

## Supporting Information

### Unprecedented Mo<sub>3</sub>S<sub>4</sub> cluster-catalyzed radical C-C cross-coupling reactions of aryl alkynes and acrylates

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## 1. Materials and methods

All reactions were performed under free atmosphere, unless otherwise stated. Starting  $[\text{Mo}_3\text{S}_4\text{Cl}_3(\text{dmen})_3]\text{Cl}$  complex was prepared according to the published procedure replacing  $\text{HBF}_4$  by  $\text{HCl}$ .<sup>1</sup> All other reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used as received.

Elemental analyses were performed with a Euro EA 3000 Elemental Analyzer. UV-Visible spectra were recorded on an Agilent Cary 60 spectrophotometer. Mass spectra were registered in a QTOF Premier instrument operated in the V-mode at a resolution of ca. 10 000 (FWHM) and a triple quadrupole mass spectrometer, both of them were equipped with an orthogonal Z-spray-electrospray interface (Waters, Manchester, UK). The temperature of the source block was set to 100 °C, and the desolvation temperature was set to 120 °C. A capillary voltage of 3.3 kV was used in the positive scan mode, and the cone voltage was set to  $U_c = 20$  V. Sample solutions in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  or  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  were injected with a syringe pump directly connected to the ESI source at a flow rate of  $10 \mu\text{Lmin}^{-1}$ . The observed isotopic pattern of each compound perfectly matched the theoretical isotope pattern calculated from their elemental composition by using the MassLynx 4.1 program.<sup>2</sup> EI (electron impact) mass spectra were recorded on a MAT 95XP spectrometer (70 eV, Thermo ELECTRON CORPORATION).  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance III HD 400 MHz, 300 MHz spectrometers. The cyclic voltammograms were recorded in an Echochemie PGSTAT20 electrochemical analyzer. All measurements were carried out with a conventional three-electrode configuration consisting of glassy carbon working and platinum auxiliary electrodes and an Ag/AgCl reference electrode. Dry acetonitrile purified by using an MBRAUN SPS-800 system was used as solvent. Tetra-n-butylammonium hexafluorophosphate (0.01 M solution) was used as a supporting electrolyte. Redox potential values ( $E_{1/2}$ ) were determined as  $(E_a + E_c)/2$ , where  $E_a$  and  $E_c$  are anodic and cathodic peak potentials, respectively. The GC yields were determined by GC-FID using benzyl benzoate or n-hexadecane as an internal standard. Gas chromatography analyses were performed on an Agilent 7820A GC System equipped with a FID and a capillary column Agilent (HP-5, 30m x 0.32mm x 0.25  $\mu\text{m}$ ). GC-Mass experiments were carried out in an Agilent 5977E network equipped with a mass-selective detector. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Nicolet iS5 FT-IR (Thermo Fisher).

## 2. General procedures for the catalytic reactions

### 2.1. General procedure for the catalytic hydrogenation of phenylacetylene (1a). General procedure A:

A 4 mL glass vial containing a stirring bar was charged with the molybdenum catalyst (4.1 mg, 0.0050 mmol of  $[\text{Mo}_3\text{S}_4\text{Cl}_3(\text{dmen})_3](\text{Cl})$ ), phenylacetylene (11  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.1 mmol), benzyl benzoate

(10  $\mu$ L; added as an internal standard) and 2 mL of CH<sub>3</sub>OH. Afterwards, the reaction vial was capped with a septum equipped with a syringe and set in the alloy plate and then introduced into a 300 mL autoclave. Once sealed, the autoclave was purged three times with 20 bar of hydrogen, then pressurized to 10 bar and placed into an aluminum block preheated at 80 °C. After 18 h, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the hydrogen was released. Ethyl acetate (2 mL) was then added, and a sample was taken to be analyzed by GC.

## **2.2. General procedure for the cross-coupling reaction. General procedure B:**

A 4 mL glass vial containing a stirring bar was charged with the molybdenum catalyst (0.0050 or 0.0075 mmol of [Mo<sub>3</sub>S<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>(dmen)<sub>3</sub>]Cl), alkyne (0.1 mmol), activated alkene (0.6 mmol), internal standard (10  $\mu$ L; benzyl benzoate or hexadecane) and 2 mL of CH<sub>3</sub>OH. Afterwards, the reaction vial was capped with a septum equipped with a syringe and set in the alloy plate and then introduced into a 300 mL autoclave. Once sealed, the autoclave was purged three times with a pressure of hydrogen 10 bar higher than the working one, then pressurized to the working pressure and placed into an aluminium block preheated at 80 °C. After 18 h, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the hydrogen was released. Ethyl acetate (2 mL) was then added, and a sample was taken to be analyzed by GC. To determine the isolated yields of the C-C product the reaction was performed in four different vials without internal standard. After completion of the reaction, the mixtures were collected in the same round flask and finally, they were taken to dryness and purified by flash silica gel chromatography (heptane/ethyl acetate mixtures) to give the corresponding pure product. In the case of using 2-ethylhexyl acrylate or benzyl acrylate as coupling partner, after taking the sample to dryness the excess of acrylate was removed by distillation.

## **3. Synthesis of homocoupling reaction products**

### **2,3-diphenylbutane (2c)<sup>3,4</sup>**

In a Schlenk tube under nitrogen atmosphere, PdCl<sub>2</sub>(rac-BINAP) (20 mg, 0.025 mmol) and ( $\alpha$ -methylbenzyl)zinc bromide (0.7 mmol) were dissolved in THF (5 mL), followed by the addition of desyl chloride (58 mg, 0.25 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C until the desyl chloride was completely consumed. Then, 5 mL of ethyl acetate and 2 g of silica gel was added, and the solvent was removed under vacuum. The solid residue was then subjected to column chromatography and the product was eluted with hexane as a mixture of meso and rac isomers (83.1 mg, 79%).

The mixture was dissolved in hot ethanol (1 mL) and cooled down. The meso isomer was filtered off and rinsed with cold ethanol yielding colourless crystals (43.2 mg, 52%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 7.33-7.29 (m, 4H), 7.25-7.19 (m, 6H), 2.85-2.77 (m, 2H), 1.00 (dd, J=2.2 Hz, J=4.7 Hz, 6H).

Silica gel was added to the previous filtrate and the mixture was taken to dryness and the rac isomers was eluted with hexane as a colourless oil (30.2 mg, 36%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 7.18-7.13 (m, 4H), 7.09-7.02 (m, 6H), 3.00-2.92 (m, 2H), 1.30 (dd, J=2.0 Hz, J=4.7 Hz, 6H).

#### **(Z)-(2-bromovinyl)benzene (2f)<sup>5</sup>**

To a solution of trans-cinnamic acid (5.5 g, 31.0 mmol) in acetic acid (20 mL) was added bromine (1.8 mL, 34.1 mmol) dropwise at rt. After one hour of stirring, the reaction was quenched with an aqueous solution of sodium thiosulfate (1M, 20 mL) yielding a white solid which was filtered off and washed with water and chloroform. The solid was dried under reduced pressure at 40 °C overnight and it was used without further purification for the next step (7.4 g, 65%).

To a cooled 0 °C solution of crude cinnamic acid dibromide (2.5 g, 8.1 mmol) in DMF (10 mL) was added NEt<sub>3</sub> (2.2 mL, 16.2 mmol) dropwise. The resulting mixture was warmed to rt and stirred for 5h. The reaction was quenched by the addition of water, the two phases were separated and the aqueous one was extracted with pentane (5 x 10 mL). Finally, the combined organic fractions were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure affording the pure compound as a pale-yellow oil (0.99 g, 67%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 7.70 (d, J=7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.43-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, J=8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d, J=8.1 Hz, 1H).

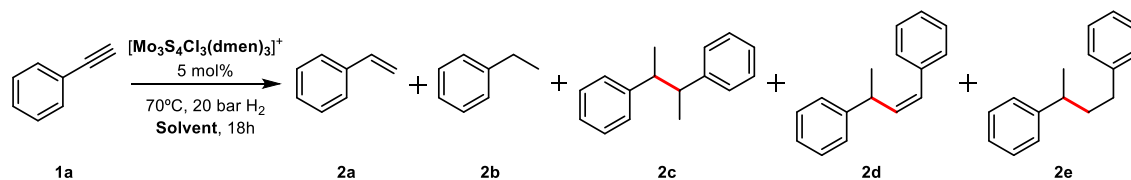
#### **(Z)-1,3-diphenyl-1-butene (2d)<sup>6</sup>**

In a Schlenck tube under nitrogen containing zinc dust (200 mg, 3.0 mmol) and PdCl<sub>2</sub>(Amphos)<sub>2</sub> (15 mg, 0.02 mmol, 2 mol%) was added degassed water (3 mL). Then, N,N,N',N'-tetramethylethylenediamine (TMEDA, 117 mg, 1 mmol) was added at rt followed by the addition of (1-chloroethyl)benzene (290 mg, 2.0 mmol) and (Z)-(2-bromovinyl)benzene (183 mg, 1.0 mmol). The vial was stirred vigorously at rt for 6 h. The reaction was quenched by the addition of EtOAc, the two phases were separated and the aqueous one was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic fractions were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the obtained crude was purified by silica gel chromatography using hexane as eluent to afford the desired product as a pale-yellow oil (120.7 mg, 58%). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ = 7.40-7.22 (m, 10H), 6.55 (d, J=11.6 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (dd, J=10.4 Hz, J=11.5 Hz, 1H), 4.12-4.04 (m, 1H), 1.45 (d, J=6.9 Hz, 3H).

## 4. Conditions optimization for the hydrogenation of alkynes

### 4.1. Conditions optimization for the hydrogenation of phenylacetylene (1a).

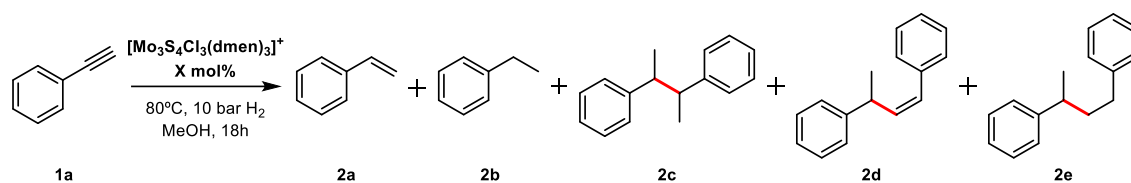
**Table S1.** Influence of the solvent in the hydrogenation of phenylacetylene (1a).<sup>[a]</sup>



Entry	Solvent	Conversion (%)	Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>				
			2a	2b	2c	2d	2e
1	THF	14	-	4	-	-	-
2	Toluene	5	3	2	-	-	-
3	Acetone	47	-	24	-	-	-
4	H <sub>2</sub> O	18	-	3	-	-	-
5	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	85	8	14	24	14	-
6	EtOH	>99	14	10	27	9	4
7	MeOH	>99	17	8	42	8	3

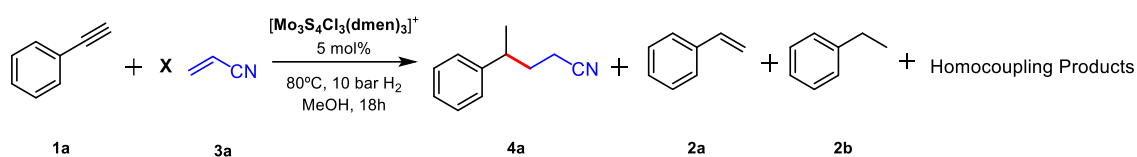
<sup>[a]</sup> Reaction conditions: phenylacetylene (0.1 mmol), catalyst (5 mol%), 80 °C, H<sub>2</sub> pressure (20 bar), solvent (2 mL), 18 h. <sup>[b]</sup> Determined by GC using benzyl benzoate as an internal standard.

**Table S2.** Influence of the catalyst loading in the hydrogenation of phenylacetylene (1a).<sup>[a]</sup>



Entry	X mol (%)	Conversion (%)	Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>				
			2a	2b	2c	2d	2e
1	0	10	-	-	-	-	-
2	1	45	-	15	2	4	-
3	3	94	6	7	38	17	-
4	5	>99	10	8	52	18	-
5	7	>99	10	8	48	13	-

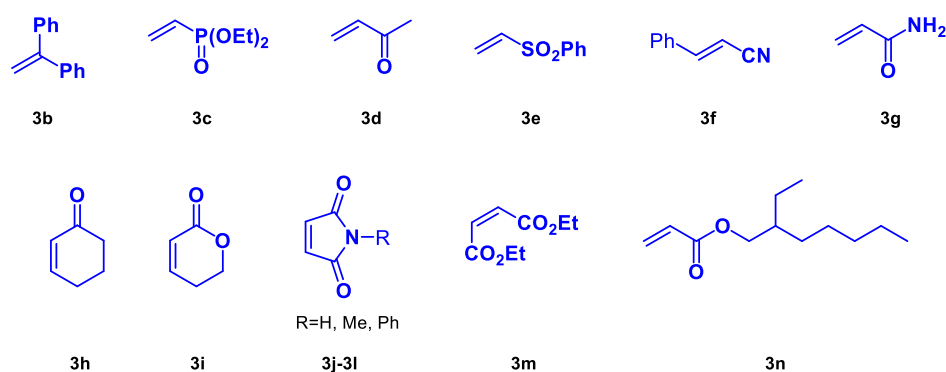
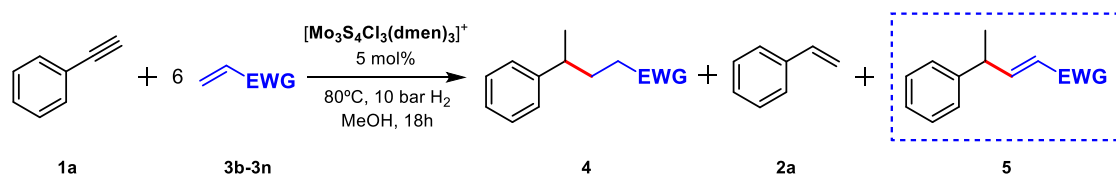
<sup>[a]</sup> Reaction conditions: phenylacetylene (0.1 mmol), [Mo<sub>3</sub>S<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>(dmen)<sub>3</sub>]Cl as catalyst, 80 °C, H<sub>2</sub> pressure (10 bar), CH<sub>3</sub>OH (2 mL), 18 h. <sup>[b]</sup> Determined by GC using benzyl benzoate as an internal standard.

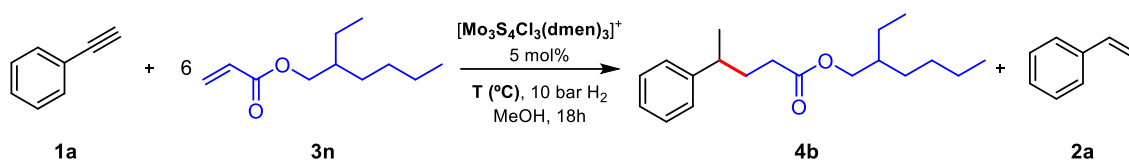
**Table S3.** Influence of the equivalents of acrylonitrile (**3a**) in the spin-adduct (**4a**) formation.<sup>[a]</sup>

Entry	Equiv. acrylonitrile	Conversion (%)	Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>			
			4a	2a	2b	H.P.
1	1	98	48	9	4	17
2	2	97	71	9	2	-
3	4	>99	73	8	-	-
4	6	>99	77	10	-	-
5	10	>99	65	10	-	-

<sup>[a]</sup> Reaction conditions: phenylacetylene (0.1 mmol), catalyst (5 mol%), 80 °C, H<sub>2</sub> pressure (10 bar), CH<sub>3</sub>OH (2 mL), 18 h. <sup>[b]</sup> Determined by GC using benzyl benzoate as an internal standard.

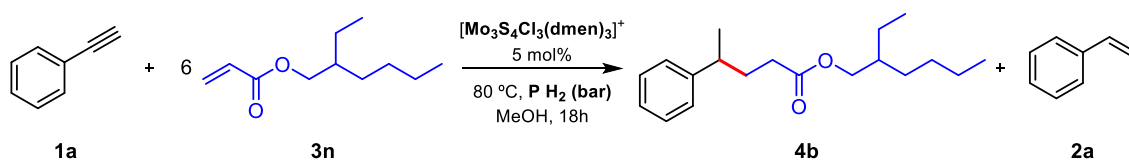
#### 4.2. Conditions optimization for the cross-coupling reaction.

**Scheme S1.** Screening of activated alkenes in the hydrogenation of phenylacetylene (**1a**). Reaction conditions: phenylacetylene (0.1 mmol), alkene (0.6 mmol), catalyst (5 mol%), 80 °C, H<sub>2</sub> (10 bar), 2 mL MeOH, 18h.

**Table S4.** Influence of the temperature in the cross-coupling reaction.<sup>[a]</sup>

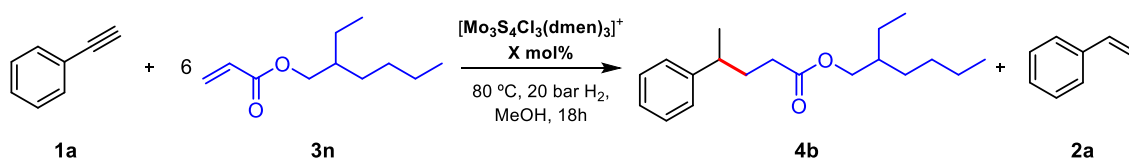
Entry	T (°C)	Conversion (%)	Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>	
			4b	2a
1	60	40	10	6
2	80	98	42	8
3	100	98	32	8
4	120	97	20	9

<sup>[a]</sup> Reaction conditions: phenylacetylene (0.1 mmol), acrylate (0.6 mmol), catalyst (5 mol%), H<sub>2</sub> pressure (10 bar), CH<sub>3</sub>OH (2 mL), 18 h. <sup>[b]</sup> Determined by GC using hexadecane as an internal standard.

**Table S5.** Influence of the hydrogen pressure in the cross-coupling reaction.<sup>[a]</sup>

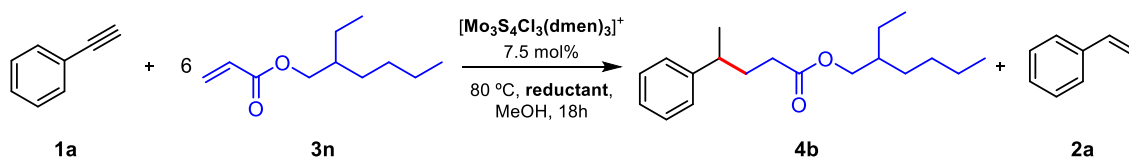
Entry	H <sub>2</sub> pressure (bar)	Conversion (%)	Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>	
			4b	2a
1	5	92	10	6
2	10	98	42	8
3	20	98	49	8
4	30	97	49	10

<sup>[a]</sup> Reaction conditions: phenylacetylene (0.1 mmol), acrylate (0.6 mmol), catalyst (5 mol%), 80 °C, CH<sub>3</sub>OH (2 mL), 18 h. <sup>[b]</sup> Determined by GC using hexadecane as an internal standard.

**Table S6.** Influence of the catalyst loading in the cross-coupling reaction.<sup>[a]</sup>

Entry	X mol (%)	Conversion (%)	Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>	
			4b	2a
1	0	10	-	-
2	2.5	78	24	8
3	5	99	49	8
4	7.5	97	61	9
5	10	92	60	8

<sup>[a]</sup> Reaction conditions: phenylacetylene (0.1 mmol), acrylate (0.6 mmol),  $[\text{Mo}_3\text{S}_4\text{Cl}_3(\text{dmen})_3]\text{Cl}$  as catalyst,  $80^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\text{H}_2$  pressure (20 bar),  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  (2 mL), 18 h. <sup>[b]</sup> Determined by GC using hexadecane as an internal standard.

**Table S7.** Influence of the reductive source in the cross-coupling reaction.<sup>[a]</sup>

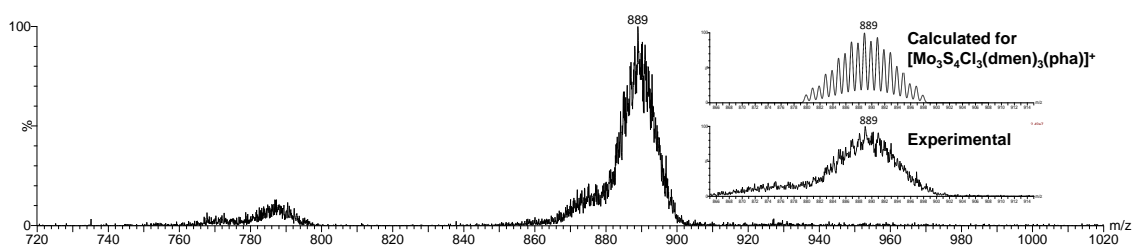
Entry	Reductant	Conversion (%)	Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>	
			4b	2a
1	$\text{H}_2$ (20 bar)	97	61	9
2	Syngas (20 bar)	>99	50	9
3	$\text{HCOOH}:\text{Et}_3\text{N}$ (5:2)	13	-	-

<sup>[a]</sup> Reaction conditions: phenylacetylene (0.1 mmol), acrylate (0.6 mmol), catalyst (7.5 mol%),  $80^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  (2 mL), 18 h. <sup>[b]</sup> Determined by GC using hexadecane as an internal standard.



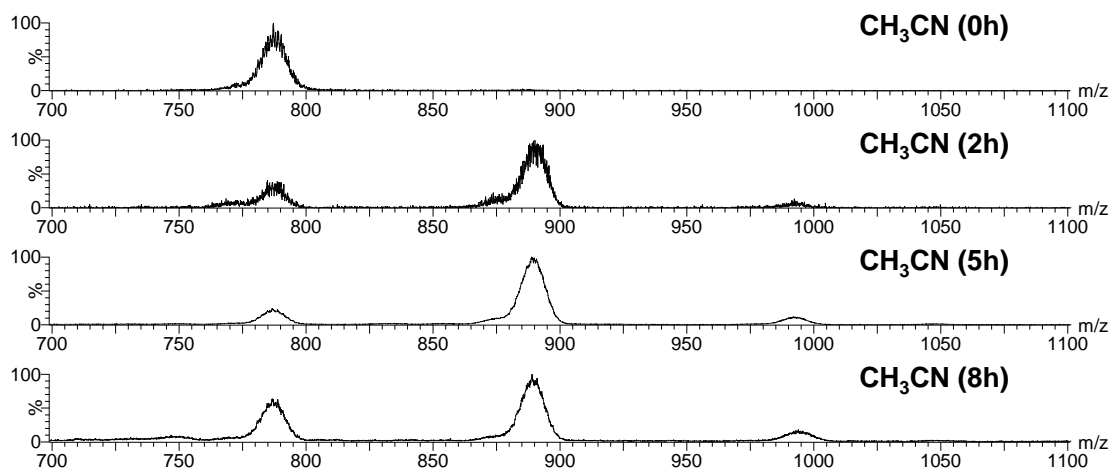
## 5. Synthesis of cluster adduct $[\text{Mo}_3\text{S}_4\text{Cl}_3(\text{dmen})_3(\text{pha})]\text{Cl}$ , **I**

This compound was obtained by adding to a green solution of  $[\text{Mo}_3\text{S}_4\text{Cl}_3(\text{dmen})_3]\text{Cl}$  (40.3 mg, 0.049 mmol) in acetonitrile (10 mL) a 30 fold excess of phenylacetylene (165  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.470 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 hours at room temperature and the solution became dark, then 30 mL of diethyl ether was added causing the immediate precipitation of a pale-green solid. The solid was filtered from the mixture and was washed with the same solvent yielding 40.6 mg (90 %) of the [3+2] addition product.  $\text{Mo}_3\text{S}_4\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{42}\text{N}_6\text{Cl}_4$  (924 g/mol): calcd.; C 26.0, H 4.6, N 9.1, S 13.9; found C 25.6, H 4.8, N 8.7, S 13.2. Q-TOF-MS (20V,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ):  $m/z = 888.8594$   $[\text{M}]^+$ . UV-Visible ( $5 \cdot 10^{-4}$  M,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ );  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  ( $\epsilon$ ,  $\text{L} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1} \cdot \text{cm}^{-1}$ ) nm: 393 (3611), 683 (432), 907 (668) nm. CV ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , vs. ferrocene/ferrocene<sup>+</sup>):  $E_{1/2} = -0.50$  V ( $\Delta E_p = 0.07$  V),  $E_a = 0.13$  V,  $E_{1/2} = 0.67$  V ( $\Delta E_p = 0.06$  V) and  $E_a = 1.14$  V at a potential sweep rate of 0.1 V/s.



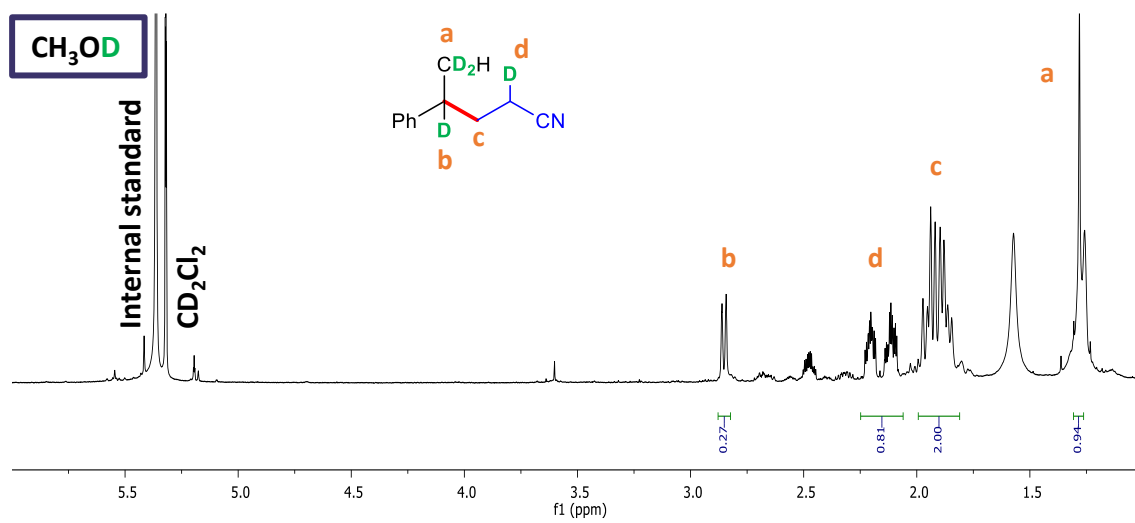
**Figure S1.** ESI-MS spectrum of the cluster adduct **I** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  at 10V.

## 6. Reaction monitoring using $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ as solvent



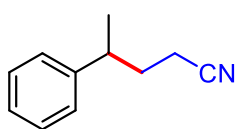
**Figure S2.** ESI mass spectrum of the catalyst after phenylacetylene hydrogenation at different times using  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  as solvent. Spectra registered from different batch experiments at 20 V in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .

## 7. Isotope labeling experiments

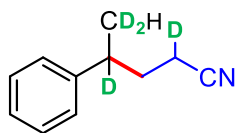


**Figure S3.**  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum of the catalytic reaction mixture under the catalytic conditions using  $\text{CH}_3\text{OD}$  as solvent.

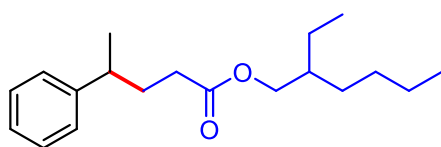
## 8. Characterization data of isolated compounds



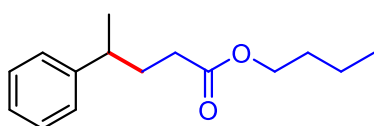
**4-Phenylpentanenitrile (4a).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4a**, 43.3 mg, 68%) was isolated as a pale-yellow oil (Heptane:AcOEt=95:5).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.23 (m, 2H), 7.11 (m, 3H), 2.75 (m, 1H), 2.02 (m, 2H), 1.84 (m, 2H), 1.21 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 3H). The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  of product **4a** is consistent with the reported spectrum.<sup>7</sup>



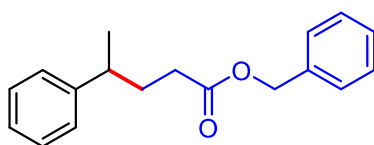
**4-Phenylpentanenitrile- $d_4$  (4a- $d_4$ ).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4a- $d_4$** , 36.3 mg, 56%) was isolated as a pale-yellow oil (Heptane:AcOEt=95:5).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.23 (m, 2H), 7.11 (m, 3H), 2.75 (m, 5%  $^1\text{H}$ , 1H), 2.23 (m, 50%  $^1\text{H}$ , 2H), 1.90 (m, 2H), 1.26 (s, 33%  $^1\text{H}$ , 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ): 146.3, 129.7, 128.0, 127.6, 120.9, 39.7 (m), 34.4, 21.6 (m), 15.5 (t,  $J$  = 15.4 Hz).



**2-Ethylhexyl 4-phenylpentanoate (4b).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4b**, 77.8 mg, 58%) was isolated as a yellowish oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.33-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.15 (m, 3H), 3.94 (d,  $J$  = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.77-2.65 (m, 1H), 2.21-2.15 (m, 2H), 1.96-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.58-1.50 (m, 1H), 1.39-1.25 (m, 12H), 0.91-0.86 (m, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.52, 146.57, 128.37, 127.01, 126.08, 66.50, 39.36, 38.79, 33.22, 32.49, 30.40, 28.93, 23.76, 22.98, 21.97, 13.82, 10.77. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 3030, 2961, 2925, 2865, 1728, 1451, 1160, 762, 696  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_2$ , 290.2240; Found, 290.2241.

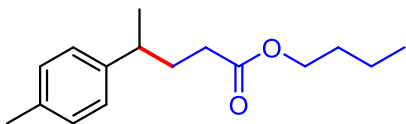


**Butyl 4-phenylpentanoate (4c).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4c**, 74.6 mg, 71%) was isolated as a yellowish oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.34-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.17 (m, 3H), 4.03 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.79-2.67 (m, 1H), 2.21-2.15 (m, 2H), 1.87-1.84 (m, 2H), 1.64-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.43-1.31 (m, 2H), 1.27 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 0.93 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.84, 147.01, 128.81, 127.45, 126.52, 64.43, 39.82, 33.67, 32.91, 31.15, 22.38, 19.58, 13.92. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 3027, 2961, 2931, 2872, 1731, 1451, 1160, 761, 699  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_2$ , 234.1614; Found, 234.1623.

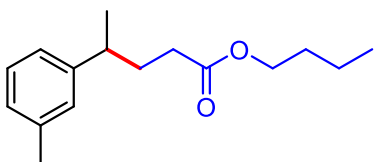


**Benzyl 4-phenylpentanoate (4e).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4e**, 47.4 mg, 42%) was isolated as a yellowish oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.41-7.27 (m, 7H), 7.23-7.17 (m, 3H),

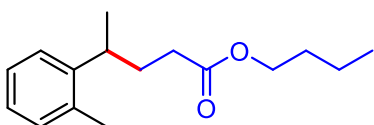
5.08 (s,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.79-2.67 (m, 1H), 2.29-2.22 (m, 2H), 1.98-1.87 (m, 2H), 1.27 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.58, 146.88, 136.81, 128.87, 128.81, 128.49, 127.44, 126.531, 66.36, 39.77, 33.57, 32.87, 23.36. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 3026, 2957, 2927, 2869, 1731, 1493, 1452, 1152, 749, 696  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_2$ , 268.1458; Found, 268.1458.



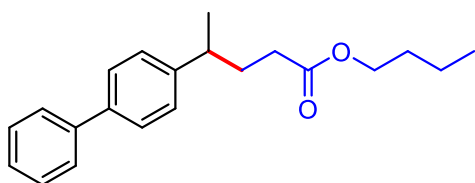
**Butyl 4-(*p*-tolyl)pentanoate (4f).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4f**, 59.5 mg, 59%) was isolated as a yellowish oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (75MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta = 7.14$ -7.06 (m, 4H), 4.02 (t,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.74-2.62 (m, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.20-2.14 (m, 2H), 1.95-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.43-1.31 (m, 2H), 1.25 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 3H), 0.94 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.90, 143.88, 136.04, 129.46, 127.29, 64.41, 39.40, 33.73, 32.94, 31.16, 22.48, 21.11, 19.59, 13.93. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 2957, 2927, 2869, 1732, 1455, 1159, 815  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_2$ , 248.1771; Found, 248.1785.



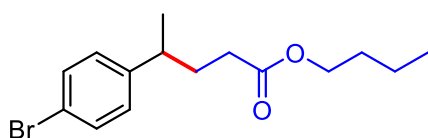
**Butyl 4-(*m*-tolyl)pentanoate (4g).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4g**, 75.4 mg, 66%) was isolated as a yellowish oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta = 7.21$ -7.16 (m, 1H), 7.04-6.96 (m, 3H), 4.02 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.74-2.62 (m, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.20-2.14 (m, 2H), 1.95-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.43-1.31 (m, 2H), 1.25 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 3H), 0.94 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.90, 143.88, 136.04, 129.46, 127.29, 64.41, 39.40, 33.73, 32.94, 31.16, 22.48, 21.11, 19.59, 13.93. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 2957, 2930, 2870, 1731, 1457, 1154, 782, 703  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_2$ , 248.1771; Found, 248.1777.



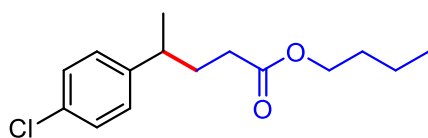
**Butyl 4-(*o*-tolyl)pentanoate (4h).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4h**, 45.4 mg, 37%) was isolated as a yellow oil with the alkene-type side product (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta = 7.20$ -7.05 (m, 4H), 4.01 (t,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 2H), 3.06-2.97 (m, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.22-2.17 (m, 2H), 1.93-1.86 (m, 2H), 1.61-1.53 (m, 3H), 1.40-1.33 (m, 2H), 1.21 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H), 0.92 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.89, 145.13, 135.99, 130.61, 126.61, 126.04, 125.53, 64.44, 34.17, 32.93, 32.78, 31.01, 21.75, 19.66, 19.54, 13.88. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 3018, 2959, 2928, 2871, 1733, 1456, 1161, 758, 727  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_2$ , 248.1771; Found, 248.1765.



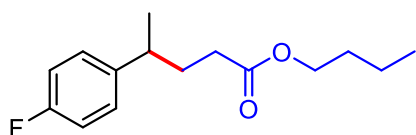
**Butyl 4-(biphenyl-4-yl)pentanoate (4i).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4i**, 76.8 mg, 59%) was isolated as a yellowish oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta = 7.64\text{--}7.55$  (m, 4H), 7.48–7.43 (m, 2H), 7.38–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.32–7.27 (m, 2H), 4.05 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.85–2.73 (m, 1H), 2.26–2.21 (m, 2H), 2.02–1.89 (m, 2H), 1.45–1.35 (m, 2H), 1.39 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 3H), 0.95 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.84, 146.19, 141.39, 139.39, 129.16, 127.93, 127.49, 127.47, 127.30, 64.47, 39.49, 33.65, 32.93, 31.15, 22.38, 19.59, 13.93. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 3027, 2956, 2928, 2869, 1727, 1485, 1452, 1158, 835, 764, 732, 696  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$  [ $\text{M}$ ] $^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_2$ , 310.1927; Found, 310.1931.



**Butyl 4-(4-bromophenyl)pentanoate (4j).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4j**, 92.2 mg, 70%) was isolated as a yellowish oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta = 7.42$  (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 4.01 (t,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.76–2.64 (m, 1H), 2.19–2.13 (m, 2H), 1.96–1.76 (m, 2H), 1.61–1.52 (m, 2H), 1.41–1.29 (m, 2H), 1.24 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H), 0.91 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.67, 146.10, 131.81, 129.34, 119.99, 64.49, 39.30, 33.46, 32.74, 31.10, 22.17, 19.55, 13.89. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 2957, 2930, 2871, 1729, 1489, 1455, 1159, 1070, 1008, 821  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$  [ $\text{M}$ ] $^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_2\text{Br}$ , 312.0719; Found, 312.0719.

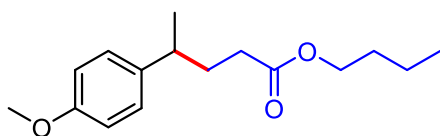


**Butyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)pentanoate (4k).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4k**, 68.8 mg, 66%) was isolated as a yellowish oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta = 7.28$  (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 4.01 (t,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.78–2.65 (m, 1H), 2.20–2.13 (m, 2H), 1.96–1.76 (m, 2H), 1.62–1.53 (m, 2H), 1.42–1.30 (m, 2H), 1.24 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H), 0.91 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.67, 145.59, 131.98, 128.93, 128.85, 64.49, 39.25, 33.55, 32.76, 31.12, 22.24, 19.57, 13.91. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 2958, 2930, 2871, 1730, 1492, 1455, 1161, 1092, 1012, 825  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$  [ $\text{M}$ ] $^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_2\text{Cl}$ , 268.1225; Found, 268.1223.



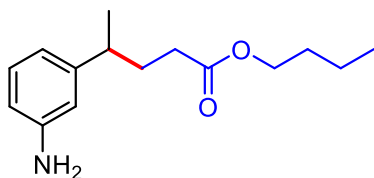
**Butyl 4-(4-fluorophenyl)pentanoate (4l).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4l**, 61.8 mg, 58%) was isolated as a yellowish oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta = 7.19\text{--}7.13$  (m, 2H), 7.03–6.95 (m, 2H), 4.01 (t,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.78–2.67 (m, 1H), 2.19–2.13 (m, 2H), 1.96–1.76 (m, 2H), 1.62–1.52 (m, 1H), 1.41–1.29 (m, 2H), 1.24 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H), 0.92 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.74, 161.74 (d,  $J = 242.7$  Hz), 142.74 (d,  $J = 3.2$  Hz), 128.84 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz), 115.38 (d,  $J = 21.1$  Hz), 64.45,

39.09, 33.72, 32.78, 31.10, 22.24, 19.55, 13.89.  $^{19}\text{F-NMR}$  (282 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): -118.07. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 2959, 2933, 2873, 1730, 1603, 1510, 1221, 1156, 833  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_2\text{F}$ , 252.1520; Found, 252.1520.



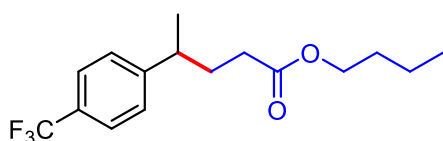
**Butyl 4-(4-methoxyphenyl)pentanoate (4m).**

According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4m**, 94.7 mg, 81%) was isolated as a yellowish oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.11 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 3H), 6.85 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 3H), 4.02 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.73-2.61 (m, 1H), 2.20-2.14 (m, 2H), 1.96-1.76 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.43-1.31 (m, 2H), 1.24 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 0.93 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.90, 158.49, 138.95, 128.29, 114.15, 64.41, 55.55, 38.97, 33.87, 32.92, 31.15, 22.56, 19.58, 13.92. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 2957, 2931, 2871, 2834, 1730, 1610, 1512, 1456, 1244, 1168, 1036, 828  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_3$ , 264.1720; Found, 264.1721.



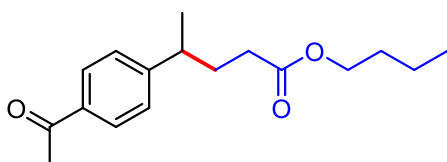
**Butyl 4-(3-aminophenyl)pentanoate (4n).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4n**, 89.4 mg, 82%) was isolated as an orange-brown oil (Heptane:AcOEt=9:1).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.09-7.03 (m, 1H), 6.58-6.49 (m, 3H), 4.04 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.68 (brs, 2H), 2.66-2.54 (m, 1H), 2.21-2.16 (m, 2H), 1.92-1.79 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.43-1.31 (m, 2H), 1.23 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.93 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.96, 148.18, 147.33, 129.58, 117.38, 113.90, 113.131, 64.56, 39.78, 33.52, 32.91, 31.11, 22.32, 19.55, 13.90. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 3460, 3372, 2957, 2929, 2870, 2870, 1720, 1604, 1457, 1159, 863, 780, 700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_2\text{N}$ , 249.1723; Found, 249.1723.



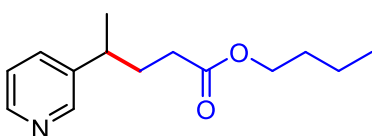
**Butyl 4-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pentanoate (4o).**

According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4o**, 61.1 mg, 42%) was isolated as a colorless oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.57 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 4.01 (t,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.87-2.75 (m, 1H), 2.21-2.15 (m, 2H), 2.01-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.62-1.52 (m, 1H), 1.42-1.32 (m, 2H), 1.28 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.91 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): 173.58, 151.36, 128.63 (q,  $J$  = 32.0 Hz), 127.95, 127.73 (q,  $J$  = 3.9 Hz), 124.91 (q,  $J$  = 271.6 Hz), 64.54, 39.74, 33.37, 32.71, 31.11, 22.08, 19.56, 13.89.  $^{19}\text{F-NMR}$  (282 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ): -62.62. **IR**  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (Neat) 2964, 2935, 2877, 1729, 1619, 1323, 1161, 1117, 1068, 1015, 837  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_2\text{F}_3$ , 302.1488; Found, 302.1492.



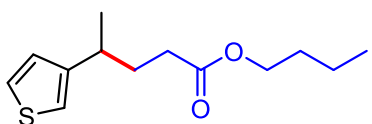
**Butyl 4-(4-acetylphenyl)pentanoate (4p).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4p**, 55.8 mg, 49%) was isolated as a yellowish oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2). **<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (300 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):

$\delta$  = 7.90 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 3H), 7.30 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 3H), 4.00 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.86-2.72 (m, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.23-2.10 (m, 2H), 2.01-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.51 (m, 2H), 1.43-1.32 (m, 2H), 1.28 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 0.91 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 3H). **<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (75 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): 197.84, 173.60, 152.62, 135.90, 128.90, 127.66, 64.49, 39.80, 33.30, 32.72, 31.07, 26.79, 22.00, 19.53, 13.88. **IR**  $\nu_{\max}$  (Neat) 2959, 2930, 2872, 1729, 1681, 1604, 1458, 1415, 1358, 1266, 1161, 1014, 955, 831 cm<sup>-1</sup>. **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$  [M]<sup>+</sup> Calc. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 276.1720; Found, 276.1715.



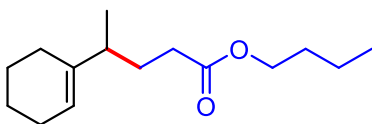
**Butyl 4-(pyridin-3-yl)pentanoate (4r).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4r**, 19.4 mg, 19%) was isolated as a colorless oil (Heptane:AcOEt=85:15). **<sup>1</sup>H-NMR**

(300 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  = 8.43-8.40 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.19 (m, 1H), 4.00 (t,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.82-2.67 (m, 1H), 2.25-2.13 (m, 2H), 1.99-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.50 (m, 2H), 1.42-1.25 (m, 5H), 0.91 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 3H). **<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (75 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): 173.53, 149.61, 148.13, 141.92, 134.46, 123.78, 64.52, 37.29, 33.29, 32.69, 31.06, 21.97, 19.52, 13.87. **IR**  $\nu_{\max}$  (Neat) 2958, 2929, 2872, 1730, 1457, 1424, 807, 715 cm<sup>-1</sup>. **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$  [M]<sup>+</sup> Calc. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N, 235.1567; Found, 235.1568.



**Butyl 4-(thiophen-3-yl)pentanoate (4s).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4s**, 76.5 mg, 72%) was isolated as a yellowish oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2). **<sup>1</sup>H-NMR**

(300 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.29-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.01-6.93 (m, 2H), 4.02 (t,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.96-2.80 (m, 1H), 2.26-2.15 (m, 2H), 1.93-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.52 (m, 2H), 1.45-1.29 (m, 2H), 1.26 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 0.93 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 3H). **<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (75 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): 173.84, 147.96, 127.05, 125.81, 119.79, 64.45, 35.06, 33.46, 32.68, 31.13, 21.87, 19.57, 13.91. **IR**  $\nu_{\max}$  (Neat) 2957, 2929, 2872, 1730, 1454, 1162, 775, 653 cm<sup>-1</sup>. **HRMS (EI)**  $m/z$  [M]<sup>+</sup> Calc. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S, 240.1179; Found, 240.1185.



**Butyl 4-(cyclohex-1-en-3-yl)pentanoate (4w).** According to general procedure B, the desired product (**4w**, 40.1 mg, 32%) was isolated as a colorless oil (Heptane:AcOEt=98:2). **<sup>1</sup>H-**

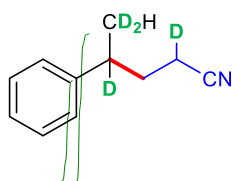
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2863, 1733, 1453, 1162  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . **HRMS (ESI)**  $m/z$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  Calc. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ , 261.1830;  
Found, 261.1833.

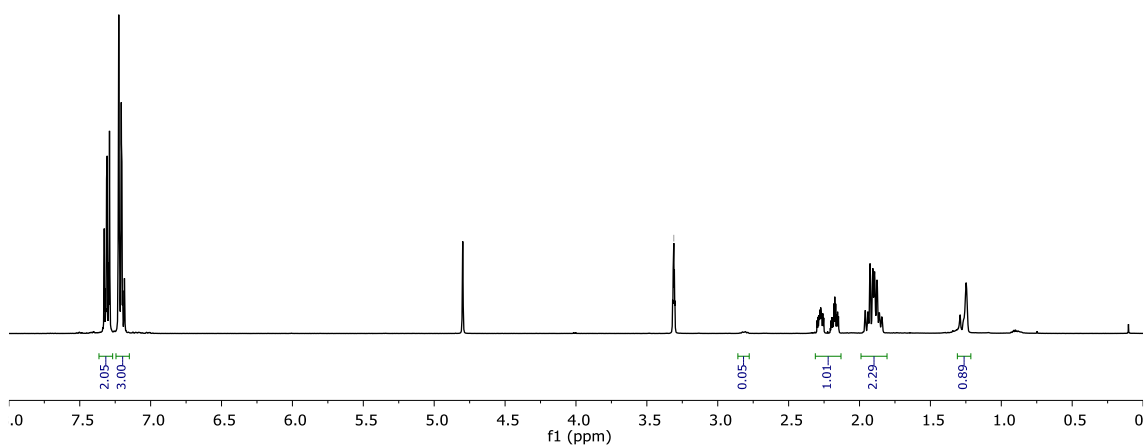


## 9. $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of isolated compounds

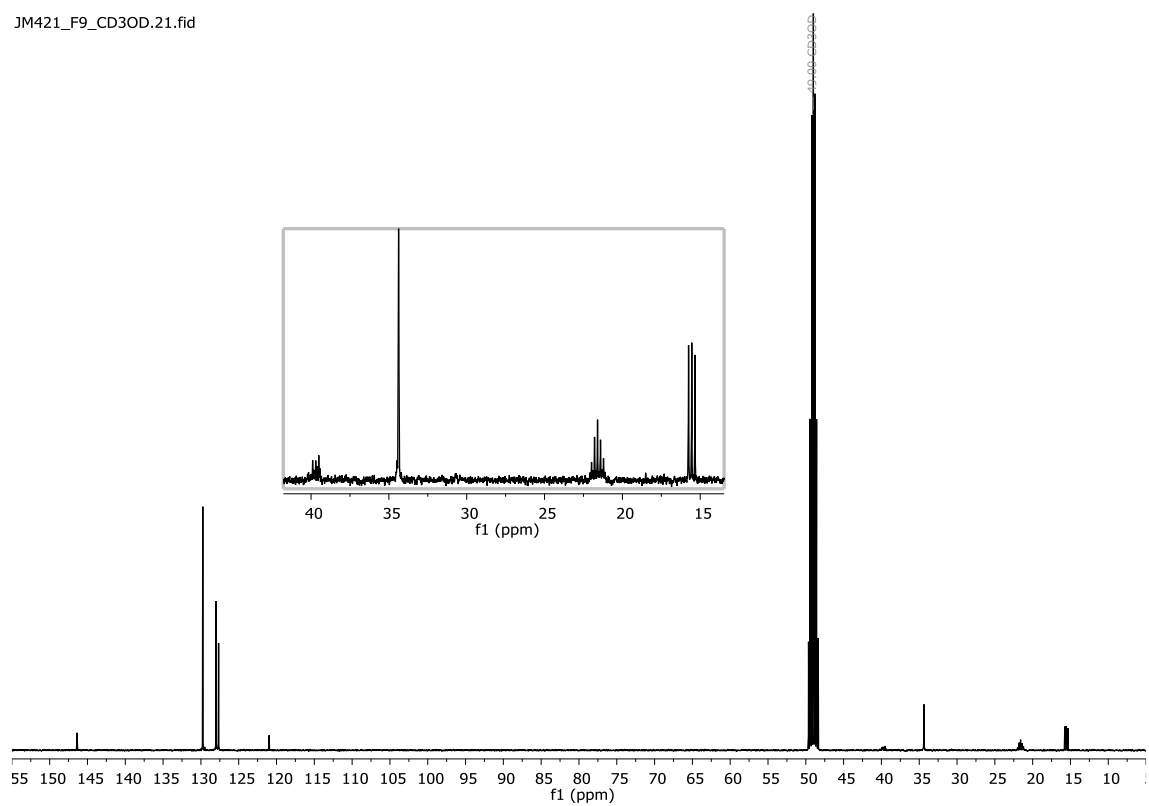
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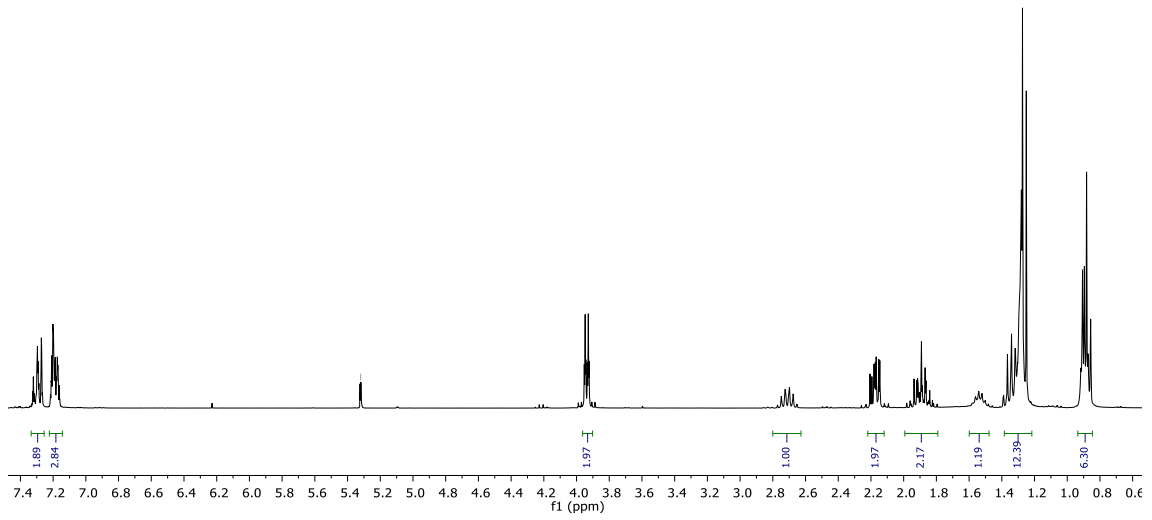
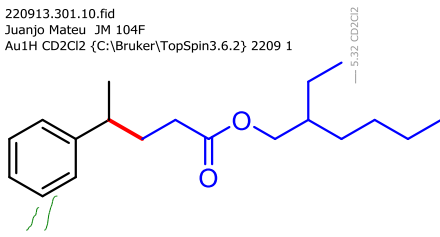
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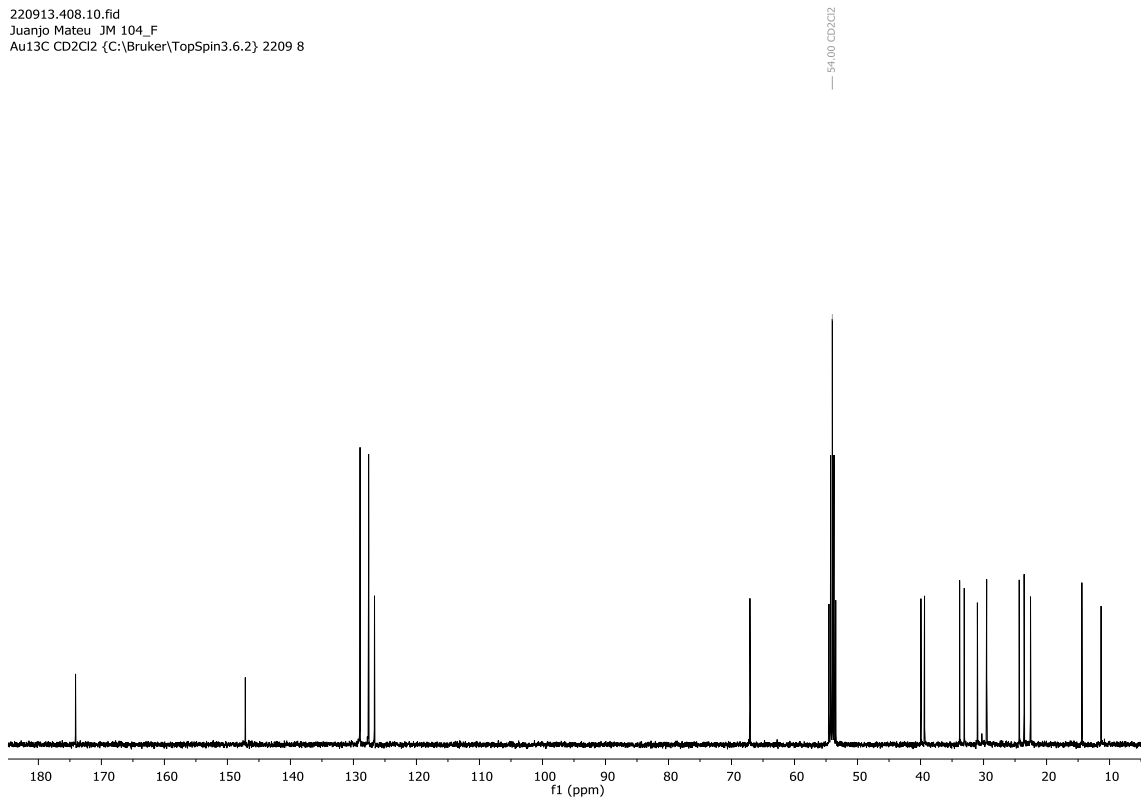
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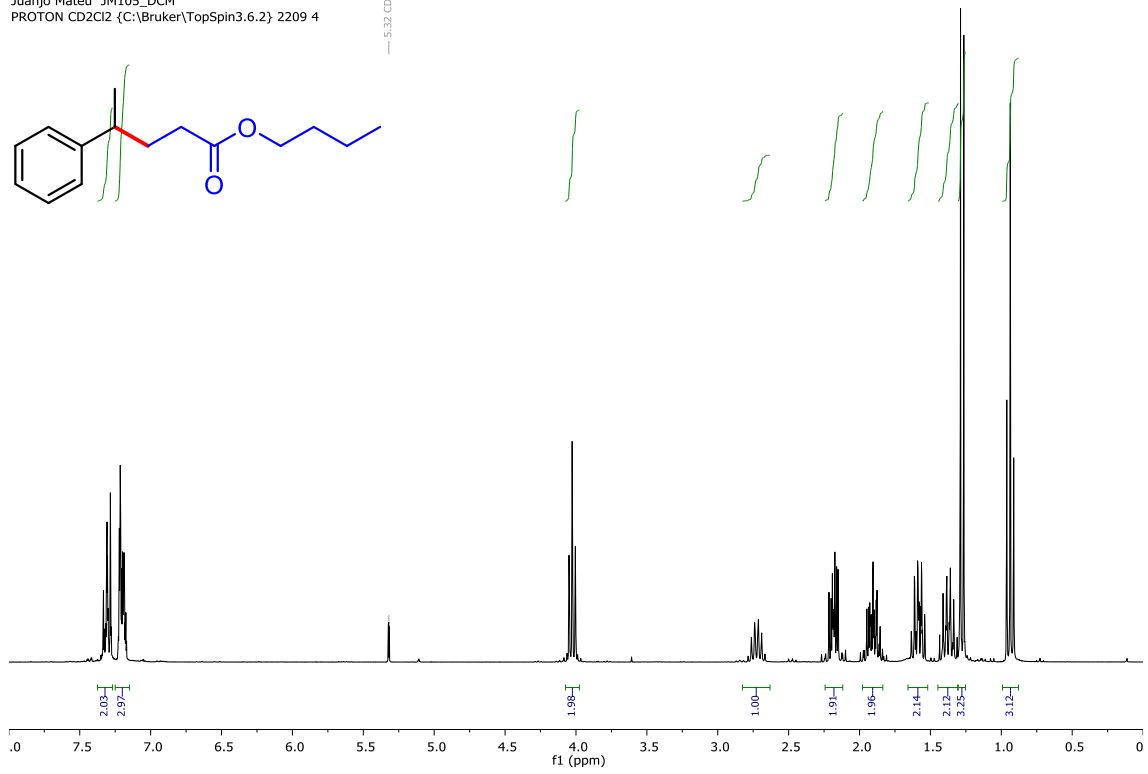
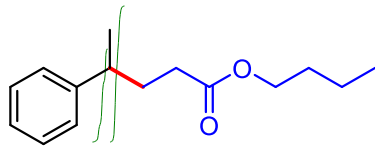
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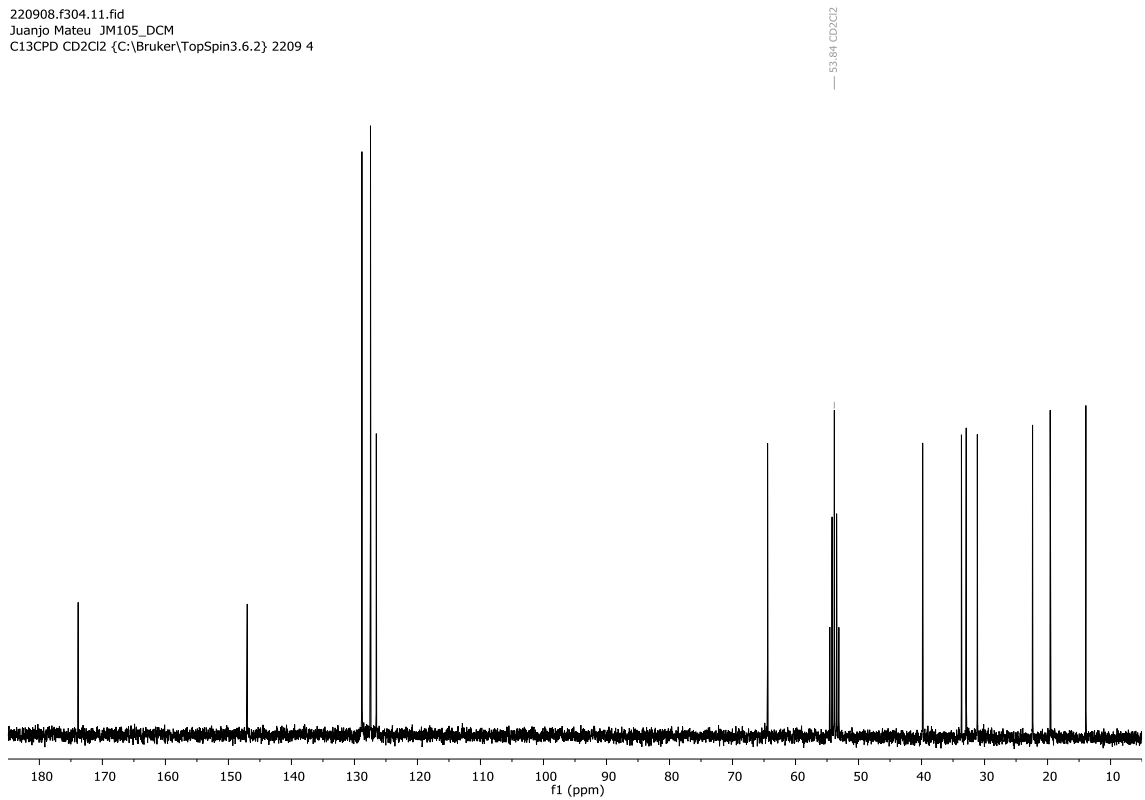
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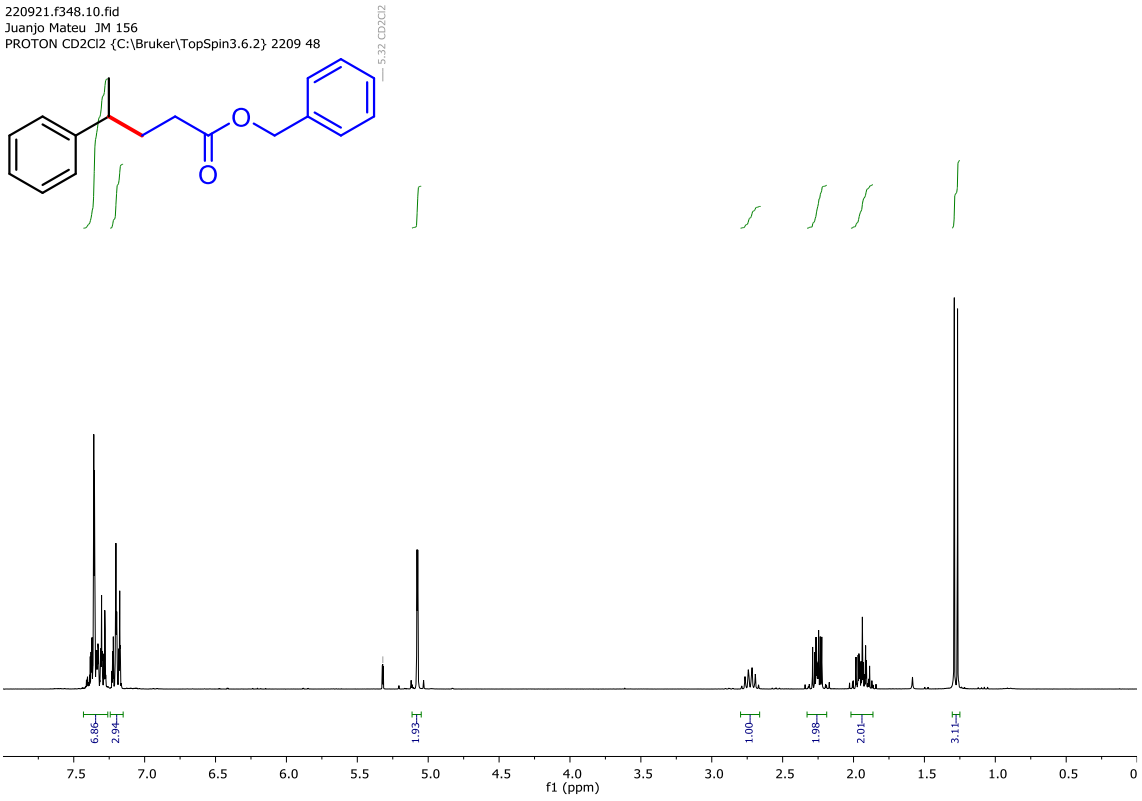
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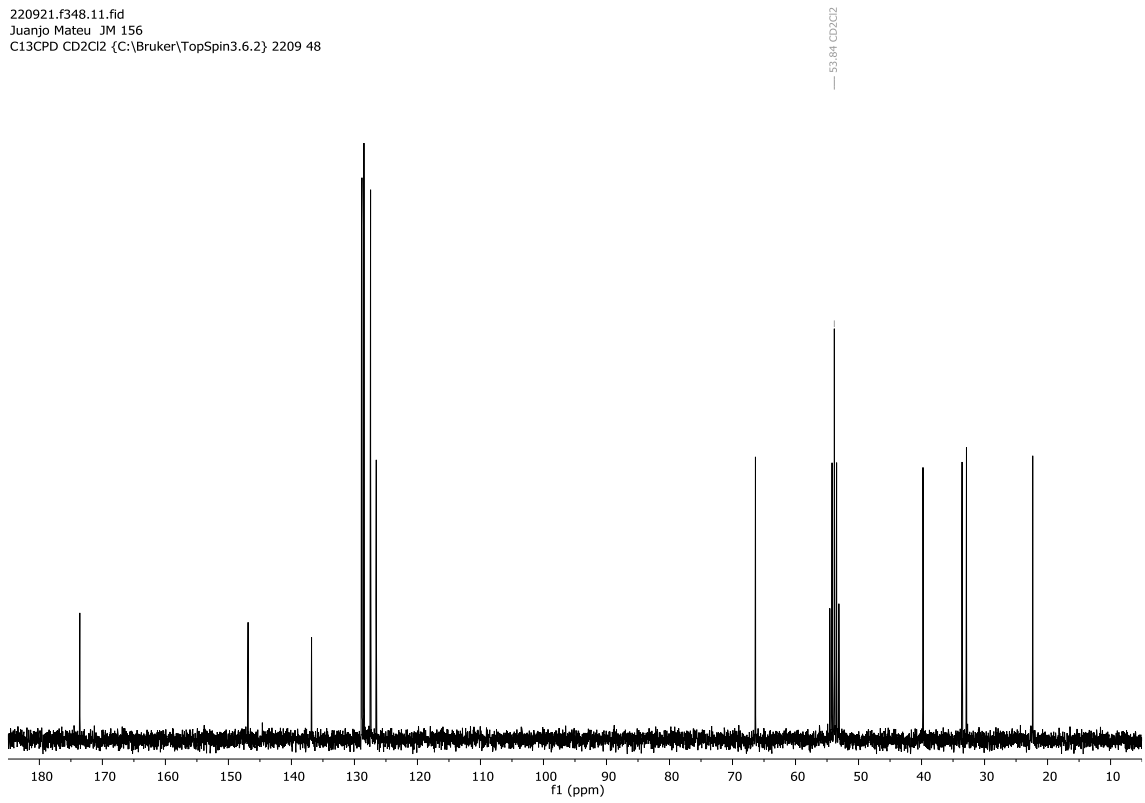
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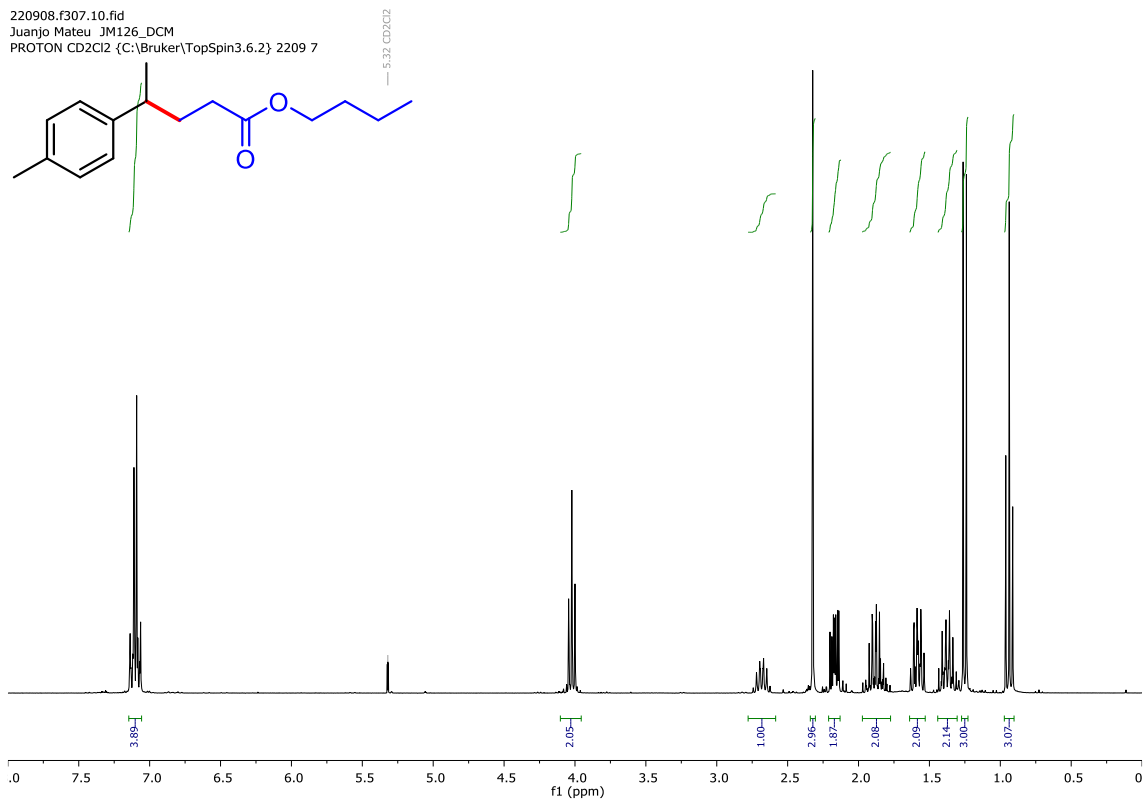
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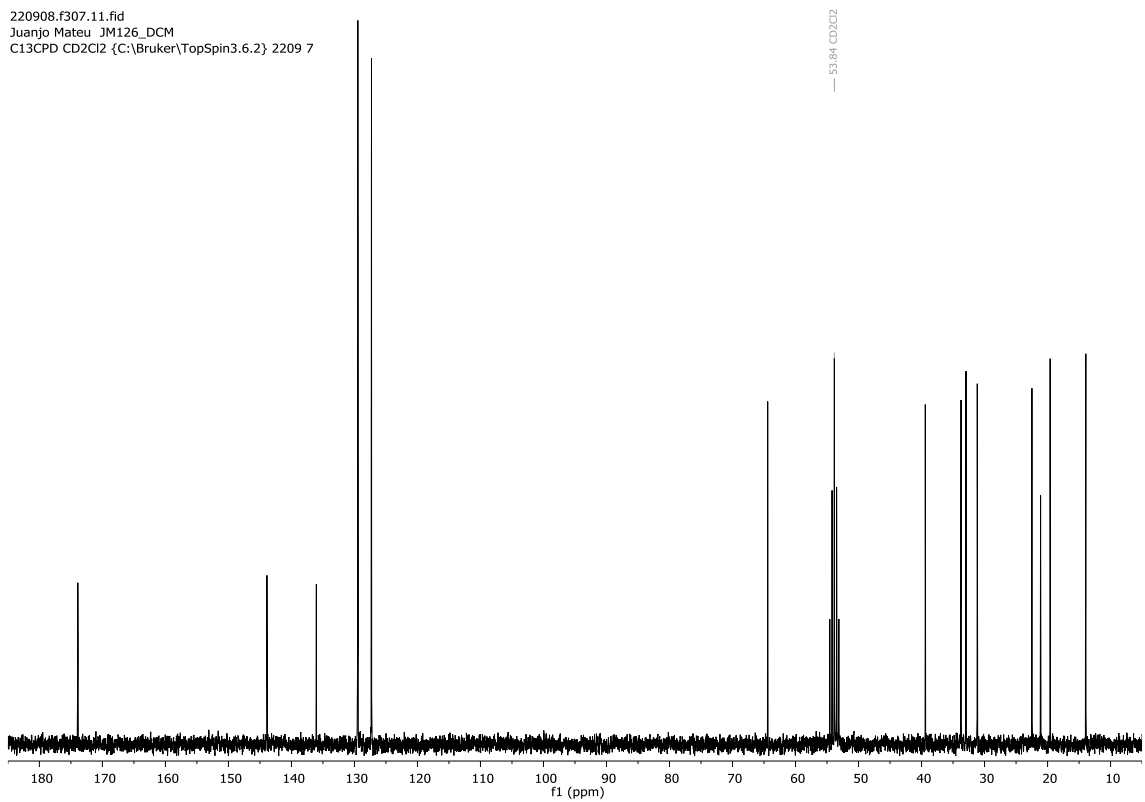
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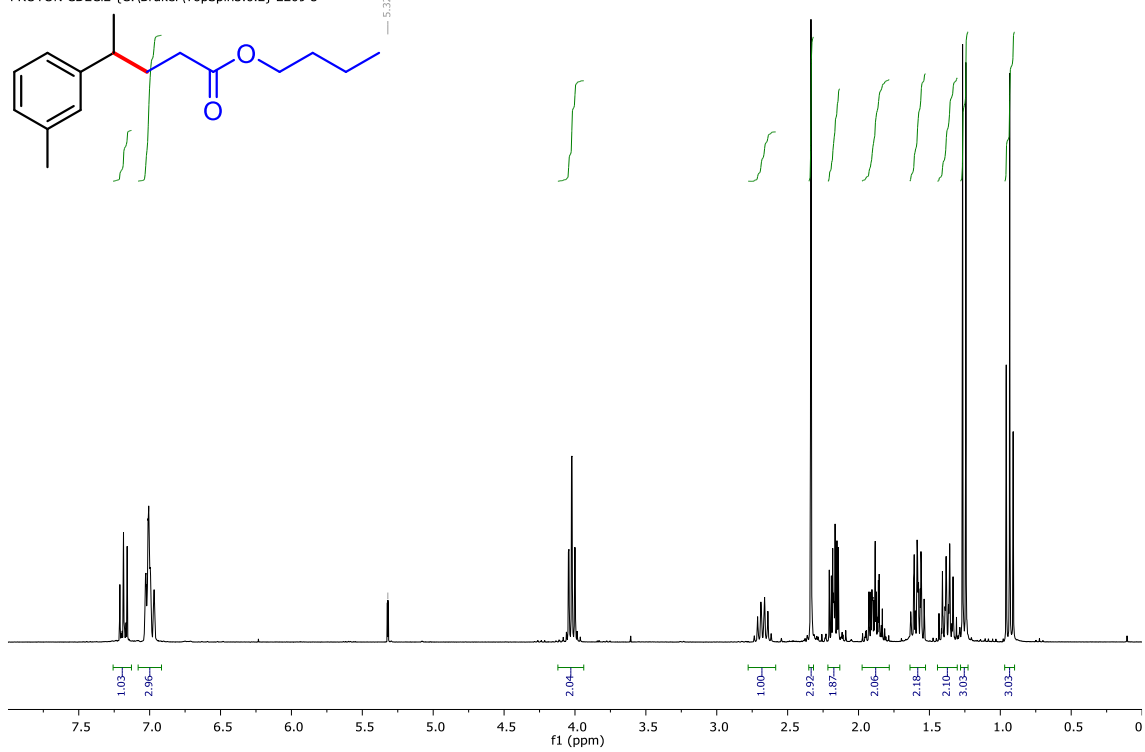
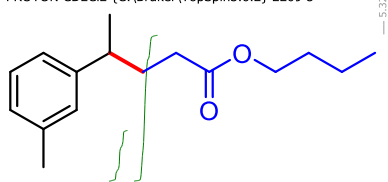
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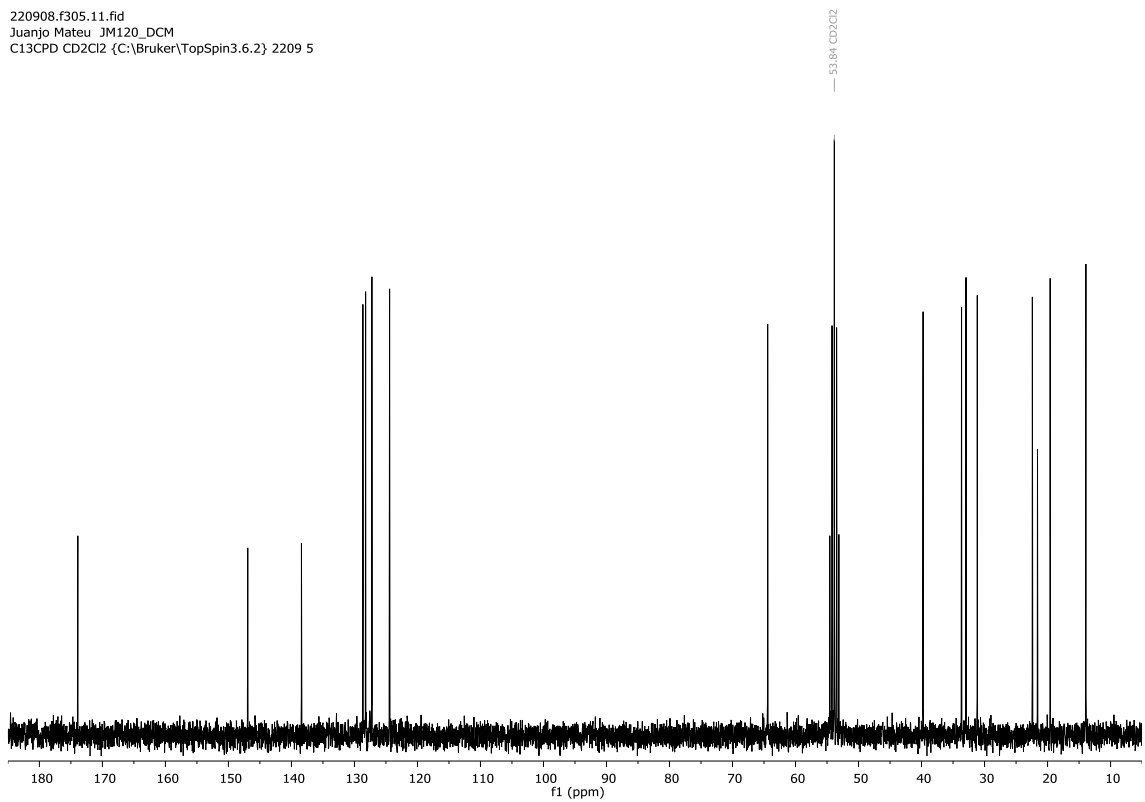
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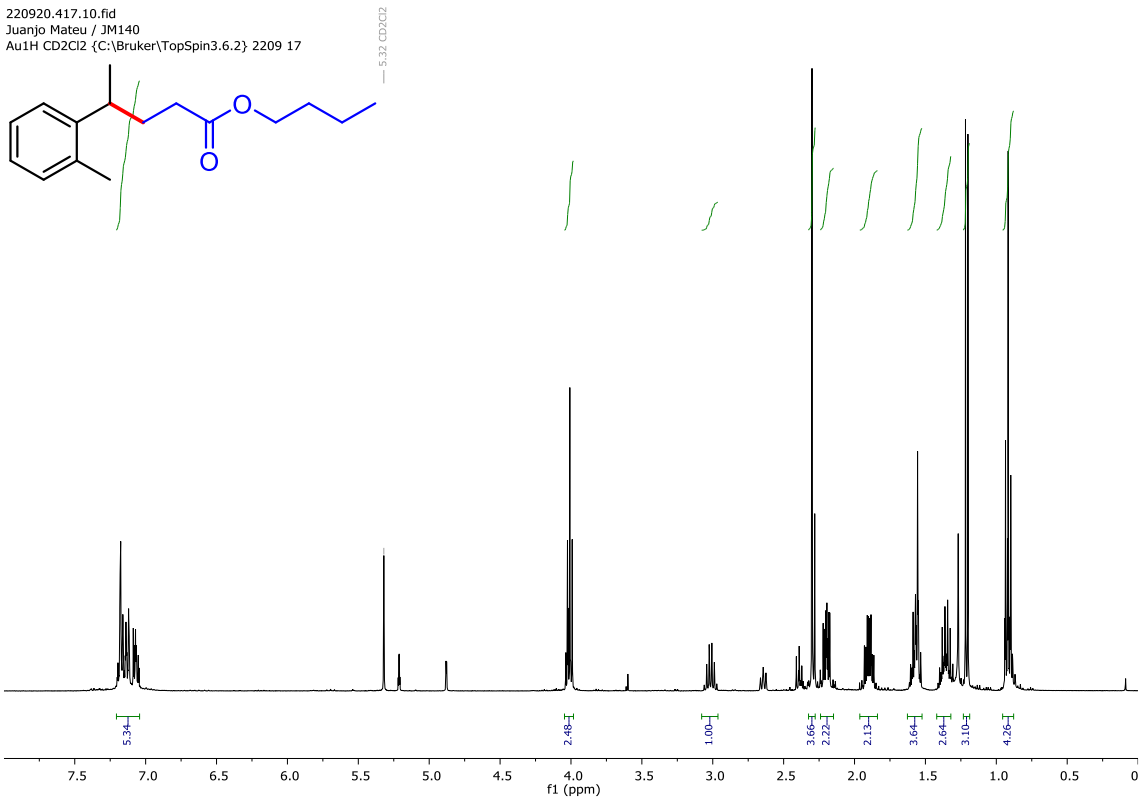
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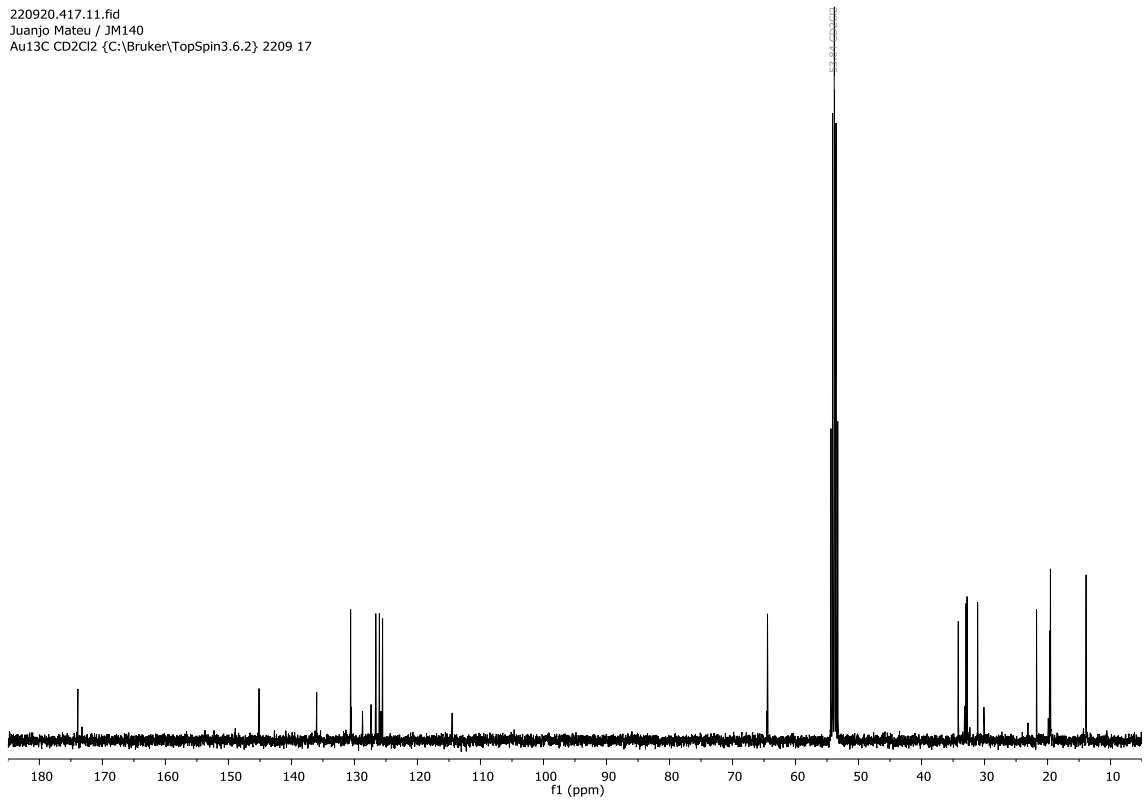
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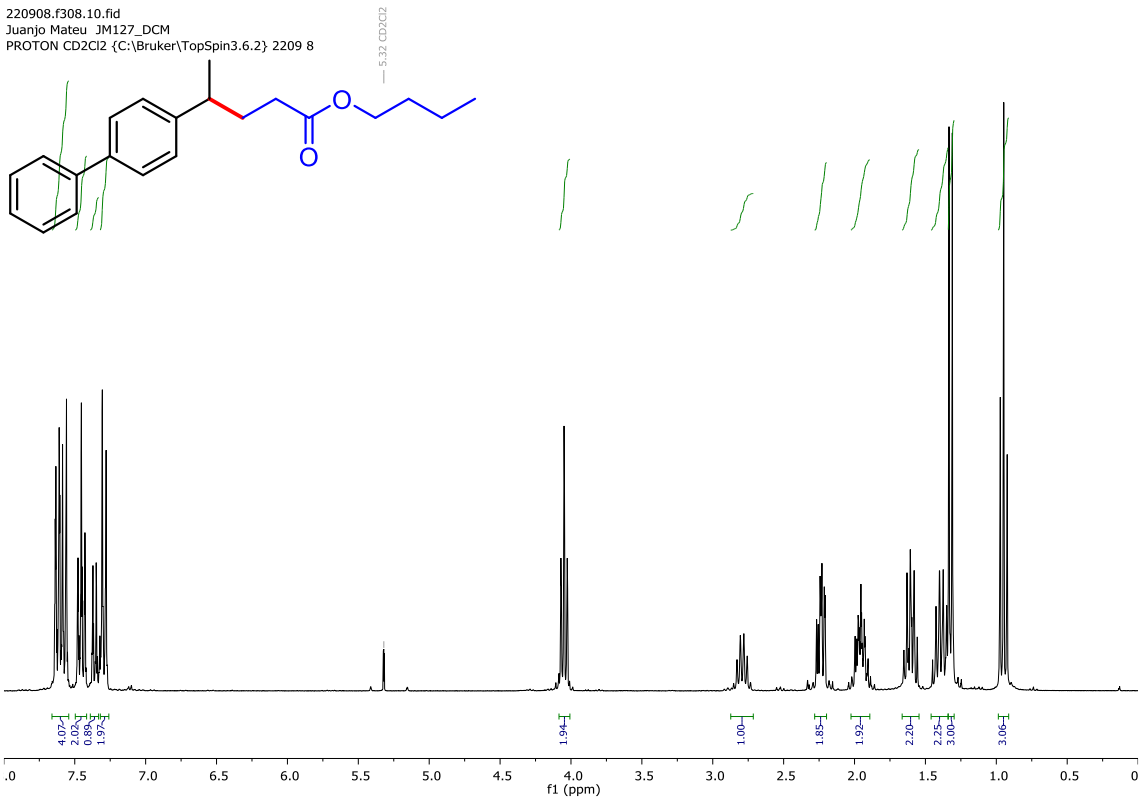
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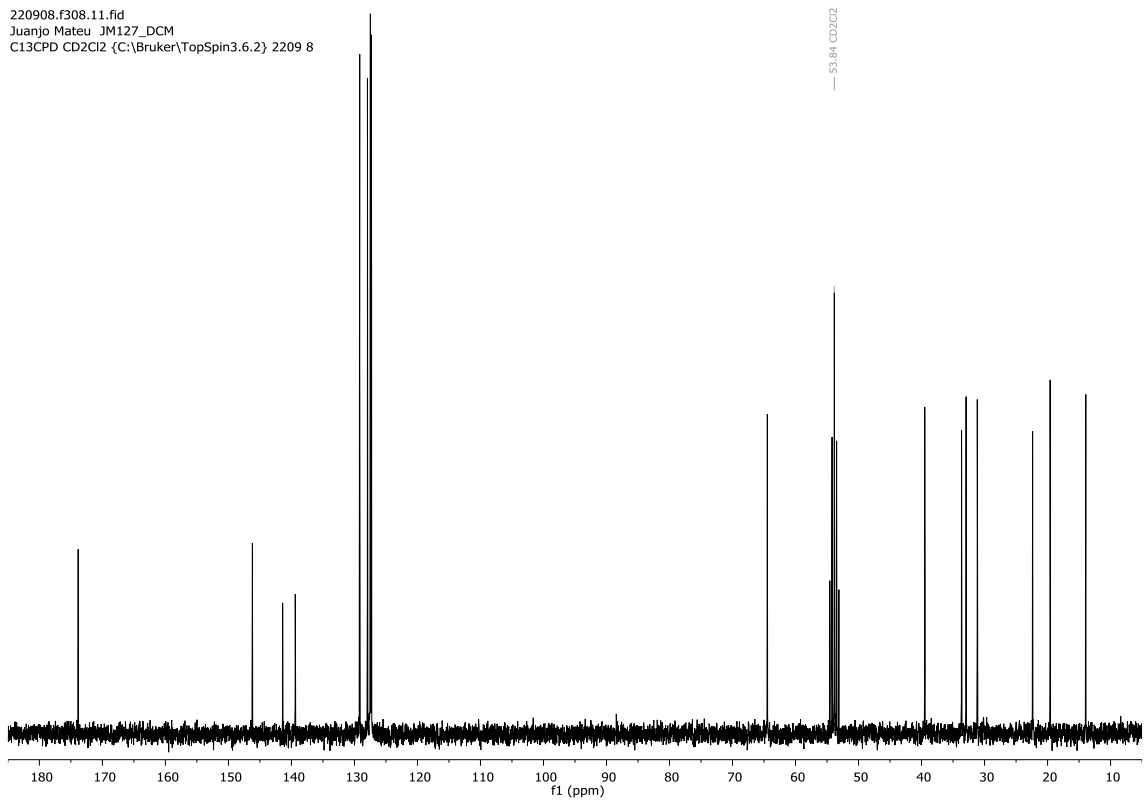
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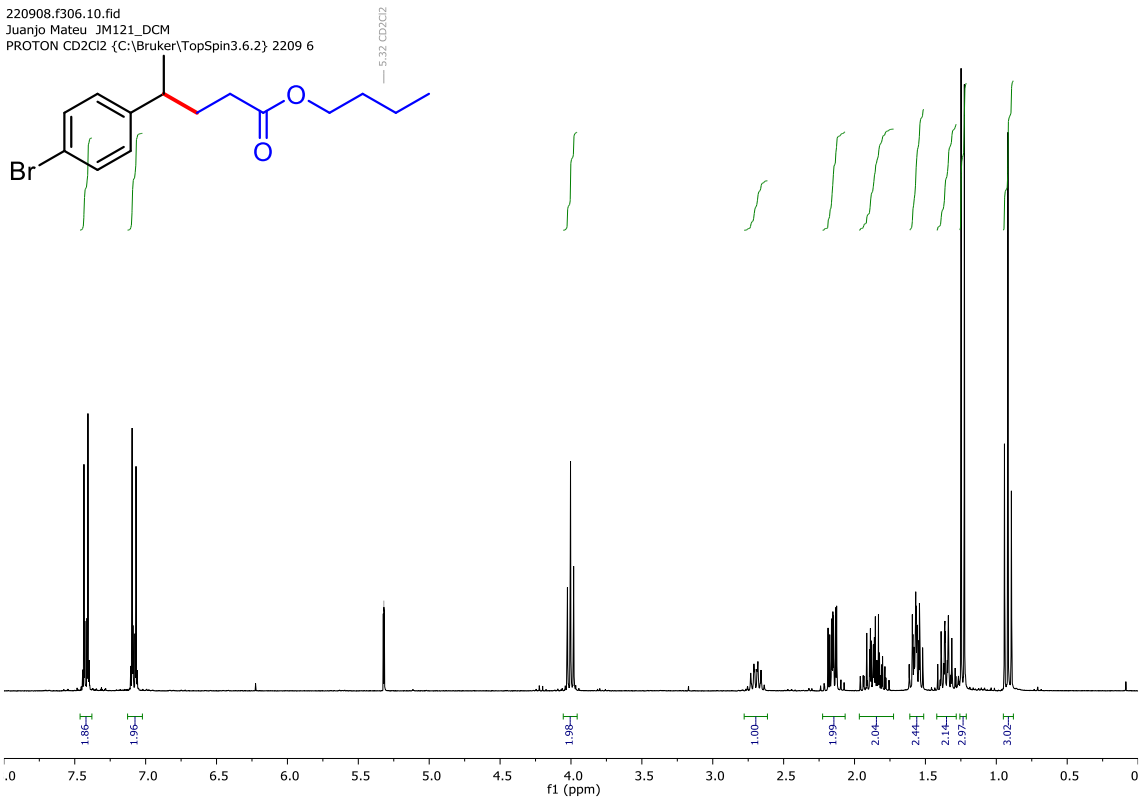


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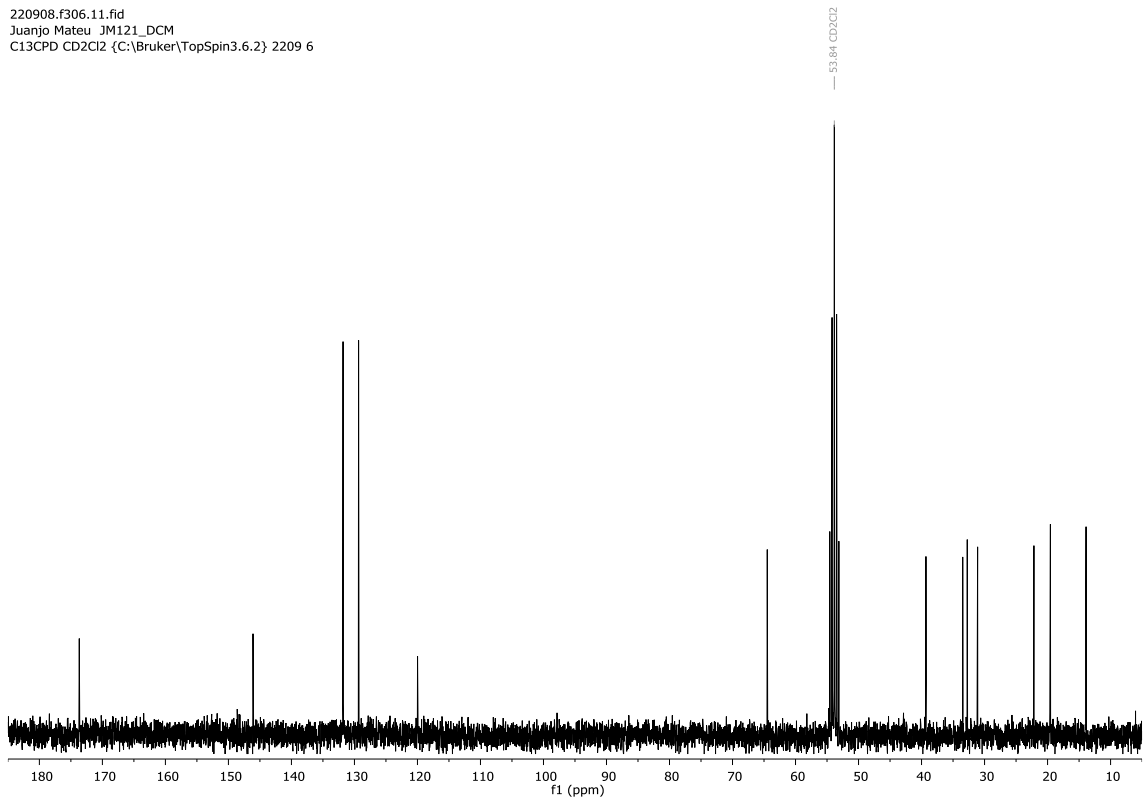




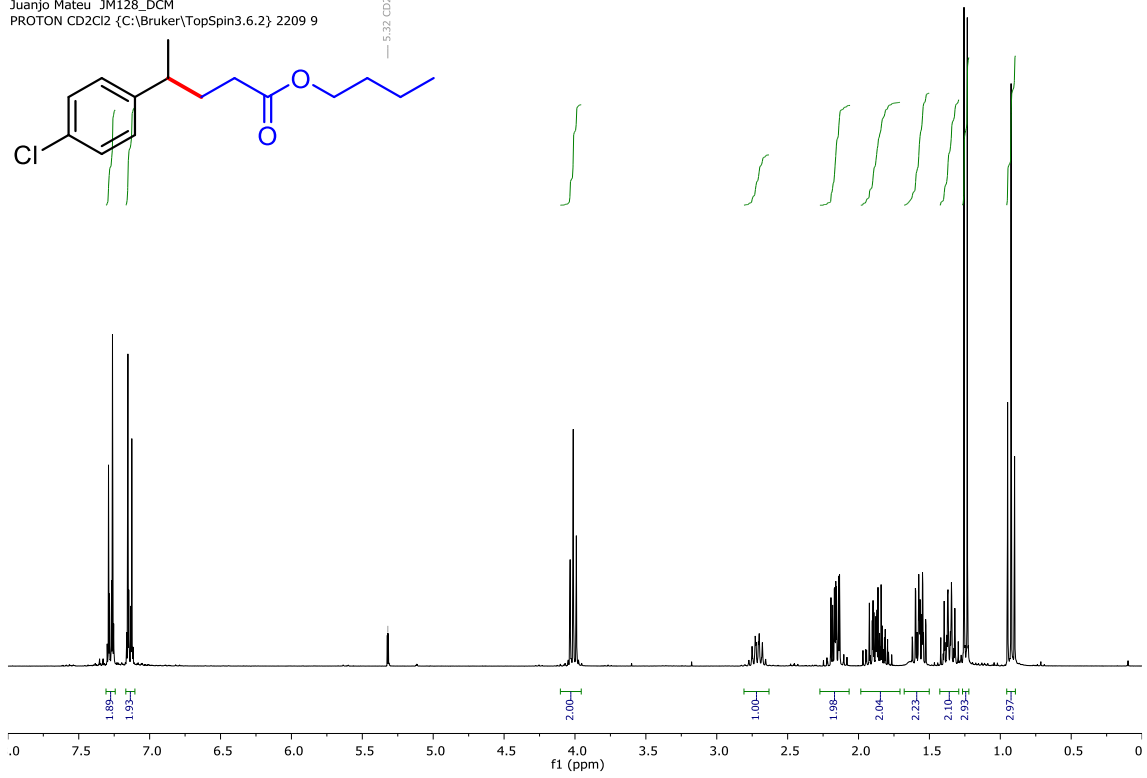
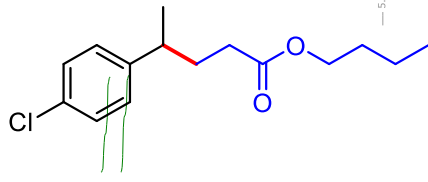
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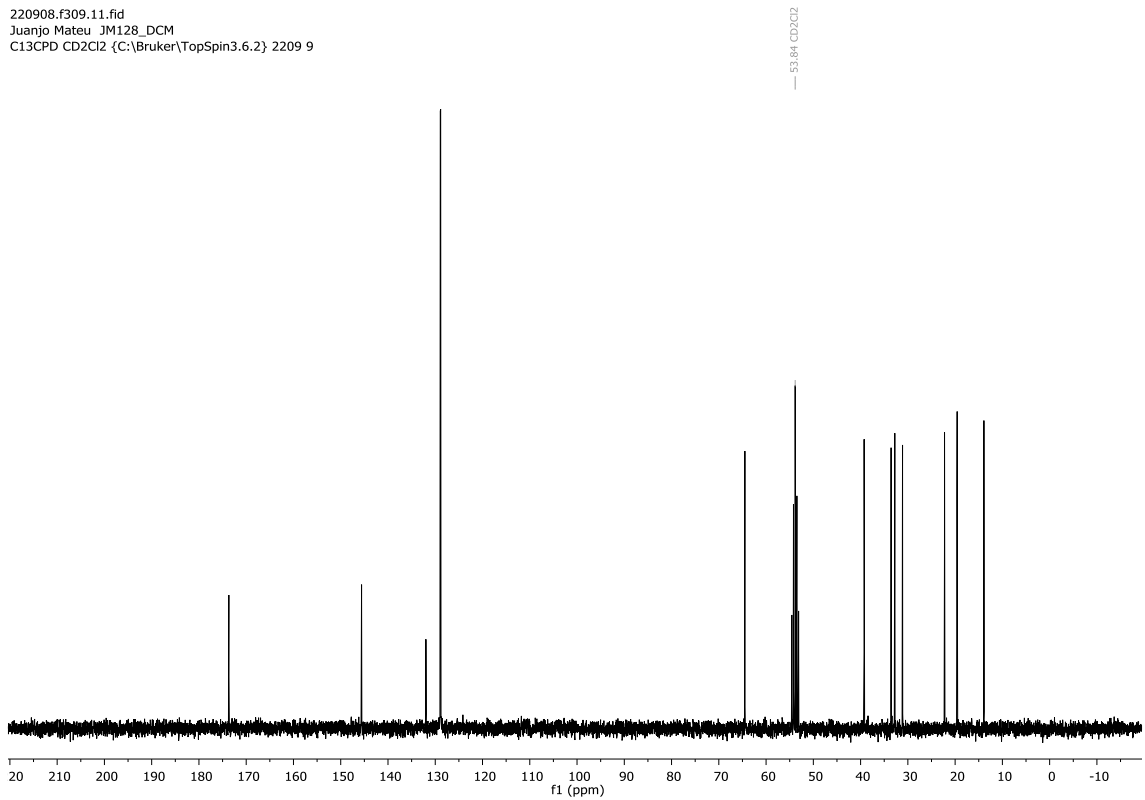
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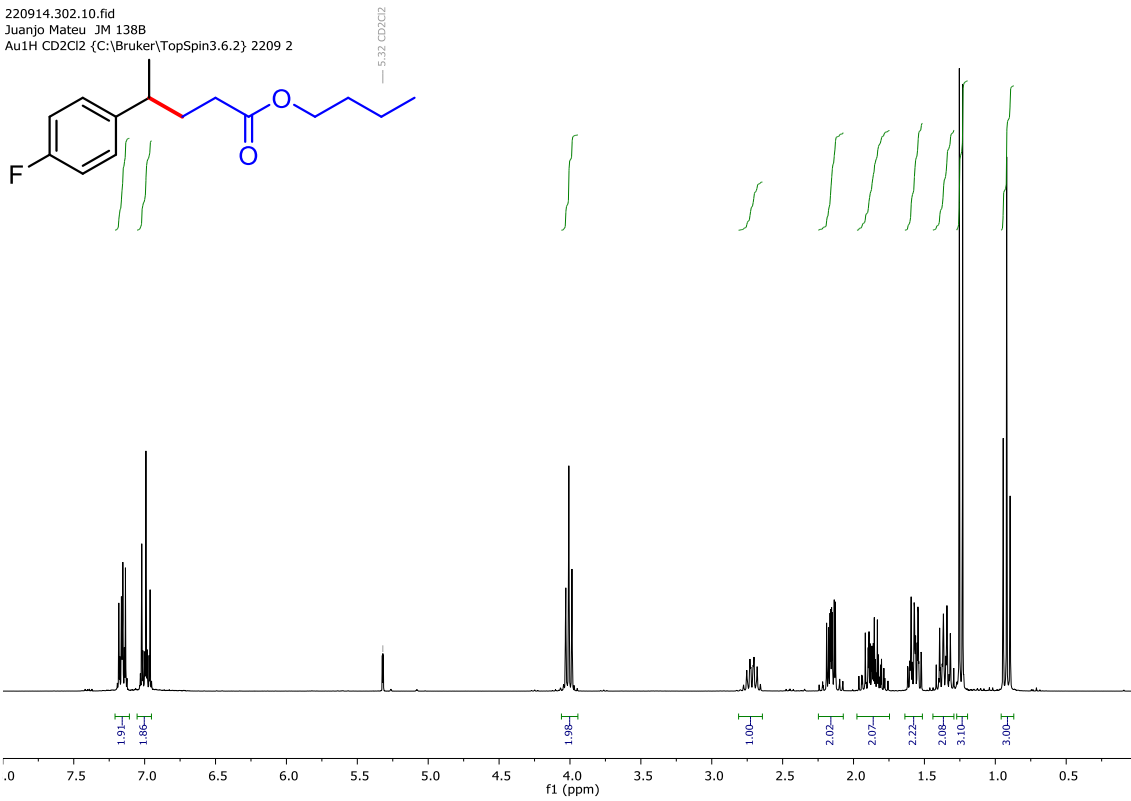
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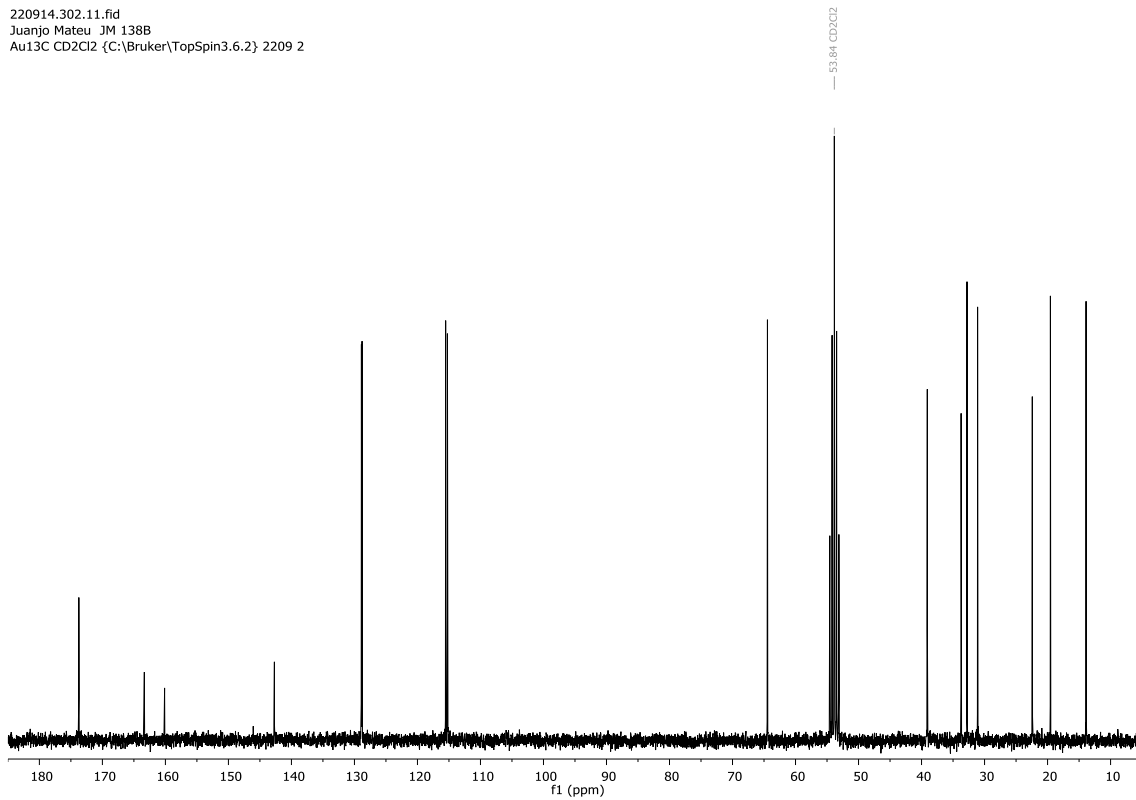
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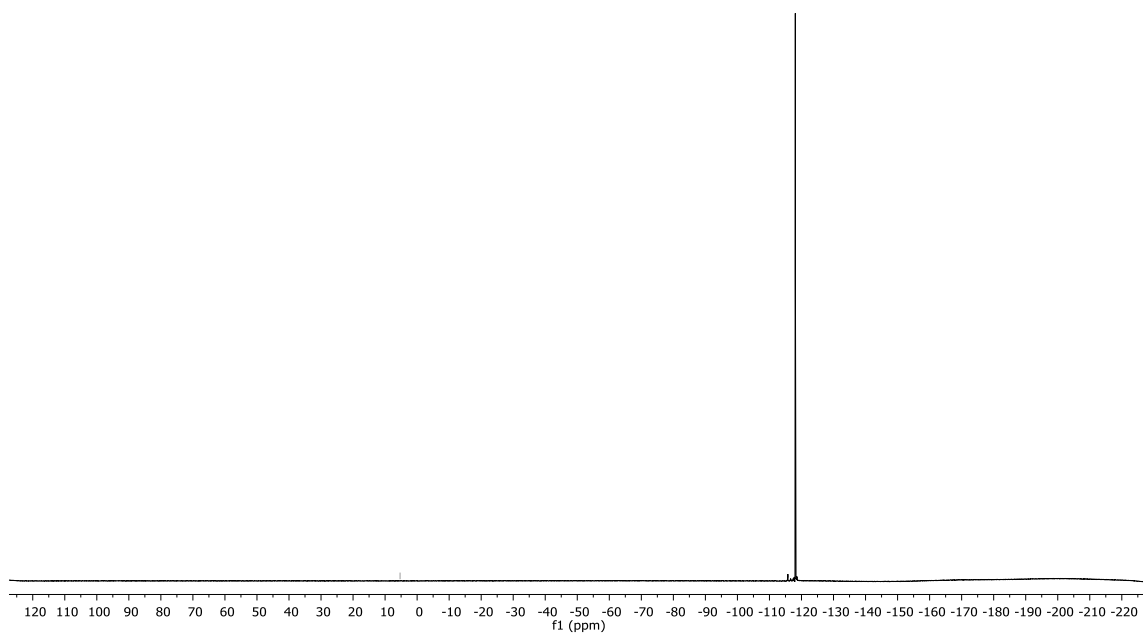


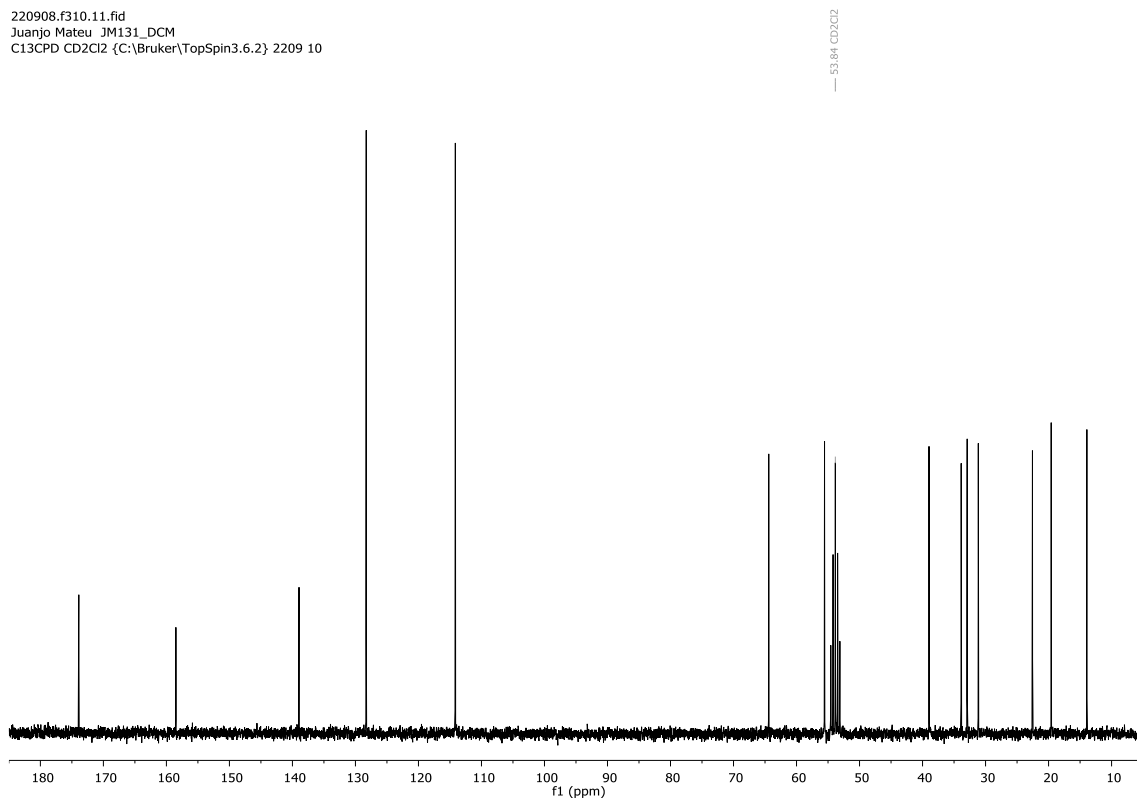
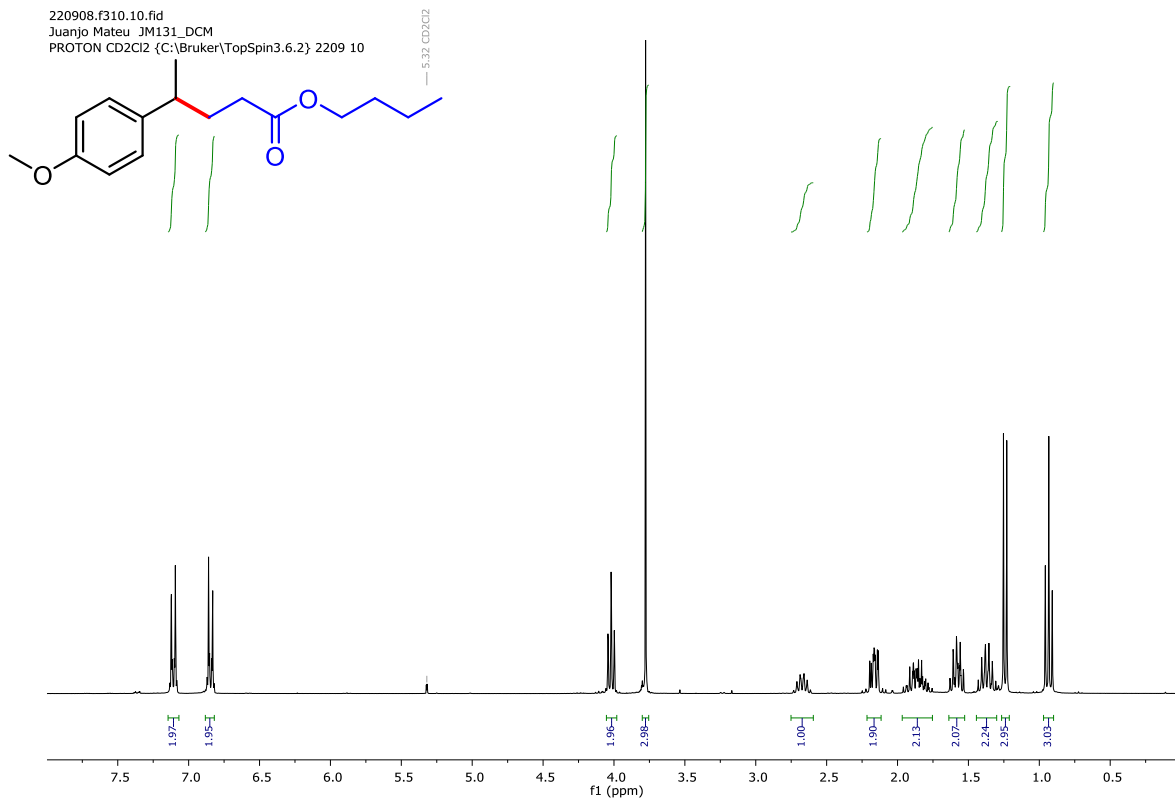
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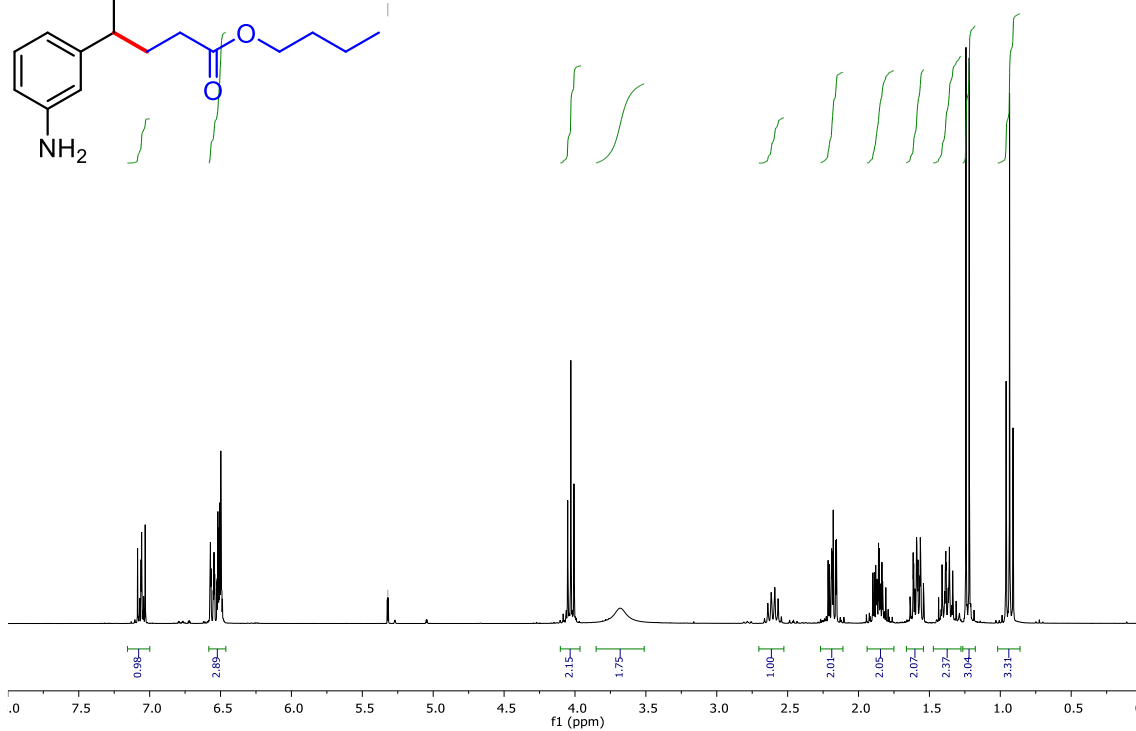
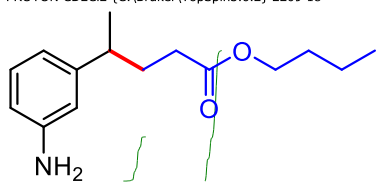
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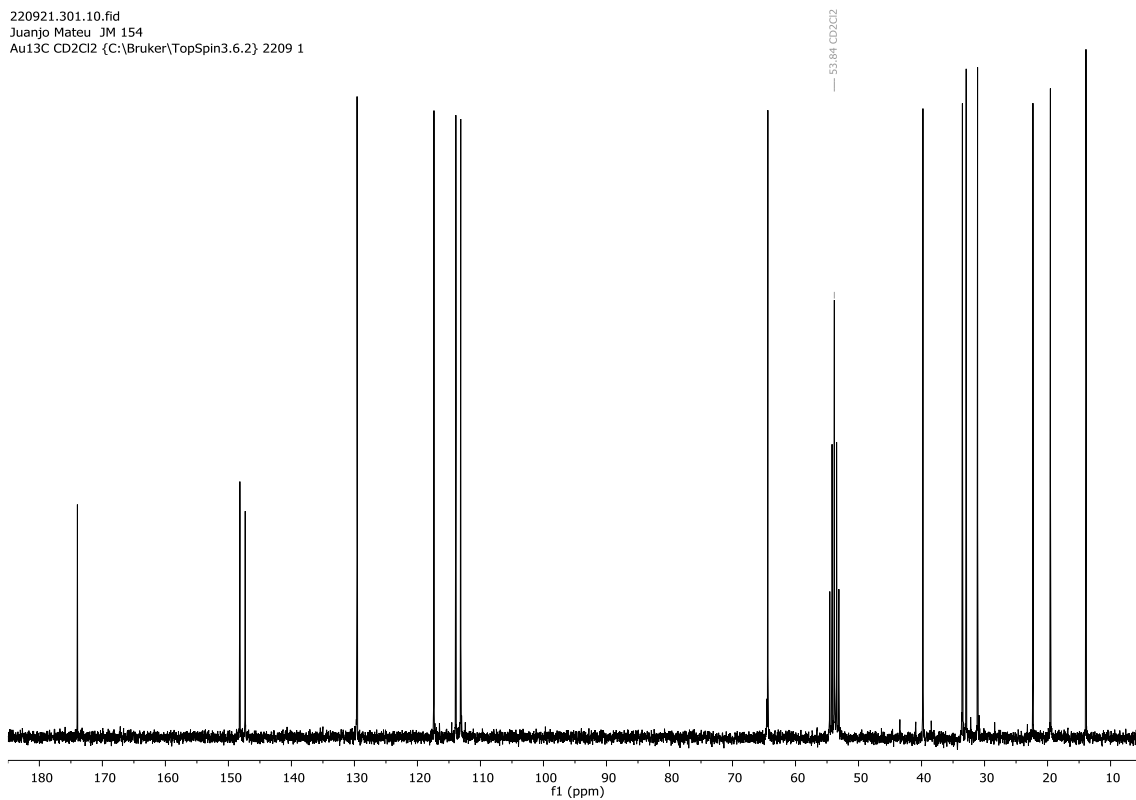




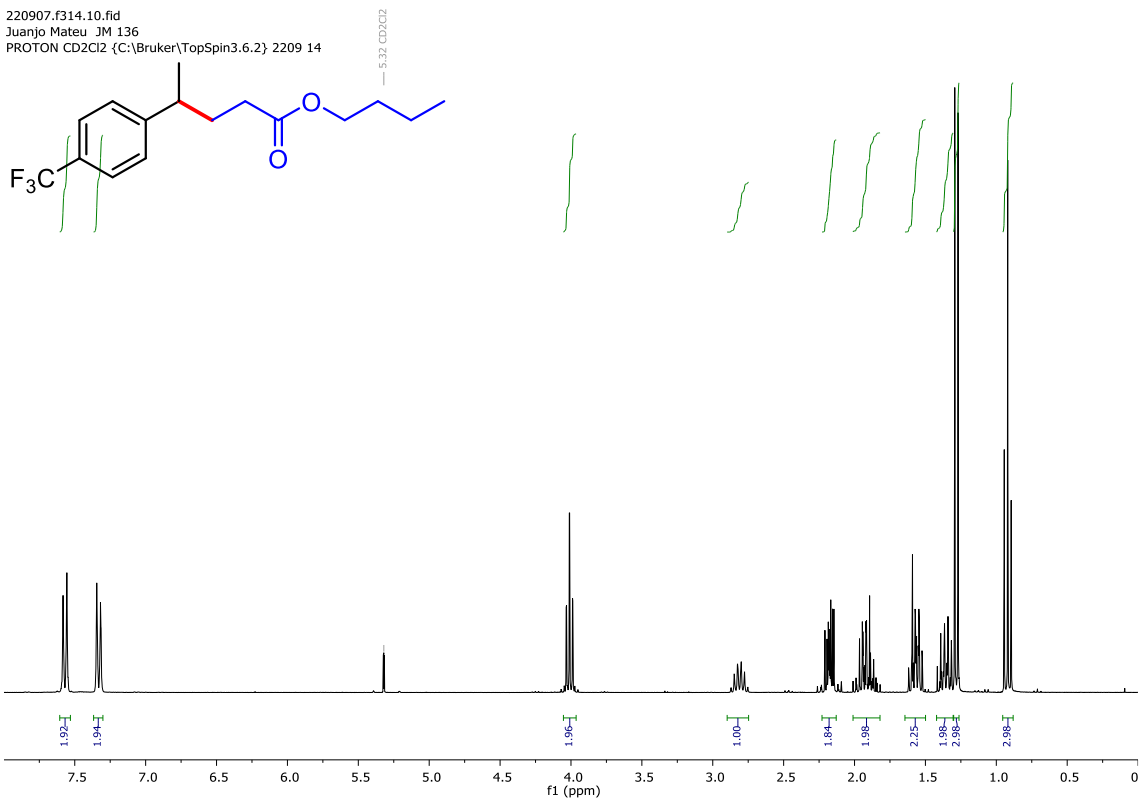
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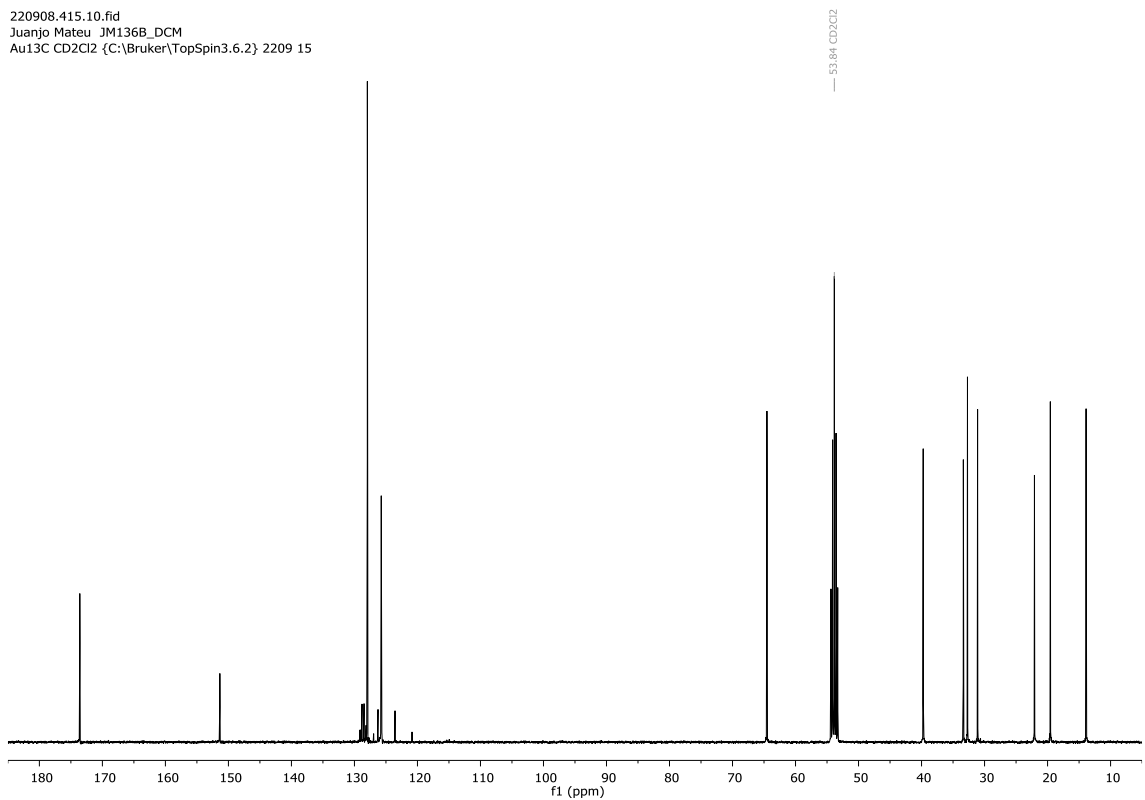
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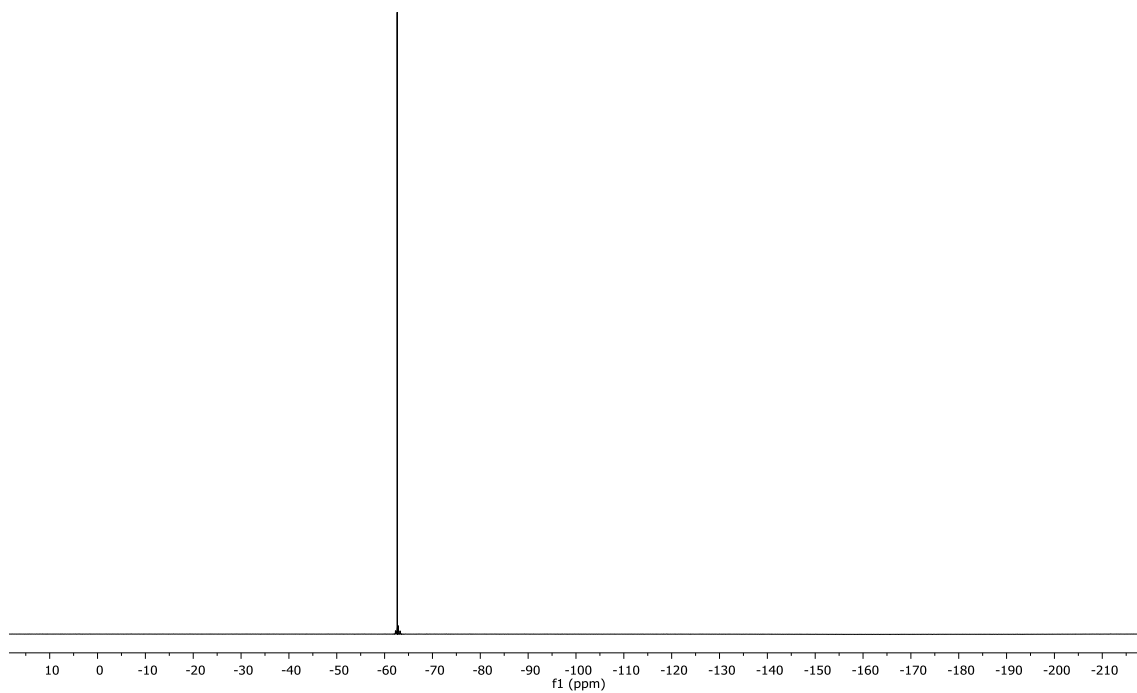
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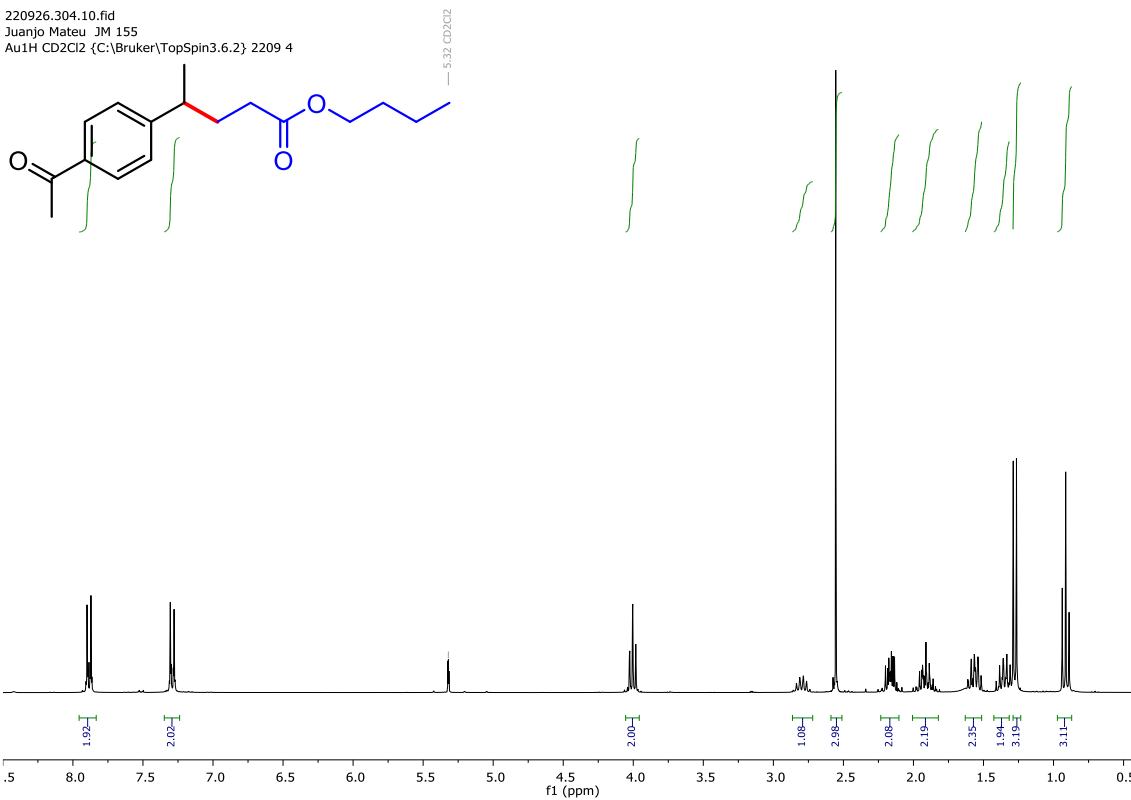


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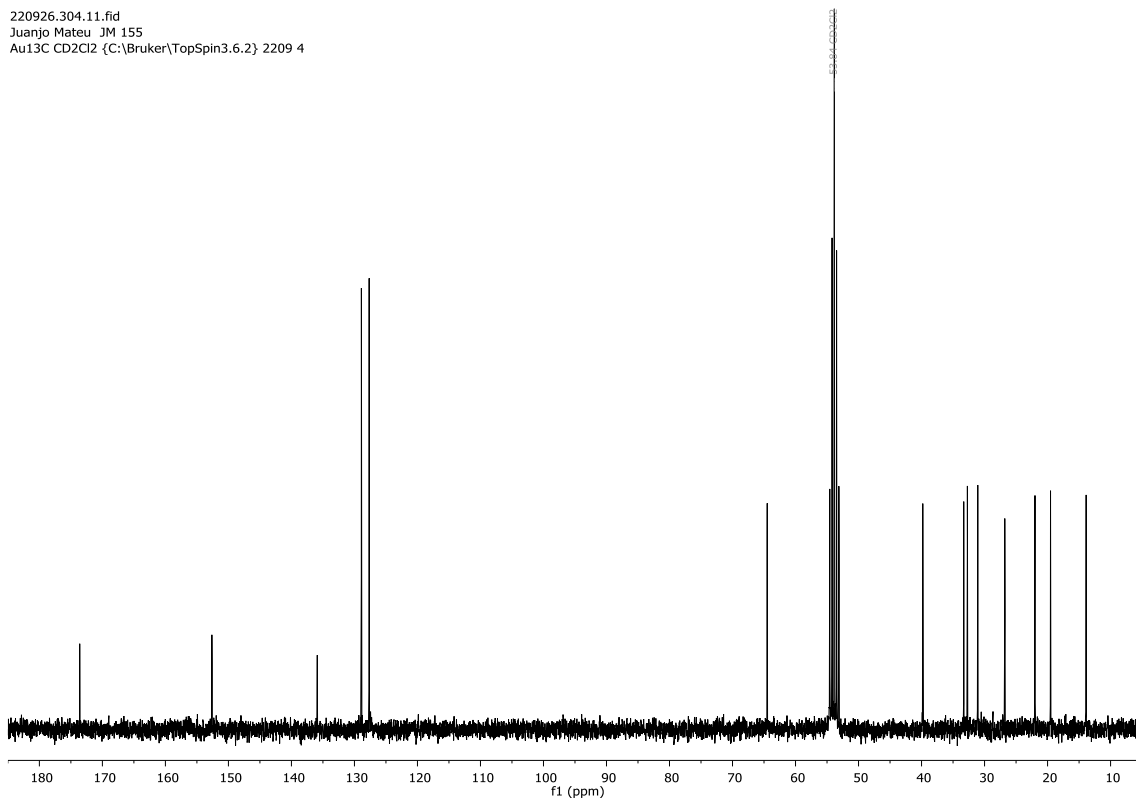




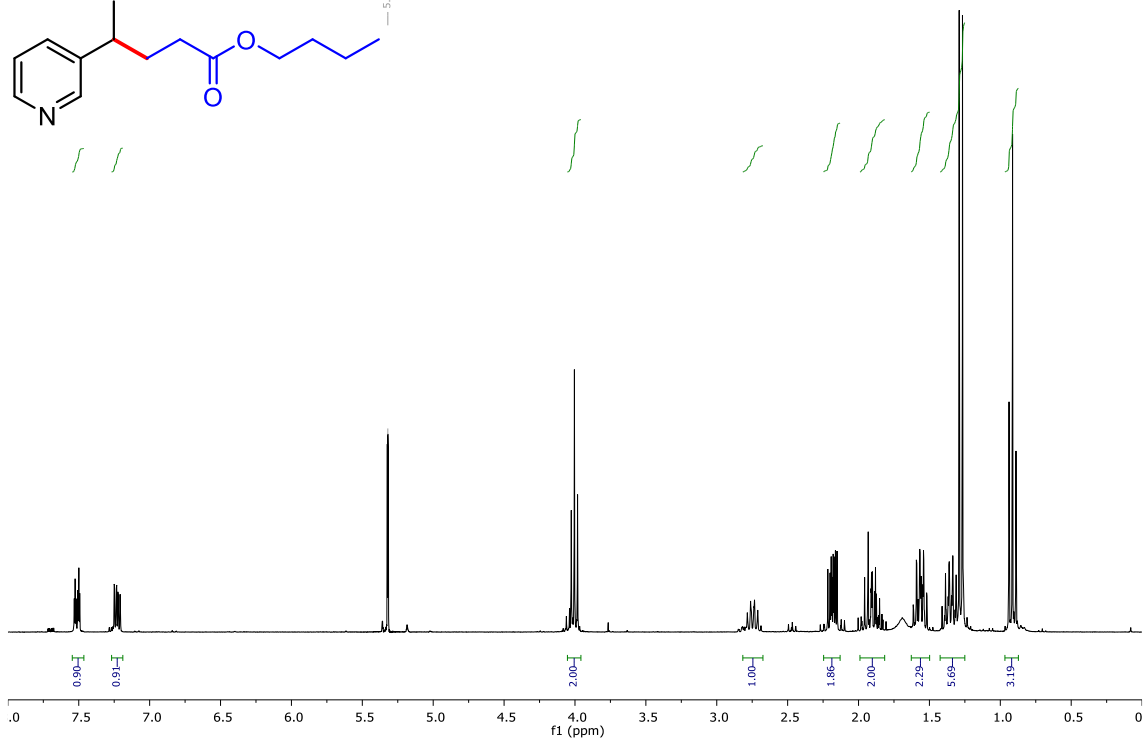
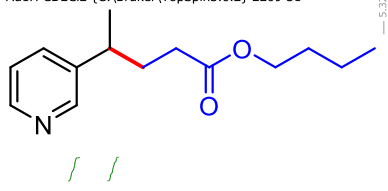
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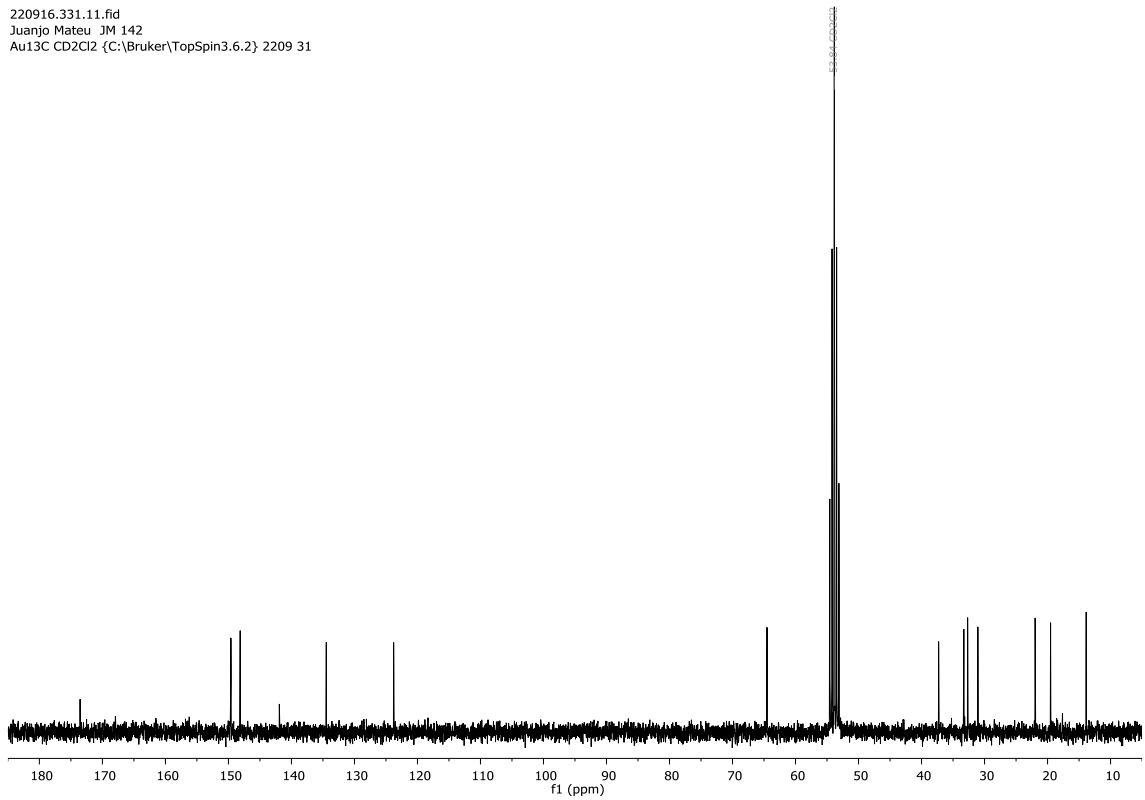
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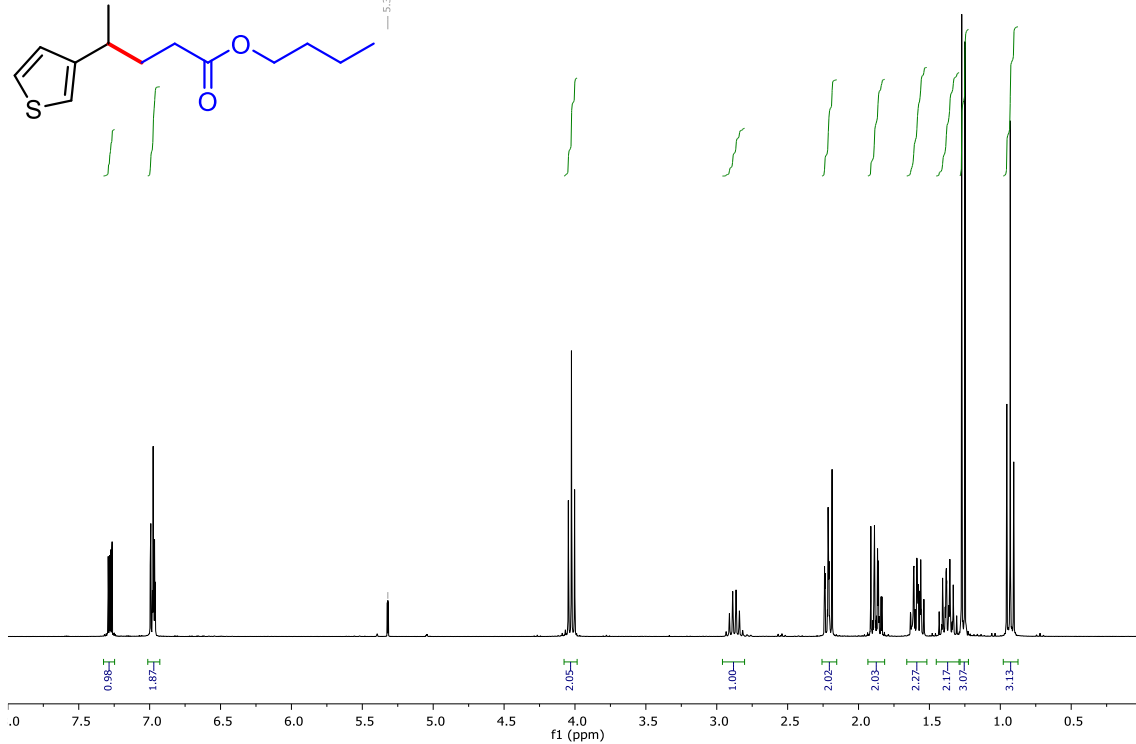
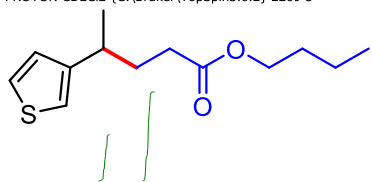
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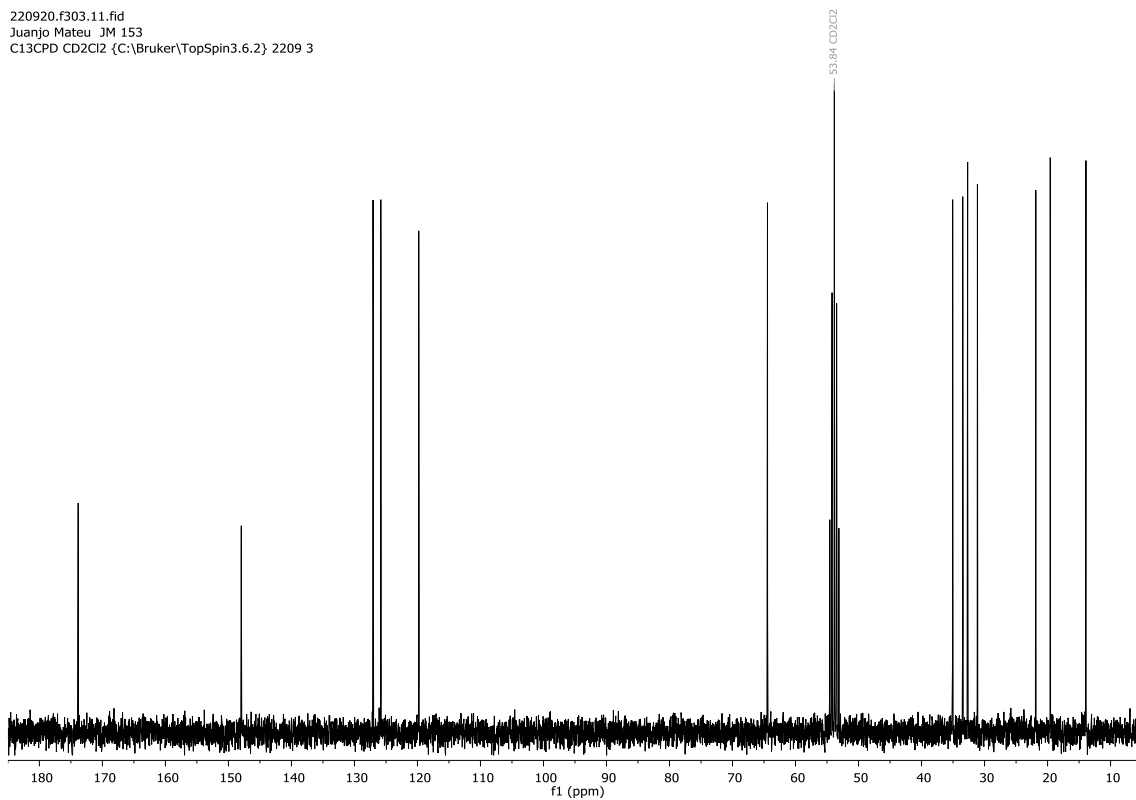
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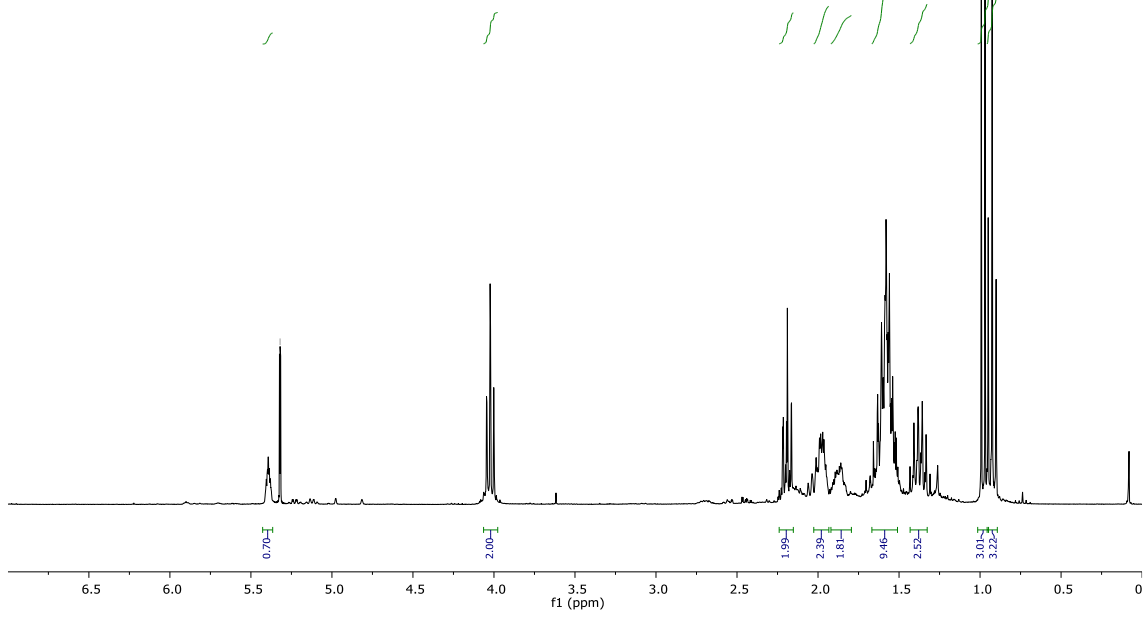
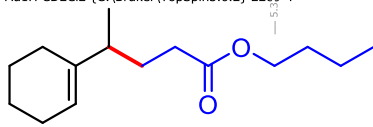
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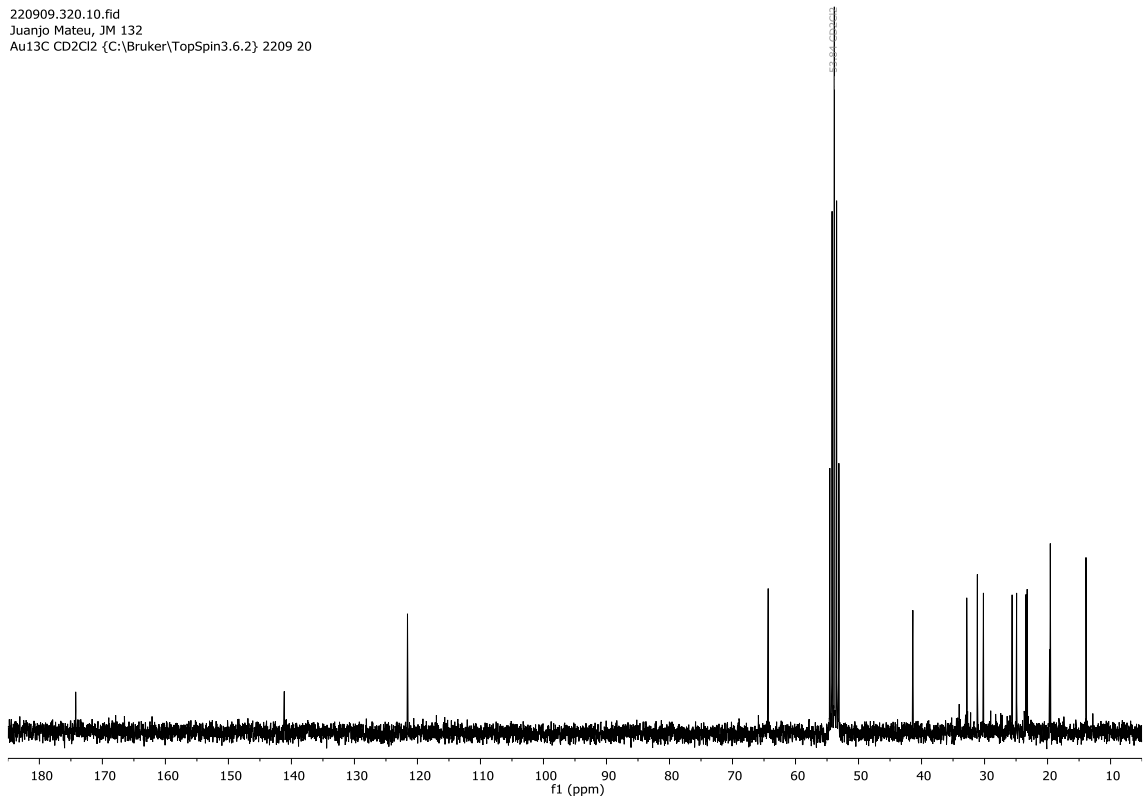
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