

# FACILE ACCESS TO HIGHLY-SUBSTITUTED DIHYDROFURANS USING RESONATED VINYL PENTANEDIONE RADICALS GENERATED BY Mn(III)-BASED OXIDATION

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## Measurements.

Melting points were taken using a MP-J3 Yanagimoto micromelting point apparatus and are uncorrected. The IR spectra were measured in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  using a Shimadzu 8400 or neat using an IRAffinity-1S FT IR spectrometer with MIRacle 10 ATR accessory. All the IR data were expressed in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The NMR spectra were recorded using a JNM ECX 500 spectrometer at 500 MHz for the  $^1\text{H}$  and at 125 MHz for  $^{13}\text{C}$ , with tetramethylsilane as the internal standard. The chemical shifts are reported as  $\delta$  values (ppm) and the coupling constants in Hz. The following abbreviations are used for the multiplicities: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet; and brs, broad singlet for the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra, and also aromatic proton; arom H, aromatic carbon; arom C, aromatic carbon attached to proton; arom CH. The high-resolution mass spectra using a JEOL JMS-700 MStation and the elemental analyses using a J-SCIENCE LAB JM10 were performed at the Instrumental Analysis Center, Kumamoto University, Kumamoto, Japan.

## Materials.

Manganese(III) acetate dihydrate,  $\text{Mn}(\text{OAc})_3 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , was synthesized according to our modified method.<sup>5</sup> The 1,1-diarylethenes were prepared by the Grignard reaction of the corresponding acetophenones with arylmagnesium bromides followed by dehydration in 20% aqueous sulfuric acid.<sup>4a,5a-d</sup>

Manganese(II) acetate tetrahydrate,  $\text{Mn}(\text{OAc})_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , acetic acid, methanol, ethanol were purchased from Wako Pure Chemical Ind., Ltd. Formic acid was purchased from Kishida Chemical Co., Ltd. *n*-Propanol, *n*-butanol, benzyl alcohol, *n*-pentanol, and *n*-hexanol were purchased from Tokyo Kasei Co., Ltd., and all the commercially-available materials were used as received. Flash column chromatography was performed on silica gel 60N (40-50 mm), which was purchased from Kanto Chemical Co., Inc., and preparative thin layer chromatography (TLC) on Wakogel B-10 and B-5F from Wako Pure Chemical Ind., Ltd. The solvents were commercially-available guaranteed or first-grade and used as received.

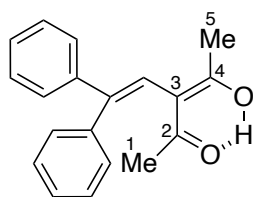
## Preparation of Starting Dihydrofurans.<sup>2e</sup>

Pentane-2,4-dione (1.0104 g, 10 mmol) and 1,1-diphenylethene (1.8070, 10 mmol) were dissolved in AcOH (200 mL). The mixture was heated under argon, and  $\text{Mn}(\text{OAc})_3 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (5.4 g, 20 mmol) was added just before refluxing and continued to stir until the dark-brown color of Mn(III) turned transparent yellow. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the resulting residue was treated with water (100 mL) followed by extraction with chloroform (30 mL  $\times$  3).

The combined extracts were washed with a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> followed by water, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> then concentrated to dryness. The obtained residue was separated by silica gel column chromatography eluting with chloroform, giving 3-acetyl-2-methyl-5,5-diphenyl-4,5-dihydrofuran (2.3637 g, 85%). A similar procedure of the reaction using 1,1-bis(4-chlorophenyl)ethene, 1,1-bis(4-fluorophenyl)ethene, 1,1-bis(4-methylphenyl)ethene, and 1,1-bis(4,4-methoxyphenyl)ethene was performed giving 3-acetyl-5,5-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-2-methyl-4,5-dihydrofuran (1.5919 g, 92%), 3-acetyl-5,5-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-4,5-dihydrofuran (1.9265 g, 88%), 3-acetyl-5,5-bis(4-methylphenyl)-2-methyl-4,5-dihydrofuran (1.6843 g, 91%), and 3-acetyl-5,5-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-4,5-dihydrofuran (0.2931 g, 86%), respectively.

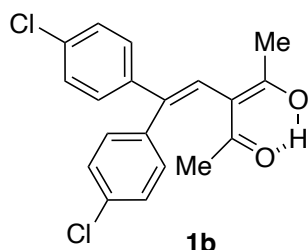
#### Preparation of Vinylpentanediones **1a-c**.<sup>4</sup>

3-Acetyl-2-methyl-5,5-diphenyl-4,5-dihydrofuran (0.8618 g, 3.1 mmol) was dissolved in MeCN (67.5 mL) and conc. HCl (7.5 mL) was added. The mixture was heated at 100 °C under argon with stirring for 12 h, followed by adding water (67.5 mL). The aqueous solution was extracted with chloroform (20 mL × 3), and the combined extracts were washed with a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> followed by water, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated to dryness. The obtained residue was separated by silica gel column chromatography eluting with EtOAc-hexane (2:8 v/v), giving 5,5-diphenylpent-4-en-2-one (quant). The obtained pentenone (1.3140 g, 5.6 mmol) in Ac<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL) was heated at 80 °C under argon, BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (2.4 mL) was dropwise added, and continued to heat with stirring for 3h. The solvent was removed in vacuo and water (100 mL) was added to the resulting residue. The aqueous solution was extracted with chloroform (20 mL × 3), and the combined extracts were washed with a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> followed by water, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, then concentrated to dryness. The resulting residue was separated by silica gel column chromatography with EtOAc-hexane (1:9 v/v), giving (Z)-3-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)-4-hydroxypent-3-en-2-one, as the enol form of 3-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)pentane-2,4-dione (**1a**) (0.8867 g, 57%). A similar reaction procedure using 3-acetyl-5,5-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-2-methyl-4,5-dihydrofuran and 3-acetyl-5,5-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-4,5-dihydrofuran was carried out to yield 3-(2,2-bis(4-chlorophenyl)vinyl)pentane-2,4-dione (**1b**) (772.1 mg, 71%) and 3-(2,2-bis(4-fluorophenyl)vinyl)pentane-2,4-dione (**1c**) (1.0388 g, 61%). The vinylpentanediones **1b** and **1c** were also isolated as their enol forms.



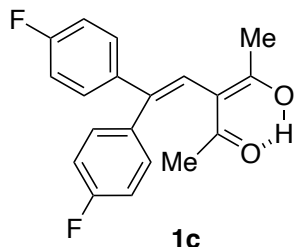
**1a**

**(Z)-3-(2,2-Diphenylvinyl)-4-hydroxypent-3-en-2-one (1a):**<sup>4a</sup> Yield 57%; yellowish oil;  $R_f$  = 0.70 (EtOAc/hexane 1:9 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1596 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.53 (1H, s, OH), 7.34–7.09 (10H, m, arom H), 6.54 (1H, s, =CH-), 1.95 (6H, s, Me  $\times$  2); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  191.1 (2C) (=C–O), 146.2 (>C=), 143.0, 140.2 (arom C), 130.0 (2C), 128.5 (2C), 128.4 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 128.0, 127.7 (arom CH), 122.4 (=CH-), 110.5 (C-3), 24.2 (2C) (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 278.1307; found  $m/z$  278.1300. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 81.99; H, 6.52. Found: C, 81.93; H, 6.71.



**1b**

**(Z)-3-(2,2-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)vinyl)-4-hydroxypent-3-en-2-one (1b):**<sup>4a</sup> Yield 71%; pale yellow microcrystals (from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-hexane); mp 164.0–166.0 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.59 (Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1593 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.53 (1H, s, OH), 7.32–7.20 (6H, m, arom H), 7.03 (2H, d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, arom H), 6.54 (1H, s, =CH-), 1.95 (6H, s, Me  $\times$  2); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  191.0 (2C) (=C–O), 143.8 (>C=), 140.9, 138.2, 134.1, 133.8 (arom C), 131.3 (2C), 129.4 (2C), 128.9 (2C), 128.7 (2C) (arom C), 123.4 (=CH-), 110.3 (C-3), 24.2 (2C) (Me). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 65.72; H, 4.64. Found: C, 65.43; H, 4.52.



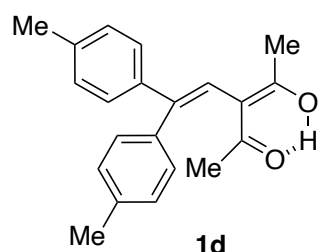
**1c**

**(Z)-3-(2,2-Bis(4-fluorophenyl)vinyl)-4-hydroxypent-3-en-2-one (1c):** Yield 61%; pale yellow cubes (from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-hexane); mp 108.0–109.0 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.59 (Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1602 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.51 (1H, s, OH), 7.27–7.24 (2H, m, arom H), 7.09–6.98 (6H, m, arom H), 6.48 (1H, s, =CH-), 1.95 (6H, s, Me  $\times$  2); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  191.0 (2C) (=C–O), 162.6 (d, <sup>1</sup> $J_{(C,F)}$  = 245 Hz, arom C), 162.0 (d, <sup>1</sup> $J_{(C,F)}$  = 248 Hz, arom C),

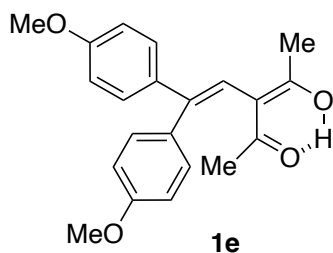
144.0 (>C=), 138.8 (d,  $^4J_{(C,F)} = 3$  Hz, arom C), 135.9 (d,  $^4J_{(C,F)} = 3$  Hz, arom C), 131.6 (2C) (d,  $^3J_{(C,F)} = 8$  Hz), 129.8 (2C) (d,  $^3J_{(C,F)} = 8$  Hz) (arom CH), 122.4 (=CH-), 115.6 (2C) (d,  $^2J_{(C,F)} = 21$  Hz, arom CH), 115.3 (2C) (d,  $^2J_{(C,F)} = 21$  Hz, arom CH), 110.4 (C-3), 24.2 (2C) (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ :  $[M]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{16}F_2O_2$  314.1118; found 314.1185. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{16}F_2O_2$ : C, 72.60; H, 5.13. Found: C, 72.59; H, 5.19.

### Preparation of Vinylpentanediones **1d** and **1e**.

3-Acetyl-5,5-bis(4-methylphenyl)-2-methyl-4,5-dihydrofuran (2.2166 g, 7.2 mmol) was dissolved in MeCN (100 mL) and *p*-TsOH·H<sub>2</sub>O (1.31 g, 7.6 mmol) was added. The mixture was heated at 80 °C under argon with stirring for 24 h. The reaction was quenched by adding water (100 mL) and the aqueous solution was extracted with chloroform (30 mL × 3). The combined extracts were washed with a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> followed by water, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, then concentrated to dryness. The resulting residue was separated by silica gel column chromatography eluting with EtOAc-hexane (1:9 v/v), affording (*Z*)-3-(2,2-bis(4-methylphenyl)vinyl)-4-hydroxypent-3-en-2-one as the enol form of 3-(2,2-bis(4-methylphenyl)vinyl)pentane-2,4-dione (**1d**) (0.7489 g, 34%). A similar reaction using 3-acetyl-5,5-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-4,5-dihydrofuran was conducted and (*Z*)-3-(2,2-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)vinyl)-4-hydroxypent-3-en-2-one as the enol form of 3-(2,2-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)vinyl)pentane-2,4-dione (**1e**) was obtained in 90% yield (0.9094 g).



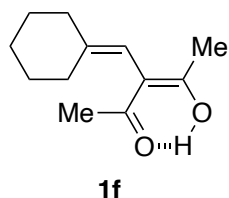
**(Z)-3-(2,2-Bis(4-methylphenyl)vinyl)-4-hydroxypent-3-en-2-one (1d):**<sup>4a</sup> Yield 34%; pale yellow needles (from hexane); mp 135.5–137.0 °C;  $R_f = 0.67$  (Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1595 (C=O);  $^1H$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.51(1H, s, OH), 7.22 (2H, d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, arom H), 7.14 (2H, d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, arom H), 7.08 (2H, d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, arom H), 6.98 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, arom H), 6.46 (1H, s, =CH-), 2.37 (3H, s, Me-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 2.33 (3H, s, Me-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 1.95 (6H, s, Me × 2);  $^{13}C$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  191.1 (2C) (=C–O), 145.9 (>C=), 140.3, 137.8, 137.8, 137.3 (arom CH), 129.9 (2C), 129.1 (2C), 129.0 (2C), 128.2 (2C) (arom C), 121.2 (=CH-), 110.8 (C-3), 24.2 (2C), 21.3, 21.2 (Me). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{22}O_2$ : C, 82.32; H, 7.24. Found: C, 82.37; H, 7.36.



**(Z)-3-(2,2-Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)vinyl)-4-hydroxypent-3-en-2-one (1e):** Yield 64%; dark red liquid;  $R_f = 0.67$  (Et<sub>2</sub>O/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1606 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.51 (1H, s, OH), 7.24 (2H, d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, arom H), 7.03 (2H, d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, arom H), 6.86 (2H, d,  $J = 9.5$  Hz, arom H), 6.82 (2H, d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, arom H), 6.38 (1H, s, =CH-), 3.83 (3H, s, OMe), 3.80 (3H, s, OMe), 1.96 (6H, s, Me  $\times$  2); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  191.2 (2C) (=C–O), 159.6, 158.9, 135.8, 132.6 (arom C), 145.1 (>C=), 131.2 (2C), 129.5 (2C), 113.8 (2C), 113.7 (2C) (arom C), 120.0 (=CH-), 110.9 (C-3), 55.5, 55.3 (MeO), 24.2 (2C) (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 338.1518; found 338.1504.

#### Preparation of Vinylpentanedione **1f**.<sup>4c</sup>

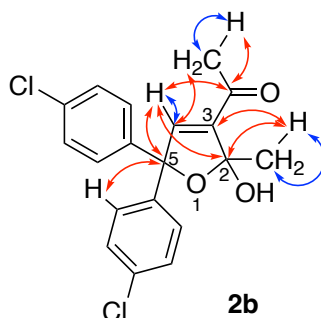
Cyclohexanecarbaldehyde (1.2722, 11 mmol) and pentane-2,4-dione (1.0079g, 10 mmol) were dissolved in toluene (40 mL), and piperidine (0.1 mL) and AcOH (0.1 mL) were added. The mixture was heated at reflux temperature under argon with stirring for 5 h. The reaction was quenched by adding water (40 mL) and the aqueous solution was extracted with EtOAc (15 mL  $\times$  3). The combined extracts were washed with 2M HCl (20 mL) followed by a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, washed with water, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and then concentrated to dryness. The resulting residue was separated by silica gel column chromatography eluting with EtOAc-hexane (1:9 v/v), giving (Z)-3-(cyclohexylidenemethyl)-4-hydroxypent-3-en-2-one as the enol form of 3-(cyclohexylidenemethyl)pentane-2,4-dione (**1f**) (quant).



**(Z)-3-(Cyclohexylidenemethyl)-4-hydroxypent-3-en-2-one (1f):**<sup>4c</sup> Yield quantitative; yellow liquid;  $R_f = 0.5$  (EtOAc/hexane 1:9 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1595 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  16.39 (1H, s, OH), 5.70 (1H, s, =CH-), 2.21 (2H, d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.02 (6H, s, Me  $\times$  2), 1.99 (2H, d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.63–1.54 (4H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>  $\times$  2), 1.51–1.46 (2H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C

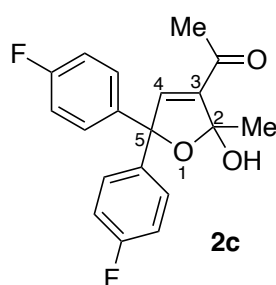
NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  191.0 (2C) (=C–O), 146.2 (>C=), 115.6 (=CH-), 109.3 (C-3), 36.5, 29.8, 28.5, 27.3, 29.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 23.9 (2C) (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 217.1204; found 217.1081.

### Oxidation Products 2 and 3.



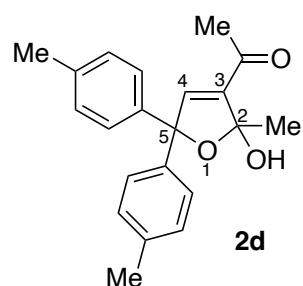
**Fig. 1.** Selected Correlation Based on **HMQC** and **HMBC** of **2b**

**3-Acetyl-5,5-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (2b):** Yield 22.0 mg, 20%; pale yellow amorphous;  $R_f$  = 0.41 (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  3425 (OH), 1676 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.33 (2H, d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, arom H), 7.31 (4H, m, arom H), 7.25 (2H, d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, arom H), 7.15 (1H, s, H-4), 3.20 (1H, brs, OH), 2.42 (3H, s, COMe), 1.76 (3H, s, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  194.5 (C=O), 144.1 (C-4), 141.8 (C-3), 141.6, 141.0 (arom C), 134.2 (2C) (arom C), 128.92 (2C), 128.88 (2C), 128.2 (2C), 128.0 (2C) (arom CH), 109.1 (C-2), 90.8 (C-5), 28.1 (COMe), 27.1 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 385.0374; found 385.0373.

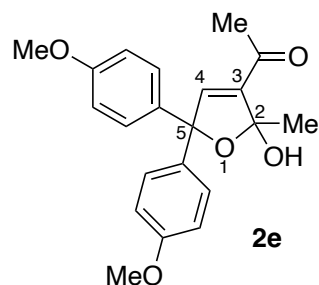


**3-Acetyl-5,5-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (2c):** Pale yellow oil;  $R_f$  = 0.36 (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  3427 (OH), 1674 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36–7.34 (2H, m, arom H), 7.30–7.27 (2H, m, arom H), 7.17 (1H, s, H-4), 7.06–7.00 (4H, m, arom H), 3.14 (1H, brs, OH), 2.43 (3H, s, COMe), 1.77 (3H, s, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  194.6 (C=O), 162.4 (2C) (d, <sup>1</sup> $J_{(C,F)}$  = 246 Hz, arom C), 144.6 (C-4), 141.5 (C-3), 139.1 (d, <sup>4</sup> $J_{(C,F)}$  = 3 Hz, arom CH), 138.5 (d, <sup>4</sup> $J_{(C,F)}$  = 3 Hz, arom CH), 128.6 (2C) (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{(C,F)}$  = 9 Hz, arom CH), 128.4 (2C) (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{(C,F)}$  = 9 Hz, arom CH), 115.65 (2C) (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{(C,F)}$  = 21

Hz, arom CH), 115.56 (2C) (d,  $^2J_{(C,F)} = 21$  Hz, arom CH), 109.0 (C-2), 90.9 (C-5), 28.1 (COMe), 27.1 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ :  $[M+Na]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{16}F_2O_3Na$  353.0965; found 353.0987.

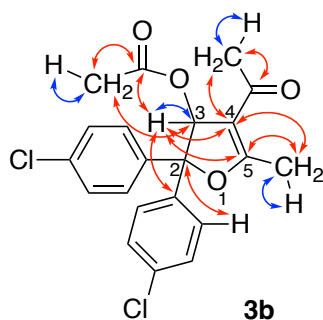


**3-Acetyl-2-hydroxy-5,5-bis(4-methylphenyl)-2-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (2d):** Yield 13.9 mg, 14%; yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.41$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR ( $CHCl_3$ )  $\nu$  3446 (OH), 1674 (C=O);  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  7.28 (2H, d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, arom H), 7.22 (1H, s, H-4), 7.21 (2H, d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, arom H), 7.15 (2H, d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, arom H), 7.14 (2H, d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, arom H), 2.89 (1H, s, OH), 2.41 (3H, s, COMe), 2.34 (3H, s, Me), 2.33 (3H, s, Me), 1.78 (3H, s, 2-Me);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  194.6 (C=O), 145.8 (C-4), 141.2, 140.7, 137.77, 137.45 (arom C), 139.96 (C-3), 129.34 (2C), 129.27 (2C), 126.62 (2C), 126.54 (2C) (arom CH), 108.8 (C-2), 91.5 (C-5), 28.1 (COMe), 26.9, 21.2 (2C) (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ :  $[M+Na]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{22}O_3Na$  345.1467; found 345.1529.



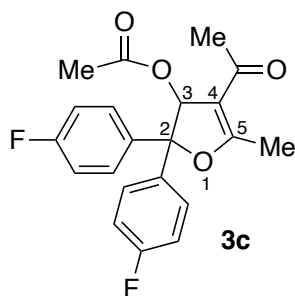
**3-Acetyl-2-hydroxy-5,5-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (2e):** Yield 4.1 mg, 4%; yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.21$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR ( $CHCl_3$ )  $\nu$  3446 (OH), 1676 (C=O);  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  7.30 (2H, d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, arom H), 7.23 (2H, d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, arom H), 7.18 (1H, s, H-4), 6.89–6.85 (4H, m, arom H), 3.80 (3H, s, OMe), 3.79 (3H, s, OMe), 2.90 (1H, brs, OH), 2.42 (3H, s, COMe), 1.78 (3H, s, Me);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  194.7 (C=O), 159.3 (2C) (arom C–O), 145.8 (C-4), 140.9 (C-3), 135.8, 135.0 (arom C), 128.1 (2C), 127.9 (2C), 114.0 (2C), 113.9 (2C) (arom CH), 108.7 (C-2), 91.2 (C-5), 55.4 (2C) (OMe), 28.1 (COMe), 27.0 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ :  $[M+Na]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{22}O_5Na$  377.1365; found 377.1397.





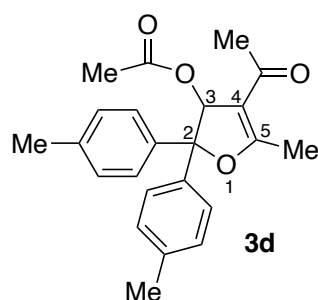
**Fig. 2.** Selected Correlation Based on **HMQC** and **HMBC** of **3b**

**4-Acetyl-2,2-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-5-methyl-2,3-dihydrofuran-3-yl acetate (3b):** Yield 92.6 mg, 76%; colorless amorphous;  $R_f = 0.61$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1732, 1678 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.67 (2H, d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, arom H), 7.40 (2H, d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, arom H), 7.25 (2H, d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, arom H), 7.13 (2H, d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, arom H), 6.68 (1H, s, H-3), 2.46 (3H, s, Me), 2.13 (3H, s, COMe), 1.61 (3H, s, OAc); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.5 (C=O), 172.2 (C-5), 170.5 (OCOMe), 139.1, 136.0, 135.0, 134.4 (arom C), 129.0 (2C), 128.95 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 127.97 (2C) (arom CH), 111.5 (C-4), 94.4 (C-2), 80.4 (C-3), 29.0 (COMe), 20.5 (OCOMe), 15.6 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>Na 427.0480; found 427.0481.

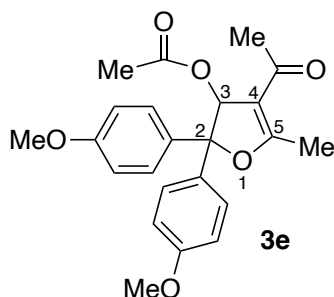


**4-Acetyl-2,2-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-2,3-dihydrofuran-3-yl acetate (3c):** Yield quantitative; pale yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.56$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1735, 1678 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.76–7.73 (2H, m, arom H), 7.20–7.17 (2H, m, arom H), 7.14–7.10 (2H, m, arom H), 6.98–6.95 (2H, m, arom H), 6.71 (1H, brs, H-3), 2.48 (3H, s, Me), 2.15 (3H, s, COMe), 1.62 (3H, s, OAc); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.7 (C=O), 172.3 (C-5), 170.5 (OCOMe), 162.8 (d, <sup>1</sup> $J_{(C,F)} = 246$  Hz, arom C), 162.4 (d, <sup>1</sup> $J_{(C,F)} = 246$  Hz, arom C), 136.5 (d, <sup>4</sup> $J_{(C,F)} = 6$  Hz, arom C), 133.5 (d, <sup>4</sup> $J_{(C,F)} = 3$  Hz, arom C), 129.5 (2C) (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{(C,F)} = 8$  Hz, arom CH), 128.7 (2C) (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{(C,F)} = 8$  Hz, arom CH), 115.7 (2C) (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{(C,F)} = 21$  Hz, arom CH), 114.6 (2C) (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{(C,F)} = 21$  Hz, arom CH), 111.4 (C-4), 94.6 (C-2), 80.6 (C-3), 29.0 (COMe), 20.4 (OCOMe), 15.6 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 372.1173;

found 372.1186.



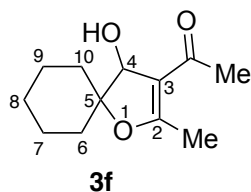
**4-Acetyl-2,2-bis(4-methylphenyl)-5-methyl-2,3-dihydrofuran-3-yl acetate (3d):** Yield 83.0 mg, 77%; pale yellow liquid;  $R_f = 0.64$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1735, 1676 (C=O);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.62 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, arom CH), 7.22 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, arom H), 7.11 (2H, d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, arom H), 7.06 (2H, d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, arom H), 6.75 (1H, brs, H-3), 2.47 (3H, s, 5-Me), 2.36 (3H, s, Me), 2.29 (3H, s, Me), 2.13 (3H, s, COMe), 1.57 (3H, s, OAc);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  194.0 (C=O), 172.8 (C-5), 170.6 (OCOMe), 138.5, 138.2, 137.2, 135.1 (arom C), 129.3 (2C), 128.4 (2C), 127.4 (2C), 126.6 (2C) (arom CH), 111.5 (C-4), 95.6 (C-2), 80.6 (C-3), 29.0 (COMe), 21.2, 21.1 (Me), 20.5 (OCOMe), 15.7 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_4\text{Na}$  387.1572; found 387.1579.



**4-Acetyl-2,2-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-methyl-2,3-dihydrofuran-3-yl acetate (3e):** Yield 102.2 mg, 95%; pale pink oil;  $R_f = 0.50$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\nu$  1737, 1674 (C=O);  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.66 (2H, d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, arom CH), 7.11 (2H, d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, arom H), 6.94 (2H, d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, arom H), 6.79 (2H, d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, arom H), 6.69 (1H, brs, H-3), 3.87 (3H, s, OMe), 3.76 (3H, s, OMe), 2.46 (3H, s, Me), 2.14 (3H, s, COMe), 1.60 (3H, s, OAc);  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  194.0 (C=O), 172.8 (C-5), 170.7 (OCOMe), 159.7, 159.3, 133.1, 130.2 (arom C), 129.1 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 113.9 (2C), 112.9 (2C) (arom CH), 111.4 (C-4), 95.4 (C-2), 80.7 (C-3), 55.41, 55.35 (Me), 29.0 (COMe), 20.5 (OCOMe), 15.7 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_6\text{Na}$  419.1471; found 419.1503.

**Oxidation of Vinylpentanedione Enol 1f.** To a boiling AcOH (150 mL) solution including  $\text{Mn}(\text{OAc})_3 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (536.2 mg, 2 mmol) under argon, a mixture of **1f** (97.1 mg, 0.50 mmol) and

AcOH (20 mL) was dropwise added over 40 min. After cooling, the solvent was removed in vacuo and water (150 mL) was added to the resulting residue followed by extraction with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (20 mL x 3). The work-up described above was performed and the crude products were purified by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with EtOAc/hexane (4:6 v/v), affording **3f** (37.8 mg, 44%).

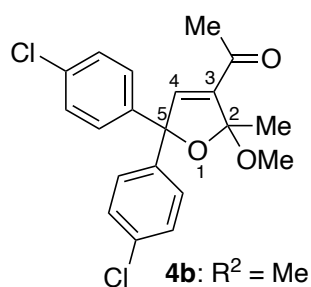


**3-Acetyl-4-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-oxaspiro[4.5]dec-2-ene (3f):** Brown liquid;  $R_f = 0.33$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  3352 (OH), 1651 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.70 (1H, d,  $J = 5.4$  Hz, H-4), 2.31 (3H, s, Ac), 2.26 (3H, s, Me), 2.24 (1H,  $J = 5.4$  Hz, OH), 1.89–1.41 (10H, m, CH<sub>2</sub> x 5); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  195.9 (C=O), 170.6 (C-2), 116.6 (C-3), 90.7 (C-5), 78.5 (C-4), 35.1, 29.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.0 (COMe), 25.2, 23.0, 22.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 16.0 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 233.1154; found 233.1162.

#### Treatment of Dihydrofuranyl Acetates **3b–e** with H<sub>2</sub>O producing Hemiacetals **3b–e**.

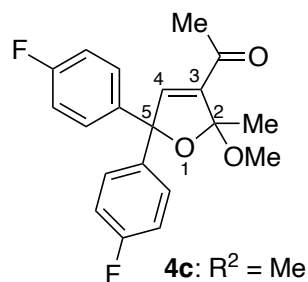
Dihydrofuranyl acetate **3** (0.02–0.15 mmol) was dissolved in AcOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (5/5 mL) at room temperature and stirred under argon for 3 h except for **3b** for 24 h. Additional water (10 mL) was added to the mixture and the aqueous solution was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (10 mL x 3). The combined extracts were washed with a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> followed by water, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated to dryness. The residue was separated by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with hexane/EtOAc (3:7 v/v), giving the corresponding hemiacetals **2b** (19.9 mg, 90%), **2c** (35.9 mg, 74%), **2d** (7.0 mg, 94%), and **2e** (19.1 mg, 68%), respectively.

A similar reaction of **3** (0.1 mmol) was carried out in AcOH/R<sup>2</sup>OH (5/5 mL) instead of water for the period mentioned in Table 2, producing the corresponding acetal **4**.



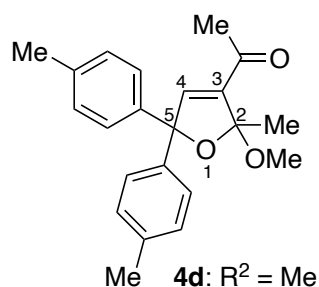
**3-Acetyl-5,5-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-2-methoxy-2-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4b: R<sup>2</sup> = Me):**

Yield 41.6 mg, 72%; colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.41$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1678 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.34–7.28 (8H, m, arom H), 7.26 (1H, s, H-4), 3.01 (3H, s, OMe), 2.43 (3H, s, COMe), 1.72 (3H, s, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.4 (C=O), 144.7 (C-4), 141.8, 141.7 (arom C), 140.5 (C-3), 134.0, 133.9 (arom C), 128.94 (2C), 128.90 (2C), 127.9 (2C), 127.4 (2C) (arom CH), 113.1 (C-2), 89.8 (C-5), 50.9 (OMe), 28.2 (COMe), 25.2 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 399.0531; found 399.0571.



**3-Acetyl-5,5-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-2-methoxy-2-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4c: R<sup>2</sup> = Me):**

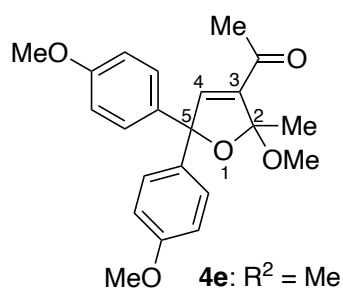
Yield 63.1 mg, 97%; yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.36$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1678 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.37 (1H, s, H-4), 7.34–7.31 (4H, m, arom H), 7.05–7.01 (4H, m, arom H), 3.01 (3H, s, OMe), 2.44 (3H, s, COMe), 1.73 (3H, s, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.6 (C=O), 162.1 (2C) (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>(C,F)</sub> = 246 Hz, arom C), 145.4 (C-4), 140.1 (C-3), 139.35, 139.27 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>(C,F)</sub> = 3 Hz, arom C), 128.3 (2C), 127.8 (2C) (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>(C,F)</sub> = 8 Hz, arom CH), 115.59 (2C), 115.56 (2C) (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>(C,F)</sub> = 21 Hz, arom CH), 113.0 (C-2), 89.9 (C-5), 50.8 (OMe), 28.1 (COMe), 25.2 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 367.1122; found 367.1122.



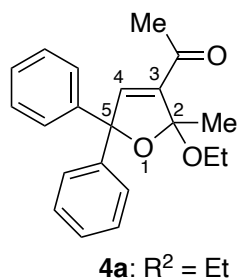
**3-Acetyl-2-methoxy-5,5-bis(4-methylphenyl)-2-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4d: R<sup>2</sup> = Me):**

Yield 32.5 mg, 95%; colorless microcrystals (from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane); mp 112–114 °C;  $R_f = 0.41$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1679 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.43 (1H, s, H-4), 7.26–7.24 (4H, m, arom H), 7.13 (4H, d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, arom H), 2.99 (3H, s, OMe), 2.43 (3H, s, COMe), 2.32 (6H, s, Me  $\times$  2), 1.74 (3H, s, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.8 (C=O), 146.7 (C-4), 140.9, 140.8 (arom C), 139.4 (C-3), 137.5, 137.4 (arom C), 129.3 (2C), 129.2

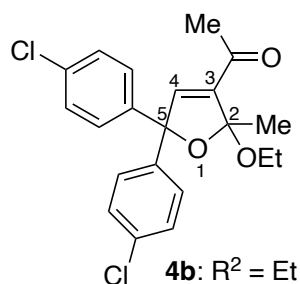
(2C), 126.4 (2C), 126.0 (2C) (arom CH), 112.8 (C-2), 90.6 (C-5), 50.9 (OMe), 28.21 (COMe), 25.6 (2-Me), 21.19, 21.14 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ :  $[M+Na]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{24}O_3Na$  359.1623; found 359.1668.



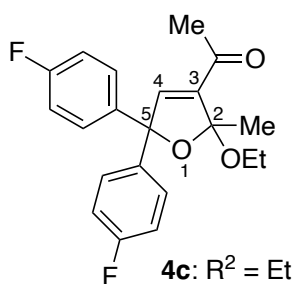
**3-Acetyl-5,5-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methoxy-2-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4e:  $R^2 = Me$ ):** Yield 30.1 mg, 41%; colorless microcrystals (from  $CHCl_3$ /hexane); mp 122–123 °C;  $R_f = 0.21$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR ( $CHCl_3$ )  $\nu$  1672 (C=O);  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38 (1H, s, H-4), 7.28–7.25 (4H, m, arom H), 6.87–6.84 (4H, m, arom H), 3.79 (3H, s, OMe), 3.78 (3H, s, OMe), 3.01 (3H, s, OMe), 2.43 (3H, s, COMe), 1.74 (3H, s, Me);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  193.8 (C=O), 159.0 (2C) (arom C), 146.7 (C-4), 139.3 (C-3), 135.98, 135.92 (arom C), 127.9 (2C), 127.4 (2C), 113.9 (2C), 113.8 (2C) (arom CH), 112.7 (C-2), 90.3 (C-5), 55.38, 55.35, 50.9 (OMe), 28.1 (COMe), 25.5 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ :  $[M+Na]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{22}H_{24}O_5Na$  391.1521; found 391.1590.



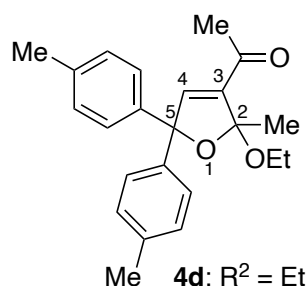
**3-Acetyl-2-ethoxy-2-methyl-5,5-diphenyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4a:  $R^2 = Et$ ):** Yield 23.1 mg, 58%; yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.33$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR ( $CHCl_3$ )  $\nu$  1681 (C=O);  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  7.43 (1H, s, H-4), 7.39–7.31 (8H, m, arom H), 7.28–7.24 (2H, m, arom H), 3.27 (1H, dq,  $J = 8.3, 7.0$  Hz, O–HCH), 3.16 (1H, dq,  $J = 8.3, 7.0$  Hz, O–HCH), 2.43 (3H, s, COMe), 1.75 (3H, s, Me), 1.02 (3H, t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, Me);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  193.7 (C=O), 146.9 (C-4), 143.8, 143.7 (arom C), 140.4 (C-3), 128.7 (2C), 128.5 (2C), 127.8, 127.7, 126.5 (2C), 126.1 (2C) (arom CH), 112.5 (C-2), 90.5 (C-5), 58.8 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.1 (COMe), 25.8 (2-Me), 15.3 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ :  $[M+Na]^+$  Calcd for  $C_{21}H_{22}O_3Na$  345.1467; found 345.1464.



**3-Acetyl-5,5-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-2-ethoxy-2-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4b: R<sup>2</sup> = Et):**  
 Yield 59.2 mg, 62%; pale yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.41$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1681 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.32–7.26 (8H, m, arom H), 7.29 (1H, s, H-4), 3.27 (1H, dq,  $J = 8.3, 7.0$  Hz, O–HCH), 3.16 (1H, dq,  $J = 8.3, 7.0$  Hz, O–HCH), 2.42 (3H, s, COMe), 1.72 (3H, s, Me), 1.04 (3H, t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.4 (C=O), 144.4 (C-4), 141.89, 141.85 (arom C), 141.1 (C-3), 133.94, 133.85, 128.91 (2C), 128.82 (2C), 127.86 (2C), 127.46 (2C) (arom CH), 112.7 (C-2), 89.6 (C-5), 58.9 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.2 (COMe), 25.6 (2-Me), 15.3 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 413.0687; found 413.0703.

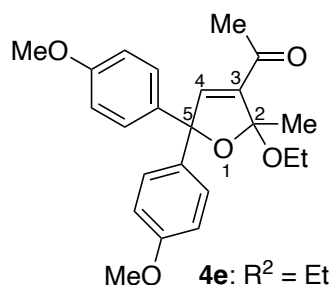


**3-Acetyl-5,5-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-2-ethoxy-2-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4c: R<sup>2</sup> = Et):**  
 Yield 49.1 mg, 47%; yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.36$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1681 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.33–7.29 (4H, m, arom H), 7.33 (1H, s, H-4), 7.05–7.00 (4H, m, arom H), 3.27 (1H, dq,  $J = 8.3, 7.0$  Hz, O–HCH), 3.18 (1H, dq,  $J = 8.3, 7.0$  Hz, O–HCH), 2.43 (3H, s, COMe), 1.73 (3H, s, Me), 1.03 (3H, t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.5 (C=O), 162.2 (2C) (d, <sup>1</sup> $J_{(C,F)} = 246$  Hz, arom C), 145.4 (C-4), 140.1 (C-3), 139.35, 139.27 (d, <sup>4</sup> $J_{(C,F)} = 3$  Hz, arom C), 128.3 (2C), 127.8 (2C) (d, <sup>3</sup> $J_{(C,F)} = 8$  Hz, arom CH), 115.60 (2C), 115.44 (2C) (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{(C,F)} = 21$  Hz, arom CH), 112.5 (C-2), 89.6 (C-5), 58.8 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.2 (COMe), 25.5 (2-Me), 15.3 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 381.1278; found 381.1289.



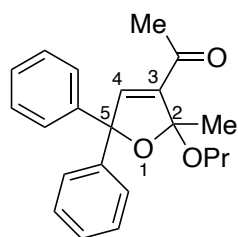
**3-Acetyl-2-ethoxy-5,5-bis(4-methylphenyl)-2-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4d: R<sup>2</sup> = Et):**

Yield 33.6 mg, 87%; colorless microcrystals (from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane); mp 97–98 °C; *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.41 (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1681 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.40 (1H, s, H-4), 7.26 (4H, m, arom H), 7.12 (4H, d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, arom H), 3.28 (1H, dq, *J* = 8.3, 7.0 Hz, O–HCH), 3.14 (1H, dq, *J* = 8.3, 7.0 Hz, O–HCH), 2.41 (3H, s, COMe), 2.32 (3H, s, Me), 2.31 (3H, s, Me), 1.73 (3H, s, 2-Me), 1.04 (3H, t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.8 (C=O), 146.3 (C-4), 141.0, 140.9 (arom C), 140.0 (C-3), 137.42, 137.35 (arom C), 129.3 (2C), 129.2 (2C), 126.4 (2C), 126.0 (2C) (arom CH), 112.4 (C-2), 90.3 (C-5), 58.8 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.1 (COMe), 25.9 (2-Me), 21.20, 21.14 (Me), 15.3 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 373.1780; found 373.1827.



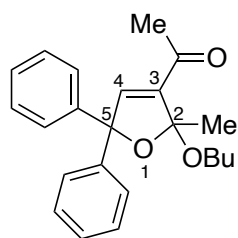
**3-Acetyl-2-ethoxy-5,5-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4e: R<sup>2</sup> = Et):**

Yield 42.9 mg, 60%; pale yellow oil; *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.21 (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1678 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.35 (1H, s, H-4), 7.28–7.24 (4H, m, arom H), 6.87–6.84 (4H, m, arom H), 3.79 (3H, s, OMe), 3.78 (3H, s, OMe), 3.29 (1H, dq, *J* = 8.3, 7.0 Hz, O–HCH), 3.16 (1H, dq, *J* = 8.3, 7.0 Hz, O–HCH), 2.42 (3H, s, COMe), 1.73 (3H, s, 2-Me), 1.04 (3H, t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.8 (C=O), 146.3 (C-4), 141.0, 140.9 (arom C), 140.0 (C-3), 137.42, 137.35 (arom C), 129.3 (2C), 129.2 (2C), 126.4 (2C), 126.0 (2C) (arom CH), 112.4 (C-2), 90.3 (C-5), 58.8 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.1 (COMe), 25.9 (2-Me), 21.20, 21.14 (Me), 15.3 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Na 405.1678; found 405.1689.



**4a:** R<sup>2</sup> = Pr

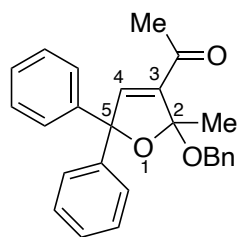
**3-Acetyl-2-methyl-2-propoxy-5,5-diphenyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4a: R<sup>2</sup> = Pr):** Yield 30.5 mg, 42%; orange oil;  $R_f = 0.64$  (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1678 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42 (1H, s, H-4), 7.39–7.31 (8H, m, arom H), 7.28–7.24 (2H, m, arom H), 3.14 (1H, dt,  $J = 8.8, 6.8$  Hz, O–HCH), 3.03 (1H, dt,  $J = 8.8, 6.8$  Hz, O–HCH), 2.42 (3H, s, COMe), 1.75 (3H, s, Me), 1.41 (2H, sext,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.71 (3H, t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.7 (C=O), 145.8 (C-4), 143.82, 143.78 (arom C), 140.4 (C-3), 128.6 (2C), 128.5 (2C), 127.8, 127.6, 126.6 (2C), 126.1 (2C) (arom CH), 112.5 (C-2), 90.5 (C-5), 65.0 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.2 (COMe), 25.8 (2-Me), 23.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 10.5 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 359.1623; found 359.1633.



**4a:** R<sup>2</sup> = Bu

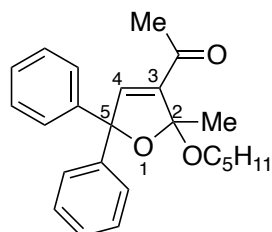
**3-Acetyl-2-butoxy-2-methyl-5,5-diphenyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4a: R<sup>2</sup> = Bu):** Yield 43.2 mg, 57%; colorless microcrystals (from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane); mp 66–67 °C;  $R_f = 0.52$  (EtOAc/hexane 2:8 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1681 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.44–7.39 (3H, m, arom H), 7.42 (1H, s, H-4), 7.38–7.35 (2H, m, arom H), 7.33–7.30 (3H, m, arom H), 7.25–7.23 (2H, m, arom H), 3.71–3.63 (2H, m, O–CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.40 (3H, s, COMe), 1.67–1.58 (2H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.51 (3H, s, Me), 1.42 (2H, sext,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.92 (3H, t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  196.1 (C=O), 142.7 (C-4), 140.7, 140.1 (arom C), 137.8 (C-3), 128.1, 128.61 (2C), 128.58 (2C), 128.3, 127.98 (2C), 127.69 (2C) (arom CH), 99.8 (C-2), 85.1 (C-5), 62.8 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 32.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.3 (COMe), 19.8 (2-Me), 19.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA)  $m/z$ : [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 373.1780; found 373.1795.





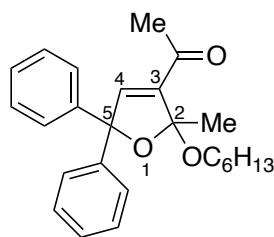
**4a:** R<sup>2</sup> = Bn

**3-Acetyl-2-benzyloxy-2-methyl-5,5-diphenyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4a: R<sup>2</sup> = Bn):** Yield 37.4 mg, 54%; colorless microcrystals (from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane); mp 102–103 °C; *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.45 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1681 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.46 (1H, s, H-4), 7.42–7.40 (4H, m, arom H), 7.35–7.32 (4H, m, arom H), 7.30–7.19 (5H, m, arom H), 7.08 (2H, d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, arom H), 4.26 (1H, d, *J* = 11.3 Hz, O–HCH), 4.16 (1H, d, *J* = 11.3 Hz, O–HCH), 2.37 (3H, s, COMe), 1.85 (3H, s, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.6 (C=O), 145.9 (C-4), 143.72, 143.67 (arom C), 140.3 (C-3), 138.2 (arom C), 128.66 (2C), 128.64 (2C), 128.4 (2C), 127.94 (2C), 127.90, 127.7, 127.3, 126.6 (2C), 126.1 (2C) (arom CH), 112.7 (C-2), 90.9 (C-5), 65.5 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.1 (COMe), 25.8 (2-Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 407.1623; found 407.1594.



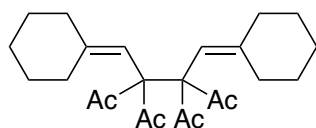
**4a:** R<sup>2</sup> = C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>

**3-Acetyl-2-methyl-2-pentyloxy-5,5-diphenyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4a: R<sup>2</sup> = *n*-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>11</sub>):** Yield 24.3 mg, 54%; orange oil; *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.58 (EtOAc/hexane 2:8 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1681 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42 (1H, s, H-4), 7.37 (4H, td, *J* = 8.6, 1.3 Hz, arom H), 7.32 (4H, t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, arom H), 7.28–7.24 (2H, m, arom H), 3.17 (1H, dt, *J* = 8.8, 7.0 Hz, O–HCH), 3.04 (1H, dt, *J* = 8.8, 7.0 Hz, O–HCH), 2.42 (3H, s, COMe), 1.75 (3H, s, Me), 1.39 (2H, quint, *J* = 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.18–1.03 (4H, m, CH<sub>2</sub> × 2), 0.80 (3H, t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.7 (C=O), 145.8 (C-4), 143.83, 143.80 (arom C), 140.4 (C-3), 128.6 (2C), 128.5 (2C), 127.8, 127.6, 126.6 (2C), 126.1 (2C) (arom CH), 112.6 (C-2), 90.5 (C-5), 63.5 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 29.4, 28.19 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.15 (COMe), 25.8 (2-Me), 22.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.1 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 387.1936; found 387.1909.

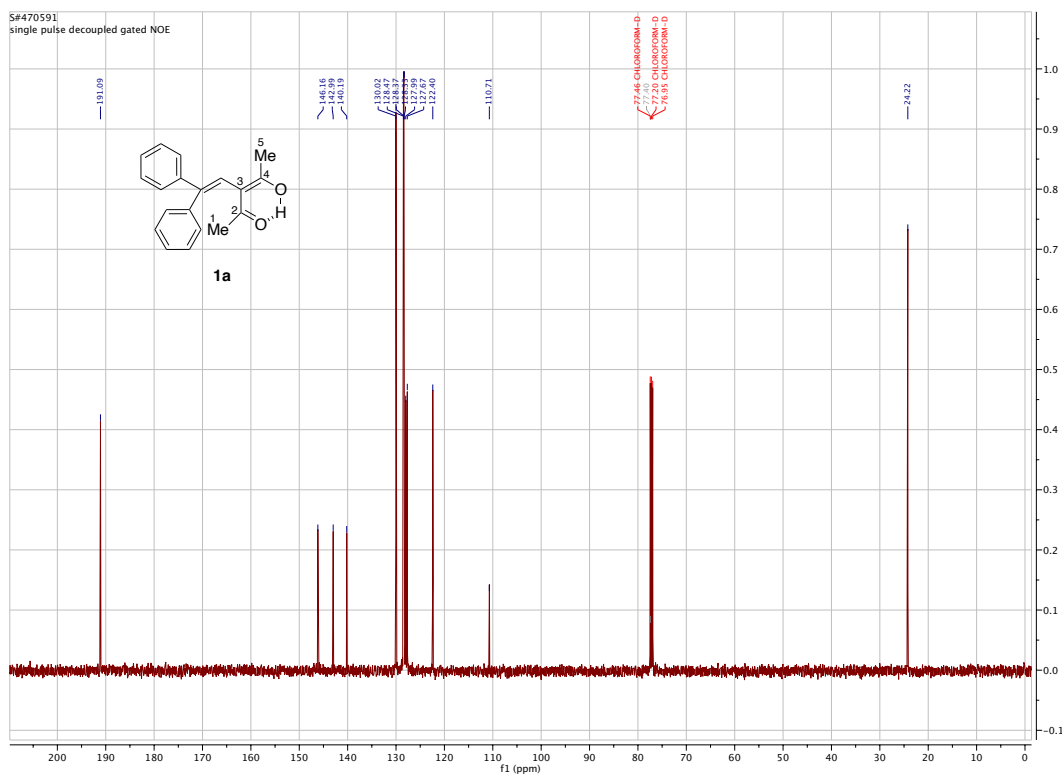
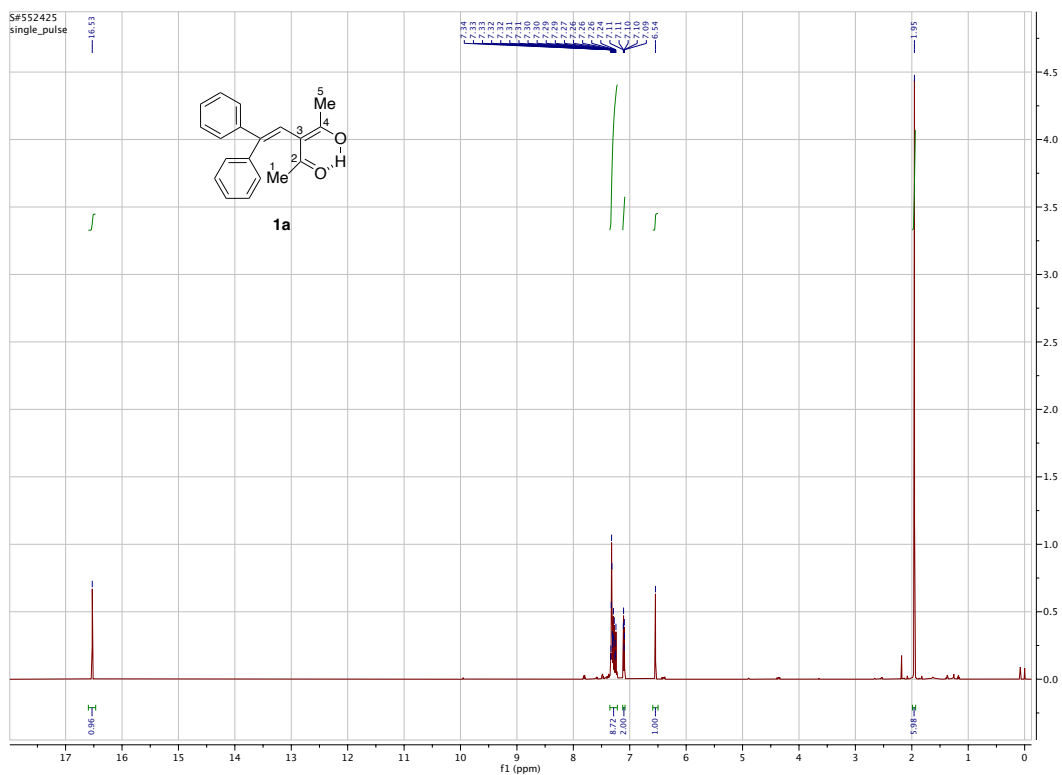


**4a:** R<sup>2</sup> = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub>

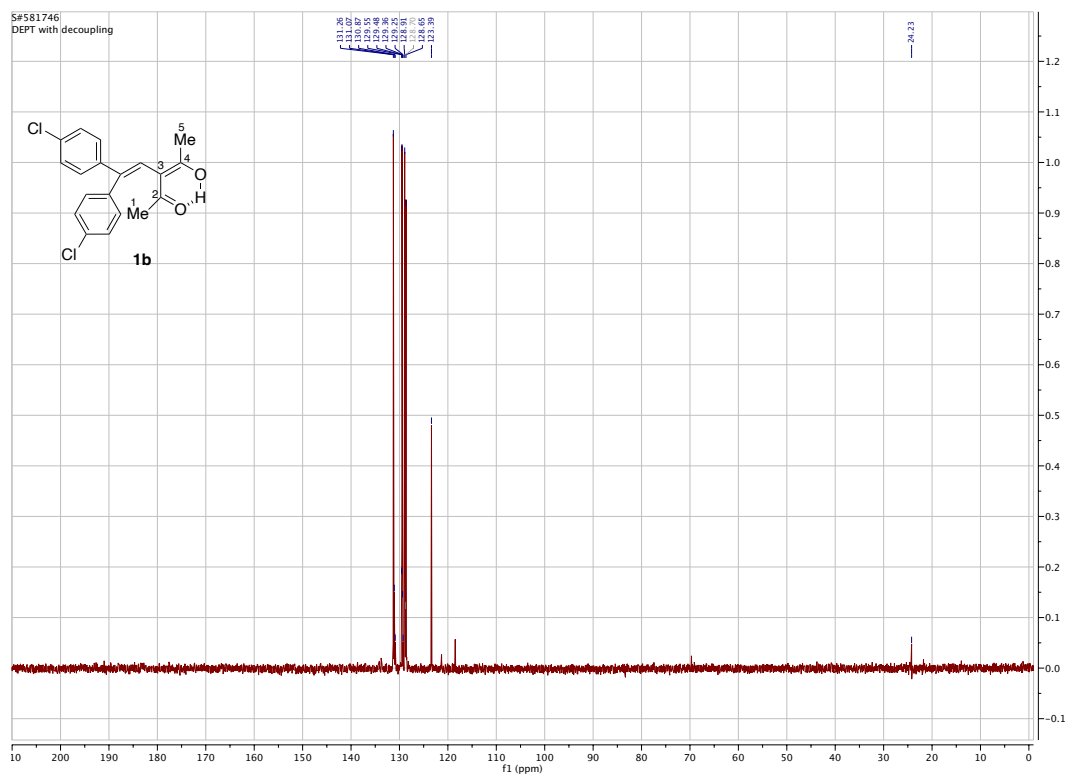
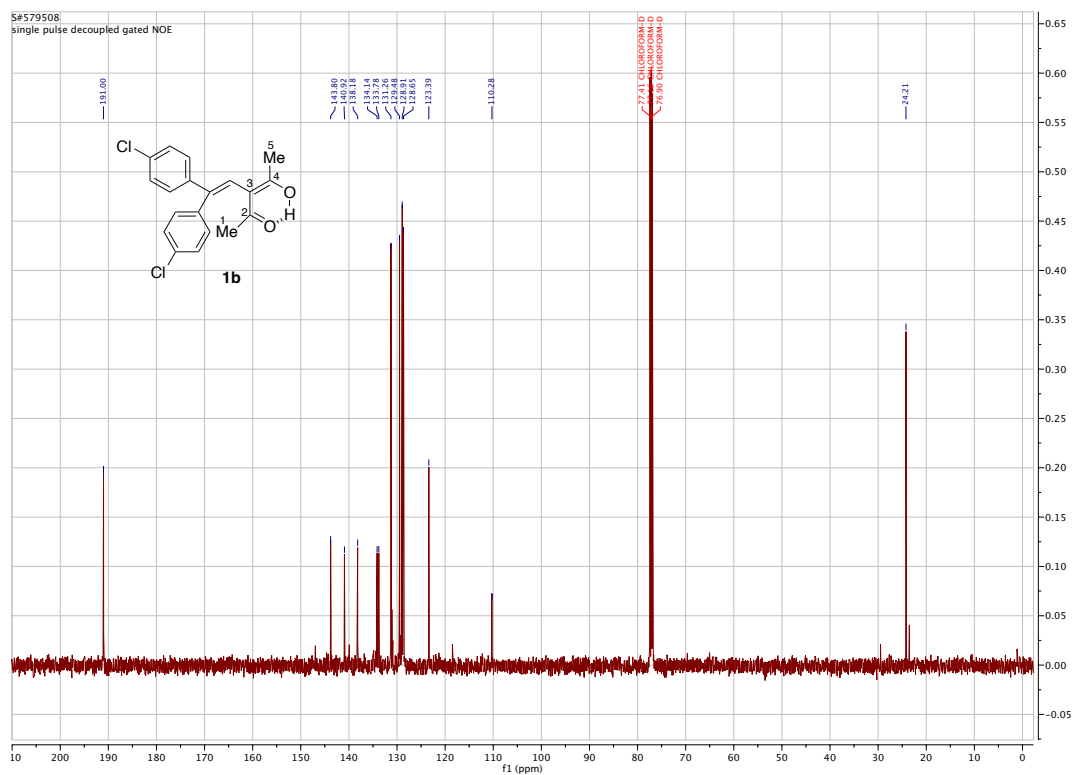
**3-Acetyl-2-methyl-2-hexyloxy-5,5-diphenyl-2,5-dihydrofuran (4a: R<sup>2</sup> = *n*-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub>):** Yield 23.7 mg, 30%; pale yellow oil; *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.50 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1681 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42 (1H, s, H-4), 7.37 (4H, td, *J* = 8.2, 1.2 Hz, arom H), 7.32 (4H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, arom H), 7.28–7.24 (2H, m, arom H), 3.16 (1H, dt, *J* = 8.8, 7.0 Hz, O–HCH), 3.04 (1H, dt, *J* = 8.8, 7.0 Hz, O–HCH), 2.42 (3H, s, COMe), 1.75 (3H, s, Me), 1.38 (2H, quint, *J* = 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.26–1.05 (6H, m, CH<sub>2</sub> × 3), 0.83 (3H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  193.7 (C=O), 145.8 (C-4), 143.82, 143.78 (arom C), 140.4 (C-3), 128.6 (2C), 128.5 (2C), 127.8, 127.6, 126.6 (2C), 126.1 (2C) (arom CH), 112.5 (C-2), 90.5 (C-5), 63.5 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 31.6, 29.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.2 (COMe), 25.8 (2-Me), 25.7, 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.1 (Me); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 401.2093; found 401.2096.

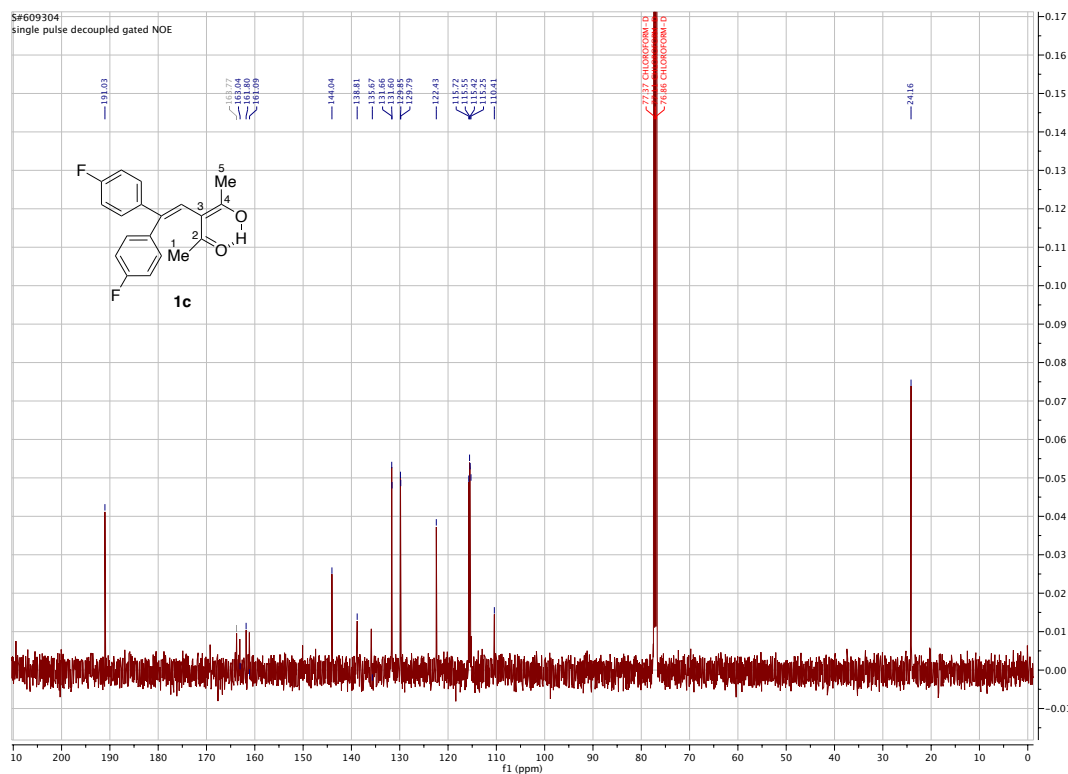
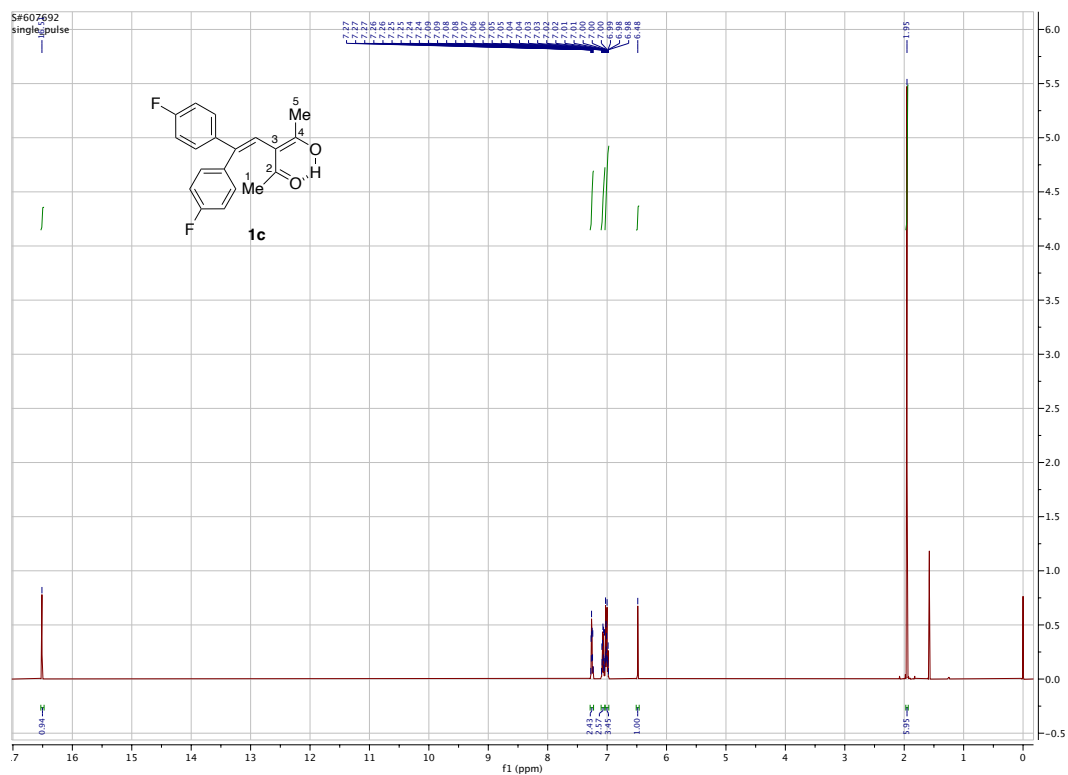


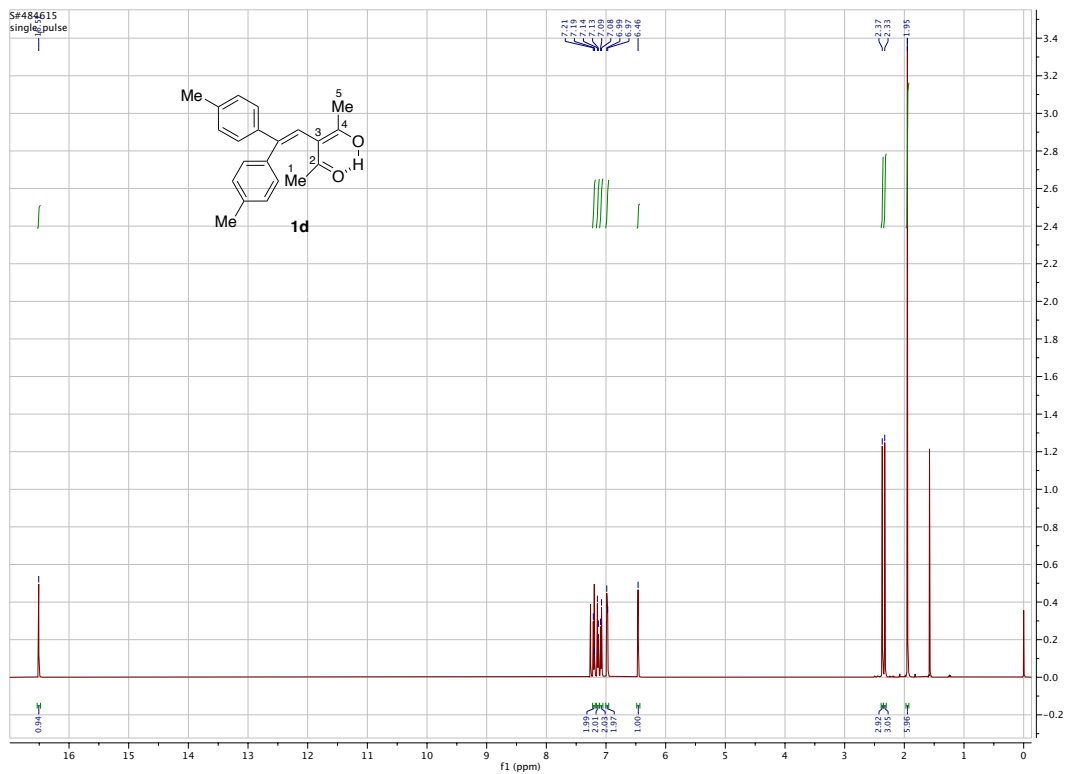
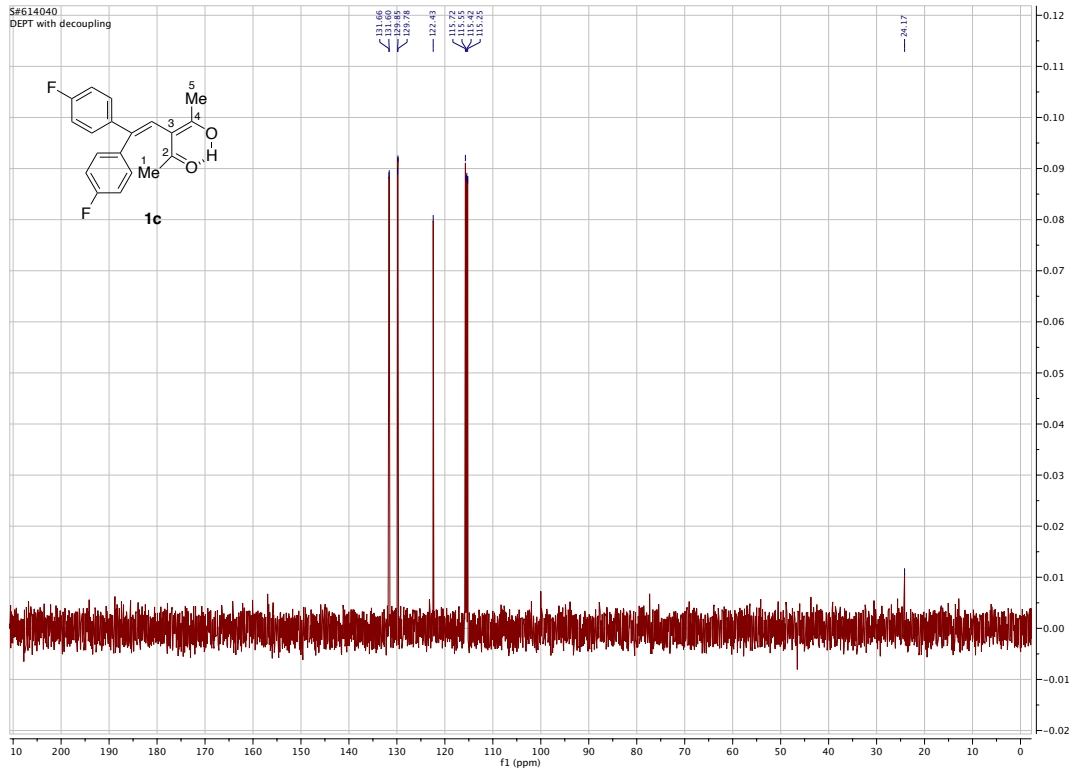
**3,4-Diacetyl-3,4-bis(cyclohexylidenemethyl)hexane-2,5-dione:** Yield 24.3 mg, 29%; colorless microcrystals (from CHCl<sub>3</sub>); mp 173.2–176.4 °C; *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.52 (EtOAc/hexane 3:7 v/v); IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\nu$  1688 (C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.41 (2H, s, =CH– × 2), 2.41 (6H, s, Ac × 2), 2.31 (6H, s, Ac × 2), 1.82 (4H, d, *J* = 13.2 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub> × 2), 1.64 (6H, d, *J* = 11.2 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub> × 3), 1.49 (4H, t, *J* = 13.2 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub> × 2), 1.20 (4H, qt, *J* = 13.0, 2.6 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub> × 2), 1.09 (2H, tt, *J* = 12.4, 2.4 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  203.9 (2C), 198.7 (2C) (C=O), 150.7 (2C) (=CH–), 146.2 (2C) (>C=), 50.6 (2C) (>C<), 31.3 (2C), 26.8 (2C) (Ac), 26.2 (4C), 23.8 (6C) (CH<sub>2</sub>); FAB HRMS (acetone/NBA) *m/z*: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>35</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 387.2535; found 387.2524.

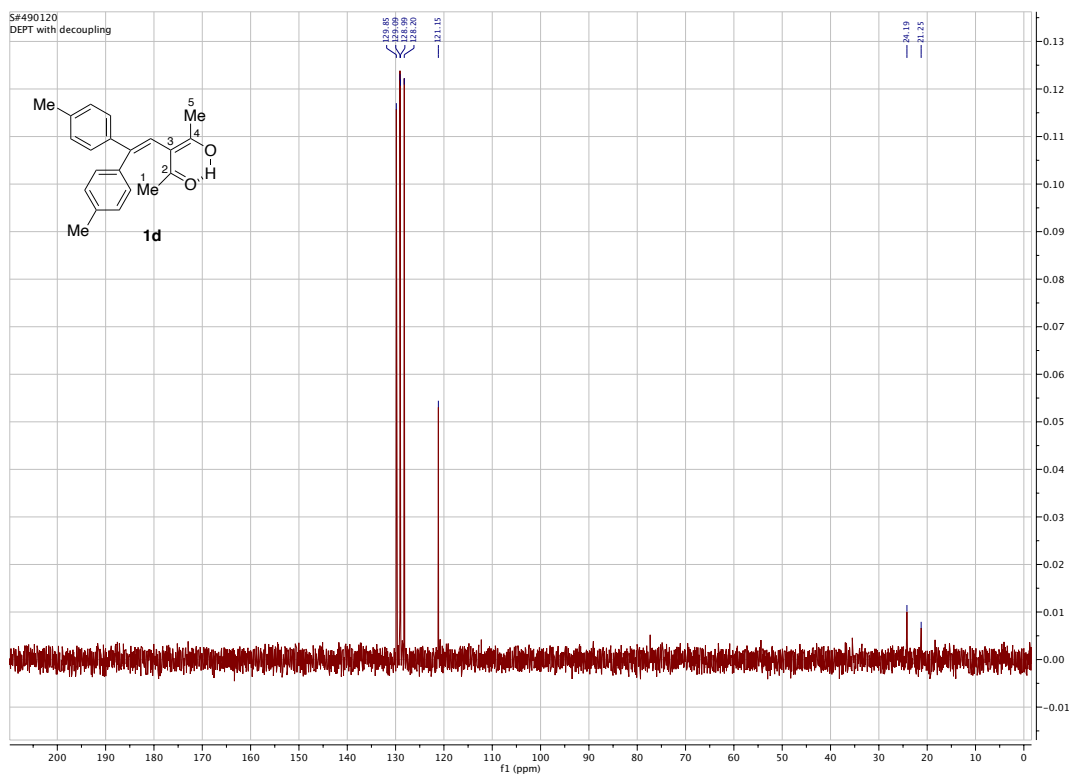
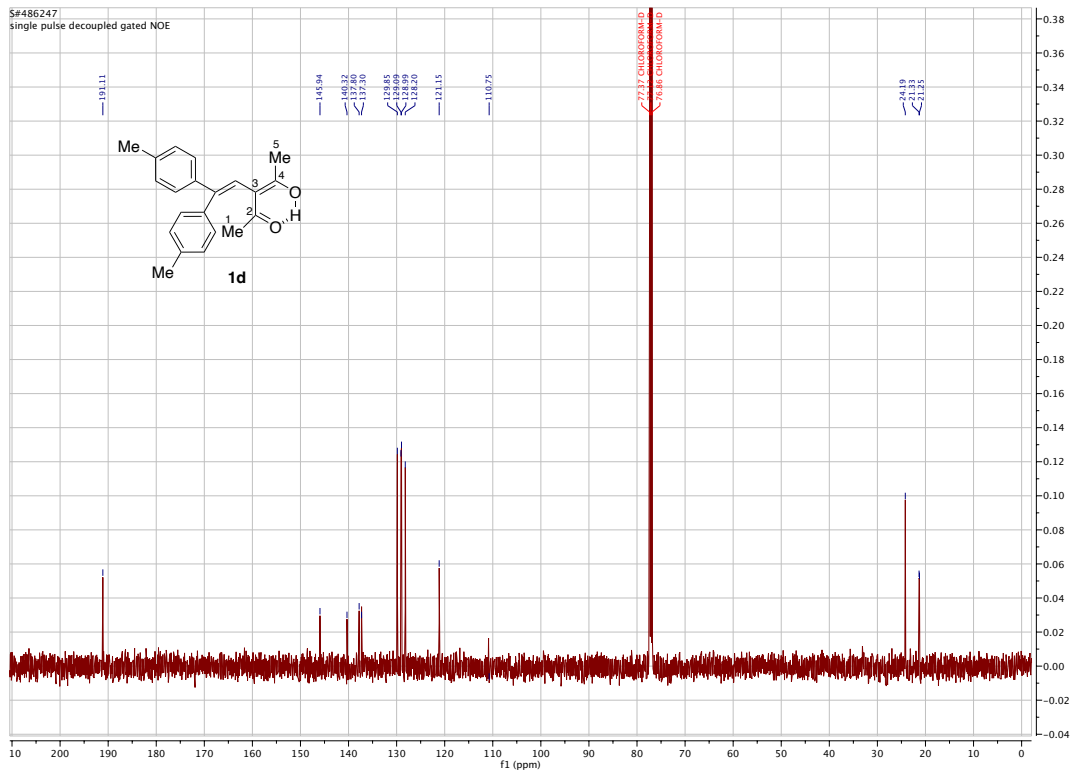




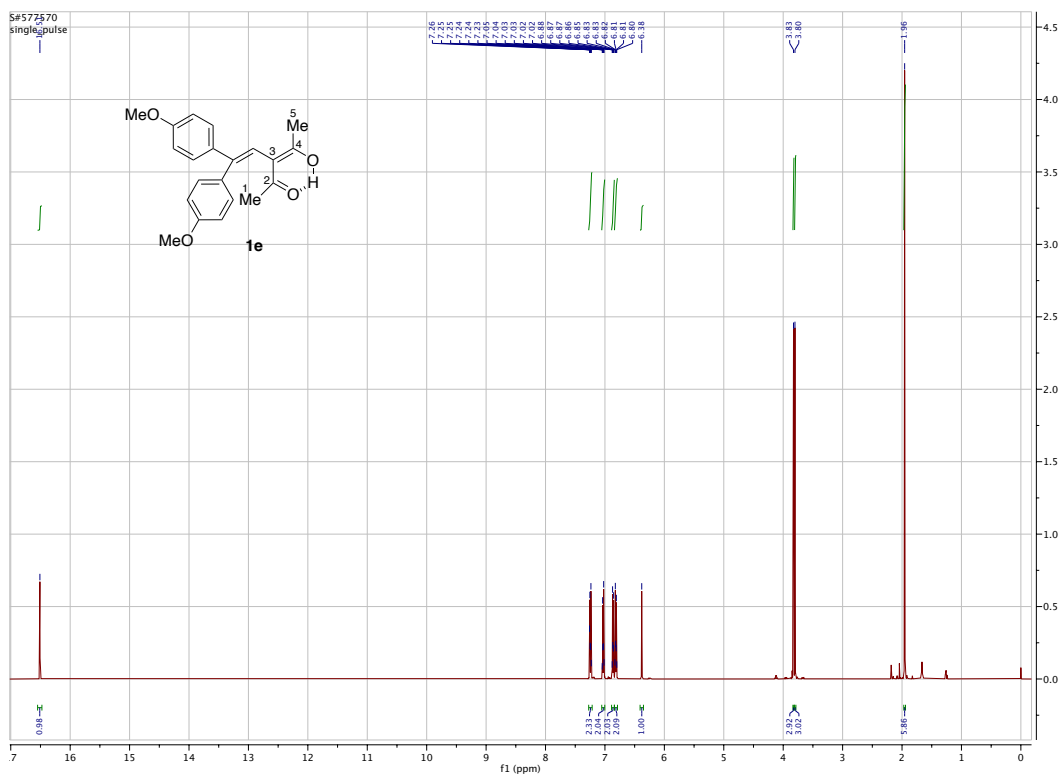


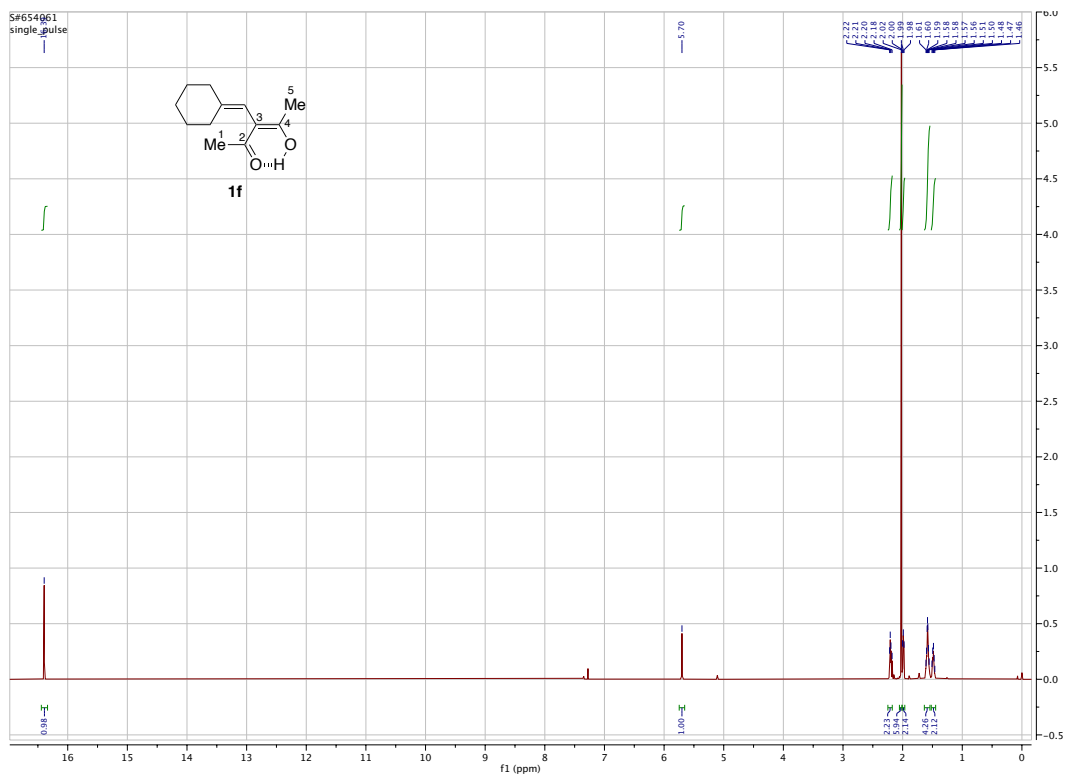
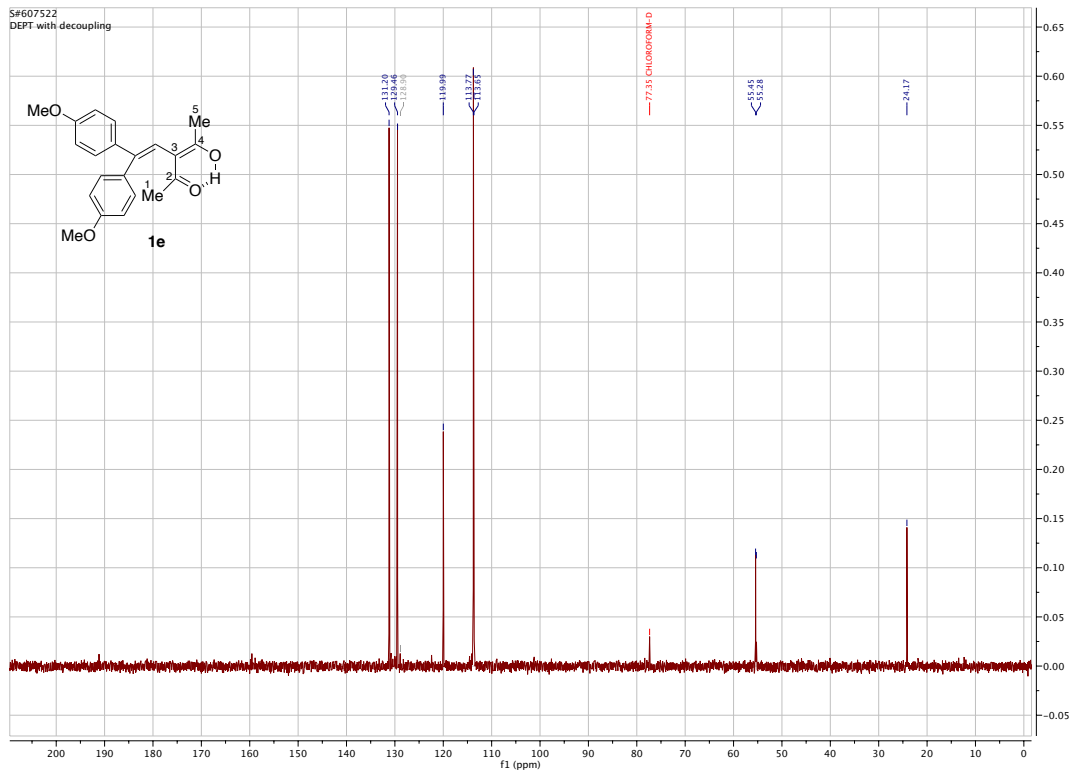


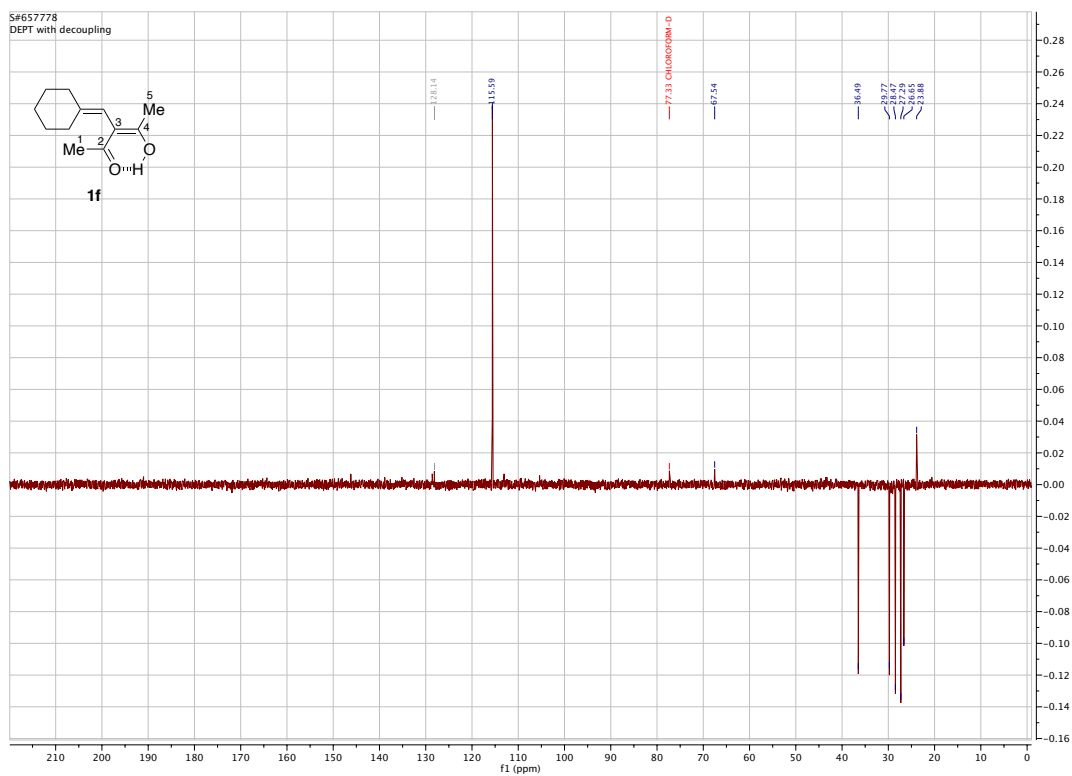
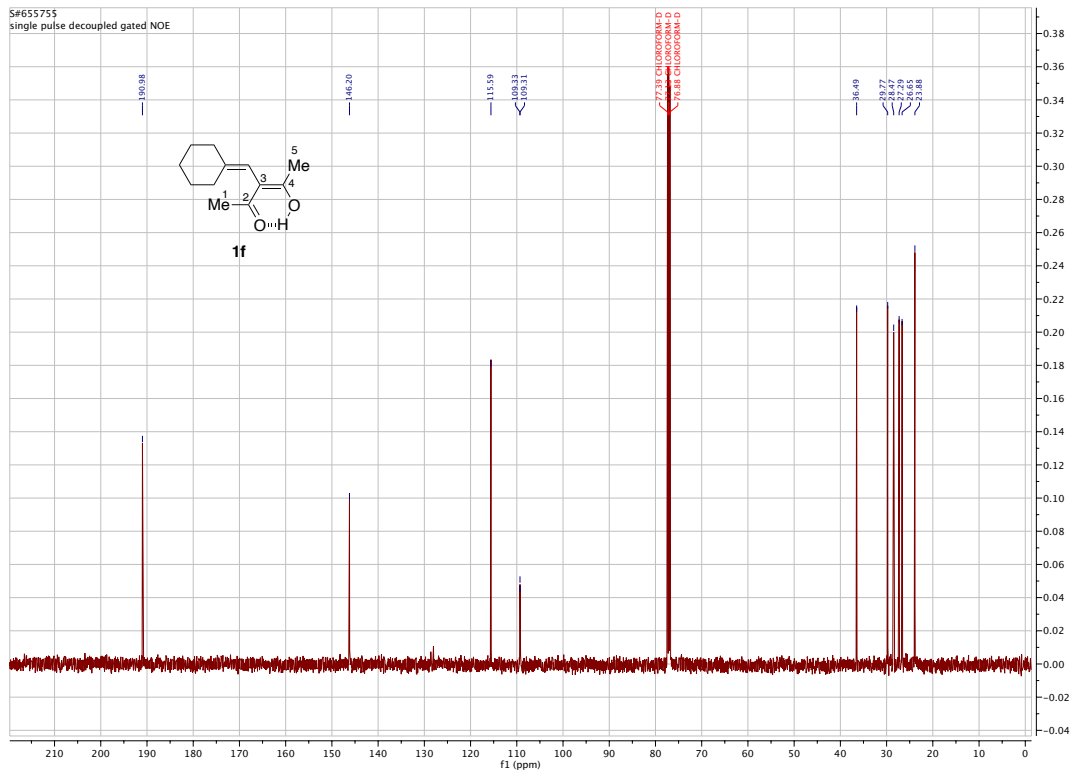


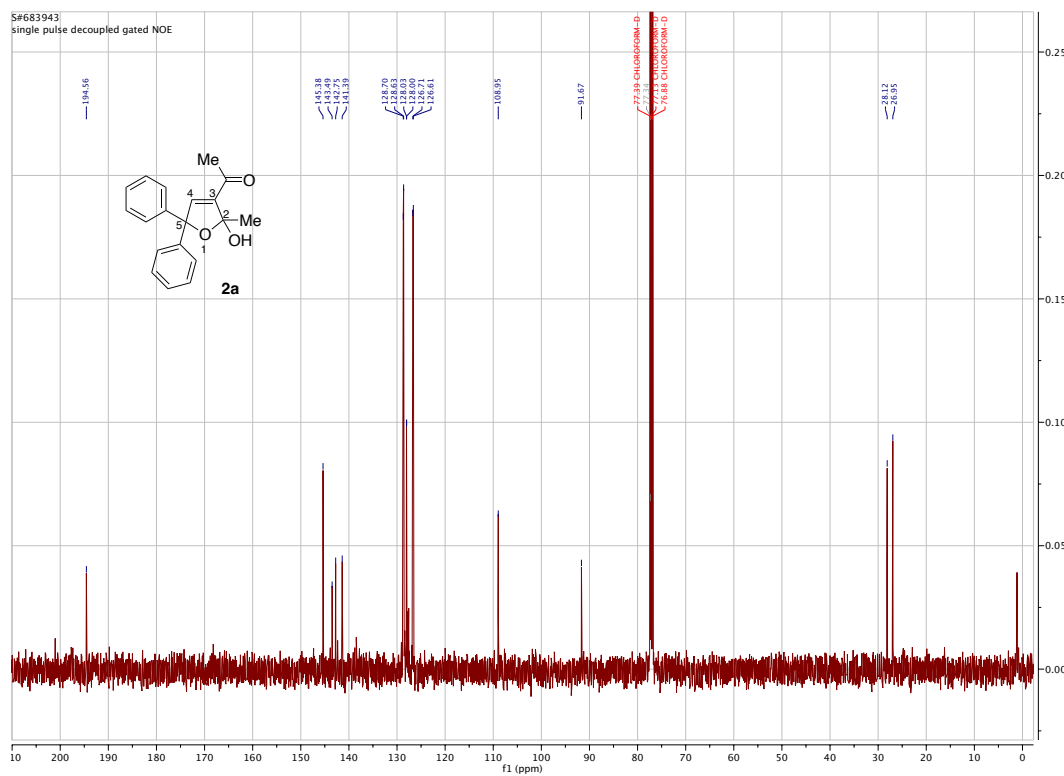
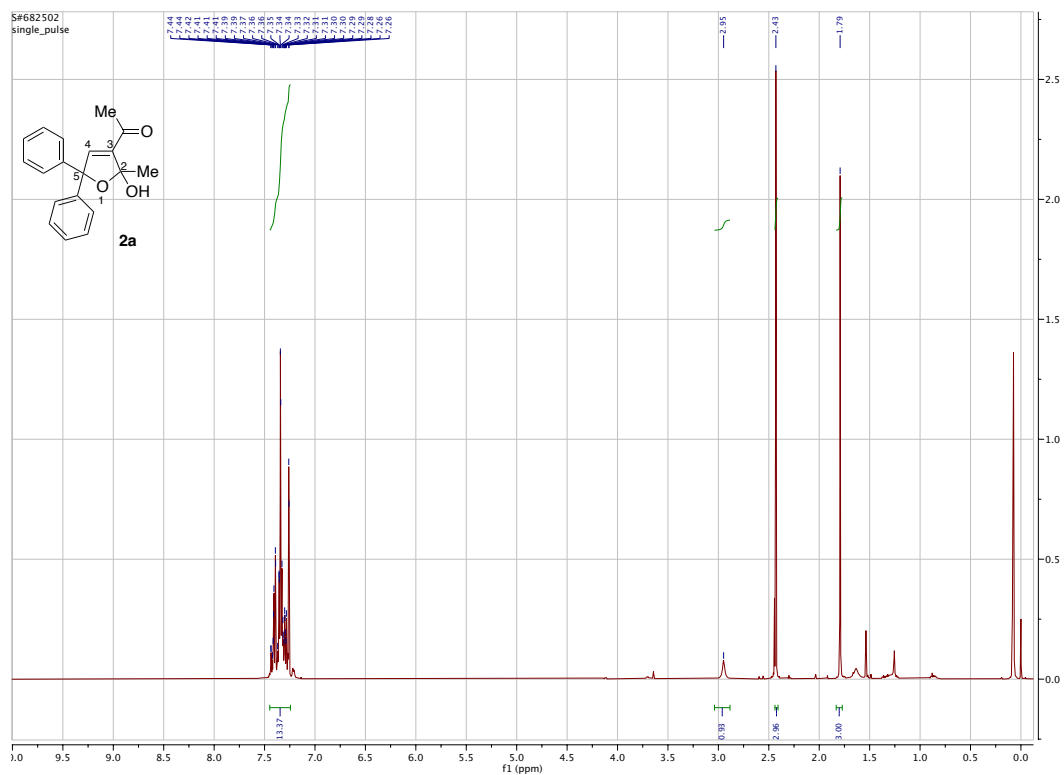




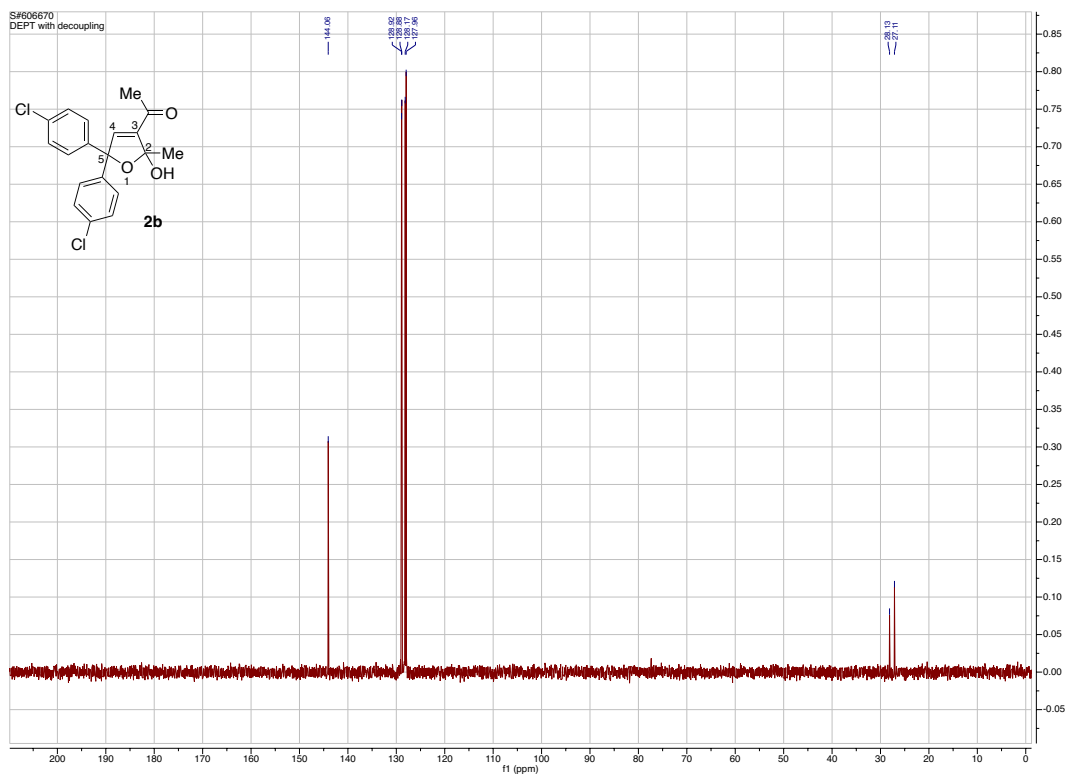
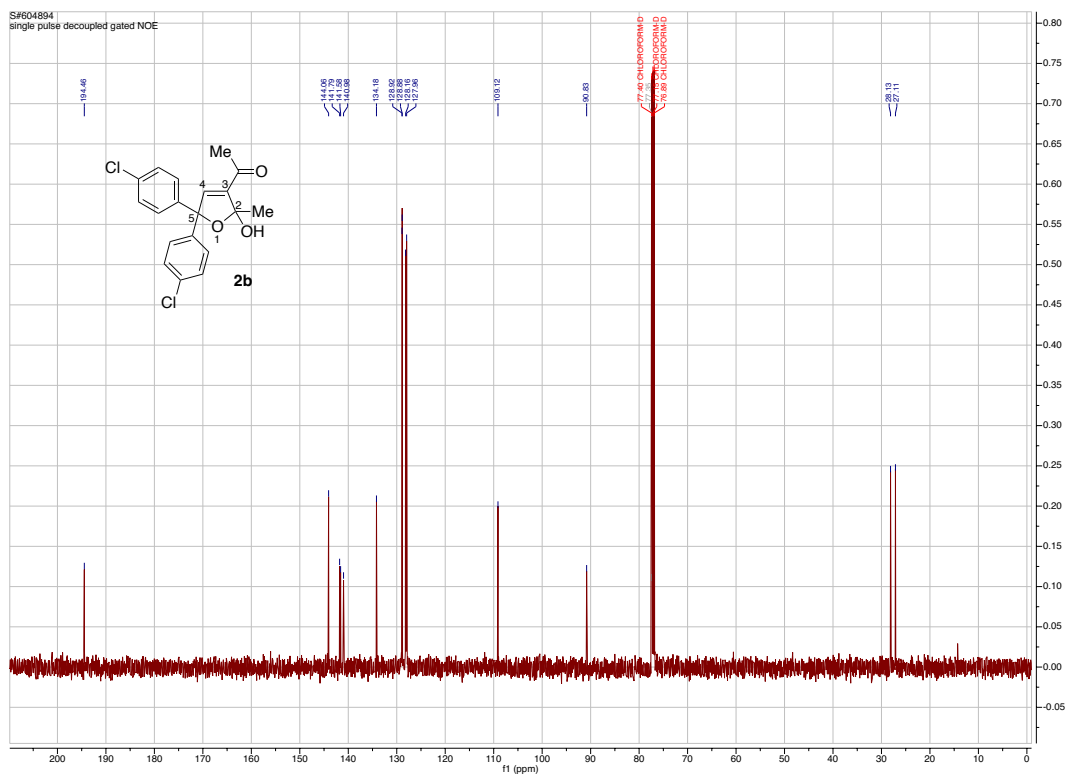


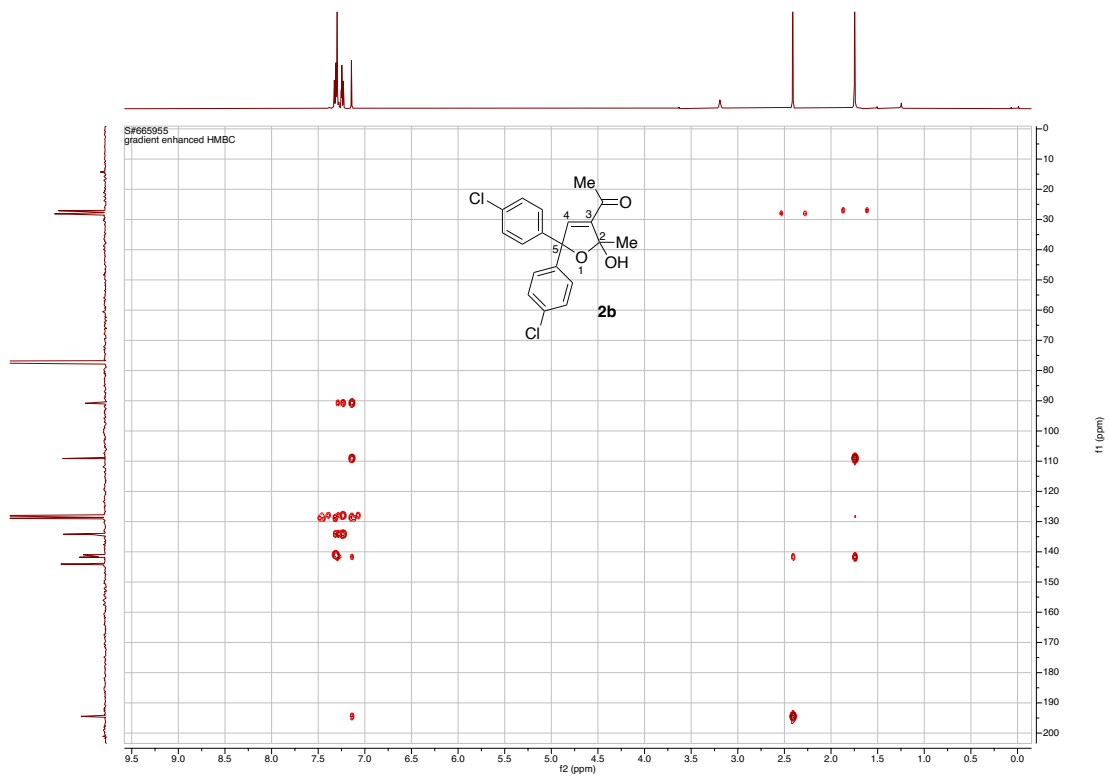
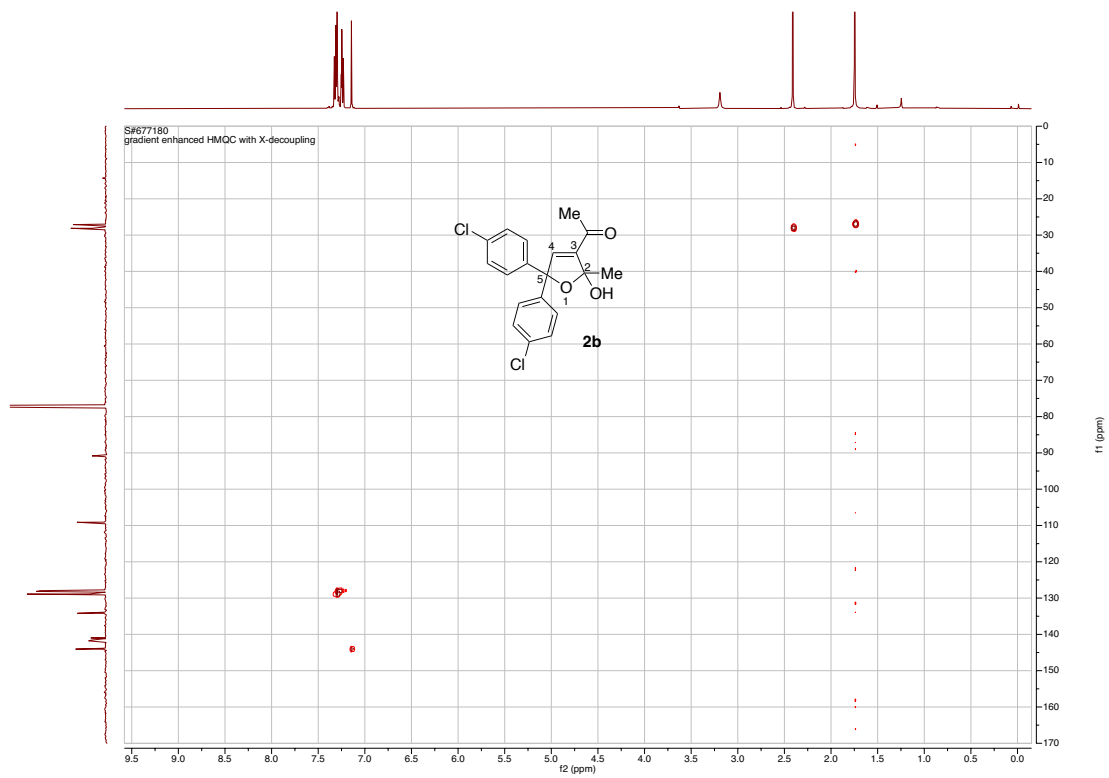






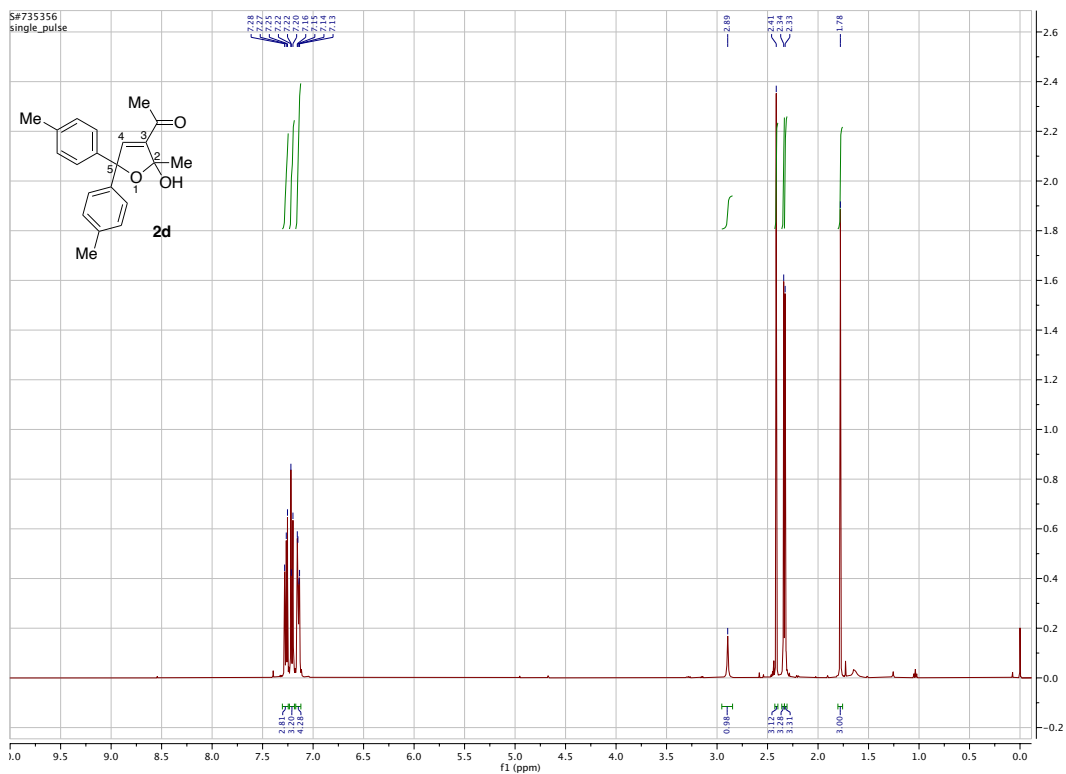
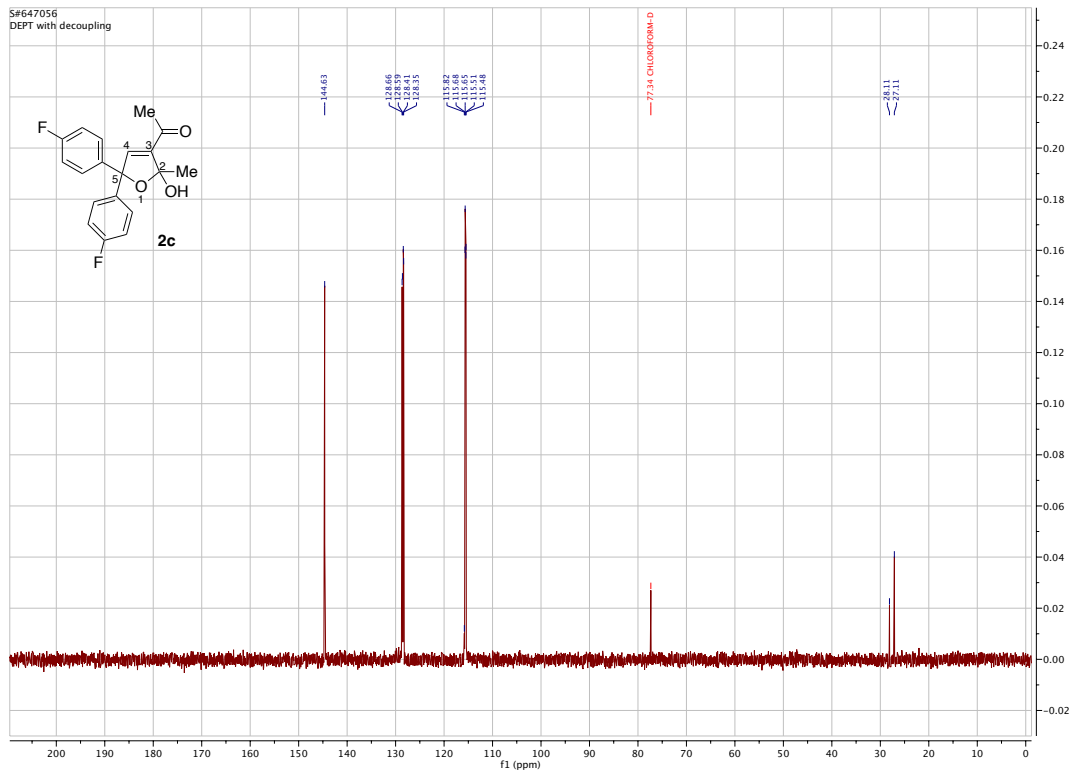




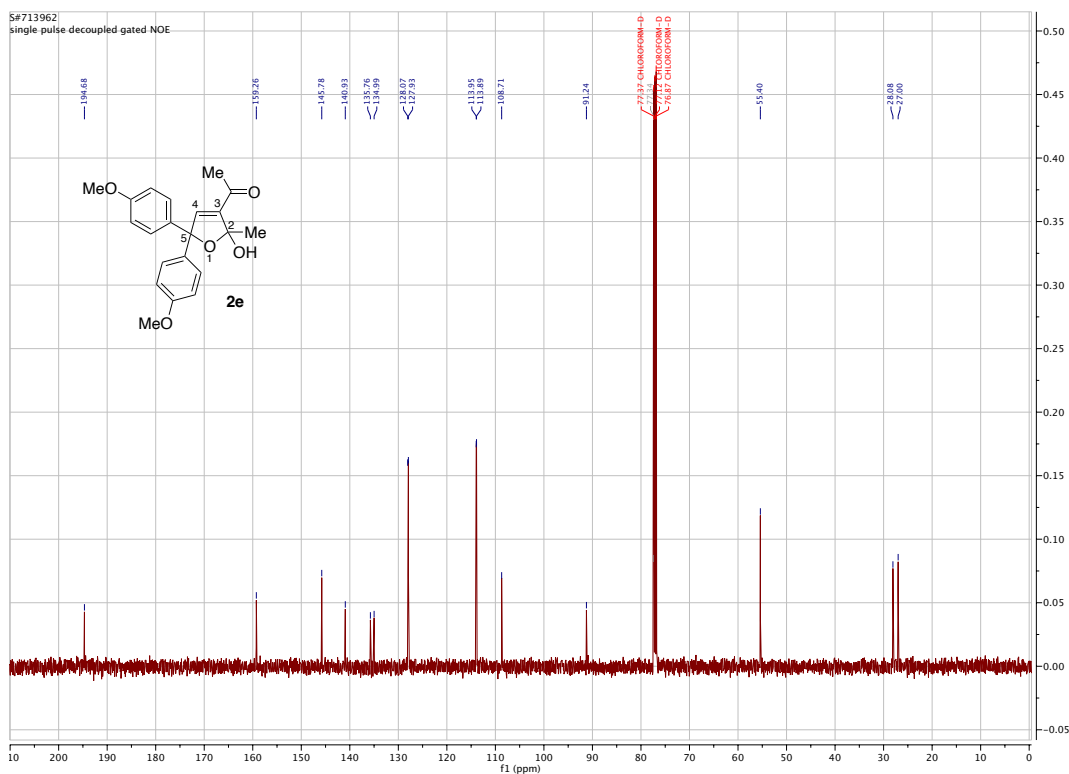
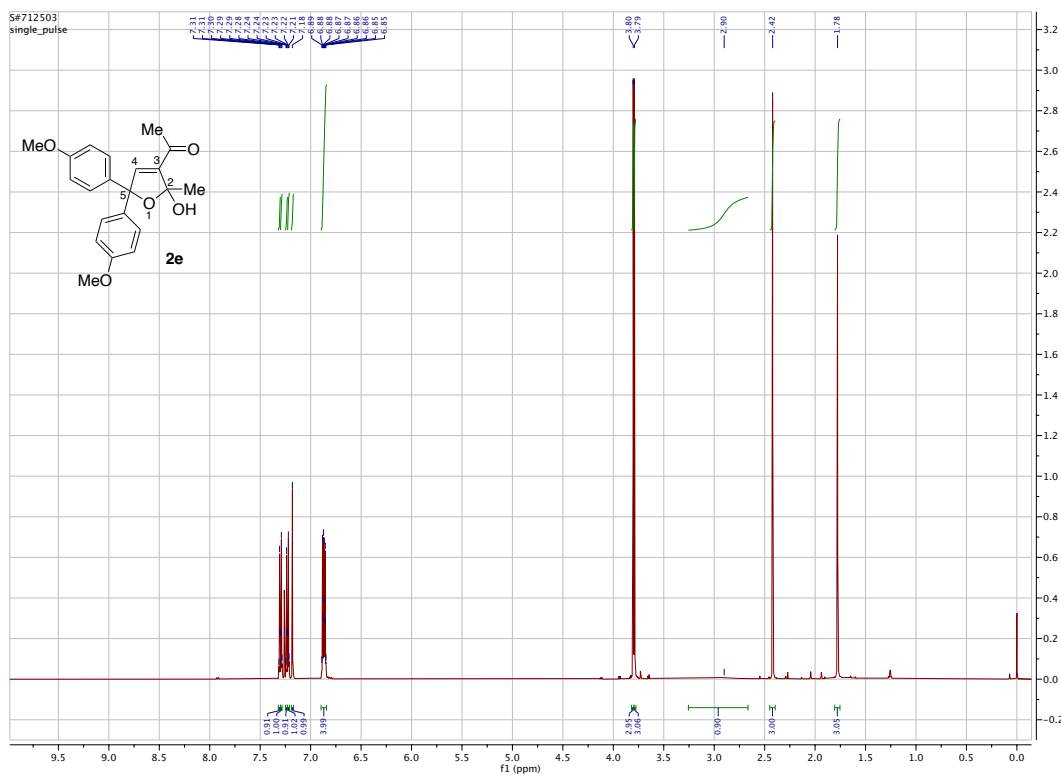


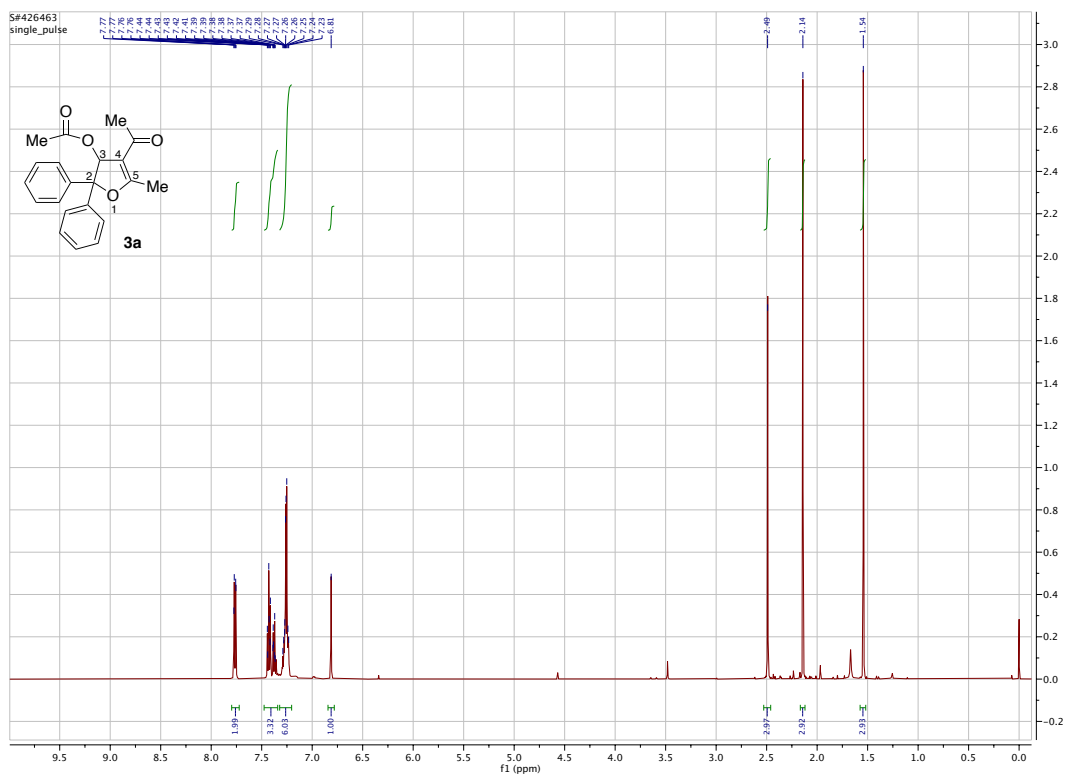
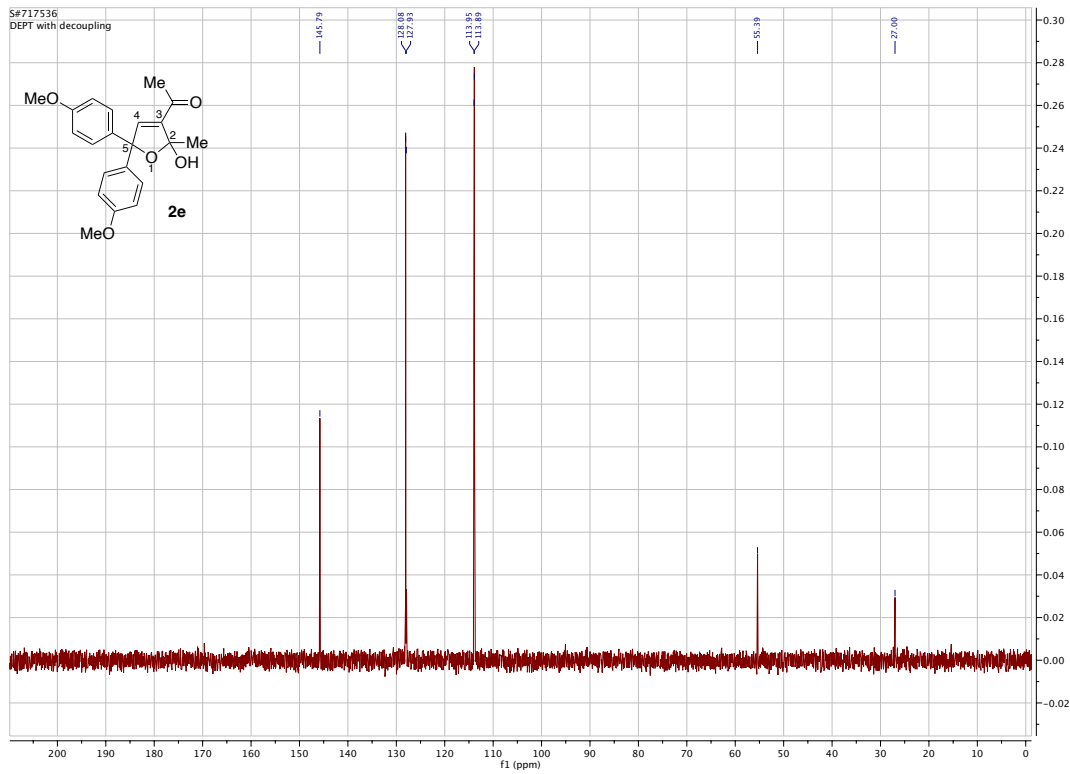


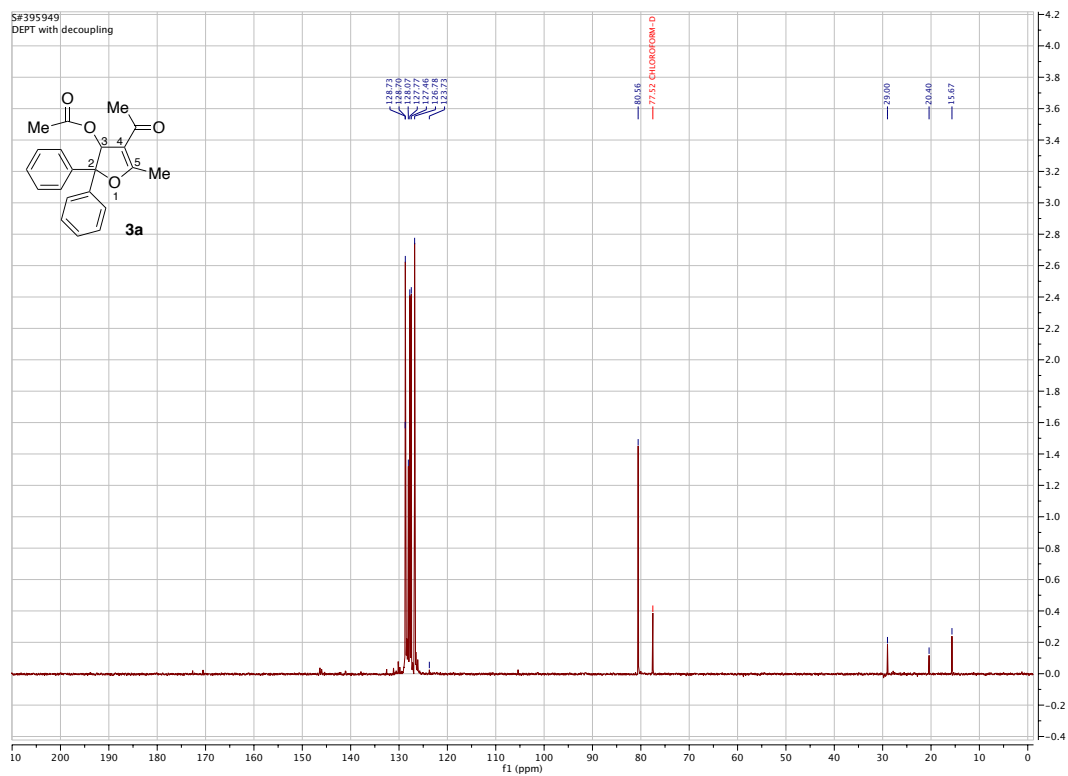
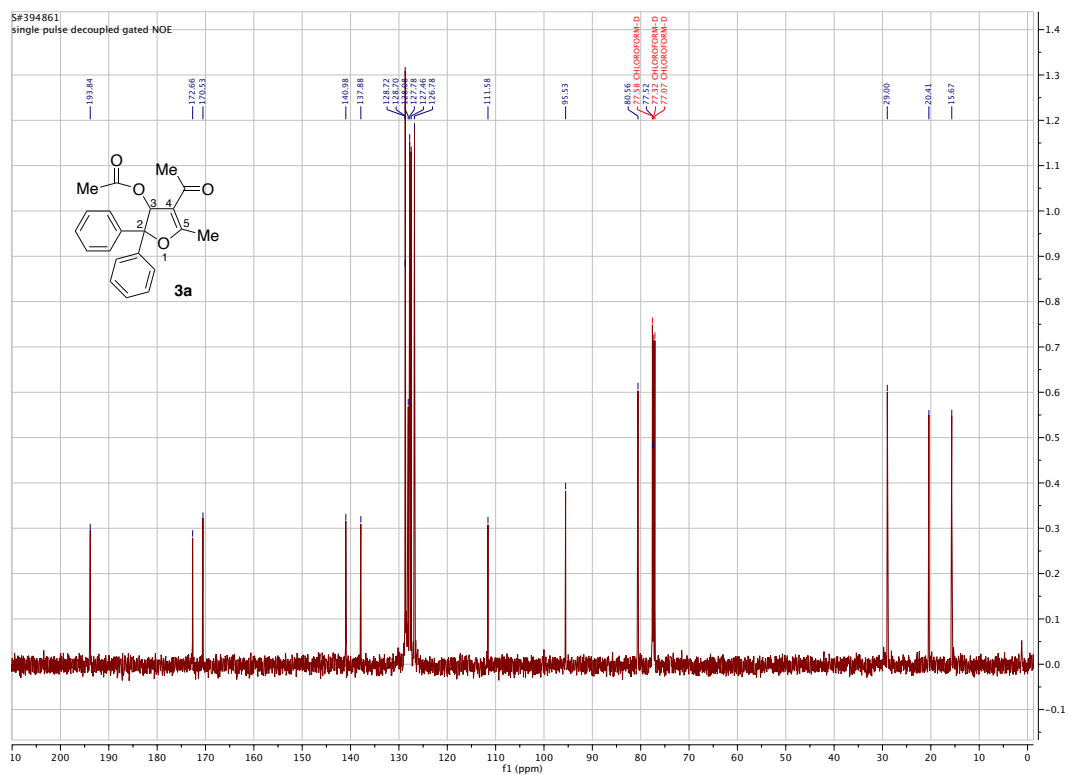


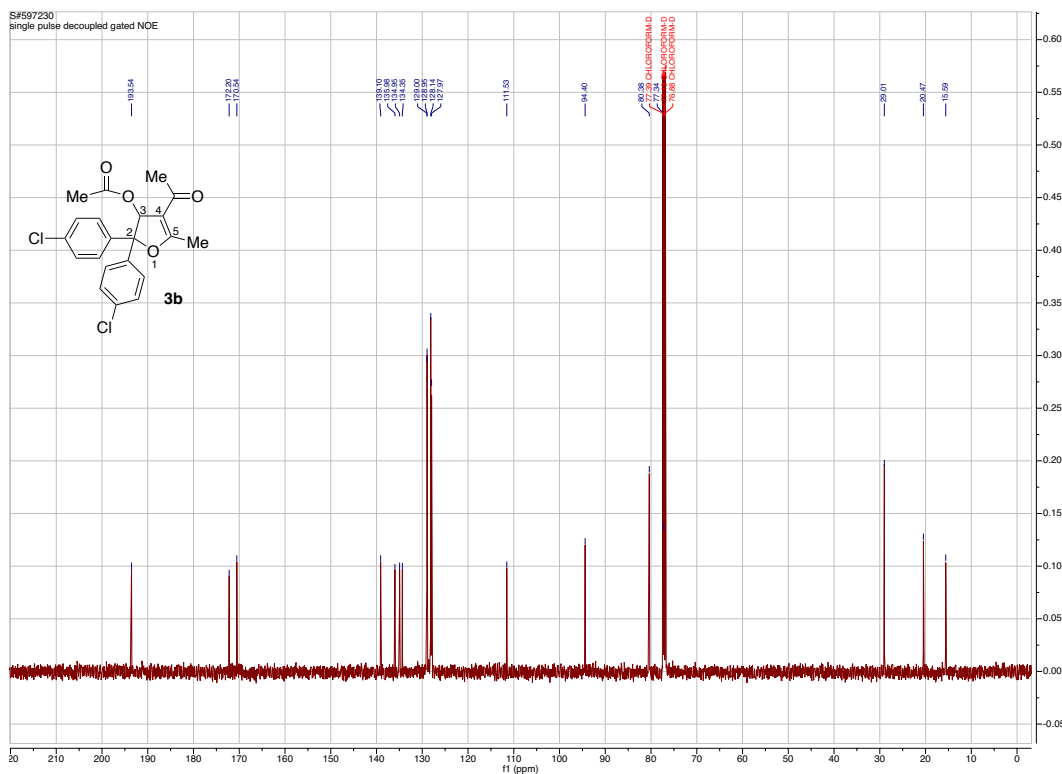
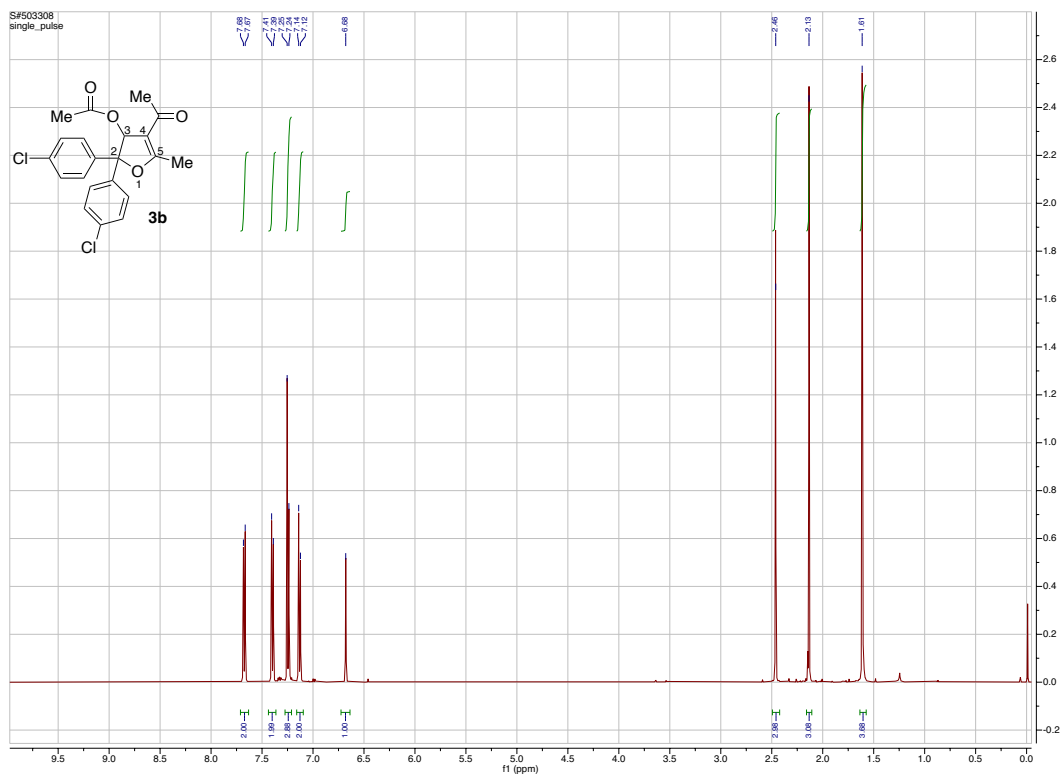


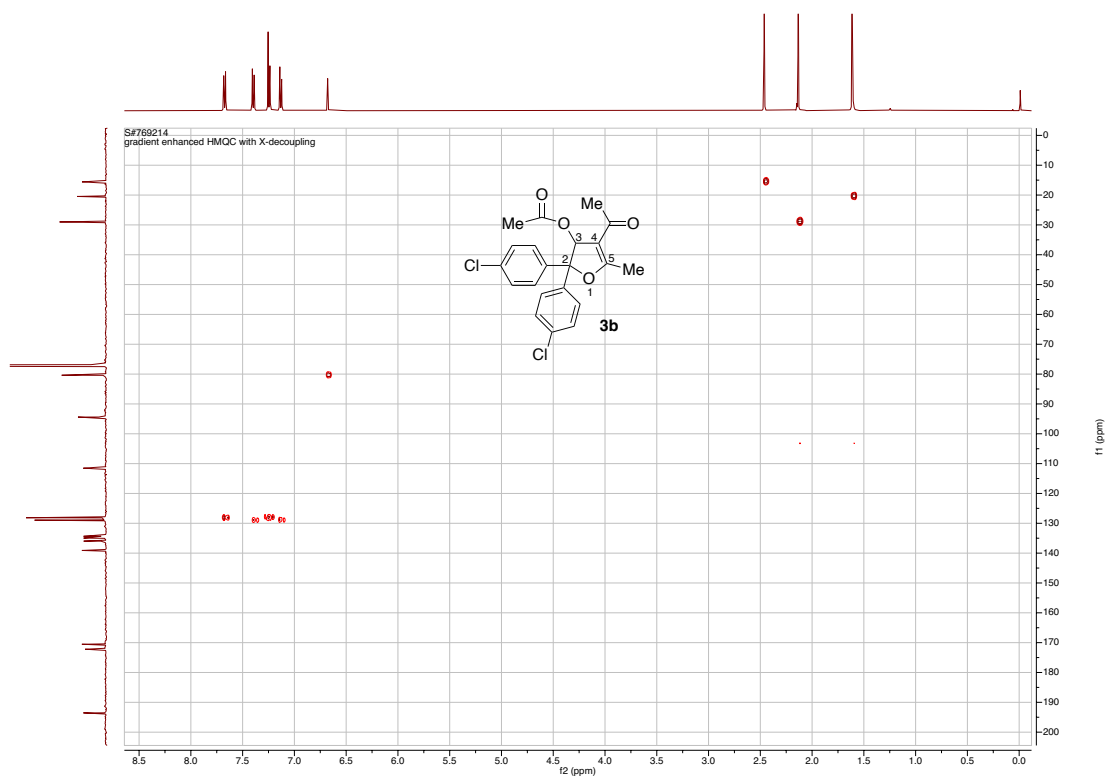
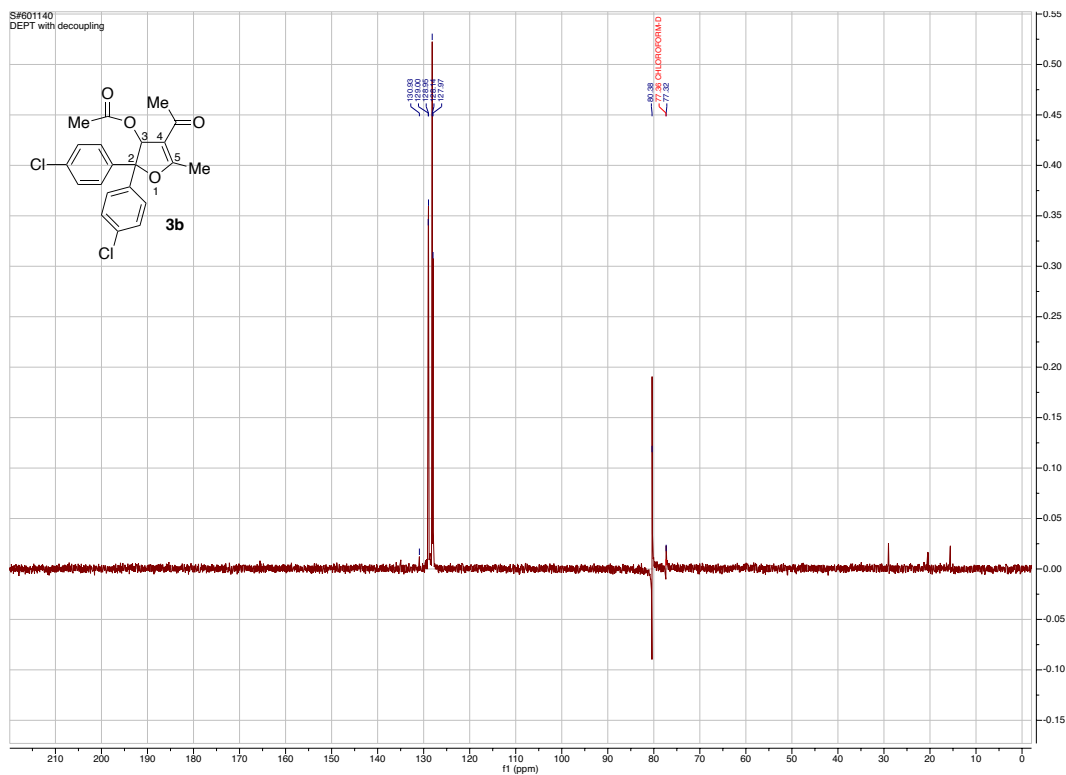


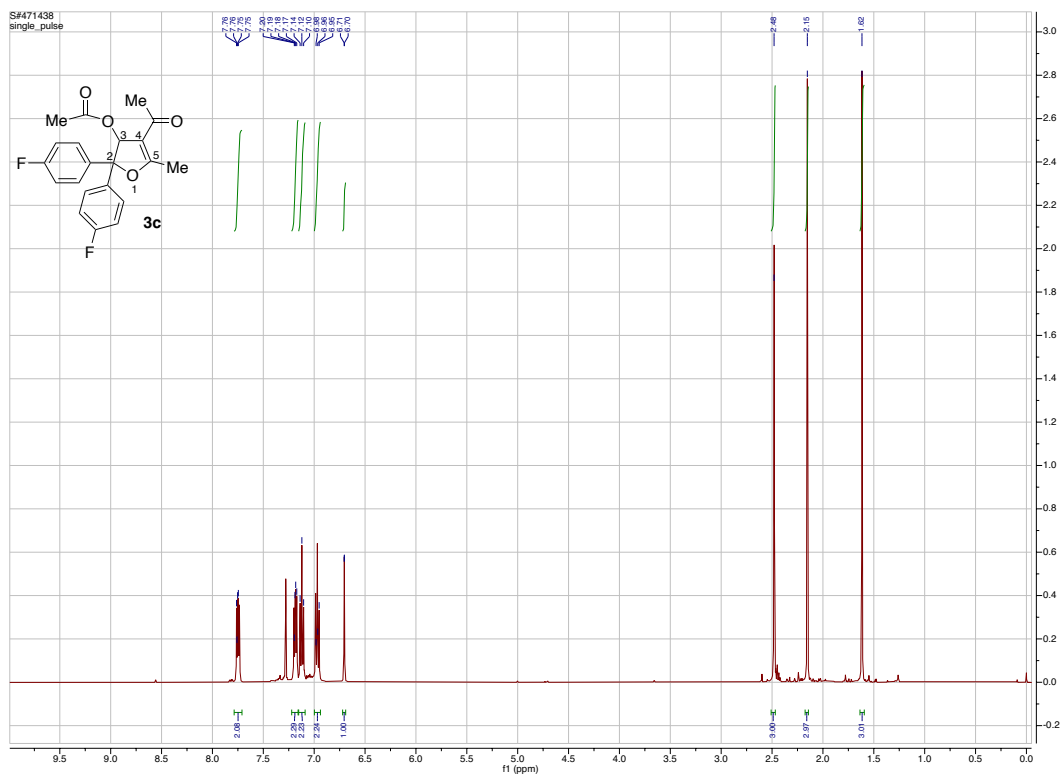
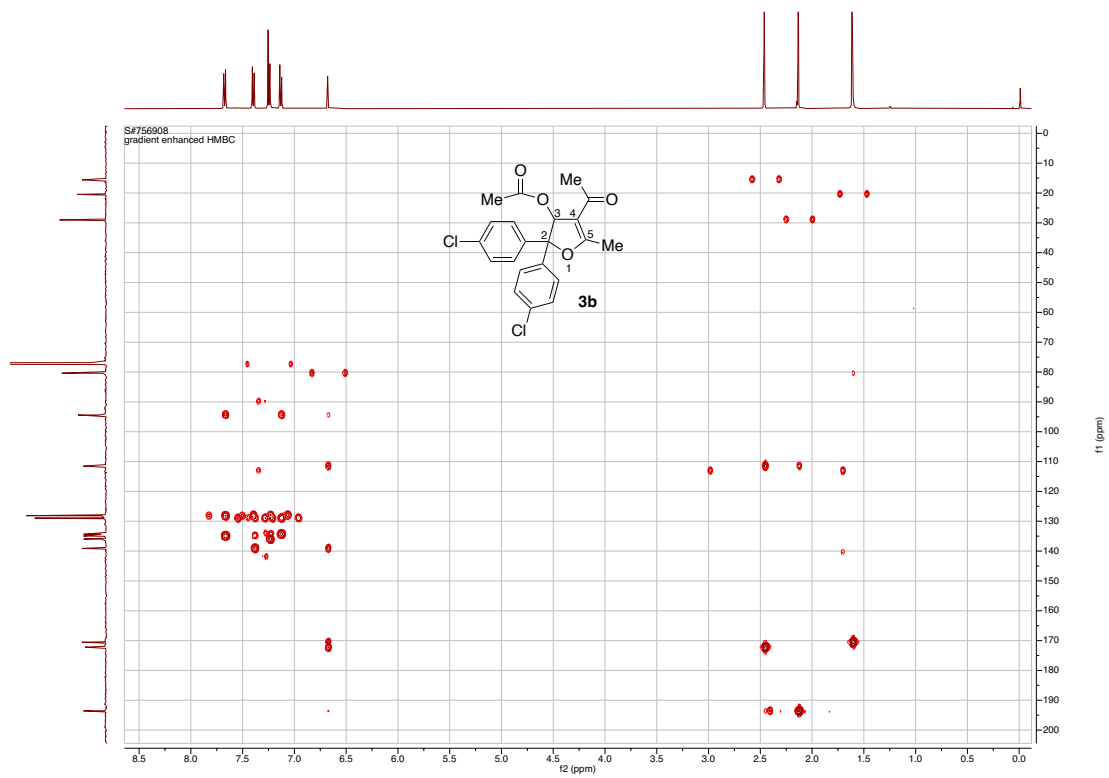




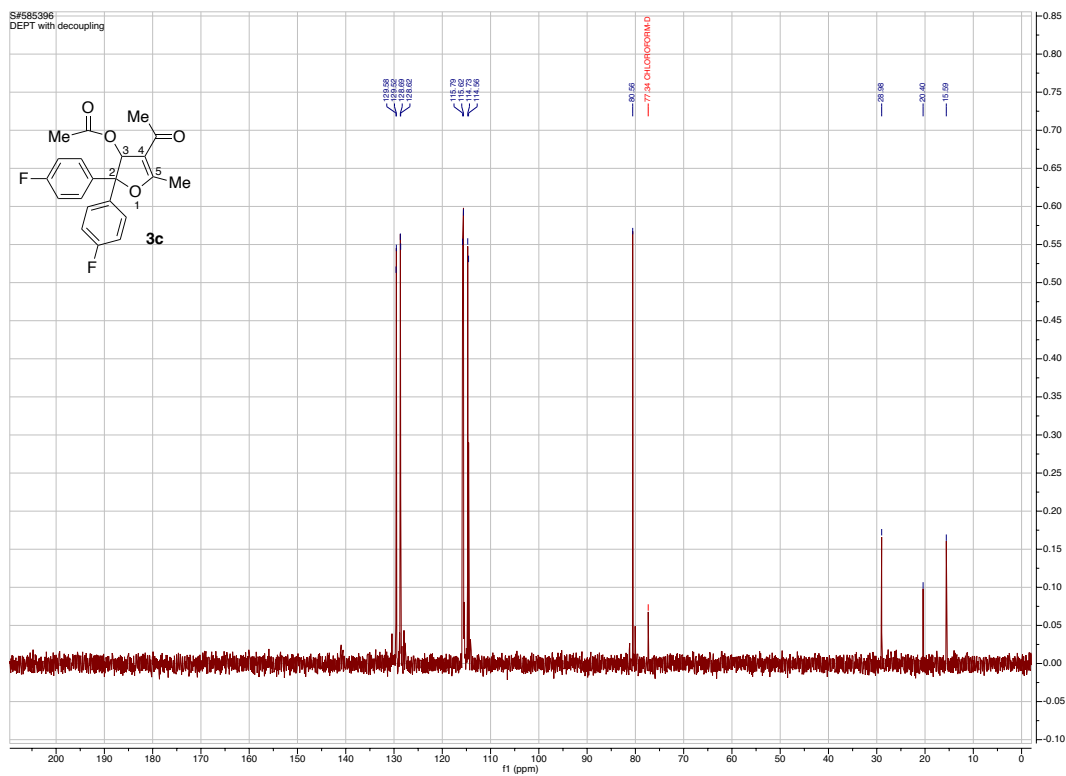
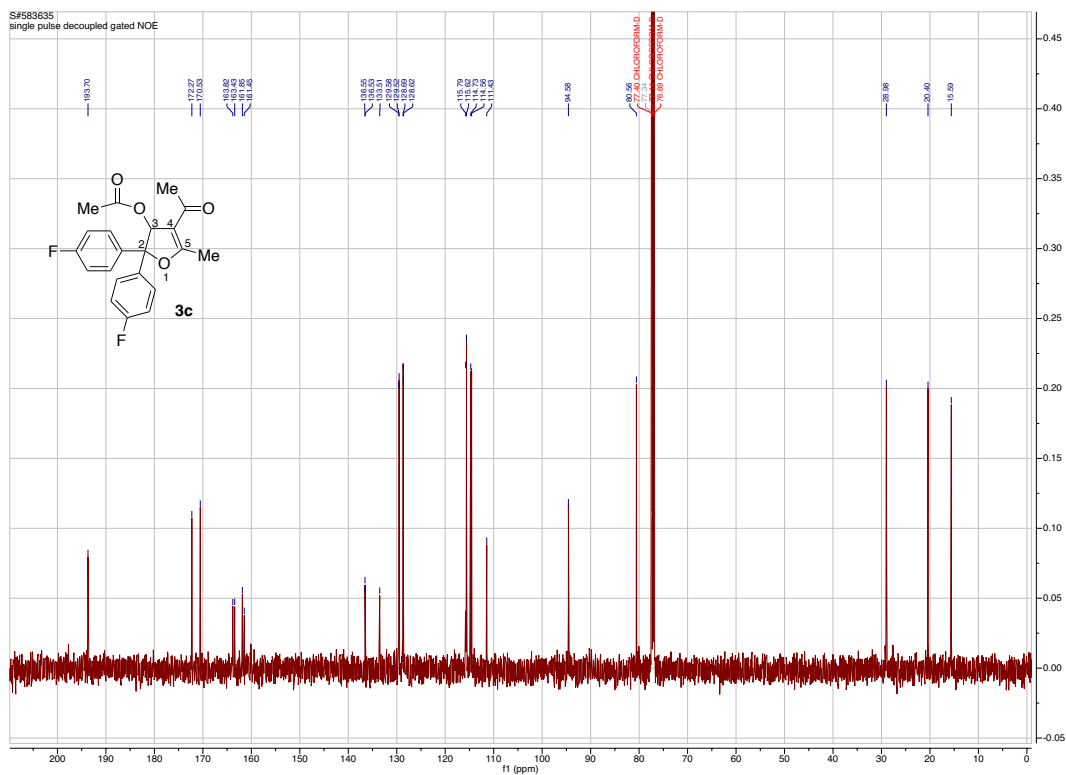


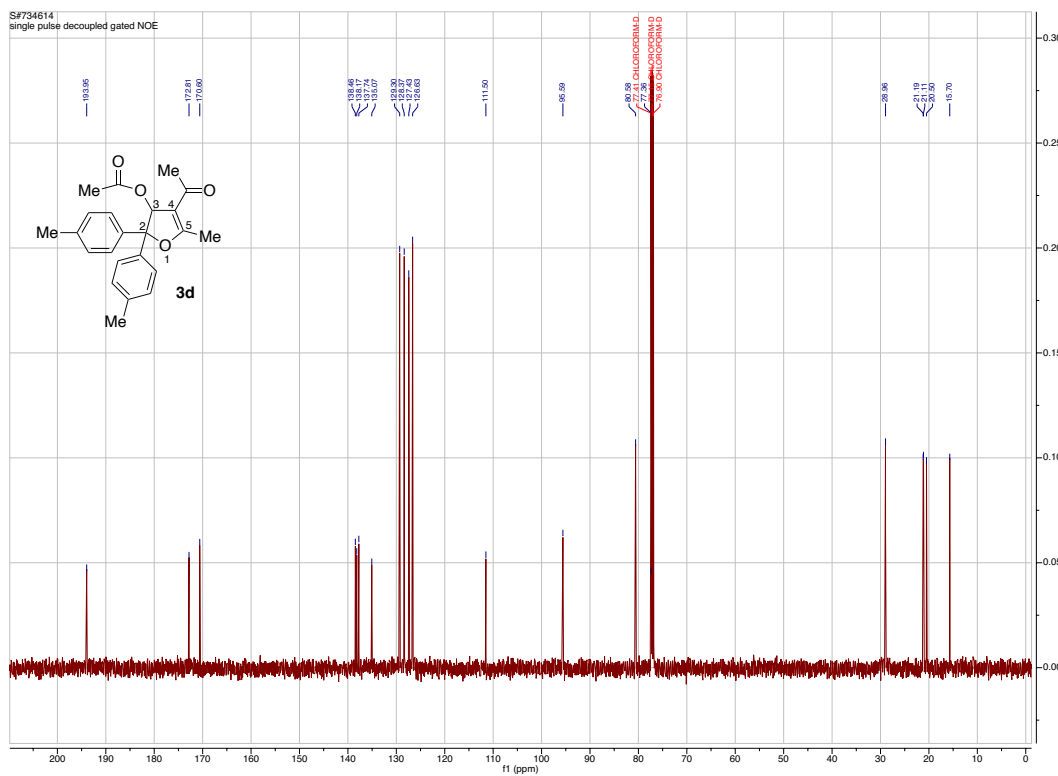
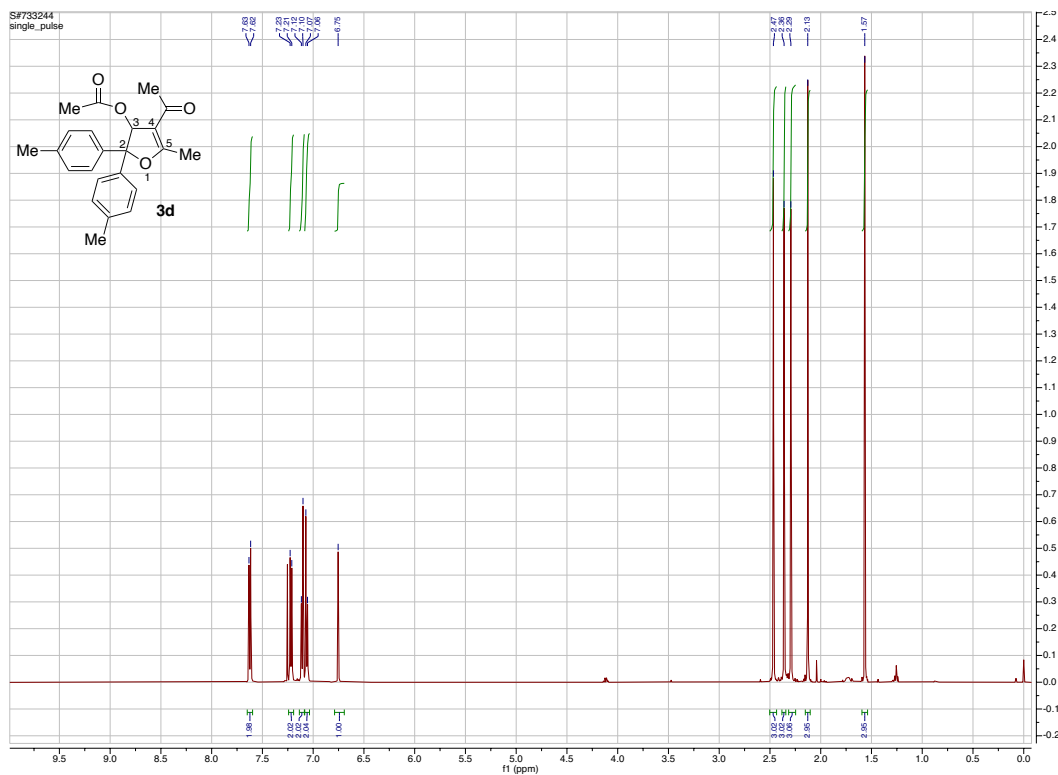




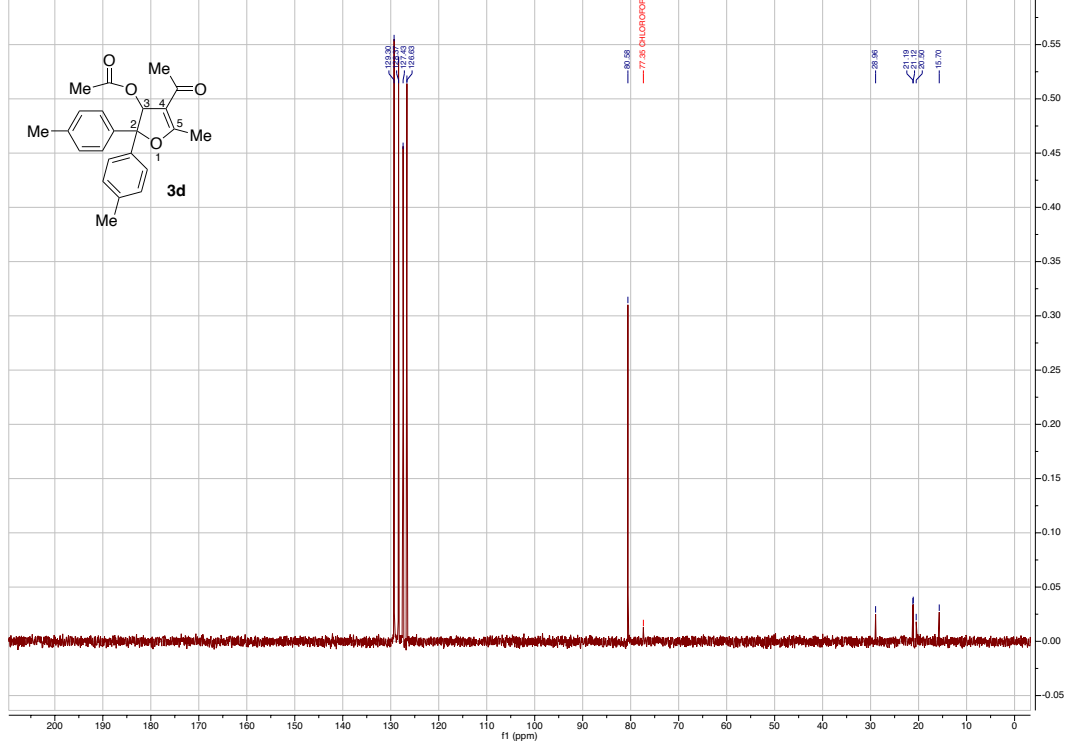








SF737031  
DEPT with decoupling



SF671203  
single\_pulse

