) 235.1 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>).

### **3ia: (*E*)-2-(4-Styrylphenyl)acetonitrile**

White solid; mp: 121-122 °C (lit 121.6-122.5 °C [1]); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.49 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.31-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.13-7.03 (m, 2H), 3.74 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  137.2, 136.9, 129.5, 128.9, 128.7 (2C), 128.3, 127.9 (2C), 127.6 (2C), 127.1 (2C), 126.6, 117.8, 23.7; MS (ESI) 220.2 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>).

### **3ja: (*E*)-4-Styrylaniline**

Yellow solid; mp: 146-147 °C (lit 147-148 °C [4]); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.46 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 4H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (bs, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  146.3, 138.1, 128.8 (2C), 128.7, 128.2 (2C), 127.9, 127.0 (2C), 126.2, 125.3, 115.4 (2C); MS (ESI) 196.1 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>).



**3ka: (E)-1-Methyl-4-styrylbenzene**

White solid; mp: 117-118 °C (lit 118-119 °C [4]); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.48 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.24-7.20 (m, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10-7.01 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 137.5, 134.5, 129.4, 128.7 (2C), 128.6 (2C), 127.7, 127.4 (2C), 126.5 (2C), 126.4 (2C), 21.5. MS (ESI) 195.2 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>).

**3la: (E)-1-Methoxy-4-styrylbenzene**

Yellow solid; mp: 137-138 °C (lit 135-138 °C [4]); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.50-7.44 (m, 4H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.10-6.99 (m, 2H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 158.7, 137.7, 133.6, 128.7, 128.3 (2C), 127.8 (2C), 127.2, 126.7 (2C), 126.3, 114.3 (2C), 55.5; MS (ESI) 211.2 ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>).

**3ib: (E)-2-(4-(4-Methylstyryl)phenyl)acetonitrile**

White solid; mp: 173-174 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 138.0, 137.6, 134.3, 129.6, 128.8 (2C), 128.4 (2C), 127.1 (2C), 126.8 (2C), 126.7 (2C), 117.9, 23.5, 21.4. HRMS (ESI) C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N ([M + H]<sup>+</sup>) calcd 234.1277, found 234.1265.

**3ic: (E)-2-(4-(4-Methoxystyryl)phenyl)acetonitrile**

White solid; mp: 175-176 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.50-7.44 (m, 4H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H),

6.92-6.89 (m, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  159.7, 137.8, 129.9, 129.2, 128.6 (2C), 128.4 (2C), 127.9, 127.0, 125.7 (2C), 117.9, 114.3 (2C), 55.5, 23.5. HRMS (ESI)  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$  ( $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ ) calcd 250.1126, found 250.1129.

**3id: (*E*)-2-(4-(4-Chlorostyryl)phenyl)acetonitrile**

White solid; mp: 173-174 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.51 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.34-7.31 (m, 4H), 7.06 (s, 2H), 3.76 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  137.1, 135.6, 133.6, 129.3, 129.0 (2C), 128.5 (2C), 128.4 (2C), 128.3, 127.8 (2C), 127.3, 117.8, 23.6; HRMS (ESI)  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{NCI}$  ( $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ ) calcd 254.0731, found 254.0738.

**3ie: (*E*)-4-(4-(Cyanomethyl)styryl)benzonitrile**

Colourless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.64 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d,  $J$  = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  141.6, 136.4, 132.7 (2C), 131.4, 129.4, 128.6 (2C), 128.5, 127.7 (2C), 127.1 (2C), 119.0, 117.7, 111.0, 23.5; HRMS (ESI)  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{Na}$  ( $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ ) calcd 267.0893, found 267.0887.

**3if: (*E*)-Butyl 3-(4-(cyanomethyl)phenyl)acrylate**

Colourless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.65 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 2H), 6.45 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (t,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 2H), 1.72-1.66 (m, 2H), 1.48-1.40 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  166.8, 143.4, 134.4, 131.9, 128.7 (2C),

128.5 (2C), 119.2, 117.4, 64.6, 30.8, 23.5, 19.2, 13.8. HRMS (ESI)  $C_{15}H_{18}NO_2$  ( $[M + H]^+$ ) calcd 244.1332, found 244.1325.

**3ig: (*E*)-*tert*-Butyl 3-(4-(cyanomethyl)phenyl)acrylate**

Colourless oil [7];  $^1H$  NMR (500 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.58-7.51 (m, 3H), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.38 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 2H), 1.54 (s, 9H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  166.2, 142.5, 134.8, 131.6, 128.7 (2C), 128.6 (2C), 121.2, 117.5, 80.9, 28.3 (3C), 23.6; HRMS (ESI)  $C_{15}H_{18}NO_2$  ( $[M + H]^+$ ) calcd 244.1332, found 244.1338.

**3ma: (*E*)-2-Styrylthiophene**

White solid; mp: 106-107 °C (lit 109-110 °C [4]);  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.44 (3,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.24-7.16 (m, 3H), 7.04 (d,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (t,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  142.8, 136.9, 128.7, 128.3, 127.6 (2C), 126.3, 126.1 (2C), 124.4 (2C), 121.8; MS (ESI): 187.1 ( $[M + H]^+$ ).

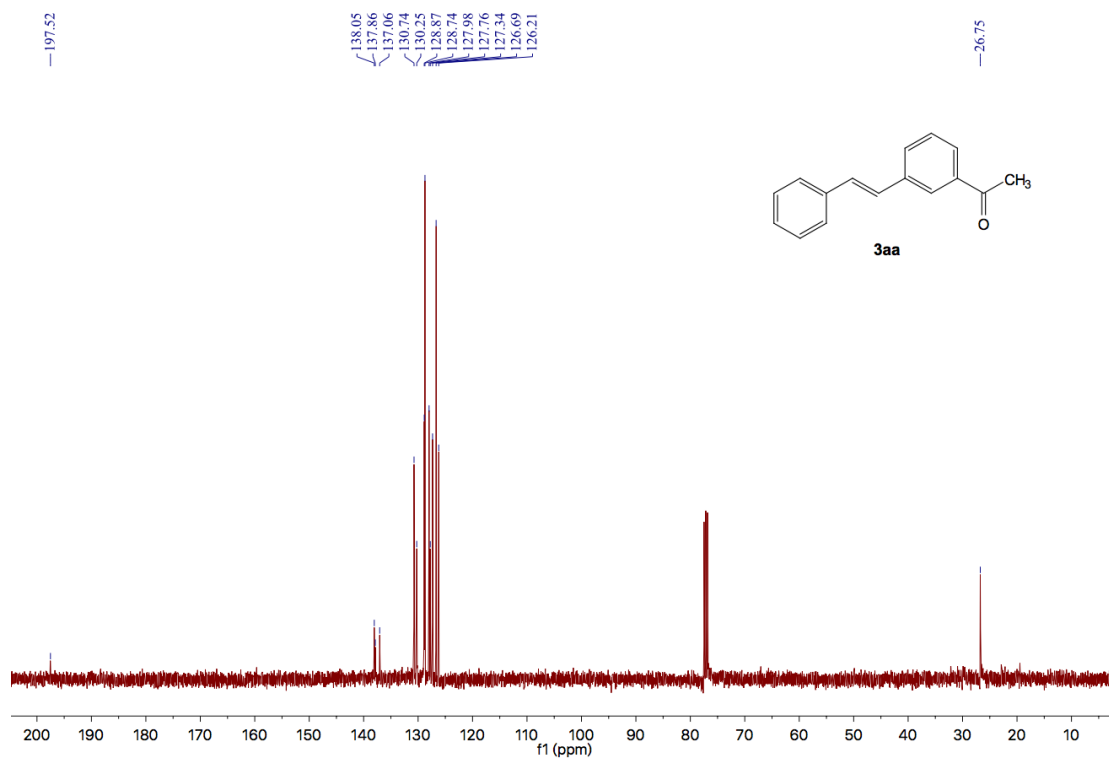
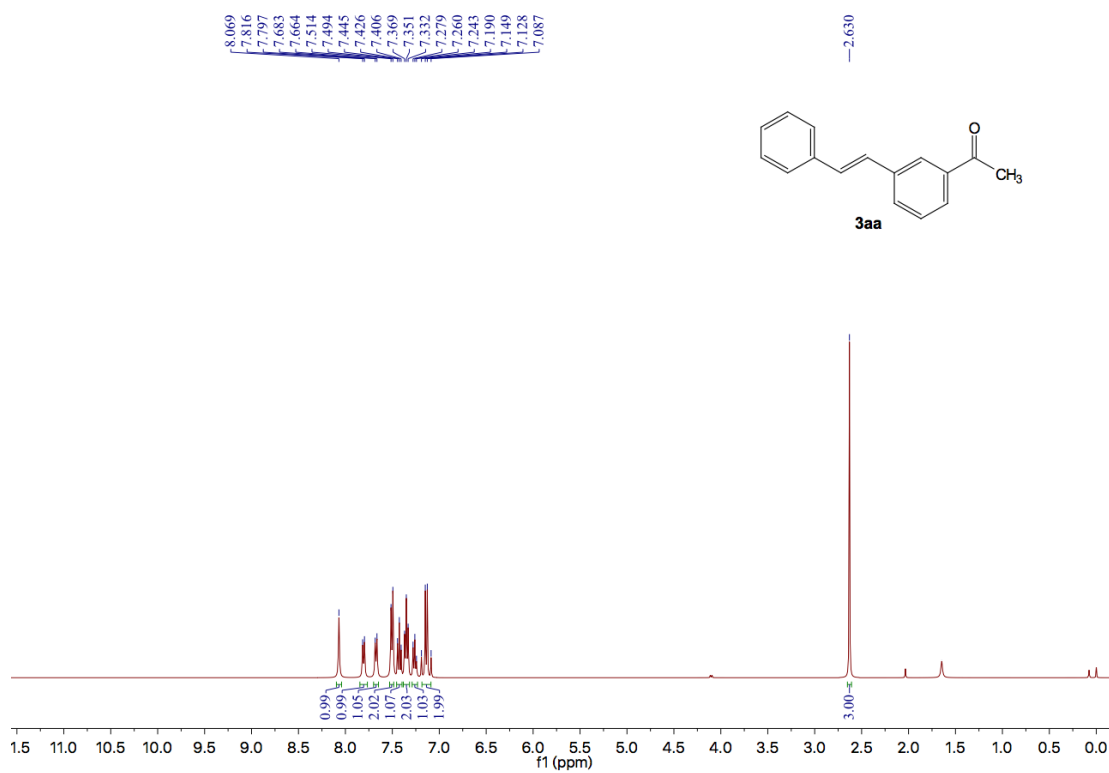
**3na: (*E*)-6-Styryl-1*H*-indole**

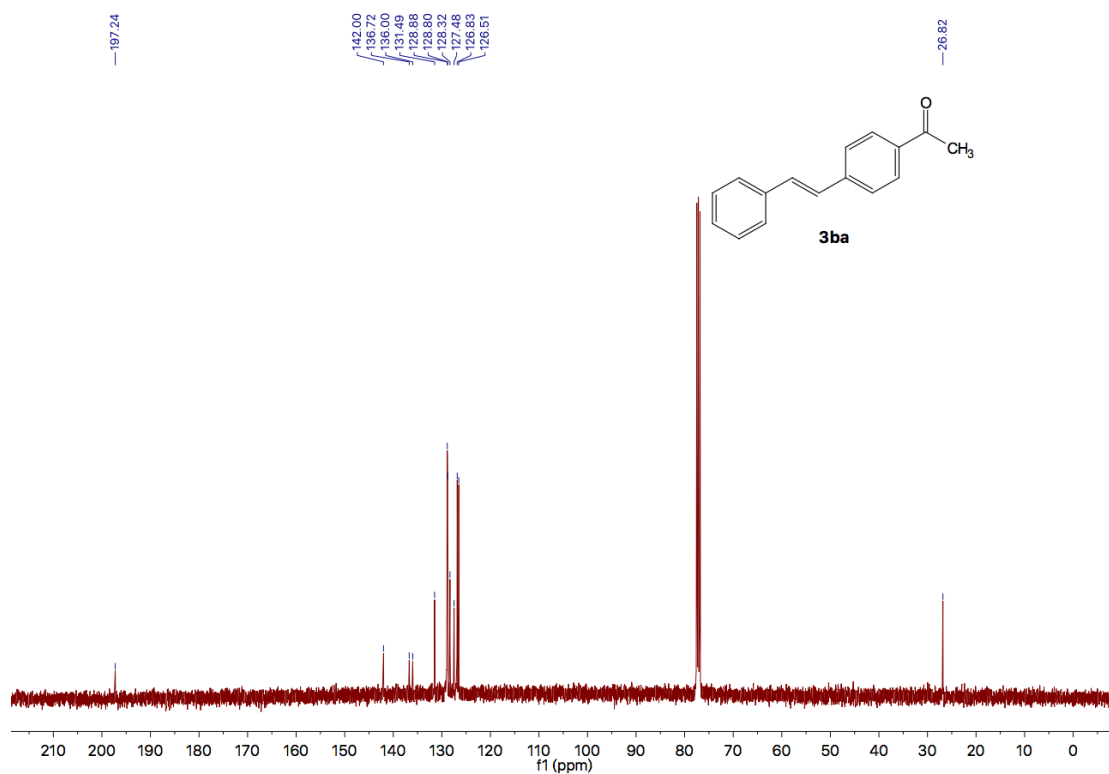
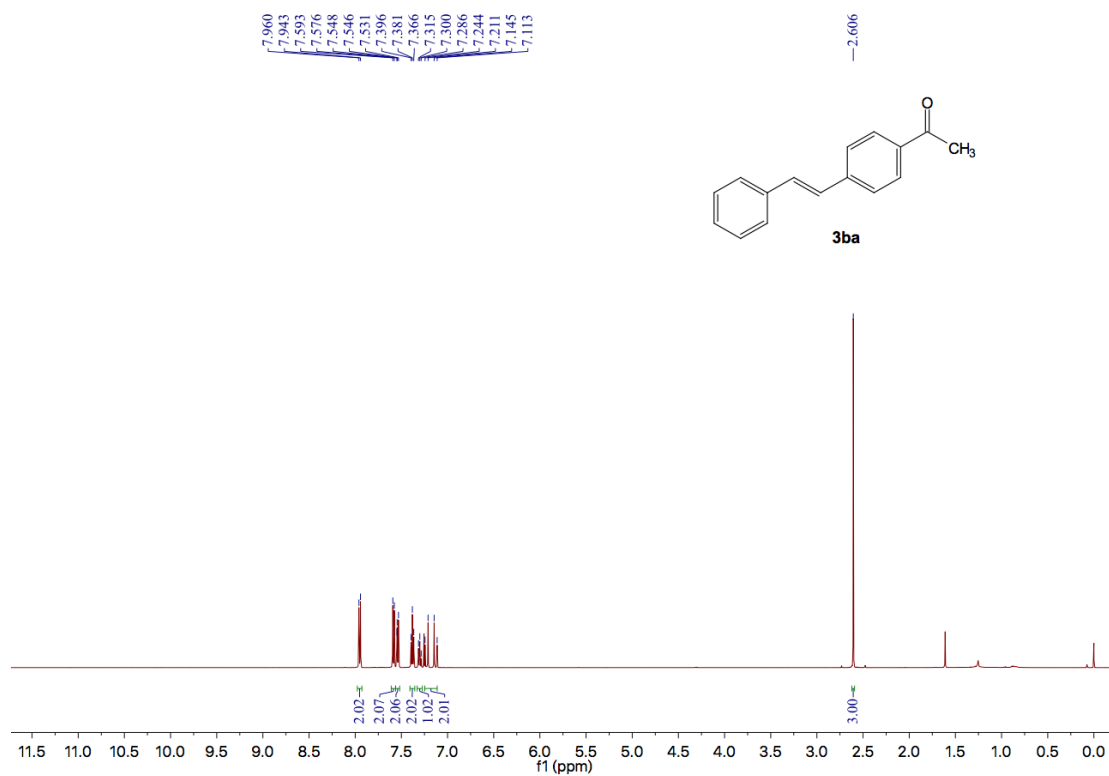
Colourless oil [8];  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.20-8.06 (brs, 1H), 7.60 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.38-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.26-7.18 (m, 3H, including 7.22 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H)), 7.10 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ , ppm):  $\delta$  137.8, 136.2, 131.8, 129.9, 128.7 (2C), 127.8, 127.2, 126.8 (2C), 126.3, 124.9, 120.9, 118.7, 109.6, 102.9; MS (ESI): 220.1 ( $[M + H]^+$ ).

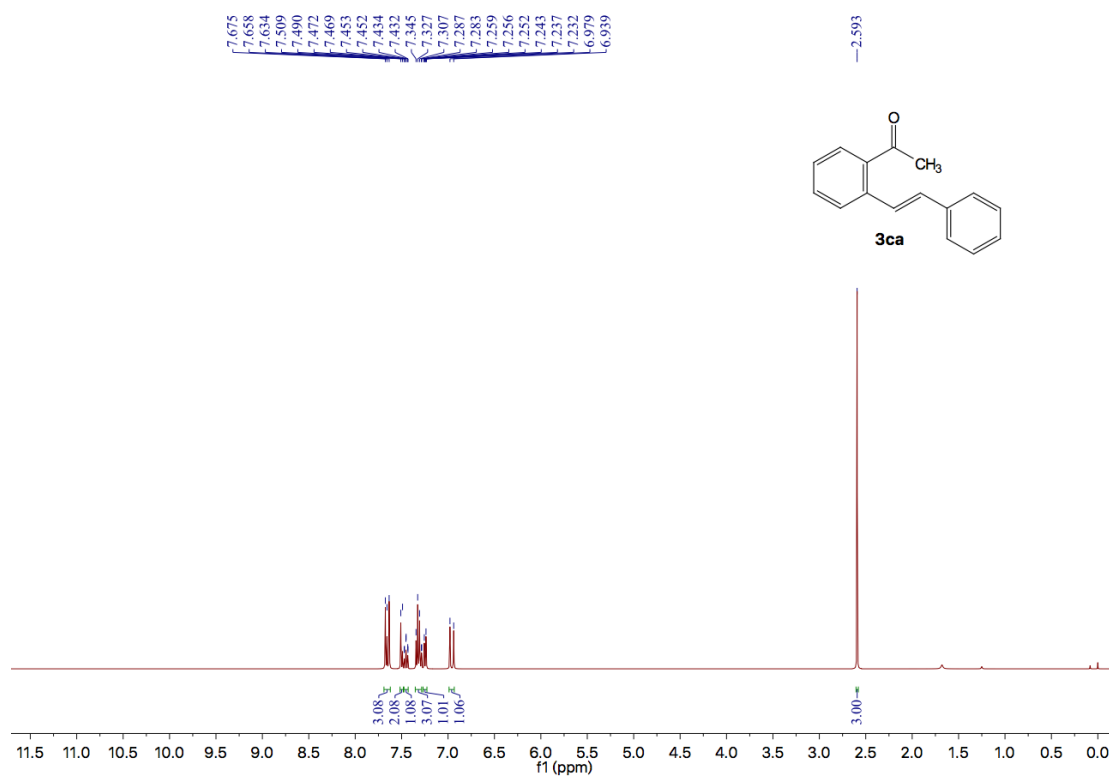
**3oa: (*E*)-7-Styryl-1*H*-indole:**

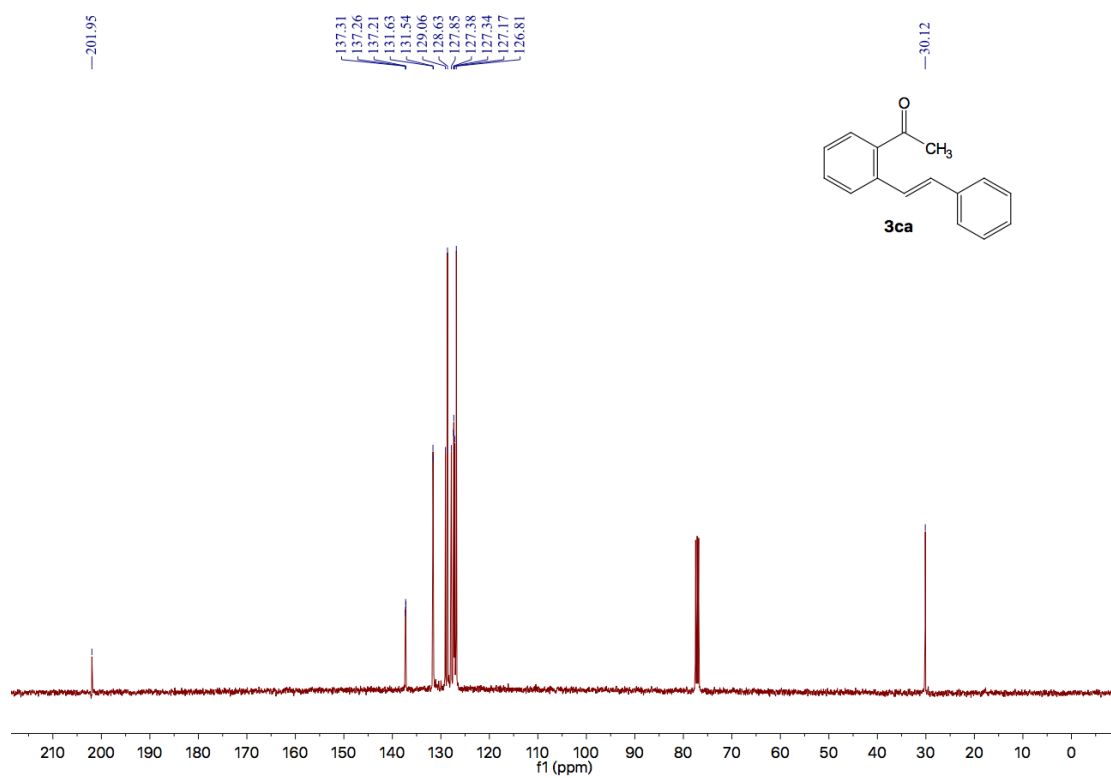
Colourless oil [9];  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.50-8.45 (brs, 1H), 7.62-7.50 (m, 3H), 7.42-7.33 (m, 4H), 7.31-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.09 (m, 2H), 6.60 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  137.4, 133.7, 129.7, 128.8 (2C), 128.5 (2C), 127.7, 126.4 (2C), 125.1, 124.3, 121.4, 120.5, 120.2, 103.3; MS (ESI): 220.1 ( $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ ).

#### 4. $^1\text{H}$ , $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of 3

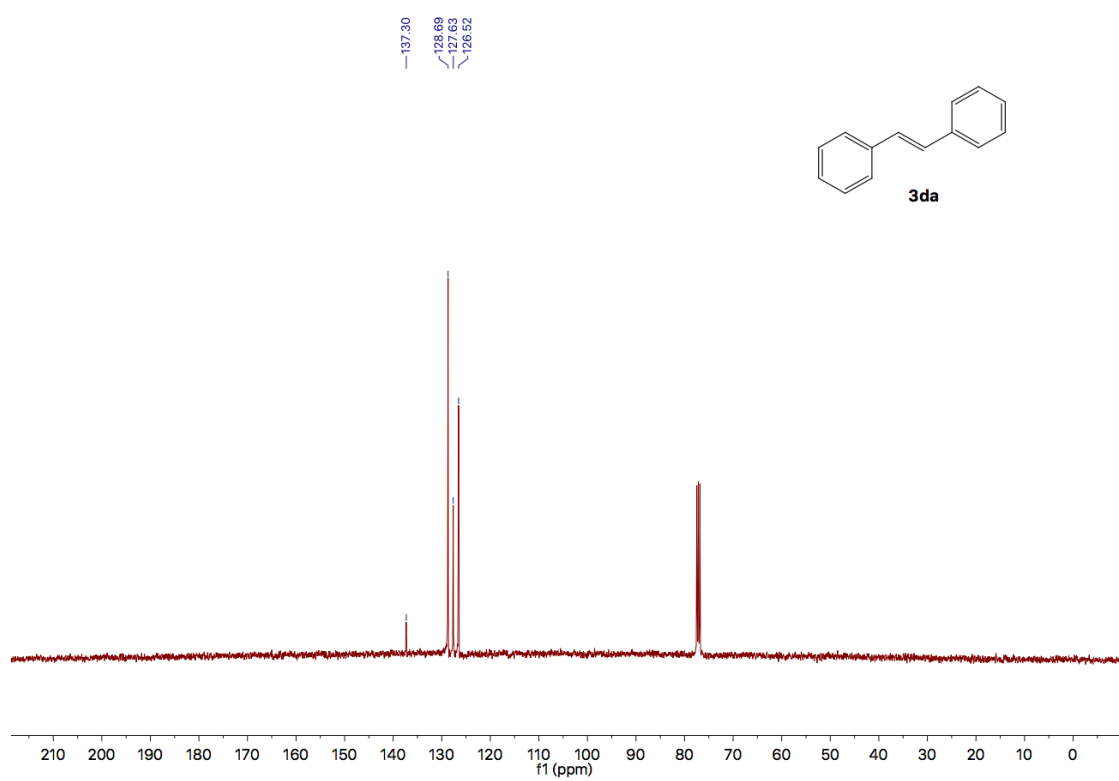
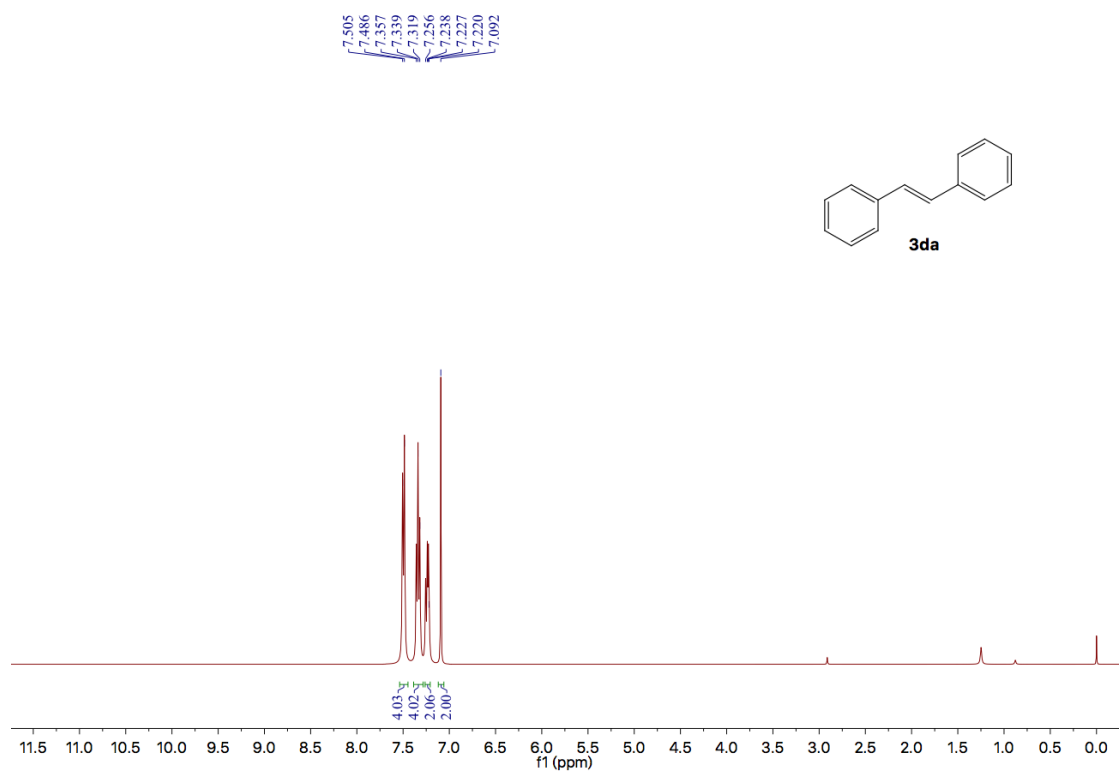


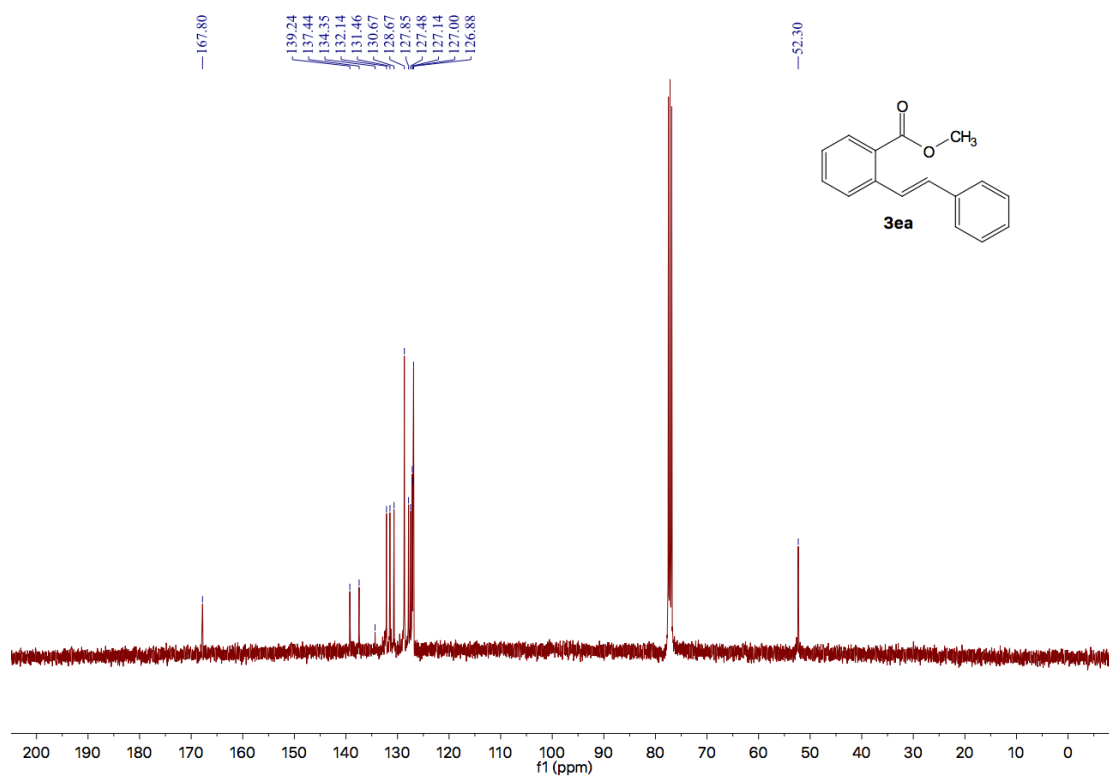
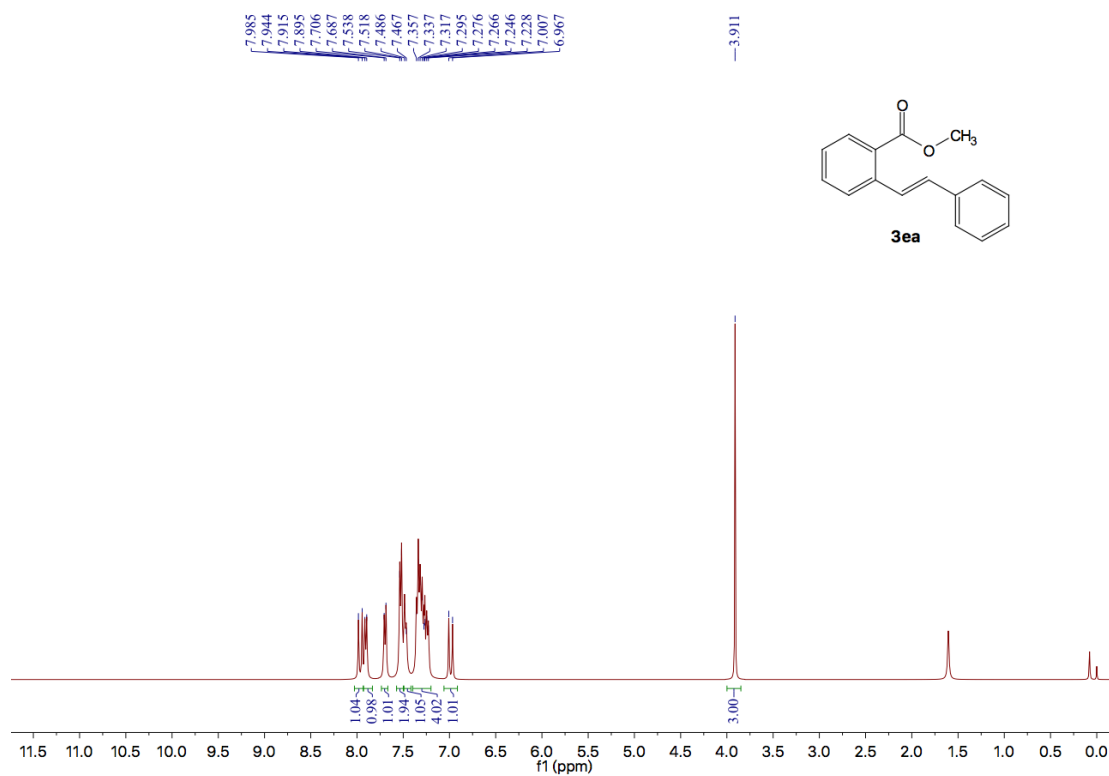


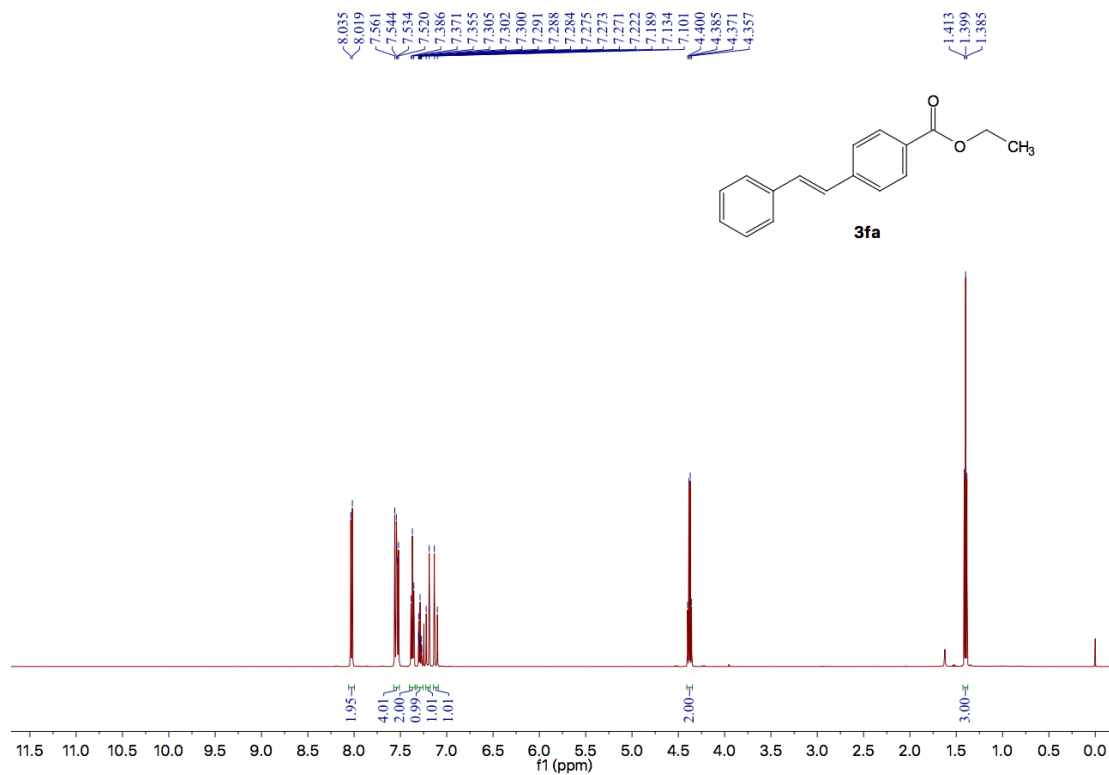


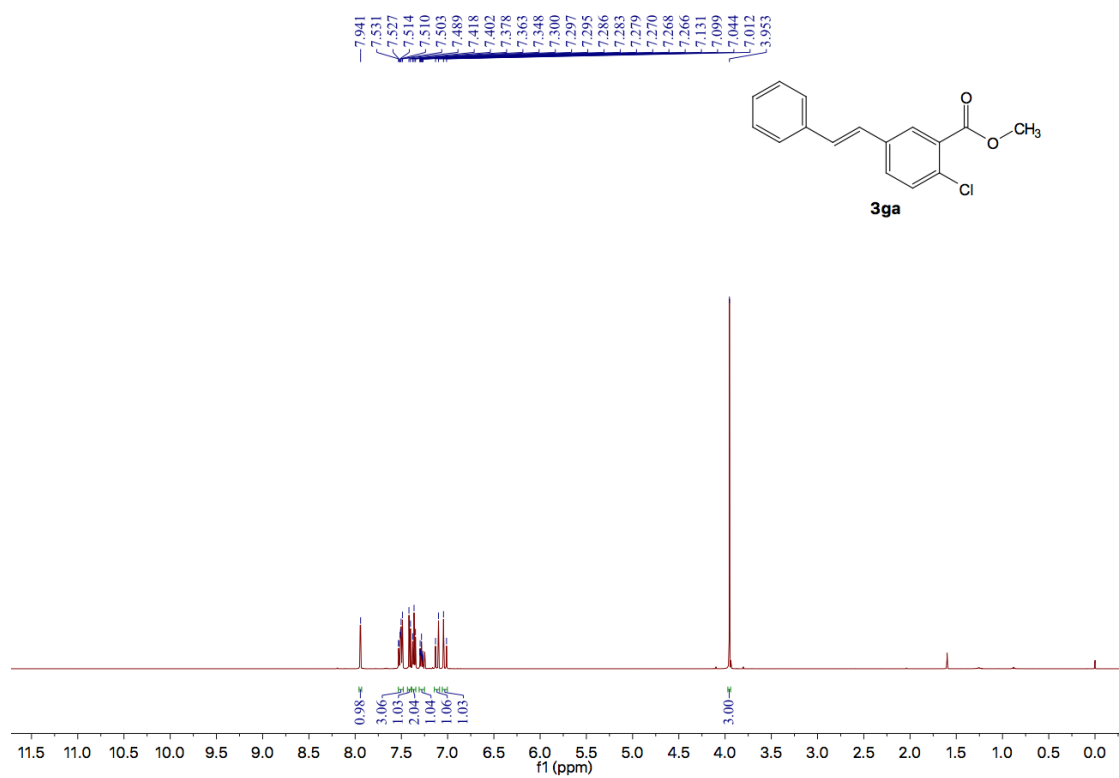
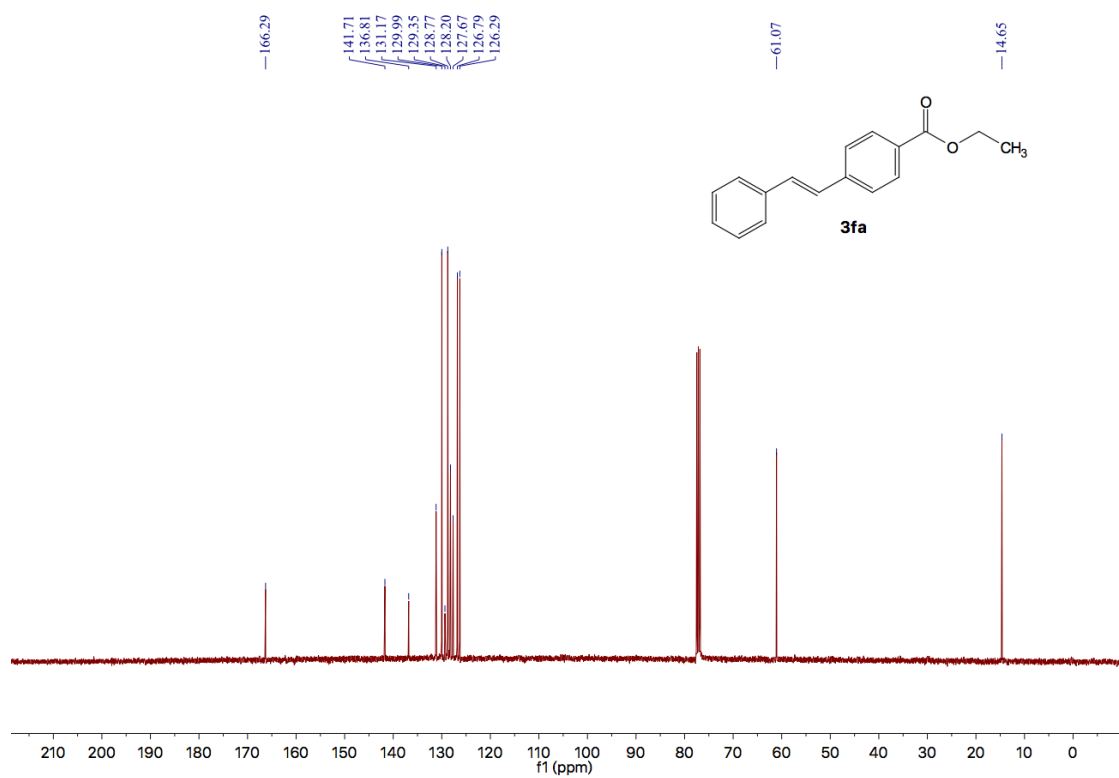


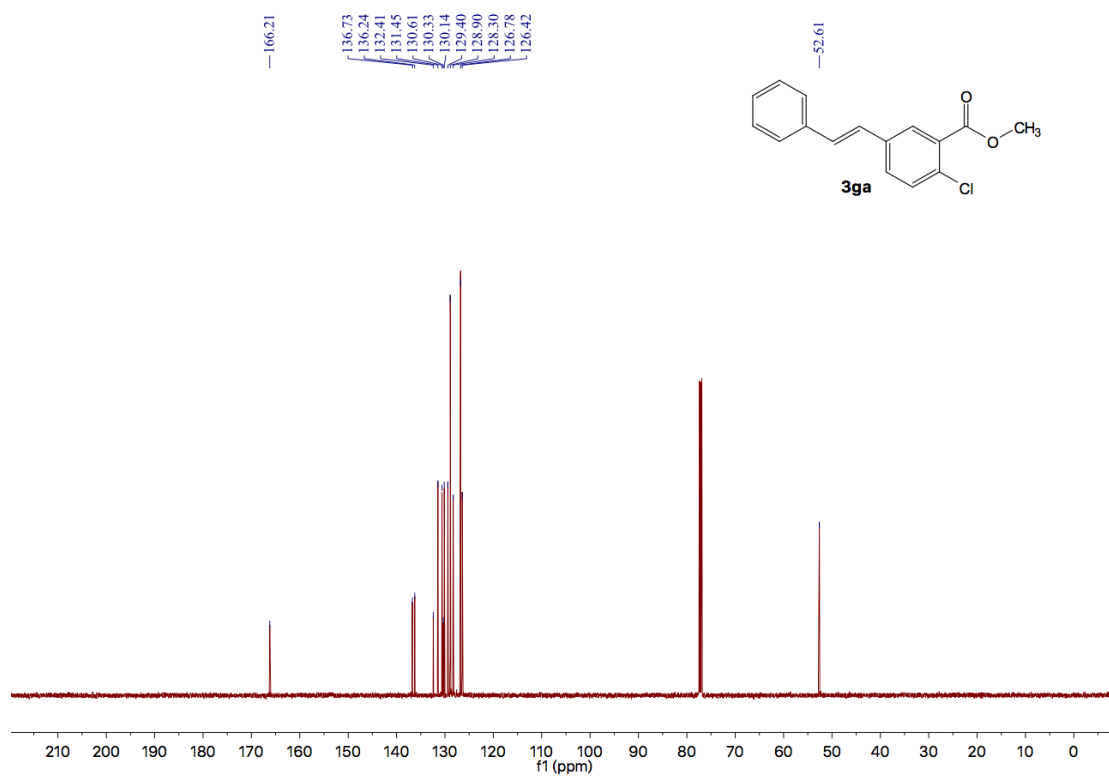


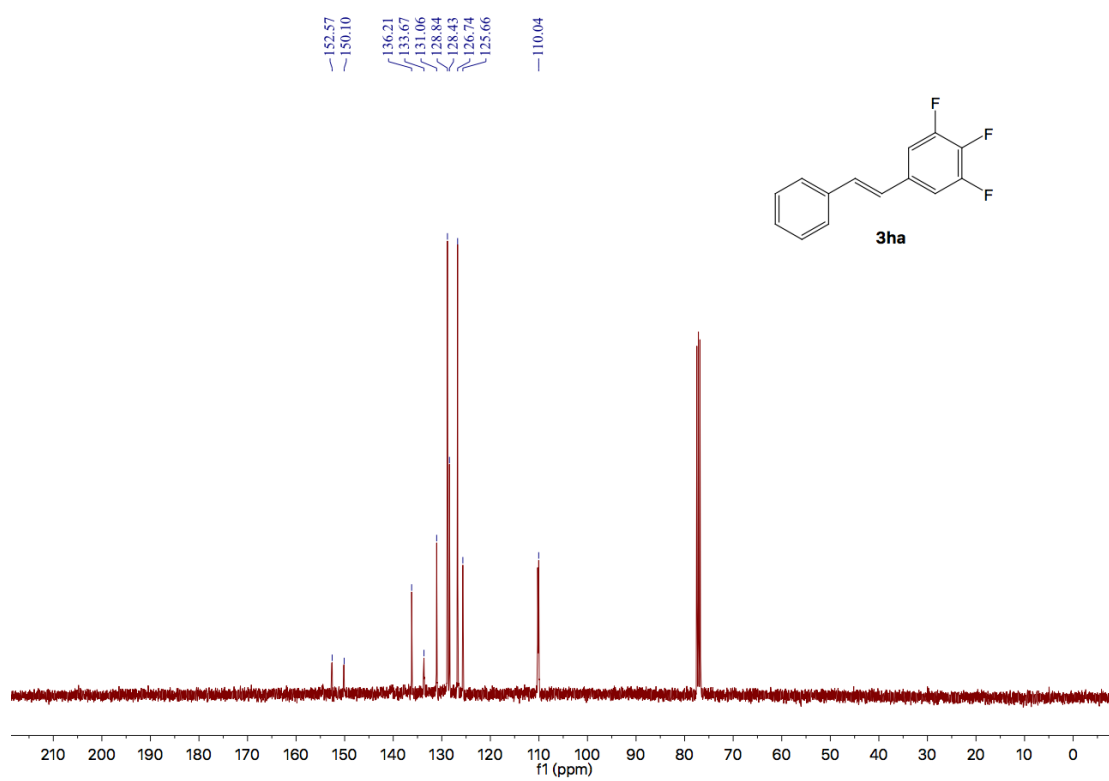
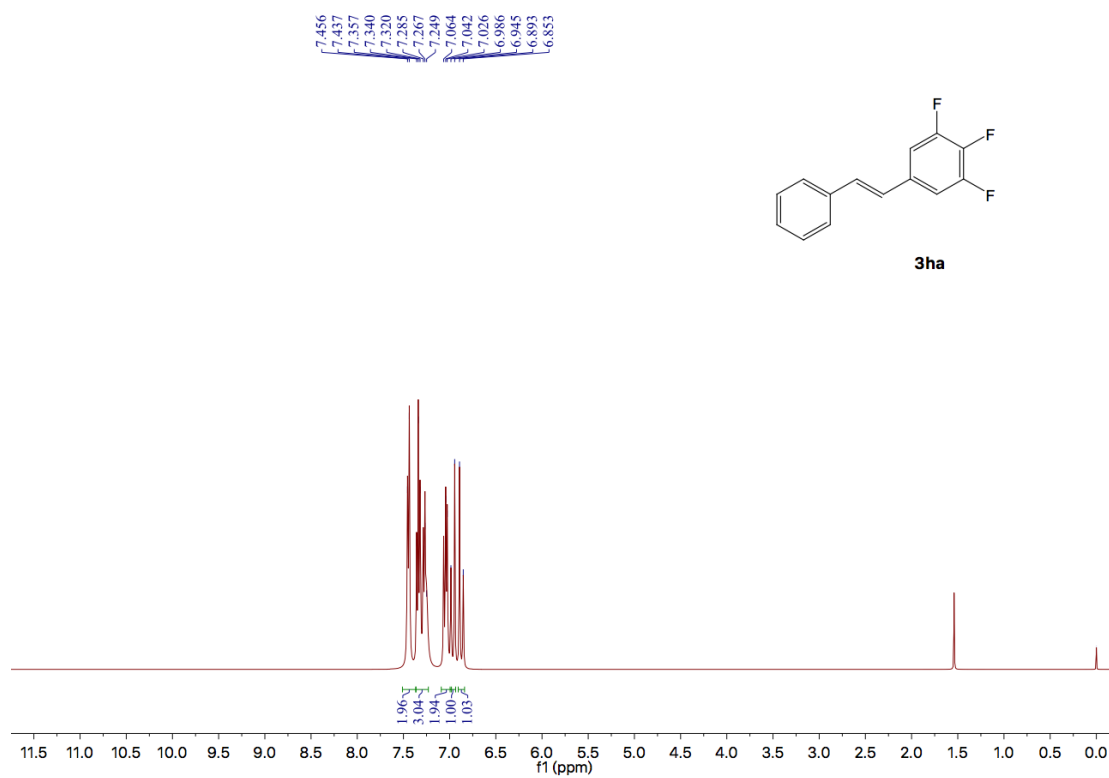


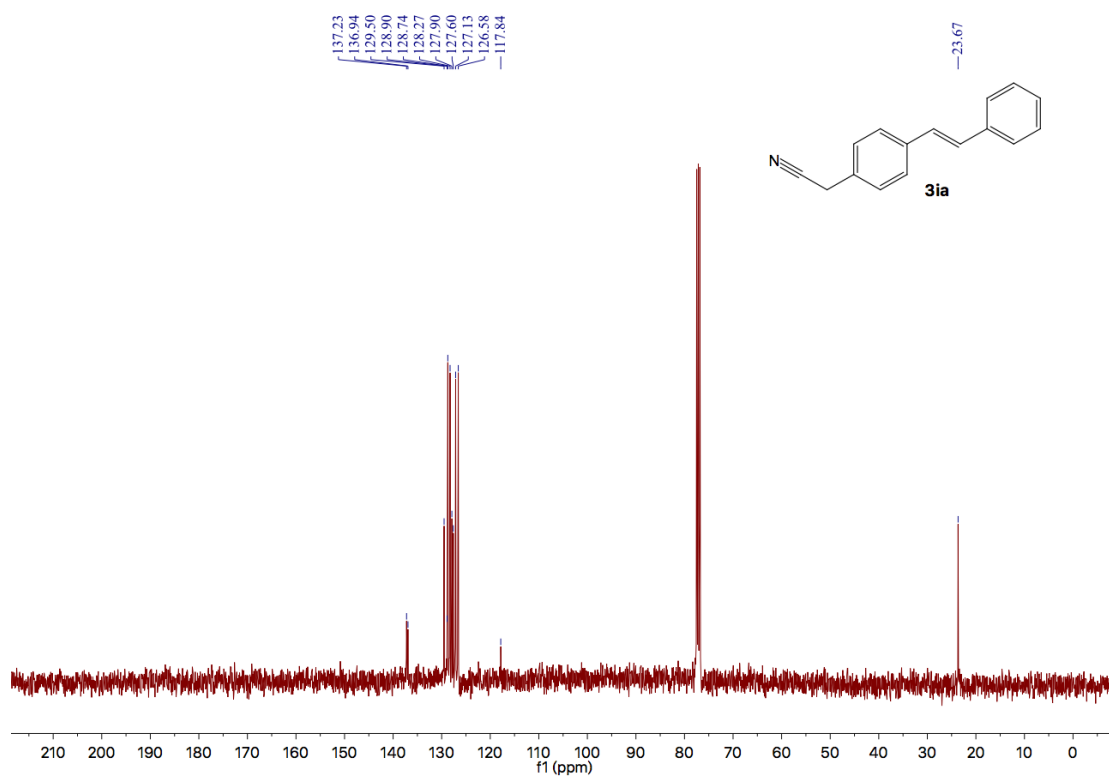
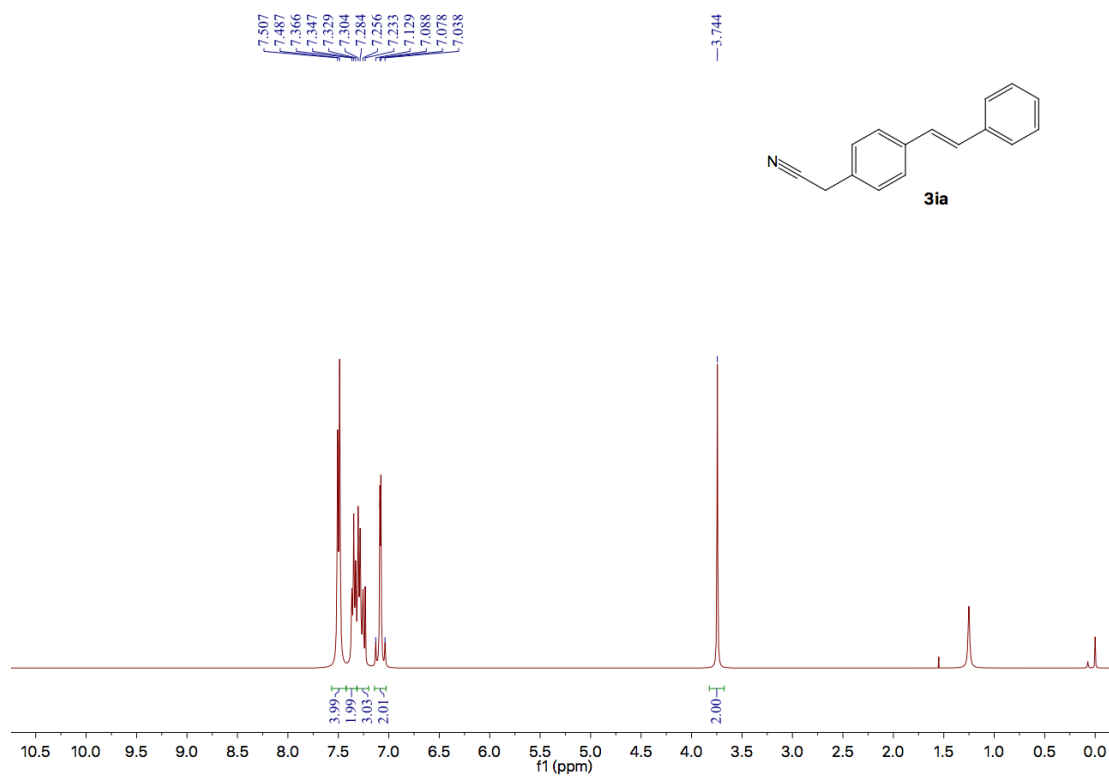


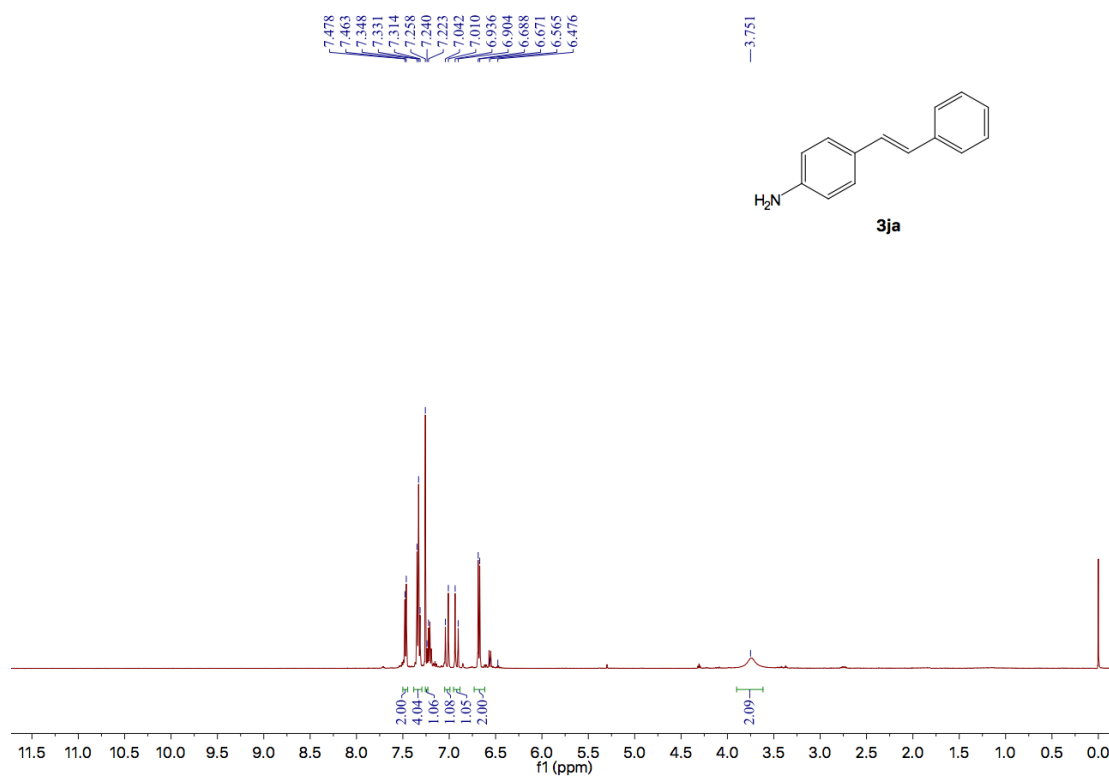




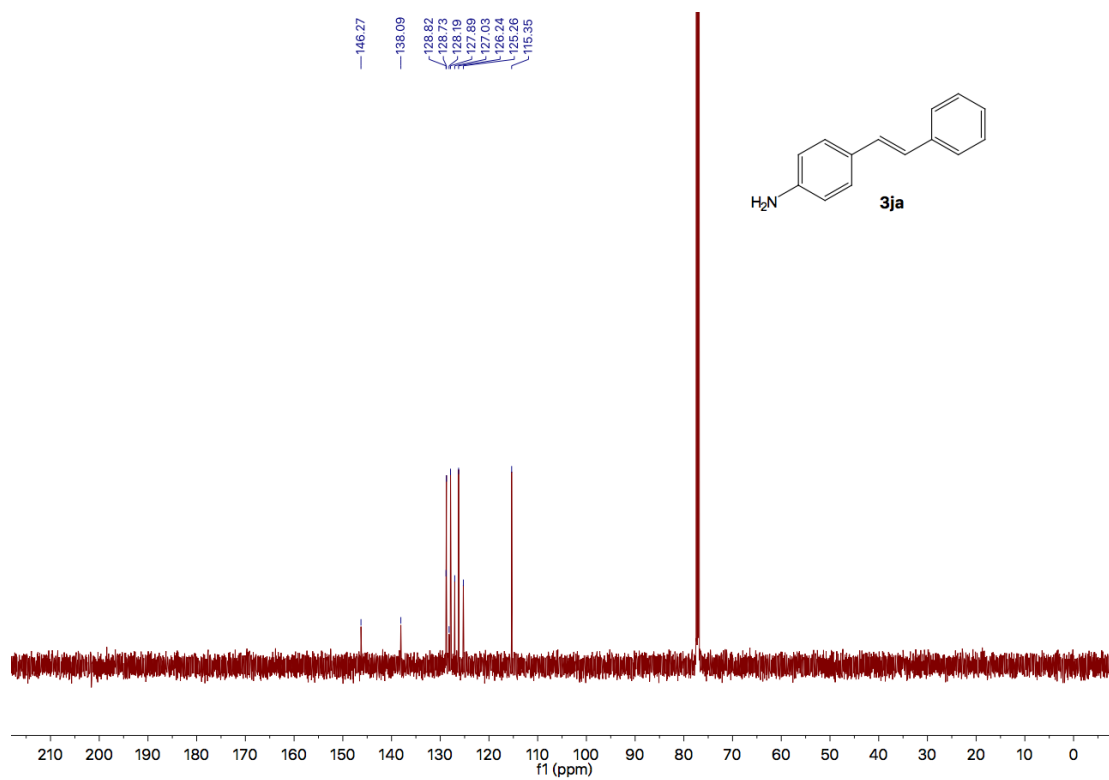


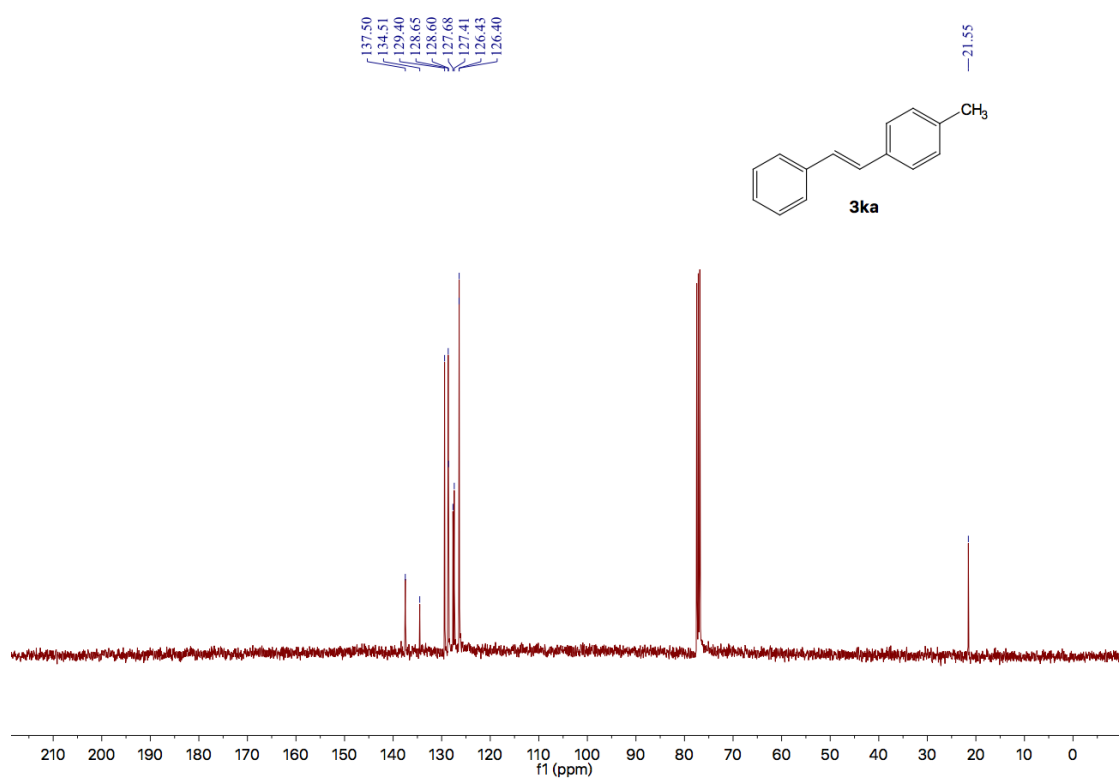
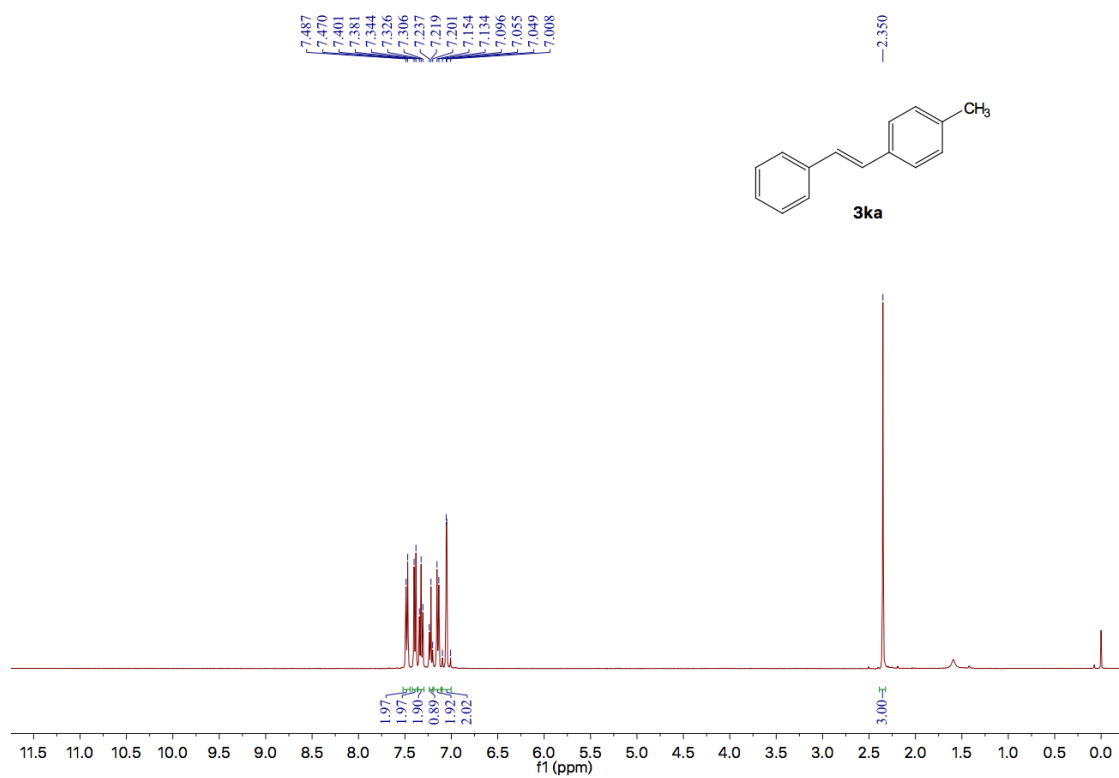


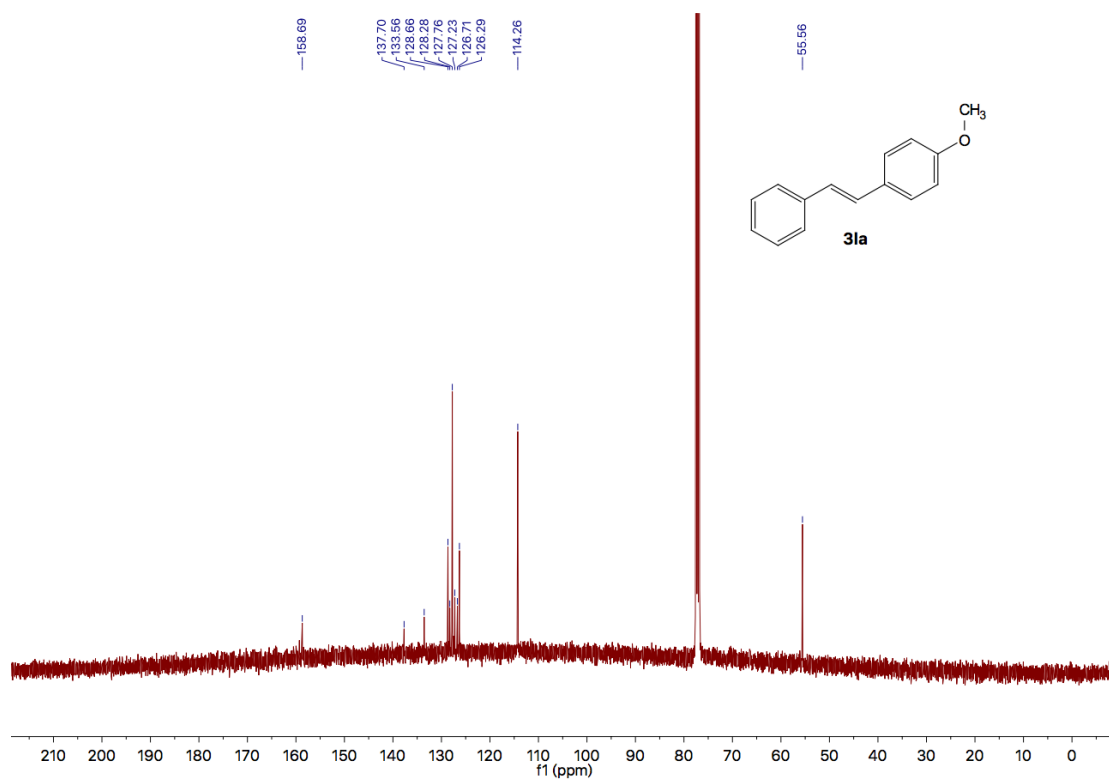
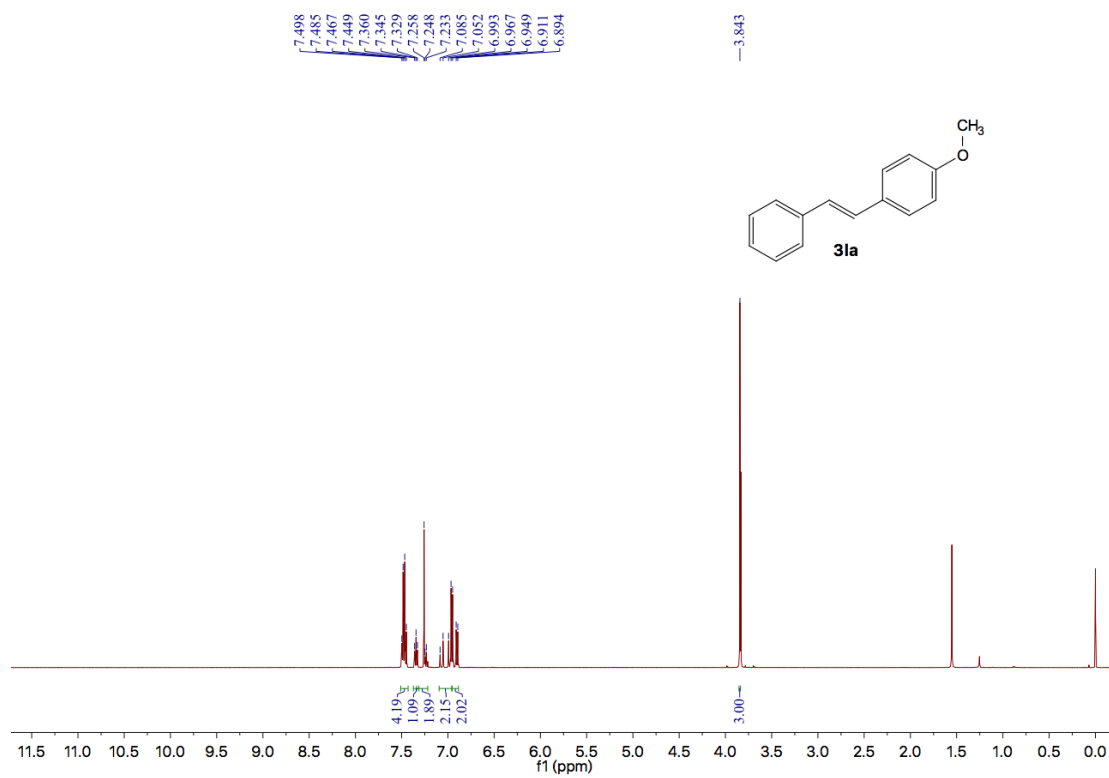


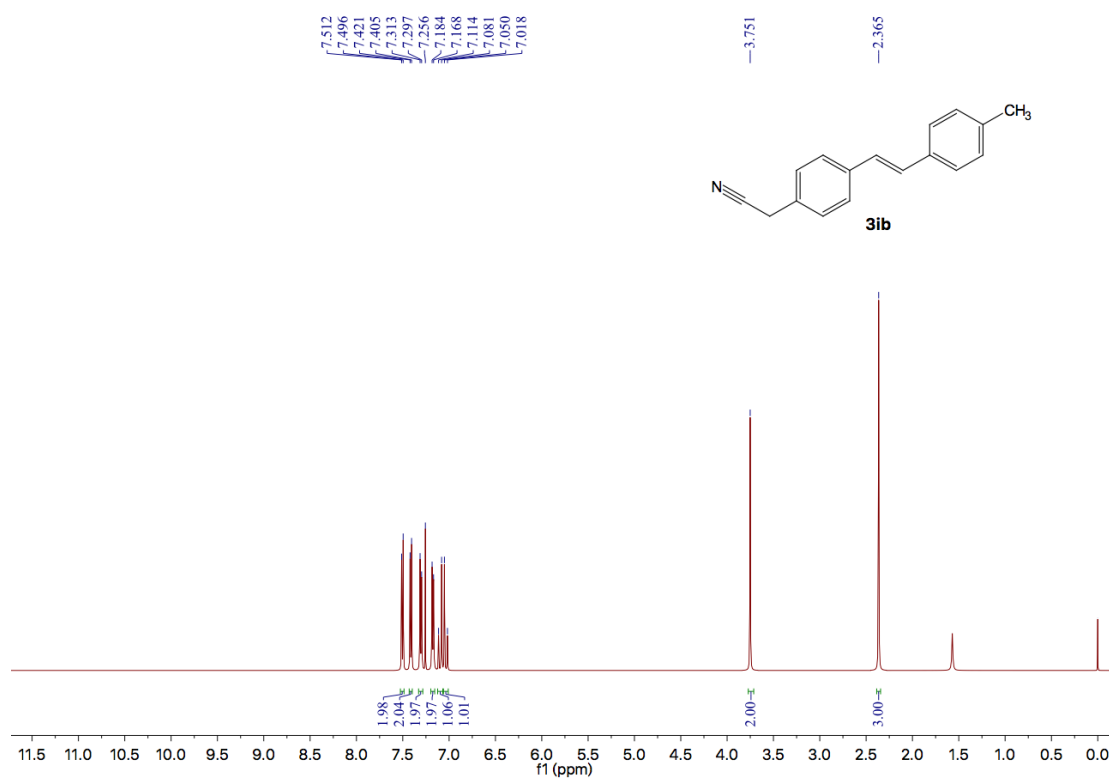


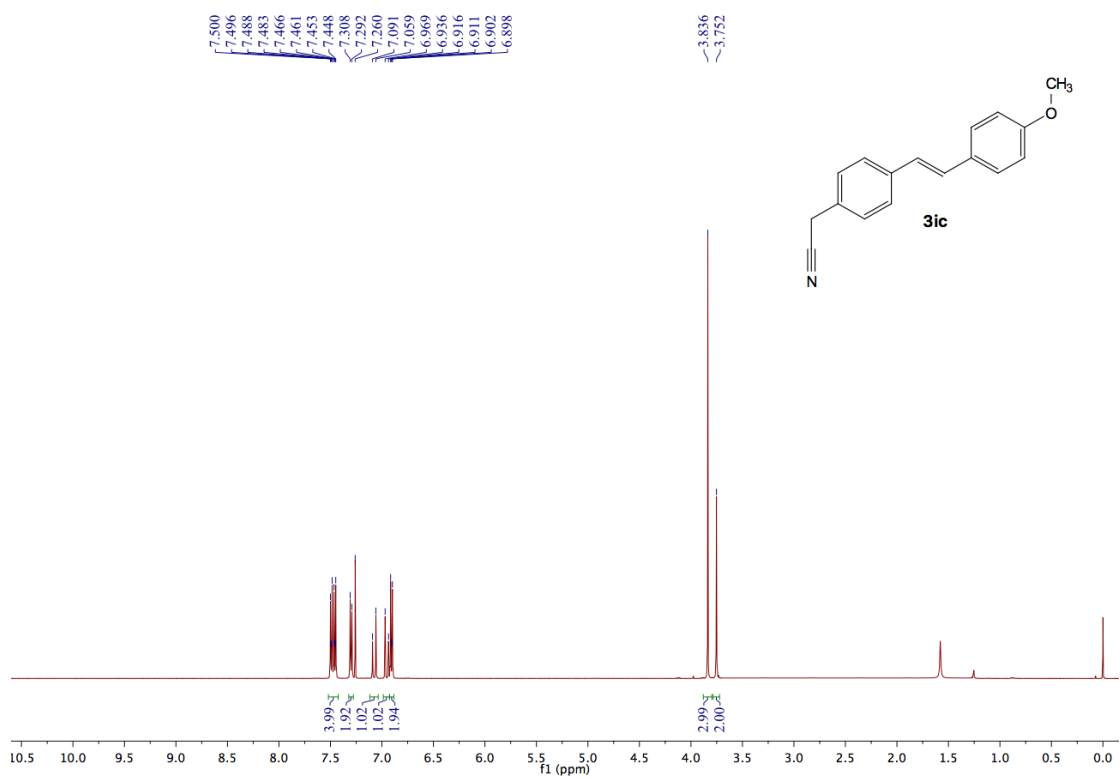
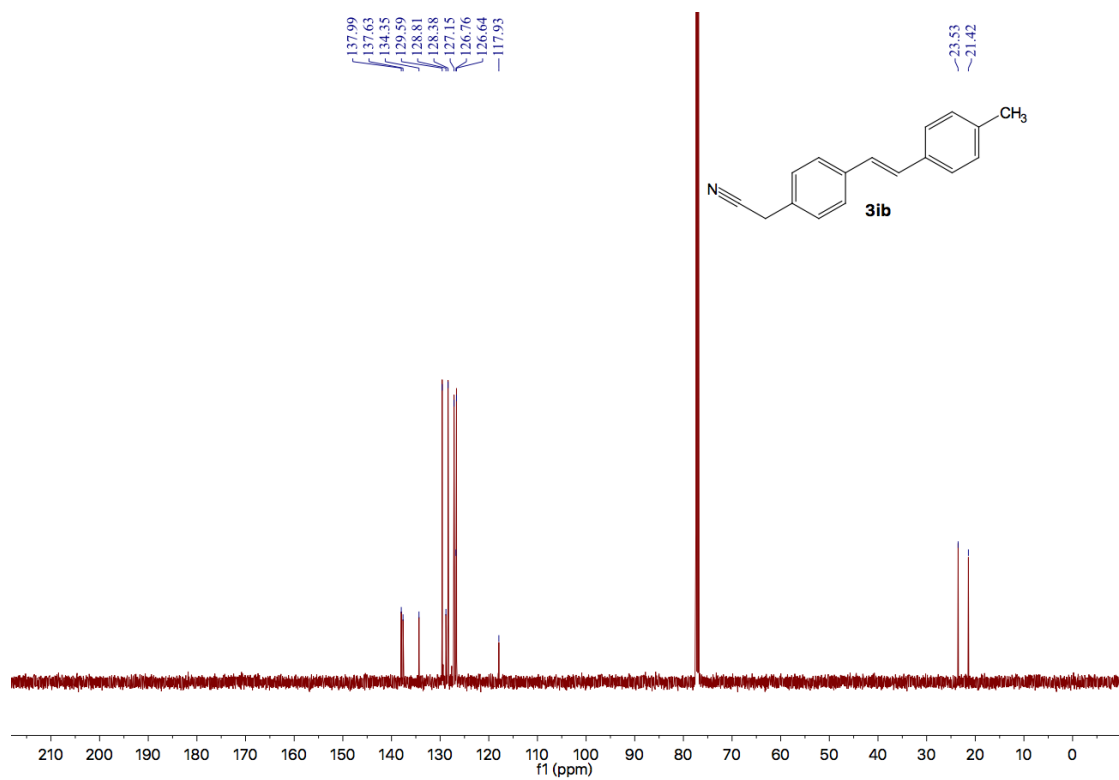


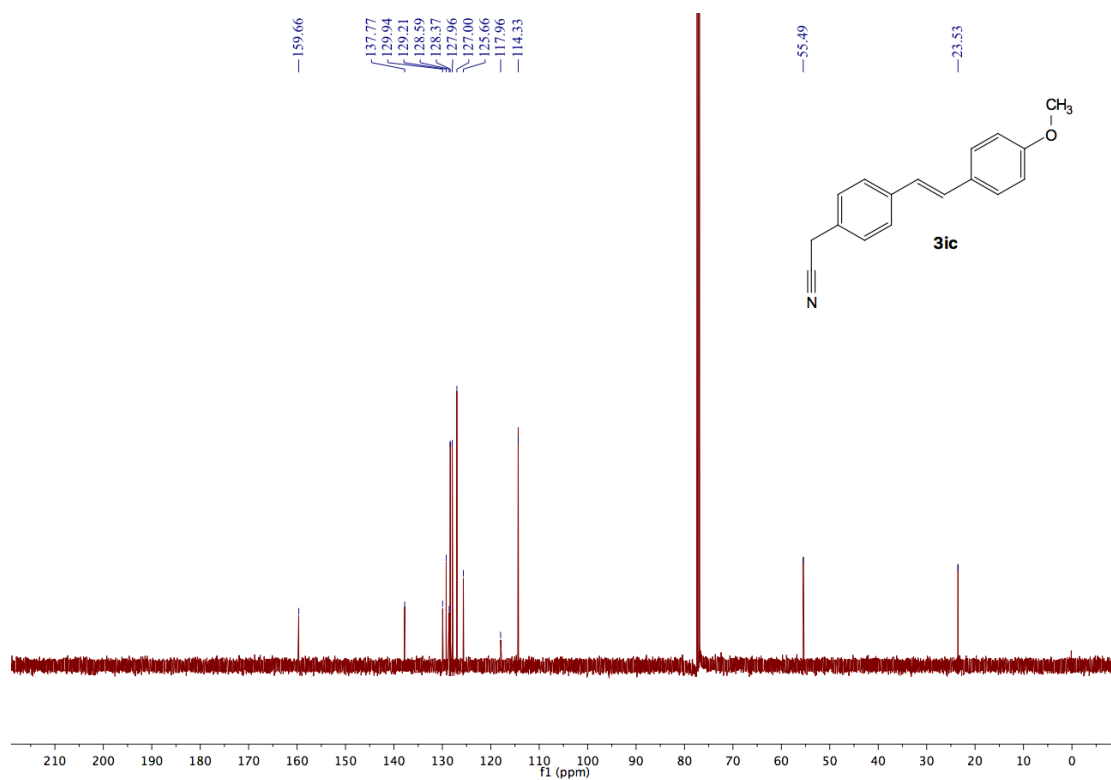


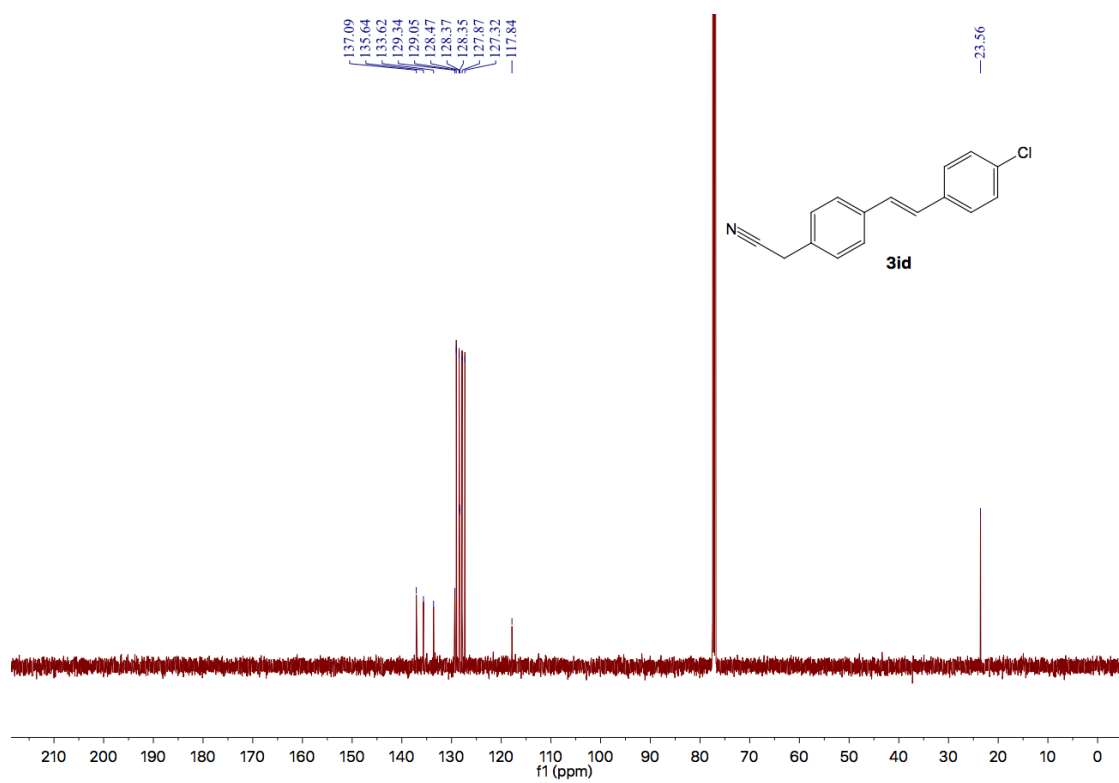
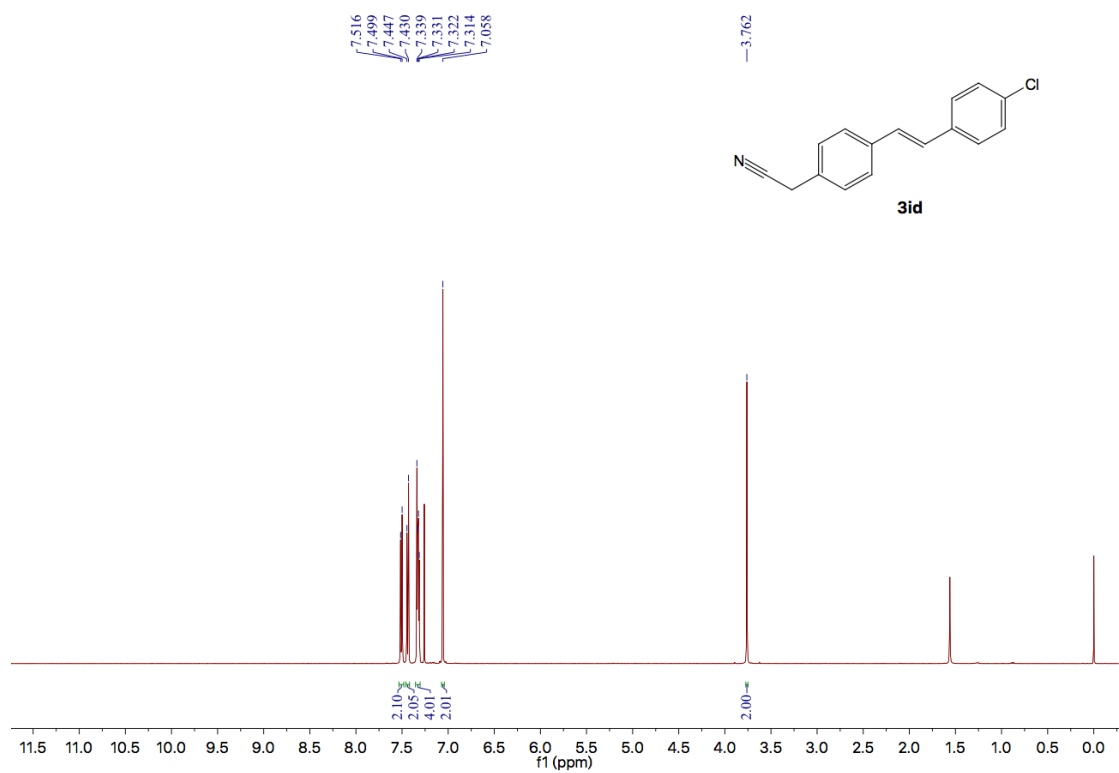


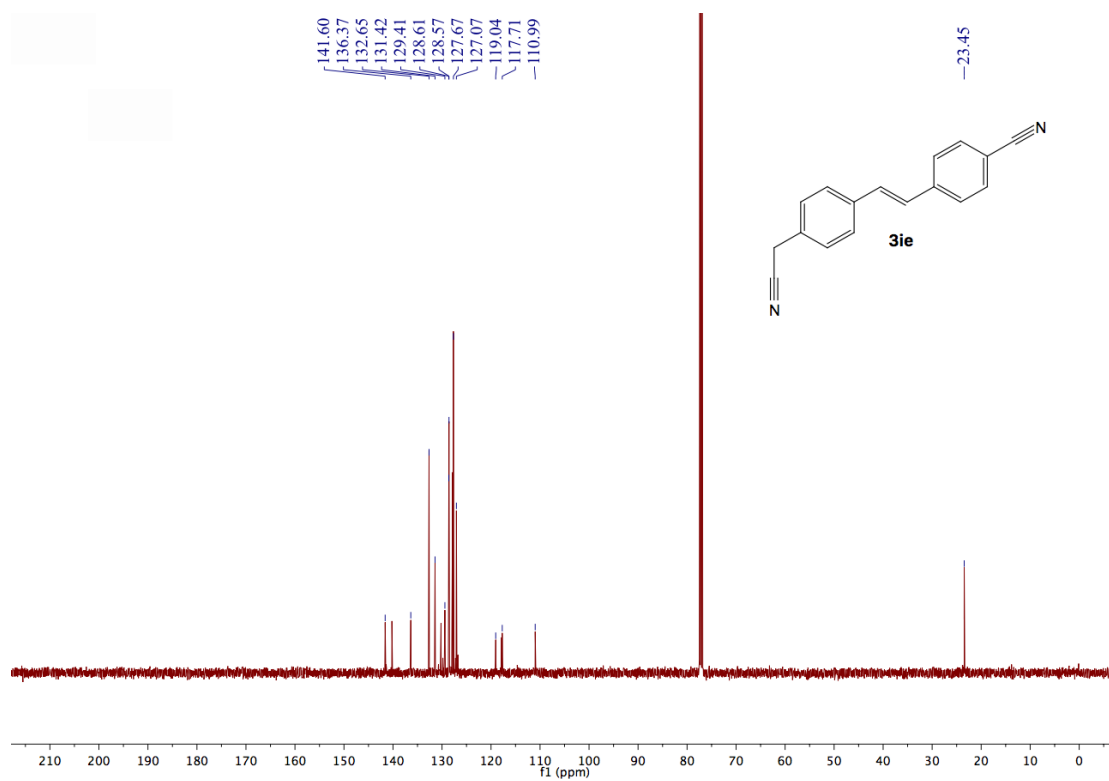
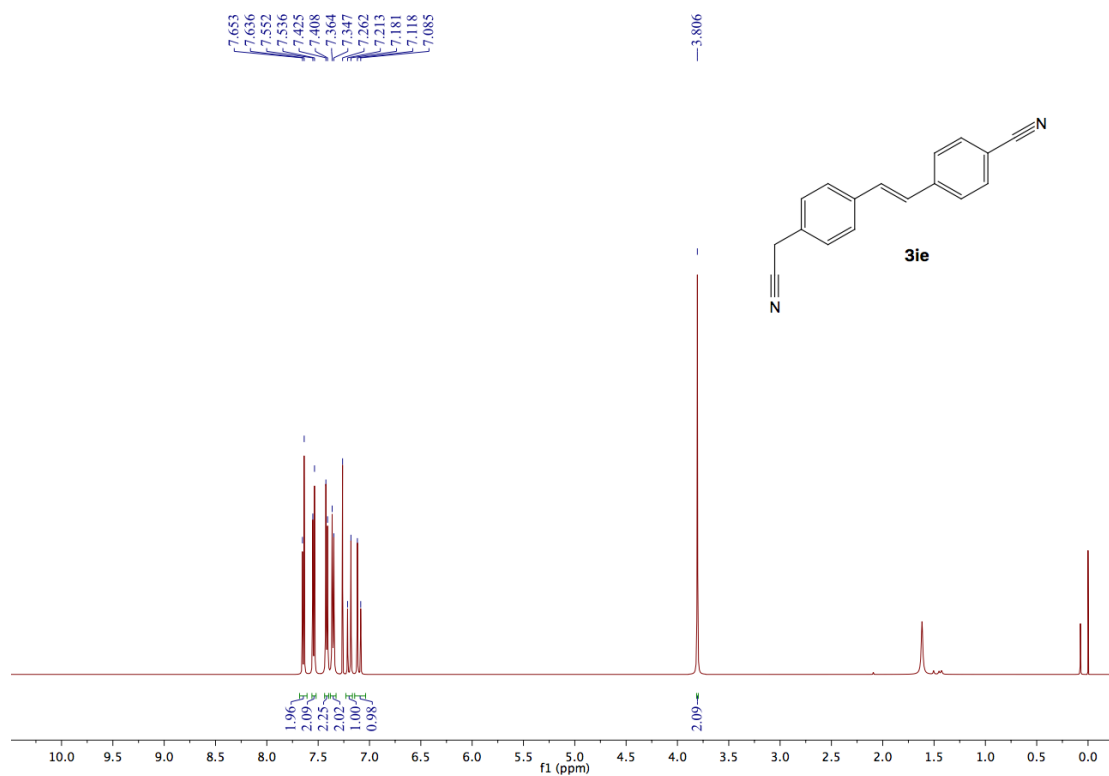




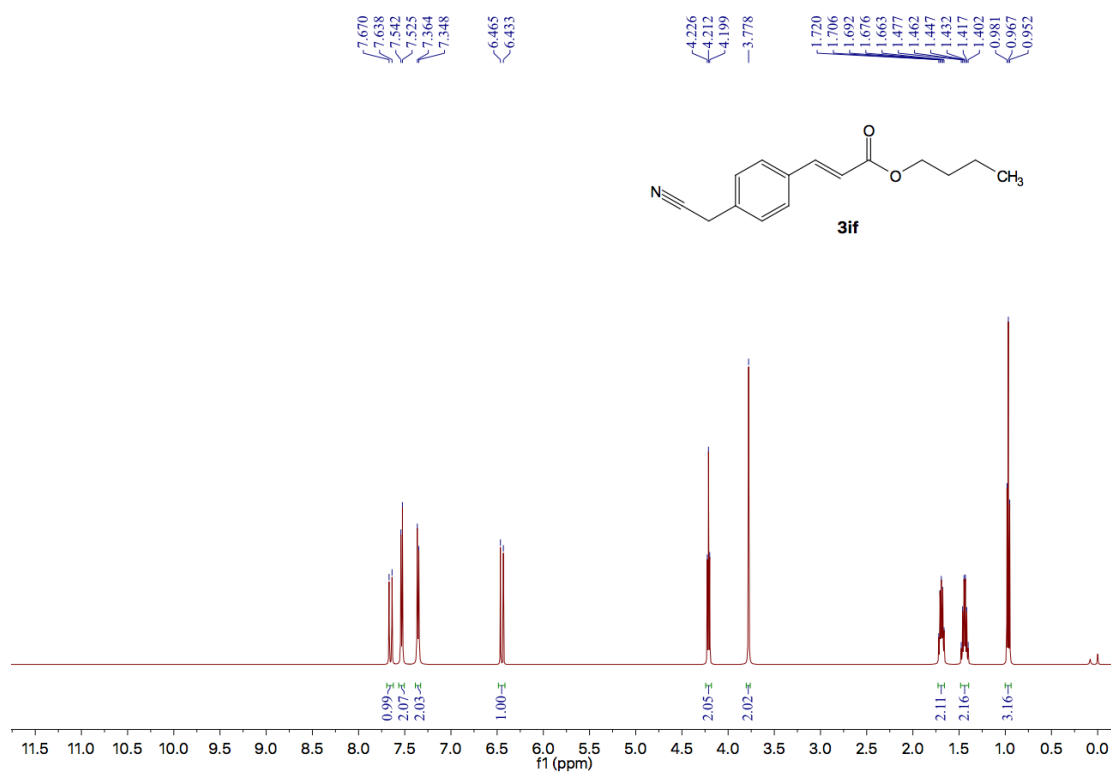


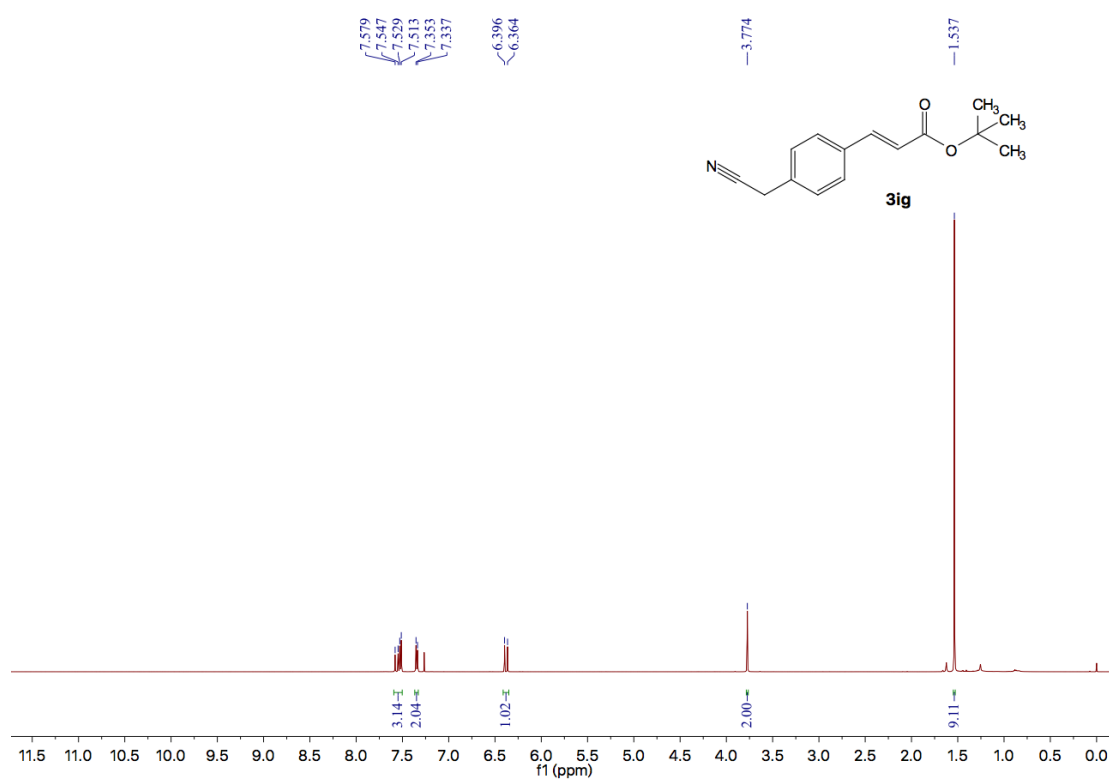
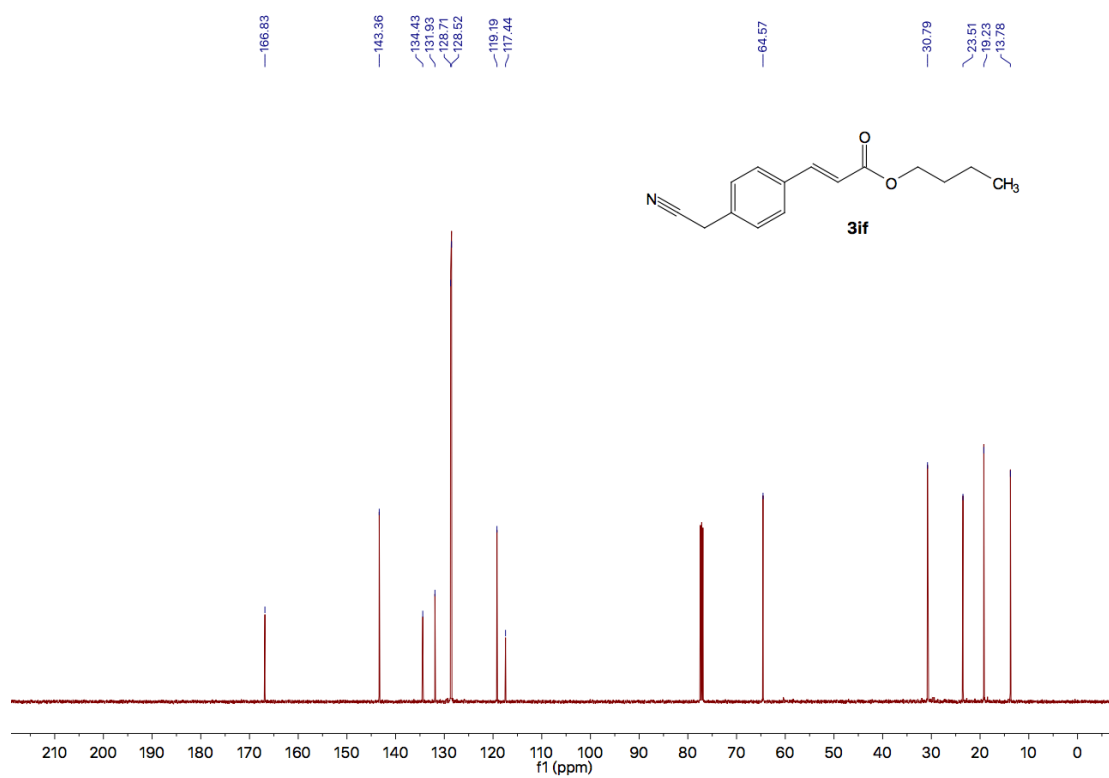


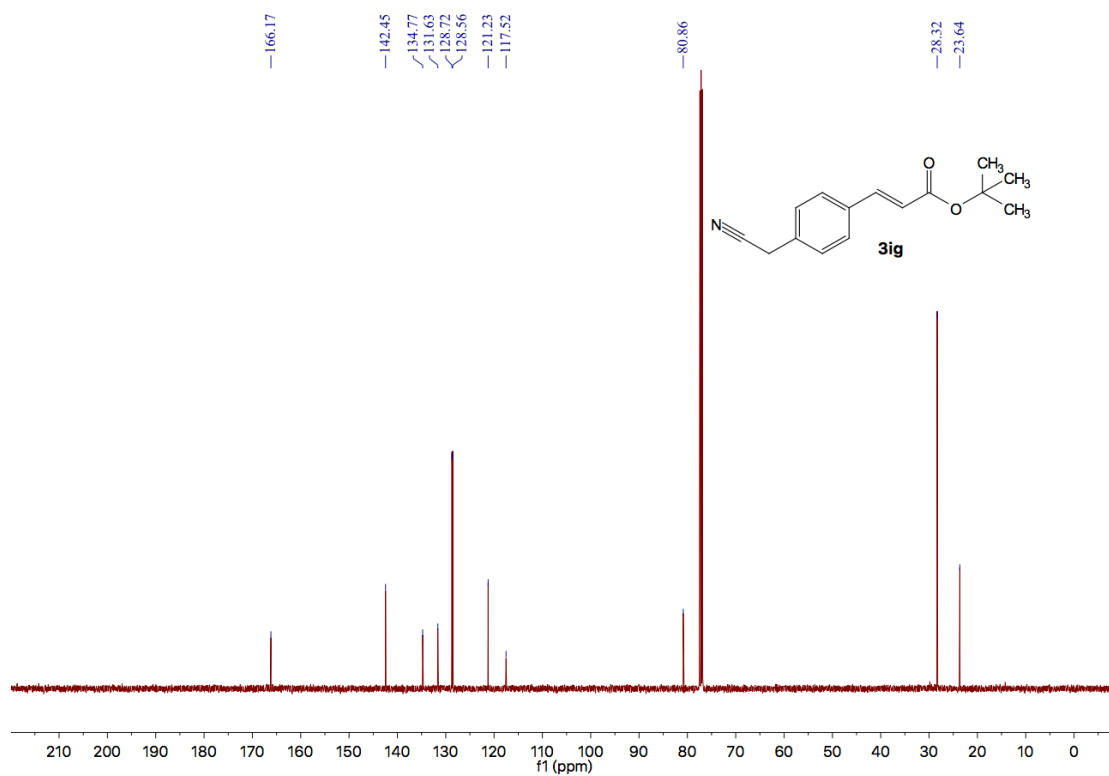


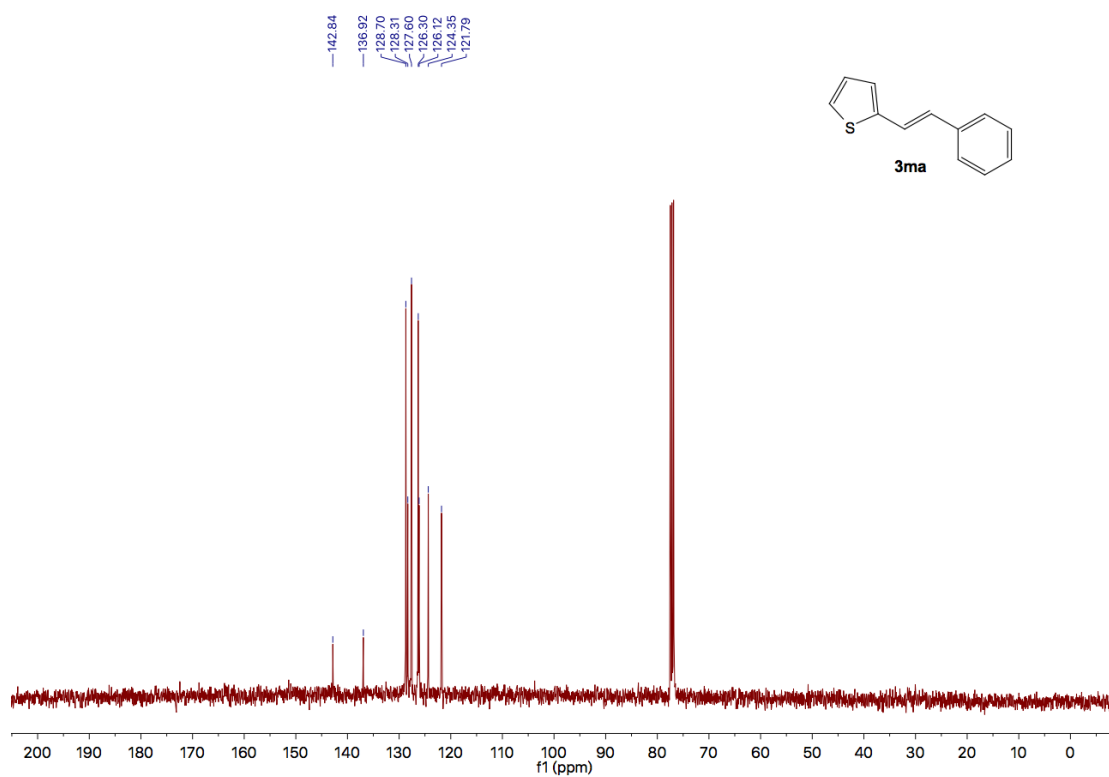
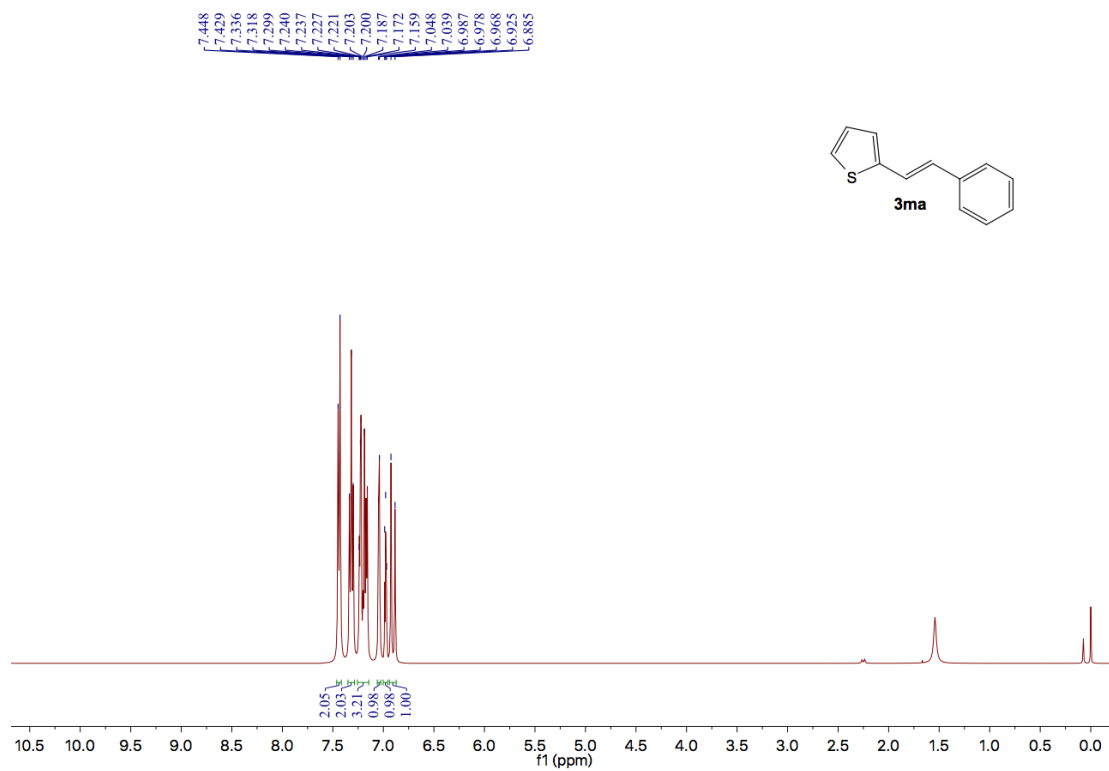


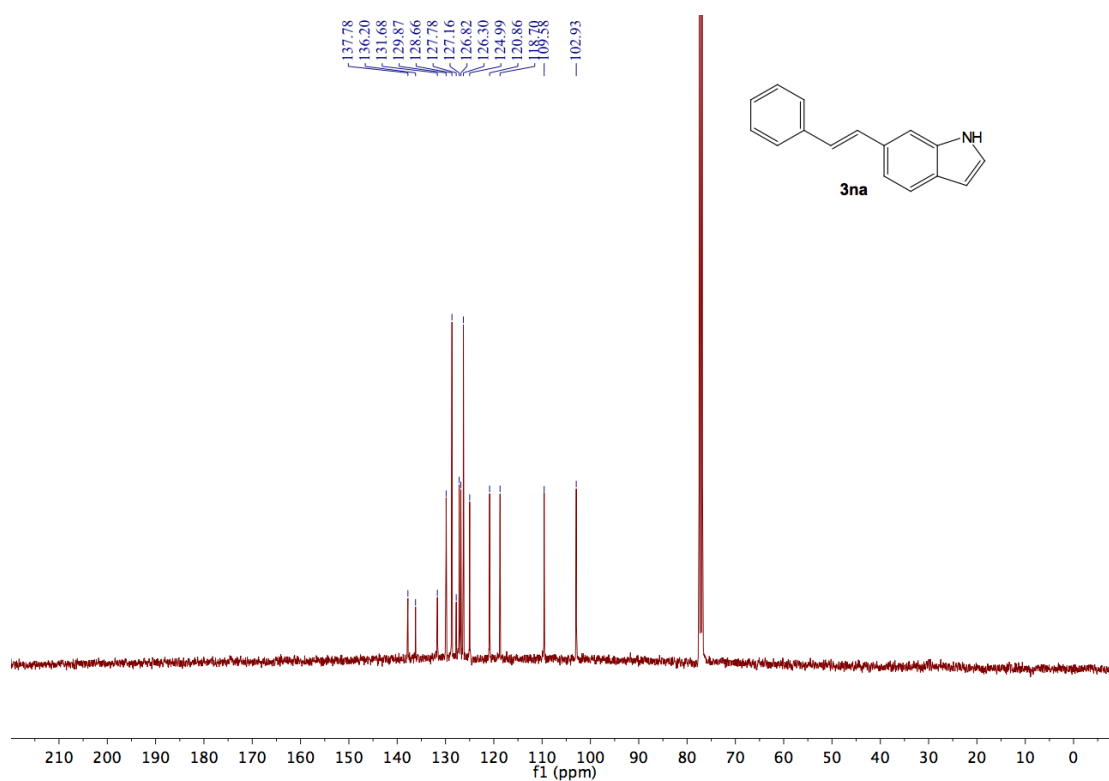
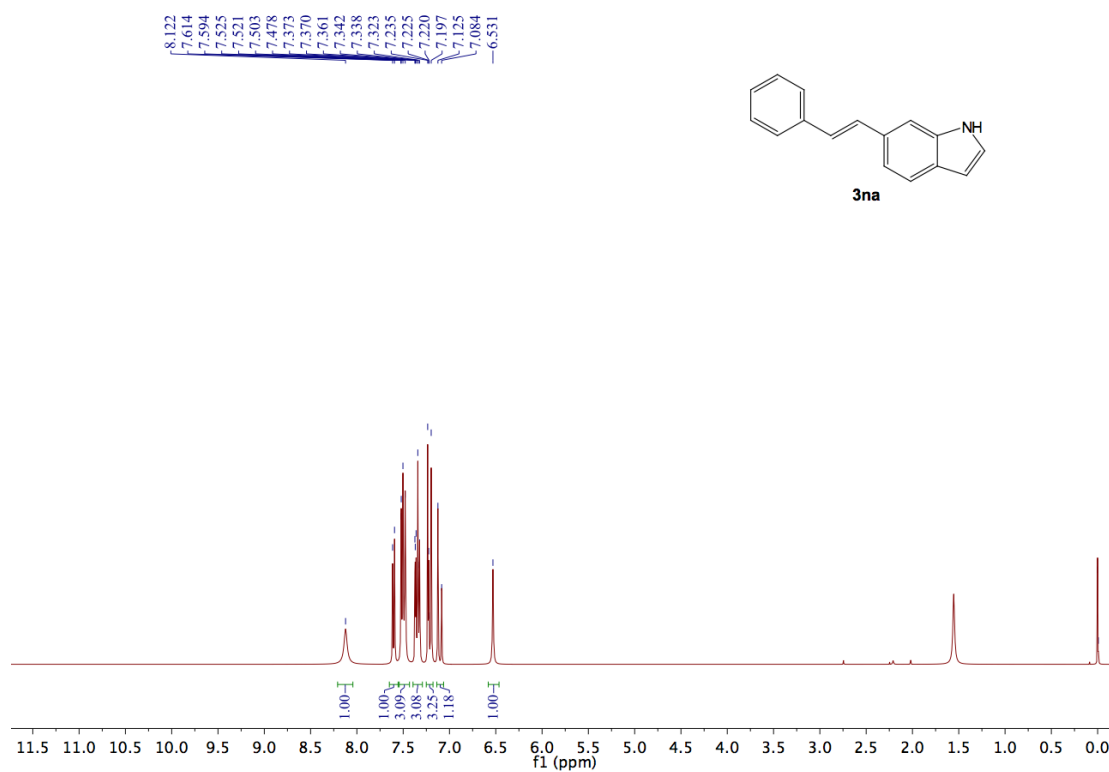


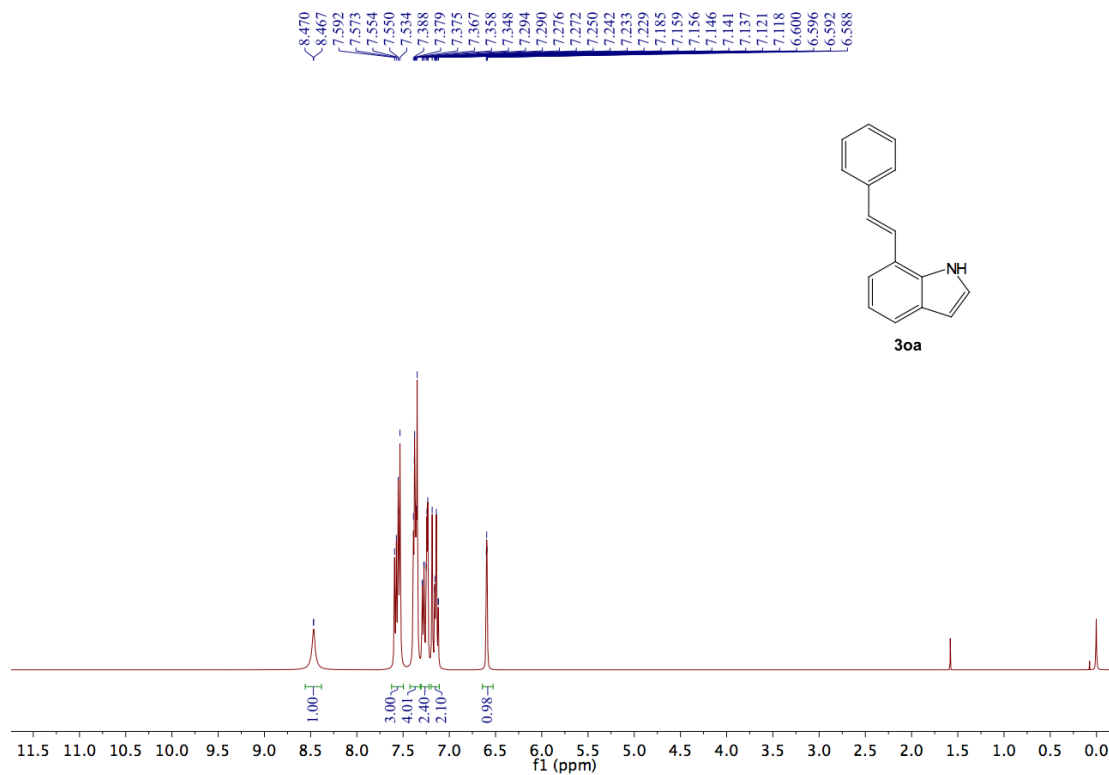


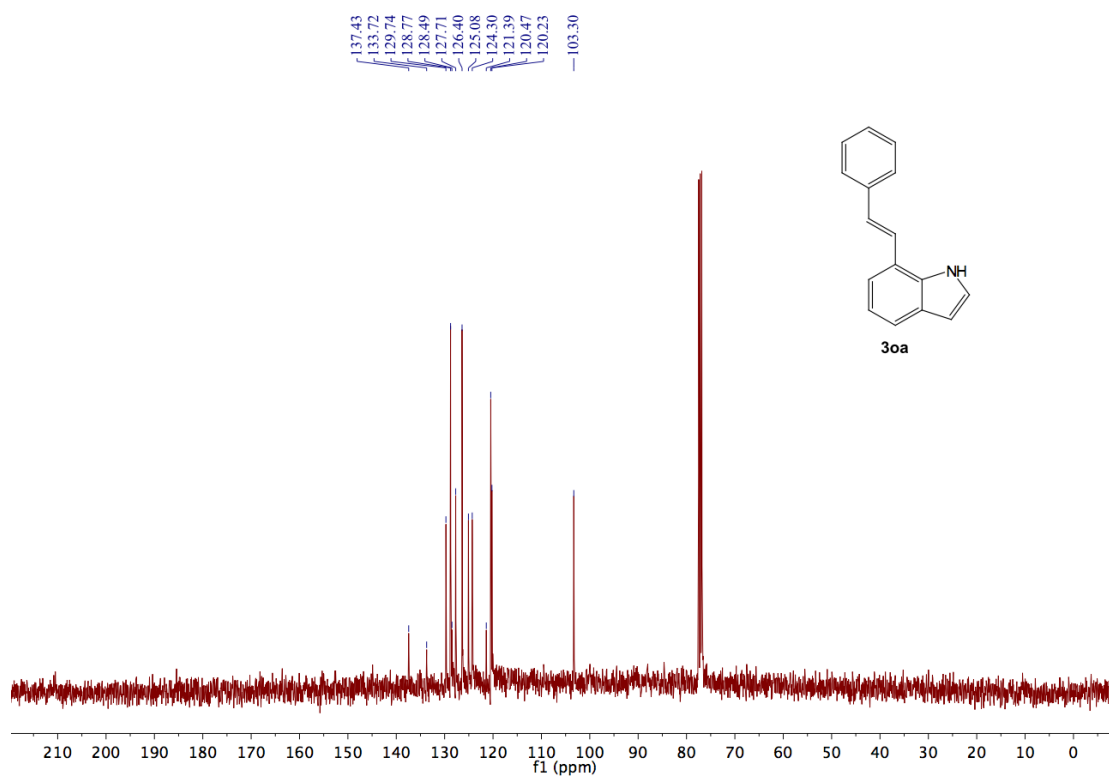












## 5. References

1. Zhu, X. Y.; Liu, J.; Chen, T.; Su, W. K. *Appl. Organomet. Chem*, **2012**, 26, 147-147.
2. Xu, H. J.; Zhao, Y. Q.; Zhou, X. F. *J. Org. Chem*, **2011**, 76, 8036-8041.
3. Yang, X. X.; Jin, X. Q.; Wang, C. Y. *Adv. Synth. Catal*, **2016**, 358, 2436-2442.
4. Kanagaraj, K.; Pitchumani, K. *Chem-Eur. J*, **2013**, 19, 14425-14431.
5. Kim, B. M.; Park, J. K. *Bull. Korean. Chem.Soc*, **1999**, 20, 744-746.

6. Nakao, Y.; Imanaka, H.; Sahoo, A. K.; Yada, A.; Hiyama, T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, *127*, 6952-6953.
7. Hutchison, A. J.; Williams, M.; Dejesus, R.; Yokoyama, R.; Oei, H. H.; Ghai, G. R.; Webb, R. L.; Zoganas, H. C.; Stone, G. A.; Jarvis, M. F. *J. Med. Chem.* **1990**, *33*, 1919-1924.
8. Yang, J. S.; Liao, K. L.; Li, C. Y.; Chen, M. Y. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, *129*, 13183-13192.
9. Molander, G. A.; Bernardi, C. R. *J. Org. Chem.* **2002**, *67*, 8424-8429.