

# Supporting Information

## MnO<sub>2</sub>-Promoted Carboesterification of Alkenes with Anhydrides: A Facile Approach to $\gamma$ -Lactones

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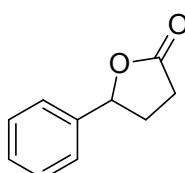
## 1. General methods

All solvents and commercialized reagents were used without further purifications.  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR data were recorded on a Bruker DRX-400 NMR Spectrometer with  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as the solvent.  $^1\text{H}$  shifts were referenced to  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 7.26 ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  shifts were referenced to  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 77 ppm. IR spectra were obtained with an infrared spectrometer on either potassium bromide pellets or liquid films between two potassium bromide pellets. GC–MS data were obtained on Thermo using electron ionization. HRMS was carried out on a high-resolution mass spectrometer (LCMS-IT-TOF). TLC was performed using commercially available 100–400 mesh silica gel plates (GF<sub>254</sub>).

## 2. General procedure for hydration of alkynes

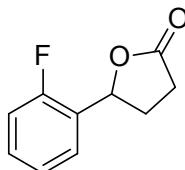
To a mixture of alkene (0.5 mmol),  $\text{MnO}_2$  (1.2 equiv.),  $\text{NaOAc}$  (1.0 equiv.) and  $\text{LiBr}$  (0.2 equiv.) was added  $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}$  (1.0 mL) in a test tube (10 mL) equipped with a magnetic stirring bar. The mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 3 h. After the reaction was completed, the residue was directly subjected to silica gel column chromatography or purification of the mixture on a preparative TLC to afford the desired product.

## 3. Characterization data for all products



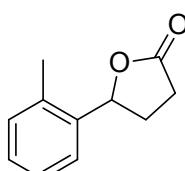
### 5-Phenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (2a)<sup>[1]</sup>

Yield: 92% (74.5 mg); Red thick oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.43-7.34 (m, 5H), 5.52 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.70-2.64 (m, 3H), 2.27-2.15 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  176.7, 139.4, 128.8, 128.5, 125.3, 81.3, 30.9, 28.9; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3032, 2930, 2358, 1775, 1174, 1025, 757; MS (EI) m/z 56, 77, 107, 117, 162.



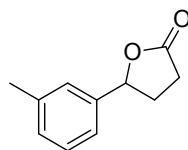
### 5-(2-Fluorophenyl)dihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (2b)<sup>[2]</sup>

Yield: 85% (76.5 mg); Red thick oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.40 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.17 (t,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.74 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.76-2.70 (m, 1H), 2.68-2.64 (m, 2H), 2.24-2.15 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  176.7, 159.2 (d,  $J = 245$  Hz), 130.0 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz), 126.9 (d,  $J = 12.3$  Hz), 126.5 (d,  $J = 4.3$  Hz), 124.5 (d,  $J = 4.1$  Hz), 115.6 (d,  $J = 21.6$  Hz), 76.3, 29.7, 28.5; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3537, 3067, 2940, 2358, 2356, 1781, 1492, 1184, 1033, 761; MS (EI) m/z 56, 95, 123, 135, 180.



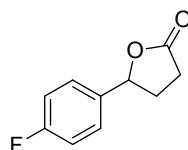
### 5-(o-Tolyl)dihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (2c)<sup>[1]</sup>

Yield: 86% (75.7 mg); White solid, M.p. 60-60.5°C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.35 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.19 (m, 1H), 5.71 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.69-2.64 (m, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.16-2.10 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.1, 137.6, 134.2, 130.7, 128.2, 126.5, 124.2, 78.9, 29.6, 28.7, 19.0; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3529, 2928, 2360, 1775, 1459, 1177, 1022, 754; MS (EI) m/z 65, 91, 121, 131, 161, 176.



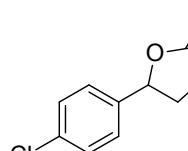
**5-(*m*-Tolyl)dihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-one (2d) [3]**

Yield: 89% (78.3 mg); Orange thick oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.32-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 3H), 5.50 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.67 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.24-2.19 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.0, 139.4, 138.6, 129.2, 128.7, 125.9, 122.4, 81.3, 30.9, 28.9, 21.4; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2927, 1776, 1181, 1030, 904, 786; MS (EI) m/z 56, 91, 121, 131, 161, 176.



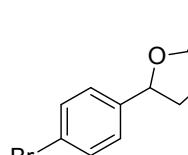
**5-(4-Fluorophenyl)dihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-one (2e) [1]**

Yield: 81% (72.9 mg); Red thick oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.35-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.12-7.07 (m, 2H), 5.50 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.70-2.66 (m, 3H), 2.22-2.13 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  176.6, 162.7 (d,  $J = 246.1$  Hz), 135.1 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz), 127.2 (d,  $J = 9.1$  Hz), 115.7 (d,  $J = 21.6$  Hz), 80.7, 31.0, 29.0; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3532, 2931, 1779, 1511, 1226, 1026, 836; MS (EI) m/z 56, 95, 125, 135, 180.



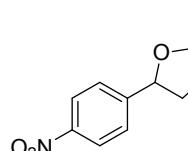
**5-(4-Chlorophenyl)dihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-one (2f) [1]**

Yield: 84% (78.4 mg); Red thick oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.37-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 2H), 5.48 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.69-2.63 (m, 3H), 2.18-2.11 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  176.6, 137.9, 134.3, 129.0, 126.7, 81.5, 30.9, 28.9; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3533, 2932, 2361, 1781, 1492, 1175, 1021, 812; MS (EI) m/z 56, 77, 117, 141, 161, 196.



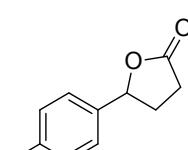
**5-(4-Bromophenyl)dihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-one (2g) [1]**

Yield: 84% (96.4 mg); Yellow brown solid, M.p. 80-81 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.52 (s, 1H), 7.50 (s, 1H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 5.45 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.67-2.62 (m, 3H), 2.17-2.11 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  176.6, 138.5, 131.9, 127.0, 122.4, 80.5, 30.9, 28.9; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3532, 2927, 1782, 1489, 1174, 1018, 810; MS (EI) m/z 56, 77, 115, 161, 184, 241.



**5-(4-Nitrophenyl)dihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-one (2h) [1]**

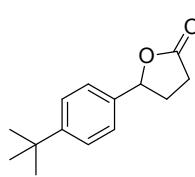
Yield: 79% (81.7 mg); Yellow solid, M.p. 81-82°C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.27 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 5.60 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.78-2.68 (m, 3H), 2.19-2.14 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  175.9, 147.9, 146.6, 125.9, 124.1, 79.6, 30.9, 28.6; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3062, 2923, 1782, 1522, 1346, 1170, 740; MS (EI) m/z 56, 91, 121, 149, 159, 175, 204, 207.



**5-(*p*-Tolyl)dihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-one (2i) [1]**

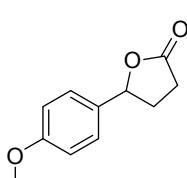
Yield: 89% (78.3 mg); White solid, M.p. 76-78 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.28-7.20 (m, 4H), 5.50 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.68-2.62 (m, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.24-2.16 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100

MHz)  $\delta$  177.0, 138.3, 136.4, 129.4, 125.4, 81.4, 30.9, 29.0, 21.2; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3505, 2928, 1770, 1455, 1180, 940; MS (EI) m/z 56, 91, 121, 132, 161, 176.



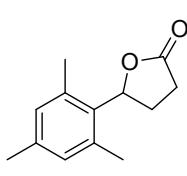
**5-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)dihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-one (**2j**)** [1]

Yield: 92% (100.3 mg); Yellow solid, M.p. 56-57°C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.45 (s, 1H), 7.43 (s, 1H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 5.52 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.69-2.65 (m, 3H), 2.26-2.20 (m, 1H), 1.35 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz)  $\delta$  177.0, 151.6, 136.3, 125.7, 125.2, 81.3, 34.6, 31.3, 30.8, 29.1; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3700, 2960, 2359, 1779, 1175, 1022, 835; MS (EI) m/z 57, 85, 115, 161, 175, 203, 218.



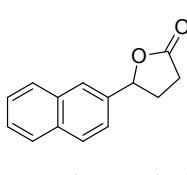
**5-(4-Methoxyphenyl)dihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-one (**2k**)** [1]

Yield: 91% (87.4 mg); Yellow solid, M.p. 53-54°C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.29-7.24 (m, 2H), 6.91 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.47-5.44 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.64-2.58 (m, 3H), 2.21-2.17 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.9, 159.8, 131.2, 126.9, 114.1, 81.4, 55.4, 30.9, 29.2; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3527, 2940, 2360, 1775, 1514, 1249, 1027, 834; MS (EI) m/z 56, 77, 109, 137, 148, 161, 192.



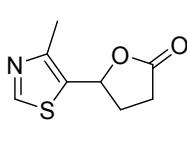
**5-Mesityldihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-one (**2l**)** [4]

Yield: 88% (89.8 mg); Red thick oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.84 (s, 2H), 5.87 (dd,  $J$  = 10.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.73-2.69 (m, 2H), 2.56-2.47 (m, 1H), 2.32 (s, 6H), 2.28 (s, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz)  $\delta$  177.2, 137.9, 135.9, 131.2, 130.4, 79.5, 29.6, 29.0, 20.8, 20.5; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3524, 2966, 1774, 1462, 1182, 1033, 857; MS (EI) m/z 56, 91, 105, 121, 149, 159, 175, 204.



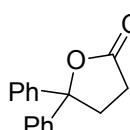
**5-(Naphthalen-2-yl)dihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-one (**2m**)** [1]

Yield: 87% (92.2 mg); Yellow solid, M.p. 117-118°C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.88-7.80 (m, 4H), 7.50 (d,  $J$  = 5.4 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.74-2.66 (m, 3H), 2.29-2.25 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.9, 136.7, 133.2, 133.1, 128.8, 128.1, 127.8, 126.6, 126.5, 124.3, 122.9, 81.3, 30.9, 28.9; 2923, 2359, 1756, 1196, 1015, 901, 756; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) MS (EI) m/z 56, 128, 157, 167, 212.



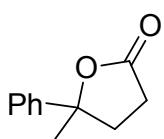
**5-(4-Methylthiazol-5-yl)dihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-one (**2n**)**

Yield: 72% (65.9 mg); Red thick oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.73 (s, 1H), 5.79-5.75 (m, 1H), 2.76-2.69 (m, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 2.31-2.24 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  175.6, 151.7, 151.6, 129.7, 74.9, 31.4, 29.1, 15.4; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3081, 2928, 2361, 1778, 1414, 1144, 931, 809; MS (EI) m/z 56, 100, 128, 139, 156, 183; HRMS-ESI (m/z) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub>S [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> 206.0246, found 206.0248.



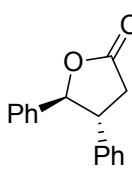
**5,5-Diphenyldihydrofuran-2(3*H*)-one (**2o**)** [5]

Yield: 88% (104.7 mg); Colorless oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.45 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 4H), 7.37 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 4H), 7.30 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.94 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.61 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 Hz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  175.8, 143.0, 128.6, 127.9, 125.4, 89.7, 35.7, 29.1; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3529, 2928, 2360, 1175, 1459, 1177, 1022, 754; MS (EI) m/z 77, 105, 115, 161, 183, 238.



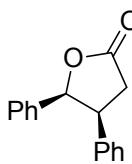
**5-Methyl-5-phenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (2p) [1]**

Yield: 95% (83.6 mg); Red thick oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.37 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.27-7.31 (m, 1H), 2.59-2.67 (m, 1H), 2.41-2.53 (m, 3H), 1.72, (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  176.5, 144.3, 128.6, 127.6, 124.1, 87.0, 36.2, 29.4, 29.0; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3527, 2932, 2361, 1773, 1454, 1161, 1014, 703; MS (EI) m/z 77, 107, 117, 158, 176.



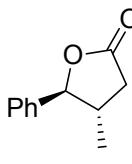
**trans-4,5-Diphenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (2q-1) [6]**

Yield: 48% (57.1 mg); White solid, M.p. 109-110 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.37-7.28 (m, 6H), 7.19 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 4H), 5.43 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.60 (dd,  $J = 19.2, J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.07 (dd,  $J = 17.6, J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.92 (dd,  $J = 17.6, J = 10.8$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  175.3, 138.0, 137.8, 129.1, 128.7, 127.9, 127.4, 125.7, 87.5, 50.6, 37.2; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3359, 2922, 2361, 1783, 1456, 1198, 996, 698; MS (EI) m/z 77, 91, 105, 115, 161, 183, 238.



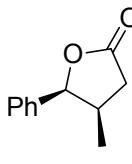
**cis-4,5-Diphenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (2q-2) [6]**

Yield: 43% (51.2 mg); White solid, M.p. 106-108 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.13-7.08 (m, 6H), 6.90 (dd,  $J = 6.4, J = 2.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.81 (dd,  $J = 6.4, J = 3.2$  Hz, 2H), 5.83 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.06 (dd,  $J = 14.8, J = 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.05 (dd,  $J = 17.6, J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.94 (dd,  $J = 17.6, 6.4$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  176.7, 136.7, 135.5, 128.3, 128.0, 127.9, 127.4, 125.7, 84.7, 46.9, 34.9; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3358, 2923, 2361, 1780, 1173, 697; MS (EI) m/z 77, 91, 105, 115, 161, 183, 238.



**trans-4-Methyl-5-phenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (2r-1) [5]**

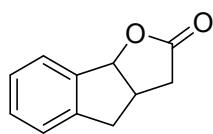
Yield: 54% (47.5 mg); Yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.41-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.26(m, 3H), 5.58 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.76-2.71 (m, 1H), 2.43-2.32 (m, 2H), 1.33 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  179.9, 139.8, 128.8, 128.2, 124.9, 78.4, 38.4, 33.6, 15.4; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2928, 2359, 1780, 1212, 999, 702; MS (EI) m/z 77, 91, 107, 117, 131, 158, 176.



**cis-4-Methyl-5-phenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (2r-2) [5]**

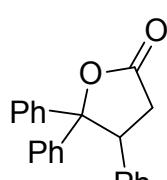
Yield: 33% (29.0 mg); Yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38-7.34 (m, 5H), 5.36 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.81 (dd,  $J = 12.0, J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 1.85 (d,  $J = 10.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.33 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  179.2, 139.1, 128.7, 128.5, 125.5, 79.2, 39.9, 36.4, 15.0; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$

(cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2928, 2359, 1780, 1212, 999, 702; MS (EI) m/z 77, 91, 107, 117, 131, 158, 176.



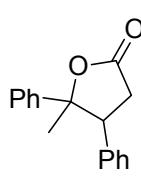
**3,3a,4,8b-Tetrahydro[1,2-b]furan-2-one (2s)** [7]

Yield: 83% (72.2 mg); Yellow solid. M.p. 67-68°C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.28 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.90 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.38-3.30 (m, 2H), 2.95-2.88 (m, 2H), 2.40 (dd, *J* = 18.0, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.0, 142.6, 138.8, 129.9, 127.6, 126.4, 125.4, 87.7, 37.9, 37.3, 35.7; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3532, 2930, 2357, 1775, 1462, 1178, 1014, 751; MS (EI) m/z 63, 89, 114, 130, 145, 174.



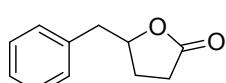
**4,5,5-Triphenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (2t)** [8]

Yield: 75% (117.7 mg); White solid, M.p. 162-163 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 3H), 7.06 (s, 5H), 6.95 (s, 2H), 4.49 (dd, *J* = 7.6, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (dd, *J* = 17.6, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.80 (dd, *J* = 17.6, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 175.8, 143.2, 139.9, 138.5, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 128.2, 127.7, 127.3, 127.2, 126.3, 126.1, 92.9, 51.0, 37.5; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3061, 2359, 1777, 1450, 1221, 981, 699; MS (EI) m/z 77, 91, 104, 165, 183, 256, 314.



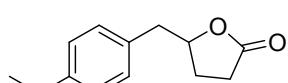
**5-Methyl-4,5-diphenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (2u)** [9]

Yield: 81% (102.1 mg); White solid. M.p. 112-113 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.39-7.32 (m, 8H), 7.15-7.13 (m, 2H), 3.76 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (dd, *J* = 8.0, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 175.9, 144.3, 137.3, 128.8, 128.6, 128.2, 127.9, 127.8, 124.5, 89.6, 52.9, 35.2, 24.1; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3031, 2929, 2361, 1777, 1450, 1224, 1055, 761; MS (EI) m/z 77, 91, 104, 121, 179, 224, 252.



**5-Benzylidihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (2v)** [6]

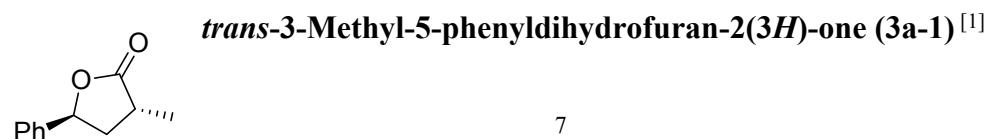
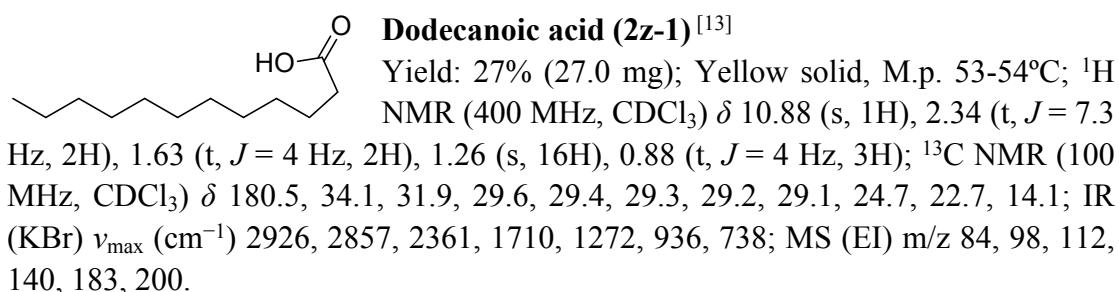
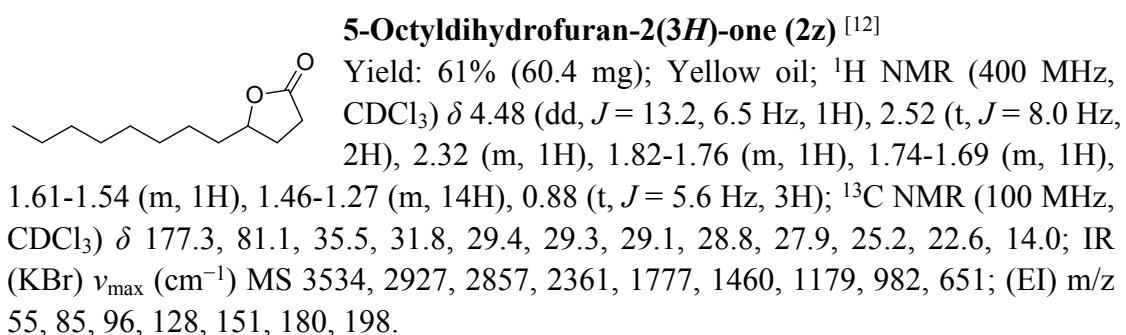
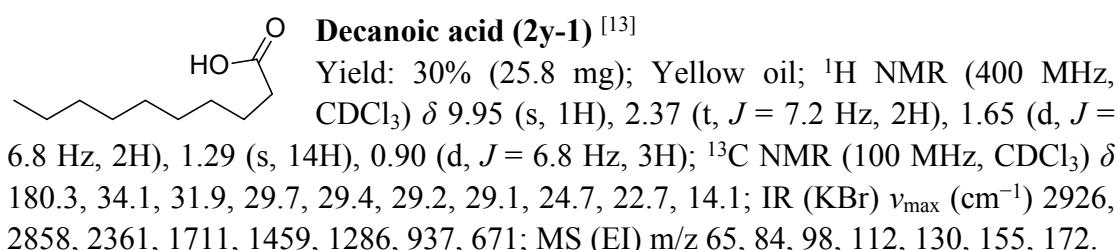
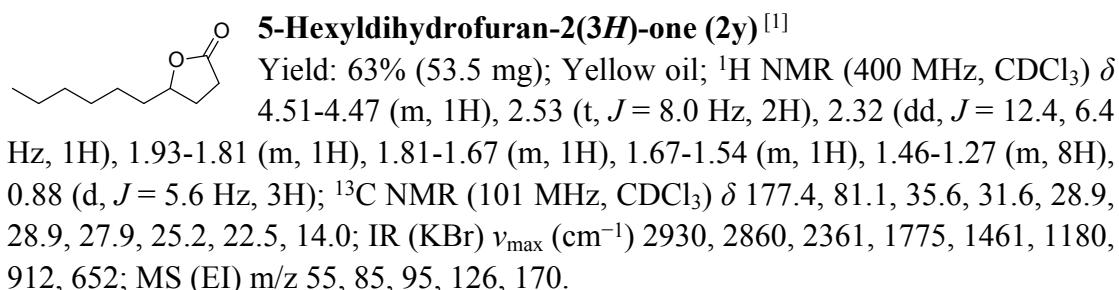
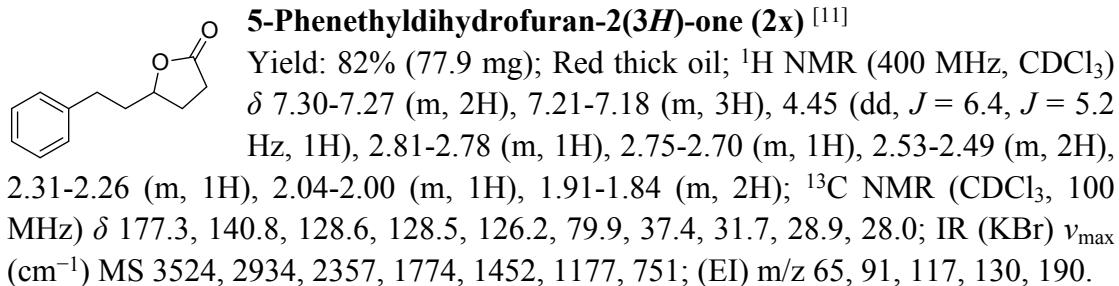
Yield: 82% (72.2 mg); Red thick oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.33-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.22 (m, 3H), 4.73 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (dd, *J* = 14.0, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, *J* = 14.0, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.40-2.38 (m, 2H), 2.27-2.22 (m, 1H), 1.98-1.92 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 177.0, 135.9, 129.5, 128.7, 127.0, 80.8, 41.3, 28.7, 27.1; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3524, 3029, 2926, 2361, 1771, 1454, 1174, 1022, 915, 701; MS (EI) m/z 57, 85, 91, 176.



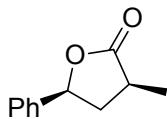
**5-(4-Methoxybenzyl)dihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (2w)** [10]

Yield: 83% (85.5 mg); Yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.73-4.66 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.00 (dd, *J* = 14.0, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd, *J* = 14.0, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.51-2.40 (m, 1H), 2.40-2.29 (m, 1H), 2.29-2.19 (m, 1H), 2.00-1.91 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 177.1, 158.7, 130.5, 127.8, 114.1, 81.0, 55.3,

40.4, 28.7, 27.0; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2929, 2841, 2359, 1772, 1512, 1250, 1176, 1028, 740; MS (EI) m/z 57, 85, 121, 206.

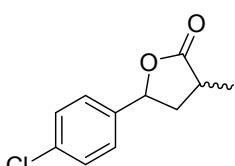


Yield: 38% (33.4 mg); Yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.41-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.26 (m, 3H), 5.58 (d,  $J = 4.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.76-2.71 (m, 1H), 2.43-2.32 (m, 2H), 1.33 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  179.9, 139.8, 128.8, 128.2, 124.9, 78.4, 38.4, 33.6, 15.4; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2933, 2881, 2361, 1774, 1456, 1172, 1012, 700; MS (EI) m/z 77, 91, 105, 117, 132, 176.



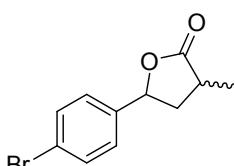
**cis-3-Methyl-5-phenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (3a-2)<sup>[1]</sup>**

Yield: 40% (35.2 mg); Yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38-7.34 (m, 5H), 5.41-5.30 (m, 1H), 2.81 (dd,  $J = 11.8, 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.85 (d,  $J = 10.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.33 (d,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  179.2, 139.1, 128.7, 128.5, 125.5, 79.2, 39.9, 36.4, 15.0; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2932, 2879, 2361, 1773, 1454, 1161, 1014, 753; MS (EI) m/z 77, 91, 105, 117, 132, 176.



**5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-methyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (3b)<sup>[1]</sup>**

Yield: 83% (87.1 mg); Yellow oil;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.23-7.36 (m, 4H), 5.53 (q,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 0.44H), 5.32 (q,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 0.55H), 2.68-2.87 (m, 1.5H), 2.35-2.40 (m, 1H), 1.75-1.85 (m, 0.5H), 1.32 (dd,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  179.6, 178.9, 138.3, 137.7, 134.2, 134.0, 128.91, 128.89, 126.9, 126.5, 78.4, 77.7, 39.9, 36.3, 38.2, 33.6, 15.4, 14.9; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3491, 2921, 2336, 1772, 1439, 1198, 1089, 756; MS (EI) m/z 75, 91, 111, 115, 131, 151, 175, 230, 210.



**5-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-methyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (3c)<sup>[1]</sup>**

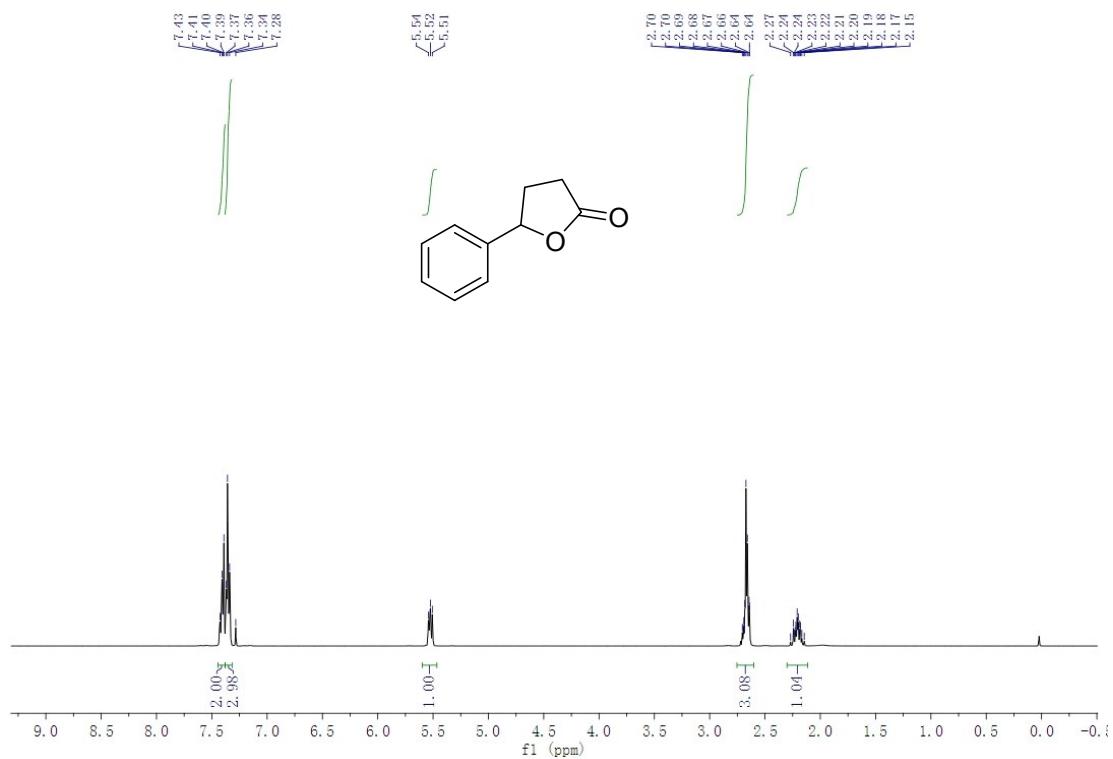
Yield: 73% (92.7 mg); White solid, M.p., 95-97 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.17-7.51 (m, 4H), 5.51 (q,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 0.55H), 5.31 (q,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 0.45H), 2.68-2.81 (m, 1.47H), 2.35-2.38 (m, 1.87H), 1.31-1.33 (m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  179.6, 178.9, 138.9, 138.2, 131.9, 131.8, 127.2, 126.8, 122.3, 122.1, 78.4, 77.7, 39.9, 38.2, 36.3, 33.6, 15.4, 14.9; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3362, 2921, 2362, 1771, 1486, 1196, 756; MS (EI) m/z 77, 91, 116, 131, 175, 185, 210, 254.

## References:

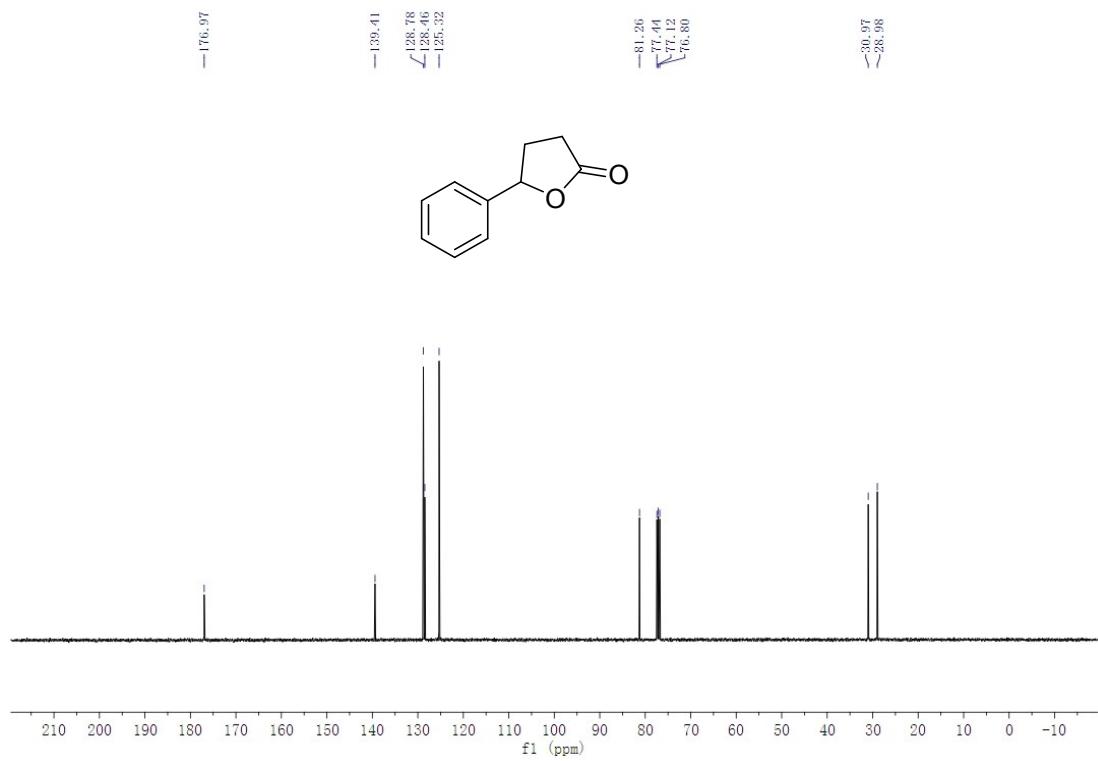
- [1] L. Huang, H. Jiang, C. Qi and X. Liu, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2010, **132**, 17652.
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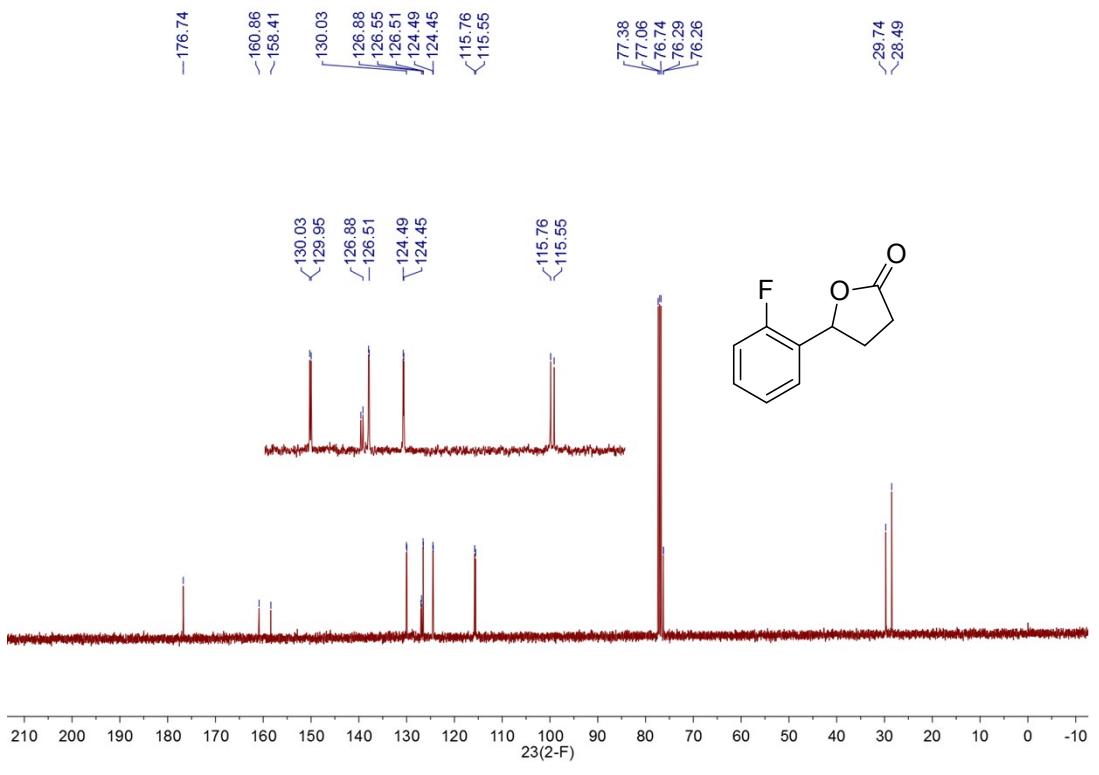
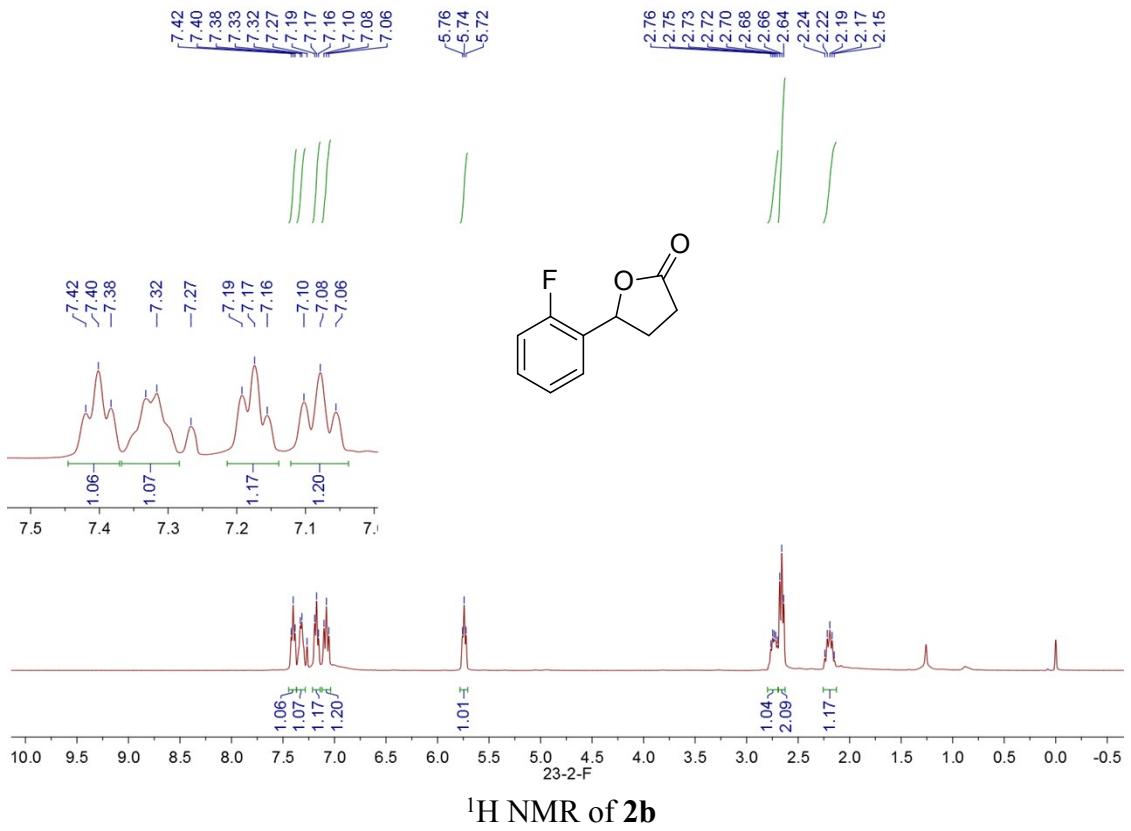
#### **4. Copies of NMR spectra**

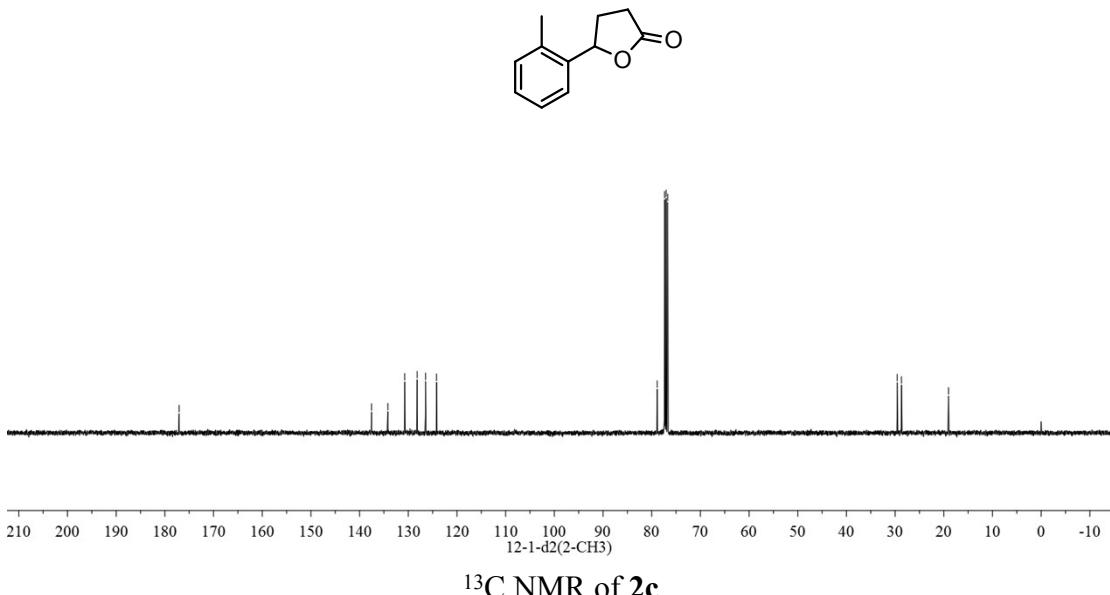
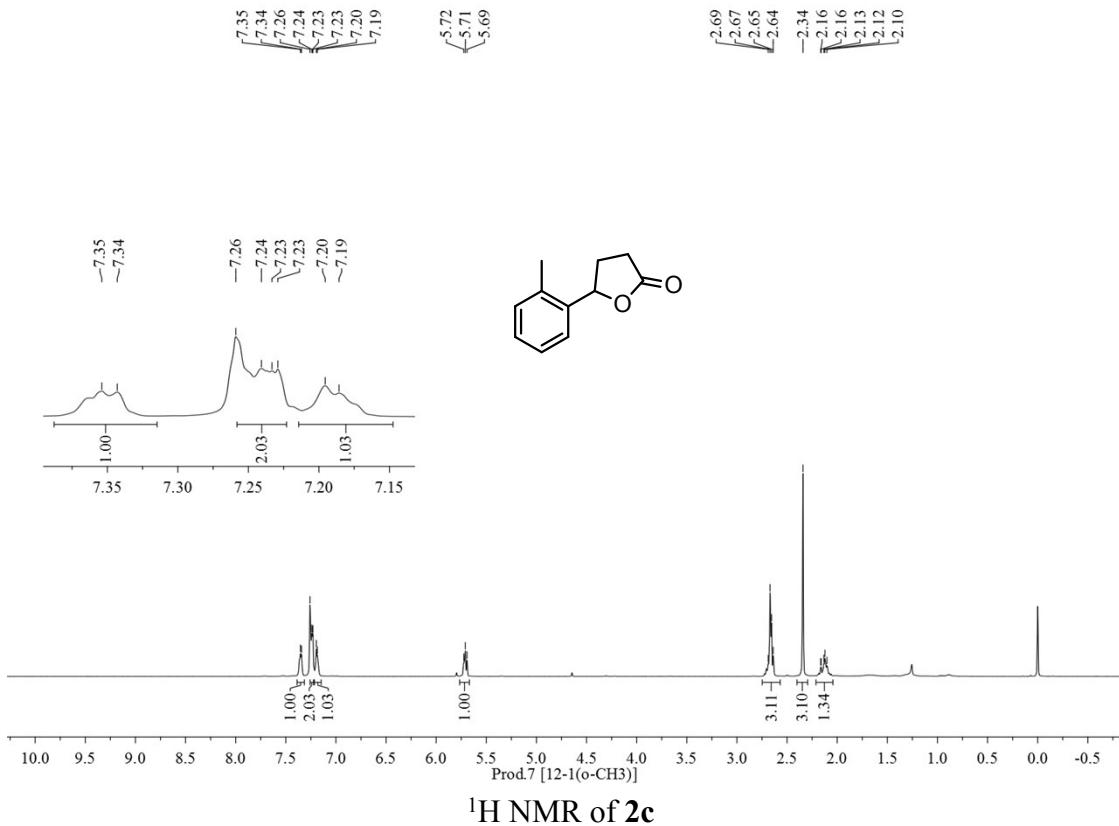


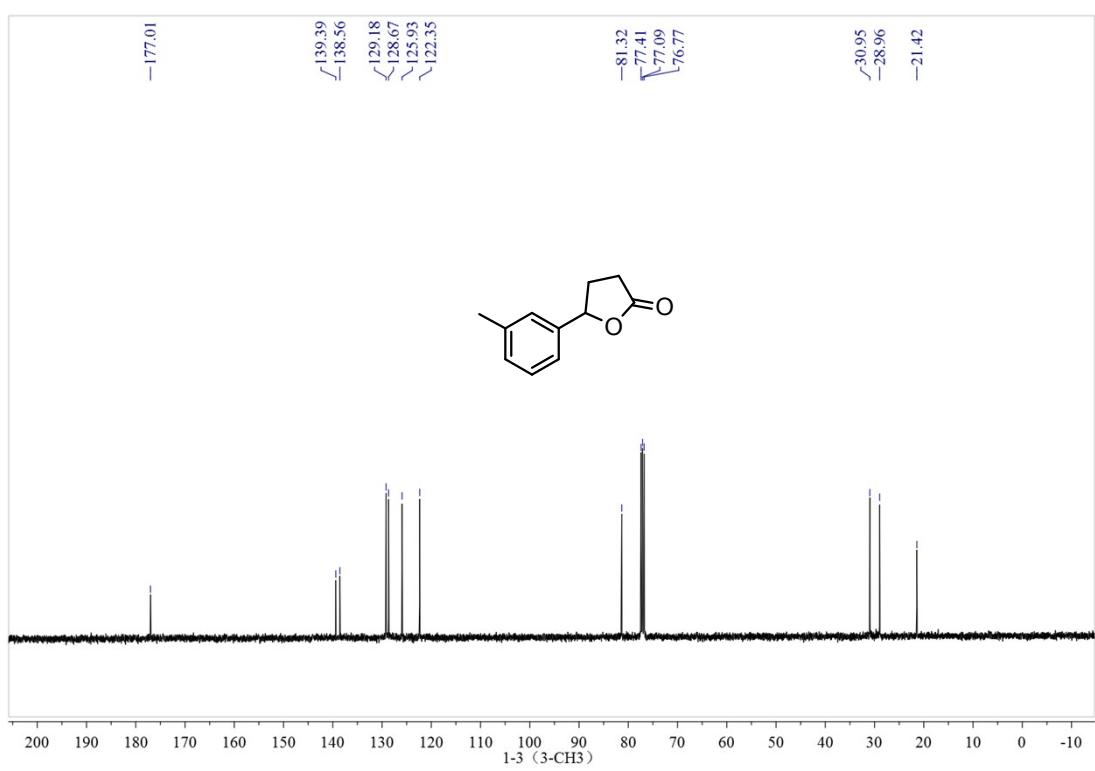
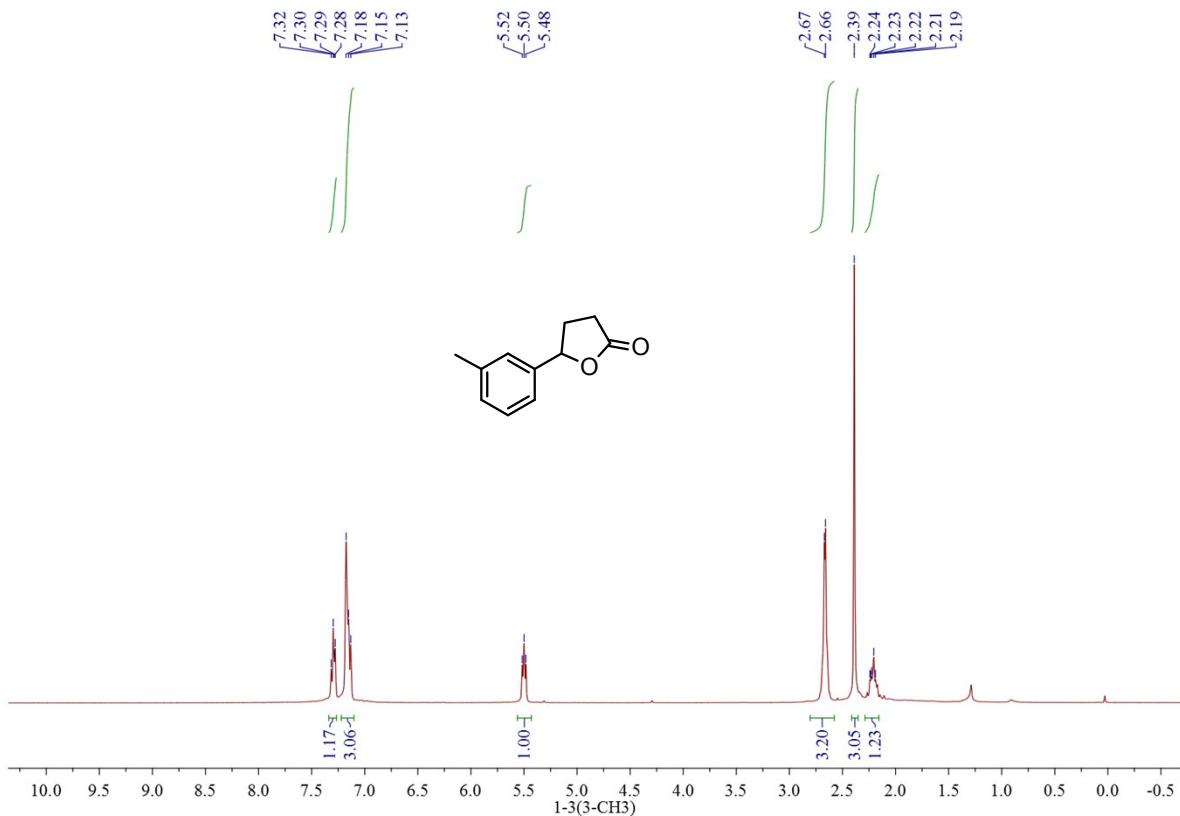
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **2a**

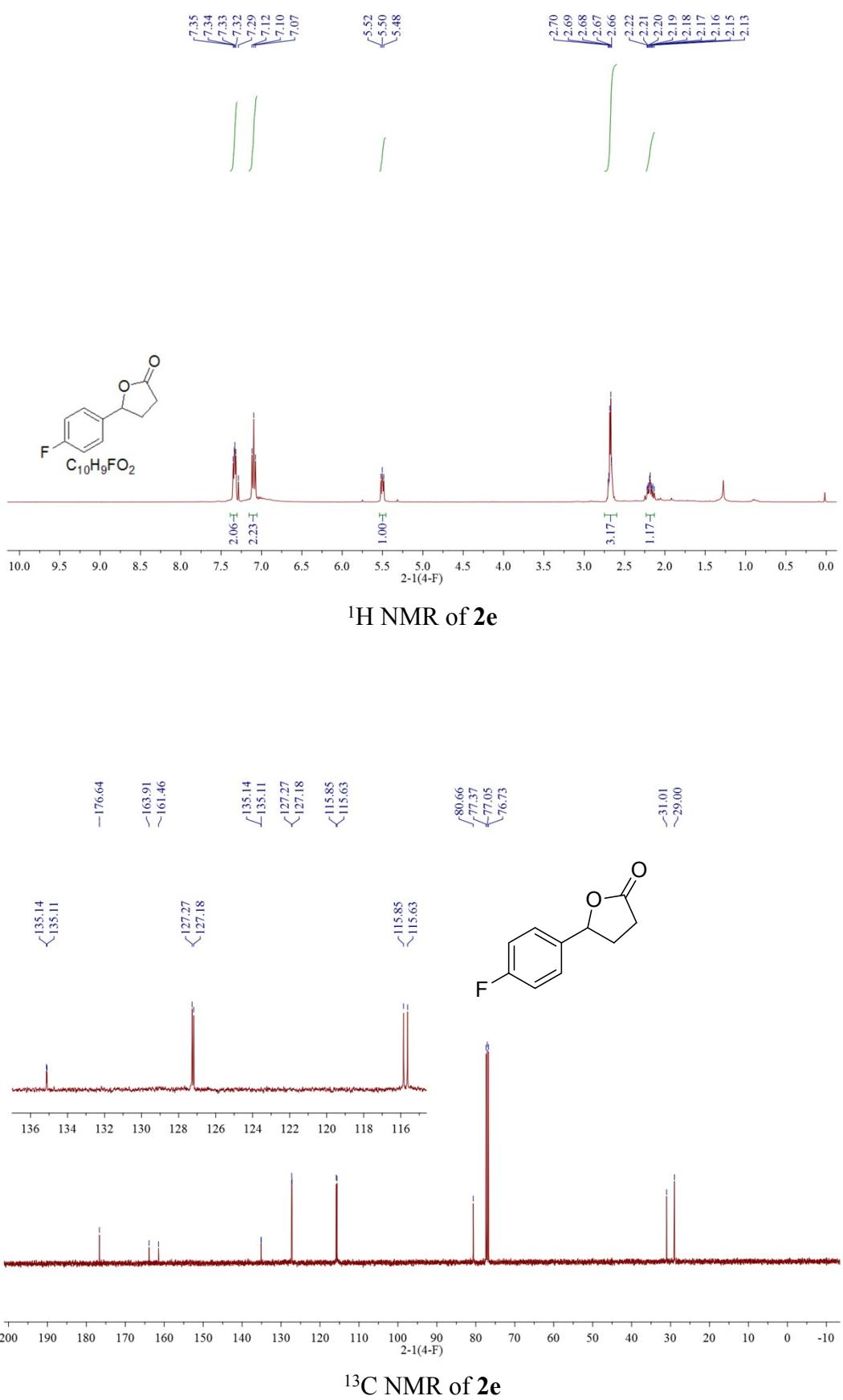


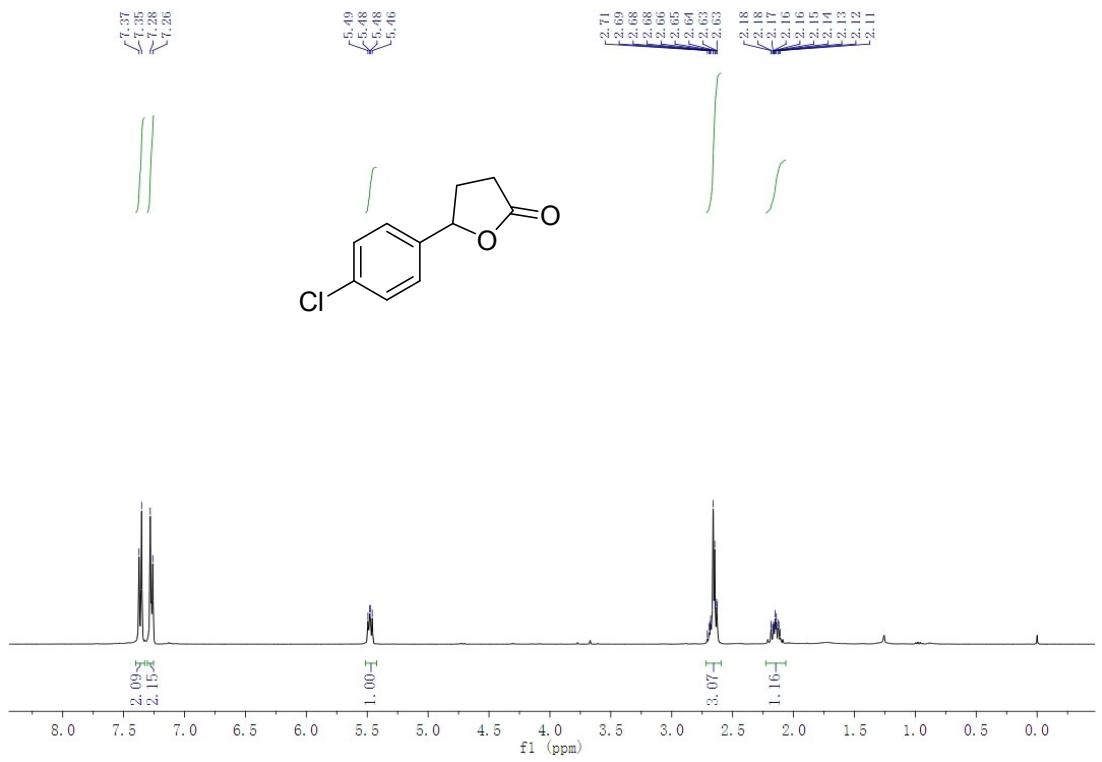
<sup>13</sup>C NMR of **2a**



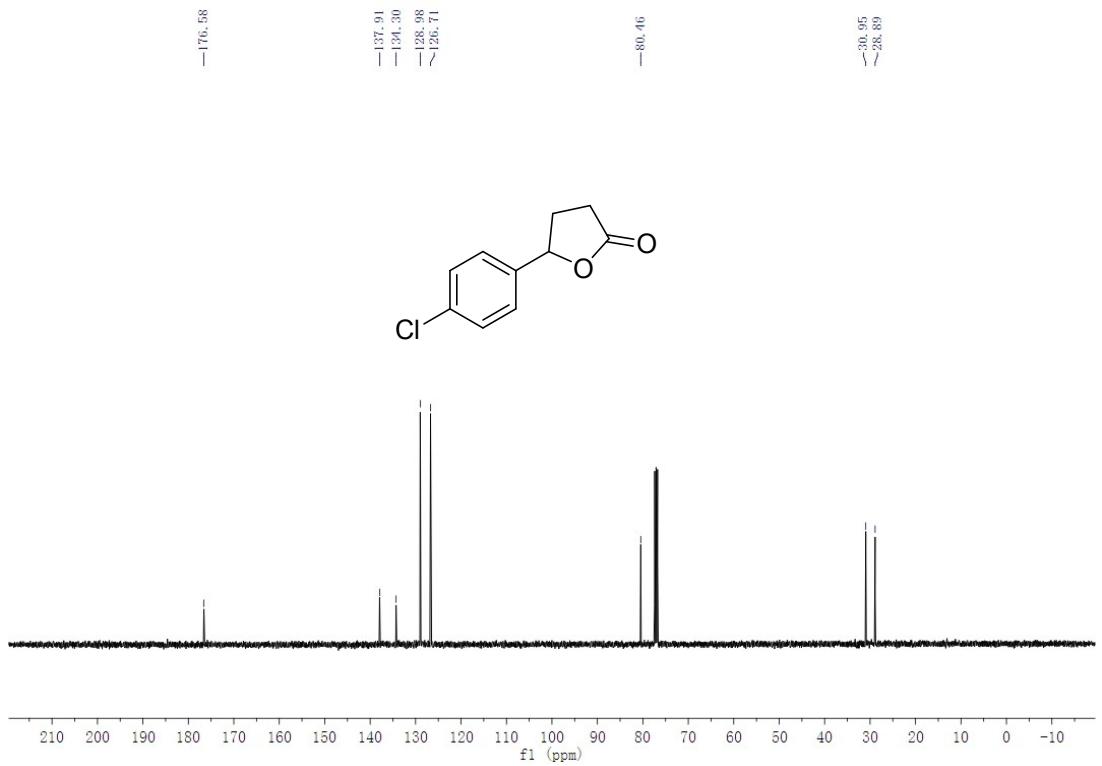




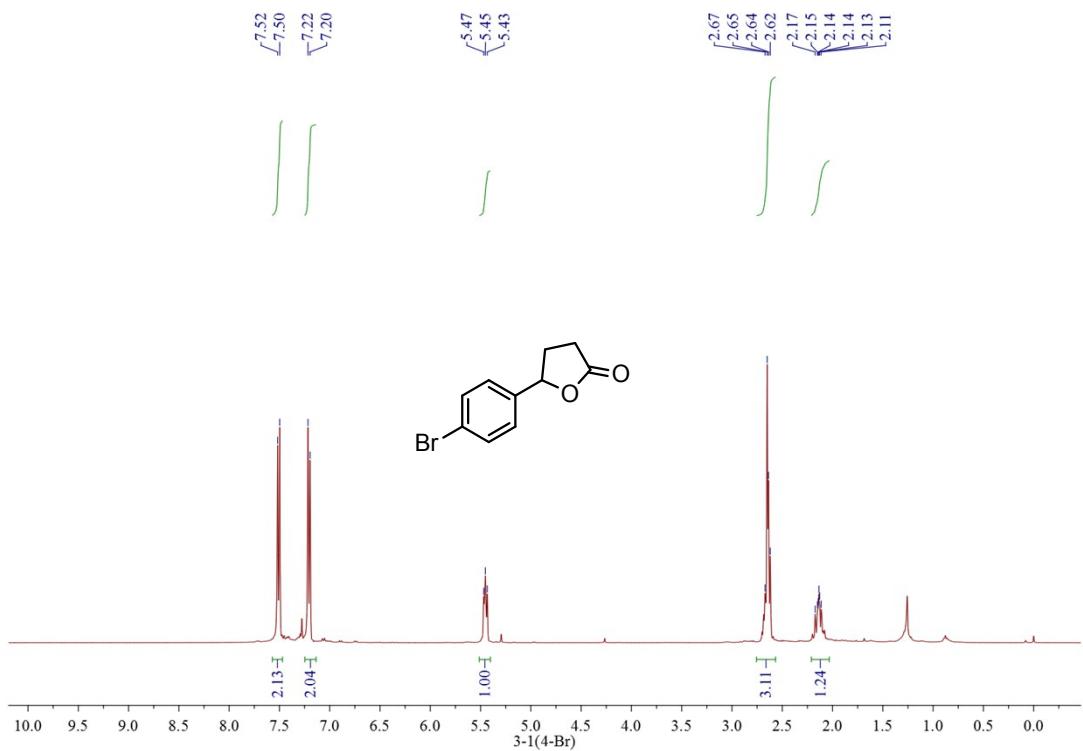




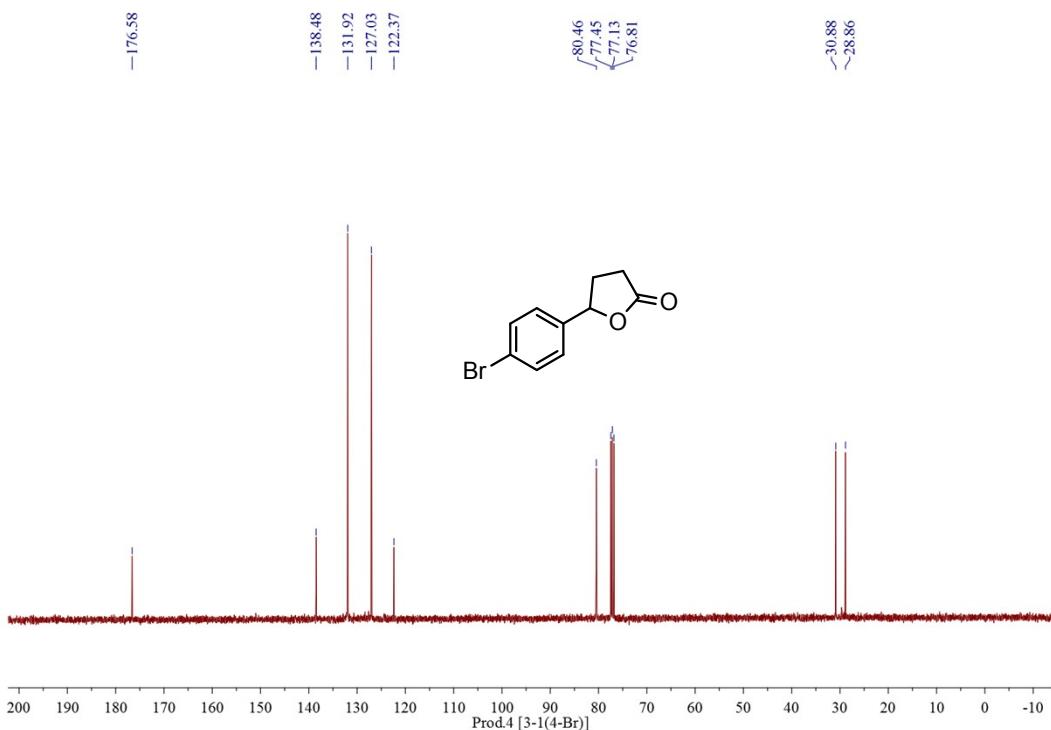
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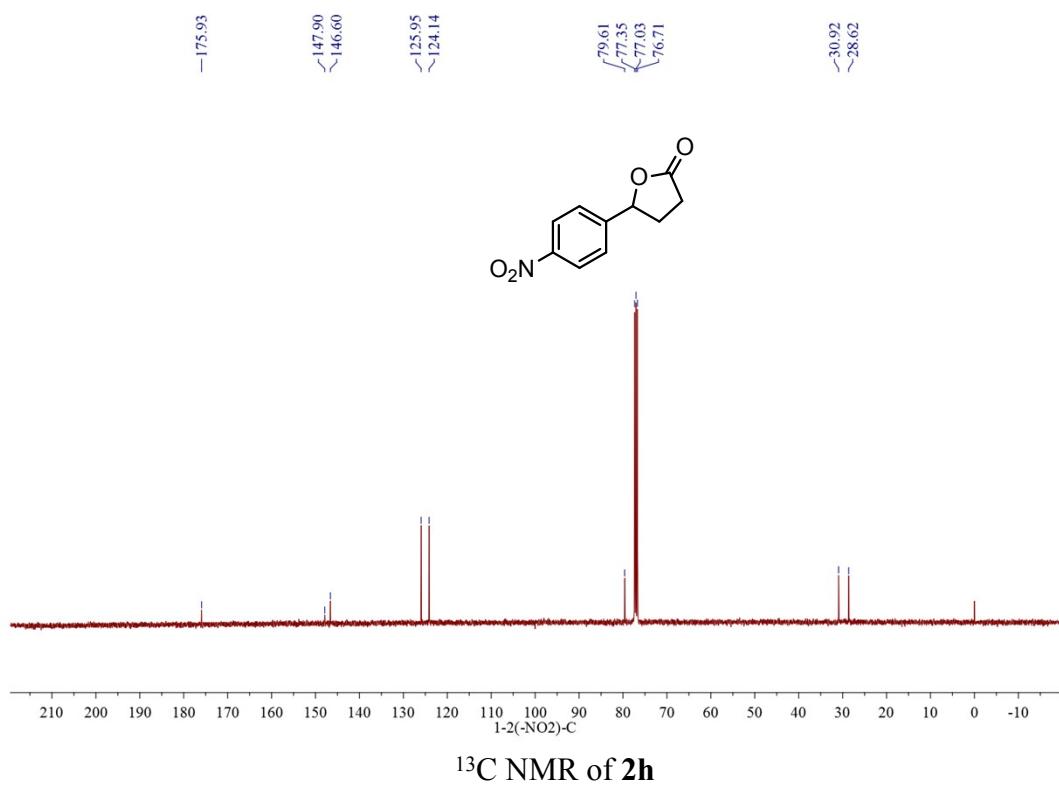
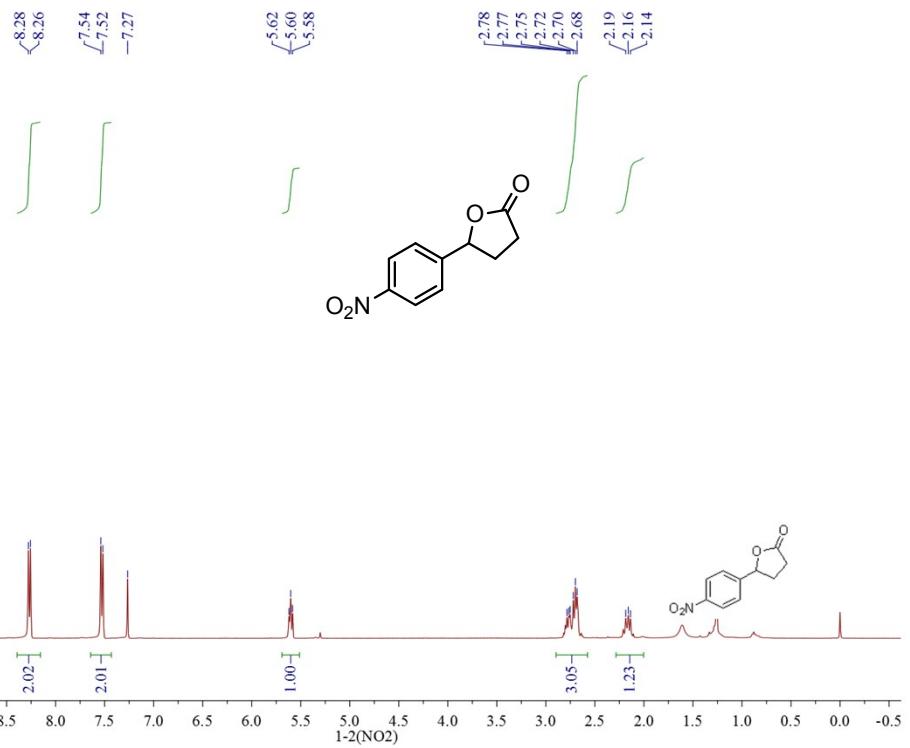
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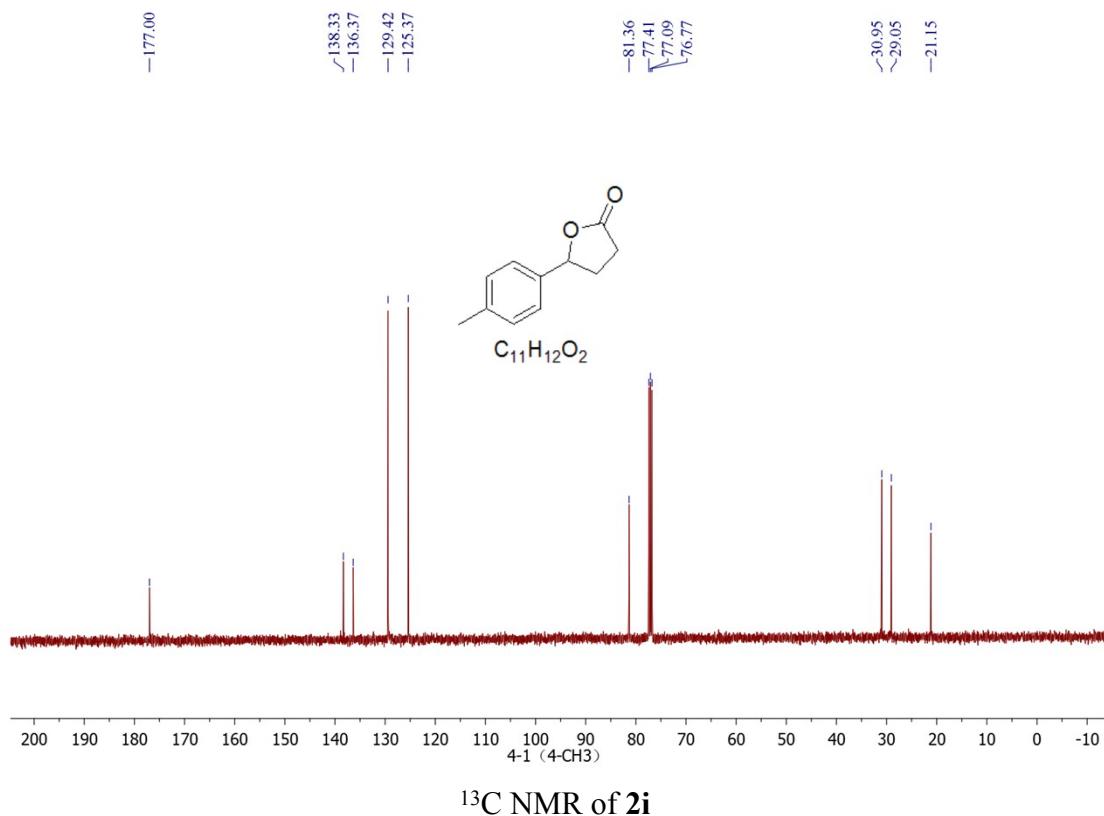
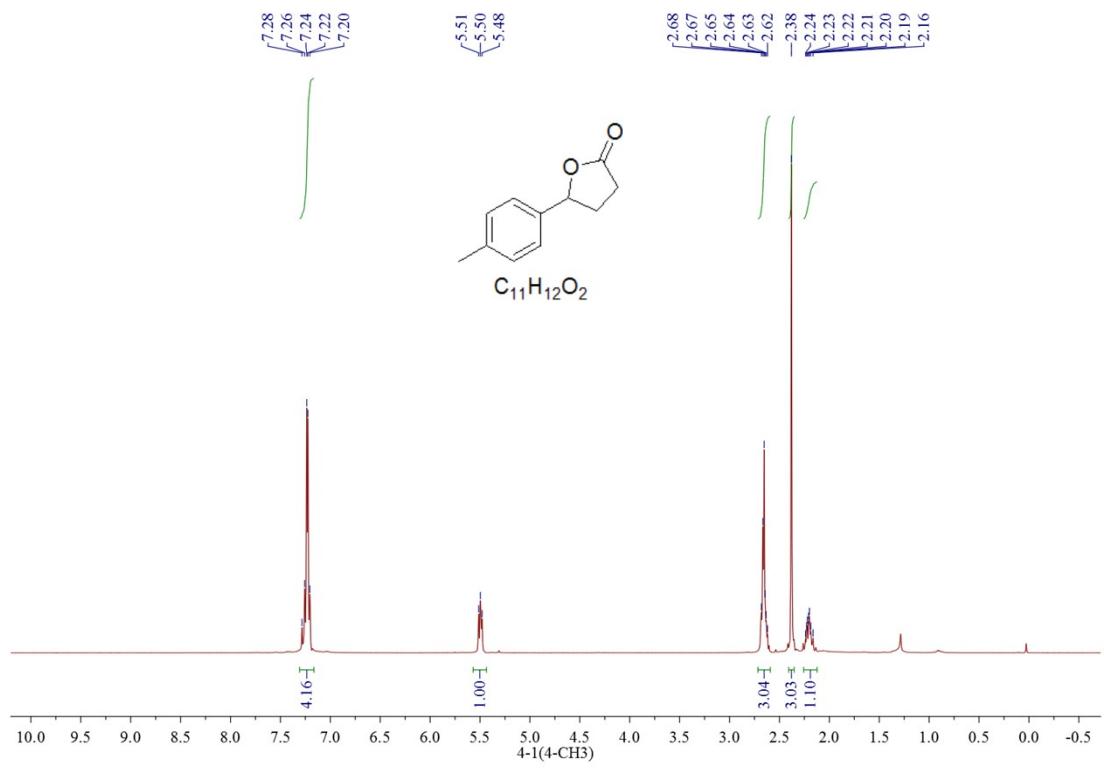


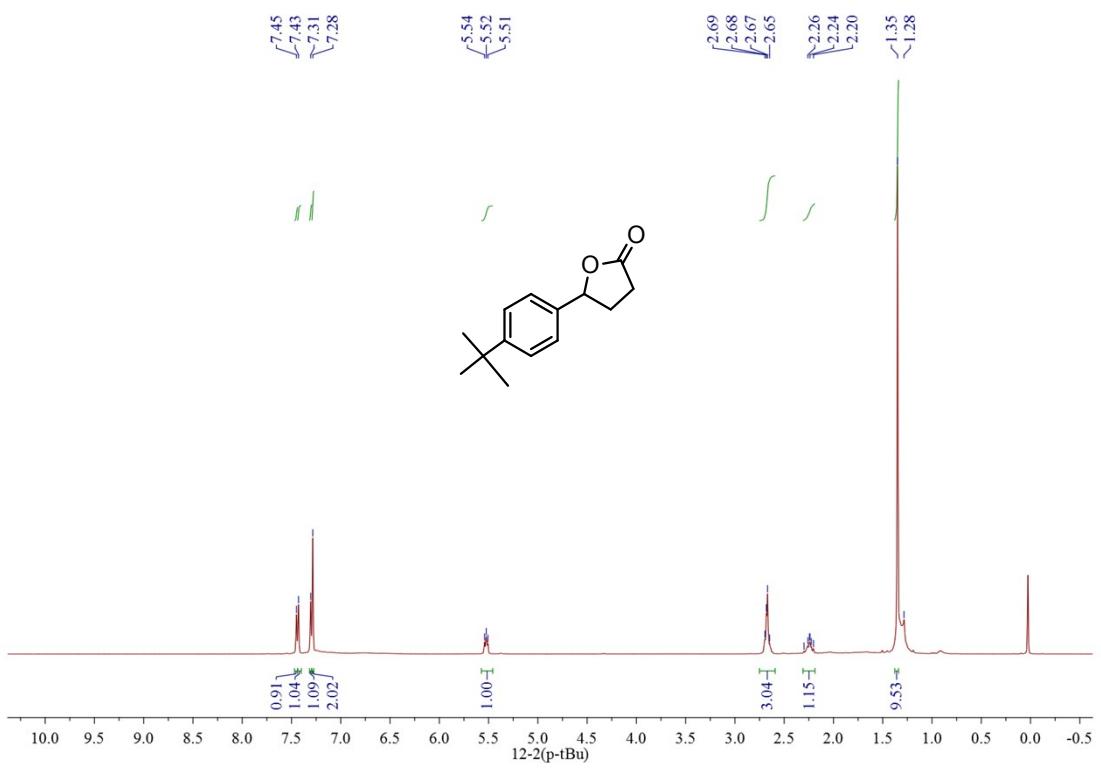
## <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 2g



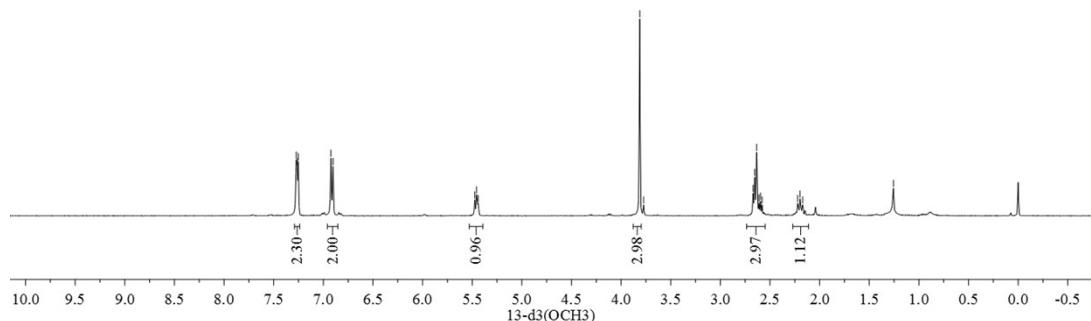
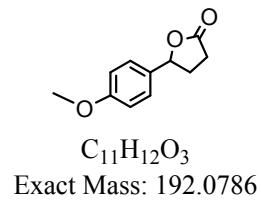
### <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 2g



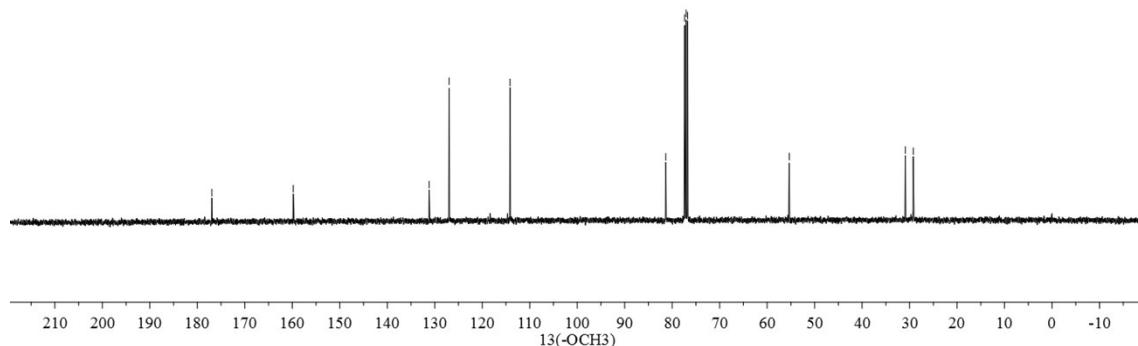
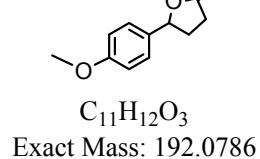




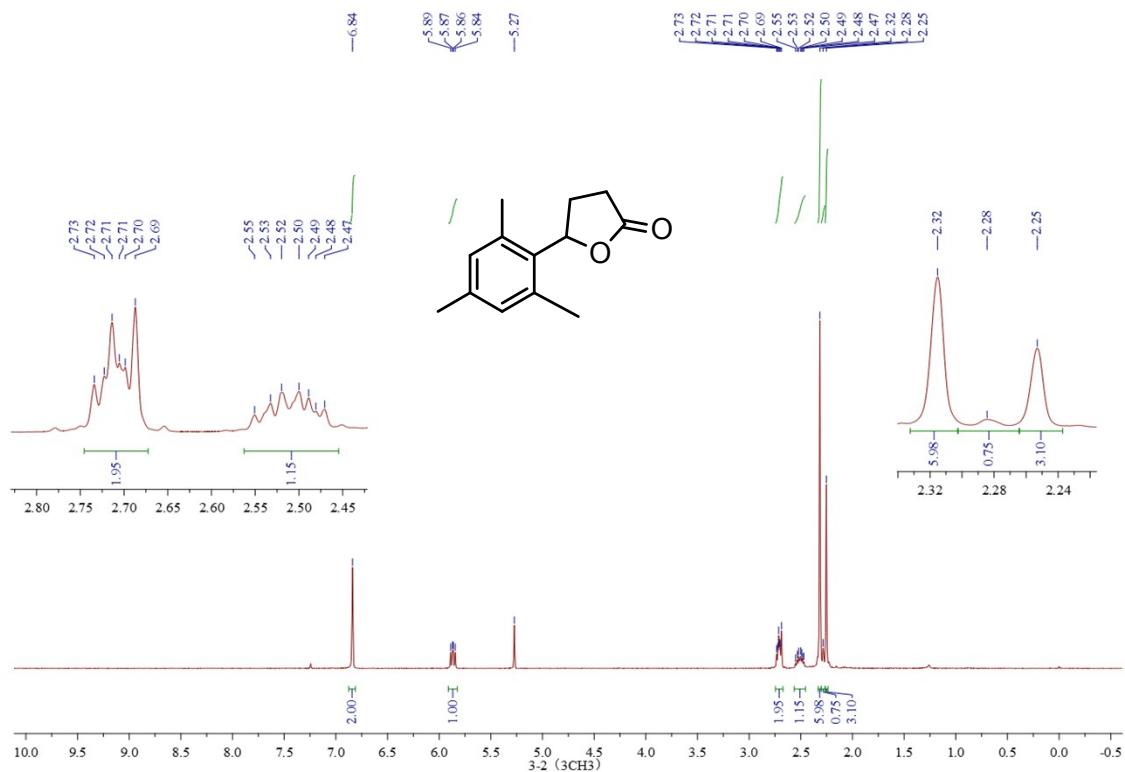
<sup>13</sup>C NMR of **2j**



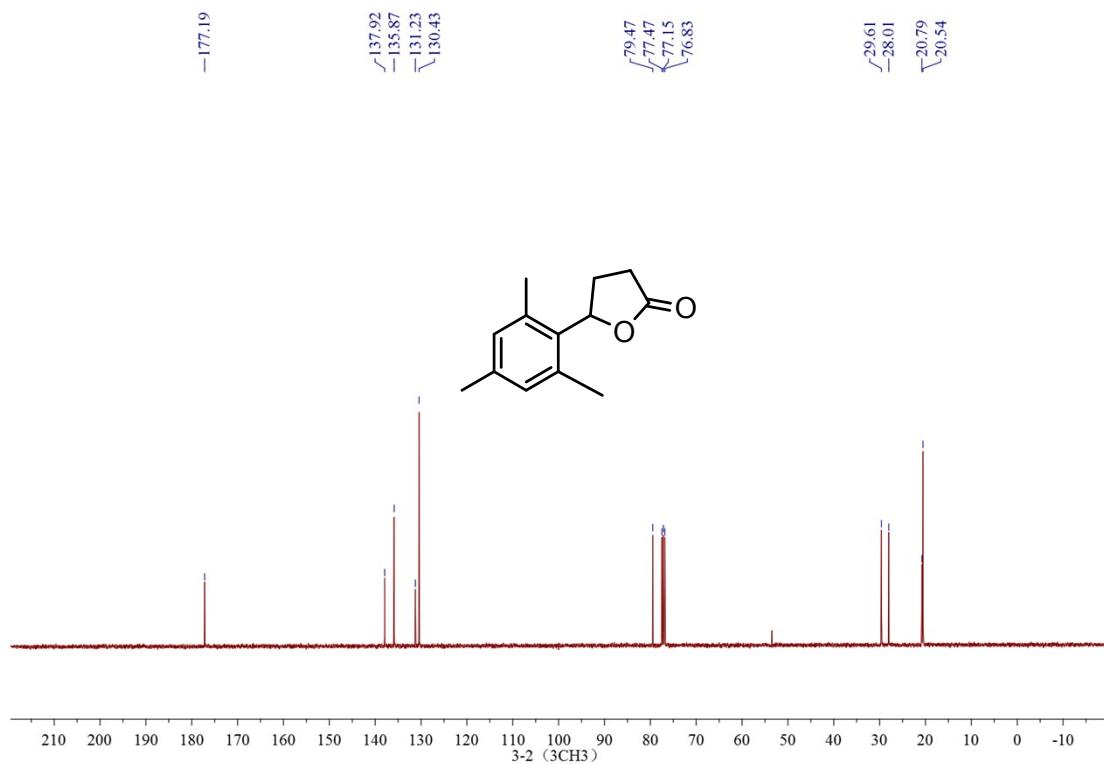
$^1\text{H}$  NMR of **2k**



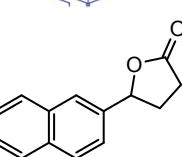
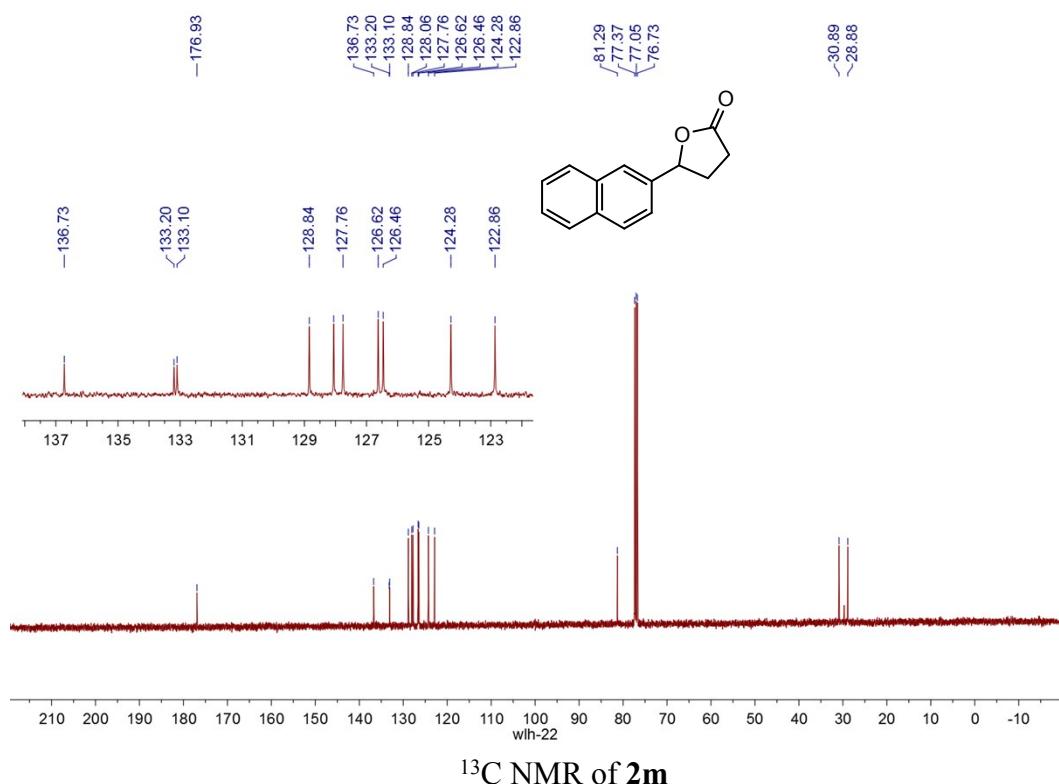
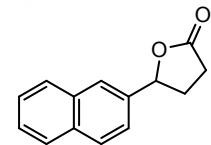
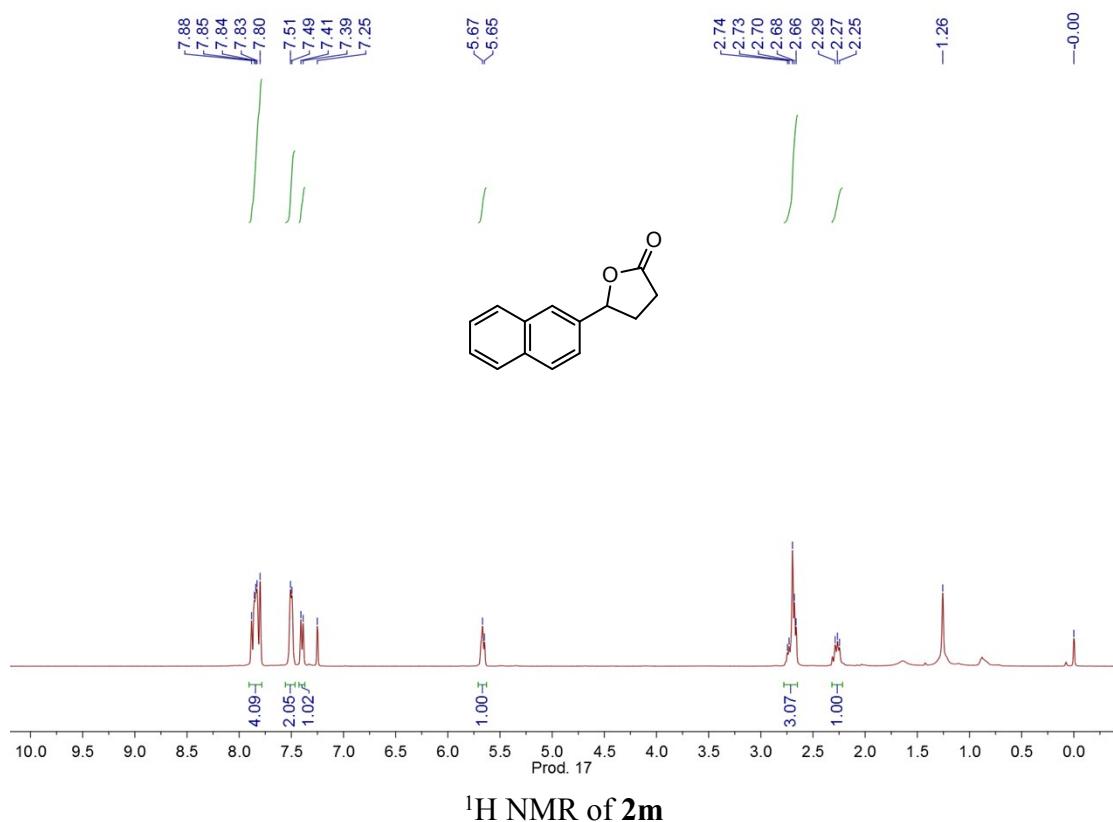
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of **2k**



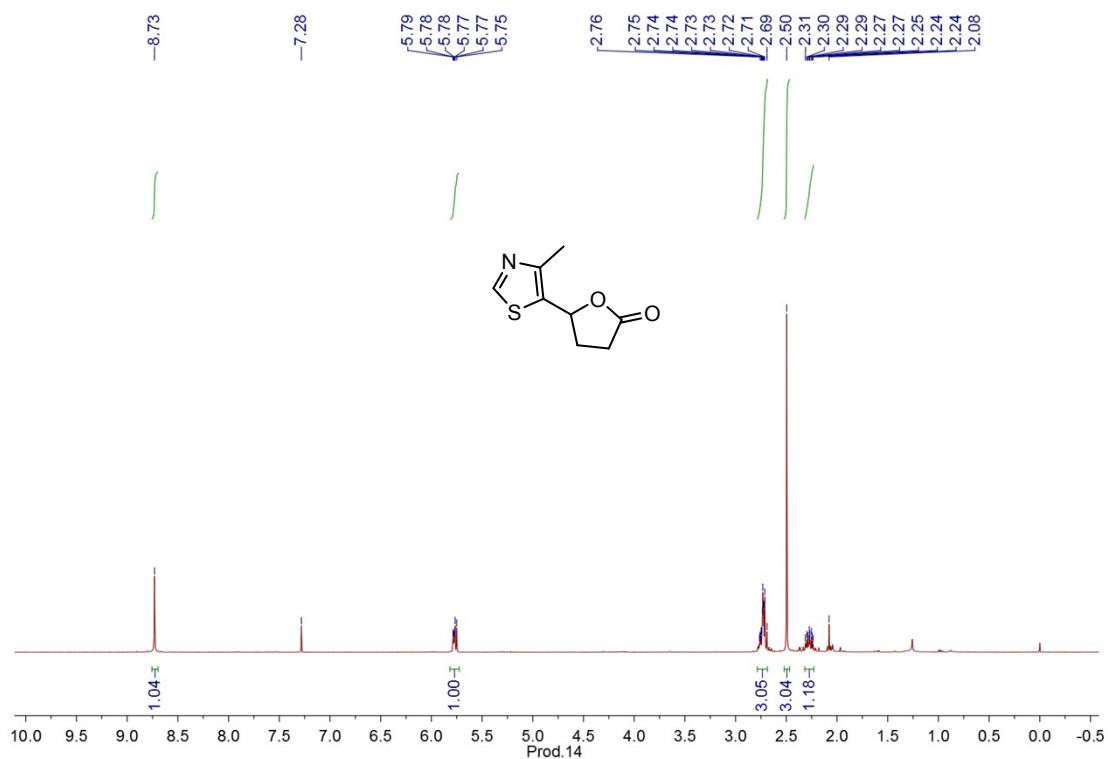
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **2l**



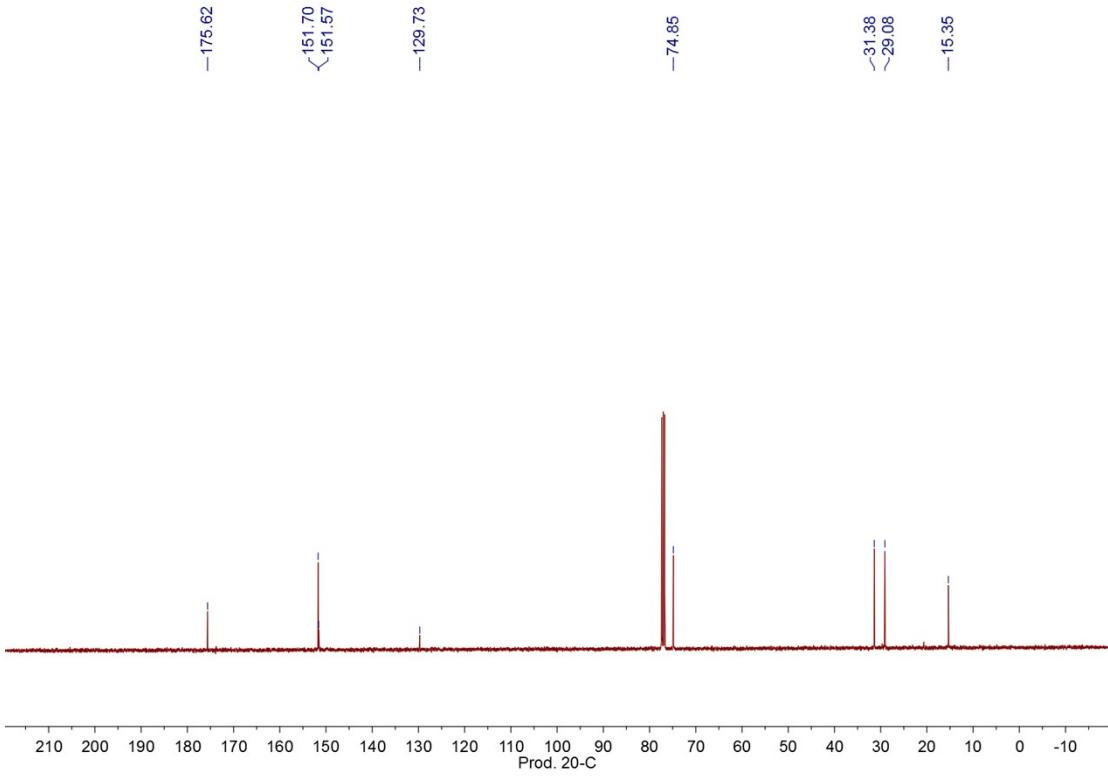
<sup>13</sup>C NMR of **2l**



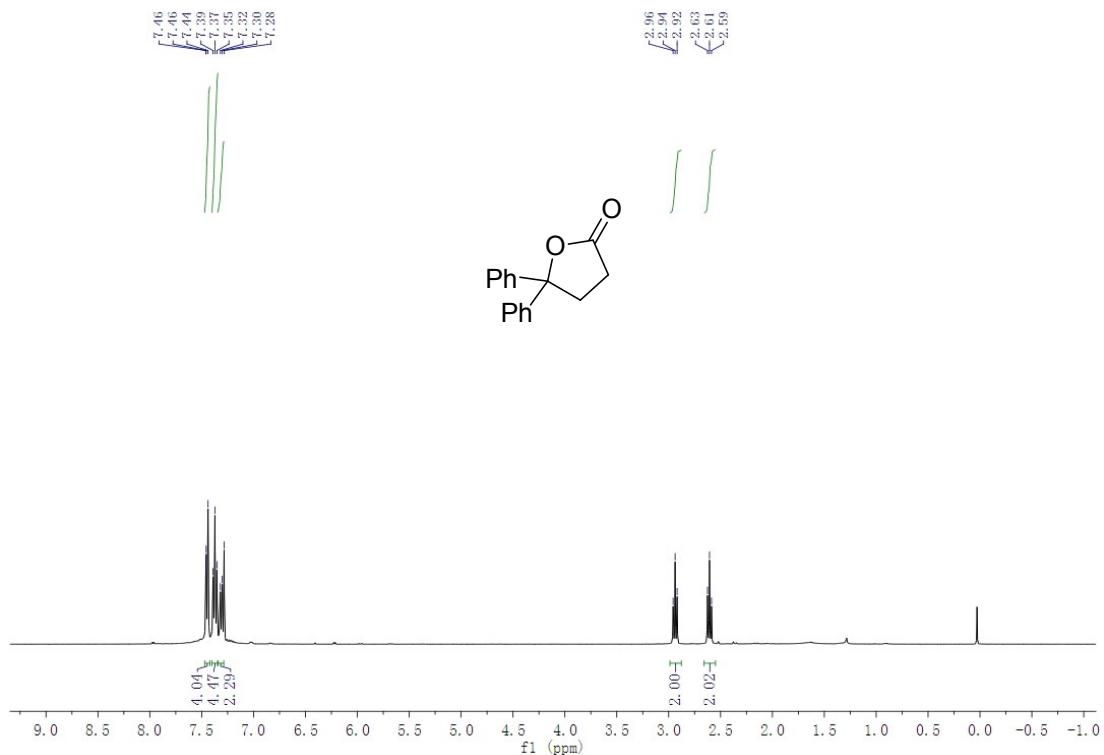
### <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **2m**



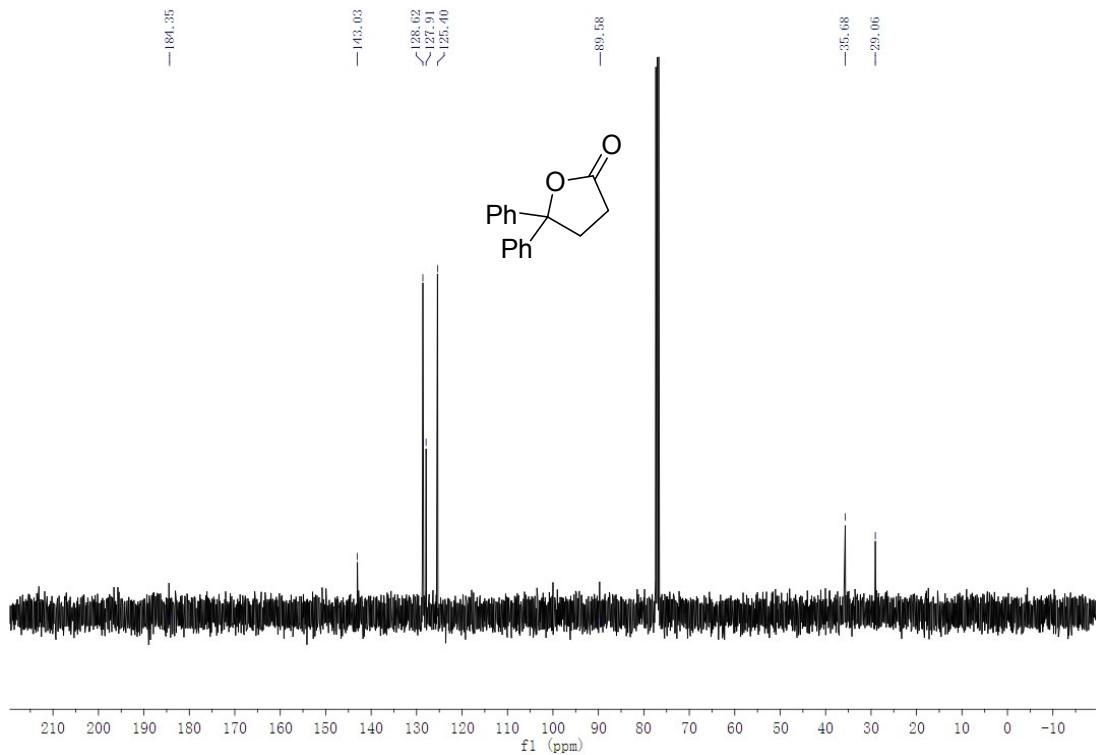
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **2n**



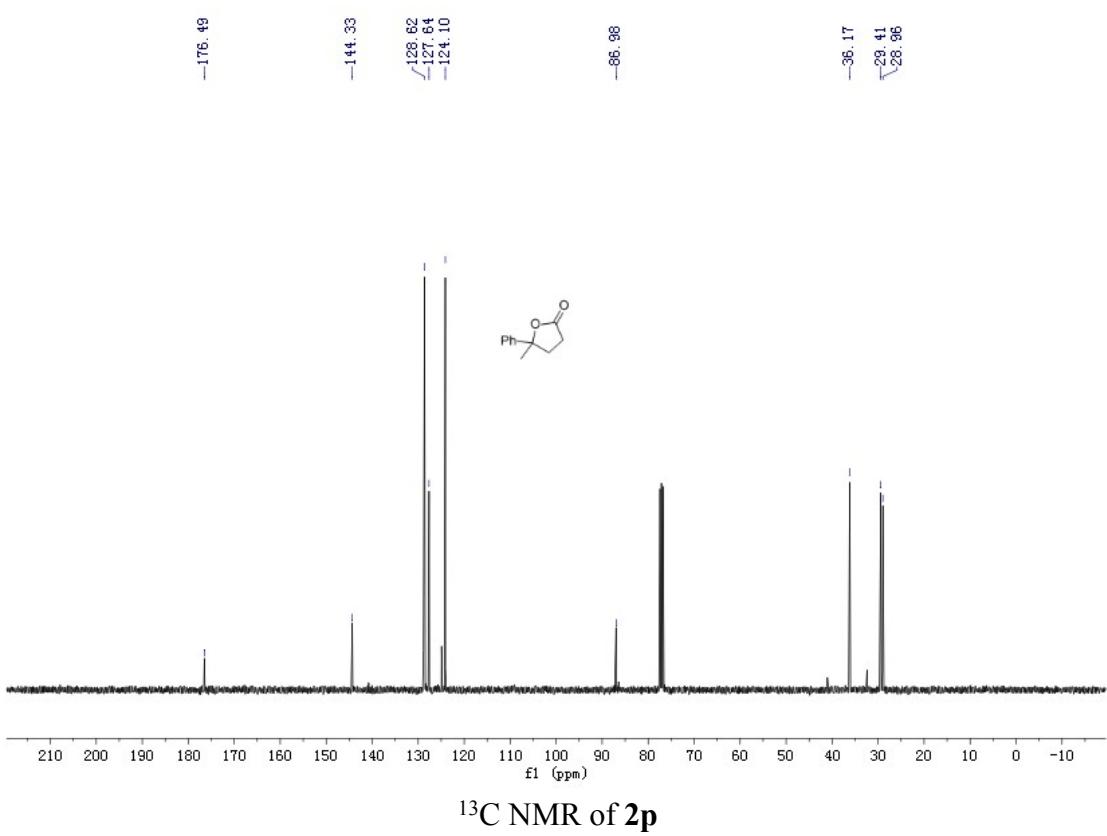
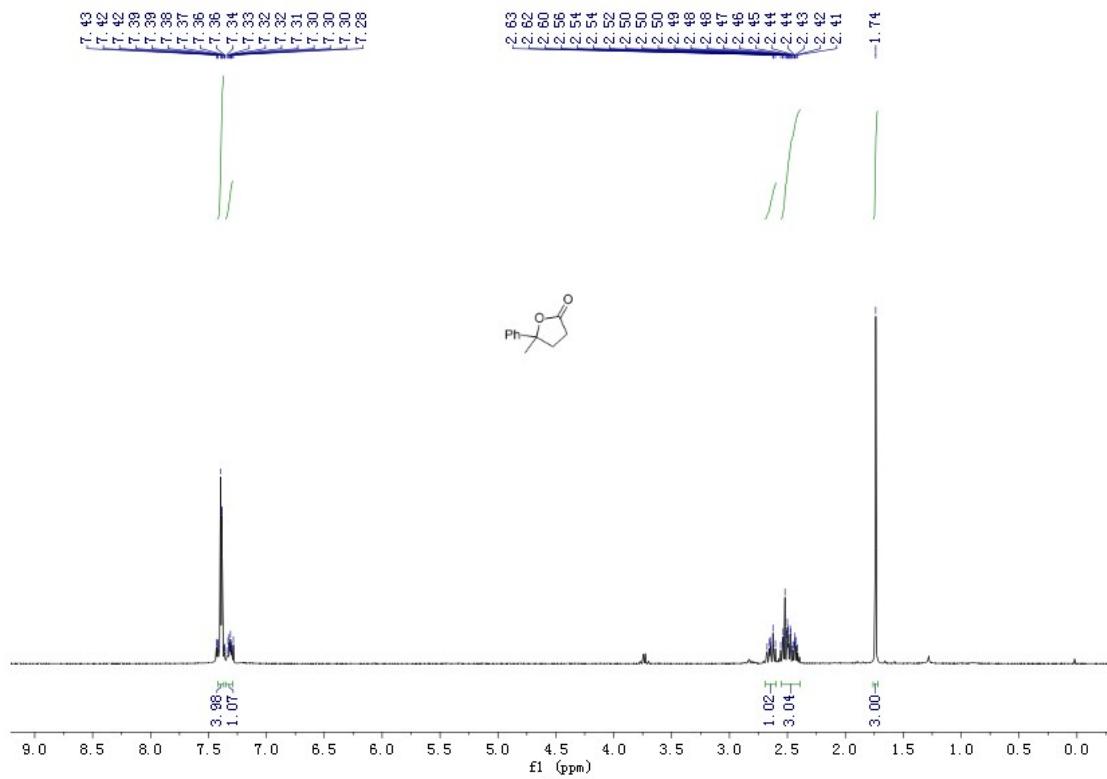
<sup>13</sup>C NMR of **2n**

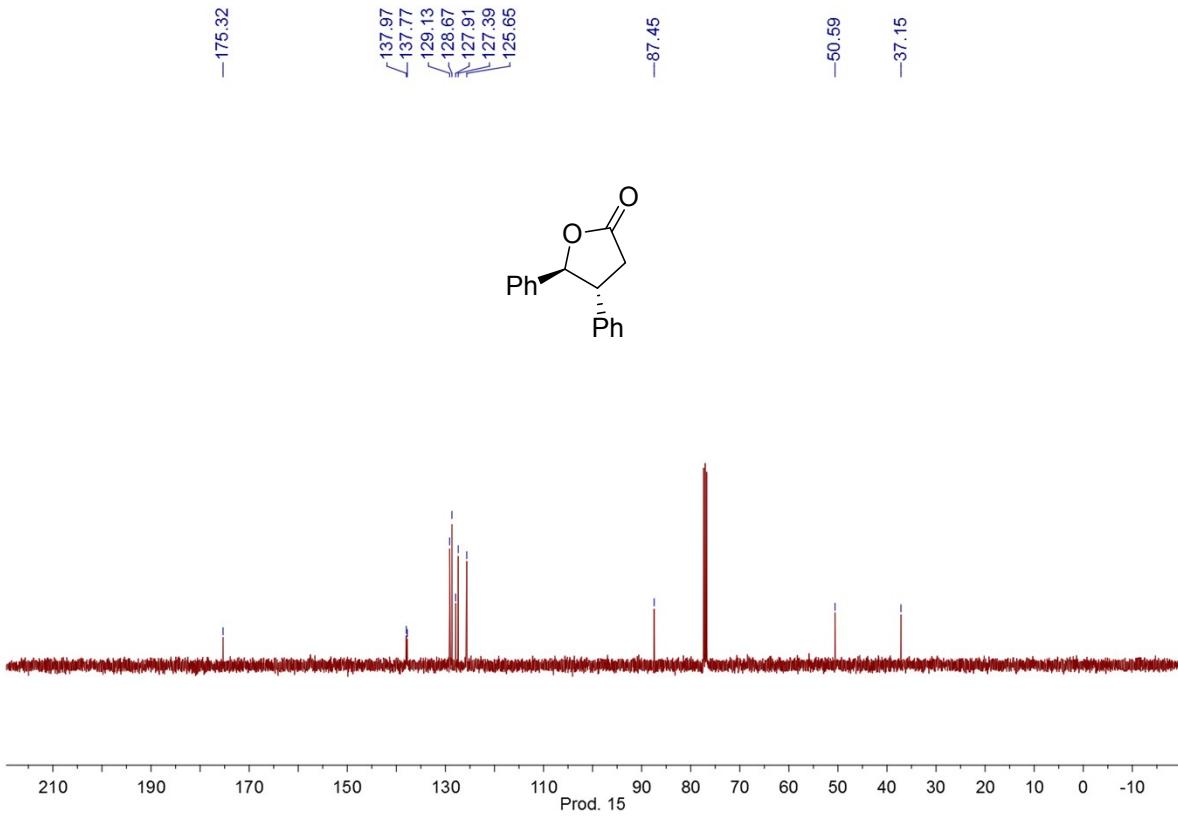
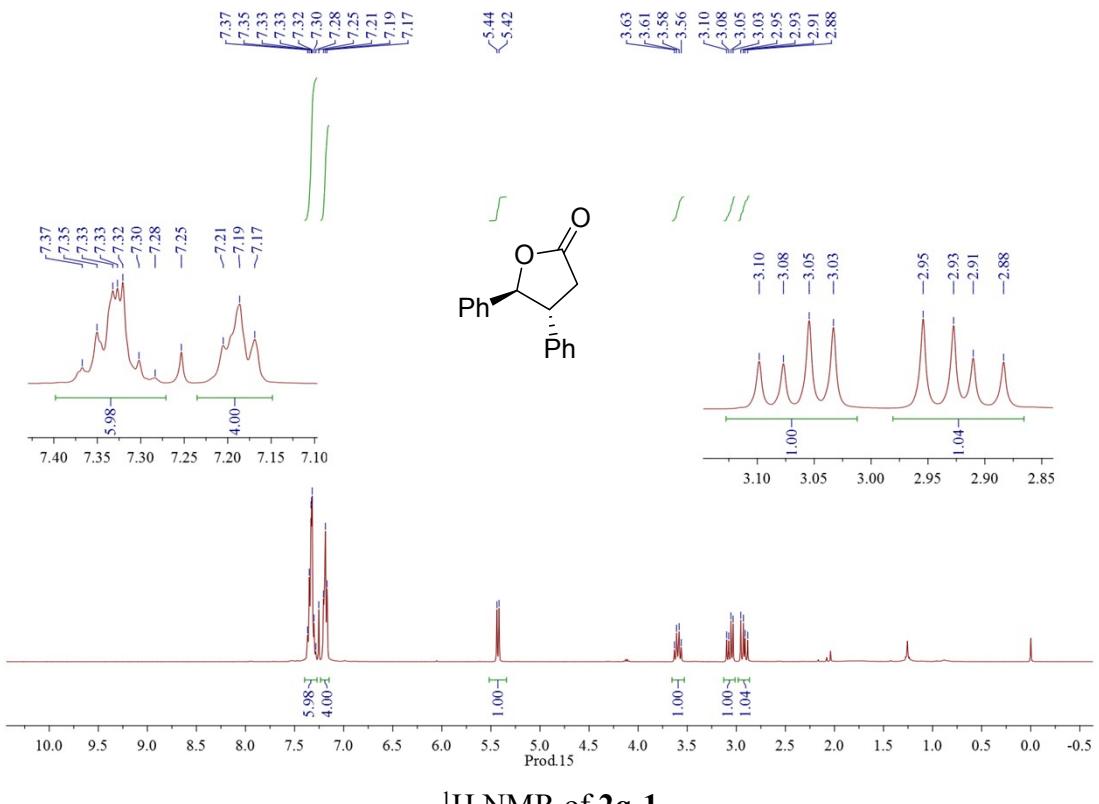


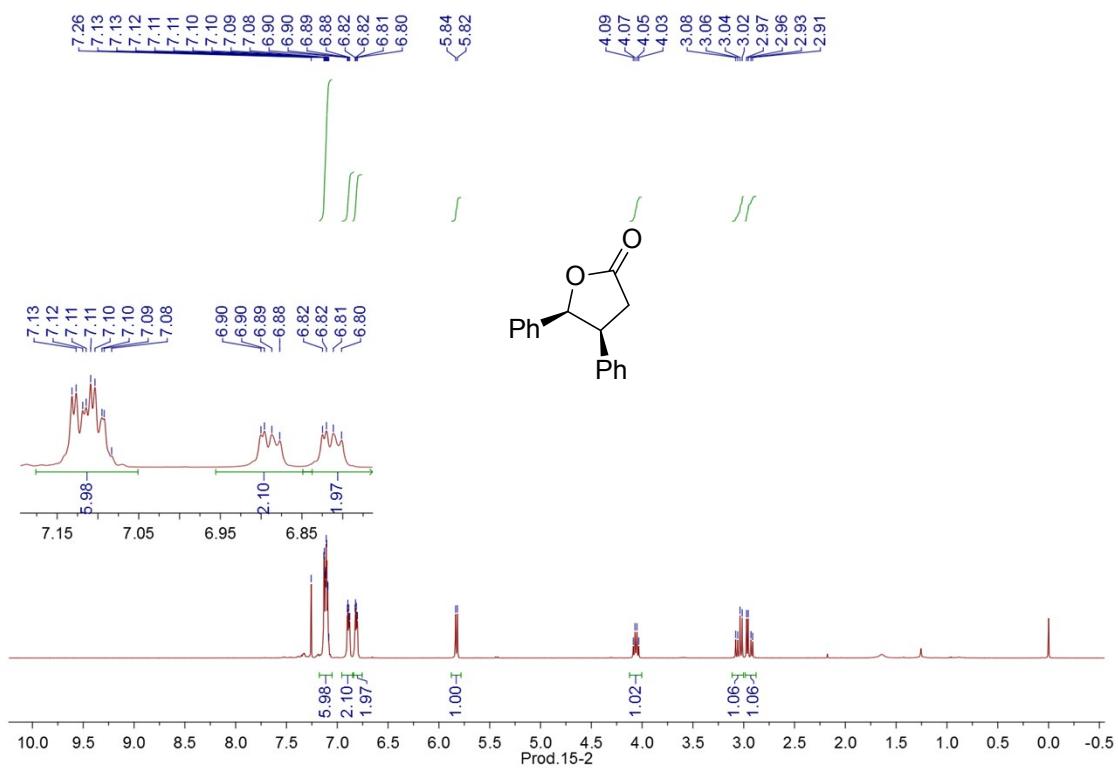
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **2o**



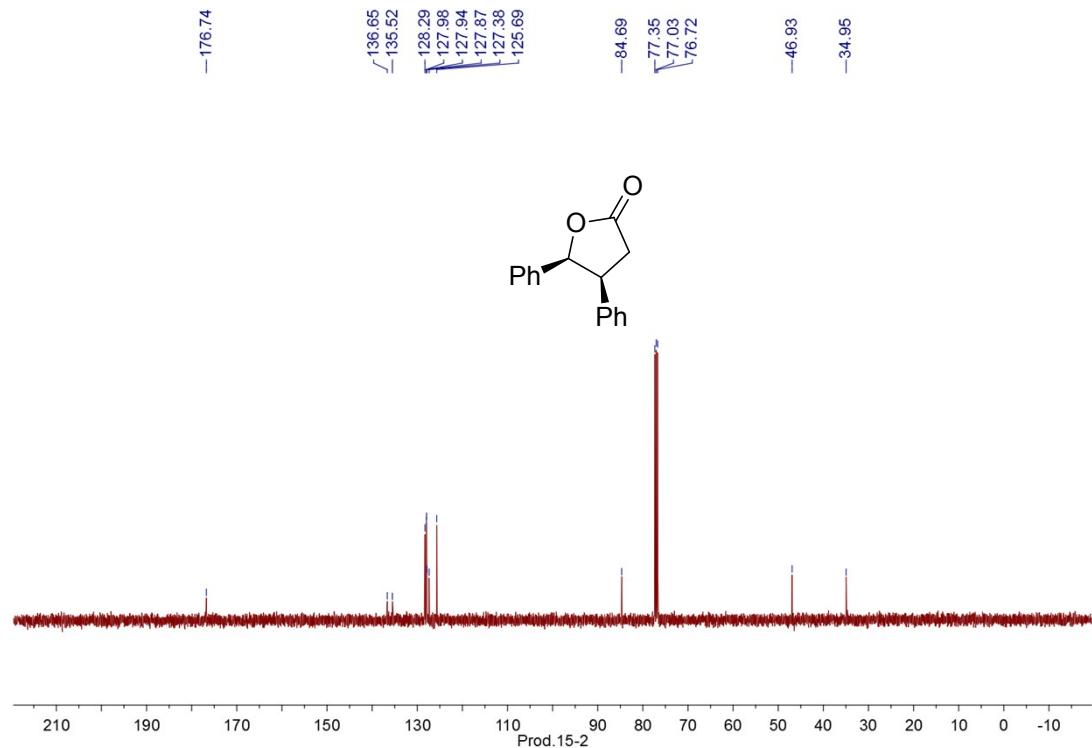
<sup>13</sup>C NMR of **2o**



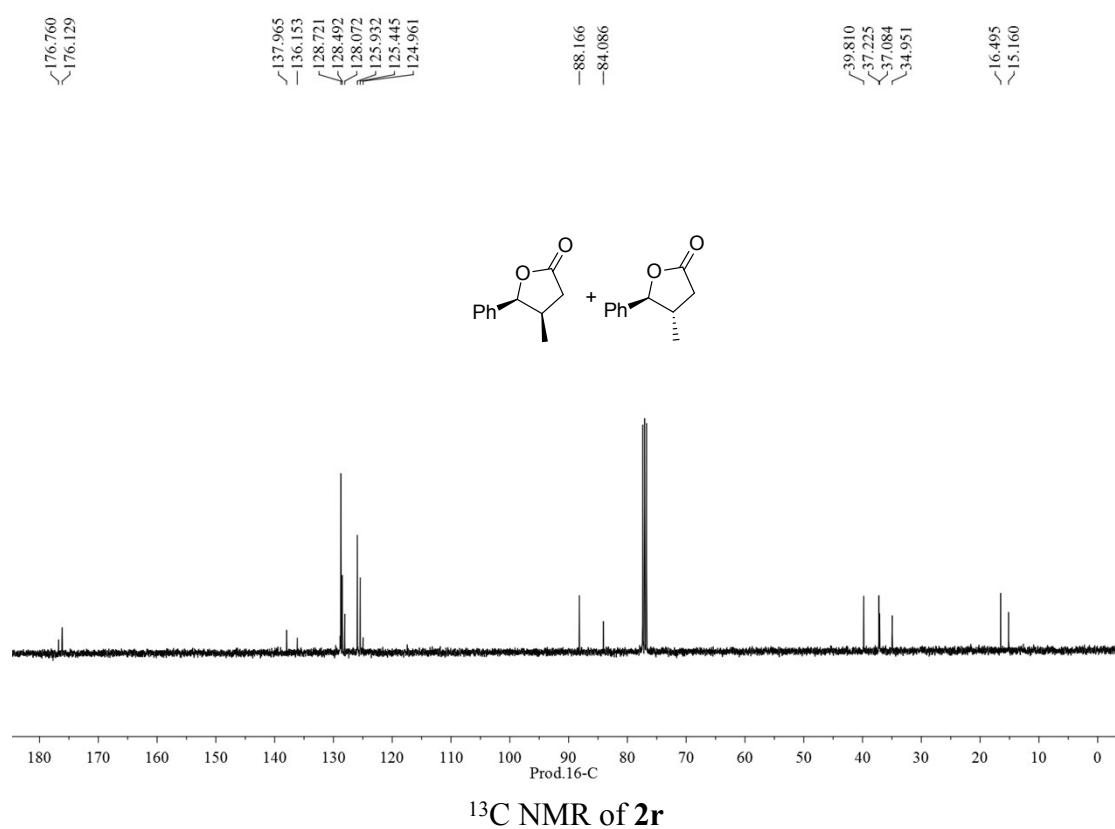
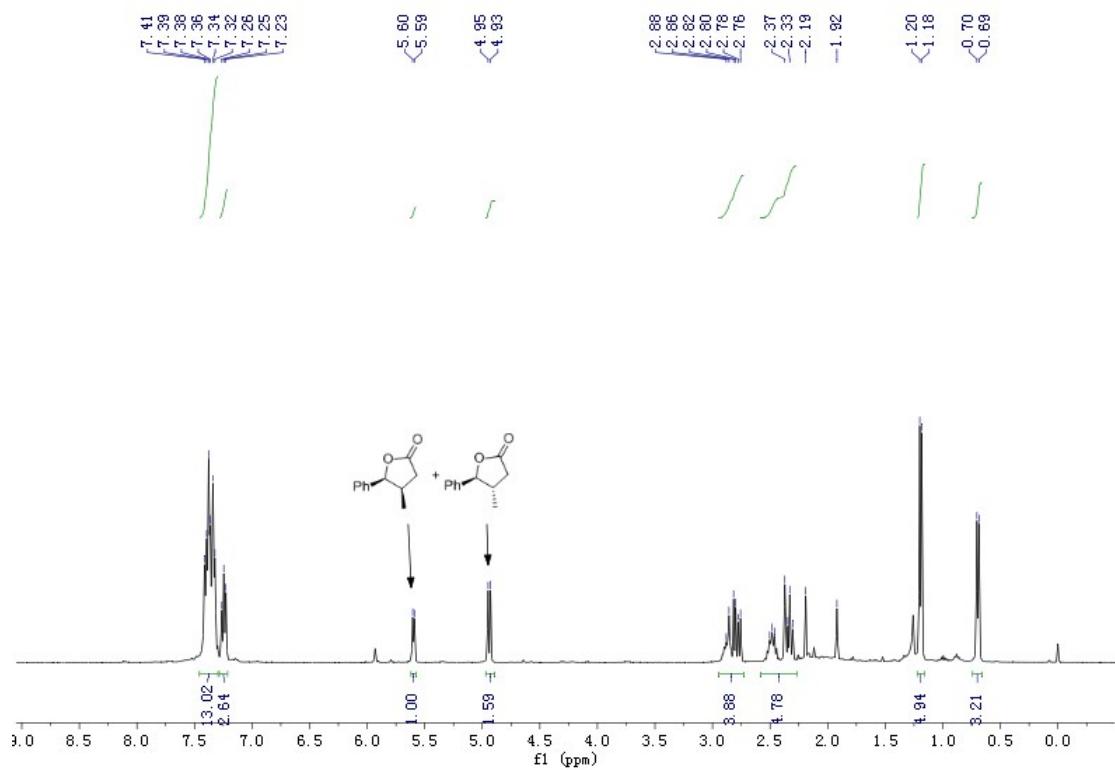


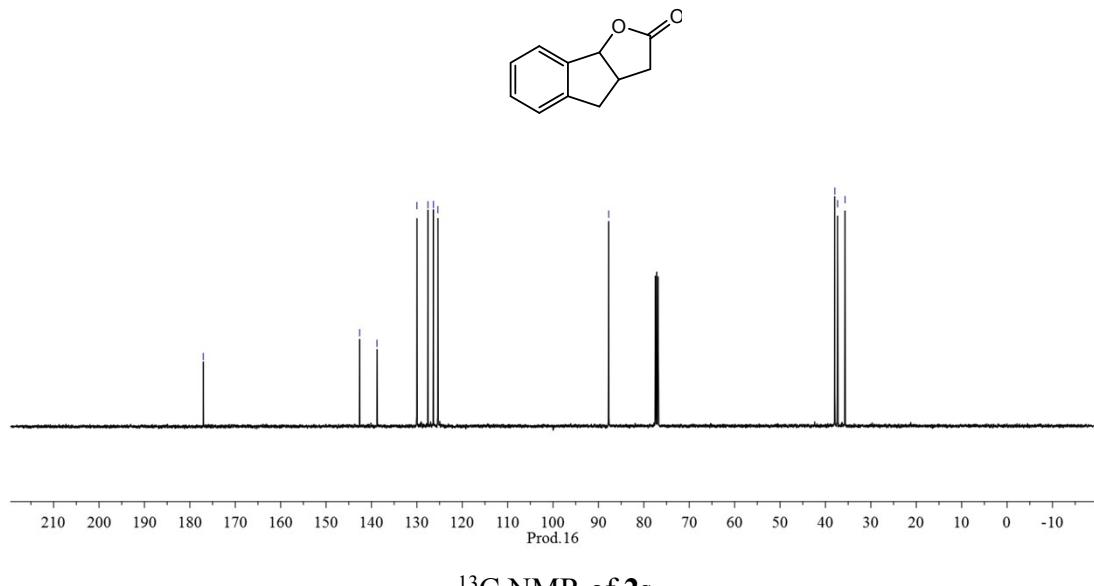
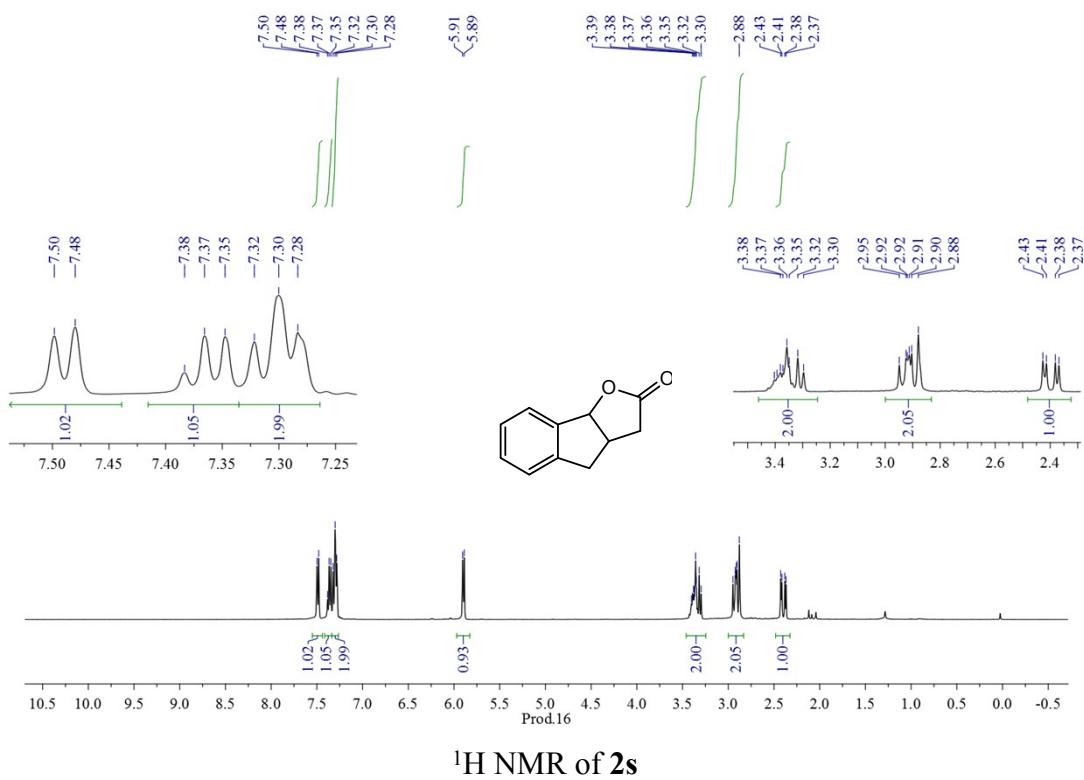


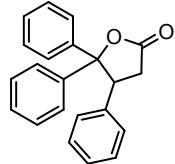
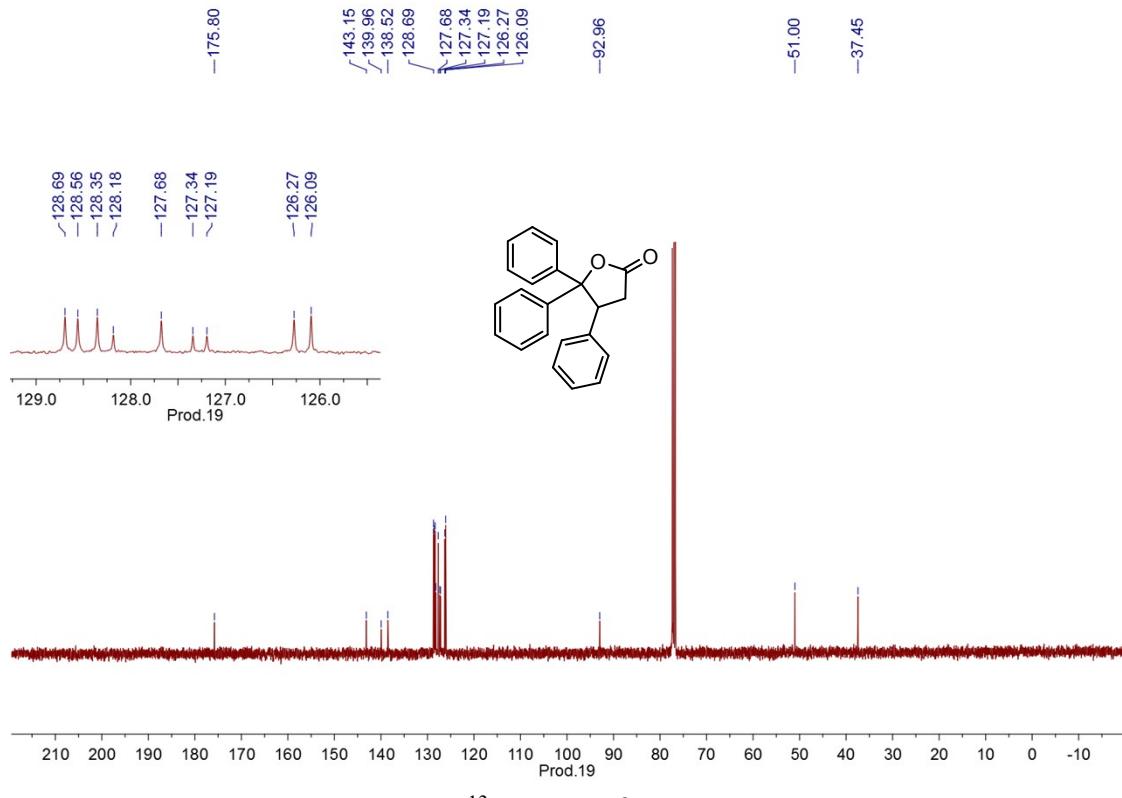
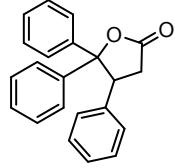
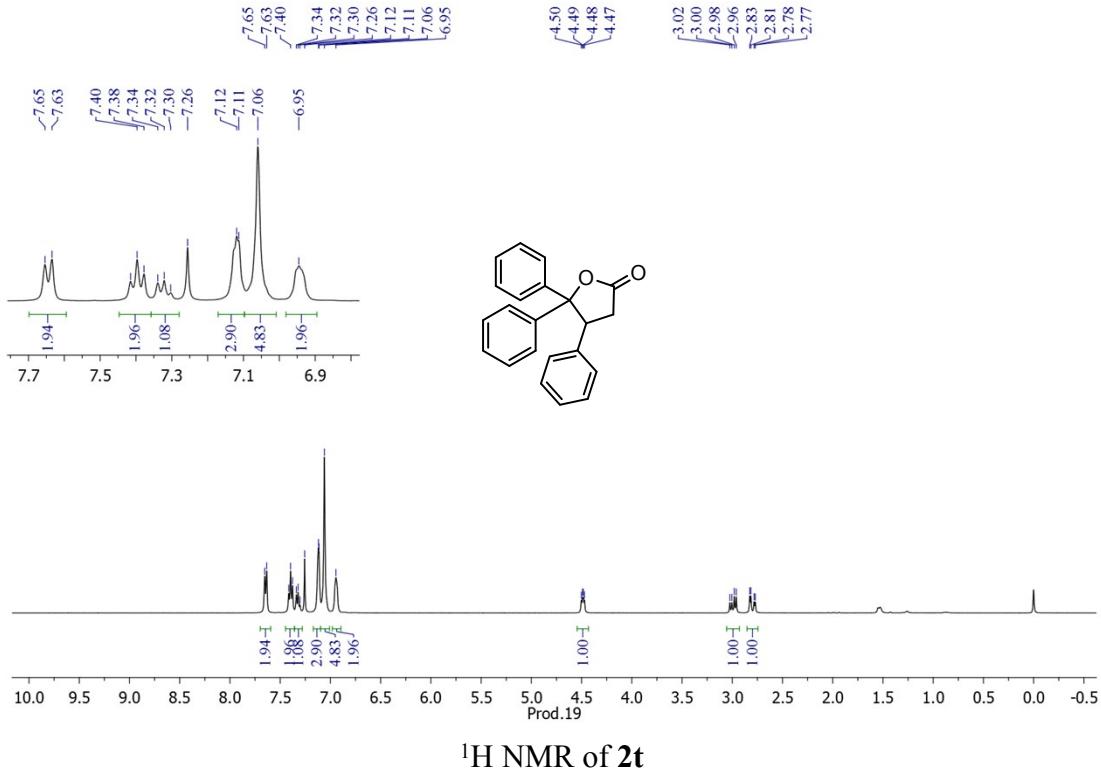
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **2q-2**

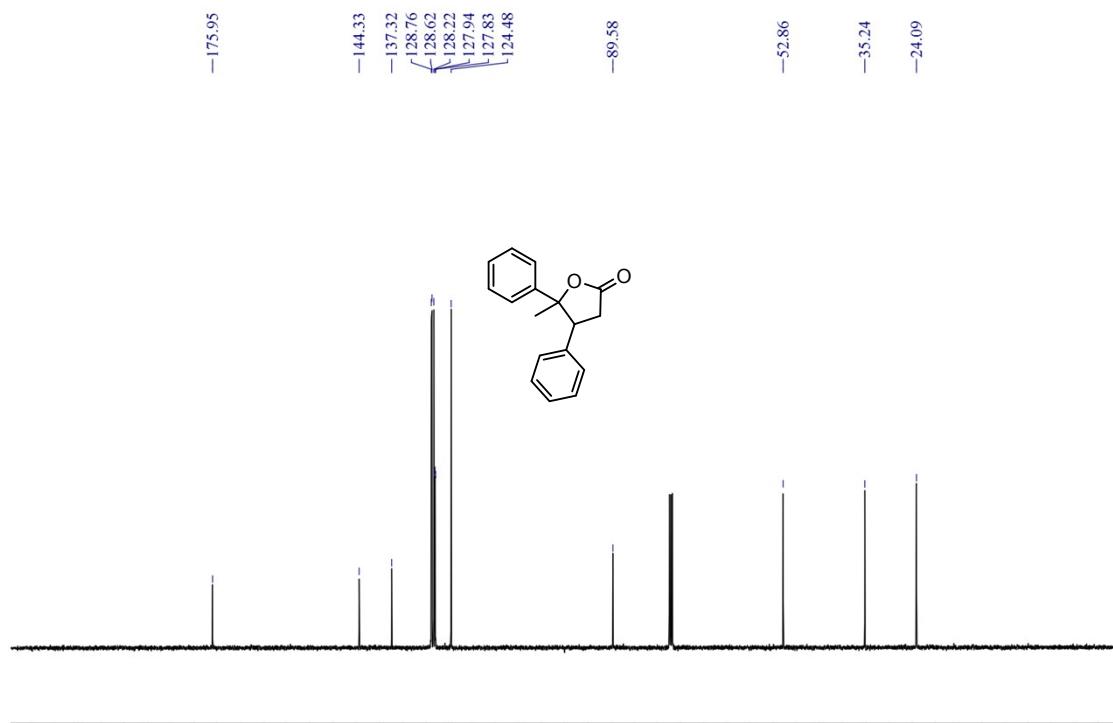
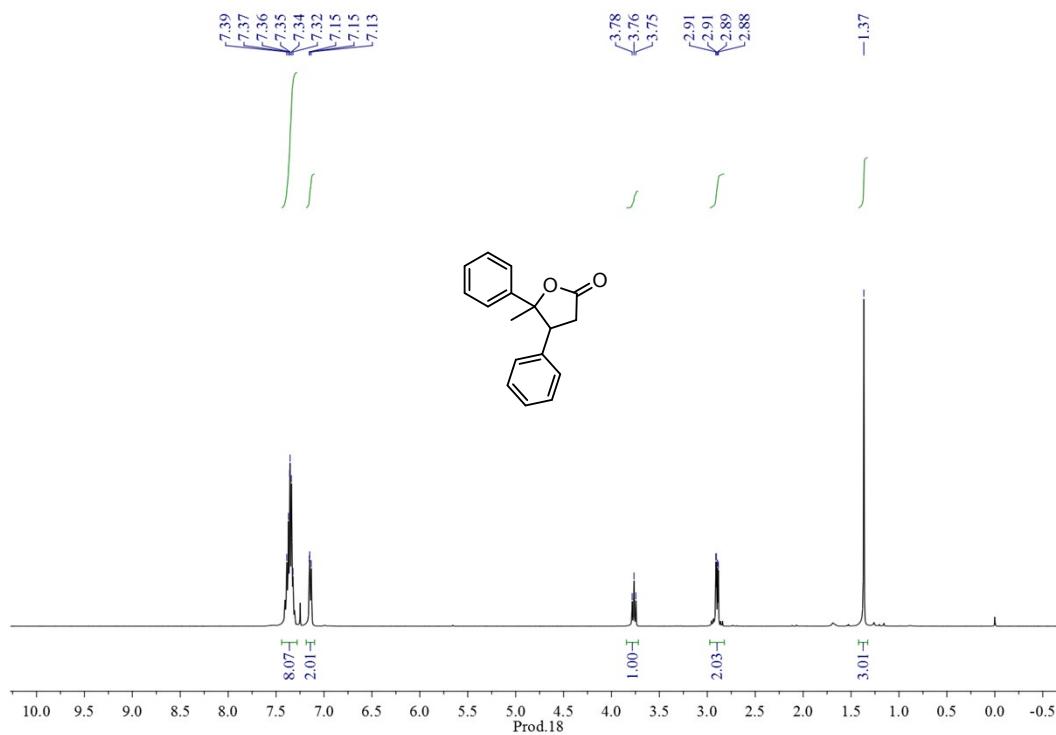


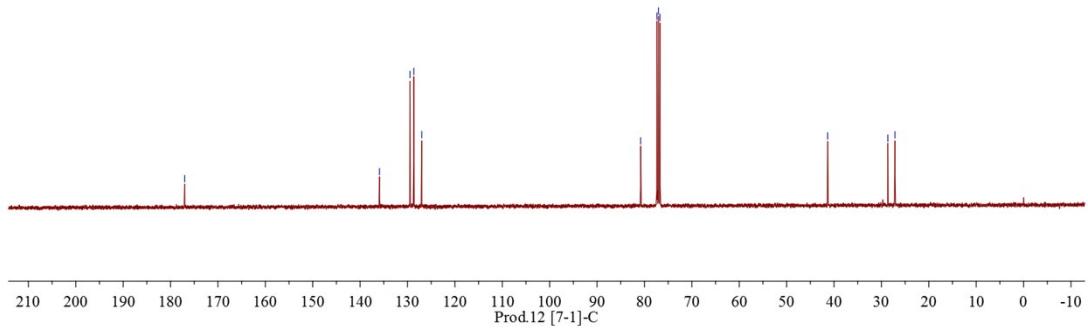
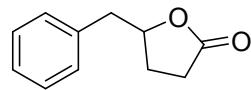
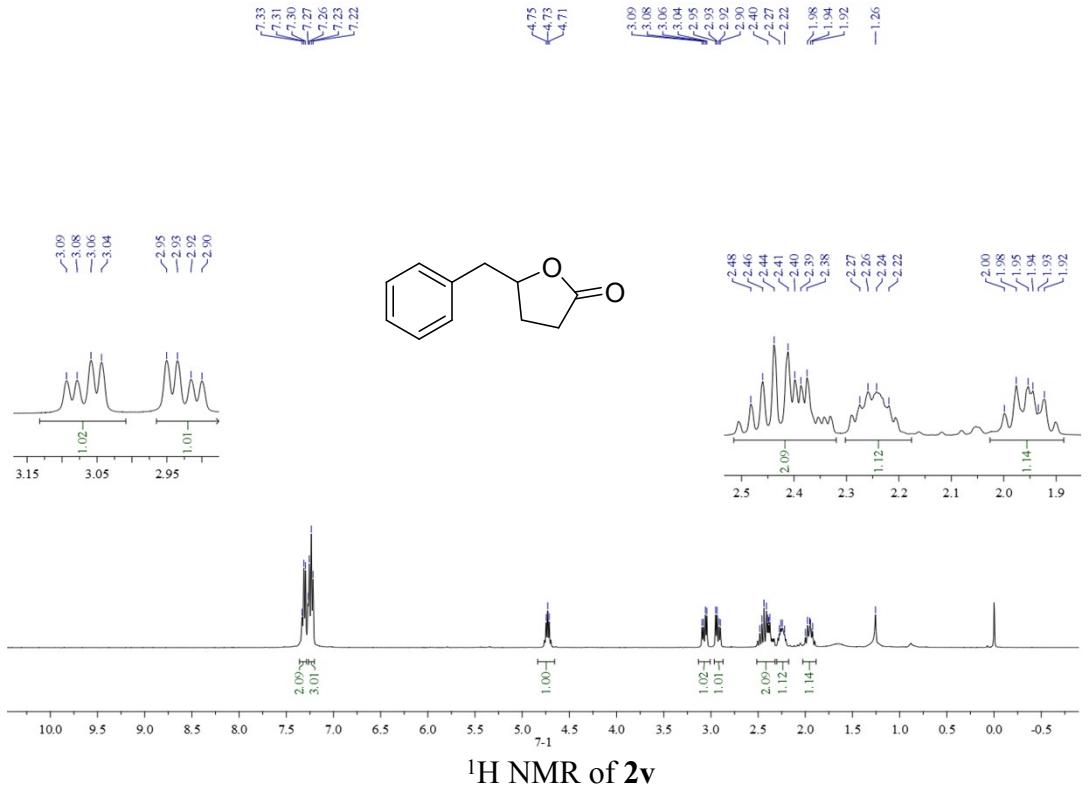
<sup>13</sup>C NMR of **2q-2**



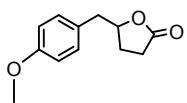
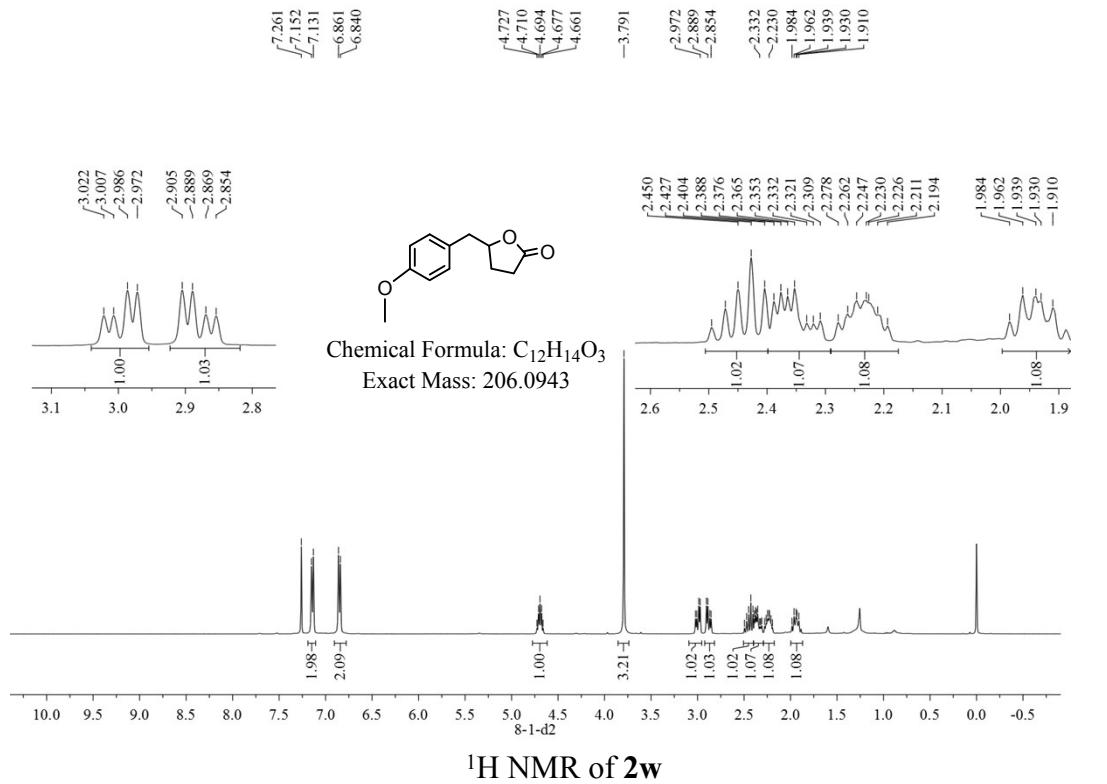




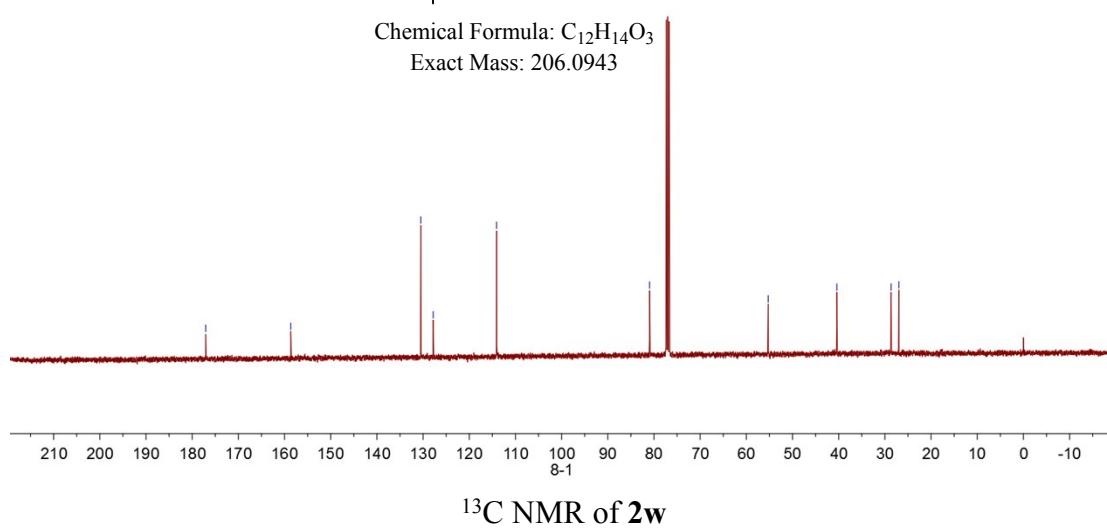


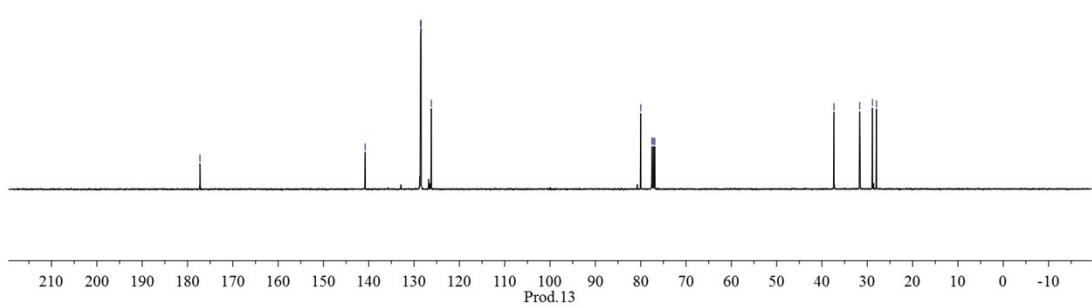
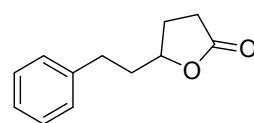
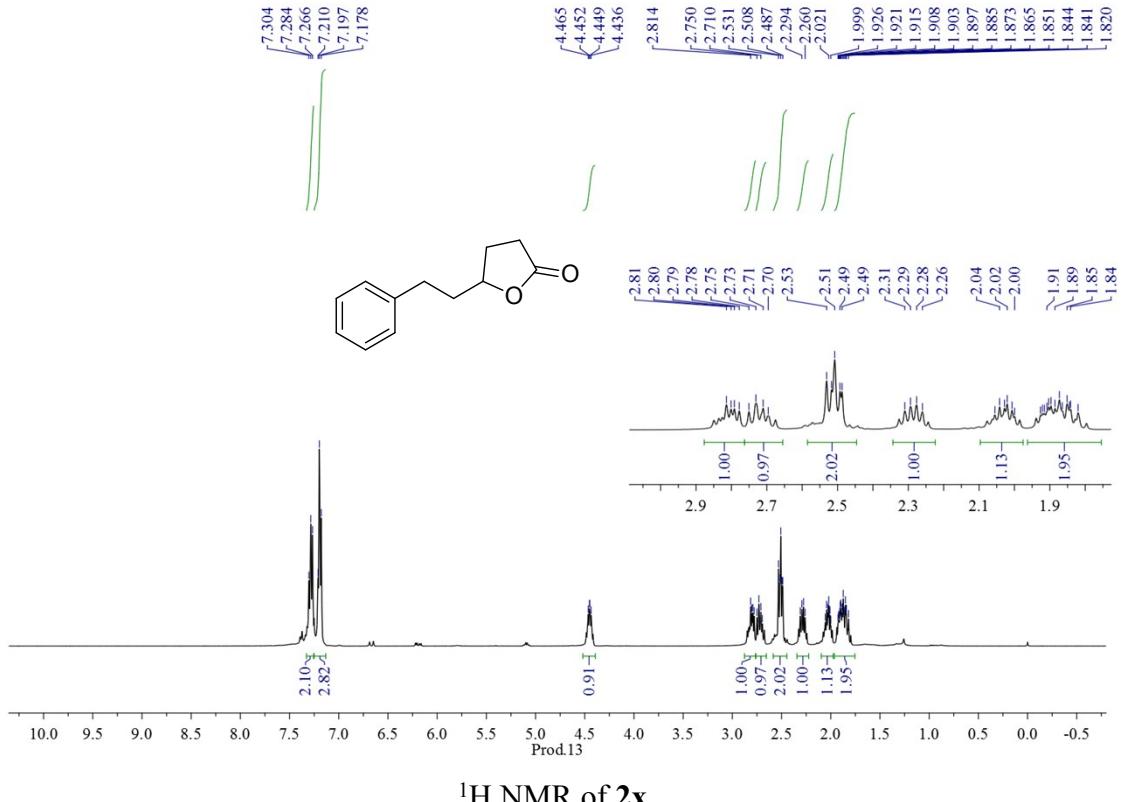


### <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **2v**

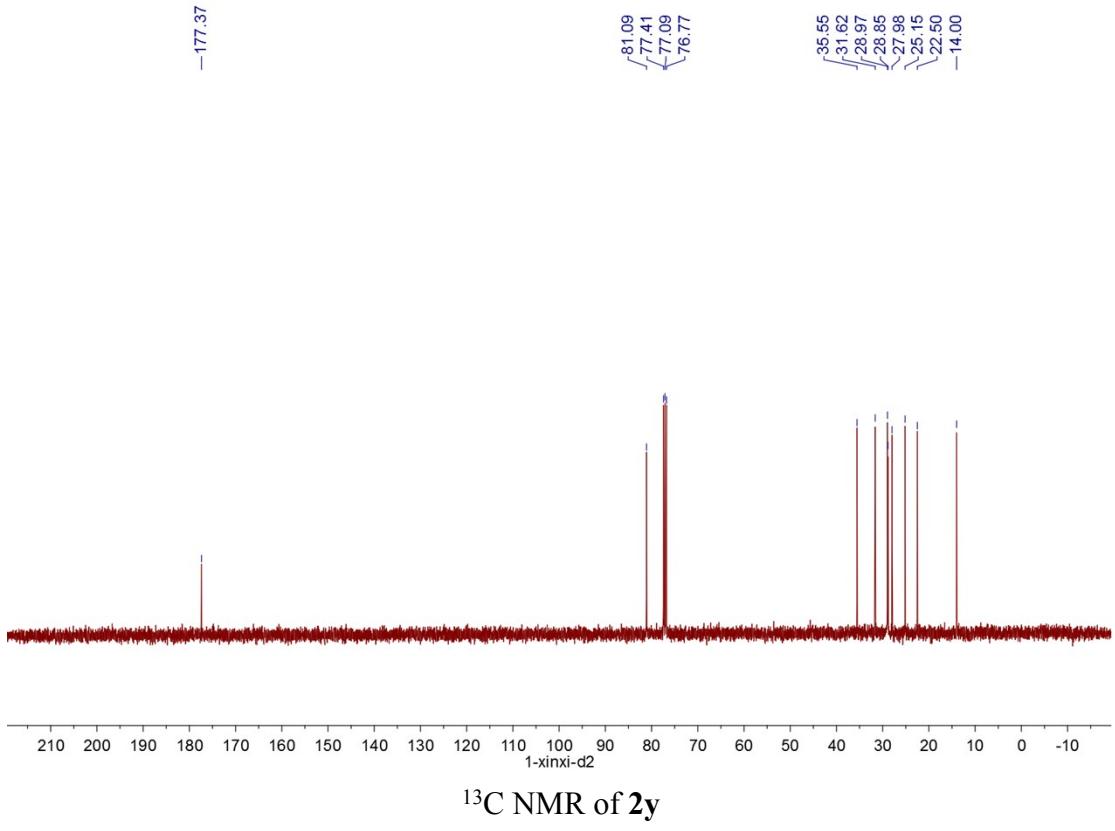
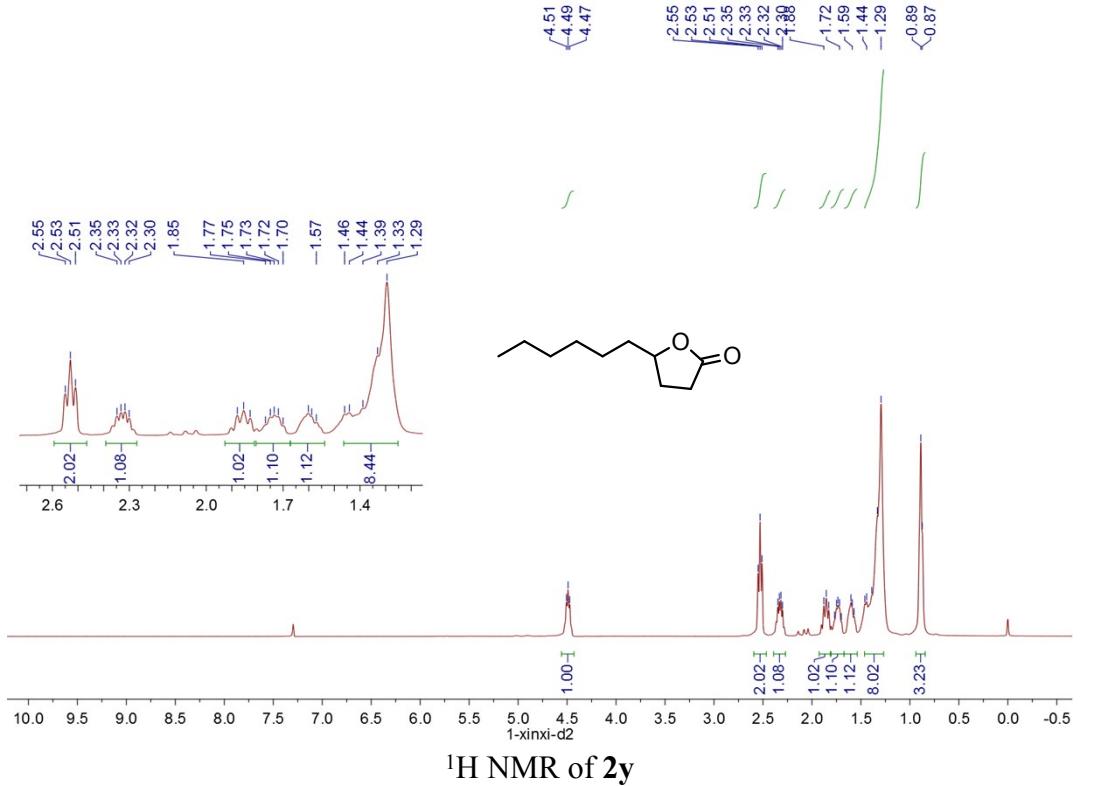


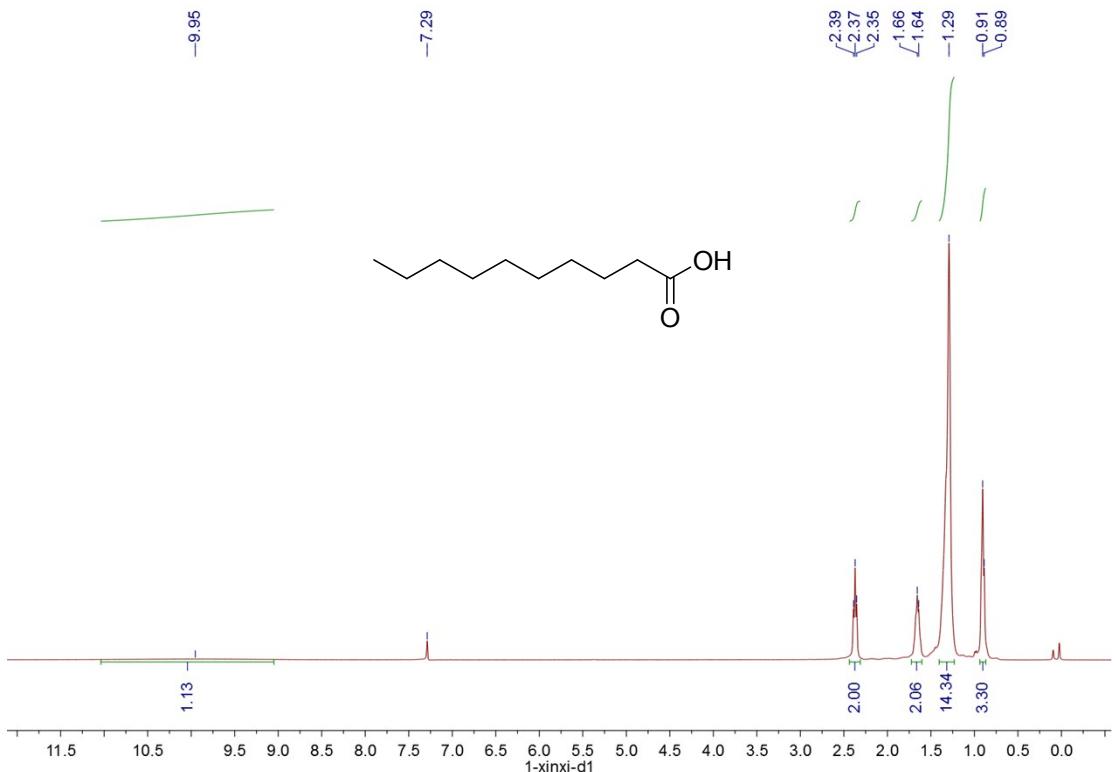
Chemical Formula: C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>3</sub>  
Exact Mass: 206.0943



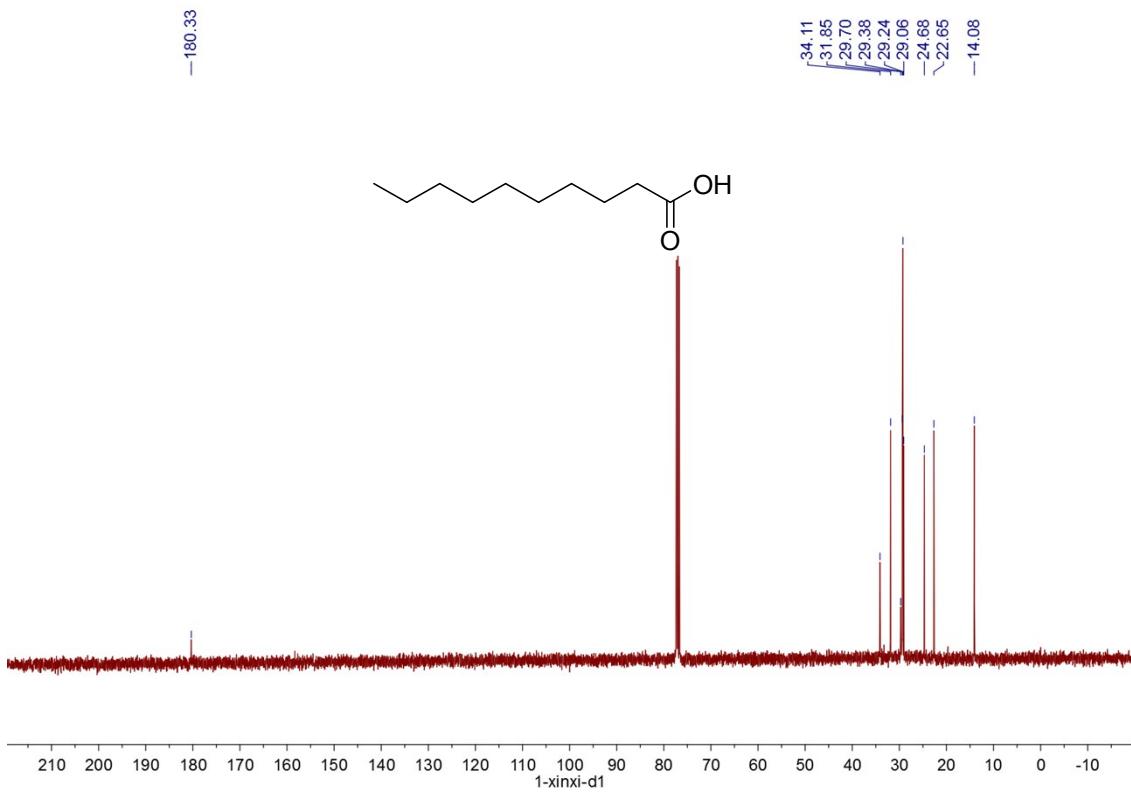


### <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **2x**

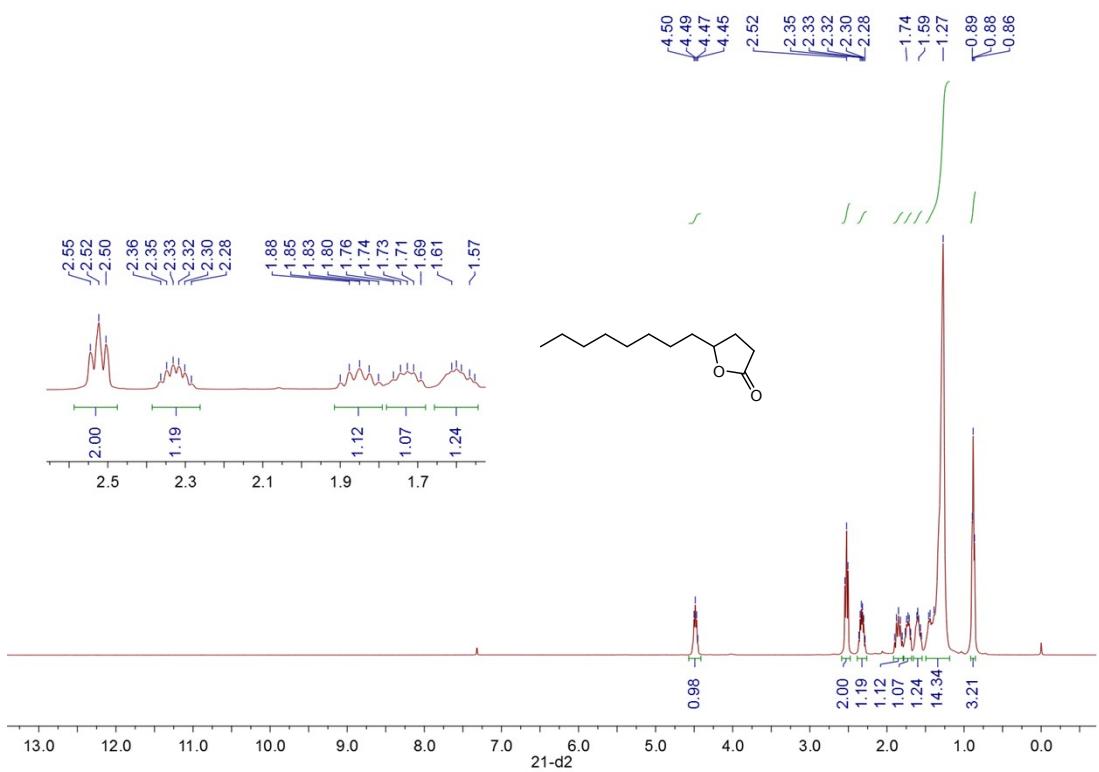




<sup>1</sup>H NMR of Decanoic acid (2y-1)

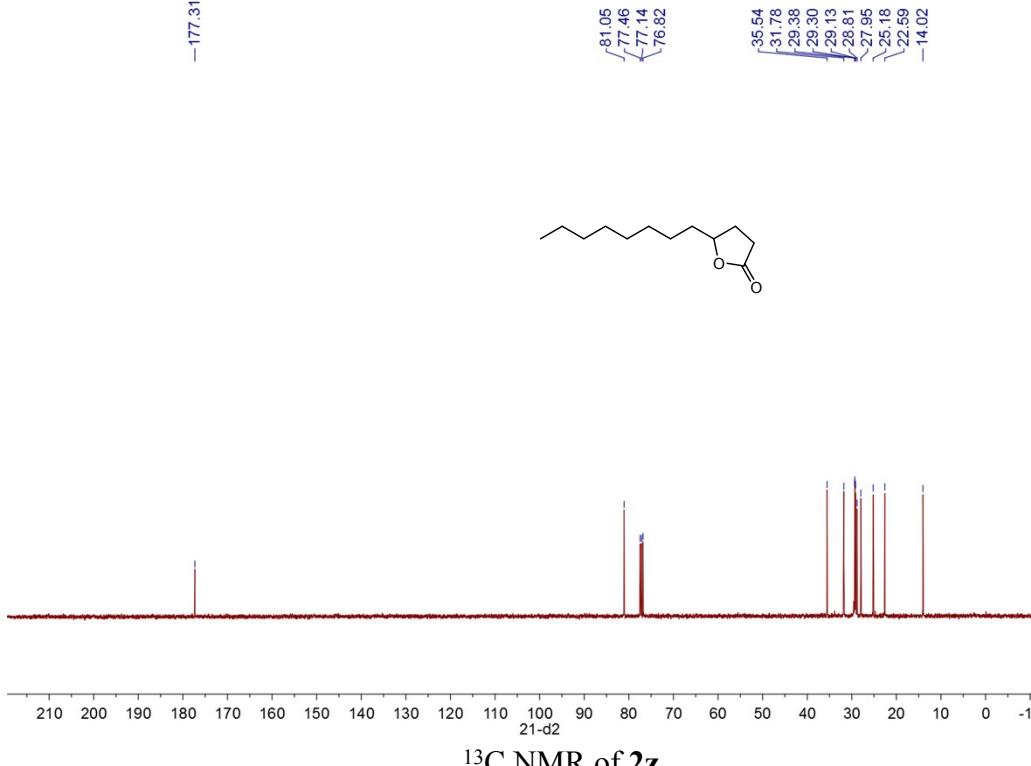


<sup>13</sup>C NMR of Decanoic acid (2y-1)

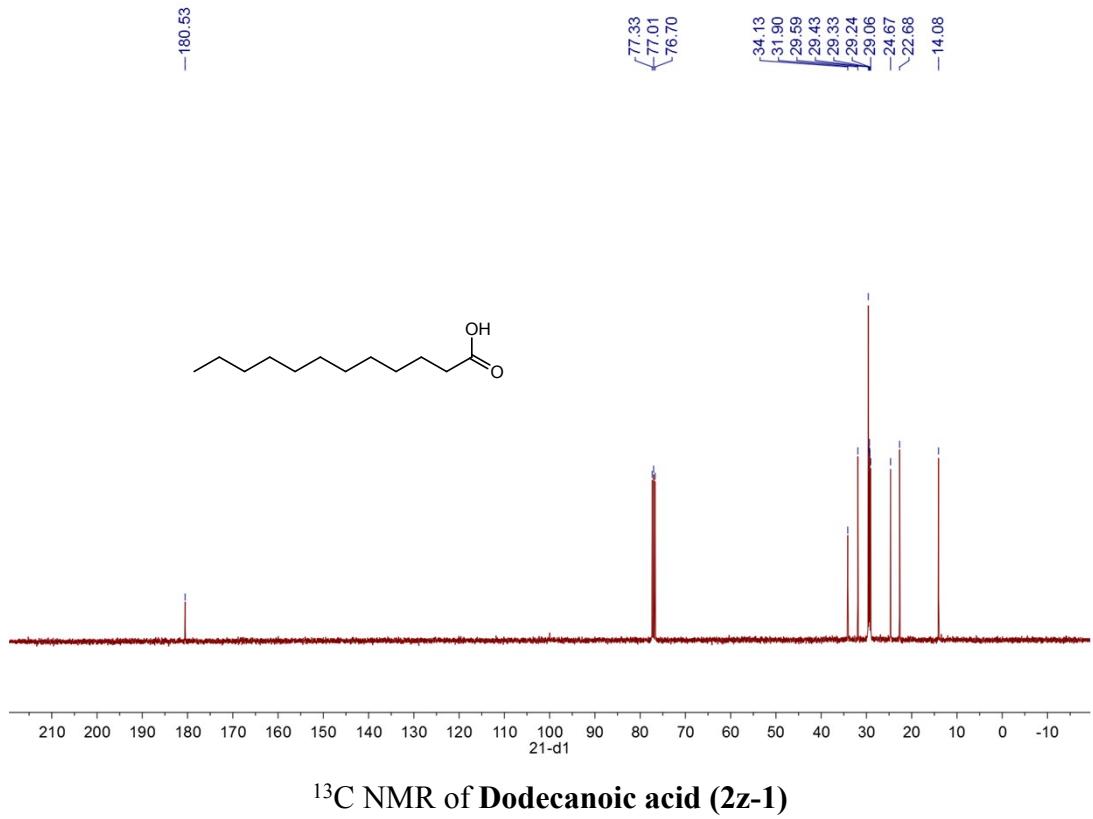
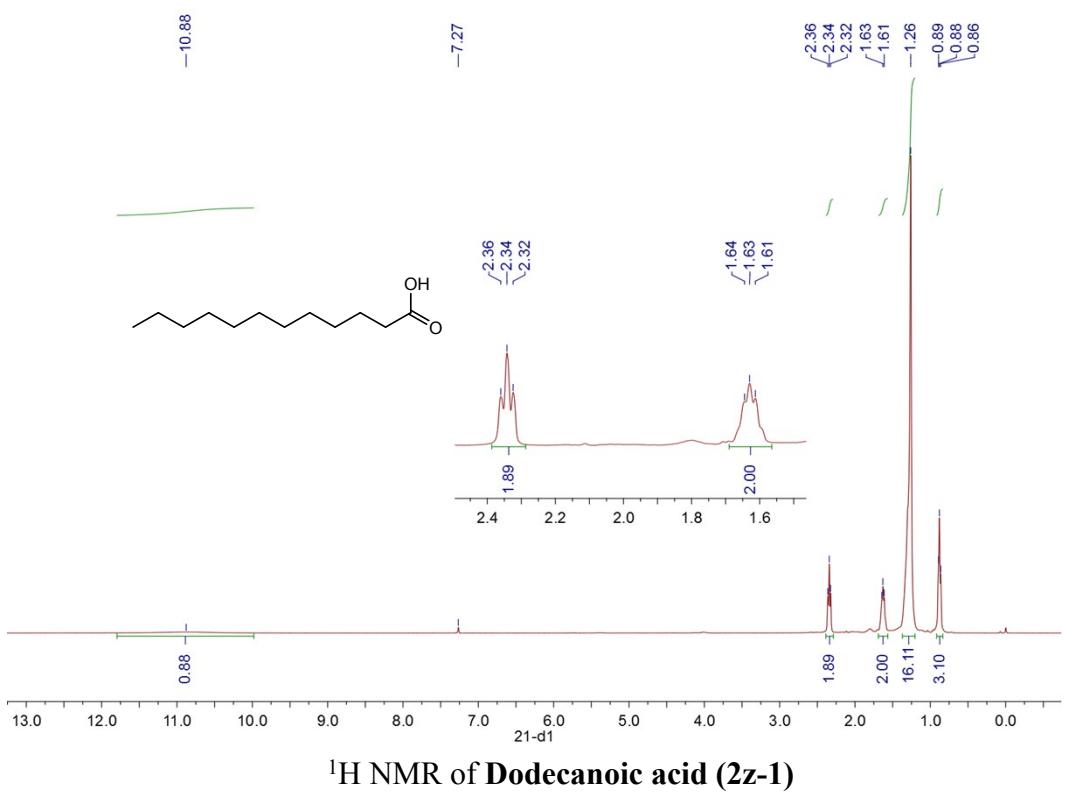


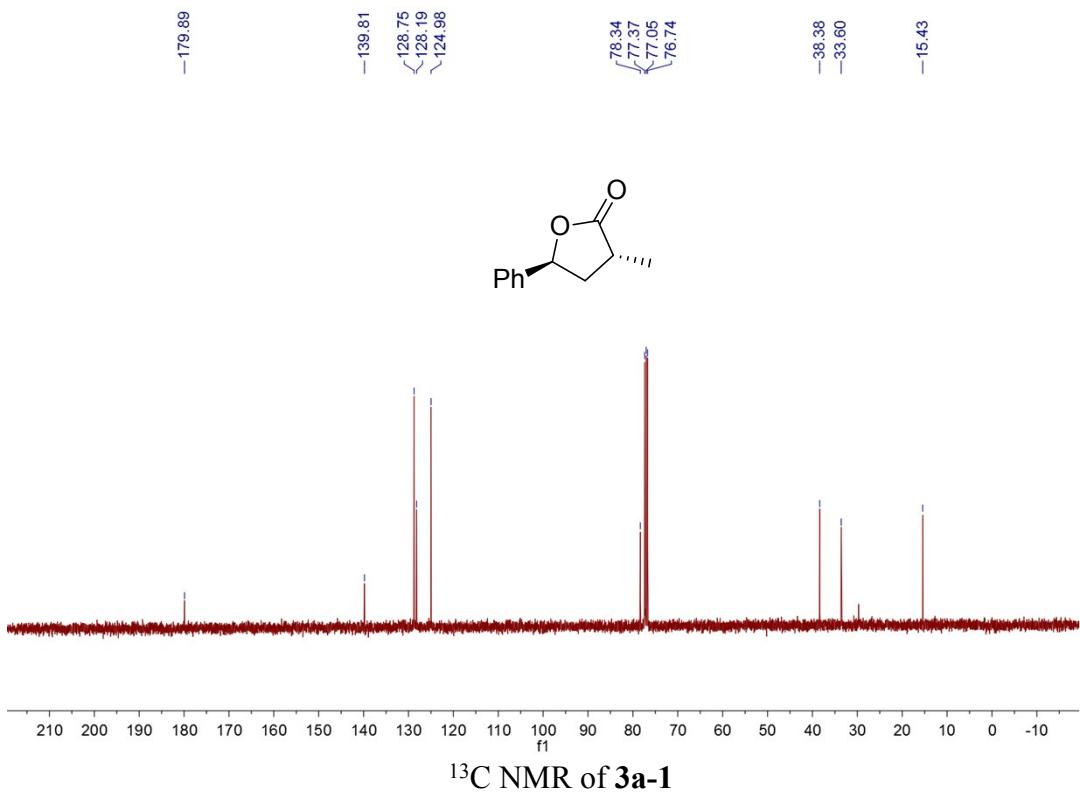
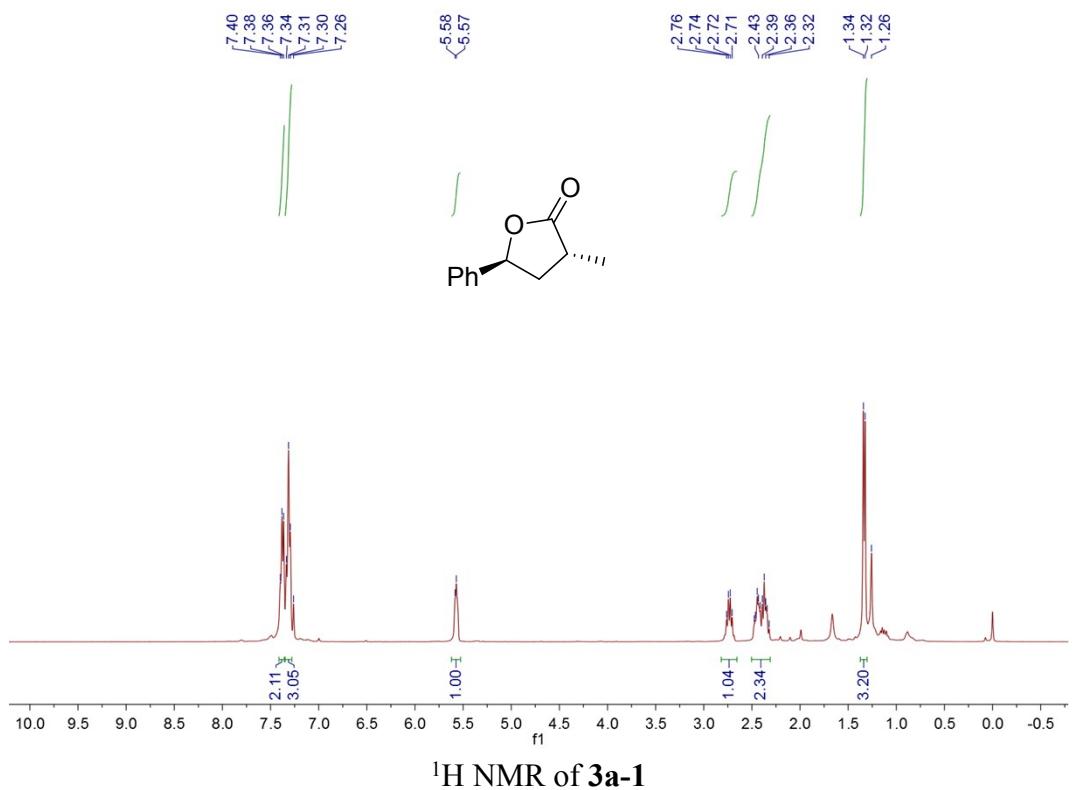
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **2z**

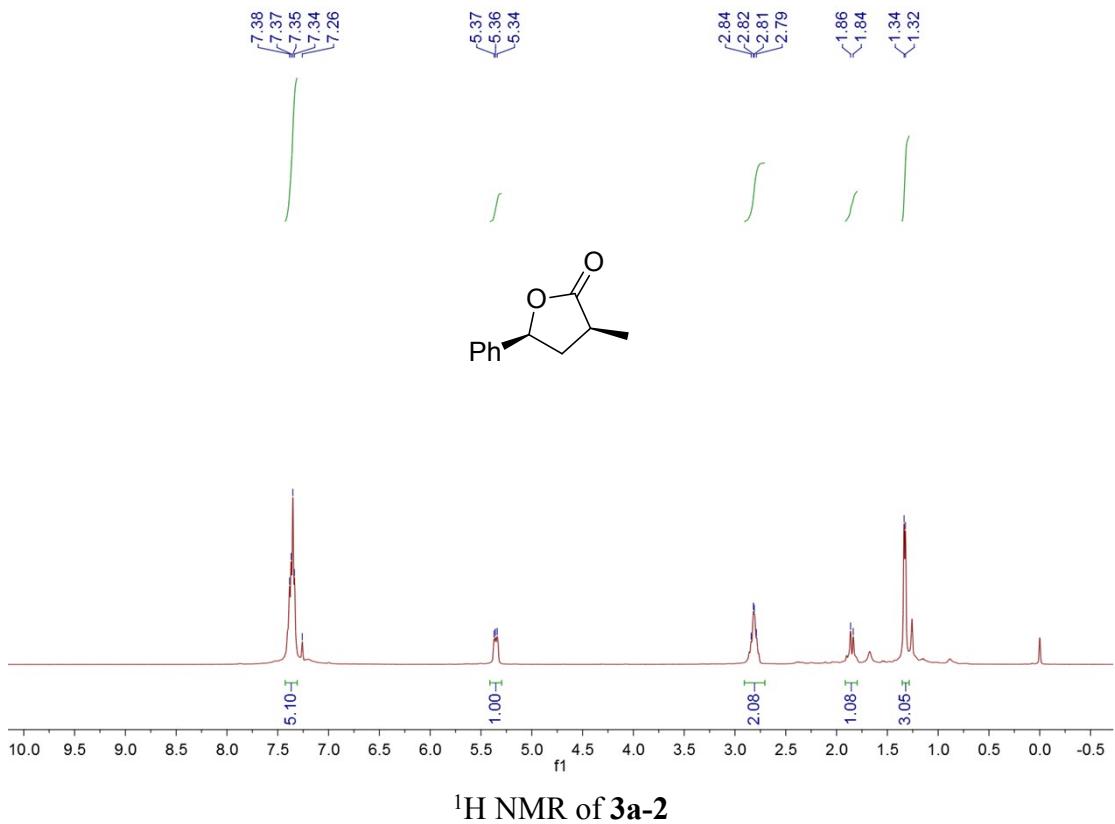
-177.31



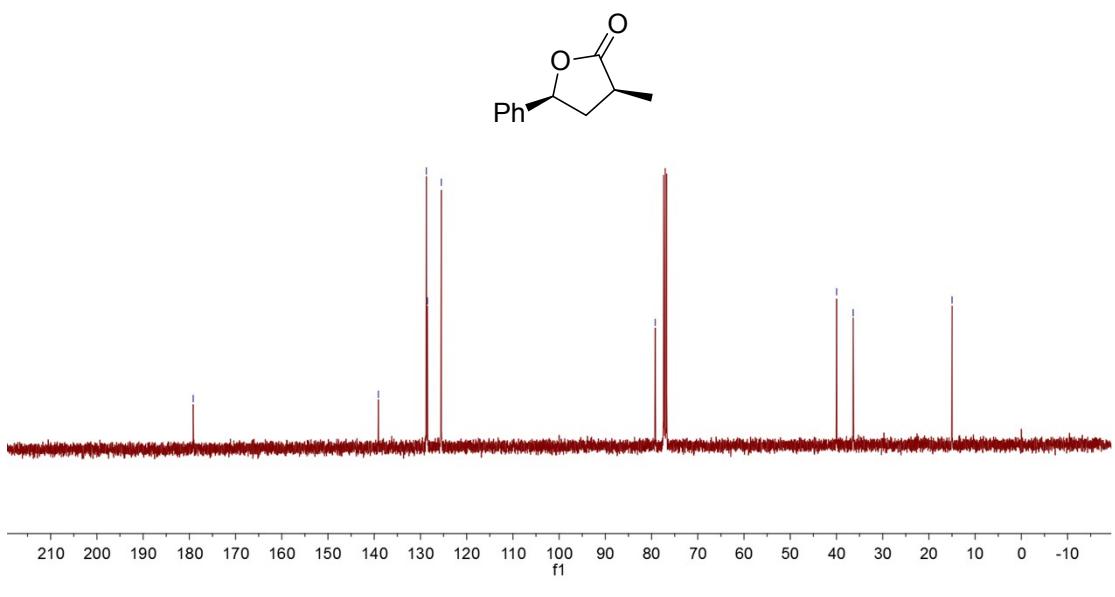
<sup>13</sup>C NMR of **2z**

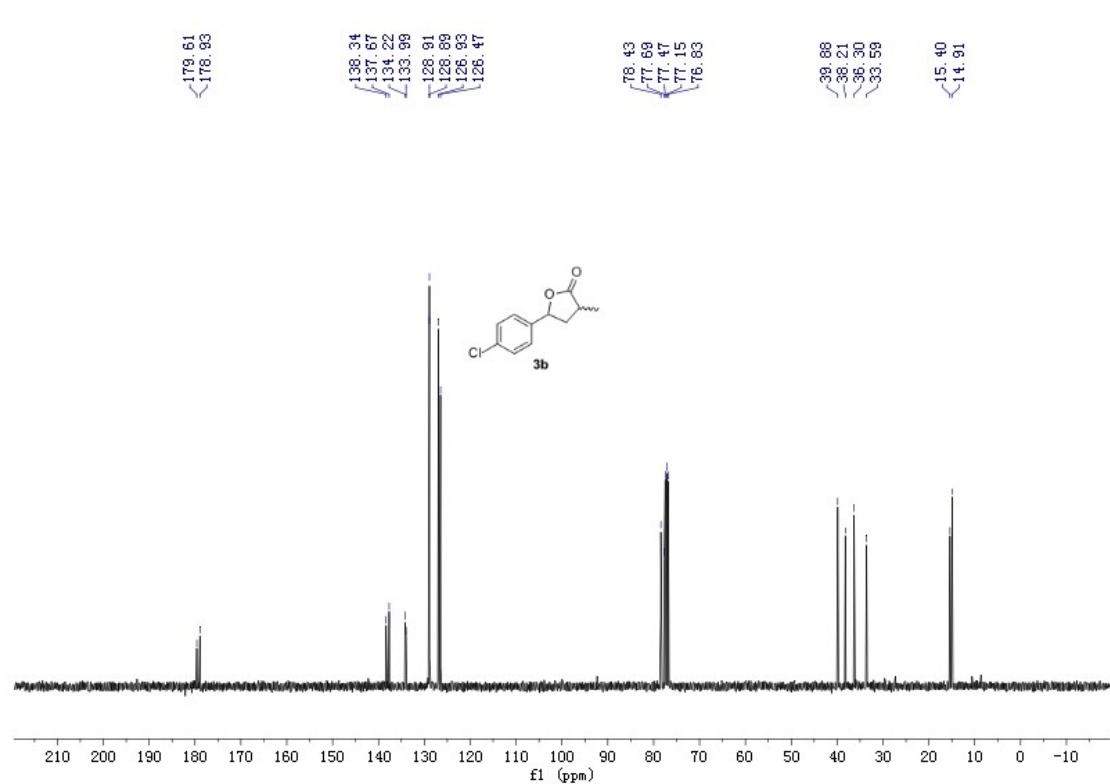
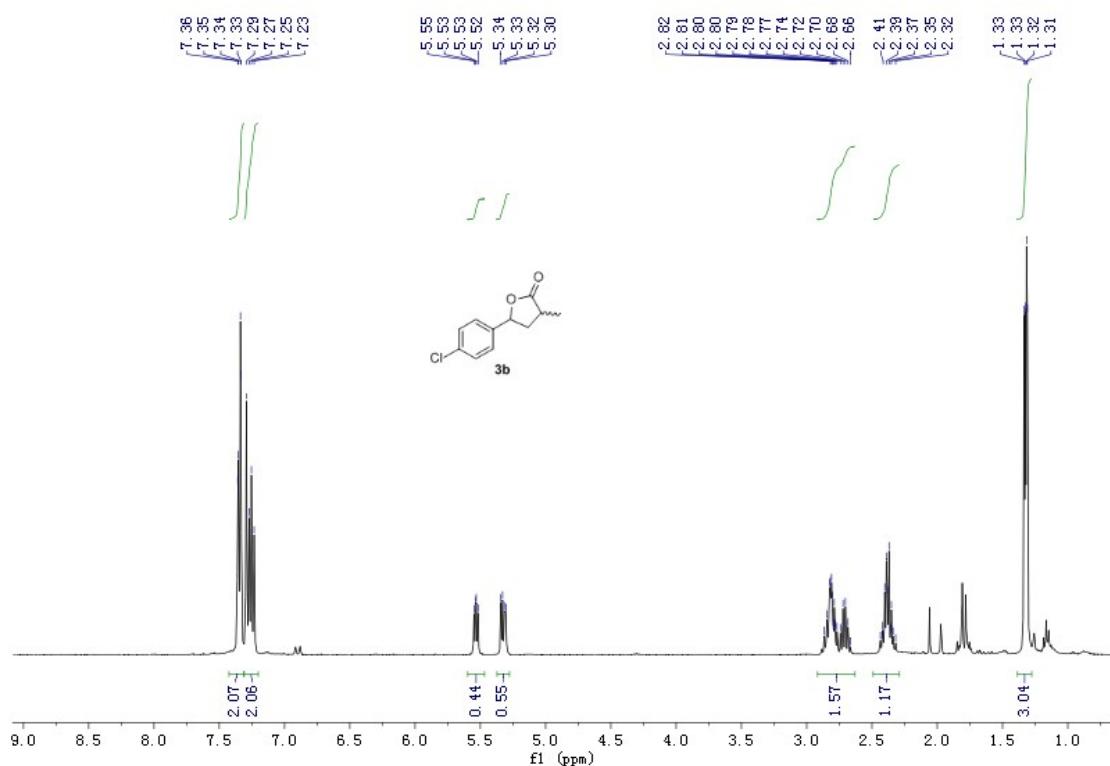


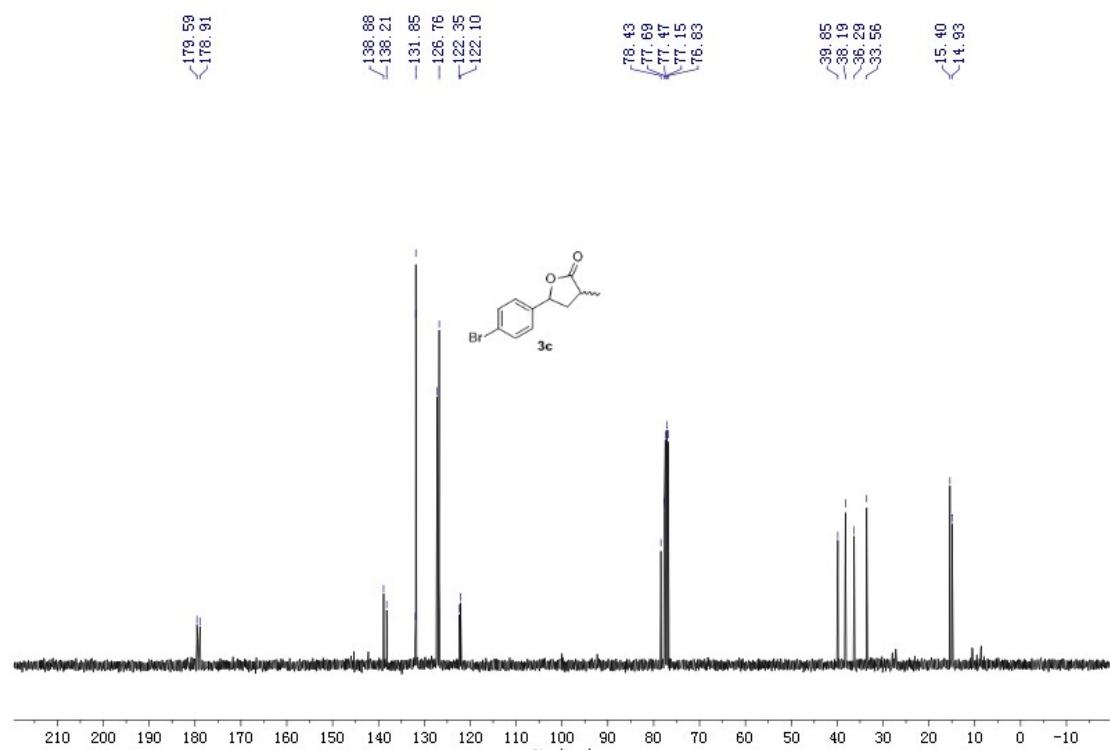
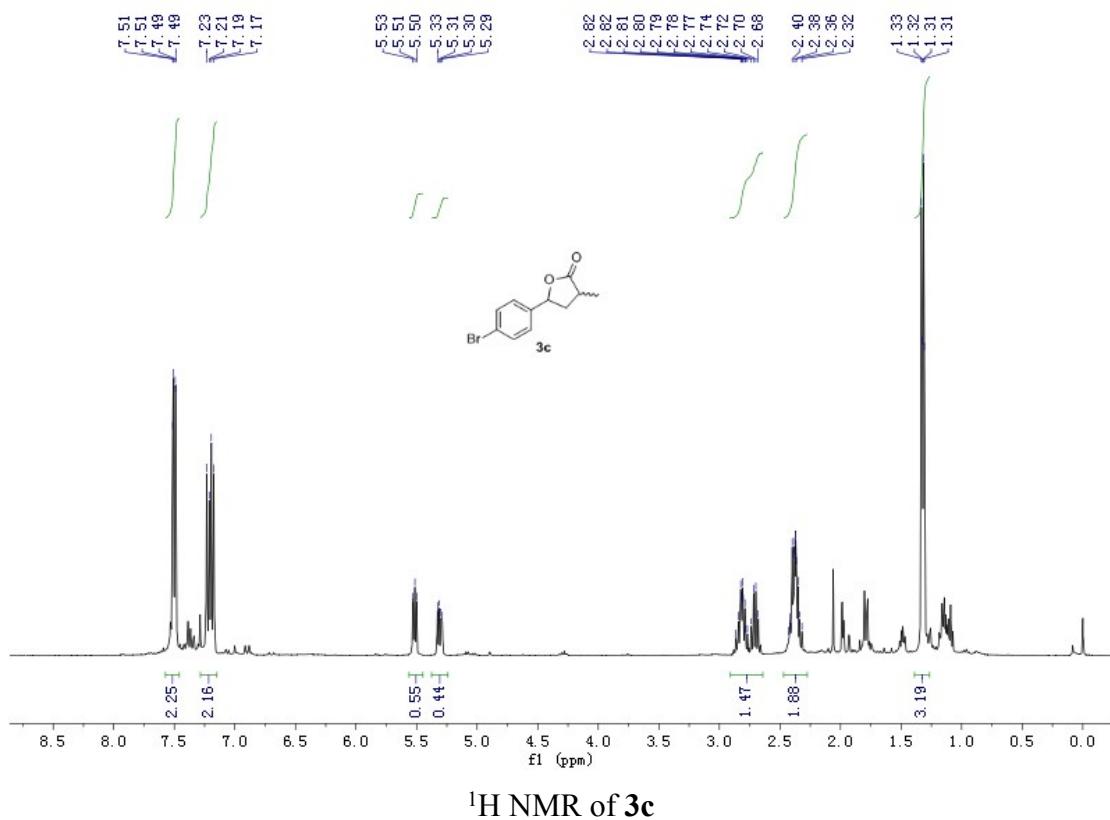




—179.17  
 —139.11  
 <128.73  
 <128.49  
 \125.49  
 —79.21  
 —39.97  
 —36.39  
 —14.99







<sup>13</sup>C NMR of **3c**