

**Copper-Catalyzed Beckmann-Type Fragmentation of Less-Strained  
Cycloketoxime Esters  
(Supporting Information)**

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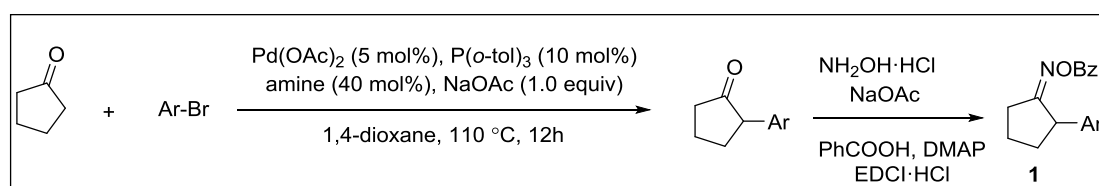
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## 1. General Information

Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were performed under an argon atmosphere using flame-dried glassware. All new compounds were fully characterized. NMR-spectra were recorded on Bruker ARX-400 MHz, ARX-500 MHz or ARX-600 MHz Associated.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra data were reported as  $\delta$  values in ppm relative to chloroform ( $\delta$  7.26) if collected in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra data were reported as  $\delta$  values in ppm relative to chloroform ( $\delta$  77.00).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR coupling constants were reported in Hz, and multiplicity was indicated as follows: s (singlet); d (doublet); t (triplet); q (quartet); quint (quintet); m (multiplet); dd (doublet of doublets); ddd (doublet of doublet of doublets); dddd (doublet of doublet of doublet of doublets); dt (doublet of triplets); td (triplet of doublets); ddt (doublet of doublet of triplets); dq (doublet of quartets); app (apparent); br (broad). Mass spectra were conducted at Micromass Q-ToF instrument (ESI) and Agilent Technologies 5973N (EI). All reactions were carried out in flame-dried 25-mL Schlenk tubes with Teflon screw caps under argon.  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  was purchased from TCI. Dry 1,4-dioxane, MeOH and DMSO were purchased from Adamas-beta. Unless otherwise noted, materials obtained from commercial suppliers were used without further purification.

## 2. Preparation of Cycloketoxime Esters



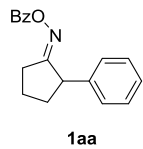
2-Arylcyclopentan-1-one *O*-benzoyl oximes were obtained from the corresponding 2-arylcyclopentanone, which were synthesized from the corresponding aryl bromide and cyclopentanone by the reported procedure<sup>[1]</sup>. The following experimental procedure is typical: flame-dried 50 mL schlenk tube filled with argon,  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (56.2 mg, 0.25 mmol, 0.05 equiv),  $\text{P}(o\text{-tol})_3$  (152 mg, 0.5 mmol, 0.1 equiv),  $\text{NaOAc}$  (410.0

mg, 5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), cyclopentanones (5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), aryl bromides (6.5 mmol, 1.3 equiv), pyrrolidine (128.3  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 0.3 equiv), 1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutylamine (250.0  $\mu$ L, 1.5 mmol, 0.3 equiv) and 1,4-dioxane (25.0 mL), the tube was then sealed and heated at 110 °C under stirring for 12 hours, before cooled to room temperature. The mixture was filtered through a small plug of silica gel and eluted with ethyl acetate. The filtrate was then concentrated under vacuo and further purified by flash column chromatography to give the arylation product.

The ketone (5.30 g, 24.5 mmol) was dissolved in abs EtOH (0.25 M) and treated with NaOH (2.0 equiv) in H<sub>2</sub>O (3.3 M) followed by hydroxylamine hydrochloride (1.5 equiv). The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature until the reaction was complete (TLC monitoring). The residue was diluted with water and extracted with EtOAc. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc and the combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated under reduced pressure to give the crude material, which were used in the next step without further purification.

To a solution of ketoxime in DCM (0.1 M) was added the carboxylic acid (1.5 equiv) followed by EDCI (2.5 equiv) and DMAP (10.0 mol%). The mixture was stirred at room temperature under Ar until the reaction was complete (TLC monitoring). The mixture was diluted with water and extracted with DCM. The aqueous layer was extracted with DCM and the combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was subjected to column chromatography on SiO<sub>2</sub> with EtOAc–hexane as an eluent to give 2-arylcyclopentan-1-one *O*-benzoyl oximes (**1**).

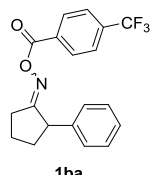
### 2-Phenylcyclopentan-1-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (**1aa**)<sup>[2]</sup>



According to the general procedure, **1aa** was prepared from the commercially available cyclopentanone (5.0 mmol) as a white solid (750 mg, 53%); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.07 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.33 (m, 4H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 4.05 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.98 – 2.78 (m, 2H), 2.36 – 2.29 (m, 1H), 2.05 – 1.98 (m, 2H),

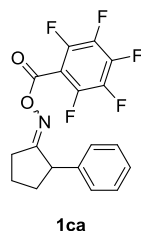
1.88 – 1.79 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.5, 163.7, 140.3, 133.1, 129.5, 129.1, 128.5, 128.4, 127.8, 126.7, 49.0, 34.6, 29.8, 22.4; ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1746, 1290, 1211, 1058, 915; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{NNaO}_2$  ( $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ) $^+$  302.1151, found 302.1151.

### 2-Phenylcyclopentan-1-one *O*-(4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl) oxime (1ba)<sup>[2]</sup>



According to the general procedure, **1ba** was prepared from the commercially available cyclopentanone (5.0 mmol) as a white solid (1.0 g, 58%)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.17 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 4H), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 4.07 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.01 – 2.74 (m, 2H), 2.38 – 2.29 (m, 1H), 2.13 – 1.94 (m, 2H), 1.93 – 1.79 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  178.2, 162.6, 140.1, 134.6 (q,  $J = 32.7$  Hz), 132.5, 129.9, 128.6, 127.8, 126.9, 125.5 (q,  $J = 3.5$  Hz), 123.5 (q,  $J = 272.8$  Hz), 49.2, 34.7, 30.0, 22.5;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -63.1; ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1748, 1511, 1324, 1242, 1066, 696; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_3\text{NNaO}_2$  ( $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ) $^+$  370.1025, found 370.1028.

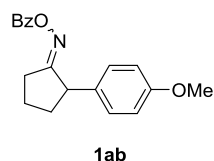
### 2-Phenylcyclopentan-1-one *O*-perfluorobenzoyl oxime (1ca)<sup>[2]</sup>



According to the general procedure, **1ca** was prepared from the commercially available cyclopentanone (2.0 mmol) as a brown solid (395 mg, 53%);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.37 – 7.17 (m, 5H), 4.12 – 3.98 (m, 1H), 2.92 – 2.83 (m, 1H), 2.77 – 2.60 (m, 1H), 2.40 – 2.29 (m, 1H), 2.09 – 1.78 (m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  178.9, 178.2, 156.7, 146.4, 142.0, 140.9, 139.6, 128.6, 128.1, 127.8, 127.0, 126.9, 126.5, 49.4, 48.6, 36.0, 34.7, 32.6, 30.4, 23.5, 22.5;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -137.11 – -137.30 (m, 2F), -148.05 – -148.26 (m, 1F), -159.93 – -160.45 (m, 2F); ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1760, 1524, 1500, 1420, 1325, 1062; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_5\text{NNaO}_2$  ( $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ) $^+$  392.0680, found 392.0681.

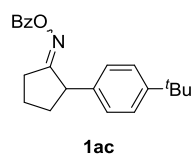


### 2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)cyclopentan-1-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (**1ab**)<sup>[3]</sup>



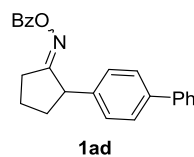
According to the general procedure, **1ab** was prepared from cyclopentanone (3.0 mmol) as a white solid (420.2 mg, 45%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.06 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1.51H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 0.5H), 6.86 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.10 – 3.99 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.94 – 2.76 (m, 2H), 2.37 – 2.27 (m, 1H), 2.04 – 1.80 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.7, 175.9, 163.8, 158.4, 158.2, 133.8, 133.1, 132.9, 132.2, 129.5, 129.5, 129.2, 128.8, 128.4, 128.1, 128.1, 114.1, 114.0, 55.3, 55.2, 48.4, 47.7, 36.7, 34.6, 32.9, 29.8, 23.6, 22.4; ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1740, 1545, 1451, 1263, 1025, 708; HRMS *m/z* (ESI) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 310.1428, found 310.1432.

### 2-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)cyclopentan-1-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (**1ac**)<sup>[3]</sup>



According to the general procedure, **1ac** was prepared from cyclopentanone (3.0 mmol) as a white solid (570.6 mg, 57%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.07 – 8.05 (m, 1H), 7.58 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.27 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.14 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 4.07 – 4.03 (m, 1H), 2.97 – 2.75 (m, 2H), 2.44 – 2.26 (m, 1H), 2.09 – 1.74 (m, 3H), , 1.30 (s, 4.60H), 1.29 (s, 4.40H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.8, 175.9, 163.9, 163.8, 149.5, 149.4, 138.6, 137.2, 133.1, 132.8, 129.5, 129.5, 129.3, 128.8, 128.4, 128.0, 127.5, 126.8, 125.6, 125.5, 48.6, 48.3, 36.7, 34.5, 34.4, 33.1, 31.4 31.3, 29.9, 23.8, 22.5; ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1739, 1550, 1454, 1378, 1260, 715; HRMS *m/z* (ESI) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 336.1958, found 336.1955.

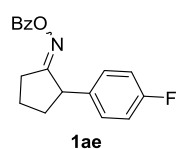
### 2-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)cyclopentan-1-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (**1ad**)<sup>[3]</sup>



According to the general procedure, **1ad** was prepared from cyclopentanone (3.0 mmol) as a white solid (448.4 mg, 42%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.55 (m,

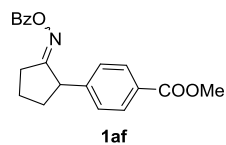
4.5H), 7.49 – 7.40 (m, 5.5H), 7.36 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.21 – 7.17 (m, 1H), 4.18 – 4.09 (m, 1H), 3.00 – 2.79 (m, 2H), 2.50 – 2.32 (m, 1H), 2.14 – 1.80 (m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.6, 175.5, 163.9, 163.8, 140.9, 140.8, 140.7, 139.7, 139.5, 139.4, 133.2, 132.9, 129.6, 129.5, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 128.1, 127.6, 127.5, 127.3, 127.2, 127.1, 127.0, 126.9, 48.9, 48.4, 36.7, 34.7, 33.1, 29.9, 23.8, 22.5; ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1742, 1732, 1501, 1454, 1266, 708; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  356.1645, found 356.1652.

#### 2-(4-Fluorophenyl)cyclopentan-1-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (**1ae**)<sup>[4]</sup>



According to the general procedure, **1ae** was prepared from cyclopentanone (3.0 mmol) as a white solid (448.4 mg, 42%):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.07 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.46 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.04 – 7.00 (m, 2H), 4.02 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.99 – 2.91 (m, 1H), 2.83 – 2.74 (m, 1H), 2.36 – 2.29 (m, 1H), 2.04 – 1.81 (m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.3, 163.8, 161.71 (d,  $J = 245.0$  Hz), 135.9 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz), 133.2, 129.5, 129.4 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz), 129.1, 128.5, 115.4 (d,  $J = 21.4$  Hz), 48.5, 34.8, 29.8, 22.4;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -116.3; ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1738, 1644, 1495, 1454, 1266, 708; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{FNNaO}_2$  ( $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ) $^+$  320.1057, found 320.1060.

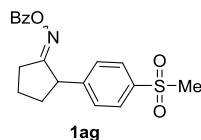
#### Methyl 4-(2-((benzoyloxy)imino)cyclopentyl)benzoate (**1af**)



According to the general procedure, **1af** was prepared from cyclopentanone (3.0 mmol) as a white solid (416.6 mg, 41%):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.07 – 7.99 (m, 3H), 7.59 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 0.5H), 7.48 – 7.36 (m, 3.5H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.14 (dt,  $J = 28.1, 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.00 – 2.75 (m, 2H), 2.48 – 2.33 (m, 1H), 2.07 – 1.79 (m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  176.8, 174.9, 147.0, 145.7, 133.2, 133.1, 130.2, 129.9, 129.6, 129.3, 128.5, 128.2, 128.0, 127.2, 126.9, 52.1, 52.0, 49.1,

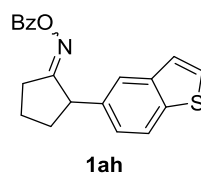
48.5, 36.5, 34.8, 33.0, 30.0, 23.8, 22.6; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1738, 1635, 1505, 1464, 1260, 1110, 710; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_4$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup> 338.1387, found 338.1385.

### 2-(4-(Methylsulfonyl)phenyl)cyclopentan-1-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (**1ag**)



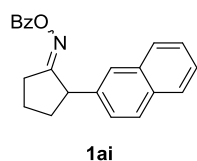
According to the general procedure, **1ag** was prepared from cyclopentanone (3.0 mmol) as a white solid (479.8 mg, 45%): **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  8.07 – 8.04 (m, 2H), 7.91 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.62 – 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.53 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 4.14 – 4.08 (m, 1H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 3.02 – 2.98 (m, 1H), 2.89 – 2.79 (m, 1H), 2.43 – 2.39 (m, 1H), 2.08 – 1.87 (m, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  176.6, 174.5, 148.0, 146.8, 139.0, 138.9, 133.4, 133.3, 129.6, 129.2, 129.1, 128.6, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 127.4, 49.4, 48.5, 44.6, 44.4, 36.6, 35.2, 33.0, 30.1, 23.9, 22.7; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1740, 1545, 1495, 1502, 1382, 1254, 723; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_4\text{S}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup> 358.1108, found 358.1112.

### 2-(3-((Benzoyloxy)imino)-1-methylcyclobutyl)ethyl acetate (**1ah**)<sup>[4]</sup>



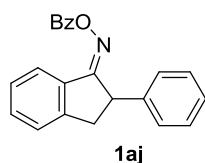
According to the general procedure, **1ah** was prepared from cyclopentanone (3.0 mmol) as a white solid (489.1 mg, 49%): **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  8.08 – 8.06 (m, 1H), 7.84 (dd,  $J = 8.4$ , 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.61 – 7.56 (m, 0.5H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.20 (dd,  $J = 8.3$ , 1.7 Hz, 0.5H), 7.07 – 7.03 (m, 1H), 4.25 – 4.17 (m, 1H), 3.02 – 2.82 (m, 2H), 2.50 – 2.33 (m, 1H), 2.16 – 1.80 (m, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  177.6, 175.6, 163.9, 163.8, 140.0, 139.9, 138.2, 137.9, 136.5, 133.1, 132.8, 129.6, 129.4, 129.2, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 127.1, 126.7, 124.4, 123.8, 123.7, 123.6, 122.9, 122.7, 122.6, 122.0, 49.1, 48.7, 37.0, 34.9, 33.1, 29.9, 23.8, 22.5; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1741, 1738, 1595, 1454, 1254, 1035, 732; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{NNaO}_2\text{S}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 358.0872, found 358.0875.

### 2-(Naphthalen-2-yl)cyclopentan-1-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (**1ai**)<sup>[4]</sup>



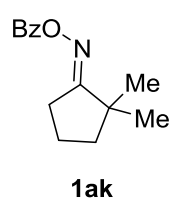
According to the general procedure, **1ai** was prepared from cyclopentanone (3.0 mmol) as a white solid (541.5 mg, 55%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.09 – 8.07 (m, 1H), 7.84 – 7.78 (m, 3H), 7.75 – 7.68 (m, 1H), 7.61 – 7.42 (m, 4H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 6.96 – 6.93 (m, 1H), 4.30 – 4.22 (m, 1H), 3.03 – 2.83 (m, 2H), 2.51 – 2.34 (m, 1H), 2.21 – 1.81 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.4, 175.4, 163.8, 163.8, 139.1, 137.7, 133.5, 133.4, 133.1, 132.8, 132.4, 132.1, 129.6, 129.3, 129.2, 128.7, 128.5, 128.5, 128.3, 127.9, 127.8, 127.6, 127.5, 127.5, 126.4, 126.3, 126.1, 126.0, 125.7, 125.6, 125.4, 36.6, 34.5, 33.1, 29.9, 23.8, 22.5; ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1739, 1545, 1465, 1260, 1120, 716; HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub> (M + Na)<sup>+</sup> 352.1308, found 352.1312.

### 2-Phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-1-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (**1aj**)



According to the general procedure, **1aj** was prepared from 2-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-1-one obtained from 2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-1-one according to the reported procedure<sup>[6]</sup> as a yellow solid (3.0 mmol scale, 420.1 mg, 43%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.02 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.43 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.11 (m, 9H), 4.58 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.62 (dd, *J* = 17.2, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (dd, *J* = 17.2, 2.9 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.4, 163.9, 148.4, 142.0, 134.5, 133.0, 132.5, 129.5, 128.9, 128.8, 128.2, 127.6, 126.9, 126.8, 125.5, 123.6, 47.0, 40.4; ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1740, 1545, 1502, 1265, 1145, 726; HRMS m/z (ESI) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub> (M + Na)<sup>+</sup> 350.1151, found 350.1152.

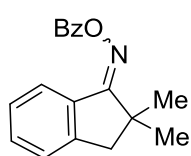
### 2,2-Dimethylcyclopentan-1-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (**1ak**)<sup>[5]</sup>



According to the general procedure, **1ak** was prepared from the corresponding 2,2-dimethylcyclopentan-1-one (2.0 mmol) as a white solid (407.9 mg, 88%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.05 – 8.03 (m,

2H), 7.57 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 2.77 (td,  $J = 7.6, 2.1$  Hz, 2H), 1.87 – 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.73 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  180.7, 163.9, 133.0, 129.5, 128.6, 128.4, 43.3, 41.0, 28.9, 26.3, 20.7; ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1741, 1595, 1460, 1262, 1152, 725; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  232.1332, found 232.1335.

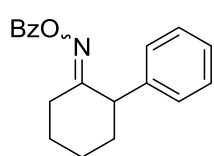
### 2,2-Dimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (1al)



**1al**

According to the general procedure, **1al** was prepared from the corresponding 2,2-dimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1-inden-1-one obtained from 2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-1-one according to the reported procedure<sup>[7]</sup> as a white solid (3.0 mmol scale, 407.9 mg, 88%):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.28 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 0.65H), 8.16 – 8.11 (m, 2H), 7.96 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 0.34H), 7.65 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.55 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.37 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 3.03 (s, 0.7H), 3.01 (s, 1.3H), 1.62 (s, 2.1H), 1.48 (s, 4.0H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  174.4, 173.2, 164.5, 164.2, 147.7, 146.8, 134.2, 133.2, 133.1, 132.4, 132.2, 131.7, 129.8, 129.7, 129.6, 129.2, 128.7, 127.3, 126.1, 125.3, 123.8, 47.8, 46.1, 44.7, 43.6, 28.1, 26.2; ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1739, 1601, 1545, 1459, 1252, 732; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  280.1332, found 280.1333.

### 2-Phenylcyclohexan-1-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (1am)<sup>[5]</sup>

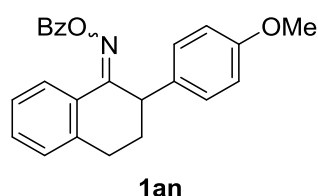


**1am**

According to the general procedure, **1am** was prepared from the corresponding 2-phenylcyclohexan-1-one (2.0 mmol) as a white solid (435.9 mg, 74%):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.10 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 2H), 4.86 (s, 0.4H), 4.03 (t,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 0.6H), 3.04 – 2.98 (m, 0.6H), 2.74 – 2.71 (m, 0.4H), 2.54 – 2.49 (m, 1H), 2.34 – 2.24 (m, 1H), 2.11 – 1.63 (m, 5H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  171.3, 170.5, 164.2, 138.9, 138.0, 133.1, 133.1, 129.6, 128.9, 128.6, 128.5, 127.6, 127.1, 126.7, 126.6, 45.3, 39.6, 30.9, 29.4, 29.1, 26.5, 26.4, 25.3, 22.1,

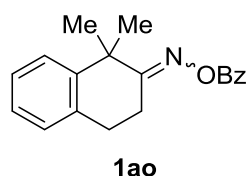
20.6; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1738, 1598, 1502, 1378, 1249, 1125, 726; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{19}\text{NNaO}_2$  ( $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 316.1308, found 316.1312.

### 2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one O-benzoyl oxime (1an)



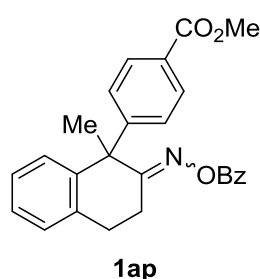
According to the general procedure, **1an** was prepared from the corresponding 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one obtained from 3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one according to the reported procedure<sup>[8]</sup> as a white solid (3.0 mmol scale, 466.8 mg, 42%) **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  8.44 – 8.42 (m, 1H), 7.77 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.54 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.19 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.84 – 6.82 (m, 2H), 4.77 (t,  $J = 4.5$  Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.82 – 2.63 (m, 2H), 2.32 – 2.23 (m, 1H), 2.12 – 2.06 (m, 1H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  163.7, 163.4, 158.3, 140.8, 133.1, 132.0, 130.9, 129.6, 129.2, 129.0, 128.8, 128.3, 126.7, 126.1, 114.0, 55.2, 40.2, 30.3, 25.3; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1742, 1602, 1545, 1502, 1338, 1246, 1020, 730; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_3$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup> 372.1594, found 372.1599.

### 1,1-Dimethyl-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-2(1H)-one O-benzoyl oxime (1ao)



According to the general procedure, **1ao** was prepared from the corresponding 1,1-dimethyl-3,4-dihydronaphthalen-2(1H)-one obtained from 3,4-dihydronaphthalen-2(1H)-one according to the reported procedure<sup>[9]</sup> as a white solid (3.0 mmol scale, 498.9 mg, 68%) **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  8.10 – 8.08 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.22 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 3.07 – 3.03 (m, 4H), 1.69 (s, 6H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  174.0, 163.9, 143.0, 135.4, 133.1, 129.5, 128.5, 128.2, 127.1, 126.4, 125.2, 41.9, 27.9, 27.6, 24.2; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1740, 1560, 1500, 1380, 1245, 1123, 721; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{19}\text{NNaO}_2$  ( $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 316.1308, found 316.1311.

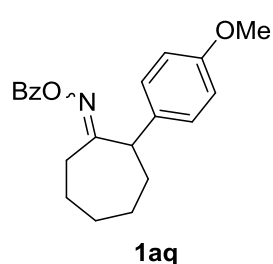
**Methyl 4-(2-((benzyloxy)imino)-1-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-yl)benzoate (1ap)**



According to the general procedure, **1ao** was prepared from the corresponding methyl 4-(1-methyl-2-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-yl)benzoate obtained from 3,4-dihydronaphthalen-2(*H*)-one according to the reported procedure<sup>[8,9]</sup> as a white solid (3.0 mmol scale, 394.2 mg, 32%):

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 8.10 – 8.08 (m, 2H), 7.91 – 7.89 (m, 2H), 7.63 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.16 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.97 – 2.93 (m, 2H), 2.68 – 2.62 (m, 1H), 2.28 – 2.20 (m, 1H), 2.02 (s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 171.6, 166.8, 163.8, 149.7, 139.6, 138.3, 133.3, 130.0, 129.6, 129.2, 128.8, 128.6, 128.2, 127.8, 127.2, 126.5, 126.3, 52.1, 51.6, 26.5, 26.1, 25.6; **ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):** 1739, 1698, 1505, 1375, 1251, 1025, 732; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub> (M + Na)<sup>+</sup> 436.1519, found 436.1520.

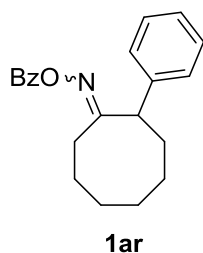
**2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)cycloheptan-1-one O-benzoyl oxime (1aq)**



According to the general procedure, **1aq** was prepared from the corresponding 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)cycloheptan-1-one obtained from cycloheptanone according to the reported procedure<sup>[8]</sup> as a white solid (3.0 mmol scale, 433.2 mg, 43%):

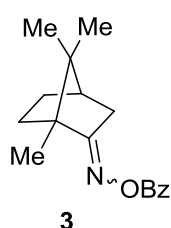
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 8.07 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.09 – 4.05 (m, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.14 – 3.10 (m, 1H), 2.39 – 2.32 (m, 1H), 2.11 – 2.05 (m, 1H), 1.98 – 1.88 (m, 4H), 1.63 – 1.57 (m, 1H), 1.46 – 1.39 (m, 2H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 173.2, 164.0, 158.5, 133., 132.7, 129.5, 129.4, 128.5, 128.3, 113.9, 55.2, 47.6, 31.0, 30.8, 27.4, 26.2, 25.4; **ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):** 1741, 1602, 1543, 1246, 1025, 735; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 338.1751, found 338.1753.

## 2-Phenylcyclooctan-1-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (**1ar**)



According to the general procedure, **1ar** was prepared from the corresponding 2-phenylcyclooctan-1-one obtained from cycloheptanone according to the reported procedure<sup>[10]</sup> as a white solid (3.0 mmol scale, 599.3 mg, 62%): **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 8.07 – 8.04 (m, 2H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 4H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.01 (dd, *J* = 12.7, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (dt, *J* = 12.5, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.46 – 2.31 (m, 1H), 2.11 – 2.01 (m, 2H), 1.94 – 1.72 (m, 6H), 1.53 – 1.40 (m, 2H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 173.9, 163.8, 140.5, 133.1, 129.5, 129.3, 128.5, 127.4, 127.0, 48.5, 26.9, 26.8, 26.5, 26.2, 24.8; **ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):** 1739, 1552, 1462, 1242, 732; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub> (M + Na)<sup>+</sup> 344.1621, found 344.1622.

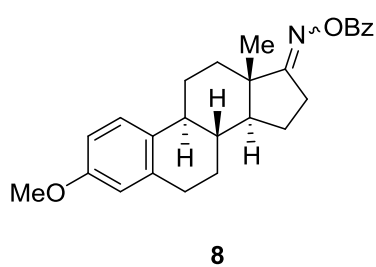
## 1,7,7-Trimethylbicyclo[2.2.1]heptan-2-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (**3**)<sup>[5]</sup>



According to the general procedure, **3** was prepared from Camphor (3.0 mmol) as a white solid (672.4 mg, 83%): **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 8.05 – 8.03 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.75 (dt, *J* = 18.1, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 1.97 (t, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 1.91 – 1.77 (m, 3H), 1.63 – 1.57 (m, 1H), 1.32 – 1.25 (m, 1H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 0.96 (s, 3H), 0.87 (s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 178.9, 164.0, 132.9, 129.5, 129.4, 128.4, 53.2, 48.7, 43.5, 34.9, 32.4, 27.1, 19.5, 18.4, 11.0; **ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):** 1738, 1545, 1460, 1382, 1244, 1125, 732; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 272.1645, found 272.1646.

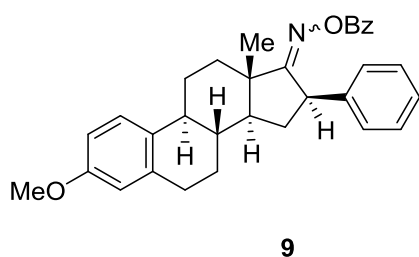
## (8R,9S,13S,14S)-3-Methoxy-13-methyl-6,7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16-decahydro-17H-cyclopenta[*a*]phenanthren-17-one *O*-benzoyl oxime (**8**)





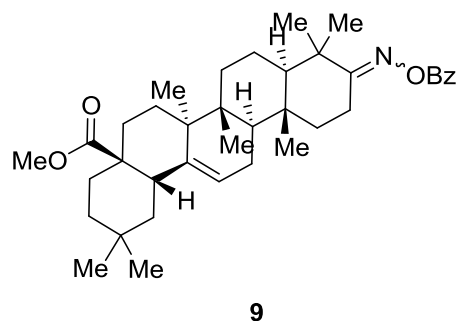
According to the general procedure, **8** was prepared from Estrone 3-methyl ether (1.0 mmol) as a white solid (307.5 mg, 76%): **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 8.07 – 8.05 (m, 2H), 7.60 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.92 – 2.75 (m, 4H), 2.46 – 2.31 (m, 3H), 2.00 – 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.86 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.60 – 1.44 (m, 4H), 1.09 (s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 179.5, 164.0, 157.6, 137.6, 133.0, 132.0, 129.5, 128.4, 126.4, 113.9, 111.5, 55.2, 52.8, 45.6, 43.8, 38.2, 33.7, 29.6, 27.3, 27.2, 26.1, 22.8, 17.1; **ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):** 1740, 1542, 1464, 1376, 1227, 1012, 752; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub> (M + Na)<sup>+</sup> 426.2040, found 426.2043.

**(8R,9S,13S,14S)-3-Methoxy-13-methyl-16-phenyl-6,7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16-decahydro-17H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-one O-benzoyl oxime (9)**



According to the general procedure, **9** was prepared from (8R,9S,13S,14S)-3-methoxy-13-methyl-16-phenyl-6,7,8,9,11,12,13,14,15,16-decahydro-17H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-17-one obtained from Estrone 3-methyl ether according to the reported procedure<sup>[8]</sup> as a white solid (2.0 mmol scale, 394.3 mg, 41%): **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.44 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.35 – 7.30 (m, 4H), 7.26 – 7.18 (m, 6H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 4.26 – 4.22 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.89 – 2.87 (m, 2H), 2.54 – 2.34 (m, 4H), 1.97 – 1.90 (m, 2H), 1.71 – 1.58 (m, 5H), 1.51 – 1.46 (m, 1H), 1.27 (s, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 178.4, 163.8, 157.6, 141.1, 137.6, 132.7, 132.0, 129.4, 129.0, 128.6, 128.1, 127.1, 126.3, 113.8, 111.5, 55.2, 51.6, 48.4, 46.3, 43.8, 37.8, 34.8, 34.3, 29.6, 27.2, 26.2, 16.8; **ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):** 1740, 1542, 1464, 1376, 1227, 1012, 752; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>34</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 480.2533, found 480.2536.

**Methyl (4a*S*,6a*S*,6b*R*,8a*R*,12a*R*,12b*R*,14b*S*)-10-((benzyloxy)imino)-2,2,6a,6b,9,9,12a-heptamethyl-1,3,4,5,6,6a,6b,7,8,8a,9,10,11,12,12a,12b,13,14b-octadecahydronicene-4a(2*H*)-carboxylate (12)**

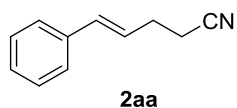


According to the general procedure, **12** was prepared from methyl (4a*S*,6a*S*,6b*R*,8a*R*,12a*R*,12b*R*,14b*S*)-2,2,6a,6b,9,9,12a-heptamethyl-10-oxo-1,3,4,5,6,6a,6b,7,8,8a,9,10,11,12,12a,12b,13,14b-octadecahydronicene-4a(2*H*)-

carboxylate obtained from Oleanic acid according to the reported procedure<sup>[11]</sup> as a white solid (2.0 mmol scale, 926.4 mg, 79%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.06 – 8.04 (m, 2H), 7.59 – 7.55 (m, 1H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.29 (t, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.08 – 3.02 (m, 1H), 2.86 (dd, *J* = 13.8, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.48 – 2.40 (m, 1H), 2.00 – 1.86 (m, 3H), 1.81 – 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.69 – 1.58 (m, 9H), 1.54 – 1.47 (m, 4H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 1.20 (s, 3H), 1.16 – 1.15 (m, 1H), 1.12 (s, 3H), 1.09 – 1.08 (m, 1H), 1.05 (s, 3H), 0.92 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H), 0.77 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 178.2, 176.2, 164.2, 144.0, 133.0, 129.7, 129.5, 128.4, 122.0, 55.8, 51.5, 47.1, 46.7, 45.8, 41.7, 41.6, 41.3, 39.3, 38.7, 37.0, 33.8, 33.1, 32.3, 30.7, 27.6, 27.2, 26.9, 25.8, 23.6, 23.5, 23.2, 23.0, 19.9, 19.0, 16.8, 15.1; ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1739, 1465, 1383, 1246, 1035, 702; HRMS *m/z* (ESI) calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>54</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 588.4047, found 588.4050.

### 3. Experimental Procedures and Characterization of Products

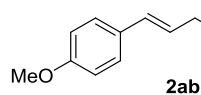
#### (*E*)-5-Phenylpent-4-enitrile (**2aa**)<sup>[12]</sup>



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1aa** (55.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under

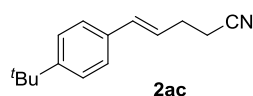
vaccum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 30 : 1) to afford 25.9 mg (83%) of **2aa** as a yellow oil:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.31 – 7.23 (m, 4H), 7.19 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 6.45 (d,  $J = 15.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.11 (dt,  $J = 15.8, 6.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.52 – 2.40 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  136.5, 132.9, 128.5, 127.6, 126.2, 125.4, 119.1, 28.7, 17.5; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3005, 2925, 2247, 1605, 1545, 1510, 1255, 766; **HRMS m/z** (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup> 158.0964, found 158.0968.

**(E)-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)pent-4-enitrile (2ab)**



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ab** (61.9 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to afford 32.5 mg (87%) of **2ab** as a colorless oil:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.30 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.46 (d,  $J = 15.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.04 (dt,  $J = 15.8, 6.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.56 – 2.46 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  159.2, 132.2, 129.3, 127.4, 123.2, 119.2, 113.9, 55.2, 28.7, 17.6; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2927, 2248, 1596, 1540, 1510, 1246, 1025, 760; **HRMS m/z** (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup> 188.1070, found 188.1072.

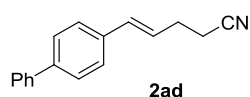
**(E)-5-(4-(tert-Butyl)phenyl)pent-4-enitrile (2ac)**



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ac** (67.1 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly.

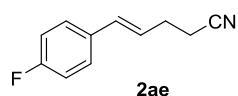
The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 30 : 1) to afford 33.1 mg (78%) of **2ac** as a colorless oil:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.37 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 6.51 (d,  $J$  = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.16 (dt,  $J$  = 15.8, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.57 – 2.49 (m, 4H), 1.33 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  150.9, 133.9, 132.7, 126.0, 125.6, 124.7, 119.3, 34.6, 31.3, 28.9, 17.7; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2925, 2247, 1598, 1515, 1498, 1338, 1246, 763; **HRMS m/z** (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  214.1590, found 214.1593.

**(E)-5-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)pent-4-enitrile (2ad)**



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ad** (71.2 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100  $^\circ\text{C}$  under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to afford 35.3 mg (76%) of **2ad** as a white solid:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.62 – 7.56 (m, 4H), 7.47 – 7.44 (m, 4H), 7.38 – 7.34 (m, 1H), 6.57 (d,  $J$  = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (dt,  $J$  = 15.8, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.62 – 2.50 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  140.5, 140.4, 135.5, 132.5, 128.8, 127.3, 127.2, 126.9, 126.7, 125.5, 119.1, 28.8, 17.5; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2925, 2247, 1596, 1506, 1450, 1265, 1238, 760; **HRMS m/z** (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  234.1277, found 234.1281.

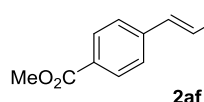
**(E)-5-(4-Fluorophenyl)pent-4-enitrile (2ae)**



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ae** (59.5 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100  $^\circ\text{C}$  under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude

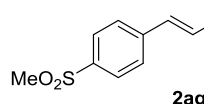
product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 30 : 1) to afford 25.2 mg (72%) of **2ae** as a colorless oil:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.35 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.02 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 6.48 (d,  $J = 15.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.10 (dt,  $J = 15.8, 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.57 – 2.48 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  162.3 (d,  $J = 246.9$  Hz), 132.7, 131.8, 127.73 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz), 125.17 (d,  $J = 2.2$  Hz), 119.1, 115.4 (d,  $J = 21.7$  Hz), 28.7, 17.5;  $^{19}\text{F NMR}$  (377 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -114.3; ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2928, 2249, 1595, 1510, 1465, 1264, 1229, 755; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{FN}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  176.0870, found 176.0875.

#### Methyl (*E*)-4-(4-cyanobut-1-en-1-yl)benzoate (**2af**)



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1af** (67.5 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to afford 32.7 mg (76%) of **2af** as a colorless oil:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.97 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 6.55 (d,  $J = 15.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.30 (dt,  $J = 15.8, 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.61 – 2.50 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  166.8, 140.9, 133.5, 132.1, 129.9, 128.2, 126.1, 118.9, 52.0, 28.7, 17.3; ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3005, 2928, 2247, 1721, 1610, 1591, 1506, 1460, 1260, 1025, 748; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_2$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  216.1019, found 216.1022.

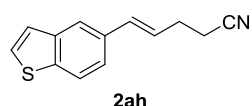
#### (*E*)-5-(4-(Methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pent-4-enenitrile (**2ag**)



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ag** (71.5 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was

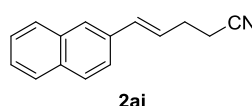
then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 3 : 1) to afford 33.2 mg (71%) of **2ag** as a colorless oil:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.87 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.58 (d,  $J = 15.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.36 (dt,  $J = 15.8, 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 2.63 – 2.52 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  141.9, 139.1, 131.3, 129.8, 127.7, 127.0, 118.8, 44.5, 28.7, 17.2; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3010, 2931, 2248, 1605, 1595, 1506, 1465, 1235, 762; **HRMS m/z** (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  236.0740, found 236.0742.

#### (*E*)-5-(Benzo[*b*]thiophen-5-yl)pent-4-enitrile (**2ah**)



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ah** (67.1 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to afford 27.8 mg (65%) of **2ah** as a yellow solid:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.81 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d,  $J = 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d,  $J = 5.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd,  $J = 8.4, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.31 (dd,  $J = 5.4, 0.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.63 (d,  $J = 15.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.25 (dt,  $J = 15.7, 6.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.63 – 2.51 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  140.0, 139.0, 133.0, 127.0, 125.1, 123.9, 122.5, 122.3, 121.6, 119.2, 28.8, 17.6; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3005, 2927, 2246, 1596, 1510, 1460, 1220, 758; **HRMS m/z** (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{12}\text{NS}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  214.0685, found 214.0688.

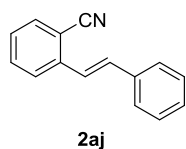
#### (*E*)-5-(Naphthalen-2-yl)pent-4-enitrile (**2ai**)



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ai** (65.8 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed

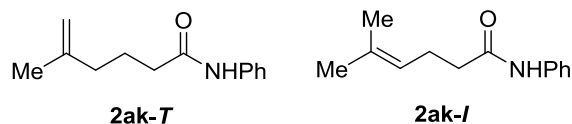
mixture was stirred at 100 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to afford 22.8 mg (54%) of **2ai** as a white solid: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.82 – 7.79 (m, 3H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.58 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.64 – 2.59 (m, 2H), 2.55 – 2.51 (m, 2H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 134.0, 133.5, 133.0, 128.2, 127.9, 127.6, 126.3, 126.2, 125.9, 125.8, 123.3, 119.2, 28.9, 17.5; **ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):** 3010, 2928, 2247, 1605, 1556, 1503, 1446, 1138, 762; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 208.1121, found 208.1123.

#### **(E)-2-Styrylbenzonitrile (2aj)**



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ai** (65.4 mg, 0.2 mmol), Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1,4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 30 : 1) to afford 37.5 mg (92%) of **2ai** as a yellow oil: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.48 (m, 3H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.27 – 7.18 (m, 3H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 140.5, 136.1, 133.3, 133.1, 132.7, 128.8, 128.7, 127.5, 127.1, 125.2, 124.0, 118.0, 111.2; **ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):** 3006, 2248, 1601, 1596, 1500, 1465, 753; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 206.0964, found 206.0968.

#### **5-Methyl-N-phenylhex-5-enamide (2ak-T) and 5-Methyl-N-phenylhex-4-enamide (2ak-I)**



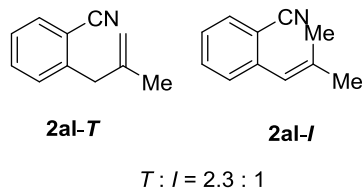
$T : I = 8 : 1$

**1)** Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ak** (46.2 mg, 0.2 mmol), Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane

(1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. **2)** The obtained crude product was dissolved in EtOH (5 mL) and a solution of NaOH (25%) (2 mL) was added. The resulting cloudy reaction mixture was stirred at reflux under Ar for 48 h. Then the biphasic mixture was cooled to rt and acidified to pH = 1 by careful addition of conc HCl. The mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (15 mL \* 3) and the combined organic phases were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated in vacuo affording a crude carboxylic acid product that was used without further purification. **3)** The carboxylic acid (0.2 mmol) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) and the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, before EDCI·HCl (1.35 equiv) was added, followed by DMAP (10 mol%), aniline (0.2 mol) and NEt<sub>3</sub> (1.5 equiv). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 14 h, after which saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl was added to the reaction mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL \* 3) and the combined organic phases were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated in vacuo. The crude reaction mixture was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 2 : 1) to afford 25.7 mg (63%) of **2ak** as a yellow solid: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.58 (br s, 1H), 7.53 – 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 0.8H), 4.75 (s, 0.1H), 4.70 (s, 0.1H), 2.42 – 2.31 (m, 4H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.63 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.2, 138.0, 133.6, 128.9, 126.6, 124.1, 122.5, 119.8, 110.7, 57.2, 37.6, 32.2, 30.7, 25.9, 24.2, 17.7; ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3345, 2928, 1688, 1596, 1506, 1465, 1230, 1025, 746; HRMS *m/z* (ESI) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 204.1383, found 204.1386.

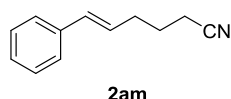


**2-(2-Methylallyl)benzonitrile (2aI-T) and 2-(2-Methylprop-1-en-1-yl)benzonitrile (2aI-I)**



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1aI** (55.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 30 : 1) to afford 20.5 mg (65%) of **2aI** as a yellow oil: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, *T*) δ 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 4.69 (s, 1H), 3.55 (s, 2H), 1.74 (s, 3H); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, *I*) δ 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 1.97 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 3H), 1.81 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.5, 143.0, 142.3, 140.4, 132.8, 132.6, 132.1, 130.0, 129.7, 126.8, 126.3, 121.6, 113.2, 42.5, 26.5, 22.2, 19.6; ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3005, 2248, 1598, 1556, 1505, 1380, 1265, 752; HRMS *m/z* (ESI) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 158.0964, found 158.0966.

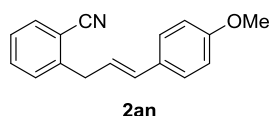
**(E)-6-Phenylhex-5-enitrile (2am)**<sup>[13]</sup>



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1am** (58.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 130 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 30 : 1) to afford 19.4 mg (57%) of **2am** as a yellow oil: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.37 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 6.47 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.17 – 6.08 (m, 1H), 2.43 – 2.35 (m, 4H), 1.90 – 1.80 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 137.1, 132.0,

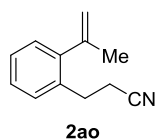
128.6, 127.6, 127.3, 126.0, 119.5, 31.7, 25.0, 16.4; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):2929, 2247, 1652, 1541, 1508, 1457, 743; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{NNa}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 194.0940, found 194.0936.

### **(E)-2-(3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)allyl)benzonitrile (2an)**



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1an** (74.2 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 130 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to afford 30.5 mg (61 %) of **2an** as a yellow oil: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )**  $\delta$  7.64 (dd,  $J = 7.7, 0.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.53 (td,  $J = 7.7, 1.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 6.84 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.47 (d,  $J = 15.7$  Hz, 1H), 6.17 (dt,  $J = 15.7, 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.75 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )**  $\delta$  159.1, 144.3, 132.9, 132.8, 131.9, 129.7, 129.6, 127.3, 126.7, 124.2, 118.0, 113.9, 112.4, 55.2, 37.7; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):3002, 2996, 2248, 1602, 1545, 1500, 1460, 1379, 1056, 751; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ )<sup>+</sup> 250.1226, found 250.1230.

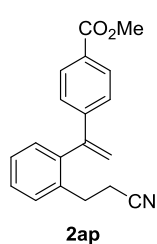
### **3-(2-(Prop-1-en-2-yl)phenyl)propanenitrile (2ao)**



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ao** (58.6 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 130 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 30 : 1) to afford 21.3 mg (62 %) of **2ao** as a yellow oil: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )**  $\delta$  7.19 – 7.14 (m,

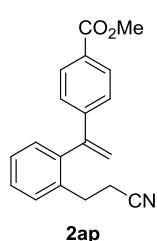
1H), 7.08 – 7.05 (m, 1H), 5.18 – 5.16 (m, 1H), 4.79 – 4.78 (m, 1H), 2.93 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.51 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 1.99 – 1.98 (m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  144.8, 143.7, 134.5, 129.0, 128.5, 127.4, 127.2, 119.3, 115.7, 28.8, 25.2, 19.1; ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3008, 2989, 2246, 1596, 1542, 1515, 1465, 1383, 1246, 762; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{NNa}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ) $^+$  194.0940, found 194.0942.

#### Methyl 4-(1-(2-(2-cyanoethyl)phenyl)vinyl)benzoate (2ap)



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ap** (82.7 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 130  $^\circ\text{C}$  under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to afford 45.9 mg (79 %) of **2ap** as a yellow oil:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.97 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.39 – 7.25 (m, 6H), 5.93 (d,  $J = 0.9$  Hz, 1H), 5.37 (d,  $J = 0.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.70 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 2.36 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  166.6, 147.6, 144.5, 140.6, 135.8, 130.7, 129.9, 129.6, 129.4, 128.5, 127.5, 126.2, 118.9, 117.9, 52.1, 29.0, 18.2; ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3010, 2985, 2247, 1689, 1605, 1546, 1501, 1464, 1375, 1235, 1025, 752; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  292.1332, found 292.1333.

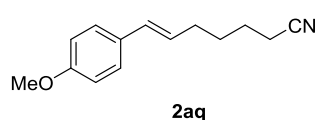
#### Methyl 4-(1-(2-(2-cyanoethyl)phenyl)vinyl)benzoate (2ap)



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ap** (82.7 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 130  $^\circ\text{C}$  under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel

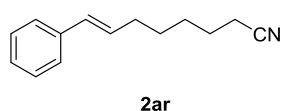
(PE : EA = 10 : 1) to afford 45.9 mg (79 %) of **2ap** as a yellow oil: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.39 – 7.25 (m, 6H), 5.93 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 5.37 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.70 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 166.6, 147.6, 144.5, 140.6, 135.8, 130.7, 129.9, 129.6, 129.4, 128.5, 127.5, 126.2, 118.9, 117.9, 52.1, 29.0, 18.2; **ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):** 3010, 2985, 2247, 1689, 1605, 1546, 1501, 1464, 1375, 1235, 1025, 752; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 292.1332, found 292.1333.

**(E)-7-(4-Methoxyphenyl)hept-6-enenitrile (2aq)**



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1aq** (67.5 mg, 0.2 mmol), Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 130 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to afford 32.1 mg (75 %) of **2aq** as a colorless oil: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.34 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.03 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.36 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.26 – 2.21 (m, 2H), 1.73 – 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.65 – 1.61 (m, 2H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 158.7, 131.9, 130.0, 127.1, 127.0, 119.6, 113.9, 55.2, 31.9, 28.3, 24.7, 16.9; **ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):** 2989, 2248, 1600, 1553, 1509, 1466, 1383, 1246, 1015, 756; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 216.1383, found 216.1388.

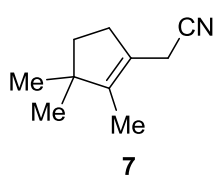
**(E)-8-Phenyloct-7-enenitrile (2ar)**



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1ar** (64.2 mg, 0.2 mmol), Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 130 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by

TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 30 : 1) to afford 26.9 mg (68 %) of **2ar** as a colorless oil: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.22 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 6.39 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.20 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.26 – 2.21 (m, 2H), 1.72 – 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.55 – 1.50 (m, 4H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 137.6, 130.2, 130.1, 128.5, 126.9, 125.9, 119.7, 32.6, 28.4, 28.1, 25.2, 17.1; **ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):** 3005, 2986, 2247, 1595, 1546, 1502, 1458, 1376, 1244, 753; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNa (M + Na)<sup>+</sup> 222.1253, found 222.1256.

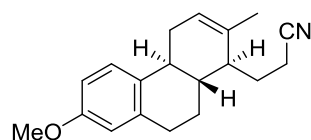
### 2-(2,3,3-Trimethylcyclopent-1-en-1-yl)acetonitrile (**7**)<sup>[14]</sup>



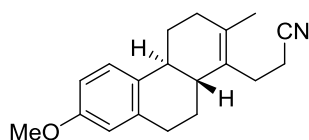
Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **3** (54.2 mg, 0.2 mmol), Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1,4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 130 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The

solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 30 : 1) to afford 23.4 mg (79 %) of **7** as a colorless oil: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 3.08 (s, 2H), 2.35 – 2.33 (m, 2H), 1.70 – 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.54 (s, 3H), 0.98 (s, 6H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 144.7, 121.5, 117.8, 47.2, 38.3, 32.4, 26.2, 17.4, 9.6; **ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>):** 3005, 2986, 2247, 1246, 732; **HRMS m/z (ESI)** calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 150.1277, found 150.1276.

**3-((1S,4aS,10aS)-7-Methoxy-2-methyl-1,4,4a,9,10,10a-hexahydrophenanthren-1-yl)propanenitrile (10-L)** and **3-((4aS,10aR)-7-Methoxy-2-methyl-3,4,4a,9,10,10a-hexahydrophenanthren-1-yl)propanenitrile (10-R)**



**10-L**

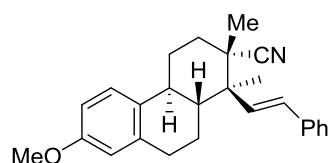


**10-R**

Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **8** (80.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (7.2 mg, 10 mol%),

absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 130 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to afford 49.6 mg (79 %) of **10** as a colorless oil: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>-L) δ 7.24 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.67 – 6.62 (m, 1H), 5.74 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.96 – 2.92 (m, 2H), 2.88 – 2.42 (m, 3H), 2.40 – 2.05 (m, 5H), 1.90 – 1.82 (m, 1H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.50 – 1.32 (m, 2H); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>-R) δ 7.24 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.67 – 6.62 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.96 – 2.92 (m, 2H), 2.88 – 2.42 (m, 4H), 2.40 – 2.05 (m, 5H), 1.90 – 1.82 (m, 1H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.50 – 1.32 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.6, 157.5, 137.7, 137.6, 133.3, 132.7, 131.7, 131.5, 128.0, 127.3, 126.1, 125.7, 120.4, 119.6, 113.5, 113.3, 112.1, 111.4, 55.2, 44.2, 43.3, 41.0, 40.6, 39.1, 38.5, 32.8, 31.6, 30.3, 30.0, 27.4, 27.0, 24.9, 24.3, 21.2, 19.6, 16.4, 11.9; ATR-FTIR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3003, 2988, 2248, 1605, 1596, 1546, 1505, 1378, 1240, 1025, 755; HRMS *m/z* (ESI) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO (M + Na)<sup>+</sup> 304.1672, found 304.1677.

**(1S,2S,4aS,10aR)-7-Methoxy-1,2-dimethyl-1-((*E*)-styryl)-1,2,3,4,4a,9,10,10a-octahydrophenanthrene-2-carbonitrile (**11**)**



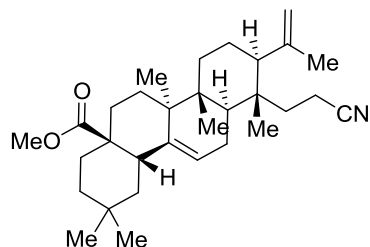
**11**

Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **9** (95.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 130 °C

under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room

temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to afford 63.8 mg (89 %) of **11** as a white solid:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.36 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.25 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.19 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.11 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.66 (dd,  $J = 8.6, 2.7$  Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d,  $J = 15.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d,  $J = 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.93 (dd,  $J = 15.8, 9.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.76 – 2.73 (m, 2H), 2.35 – 2.27 (m, 3H), 2.13 – 2.07 (m, 2H), 1.96 – 1.91 (m, 1H), 1.43 – 1.35 (m, 2H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.28 – 1.24 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  157.8, 137.8, 136.7, 134.8, 130.9, 128.5, 127.6, 127.5, 126.4, 126.2, 125.2, 113.6, 111.8, 55.2, 52.6, 42.2, 38.2, 37.8, 37.0, 29.8, 27.8, 24.8, 17.2; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3003, 2988, 2248, 1605, 1596, 1546, 1505, 1378, 1240, 1025, 755; **HRMS m/z** (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{30}\text{NO}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  372.2322, found 372.2325.

**Methyl (1S,2S,4aR,4bS,6aS,10aS,12aR)-1-(2-cyanoethyl)-1,4a,4b,9,9-pentamethyl-2-(prop-1-en-2-yl)-1,3,4,4a,4b,5,6,7,8,9,10,10a,12,12a-tetradecahydrochrysen-6a(2H)-carboxylate (13)**



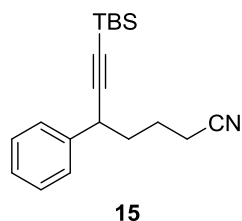
**13**

Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **12** (117.6 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 130  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The

solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to afford 82.8 mg (89 %) of **13** as a white solid:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.29 (t,  $J = 3.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.88 (s, 1H), 4.64 (s, 1H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 2.87 (dd,  $J = 13.8, 3.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.38 – 2.16 (m, 2H), 1.99 – 1.87 (m, 3H), 1.80 – 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.69 – 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.62 – 1.57 (m, 3H), 1.49 – 1.35 (m, 4H), 1.33 – 1.24 (m, 3H), 1.20 – 1.17 (m, 1H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 1.11 – 1.03 (m, 2H), 0.92 (s, 3H), 0.91 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H), 0.77 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  178.2,

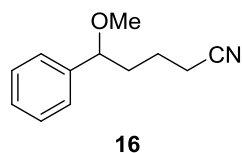
146.8, 144.0, 121.6, 120.2, 114.1, 51.5, 50.6, 46.6, 45.7, 42.1, 41.3, 39.4, 39.0, 37.8, 34.4, 33.8, 33.0, 32.3, 31.2, 30.6, 27.6, 25.7, 24.1, 23.6, 23.5, 22.9, 19.0, 16.9, 11.5; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3008, 2985, 2247, 1686, 1465, 1378, 1246, 1012, 732; **HRMS**  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{47}\text{NNaO}_2$  ( $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 488.3499, found 488.3508.

### 7-(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)-5-phenylhept-6-ynenitrile (**15**)



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1aa** (55.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), alkynyl sulfone<sup>[15]</sup> (84.1 mg, 0.3 mmol), Zn-Cu couple (2.6 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 80 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 20 : 1) to afford 29.1 mg (49 %) of **15** as a yellow oil: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  7.37 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.27 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 3.74 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 5.5$  Hz, 1H), 2.36 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 2.38 – 1.78 (m, 4H), 0.96 (s, 9H), 0.12 (d,  $J = 1.5$  Hz, 6H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  140.7, 128.6, 127.3, 127.0, 119.4, 107.3, 86.6, 38.0, 37.2, 26.1, 23.0, 16.9, -4.5; **ATR-FTIR** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2992, 2247, 2103, 1452, 1383, 1245, 1125, 750; **HRMS**  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{27}\text{NNaSi}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ )<sup>+</sup> 320.1805, found 320.1802.

### 5-Methoxy-5-phenylpentanenitrile (**16**)

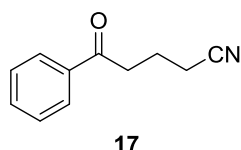


Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1aa** (55.8 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry MeOH (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 10 : 1) to afford (22.6 mg, 60 %) of **16** as a colorless oil: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**



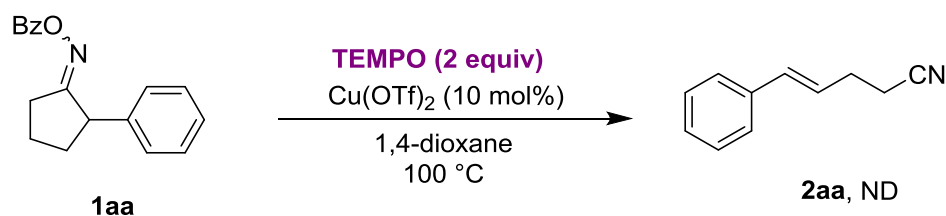
$\delta$  7.35 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 4.13 (dd,  $J = 7.6, 4.3$  Hz, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 2.39 – 2.28 (m, 2H), 1.94 – 1.86 (m, 1H), 1.82 – 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.75 – 1.63 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  141.3, 128.5, 127.8, 126.4, 119.6, 82.9, 56.6, 36.9, 21.9, 17.0; ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2985, 2246, 1598, 1545, 1378, 1246, 1145, 1025, 745; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  190.1226, found 190.1225.

### 5-oxo-5-phenylpentanenitrile (17)



Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1aa** (55.8 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry DMSO (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 80 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 7 : 1) to afford (19.1 mg, 60 %) of **17** as a colorless oil:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.96 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.58 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 3.18 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.52 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.11 (p,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  198.1, 136.3, 133.4, 128.7, 127.9, 119.4, 36.3, 19.6, 16.6; ATR-FTIR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1684, 1597, 1580, 1449, 1374, 1235, 1058, 756; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{NNaO}$  ( $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ) $^+$  196.0733, found 196.0732.

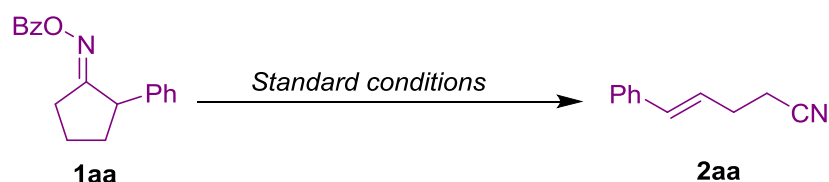
## 4. Mechanistic Experiments



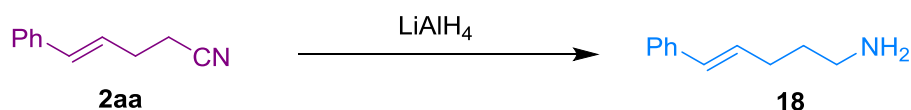
Flame-dried 25 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1aa** (55.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), TEMPO (62.5 mg, 0.4 mmol),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$  (7.2 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1,4-dioxane (1.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100

100 °C under Ar for 12 h. The resulting mixture was analysed by GC-MS, and no desired product **2aa** was detected, which indicated that a radical intermediate was involved in this catalytic cycle.

## 5. Synthetic Application



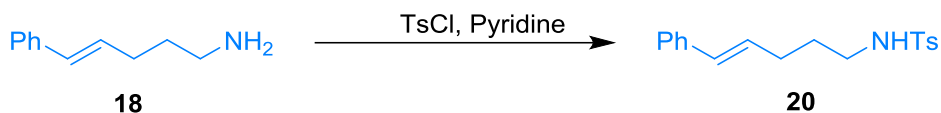
Flame-dried 50 mL Schlenk tube filled with argon, cycloketoxime ester **1aa** (700.0 mg, 2.5 mmol), Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (90.0 mg, 10 mol%), absolute dry 1, 4-dioxane (13.0 mL) were added under Ar. The formed mixture was stirred at 100 °C under Ar for 12 h as monitored by TLC. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under vacuum directly. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 30 : 1) to afford 306.9 mg (78%) of **2aa** as a yellow oil.



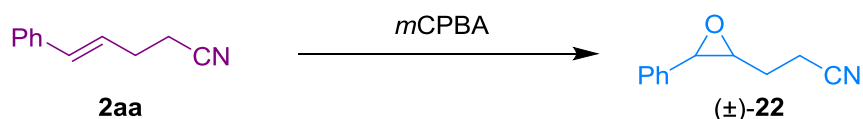
A flame dried Schlenk equipped with a stirrer bar and a reflux condenser is charged with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (22.8 mg, 0.6 mmol), Et<sub>2</sub>O (2.0 mL) is added carefully and the mixture is cooled to 0 °C with an external ice/water cooling bath. **2aa** (31.4 mg, 0.2 mmol) dissolved in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.5 mL) and added carefully to the LiAlH<sub>4</sub> suspension. The mixture is heated to reflux for 2 h and cooled to 0 °C afterwards. A solution of NaOH (10% in water) is added carefully until a white solid precipitates. After filtration over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporation of the solvent, **18** is obtained in quantitative yields as a yellow oil: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.34 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.22 (dt, *J* = 15.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.26 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.63 (p, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.33 (br s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C

**NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  137.4, 130.1, 129.8, 128.2, 126.6, 125.7, 41.5, 33.1, 30.1.

The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.<sup>[16]</sup>

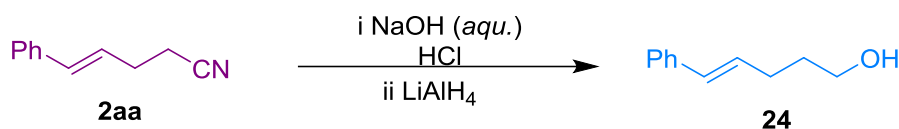


The prepared **18** (0.2 mmol) was dissolved in pyridine (2.0 mL) and the respective tosyl chloride (0.3 mmol, 57.2 mg) is added at 0 °C. The solution stirred overnight at room temperature. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> is added, and the mixture is washed three times with a hydrochloride solution (10% HCl in water). The organic layer is dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After evaporating the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was then purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA=5 :1) to afford 50.5 mg (80%) of **20** as a colorless oil: **<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  7.76 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.28 (m, 6H), 7.21 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 6.35 – 6.28 (m, 1H), 6.08 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.86 – 4.82 (m, 1H), 2.99 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.24 – 2.16 (m, 2H), 1.65 (p, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)**  $\delta$  143.1, 137.1, 136.7, 130.7, 129.4, 128.7, 128.2, 126.8, 126.8, 125.7, 42.3, 29.5, 28.9, 21.2. The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.<sup>[17]</sup>



To a stirred solution of the **2aa** (31.4 mg, 0.2 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mL) was added NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (50.4 mg, 0.6 mmol,) then *m*-CPBA (85wt%, 60.9 mg, 0.3 mmol) in one portion at room temperature, and the resulting white slurry was stirred, which was monitored by TLC analysis. The mixture was then cooled to 0 °C in an ice bath and 5% w/v aq. Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> (1.5 mL) was added in one portion. The biphasic mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 5 min, then at room temperature for 15 min, then the layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified

by flash chromatography (PE : EA = 7 : 1) to afford 28.4 mg (82%) of ( $\pm$ )-**22** as a yellow oil:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.26 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 3.69 (d,  $J = 2.1$  Hz, 1H), 3.03 (t,  $J = 2.1$  Hz, 1H), 2.50 (dd,  $J = 6.4, 1.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.14 – 2.05 (m, 1H), 1.91 (dd,  $J = 13.9, 6.8$  Hz, 1H).;  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  136.2, 128.3, 128.2, 125.3, 118.6, 60.1, 58.2, 28.0, 13.6. The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.<sup>[18]</sup>



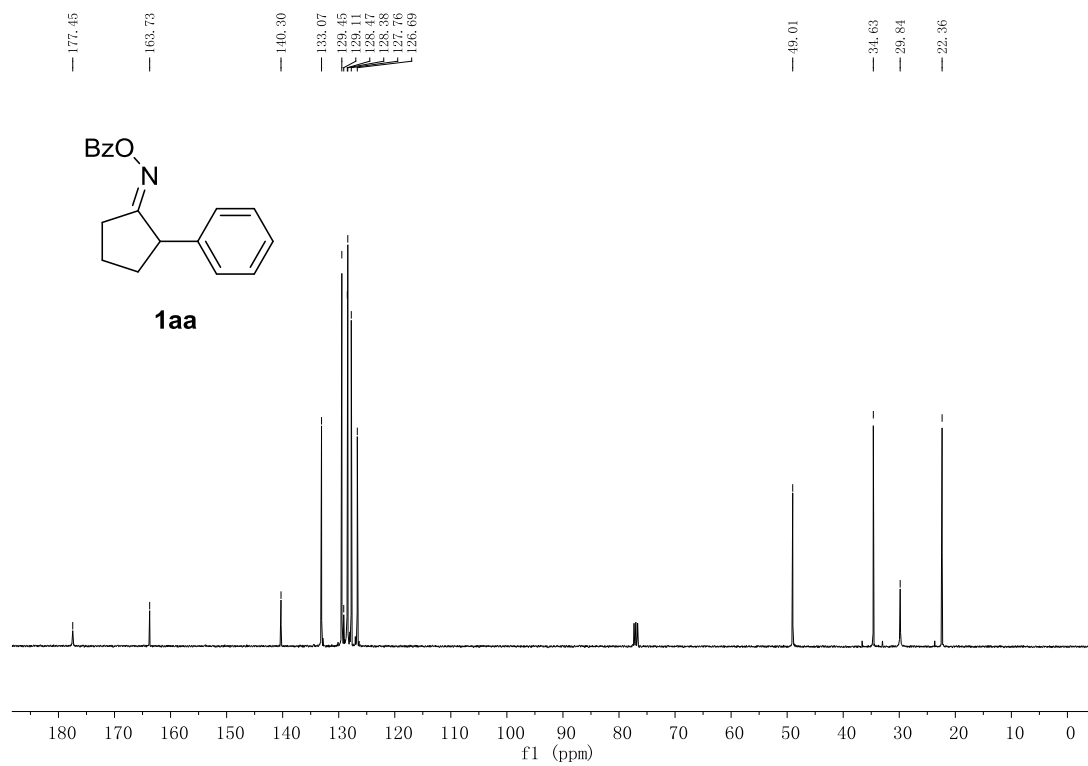
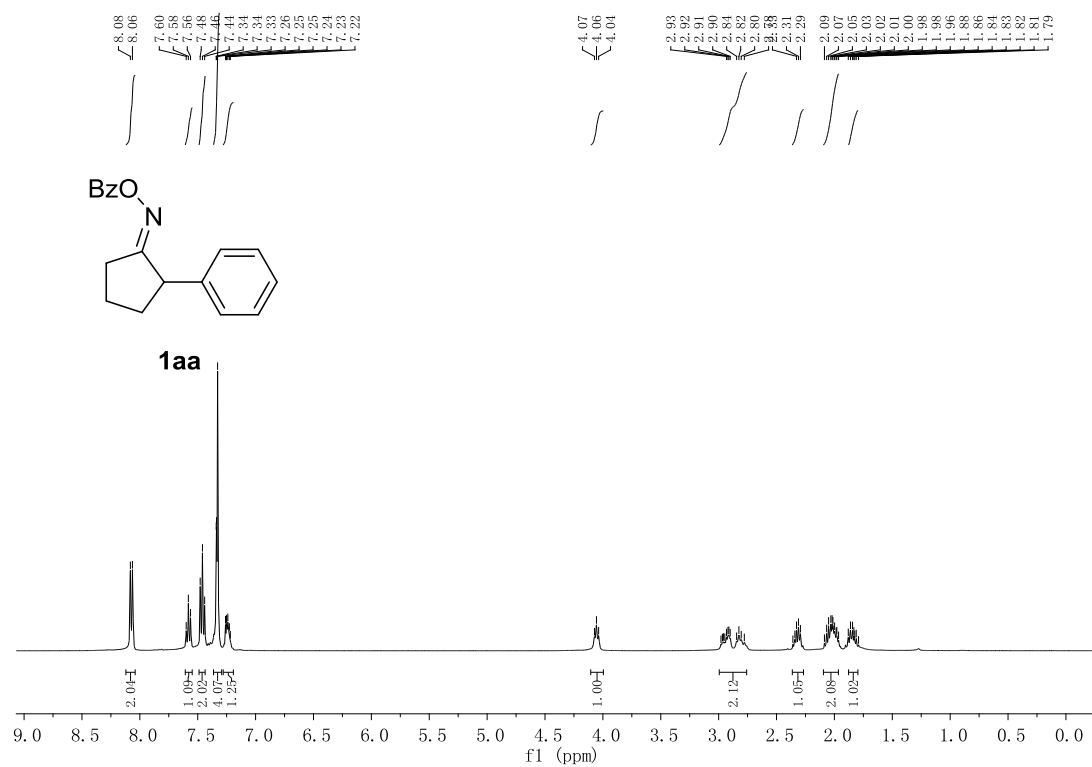
A solution of **2aa** (31.4 mg, 0.2 mmol) and 25% aqueous sodium hydroxide (1.5 mL) in methanol (4.5 mL) was stirred at reflux for 16 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Water and EtOAc was added to the reaction mixture, and the two layers were separated. The pH of the aqueous layer was adjusted to 3 with 10% HCl, and the product was extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was washed with brine, and dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The product was used for the next step without further purification.

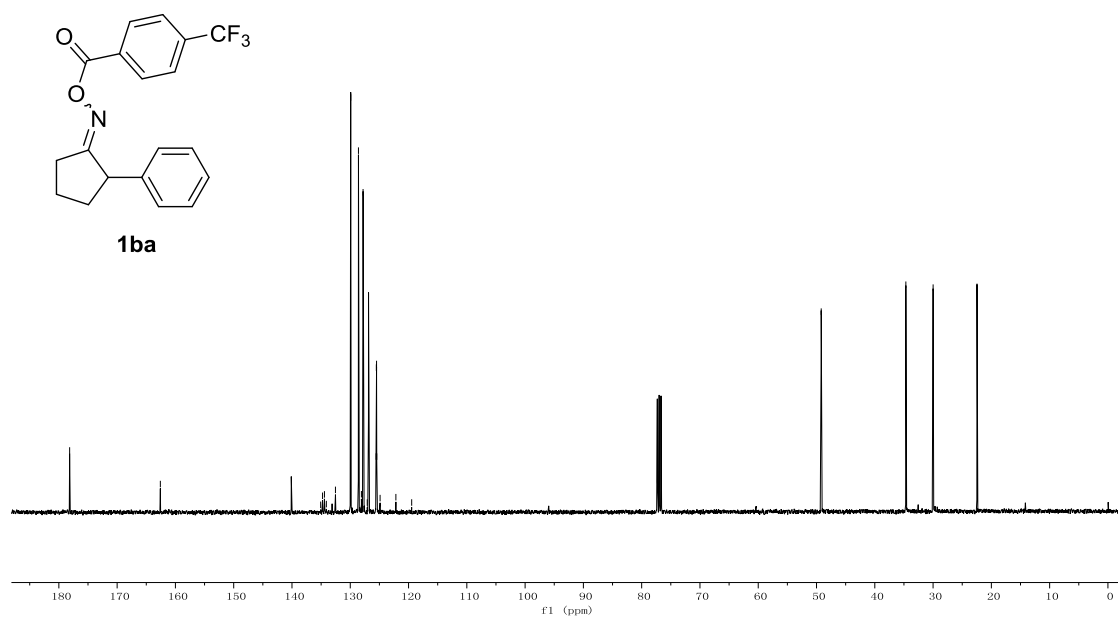
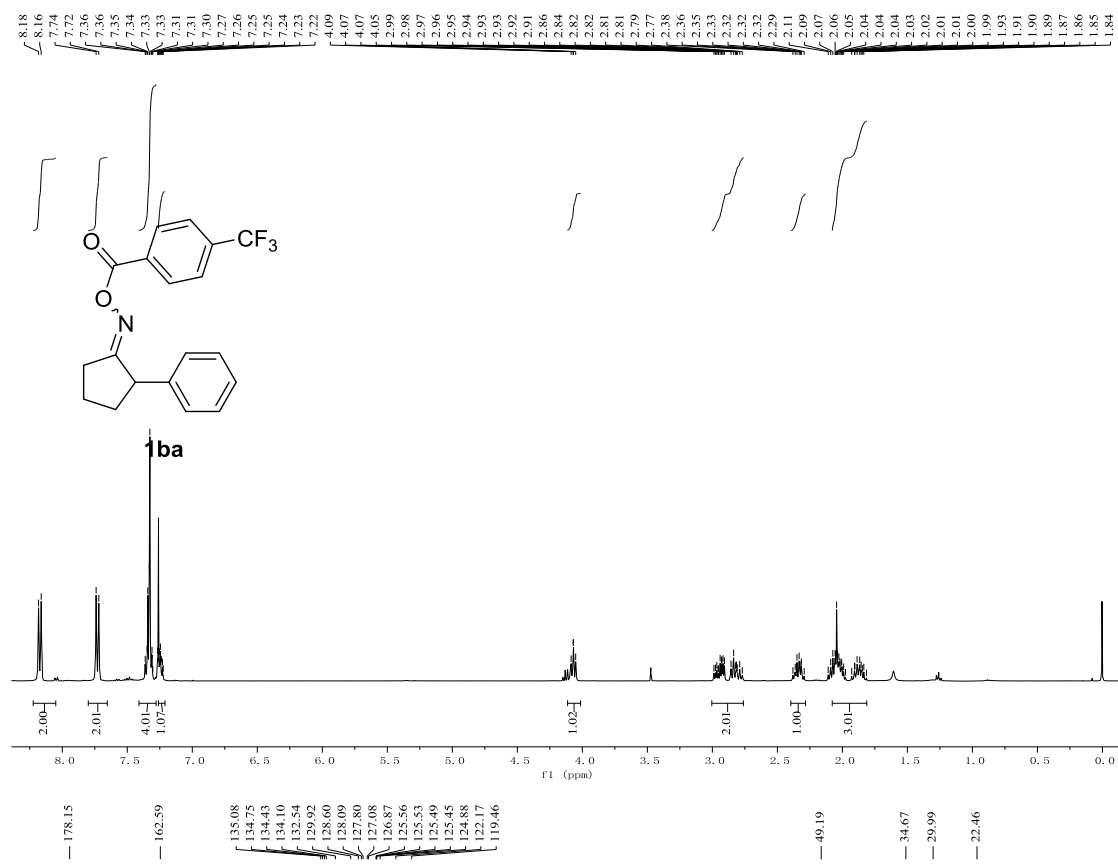
$\text{LiAlH}_4$  (0.24 mmol, 9.1 mg) was suspended in dry diethyl ether (2.0 mL) and an solution of carboxylic acid generated above in  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  was added dropwise while cooling the reaction in an ice bath. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h, 10% HCl was added to the reaction mixture to acidity solution, stirred for 2 h. The two layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with ether. The combined organic layers were washed with saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , and brine, and dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the product was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (PE : EA = 3 : 1) to afford 21.1 mg (65%) of **24** as a colourless oil:  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.21 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.48 – 6.39 (m, 1H), 6.24 (d,  $J = 15.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.72 (t,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 2H), 2.34 – 2.30 (m, 2H), 1.81 – 1.71 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  137.4, 130.2, 129.8, 128.3, 126.7, 125.7, 62.2, 32.0, 29.1. The spectroscopic data matched those reported in the literature.<sup>[19]</sup>

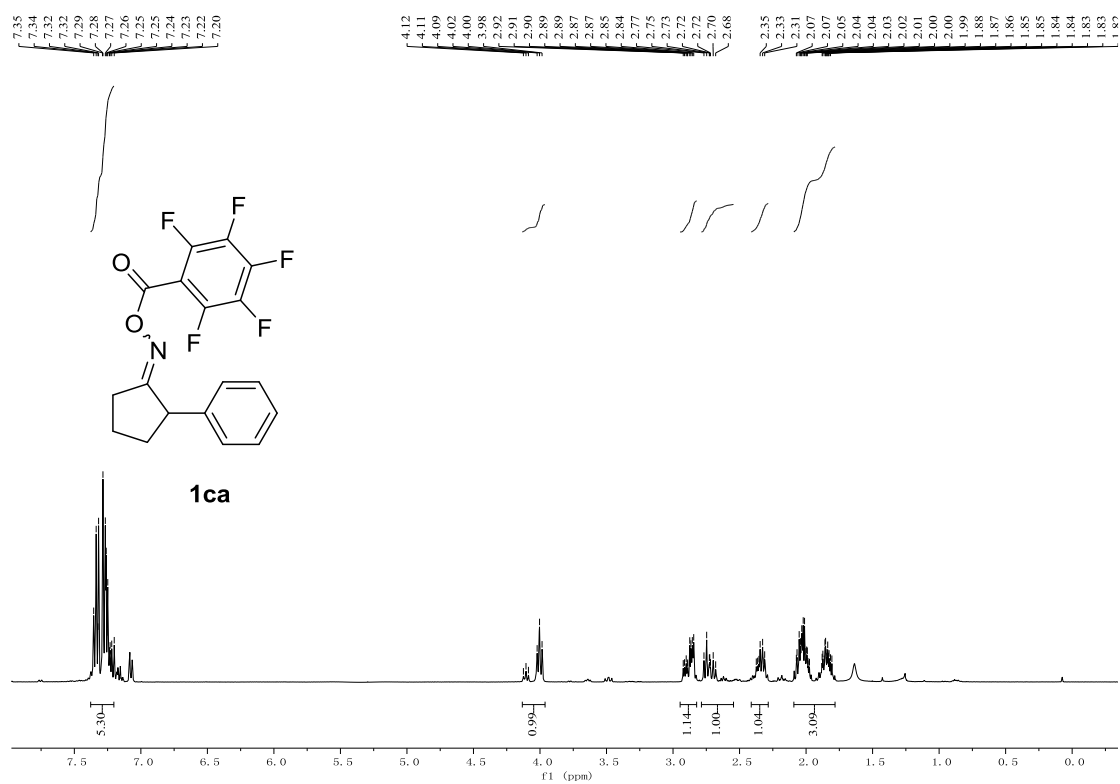
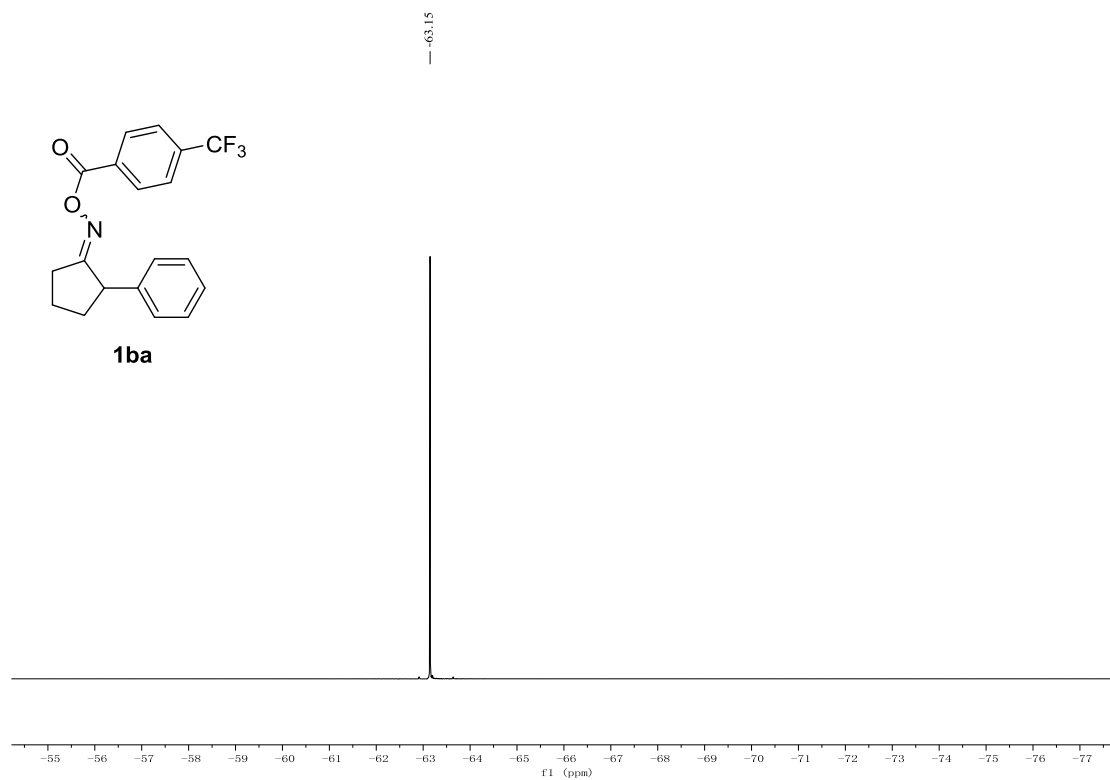
## 6. References

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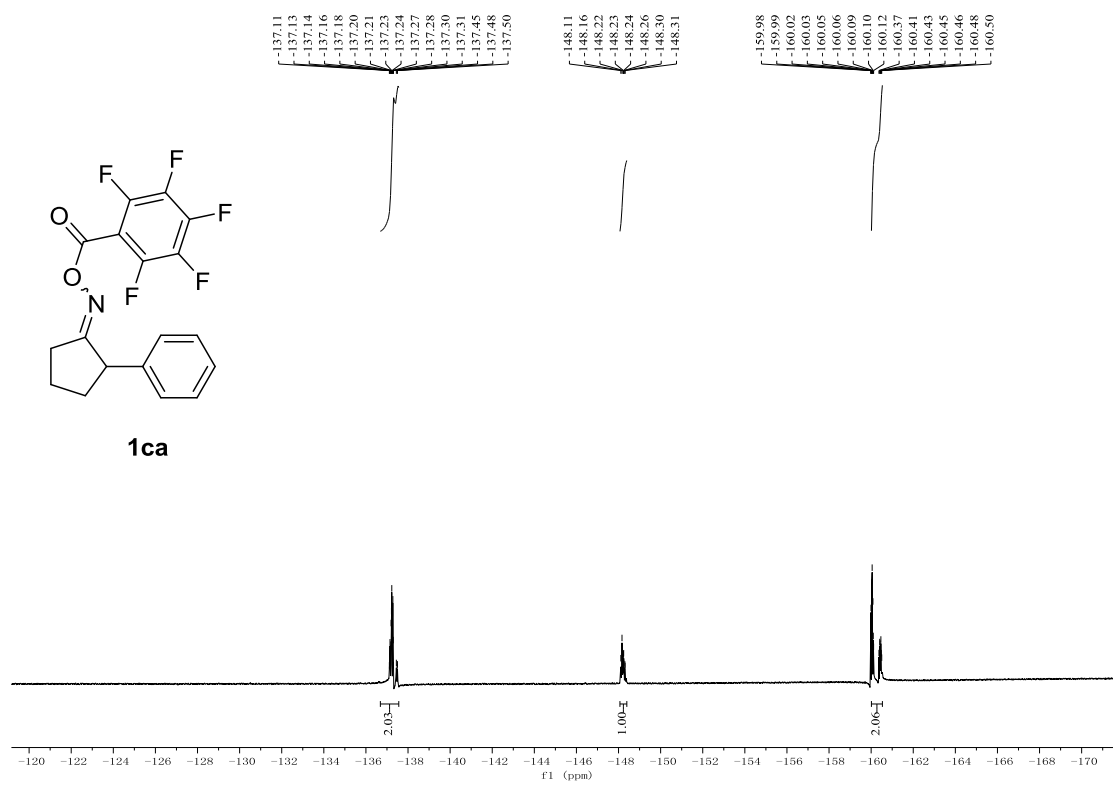
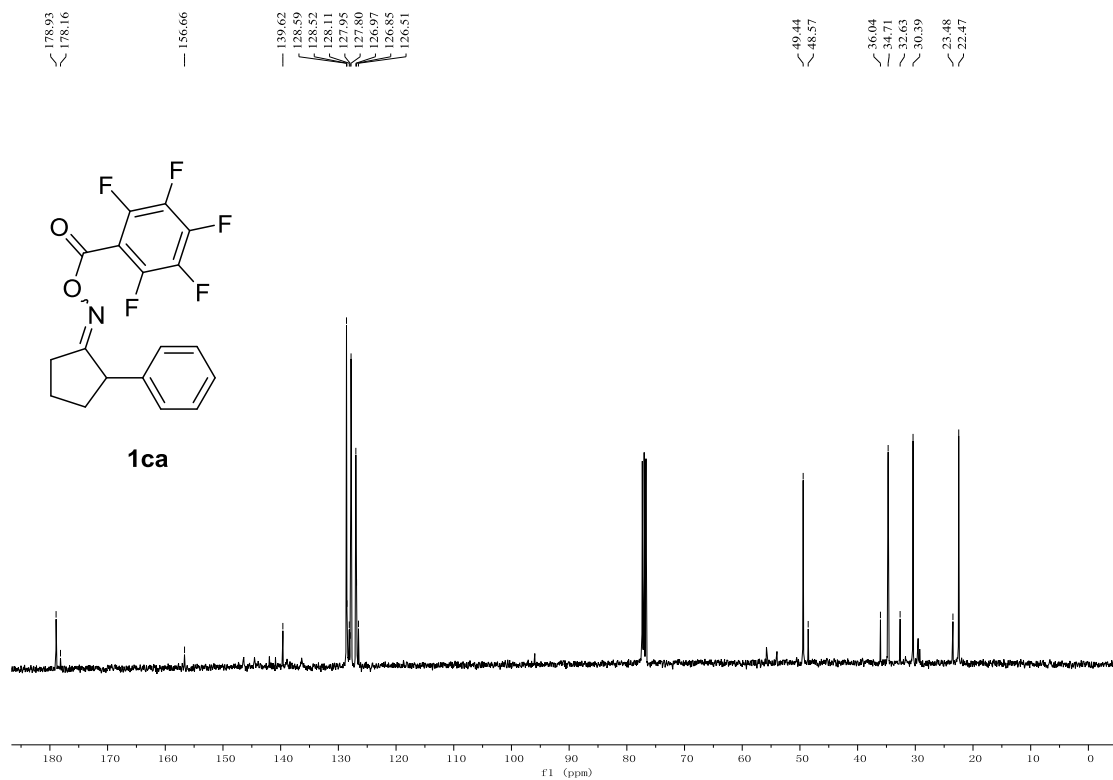
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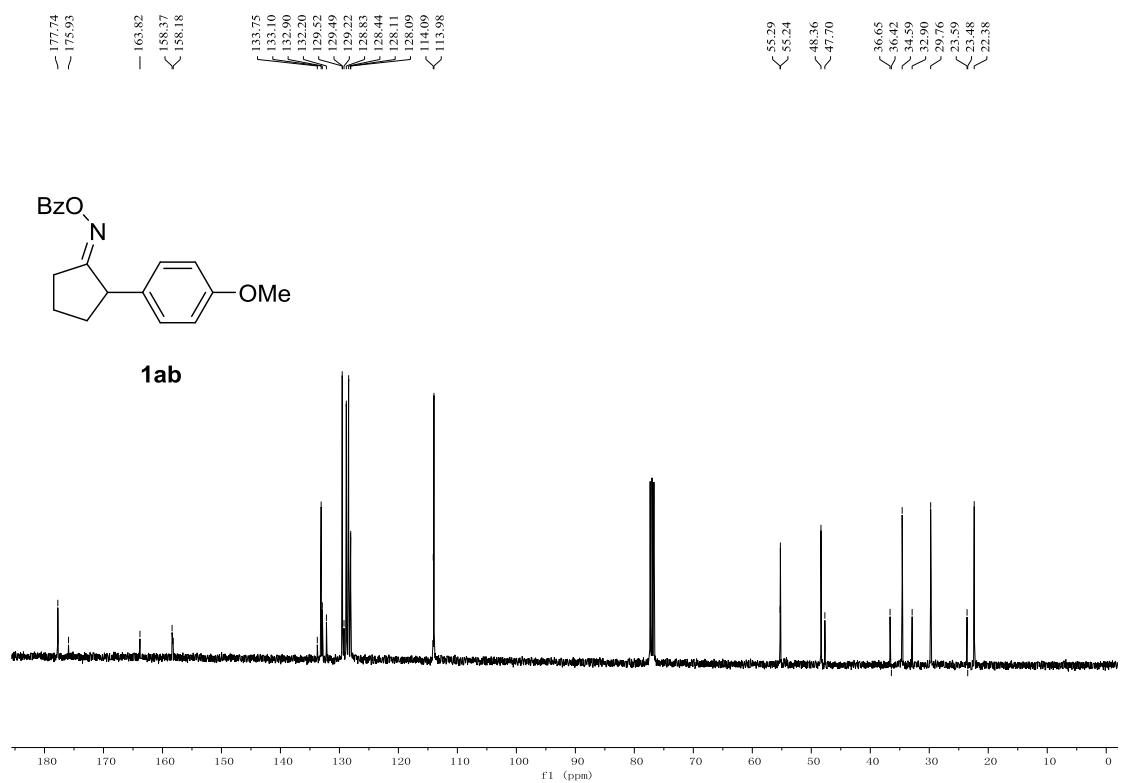
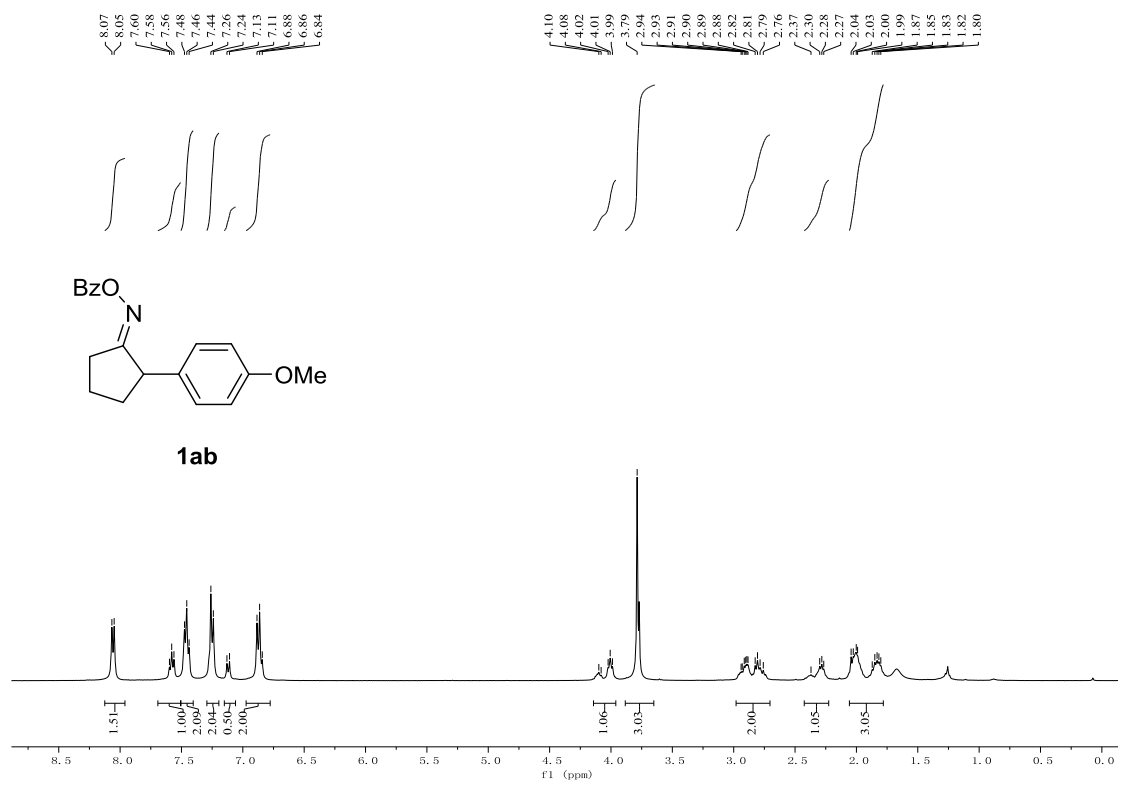


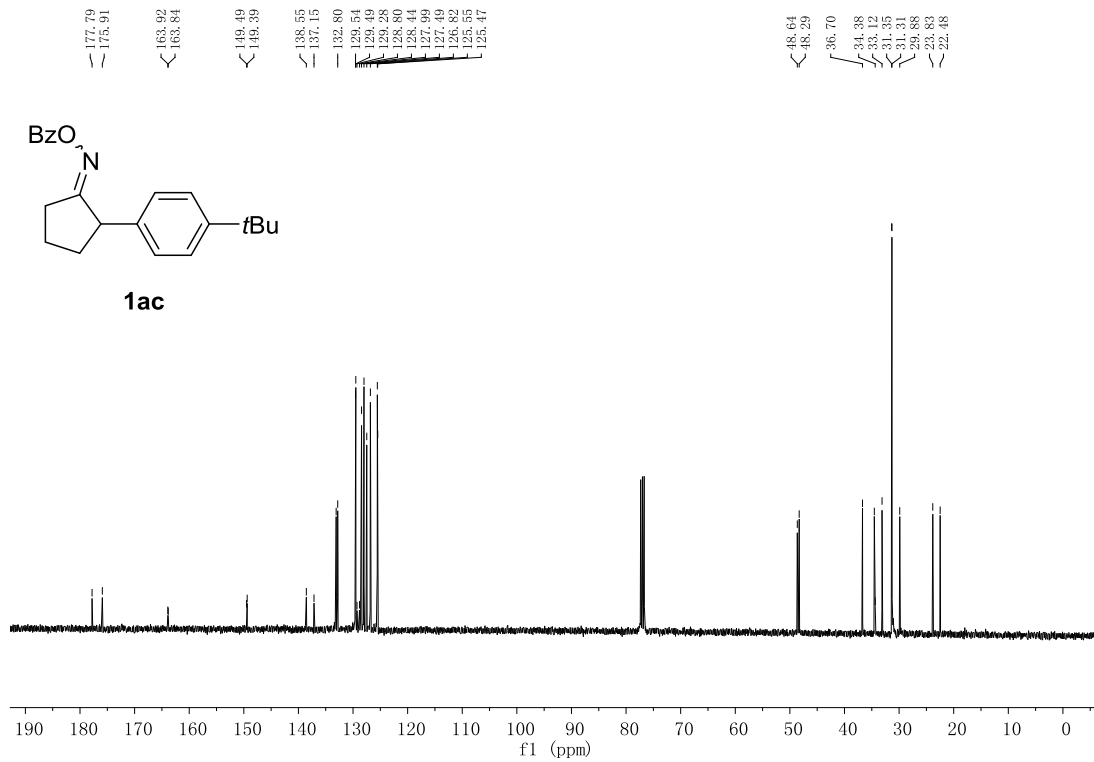
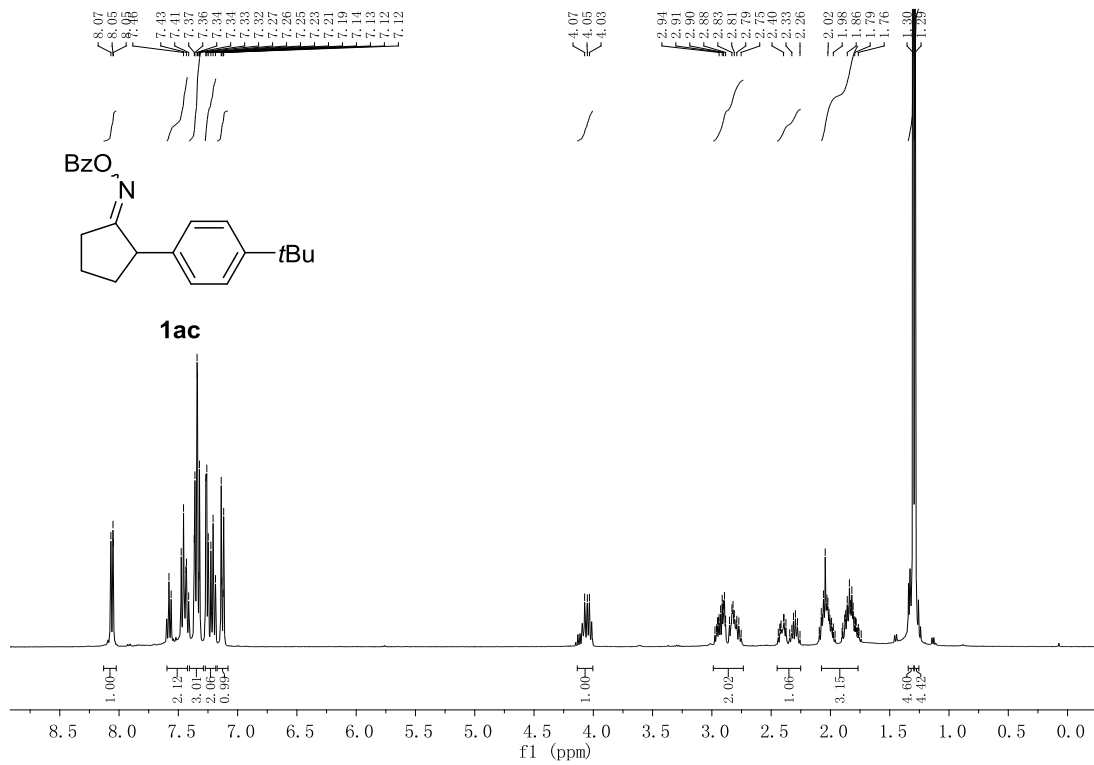




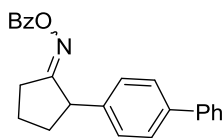




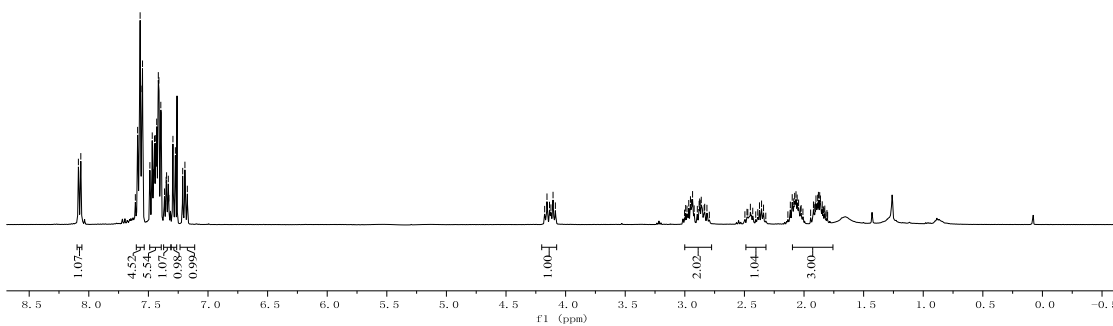




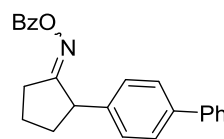
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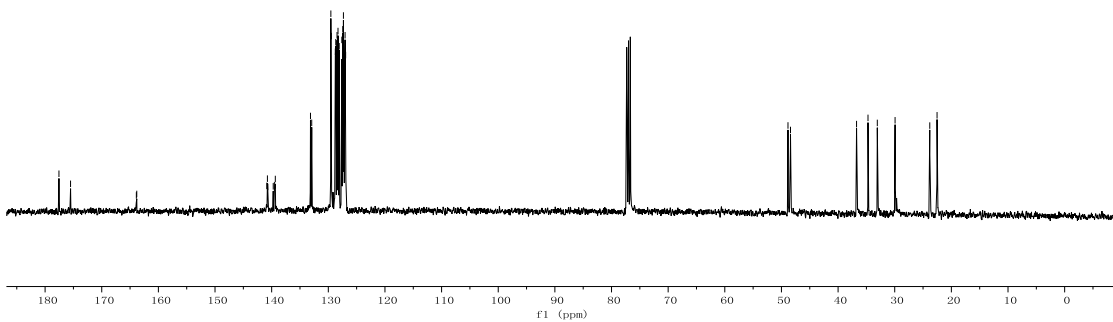
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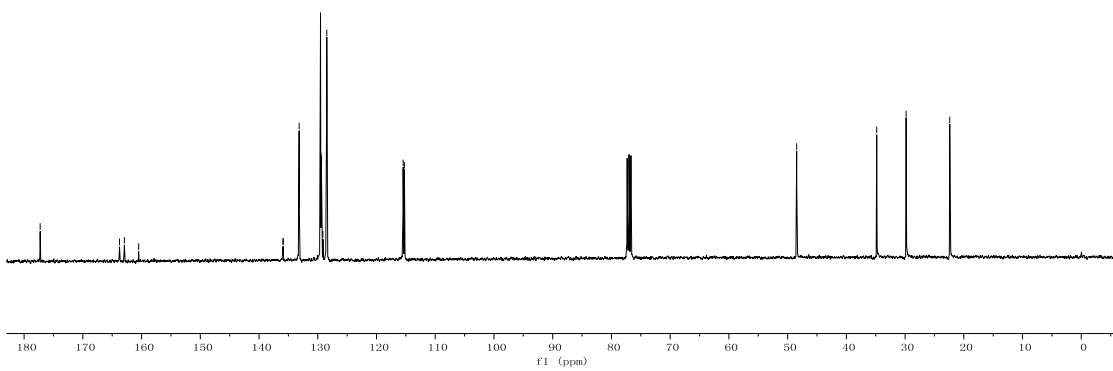
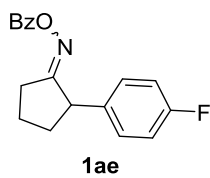
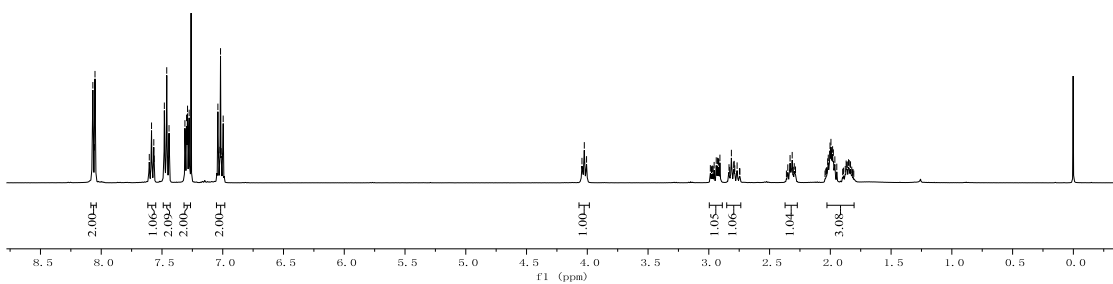
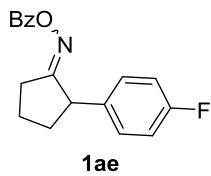
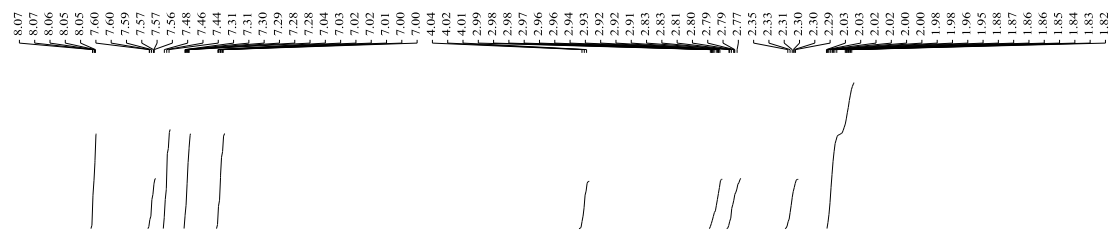


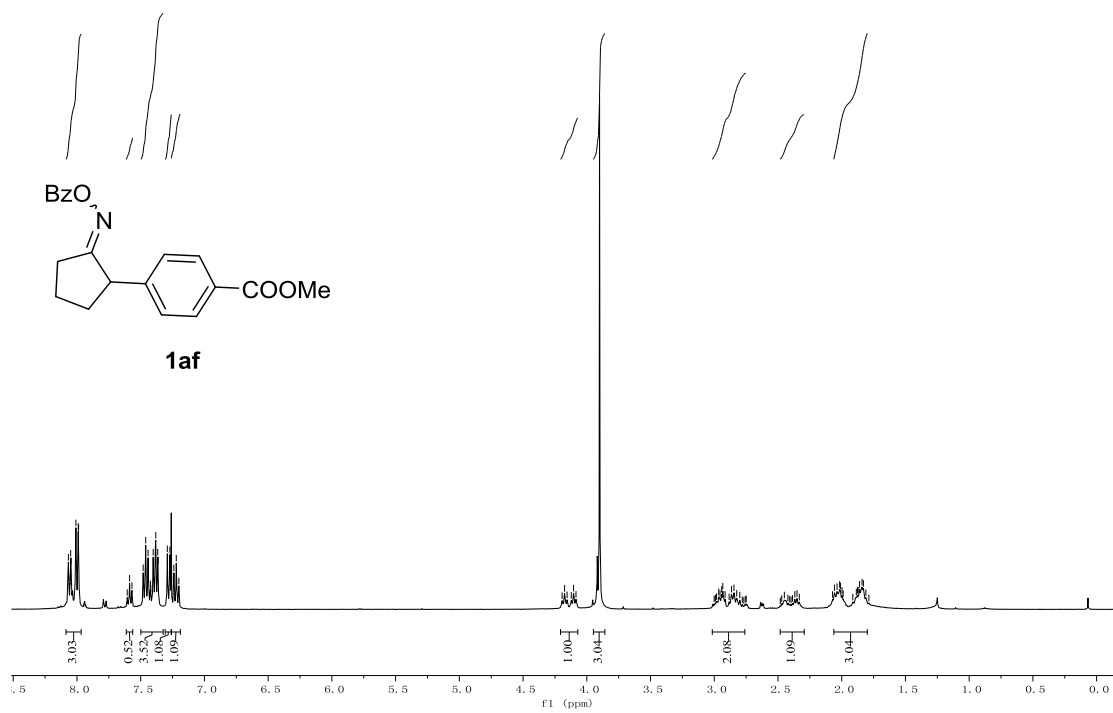
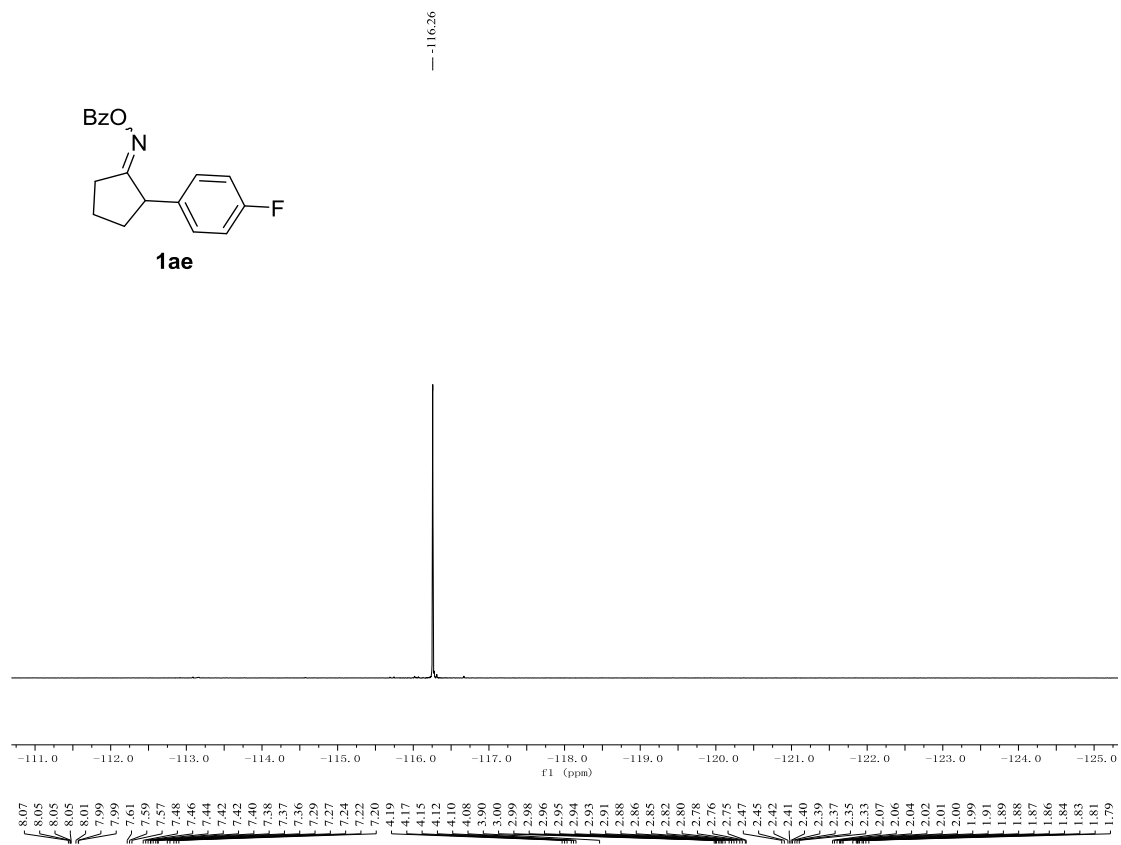
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**1ad**

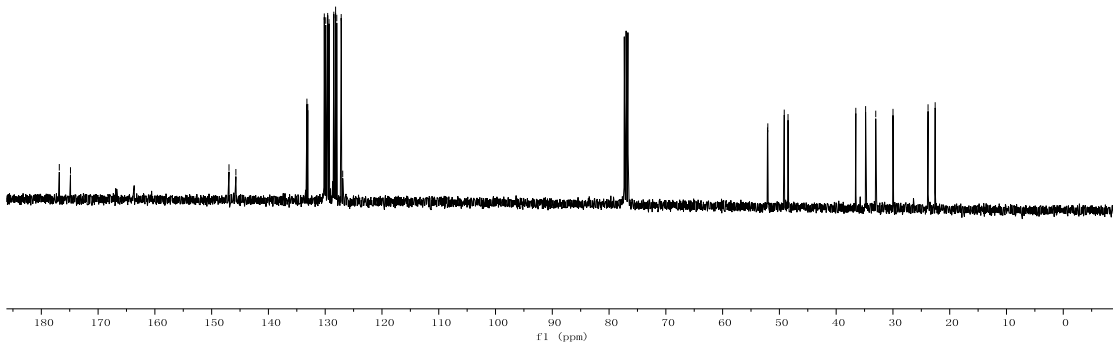
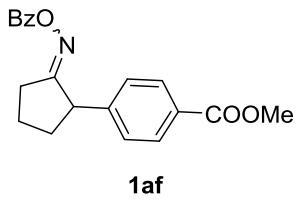




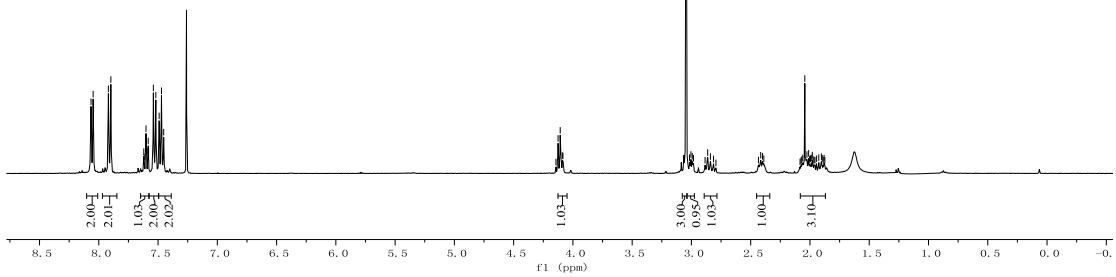
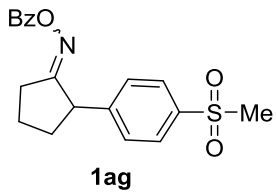
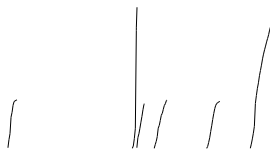
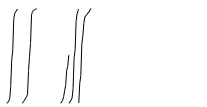


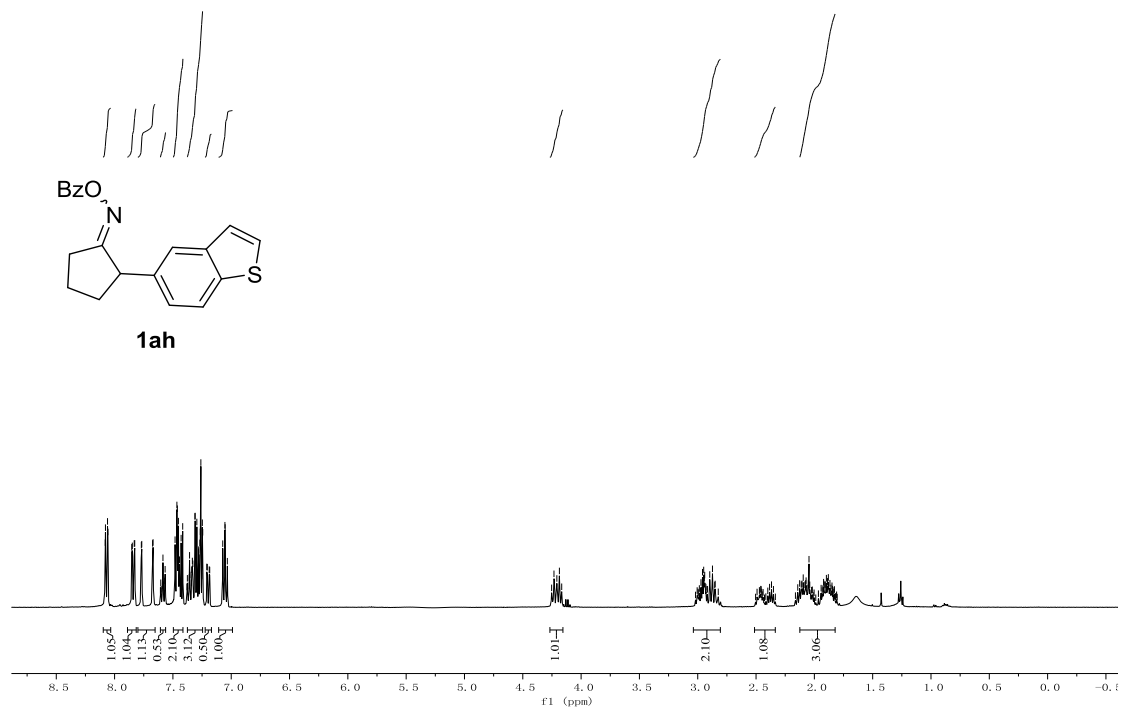
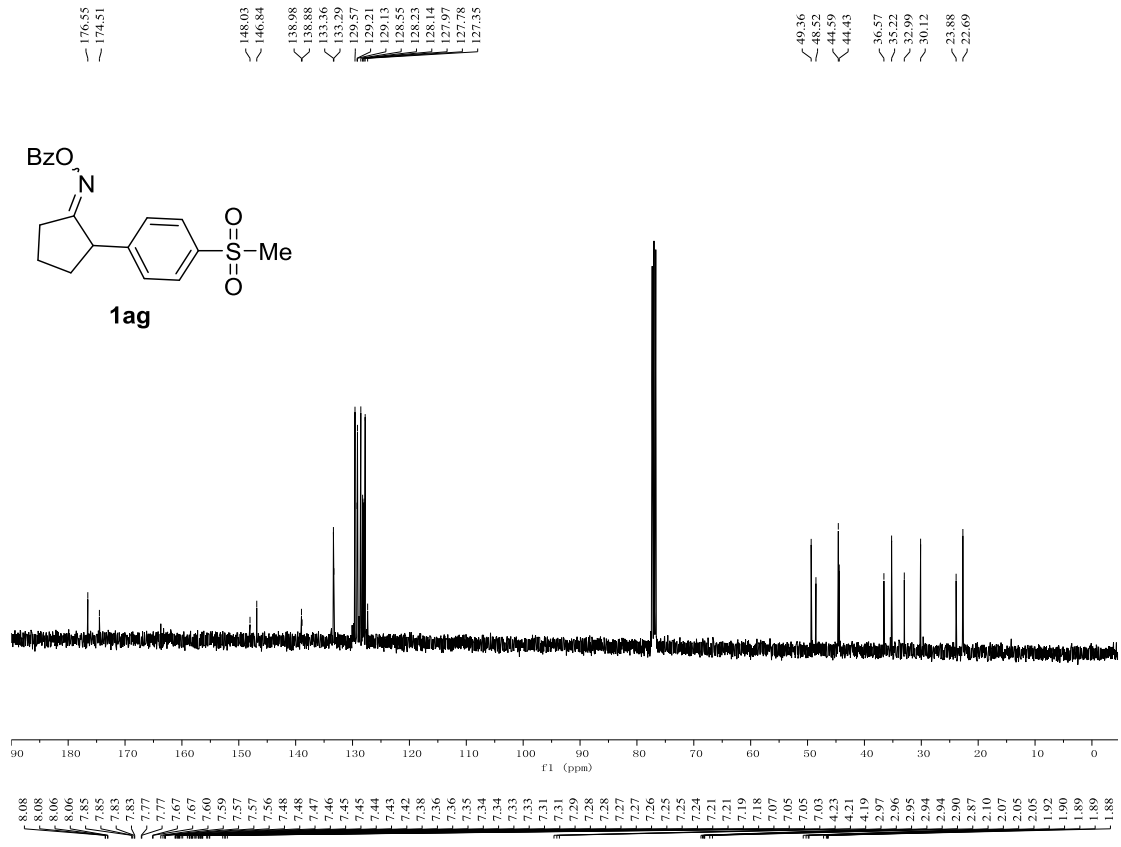
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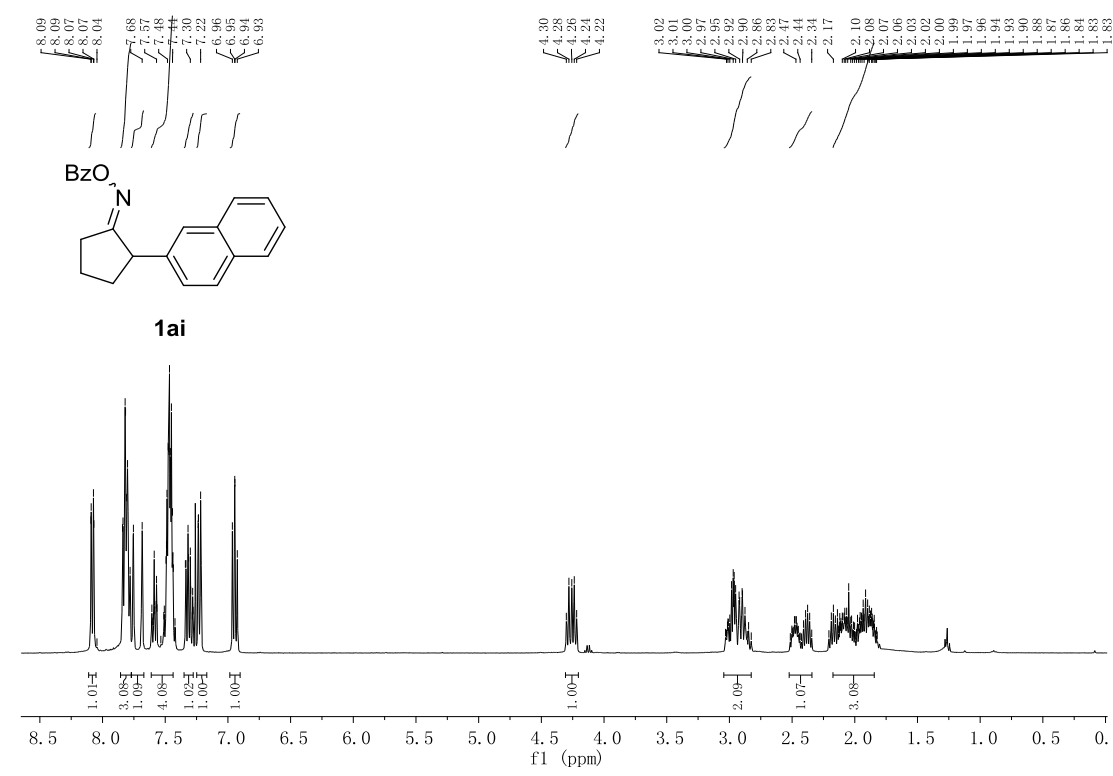
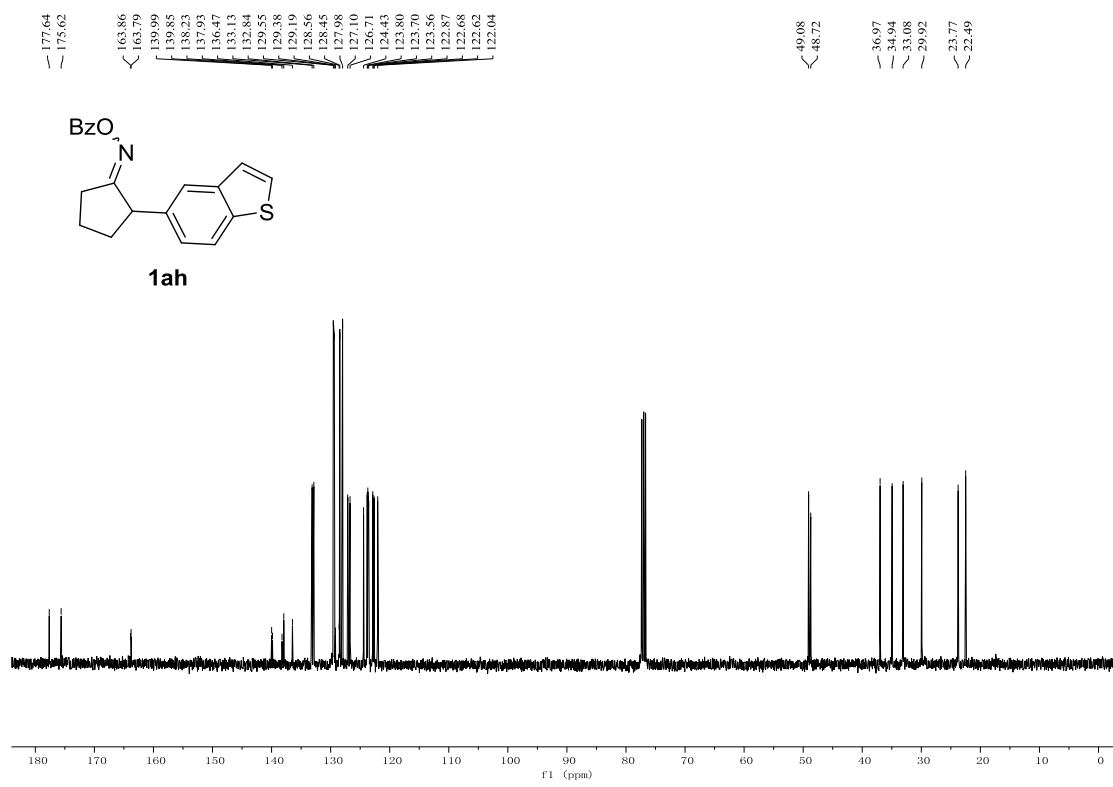


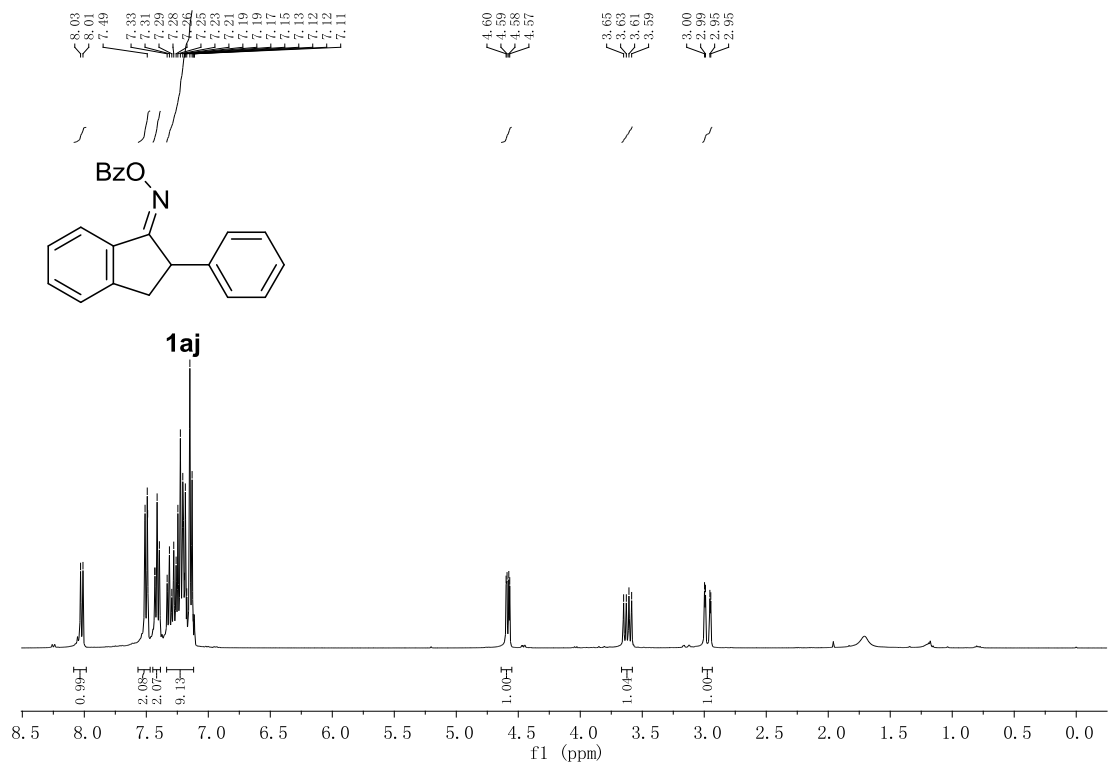
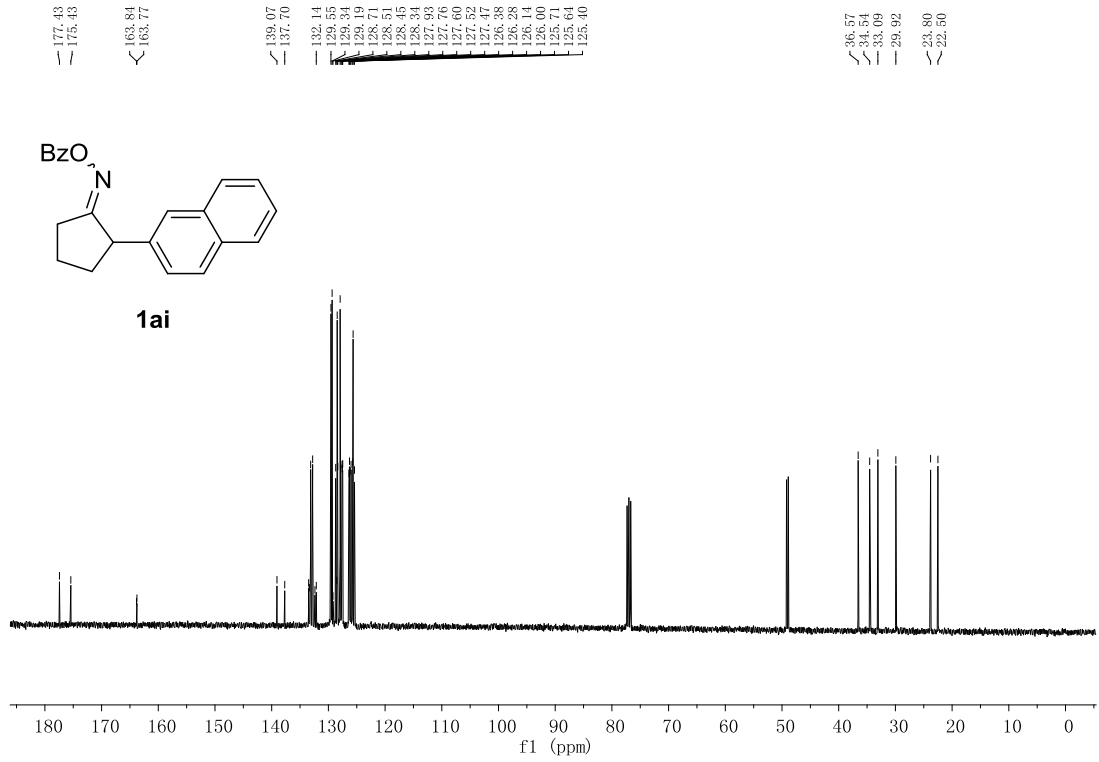
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7.54  
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2.06  
2.04  
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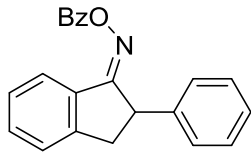




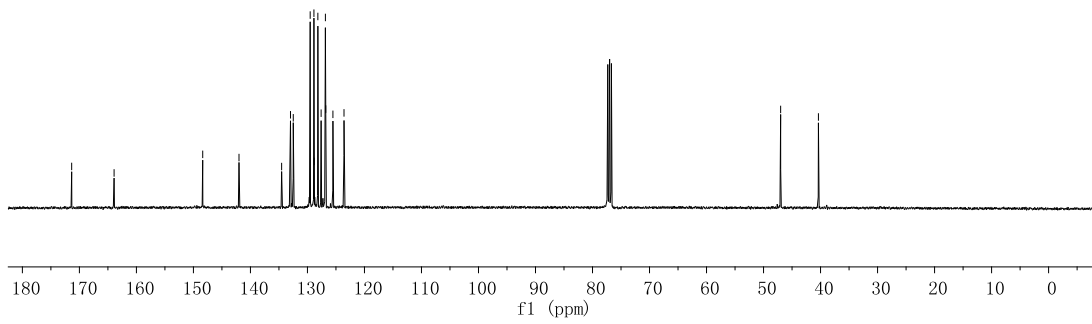


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 — 148.37  
 — 142.01  
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 129.52  
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— 47.00  
 — 40.37

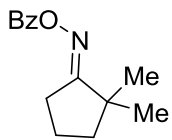


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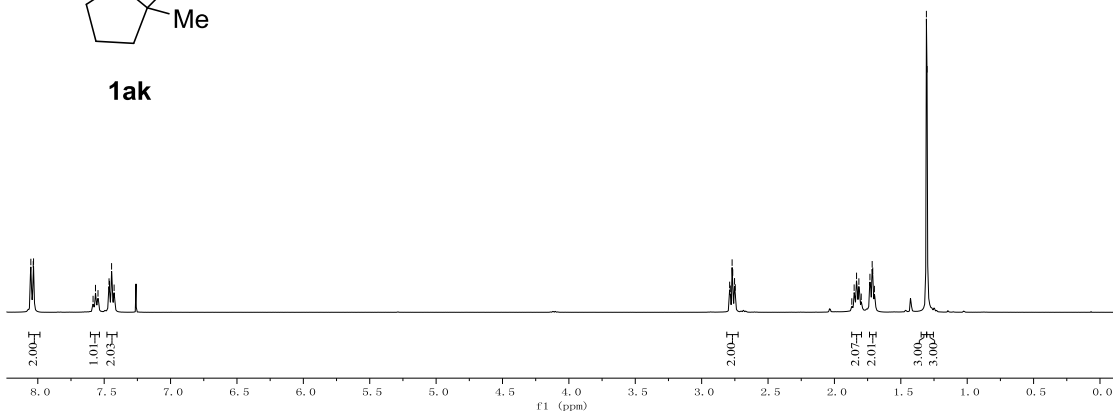


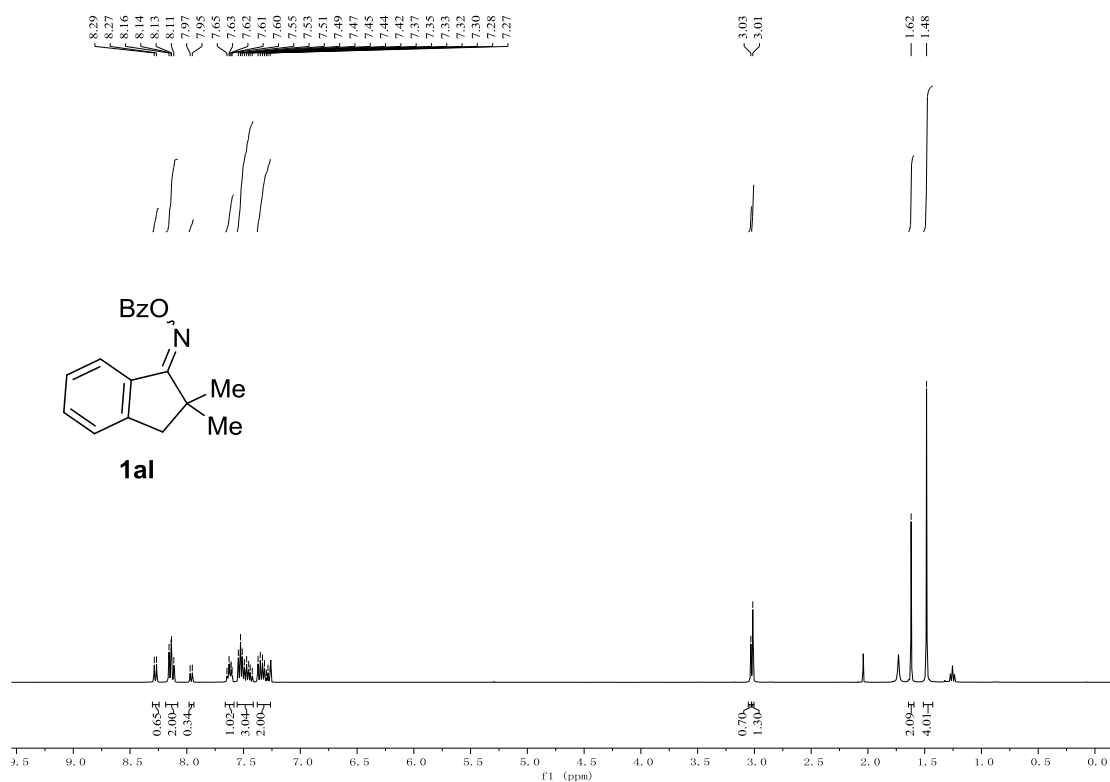
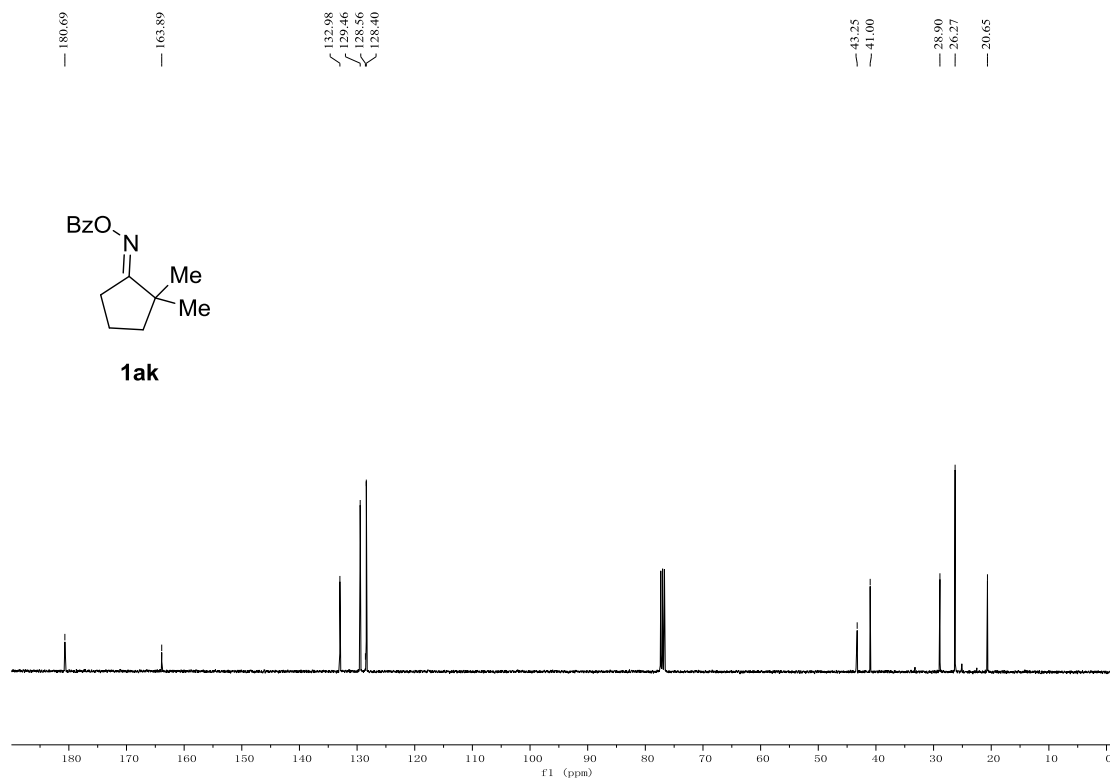
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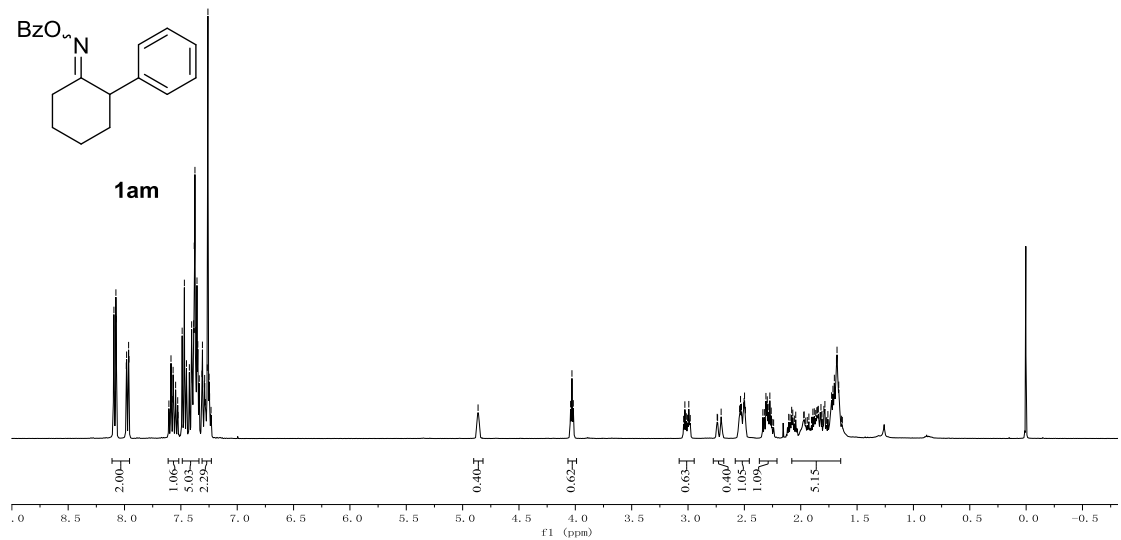
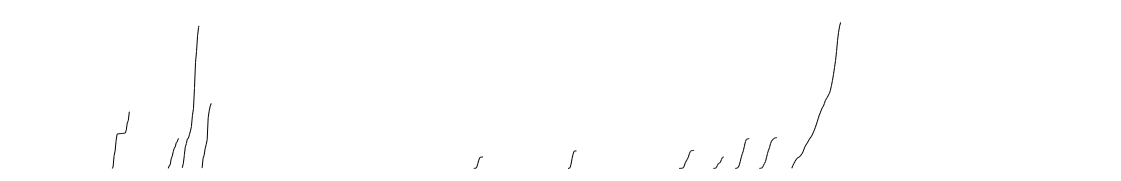
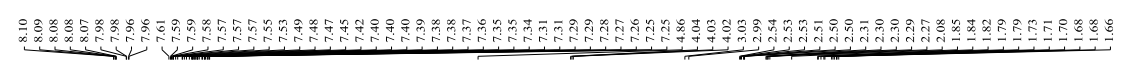
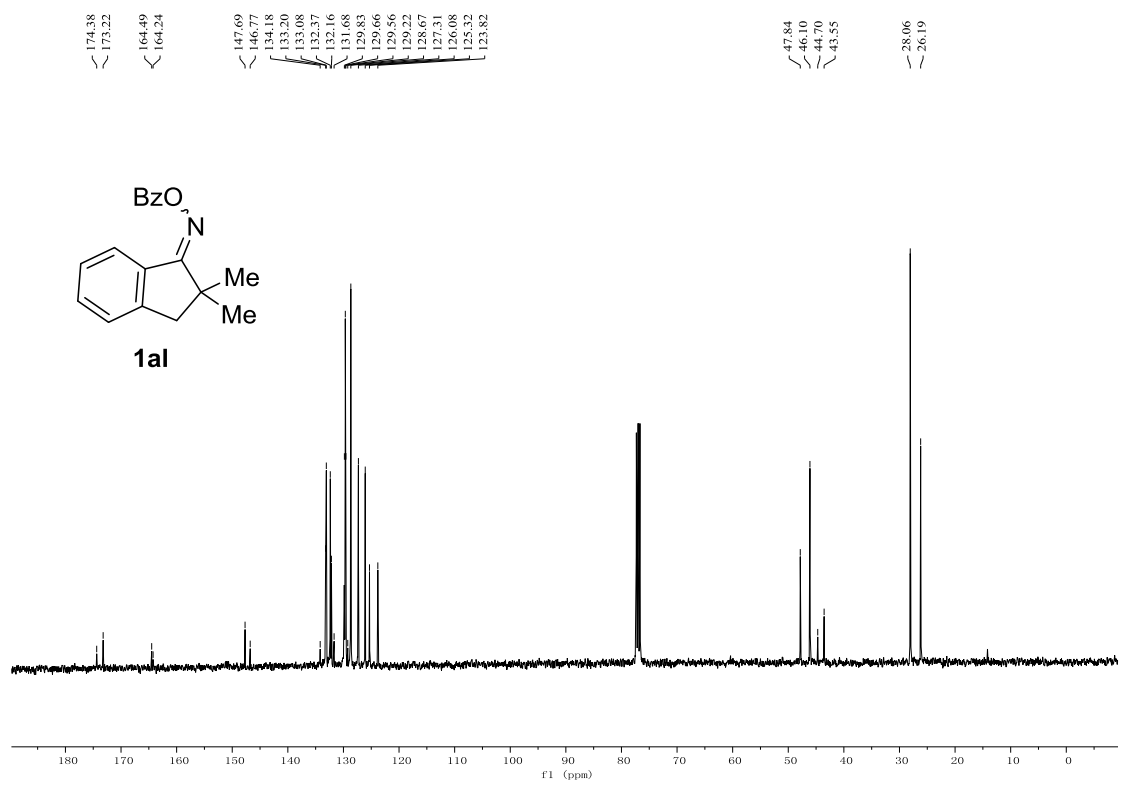
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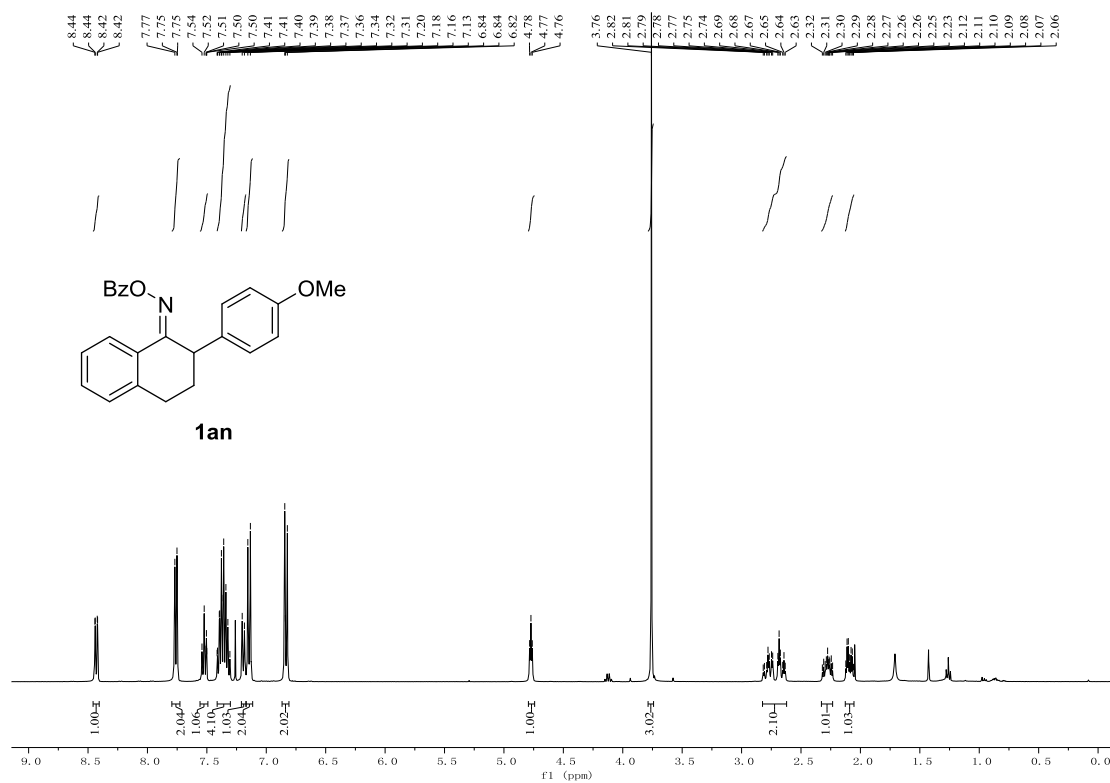
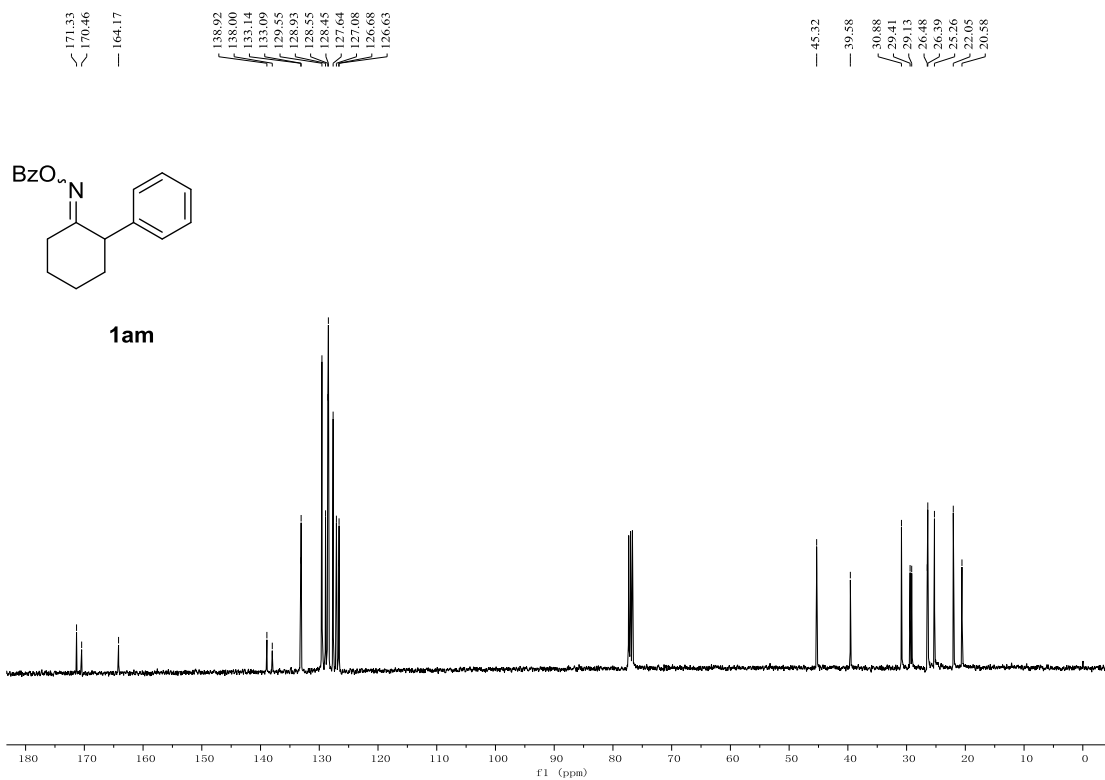


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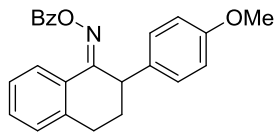




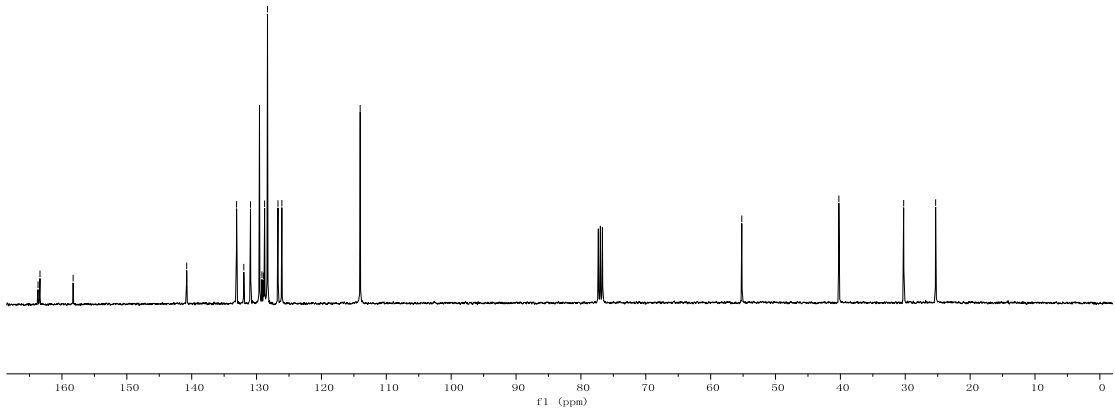




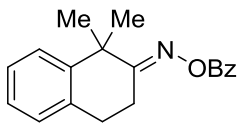
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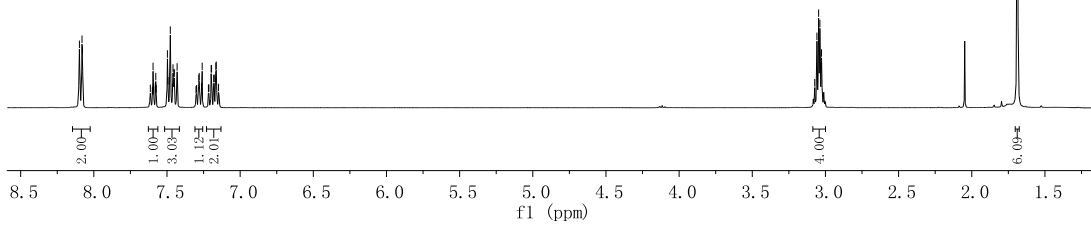
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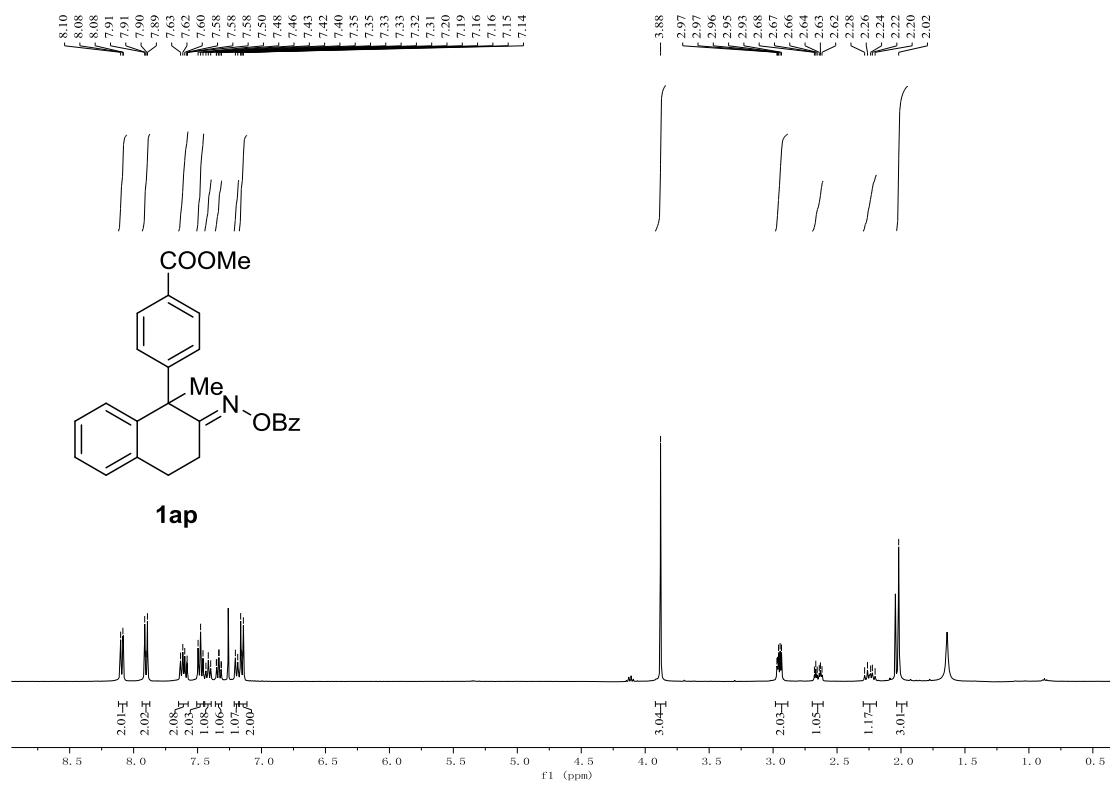
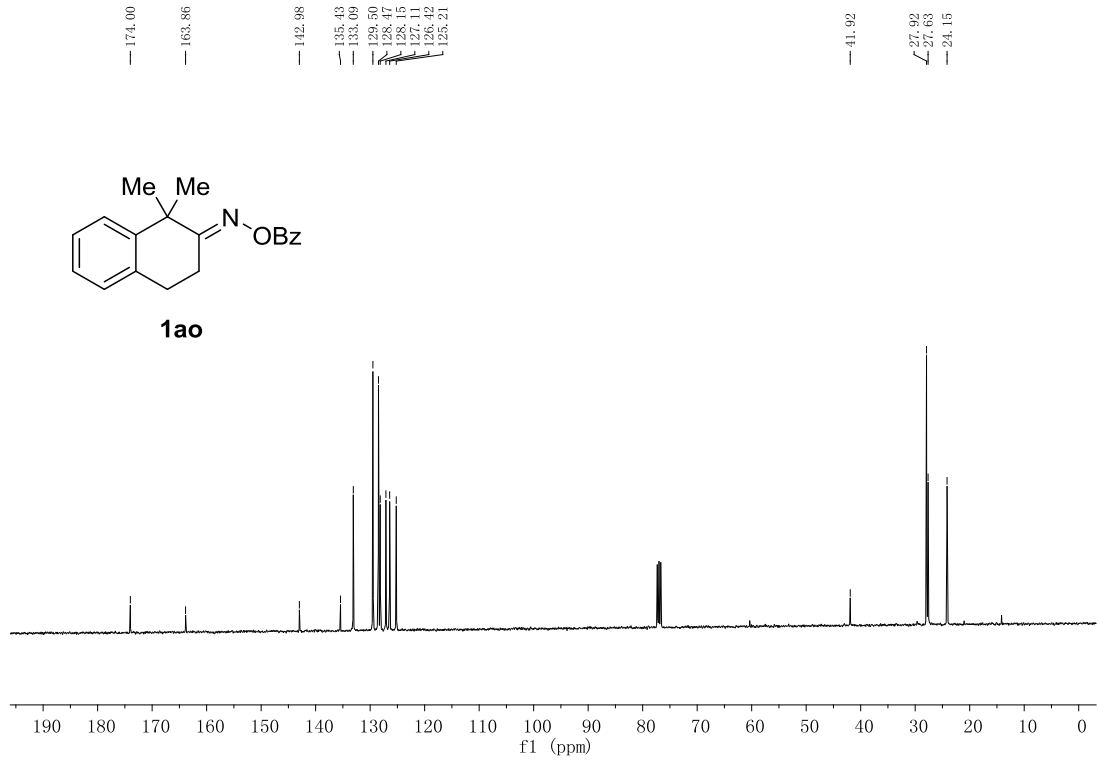


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1ao



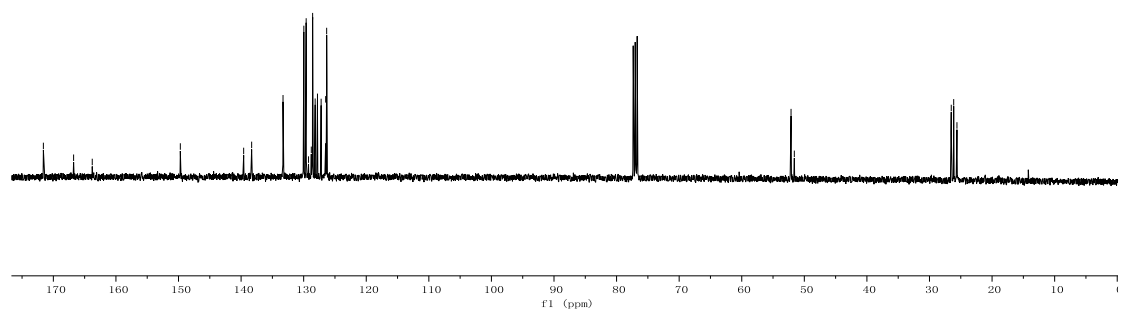
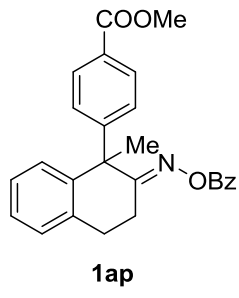




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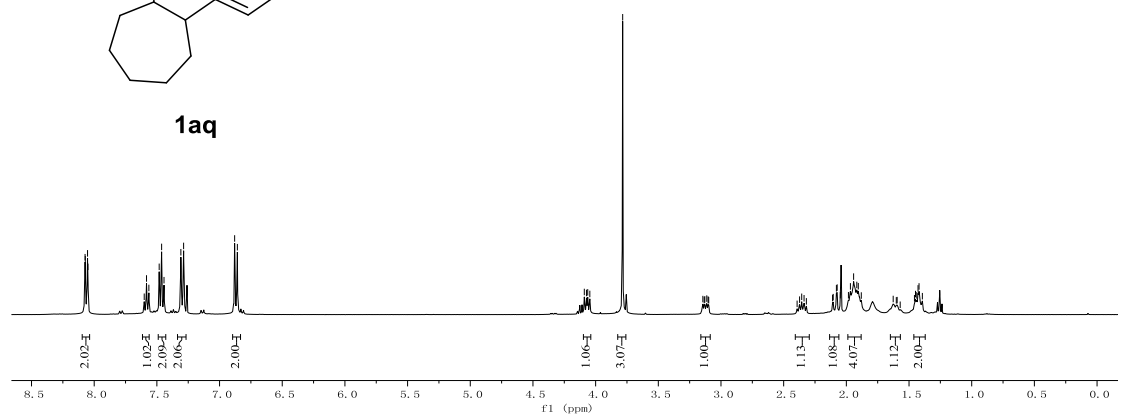
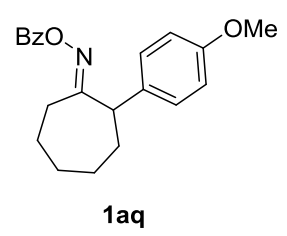
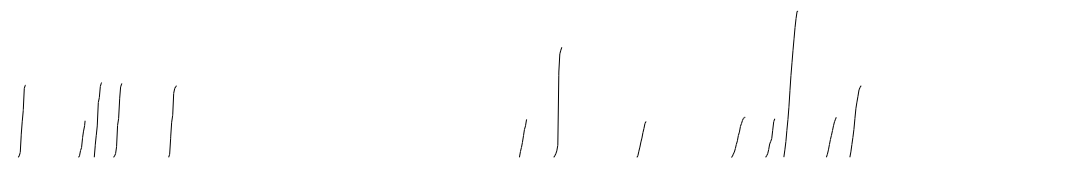


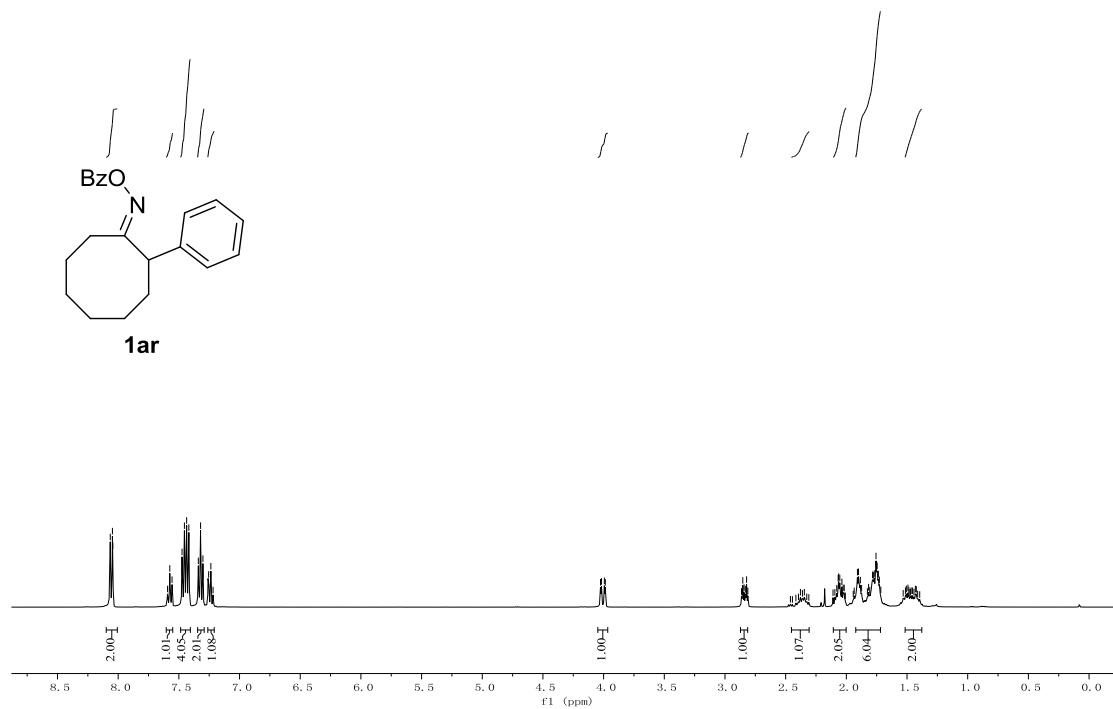
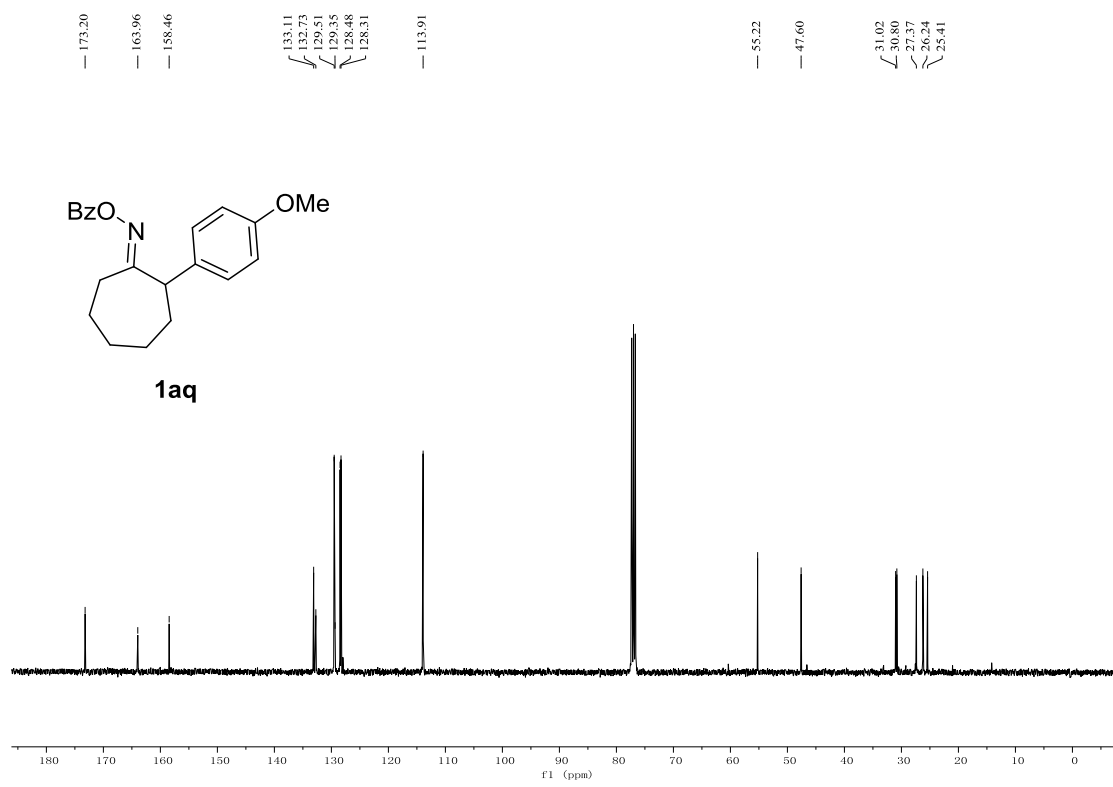
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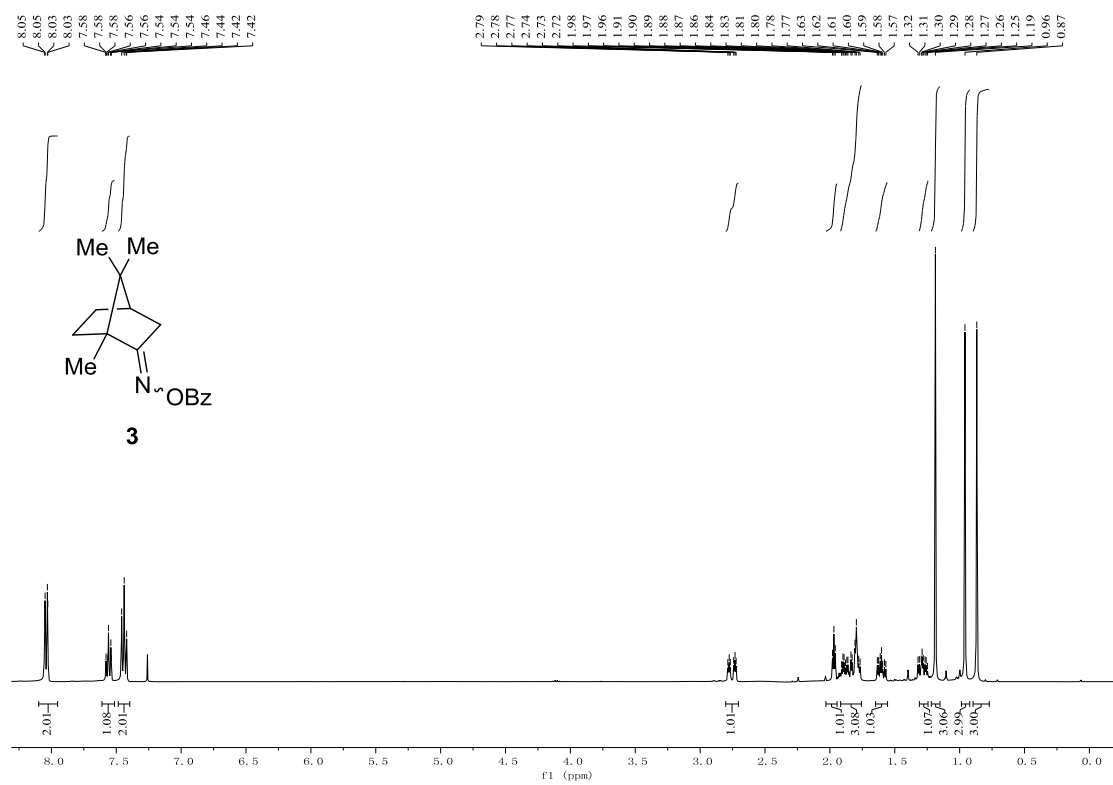
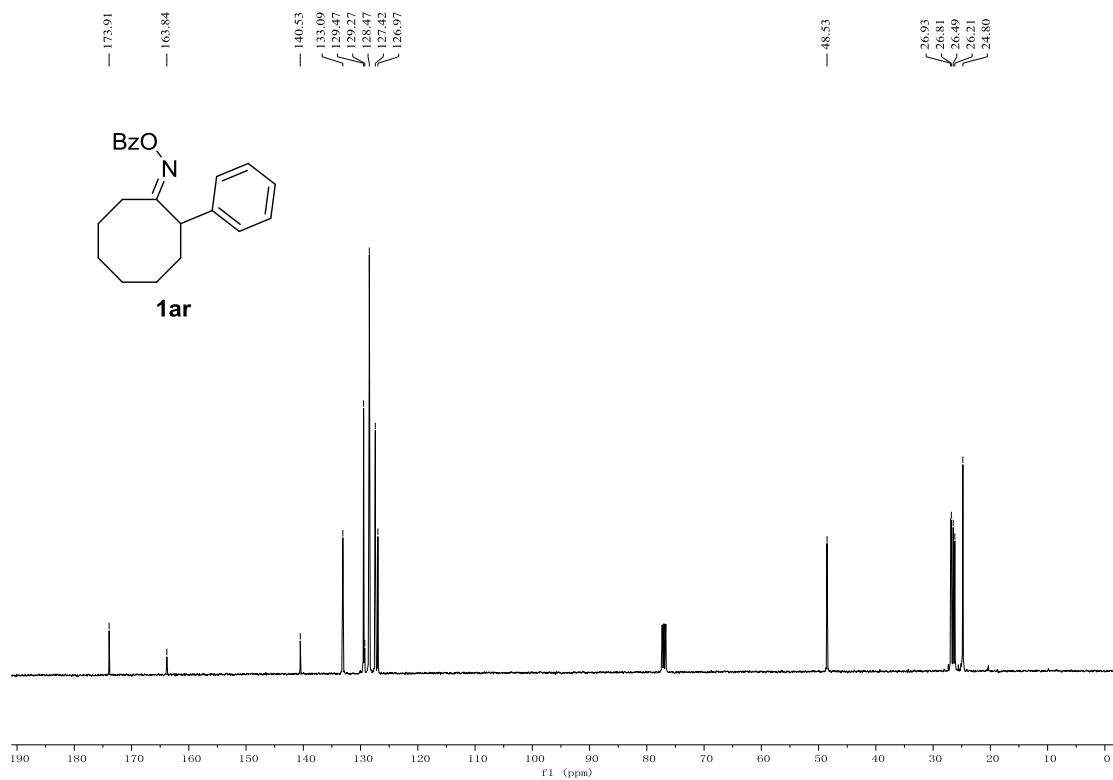
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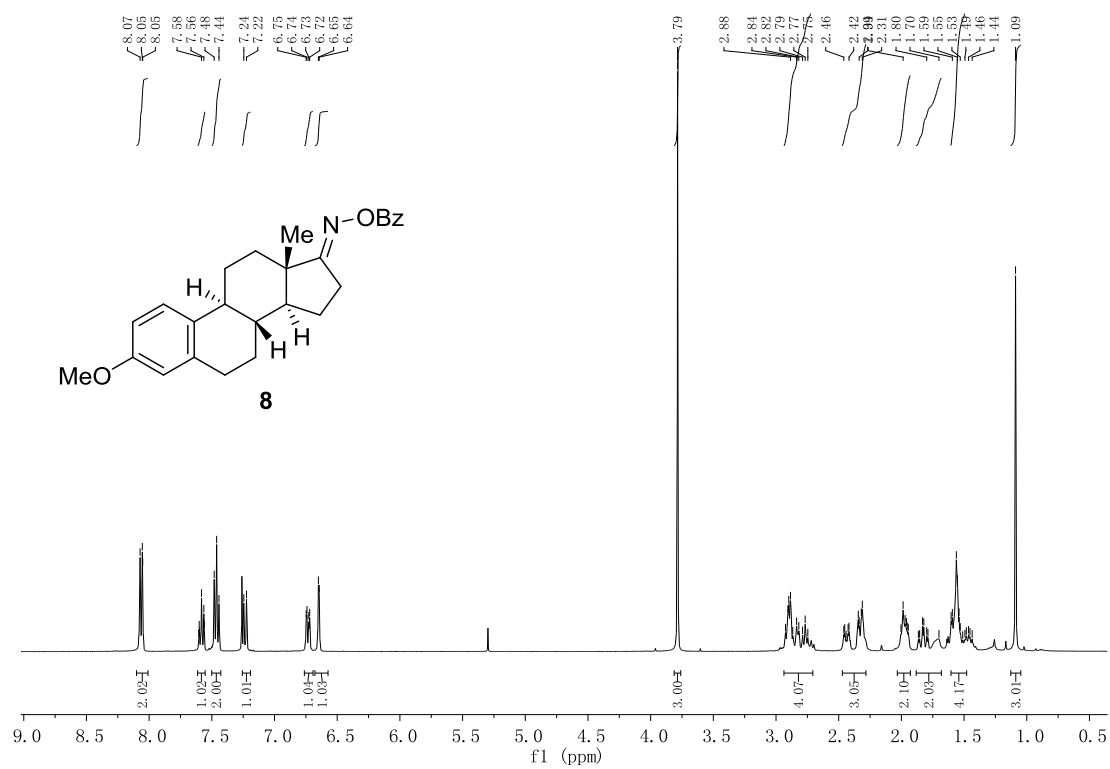
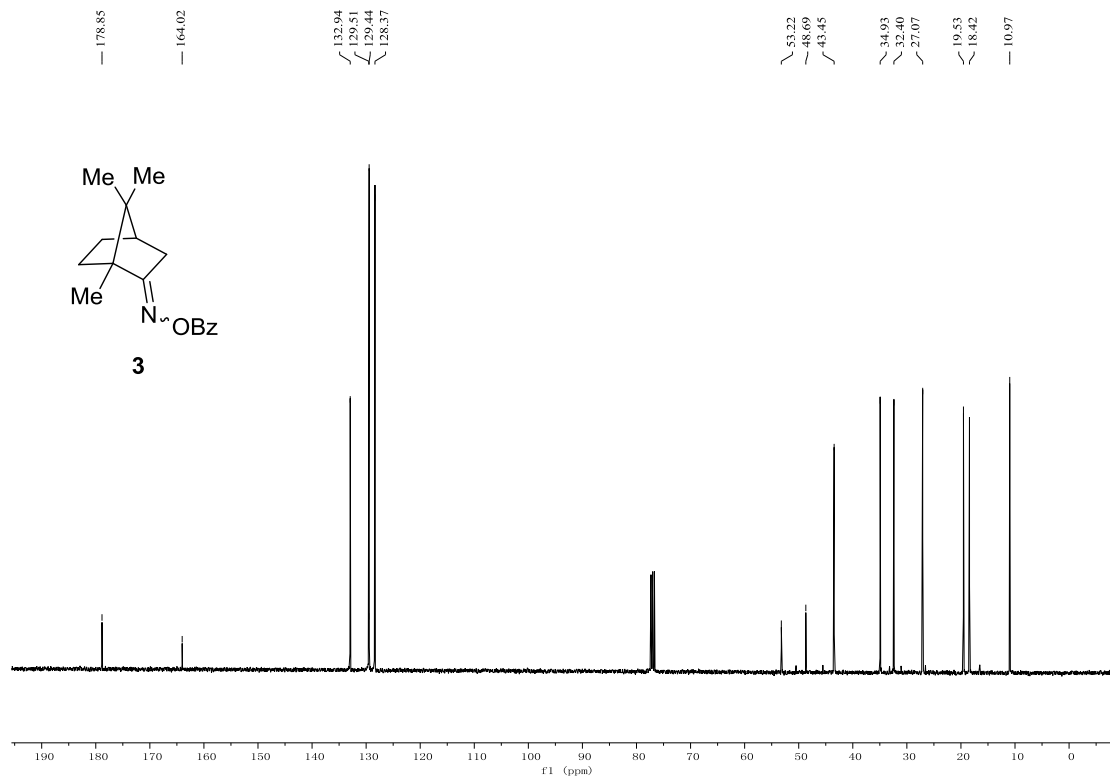
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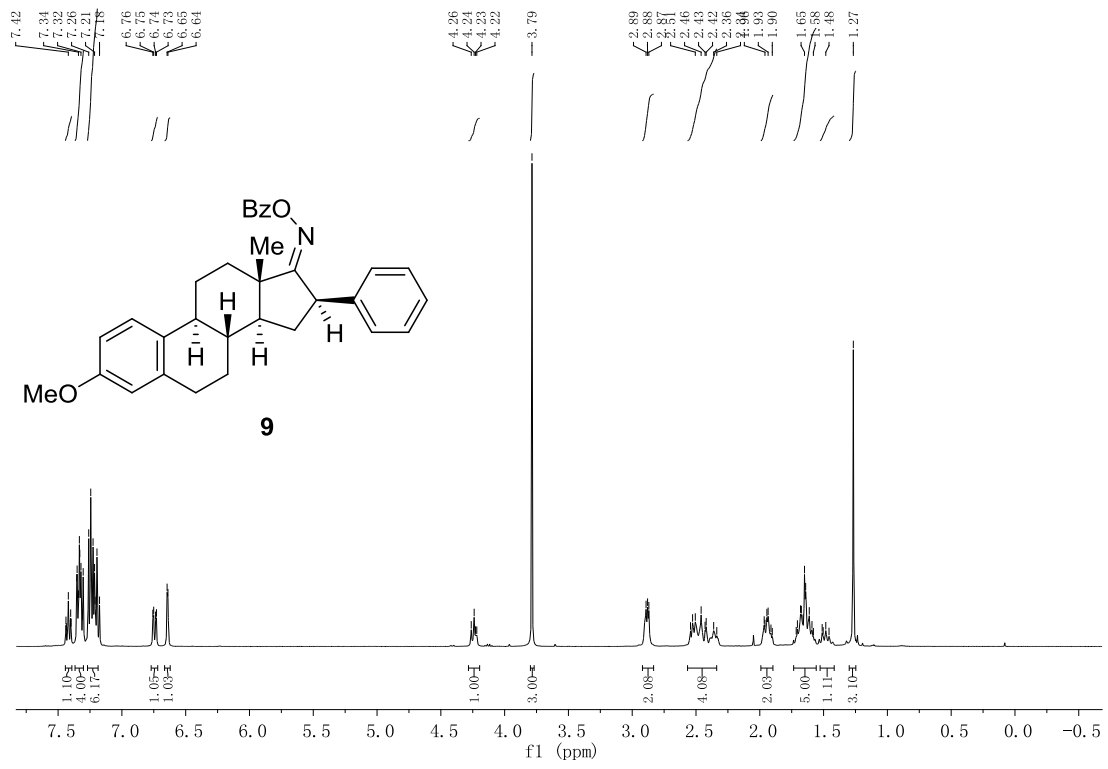
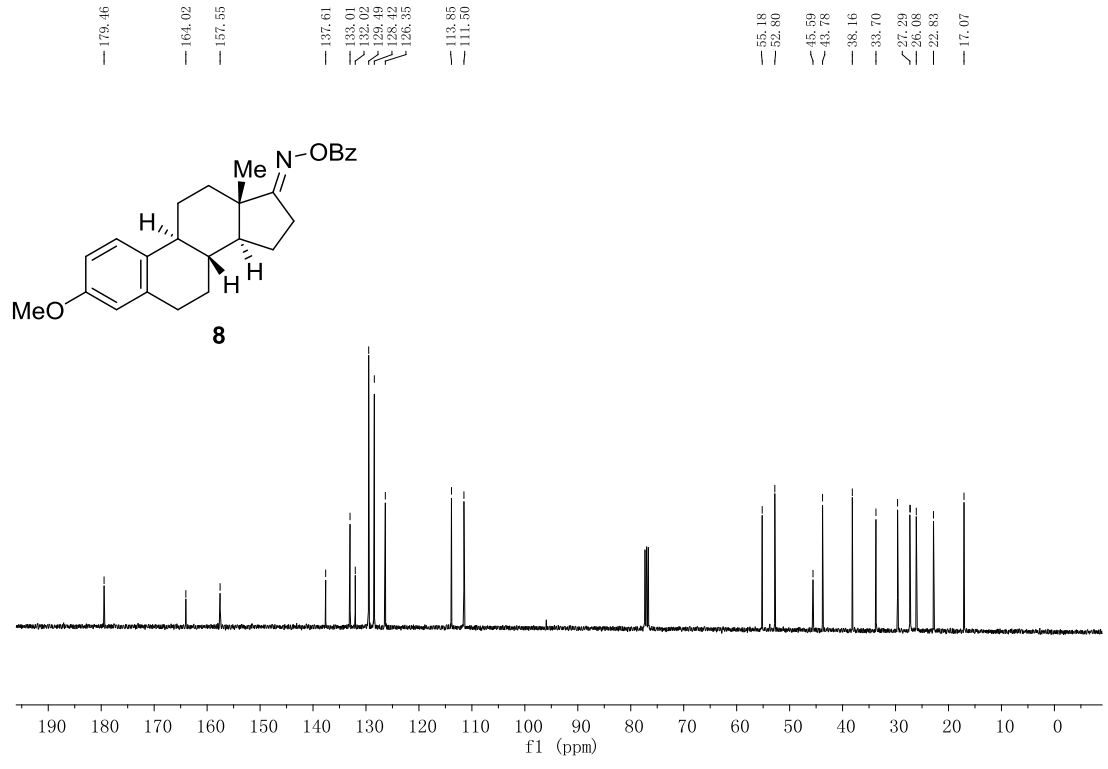
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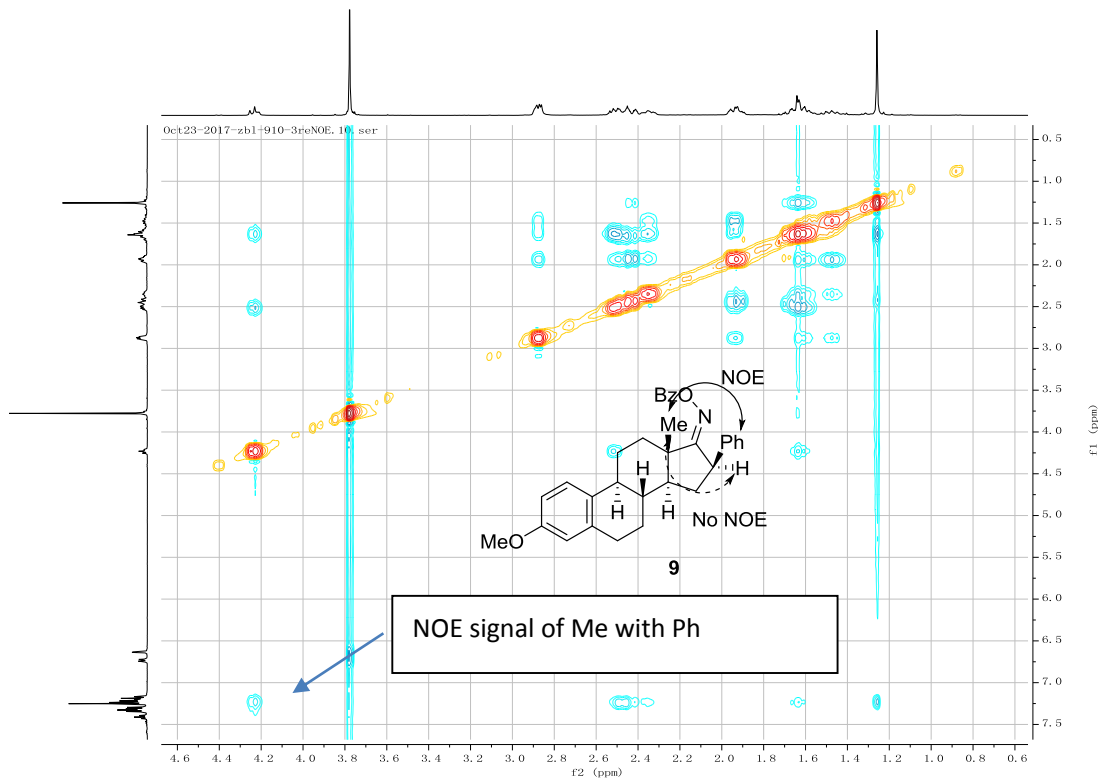
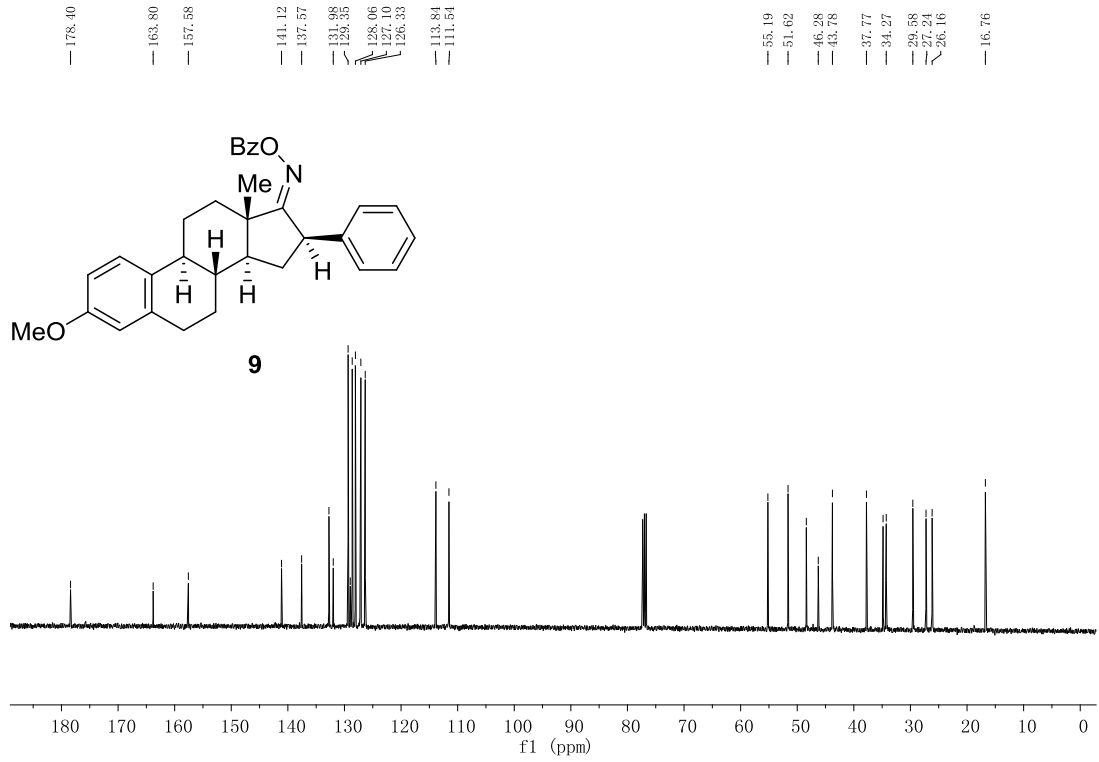


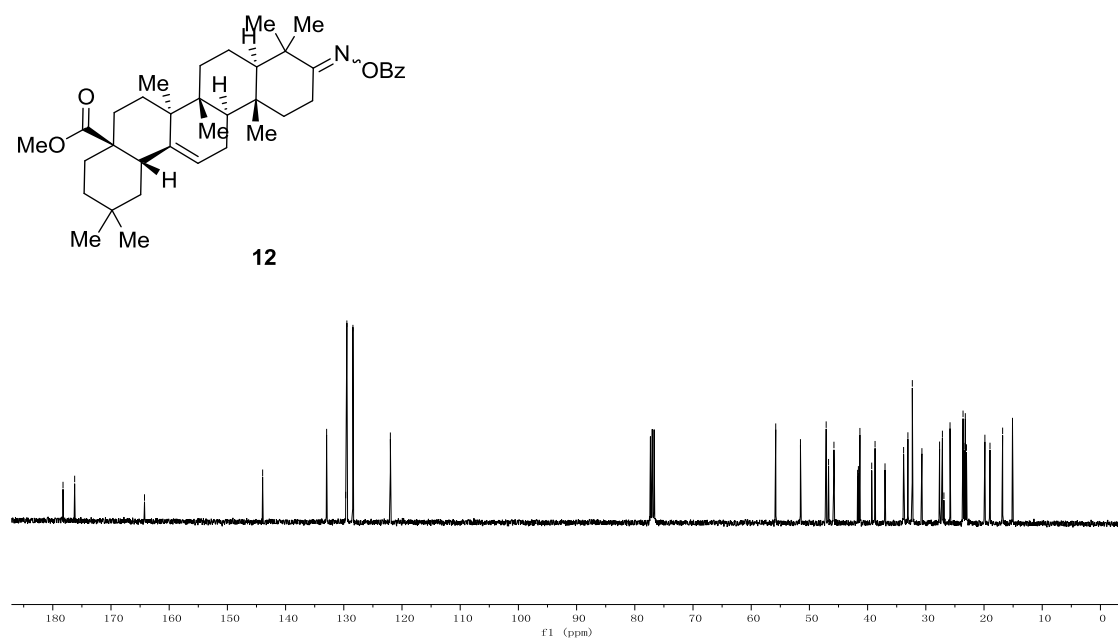
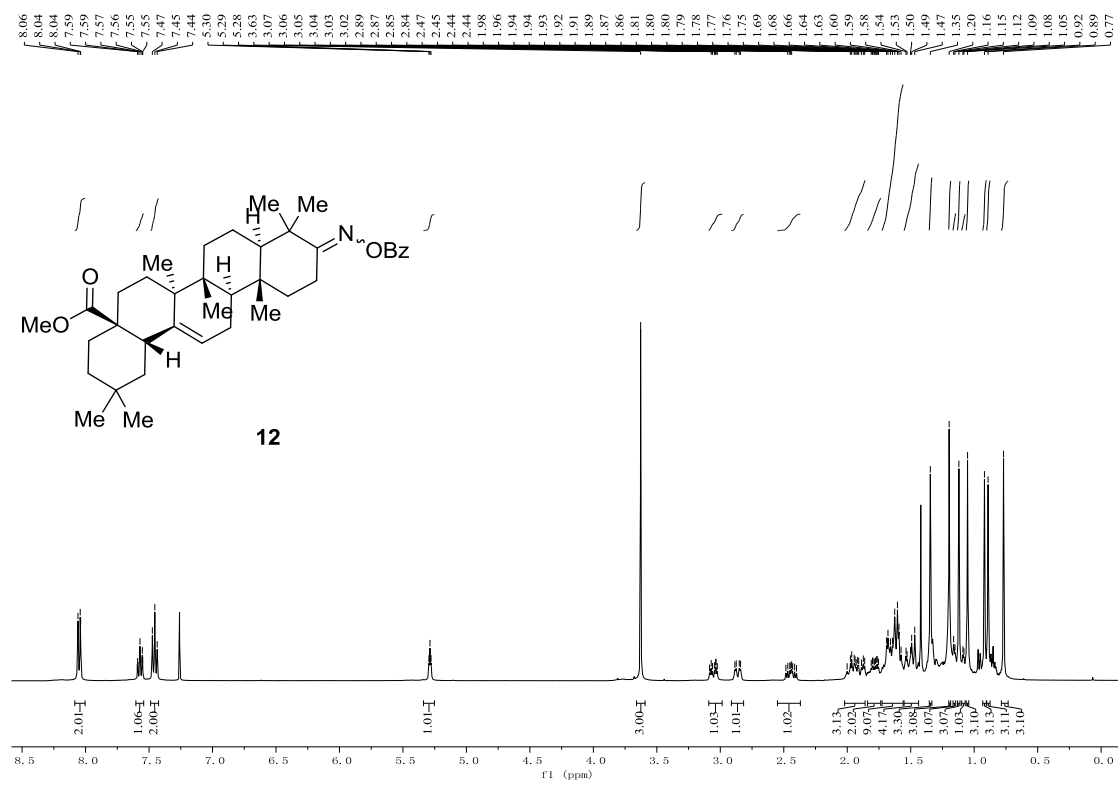


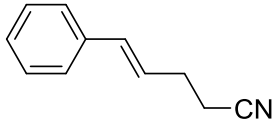
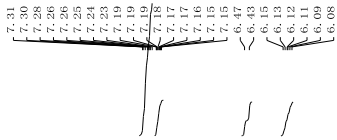




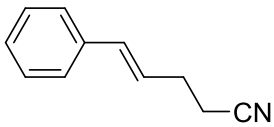
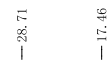
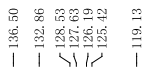
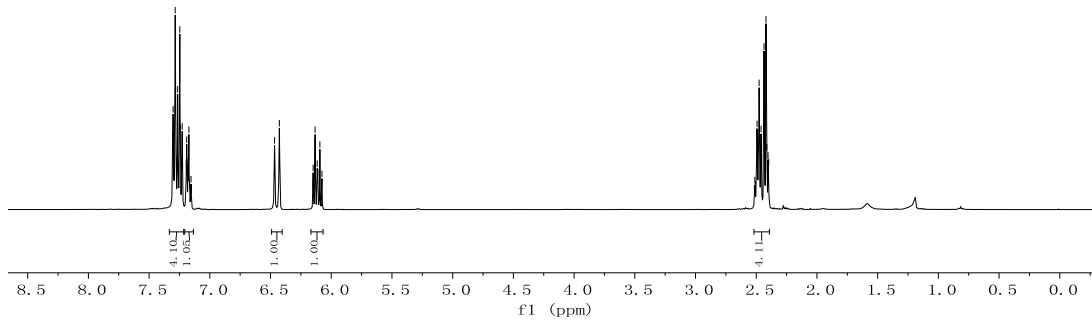




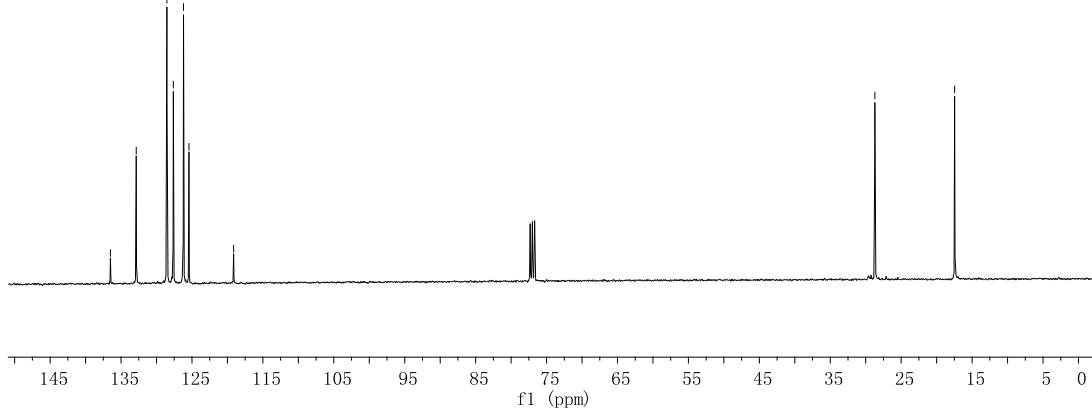




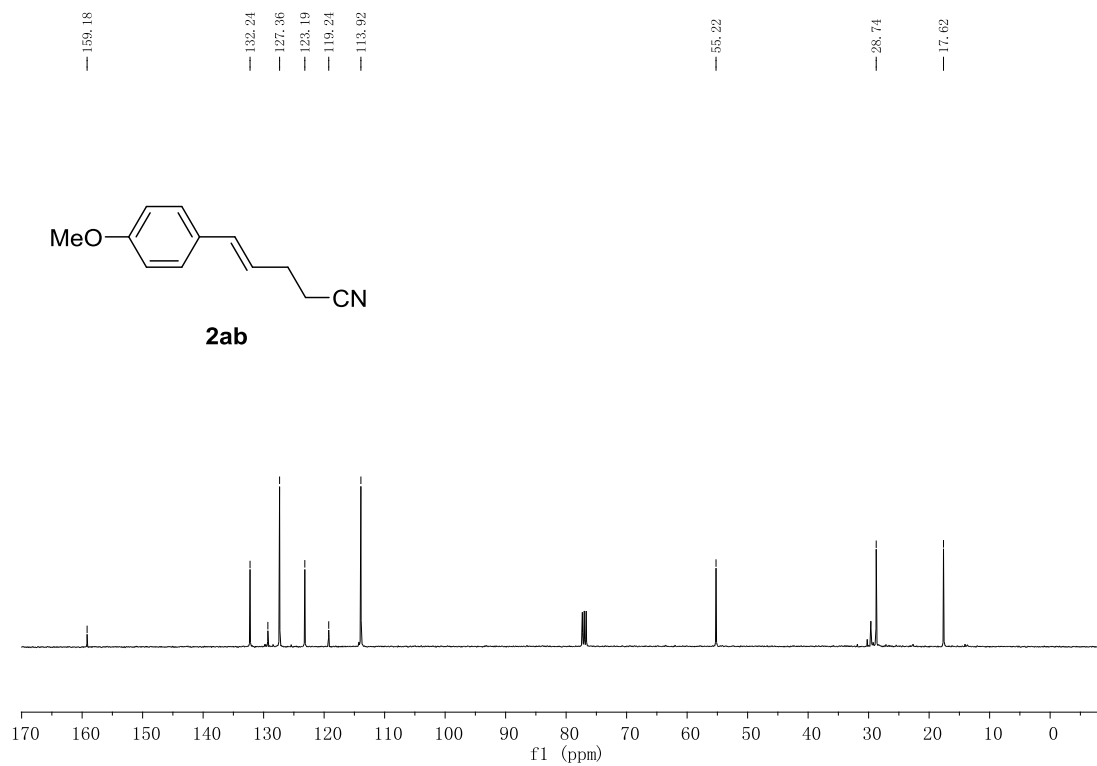
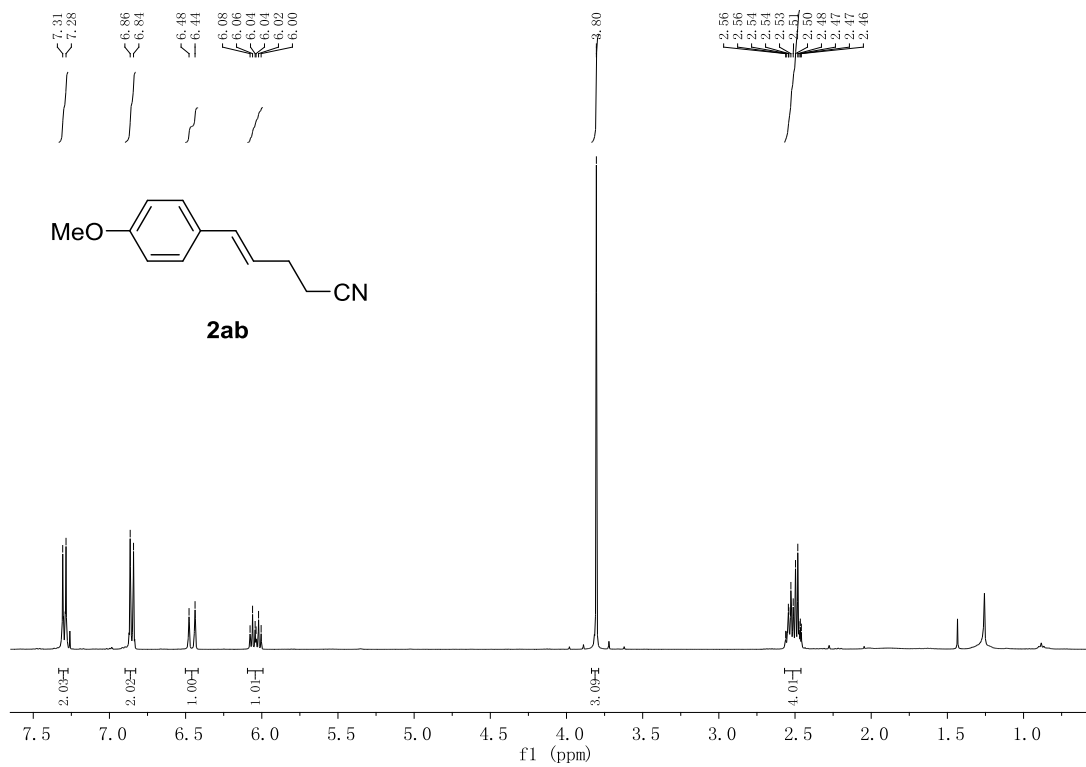
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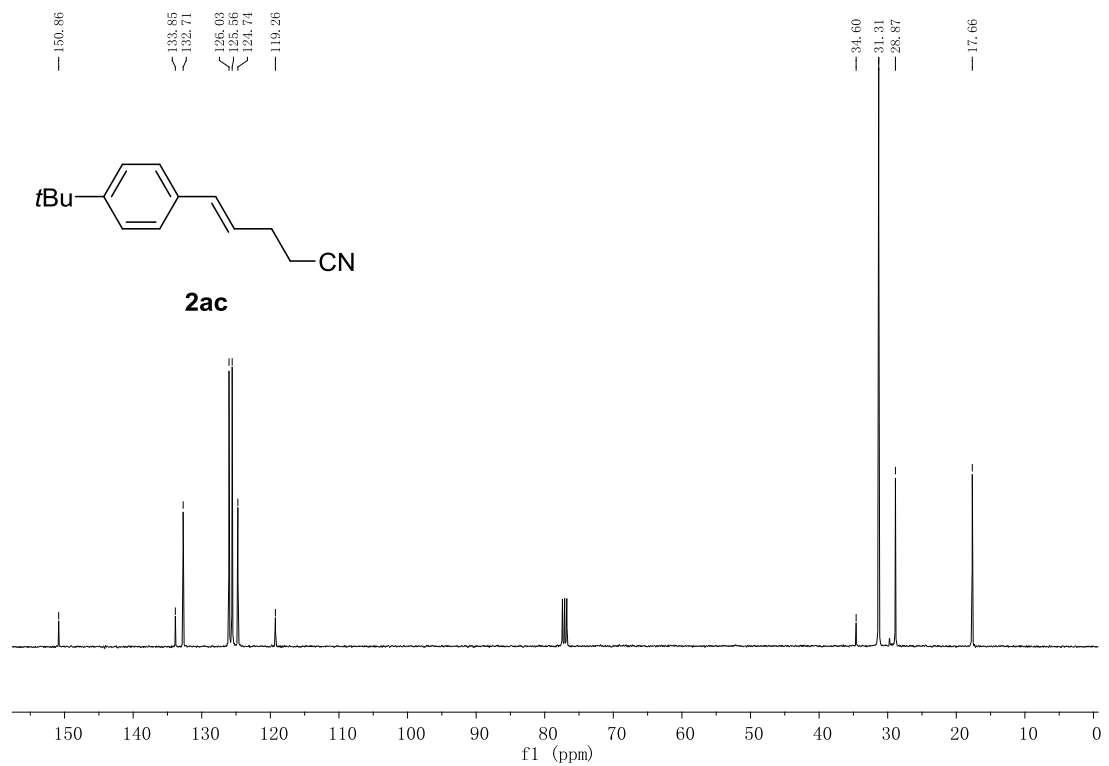
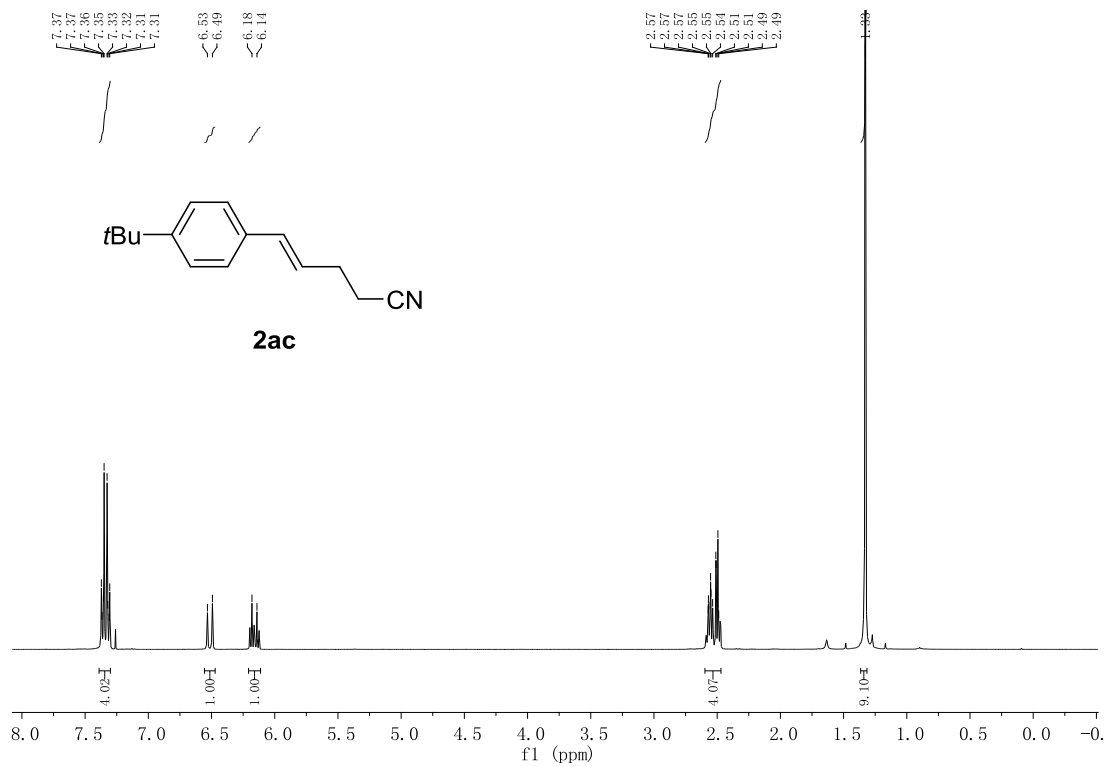


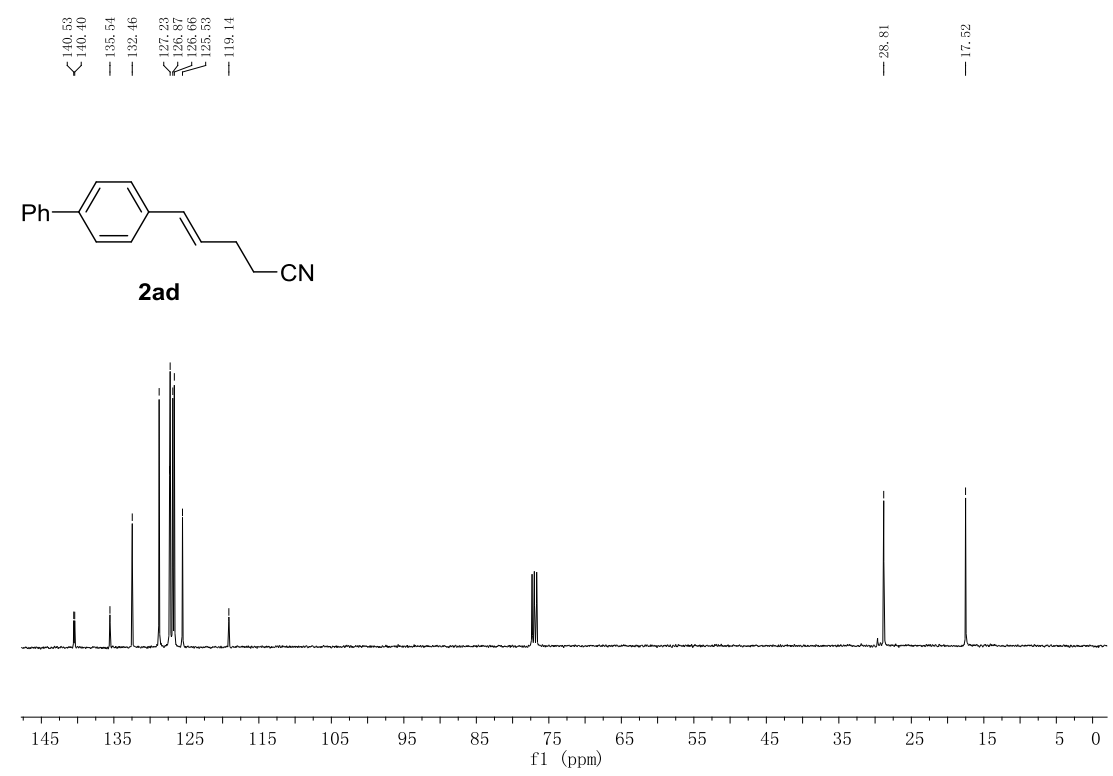
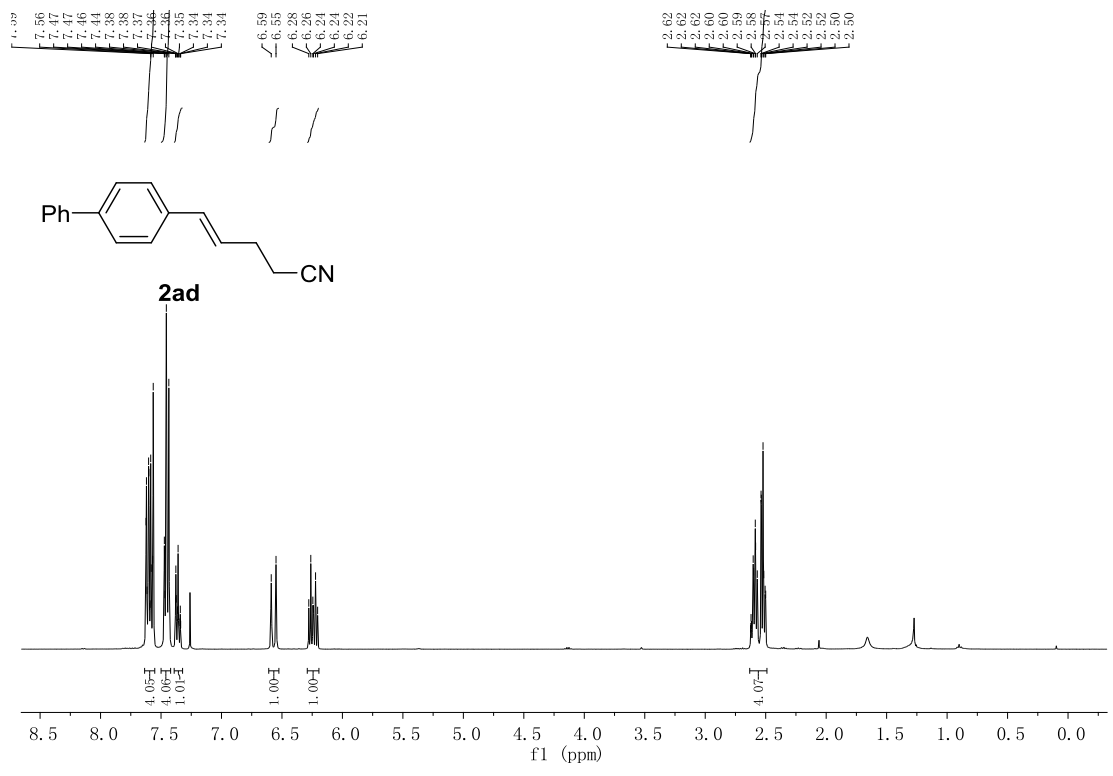
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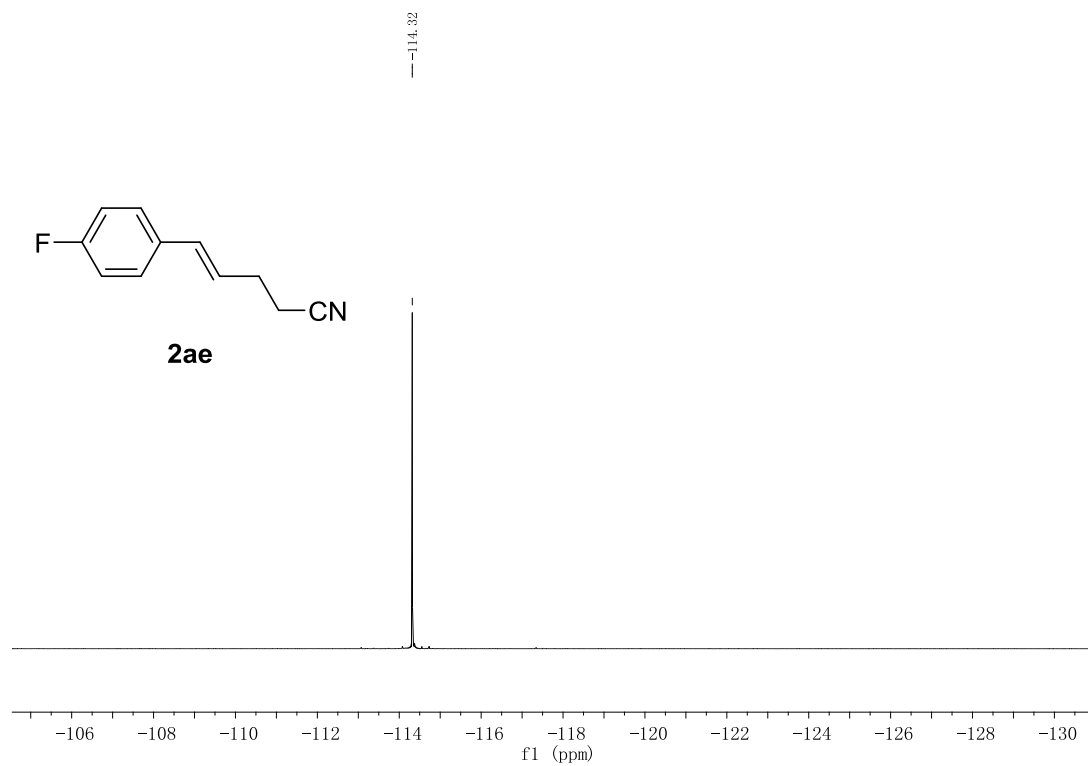
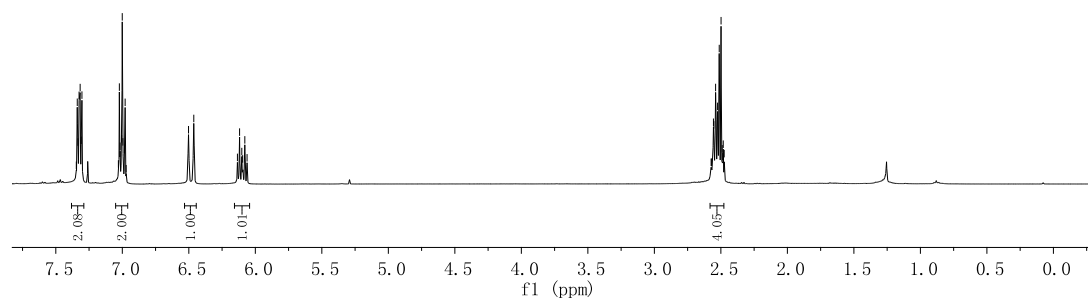
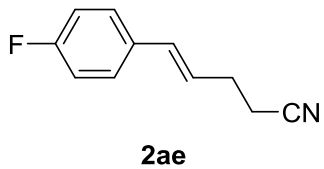


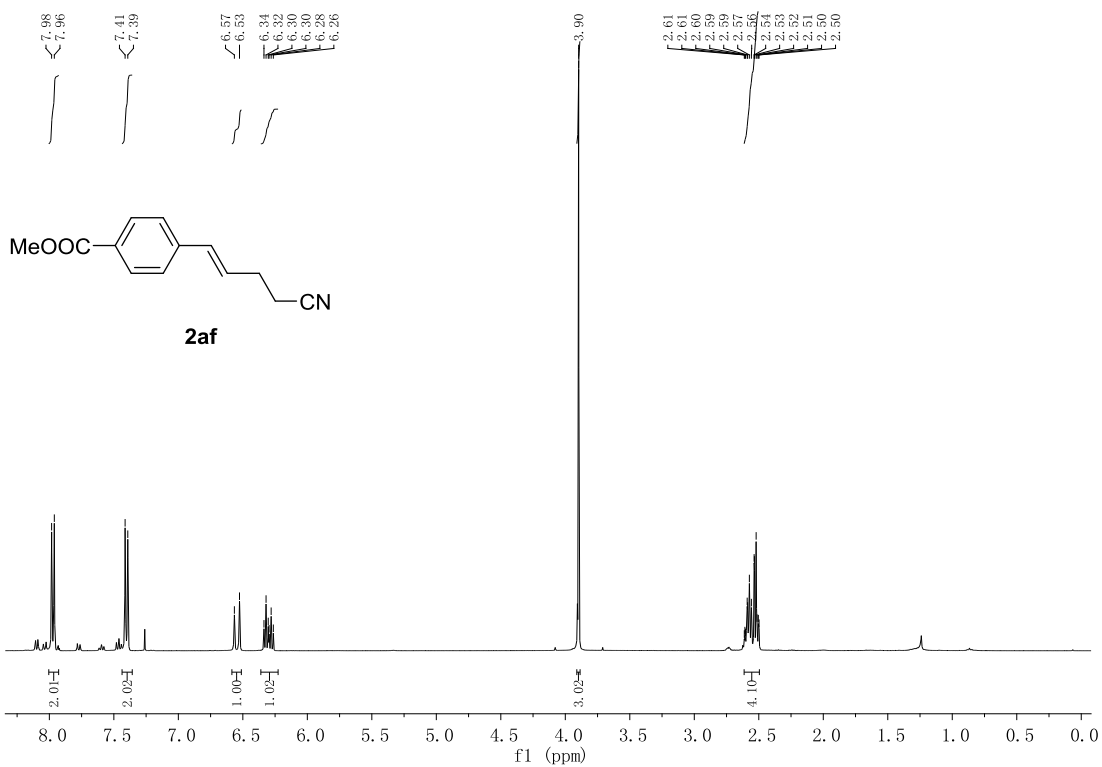
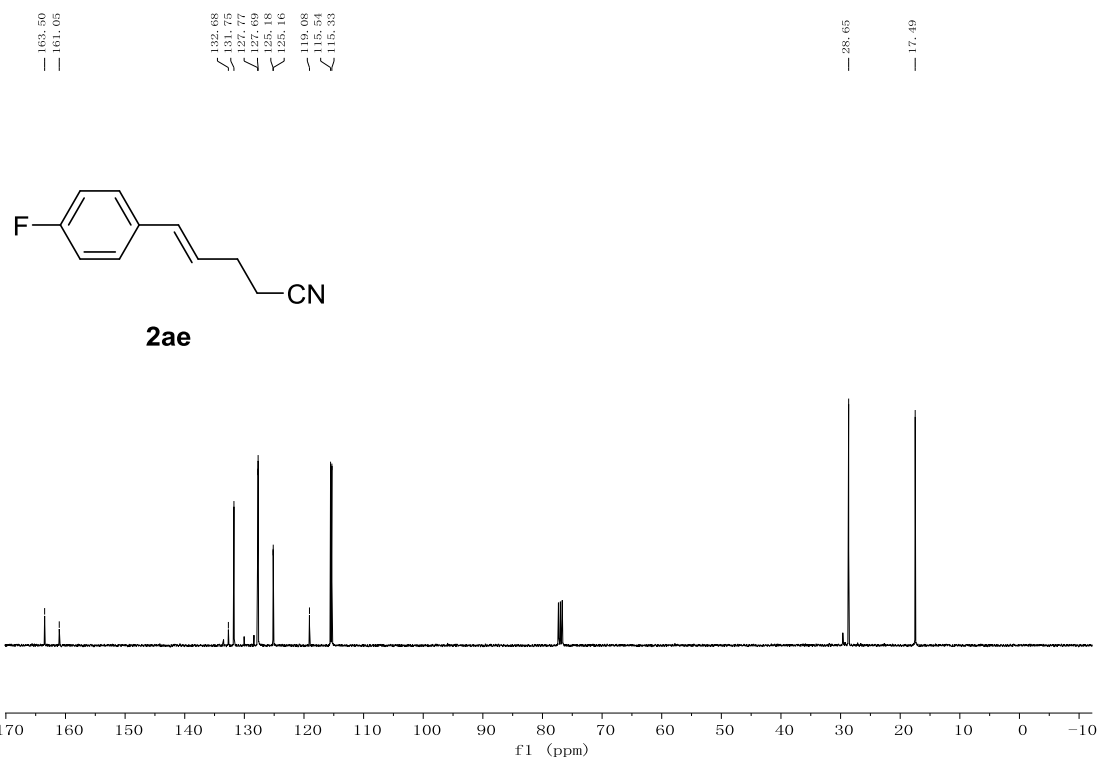


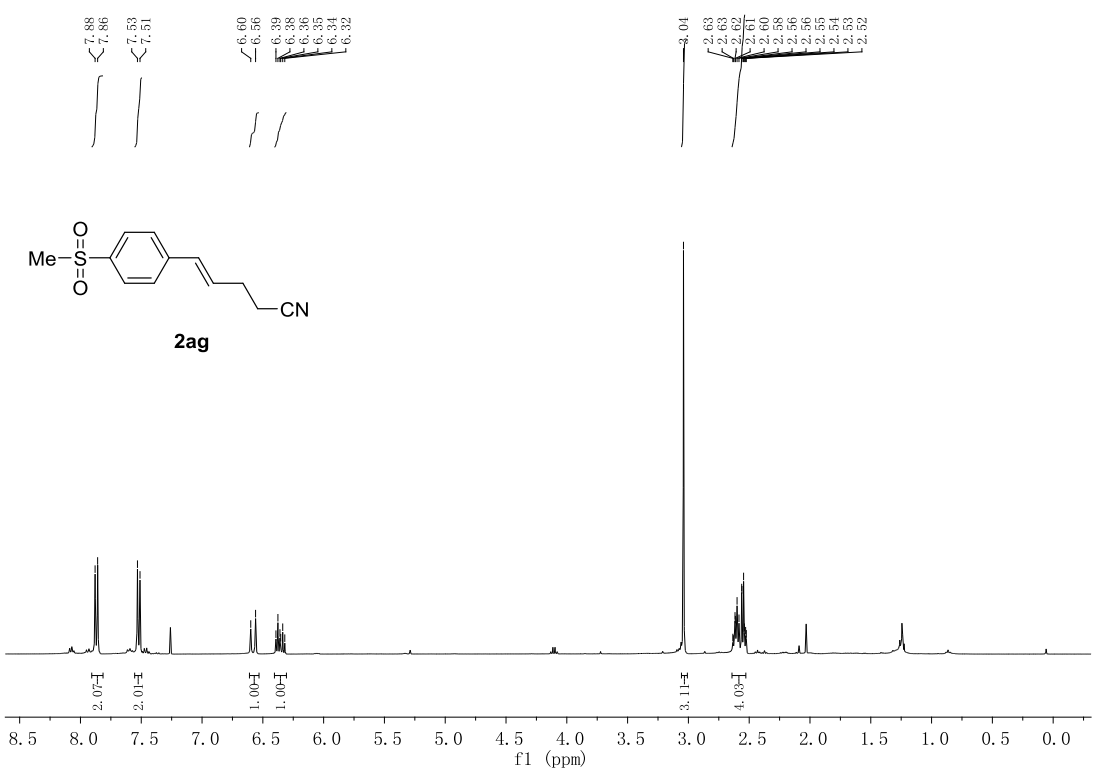
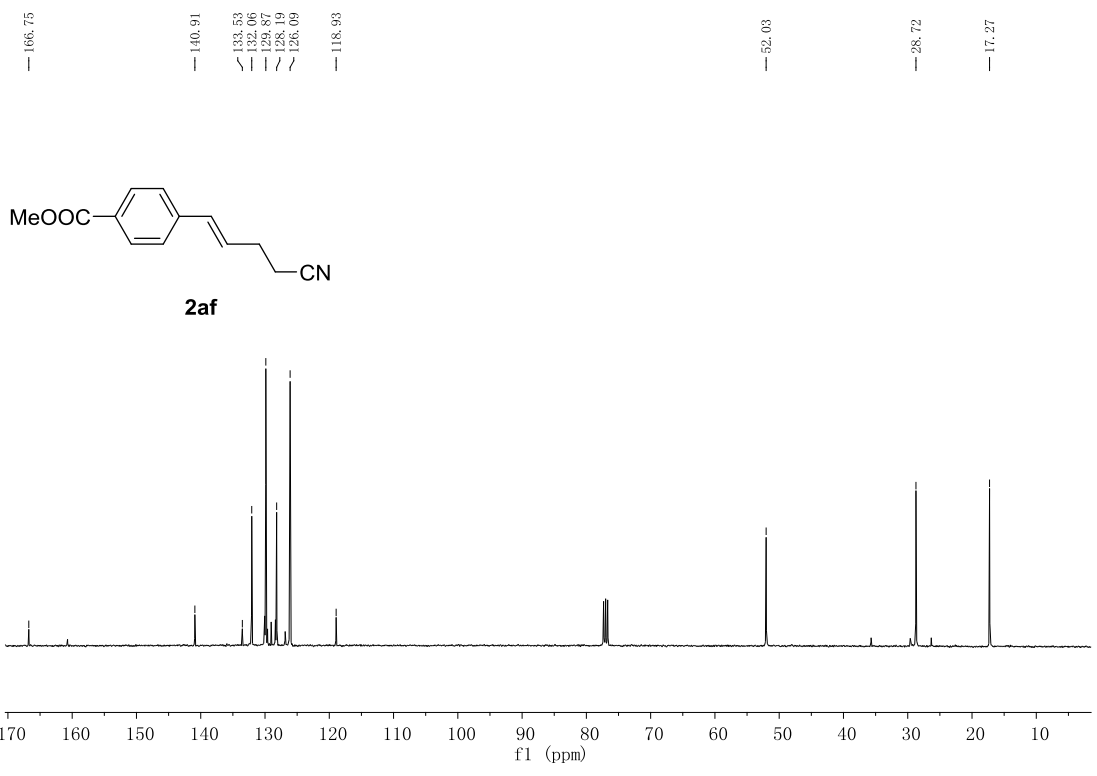


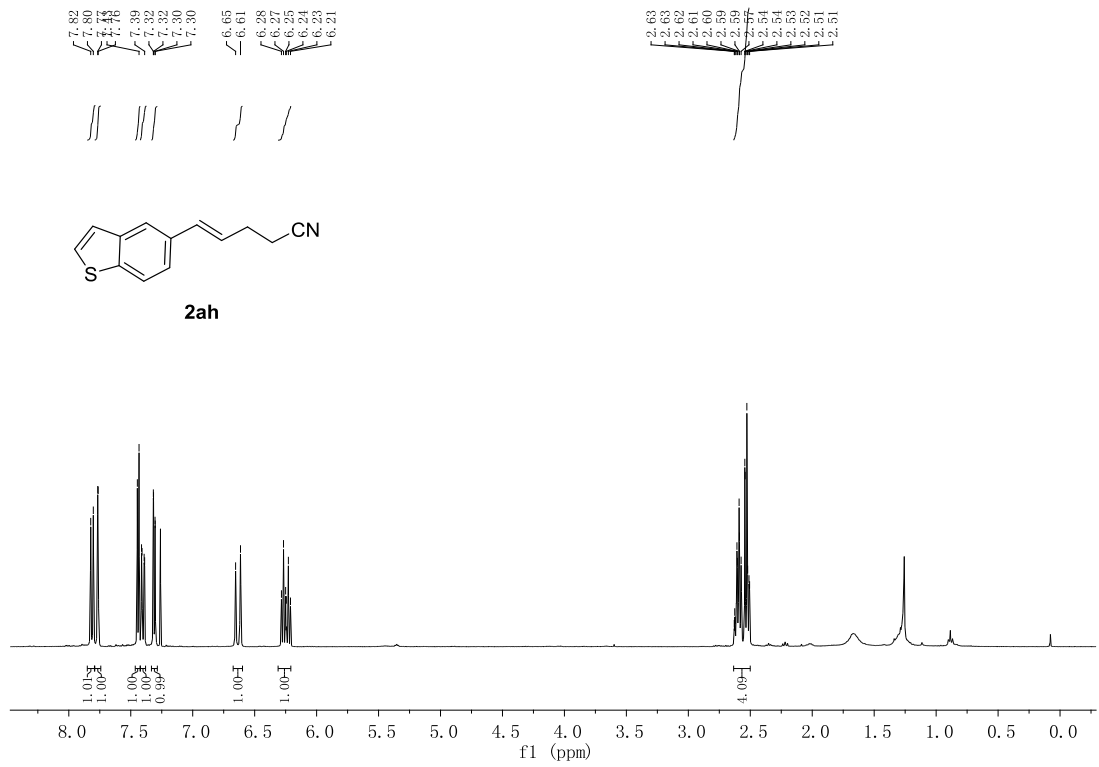
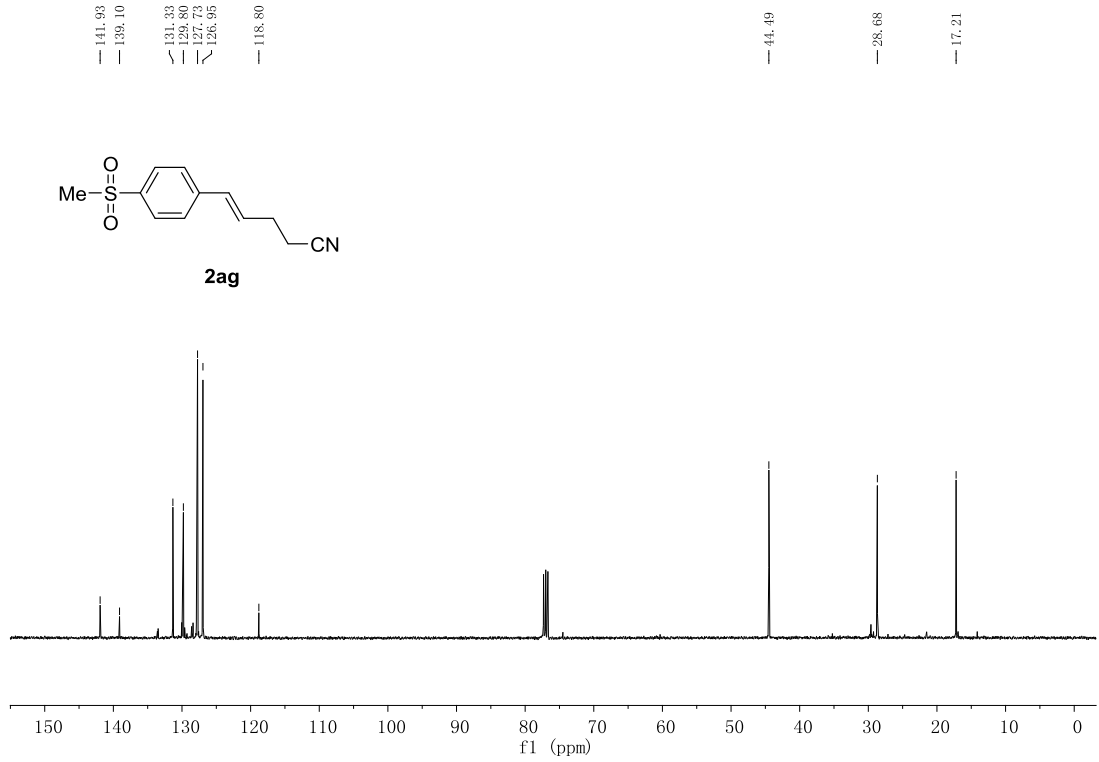






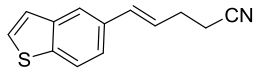




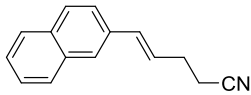
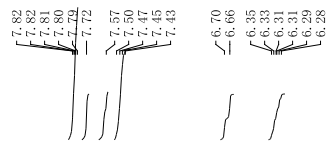
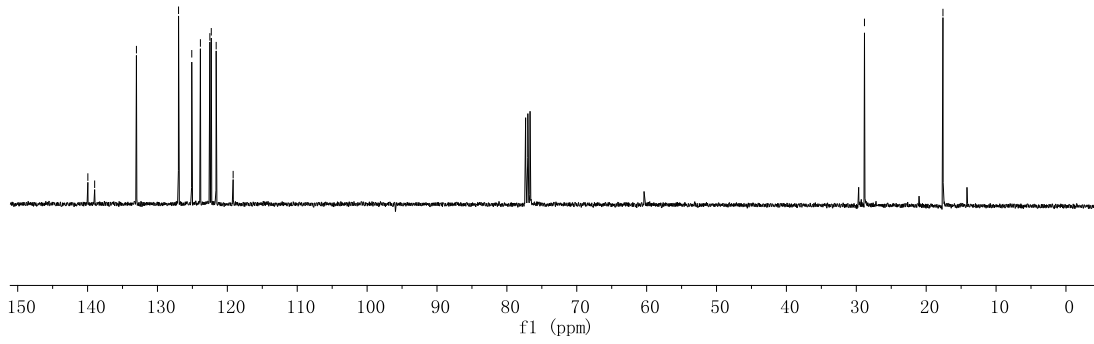


139.96  
138.99  
133.01  
126.98  
123.86  
122.80  
122.30  
121.60  
119.17

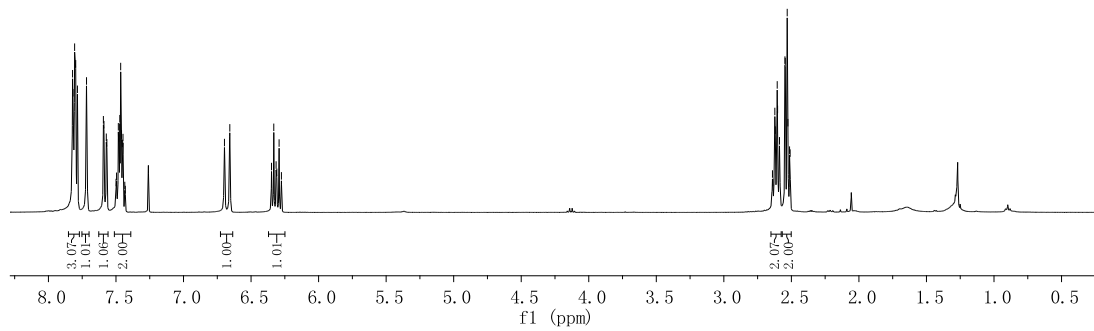
28.83  
17.60



**2ah**

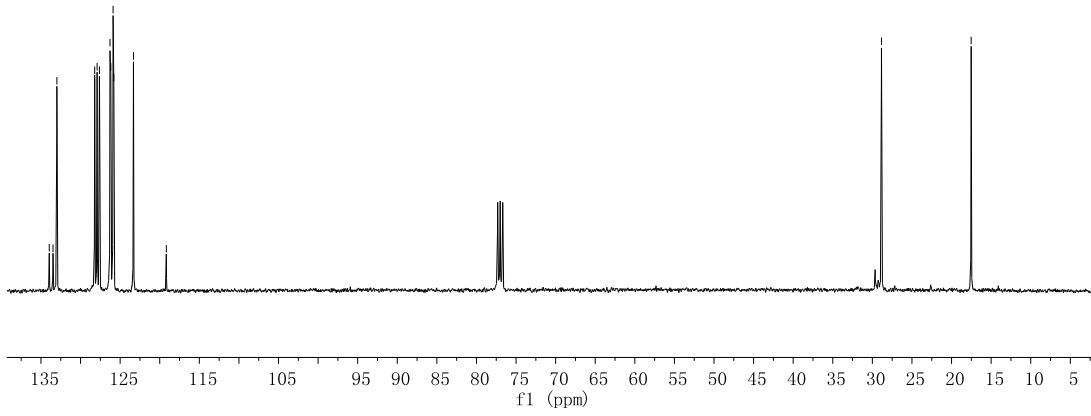
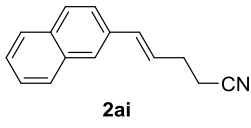


**2ai**

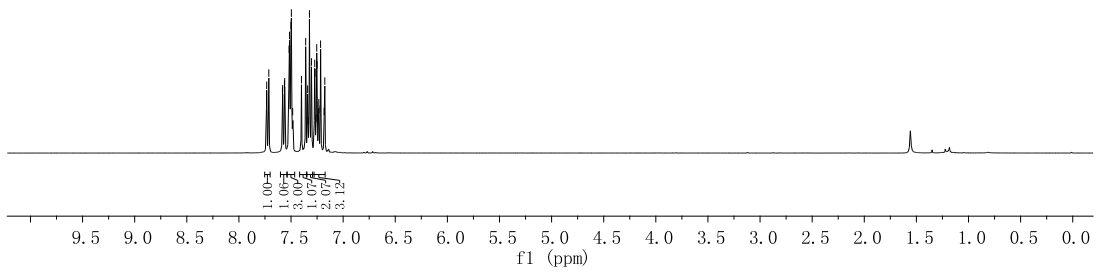
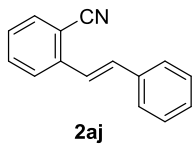


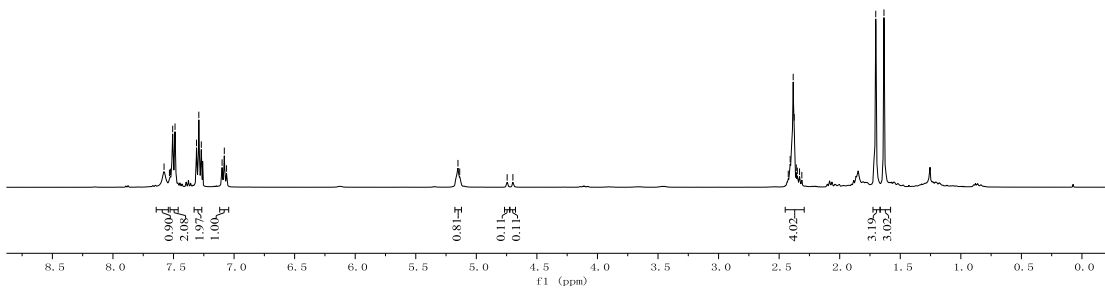
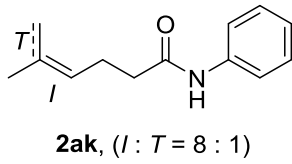
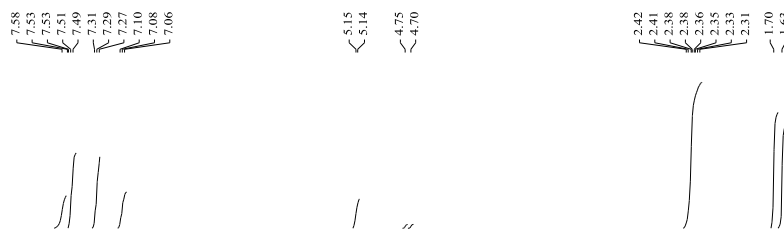
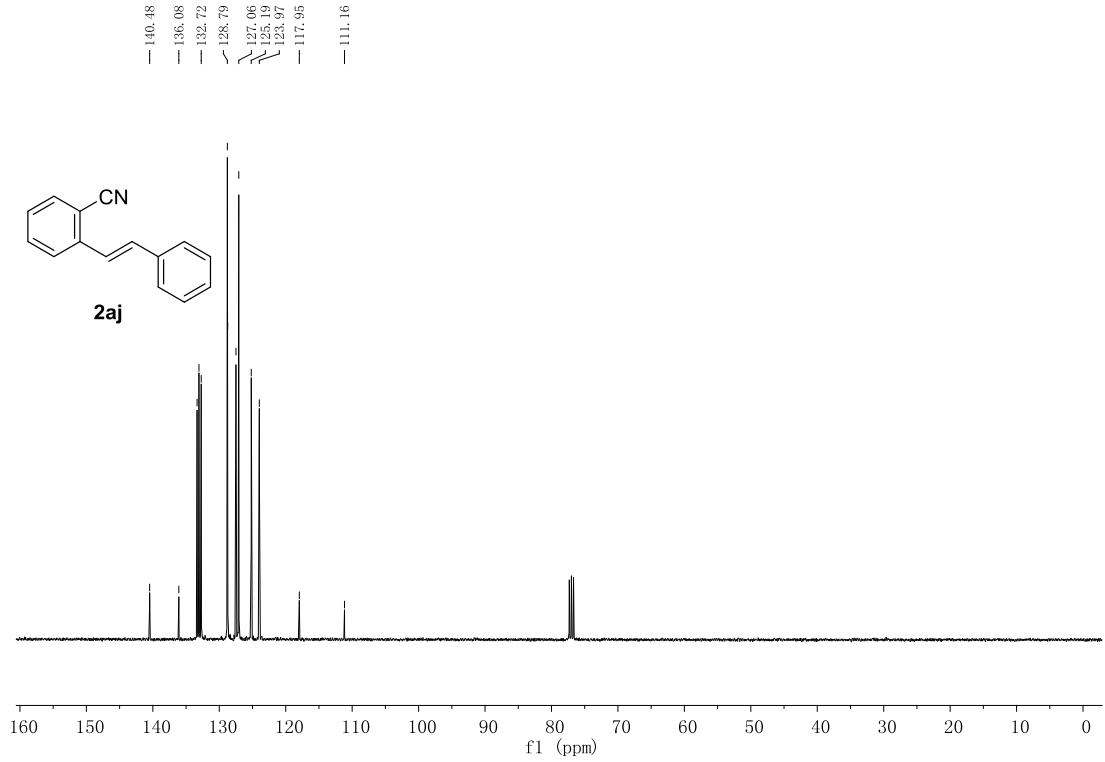


133.95  
133.48  
132.99  
127.61  
126.18  
125.80  
— 123.32  
— 119.17

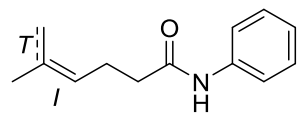


7.73  
7.71  
7.58  
7.56  
7.56  
7.52  
7.51  
7.50  
7.50  
7.48  
7.40  
7.39  
7.34  
7.32  
7.30  
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7.27  
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7.23  
7.22  
7.18  
7.18

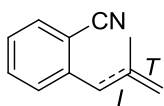
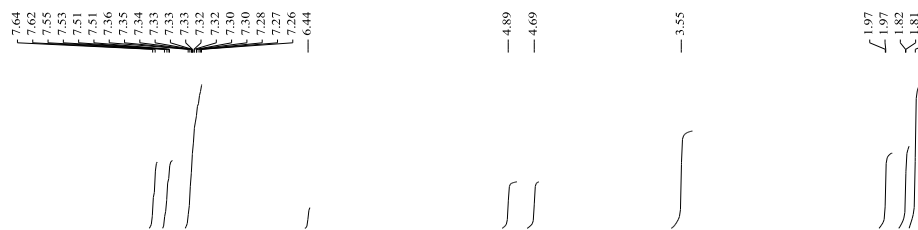
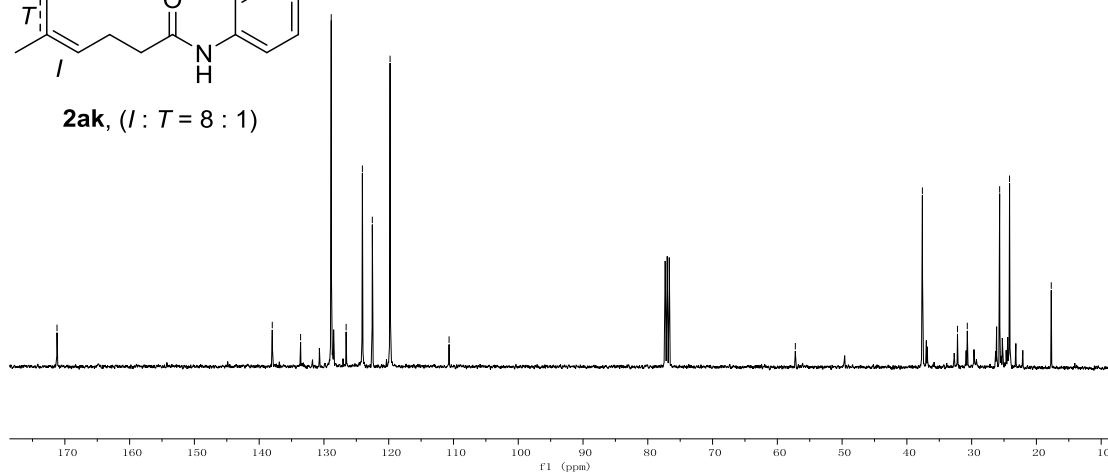




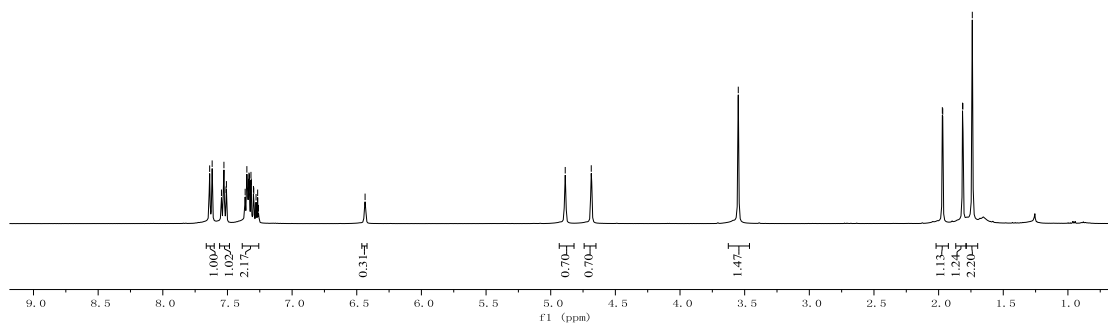
— 171.21 —  
 — 137.98 —  
 — 133.61 —  
 — 128.88 —  
 — 126.57 —  
 — 124.06 —  
 — 122.53 —  
 — 119.79 —  
 — 110.68 —  
 — 57.22 —  
 — 37.61 —  
 — 32.19 —  
 — 30.67 —  
 — 25.68 —  
 — 24.15 —  
 — 17.71 —



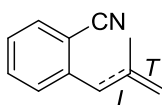
**2ak, (I : T = 8 : 1)**



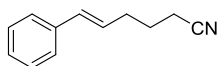
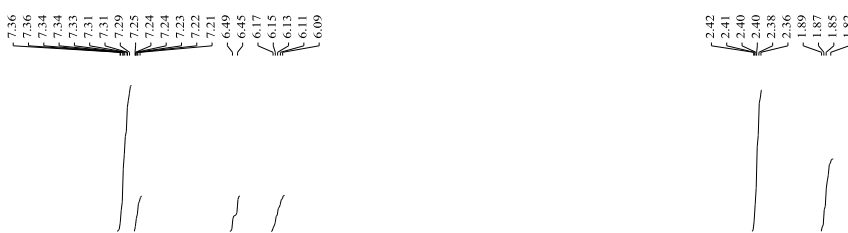
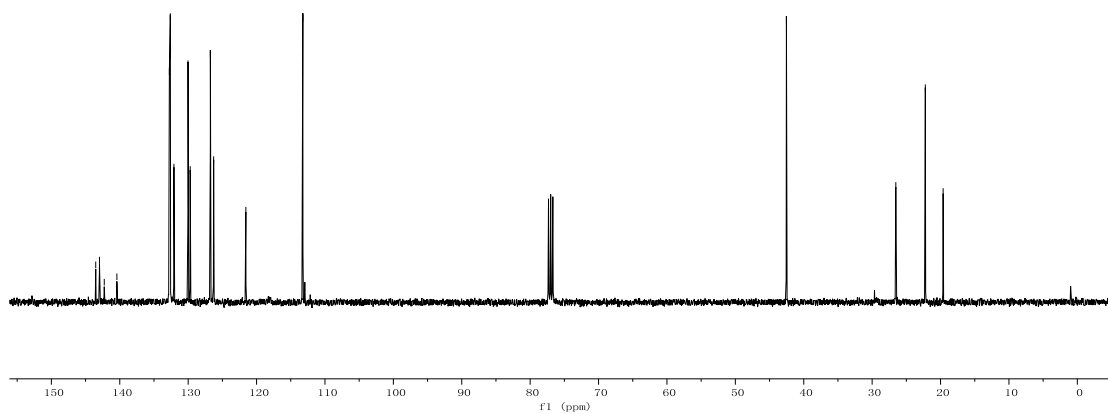
**2al, (I : T = 1 : 2.3)**



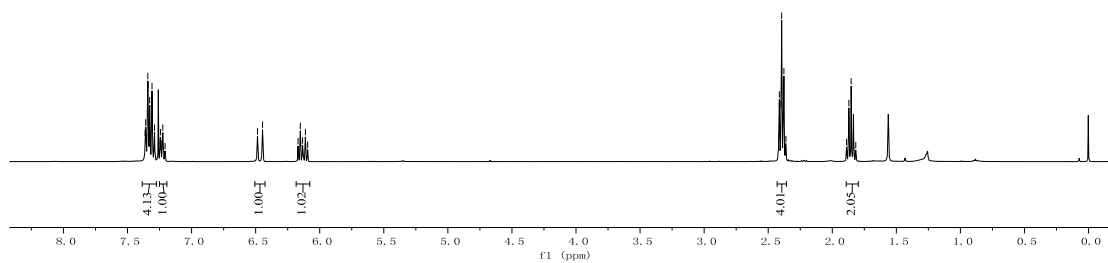
143.51  
 142.97  
 142.27  
 140.42  
 132.75  
 132.61  
 130.02  
 129.70  
 126.75  
 126.32  
 121.56  
 — 113.23  
 — 42.53  
 26.54  
 22.22  
 19.62

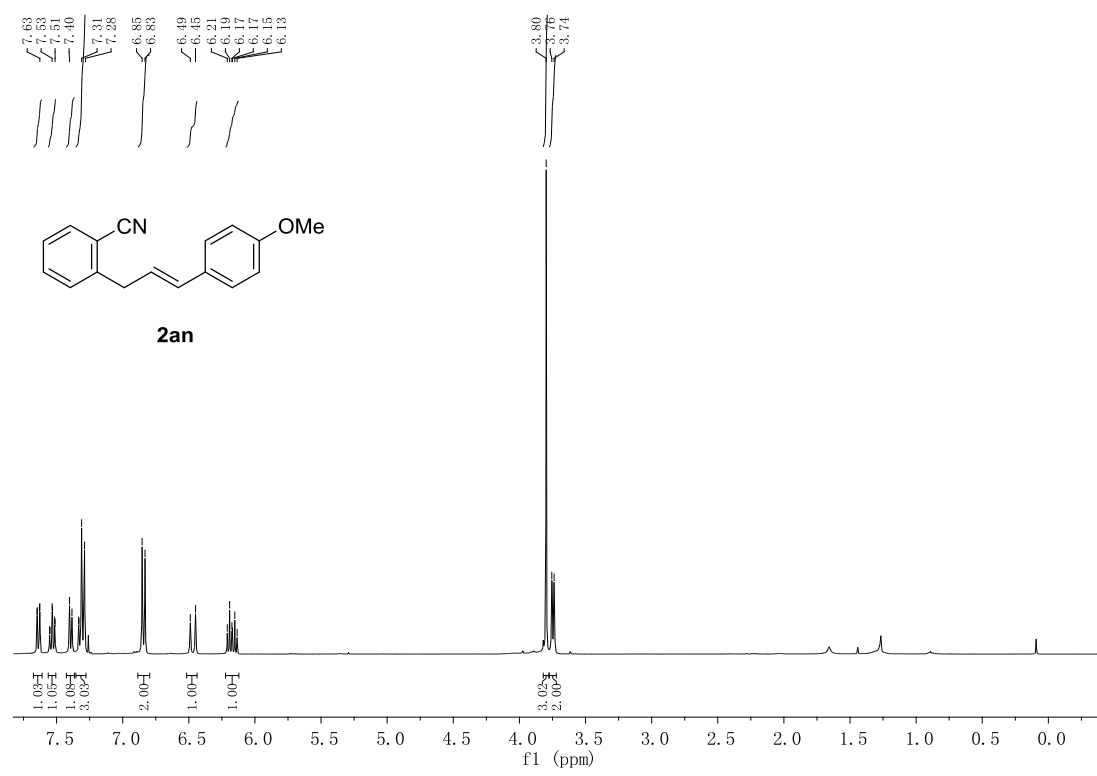
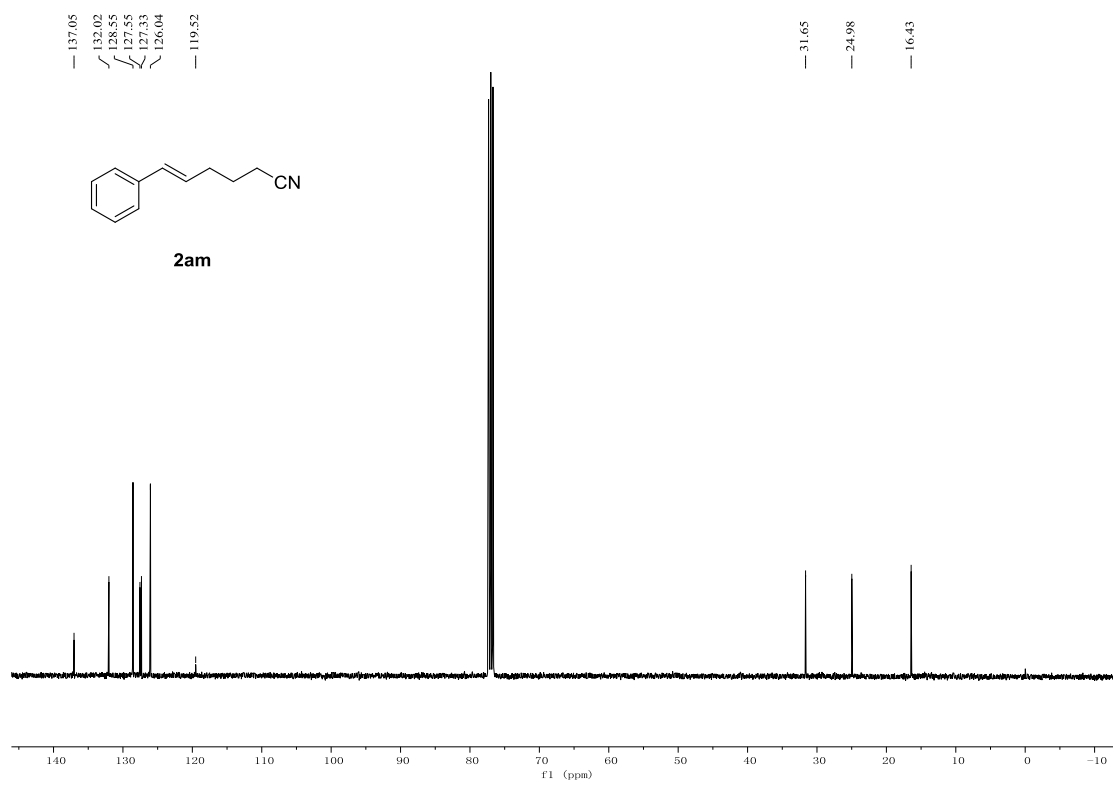


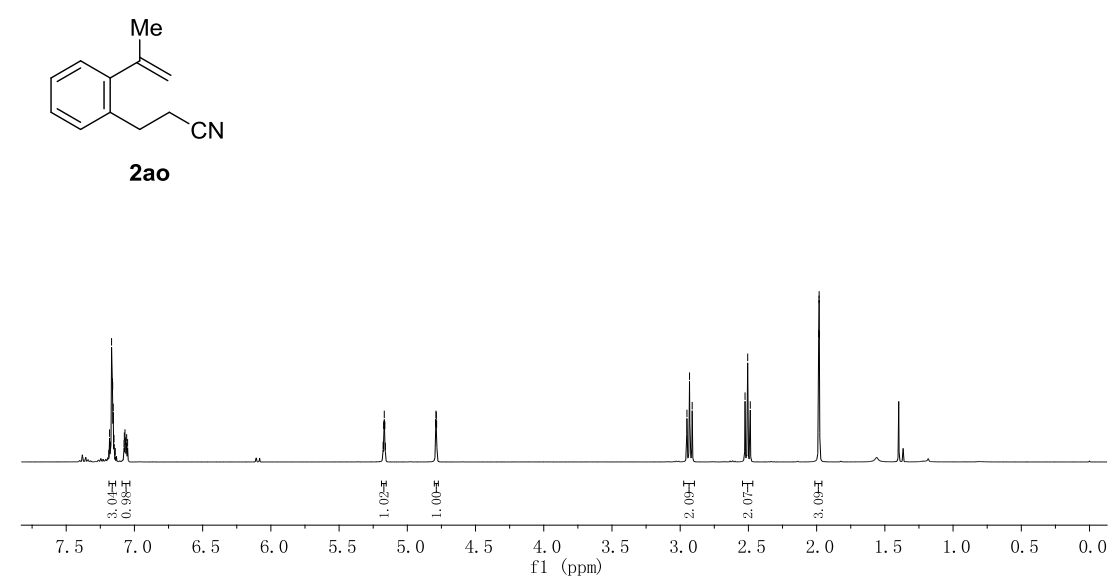
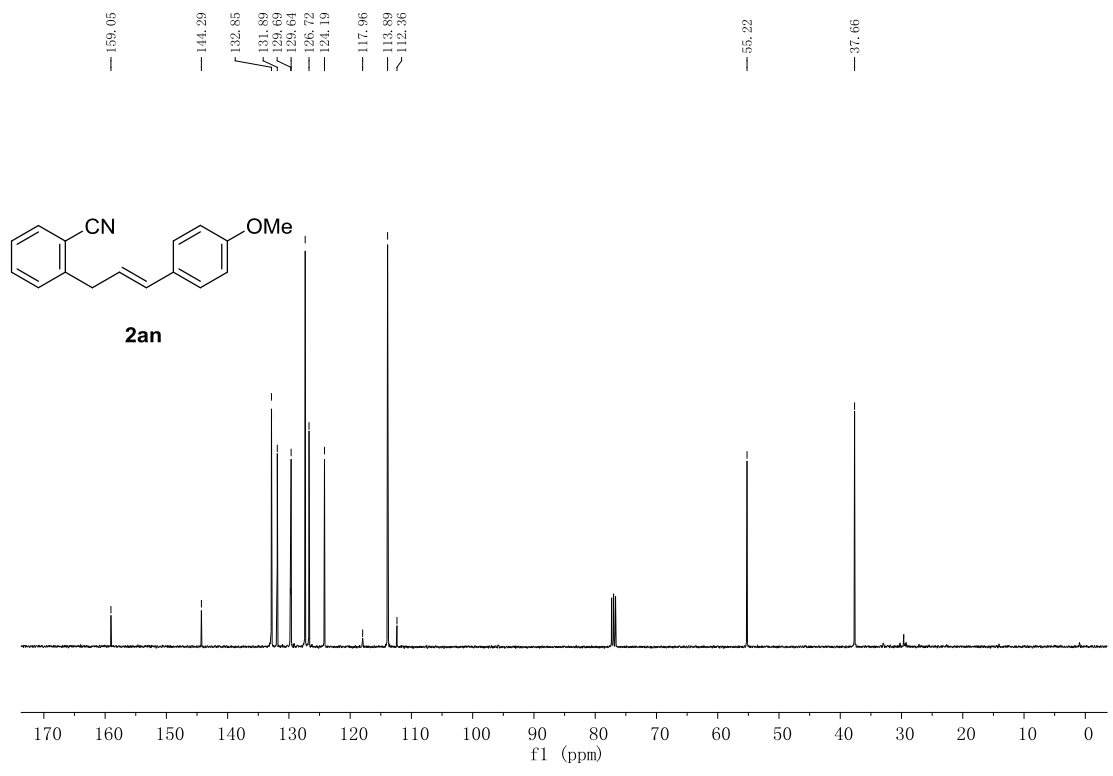
**2al**, (*I* : *T* = 1 : 2.3)

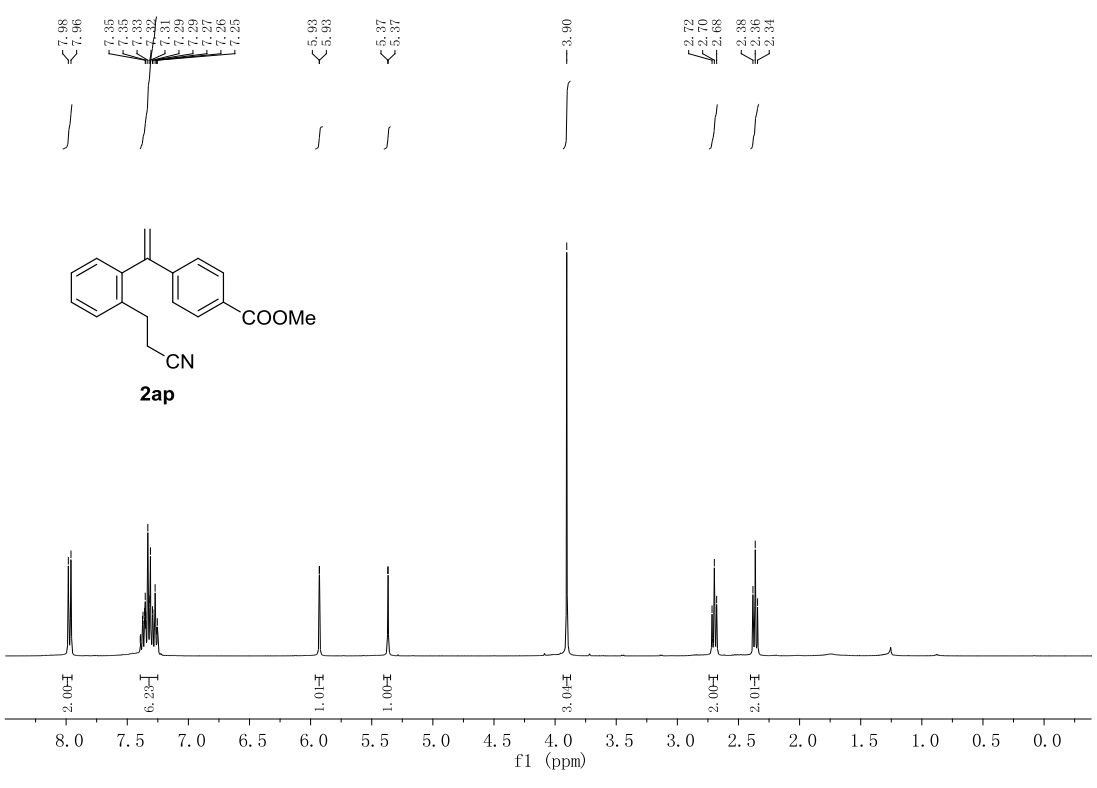
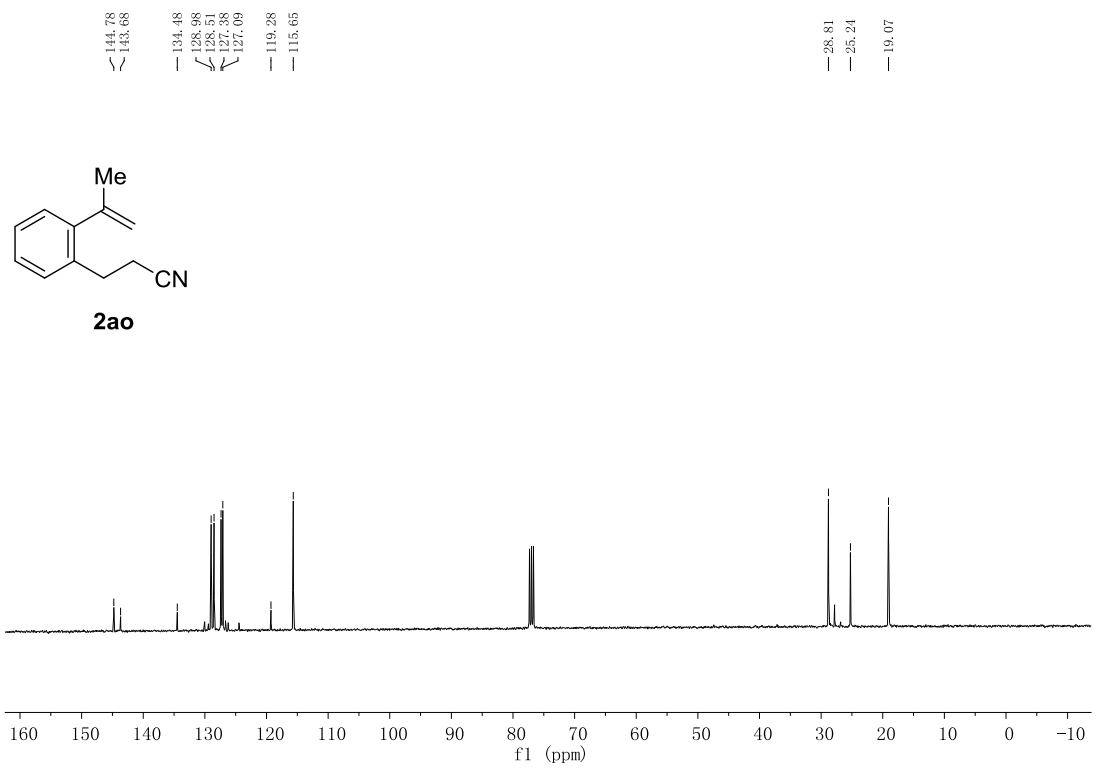


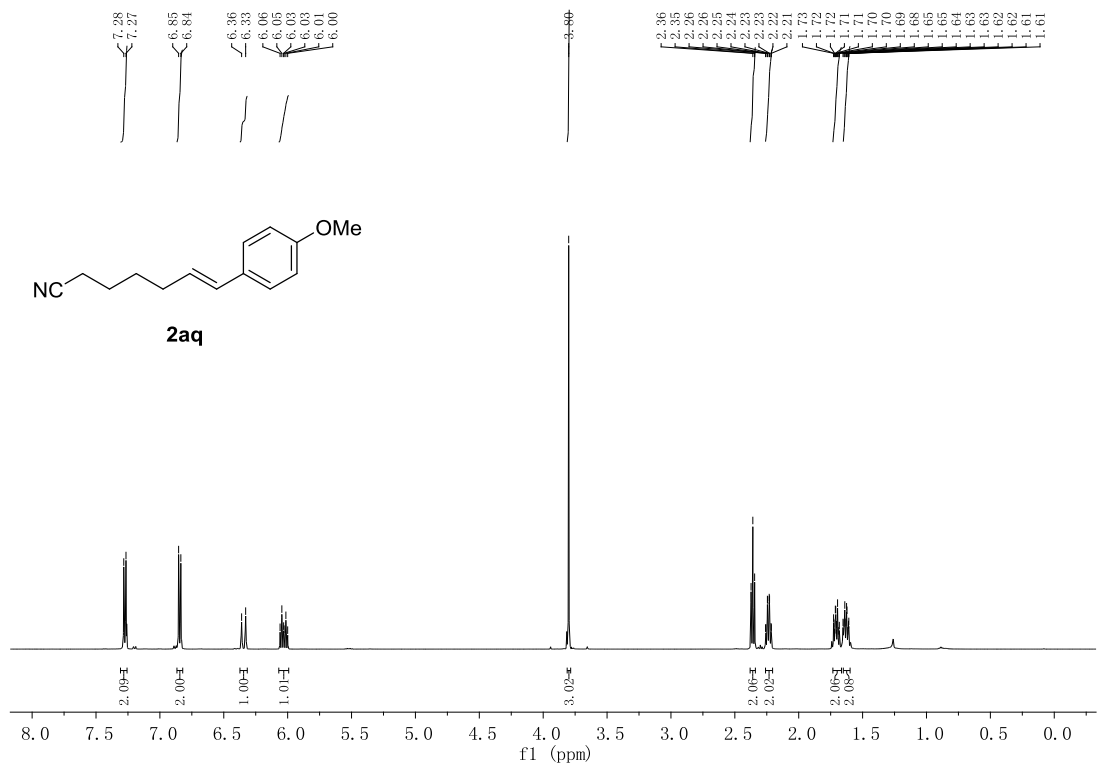
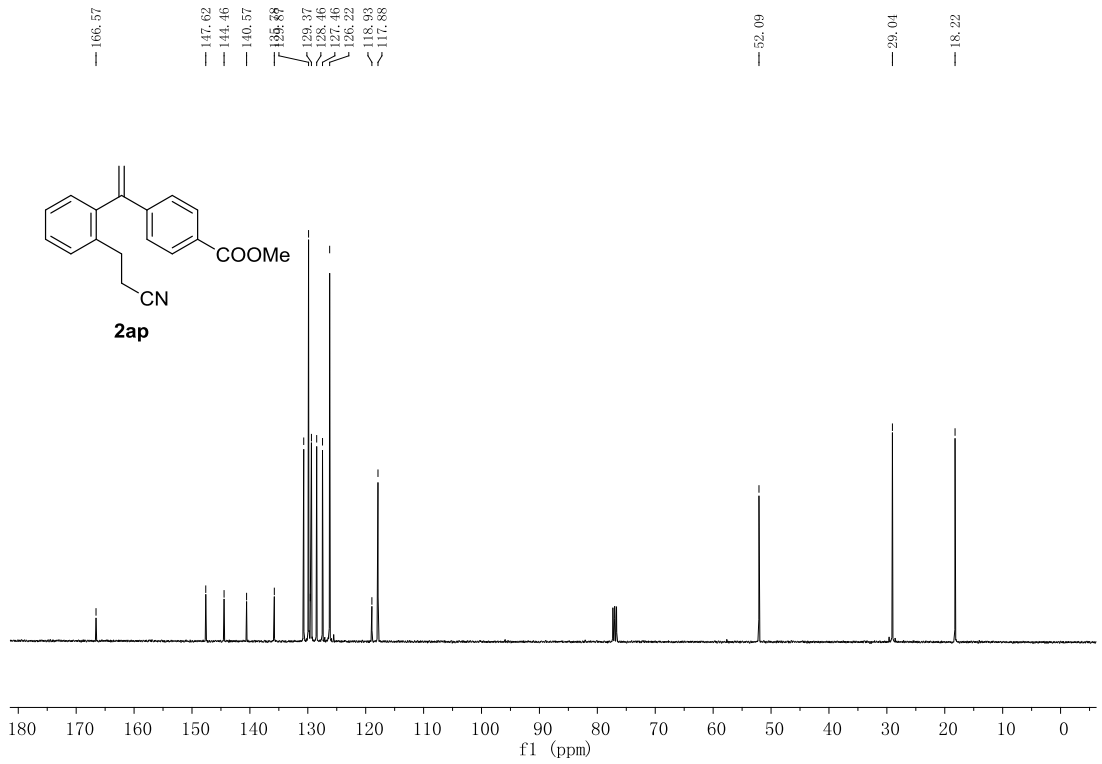
**2am**



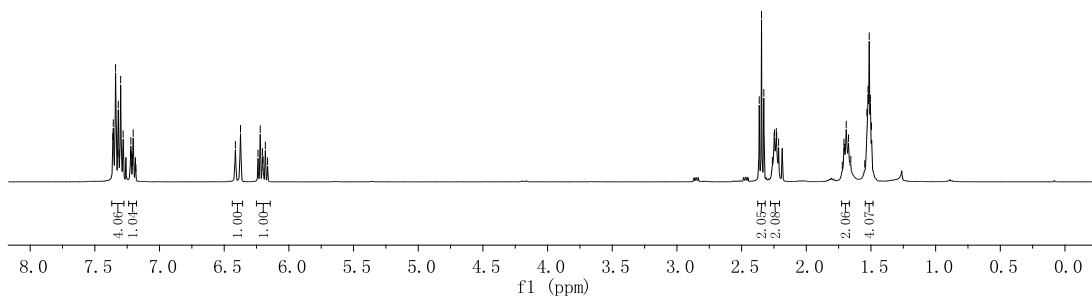
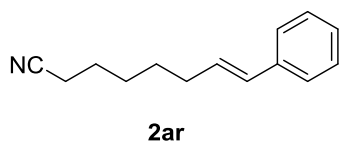
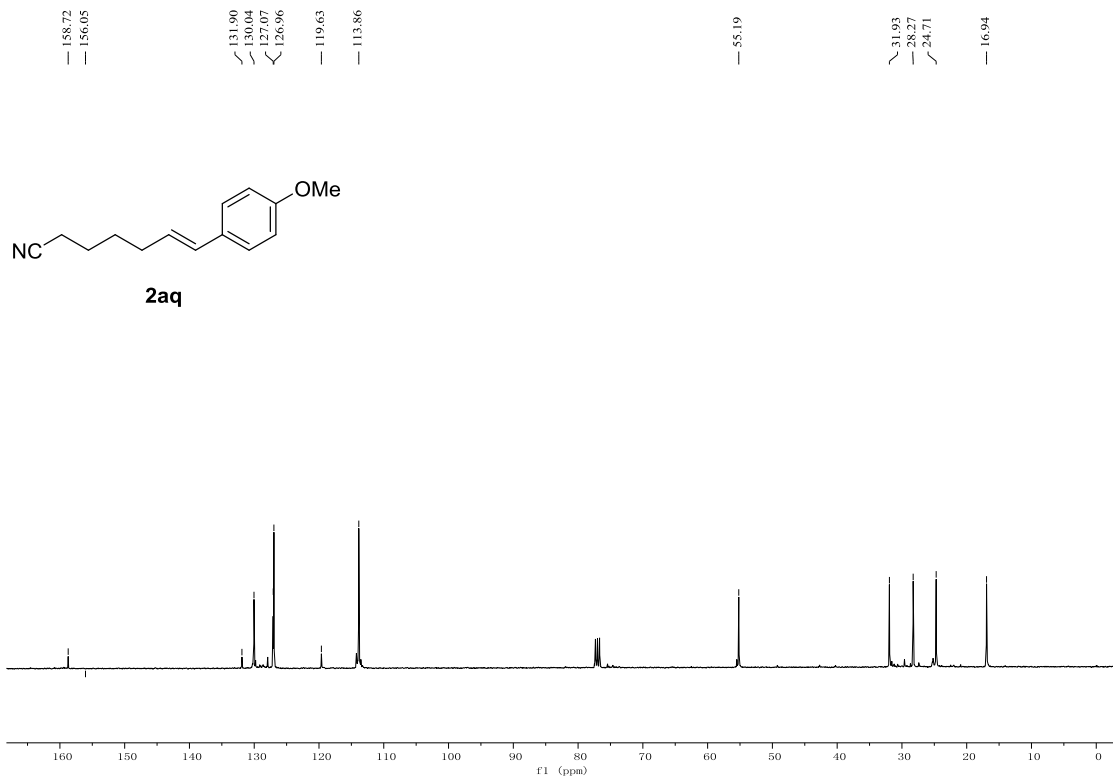


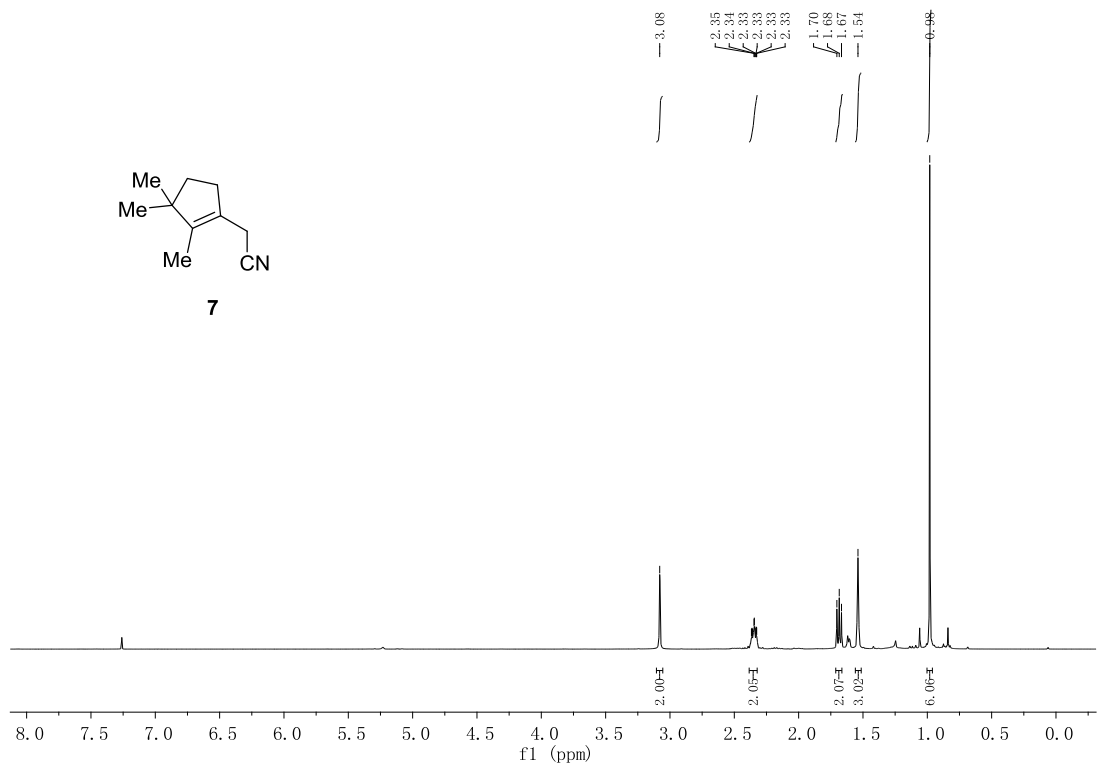
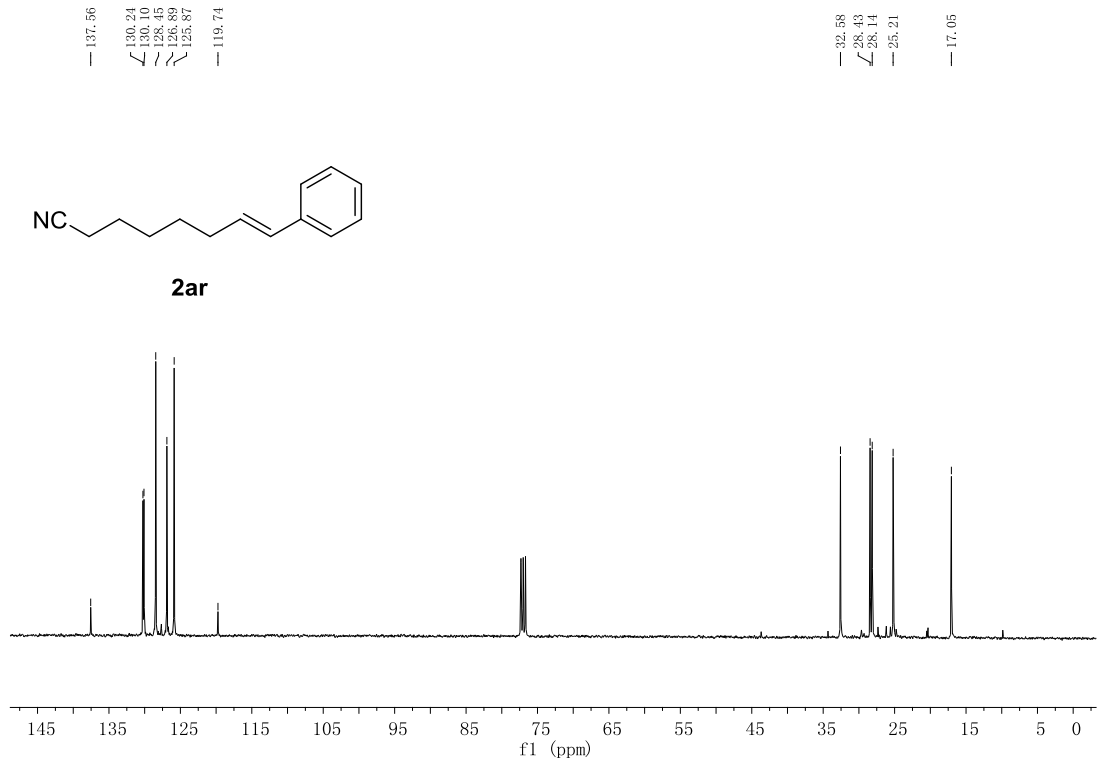


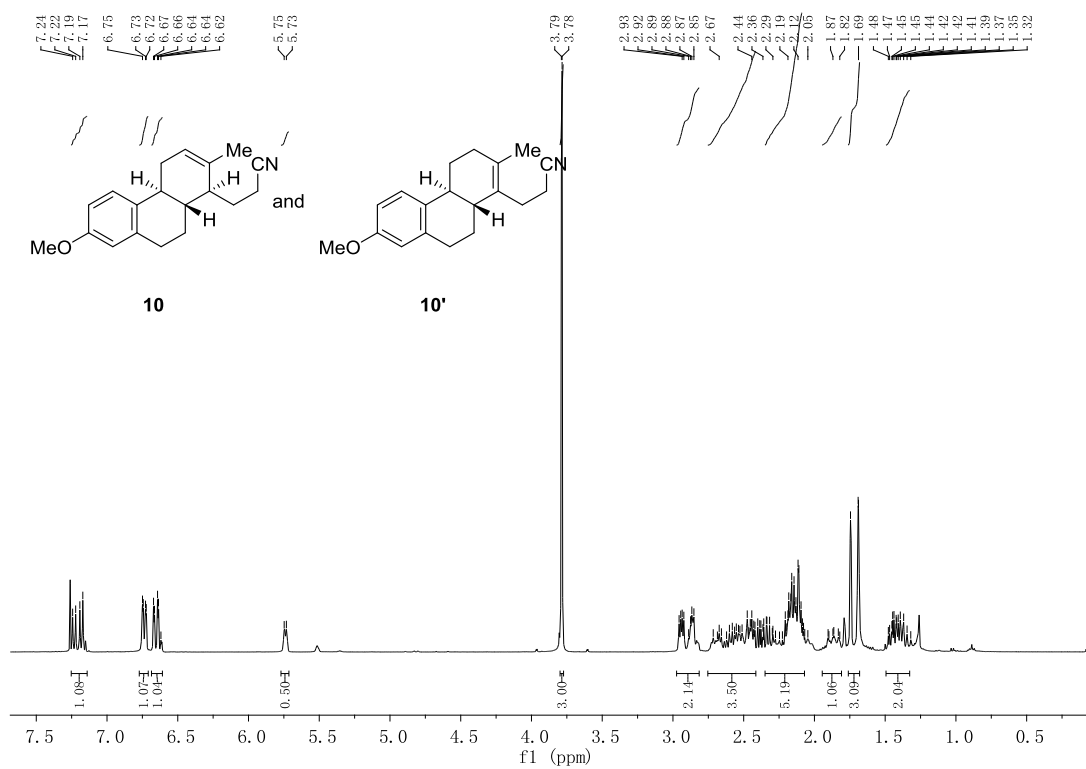
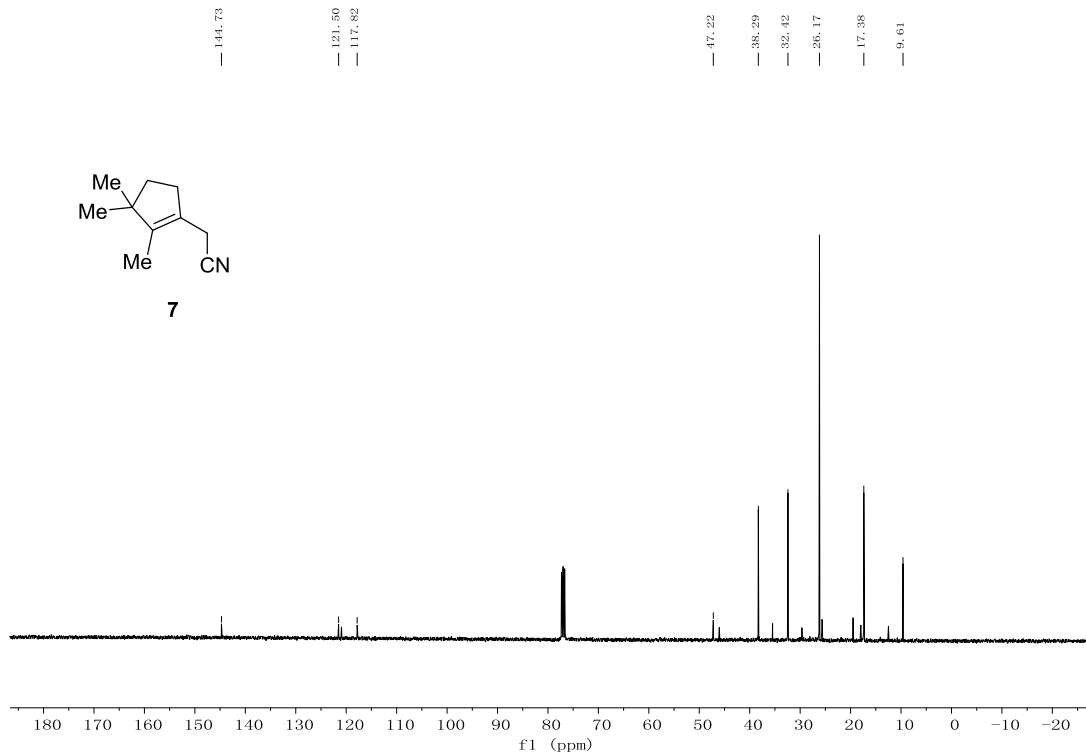


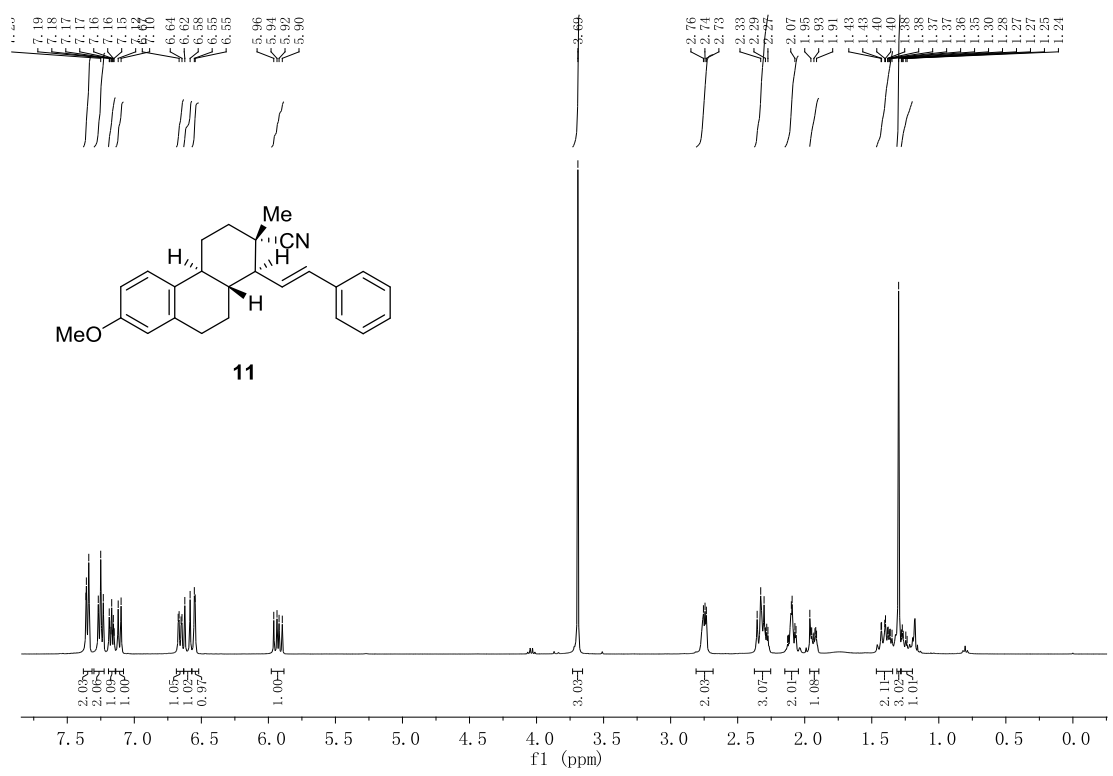
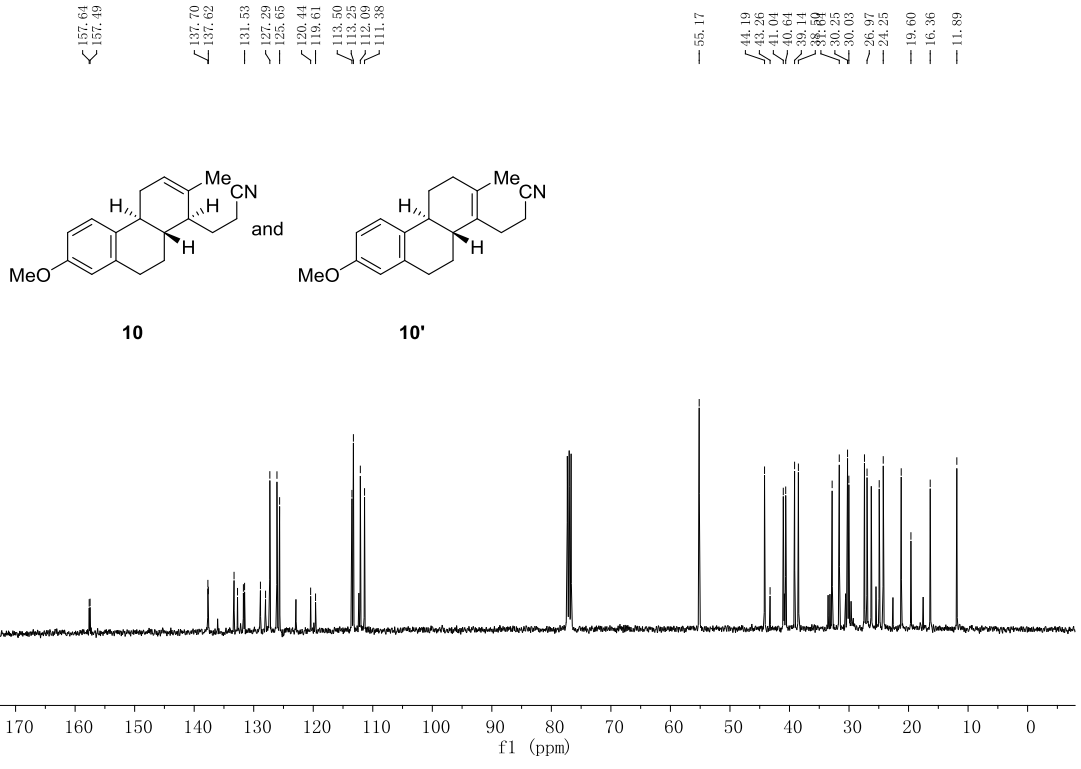


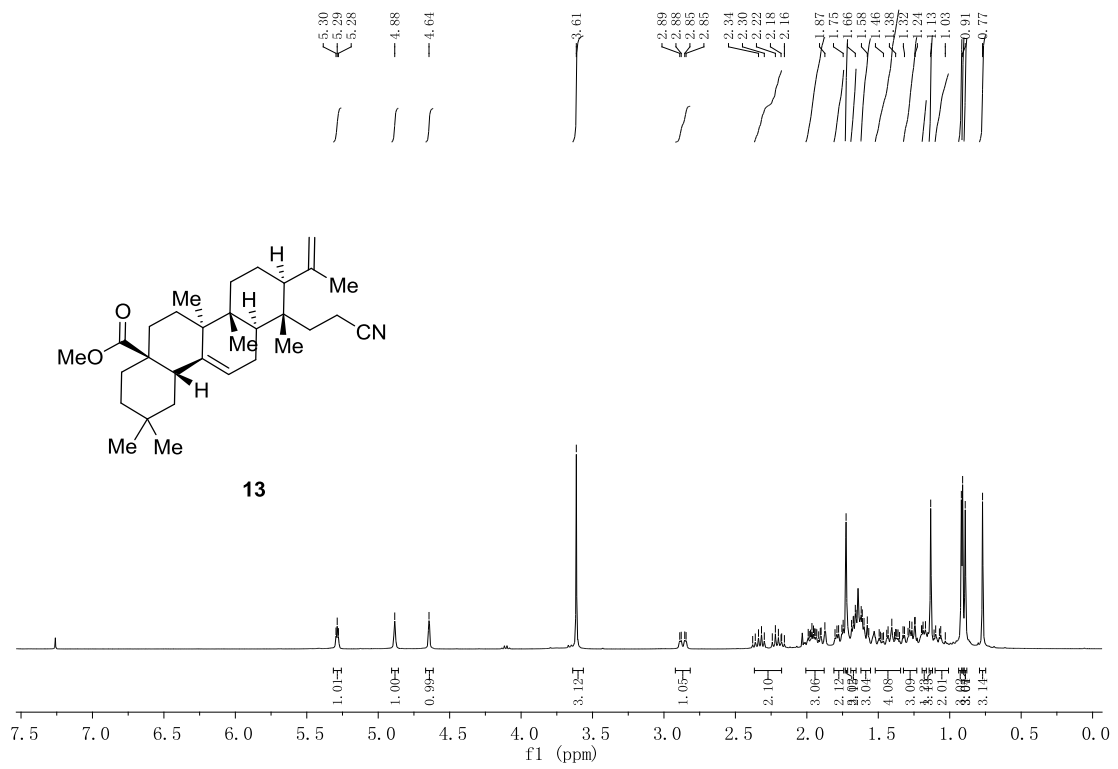
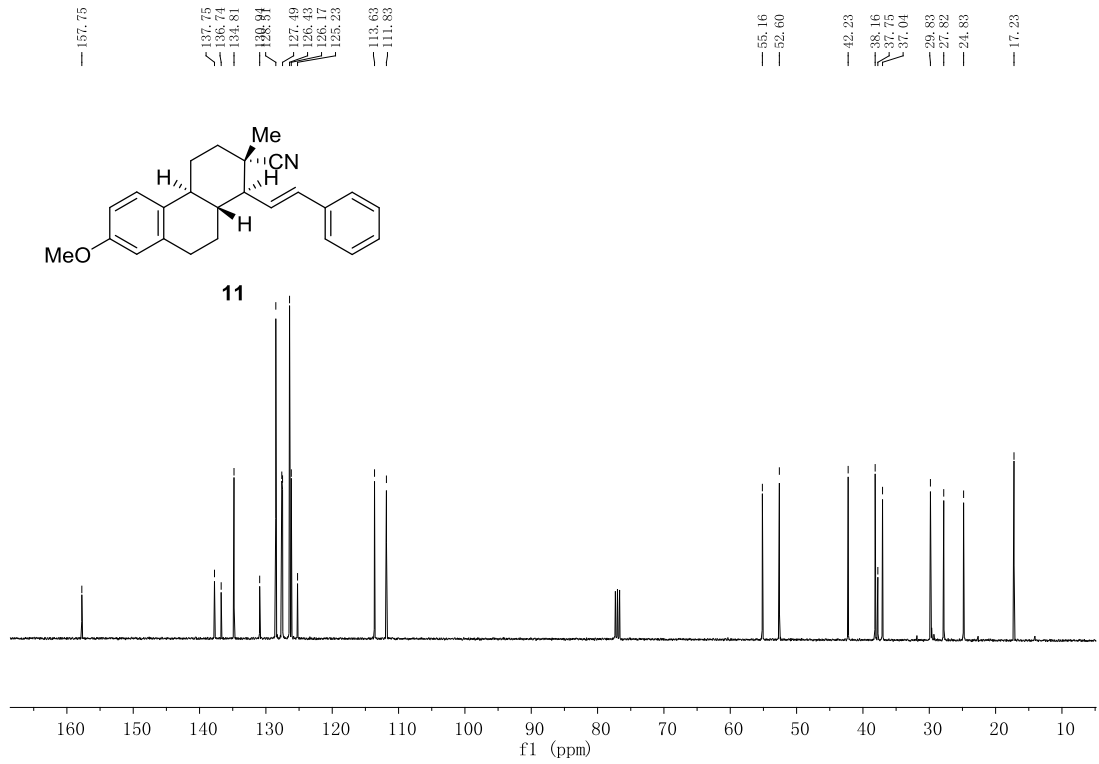


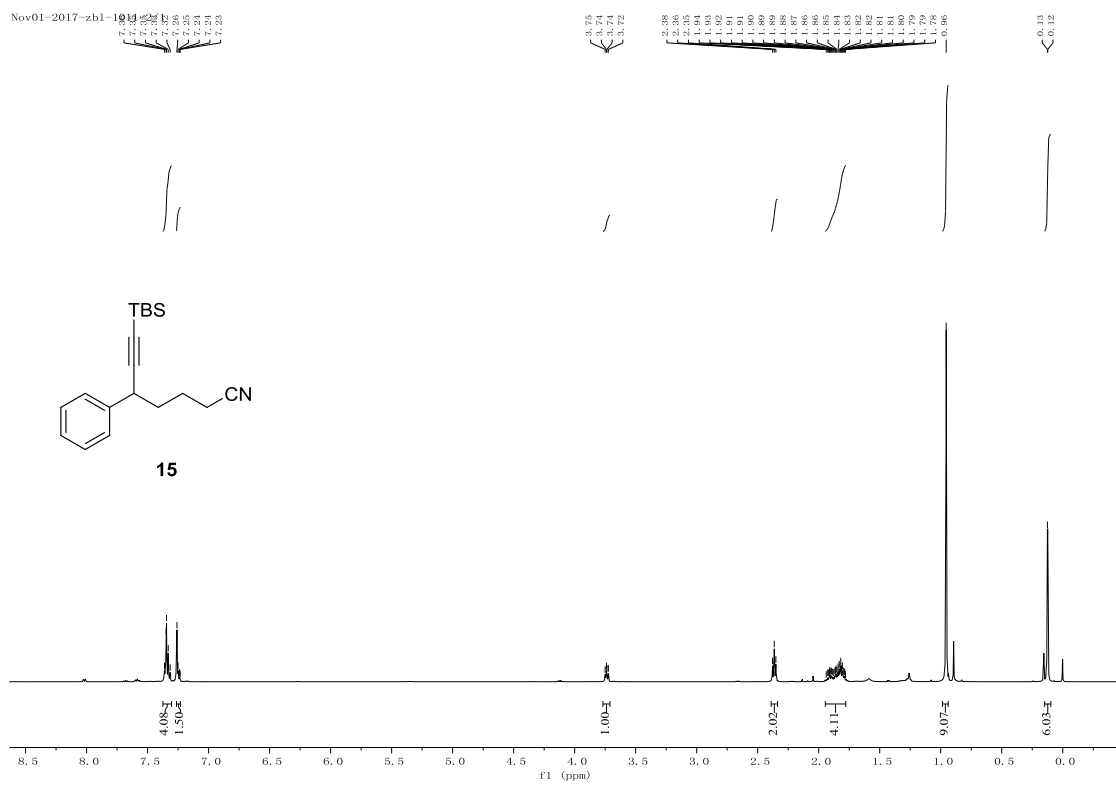
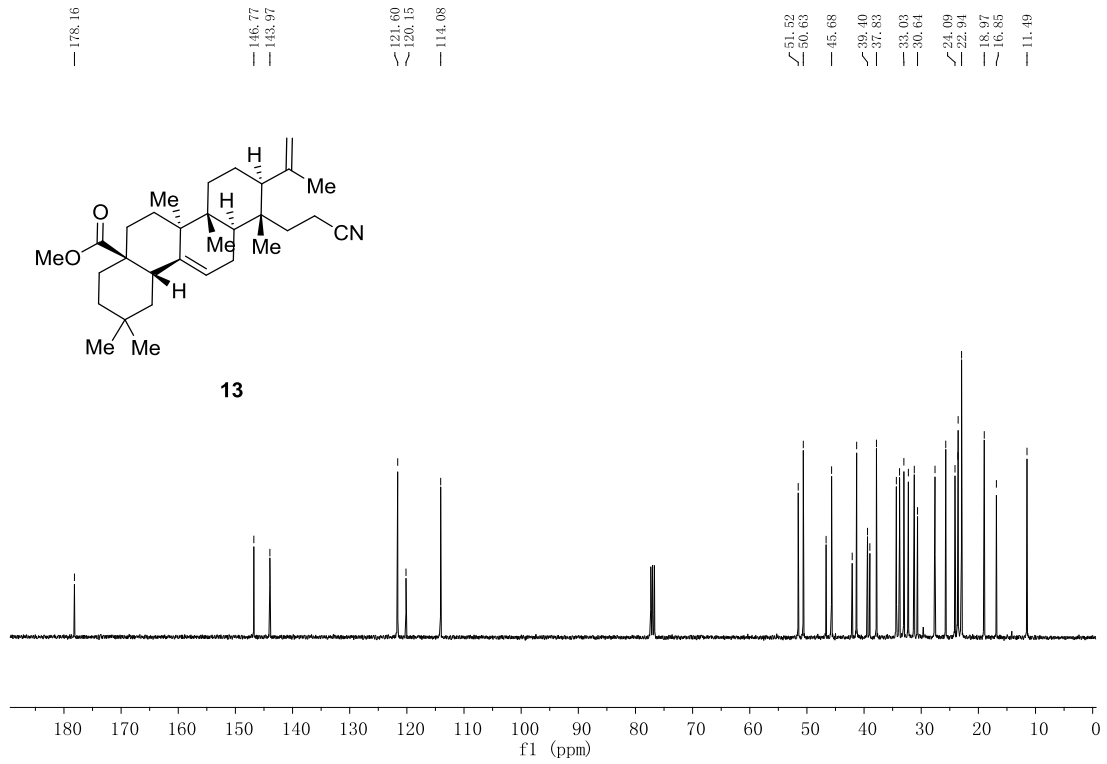


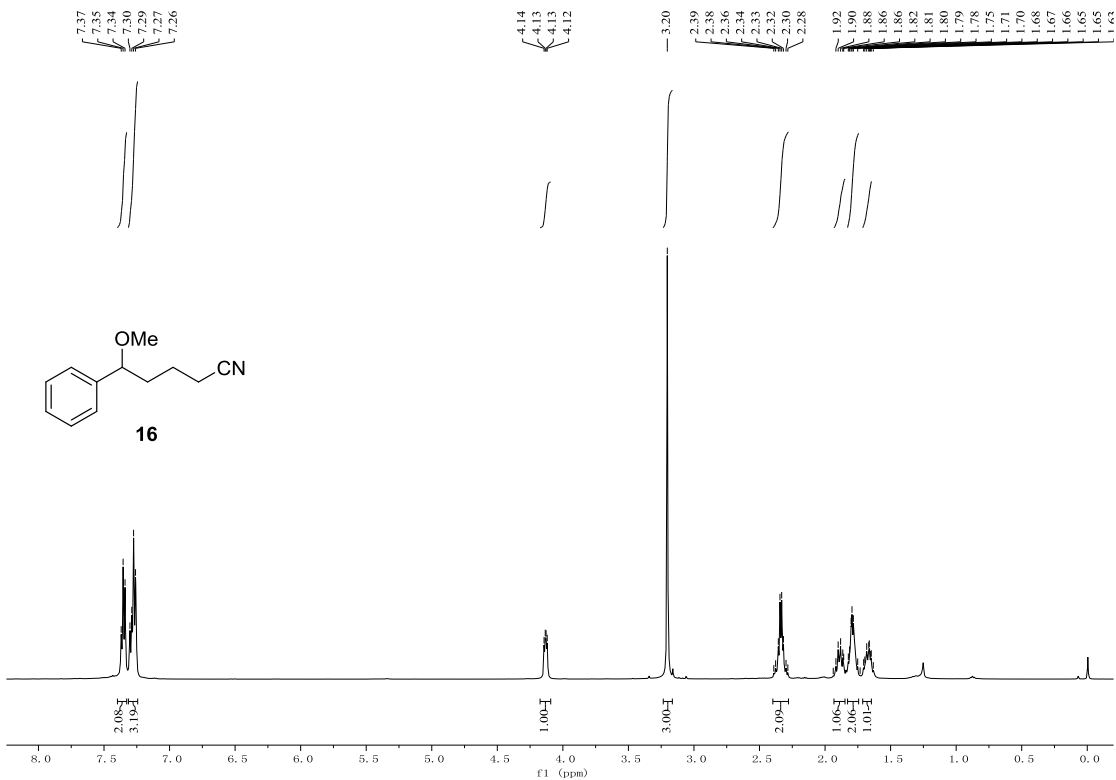
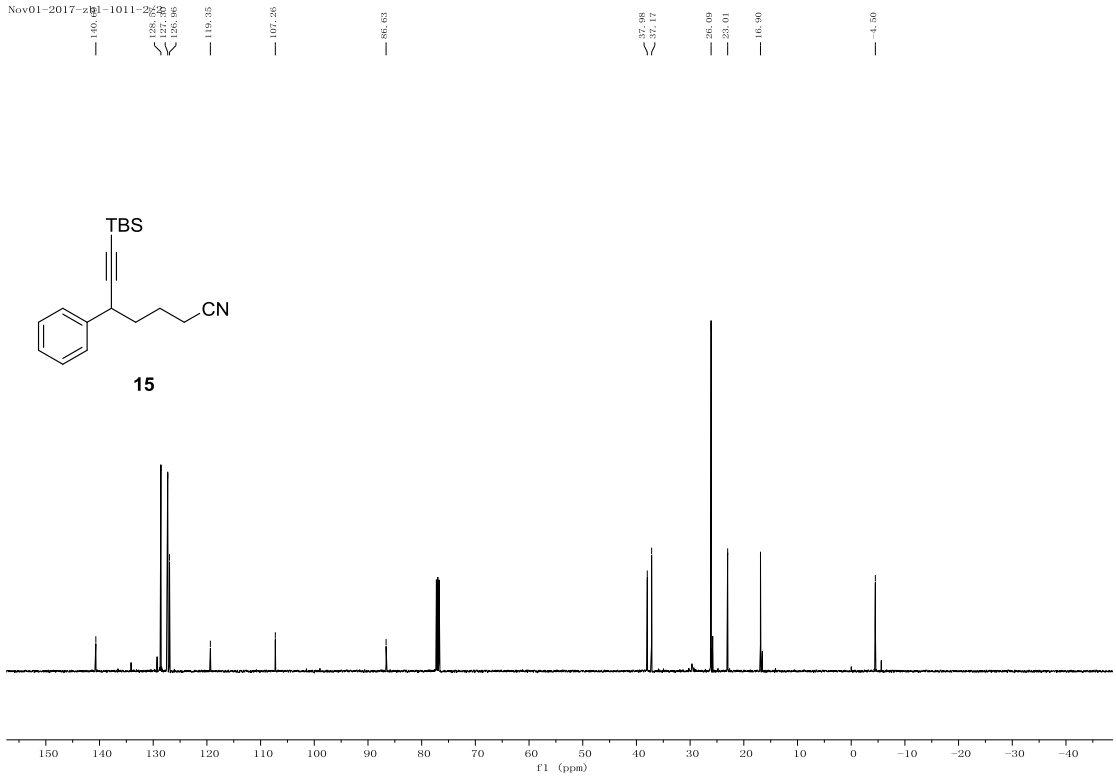


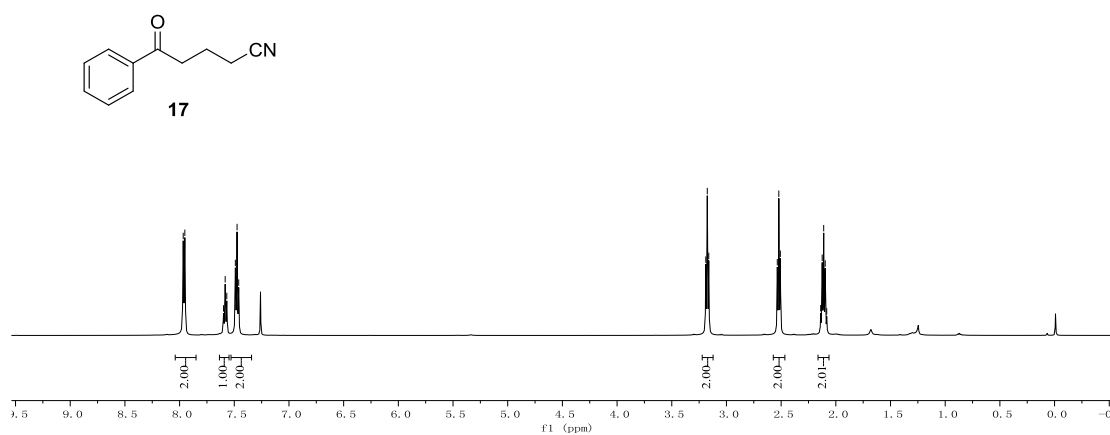
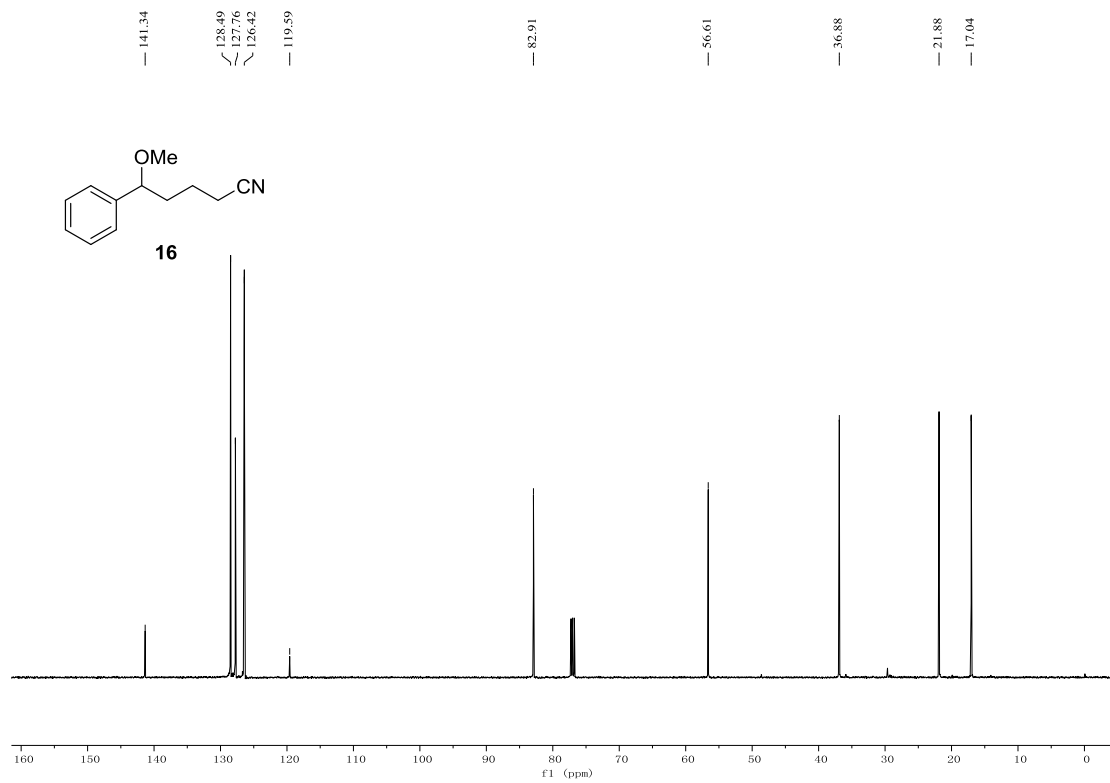




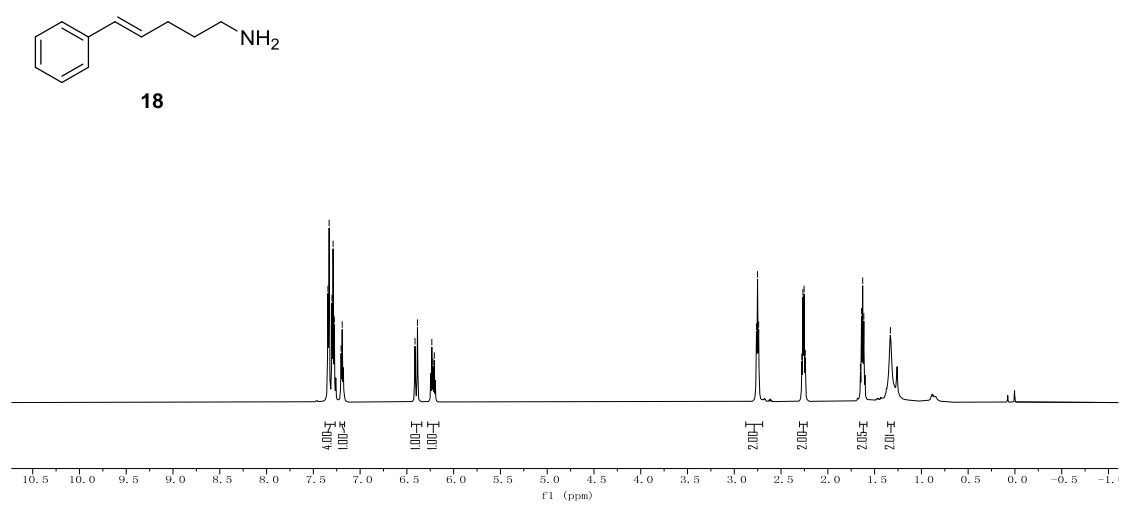
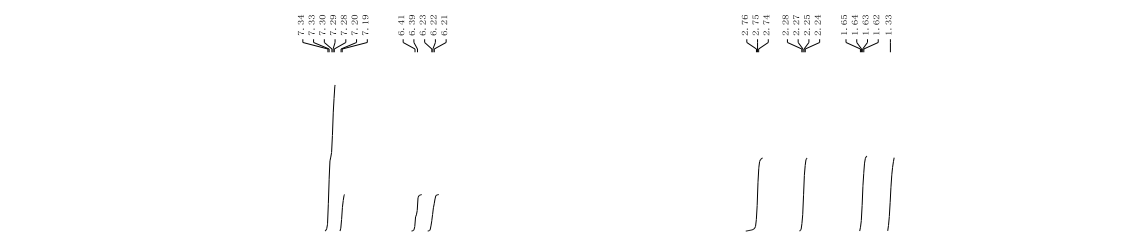
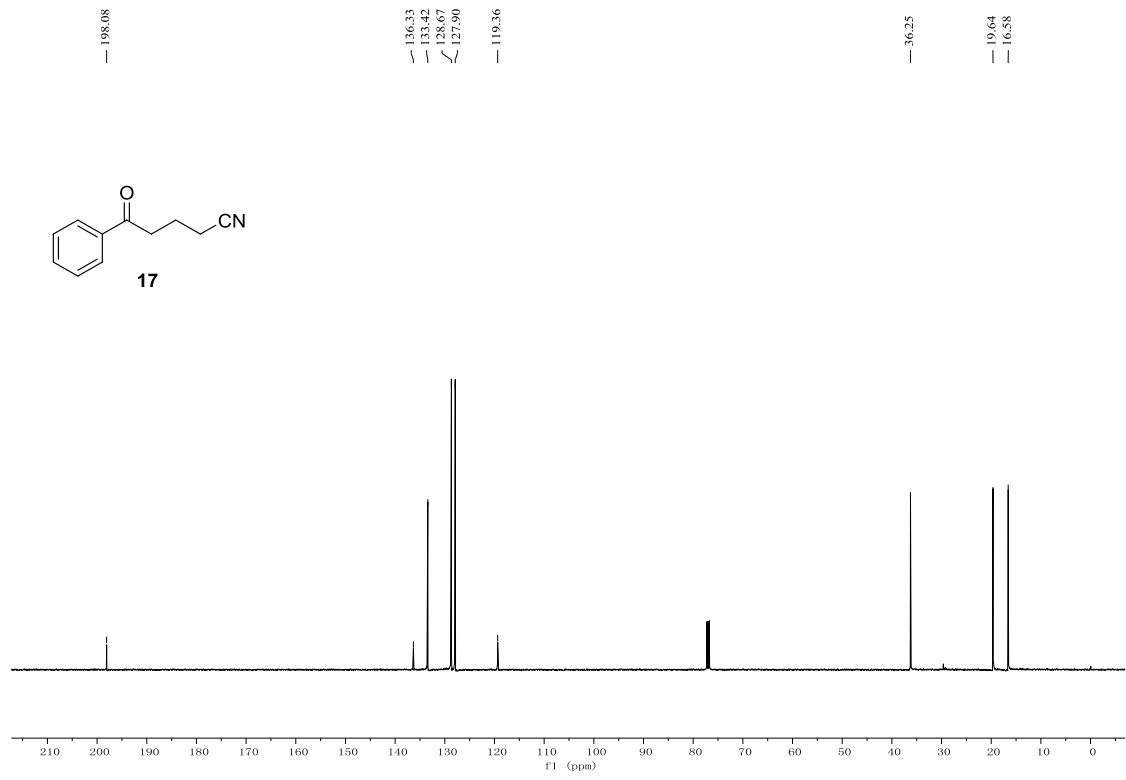


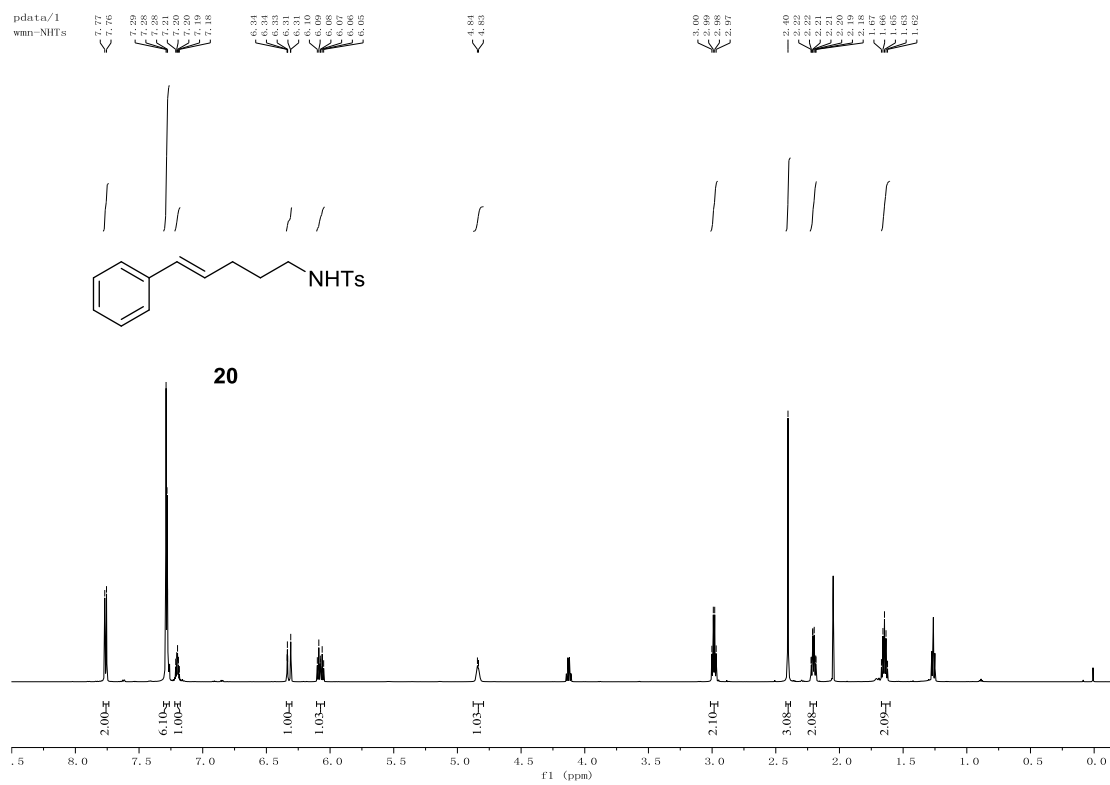
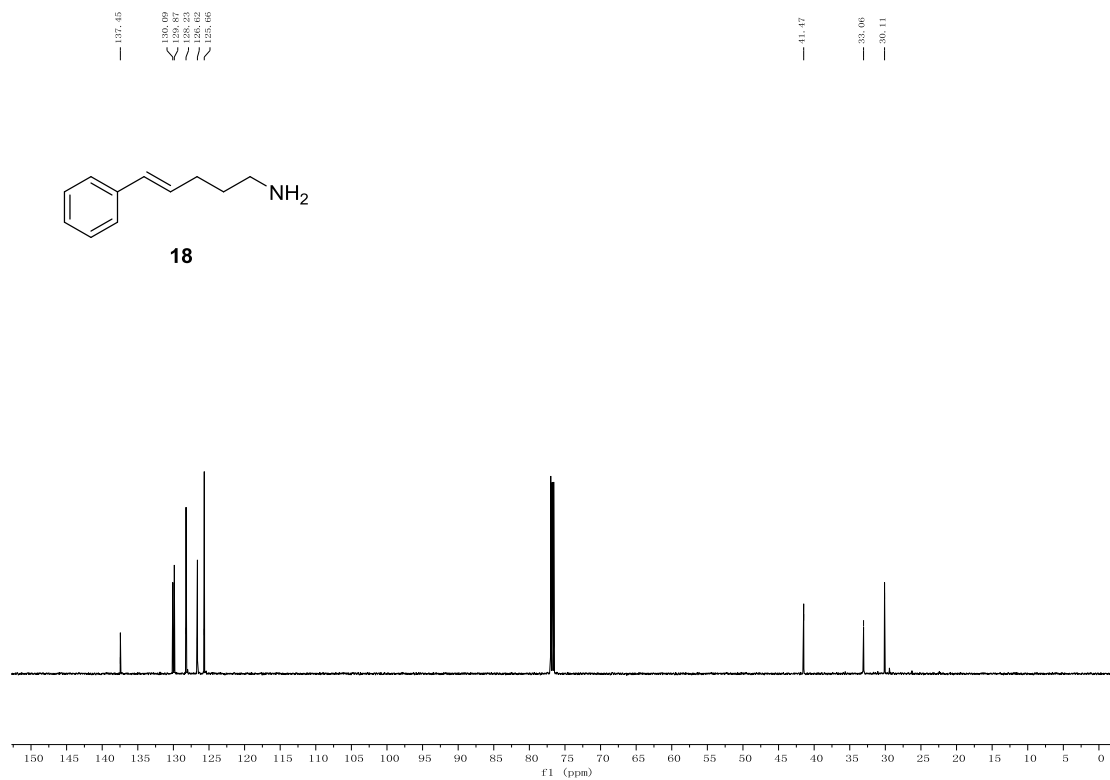


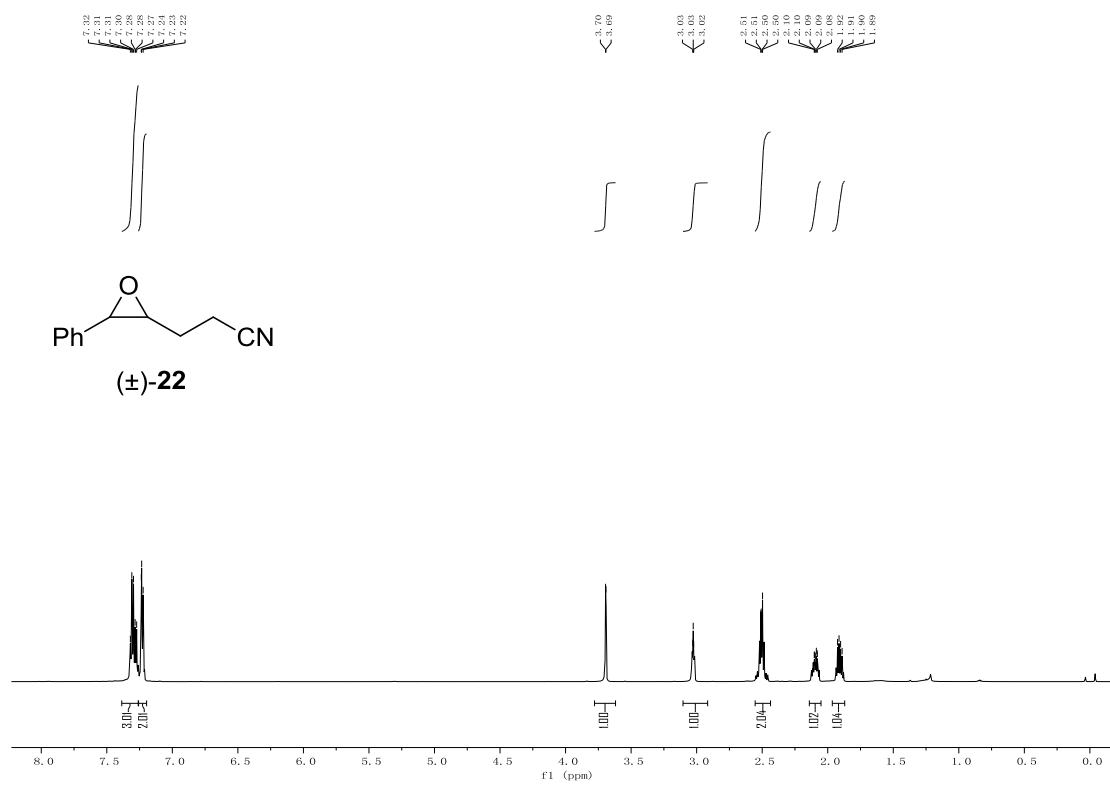
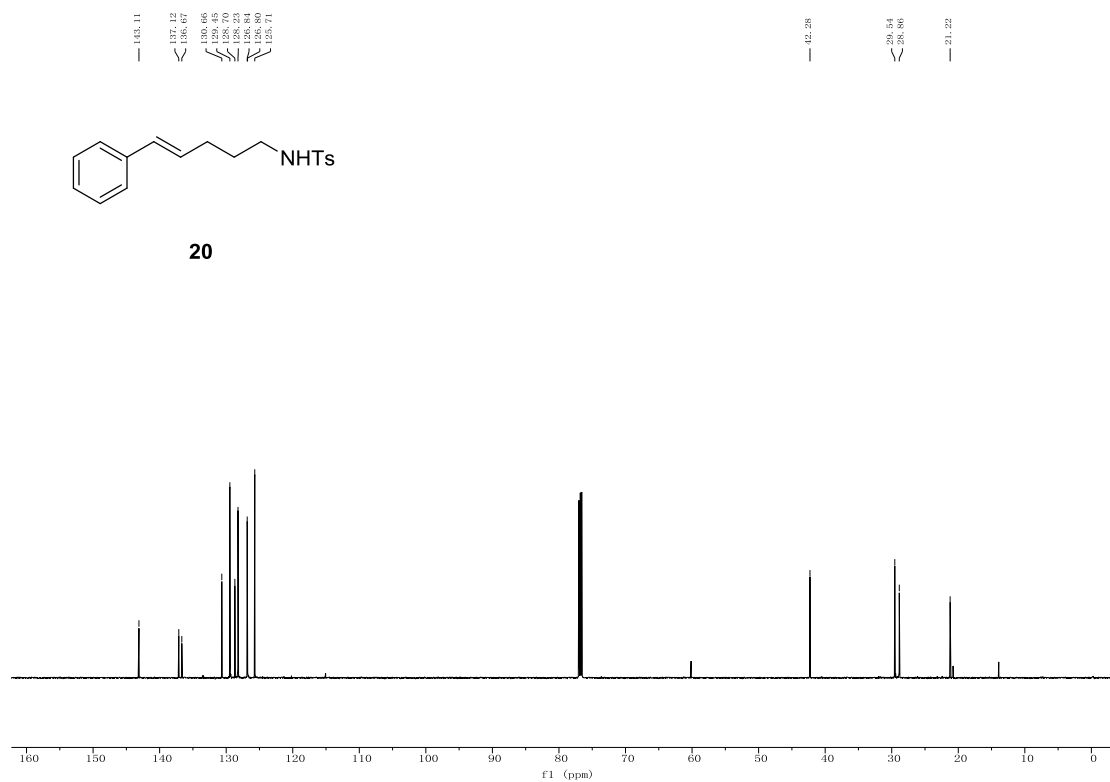


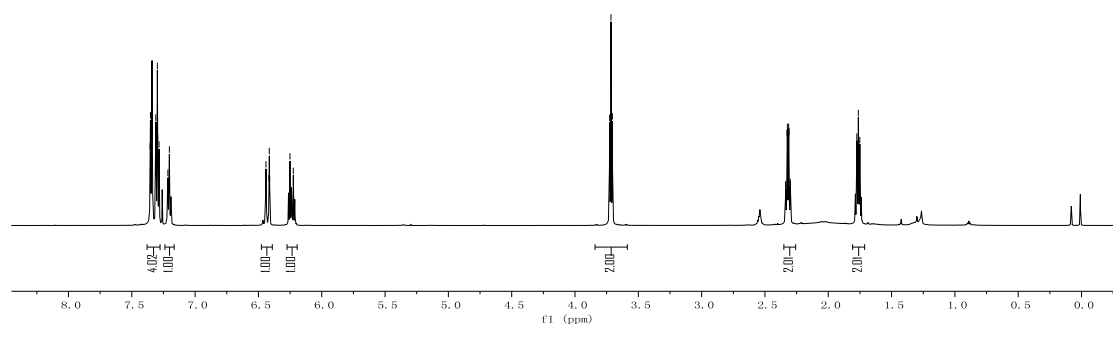
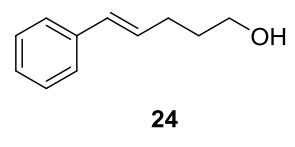
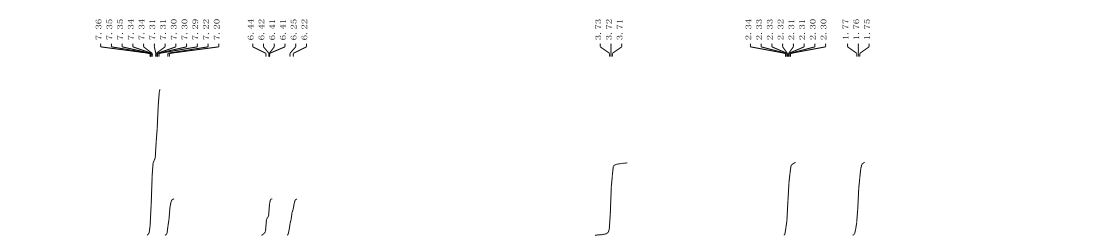
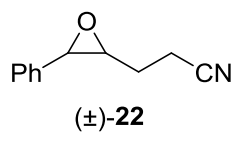
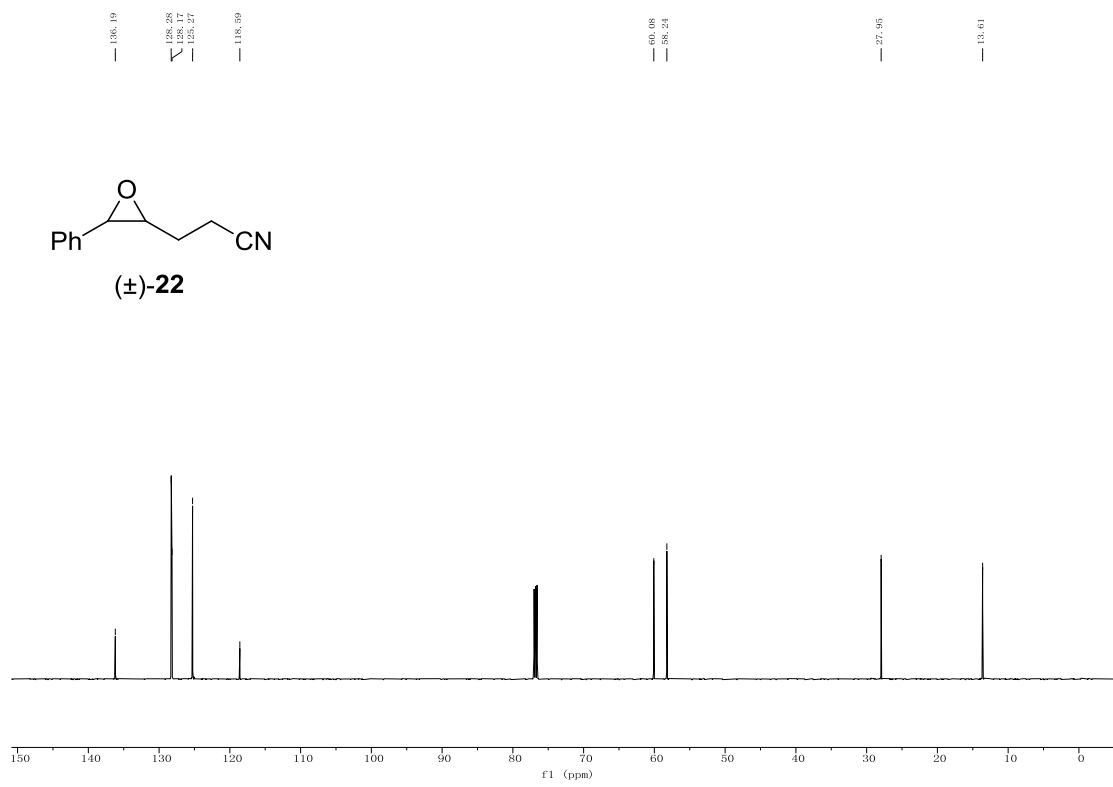








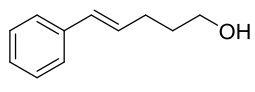




137.38  
133.15  
129.80  
128.27  
128.73  
128.72

62.17

31.98  
29.07



24

