

Supporting Information

Access to Indenones by Rhodium(III)-Catalyzed C-H Annulation of Arylnitrones with Internal Alkynes

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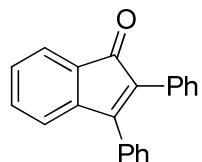
I. General

All chemicals were obtained from commercial sources and were used as received unless otherwise noted. All reactions were carried out using Schlenk techniques or in an argon-filled glovebox. NMR Spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 MHz or 500 MHz NMR spectrometer in the solvents indicated. The chemical shift is given in dimensionless δ values and is frequency referenced relative to TMS in ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectroscopy. HRMS data were obtained on a Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap Discovery (Bremen, Germany). Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (300-400 mesh) using 1,2-dichloroethane (DCE)/petroleum ether (PE).

N-tert-butyl- α -phenylnitrone (PBN), phenylethynyltrimethylsilane, ethyl phenylpropiolate and diphenylacetylene were obtained from commercial sources. Other *N-tert-butyl- α -arylnitrones*¹ and diarylacetylenes² were prepared according to literature reports and the NMR data agree with those in the literature reports.

II. General procedures for the synthesis of indenones

N-tert-butyl- α -arylnitrones (0.36 mmol), diarylacetylenes (0.25 mmol), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{MeCN})_3](\text{SbF}_6)_2$ (6 mol%), PivOH (1.0 equiv) and DCE (2 mL) were charged into the sealed tube. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 15 h. After cooled to room temperature, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using DCE/PE to afford compounds **3**.

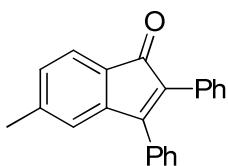


2,3-Diphenyl-1*H*-inden-1-one (**3aa**)

3aa was obtained according to the general procedure in 70% yield.

^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.58 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.34 (m, 6H), 7.30 – 7.23 (m, 6H), 7.14 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.7, 155.5, 145.4, 133.6, 132.9, 132.6, 130.9, 130.1, 129.4, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 128.2, 127.9, 123.1, 121.4. One carbon is not visible due to overlapping peaks. The NMR data

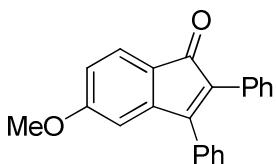
agree with those in a literature report.³



2,3-Diphenyl-5-methyl-1*H*-inden-1-one (3ba**)**

3ba was obtained according to the general procedure in 63% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 7.28 – 7.20 (m, 5H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.3, 155.1, 145.9, 144.6, 133.0, 132.9, 131.0, 130.1, 129.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 128.5, 128.2, 127.8, 123.2, 122.7, 22.2. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³

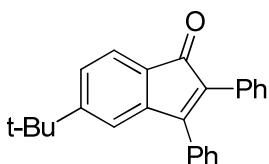


2,3-Diphenyl-5-methoxy-1*H*-inden-1-one (3ca**)**

3ca was obtained according to the general procedure in 49% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.33 (m, 5H), 7.29 – 7.19 (m, 5H), 6.70 – 6.63 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.3, 164.6, 153.3, 148.1, 134.0, 132.8, 131.0, 130.2, 129.3, 129.0, 128.7, 128.2, 127.9, 125.1, 123.6, 110.6, 110.5, 55.9. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.

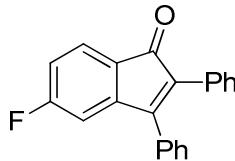
³



5-(*tert*-Butyl)-2,3-diphenyl-1*H*-inden-1-one (3da**)**

3da was obtained according to the general procedure in 70% yield.

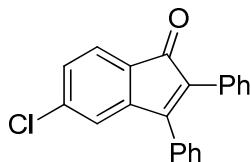
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.39 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.29 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 5H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 1.30 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.4, 157.8, 155.4, 145.5, 133.1, 133.0, 131.1, 130.14, 129.4, 129.0, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.8, 125.4, 123.1, 119.2, 35.7, 31.3. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³



2,3-Diphenyl-5-fluoro-1*H*-inden-1-one (3ea**)**

3ea was obtained according to the general procedure in 73% yield.

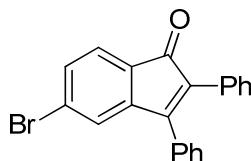
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.22 (m, 5H), 6.91 (ddd, *J* = 9.0, 8.0, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 194.9, 166.6 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 252.6 Hz), 153.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 2.3 Hz), 148.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 9.3 Hz), 133.9, 132.4, 130.6, 130.1, 129.7, 129.1, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 126.7, 124.9 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 9.7 Hz), 114.6 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 22.9 Hz), 110.3 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 25.7 Hz). The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³



5-Chloro-2,3-diphenyl-1*H*-inden-1-one (3fa**)**

3fa was obtained according to the general procedure in 83% yield.

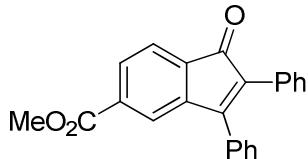
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.27 – 7.22 (m, 6H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.1, 154.2, 147.4, 139.9, 133.7, 132.3, 130.5, 130.1, 129.7, 129.2, 129.0, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 124.0, 122.1. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³



5-Bromo-2,3-diphenyl-1*H*-inden-1-one (3ga**)**

3ga was obtained according to the general procedure in 85% yield.

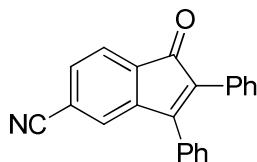
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.46 – 7.40 (m, 5H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.25 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.4, 154.3, 147.4, 133.5, 132.3, 131.8, 130.4, 130.1, 129.7, 129.5, 129.2, 128.5, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 124.8, 124.2. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³



Methyl 1-oxo-2,3-diphenyl-1*H*-indene-5-carboxylate (3ha**)**

3ha was obtained according to the general procedure in 79% yield.

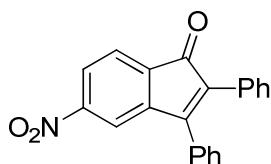
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.41 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.28 – 7.24 (m, 5H), 3.90 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.7, 166.3, 155.4, 145.5, 134.8, 134.4, 133.4, 132.3, 131.4, 130.43, 130.1, 129.8, 129.1, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 122.7, 121.7, 52.6. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³



5-Cyano-2,3-diphenyl-1*H*-inden-1-one (3ia**)**

3ia was obtained according to the general procedure in 51% yield.

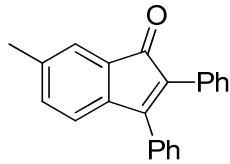
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.68 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.40 – 7.34 (m, 3H), 7.30 – 7.24 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 194.7, 154.6, 146.2, 134.1, 134.0, 133.9, 131.8, 130.2, 130.1, 129.9, 129.3, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 123.8, 123.1, 118.3, 116.8. HRMS: [M + H]⁺ calculated for C₂₂H₁₄NO: 308.10699, found 308.10663. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.⁴



2,3-Diphenyl-5-nitro-1*H*-inden-1-one (3ja**)**

3ja was obtained according to the general procedure in 68% yield.

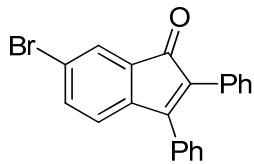
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.22 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 7.43 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 5H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 194.3, 154.3, 151.6, 147.0, 135.3, 134.6, 131.7, 130.3, 130.1, 129.9, 129.4, 128.7, 128.5, 128.5, 125.4, 123.2, 115.9. HRMS: [M + H]⁺ calculated for C₂₁H₁₄NO₃: 328.09682, found 328.09689. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.⁵



6-Methyl-2,3-diphenyl-1*H*-inden-1-one **3ka**

3ka was obtained according to the general procedure in 66% yield.

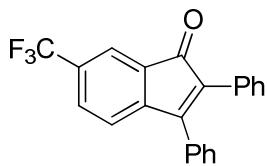
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43 – 7.33 (m, 6H), 7.27 – 7.20 (m, 5H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.9, 155.8, 142.6, 139.4, 133.5, 133.1, 132.0, 131.3, 131.1, 130.1, 129.4, 128.9, 128.7, 128.2, 127.7, 124.2, 121.3, 21.5. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³



6-Bromo-2,3-diphenyl-1*H*-inden-1-one **3la**

3la was obtained according to the general procedure in 73% yield.

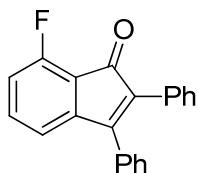
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.24 (s, 5H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.2, 155.3, 143.9, 135.8, 132.6, 132.5, 132.4, 130.5, 130.1, 129.7, 129.1, 128.6, 128.3, 128.1, 126.4, 123.0, 122.7. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³



2,3-Diphenyl-6-trifluoromethyl-1*H*-inden-1-one **3ma**

3ma was obtained according to the general procedure in 68% yield.

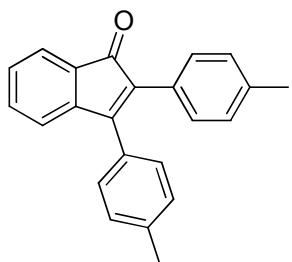
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.39 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 194.9, 154.5, 148.7, 134.4, 132.2, 131.4, 131.3 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 32.7 Hz), 130.9 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 3.9 Hz), 130.21, 130.15, 129.9, 129.2, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 123.9 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 270.5 Hz), 121.3, 119.9 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 3.5 Hz). HRMS: [M + H]⁺ calculated for C₂₁H₁₄F₃O: 351.09913, found 351.09879.



2,3-Diphenyl-7-fluoro-1*H*-inden-1-one **3na**

3na was obtained according to the general procedure in 52% yield.

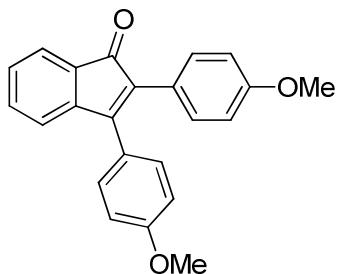
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 3H), 7.24 (s, 5H), 6.93 (dd, *J* = 11.6, 5.1 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.73, 158.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 262.3 Hz), 154.6 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 4.5 Hz), 147.5, 136.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 8.2 Hz), 133.1, 132.6, 130.4, 130.2, 129.6, 129.0, 128.7, 128.2, 128.1, 118.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 21.4 Hz), 117.9 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 1.7 Hz), 115.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 12.4 Hz). HRMS: [M + H]⁺ calculated for C₂₁H₁₄FO: 301.10232, found 301.10263.



2,3-Di-*p*-tolyl-1*H*-inden-1-one **3ab**

3ab was obtained according to the general procedure in 61% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.12 (m, 5H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.0, 155.0, 145.6, 139.5, 137.7, 133.5, 132.2, 131.1, 130.1, 130.0, 129.6, 129.0, 128.9, 128.7, 128.1, 123.0, 121.3, 21.7, 21.5. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³

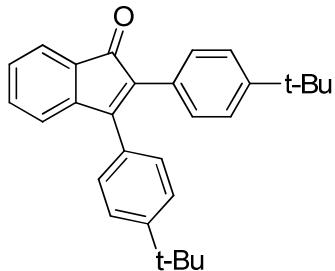


2,3-Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-1*H*-inden-1-one **3ac**

3ac was obtained according to the general procedure in 42% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 3H), 7.28 –

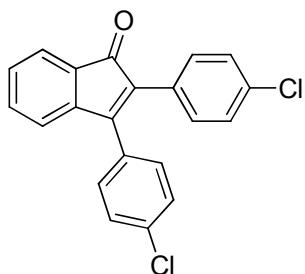
7.21 (m, 3H), 7.15 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.1, 160.5, 159.2, 154.0, 145.6, 133.4, 131.43, 131.38, 131.2, 130.3, 128.8, 125.3, 123.6, 122.9, 121.1, 114.4, 113.8, 55.5, 55.3. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³



2,3-Bis(4-*tert*-butylphenyl)-1*H*-inden-1-one **3ad**

3ad was obtained according to the general procedure in 47% yield.

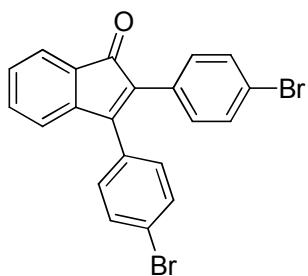
^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.56 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 3H), 7.30 – 7.21 (m, 5H), 7.16 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 1.36 (s, 9H), 1.30 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.2, 154.9, 152.6, 150.7, 145.8, 133.5, 132.0, 131.1, 130.1, 129.8, 128.8, 128.5, 128.1, 125.8, 125.2, 122.9, 121.5, 35.1, 34.8, 31.5. HRMS: $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{31}\text{O}$: 395.23694, found 395.23696.



2,3-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-inden-1-one **3ae**

3ae was obtained according to the general procedure in 79% yield.

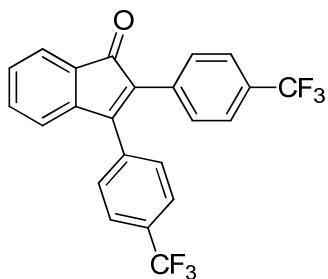
^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.57 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.10 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 195.9, 154.4, 144.8, 135.7, 134.2, 133.8, 131.7, 131.4, 131.0, 130.6, 130.0, 129.5, 129.0, 128.7, 123.4, 121.3. One carbon is not visible due to overlapping peaks. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³



2,3-Bis(4-bromophenyl)-1*H*-inden-1-one **3af**

3af was obtained according to the general procedure in 65% yield.

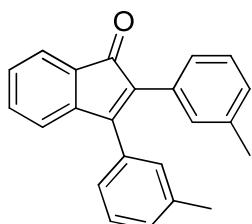
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60 – 7.53 (m, 3H), 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.14 – 7.08 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.8, 154.5, 144.69, 133.83, 132.46, 131.64, 131.61, 131.43, 130.59, 130.20, 129.52, 129.45, 123.97, 123.45, 122.53, 121.34. One carbon is not visible due to overlapping peaks. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³



2,3-Bis(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-1*H*-inden-1-one **3ag**

3ag was obtained according to the general procedure in 74% yield.

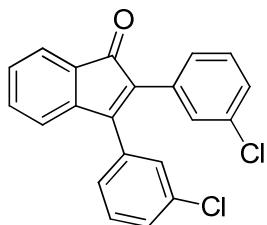
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.65 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.56 – 7.48 (m, 4H), 7.42 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.14 – 7.09 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.5, 155.2, 144.5, 136.1, 134.1, 134.0, 132.1, 131.7 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 32.6 Hz), 130.41, 130.36 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 11.4 Hz), 130.0, 129.7, 129.0, 126.3 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 125.4 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 124.2 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 270.5 Hz), 124.9 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 270.8 Hz), 123.8, 121.6. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³



2,3-Bis(3-methylphenyl)-1*H*-inden-1-one **3ah**

3ah was obtained according to the general procedure in 73% yield.

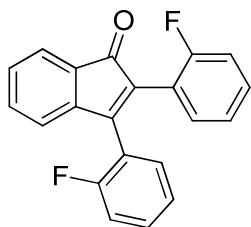
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56 (ddd, *J* = 7.1, 1.1, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.16 – 7.10 (m, 4H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.9, 155.6, 145.6, 138.5, 137.7, 133.5, 132.9, 132.5, 131.0, 130.9, 130.8, 130.2, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.0, 127.2, 125.8, 123.0, 121.4, 21.64, 21.63. One carbon is not visible due to overlapping peaks. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³



2,3-Bis(3-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-inden-1-one **3ai**

3ai was obtained according to the general procedure in 82% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.28 (m, 6H), 7.26 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 7.13 – 7.05 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.6, 154.7, 144.6, 135.1, 134.3, 133.9, 132.2, 131.7, 130.5, 130.5, 130.0, 129.9, 129.7, 129.6, 128.3, 128.2, 126.9, 123.5, 121.5. Two carbon are not visible due to overlapping peaks. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.³

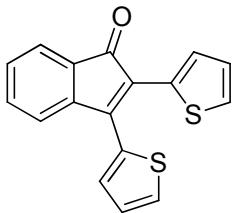


2,3-Bis(2-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-inden-1-one **3aj**

3aj was obtained according to the general procedure in 77% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.21 (m, 4H), 7.17 – 7.04 (m, 4H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.1, 160.3 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 248.3 Hz), 159.6 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 249.4 Hz), 153.0, 144.7, 133.9, 131.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.3 Hz), 131.5 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 8.1 Hz), 130.7, 130.5, 130.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 8.1 Hz), 129.9 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.1 Hz), 129.4, 124.5 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.5 Hz), 124.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 123.3, 121.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 2.4 Hz), 121.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 16.9 Hz), 119.1 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 15.7

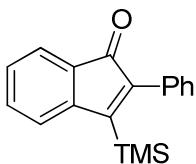
Hz), 116.5 (d, $J_{C-F} = 21.3$ Hz), 116.37 (d, $J_{C-F} = 21.8$ Hz). HRMS: [M + H]⁺ calculated for C₂₁H₁₃F₂O: 319.09290, found 319.09329.



2,3-Bis(thiophen-2-yl)-1*H*-inden-1-one **3ak**

3ak was obtained according to the general procedure in 71% yield.

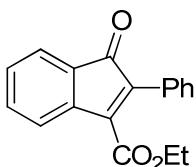
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 (dd, $J = 5.1, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, $J = 3.7, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.27 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.20 (dd, $J = 5.0, 3.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.02 (dd, $J = 5.1, 3.7$ Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 195.2, 146.2, 145.8, 134.1, 133.3, 132.2, 130.3, 129.5, 129.3, 129.1, 129.0, 128.1, 127.9, 127.5, 127.2, 123.2, 121.5. HRMS: [M + H]⁺ calculated for C₁₇H₁₁OS₂: 295.02458, found 295.02491.



2-Phenyl-3-(trimethylsilyl)-1*H*-inden-1-one **3al**

3al was obtained according to the general procedure in 62% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.27 – 7.18 (m, 4H), 0.16 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.9, 157.0, 148.9, 148.1, 134.2, 133.5, 130.2, 129.9, 128.5, 128.2, 128.0, 123.34, 123.33, 0.2. HRMS: [M + H]⁺ calculated for C₁₈H₁₉OSi: 279.119967, found 279.12006. The NMR data agree with those in a literature report.⁶



Ethyl 1-oxo-2-phenyl-1*H*-indene-3-carboxylate **3am**

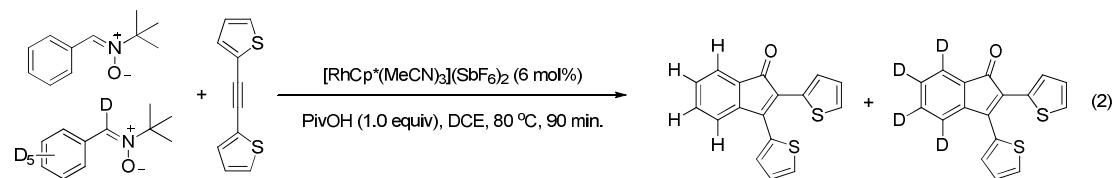
3am was obtained according to the general procedure in 46% yield.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.35 (m, 6H), 7.32 – 7.23

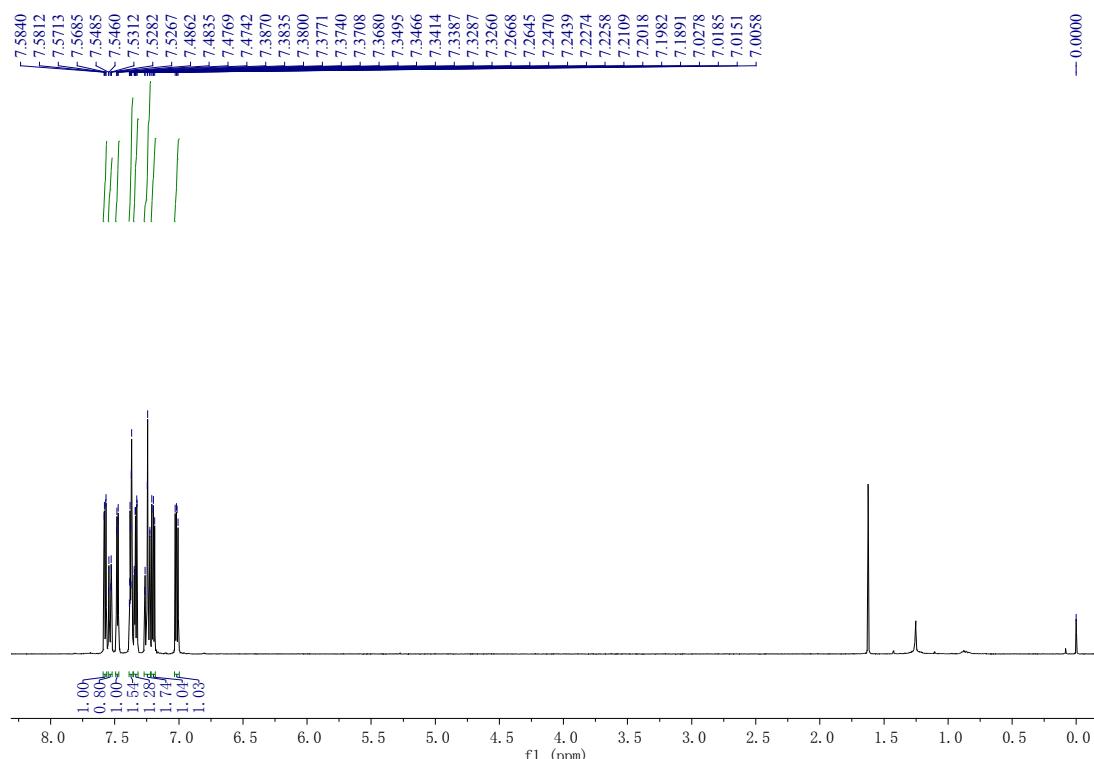
(m, 1H), 4.31 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.22 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.1, 164.7, 143.0, 142.7, 138.7, 134.7, 129.92, 129.86, 129.5, 129.3, 129.2, 128.1, 123.9, 122.8, 61.6, 14.0. HRMS: $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_3$: 279.10157, found 279.10177.

III. Mechanic Studies

1. KIE mesurement

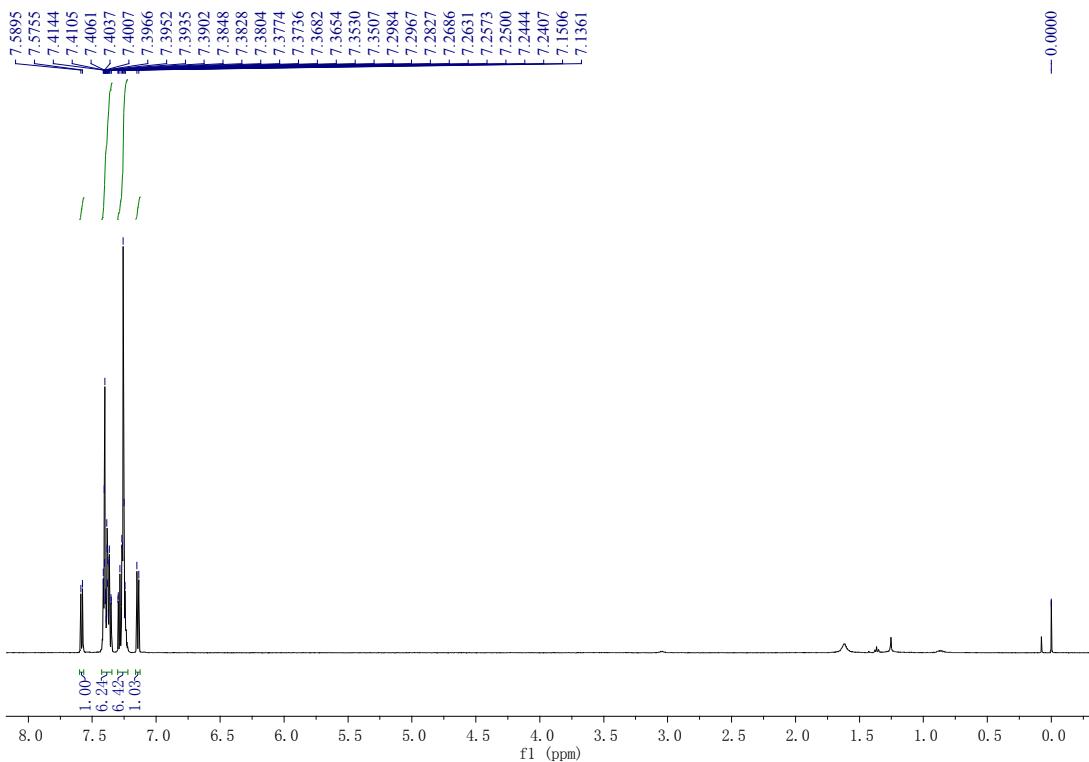


An equimolar mixture of PBN and PBN- d_5 (0.5 mmol in total, 90.0 mg), di(2-thienyl)acetylene (0.25 mmol, 47.6 mg), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{MeCN})_3](\text{SbF}_6)_2$ (6 mol%, 12.5 mg), PivOH (1.0 equiv, 25.5 mg) and DCE (2 mL) were charged into a pressure tube under argon. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 1.5 h. After cooled to room temperature, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using PE/DCE to afford the mixed product. KIE value ($k_{\text{H}}/k_{\text{D}} = 4.0$) was determined on the basis of ^1H NMR analysis.



2. ^{18}O Labeled Experiment

PBN (0.24 mmol, 42.5 mg), diphenylacetylene (0.2 mmol, 35.6 mg), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Rh}(\text{MeCN})_3](\text{SbF}_6)_2$ (6 mol%, 10.0 mg), PivOH (1.0 equiv, 20.4 mg), water- ^{18}O (6 equiv, 24.0 mg) and DCE (2 mL) were charged into a pressure tube under argon. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 12 h. After cooled to room temperature, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using PE/DCE to afford the mixture products of 2,3-Diphenyl-1*H*-inden-1-one (**3aa**) and ^{18}O -labeled 2,3-Diphenyl-1*H*-inden-1-one (**3aa- ^{18}O**) (**3aa/3aa- ^{18}O** = 22/100). HRMS: $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{15}^{18}\text{O}$: 285.11599, found 285.11615.

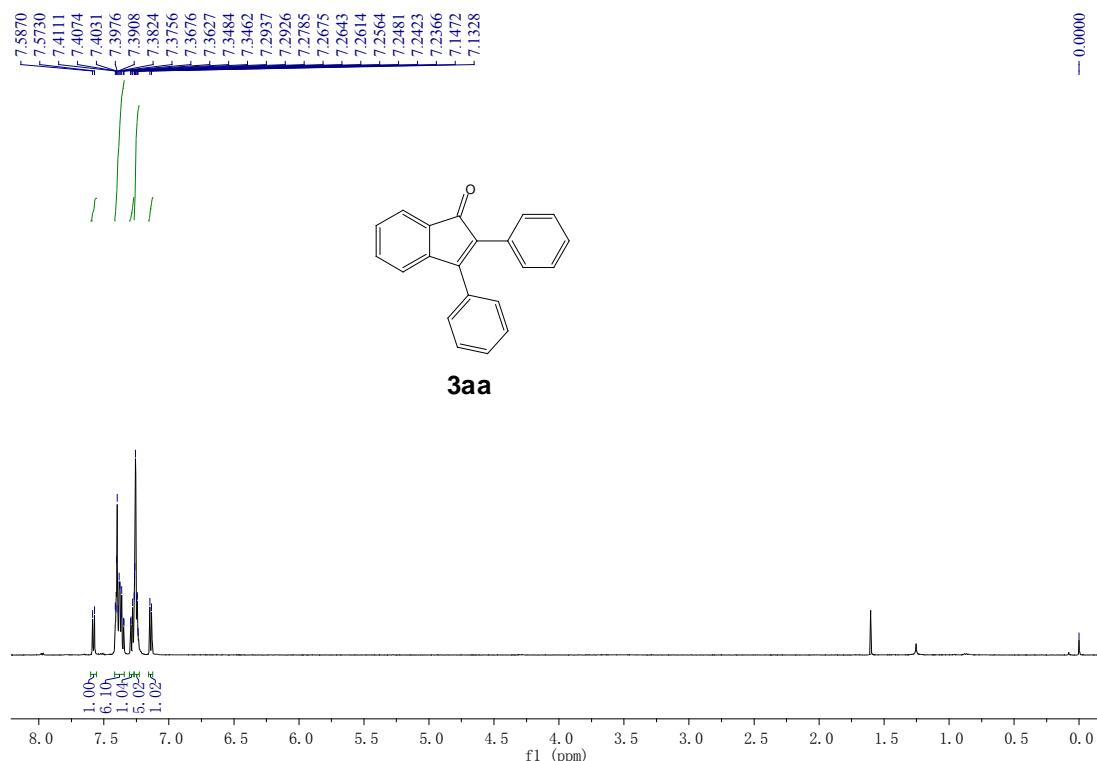


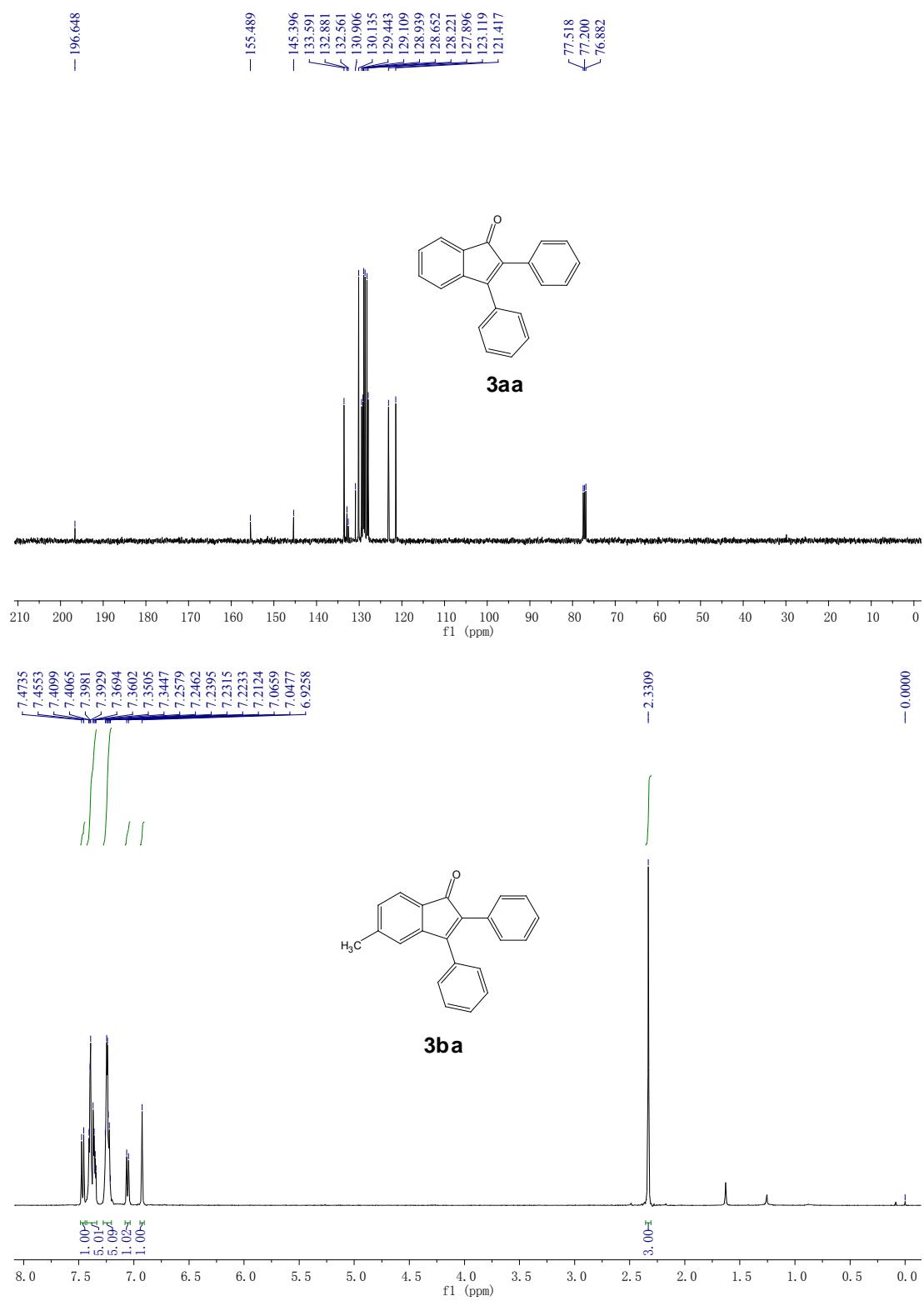
IV. References

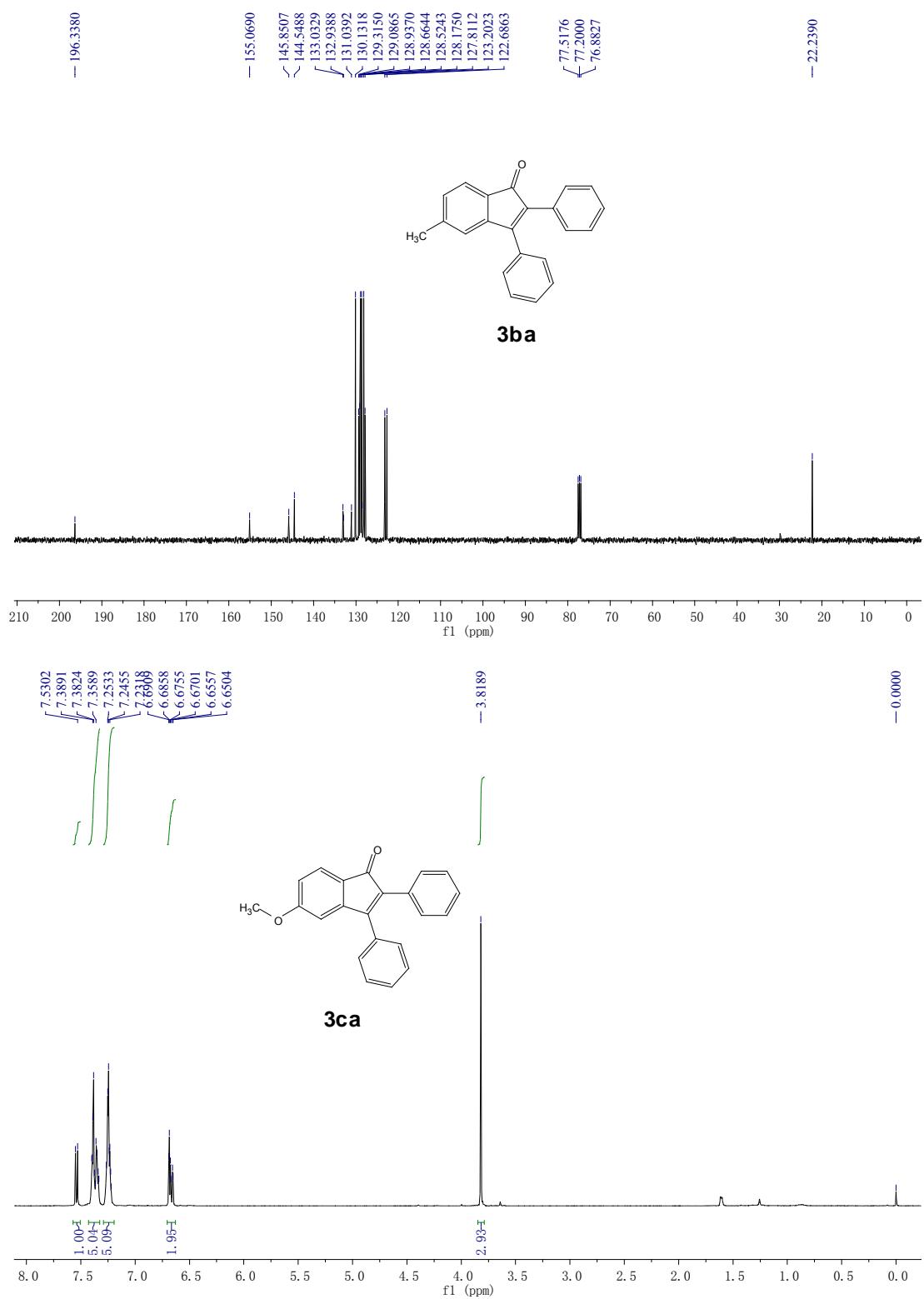
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- (2) Mio, M. J.; Kopel, L. C.; Braun, J. B.; Gadzikwa, T. L.; Hull, K. L.; Brisbois, R. G.; Markworth, C. J.; Grieco, P. A. *Org. Lett.* **2002**, *4*, 3199.
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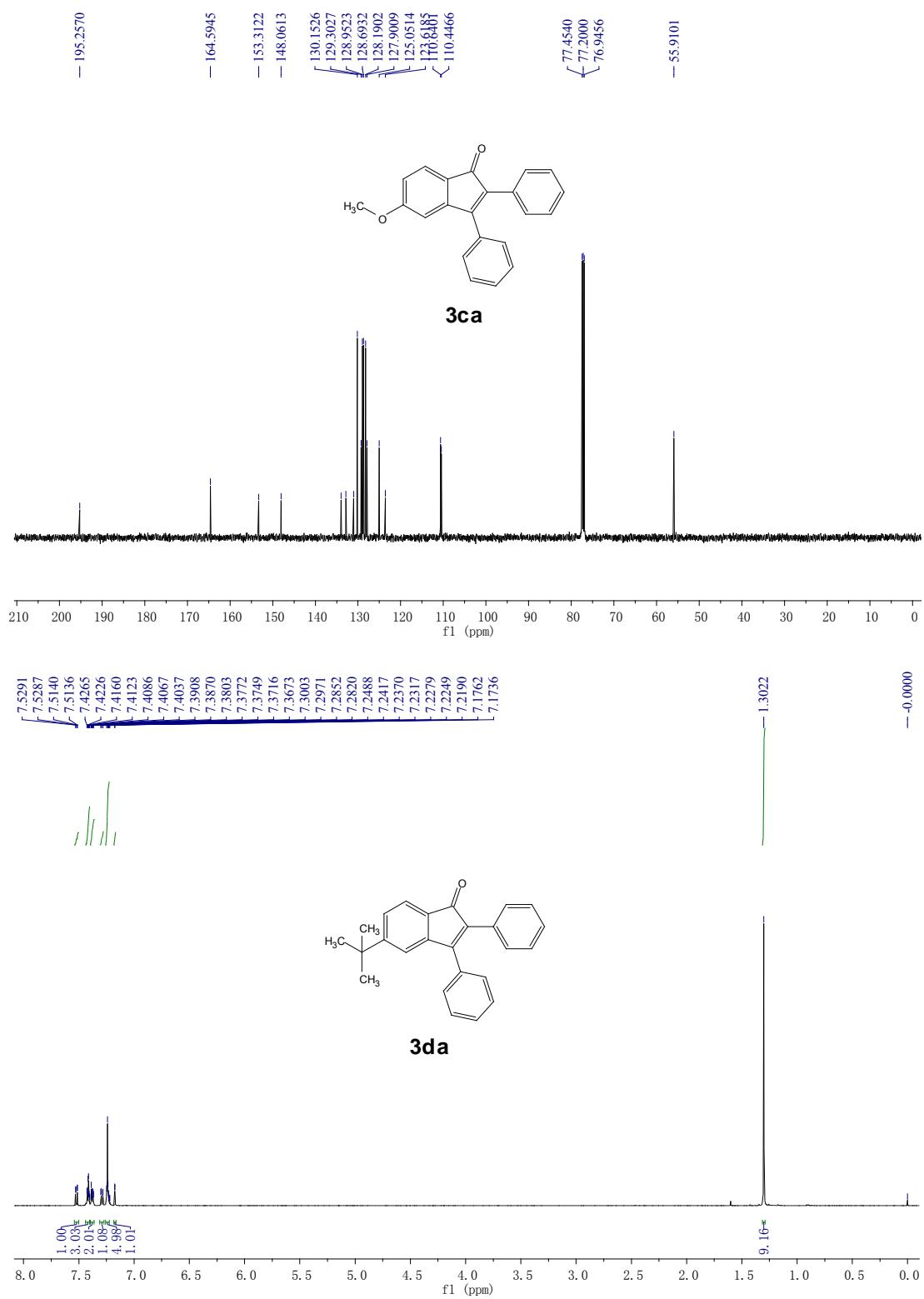
- (4) Pletnev, A. A.; Tian, Q.; Larock, R. C. *J. Org. Chem.* **2002**, *67*, 9276.
- (5) Vicente, J.; Abad, J.-A.; López-Peláez, B.; Martínez-Viviente, E. *Organometallics* **2001**, *21*, 58.
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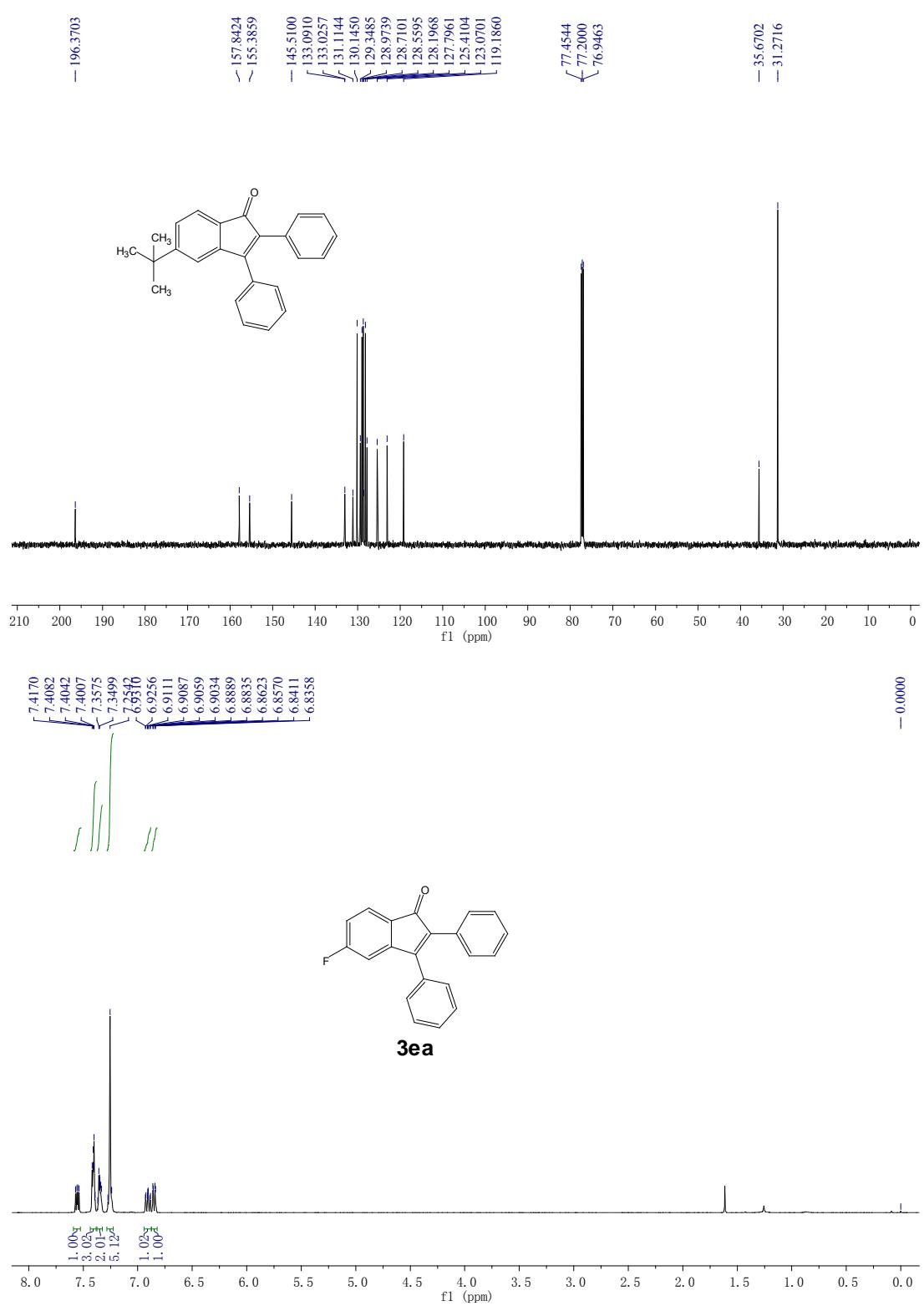
V. NMR Spectra

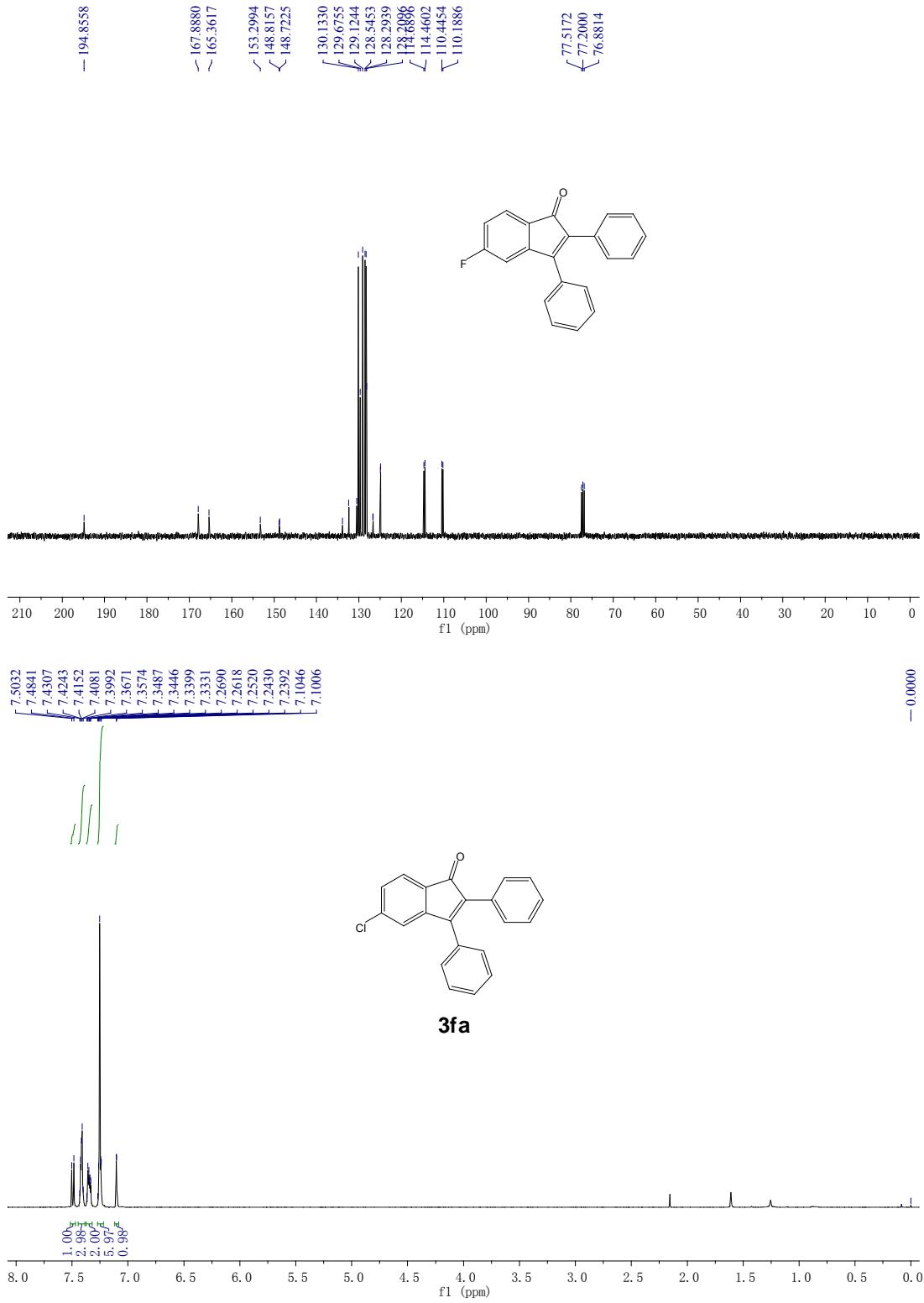


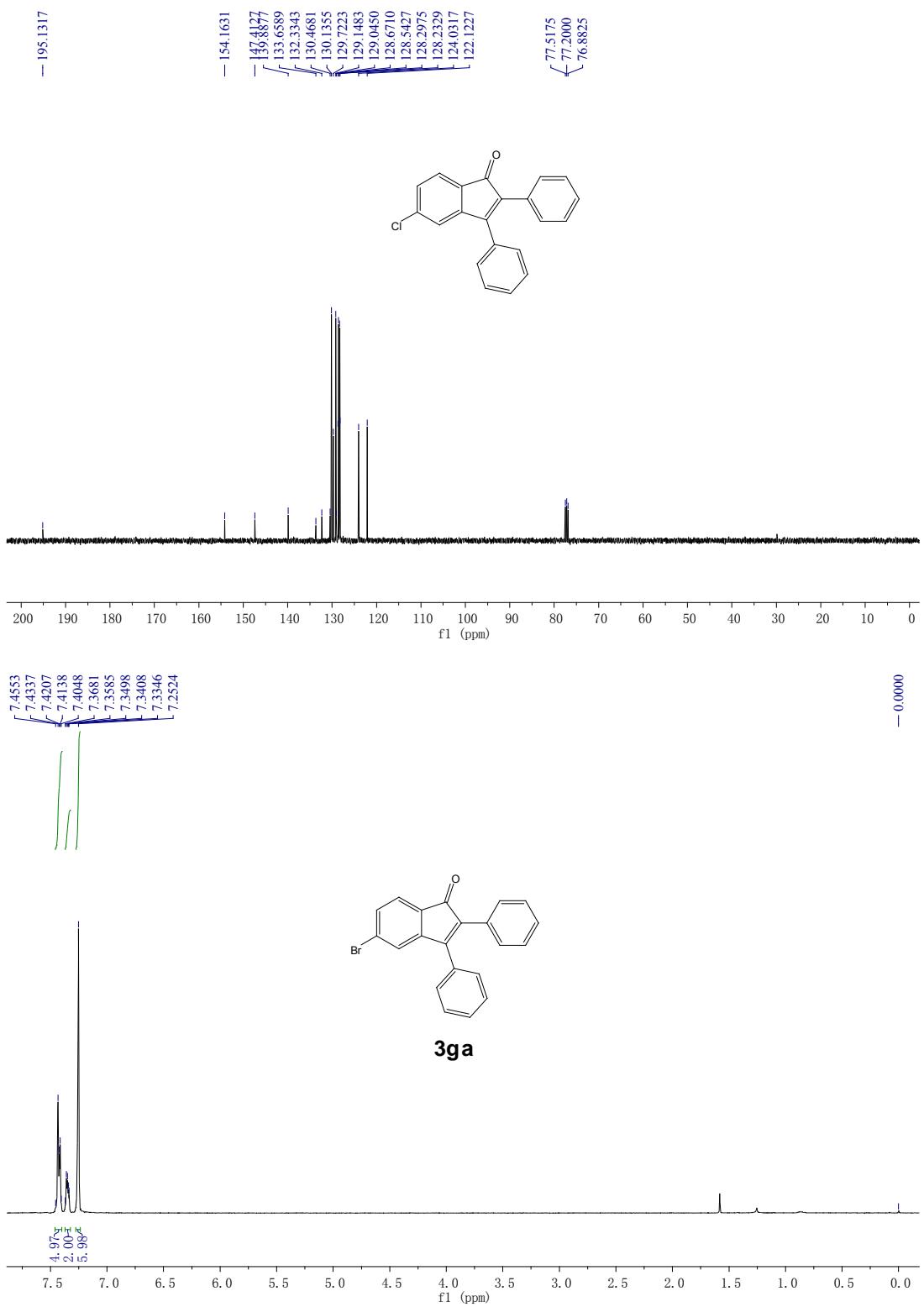


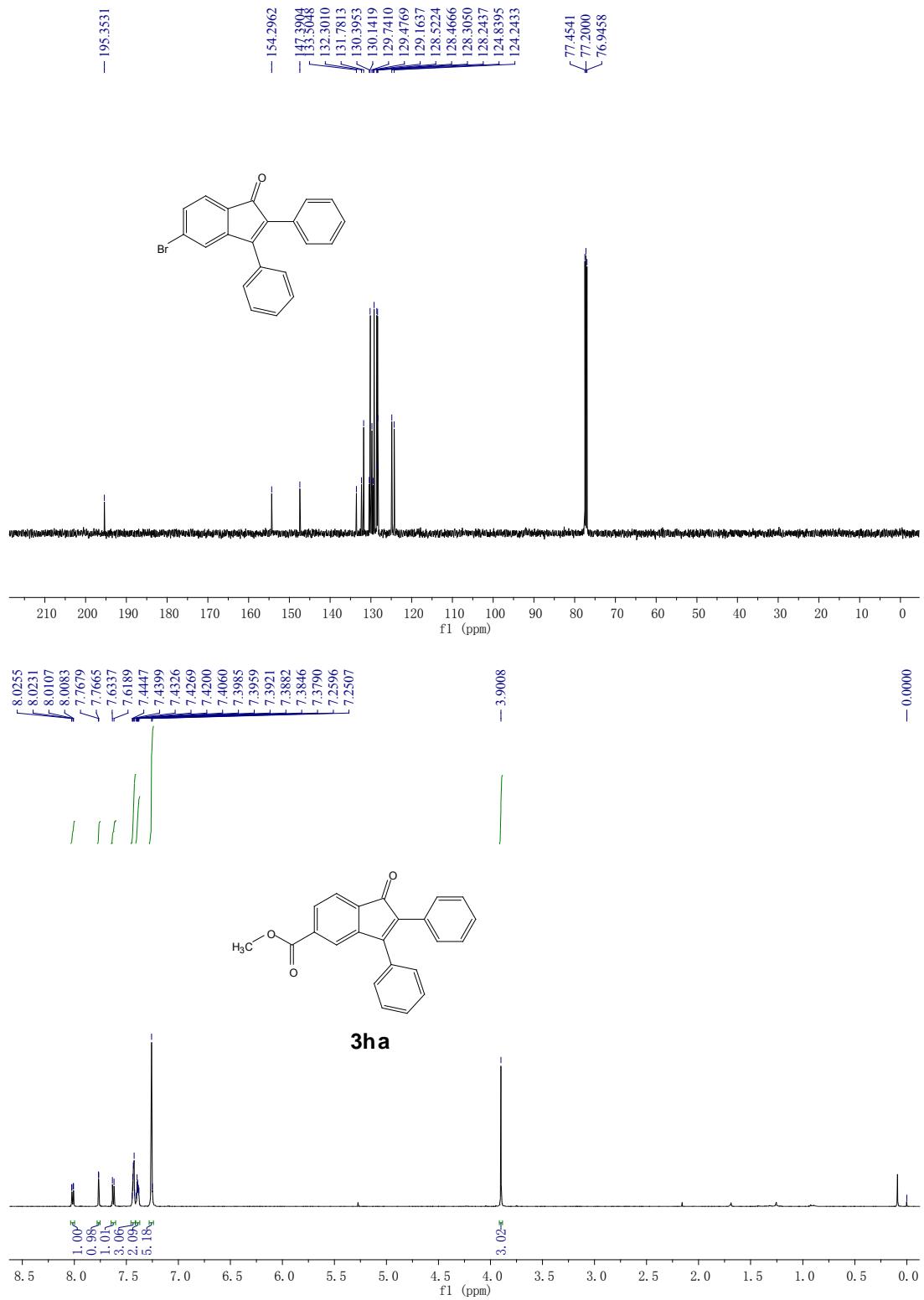


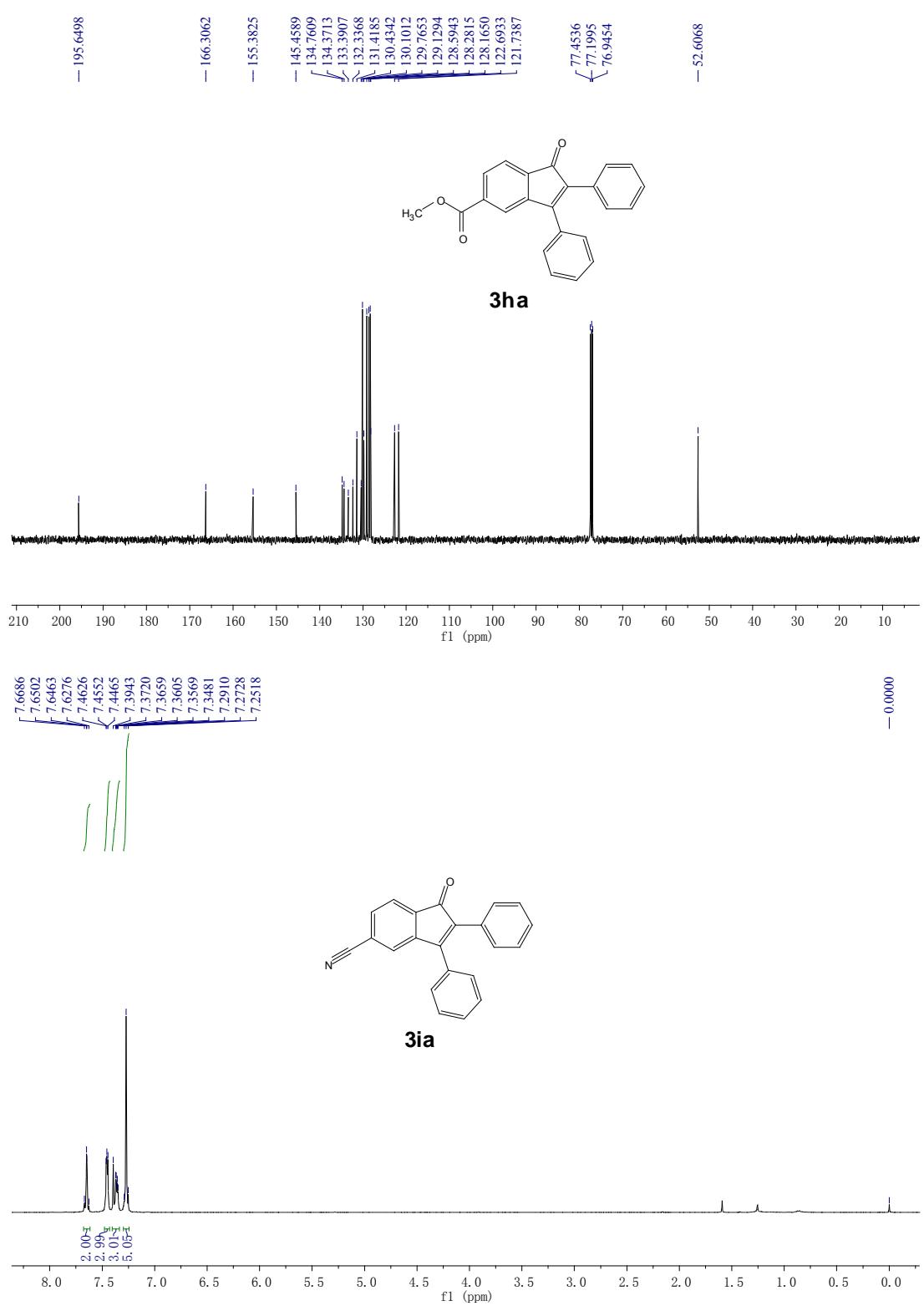


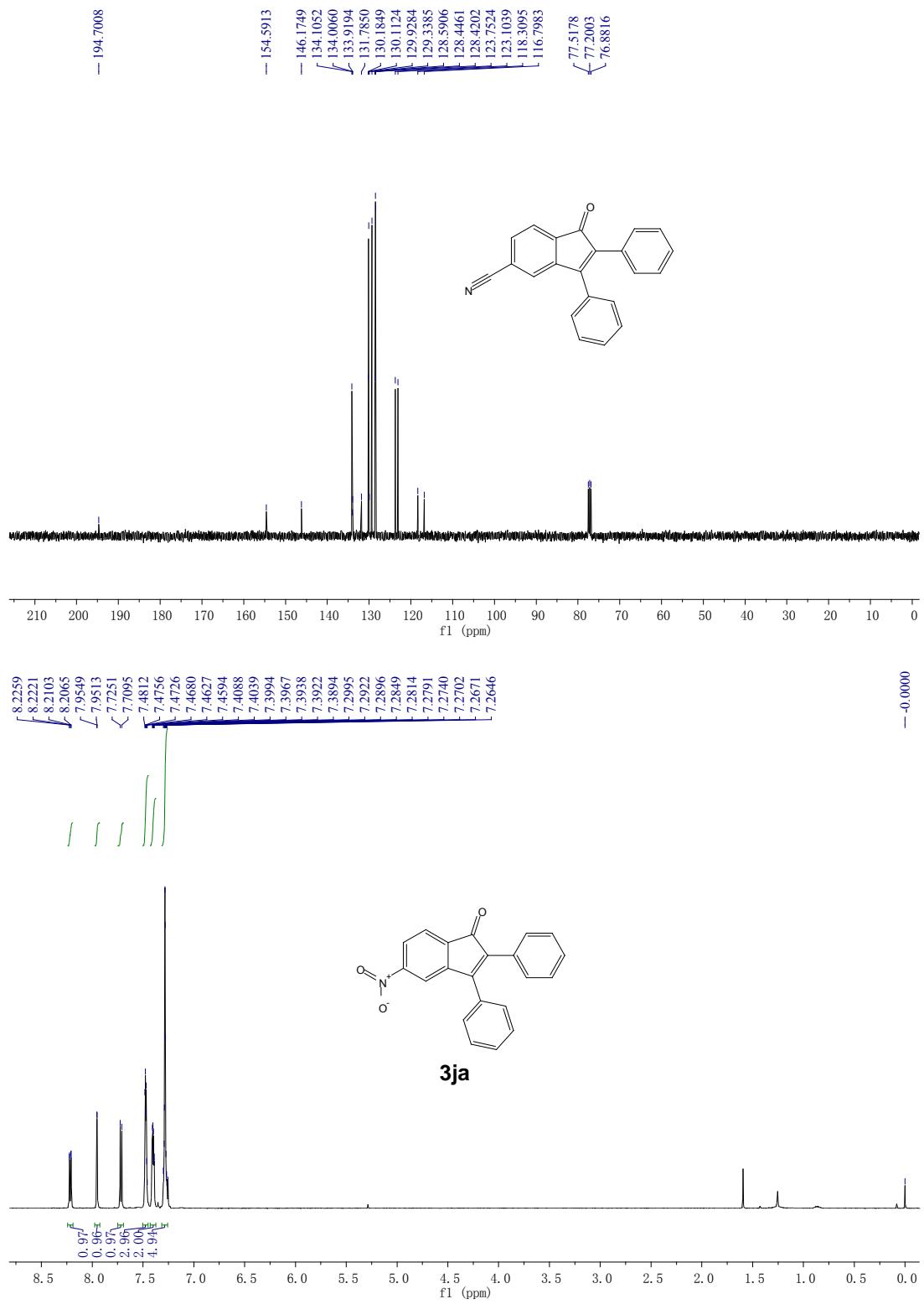


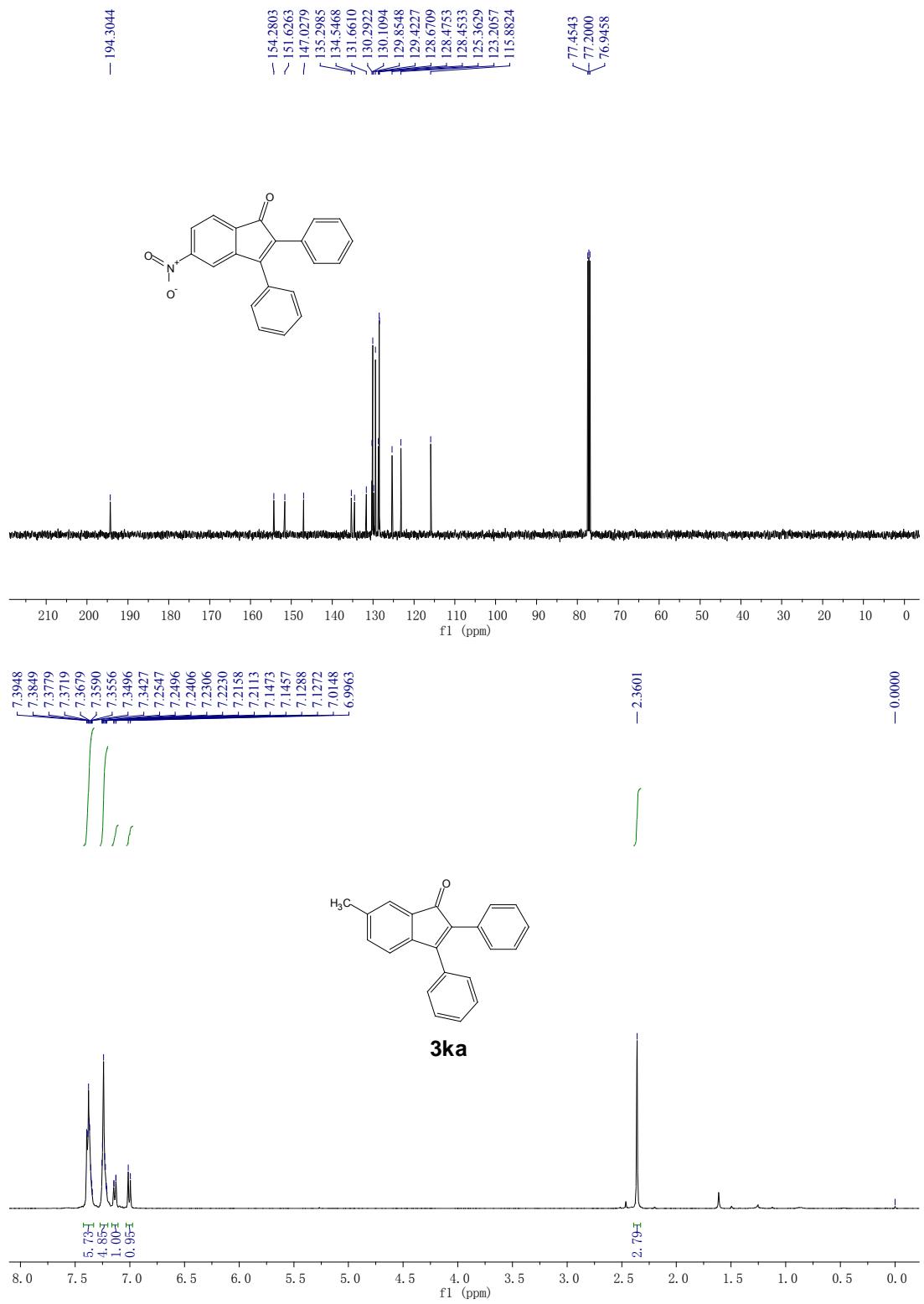


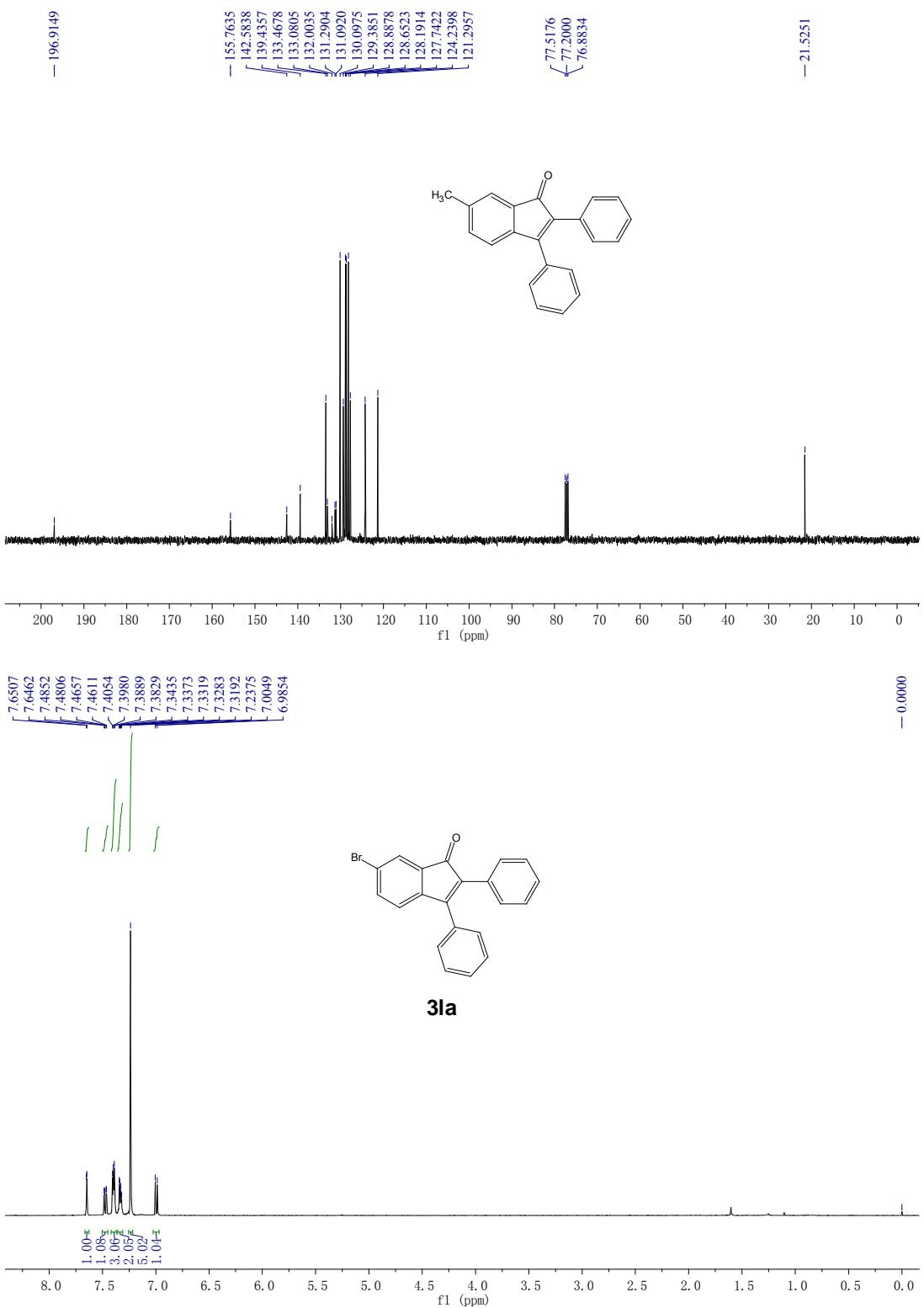


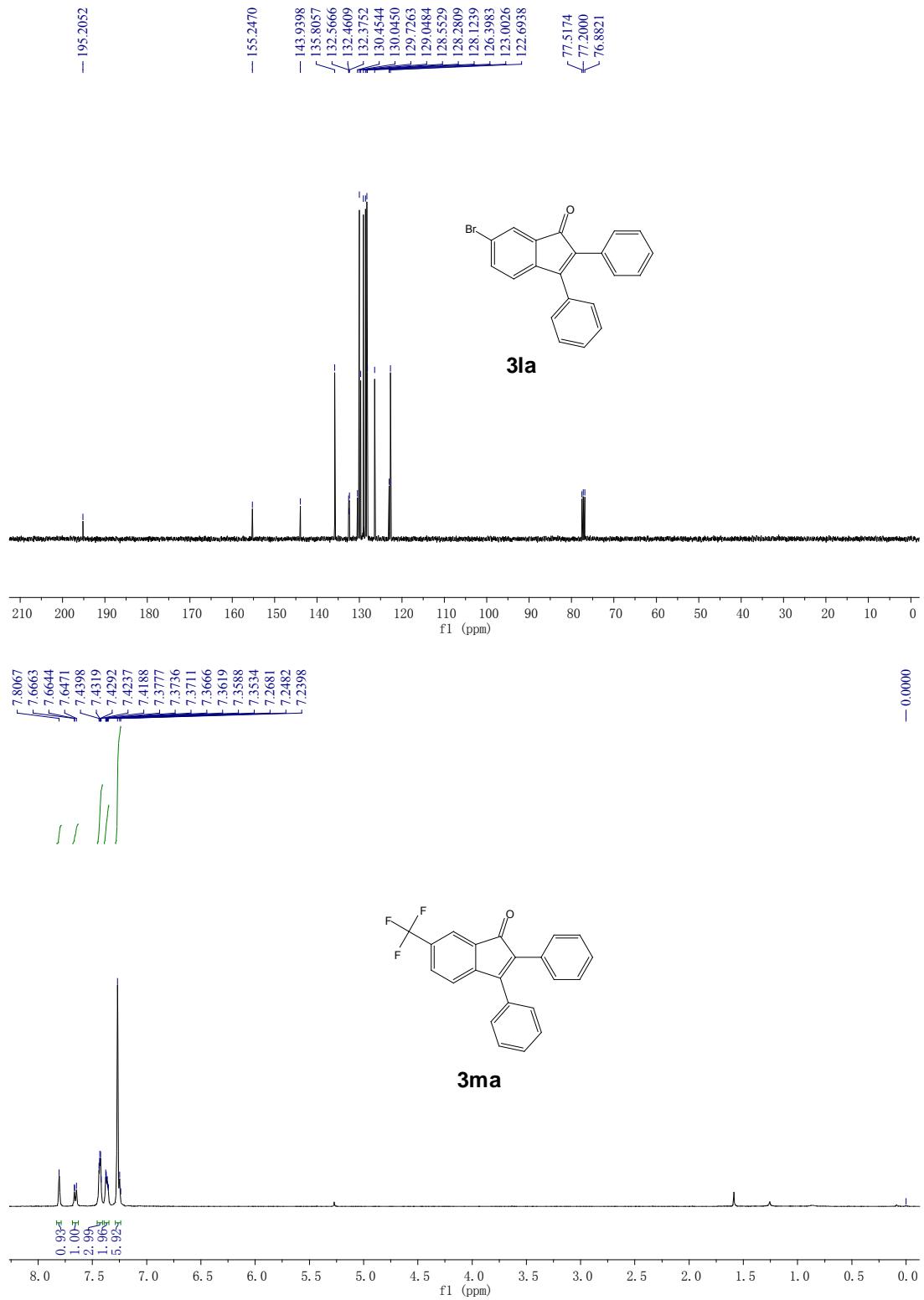


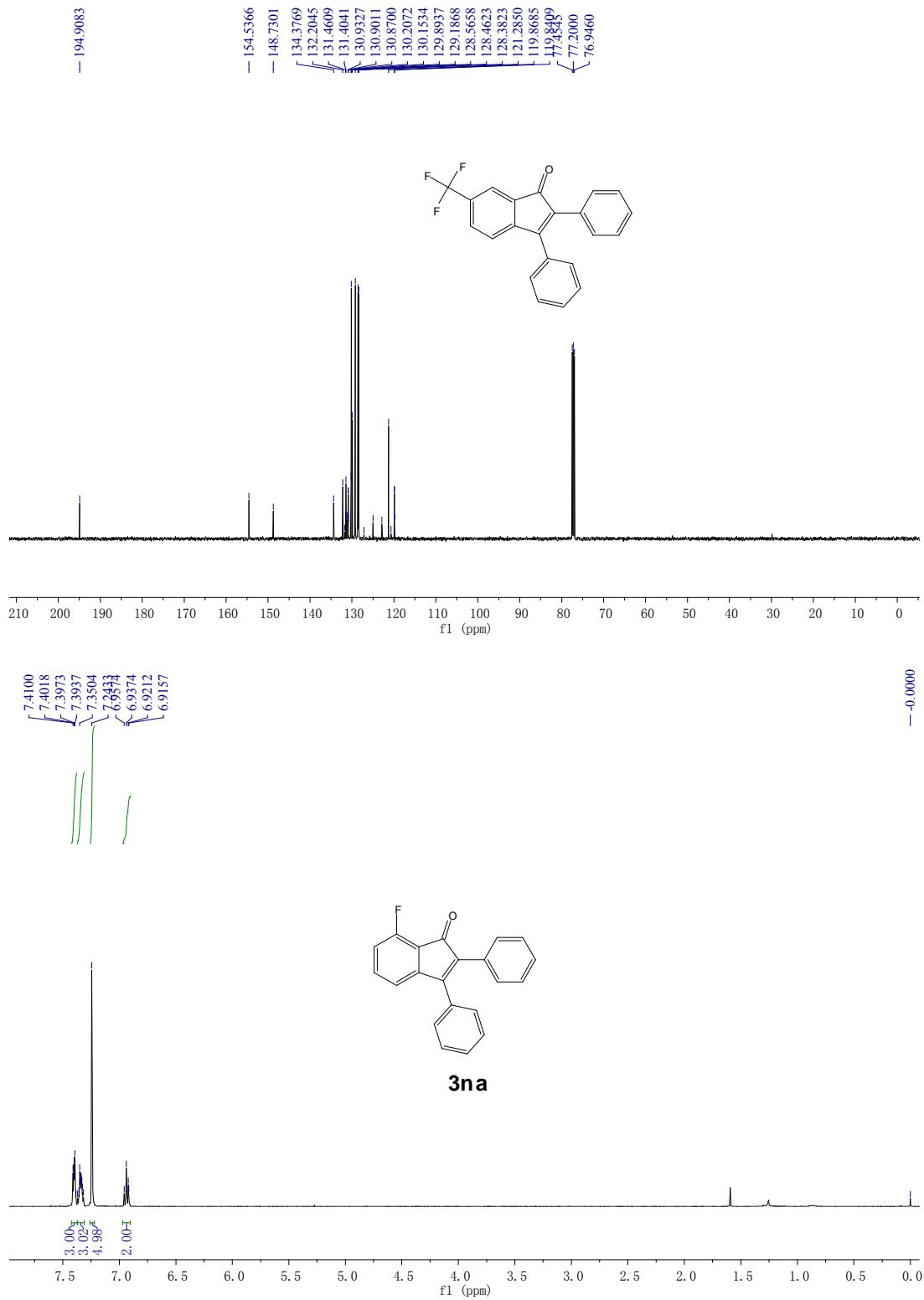


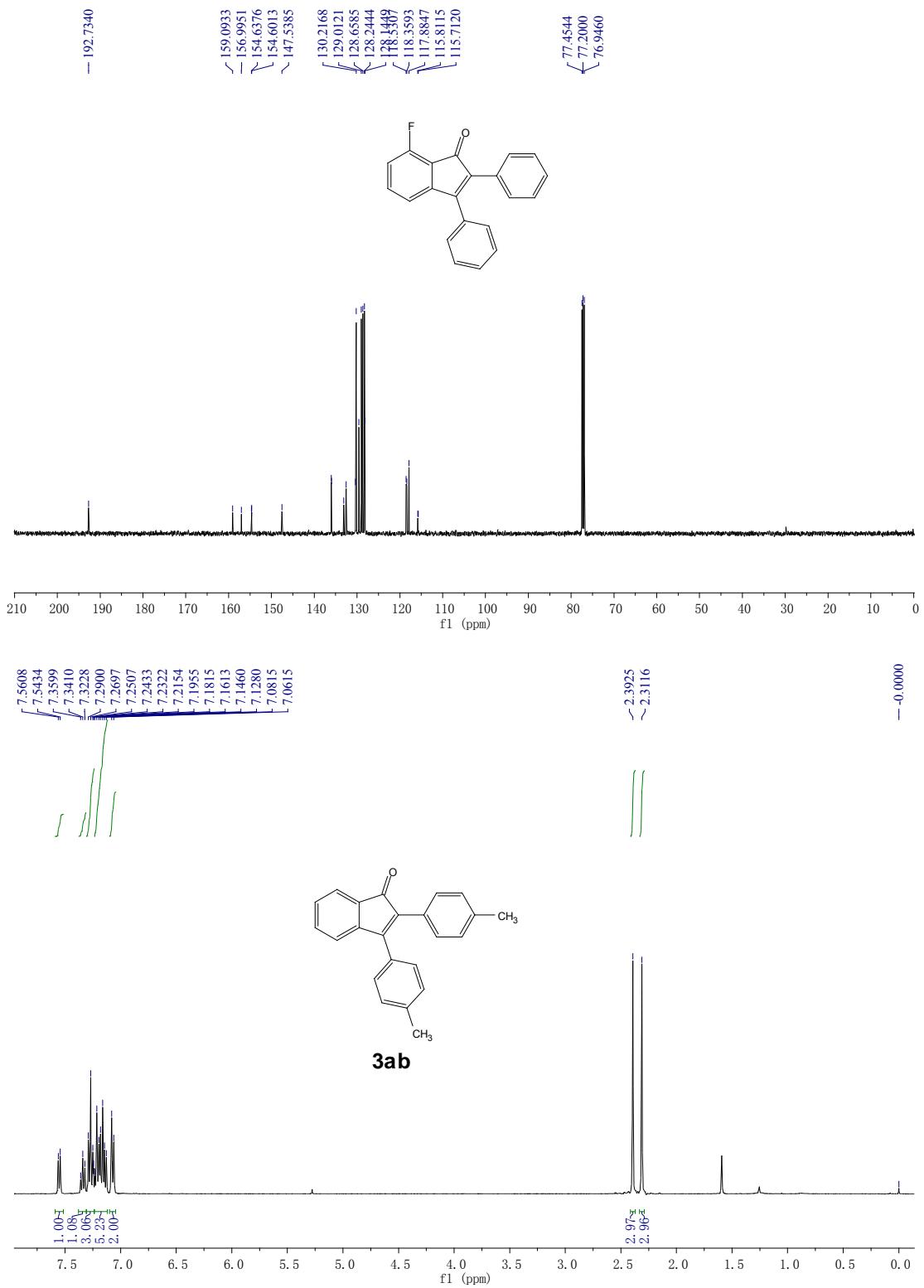


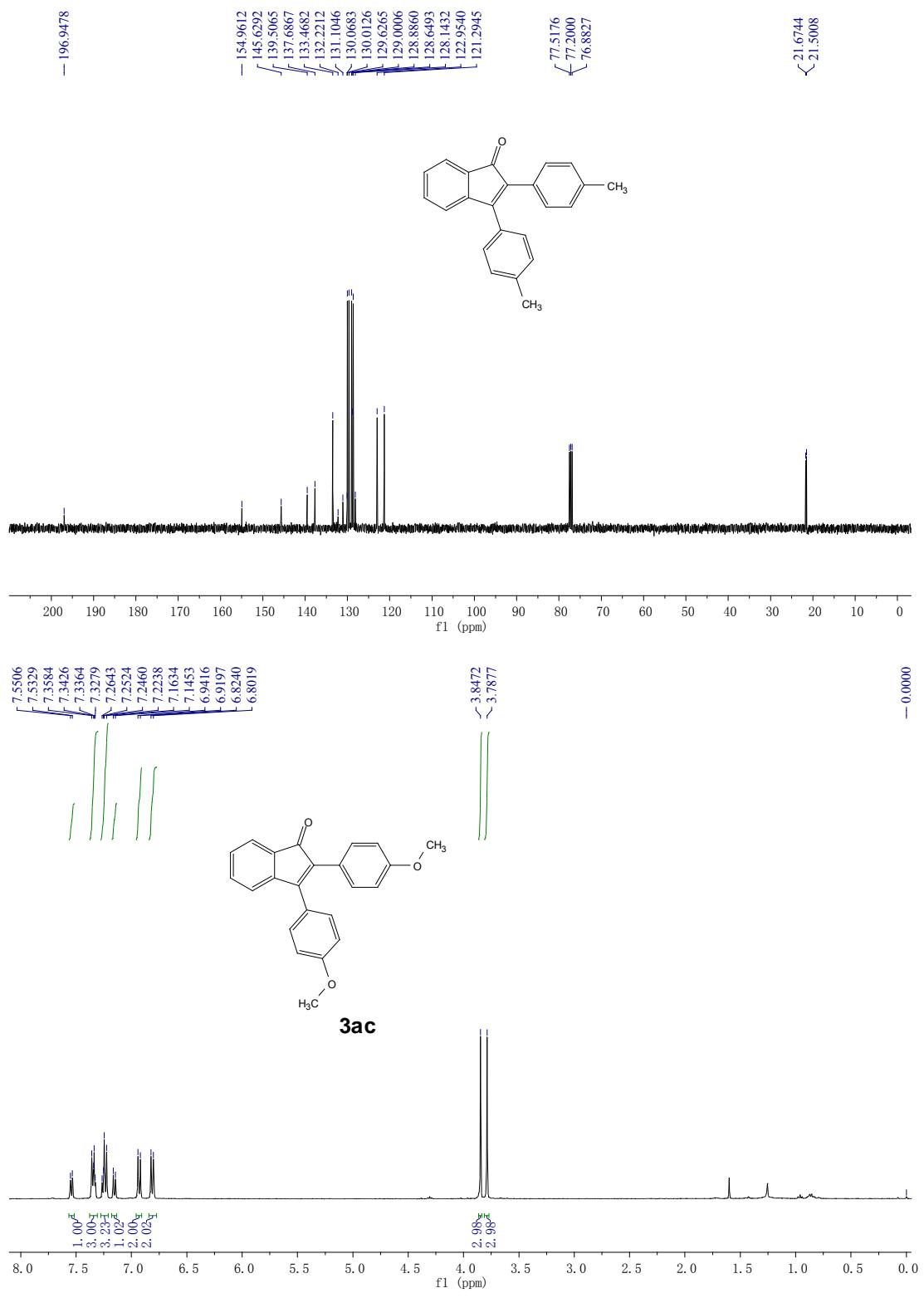


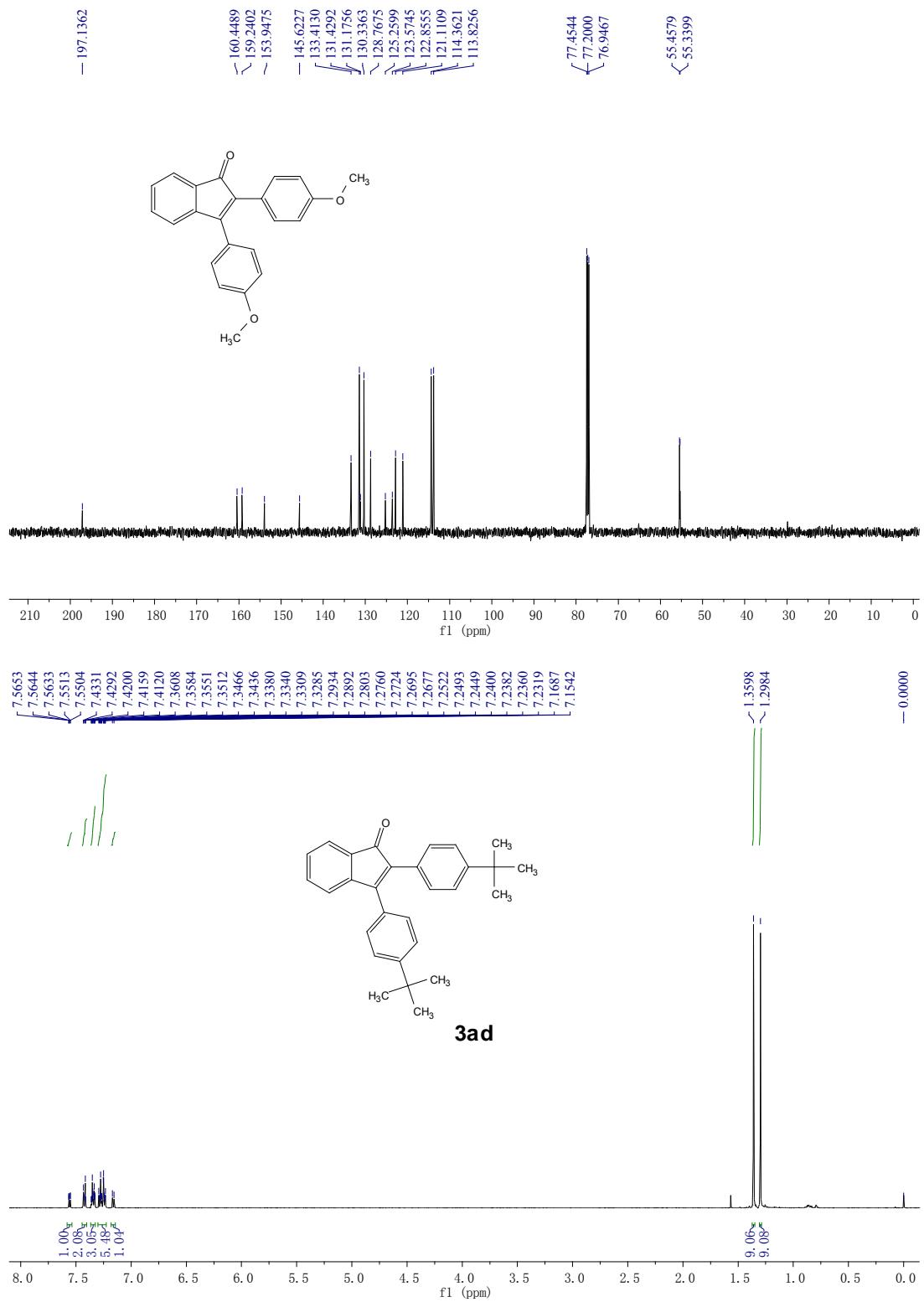












S30

3ad

