

**Supporting Information**  
for  
**Heterogeneous acidic catalysts for the  
tetrahydropyranylation of alcohols and phenols in  
green ethereal solvents**

Ugo Azzena\*, Massimo Carraro, Gloria Modugno, Luisa Pisano and Luigi Urtis

Address: Dipartimento di Chimica e Farmacia, Università degli Studi di Sassari, via  
Vienna 2, 07100 – Sassari, Italy

Email: Ugo Azzena - ugo@uniss.it

\*Corresponding author

**Full experimental details, copies of IR spectra of fresh and recycled  
 $\text{NH}_4\text{HSO}_4@\text{SiO}_2$  and copies of  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra**

**General Information.** All reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification, unless otherwise indicated.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4@\text{SiO}_2$  (25 wt %) was prepared as described in ref. [1].  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz) spectra were recorded with a Bruker Ascend 400 spectrometer in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  solutions with  $\text{SiMe}_4$  as internal standard. The FTIR spectra were recorded from KBr pellets on a Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrophotometer

on a Jasco FT/IR-480 Plus. Gas chromatographic analyses were recorded on a Agilent 6890N Network GC System. The HRMS spectra were acquired on a Thermo Finnigan Q Exactive instrument with API-HESI source. Samples were introduced as 0.1 mg/L solutions in MS grade methanol with a 5  $\mu$ L/min flow and the following source parameters: positive polarity; Sheath gas flow rate: 5 a.u.; Aux gas flow rate: 3 a.u.; Sweep gas flow rate: 0 a.u.; Spray voltage: 3.50 kV; Capillary temperature: 250 °C; S-lens RF level: 60,0 V; Aux gas heater temperature: 0 °C.

**Preparation of the  $\text{NH}_4\text{HSO}_4@\text{SiO}_2$  catalyst.** *Preparation of  $\text{NH}_4\text{HSO}_4@\text{SiO}_2$*   $\text{NH}_4\text{HSO}_4@\text{SiO}_2$  (25wt %) was prepared by wet impregnation. 17.4 g of  $\text{SiO}_2$  (column chromatographic grade, 60 Å, 200–400 mesh) were added to a stirred solution of 5.8 g (50 mmol) of  $\text{NH}_4\text{HSO}_4$  dissolved in 30 mL of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , and the suspension was stirred at 50 °C during 1 h, followed by solvent evaporation under reduced pressure. The resulting white powder was dried at 120 °C for 48 h, then transferred and stored in a desiccator over  $\text{CaCl}_2$ . IR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3448, 3172, 1641, 1507, 1400, 1190, 1098, 971, 879, 600.

**General procedure:** Tetrahydropyranylation reactions were carried out in a round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser, a  $\text{CaCl}_2$  tube and a magnetic stirring bar. To a solution of  $1.0 \times 10^{-2}$  mol of compound **1** in 2.5 mL of the solvent (CPME or 2-MeTHF) were added  $1.1 \times 10^{-2}$  mol (0.93 g, 1.0 mL) of 2,3-dihydropyran (**2**) and the required amount of the catalyst ( $3.3 \times 10^{-4}$  or  $3.3 \times 10^{-5}$  mol; see Table 1 and Schemes 1 and 2). The resulting mixtures were vigorously stirred for the reported time at the reported temperature (Table 1 and Schemes 1 and 2). The crude mixtures were filtered, the solvent evaporated and the crude product analyzed by  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectroscopy to determine the conversion of compound **1**, then purified and characterized as reported below.

**2-(Phenylethoxy)tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (3a)** [2]. Pale yellow oil, purified by flash chromatography, (AcOEt/Petroleum Ether/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 3/7/0.1, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.56); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.46-1.95 (m, 6H), 2.95 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.42-3.48 (m, 1H), 3.63 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.74-3.81 (m, 1H), 3.96 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (bs, 1H), 7.18-7.32 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 19.4, 25.4, 30.7, 36.4, 62.1, 68.3, 98.7, 126.1, 128.2, 129.0, 139.1.

**2-(6-Chlorohexyloxy)tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (3b)** [3,4]. Pale yellow oil, purified by fractional distillation, bp 115 °C/ 1Torr, Lit. bp 107 °C/0.25 Torr [4]; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.35-1.90 (14H, m), 3.36-3.42 (1H, m), 3.45-3.56 (3 H, m), 3.70-3.78 (1H, m), 3.84-3.90 (1H, m), 4.57 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 19.7, 25.5, 25.6, 26.7, 29.6, 30.8, 32.6, 45.0, 62.4, 67.4, 98.9.

**2-(11-Bromoundecyloxy)tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (3c)** [5]. Colourless oil, purified by flash chromatography, (AcOEt/Petroleum Ether/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 0.5/9.5/0.1, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.52); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.28-1.46 (m, 14H), 1.47-1.64 (m, 6H), 1.65-1.76 (m, 1H), 1.78-1.90 (m, 3H), 3.34-3.43 (m, 3H), 3.48-3.52 (m, 1H), 3.73 (q, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz), 3.83-3.90 (m, 1H), 4.58 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 19.7, 25.5, 26.2, 28.1, 28.7, 29.4, 29.4, 29.5, 29.7, 30.8, 32.8, 34.0, 62.3, 67.7, 98.8.

**2-(4-Chlorobenzylxy)tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (3d)** [2]. Colourless oil, purified by flash chromatography, (AcOEt/Petroleum Ether/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 3/7/0.1, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.58); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.50-1.67 (4H, m), 1.68-1.77 (1H, m), 1.80-1.93 (1H, m), 3.50-3.58 (1H, m), 3.90 (1H, t, J = 9.6 Hz), 4.48 (1H, d, J = 12.0 Hz), 4.69 (1H, bs), 4.75 (1H, d, J = 12.0 Hz), 7.31 (4H, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 19.3, 25.4, 30.5, 62.1, 67.9, 97.7, 128.4, 129.0, 133.1, 136.8.

**2-(4-Bromobenzylxy)tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (3e)** [6]. Colourless oil, purified by flash chromatography, (AcOEt/Petroleum Ether/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 3/7/0.1, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.61); <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400

MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.51-1.72 (4H, m), 1.72-1.82 (1H, m), 1.83-1.95 (1H, m), 3.53-3.62 (1H, m), 3.88-3.97 (1H, m), 4.49 (1H, d,  $J$  = 12.4 Hz), 4.69 (1H, t,  $J$  = 3.2 Hz), 4.75 (1H, d,  $J$  = 12.4 Hz), 7.26-7.29 (2H, m), 7.50-7.52 (2H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  19.3, 25.4, 30.5, 62.1, 68.0, 97.7, 121.3, 129.4, 131.4, 137.3.

**Methyl 4-[(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-yl)oxymethyl]benzoate (3f)** [7]. Colourless oil, purified by flash chromatography, (AcOEt/Petroleum Ether/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 2/8/0.1,  $R_f$  = 0.48);

$^1\text{H}$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.42-2.00 (6H, m), 3.52-3.58 (1H, m), 3.87-3.99 (1H, m), 3.91 (3H, s), 4.56 (1H, d,  $J$  = 13.2 Hz), 4.72 (1H, bs), 4.84 (1H, d,  $J$  = 13.2 Hz) 1 H 7.42-7.44 (2 H, m), 8.01-8.03 (2H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 19.4, 25.5, 30.6, 52.2, 62.3, 68.3, 76.8, 77.2, 77.5, 98.1, 127.3, 129.3, 129.8, 143.8, 167.1.

**2-(4-Methoxybenzyloxy)tetrahydro-2H-pyran (3g)** [8]. Colourless oil, purified by flash chromatography, (AcOEt/Petroleum Ether/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 2/8/0.1,  $R_f$  = 0.53);  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.48-1.66 (4H, m), 1.67-1.77 (1H, m), 1.80-1.89 (1H, m), 3.50-3.58 (1H, m), 3.81 (3H, s), 3.88-3.96 (1H, m), 4.44 (1H, d,  $J$  = 11.6 Hz), 4.69 (1H, t,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz), 4.73 (1H, d,  $J$  = 11.6 Hz), 6.86-6.90 (2H, m), 7.27-7.32 (2H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  19.4, 25.5, 30.6, 55.2, 62.1, 68.4, 97.4, 113.7, 129.4, 130.3, 159.1.

**2-(2-Phenylpropoxy)tetrahydro-2H-pyran (3h)** [9]. Colourless oil, 1:1 mixture of diastereoisomers, purified by flash chromatography (AcOEt/Petroleum Ether/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 3/7/0.1,  $R_f$  = 0.60);  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.31 (1.5H, d  $J$  = 5.2 Hz), 1.33 (1.5 H, d,  $J$  = 5.2 Hz), 1.42-1.76 (6H, m), 3.04 (1H, sex,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz), 3.37-3.54 (2H, m), 3.63 (0.5H, m), 3.73-3.89 (1.5H, m), 4.53 (0.5H, t,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz), 4.59 (0.5H, t,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz), 7.16-7.32 (5H, m) (fractional integrals due to the presence of two diastereomers);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  18.3, 18.4, 19.3, 19.4, 25.5, 25.5, 30.6,

40.0, 40.0, 61.9, 62.0, 73.0, 73.2, 98.5, 98.8, 126.2, 126.2, 127.4, 127.4, 128.2, 128.2, 144.5, 144.6.

**2-[(1*R*,2*S*,5*R*)-5-Methyl-2-(1-methylethyl)cyclohexyloxy]tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (3i)**

[10,11]. Colourless oil, 1:1 mixture of diastereoisomers, purified by fractional distillation, bp 132 °C/ 1 Torr, Lit. bp 100 °C/ 5 Torr [11]; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.77 (1.5 H, d, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 0.80 (1.5H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 0.81-1.11 (8.5H, m), 1.18-1.30 (0.5H, m), 1.30-1.90 (9.5H, m), 2.03-2.19 (1.5H, m), 2.35 (0.5H, pentd, *J* = 10.8, 2.4 Hz), 3.31 (0.5H, td, *J* = 10.8, 4.4 Hz), 3.43-3.53 (1.5H, m), 3.84-3.92 (0.5H, m), 3.93-4.00 (0.5H, m), 4.57-4.61 (0.5H, m), 4.77-4.81 (0.5H, m) (fractional integrals due to the presence of two diastereomers); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 15.6, 16.3, 19.7, 20.3, 21.2, 21.2, 22.2, 22.4, 23.0, 23.3, 25.2, 25.5, 25.6, 25.6, 31.2, 31.3, 31.4, 31.8, 34.4, 34.6, 40.1, 43.6, 48.1, 48.9, 62.4, 63.0, 74.1, 79.9, 94.3, 101.3.

**2-[(1-Ethenyl-1,5-dimethyl-4-hexen-1-yl)oxy]tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (3j)** [12,13].

Colourless oil, 1:1 mixture of diastereoisomers, purified by fractional distillation, bp 110-115 °C/ 1Torr, Lit. bp 80-83 °C/0.04 Torr [13]; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.27 (1.5H, s), 1.32 (1.5H, s), 1.46-1.71 (6H, m) 1.78-2.11 (3H, m), 3.39-3.48 (1H, m), 3.91-3.99 (1H, m), 4.62-4.68 (1.5H, m), 5.07-5.19 (2.5H, m), 5.80 (0.5H, dd, *J* = 17.2, 11.6 Hz), 5.95 (0.5H, dd, *J* = 17.6, 10.8 Hz) (fractional integrals due to the presence of two diastereomers); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 17.5, 20.5, 20.6, 22.5, 22.6, 22.8, 23.5, 25.4, 25.5, 25.6, 32.2, 32.4, 40.2, 41.7, 63.0, 63.2, 78.4, 78.6, 94.1, 94.5, 113.4, 114.3, 124.6, 131.2, 143.2, 143.6.

**4-[4-[(Tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-yl)oxy]phenyl]butan-2-one (3k)** [14]. Colourless oil, purified by aqueous basic work up; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.57-1.66 (3H, m), 1.84-1.88 (2H, m), 1.97-2.02 (1H, m), 2.71 (2H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 2.83 (2H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 3.54-3.64 (1H, m), 3.90 (1H, t, *J* = 10.4 Hz), 5.36 (1H, bs), 6.95-6.97 (2H, m), 7.07-

7.09 (2H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  18.8, 25.2, 28.9, 30.0, 30.3, 45.3, 62.0, 96.4, 116.5, 129.1, 133.9, 155.4, 208.0.

**2-(4-*tert*-Butylphenoxy)tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (3l)** [15,16]. Colourless oil, purified by aqueous basic work up;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.30 (9H, s), 1.56-1.74 (3H, m) 1.82-1.88 (2H, m), 1.96-2.08 (1H, m), 3.56-3.64 (1H, m), 3.89-3.98 (1H, m), 5.39 (t, 1 H,  $J$  = 3.2 Hz), 6.96-7.00 (2H, m), 7.28-7.32 (2H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  18.9, 25.3, 30.5, 31.5, 34.1, 62.0, 96.5, 115.9, 126.1, 144.2, 154.8.

**One-pot two-step synthesis of 3-[4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-yl)oxymethylphenyl]-3-pentanol (4fa).** THP ether **3f** was prepared according to the general procedure by reacting 4-carboxymethylbenzyl alcohol **1f** (0.84 g, 5.0 mmol) with DHP (0.5 mL, 0.46 g, 5.5 mmol) under dry Ar in a two-necked flask equipped with reflux condenser and magnetic stirrer in dry 2-MeTHF (1.2 mL, distilled from Na/K alloy under dry Ar) in the presence of 3 mol % of  $\text{NH}_4\text{HSO}_4@\text{SiO}_2$  ( $1.5 \times 10^{-5}$  mol of  $\text{NH}_4\text{HSO}_4$ , 25 wt %, 7.0 mg). After 4 h stirring at rt, the reaction mixture was filtered under dry Ar and dropwise added to a 2.5 M solution of EtMgBr in dry 2-MeTHF (5.0 mL, 2.5 equiv). The resulting mixture was stirred at reflux during 2 h, chilled at 0 °C, then quenched by slow dropwise addition of sat.  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  (37.5 mL). The organic phase was separated, the aqueous phase extracted with 2-MeTHF (2 × 10 mL) and the reunited organic phases were washed with sat.  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  (3 × 10 mL),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (10 mL), dry ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ), filtered and evaporated to afford a colourless oil which was purified by flash chromatography, (AcOEt/Petroleum Ether/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 4/6/0.1,  $R_f$  = 0.61); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calc per  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_3\text{K}^+ = 317.15135$  [M<sup>+</sup>K]<sup>+</sup>, found 317.15161;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.76 (6H, t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz), 1.50-1.94 (11H, m), 3.52-3.60 (1H, m), 3.89-3.97 (1H, m), 4.49 (1H, d,  $J$  = 12.0 Hz), 4.72 (1H, t,  $J$  = 3.2 Hz), 4.79

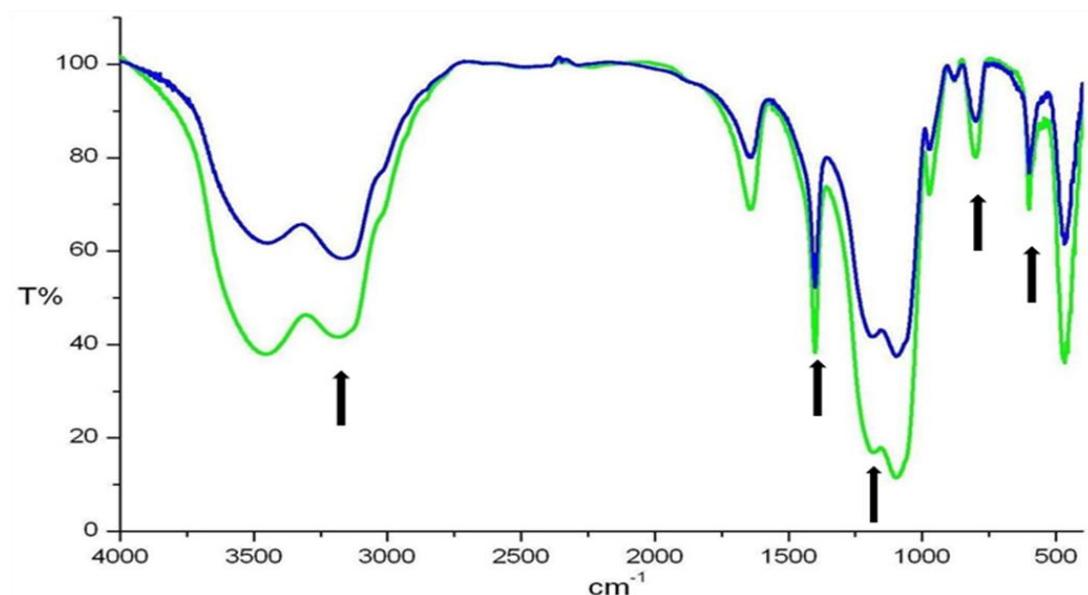
(1H, d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz), 7.31-7.37 (4H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.7, 19.3, 25.4, 30.5, 34.9, 62.0, 68.6, 77.2, 97.7, 125.5, 127.4, 136.1, 145.1.

**One-pot two-steps synthesis of 4-(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-yloxymethyl)benzyl alcohol (4fb)** [17]. THP ether **3f** was prepared as described in the preceding paragraph in dry CMPE (1.2 mL, distilled from Na/K alloy under dry Ar). Once filtered under dry Ar, it was diluted to 8.0 mL with dry CPME and added dropwise to a vigorously stirred suspension of  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  (0.59 g, 15.5 mmol) in dry CPME (4 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred during 24 hours at rt, then chilled to 0 °C and slowly quenched by dropwise addition of 20 mL of water (caution!). The resulting mixture was acidified with concentrated HCl (2.0 mL) and extracted with CPME (4  $\times$  20 mL). The organic phases were collected, dried over  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  and the solvent removed in vacuo to afford 2.31 g (10.4 mmol, yield 95%) of **4fb** as an oil that solidified upon standing at -18 °C. The compound was sufficiently pure for spectroscopic analysis.

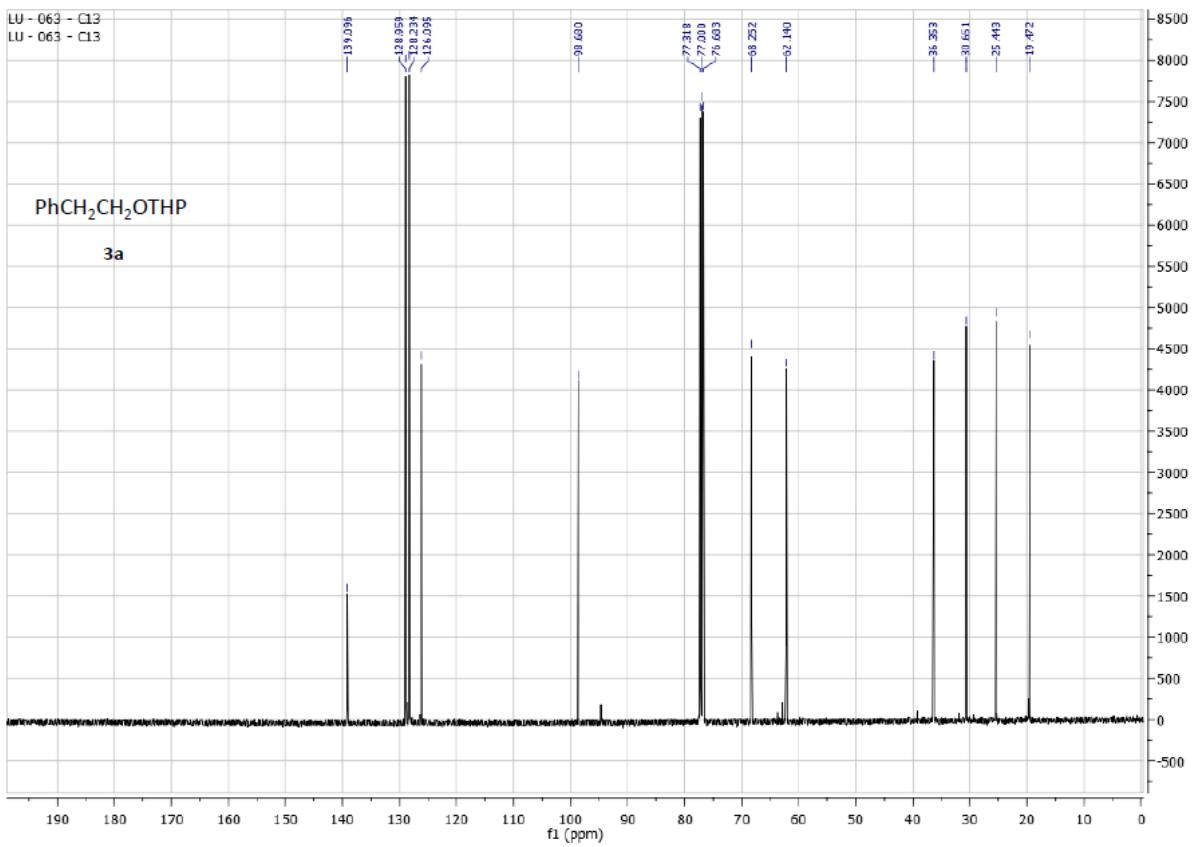
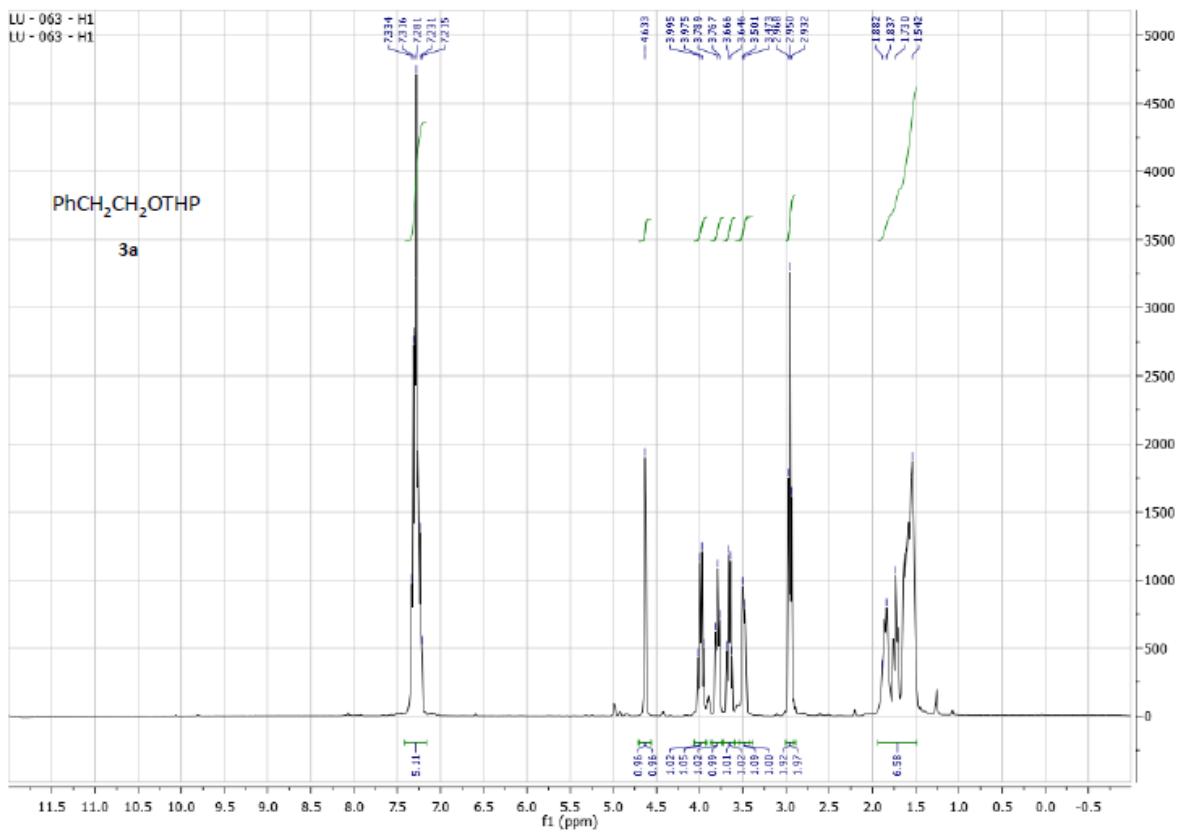
$^1\text{H}$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.48-1.79 (6H, m) 1.81-1.93 (1H, m), 3.52-3.59 (1H, m), 3.88-3.97 (1H, m), 4.51 (1H, d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz), 4.68-4.72 (3H, m), 4.78 (1H, d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz), 7.33-7.39 (4H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 19.1, 25.2, 30.3, 61.9, 64.5, 64.4, 97.4, 126.8, 127.8, 137.2, 140.3.

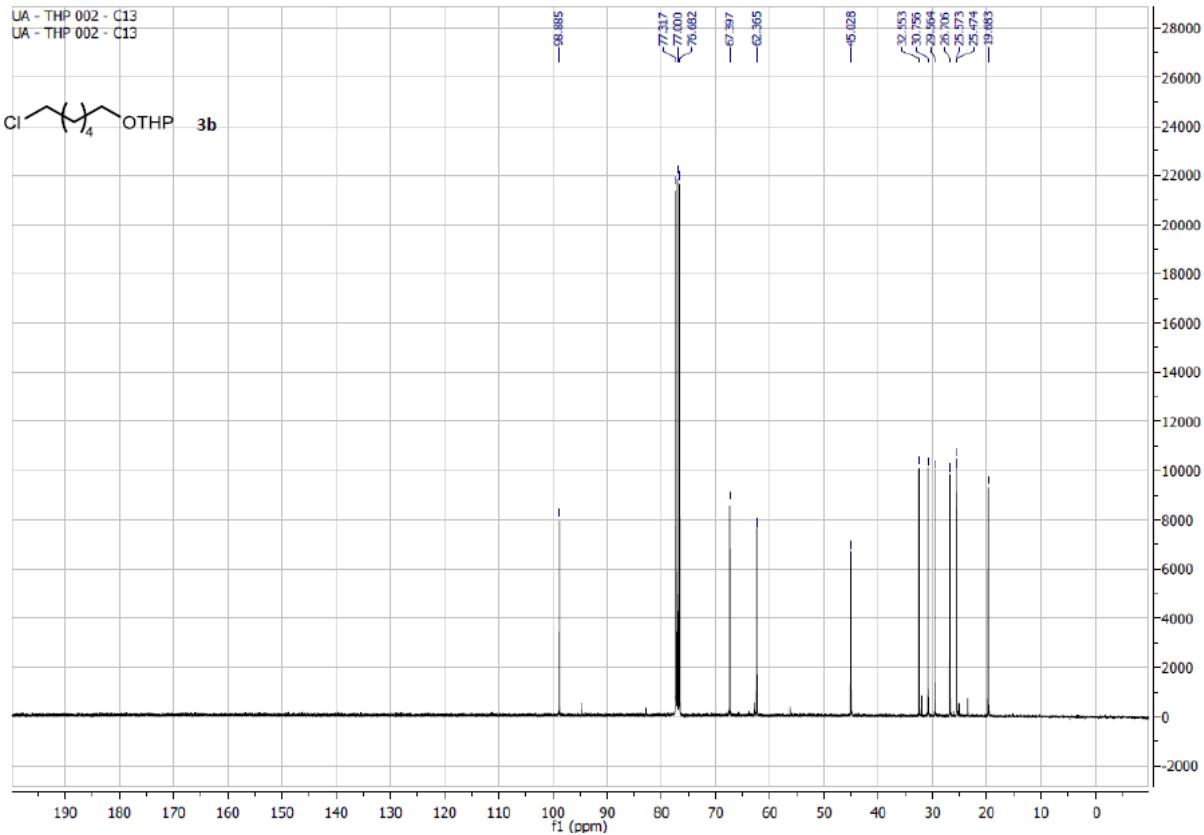
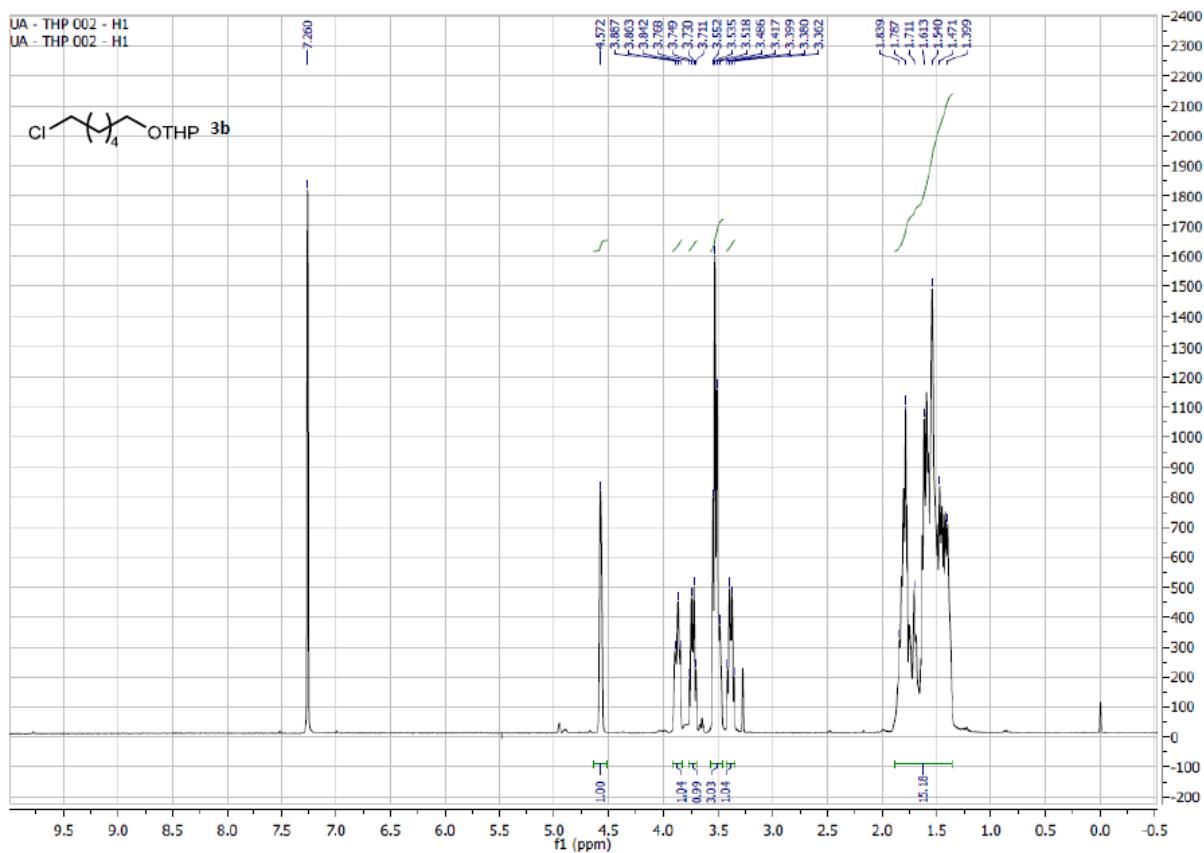
**Deprotection of 2-[(1*R*,2*S*,5*R*)-5-methyl-2-(1-methylethyl)cyclohexyloxy]tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran (3i).** To a stirred solution of **3i** (1.00 g, 4.2 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  (10 mL) was added  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4@\text{SiO}_2$  (25 wt %, 49 mg,  $1.3 \times 10^{-4}$  mol, 3 mol %), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 4 h,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (15 mL) was added and  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  was removed on a rotary evaporator. The resulting mixture was extracted with  $\text{AcOEt}$  (3  $\times$  5 mL), and the organic layer was washed with saturated aqueous  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (10 mL),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (10 mL), dried ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ), and concentrated on a rotary evaporator to yield crude (-)-menthol (**1j**, 0.620 g, 4.0  $\times$

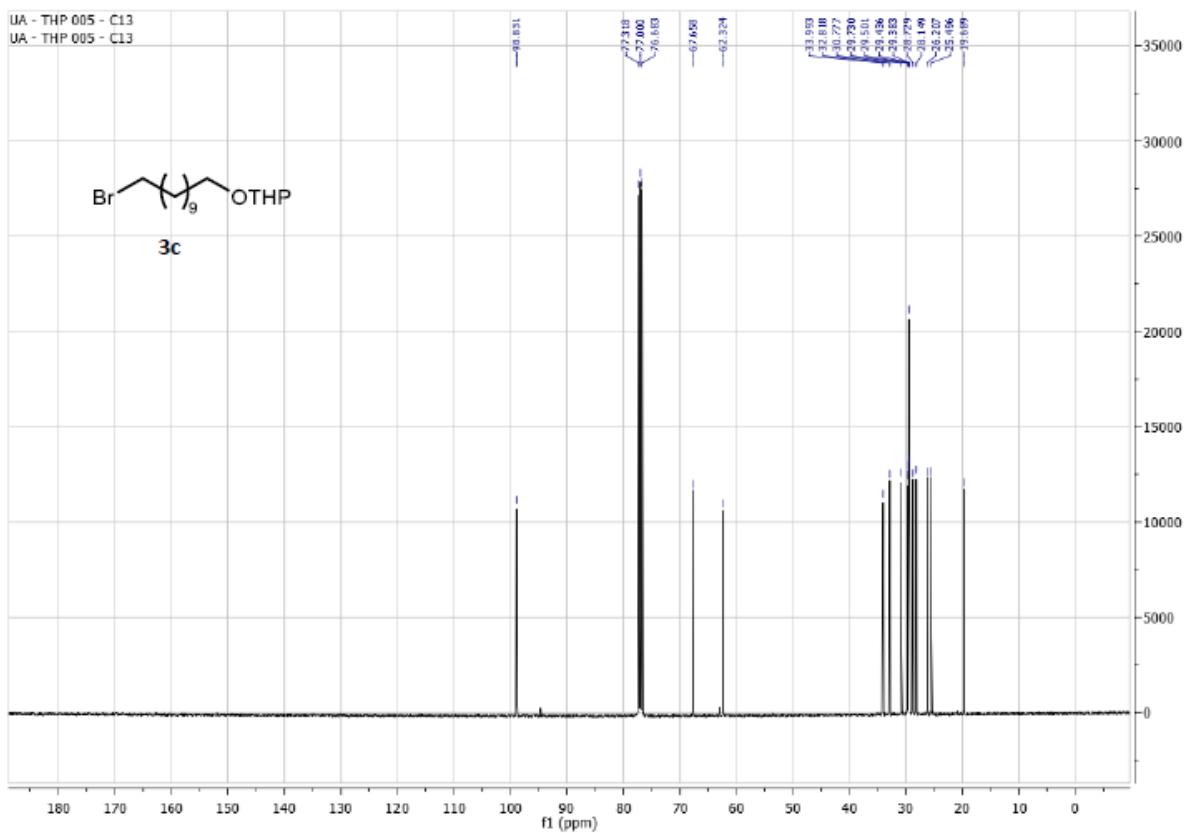
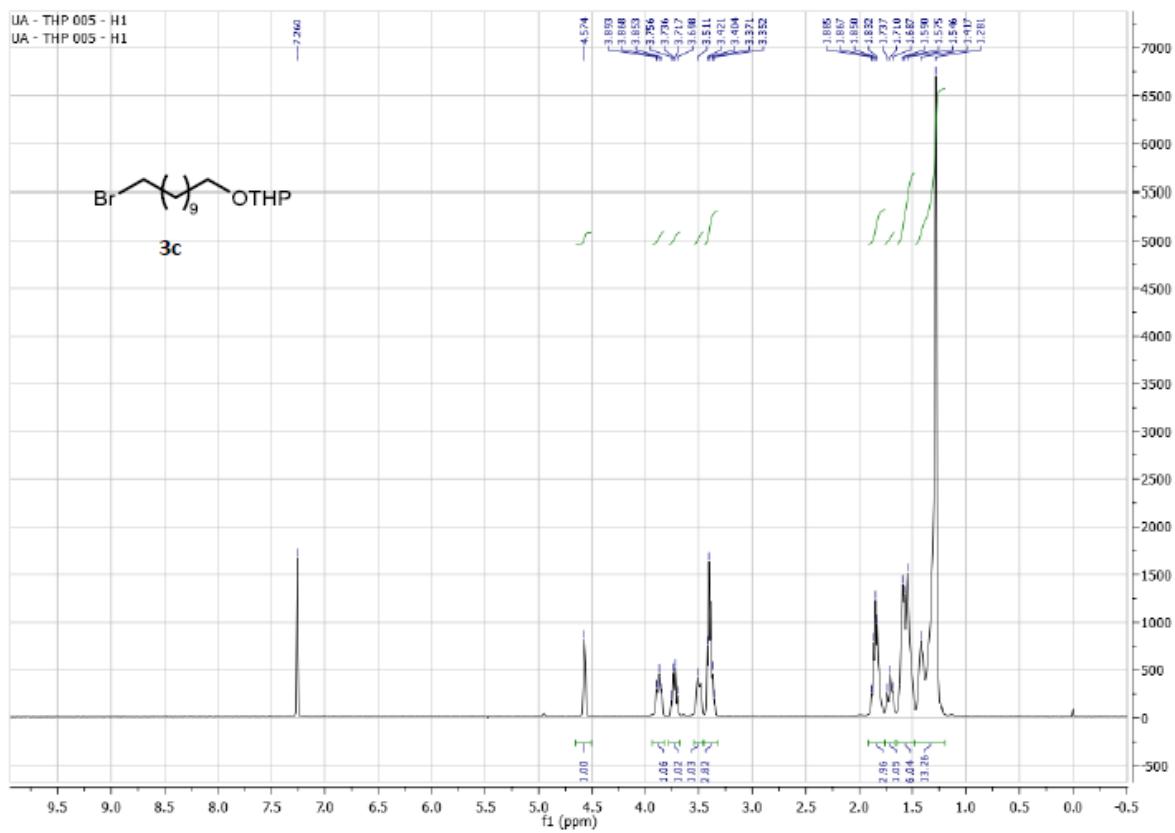
$10^{-3}$ , 95%) which, without purification, was characterized as following [18,19]:  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  0.81 (3H, d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz), 0.84-1.03 (8H, m), 1.07-1.15 (1H, m), 1.26-1.32 (1H, d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz), 1.35-1.49 (1H, m), 1.58-1.70 (2H, m), 1.93-2.00 (1H, m), 2.17 (1H, eptd,  $J$  = 6.8, 2.8 Hz), 3.41 (1H, td,  $J$  = 10.4, 4.0 Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 16.0, 21.0, 22.2, 23.1, 25.8, 31.6, 34.5, 45.0, 50.1, 71.4.

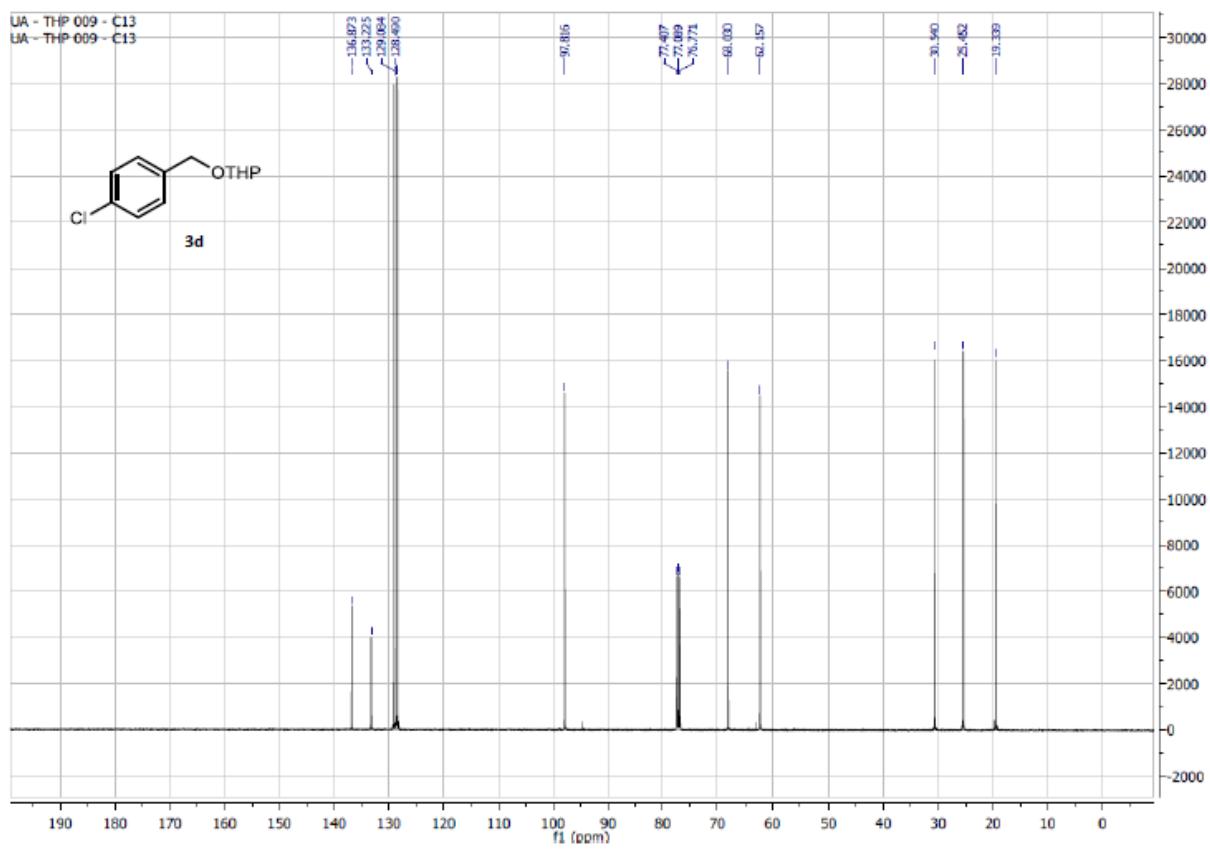
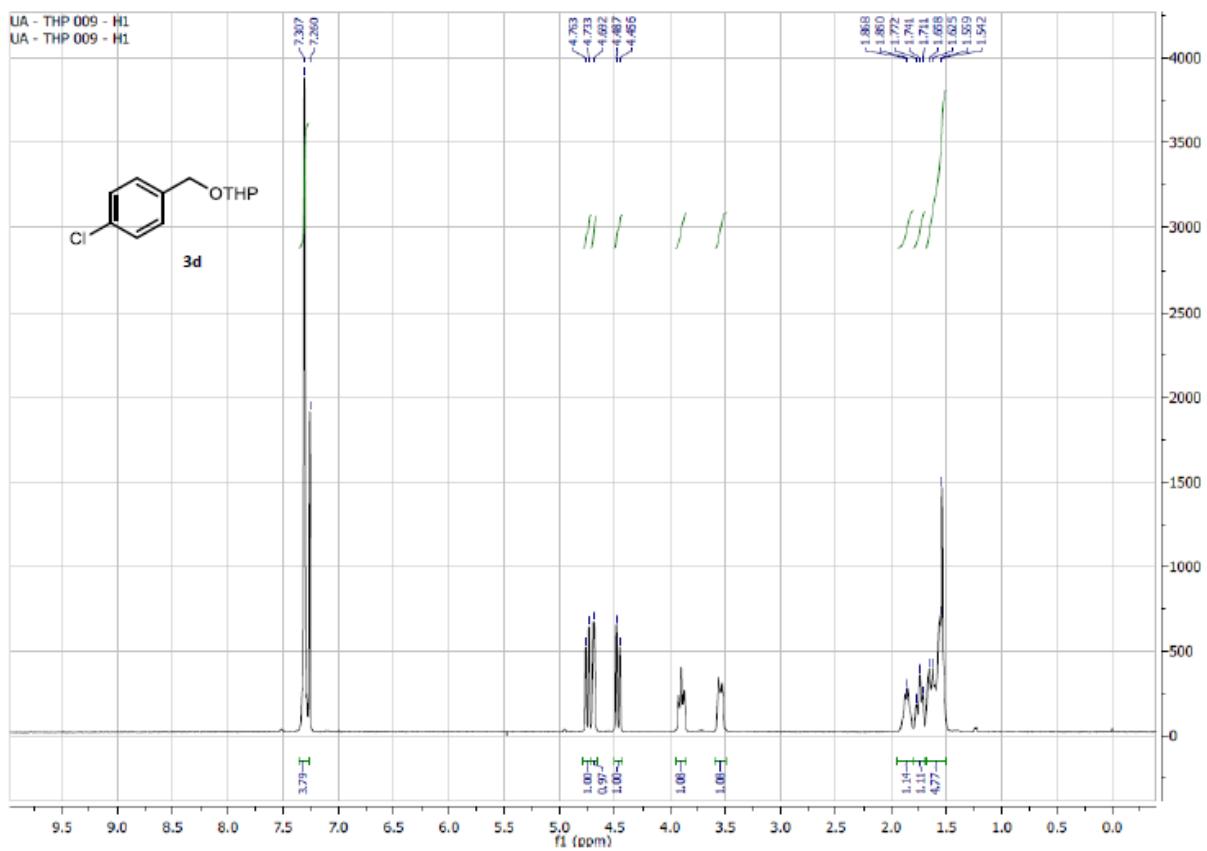


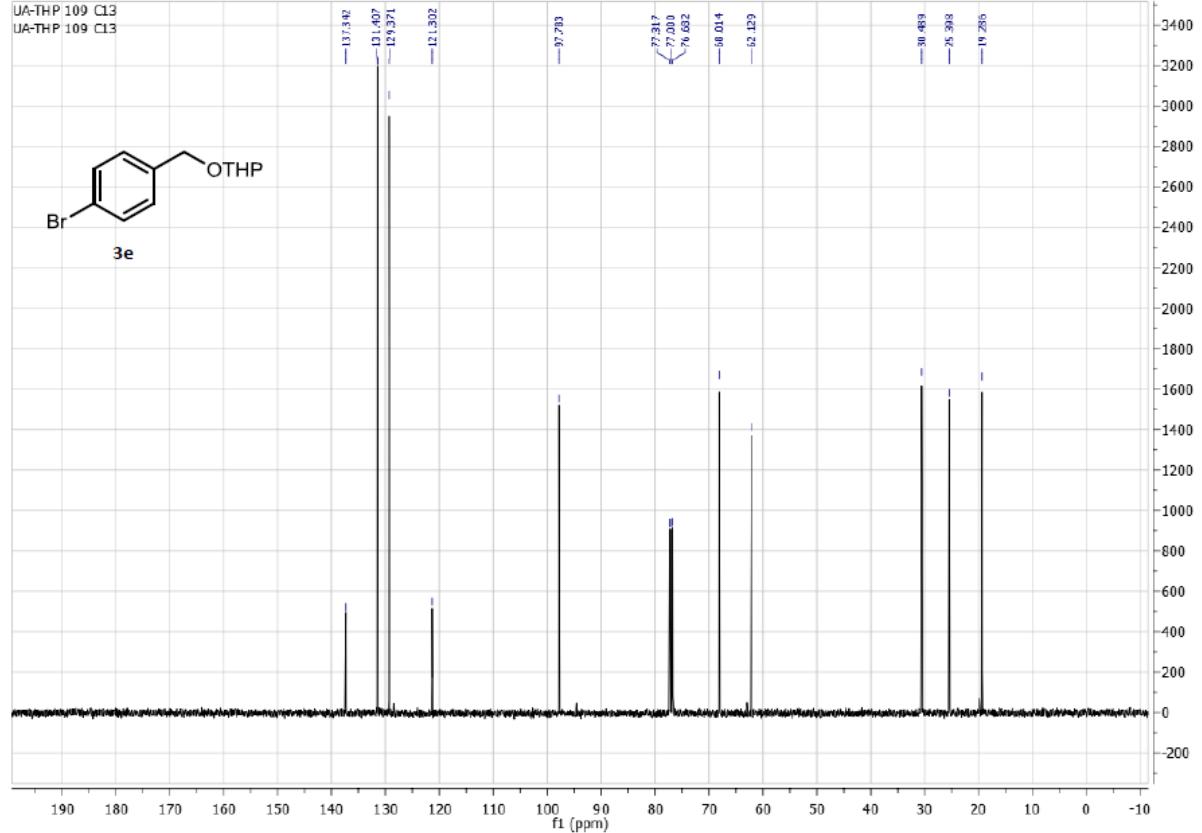
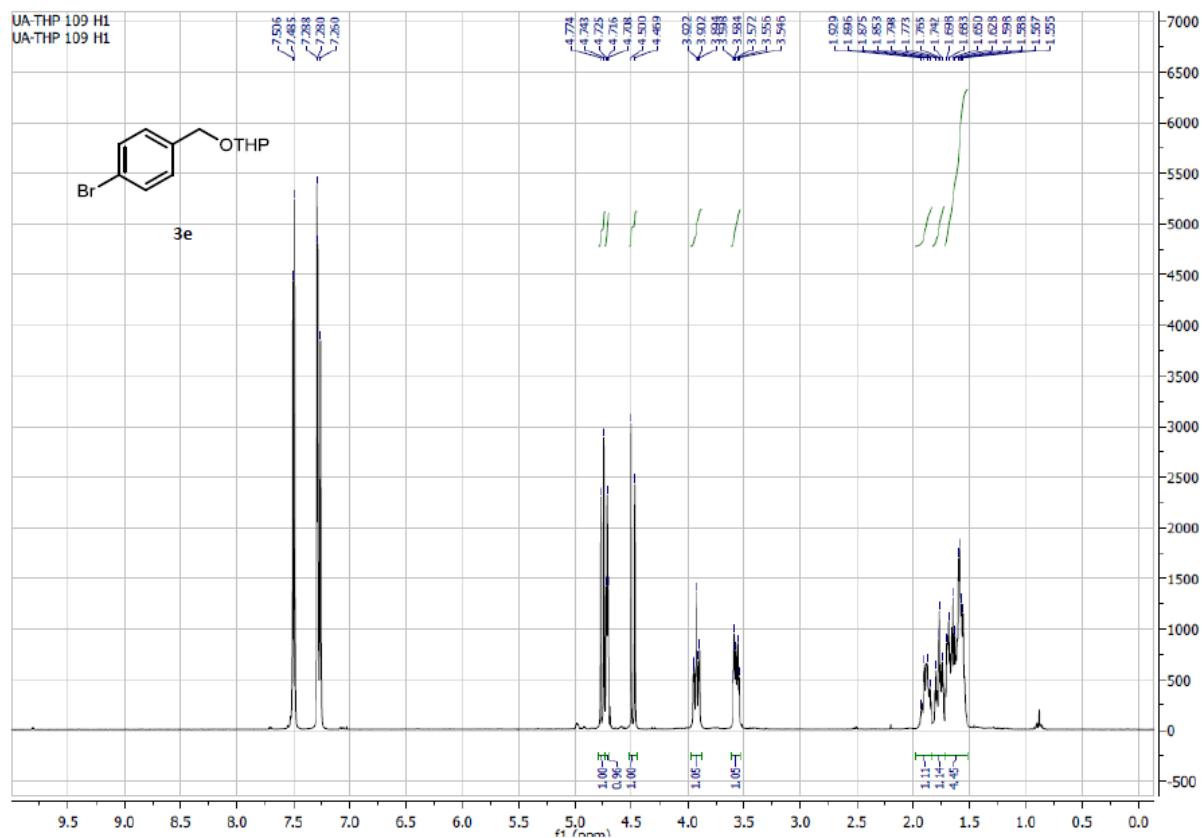
**Figure S1.** IR spectra of fresh (—) and recycled (—) NH<sub>4</sub>HSO<sub>4</sub>@SiO<sub>2</sub>. Arrows indicate characteristic absorptions of NH<sub>4</sub>HSO<sub>4</sub> at 3172, 1400, 1190, 879, and 600 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

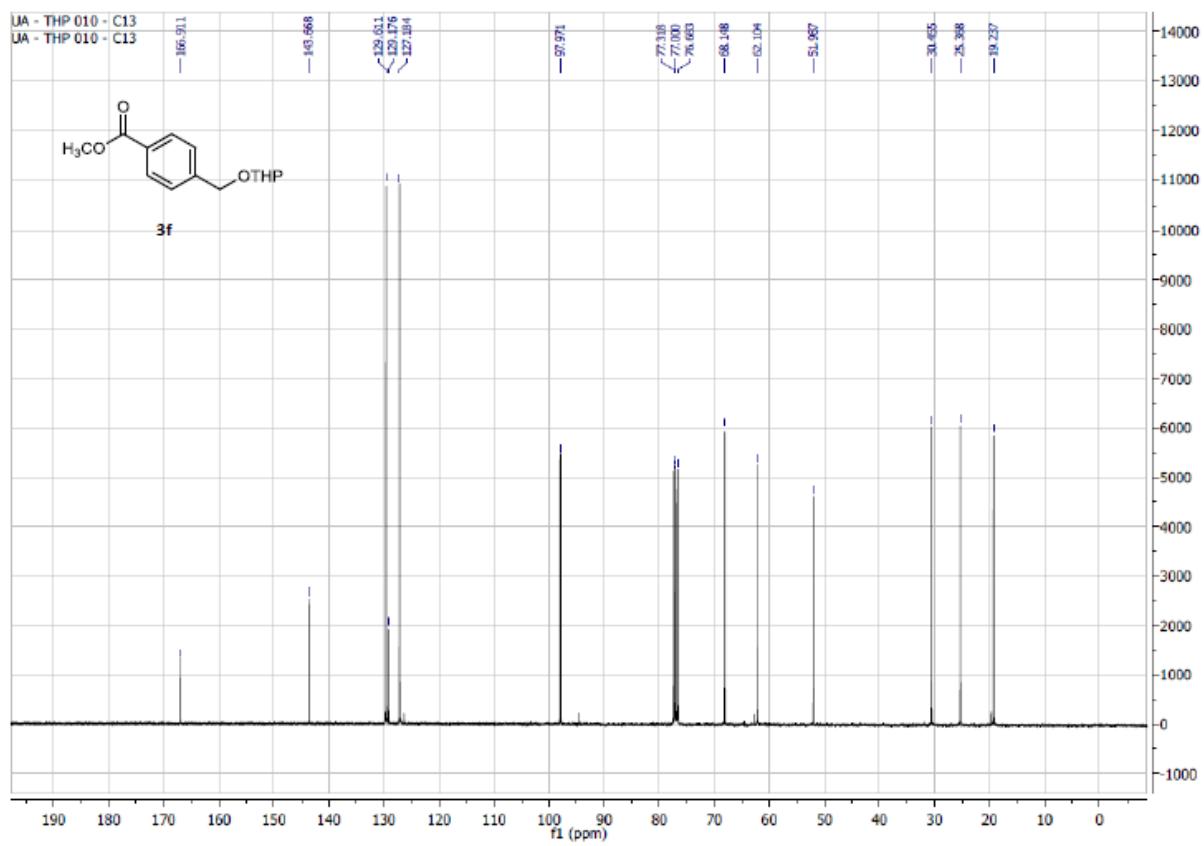
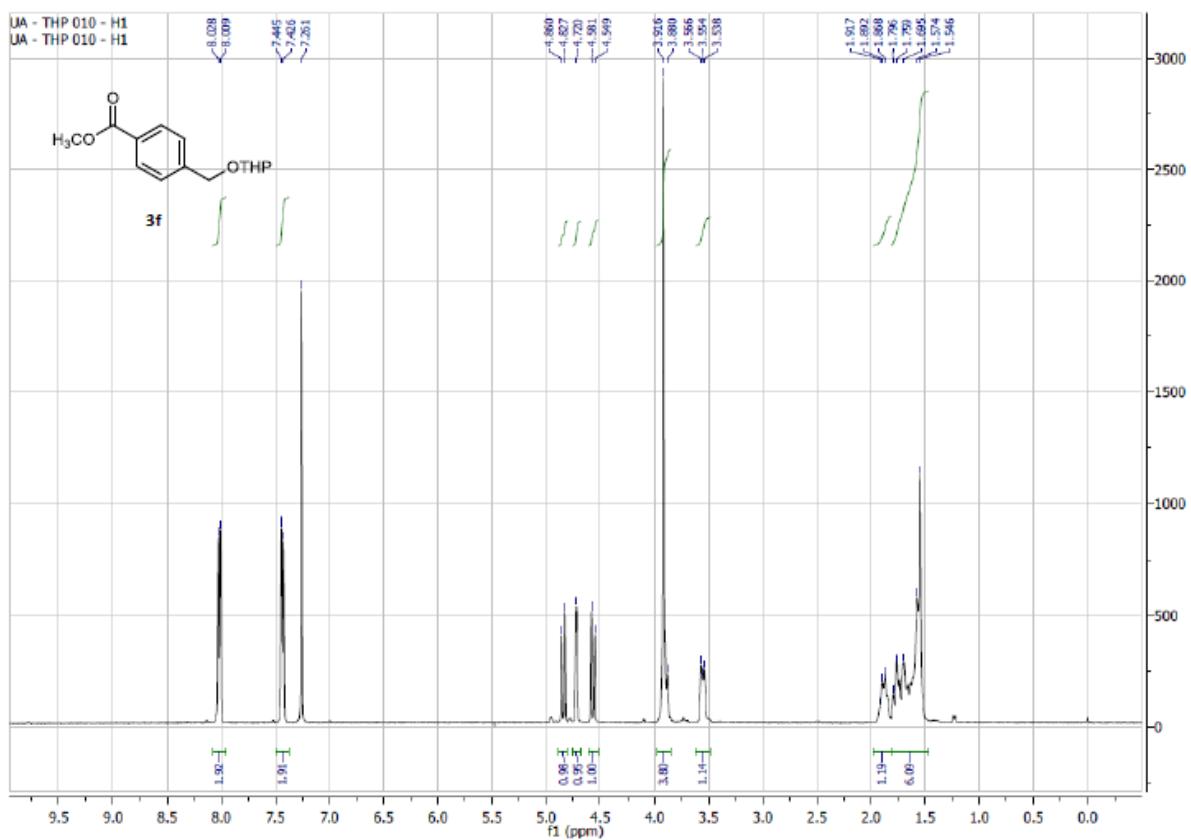


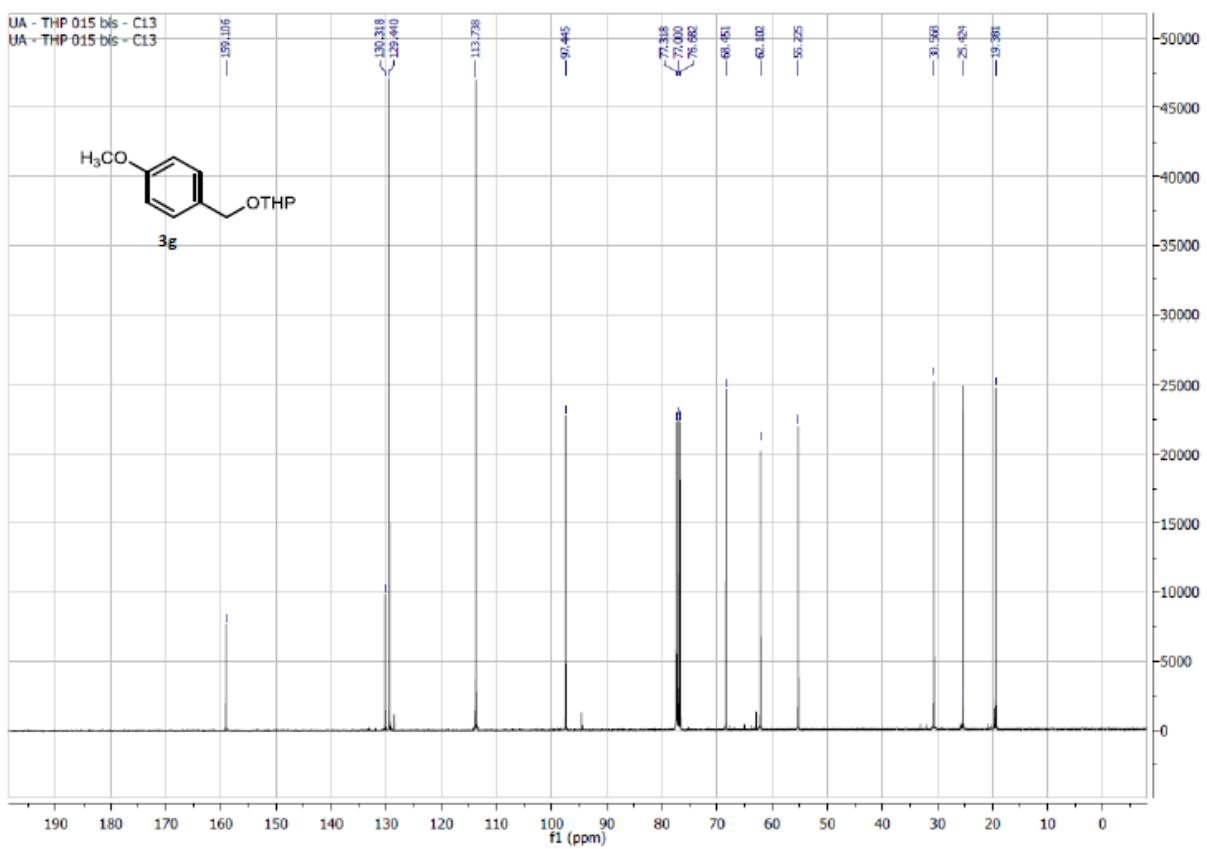
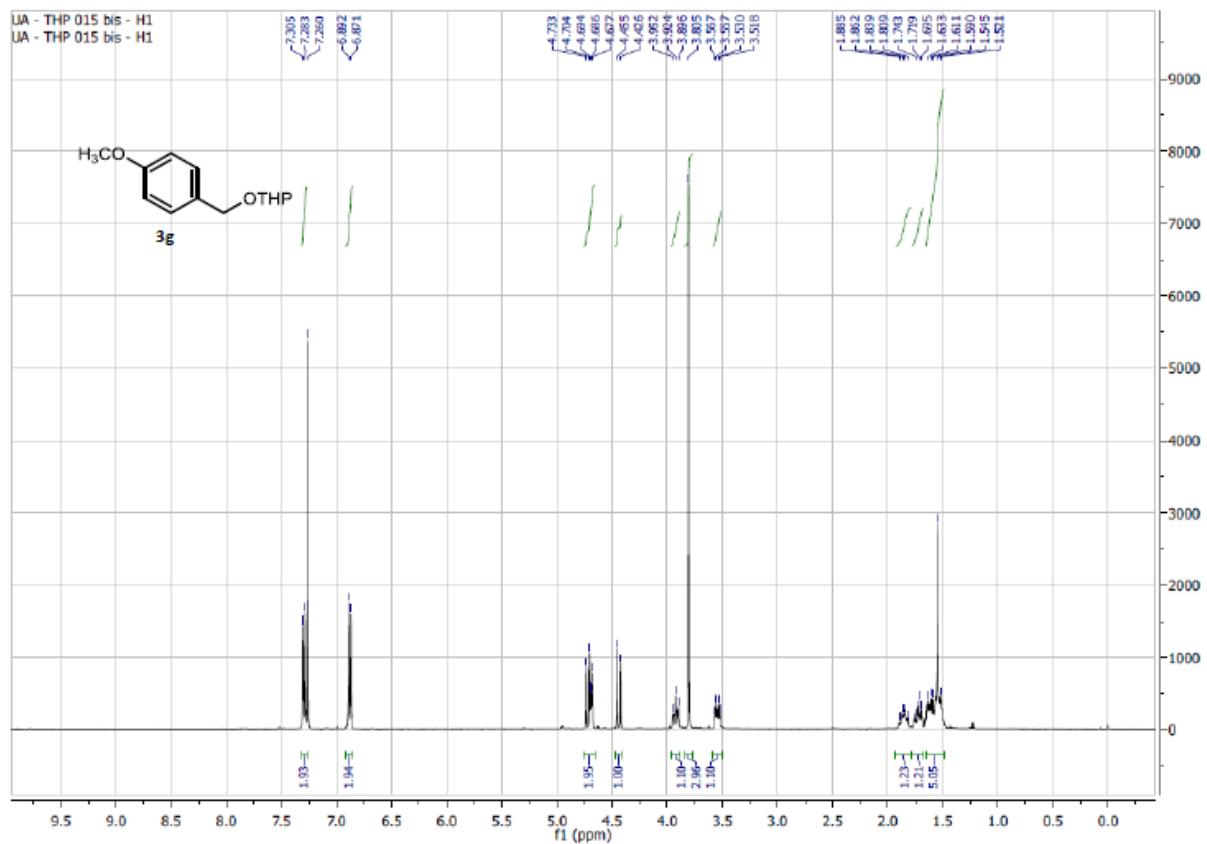


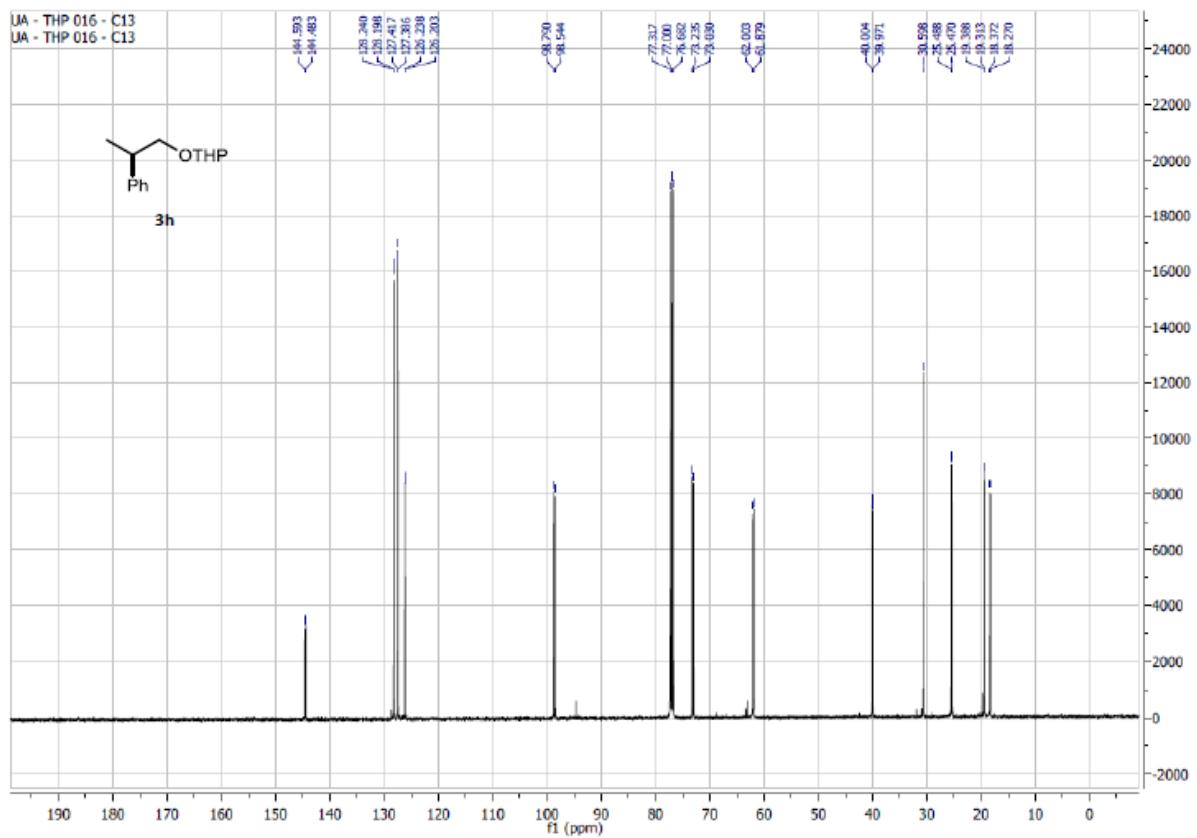
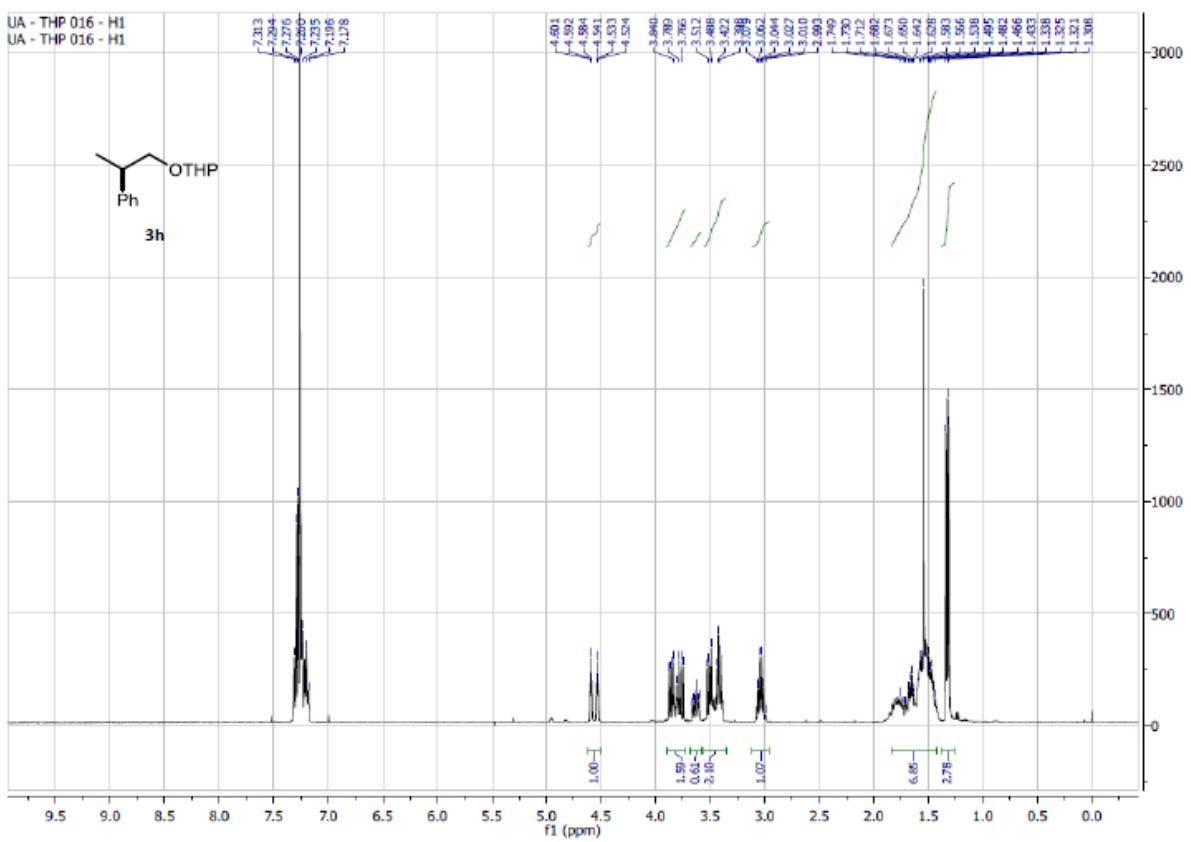


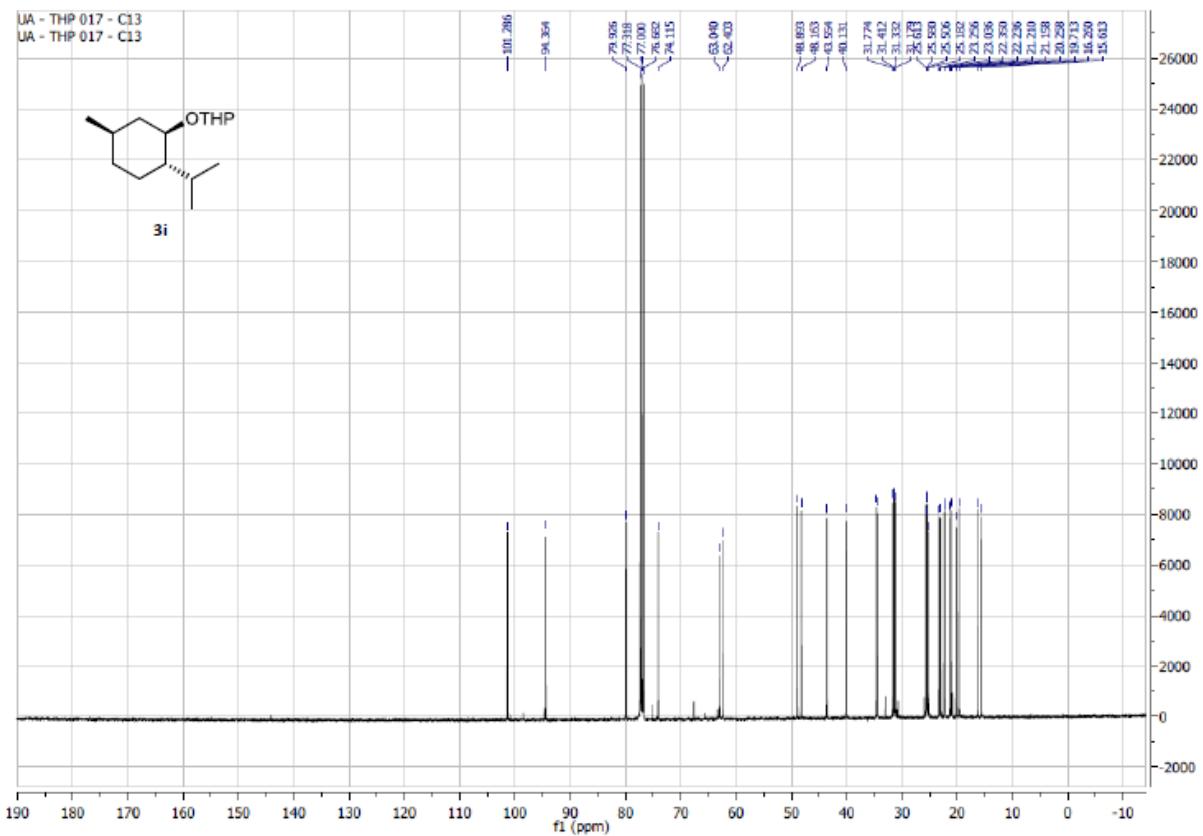
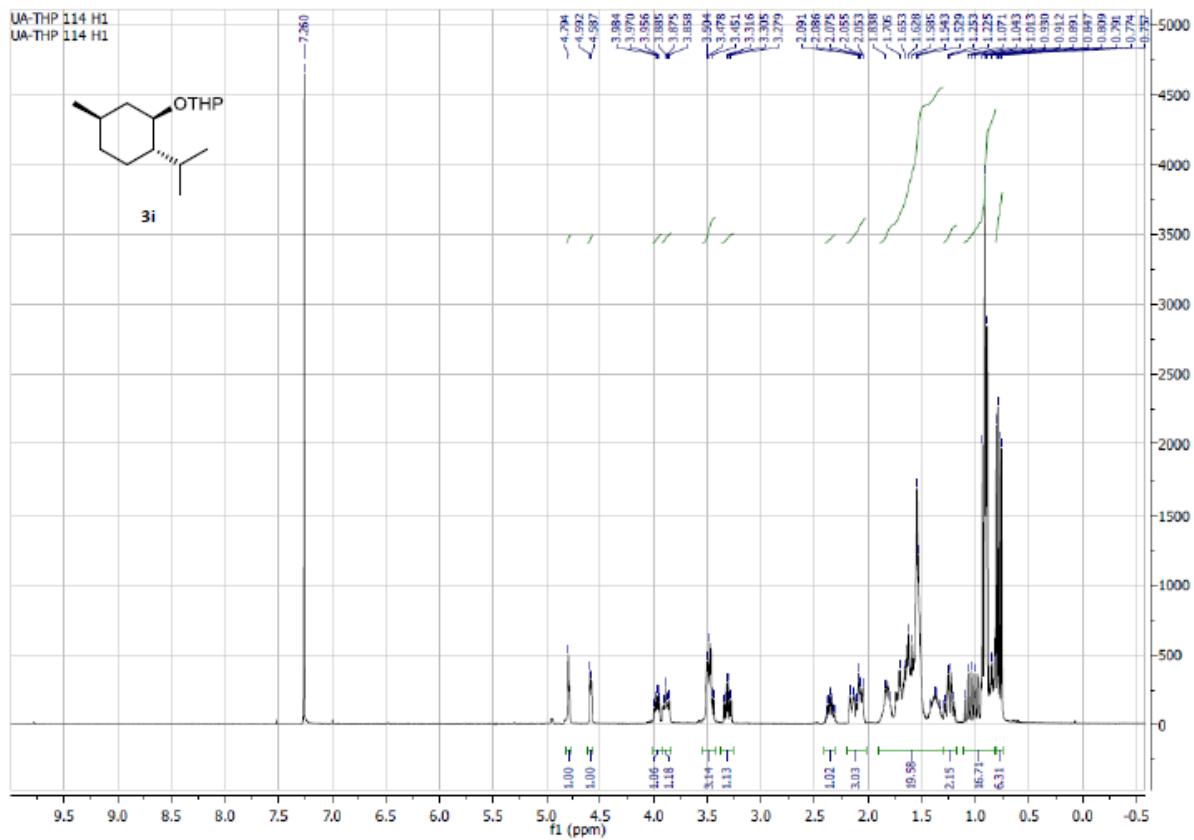


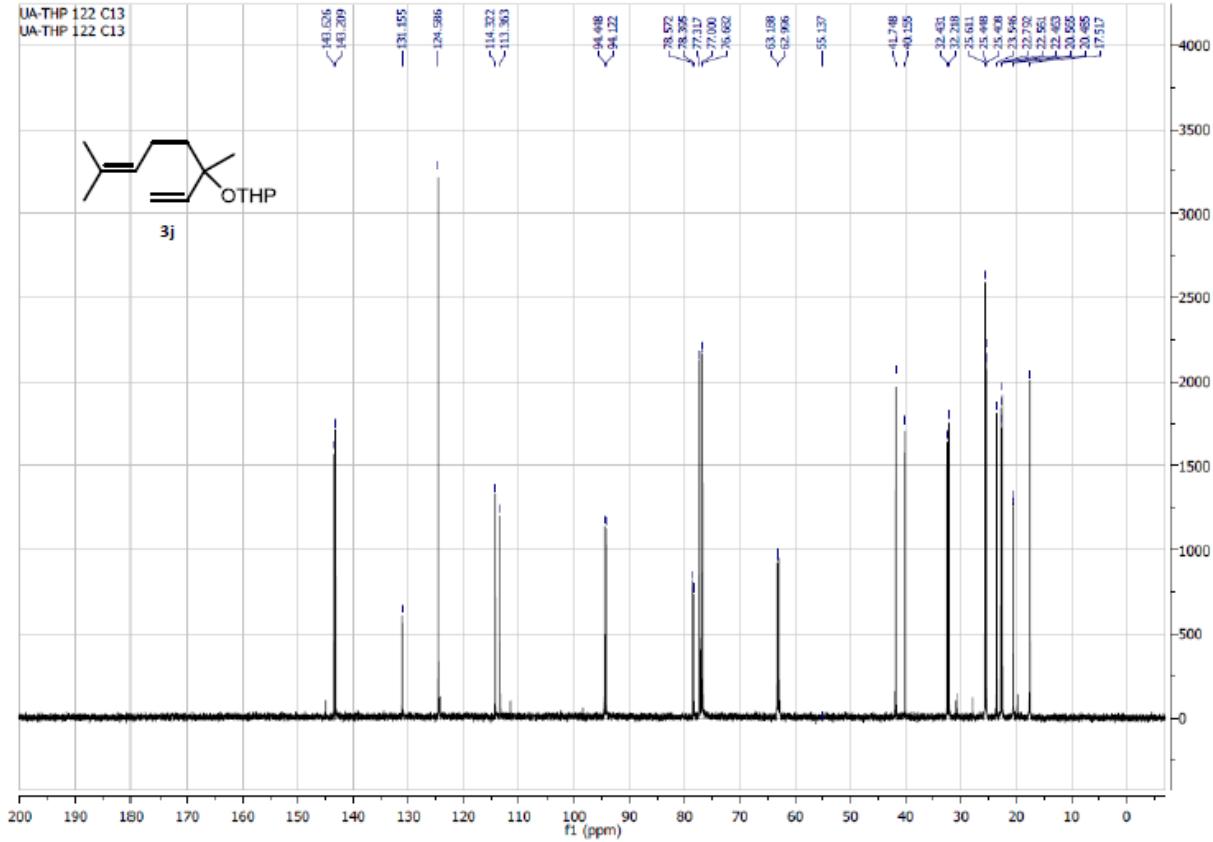
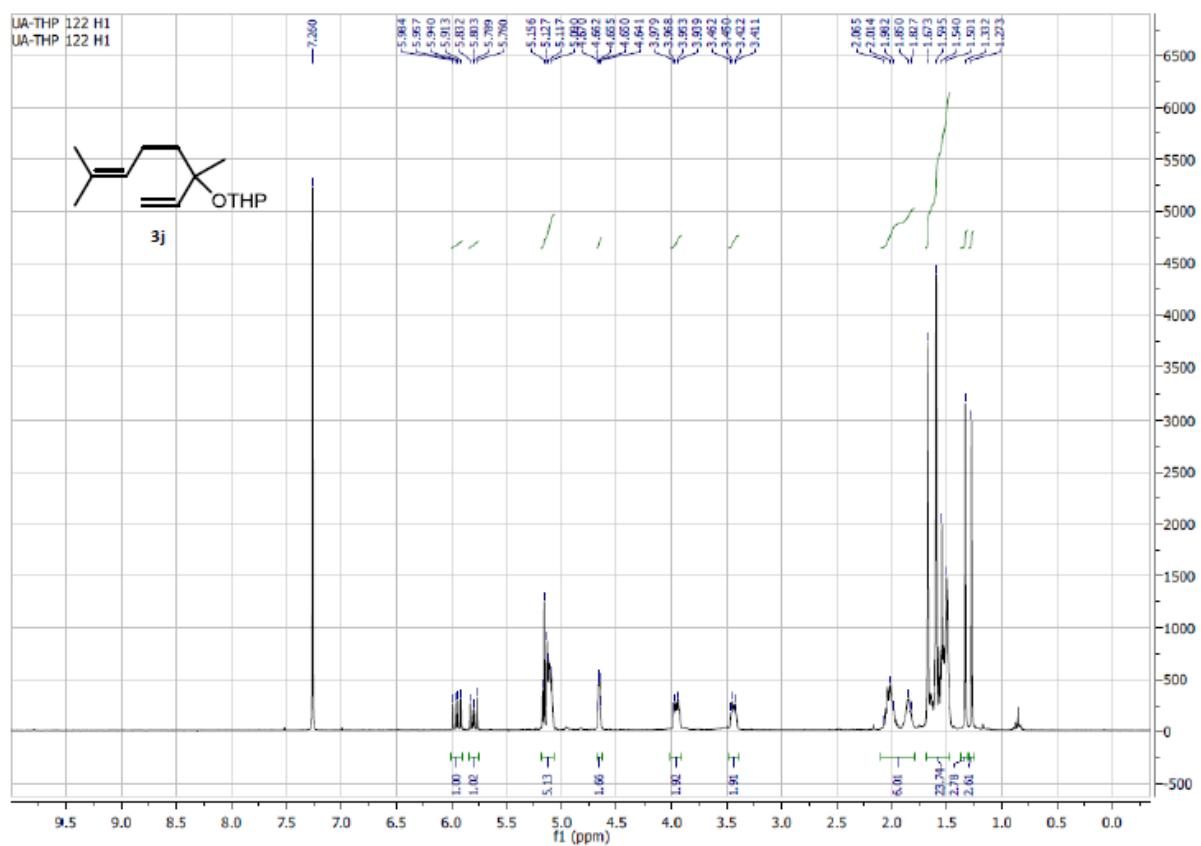


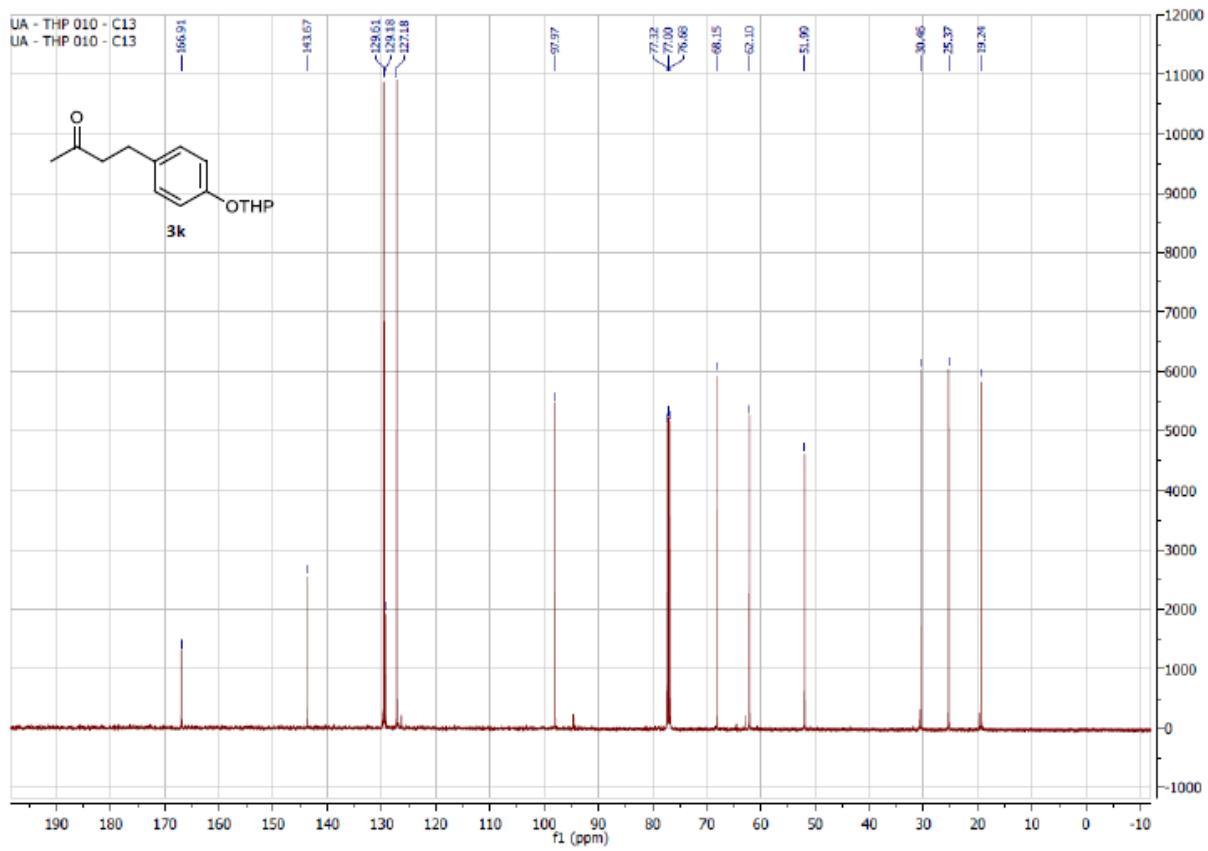
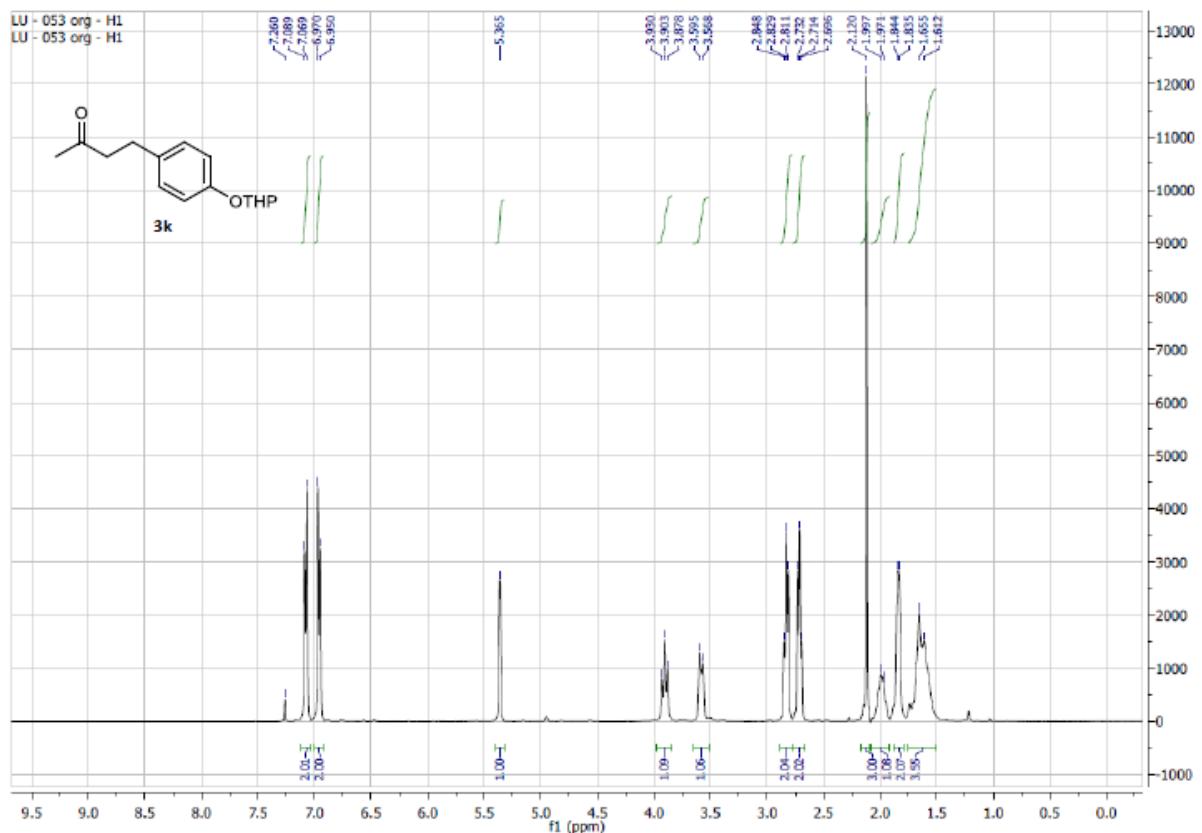


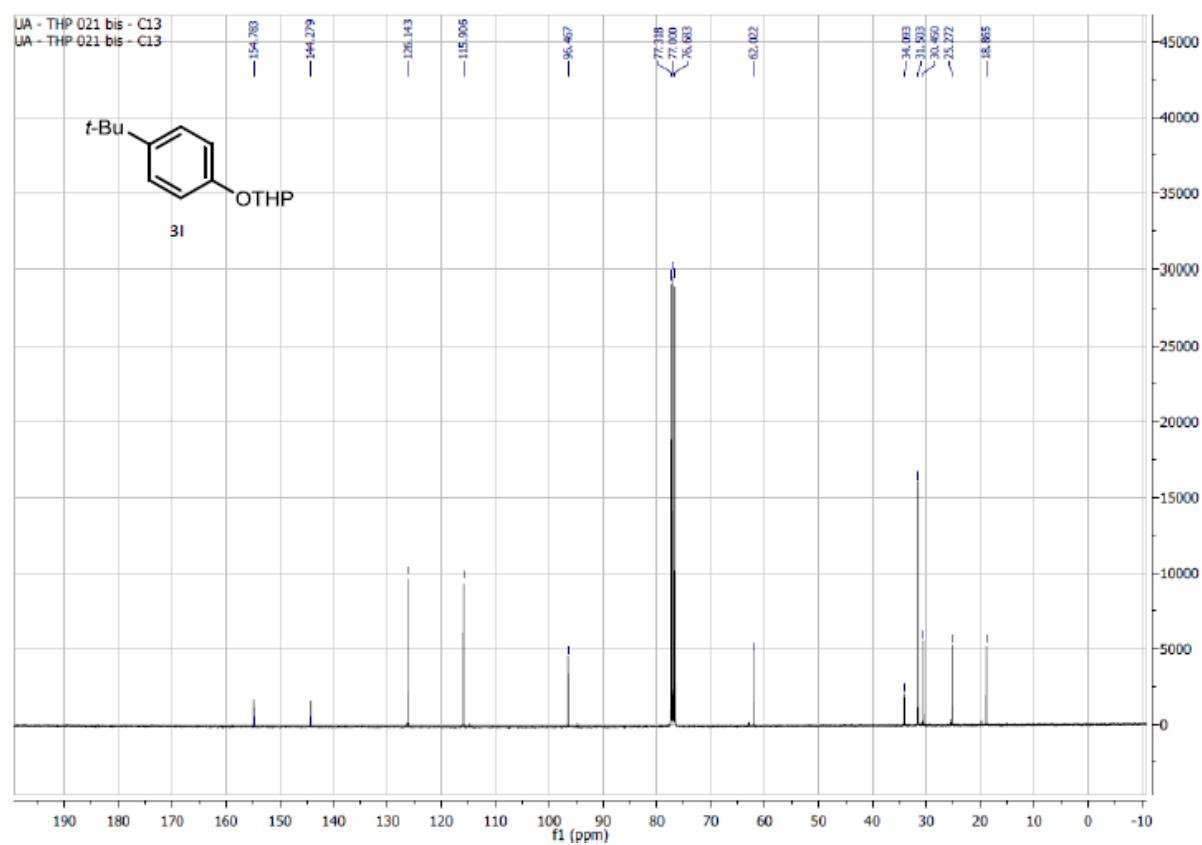
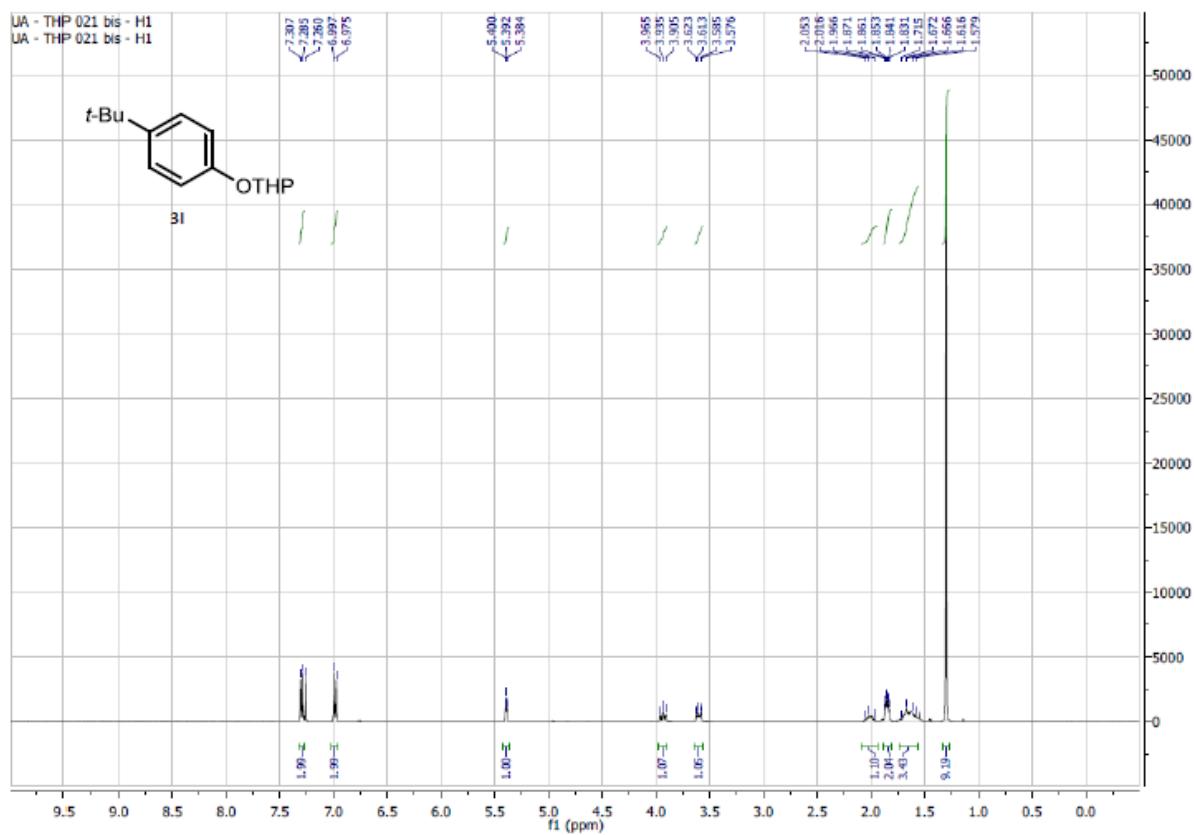


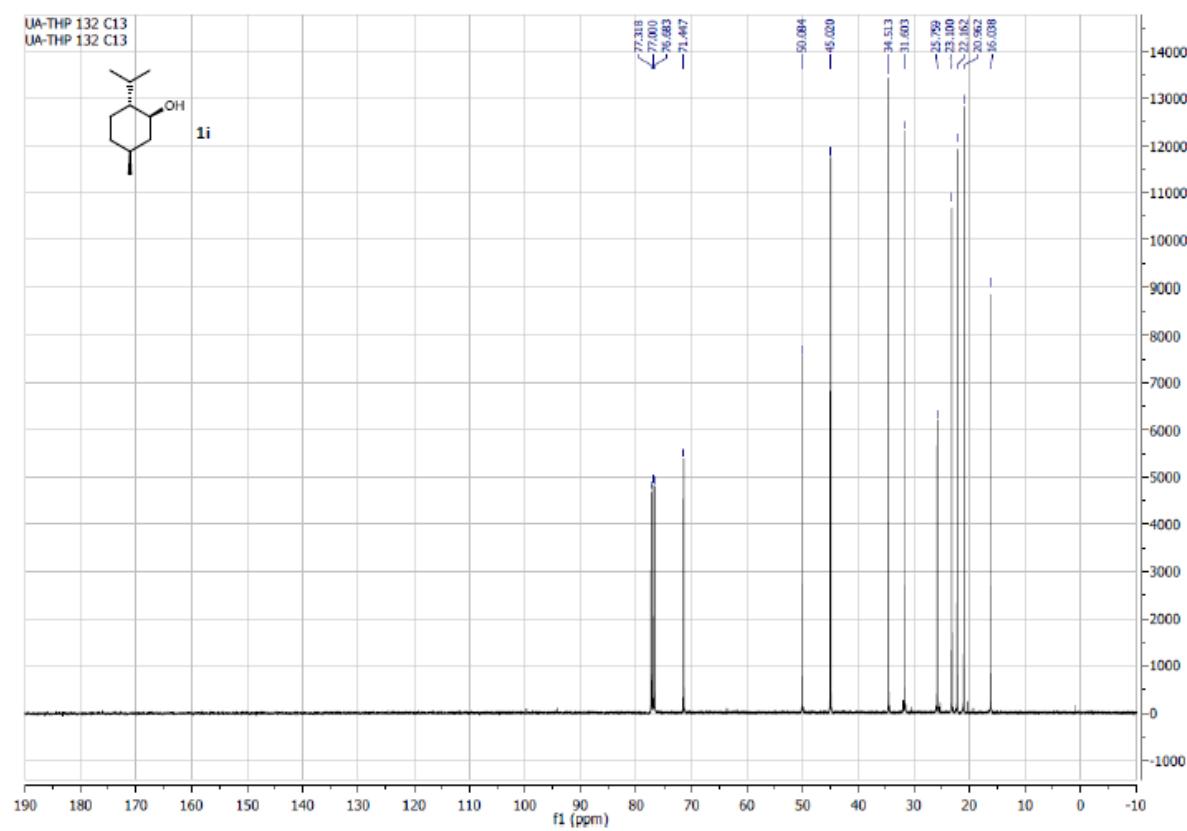
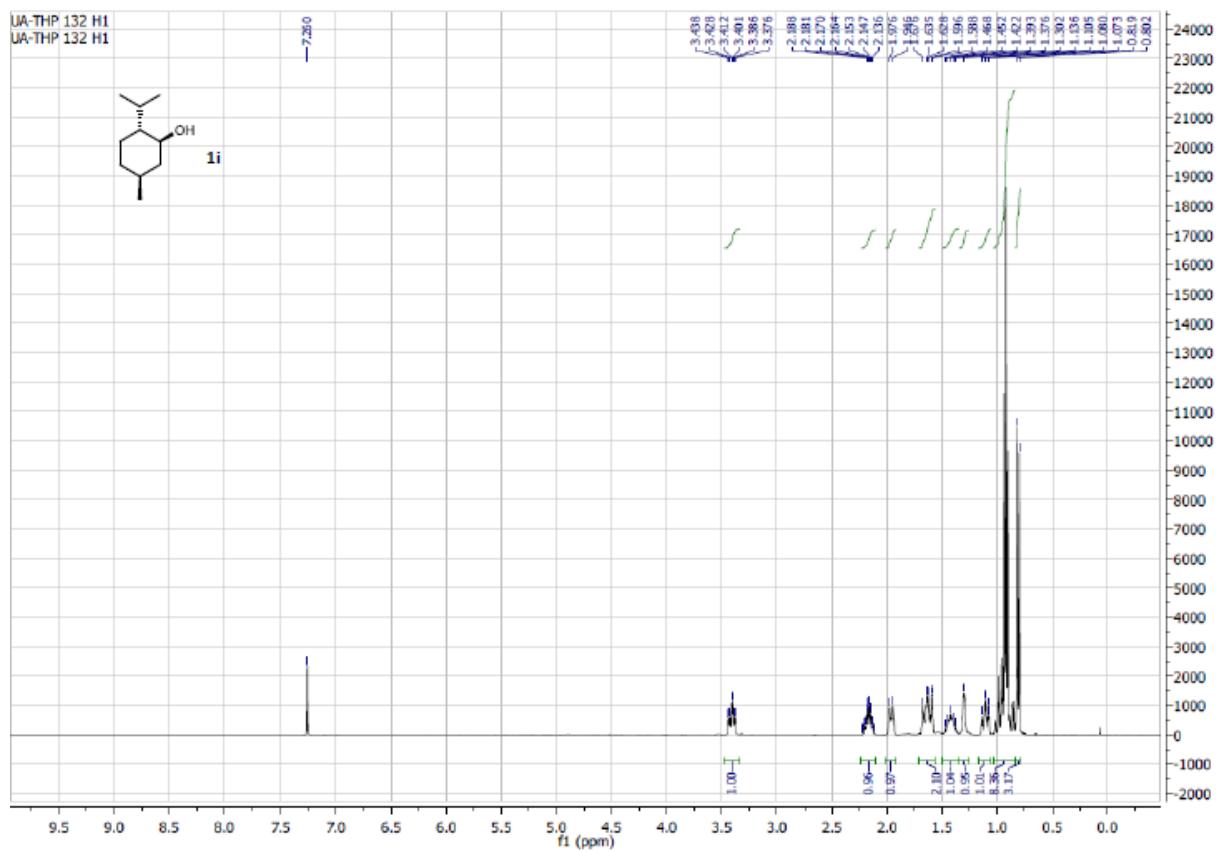


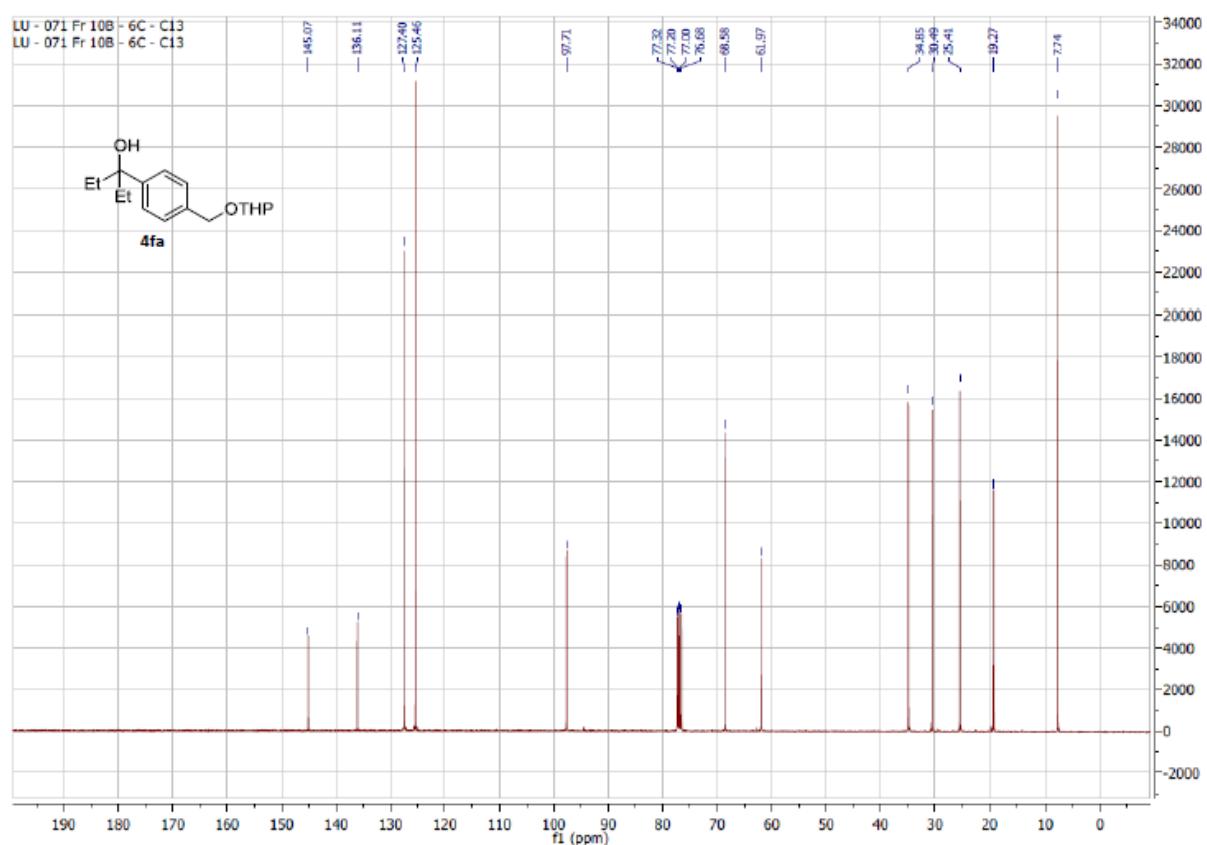
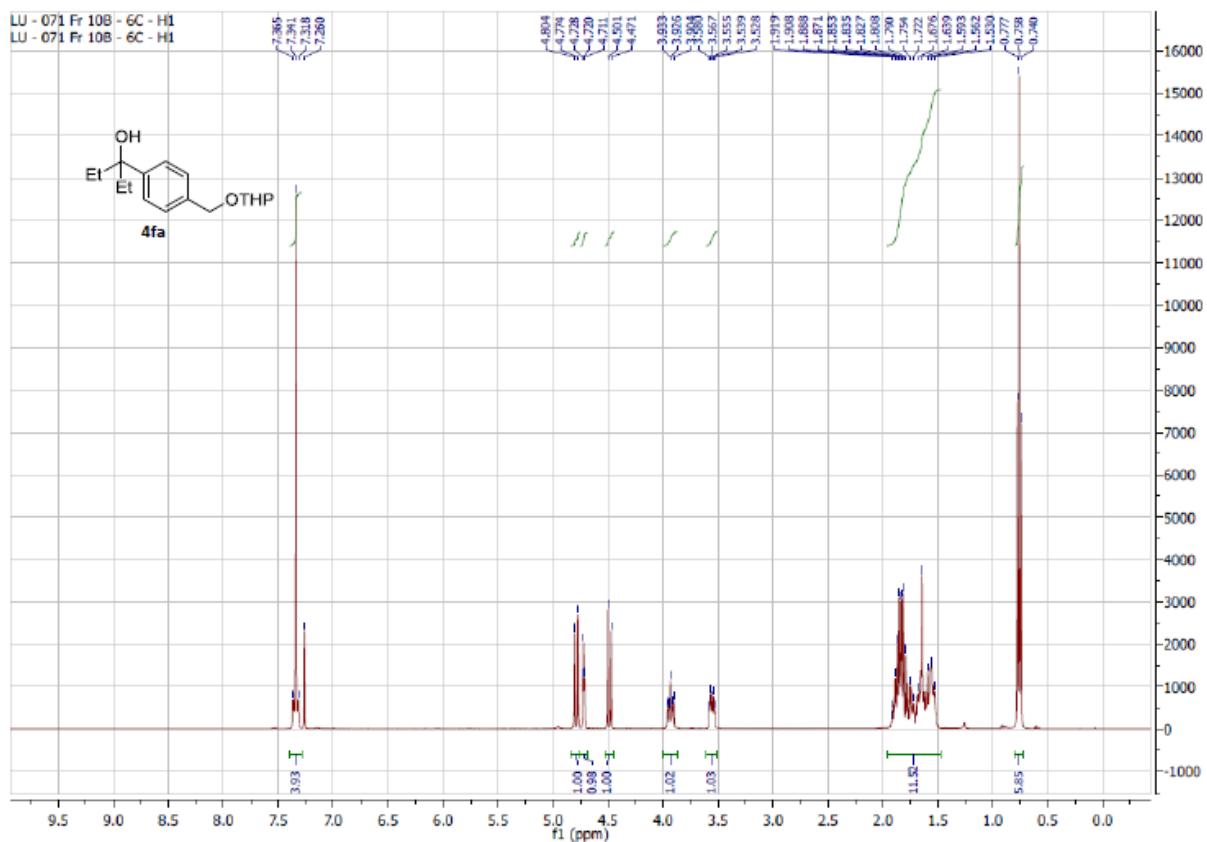


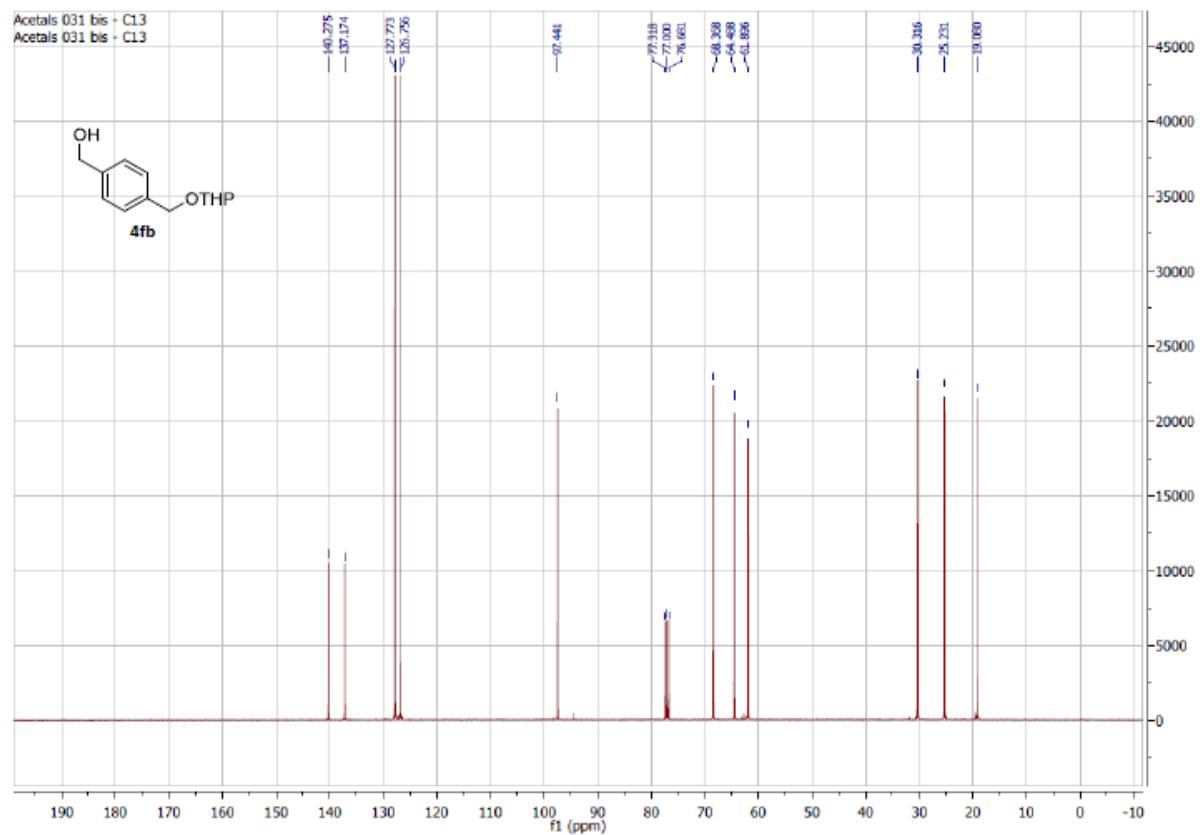
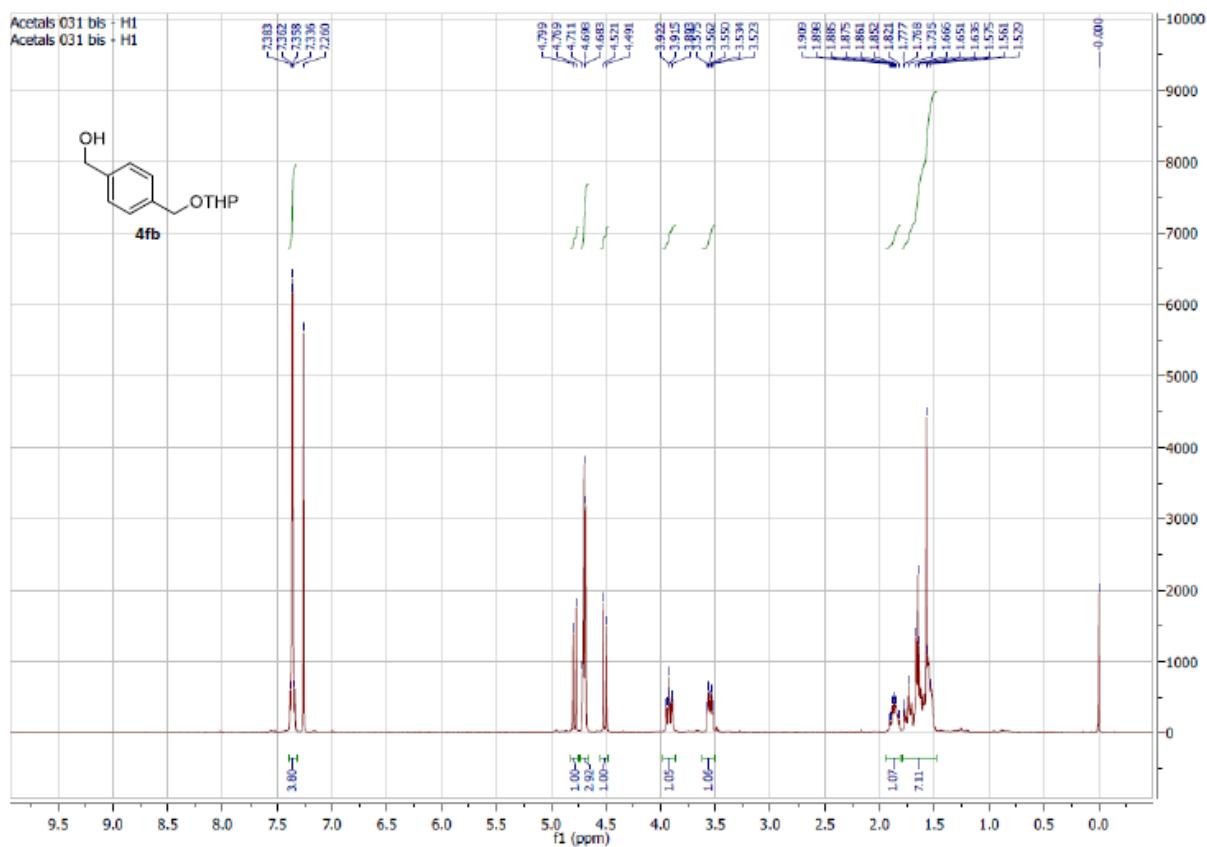












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