

Supporting Information

Nickel-Catalyzed Oxidative Coupling Reactions of Two Different Terminal Alkynes Using O₂ as the Oxidant at Room Temperature: Facile Syntheses of Unsymmetric 1,3-Diynes

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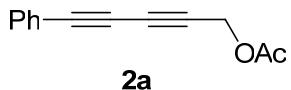
Experimental Details

General Information

Tetrahydrofuran (THF) was dried and distilled from sodium/benzophenone immediately prior to use under nitrogen atmosphere. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) employed glass 0.25 mm silica gel plates. Flash chromatography columns were packed with 200-300 mesh silica gel in petroleum (boiling point is between 60-90 °C). Gradient flash chromatography was conducted eluting with a continuous gradient from petroleum to the indicated solvent, and they are listed as volume/volume ratios.

^1H and ^{13}C NMR data were recorded with a Varian Mercury (300 MHz) spectrometer with tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. All ^1H NMR spectra were reported in delta (δ) units, parts per million (ppm) downfield from the internal standard. Coupling constants were reported in Hertz (Hz). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were measured with a Waters Micromass GCT instrument or a Waters Q-Tof Premier instrument, accurate masses were reported for the molecular ion ($[\text{M}]^+$, $[\text{M}+1]^+$). Analytical gas chromatography (GC) was performed using a Varian 3900 Gas Chromatography fitted with a flame ionization detector. For the ReactIR kinetic experiments, the reaction spectra were recorded using a ReactIR 4000 from Mettler-Toledo AutoChem fitted with a silicon-tipped (SiComp) probe. Data manipulation was carried out using the iC IR software, version 1.05.

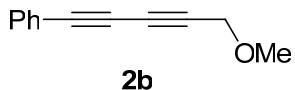
General procedures for synthesizing unsymmetric 1,3-diynes under air:



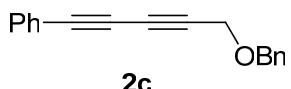
5-phenylpenta-2,4-diynyl acetate (2a).¹ The CuI (5 mol%) and NiCl₂·6H₂O (5 mol%) were dissolved in THF(4 mL) and TMEDA (20 mol%), and the solution was stirred for 2 min at room temperature. Phenylacetylene **1a** (5 mmol) and prop-2-ynyl acetate **1b** (1 mmol) were added subsequently and the reaction mixture was stirred under air for 12 hours at room temperature. After completion of the reaction, as indicated by TLC, the mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum/ethyl acetate = 100/1, v/v) to afford pure **2a** in 86% yield (170.3 mg). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.47-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.28 (m, 3H), 4.78 (s, 2H), 2.08 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.25, 132.87, 129.74, 128.69, 121.36, 79.00, 76.45, 73.28, 71.35, 52.76, 20.86.

All remaining unsymmetric diynes were prepared using a procedure similar to that used to synthesize **2a**.

Unsymmetric 1,3-diynes

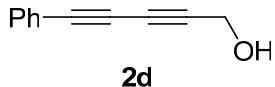


(5-methoxypenta-1,3-diynyl)benzene (2b).² ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.51-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.32 (m, 3H), 4.25 (s, 2H), 3.43 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 132.84, 129.59, 128.68, 121.61, 78.92, 78.30, 73.56, 71.31, 60.58, 58.09.

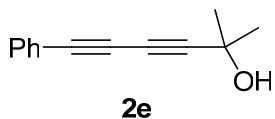


(5-(benzyloxy)penta-1,3-diynyl)benzene (2c). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.52-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.37 (m, 8H), 4.66 (s, 2H), 4.34 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 137.36, 132.89, 130.13, 129.62, 128.72, 128.45, 121.64, 78.98, 78.37,

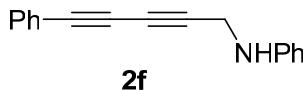
73.60, 71.98, 71.41, 58.00; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₁₈H₁₄O [M]⁺: 246.1045; found 246.1048.



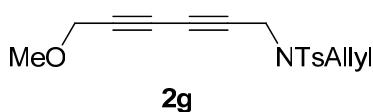
5-phenylpenta-2,4-diyn-1-ol (2d).³ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.49-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.27 (m, 3H), 4.42 (s, 2H), 2.66 (b, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 132.83, 129.58, 128.65, 121.54, 80.75, 78.76, 73.44, 70.55, 51.74.



2-methyl-6-phenylhexa-3,5-diyn-2-ol (2e).⁴ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.49-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 3H), 2.50 (b, 1H), 1.59 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 132.75, 129.49, 128.67, 121.75, 86.96, 79.00, 73.42, 67.29, 65.98, 31.34.



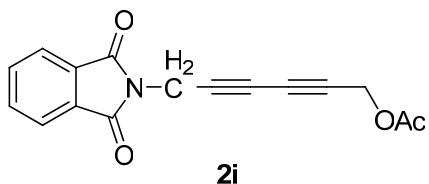
N-(5-phenylpenta-2,4-diynyl)benzenamine (2f).⁵ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.36-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.10 (m, 5H), 6.73-6.68 (m, 1H), 6.59-6.57 (m, 2H), 3.94 (s, 2H), 3.78 (b, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 146.77, 132.76, 129.51, 129.42, 128.61, 121.65, 118.95, 113.76, 80.65, 77.15, 73.92, 67.92, 34.60.



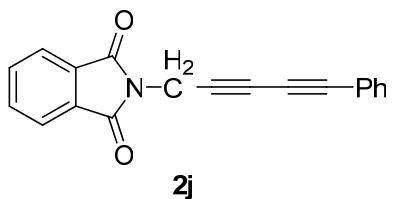
N-allyl-N-(6-methoxyhexa-2,4-diynyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (2g). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 5.70-5.65 (m, 1H), 5.29-5.21 (m, 2H), 4.12-4.18 (m, 4H), 3.77 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 144.11, 135.57, 131.88, 129.86, 127.92, 120.60, 74.69, 72.28, 70.32, 69.78, 60.23, 58.07, 49.63, 36.70, 21.78; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₁₀H₁₁NO [M-Ts-H]⁺: 161.0841; found 161.0846.



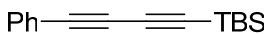
N-allyl-4-methyl-N-(5-phenylpenta-2,4-diynyl)benzenesulfonamide (2h). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.74 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.43-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.29 (m, 5H), 5.73-5.67 (m, 1H), 5.30 (d, $J = 17.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.24 (d, $J = 9.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.19 (s, 2H), 3.82 (d, $J = 6.3$ Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 144.19, 135.59, 132.74, 131.95, 129.90, 129.74, 128.76, 127.98, 121.36, 120.61, 75.71, 74.18, 73.30, 70.47, 49.72, 37.02, 21.85; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ $[\text{M}]^+$: 349.1136; found 349.1134.



6-(1-oxoisodolin-2-yl)hexa-2,4-diynyl acetate (2i). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.89 (d, $J = 0.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d, $J = 0.9$ Hz, 2H), 4.69 (s, 2H), 4.54 (s, 2H), 2.08 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 170.19, 166.97, 134.56, 132.08, 123.87, 73.61, 72.51, 70.69, 67.33, 52.41, 27.79, 20.82; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_8\text{NO}_4$ $[\text{M}-\text{CH}_3]^+$: 266.0453; found 266.0455.

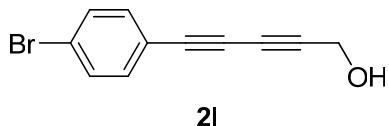


2-(5-phenylpenta-2,4-diynyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (2j). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.91-7.88 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.46-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.29 (m, 2H), 4.61 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 167.07, 134.53, 132.84, 132.13, 129.60, 128.62, 123.85, 121.43, 77.72, 76.23, 73.52, 68.19, 28.10; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_2$ $[\text{M}]^+$: 285.0790; found 285.0801.

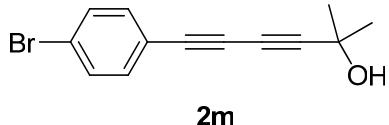


2k

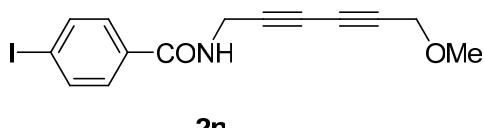
Tert-butyldimethyl(phenylbuta-1,3-diynyl)silane (2k). ⁶ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.33 (m, 3H), 1.00 (s, 9H), 0.19 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 132.9, 129.6, 128.7, 121.6, 89.6, 88.7, 76.5, 74.6, 26.3, 17.0, -4.5.



5-(4-bromophenyl)penta-2,4-diyn-1-ol (2l). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.41 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 1.74 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 134.16, 131.99, 124.10, 120.52, 81.25, 77.63, 74.47, 70.47, 51.90; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₁₁H₇BrO [M]⁺: 233.9680; found 233.9688.

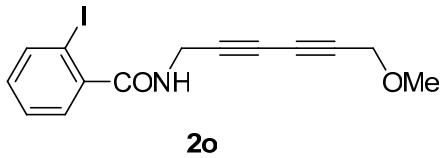


6-(4-bromophenyl)-2-methylhexa-3,5-diyn-2-ol (2m). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 1.57 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 134.09, 131.99, 123.96, 120.71, 87.60, 77.85, 74.55, 67.11, 66.00, 31.31; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₁BrO [M]⁺: 261.9993; found 261.9996.



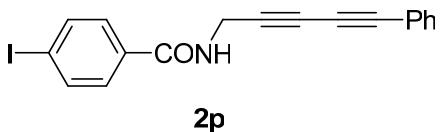
4-iodo-N-(6-methoxyhexa-2,4-diynyl)benzamide (2n). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.39 (b, 1H), 4.33 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 2H), 4.16 (s, 2H), 3.38 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.52, 138.12, 133.12, 128.84, 99.28, 74.95, 74.85, 70.64, 68.15, 60.33, 58.11, 30.65; HRMS (APCI) calcd for C₁₇H₁₃INO₂ [M]⁺: 393.9680; found 393.9680.

for $C_{14}H_{12}INO_2 [M]^+$: 352.9913; found 352.9908.



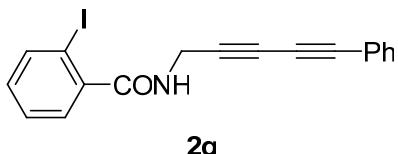
2o

2-iodo-N-(6-methoxyhexa-2,4-diynyl)benzamide (2o). 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.87 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.10 (m, 1H), 6.13 (b, 1H), 4.34 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 2H), 4.16 (s, 2H), 3.38(s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 169.03, 141.30, 140.21, 131.73, 128.62, 128.44, 92.57, 74.86, 74.54, 70.73, 68.30, 60.34, 58.11, 30.60; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $C_{14}H_{12}INO_2 [M]^+$: 352.9913; found 352.9908.



2p

4-iodo-N-(5-phenylpenta-2,4-diynyl)benzamide (2p). 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.82 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.53-7.48 (m, 4H), 7.36-7.32 (m, 3H), 6.28 (s, 1H), 4.42 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- D_6): δ 166.13, 138.00, 133.62, 133.13, 130.58, 129.93, 129.56, 121.00, 100.13, 82.21, 77.32, 74.13, 66.63, 30.19; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $C_{18}H_{12}INO [M]^+$: 384.9964; found 384.9965.

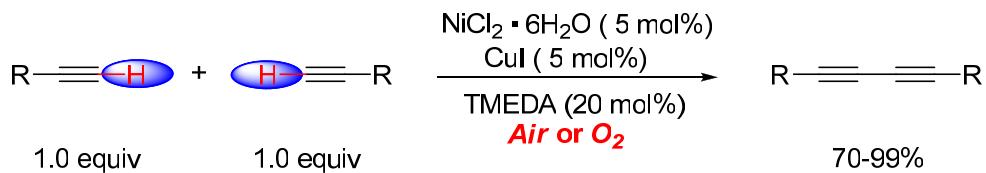


2q

2-iodo-N-(5-phenylpenta-2,4-diynyl)benzamide (2q). 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.87 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.26 (m, 5H), 7.14-7.08 (m, 1H), 6.20 (b, 1H), 4.41 (d, $J = 5.4$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 169.03, 141.34, 140.23, 132.87, 131.72, 129.63, 128.67, 128.45, 121.50, 92.59, 77.85, 77.77, 73.53, 68.97, 30.91; HRMS (APCI) calcd for $C_{18}H_{12}INO [M]^+$: 384.9964; found 384.9966.

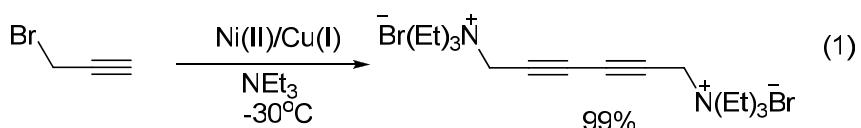
General procedures for synthesizing symmetric 1,3-dynes under air:

Homocoupling of terminal alkynes under our conditions also could get perfect outcomes.



The scope of substrates for this Ni/Cu catalyzed diyne syntheses was examined and the results were listed in table 1. Alkynes based on propargylic alcohols and amines were successfully coupled in high yields, no matter the substituents were electron-withdrawing or electron-donating (Table 1, entries 2-7, 11-12). Terminal alkene group was well tolerated, and 1,6-enynes with O-, C- and N- tether were coupled in good yields (Table 1, entries 8-10). Arylacetylenes with methoxy substituent as well as sensitive chloro, bromo and iodo groups on the phenyl ring were suitable substrates too, and the halo groups remained intact in the reaction process, providing reactive sites for further transformation (Table 1, entries 13-17).

Propargyl bromide failed to be coupled under the above conditions due to its high reactivity. Yet the reaction proceeded readily in the presence of NEt_3 at -30°C to generate diamminium bromide salt in 99% yield (eq 1). All attempts at room temperature or 0°C led to black mixtures, probably rising from the sensitivity of the bromo group under the reaction conditions.

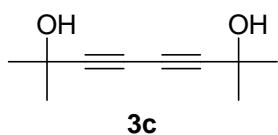


N1,N1,N1,N6,N6,N6-hexaethylhexa-2,4-diyne-1,6-diaminium bromide. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, D_2O): δ 3.96 (s, 4H), 3.25 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 12H), 1.14 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 18H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, D_2O): δ 80.94, 70.53, 53.50, 47.74, 7.23; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{34}\text{Br}_2\text{N}_2 [\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: 437.1167; found 437.1813.

Table 1. Homocoupling of Alkynes Catalyzed by Ni/Cu^a

2 R—≡		$\xrightarrow[\text{THF,r.t.,air}]{\text{NiCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O,CuI}}_{\text{TMEDA,NEt}_3}$	R—≡—≡—R
entry	substrate	product	yield (%)
1	Ph—≡	3a	99
2		3b	99
3		3c	99
4		3d	92
5		3e	83
6		3f	98
7		3g	82
8		3h	76
9		3i	91
10		3j	80
11		3k	70
12		3l	76
13		3m	75
14		3n	99
15		3o	99
16		3p	99
17		3q	99

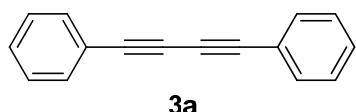
^a Unless otherwise indicated, the reaction conditions were as follows: **1** (1 mmol), $\text{NiCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (0.05 mmol), CuI (0.05 mmol), TMEDA (0.2 mmol), NEt₃ (3.0 mmol) and THF (4 mL) at room temperature under aerobic conditions. Isolated yields.



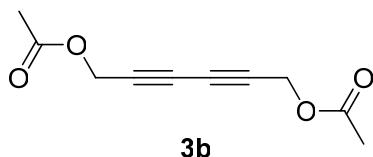
2,7-dimethylocta-3,5-diyne-2,7-diol (3c).⁷ A mixture of 2-methylbut-3-yn-2-ol (2 mmol), TMEDA (20 mol%), CuI (5 mol%) and NiCl₂·6H₂O (5 mol%) in THF (4 mL) was stirred in air at room temperature. After completion of the reaction, as indicated by TLC, the mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford **3c** in 99% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D₆): δ 5.52 (s, 2H), 1.35 (s, 12H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 84.19, 66.53, 65.80, 31.26.

All remaining symmetric diynes were prepared using a procedure similar to that used to synthesize **3c**.

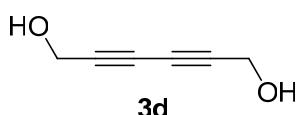
Symmetric 1,3-diynes:



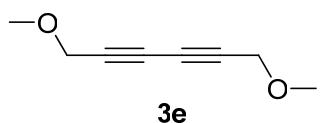
1,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-diyne (3a).⁸ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.54-7.52 (m, 4H), 7.36-7.33 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 132.73, 129.44, 128.67, 122.03, 81.78, 74.14.



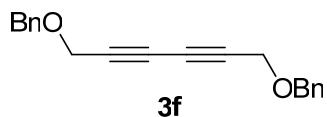
Hexa-2,4-diyne-1,6-diyl diacetate (3b).⁹ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 4.74 (s, 4H), 2.11 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.20, 73.81, 70.42, 52.41, 20.82.



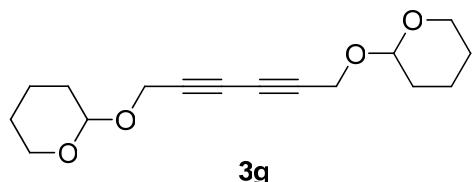
Hexa-2,4-diyne-1,6-diol (3d).¹⁰ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-D₆): δ 5.39 (b, 2H), 4.15 (s, 4H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-D₆): δ 80.22, 68.58, 50.00.



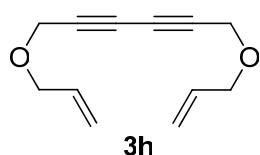
1, 6-dimethoxyhexa-2,4-diyne (3e).⁹ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 4.18 (s, 4H), 3.39 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 75.05, 70.12, 59.74, 57.40.



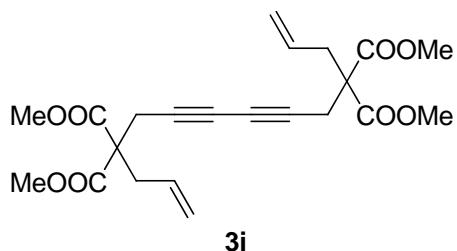
1,6-bis(benzyloxy)hexa-2,4-diyne (3f).¹¹ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.39-7.35 (m, 10H), 4.65 (s, 4H), 4.28 (s, 4H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 137.31, 128.90, 128.44, 128.33, 75.71, 72.00, 70.91, 57.82.



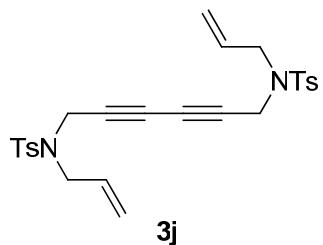
1,6-bis(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-yloxy)hexa-2,4-diyne (3g).¹² ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 4.80 (m, 2H), 4.33(s, 4H), 3.85–3.52 (m, 2H), 3.57-3.52 (m, 2H), 1.80-1.56 (m, 12H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 96.99, 75.38, 70.08, 62.05, 54.48, 30.28, 25.45, 19.06.



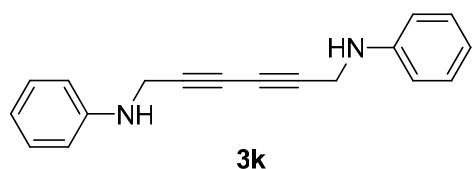
1,6-bis(allyloxy)hexa-2,4-diyne (3h).¹³ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.88-5.79 (m, 2H), 5.28-5.15 (m, 4H), 4.16(s, 4H), 4.00 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 4H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 133.86, 118.44, 75.52, 71.01, 70.60, 57.76.



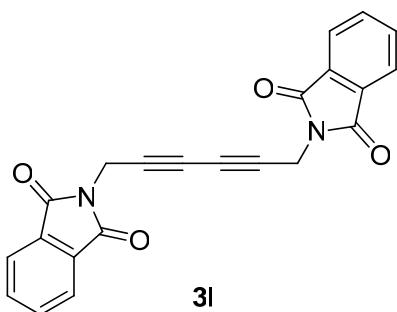
Tetramethyl tetradeca-1,13-dien-6,8-diyne-4,4,11,11-tetracarboxylate (3i).¹⁴ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.58-5.46 (m, 2H), 5.14-5.06 (m, 4H), 3.68 (s, 12H), 2.80 (s, 4H), 2.71 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.65, 131.24, 119.91, 72.19, 67.82, 56.57, 52.66, 36.56, 23.31.



N,N'-(hexa-2,4-diyne-1,6-diyl)bis(N-allyl-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide) (3j).¹³ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 5.73-5.65 (m, 2H), 5.27-5.23 (m, 4H), 4.11 (s, 4H), 3.75 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 4H), 2.43 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 144.11, 135.79, 131.86, 129.83, 127.80, 120.44, 71.93, 69.46, 49.01, 36.66, 21.78.

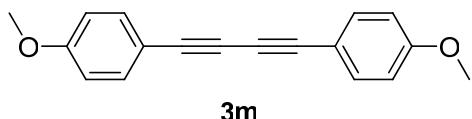


N1,N6-diphenylhexa-2,4-diyne-1,6-diamine (3k).⁵ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.26-7.19 (m, 4H), 6.82-6.79 (m, 2H), 6.67-6.65 (m, 4H), 3.99 (s, 4H), 3.86 (b, 2H); ¹³C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 146.76, 129.51, 119.01, 113.75, 75.84, 67.66, 34.43.



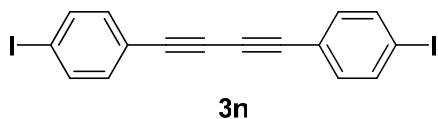
3l

2,2'-(hexa-2,4-diyne-1,6-diyl)diisoindoline-1,3-dione (3l).¹⁵ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.86–7.85 (m, 4H), 7.76–7.74 (m, 4H), 4.49 (s, 4H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.96, 134.50, 132.12, 123.86, 72.31, 67.57, 27.76.



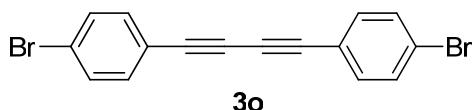
3m

1,4-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (3m).^{16,17} ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 3.81 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 160.42, 134.23, 114.32, 114.11, 81.42, 73.14, 55.52.



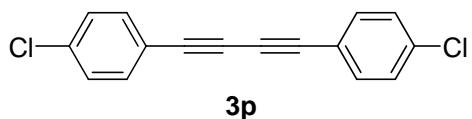
3n

1,4-bis(4-iodophenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (3n).¹⁷ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.71–7.68 (m, 4H), 7.25–7.22 (m, 4H); very insoluble in common organic solvents.¹⁸



3o

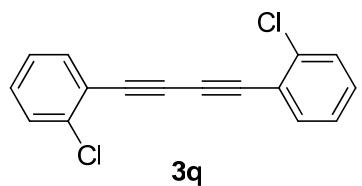
1,4-bis(4-bromophenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (3o).¹⁸ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H); very insoluble in common organic solvents.¹⁸



3p

1,4-bis(4-chlorophenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (3p).¹⁹ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.46

(d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H), 7.32 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H); very insoluble in common organic solvents.¹⁸



1,4-bis(2-chlorophenyl)buta-1,3-diyne (3q).²⁰ ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.59-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.22 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 137.20, 134.61, 130.53, 129.69, 126.79, 122.03, 79.64, 78.59.

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General ReactIR Experimental Details

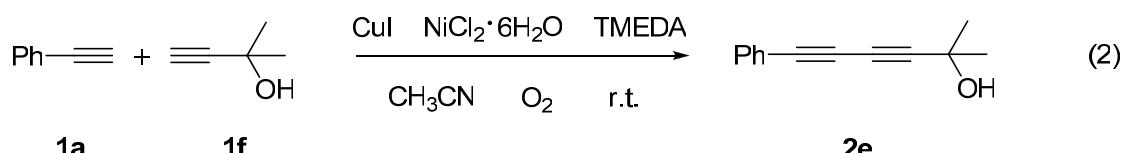
All kinetic experiments were run at 25 ± 1 °C. For the ReactIR kinetic experiments, the reaction spectra were recorded using a ReactIR 4000 from Mettler-Toledo AutoChem fitted with a silicon-tipped (SiComp) probe. The spectra were acquired in 2 scans at a gain of one and a resolution of two using system ReactIR 3.0 software. Data manipulation was carried out using the iC IR software, version 1. 05.

The experimental details:

The reaction was carried out as follows: an oven-dried three necked reaction vessel was fitted with a magnetic stirring bar. The IR probe was inserted through an adapter into the middle neck; the other two necks were capped by septa for injections and an oxygen line. The reaction vessel was kept at room temperature. Following evacuation under vacuum and flushing with oxygen, the three necked vessel was charged with 2.0 mL CH₃CN solution containing NiCl₂·6H₂O (5 %), CuI (5 %) and TMEDA (20 %). Then the two alkynes were added to initiate the reaction, and IR spectra were recorded over the course of the reaction.

Apparent kinetics of the hetero-couplings:

To gain more information of the reaction, the hetero-coupling reaction of phenylacetylene **1a** and 2-methylbut-3-yn-2-ol **1f** was monitored by in situ IR (eq 2). Figure 1 listed parts of the region of recorded spectrum of the reaction, in which the increasing of peak near 955 cm⁻¹, and declining of peak near 964 cm⁻¹ clearly show the progress of the reaction.



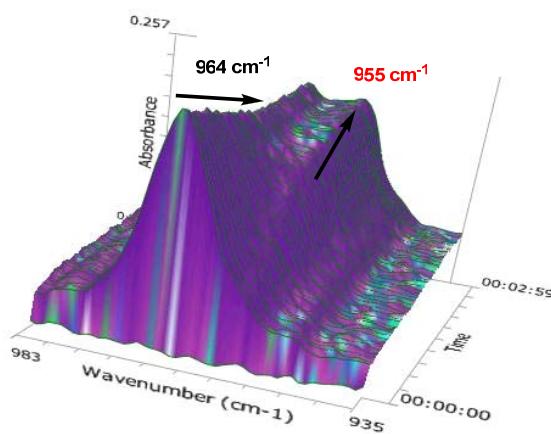


Figure 1. The time-resolution IR spectra of the reaction of **1a** and **1f** in the presence of Ni/Cu/O₂.

The kinetic profiles of component **1** and **2**, exhibited the trends of two species in the reaction with time (Figure 2A). Compared with the authentic samples shown in Figure 2B, the component **1** was assigned as alkyne **1f**, and the component **2** was the cross-coupled diyne **2e**.

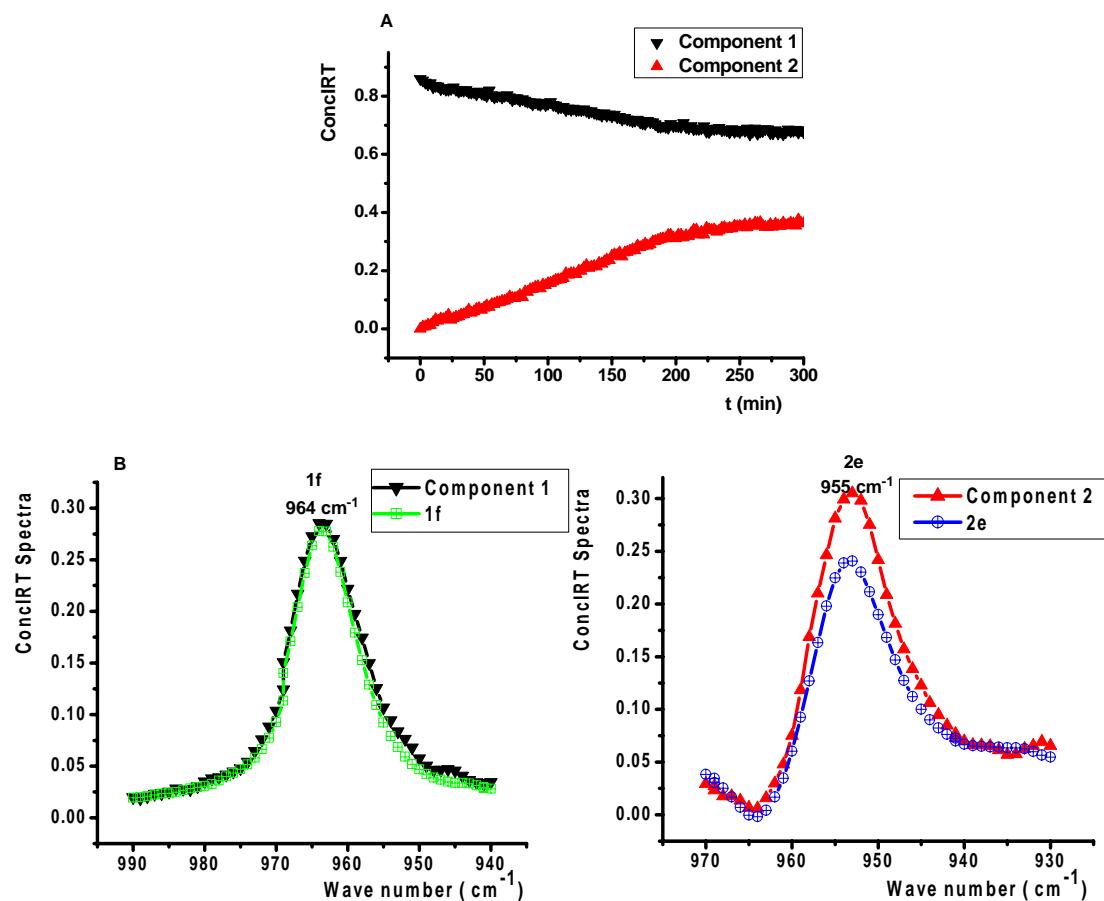


Figure 2. A: Kinetic profiles of the reaction between **1a** and **1f** monitored by in-situ IR. **B:** Component **1** and **2** comparison between authentic samples **1f** and **2e**.

Figure 3A listed the kinetic profile of the cross-coupled diyne **2e** with time in the reaction of 5.0 equiv **1f** with 1.0 equiv **1a** in the presence of Ni/Cu catalysts, which is interested since it showed a liner region from beginning till the end. Similar kinetic trends were observed in the reaction of 1.0 equiv **1f** with 5.0 equiv **1a** in the presence of Ni/Cu catalysts (Figure 3B). However, the kinetic curve of the reaction of 5.0 equiv **1f** with 1.0 equiv **1a** in only presence of Cu catalyst, but no Ni-catalyst (Figure 3C) was completely different with the one listed in the Figure 3A. The preliminary kinetic data clearly clarified that the formation of cross-coupled diynes from the catalyst system of Ni/Cu was different from the only Cu-catalyst system again.

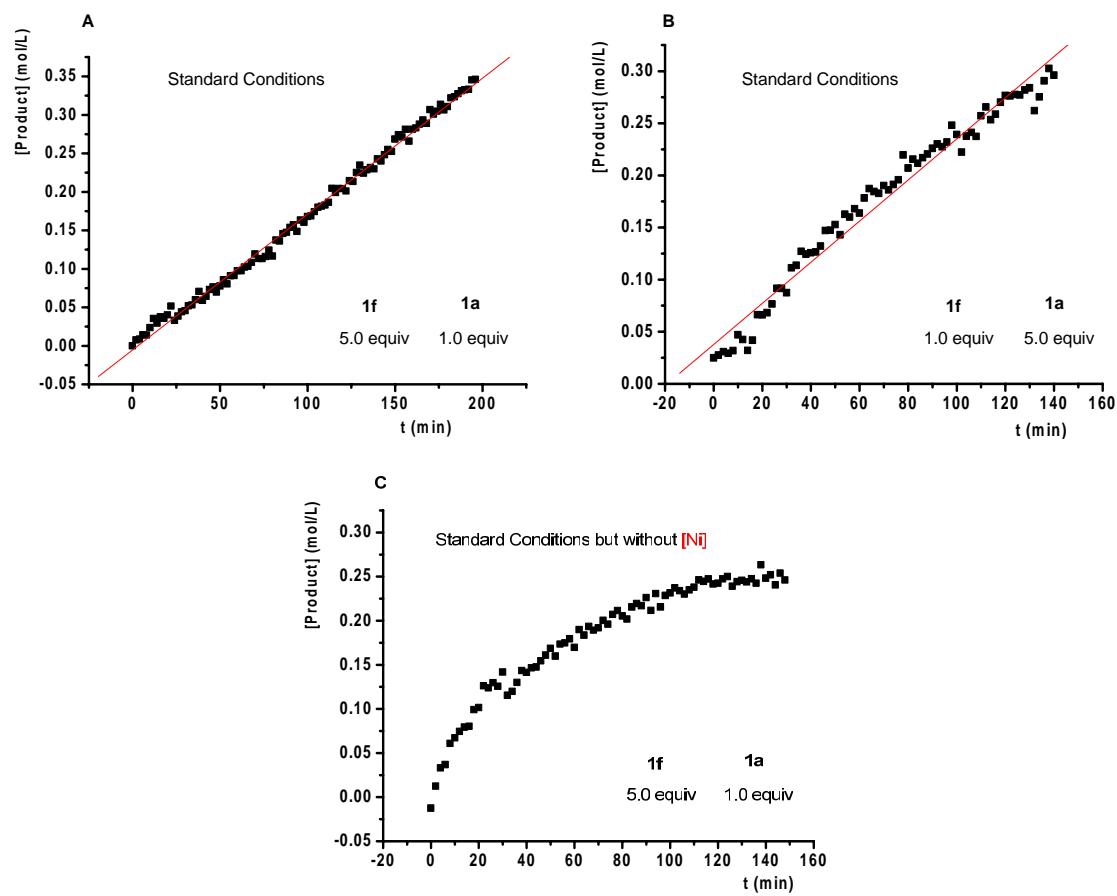
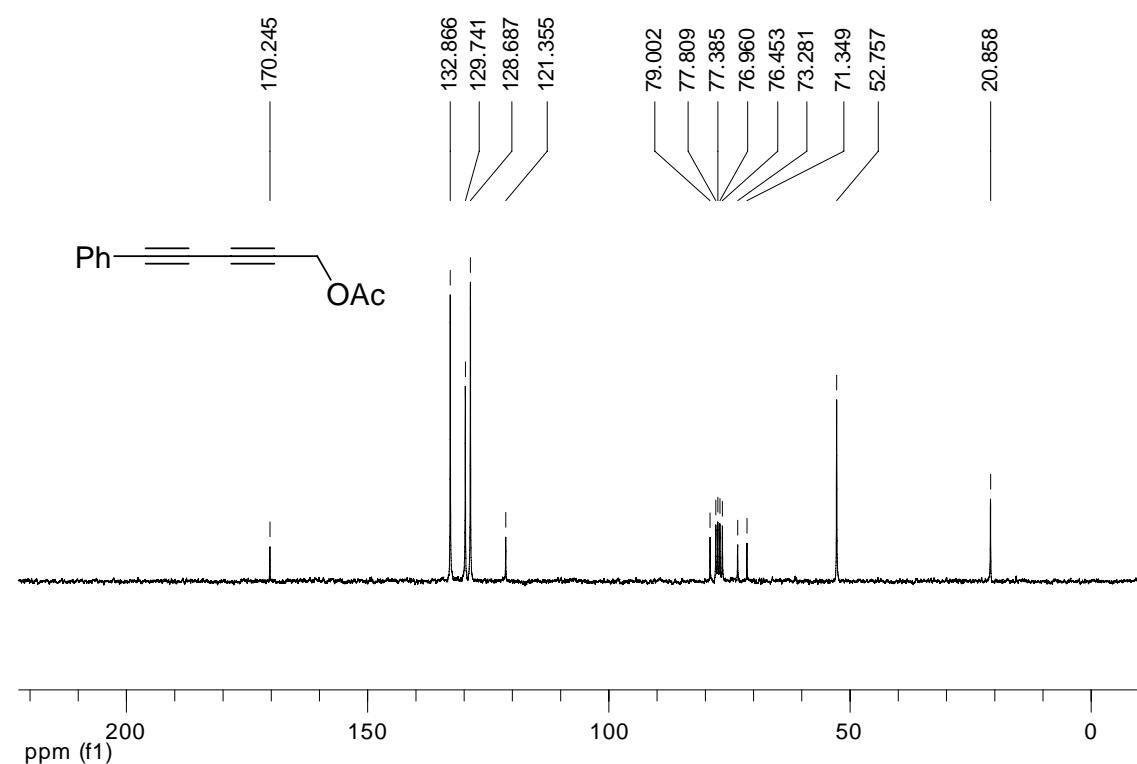
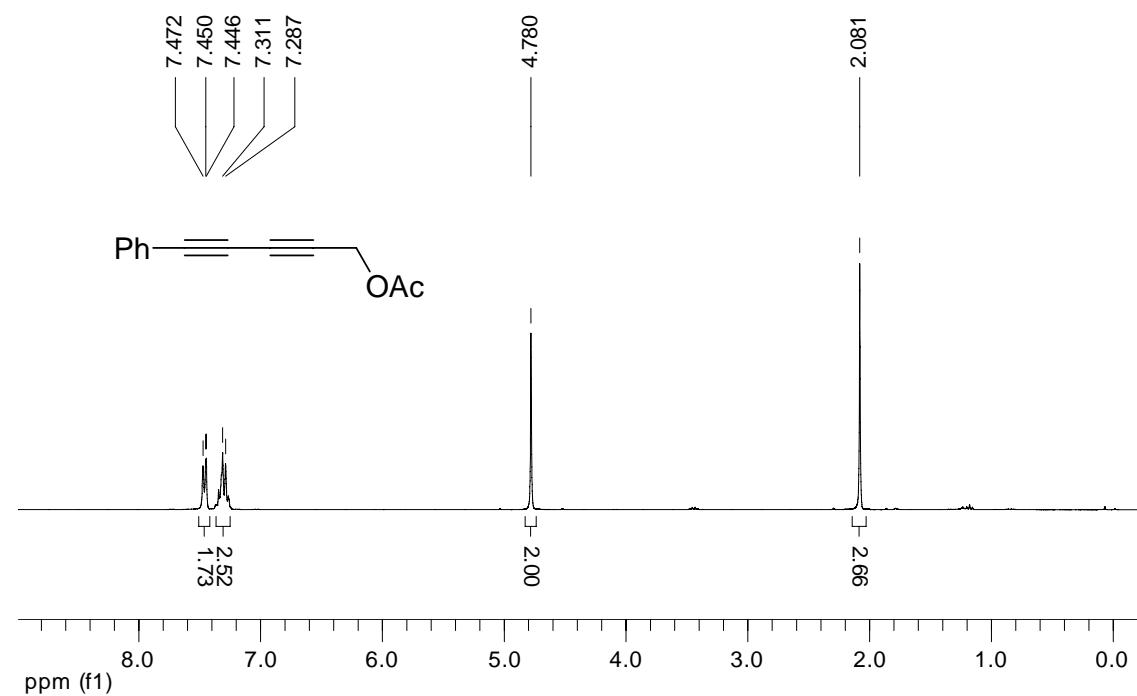


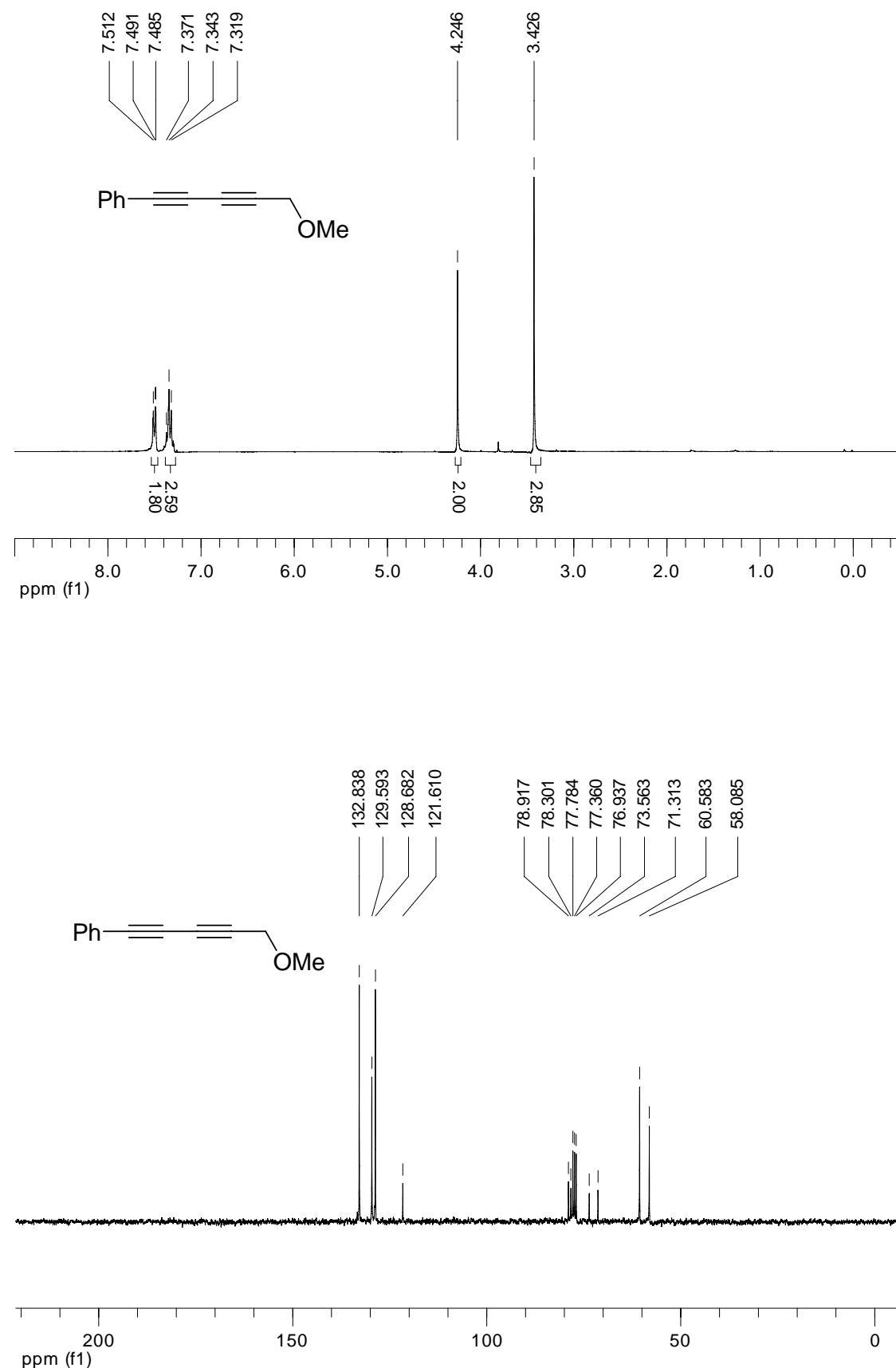
Figure 3. Time profiles of hetero-coupling of phenylacetylene **1a** and 2-methylbut-3-yn-2-ol **1f**. Standard conditions: Ni(II) / Cu(I) [$\text{NiCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (5 mol%), CuI (5 mol%)], TMEDA (20 mol%), 2 mL CH_3CN , O_2 at room temperature. **A:** 2-methylbut-3-yn-2-ol **1f** (5.0 equiv); **B:** phenylacetylene **1a** (5.0 equiv); **C:** 2-methylbut-3-yn-2-ol **1f** (5.0 equiv) without [Ni].

Spectrum

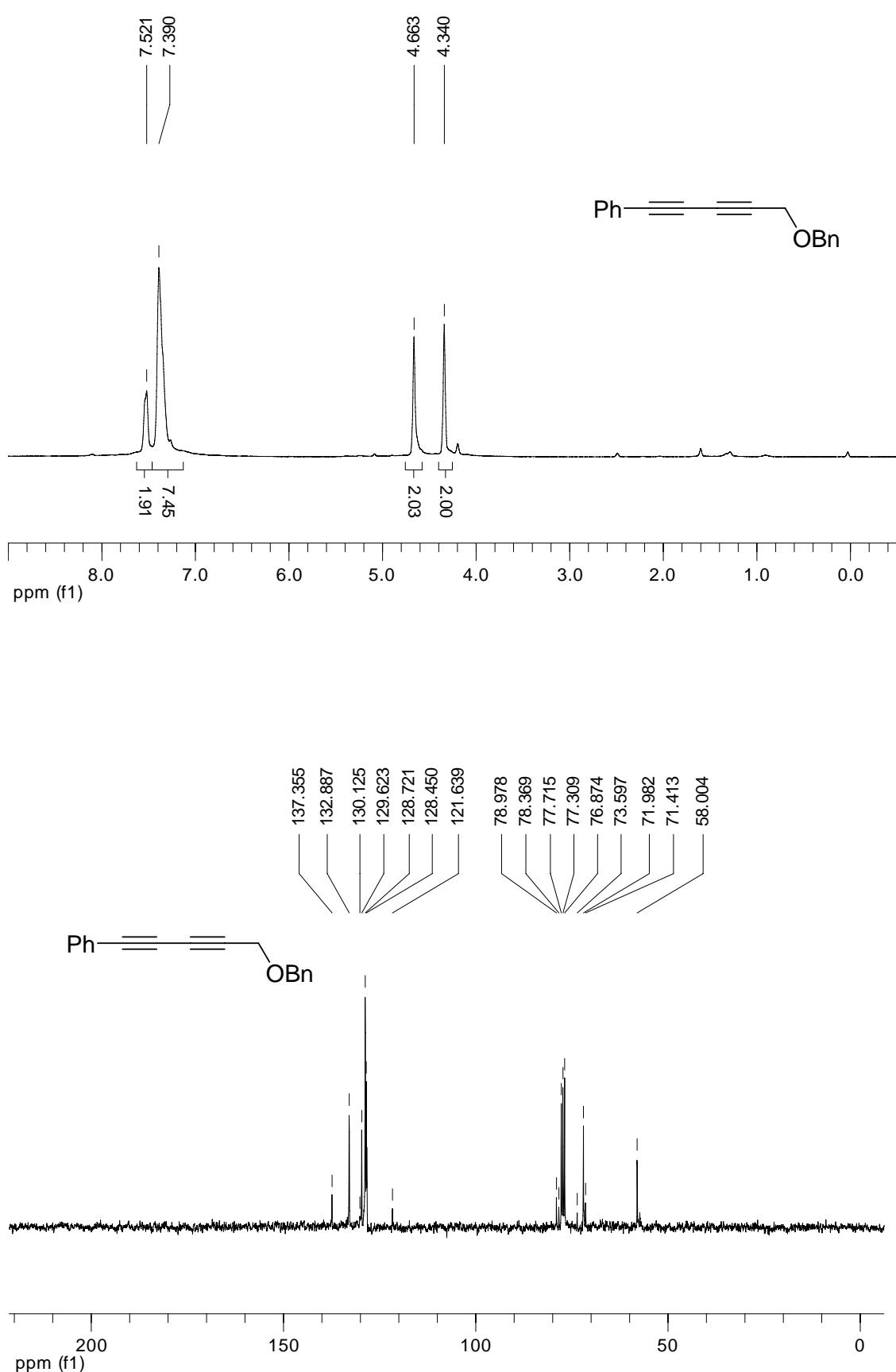
2a



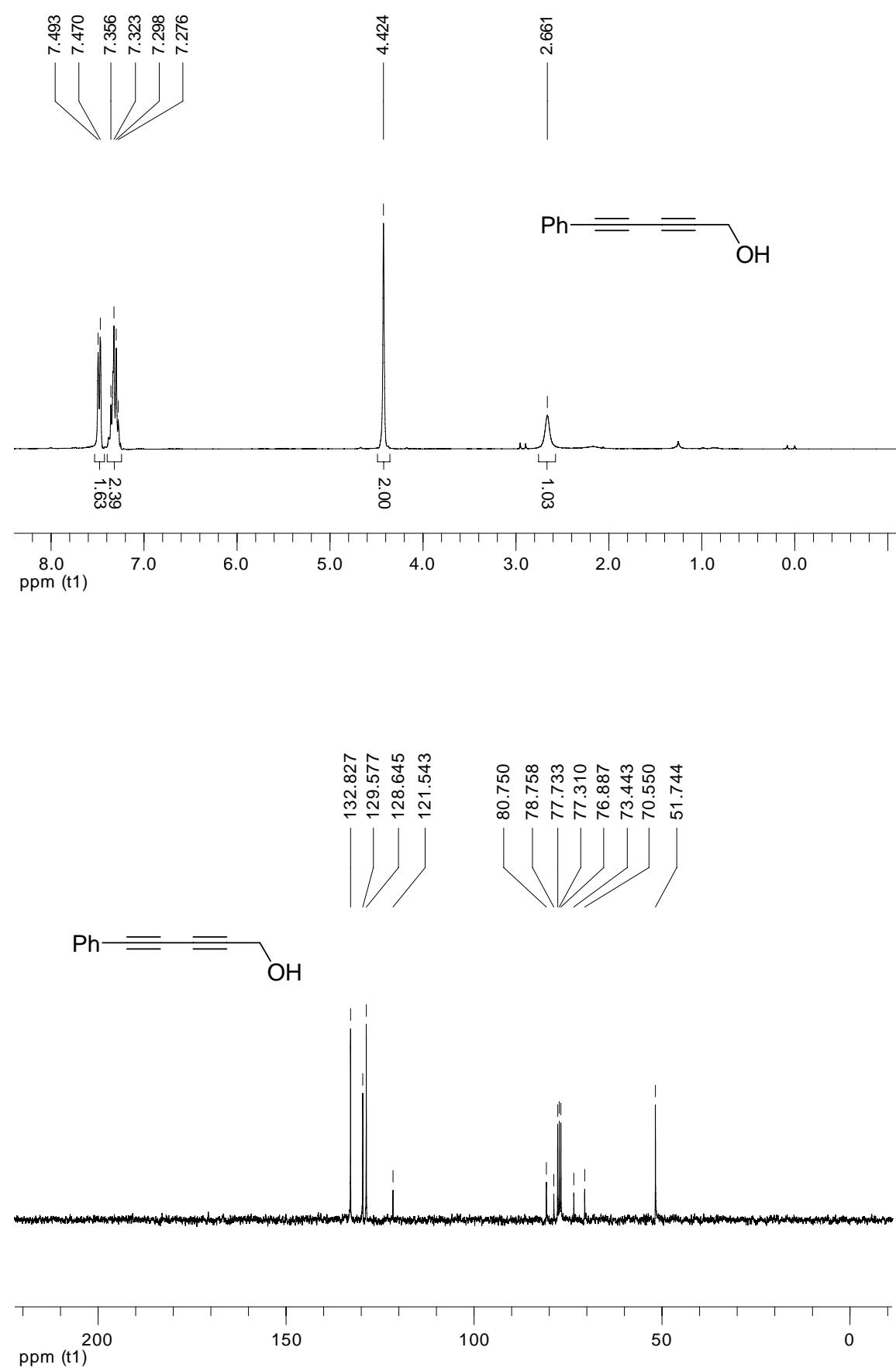
2b



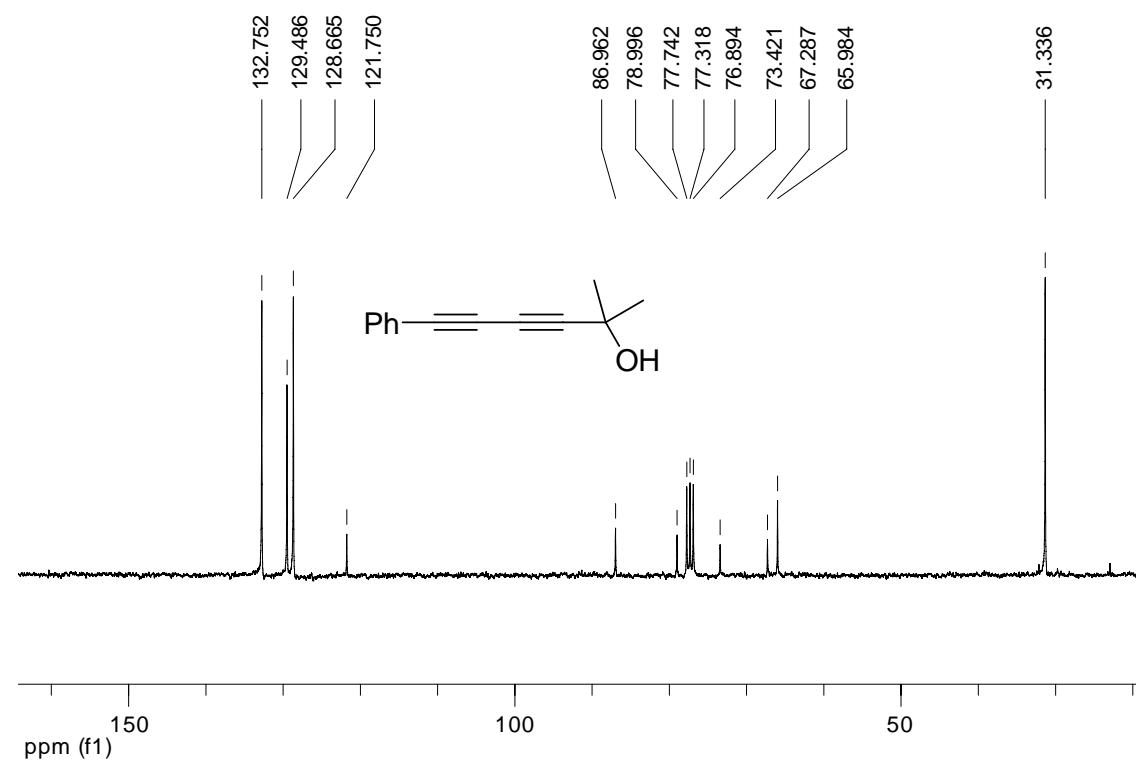
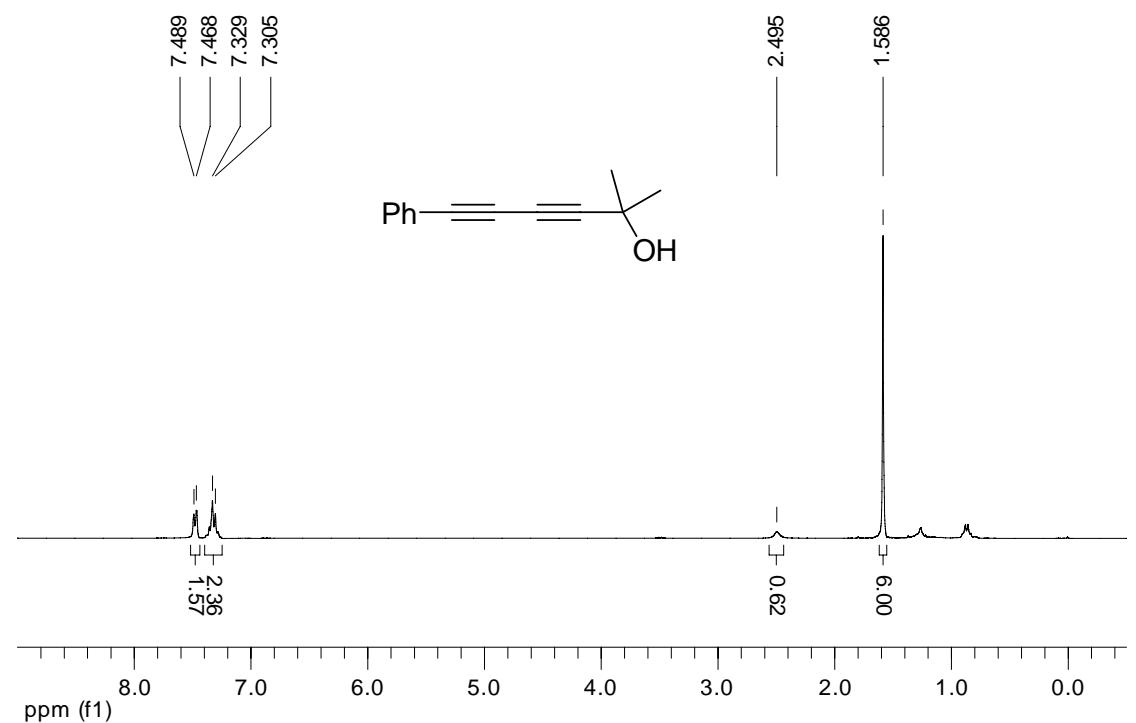
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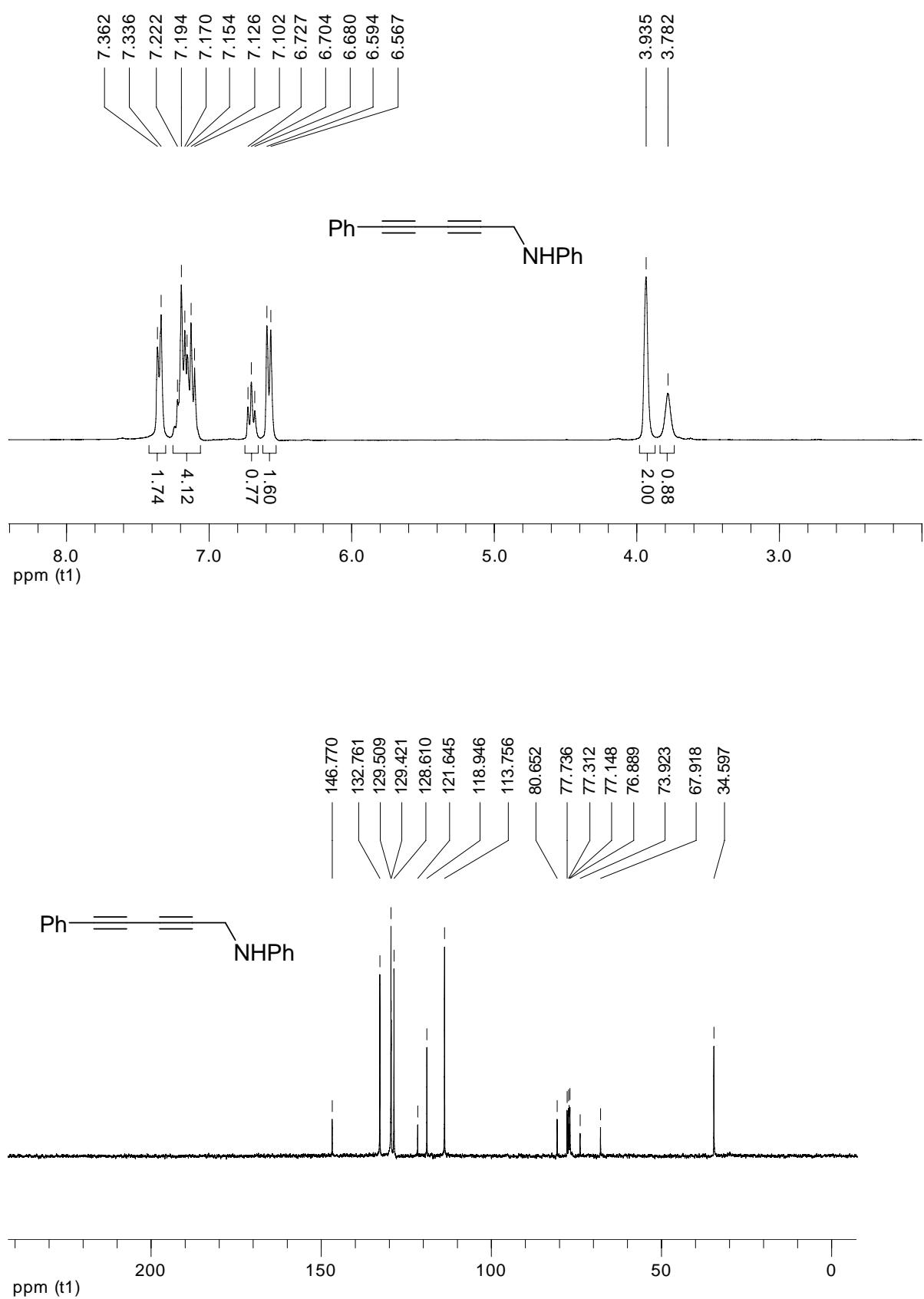
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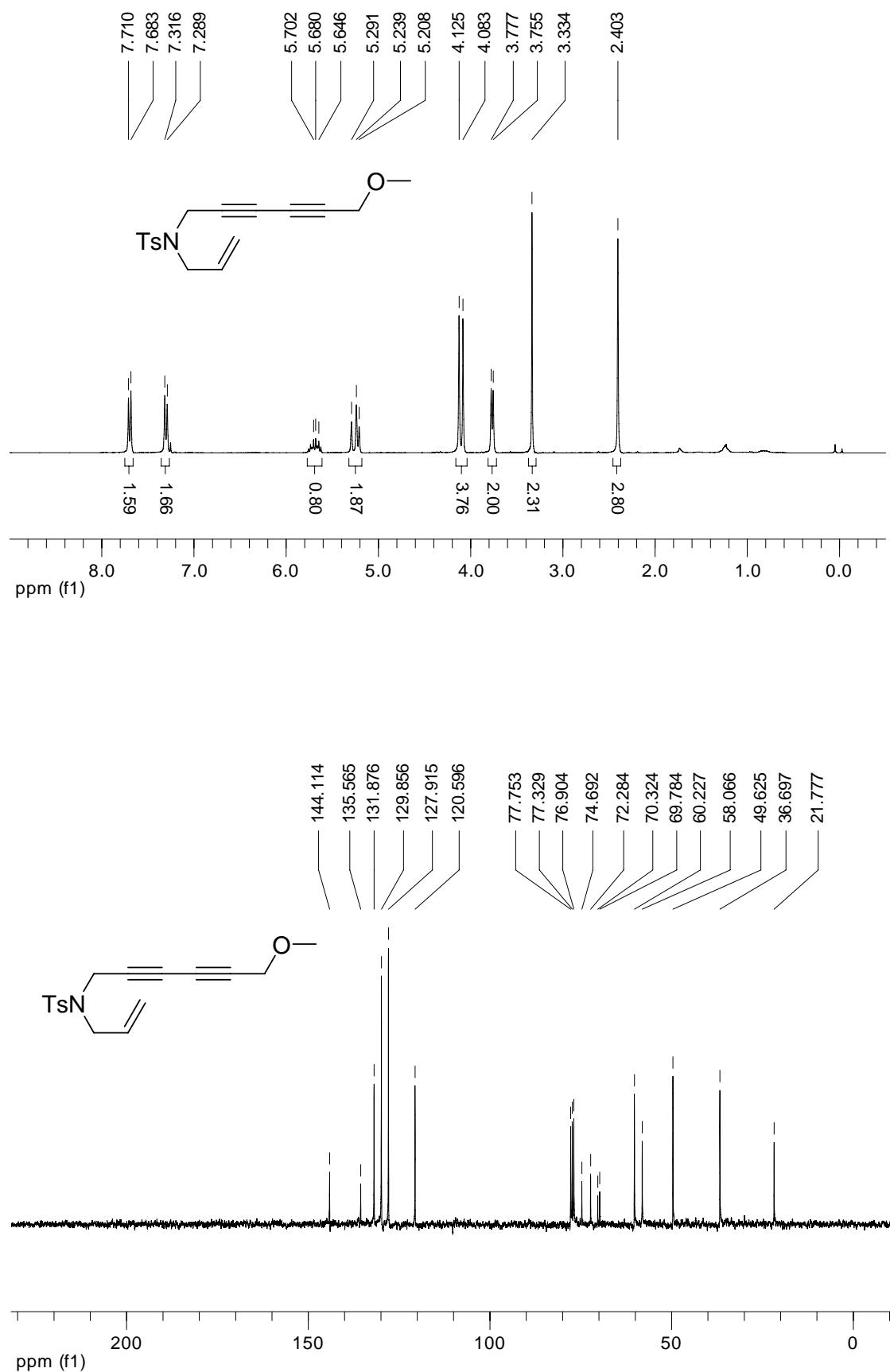
2e



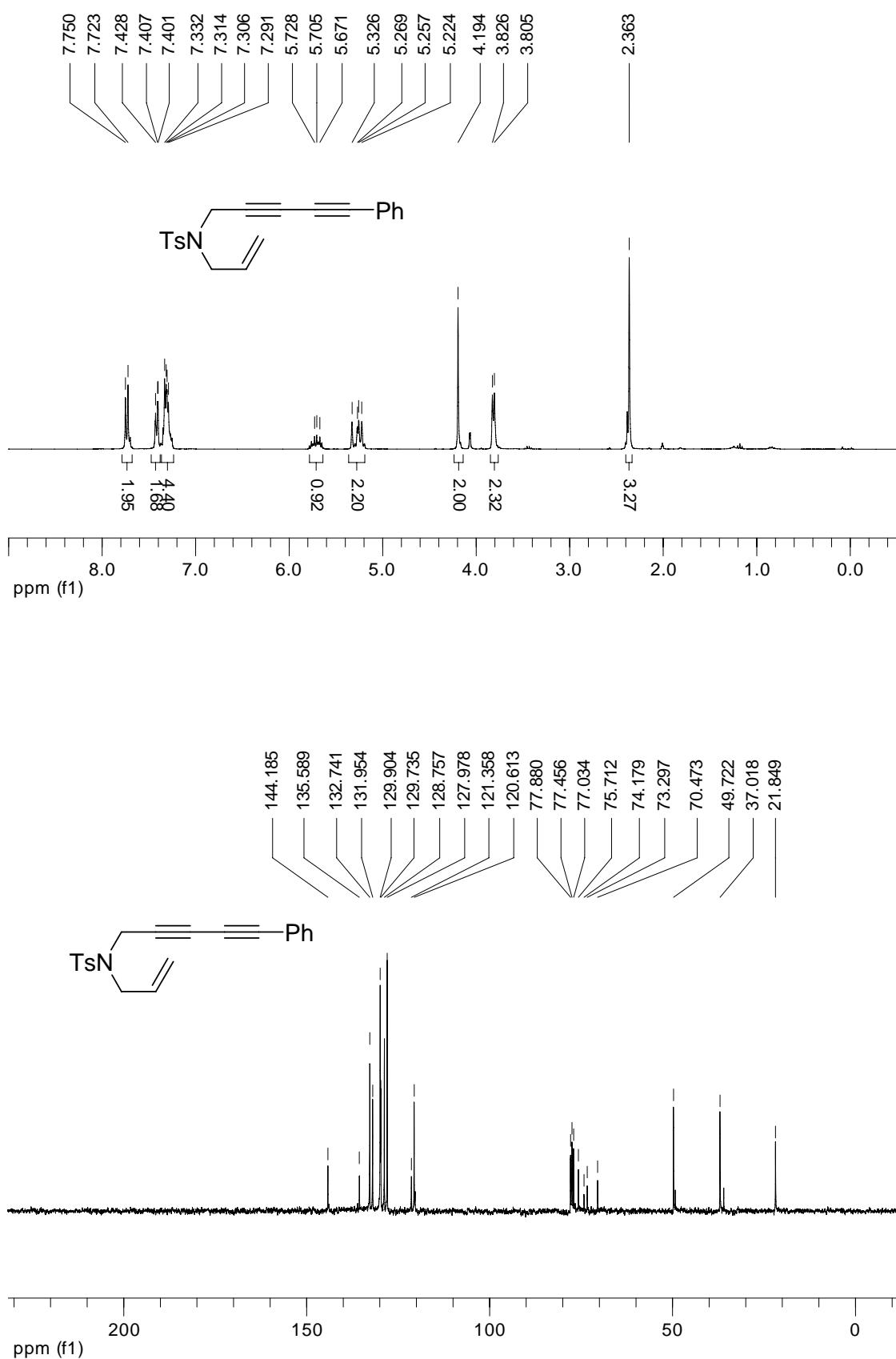
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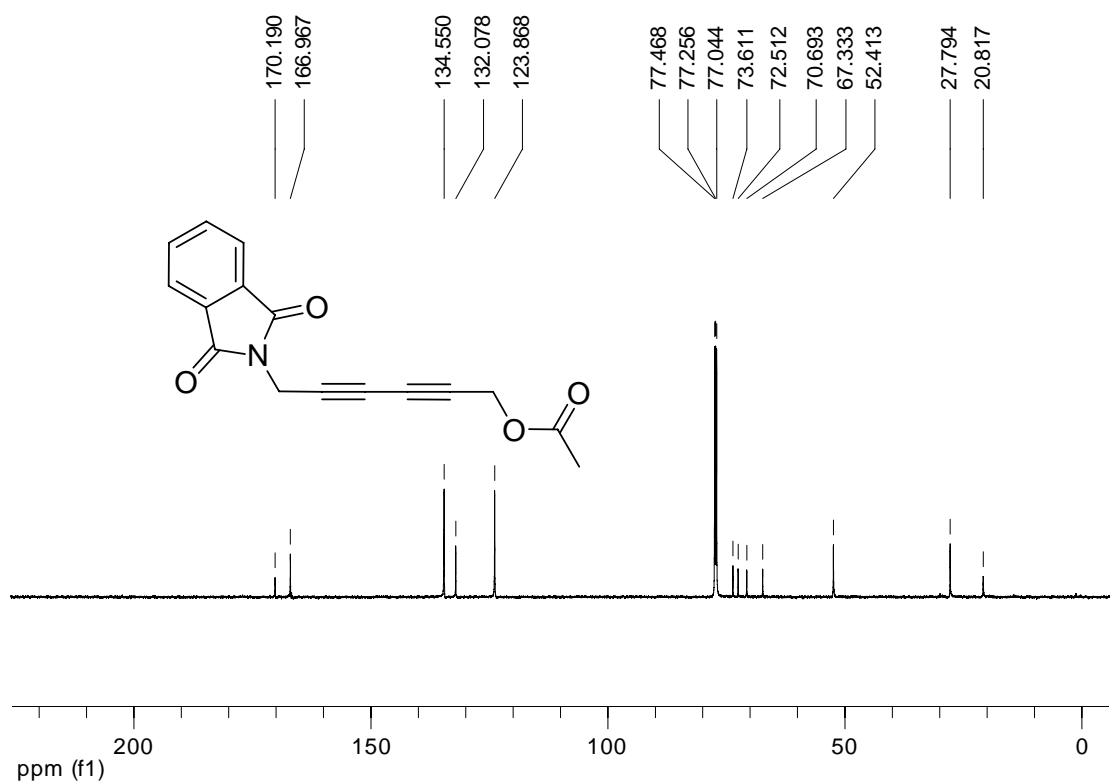
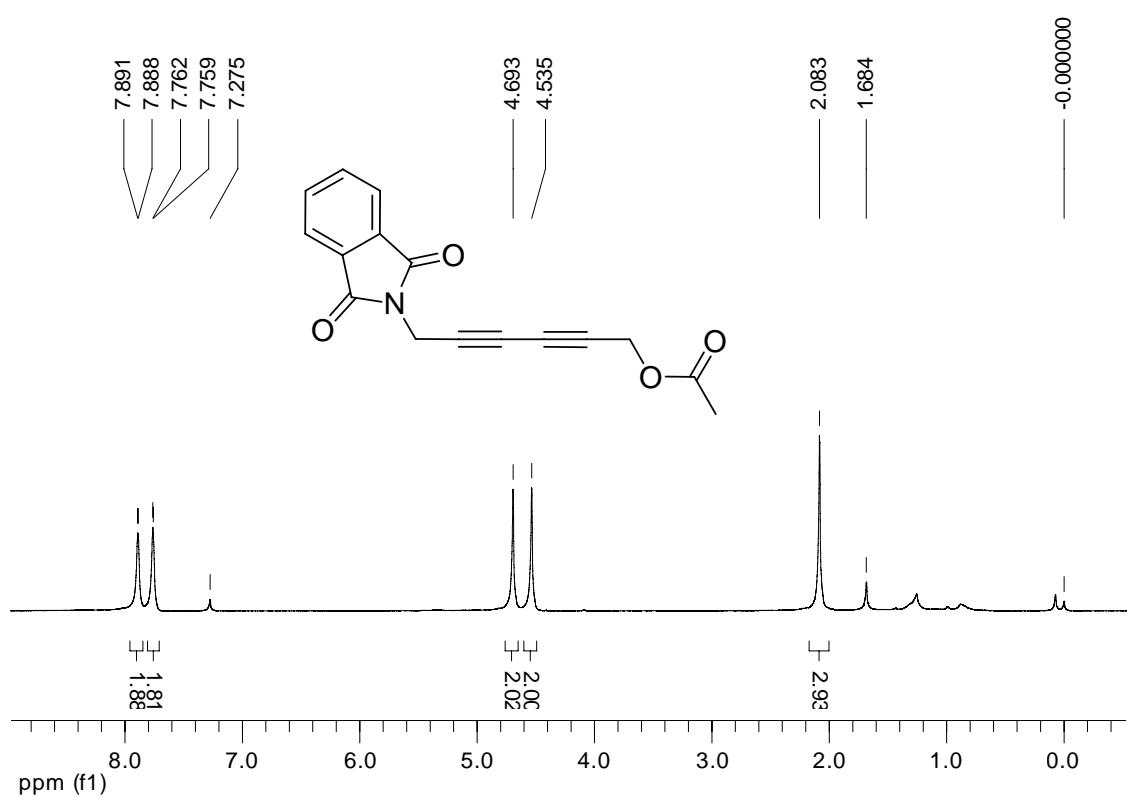
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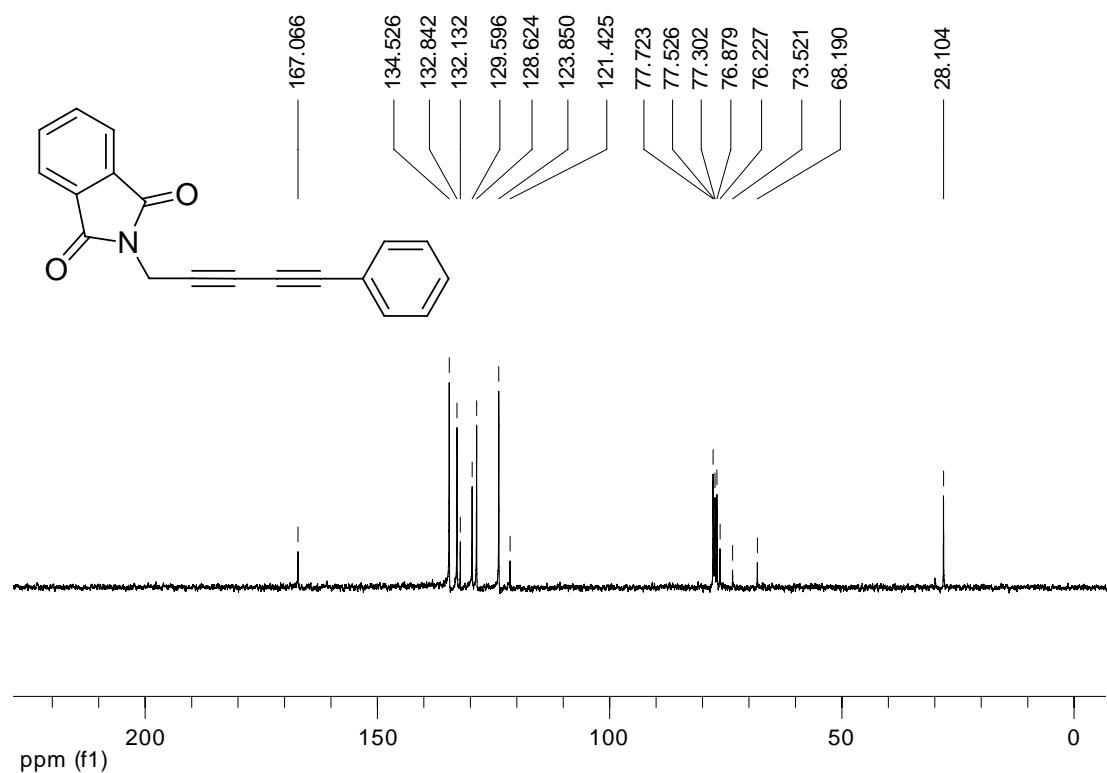
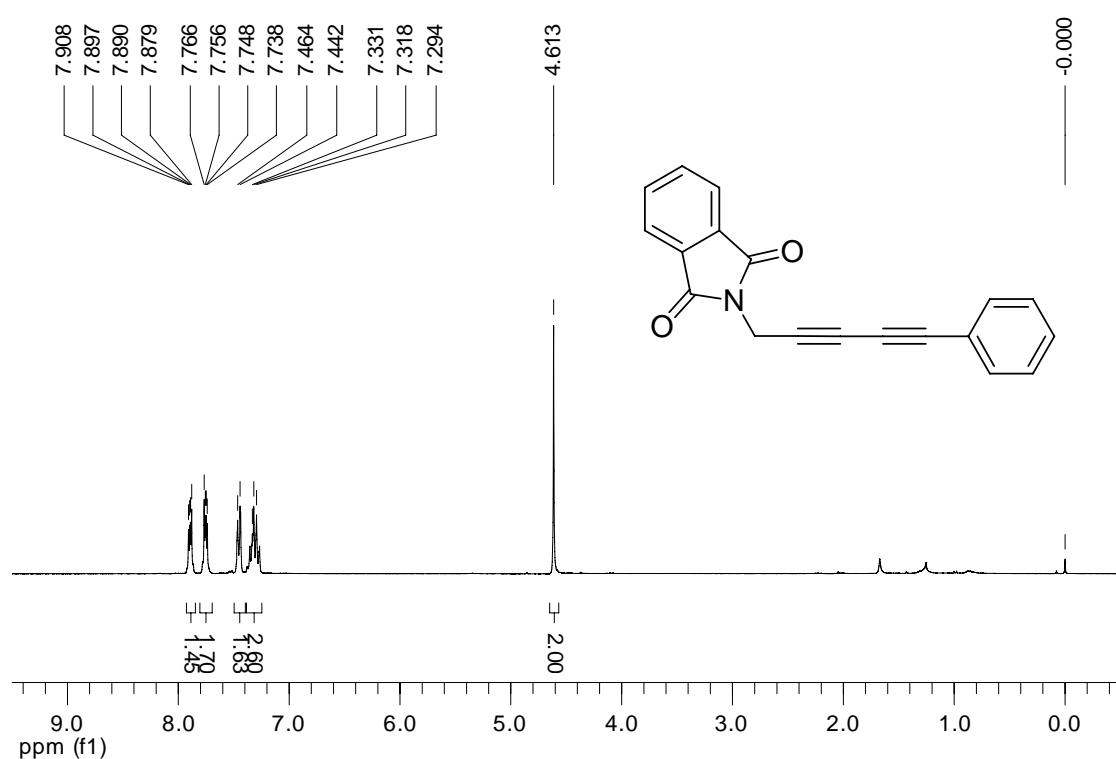
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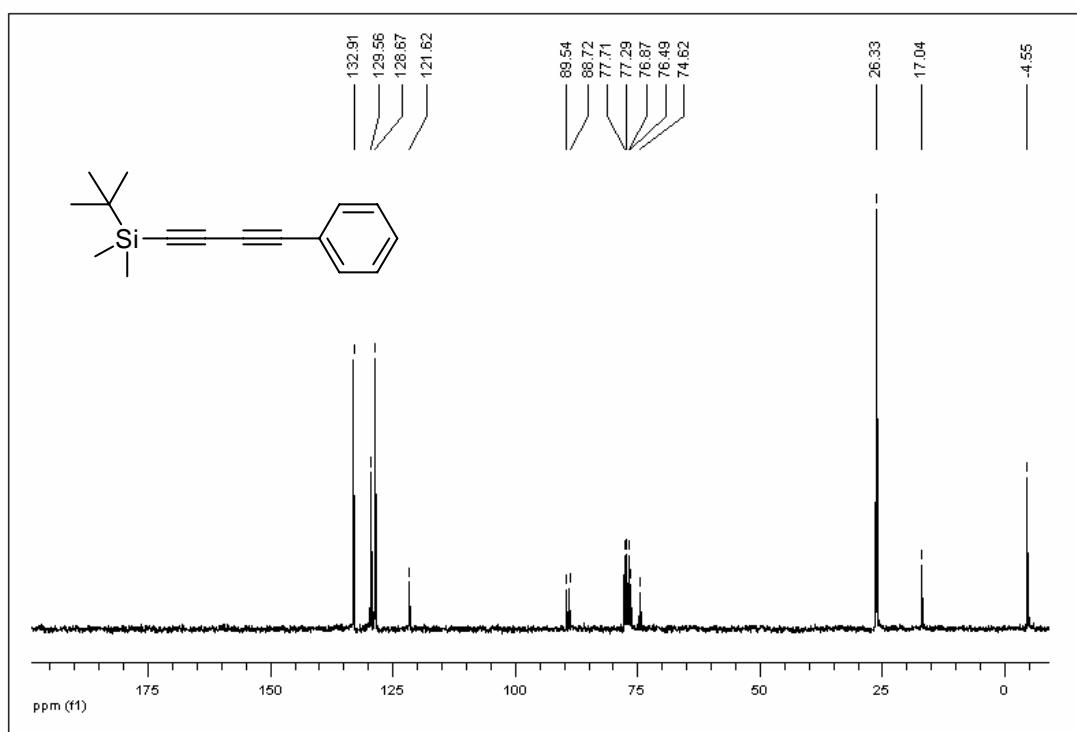
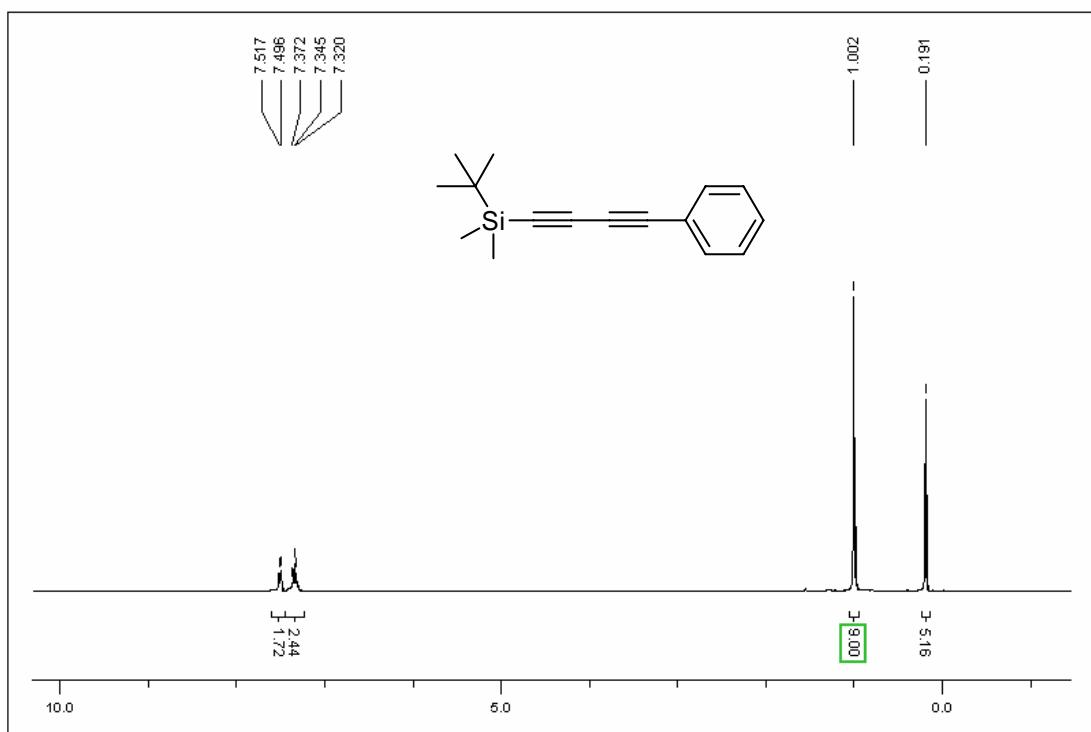
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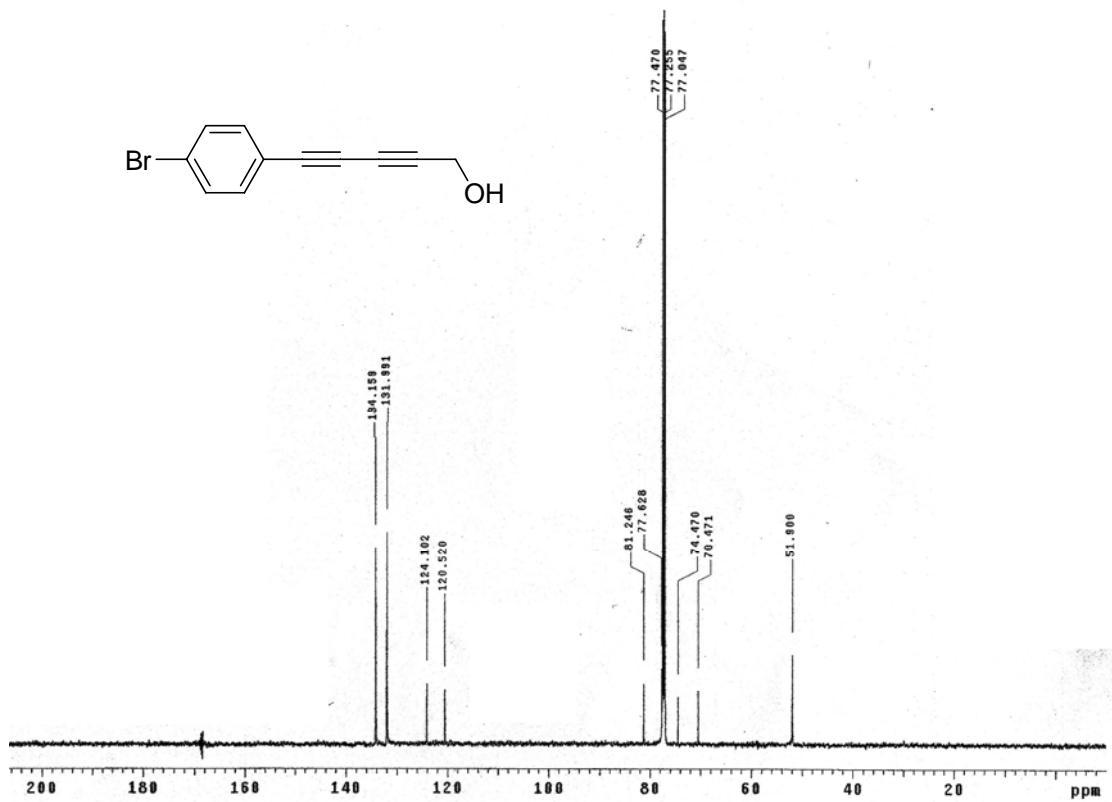
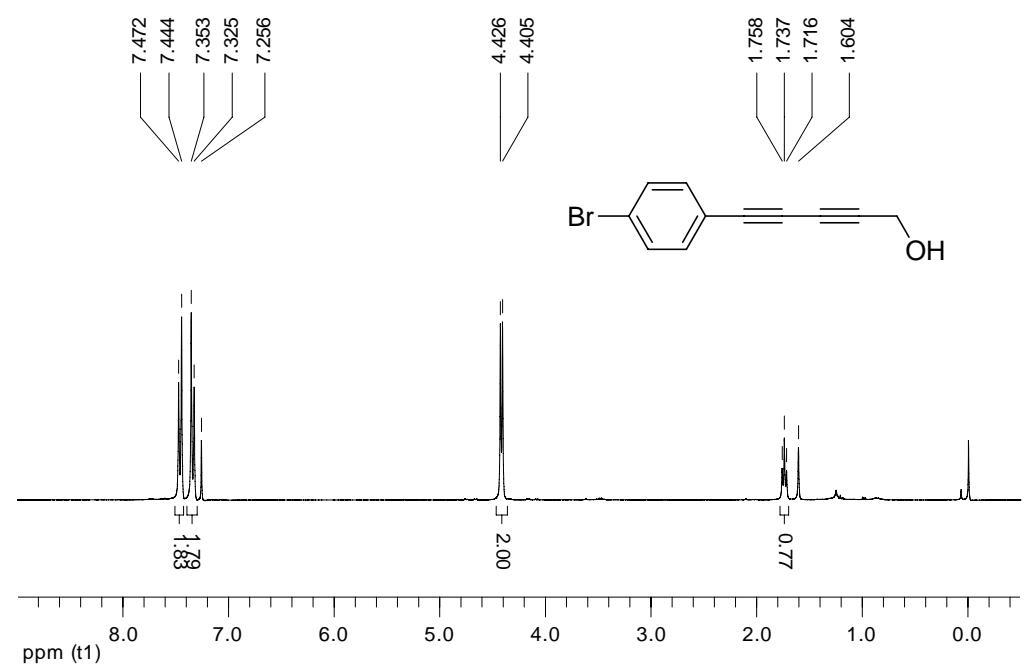
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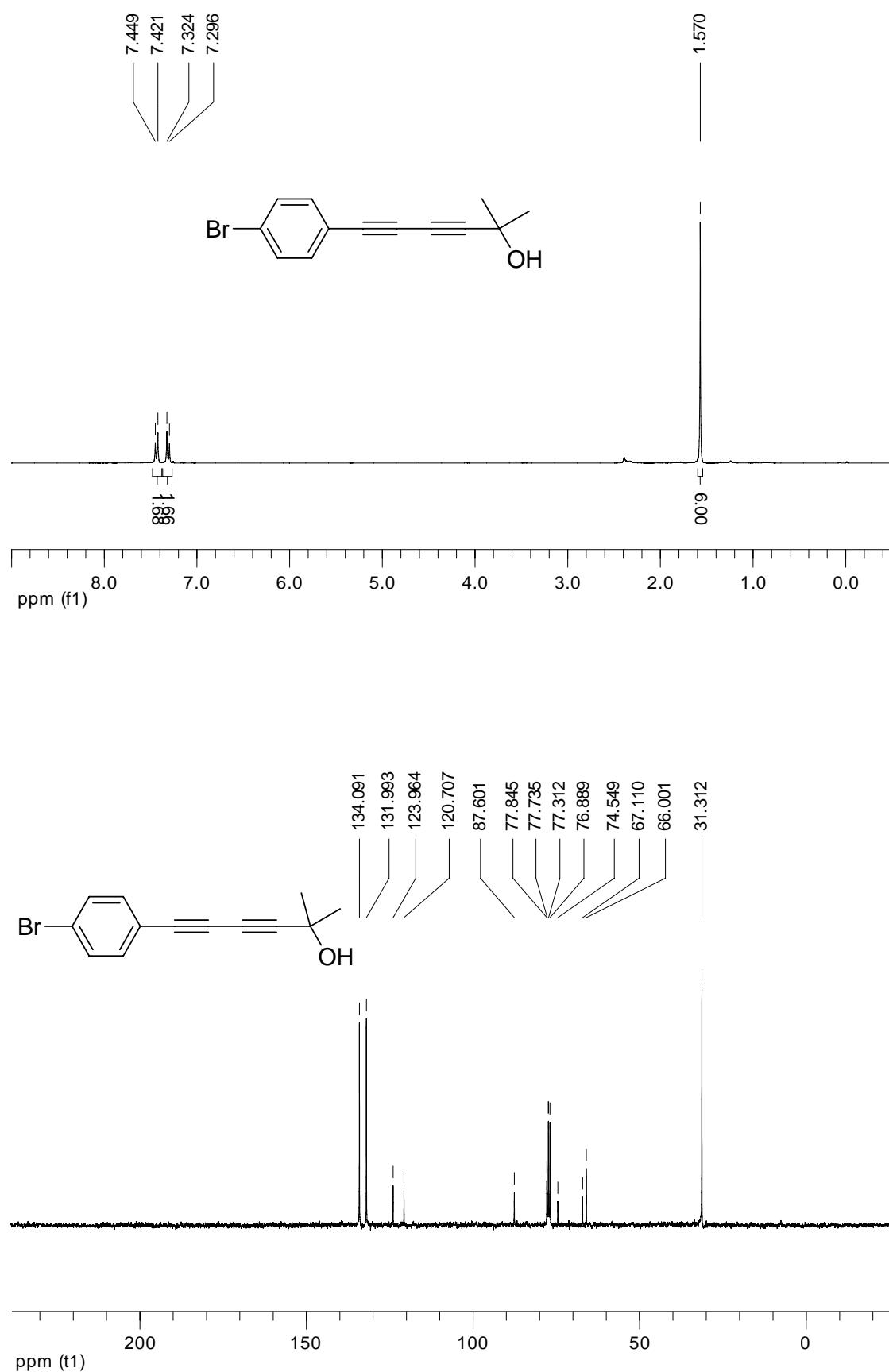
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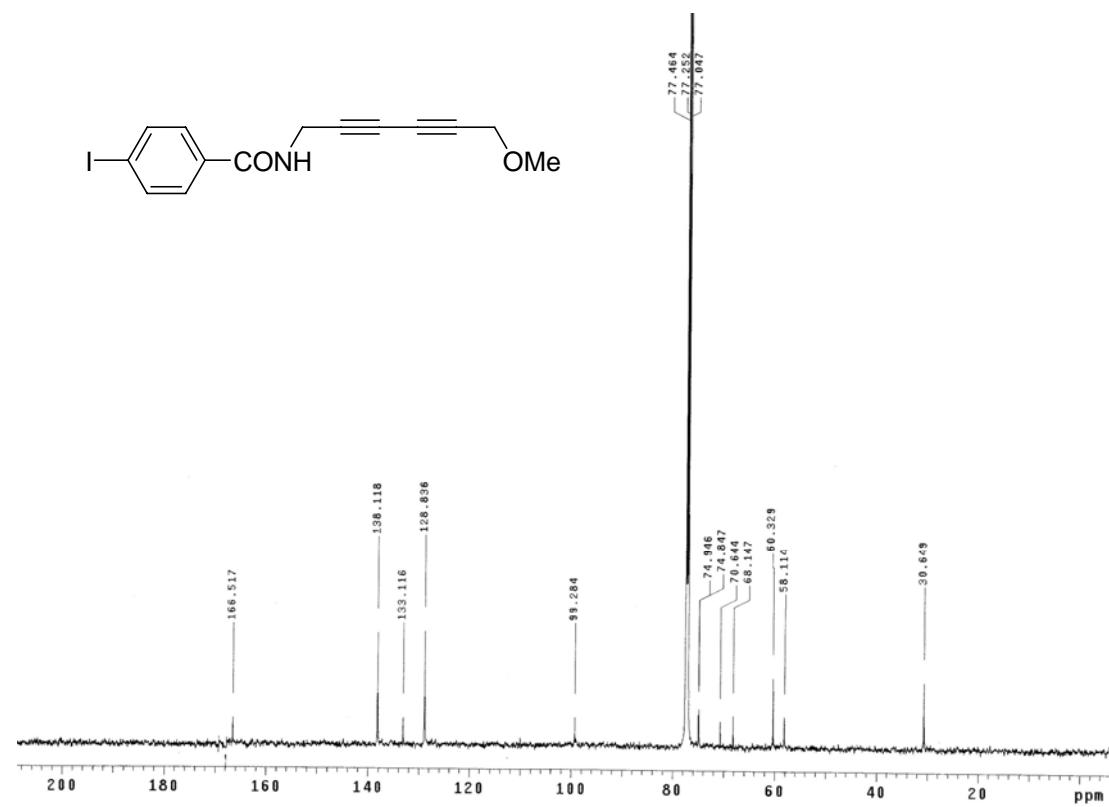
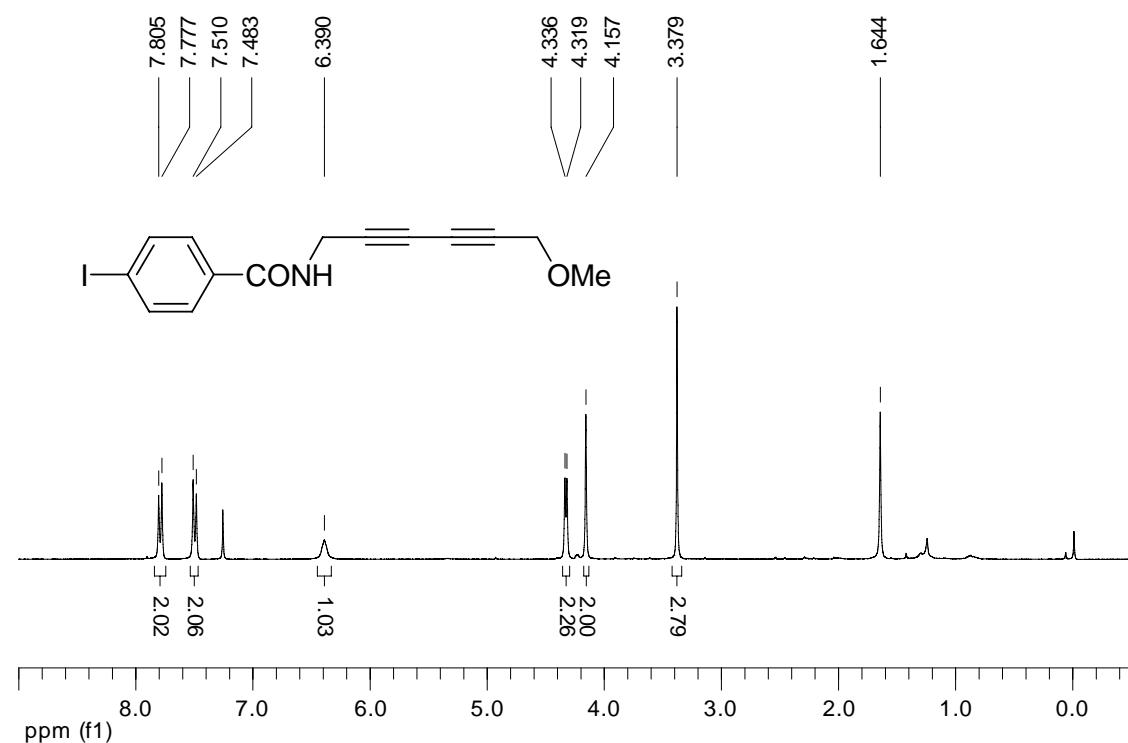
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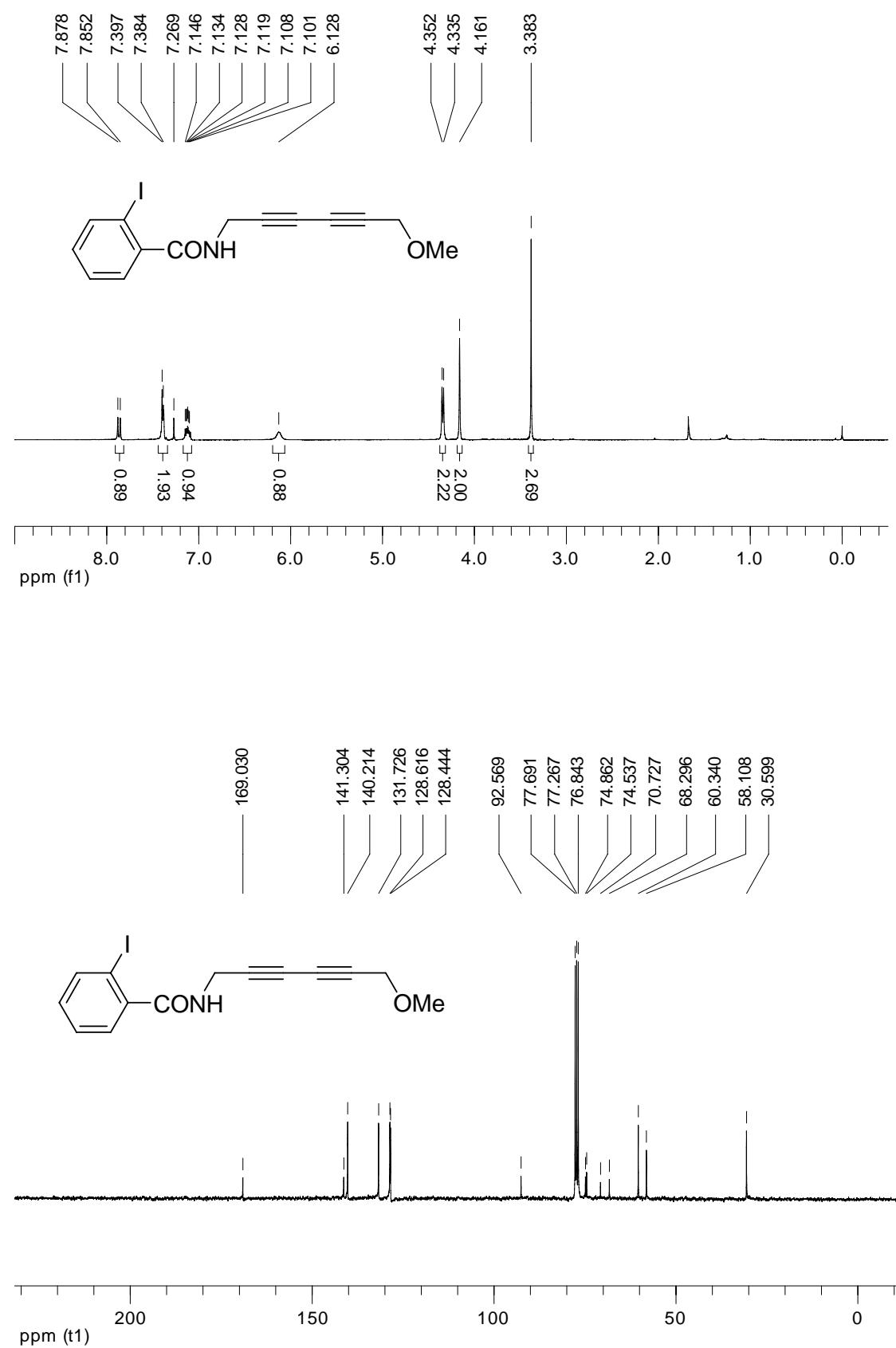
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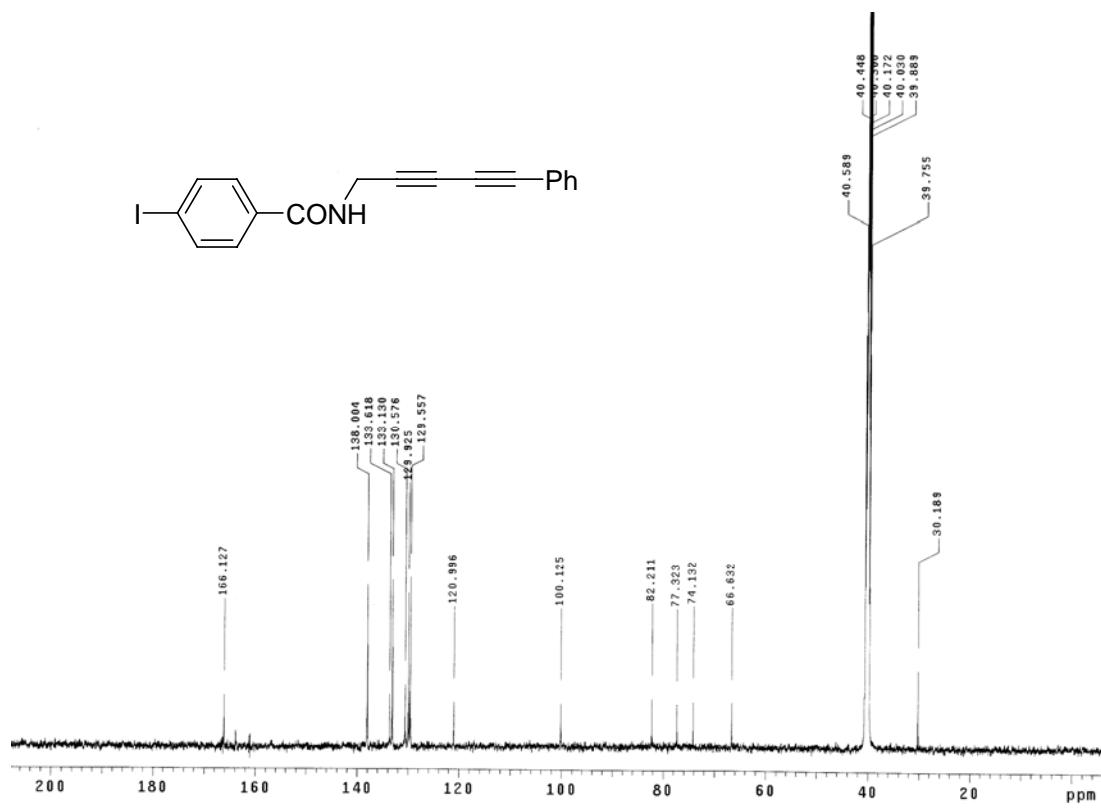
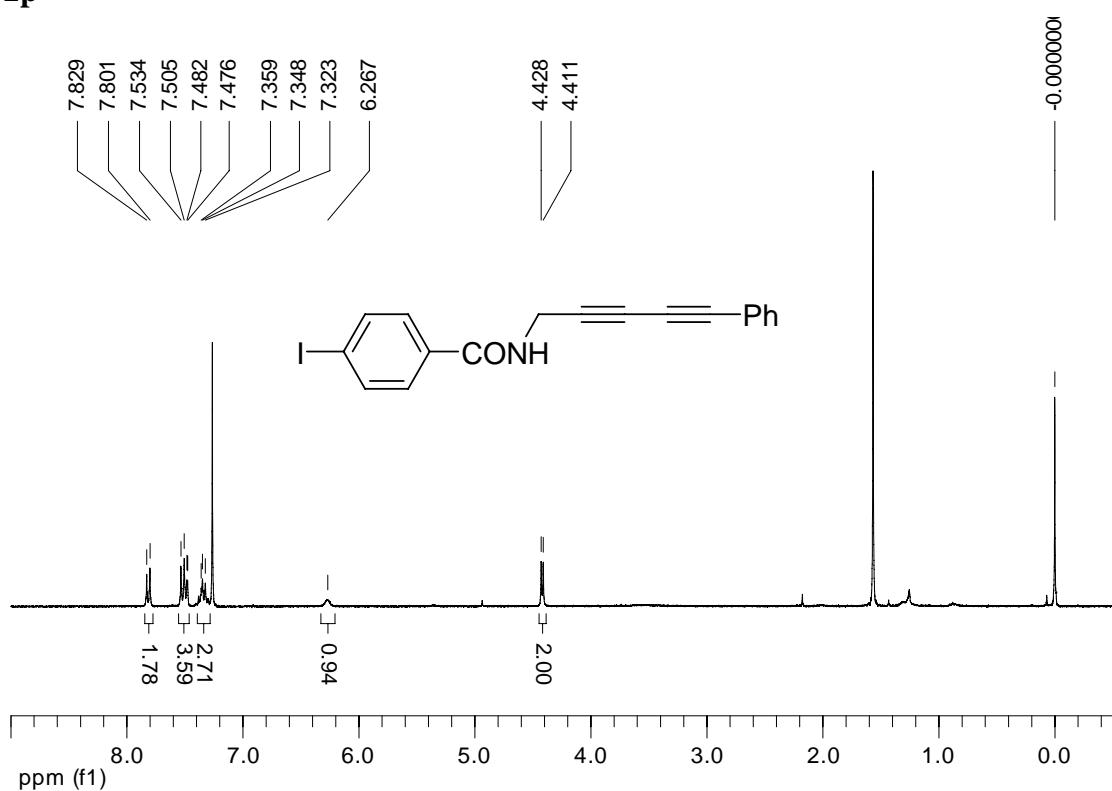
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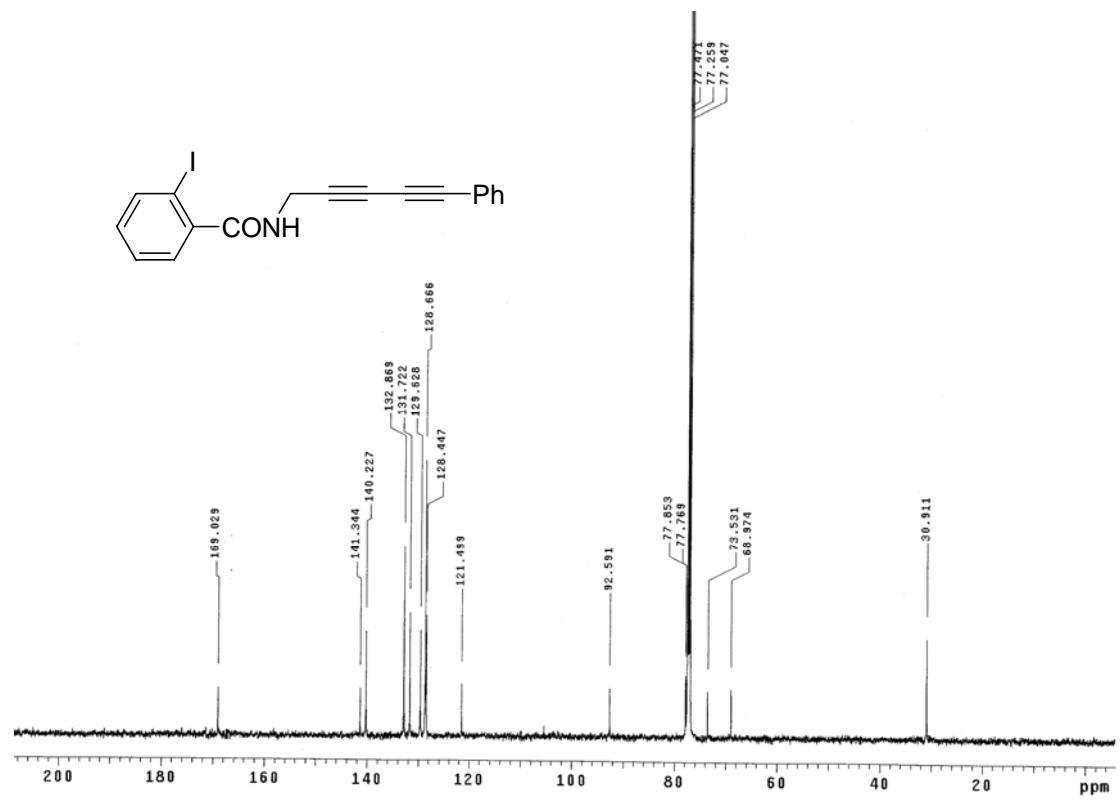
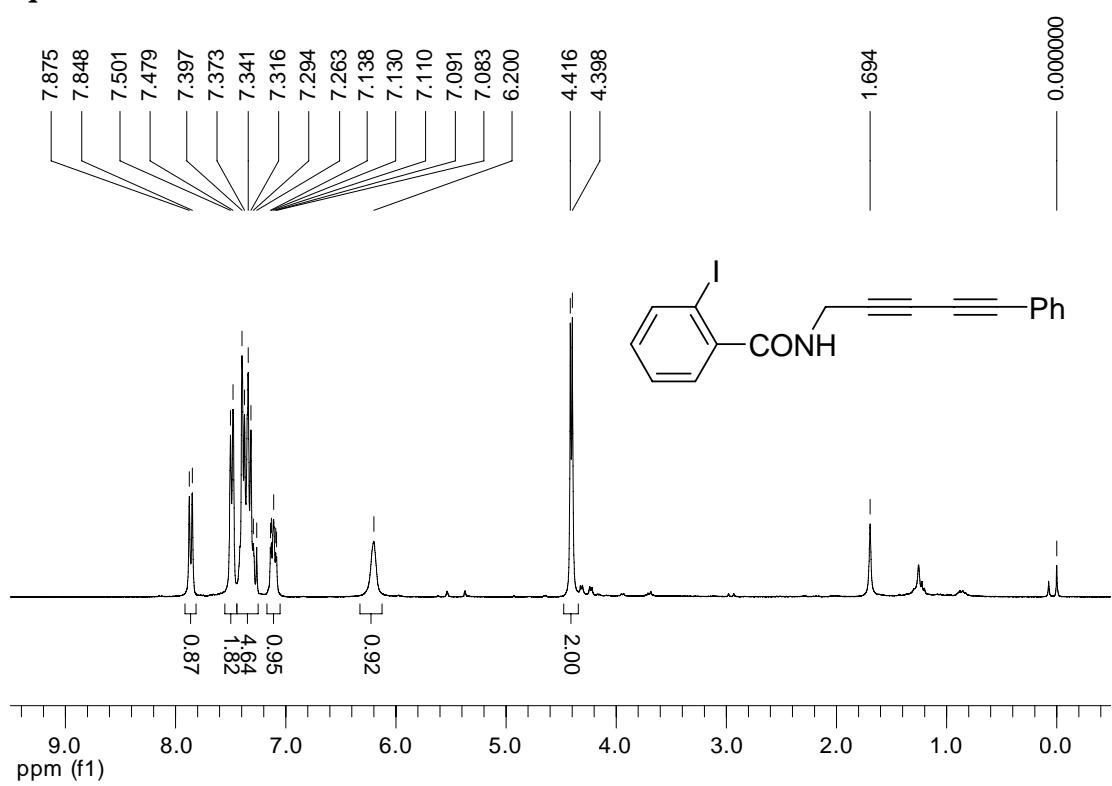
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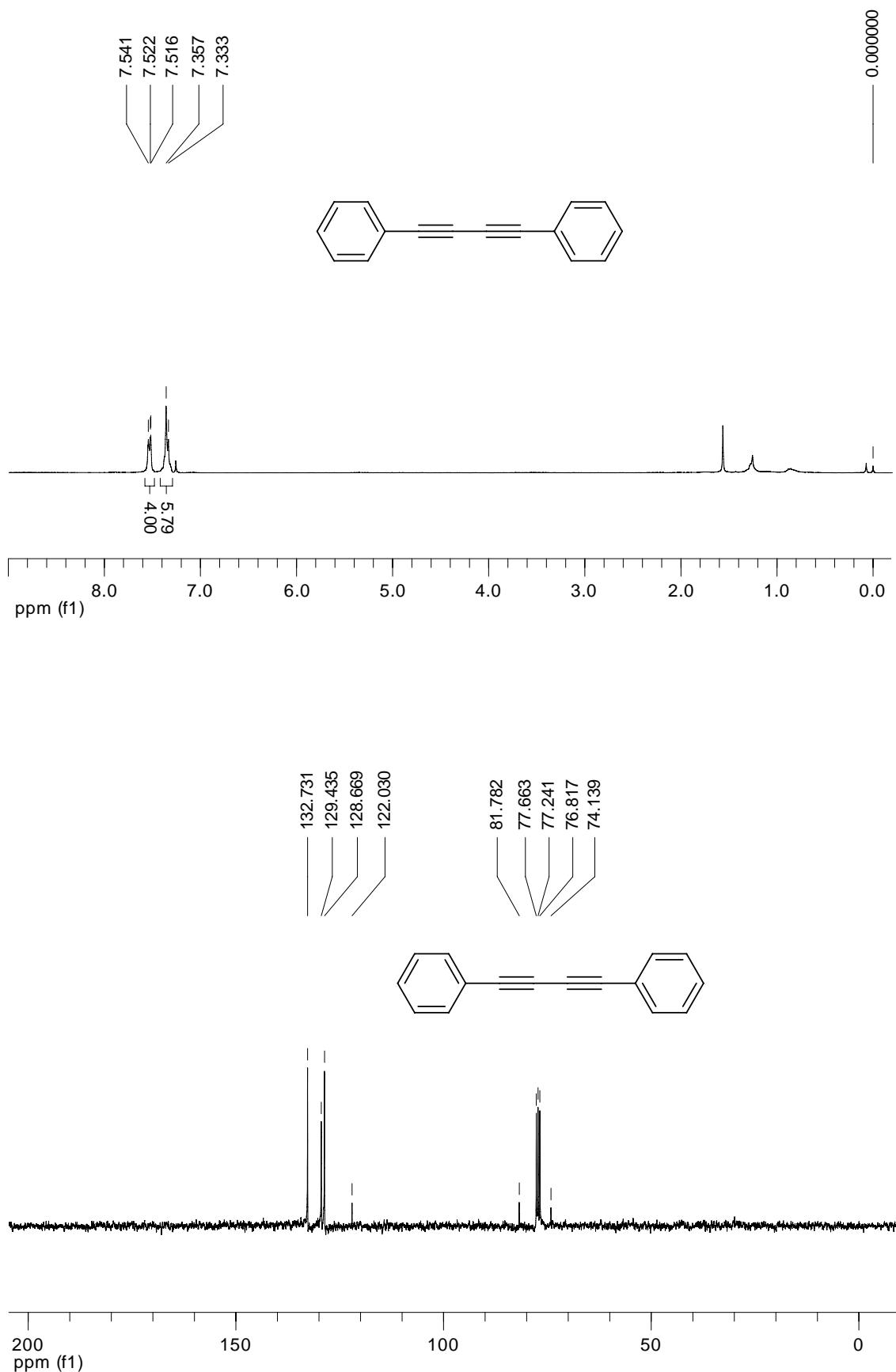
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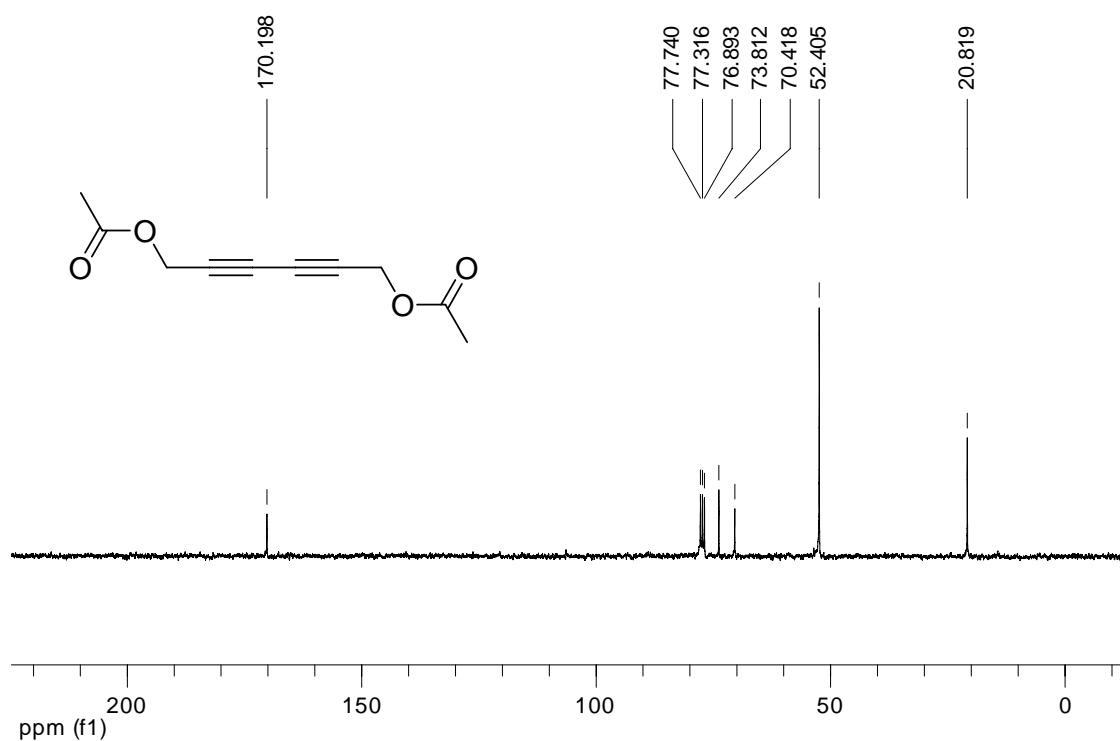
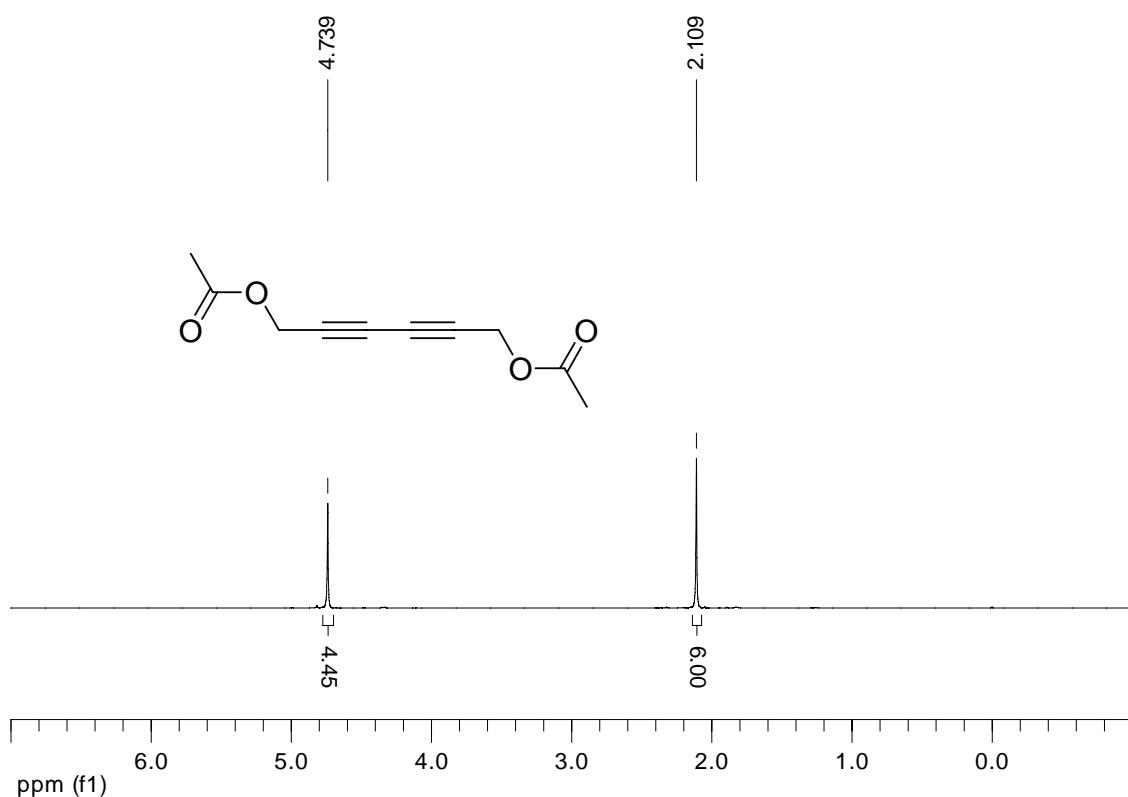
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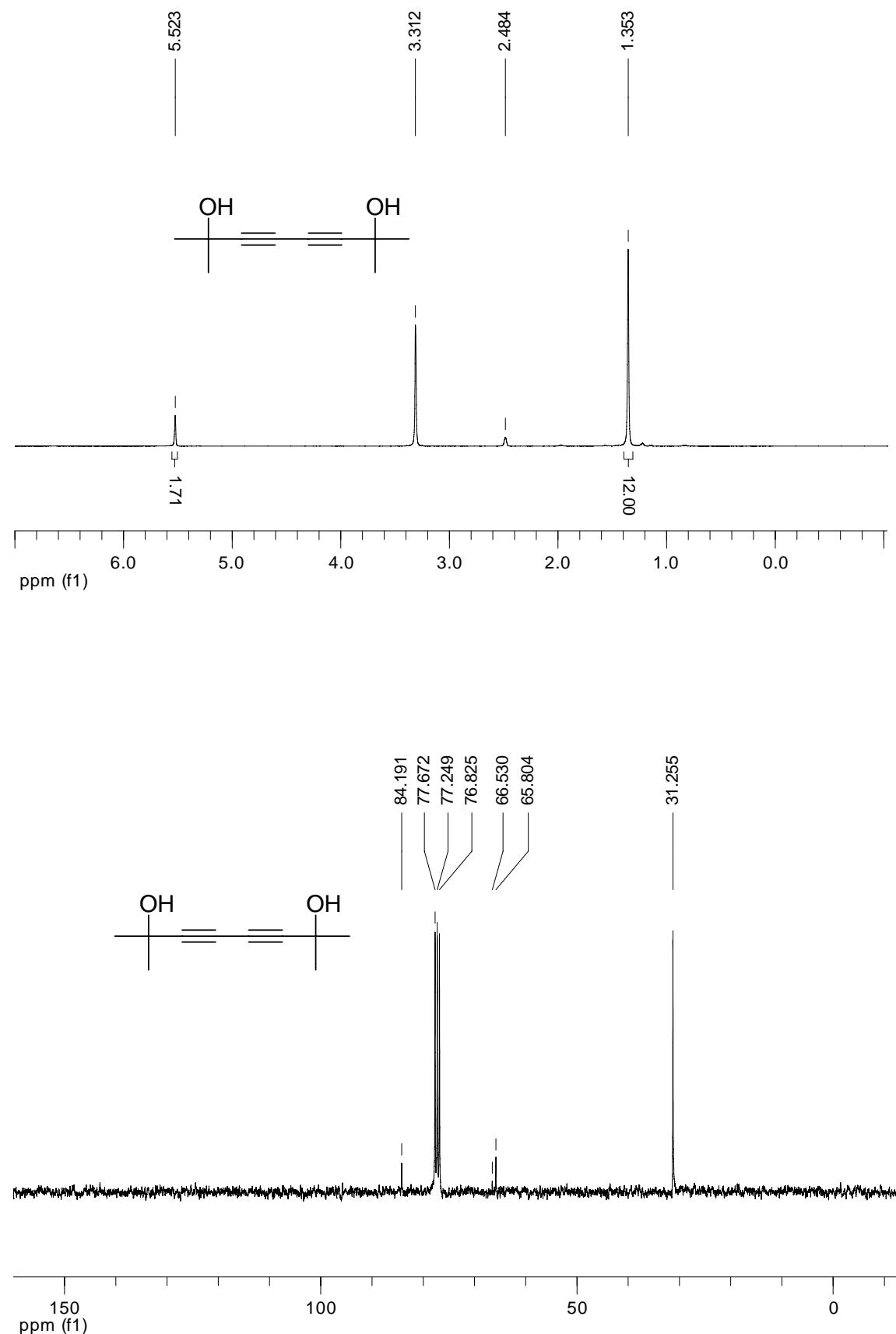
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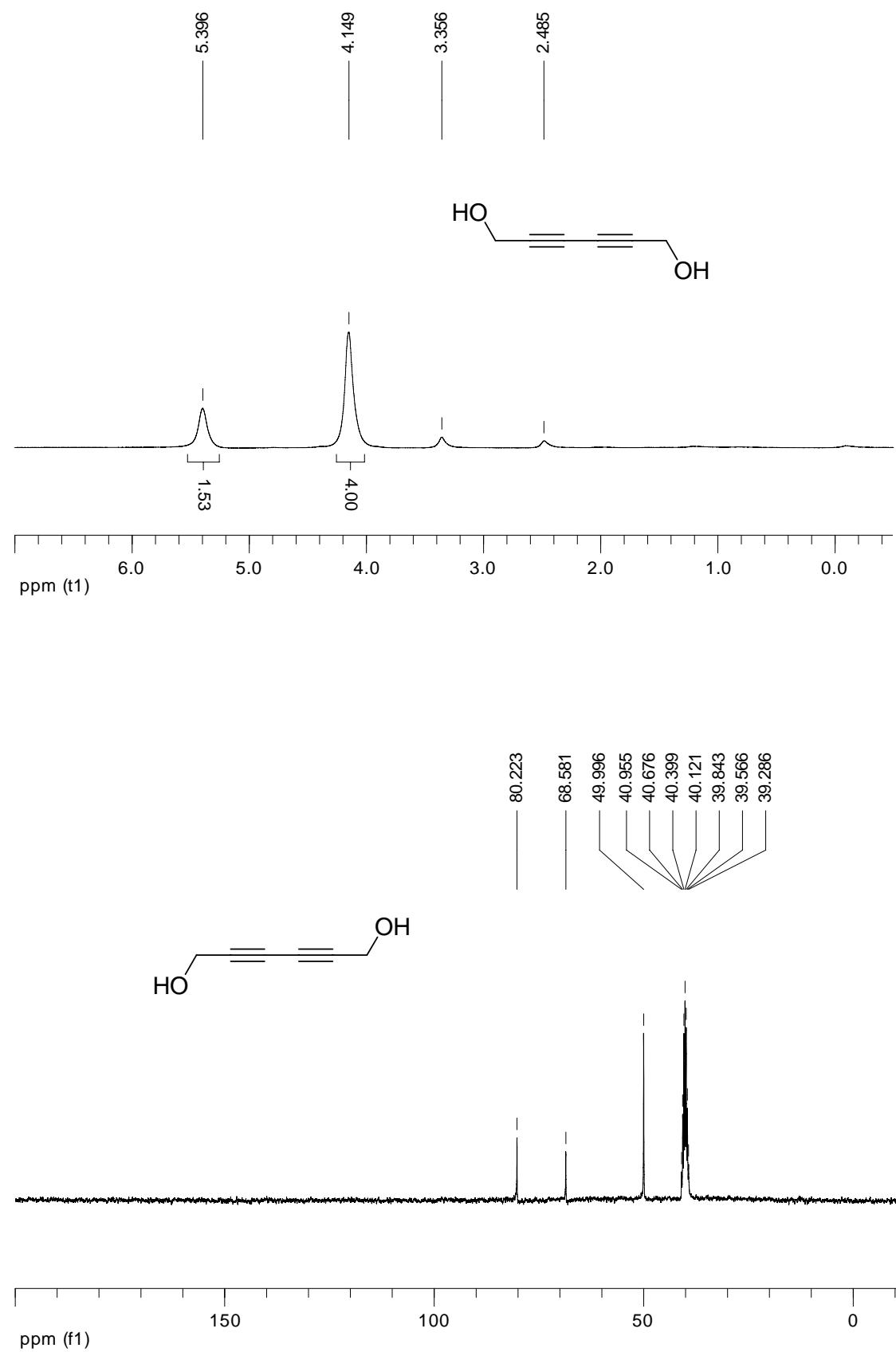
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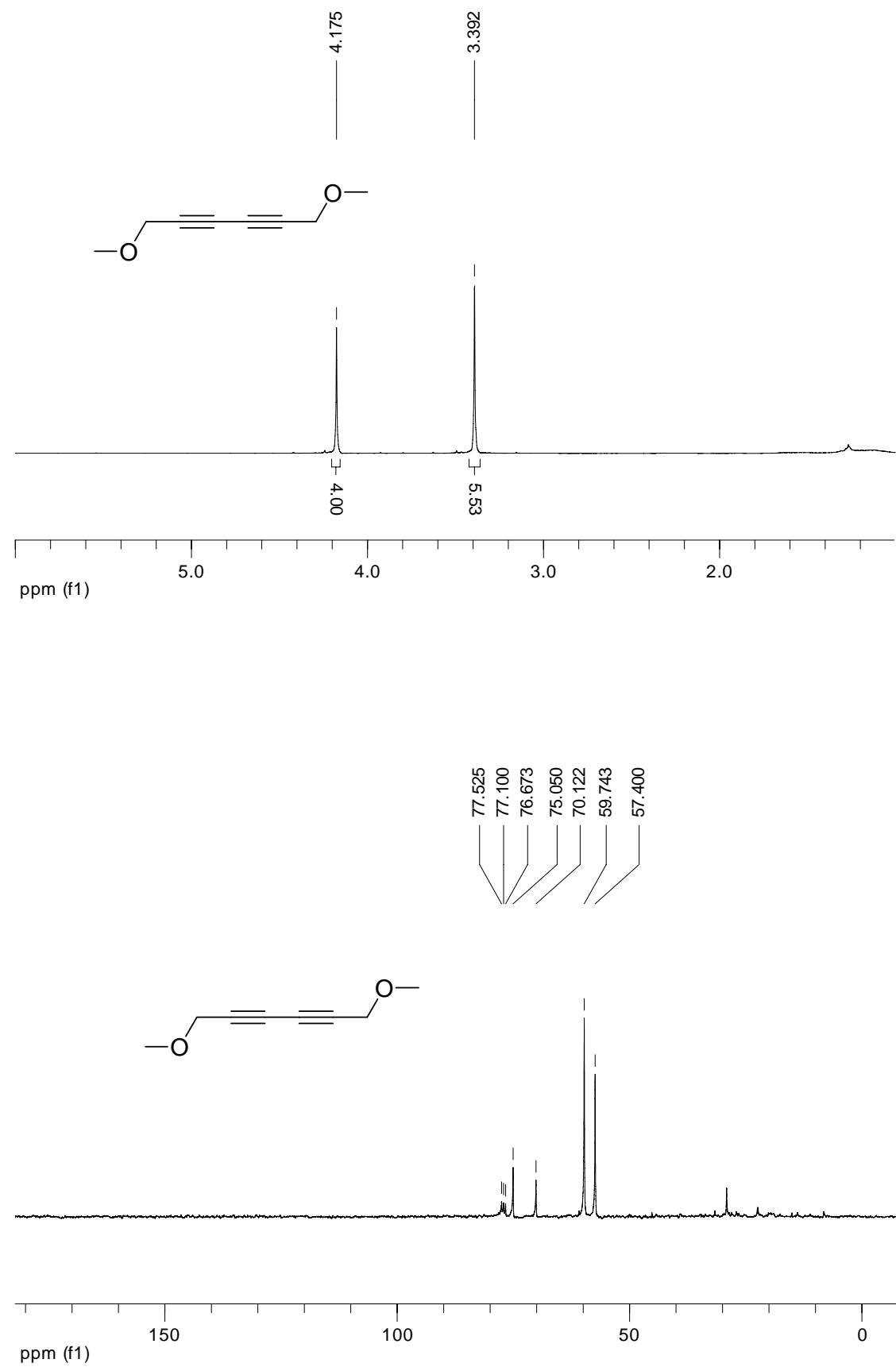
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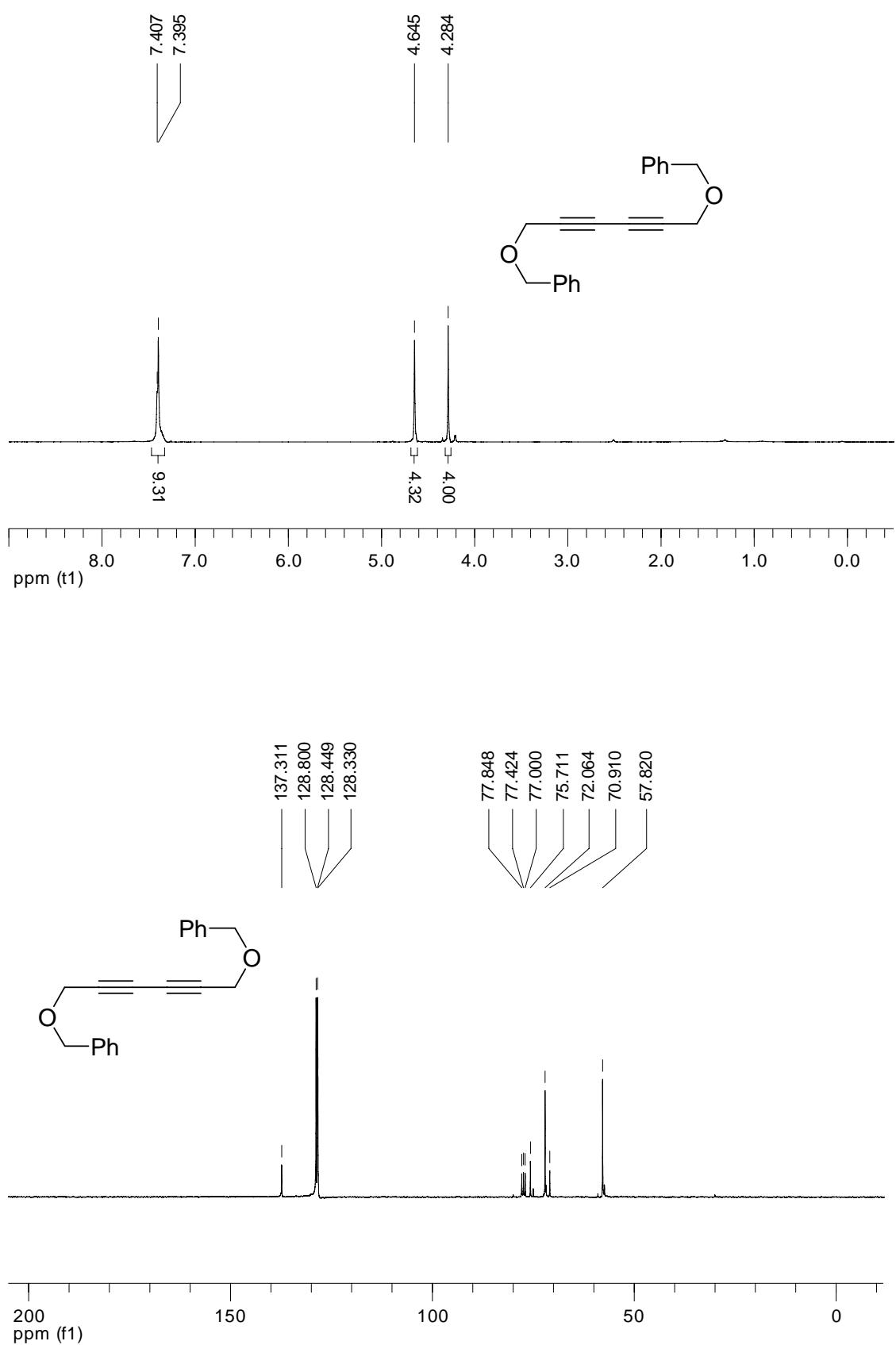
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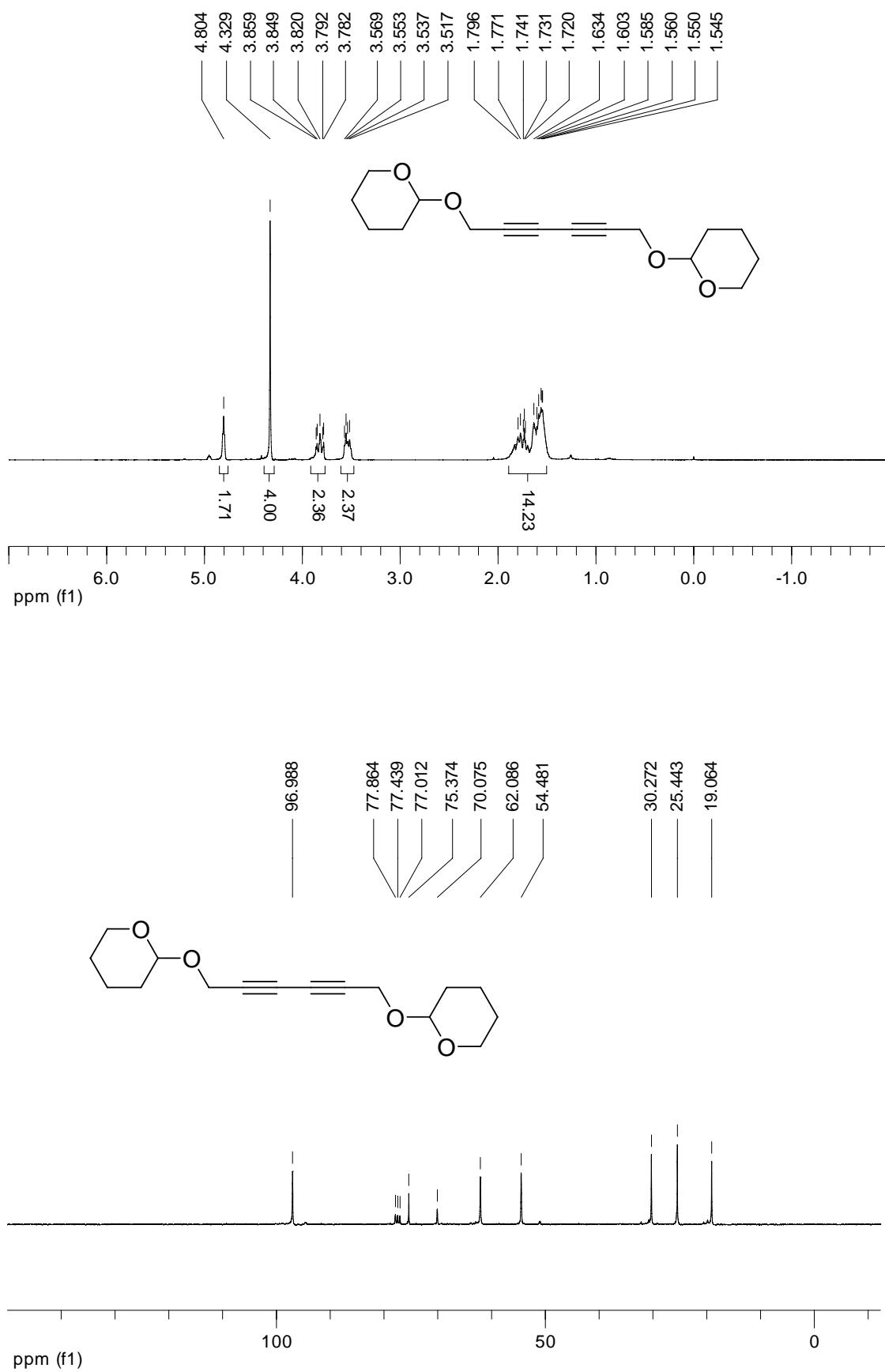
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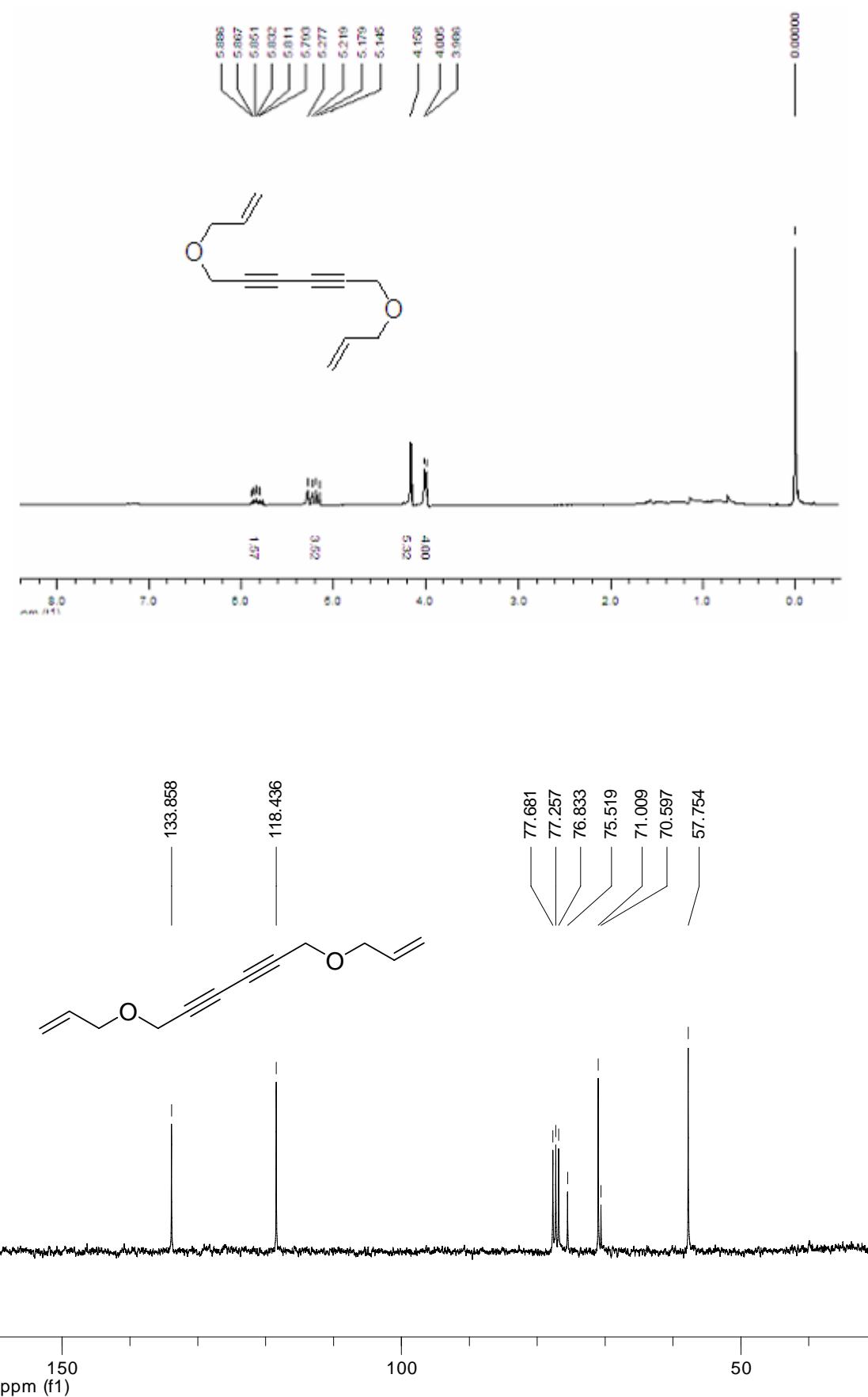
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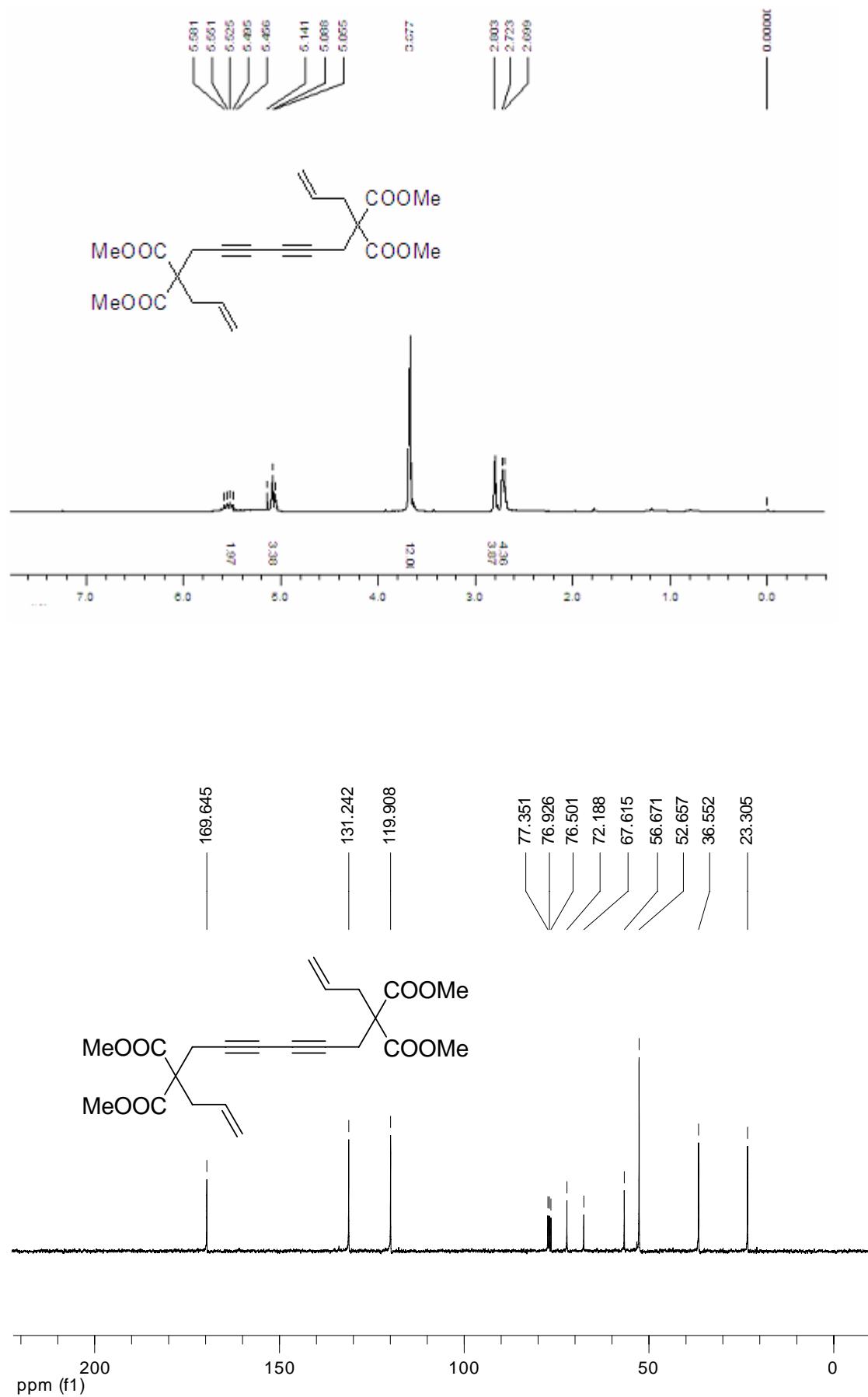
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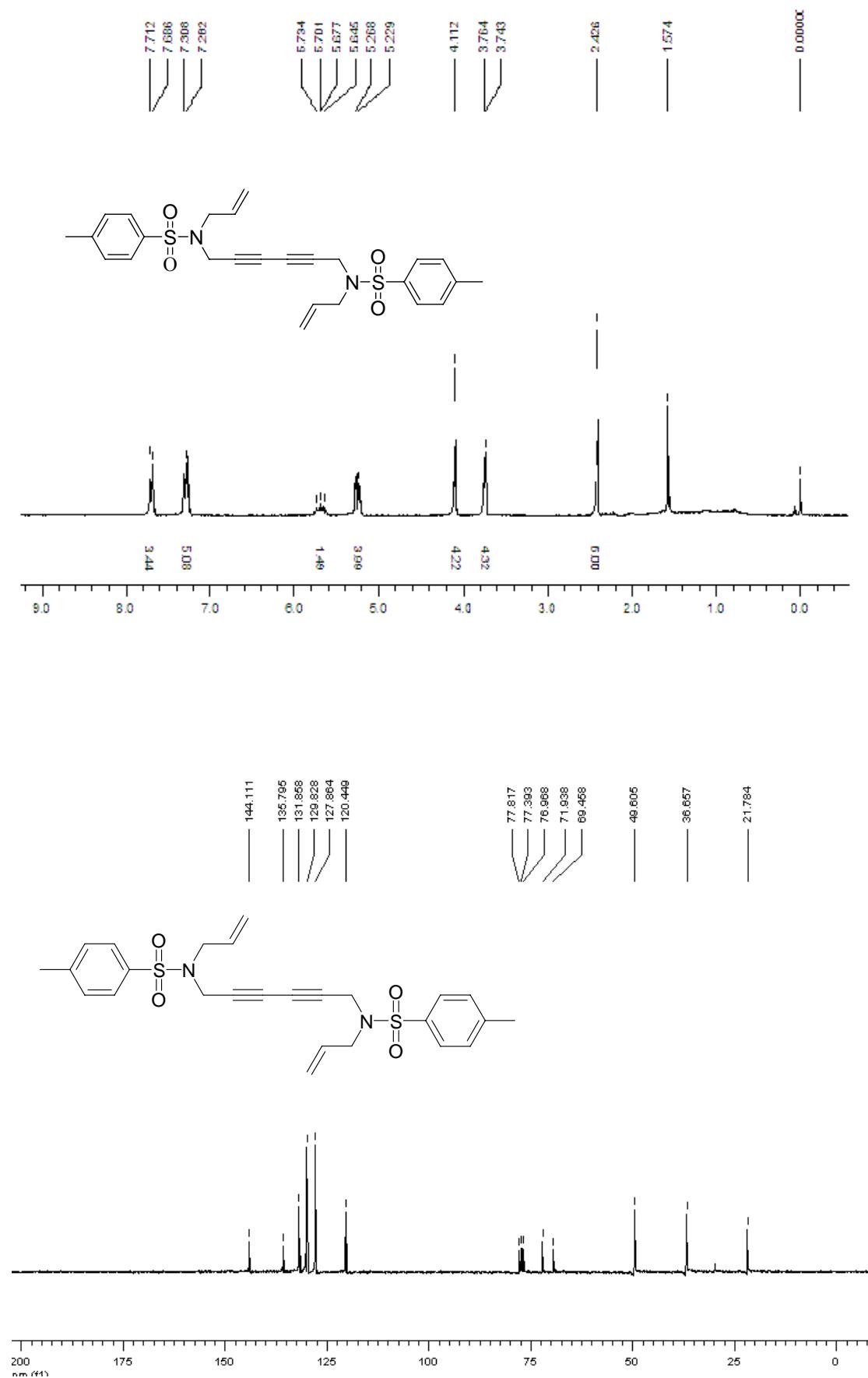
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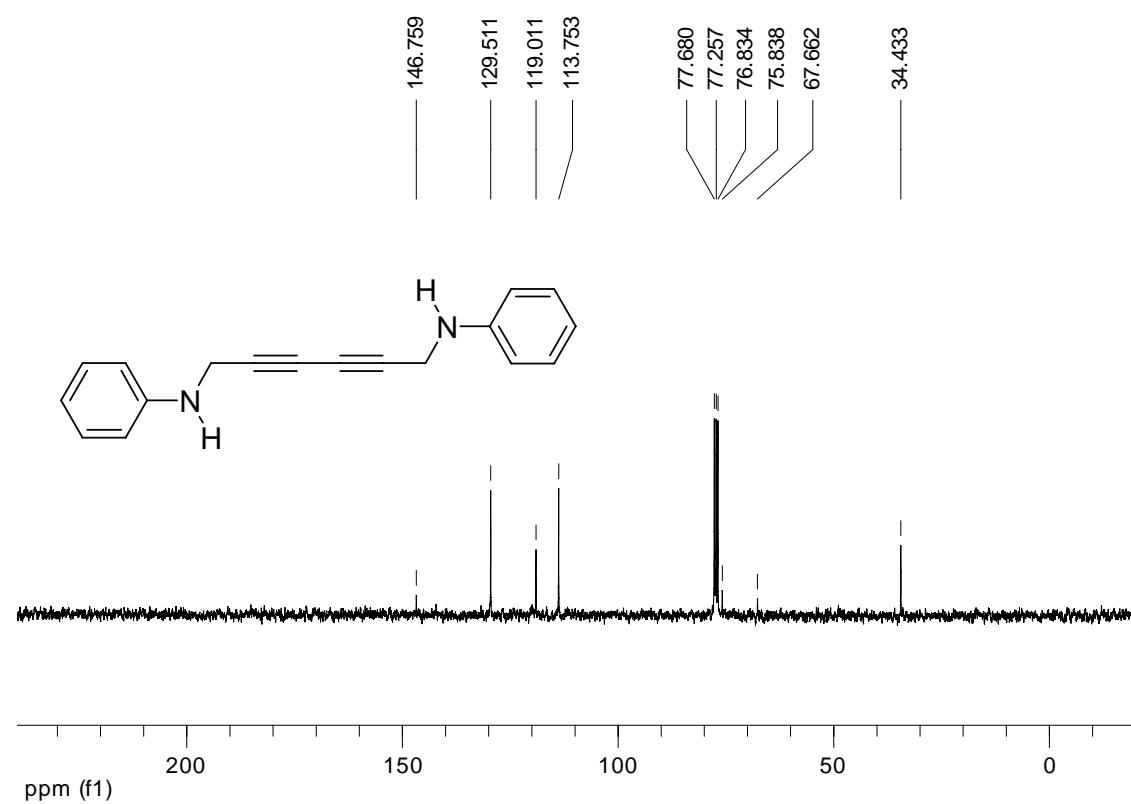
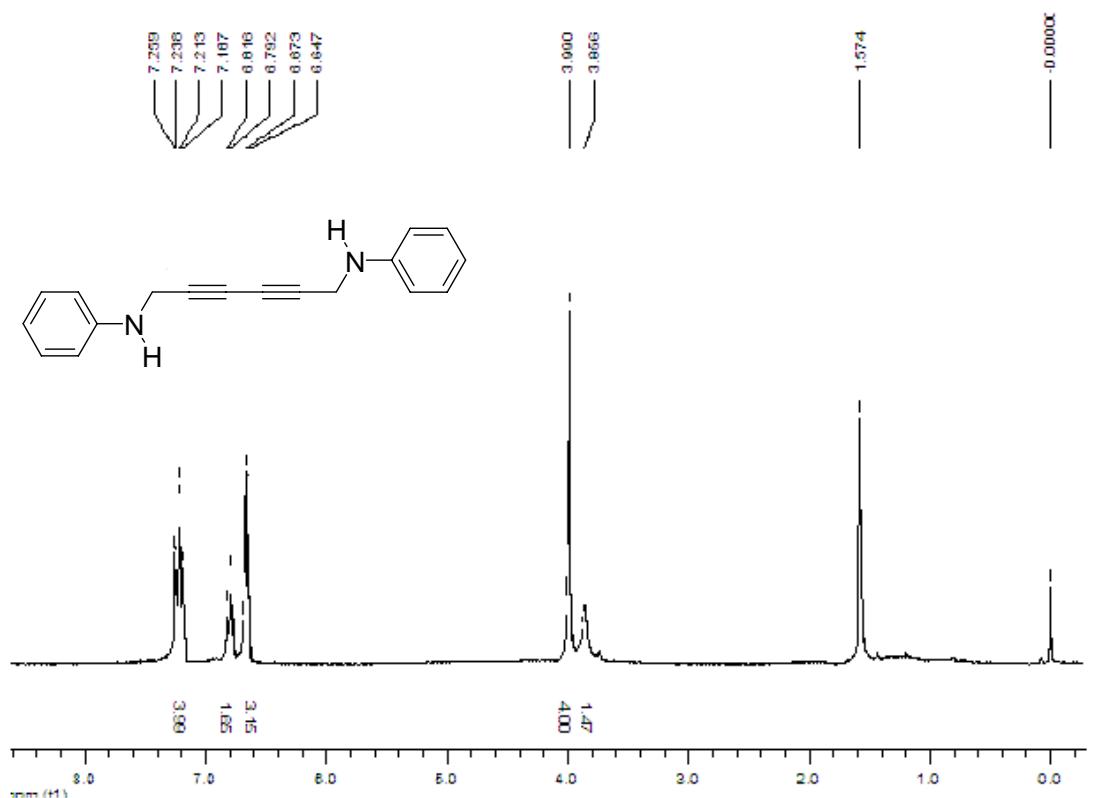
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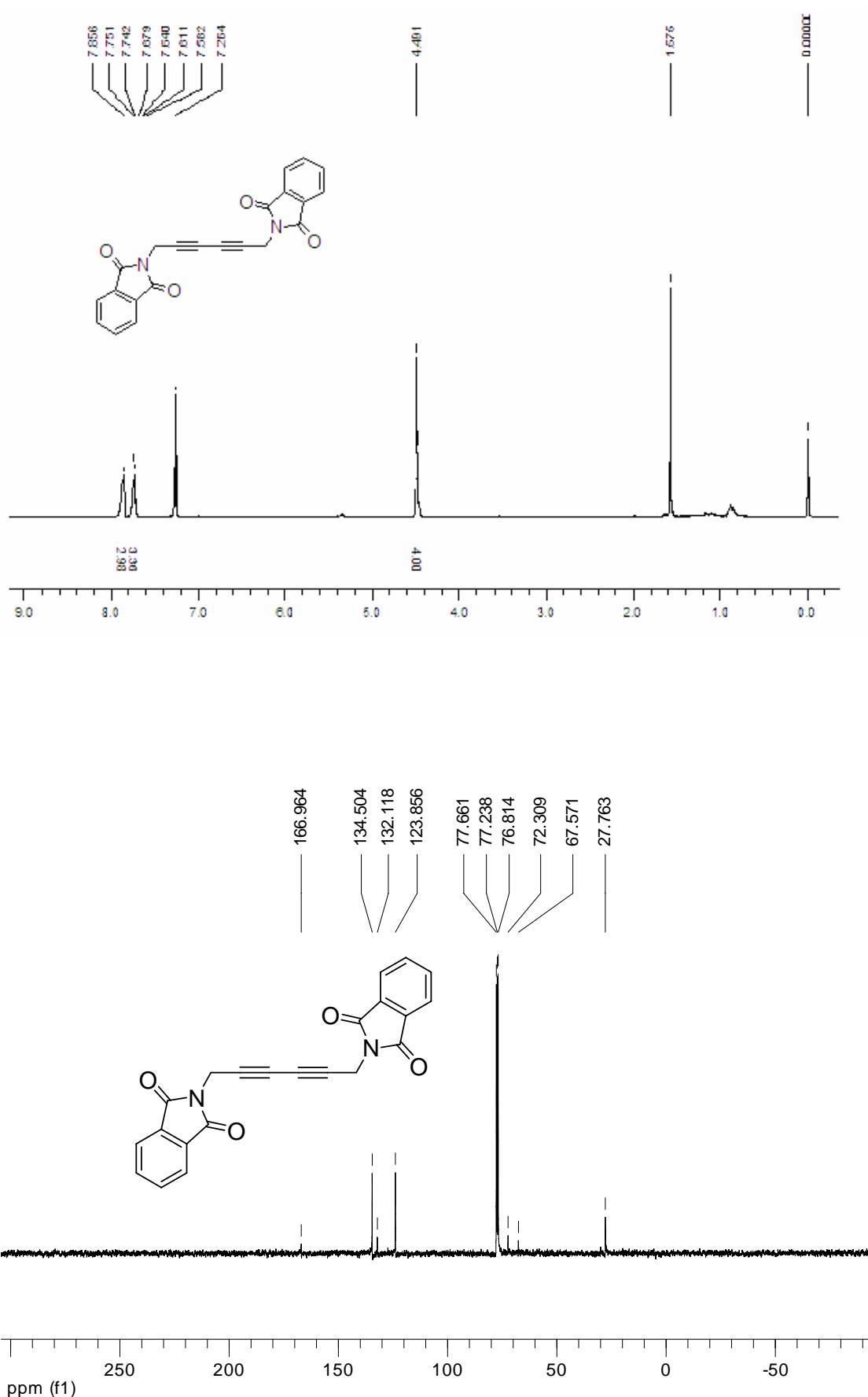
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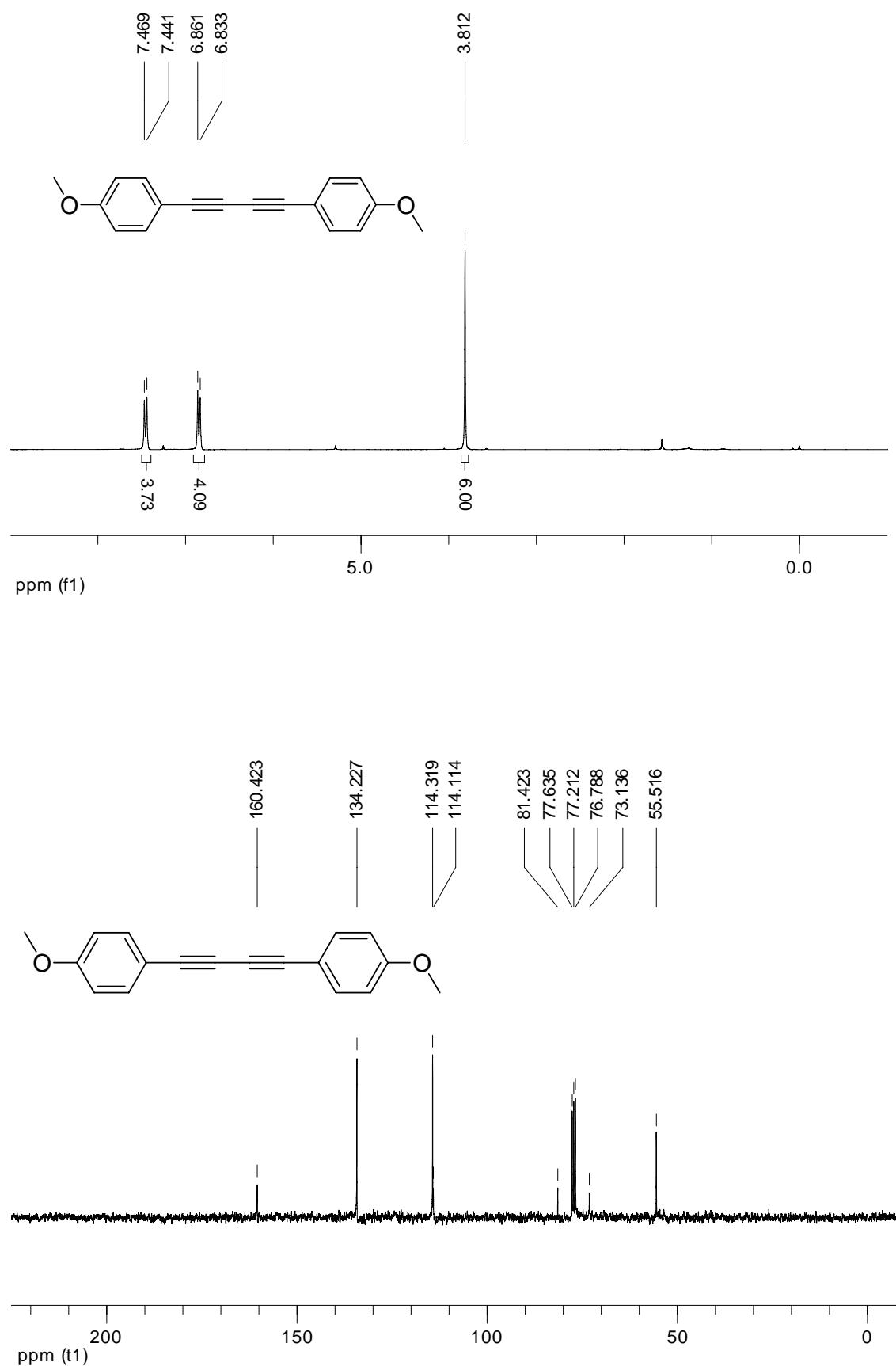
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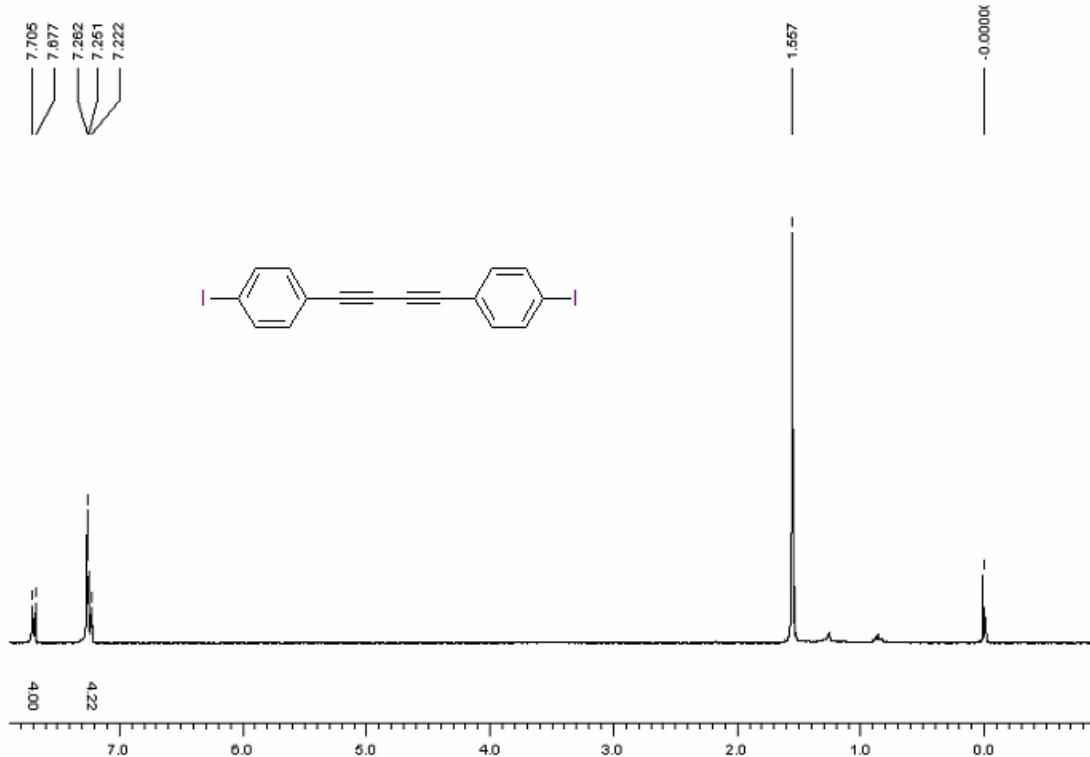
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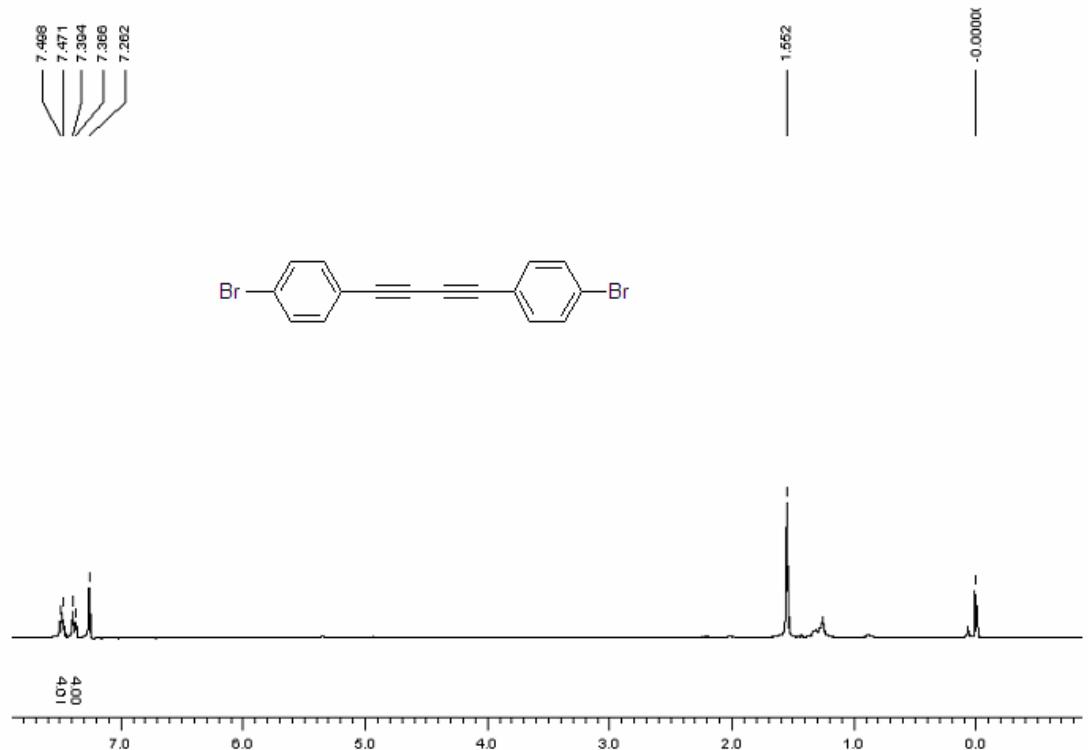
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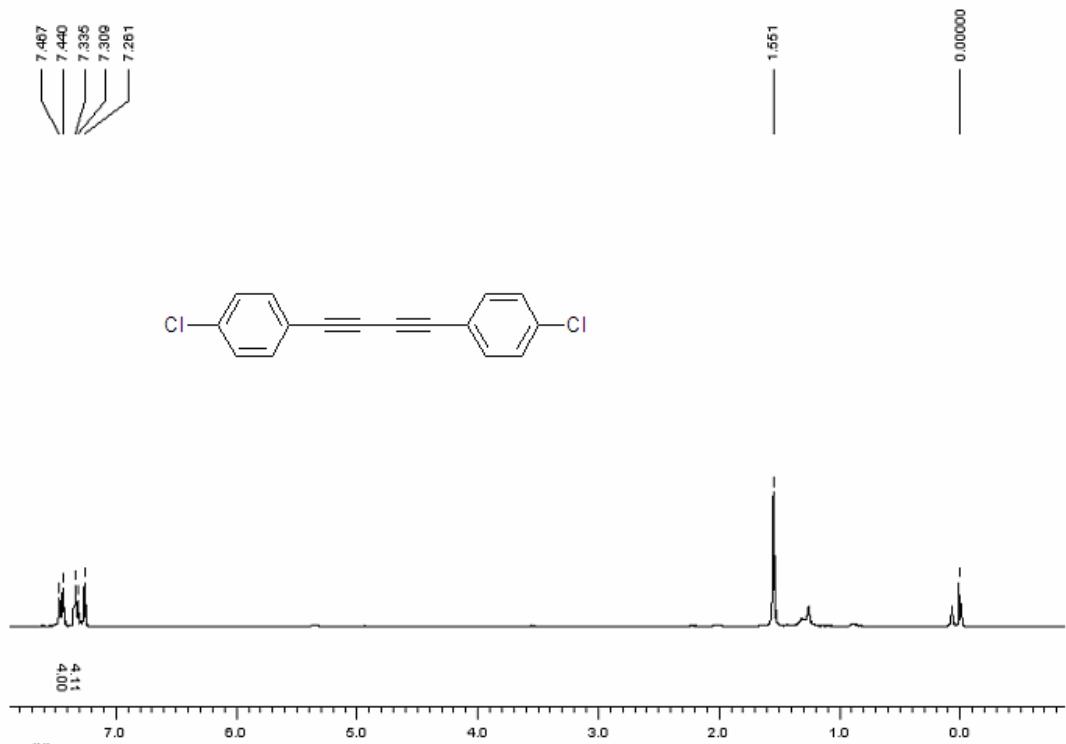
3n



3o



3p



3q

