

Synthesis of Benzoxazoles via Iron-Catalyzed Domino C–N/C–O

Cross-Coupling Reaction

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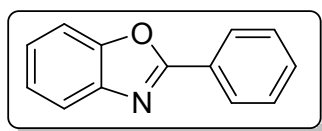
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General Information

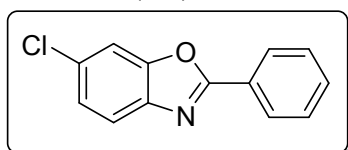
All of the reagents and solvents were used directly as obtained commercially unless otherwise noted. Petroleum ether (PE) used refers to the 60-90 °C boiling point fraction of petroleum. Column chromatography was performed with 300-400 mesh silica gel using flash column techniques. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were determined in CDCl₃ on a Varian-Inova 400MHz spectrometer and chemical shifts were measured relative to the signals for residual chloroform (7.26 ppm) in the deuterated solvent, unless otherwise stated. Chemical shifts in ¹³C NMR spectra are reported relative to the central line of the DMSO (δ = 77.00 ppm).

Synthesis of 2-phenylbenzo[d]oxazole. General procedure.

Benzamide (0.5 mmol), Fe₂O₃ (0.1 mmol), and K₂CO₃ (0.5 mmol) were weighed into an oven-dried Schlenk tube which was sealed with a plug and an nitrogen atmosphere was established. Then, DMEDA (0.1 mmol), 1,2-dibromobenzene (0.45 mmol) and PhMe (2 mL) was added via syringe. The Schlenk tube was heated to 110 °C and stirring for 48 h. When the reaction complete, the heterogeneous mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with water and ethoxyethane. The organic solution was washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluting with 20:1 petroleum ether:ethyl acetate) to give desired 2-phenylbenzo[d]oxazole.

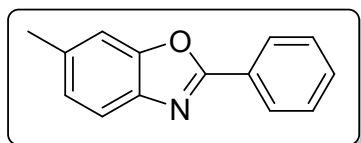


2-phenylbenzo[d]oxazole(3a): white solid; yield: 84.8 mg (87%); mp=102-104 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=8.26-8.24 (m, 2H), 7.78-7.76 (m, 1H), 7.58-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.49 (m, 3H), 7.36-7.33 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ =163.0, 150.7, 142.1, 131.5, 128.9, 127.6, 127.1, 125.1, 124.5, 120.0, 110.5; HRMS(EI) calcd for C₁₃H₉NO (M⁺): 195.0684; found: 195.0686.



6-chloro-2-phenylbenzo[d]oxazole(3b)

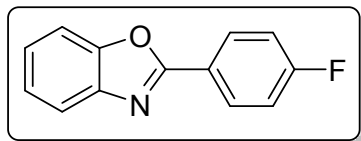
white solid; mp=107-108 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=8.23-8.21 (m, 2H), 7.67 (d, J=8.48 Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.50 (m, 4H), 7.34-7.32 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=163.7, 150.9, 140.9, 131.8, 130.7, 129.0, 127.6, 126.7, 125.3, 120.5, 111.2; HRMS(EI) calcd for C₁₃H₈³⁵ClNO (M⁺): 229.0294; found: 229.0294.



6-methyl-2-phenylbenzo[d]oxazole(3c)

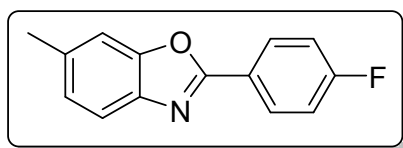
white solid; yield: 83.6 mg (80%); mp=94-94.5 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ =8.24-8.22 (m,

2H), 7.64 (d, J=8.08 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (s, 3H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 7.16 (d, J=7.96 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ =162.5, 151.0, 139.9, 135.5, 131.2, 128.8, 127.4, 127.3, 125.8, 119.3, 110.7, 21.8; HRMS(EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}$ (M^+): 209.0841; found: 209.0838.



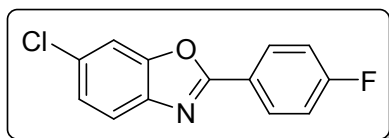
2-(4-fluorophenyl)benzo[d]oxazole(3d)

white solid; yield: 61.8 mg (58%). mp=92-95°C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.27-8.23 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.75 (m, 1H), 7.58-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.36-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.21 (t, J=8.64 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ =164.8 (d, $^1\text{J}_{\text{C-F}}$ =251 Hz), 162.1, 150.8, 142.0, 129.8 (d, $^3\text{J}_{\text{C-F}}$ =8.82 Hz), 159.1, 124.6, 123.5, 120.0, 116.2 (d, $^2\text{J}_{\text{C-F}}$ = 22.06 Hz), 110.6; HRMS(EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{FNO}$ (M^+): 213.0590; found: 213.0585.



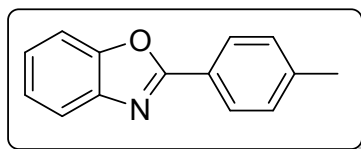
2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-methylbenzo[d]oxazole(3e)

white solid; yield: 104 mg (92%). mp=113-116°C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ =8.21 (s, 2H), 7.61 (d, J=7.96Hz, 1H), 7.35 (s, 1H), 7.17 (q, J=8.28 Hz, 3H), 2.49 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ =164.6 (d, $^1\text{J}_{\text{C-F}}$ =250.9 Hz), 161.6, 151.0, 139.8, 135.6, 129.6 (d, $^3\text{J}_{\text{C-F}}$ =8.75 Hz), 125.8, 123.7, 119.3, 116.1 (d, $^2\text{J}_{\text{C-F}}$ =22.02 Hz), 110.7, 21.8; HRMS(EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}$ (M^+): 227.0746; found: 227.0740.



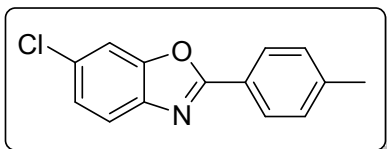
6-chloro-2-(4-fluorophenyl)benzo[d]oxazole(3f)

white solid; yield: 105 mg (85%). mp=132-133°C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ =8.22 (t, J=5.56 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, J=8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.33 (d, J=8.16 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (t, J=8.36 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ =165.0 (d, $^1\text{J}_{\text{C-F}}$ =251.84 Hz), 162.8, 150.9, 140.8, 130.7, 129.9 (d, $^3\text{J}_{\text{C-F}}$ =8.92 Hz), 125.4, 123.0, 120.4, 116.3 (d, $^2\text{J}_{\text{C-F}}$ =22.08 Hz), 111.2; HRMS(EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{ClFNO}$ (M^+): 247.0200; found: 247.0202.



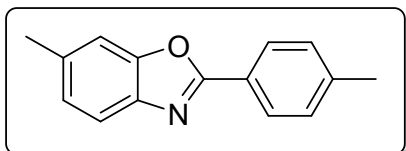
2-p-tolylbenzo[d]oxazole(3g)

white solid; yield: 73.2 mg (70%). mp=116-117°C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 8.13 (d, J=8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.76-7.74 (m, 1H), 7.56-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.30 (m, 4H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ =163.2, 150.6, 142.1, 142.0, 129.6, 127.5, 124.8, 124.4, 124.3, 119.8, 110.4, 21.6; HRMS(EI) calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}$ (M^+):209.0841; found: 209.0840.



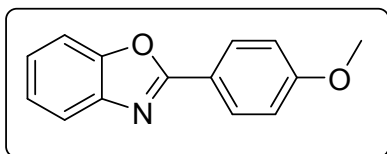
6-chloro-2-p-tolylbenzo[d]oxazole(3h)

white solid; yield: 78.9 mg (65%). mp=126-128°C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=8.09 (d, J=8.24 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, J= 8.48 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.32-7.29 (m, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=163.9, 150.8, 142.4, 140.9, 130.4, 129.7, 127.6, 125.1, 123.9, 120.2, 111.1, 21.6; HRMS(EI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₀ClNO (M⁺): 243.0451; found: 243.0450.



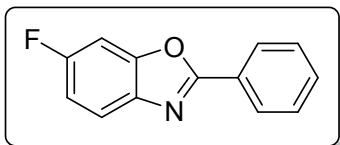
6-methyl-2-p-tolylbenzo[d]oxazole(3i)

white solid; yield: 50.18 mg (45%). mp=103-104°C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=8.11 (d, J=8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, J=8.08 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 7.31 (d, J=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, J=8.08 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=162.8, 151.0, 141.7, 140.0, 135.3, 129.6, 127.4, 125.7, 124.6, 119.1, 110.7, 21.8, 21.6; HRMS(EI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₃NO (M⁺): 223.0997; found: 223.0991.



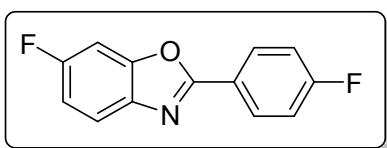
2-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[d]oxazole(3j)

white solid; yield: 56.2 mg (50%). mp=101°C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=8.19 (d, J= 8.92 Hz, 2H), 7.75-7.72 (m, 1H), 7.56-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.01 (d, J=8.88 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=163.1, 162.2, 150.6, 142.2, 129.3, 124.5, 124.4, 119.6, 119.6, 114.3, 110.3, 55.4; HRMS(EI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₁NO₂ (M⁺): 225.0790; found: 225.0791.



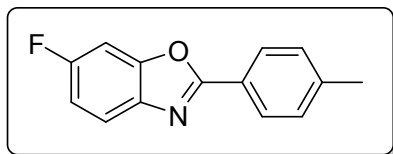
6-fluoro-2-phenylbenzo[d]oxazole(3k)

white solid; yield: 53.2 mg (50%). mp=109-110°C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=8.31-8.28 (m, 2H), 7.77 (q, J=4.88 Hz, 1H), 7.61-7.59 (m, 3H), 7.40-7.37 (m, 1H), 7.21-7.15 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=163.7, 160.7 (d, ¹J_{C-F}=242.62 Hz), 150.7 (d, ³J_{C-F}=14.57 Hz), 138.4, 131.6, 129.0, 127.5, 126.9, 120.2 (d, ³J_{C-F}=10.05), 112.5 (d, ²J_{C-F}=24.49 Hz), 98.7 (d, ²J_{C-F}=28.03 Hz); HRMS(EI) calcd for C₁₃H₈FNO (M⁺): 213.0590; found: 213.0589.

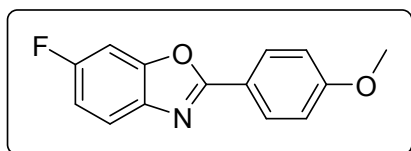


6-fluoro-2-(4-fluorophenyl)benzo[d]oxazole(3l)

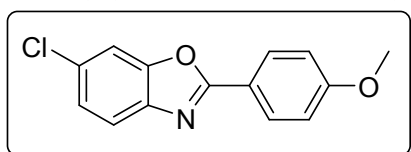
white solid; yield: 40.4 mg (35%). mp=121-123 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=8.22-8.18 (m, 2H), 7.69-7.66 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.07 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=164.8 (d, ¹J_{C-F}=251.48 Hz), 162.8, 160.6 (d, ¹J_{C-F}=242.81 Hz), 150.7 (d, ³J_{C-F}=14.67 Hz), 138.3, 129.7 (d, ³J_{C-F}=8.86 Hz), 123.2 (d, ³J_{C-F}=3.17 Hz), 120.2 (d, ³J_{C-F}=9.99 Hz), 116.2 (d, ²J_{C-F}=22.11 Hz), 112.6 (d, ²J_{C-F}=24.51 Hz), 98.7 (d, ²J_{C-F}=28.04 Hz); HRMS(EI) calcd for C₁₃H₇F₂NO (M⁺): 231.0496; found: 231.0496.

**6-fluoro-2-p-tolylbenzo[d]oxazole(3m)**

white solid; yield: 56.8 mg (50%). mp=125-125.6 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=8.09 (d, J=8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.67-7.64 (m, 1H), 7.36-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.11-7.05 (m, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=163.9, 160.5 (d, ¹J_{C-F}=242.19 Hz), 150.6 (d, ³J_{C-F}=14.58 Hz), 142.1, 138.4, 129.7, 127.4, 124.1, 120.0 (d, ³J_{C-F}=9.98 Hz), 112.3 (d, ²J_{C-F}=24.47 Hz), 98.6 (d, ²J_{C-F}=27.99 Hz), 21.6; HRMS(EI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₀FNO (M⁺): 227.0746; found: 227.0747.

**6-fluoro-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[d]oxazole(3n)**

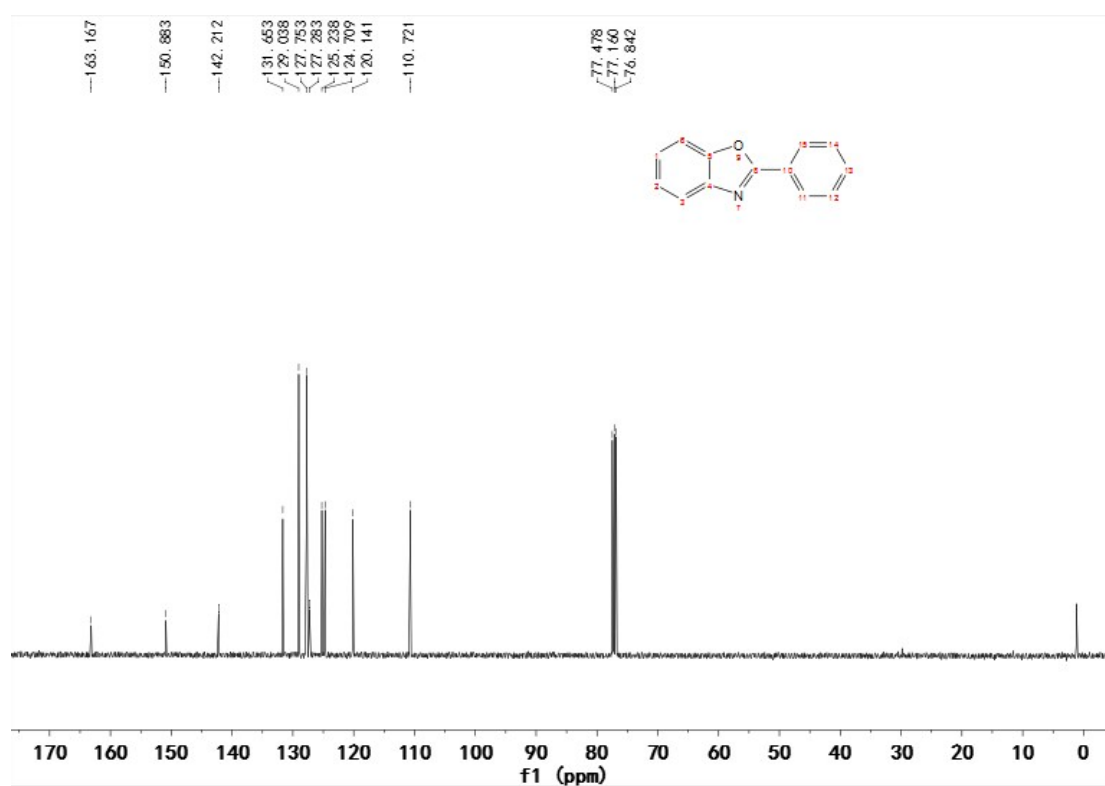
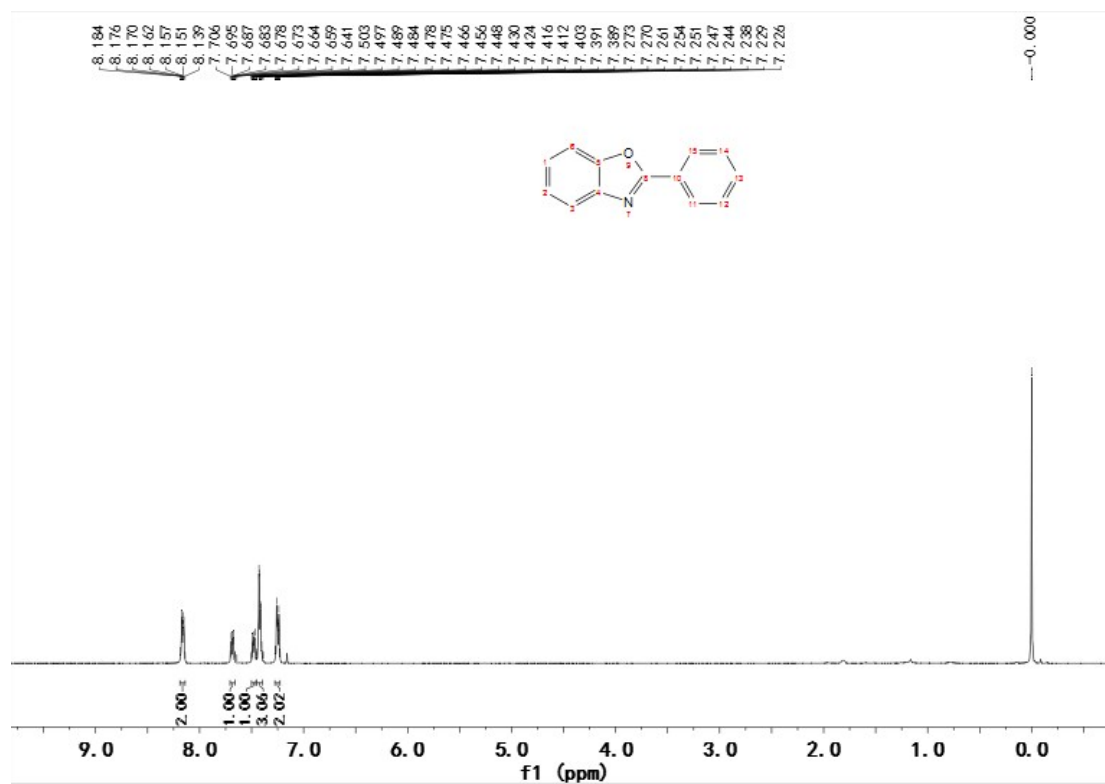
white solid; yield: 65.6 mg (54%). mp=155 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ= 8.14-8.11 (m, 2H), 7.65-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.09-6.98 (m, 3H), 3.87(s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ= 163.7, 162.3, 160.3 (d, ¹J_{C-F}=241.83 Hz), 150.5 (d, ³J_{C-F}=14.62 Hz), 138.5, 129.2, 119.7 (d, ³J_{C-F}=10.02 Hz), 114.3, 112.2 (d, ²J_{C-F}=24.39 Hz), 98.5 (d, ²J_{C-F}=28.04 Hz), 55.4; HRMS(EI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₀FNO₂ (M⁺): 243.0696; found: 243.0696.

**6-chloro-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[d]oxazole(3o)**

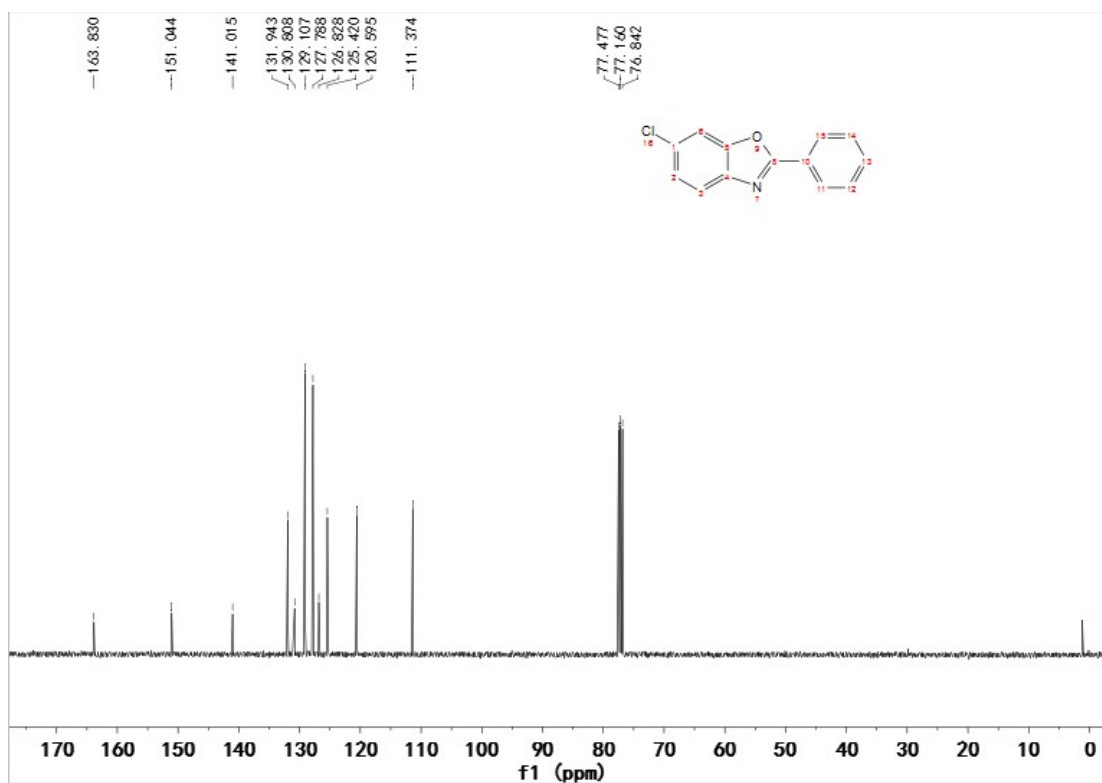
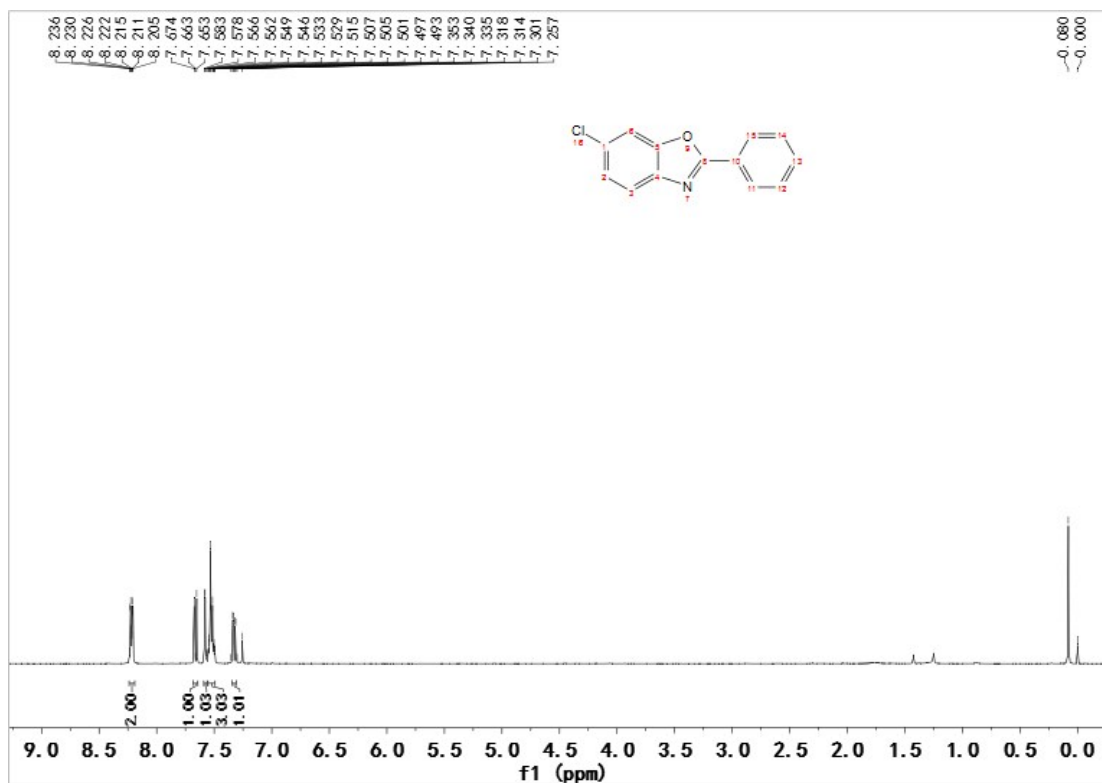
white solid; yield: 45.3 mg (35%). mp=140-142 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=8.16 (d, J=8.92 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, J=8.44 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.32-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.03-7.01 (m, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ=163.8, 162.5, 150.8, 141.1, 130.1, 129.4, 125.1, 120.0, 119.2, 114.4, 111.0, 55.5; HRMS(EI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₀ClNO₂ (M⁺): 259.0400; found: 259.0404.

¹H and ¹³C of all compounds

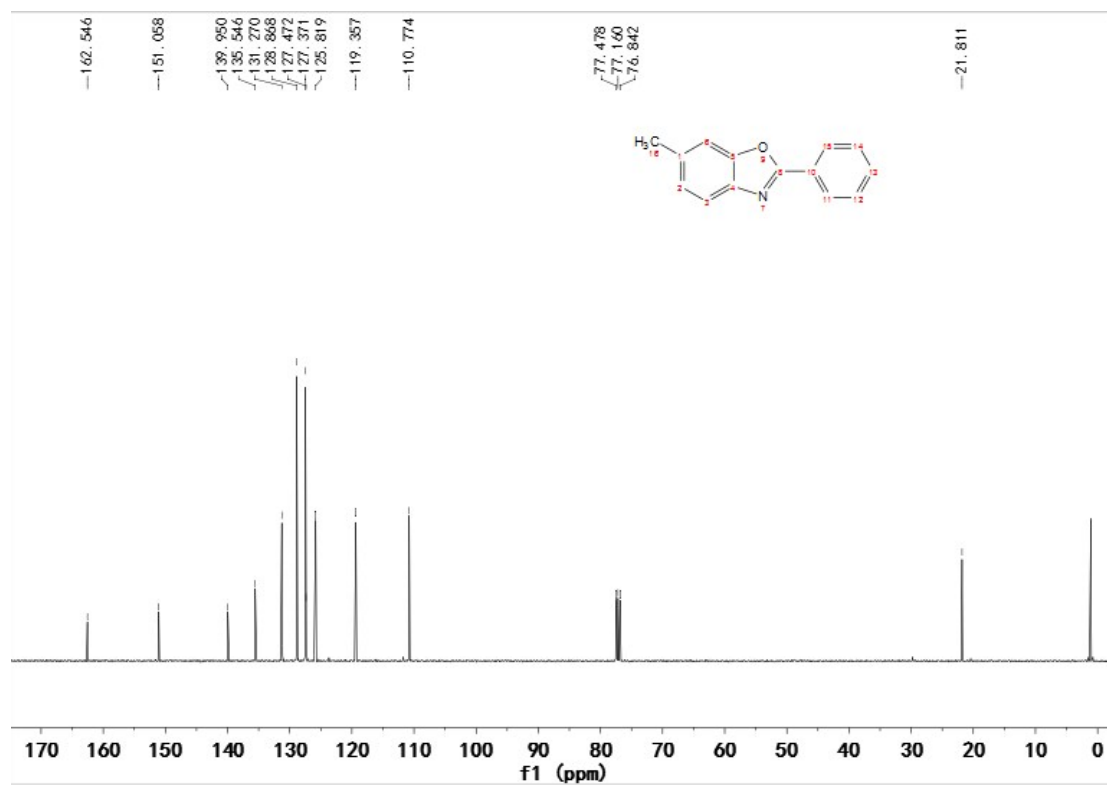
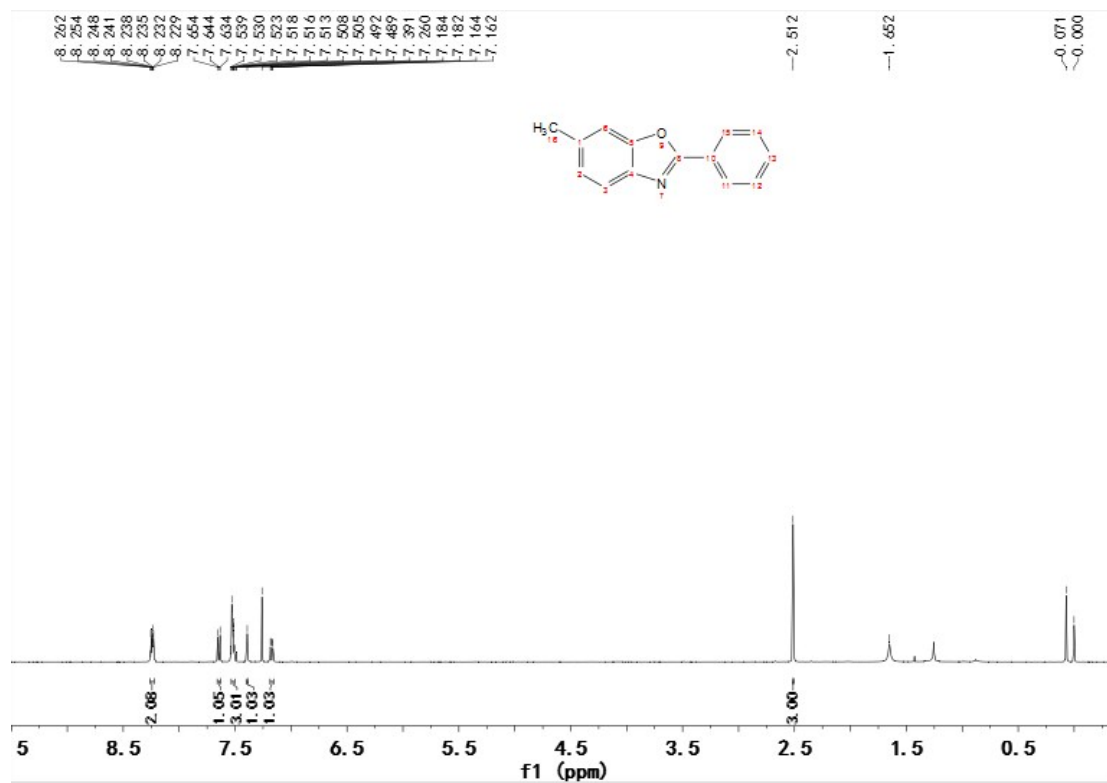
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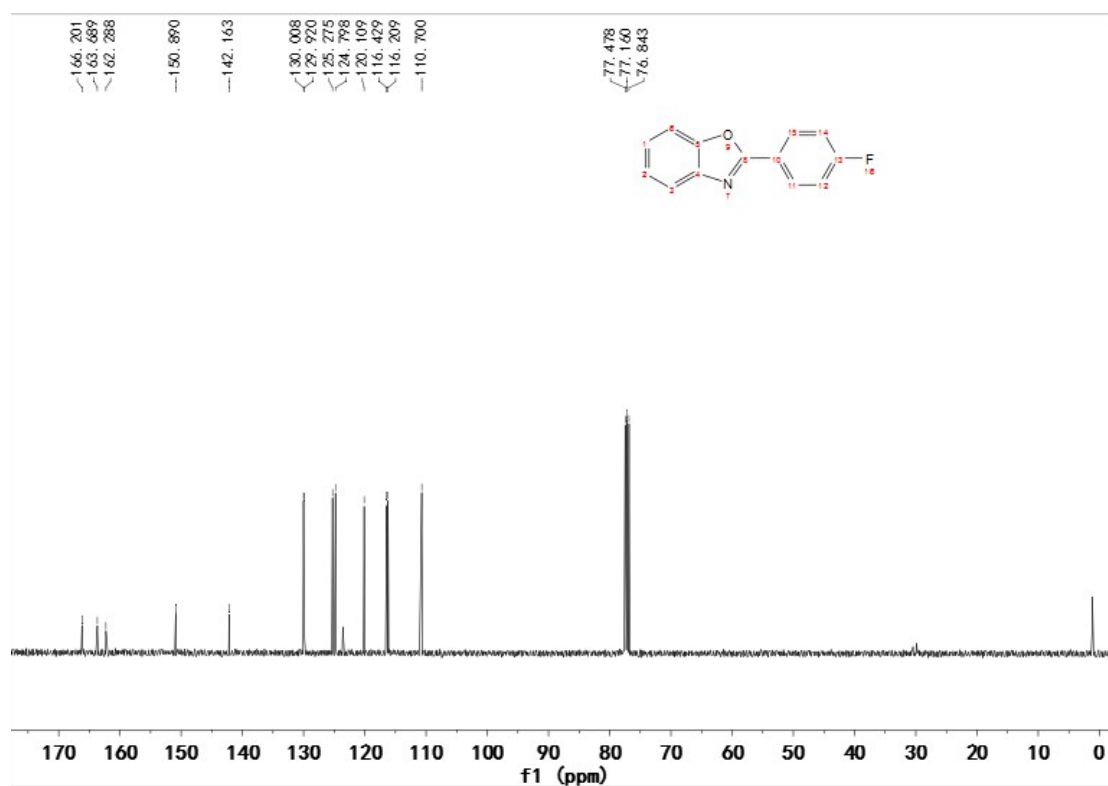
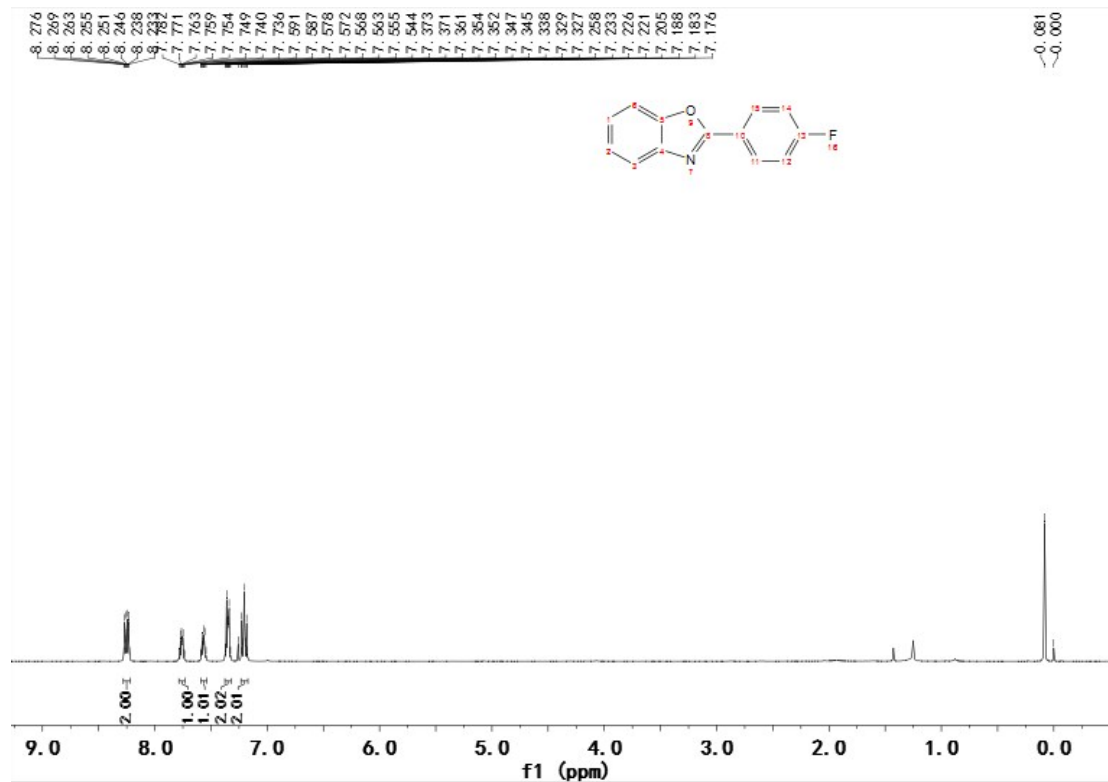
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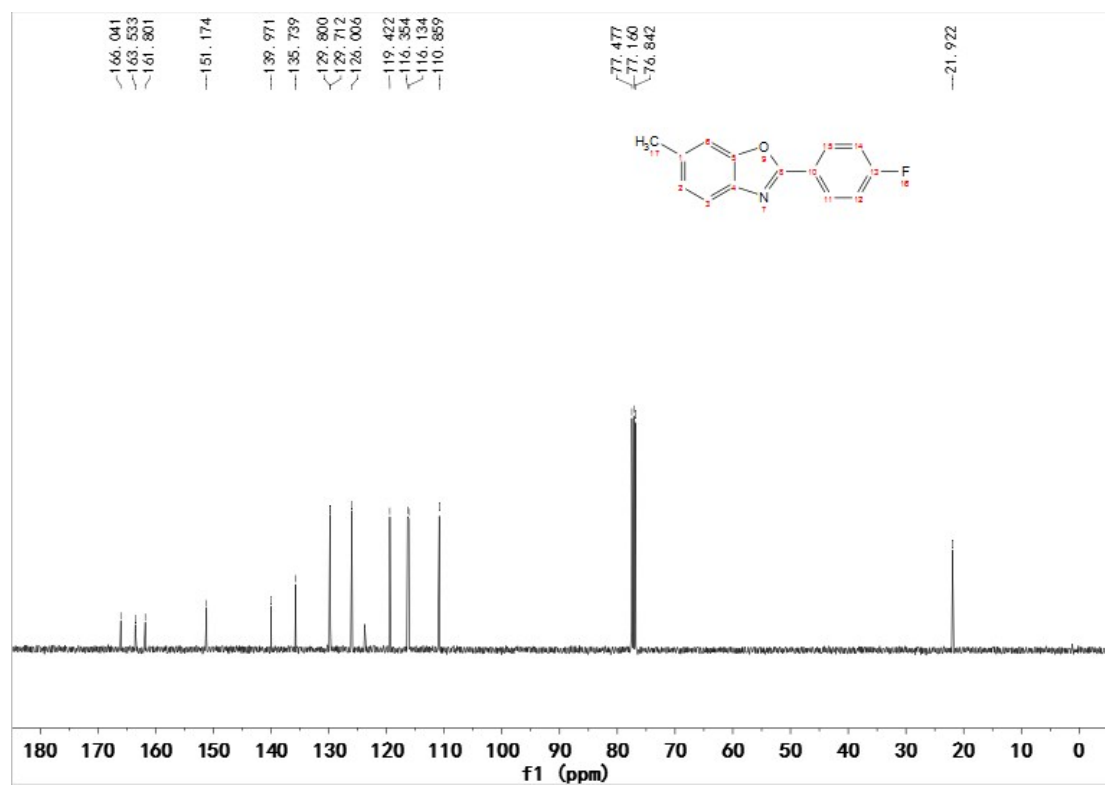
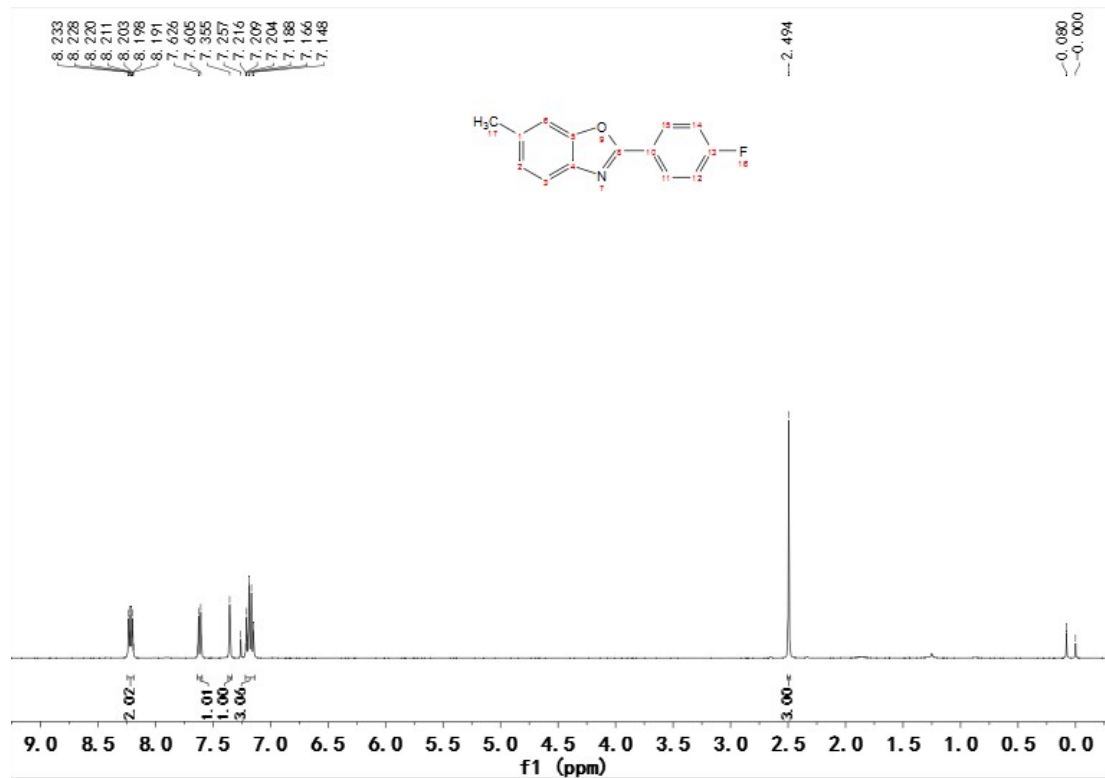
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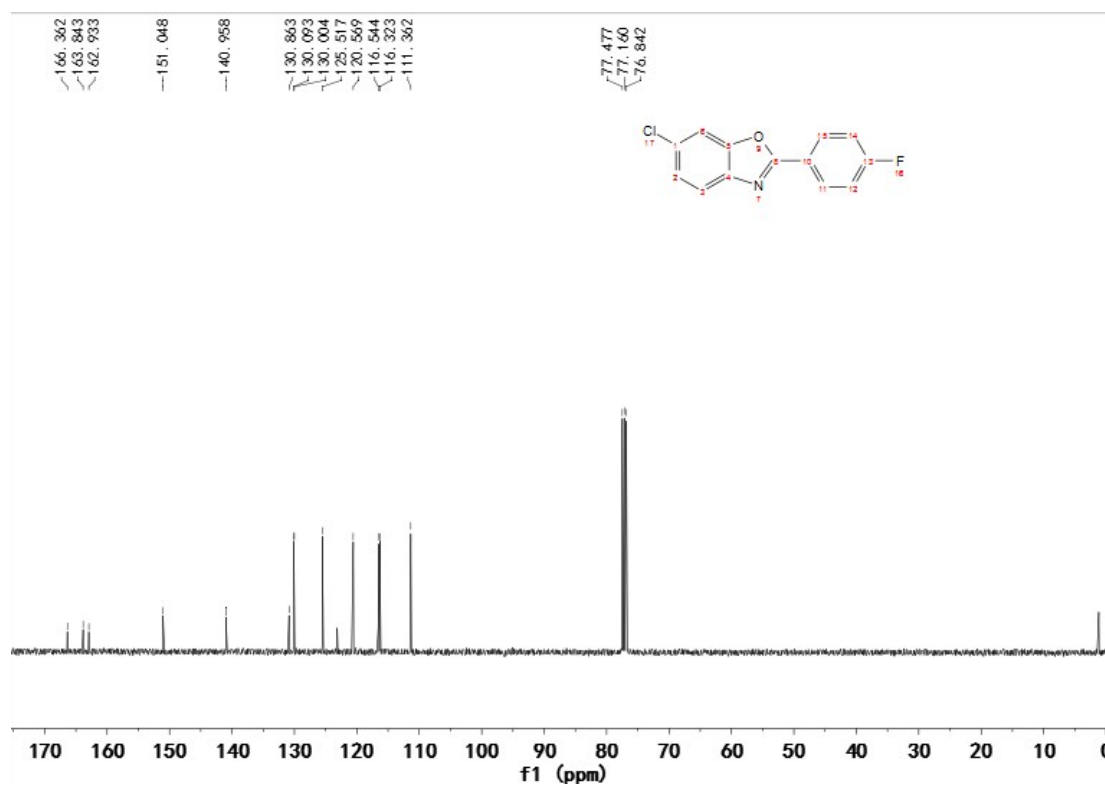
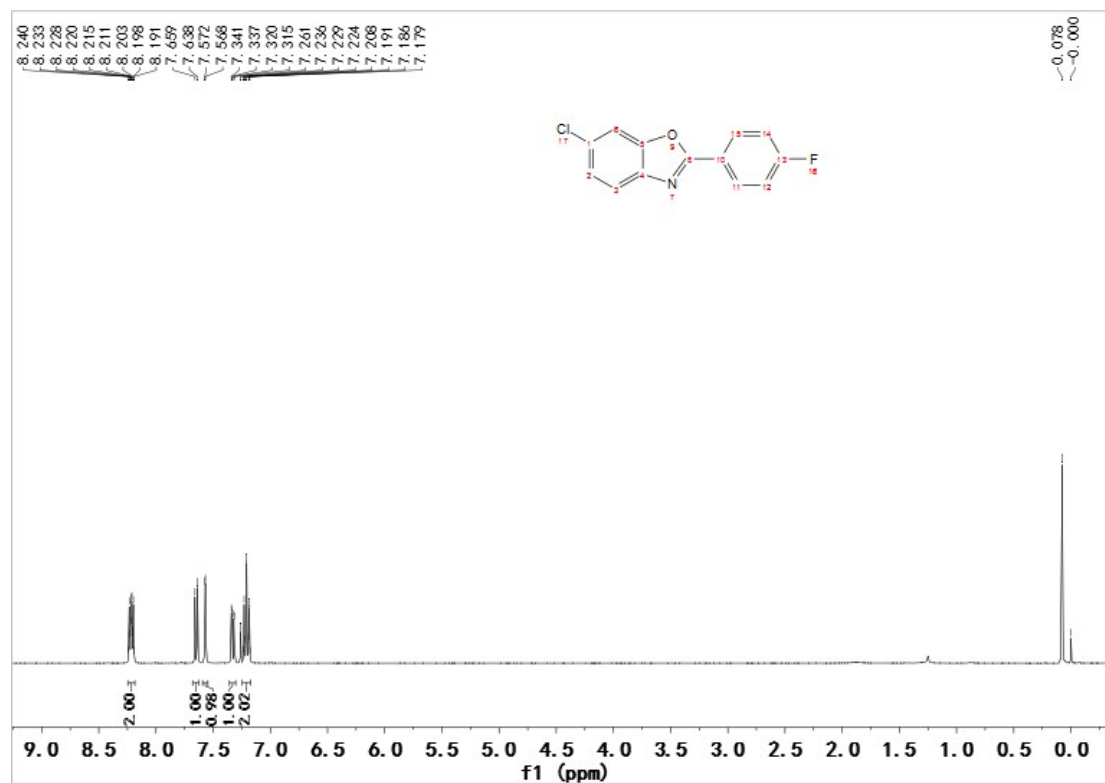
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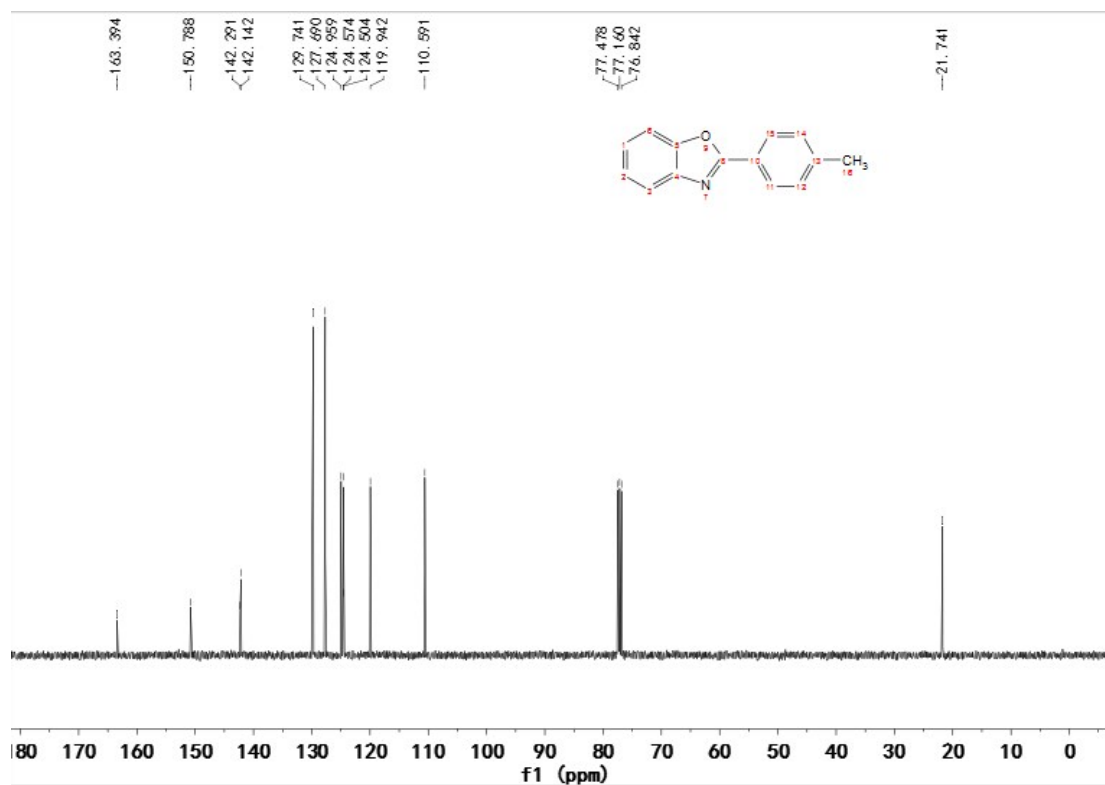
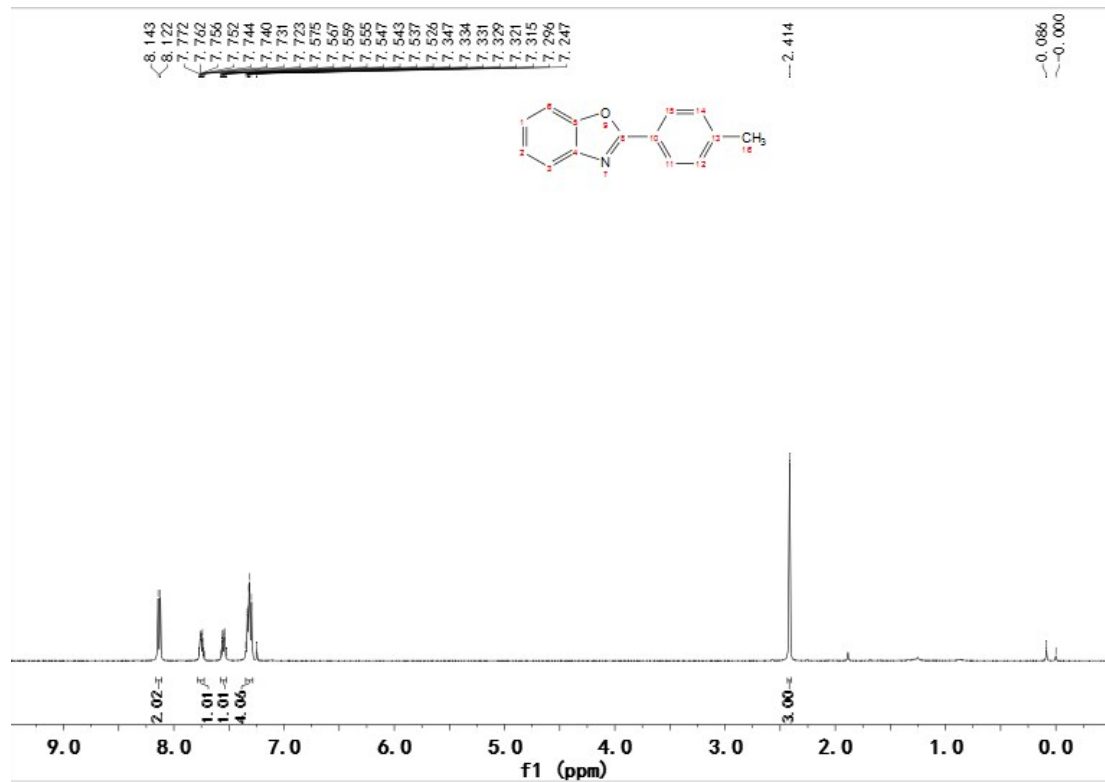
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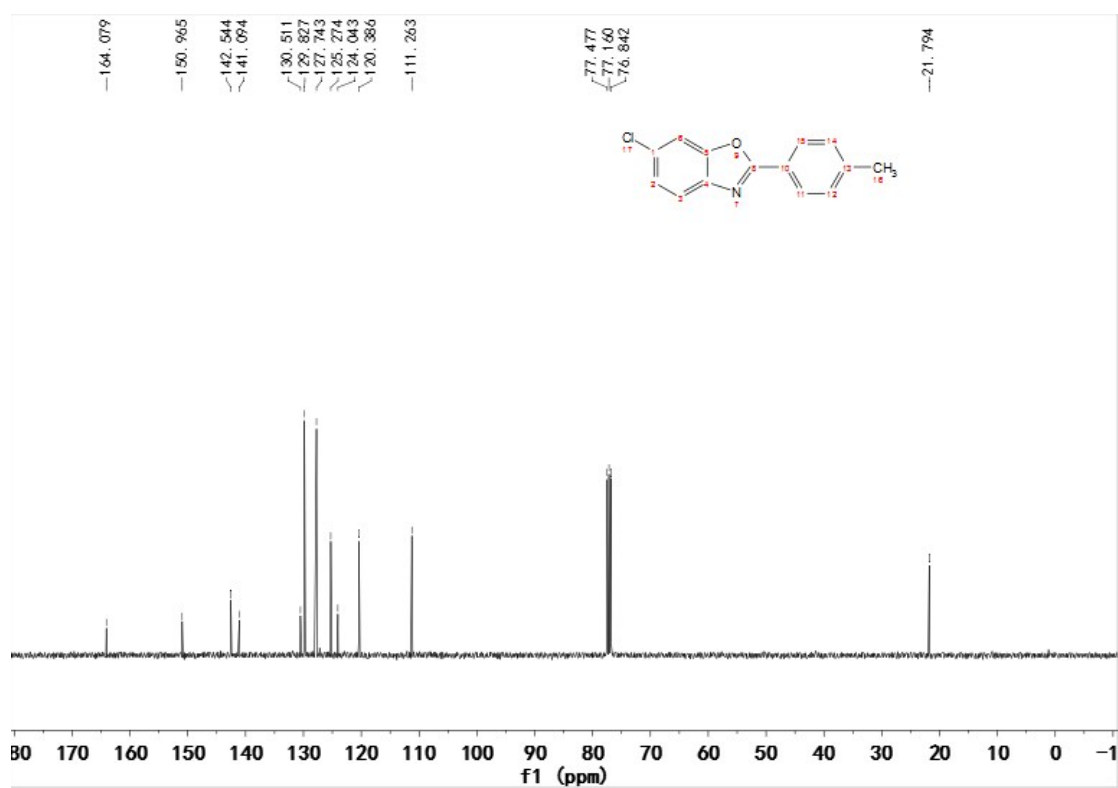
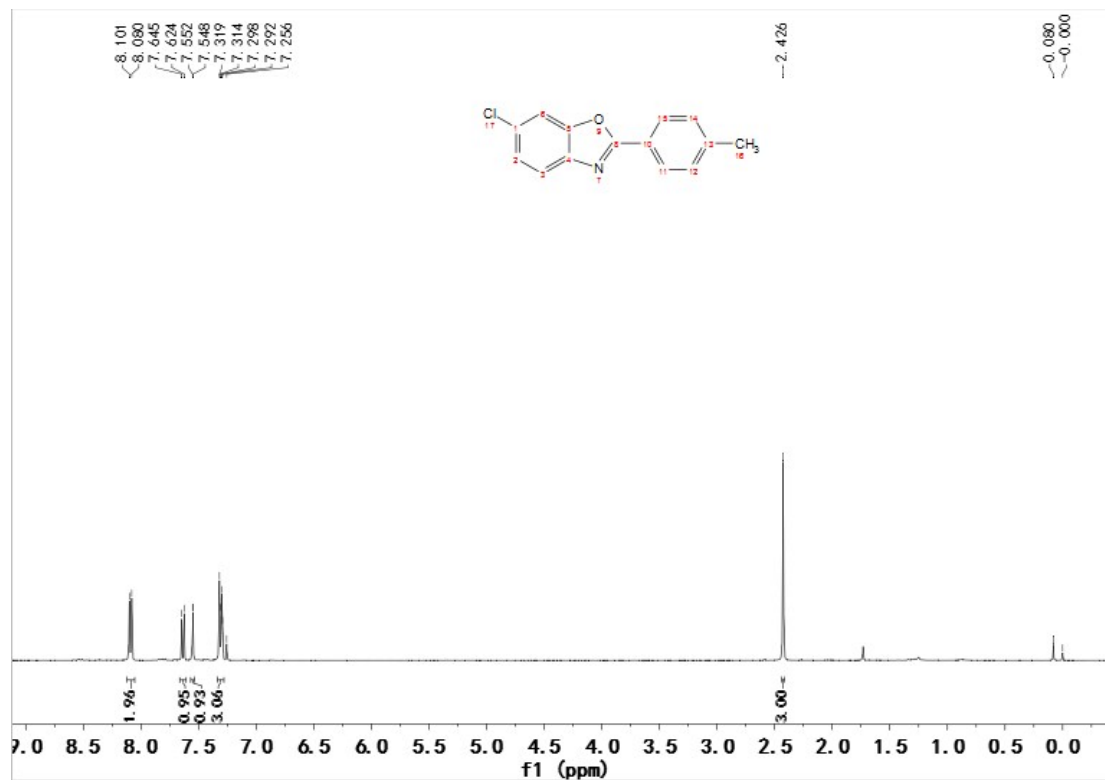
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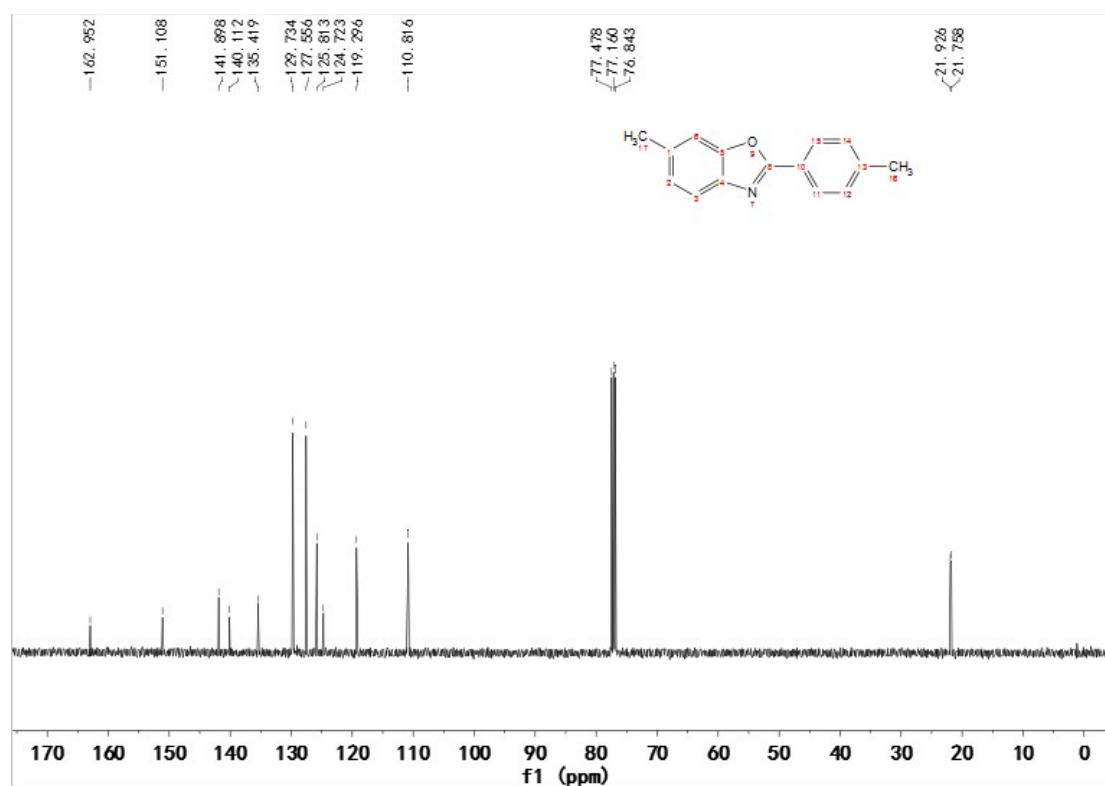
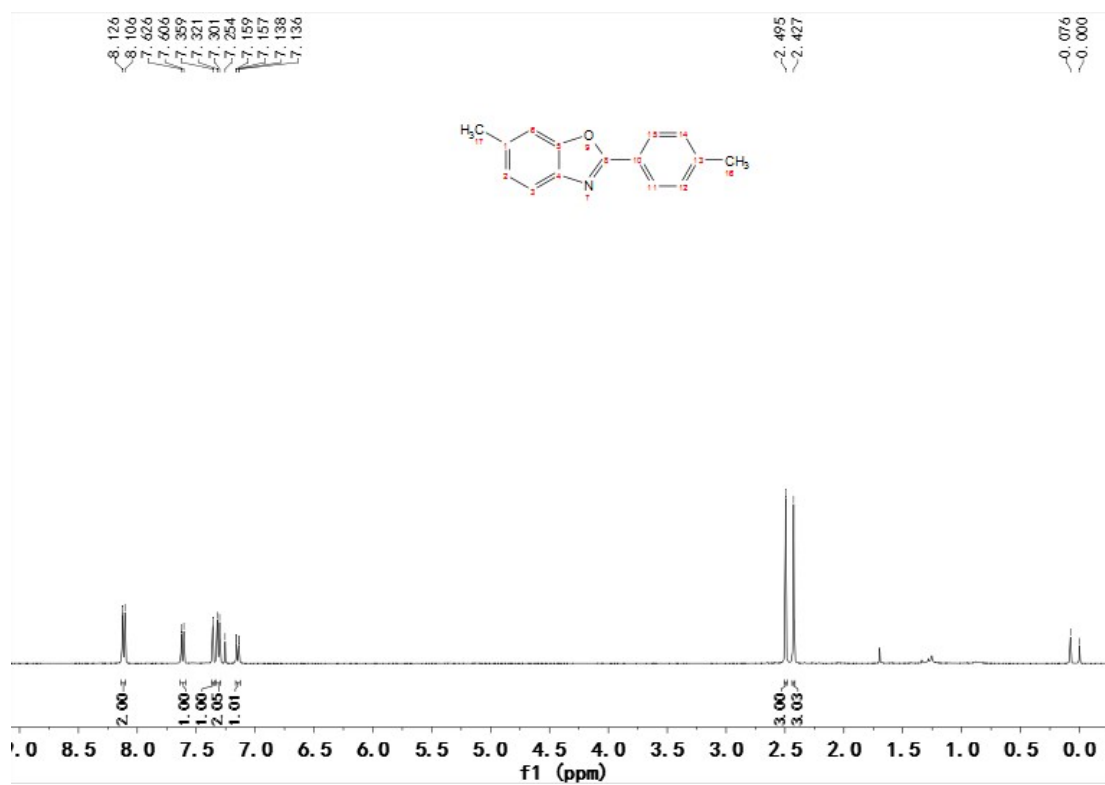
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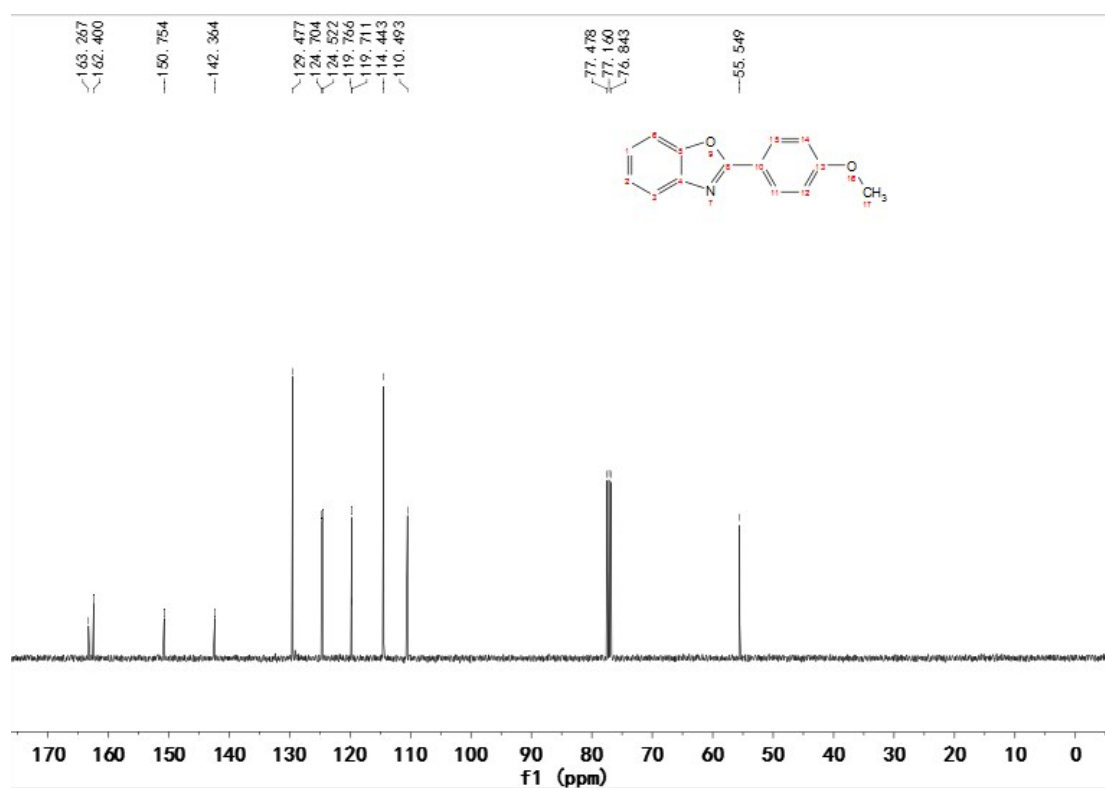
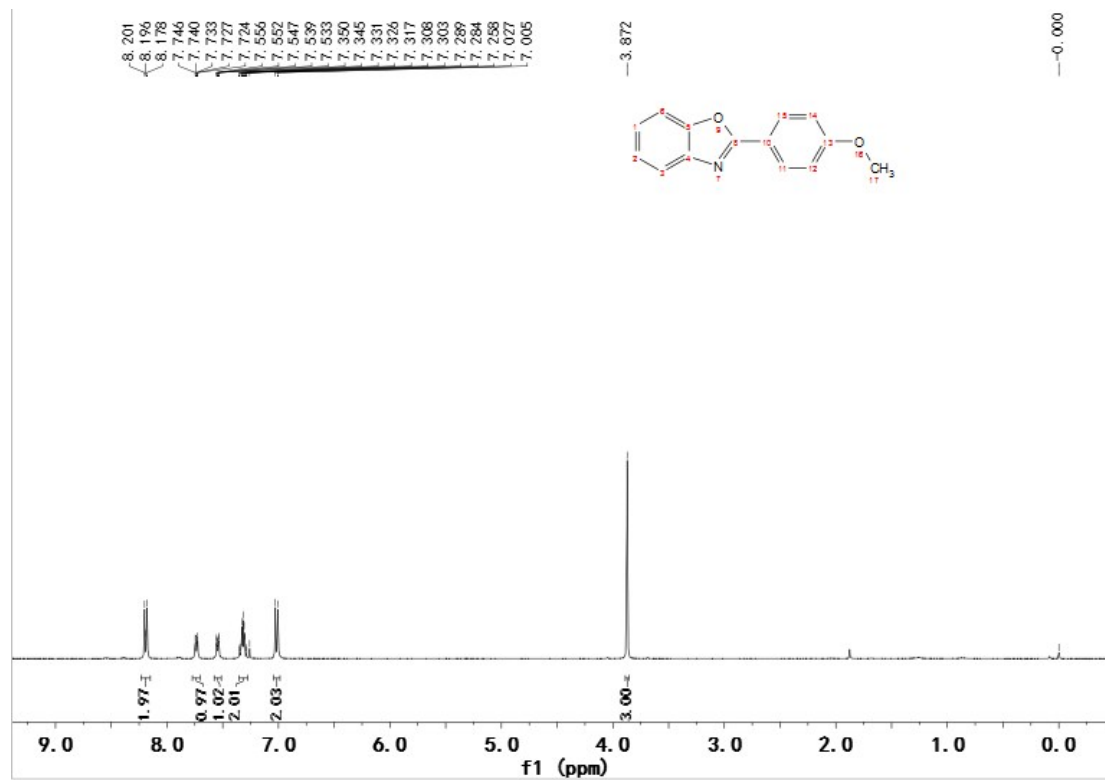
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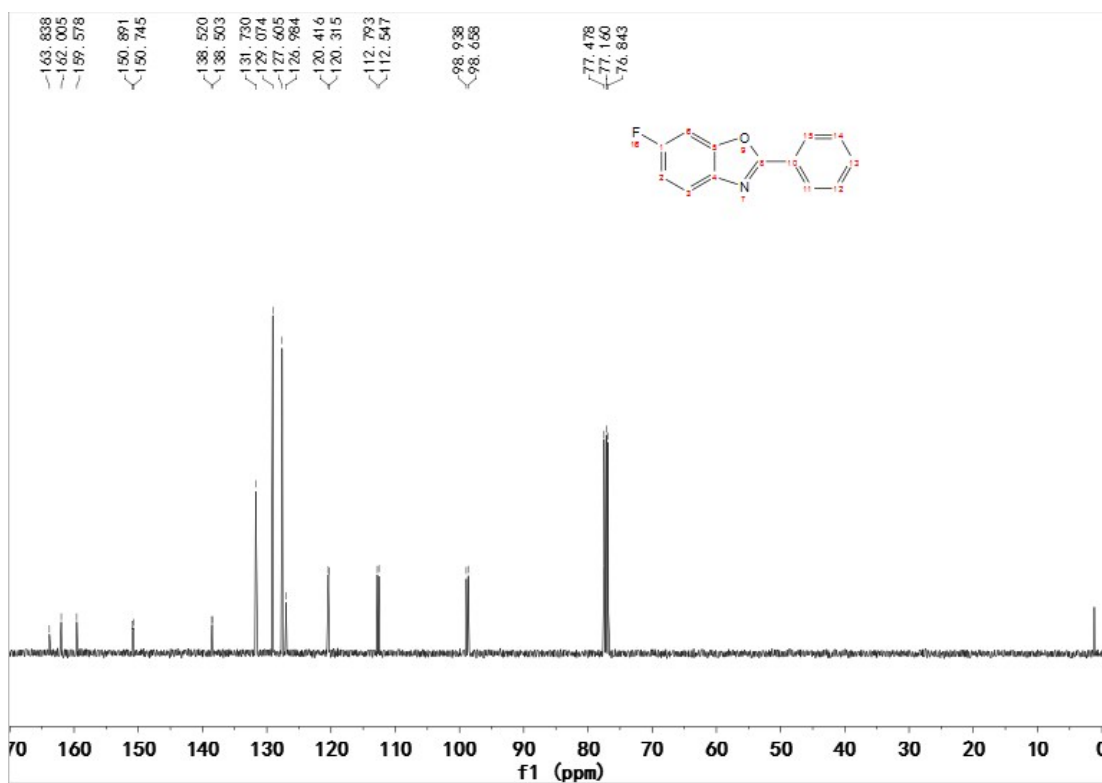
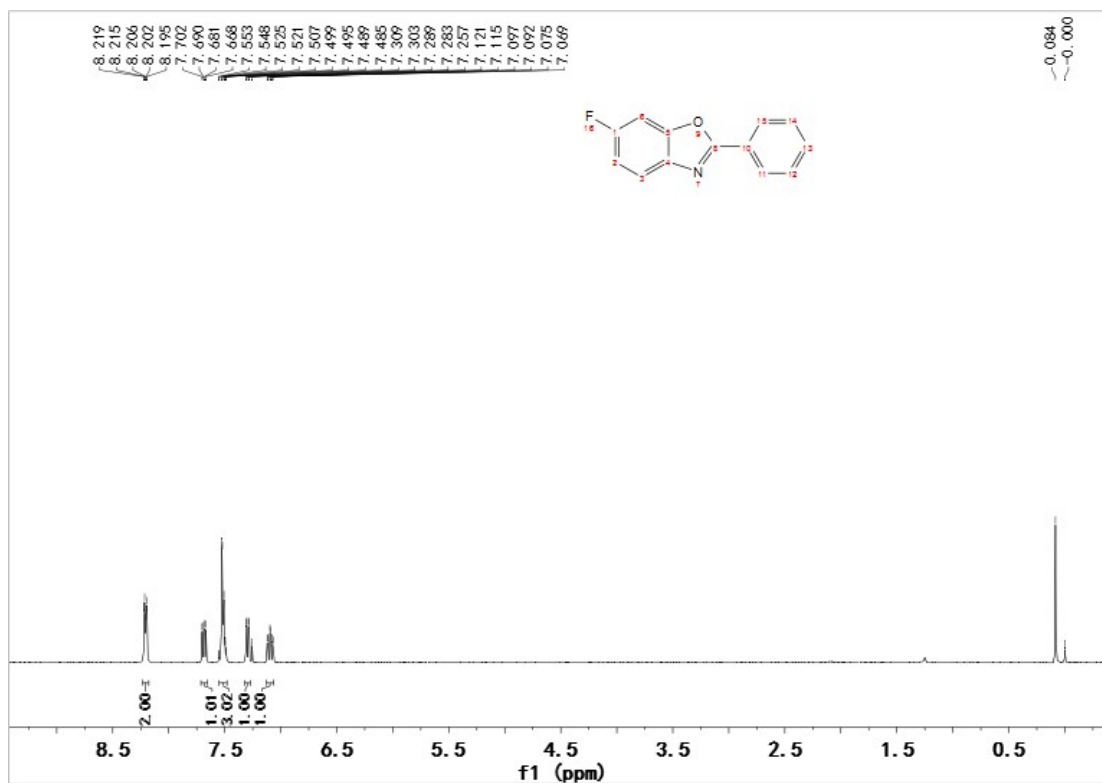
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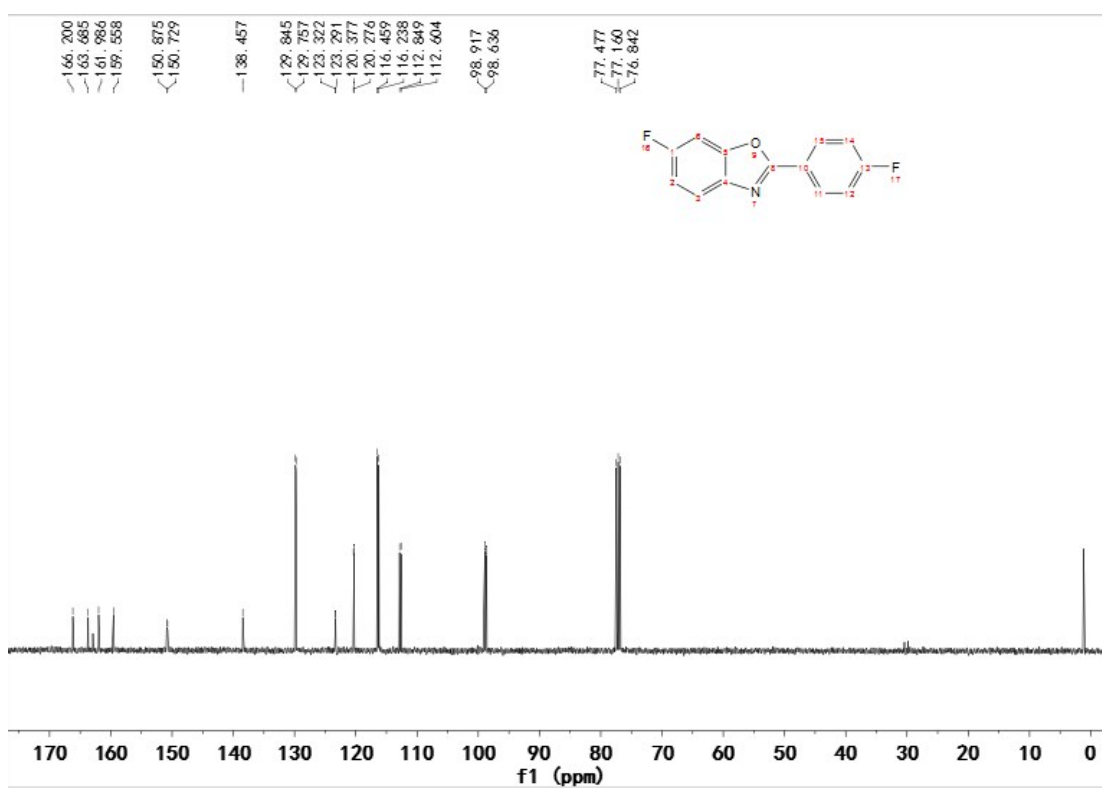
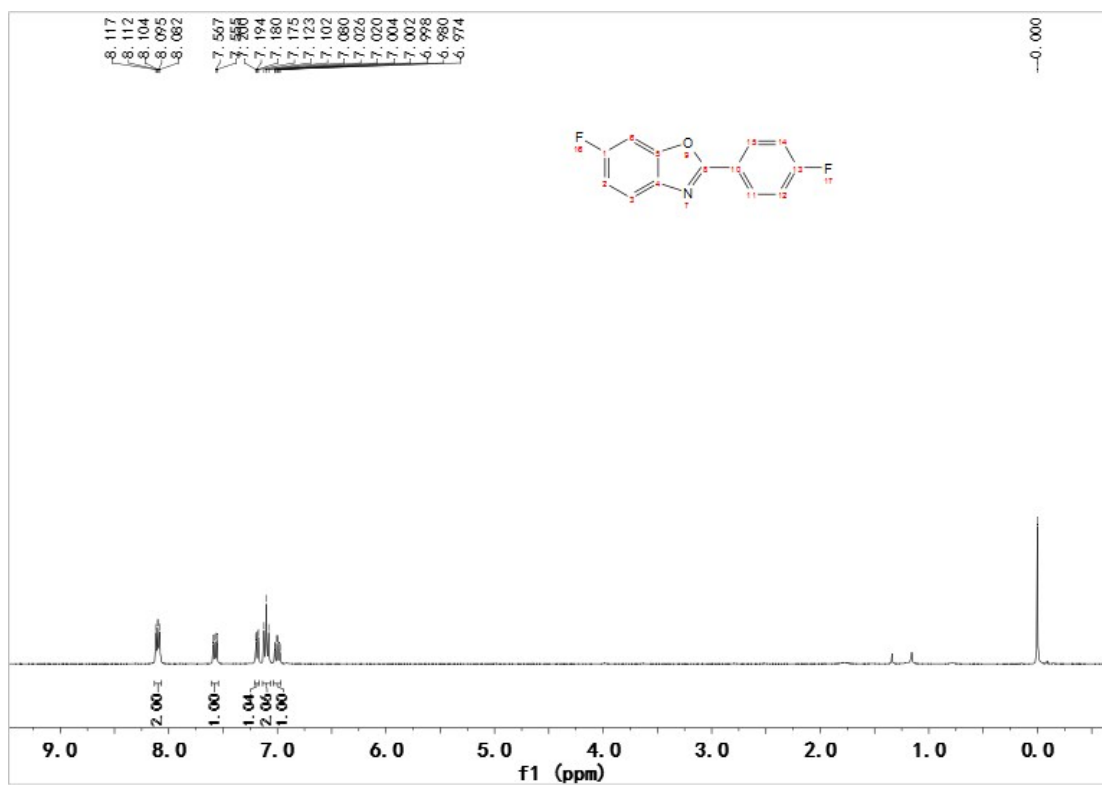


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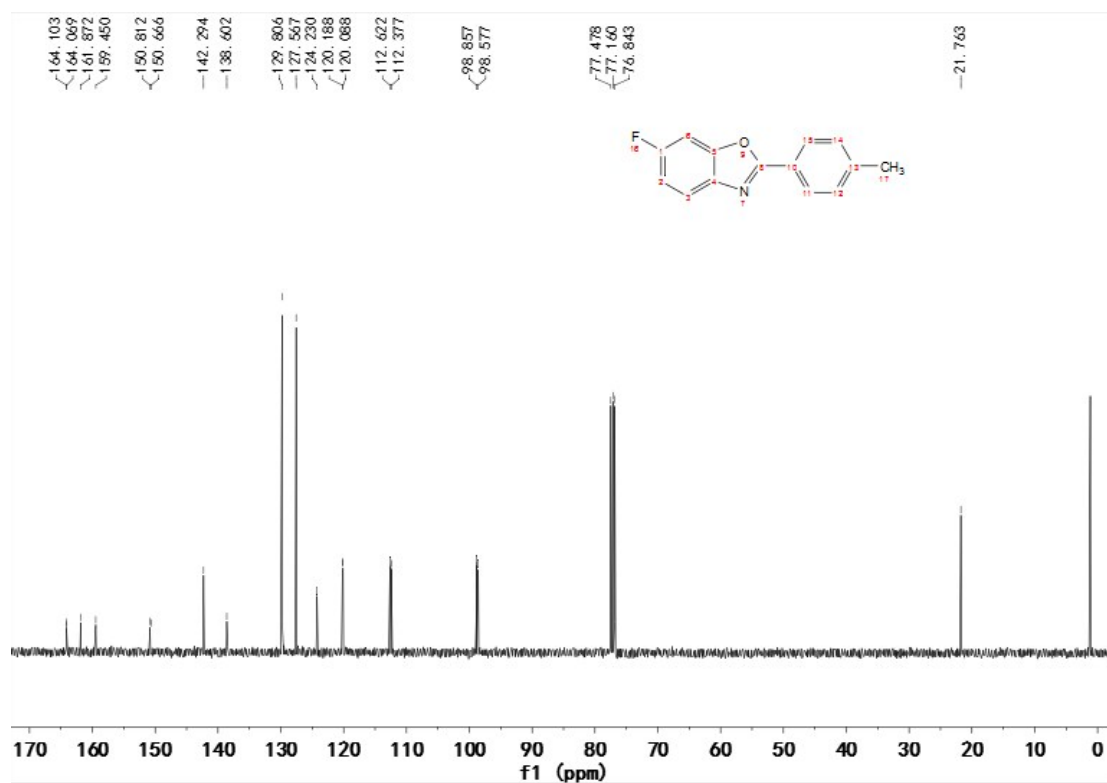
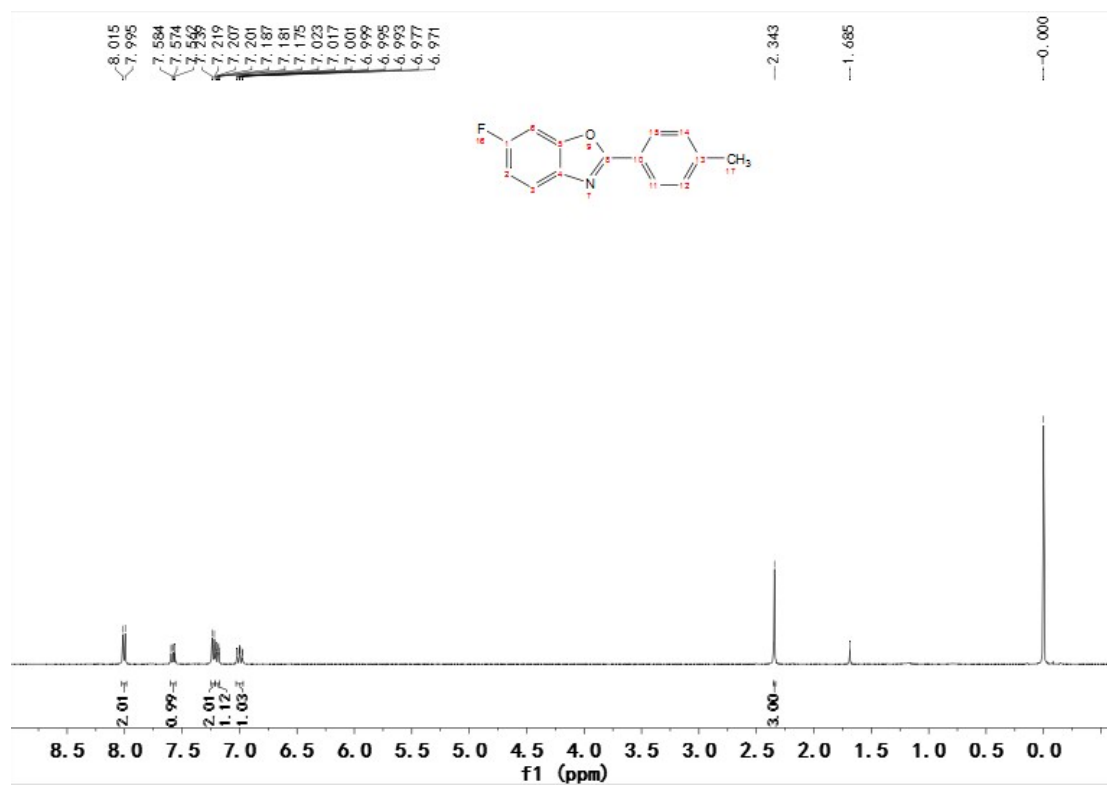


3k

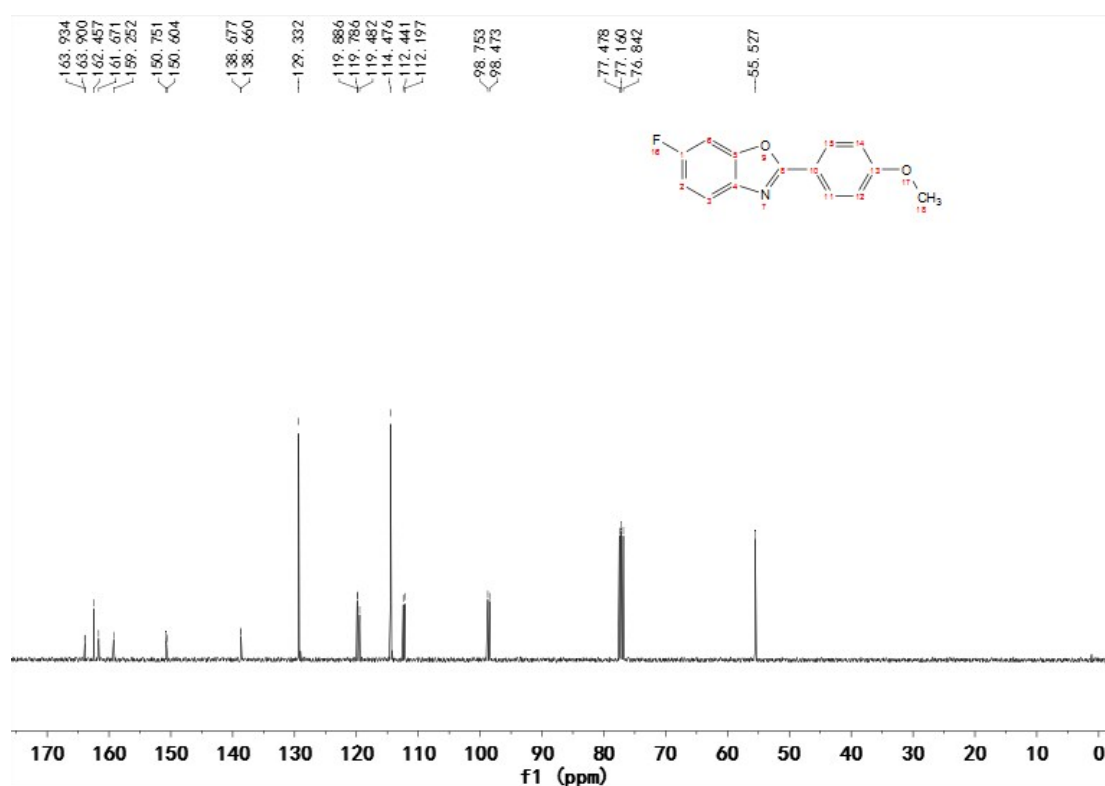
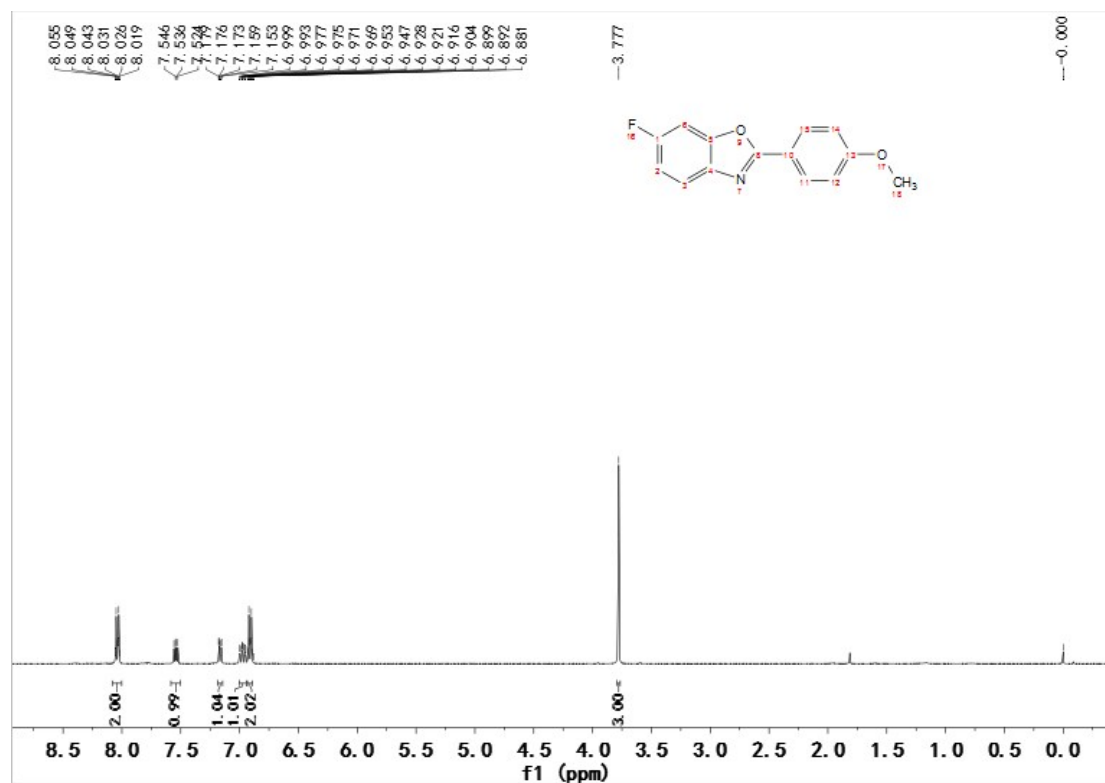




3m



3n



3o

