

# **Synthesis of a series of methyl benzoates by esterification with a Zr/Ti solid acid catalyst**

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**Table of contents**

**Characterization of  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of esterification products**

**Copy of  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of esterification products**

### Characterization of $^1\text{H}$ , $^{19}\text{F}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of esterification products

Methyl 2-Methylbenzoate(1)[1] Yellow liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.82-7.80(m, 2H), 7.28-7.22(m, 2H), 3.82(s, 3H), 2.31(m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.80, 137.86, 133.43, 130.01, 129.94, 128.06, 126.56, 51.61, 20.91; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{NaO}^{2+}$ : 172.1745 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 172.1811.

Methyl 3-Methylbenzoate(2)[1] Clear liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.88(dd,  $J$  = 8.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.33(td,  $J$  = 8.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.18(m, 2H), 3.81(s, 3H), 2.57(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 167.69, 140.12, 131.84, 131.59, 130.54, 129.45, 125.59, 51.49, 21.59; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{NaO}^{2+}$ : 172.1745 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 172.1521.

Methyl 4-Methylbenzoate(3)[1] White solid; mp 33-35 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.92(d,  $J$ =8.0Hz, 2H), 7.20(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.87(s, 3H), 2.37(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 167.04, 143.46, 129.56, 129.02, 127.43, 51.80, 21.52; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : 150.1745 calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{NaO}^{2+}$ : 172.1745 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 172.1701.

Methyl 2-fluorobenzoate(4)[2] Clear liquid ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.92(td,  $J$  = 7.9, 1.64 Hz, 1H), 7.47(m, 1H), 7.19(t,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.12(dd,  $J$  = 10.5, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 164.74(d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 3.8 Hz), 160.54 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 260 Hz), 134.47(d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 9.2 Hz), 132.04, 123.86 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 4.0 Hz), 118.60 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 10 Hz), 116.97 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 22.3 Hz), 52.13;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR(376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 109.68; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{FNaO}^{2+}$ : 177.0321( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 177.0324.

Methyl 3-fluorobenzoate(5)[3] Clear liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.69 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39(d,  $J$  = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.23(m, 1H), 7.22(m, 1H), 3.91(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 165.81 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 3.2 Hz), 163.67 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 245.0 Hz), 132.25 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 7.2 Hz), 129.96 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 7.5 Hz), 125.23 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 3.0 Hz), 119.72 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 21 Hz), 116.40(d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 25 Hz), 52.41;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR(376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 112.56; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{FNaO}^{2+}$ : 177.0324 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 177.0317.

Methyl 4-fluorobenzoate(6)[2,4] Clear liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.03(dd,  $J$  = 8.4, 5.6 Hz, 2H), 7.08(t,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.89(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.84, 165.76(d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 253 Hz), 131.98(d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 9.0 Hz), 115.36(d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 3.0 Hz), 115.14 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 21.9 Hz), 51.82.;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR(376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 106.14; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{FNaO}^{2+}$ : 177.0325 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 177.0320.

Methyl 2-chlorobenzoate(7)[1,5] Clear liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.80(dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.39(m, 2H), 7.35(td,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.90(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 165.85, 133.46, 132.48, 131.29, 130.90, 129.92, 126.51, 52.21; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{ClNaO}^{2+}$ : 193.0028( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 193.0027.

Methyl 3-chlorobenzoate(8)[1,5] Clear liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.98(m, 1H), 7.88(m, 1H), 7.49(m, 1H), 7.36(t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 168.17, 134.39, 132.80, 131.79, 129.60, 129.52, 127.60, 52.05; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{ClNaO}^{2+}$ : 193.0026 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 193.0015.

Methyl 4-chlorobenzoate (9)[1,5,6] Clear liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.92(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.87(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 167.04, 143.46, 129.56, 129.02, 127.44, 51.80; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{ClNaO}^{2+}$ : 193.0026 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 193.0019.

Methyl 2-bromobenzoate(10)[7] Clear liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.78(dd,  $J$  = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63(dd,  $J$  = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.27(m, 2H), 3.91(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.44, 134.25, 132.55, 132.06, 131.25, 127.14, 121.55, 52.39; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{BrNaO}^{2+}$ : 236.9526 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 236.9514.

Methyl 3-bromobenzoate(11)[7] White solid; mp 31-33 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.15(m, 1H), 7.92(m, 1H), 7.64(m, 1H), 7.29(t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.90(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 165.52, 135.75, 132.48, 131.99, 129.88, 128.07, 122.38, 52.31; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{BrNaO}^{2+}$ : 236.9526 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 236.9517.

Methyl 4-bromobenzoate(12)[8] White solid; mp 77-80 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.88(m, 2H), 7.56(m, 2H), 3.90(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.23, 131.66, 131.08, 129.01, 127.99, 52.24; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{BrNaO}^{2+}$ : 236.9526 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 236.9515.

Methyl 2-iodobenzoate(13)[9] Yellow liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.96(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77(dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34(t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.12(td,  $J$  = 7.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.90(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.73, 141.23, 134.97, 132.68, 130.92, 127.92, 94.16, 52.50; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{INaO}^{2+}$ : 284.9385 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 284.9377.

Methyl 3-iodobenzoate(14)[10] White solid; mp 112-115 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.36(m, 1H), 7.87(d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.85(d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.17(t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.91(s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 165.51, 141.72, 138.44, 131.98, 130.06, 128.73, 93.87, 52.42; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{INaO}^{2+}$ : 284.9381 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 284.9371.

Methyl 4-iodobenzoate(15)[11] White solid; mp 113-116 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.78(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.72(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.90(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.46, 137.69, 131.02, 129.57, 100.80, 52.30; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{INaO}^{2+}$ : 284.9386( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 284.9378.

Methyl benzoate(16)[6] Clear liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.01(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.50(t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48(t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.84(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.69, 132.71, 130.11, 129.42, 128.20, 51.73; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{NaO}^{2+}$ : 159.0419( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 159.0417.

Methyl 4-Tert-Butylbenzoate(17)[8] Clear liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.98(d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.42(d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 3.90(s, 3H), 1.32(s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 166.73, 156.26, 129.44, 127.42, 125.19, 51.63, 34.87, 30.97; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_2$  193.3 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ , found 193.1.

Methyl 4-cyanobenzoate(18)[12] White solid; mp 58-61  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.34-8.26(m, 2H), 7.84(dt,  $J$  = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60(dt,  $J$  = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.97(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 165.04, 135.97, 133.63, 133.21, 131.39, 129.47, 117.85, 112.91, 52.69; HRMS(ESITOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_7\text{NNaO}^{2+}$ : 184.0366 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 184.0368.

Methyl 2-nitrobenzoate(19)[5] Yellow liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.88(dd,  $J$  = 7.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.70-7.62(m, 3H), 3.91(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 165.52, 148.09, 132.94, 131.96, 129.70, 126.97, 123.71, 52.91; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{NNaO}^{4+}$ : 204.0268 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 204.0271.

Methyl 3-nitrobenzoate(20)[5] Yellow solid; mp 76-80  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.86(s, 1H), 8.42(dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.37(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68(t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.00(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 164.88, 148.20, 135.22, 131.81, 129.66, 127.33, 124.47, 52.75; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{NNaO}^{4+}$ : 204.0269 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 204.0257.

Methyl 4-nitrobenzoate(21)[5,6] Yellow solid; mp 94-97  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.29(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.21(d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.99(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 165.11, 150.48, 135.45, 130.66, 123.49, 52.79; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{NNaO}^{4+}$ : 204.0277 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 204.0267.

Methyl 2-methoxybenzoate(22)[1] Clear liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.76(dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.39(td,  $J$  = 8.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.94-6.90(m, 2H), 3.82(s, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.25, 158.75, 133.18, 131.19, 119.92, 119.76, 111.79, 55.41, 51.43; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{NaO}^{3+}$ : 189.0524 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 189.0527.

Methyl 3-methoxybenzoate(23)[1] Clear liquid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.60(d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.53(s, 1H), 7.28(t,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.04(dd,  $J$  = 7.6, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.86(s, 3H), 3.76(s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 166.52, 159.43, 131.31, 129.16, 121.68, 119.00, 113.93, 54.95, 51.74; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{NaO}^{3+}$ : 189.0524 ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ , found: 189.0521.

Methyl 4-methoxybenzoate(24)[1,6] White solid; mp 47-51  $^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR(400 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 8.0(d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.89(d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.85(s, 3H), 3.81(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 166.75, 163.3, 131.52, 122.54, 113.55, 55.30, 51.74; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NaO<sup>3+</sup>: 189.0525 (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>, found: 189.0521.

Methyl 2-trifluoromethylbenzoate(25)[13] Clear liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.78-7.71(m, 2H), 7.59-7.57(m, 2H), 3.92(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 167.11, 131.67, 131.10, 130.99, 128.70 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 31.3 Hz), 126.59 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 5.3 Hz), 126.43, 124.74, 52.51; <sup>19</sup>F NMR(376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 59.87; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NaO<sup>2+</sup>: 227.0292 (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>, found: 227.0284.

Methyl 3-trifluoromethylbenzoate(26)[13] Clear liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 8.28(s, 1H), 8.18(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53(t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.94(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 165.26, 132.50, 131.21 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 31 Hz), 130.87, 130.55 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 3.8 Hz), 129.07, 128.78 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 4.0 Hz), 122.22 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 270.5 Hz), 51.90; <sup>19</sup>F NMR(376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 63.41; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NaO<sup>2+</sup>: 227.0291 (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>, found: 227.0286.

Methyl 4-trifluoromethylbenzoate(27)[13] Clear liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 8.11(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.67(d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.94(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 165.51, 134.33 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 32.5 Hz), 133.27, 129.76, 125.18 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 4.0 Hz), 124.92 (q,  $J_{C-F}$  = 272.5 Hz), 52.07; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 63.60; HRMS (ESITOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NaO<sup>2+</sup>: 227.0291 (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>, found: 227.0294.

*o*-Dimethyl phthalate(28)[14] Clear liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.69(dd,  $J$  = 6.5, 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.50(dd,  $J$  = 6.5, 4.0 Hz, 2H), 3.88(s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 167.70, 131.80, 130.97, 128.64, 52.29; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NaO<sup>4+</sup>: 217.0472 (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>, found: 217.0476.

*m*-Dimethyl terephthalate(29)[14] White solid; mp 65-68 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.21(d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.53(t,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.95(s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 166.04, 133.66, 130.58, 128.53, 52.23; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NaO<sup>4+</sup>: 217.0472 (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>, found: 217.0488.

*p*-Dimethyl terephthalate(30)[14] White solid; mp 141-143 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 8.09(s, 4H), 3.94(s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 166.09, 133.81, 129.44, 52.30; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NaO<sup>4+</sup>: 217.0472 (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>, found: 217.0468.

Methyl 3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoate(31)[5] White solid; mp 81-83 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.30(s, 2H), 3.91(s, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 166.50, 152.82, 142.05, 125.04, 106.67, 60.72, 56.07, 52.05; HRMS (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>5</sub>: 227.3 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, found 227.1.

Methyl 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorobenzoate(32)[15,16] Clear liquid; <sup>1</sup>H NMR(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 4.01(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR(100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 259.13, 146.64, 144.29-144.10(m), 141.93-141.62(m), 138.82-138.67(m), 136.46-136.18(m), 108.09-107.73(m), 52.78; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 112.56; HRMS(ESI-TOF)  $m/z$ : calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>3</sub>F<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>4+</sup>: 217.0472 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, found: 217.0476.

Copy of  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of esterification products

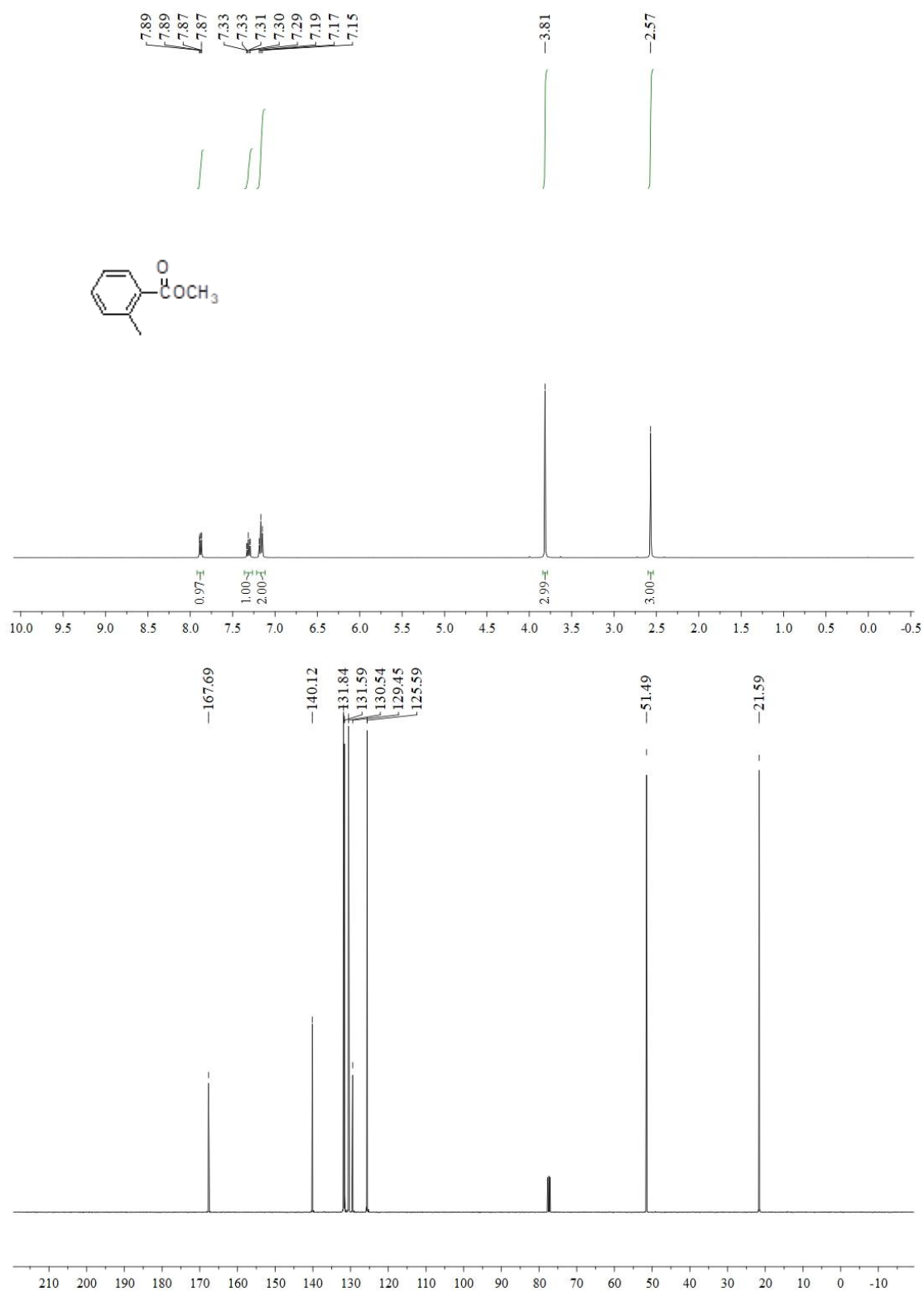


Figure S1  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of methyl 2-methylbenzoate

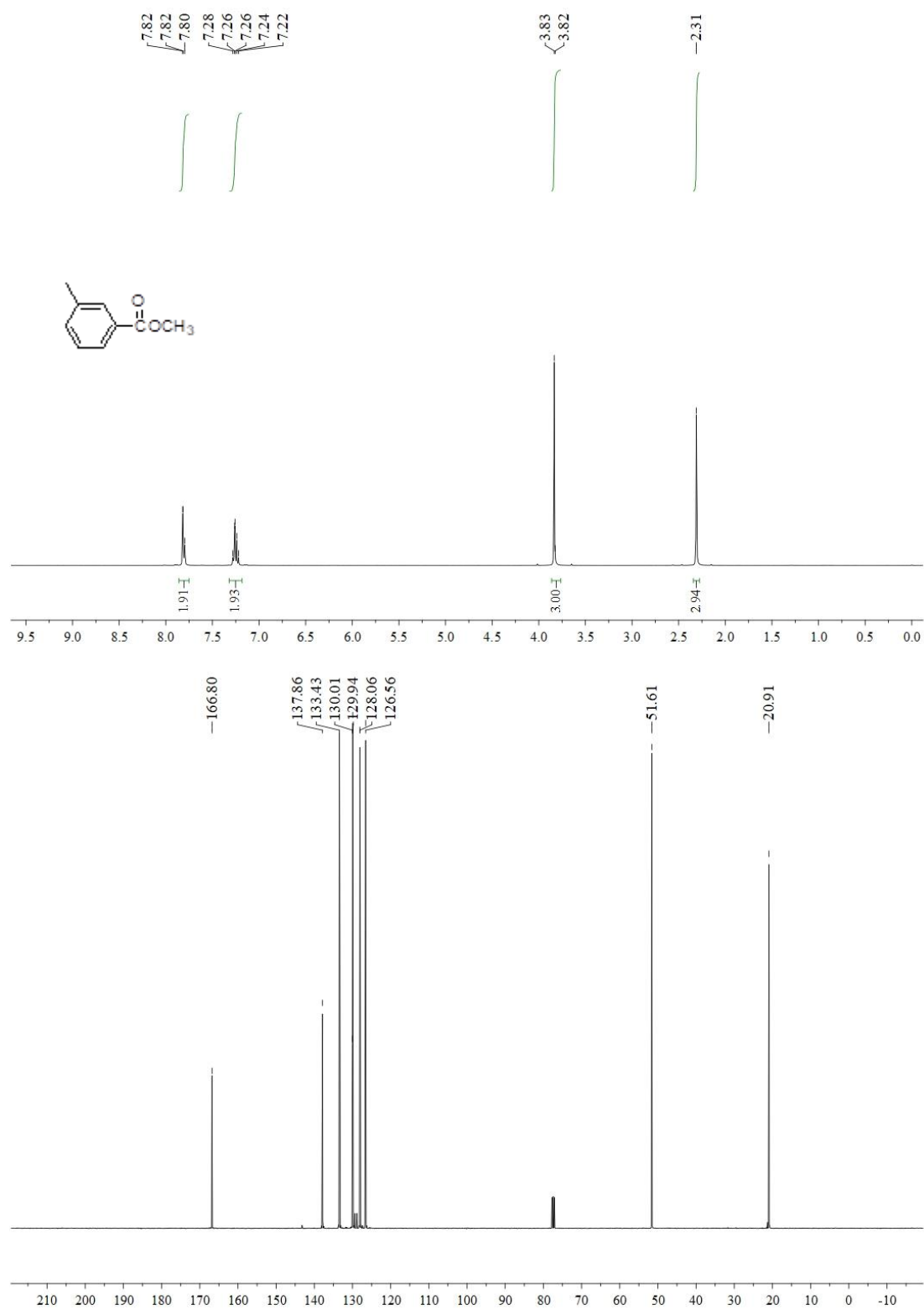


Figure S2 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl 3-methylbenzoate

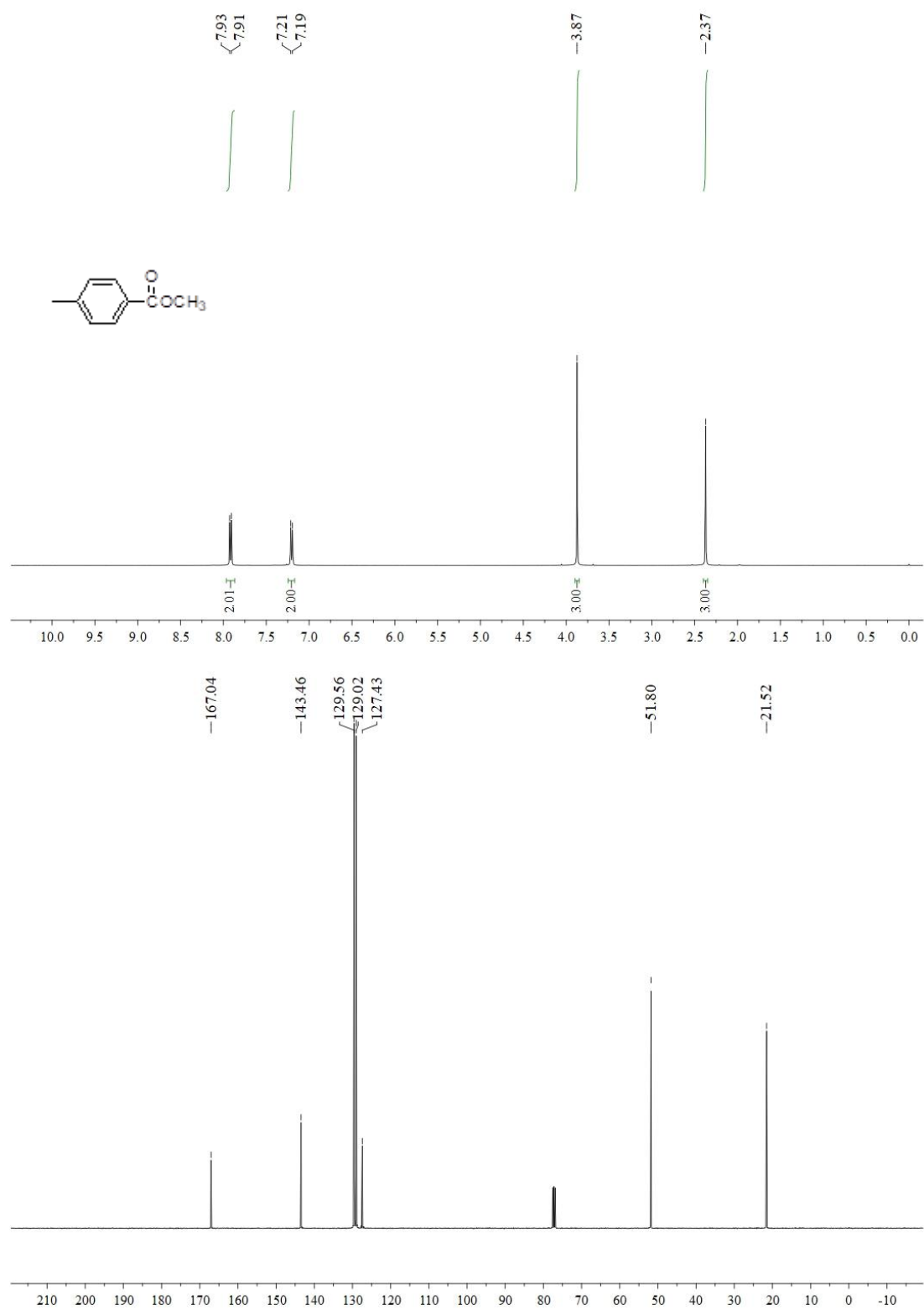
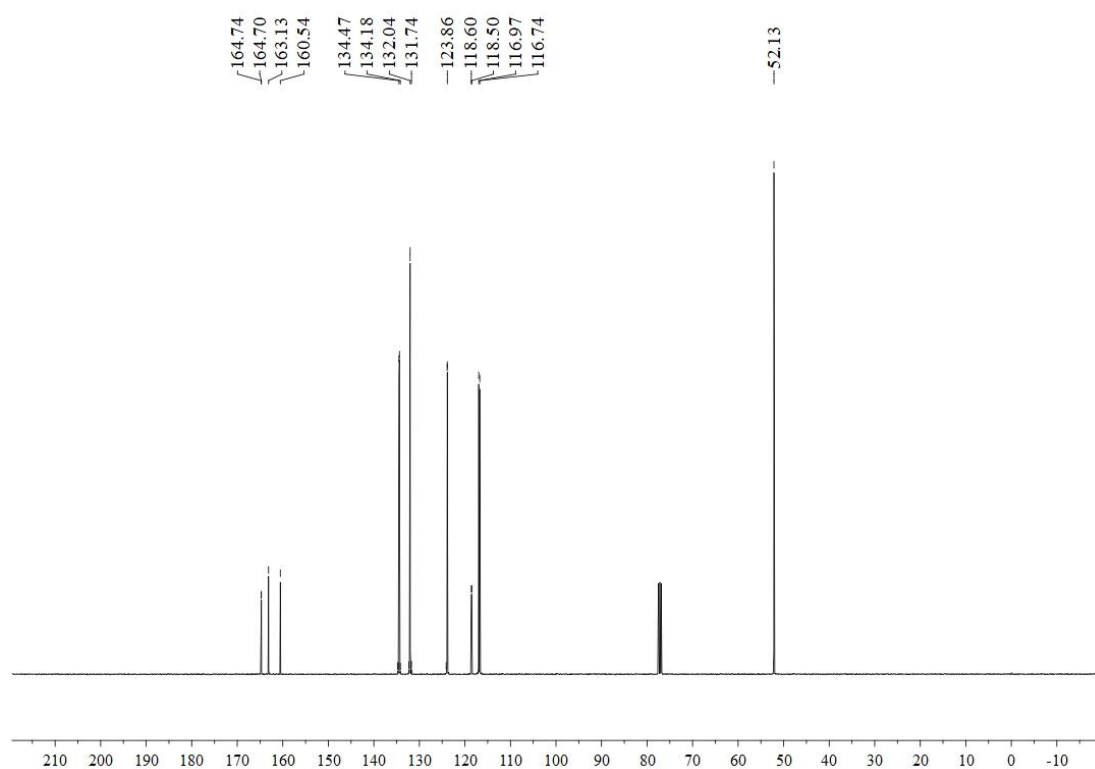
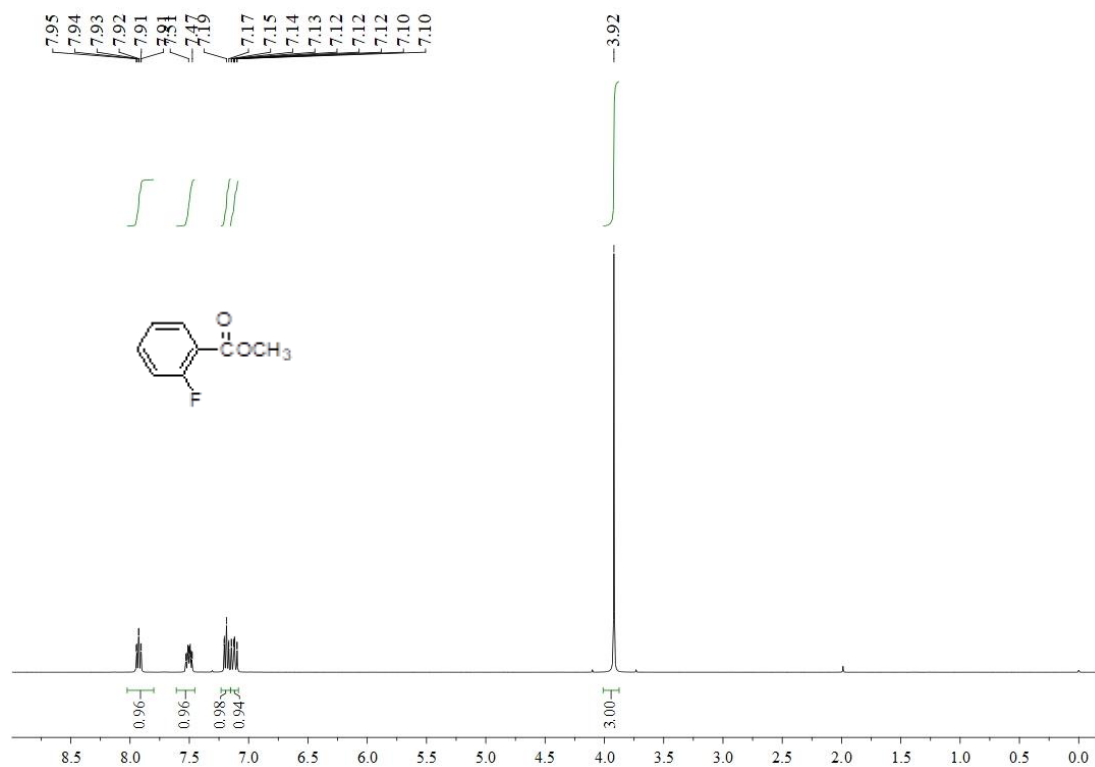


Figure S3 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl 4-methylbenzoate





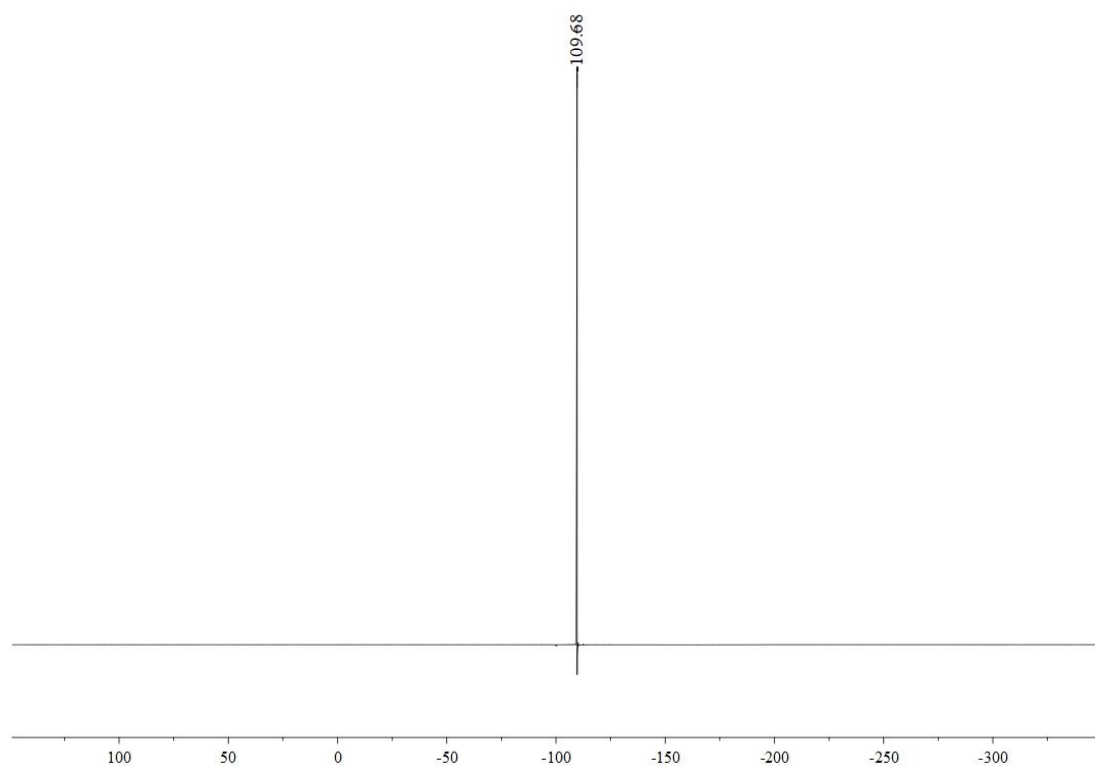
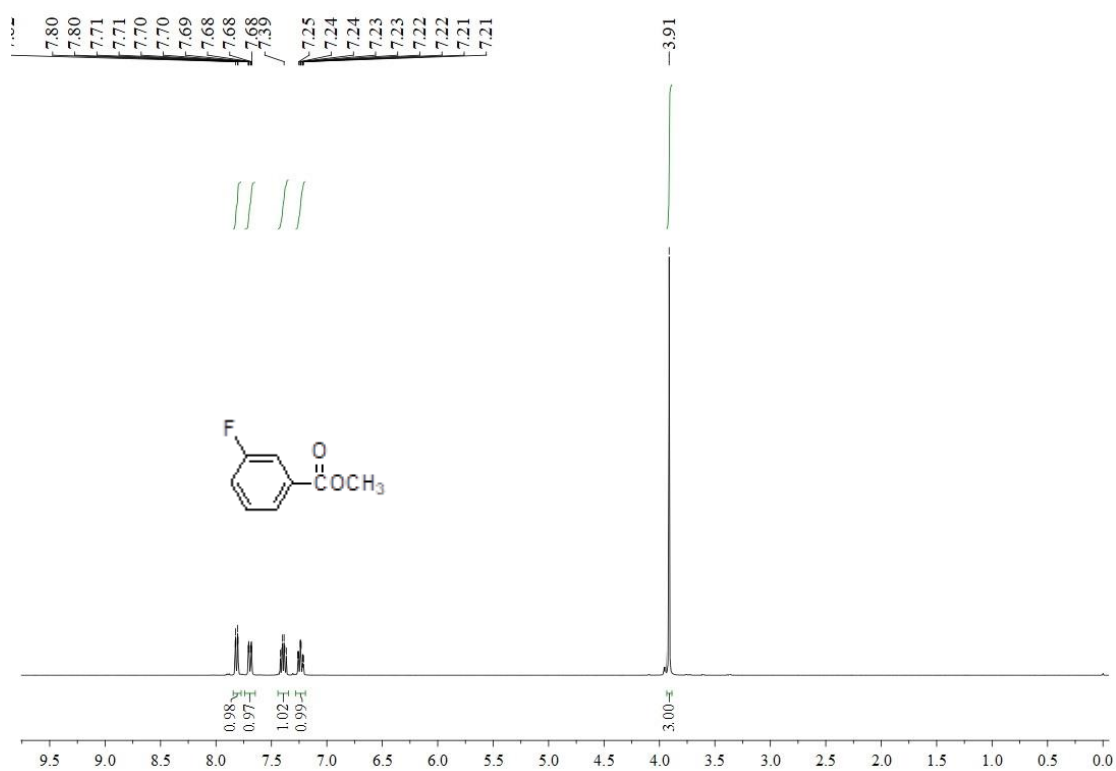


Figure S4 <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>19</sup>F NMR of methyl methyl 2-fluorobenzoate



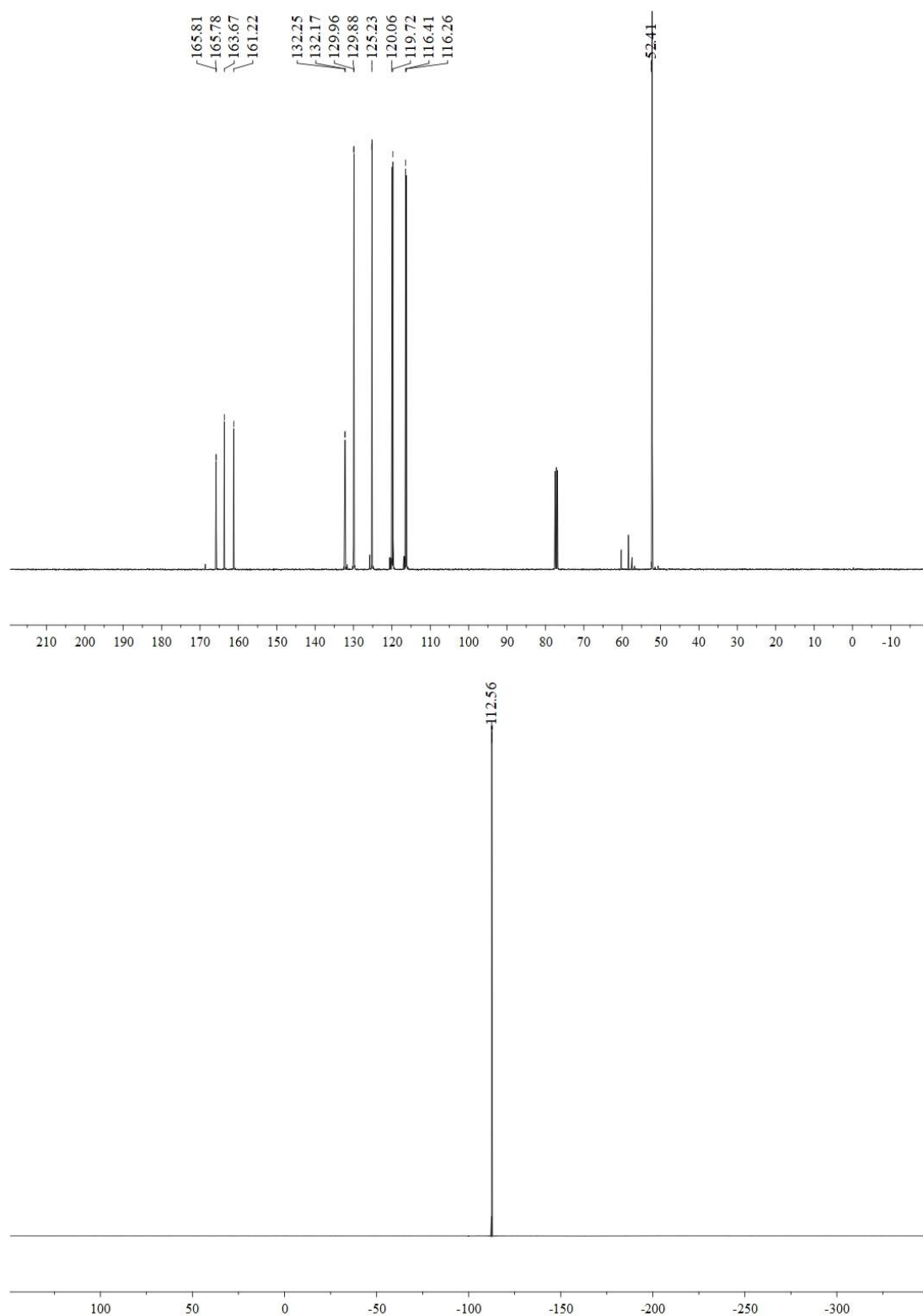
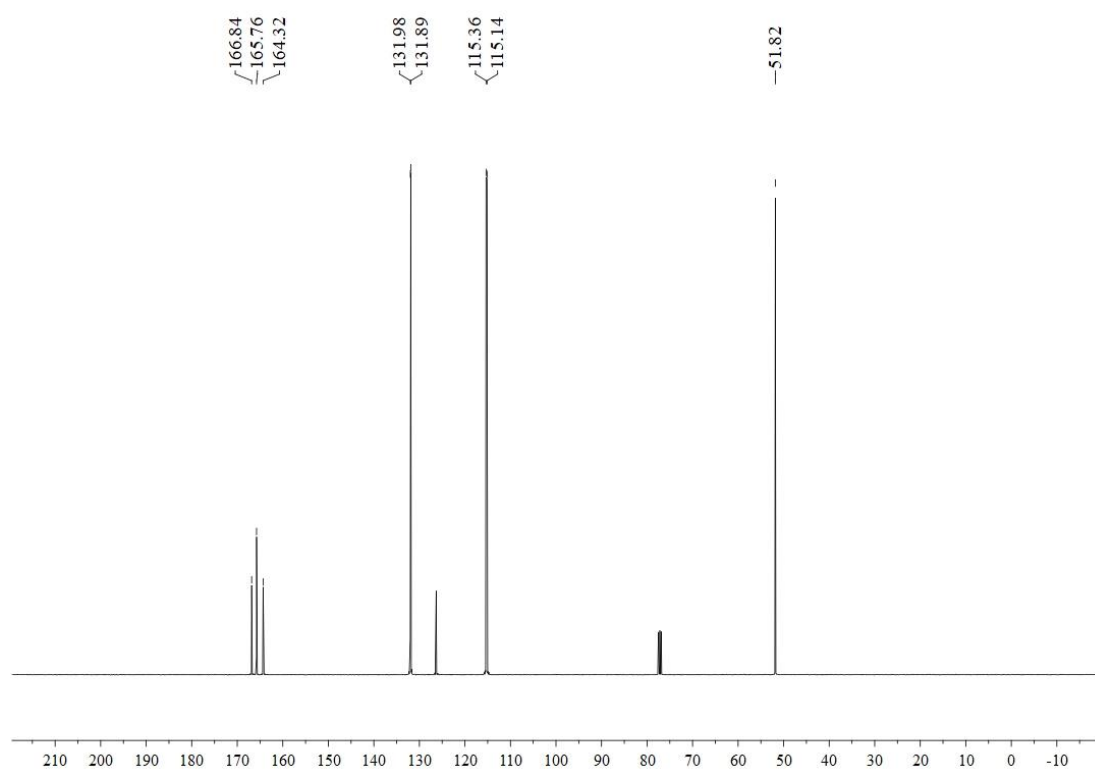
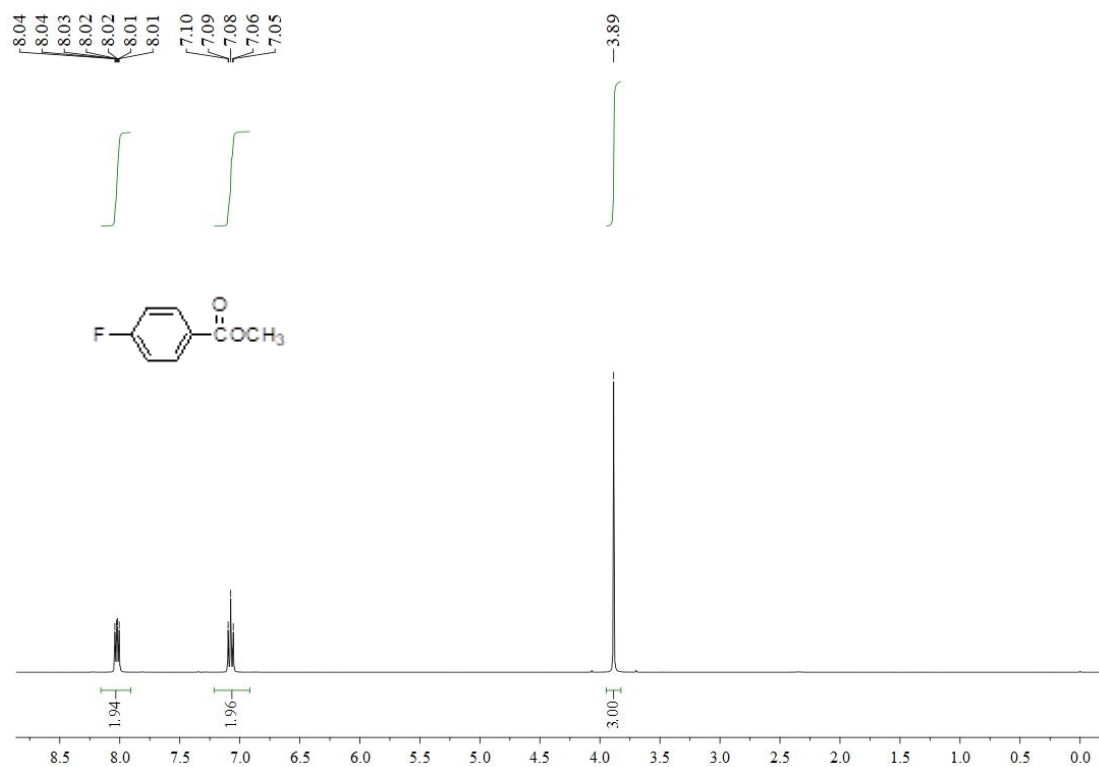


Figure S5 <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>19</sup>F NMR of methyl methyl 3-fluorobenzoate



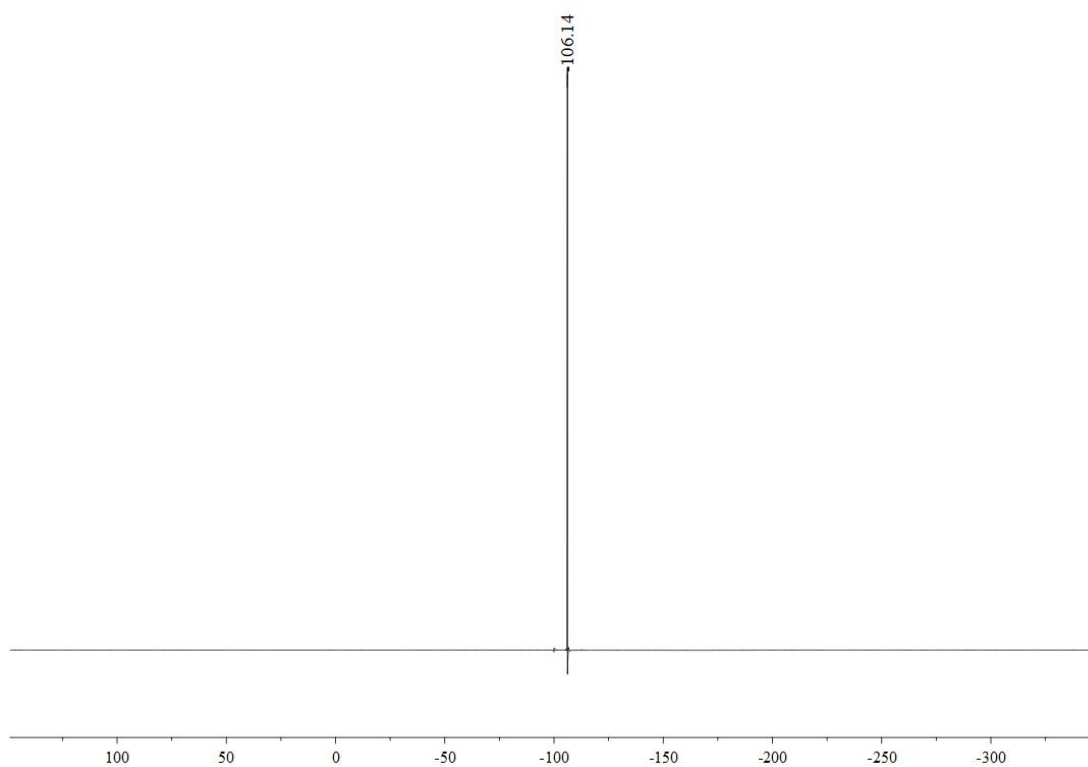
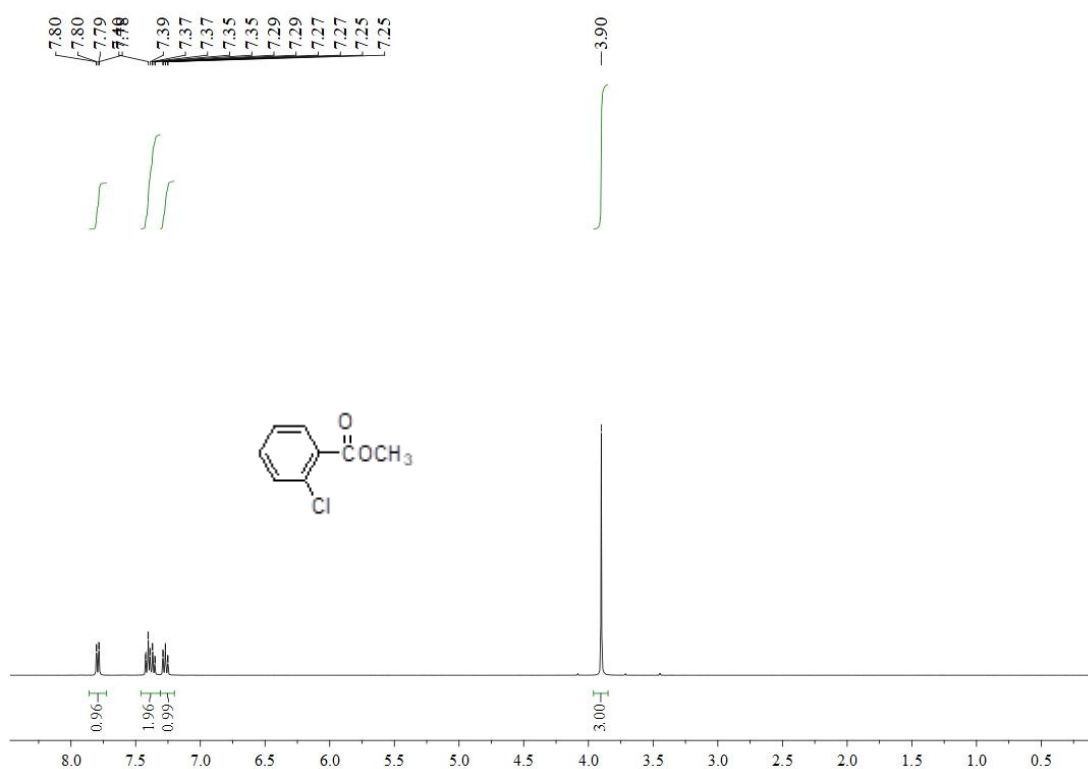


Figure S6 <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>19</sup>F NMR of methyl methyl 4-fluorobenzoate



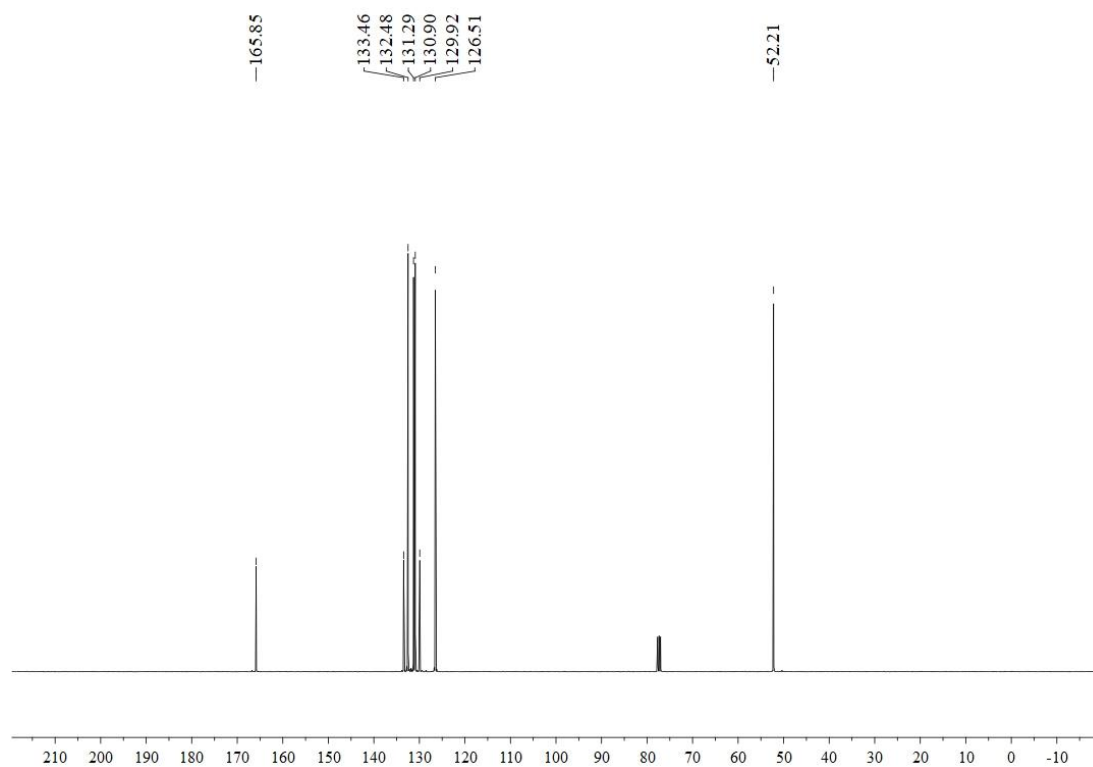
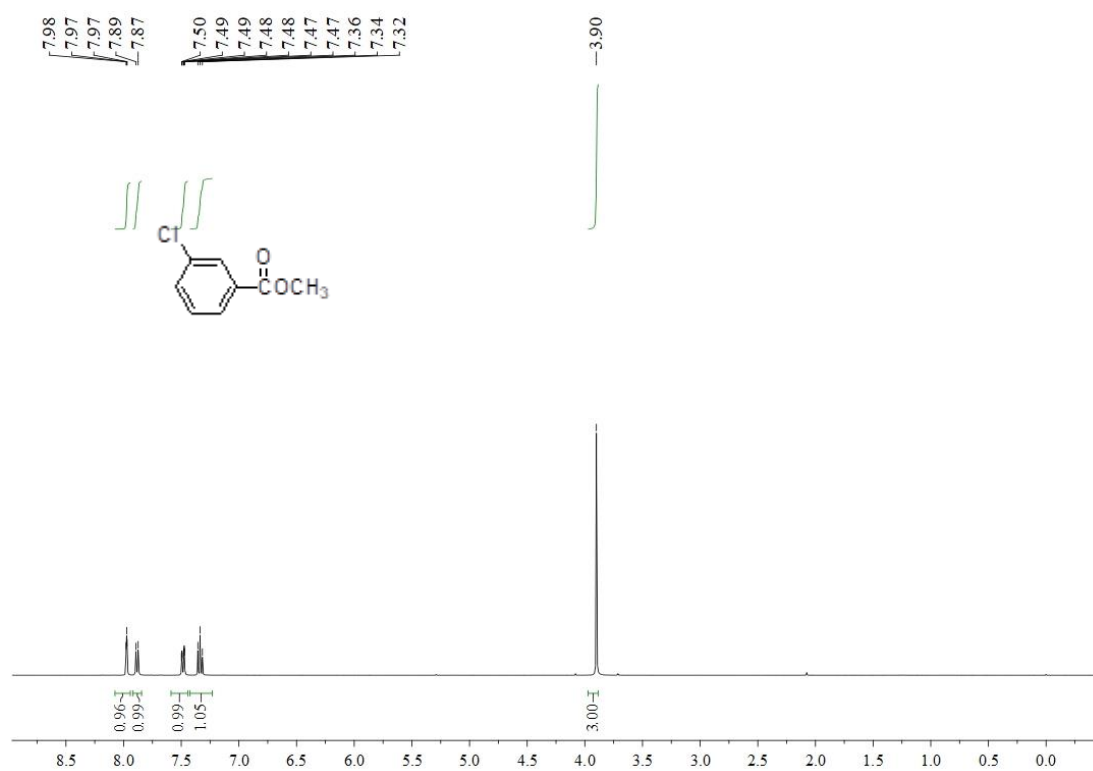


Figure S7 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl 2-chlorobenzoate



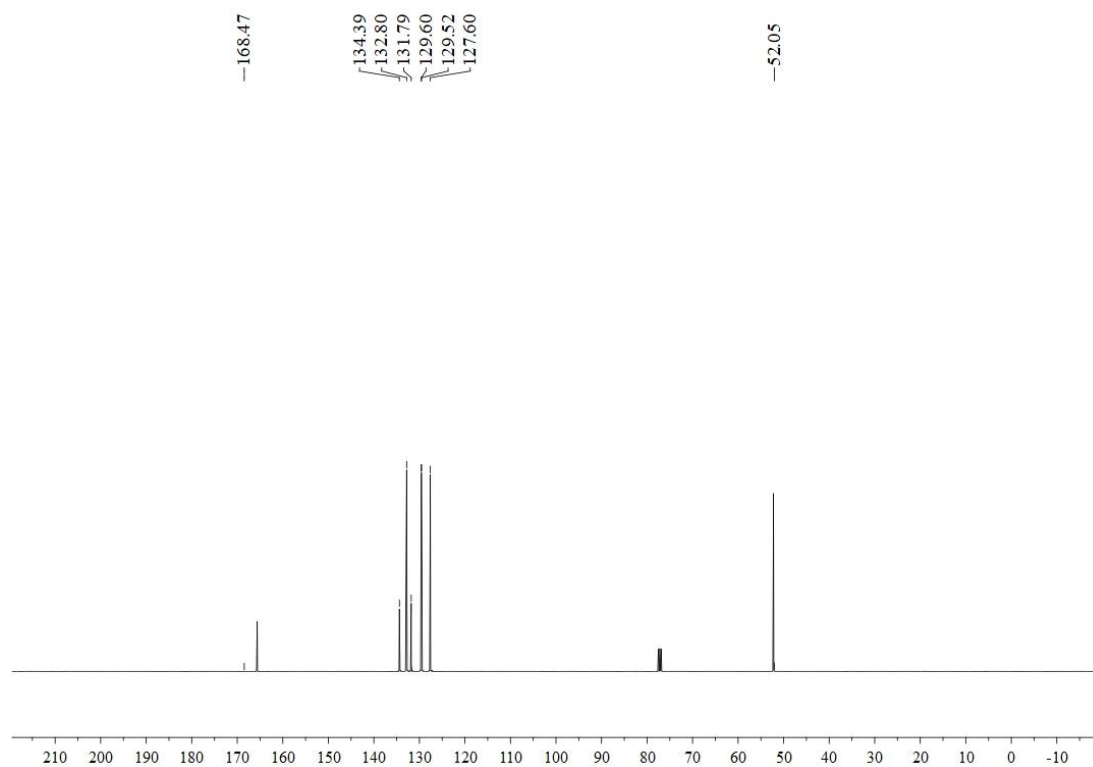
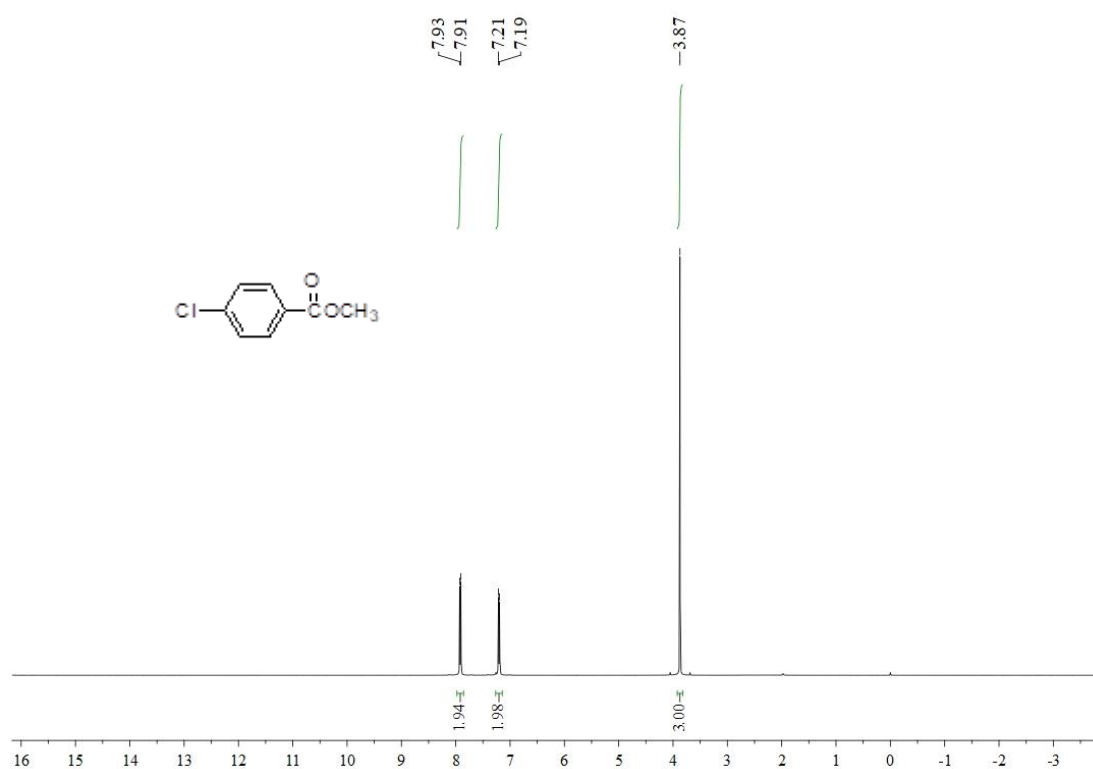


Figure S8 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl 3-chlorobenzoate



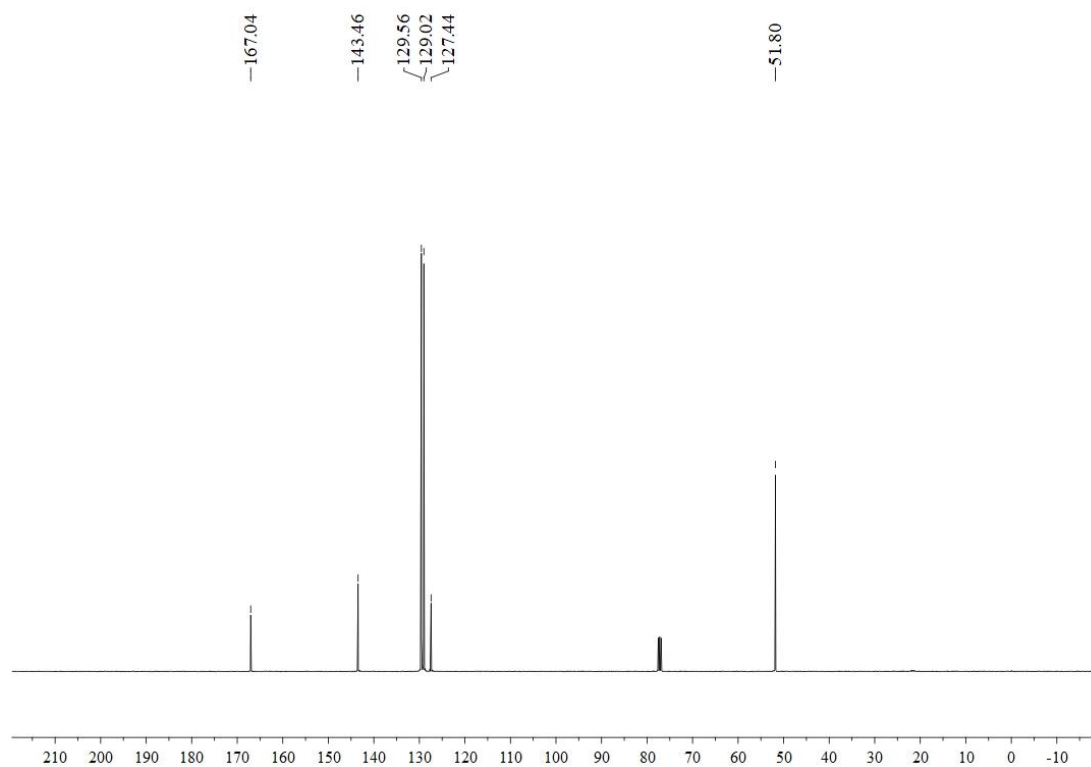
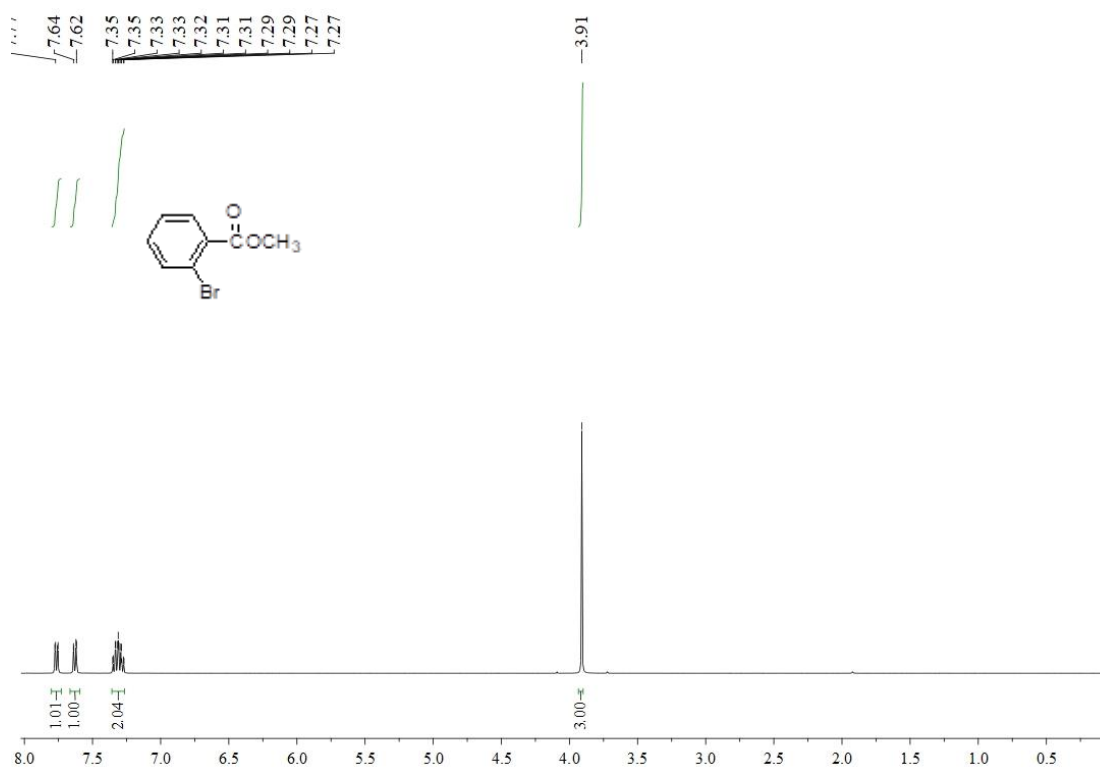


Figure S9  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of methyl 4-chlorobenzoate





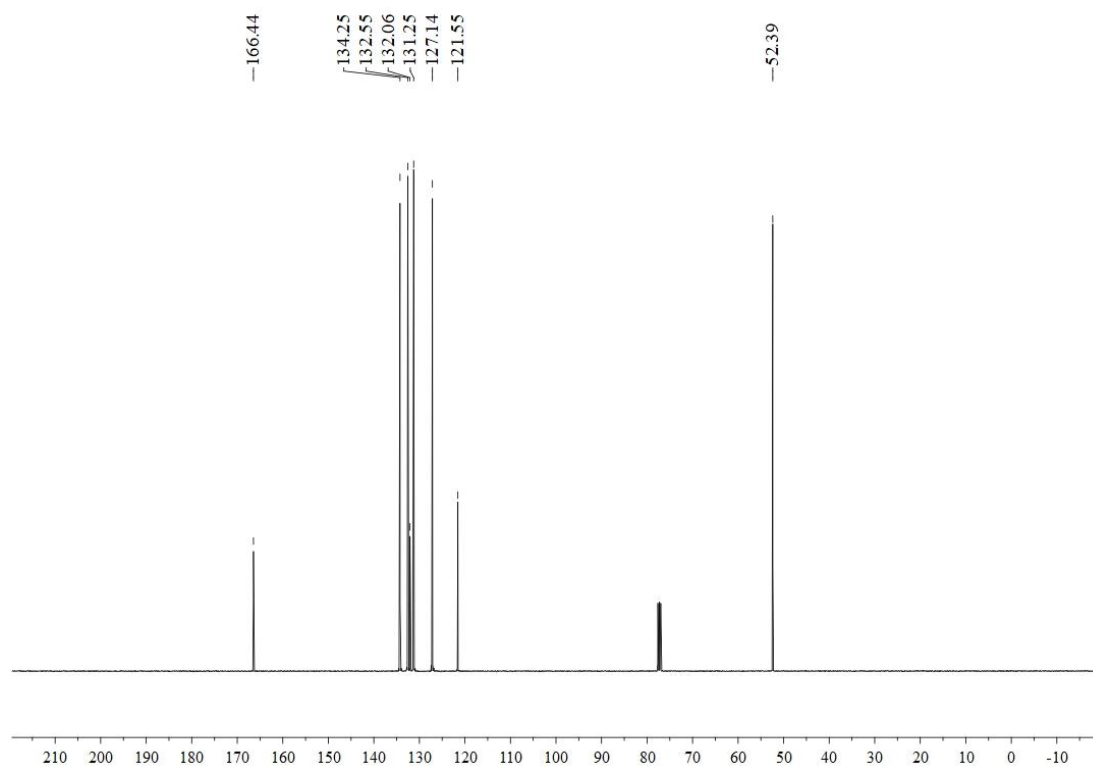
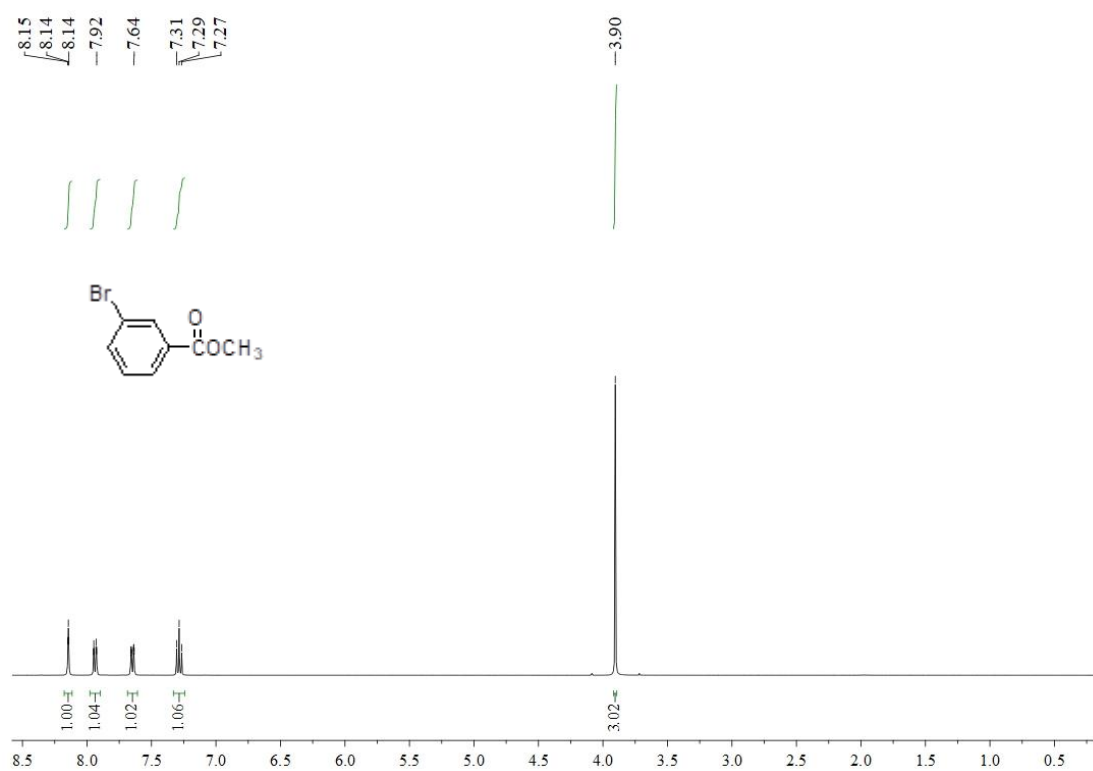


Figure S10 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl 2-bromobenzoate



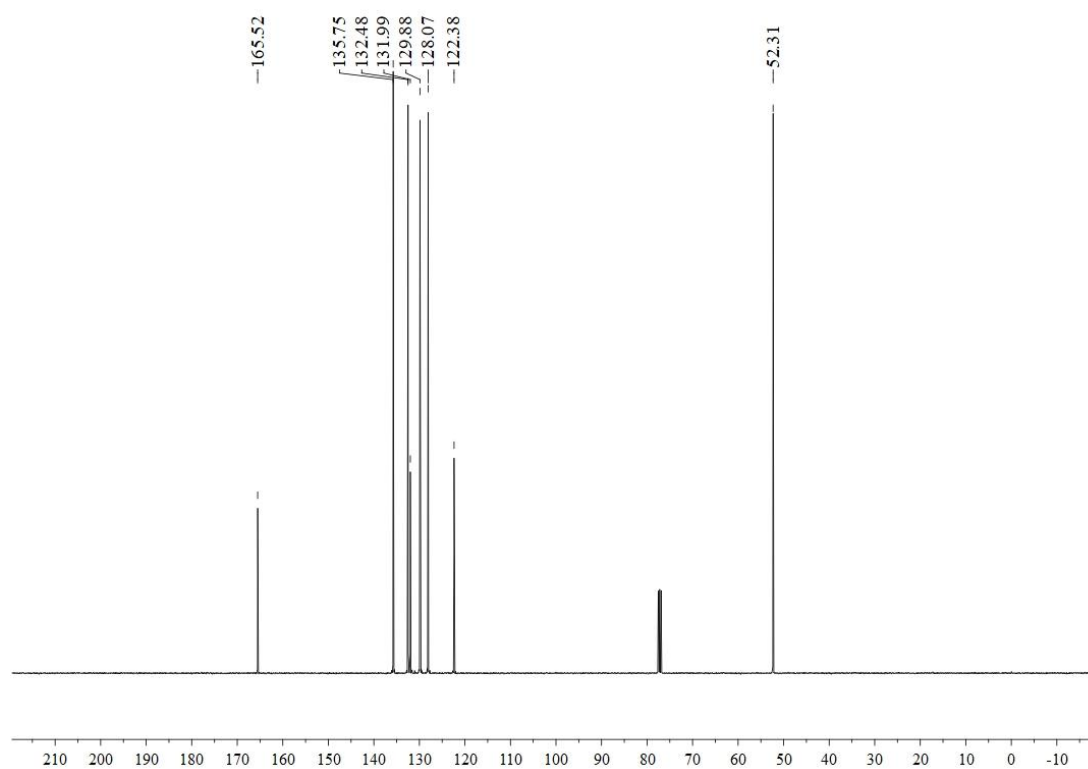
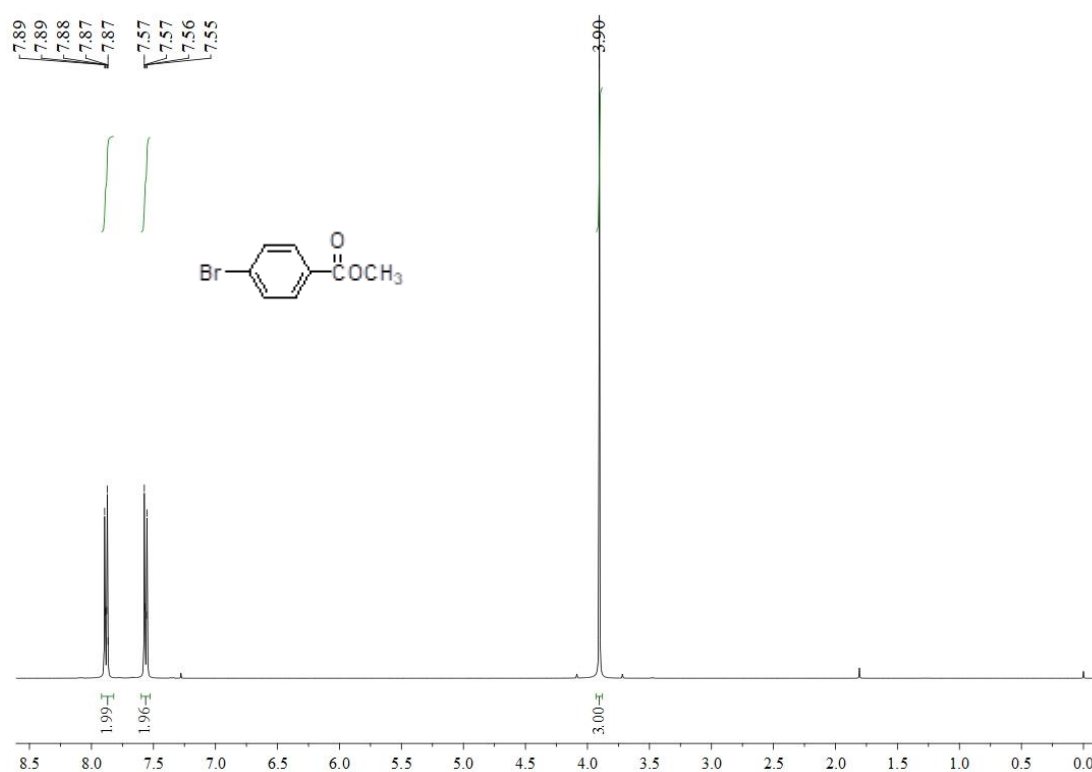


Figure S11 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl 3-bromobenzoate



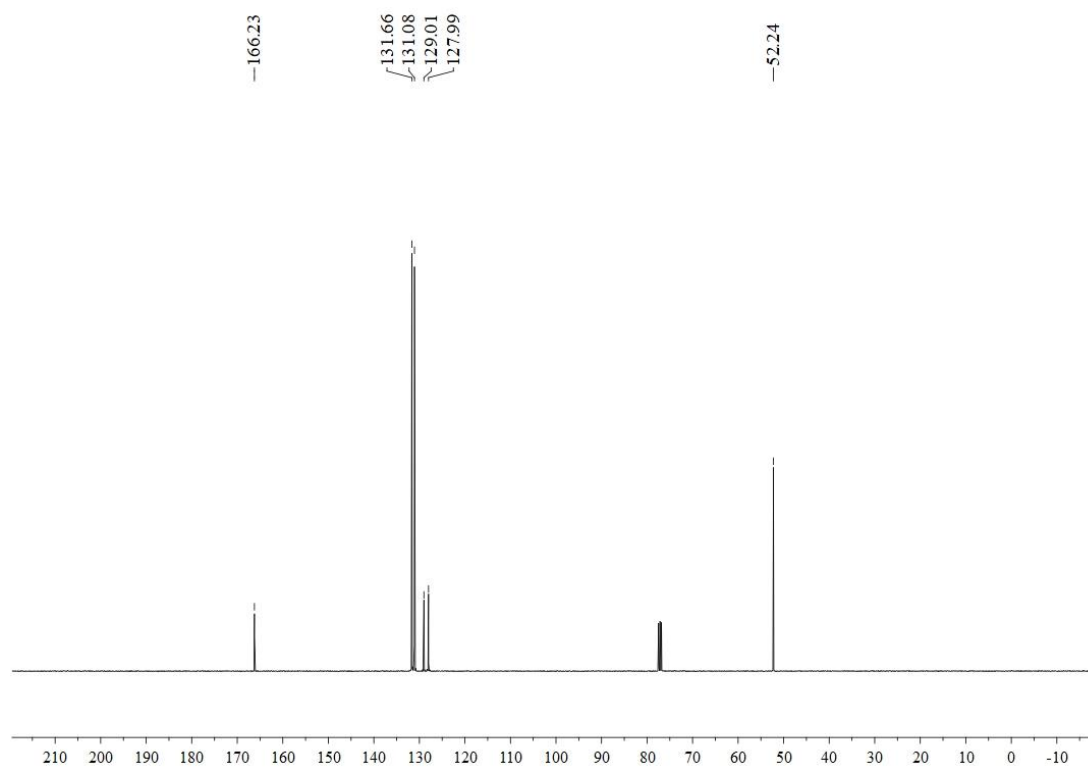
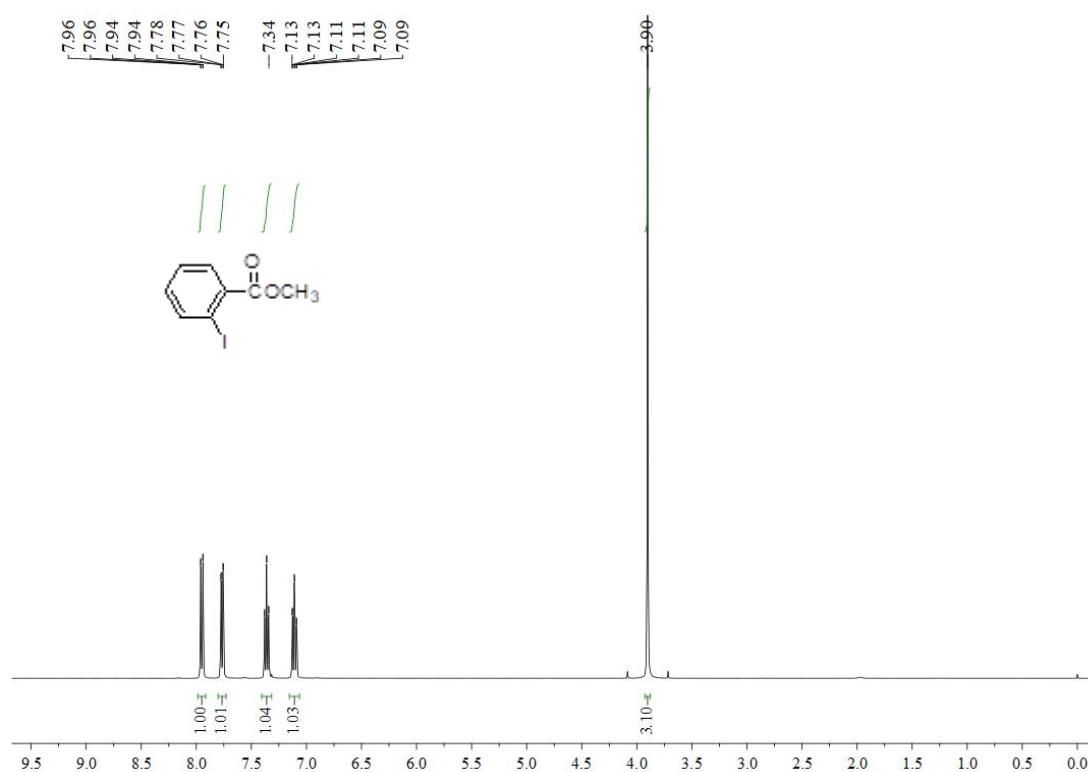


Figure S12 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl 4-bromobenzoate



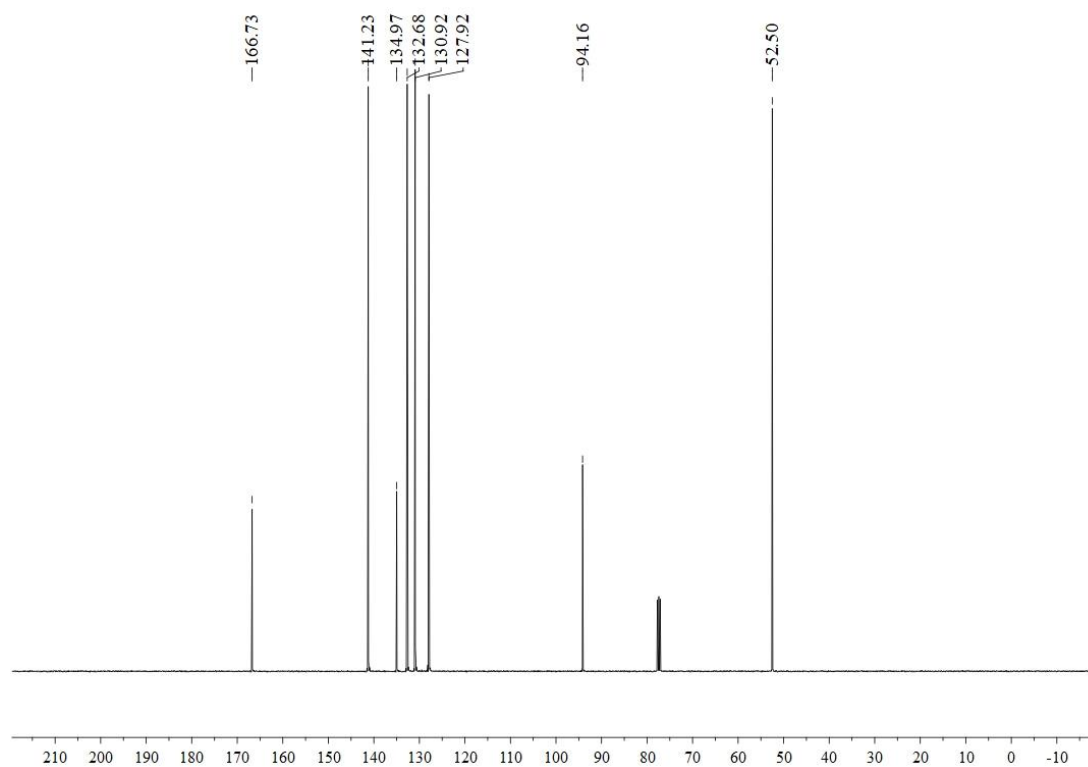
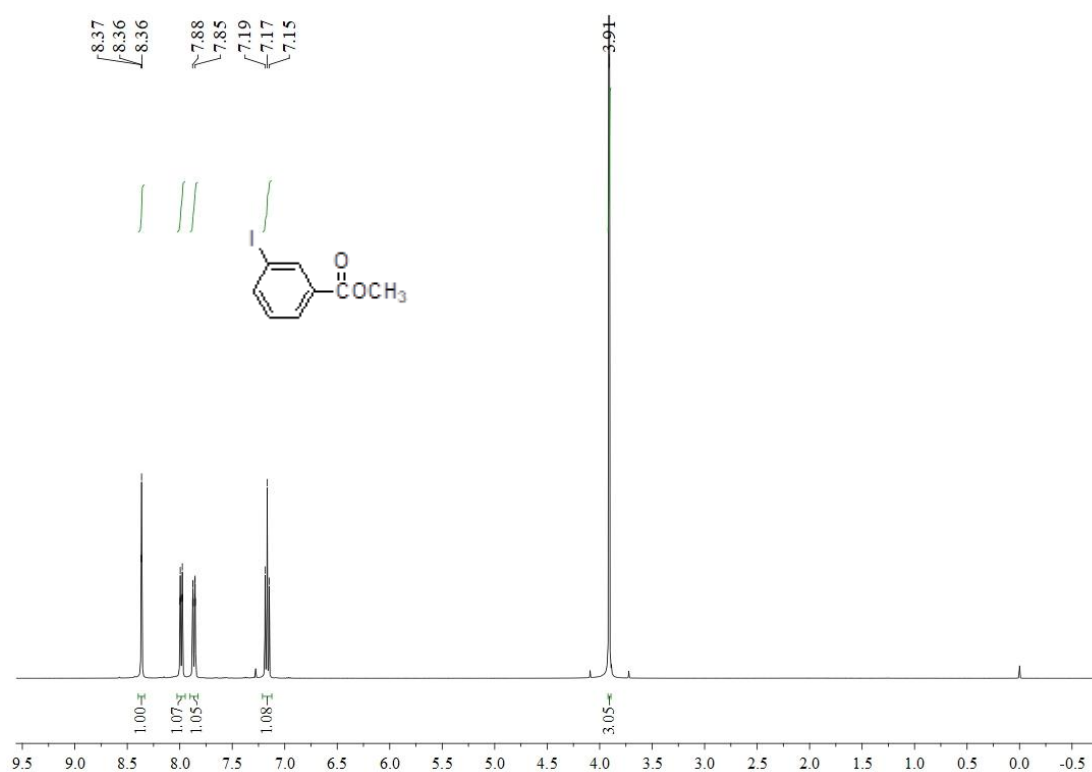


Figure S13 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl 2-iodobenzoate



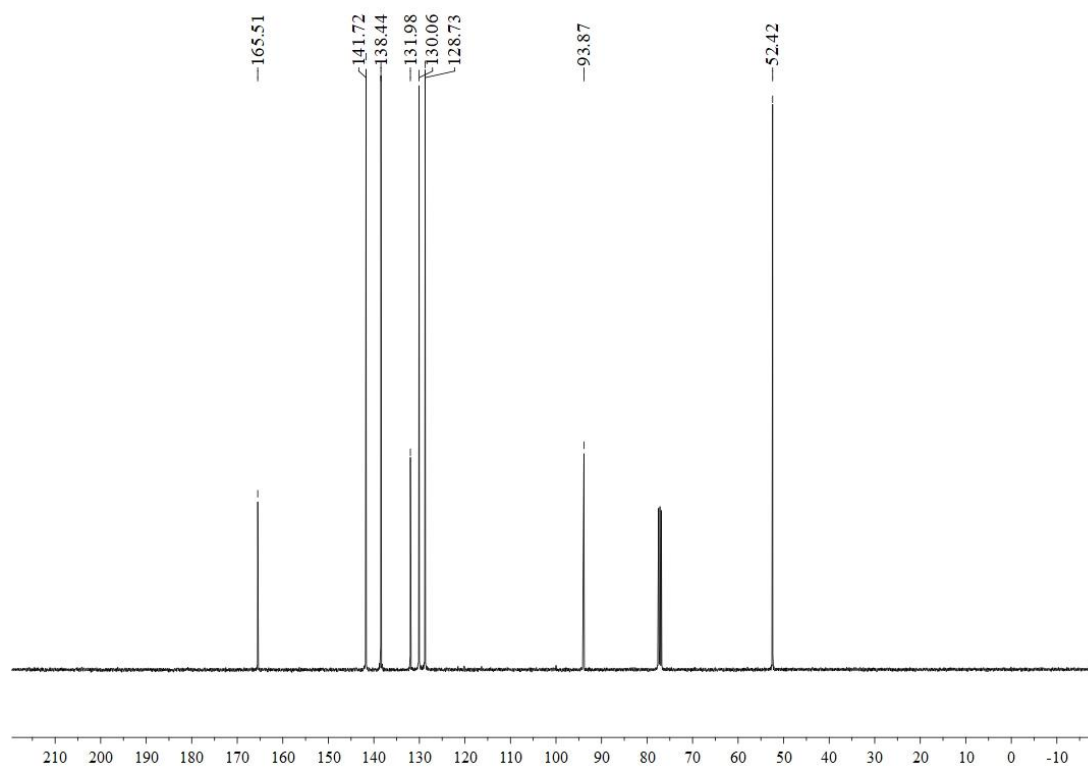
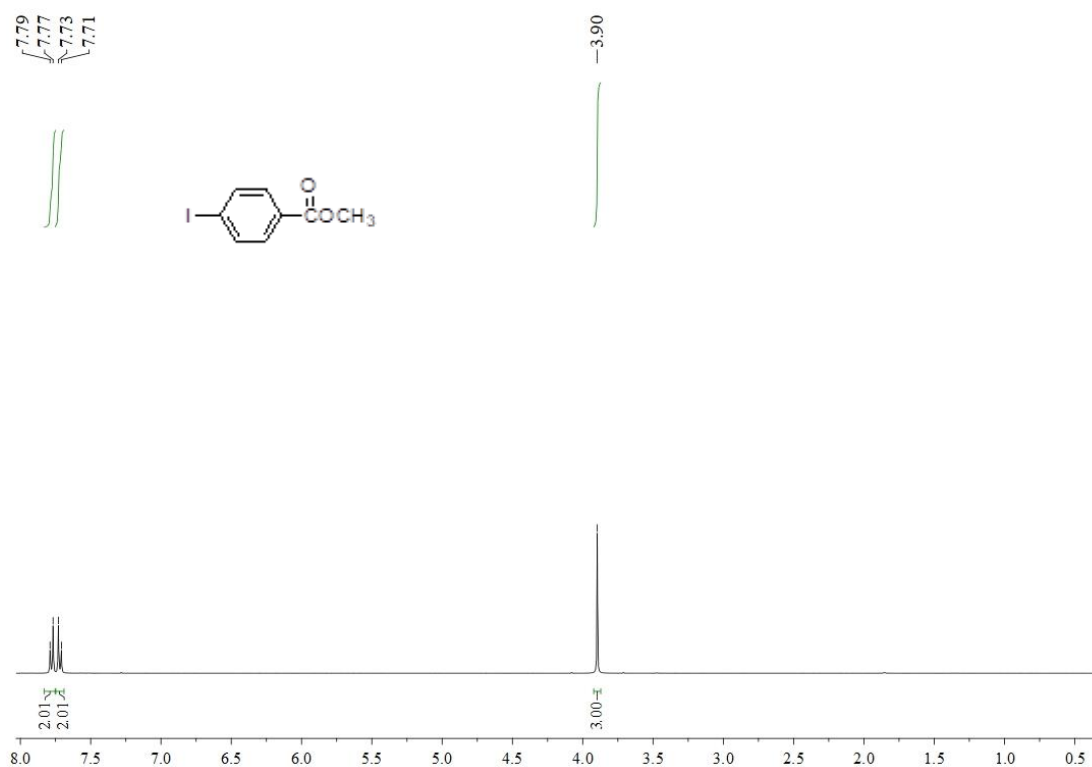


Figure S14  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of methyl 3-iodobenzoate



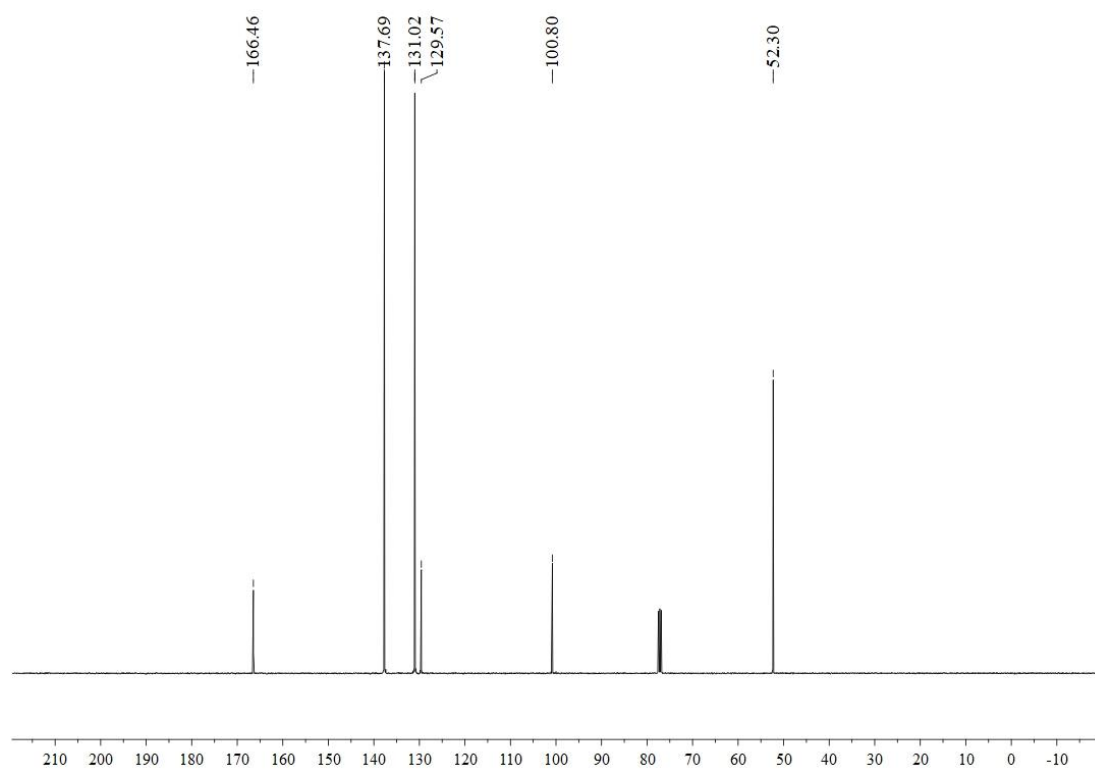
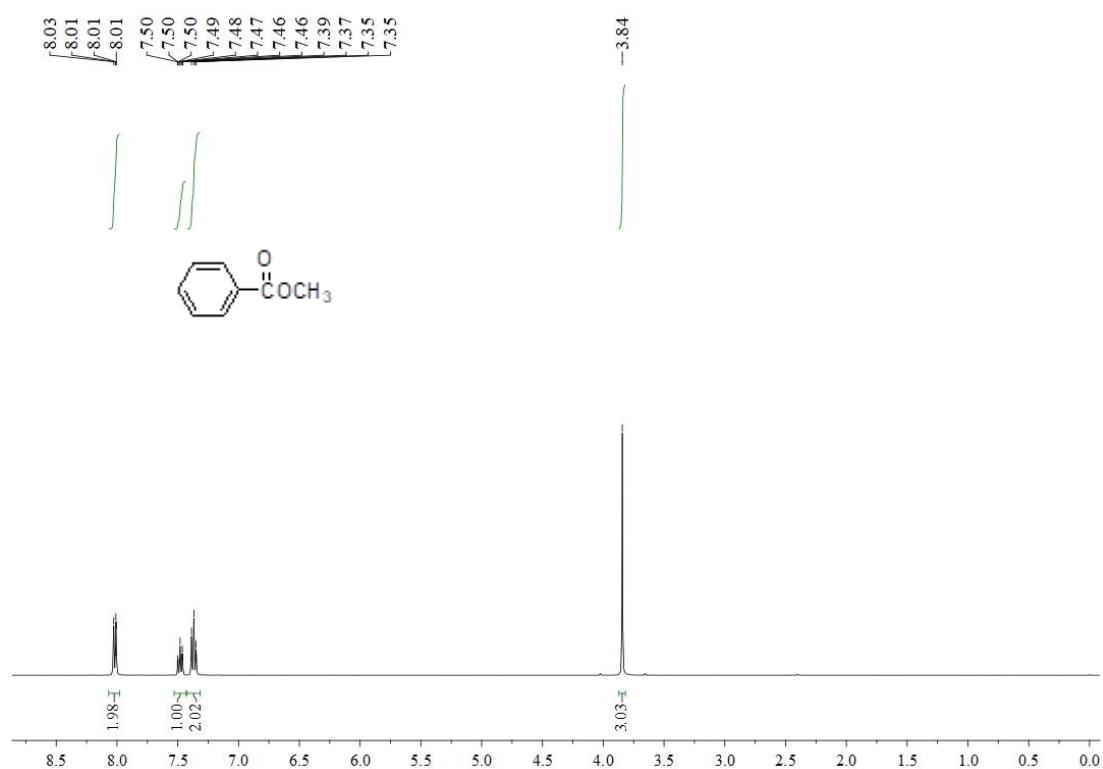


Figure S15 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl 4-iodobenzoate



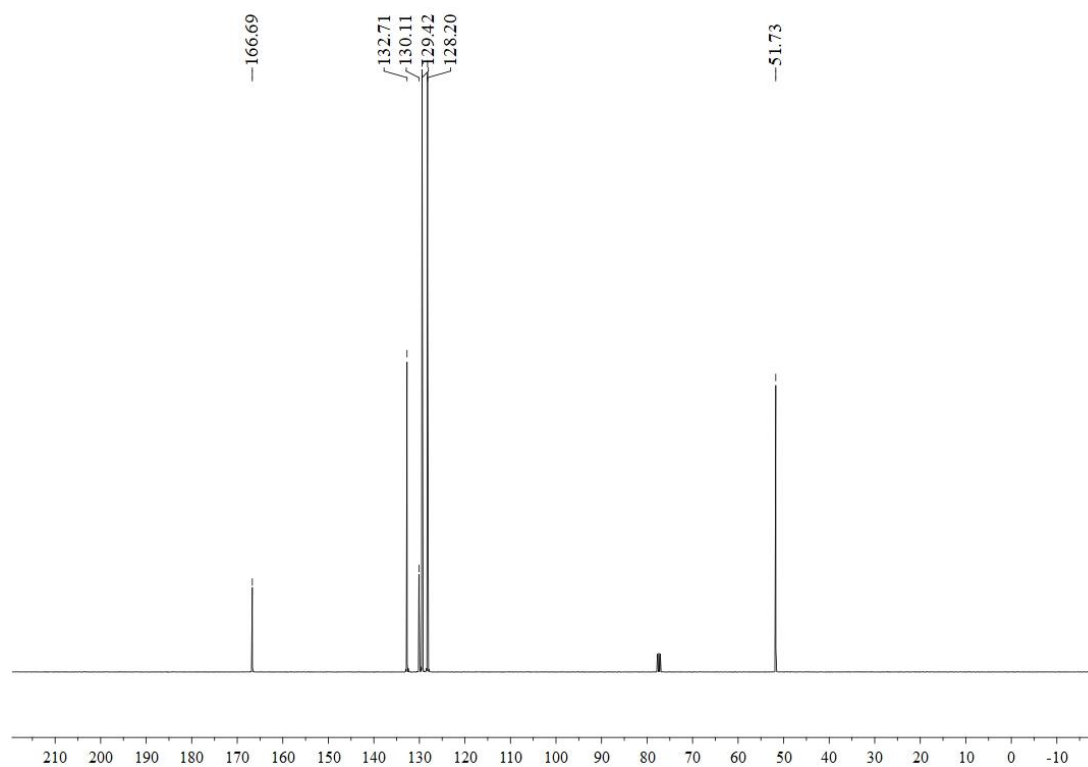
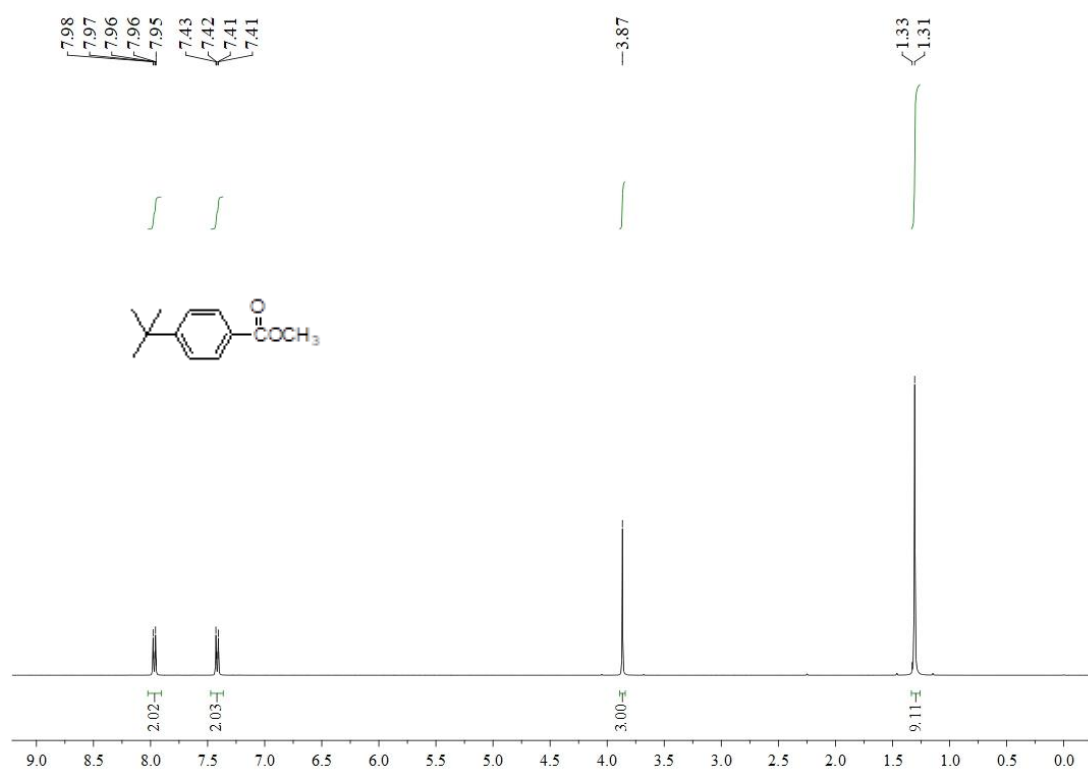


Figure S16 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl benzoate



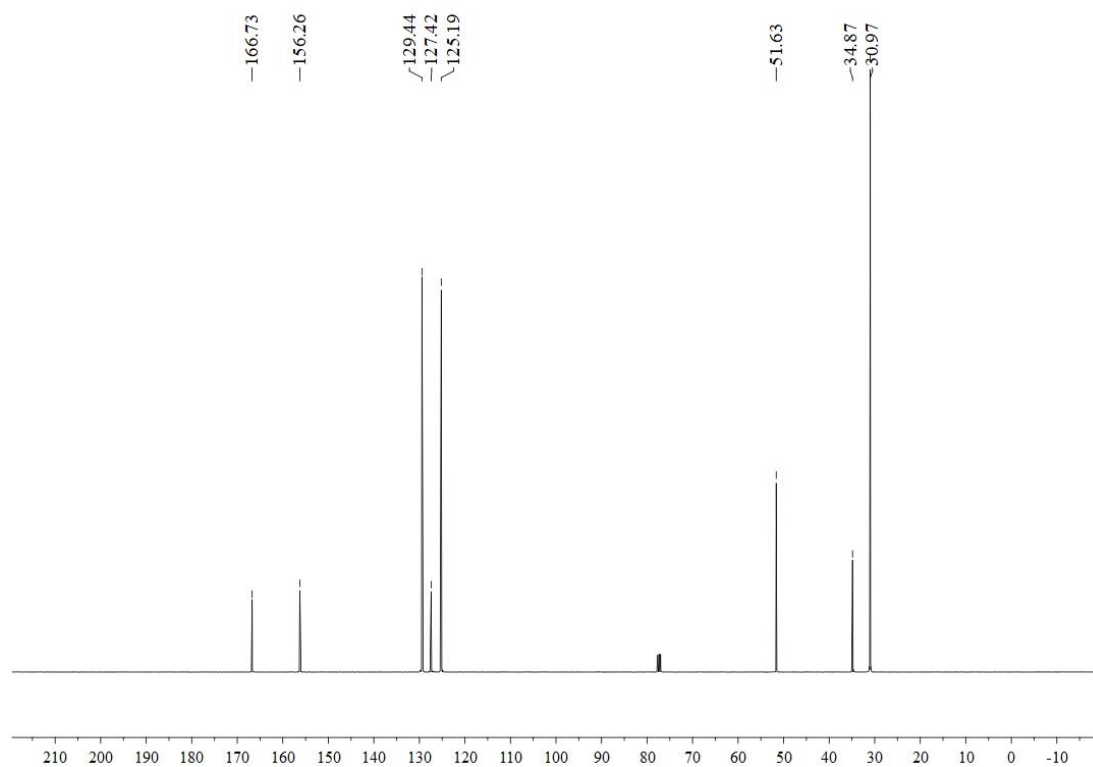
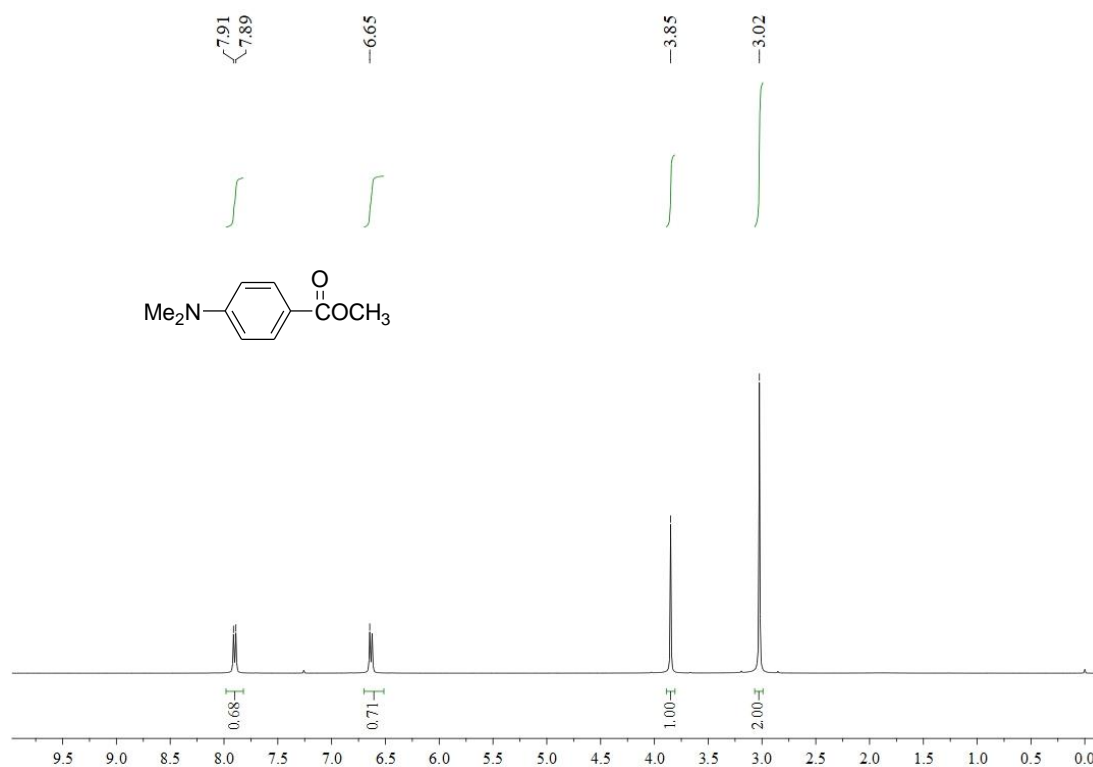


Figure S17 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl 4-Tert-Butylbenzoate





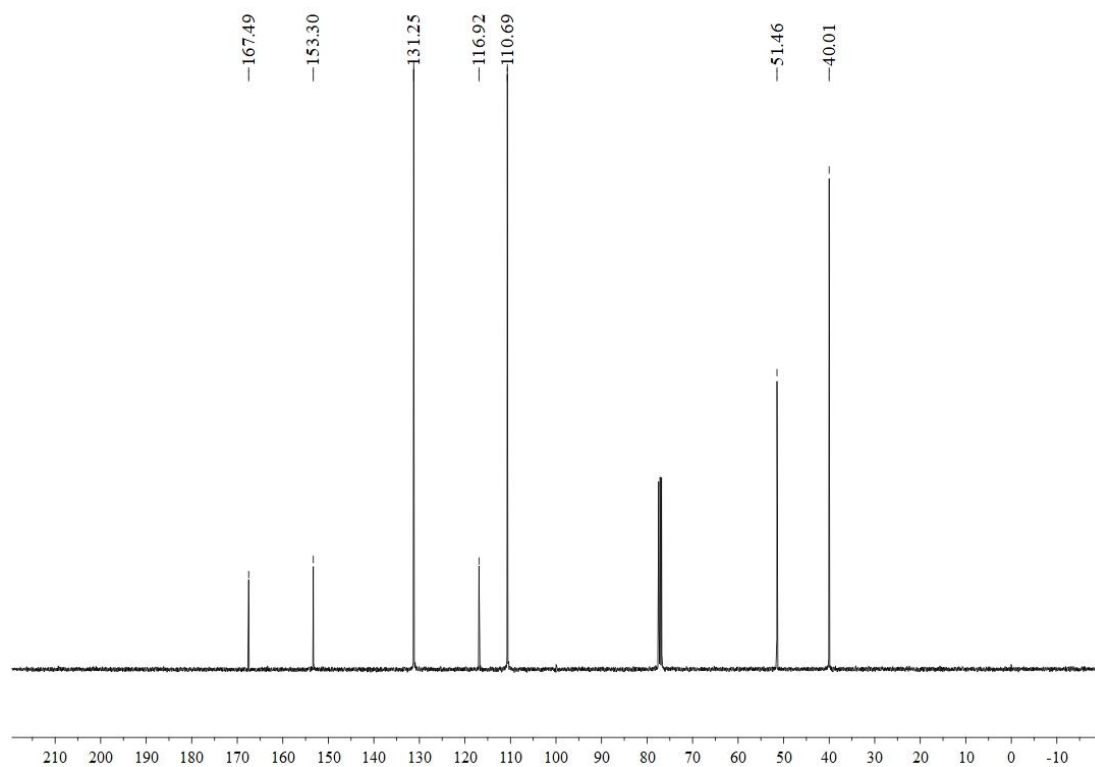
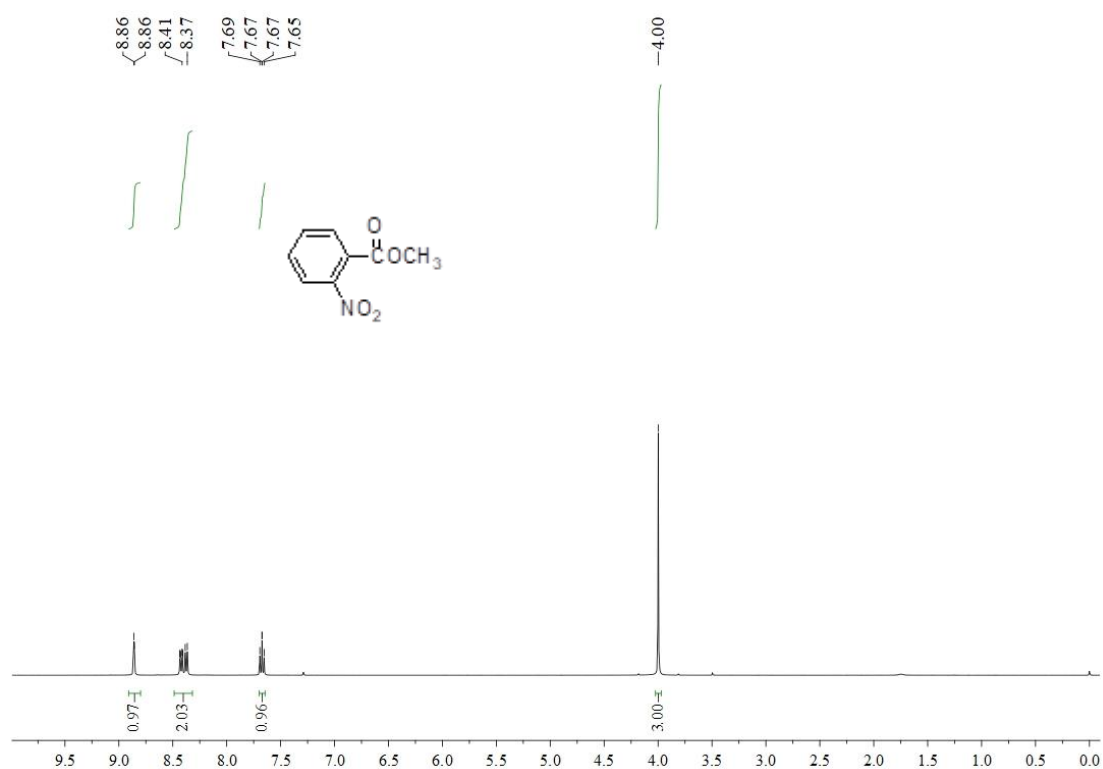


Figure S18 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl 4-cyanobenzoate



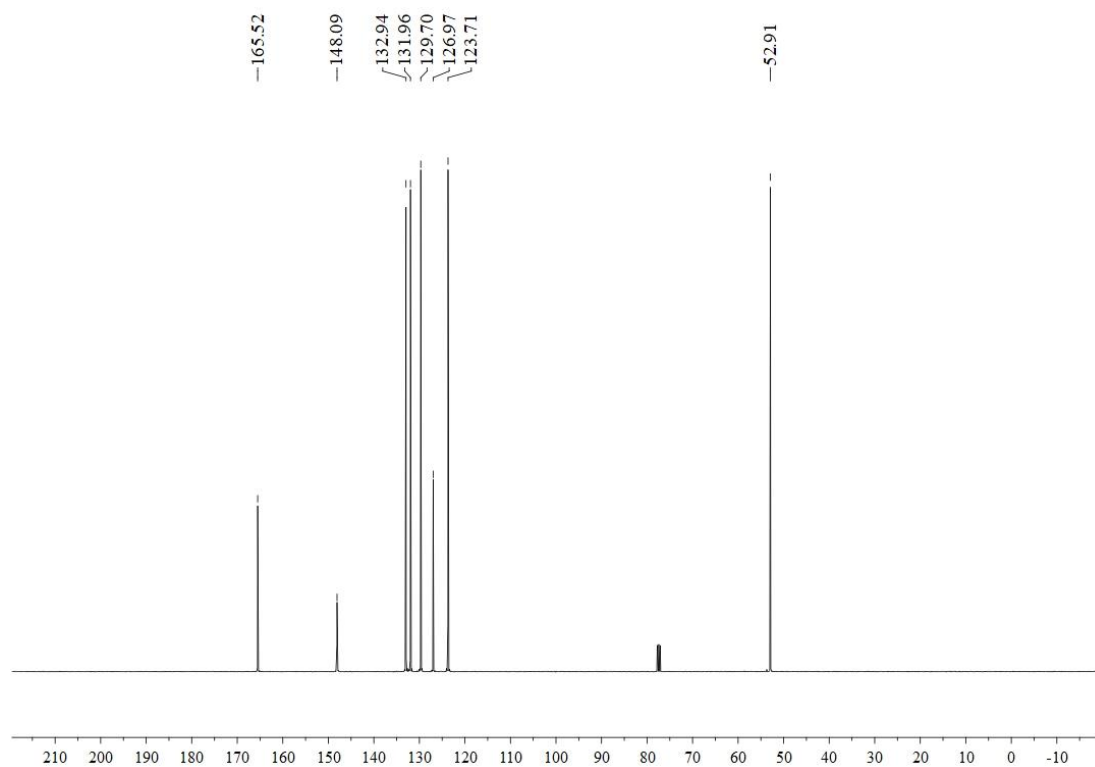
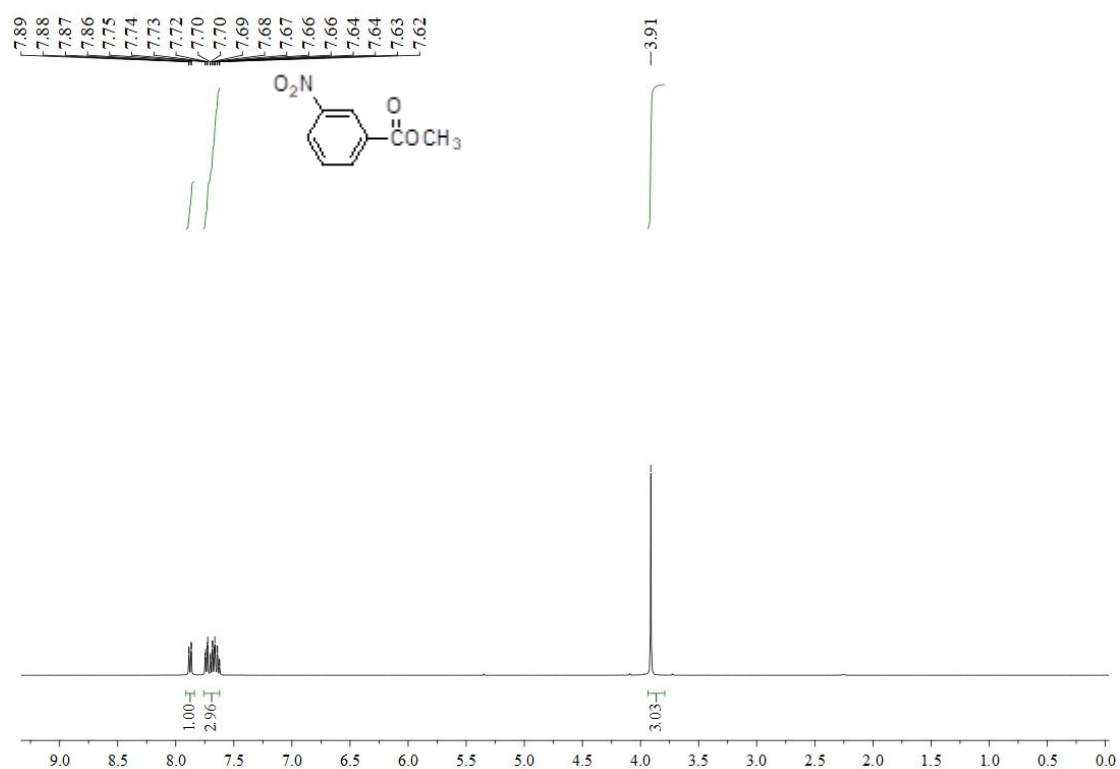


Figure S19 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of Methyl 2-nitrobenzoate



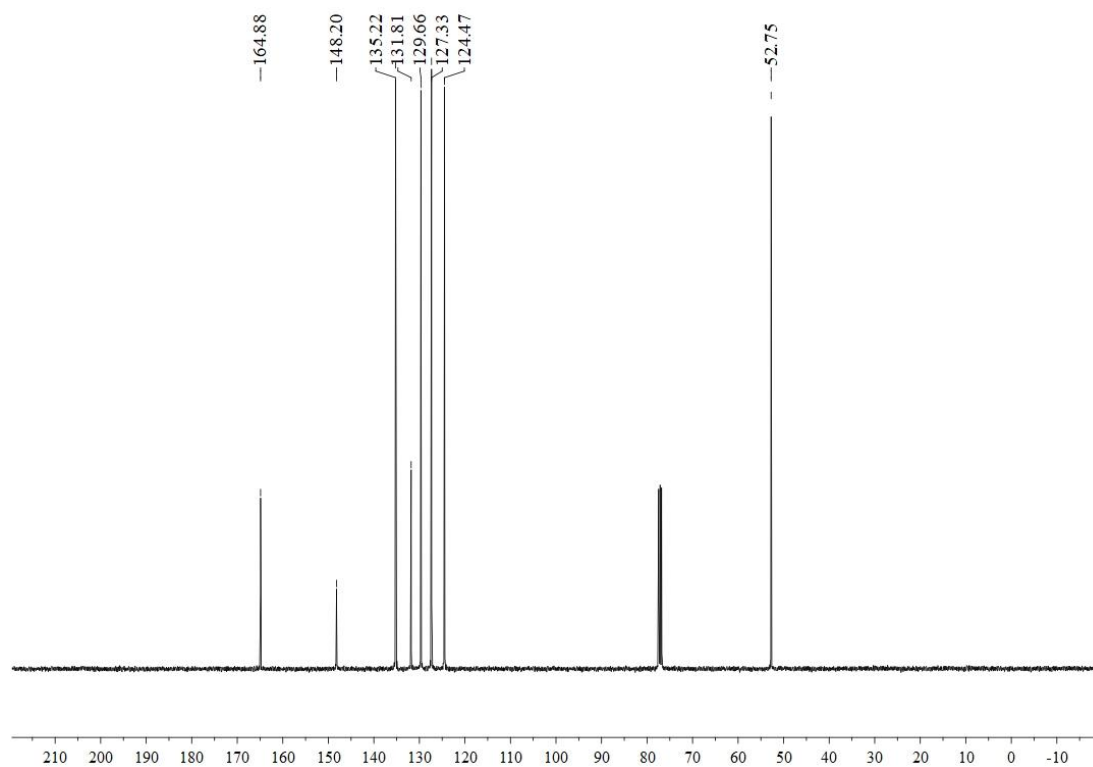
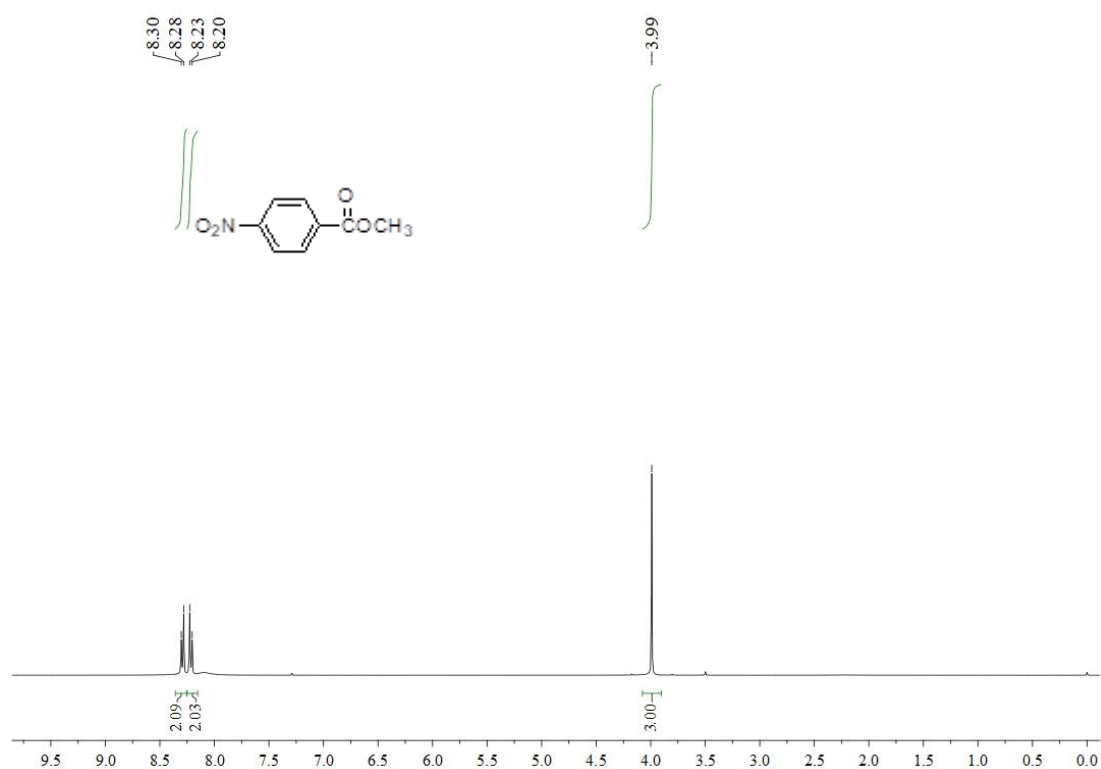


Figure S20  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of Methyl 3-nitrobenzoate



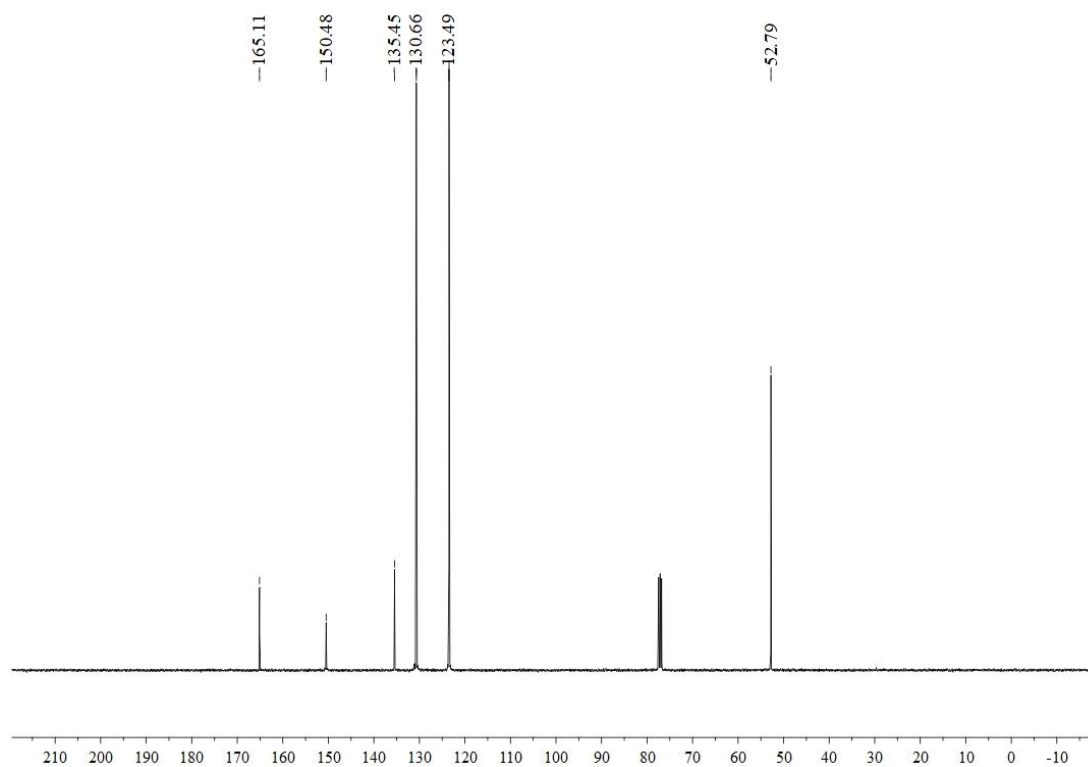
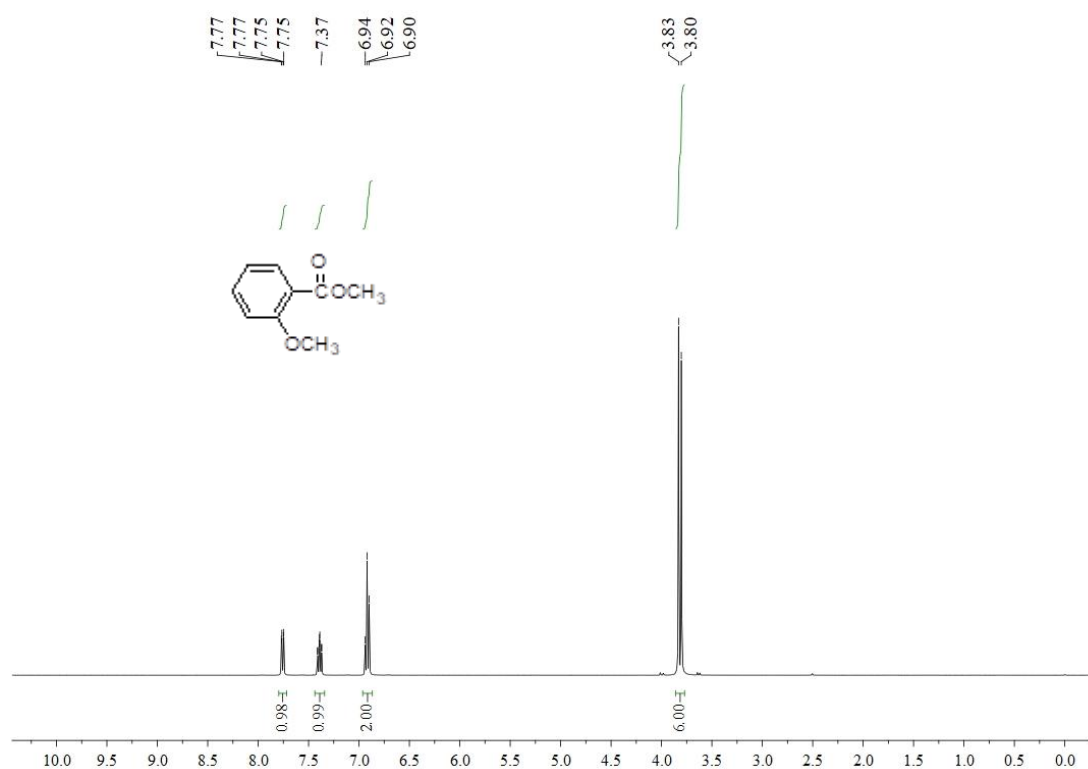


Figure S21  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of Methyl 4-nitrobenzoate



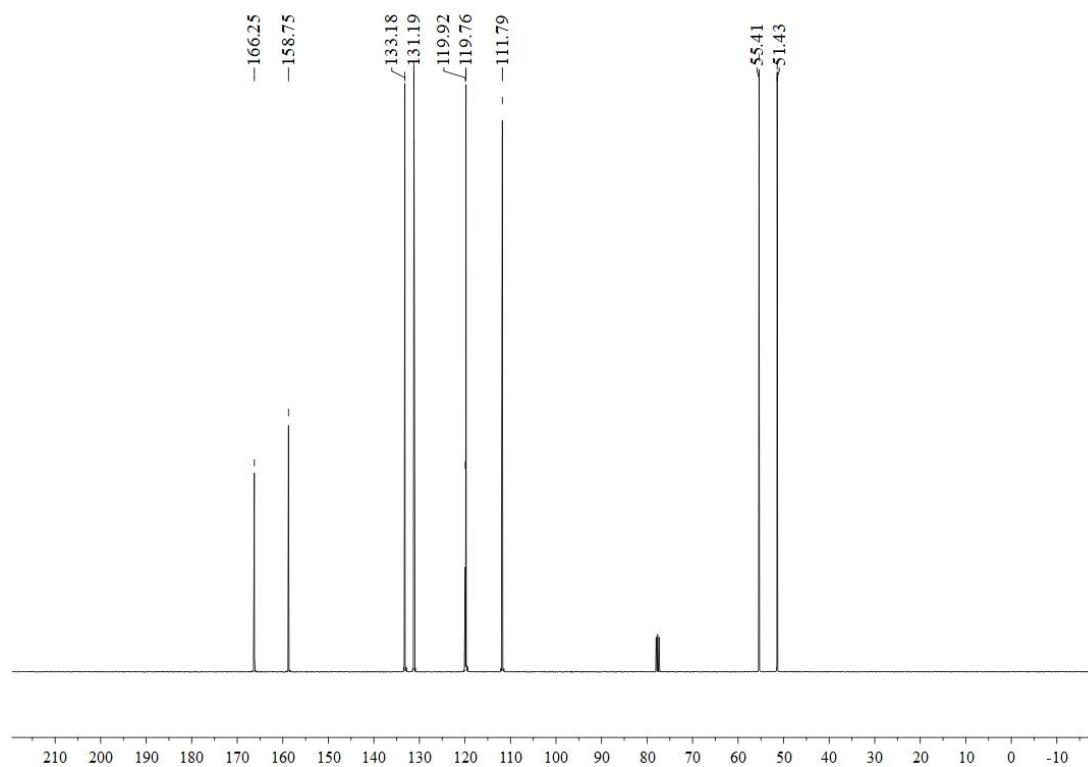
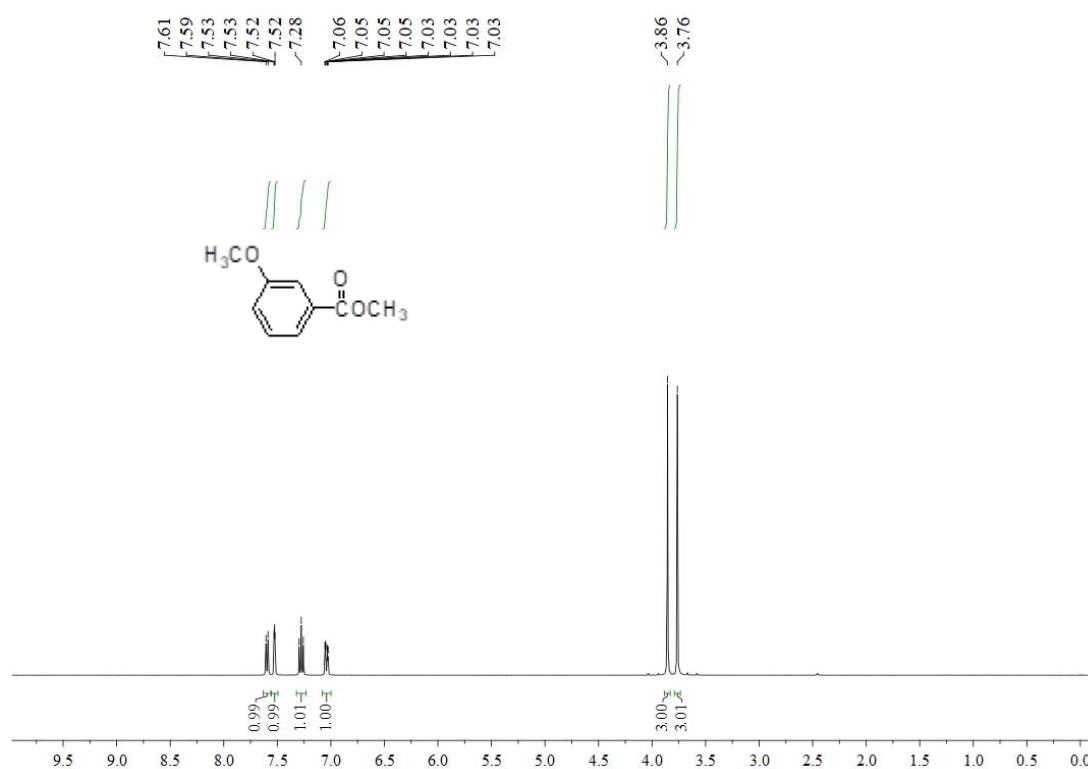


Figure S22 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of Methyl 2-methoxybenzoate



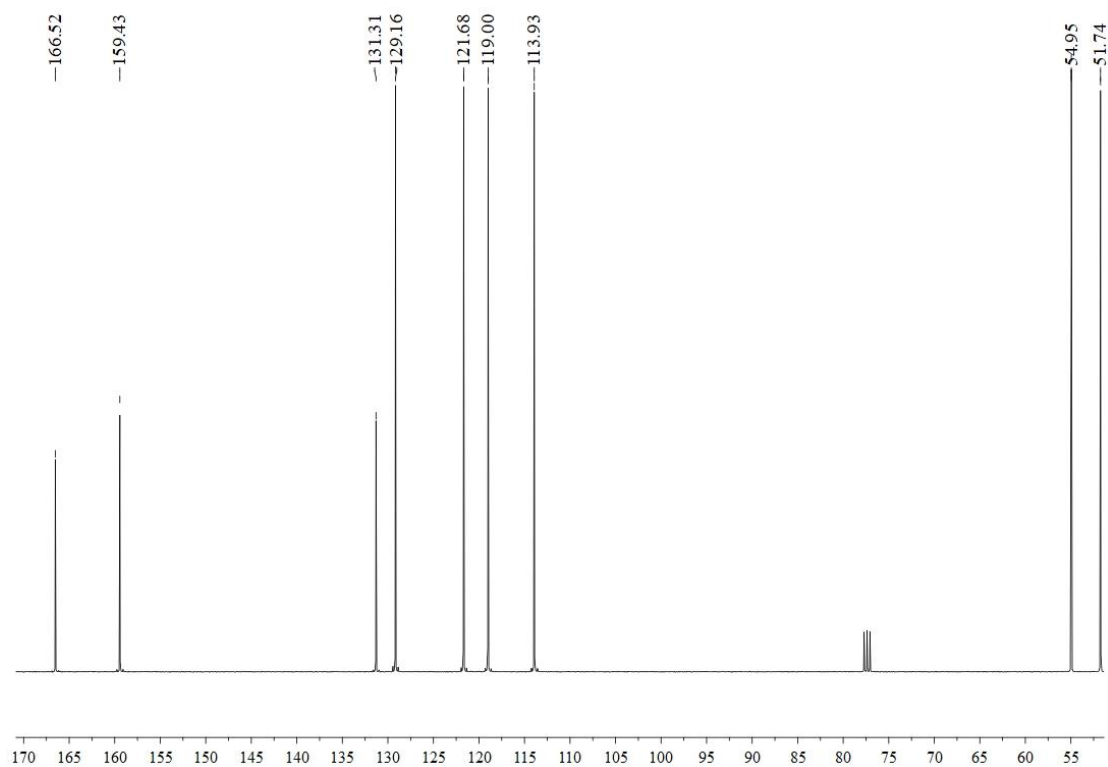


Figure S23 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of Methyl 3-methoxybenzoate



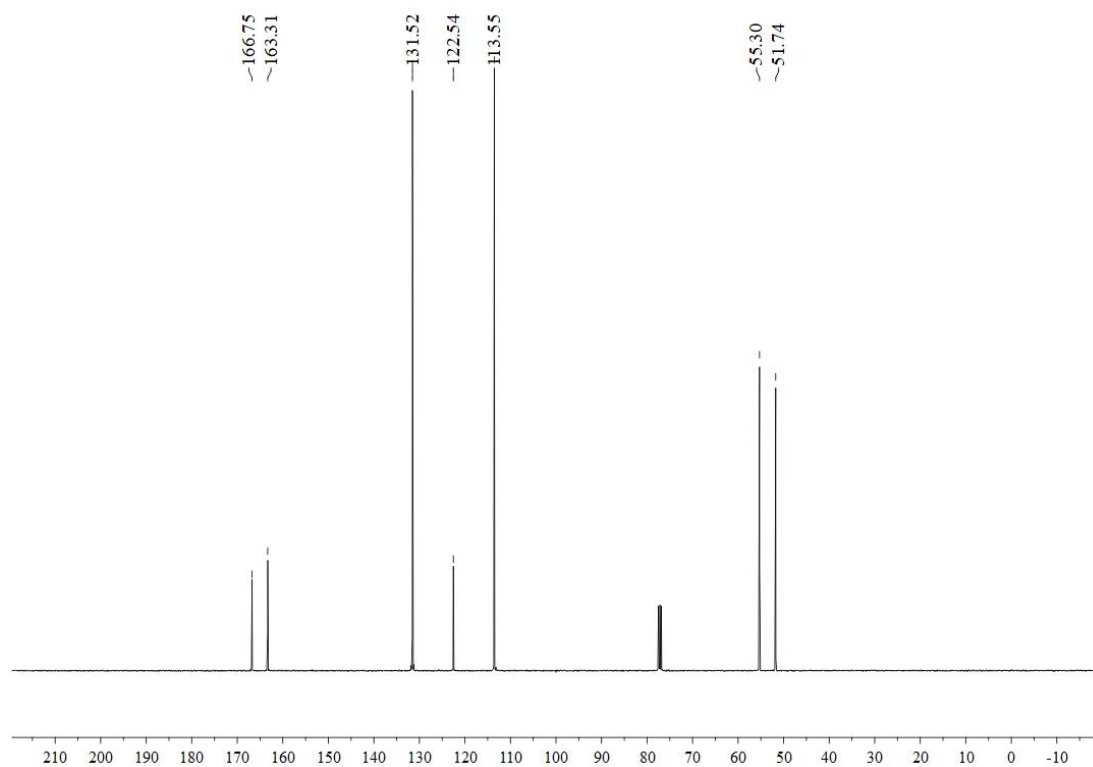
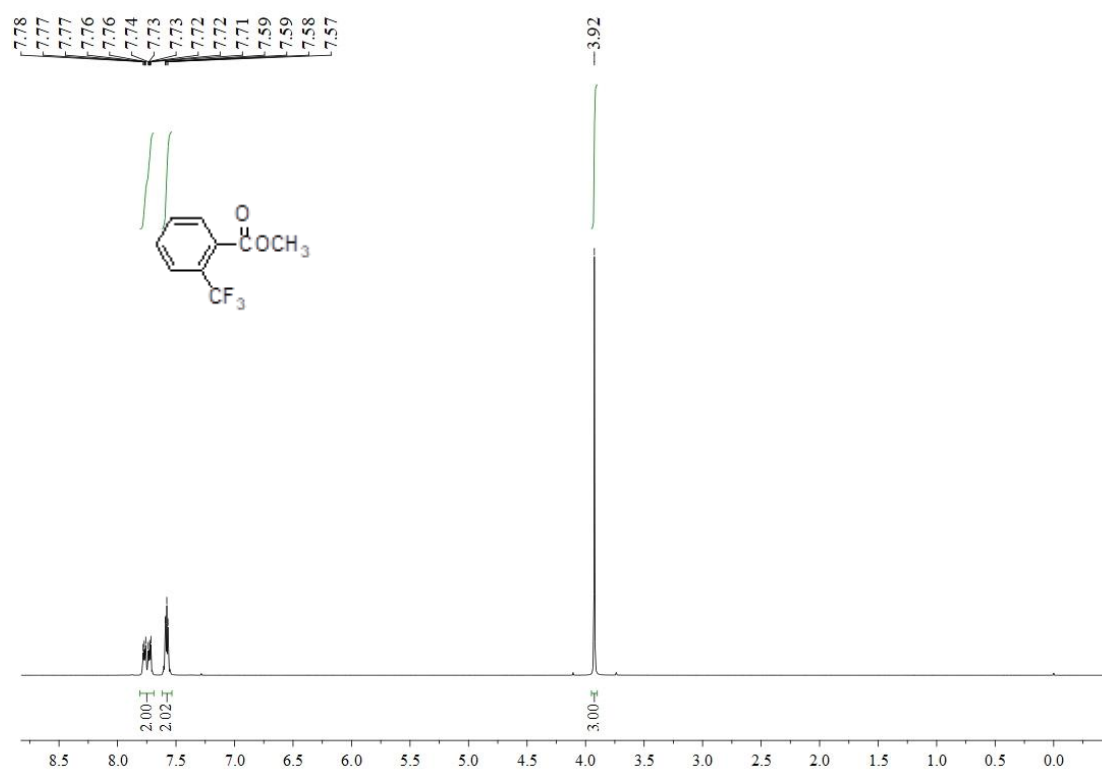


Figure S24 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of Methyl 4-methoxybenzoate



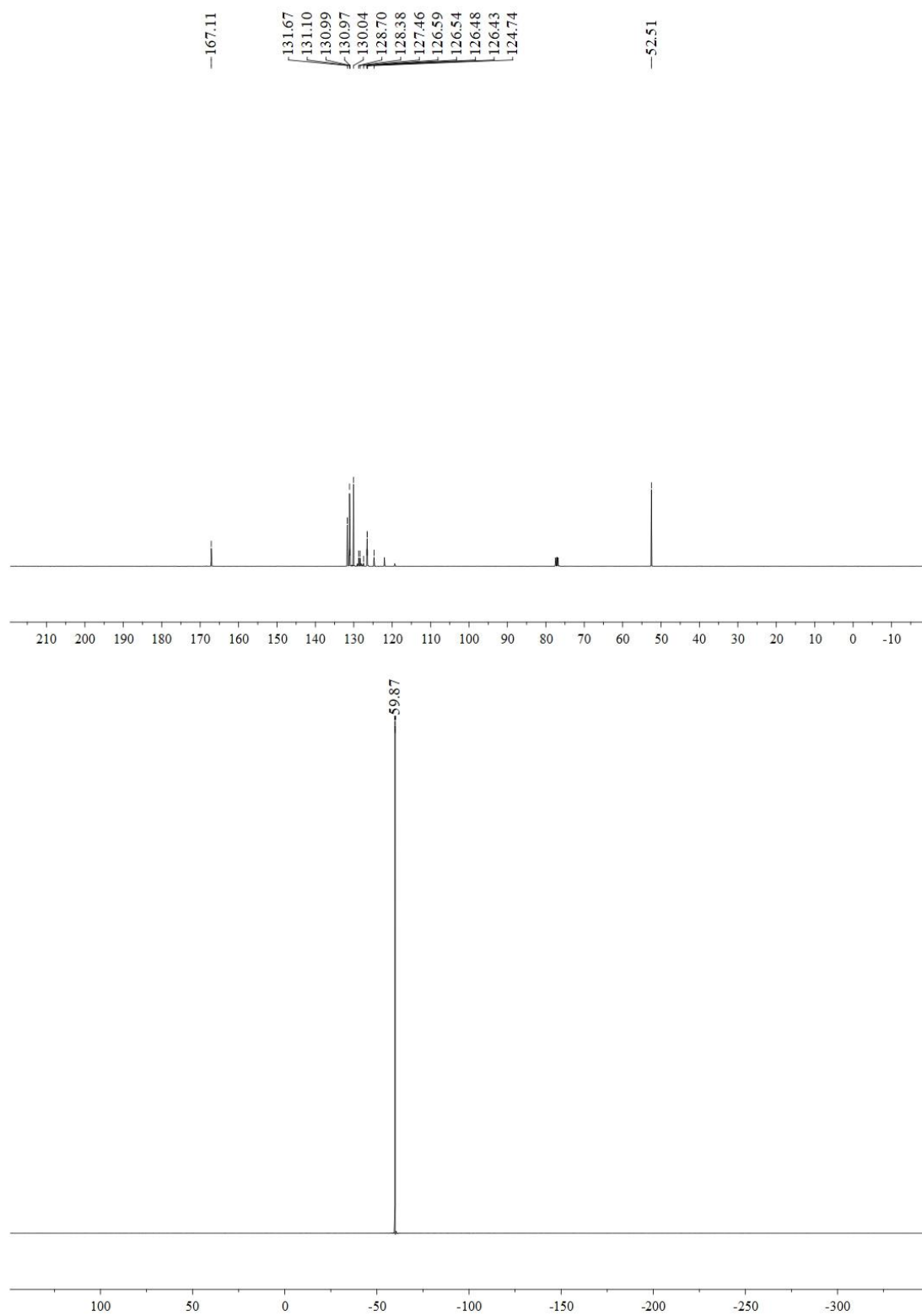
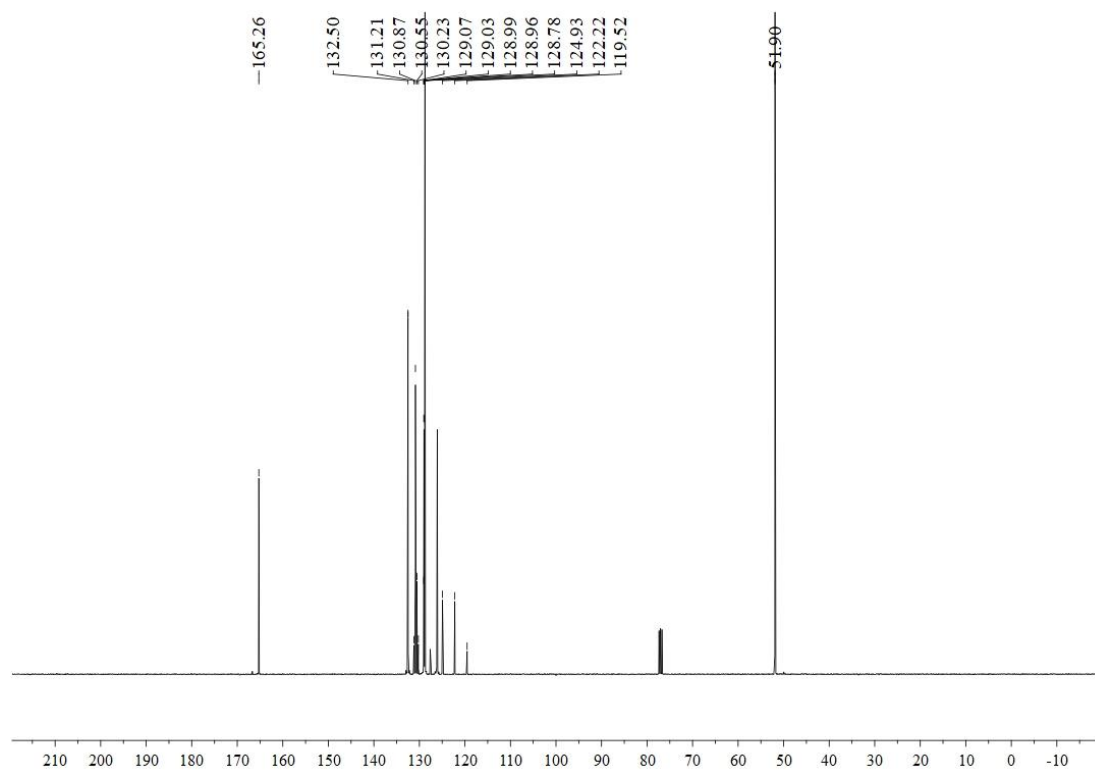
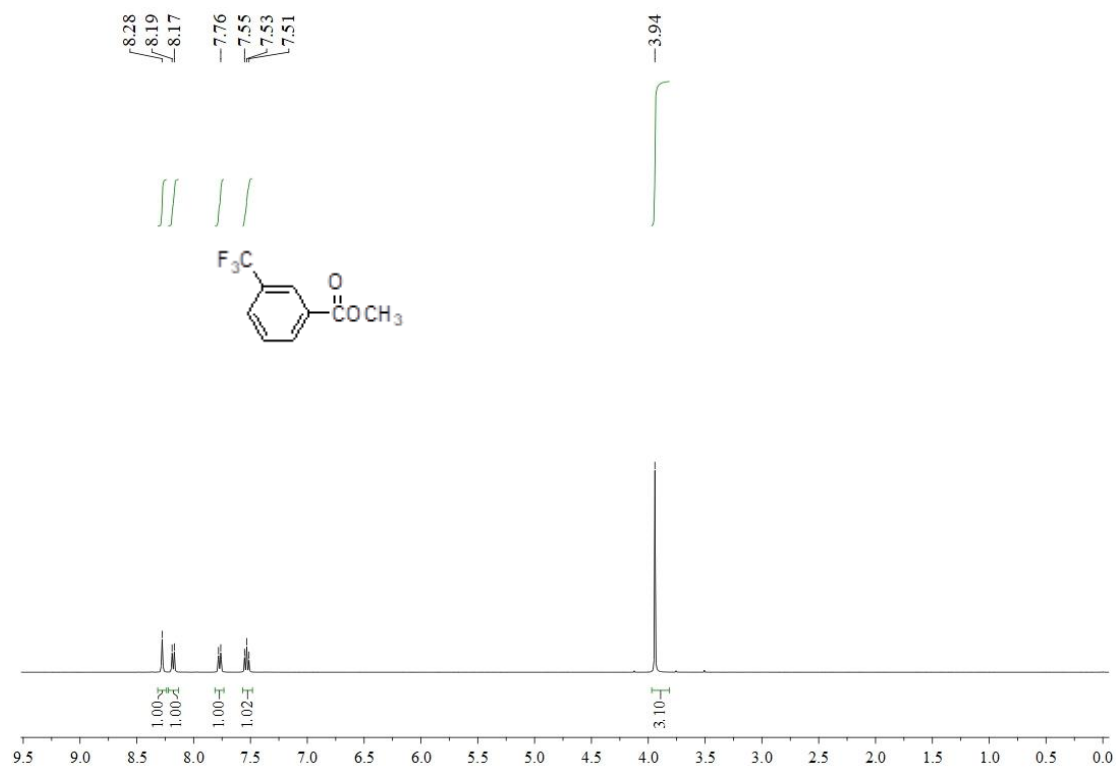


Figure S25  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR of Methyl 2-trifluoromethylbenzoate





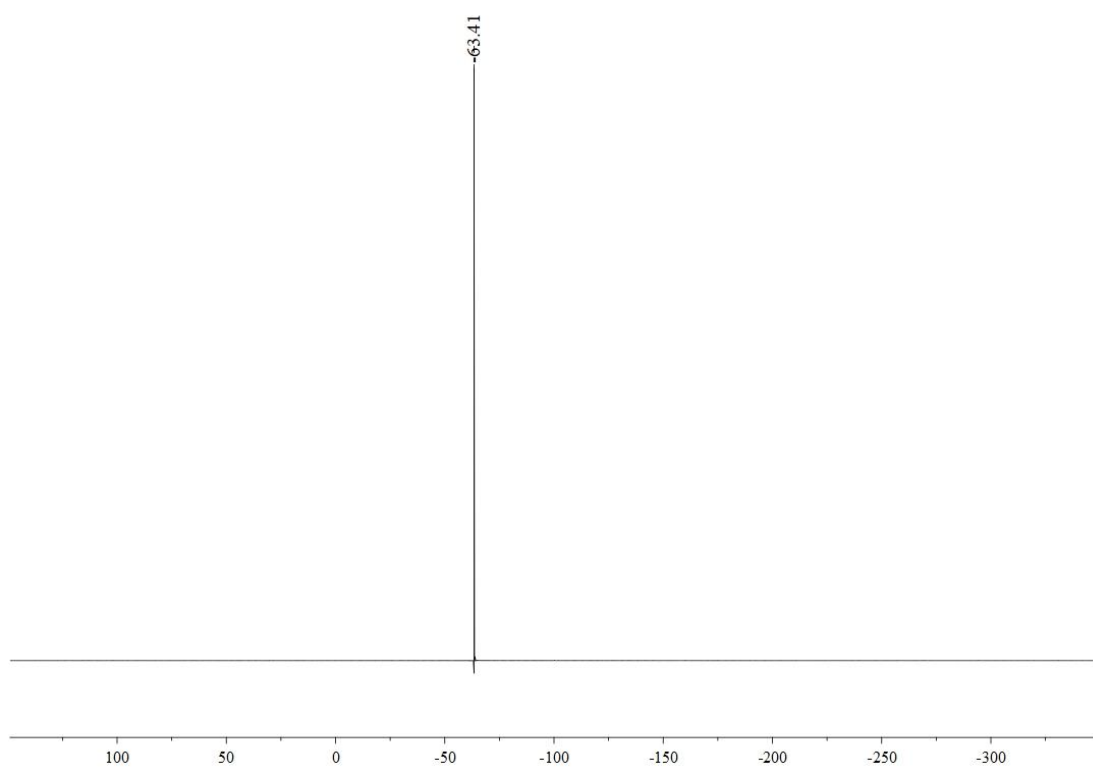
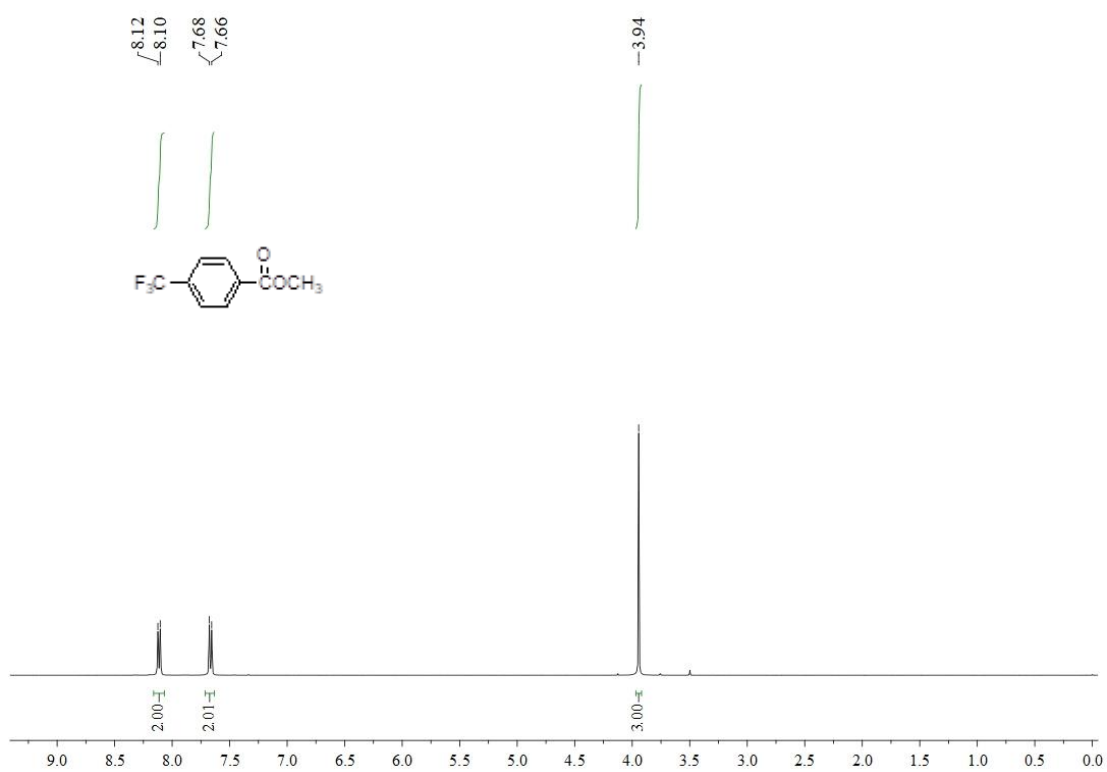


Figure S26 <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>19</sup>F NMR of Methyl 3-trifluoromethylbenzoate



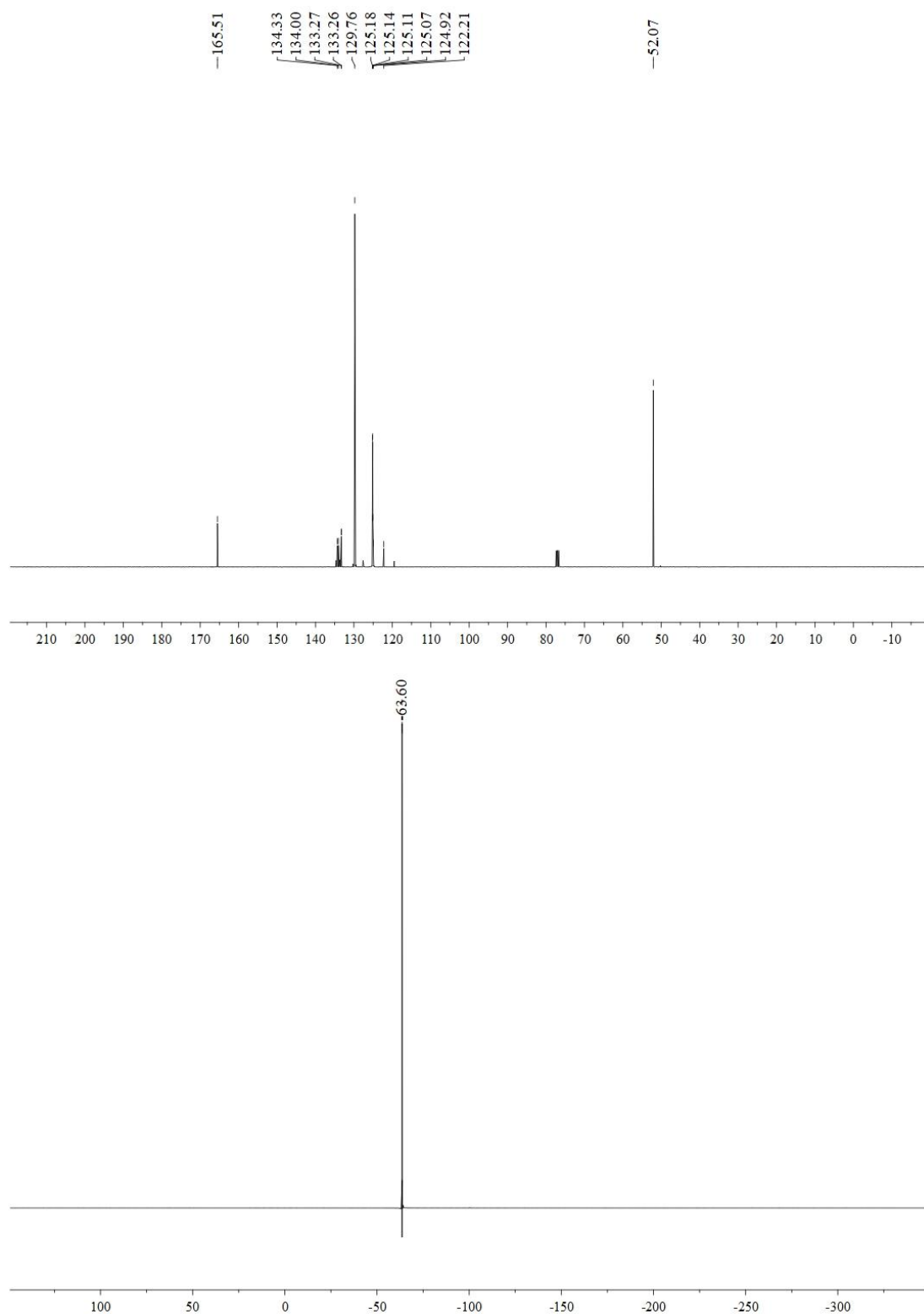


Figure S27  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR of Methyl 4-trifluoromethylbenzoate

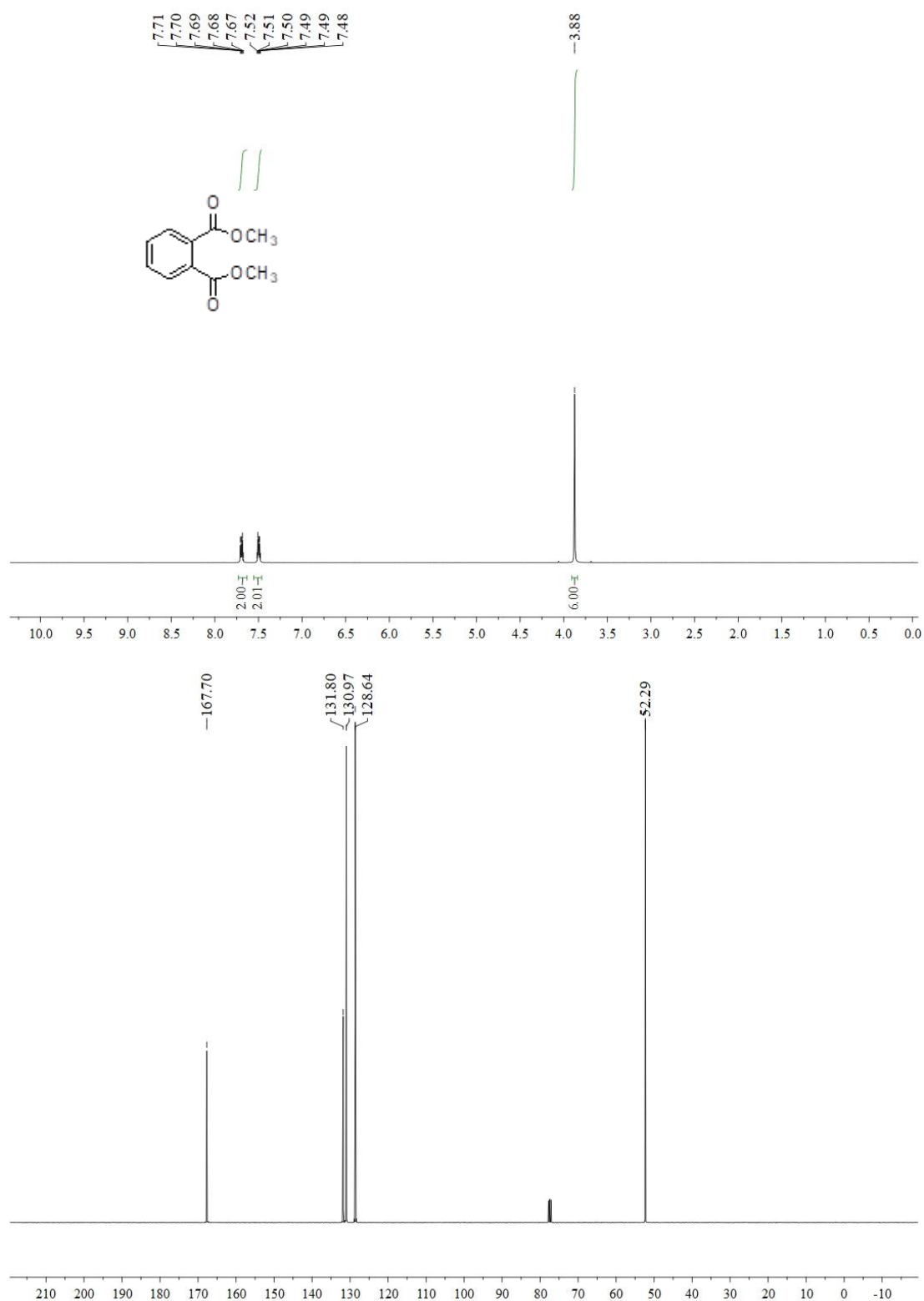


Figure S28  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of *o*-Dimethyl phthalate

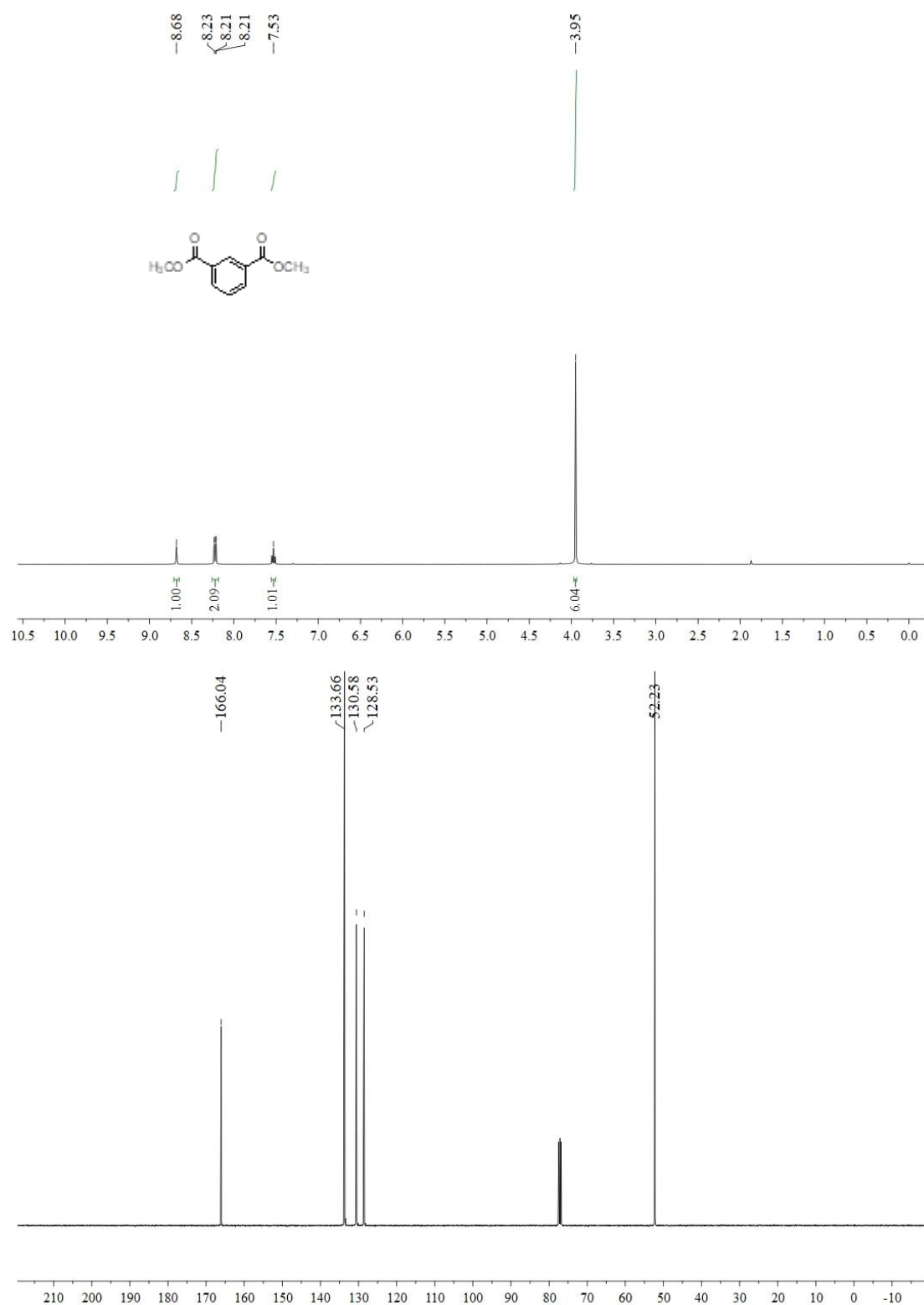


Figure S29 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of *m*-Dimethyl terephthalate

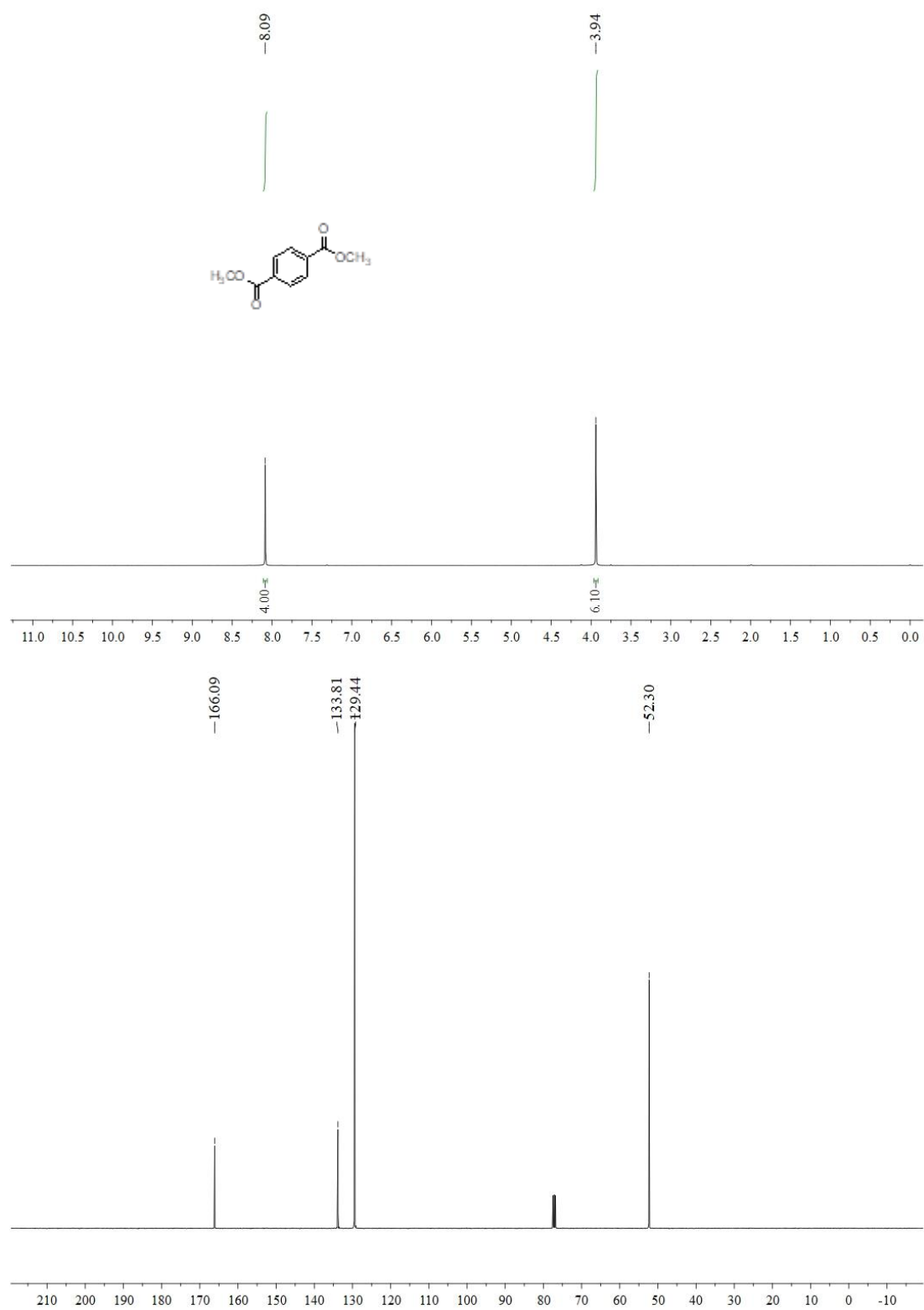


Figure S30 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of *p*-Dimethyl terephthalate

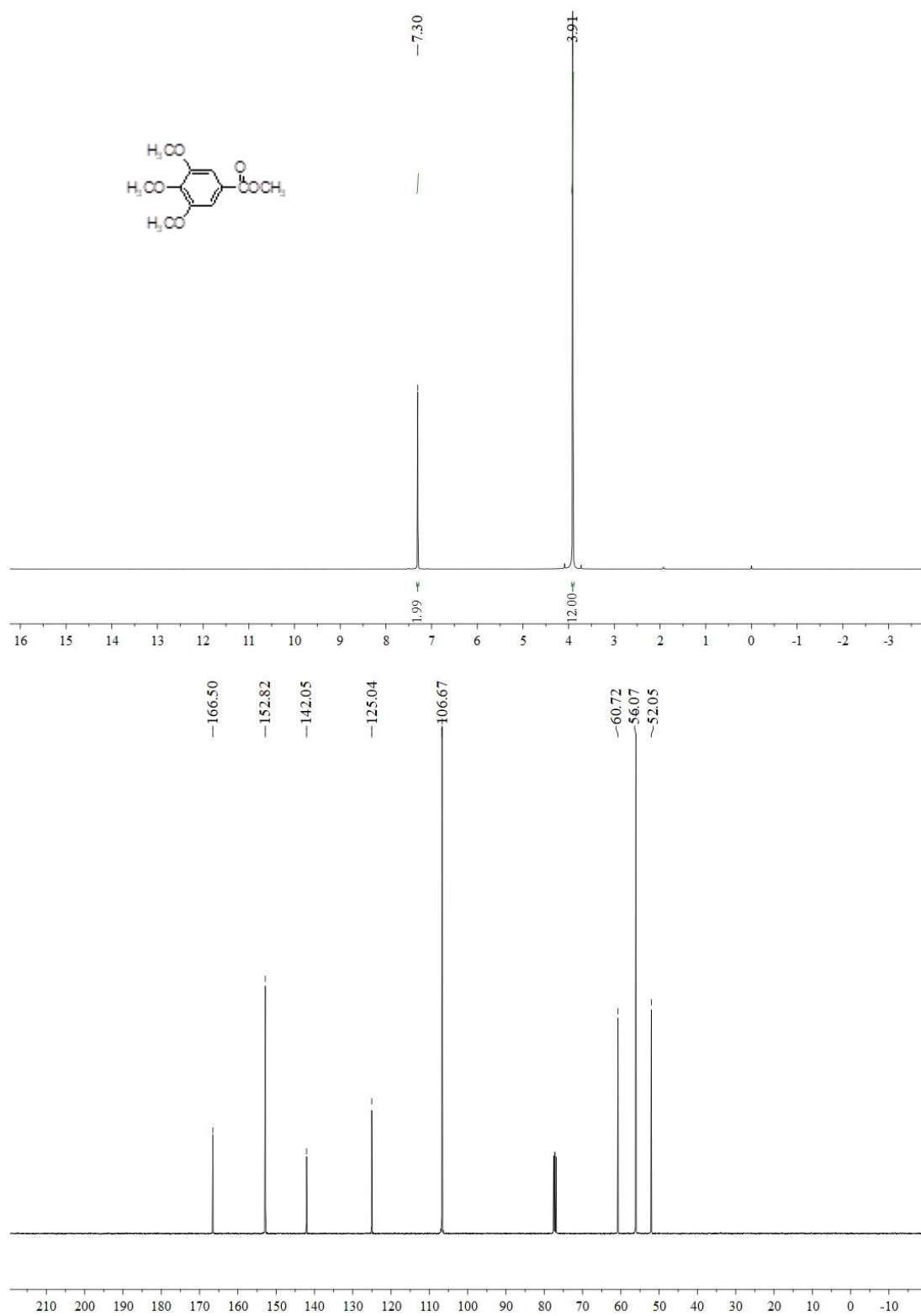
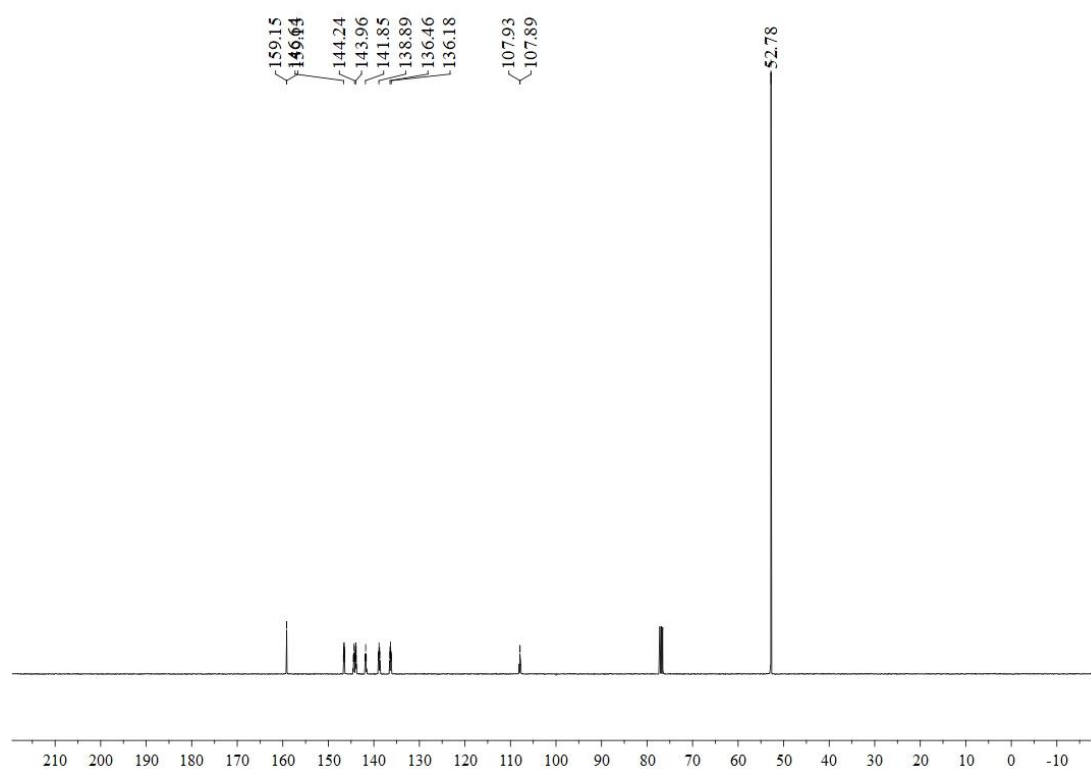
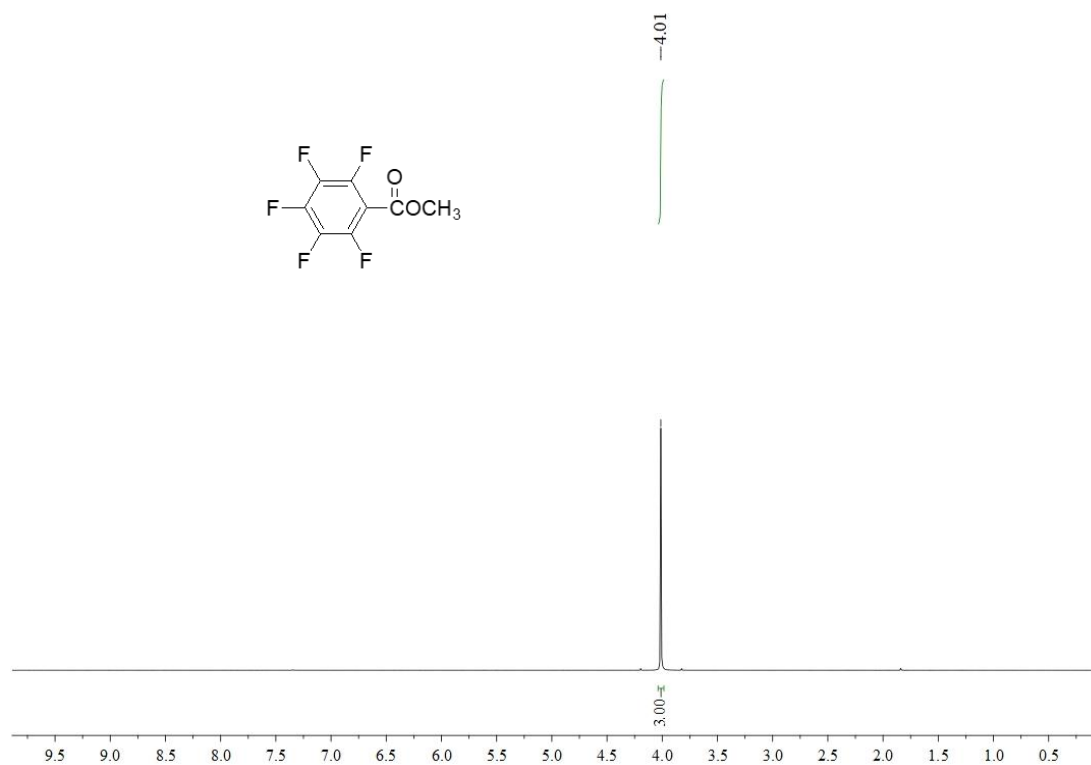
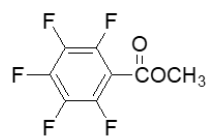


Figure S31 <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of methyl 3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoate





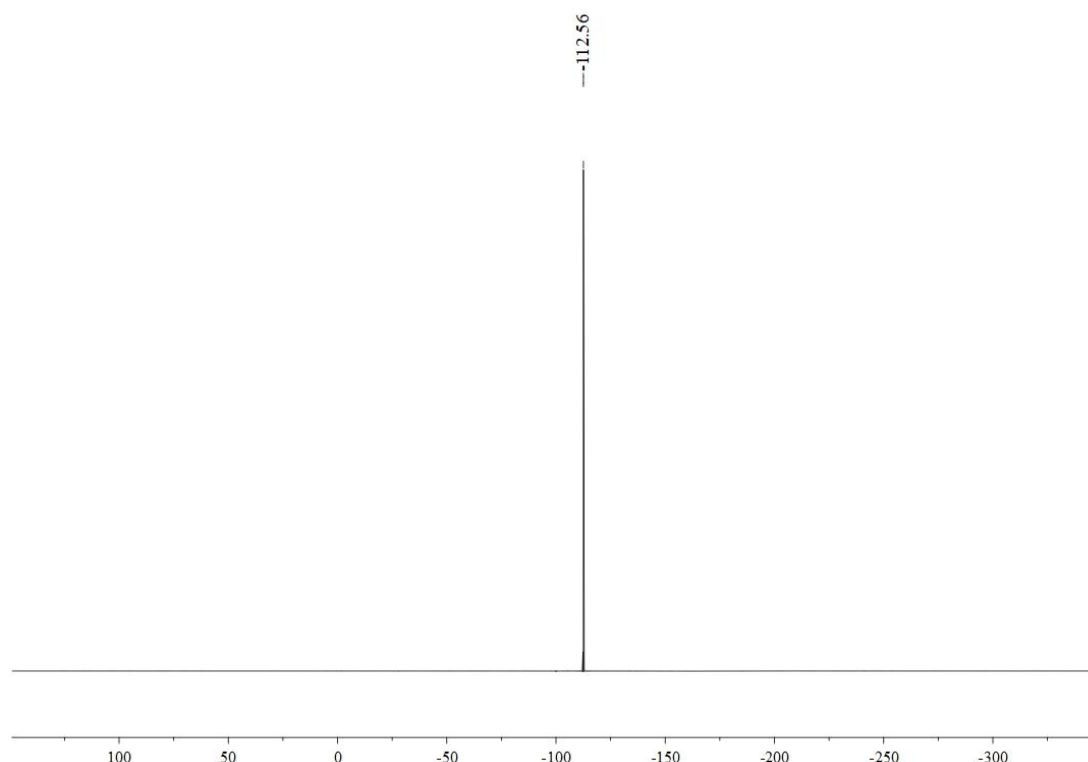


Figure S32  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR of Methyl 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorobenzoate

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