

## Supporting Information

### Selective cleavage and reconstruction of C–N/C–C bonds in saturated cyclic amines: tunable synthesis of lactams and functionalized acyclic amines

Yan He,\* Jintao Yang, Xinying Zhang, and Xuesen Fan\*

NMPA Key Laboratory for Research and Evaluation of Innovative Drug, Key Laboratory for Yellow River and Huai River Water Environmental Pollution Control, Ministry of Education, Collaborative Innovation Center of Henan Province for Green Manufacturing of Fine Chemicals, School of Environment, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Henan Normal University, Xinxiang, Henan 453007, China.

*E-mail: heyang@htu.cn; xuesen.fan@htu.cn*

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## I. General experimental information

TEMPO salts were synthesized with a previously described procedure.<sup>1</sup> *N*-Aryl cyclic amines (**1**) were prepared based on a literature procedure.<sup>2</sup> Melting points were recorded with a micro melting point apparatus and uncorrected. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz, and the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded at 100 MHz or 150 MHz. The <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded at 376 MHz. Chemical shifts were expressed in parts per million ( $\delta$ ), and were reported as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), dd (doublet of doublet), m (multiplet), br s (broad singlet), etc. The coupling constants *J* were given in Hz. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were performed on a microTOF mass spectrometer. All the reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) using silica gel plates (silica gel 60 F254 0.25 mm), and components were visualized by observation under UV light (254 and 365 nm).

## II. Experimental procedures and spectroscopic data

### 1. A typical procedure for the synthesis of **2a** the spectroscopic data of **2a-2v**

To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-(4-chlorophenyl)piperidine (**1a**, 39 mg, 0.2 mmol), toluene (1 mL),  $T^+BF_4^-$  (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), TBHP (120  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), and TFA (15  $\mu$ L, 0.2 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100 °C under air for 4 h. Upon completion, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with saturated  $NaHCO_3$  solution and aqueous NaCl. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$  and filtered. Then, the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica-gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1) as the eluent to afford **2a** as yellow solid in 28 mg (72%). **2b-2v** were obtained in an analogous manner.

#### 1-(4-Chlorophenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (**2a**)<sup>3</sup>

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Yellow solid (28 mg, 72%), mp 95-96 °C (lit.<sup>3</sup> 95-97 °C).

$^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.58 (dd,  $J_1 = 6.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.32 (dd,  $J_1 = 6.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.84 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.61 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.21-2.15 (m, 2H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  174.3, 138.0, 129.6, 128.8, 121.0, 48.7, 32.7, 17.9. MS: m/z 196  $[M+H]^+$ .

#### 1-Phenylpyrrolidin-2-one (**2b**)<sup>3</sup>

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). White solid (18 mg, 56%), mp 67-68 °C (lit.<sup>3</sup> 68-69 °C).

$^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.61 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.37 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.15 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.87 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.62 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.21-2.13 (m, 2H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  174.3, 139.4, 128.8, 124.5, 120.0, 48.8, 32.8, 18.1. MS: m/z 162  $[M+H]^+$ .

#### 1-(*p*-Tolyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (**2c**)<sup>3</sup>

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). White solid (19 mg, 54%), mp 89-90 °C (lit.<sup>3</sup> 88-90 °C).

$^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.47 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.84 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz,

2H), 2.59 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.17-2.13 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  174.1, 136.9, 134.2, 129.4, 120.1, 49.0, 32.7, 20.9, 18.1. MS:  $m/z$  176  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ .

### **1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2d)<sup>3</sup>**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Yellow solid (16 mg, 42%), mp 110-112 °C (lit.<sup>3</sup> 112-114 °C).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.49 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.90 (dd,  $J_1 = 9.2$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.84-3.80 (m, 5H), 2.59 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.17-2.13 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  174.0, 156.6, 132.6, 121.9, 114.1, 55.5, 49.2, 32.5, 18.1. MS:  $m/z$  192  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ .

### **1-(4-Fluorophenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2e)<sup>3</sup>**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Brown solid (23 mg, 64%), mp 41-43 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.58-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.07-7.03 (m, 2H), 3.83 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.60 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.20-2.12 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  174.2, 160.0 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 242.9$  Hz), 135.5 (d,  $^4J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.3$  Hz), 121.7 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 7.7$  Hz), 115.5 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.8$  Hz), 49.0, 32.5, 18.0.  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 376 MHz):  $\delta$  -117.8. MS:  $m/z$  180  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ .

### **1-(4-Bromophenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2f)<sup>3</sup>**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Yellow solid (27 mg, 56%), mp 101-102 °C (lit.<sup>3</sup> 100-101 °C).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.52 (dd,  $J_1 = 9.2$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.48-7.45 (m, 2H), 3.83 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.61 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.21-2.15 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  174.3, 138.5, 131.8, 121.3, 117.3, 48.6, 32.7, 17.9. MS:  $m/z$  240  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ .

### **1-(4-Iodophenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2g)<sup>4</sup>**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Yellow solid (32 mg, 56%), mp 138-119 °C (lit.<sup>4</sup> 140-142 °C).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.67-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.40 (m, 2H), 3.83 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.60 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.18-2.15 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  174.3, 139.2, 137.8, 121.6, 88.0, 48.5, 32.7, 17.9. MS:  $m/z$  288  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ .

### **Methyl 4-(2-oxopyrrolidin-1-yl)benzoate (2h)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Brown solid (25 mg, 57%), mp 118-119 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.90-3.87 (m, 5H), 2.63 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.22-2.16 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 174.7, 166.7, 143.4, 130.5, 125.5, 118.6, 52.0, 48.5, 32.9, 17.9. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> 220.0968; Found 220.0969.

### **4-(2-Oxopyrrolidin-1-yl)benzotrile (2i)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Brown solid (17 mg, 46%), mp 99-100 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.25-2.17 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 174.9, 143.2, 133.0, 119.3, 118.9, 107.1, 48.3, 32.8, 17.8. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 187.0866; Found 187.0867.

### **1-(4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2j)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Yellow solid (19 mg, 41%), mp 120-121 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.24-2.17 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 174.7, 142.3, 126.1 (q, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 11.0 Hz), 126.0 (q, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 3.3 Hz), 124.1 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 270.2 Hz), 119.2, 48.5, 32.8, 17.9. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 376 MHz): δ -62.2. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO 230.0787; Found 230.0784.

### **1-(3-Fluorophenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2k)<sup>3</sup>**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Yellow solid (19 mg, 53%), mp 127-129 °C (lit.<sup>3</sup> 128-129 °C) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.54-7.51 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.29 (m, 2H), 6.85-6.81 (m, 1H), 3.84 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.20-2.13 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  174.4, 162.9 (d,  $^1J_{C-F} = 242.9$  Hz), 140.9 (d,  $^3J_{C-F} = 11.0$  Hz), 129.9 (d,  $^3J_{C-F} = 11.0$  Hz), 114.8 (d,  $^4J_{C-F} = 3.3$  Hz), 111.1 (d,  $^2J_{C-F} = 21.9$  Hz), 107.1 (d,  $^2J_{C-F} = 25.2$  Hz), 48.7, 32.8, 17.8.  $^{19}F\{^1H\}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 376 MHz):  $\delta$  -111.6. MS: m/z 180 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

### 1-(3-Chlorophenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2l)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Brown solid (20 mg, 51%), mp 64-65 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.60 (t,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.18 (m, 1H), 7.05-7.03 (m, 1H), 3.76 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.54 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.13-2.07 (m, 2H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  174.4, 140.6, 134.5, 129.8, 124.4, 119.8, 117.7, 48.6, 32.7, 17.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClNO 196.0524; Found 196.0522.

### 1-(3-Bromophenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2m)<sup>3</sup>

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Brown solid (15 mg, 31%), mp 57-58 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.79 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.20 (m, 2H), 3.83 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.61 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.20-2.15 (m, 2H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  174.3, 140.7, 130.1, 127.3, 122.58, 122.56, 118.2, 48.6, 32.7, 17.9. MS: m/z 240 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

### 1-(*m*-Tolyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2n)<sup>5</sup>

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Brown solid (12 mg, 34%), mp 59-60 °C (lit.<sup>5</sup> 57-58 °C).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.44 (s, 1H), 7.37 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd,  $J_1 = 7.9$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.85 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.60 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.19-2.13 (m, 2H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  174.2, 139.4, 138.7, 128.7, 125.4, 120.9, 117.2, 49.0, 32.8, 21.6, 18.1. MS: m/z 176 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

### 1-(3-Methoxyphenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2o)

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Yellow solid (21 mg, 55%), mp 55-56 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.34 (t,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.26 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.13-7.10 (m, 1H), 6.70 (dd,  $J_1 =$

8.0 Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.86-3.82 (m, 5H), 2.61 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.19-2.11 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  174.3, 160.0, 140.7, 129.5, 112.0, 110.1, 106.1, 55.3, 48.9, 32.9, 18.0. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_2$  192.1019; Found 192.1020.

### **1-(3-Nitrophenyl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2p)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Yellow solid (21 mg, 51%), mp 86-88 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.39 (t,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.17 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.98 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.94 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.67 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.28-2.20 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  174.7, 148.5, 140.5, 129.6, 125.3, 118.8, 113.8, 48.5, 32.7, 17.8. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$  207.0764; Found 207.0761.

### **1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2q)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Yellow solid (19 mg, 40%), mp 165-166 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.70 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.61-7.57 (m, 4H), 7.44 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.91 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.64 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.23-2.17 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  174.3, 140.5, 138.7, 137.3, 128.8, 127.5, 127.2, 126.9, 120.2, 48.8, 32.8, 18.1. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}$  238.1226; Found 238.1225.

### **1-(Naphthalen-2-yl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2r)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Brown solid (9 mg, 21%), mp 125-126 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.97 (dd,  $J_1 = 9.2$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.86-7.79 (m, 4H), 7.48-7.41 (m, 2H), 3.98 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.66 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.25-2.19 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  174.5, 137.2, 133.5, 130.7, 128.6, 127.7, 127.6, 126.4, 125.2, 119.9, 116.8, 49.1, 32.9, 18.1. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}$  212.1070; Found 212.1068.

### **1-(Pyridin-2-yl)pyrrolidin-2-one (2s)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Yellow liquid (18 mg, 56%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.40-8.35 (m, 2H), 7.71-7.67 (m, 1H), 7.02 (dd,  $J_1 = 7.6$  Hz,  $J_2 = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.11 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.66 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.17-2.10 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.0, 152.0, 147.5, 137.6, 119.4, 114.7, 47.4, 33.7, 17.7. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_2\text{O}$  163.0866; Found 163.0865.

### **3-Methyl-1-phenylpyrrolidin-2-one (2t)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Brown solid (17 mg, 49%), mp 93-95 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.65-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.11 (m, 1H), 3.80-3.76 (m, 2H), 2.70-2.63 (m, 1H), 2.41-2.34 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.74 (m, 1H), 1.31 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  176.7, 139.7, 128.8, 124.3, 119.7, 46.6, 38.3, 27.0, 16.2. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}$  176.1070; Found 176.1069.

### **1-(3-Chlorophenyl)-3-methylpyrrolidin-2-one (2u)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Brown liquid (15 mg, 36%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.70 (t,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.57-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.11-7.09 (m, 1H), 3.77-3.73 (m, 2H), 2.70-2.64 (m, 1H), 2.41-2.35 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.74 (m, 1H), 1.30 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  176.9, 140.8, 134.5, 129.8, 124.2, 119.5, 117.4, 46.4, 38.3, 26.9, 16.1. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClNO}$  210.0680; Found

### **210.0682.1,3-Diphenylimidazolidin-2-one (2v)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Yellow solid (13 mg, 27%), mp 208-209 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.60 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.38 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.09 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 3.97 (s, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  155.1, 140.1, 128.9, 123.1, 118.1, 42.0. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}$  239.1179; Found 239.1174.

## **2. A typical procedure for the synthesis of 3a/3a' and the spectroscopic data of 3a-3p, 3a'-3b',**



### **3e'-3f', 3h', 3j'-3l' and 3o'-3p'**

To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-(4-chlorophenyl)piperidine (**1a**, 39 mg, 0.2 mmol), CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1 mL), T<sup>+</sup>BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), TBHP (80 μL, 0.4 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), TEMPO (125 mg, 0.8 mmol) and DABCO (22 mg, 0.2 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100 °C under air for 8 h. Upon completion, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with aqueous NaCl. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. Then, the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica-gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1) as the eluent to afford **3a** as yellow liquid in 32 mg (42%). Meanwhile, **3a'** was obtained as yellow liquid in 8 mg (13%). **3b-3p**, **3b'**, **3e'-3f'**, **3h'**, **3j'-3l'** and **3o'-3p'** were obtained in an analogous manner.

### **2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(N-(4-chlorophenyl)formamido)butanoate (3a)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (32 mg, 42%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.39 (s, 1H), 7.40-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.17-7.14 (m, 2H), 3.88-3.84 (m, 2H), 2.38 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.96-1.89 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.64 (m, 3H), 1.53-1.51 (m, 2H), 1.42-1.30 (m, 1H), 1.12 (s, 6H), 1.01 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 172.6, 162.1, 139.3, 132.6, 130.0, 125.0, 60.0, 44.4, 39.0, 31.9, 29.6, 23.0, 20.5, 16.9. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>30</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 381.1939; Found 381.1935. IR (neat): *ν* (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2975, 2933, 2872, 1759, 1677, 1594, 1494, 1468, 1363, 1131, 833.

### **2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(N-phenylformamido)butanoate (3b)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (28 mg, 40%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.41 (s, 1H), 7.43-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.20 (m, 2H), 3.89 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.96-1.91 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.62 (m, 3H), 1.53-1.50 (m, 2H), 1.41

(s, 1H), 1.12 (s, 6H), 1.01 (s, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.5, 162.5, 140.7, 129.8, 127.0, 123.9, 60.0, 44.4, 39.0, 31.9, 29.8, 23.1, 20.5, 16.9. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$  347.2329; Found 347.2310. IR (neat):  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2974, 2933, 2872, 2848, 1760, 1675, 1596, 1497, 1458, 1363, 1264, 1129.

### **2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(*N-p*-tolylformamido)butanoate (3c)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Brown liquid (37 mg, 51%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.36 (s, 1H), 7.20 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.85 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.39-2.36 (m, 5H), 1.96-1.90 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.41 (m, 6H), 1.12 (s, 6H), 1.00 (s, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.6, 162.5, 138.1, 137.0, 130.3, 124.2, 60.0, 44.5, 39.0, 31.9, 29.8, 23.1, 20.9, 20.5, 16.9. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$  361.2486; Found 361.2484. IR (neat):  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3005, 2973, 2931, 2870, 1761, 1675, 1612, 1515, 1451, 1363, 1265, 1129, 819.

### **2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(*N*-(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)formamido)butanoate (3d)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Brown liquid (49 mg, 61%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.39 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.86 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.38 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.94 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.68-1.50 (m, 6H), 1.41-1.19 (m, 9H), 1.11 (s, 6H), 1.00 (s, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.6, 162.5, 150.1, 138.0, 126.7, 123.7, 60.0, 44.4, 39.0, 34.6, 32.0, 31.3, 29.8, 23.2, 20.5, 17.0. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{39}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$  403.2955; Found 403.2955. IR (neat):  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3005, 2962, 2935, 2870, 1762, 1676, 1609, 1511, 1462, 1363, 1267, 1130, 837.

### **2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(*N*-(4-methoxyphenyl)formamido)butanoate (3e)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Brown liquid (23 mg, 31%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.30 (s, 1H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.95-6.91 (m, 2H), 3.84-3.80 (m, 5H), 2.38 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.95-1.88 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.39 (m, 6H), 1.12 (s, 6H), 1.01 (s, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.5, 162.6, 158.7, 133.6, 126.2, 114.9, 59.9, 55.5, 44.8, 39.0, 31.9, 29.8, 23.1, 20.5, 16.9. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>33</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 377.2435; Found 377.2435. IR (neat):  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3002, 2934, 2869, 2838, 1767, 1662, 1510, 1450, 1363, 1280, 1245, 1121, 1034, 834.

**2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(N-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)formamido)butanoate (3f)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (27 mg, 33%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.53 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.93 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.98-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.26 (m, 6H), 1.12 (s, 6H), 1.01 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.5, 161.9, 143.9, 128.5 (q, <sup>1</sup> $J_{C-F}$  = 192.6 Hz), 127.1 (q, <sup>4</sup> $J_{C-F}$  = 3.3 Hz), 123.9, 122.8, 60.0, 44.0, 39.0, 32.0, 29.4, 22.9, 20.5, 16.9. <sup>19</sup>F{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 376 MHz):  $\delta$  -62.5. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>30</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 415.2203; Found 415.2197. IR (neat):  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2974, 2934, 2859, 1759, 1682, 1614, 1521, 1457, 1364, 1324, 1165, 1119, 1069, 844.

**2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(N-(4-fluorophenyl)formamido)butanoate (3g)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (26 mg, 36%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.33 (s, 1H), 7.20-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.14-7.09 (m, 2H), 3.84 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.94-1.90 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.42 (m, 6H), 1.12 (s, 6H), 1.01 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.6, 162.3, 161.4 (d, <sup>1</sup> $J_{C-F}$  = 246.0 Hz), 136.8 (d, <sup>4</sup> $J_{C-F}$  = 3.3 Hz), 126.2 (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{C-F}$  = 8.7 Hz), 116.7 (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{C-F}$  = 21.8 Hz), 60.0, 44.8, 39.0, 32.0, 29.7, 23.0, 20.5, 16.9. <sup>19</sup>F{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 376 MHz):  $\delta$  -114.6. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>30</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 365.2235; Found 365.2231. IR (neat):  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2975, 2933, 2872, 2848, 1759, 1676, 1509, 1453, 1364, 1223, 1130, 840.

**2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(N-(4-bromophenyl)formamido)butanoate (3h)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (37 mg, 43%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.39 (s, 1H), 7.54 (dd,  $J_1$  = 8.8 Hz,  $J_2$  = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (t,  $J$  =

7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.96-1.91 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.42 (m, 6H), 1.12 (s, 6H), 1.01 (s, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.6, 162.0, 139.9, 132.9, 125.3, 120.4, 60.0, 53.5, 44.3, 39.0, 32.0, 29.6, 23.0, 20.5, 16.9. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{30}\text{BrN}_2\text{O}_3$  425.1434; Found 425.1418. IR (neat):  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2973, 2931, 2869, 2855, 1765, 1666, 1586, 1487, 1451, 1364, 1343, 1226, 1170, 1121, 833, 817.

### **2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(*N*-(3-chlorophenyl)formamido)butanoate (3i)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (34 mg, 45%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.42 (s, 1H), 7.35 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.20 (t,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.12 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.88 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.39 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.96-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.50 (m, 6H), 1.12 (s, 6H), 1.01 (s, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.5, 162.1, 142.0, 135.4, 130.9, 127.1, 123.8, 121.8, 60.0, 44.4, 39.0, 32.0, 29.7, 23.1, 20.5, 16.9. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{30}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3$  381.1939; Found 381.1938. IR (neat):  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2972, 2931, 2869, 2850, 1759, 1679, 1592, 1481, 1363, 1350, 1246, 1130, 872, 782, 692.

### **2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(*N*-(3-methoxyphenyl)formamido)butanoate (3j)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (32 mg, 43%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.42 (s, 1H), 7.31 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.85-6.78 (m, 2H), 6.72 (t,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.89-3.82 (m, 5H), 2.38 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.96-1.93 (m, 2H), 1.67-1.41 (m, 6H), 1.12 (s, 6H), 1.01 (s, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.5, 162.4, 160.6, 141.9, 130.5, 116.1, 112.1, 110.1, 60.0, 55.5, 44.4, 39.0, 31.9, 29.9, 23.2, 20.5, 16.9. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  377.2435; Found 377.2427. IR (neat):  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3005, 2974, 2934, 2872, 2843, 1759, 1677, 1601, 1490, 1454, 1363, 1129, 1045, 858, 780, 696.

### **2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(*N*-*m*-tolylformamido)butanoate (3k)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Brown liquid (33 mg, 46%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.38 (s, 1H), 7.31-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.10 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.00-6.99 (m, 2H), 3.87 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.40-2.36 (m, 5H), 1.97-1.91 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.41 (m, 6H), 1.12 (s, 6H), 1.00 (s, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.5, 162.5, 140.7, 139.9, 129.6, 127.8, 124.8, 121.2, 60.0, 44.4, 39.0, 31.9, 29.9, 23.2, 21.4, 20.5, 16.9. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$  361.2486; Found 361.2481. IR (neat):  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3005, 2974, 2932, 2869, 1760, 1676, 1606, 1589, 1493, 1452, 1363, 1129, 873, 785, 700.

**2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(*N*-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)formamido)butanoate (3l)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Brown liquid (32 mg, 38%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.47 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.37 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.92 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.41 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.00-1.96 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.41 (m, 6H), 1.12 (s, 6H), 1.01 (s, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.6, 162.4, 139.95, 139.89, 129.0, 128.4, 127.7, 127.0, 124.1, 60.0, 44.4, 39.0, 32.0, 29.8, 23.2, 20.5, 16.9. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{35}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$  423.2642; Found 423.2633. IR (neat):  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2973, 2931, 2872, 2850, 1759, 1674, 1606, 1522, 1487, 1353, 1246, 1184, 1130, 841, 764, 728, 697.

**2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(*N*-(naphthalen-2-yl)formamido)butanoate (3m)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Brown liquid (40 mg, 51%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.53 (s, 1H), 7.90-7.82 (m, 3H), 7.61 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.35 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.99 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.42 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.01-1.97 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.48 (m, 6H), 1.09 (s, 6H), 0.98 (s, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.5, 162.7, 138.1, 133.6, 132.0, 130.0, 127.8, 127.7, 127.1, 126.4, 122.4, 122.1, 60.0, 44.4, 39.0, 31.9, 29.9,

23.3, 20.5, 16.9. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[M+H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{24}H_{33}N_2O_3$  397.2486; Found 397.2485. IR (neat):  $\nu$  ( $cm^{-1}$ ) 2974, 2930, 2872, 2853, 1759, 1675, 1598, 1529, 1509, 1364, 1126, 858, 814, 749.

**2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 5-(*N*-phenylformamido)pentanoate (3o)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (22 mg, 31%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.38 (s, 1H), 7.41 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.30 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.85 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.35 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.71-1.25 (m, 10H), 1.11 (s, 6H), 1.00 (s, 6H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.8, 162.4, 140.9, 129.7, 127.0, 124.3, 59.9, 44.6, 39.0, 32.4, 32.0, 27.3, 22.4, 20.5, 16.9. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[M+H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{33}N_2O_3$  361.2486; Found 361.2481. IR (neat):  $\nu$  ( $cm^{-1}$ ) 2974, 2932, 2870, 1760, 1675, 1596, 1497, 1460, 1363, 1265, 1129, 763, 698.

**2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 5-(*N*-(4-fluorophenyl)formamido)pentanoate (3p)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Brown liquid (29 mg, 38%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.30 (s, 1H), 7.17-7.08 (m, 4H), 3.80 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.35 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.72-1.29 (m, 10H), 1.11 (s, 6H), 1.00 (s, 6H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.9, 162.3, 161.5 (d,  $^1J_{C-F} = 237.3$  Hz), 136.9 (d,  $^4J_{C-F} = 3.3$  Hz), 126.6 (d,  $^3J_{C-F} = 7.7$  Hz), 116.6 (d,  $^2J_{C-F} = 21.9$  Hz), 59.9, 44.9, 39.0, 32.3, 32.0, 27.3, 22.3, 20.5, 16.95, 16.93.  $^{19}F\{^1H\}$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 376 MHz):  $\delta$  -114.5. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[M+H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{32}FN_2O_3$  379.2391; Found 379.2390. IR (neat):  $\nu$  ( $cm^{-1}$ ) 2972, 2931, 2872, 2850, 1759, 1676, 1509, 1464, 1363, 1221, 1130, 840.

***tert*-Butyl 4-(*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)formamido)butanoate (3a')**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Brown liquid (8 mg, 13%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.36 (s, 1H), 7.39 (dd,  $J_1 = 6.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.13 (dd,  $J_1 = 6.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.82 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.24 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.85-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.42 (s, 9H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.0, 162.1, 139.4, 132.6, 129.9, 125.2, 80.6, 44.3, 32.5, 28.1, 23.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>CINNaO<sub>3</sub> 320.1024; Found 320.1005.

***tert*-Butyl 4-(*N*-phenylformamido)butanoate (3b')**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (8 mg, 15%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.39 (s, 1H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.18 (m, 2H), 3.85 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.25 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.86-1.83 (m, 2H), 1.42 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.1, 162.4, 140.9, 129.8, 126.9, 124.1, 80.5, 44.3, 32.6, 28.1, 23.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> 264.1594; Found 264.1576.

***tert*-Butyl 4-(*N*-(4-methoxyphenyl)formamido)butanoate (3e')**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (9 mg, 15%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.20 (s, 1H), 7.04-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.86-6.84 (m, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.70 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.17 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.76-1.72 (m, 2H), 1.35 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.2, 162.6, 158.7, 133.7, 126.3, 114.9, 80.5, 55.6, 44.7, 32.6, 28.1, 23.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> 294.1700; Found 294.1686.

***tert*-Butyl 4-(*N*-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)formamido)butanoate (3f')**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (7 mg, 11%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  8.50 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.26 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.88-1.84 (m, 2H), 1.42 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  172.0, 161.9, 144.0, 128.5 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 21.9 Hz), 127.1 (q, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 2.9 Hz), 126.3 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 198.3 Hz), 122.9 (q, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 10.2 Hz), 80.7, 44.0, 32.4, 28.1, 23.0. <sup>19</sup>F{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 376 MHz):  $\delta$  -62.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Na 354.1287; Found 354.1288.

***tert*-Butyl 4-(*N*-(4-bromophenyl)formamido)butanoate (3h')**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Brown liquid (14 mg, 21%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.36 (s, 1H), 7.54 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.82 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.24 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.85-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.42 (s, 9H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.0, 162.0, 140.0, 132.9, 125.4, 120.3, 80.6, 44.2, 32.5, 28.1, 23.0. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{21}\text{BrNO}_3$  342.0699; Found 342.0692.

***tert*-Butyl 4-(*N*-(3-methoxyphenyl)formamido)butanoate (3j')**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Brown liquid (6 mg, 10%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.41 (s, 1H), 7.31 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.83 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.77 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.72 (t,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.85-3.74 (m, 5H), 2.24 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.87-1.83 (m, 2H), 1.42 (s, 9H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.2, 162.4, 160.6, 142.1, 130.5, 116.1, 112.1, 110.1, 80.5, 55.5, 44.2, 32.6, 28.1, 23.1. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_4\text{Na}$  316.1519; Found 316.1509.

***tert*-Butyl 4-(*N*-*m*-tolylformamido)butanoate (3k')**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (8 mg, 14%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.37 (s, 1H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.10 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.99-6.97 (m, 2H), 3.83 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.24 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.86-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.42 (s, 9H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.2, 162.4, 140.8, 139.8, 129.5, 127.7, 124.8, 121.2, 80.4, 44.3, 32.7, 28.1, 23.1, 21.4. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_3$  278.1751; Found 278.1751.

***tert*-Butyl 4-(*N*-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)formamido)butanoate (3l')**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (6 mg, 9%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.45 (s, 1H), 7.64-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.59-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.46 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.37 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.25 (m, 2H), 3.88 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.27 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.90-1.87 (m, 2H), 1.42 (s, 9H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.2, 162.4, 140.00, 139.95, 129.0, 128.4, 127.7, 127.0,



124.2, 80.5, 44.3, 32.6, 28.1, 23.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[M+H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{25}NO_3Na$  362.1727; Found 362.1719.

***tert*-Butyl 5-(*N*-phenylformamido)pentanoate (3o')**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (4 mg, 7%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.37 (s, 1H), 7.41 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.30 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.16 (m, 2H), 3.83 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.20 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.59-1.57 (m, 4H), 1.40 (s, 9H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.7, 162.4, 140.9, 129.7, 126.9, 124.3, 80.2, 44.6, 35.0, 28.1, 27.0, 22.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[M+H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{16}H_{24}NO_3$  278.1751; Found 278.1749.

***tert*-Butyl 5-(*N*-(4-fluorophenyl)formamido)pentanoate (3p')**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (7 mg, 12%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.29 (s, 1H), 7.16-7.08 (m, 4H), 3.78 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.21 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 1.59-1.54 (m, 4H), 1.41 (s, 9H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  172.6, 162.3, 161.4 (d,  $^1J_{C-F} = 246.2$  Hz), 136.9 (d,  $^4J_{C-F} = 3.3$  Hz), 126.6 (d,  $^3J_{C-F} = 8.7$  Hz), 116.6 (d,  $^2J_{C-F} = 21.9$  Hz), 80.2, 44.9, 35.0, 28.1, 26.9, 22.2.  $^{19}F\{^1H\}$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 376 MHz):  $\delta$  -114.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[M+H]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{16}H_{22}FNO_3Na$  318.1476; Found 318.1476.

**3. A typical procedure for the synthesis of 2w' and the spectroscopic data of 2w'**

To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 4-phenylmorpholine (**1w**, 33 mg, 0.2 mmol), toluene (1 mL),  $T^+BF_4^-$  (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), and TBHP (120  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100 °C under air for 4 h. Upon completion, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with saturated  $NaHCO_3$  solution and aqueous NaCl. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$  and filtered. Then, the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica-gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1) as the eluent to afford

**2w'** as yellow liquid in 12 mg (31%).

#### **2-(*N*-Phenylformamido)ethyl formate (2w')**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1). Yellow liquid (12 mg, 31%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.40 (s, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34-7.33 (m, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 7.6 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 4.34 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 4.11 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 162.7, 160.6, 140.7, 129.9, 127.4, 124.5, 60.6, 44.2. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> 194.0812; Found 194.0821.

#### **4. A typical procedure for the synthesis of 2x' and the spectroscopic data of 2x'**

To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-phenethylpiperidine (**1x**, 38 mg, 0.2 mmol), toluene (1 mL), T<sup>+</sup>BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), and TBHP (120 μL, 0.6 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), and TFA (15 μL, 0.2 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100 °C under air for 4 h. Upon completion, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and aqueous NaCl. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. Then, the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica-gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1) as the eluent to afford **2x'** as yellow liquid in 5 mg (12%).

#### **1-Phenethylpiperidine-2,3-dione (2x')**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1). Yellow liquid (5 mg, 12%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.94 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 7.2 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 2H), 3.72-3.70 (m, 2H), 3.31-3.28 (m, 2H), 1.72-1.69 (m, 4H), 1.59-1.54 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 192.0, 165.5, 134.7, 133.3, 129.6, 129.0, 47.1, 42.2, 26.2, 25.5, 24.4. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> 218.1176; Found 218.1151.

#### **5. A typical procedure for the synthesis of 4 and the spectroscopic data of 4**

To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-1-yl 4-(*N*-phenylformamido)butanoate (**3b**, 57 mg, 0.166 mmol), AcOH/THF/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1:1.5, 7 mL), and zinc powder (261 mg, 4.015 mmol). The mixture was then stirred at 70 °C for 2 h. Upon completion, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and quenched with saturated NaOH solution. The precipitate was filtered and the remaining mixture was extracted with EtOAc (10 mL × 3). The combined organic layers were washed with saturated brine solution and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtrated, and the solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica-gel with dichloromethane/methanol (20:1) as the eluent to afford **4** as green solid in 20 mg (58%).

#### **4-(*N*-Phenylformamido)butanoic acid (**4**)**

Eluent: dichloromethane/methanol (20:1). Green solid (20 mg, 58%), mp 65-66 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.39 (s, 1H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.91-1.87 (m, 2H). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 12.04 (br s, 1H), 8.41 (s, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.20 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.67-1.61 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 177.5, 162.8, 140.5, 129.8, 127.2, 124.2, 44.2, 31.1, 22.8. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> 208.0968; Found 208.0966.

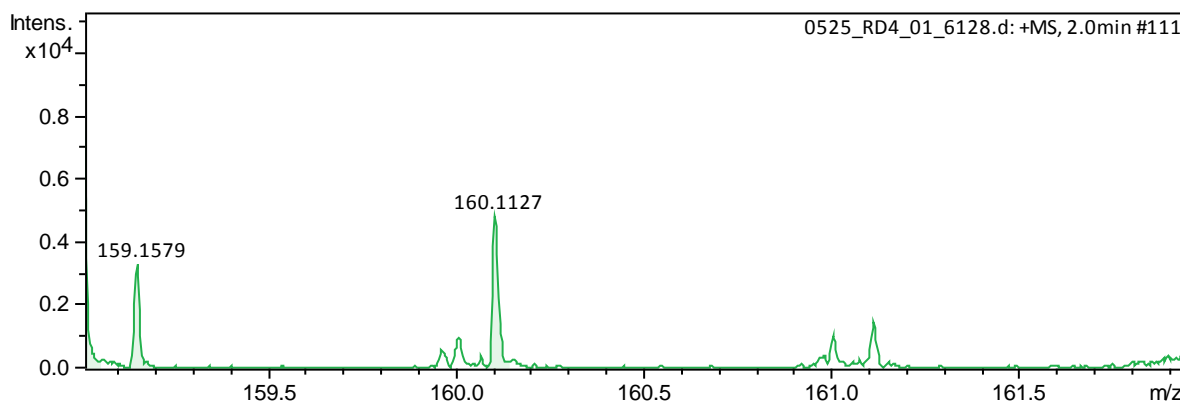
## **6. Control Experiments**

**6.1.** To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-phenylpiperidine (**1b**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol), toluene (1 mL), T<sup>+</sup>BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), TBHP (120 μL, 0.6 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), TFA (15 μL, 0.2 mmol), and BHT (132 mg, 0.6 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100 °C under air for 4 h. Upon completion, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and aqueous NaCl. The organic

layer was dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and filtered. Then, the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica-gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1) as the eluent to afford **2b** as yellow solid in 16 mg (50%).

**6.2.** To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-phenylpiperidine (**1b**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (1 mL),  $\text{T}^+\text{BF}_4^-$  (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), TBHP (80  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.4 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), TEMPO (125 mg, 0.8 mmol), DABCO (22 mg, 0.2 mmol), and BHT (132 mg, 0.6 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100  $^\circ\text{C}$  under air for 8 h. Subsequent TLC analysis of the resulting mixture showed that there was no desired product **3b** formed from this reaction.

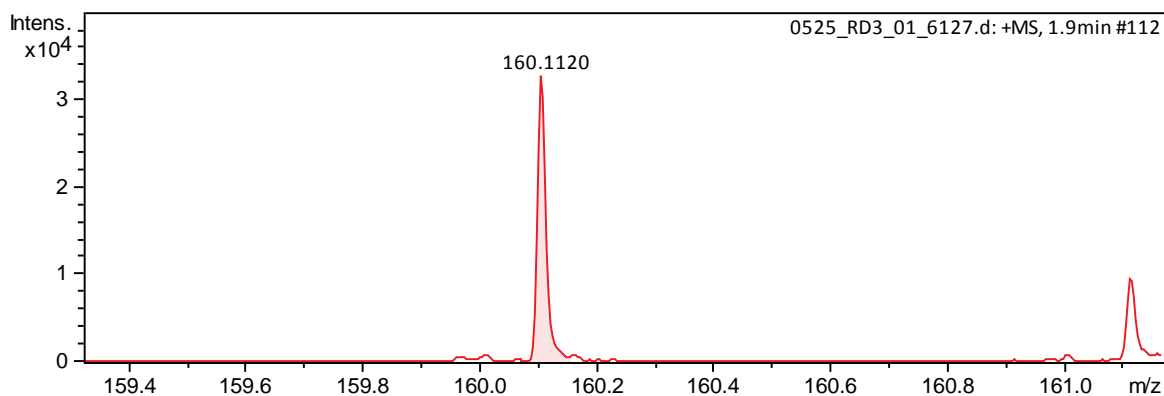
**6.3.** To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-phenylpiperidine (**1b**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol), toluene (1 mL),  $\text{T}^+\text{BF}_4^-$  (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), TBHP (120  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.6 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), and TFA (15  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.2 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100  $^\circ\text{C}$  under air for 0.5 h. Subsequent HRMS analysis of the resulting mixture showed that intermediate (**B**) (calcd, 160.1121; found, 160.1127) was formed (Fig. S1).



**Fig. S1 Copy of HRMS Spectra of the Reaction Mixture**

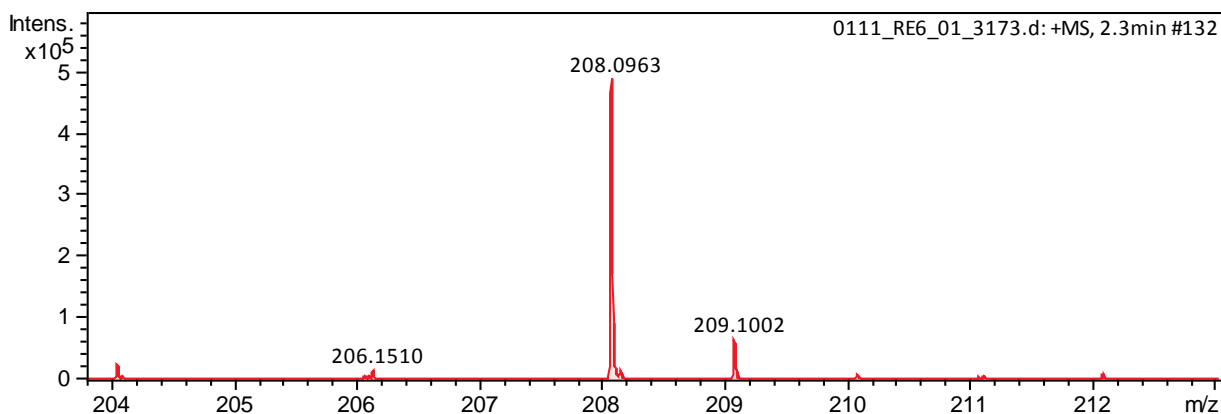
**6.4.** To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-phenylpiperidine (**1b**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (1 mL),  $\text{T}^+\text{BF}_4^-$  (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), TBHP (80  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.4 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), TEMPO (125 mg, 0.8 mmol) and DABCO (22 mg, 0.2 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100  $^\circ\text{C}$  under air for 0.5 h. Subsequent HRMS analysis of the resulting mixture showed

that intermediate (**B**) (calcd, 160.1121; found, 160.1120) was formed (Fig. S2).



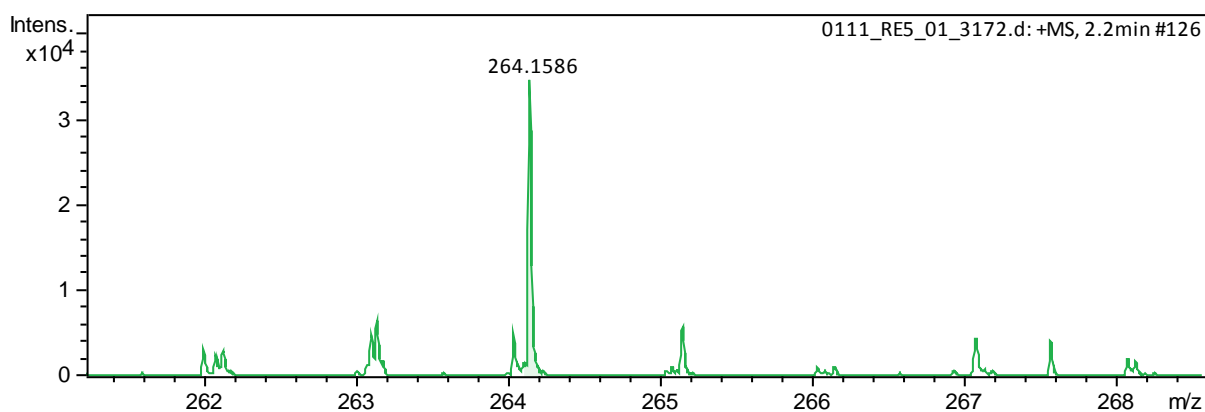
**Fig. S2 Copy of HRMS Spectra of the Reaction Mixture**

**6.5.** To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-phenylpiperidine (**1b**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol), toluene (1 mL), T<sup>+</sup>BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), TBHP (120 μL, 0.6 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), and TFA (15 μL, 0.2 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100 °C under air for 1 h. Subsequent HRMS analysis of the resulting mixture showed that intermediate (**F**) (calcd, 208.0968; found, 208.0963) was formed (Fig. S3).



**Fig. S3 Copy of HRMS Spectra of the Reaction Mixture**

**6.6.** To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-phenylpiperidine (**1b**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol), CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1 mL), T<sup>+</sup>BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), TBHP (80 μL, 0.4 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), TEMPO (125 mg, 0.8 mmol) and DABCO (22 mg, 0.2 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100 °C under air for 1 h. Subsequent HRMS analysis of the resulting mixture showed that intermediate (**G**) (calcd, 264.1594; found, 264.1586) was formed (Fig. S4).



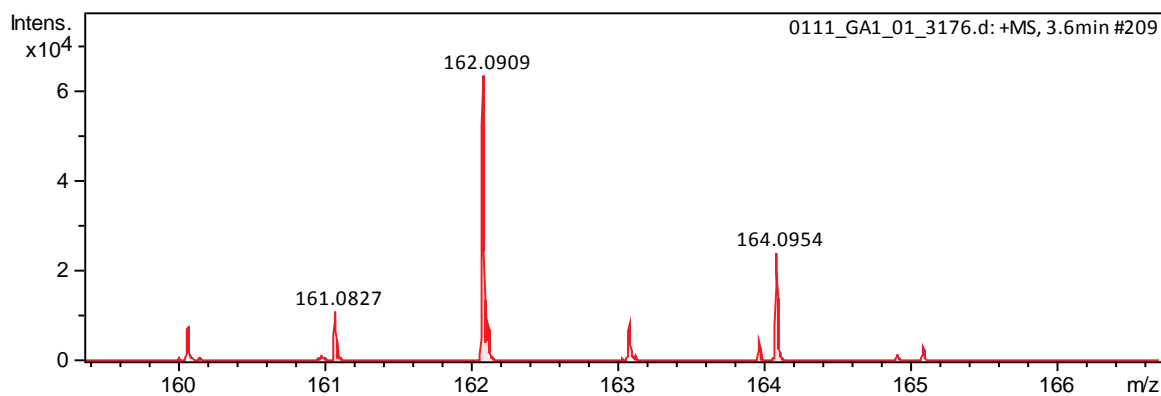
**Fig. S4 Copy of HRMS Spectra of the Reaction Mixture**

**6.7.** To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-phenylpiperidine (**1b**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol), toluene (1 mL), T<sup>+</sup>BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), TBHP (120 μL, 0.6 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), and TFA (15 μL, 0.2 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100 °C under N<sub>2</sub> for 4 h. Upon completion, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and aqueous NaCl. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. Then, the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica-gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (2:1) as the eluent to afford **2b** as yellow solid in 17 mg (53%).

**6.8.** To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-phenylpiperidine (**1b**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol), CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1 mL), T<sup>+</sup>BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), TBHP (80 μL, 0.4 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), TEMPO (125 mg, 0.8 mmol) and DABCO (22 mg, 0.2 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100 °C under N<sub>2</sub> for 8 h. Upon completion, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with aqueous NaCl. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. Then, the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica-gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1) as the eluent to afford **3b** as yellow liquid in 18 mg (26%).

**6.9.** To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-phenylpiperidine (**1b**, 32 mg, 0.2

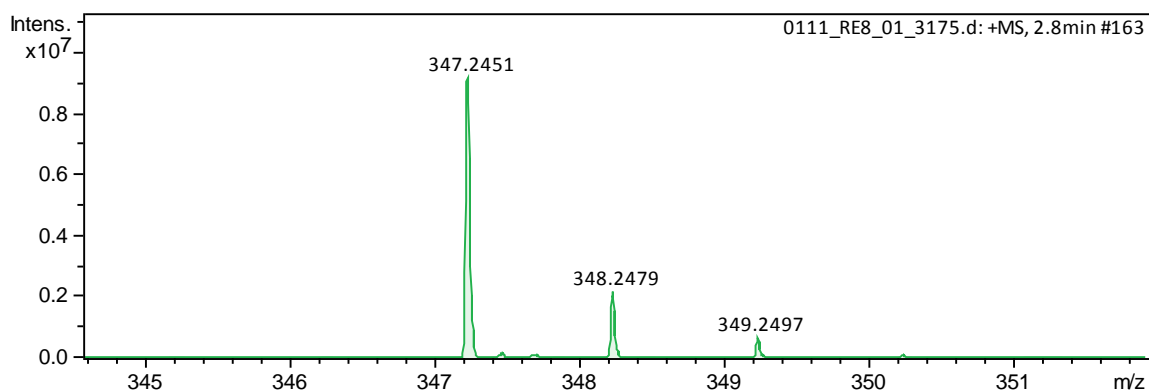
mmol), toluene (1 mL),  $T^+BF_4^-$  (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), TBHP (120  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), TFA (15  $\mu$ L, 0.2 mmol) and  $H_2^{18}O$  (20  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100  $^\circ$ C under air for 4 h. Subsequent HRMS analysis of the mixture showed that  $[^{16}O]$ -**2b** and  $[^{18}O]$ -**2b** were formed in a ratio of 3:1 (Fig. S5).



m/z	Res.	S/N	I	I%	FWHM
162.0909	10568	688.3	62932	0.6	0.0153
164.0954	9990	259.8	24023	0.2	0.0164

**Fig. S5 Copy of HRMS Spectra of the Mixture of  $[^{16}O]$ -**2b**/ $[^{18}O]$ -**2b****

**6.10.** To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 1-phenylpiperidine (**1b**, 32 mg, 0.2 mmol),  $CH_3CN$  (1 mL),  $T^+BF_4^-$  (59 mg, 0.24 mmol), TBHP (80  $\mu$ L, 0.4 mmol, 5 mol/L in decane), TEMPO (125 mg, 0.8 mmol), DABCO (22 mg, 0.2 mmol) and  $H_2^{18}O$  (20  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol). The resulting mixture was then stirred at 100  $^\circ$ C under air for 8 h. Subsequent HRMS analysis of the mixture showed that  $[^{16}O]$ -**3b** and  $[^{18}O]$ -**3b** were formed in a ratio of 13:1 (Fig. S6).

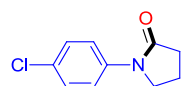
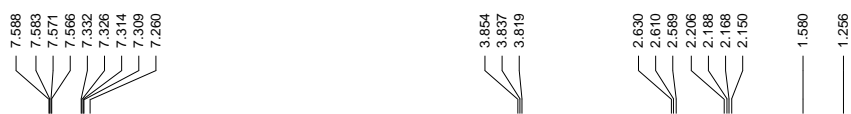


m/z	Res.	S/N	I	I%	FWHM
347.2451	10800	43259.8	9900182	100	0.0321
349.2497	11820	3287.1	752892	7.6	0.0295

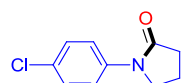
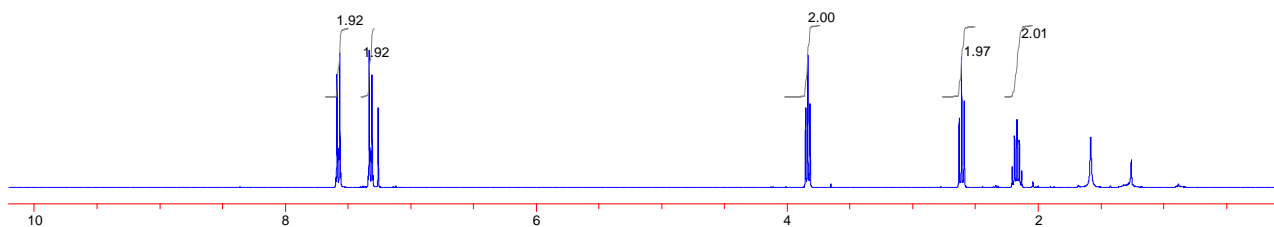
**Fig. S6 Copy of HRMS Spectra of the Mixture of [<sup>16</sup>O]-3b/[<sup>18</sup>O]-3b**



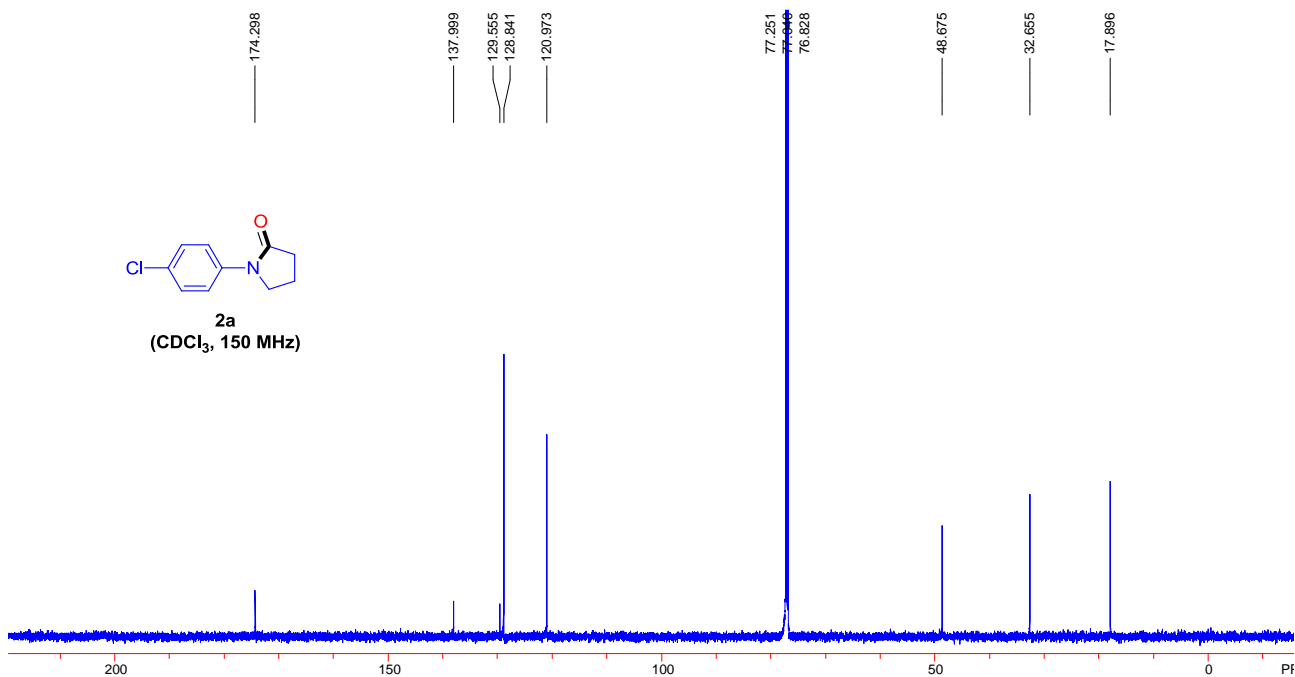
### III. Copies of the NMR spectra of 2a-2v



**2a**  
( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)



**2a**  
( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 150 MHz)



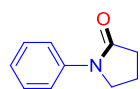
7.620  
7.599  
7.391  
7.372  
7.352  
7.263  
7.166  
7.148  
7.129

3.892  
3.874  
3.857

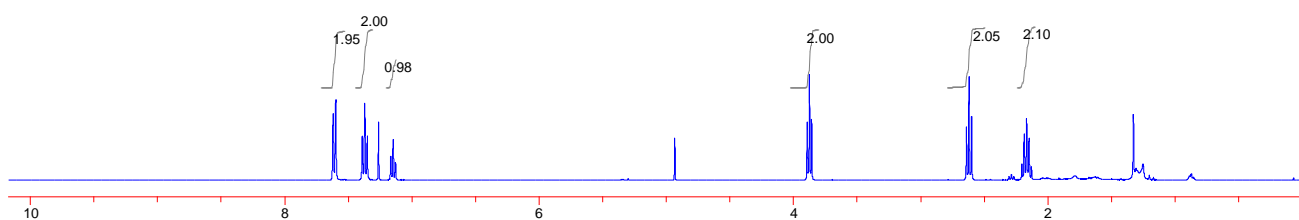
2.640  
2.620  
2.600  
2.206  
2.187  
2.168  
2.149  
2.130

1.329

0.000



**2b**  
(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)



174.254

139.428

128.848

124.539

120.003

77.266

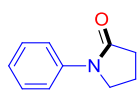
77.064

76.843

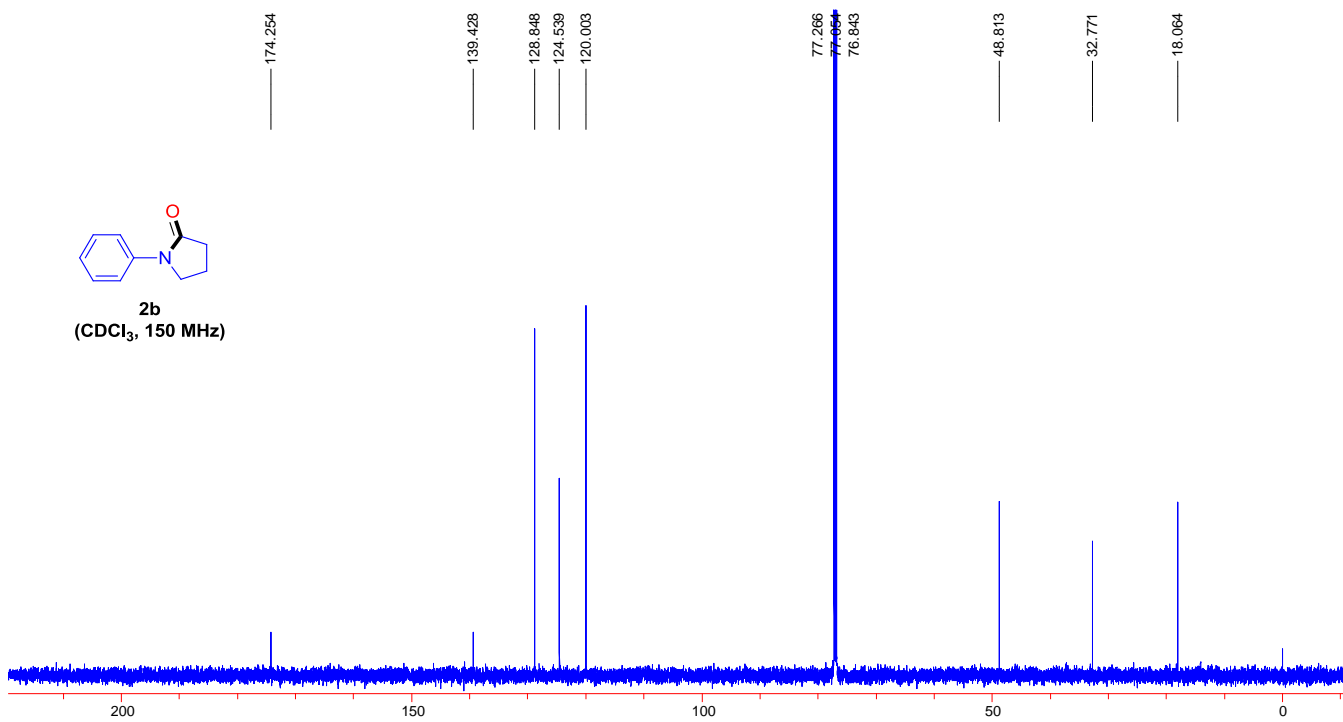
48.813

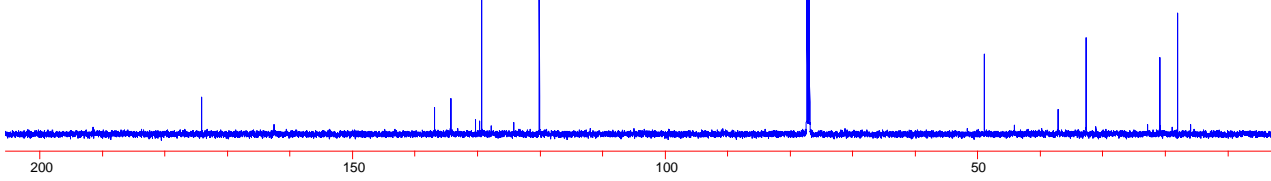
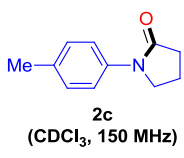
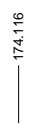
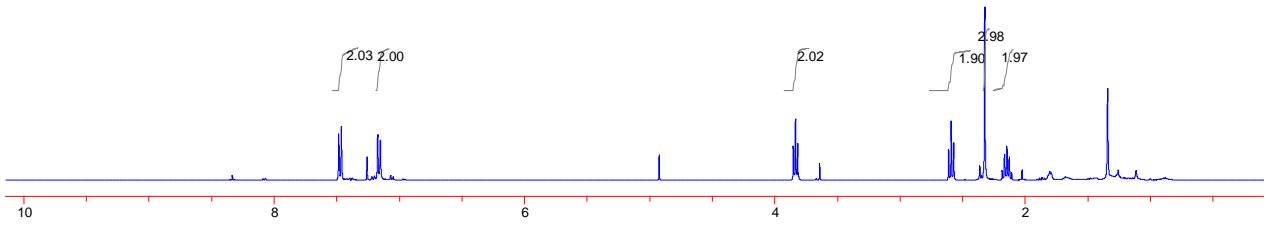
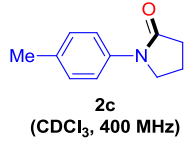
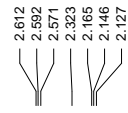
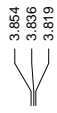
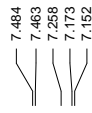
32.771

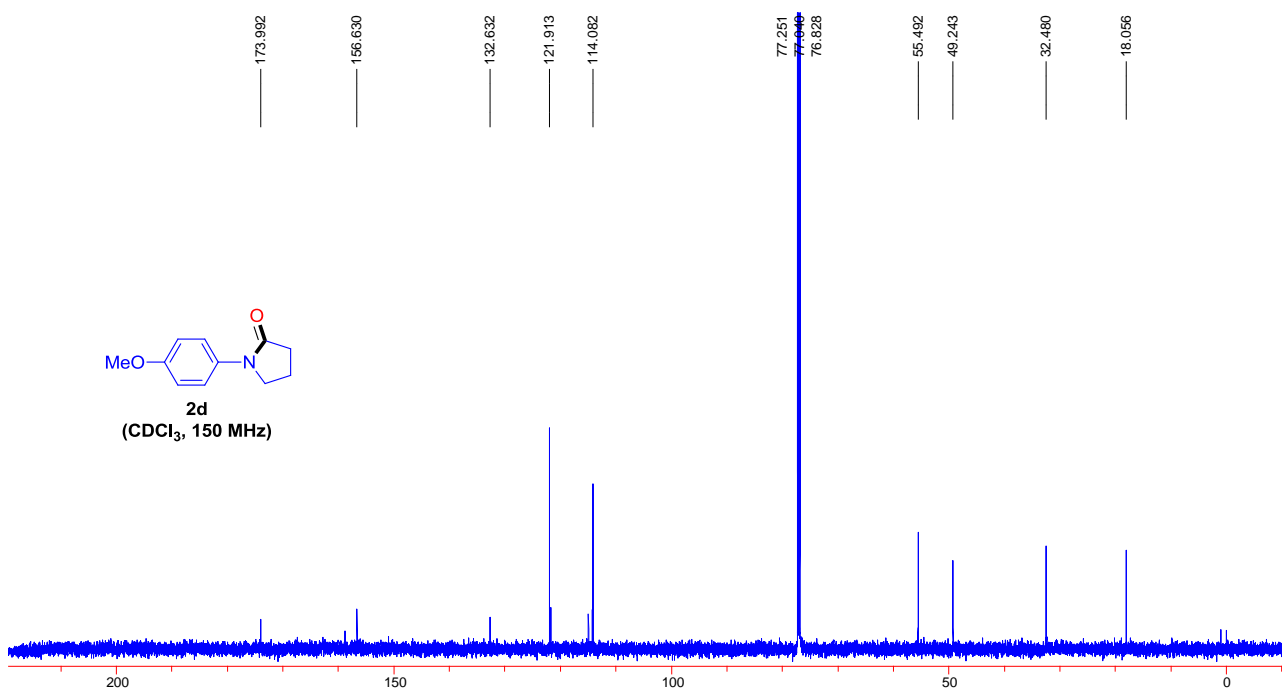
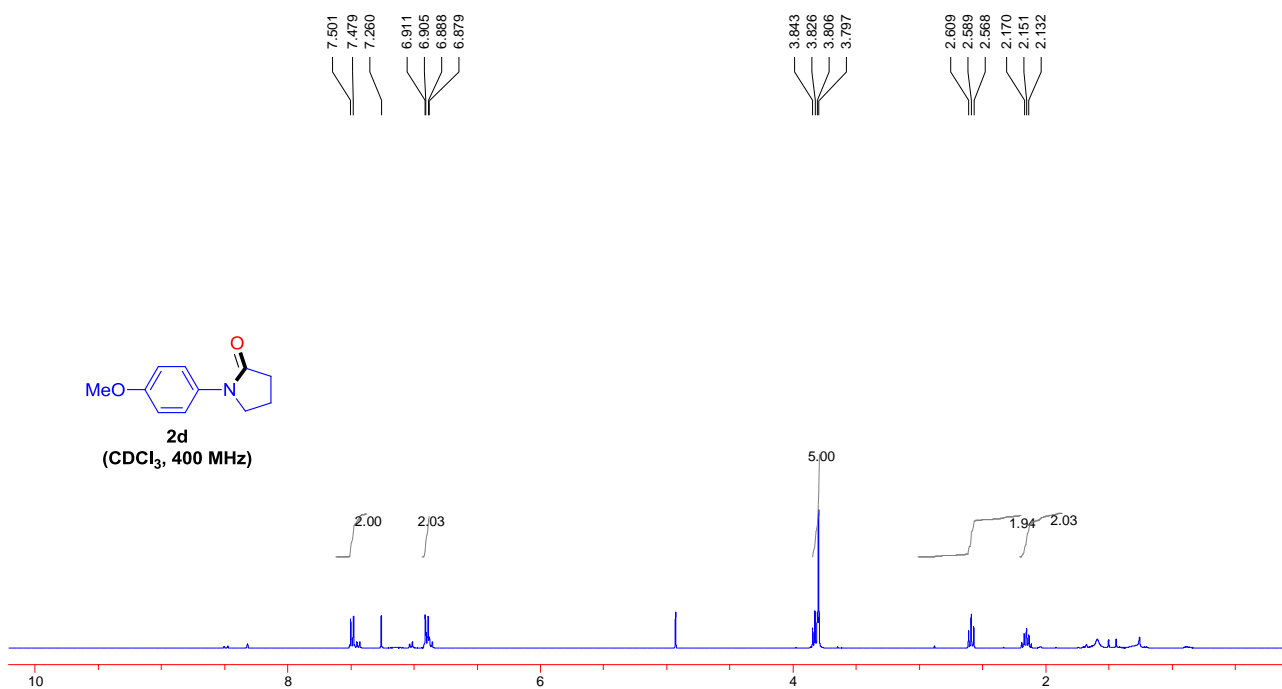
18.064

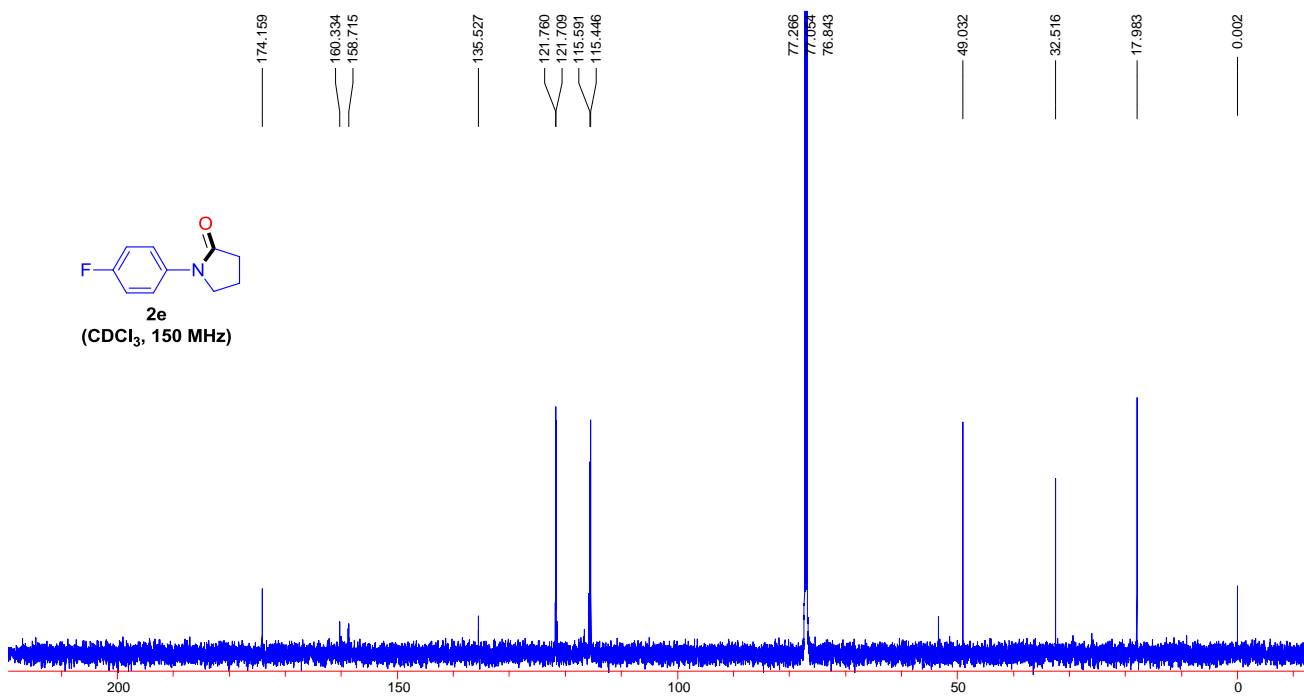
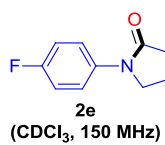
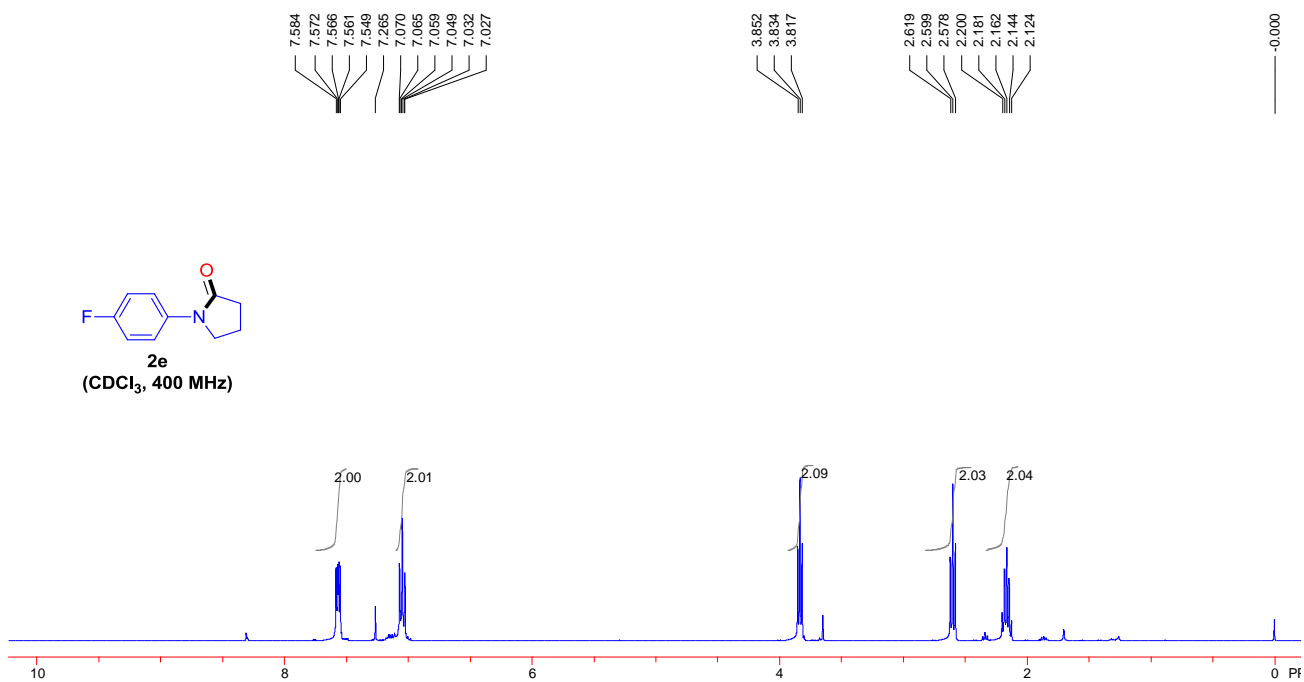
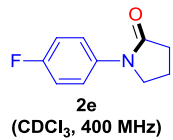


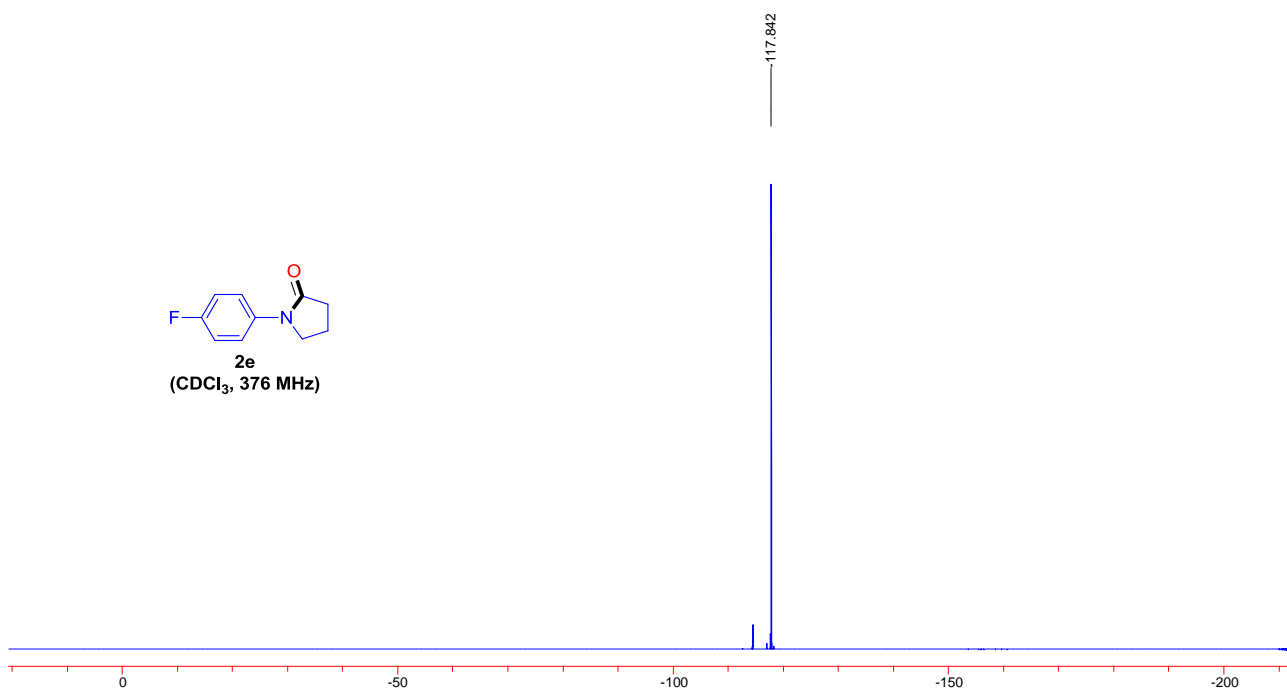
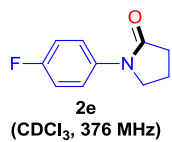
**2b**  
(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150 MHz)

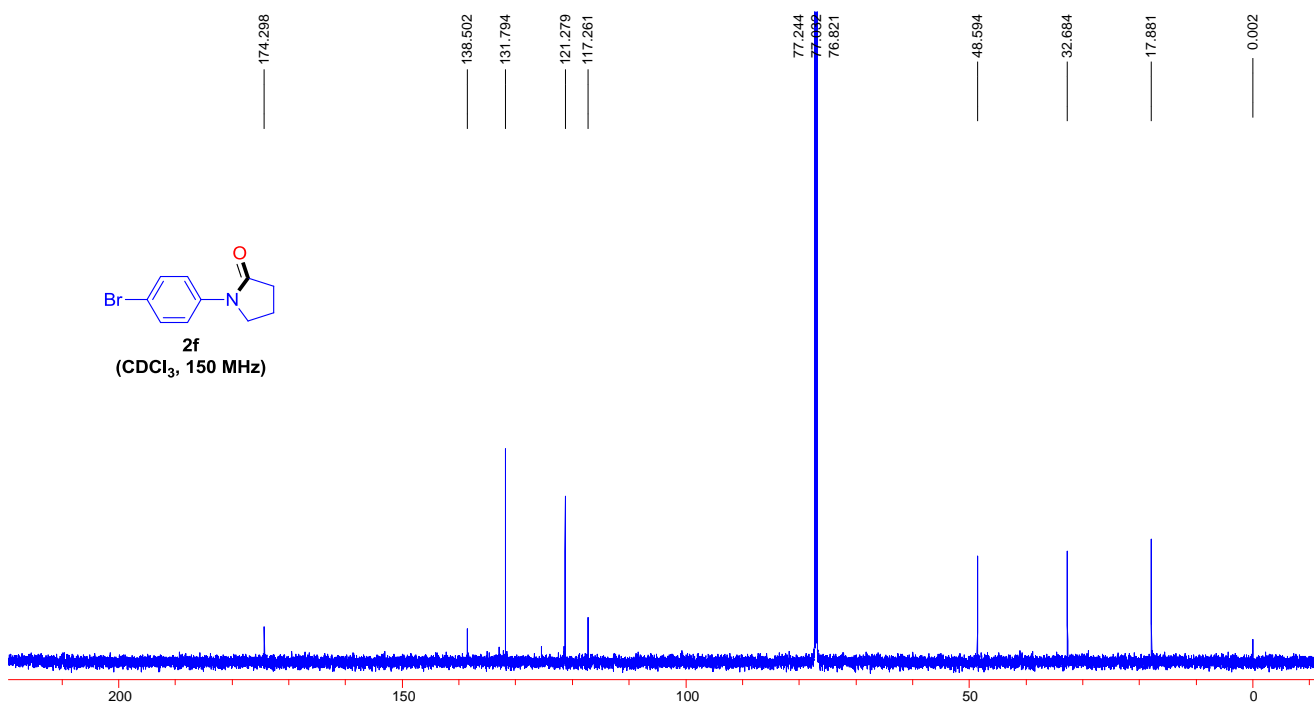
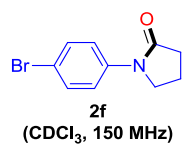
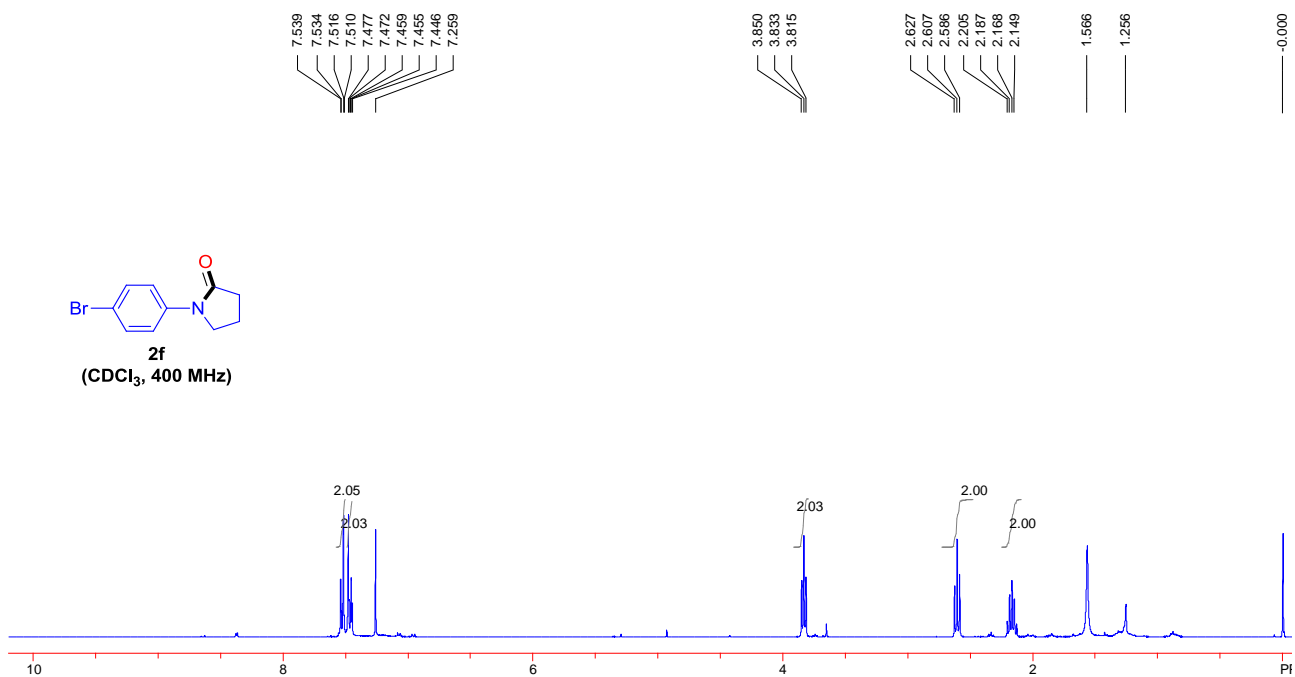
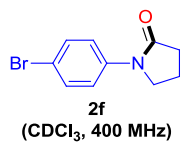


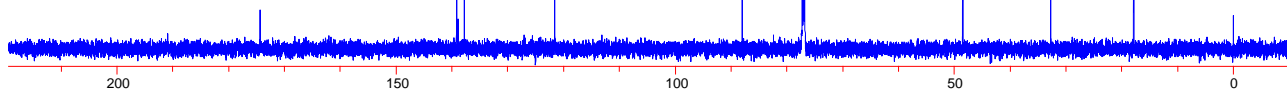
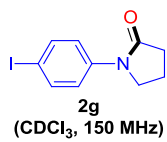
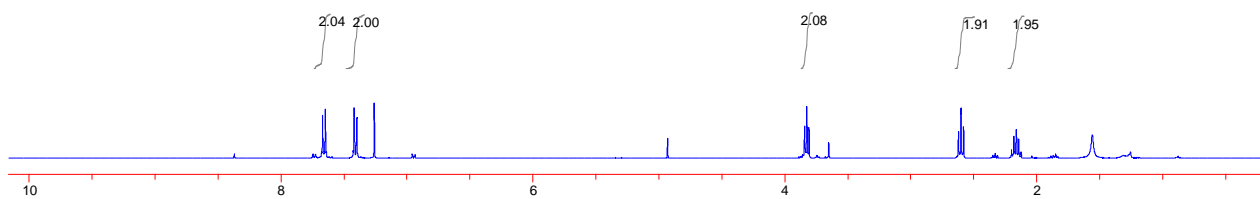
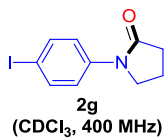
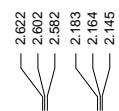
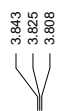
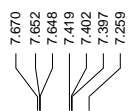




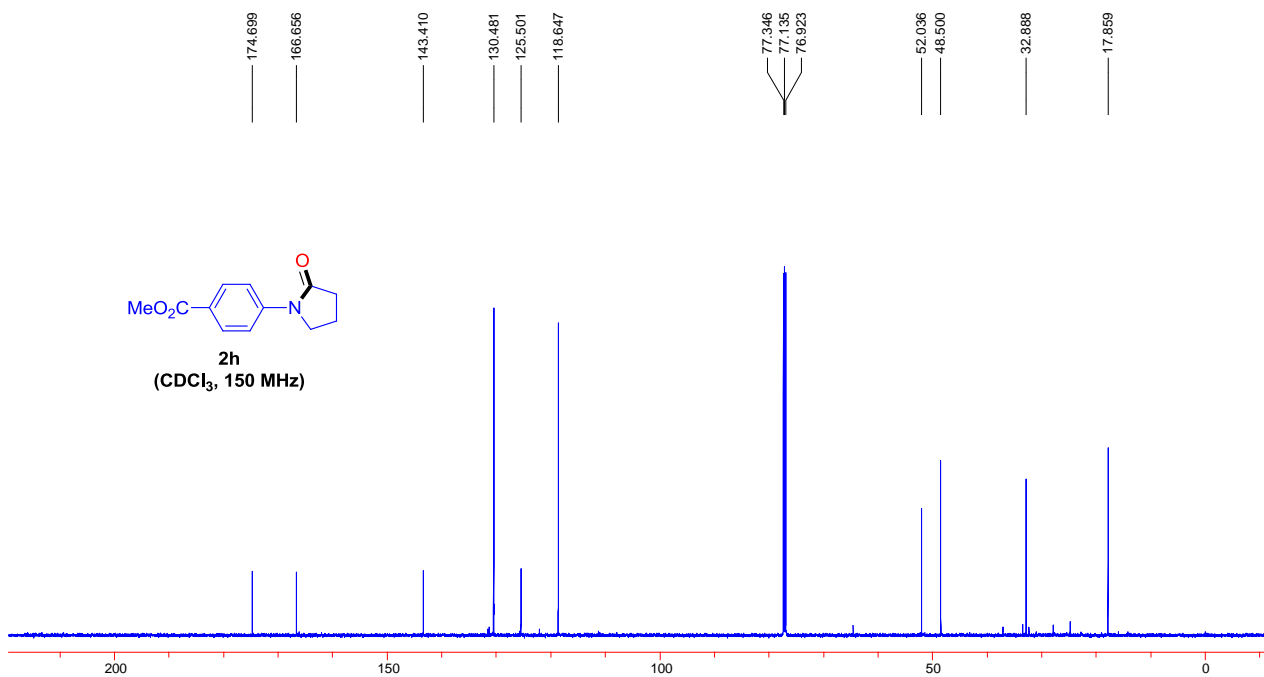
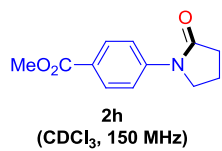
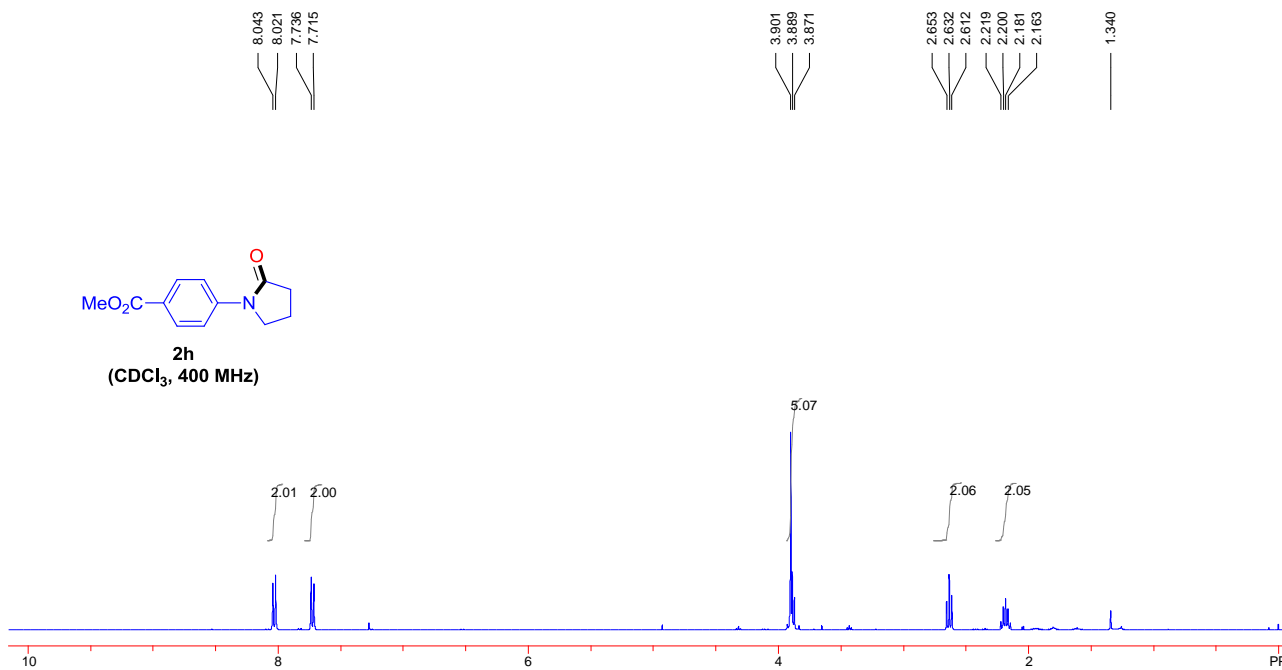
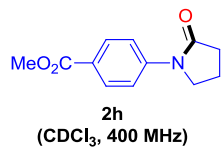




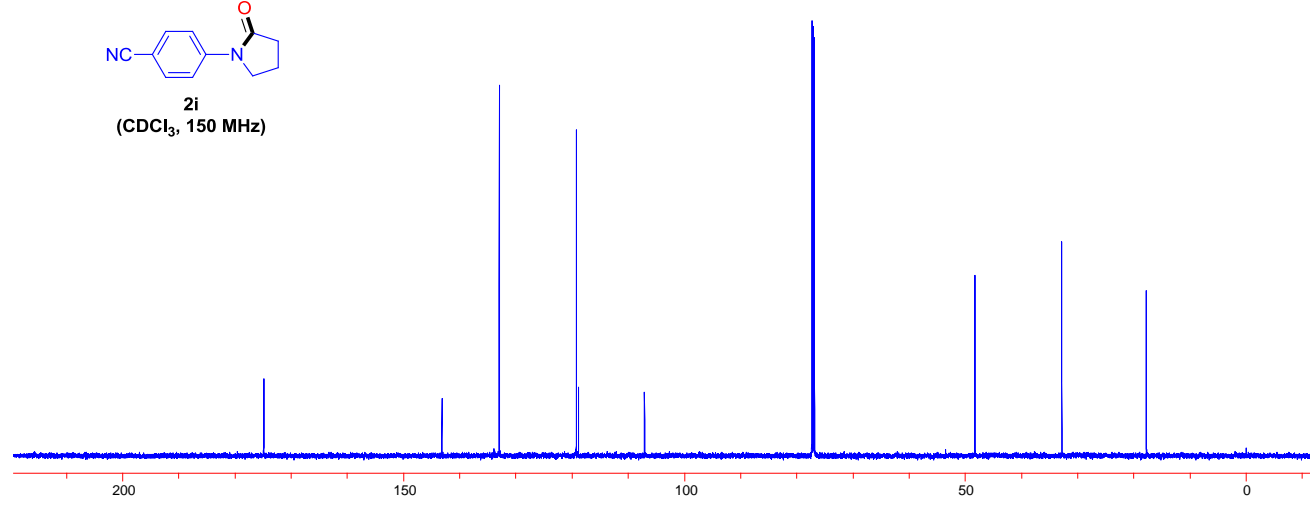
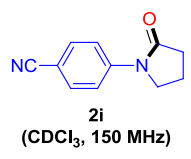
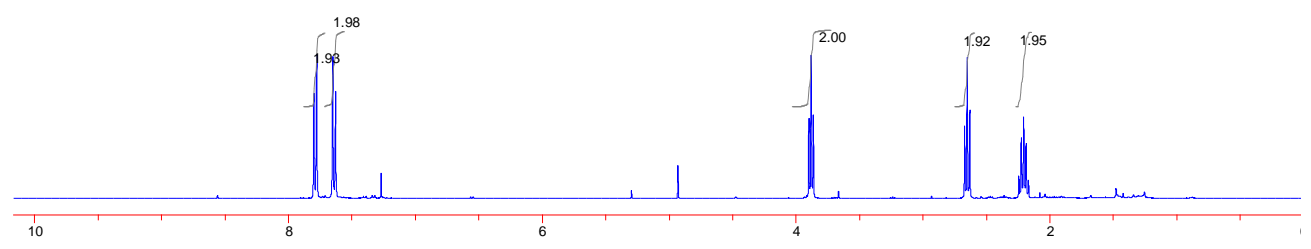
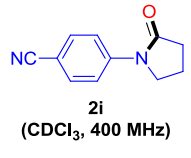
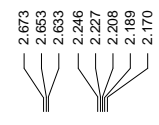
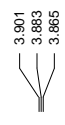
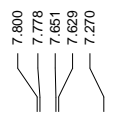


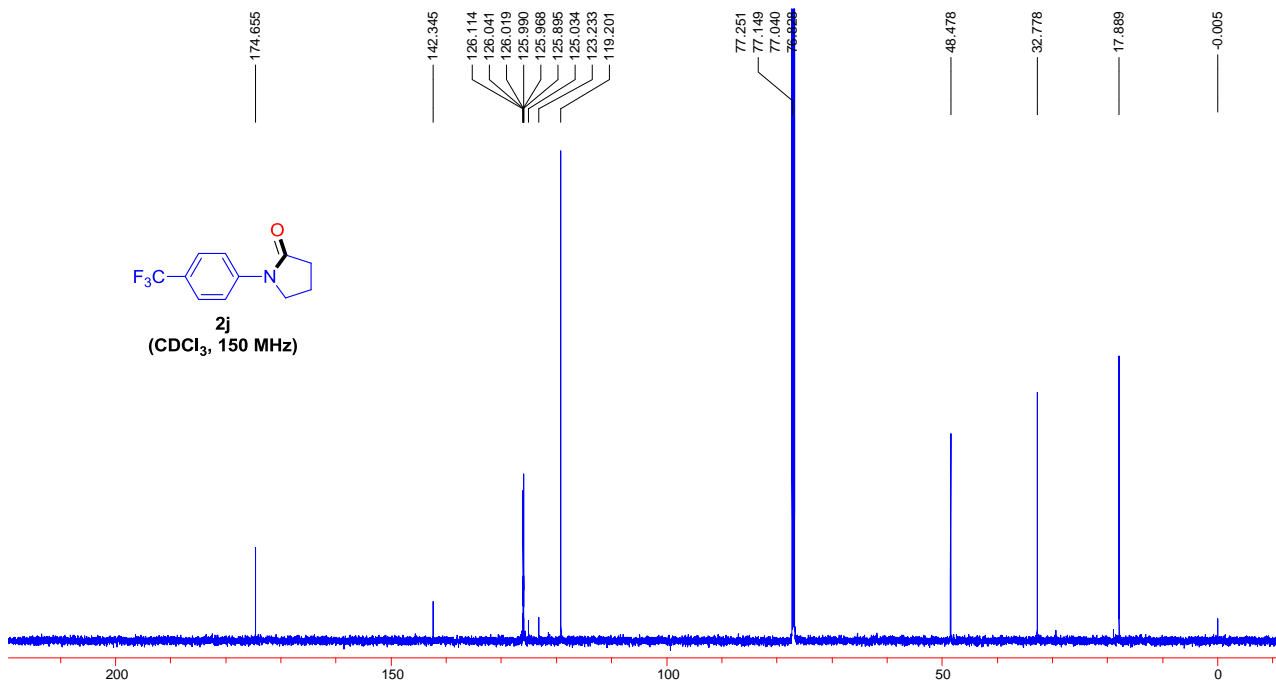
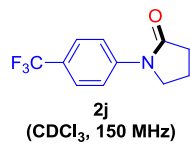
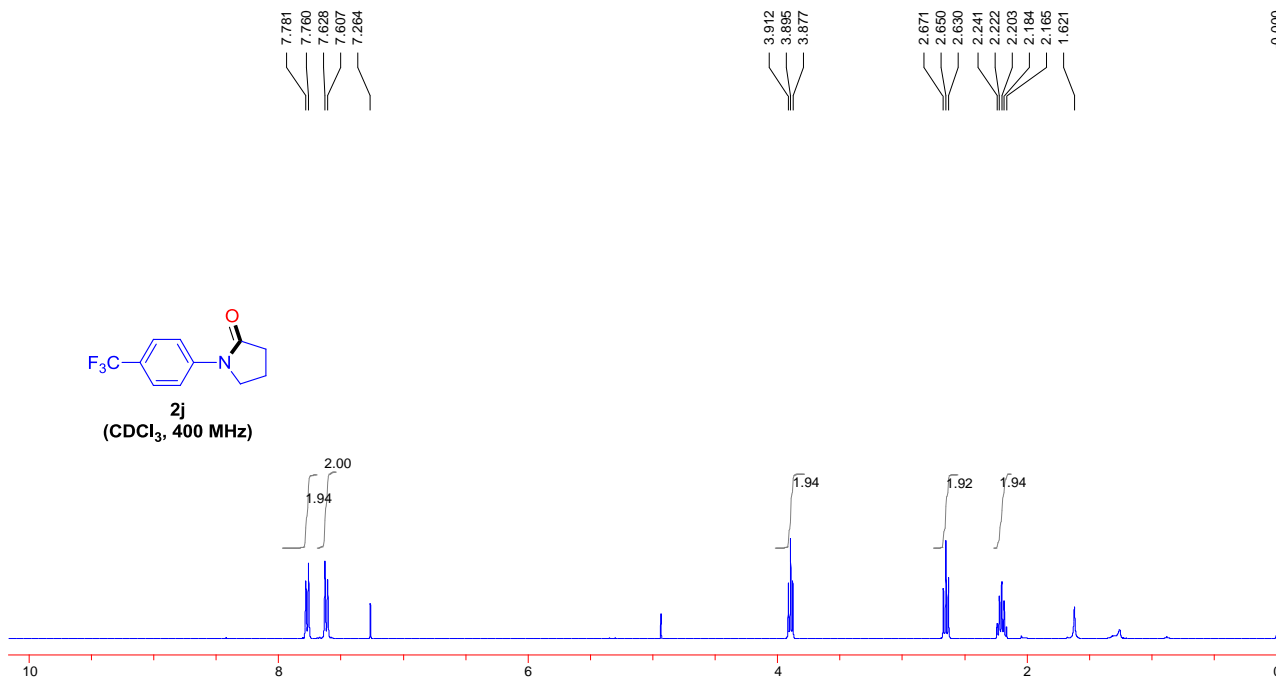
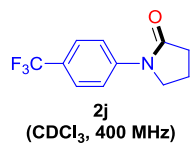


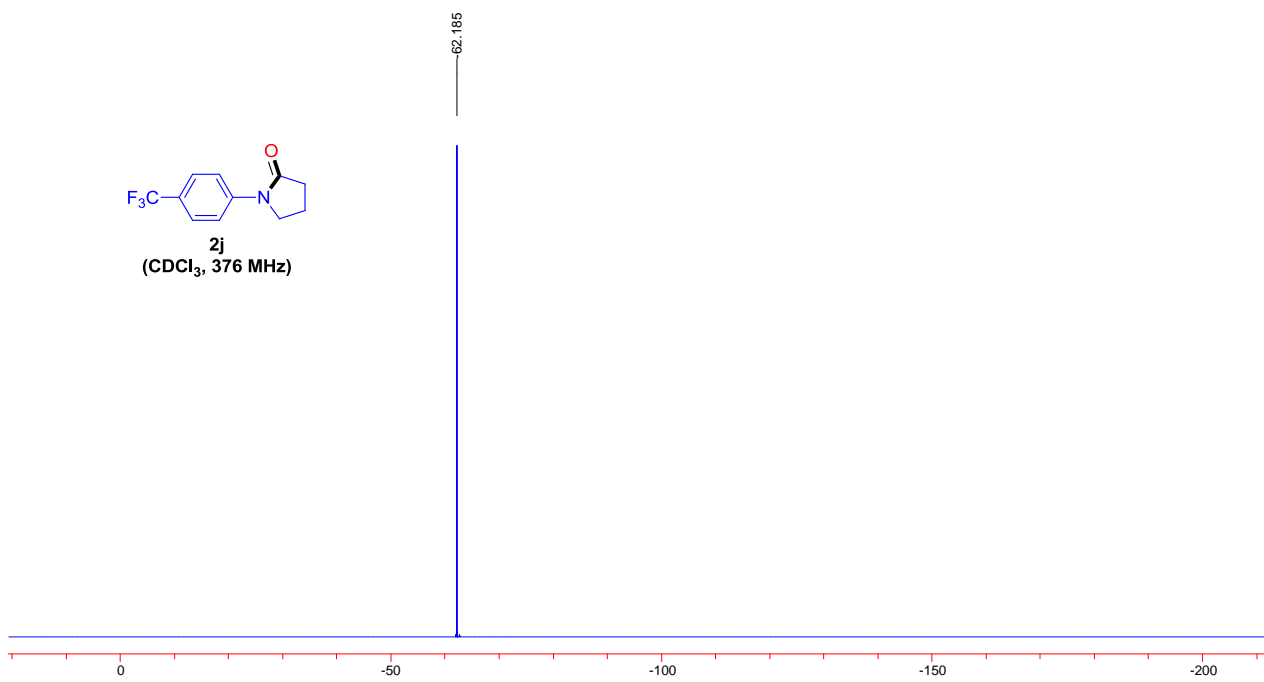
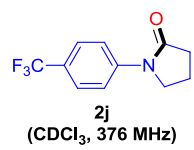


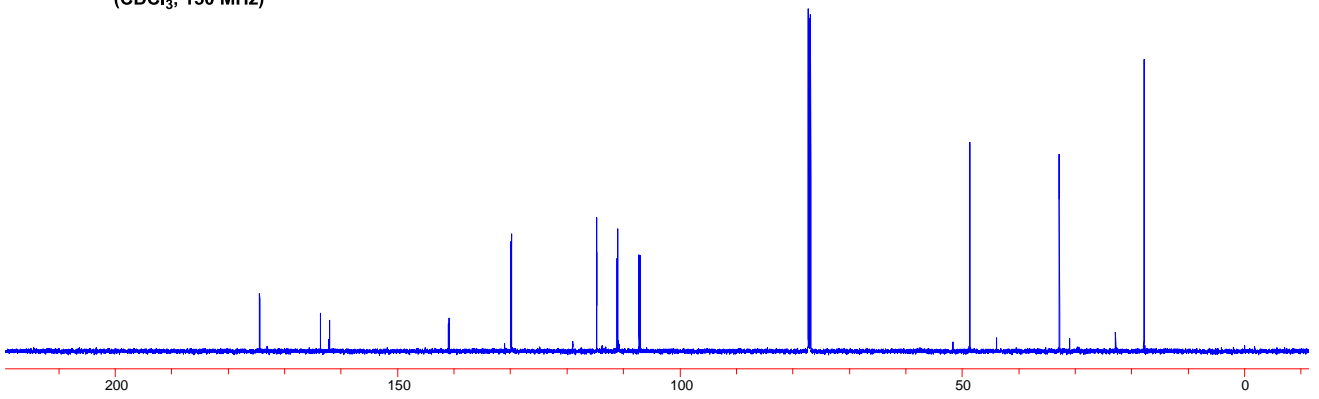
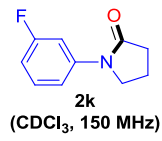
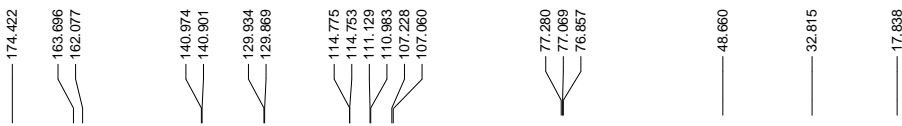
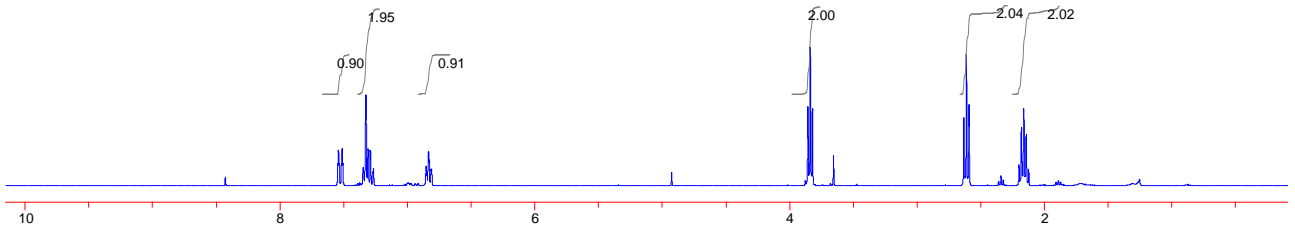
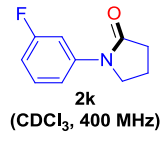


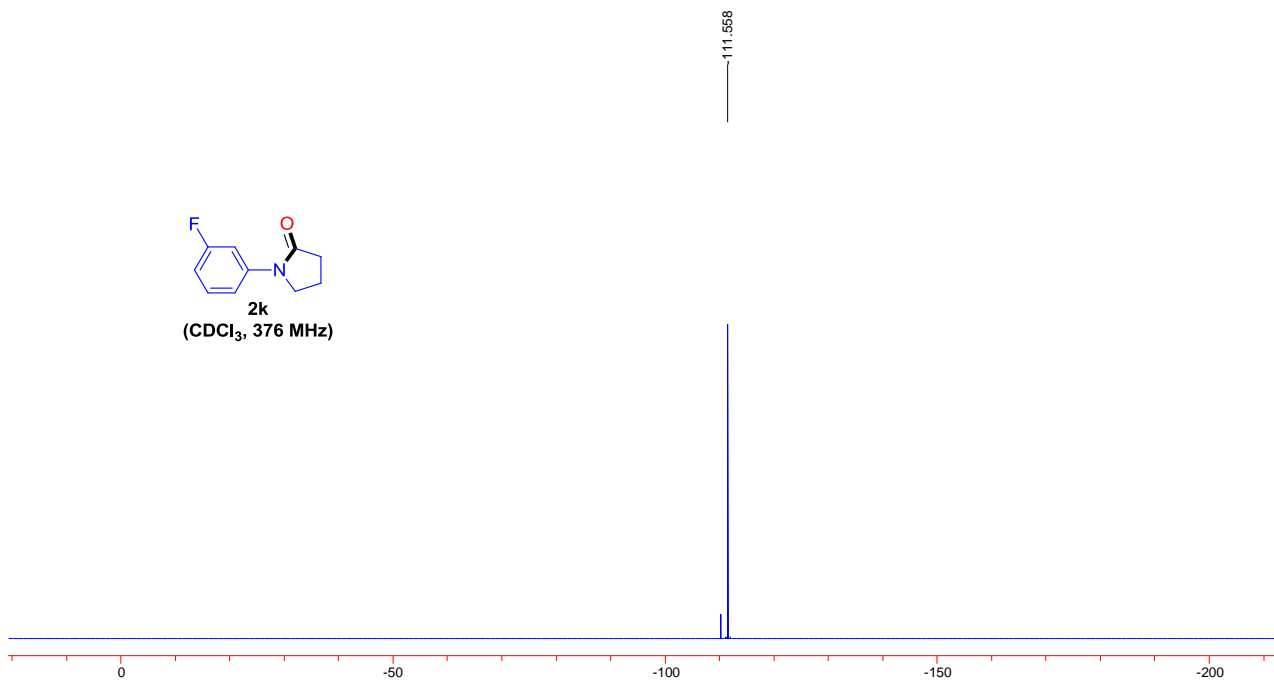
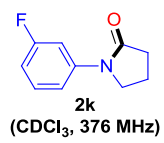
nmr

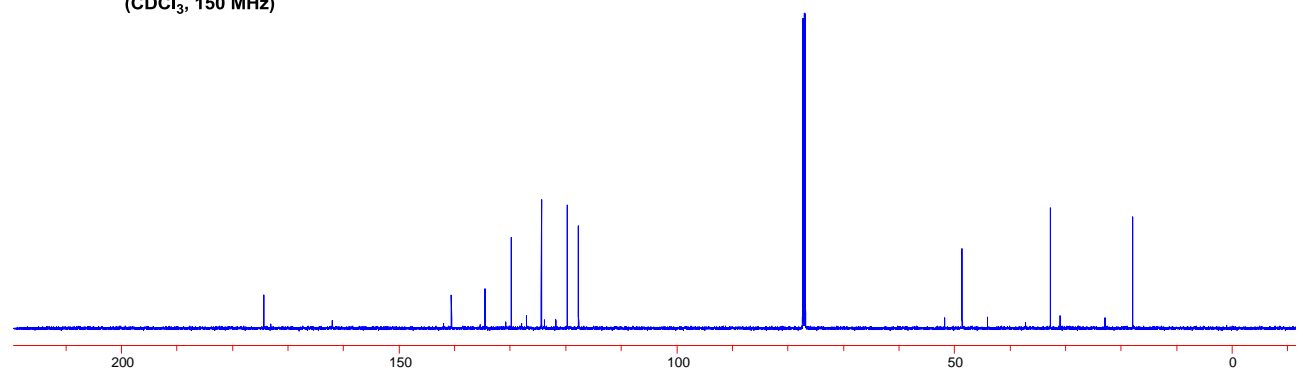
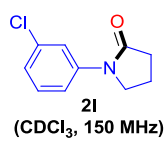
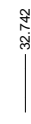
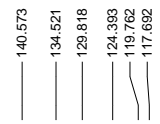
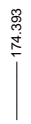
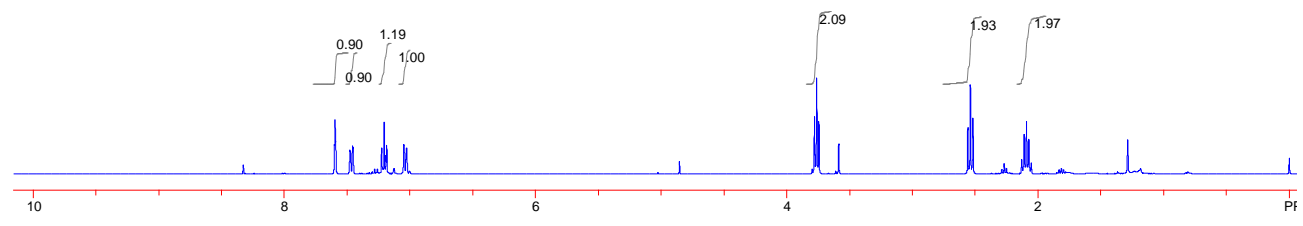
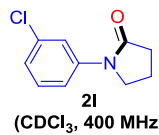
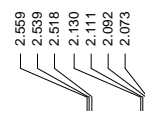
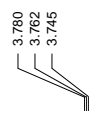
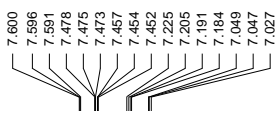


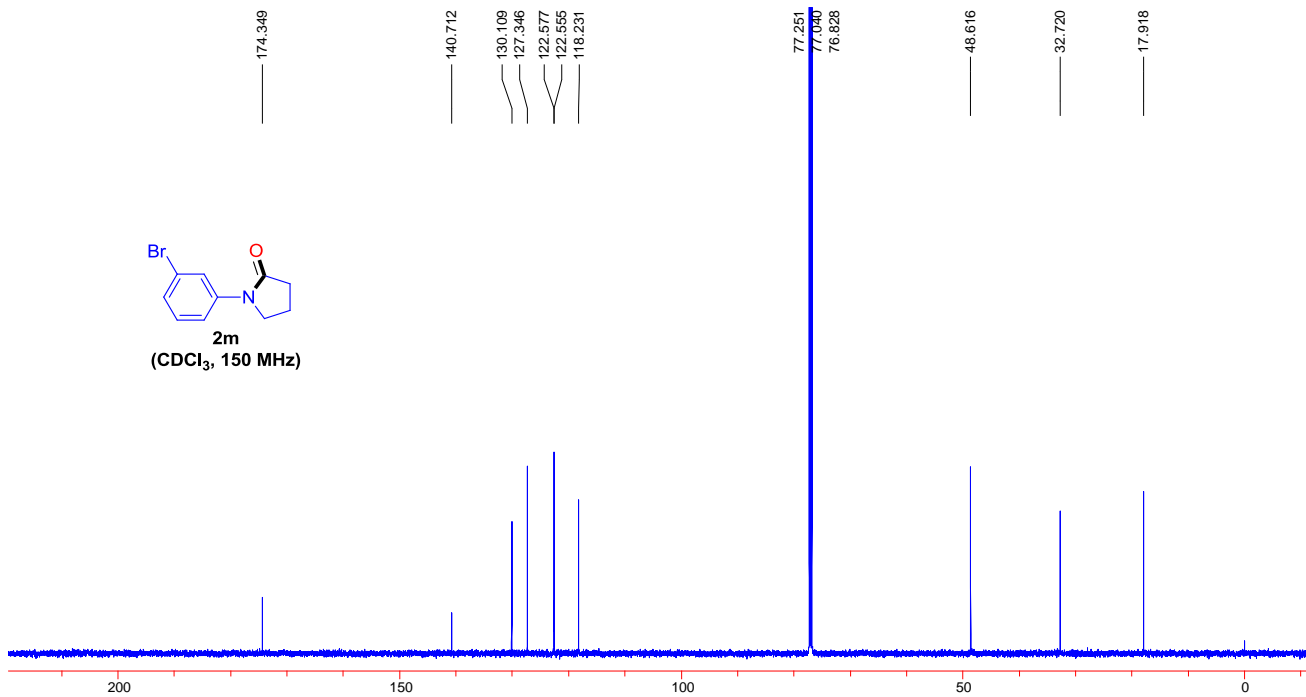
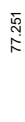
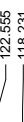
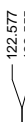
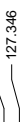
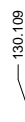
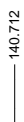
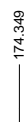
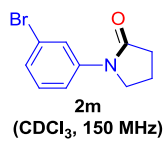
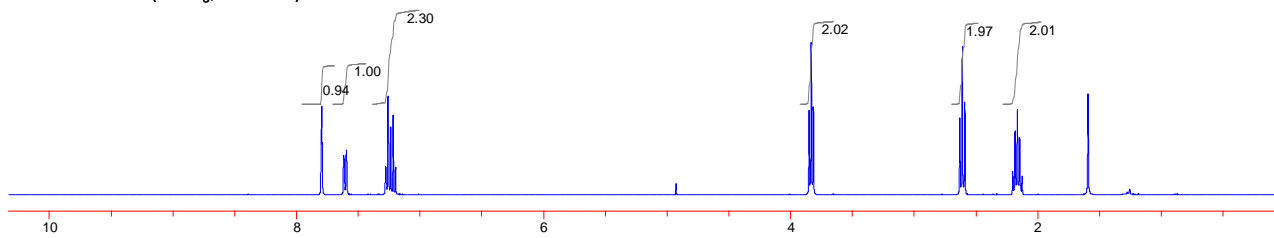
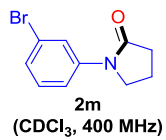
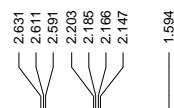
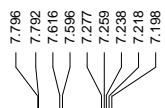




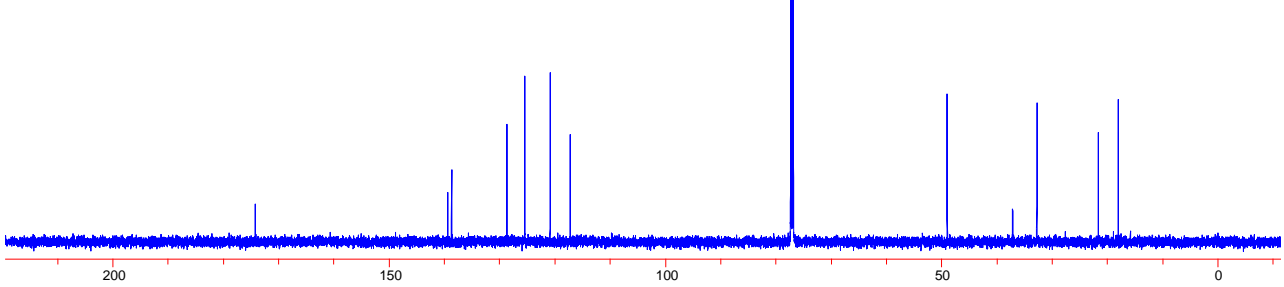
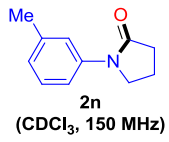
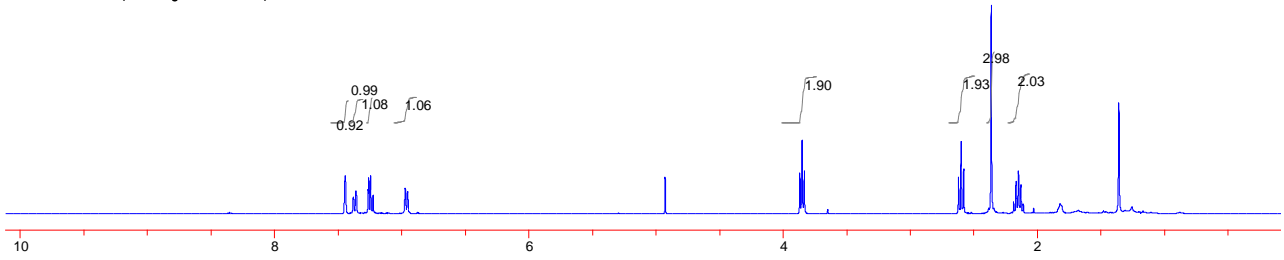
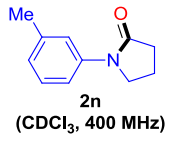




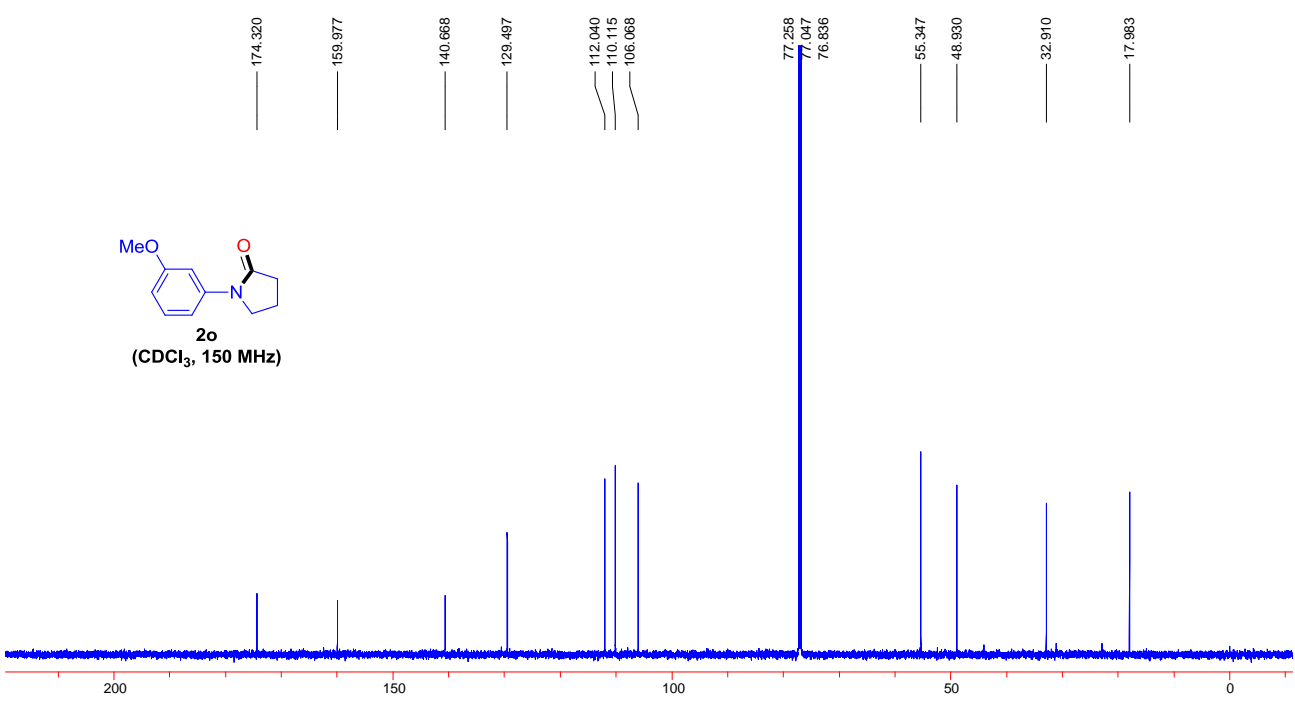
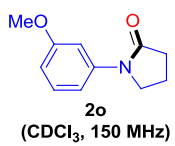
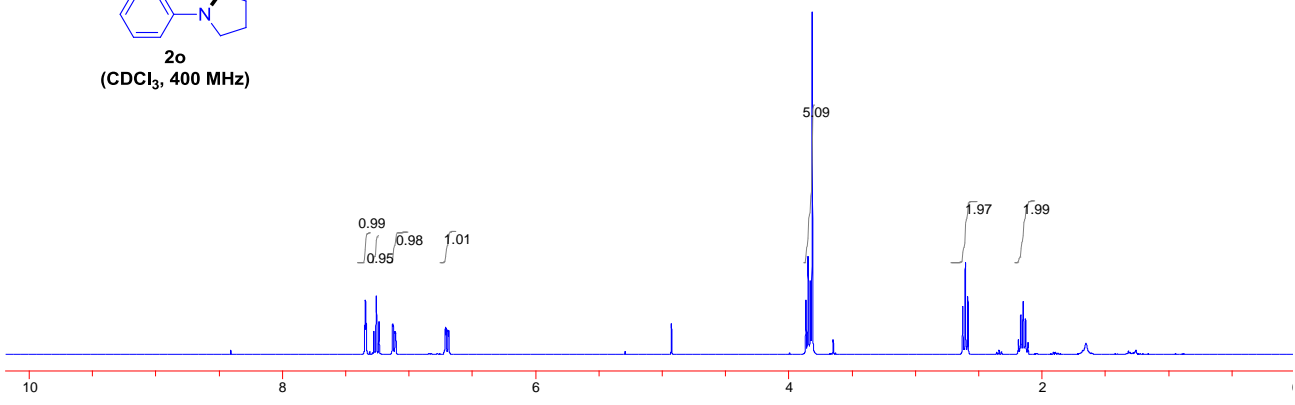
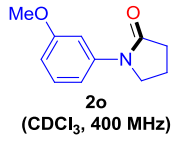
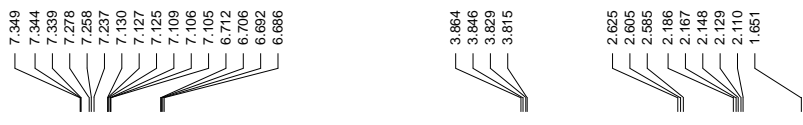


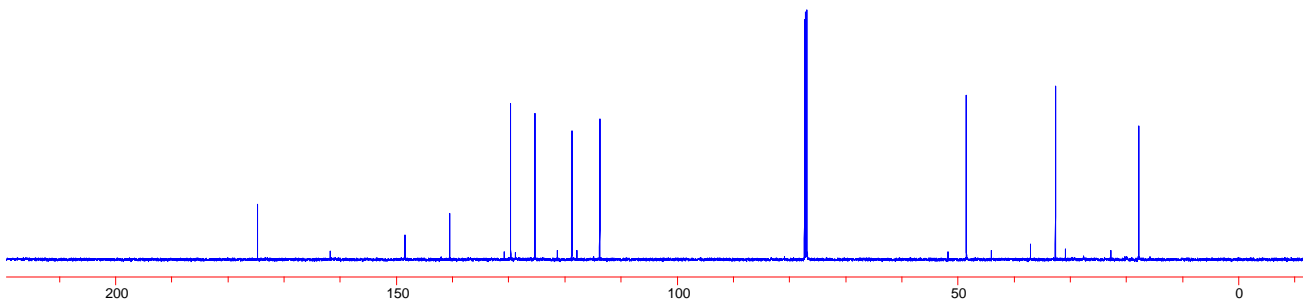
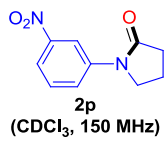
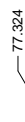
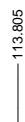
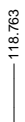
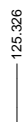
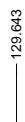
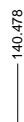
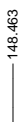
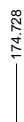
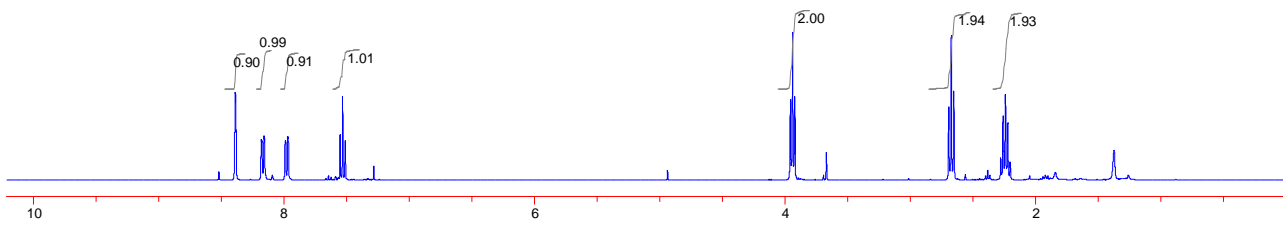
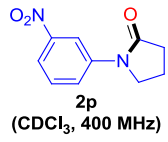
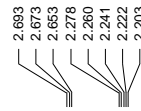
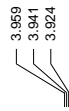
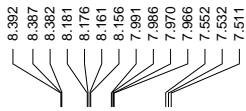


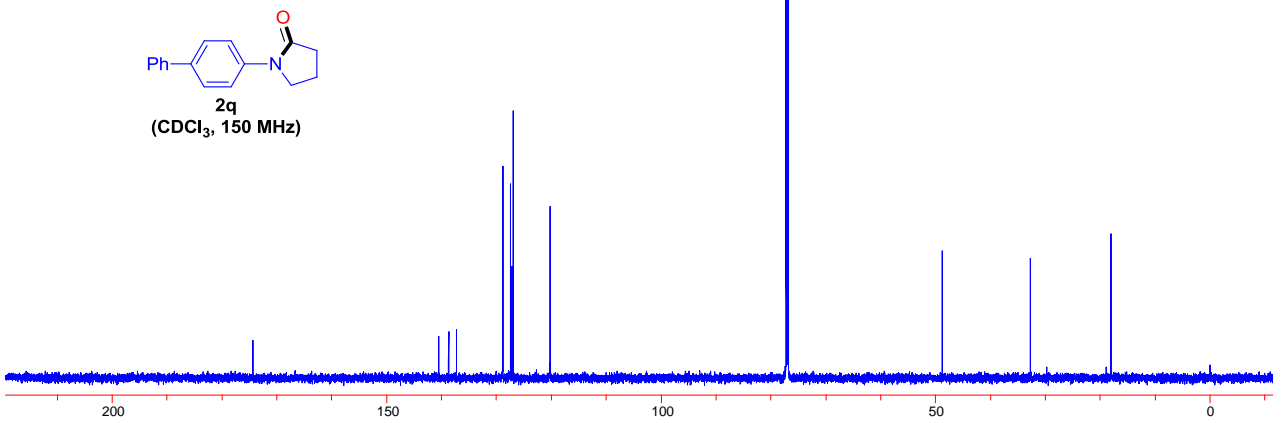
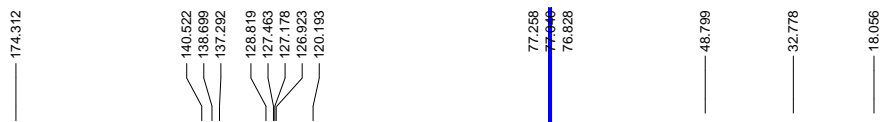
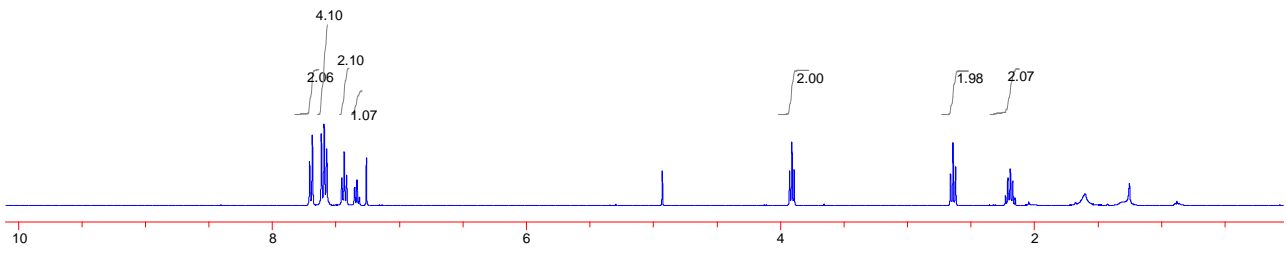
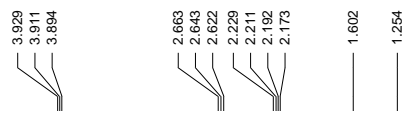
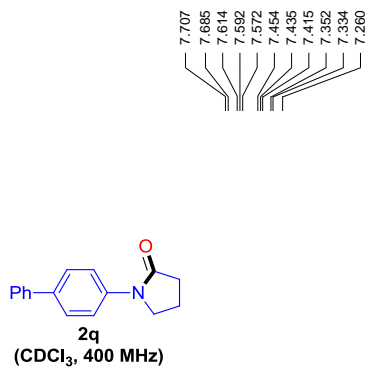


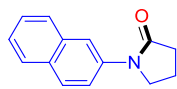


nm

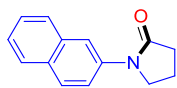
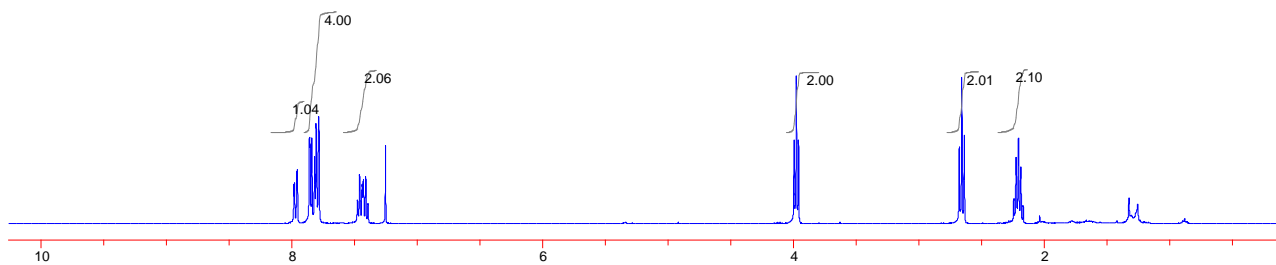




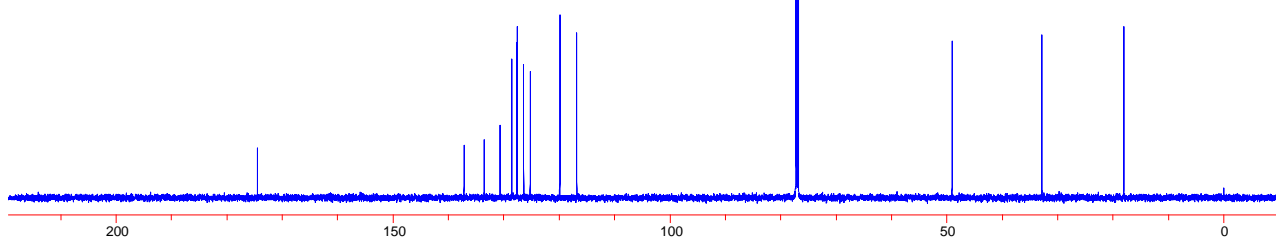


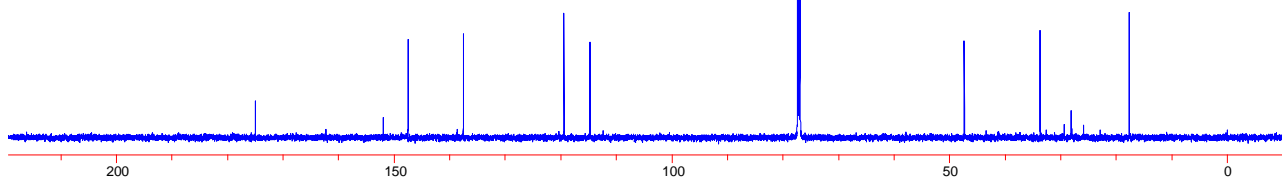
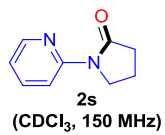
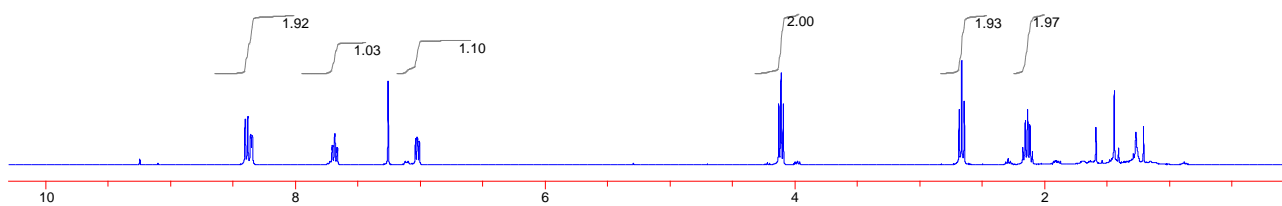
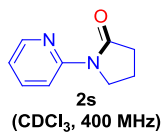


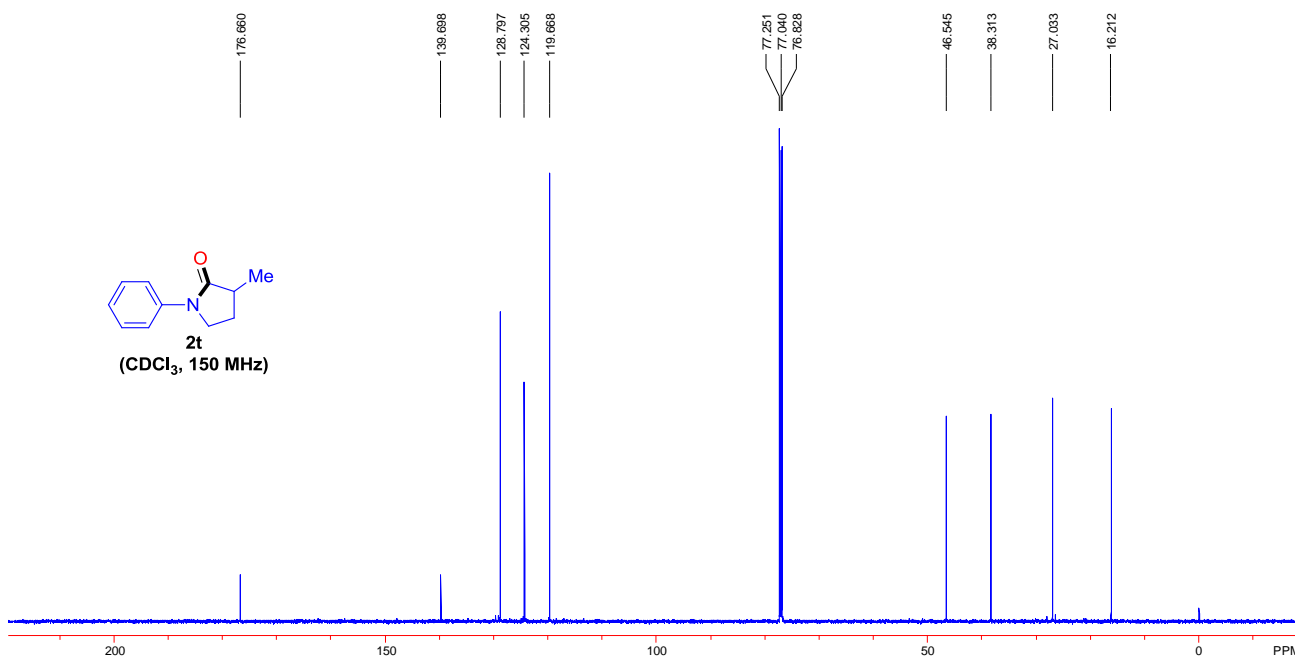
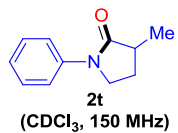
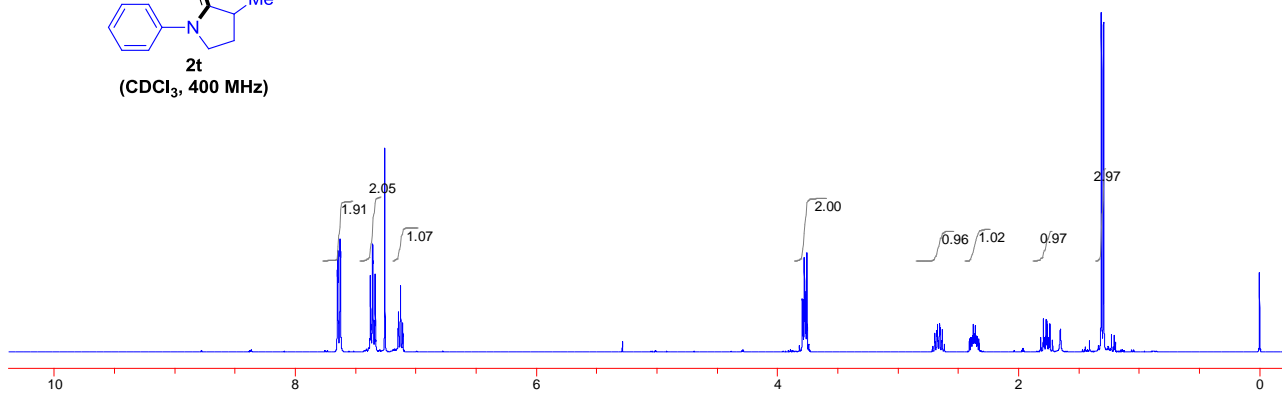
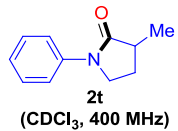
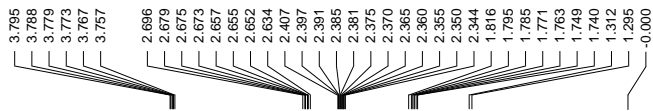
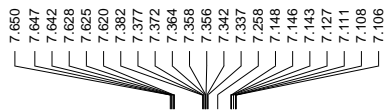
**2r**  
(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)

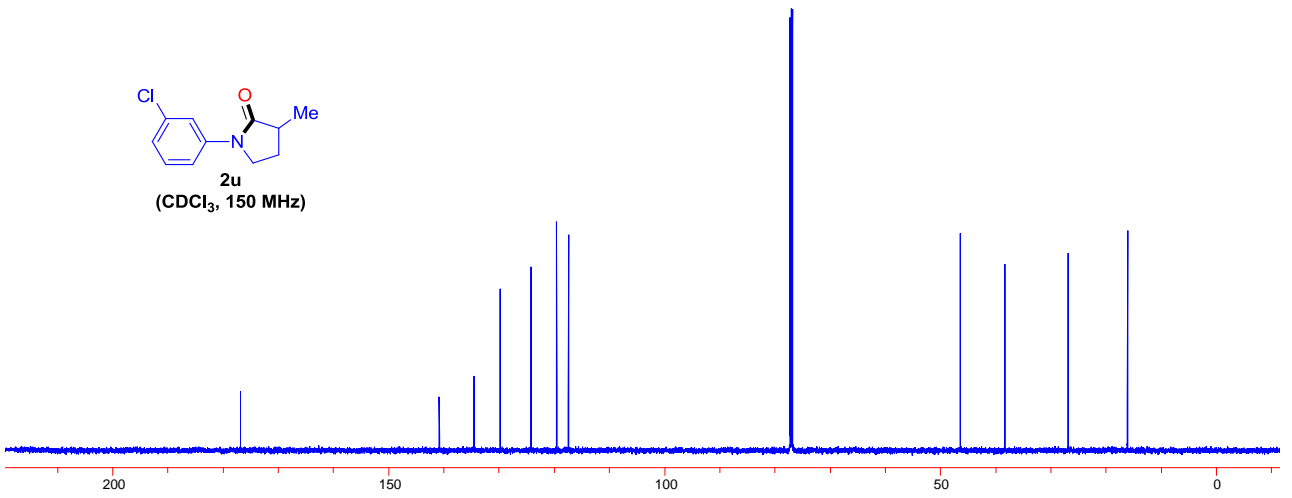
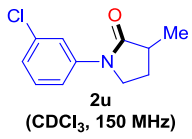
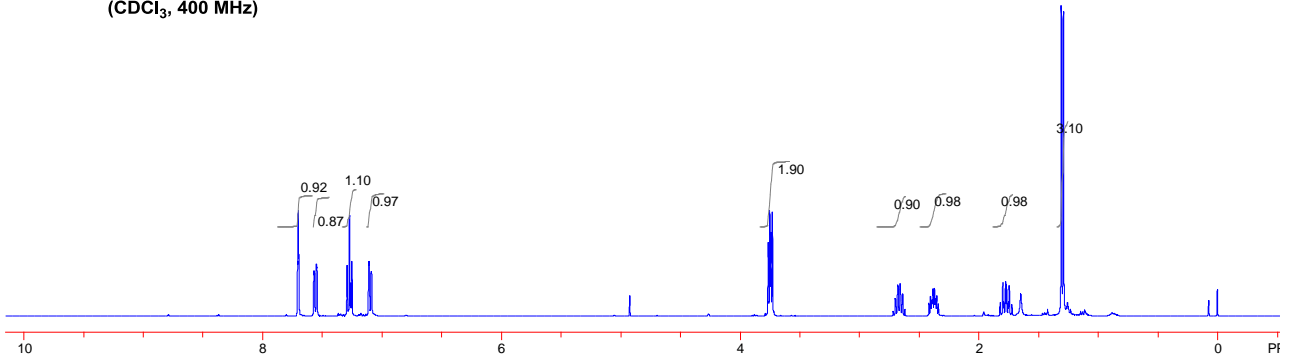
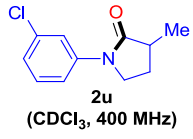
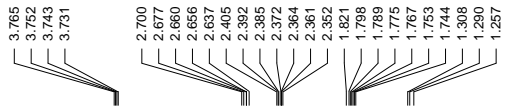
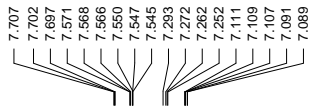


**2r**  
(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150 MHz)

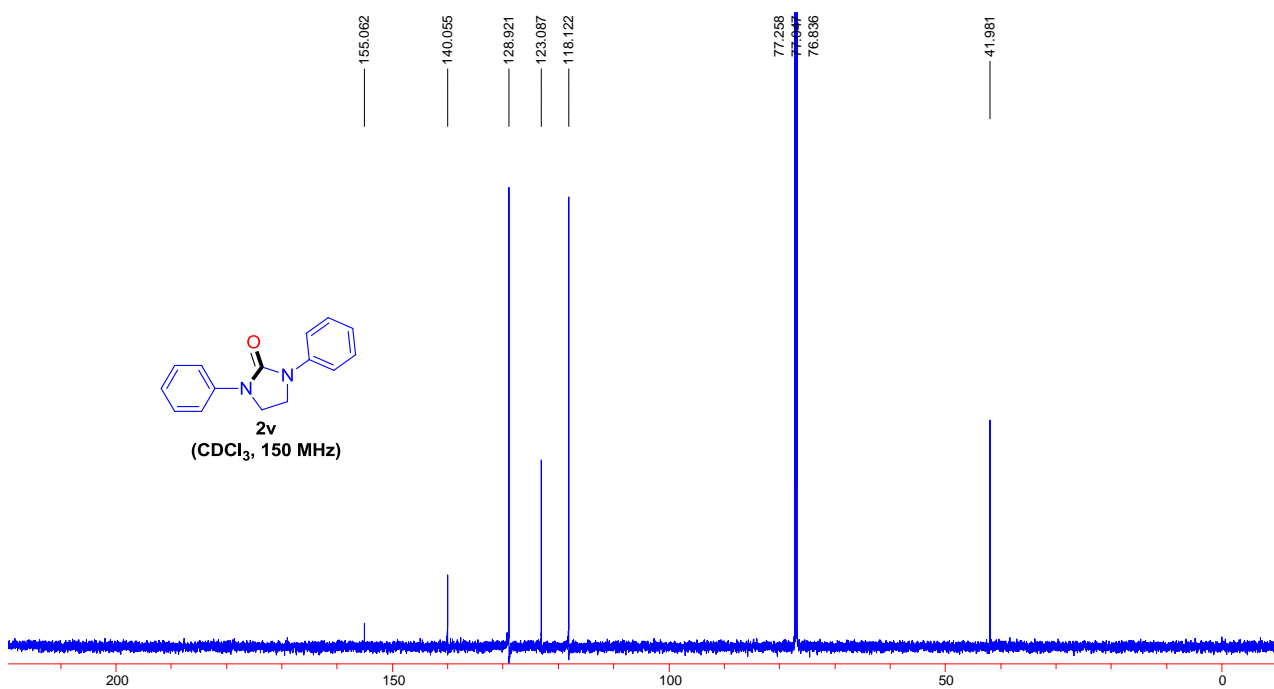
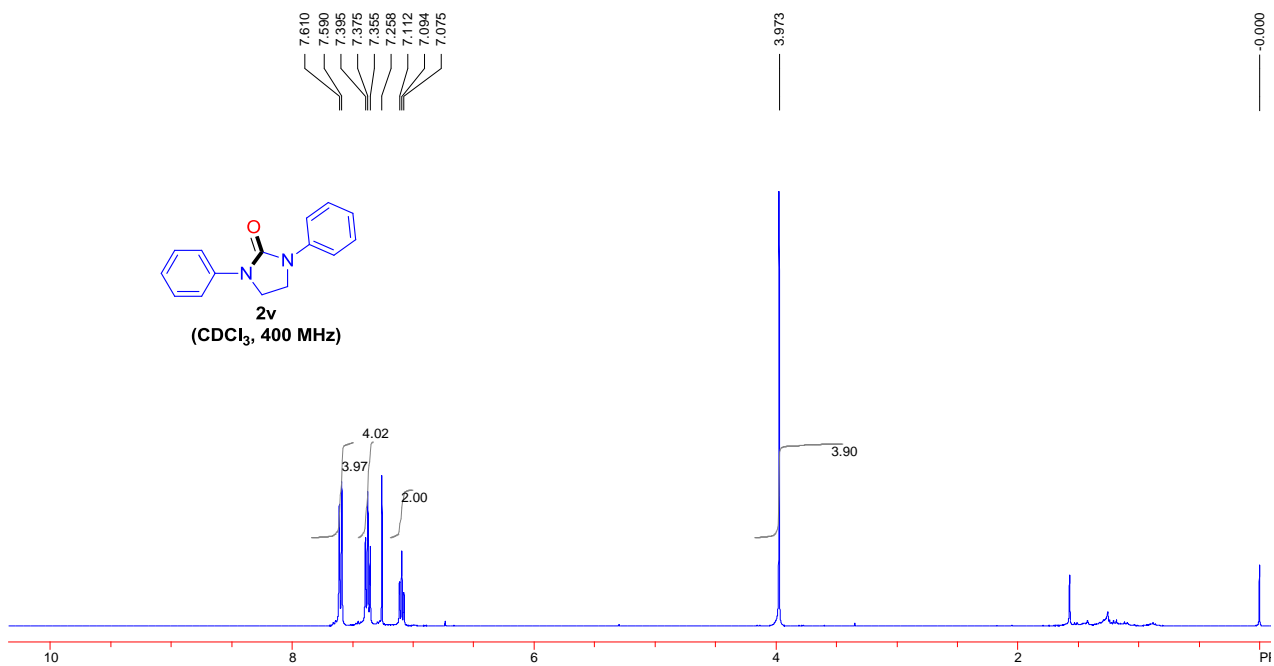




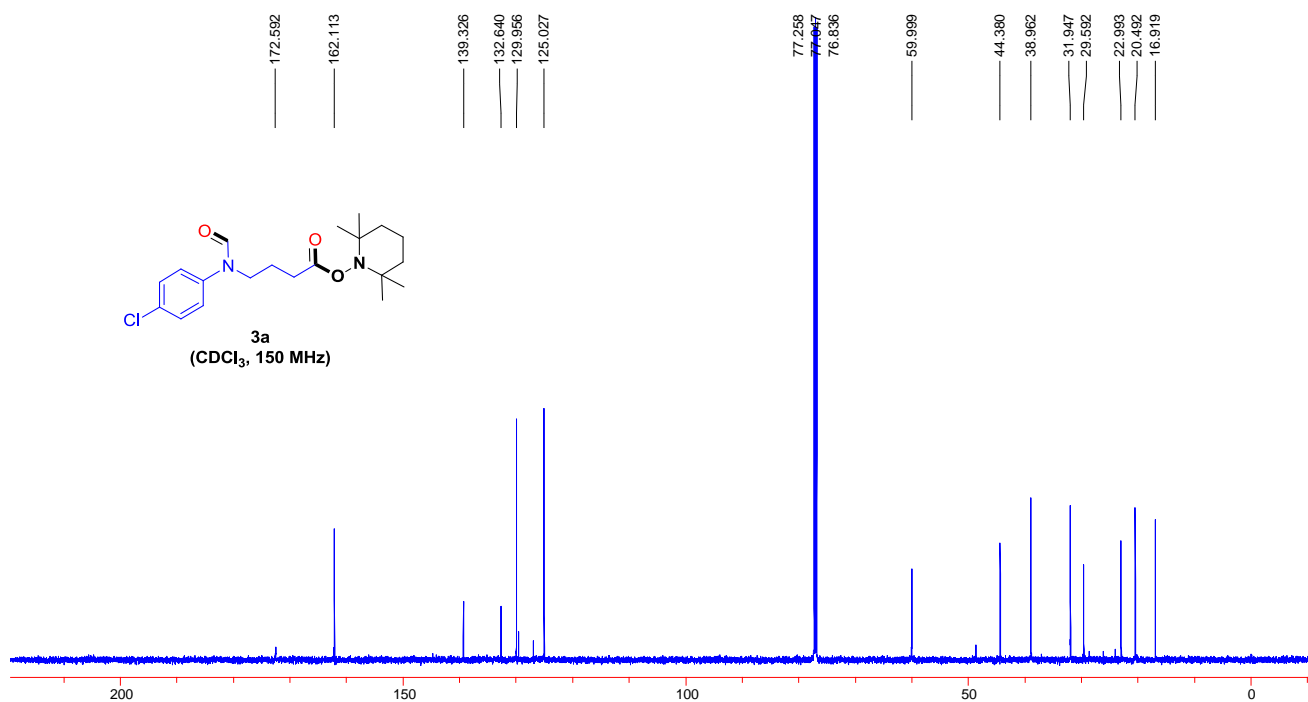
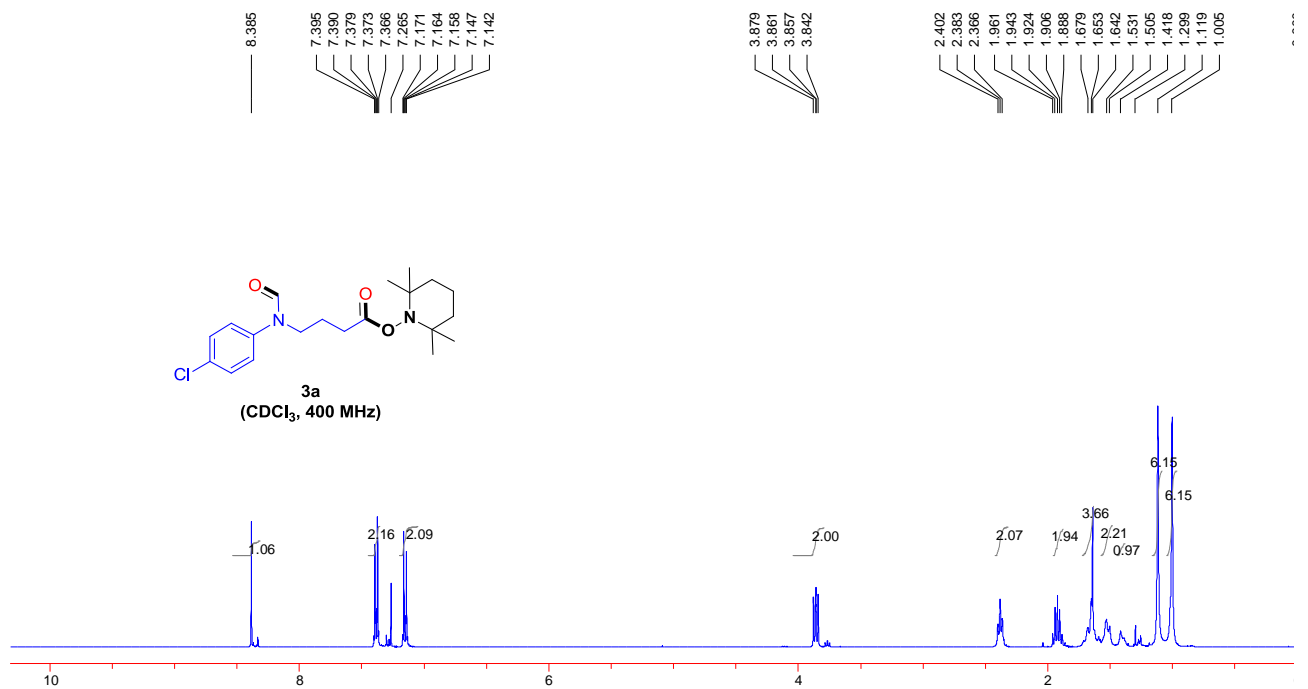


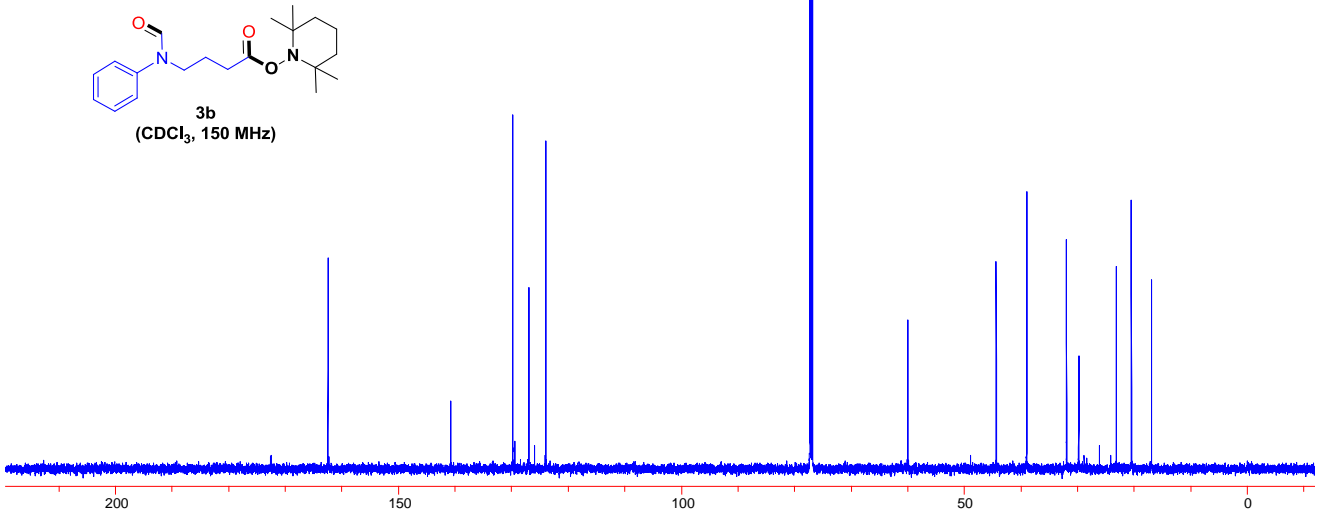
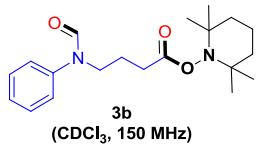
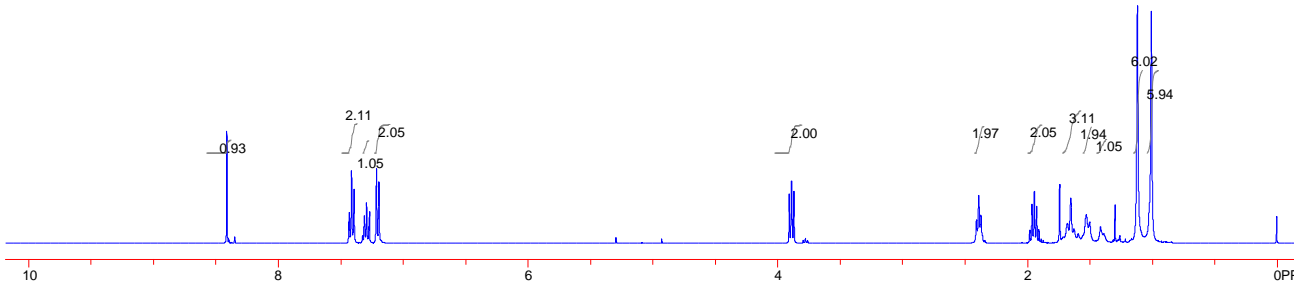
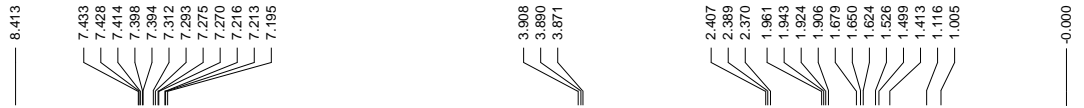
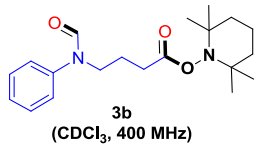


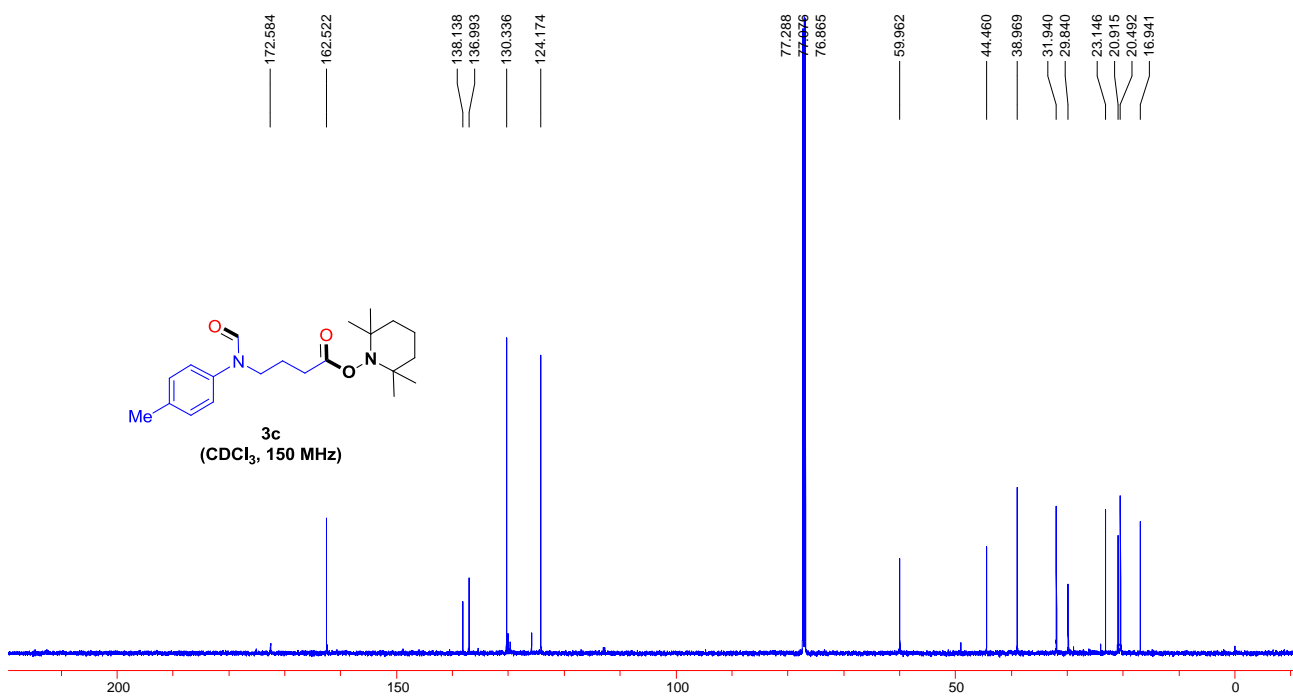
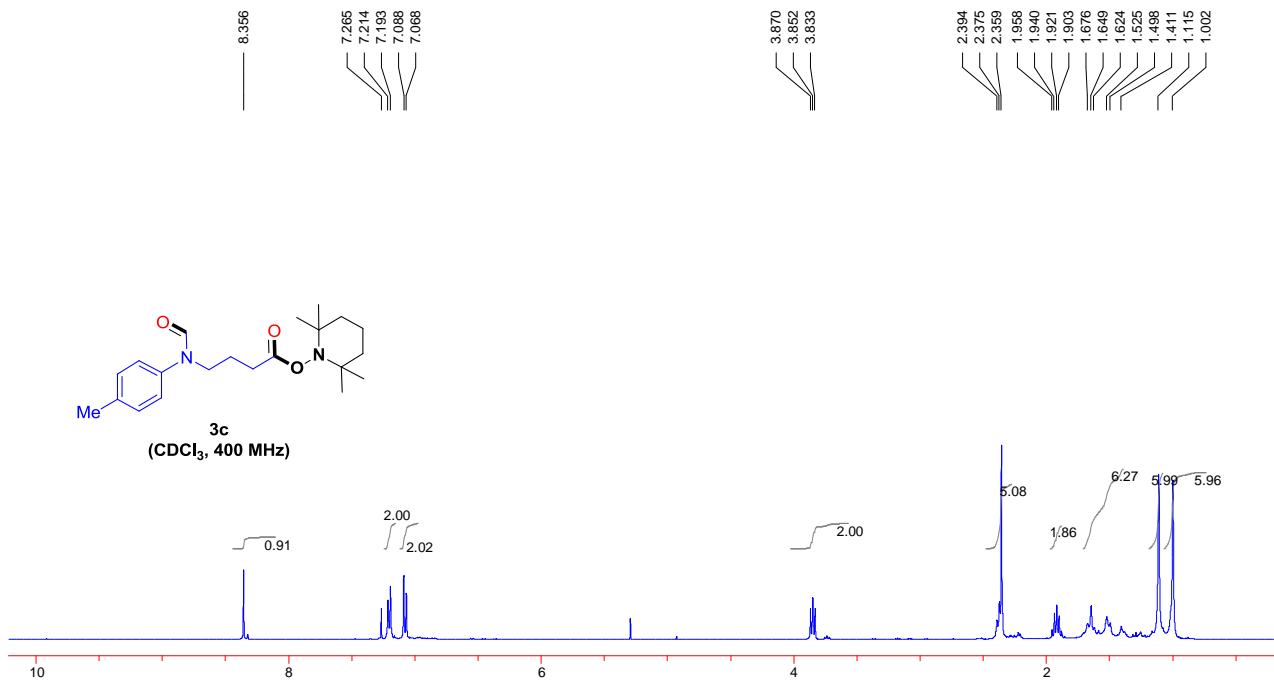


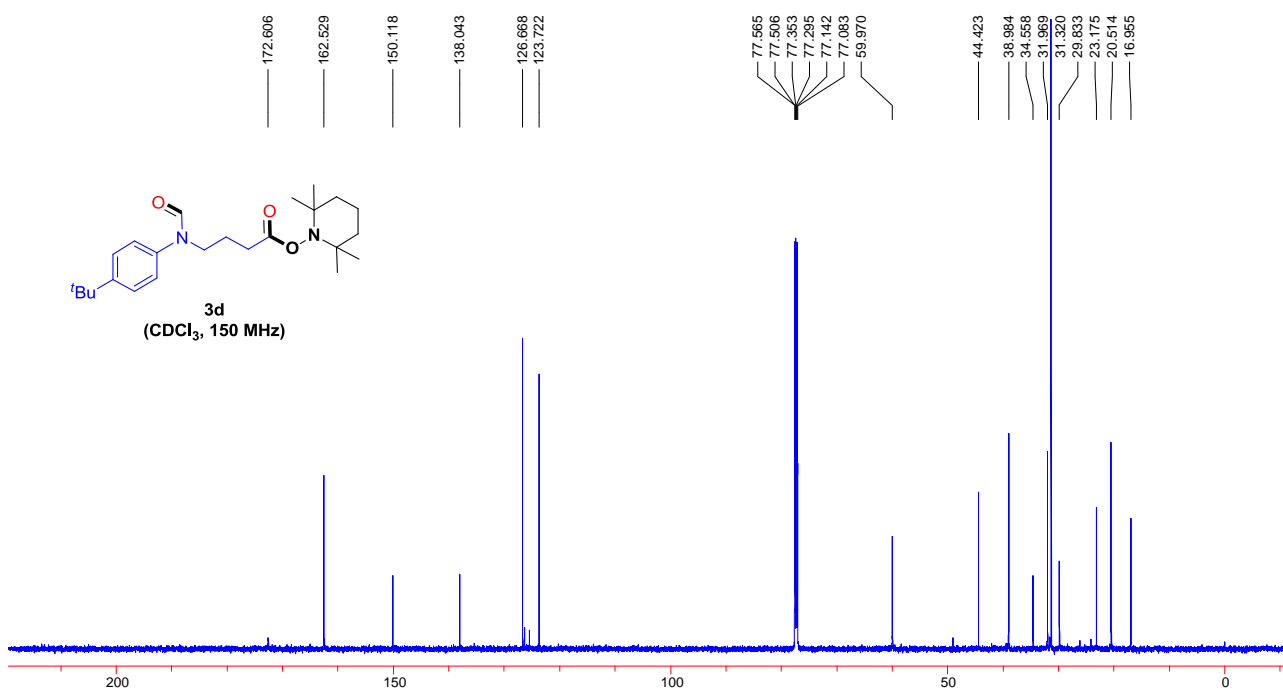
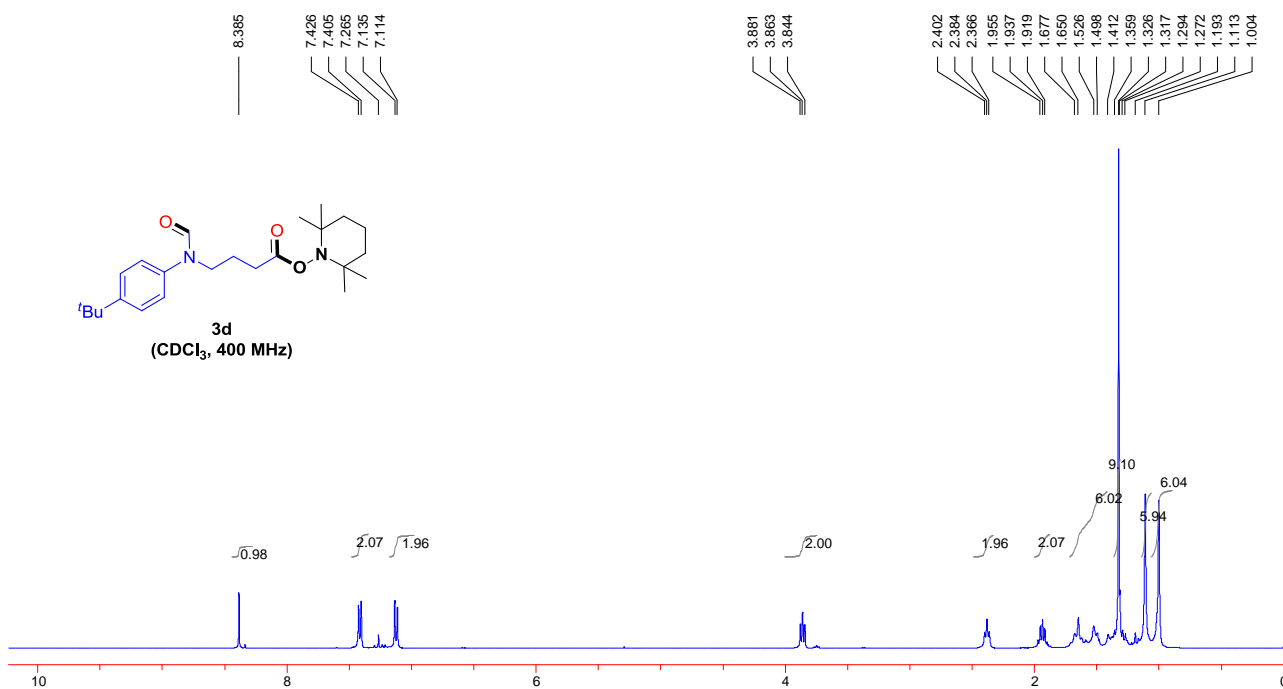


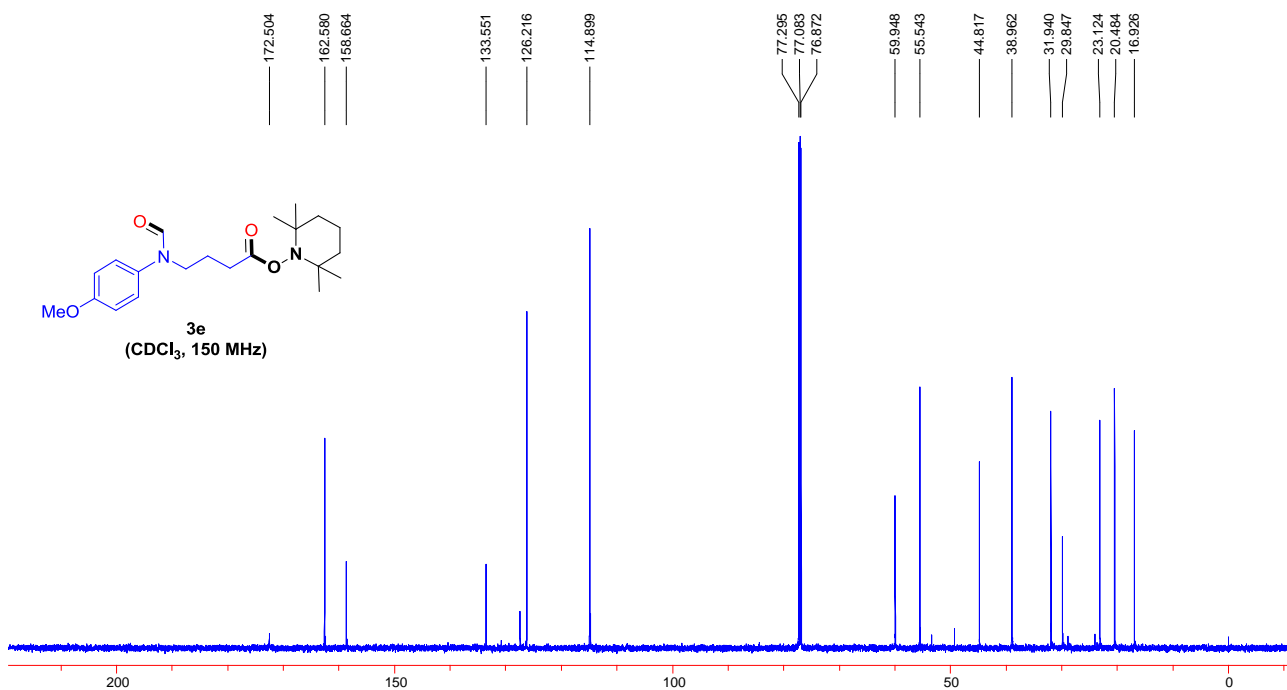
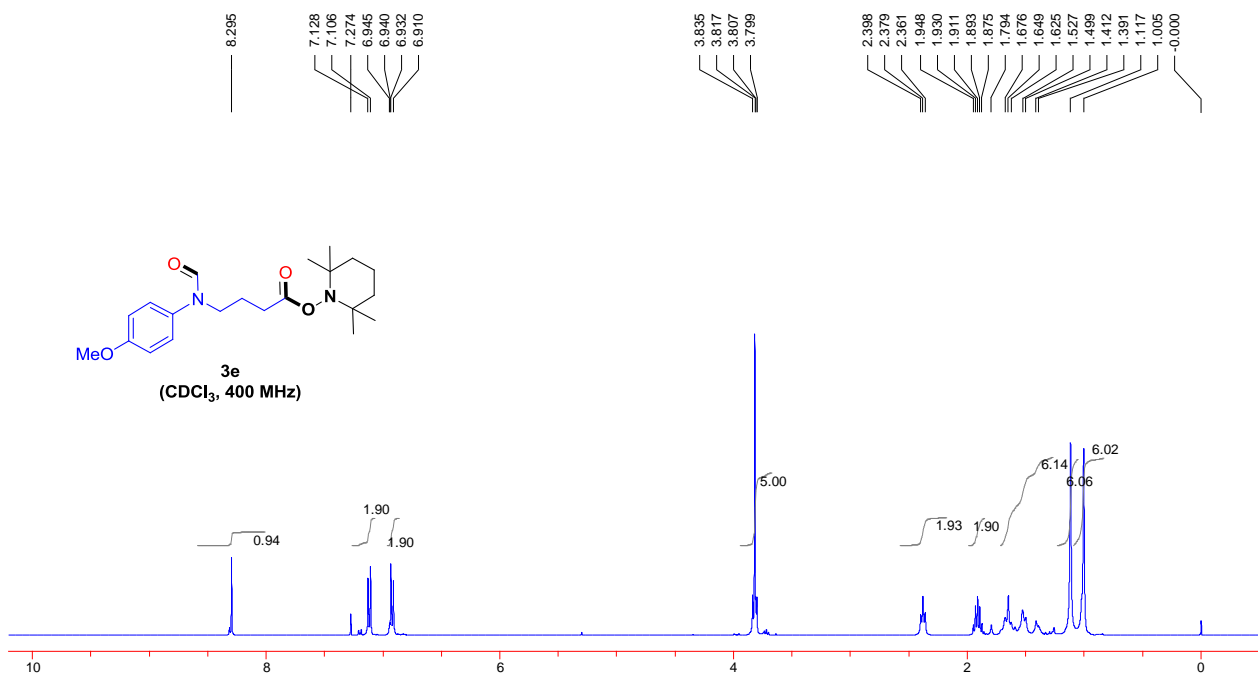
## IV. Copies of the NMR spectra of 3a-3p

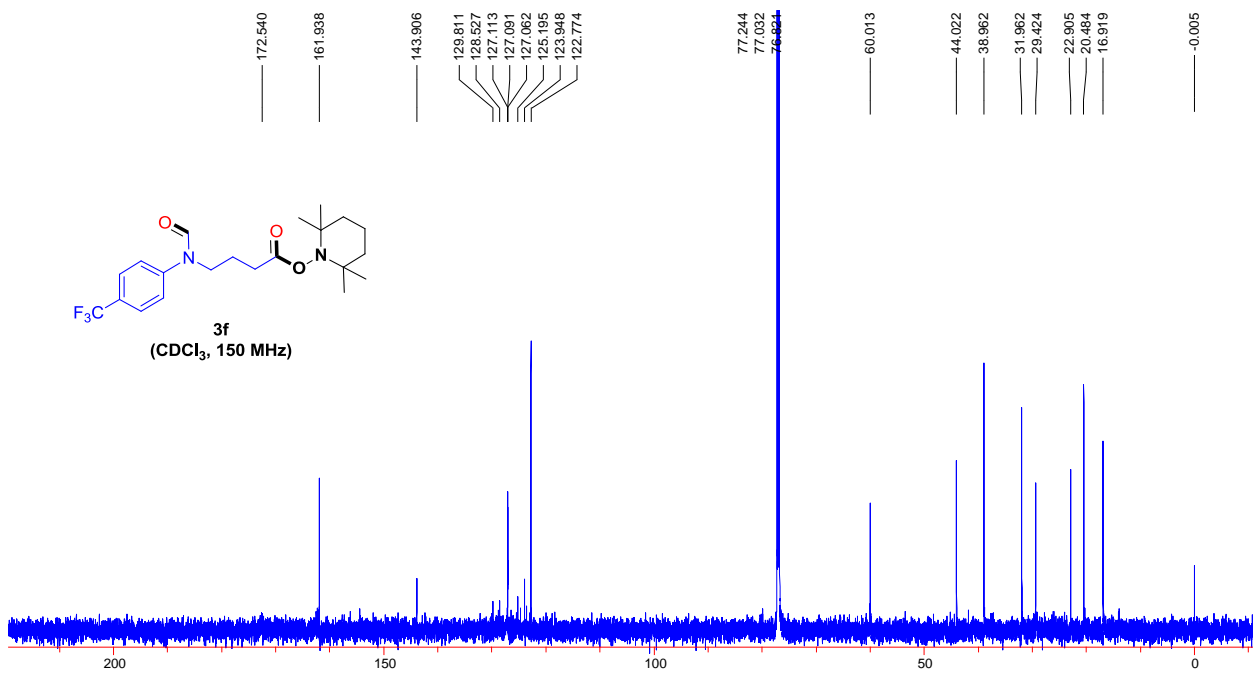
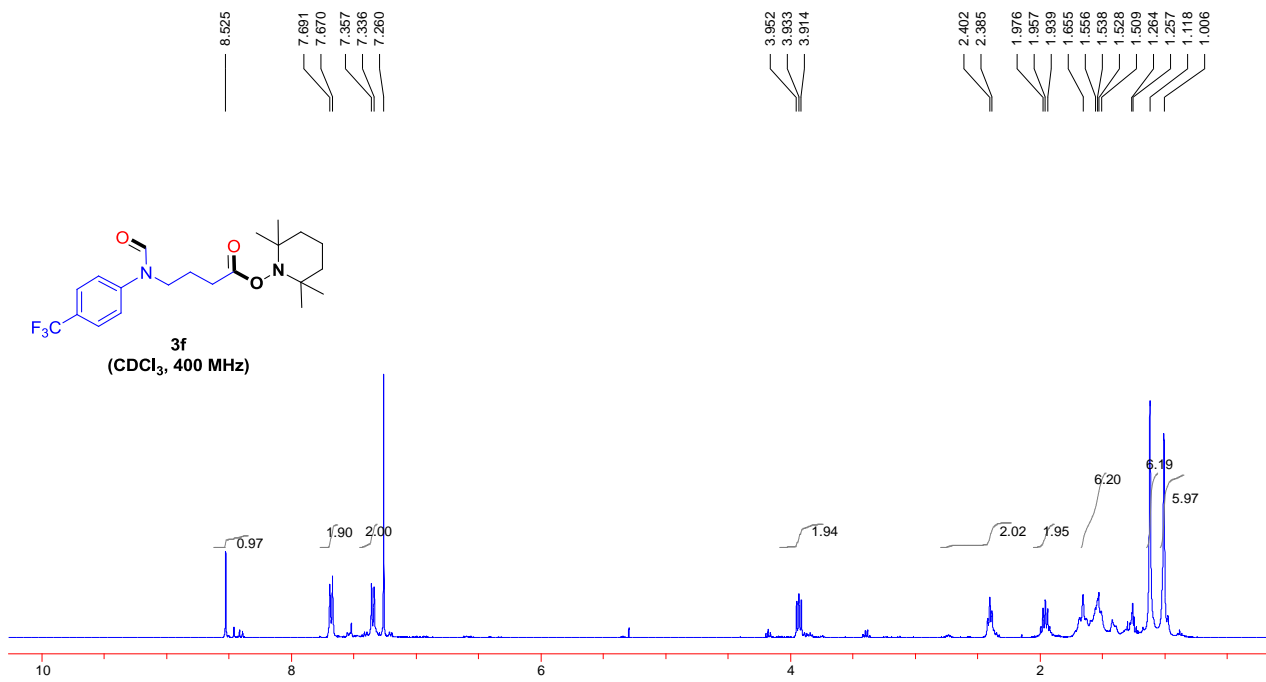


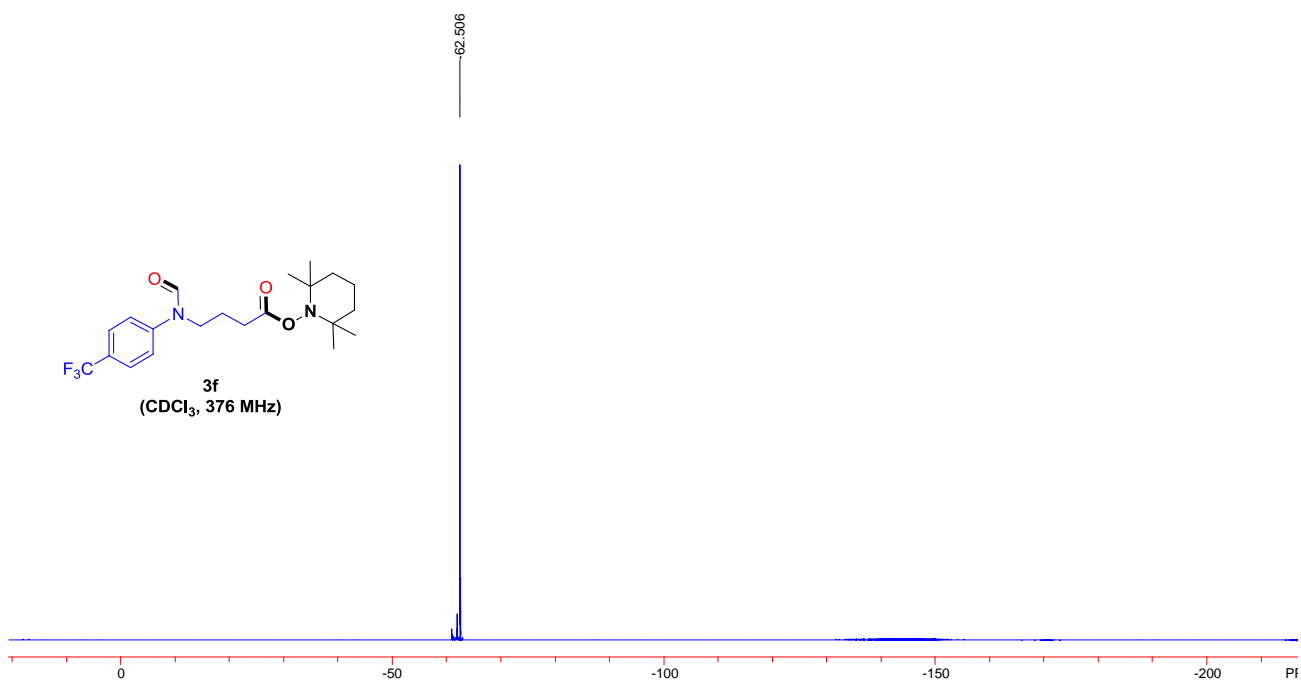
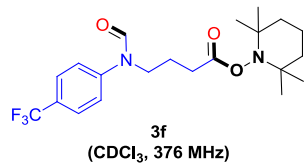




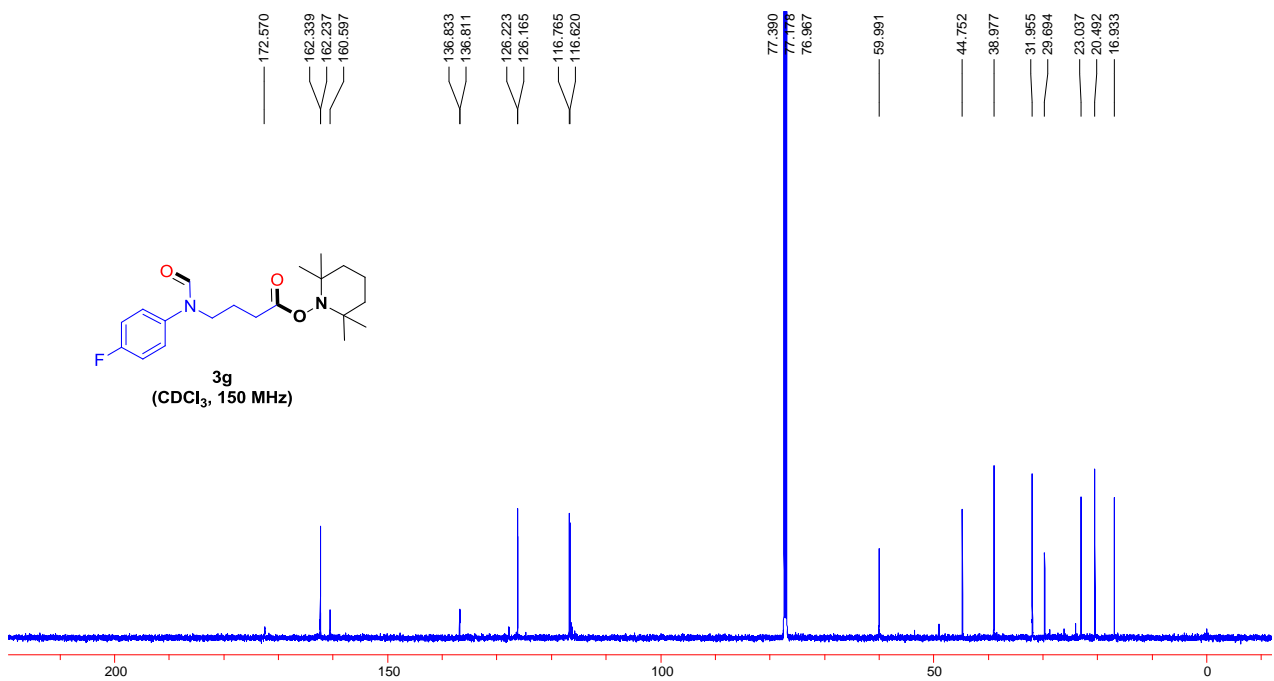
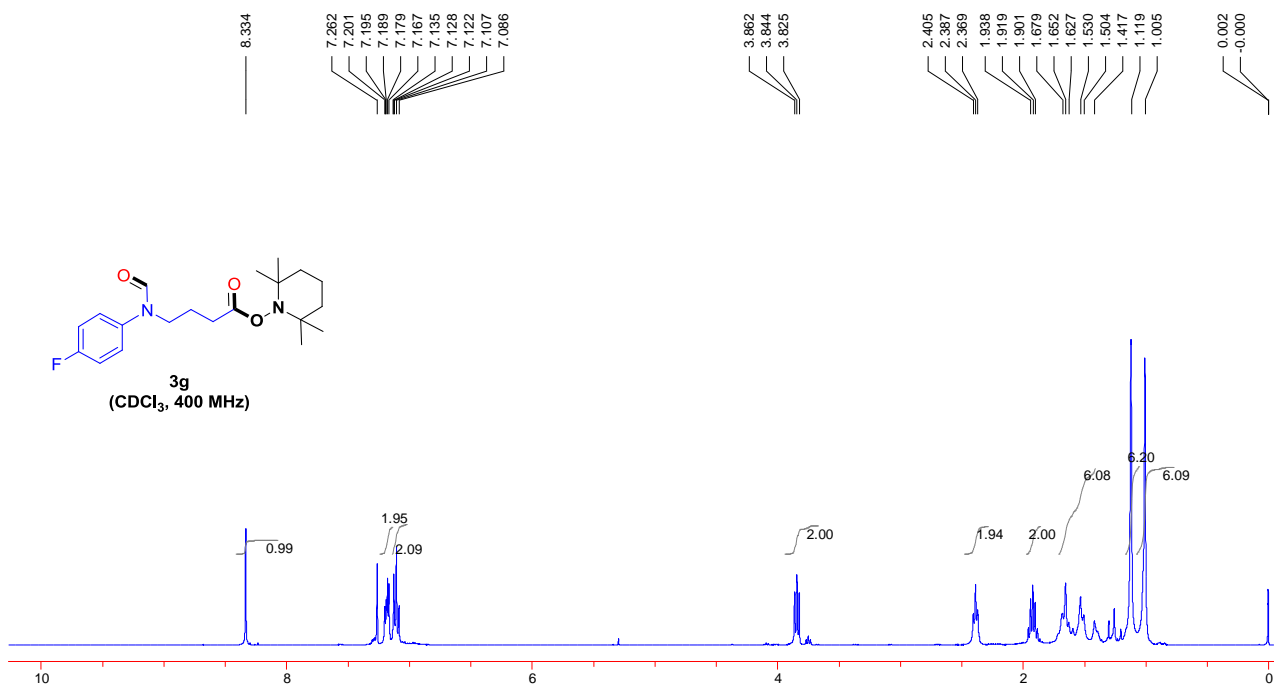


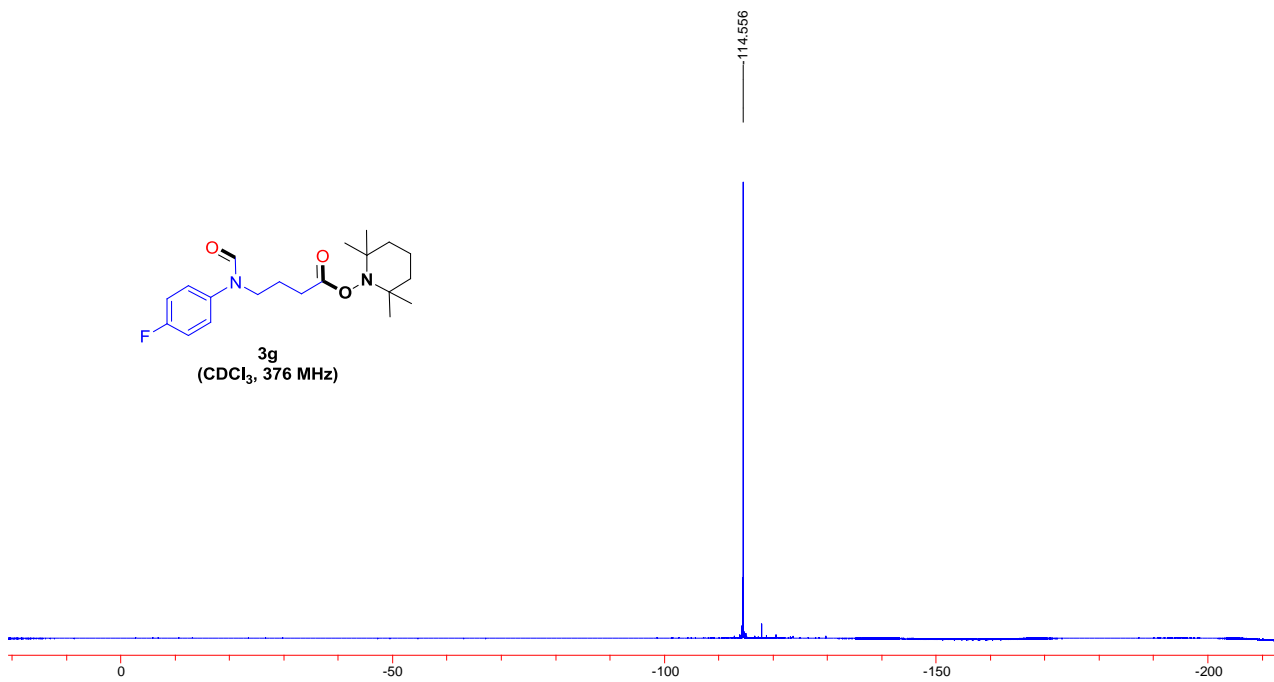
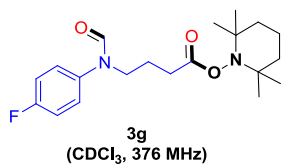


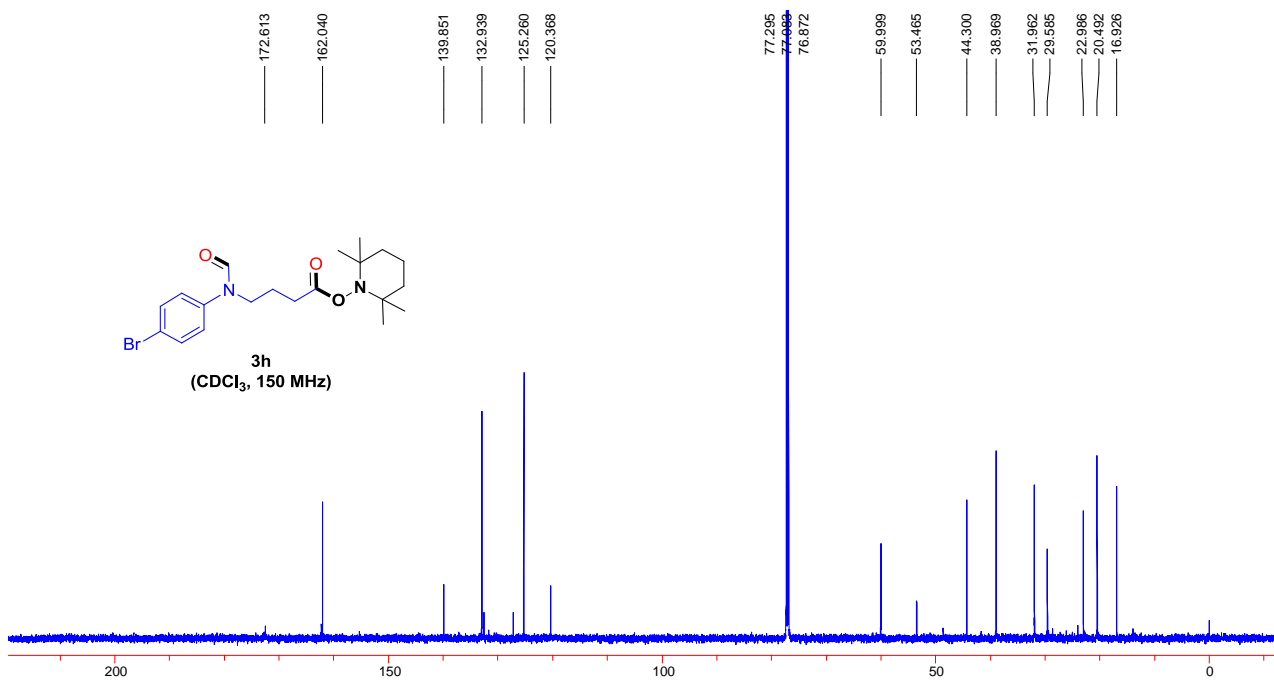
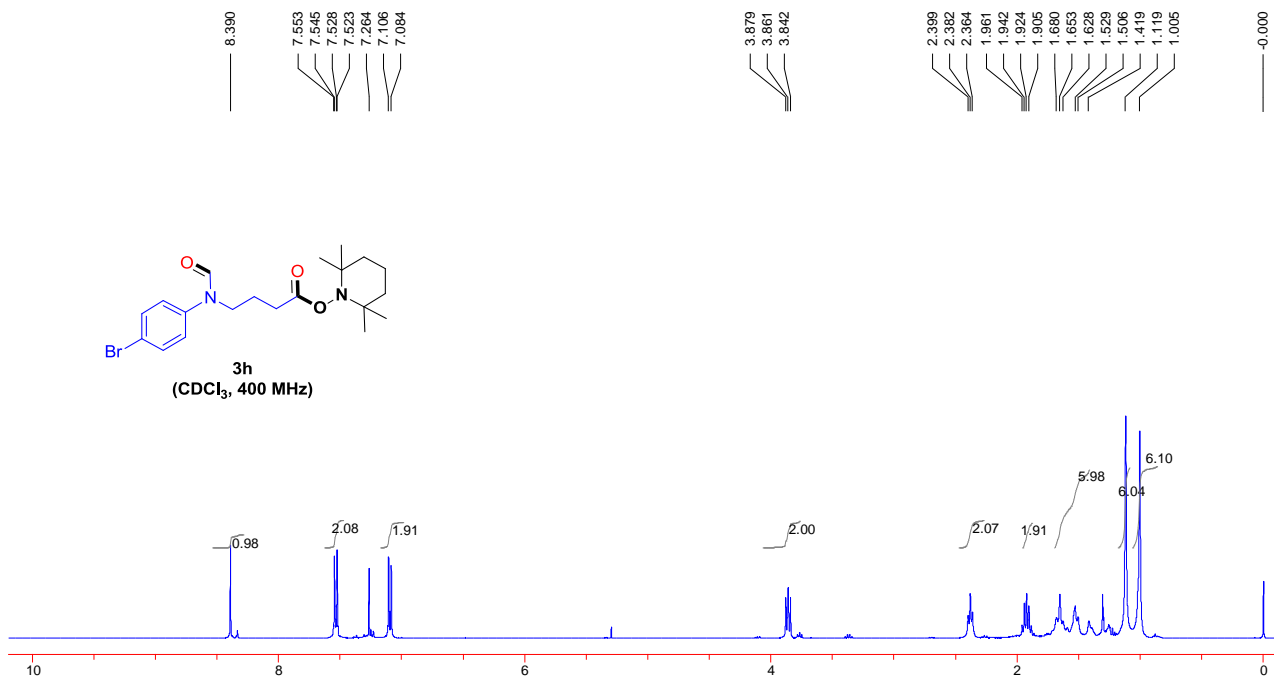


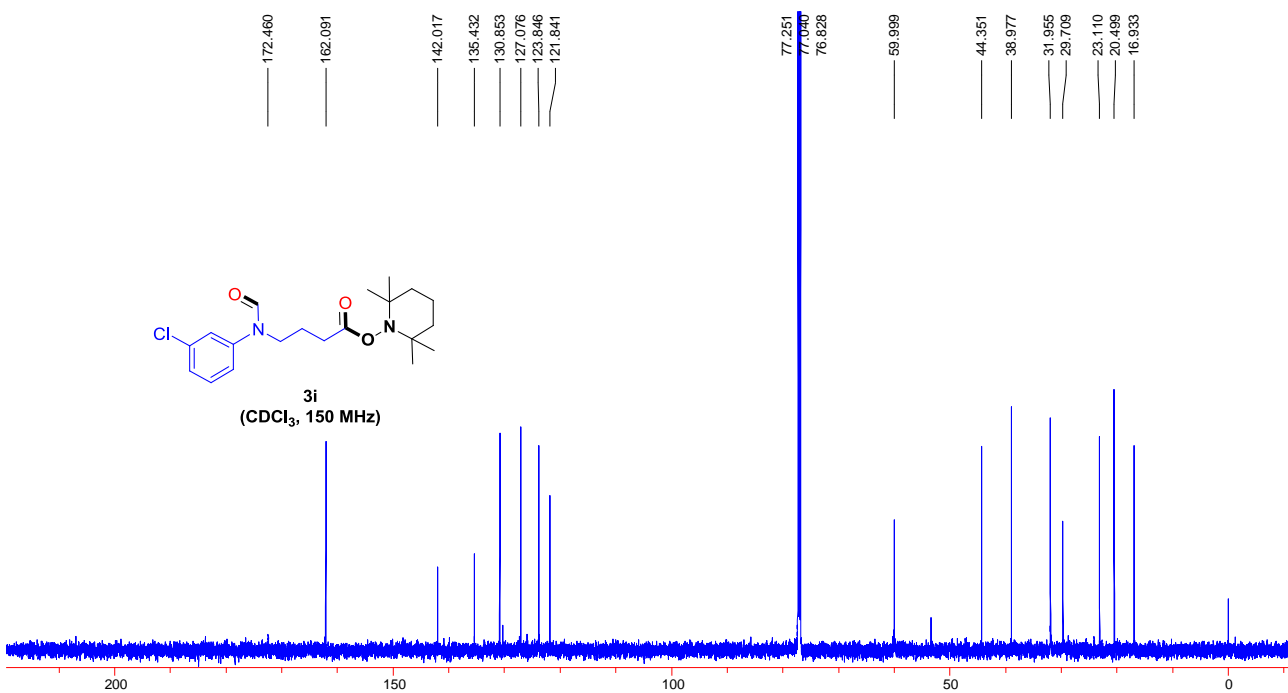
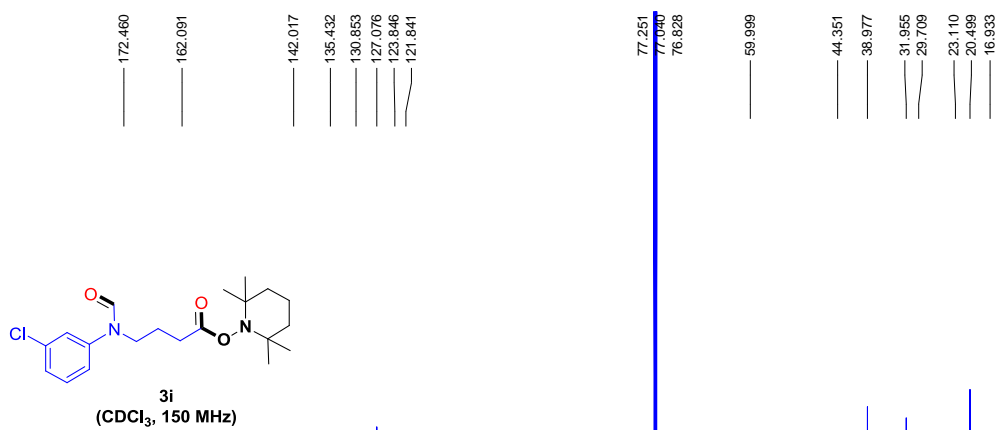
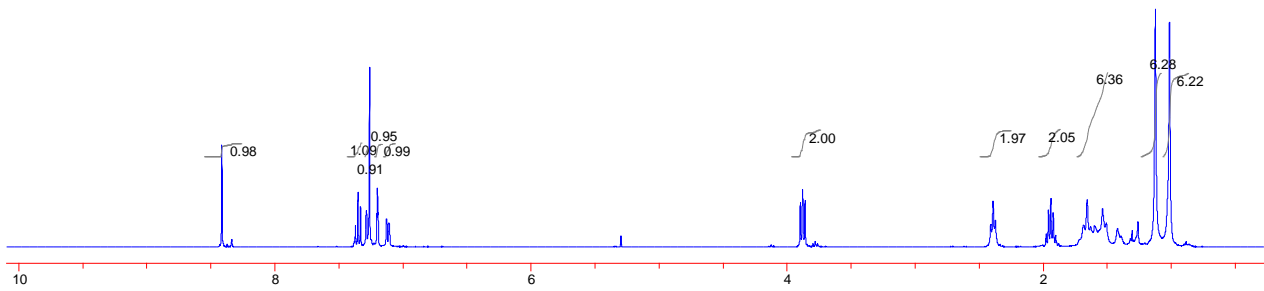
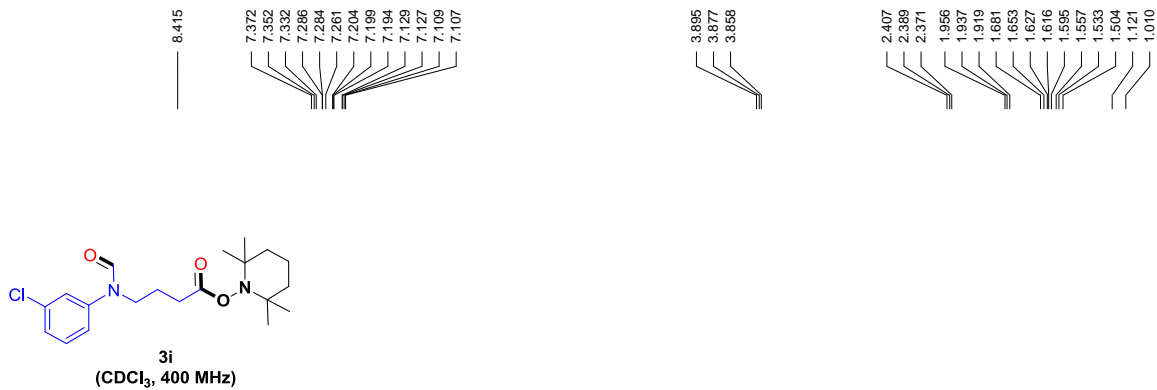


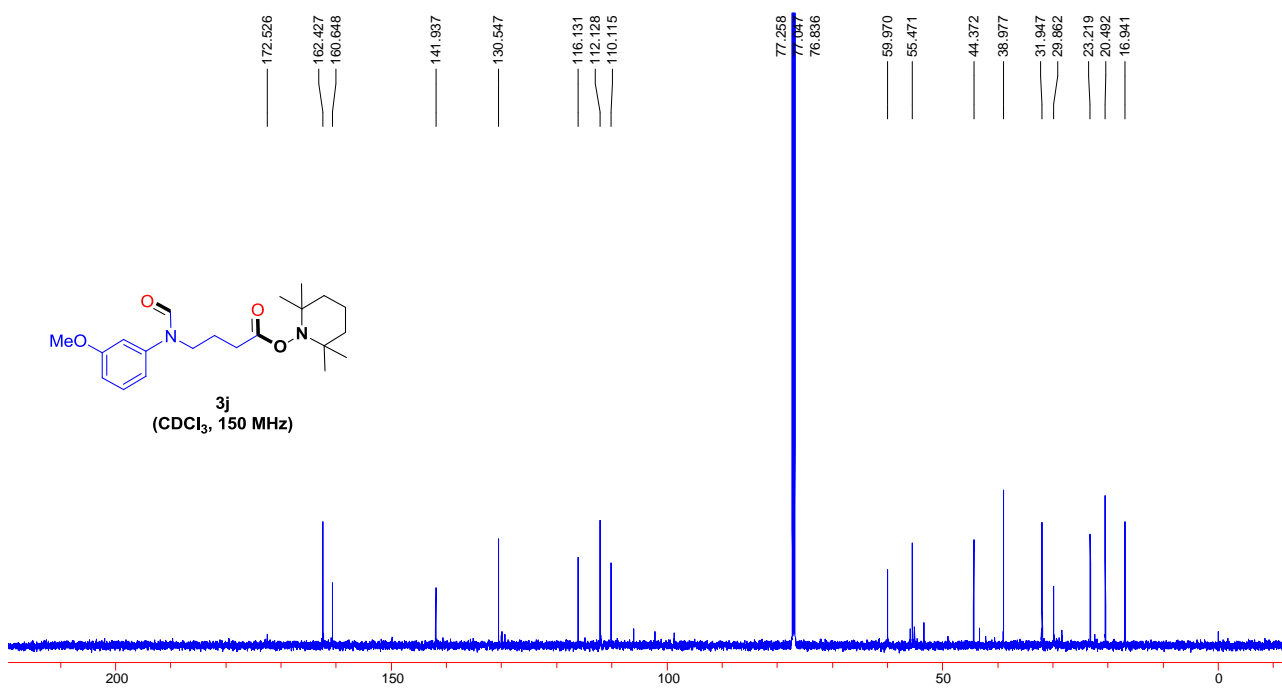
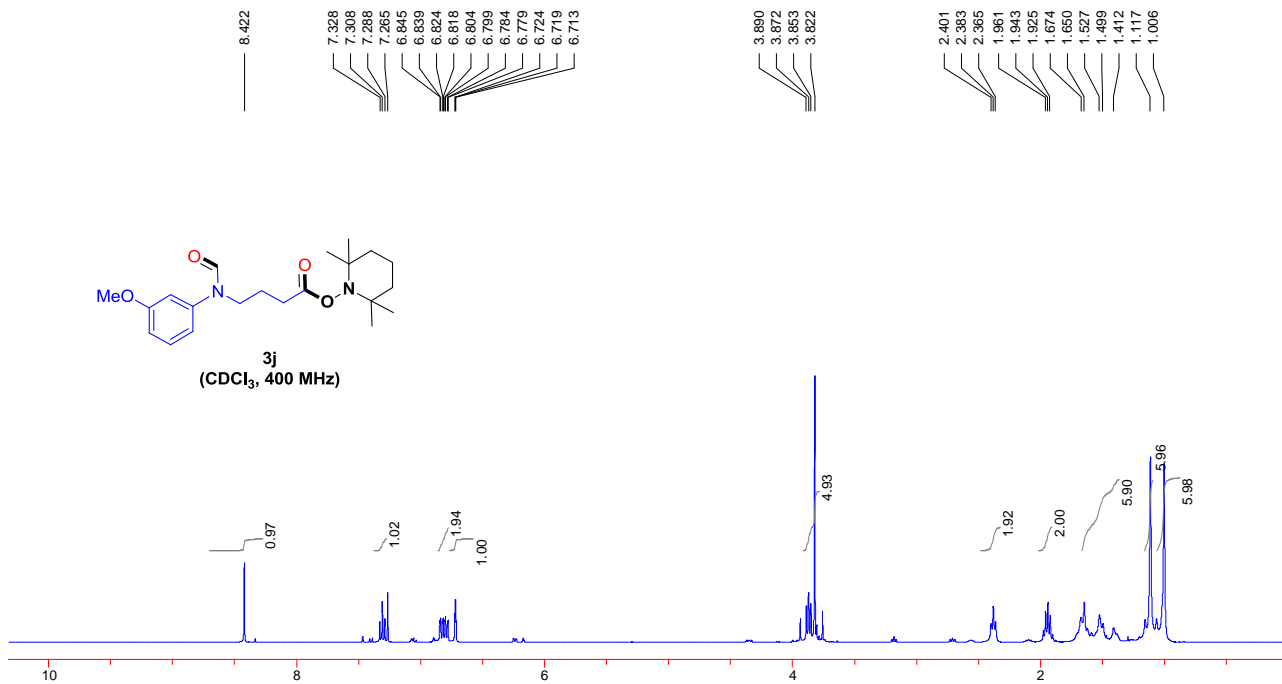


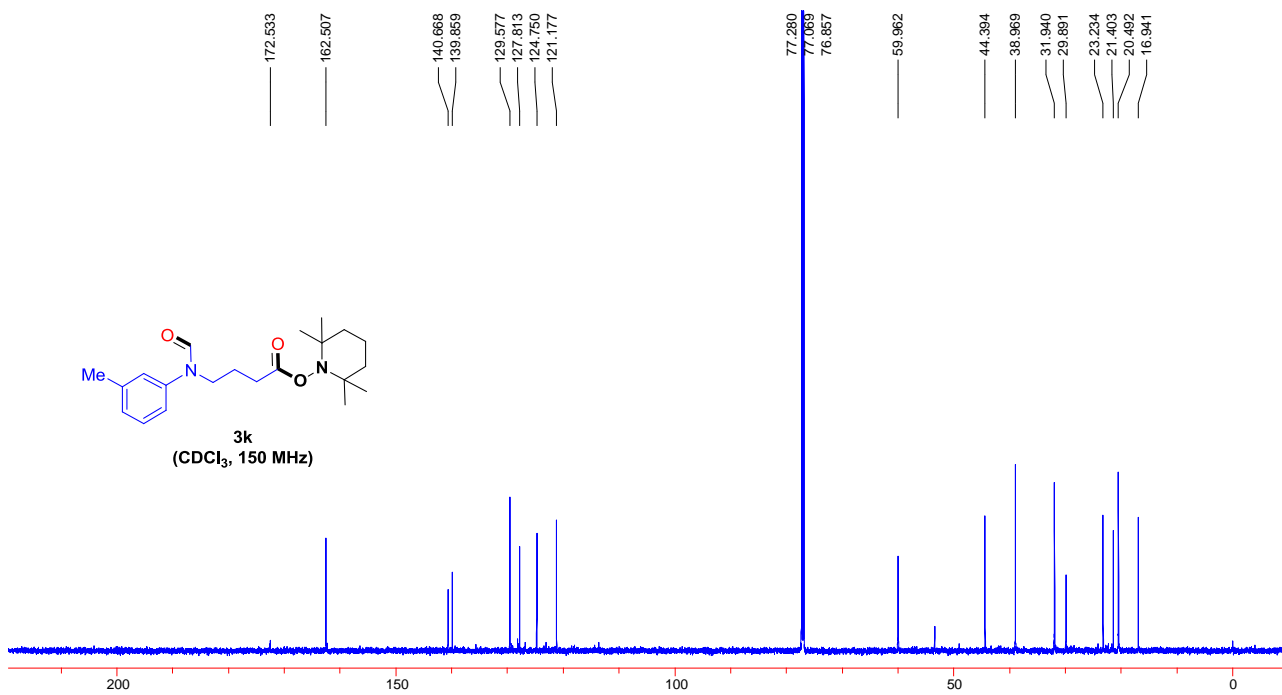
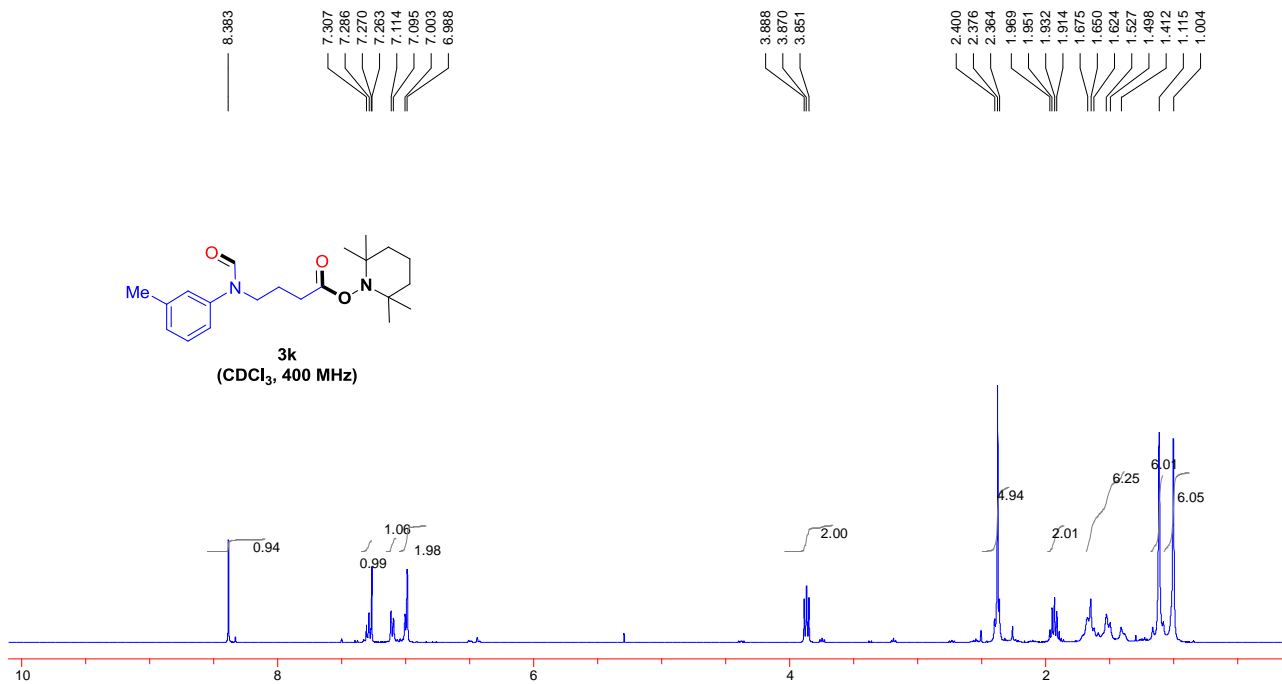




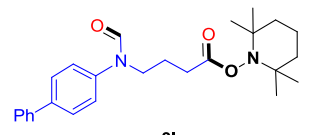
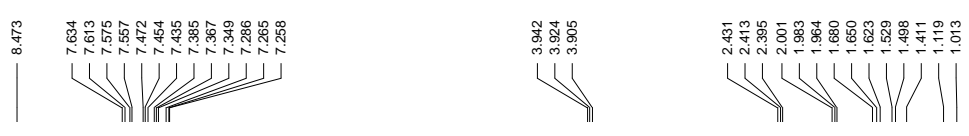




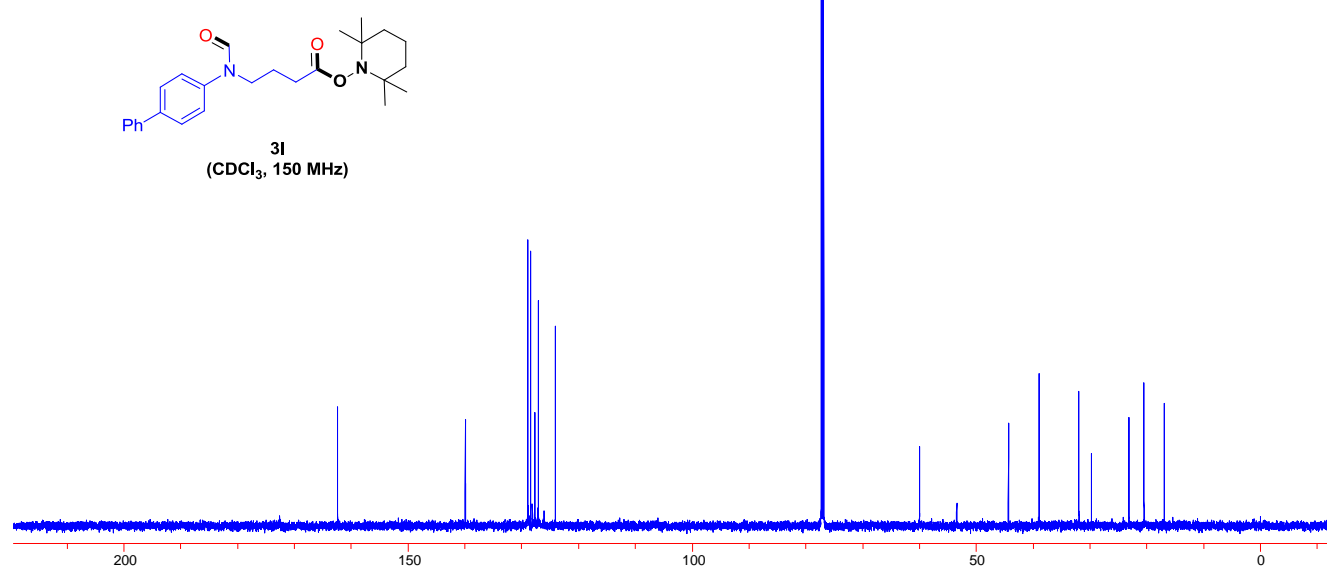
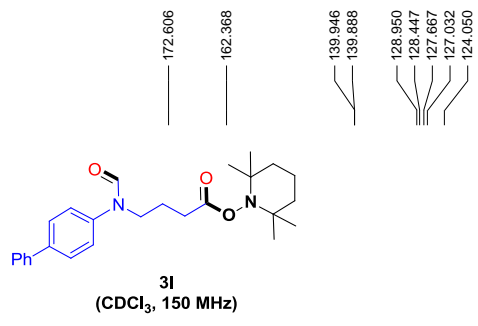
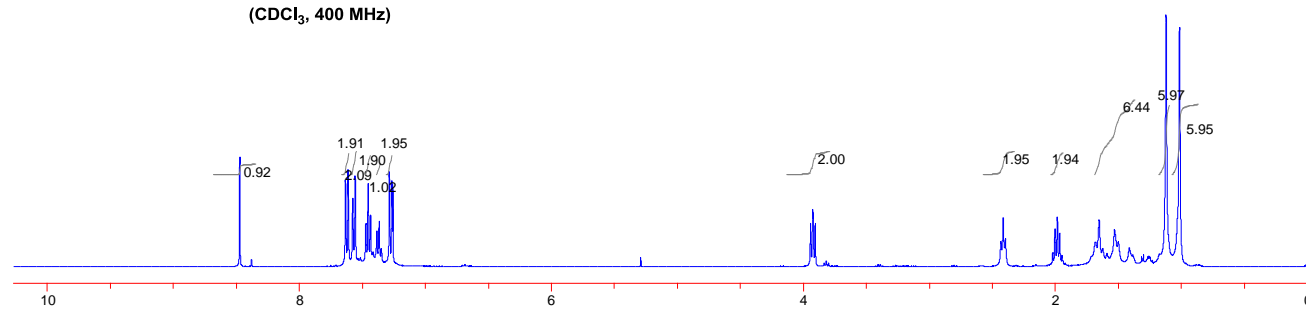


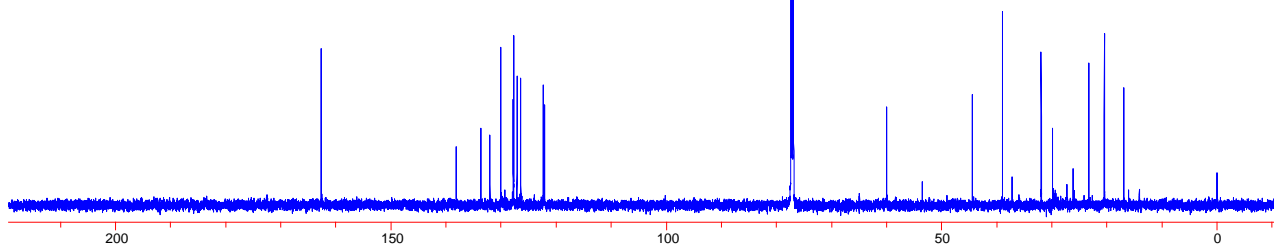
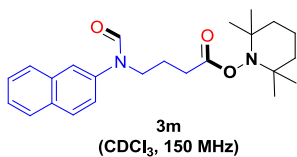
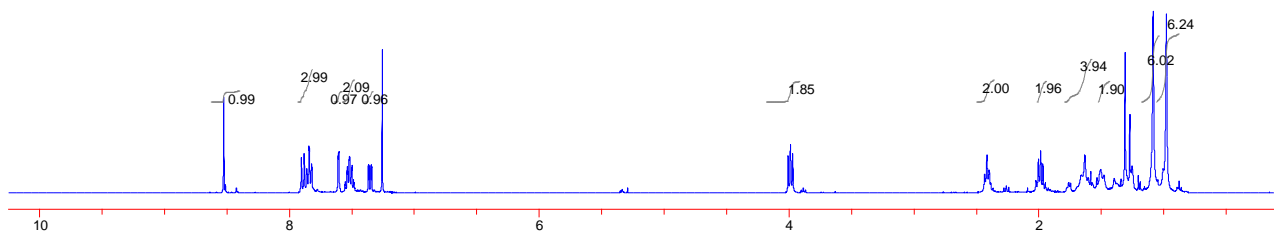
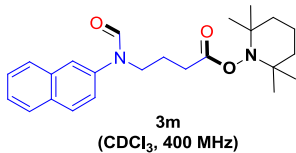


ppm

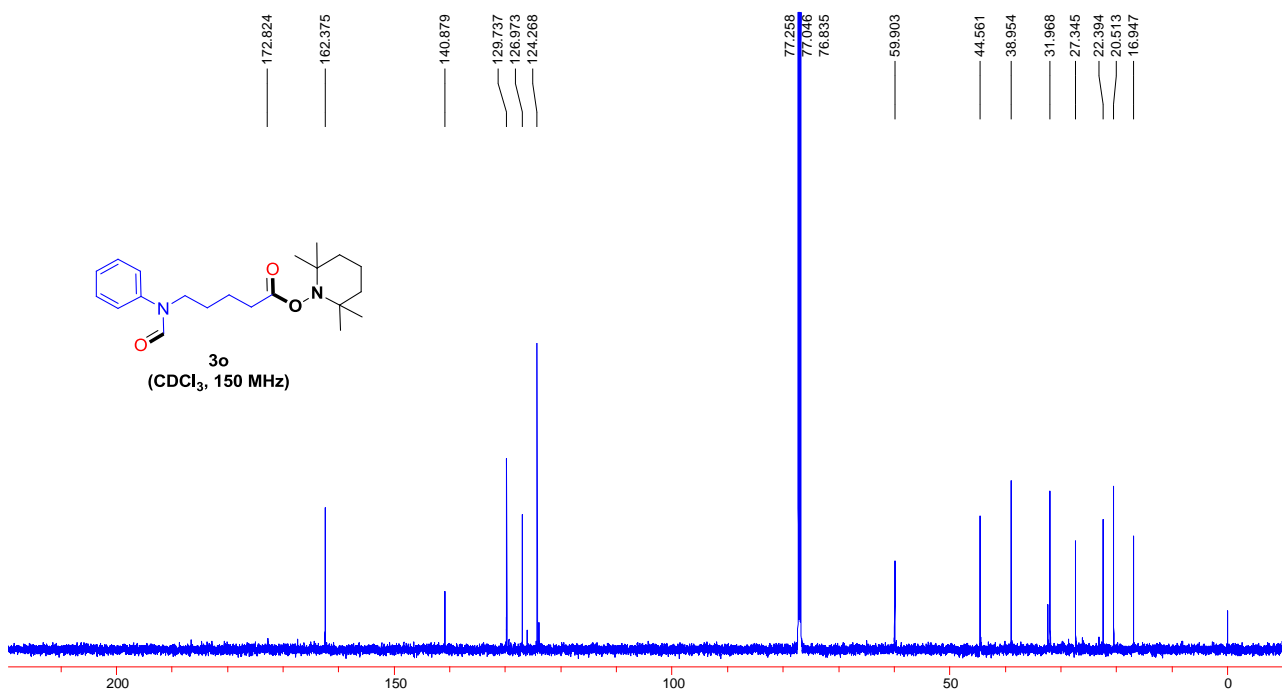
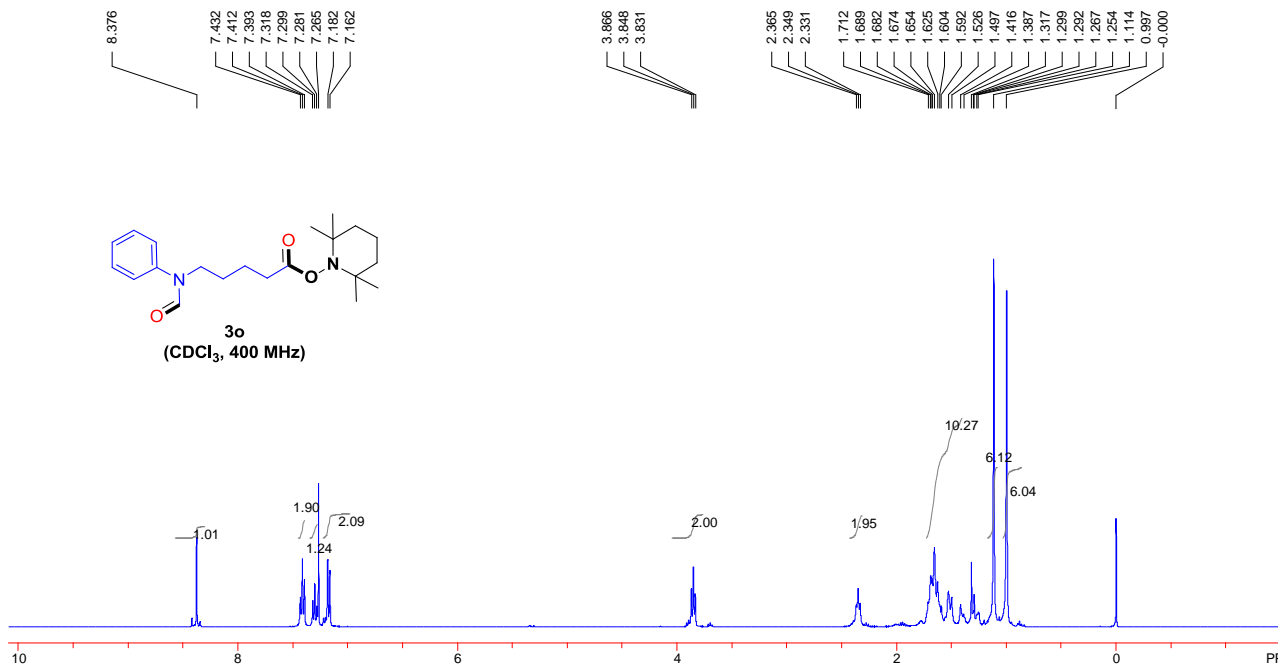


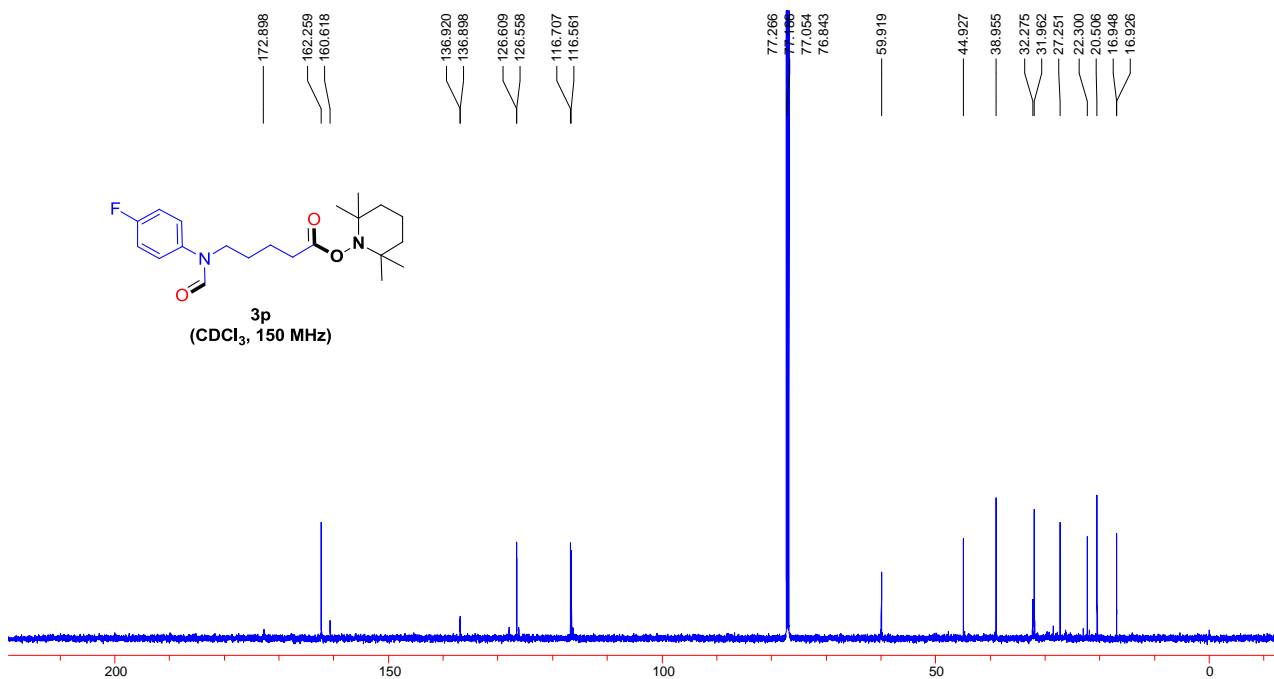
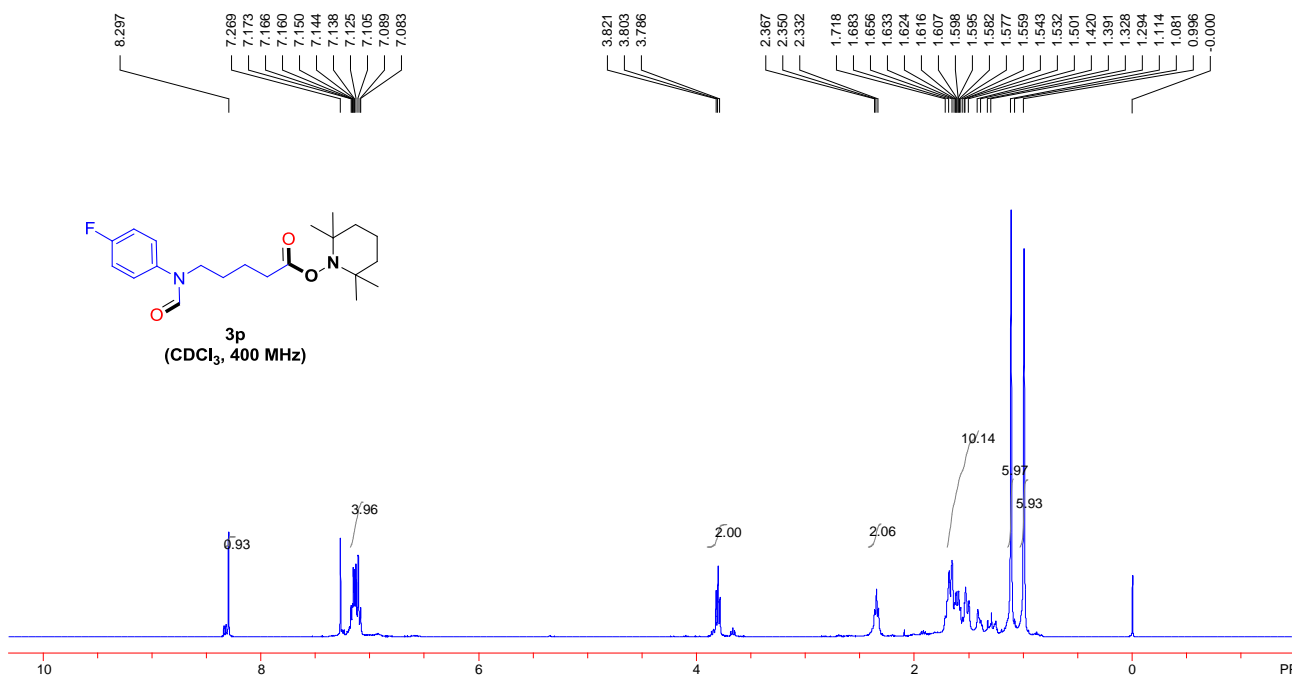
**3I**  
(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)

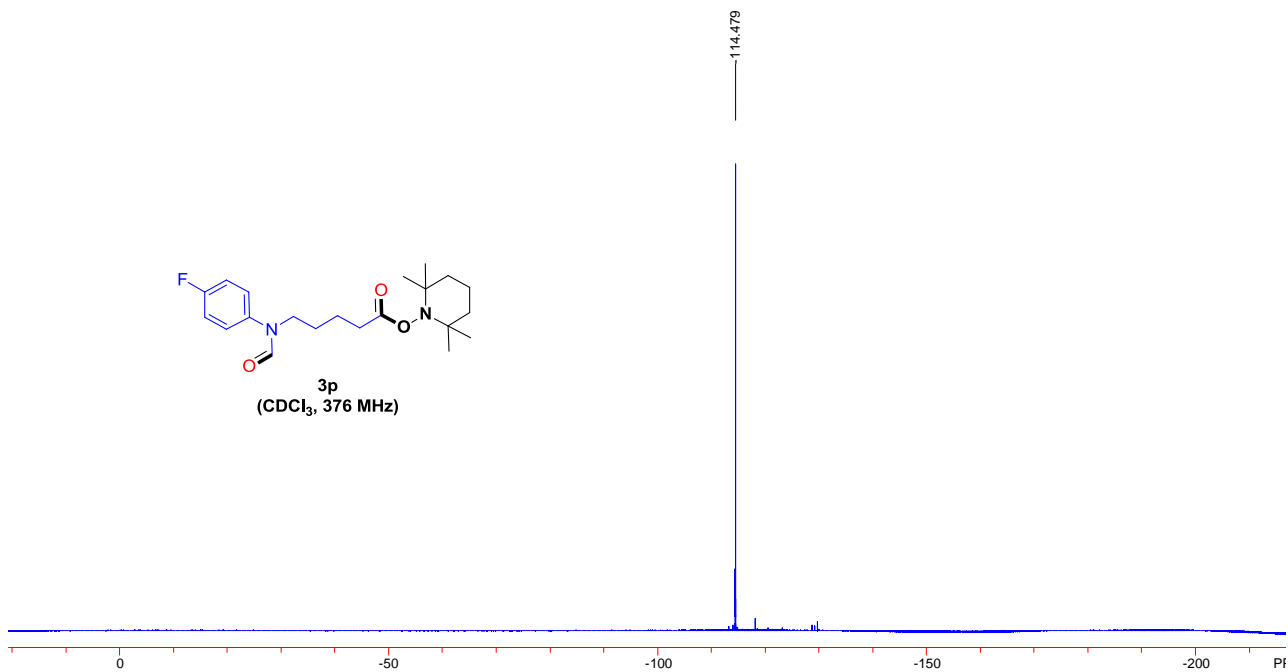




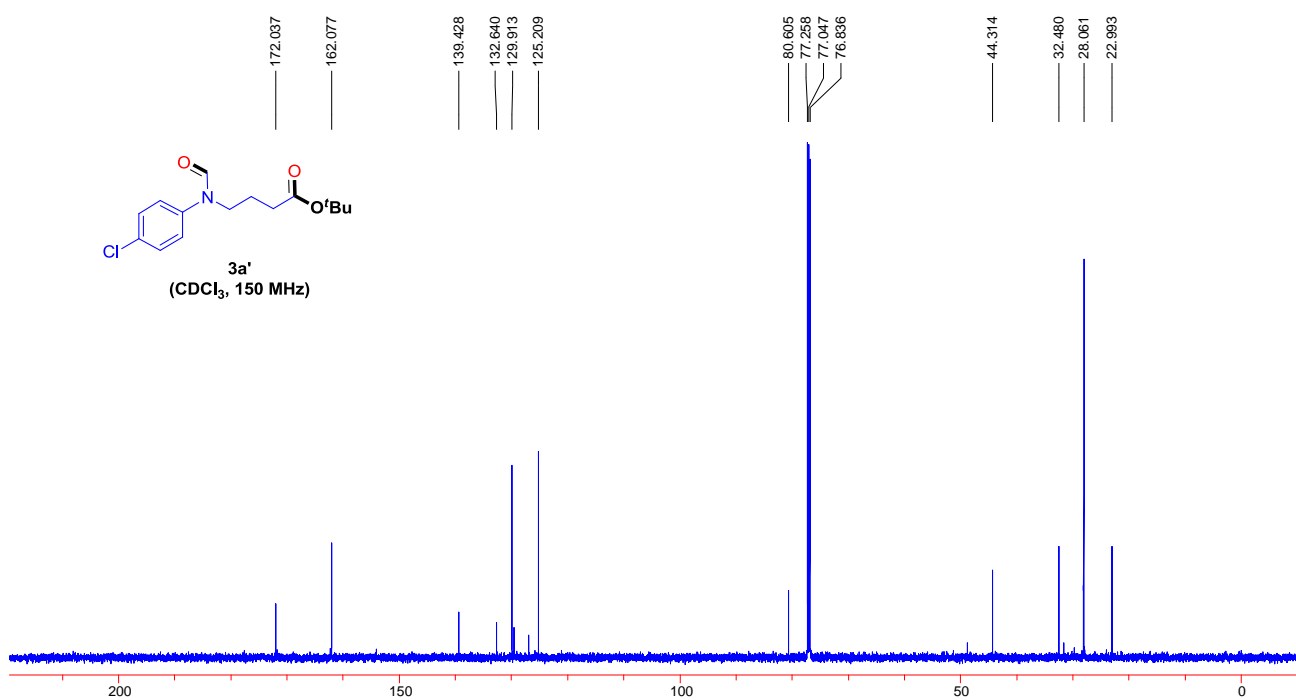
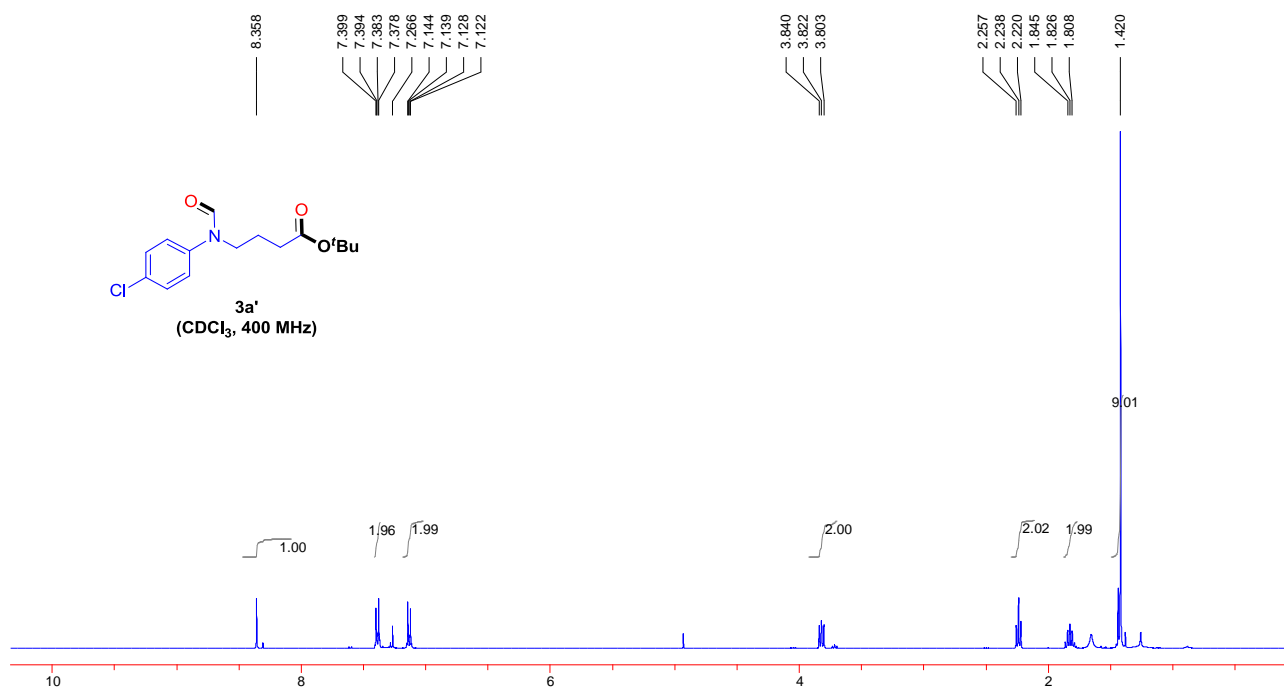


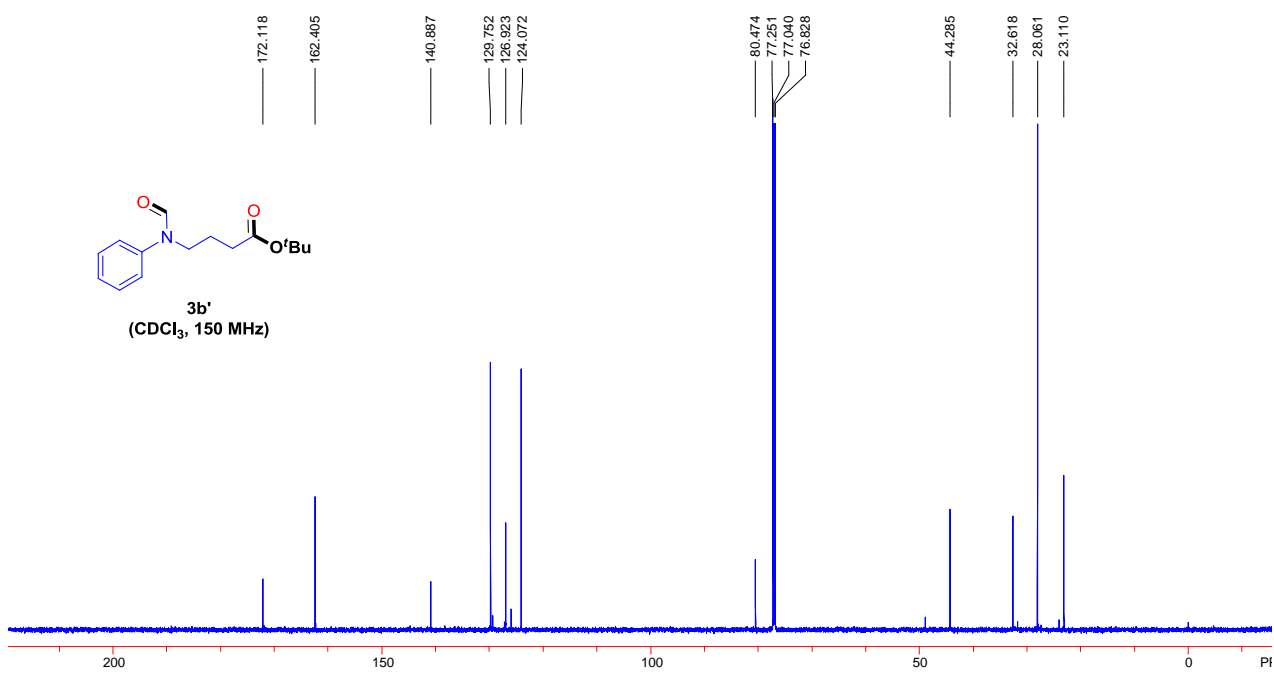
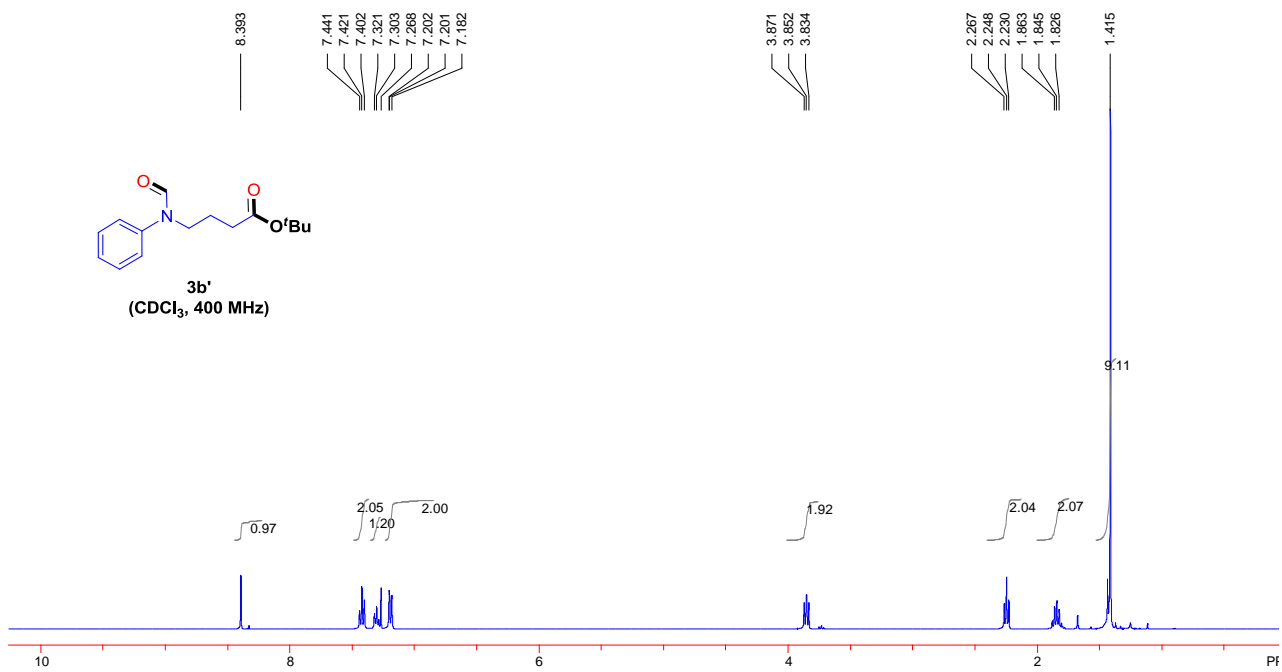


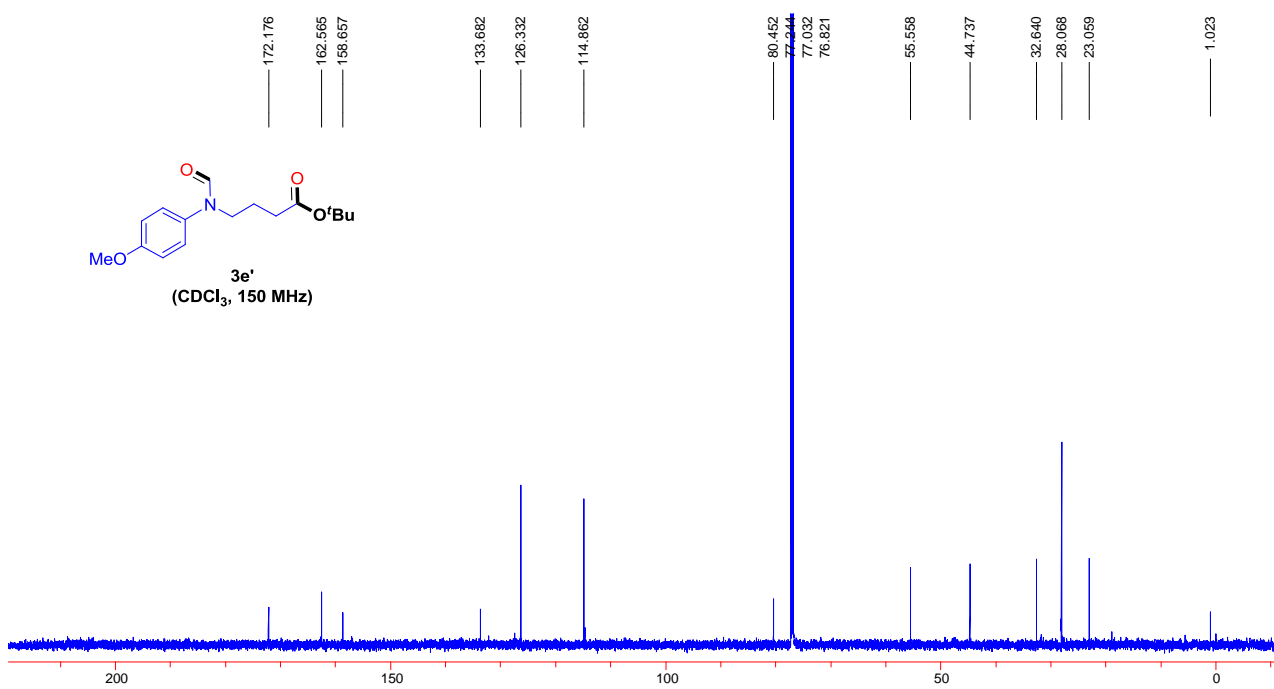
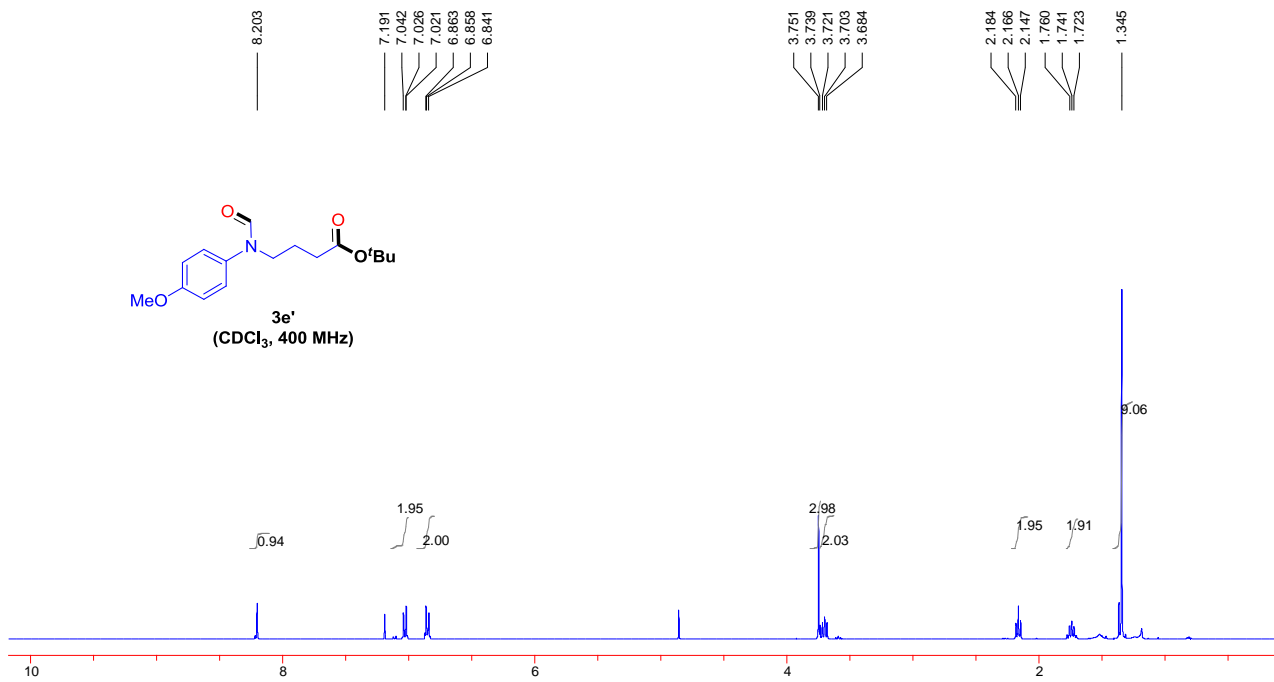


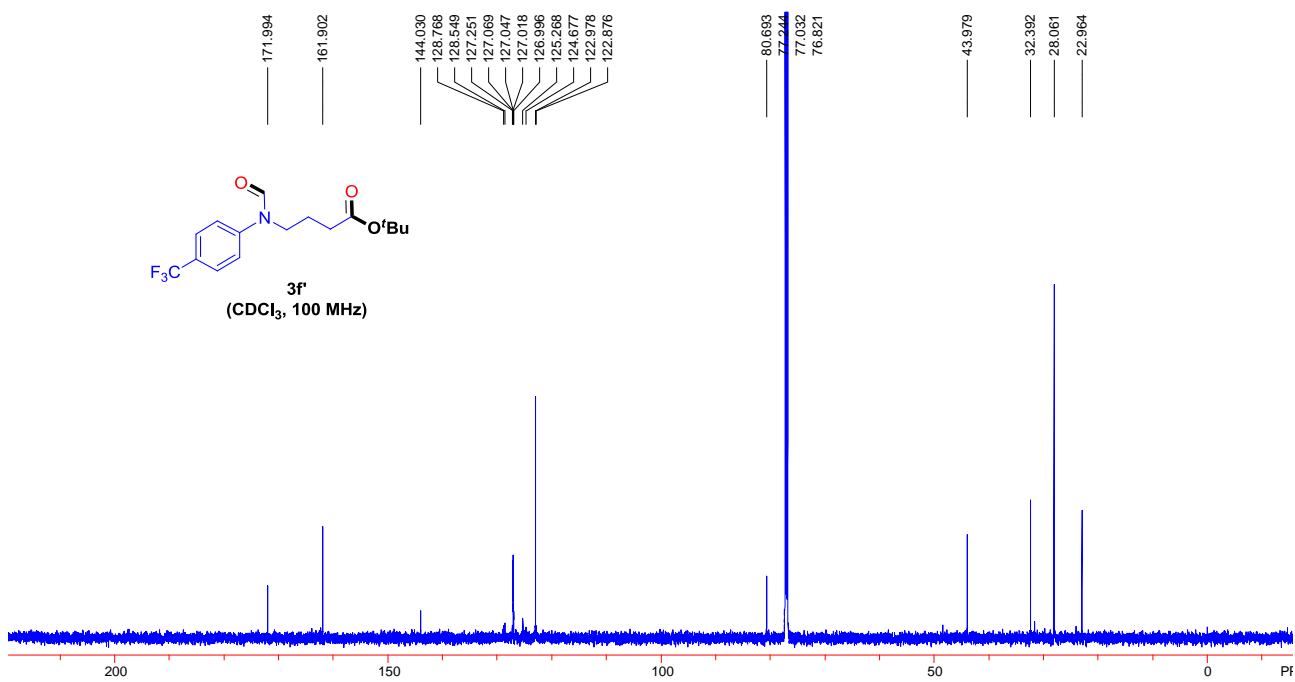
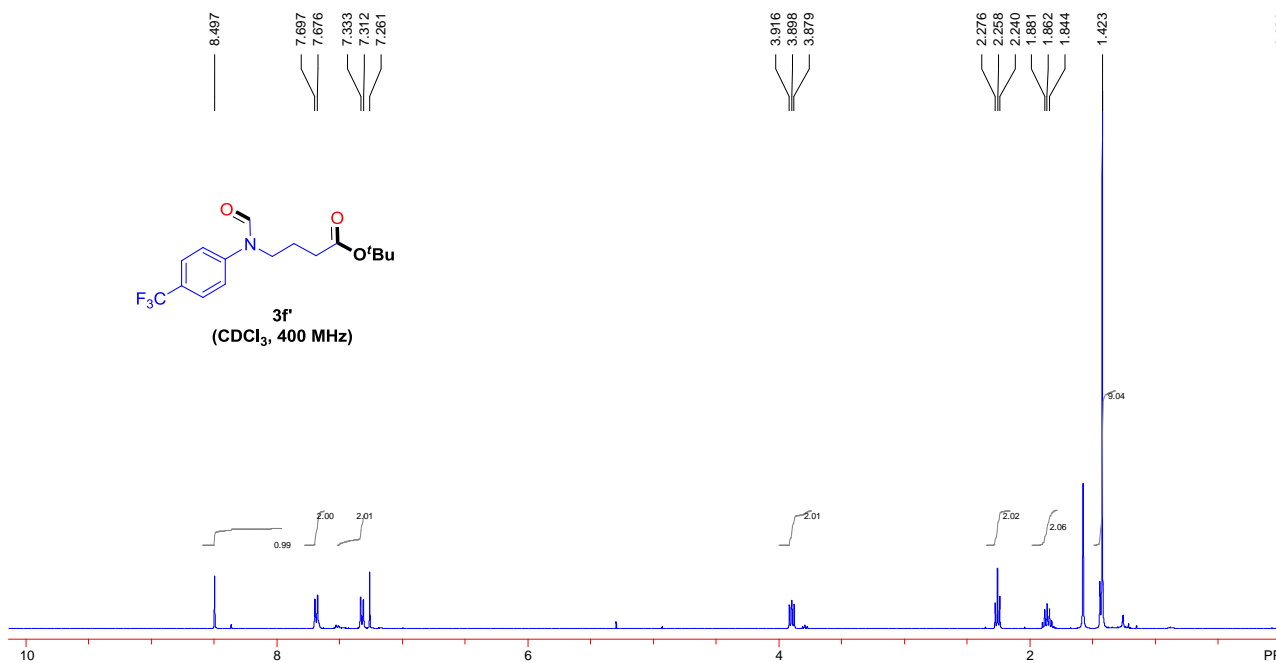


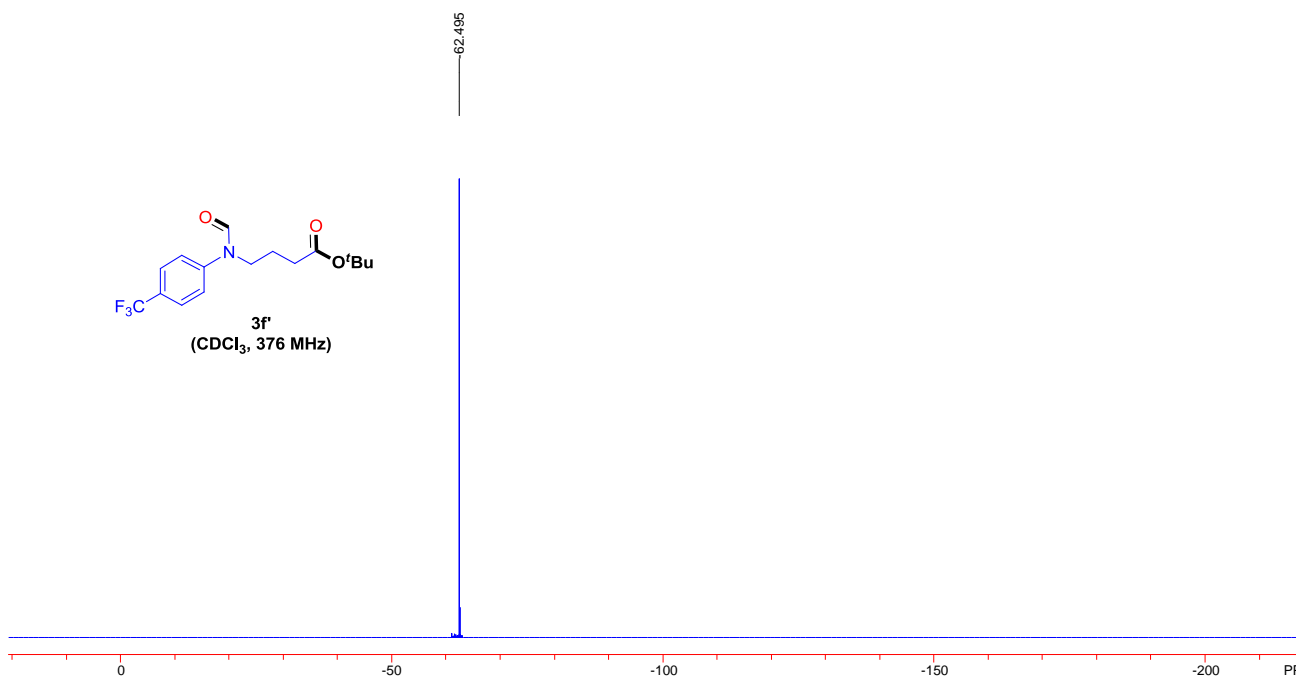
#### IV. Copies of the NMR spectra of 3a'-3b', 3e'-3f', 3h', 3j'-3l' and 3o'-3p'



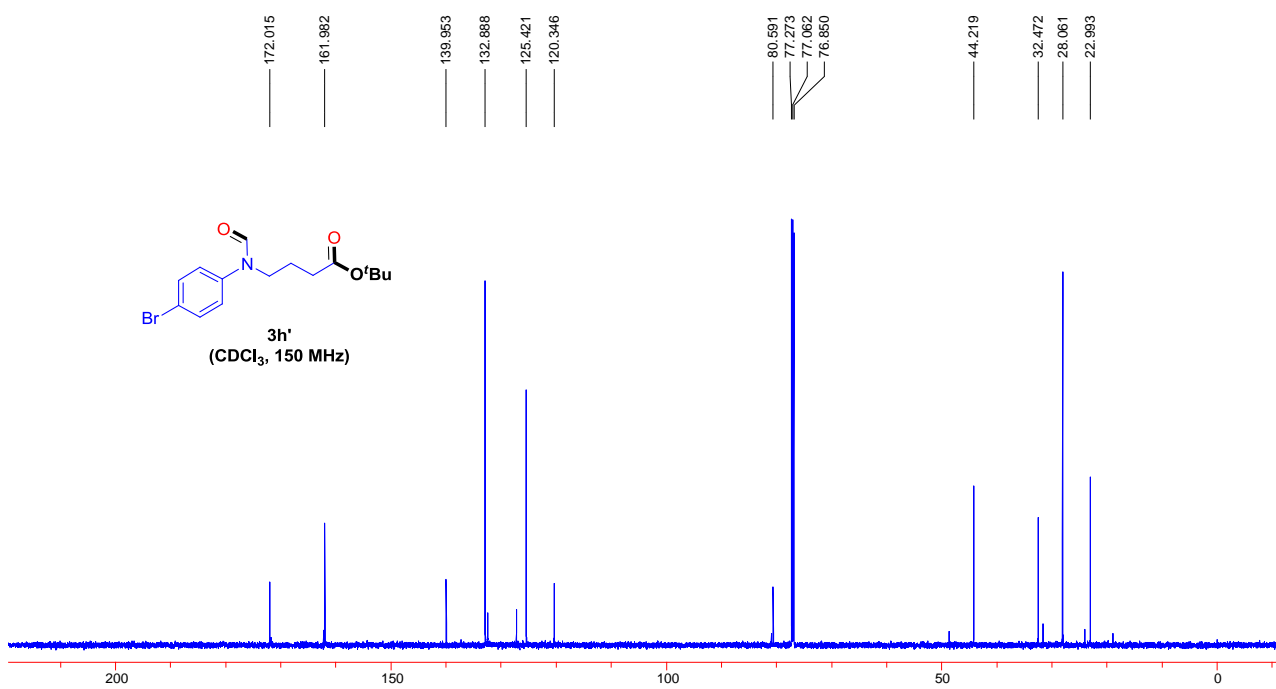
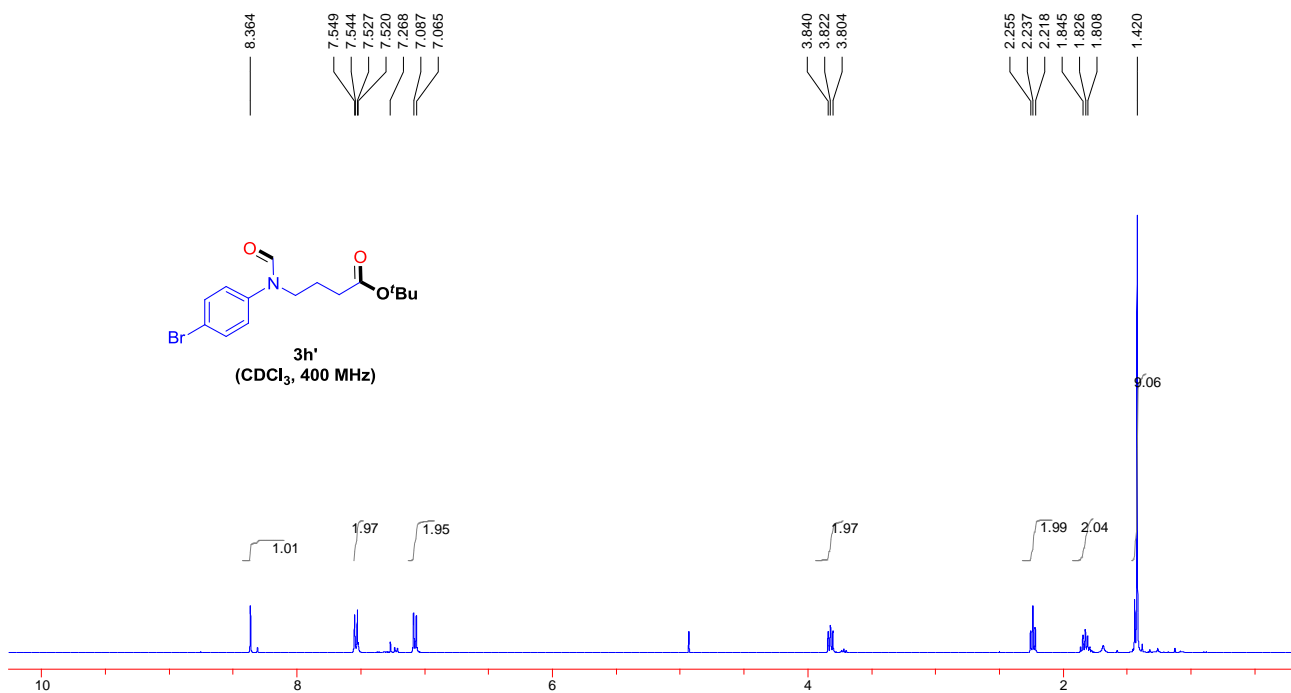


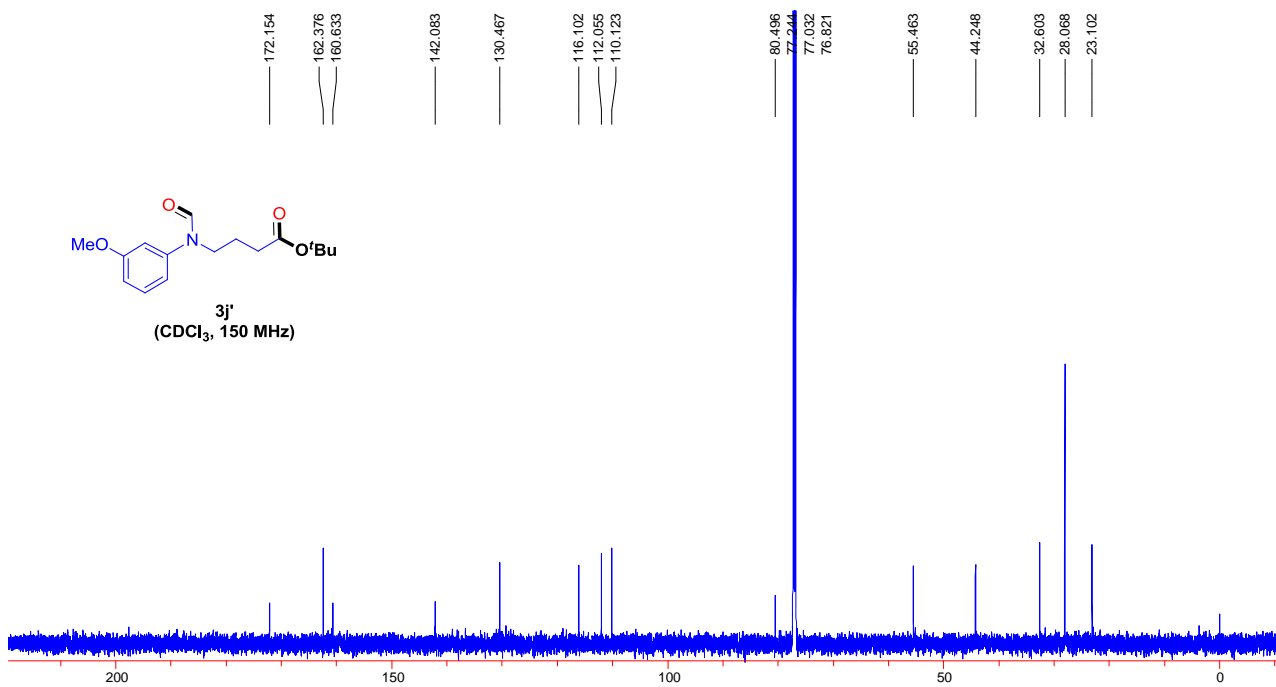
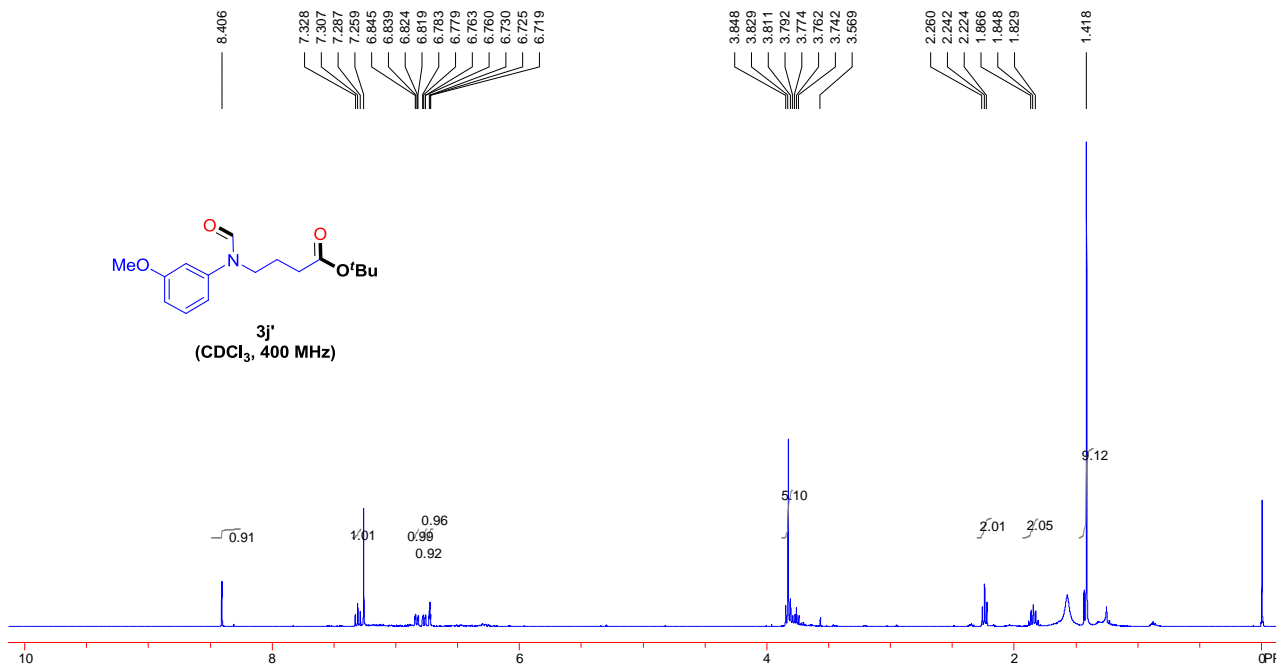


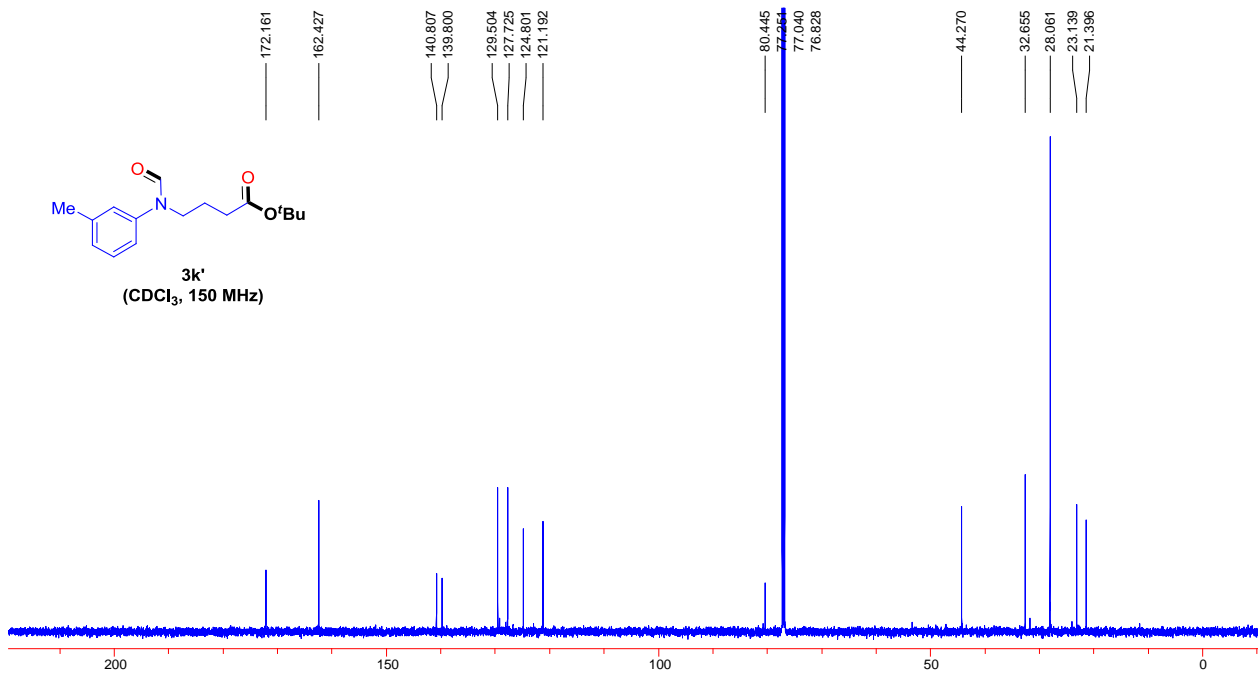
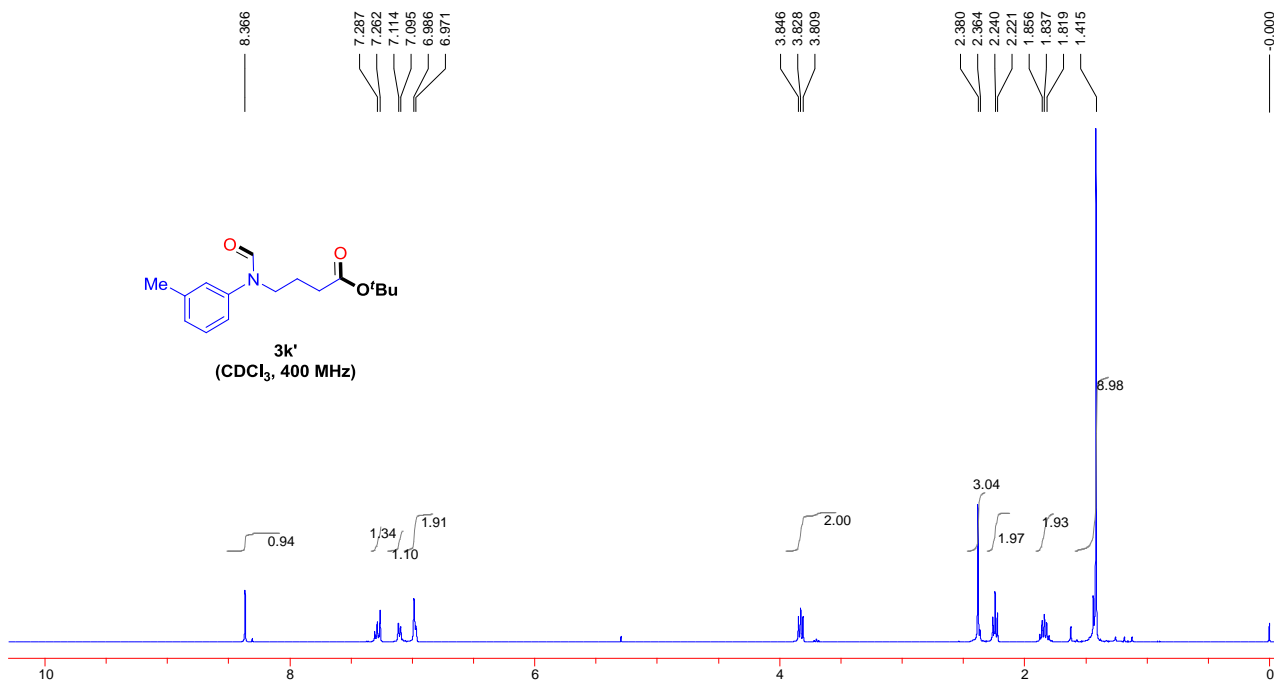


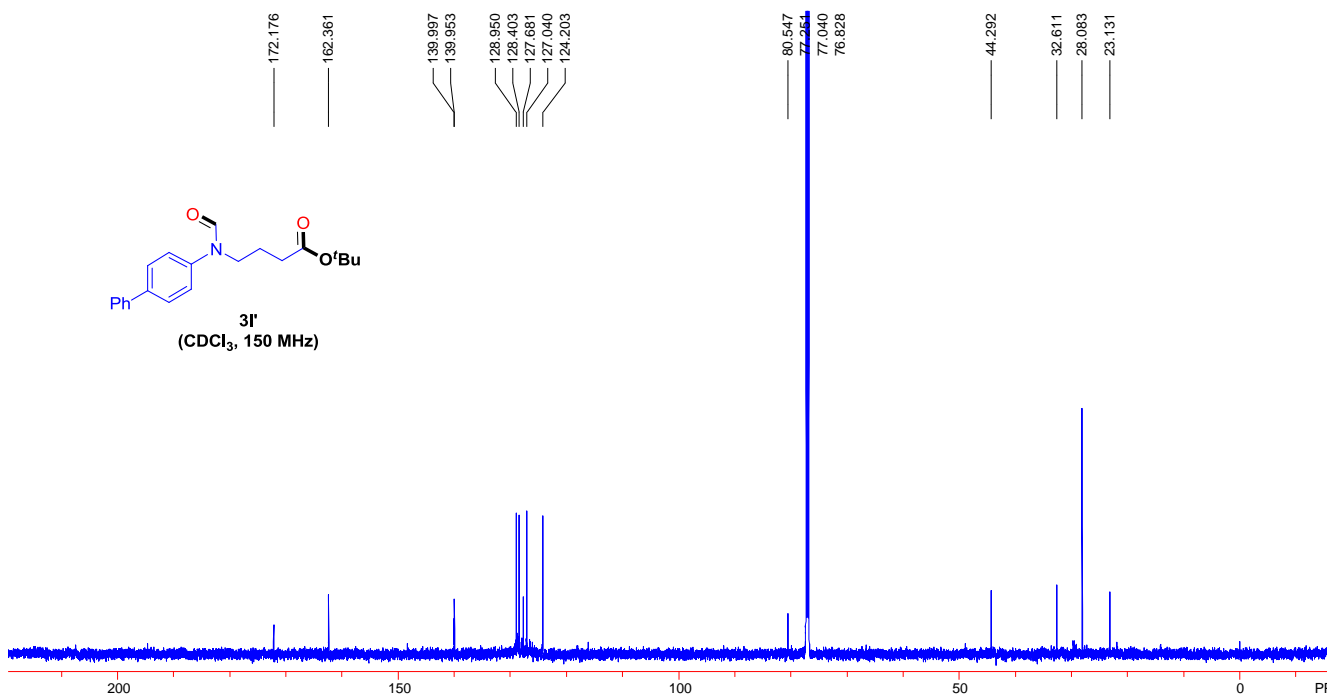
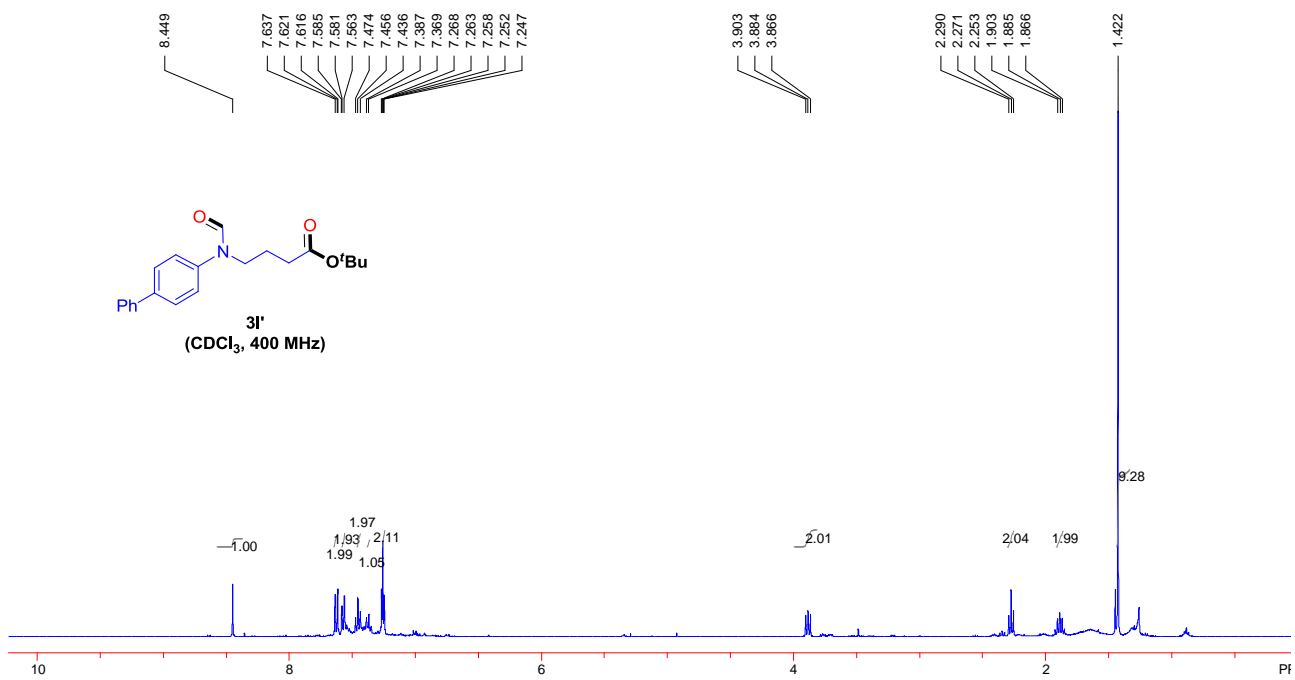


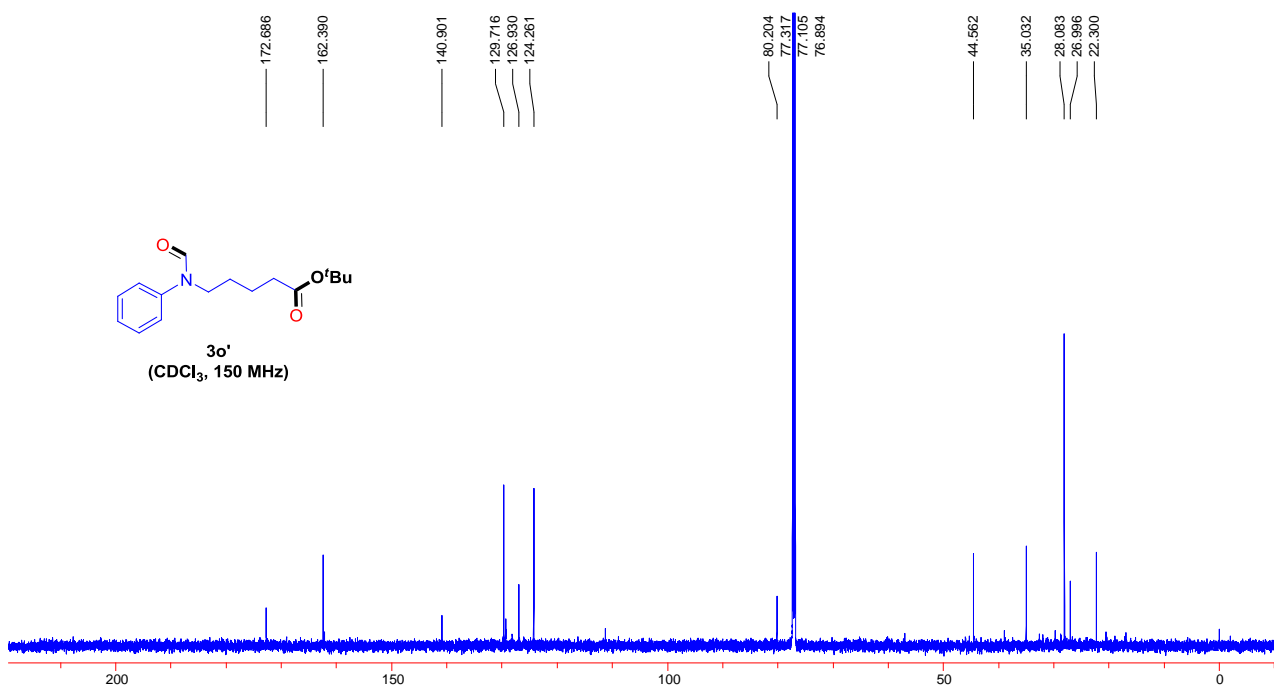
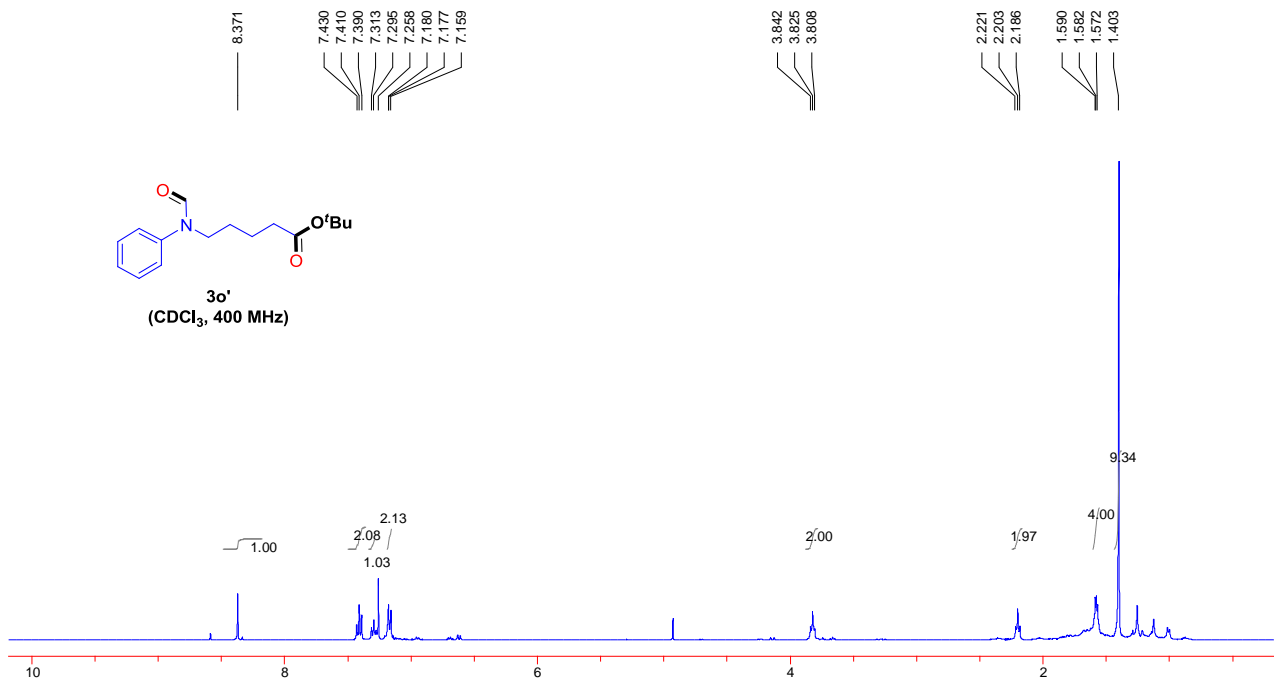


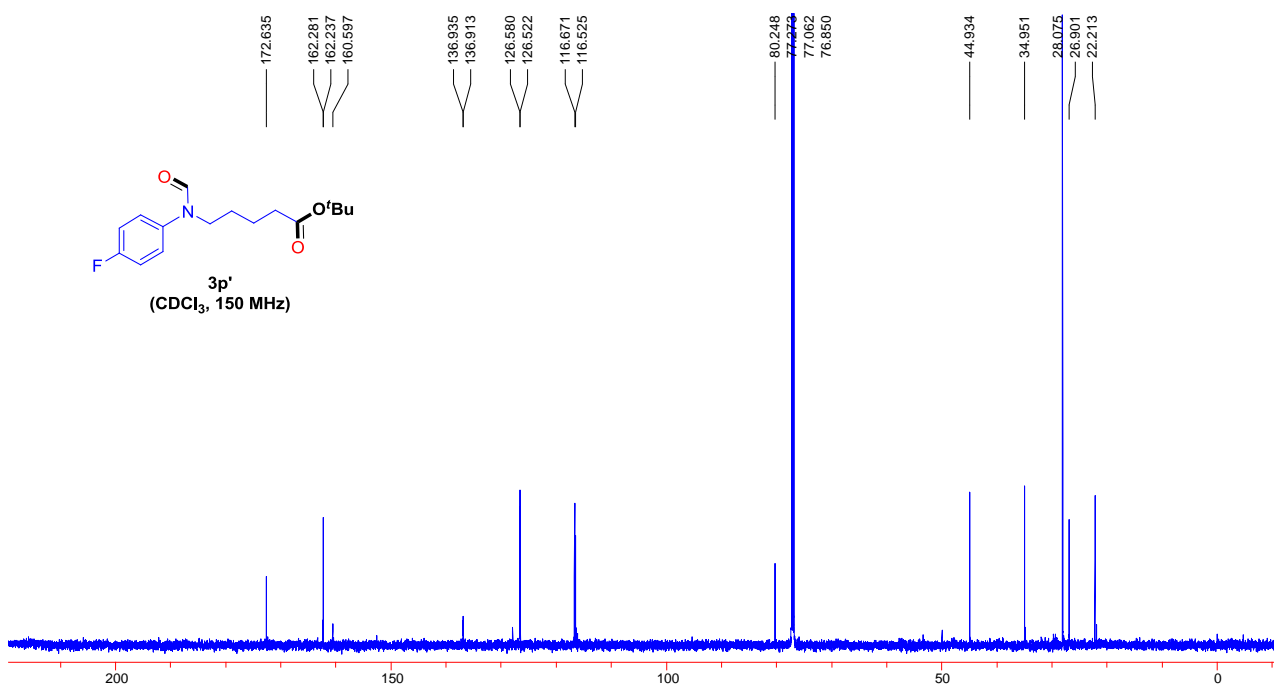
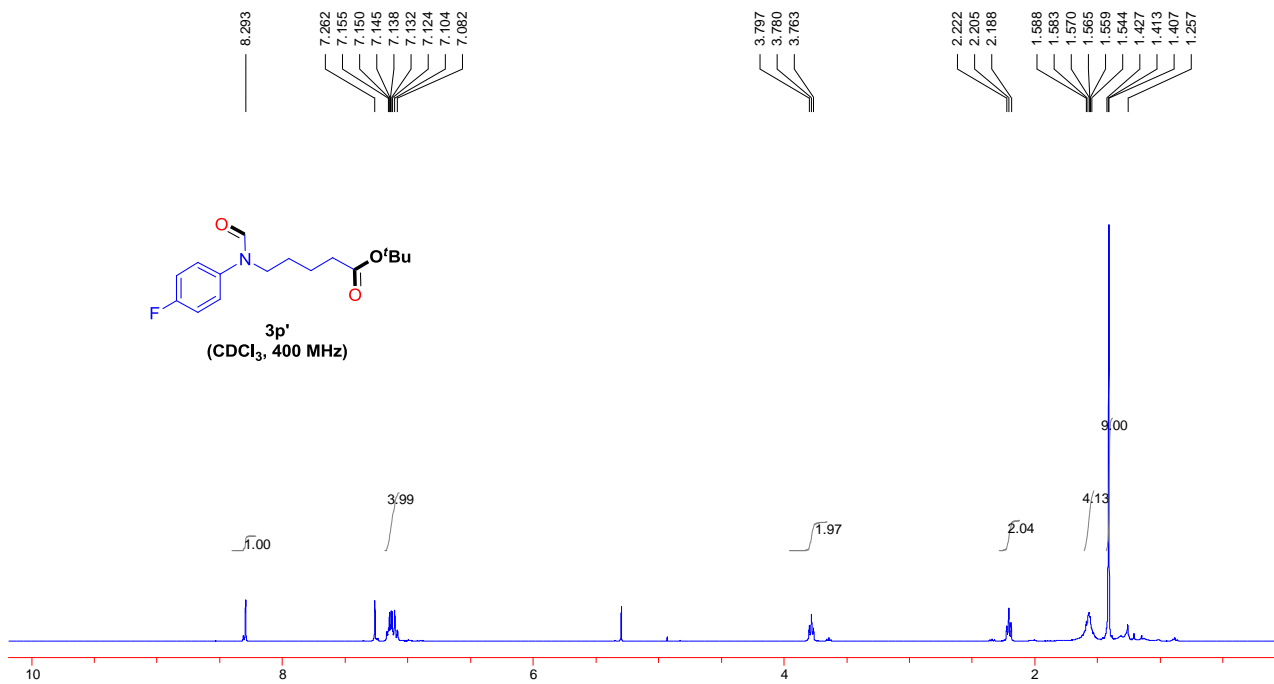


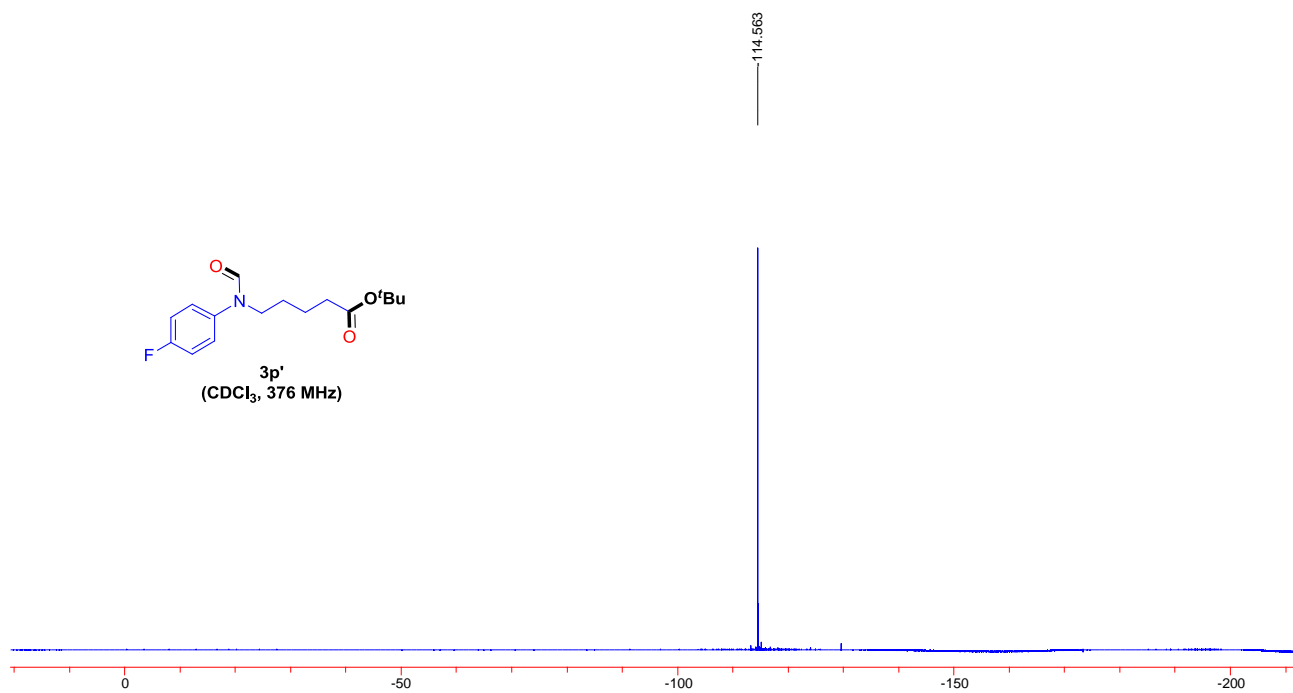
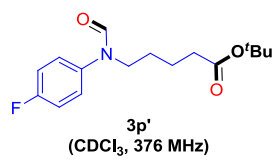




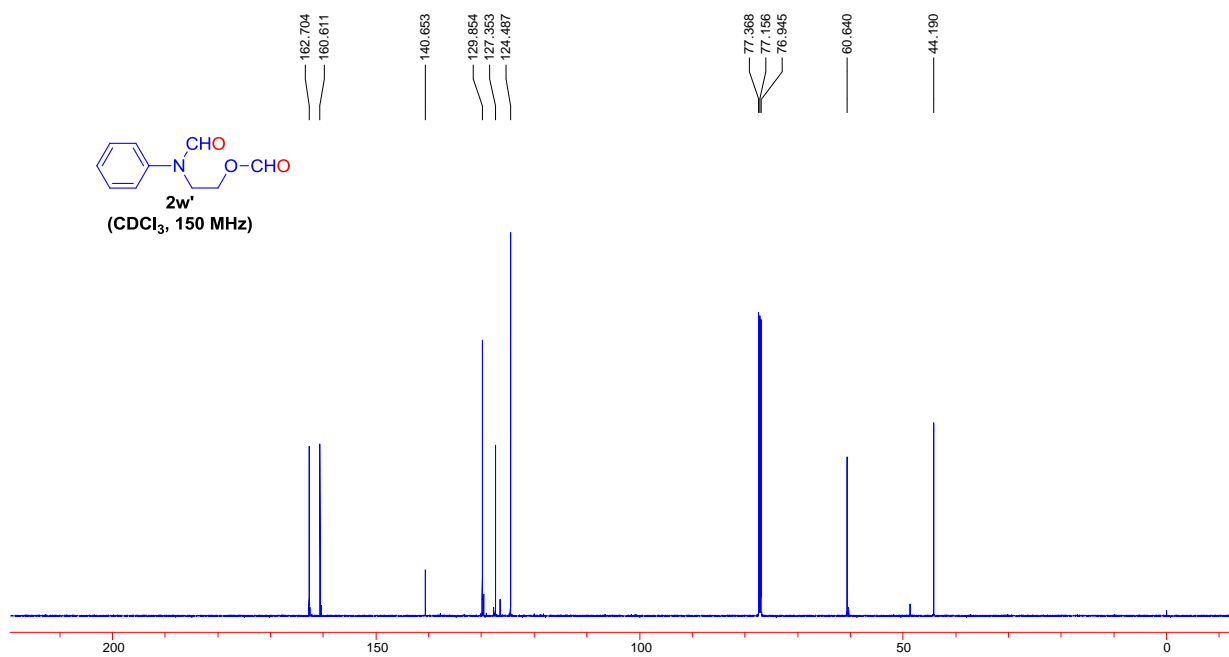
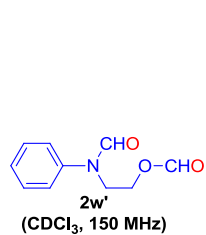
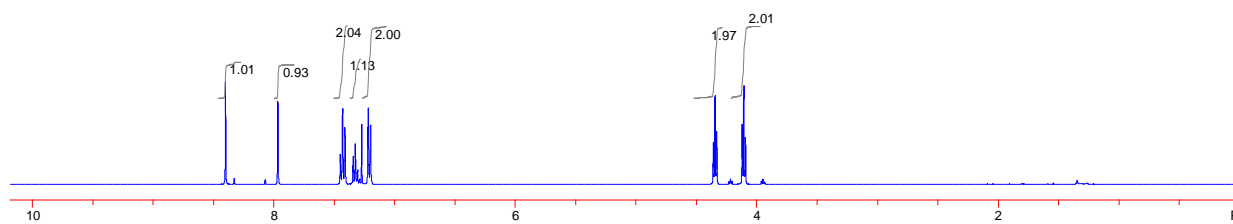
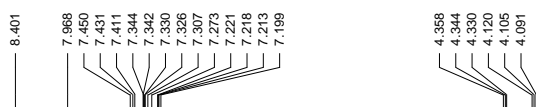






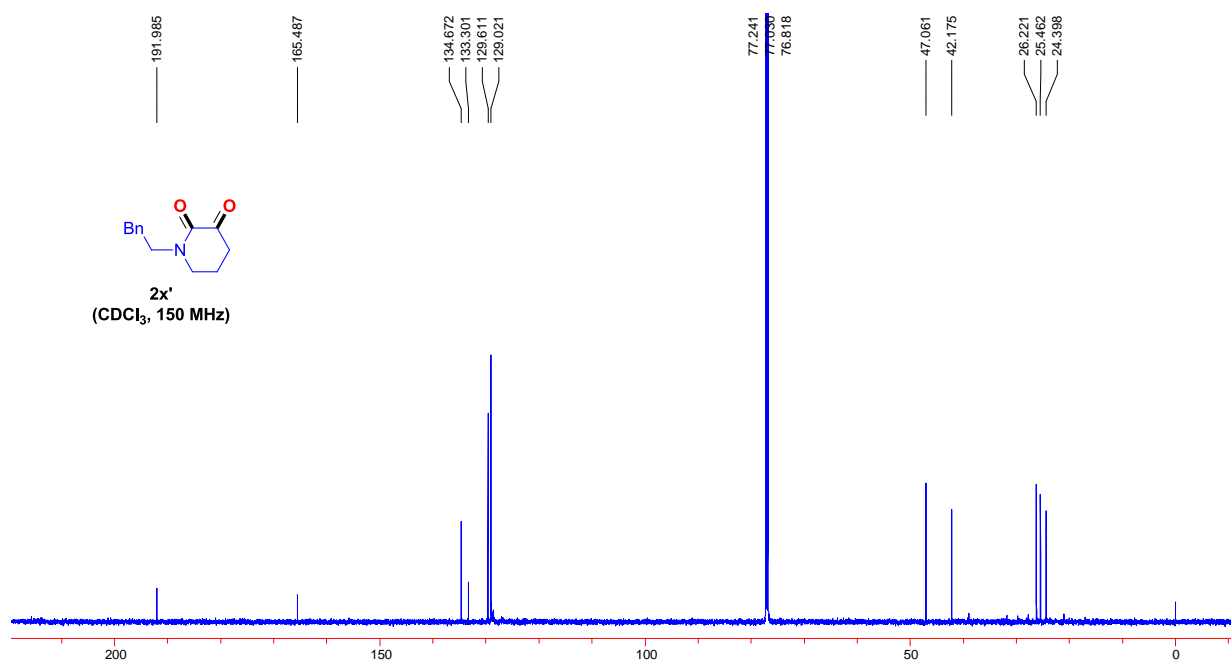
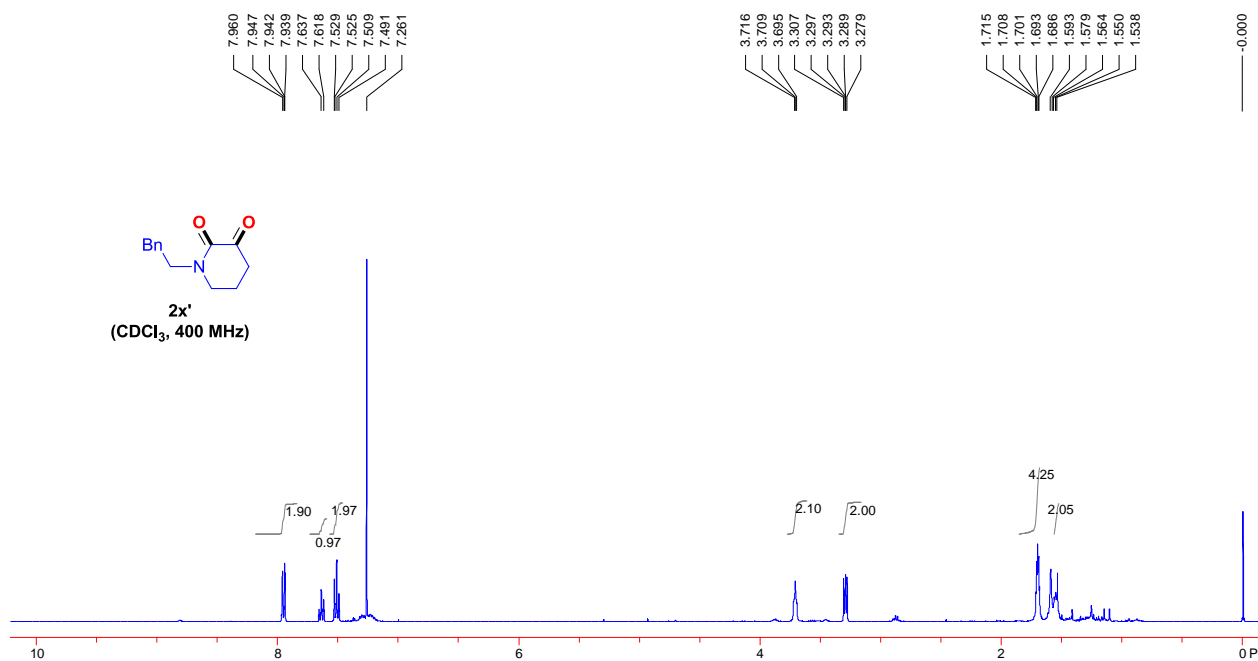


## VI. Copies of the NMR spectra of 2w'

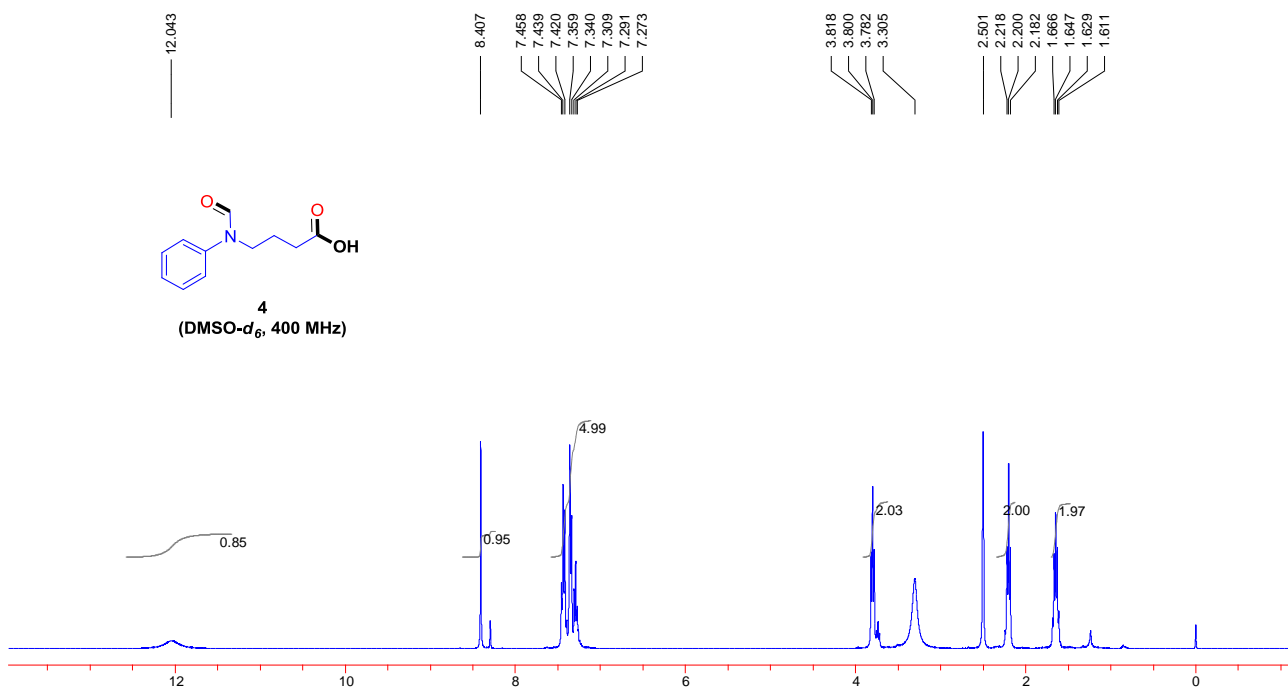
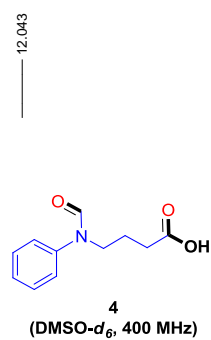
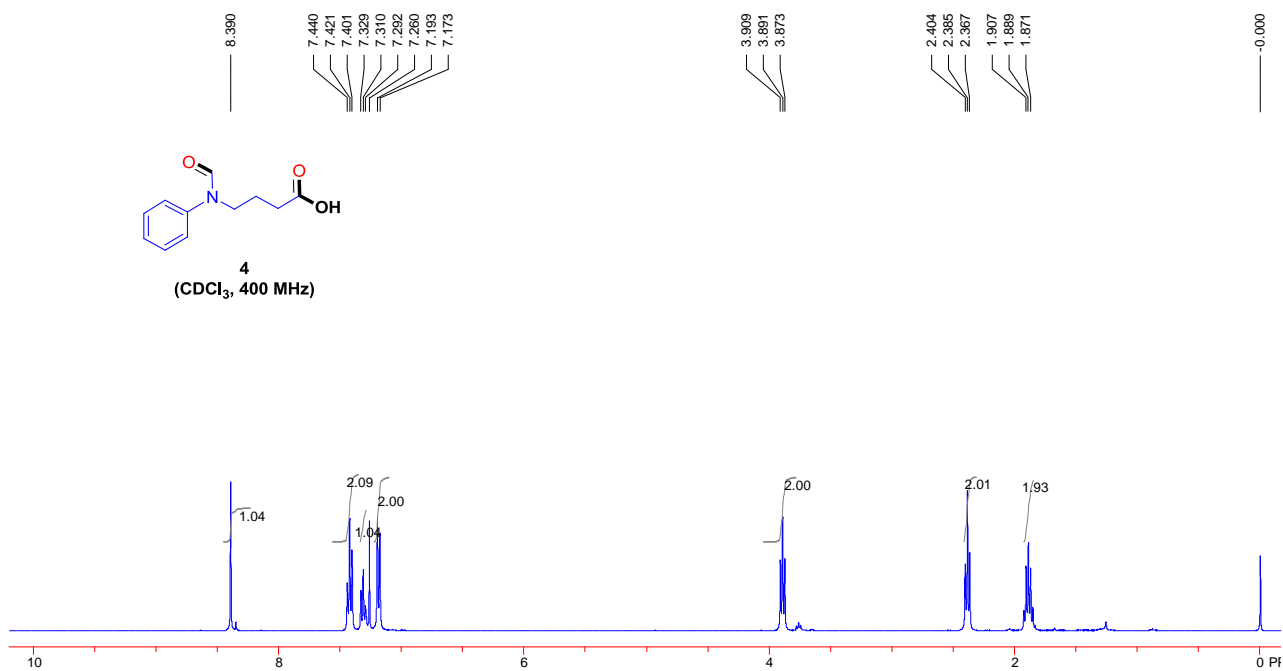
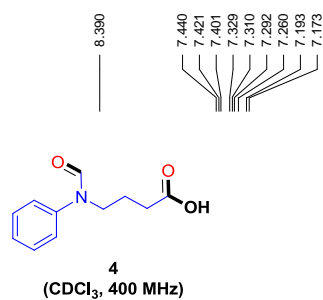


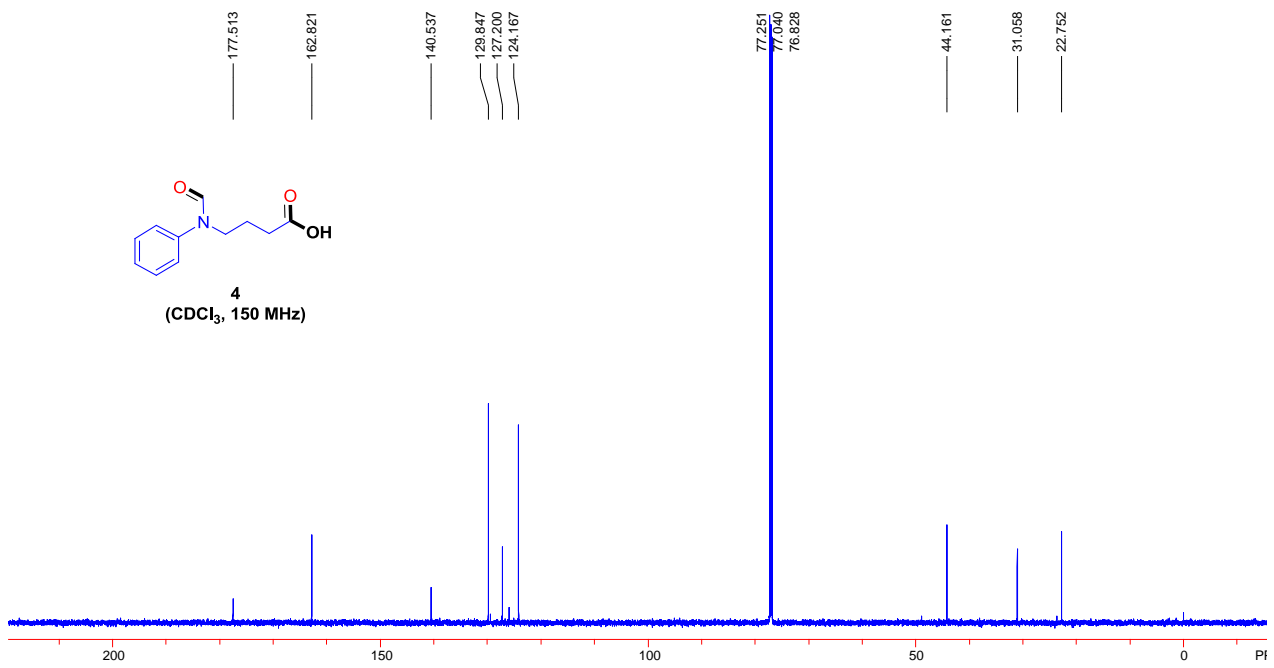


## VII. Copies of the NMR spectra of 2x'



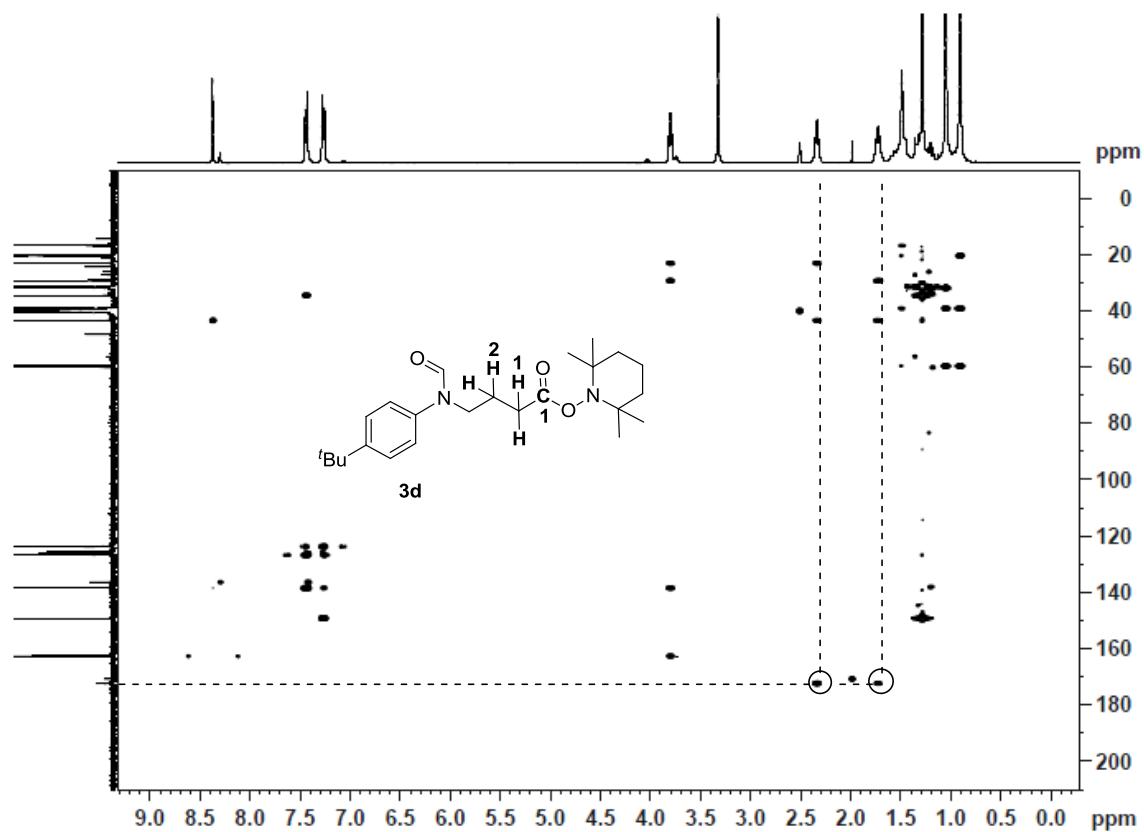
## VIII. Copies of the NMR spectra of 4





## IX. Copies of C-H HMBC of 3d

According to the cross-peaks of **3d**-H1 to **3d**-C1 and **3d**-H2 to **3d**-C1 appeared on the C-H HMBC spectrum of **3d**, we could deduce that the peak at 172.6 ppm, which is not obvious, should be **3d**-C1.



## X. References

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- (2) F. Wang, Y. He, M. Tian, X. Zhang and X. Fan, *Org. Lett.*, 2018, **20**, 864.
- (3) F. Wang, X. Zhang, Y. He and X. Fan, *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2019, **17**, 156.
- (4) D. Kalyani, A. R. Dick, W. Q. Anani and M. S. Sanford. *Tetrahedron*, 2006, **62**, 11483.
- (5) A. Correa and C. Bolm, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2007, **46**, 8862.