# Single-Electron Transmetalation: An Enabling Technology for Secondary Alkylboron Cross-Coupling

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#### **General considerations**

All reactions were carried out under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen or argon unless otherwise noted. Dioxane (99.9%, extra dry) was used as received.  $Cs_2CO_3$  was used as received.  $IrCl_3 \cdot xH_2O$ , and  $NiCl_2$ -dme were purchased from commercial sources. All other reagents were purchased commercially and used as received. Photoredox reactions were irradiated with two or three standard 26 W compact fluorescent light bulbs. Melting points (°C) are uncorrected. NMR spectra were recorded on a 500 or 400 MHz spectrometer. <sup>19</sup>F NMR chemical shifts were referenced to external  $CFCl_3$  (0.0 ppm). <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectra were obtained on a spectrometer equipped with the appropriate decoupling accessories. Data are presented as follows: chemical shift (ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, sept = septet, m = multiplet, br = broad), coupling constant J (Hz) and integration.

#### **Synthesis of Secondary Alkyltrifluoroborates:**

Most potassium organotrifluoroborates were purchased commercially. In cases where the desired potassium organotrifluoroborate was unavailable, the corresponding boronic acid derivative was converted to the trifluoroborate by the following procedure.

#### General Procedure for conversion of boronic acid to trifluoroborate:

To a solution of boronic acid derivative in acetone or MeOH (0.1 M) at 0  $^{\circ}$ C was added saturated aq KHF<sub>2</sub> (4.5 M) dropwise over 30 min. The resulting suspension was concentrated under reduced pressure. H<sub>2</sub>O was azeotropically removed by suspension in toluene (100-150 mL) followed by rotary evaporation. The remaining solid was dried under high vacuum and then suspended in hot acetone (3 x 100 mL) and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated to a minimal volume (5 – 20 mL) and hexane or Et<sub>2</sub>O (~200 mL) were added to yield a white precipitate. The precipitate was isolated by filtration, washing with hexanes (~30 mL) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (~30 mL), to afford the desired secondary alkyltrifluoroborate.

#### Synthesis of photocatalyst 4

The synthesis of photocatalyst **4** has been documented in literature reports and fully included in our previous report on benzylic cross-couplings, but to aid the practicing chemist, all details are included here as well. The procedures below have proven the most reliable in our experience.

To a large vial equipped with a magnetic stir bar was added  $\mathbf{S1}$  (3.3 g, 15 mmol) [Note: the boronic acid of  $\mathbf{S1}$  serves equally well under these conditions],  $\mathbf{S2}$  (2.26 g, 10 mmol), anhyd  $K_2CO_3$  (6.9 g, 50 mmol), and  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$  (1.16 g, 1 mmol). The vial was sealed tightly with a Teflon-coated septum cap and evacuated and purged with  $N_2$  three times. The contents were dissolved in THF

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Tellis, J. C.; Primer, D. N.; Molander, G. A. Science, **2014**, 345, 433.

(32 mL) and degassed  $H_2O$  (16 mL), then stirred at 80 °C for 24 h. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was diluted with  $H_2O$  and extracted three times with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 x 60 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure, and purified by silica gel column chromatography, eluting with 5% EtOAc in hexanes to afford ligand **S3** as a white solid (2.54 g, 98%). mp = 55-58 °C.

A small amount of PPh<sub>3</sub> was usually observed after column chromatography (<5 mol %), which did not interfere with subsequent reactions.

To a 20 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was added ligand **S3** (428 mg, 1.65 mmol) and IrCl<sub>3</sub> hydrate (224 mg, 0.75 mmol). The flask was equipped with a cold water condenser and evacuated and purged with  $N_2$  five times. The contents were suspended in rigorously degassed ethoxyethanol (9 mL) and  $H_2O$  (3 mL) and then heated with stirring to 120 °C for 20 h, during which time a yellow precipitate was observed to form. After cooling to rt, the precipitate was collected by vacuum filtration. The filter cake was washed copiously with  $H_2O$  (~75 mL) and hexanes (~30 mL) to afford iridium  $\mu$ -Cl-dimer **S4** as a fine yellow powder (84%). mp >250 °C. Characterization data for this compound matched that reported in the literature.<sup>2</sup>

To a 15 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was added iridium dimer **S4** (130 mg, 0.087 mmol) and 2,2'-bipyridine (32 mg, 0.21 mmol). The flask was attached to a reflux condenser and the contents were placed under an inert atmosphere by three evacuation/purge cycles. The reaction components were dissolved in degassed ethylene glycol (6 mL) and heated with stirring at 150 °C for 24 h. Upon cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was diluted with deionized H<sub>2</sub>O and transferred to a separatory funnel. The aqueous phase was washed three times with hexanes, then drained into an Erlenmeyer flask and heated to ~85 °C for 5-15 min to remove

**S3** 

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Lowry, M. S.; Goldsmith, J. I.; Slinker, J. D.; Rohl, R.; Pascal, R. A.; Malliaras, G. G.; Bernhard, S. Chem. Mater. **2005**, 17, 5712.

residual hexanes. Upon cooling to rt, an aq soln of  $NH_4PF_6$  (10 mL, 0.1 g/mL) was added, resulting in the formation of a fine yellow precipitate that was isolated by vacuum filtration and then washing with  $H_2O$  (20 mL) and hexanes (15 mL). The solid was dried under high vacuum to remove residual  $H_2O$  and then dissolved in acetone and recrystallized by vapor diffusion with hexane to yield 1 as large yellow crystals (172 mg, 88%). mp = 199-202 °C. Characterization data for this compound matched that reported in the literature.<sup>3</sup>

## Selected reaction optimization studies

Procedure for reaction screening at 0.10 or 0.05 mmol scale: To a reaction vial equipped with a Teflon coated magnetic stir bar in a glovebox was added a soln of nickel source and ligand (1:1) dissolved in THF. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* under an inert atmosphere. Additives were weighed into the vials (liquid additives were added after the stock solution). A stock solution of aryl bromide, secondary alkyltrifluoroborate, Ir catalyst 1, and internal standard were then added by syringe and stirred for 16-24 h in front of a single 26 W CFL. Aliquots were then taken, diluted, and analyzed by HPLC or GC/MS. Reactions were compared within sets by crude product to internal standard (P/IS) ratios.

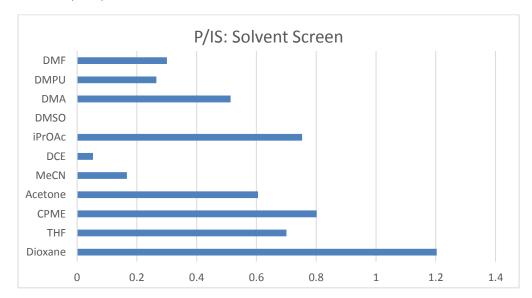


Figure S1: Comparison of Solvents Conditions: 0.1 mmol Ar-Br, 1.5 equiv RBF<sub>3</sub>K, 2.0 % Ir(dFCF<sub>3</sub>ppy)<sub>2</sub>bpy PF<sub>6</sub>, 10.0 % Ni/dtbbpy, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1.0 equiv), 0.05 M in solvent

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Hanss, D.; Freys, J. C.; Bernardinelli, G.; Wenger, O. S. Eur. J. Inorg. Chem. 2009, 2009, 4850.

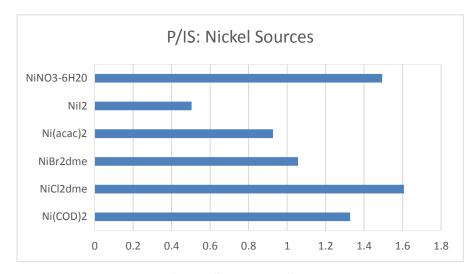


Figure S2: Nickel Sources
Conditions: 0.1 mmol Ar-Br, 1.5 equiv RBF<sub>3</sub>K, 2.0%
Ir(dFCF<sub>3</sub>ppy)<sub>2</sub>bpy PF<sub>6</sub>, 10.0 % Ni source/dtbbpy, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1.0 equiv), 0.05 M in dioxane

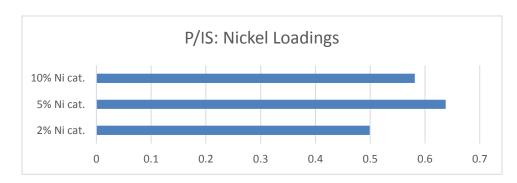


Fig. S3: Nickel Loadings Conditions: 0.1 mmol Ar-Br, 1.5 equiv RBF<sub>3</sub>K, 2.0% Ir(dFCF<sub>3</sub>ppy)<sub>2</sub>bpy PF<sub>6</sub>, 1.5 equiv K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> 0.05 M in dioxane

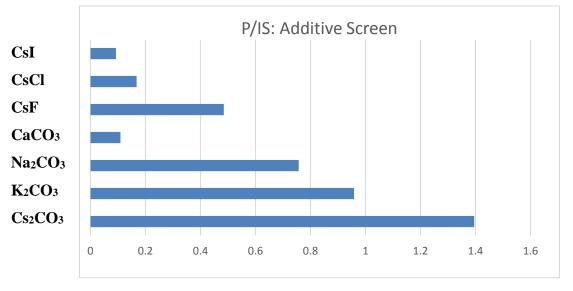


Figure S4: Comparison of Carbonate Bases and Cesium Salts Conditions: 0.1 mmol Ar-Br, 1.5 equiv RBF<sub>3</sub>K, 2.5% Ir(dFCF<sub>3</sub>ppy)<sub>2</sub>bpy PF<sub>6</sub>, 5.0% Ni/dtbbpy, 1.5 equiv additive, 0.05 M in dioxane

## General procedure for photoredox cross-coupling reactions

To a long, thin (~20 mL) borosilicate glass vial equipped with a Teflon-coated magnetic stir bar was added 4,4'-di-tert-butyl-2,2'-bipyridine (6.7 mg, 0.025 mmol) and NiCl<sub>2</sub>•dme (5.5 mg, 0.025 mmol) and 1.0 mL THF. The vial was capped and the resulting suspension was heated briefly with a heat gun until the nickel and ligand were fully solubilized, yielding a pale green solution. The solvent was then removed under vacuum to give a fine coating of the ligated nickel complex (pale evergreen in color). Once dry, aryl bromide (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv) (liquid aryl bromides were added with solvent), secondary alkyltrifluoroborate (0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv), Ir[dFCF<sub>3</sub>ppy]<sub>2</sub>(bpy)PF<sub>6</sub> 1 (12.8 mg, 0.025 mmol) and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (243 mg, 0.75 mmol) were added in succession. The vial was then capped and purged and evacuated four times. Under inert atmosphere, dioxane (10 mL) was introduced. The vial containing all the reagents was further sealed with parafilm and stirred for 24 hours approximately 4 cm away from two 26 W fluorescent light bulbs. A fan was blown across the reaction setup to maintain an ambient temperature around 24 °C. After 16-24 h, an aliquot was taken and analyzed on a GC/MS to monitor reaction completion and confirm formation of a single regioisomer (when applicable). Then, the crude reaction mixture was filtered through an approximately 2 cm x 2 cm cylindrical plug of Celite, washing with EtOAc (10-20 mL). The resulting solution was concentrated and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with EtOAc and hexanes, to obtain products in pure form.



**Fig S5:** Photoredox cross-coupling reaction set-up (0.5 mmol scale)

Gram scale reaction: To a ~125 mL long thin-walled vacuum flask equipped with a Teflon-coated magnetic stir bar was added NiCl<sub>2</sub>•dme (20 mg, 0.093 mmol, 0.02 equiv) and 4,4'-di-tert-butyl-2,2'-bipyridine (25 mg, 0.093, 0.02 equiv) and 5.0 mL of THF. The vial was capped and the resulting suspension was heated briefly with a heat gun until the nickel and ligand were fully solubilized, yielding a pale green solution. The solvent was then removed under vacuum to give a fine coating of the ligated nickel complex (pale evergreen in color). Once dry, methyl 4bromobenzoate (1.000 g, 4.65 mmol, 1.00 equiv), potassium cyclohexyltrifluoroborate (1.325 g, 6.98 mmol, 1.50 equiv), Ir[dFCF<sub>3</sub>ppy]<sub>2</sub>(bpy)PF<sub>6</sub> 1 (47.0 mg, 0.047 mmol, 0.01 equiv), and Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2.267 g, 6.98 mmol, 1.50 equiv) was added. The vial was then capped with a rubber septum and purged and evacuated four times. Under inert atmosphere, dioxane (95 mL, 0.05 M) was introduced. The vial containing all the reagents was further sealed with parafilm and stirred vigorously (a small vortex should be observed toward the top of the reaction mixture) for 36 h approximately 4 cm away from three 26 W fluorescent light bulbs. A fan was blown across the reaction setup to maintain an ambient temperature around 24 °C. After completion, the crude reaction mixture was filtered through an approximately 4 cm x 2 cm cylindrical plug of Celite, washing with EtOAc (60 mL). The resulting solution was concentrated and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with EtOAc and hexanes, to obtain product in pure form.



**Fig S6:** Gram scale photoredox cross-coupling reaction set-up (4.65 mmol)

## **Compound Characterization Data**

$$\bigcirc$$
 CO<sub>2</sub>Me

**Methyl 4-cyclohexylbenzoate** (**13**): obtained as a white crystalline solid (76 mg, 70%), on gram (4.65 mmol) scale (740 mg, 73%), mp = 38-40 °C

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.97 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.58-2.54 (m, 1H), 1.87 (m, 4H), 1.77 (d, J = 12.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.48-1.31 (m, 4H), 1.29-1.25 (m, 1H) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 167.1, 153.4, 129.6, 127.7, 126.8, 51.8, 44.6, 34.0, 26.7, 26.0 IR: v = 2926, 2852, 1720, 1436, 1276, 1180, 1112, 1101, 1019, 762, 706 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na (M+Na) 241.1204, found 241.1214

**Methyl 4-cyclopentylbenzoate (14)**: obtained as a white amorphous solid (94 mg, 92%), mp = 32-33 °C

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.95 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.04 (q, J = 8.5 H, 1H), 2.08 (m, 2H), 1.82-1.59 (m, 6H) – a small amount of methyl 4-bromobenzoate (<5%) was inseparable from the starting material after column chromatography. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  167.1, 152.1, 129.5, 127.6, 127.0, 51.8, 45.9, 34.4, 25.5 Characterization data matched that reported in the literature. <sup>4</sup>

$$\bigcirc$$
 CO<sub>2</sub>Me

Methyl 4-cyclobutylbenzoate (15): obtained as a pale yellow oil (57 mg, 60%)

 $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.96 (d, J = 8.5, 2H), 7.26 (d, J = 8.5, 2H) 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.59 (m, 1H), 2.39-2.34 (m, 2H), 2.20-2.00 (m, 3H), 1.90-1.84 (m, 1H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 167.3, 151.8, 129.7, 127.8, 126.4, 52.1, 40.4, 29.7, 18.4

IR: v = 2951, 1721, 1609, 1435, 1276, 1108, 1020, 768, 646 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M+H) 191.1072, found 191.1065

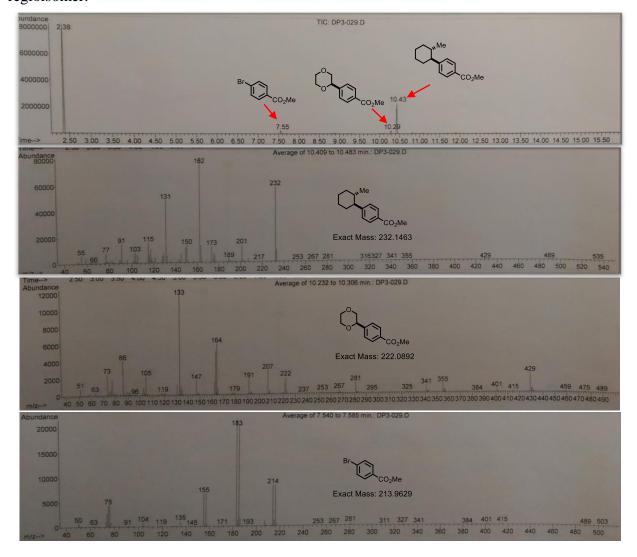
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Liu, Z.; Dong, N.; Xu, M.; Sun, Z.; Tu, T. J. Org. Chem. 2013, 78, 7436.

$$\sim$$
 CO<sub>2</sub>Me

**Methyl** *trans***-4-(2-methylcyclohexyl)benzoate** (**17**): obtained as a colorless oil (110 mg, 95%)  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.95 (d, J = 8.0, 2H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.0, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.16-2.11 (m, 1H), 1.84-1.76 (m, 4H), 1.64-1.58 (m, 1H), 1.46-1.32 (m, 3H), 1.12-1.10 (m, 1H), 0.64 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 167.1, 152.4, 129.6, 127.7, 127.5, 52.5, 51.8, 37.4, 35.5, 35.2, 26.7, 26.5, 20.6

IR:  $\nu$  = 2924, 2853, 1722, 1609, 1435, 1276, 1180, 1112, 1102, 772, 708 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{15}H_{21}O_2$  (M+H) 233.1542, found 233.1539 GCMS analysis of the reaction mixture after 16 hours confirms formation of a single regioisomer.



$$CO_2Me$$

**Methyl** *trans*-**4-(2-methylcyclopentyl)benzoate** (**18**): obtained as a pale yellow oil (99 mg, 91%)

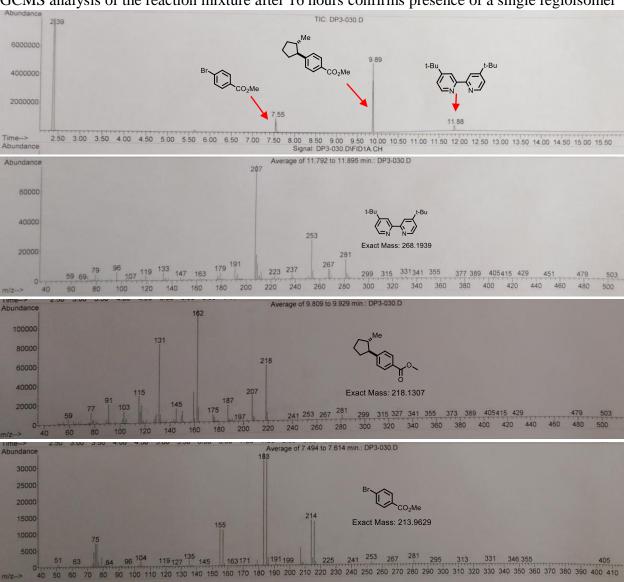
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.96 (d, J = 8.0, 2H), 7.27 (d, J = 8.0, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.50-2.44 (m, 1H) 2.10-2.08 (m, 1H), 2.00-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.78-1.71 (m, 3H), 1.34-1.30 (m, 1H), 0.91 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 167.3, 151.4, 129.8, 128.0, 127.7, 54.7, 52.1, 43.4, 35.4, 34.9, 24.1, 18.6

IR: v = 2951, 2868, 1723, 1610, 1435, 1278, 1179, 1112, 770 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M+H) 219.1385, found 219.1394

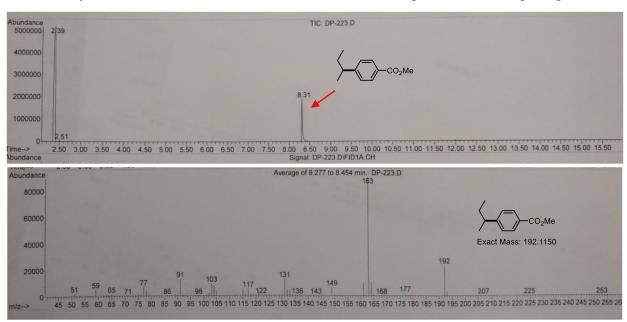
GCMS analysis of the reaction mixture after 16 hours confirms presence of a single regioisomer



Methyl 4-(sec-butyl)benzoate (19): obtained as a colorless oil (73 mg, 76%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.25 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.65 (m, 1H), 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.24 (m, 3H), 0.81 (m, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 167.3, 153.3, 129.8, 127.9, 127.2, 52.1, 41.9, 31.1, 21.7, 12.3 GCMS analysis of the reaction mixture after 24 hours confirms presence of a single regioisomer.



Characterization data matched that reported in the literature.<sup>5</sup>

$$Me$$
 $CO_2Me$ 

Methyl 4-isopropylbenzoate (20): obtained as a colorless oil (68 mg, 76%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.96 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.96 (sept, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.26 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H)

 $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  167.3, 153.3, 129.8, 127.9, 127.2, 52.1, 41.9, 31.1, 21.7, 12.3p Characterization data matched that reported in the literature.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Phapale, V. B.; Guisán-Ceinos, M.; Buñuel, E.; Cárdenas, D. J. *Chem. A Eur. J.* **2009**, *15*, 12681.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Zhu, Y.; Yan, H.; Lu, L.; Liu, D.; Rong, G.; Mao, J. J. Org. Chem. 2013, 78, 9898.

$$BocN$$
  $CO_2Me$ 

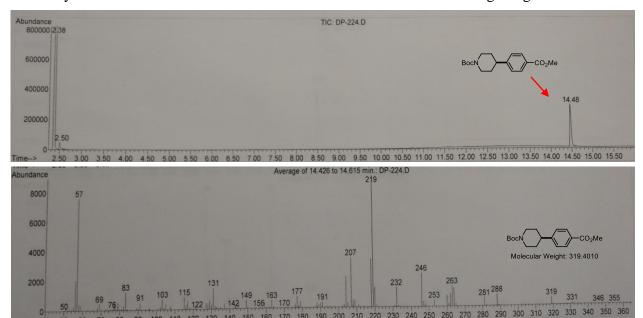
*tert*-Butyl 4-(4-(methoxycarbonyl)phenyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (21): obtained as a white amorphous solid (147 mg, 92%), mp = 118-120 °C

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.95 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.23 (bs, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.80-2.65 (m, 3H), 1.81-1.78 (m, 2H), 1.62-1.58 (m, 2H), 1.46 (s, 9H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 167.1, 154.9, 151.2, 130.0, 128.4, 127.0, 79.7, 52.1, 44.3 (br), 42.9, 33.0, 28.6, 24.9

IR:  $\nu = 2845$ , 1701, 1421, 1365, 1268, 1229, 1155, 1126, 1012, 770 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{18}H_{25}NO_4Na$  (M+Na) 342.1681, found 342.1685

GC analysis of the crude mixture after 24h confirms the formation of a single regioisomer.



$$O$$
  $CO_2Me$ 

**Methyl 4-(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-yl)benzoate** (22): obtained as a white crystalline solid (91 mg, 83%), mp = 74-75 °C

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.97 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.08 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.52 (t, J = 11.5 Hz, 2H), 2.82-2.78 (m, 1H), 1.83-1.74 (m, 4H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 167.2, 151.2, 130.0, 128.4, 126.9, 68.3, 52.2, 41.8, 33.7

IR: v = 2964, 2932, 2862, 1718, 1609, 1440, 1275, 1109, 1098, 1017, 764 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{13}H_{17}O_3$  (M+H) 221.1178, found 221.1179

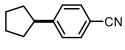
# $Methyl\ 4\hbox{-}((1R*,\!2R*,\!3R*,\!5R*)\hbox{-}3,\!6,\!6\hbox{-trimethylbicyclo} [3.1.1] heptan-2\hbox{-}yl) benzoate\ (23):$

obtained as a yellow oil (80 mg, 59%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.99 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.10-3.06 (m, 1H), 2.53-2.51 (m, 1H), 2.45-2.42 (m, 1H), 2.09-2.04 (m, 2H), 1.92-1.87 (m, 2H), 1.29 (s, 3H), 1.17-1.15 (m, 4H), 1.00 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 167.1, 154.8, 129.6, 128.3, 127.5, 51.8, 47.9, 45.6, 44.9, 41.7, 39.1, 37.2, 34.8, 28.4, 22.9, 20.8

IR: v = 2950, 2904, 1723, 1610, 1434, 1278, 1112, 1019, 770, 707 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{18}H_{25}O_2$  (M+H) 273.1855, found 273.1850

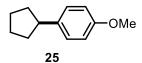


#### 24

**4-Cyclopentylbenzonitrile (24)**: obtained as a colorless oil (81 mg, 95%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.56 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.04 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.10-2.08 (m, 2H), 1.84-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.73-1.70 (m, 2H), 1.60-1.57 (m, 2H) (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 152.5, 132.2, 128.1, 119.4, 109.6, 46.1, 34.6, 25.7 IR: v = 2955, 2869, 2227, 1607, 1504, 1451, 1416, 1178, 830, 657 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS: (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{12}H_{13}N$  (M+) 171.1048, found 171.1044



# 1-Cyclopentyl-4-methoxybenzene (25): obtained as a colorless oil (63 mg, 72%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.19 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.00-2.93 (m, 1H), 2.10-2.04 (m, 2H), 1.83-1.55 (m, 6H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 157.8, 138.7, 128.1, 113.8, 55.4, 45.3, 34.9, 25.6

IR: v = 2950, 2866, 1612, 1513, 1463, 1245, 1178, 1033, 826 cm<sup>-1</sup>

HRMS: (ESI) m/z calc. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O (M+) 176.1201, found 176.1199



26

1-Chloro-2-cyclopentylbenzene (26): obtained as a yellow oil (80 mg, 89%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.36-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.10 (m, 2H), 3.46 (q, J = 9 Hz, 1H), 2.16-2.07 (m, 2H), 1.83-1.72 (m, 4H), 1.59-1.57 (m, 2H)

 $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 143.8, 134.3, 129.5, 127.2, 127.0, 126.9, 42.3, 33.3, 25.6 IR:  $\nu$  = 2951, 2868, 1475, 1442, 1355, 1035, 744 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS: (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{11}H_{13}Cl$  (M+) 180.0706, found 180.0711

Pt

**4-Cyclopentyl-1,1'-biphenyl** (**27**): obtained as a pale yellow semi-solid (98 mg, 88%)  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.67-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.51-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.38 (m, 3H) 3.11 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.19-2.17 (m, 2H), 2.00-1.90 (m, 2H) 1.80-1.70 (m, 4H)

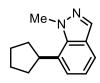
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 145.9, 141.4, 138.9, 129.0, 127.8, 127.23, 127.22, 127.17 45.9, 34.9, 25.8

IR:  $v = 2952, 2869, 1598, 1486, 831, 764, 735, 698 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ 

HRMS: (ESI) m/z calc. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>18</sub> (M+) 222.1409, found 222.1406

**3-Chloro-5-cyclopentylpyridine** (**28**): obtained as a pale yellow oil (80 mg, 88%)  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  8.39 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.37 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.52 (dd, J = 2.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (m, 1H), 2.13-2.10 (m, 2H), 1.85-1.83 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.69 (m, 2H), 1.59-1.52 (m, 2H)

 $^{13}C$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  146.9, 146.0, 143.0, 134.0, 131.7, 42.8, 34.2, 25.3 IR:  $\nu$  = 2954, 2868, 2361, 1580, 1440, 1420, 1295, 1233, 1107, 1022, 935, 879, 709 cm  $^{-1}$  HRMS: (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{10}H_{13}NCl$  (M+H) 182.0737, found 182.0740



29

**7-Cyclopentyl-1-methyl-1H-indazole (28)**: obtained as a dark yellow oil (80 mg, 80%) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  8.08 (s, 1H), 7.35-7.32 (m, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (s, 3H), 3.46 (m, 1H), 2.22-2.18 (m, 2H), 1.90-1.78 (m, 6H) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  140.2, 140.0, 131.7, 126.3, 123.5, 116.8, 106.4, 43.6, 35.5, 33.6, 25.6

IR: v = 2950, 2868, 1606, 1508, 1447, 1272, 1237, 982, 783, 740 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS: (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{13}H_{17}N_2$  (M+H) 201.1392, found 201.1390

30

*trans*-2-Methyl-4-(2-methylcyclopentyl)pyridine (30): obtained as a yellow oil (62 mg, 71%)  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  8.36 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 6.91 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.35 (m, 1H), 2.07-1.90 (m, 3H), 1.77-1.67 (m, 3H), 1.33-1.28 (m, 1H), 0.91 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 158.3, 155.1, 149.1, 122.6, 120.2, 53.9, 42.9, 34.9, 24.6, 24.1, 18.6

IR:  $\nu = 2934$ , 2837, 1698, 1611, 1512, 1247, 1173, 1096, 1034, 818 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{12}H_{18}N$  (M+H) 176.1439, found 176.1439

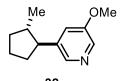
31

*trans-N-*(**4-(2-Methylcyclopentyl)phenyl)acetamide** (**31**): obtained as a white crystalline solid (90 mg, 83%), mp = 118-124 °C

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.60 (br s, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.37 (q, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 2.05-1.72 (m, 6H), 1.31-1.27 (m, 1H), 0.90 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 168.6, 141.7, 135.8, 128.0, 120.3, 54.2, 43.2, 35.5, 34.8, 24.6, 23.9, 18.7

IR:  $\nu$  = 3246, 3123, 2946, 2865, 1661, 1610, 1557, 1512, 1413, 1369, 1327, 826 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO (M+H) 218.1545, found 218.1545



*trans*-3-Methoxy-5-(2-methylcyclopentyl)pyridine (32): obtained as a yellow oil (61 mg, 64%)  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  8.12 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (m, 1H), 7.02-7.01 (m, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.43-2.38 (m, 1H), 2.09-2.07 (m, 1H), 2.00-1.98 (m, 1H), 1.94-1.89 (m, 1H), 1.76-1.69 (m, 3H), 1.31-1.29 (m, 1H), 0.91 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 155.8, 142.2, 141.6, 134.8, 119.6, 55.6, 51.7, 43.2, 35.3, 34.8, 24.0, 18.5

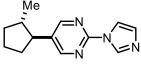
IR: v = 2953, 2868, 1587, 1454, 1427, 1318, 1296, 1176, 1164, 1049, 867, 714 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS: (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{12}H_{18}NO$  (M+H) 192.1388, found 192.1386

*tert*-Butyl *trans*-5-(2-methylcyclopentyl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine-1-carboxylate (33): obtained as a vellow oil (115 mg, 77%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 8.34 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (d, J = 4.0Hz, 1H), 2.53-2.47 (m, 1H), 2.12-2.10 (m, 1H), 2.02-1.90 (m, 2H), 1.81-1.72 (m, 3H), 1.65 (s, 9H), 0.90 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 148.2, 147.4, 145.5, 135.4, 127.4, 126.7, 123.1, 104.5, 83.9, 52.0, 43.6, 35.7, 34.8, 28.3, 23.9, 18.4

IR:  $\nu = 2951$ , 2868, 1757, 1728, 1532, 1472, 1398, 1356, 1318, 1253, 1145, 1092, 730 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{19}H_{25}N_2O_2$  (M+H) 301.1916, found 301.1905



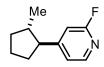
34

*trans*-2-(1H-Imidazol-1-yl)-5-(2-methylcyclopentyl)pyrimidine (34): obtained as a dark yellow oil (79 mg, 69%)

 $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 8.63 (s, 1H), 8.52 (s, 2H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 2.48-2.42 (m, 1H), 2.20-2.13 (s, 1H), 2.10-2.03 (m, 1H), 1.98-1.92 (m, 1H), 1.87-1.71 (m, 3H), 1.42-1.34 (m, 1H), 0.98 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 159.4, 157.6, 136.0, 135.6, 130.3, 116.4, 48.9, 43.0, 34.7, 34.4, 23.6, 18.2

IR:  $\nu = 3127, 2947, 2866, 1568, 1477, 1450, 1314, 1097, 931, 795, 754, 651 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{13}H_{17}N_4$  (M+H) 229.1453, found 229.1453



35

*trans*-2-Fluoro-4-(2-methylcyclopentyl)pyridine (35): obtained as a pale yellow oil (70 mg, 78%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 8.09 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01-6.99 (m, 1H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 2.49-2.43 (m, 1H), 2.15-2.08 (m, 1H), 2.04-1.89 (m, 2H), 1.83-1.65 (m, 3H), 1.37-1.29 (m, 1H), 0.94 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 164.1 (d, J = 237.7 Hz), 160.9 (d, J = 7.4 Hz), 147.2 (d, J = 15.4 Hz), 120.6 (d, J = 3.6 Hz), 108.0 (d, J = 36.6 Hz), 53.6 (d, J = 2.6 Hz), 42.9, 34.7, 34.6, 23.9, 18.3

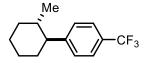
IR: v = 2953, 2869, 1610, 1563, 1482, 1414, 1273, 996, 974, 832 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NF (M+H) 180.1189, found 180.1189

36

*trans*-5-(2-Methylcyclohexyl)picolinonitrile (36): Reaction was run on 0.40 mmol scale; obtained as a pale yellow oil (68 mg, 85%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 8.52 (s, 1H), 7.63-7.59 (m, 2H), 2.22-2.17 (m, 1H), 1.87-1.77 (m, 4H), 1.62-1.58 (m, 1H), 1.44-1.33 (m, 3H), 1.15-1.10 (m, 1H), 0.65 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 151.3, 146.5, 135.6, 131.6, 128.5, 117.6, 50.1, 37.5, 35.5, 35.2, 26.6, 26.4, 20.7

IR: v = 2925, 2854, 2234, 1566, 1470, 1024, 845, 652, 632 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{13}H_{17}N_2$  (M+H) 201.1392, found 201.1385



37

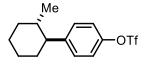
*trans*-1-(2-Methylcyclohexyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (37): obtained as a colorless oil (90 mg, 74%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.53 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.17-2.12 (m, 1H), 1.82-177 (m, 4H), 1.61-1.57 (m, 1H), 1.45-1.35 (m, 3H), 1.13-1.10 (m, 1H), 0.65 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

 $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 151.1, 128.2 (q, J = 32.1 Hz), 128.0, 125.3 (q, J = 3.9 Hz), 124.6 (q, J = 271.6 Hz), 52.6, 37.7, 35.7, 35.6, 26.9, 26.7, 20.8

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 470 MHz): δ -62.2

IR: v = 2928, 2858, 1618, 1325, 1163, 1124, 1069, 1020, 830 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{14}H_{17}F_3$  (M+) 242.1282, found 242.1283



*trans*-4-(2-Methylcyclohexyl)phenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (38): obtained as a colorless oil (120 mg, 75%)

 $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.22 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 2.14-2.09 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.78 (m, 4H), 1.60-1.53 (m, 1H), 1.44-1.35 (m, 3H), 1.13-1.06 (m, 1H), 0.65 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 147.5, 147.3, 129.0, 120.9, 118.7 (q, J = 320.7 Hz), 51.8, 37.6, 35.5, 35.4, 26.7, 26.4, 20.5

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 470 MHz): δ -72.9

IR: v = 3339, 2970, 2929, 1426, 1379, 1213, 1142, 1131, 952, 883, 817 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{14}H_{16}O_{3}F_{3}S$  (M-H) 321.0772, found 321.0787

*trans*-Methyl 3-(2-methylcyclohexyl)benzoate (39): obtained as a colorless oil (100 mg, 86%)  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.87-7.86 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.34 (m, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.17-2.15 (m, 1H), 2.13-1.80 (m, 4H), 1.64-1.62 (m, 1H), 1.51-1.28 (m, 3H), 1.14-1.06 (m, 1H), 0.66 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 167.3, 147.1, 132.2, 130.0, 128.5, 128.2, 127.0, 52.3, 51.9, 37.5, 35.6, 35.5, 26.8, 26.5, 20.6

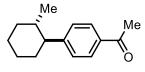
IR: v = 2923, 2852, 1723, 1445, 1432, 1285, 1196, 1107, 1086, 752, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{15}H_{21}O_2$  (M+H) 233.1542, found 233.1553

*trans*-2-(2-Methylcyclohexyl)benzo[b]thiophene (40): obtained as a colorless crystal (73 mg, 63%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.78 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 2.52-2.47 (m, 1H), 2.02 (dd, J = 3.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 1.85-1.78 (m, 3H), 1.60-1.36 (m, 4H), 1.15-1.13 (m, 1H), 0.83 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 152.1, 140.1, 139.0, 124.1, 123.4, 122.8, 122.4, 119.8, 48.4, 39.3, 36.8, 35.7, 26.9, 26.5, 21.0

IR:  $\nu$  = 2923, 2851, 1445, 1443, 1309, 1128, 819, 744, 655, 636 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{15}H_{19}S$  (M+H) 231.1207, found 231.1208

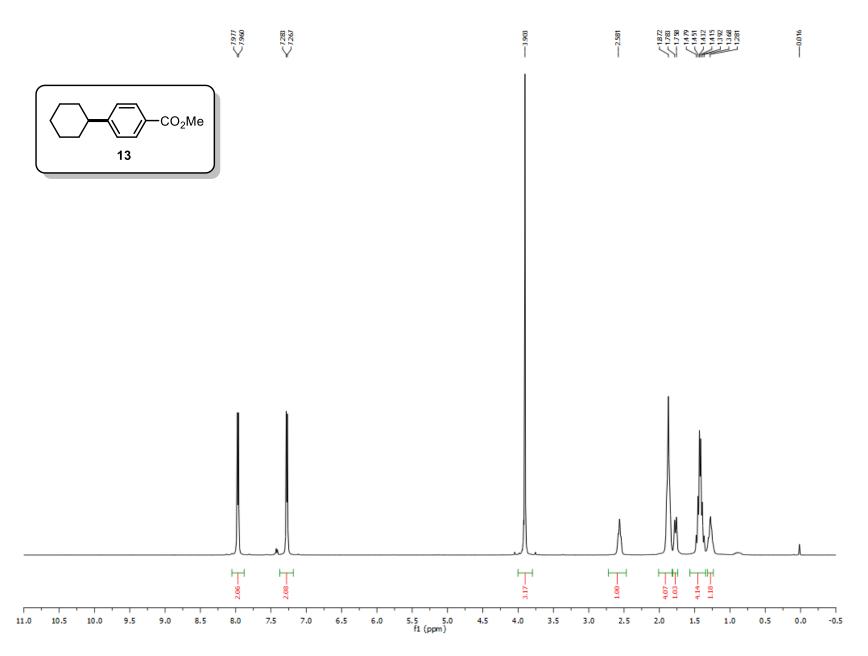


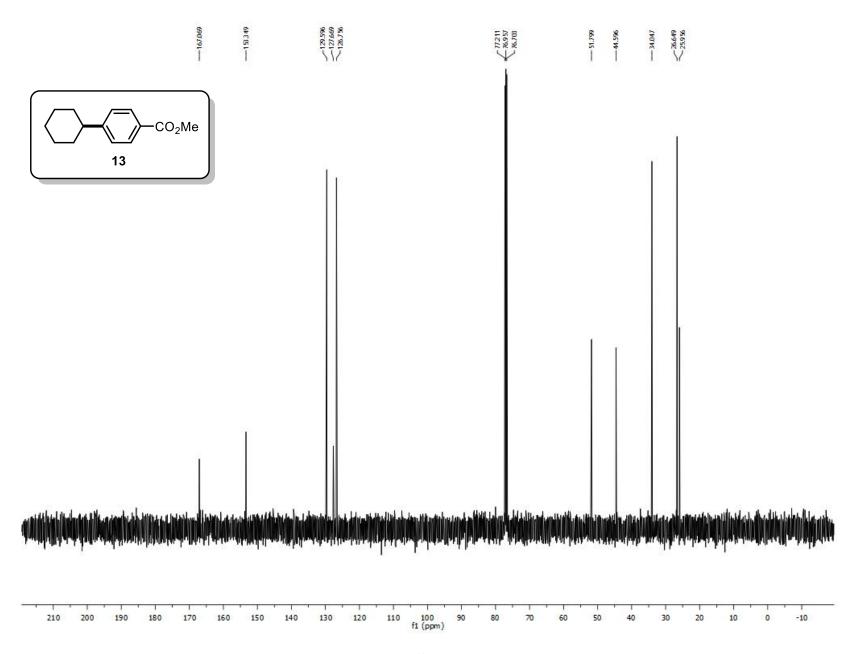
*trans*-1-(4-(2-Methylcyclohexyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one (41): obtained as a colorless oil (89 mg, 82%)

 $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.78-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.37 (m, 2H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 2.19-2.14 (m, 1H), 1.86-1.78 (m, 4H), 1.65-1.62 (m, 1H), 1.49-1.27 (m, 3H), 1.14-1.08 (m, 1H), 0.66 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H)

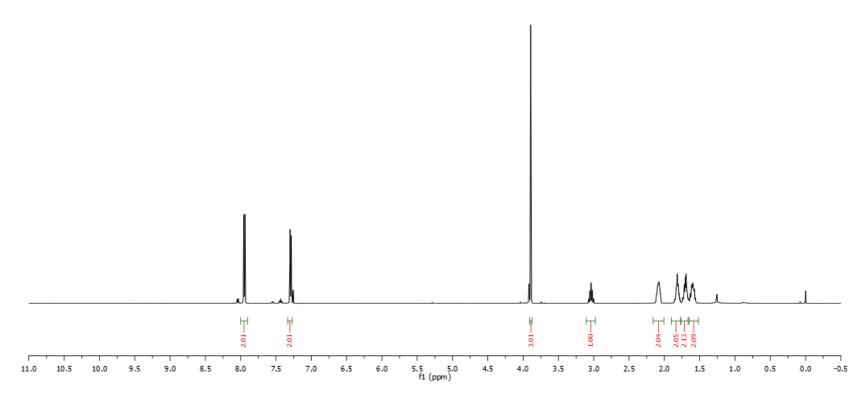
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 198.4, 147.4, 137.1, 132.4, 128.4, 127.1, 126.0, 52.3, 37.5, 35.6, 35.5, 26.8, 26.6, 26.5, 20.6

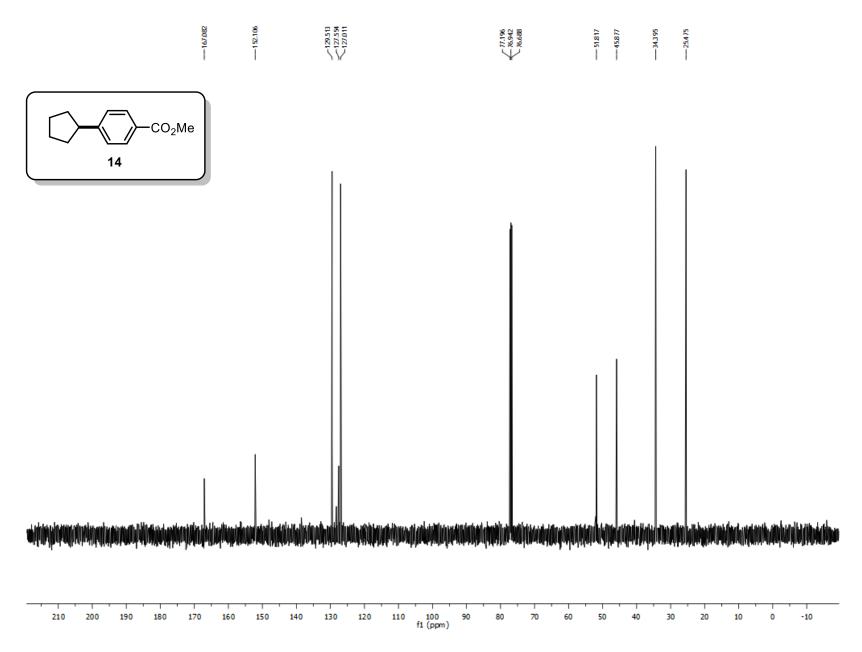
IR: v = 2922, 2853, 1685, 1600, 1444, 1359, 1266, 1229, 1186, 799, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup> HRMS (ESI) m/z calc. for  $C_{15}H_{21}O$  (M+H) 217.1592, found 217.1586

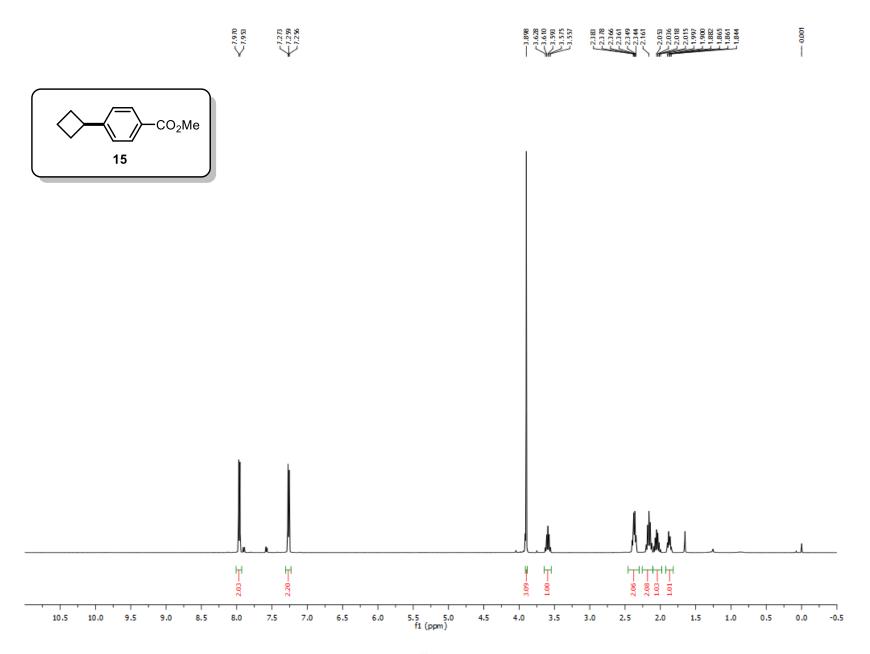


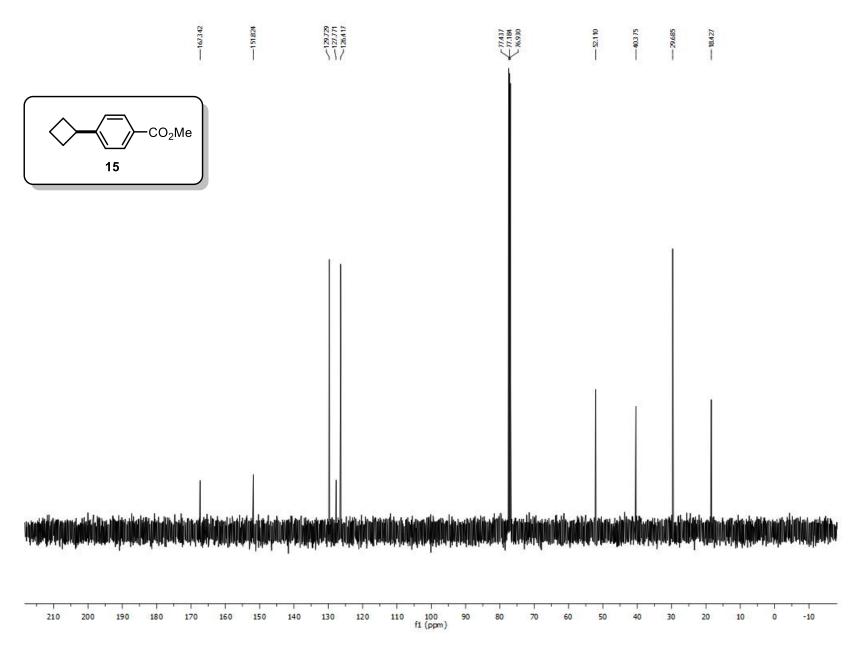


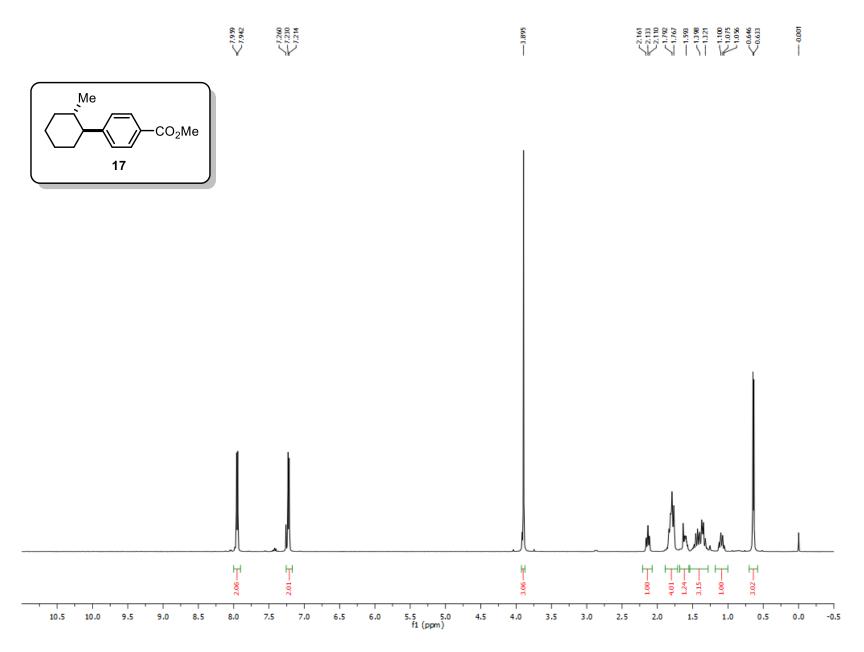




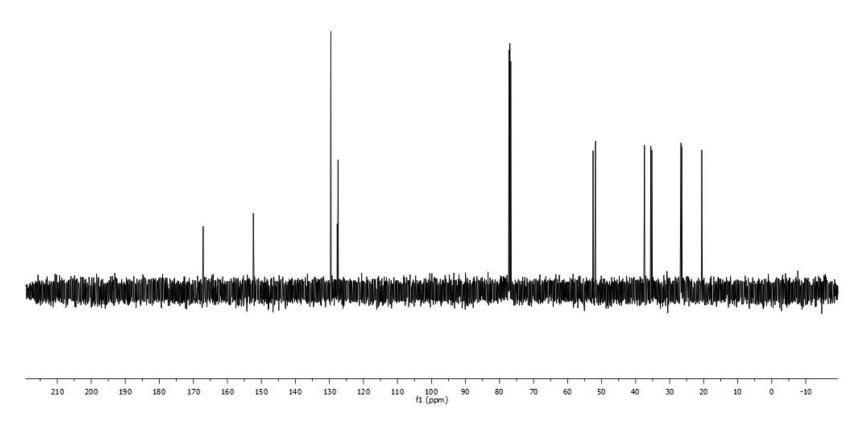


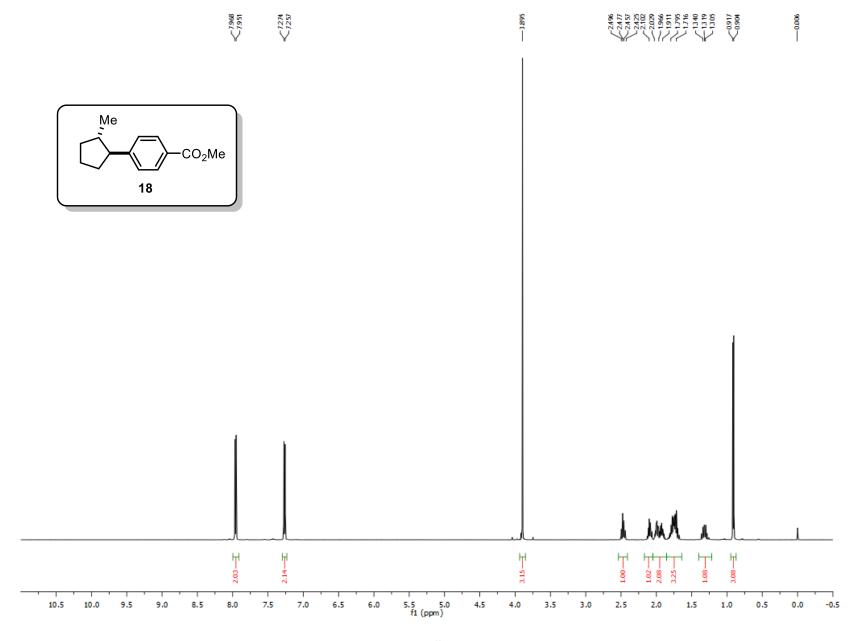


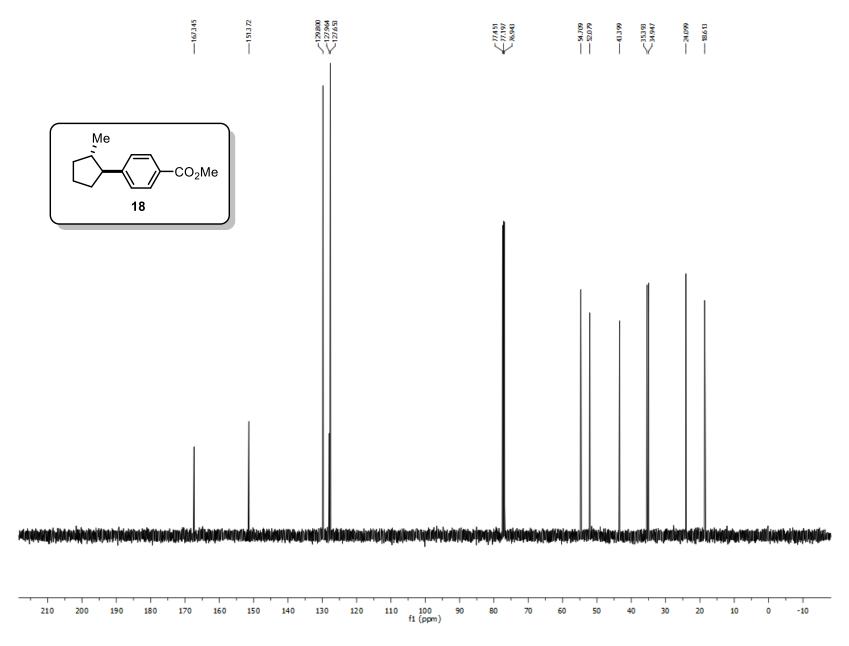


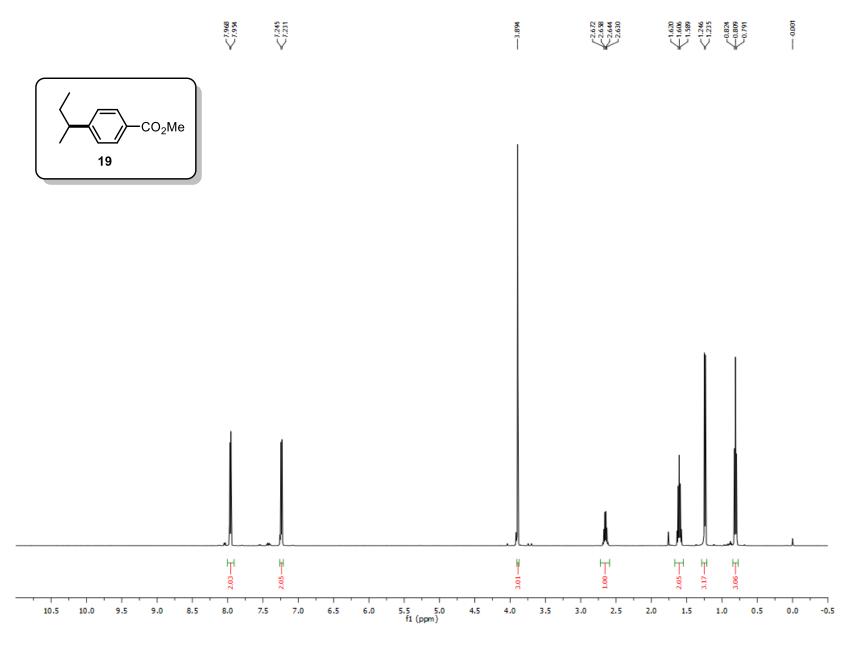


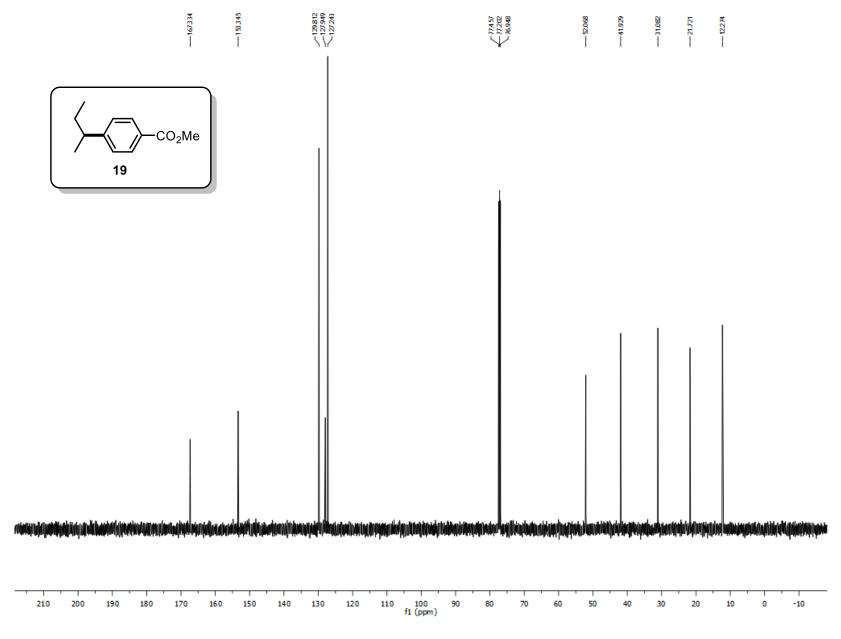


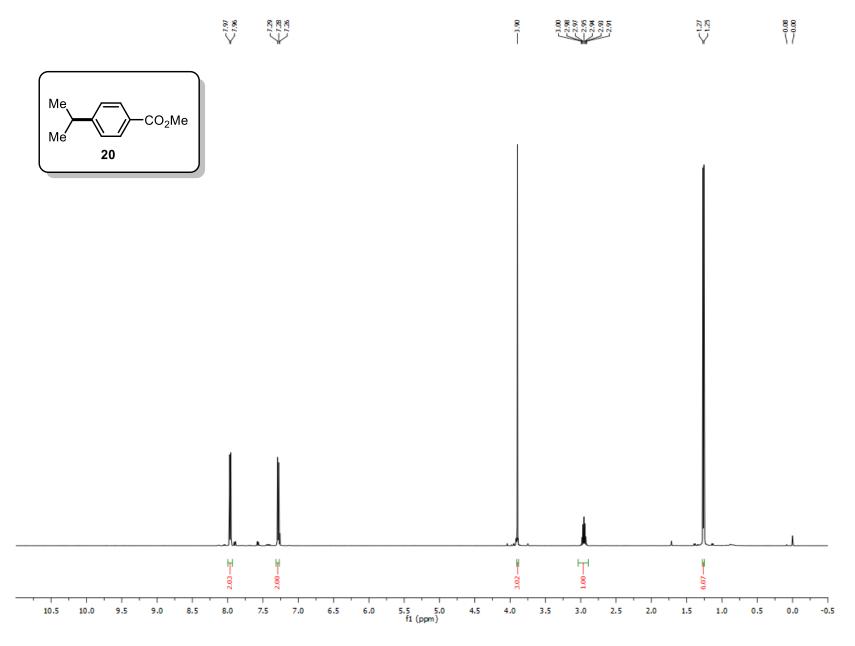


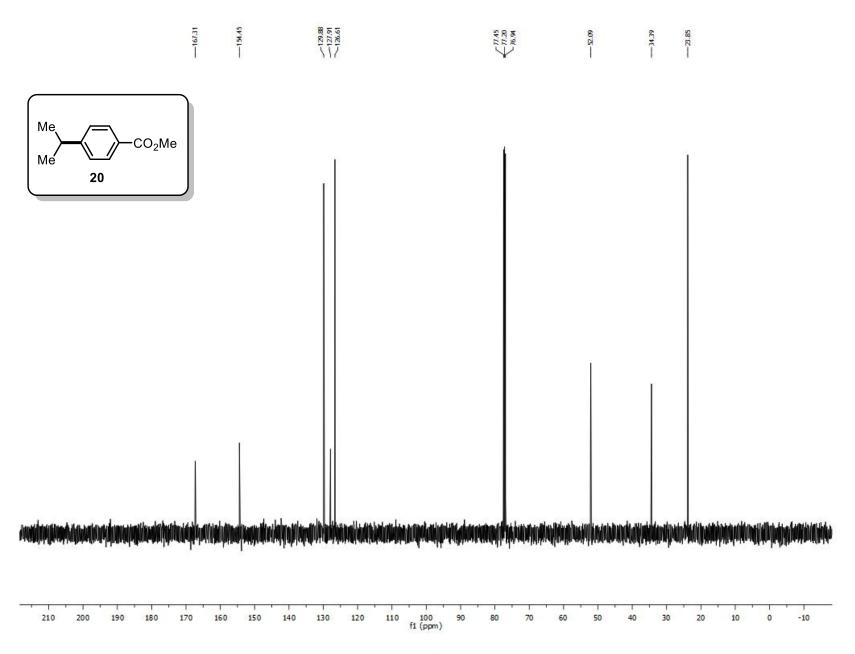


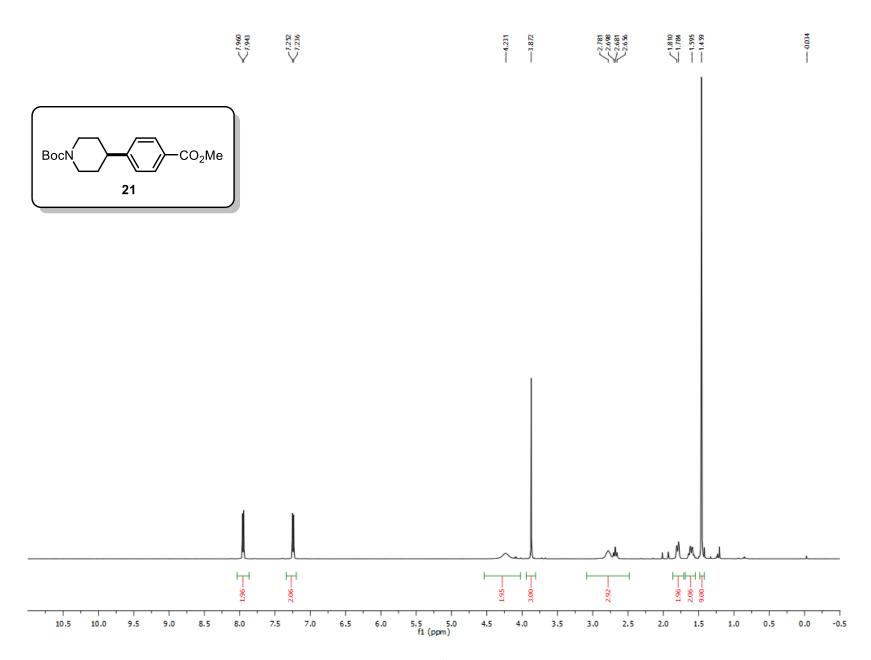




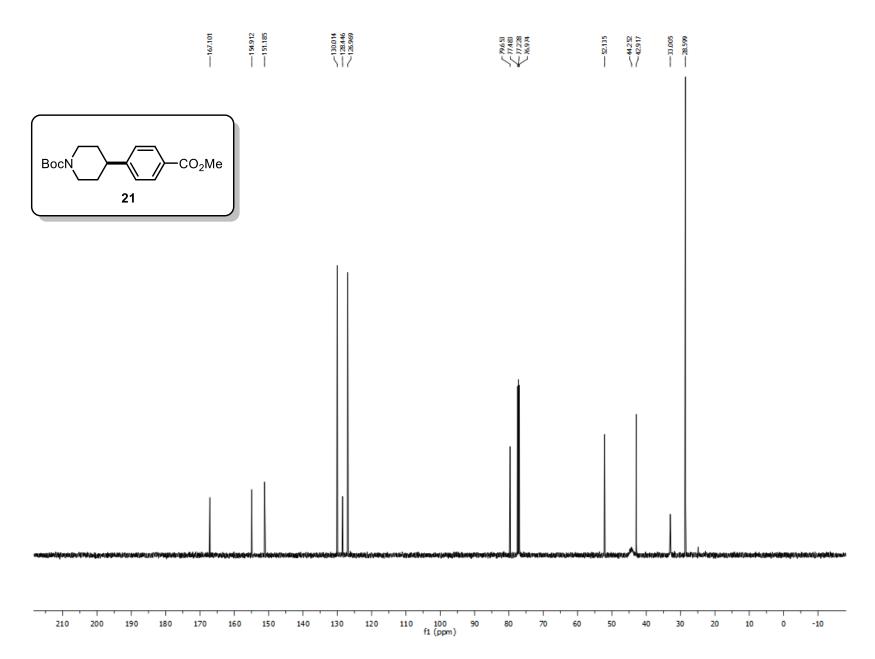


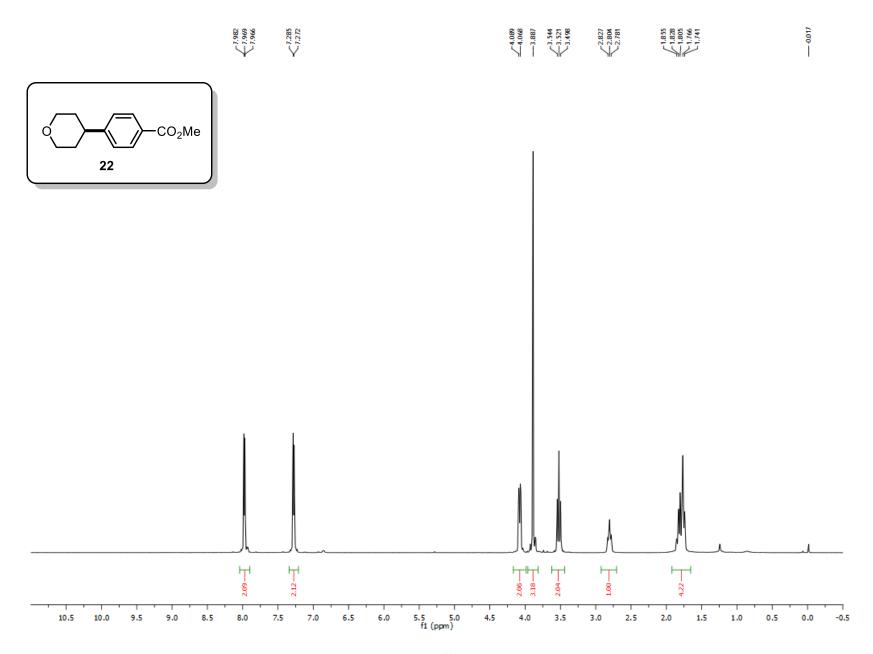


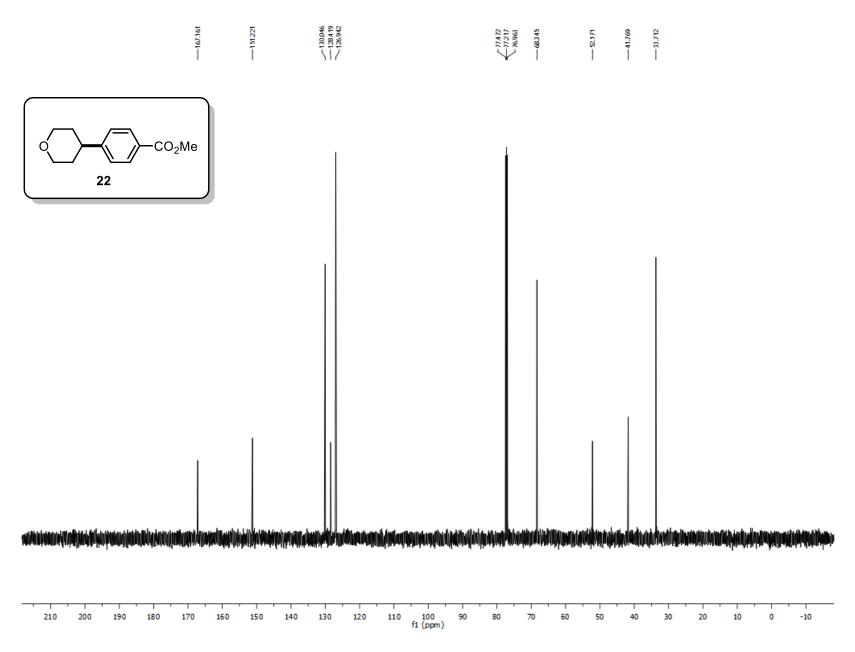


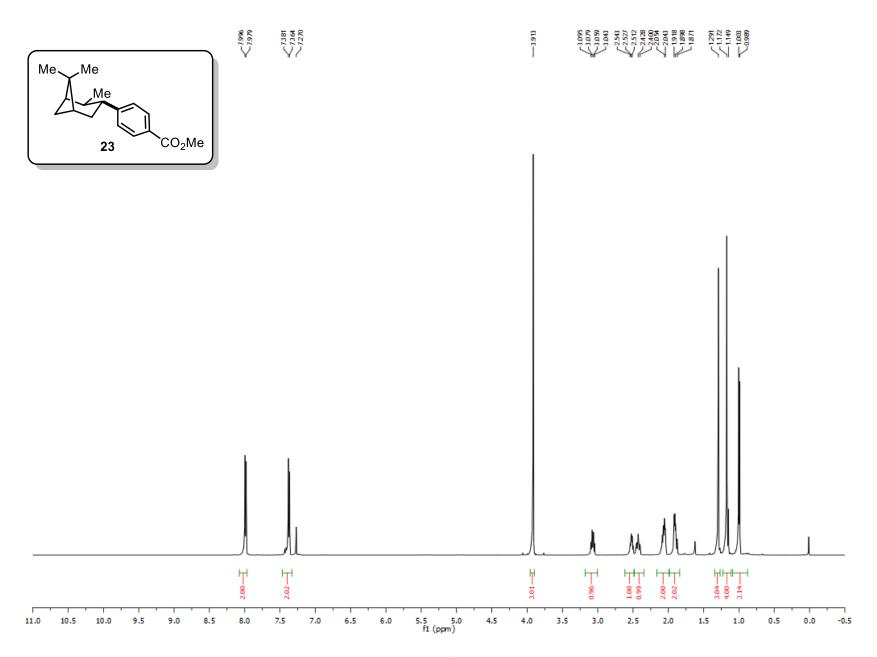


<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz) spectrum of *tert*-butyl 4-(4-(methoxycarbonyl)phenyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (**21**)

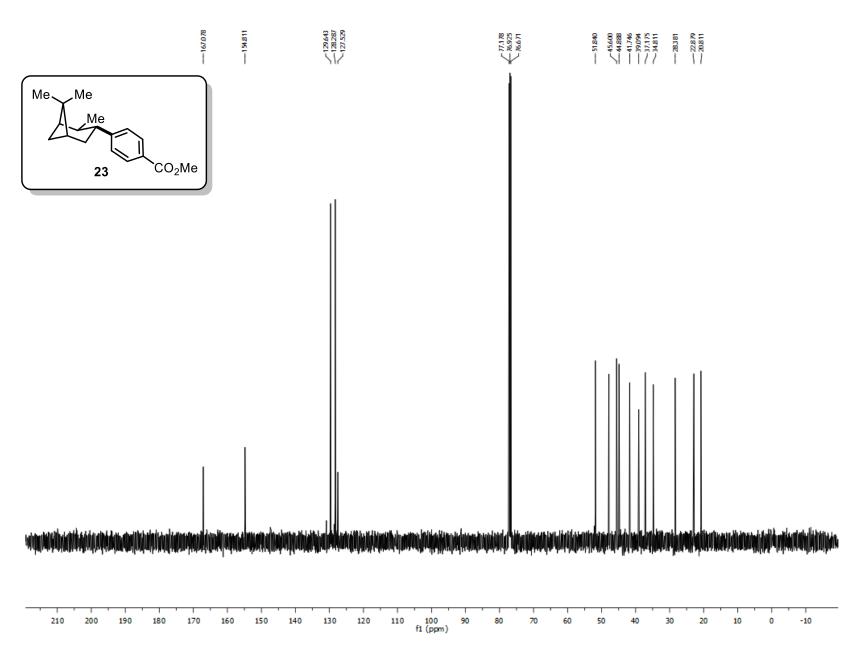


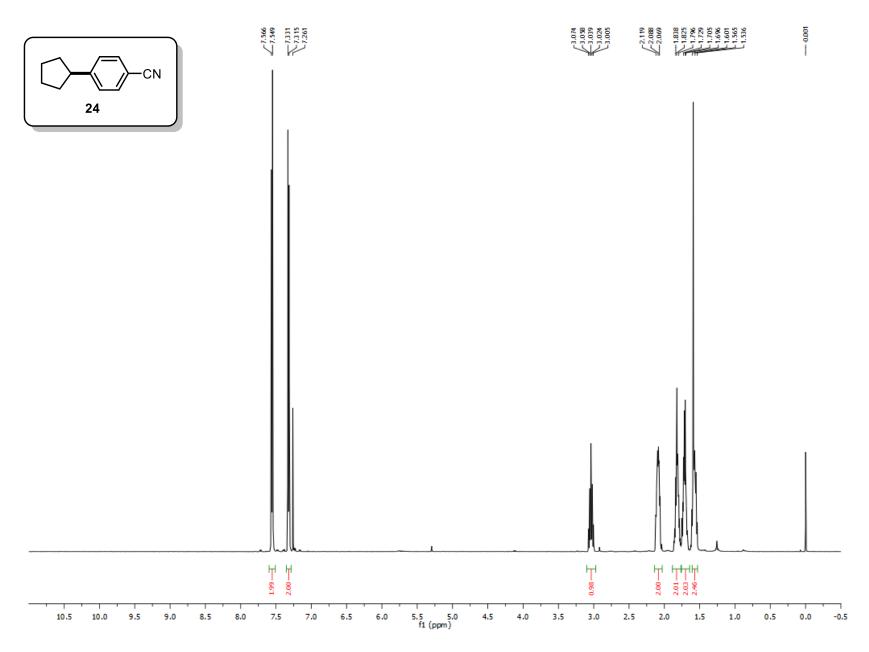


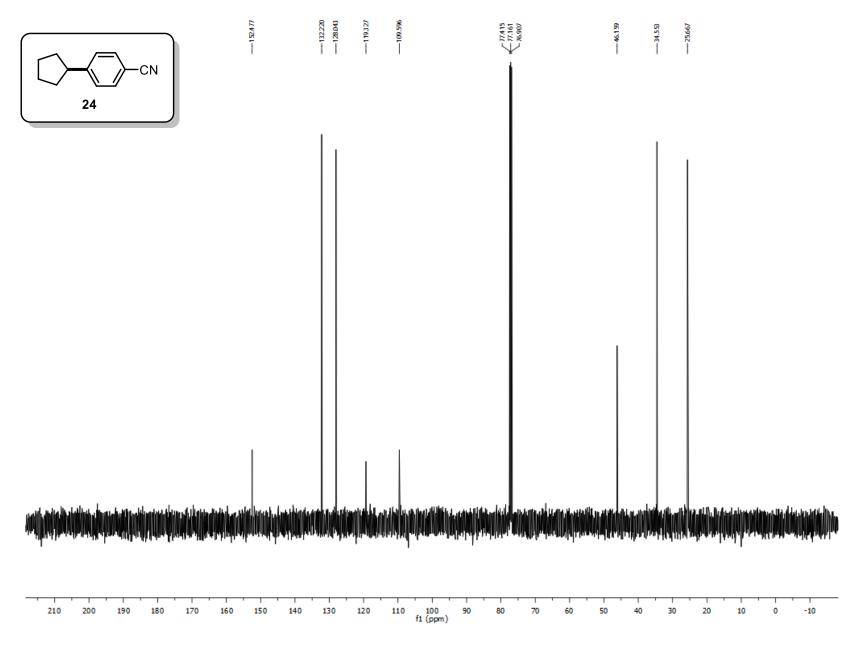


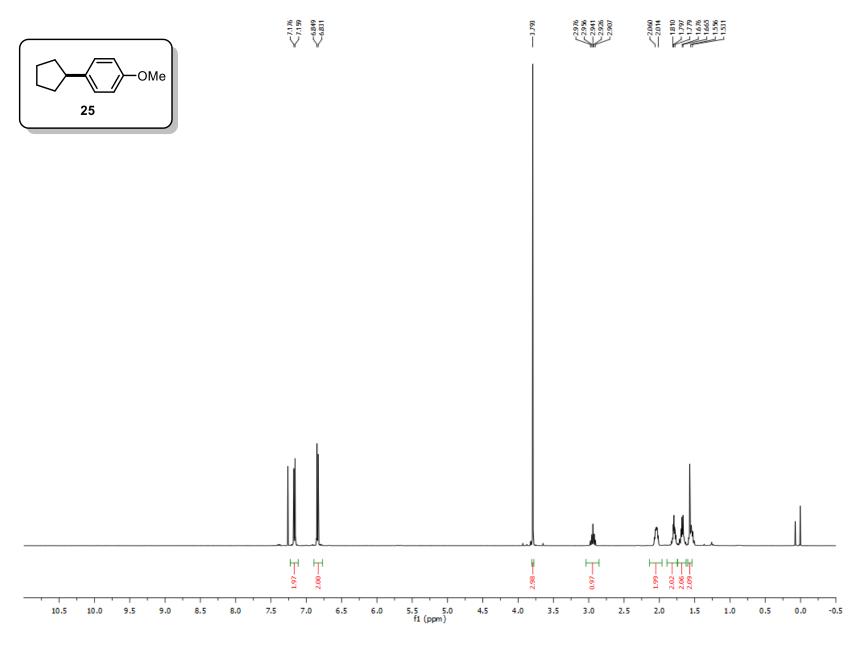


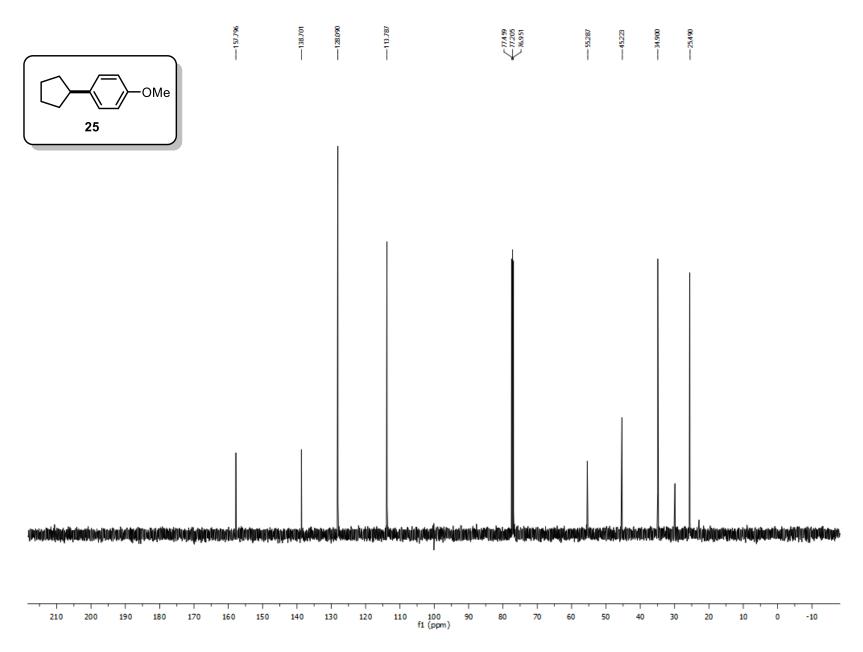
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz) spectrum of methyl 4-((3,6,6-trimethylbicyclo[3.1.1]heptan-2-yl)benzoate (23)

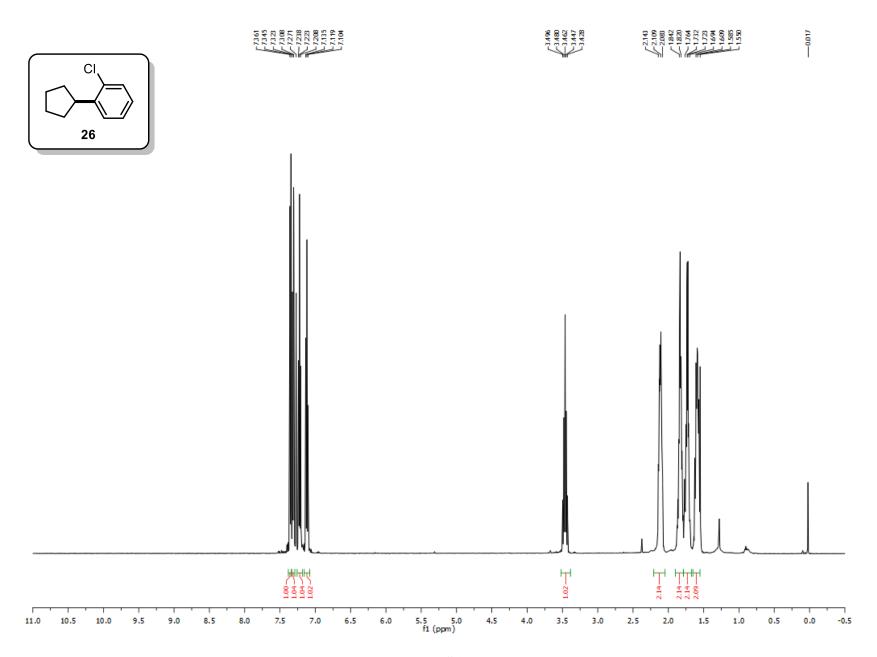


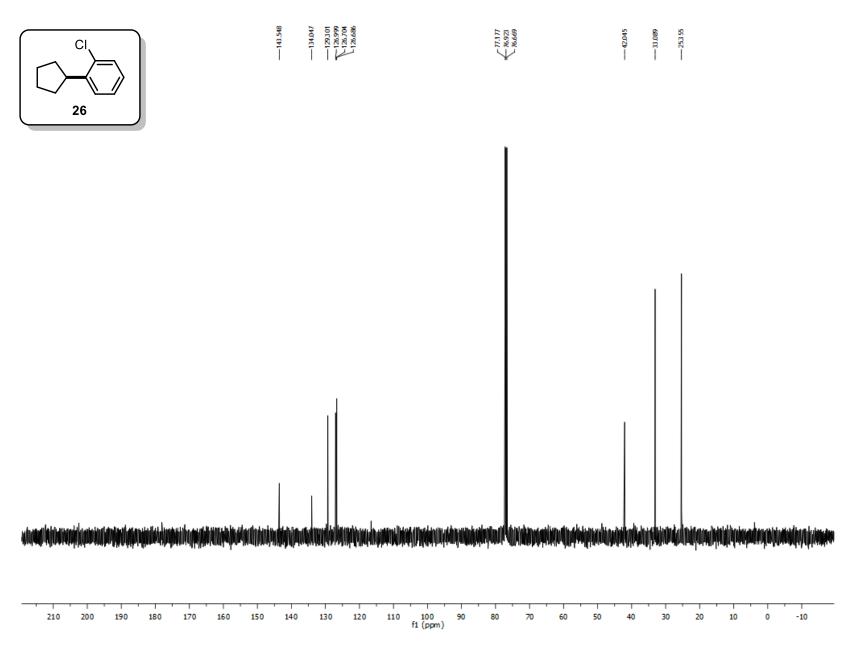


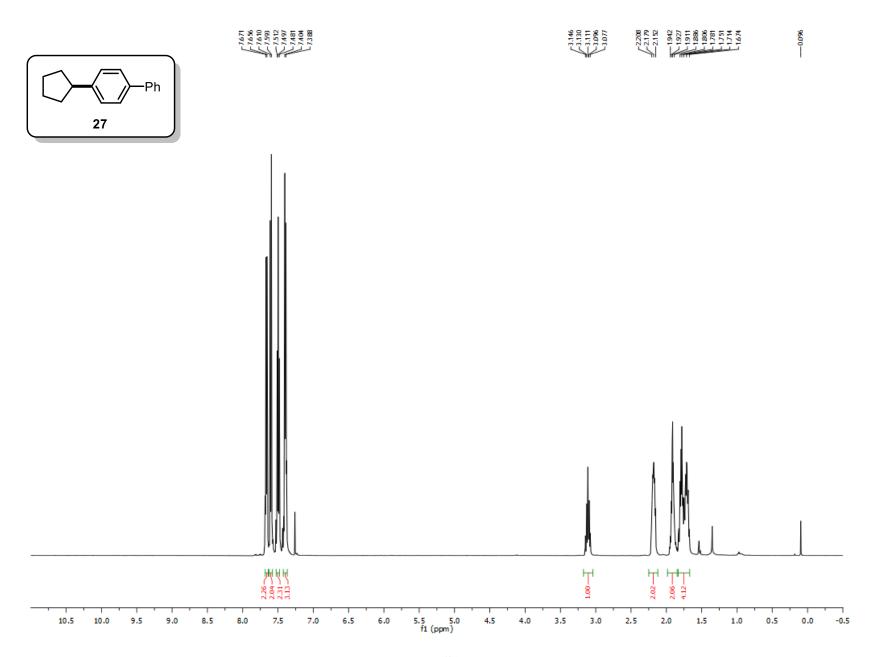


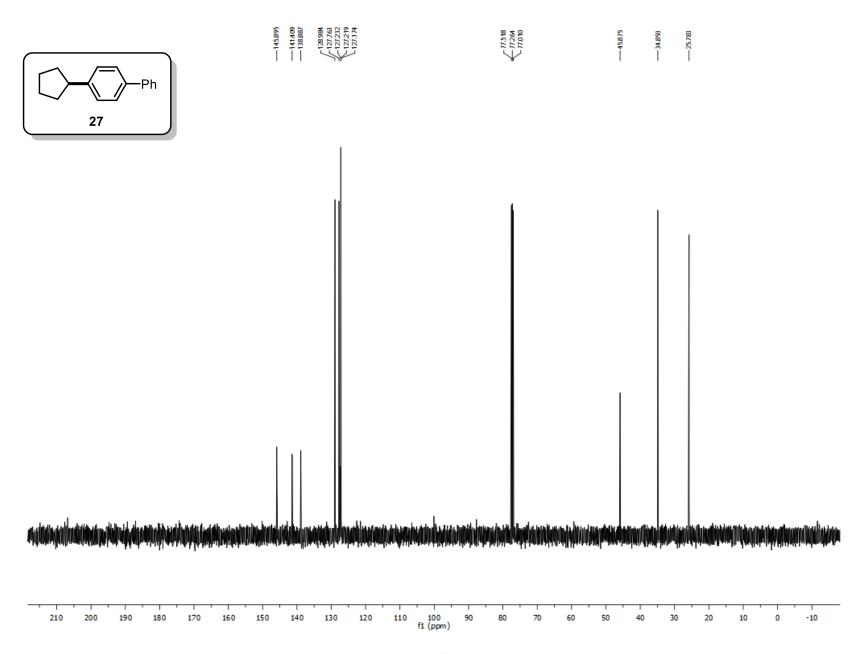


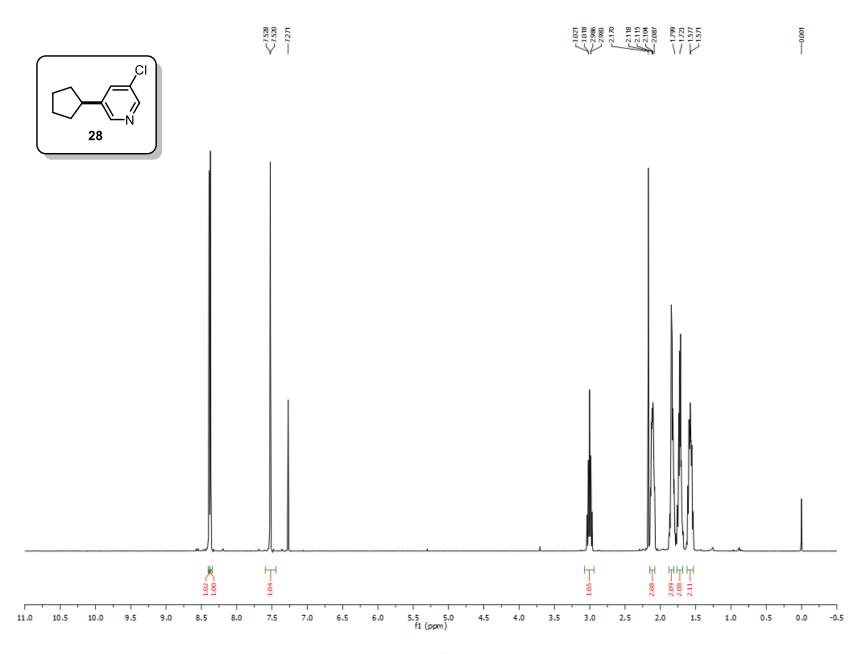


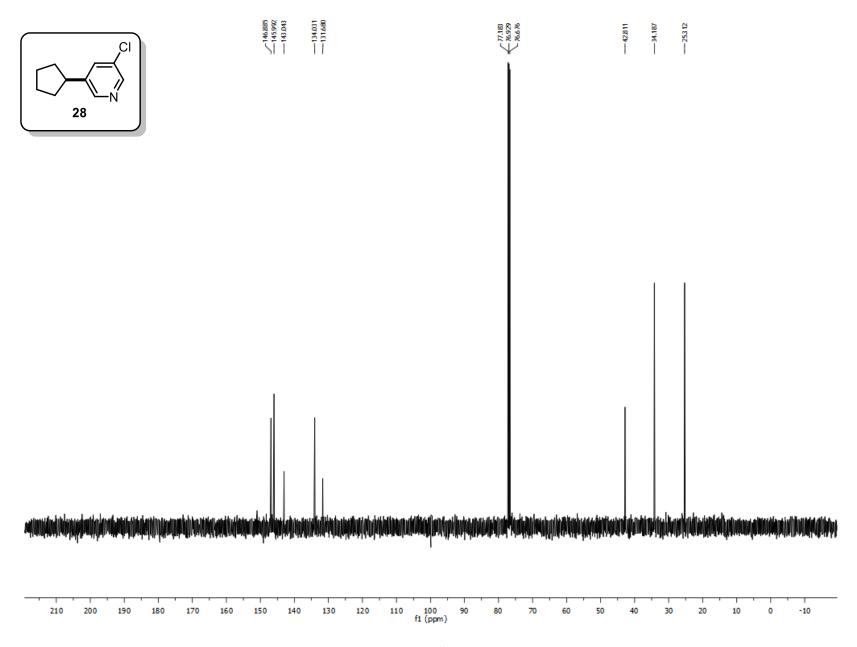


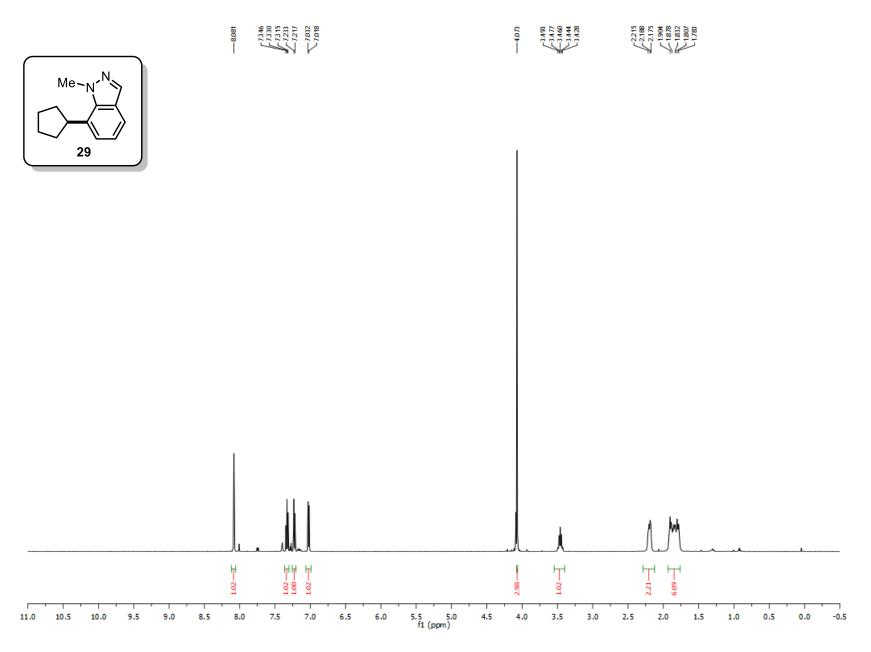


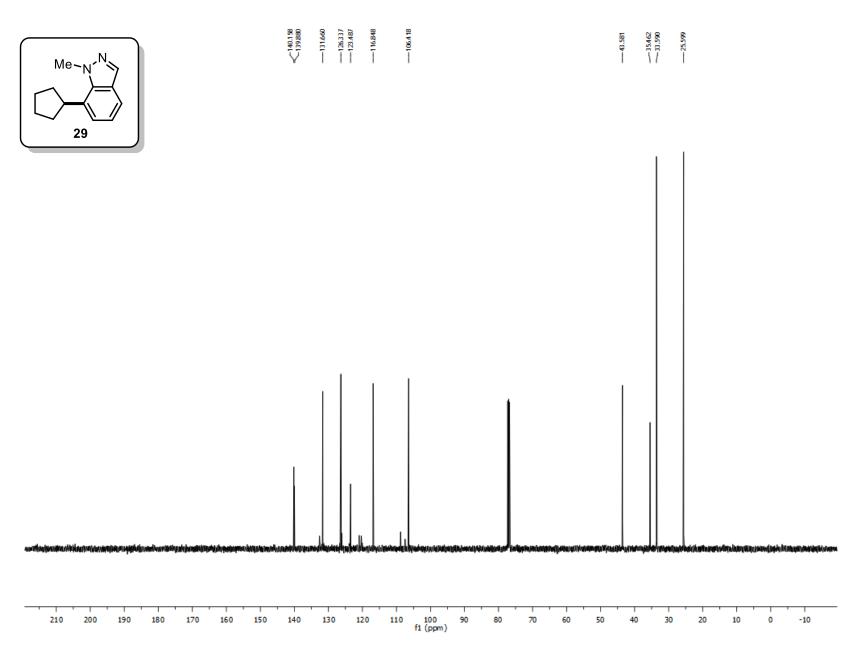


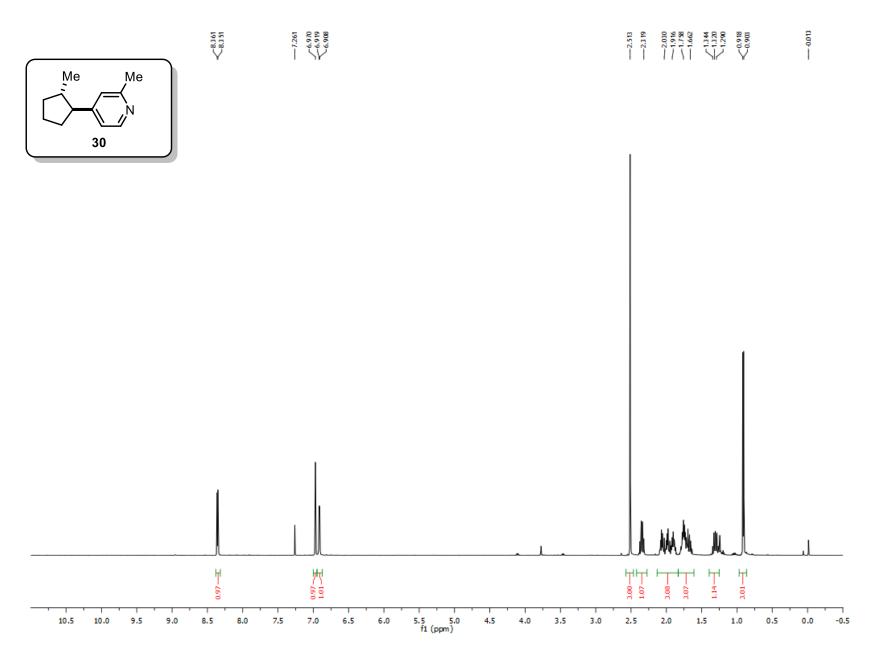


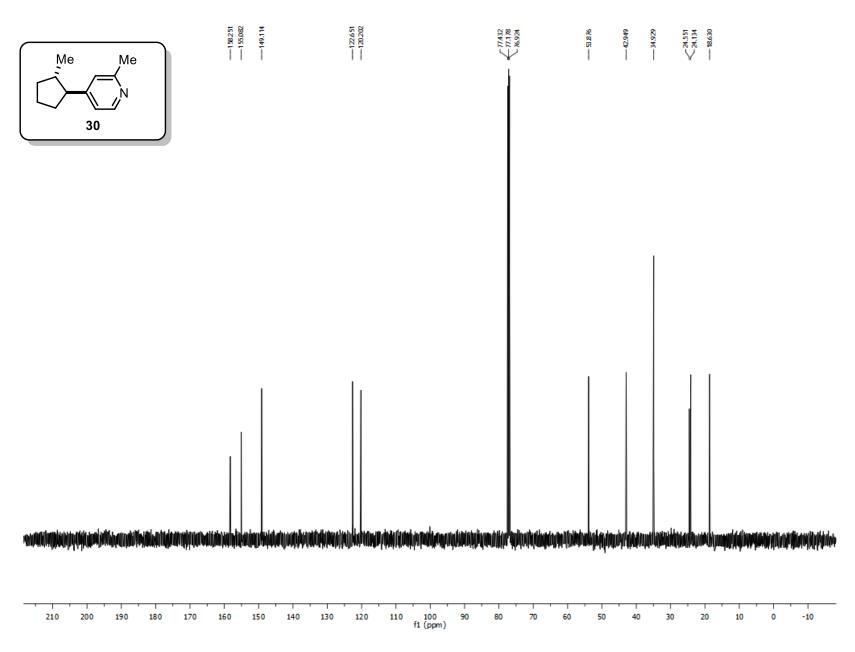


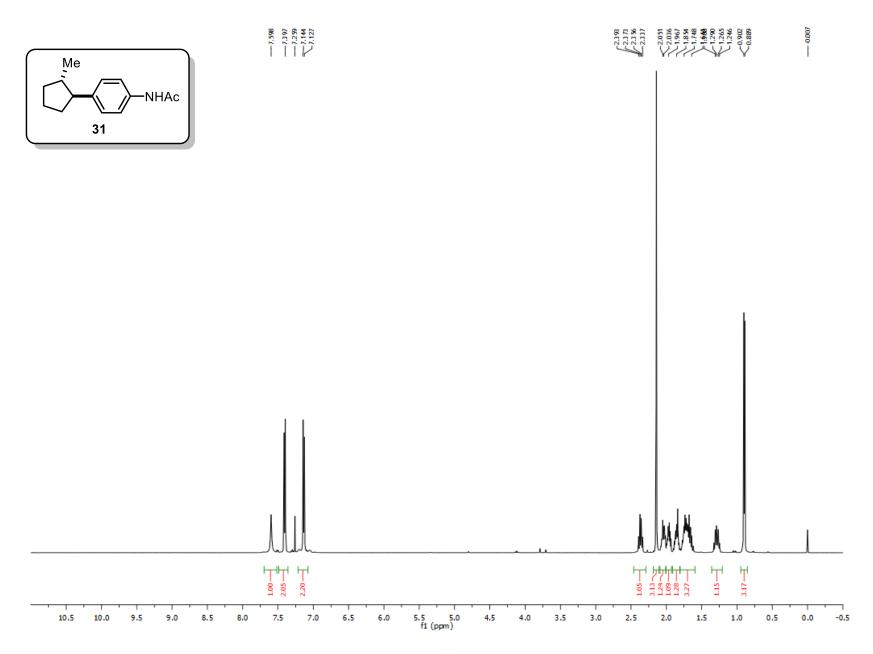


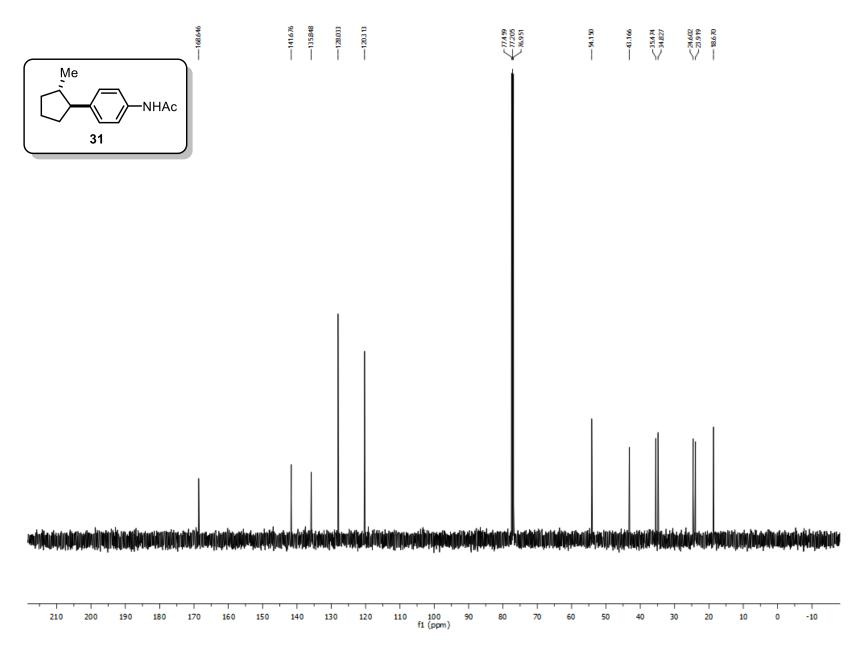


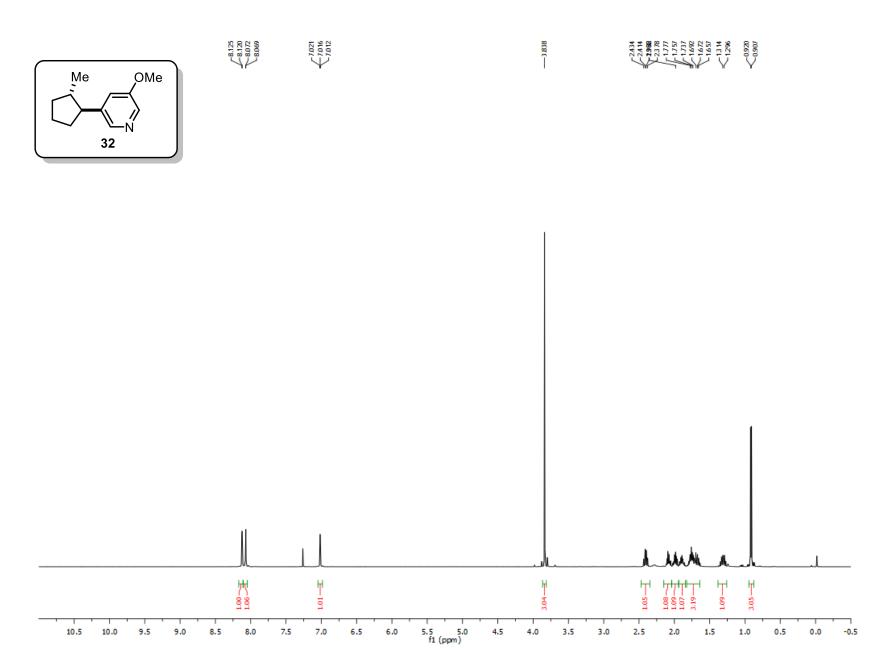


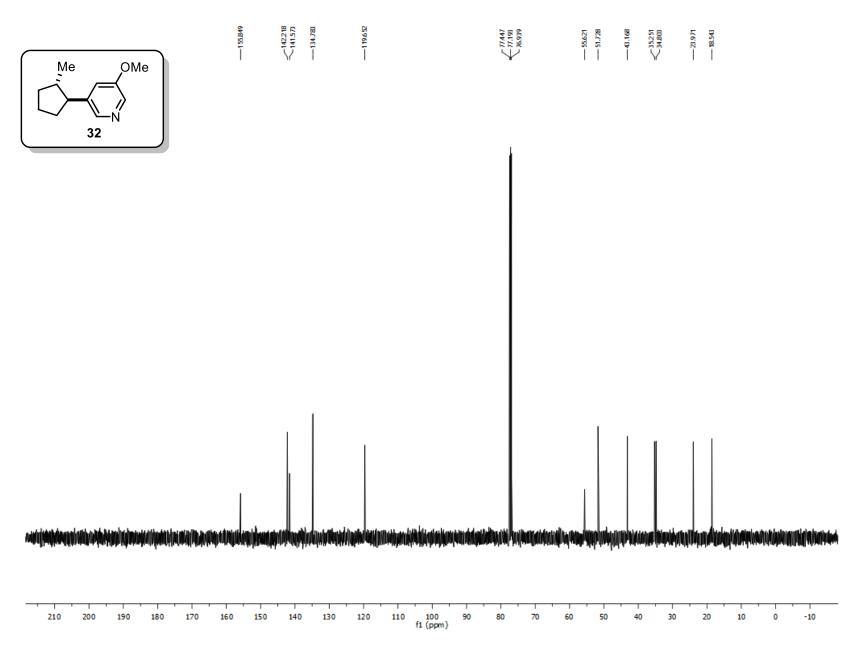


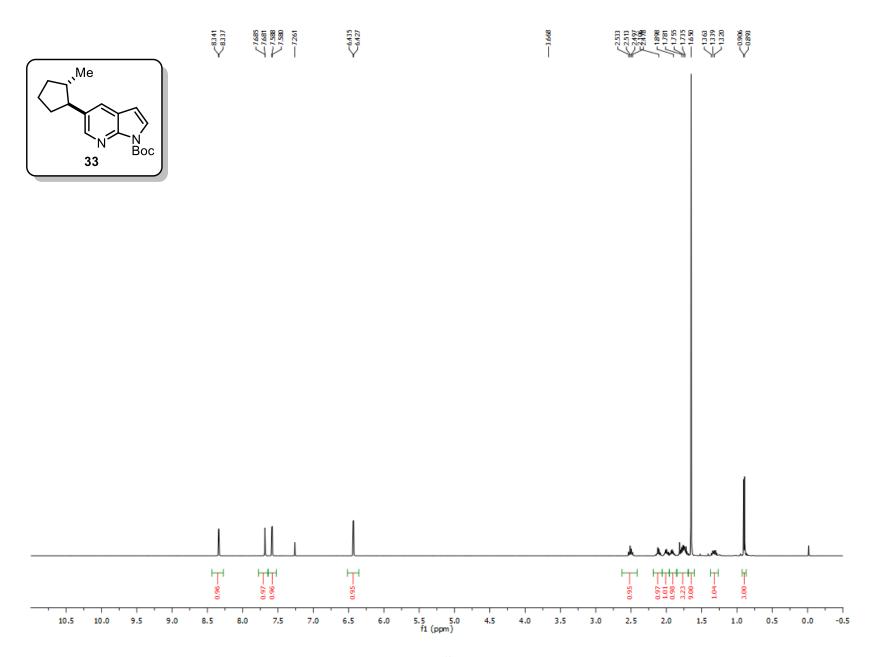


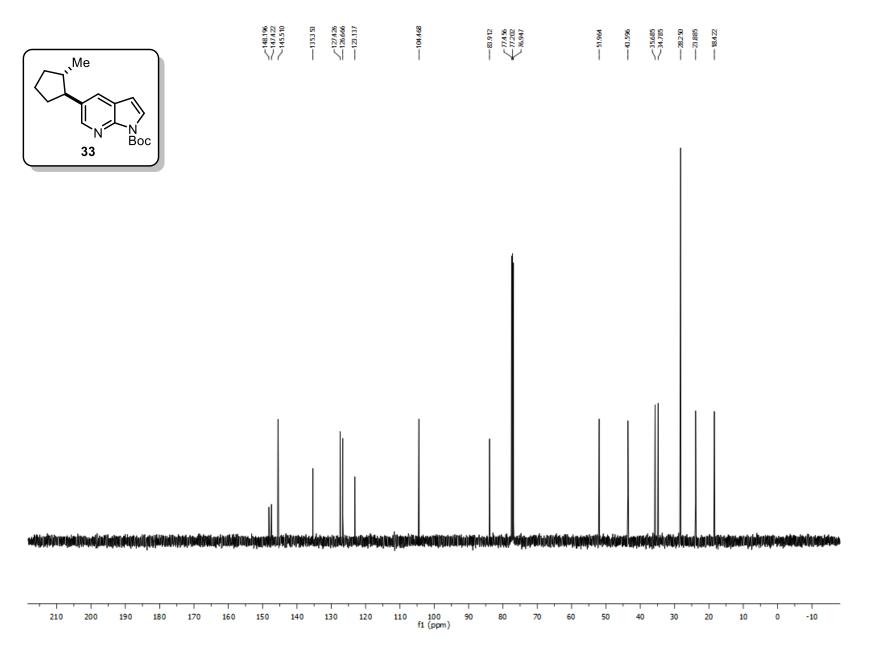




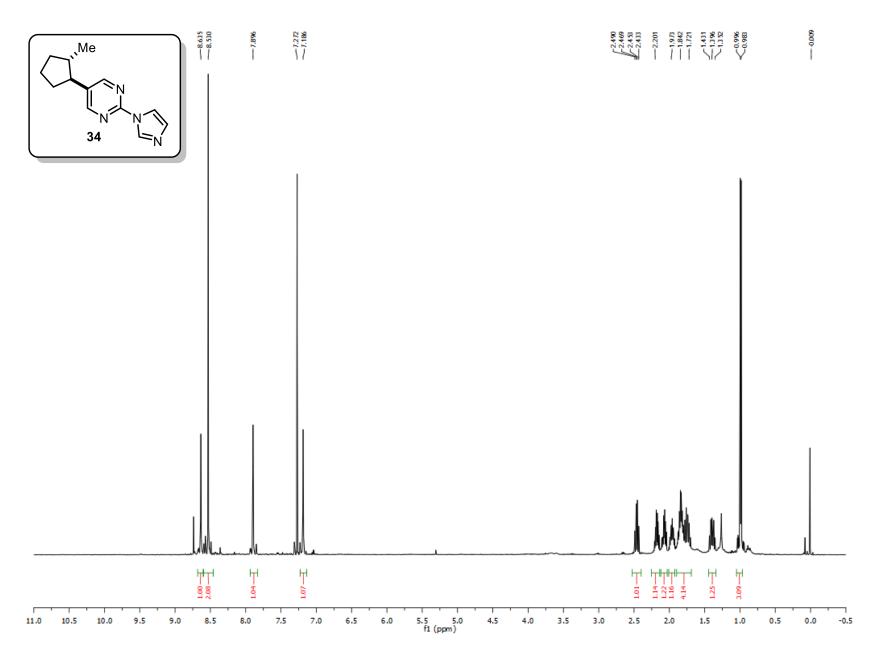




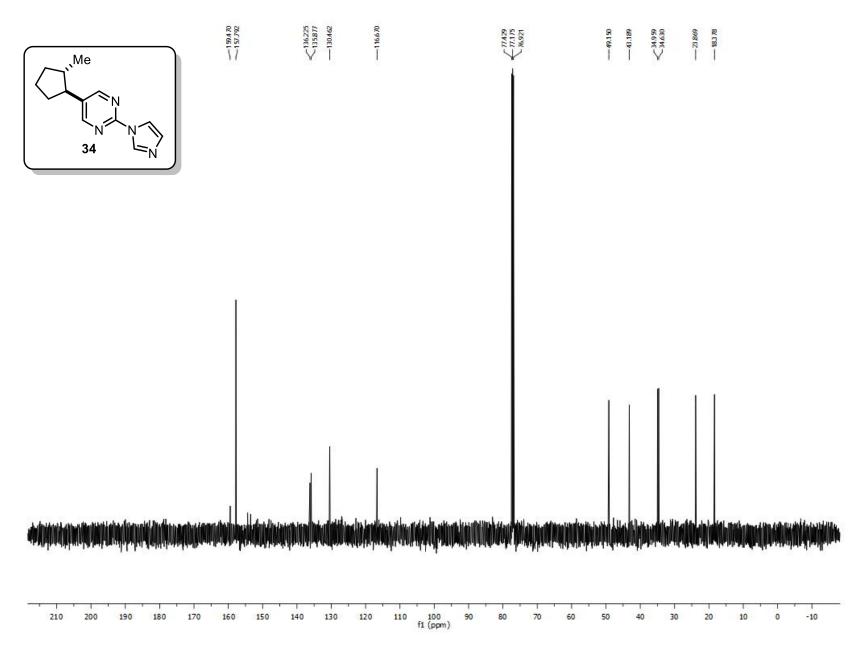


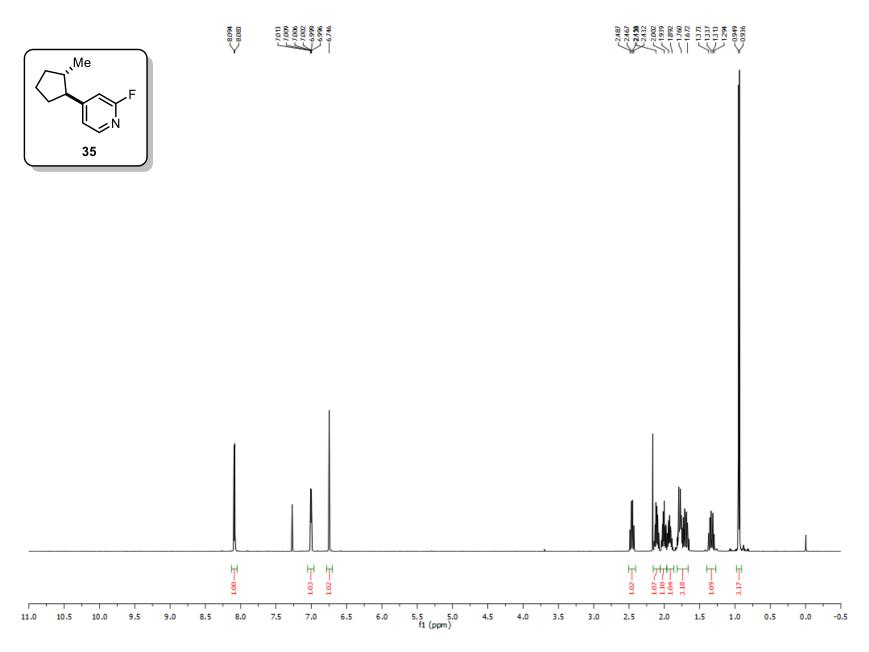


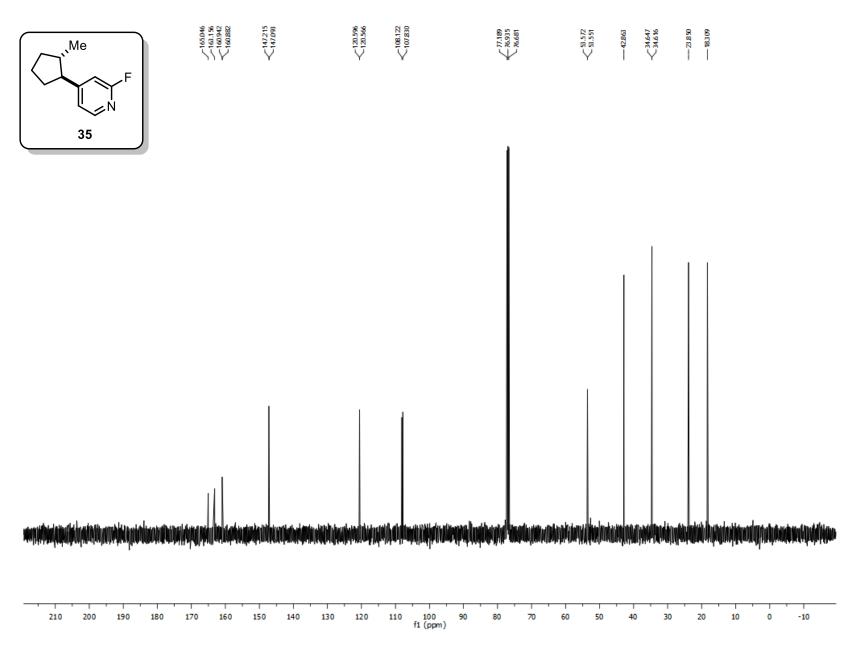
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz) spectrum of (±)-trans-2-(1H-Imidazol-1-yl)-5-(2-methylcyclopentyl)pyrimidine (**34**)

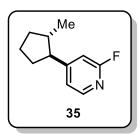


 $^{13}C\ NMR\ (CDCl_3,\ 125.8\ MHz)\ spectrum\ of\ (\pm)\text{-}\textit{trans}\text{-}2\text{-}(1H\text{-}Imidazol\text{-}1\text{-}yl)\text{-}5\text{-}(2\text{-}methylcyclopentyl)} pyrimidine\ \textbf{(34)}$ 

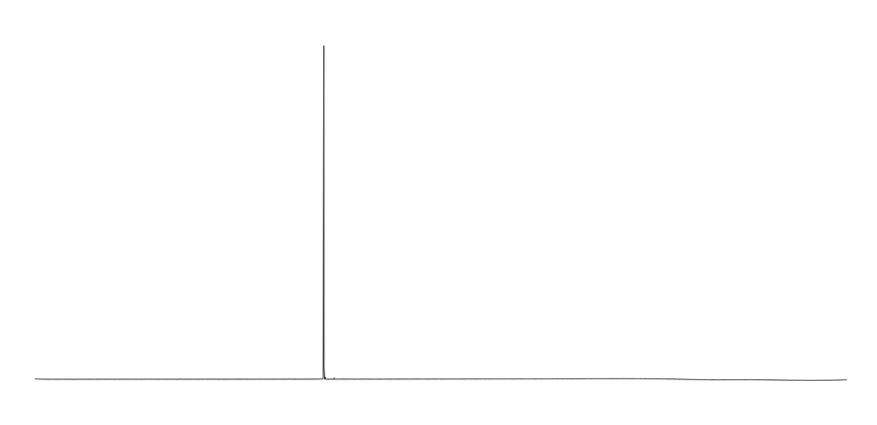


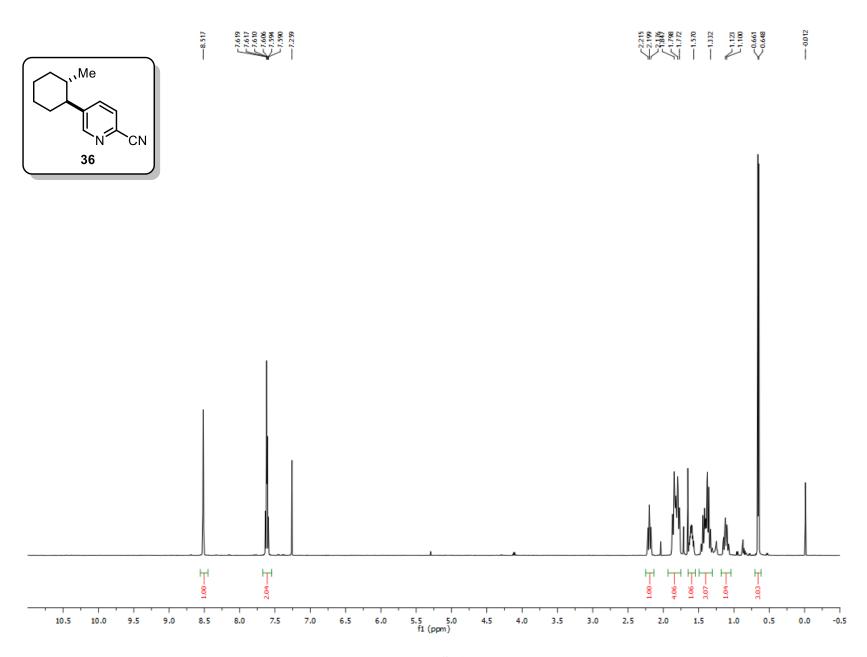


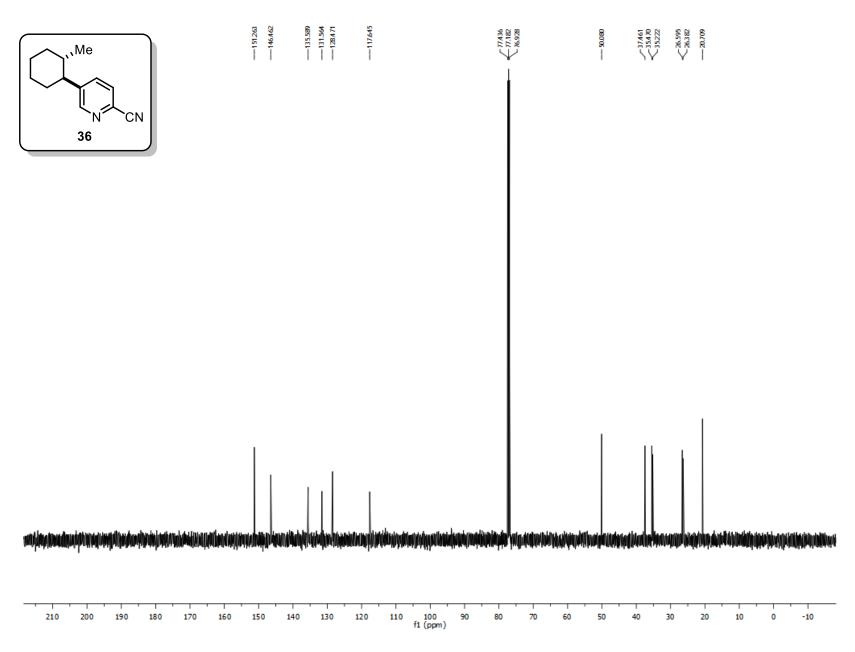


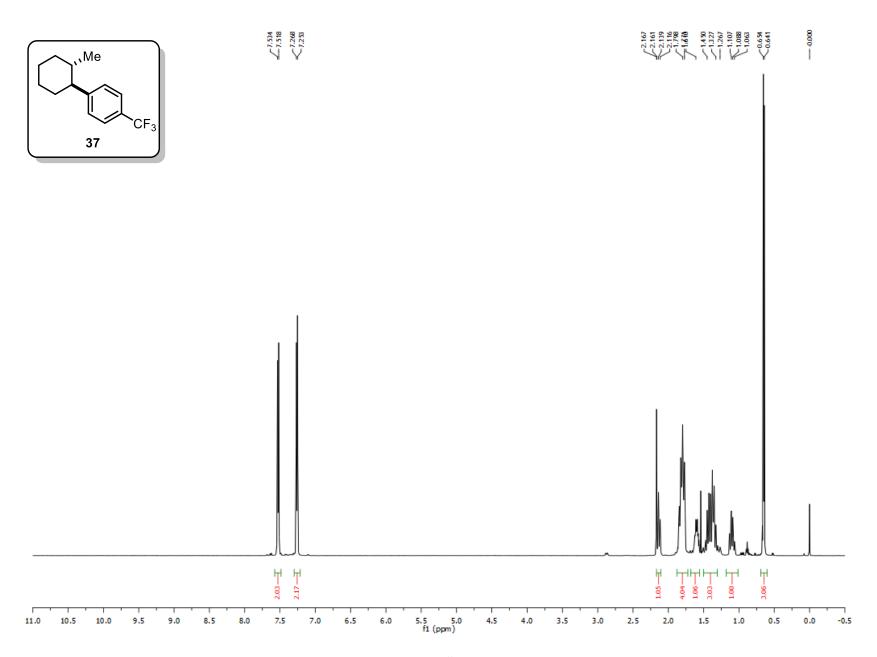


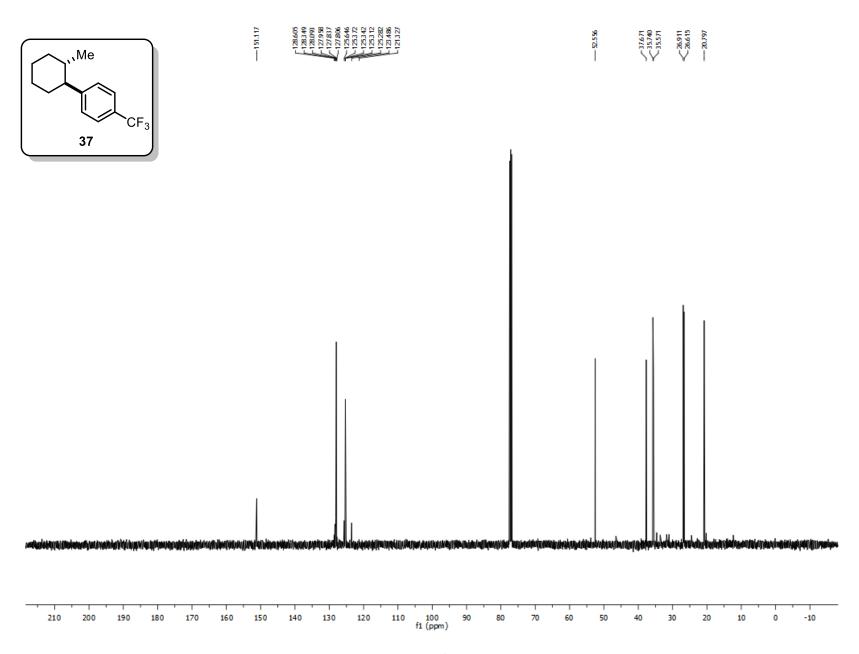


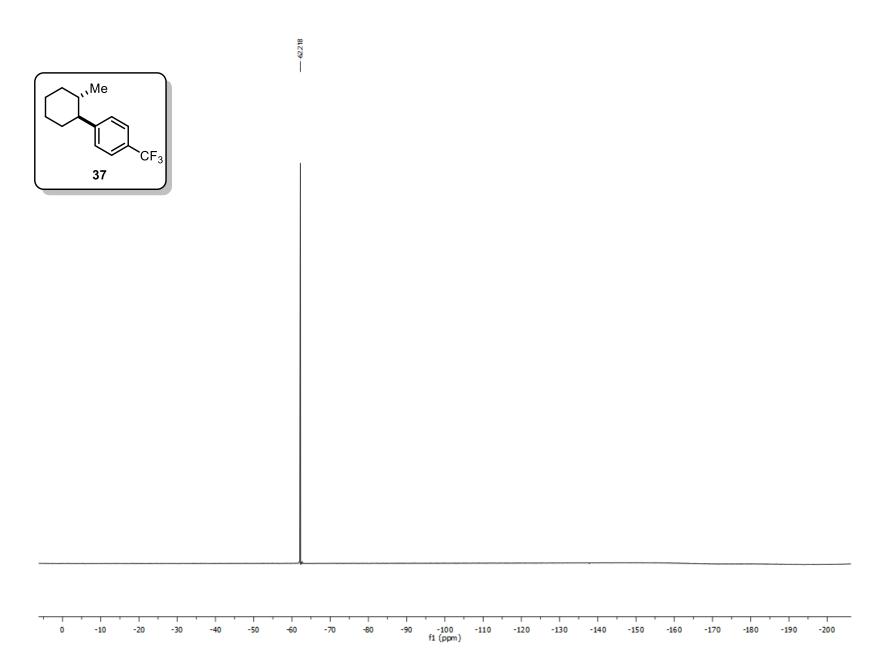


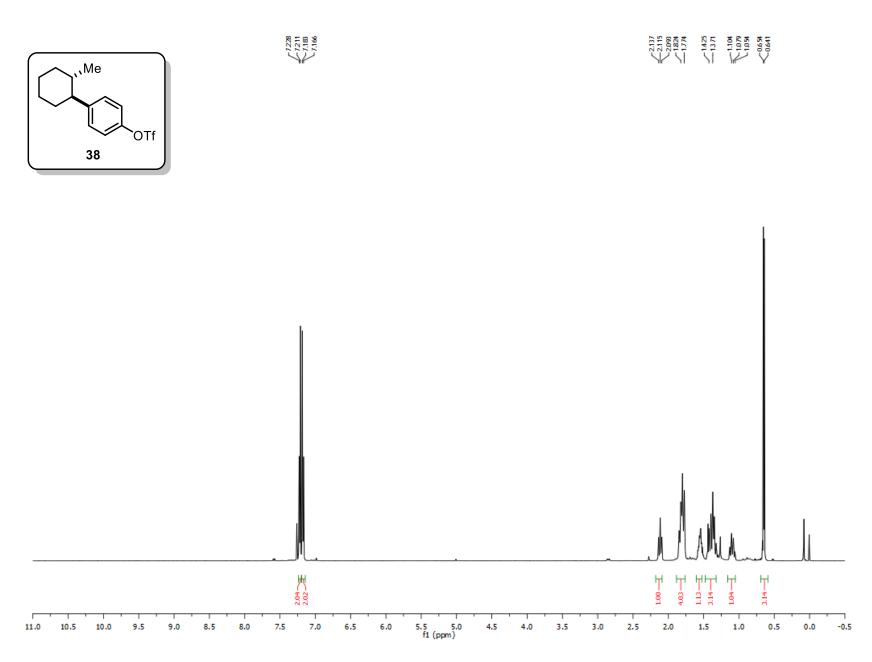




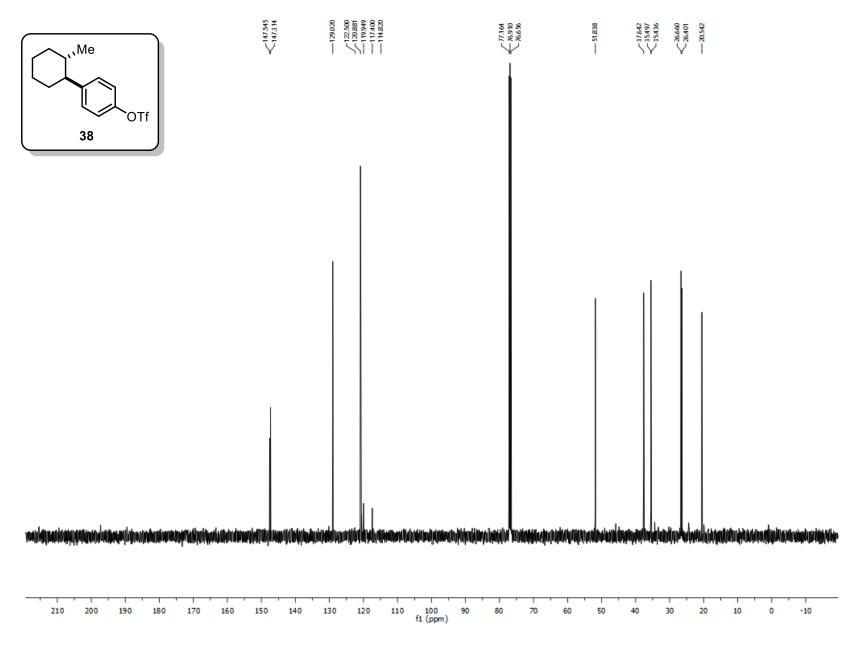


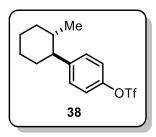




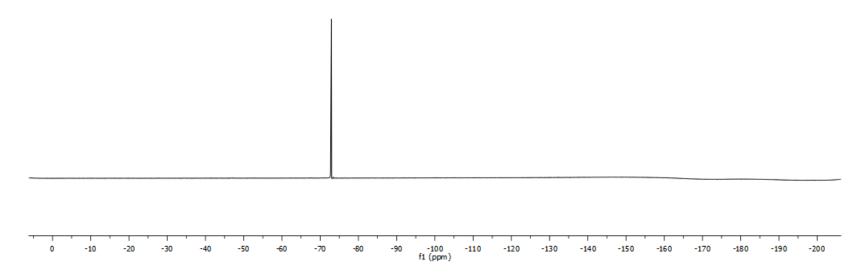


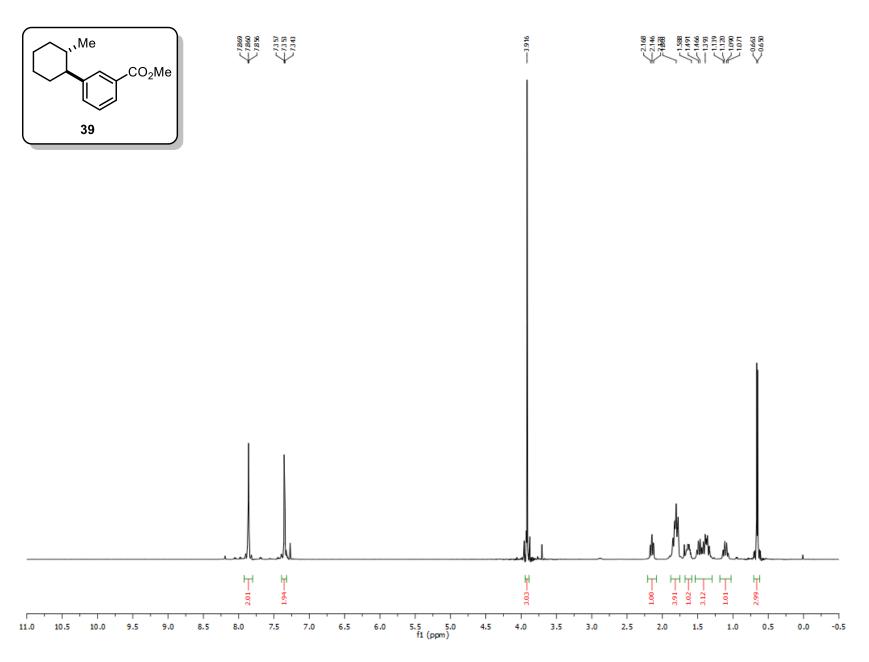
 $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz) spectrum of ( $\pm$ )-trans-4-(2-methylcyclohexyl)phenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (38)

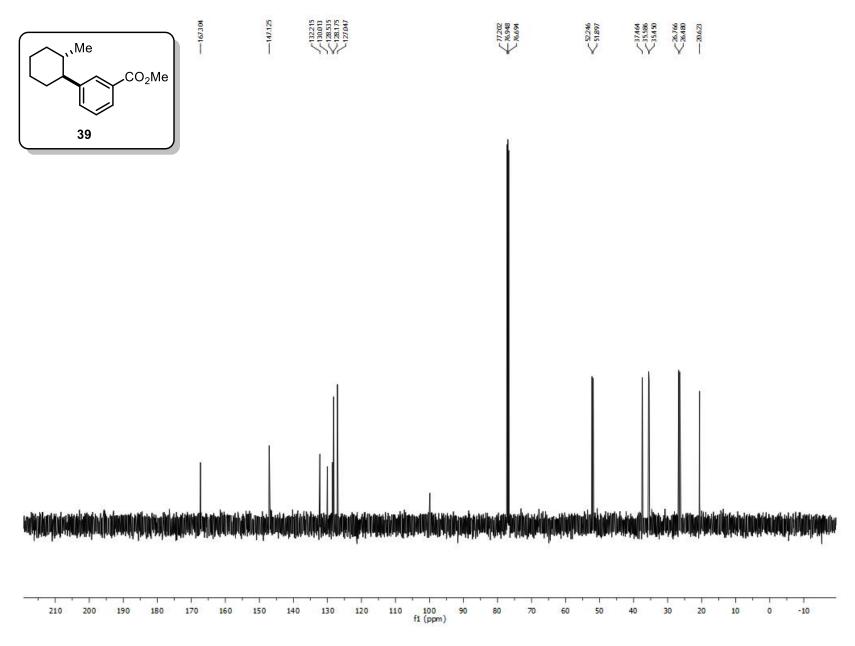


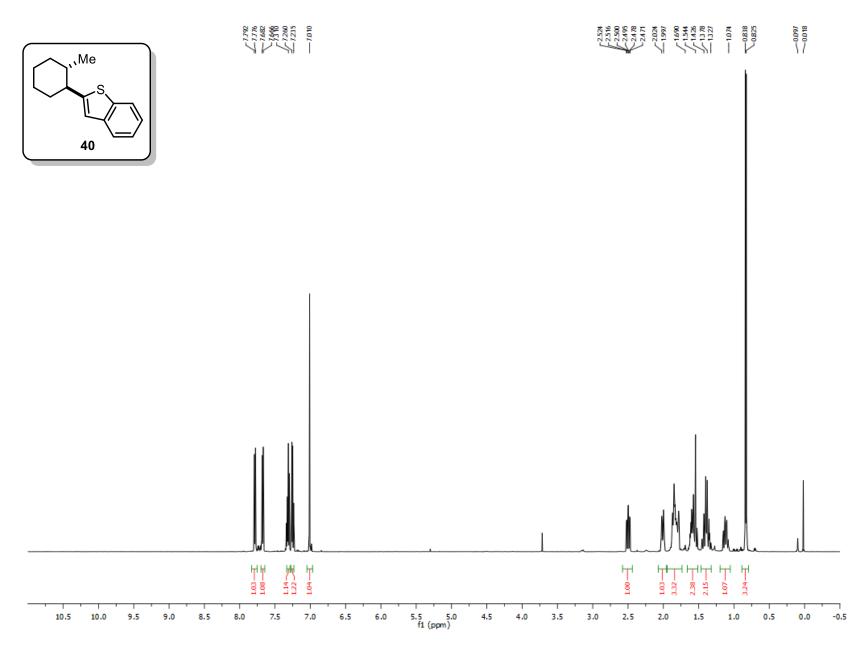


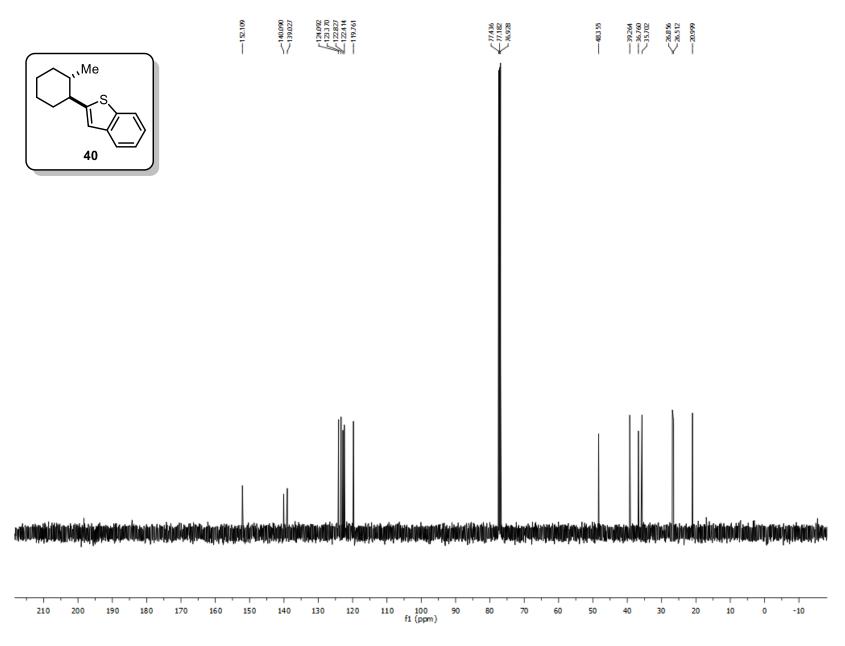


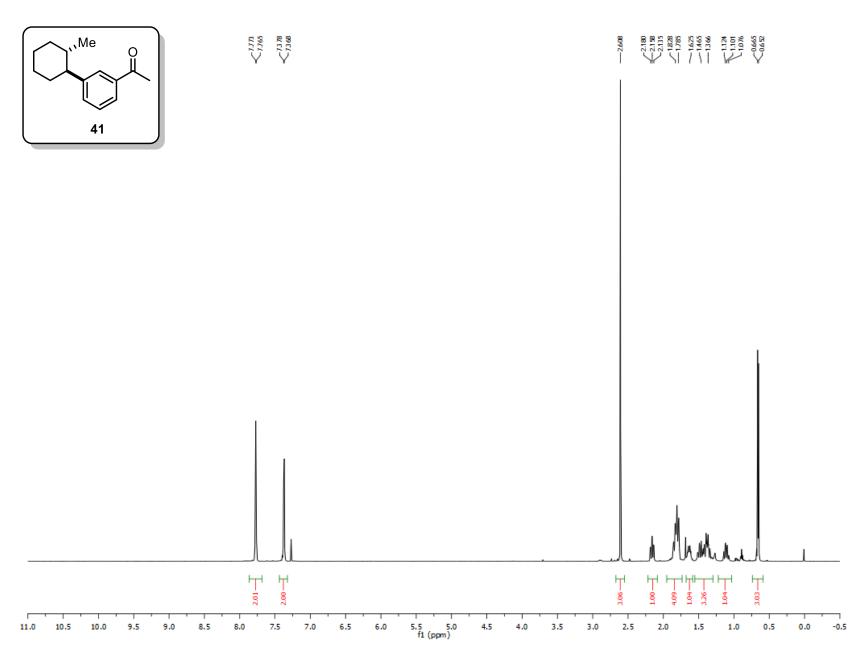












 $^{13}C\ NMR\ (CDCl_3,\ 125.8\ MHz)\ spectrum\ of\ (\pm)-\textit{trans}-1-(4-(2-Methylcyclohexyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one\ \textbf{(41)}$ 

