

Supporting Information

Direct methylthiolation of *C*-, *S*-, and *P*- nucleophiles with Sodium *S*-Methyl Thiosulfate

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1 General Information

All chemical reagents are obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. All known compounds are identified by appropriate technique such as ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR and compared with previously reported data. All unknown compounds are characterized by ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR and HRMS. Analytical thin-layer chromatography are performed on glass plates precoated with silica gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm), and the plates are visualized by exposure to ultraviolet light. Mass spectra are taken on a Finnigan TSQ Quantum-MS instrument in the electrospray ionization (ESI) mode. ^1H , ^{19}F and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on a 500 MHz Bruker DRX 500 and tetramethylsilane (TMS) was used as a reference. Chemical shifts were reported in parts per million (ppm), and the residual solvent peak was used as an internal reference: proton (chloroform δ 7.26), carbon (chloroform δ 77.26) and chemical shifts are reported in ppm. Some impurity peak in proton spectrum was water δ 1.59 and hexane δ 1.26. GC analyses are performed on an Agilent 7890A instrument (Column: Agilent 19091J-413: 30 m \times 320 μm \times 0.25 μm , carrier gas: H_2 , FID detection. GC-MS data was recorded on a 5975C Mass Selective Detector, coupled with a 7890A Gas Chromatograph (Agilent Technologies). High resolution mass spectral data were acquired on Waters Micromass GCT Premier Spectrometer (electrospray ionization: EI) and Waters Q-Tof microTM (electrospray ionization: ESI).

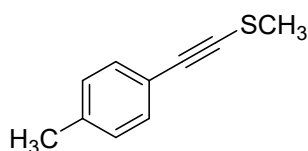
2 Screening Reaction

Table S1. Optimization of conditions for reaction of 1,3-diketone with sodium *S*-methyl sulfothioate ^a

$\text{CH}_3\text{SSO}_3\text{Na}$ (**1**) + Ph-CO-CH(F)-CO-Ph (**4**) $\xrightarrow[\text{solvent, temp, time}]{\text{catalyst, base}}$ $\text{Ph-CO-CH(F)(SCH}_3\text{)-CO-Ph}$ (**5**)

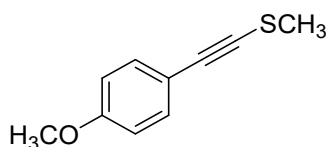
Entry	Catalyse	Base	Solvent	Temp (°C)	Time (h)	Yield ^b (%)
1	CuSO ₄ (0.2 equiv)		DMF	80	10	23
2	CuSO ₄		DMF	80	10	53
4	CuI		DMF	80	10	33
5	Cu(OAc) ₂		DMF	80	10	14
6	CuSO ₄	Cs ₂ CO ₃	DMF	80	10	42
7	CuSO ₄	KF	DMF	80	10	35
8	CuSO ₄	NaH	DMF	80	10	47
9	CuSO ₄		DMSO	80	10	51
10	CuSO ₄		THF	80	10	32
11	CuSO ₄		DMF	50	10	59
12	CuSO ₄		DMF	30	10	48
13	CuSO ₄		DMF	110	10	52
14	CuSO ₄		DMF	50	12	65
15	CuSO₄		DMF	50	24	74(70^c)

^a Unless otherwise specified, the reaction was carried out in the presence of β -ketoester (0.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv), sodium *S*-methyl sulfothioate **1** (99 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv), catalyst (0.2 mmol, 0.5 equiv), base (0.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and solvent (4 mL), air. ^b GC yield. ^c isolated yield.



Chemical Formula: C₁₀H₁₀S
Exact Mass: 162.0503

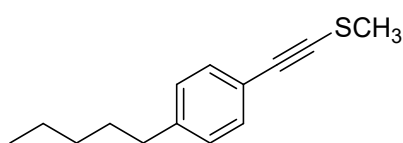
Methyl(p-tolyethynyl)sulfane. **3b¹**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a yellow oil (86%, 55.7 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 138.52 , 131.75 , 129.28 , 120.55 , 92.15 , 80.11 , 21.71 , 19.70.



Chemical Formula: C₁₀H₁₀OS
Exact Mass: 178.0452

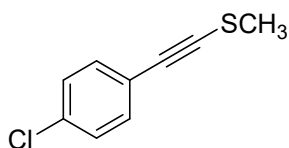
((4-Methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)(methyl)sulfane. **3c¹**, Purification by column

chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=20:1) afforded a light yellow oil (88%, 62.6 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.41 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 6.85 – 6.79 (m, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 159.85 , 133.63 , 115.74 , 114.16 , 91.86 , 79.19 , 55.53 , 19.76 .



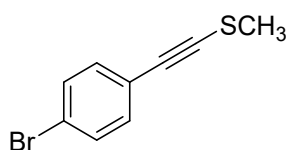
Chemical Formula: C₁₄H₁₈S
Exact Mass: 218.1129

Methyl((4-pentylphenyl)ethynyl)sulfane. **3d**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a colorless oil (83%, 72.4 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.33 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.58 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 1.60 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.30 (dtt, J = 17.9, 8.6, 5.1 Hz, 4H), 0.88 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 143.58 , 131.77 , 128.63 , 120.72 , 92.20 , 80.10 , 36.08 , 31.66 , 31.14 , 22.75 , 19.72 , 14.25 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₈S 218.1129, found 218.1135.



Chemical Formula: C₉H₇ClS
Exact Mass: 181.9957

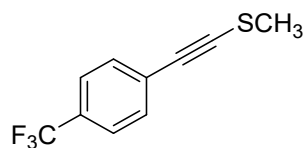
((4-Chlorophenyl)ethynyl)(methyl)sulfane. **3e¹**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a light yellow oil (75%, 54.6 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.35 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 134.27 , 132.87 , 128.86 , 122.15 , 91.00 , 82.45 , 19.58 .



Chemical Formula: C₉H₇BrS
Exact Mass: 225.9452

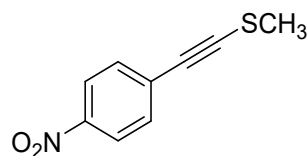
((4-Bromophenyl)ethynyl)(methyl)sulfane. **3f¹**, Purification by column

chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a yellow oil (74%, 66.9 mg). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.42 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 133.04 , 131.78 , 122.62 , 122.43 , 91.09 , 82.70 , 19.56 .



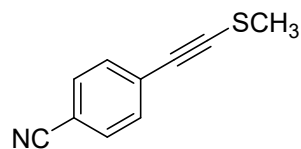
Chemical Formula: $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_7\text{F}_3\text{S}$
Exact Mass: 216.0221

Methyl((4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethynyl)sulfane. **3g²**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a yellow oil (81%, 70.0 mg). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.54 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 131.47 , 129.87 , 129.61 , 129.35 , 127.45 , 125.46 , 125.27 , 123.09 , 91.08 , 84.70 , 19.54 ; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -62.72 .



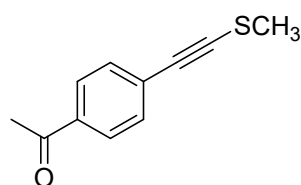
Chemical Formula: $\text{C}_9\text{H}_7\text{NO}_2\text{S}$
Exact Mass: 193.0197

Methyl((4-nitrophenyl)ethynyl)sulfane. **3h³**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=10:1, v/v) afforded a red solid (63%, 48.6 mg). Mp: 71-75 °C. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.25 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 8.05 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 150.60 , 141.60 , 129.54 , 124.10 , 93.10 , 79.96 , 27.23 .



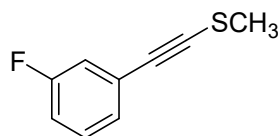
Chemical Formula: $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_7\text{NS}$
Exact Mass: 173.0299

4-((Methylthio)ethynyl)benzonitrile. **3i**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=10:1, v/v) afforded a yellow solid (70%, 48.5 mg). Mp: 74-79 °C. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.05 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.82 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 2.65 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 140.17 , 132.77 , 128.95 , 118.17 , 116.69 , 95.38 , 81.82 , 27.01 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_7\text{NS}$ 173.0299, found 173.0303.



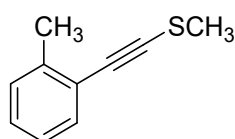
Chemical Formula: $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{10}\text{OS}$
Exact Mass: 190.0452

1-(4-((methylthio)ethynyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one. **3j**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=3:1, v/v) afforded a yellow solid (68%, 51.7 mg). Mp: 71-74 °C. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.91 – 7.85 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 197.23 , 135.81 , 131.00 , 128.32 , 128.26 , 91.58 , 85.55 , 26.57 , 19.38 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{10}\text{OS}$ 190.0452, found 190.0457.



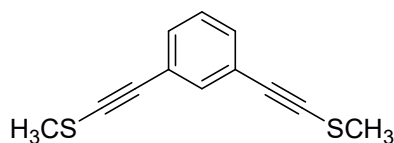
Chemical Formula: C₉H₇FS
Exact Mass: 166.0252

((3-Fluorophenyl)ethynyl)(methyl)sulfane. **3k**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a light yellow oil (72%, 47.8 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.24 (dd, J = 8.0, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.09 (ddd, J = 9.5, 2.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.03 – 6.96 (m, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 162.58 (d, J = 246.5 Hz), 130.07, 127.39, 125.49, 118.28 (d, J = 22.7 Hz), 115.56 (d, J = 21.0 Hz), 90.97, 82.68, 19.55; ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ -112.99. HRMS (EI) Calcd. for C₉H₇FS 166.0252, found 166.0247.



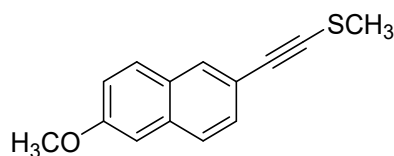
Chemical Formula: C₁₀H₁₀S
Exact Mass: 162.0503

Methyl(*o*-tolylethynyl)sulfane. **3l**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a yellow oil (74%, 47.9 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.25 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 138.19, 132.27, 129.21, 128.76, 128.40, 123.42, 92.27, 80.67, 21.44, 19.68. HRMS (EI) Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₀S 162.0503, found 162.0510.



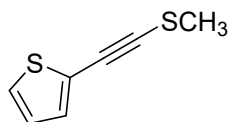
Chemical Formula: C₁₂H₁₀S₂
Exact Mass: 218.0224

1,3-Bis((methylthio)ethynyl)benzene. **3m⁴**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=10:1, v/v) afforded a yellow oil (65%, 56.7 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.45 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.22 (m, 1H), 2.47 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 134.17, 130.86, 128.45, 123.79, 91.20, 81.96, 19.49.



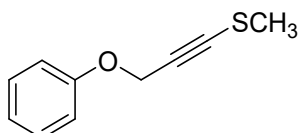
Chemical Formula: C₁₄H₁₂OS
Exact Mass: 228.0609

((6-Methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)ethynyl)(methyl)sulfane. **3n¹**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=10:1, v/v) afforded a yellow solid (70%, 63.8 mg). Mp: 94-97 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.65 (dd, J = 12.5, 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 158.52, 134.26, 131.51, 129.51, 129.25, 128.66, 126.98, 119.62, 118.51, 106.02, 92.58, 80.52, 55.59, 19.77.



Chemical Formula: C₇H₆S₂
Exact Mass: 153.9911

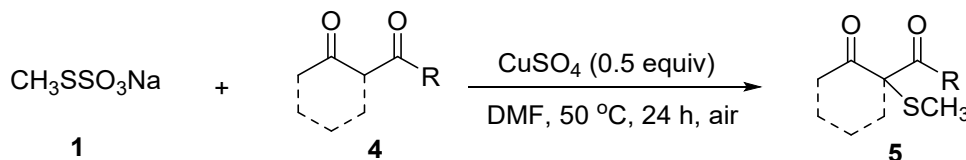
2-((Methylthio)ethynyl)thiophene. **3o⁵**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a colorless oil (62%, 38.2mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.26 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.21 (dd, J = 3.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (dd, J = 5.2, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 133.18 , 127.99 , 127.16 , 123.82 , 85.60 , 84.84 , 19.76 .



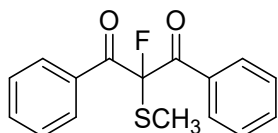
Chemical Formula: C₁₀H₁₀OS
Exact Mass: 178.0452

Methyl(3-phenoxyprop-1-yn-1-yl)sulfane. **3p**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a yellow oil (87%, 61.9 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.01 – 6.92 (m, 3H), 4.78 (s, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 157.90 , 129.68 , 121.63 , 115.16 , 88.30 , 80.30 , 57.05 , 19.21 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₀OS 178.0452, found 178.0446.

3.3 General procedures for methylthiolation of 1,3-diketones



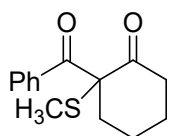
A flask was charged with 1,3-diketones (0.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv), sodium *S*-methyl sulfonate **1** (99 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv), CuSO₄ (32 mg, 0.2 mmol, 0.5 equiv) and DMF (4 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C in air for 24 h. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, poured into EtOAc (20 mL) and H₂O (20 mL), and extracted several times with EtOAc (3 * 15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and filtered. The solvent was removed in vacuum and the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, Petroleum ether/ Ethyl acetate) to afford the methylthiolated product **5**.



Chemical Formula: C₁₆H₁₃FO₂S
Exact Mass: 288.0620

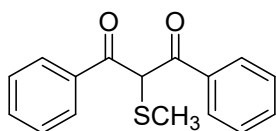
2-Fluoro-2-(methylthio)-1,3-diphenylpropane-1,3-dione. **5a**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=5:1, v/v) afforded a colorless oil (60%, 69.1 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 8.05 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 4H), 7.56 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.39 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 4H), 2.15 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 3H); ¹³C

NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 189.46, 134.58, 133.41, 130.31, 130.13, 128.92, 29.96; ^{19}F NMR (470 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -130.65 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{FO}_2\text{S}$ 288.0620, found 288.0627.



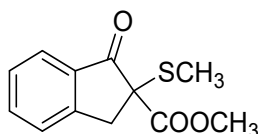
Chemical Formula: $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2\text{S}$
Exact Mass: 248.0871

2-Benzoyl-2-(methylthio)cyclohexan-1-one. **5b**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=5:1, v/v) afforded a light yellow oil (32%, 31.6 mg). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.05 – 7.98 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.39 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.05 (dd, $J = 13.3, 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.60 – 2.51 (m, 1H), 2.12 (td, $J = 12.8, 5.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.05 – 2.00 (m, 1H), 1.91 (s, 3H), 1.86 – 1.72 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 207.34 , 191.21 , 133.29 , 129.71 , 128.98 , 128.75 , 128.31 , 42.76 , 37.85 , 28.58 , 23.07 , 11.40 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2\text{S}$ 248.0871, found 248.0869.



Chemical Formula: $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2\text{S}$
Exact Mass: 270.07

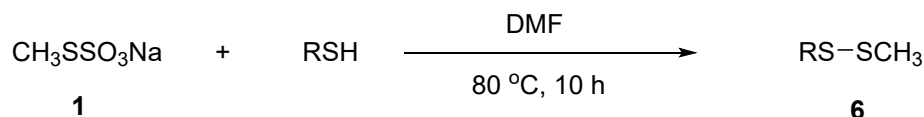
2-(methylthio)-1,3-diphenylpropane-1,3-dione. **5c**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=10:1, v/v) afforded a yellow oil (10%, 10.8 mg). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.99 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 4H), 7.56 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 4H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 191.67, 135.41, 133.99, 129.33, 129.10, 58.10, 29.96.



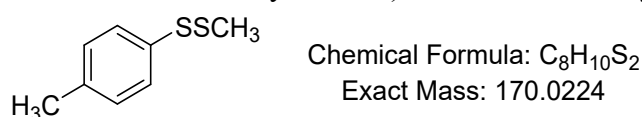
Chemical Formula: $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_3\text{S}$
Exact Mass: 236.0507

Methyl 2-(methylthio)-1-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indene-2-carboxylate. **5d**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=3:1, v/v) afforded a yellow oil (75%, 70.8 mg). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.87 – 7.80 (m, 1H), 7.64 (m, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 3.90 (d, $J = 17.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.16 (d, $J = 17.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 196.42 , 170.00 , 150.59 , 135.61 , 134.10 , 128.47 , 126.37 , 125.78 , 58.21 , 53.52 , 40.22 , 13.84 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_3\text{S}$ 236.0507, found 236.0504.

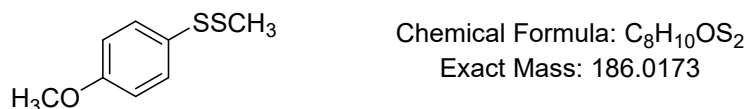
3.4 General procedures for methylthiolation of thiols



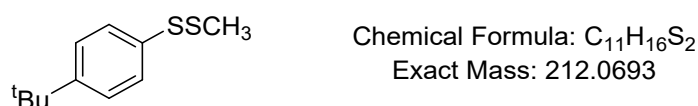
A flask was charged with thiol (0.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv), sodium *S*-methyl sulfthioate (99 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and DMF (4 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, poured into EtOAc (20 mL) and H₂O (20 mL), and extracted several times with EtOAc (3 *15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and filtered. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, Petroleum ether/ Ethyl acetate) to afford the methylthiolated thiol **6**.



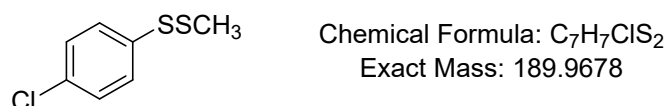
1-Methyl-2-(*p*-tolyl)disulfane. **6a**¹¹, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a yellow oil (81%, 55.1 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 137.52, 133.74, 130.05, 128.93, 23.15, 21.28.



1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-methyldisulfane. **6b**¹², Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a colorless oil (76%, 56.5 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.51 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 6.90 – 6.84 (m, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 159.99, 132.34, 128.11, 114.96, 55.65, 23.12.

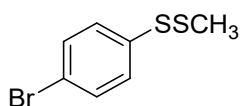


1-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)-2-methyldisulfane. **6c**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a colorless oil (78%, 66.1 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 150.68, 133.78, 128.41, 126.36, 34.79, 31.53, 23.26. HRMS (EI) Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₆S₂ 212.0693, found 212.0694.



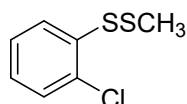
1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-methyldisulfane. **6d**¹², Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a light yellow oil (82%, 62.3 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.46 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 0.9 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 135.78, 133.16, 129.39,

129.25 , 23.09 .



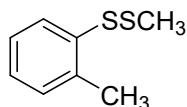
Chemical Formula: C₇H₇BrS₂
Exact Mass: 233.9173

1-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-methyldisulfane. **6e**¹³, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a yellow oil (79%, 73.9 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.45 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 136.48 , 132.31 , 129.40 , 121.02 , 23.08 .



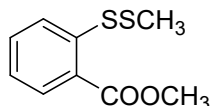
Chemical Formula: C₇H₇ClS₂
Exact Mass: 189.9678

1-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2-methyldisulfane. **6f**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a yellow oil (78%, 59.3 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.78 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.16 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 135.72 , 132.27 , 130.03 , 127.60 , 127.55 , 127.28 , 22.80 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for C₇H₇ClS₂ 189.9678, found 189.9680.



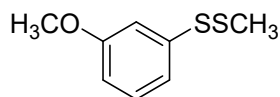
Chemical Formula: C₈H₁₀S₂
Exact Mass: 170.0224

1-Methyl-2-(o-tolyl)disulfane. **6g**¹⁴, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a yellow oil (83%, 56.4 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.72 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.19 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 137.49 , 135.53 , 130.72 , 128.20 , 127.27 , 126.78 , 22.87 , 20.17 .



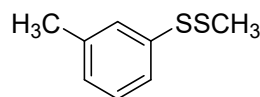
Chemical Formula: C₉H₁₀O₂S₂
Exact Mass: 214.0122

Methyl 2-(methyldisulfanyl)benzoate. **6h**¹⁵, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=10:1, v/v) afforded a yellow oil (87%, 74.5 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 8.19 – 8.11 (m, 1H), 8.03 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.24 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 166.99 , 141.49 , 133.09 , 131.75 , 127.19 , 125.35 , 125.29 , 52.45 , 22.22 .



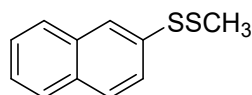
Chemical Formula: C₈H₁₀OS₂
Exact Mass: 186.0173

1-(3-Methoxyphenyl)-2-methyldisulfane. **6i**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a light yellow oil (84%, 62.5 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.23 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.13 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.77 (ddd, J = 8.2, 2.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) 160.38 , 138.47 , 130.10 , 119.81 , 112.89 , 112.75 , 55.57 , 23.19 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for C₈H₁₀OS₂ 186.0173, found 186.0179.



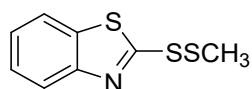
Chemical Formula: C₈H₁₀S₂
Exact Mass: 170.0224

1-Methyl-2-(m-tolyl)disulfane. **6j**¹⁴, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a yellow oil (74%, 62.9 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.34 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (td, J = 7.3, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 139.20 , 136.94 , 129.12 , 128.50 , 128.07 , 125.05 , 23.23 , 21.63 .



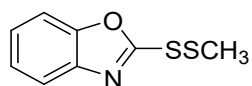
Chemical Formula: C₁₁H₁₀S₂
Exact Mass: 206.0224

1-Methyl-2-(naphthalen-2-yl)disulfane. **6k**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a light yellow oil (77%, 63.4 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.99 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (t, J = 9.3 Hz, 3H), 7.61 (dd, J = 8.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 134.37 , 133.79 , 132.63 , 129.13 , 128.03 , 127.59 , 126.96 , 126.44 , 126.31 , 126.04 , 23.12 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for C₁₁H₁₀S₂ 206.0224, found 206.0226.



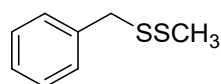
Chemical Formula: C₈H₇NS₃
Exact Mass: 212.9741

2-(Methylthio)benzo[d]thiazole. **6l**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=10:1, v/v) afforded a yellow oil (80%, 68.2 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.88 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.84 – 7.79 (m, 1H), 7.47 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 2.68 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 172.54 , 155.43 , 136.11 , 126.50 , 124.84 , 122.44 , 121.41 , 23.77 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for C₈H₇NS₃ 212.9741, found 212.9745.



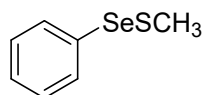
Chemical Formula: C₈H₇NOS₂
Exact Mass: 196.9969

2-(Methylthio)benzo[d]oxazole. **6m**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=10:1, v/v) afforded a light yellow oil (83%, 65.4 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.71 – 7.68 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 2.72 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 163.65 , 152.74 , 142.14 , 125.00 , 124.87 , 119.63 , 110.53 , 23.85 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for C₈H₇NOS₂ 196.9969, found 196.9973.



Chemical Formula: C₈H₁₀S₂
Exact Mass: 170.0224

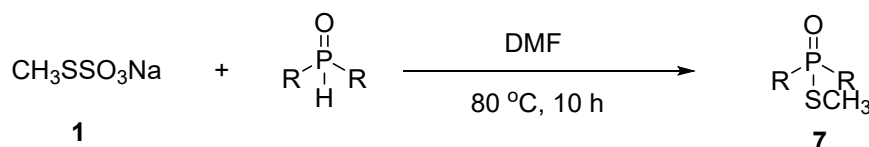
1-Benzyl-2-methylthioethane. **6n**¹¹, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a colorless oil (76%, 51.7 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.28 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.22 – 7.18 (m, 1H), 3.84 (s, 2H), 2.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 137.78 , 129.55 , 128.76 , 127.63 , 43.26 , 23.25 .



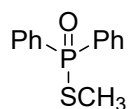
Chemical Formula: C₇H₈SSe
Exact Mass: 203.9512

Methyl(phenylselanyl)sulfane. **60**¹⁰, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether) afforded a yellow oil (65%, 53.0 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.70 – 7.64 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.33 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 131.78 , 130.36 , 129.47 , 127.71 , 29.95 .

3.5 General procedures for methylthiolation of *H*-phosphineoxides

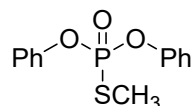


A flask was charged with *H*-phosphineoxides (0.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv), sodium *S*-methyl sulfothioate **1** (99 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and DMF (4 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C or 30 °C for 10-24 h. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, poured into EtOAc (20 mL) and H₂O (20 mL), and extracted several times with EtOAc (3 *15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and filtered. The solvent was removed in vacuum and the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, Petroleum ether/ Ethyl acetate) to afford the methylthiolated *H*-phosphineoxide **7**.



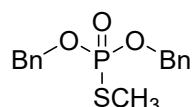
Chemical Formula: C₁₃H₁₃OPS
Exact Mass: 248.0425

S-Methyl diphenylphosphinothioate. **7a**¹², Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=30:1, v/v) afforded a colorless oil (85%, 84.3 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.93 – 7.82 (m, 4H), 7.61 – 7.41 (m, 6H), 2.24 (d, J = 12.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 133.38 , 132.57 , 131.73 (d, J = 10.6 Hz), 128.94 (d, J = 13.2 Hz), 10.82 .



Chemical Formula: C₁₃H₁₃O₃PS
Exact Mass: 280.0323

S-Methyl *O,O*-diphenyl phosphorothioate. **7b**¹³, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=10:1, v/v) afforded a yellow oil (73%, 81.8 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.38 (dd, J = 8.6, 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 4H), 7.23 (td, J = 7.3, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 150.51 , 130.11 , 125.89 , 120.85 , 13.26 .

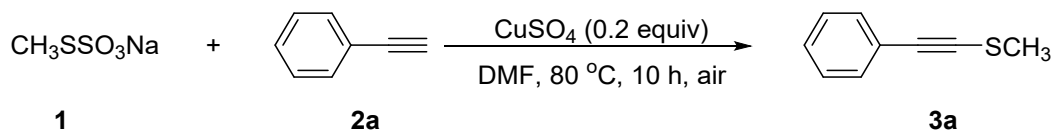


Chemical Formula: C₁₅H₁₇O₃PS
Exact Mass: 308.0636

O,O-Dibenzyl *S*-methyl phosphorothioate. **7c**, Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/Ethyl acetate=10:1, v/v) afforded a

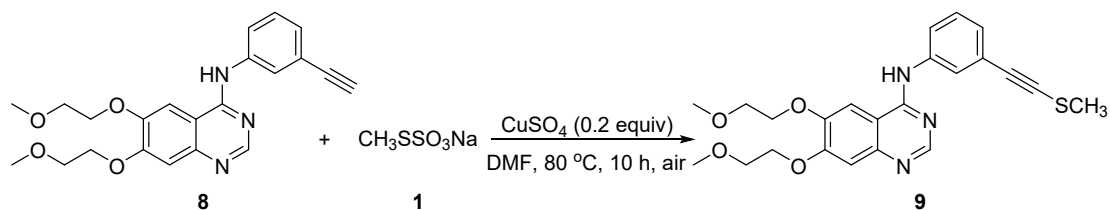
light yellow oil (76%, 93.6 mg). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.43 – 7.28 (m, 10H), 5.21 – 5.05 (m, 4H), 2.19 (d, J = 15.3 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 135.73 , 135.67 , 128.82 , 128.29 , 69.11 (d, J = 5.7 Hz), 12.54 . HRMS (EI) Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₇O₃PS 308.0636, found 308.0644.

3.6 General procedures for gram-Scale Synthesis

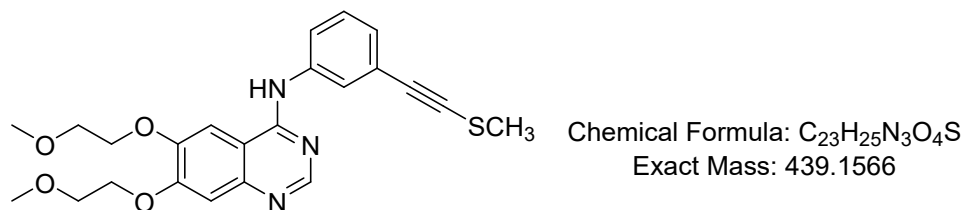


A 50 mL flask was charged with phenyl-acetylene 2a (1.04 g, 10.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), sodium *S*-methyl sulfonothioate 1 (2.3 g, 15.0 mmol, 1.5 equiv), CuSO₄ (32 mg, 2.0 mmol, 0.2 equiv) and DMF (20 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C in air for 10 h. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, poured into EtOAc (80 mL) and H₂O (20 mL), and extracted several times with EtOAc (3 *50 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and filtered. The solvent was removed in vacuum and the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, Petroleum ether) to afford the methylthiolated alkene 3a as light yellow oil (1.02g, 69%).

3.7 General procedures for methylthiolation of erlotinib



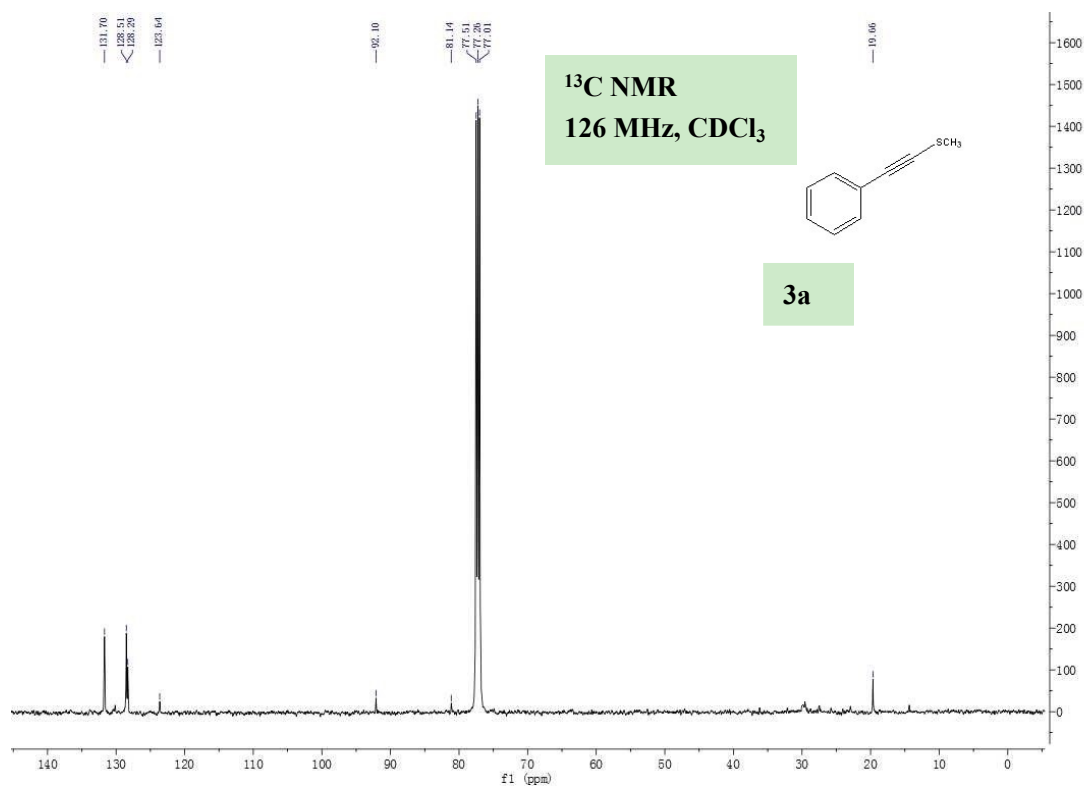
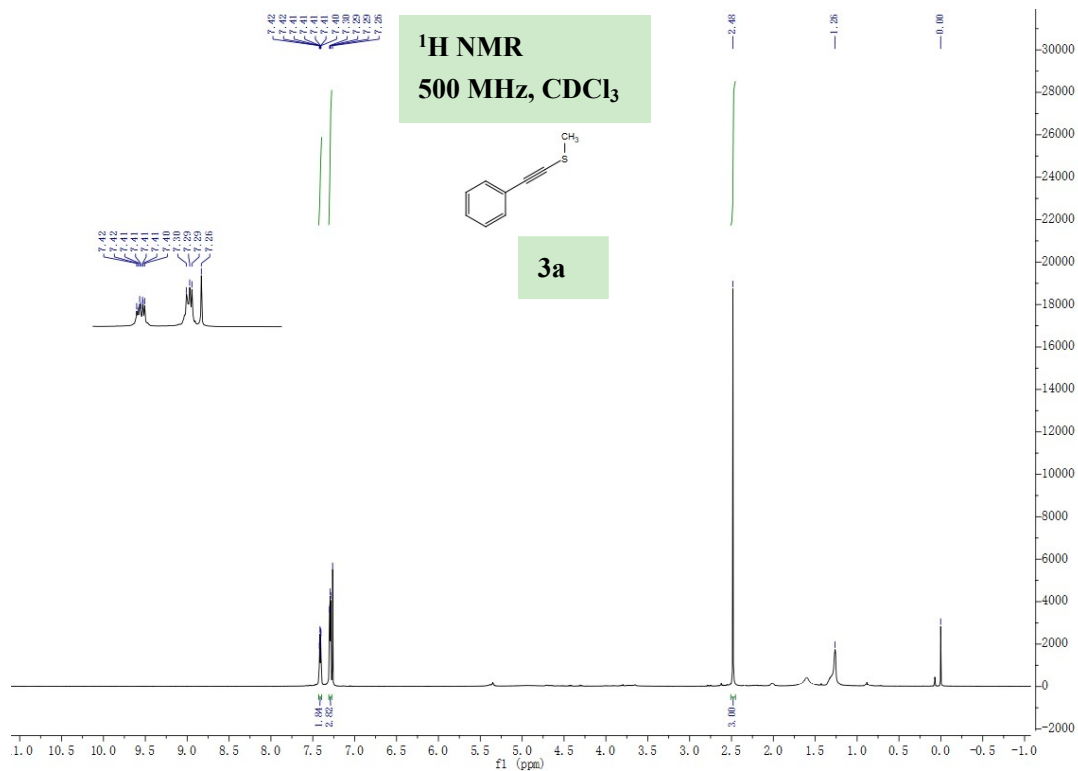
A flask was charged with erlotinib (162.0 mg, 0.4 mmol, 1.0 equiv), sodium *S*-methyl sulfonothioate 1 (99 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv), CuSO₄ (12.8 mg, 0.08 mmol, 0.2 equiv) and DMF (4 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C in air for 10 h. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, poured into EtOAc (20 mL) and H₂O (20 mL), and extracted several times with EtOAc (3 *15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and filtered. The solvent was removed in vacuum and the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, Petroleum ether/ Ethyl acetate =1:50, v/v) to afford the methylthiolated erlotinib 9.

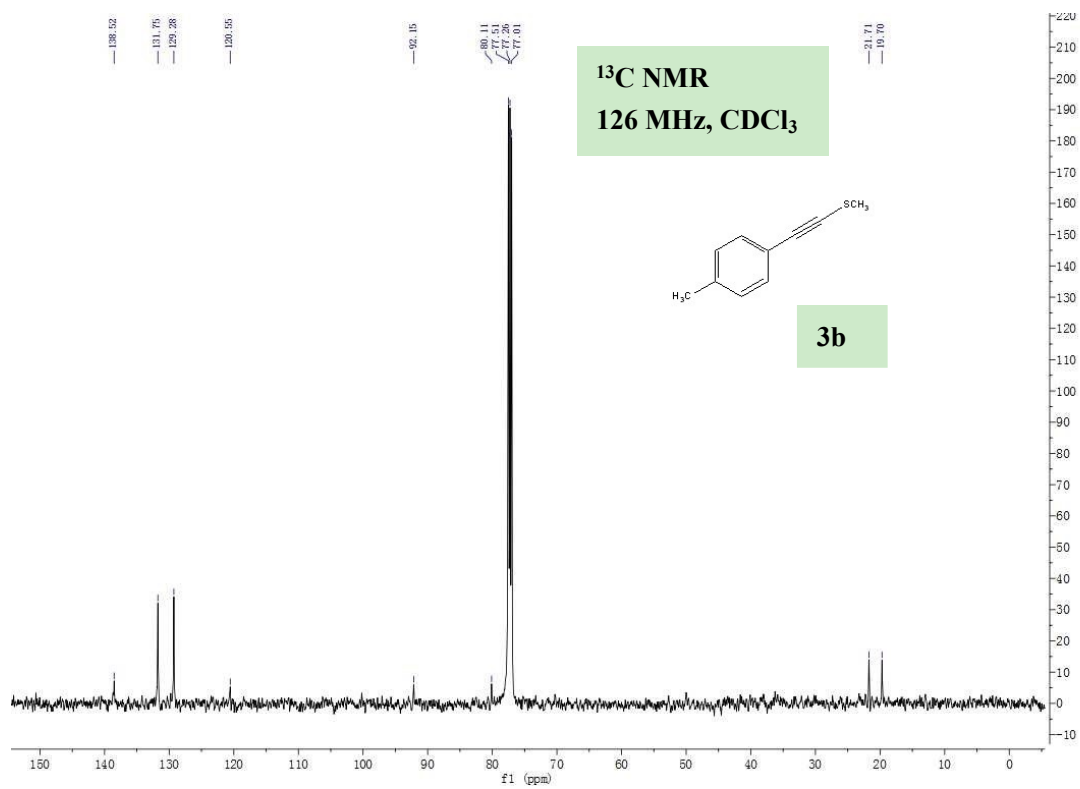
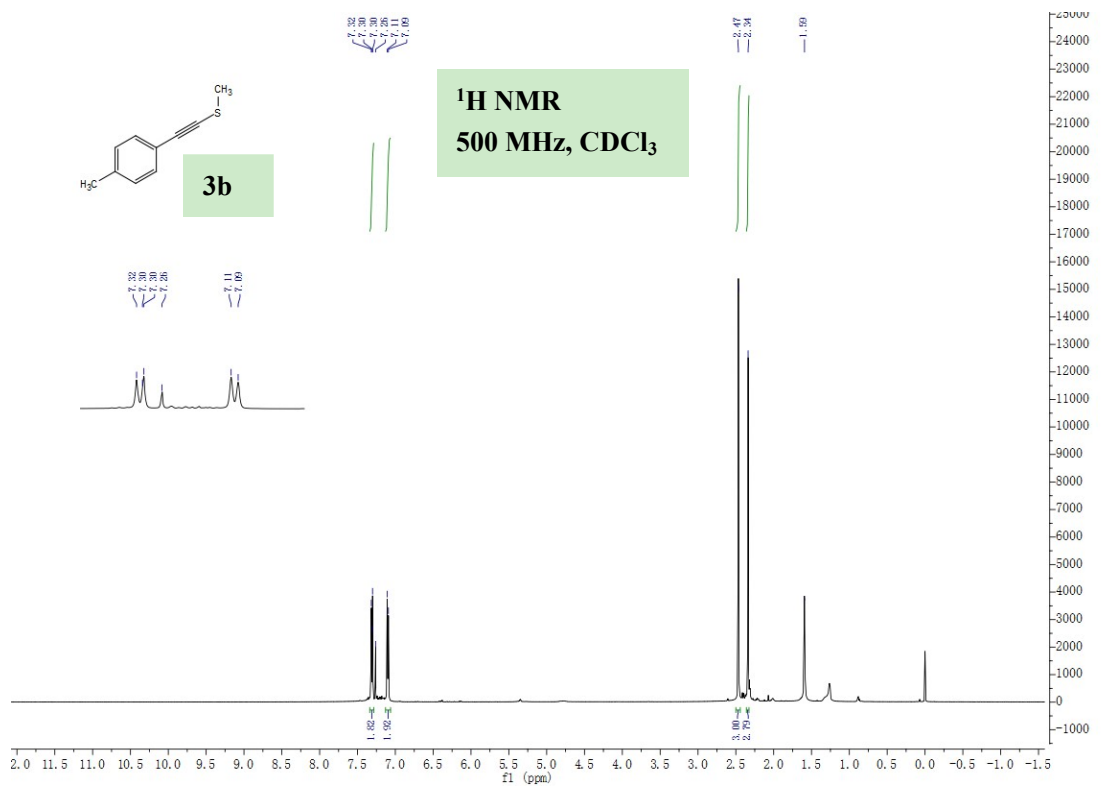


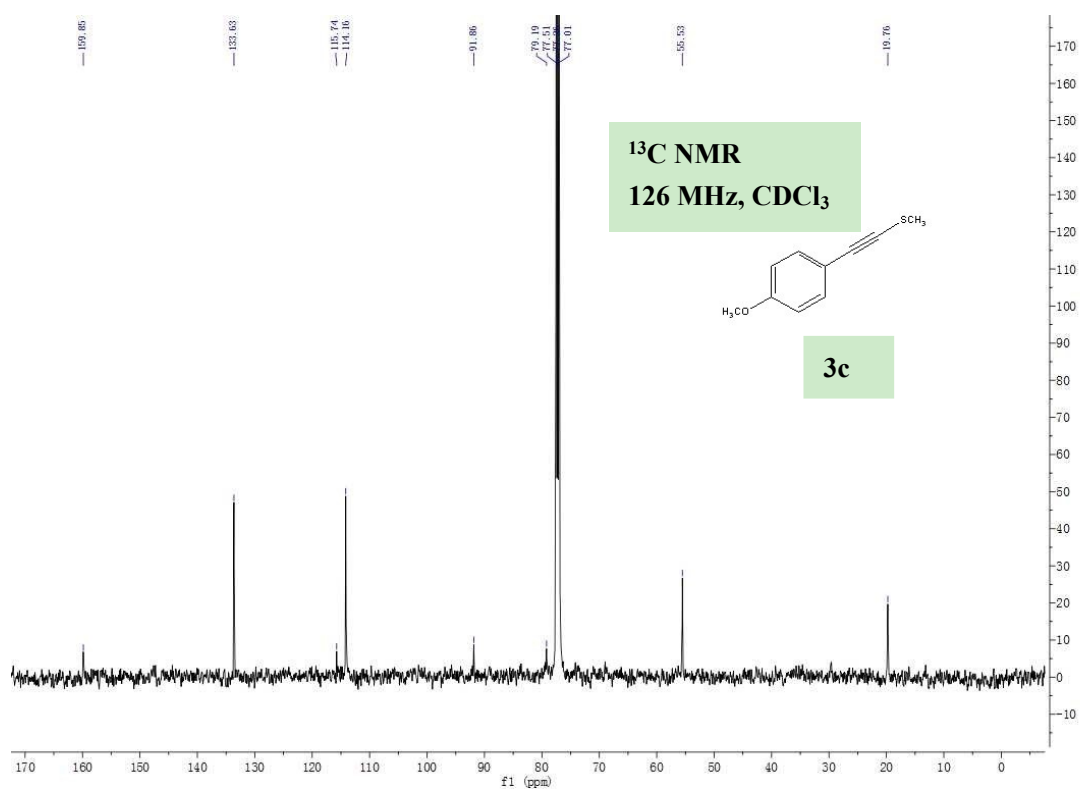
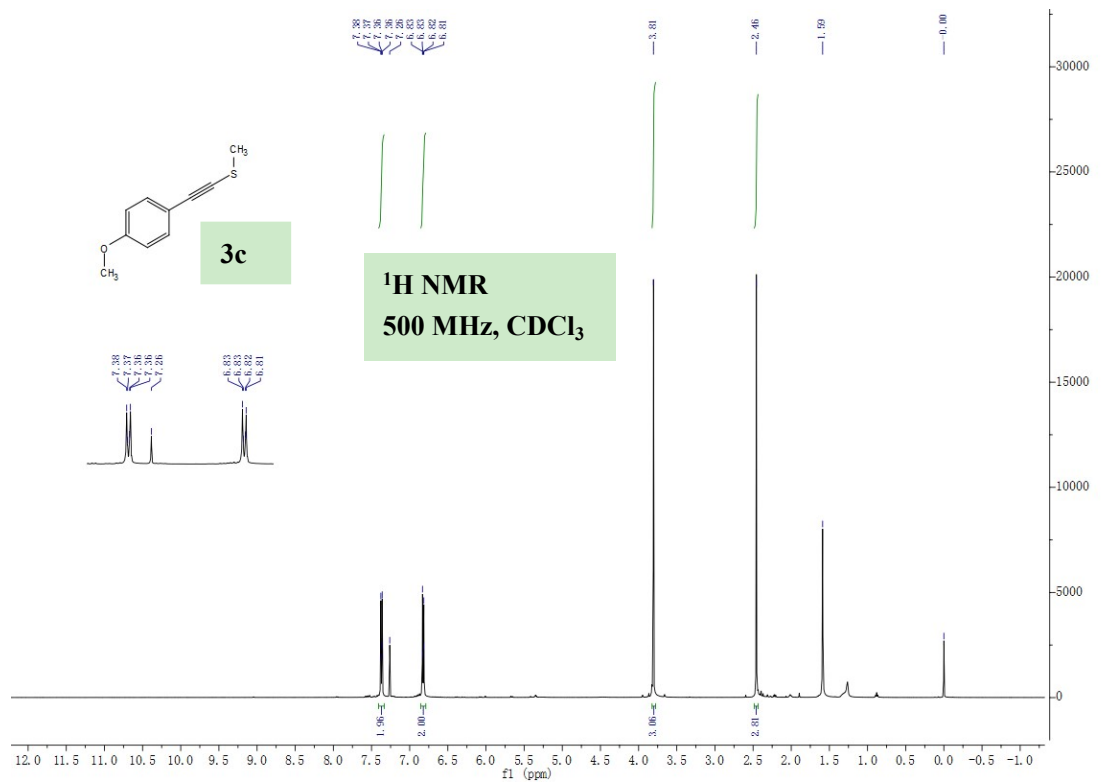
6,7-Bis(2-methoxyethoxy)-*N*-(3-((methylthio)ethynyl)phenyl)quinazolin-4-amine. **9**, a white solid (93%, 163.3 mg). Mp: 113-115 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.63 (s, 1H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.67 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.20 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 4.20 (dt, *J* = 11.6, 4.5 Hz, 4H), 3.79 (q, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 4H), 3.43 (s, 6H), 2.48 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 156.58, 154.61, 153.79, 148.91, 147.64, 139.04, 129.13, 127.30, 124.60, 124.27, 121.85, 109.41, 108.79, 102.71, 91.86, 81.54, 71.11, 70.60, 69.21, 68.42, 59.48, 59.41, 19.59. HRMS (EI) Calcd. for C₂₃H₂₅N₃O₄S 439.1566, found 439.1561.

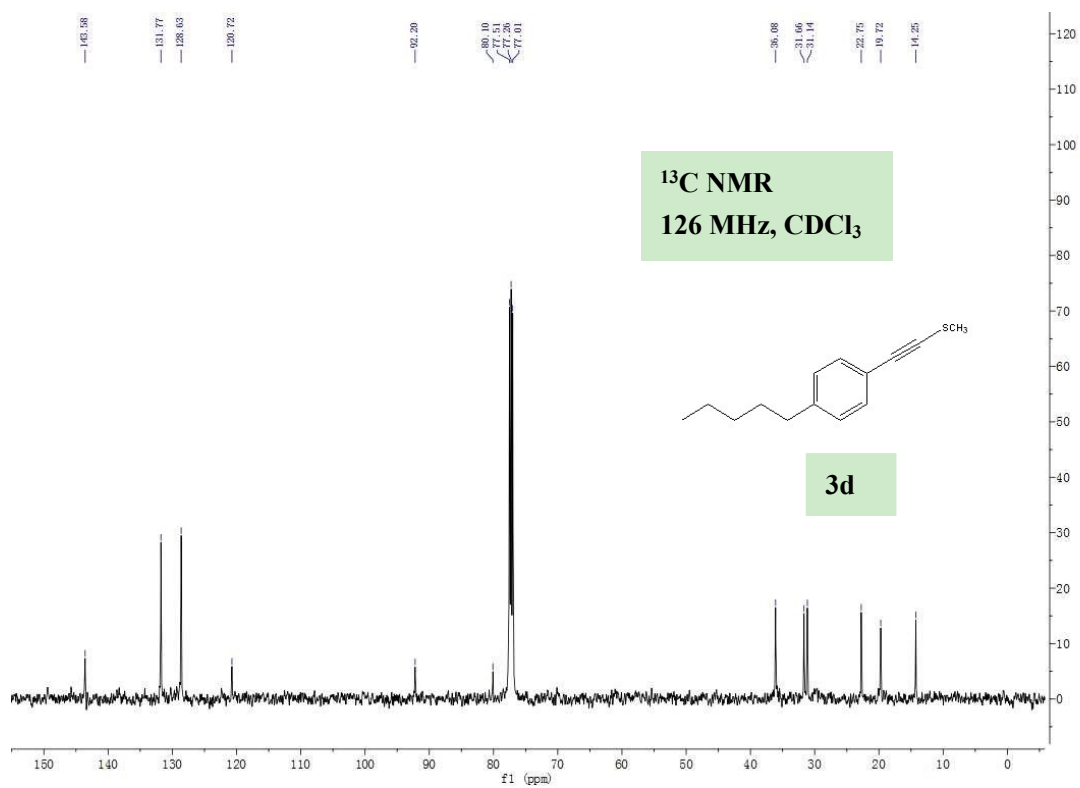
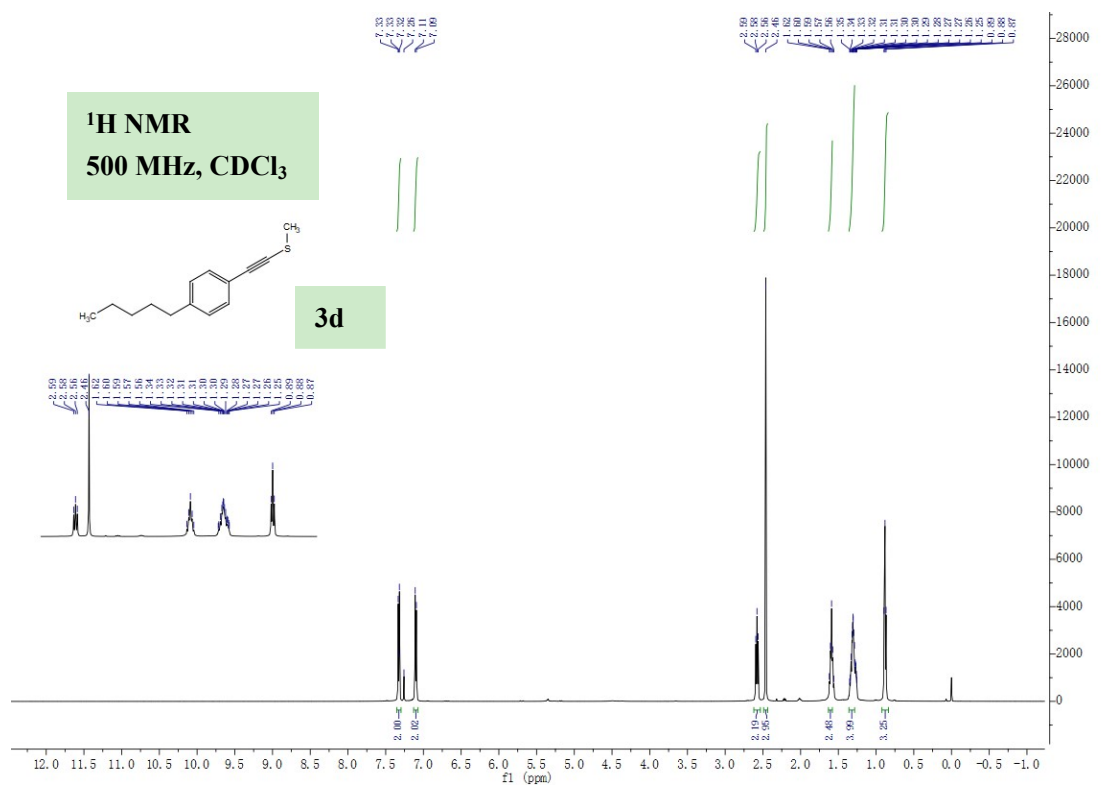
- [1] Su, Q.; Zhao, Z.-J.; Xu, F.; Lou, P.-C.; Zhang, K.; Xie, D.-X.; Shi, L.; Cai, Q.-Y.; Peng, Z.-H.; An, D.-L. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2013**, 2013, 1551.
- [2] Melzig, L.; Metzger, A.; Knochel, P. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2011**, 17, 2948.
- [3] M, L.; Nielsen, M. F.; Hammerich, O. *Acta Chemica Scandinavica* **1995**, 49, 503.
- [4] L'Abbe, G.; Haelterman, B.; Dehaen, W. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Transactions 1* **1994**, 2203.
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- [7] Tsutsumi, N.; Itoh, T.; Ohsawa, A. *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* **2000**, 48, 1524.
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- [10] Baerlocher, F. J.; Baerlocher, M. O.; Langler, R. F.; MacQuarrie, S. L.; Marchand, M. E. *Australian J. Chem.* **2000**, 53, 1.
- [11] Detty, M. R. *J. Org. Chem.* **1979**, 44, 4528.
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- [13] Xia, M.; Cheng, J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2016**, 57, 4702.

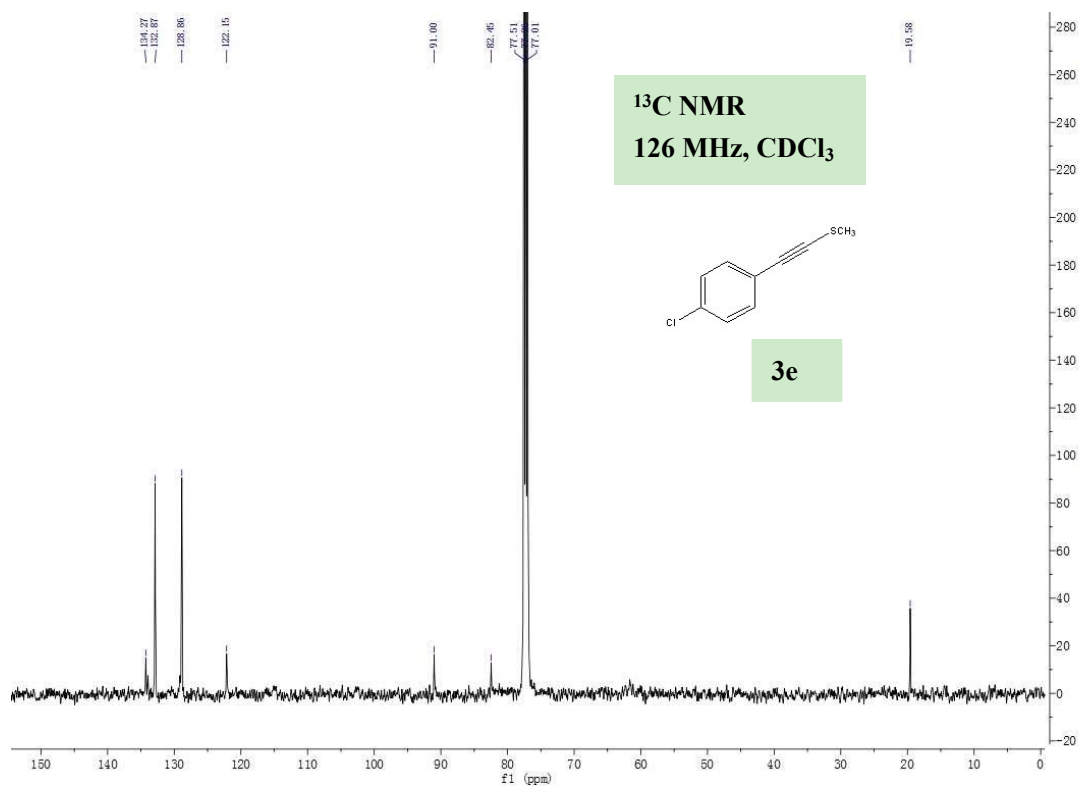
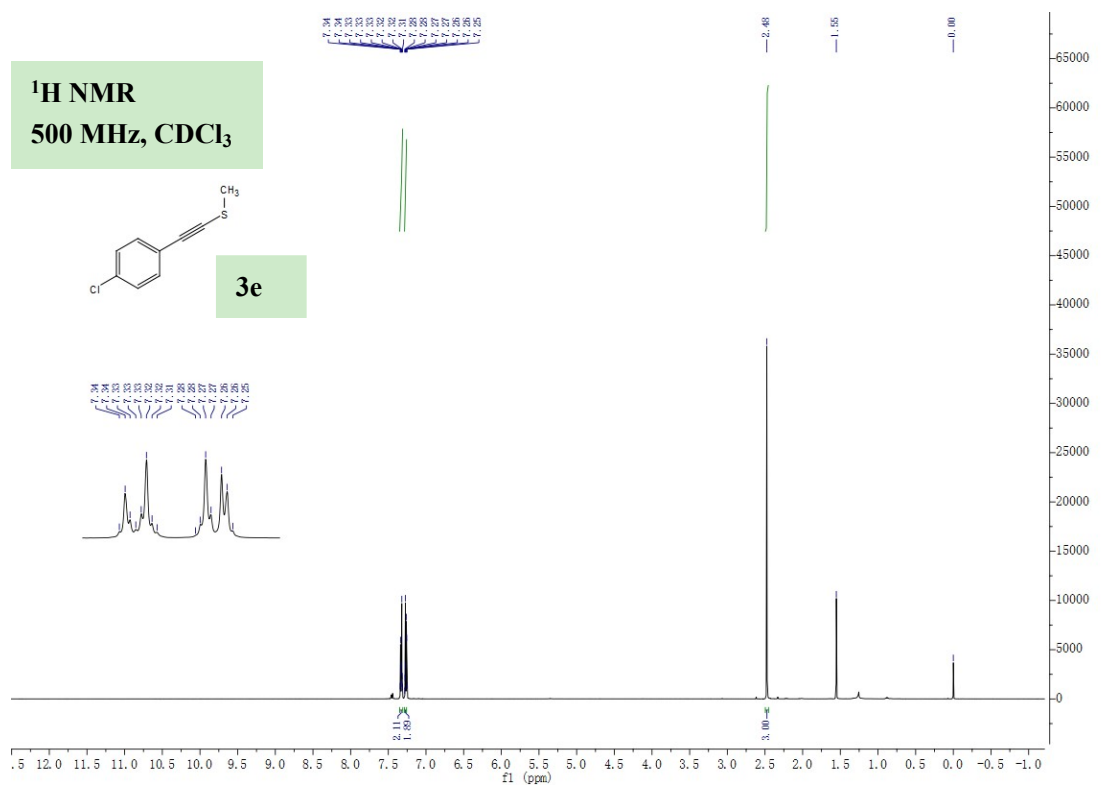
4. NMR Spectra

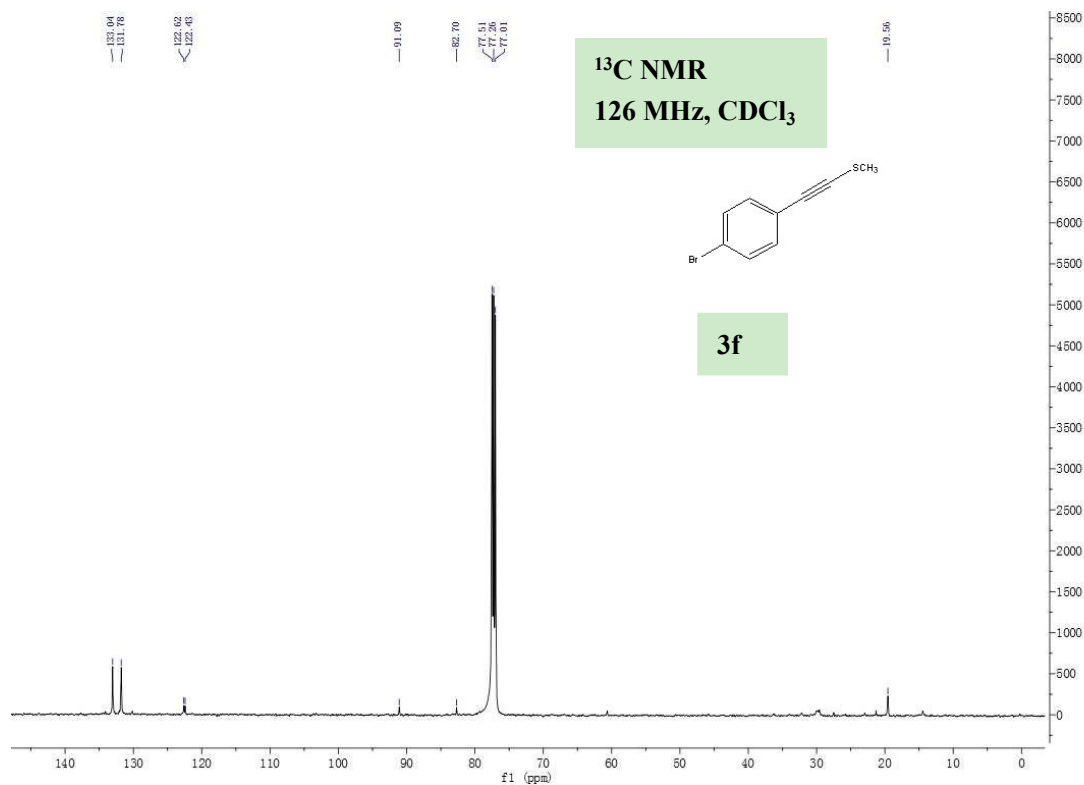
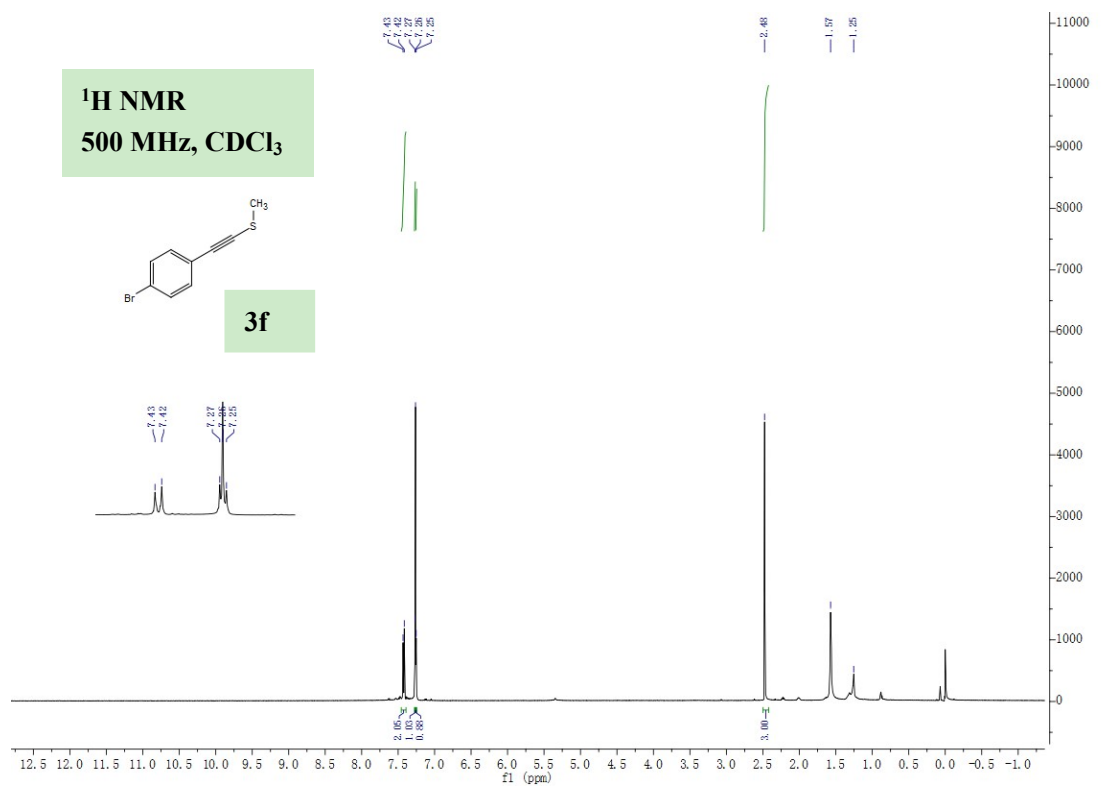


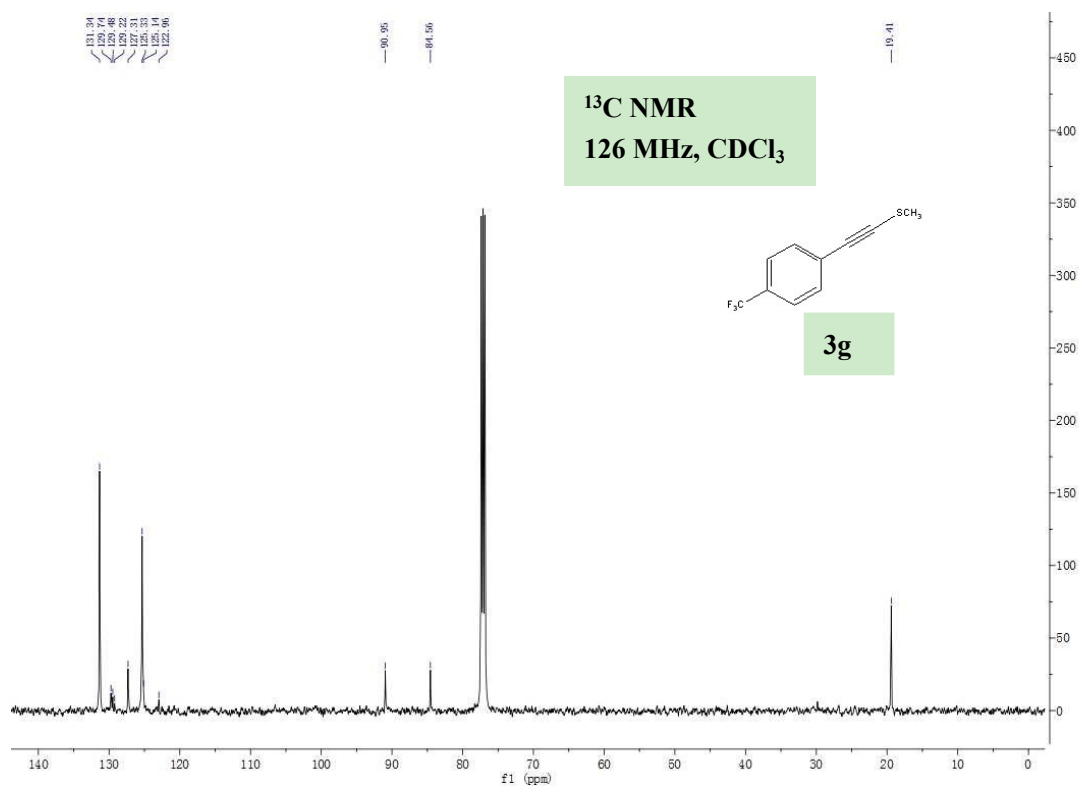
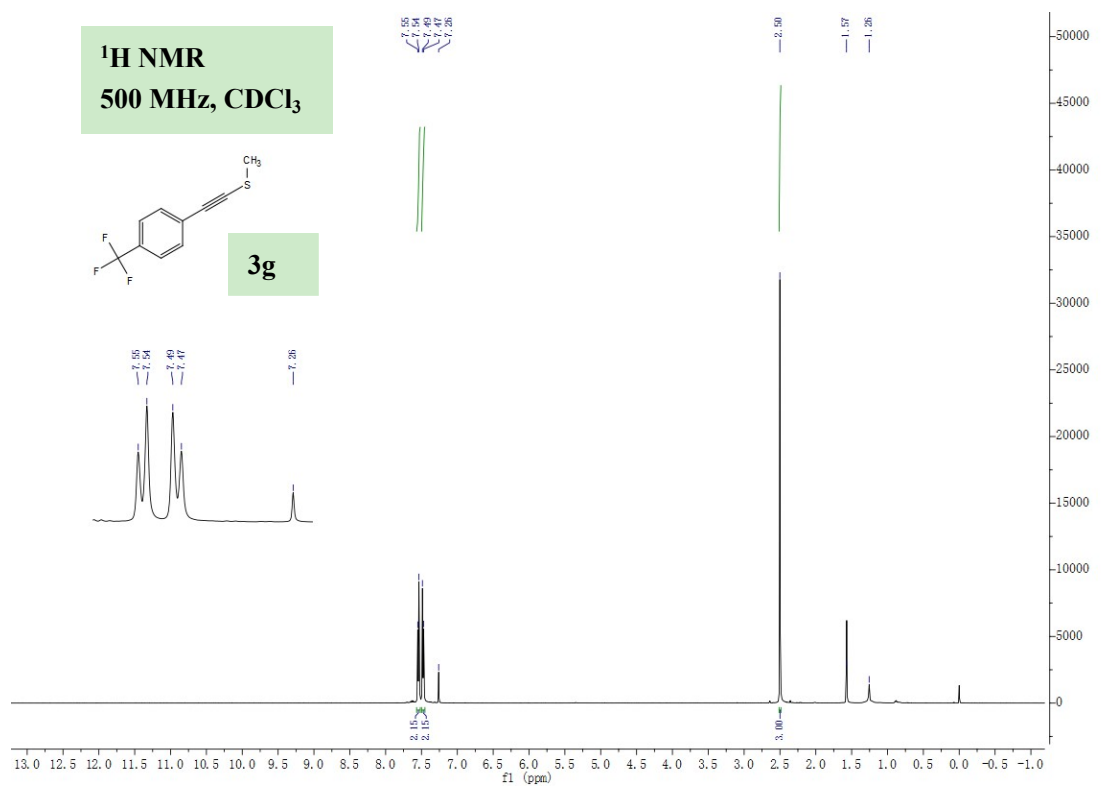


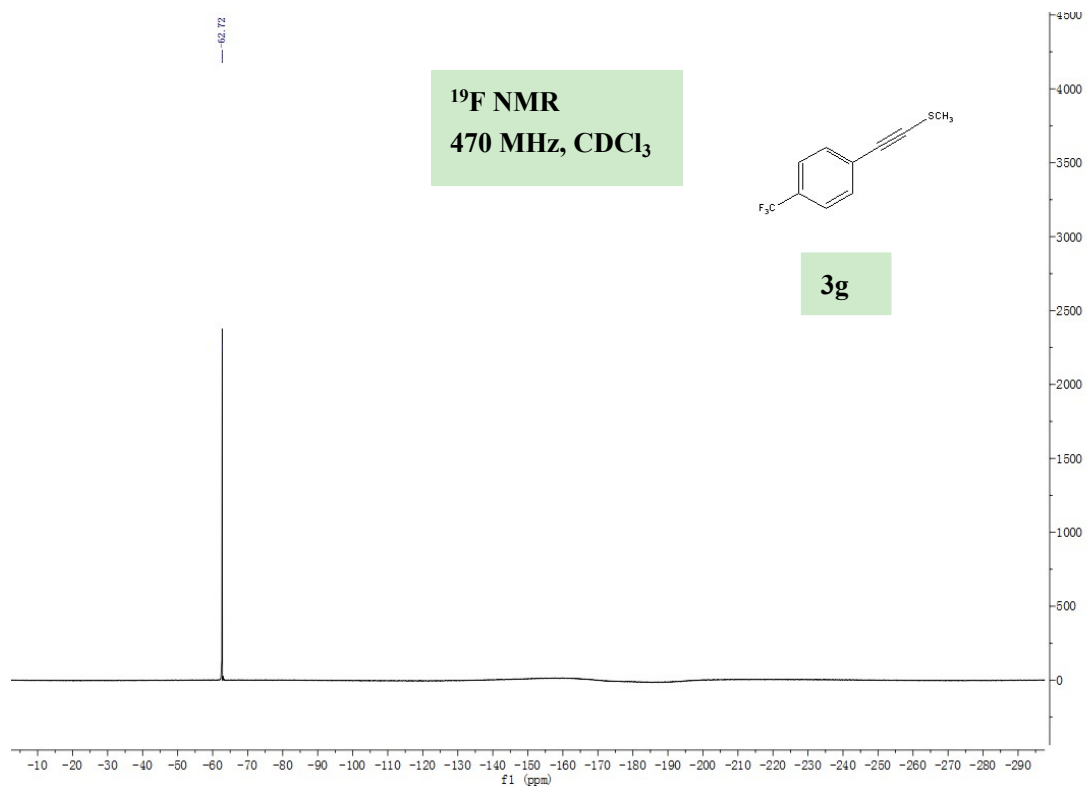


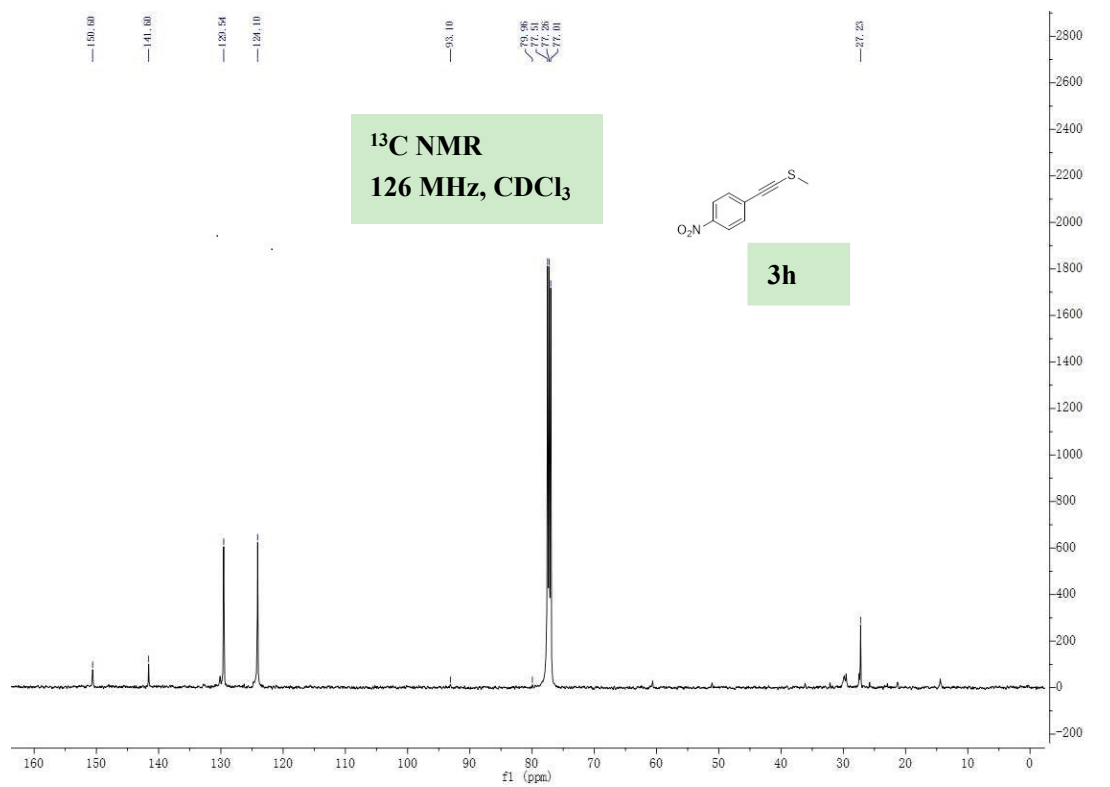
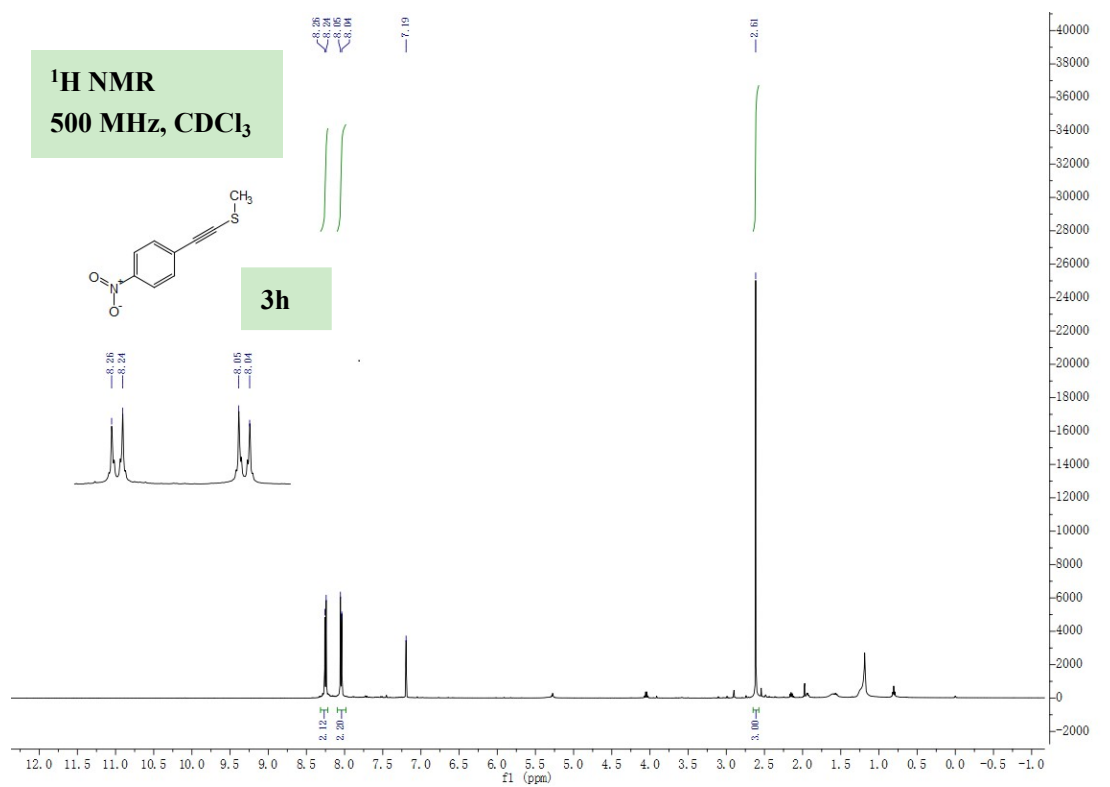


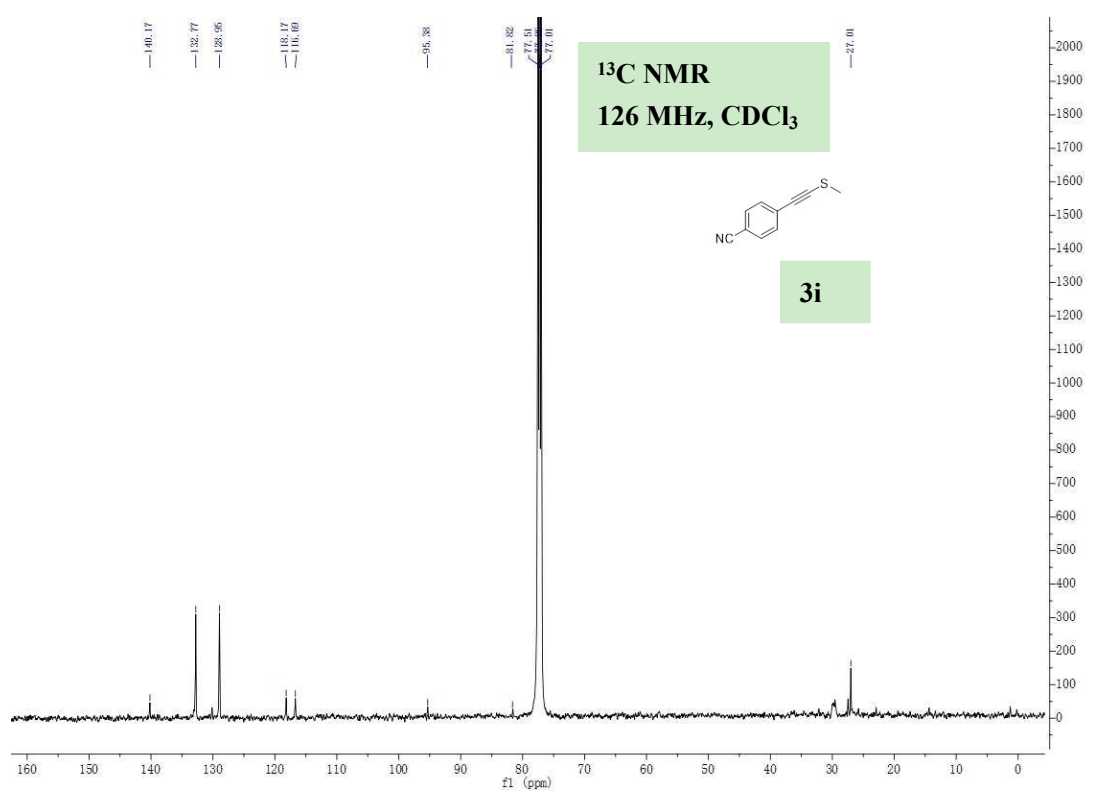
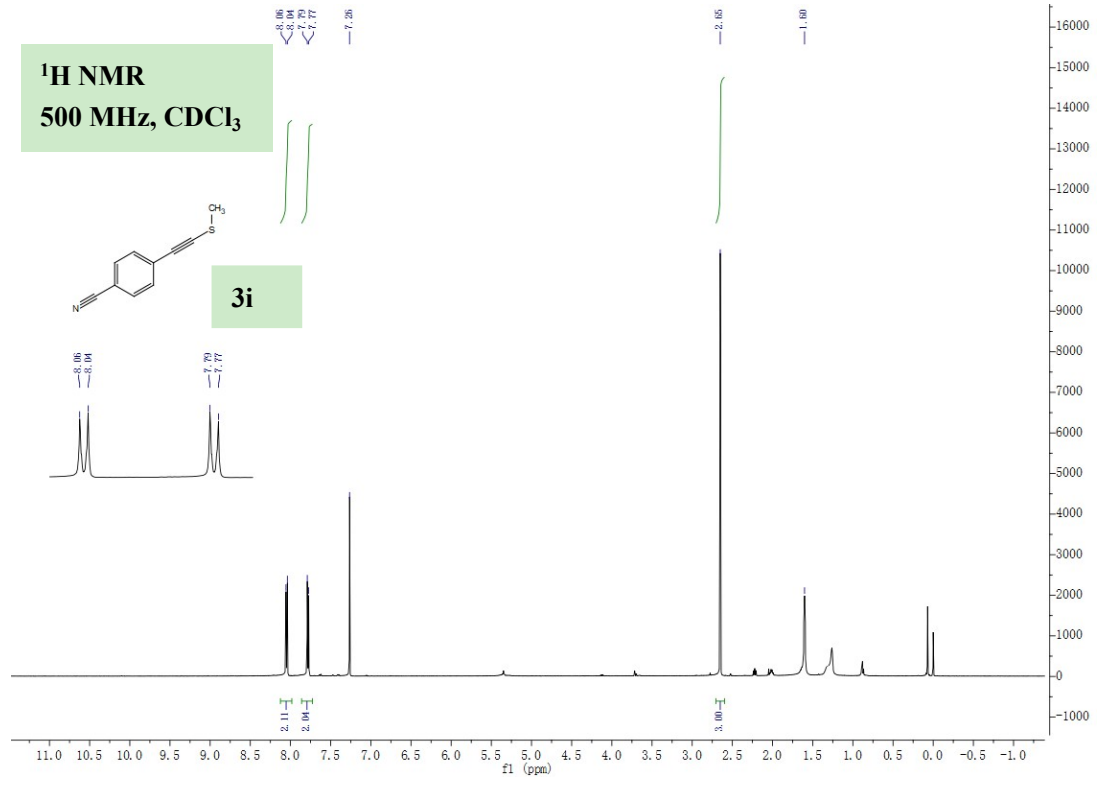


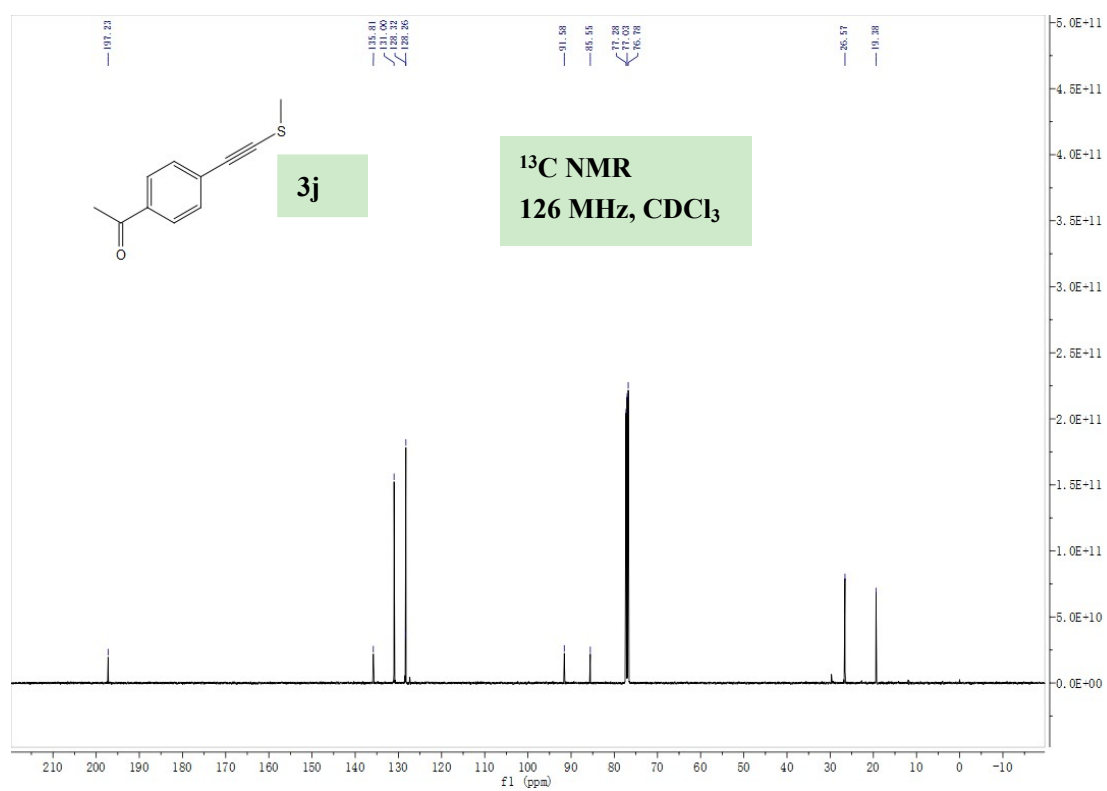
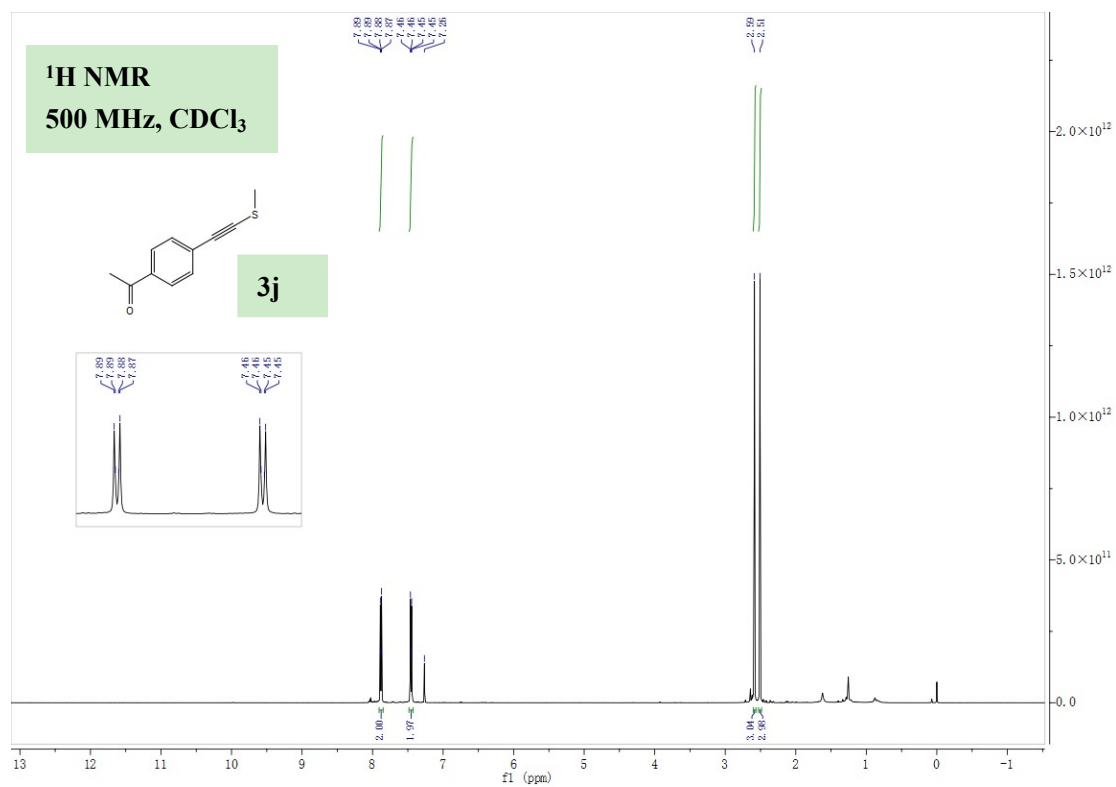


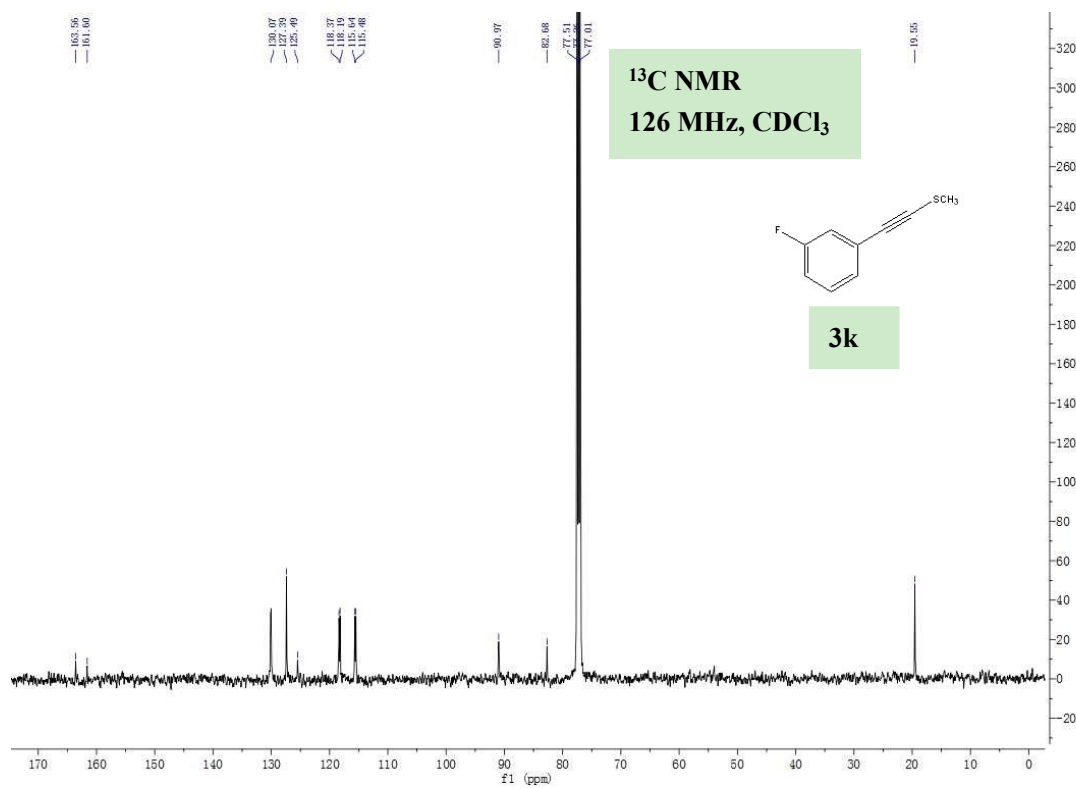
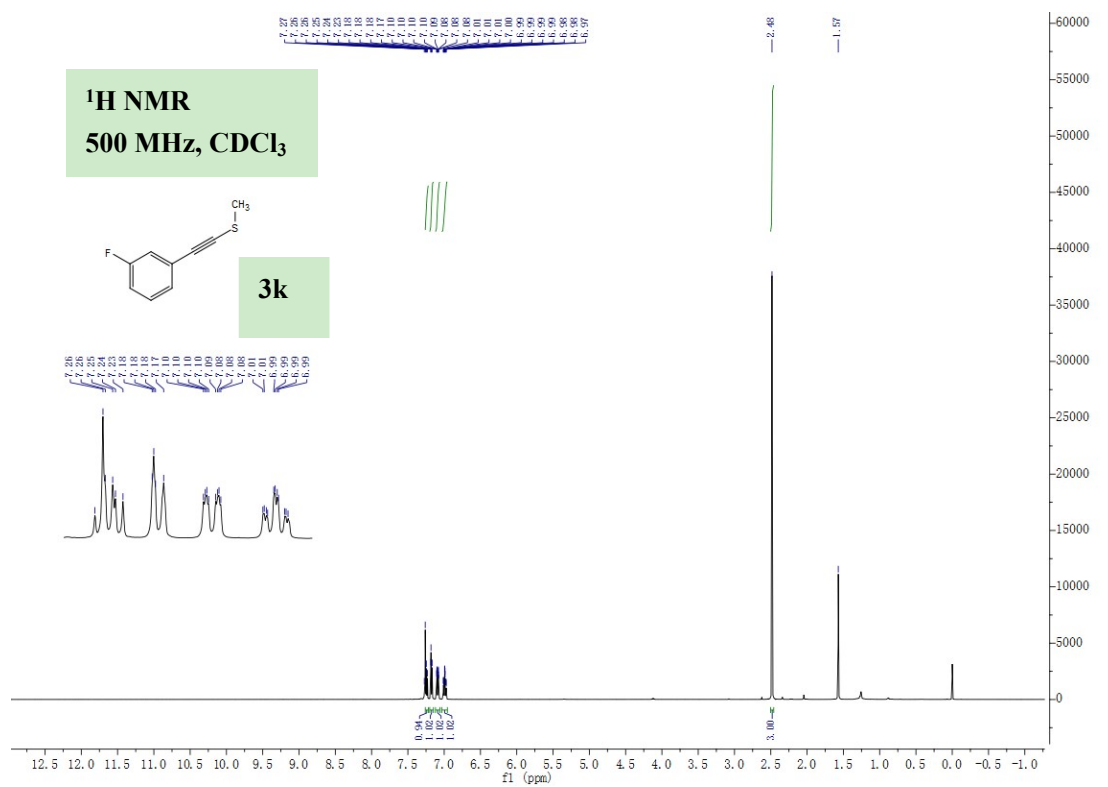


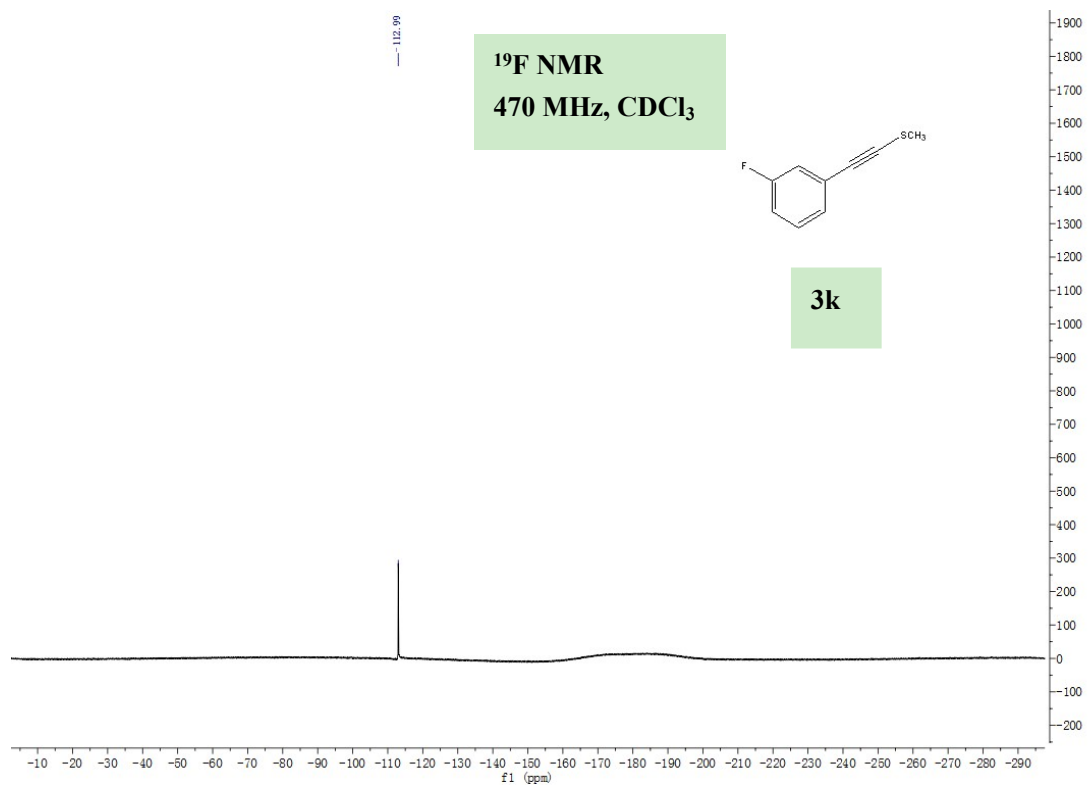


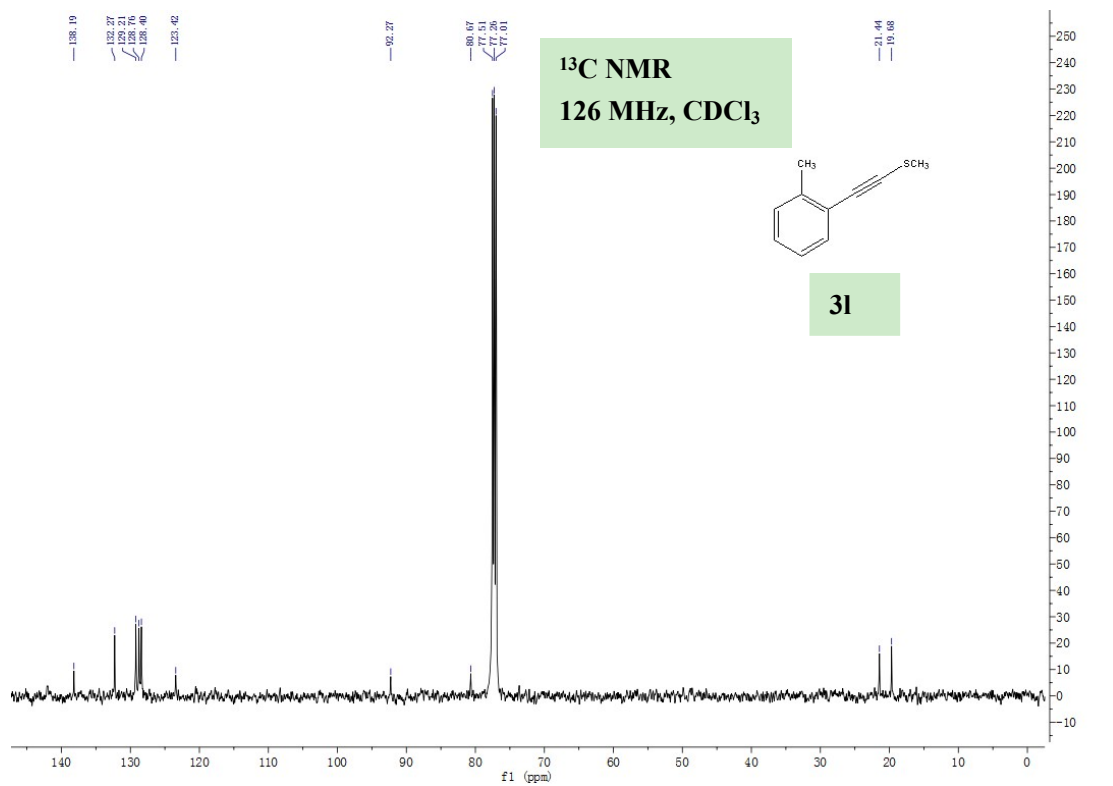
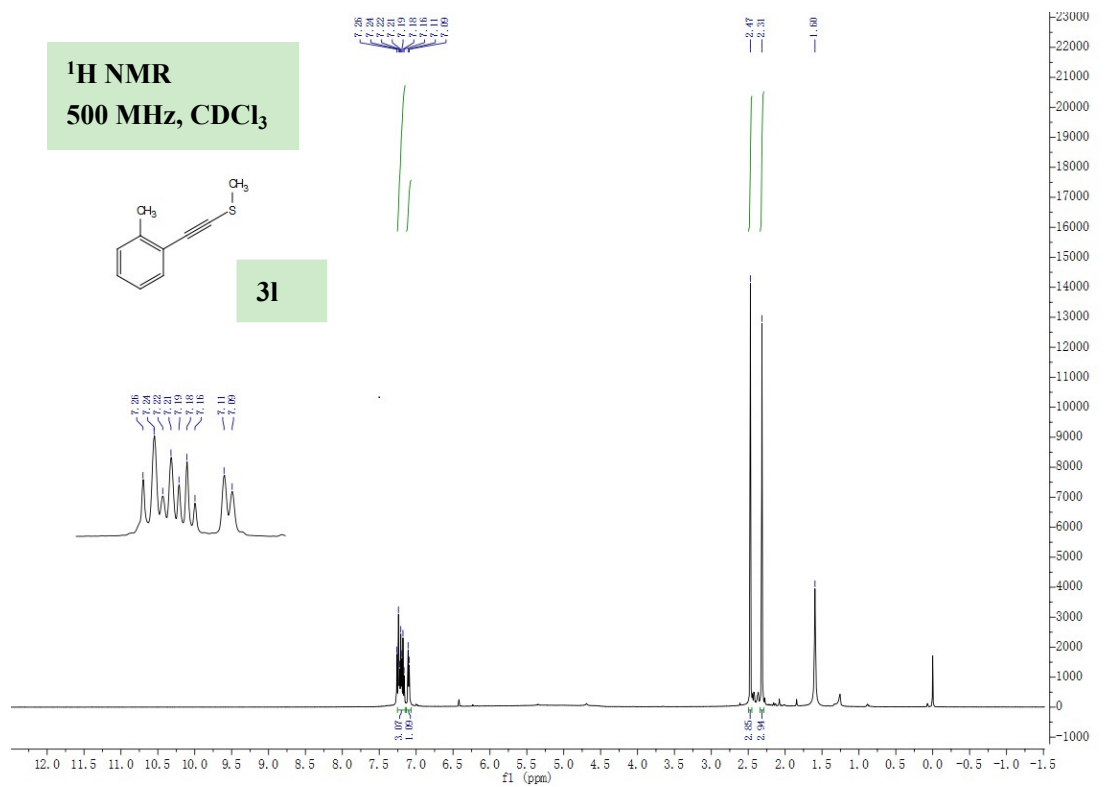


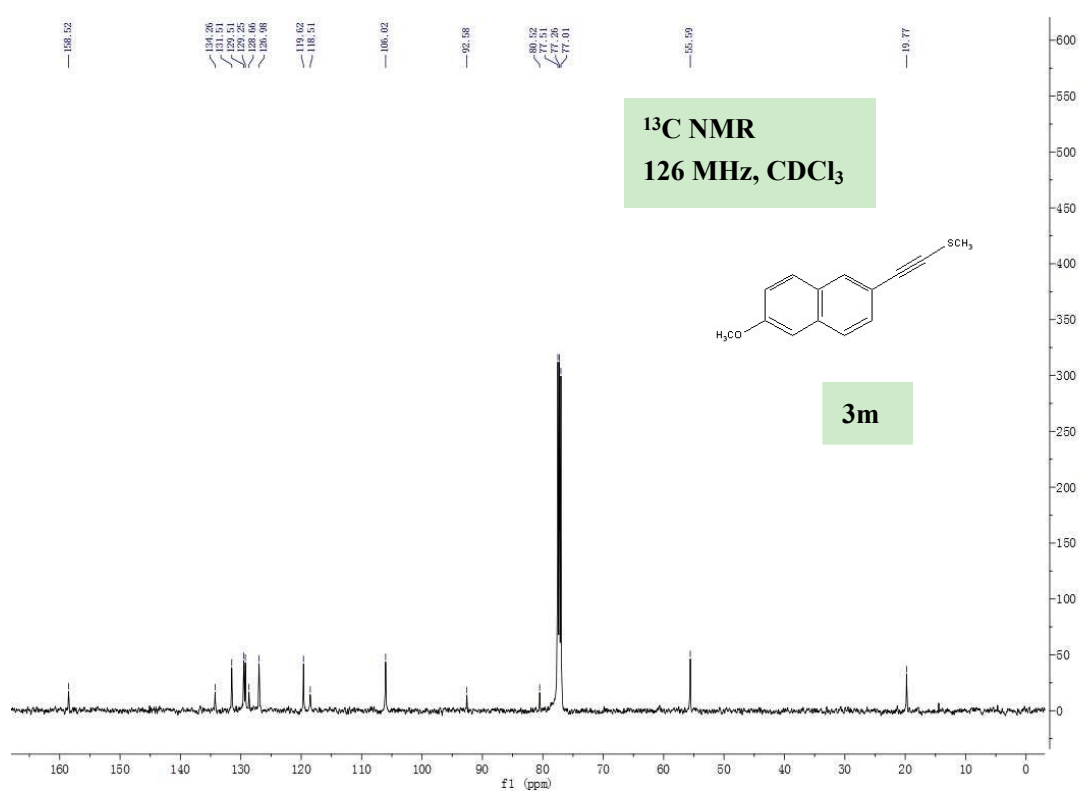
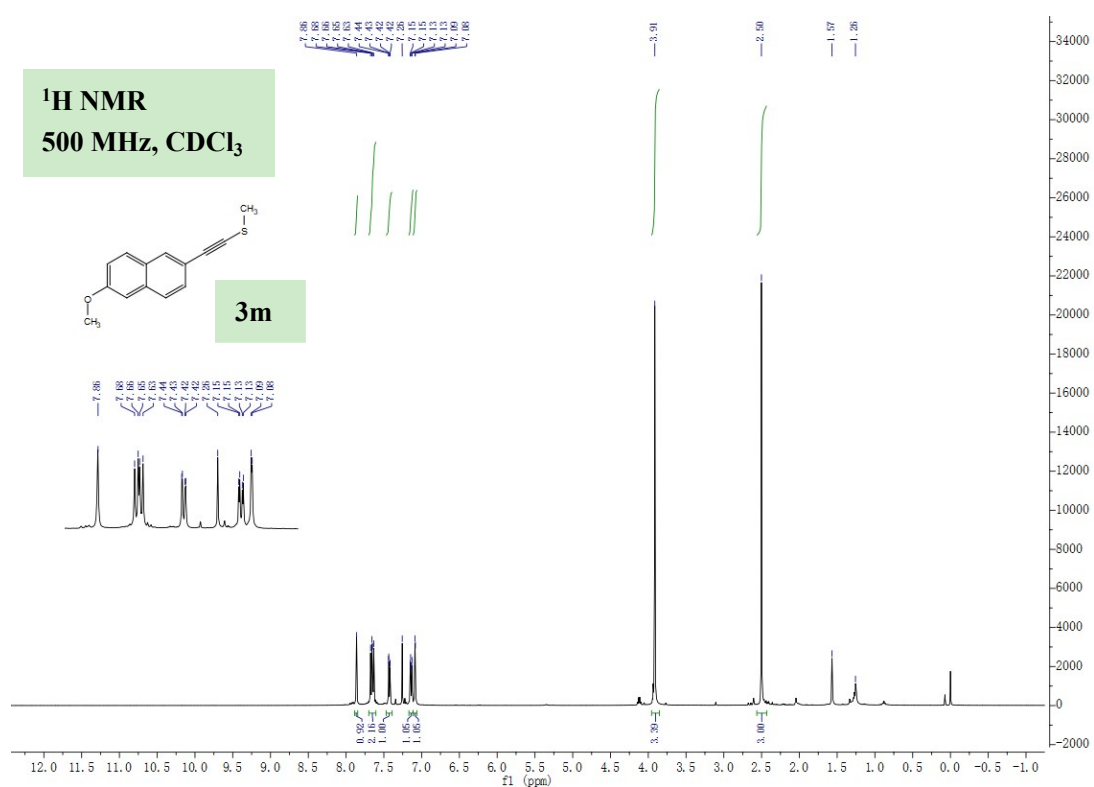


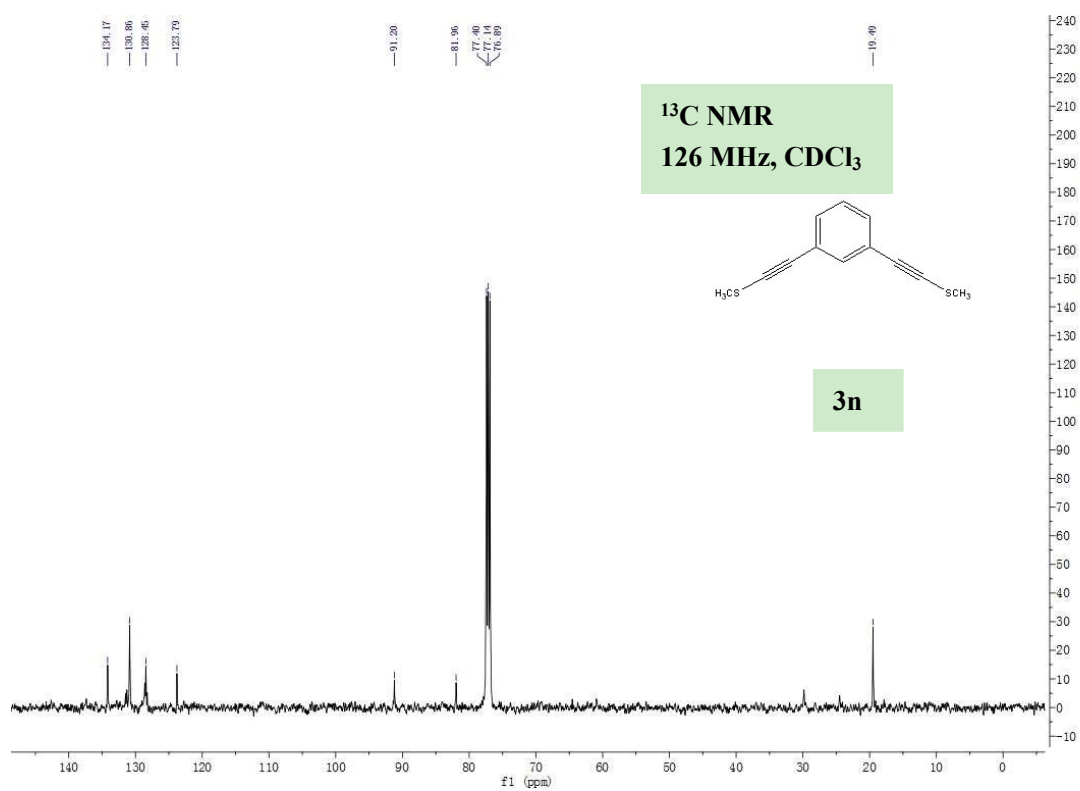
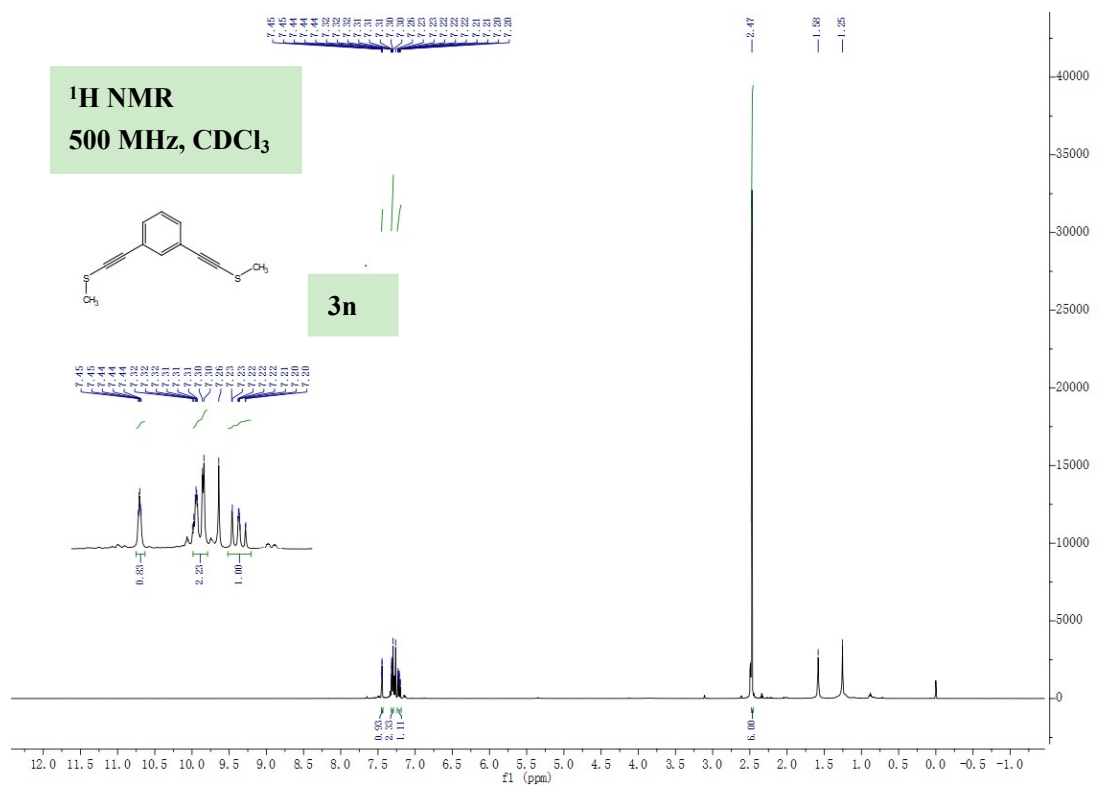


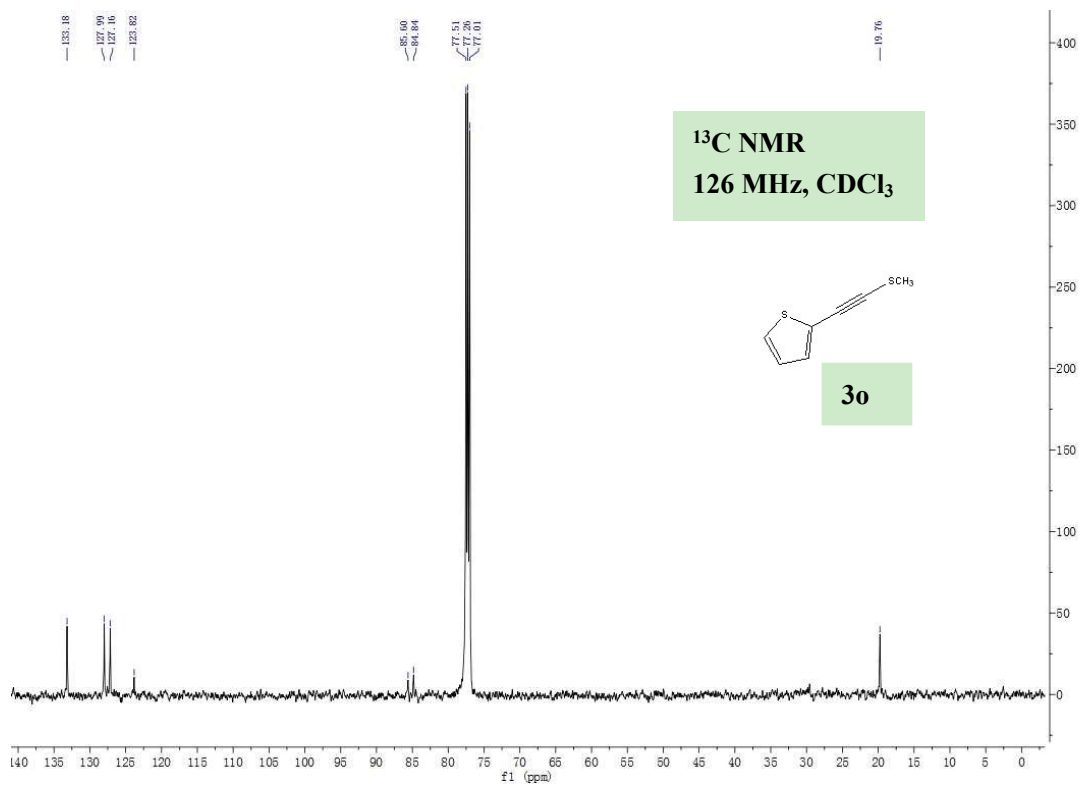
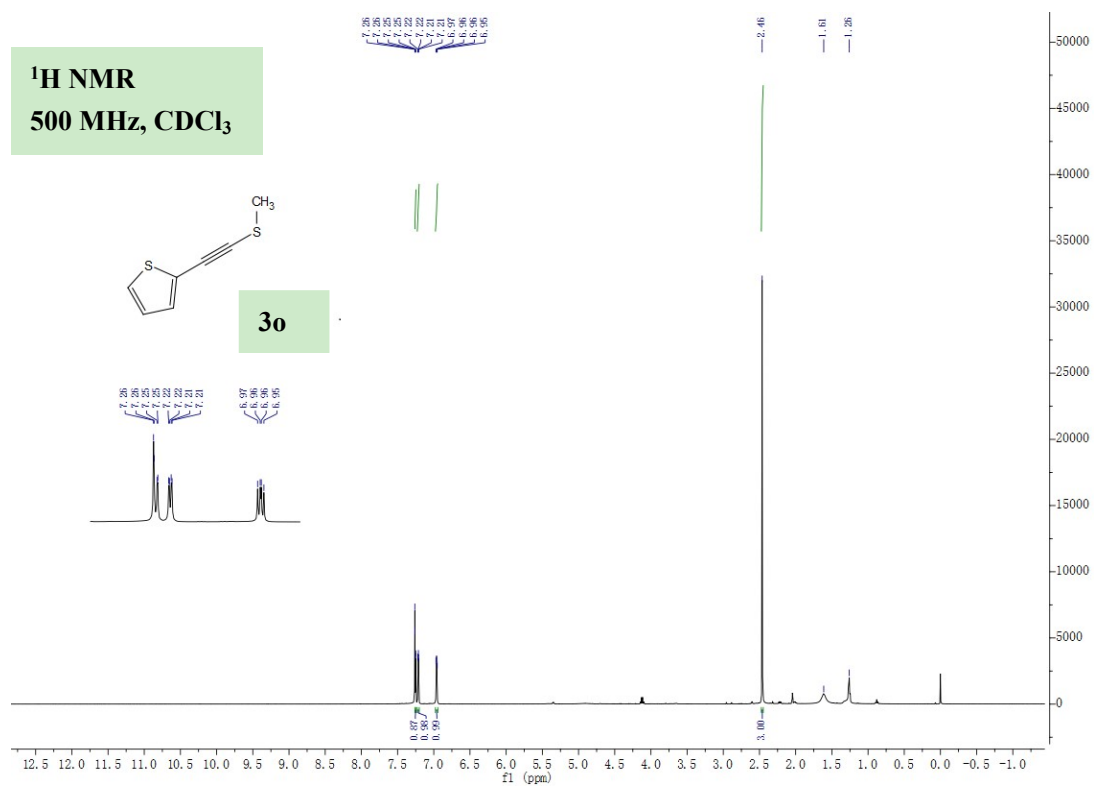


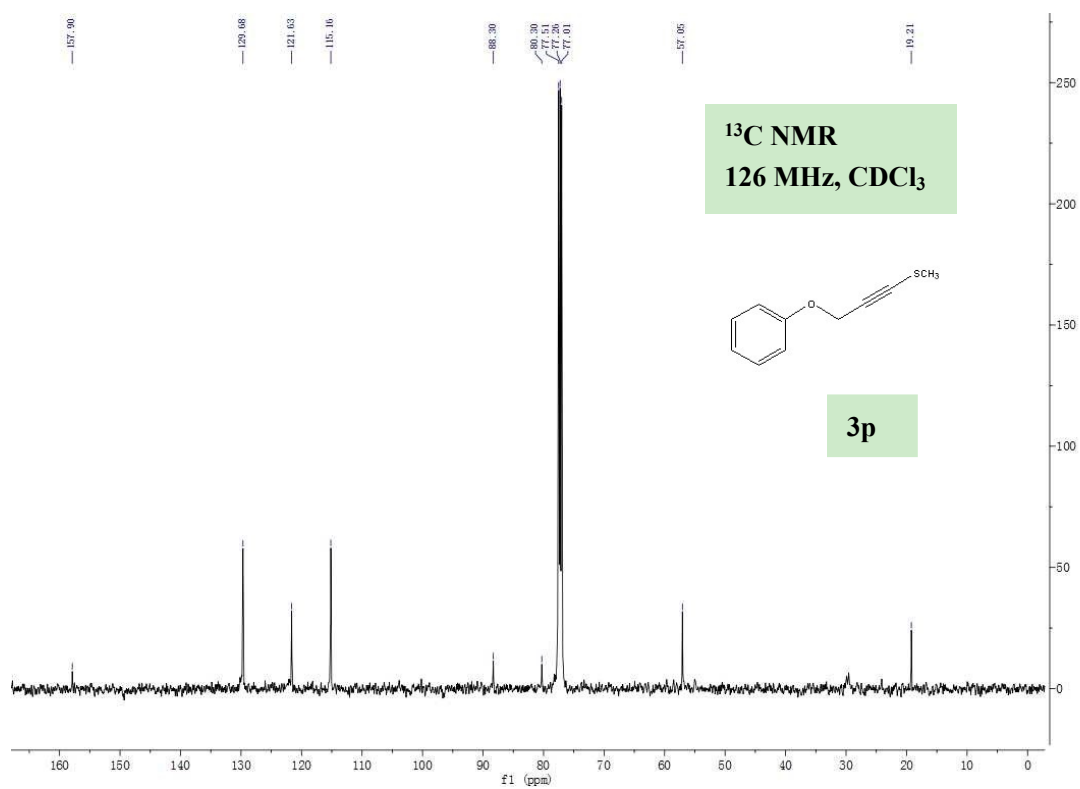
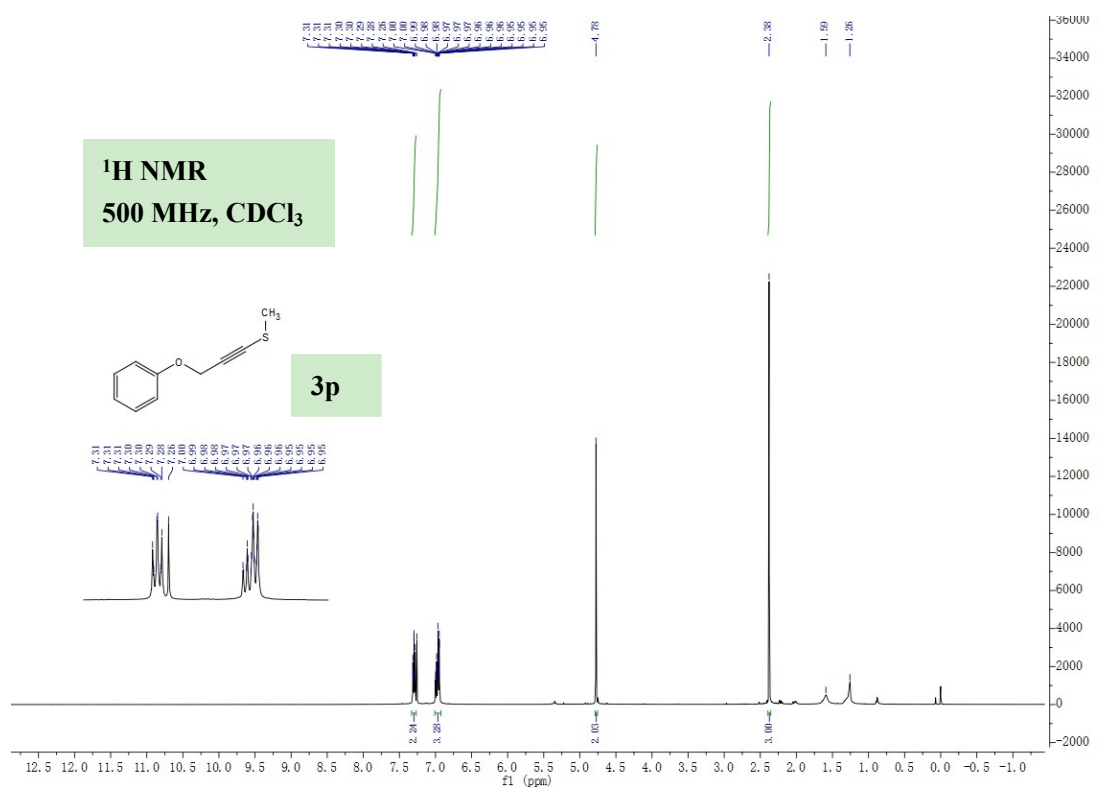




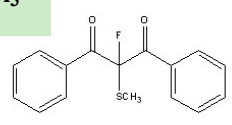








¹⁹F NMR
470 MHz, CDCl₃



5a

