# Palladium-Catalyzed Site-Selective C-H Arylation of 2,2'-Bipyridine-6-carboxamides via a Rollover Cyclometalation Pathway

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## 1. General Information

All solvents and chemicals were from Sigma-Aldrich, Tansoole, Energy Chemical , Acros and Alfa Aesar and used directly without further purification. All reactions were performed under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen in oven-dried glassware, unless otherwise stated. Flash column chromatography was performed over silica gel (300-400 mesh).  $^{1}$ H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVIII-500M spectrometers, Chemical shifts (in ppm) were referenced to CHCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta$  =7.26 ppm) as an internal standard.  $^{13}$ C NMR spectra were obtained by using the same NMR spectrometers and were calibrated with CDCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta$  = 77.0 ppm). Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in ppm, and coupling constants (J) are in Hertz (Hz). Multiplicities are reported using the following abbreviations: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on an Agilent 1290 Mass spectrometer using ESI-TOF (electrospray ionization-time of flight).

## 2.1 Procedure for Synthesis of S<sub>1</sub>-S<sub>3</sub>

 $S_1$  and  $S_2$  were synthesized following a literature procedure<sup>1</sup>.  $S_3$  was synthesized following a literature procedure<sup>2</sup>.

(a) TFA, 1.5 equiv H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, rt, 2.5 h; (b) 2.5 equiv TMSCN, 1 equiv Benzoyl chloride, DCM, 5 d; (c) 4 equiv NaOH,  $C_2H_5OH/H_2O = 2:1$ , reflux, 30 min; then HCl (1 M), pH = 3.8.

## 2.2 Procedure for Synthesis of 1a-1i

To a 50-mL oven-dried round-bottom flask were added S<sub>3</sub> (2,2'-bipyridine-6-carboxylic acid hydrochloride) (1 equiv, 4.24 mmol) in dichloromethane (25 mL). The solution was added appropriate amines (1.8 equiv, 7.63 mmol) and 2,4,6-collidine (1 equiv, 4.24 mmol), followed by addition of HATU (2 equiv, 8.48 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The crude mixture was quenched with aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted with DCM (3 × 15 mL), dried over Mg<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuo. The crude amide product was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the pure product.

## N-butyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (1a)

The title compound 1a was prepared from  $S_3$  (1 g, 4.24 mmol) and n-butylamine (0.56 g, 7.63 mmol) according to the general procedure. Purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a colorless solid (0.99 g, 92% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.74 – 8.68 (m, 1H), 8.55 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (dd, J = 7.7, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (s, 1H), 8.01 - 7.95 (m, 1H), 7.89 - 7.83 (m, 1H), 7.38 - 7.34 (m, 1H), 3.56 - 3.52 (m, 2H), 1.72 - 1.63 (m, 2H), 1.52 - 1.42 (m, 2H), 0.99 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.1, 155.1, 154.6, 149.4, 149.3, 138.3, 136.8, 124.0, 123.5, 122.2, 120.8, 39.2, 31.8, 20.2, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{15}H_{18}N_3O^+$  [M+H] $^+$ : 256.1444, found: 256.1444.

## N-methyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (1b)

Synthesized from  $S_3$  (1 g, 4.24 mmol) and methanamine hydrochloride (1.03 g, 7.63 mmol) following general procedure. Purification using preparative TLC (5:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a pale-yellow solid (0.79 g, 87% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.73 – 8.68 (m, 1H), 8.55 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.40 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (s, 1H), 8.00 – 7.94 (m, 1H), 7.87 – 7.82 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 3.10 (d, J = 5.0, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.9, 155.1, 154.6, 149.3, 149.3, 138.3, 136.8, 124.1, 123.5, 122.1, 120.9, 26.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{12}H_{11}N_3NaO^+$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 236.0794, found: 236.0793.

## N-ethyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (1c)

Synthesized from  $S_3$  (1 g, 4.24 mmol) and ethylamine (0.34 g, 7.63 mmol) following general procedure. Purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a colorless solid (0.88 g, 92% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.71 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 8.55 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (dd, J = 7.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.99 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.82 – 7.90 (m, 1H), 7.39 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 3.63 – 3.52 (m, 2H), 1.33 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.1, 155.1, 154.6, 149.4, 149.3, 138.3, 136.9, 124.1, 123.5, 122.2, 120.9, 34.3, 15.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{13}H_{14}N_3O^+$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 228.1131, found: 228.1131.

## N-propyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (1d)

Synthesized from  $S_3$  (1 g, 4.24 mmol) and propan-1-amine (0.45 g, 7.63 mmol) following general procedure. Purification using preparative TLC (8:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N ) gave the product as a colorless solid (0.92 g, 90% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.71 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 8.58 – 8.47 (m, 1H), 8.38 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.27 – 8.21 (m, 1H), 8.18 (s, 1H), 8.01 – 7.90 (m, 1H), 7.89 – 7.77 (m, 1H), 7.39 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 3.54 – 3.43 (m, 2H), 1.77 – 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.06 – 0.95 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.1, 155.0, 154.5, 149.4, 149.2, 138.2, 136.8, 124.0, 123.4, 122.1, 120.8, 41.1, 23.0, 11.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{14}H_{15}N_3NaO^+$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 264.1107, found: 264.1110.

## *N*-isopropyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (1e)

Synthesized from  $S_3$  (1 g, 4.24 mmol) and isopropylamine (0.45 g, 7.63 mmol) following general procedure. Purification using preparative TLC (4:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a colorless solid (0.91 g, 89% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.72 – 8.70 (m, 1H), 8.55 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.89 – 7.85 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 4.37 – 4.31 (m, 1H), 1.35 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.3, 155.1, 154.6, 149.5, 149.3, 138.3, 136.9, 124.1, 123.5, 122.2, 120.9, 41.4, 22.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{14}H_{15}N_3NaO^+$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 264.1107, found: 264.1110.

## N-(tert-butyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (1f)

Synthesized from  $S_3$  (1 g, 4.24 mmol) and tert-butylamine (0.56 g, 7.63 mmol) following general procedure. Purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10%  $Et_3N$ ) gave the

product as a off-white solid (1.06 g, 98% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.70 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.56 – 8.53 (m, 1H), 8.34 (dd, J = 7.9, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.23 – 8.20 (m, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.99 – 7.95 (m, 1H), 7.88 – 7.84 (m, 1H), 7.35 (dd, J = 5.5, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 1.55 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 9H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.3, 155.2, 154.4, 150.1, 149.3, 138.3, 136.9, 124.0, 123.3, 121.7, 120.7, 50.9, 28.8; HRMS (ESITOF) calcd for  $C_{15}H_{17}N_3NaO^+$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 278.1264, found: 278.1264.

## N-cyclohexyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (1g)

Synthesized from  $S_3$  (1 g, .24 mmol) and cyclohexylamine (0.76 g, 7.63 mmol) following general procedure. Purification using preparative TLC (8:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a white solid (1.17 g, 98% yield);  $^1$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.73 – 8.69 (m, 1H), 8.55 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.37 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.84–7.90 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 3.97 – 4.08 (m, 1H), 2.07 (dd, J = 12.2, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 1.85 – 1.77 (m, 2H), 1.72 – 1.64 (m, 1H), 1.53 – 1.43 (m, 2H), 1.43 – 1.34 (m, 2H), 1.32 – 1.23 (m, 1H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.2, 155.2, 154.6, 149.6, 149.3, 138.3, 136.9, 124.1, 123.4, 122.3, 120.8, 48.1, 33.1, 25.6, 24.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{17}$ H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>3</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 304.1420, found: 304.1420.

## N-phenyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (1h)

Synthesized from  $S_3$  (1 g, 4.24mmol) and aniline (0.71 g, 7.63 mmol) following general procedure. Purification using preparative TLC (2:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a white solid (0.99 g, 85% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.07 (s, 1H), 8.76 – 8.70 (m, 1H), 8.61 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.00 – 8.07 (m, 1H), 7.93 – 7.87 (m, 1H), 7.84 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 1H), 7.17 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.9, 154.8, 154.7, 149.4, 149.1, 138.7, 137.6, 137.0, 129.1, 124.4, 124.2, 124.0, 122.4, 120.9, 119.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{17}H_{13}N_3NaO^+$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 298.0951, found: 298.0951.

## N,N-dimethyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (1i)

Synthesized from  $S_3$  (1 g, 4.24 mmol) and dimethylamine (0.34 g, 7.63 mmol) following general procedure. Purification using preparative TLC (4:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a creamy white solid (0.84 g, 87% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.68 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.49 – 8.43 (m, 1H), 8.43 – 8.38 (m, 1H), 7.95 – 7.88 (m, 1H), 7.85 – 7.78 (m, 1H), 7.70 – 7.64 (m, 1H), 7.29 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 3.21 – 3.16 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.8, 155.5, 154.5, 153.7, 149.1, 137.9, 136.9, 123.9, 123.6, 121.5, 121.2, 39.2, 35.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{13}H_{14}N_3O^+$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 228.1131, found: 228.1131.

#### *N*-butyl-6-phenylpicolinamide(1n)

Synthesized from 6-phenylpicolinic acid (0.3 g, 1.51 mmol) and *n*-butylamine (0.2 g, 2.71 mmol) following general procedure. Purification using preparative TLC (20:1 hexane: ethyl acetate ) gave the product as a creamy white oil (0.245g, 64% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.21 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (m, J = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.03 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.90 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (m, J = 7.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 3.52 (m, J = 7.3, 6.1 Hz, 2H), 1.71 – 1.61 (m, 2H), 1.45 (m, J = 14.7, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 0.98 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.3, 155.8, 149.8, 138.4, 138.1, 129.4, 128.8,126.9, 122.8, 120.5, 39.2, 31.8, 20.2, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{16}H_{18}N_2O^+$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 277.1311, found: 277.1314.

## 2.3 Procedure for Synthesis of 3a-3h

To a dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar were added 2,2'-bipyridin-6-carboxamide (0.2 mmol), iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 122.4 mg), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol, 4.4 mg), Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.8 mmol, 260.6 mg), mesitylene (2 mL). Then the tube was evacuated and back filled with nitrogen (10 times). The mixtures were stirred at 16 °C under a blanket of nitrogen. After 24 hours, the reaction was cooled to room temperature; the crude reaction mixture was diluted with DCM, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and brine, dried over Mg<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and purified, running through a silica flash column chromatography to give pure product.

## N-butyl-3'-phenyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (3a)

**3a** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 122.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, and purification using preparative TLC (8:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N ) gave the product as a colorless solid (53.6 mg, 81% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.73 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.22 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 3.20 – 3.13 (m, 2H), 1.44 – 1.37 (m, 2H), 1.33 –1.25 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.9, 155.9, 153.9, 148.4, 148.2, 141.0, 139.3, 137.9, 137.0, 128.7, 128.3, 126.8, 126.3, 123.3, 121.1, 38.7, 31.6, 20.0, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 332.1757, found: 332.1758.

## N-methyl-3'-phenyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (3b)

**3b** was prepared from **1b** (0.2 mmol, 42.6 mg) and iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 122.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, and purification using preparative TLC (8:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a colorless solid (32.9 mg, 57% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.75 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.21 – 8.19 (m, 1H), 8.03 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.22 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 6.62 (s, 1H),

2.72 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.6, 155.7, 153.5, 148.3, 148.2, 141.4, 139.4, 138.0, 137.1, 128.8, 128.3, 126.7, 126.2, 123.4, 121.0, 25.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 290.1288, found: 290.1287.

## *N*-ethyl-3'-phenyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (3c)

**3c** was prepared from **1c** (0.2 mmol, 45.4 mg) and iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 122.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, and purification using preparative TLC (2:1:20 acetone: DCM: hexanes) gave the product as a off-white solid (41.2 mg, 68% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.72 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.20 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 3.25 – 3.17 (m, 2H), 1.07 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.8, 155.9, 153.7, 148.3, 148.2, 141.0, 139.3, 137.9, 137.0, 128.7, 128.2, 126.8, 126.3, 123.3, 121.0, 33.8, 14.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 304.1444, found: 304.1444.

#### 3'-phenyl-N-propyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (3d)

**3d** was prepared from **1d** (0.2 mmol, 48.2 mg) and iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 122.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, and purification using preparative TLC (8:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N ) gave the product as a yellow solid (37.4 mg, 59% yield); 1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3)  $\delta$  8.72 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.17 – 8.14 (m, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.18 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 3.15 – 3.11 (m, 2H), 1.47 – 1.42 (m, 2H), 0.87 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.0, 155.9, 153.8, 148.4, 148.2, 140.9, 139.3, 137.9, 137.0, 128.7, 128.3, 126.8, 126.3, 123.3, 121.1, 40.7, 22.8, 11.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>3</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 340.1420, found: 340.1420.

## N-isopropyl-3'-phenyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (3e)

**3e** was prepared from **1e** (0.2 mmol, 48.2 mg) and iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 122.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, and purification using preparative TLC (8:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N ) gave the product as a pale-yellow (38.2 mg, 60% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.72 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.18 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 6.83 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.09 – 4.00 (m, 1H), 1.07 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.1, 156.2, 154.2, 148.5, 148.1, 140.6, 139.2, 137.9, 137.0, 128.8, 128.4, 127.2, 126.5, 123.4, 121.1, 41.0, 22.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 318.1601, found: 318.1601.

## N-(tert-butyl)-3'-phenyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (3f)

**3f** was prepared from **1f** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and iodobenzene (0.2 mmol, 122.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (5:4:1 hexane : DCM : EA) gave the product as a white solid (29.8 mg, 45% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.72 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.17 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 1.29 (s, 9H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.1, 156.2, 154.6, 149.2, 148.1, 140.2, 139.1, 138.0, 137.1, 128.9, 128.5, 127.0, 126.5, 123.4, 120.6, 50.6, 28.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{21}H_{22}N_3O^+$  [M+H] $^+$ : 332.1757, found: 332.1757.

## N-cyclohexyl-3'-phenyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (3g)

**3g** was prepared from **1g** (0.2 mmol, 56.2 mg) and iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 122.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane : EA and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a white solid (52.8 mg, 74% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.71 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (dd, J = 4.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.18 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 6.93 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.78 – 3.67 (m, 1H), 1.83 – 1.74 (m, 2H), 1.74 – 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.66 – 1.59 (m, 1H), 1.38 – 1.29 (m, 2H), 1.21 – 1.14 (m, 1H), 1.07 – 1.01(m, 2H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.0, 156.2, 154.2, 148.6, 148.0, 140.3, 139.1, 137.8, 136.9, 128.7, 128.4, 127.1, 126.5, 123.3, 121.1, 48.0, 32.6, 25.5, 24.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{23}H_{24}N_3O^+$  [M+H] $^+$ : 358.1914, found: 358.1914.

## *N*,3'-diphenyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (3h)

**3h** was prepared from **1h** (0.2 mmol, 55.0 mg) and iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 22.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N ) gave the product as a white solid (28.8 mg, 41% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.90 (s, 1H), 8.75 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.20 – 8.13 (m, 2H), 7.98 (dd, J = 9.7, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.46 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 10.8, 5.1 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 7.13 – 7.08 (m, 1H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.7, 156.2, 153.9, 148.2, 148.1, 140.3, 139.2, 138.3, 137.4, 137.0, 128.7, 128.7, 128.5, 127.3, 127.0, 124.0, 123.5, 121.3, 120.0; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{23}H_{17}N_3NaO^+$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 374.1264, found: 374.1264.

## 2-(biphenyl-2-yl)pyridine (3m)

To a dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar were added 2-phenylpyridine (0.2 mmol, 31 mg), iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 122.4 mg), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol, 4.5 mg), Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.8 mmol, 260.6 mg), mesitylene (2 mL). Then the tube was evacuated and back filled with nitrogen (10 times). The mixtures were stirred at 160 °C under a blanket of nitrogen. After 24 hours, the reaction was cooled to room temperature; the crude reaction mixture was diluted with DCM, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and brine, dried

over Mg<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and purification using preparative TLC (15:1 hexane: ethyl acetate) gave the product as a colorless solid (6 mg, 13% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.64-8.62 (m, 1H), 7.71 – 7.69 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.39-7.36 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.17 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.11-7.08 (m, 1H), 6.88 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.2, 149.4, 141.3, 140.6, 139.4, 135.2, 130.5, 130.4, 129.7, 128.5, 128.0, 127.6, 126.7, 125.4, 121.3.

## 2.4 Procedure for Synthesis of 4a-4v

To a dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar were added N-butyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg), iodobenzene (0.6 mmol),  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (0.02 mmol, 4.4 mg),  $Cs_2CO_3$  (0.8 mmol, 260.6 mg), mesitylene (2 mL). Then the tube was evacuated and back filled with nitrogen (10 times). The mixtures were stirred at 160 °C under a blanket of nitrogen. After 24-48 hours, the reaction was cooled to room temperature. The crude reaction mixture was diluted with DCM, washed with  $H_2O$  and brine, dried over  $Mg_2SO_4$ . The organic phase was concentrated and purified, running through a silica flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate / hexane and 5-10%  $Et_3N$ ) to give pure product.

## N-butyl-3'-(p-tolyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4a)

4a was prepared from 1a (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-iodo-4-methylbenzene (0.6 mmol, 130.8 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane:ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a yellow oil (57.3 mg, 82% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.70 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.16 – 8.11 (m, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.21 – 3.14 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.44 – 1.37 (m, 2H), 1.33 – 1.24 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.9, 156.0, 153. 8, 148.3, 147.9, 139.2, 137.9, 137.8, 136.9, 136.4, 128.9, 128.5, 126.2, 123.3, 120.9, 38.7, 31.6, 21.0, 20.0, 13.7; HRMS (ESITOF) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 346.1914. found: 346.1914.

## N-butyl-3'-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4b)

$$t_{\text{Bu}}$$

**4b** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-(tert-butyl)-4-iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 156.1 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane:ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a yellow oil (61.9 mg, 80% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.71 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 3H), 3.21 – 3.15 (m, 2H), 1.46 – 1.40 (m, 2H), 1.32 – 1.26 (m, 11H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.0, 156.3, 154.4, 150.0, 148.4, 148.0, 139.2, 137.9, 137.6, 137.0, 128.4, 126.4, 125.2, 123.3, 120.9, 38.9, 34.5, 31.5, 31.3, 20.1, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 388.2383, found: 388.2387.

## *N*-butyl-3'-(4-methoxyphenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4c)

**4c** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-iodo-4-methoxybenzene (0.6 mmol, 140.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (4:1 hexane : ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a scream oil (39.7 mg, 55% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.70 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.11 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 7.01 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 6.86 – 6.83 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.23 – 3.20 (m, 2H), 1.45 – 1.39 (m, 2H), 1.35 – 1.29 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.0, 158.7, 156.2, 153.9, 148.5, 147.9, 139.2, 137.9, 136.7, 133.0, 130.0, 126.4, 123.3, 121.0, 113.7, 55.1, 38.8, 31.4, 20.1, 13.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 362.1863, found: 362.1863.

## 3'-(4-bromophenyl)-N-butyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4d)

**4d** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-bromo-4-iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 169.7 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours , purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane:ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N ) gave the product as a scream solid (69.7 mg, 85% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.79 –8.71 (m, 1H), 8.22 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.15 – 8.03 (m, 1H), 8.00 – 7.88 (m, 1H), 7.80 – 7.68 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.08 (dd, J = 13.5, 5.1 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 3.31 – 3.18 (m, 2H), 1.50 – 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.38 – 1.30 (m, 2H), 1.00 – 1.93 (m, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.7, 155.6, 153.5, 148.5, 148.3, 140.0, 139.1, 138.1, 135.7, 131.4, 130.3, 126.3, 123.4, 121.3, 121.1, 38.9, 31.7, 20.1, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{21}H_{20}BrN_3NaO^+$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 432.0682, found: 432.0682.

## *N*-butyl-3'-(4-iodophenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4e)

**4e** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1,4-diiodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 197.9 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane:ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N ) gave the product as a scream solid (33.8 mg, 37% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.74 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 3.29 – 3.21 (m, 2H), 1.49 – 1.42 (m, 2H), 1.39 – 1.31 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.8, 155.6, 153.6, 148.6, 148.4, 140.7, 139.2, 138.2, 137.5, 135.9, 130.6, 126.4, 123.5, 121.4, 92.6, 39.0, 31.9, 20.2, 13.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>IN<sub>3</sub>KO<sup>+</sup> [M+K]<sup>+</sup>: 496.0283, found: 496.0283.

## N-butyl-3'-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4f)

4f was prepared from 1a (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-iodo-4-(trifluoromethoxy)benzene (0.6 mmol, 172.8 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N ) gave the product as a scream solid (63.9 mg, 77% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.75 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.23 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.22 – 3.18 (m, 2H), 1.45 – 1.38 (m, 2H), 1.33 – 1.28 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.7, 155.7, 154.0, 148.6, 148.5, 148.27 (q, J = 1.9 Hz), 139.4, 139.2, 138.121, 135.6, 130.1, 126.5, 123.4, 121.3, 120.6, 120.4 (q, J = 257.7 Hz), 38.8, 31.6, 20.1, 13.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{22}H_{21}F_3N_3O_2^+$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 416.1580 found: 416.1580.

## ethyl 4-(6'-(butylcarbamoyl)-[2,2'-bipyridin]-3-yl)benzoate (4g)

**4g** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and ethyl 4-iodobenzoate (0.6 mmol, 165.6 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a colorless solid (70.1 mg, 87% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.76 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.04 – 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.94 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 6.71 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.42 – 4.36 (m, 2H), 3.13 – 3.09 (m, 2H), 1.40 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.37 – 1.32 (m, 2H), 1.30 – 1.24 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8 166.0, 163.7, 155.5, 153.8, 148.7, 148.3, 145.8, 139.1, 138.2, 136.1, 129.6, 129.0, 128.7, 126.3, 123.4, 121.4, 61.1, 38.7, 31.6, 20.0, 14.3, 13.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{24}H_{26}N_3O_3^+$  [M+H] $^+$ : 404.1969, found: 404.1969.

## N-butyl-3'-(4-formylphenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4h)

**4h** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 4-iodobenzaldehyde (0.6 mmol, 139.2 mg)according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N ) gave the product as a yellow oil (65.3 mg, 91% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.02 (s, 1H), 8.78 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (dd, J = 7.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.75 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.12 – 3.07 (m, 2H), 1.35 – 1.30 (m, 2H), 1.27 – 1.22 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  191.2, 163.6, 155.3, 153.7, 148.9, 148.3, 147.4, 139.0, 138.2, 135.6, 134.7, 129.6, 129.4, 126.4, 123.4, 121.4, 38.7, 31.6, 19.9, 13.6; HRMS (ESITOF) calcd for  $C_{22}H_{21}N_3NaO_2^+$  [M+Na] \*: 382.1526, found: 382.1526.

## 3'-(4-acetylphenyl)-N-butyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4i)

**4i** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-(4-iodophenyl)ethanone (0.6 mmol, 147.6 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a white solid (56.0 mg, 75% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.77 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.96 – 7.92 (m, 3H), 7.78 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 6.77 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.13 – 3.06 (m, 2H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 1.36 – 1.30 (m, 2H), 1.28 – 1.22 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  197.1, 163.7, 155.5, 153.8, 148.8, 148.4, 146.0, 139.1, 138.2, 135.9, 135.4, 129.0, 128.4, 126.4, 123.4, 121.4, 38.8, 31.7, 26.5, 20.0, 13.7; HRMS (ESITOF) calcd for  $C_{23}H_{24}N_3O_2^+$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 374.1863, found: 374.1863.

## N-butyl-3'-(4-cyanophenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4j)

**4j** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 4-iodobenzonitrile (0.6 mmol, 137.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a white solid (58.4 mg , 82% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.79 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (dd, J = 7.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.49 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 3.24 – 3.19 (m, 2H), 1.45 – 1.38 (m, 2H), 1.34 – 1.30 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.6, 155.2, 153.8, 149.2, 148.4, 146.0, 139.0, 138.4, 135.1, 132.1, 130.0, 126.5, 123.5, 121.7, 118.3, 110.9, 38.9, 31.8, 20.1, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{22}H_{20}N_4NaO^+$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 379.1529, found: 379.1529.

## N-butyl-3'-(4-nitrophenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4k)

**4k** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-iodo-4-nitrobenzene (0.6 mmol, 149.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (4:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a colorless solid (60.9 mg, 81% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.81 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.23 – 8.19 (m, 2H), 8.10 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.40 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 3.15 – 3.10 (m, 2H), 1.35 – 1.29 (m, 2H), 1.27 – 1.21 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.5, 155.2, 153.9, 149.3, 148.4, 148.0, 146.7, 139.0, 138.4, 134.7, 129.6, 126.5, 123.6, 123.5, 121.7, 38.8, 31.7, 20.0, 13.6; HRMS(ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{21}H_{20}N_4NaO_3^+$  [M+Na<sup>+</sup>]: 399.1428, found: 399.1428.

## N-butyl-3'-(3-methoxyphenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (41)

**41** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-iodo-3-methoxybenzene (0.6 mmol, 140.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a white solid (60.7 mg, 84% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.76 – 8.66 (m, 1H), 8.14 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.08 – 7.99 (m, 1H), 7.94 – 7.85 (m, 1H), 7.81 – 7.72 (m, 1H), 7.45 – 7.36 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.86 – 6.78 (m, 1H), 6.73 (d, J = 11.5 Hz, 2H), 3.71 – 3.65 (m, 3H), 3.22 – 3.14 (m, 2H), 1.46 – 1.37 (m, 2H), 1.32 – 1.24 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.0, 159.5, 155.9, 153.9, 148.4, 148.3, 142.4, 139.2, 137.9, 136.9, 129.3, 126.2, 123.3, 121.2, 121.1, 114.3, 112.3, 55.1, 38.9, 31.6, 20.1, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{22}H_{24}N_3O_2^+$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 362.1863, found: 362.1863.

## N-butyl-3'-(3-fluorophenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4m)

**4m** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-fluoro-3-iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 133.2 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a colorless solid (54.4 mg, 78% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.76 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (dd, J = 7.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (dd, J = 7.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.04 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 6.94 – 6.89 (m, 2H), 3.25 – 3.21 (m, 2H), 1.47 – 1.42 (m, 2H), 1.35 – 1.30 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.7, 162.5 (d, J = 246.9 Hz), 155.6, 153.8, 148.5, 148.3, 143.2 (d, J = 7.8 Hz), 139.0, 138.0, 135.7 (d, J = 1.9 Hz), 129.7 (d, J = 8.3 Hz), 126.3, 124.5 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 123.3, 121.2, 115.6 (d, J = 21.9 Hz), 113.7 (d, J = 20.9 Hz), 38.8, 31.5, 20.0, 13.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{21}H_{21}FN_3O^+$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 350.1663, found: 350.1664..

## N-butyl-3'-(3-chlorophenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide(4n)

**4n** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-chloro-3-iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 143.1 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a scream solid (64.2 mg, 88% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.75 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.20 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 3.26 – 3.18 (m, 2H), 1.48 – 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.36 – 1.28 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.8, 155.5, 153.8, 148.7, 148.4, 142.9, 139.2, 138.1, 135.6, 134.3, 129.4, 128.6, 127.1, 127.0, 126.3, 123.4, 121.3, 39.0, 31.7, 20.1, 13. 8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 366.1368, found: 366.1368.

## 3'-(3-bromophenyl)-N-butyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (40)

**40** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-bromo-3-iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 169.2 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a scream solid (54.8 mg, 67% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.74 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.13 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 3.26 – 3.17 (m, 2H), 1.49 – 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.36 – 1.28 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.8, 155.5, 153.7, 148.7, 148.3, 143.2, 139.2, 138.1, 135.4, 131.4, 129.9, 129.7, 127.6, 126.3, 123.4, 122.3, 121.3, 39.0, 31.8, 20.1, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{21}H_{20}BrN_3NaO^+$  [M+Na $^+$ ]: 432.0682, found: 432.0682.

## *N*-butyl-3'-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4p)

**4p** was prepared from **1a** (0.2mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-iodo-3-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (o.6 mmol, 163.2 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a yellow oil (33.5 mg, 42% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.77 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.48 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 3.18 – 3.12 (m, 2H), 1.39 – 1.33 (m, 2H), 1.27 – 1.24 (m, 2H); 0.91 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.7, 155.5, 153.9, 148.8, 148.3, 141.7, 139.2, 138.2, 135.4, 132.3, 130.9 (q, J = 32.5 Hz), 128.6, 126.5, 125.4 (q, J = 3.7 Hz), 123.8 (q, J = 272.3 Hz), 123.6 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 123.5, 121.4, 38.8, 31.6, 20.0, 13.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>21</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 400.1631, found: 400.1631.

## N-butyl-3'-(3-nitrophenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide(4q)

4q was prepared from 1a (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-iodo-3-nitrobenzene (0.6 mmol, 149.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate) gave the product as a white solid (48.9 mg, 65% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.80 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.20 – 8.15 (m, 2H), 8.09 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.48 –7.40 (m, 2H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 3.19 – 3.11 (m, 2H), 1.35 – 1.28 (m, 2H), 1.27 – 1.20 (m, 2H), 0.90 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.4, 155.2, 153.9, 149.1, 148.2, 148.1, 142.6, 139.0, 138.3, 134.9, 134.4, 129.1, 126.6, 123.5, 123.3, 121.8, 121.5, 38.8, 31.5, 19.9, 13.6.; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{21}H_{20}N_4NaO_3^+$  [M+Na]  $^{+}$ : 399.1428, found: 399.1428.

## N-butyl-3'-(2-methoxyphenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4r)

**4r** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-iodo-2-methoxybenzene (0.6 mmol, 140.4 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a scream oil (32.5 mg, 45% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.71 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.10 – 7.05 (m, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 6.72 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.32 – 3.00 (m, 5H), 1.45 – 1.37 (m, 2H), 1.34 – 1.26 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.1, 156.9, 155.4, 154.8, 148.0, 139.8, 137.7, 133.3, 130.2, 130.1, 128.9, 125.4, 123.4, 121.0, 120.8, 110.7, 100.0, 54.8, 38.8, 31.7, 20.1, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{22}H_{24}N_3O_2^+$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 362.1863; found: 362.1863.

## N-butyl-3'-(2-fluorophenyl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide(4s)

**4s** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 1-fluoro-2-iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 133.2 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10%Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a white solid (28.6 mg, 41% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.76 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (dd, J = 7.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 6.97 (t, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 3.20 – 3.13 (m, 2H), 1.44 – 1.39 (m, 2H), 1.33 – 1.29 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.0, 159.0 (d, J = 246.8 Hz), 156.1, 154.6, 148.8, 148.2, 139.8, 138.1, 130.6 (d, J = 2.9 Hz), 129.2 (d, J = 8.0 Hz), 128.9 (d, J = 15.9 Hz), 125.9, 124.2 (d, J = 3.7 Hz), 123.3, 121.4, 115.6 (d, J = 22.0 Hz); HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{21}H_{20}FN_{3}NaO$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 372.1483. found: 372.1482.

## dimethyl 5-(6'-(butylcarbamoyl)-[2,2'-bipyridin]-3-yl)isophthalate (4t)

**4t** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and diethyl 5-iodoisophthalate (0.6 mmol, 192.0) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a white solid (42.9 mg, 48% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.82 – 8.76 (m, 1H), 8.63 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 8.11 –8.04 (m, 3H), 8.00 – 7.93 (m, 1H), 7.83 – 7.77 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 6.72 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 6H), 3.14 – 3.07 (m, 2H), 1.31 – 1.26 (m, 2H), 1.25 – 1.18 (m, 2H), 0.90 (t, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.6, 163.6, 155.3, 153.9, 149.0, 148.2, 142.0, 139.2, 138.3, 134.9, 133.8, 130.8, 129.0, 126.6, 123.5, 121.5, 52.5, 38.8, 31.6, 20.0, 13.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{25}H_{26}N_3O_5^+$  [M+H] $^+$ : 448.1867; found: 448.1867.

## N-butyl-6"-chloro-[2,2":3",3"-terpyridine]-6-carboxamide (4u)

**4u** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 2-chloro-5-iodopyridine (0.6 mmol, 143.7 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a white solid (54.2 mg , 74% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.80 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.35 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.31 – 3.24(m, 2H), 1.50 – 1.43 (m, 2H), 1.37 – 1.30 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.5, 155.2, 154.0, 150.2, 149.3, 148.9, 148.4, 139.1, 138.8, 138.4, 135.6, 132.0, 126.6, 123.6, 123.6, 121.7. 38.9, 31.6, 20.1, 13.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub>NaO<sup>+</sup> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>]: 389.1140, found: 389.1140.

## N-butyl-3'-(thiophen-2-yl)-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (4v)

**4v** was prepared from **1a** (0.2 mmol, 51.0 mg) and 2-iodothiophene (0.6 mmol, 126.0 mg) according to the general procedure. After 24 hours, purification using preparative TLC (10:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a yellow oil (47.8 mg ,71% yield);  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.70 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (dd, J = 7.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (dd, J = 7.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (dd, J = 5.1, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (dd, J = 3.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.33 – 3.27 (m, 2H), 1.52 – 1.46 (m, 2H), 1.36 – 1.31 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.0, 155.9, 154.7, 148.7, 148.6, 141.6, 139.5, 138.0, 129.9, 127.2, 126.7, 126.4, 126.0, 123.2, 121.4, 38.9, 31.6, 20.1, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>3</sub>OS<sup>+</sup> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 338.1322, found: 338.1322.

## 2.5 Procedure for Synthesis of I-1 and I-2

## **Synthesis of Complex I-1**

To a vial equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (0.1 mmol ,22.4 mg), 1a (0.1 mmol, 25.5 mg) and MeCN (1 mL). The solution was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The reaction mixture was filtered, and the filter cake was collected and dried *in vacuo* to afford of complex **I-1** (35.6 mg, 85%) as a gold powder;  $^1H$  NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.29 (dd, J = 5.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.11 – 8.08 (m, 1H), 8.08 – 8.04 (m, 1H), 7.67 (dd, J = 7.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 3.16 – 3.10 (m, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.64 – 1.57 (m, 2H), 1.45 – 1.37 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  178.1, 170.1, 155.2, 154.6, 152.9, 151.1, 140.6, 140.1, 127.2, 125.0, 123.0, 122.4, 45.7, 32.4, 23.6, 20.7, 14.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{17}H_{19}N_3O_3NaPd^+$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 442.0353. found: 442.0357.

## **Synthesis of Complex I-2**

To a vial equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (22.5 mg, 0.1 mmol), **1b** (22.7 mg, 0.1 mmol) and MeCN (1 mL). The solution was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The reaction mixture was filtered, and the filter cake was collected and dried *in vacuo* to afford of complex **I-2** (36.7 mg, 94%) as a gold powder; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.39 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 8.13 – 8.08 (m, 3H), 7.98 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, J = 7.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 3.21 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.21 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  178.3, 170.0, 155.6, 154.7, 153.0, 151.4, 140.6, 140.1, 127.4, 125.1, 122.5, 121.8, 40.5, 23.6, 15.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>NaPd<sup>+</sup> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 414.0040 found: 414.0042.

## Crystal structure and data of N-butyl-3'-phenyl-[2,2'-bipyridine]-6-carboxamide (3a) (CCDC 1840936, Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.)

Identification code exp 5180 Empirical formula  $C_{21}H_{21}N_3O$ Formula weight 331.41 Temperature/K 293(2) Crystal system monoclinic Space group  $P2_1/n$ a/Å 12.3246(5) b/Å 10.4302(5) c/Å 14.0891(5)  $\alpha/^{\circ}$ 90  $\beta/^{\circ}$ 98.191(4) γ/° 90

Volume/ $Å^3$  1792.65(13)

 $\begin{array}{cccc} Z & & 4 \\ & & \\ \rho_{calc} g/cm^3 & & 1.228 \\ \mu/mm^{-1} & & 0.608 \\ F(000) & & 704.0 \end{array}$ 

Crystal size/mm<sup>3</sup>  $0.21 \times 0.2 \times 0.19$ Radiation CuK $\alpha$  ( $\lambda = 1.54178$ )  $2\Theta$  range for data collection/° 8.924 to 143.382

Index ranges  $-15 \le h \le 14, -12 \le k \le 12, -10 \le l \le 17$ 

Reflections collected 7029

Independent reflections 3420 [ $R_{int} = 0.0209$ ,  $R_{sigma} = 0.0286$ ]

 $\begin{array}{ll} Data/restraints/parameters & 3420/0/228 \\ Goodness-of-fit on F^2 & 1.058 \\ \end{array}$ 

Final R indexes [I>= $2\sigma$  (I)]  $R_1 = 0.0596$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.1711$ Final R indexes [all data]  $R_1 = 0.0764$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.1892$ 

Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å<sup>-3</sup> 0.54/-0.25

## Crystal structure and data of I-2 (CCDC 1840935, Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.)

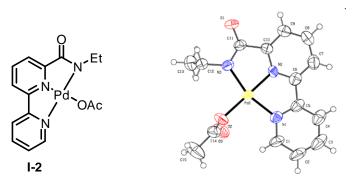


Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for I-2

 $\begin{array}{lll} \text{Identification code} & \text{exp\_5179\_pl\_sq} \\ \text{Empirical formula} & \text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_{3}\text{O}_{3}\text{Pd} \\ \text{Formula weight} & 391.70 \\ \end{array}$ 

Temperature/K 293.15 Crystal system triclinic Space group P-1 a/Å 8.8222(6) b/Å 10.4866(7) c/Å 10.6004(6)  $\alpha/^{\circ}$ 100.088(5) β/° 108.748(6)  $\gamma/^{\circ}$ 97.604(6)

 $\begin{array}{ccc} Volume/\text{Å}^3 & 895.39(11) \\ Z & 2 \\ \rho_{calc}g/cm^3 & 1.453 \\ \mu/mm^{-1} & 8.485 \\ F(000) & 392.0 \end{array}$ 

Crystal size/mm<sup>3</sup>  $0.22 \times 0.21 \times 0.2$ Radiation  $CuK\alpha (\lambda = 1.54178)$ 

2Θ range for data collection/° 8.746 to 143.332

Index ranges  $-10 \le h \le 6, -12 \le k \le 12, -10 \le l \le 13$ 

Reflections collected 5820

Independent reflections 3393 [ $R_{int} = 0.0585$ ,  $R_{sigma} = 0.0679$ ]

Data/restraints/parameters 3393/0/201 Goodness-of-fit on F<sup>2</sup> 1.083

Final R indexes [I>= $2\sigma$  (I)] R<sub>1</sub> = 0.0571, wR<sub>2</sub> = 0.1550 Final R indexes [all data] R<sub>1</sub> = 0.0629, wR<sub>2</sub> = 0.1629

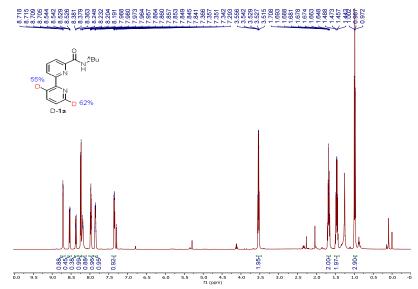
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å<sup>-3</sup> 1.33/-1.77

## 2.6 1 mmol-Scale Experiment of 3a

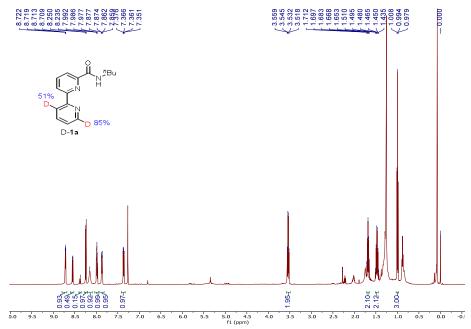
To a dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar were added 2,2'-bipyridin-6-carboxamide (1 mmol, 255 mg), iodobenzene (3 mmol, 612 mg), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.1 mmol, 22.5 mg), Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (4 mmol, 1.3 g), mesitylene (3 mL). Then the tube was evacuated and back filled with nitrogen (10 times). The mixtures were stirred at 160 °C under a blanket of nitrogen. After 24 hours, the reaction was cooled to room temperature; the crude reaction mixture was diluted with DCM, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and brine, dried over Mg<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and purification using preparative TLC (8:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a colorless solid (245 mg, 74% yield).

## 2.7 Reversibility and KIE Study

In a clean oven dried tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar were added 2,2'-bipyridin-6-carboxamide (0.2 mmol, 51 mg), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol, 4.5 mg), 0.25 ml D<sub>4</sub>-AcOH, mesitylene (1 mL). Then the tube was evacuated and back filled with nitrogen (10 times). The mixtures were stirred at 160 °C under a blanket of nitrogen. After 72 hours, the reaction was cooled to room temperature; the crude reaction mixture was diluted with DCM, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and brine, dried over Mg<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and purification using preparative TLC (8:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the product as a colorless solid (47 mg, 92% yield).



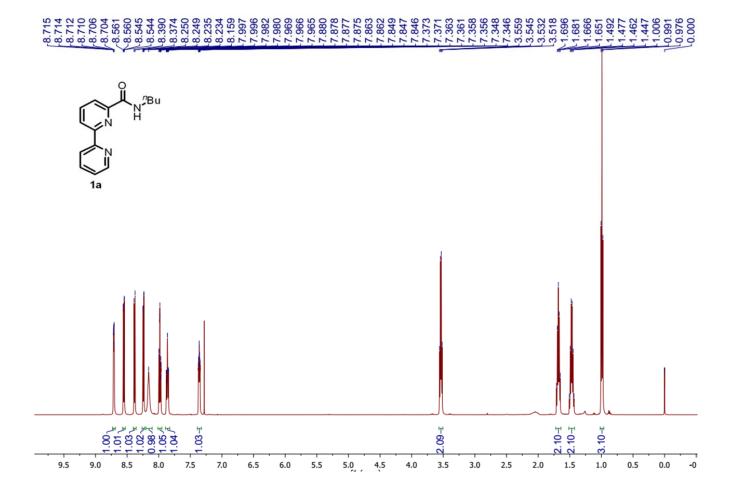
In a clean oven dried tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar were added the mixture of **1a** and D-**1a** (0.2 mmol), iodobenzene (0.6 mmol, 122.4 mg), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol, 4.5 mg), Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.8 mmol, 261 mg), mesitylene (2 mL). Then the tube was evacuated and back filled with nitrogen (10 times). The mixtures were stirred at 160 °C under a blanket of nitrogen. After 12 hours, the reaction was cooled to room temperature; the crude reaction mixture was diluted with DCM, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and brine, dried over Mg<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The organic phase was concentrated and dried. After 10 hours, and purification using preparative TLC (8:1 hexane: ethyl acetate and 5-10% Et<sub>3</sub>N) gave the starting material (7.1 mg, 14% yield) the product **3a** as a colorless solid (45.7 mg, 69% yield).

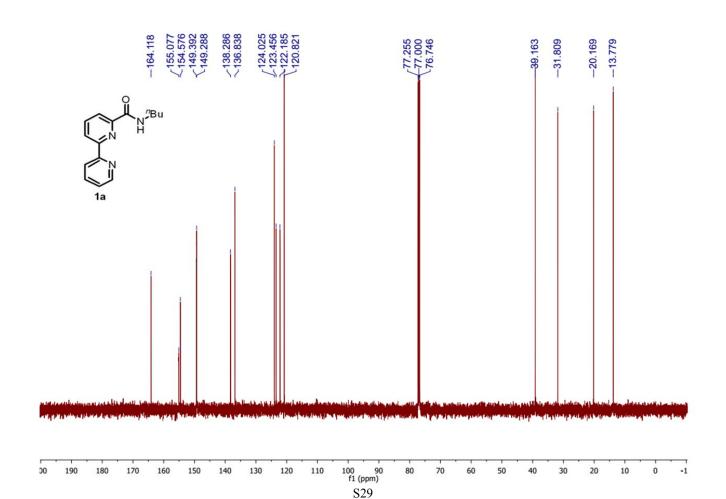


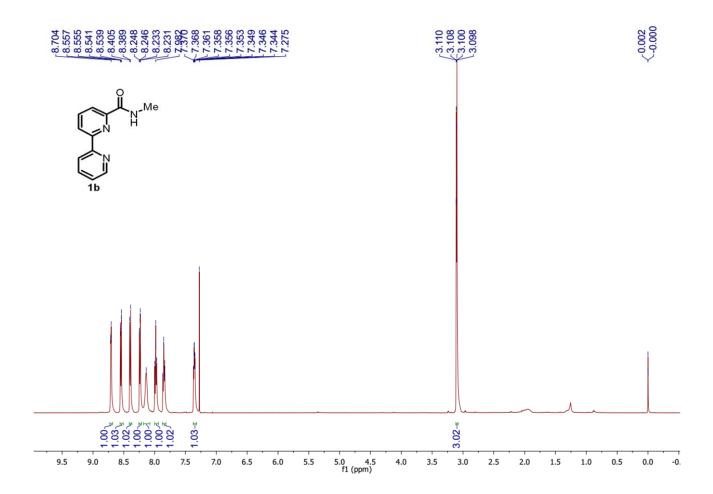
## 3. References

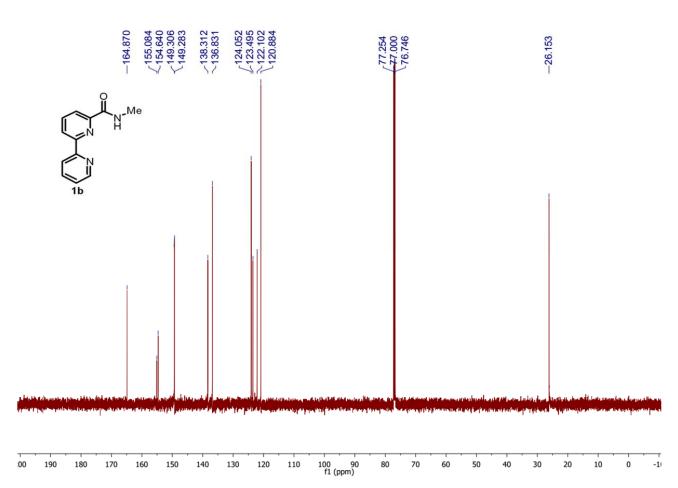
Young, M. C.; Liew, E.; Ashby, J.; McCoy, K. E.; Hooley, R. J. Chem. Commun. 2013, 49, 6331-6333.
O'Duill, M. L.; Matsuura, R.; Wang, Y.; Turnbull, J. L.; Gurak, J. A., Jr.; Gao, D.-W.; Lu, G.; Liu, P.; Engle, K. M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2017, 139, 15576-15579.

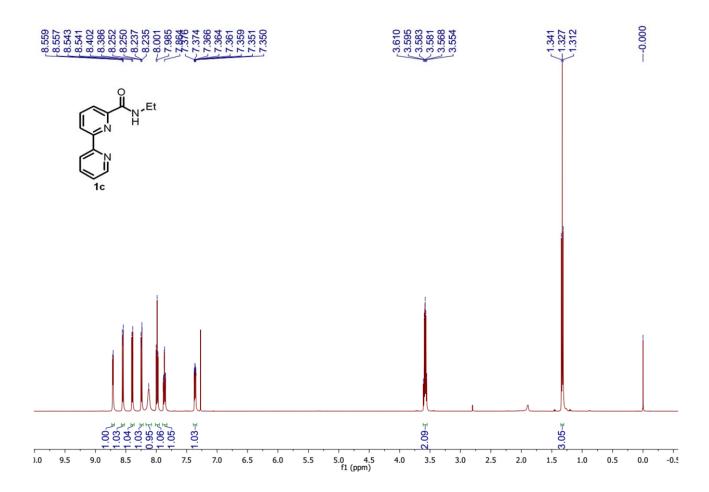
## 4. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra

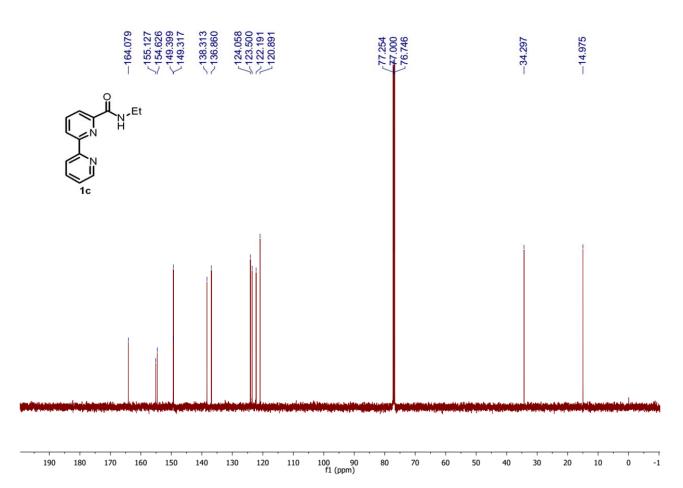


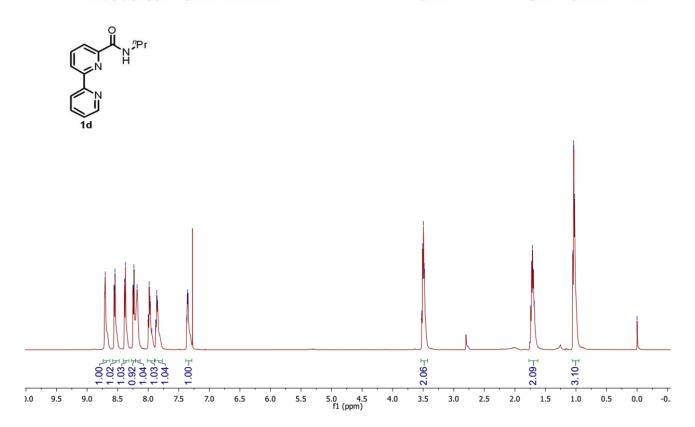


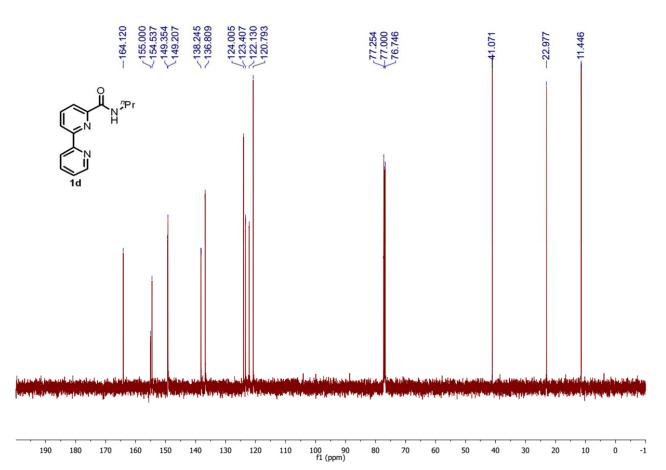


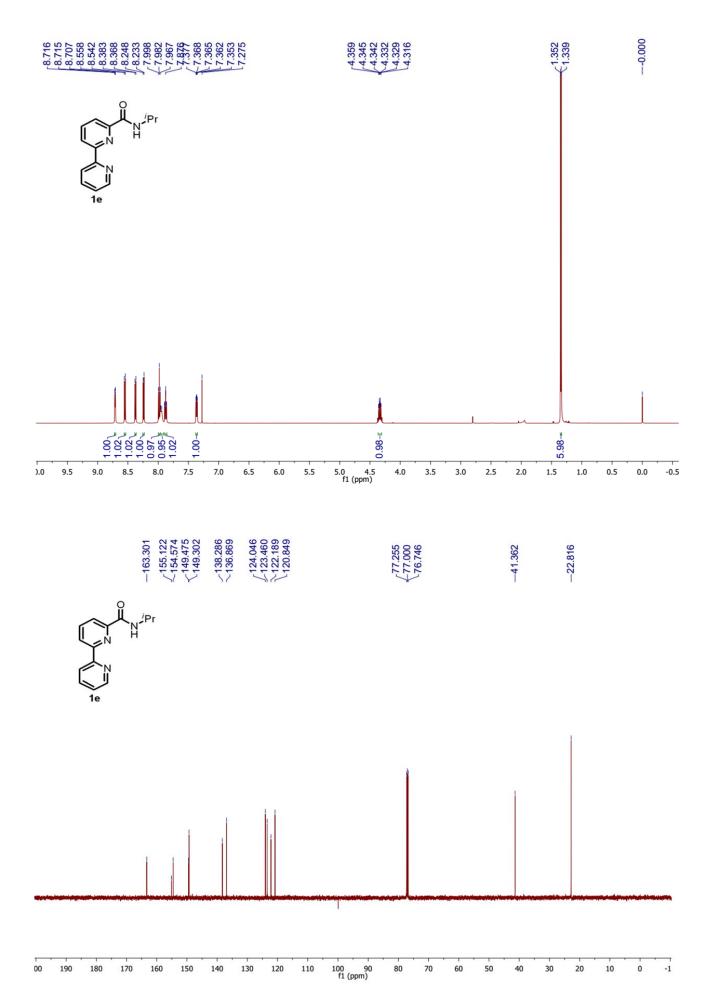


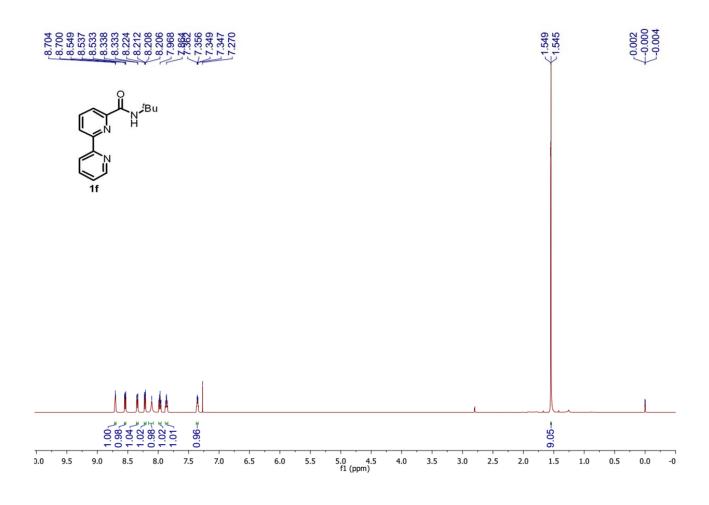


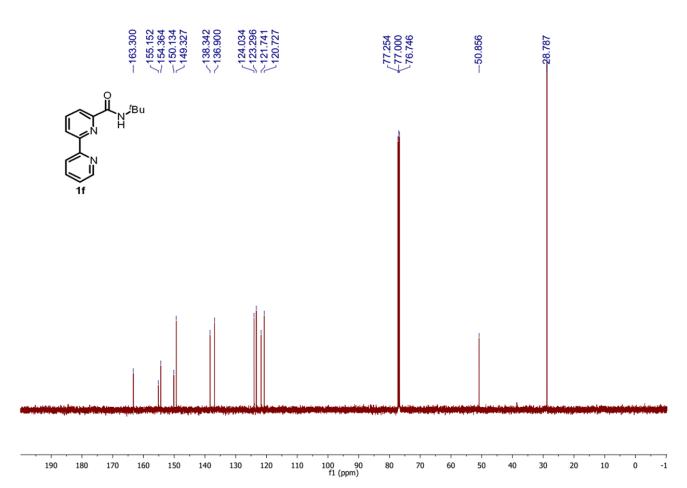


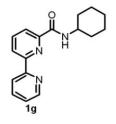


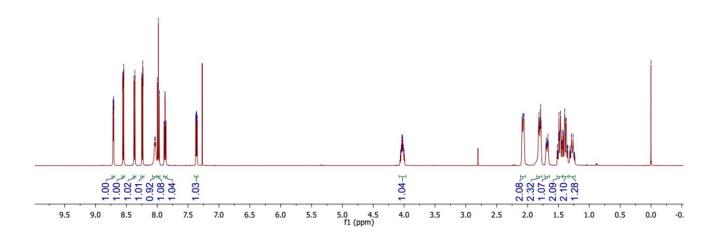


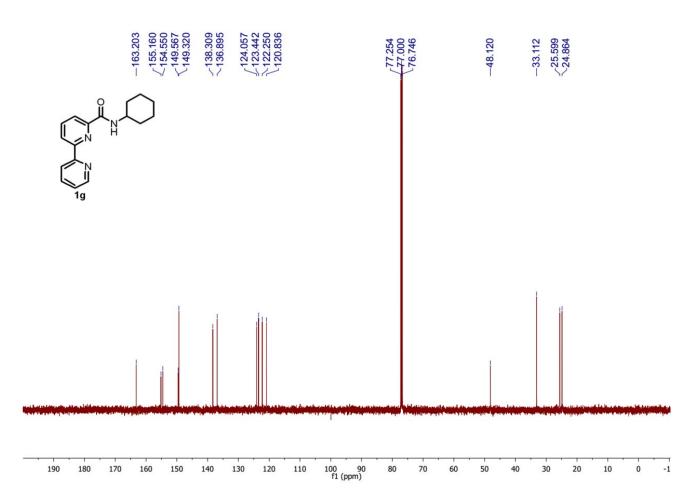


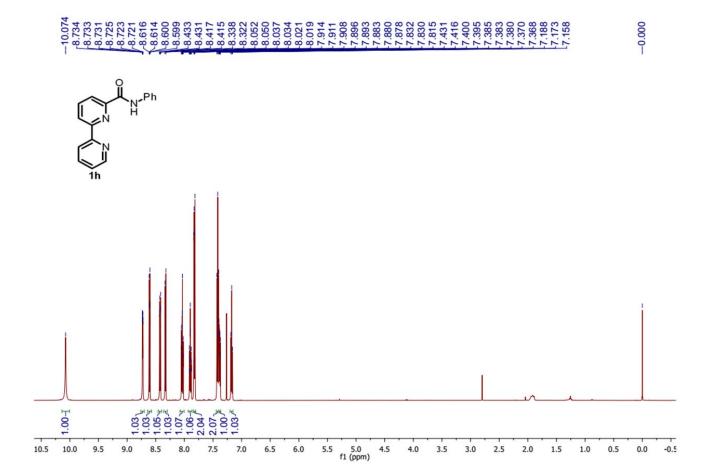


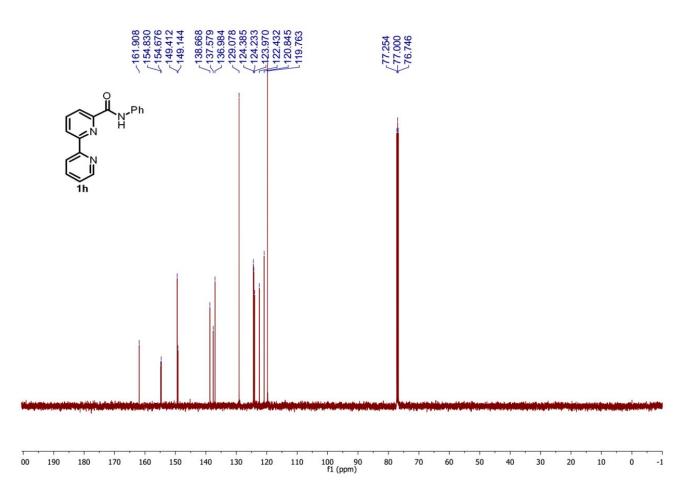


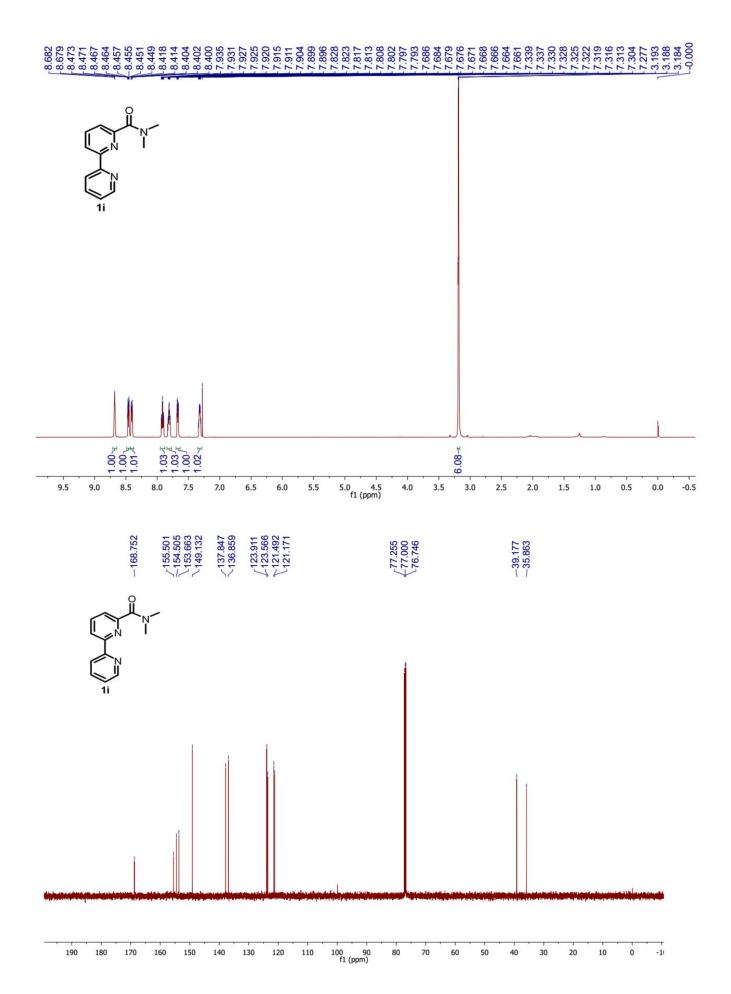


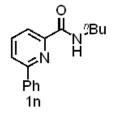


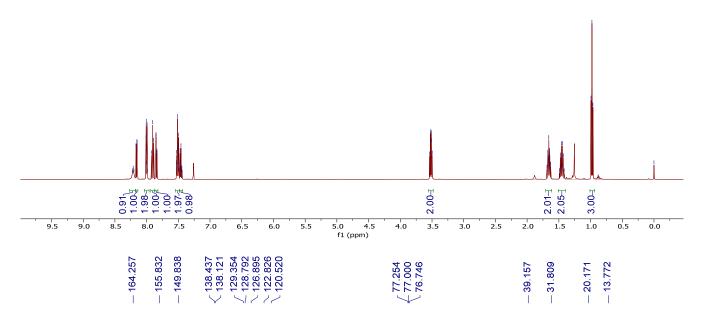


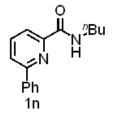


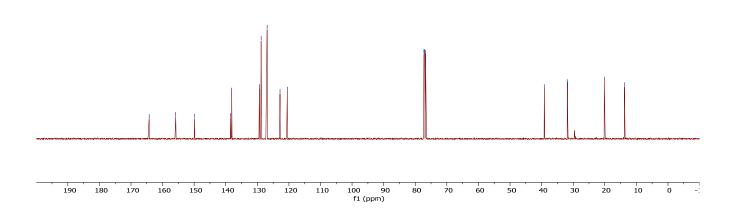


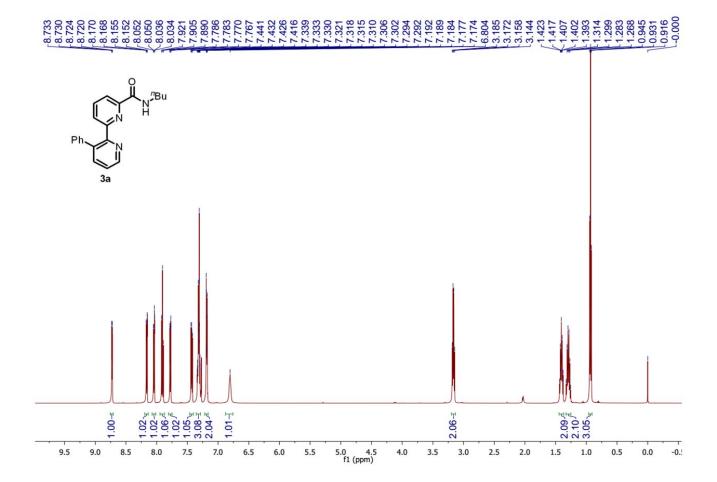


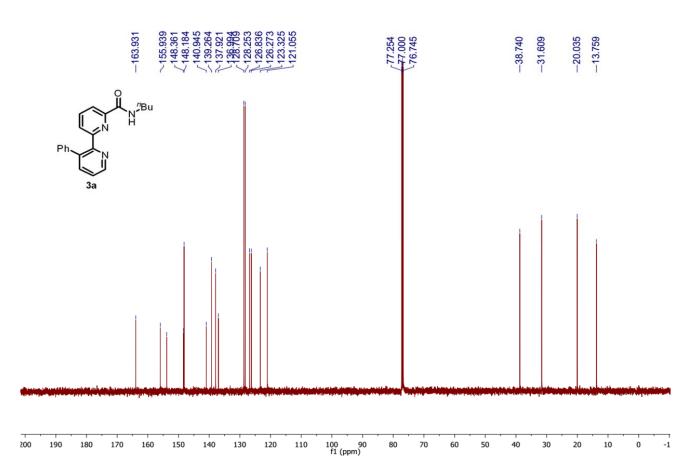


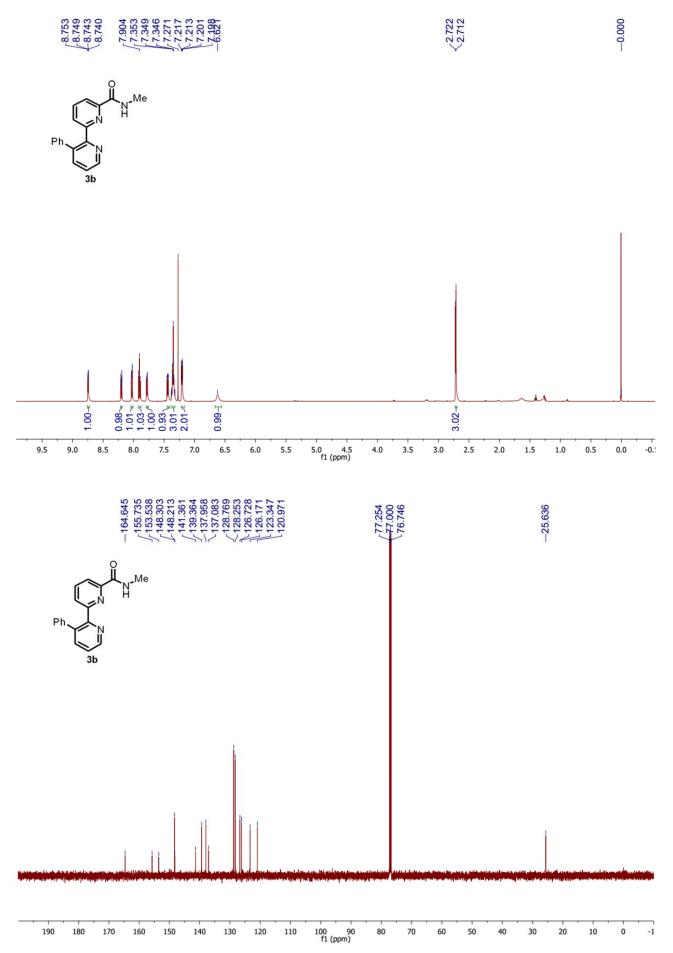


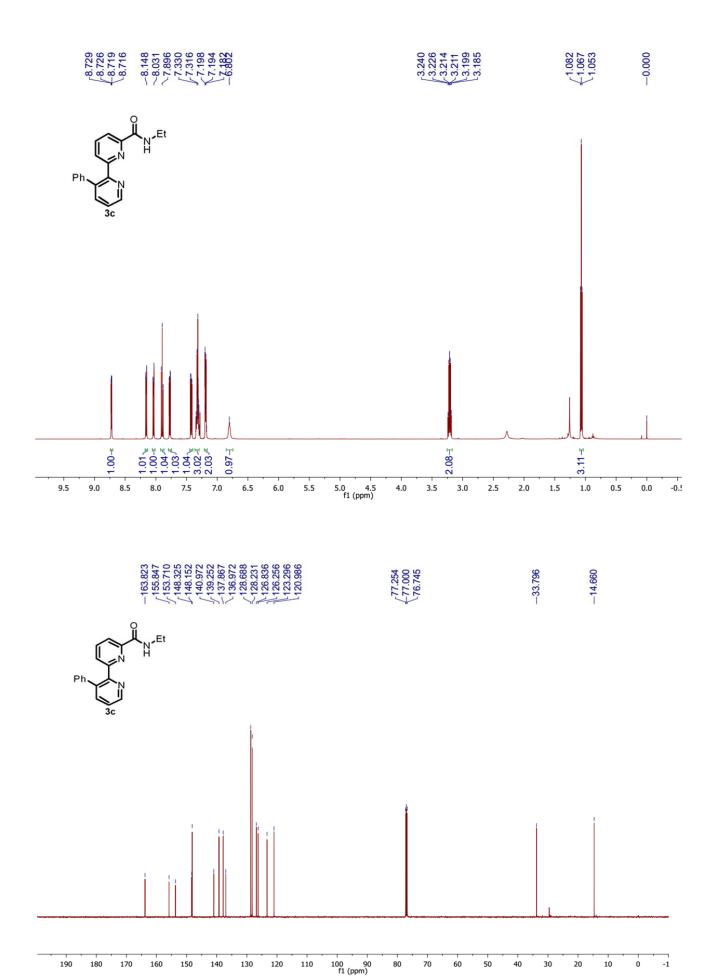


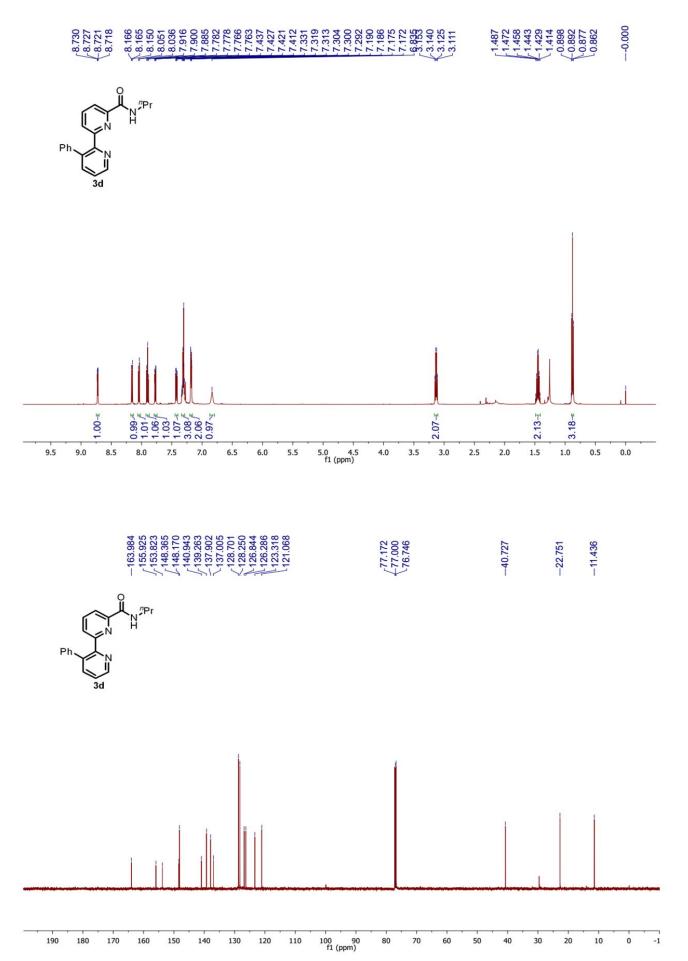


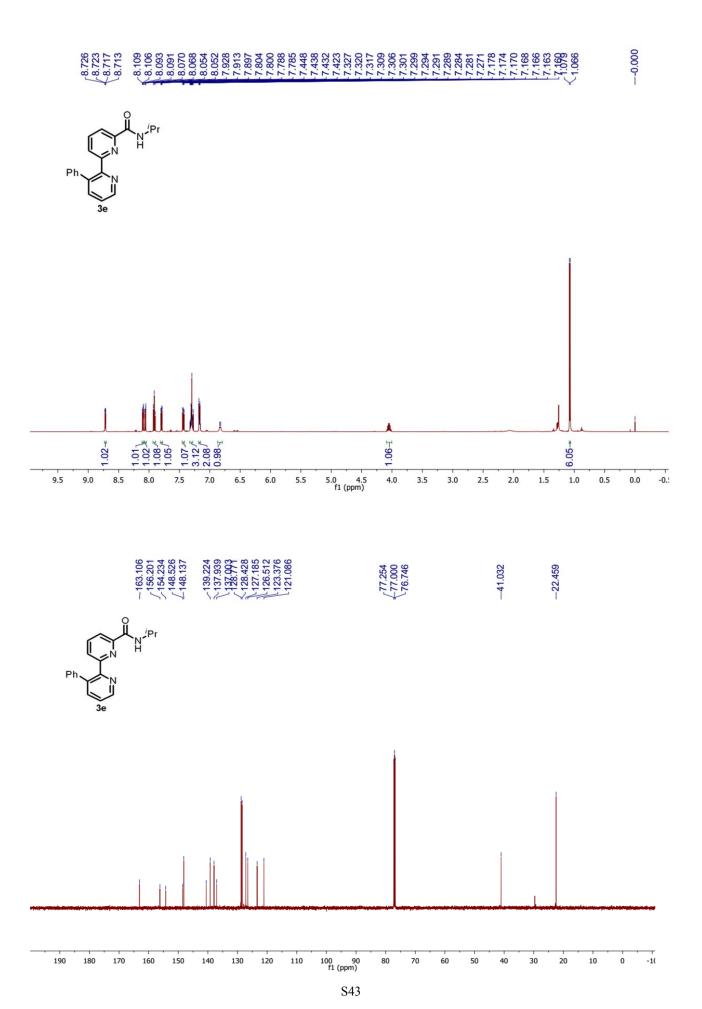


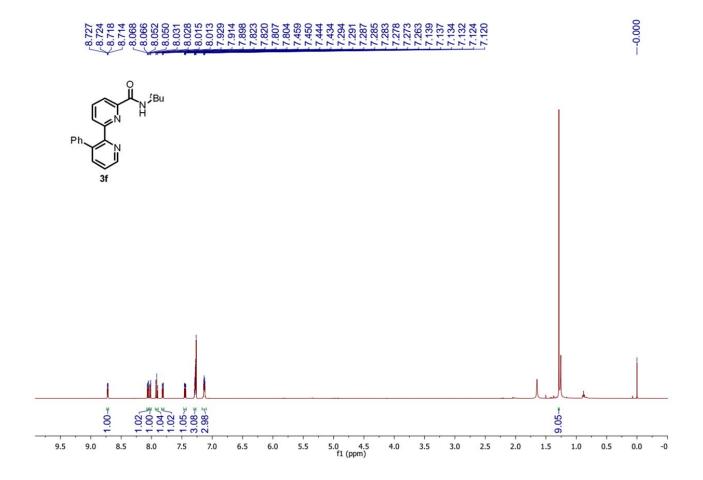


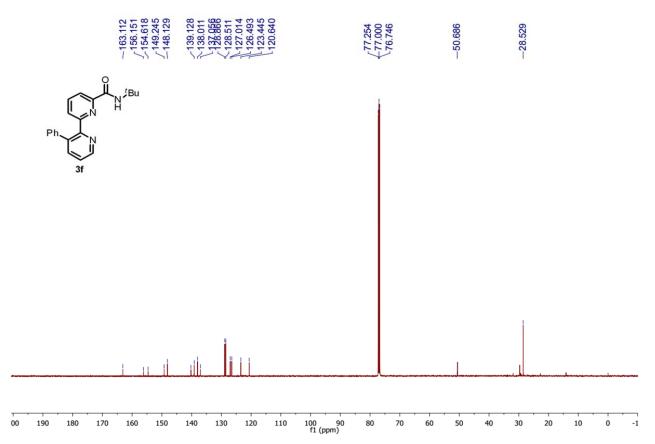


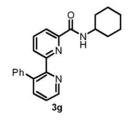


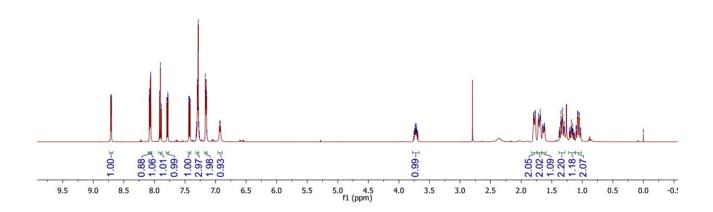








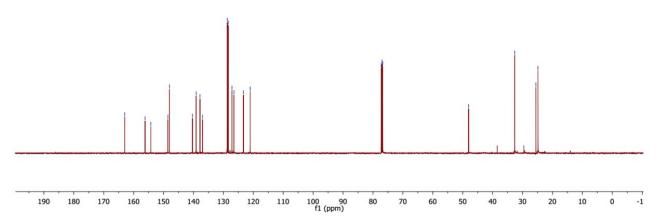


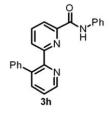


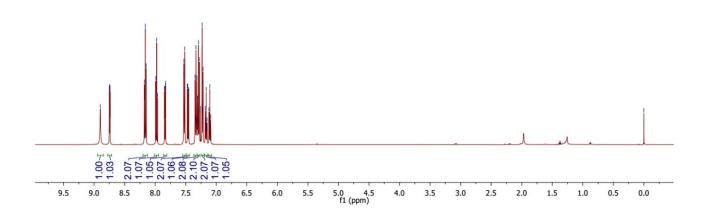


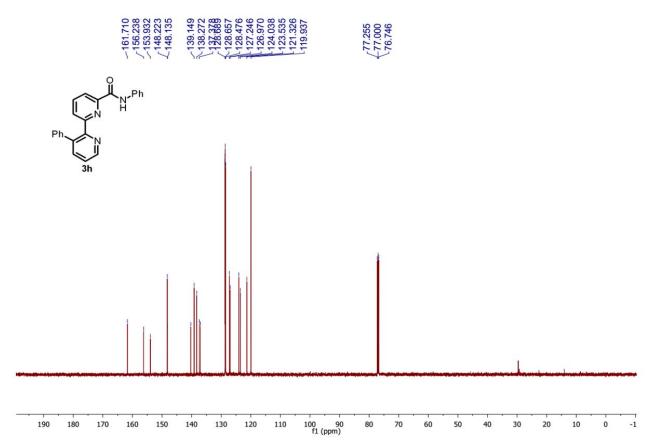
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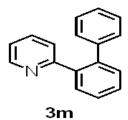


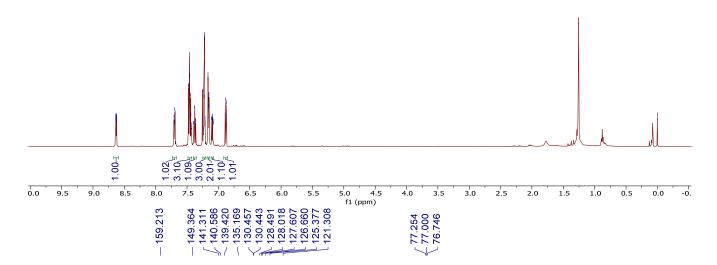


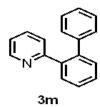


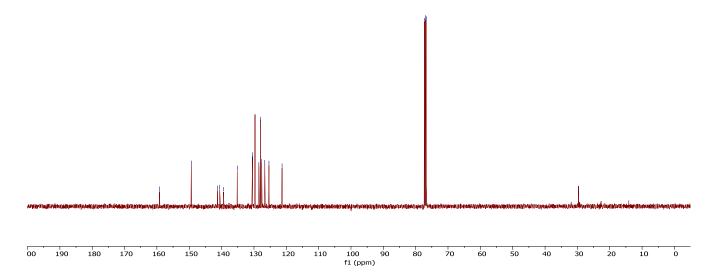


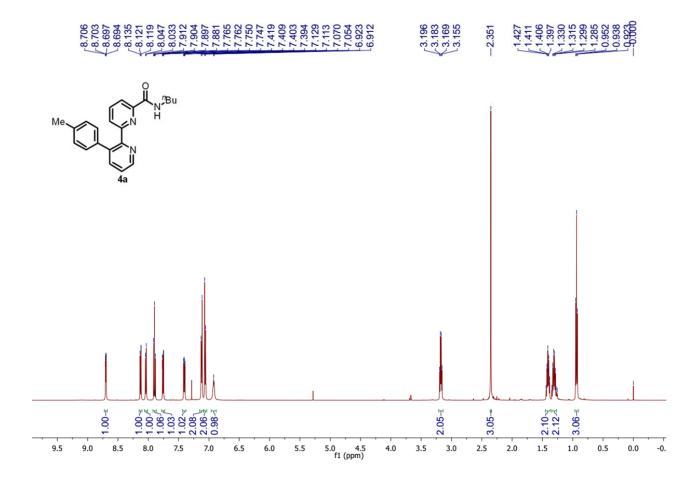


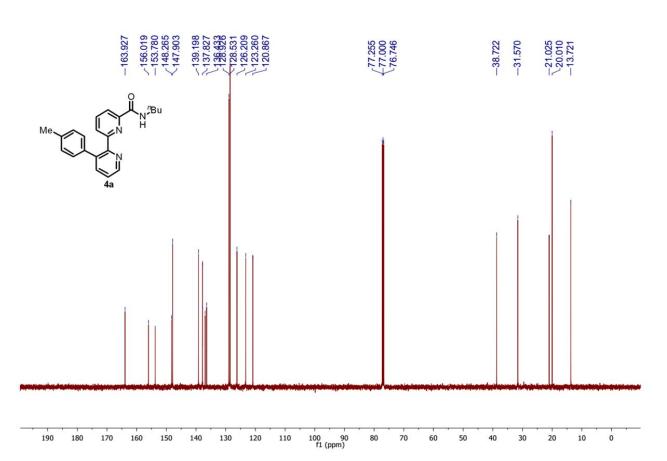


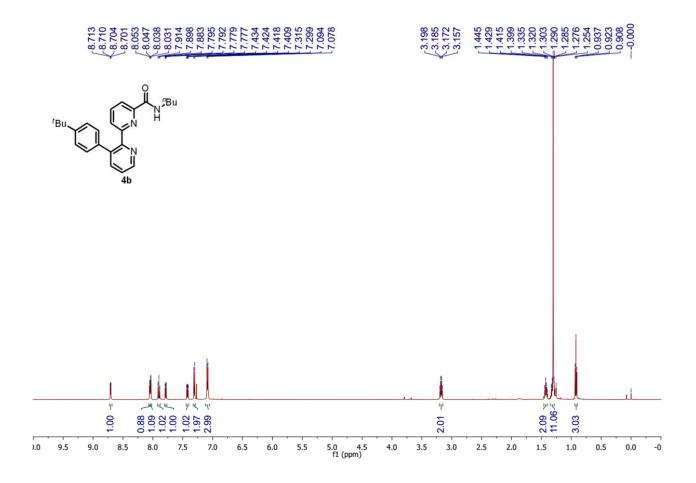


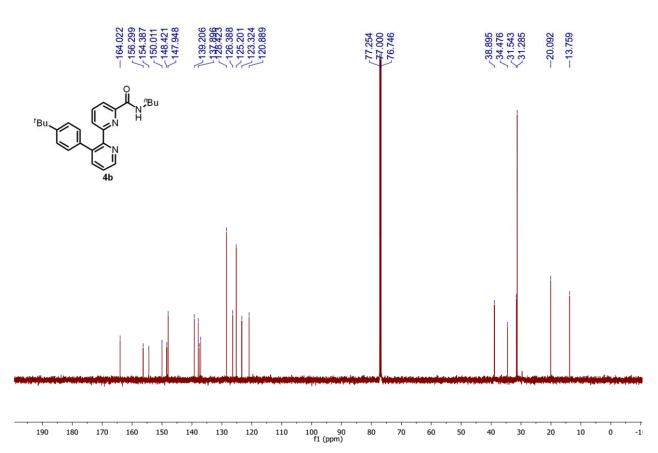


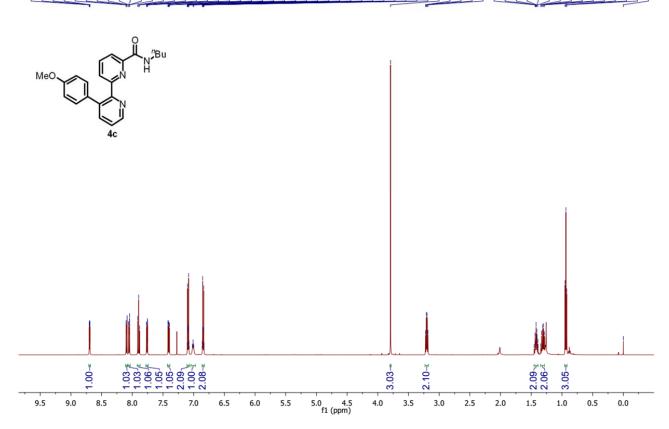


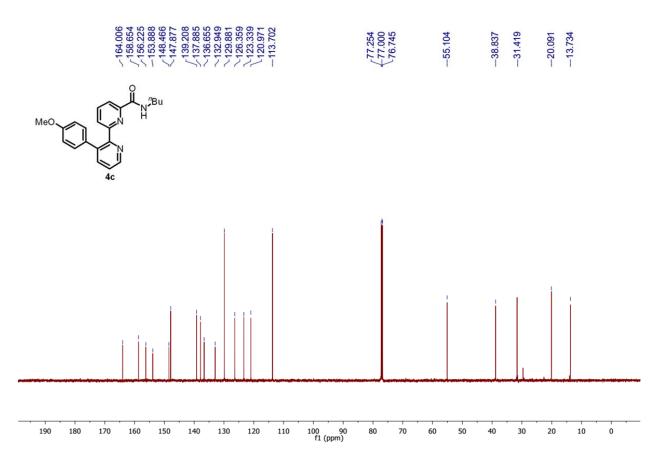


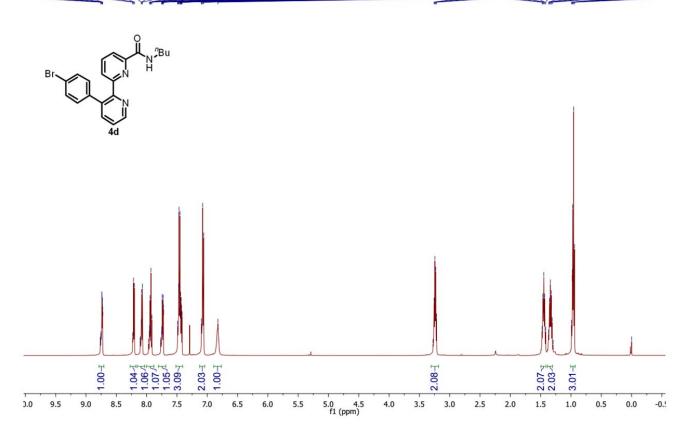


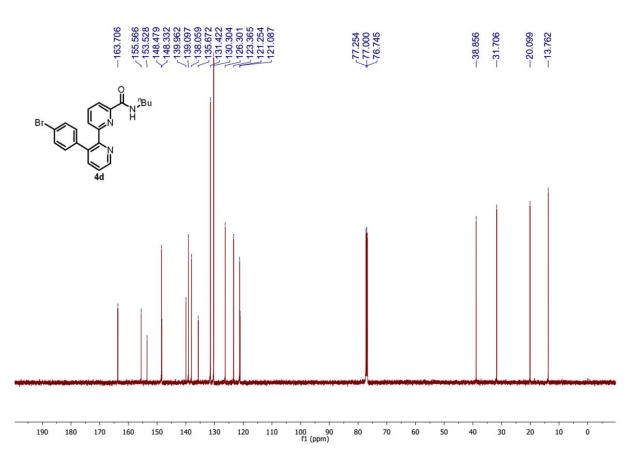






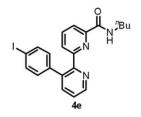


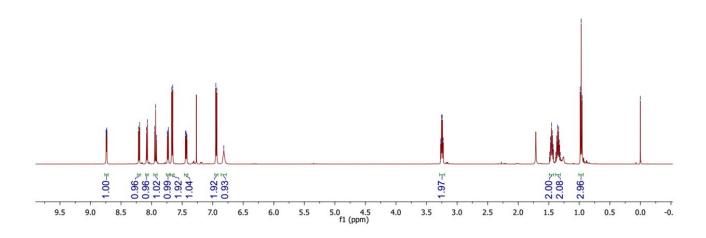


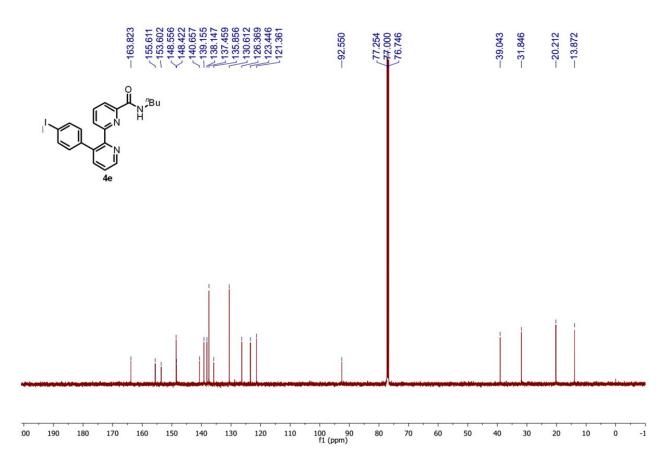


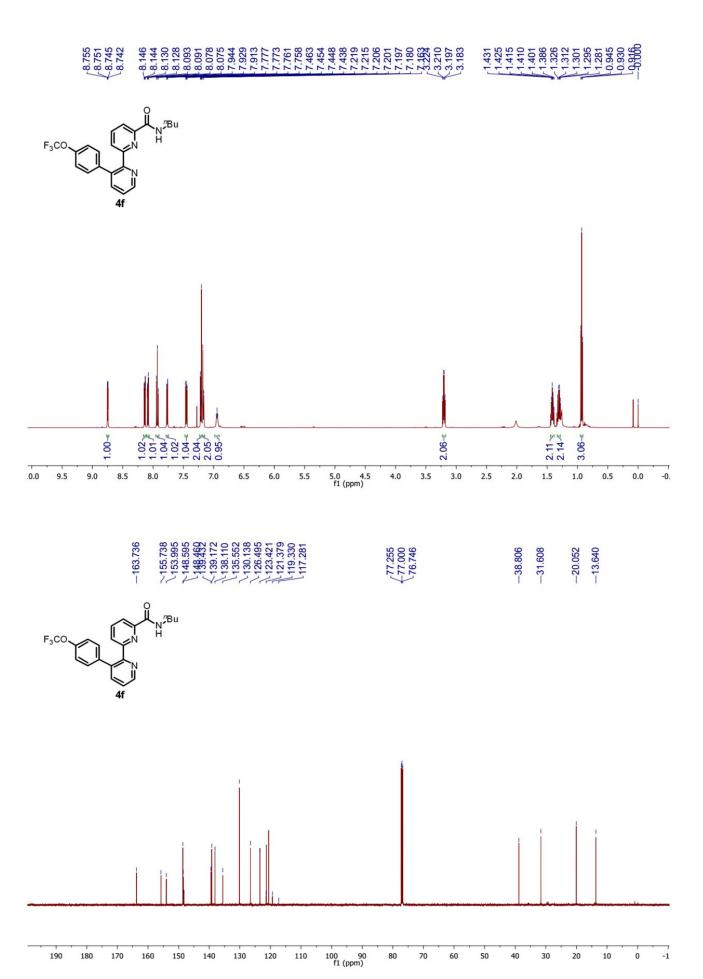


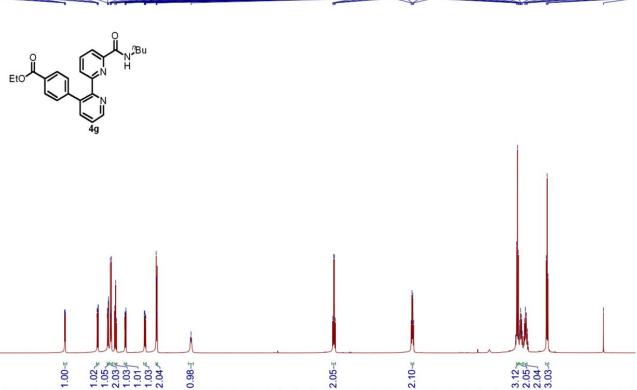
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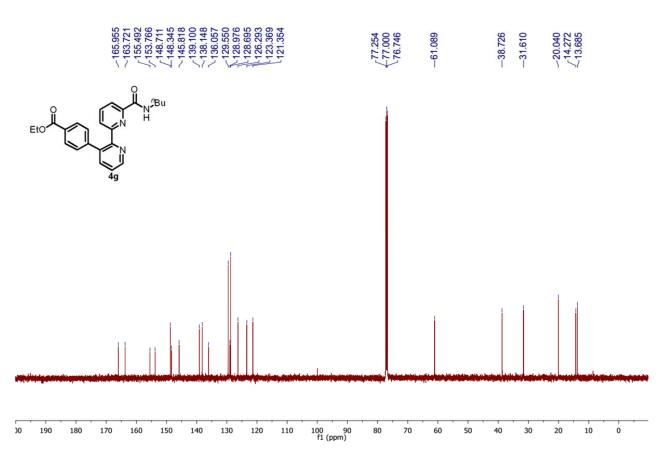
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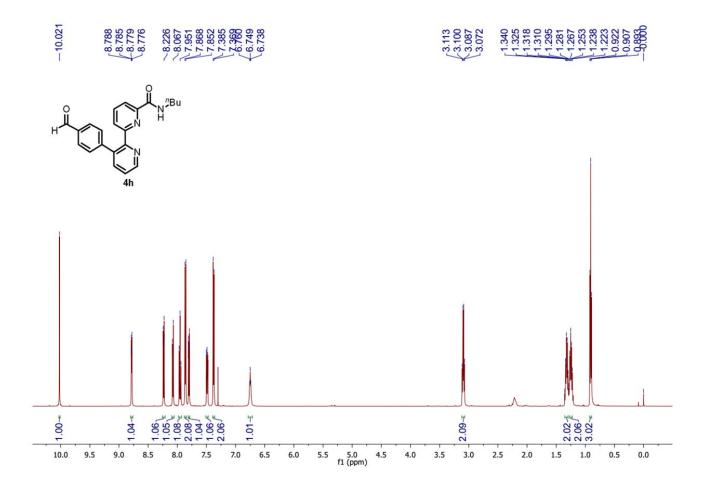
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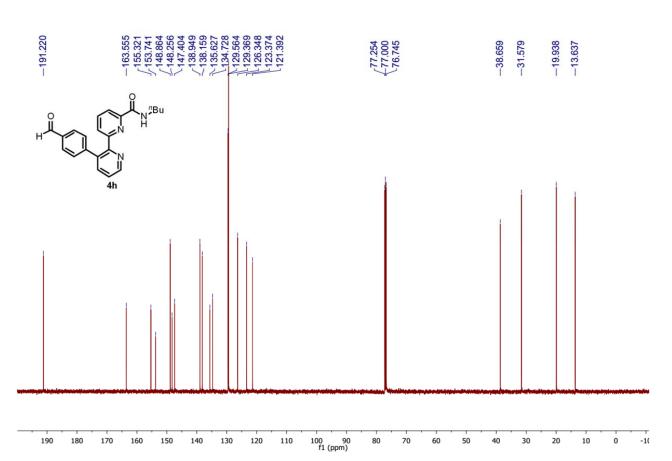
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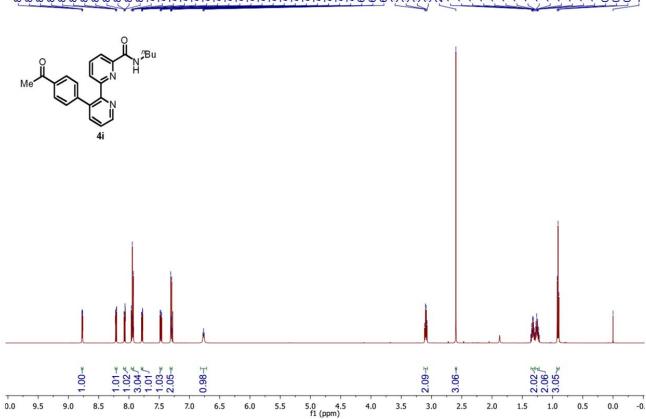
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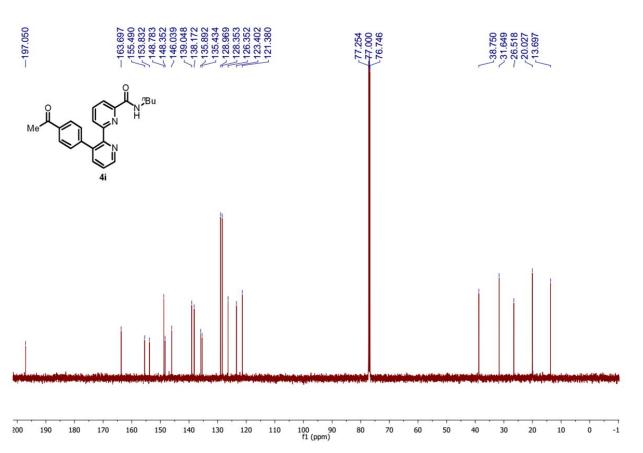
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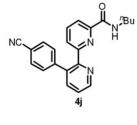


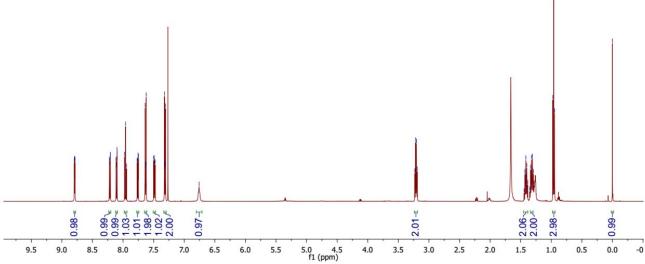


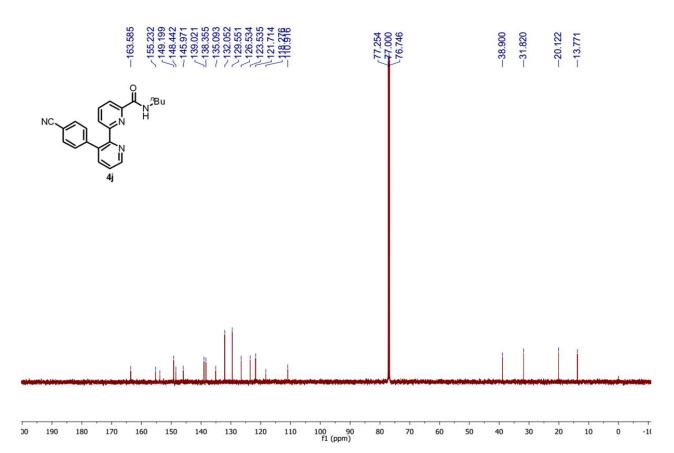


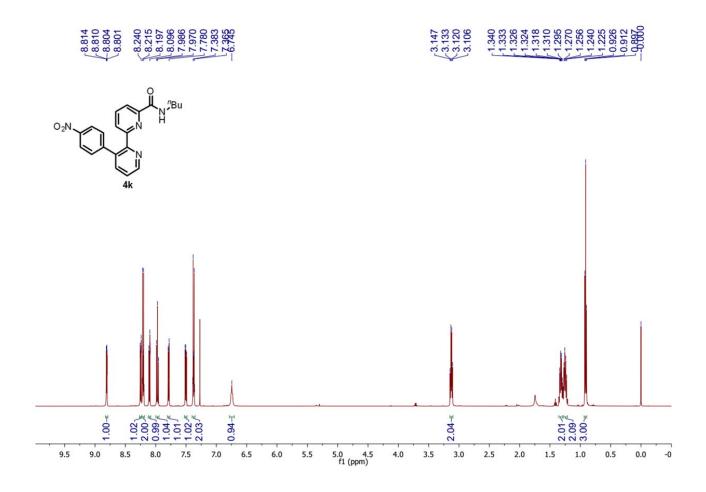


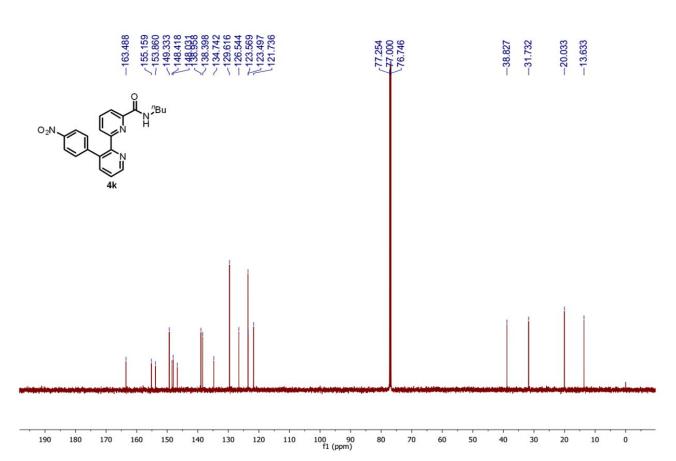
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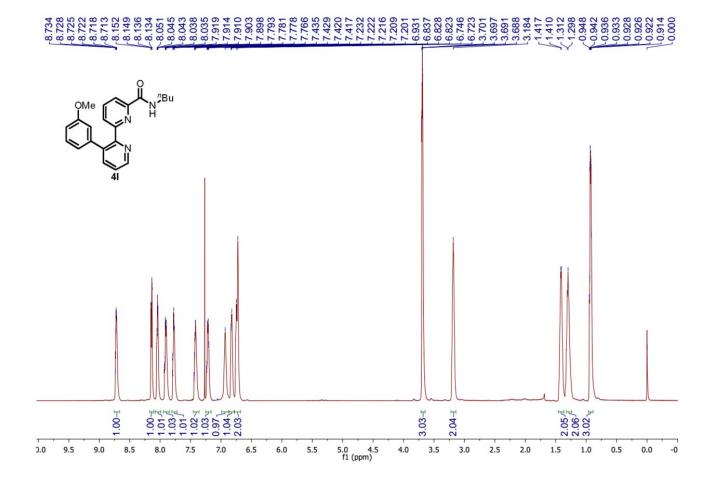


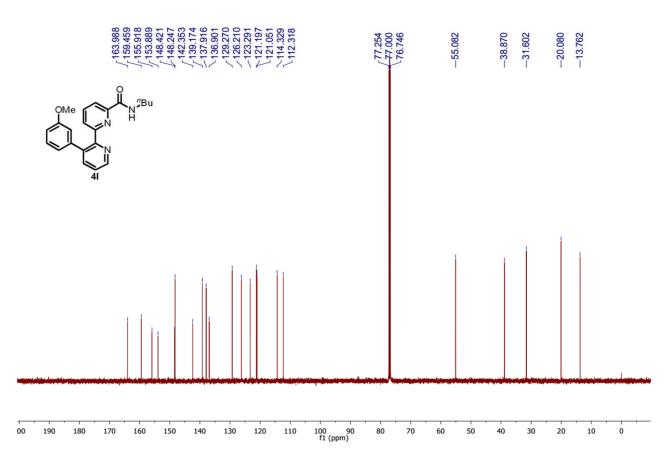


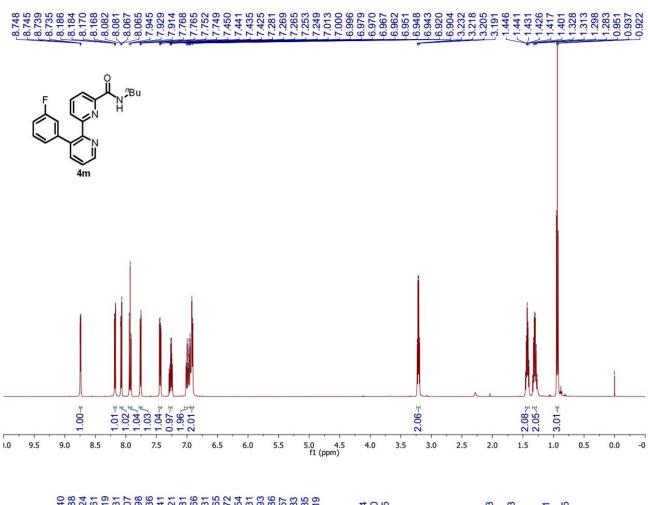


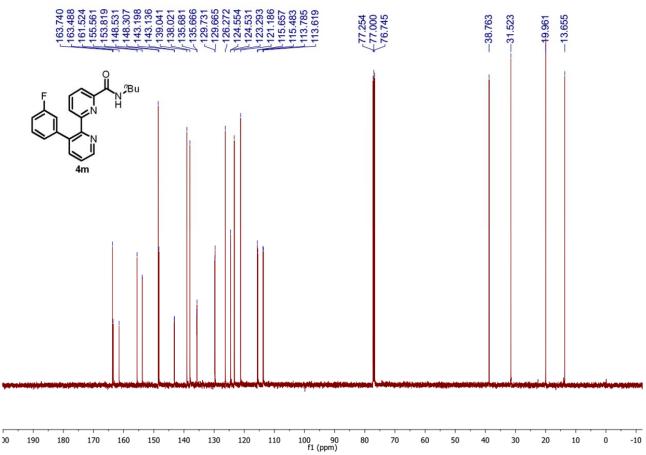


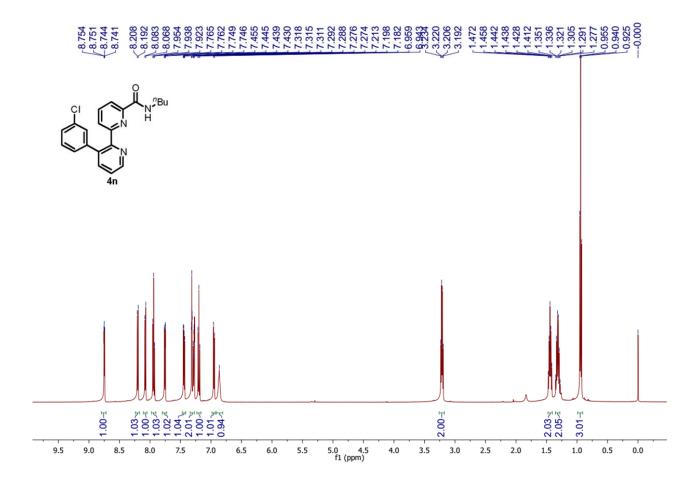


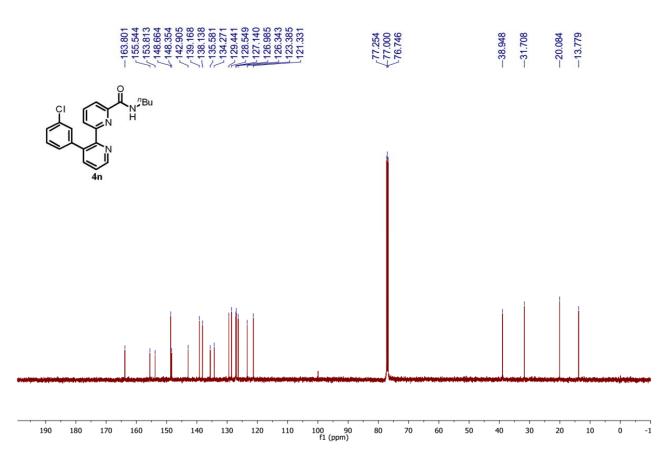


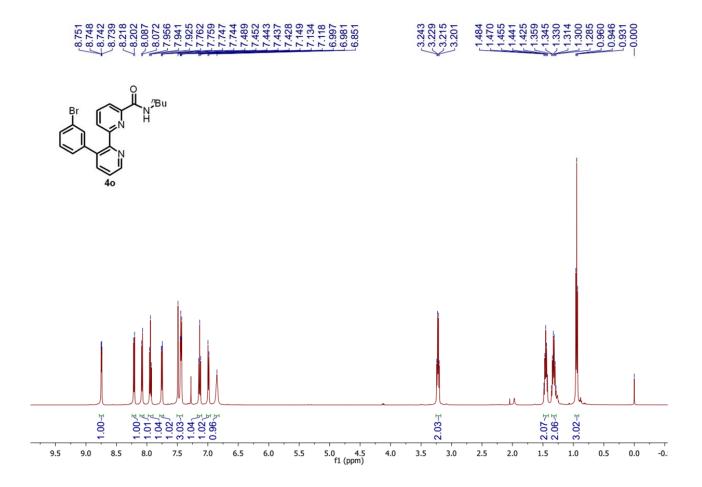


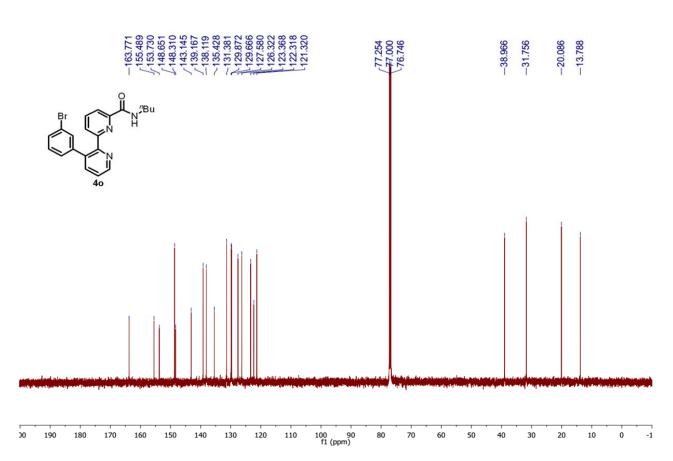


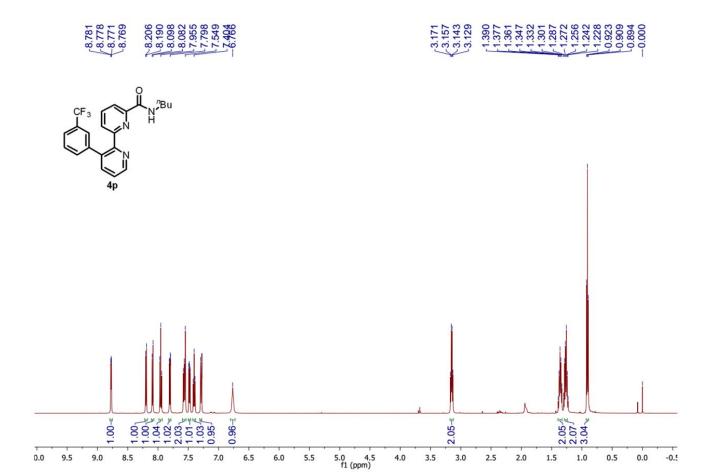


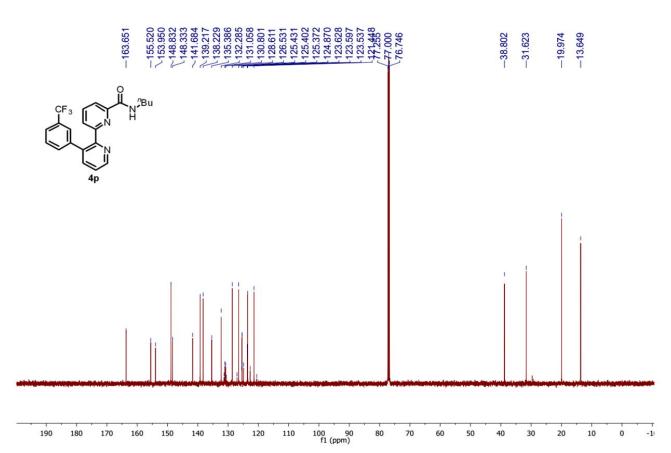


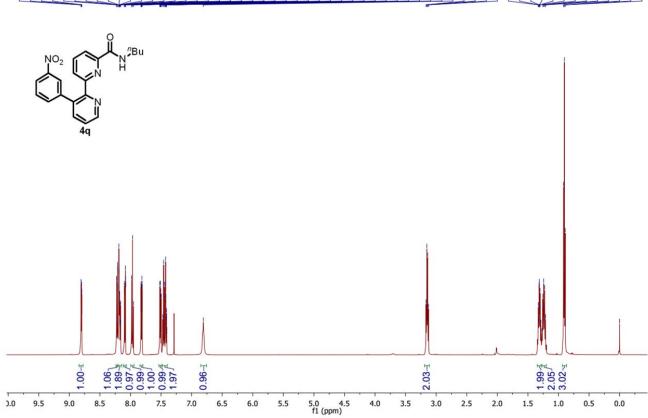


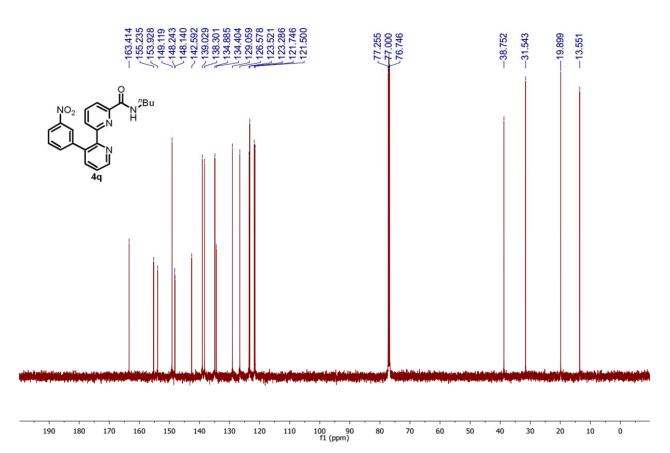


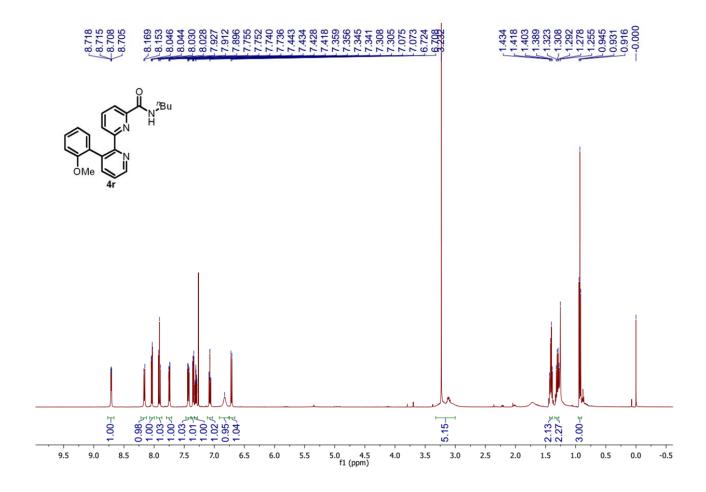


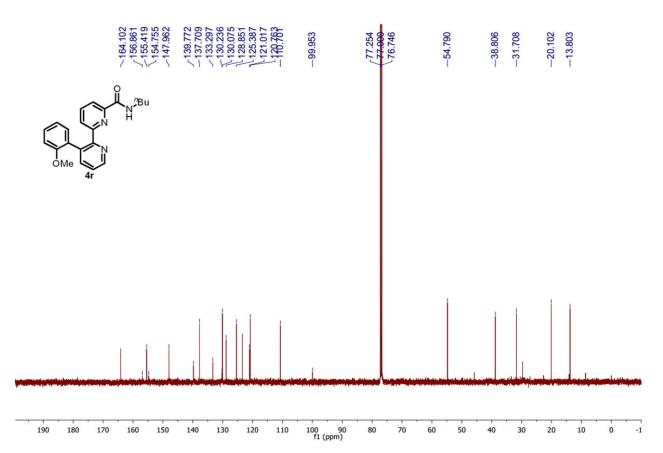


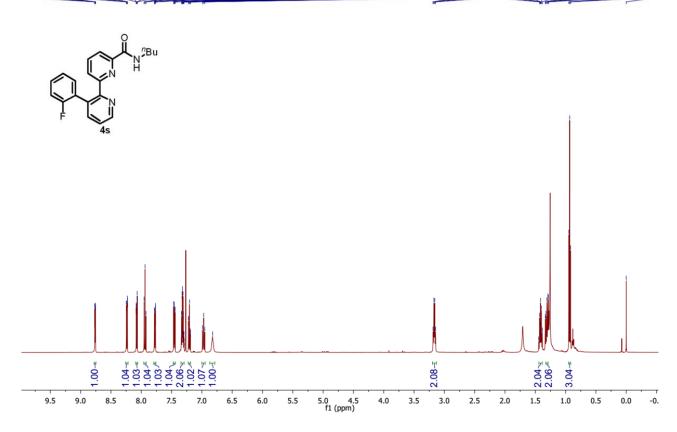


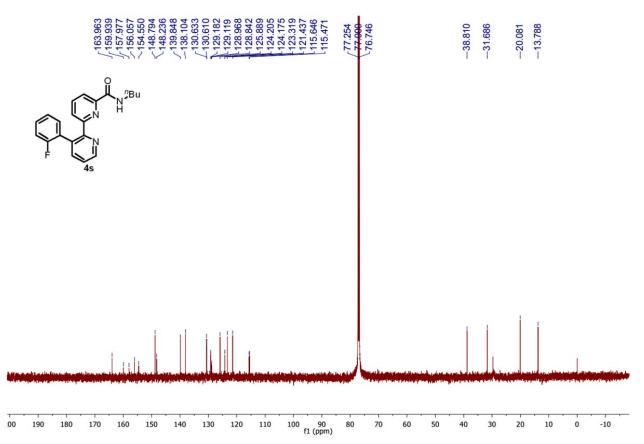


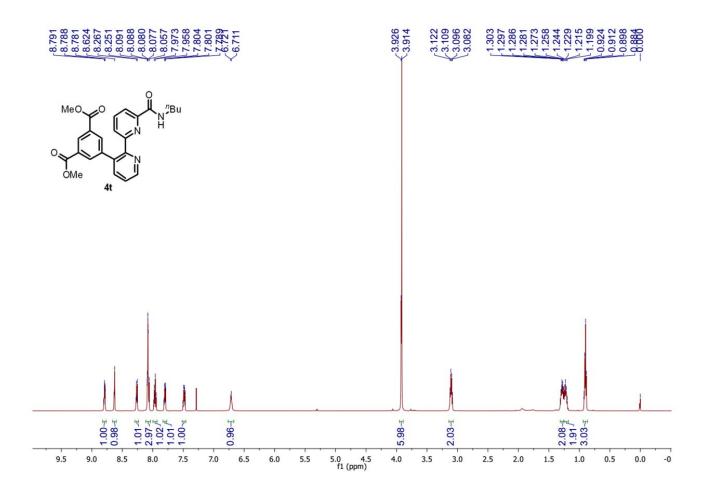


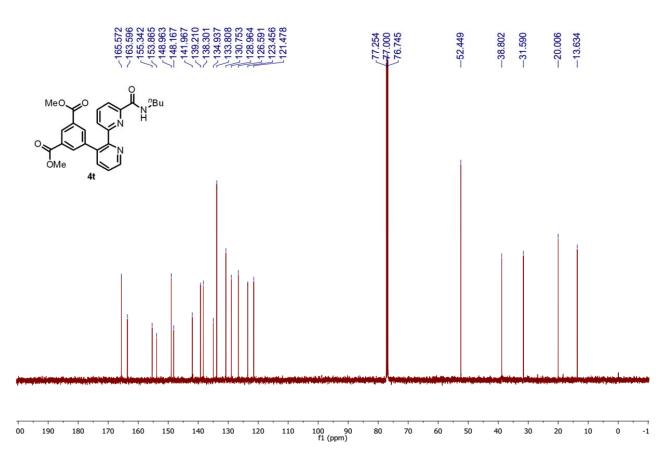


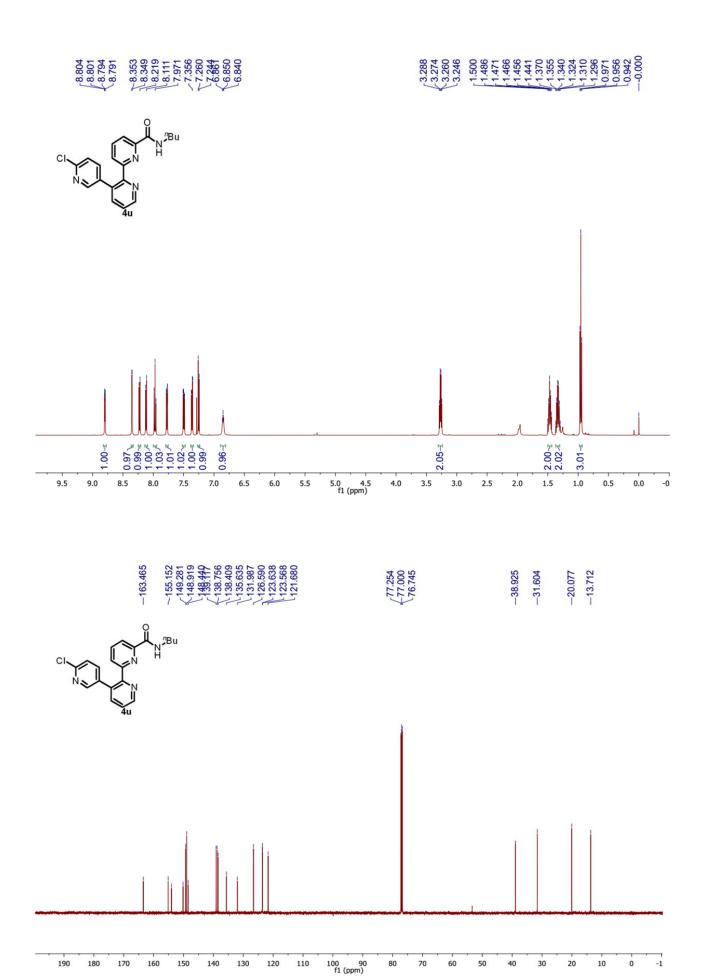


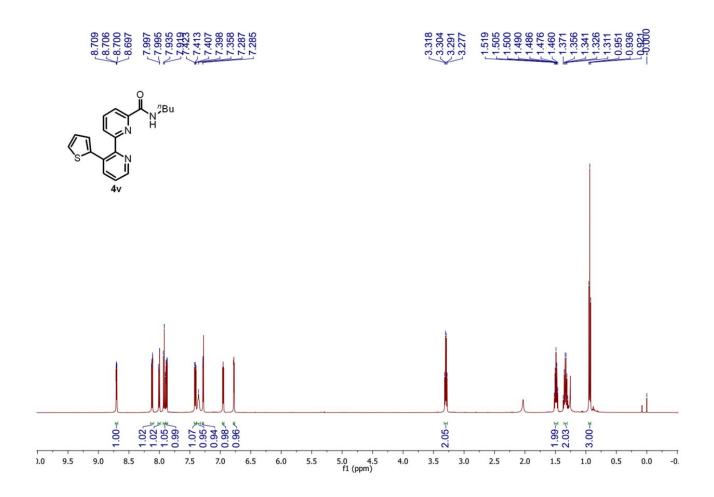


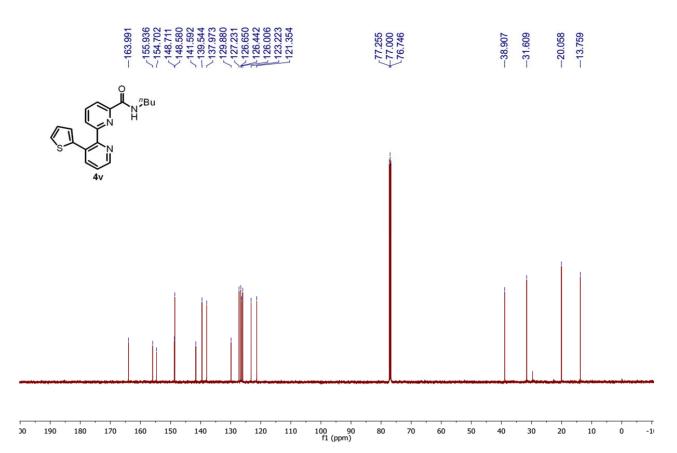


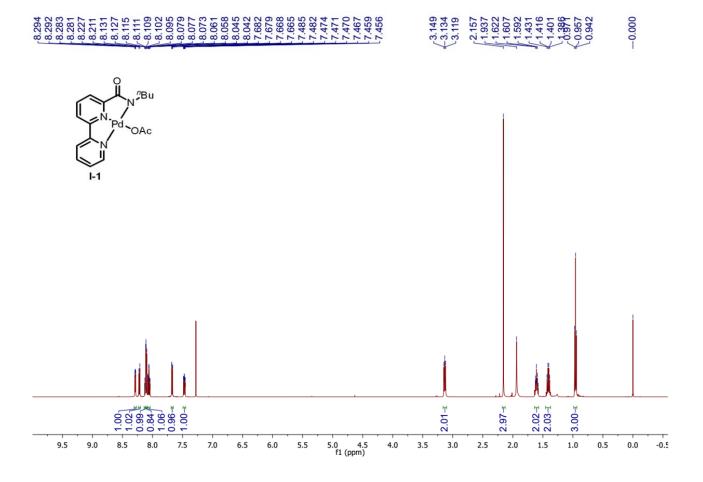


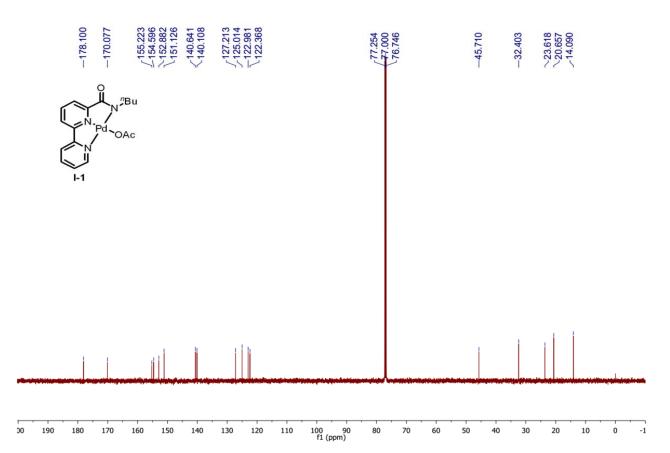


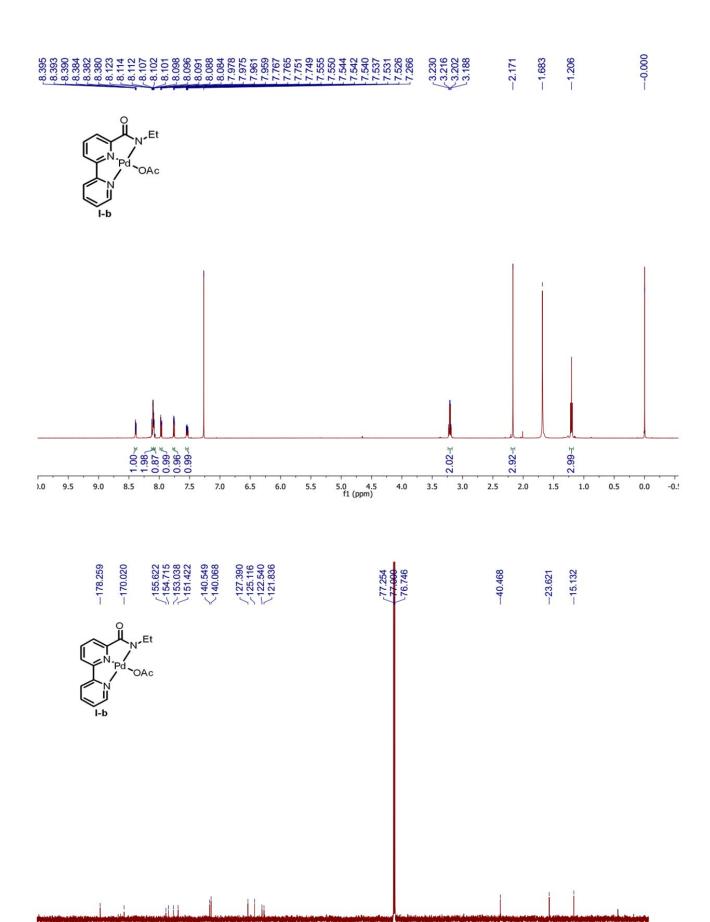












100 90 f1 (ppm)

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