

Supporting Information

Desymmetrisation of *meso*-diones promoted by a highly recyclable polymer-supported chiral phosphoric acid catalyst

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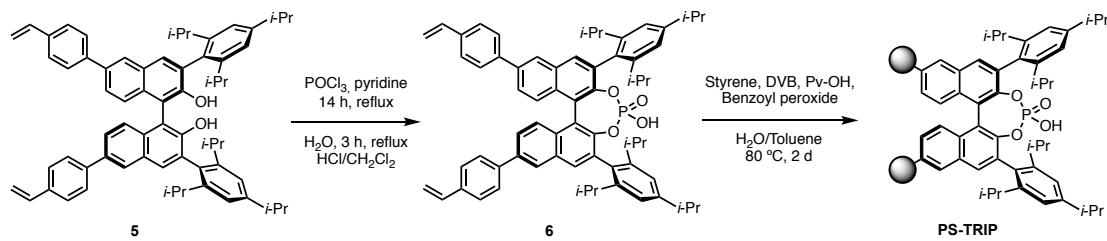
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1. General Information

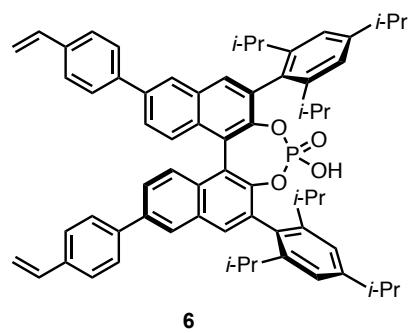
All reactions utilizing air- and moisture-sensitive reagents were carried out under a dry Argon atmosphere in oven-dried material. All solvents used in the reactions were dried using an SPS (Solvent Purification System) unless otherwise stated. Thin layer chromatography was performed on Merck TLC Silicagel 60 F254 aluminium sheets. Components were visualized by UV light ($\lambda = 254$ nm) and stained with *p*-anisaldehyde or phosphomolybdic dip. Flash column chromatography was carried out using Sigma-Aldrich 60 mesh silica gel and dry-packed columns. ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded at 298 K on a Bruker Avance 500 or 400 Ultrashield apparatus. ^1H NMR spectroscopy chemical shifts are quoted in ppm relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS). CDCl_3 was used as internal standard for ^{13}C NMR spectra. Chemical shifts are given in δ and coupling constants in Hz. IR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Tensor 27 FT-IR spectrometer and are reported in wavenumbers (cm^{-1}). Elemental analyses were performed by MEDAC Ltd. (Surrey, UK) on a LECO CHNS 932 micro-analyzer. High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was performed on Agilent Technologies chromatographs (1100 and 1200 Series), using Chiralcel or Chiraldak columns and guard column. The column employed in each case is indicated. Racemic standard products were prepared according to the reported procedure using DL-Proline as catalyst^[1]. High resolution mass spectrometry analyses were performed in a Waters LCD PremierTM instrument operating in ESI (Electro-Spray Ionization) mode or APCI (Atmospheric-Pressure Chemical Ionization) mode. Specific optical rotation measurements were carried out on a Jasco P-1030 polarimeter.

2. Synthesis of the Polystyrene-Supported Chiral Phosphoric Acid (PS-TRIP)



The procedure is adapted from our previous paper^[2] with the slight modifications noted below.

Modified (R)-TRIP phosphoric acid (**6**)^[3]



A flame-dried Schlenk tube, was charged with a solution of BINOL derivative **5**^[2] (1 g, 1.12 mmol) in pyridine (2.3 mL) under Ar. Then, POCl_3 (0.31 mL, 3.35 mmol, 53 equiv.) was added, and the reaction mixture was heated in the closed Schlenk tube for 14 h at 120 °C. After this time, the reaction was allowed to reach RT, followed by addition of water (2.3 mL). The resulting brownish slurry

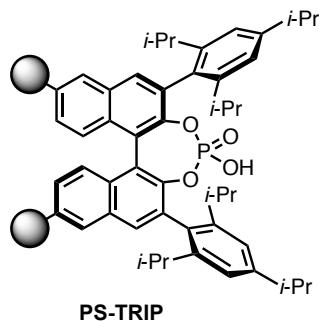
was heated to reflux for 3 h. Once the reaction was completed, the solution was cooled to RT, 10 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were added and the resulting organic phase was thoroughly washed with 1 M HCl (3×5 mL). The resulting organic layers were dried over MgSO_4 and recrystallized from ACN. The aqueous solution should have a pH = 1–2 to ensure **6** is in the acid form.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.07 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.87 (s, 2H), 7.70 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 4H), 7.62 (dd, $J = 8.9, 1.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 4H), 7.45 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 6.95 (s, 4H), 6.78 (dd, $J = 17.6, 10.9$ Hz, 2H), 5.82 (dd, $J = 17.6, 0.9$ Hz, 2H), 5.30 (dd, $J = 10.9, 0.9$ Hz, 2H), 2.91 – 2.78 (m, 2H), 2.67 – 2.54 (m, 4H), 1.23 (dd, $J = 6.9, 4.8$ Hz, 12H), 1.08 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 6H), 1.01 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 6H), 0.93 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 6H), 0.80 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 6H).

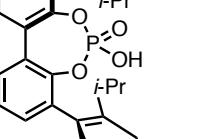
$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 148.6 ($\times 2$), 148.1 ($\times 2$), 147.6 ($\times 2$), 140.1 ($\times 2$), 138.2 ($\times 2$), 137.1 ($\times 2$), 136.5 ($\times 2$), 133.0 ($\times 2$), 132.9 ($\times 2$), 131.7 ($\times 2$), 131.5 ($\times 2$), 131.4 ($\times 2$), 128.1 ($\times 2$), 127.6 ($\times 4$), 127.0 ($\times 4$), 126.0 ($\times 2$), 125.8 ($\times 2$), 122.1 ($\times 2$), 122.1 ($\times 2$), 121.3 ($\times 2$), 120.4 ($\times 2$), 114.3 ($\times 2$), 34.4 ($\times 2$), 31.1 ($\times 2$), 30.8 ($\times 2$), 26.5 ($\times 2$), 25.2 ($\times 2$), 24.3 ($\times 2$), 24.0 ($\times 2$), 23.4 ($\times 2$), 22.9 ($\times 2$).

$[\alpha]_D: -1.4$ (c 1.00, CH_2Cl_2).

Polystyrene Supported (*R*)-TRIP (PS-TRIP)



PS-TRIP

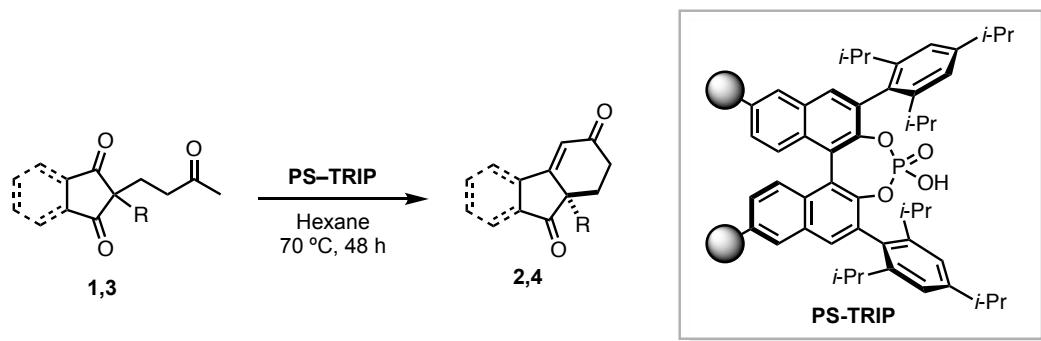


A 100 mL reactor was charged with a suspension of polyvinyl alcohol (PV-OH) (38 mg, 0.37 µmol, 0.001 equiv.) in 38 mL of deionized and degassed water. The solution was heated at 90 °C until PV-OH was dissolved. Then, it was cooled to RT and a solution under N₂, containing divinylbenzene (DVB; 80%, 111 µL, 0.62 mmol, 1.7 equiv.) filtered on a short pad of silica immediately before use, phosphoric acid **6** (350 mg, 0.37 mmol, 1 equiv.), styrene (2.98 mL, 25.9 mmol, 70.8 equiv.) and benzoyl peroxide (75%, 39 mg, 0.12 mmol, 0.33 equiv.) in toluene (1.27 mL) was transferred to the reactor. After that, the system was heated at 80 °C and stirred at 440 rpm. After two days, the aqueous solution was decanted off and the resin was washed with water (50 °C) several times, followed by THF, EtOAc, 2 M HCl/EtOAc, and CH₂Cl₂. Finally, it was dried overnight in a vacuum oven at 40 °C.

P elemental analysis (%): 0.39.

$f_{(P)}$: 0.13 mmol/g_{resin}.

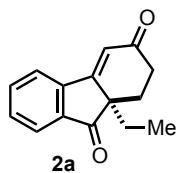
3. General Procedure for the Desymmetrization of *meso*-1,3-Diones



PS-TRIP (20 mol%) was added at room temperature to a screw-cap reaction tube containing the *meso*-dione (0.12 mmol) in hexane (1.2 mL). Then, the reaction was heated at 70 °C, and monitored by TLC. After 48 h, the resin was filtered and rinsed with CH₂Cl₂. The filtrate was directly loaded on a silica gel column and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography using cyclohexane/EtOAc.

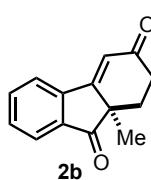
4. Characterization of the Cyclohexenone Products

(R)-9a-Ethyl-1,9a-dihydro-3H-fluorene-3,9(2H)-dione (2a)^[4]



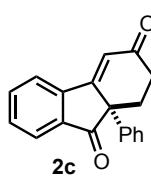
Compound **2a** was obtained in 98% yield and 89% ee as a slightly yellow solid. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.85 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 2.69 (ddd, *J* = 18.9, 13.5, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.61 – 2.52 (m, 1H), 2.42 (ddd, *J* = 13.5, 5.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.00 – 1.8 (m, 2H), 1.87–1.75 (m, 1H), 0.81 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 203.9, 198.8, 162.4, 145.3, 137.0, 135.5, 132.6, 124.3, 123.0, 118.6, 52.0, 33.6, 29.1, 25.6, 9.6. **HPLC** (Daicel Chiralpak IB column, hexane/i-PrOH 80:20, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, λ = 250 nm): *t*_{major} = 16.0 min.; *t*_{minor} = 15.1 min.

(R)-9a-Methyl-1,9a-dihydro-3H-fluorene-3,9(2H)-dione (2b)^[4]



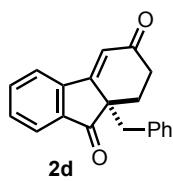
Compound **2b** was obtained in 94% yield and 88% ee as white solid. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.87 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (dt, *J* = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (ddd, *J* = 7.8, 7.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 2.79 – 2.68 (m, 1H), 2.66 – 2.56 (m, 1H), 2.30 (ddd, *J* = 13.2, 5.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.01 (td, *J* = 13.4, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 204.2, 198.7, 162.3, 144.6, 135.9, 135.6, 132.6, 124.9, 123.5, 118.7, 48.4, 33.8, 27.7, 22.4. **HPLC** (Daicel Chiralpak OD-H column, hexane/i-PrOH 83:17, flow rate 0.5 mL/min, λ = 300 nm): *t*_{major} = 22.7 min.; *t*_{minor} = 20.3 min.

(S)-9a-Phenyl-1,9a-dihydro-3H-fluorene-3,9(2H)-dione (2c)^[4]



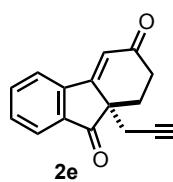
Compound **2c** was obtained in 60% yield and 87% ee as a white solid. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.93 (dt, *J* = 7.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.83 – 7.72 (m, 2H), 7.61 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 2.82 (ddd, *J* = 12.7, 4.5, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (m, 1H), 2.37 – 2.16 (m, 2H). **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 200.7, 199.2, 159.7, 145.5, 136.9, 136.2, 135.8, 132.9, 129.1 (×2), 128.2, 127.5 (×2), 125.2, 123.1, 120.9, 57.5, 34.4, 30.9. **HPLC** (Daicel Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/i-PrOH 90:10, flow rate 0.6 mL/min, λ = 240 nm): *t*_{major} = 28.6 min.; *t*_{minor} = 27.3 min.

(S)-9a-Benzyl-1,9a-dihydro-3H-fluorene-3,9(2H)-dione (2d)^[4]



Compound **2d** was obtained in 91% yield and 84% ee as a slightly yellow solid. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.63 (dt, J = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 6.99 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.9 Hz, 3H), 6.92 – 6.82 (m, 2H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 3.20 (d, J = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (ddd, J = 19.1, 13.5, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 2.71 – 2.56 (m, 1H), 2.44 (ddd, J = 13.5, 5.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.05 (td, J = 13.6, 5.9 Hz, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 203.7, 198.6, 161.3, 145.7, 137.3, 135.2, 135.2, 132.2, 129.7 (×2), 128.0 (×2), 127.0, 123.8, 122.6, 119.3, 53.7, 42.8, 33.8, 27.2. **HPLC** (Daicel Chiraldak AD-H column, hexane/i-PrOH 90:10, flow rate 0.5 mL/min, λ = 300 nm): t_{major} = 28.4 min.; t_{minor} = 25.4 min.

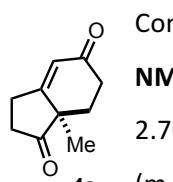
(S)-9a-(Prop-2-yn-1-yl)-1,9a-dihydro-3H-fluorene-3,9(2H)-dione (2e)^[4]



Compound **2e** was obtained in 96% yield and 92% ee as a slightly yellow solid. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.88 (dt, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (dt, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (td, J = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (td, J = 7.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.42 (s, 1H), 2.82 – 2.74 (m, 1H), 2.72 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.67 – 2.62 (m, 1H), 2.61 – 2.53 (m, 1H), 2.03 (td, J = 13.6, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 1.96 (t, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 201.8, 198.1, 159.7, 145.2, 136.4, 135.8, 132.7, 124.7, 123.1, 119.6, 78.4, 73.5, 50.5, 33.6, 26.3, 25.9.

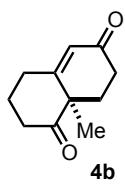
HPLC (Daicel Chiraldak AD-H column, hexane/i-PrOH 90:10, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, λ = 300 nm): t_{major} = 20.2 min.; t_{minor} = 18.9 min.

(R)-7a-Methyl-2,3,7,7a-tetrahydro-1H-indene-1,5(6H)-dione (4a)^[4]



Compound **4a** was obtained in 79% yield and 59% ee as a slightly yellow oil. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.97 (br d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.06 – 2.90 (m, 1H), 2.84 – 2.70 (m, 2H), 2.58 – 2.38 (m, 3H), 2.11 (ddd, J = 13.6, 5.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 1.91 – 1.80 (m, 1H), 1.32 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 216.6, 198.3, 169.8, 124.1, 48.9, 36.0, 33.1, 29.4, 27.0, 20.7. **HPLC** (Daicel Chiraldak AD-H column, hexane/i-PrOH 95:5, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, λ = 240 nm): t_{major} = 18.2 min.; t_{minor} = 17.2 min.

(R)-8a-Methyl-3,4,8,8a-tetrahydronaphthalene-1,6(2H,7H)-dione (4b)^[4]

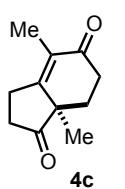


Compound **4b** was obtained in 60% yield and 73% ee as a colourless oil. **1H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.86 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 2.78 – 2.66 (m, 2H), 2.54 – 2.37 (m, 4H), 2.20 – 2.07 (m, 3H), 1.78 – 1.68 (m, 1H), 1.45 (s, 3H). **13C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 126.0, 50.8, 37.8, 33.8, 31.9, 29.9 (×2), 23.4, 23.1, 1.2 (×2).

HPLC (Daicel Chiralpak IC column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 80:20, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, λ = 250 nm):

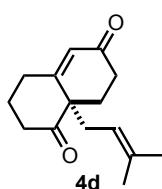
*t*_{major} = 29.0 min.; *t*_{minor} = 33.5 min.

(R)-4,7a-Dimethyl-2,3,7,7a-tetrahydro-1*H*-indene-1,5(6*H*)-dione (4c)^[5]



Compound **4c** was obtained in 68% yield and 47% ee as a pale yellow oil. **1H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.94 – 2.86 (m, 1H), 2.83 – 2.72 (m, 2H), 2.58 – 2.37 (m, 3H), 2.05 (ddd, J = 13.4, 5.3, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (td, J = 13.7, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 1.76 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 3H), 1.27 (s, 3H). **13C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 217.7, 197.9, 162.5, 129.8, 48.9, 35.5, 32.8, 28.9, 24.5, 21.3, 10.8. **HPLC** (Daicel Chiralpak AS-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 90:10, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, λ = 250 nm): *t*_{major} = 17.9 min.; *t*_{minor} = 23.5 min.

(S)-8a-(3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-3,4,8,8a-tetrahydronaphthalene-1,6(2H,7H)-dione (4d)^[5]

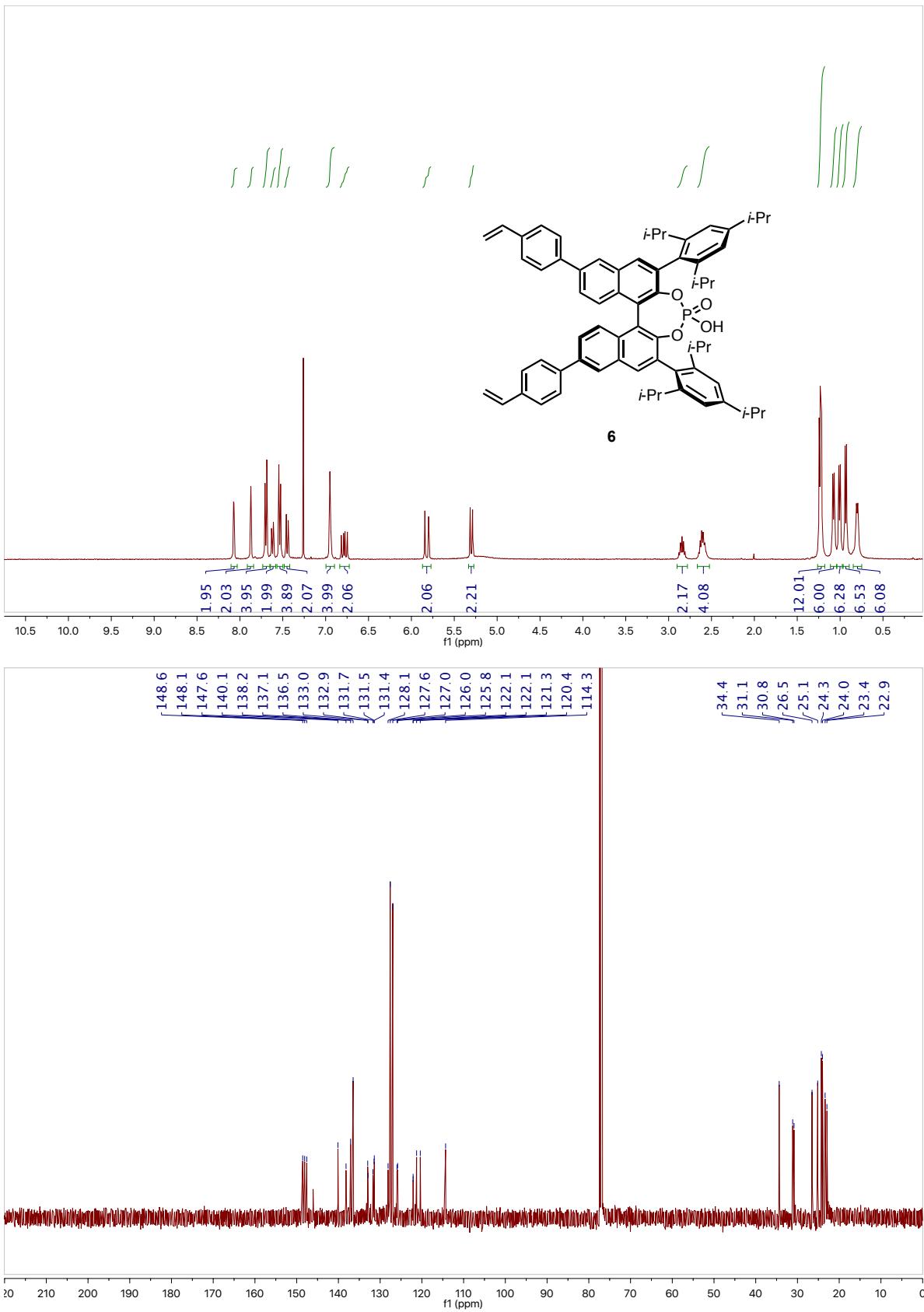


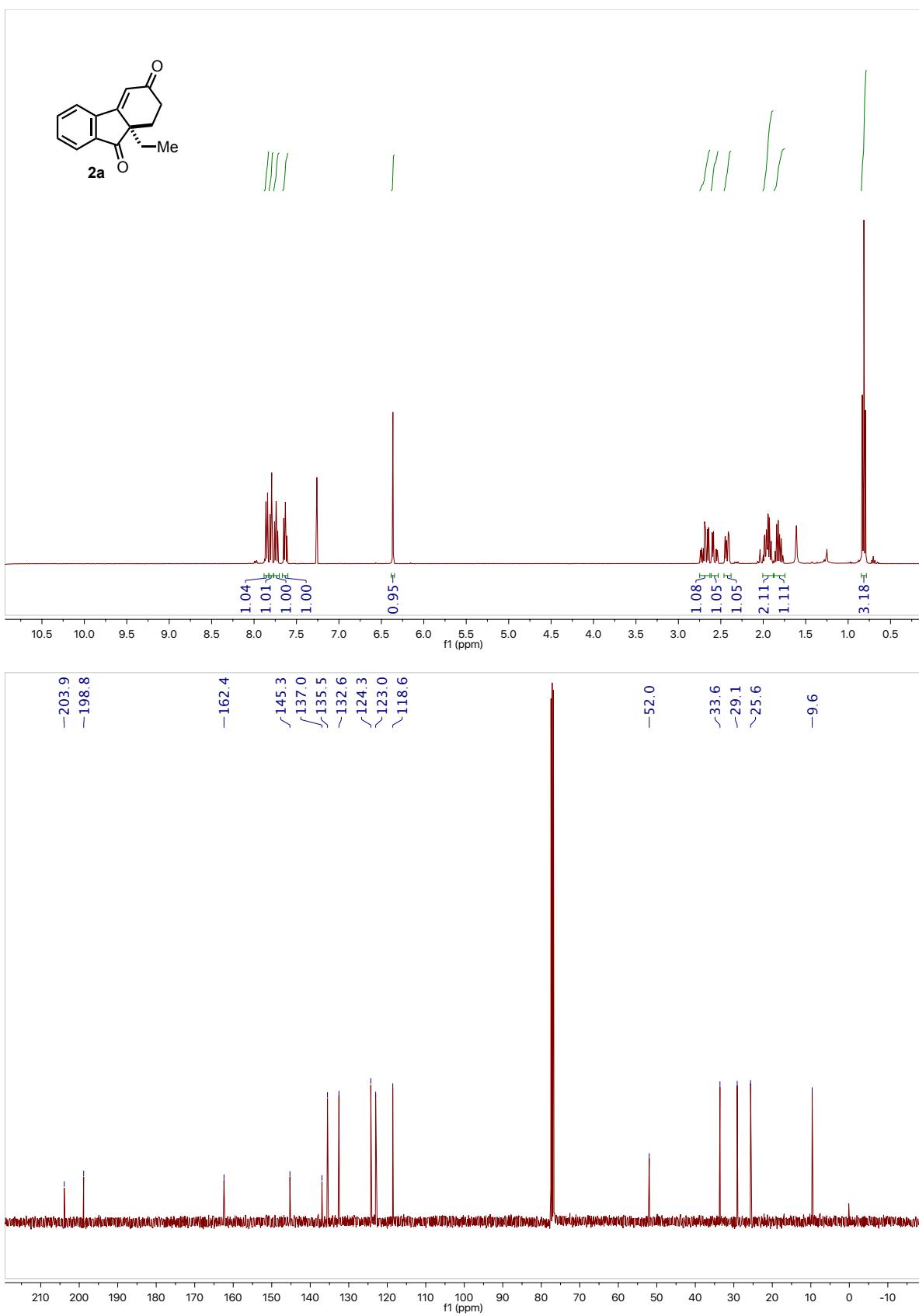
Compound **5i** was obtained in 79% yield and 71% ee as a colourless oil. **1H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.89 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.93 – 4.88 (m, 1H), 2.83 – 2.75 (m, 1H), 2.71 – 2.59 (m, 2H), 2.54 – 2.45 (m, 3H), 2.41 – 2.37 (m, 2H), 2.19 – 2.12 (m, 2H), 2.08 – 2.00 (m, 1H), 1.69 (s, 3H), 1.75 – 1.64 (m, 1H), 1.61 (s, 3H). **13C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 210.1, 198.6, 165.7, 136.4, 126.6, 117.4, 55.3, 38.5, 34.6, 33.8, 32.3, 26.6, 26.1, 23.6, 18.2. **HPLC** (Daicel Chiralpak IC column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 80:20, flow rate 0.7 mL/min, λ = 254 nm): *t*_{major} = 35.9 min.; *t*_{minor} = 48.8 min.

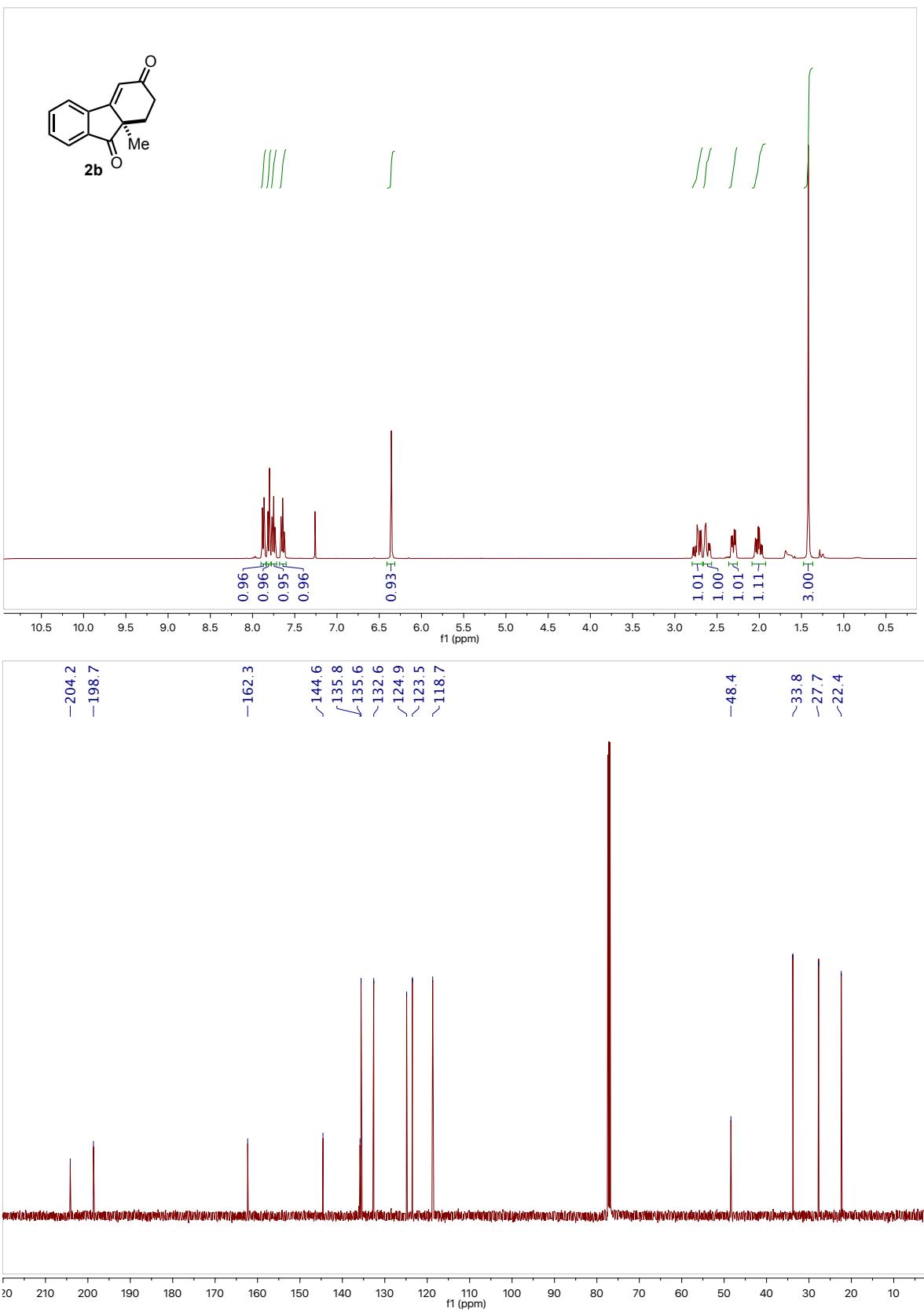
References

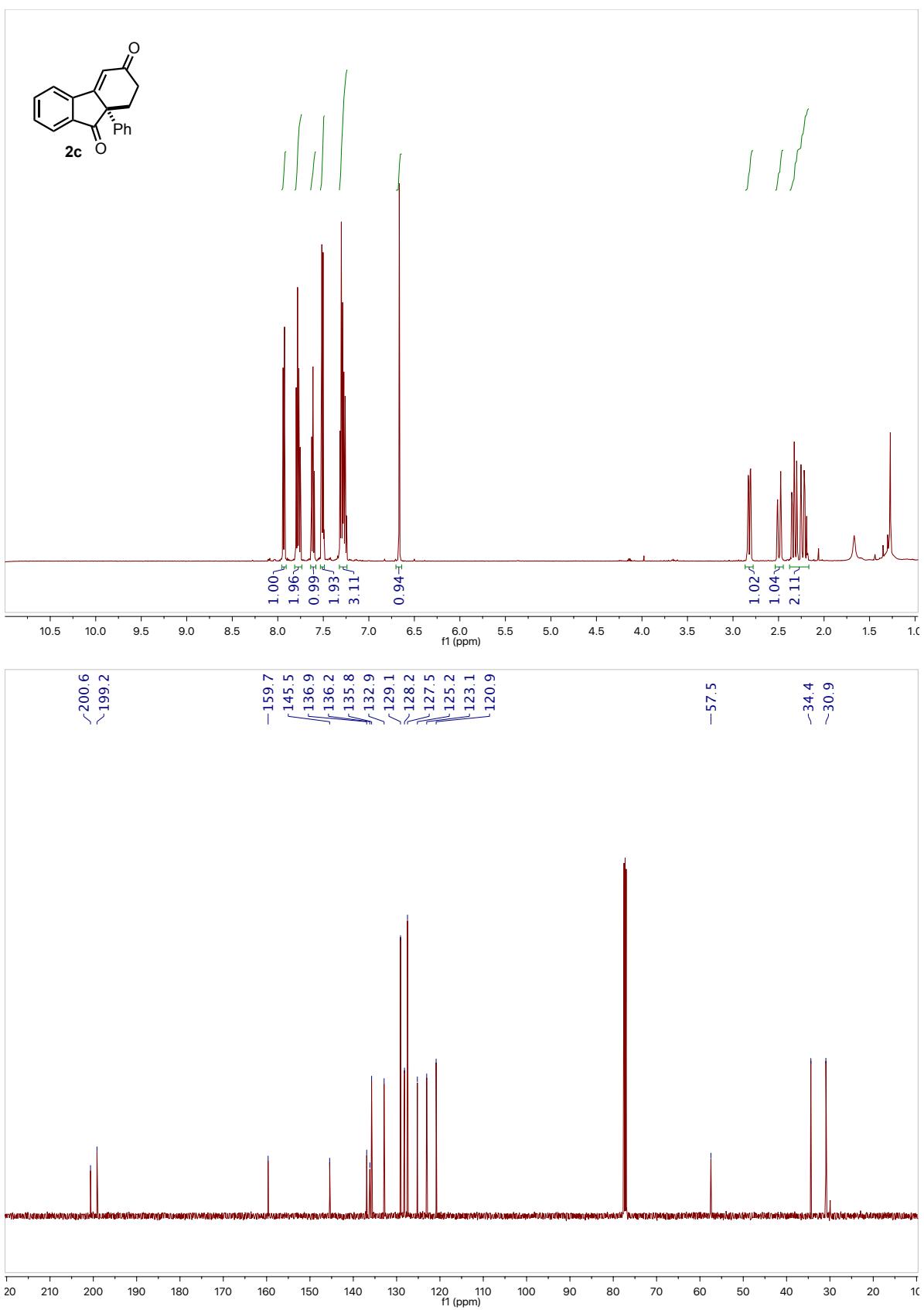
- [1] S. G. Davies, A. J. Russell, R. L. Sheppard, A. D. Smith, J. E. Thomson, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2007**, *5*, 3190–3200.
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- [4] K. Mori, T. Katoh, T. Suzuki, T. Noji, M. Yamanaka, T. Akiyama, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 9652–9654.
- [5] S. Cañellas, C. Ayats, A. H. Henseler, M. A. Pericàs, *ACS Catal.* **2017**, *7*, 1383–1391.

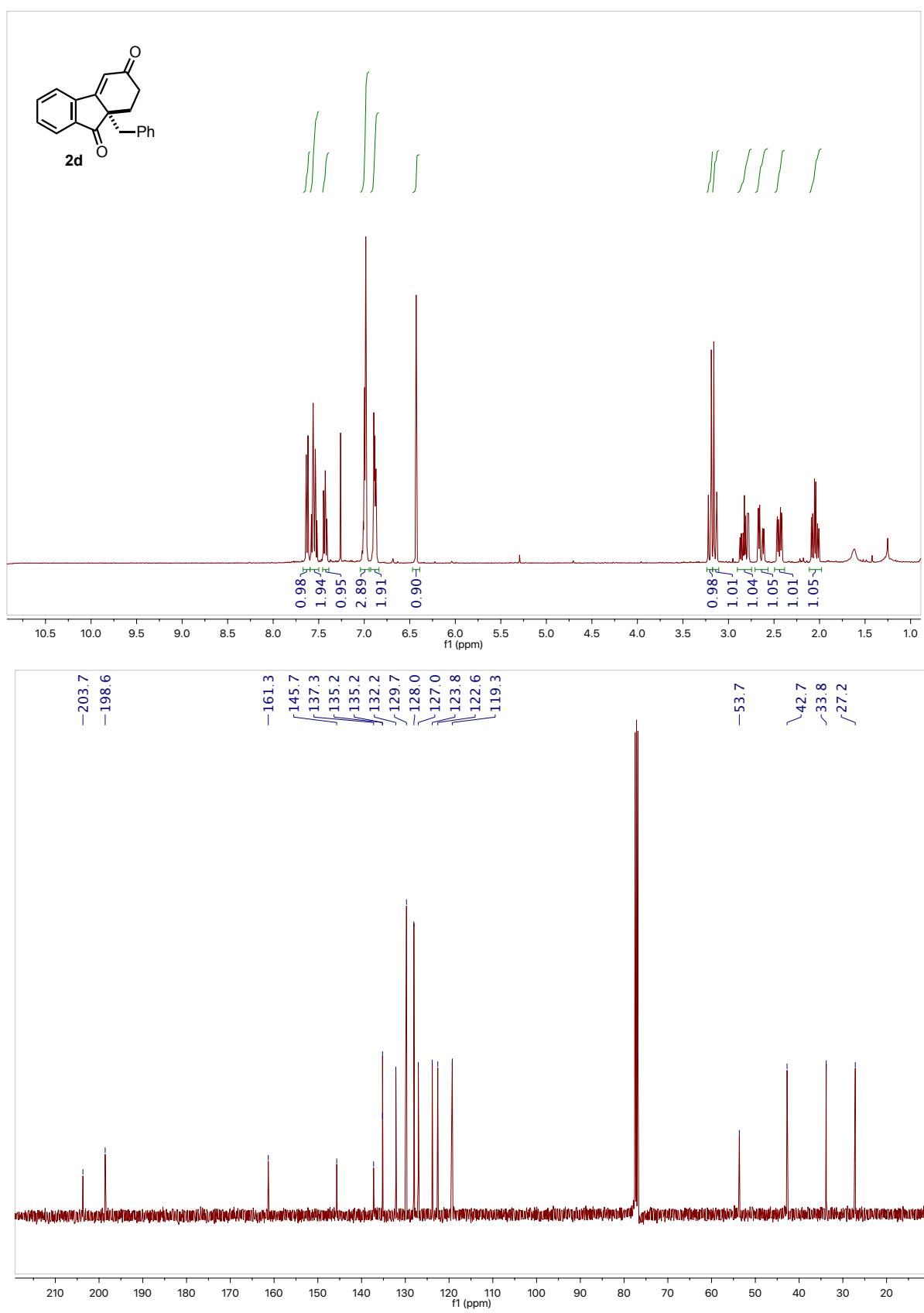
5. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra

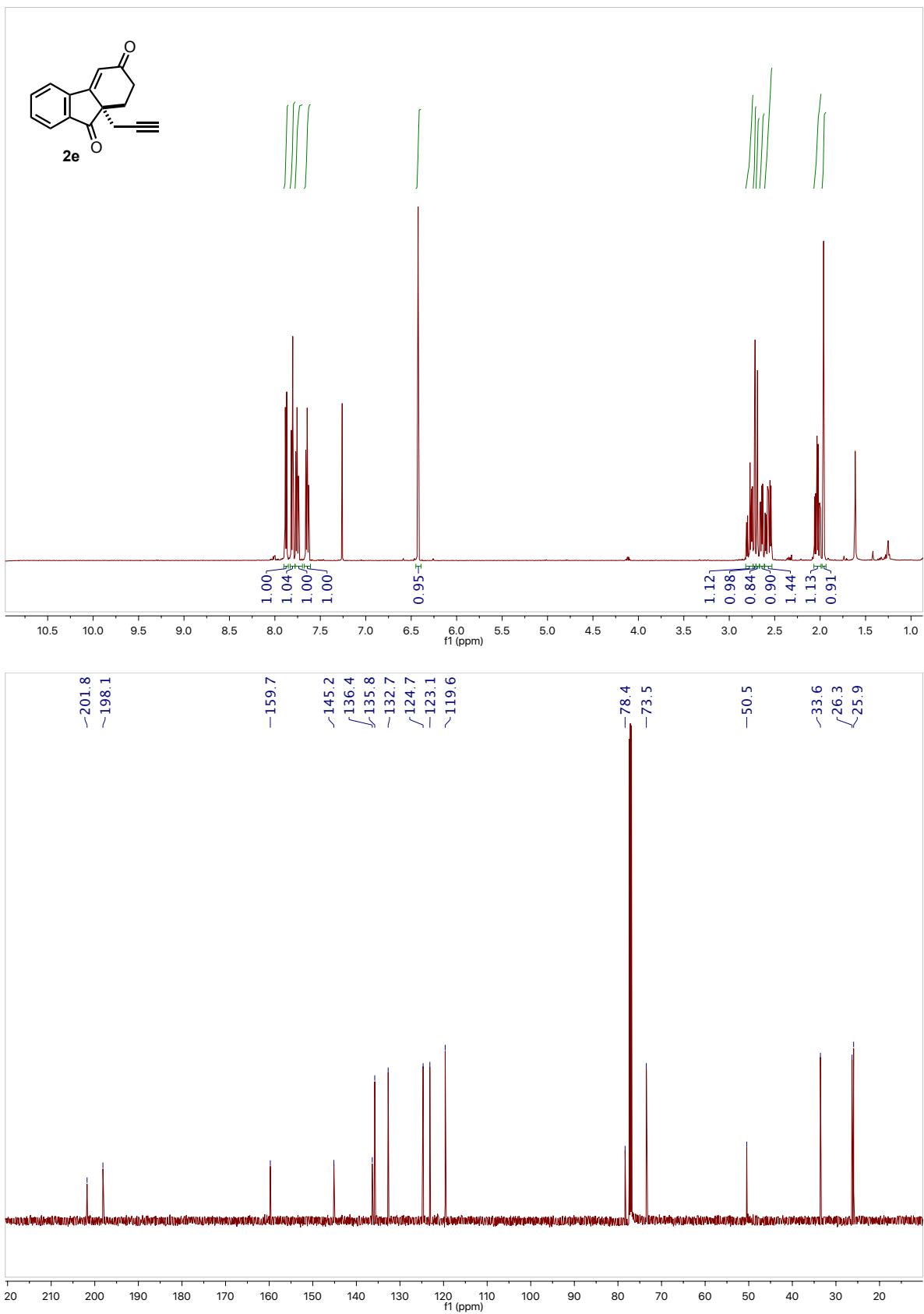


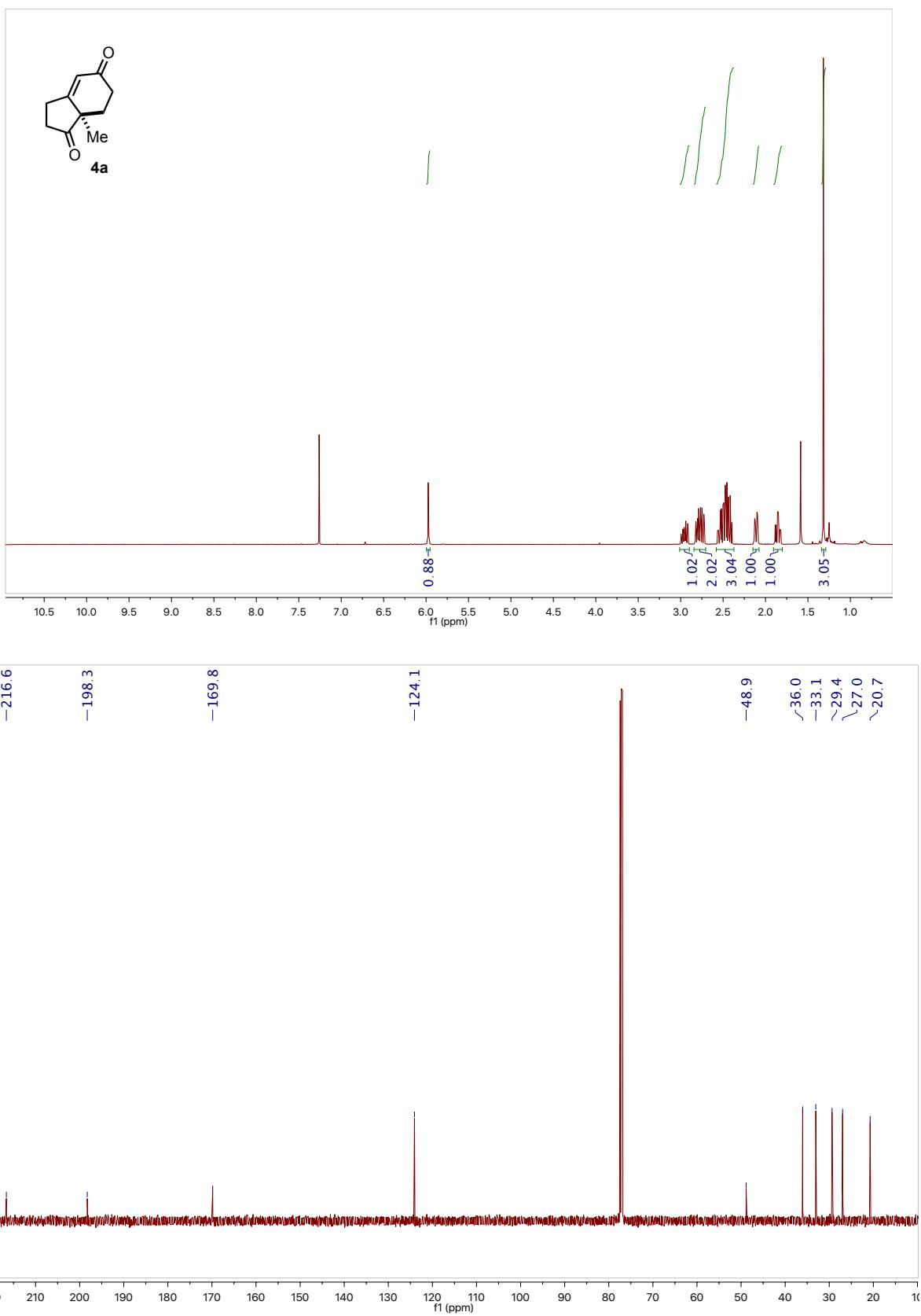


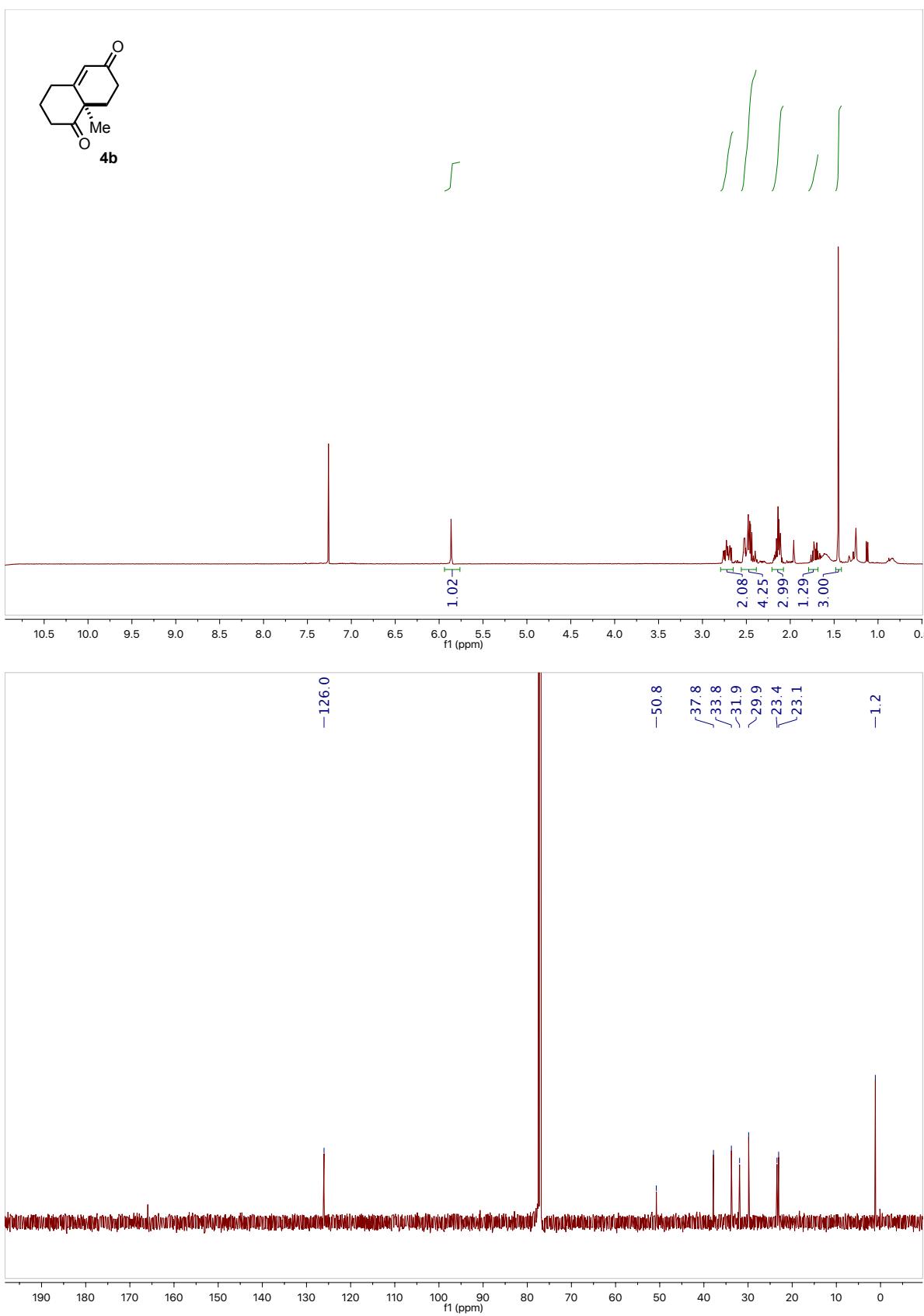


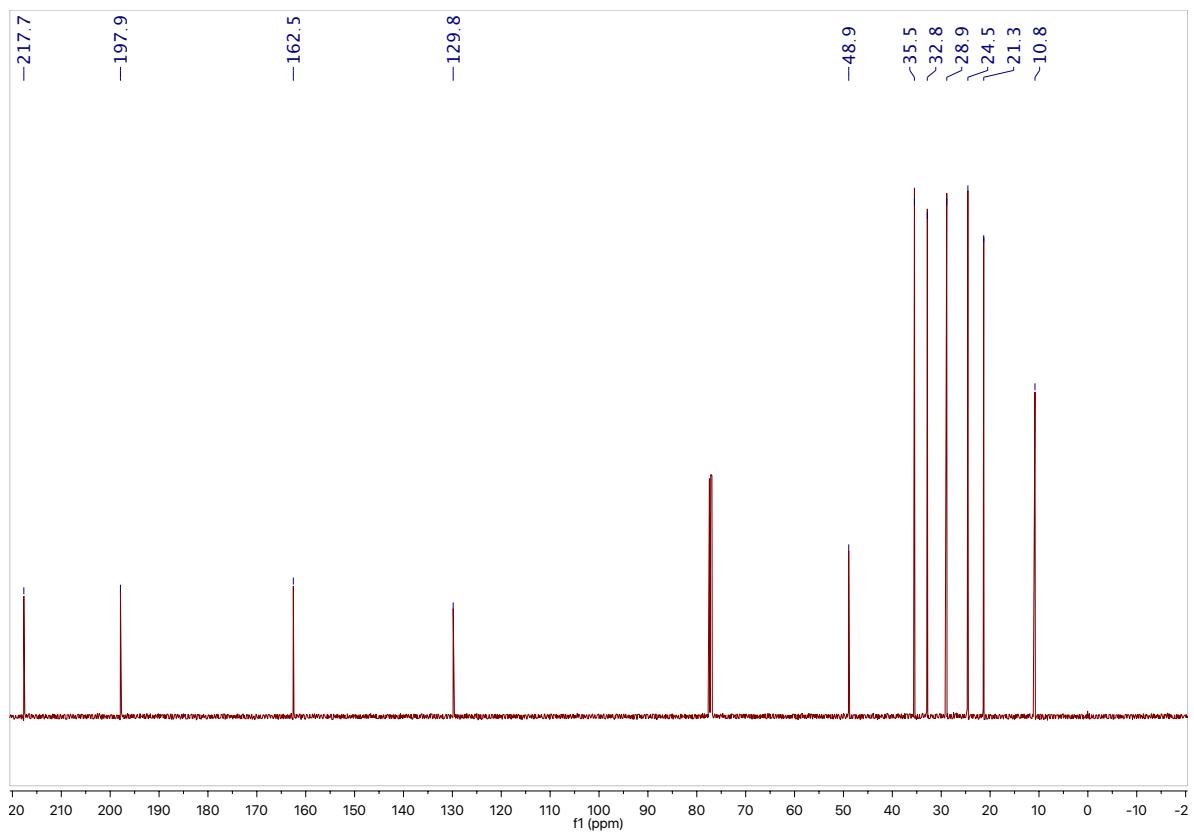
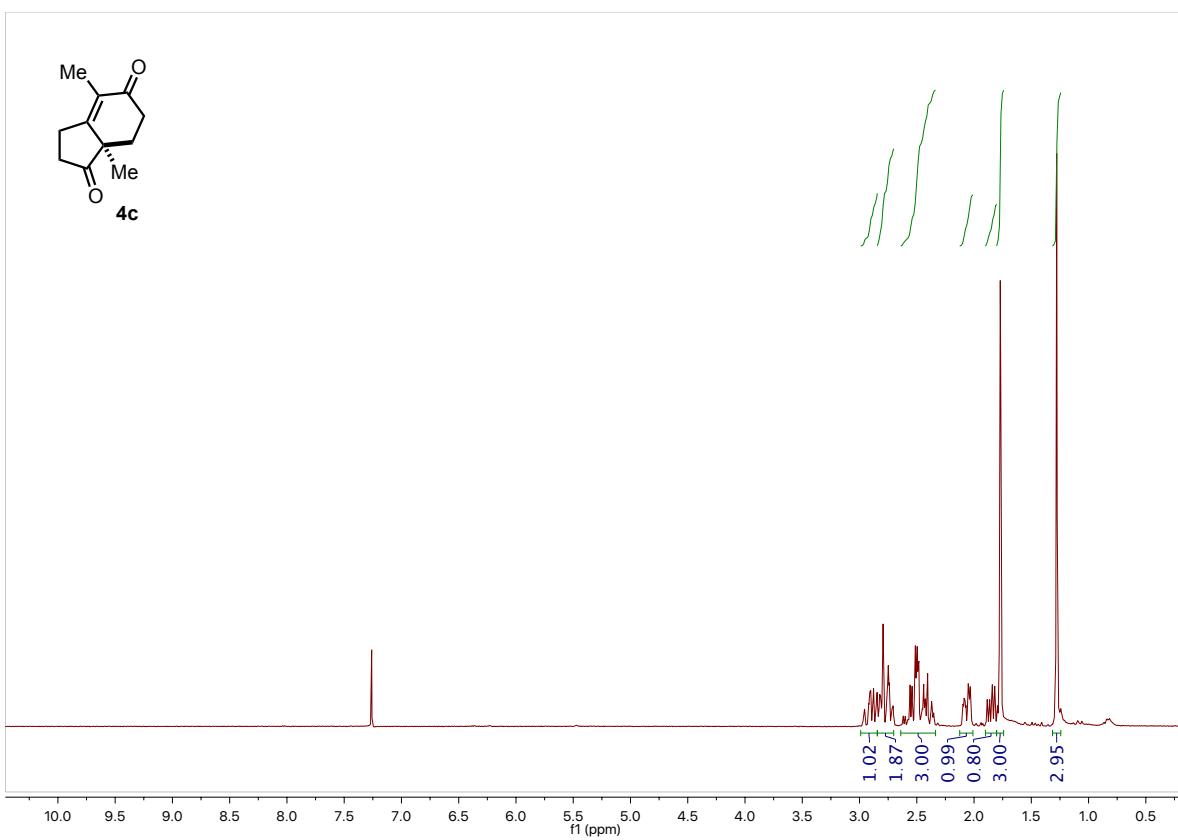


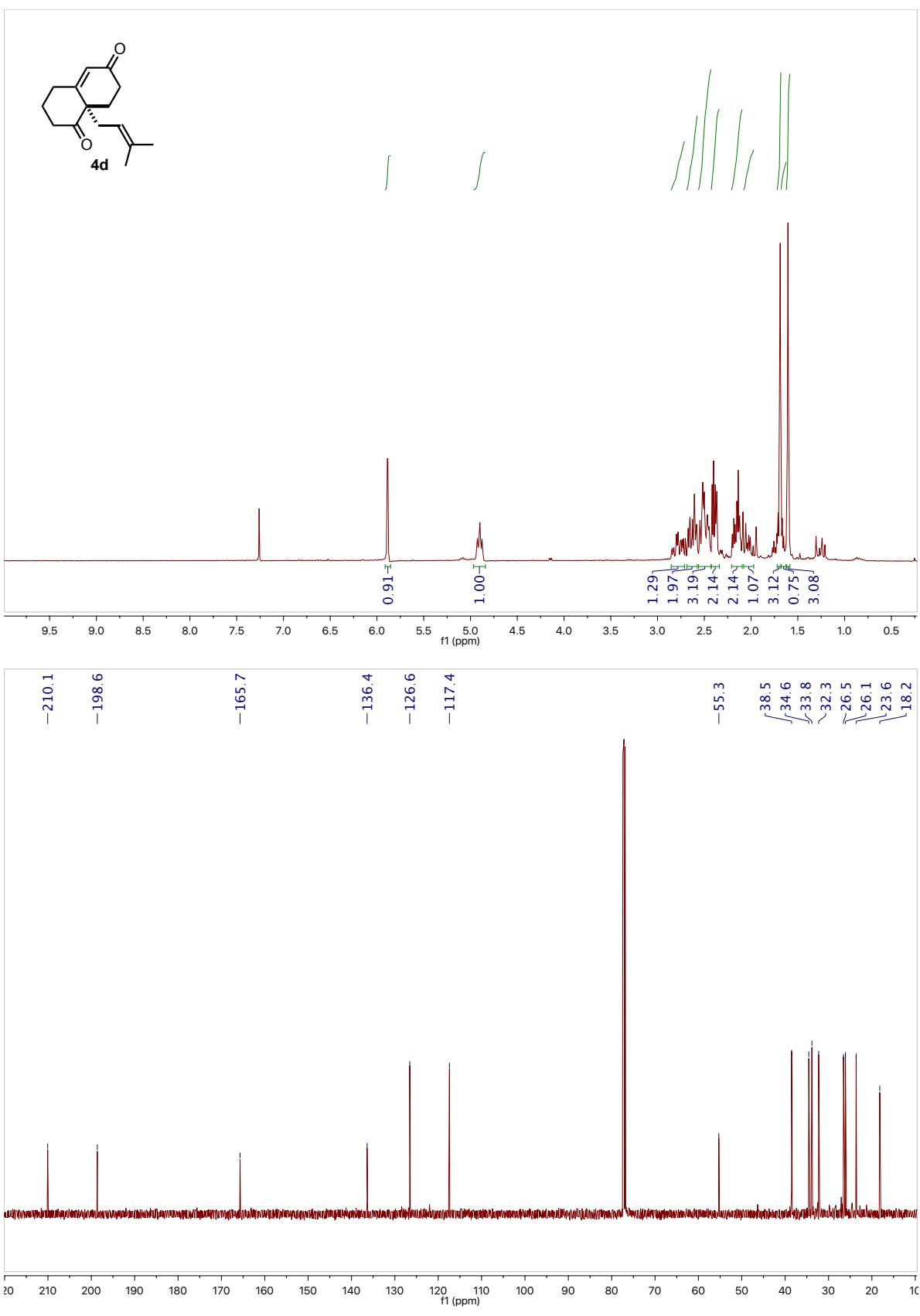




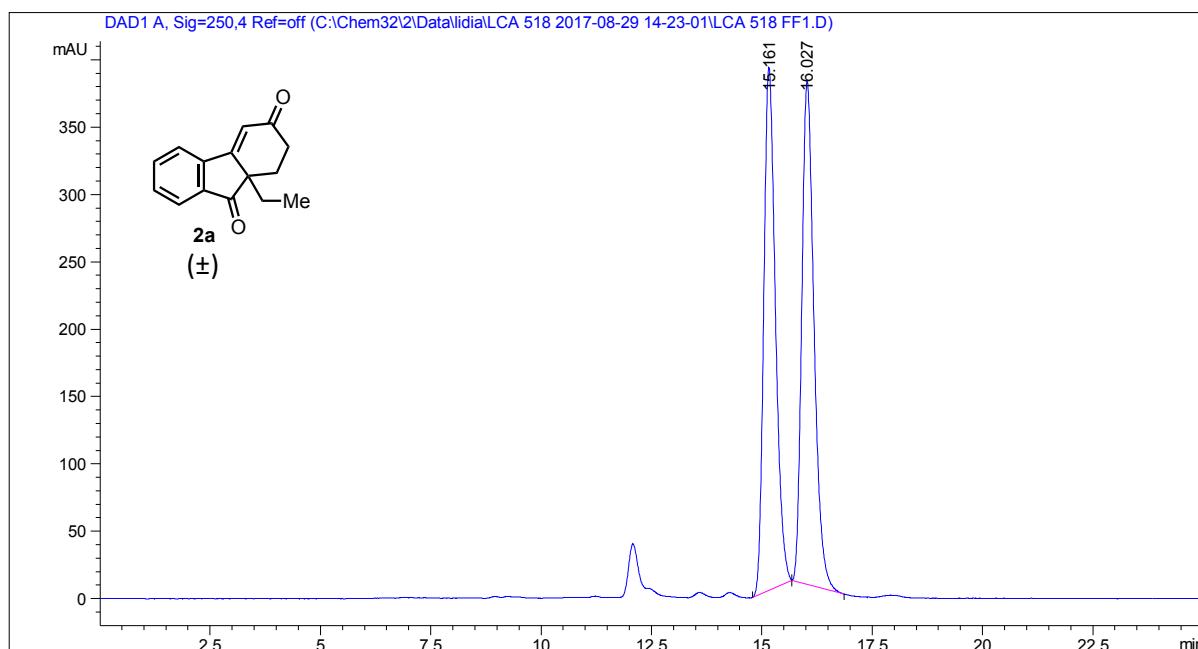




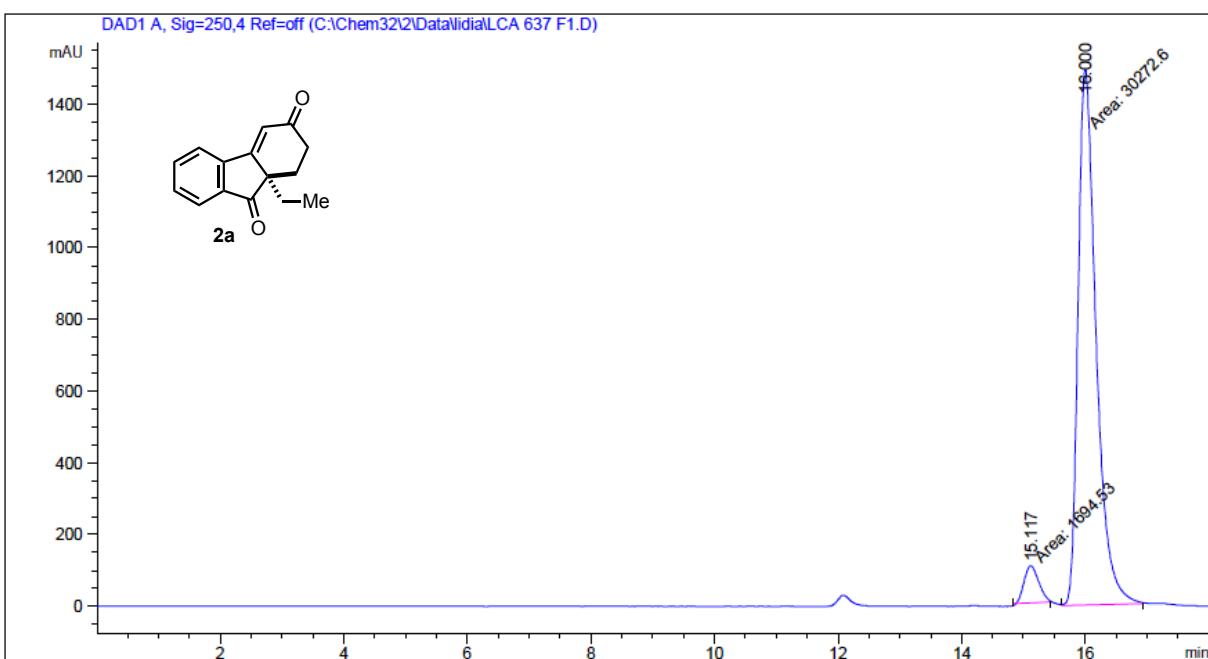




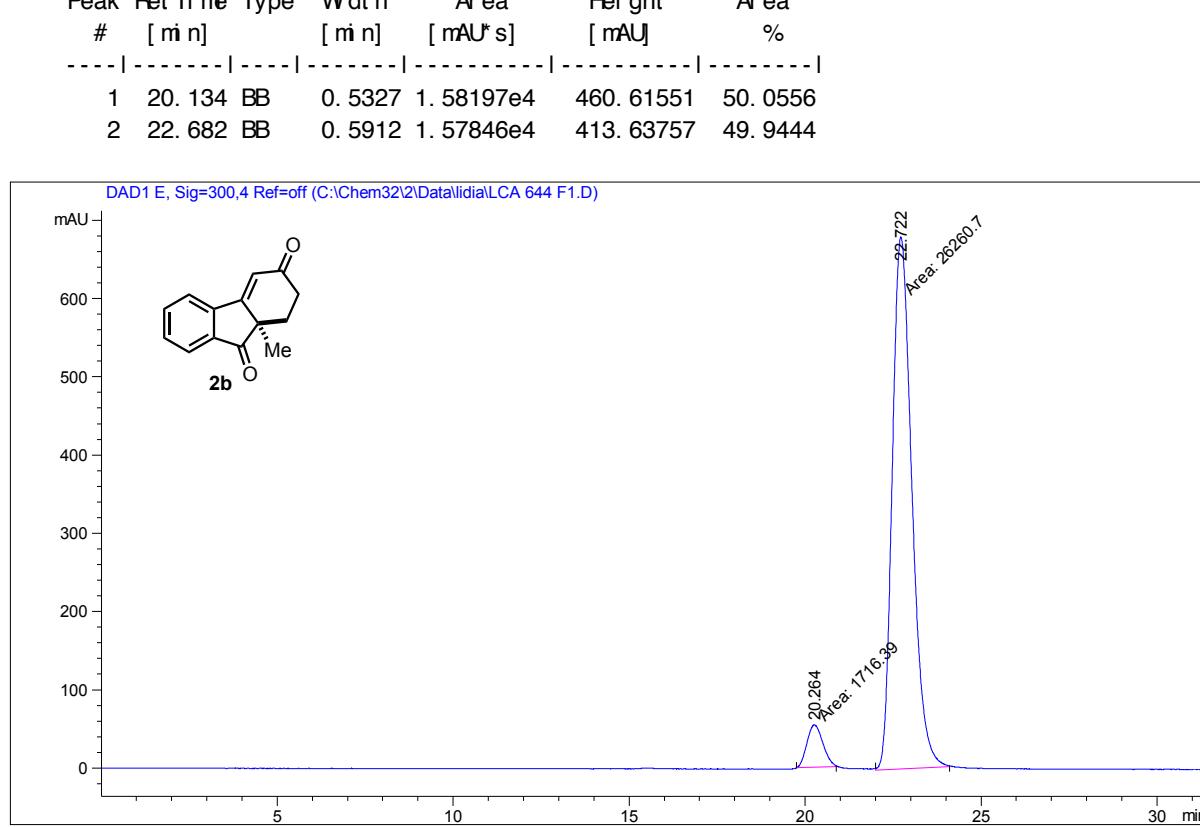
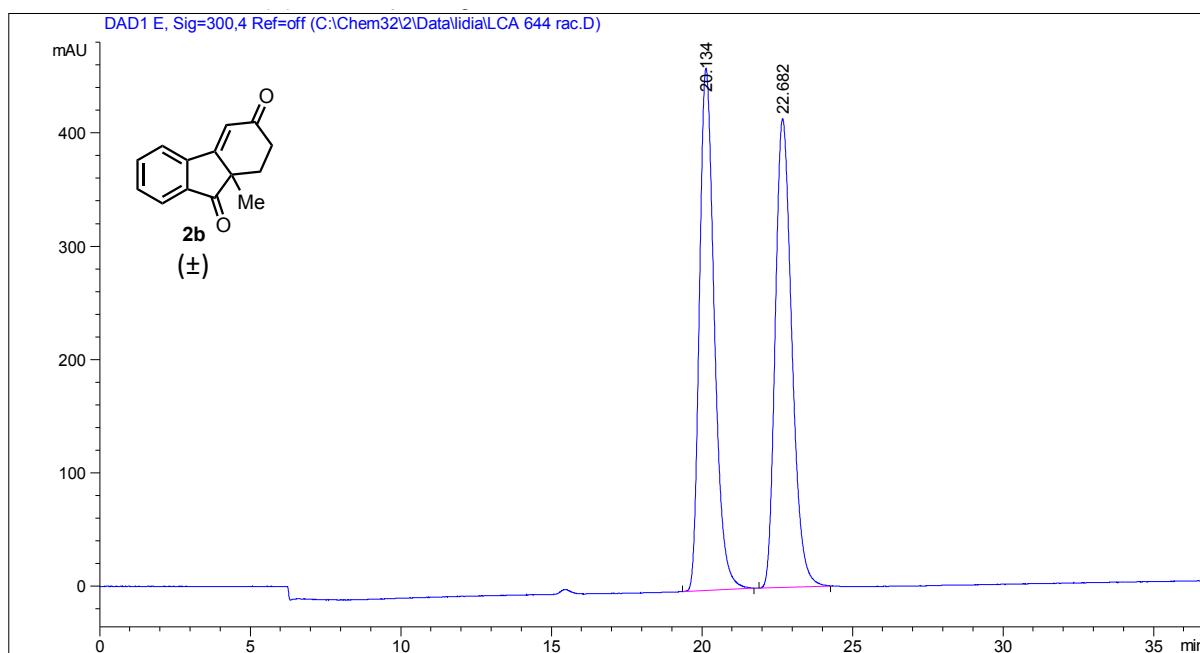
6. HPLC Chromatograms

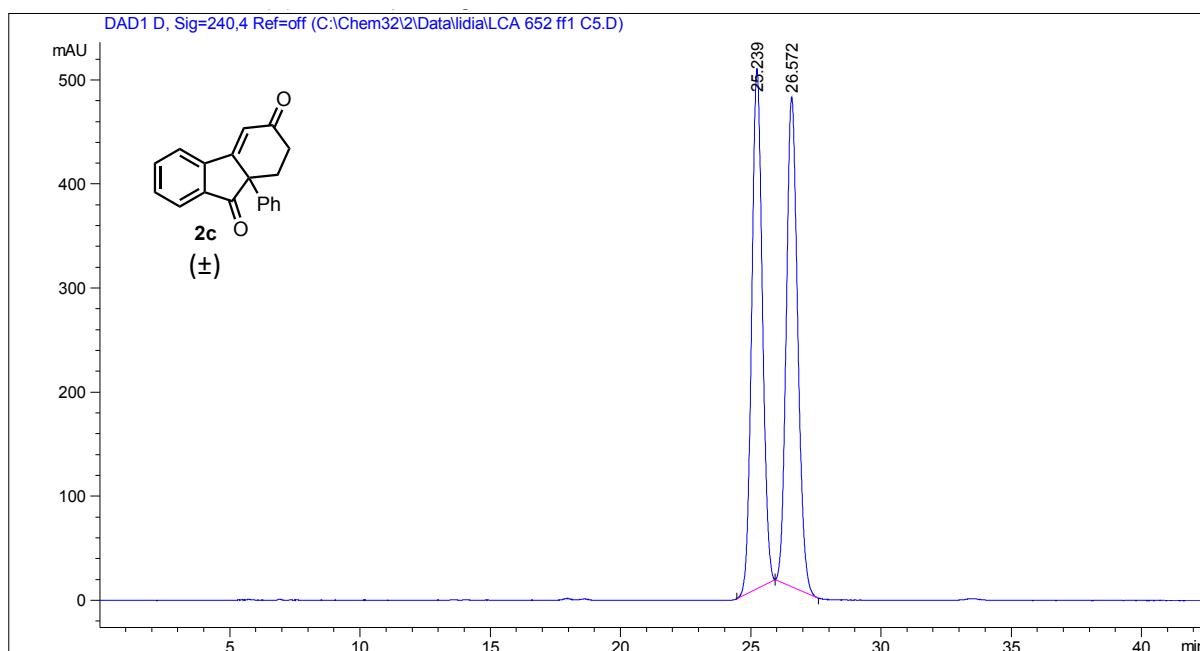


Peak #	Ret Ti m [min]	Type	W dt h [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Hei ght [mAU]	Area %
1	15. 161	BB	0. 2818	7112. 54199	388. 14499	49. 8096
2	16. 027	BB	0. 2960	7166. 90527	373. 32489	50. 1904

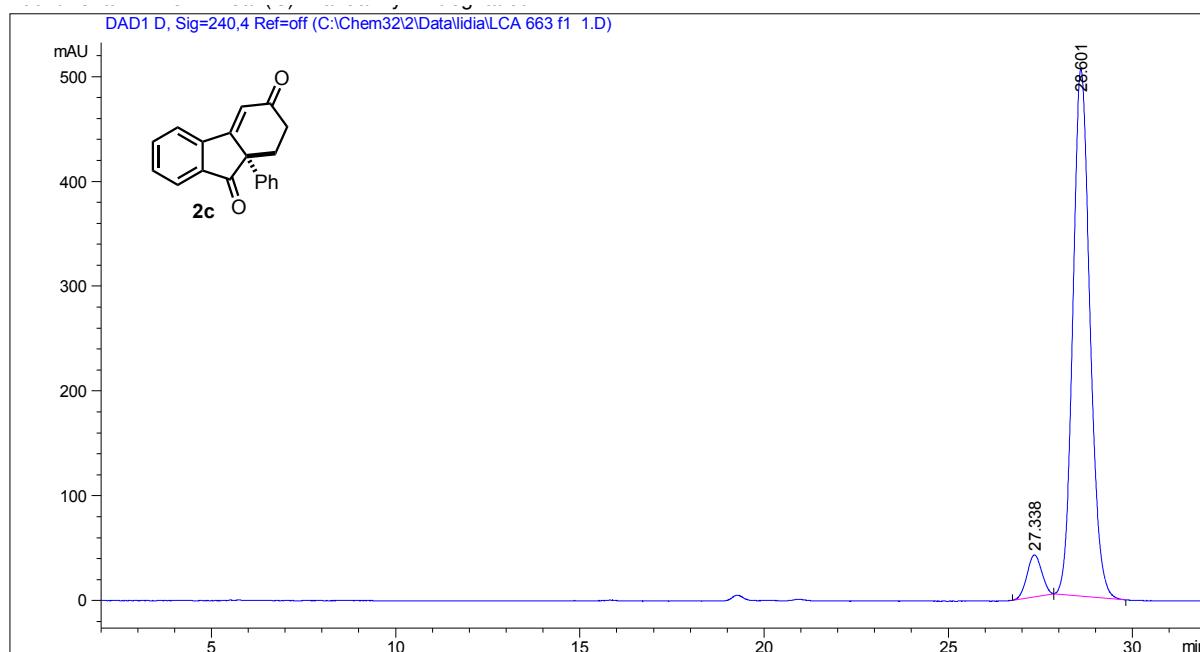


Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	15.117	MM	0.2739	1694.52747	103.12574	5.3008
2	16.000	MM	0.3378	3.02726e4	1493.61218	94.6992

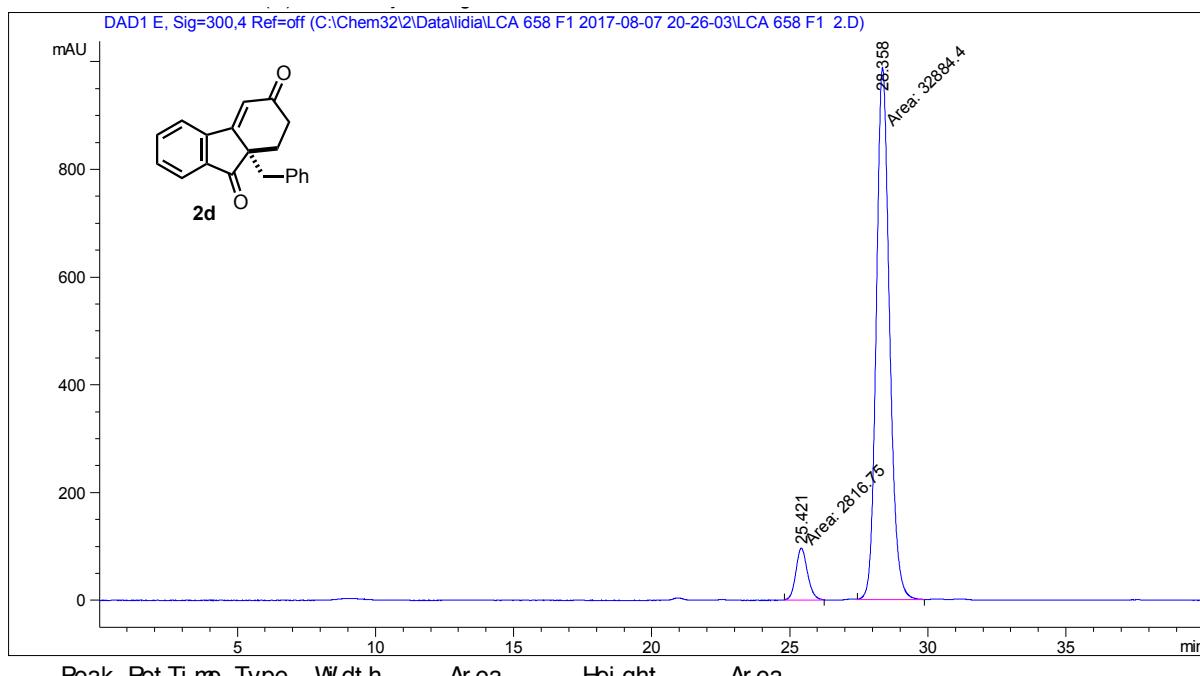
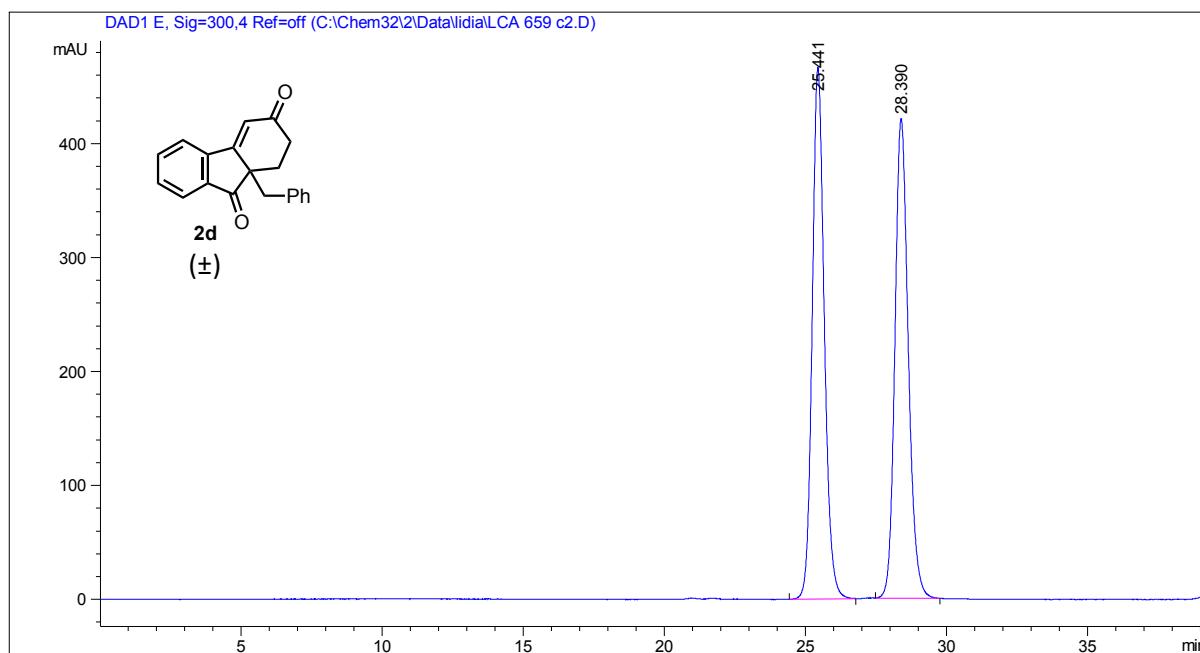


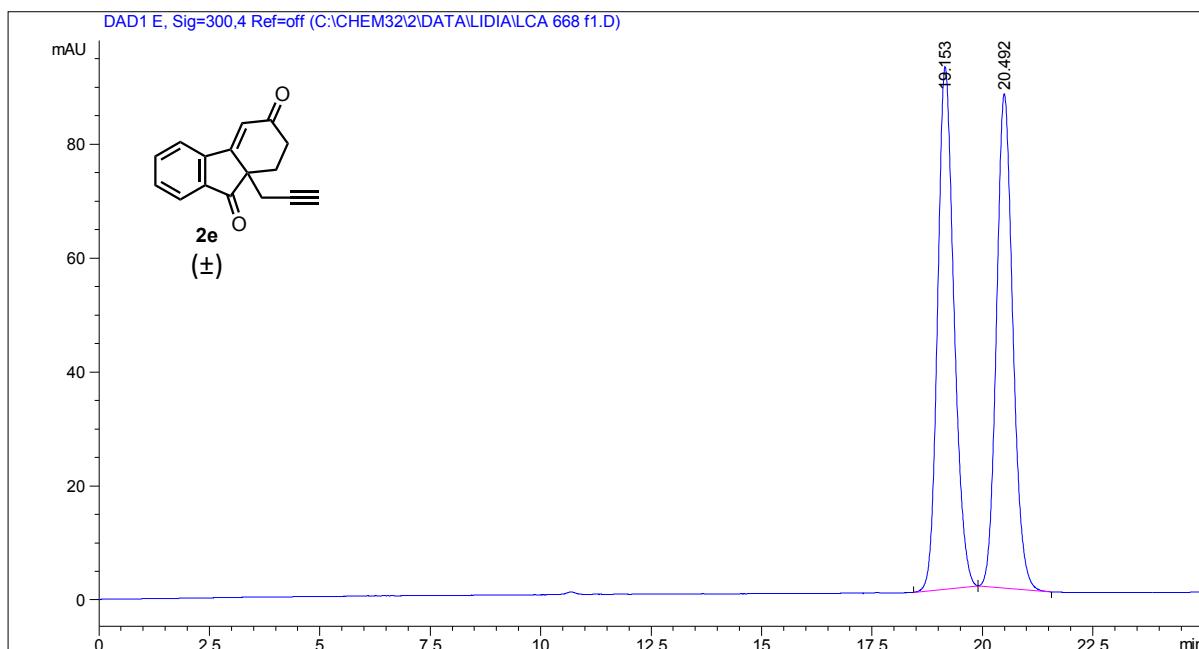


Peak #	Ret Time [min]	Type	W dt h [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	25.239	BB	0.4475	1.42008e4	499.79587	49.8195
2	26.572	BB	0.4726	1.43037e4	470.60620	50.1805

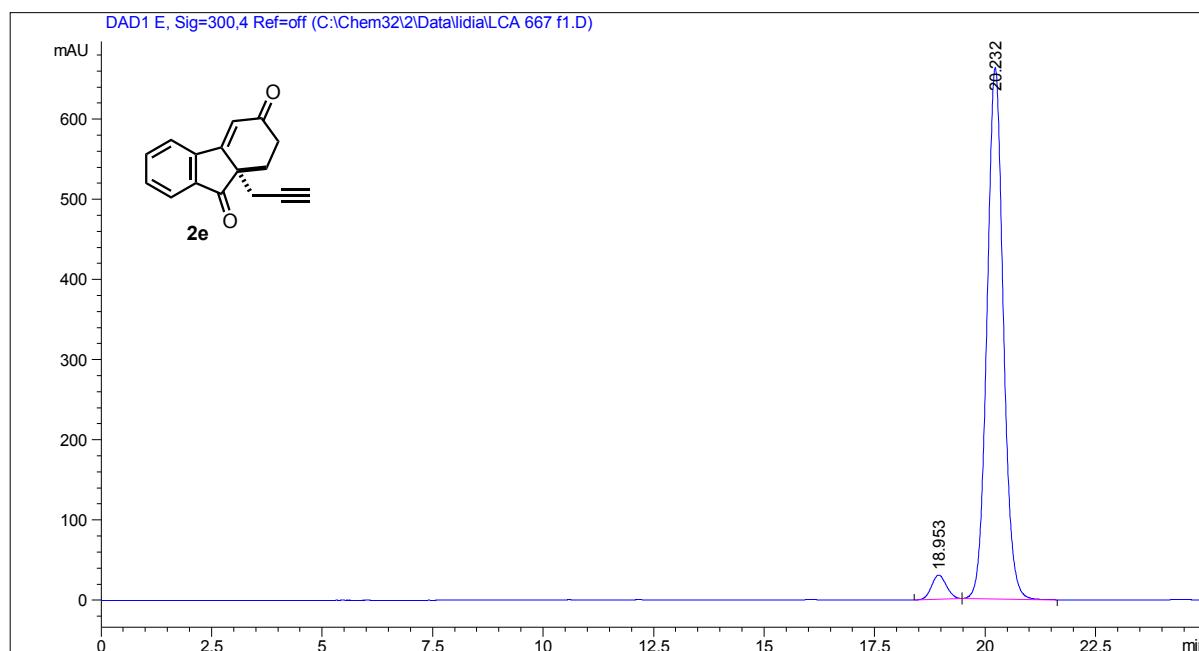


Peak #	Ret Time [min]	Type	W dt h [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	27.338	BB	0.4087	1103.87598	39.91023	6.3822
2	28.601	BB	0.5035	1.61924e4	503.04770	93.6178





Peak #	Ret Time [min]	Type	Wdt h [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	19.153	BB	0.3948	2365.06958	91.71776	51.4605
2	20.492	BB	0.3940	2230.82324	86.75027	48.5395



Peak #	Ret Time [min]	Type	Wdt h [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	18.953	BB	0.3649	706.74945	30.21742	3.9985
2	20.232	BB	0.3947	1.69686e4	662.71729	96.0015

