



Supporting Information

Ruppert-Prakash Reagent (TMSCF₃)-Catalyzed Chemoselective Esterification of Weinreb Amides

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

For

Ruppert-Prakash Reagent (TMSCF₃)-Catalyzed Chemoselective Esterification of Weinreb Amides

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Instrumentation and general analytical methods

Melting Points were determined on a Reichert-Kofler hot-stage microscope and are uncorrected. Mass spectra were obtained on a Shimadzu QP 1000 instrument (EI, 70 eV) and on a Bruker maXis 4G instrument (ESI-TOF, HRMS). ^1H , ^{13}C and ^{19}F NMR spectra were recorded at 297 K on a Bruker Avance III 400 spectrometer (400 MHz for ^1H , 100 MHz for ^{13}C , 40 MHz for ^{15}N , 376 MHz for ^{19}F) equipped with a directly detecting broadband observe (BBFO) probe, with a Bruker Avance III 500 spectrometer (500 MHz for ^1H , 125 MHz for ^{13}C) using a Prodigy cryoprobe, and with a Bruker DRX 200 spectrometer (200 MHz for ^1H , 50 MHz for ^{13}C) with a $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$ dual probe.

The centre of the solvent signal was used as an internal standard which was related to TMS with δ 7.26 ppm (^1H in CDCl_3), δ 7.16 ppm (^1H in C_6D_6), δ 77.00 ppm (^{13}C in CDCl_3) and δ 128.06 ppm (^{13}C in C_6D_6). Absolute referencing via Ξ ratio was used for the ^{19}F NMR spectra. Spin-spin coupling constants (J) are given in Hz.

In nearly all cases, full and unambiguous assignment of all resonances was performed by combined application of standard NMR techniques, such as APT, HSQC, HMBC, HSQC-TOCSY, COSY and NOESY experiments.

All the reactions were carried out under inert atmosphere of argon. THF was distilled over Na/benzophenone. Chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Acros, Alfa Aesar, Fluorochem and TCI Europe. Starting Weinreb amides were prepared according to literature procedures we previously described.¹ Solutions were evaporated under reduced pressure with a rotary evaporator.

TLC was carried out on aluminium sheets precoated with silica gel 60F254 (Merchery-Nagel, Merk); the spots were visualised under UV light ($\lambda = 254$ nm).

General procedures for the Weinreb amides esterification

General Procedure 1

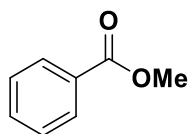
To a solution of Weinreb amide (1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL) cooled at 0 °C, trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane was added (0.2 equiv) under Argon atmosphere. After 5 min, the solution of the competent alcoxide (1.4 equiv) was added dropwise during a period of 15 min and, the stirring was continued overnight at room temperature. Subsequently, the mixture was quenched with saturated (*aq.*) NH₄Cl (3 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (3 mL). The organic layer was washed with saturated (*aq.*) NaCl (5 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the crude compound purified as indicated below.

General Procedure 2

To a suspension of Na (1.8 equiv) in dry THF (2 mL), the alcohol (1.4 equiv) diluted with dry THF (concentration 0.6 M), was added dropwise during a period of 15 min at 0 °C. After 20 min, the solution of Weinreb amide (1.0 equiv), and trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.2 equiv) in dry THF (1 mL) cooled at 0 °C were subsequently added under Argon atmosphere. The stirring was continued overnight at room temperature. The mixture was quenched with saturated (*aq.*) NH₄Cl (3 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (3 mL). The organic layer was washed with saturated (*aq.*) NaCl (5 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the crude compound purified as indicated below.

Characterization and spectral data of compounds

Methyl benzoate (**2**)²



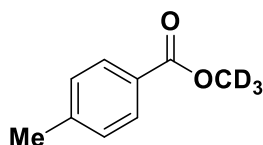
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.04 mL, 0.24 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (1.69 mL, 3.39 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **2** was obtained in 95% yield (156 mg) as white solid (mp 112°C, lit.² 112°C) without further purification.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.04 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.55 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H, Ph H-4), 7.43 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 3.92 (s, 3H, OCH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 167.2 (C=O), 133.0 (Ph C-4), 130.3 (Ph C-1), 129.7 (Ph C-2,6), 128.5 (Ph C-3,5), 52.2 (OCH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₈H₉O₂⁺: 137.0603 [M+H]⁺; found: 137.0599.

Methyl-*d*₃ 4-methylbenzoate (**3**)³



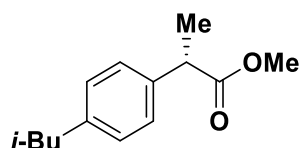
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 2 equiv), Methanol-*d*₄ (0.06 mL, 1.56 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (46 mg, 2.01 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **3** was obtained in 96% yield (224 mg) as colorless oil without any further purification step.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 2.40 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 167.2 (C=O), 143.5 (Ph C-4), 129.6 (Ph C-2,6), 129.0 (Ph C-3,5), 127.4 (Ph C-1), 51.2 (dt, *J* = 44.8 Hz, *J* = 22.4 Hz, CD₃), 21.6 (CH₃).

NCI(C₂H₄): *m/z* 91, 106, 121, 118.⁴

Methyl (*S*)-2-(4-isobutylphenyl)propanoate (**4**)^{5,5b}



By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from (*S*)-2-(4-isobutylphenyl)-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylpropanamide^{1d} (200 mg, 0.80 mmol, 1.0 equiv, >99:1 *er*) in dry THF (3 mL),

trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.16 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.25 mL, 1.12 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **4** was obtained in 92% yield (163 mg) as colorless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.19 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.09 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 3.70 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, CHCH₃), 3.66 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.44 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.81 (s, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H, CH), 1.49 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃CH), 0.90 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6H, CH₃CHCH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 175.2 (C=O), 140.6 (Ph C-4), 137.7 (Ph C-1), 129.3 (Ph C-3,5), 127.1 (Ph C-2,6), 52.0 (OCH₃), 45.2 (CH₂), 30.2 (CHCH₃), 29.9 (CH₃CHCH₃), 22.4 (CH₃CHCH₃), 18.6 (CHCH₃).

HRMS (ESI-TOF): Calcd. For C₁₄H₂₀O₂Na⁺: 243.1356, Found: 243.1365.

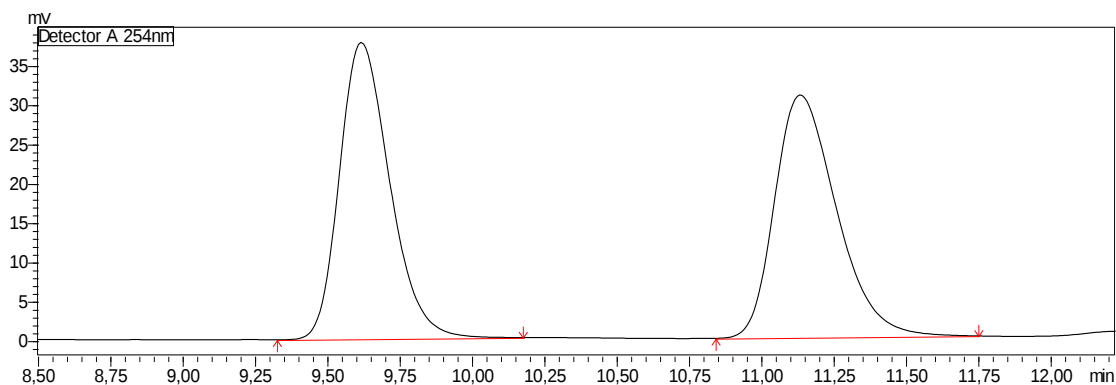
HPLC analysis: Chiralpak IC Column, λ 254 nm, eluent: *n*-heptane / *i*-propanol 99:1 v/v, 23 °C, Flow: 1 mL/min.

[α]_D²⁵ = +61 (c 1, CHCl₃), lit.⁶ +64.6 (c 1, CHCl₃).

(*rac*)-**4** was analogously prepared from achiral Weinreb amide **4** (200 mg, 0.80 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.16 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.25 mL, 1.12 mmol, 1.4 equiv). It was obtained as colorless oil 88% yield (156 mg) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2 as eluent).

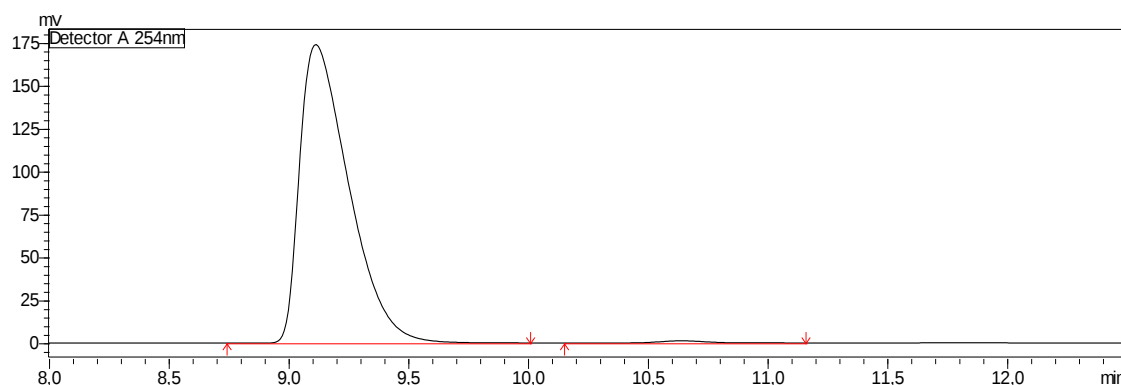
Spectroscopic data match with those reported for the chiral compound shown above.

Racemate



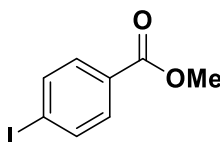
Peaks	Retention time (min)	Area	Area%
1	9,649	454624	49,782
2	11,152	458607	50,218
Total		913231	100,000

Enantioenriched



Peaks	Retention time (min)	Area	Area%
1	9,226	2479623	99,241
2	10,676	18967	0,759
Total		2498590	100,000

Methyl 4-iodobenzoate (**5**)⁷



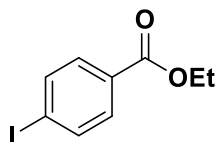
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 4-iodo-*N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 0.69 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.14 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (1.9 mL, 0.96 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **5** was obtained in 90% yield (162 mg) as colorless oil without any further purification step.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.80 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 7.74 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 3.91 (s, 3H, OCH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.6 (C=O), 137.7 (Ph C-3,5), 131.0 (Ph C-2,6), 129.6 (Ph C-1), 100.7 (Ph C-4), 52.3 (OCH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₈H₈IO₂⁺: 262.9490 [M+H]⁺; found: 262.9488.

Ethyl 4-iodobenzoate (**6**)⁸



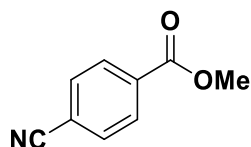
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 4-iodo-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 0.69 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.14 mmol, 0.2 equiv), EtONa 0.3 M solution in EtOH (3.21 mL, 0.96 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **6** was obtained in 93% yield (176 mg) as yellow oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.79 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 7.74 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 4.36 (2H, OCH₂CH₃), 1.39 (3H, OCH₂CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.1 (C=O), 137.6 (Ph C-3,5), 131.0 (Ph C-2,6), 129.9 (Ph C-1), 100.6 (Ph C-4), 61.2 (OCH₂CH₃), 14.3 (OCH₂CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₉H₁₀O₂⁺: 276.9647 [M+H]⁺; found: 276.9654.

Methyl 4-cyanobenzoate (**7**)⁹



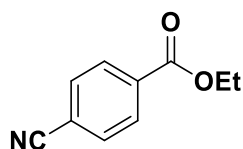
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 4-cyano-*N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.05 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.21 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.94 mL, 1.47 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **7** was obtained in 87 % yield (147 mg) as yellow solid (mp 66 °C, lit.¹⁰ 65-67 °C) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.13 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.73 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 3.95 (s, 3H, OCH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 165.4 (C=O), 133.8 (Ph C-1), 132.17 (Ph C-3,5), 130.0 (Ph C-2,6), 117.9 (CN), 116.3 (Ph C-4), 52.7 (OCH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₉H₈NO₂⁺: 162.0548 [M+H]⁺; found: 162.0547.

Ethyl 4-cyanobenzoate (**8**)¹¹



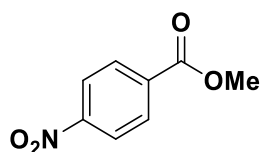
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 4-cyano-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.05 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.21 mmol, 0.2 equiv), EtONa 0.3 M solution in EtOH (4.91 mL, 1.47 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **8** was obtained in 85% yield (157 mg) as colorless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.14 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.74 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.41 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₃), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, OCH₂CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 165.1 (C=O), 134.3 (Ph C-1), 132.2 (Ph C-3,5), 130.1 (Ph C-2,6), 118.0 (CN), 116.2 (Ph C-4), 61.8 (OCH₂CH₃), 14.2 (OCH₂CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₀H₁₀NO₂⁺: 176.0712 [M+H]⁺; found: 176.072.

Methyl 4-nitrobenzoate (**9**)¹²



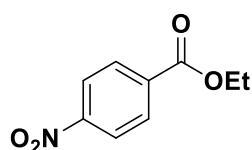
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 4-nitro-*N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 0.95 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.19 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.66 mL, 1.33 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **9** was obtained in 83% yield (143 mg) as yellow solid (mp 94 °C, lit.¹³ 94-96 °C) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.29 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 8.21 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 3.98 (s, 3H, OCH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 165.2 (C=O), 150.5 (Ph C-4), 135.5 (Ph C-1), 130.7 (Ph C-2,6), 123.5 (Ph C-3,5), 52.8 (OCH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₈H₈NO₄⁺: 182.0457 [M+H]⁺; found: 182.0458.

Ethyl 4-nitrobenzoate (**10**)¹⁴



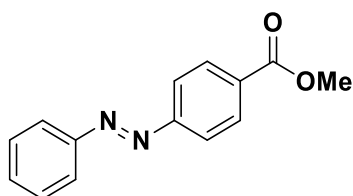
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-4-nitrobenzamide (200 mg, 0.95 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.19 mmol, 0.2 equiv), EtONa 0.3 M solution in EtOH (4.44 mL, 1.33 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **10** was obtained in 85% yield (158 mg) as yellow solid (mp 56-58 °C, lit.¹⁵ 56-58 °C) after column chromatography on silica gel. (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.29 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 8.22 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 4.44 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₃), 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, OCH₂CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 164.7 (C=O), 150.5 (Ph C-4), 135.8 (Ph C-1), 130.7 (Ph C-2,6), 123.5 (Ph C-3,5), 62.0 (OCH₂CH₃), 14.2 (OCH₂CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₉H₁₀NO₄⁺: 196.0609 [M+H]⁺; found: 196.0611.

Methyl 4-(phenyldiazenyl) benzoate (**11**)¹⁶



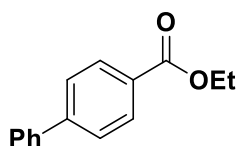
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-4-(phenyldiazenyl)benzamide (200 mg, 0.74 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.15 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.08 mL, 1.04 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **11** was obtained in 91% yield (162 mg) as red solid (mp 122 °C, lit.¹⁷ 121-124 °C) after chromatographic purification step on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.19 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.95 (m, 4H, Ph H-3,5, Ph H-2',6'), 7.53 (Ph H-3',5'), 7.51 (Ph H-4'), 3.96 (s, 3H, OCH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.5 (C=O), 155.1 (Ph C-4), 152.5 (Ph C-1'), 131.7 (Ph C-1), 131.7 (Ph C-4'), 130.6 (Ph C-2,6), 129.2 (Ph C-3',5'), 123.1 (Ph C-2',6'), 122.6 (Ph C-3,5), 52.3 (OCH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₄H₁₂N₂O₂⁺: 263.0790 [M+Na]⁺; found: 263.0791.

Ethyl [1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxylate (**12**)¹⁸



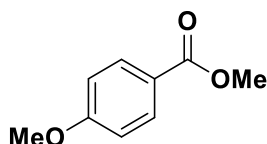
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.83 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.17 mmol, 0.2 equiv), EtONa 0.3 M solution in EtOH (3.87 mL, 1.16 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **12** was obtained in 97% yield (182 mg) as colorless solid (mp 49 °C, lit.¹⁹ 49-50 °C) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.12 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.66 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 7.63 (m, 2H, Ph1 H-2,6), 7.47 (m, 2H, Ph1 H-3,5), 7.40 (m, 1H, Ph1 H-4), 4.41 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₃), 1.42 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, OCH₂CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.5 (C=O), 145.5 (Ph C-4), 140.0 (Ph1 C-1), 130.0 (Ph C-2,6), 129.2 (Ph C-1), 128.9 (Ph1 C-3,5), 128.1 (Ph1 C-4), 127.3 (Ph1 C-2,6), 127.0 (Ph C-3,5), 61.0 (OCH₂CH₃), 14.4 (OCH₂CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₅H₁₅O₂⁺: 227.1067 [M+H]⁺; found: 227.1057.

Methyl 4-methoxybenzoate (**13**)²⁰



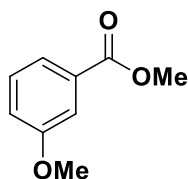
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 4-methoxy-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.02 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.21 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.8 mL, 1.43 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **13** was obtained in 94% yield (160 mg) as colorless solid (mp 48-50°C, lit.²¹ 48-50 °C) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.0 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 6.9 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 3.88 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.9 (C=O), 160.3 (Ph C-4), 131.3 (Ph C-2,6), 122.6 (Ph C-1), 113.6 (Ph C-3,5), 55.4 (OCH₃), 51.8 (COOCH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₉H₁₁O₃⁺: 167.0708 [M+H]⁺; found: 167.0706.

Methyl 3-methoxybenzoate (**14**)²²



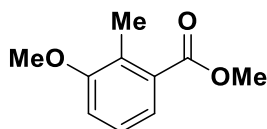
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 3-methoxy-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.02 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.21 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.8 mL, 1.43 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **14** was obtained in 90% yield (153 mg) as colorless solid (mp 110°C, lit.²³ 110-111°C) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.64 (dd, *J* = 7.6 Hz, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H, Ph H-6), 7.56 (s, 1H, Ph H-2), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H, Ph H-5), 7.09 (m, 1H, Ph H-4), 4.38 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₃), 3.85 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H, OCH₂CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.5 (C=O), 159.5 (Ph C-3), 131.8 (Ph C-1), 129.3 (Ph C-5), 121.9 (Ph C-6), 119.3 (Ph C-4), 61.0 (OCH₂CH₃), 55.4 (OCH₃), 14.3 (OCH₂CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₉H₁₁O₃⁺: 167.0708 [M+H]⁺; found: 167.0706.

Methyl 4-methoxybenzoate (**15**)²⁴



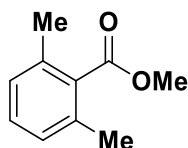
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*,3-dimethoxy-*N*,2-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 0.96 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.19 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.6 mL, 1.34 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **15** was obtained in 86% yield (148 mg) as colorless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H, Ph H-3), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, Ph H-2,4), 3.88 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 3.40-3.36 (bs, 3H, OCH₃), 2.17 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 157.5 (C=O), 136.7 (Ph C-5), 126.3 (Ph C-1), 123.5 (Ph C-3), 124.8 (Ph C-6), 118.1 (Ph C-2), 110.6 (Ph C-4), 61.1 (OCH₃), 55.5 (COOCH₃), 12.7 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for $C_{10}H_{13}O_3^+$: 181.0865 $[M+H]^+$; found: 181.0867.

Methyl 2,6-dimethylbenzoate (16)²⁵



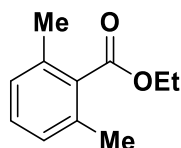
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,2,6-trimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.03 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.21 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.90 mL, 1.45 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **16** was obtained in 83% yield (142 mg) as colorless oil without further purification.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ : 7.19 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H, Ph H-4), 7.03 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 3.91 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 2.31 (6H, CH_3).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ : 170.5 (C=O), 134.9 (Ph C-2,6), 133.8 (Ph C-1), 129.3 (Ph C-4), 127.5 (Ph C-3,5), 51.9 (OCH_3), 19.7 (2C, CH_3).

HRMS (ESI-TOF), m/z : calcd. for $C_{10}H_{13}O_2^+$: 165.0916 $[M+H]^+$; found: 165.0912.

Ethyl 2,6-dimethylbenzoate 17)²⁶



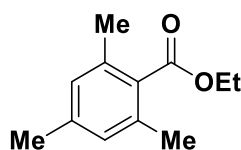
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,2,6-trimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.03 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.21 mmol, 0.2 equiv), EtONa 0.3 M solution in EtOH (4.83 mL, 1.45 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **17** was obtained in 81% yield (149 mg) as colorless oil without further purification.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ : 7.18 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H, Ph H-4), 7.03 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.40 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH_2CH_3), 2.32 (s, 6H, CH_3), 1.39 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H, OCH_2CH_3).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ : 170.0 (C=O), 134.8 (Ph C-2,6), 134.1 (Ph C-1), 129.2 (Ph C-4), 127.5 (Ph C-3,5), 60.9 (OCH_2CH_3), 19.6 (2C, CH_3), 14.3 (OCH_2CH_3).

HRMS (ESI-TOF), m/z : calcd. for $C_{11}H_{15}O_2^+$: 179.1072 $[M+H]^+$; found: 179.1073.

Ethyl 2,4,6-trimethylbenzoate (18)²⁷



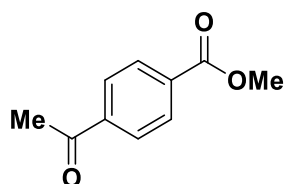
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,2,4,6-tetramethylbenzamide (200 mg, 0.97 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.19 mmol, 0.2 equiv), EtONa 0.3 M solution in EtOH (4.50 mL, 1.35 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **18** was obtained in 87% yield (161 mg) as colorless oil without further purification.

¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 6.85 (s, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.38 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 2.29 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.28 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, OCH₂CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 170.1 (C=O), 139.2 (Ph C-4), 135.0 (Ph C-2,6), 131.1 (Ph C-1), 128.4 (Ph C-3,5), 60.8 (OCH₂), 21.1 (CH₃), 19.7 (CH₃), 14.3 (OCH₂CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₂H₁₇O₂⁺: 193.1229 [M+H]⁺; found: 193.1230.

Methyl 4-acetylbenzoate (**19**)⁹



By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 4-acetyl-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 0.97 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.19 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.70 mL, 1.35 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **19** was obtained in 91% yield (156 mg) as white solid (mp 96-97 °C, lit.²⁸ 96-97 °C) without further purification.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.13 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 8.01 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 3.95 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.65 (3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 197.6 (CH₃C=O), 166.2 (C=O), 140.2 (Ph C-4), 133.9 (Ph C-1), 129.8 (Ph C-2,6), 128.2 (Ph C-3,5), 52.5 (OCH₃), 26.9 (CH₃).

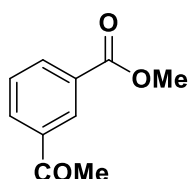
HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: calcd for C₁₀H₁₀NaO₃⁺: 201.0522 (M + Na)⁺, found: 201.0519.

Scale up of the reaction using 20 mmol of starting material

By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 4-acetyl-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (4.145 g, 20 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.6 mL, 4 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (56 mL, 28 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **19** was obtained in 93% yield (3.314 g) as white solid without further purification.

Spectroscopic and spectrometric data match with those ones reported for the running reaction at 0.97 mmol scale.

Methyl 3-acetylbenzoate (**20**)⁹



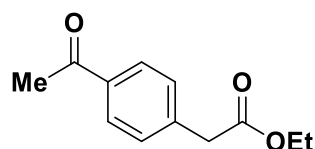
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 3-acetyl-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 0.97 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.19 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.70 mL, 1.35 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **20** was obtained in 85% yield (146 mg) as white solid (mp 43°C, lit.²⁹ 42-43.7 °C) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.59 (m, 1H, Ph H-2), 8.23 (m, 1H, Ph H-4), 8.16 (m, 1H, Ph H-6), 7.56 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, Ph H-5), 3.95 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.65 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 197.2 (C=O), 166.3 (CO₂), 137.3 (Ph C-3), 133.9 (Ph C-6), 132.3 (Ph C-4), 130.7 (Ph C-1), 129.5 (Ph C-2), 128.8 (Ph C-5), 52.4 (OCH₃), 26.7 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: calcd for C₁₀H₁₀NaO₃⁺: 201.0522 (*M* + Na)⁺, found: 201.0523.

Ethyl 2-(4-acetylphenyl) acetate (**21**)³⁰



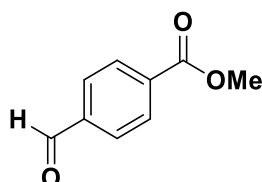
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 2-(4-acetylphenyl)-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylacetamide (200 mg, 0.90 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.18 mmol, 0.2 equiv), EtONa 0.3 M solution in EtOH (4.2 mL, 1.27 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **21** was obtained in 81% yield (151 mg) as white solid (mp 50°C, lit.³¹ 49-50 °C) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.92 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 7.38 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 4.16 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₃), 3.67 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.59 (s, 3H, C=OCH₃), 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, OCH₂CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 197.7 (C=OCH₃), 170.8 (C=O), 139.5 (Ph C-4), 136.0 (Ph C-1), 129.5 (Ph C-2,6), 128.6 (Ph C-3,5), 61.1 (OCH₂CH₃), 53.6 (CH₃), 41.3 (CH₂), 26.6 (OCH₂CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₂H₁₅O₃⁺: 207.1021 [*M*+H]⁺; found: 207.1023.

Methyl 4-formylbenzoate (**22**)³²



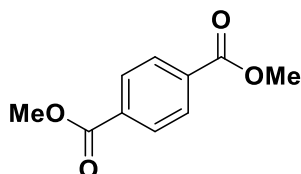
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 4-formyl-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.04 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.21 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.90 mL, 1.45 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **22** was obtained in 93% yield (158 mg) as white solid (m.p. 180 °C, lit.³³ 180 °C) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 7:3 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 10.1 (COH), 8.20 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.96 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 3.96 (s, 3H, OCH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 191.7 (COH), 166.1 (C=O), 139.1 (Ph C-4), 135.1 (Ph C-1), 130.2 (Ph C-2,6), 129.5 (Ph C-3,5), 52.6 (OCH₃).

HRMS (ESI) : m/z calcd. for C₉H₉O₃ [M+H]⁺ 166.0552; found: 166.0555.

Methyl 4-methoxybenzoate(**23**)³⁴



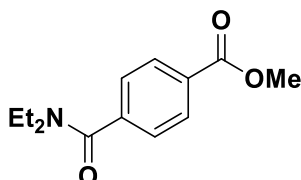
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from methyl 4-(methoxy(methyl)carbamoyl) benzoate (200 mg, 0.90 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.18 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.5 mL, 1.25 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **23** was obtained in 87% yield (151 mg) as white solid (mp 142°C, lit.³⁴ 141-143 °C) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.0 (s, 4H, Ph H-2,3,5,6), 3.95 (s, 6H, COOCH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.3 (C=O), 133.9 (Ph C-1, 4), 129.5 (Ph C-2,3,5,6), 52.4 (COOCH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₀H₁₀NaO₄⁺: 217.0471 [M+Na]⁺; found: 217.0475.

Methyl 4-(diethylcarbamoyl)benzoate (**24**)³⁵



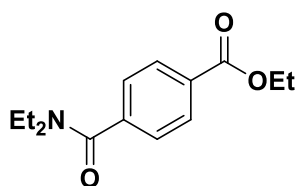
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 4-(diethylcarbamoyl)-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 0.76 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.15 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.12 mL, 1.06 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **24** was obtained in 94% yield (167 mg) as yellow oil without further purification.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.05 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.42 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 3.91 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.54 (m, 1H, NCH₂), 3.19 (m, 1H, NCH₂), 1.24 (m, 3H, CH₃), 1.08 (m, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 170.2 (CON), 166.4 (C=O), 141.5 (Ph C-4), 130.6 (Ph C-1), 129.7 (Ph C-2,6), 126.2 (Ph C-3,5), 52.2 (OCH₃), 43.2 (NCH₂), 39.2 (NCH₂), 14.1 (CH₃), 12.8 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₃H₁₇NNaO₃⁺: 258.1101 [M+Na]⁺; found: 258.1101.

Ethyl 4-(diethylcarbamoyl) benzoate (**25**)³⁶



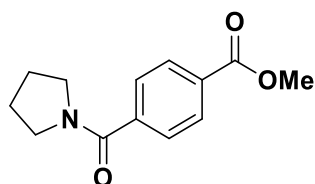
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 4-(diethylcarbamoyl)-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 0.76 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.15 mmol, 0.2 equiv), EtONa 0.3 M solution in EtOH (3.5 mL, 1.06 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **25** was obtained in 89% yield (168 mg) as yellow oil without further purification.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 8.07 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.43 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.39 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₃), 3.55 (m, 2H, NCH₂), 3.20 (m, 2H, NCH₂), 1.40 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H, OCH₂CH₃), 1.25 (m, 3H, NCH₂CH₃), 1.09 (m, 3H, NCH₂CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 170.3 (C=ON), 166.0 (C=O), 141.4 (Ph C-4), 131.0 (Ph C-1), 129.7 (Ph C-2,6), 126.2 (Ph C-3,5), 61.2 (OCH₂CH₃), 43.2 (NCH₂), 39.3 (NCH₂), 14.3 (OCH₂CH₃), 14.2 (NCH₂CH₃), 12.9 (NCH₂CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for C₁₄H₁₉NNaO₃⁺: 272.1263 [M+Na]⁺; found: 272.1264.

Methyl 4-(pyrrolidine-1-carbonyl) benzoate (**26**)³⁷



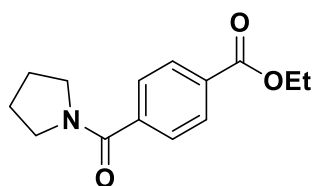
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-4-(pyrrolidine-1-carbonyl)benzamide (200 mg, 0.76 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.15 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (2.14 mL, 1.07 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **26** was obtained in 92% yield (164 mg) as white solid (mp 103–104 °C, lit.³⁷ 103–104 °C) without further purification.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 8.06 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.56 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 3.92 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.65 (m, 2H, Pyr H-5), 3.37 (m, 2H, Pyr H-2), 1.97 (m, 2H, Pyr H-4), 1.89 (m, 2H, Pyr H-3).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 168.7 (CON), 166.4 (C=O), 141.4 (Ph C-4), 131.1 (Ph C-1), 129.6 (Ph C-2,6), 127.0 (Ph C-3,5), 52.3 (OCH₃), 49.4 (Pyr C-2), 46.2 (Pyr C-5), 26.3 (Pyr C-3), 24.4 (Pyr C-4).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for C₁₃H₁₆NO₃⁺: 234.1119 [M+H]⁺; found: 234.1124.

Ethyl 4-(pyrrolidine-1-carbonyl) benzoate (**27**)³⁸



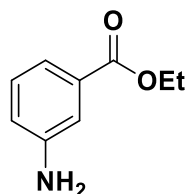
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-4-(pyrrolidine-1-carbonyl) benzamide (200 mg, 0.76 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.15 mmol, 0.2 equiv), EtONa 0.3 M solution in EtOH (3.56 mL, 1.07 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **27** was obtained in 86% yield (162 mg) as colorless oil without further purification.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 8.07 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.57 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.39 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₃), 3.65 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H, Pyr H-5), 3.38 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H, Pyr H-2), 2.0 (m, 2H, Pyr H-4), 1.9 (m, 2H, Pyr H-3), 1.40 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 168.8 (C=ON), 166.0 (C=O), 141.2 (Ph C-4), 131.5 (Ph C-1), 129.6 (Ph C-2,6), 127.0 (Ph C-3,5), 61.2 (OCH₂CH₃), 49.5 (Pyr C-2), 46.2 (Pyr C-5), 26.4 (Pyr C-3), 24.4 (Pyr C-4), 14.3 (OCH₂CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for C₁₄H₁₈NO₃⁺: 248.1279 [M+H]⁺; found: 248.1281.

Ethyl 3-aminobenzoate (**28**)³⁹



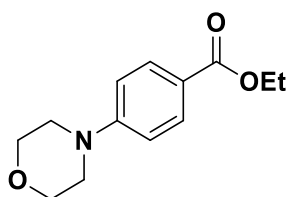
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from 3-amino-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.11 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), EtONa 0.3 M solution in EtOH (5.18 mL, 1.55 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **28** was obtained in 82% yield (150 mg) as colorless oil column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 1:1 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.44 (m, 1H, Ph H-6), 7.37 (m, 1H, Ph H-2), 7.21 (m, 1H, Ph H-5), 6.87 (m, 1H, Ph H-4), 4.35 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₃), 3.53 (bs, 2H, NH₂), 1.38 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H, OCH₂CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 166.8 (C=O), 146.1 (Ph C-3), 131.4 (Ph C-1), 129.2 (Ph C-5), 119.9 (Ph C-6), 119.4 (Ph C-4), 115.9 (Ph C-2), 60.9 (OCH₂CH₃), 14.3 (OCH₂CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for C₉H₁₂NO₂⁺: 166.0868 [M+H]⁺; found: 166.0880.

Ethyl 4-morpholinobenzoate (**29**)⁴⁰



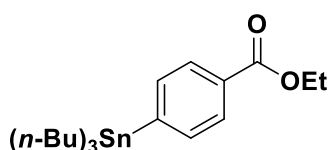
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-4-morpholinobenzamide (200 mg, 0.80 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.16 mmol, 0.2 equiv), EtONa 0.3 M solution in EtOH (3.73 mL, 1.12 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **29** was obtained in 96% yield (180 mg) as yellow solid (mp 85 °C, lit.⁴⁰ 85 °C) without further purification.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.94 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 6.86 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.33 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.86 (m, 4H, Morph H-2,6), 3.28 (m, 4H, Morph H-3,5), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.6 (C=O), 154.1 (Ph C-4), 131.1 (Ph C-2,6), 120.7 (Ph C-1), 113.5 (Ph C-3,5), 66.6 (Morph C-2,6), 60.4 (OCH₂), 47.7 (Morph C-3,5), 14.4 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI-TOF): *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₃H₁₈NO₃⁺: 236.1281 [M+H]⁺; Found: 236.1279.

ethyl 4-(tributylstannyl) benzoate (**30**)⁴¹



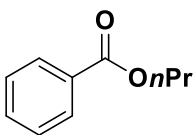
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-4-(tributylstannyl)benzamide (200 mg, 0.44 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.01 mL, 0.09 mmol, 0.2 equiv), EtONa 0.3 M solution in EtOH (2.06 mL, 0.62 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **30** was obtained in 93% yield (180 mg) as yellow oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H, OCH₂CH₃), 1.52 (m, 6H, *n*-Bu), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, OCH₂CH₃), 1.32 (m, 6H, *n*-Bu), 1.08 (m, 6H, (CH₂)₃Sn), 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 9H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 167.1 (C=O), 149.4 (Ph C-4), 136.4 (Ph C-3,5), 129.9 (Ph C-1), 128.3 (Ph C-2,6), 60.8 (OCH₂CH₃), 29.0 (*n*-Bu), 27.3 (*n*-Bu), 14.3 (OCH₂CH₃), 13.6 (CH₃), 9.6 ((CH₂)₃Sn).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₂₁H₃₇O₂Sn⁺: 441.1806 [M+H]⁺; found: 441.1810.

Propyl benzoate (**31**)⁴²



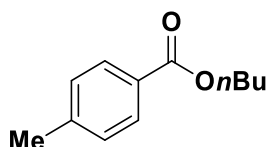
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.04 mL, 0.24 mmol, 0.2 equiv), *n*-PrONa (0.16 mL, 1.69 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **31** was obtained in 85% yield (169 mg) as yellow oil without further purification.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 8.05 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.55 (m, 1H, Ph H-4), 7.44 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.29 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 1.80 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.03 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 166.7 (C=O), 132.8 (Ph C-4), 130.5 (Ph H-1), 129.5 (Ph C-2,6), 128.3 (Ph C-3,5), 66.5 (OCH₂), 22.1 (CH₂), 10.5 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for C₁₀H₁₃O₂⁺: 165.0910 [M+H]⁺; found: 165.0904.

Butyl 4-methylbenzoate (**32**)⁴³



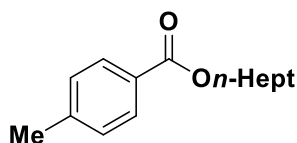
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), *n*-BuONa 0.5 M solution in *n*-BuOH (3.12 mL, 1.56 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **32** was obtained in 94% yield (202 mg) as colorless oil without further purification.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.93 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.23 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.31 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 2.41 (s, 3H, Ph CH₃), 1.75 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.48 (m, 2H, CH₂), 0.98 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 166.7 (C=O), 143.4 (Ph C-4), 129.5 (Ph C-2,6), 129.0 (Ph C-3,5), 127.7 (Ph C-1), 64.6 (OCH₂), 30.8 (OCH₂CH₂), 21.6 (Ph 4-CH₃), 19.3 (CH₂), 13.8 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for C₁₂H₁₇O₂⁺: 193.1223 [M+H]⁺; found: 193.1218.

Heptyl 4-methylbenzoate (**33**)⁴⁴



By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), *n*-HeptOH (0.22 mL, 1.56 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (46 mg, 2.01 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **33** was

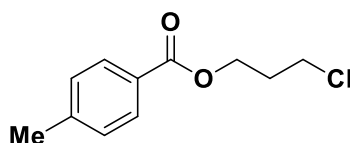
obtained in 78% yield (104 mg) as colorless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.93 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.23 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.30 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 2.41 (s, 3H, Ph CH₃), 1.76 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.43 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.36 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.31 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.30 (m, 2H, CH₂), 0.89 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.7 (C=O), 143.4 (Ph C-4), 129.5 (Ph C-2,6), 129.0 (Ph C-3,5), 127.7 (Ph C-1), 65.0 (OCH₂), 31.7 (CH₂), 29.0 (CH₂), 28.7 (CH₂), 26.0 (CH₂), 23.0 (CH₂), 21.6 (Ph CH₃), 14.0 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₅H₂₂O₂Na⁺: 257.1459 [M+Na]⁺; found: 257.1450.

3-chloropropyl 4-methylbenzoate (**34**)⁴⁵



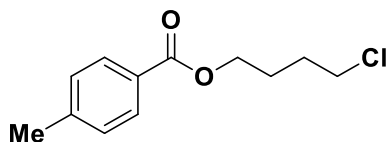
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), 3-chloropropan-1-ol (0.13 mL, 1.56 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (46 mg, 2.01 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **34** was obtained in 74% yield (176 mg) as colorless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 85:15 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.92 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.24 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.46 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 2.41 (s, 3H, Ph CH₃), 3.70 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H, CH₂Cl), 2.23 (m, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.5 (C=O), 143.8 (Ph C-4), 129.6 (Ph C-2,6), 129.1 (Ph C-3,5), 127.3 (Ph C-1), 61.5 (OCH₂), 41.3 (CH₂Cl), 31.8 (CH₂), 21.6 (Ph 4-CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₁H₁₄ClO₂⁺: 213.0672 [M+H]⁺; found: 213.0677.

4-chlorobutyl 4-methylbenzoate (**35**)⁴⁶



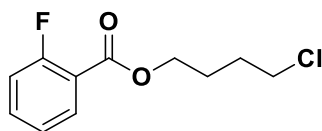
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), 4-chlorobutan-1-ol (0.16 mL, 1.56 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (46 mg, 2.01 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **35** was obtained in 76% yield (192 mg) as colorless oil chromatographic purification on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.92 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.24 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.34 (m, 2H, OCH₂), 3.62 (m, 2H, CH₂Cl), 2.41 (s, 3H, Ph CH₃), 1.94 (m, 4H, CH₂CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.6 (C=O), 143.6 (Ph C-4), 129.5 (Ph C-2,6), 129.1 (Ph C-3,5), 127.5 (Ph C-1), 63.9 (OCH₂), 44.5 (CH₂Cl), 29.3 (CH₂), 26.2 (CH₂), 21.7 (Ph CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₂H₁₆ClO₂⁺: 227.0827 [M+H]⁺; found: 227.0832.

4-chlorobutyl 2-fluorobenzoate (**36**)



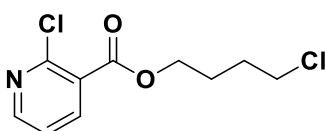
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from 2-fluoro-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.09 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), 4-chlorobutan-1-ol (0.15 mL, 1.53 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (45 mg, 1.97 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **36** was obtained in 82% yield (207 mg) as colorless oil chromatographic purification on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.93 (m, 1H, Ph H-6), 7.52 (m, 1H, Ph H-4), 7.21 (m, 1H, Ph H-5), 7.14 (m, 1H, Ph H-3), 4.38 (m, 2H, OCH₂), 3.62 (m, 2H, CH₂Cl), 1.96 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.95 (m, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 164.5 (d, ³*J*_{C,F} = 4.0 Hz, C=O), 161.9 (d, ¹*J*_{C,F} = 258.4 Hz, Ph C-2), 134.5 (d, ³*J*_{C,F} = 9.1 Hz, Ph C-4), 132.1 (Ph C-6), 124.0 (d, ⁴*J*_{C,F} = 4.0 Hz, Ph C-5), 118.7 (d, ²*J*_{C,F} = 10.2 Hz, Ph C-1), 117.0 (d, ²*J*_{C,F} = 22.0 Hz, Ph C-3), 64.4 (OCH₂), 44.5 (CH₂Cl), 29.2 (CH₂), 26.0 (CH₂).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₁H₁₂ClFNaO₂⁺: 253.0395 [M+H]⁺; found: 253.0400.

4-chlorobutyl 2-chloronicotinate (**37**)⁴⁷



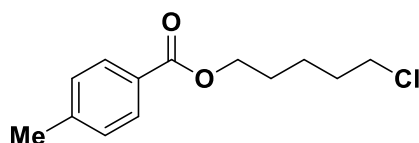
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from 2-chloro-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylnicotinamide (200 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.20 mmol, 0.2 equiv), 4-chlorobutan-1-ol (0.14 mL, 1.40 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (41 mg, 1.79 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **37** was obtained in 75% yield (185 mg) as colorless oil chromatographic purification on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.53 (dd, *J* = 1.8 Hz, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H, Pyr H-6), 8.16 (dd, *J* = 1.9 Hz, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, Pyr H-4), 7.34 (dd, *J* = 4.6 Hz, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, Pyr H-5), 4.41 (m, 2H, OCH₂), 3.61 (m, 2H, CH₂Cl), 1.96 (m, 4H, CH₂ CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 164.6 (C=O), 151.9 (Pyr C-6), 150.0 (Pyr C-2), 140.3 (Pyr C-4), 127.0 (Pyr C-3), 122.1 (Pyr C-5), 65.3 (OCH₂), 44.4 (CH₂Cl), 29.1 (CH₂), 25.9 (CH₂).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₀H₁₂Cl₂NO₂⁺: 248.0234 [M+H]⁺; found: 248.0239.

5-chloropentyl 4-methylbenzoate (**38**)⁴⁸



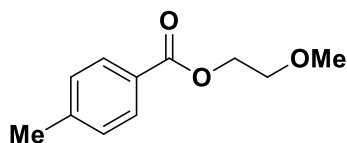
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), 5-chloropentan-1-ol (0.18 mL, 1.56 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (46 mg, 2.01 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **38** was obtained in 82% yield (220 mg) as yellow oil chromatographic purification on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 9:1 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.93 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.24 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.31 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.56 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, CH₂Cl), 2.41 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.85 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.80 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.61 (m, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.7 (C=O), 143.5 (Ph C-4), 129.5 (Ph C-2,6), 129.0 (Ph C-3,5), 127.6 (Ph C-1), 64.4 (OCH₂), 44.8 (CH₂Cl), 32.1 (CH₂), 28.0 (CH₂), 23.4 (CH₂), 21.6 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₃H₁₈ClO₂⁺: 241.0987 [M+H]⁺; found: 241.0990.

2-methoxyethyl 4-methylbenzoate (**39**)⁴⁹



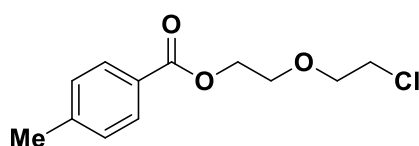
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), 2-methoxyethan-1-ol (0.12 mL, 1.56 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (46 mg, 2.01 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **39** was obtained in 90% yield (195 mg) as colourless oil chromatographic purification on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 7:3 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.95 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.23 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.46 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.72 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H, CH₂OMe), 3.43 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.40 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.7 (C=O), 143.6 (Ph C-4), 129.7 (Ph C-2,6), 129.0 (Ph C-3,5), 127.3 (Ph C-1), 70.6 (CH₂OCH₃), 63.9 (OCH₂), 59.0 (OCH₃), 21.6 (Ph 4-CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₁H₁₅O₃⁺: 195.1010 [M+H]⁺; found: 191.1016.

2-(2-chloroethoxy)ethyl 4-methylbenzoate (**40**)



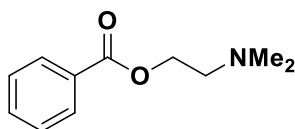
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), 2-(2-chloroethoxy) ethan-1-ol (0.19 mL, 1.57 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (46 mg, 2.02 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **40** was obtained in 74% yield (200 mg) as colourless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 7:3 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.95 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.24 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.47 (t, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.86 (t, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 2H, CH₂O), 3.80 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 3.64 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H, CH₂Cl), 2.41 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.6 (C=O), 143.7 (Ph C-4), 129.7 (Ph C-2,6), 129.1 (Ph C-3,5), 127.3 (Ph C-1), 71.3 (CH₂O), 69.3 (OCH₂), 63.8 (OCH₂), 42.7 (CH₂Cl), 21.7 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. For C₁₂H₁₆ClO₃⁺: 243.0778 [M+H]⁺; found: 243.0782.

2-(dimethylamino)ethyl benzoate (**41**)⁵⁰



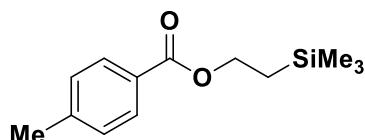
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.04 mL, 0.24 mmol, 0.2 equiv), 2-(Dimethylamino)-ethanol (0.17 mL, 1.70 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (50 mg, 2.18 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **compound 41** was obtained in 85% yield (199 mg) as colourless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 5:5 as eluent).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.05 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H, Ph H-4), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.43 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 2.72 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 2.34 (s, 6H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.7 (C=O), 133.1 (Ph C-4), 130.4 (Ph C-1), 129.8 (Ph C-2,6), 128.5 (Ph C-3,5), 63.2 (CH₂O), 58.0 (CH₂), 46.0 (N(CH₃)₂).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₁H₁₅NNaO₂⁺: 216.1001 [M+Na]⁺; found: 216.1003.

2-(trimethylsilyl) ethyl 4-methylbenzoate (**42**)⁵¹



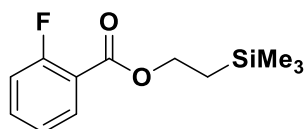
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), 2-(trimethylsilyl) ethan-1-ol (0.22 mL, 1.57 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (46 mg, 2.02 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **42** was obtained in 76% yield (201 mg) as colourless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 95:5 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.93 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.23 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.40 (m, 2H, OCH₂), 2.40 (m, 3H, CH₃), 1.13 (m, 2H, OCH₂), 0.08 (s, 9H, Si(CH₃)₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.9 (C=O), 143.3 (Ph C-4), 129.5 (Ph C-2,6), 129.0 (Ph C-3,5), 127.9 (Ph C-1), 63.0 (CH₂O), 21.6 (OCH₃), 17.4 (CH₂), -1.5 (Si(CH₃)₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₃H₂₀NaO₂Si⁺: 259.1118 [M+Na]⁺; found: 259.1123.

2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyl 2-fluorobenzoate (**43**)



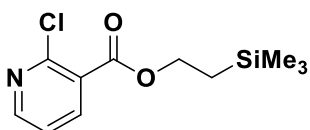
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from 2-fluoro-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.09 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), 2-(trimethylsilyl) ethan-1-ol (0.22 mL, 1.53 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (45 mg, 1.97 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **43** was obtained in 82% yield (215 mg) as colourless oil chromatographic purification on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 95:5 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.92 (m, 2H, Ph H-6), 7.50 (m, 1H, Ph H-4), 7.19 (m, 1H, Ph H-5), 7.13 (m, 1H, Ph H-3), 4.43 (m, 2H, OCH₂), 1.14 (m, 2H, CH₂), 0.08 (s, 9H, Si(CH₃)₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 164.6 (d, ³*J*_{C,F} = 3.7 Hz, C=O), 161.9 (d, ¹*J*_{C,F} = 257.7 Hz, Ph C-2), 134.2 (d, ³*J*_{C,F} = 9.1 Hz, Ph C-4), 132.0 (Ph C-6), 123.9 (d, ⁴*J*_{C,F} = 3.5 Hz, Ph C-5), 119.2 (d, ²*J*_{C,F} = 9.9 Hz, Ph C-1), 116.9 (d, ²*J*_{C,F} = 22.7 Hz, Ph C-3), 63.6 (OCH₂), 17.4 (CH₂), -1.5 (Si(CH₃)₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. For C₁₂H₁₇FNao₂Si⁺: 263.0867 [M+Na]⁺; found: 263.0874.

2-(trimethylsilyl) ethyl 2-chloronicotinate (**44**)



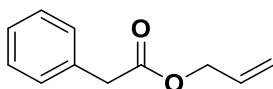
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from 2-chloro-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylnicotinamide (200 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.20 mmol, 0.2 equiv), 2-(trimethylsilyl) ethan-1-ol (0.20 mL, 1.40 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (41 mg, 1.79 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **44** was obtained in 75% yield (193 mg) as colorless oil chromatographic purification on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 95:5 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.51 (dd, *J* = 1.8 Hz, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H, Pyr H-6), 8.14 (dd, *J* = 1.9 Hz, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, Pyr H-4), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 4.7 Hz, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, Pyr H-5), 4.45 (m, 2H, OCH₂), 1.15 (m, 2H, CH₂), 0.08 (s, 9H, Si(CH₃)₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 164.7 (C=O), 151.6 (Pyr C-6), 149.9 (Pyr C-2), 140.1 (Pyr C-4), 127.4 (Pyr C-3), 122.1 (Pyr C-5), 64.6 (OCH₂), 17.4 (CH₂), -1.5 (Si(CH₃)₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₁H₁₇ClNO₂Si⁺: 258.0707 [M+H]⁺; found: 258.0712.

Allyl 2-phenylacetate (**45**)⁵²



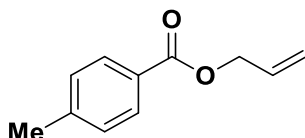
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-2-phenylacetamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), prop-2-en-1-ol (0.13 mL, 1.56 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (46 mg, 2.01 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **45** was obtained in 83% yield (163 mg) as colorless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.32 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 7.30 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.27 (m, 1H, Ph H-4), 5.90 (m, 1H, CH=CH₂), 5.27 (m, 1H, CH=CH₂), 5.22 (m, 1H, CH=CH₂), 4.60 (m, 2H, OCH₂), 3.66 (m, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 171.2 (C=O), 133.9 (Ph C-1), 132.0 (CH=CH₂), 129.3 (Ph C-2,6), 128.6 (Ph C-3,5), 127.1 (Ph C-4), 118.2 (CH=CH₂), 65.5 (OCH₂), 41.3 (CH₂).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₁H₁₃O₂⁺: 177.0907 [M+H]⁺; found: 177.0910.

Allyl 4-methylbenzoate (**46**)⁵³



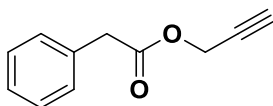
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.04 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), prop-2-en-1-ol (0.13 mL, 1.56 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (46 mg, 2.01 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **46** was obtained in 85% yield (167 mg) as colorless oil without any further purification step.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.96 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.24 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 6.04 (m, 1H, CH=CH₂), 5.41 (m, 1H, CH=CH₂), 5.28 (m, 1H, CH=CH₂), 4.81 (m, 2H, OCH₂), 2.41 (m, 2H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.3 (C=O), 143.6 (Ph C-4), 132.4 (CH=CH₂), 129.6 (Ph C-2,6), 129.1 (Ph C-3,5), 127.4 (Ph C-1), 118.0 (CH=CH₂), 65.3 (OCH₂), 21.6 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₁H₁₃O₂⁺: 177.0908 [M+H]⁺; found: 177.0910.

Prop-2-yn-1-yl 2-phenylacetate (**47**)⁵⁴



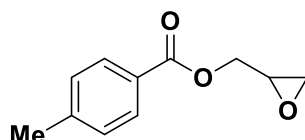
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-2-phenylacetamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), prop-2-yn-1-ol (0.09 mL, 1.56 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (46 mg, 2.01 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **47** was obtained in 85% yield (165 mg) as colorless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.35-7.28 (m, 5H, Ph H-2,3,4,5,6), 4.70 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 2H, CH₂O), 3.68 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.47 (t, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H, CCH).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 170.9 (C=O), 133.5 (Ph C-1), 129.4 (Ph C-2,6), 128.8 (Ph C-3,5), 127.4 (Ph C-4), 77.7 (CCH), 75.2 (CH), 52.5 (OCH₂), 41.1 (CH₂).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₁H₁₁O₂⁺: 175.0754 [M+H]⁺; found: 175.0749.

Oxiran-2-ylmethyl 4-methylbenzoate (**48**)⁵⁵



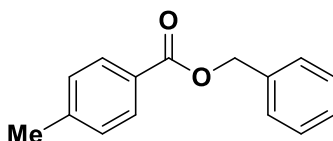
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), Glycidol (0.10 mL, 1.56 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (46 mg, 2.01 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **48** was obtained in 91% yield (195 mg) as colourless oil chromatographic purification on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.96 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.25 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 4.64 (dd, *J* = 3.1 Hz, *J* = 12.3 Hz, 1H, OCH₂), 4.16 (dd, *J* = 6.2 Hz, *J* = 12.3 Hz, 1H, OCH₂), 3.34 (m, 1H, CH), 2.90 (t, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H, OCH₂), 2.73 (dd, *J* = 2.6 Hz, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H, OCH₂), 2.41 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.3 (C=O), 144.0 (Ph C-4), 129.8 (Ph C-2,6), 129.1 (Ph C-3,5), 126.9 (Ph C-1), 65.2 (OCH₂), 49.5 (CH), 44.7 (OCH₂), 21.7 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. For C₁₁H₁₃O₃⁺: 193.0854 [M+H]⁺; found: 193.0859.

Benzyl 4-methylbenzoate (**49**)⁵⁶



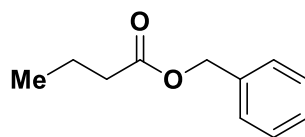
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*,4-dimethylbenzamide (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 equiv), sodium benzyloxide 1.0 M solution in benzyl alcohol (1.56 mL, 1.56 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **49** was obtained in 94% yield (237 mg) as colourless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 7:3 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.00 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.47 (m, 2H, Ph₁ H-2,6), 7.41 (m, 2H, Ph₁ H-3,5), 7.36 (m, 1H, Ph₁ H-4), 7.26 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,6), 5.38 (m, 2H, OCH₂), 2.43 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 166.5 (C=O), 143.7 (Ph C-4), 136.1 (Ph₁ C-1), 129.7 (Ph C-2,6), 129.0 (Ph C-3,5), 128.5 (Ph₁ C-3,5), 128.1 (Ph₁ C-4), 128.1 (Ph₁ C-2,6), 127.3 (Ph C-1), 66.5 (OCH₂), 21.6 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for $C_{15}H_{14}NaO_2^+$: 249.0877 $[M+H]^+$; found: 249.0882.

Benzyl butyrate (50)⁵⁷



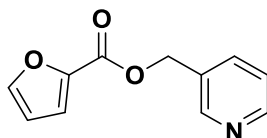
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbutyramide (200 mg, 1.53 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.05 mL, 0.31 mmol, 0.2 equiv), sodium benzyloxide 1.0 M solution in benzyl alcohol (2.14 mL, 2.14 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **50** was obtained in 75% yield (204 mg) as colourless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/diethyl ether 8:2 as eluent).

1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ : 7.36 (m, 4H, Ph H-2,3,5,6), 7.32 (m, 1H, Ph H-4), 5.12 (s, 2H, OCH_2), 2.34 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H, CH_2), 1.68 (sext, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, CH_2), 0.95 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H, CH_3).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ : 173.5 (C=O), 136.1 (Ph C-1), 128.5 (Ph C-3,5), 128.1 (Ph C-2,4,6), 66.0 (OCH_2), 36.2 (CH_2), 18.4 (CH_2), 13.7 (CH_3).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for $C_{11}H_{15}O_2^+$: 179.1067 $[M+H]^+$; found: 179.1068.

Pyridin-3-ylmethyl furan-2-carboxylate (51)



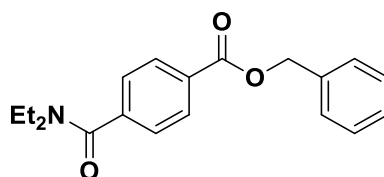
By following the **General procedure 2**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methylfuran-2-carboxamide (200 mg, 1.29 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.04 mL, 0.26 mmol, 0.2 equiv), pyridin-3-ylmethanol (0.18 mL, 1.81 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (53 mg, 2.32 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **51** was obtained in 73% yield (191 mg) as colorless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1 as eluent).

1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ : 8.71 (m, 1H, Pyr H-2), 8.60 (m, 1H, Pyr H-6), 7.81 (m, 1H, Pyr H-4), 7.59 (m, 1H, Fur H-5), 7.35 (m, 1H, Pyr H-5), 7.22 (m, 1H, Fur H-3), 6.52 (m, 1H, Fur H-4), 5.36 (s, 2H, OCH_2).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ : 158.2 (C=O), 149.3 (Pyr C-2,6), 146.7 (Fur C-5), 144.1 (Fur C-2), 136.6 (Pyr C-4), 131.5 (Pyr C-3), 123.7 (Pyr C-5), 118.6 (Fur C-3), 112.0 (Fur C-4), 63.8 (OCH_2).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for $C_{11}H_{10}NO_3^+$: 204.0658 $[M+H]^+$; found: 204.0655.

Benzyl 4-(diethylcarbamoyl)benzoate (**52**)



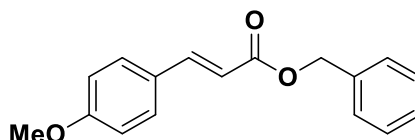
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*¹,*N*¹-diethyl-*N*⁴-methoxy-*N*⁴-methylterephthalamide (200 mg, 0.76 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.15 mmol, 0.2 equiv), sodium benzyloxide 1.0 M solution in benzyl alcohol (1.06 mL, 1.06 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **52** was obtained in 76% yield (179 mg) as colorless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 6:4 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.11 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.45 (m, 2H, Ph1 H-2,6), 7.43 (m, 2H, Ph C-3,5), 7.40 (m, 2H, Ph1 H-3,5), 7.36 (m, Ph1 H-4), 5.37 (s, 2H, OCH₂), 3.55 (m, 2H, NCH₂), 3.20 (m, 2H, NCH₂), 1.25 (m, 3H, CH₃), 1.09 (m, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 170.2 (NC=O), 165.8 (C=O), 141.7 (Ph1 C-4), 135.8 (Ph1 C-1), 130.6 (Ph C-1), 129.9 (Ph C-2,6), 128.6 (Ph1 C-3,5), 128.3 (Ph1 C-4), 128.2 (Ph1 C-2,6), 126.3 (Ph C-3,5), 66.9 (OCH₂), 43.2 (NCH₂), 39.2 (NCH₂), 14.2 (CH₃), 12.9 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₉H₂₂NO₃⁺: 312.1588 [M+H]⁺; found: 312.1593.

(*E*)-benzyl 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)acrylate (**53**)⁵⁸



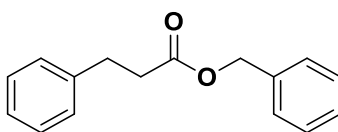
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from (*E*)-*N*-methoxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-*N*-methylacrylamide (200 mg, 0.90 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.18 mmol, 0.2 equiv), sodium benzyloxide 1.0 M solution in benzyl alcohol (1.27 mL, 1.27 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **53** was obtained in 85% yield (206 mg) as white solid (mp 53-54°C, lit.⁵⁹ 53-54 °C) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 7:3 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.90 (m, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 7.69 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H, CH=CH), 7.47 (m, 2H, Ph C-2,6), 7.41 (m, 2H, Ph1 H-2,6), 7.38 (m, 2H, Ph1 H-3,5), 7.34 (m, Ph1 H-4), 6.36 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, CH=CH), 5.24 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.84 (s, 3H, OCH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 167.1 (CH=CH), 161.4 (Ph C-4), 144.8 (CH=CH), 136.2 (Ph1 C-1), 129.8 (2C, Ph C-2,6), 128.6 (Ph1 C-3,5), 128.3 (Ph1 C-2,6), 128.2 (Ph1 C-4), 127.1 (Ph C-1), 115.3 (CH=CH), 114.3 (Ph C-3,5), 66.2 (OCH₂), 55.4 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₇H₁₇O₃⁺: 269.1163 [M+H]⁺; found: 269.1168.

(E)-benzyl 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)acrylate (54)⁶⁰



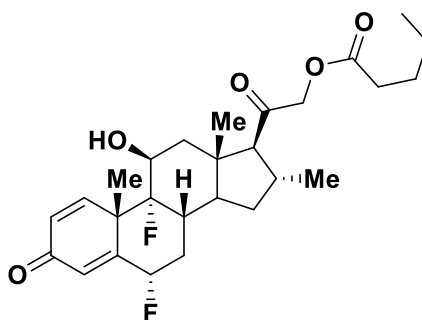
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-3-phenylpropanamide (200 mg, 1.04 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.03 mL, 0.21 mmol, 0.2 equiv), sodium benzyloxide 1.0 M solution in benzyl alcohol (1.45 mL, 1.45 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **54** was obtained in 90% yield (224 mg) as colorless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 7:3 as eluent).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.36-7.18 (m, 10H, Ph1, Ph2), 5.11 (s, 2H, CH₂O), 2.98 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.69 (m, 2H, CH₂).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 172.7 (C=O), 140.4 (Ph1 C-1), 135.9 (Ph2 C-1), 128.5 (Ph1 C-3,5), 128.5 (Ph2 C-3,5), 128.3 (Ph1 C-2,6), 128.2 (Ph1 C-2,6), 126.3 (Ph1,2 C-4), 66.3 (OCH₂), 35.9 (CH₂) 31.0 (CH₂).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for C₁₆H₁₆O₃Na⁺: 263.1043 [M+H]⁺; found: 263.1043.

Difluocortolone valerate (55)



By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methylpentanamide (200 mg, 1.38 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.04 mL, 0.28 mmol, 0.2 equiv), difluorocortolone (761 mg, 1.9 mmol, 1.4 equiv), sodium (57 mg, 2.48 mmol, 1.8 equiv), **55** was obtained in 87% yield (573 mg) as colourless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/methanol 98:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.12 (dd, J = 10.1 Hz, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H, CH=CH), 6.42 (s, 1H, =CH), 6.37 (dd, J = 10.1 Hz, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H, CH=CH), 5.44, 5.31, 4.76, 4.37, 4.33, 2.76, 2.46-1.62 (m, 12H), 1.52 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.43-1.29 (m, 3H, CH₃), 0.99 (m, 6H, CH₃), 0.93 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 203.2 (C=O), 185.7 (C=O), 173.5 (C=O), 161.3, 150.6, 130.4, 121.4, 100.0, 98.2, 87.6, 85.7, 71.9, 71.6, 69.6, 68.2, 48.3, 48.3, 48.1, 48.0, 45.3, 44.0, 33.9-13.8.

Mechanistic investigations (Scheme 4 of the manuscript)

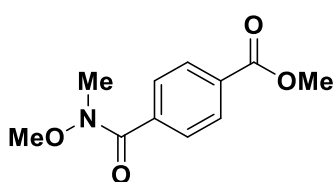
a) Esterification of modified Weinreb amide (*N*-ethoxy-*N*-methyl) **56**

By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-ethoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide (217 mg, 1.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.04 mL, 0.24 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (1.69 mL, 3.39 mmol, 1.4 equiv), **2** was obtained in 72% yield (119 mg) as white solid (mp 112°C, lit.² 112°C) after chromatographic purification on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 9:1 as eluent).

Spectral data for compound **2** match those ones above reported.

b) Activation of TMSCF₃ towards Weinreb amides with different Lewis bases

Methyl 4-(methoxy(methyl)carbamoyl)benzoate (**58**)⁶¹



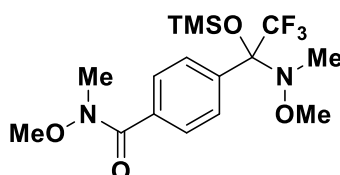
By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*¹,*N*⁴-dimethoxy-*N*¹,*N*⁴-dimethylterephthalamide⁶² (200 mg, 0.79 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.16 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (1.51 mL, 0.75 mmol, 0.95 equiv), **58** was obtained in 86% yield (152 mg) as white solid (mp 90 °C, lit.⁶³ 90-91 °C) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.7 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, Ph H-3,5), 3.94 (s, 3H, COOCH₃), 3.53 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.37 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 169.2 (C=O), 166.6 (C=OOCH₃), 138.5 (Ph C-4), 132.0 (Ph C-1), 129.4 (Ph C-2,6), 128.2 (Ph C-3,5), 61.4 (OCH₃), 52.5 (COOCH₃), 33.6 (CH₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₁H₁₃NO₄Na⁺: 246.0743 [M+Na]⁺; found: 246.0742.

N-methoxy-*N*-methyl-4-(3,6,6-trimethyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)-2,5-dioxa-3-aza-6-silaheptan-4-yl)benzamide (**59**)



Starting from *N*¹,*N*⁴-dimethoxy-*N*¹,*N*⁴-dimethylterephthalamide⁶² (200 mg, 0.79 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry toluene (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.12 mL, 0.83 mmol, 1.05 equiv) and caesium fluoride (12 mg, 0.08 mmol, 0.1 equiv) were added at 0 °C. The reaction was stirring to reach room temperature for 24 h.⁶⁴ Subsequently, the mixture was quenched with saturated (*aq.*) NH₄Cl (3 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (3 mL). The organic layer was washed with saturated (*aq.*) NaCl (5 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. **59** was

obtained in 77% yield (241 mg) as yellow oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.65 (m, 4H, Ph H-2,3,5,6), 3.58 (s, 3H, NOCH₃), 3.53 (s, 3H, CNOCH₃), 3.36 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.29 (s, 3H, CNCH₃), 0.28 (s, 6H, TMS).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 169.7 (C=O), 140.1 (Ph C-4), 134.8 (Ph C-1), 127.9 (Ph C-2,6), 127.5 (Ph C-3,5), 123.5 (q, *J* = 288.7 Hz, CF₃), 93.2 (q, *J* = 28.9 Hz, CCF₃), 61.2 (CNOCH₃), 59.6 (OCH₃), 36.7 (CH₃), 2.09 (TMS).

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: -73.20 (CF₃).

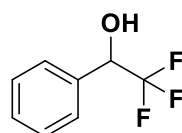
The instability of compound 59 – mainly due to the presence of the hemiaminal moiety – did not allow to record satisfactory MS analyses.^{1b}

d) *Activation of TMSCF₃ towards and aldehyde and a Weinreb amide*

Use of NaOtBu (as activating reagent)

Benzaldehyde **61** (106 mg, 0.10 mL, 1.00 mmol, 1.00 equiv) was dissolved in dry THF (2 mL) followed by trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.12 mL, 0.83 mmol, 1.05 equiv). At rt, was then commenced the dropwise addition of a 2 M THF solution of NaOtBu (1.10 mmol, 1.10 equiv, 0.55 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred overnight at rt. Subsequently, it was quenched with saturated (*aq.*) NH₄Cl (3 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (3 mL). The organic layer was washed with saturated (*aq.*) NaCl (5 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Trifluoromethyl alcohol **62** was obtained in 91% yield (160 mg) as colorless oil after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 7:3 as eluent).

2,2,2-trifluoro-1-phenylethan-1-ol (62)⁶⁵



¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.48 (m, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.42 (m, 3H, Ph H-3,4,5), 5.01 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H, CHCF₃), 2.86 (bs, 1H, OH).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 134.2 (Ph C-1), 129.7 (Ph C-4), 128.8 (Ph C-3,5), 127.6 (Ph C-2,6), 124.4 (q, *J* = 282.0 Hz, CF₃), 73.0 (q, *J* = 32.0 Hz, COH).

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: -78.3 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, CF₃).

HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: calcd. for C₈H₇F₃O⁺: 177.0449 [M+H]⁺; found: 177.0452.

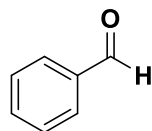
Use of NaOMe (as hypothetical activating agent)

Benzaldehyde **61** (106 mg, 0.10 mL, 1.00 mmol, 1.00 equiv) was dissolved in dry THF (2 mL) followed by trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.12 mL, 0.83 mmol, 1.05 equiv). At rt, was then commenced the dropwise addition of a 0.5 M methanol solution of NaOMe (1.10 mmol, 1.10 equiv, 2.20 mL) and the

resulting mixture was stirred overnight at rt. Subsequently, it was quenched with saturated (*aq.*) NH_4Cl (3 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (3 mL). The organic layer was washed with saturated (*aq.*) NaCl (5 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure.

As judged by the ^1H -NMR analysis of the crude, no reaction was observed. Benzaldehyde **61** was recovered in 93% yield (98 mg).

Benzaldehyde 61 (*recovered*)



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 10.02 (s, 1H, COH), 7.88 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ph H-2,6), 7.63 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H, Ph H-4), 7.53 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H, Ph H-3,5).

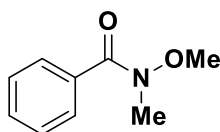
^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 192.5 (C=O), 136.6 (Ph C-1), 134.6 (Ph C-4), 129.9 (Ph C-3,5), 129.1 (Ph C-2,6).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{O}_1^+$: 105.0340 $[\text{M}]^+$; found: 105.0345.

Attempted reaction between Weinreb amide **1a** and TMSCF_3 activated with NaOtBu

N-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide **1a** (200 mg, 1.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was dissolved in dry THF (3 mL) and trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (181 mg, 1.88 mL, 1.27 mmol, 1.05 equiv) was added. Then, a 2 M THF solution of NaOtBu (0.67 mL, 1.33 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred at rt overnight. After quenching with saturated (*aq.*) NH_4Cl (3 mL), extracting with dichloromethane (3 mL), washing the organic layer with saturated (*aq.*) NaCl (5 mL), drying over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , the solution was filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Upon removal of the solvent, the ^1H -NMR of the crude revealed the lack of reactivity, being Weinreb amide **1a** (almost) fully recovered (188 mg, 94%). To fully ascertain this aspect, after passing on a pug of Celite a solution of **1a** in dichloromethane, NMR spectra were recorded, thus confirming no modification on Weinreb amide **1a**.

***N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide 1a** (*recovered*)

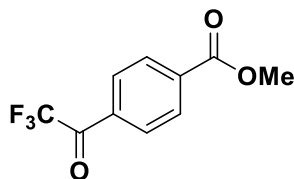


^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.67 (d, 2H, J = 6.8 Hz, Ph H-2,6), 7.41 (m, 3H, Ph H-3,4,5), 3.55 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.36 (s, 3H, CH_3).

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 170.0 (C=O), 134.2 (Ph C-1), 130.6 (Ph C-4), 128.2 (Ph C-3,5), 128.0 (Ph C-2,6), 61.0 (OCH_3), 33.8 (CH_3).

HRMS (ESI), m/z : calcd. for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_2\text{Na}^+$: 188.0682 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$; found: 188.0678.

Methyl 4-(2,2,2-trifluoroacetyl)benzoate (60)⁶⁶



By following the **General procedure 1**, starting from *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-4-(3,6,6-trimethyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)-2,5-dioxo-3-aza-6-silaheptan-4-yl) benzamide **59** (200 mg, 0.51 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry THF (3 mL), trimethyl(trifluoromethyl)silane (0.02 mL, 0.10 mmol, 0.2 equiv), MeONa 0.5 M solution in MeOH (1.12 mL, 0.56 mmol, 1.1 equiv), **60** was obtained in 83% yield (98 mg) as white solid (mp 37-39 °C, lit.⁶⁷ 37-38 °C) after column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 8:2 as eluent).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.2-8.1 (m, 4H, Ph H-2,3,5,6), 3.98 (s, 3H, OCH₃).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 180.3 (q, *J* = 35.5 Hz, C=OCF₃), 165.8 (C=O), 136.1 (Ph C-1), 133.2 (Ph C-4), 130.3-130.1 (Ph C-2,3,5,6), 116.6 (q, *J* = 291.0 Hz, CF₃), 52.9 (OCH₃).

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: -71.72 (CF₃).

HRMS (ESI-TOF), *m/z*: calcd. for C₁₀H₇₋₈F₃O₃⁺: 233.0420 [M+H]⁺; found: 233.0398.

e) Intermolecular competition for intercepting the CF₃⁻ anion.

Weinreb amide **1a** (165 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1.00 equiv) and benzaldehyde **61** (106 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1.00 equiv) were dissolved in dry THF (5 mL). To this solution were sequentially added at rt (trifluoromethyl)silane (1422 g, 1.48 mL, 10.00 mmol, 10.0 equiv) and a 2 M THF solution of NaOtBu (4.85 mL, 9.70 mmol, 9.7 equiv – dropwise addition). The resulting mixture was stirred at the same temperature overnight. After quenching with saturated (*aq.*) NH₄Cl (5 mL), extracting with dichloromethane (10 mL), washing the organic layer with saturated (*aq.*) NaCl (10 mL), drying over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, the solution was filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. After chromatographic purification on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 6:4 as eluent), compound **62** was obtained in 95% yield (167 mg), while Weinreb amide **1a** was recovered in 97% yield (160 mg).

Spectral data for compounds **62** and **1a** match those ones previously described.

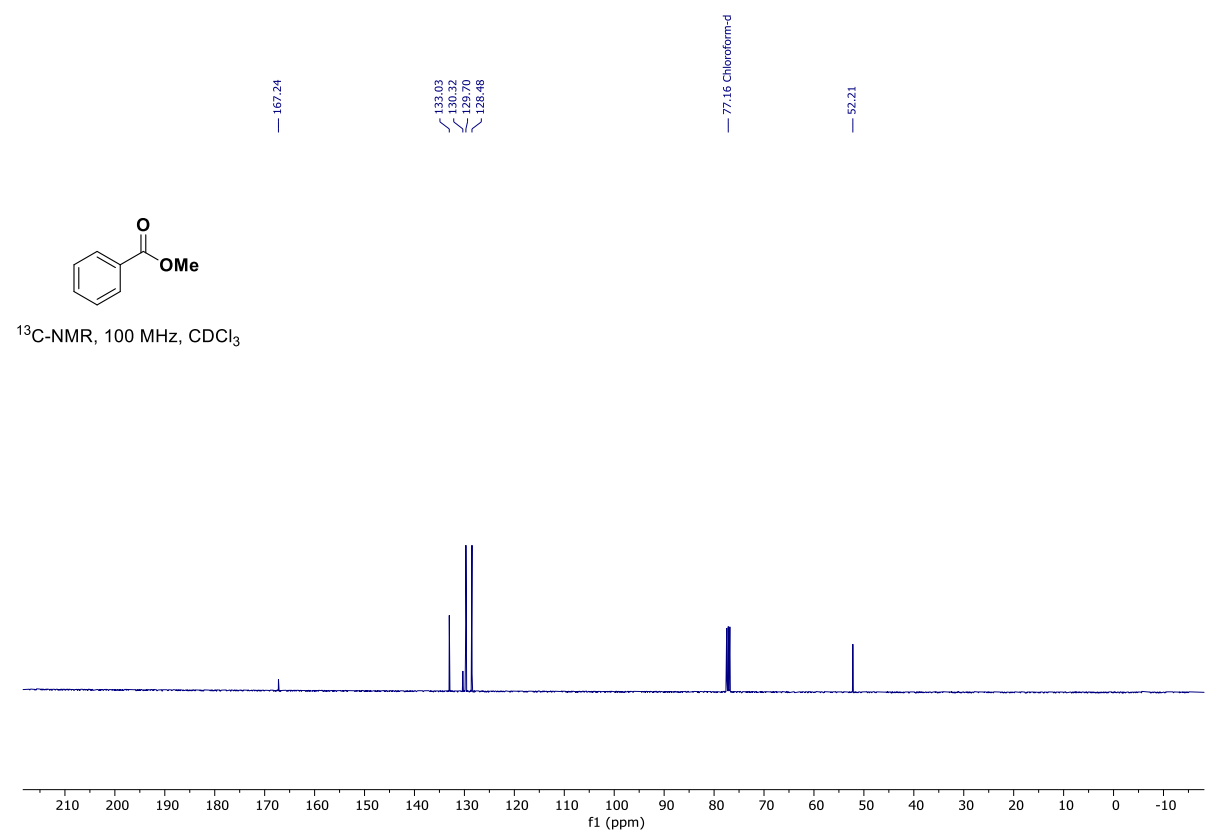
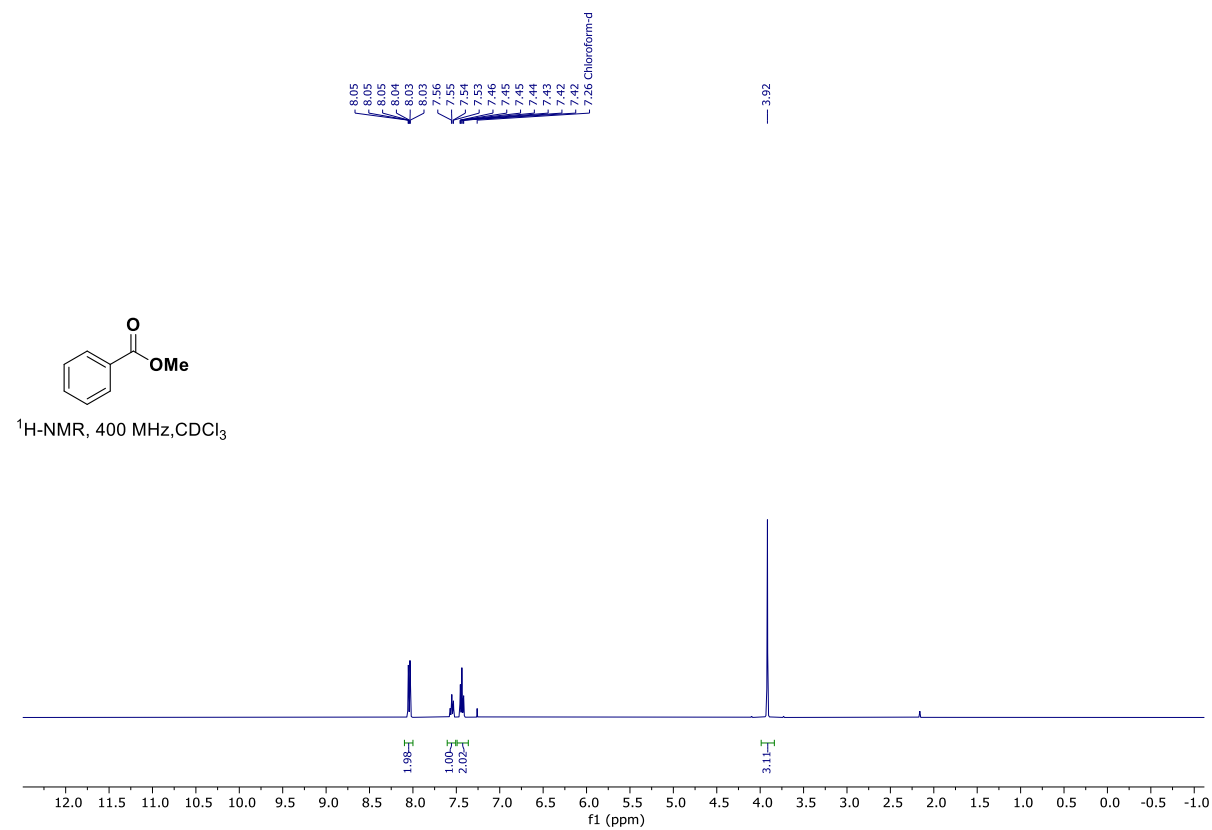
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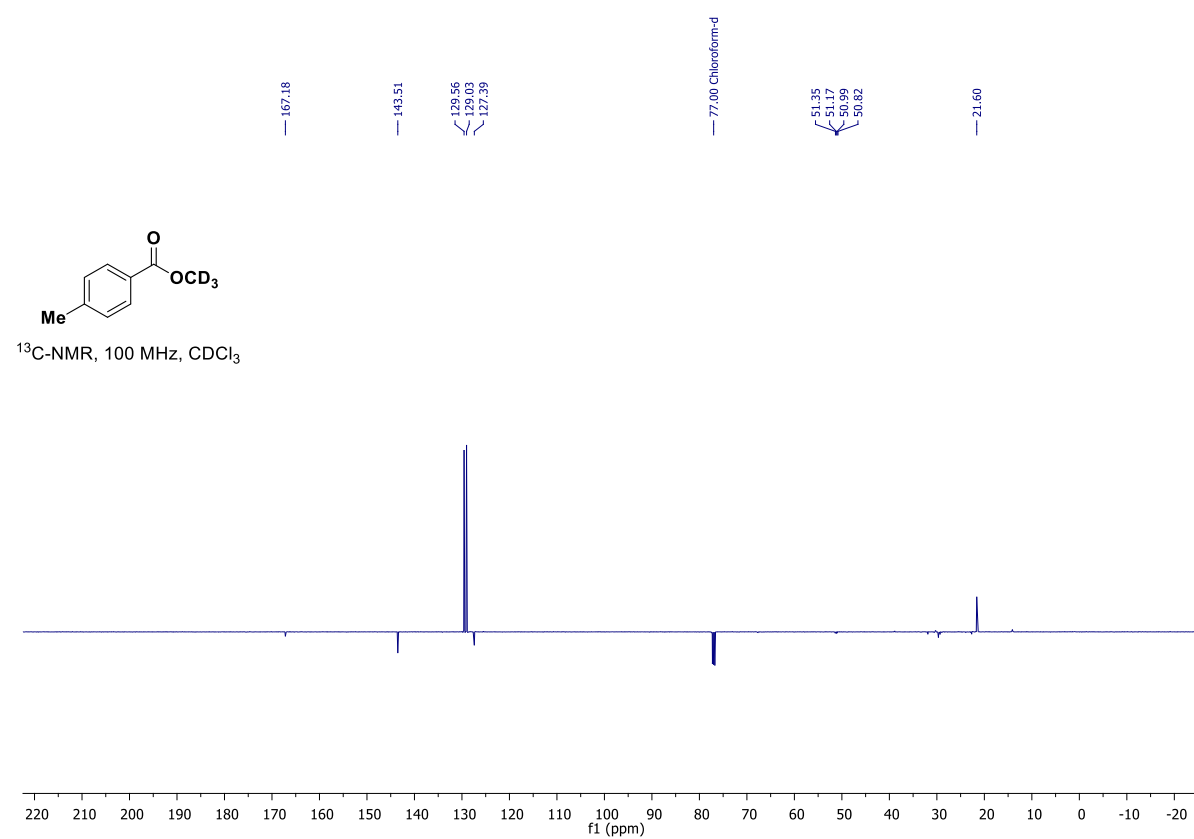
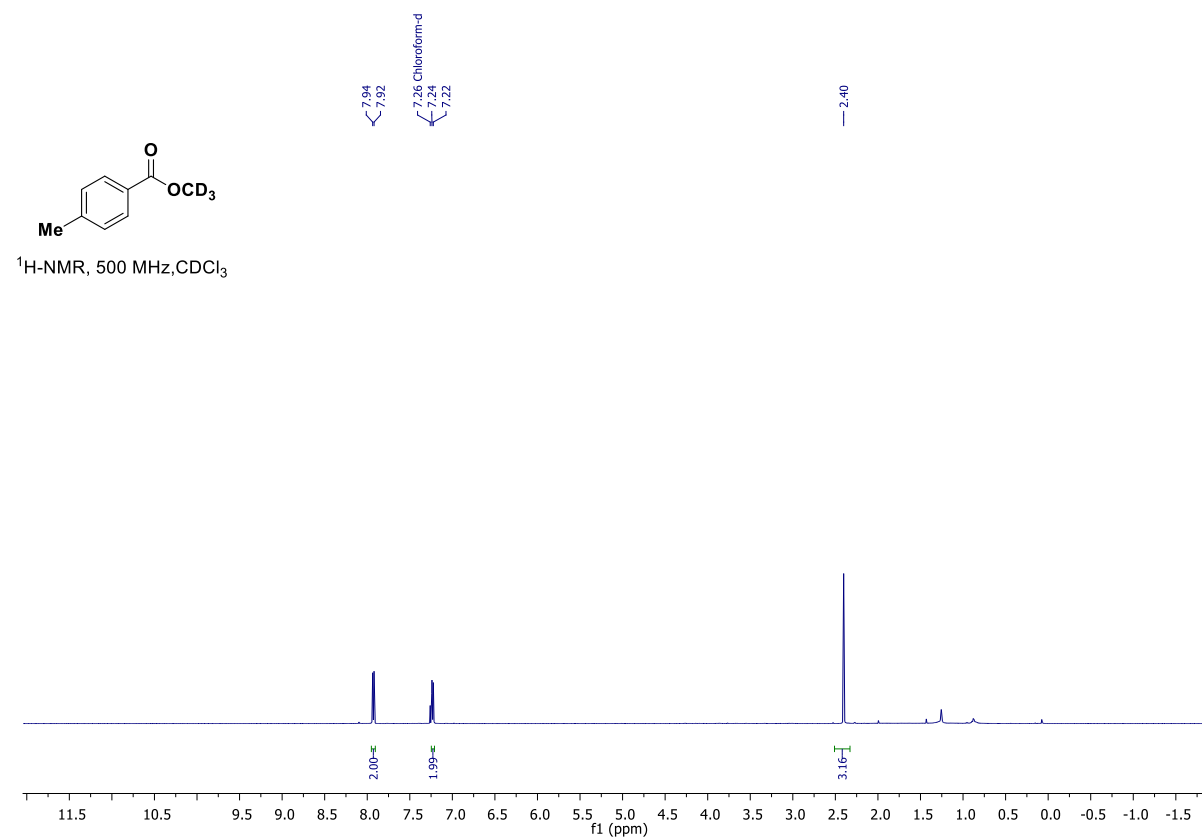
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Copies of NMR spectra

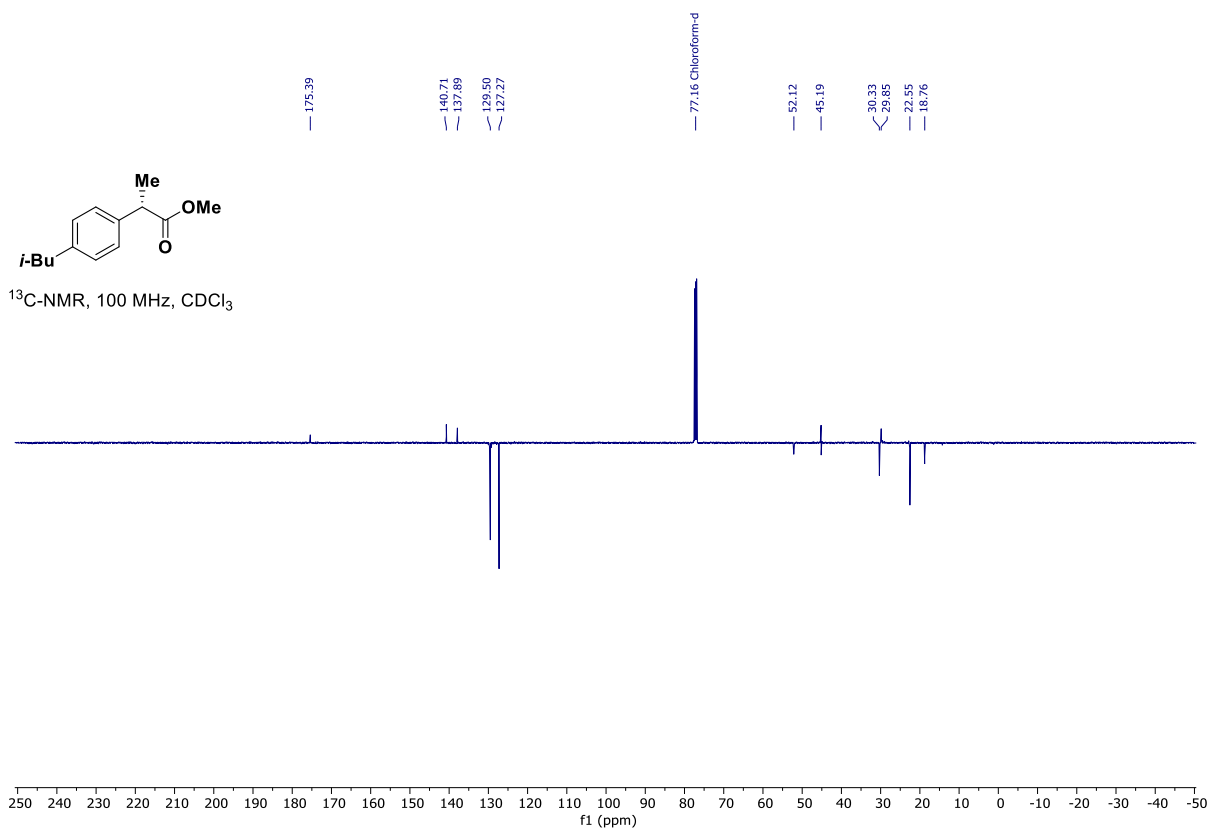
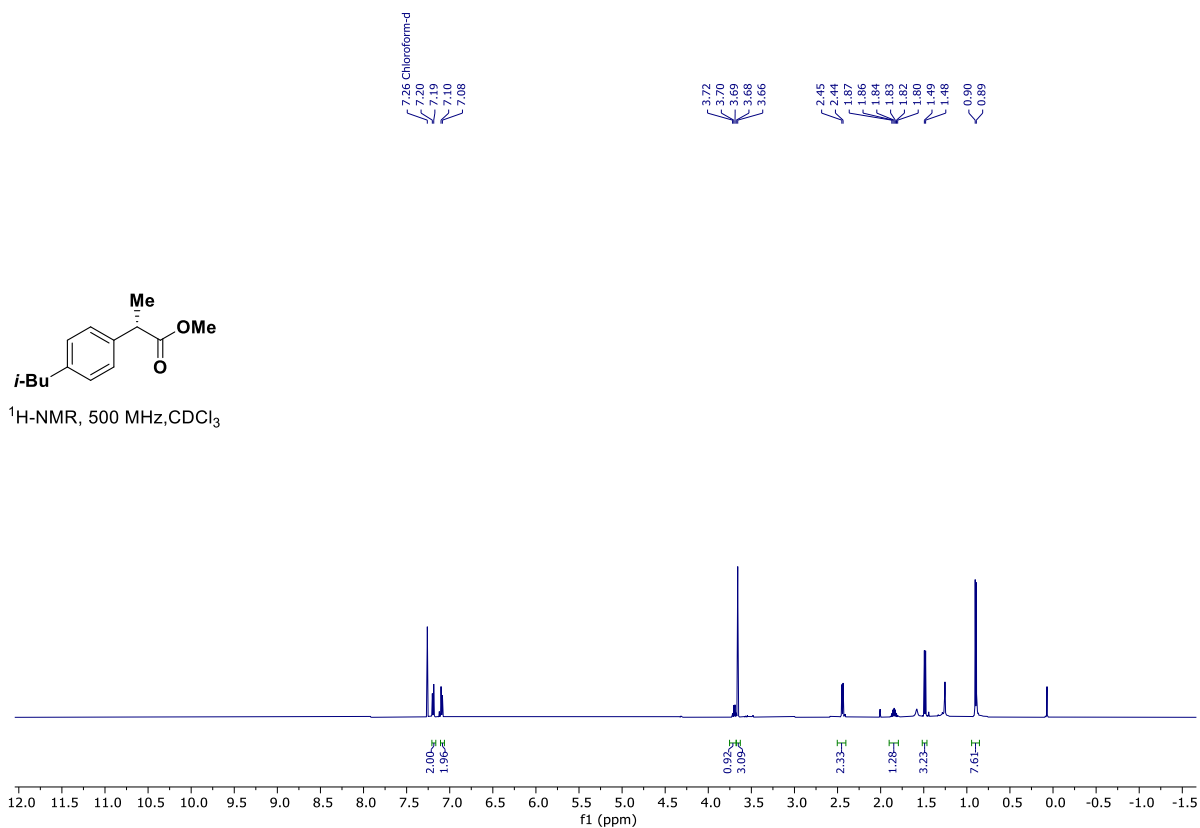
Compound 2



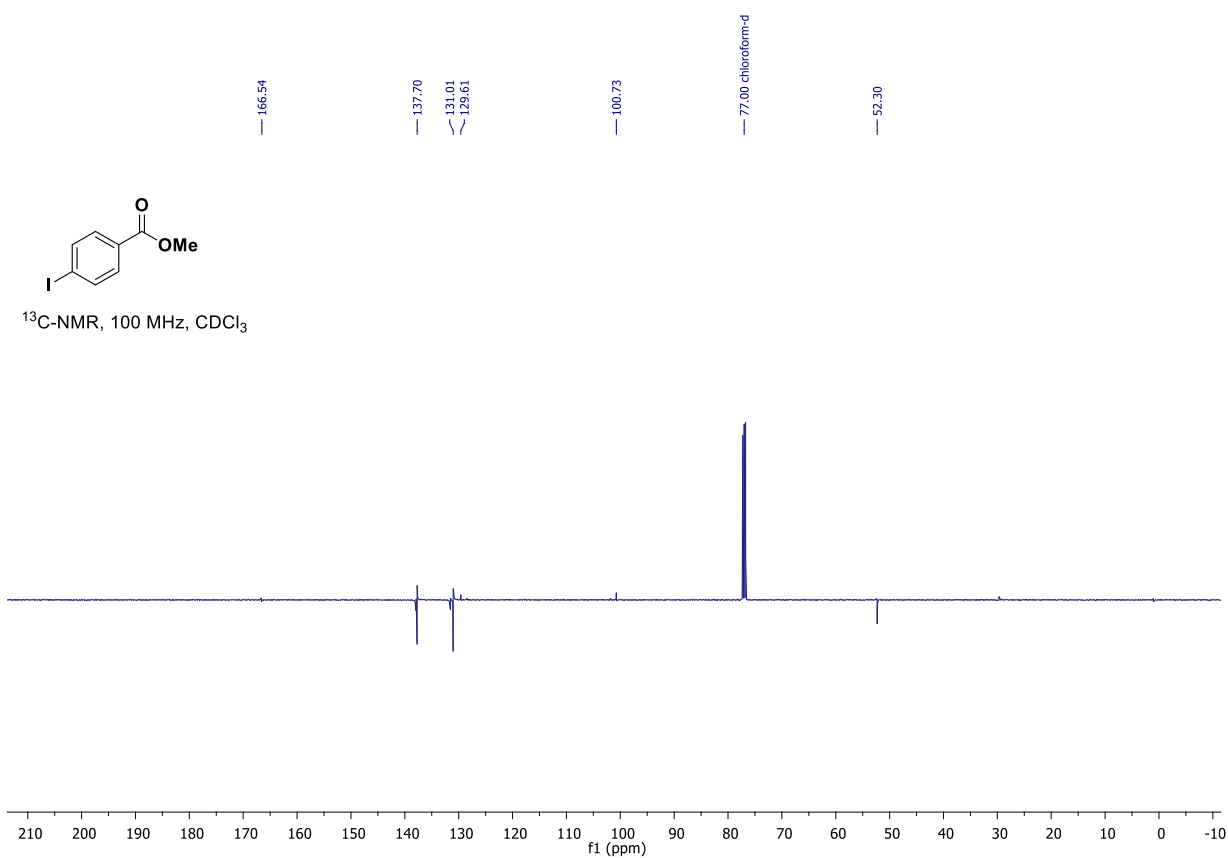
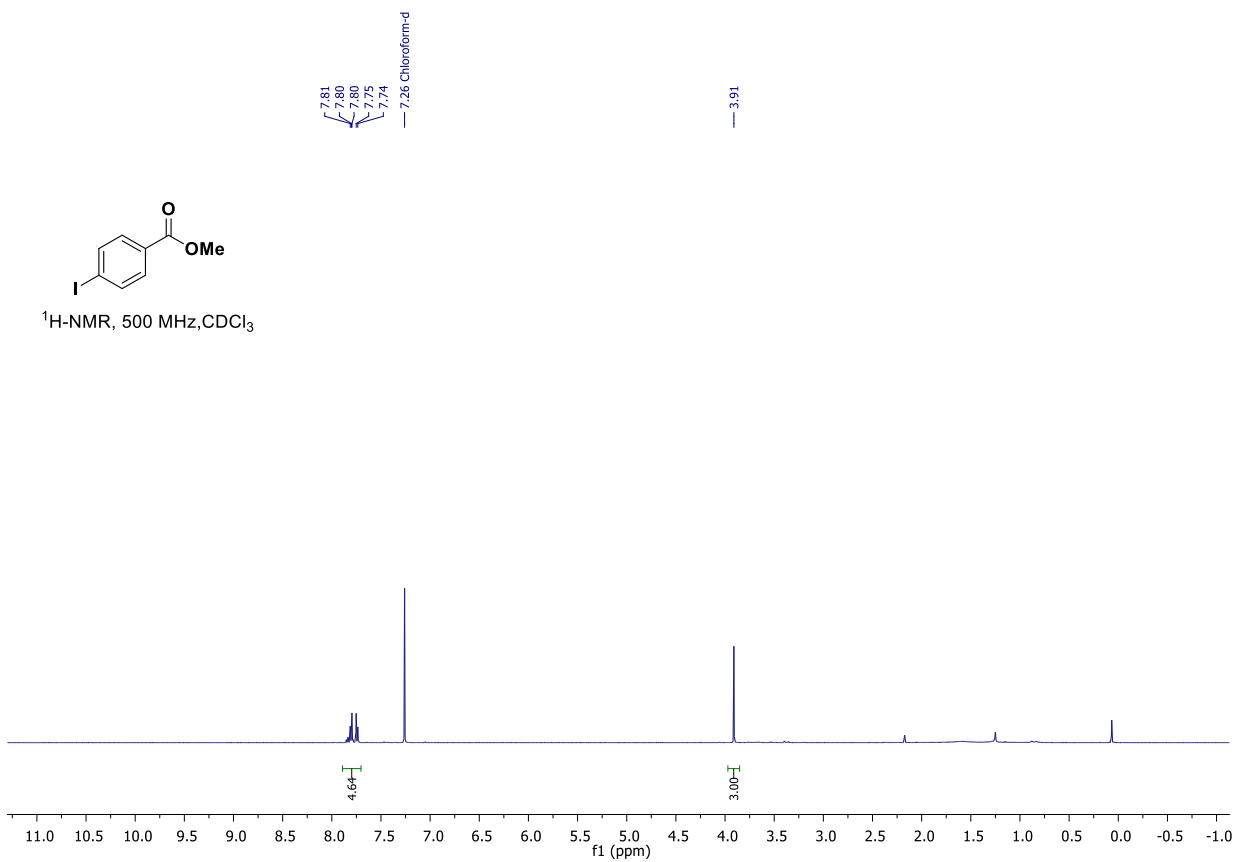
Compound 3



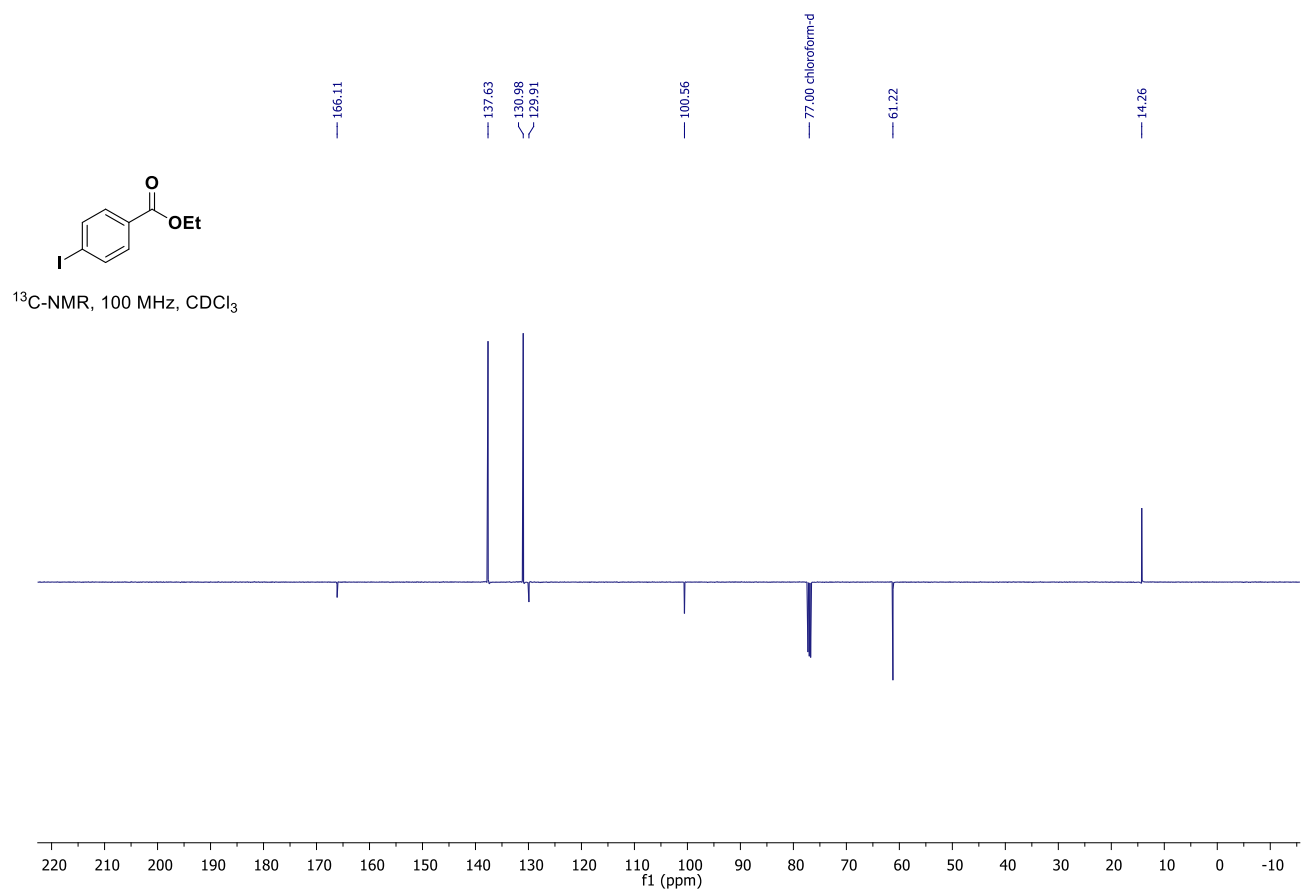
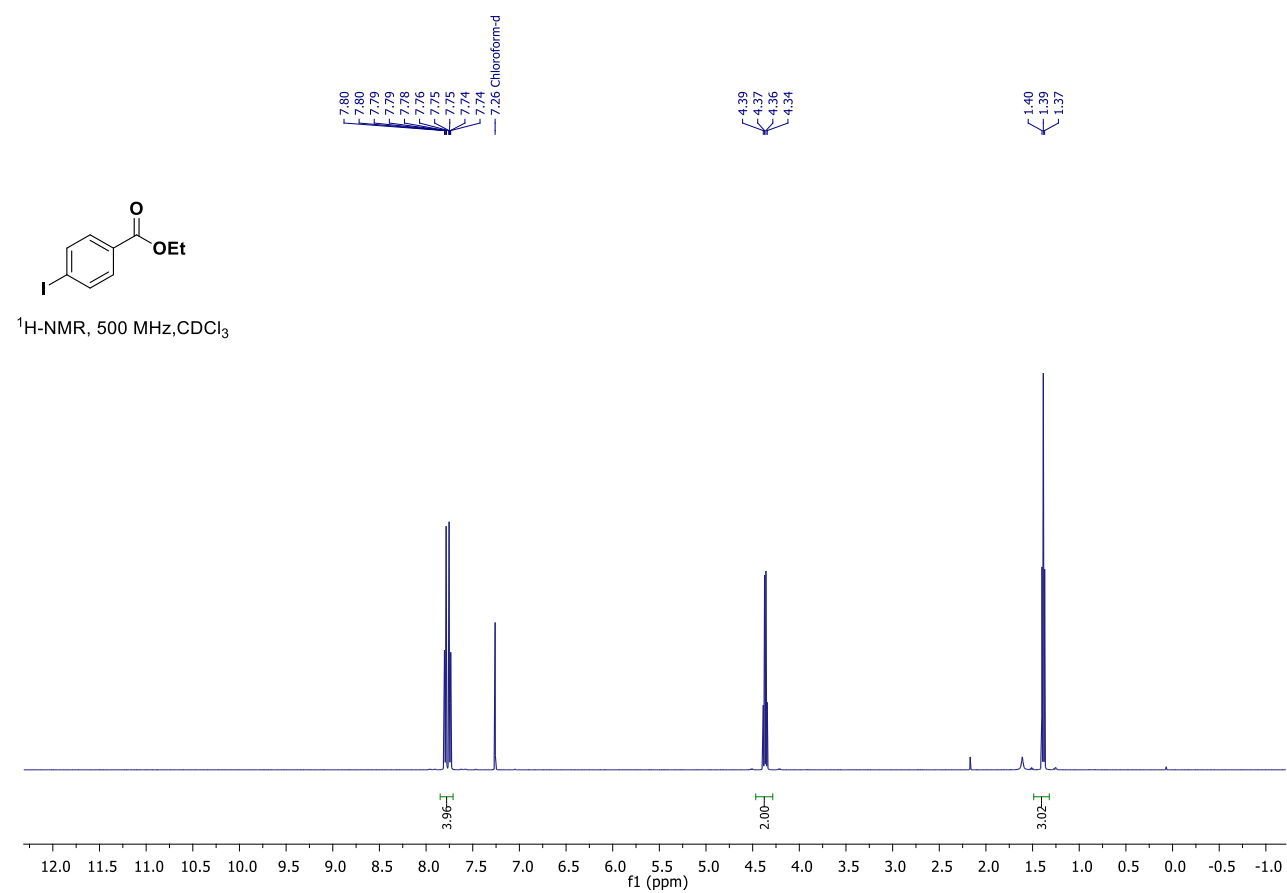
Compound 4



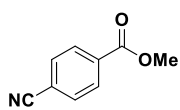
Compound 5



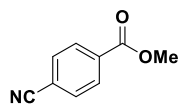
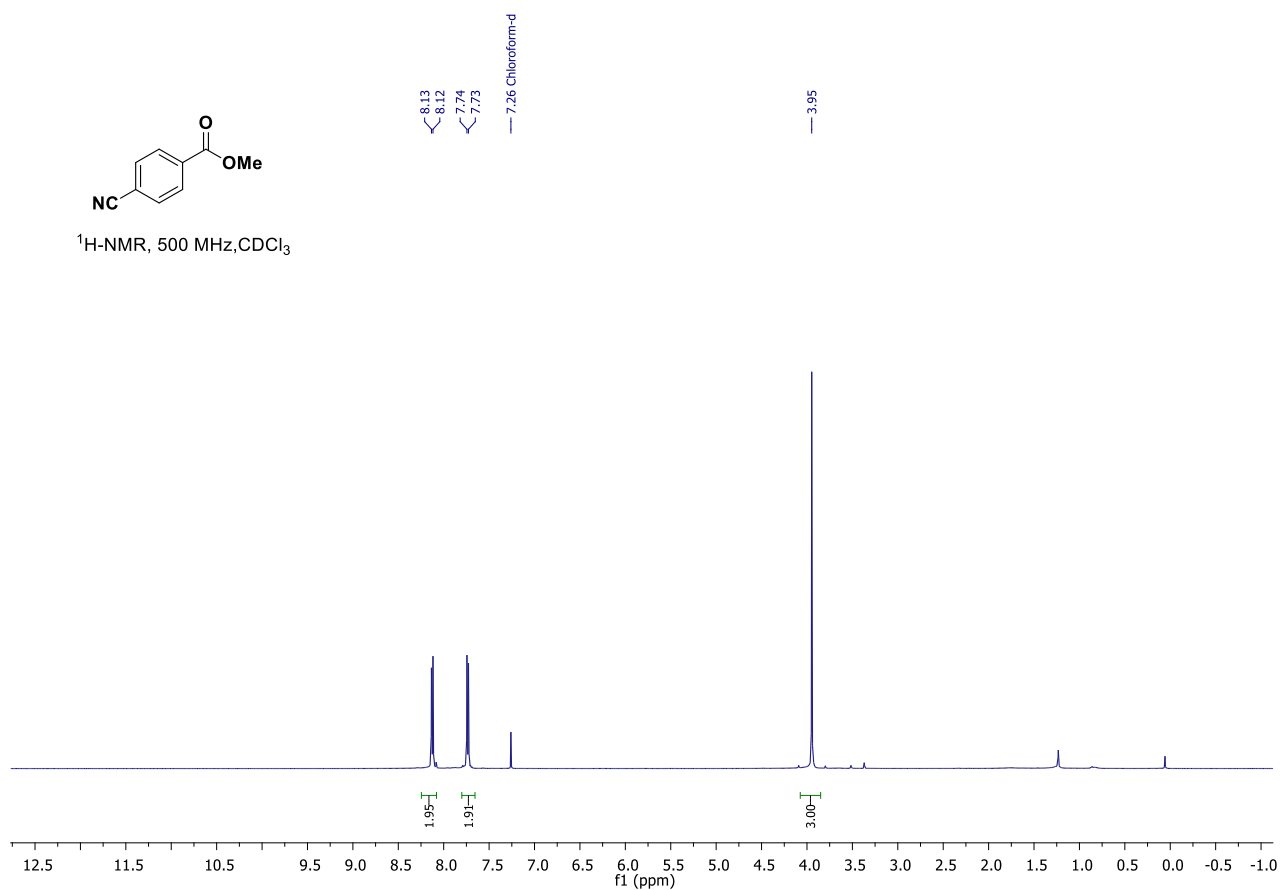
Compound 6



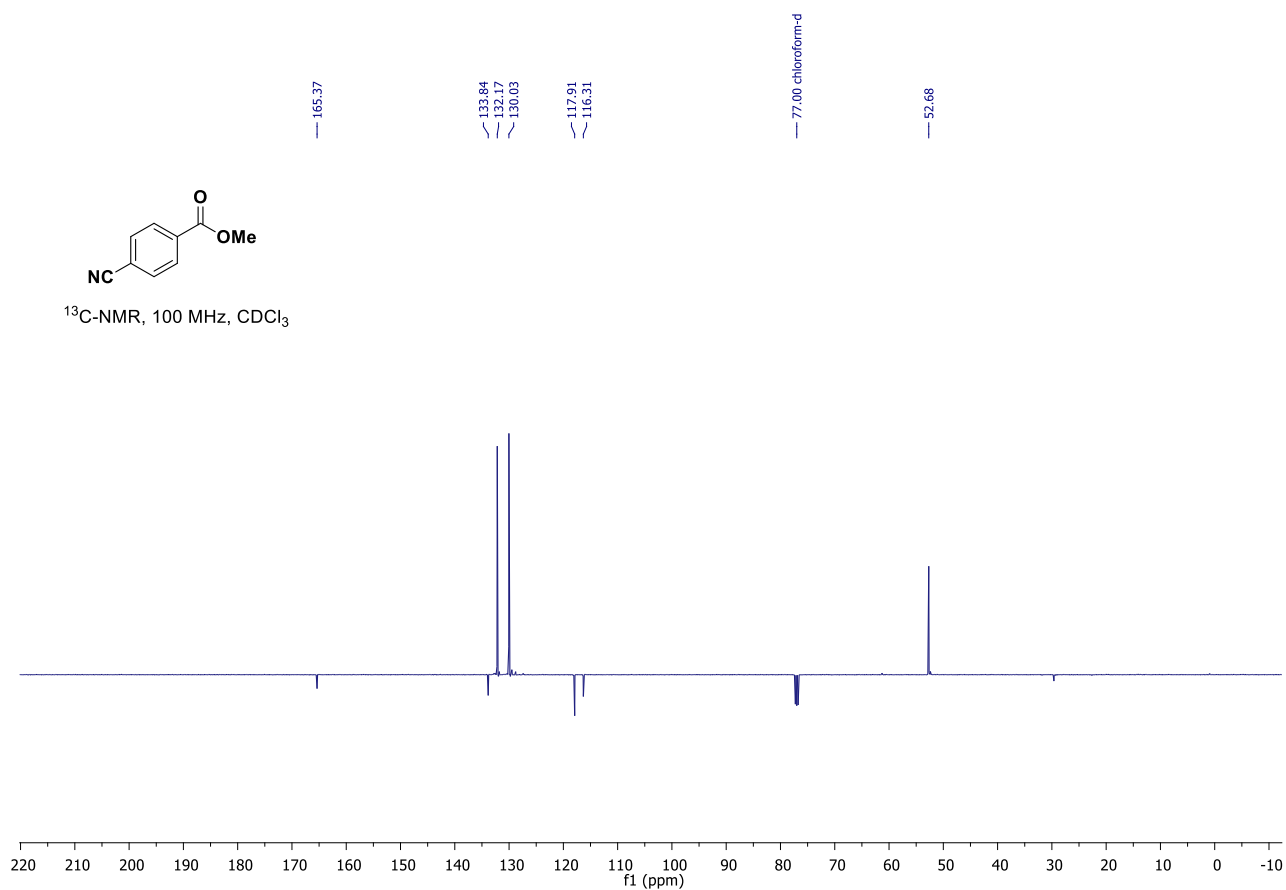
Compound 7



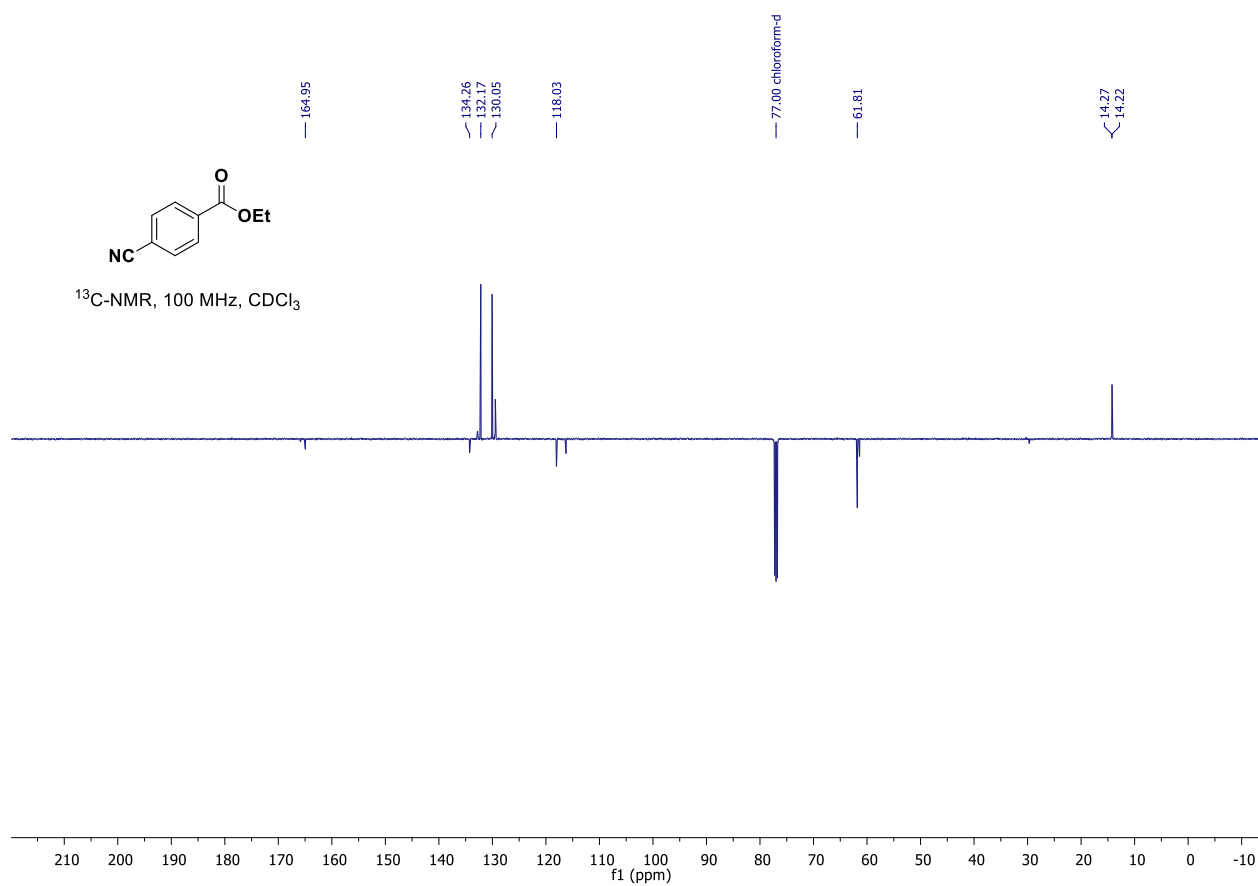
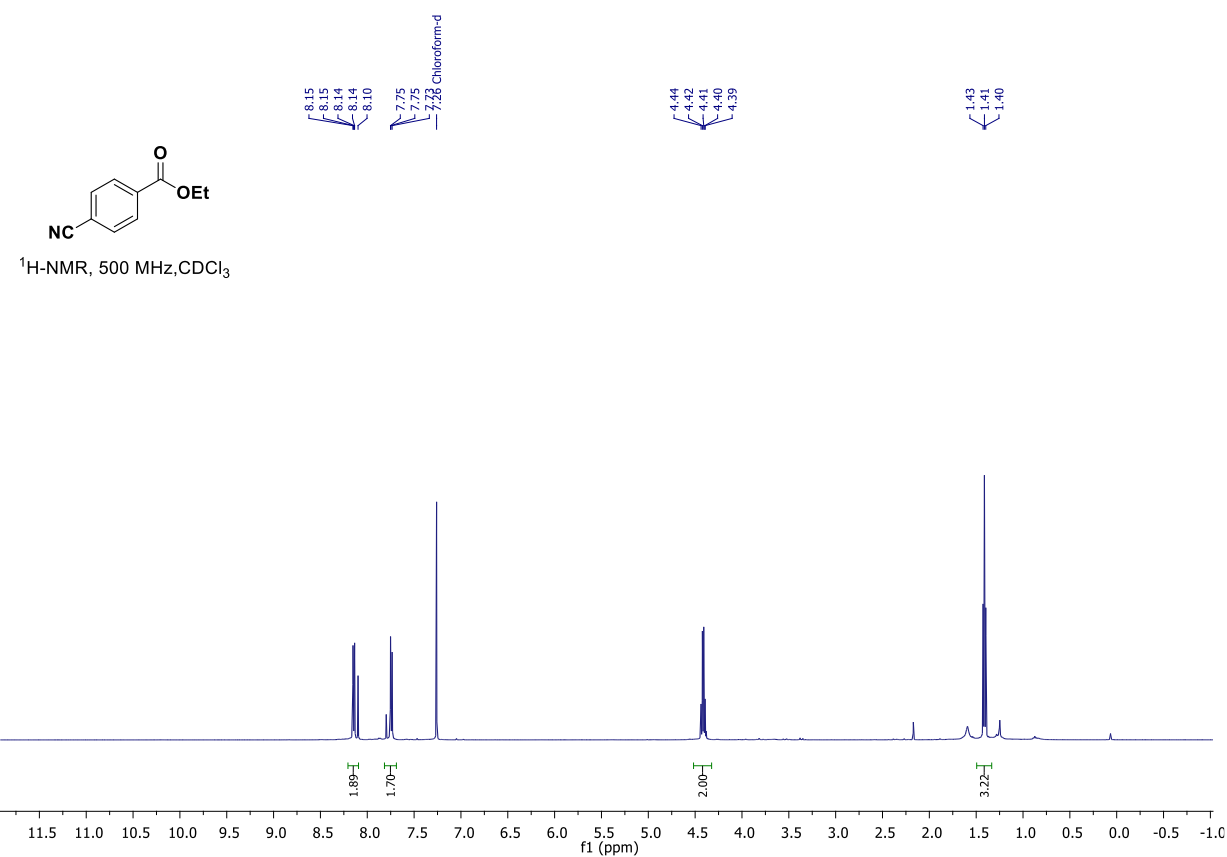
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 500 MHz, CDCl_3



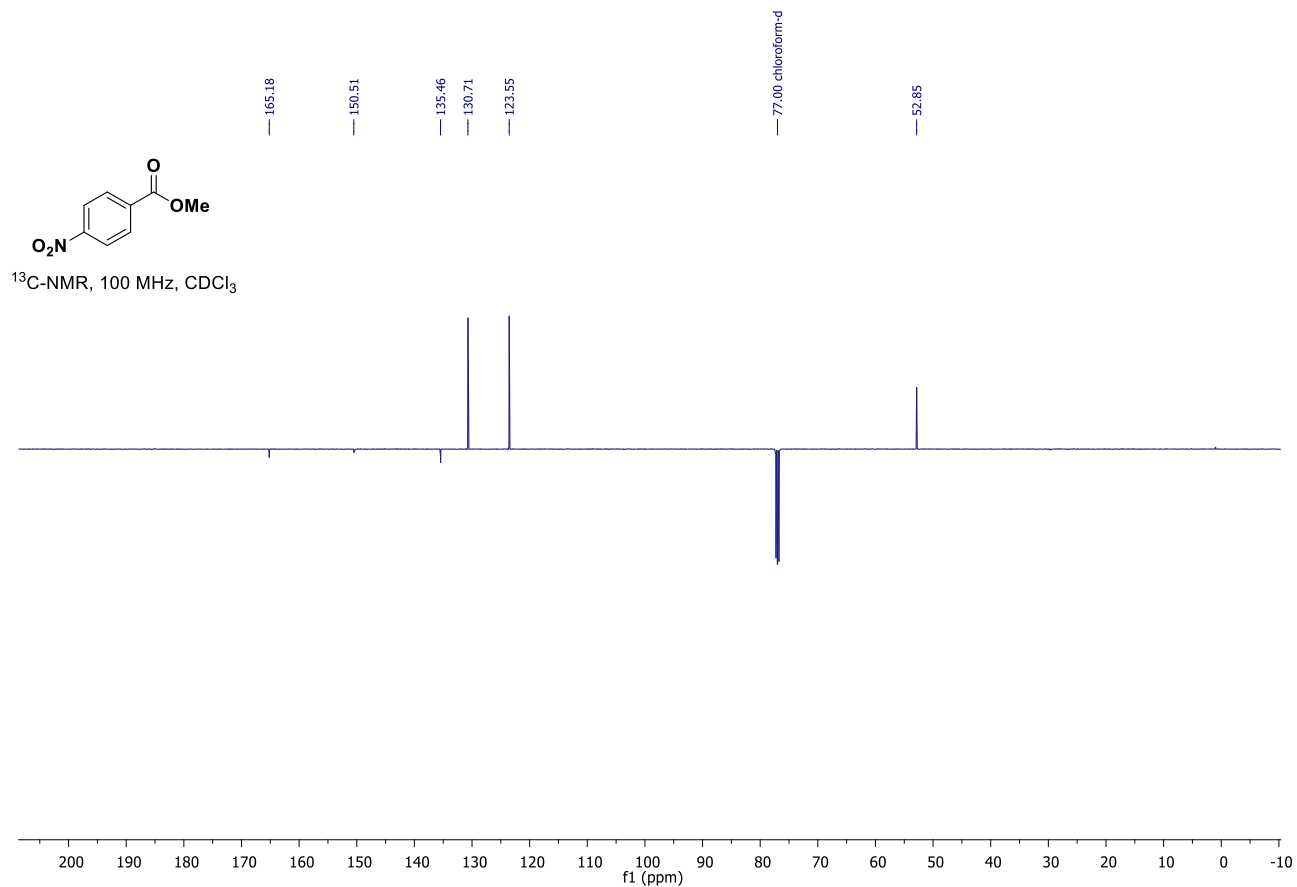
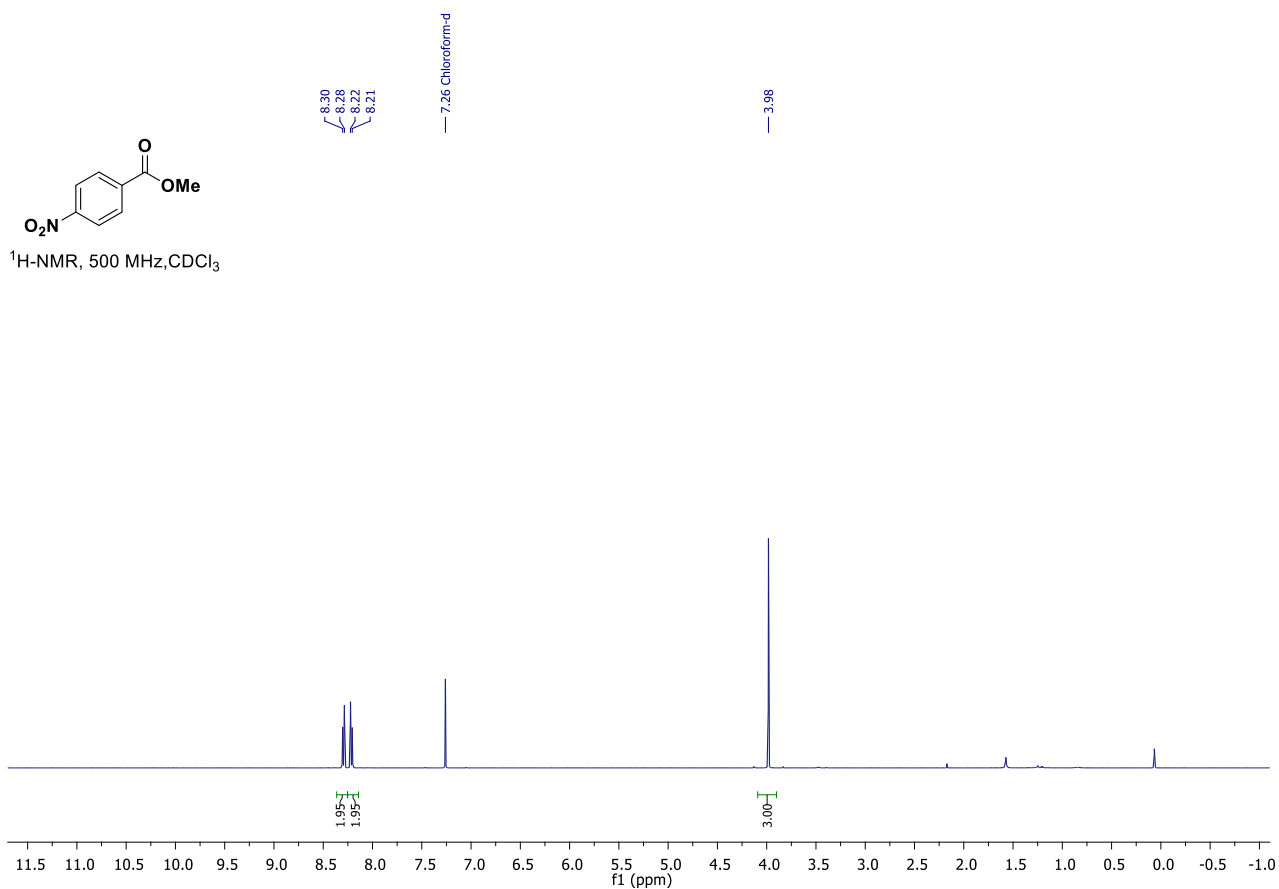
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



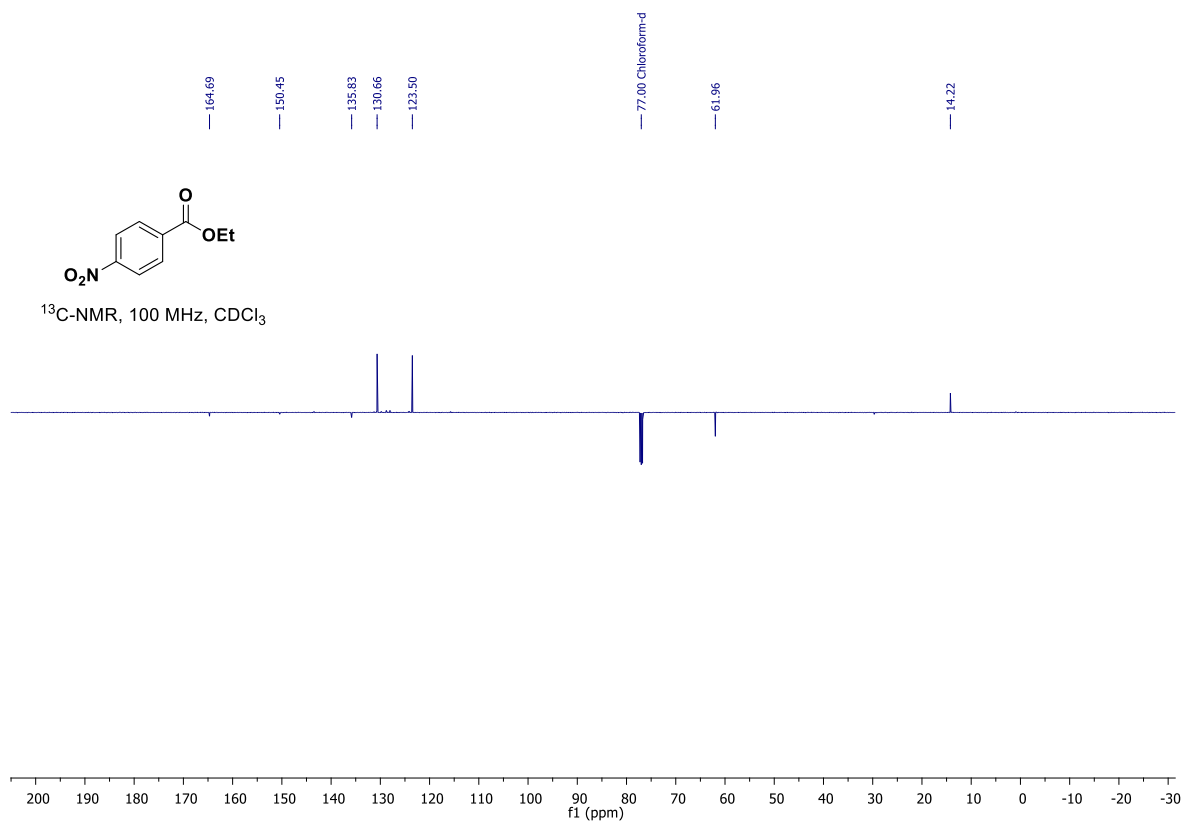
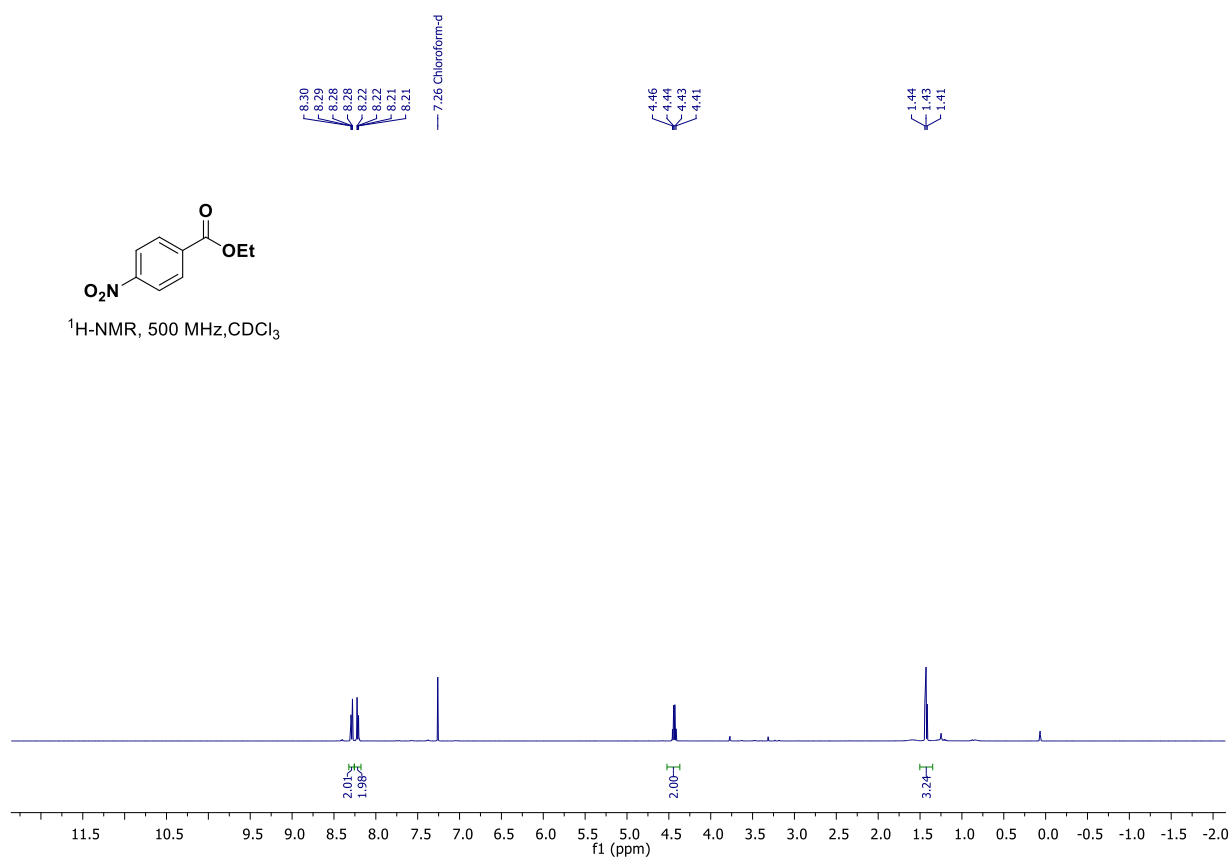
Compound 8



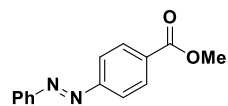
Compound 9



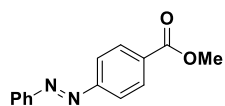
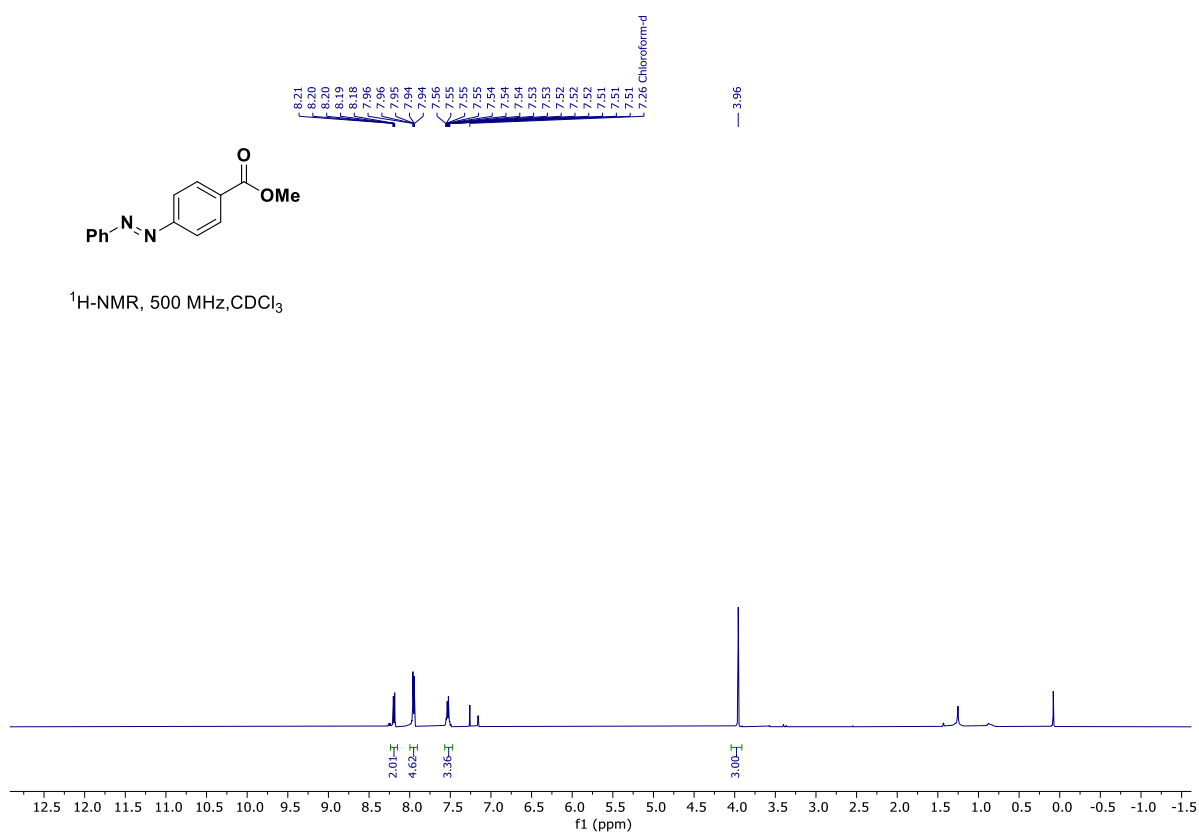
Compound 10



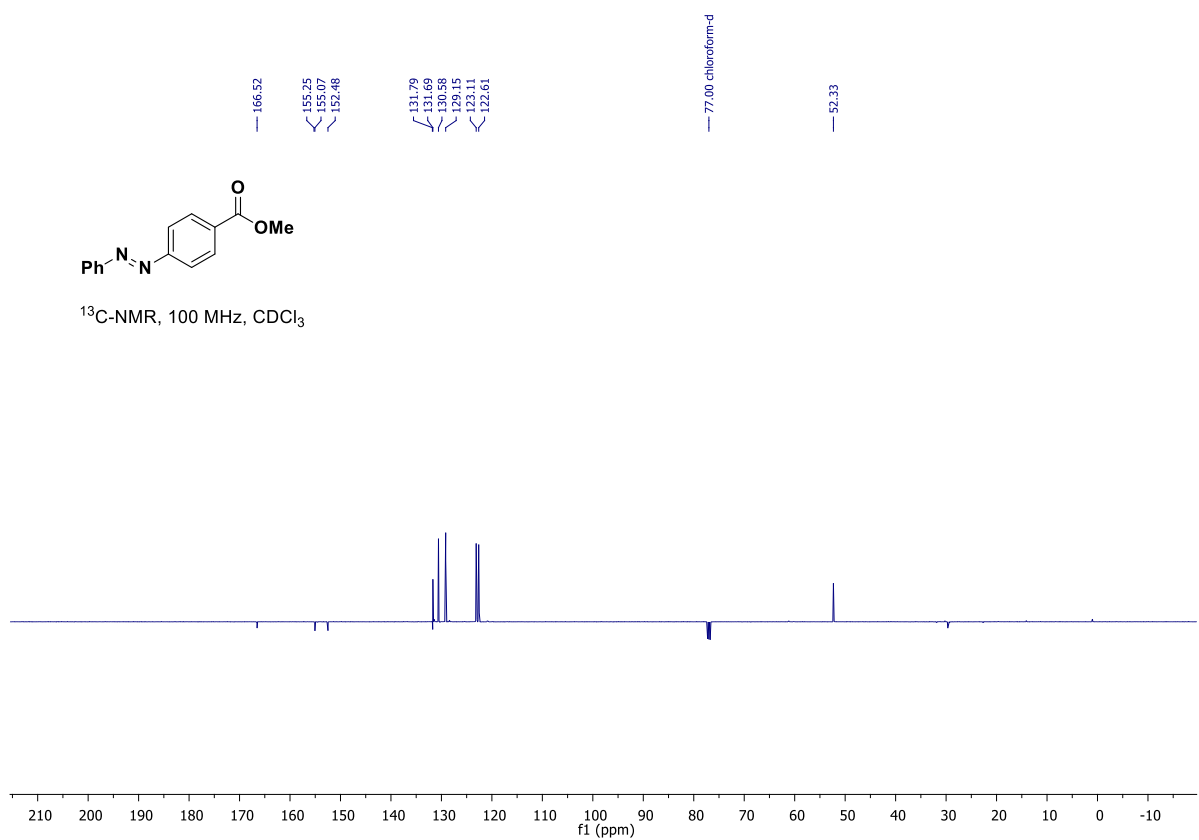
Compound 11



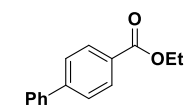
¹H-NMR, 500 MHz, CDCl₃



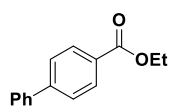
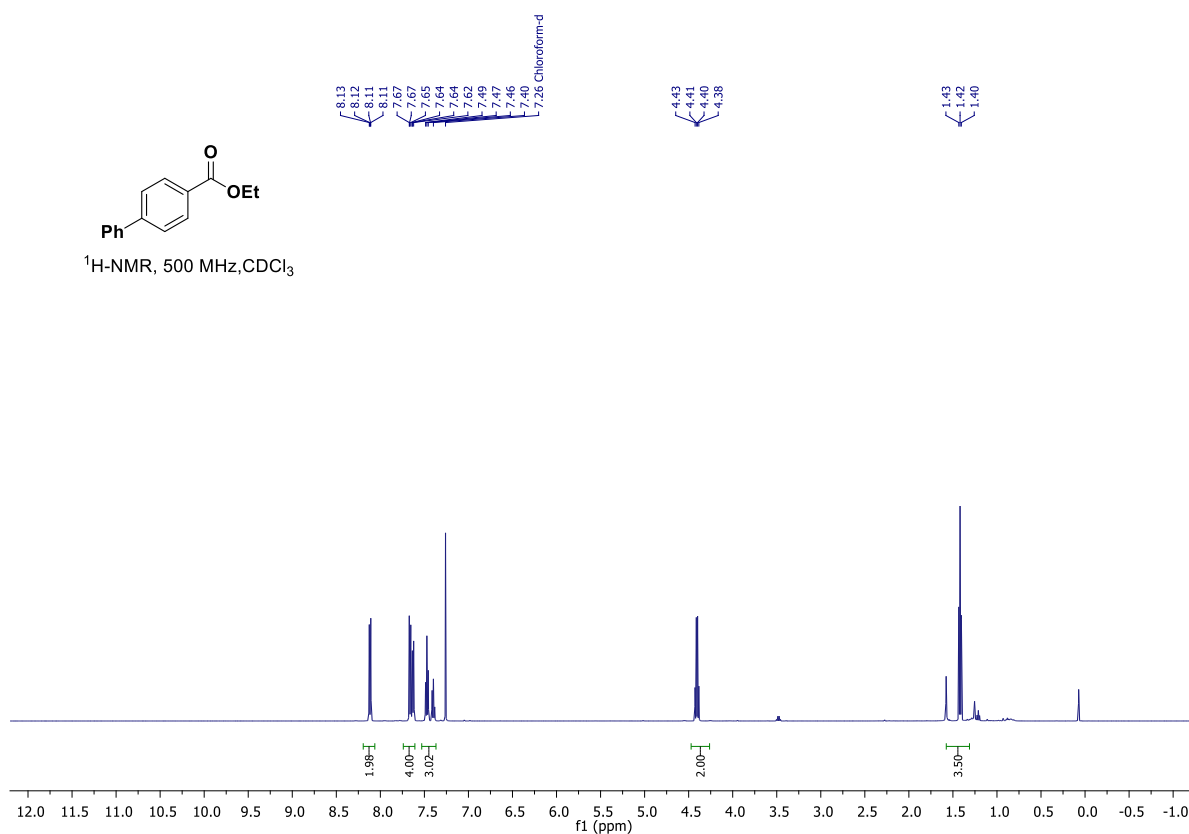
¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃



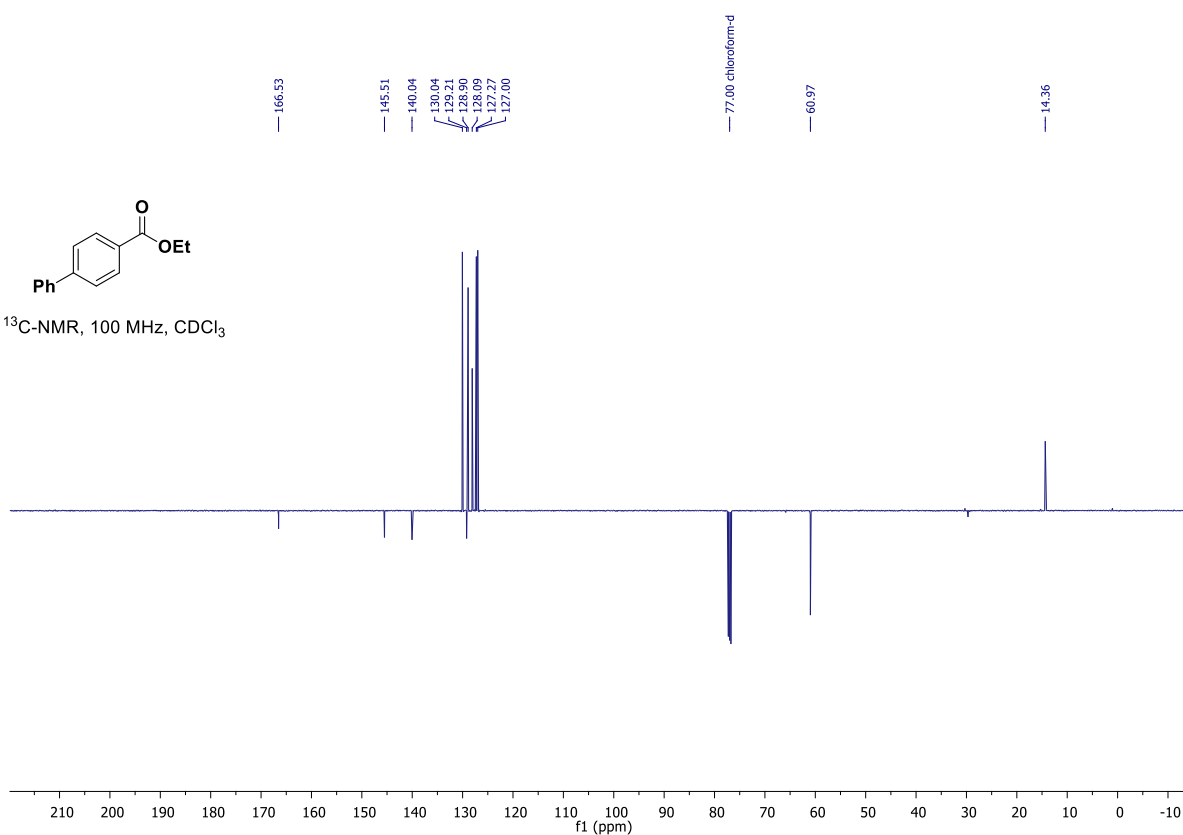
Compound 12



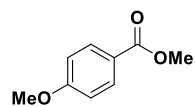
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 500 MHz, CDCl_3



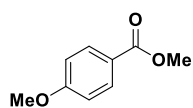
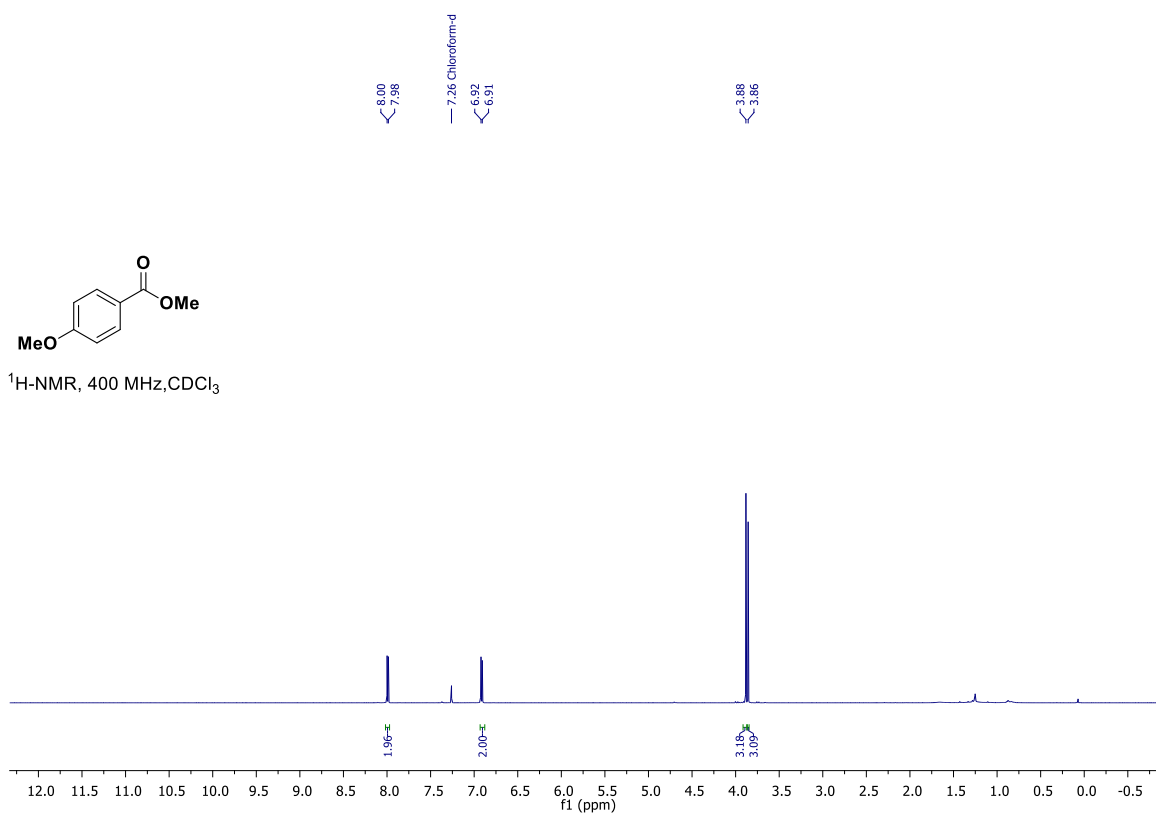
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



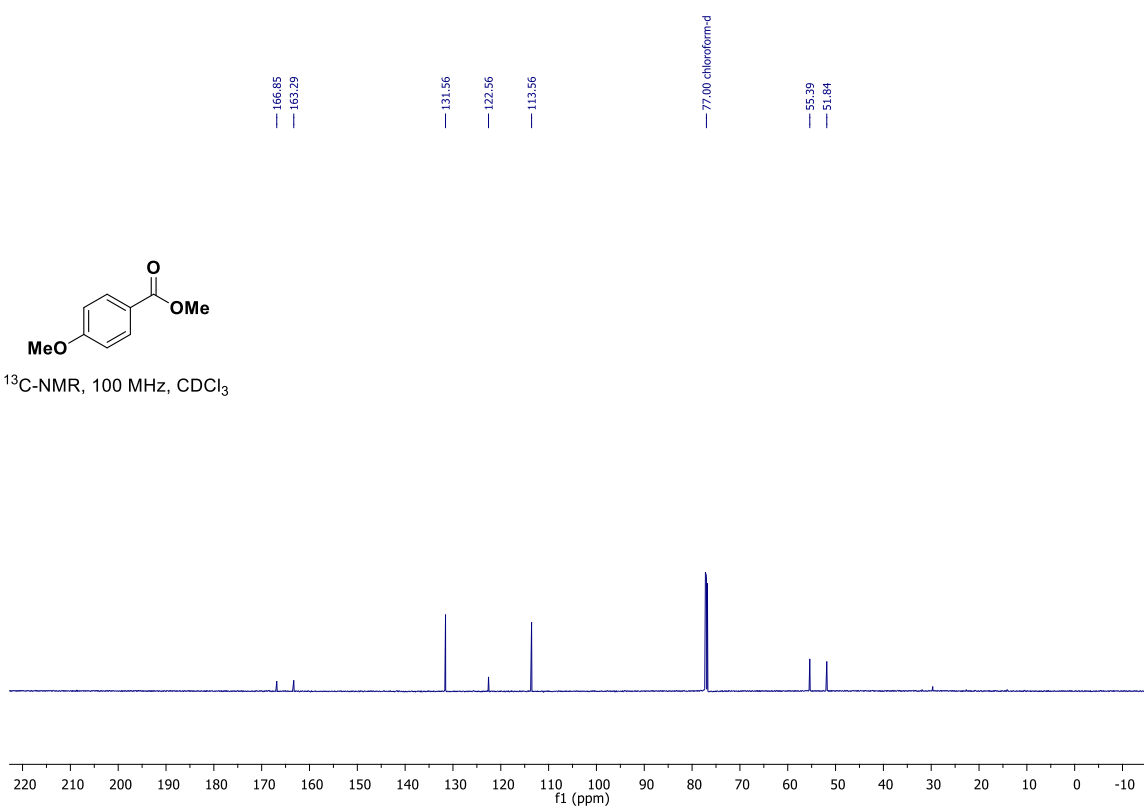
Compound 13



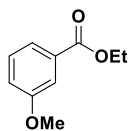
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 400 MHz, CDCl_3



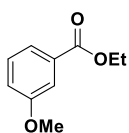
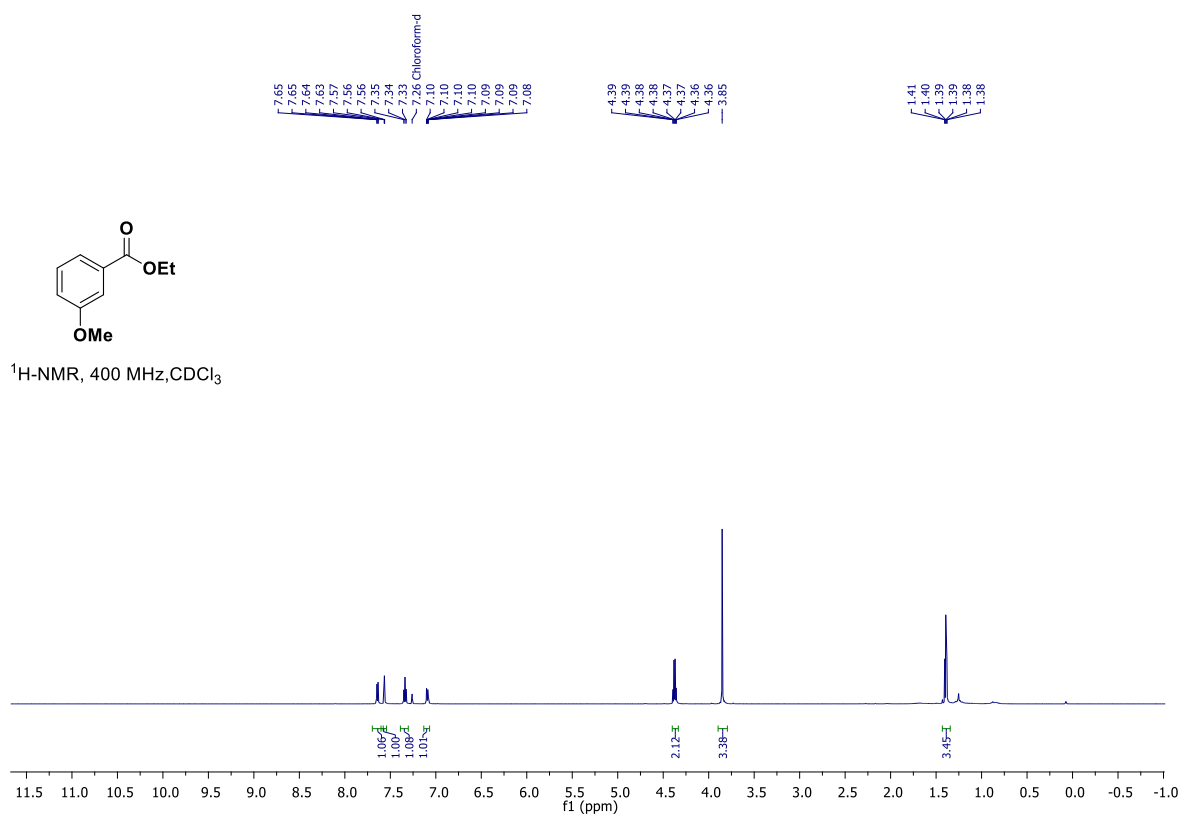
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



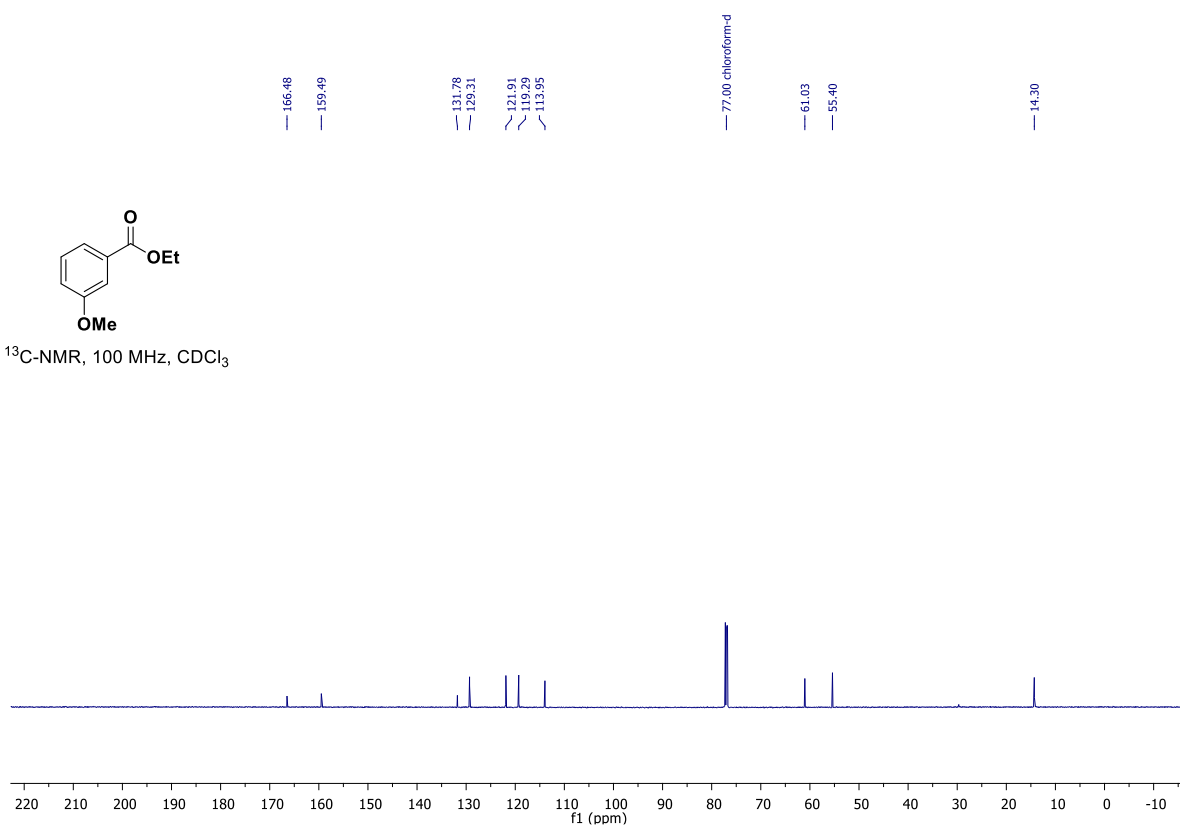
Compound 14



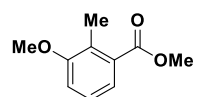
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 400 MHz, CDCl_3



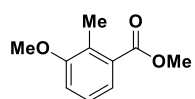
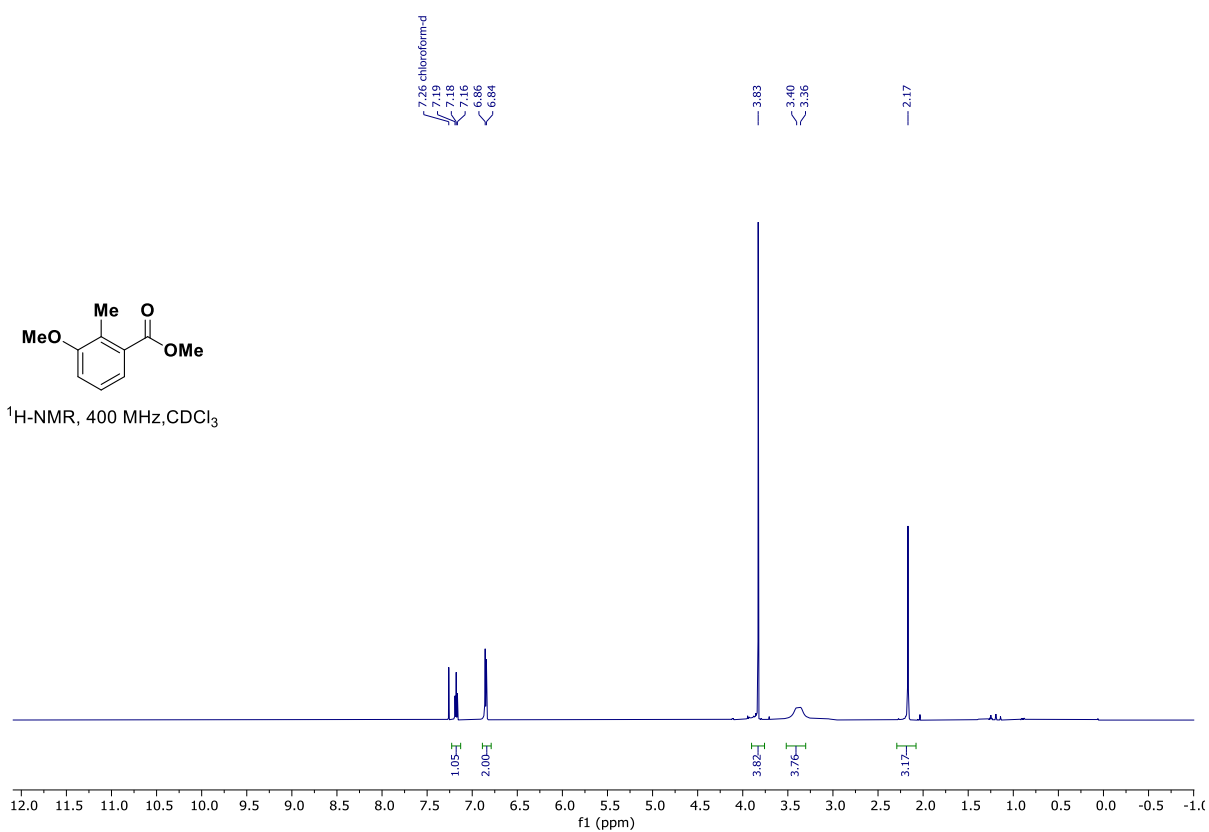
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



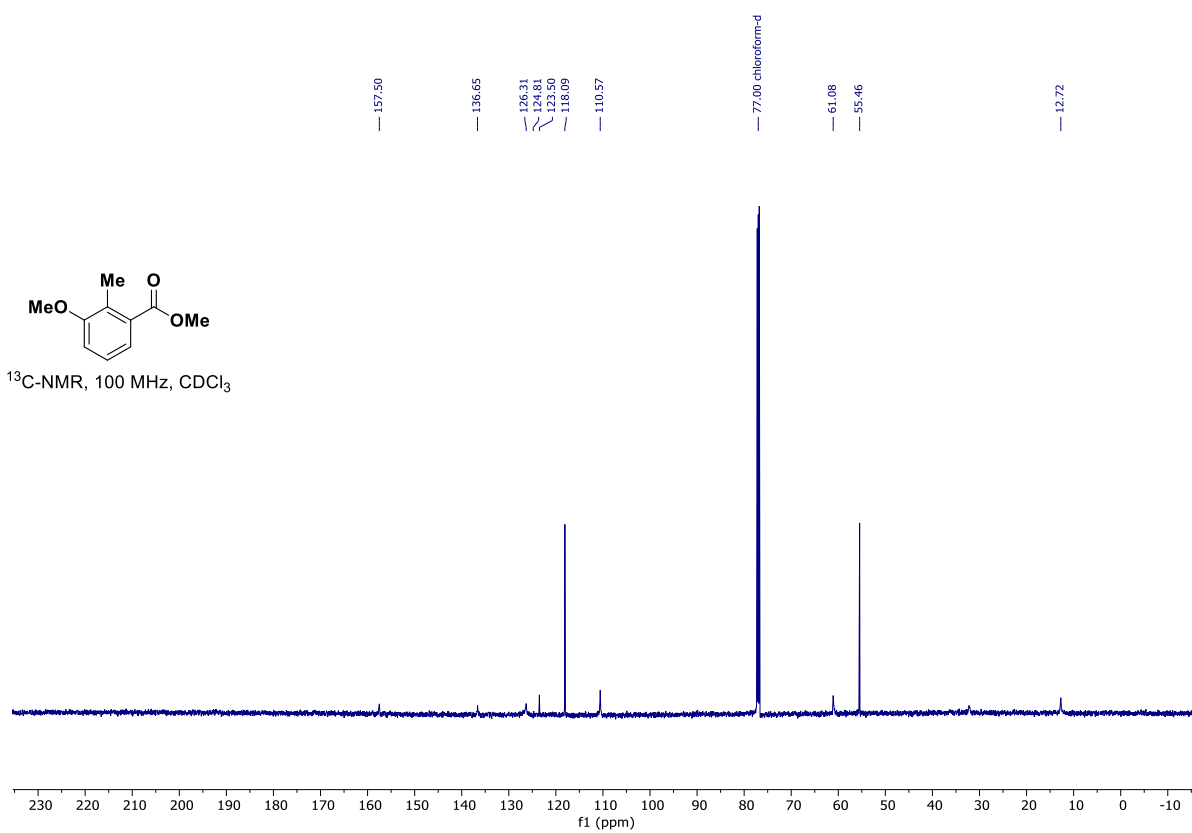
Compound 15



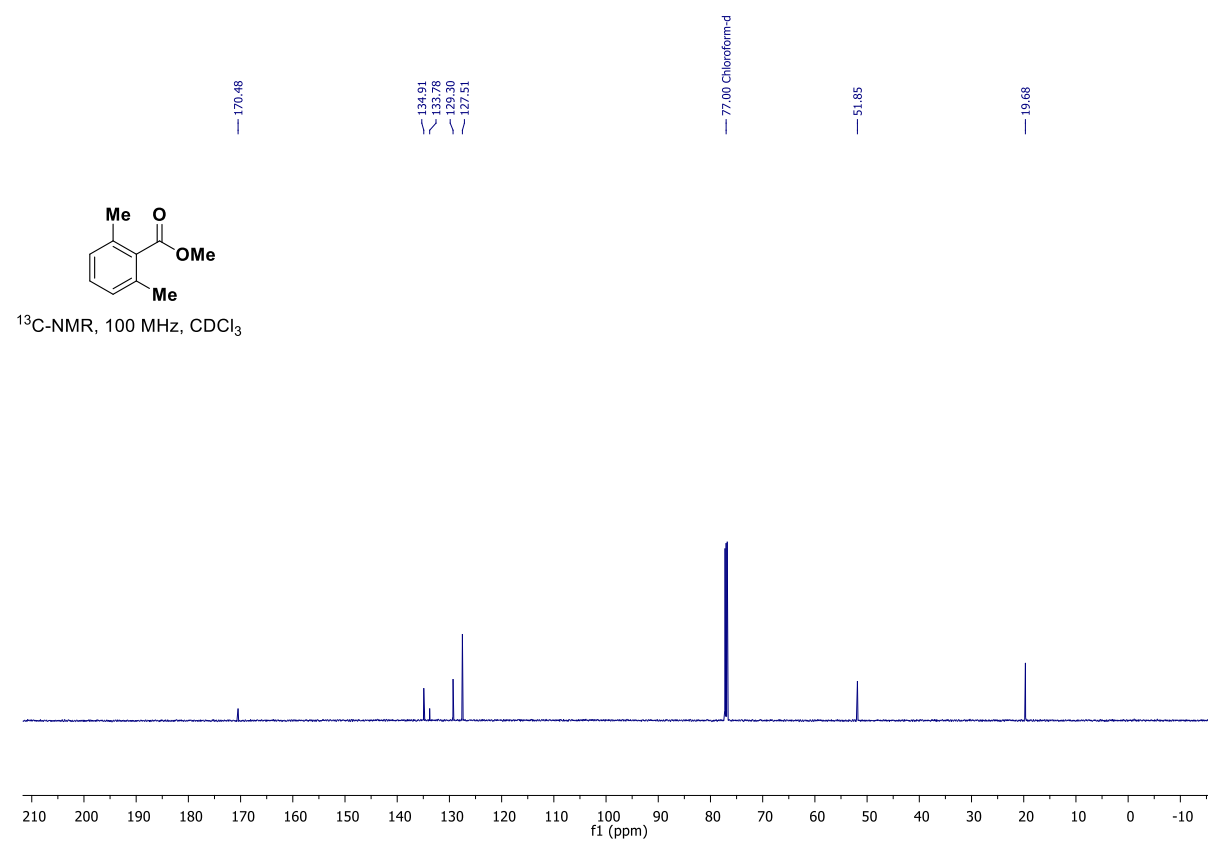
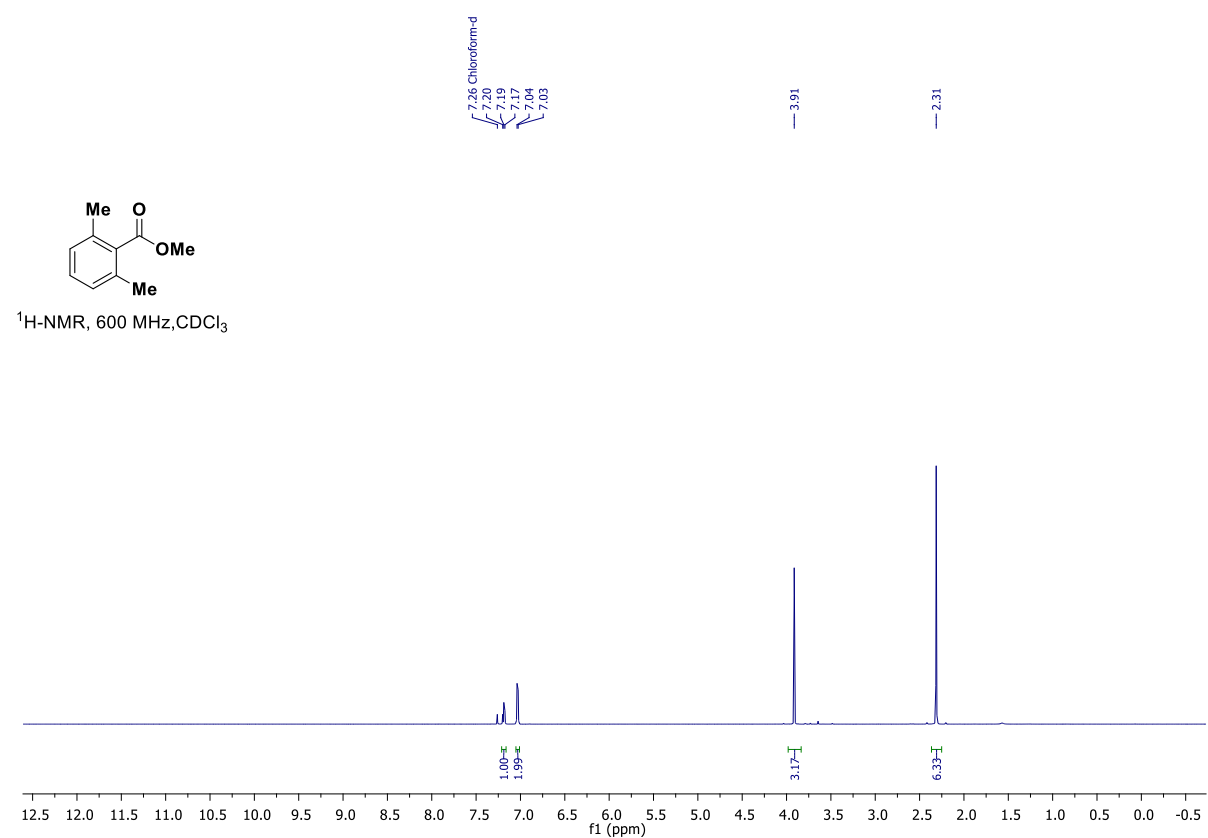
¹H-NMR, 400 MHz, CDCl₃



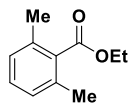
¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃



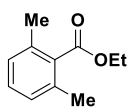
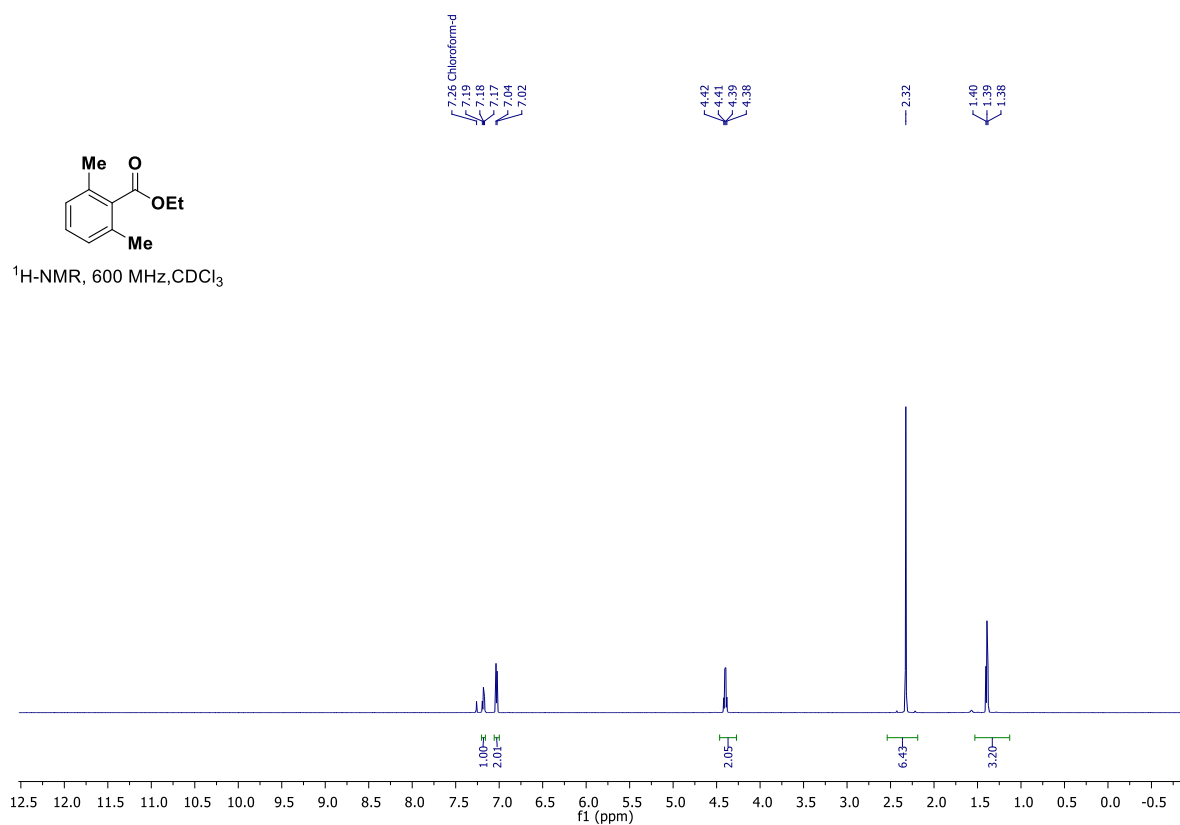
Compound 16



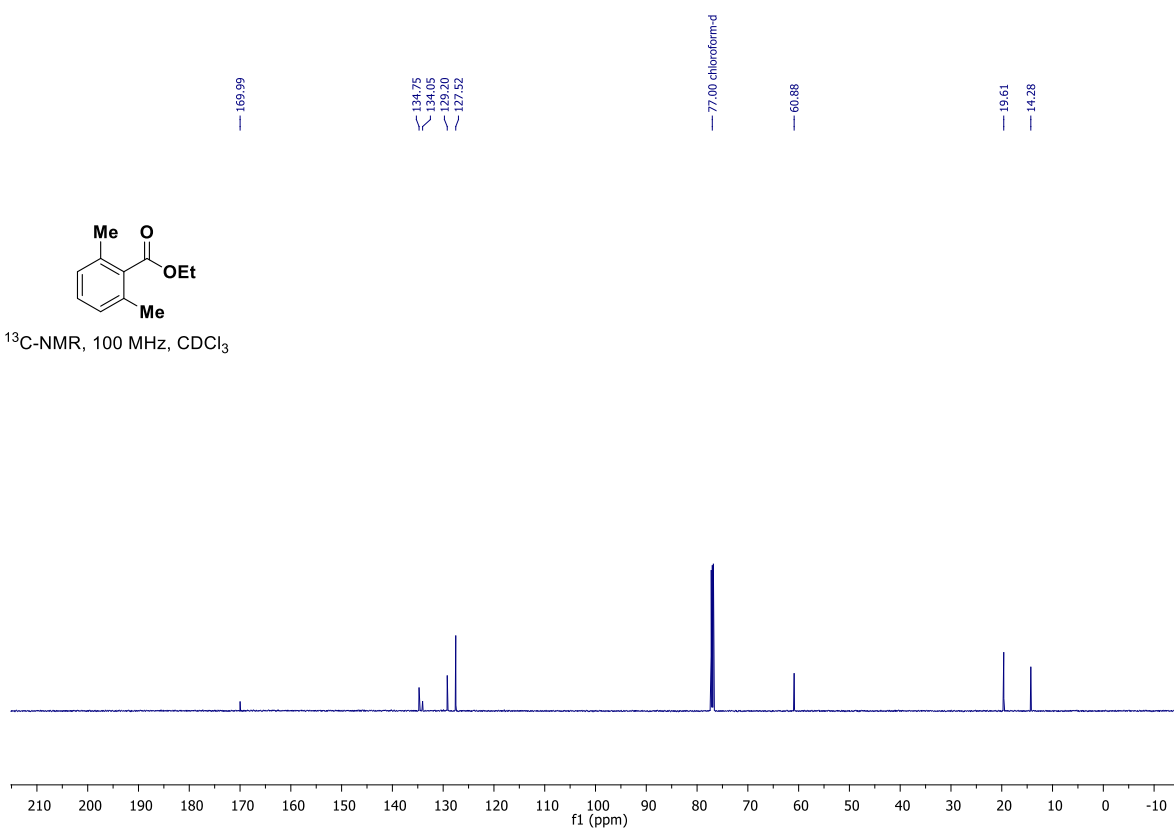
Compound 17



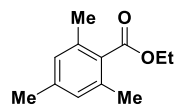
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 600 MHz, CDCl_3



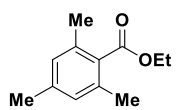
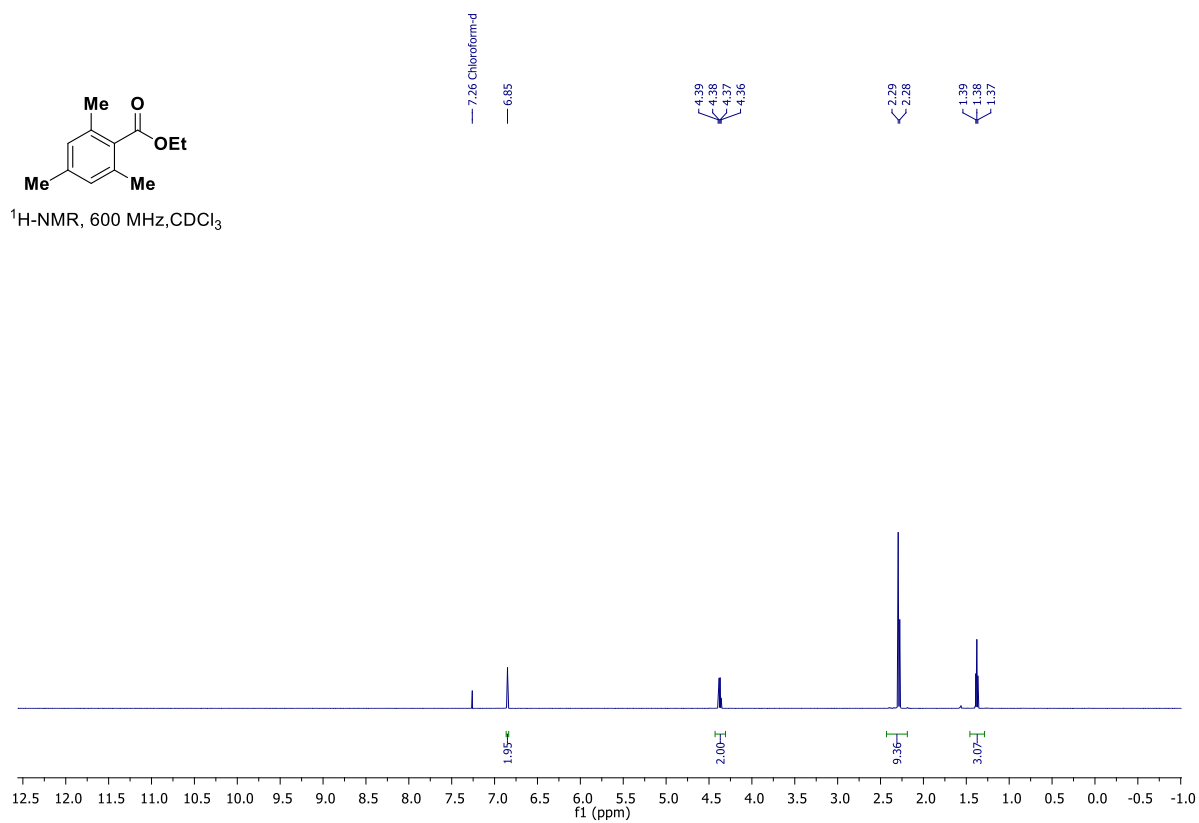
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



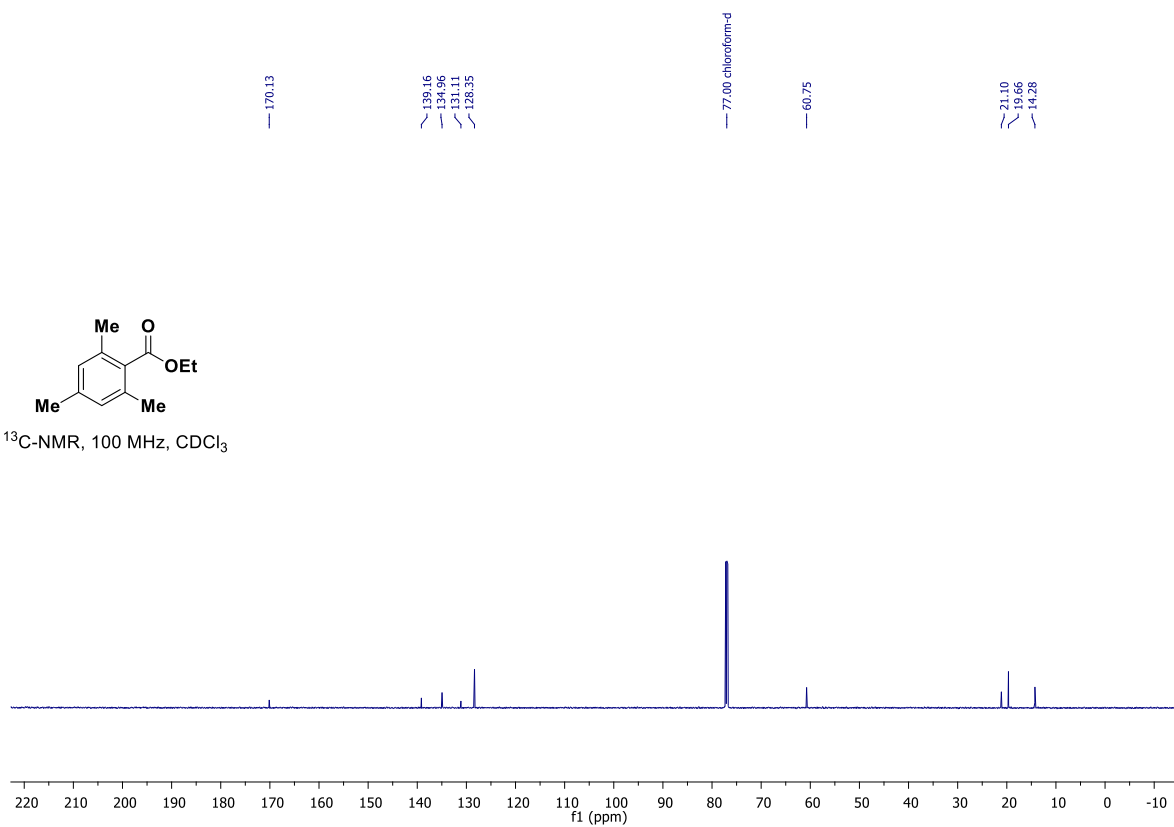
Compound **18**



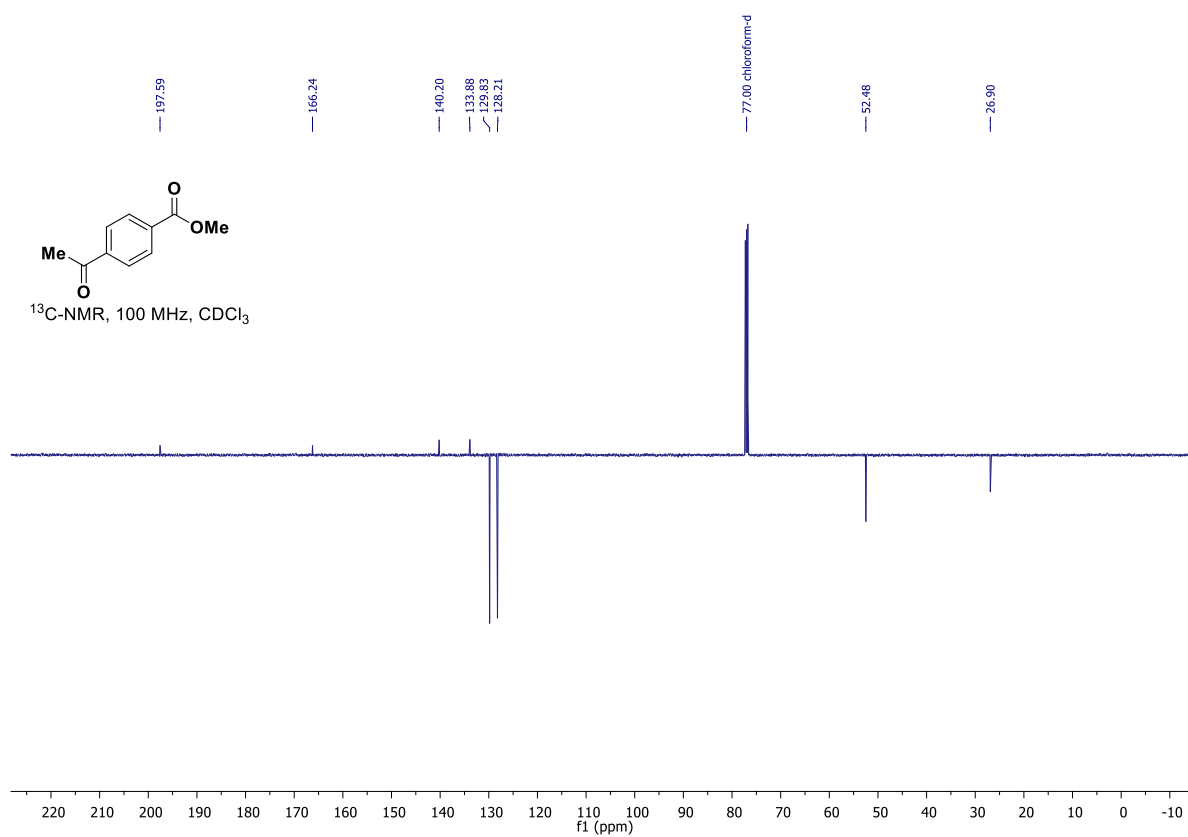
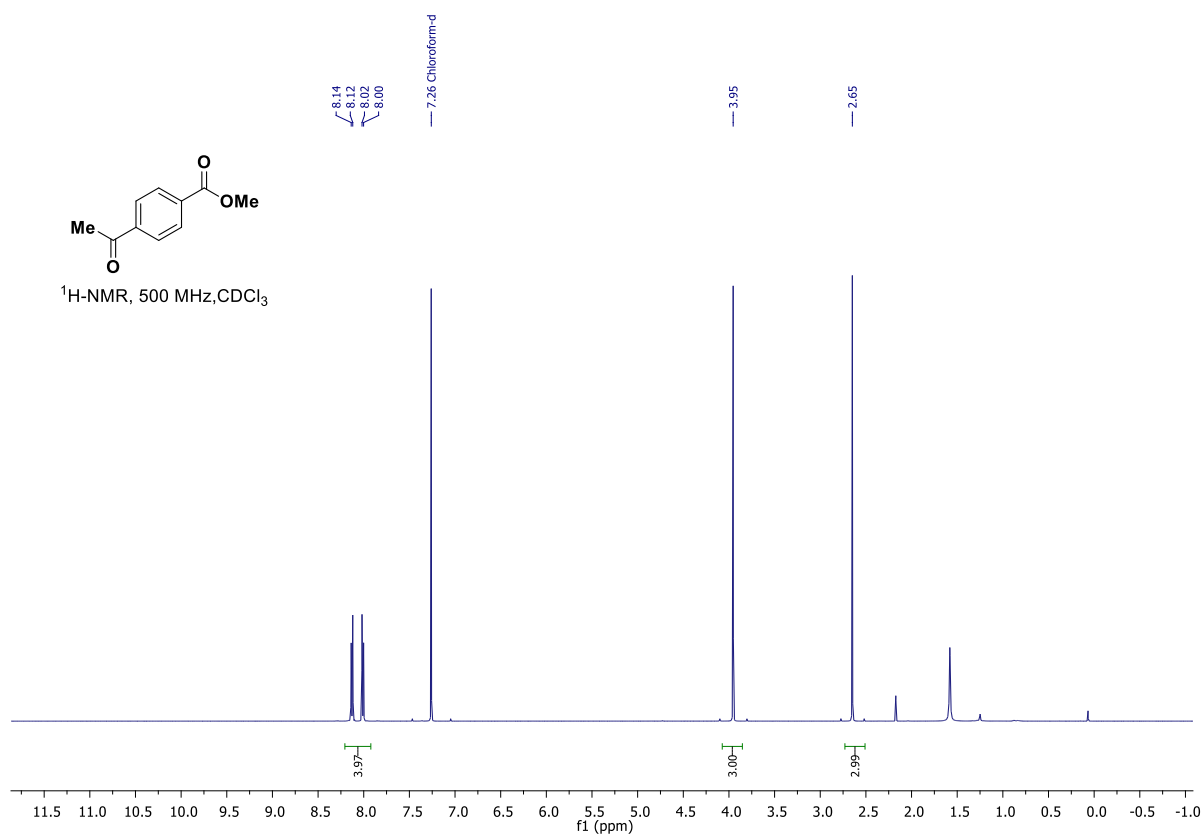
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 600 MHz, CDCl_3



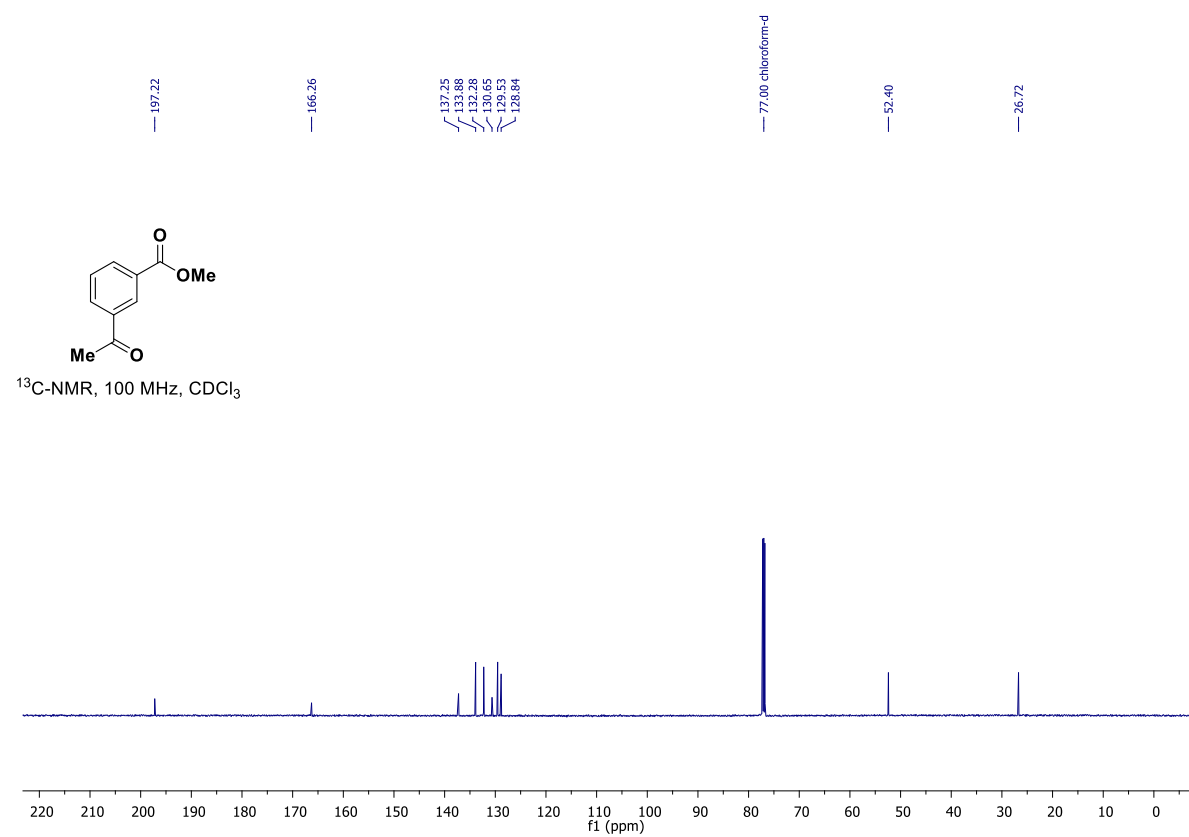
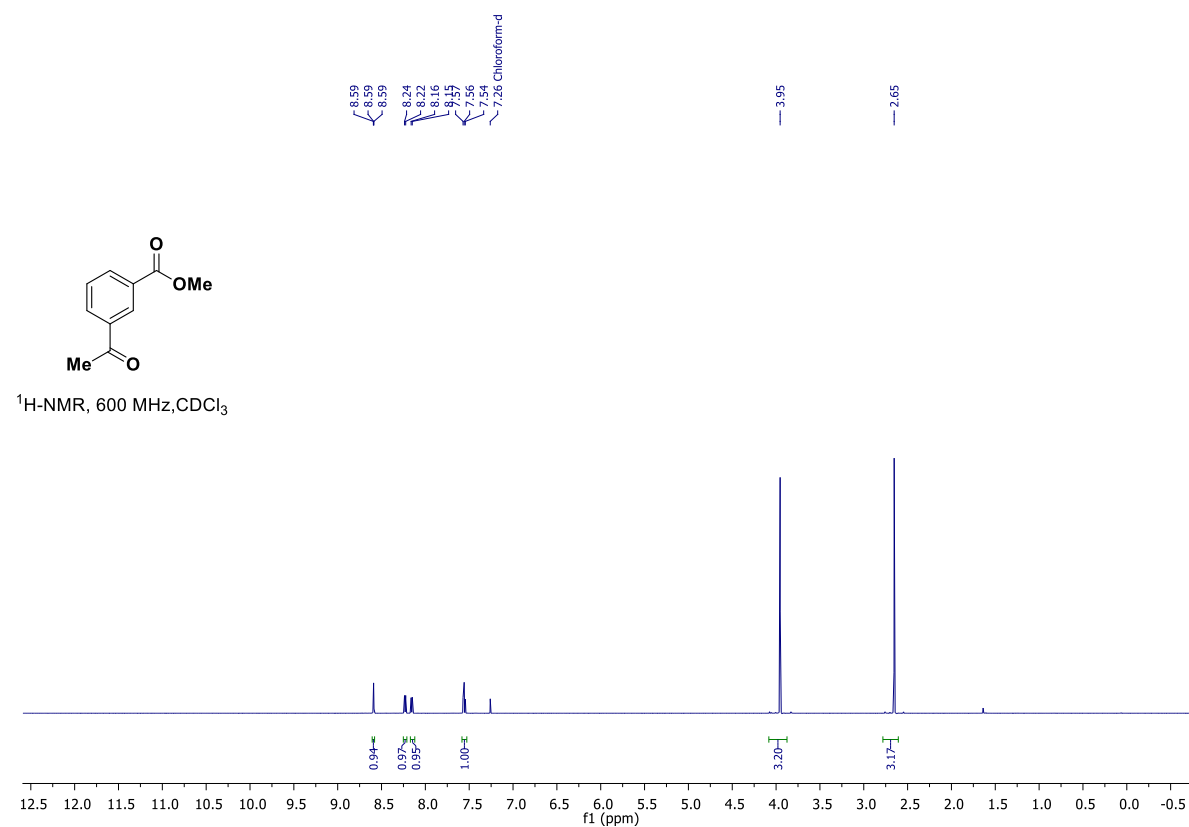
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



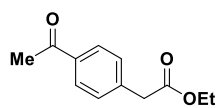
Compound 19



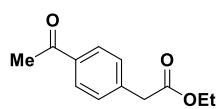
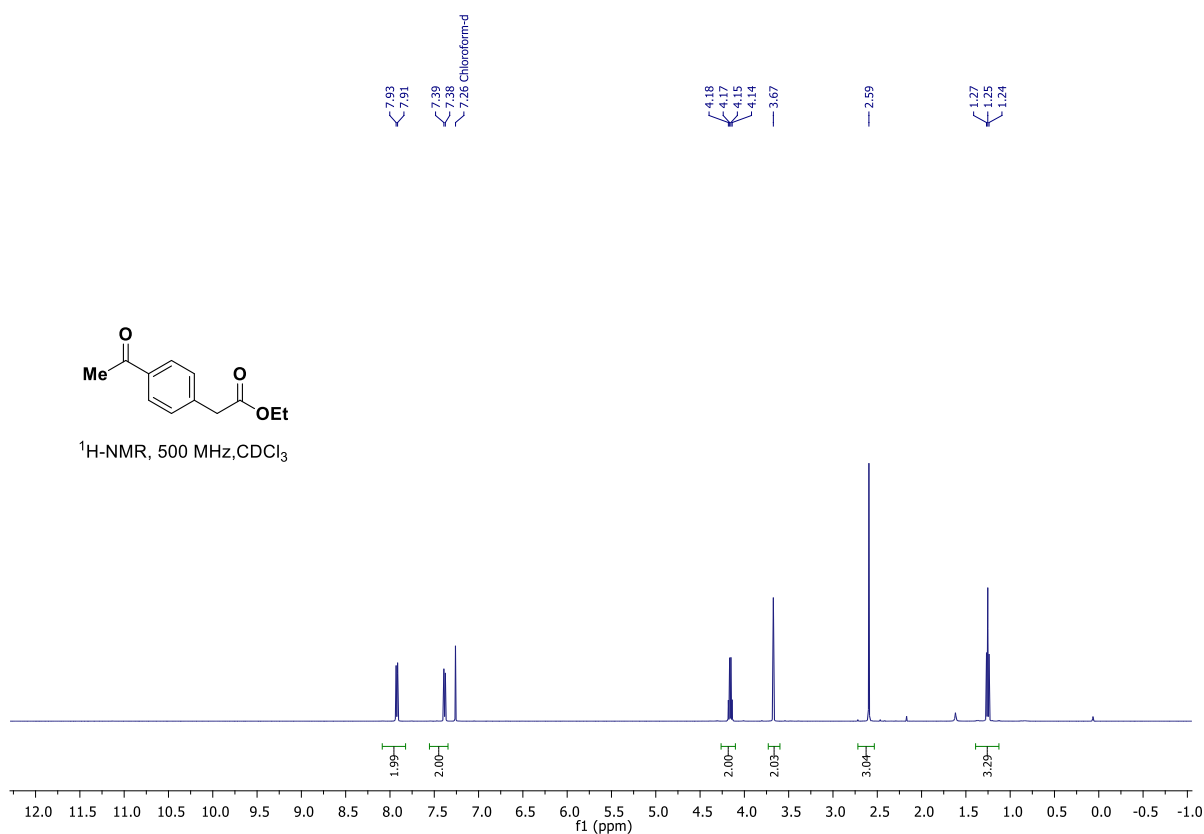
Compound 20



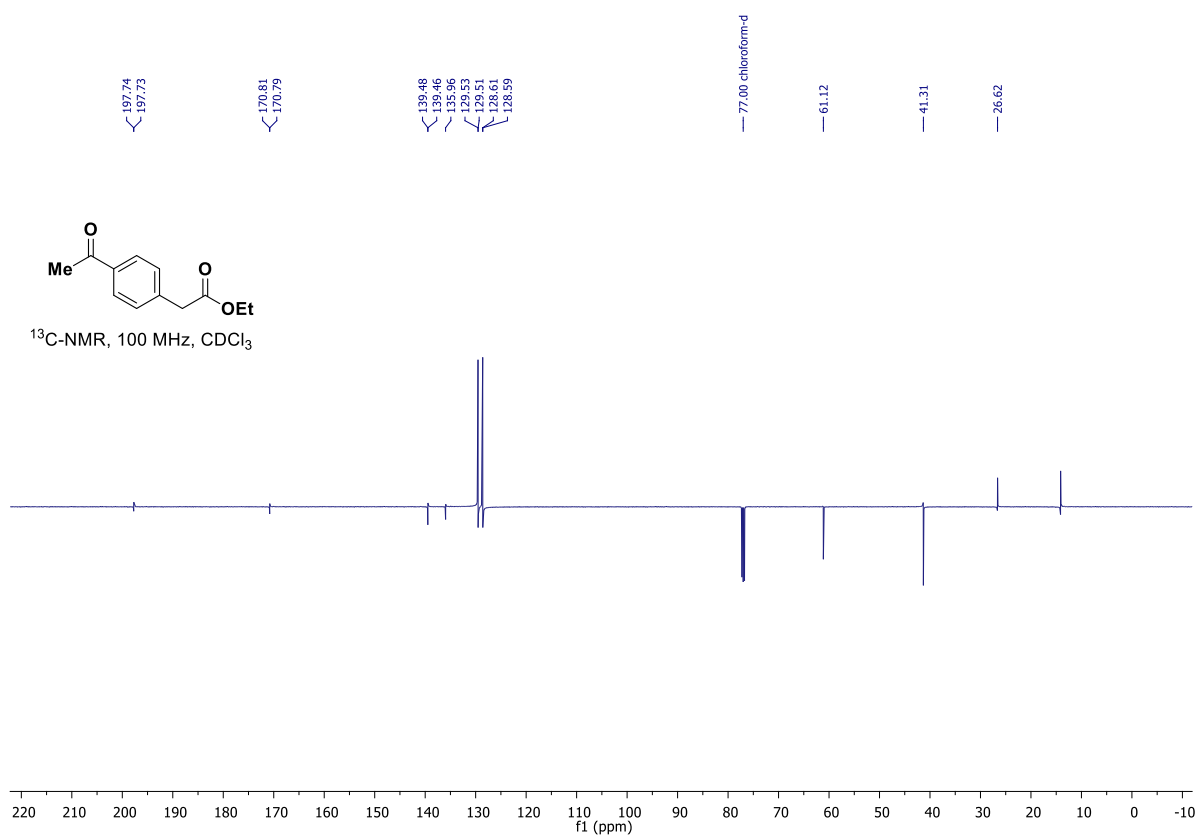
Compound 21



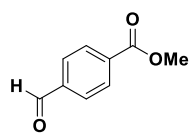
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 500 MHz, CDCl_3



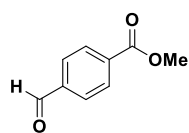
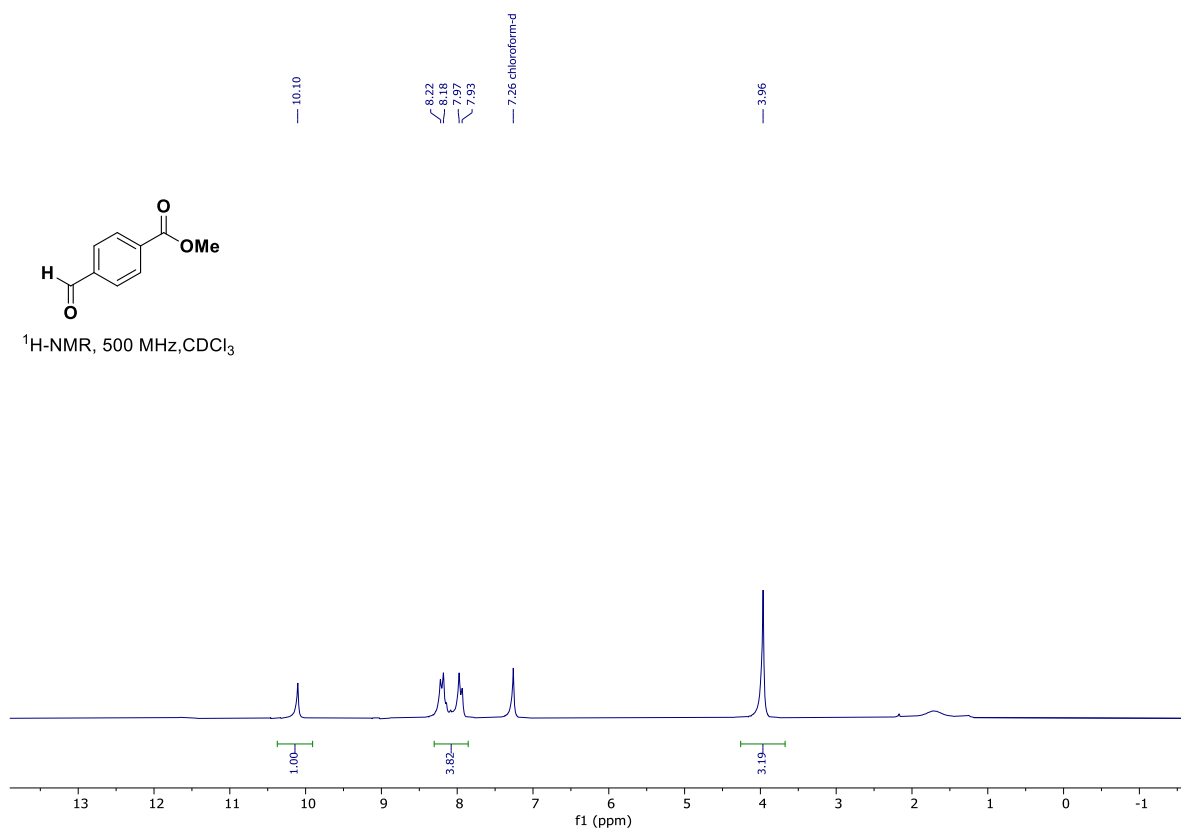
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



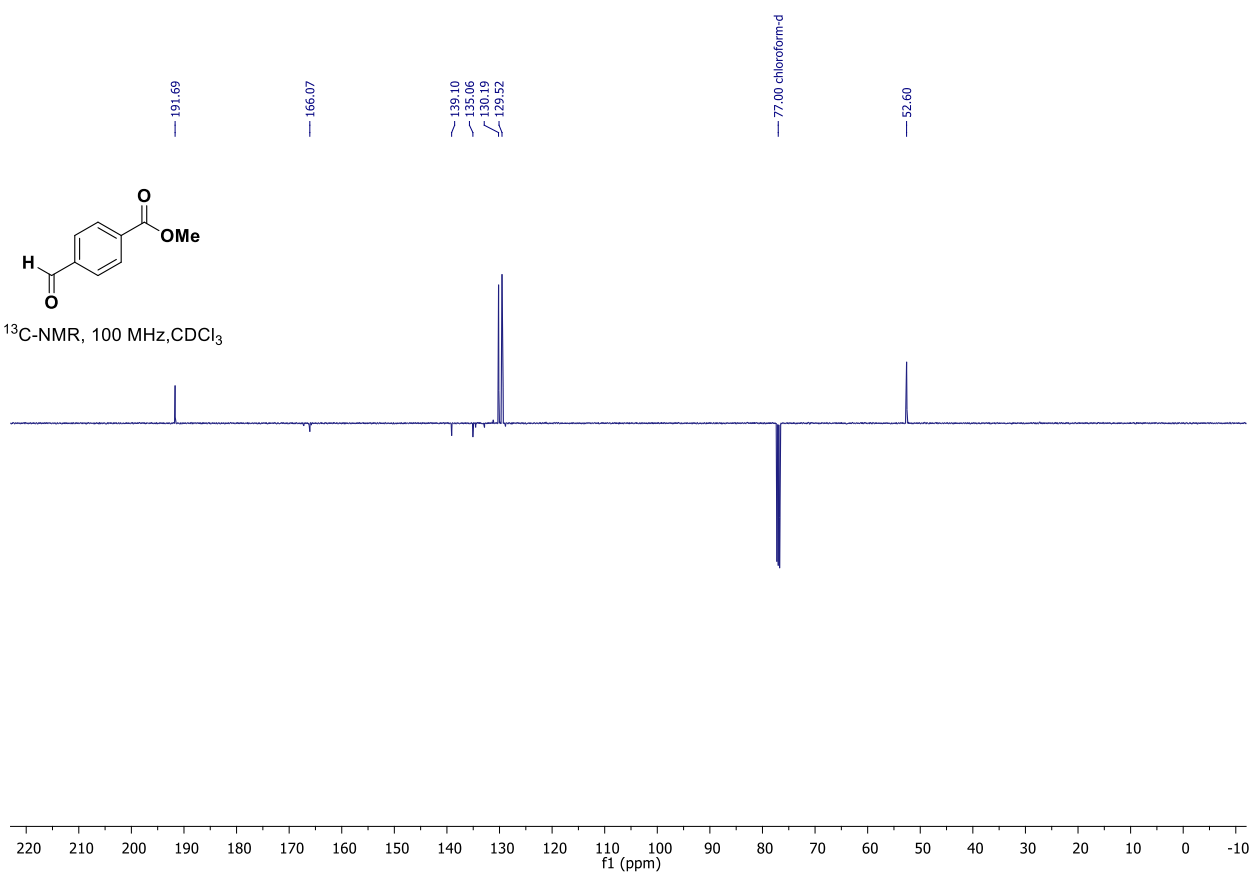
Compound **22**



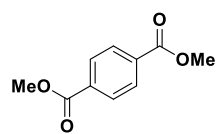
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 500 MHz, CDCl_3



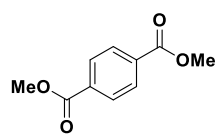
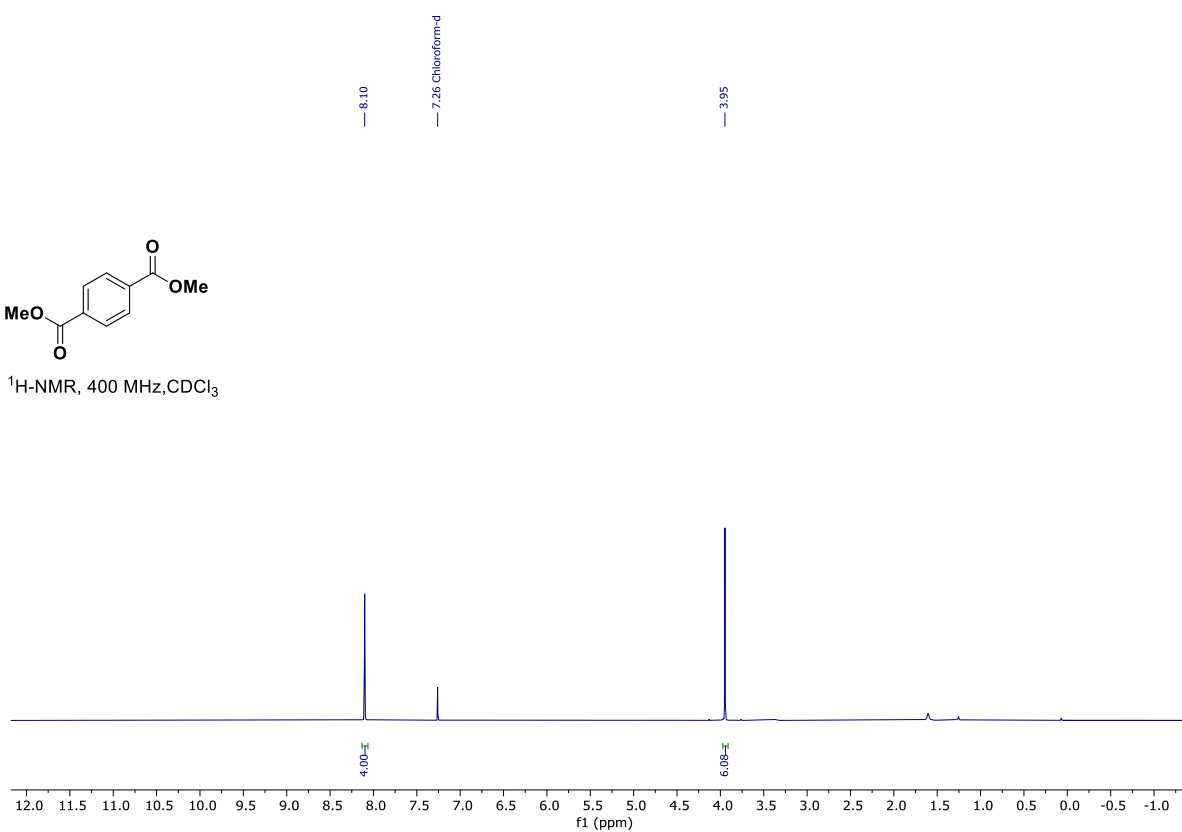
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



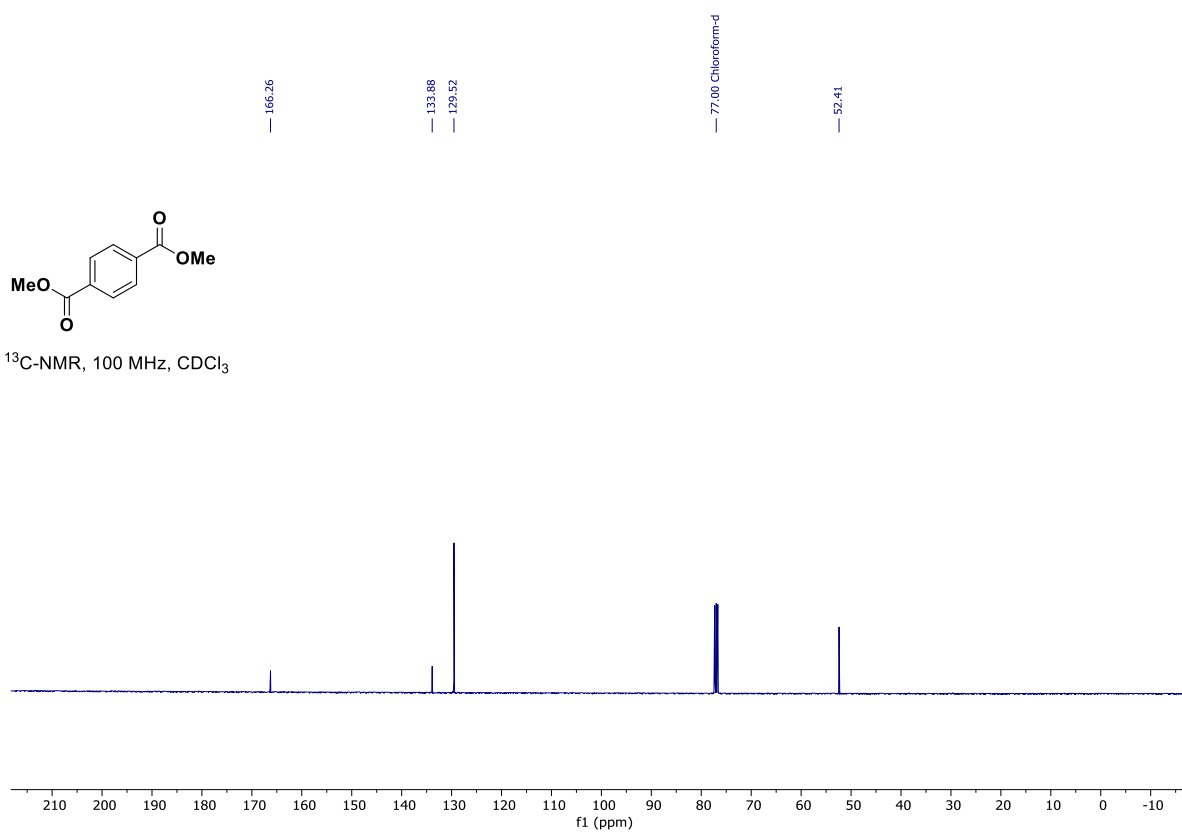
Compound 23



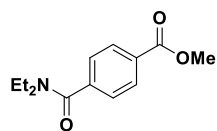
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 400 MHz, CDCl_3



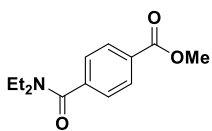
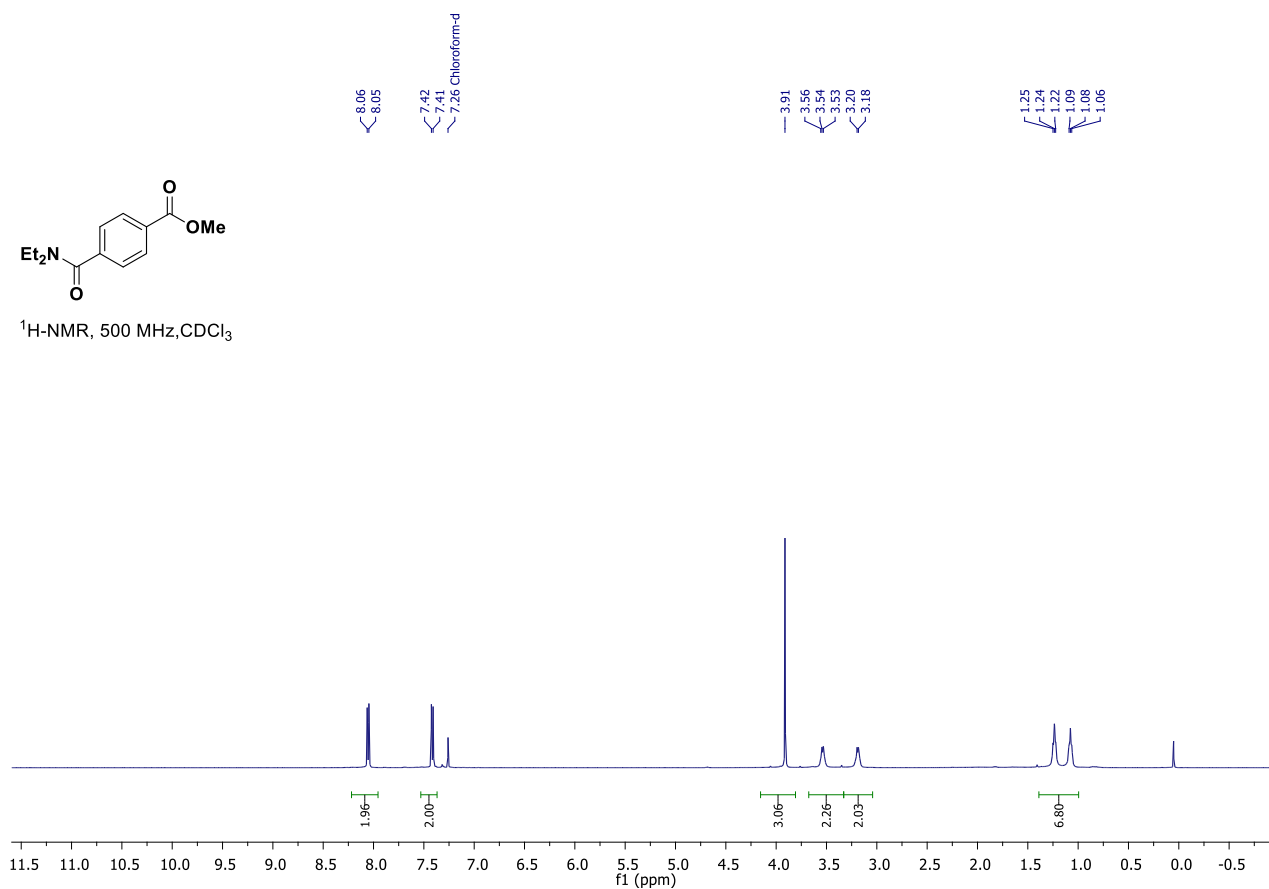
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



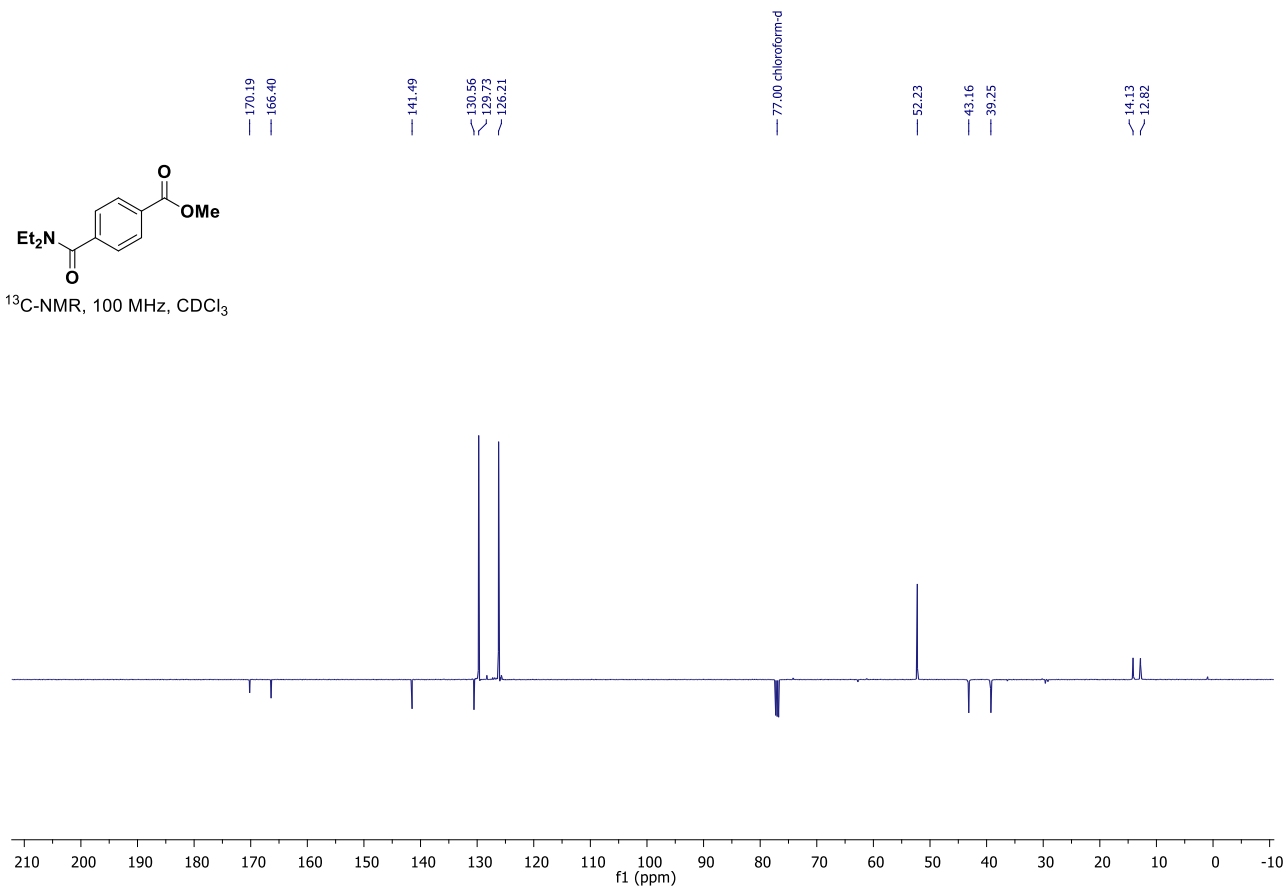
Compound 24



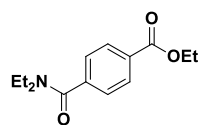
¹H-NMR, 500 MHz, CDCl₃



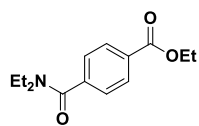
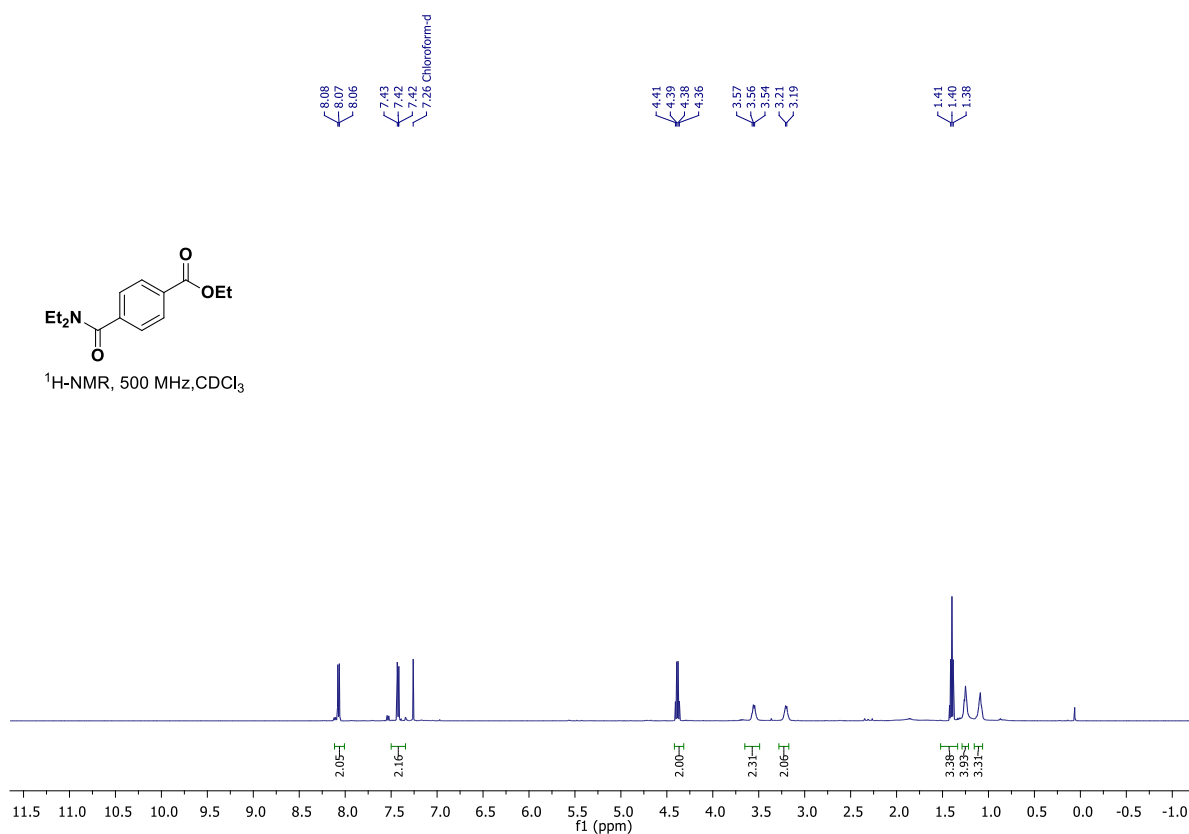
¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃



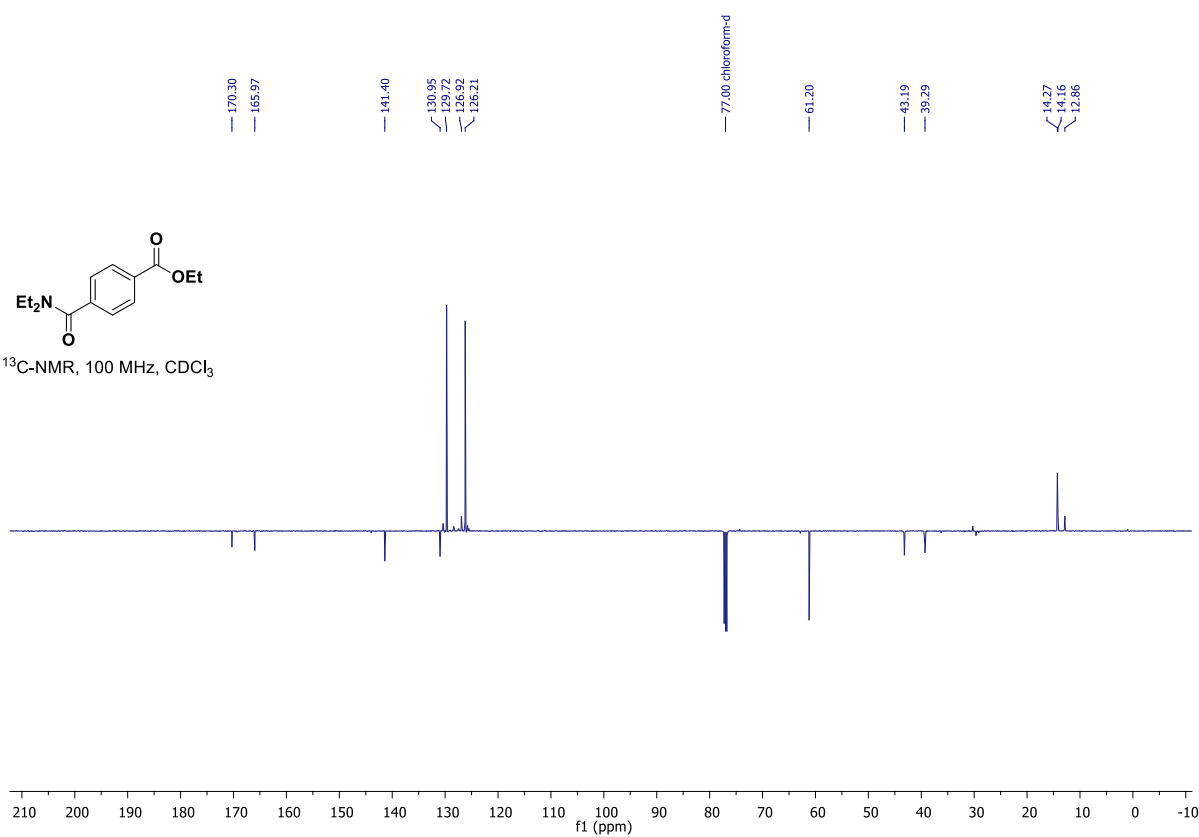
Compound 25



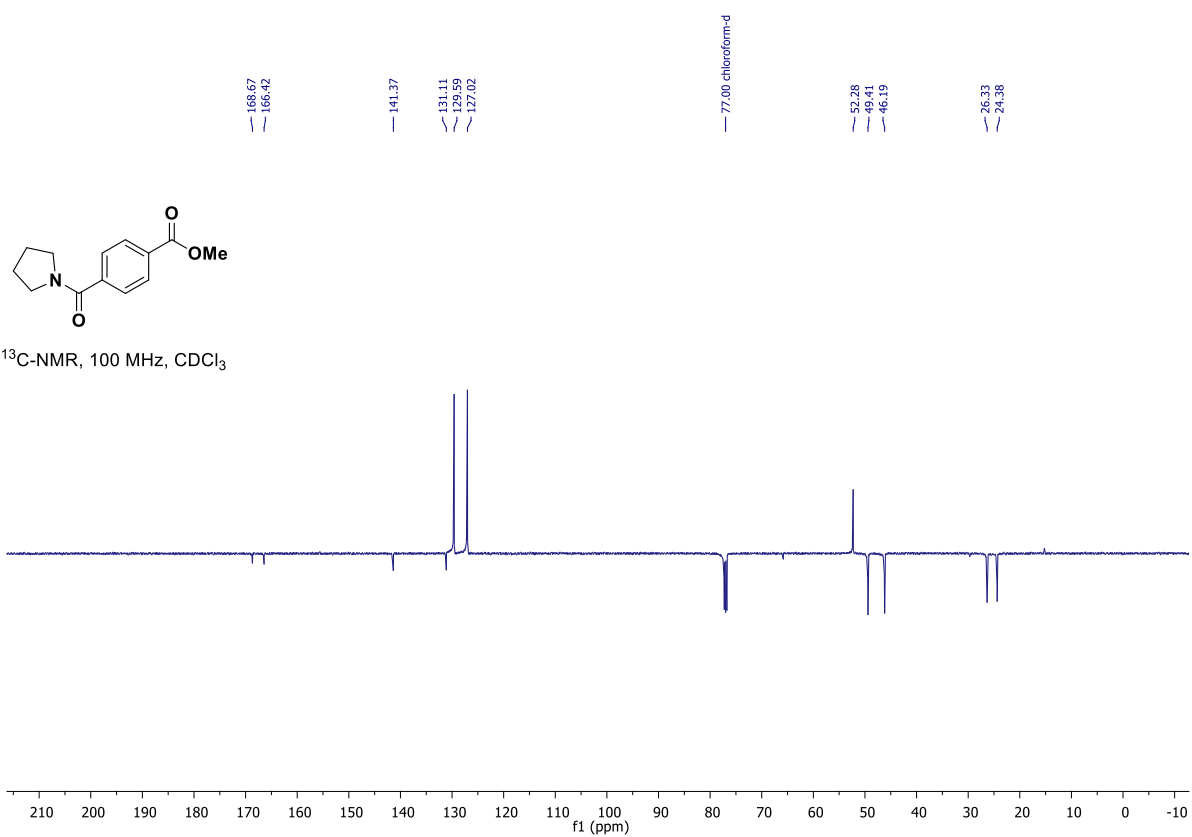
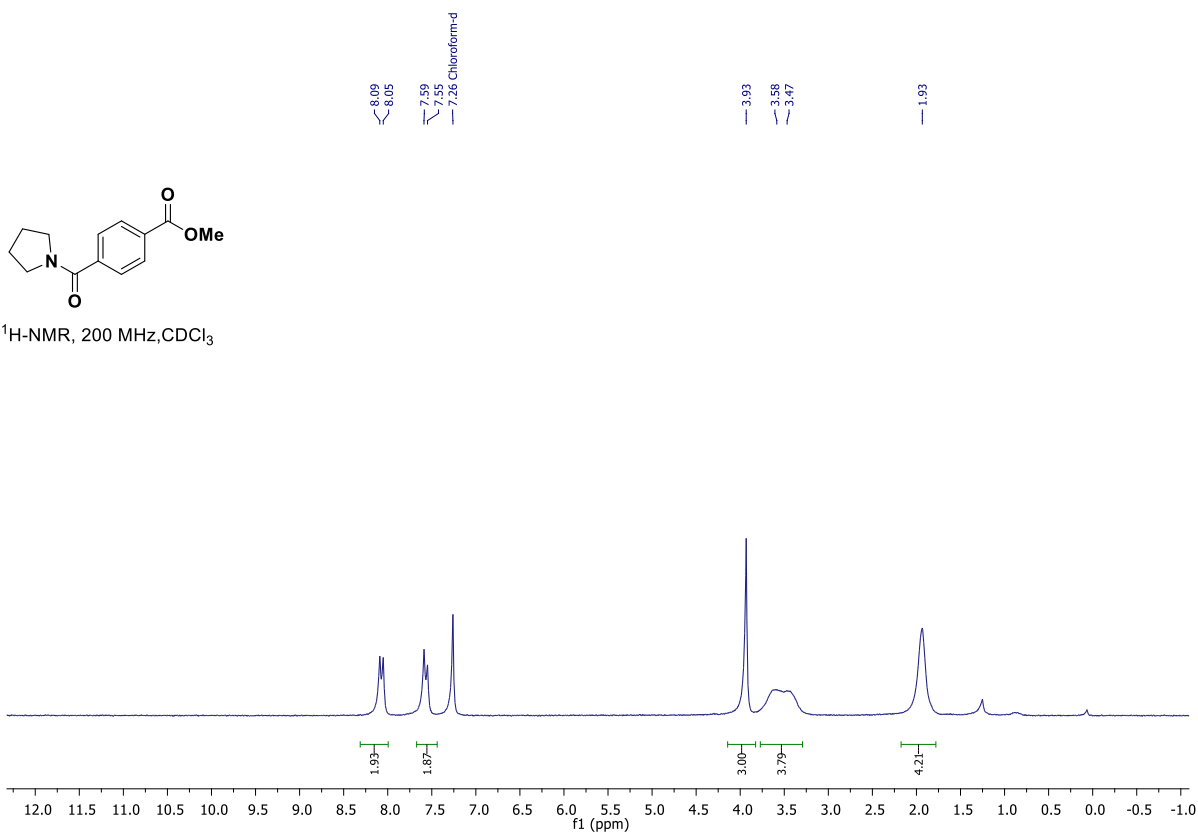
¹H-NMR, 500 MHz, CDCl₃



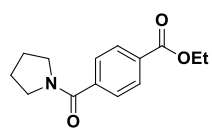
¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃



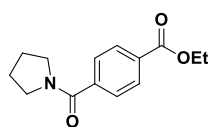
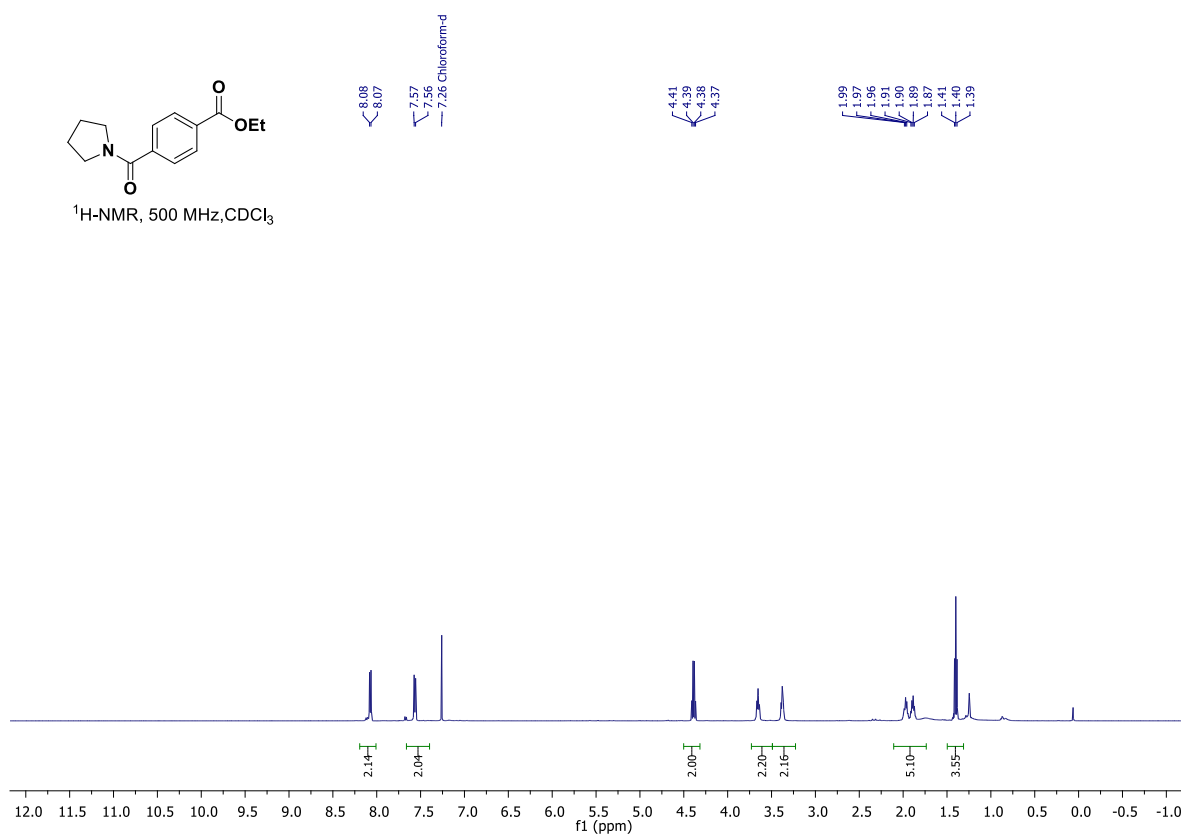
Compound 26



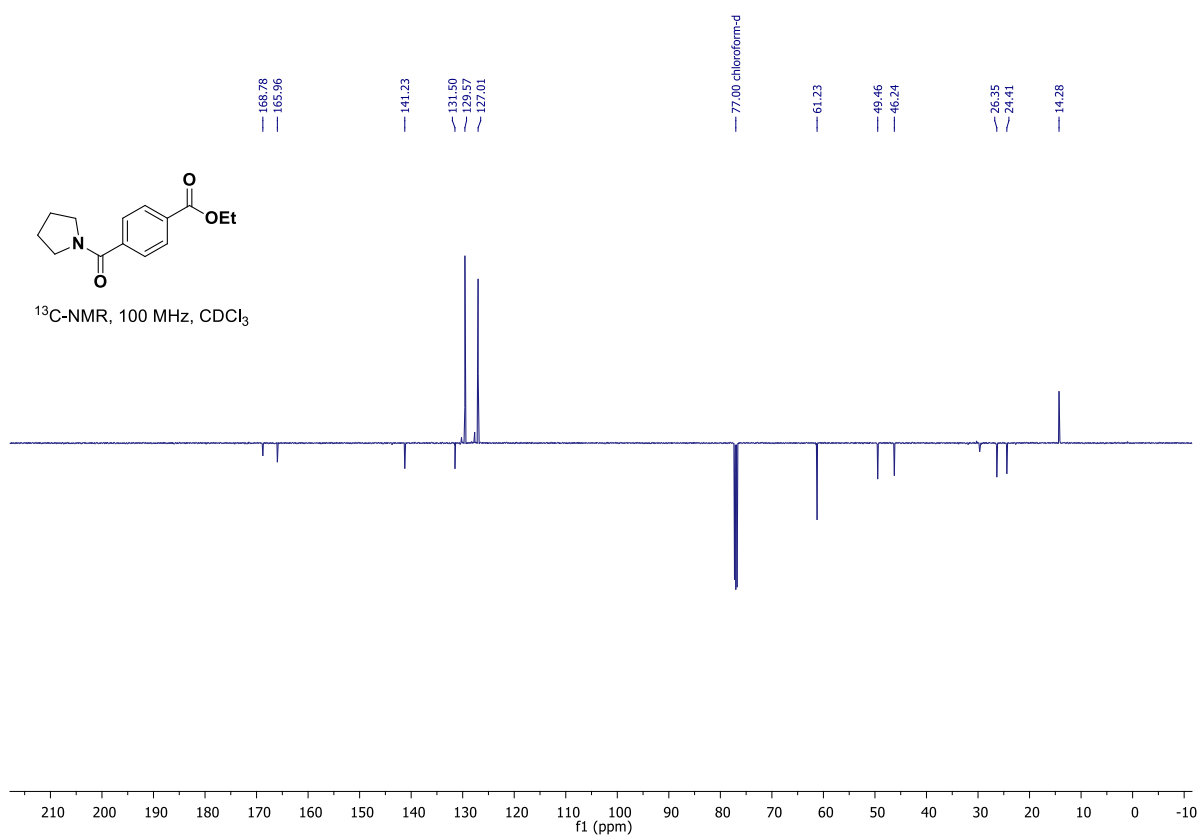
Compound 27



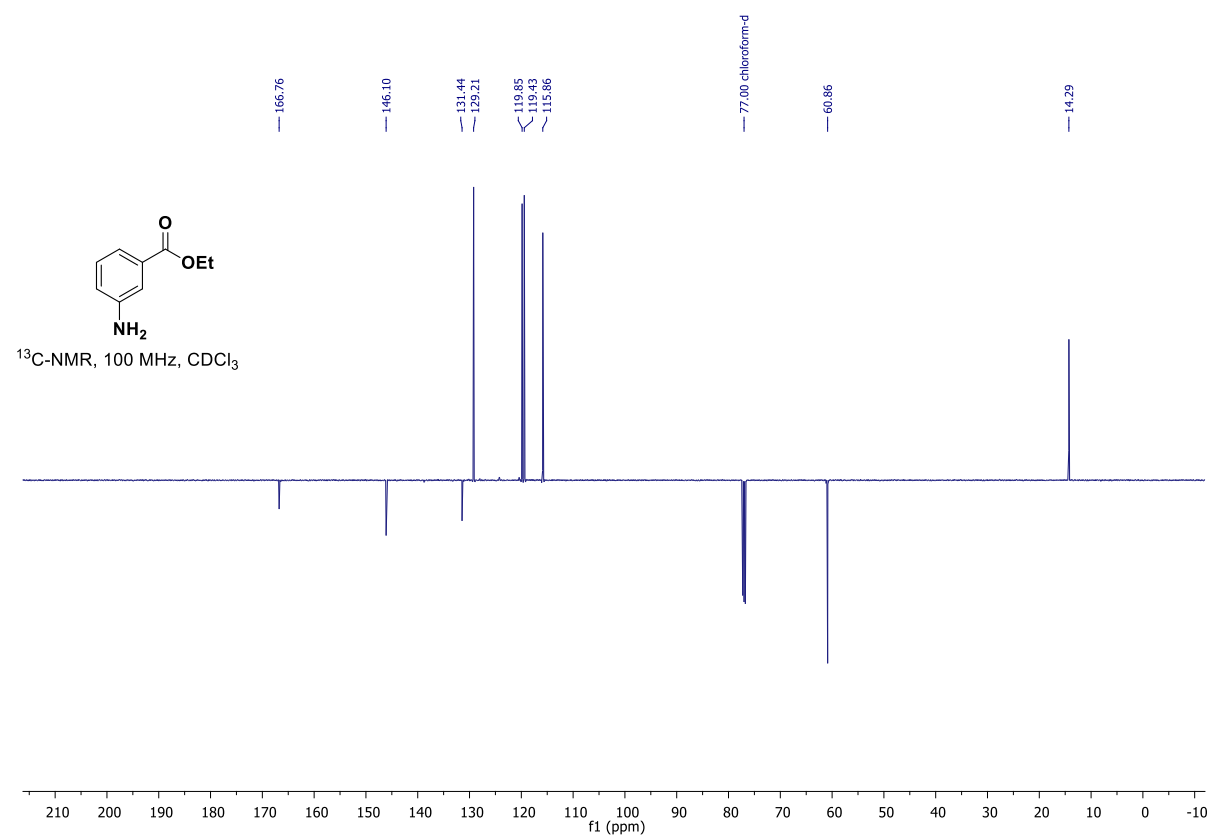
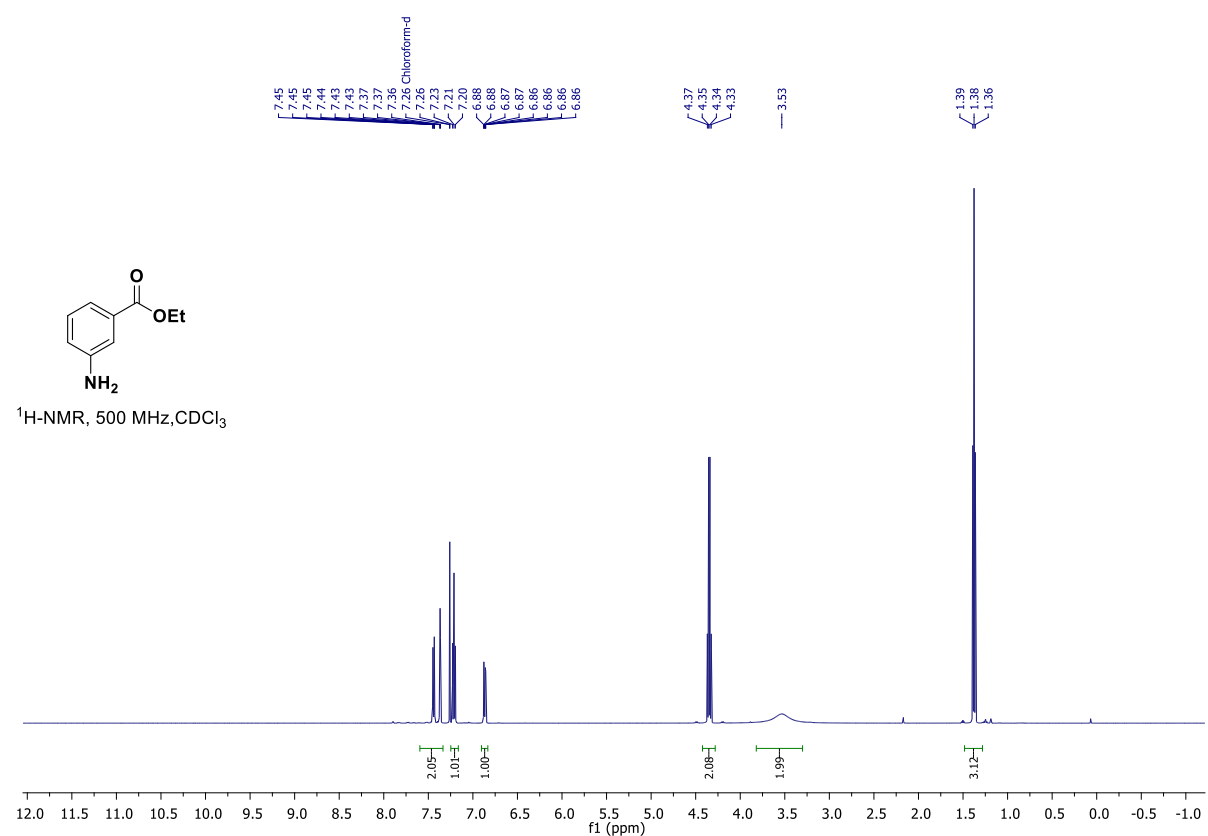
¹H-NMR, 500 MHz, CDCl₃



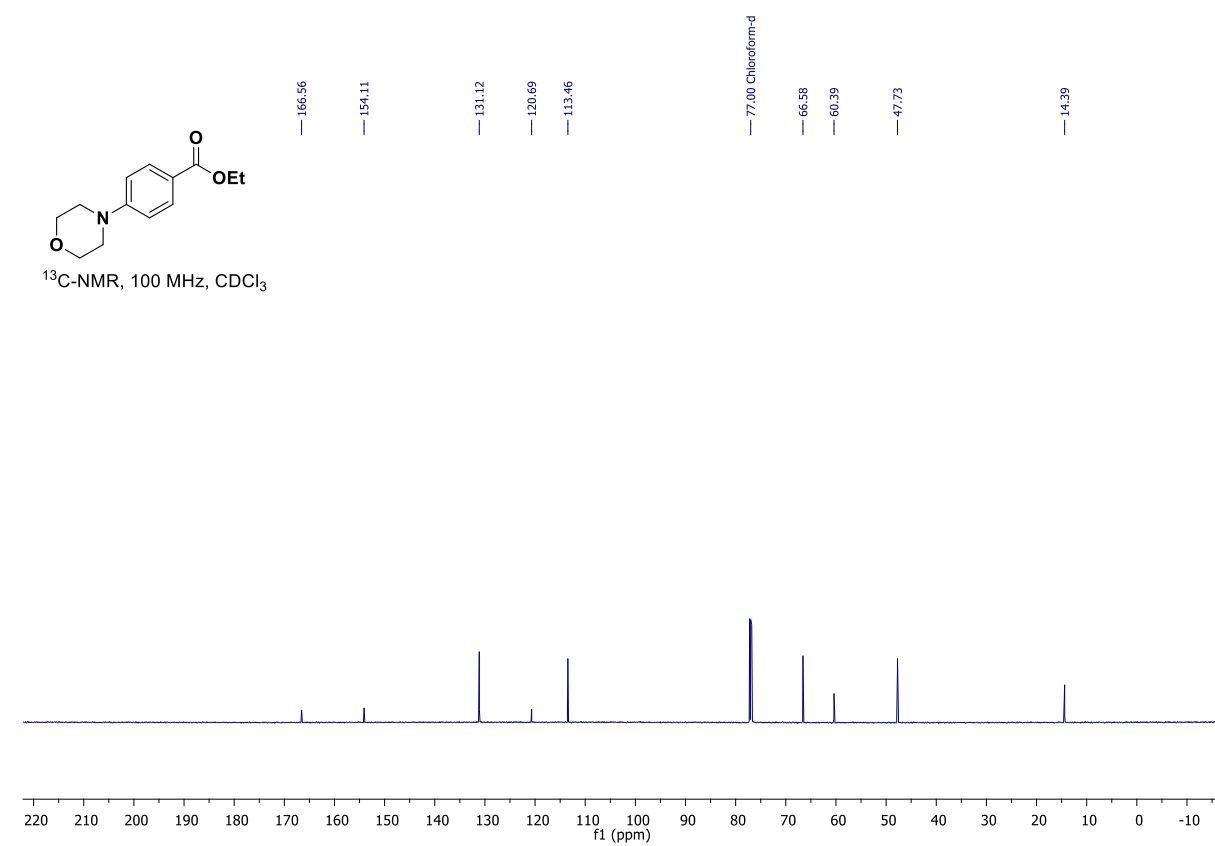
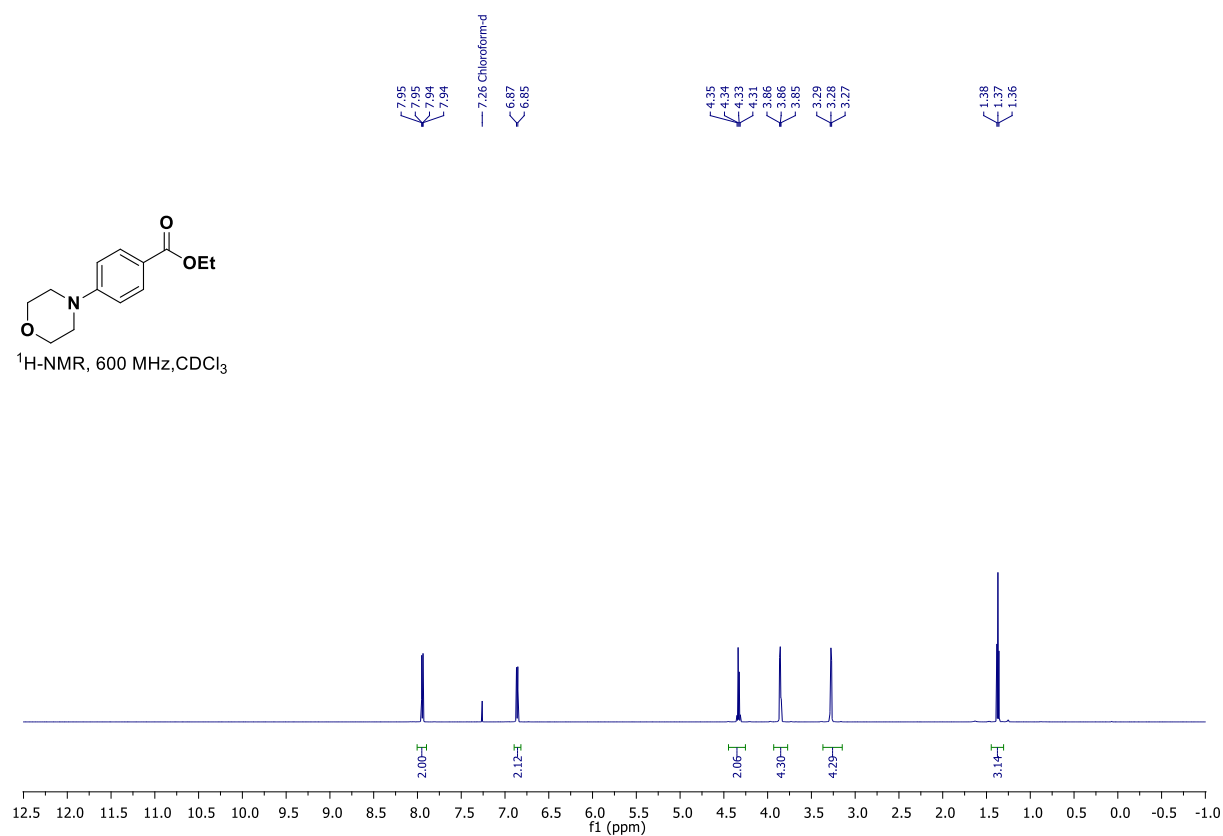
¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃



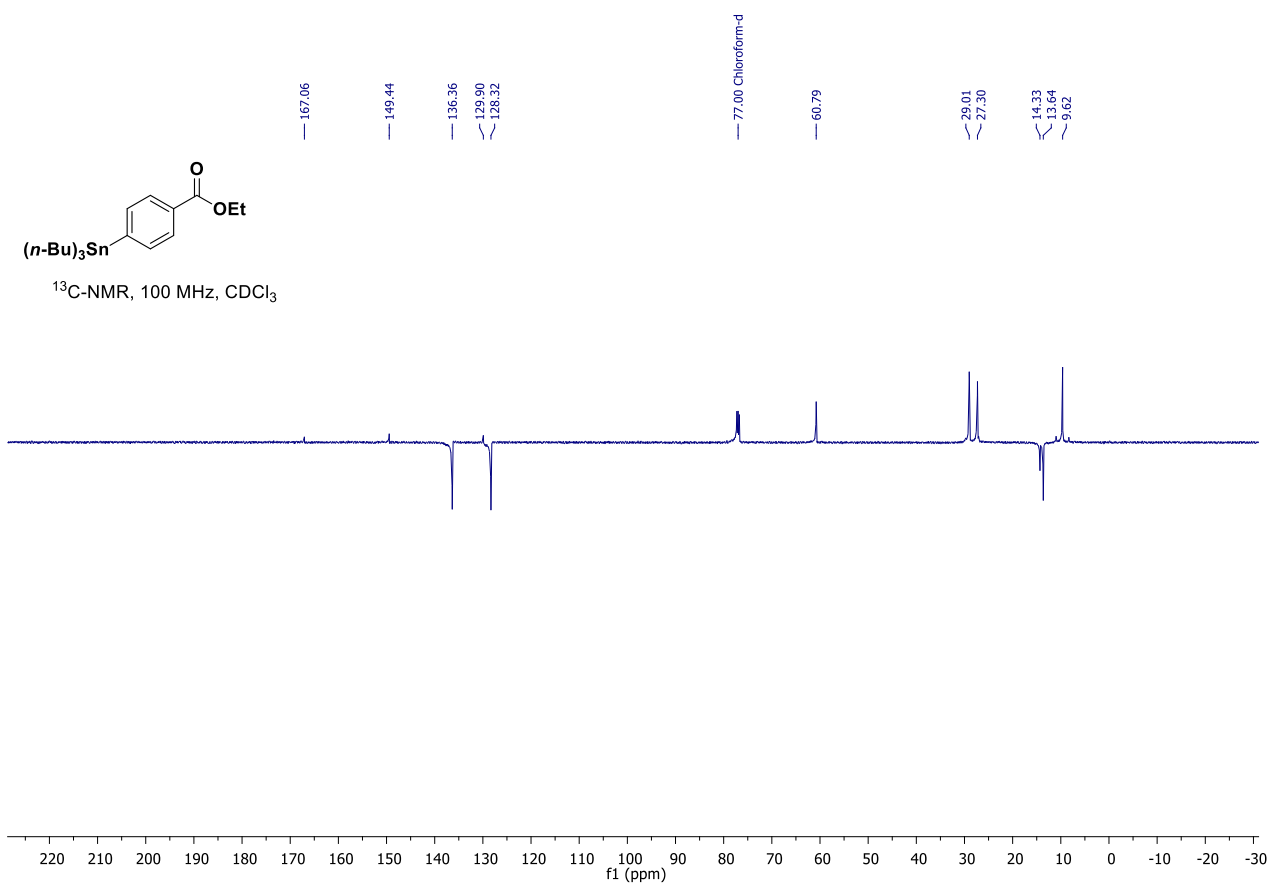
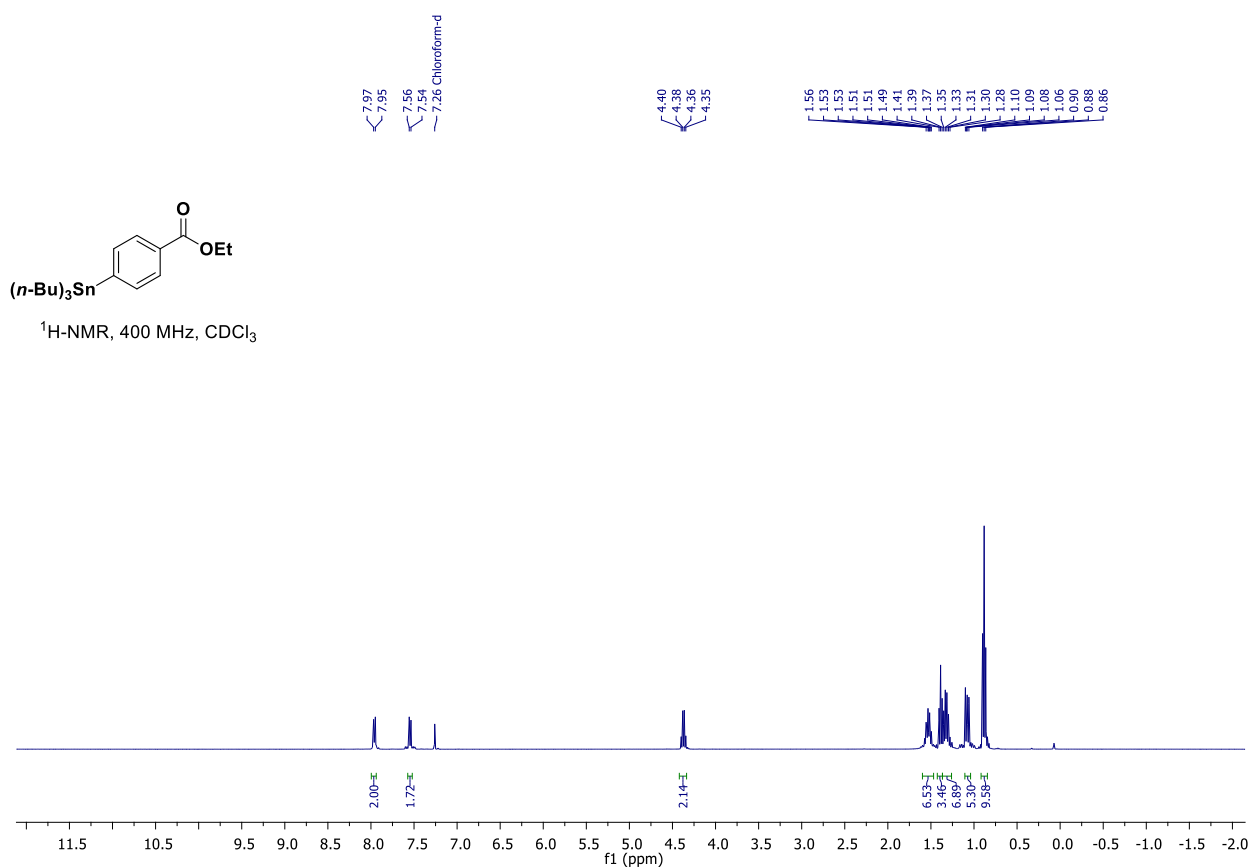
Compound 28



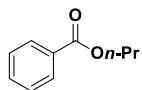
Compound 29



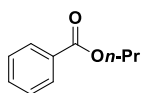
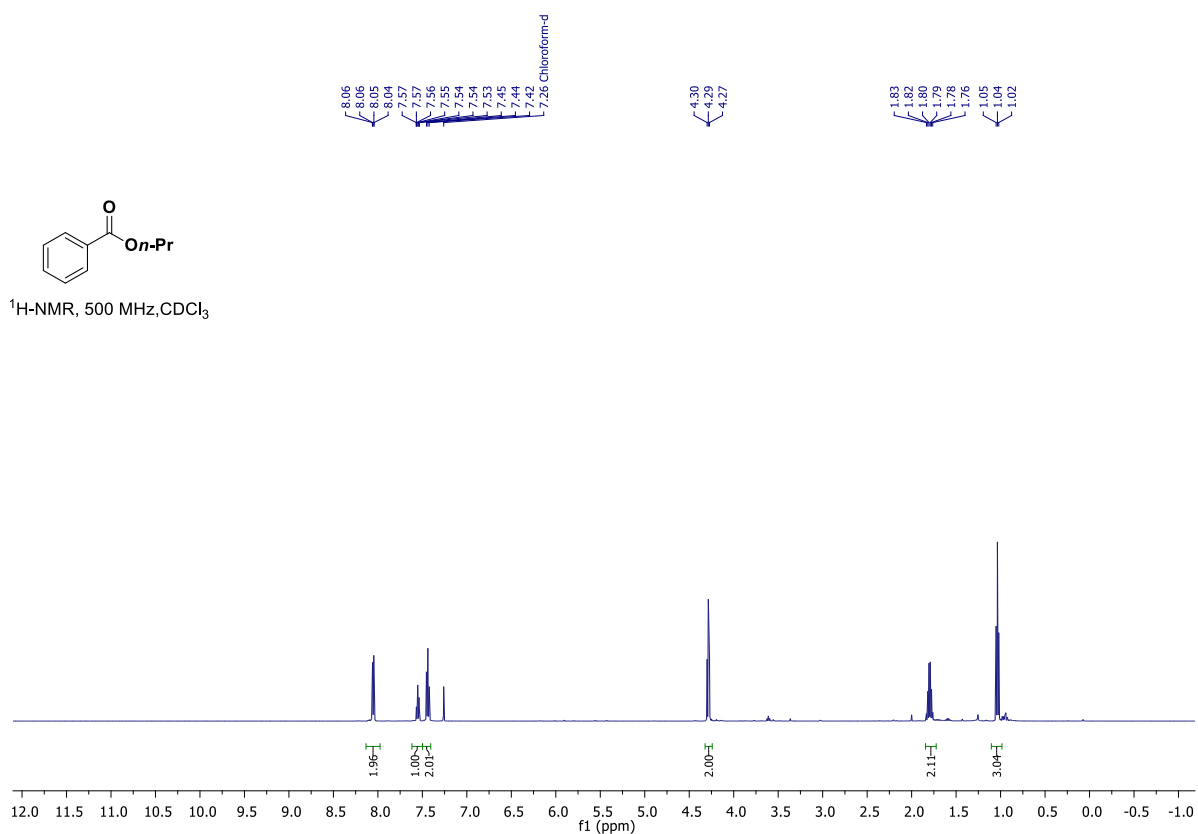
Compound 30



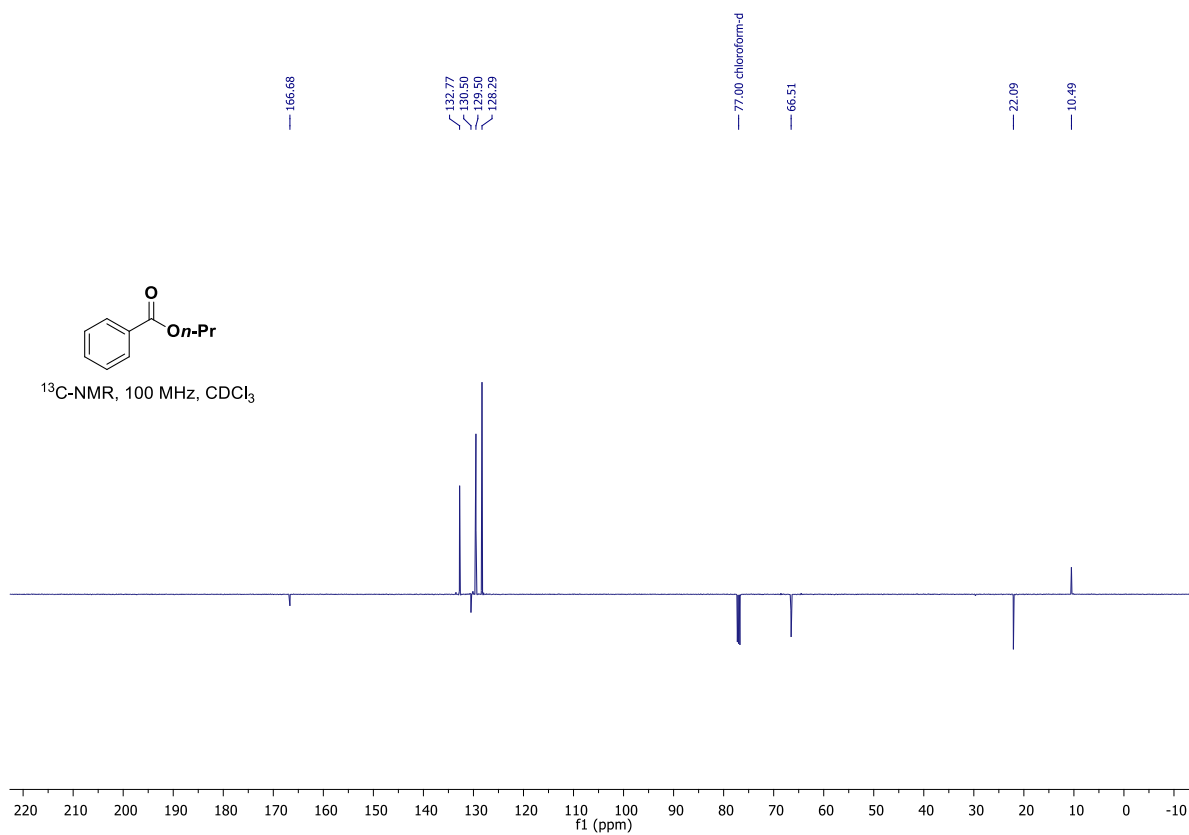
Compound 31



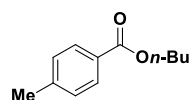
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 500 MHz, CDCl_3



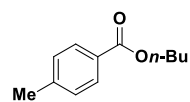
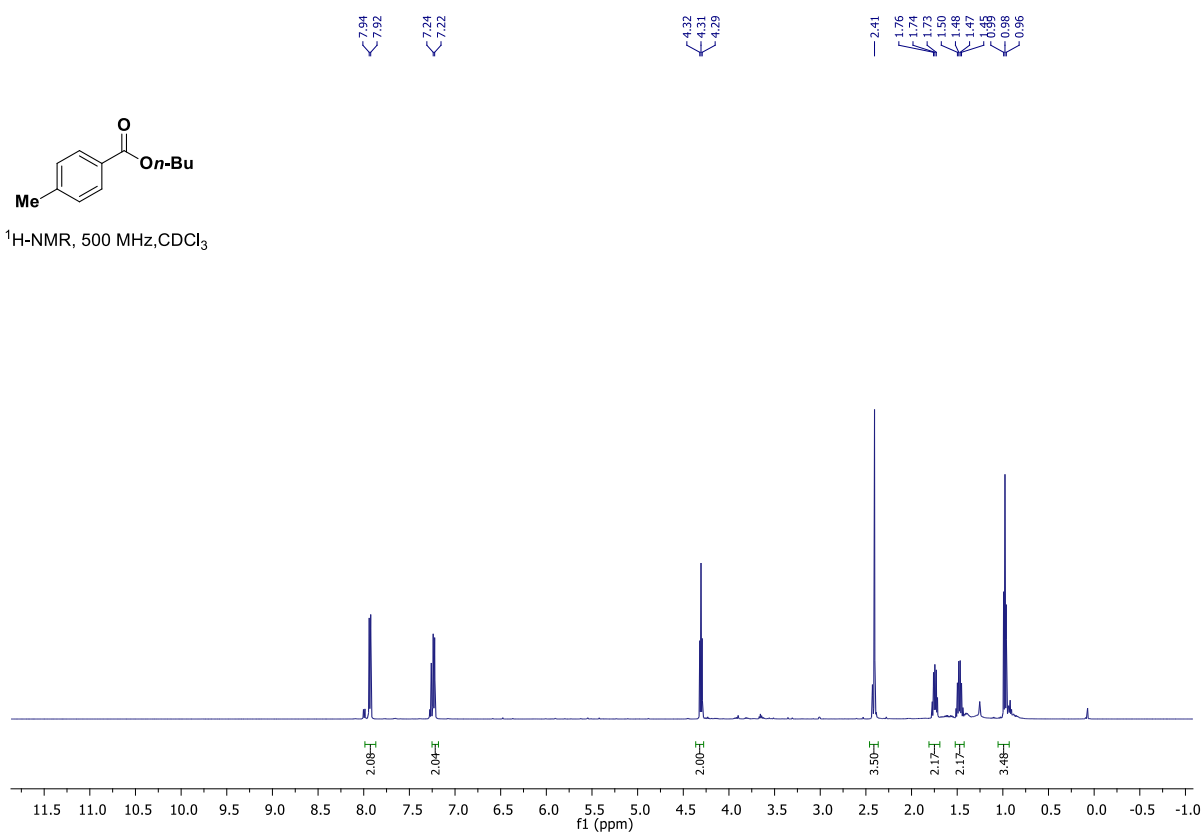
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



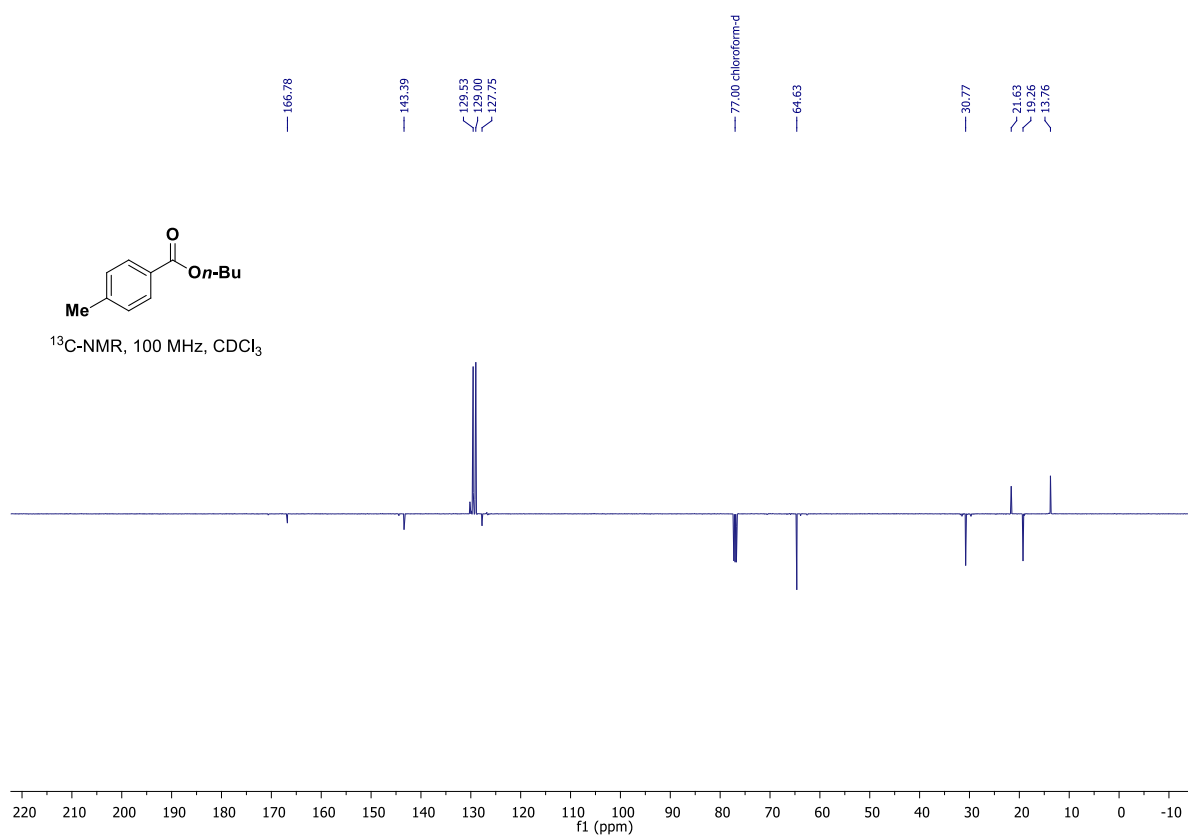
Compound 32



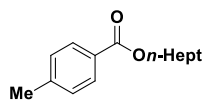
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 500 MHz, CDCl_3



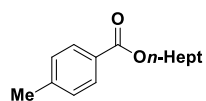
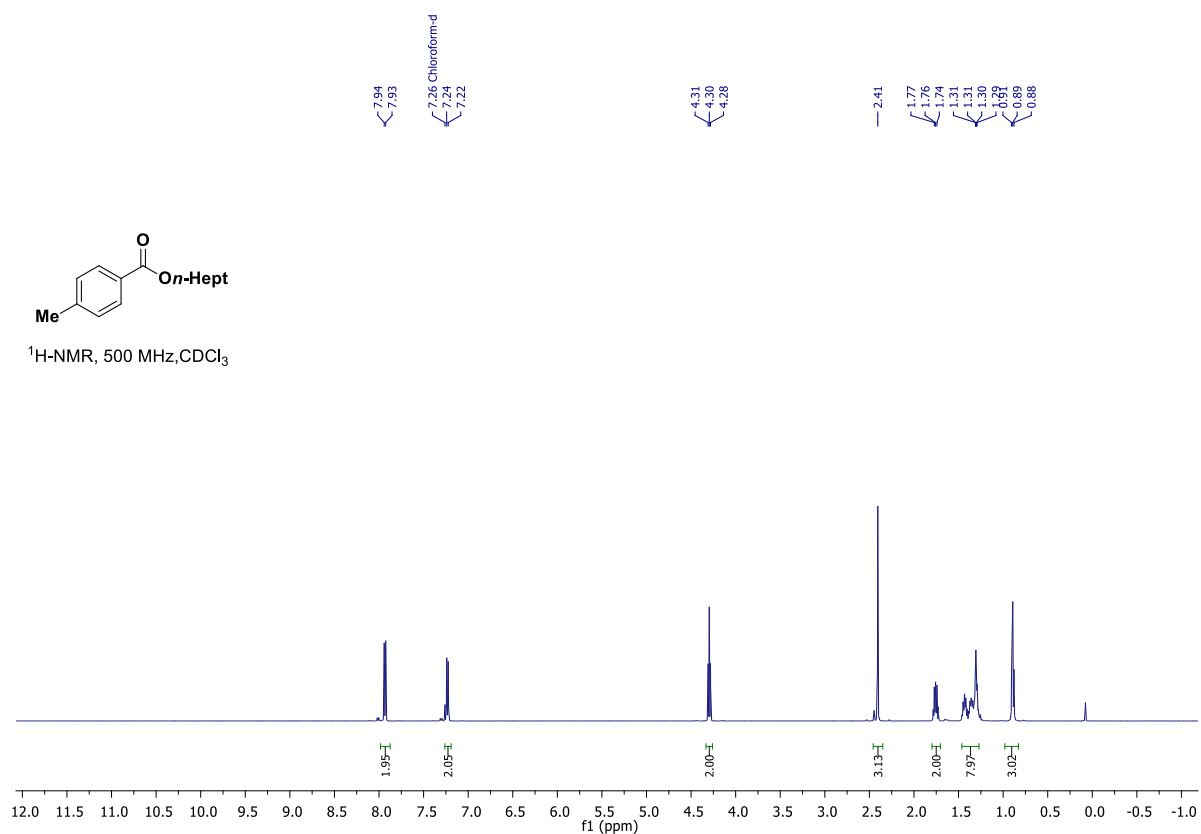
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



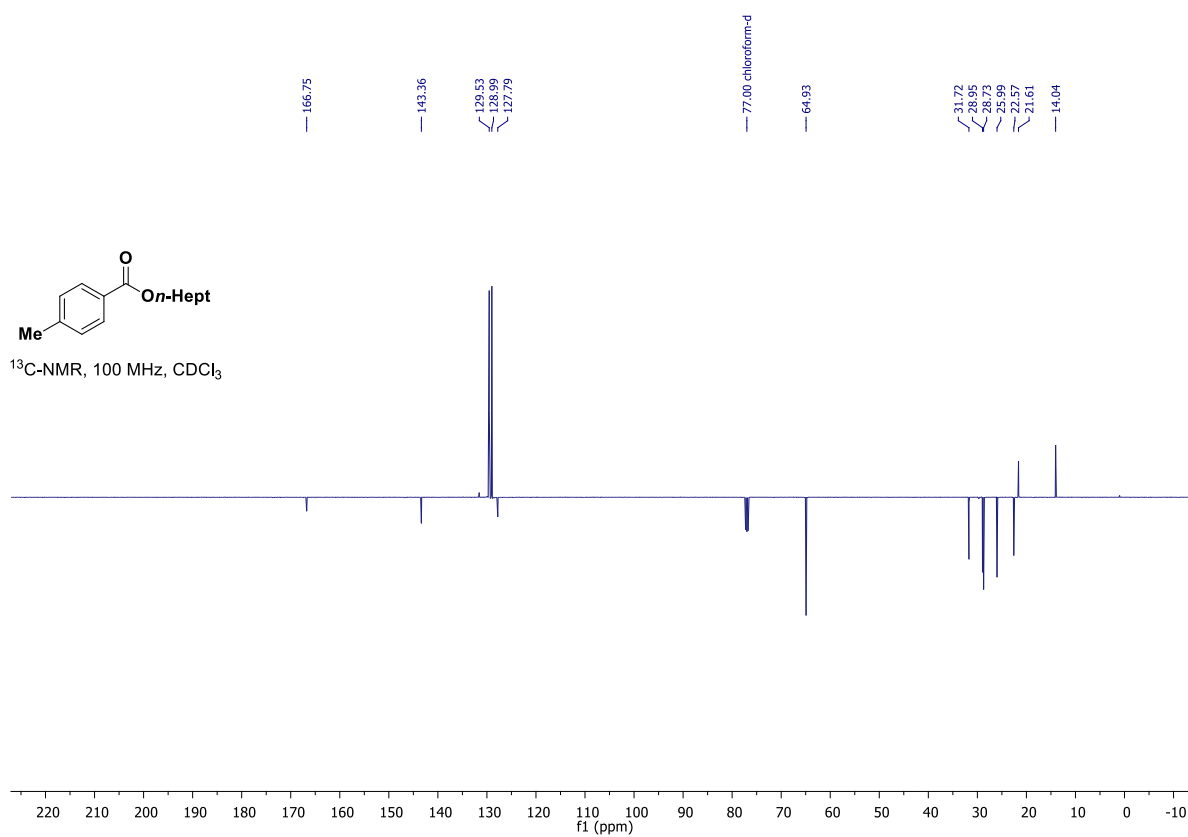
Compound 33



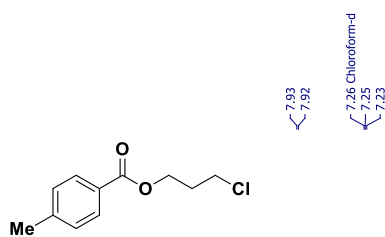
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 500 MHz, CDCl_3



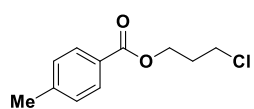
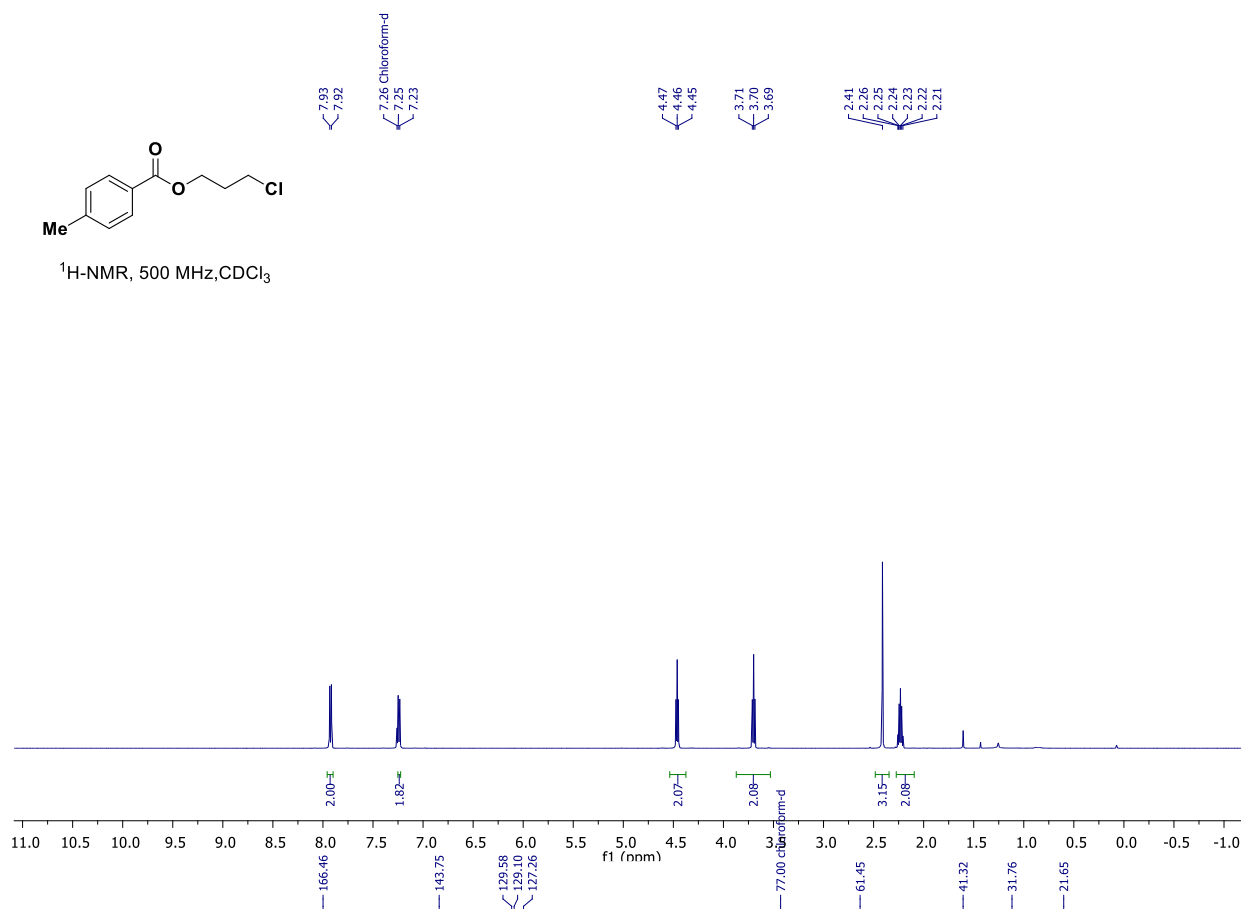
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



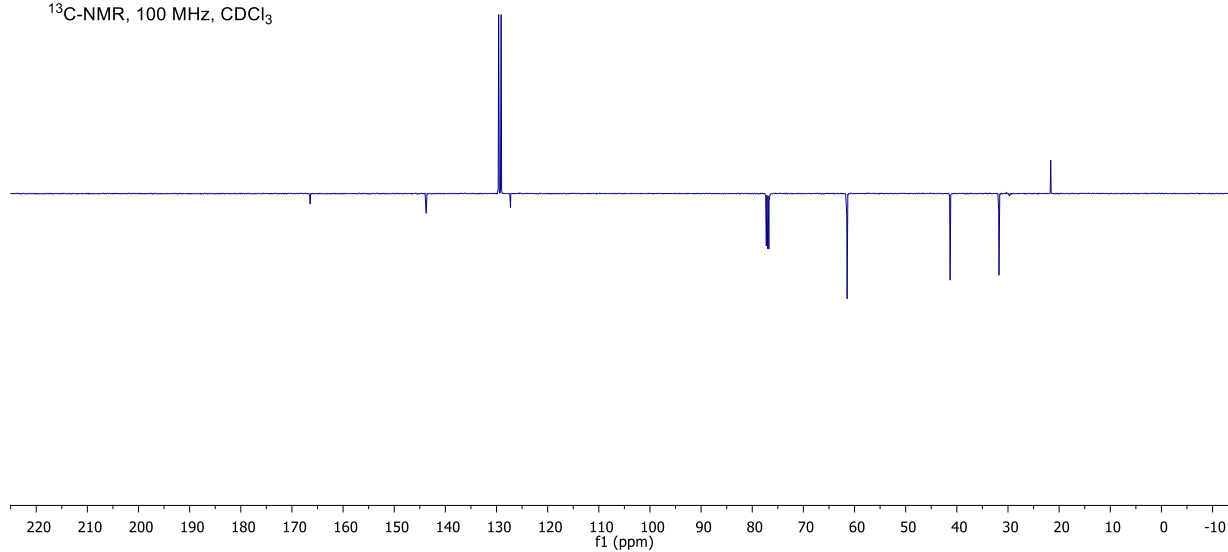
Compound 34



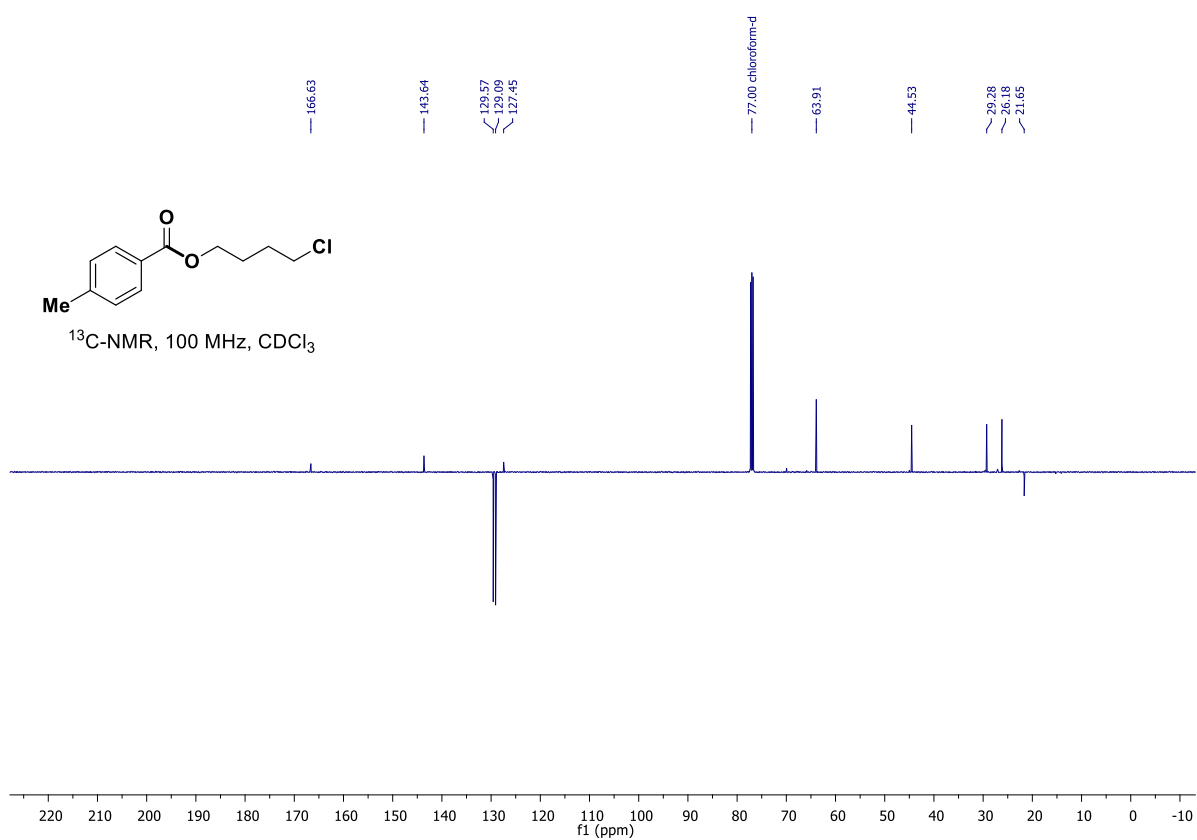
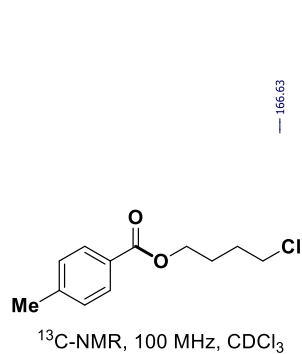
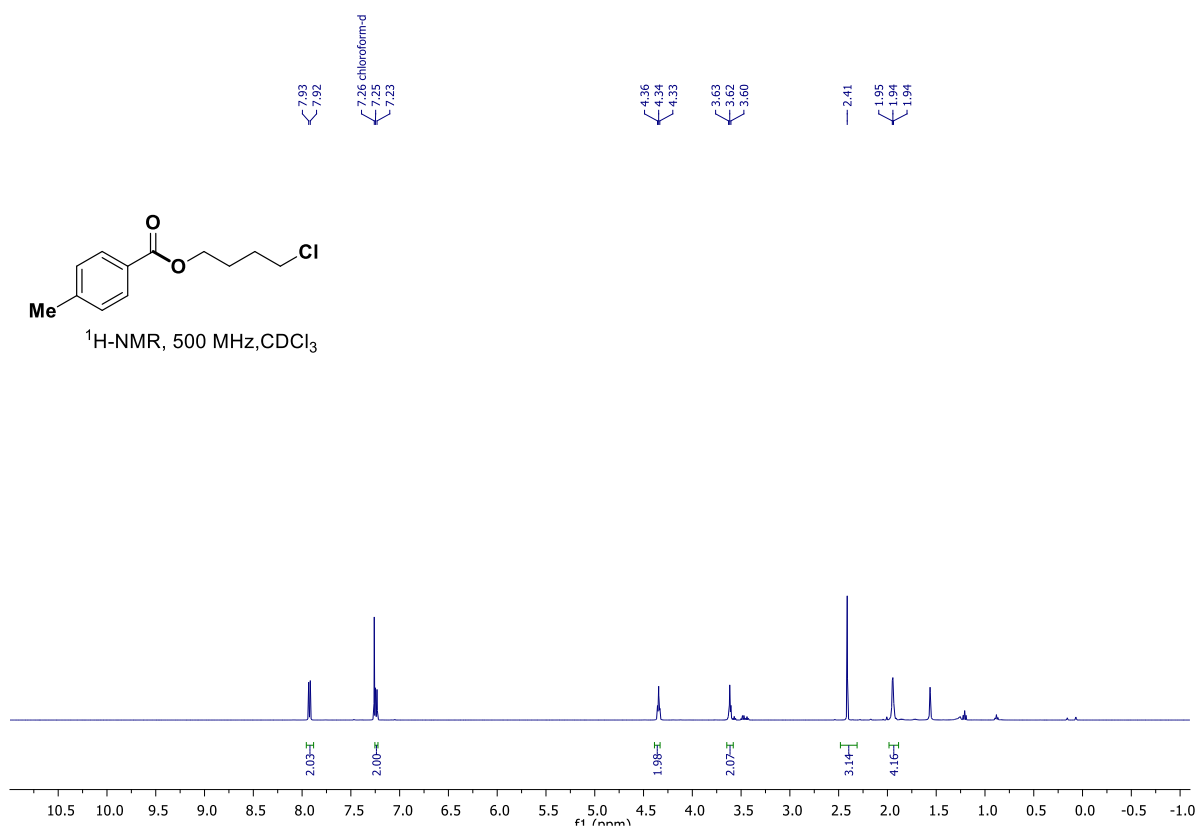
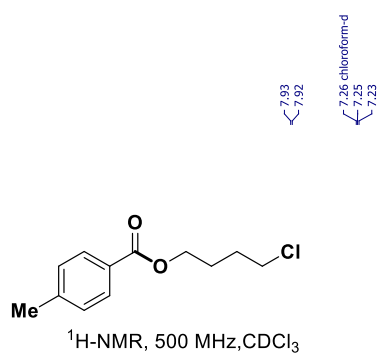
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 500 MHz, CDCl_3



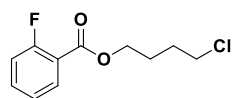
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



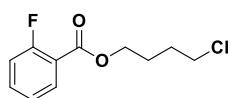
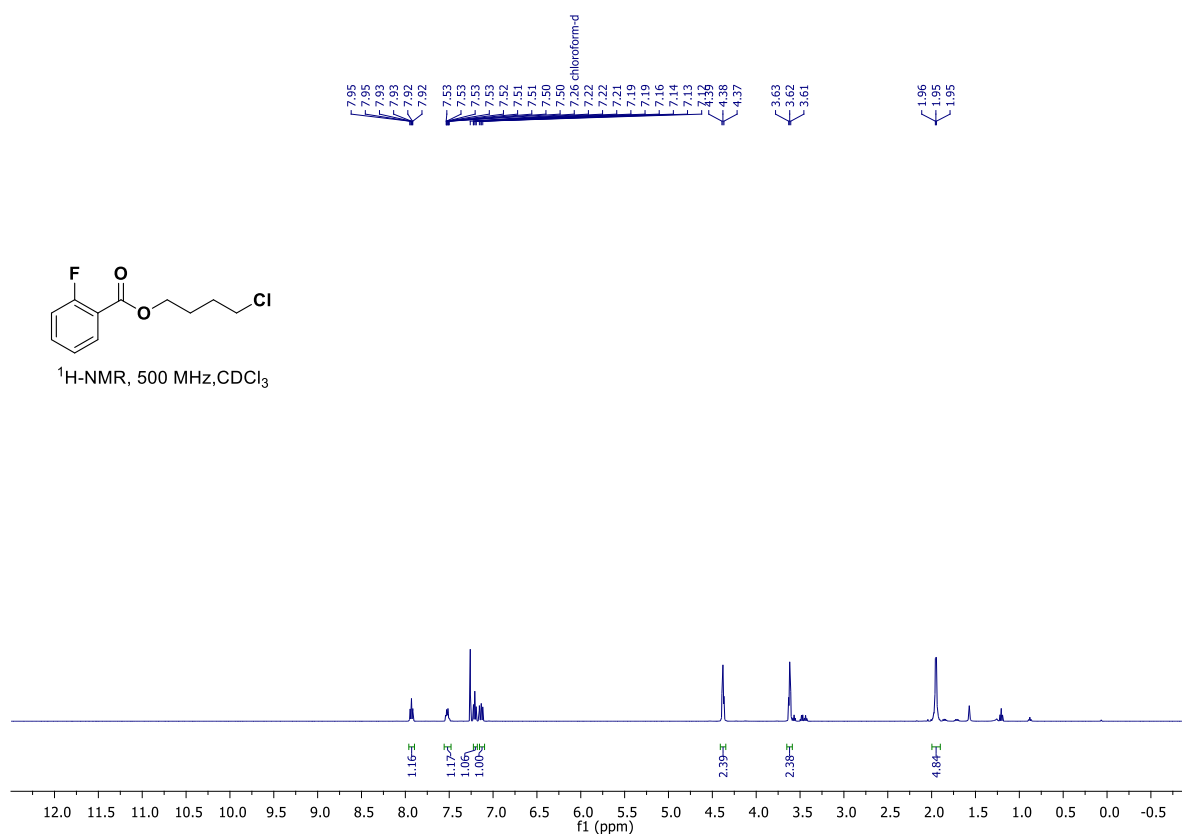
Compound 35



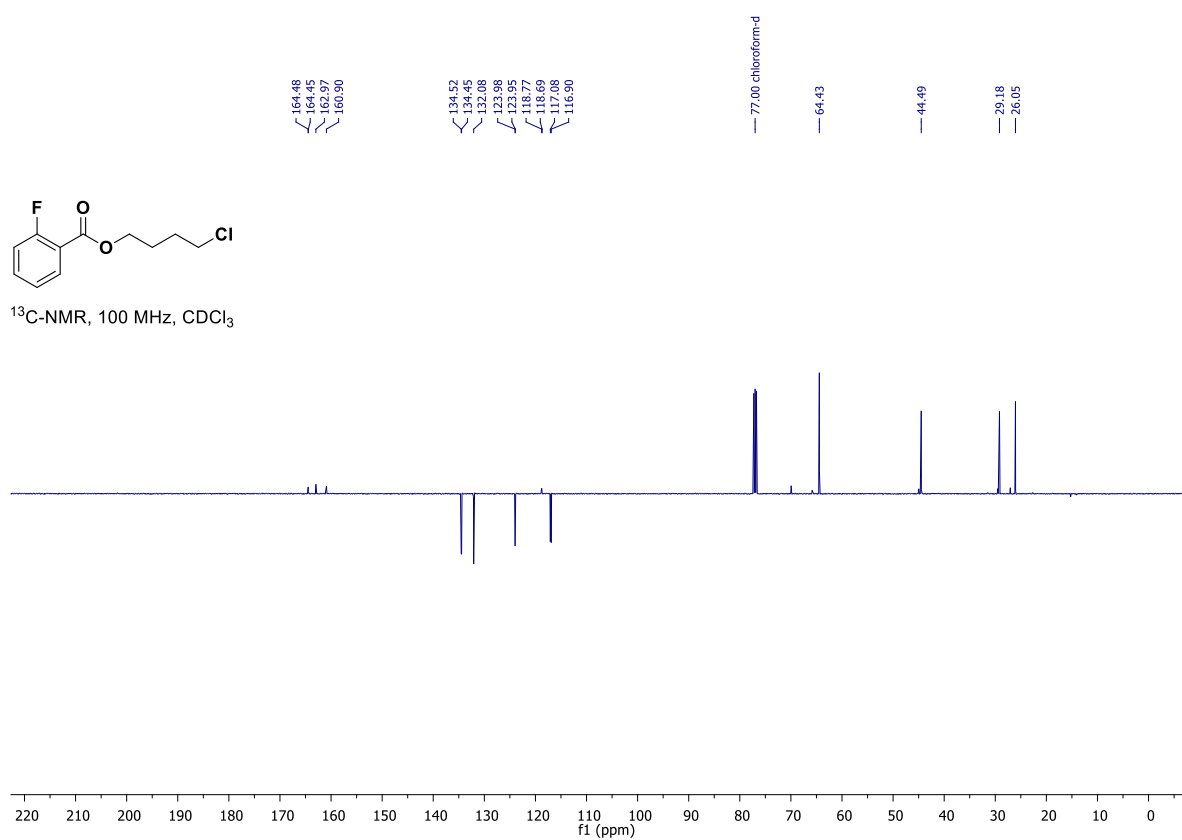
Compound 36



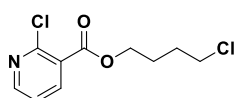
¹H-NMR, 500 MHz, CDCl₃



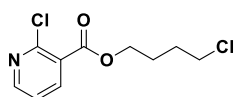
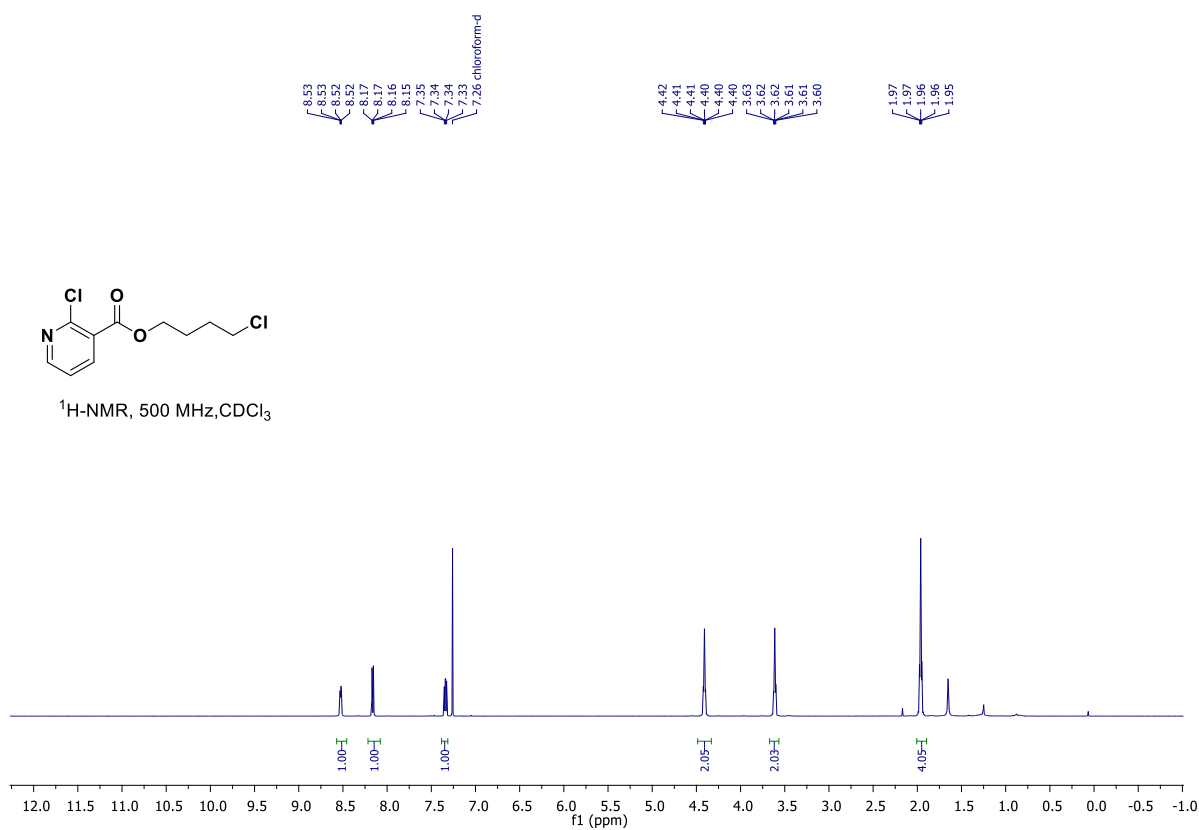
¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃



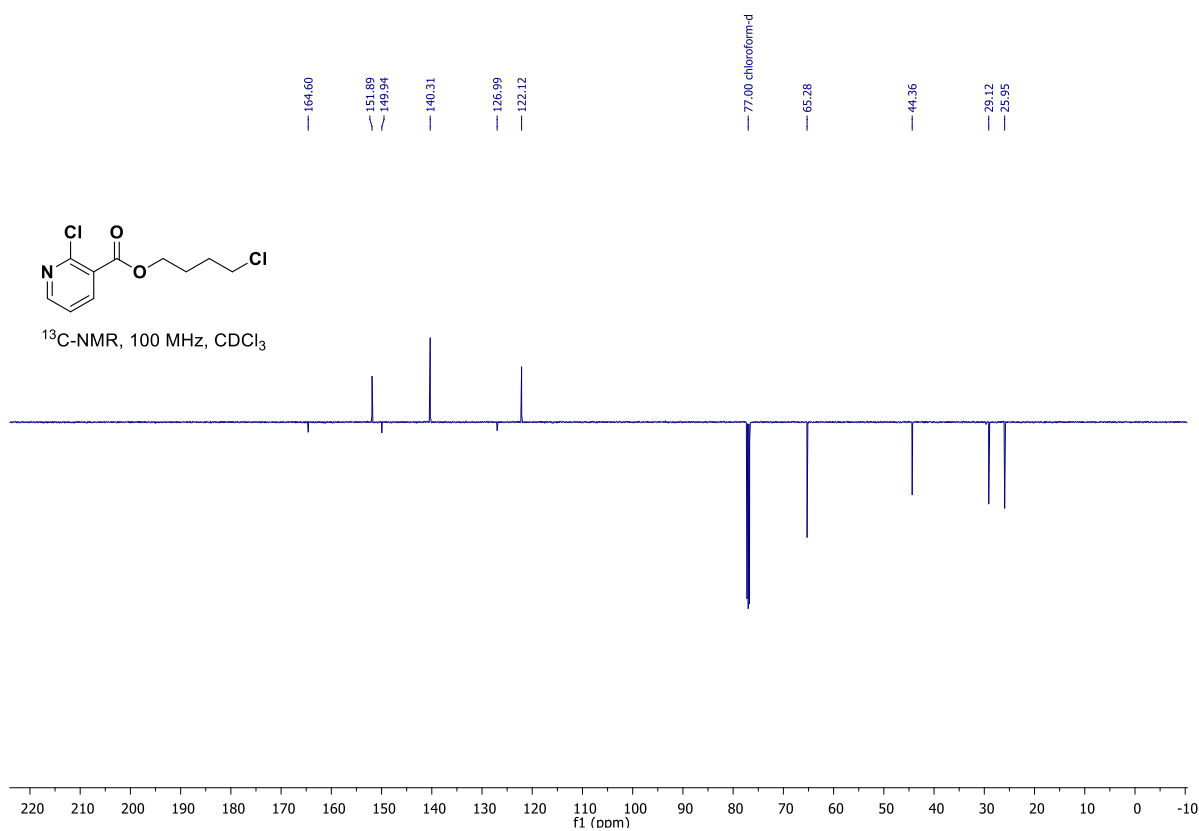
Compound 37



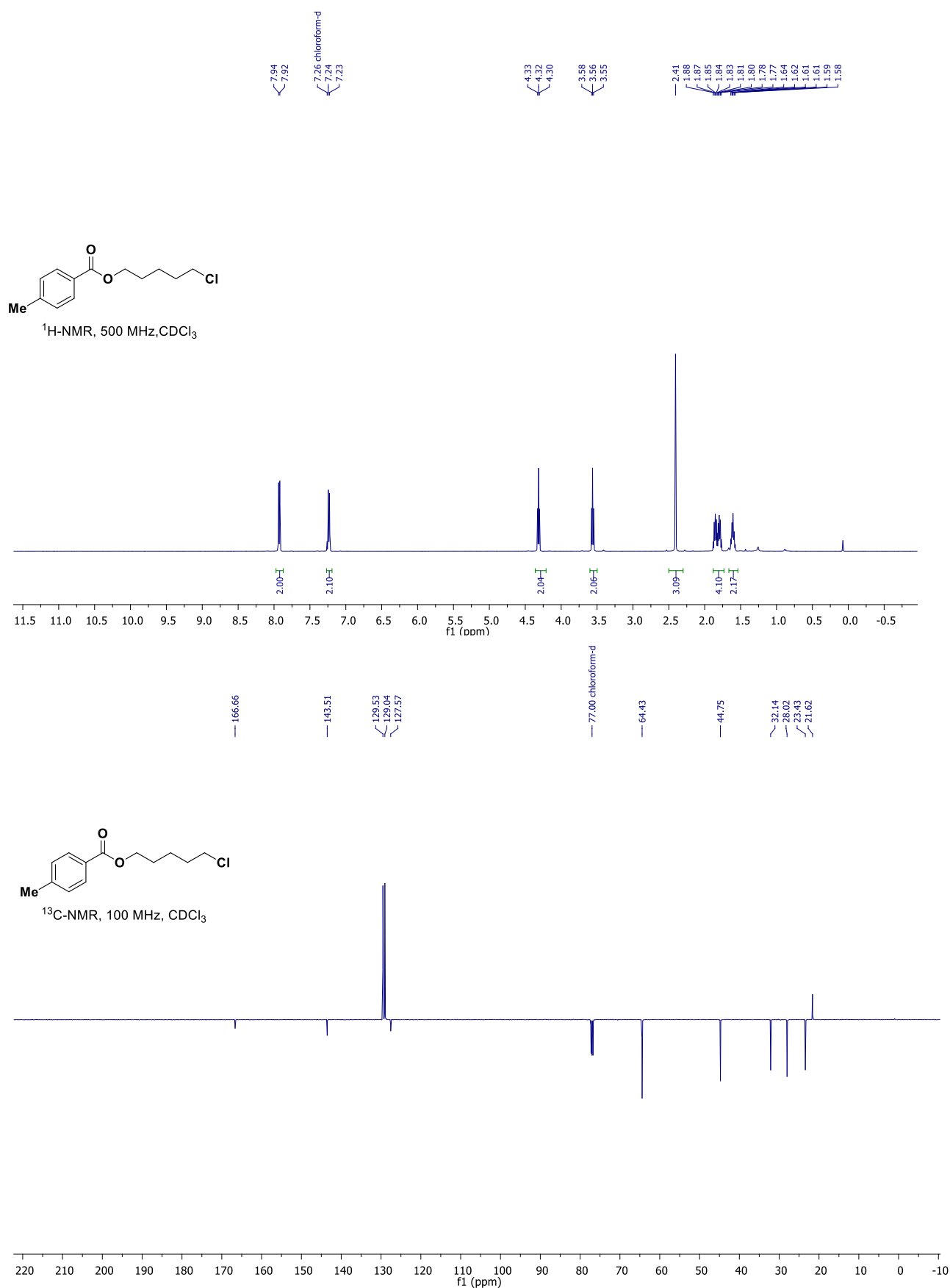
¹H-NMR, 500 MHz, CDCl₃



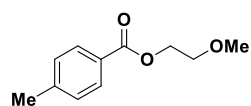
¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃



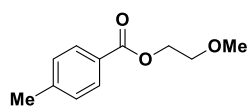
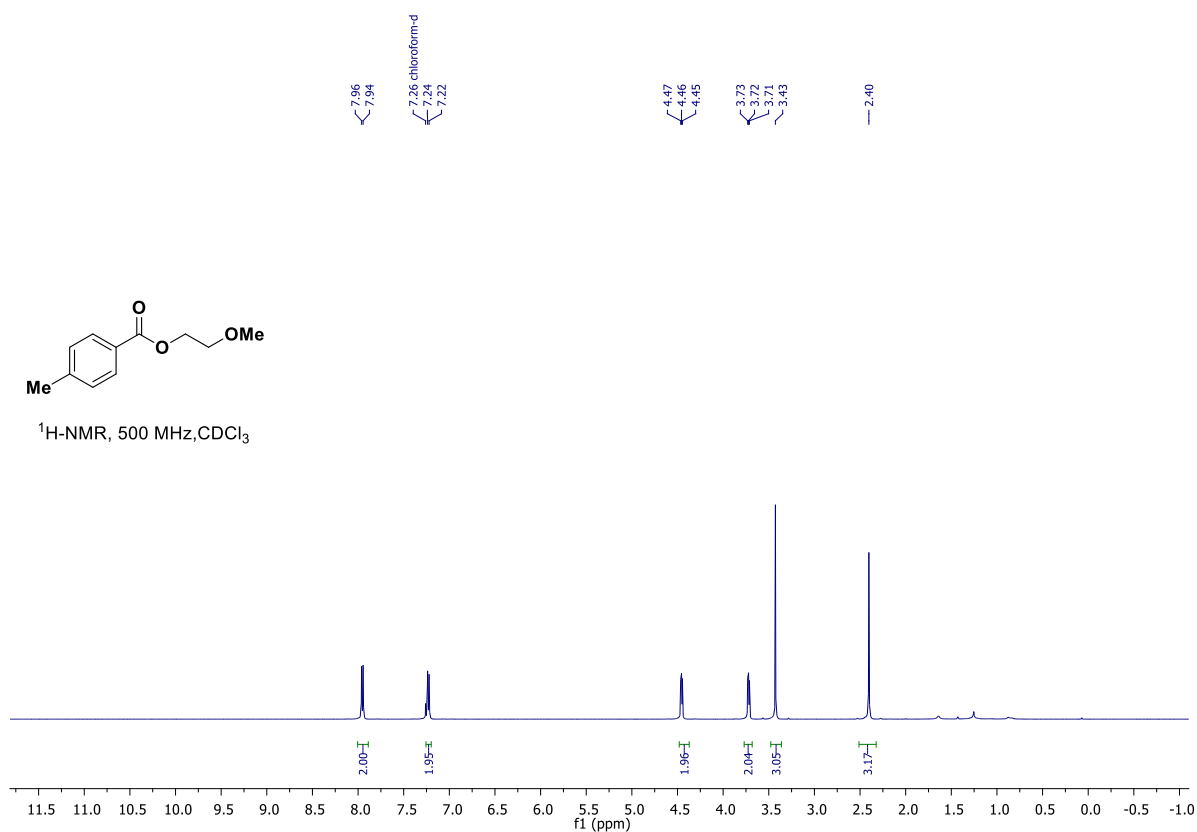
Compound 38



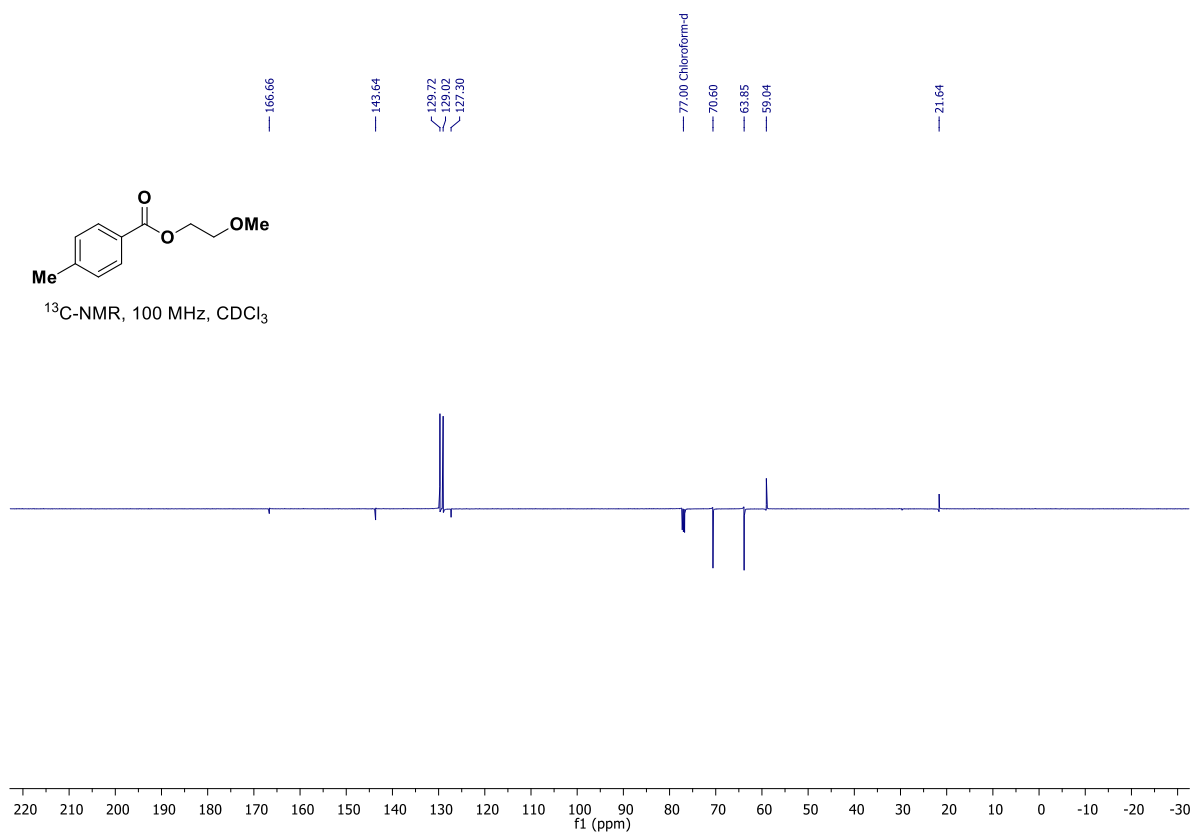
Compound 39



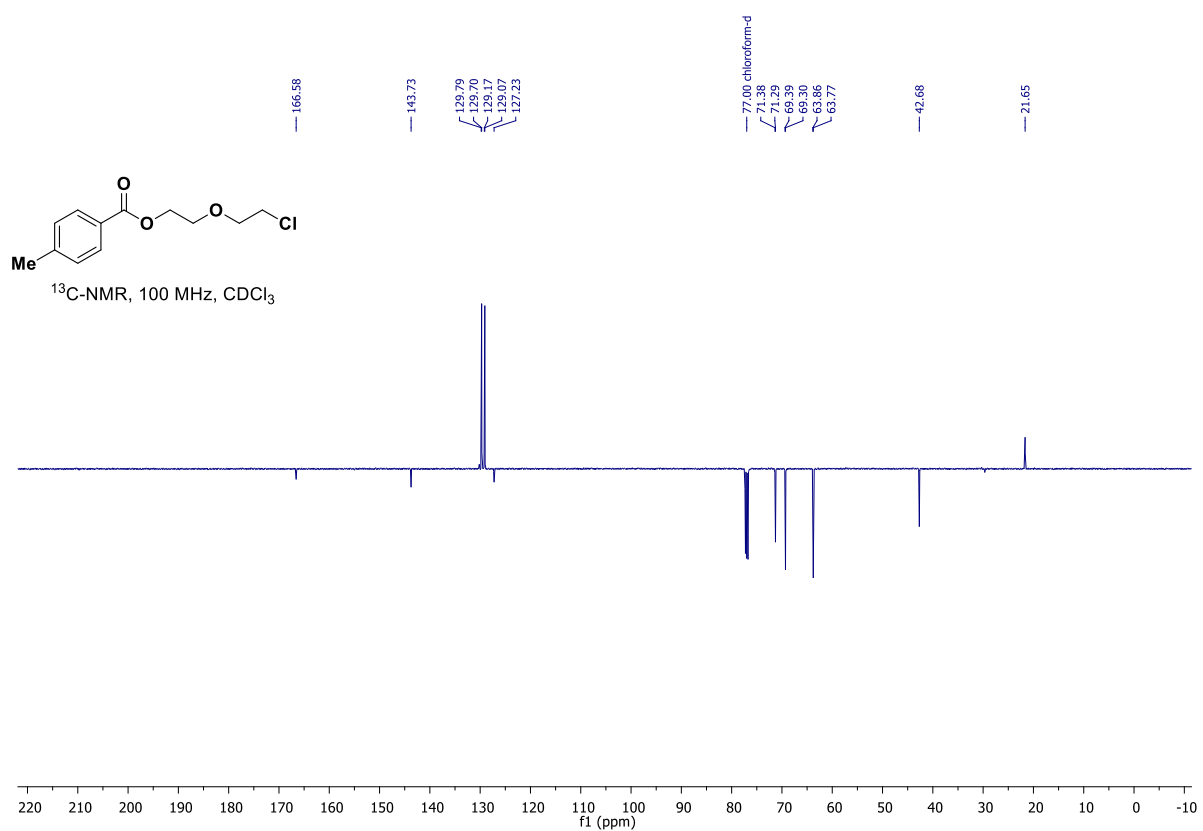
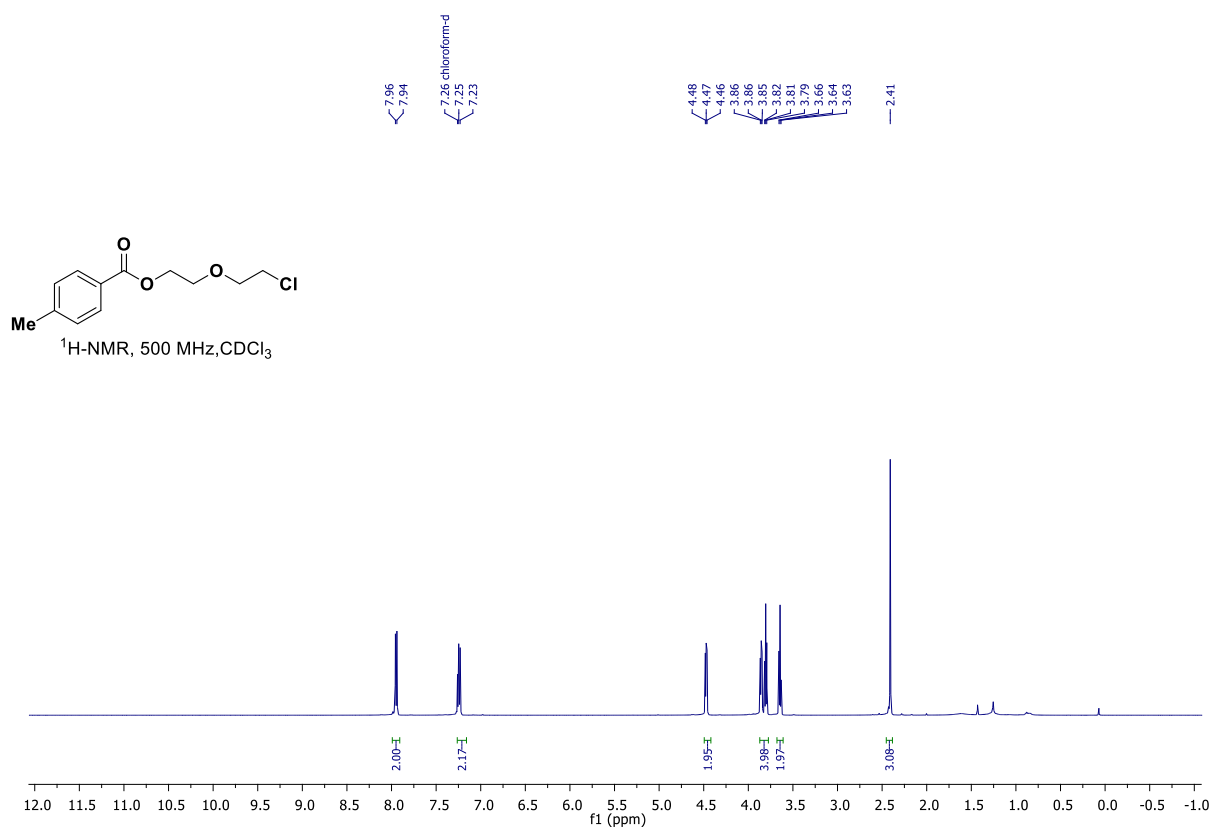
¹H-NMR, 500 MHz, CDCl₃



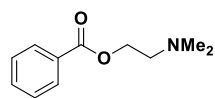
¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃



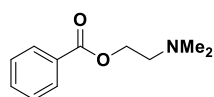
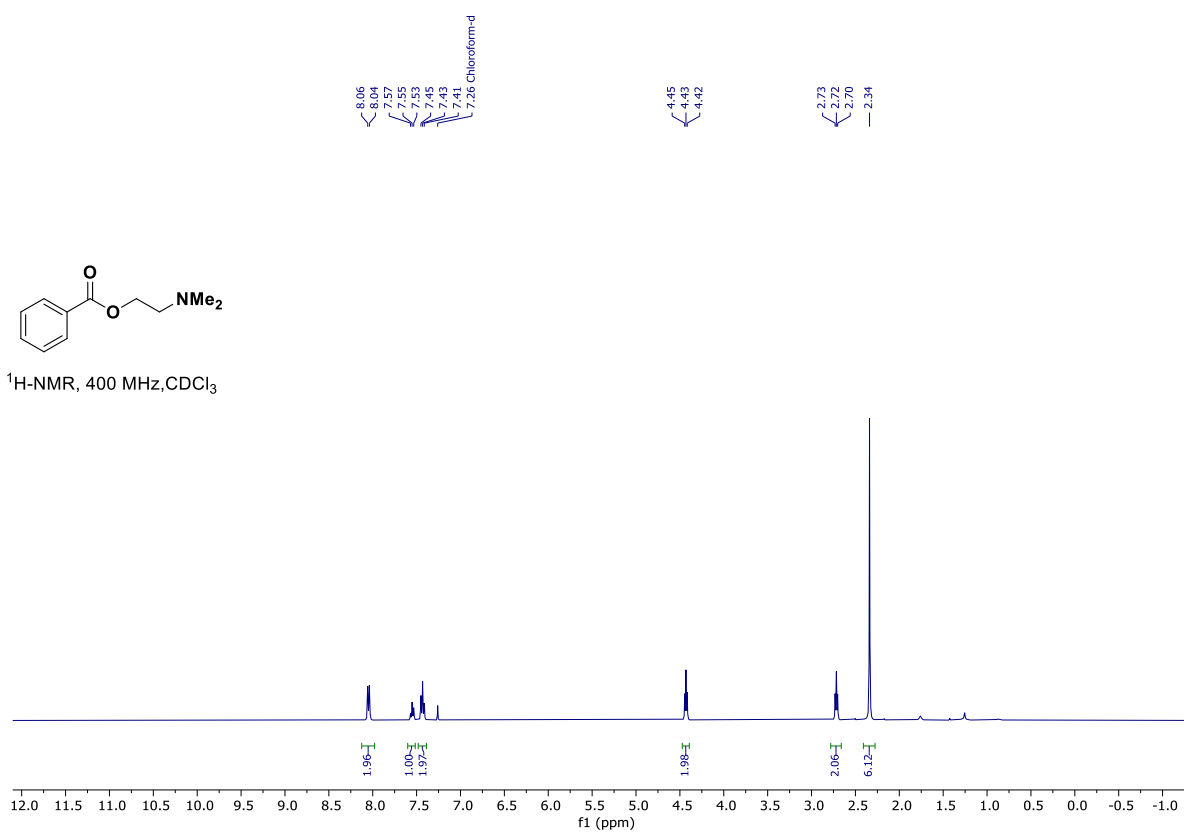
Compound 40



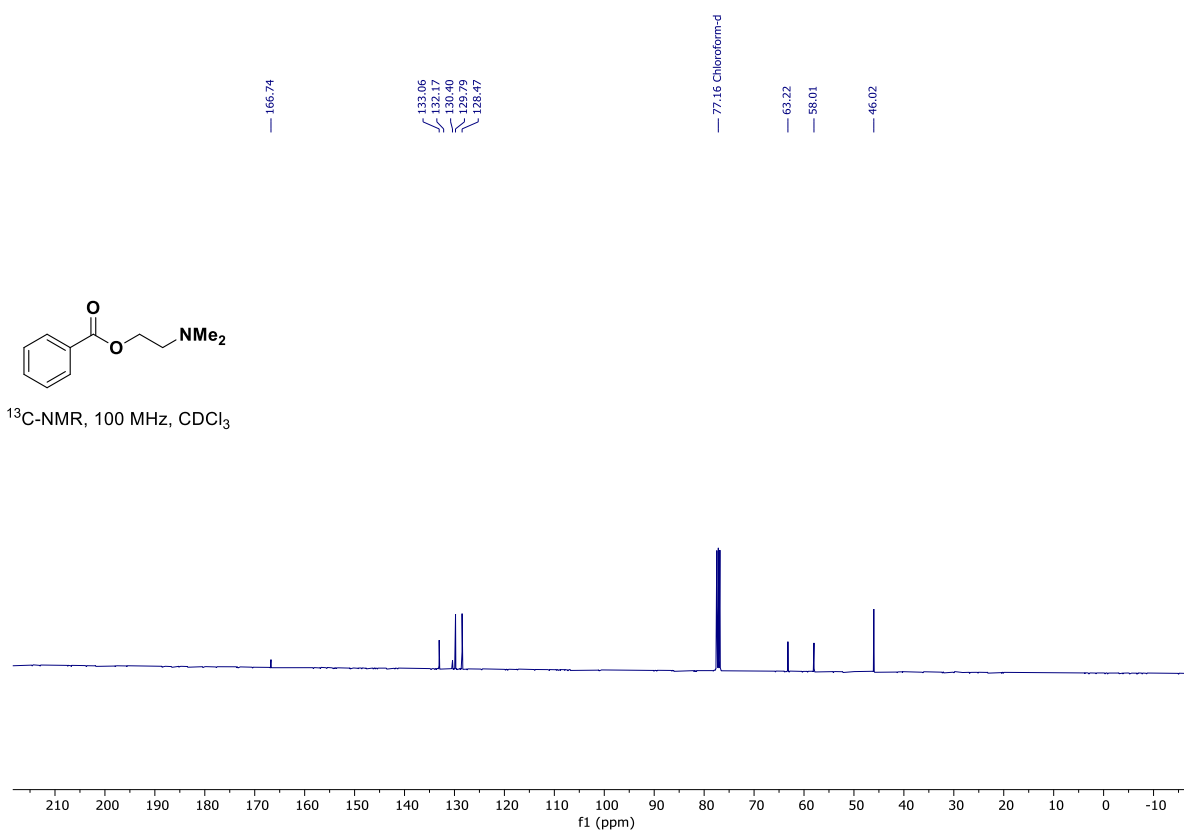
Compound 41



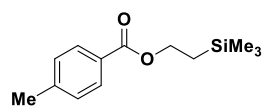
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 400 MHz, CDCl_3



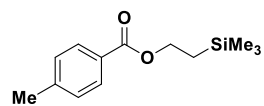
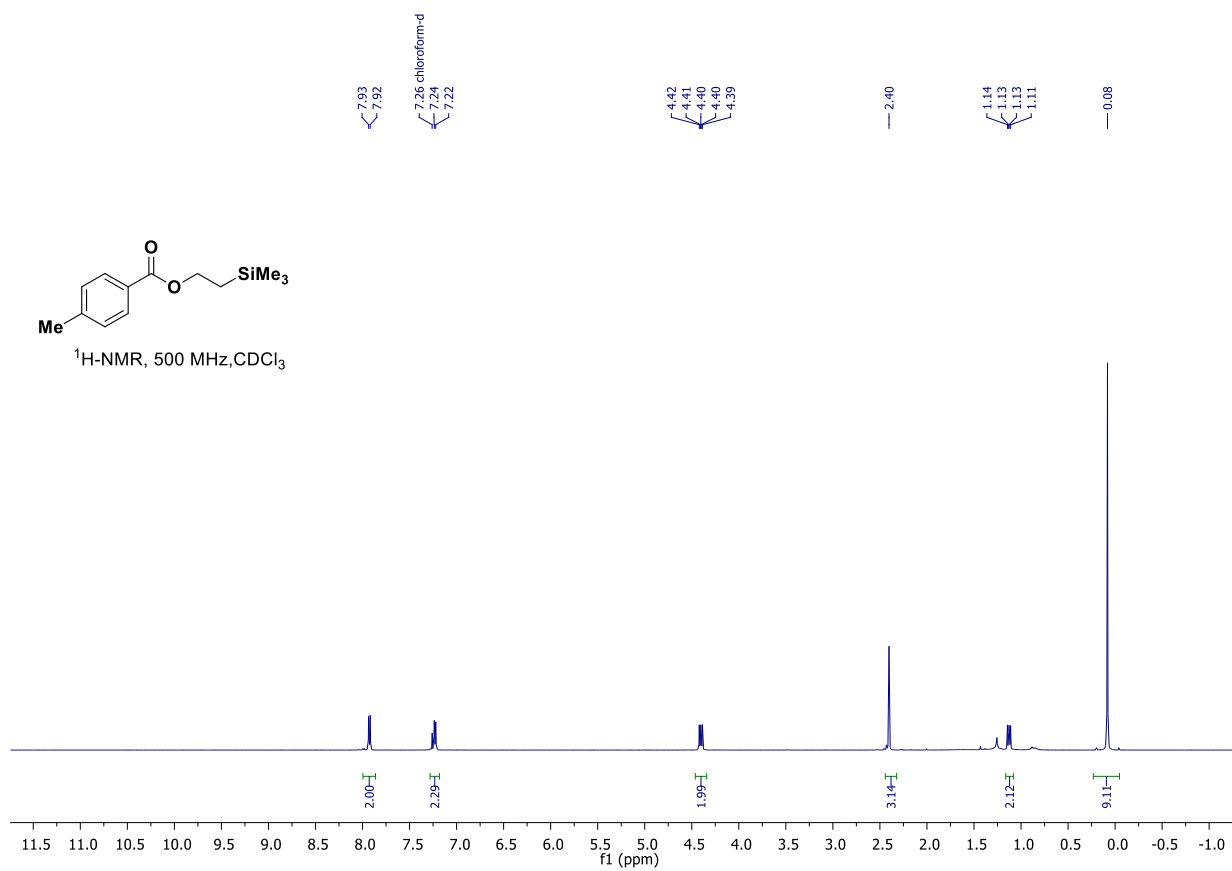
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



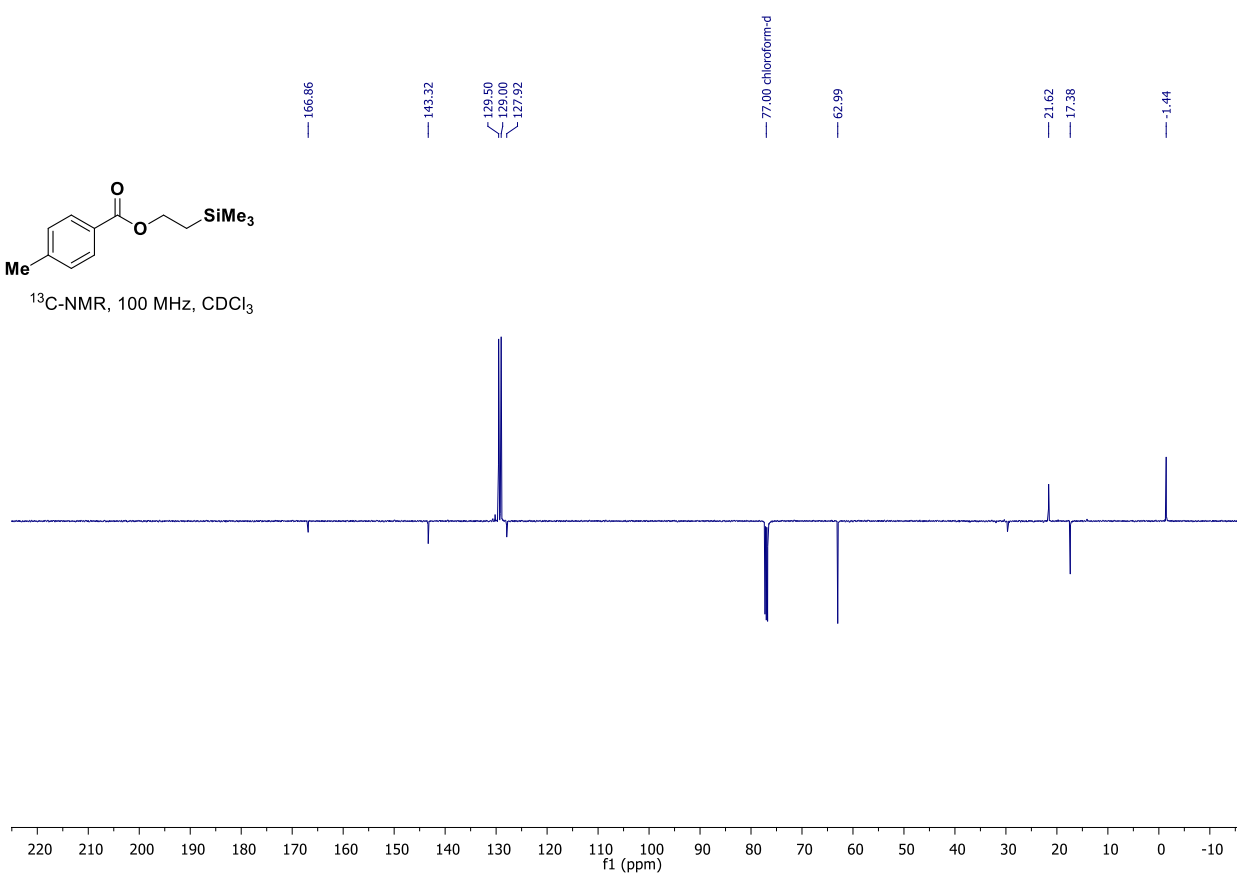
Compound 42



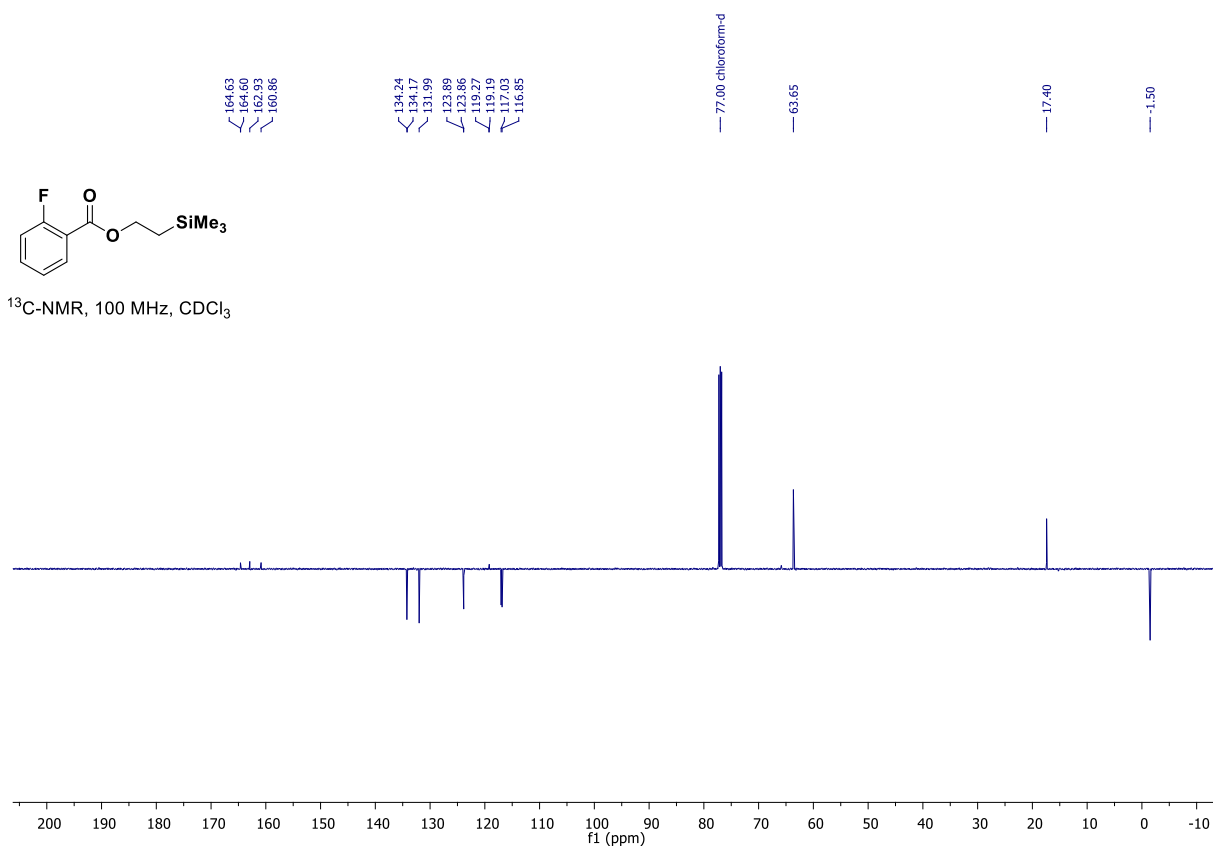
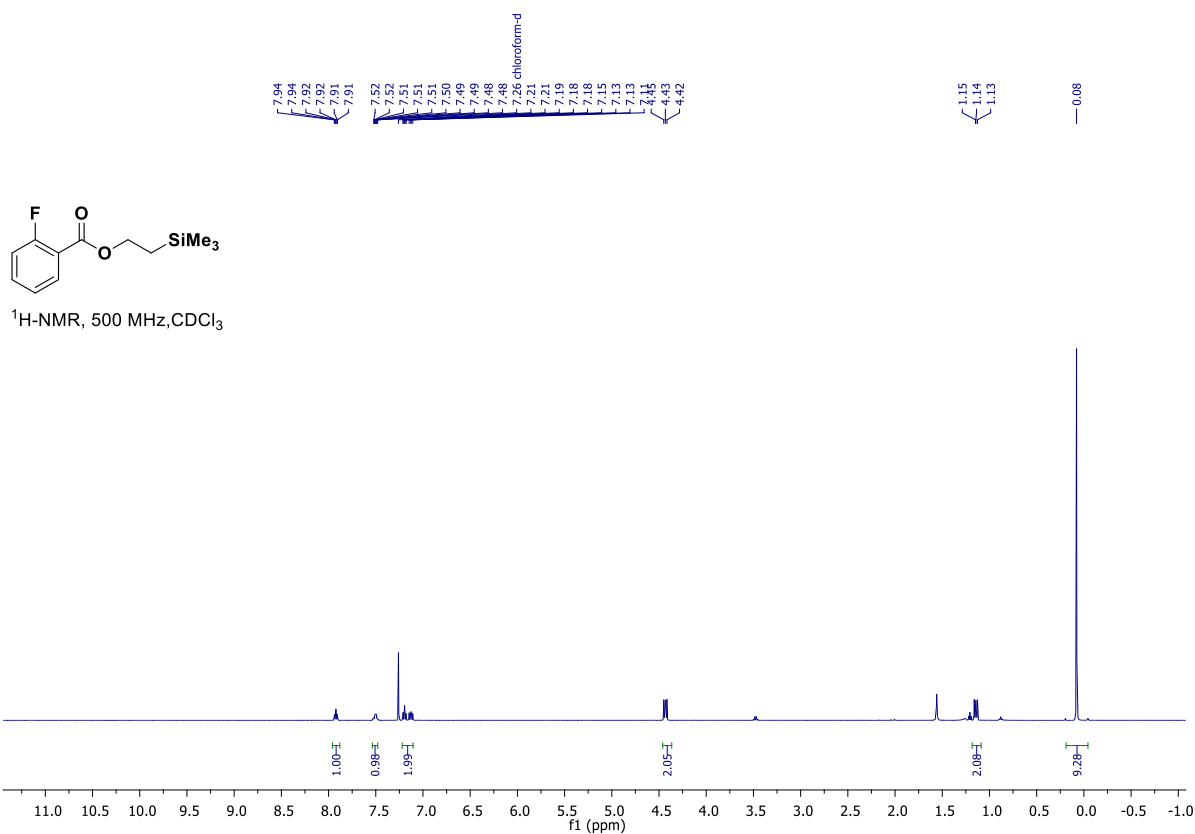
¹H-NMR, 500 MHz, CDCl₃



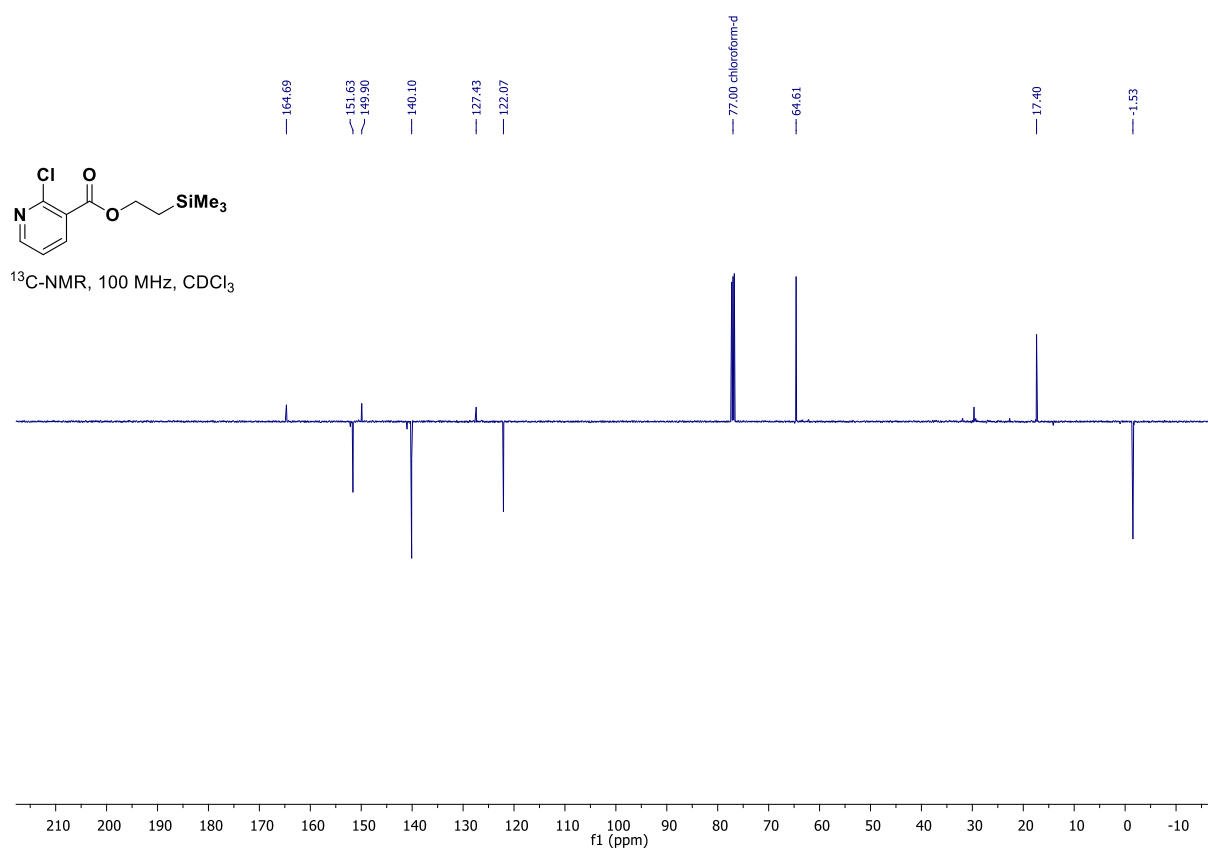
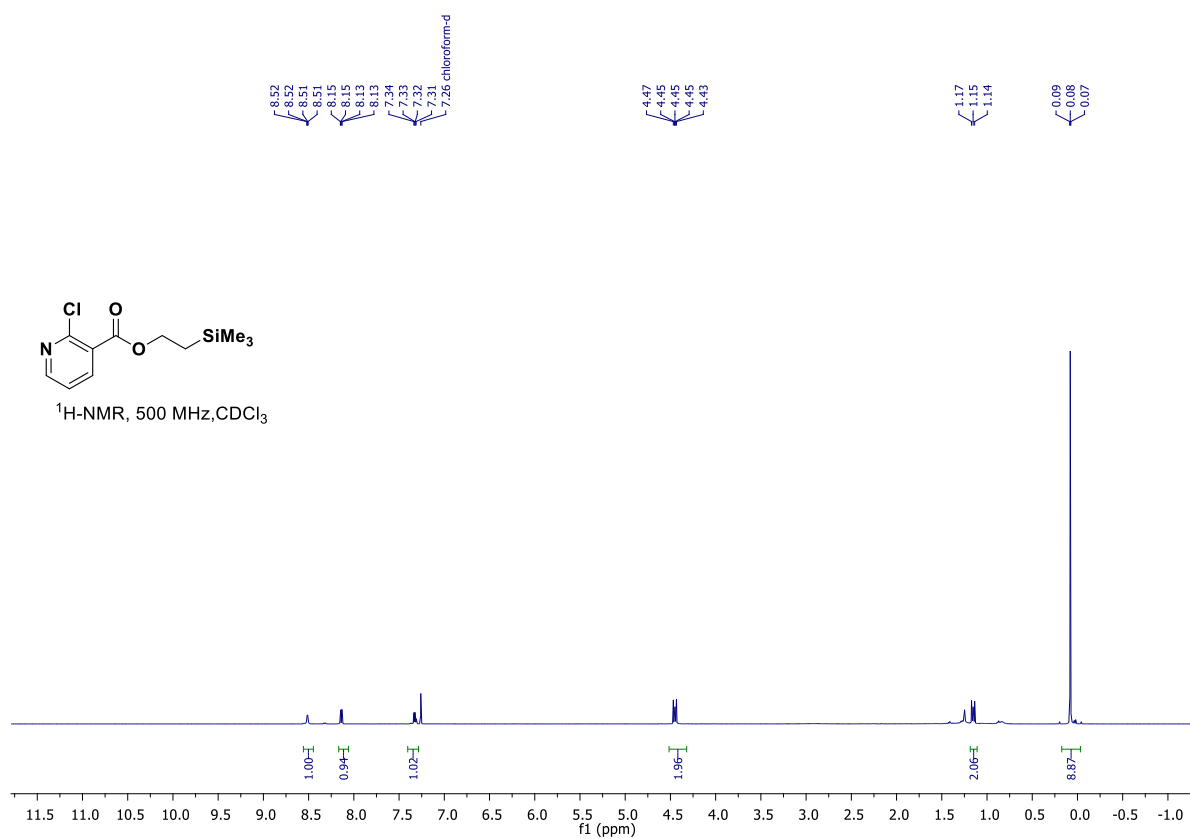
¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃



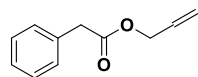
Compound 43



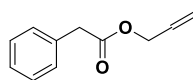
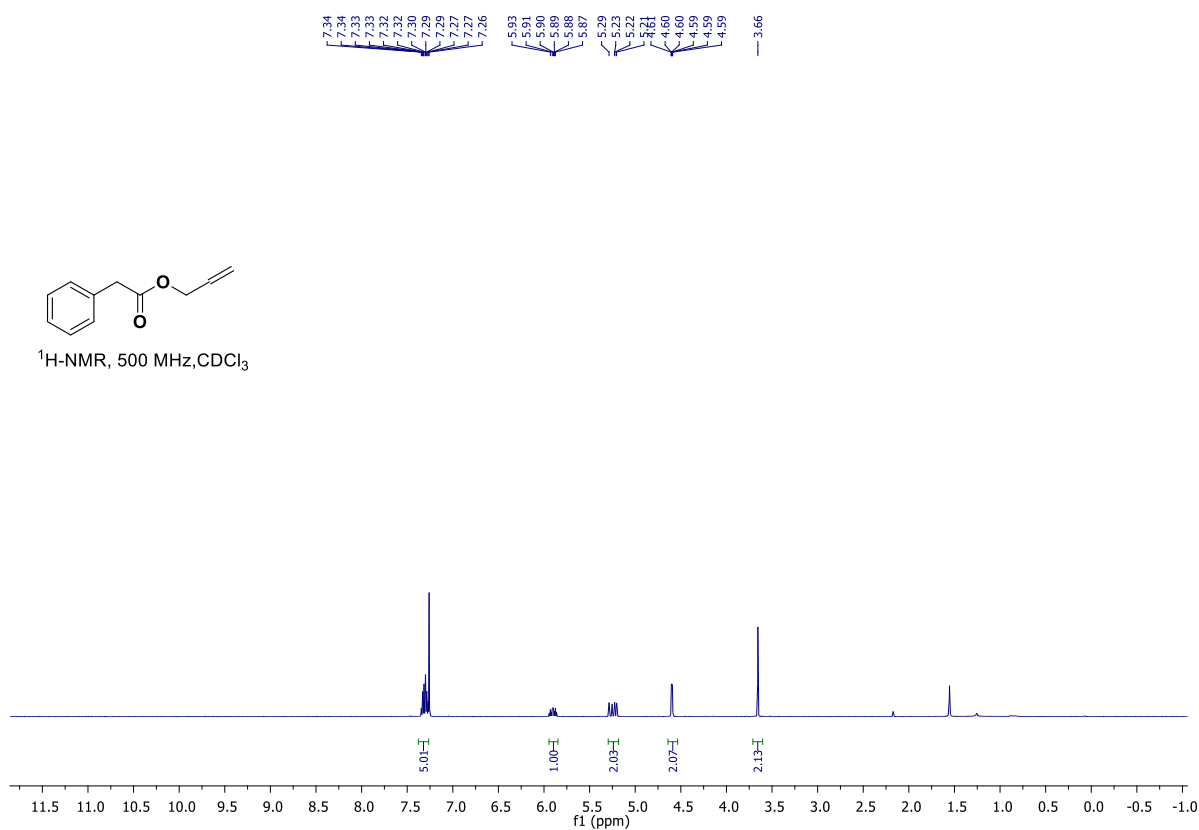
Compound 44



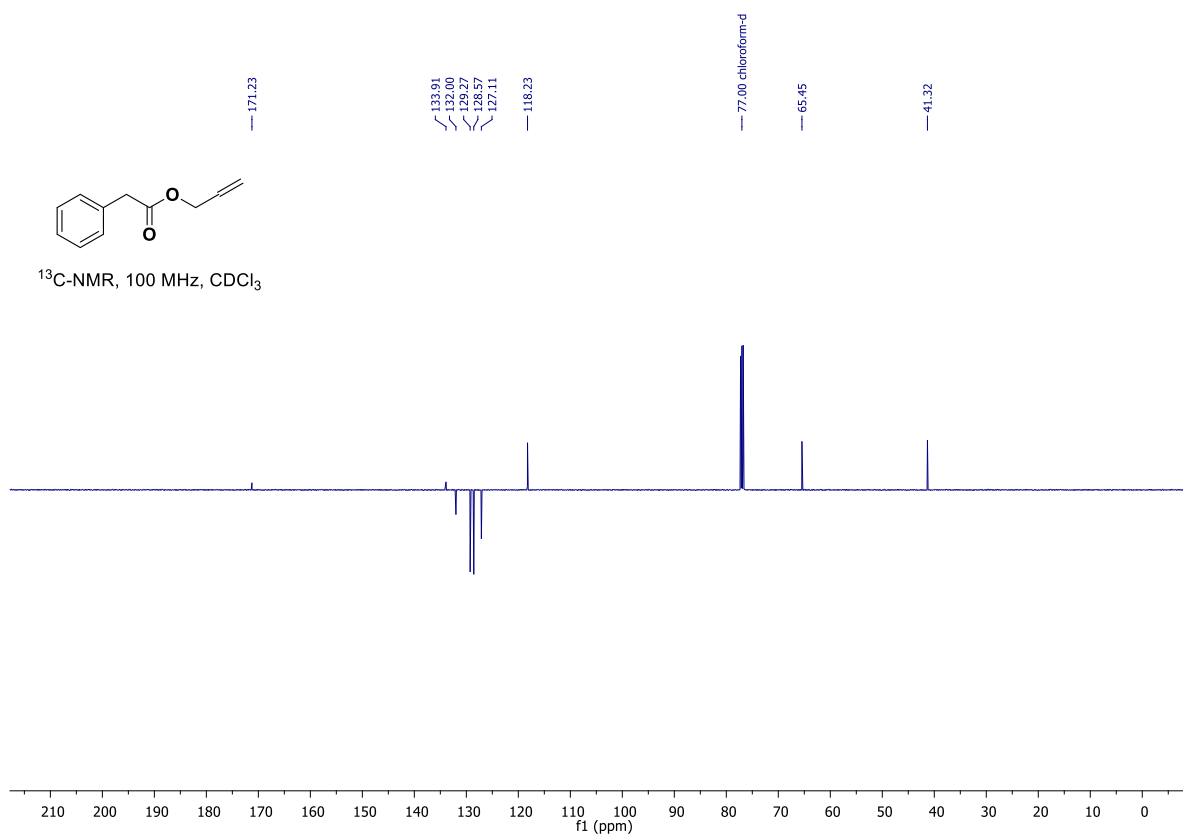
Compound 45



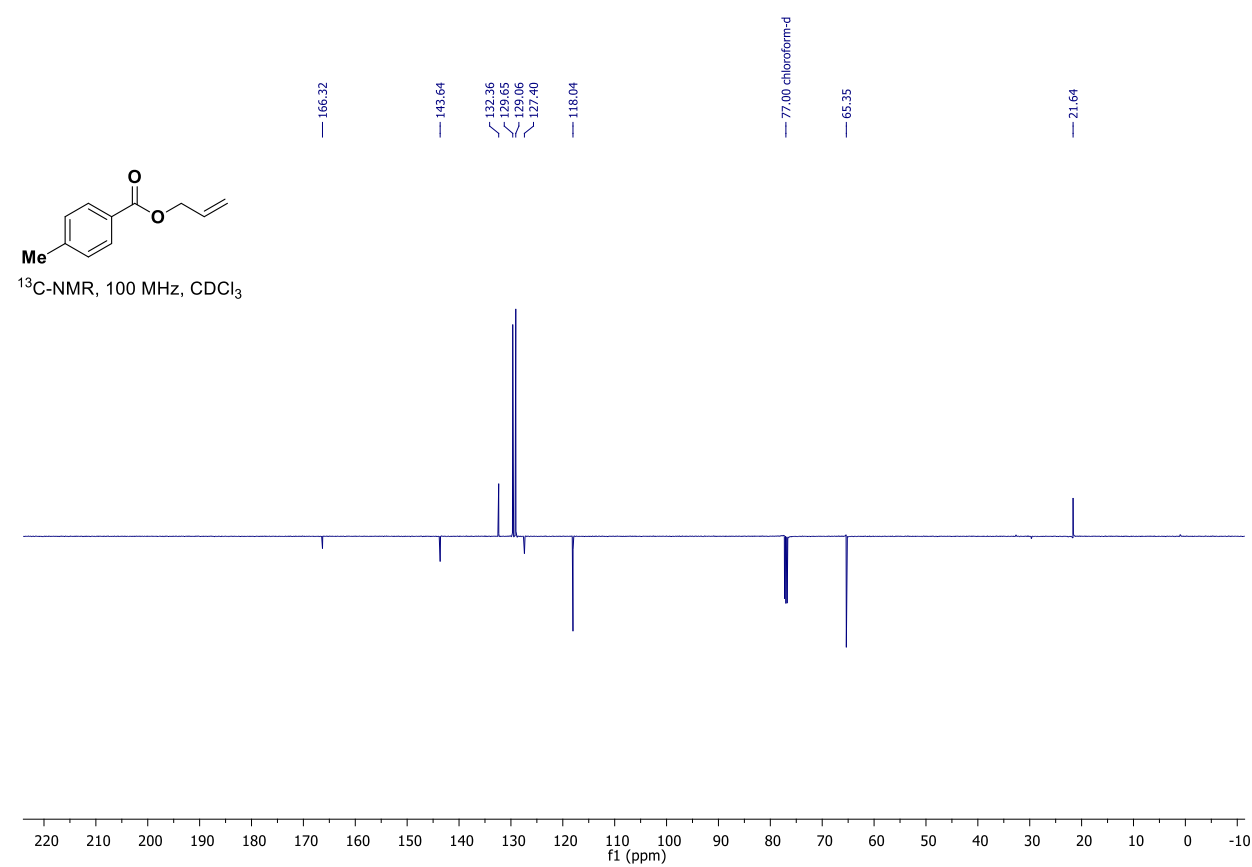
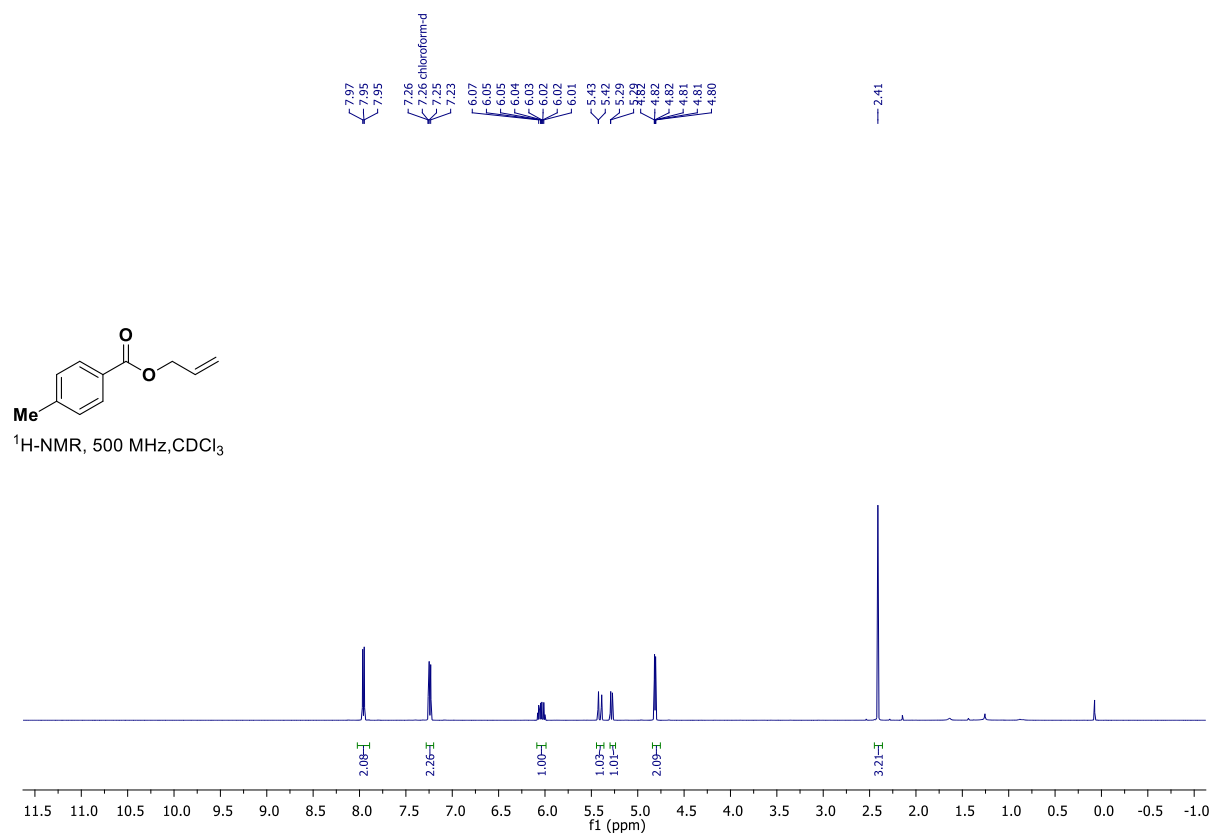
¹H-NMR, 500 MHz, CDCl₃



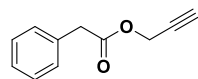
¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃



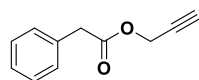
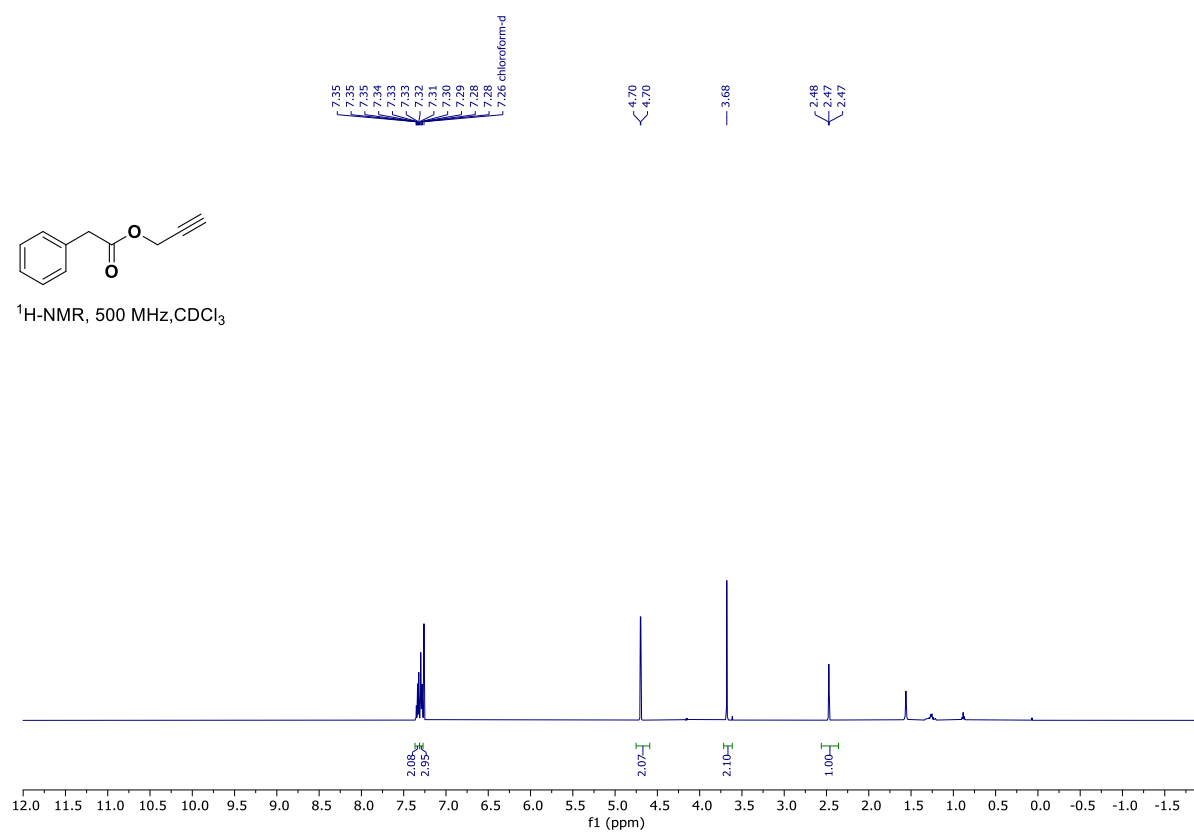
Compound 46



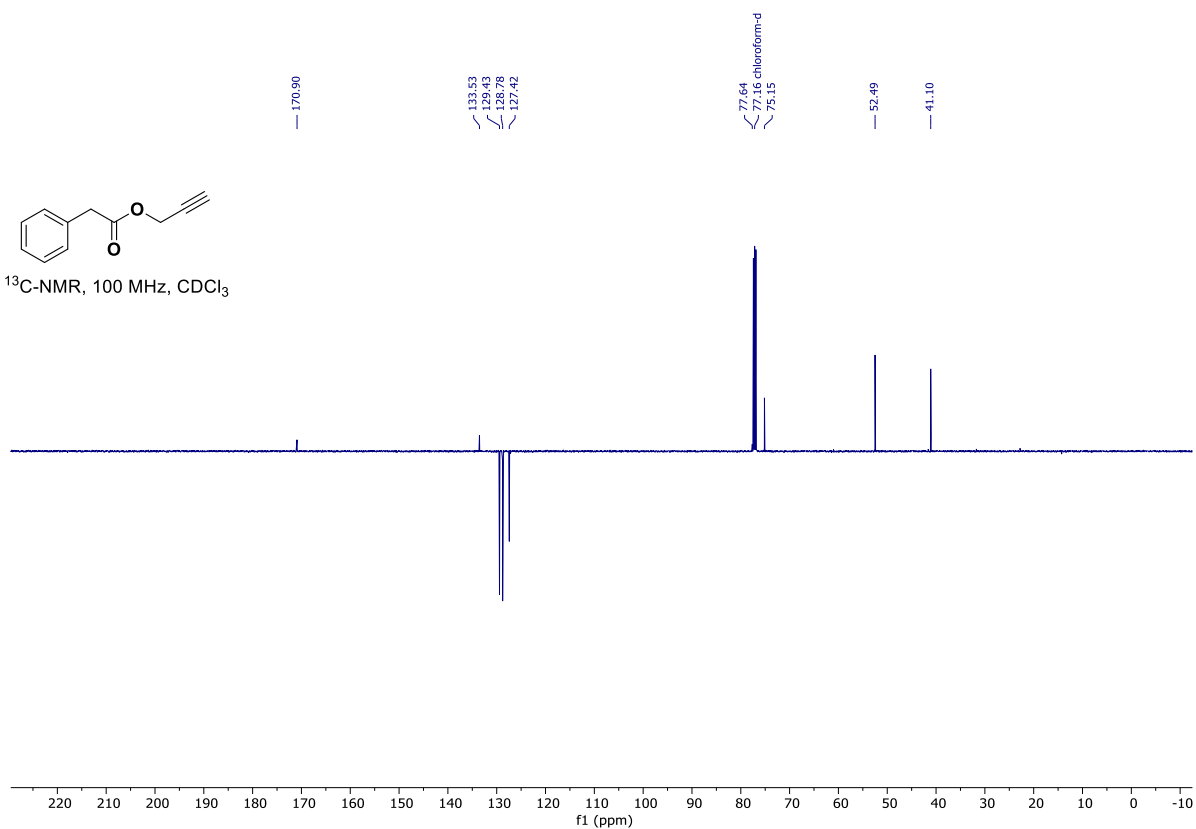
Compound 47



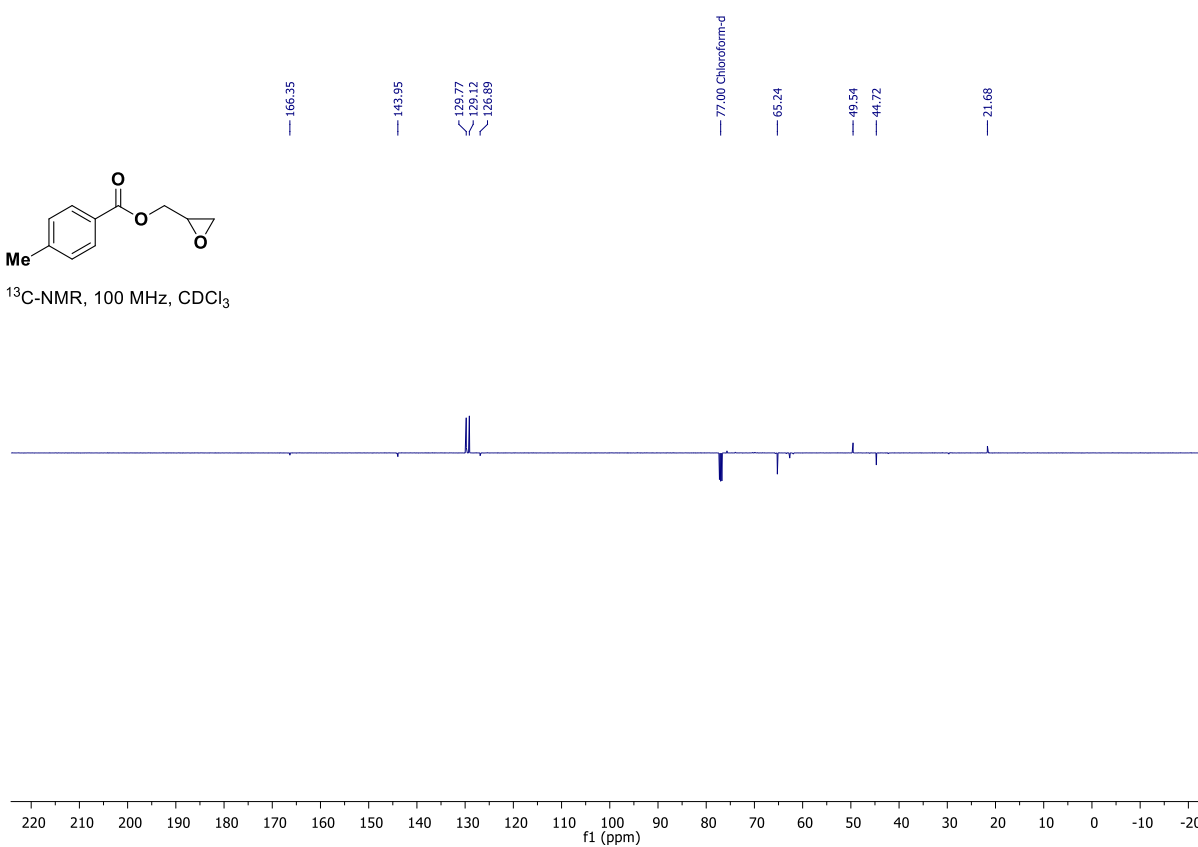
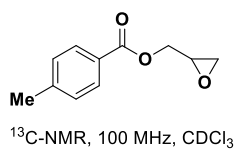
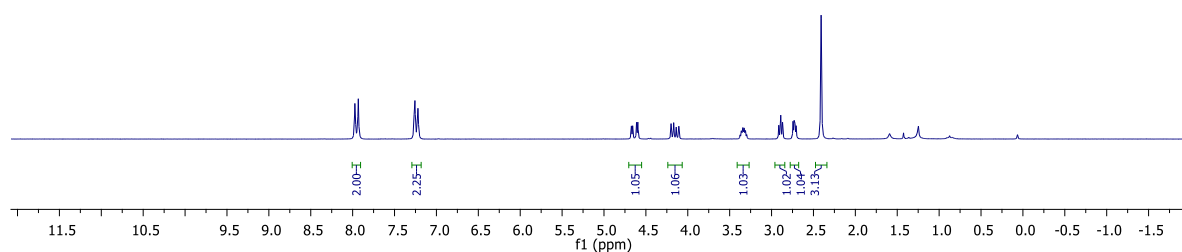
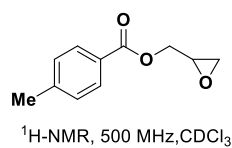
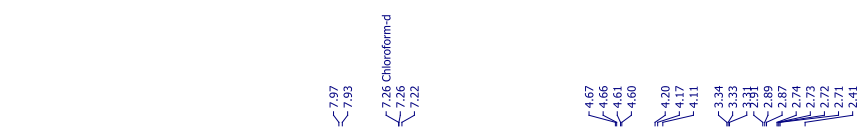
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 500 MHz, CDCl_3



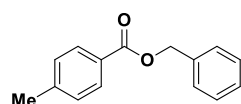
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



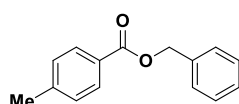
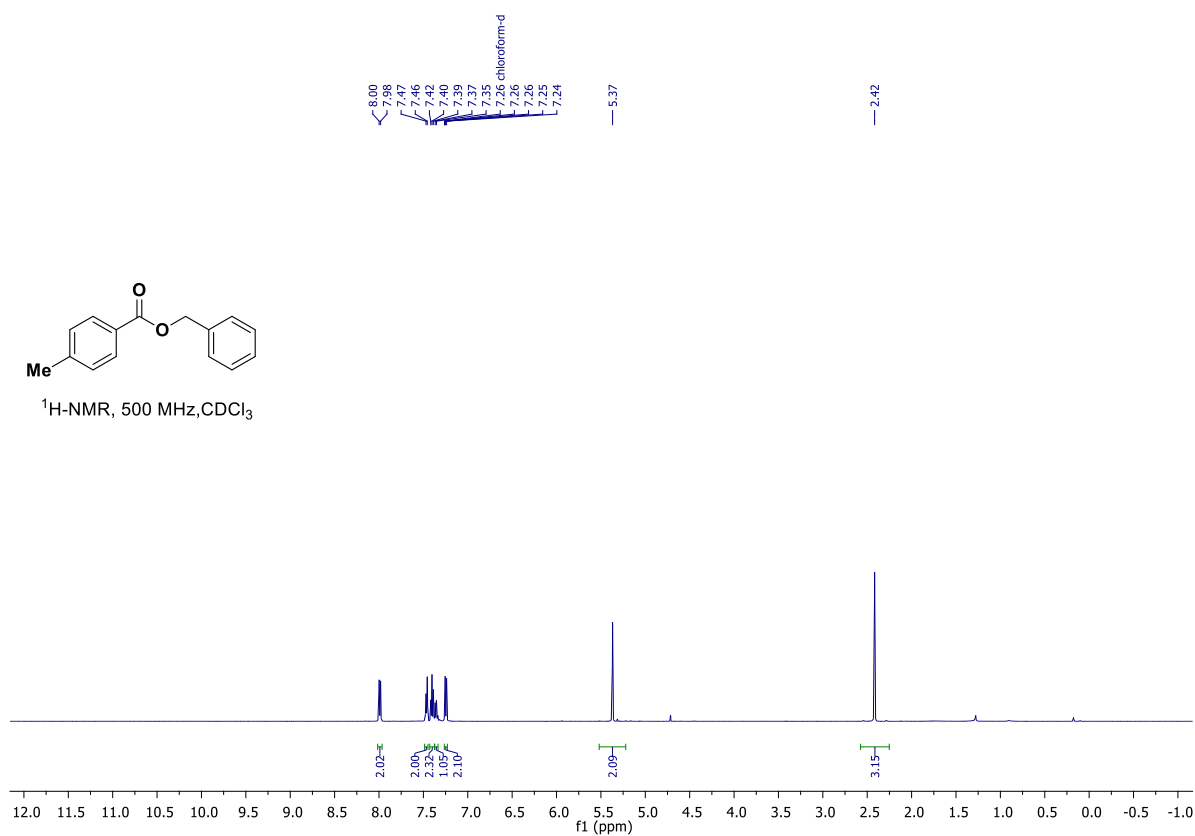
Compound 48



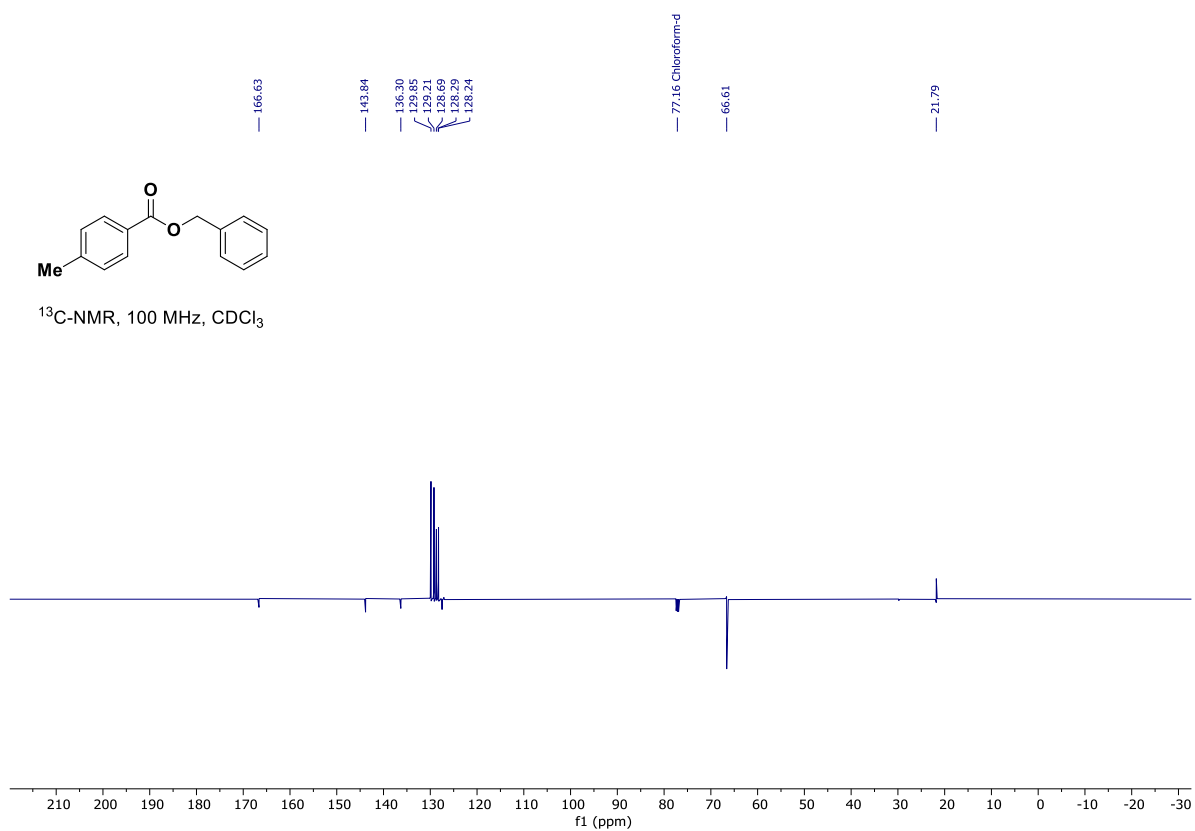
Compound 49



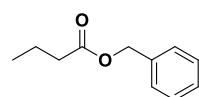
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 500 MHz, CDCl_3



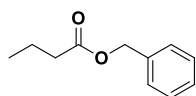
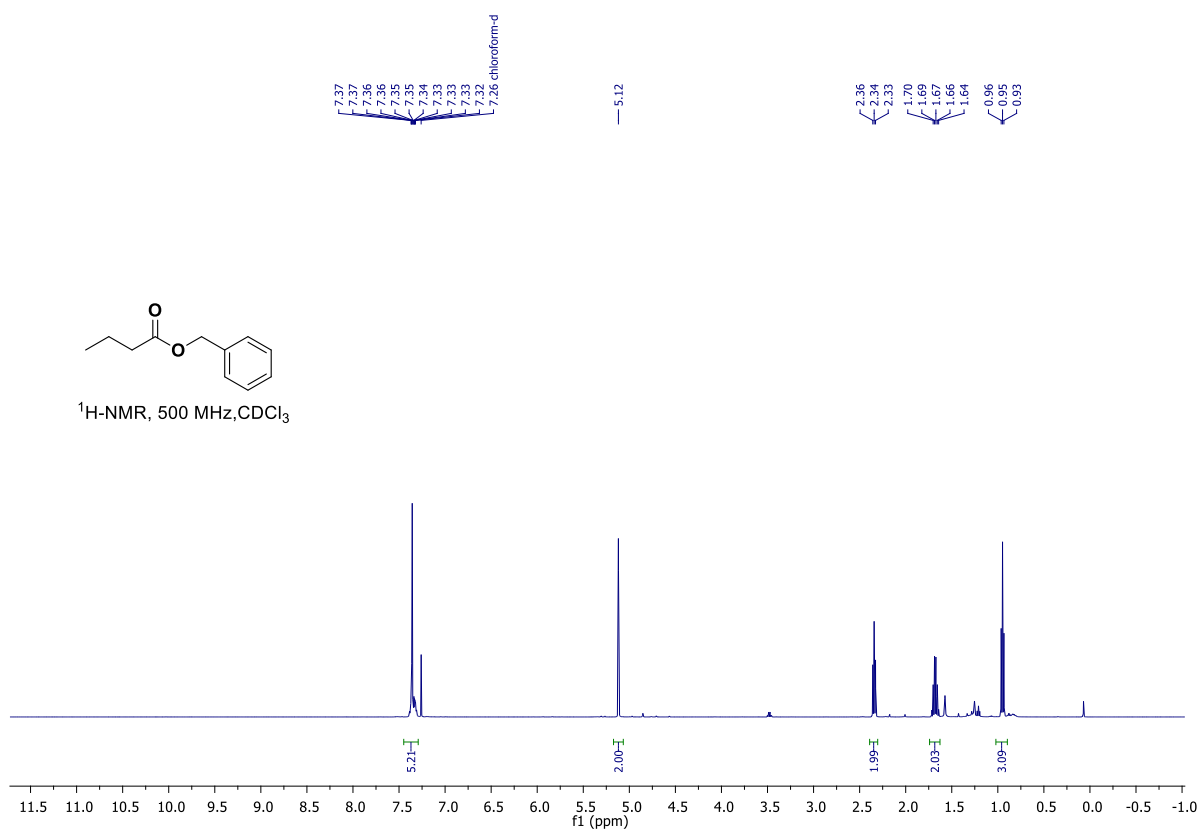
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



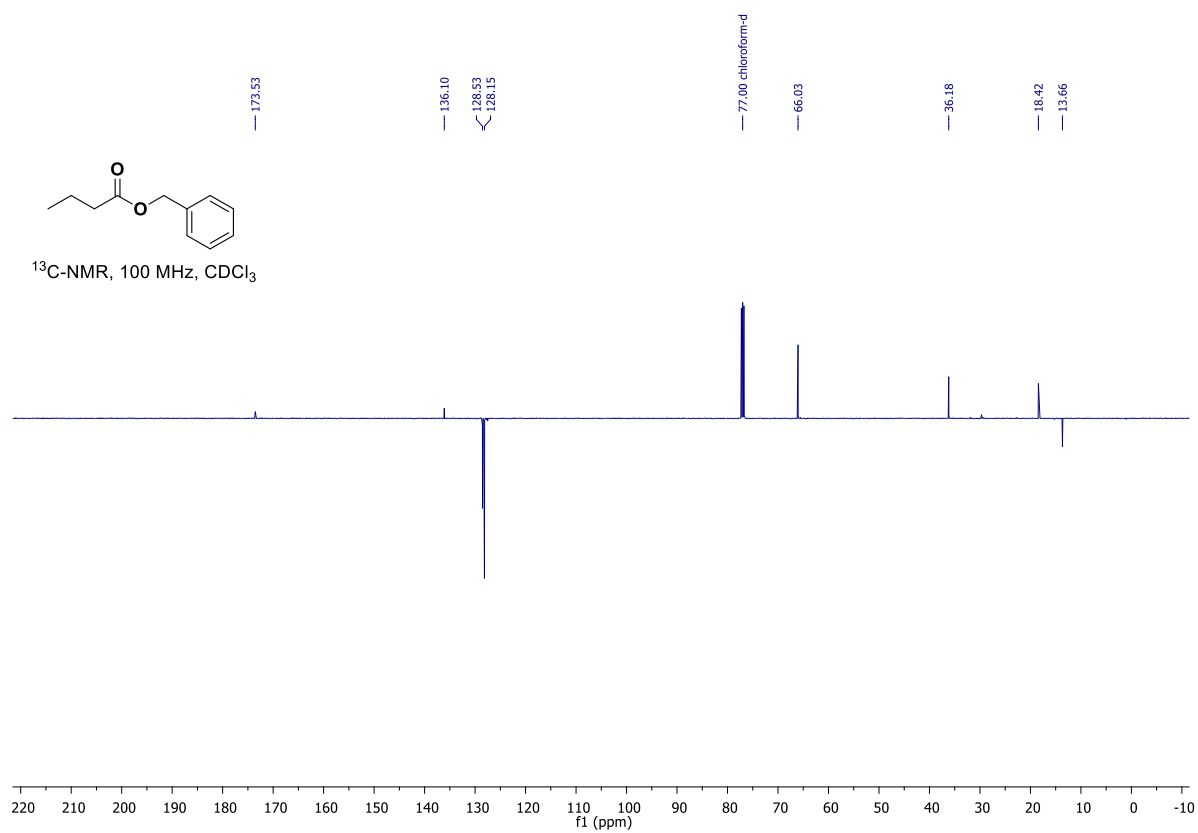
Compound 50



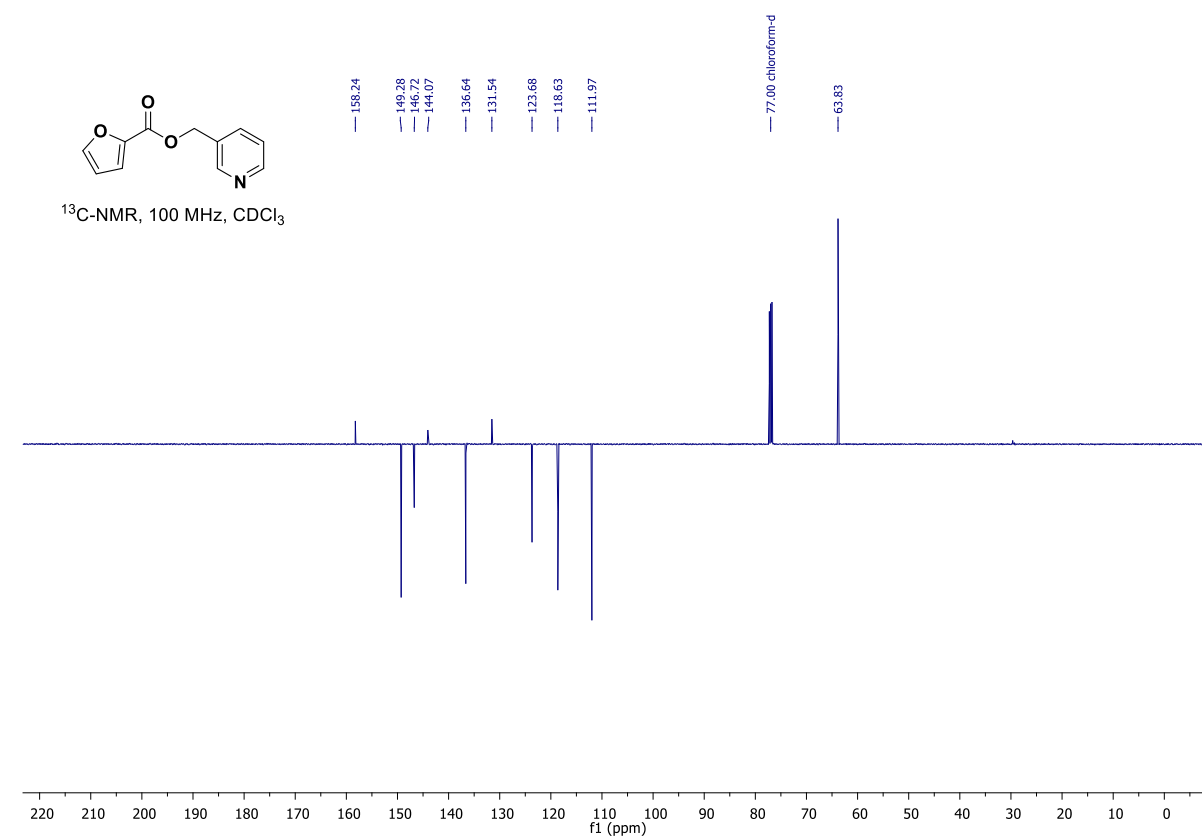
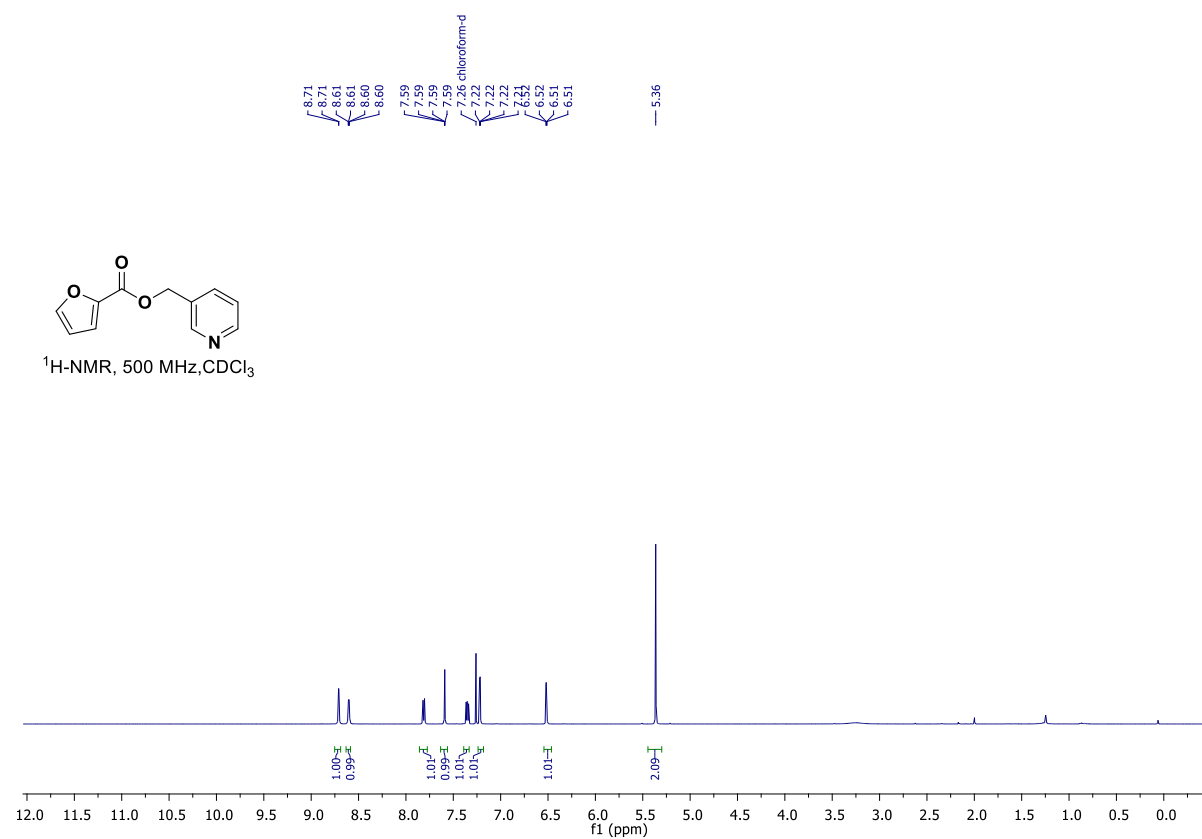
$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 500 MHz, CDCl_3



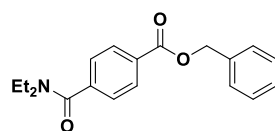
$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3



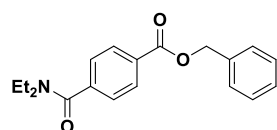
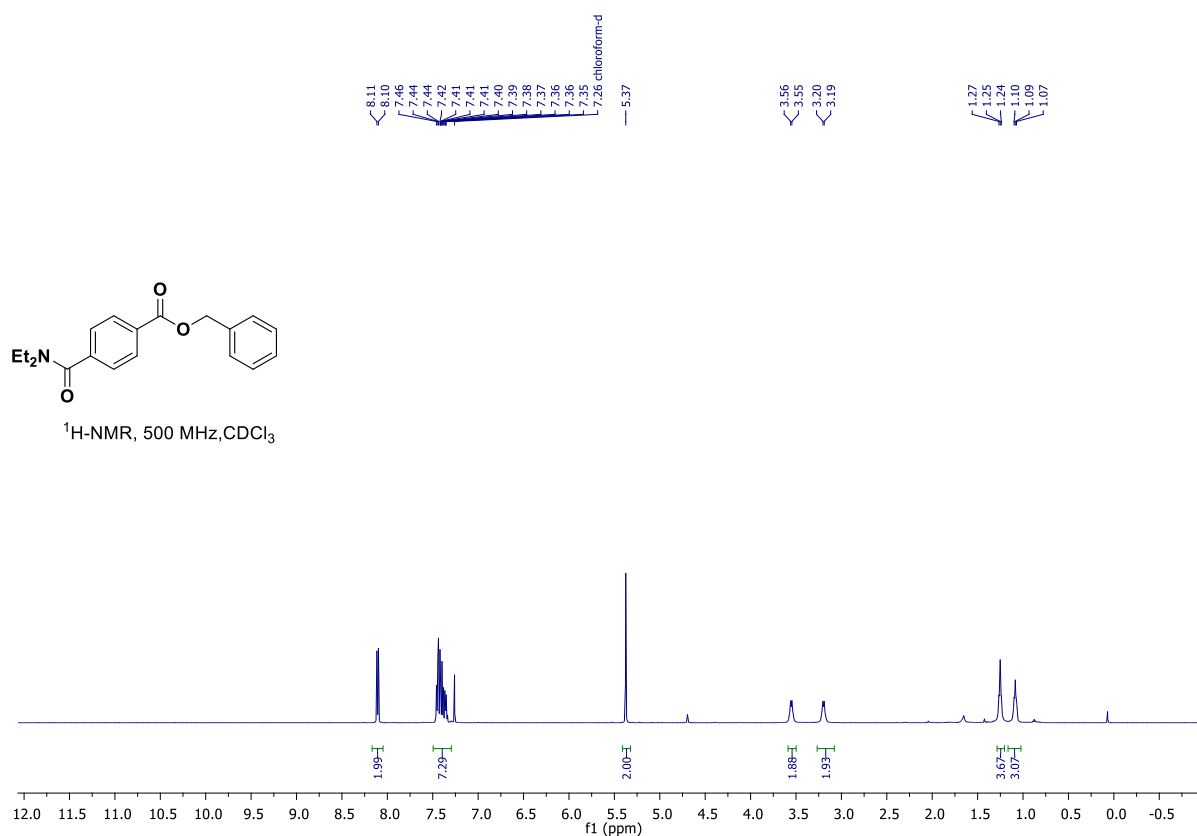
Compound 51



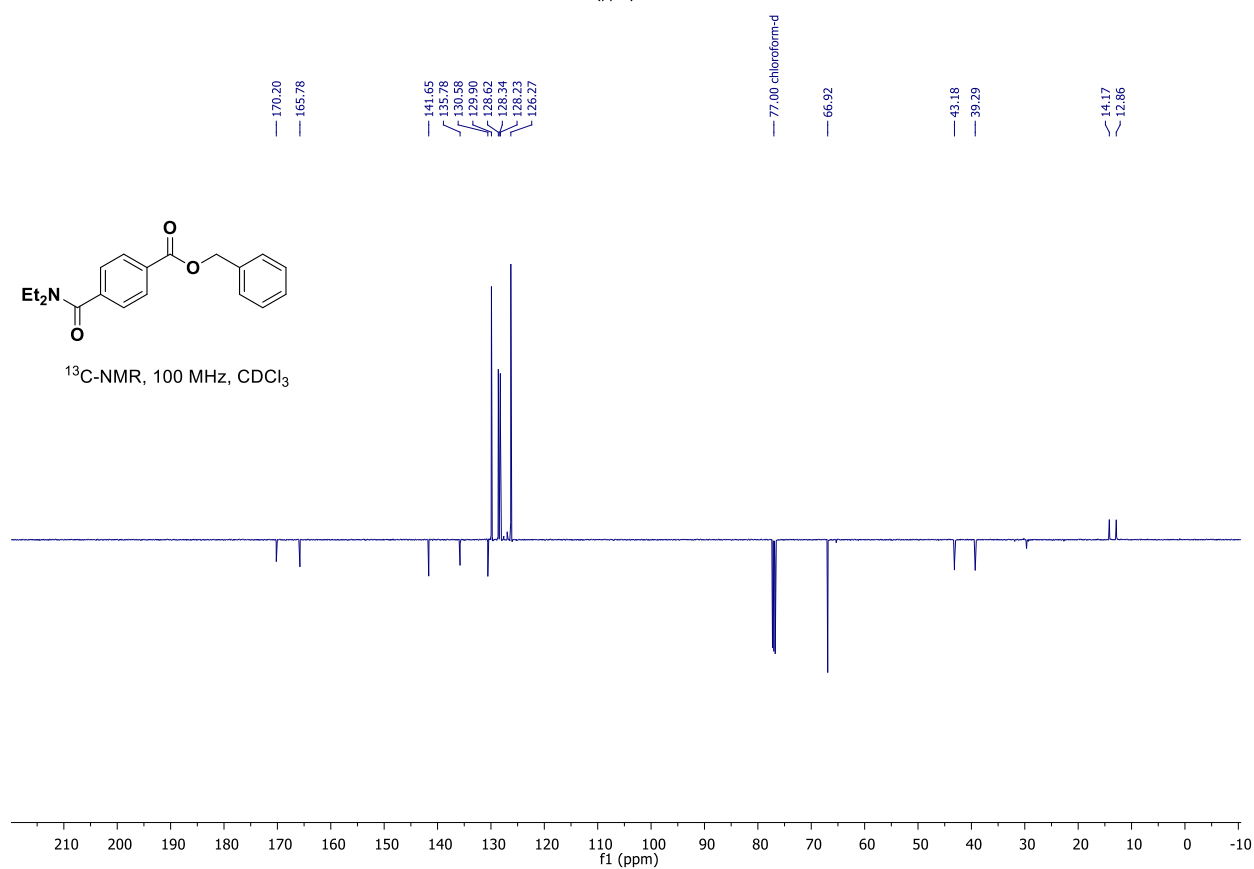
Compound 52



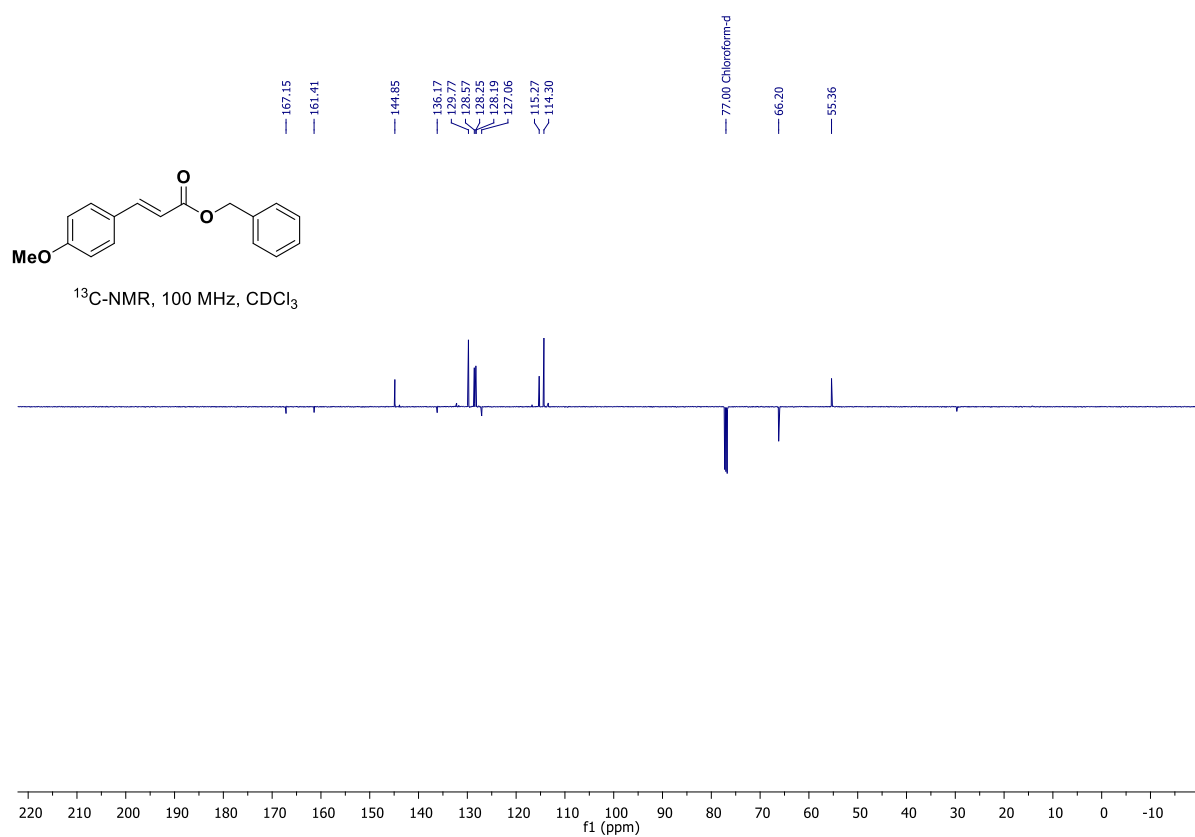
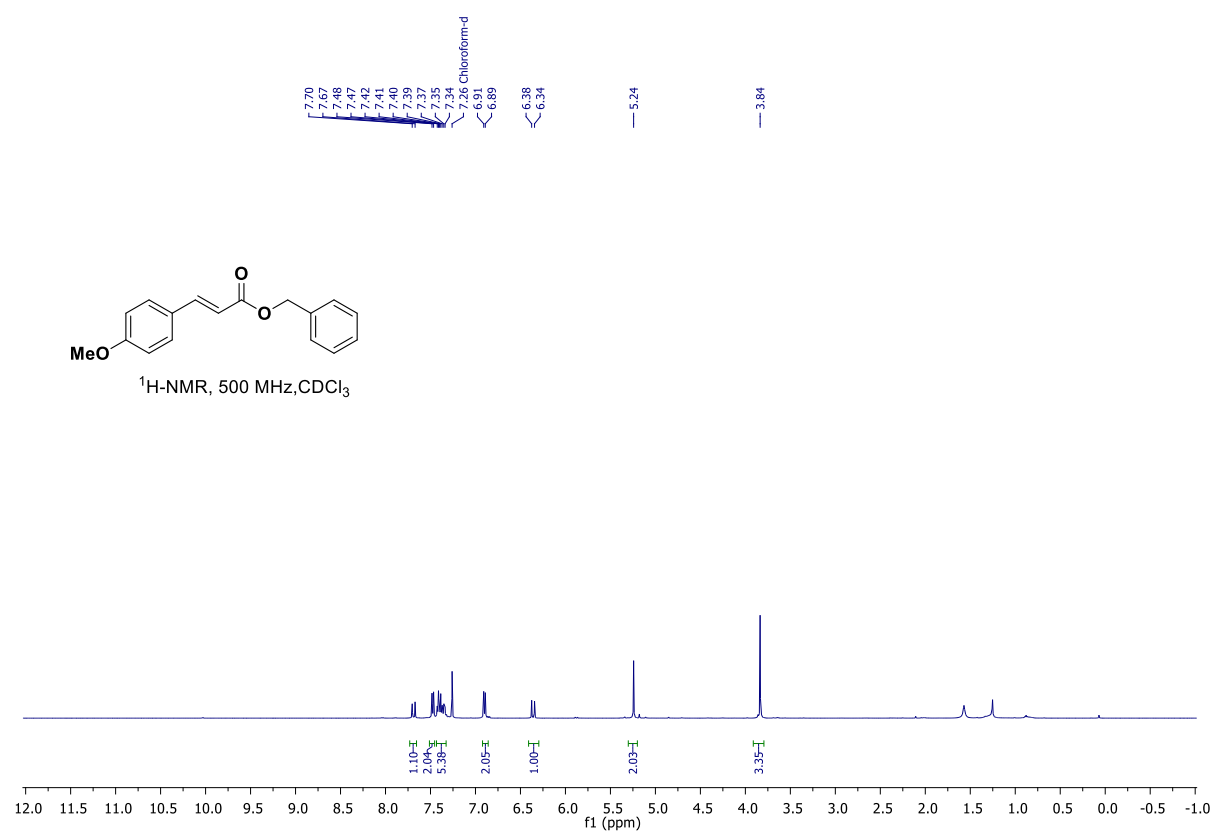
¹H-NMR, 500 MHz, CDCl₃



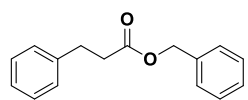
¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃



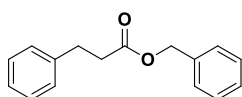
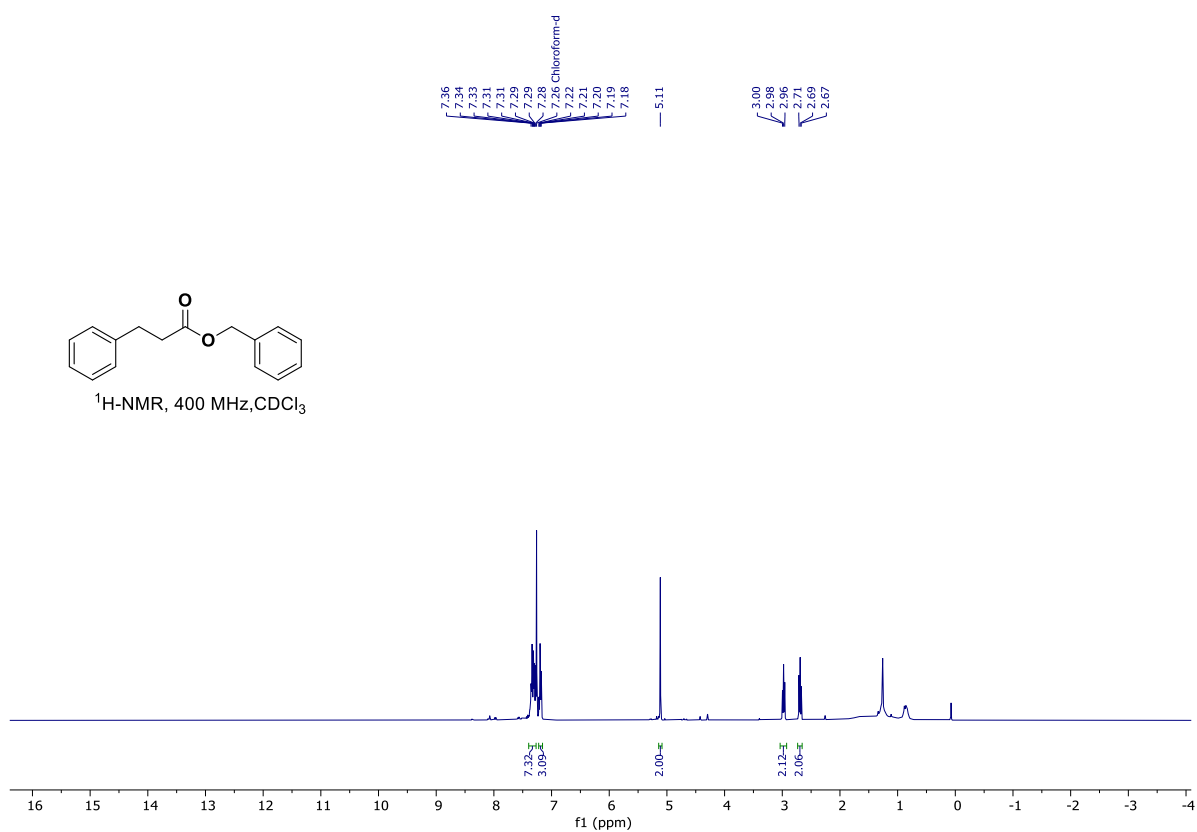
Compound 53



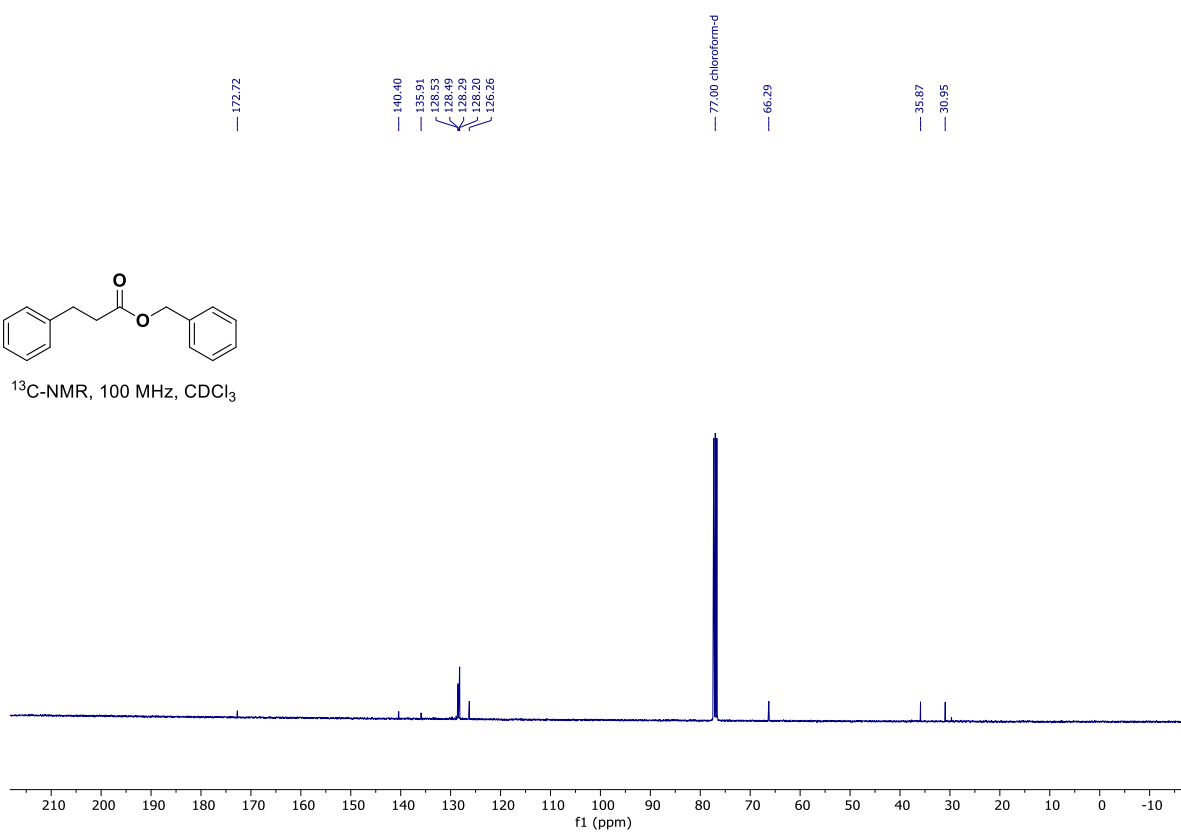
Compound 54



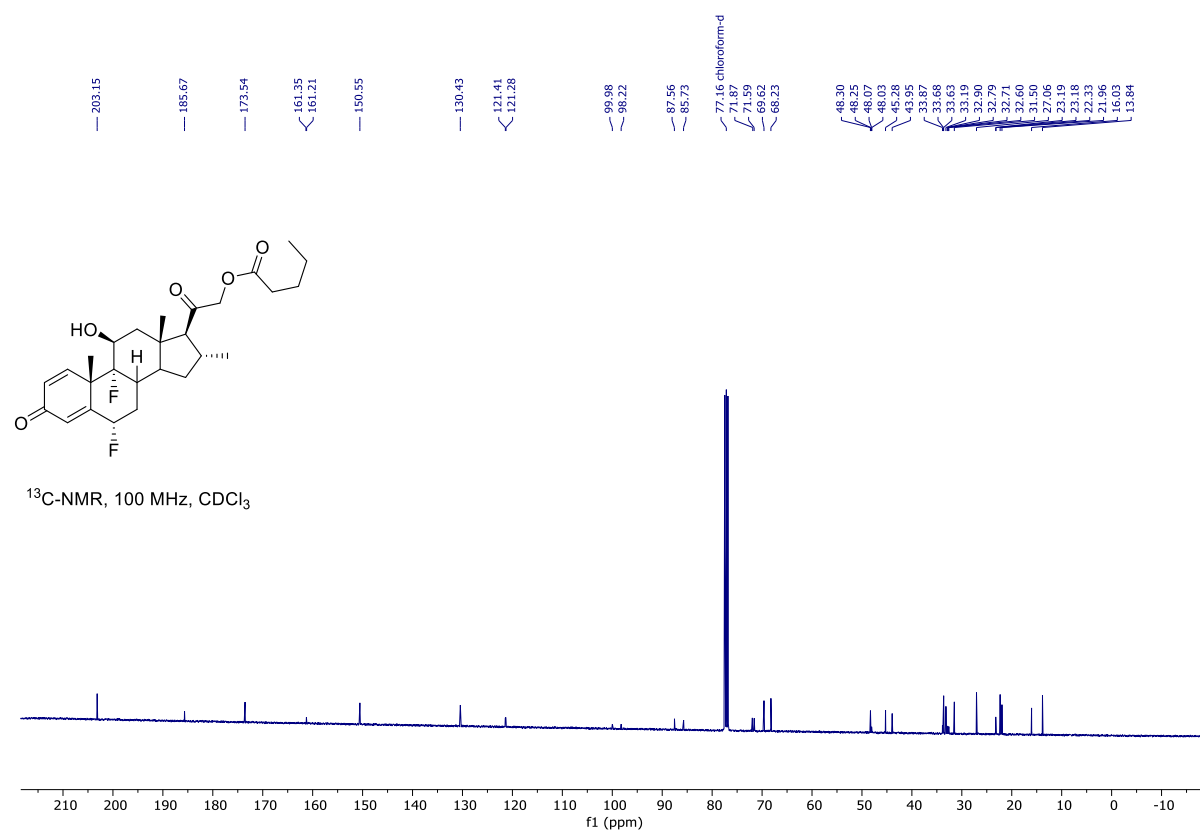
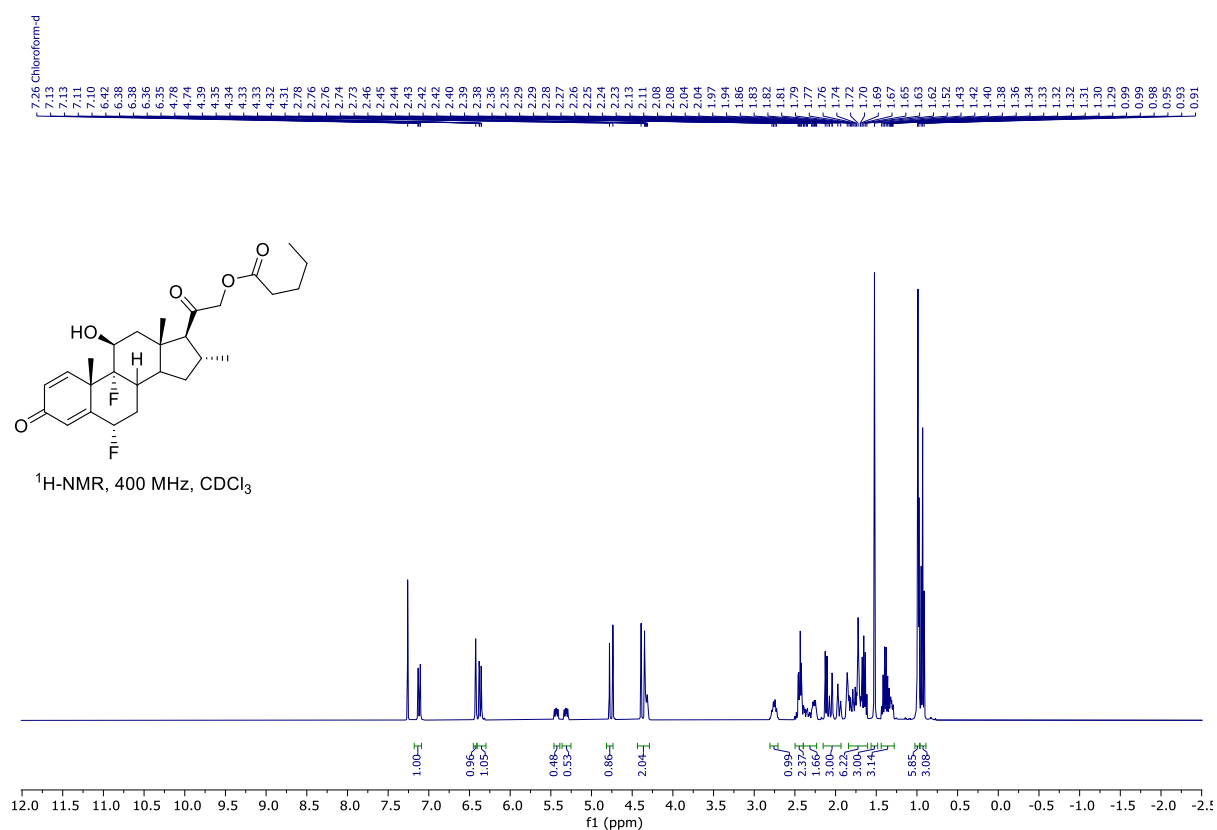
¹H-NMR, 400 MHz, CDCl₃



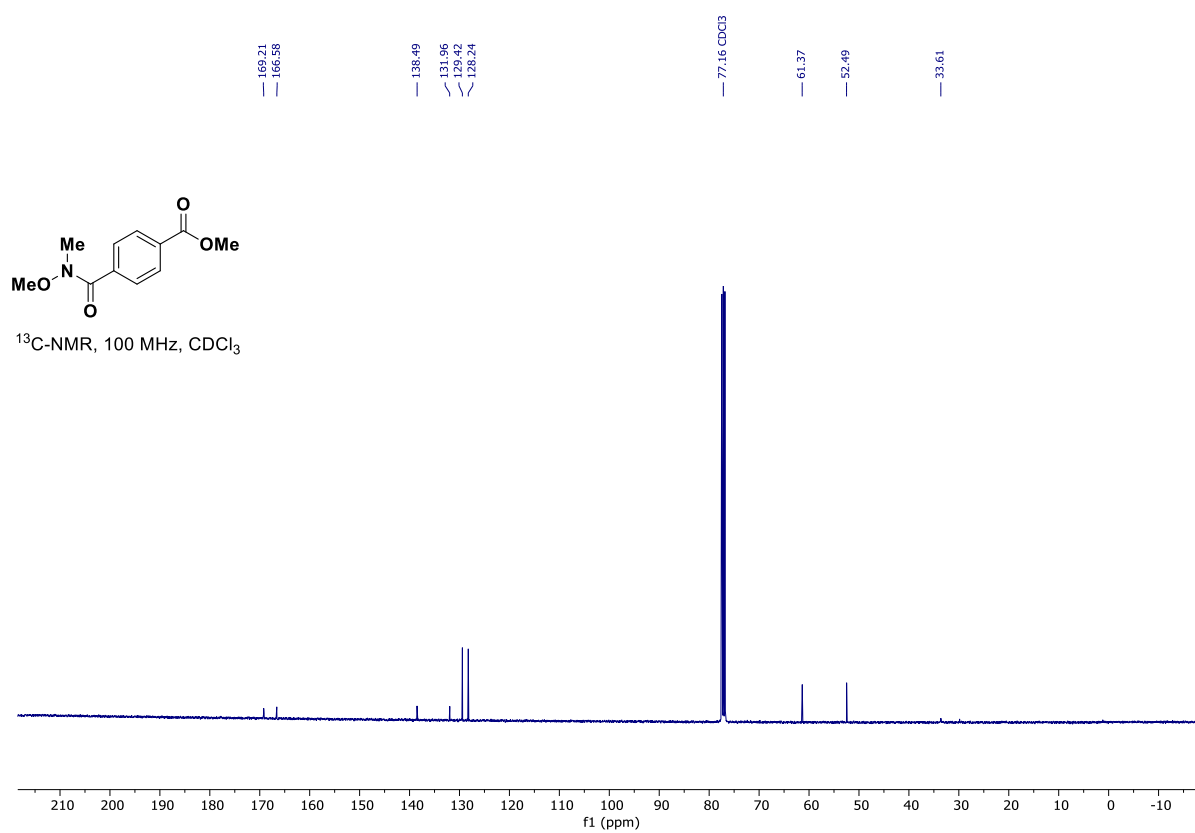
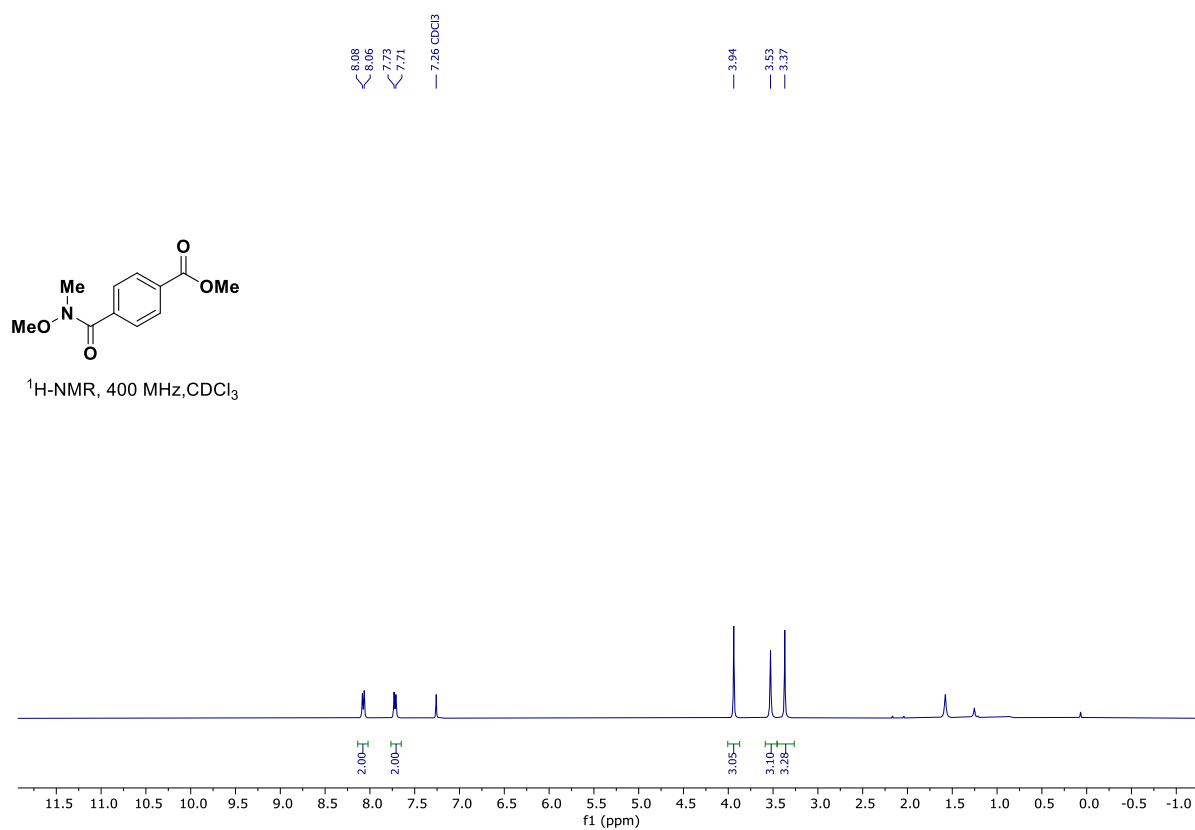
¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃



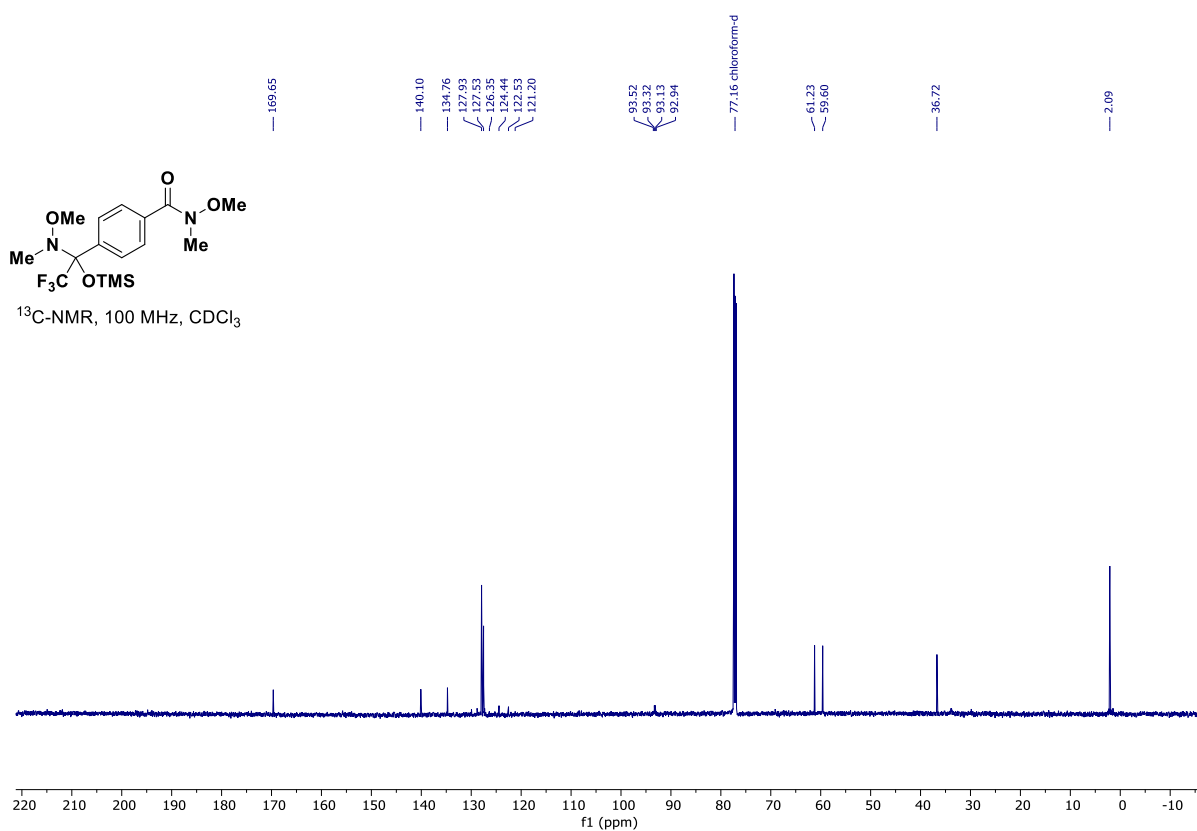
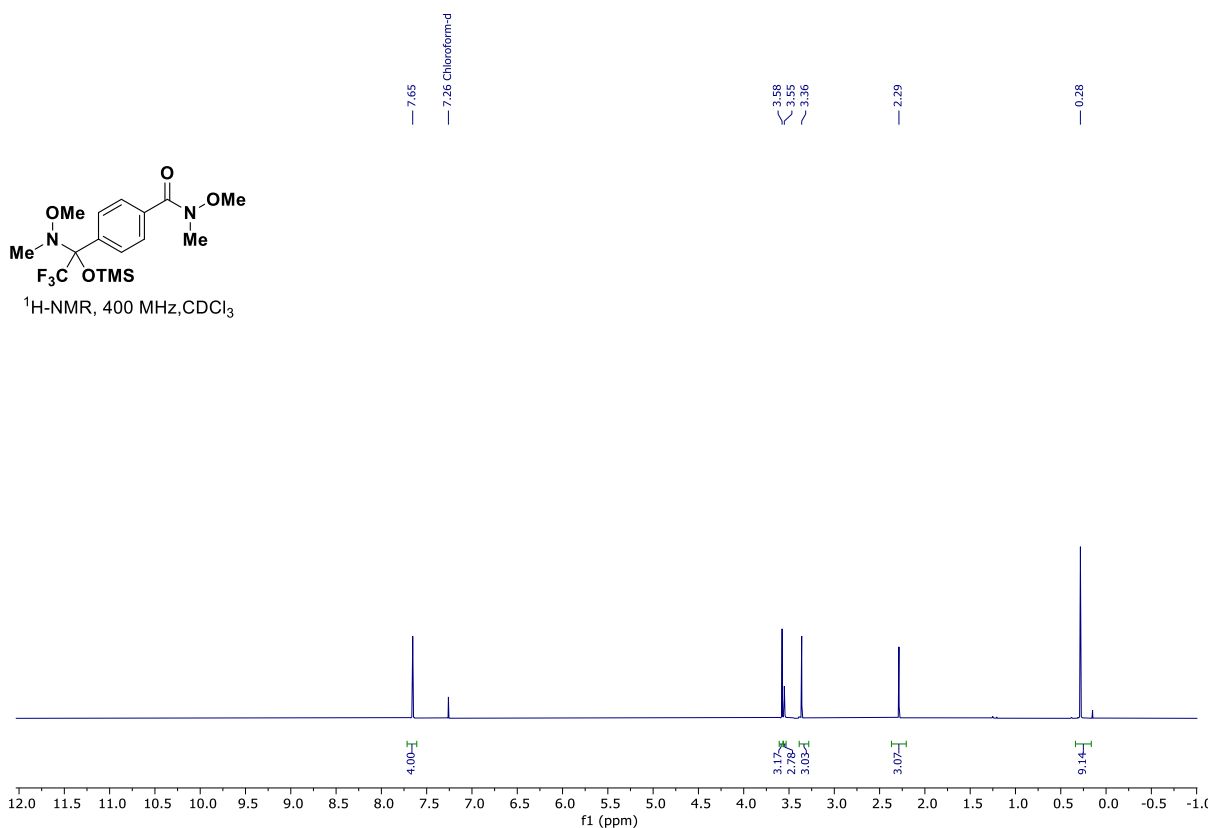
Compound 55

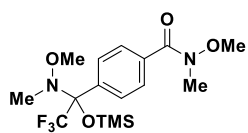
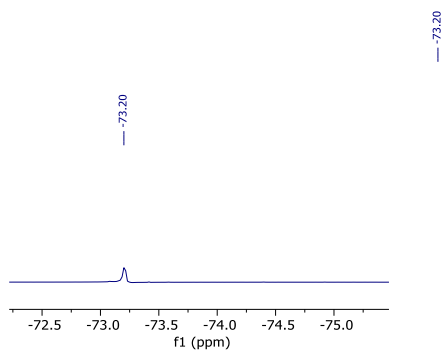


Compound 58

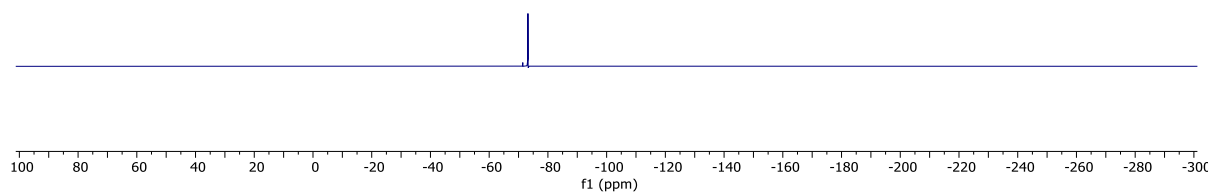


Compound 59

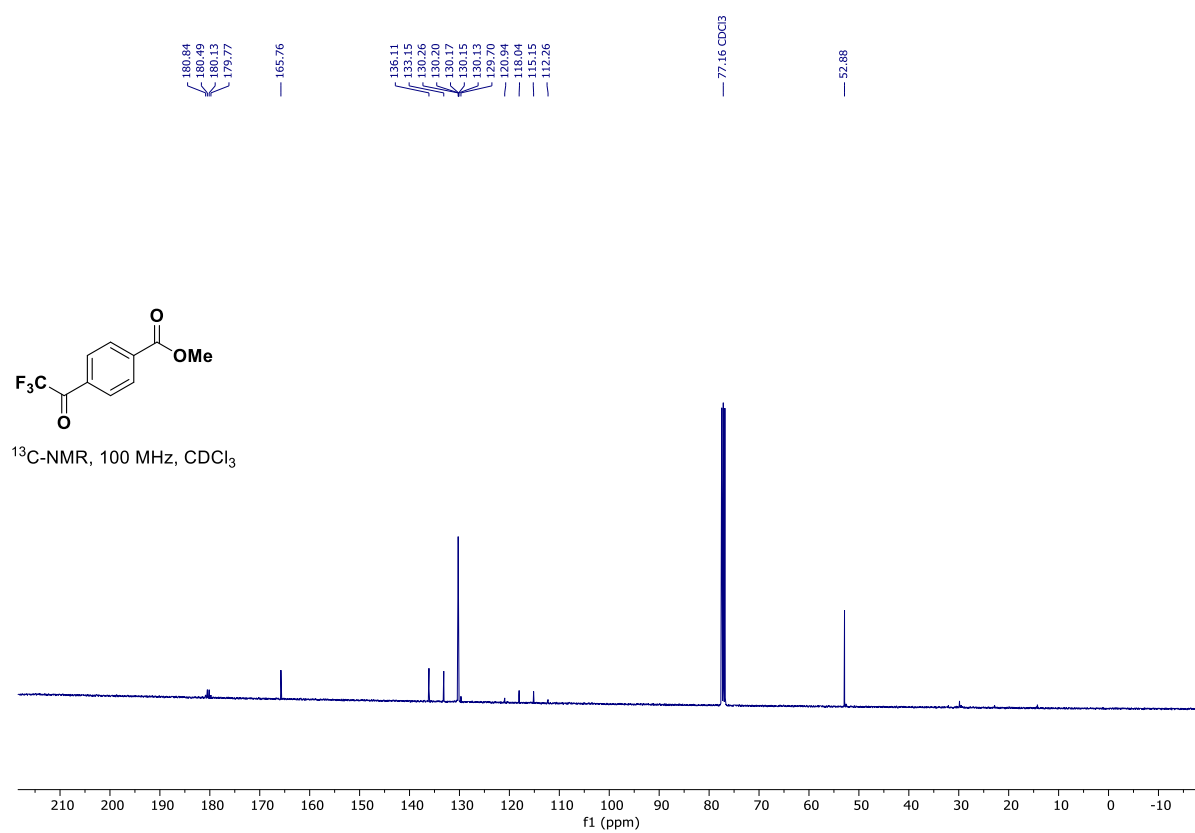
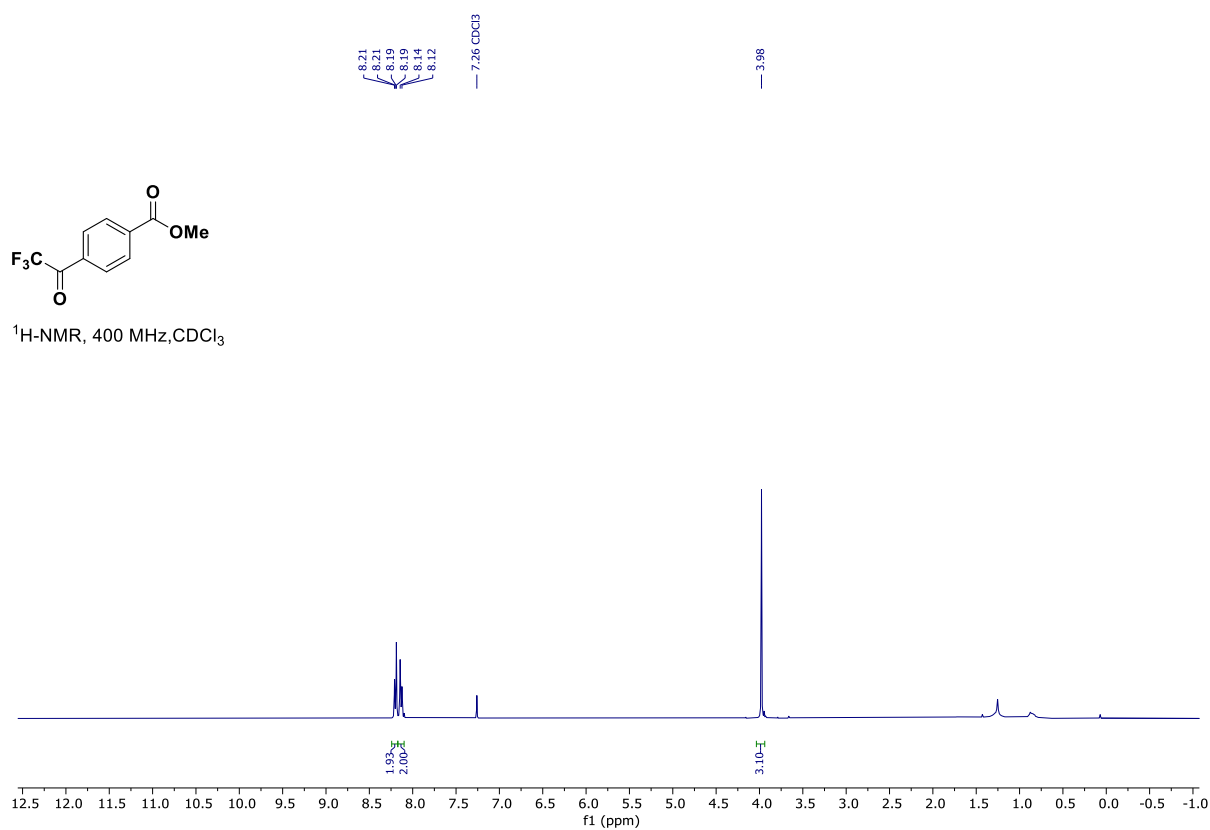


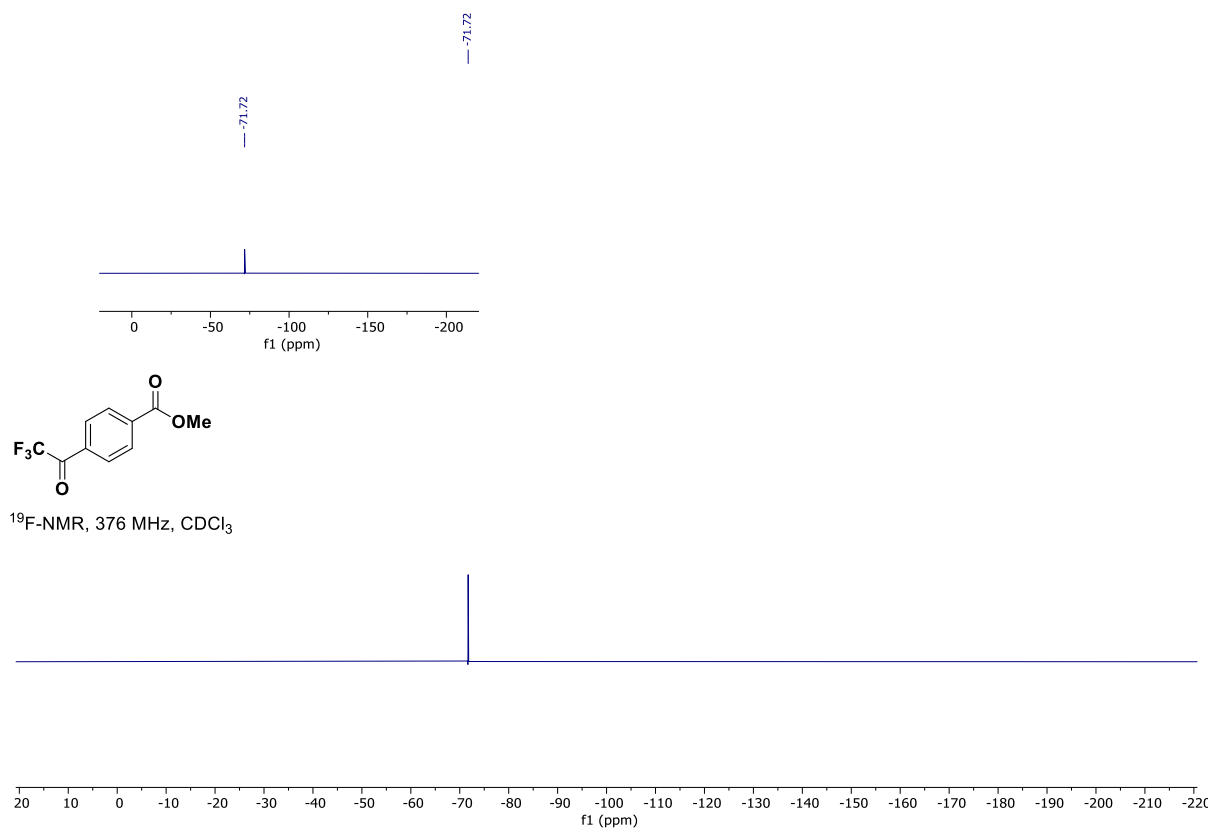


¹⁹F-NMR, 376 MHz, CDCl₃

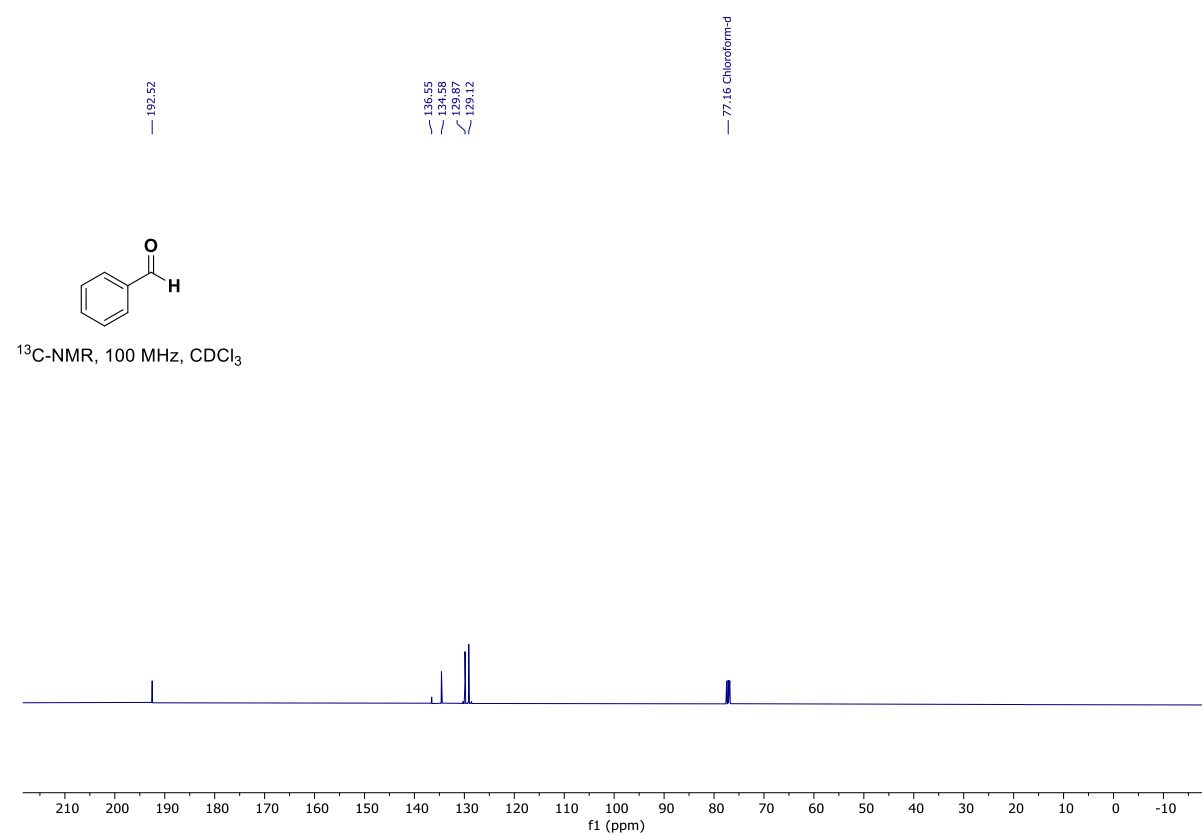
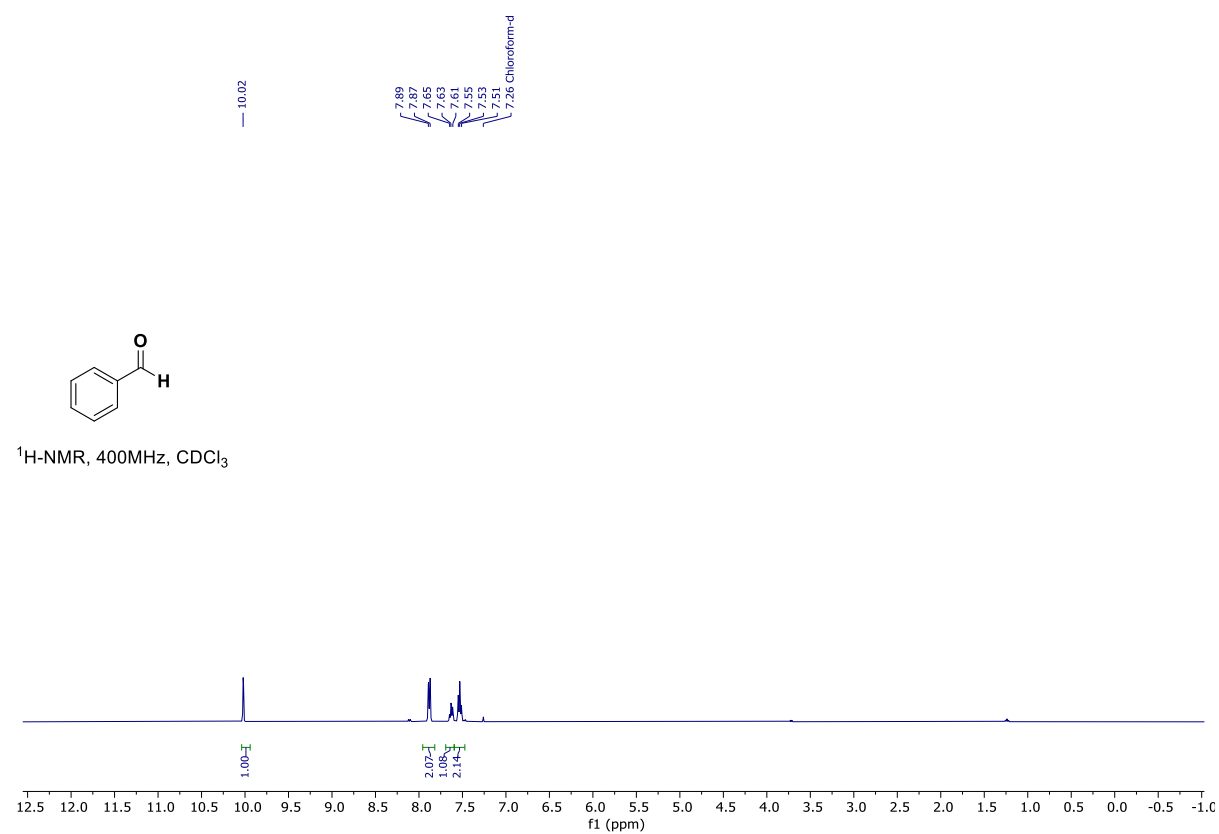


Compound 60

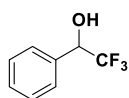




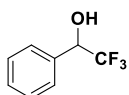
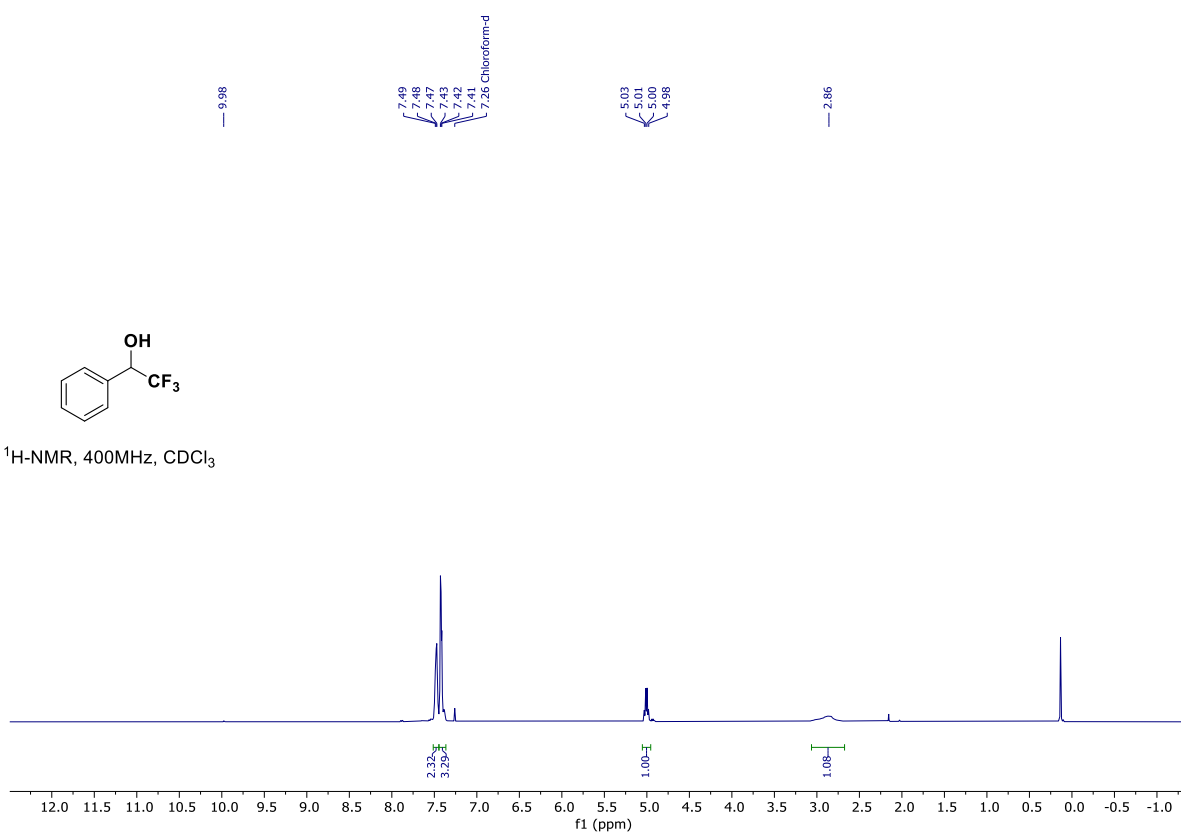
Compound 61



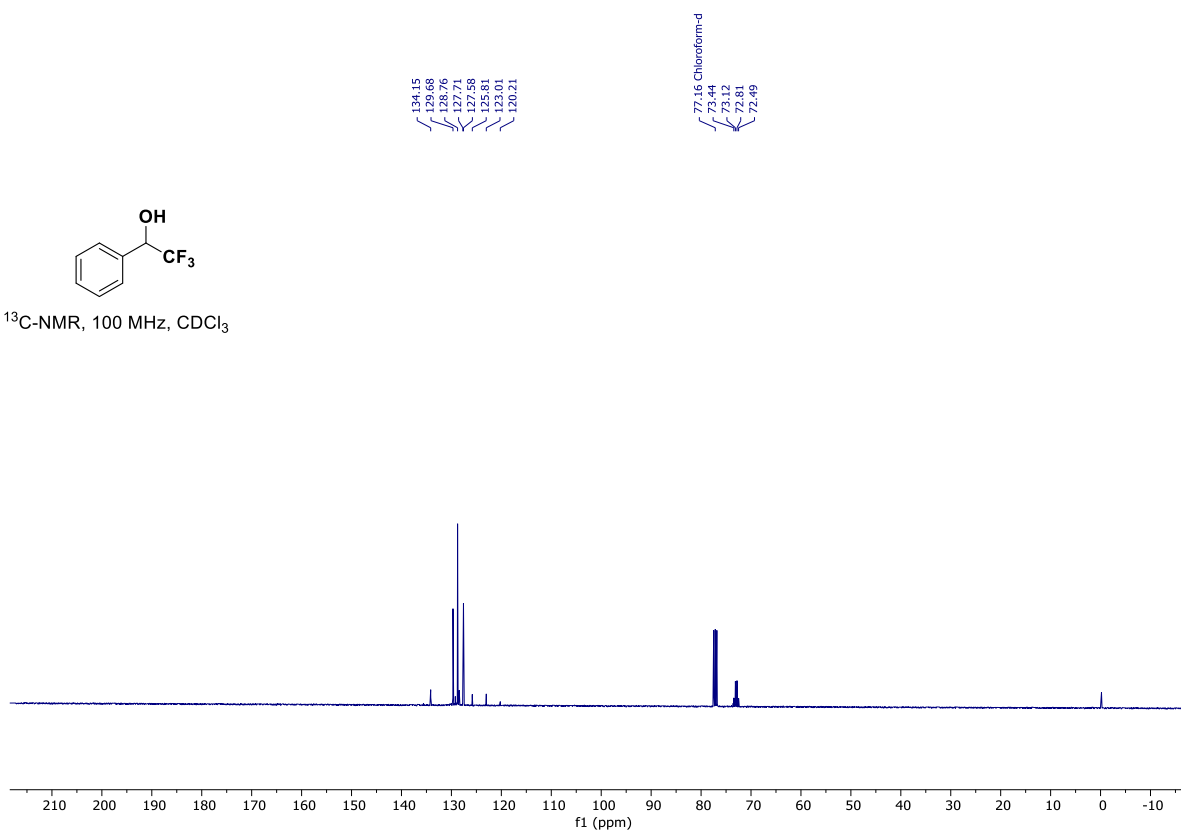
Compound 62

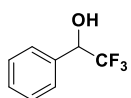
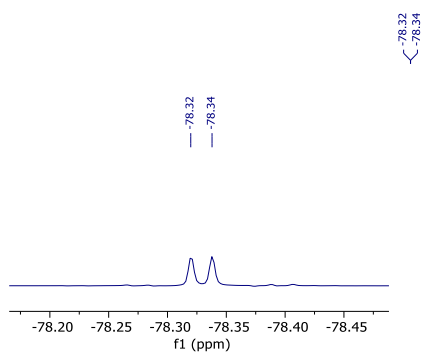


¹H-NMR, 400MHz, CDCl₃

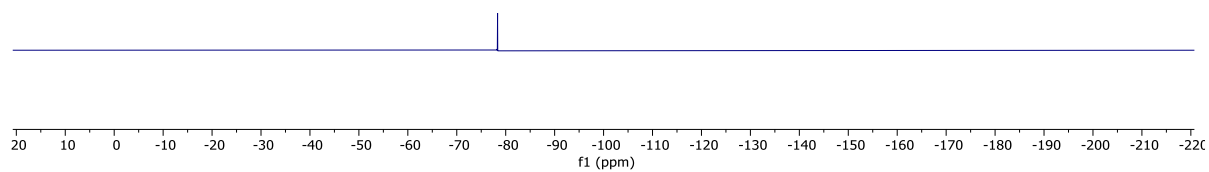


¹³C-NMR, 100 MHz, CDCl₃

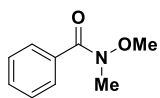




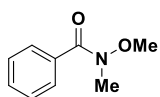
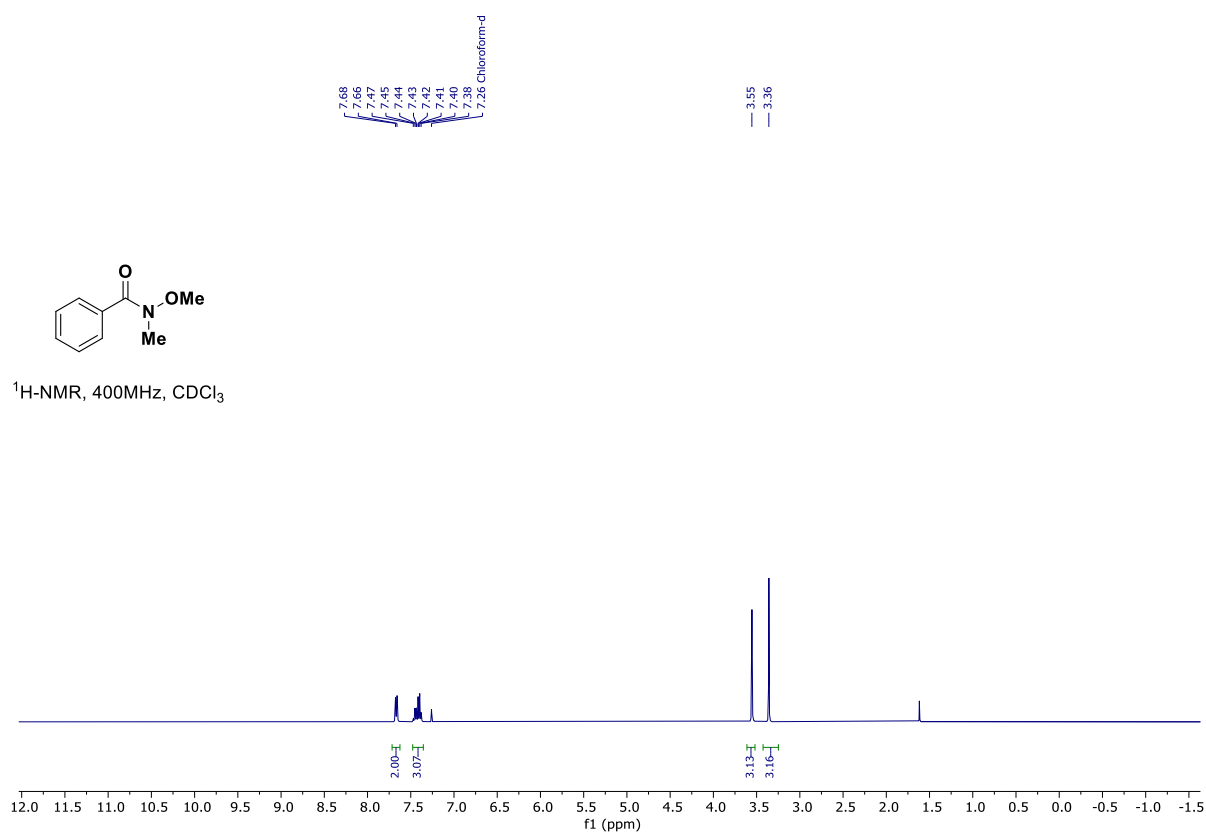
^{19}F -NMR, 376 MHz, CDCl_3



Compound 1a



$^1\text{H-NMR}$, 400MHz, CDCl_3



$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$, 100 MHz, CDCl_3

