Supporting Information for:

Catalytic Chemical Amide Synthesis at Room Temperature:

One More Step Towards Peptide Synthesis

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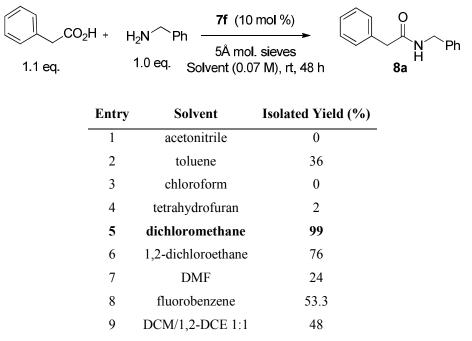
1. General Experimental Procedures for the Investigation of the Several Parameters in the Boronic Acid Catalyzed Amide Bond Formation

After identifying the optimal catalyst, (2-(thiophen-2-ylmethyl)phenyl)boronic acid 7f, we proceeded to optimize the other reaction parameters including solvent, catalyst loading, dehydrating agent and its activation method using a model amidation reaction between benzyl amine and phenyl acetic acid according to the general procedure **D** for boronic acid catalyzed amidation.

1.1. Solvent screening

The optimal reaction solvent is dependent on the particular nature of the substrates employed. It is therefore preferable to optimize any new combination of substrates using different solvents (Table 1).

Table 1 : Solvent screening using catalyst 7f.^a



^{*a*} Reaction conditions: phenyl acetic acid (75 mg, 0.55 mmol), boronic acid **7f** (10.9 mg, 0.05 mmol) and the amine (55 μ L, 0.50 mmol) were stirred at room temperature (25 °C) for 48 h in dry solvent containing the powdered 5Å mol. sieves (1 g).

With the new catalyst **7f** and the chosen model substrates, CH_2Cl_2 appeared to be the best solvent (entry 5). Toluene (entry 2) and DMF (entry 7) provided low yields whereas no conversion was attained using THF (entry 4), Chloroform (entry 3) and acetonitrile (entry 1). Moderate yields were obtained using fluorobenzene (entry 8) and 1,2-DCE (entry 6). No further improvement was attained using a mixture DCM/1,2-DCE 1:1 (entry 9).

1.2. Optimization of catalyst loading

Optimization of the catalyst loading was carried out using the reaction between benzyl amine and phenyl acetic acid as a model reaction, 7f as the catalyst, CH₂Cl₂ as the solvent and 5Å powdered molecular activated in Kugelrohr as the drying agent according to the general procedure **D** for boronic acid catalyzed amidation (Table 2).

Table 2: Optimization of the catalyst loading using catalyst 7f.^a

1.1 eq.	-	₂N Ph5Å m	x mol%) ol. sieves 07 M), rt, 48 h	O N Ph 8a
	Entry	mol% of 7f	Isolated yield (%)	
	1 ^b	2.5	36	-
	2	5	53	
	3	7	62	
	4	10	99	
	5	20	100	

^{*a*} Reaction conditions: Phenyl acetic acid (75 mg, 0.55 mmol), boronic acid **7f** (2.5 to 10 mol%) and the benzyl amine (55 μ L, 0.50 mmol) were stirred at room temperature (25 °C) for 48 h in dry CH₂Cl₂ containing the powdered 5Å mol. Sieves (1 g). ^{*b*} Reflux at 45 °C.

As shown by Table 2, catalyst loadings of 5 and 7 mol% provided moderate yields of the amide product **8a** (entries 2 and 3) whereas a 10 mol% catalyst loading resulted in excellent yield of amide **8a** (entry 4) at room temperature. Increasing the catalyst loading did not lead to any improvements in terms of the reaction time.

1.3. Dehydrating agent screening and its activation method

Another crucial factor in the boronic acid catalyzed amidation is the removal of water from the reaction medium as it inhibits the formation of the active reaction intermediates (entry1, Table 3). Screening of the different drying agents was performed using the reaction between

benzyl amine and phenyl acetic acid as a model reaction, 7f as the catalyst (10 mol %), CH₂Cl₂ as the solvent and 1g of the dehydrating agent according to the general procedure **D** for boronic acid catalyzed amidation (Table 3).

Table 3: Comparison in the isolated yield of the amide product using different dehydrating agents.^a

$\begin{array}{c cccc} \hline & & & & & \hline & & & \hline & & & \hline & & & & $							
Entry	Drying agent	Activation method	Isolated Yield (%)				
1	none	-	0				
2	pwd lab grade MgSO ₄	μW at P _{max} 30 min	0				
3	pwd anhydrous MgSO ₄	Kugelrohr 3 h at 250 °C	<5				
4 ^b	B_2O_3	-	28				
5 ^b	B_2O_3 without 7f	-	23				
6	pwd 4Å MS	μW at P _{max} 30 min	43				
7	pwd 4Å MS	Kugelrohr 3 h at 250 °C	50				
8	pwd 5Å MS	μW at P _{max} 30 min	0				
9	pwd 5Å MS	Kugelrohr 3 h at 250 °C	99				
10 ^b	pwd 5Å MS / Soxhlet	Kugelrohr 3 h at 250 °C	85				

^{*a*} Reaction conditions: Phenyl acetic acid (75 mg, 0.55 mmol), boronic acid **7f** (2.5 to 10 mol%) and the benzyl amine (55 μ L, 0.50 mmol) were stirred at room temperature (25 °C) for 48 h in dry CH₂Cl₂ containing the dehydrating agent (1g). ^{*b*} Reflux at 45 °C.

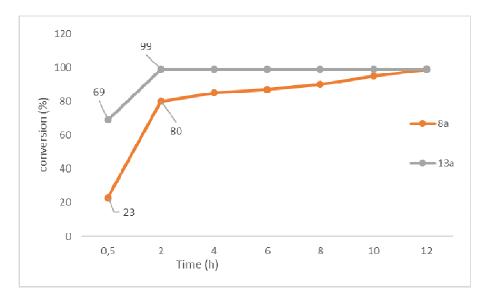
Screening of these different drying agents revealed that 5Å molecular sieves (activated powder) using Kugelrohr, \approx 325 mesh particle size) was the most efficient dehydrating agent for this process with the possibility of their recycling (entry 10). 4Å molecular sieves activated either in Kugelrohr or microwave provided moderate yields (entries 6 and 7) while almost no conversion was attained with MgSO₄ (entries 2 and 3). B₂O₃ did not lead to any improvement in the yield where the same result was almost obtained in the presence or absence of the catalyst **7f** (entries 4 and 5).

The optimal reaction conditions were chosen to be 10 mol % of catalyst **7f**, 5Å powdered molecular sieves (1 g) activated in Kugelrohr, and CH_2Cl_2 as the solvent.

2. Studying the Kinetics of Catalyst **7f** with Two Different Carboxylic Acids

The progress of the reaction between the two carboxylic acids (phenylacetic acid and 4methoxyphenylacetic acid) and benzylamine in the presence of the catalyst 7f was monitored using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard. The results obtained are shown in figure 1.

Figure 1. Comparison between the rate constants of two different carboxylic acids where **8a** corresponds to the amide product resulting from the phenyl acetic acid and **13a** corresponds to the one formed using the *p*-methoxy phenyl acetic acid.



Title: Studying the % NMR yield of the amide products as a function of time.

This graph clearly shows that electron rich carboxylic acids are much more efficient providing a faster reaction compared to the phenyl acetic acid in the amide synthesis. Complete conversion was attained after just 2 hours using 4-methoxyphenylacetic acid (**13a**) while after 12 hrs with the phenylacetic acid (**8a**).

3. Optimization of the Amide Bond Formation using N- or Cprotected Amino Acids in the Presence of Catalyst **7f**

In order to determine the optimal conditions for the coupling of one or two amino acids, a model reaction was carried out between (*S*)-N-Boc-proline and benzyl amine according to general procedure \mathbf{E} for amide bond formation (Table 4).

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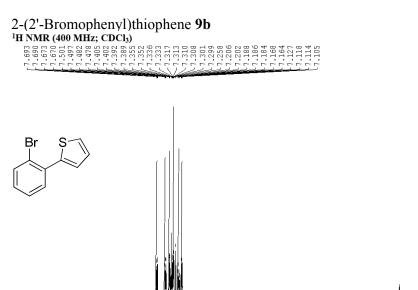
	CO₂H +	H ₂ N [^] Ph	7f (10-25 mol%)	
N Boc 1.0 eq.		- 1.0 eq.	5Å mol. sieves Solvent (0.067 M) 55-65 °C, 24 hrs] 33
Entry	Solvent	Catalyst (mol %)	Temperature (°C)	Isolated yield (%)
1	CH ₂ Cl ₂	10	65	10
2	PhF	10	45	26
3	PhF	10	65	57
4	PhF	25	45	45
5	PhF	25	65	92

Table 4. Optimization of reaction conditions for the direct amidation of amino acids.^a

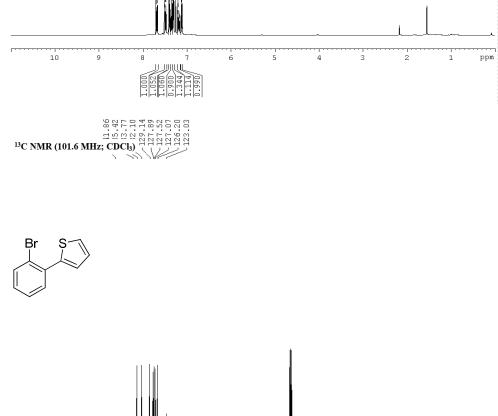
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^{*a*} Reaction conditions : (*S*)-N-Boc-proline (99 mg, 0.46 mmol), catalyst **7f** (10-25 mol%) and benzylamine (50.3 μ L, 0.46 mmol) were stirred for 24 h containing the powdered 5Å mol. sieves (1 g).

As we have previously mentioned, non-polar solvents enhance the catalytic activity and tends to provide better azeotropic removal of water in the amidation reactions. Therefore, two nonpolar solvents were tested. Fluorobenzene appeared to be the suitable solvent providing better solubilization of the starting Boc-proline and much higher yield of the desired amide **33** compared to CH_2Cl_2 (Table 1, Entries 1 and 2). In addition, temperature constituted another significant factor; decreasing the reaction temperature from 65 °C to 45 °C, led to a large decrease in the yield from 57% to 26% (Table 2, Entries 2 and 3).

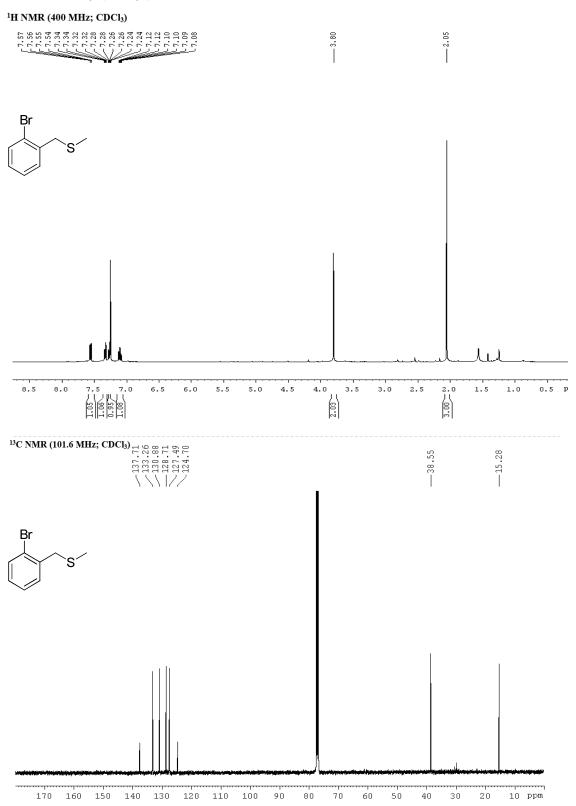


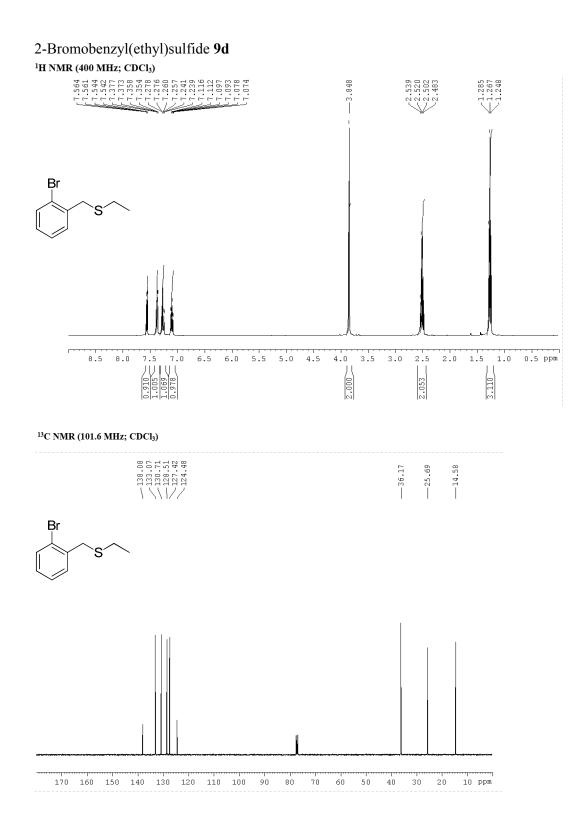
4. ¹H and ¹³C Spectra of Aryl Bromides 9



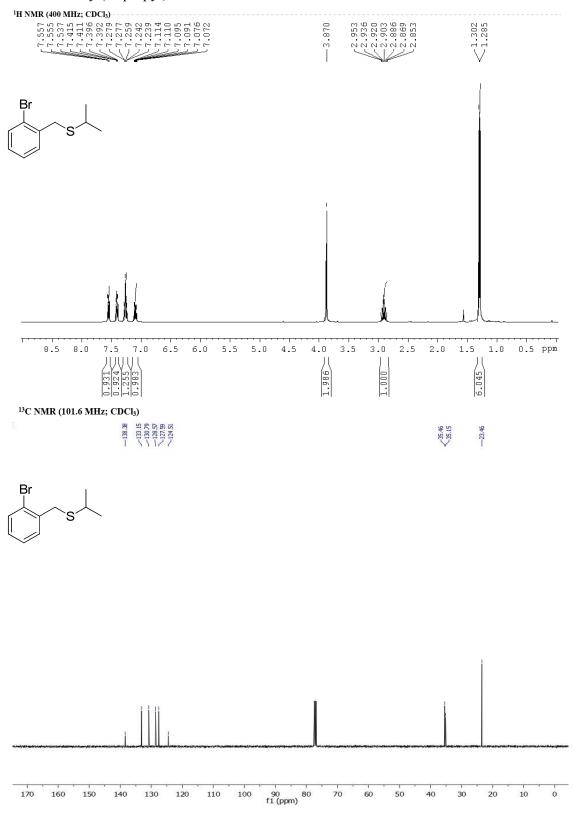
120 110 10 ppm

2-Bromobenzyl(methyl)sulfide 9c

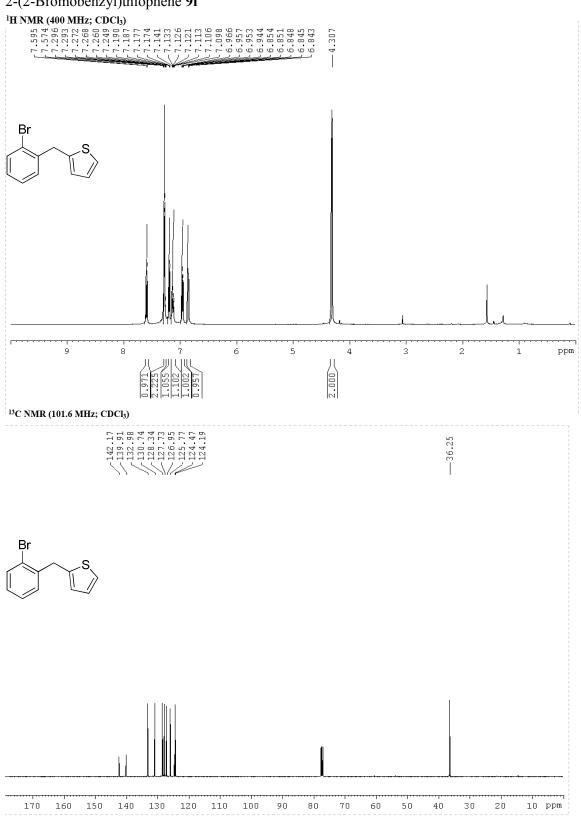


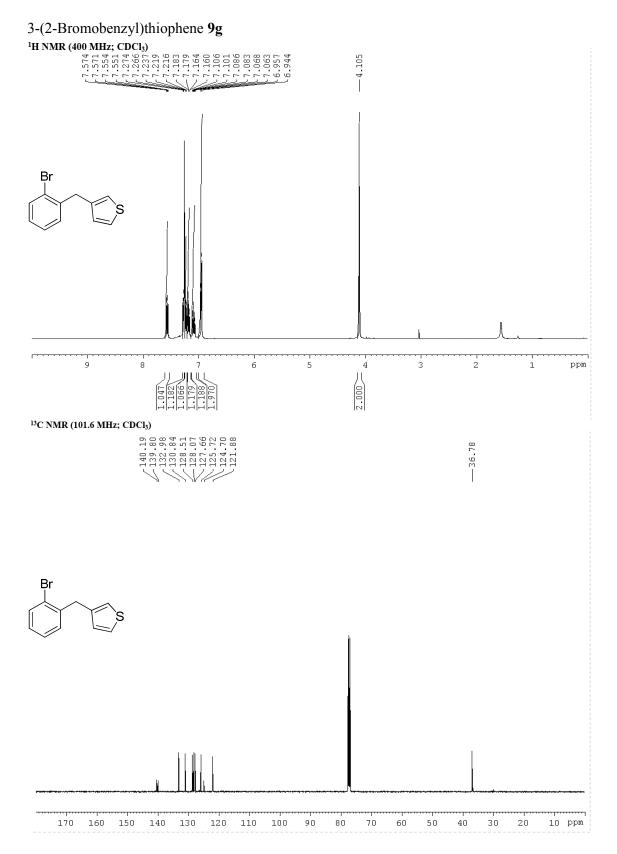


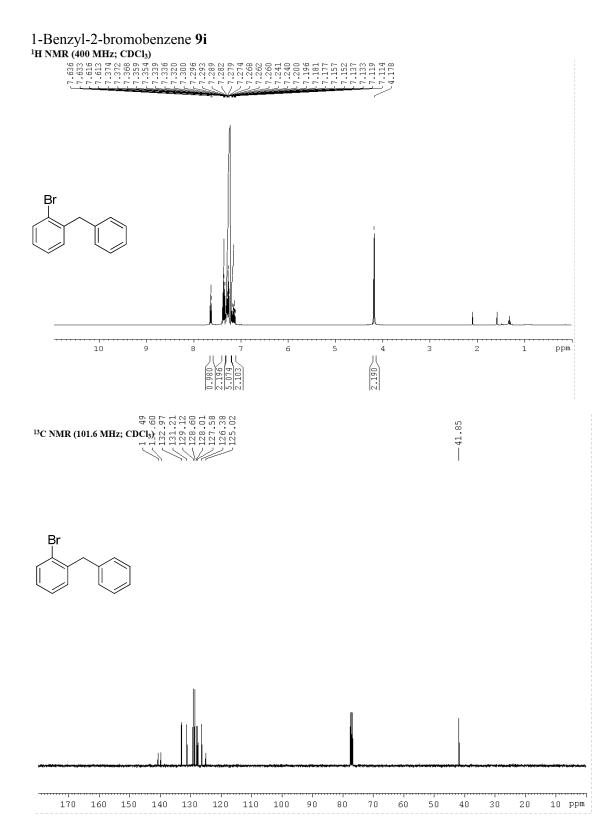
2-Bromobenzyl(isopropyl)sulfide 9e



2-(2-Bromobenzyl)thiophene 9f





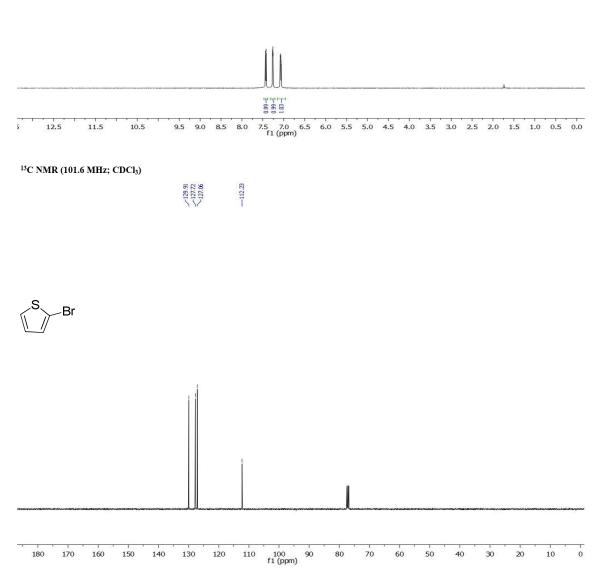


2-Bromothiophene 10

¹H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl₃)

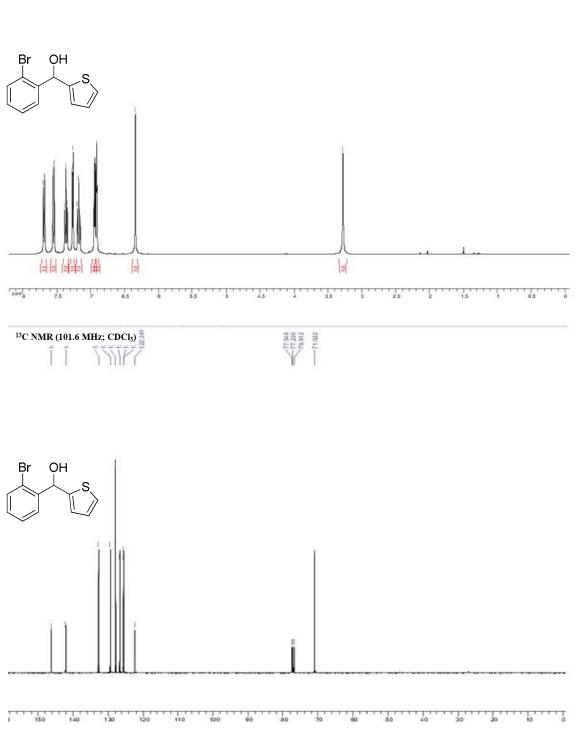




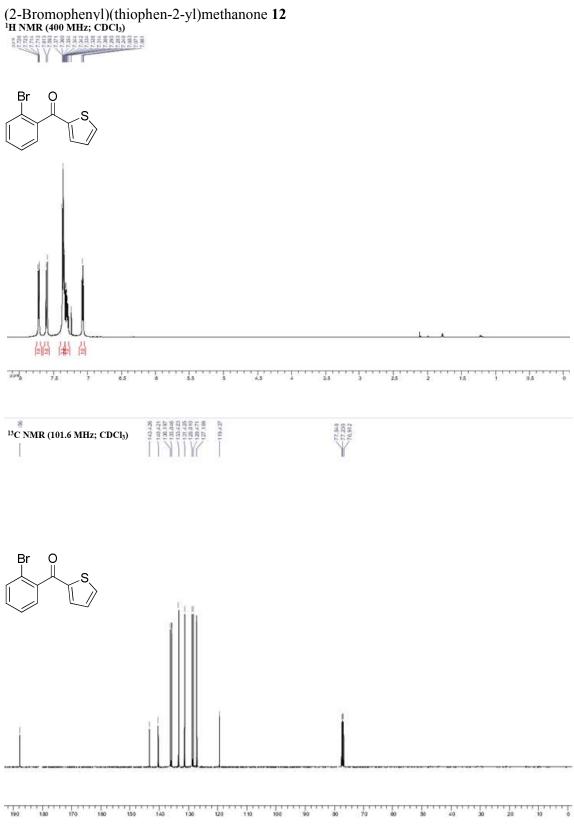


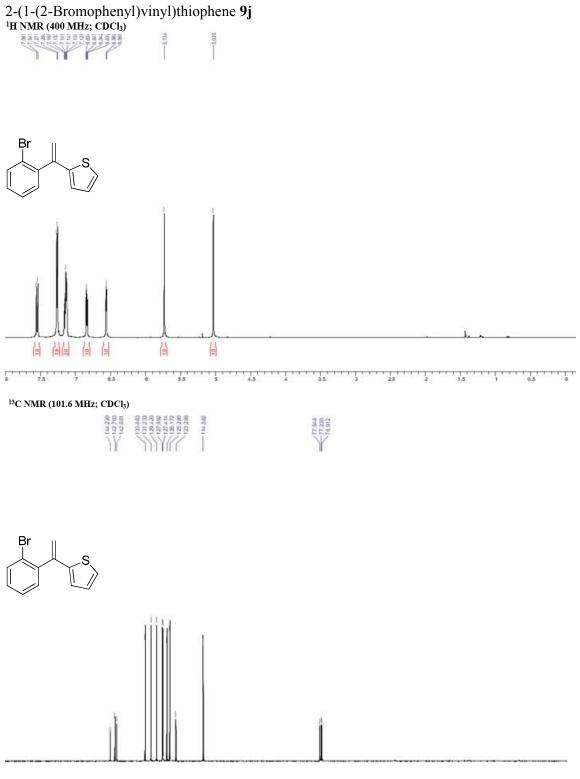
(2-Bromophenyl)(thiophen-2-yl)methanol 11 ¹H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl₃)



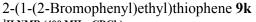


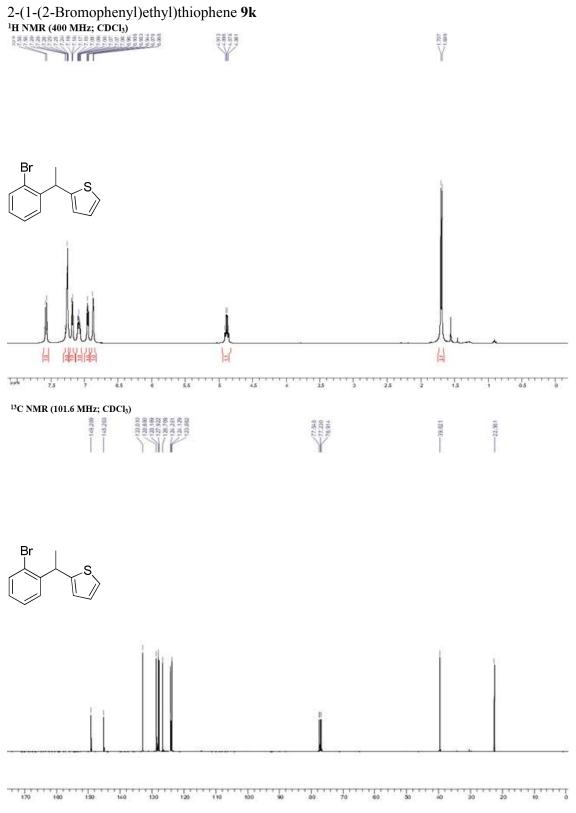
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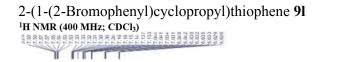


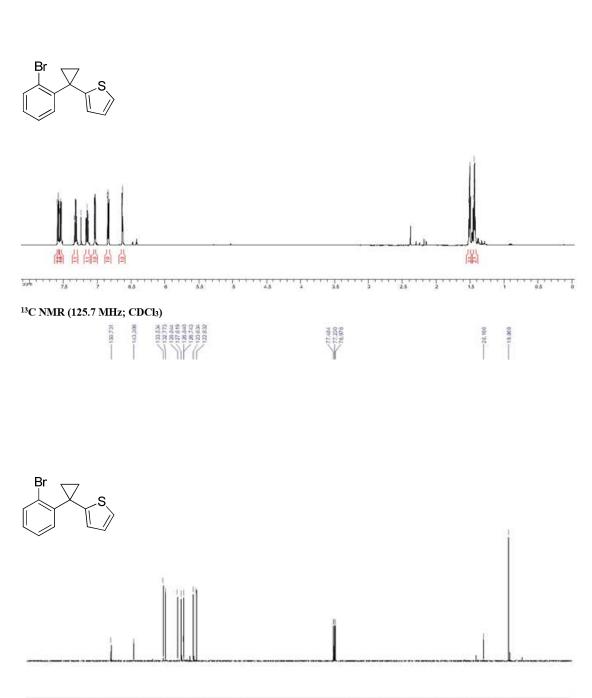


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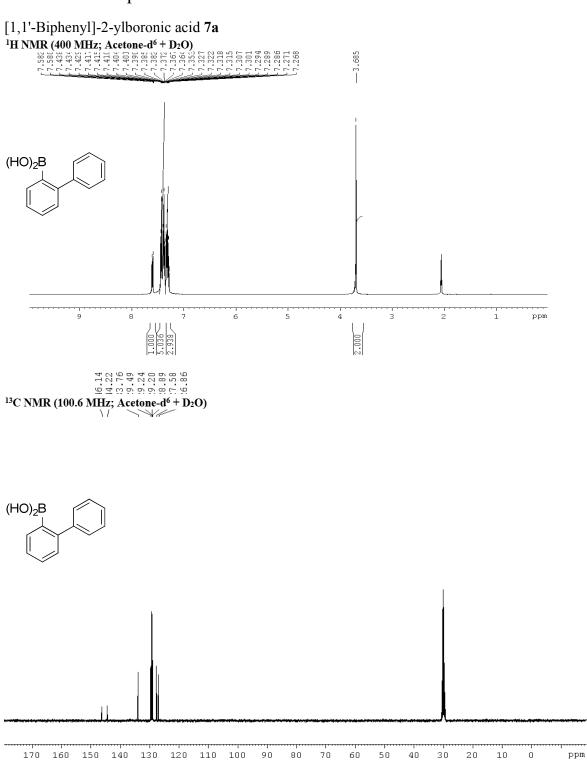




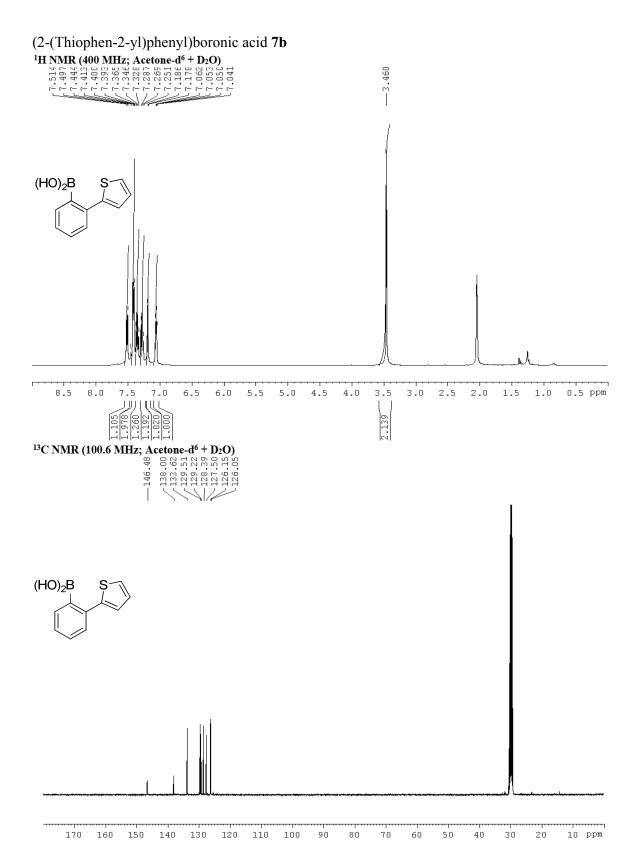


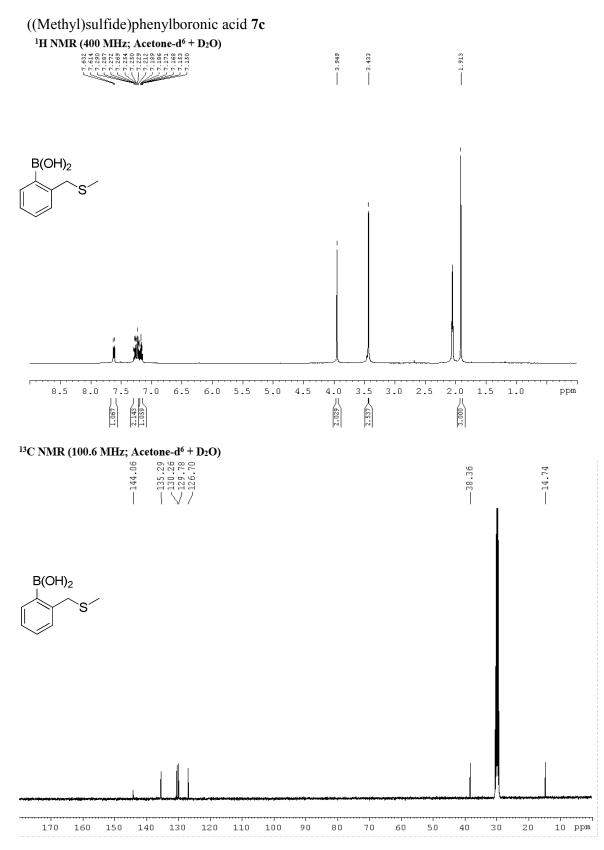


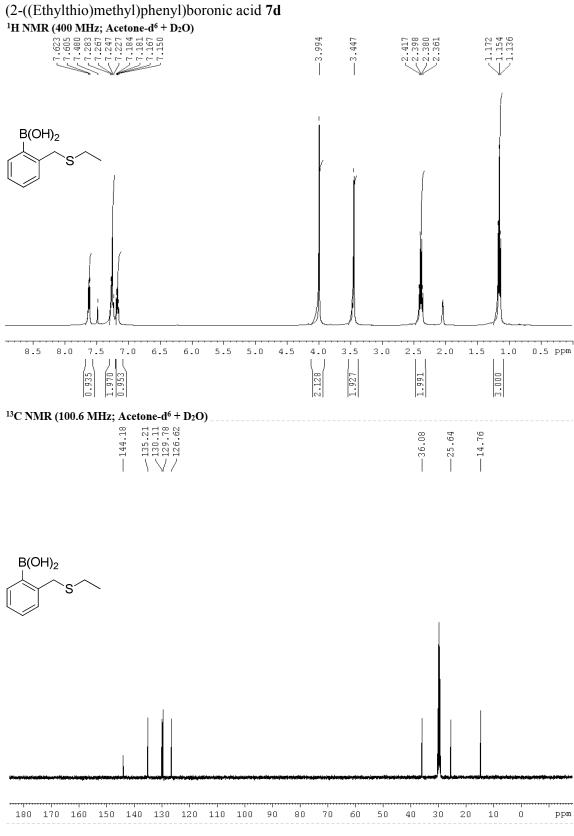
170 blo 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 a0 70 60 50 40 30 20 b0 0

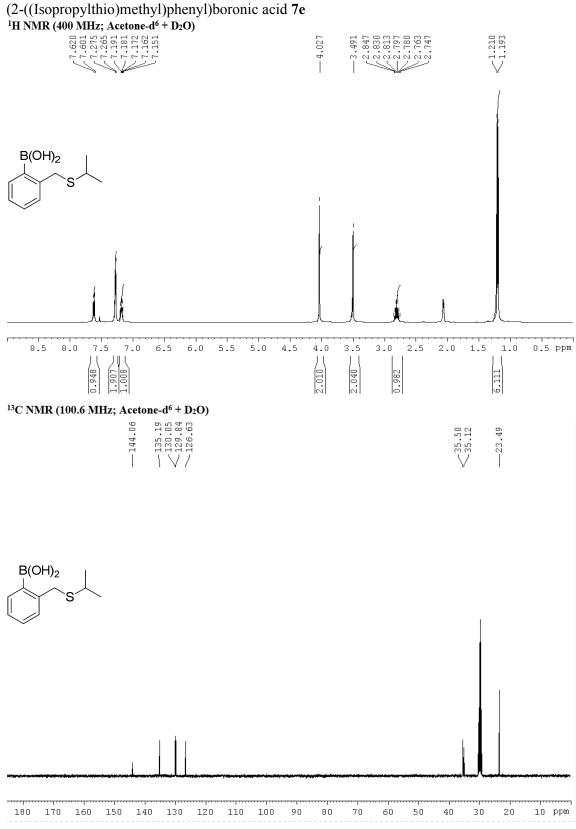


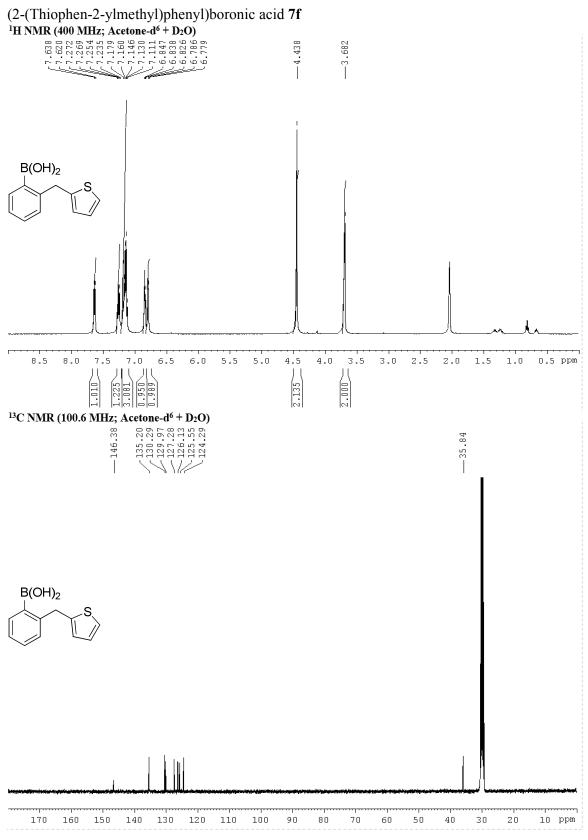
5. ¹H and ¹³C Spectra of Boronic Acids

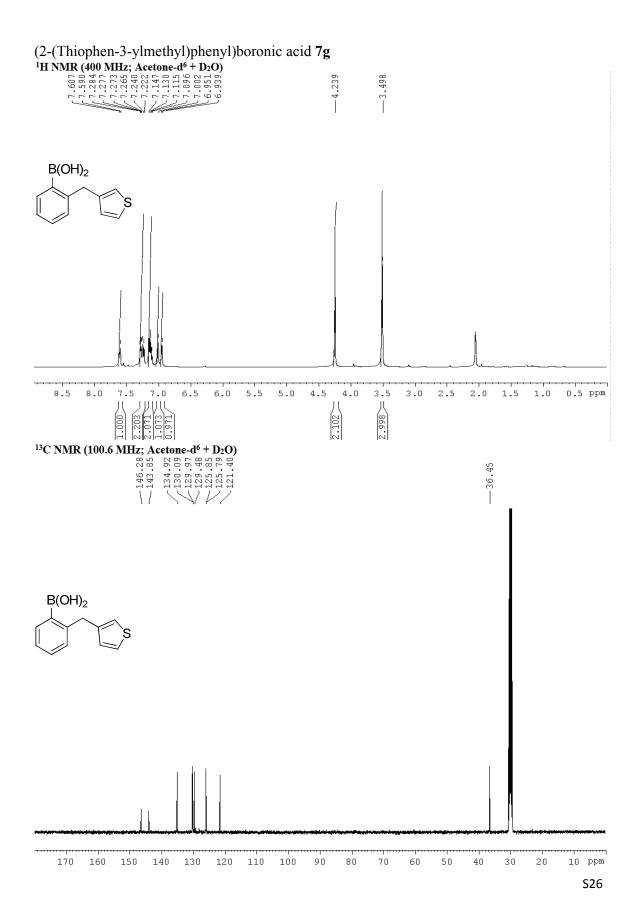


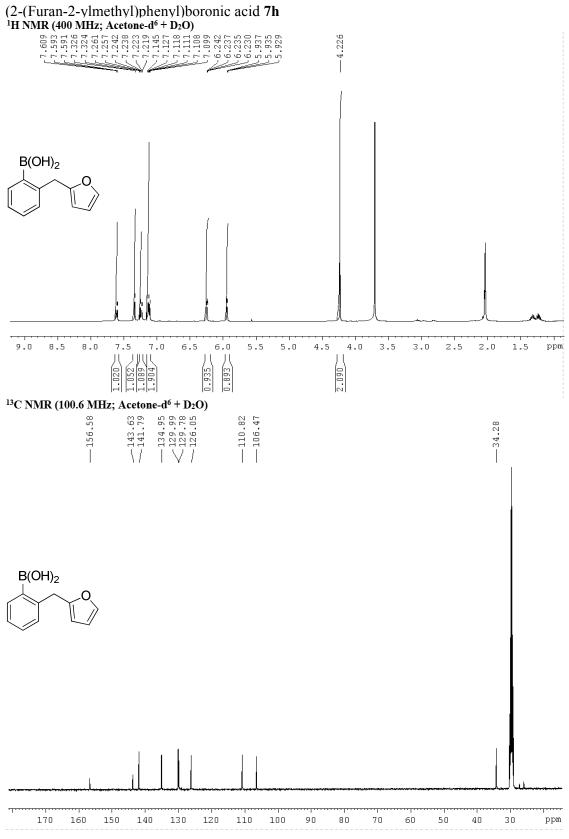


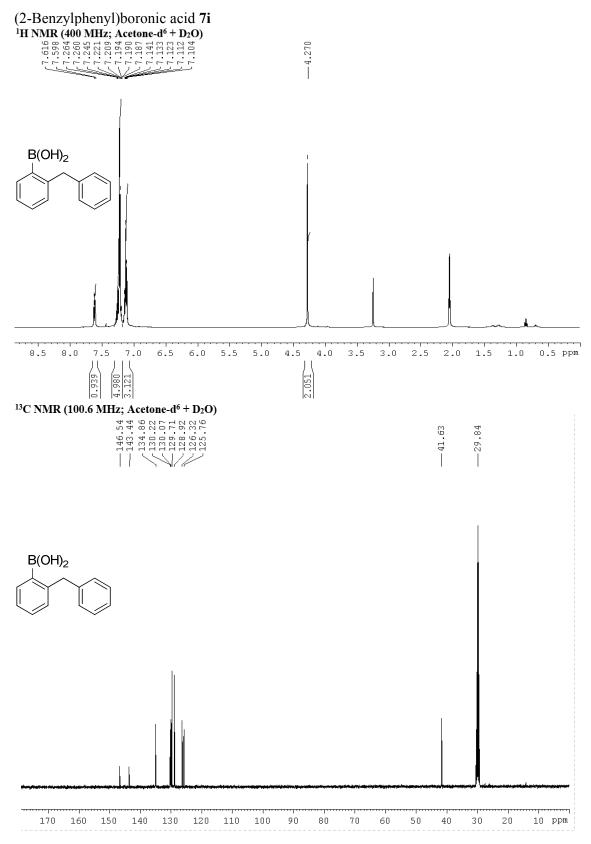


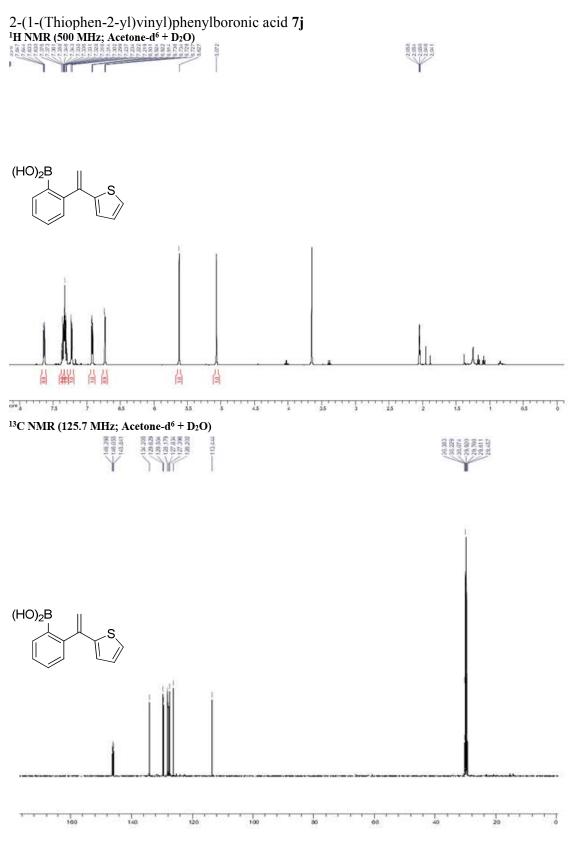


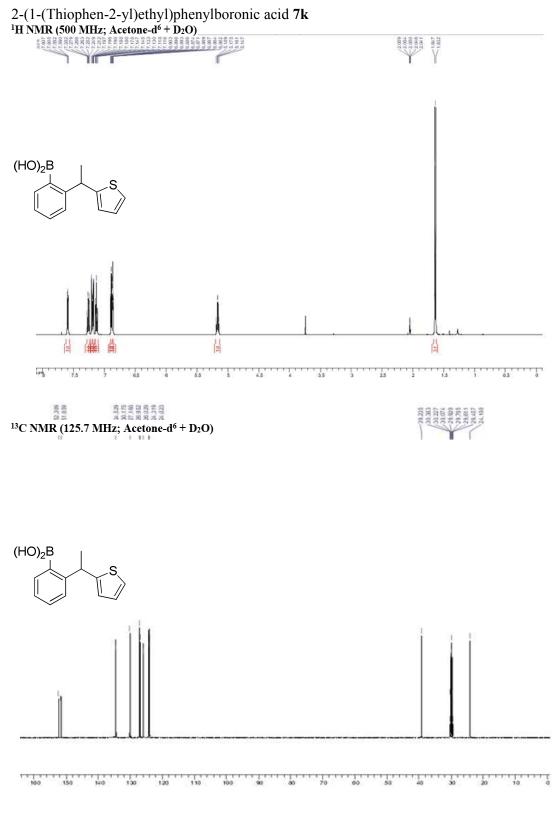


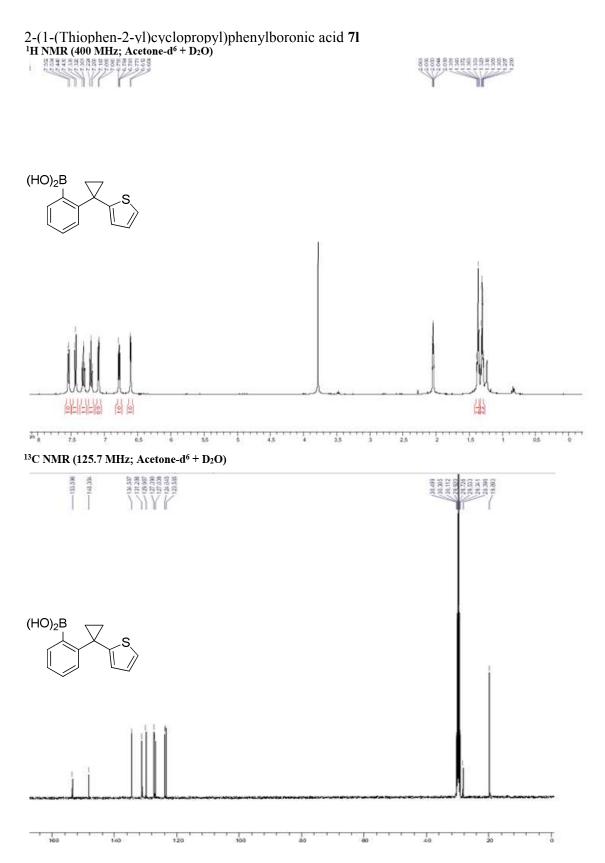




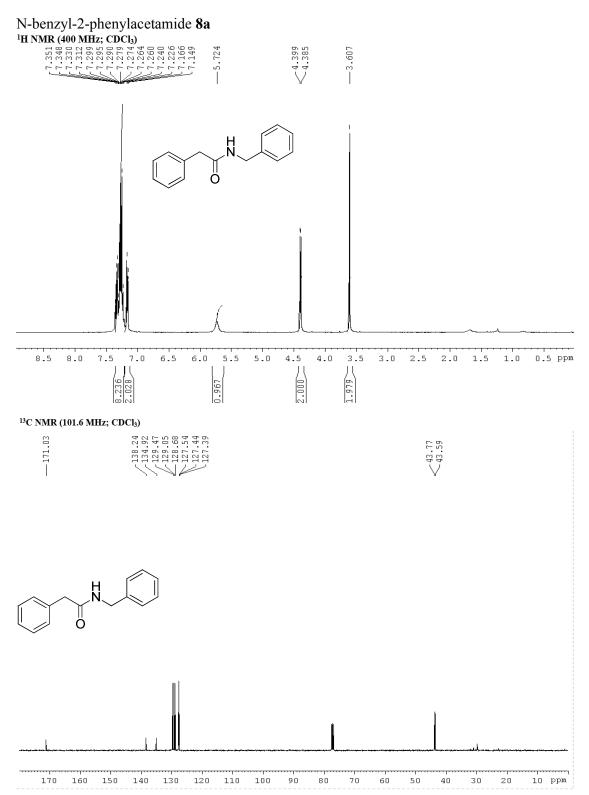


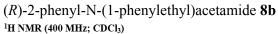


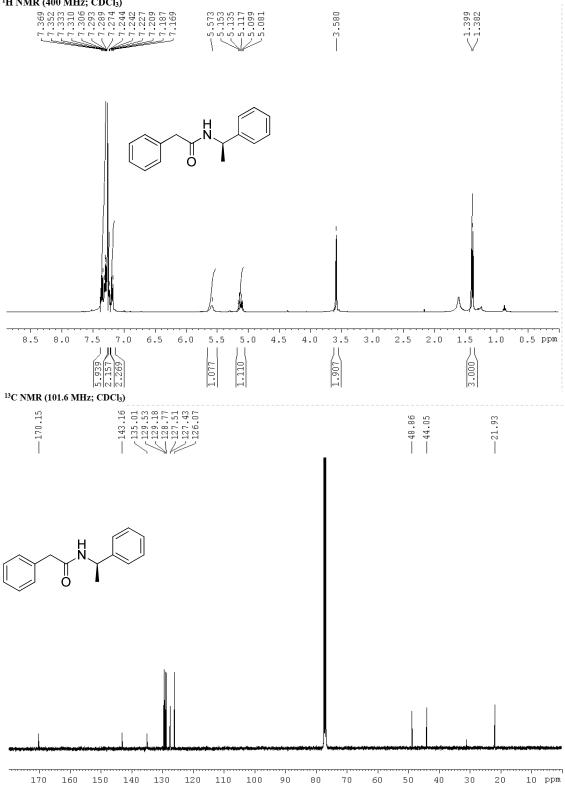


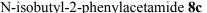


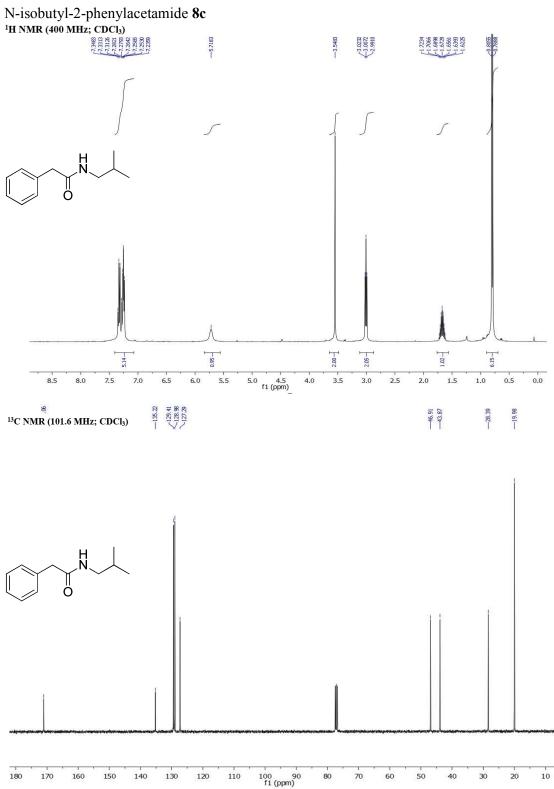
6. ¹H and ¹³C Spectra of Synthesized Amides

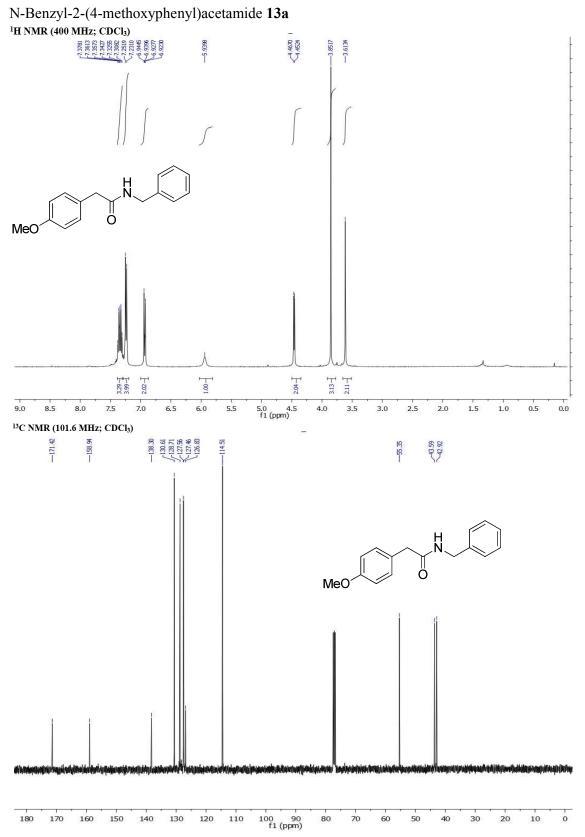


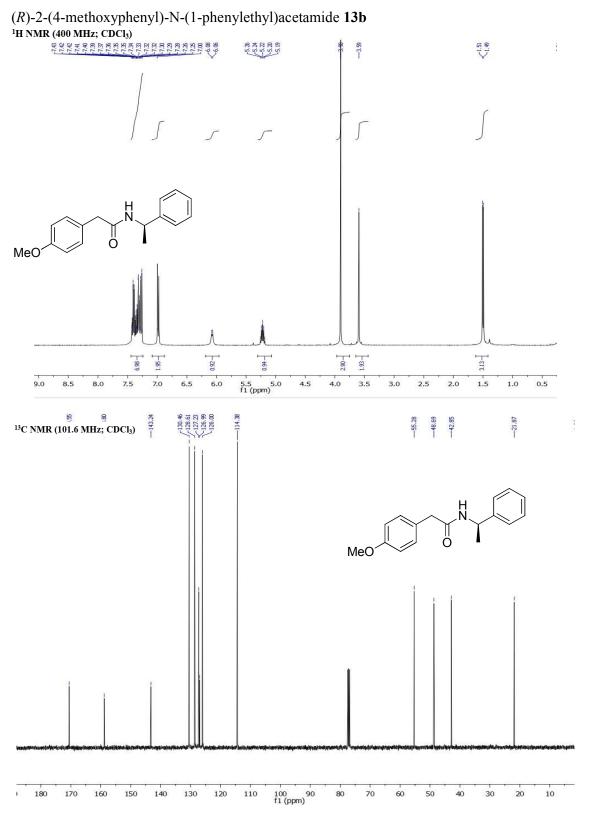


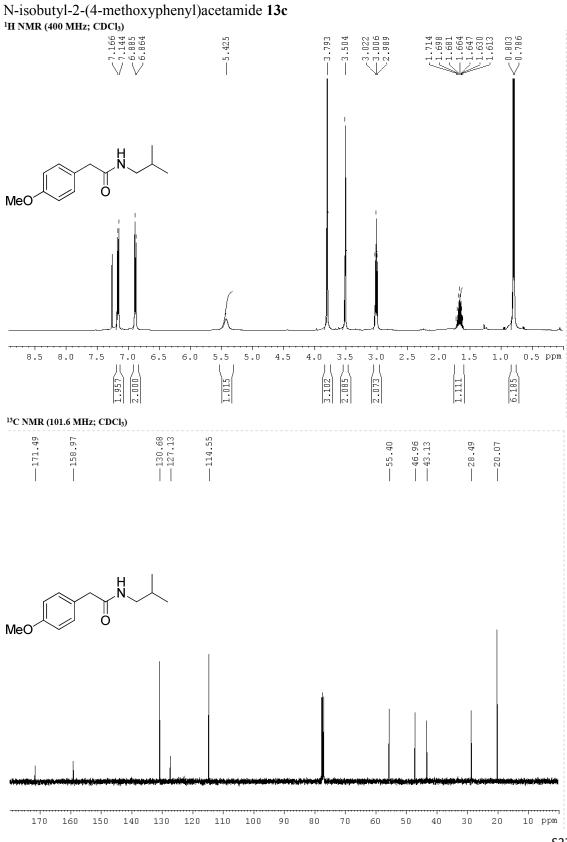


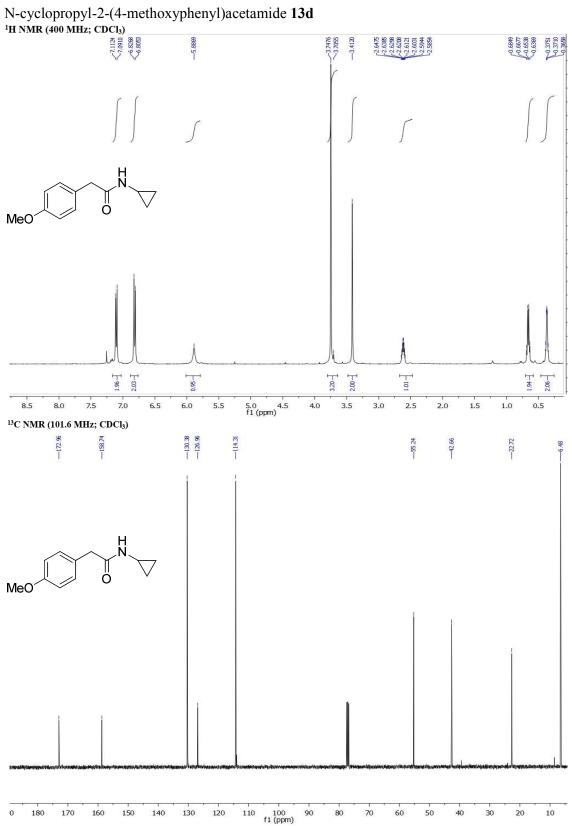






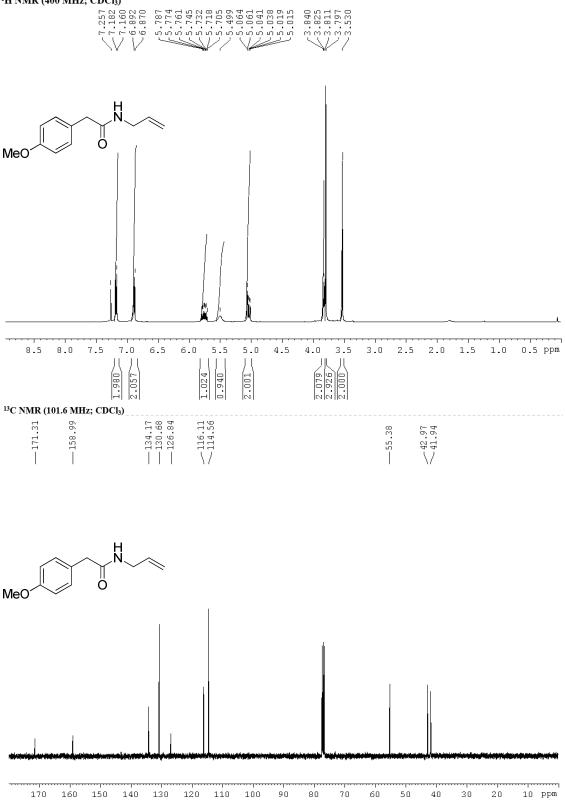


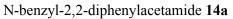


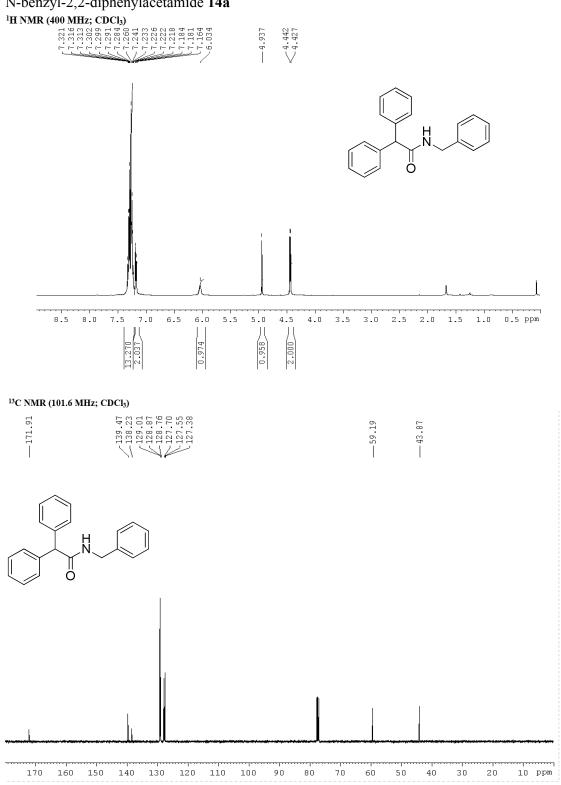


S38

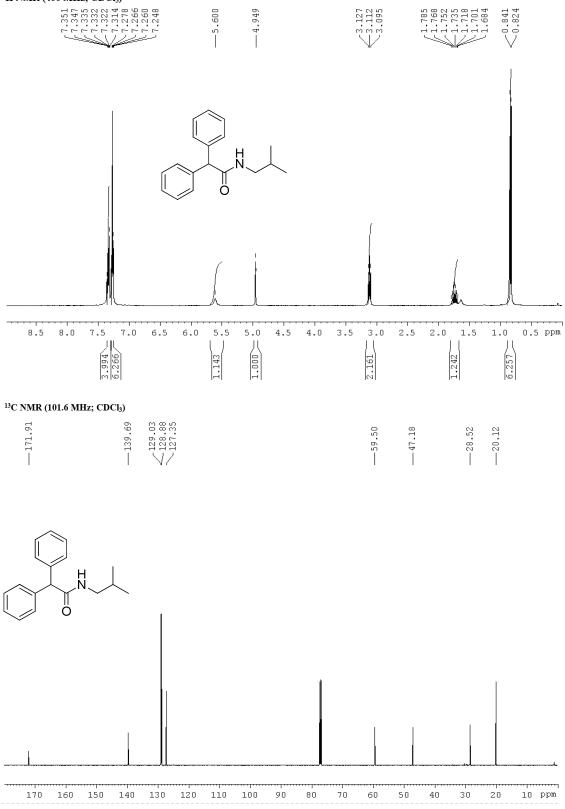
N-allyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetamide 13e ¹H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl₃)



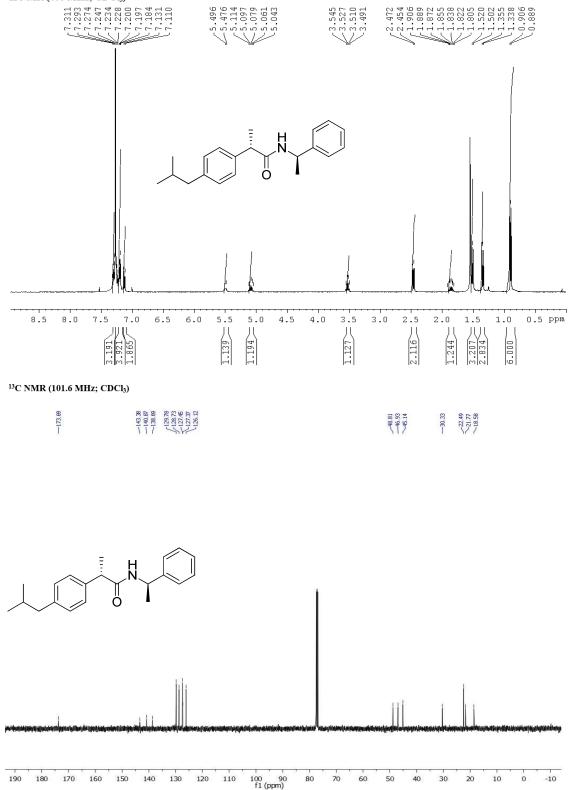


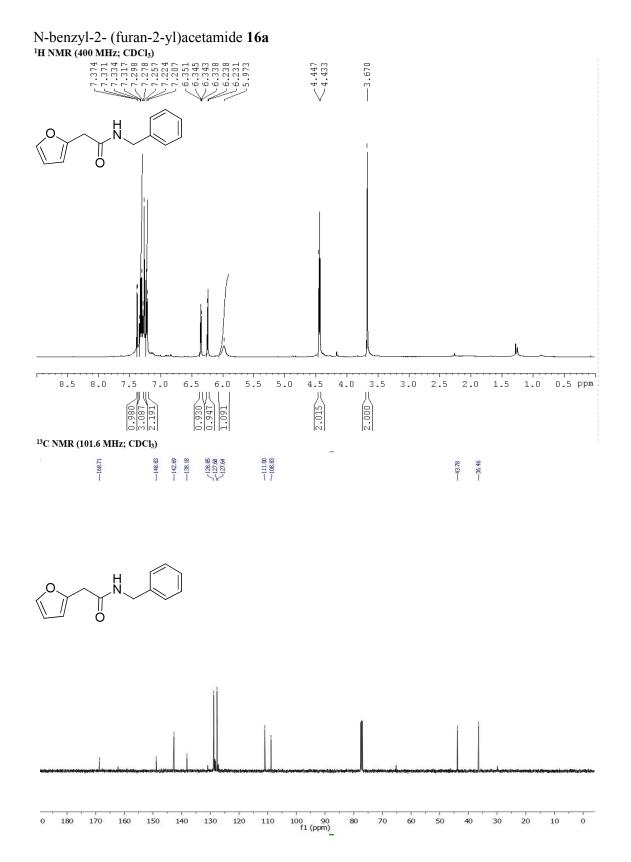


N-isobutyl-2,2-diphenylacetamide 14c ¹H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl₃)

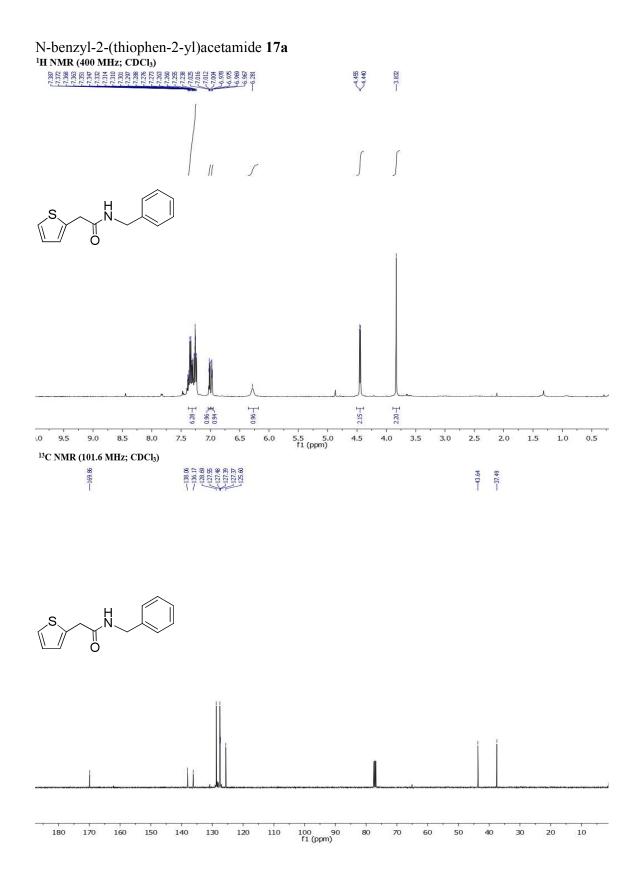


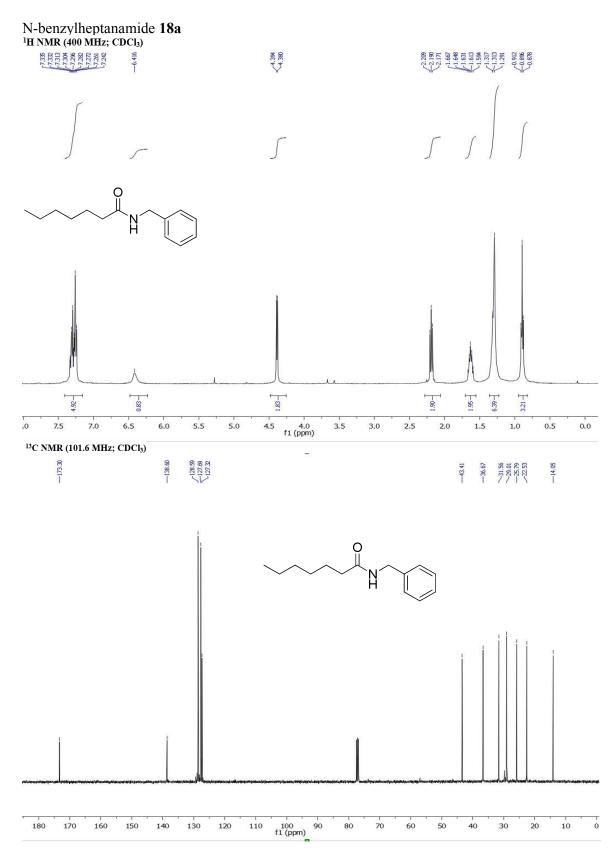
(*S*)-2-(4-isobutylphenyl)-N-((*R*)-1-phenylethyl)propanamide **15b** ¹H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl₃)

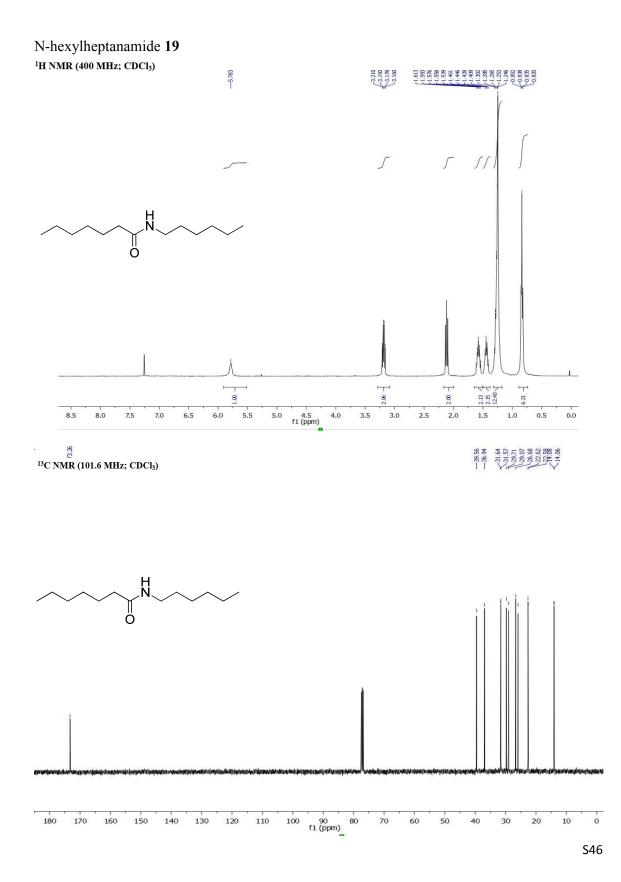


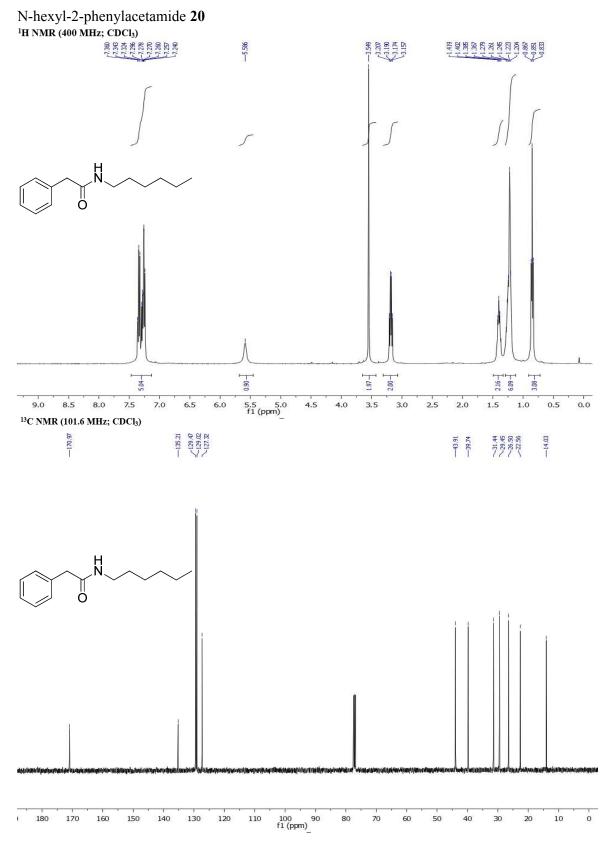




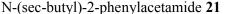


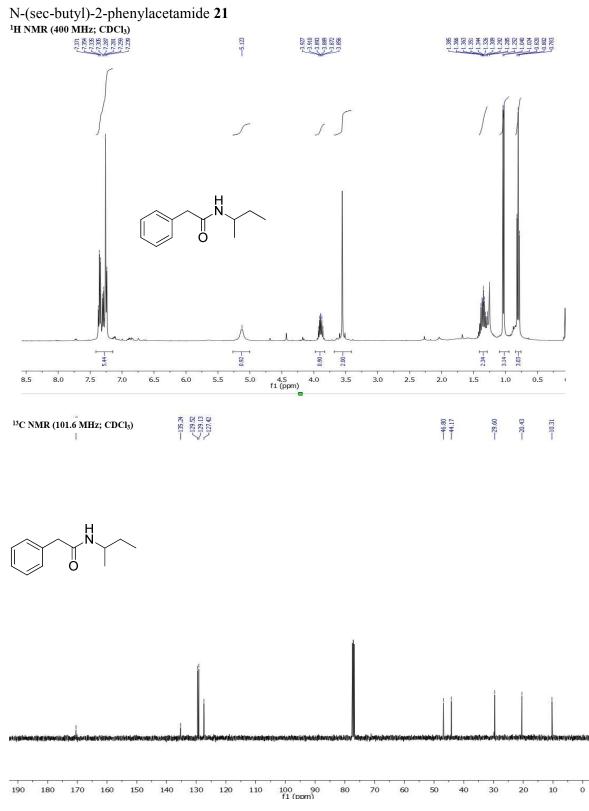




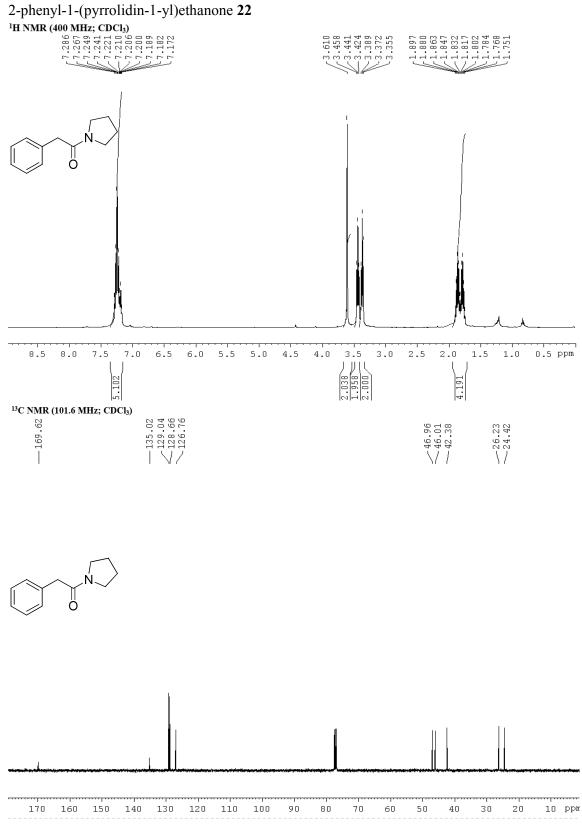


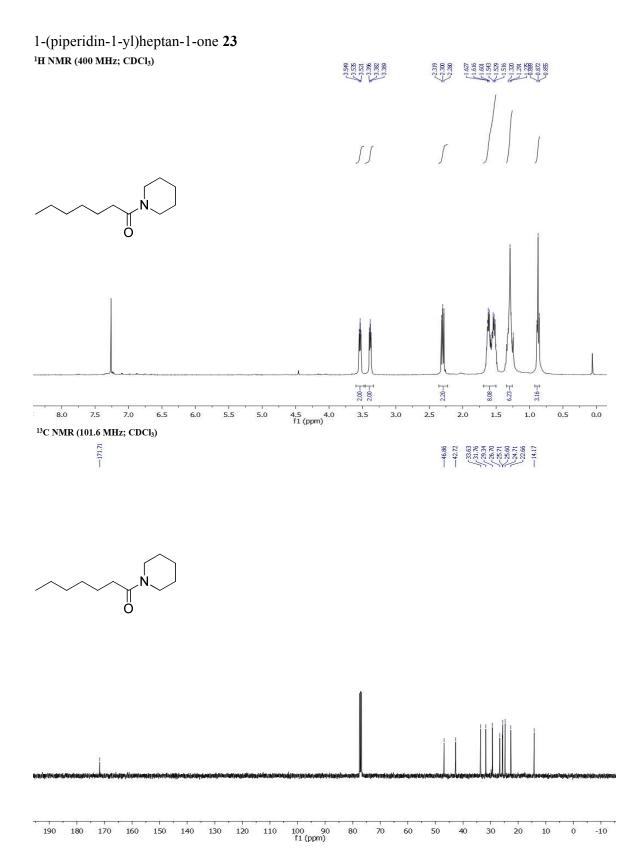
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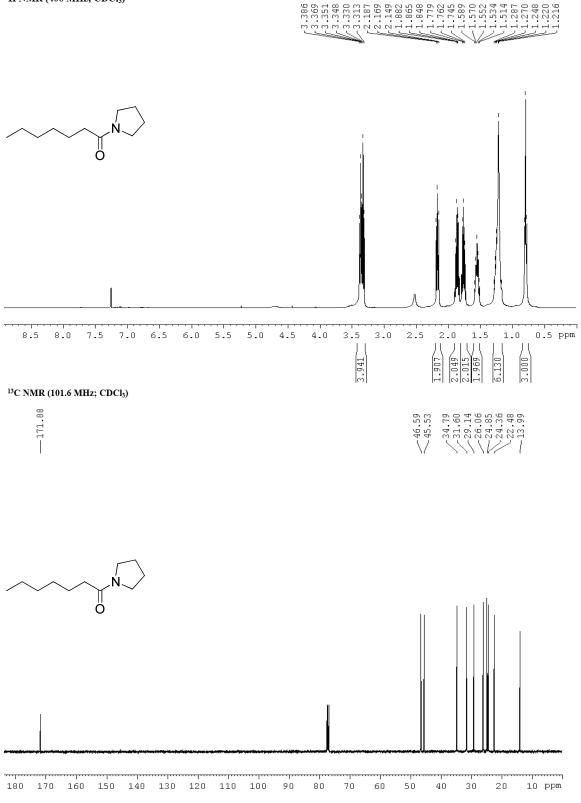


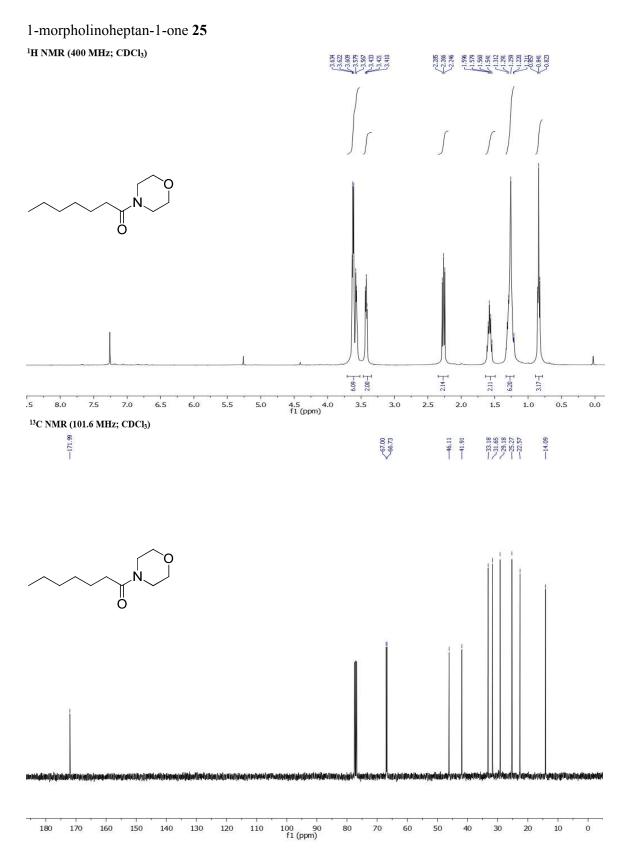
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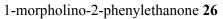


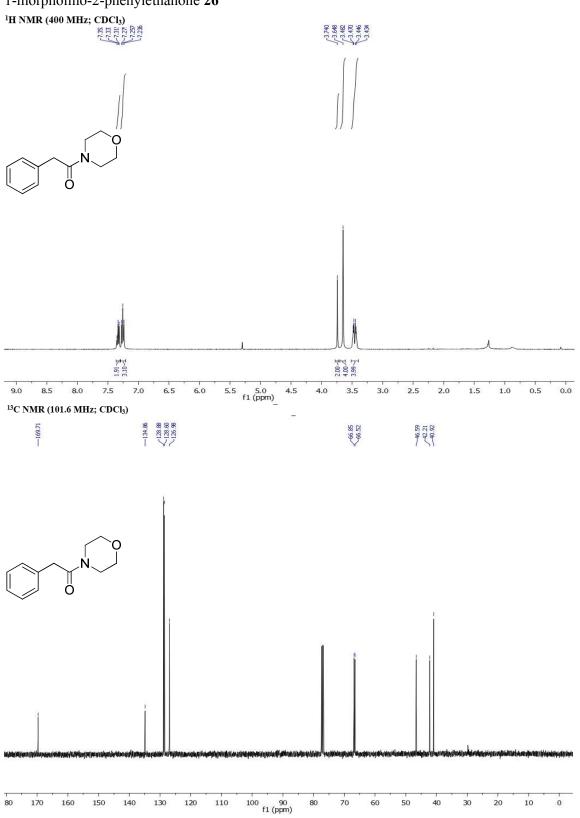


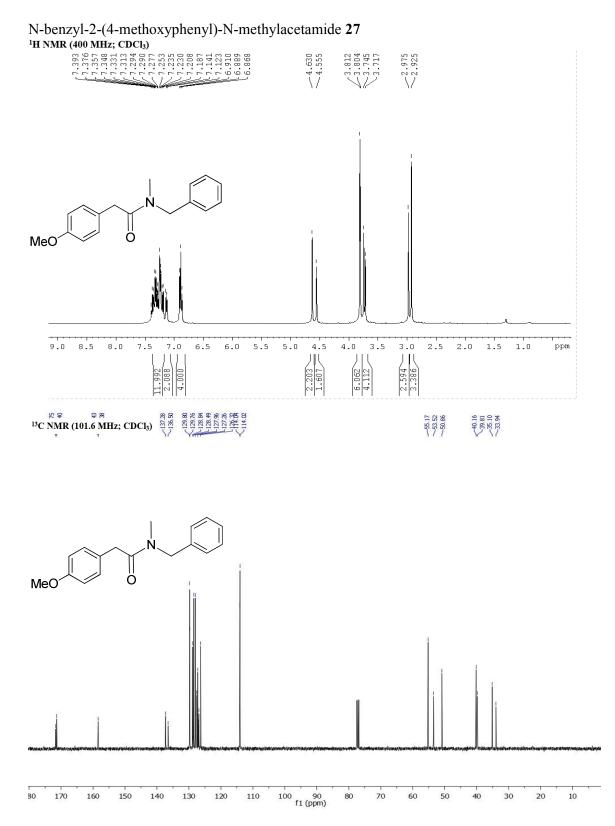
1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)heptan-1-one 24 ¹H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl₃)



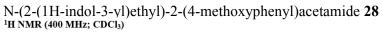


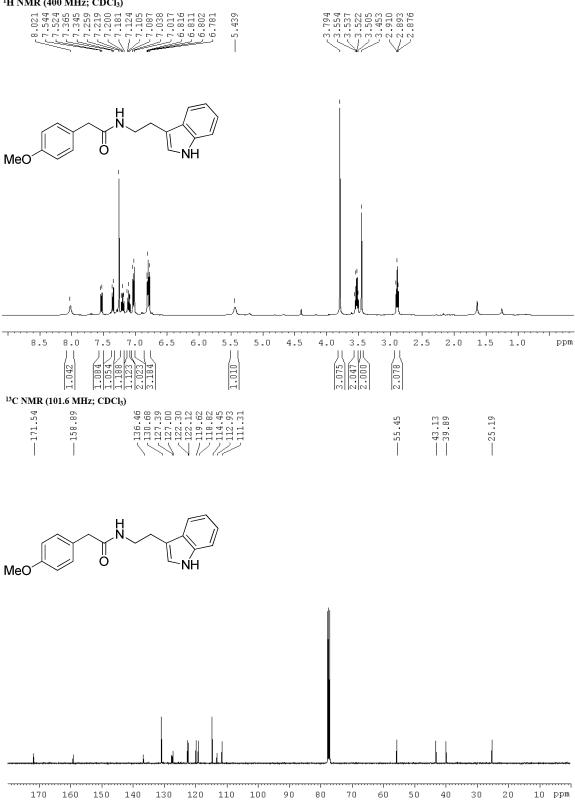






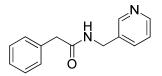


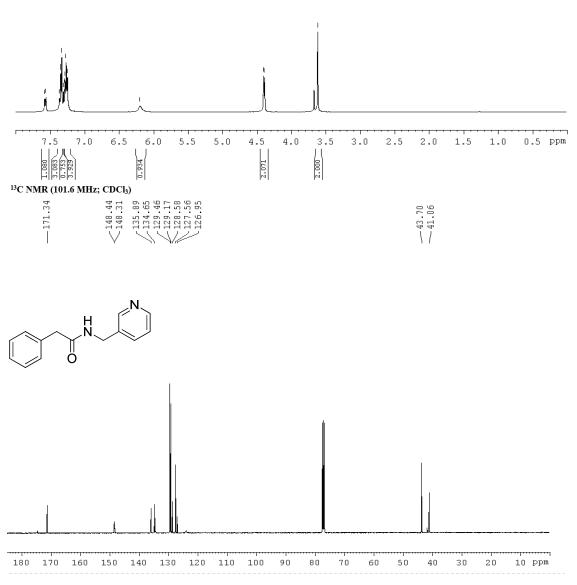




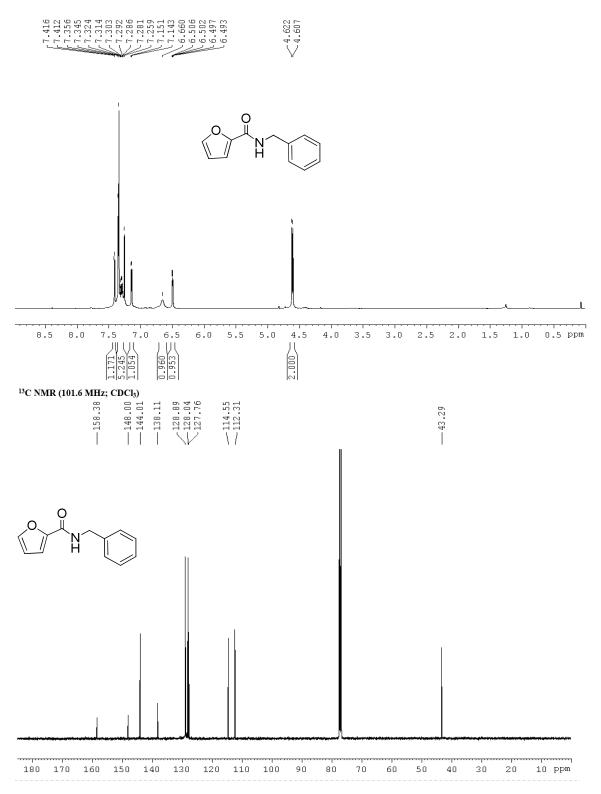
2-phenyl-N-((pyridin-3-yl)methyl)acetamide 29 ¹H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl₃)

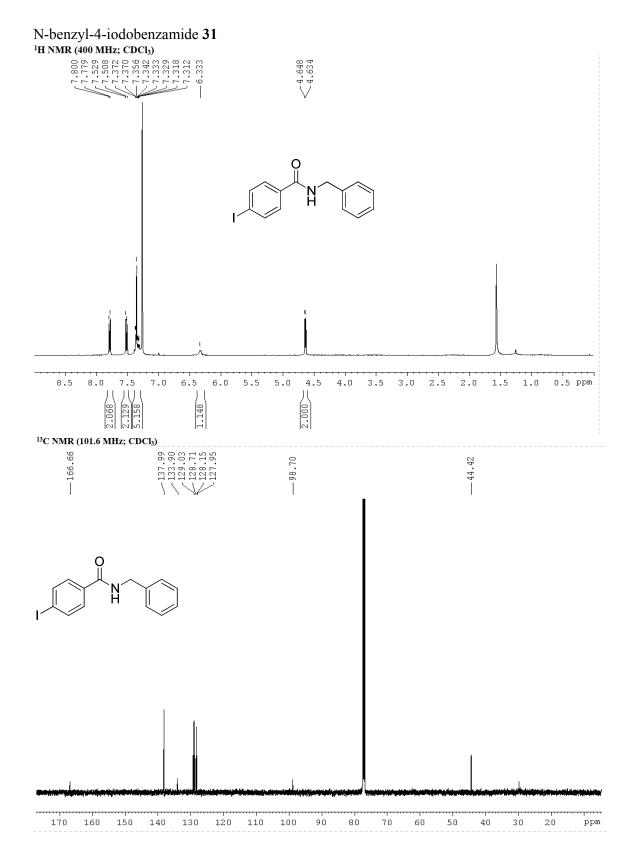






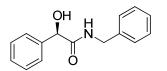
N-benzylfuran-2-carboxamide **30** ¹H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl₃)

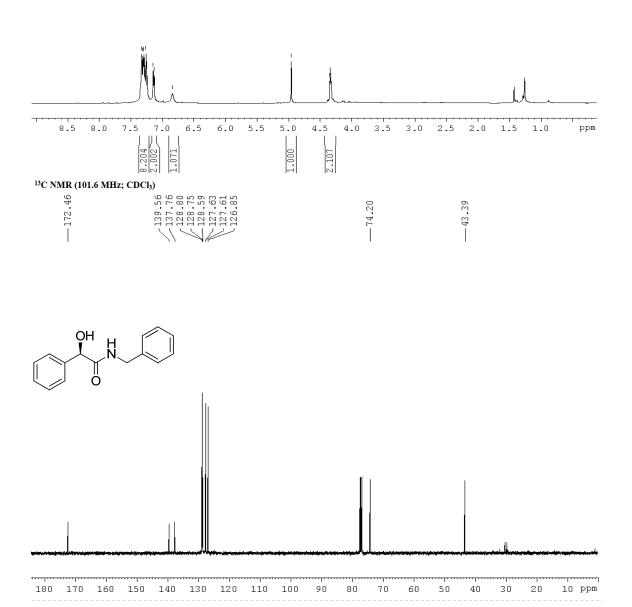




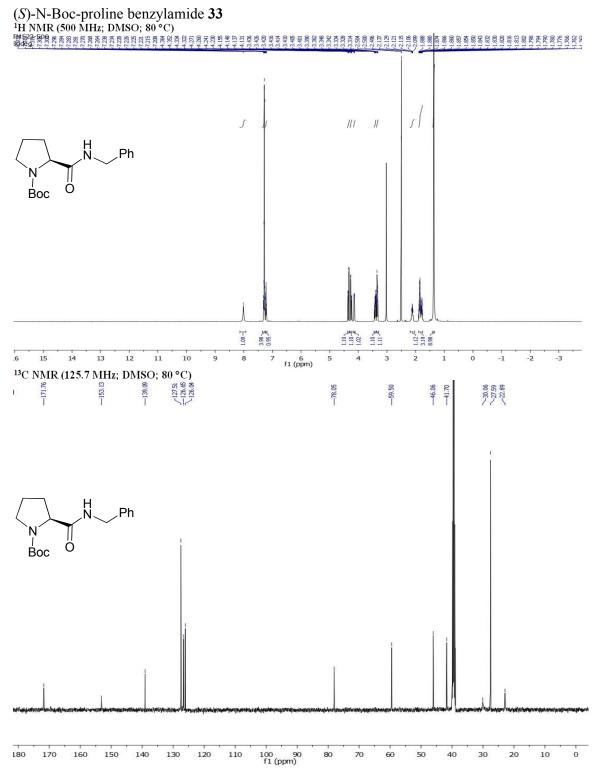
N-benzyl-2-hydroxy-2-phenylacetamide **32** ¹H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl₃)

(400 MHZ; CDCl ₃)		
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0 1 1 7 7 7 7 M M	6	
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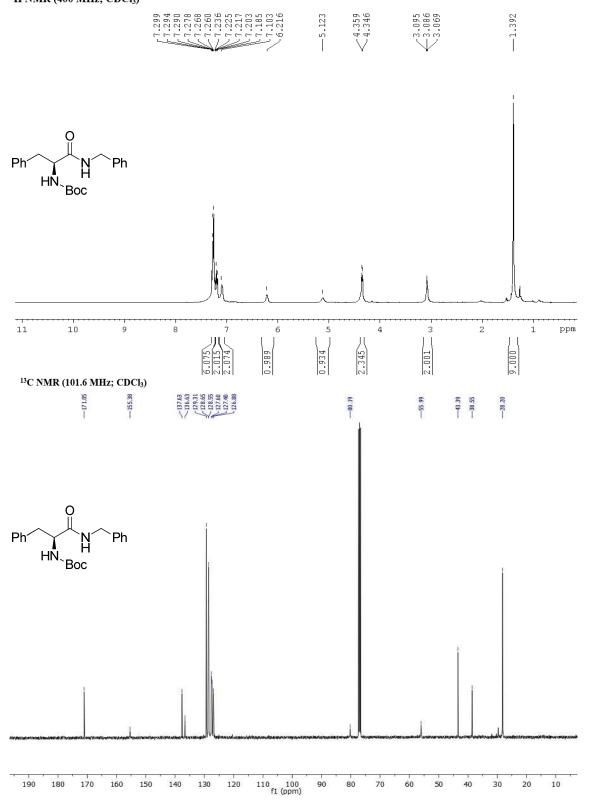




7. ¹H and ¹³C Spectra of Amides Synthesized from *N*-Protected and/or *C*-Protected Amino Acids.



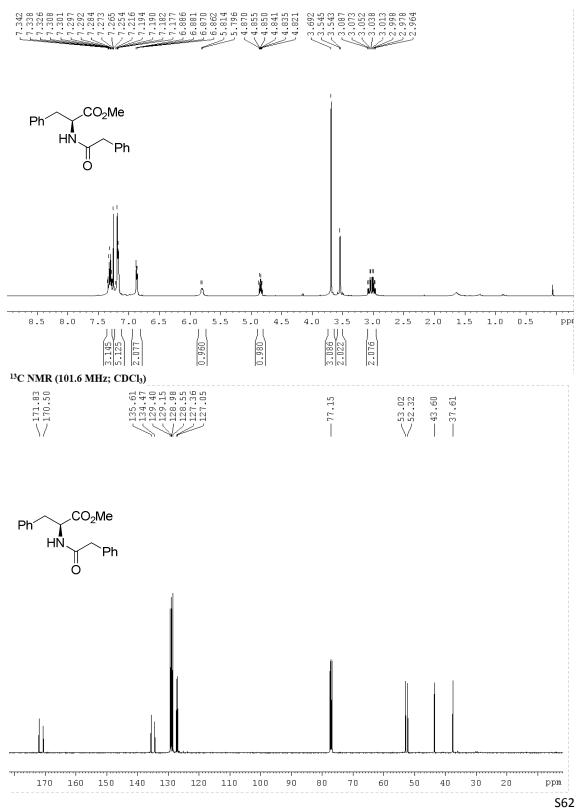
(S)-N-Boc-phenylalanine benzylamide **34** ¹H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl₃)

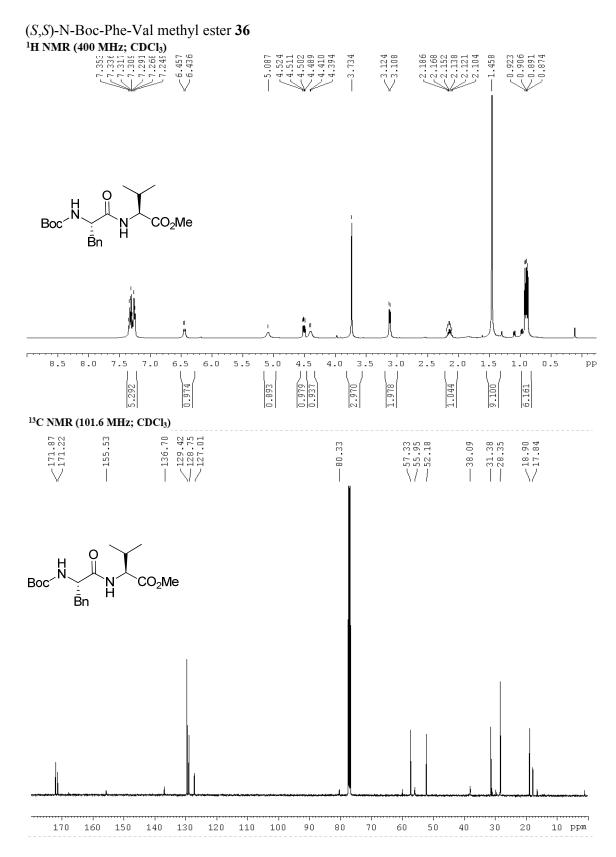


S61

(S)-N-Phenylacetyl-phenylalanine Methyl ester 35

¹H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl₃)





8. HPLC Spectra of Chiral Amides

(2*S*)-2-(4-isobutylphenyl)- ((*R*,*S*)-1-phenylethyl)propanamide

Reported by User. System

TM 561

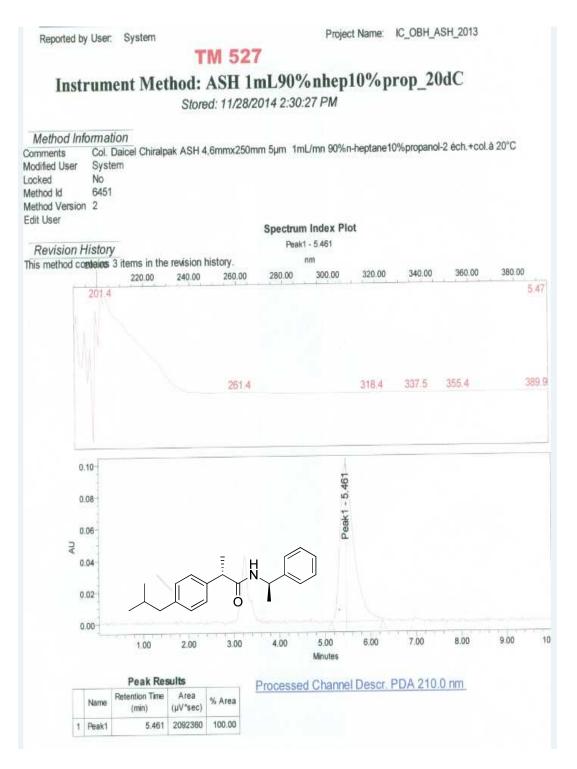
Instrument Method: ASH 1mL90%nhep10%prop_20dC

Project Name: IC_OBH_ASH_2013

Stored: 11/28/2014 2:30:27 PM

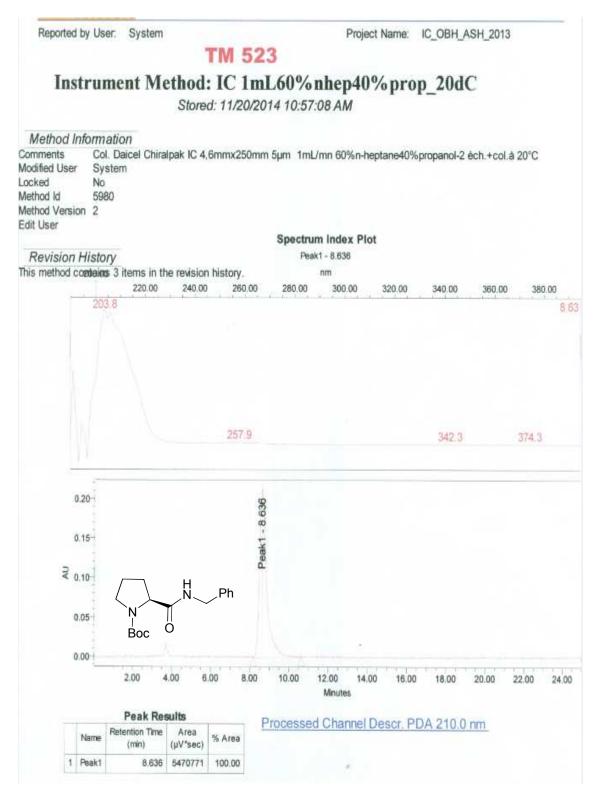
Method Info	oma	tion								
Comments			pak ASH	4,6mmx2	50mm 5µm 1m	nL/mn 90%	n-heptane10%p	ropanol-2 éch	+col.à 20°C	
Modified User	Sys	tem								
Locked Method Id	No 645									
Method Version		1								
Edit User	4									
Edit Dabi					Spectrun	n Index Pl	ot			
Revision H	istor	V	Peak1 - 5.4	148	Andread and a		Pe	ak2 - 6.853		
This method abon	dains	3 items in th	e revision	history.		200.00		nm		
		250.00	300.	00	350.00		250.00	300.00	350.00	
20	4.9				5.4	5 204.9				6.85
	1	263	8		375.5		263 8		31	71.9
0.5 0.4 ⊋ ^{0.3} 0.2	0					Peak1 - 5.448	Peak2 - 6.853			
0.1	0						eal			
G13						4	L.			
0.0	0									
		1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	5.00 Minutes	6.00 7.0	0 8.00	9.00	10.00
		Peak Re	sults							
N	lame	Retention Time (min)	Area (µV*sec)	% Area	Processed	Channel	Descr. PDA	210.0 nm		
1 P	eak1	5.448	10943027	81.85						
	eak2	6.853	6749951	38.15						
2 H	eakz	0.653	0/43301	30.10						

(S)-2-(4-isobutylphenyl)-N-((R)-1-phenylethyl)propanamide 15b



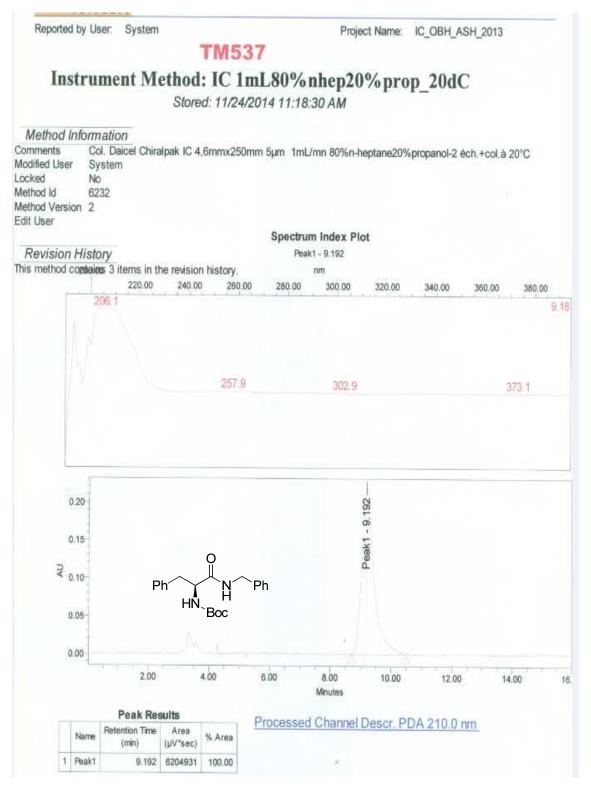
(*R*,*S*)-N-Boc-Proline Benzylamide

Reported by	y Use	: System				Projec	ct Name: IC	OBH_ASH_2	013	
11100000000000	0.0000		1	'M 5	36					
Inst	run	nent Me	thod:	IC 1	mL609	% nhep40 57:08 AM	%prop_	_20dC		
Method Inf	forma	tion								
Comments Addified User .ocked Aethod Id Aethod Version Edit User	Col. Syst No 5980	Daicel Chiral tem	pak IC 4,6	mmx250		1mL/mn 60%n-h		ppanol-2 éch.+	col.à 20°C	
					Spec	ctrum Index Plo				
Revision H			Peak1 - 8.7				F	eak2 - 16.351		
This method 200	ndains					200.00		nm	250.00	
	03.8	250.00	300.0	00	350.00	8.77 203.8	250.00	300.00	350.00	16.37
		257.9					259.1	297.0 3	130:3347.0	386.3
0.0 0.3 ₹ 0.3 0.1	30 20 10	N	H	Ph	Peakt - 8./01-		259.1 1923 - 1923 259.1	297.0 3	130.3347.0	386.3
.0 10 ≶ 1.0	30 20	N	HF NF	^{>} h	10.00	12.00 14.00 Minutes		A 1 4 4 4 4		386.3
0.3 2.0 ∑ 0.0	30 20 10		HF NF	^{>} h	10.00		10.00 10.00	20.00 22		386.3
0.3 1.0 ≶ 0.0	30	N Boc 2.00 4.0 Peak Re Retention Time	H F N 6.00 sults Area	⊃h 8.00	10.00	Minutes	10.00 10.00	20.00 22		

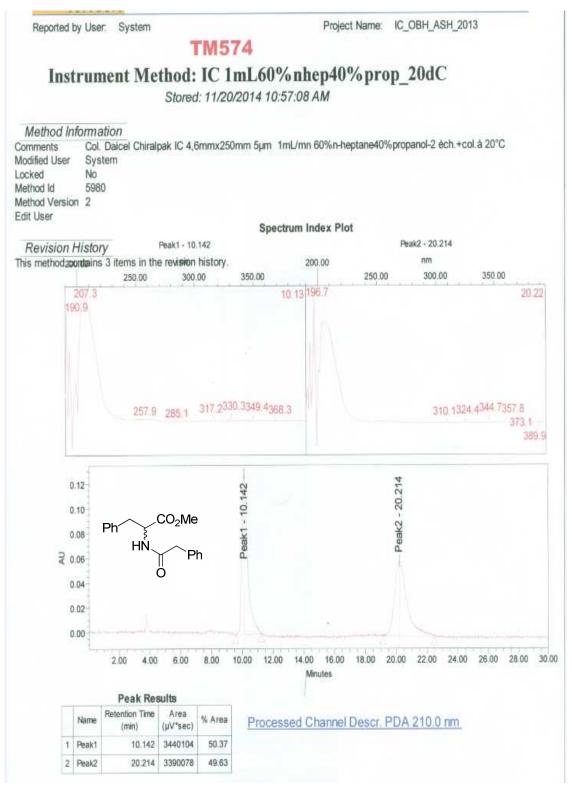


(*R*,*S*)-N-Boc-Phenylalanine Benzylamide

Reported I	by User	: System	т	M58	30	Project I	Name:	IC_OBH_AS	SH_2013		
Inst	trun	ent Me	thod:	IC 1		nhep20% 30 AM	6 pro	p_20dC	2		
Method In	forma	tion									
Comments Aodified User Jocked Method Id Method Versio	Col. Syst No 6232	Daicel Chiral	pak IC 4,6r	mmx250i	mm 5µm 1mL	/mn 80%n-hepl	tane20%	6propanol-2 é	ch.+col.á	à 20°C	
Edit User	en de la compo				Creater	m Index Blot					
0	11-1		Peak1 - 5.9	AR	Spectru	m Index Plot		Peak2 - 9.6	74		
Revision	HISTOR ontains	y 3 items in the				200.00		nm			
The meansage	A CONTRACTOR OF CONTRACTOR	250.00	300.0		350.00		250.00	300.0	0	350.00	
		259.1				M	257	. 9			
	0.60	259.1	Peak1 - 5.948	574			257	9			
N N N N).40-).20-	259.1	L	Peak2 - 9.674		Ph					
N N N N	0.40	5.00	Peak1 - 5.948	Peak2 - 9.674	15.00) N∕─Ph H	30.00	0	35.0
N N N N	0.40	5.00 Peak Re Retention Time	beak - 0.0408 - 0.0408	A		20.00	HN E	N Ph H Boc 25.00	30.00	0	35.0
0 M	0.40 0.20 0.00 0.00	5.00 Peak Re	Peak1 - 5.948	10.00		20.00 Minutes	HN E	N Ph H Boc 25.00	30.00	0	35.0



(R,S)-N-Phenylacetyl-phenylalanine Methyl ester



(S)-N-Phenylacetyl-phenylalanine Methyl ester 35

