

# Supporting Information

## Access to highly functionalized imidazolones bearing $\alpha$ -amino acid esters via KOH-promoted annulation of amidines, nitrosoarenes and malonic esters

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## **1. General**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were taken on a Bruker AVANCE III 600 MHz NMR spectrometer. The chemical shifts are reported in ppm downfield to the CDCl<sub>3</sub> resonance ( $\delta$  = 7.27). Spectra are reported as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$  ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), coupling constants (Hz), integration, and assignment. <sup>13</sup>C NMR data were collected at 100 MHz with complete proton decoupling. The chemical shifts are reported in ppm downfield to the central CDCl<sub>3</sub> resonance ( $\delta$  = 77.0). High-resolution mass spectra were performed on a micrOTOF-Q II instrument with an ESI source. Melting points were measured with a RD-II melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. Unless otherwise noted, all reagents and solvents obtained from commercial sources were used without further purification. Deuterated solvents were purchased from Sigma–Aldrich. The purity of the KOH is 95%. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (200–300 mesh). All yields were referred to isolated yields (average of two runs) of compounds.

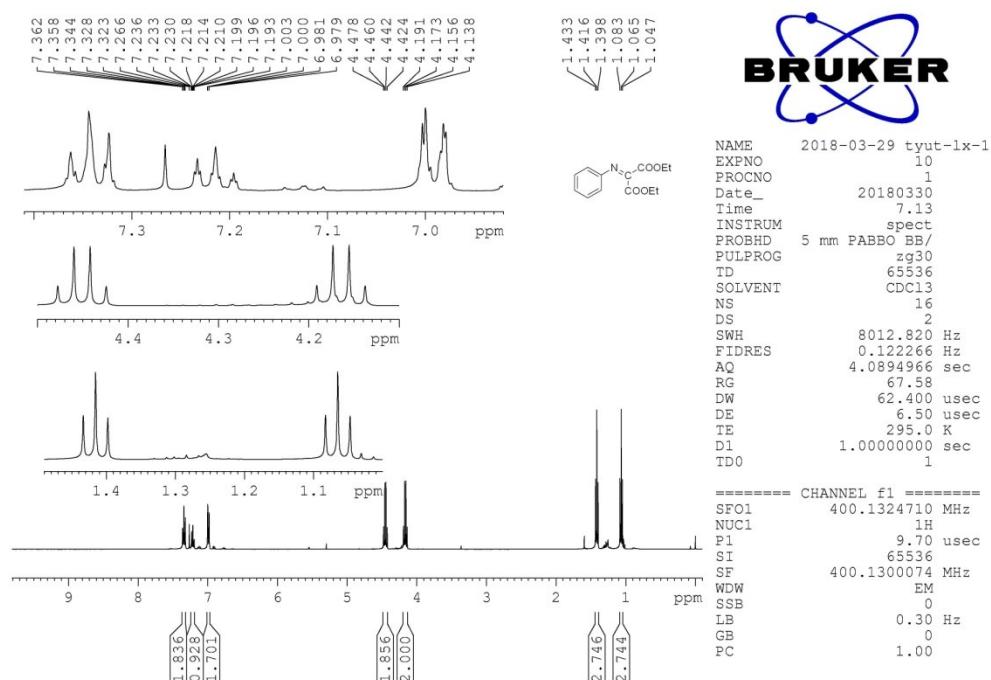
## **2. General procedure for KOH-mediated three-component annulation of amidines, nitrosoarenes, and malonic acid diesters**

To a reaction system of amidine **1** (0.2 mmol), nitrosoarene **2** (0.26 mmol, 1.3 equiv) and KOH (0.1 mmol, 0.5 equiv) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (1.2 mL) was added malonic acid diester **3** (0.34 mmol, 1.7 equiv) under air atmosphere. Subsequently, the resulting mixture was stirred under 60 °C (oil bath) and monitored by TLC. Upon completion of the consumption of the amidine **1**, the reaction mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the cycloaddition product **4**.

### 3. Characterization data and $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of intermediate A

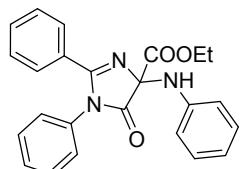


Yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.3$  (PE:EA = 20:1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.37–7.32 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.19 (m, 1H), 7.01–6.97 (m, 2H), 4.44 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 4.15 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.41 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H), 1.07 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H); HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H] $^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_4$  250.1074; found 250.1078.



### 4. Characterization data of products

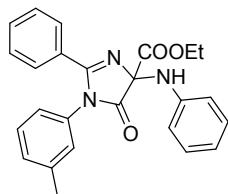
#### Ethyl 5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4aaa)



Yellow solid (75.0 mg, 94% yield); mp 156–158 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,

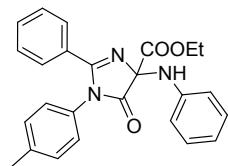
$\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.44–7.41 (m, 3H), 7.40–7.35 (m, 3H), 7.30–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.19–7.13 (m, 2H), 7.10–7.07 (m, 2H), 6.83 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.78 (m, 2H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 4.37–4.25 (m, 2H), 1.28 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.2 (O=C=O), 165.6 (N=C=O), 165.2 (C=N), 143.5, 134.0, 131.8, 129.6, 129.3, 128.8, 128.5, 128.4, 126.9, 120.4, 116.3, 84.2 (C), 63.6 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 14.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$  400.1656; found 400.1645.

**Ethyl 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-1-(*m*-tolyl)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4baa)**



Yellow solid (79.3 mg, 96% yield); mp 132–134 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38–7.33 (m, 3H), 7.24–7.17 (m, 3H), 7.09 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 3H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.76 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.68 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 5.44 (s, 1H), 4.31–4.19 (m, 2H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.22 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.3 (O=C=O), 165.6 (N=C=O), 165.2 (C=N), 143.5, 139.8, 134.0, 131.7, 129.7, 129.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 127.4, 124.0, 120.4, 116.3, 84.1 (C), 63.6 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 21.3 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 14.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$  414.1812; found 414.1818.

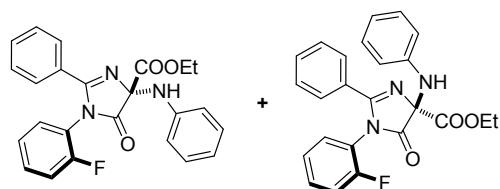
**Ethyl 5-oxo-2-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-1-(*p*-tolyl)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4caa)**



Yellow solid (80.2 mg, 97% yield); mp 145–147 °C; Column chromatography on

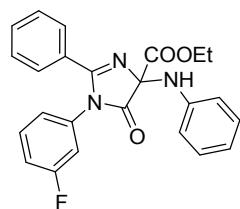
silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.46–7.40 (m, 3H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (m, 4H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.52 (s, 1H), 4.38–4.25 (m, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.4 (O=C=O), 165.6 (N=C=O), 165.3 (C=N), 143.5, 138.9, 131.7, 131.4, 130.2, 129.2, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 126.7, 120.4, 116.3, 84.1 (C), 63.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 414.1812; found 414.1816.

**Ethyl 1-(2-fluorophenyl)-5-oxo-2-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4daa+4d'aa)**



Yellow solid (62.6 mg, 75% yield); mp 149–151 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.50–7.45 (m, 6H), 7.45–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.37–7.29 (m, 6H), 7.27–7.13 (m, 8H), 6.90–6.84 (m, 2H), 6.83–6.77 (m, 4H), 5.63 (s, 1H), 5.60 (s, 1H), 4.45–4.29 (m, 4H), 1.38–1.28 (m, 6H) ppm; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -119.60, -119.70 ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 418.1561; found 418.1576.

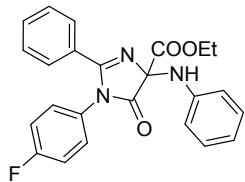
**Ethyl 1-(3-fluorophenyl)-5-oxo-2-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4eaa)**



Yellow solid (64.2 mg, 77% yield); mp 118–120 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,

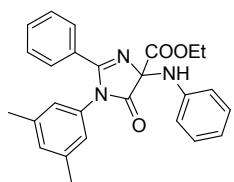
$\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.52–7.44 (m, 3H), 7.42–7.33 (m, 3H), 7.23–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.15–7.09 (m, 1H), 6.90–6.85 (m, 3H), 6.78 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 4.42–4.30 (m, 2H), 1.32 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  176.8 (O=C=O), 165.3 (N=C=O), 164.6 (C=N), 162.7, (d,  $J$  = 247.8 Hz), 143.3, 135.3 (d,  $J$  = 9.8 Hz), 132.0, 130.7 (d,  $J$  = 9.0 Hz), 129.3, 128.7 (d,  $J$  = 12.9 Hz), 128.1, 122.6, 120.7, 116.4, 115.9 (d,  $J$  = 20.8 Hz), 114.4 (d,  $J$  = 23.5 Hz), 84.3 (C), 63.7 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 14.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -110.03 ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{21}\text{FN}_3\text{O}_3$  418.1561; found 418.1568.

**Ethyl 1-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-oxo-2-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4faa)**



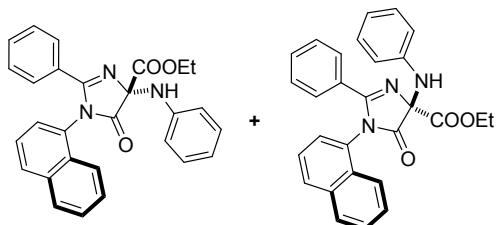
Yellow solid (72.6 mg, 87% yield); mp 136–138 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.51–7.43 (m, 3H), 7.35 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.15–7.06 (m, 4H), 6.88 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.53 (s, 1H), 4.43–4.49 (m, 2H), 1.32 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.2 (O=C=O), 165.4 (N=C=O), 164.8 (C=N), 162.3 (d,  $J$  = 248.1 Hz), 143.4, 131.9, 130.0 (d,  $J$  = 3.2 Hz), 129.2, 128.8, 128.7 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz), 128.5, 128.2, 120.6, 116.7 (d,  $J$  = 22.9 Hz), 116.5, 84.2 (C), 63.6 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 14.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -111.19 ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{21}\text{FN}_3\text{O}_3$  418.1561; found 418.1568.

**Ethyl 1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-5-oxo-2-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4gaa)**



Yellow solid (73.5 mg, 86% yield); mp 150–152 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53–7.43 (m, 3H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.24–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 6.87 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.72 (s, 2H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 4.42–4.29 (m, 2H), 2.31 (s, 6H), 1.33 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.4 (O=C=O), 165.7 (N=C=O), 165.2 (C=N), 143.5, 139.4, 133.9, 131.7, 130.7, 129.2, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 124.6, 120.4, 116.3, 84.1 (C), 63.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.2 (CH<sub>3</sub> X 2), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 428.1969; found 428.1967.

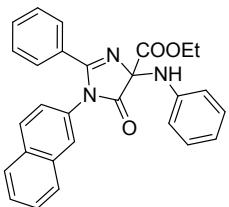
**Ethyl 1-(naphthalen-1-yl)-5-oxo-2-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4haa+4h'aa)**



Yellow solid (62.9 mg, 70% yield); mp 152–154 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.06–8.00 (m, 1H), 7.92–7.83 (m, 3H), 7.56–7.51 (m, 2H), 7.48–7.44 (m, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.39–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.25 (m, 4H), 7.25–7.19 (m, 3H), 7.14–7.08 (m, 4H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90–6.83 (m, 3H), 5.61 (s, 1H), 5.47 (s, 1H), 4.53–4.44 (m, 1H), 4.42–4.32 (m, 2H), 1.42 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 450.1812; found 450.1815.

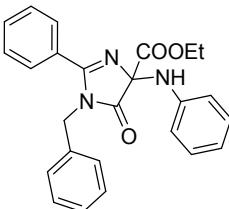
**Ethyl 1-(naphthalen-2-yl)-5-oxo-2-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-**

**carboxylate (4iaa)**



Yellow solid (67.4 mg, 75% yield); mp 135–137 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.90–7.83 (m, 3H), 7.70 (d,  $J$  = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.59–7.54 (m, 2H), 7.53–7.50 (m, 2H), 7.44 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.24–7.21 (m, 2H), 7.09 (dd,  $J$  = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.58 (s, 1H), 4.45–4.33 (m, 2H), 1.36 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.4 (O=C=O), 165.6 (N=C=O), 165.1 (C=N), 143.5, 133.3, 132.8, 131.8, 131.4, 129.6, 129.3, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 127.9, 127.2, 127.1, 125.8, 124.2, 120.5, 116.4, 84.3 (C), 63.7 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 14.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H] $^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$  450.1812; found 450.1815.

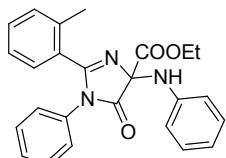
**Ethyl 1-benzyl-5-oxo-2-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4kaa)**



Yellow solid (75.2 mg, 91% yield); mp 119–121 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.59–7.54 (m, 1H), 7.50–7.42 (m, 4H), 7.33–7.28 (m, 3H), 7.14–7.06 (m, 4H), 6.84 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.52 (s, 1H), 4.92 (d,  $J$  = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.82 (d,  $J$  = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.39–4.26 (m, 2H), 1.30 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  178.6 (O=C=O), 167.2 (N=C=O), 165.6 (C=N), 143.4, 135.6, 131.7, 129.2, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.1, 128.0, 127.3, 120.2, 116.2,

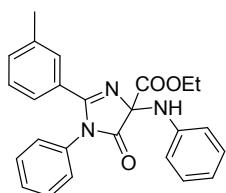
83.8 (C), 63.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 45.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 13.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 414.1812; found 414.1810.

**Ethyl 5-oxo-1-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-2-(o-tolyl)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4laa)**



Yellow solid (74.4 mg, 90% yield); mp 141–143 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.32–7.25 (m, 4H), 7.23–7.15 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.02–6.98 (m, 2H), 6.88 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.50 (s, 1H), 4.42–4.30 (m, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.6 (O=C=O), 166.4 (N=C=O), 165.5 (C=N), 143.4, 136.8, 133.3, 130.8, 130.7, 129.2, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.3, 126.0, 125.8, 120.8, 116.9, 84.5 (C), 63.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 19.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 414.1812; found 414.1818.

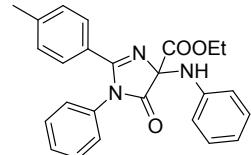
**Ethyl 5-oxo-1-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-2-(m-tolyl)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4maa)**



Yellow solid (76.0 mg, 92% yield); mp 154–156 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.35–7.27 (m, 4H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13–7.06 (m, 3H), 7.04–6.98 (m, 3H), 6.76 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.47 (s, 1H), 4.31–4.19 (m, 2H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.2 (O=C=O), 165.6 (N=C=O), 165.3 (C=N), 143.5, 138.5, 134.1, 132.6, 129.5,

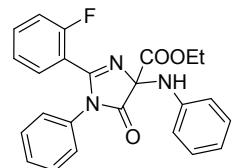
129.4, 129.2, 128.7, 128.3, 128.1, 126.9, 125.9, 120.3, 116.2, 84.1 (C), 63.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 414.1812; found 414.1818.

**Ethyl 5-oxo-1-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-2-(p-tolyl)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4naa)**



Yellow solid (77.7 mg, 94% yield); mp 163–165 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44–7.36 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.19–7.14 (m, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 6.83 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 4.38–4.26 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.3 (O=C=O), 165.7 (N=C=O), 165.0 (C=N), 143.5, 142.4, 134.2, 129.5, 129.2, 129.5, 129.1, 128.8, 128.7, 127.0, 125.5, 120.4, 116.3, 84.1 (C), 63.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 414.1812; found 414.1814.

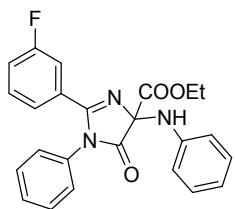
**Ethyl 2-(2-fluorophenyl)-5-oxo-1-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4oaa)**



Yellow solid (58.4 mg, 70% yield); mp 145–147 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.57–7.52 (m, 1H), 7.49–7.42 (m, 1H), 7.39–7.33 (m, 3H), 7.26–7.20 (m, 3H), 7.12–7.07 (m, 2H), 6.95 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 4.44–4.32 (m, 2H), 1.36 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}

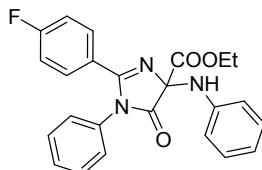
**NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.3 (O=C=O), 165.1 (N=C=O), 163.2 (C=N), 159.5 (d, *J* = 251.4 Hz), 143.3, 133.5 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 133.2 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 130.4 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 129.2 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz), 128.6, 126.1, 124.7 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 120.5, 117.8 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 116.2, 116.1, 116.0, 84.3 (C), 63.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 13.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; **<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -110.34 ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 418.1561; found 418.1564.

**Ethyl 2-(3-fluorophenyl)-5-oxo-1-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4paa)**



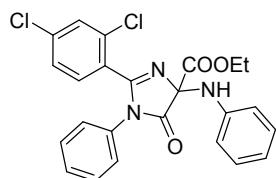
Yellow solid (60.9 mg, 73% yield); mp 137–139 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.48–7.40 (m, 3H), 7.32–7.27 (m, 1H), 7.23–7.18 (m, 4H), 7.17–7.10 (m, 3H), 6.88 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 4.44–4.32 (m, 2H), 1.36 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.0 (O=C=O), 165.3 (N=C=O), 164.0 (C=N), 162.3 (d, *J* = 246.5 Hz), 143.3, 133.7, 130.4 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 130.2 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 129.7, 129.3, 129.1, 126.8, 124.6 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 120.6, 118.9 (d, *J* = 21.0 Hz), 116.4, 116.0 (d, *J* = 23.8 Hz), 115.9, 84.2 (C), 63.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; **<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -111.18 ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 418.1561; found 418.1572.

**Ethyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-oxo-1-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4qaa)**



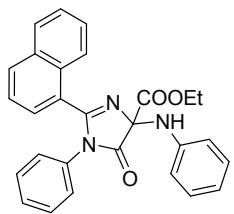
Yellow solid (70.1 mg, 84% yield); mp 170–171 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.49–7.40 (m, 5H), 7.23–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.13–7.09 (m, 2H), 7.01 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.53 (s, 1H), 4.42–4.29 (m, 2H), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.1 (O=C=O), 165.5 (N=C=O), 164.7 (d, *J* = 252.4 Hz), 164.1 (C=N), 143.4, 133.9, 131.2 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz), 129.5 (d, *J* = 45.6 Hz), 129.0, 127.0, 124.6 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 120.5, 116.3, 115.8 (d, *J* = 21.9 Hz), 84.2 (C), 63.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; **<sup>19</sup>F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -106.48 ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 418.1561; found 418.1568.

**Ethyl 2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-5-oxo-1-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4raa)**



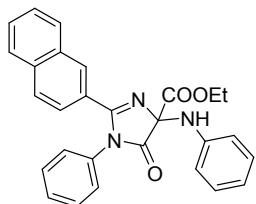
Yellow oil (66.3 mg, 71% yield); Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.35–7.28 (m, 6H), 7.23–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.06–7.02 (m, 2H), 6.88 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 4.43–4.30 (m, 2H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; **<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.0 (O=C=O), 165.0 (N=C=O), 163.9 (C=N), 143.1, 137.8, 133.6, 132.8, 131.5, 130.0, 129.3, 129.2, 128.7, 127.6, 126.2, 120.8, 116.6, 84.5 (C), 63.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>20</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 468.0876; found 468.0888.

**Ethyl 2-(naphthalen-1-yl)-5-oxo-1-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4saa)**



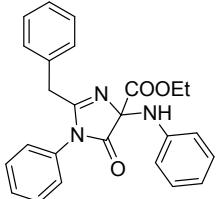
Yellow oil (78.2 mg, 87% yield); Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.98 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.88 (m, 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.48–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.35–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.25 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.20–7.14 (m, 3H), 7.00–6.94 (m, 2H), 6.91 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 3H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 4.48–4.35 (m, 2H), 1.40 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  176.8 (O=C=O), 165.5 (N=C=O), 165.4 (C=N), 143.5, 133.4, 133.3, 131.4, 130.7, 129.3, 129.2, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7, 127.4, 126.6, 126.3, 126.1, 124.8, 124.5, 121.1, 117.3, 84.9 (C), 63.8 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 14.1 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H] $^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$  450.1812; found 450.1820.

**Ethyl 2-(naphthalen-2-yl)-5-oxo-1-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4taa)**



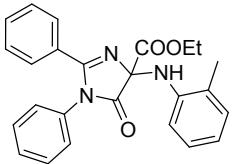
Yellow solid (79.1 mg, 88% yield); mp 138–140 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.98 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.74 (t,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.56–7.38 (m, 1H), 7.50–7.44 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.37 (m, 3H), 7.21–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.16–7.13 (m, 2H), 6.86–6.78 (m, 3H), 5.58 (s, 1H), 4.41–4.28 (m, 2H), 1.33 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.2 (O=C=O), 165.6 (N=C=O), 165.1 (C=N), 143.5, 134.6, 134.2, 132.3, 130.1, 129.6, 129.3, 128.9, 128.8, 128.2, 128.1, 127.8, 127.0, 126.9, 125.7, 124.7, 120.4, 116.3, 84.2 (C), 63.7 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 14.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H] $^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$  450.1812; found 450.1814.

**Ethyl 2-benzyl-5-oxo-1-phenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4uaa)**



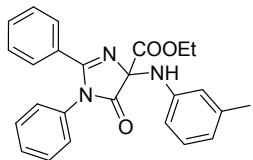
Yellow solid (62.0 mg, 75% yield); mp 101–103 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.42–7.33 (m, 3H), 7.22–7.10 (m, 5H), 6.92–6.88 (m, 2H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 6.68 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 5.45 (s, 1H), 4.37–4.25 (m, 2H), 3.84–3.75 (m, 2H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.9 (O=C=O), 166.5 (N=C=O), 165.6 (C=N), 143.3, 132.8, 132.7, 129.6, 129.2, 129.0, 128.5, 127.7, 127.4, 120.5, 116.5, 84.0 (C), 63.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 414.1812; found 414.1820.

**Ethyl 5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4-(*o*-tolylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4aba)**



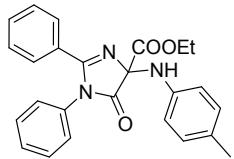
Yellow solid (68.6 mg, 83% yield); mp 109–111 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.45–7.40 (m, 4H), 7.39–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.31–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.13–7.08 (m, 3H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (s, 1H), 4.39–4.27 (m, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.3 (O=C=O), 165.8 (N=C=O), 165.1 (C=N), 141.8, 134.1, 131.8, 130.7, 129.6, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 126.9, 126.8, 125.0, 120.0, 113.2, 84.1 (C), 63.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 17.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 414.1812; found 414.1820.

**Ethyl 5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4-(*m*-tolylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4aca)**



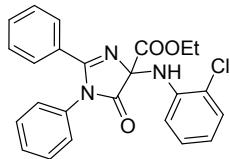
Yellow solid (71.9 mg, 87% yield); mp 109–111 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.45–7.39 (m, 4H), 7.39–7.35 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.11–7.06 (m, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 5.50 (s, 1H), 4.39–4.26 (m, 2H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.3 (O=C=O), 165.6 (N=C=O), 165.1 (C=N), 143.4, 138.9, 134.1, 131.7, 129.6, 129.1, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 126.9, 121.3, 116.9, 113.3, 84.2 (C), 63.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 21.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 414.1812; found 414.1818.

**Ethyl 5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4-(*p*-tolylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4ada)**



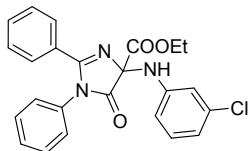
Yellow solid (73.5 mg, 89% yield); mp 141–143 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.45–7.33 (m, 6H), 7.31–7.24 (m, 2H), 7.07 (m, 2H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.38 (s, 1H), 4.38–4.26 (m, 2H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.3 (O=C=O), 165.7 (N=C=O), 165.0 (C=N), 140.9, 134.1, 131.7, 130.0, 129.7, 129.5, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 126.9, 117.0, 84.6 (C), 63.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 414.1812; found 414.1814.

**Ethyl 4-((2-chlorophenyl)amino)-5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4aea)**



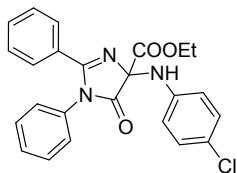
Yellow oil (72.8 mg, 84% yield); Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.47–7.42 (m, 3H), 7.42–7.36 (m, 3H), 7.32–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.13 (dd,  $J$  = 6.4, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.08–7.02 (m, 1H), 6.75–6.69 (m, 1H), 6.63 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 4.36–4.27 (m, 2H), 1.27 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  176.8 (O=C=O), 165.5 (N=C=O), 165.2 (C=N), 140.1, 134.0, 132.0, 129.7, 129.6, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 128.2, 127.6, 126.8, 121.4, 120.1, 113.6, 83.6 (C), 63.8 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 14.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H] $^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{21}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}_3$  434.1266; found 434.1274.

**Ethyl 4-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4afa)**



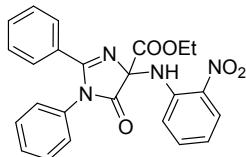
Yellow solid (74.5 mg, 86% yield); mp 137–140 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.47–7.41 (m, 4H), 7.41–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.31 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.68–6.63 (m, 2H), 5.68 (s, 1H), 4.40–4.27 (m, 2H), 1.30 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  176.9 (O=C=O), 165.6 (N=C=O), 165.2 (C=N), 144.8, 134.9, 133.9, 131.9, 130.3, 129.7, 129.0, 128.8, 128.5, 128.3, 127.0, 120.0, 115.0, 114.2, 83.7 (C), 63.8 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 14.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H] $^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{21}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}_3$  434.1266; found 434.1268.

**Ethyl 4-((4-chlorophenyl)amino)-5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4aga)**



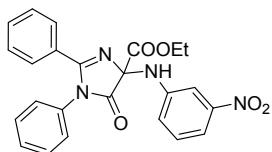
Yellow solid (80.6 mg, 93% yield); mp 122–124 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.47–7.40 (m, 4H), 7.40 (s, 2H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 4.38–4.26 (m, 2H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.9 (O=C=O), 165.4 (N=C=O), 165.3 (C=N), 142.3, 134.0, 131.9, 129.6, 129.2, 128.9, 128.8, 128.5, 128.2, 126.8, 125.2, 117.4, 84.1 (C), 63.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 434.1266; found 434.1279.

**Ethyl 4-((2-nitrophenyl)amino)-5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate  
(4aha)**



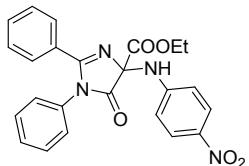
Yellow solid (65.7 mg, 74% yield); mp 129–134 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.53 (s, 1H), 8.22 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 7.47–7.39 (m, 4H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.84–6.77 (m, 2H), 4.42–4.30 (m, 2H), 1.31 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.1 (O=C=O), 166.0 (N=C=O), 164.5 (C=N), 141.6, 135.8, 134.4, 133.8, 132.2, 129.7, 129.1, 128.9, 128.6, 128.0, 127.1, 126.8, 118.1, 115.5, 83.2 (C), 64.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 445.1506; found 445.1512.

**Ethyl 4-((3-nitrophenyl)amino)-5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate  
(4ai)**



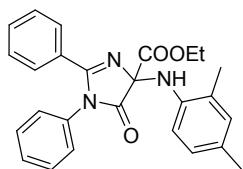
Yellow solid (79.9 mg, 90% yield); mp 119–121 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.65 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51–7.45 (m, 3H), 7.45–7.40 (m, 3H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.35–7.30 (m, 3H), 7.26–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.11 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 4.44–4.32 (m, 2H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.5 (O=C=O), 166.5 (N=C=O), 164.9 (C=N), 149.1, 144.4, 133.7, 132.0, 130.0, 129.7, 129.1, 128.8, 128.6, 128.1, 127.1, 122.3, 114.4, 107.1, 83.2 (C), 64.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 445.1506; found 445.1510.

**Ethyl 4-((4-nitrophenyl)amino)-5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4aja)**



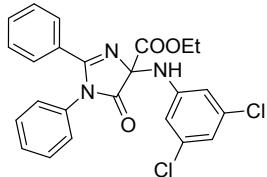
Yellow solid (80.8 mg, 91% yield); mp 198–200 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.09 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.52–7.43 (m, 6H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 4.42–4.30 (m, 2H), 1.31 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.0 (O=C=O), 166.2 (N=C=O), 164.8 (C=N), 149.4, 140.1, 133.7, 132.3, 129.8, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 127.9, 126.7, 126.0, 113.7, 83.9 (C), 64.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 445.1506; found 445.1516.

**Ethyl 4-((2,4-dimethylphenyl)amino)-5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4aka)**



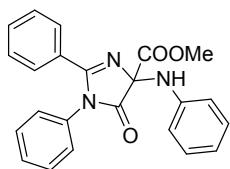
Yellow oil (58.1 mg, 68% yield); Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.45–7.35 (m, 6H), 7.29 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.81 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.42 (s, 1H), 4.39–4.27 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.4 (O=C=O), 165.9 (N=C=O), 164.9 (C=N), 139.3, 134.1, 131.7, 131.5, 129.5, 129.4, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.1, 126.9, 125.6, 114.0, 84.5 (C), 63.5 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 20.5 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 17.7 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 14.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H] $^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$  428.1969; found 428.1973.

**Ethyl 4-((3,5-dichlorophenyl)amino)-5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4ala)**



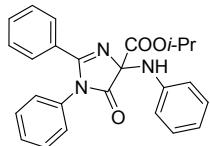
Yellow solid (59.8 mg, 64% yield); mp 60–62 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.48–7.45 (m, 2H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.43 (s, 1H), 7.42–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.32 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (dd,  $J$  = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (t,  $J$  = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 5.82 (s, 1H), 4.40–4.27 (m, 2H), 1.30 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  176.6 (O=C=O), 166.0 (N=C=O), 165.0 (C=N), 145.5, 135.5, 133.7, 132.0, 129.7, 129.1, 128.8, 128.6, 128.2, 127.0, 119.6, 113.5, 83.3 (C), 64.0 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 14.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H] $^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$  468.0876; found 468.0879.

**Methyl 5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4aab)**



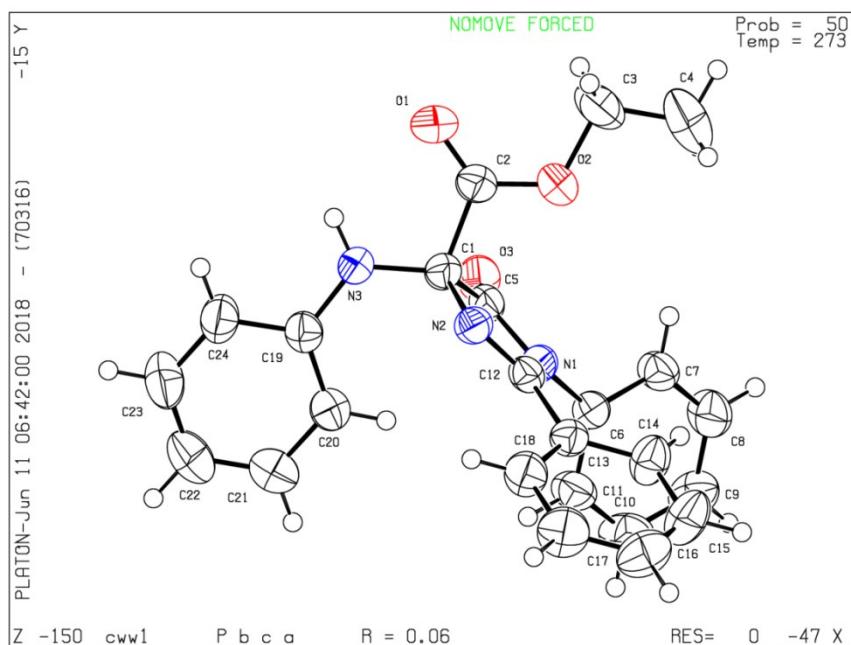
Yellow solid (73.2 mg, 95% yield); mp 145–147 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.46–7.41 (m, 3H), 7.41–7.37 (m, 3H), 7.31–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.20–7.15 (m, 2H), 7.10–7.06 (m, 2H), 6.85 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (dd,  $J$  = 8.8, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 5.49 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.1 (O=C=O), 166.3 (N-C=O), 165.2 (C=N), 143.3, 133.9, 131.8, 129.5, 129.2, 128.9, 128.8, 128.4, 128.3, 126.9, 120.7, 116.7, 84.1 (C), 54.3 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H] $^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$  386.1499; found 386.1499.

**Isopropyl 5-oxo-1,2-diphenyl-4-(phenylamino)-4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4aac)**



Yellow solid (72.7 mg, 88% yield); mp 145–147 °C; Column chromatography on silicagel (Eluent: V/V, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 8/1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.45–7.36 (m, 6H), 7.31–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.18–7.14 (dd,  $J$  = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 7.10–7.07 (dd,  $J$  = 6.4, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 5.15–5.11 (m, 1H), 1.30 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.27 (d,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, 3H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.1 (O=C=O), 164.9 (N-C=O), 164.8 (C=N), 143.5, 134.1, 131.7, 129.5, 129.2, 128.7, 128.4, 126.8, 120.2, 115.9, 84.2 (C), 71.8 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 21.6 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 21.5 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) ppm; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M + H] $^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$  414.1812; found 414.1814.

## 5. Crystal structure of compound 4aaa (CCDC 2092223)



### Crystal data

Chemical formula	<u>C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub></u>
M <sub>r</sub>	<u>399.44</u>
Crystal system, space group	<u>Orthorhombic, Pbca</u>
Temperature (K)	<u>273</u>
a, b, c (Å)	<u>12.1633 (9), 16.9191 (14), 20.7850 (16)</u>
V (Å <sup>3</sup> )	<u>4277.4 (6)</u>
Z	<u>8</u>
Radiation type	<u>Mo Kα</u>
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	<u>0.08</u>
Crystal size (mm)	<u>0.35 × 0.27 × 0.21</u>

### Data collection

Diffractometer	<u>CCD area detector</u>
Absorption correction	<u>Multi-scan</u> <u>SADABS-2016/2 (Bruker,2016/2) was used for absorption correction. wR2(int) was 0.1052 before</u>

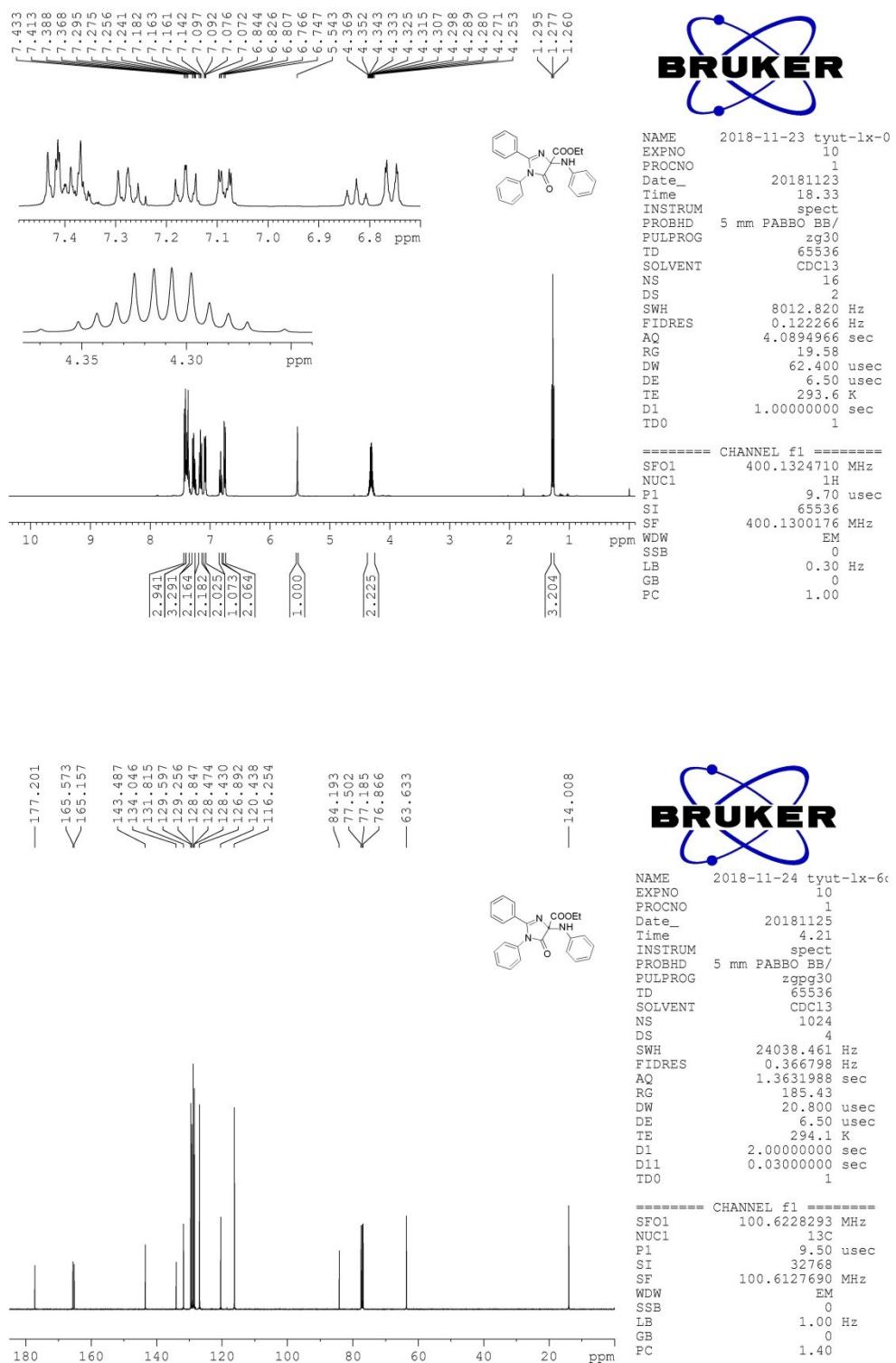
	<u>and 0.0562 after correction. The Ratio of minimum to maximum transmission is 0.9453. The <math>\lambda/2</math> correction factor is Not present.</u>
$T_{\min}$ , $T_{\max}$	<u>0.705, 0.746</u>
No. of measured, independent and observed [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ] reflections	<u>73985, 5330, 3383</u>
$R_{\text{int}}$	<u>0.054</u>
$(\sin \theta / \lambda)_{\max}$ ( $\text{\AA}^{-1}$ )	0.668
Refinement	
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)]$ , $wR(F^2)$ , $S$	<u>0.055, 0.148, 1.05</u>
No. of reflections	<u>5330</u>
No. of parameters	<u>272</u>
H-atom treatment	<u>H-atom parameters constrained</u>
$\Delta\rho_{\max}$ , $\Delta\rho_{\min}$ ( $e \text{\AA}^{-3}$ )	<u>0.29, -0.32</u>

Computer programs: SAINT v8.37A (Bruker, 2015), ShelXT (Sheldrick, 2015), ShelXL (Sheldrick, 2015), Olex2 (Dolomanov *et al.*, 2009).

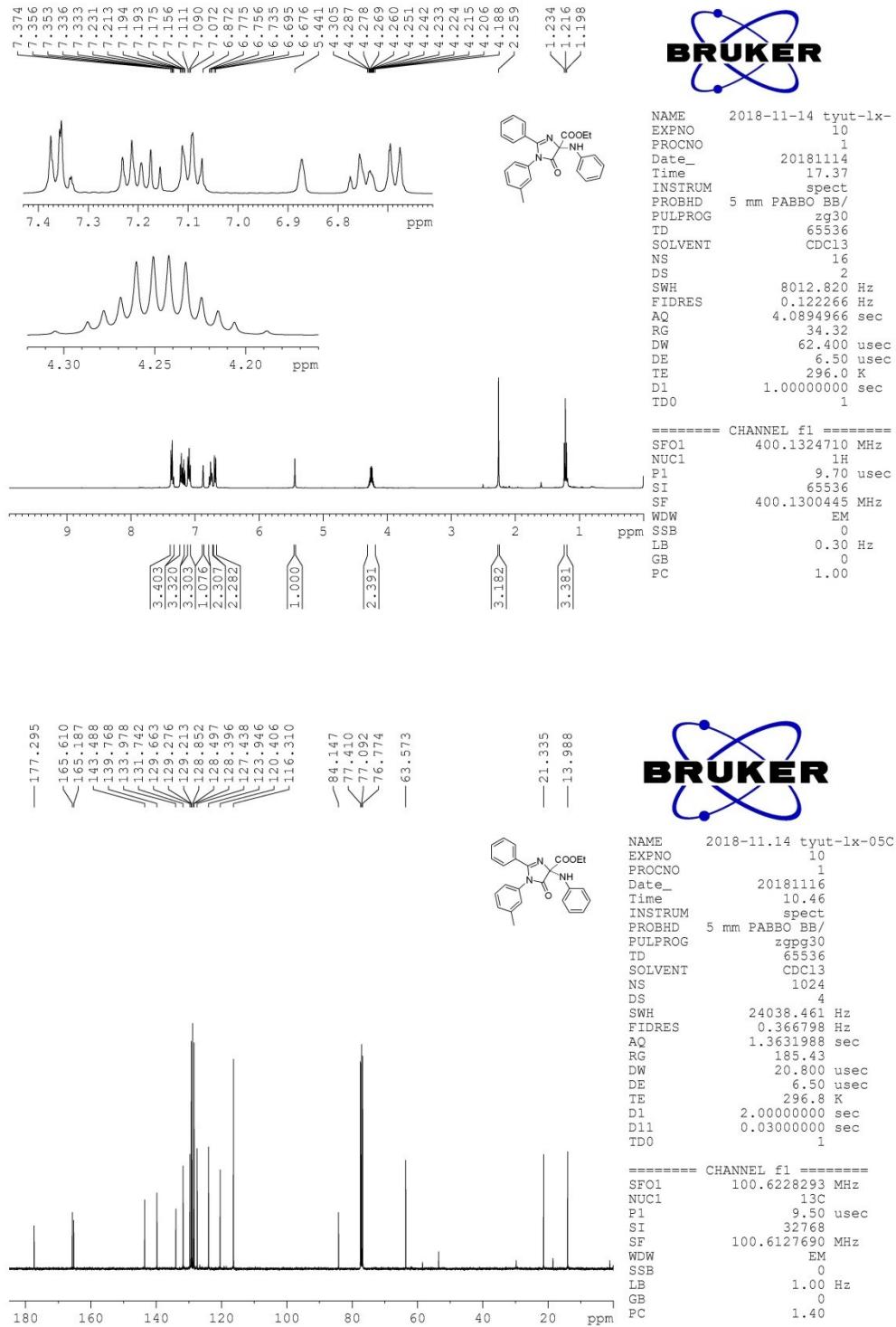
## 6. References

- Dolomanov, O. V.; Bourhis, L. J.; Gildea, R. J.; Howard, J. A. K.; Puschmann, H. *J. Appl. Cryst.* **2009**, *42*, 339–341.  
 Sheldrick, G. M. *Acta Cryst.* 2015, C*71*, 3–8.

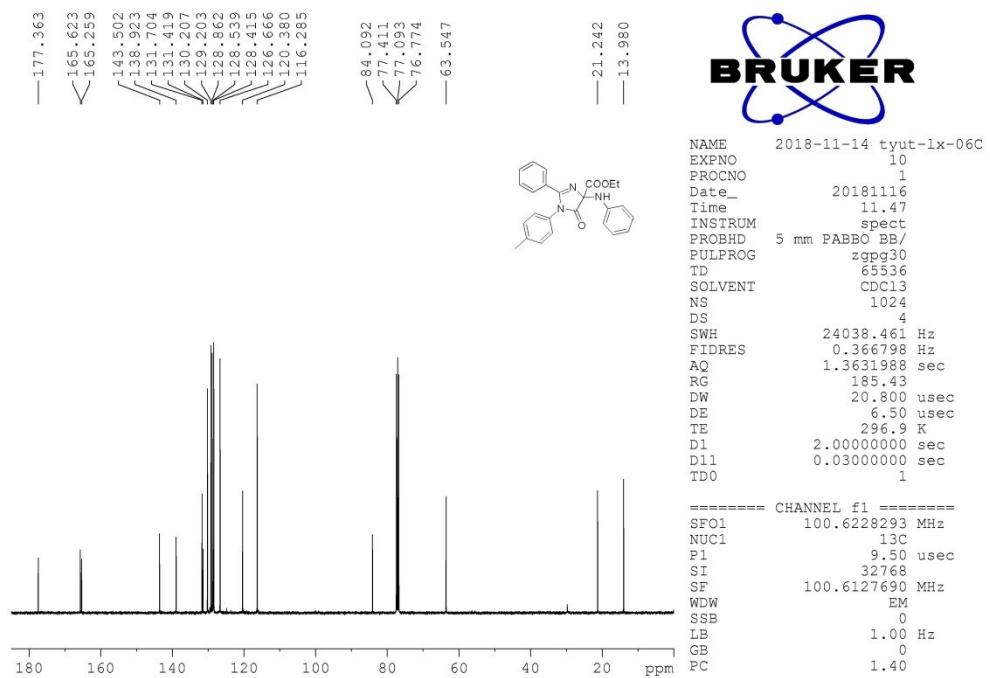
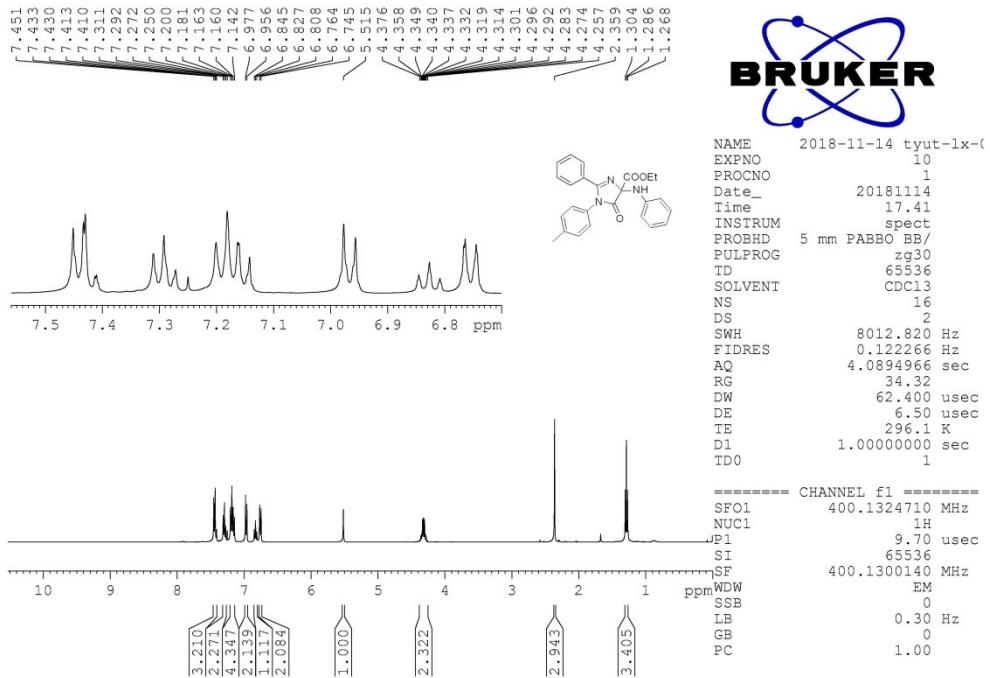
## 7. $^1\text{H}$ - and $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra of products



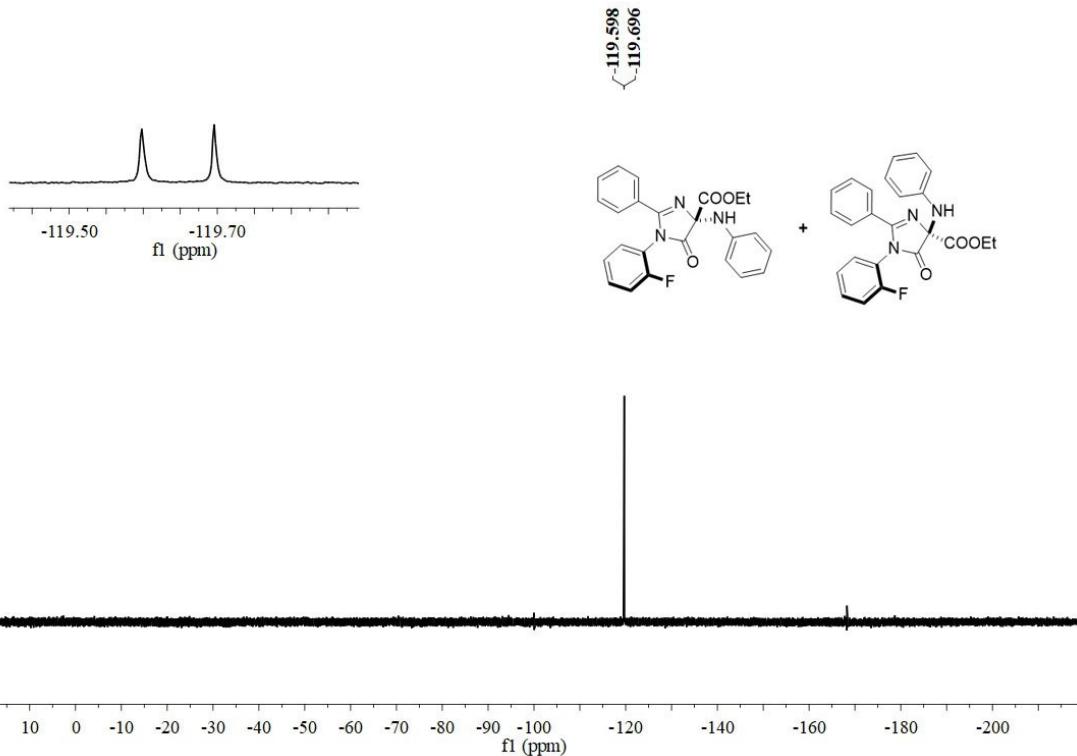
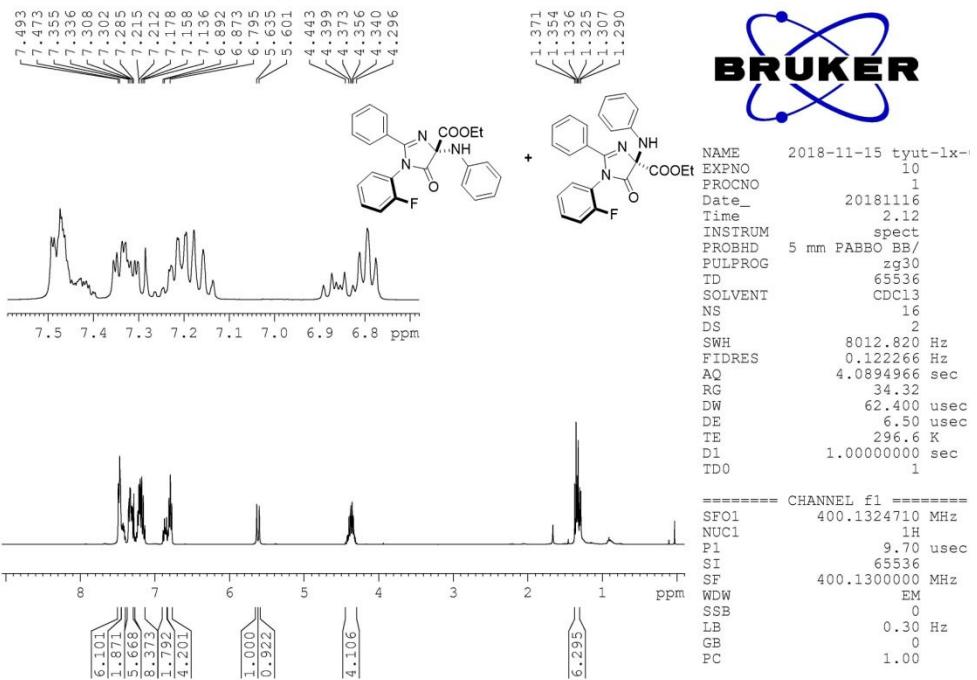
**4baa**



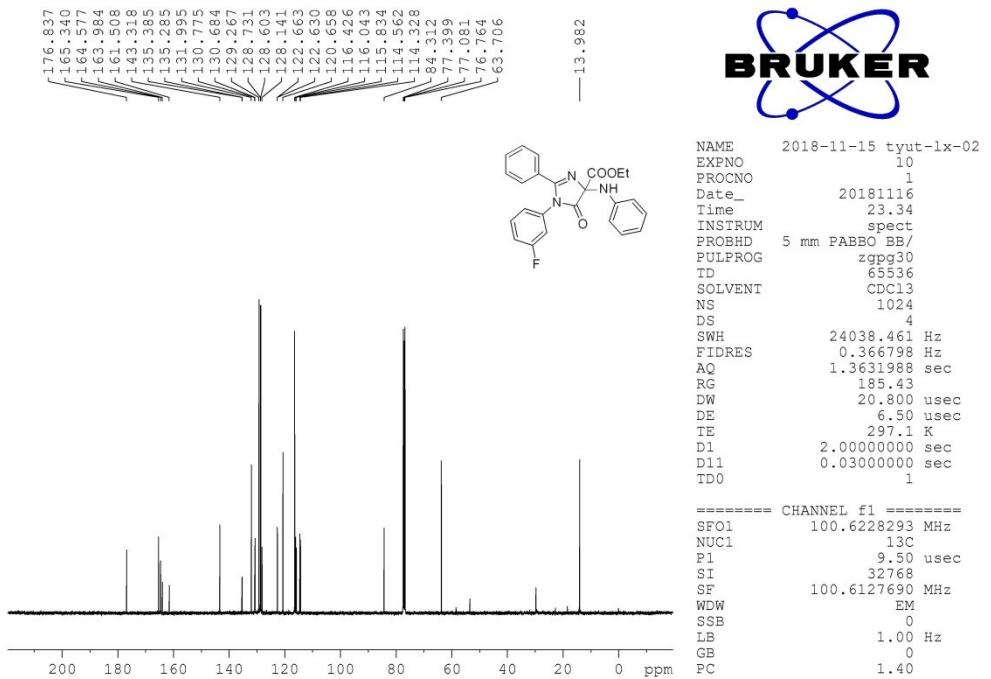
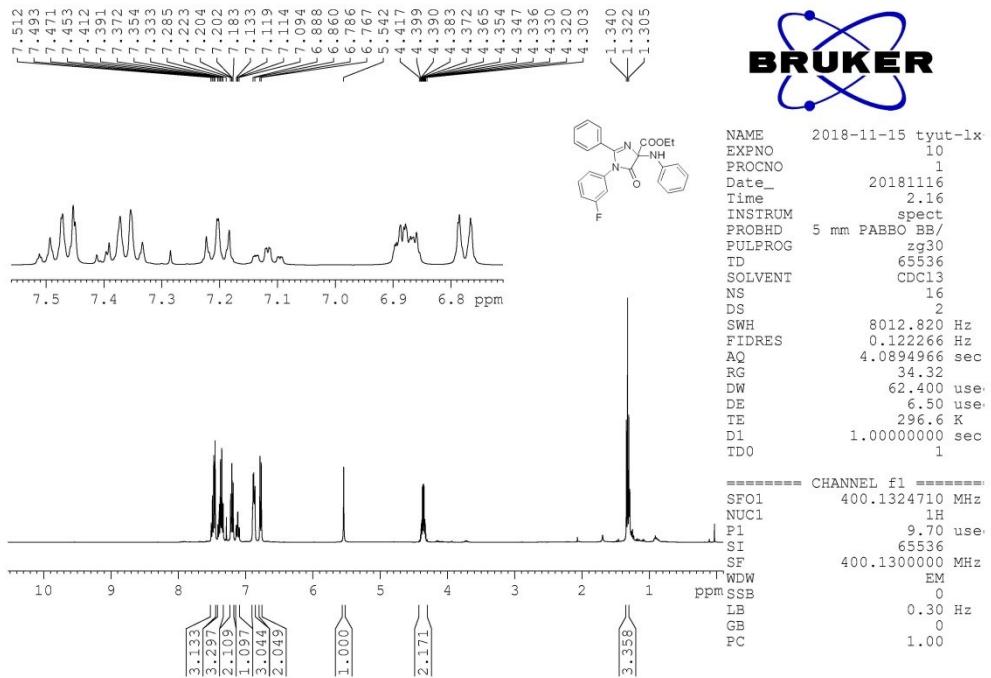
4caa

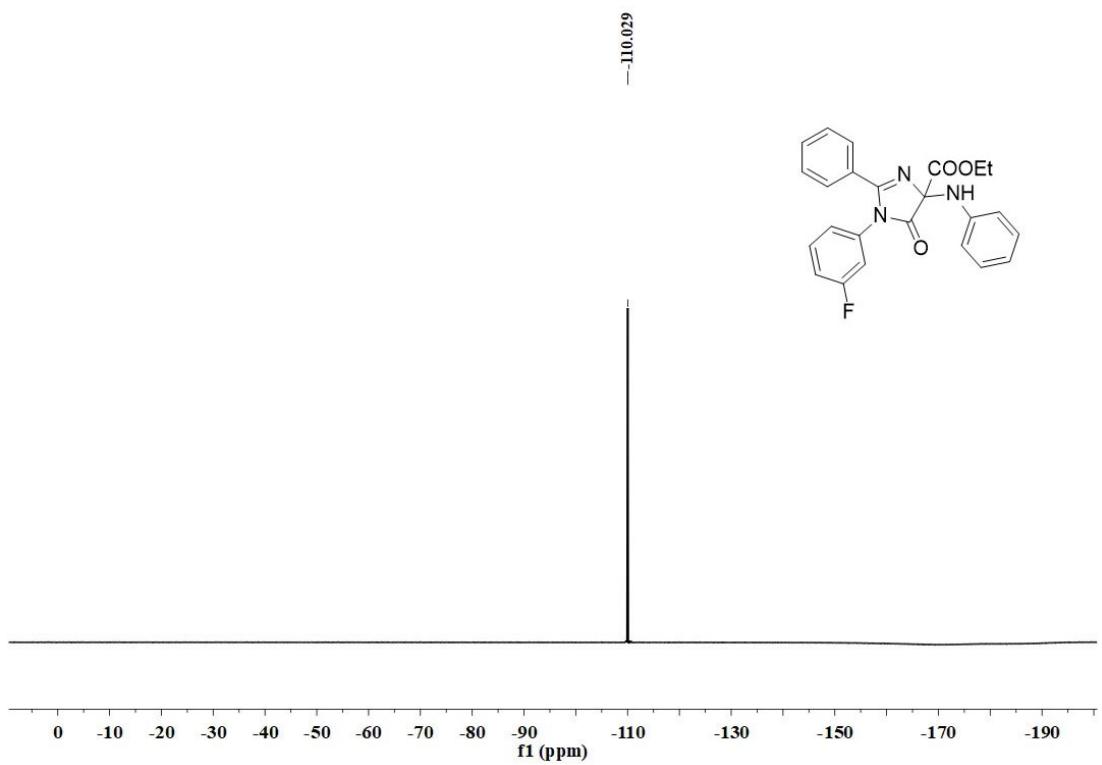


4daa

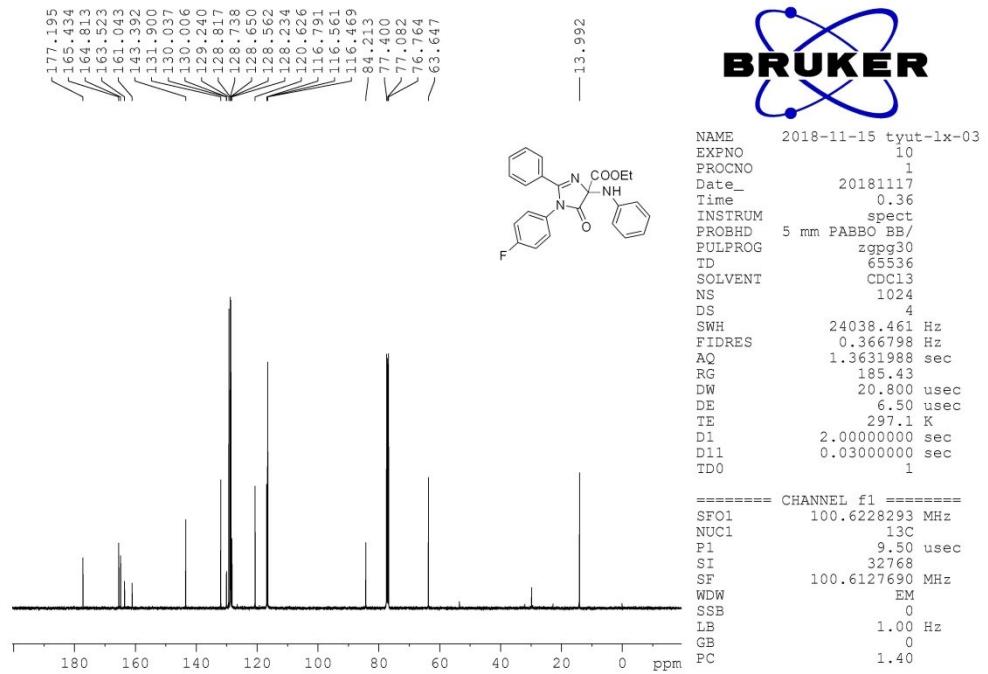
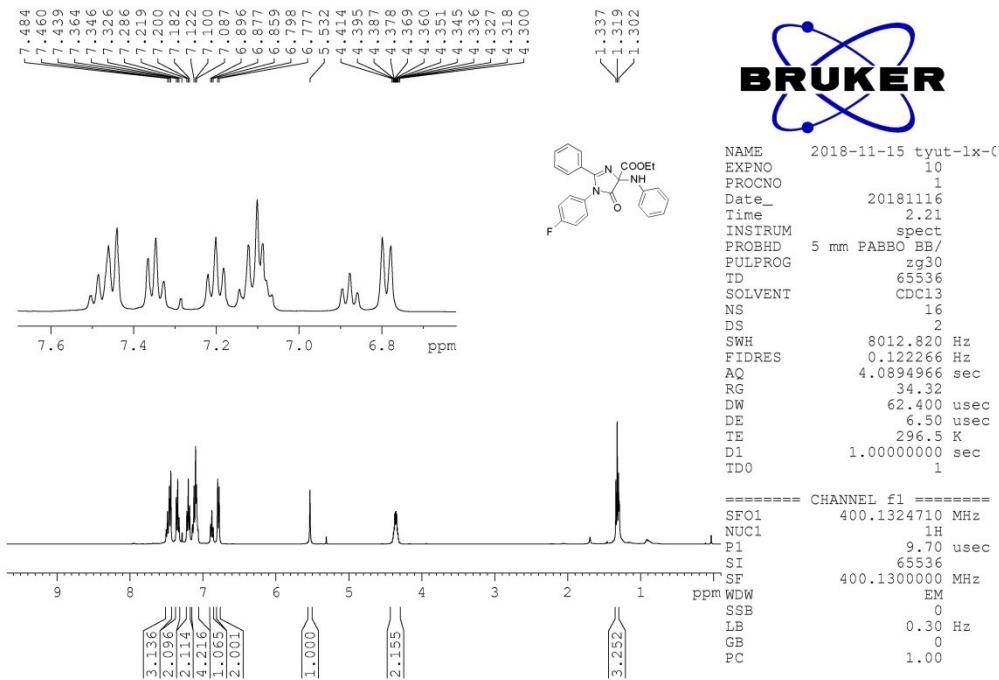


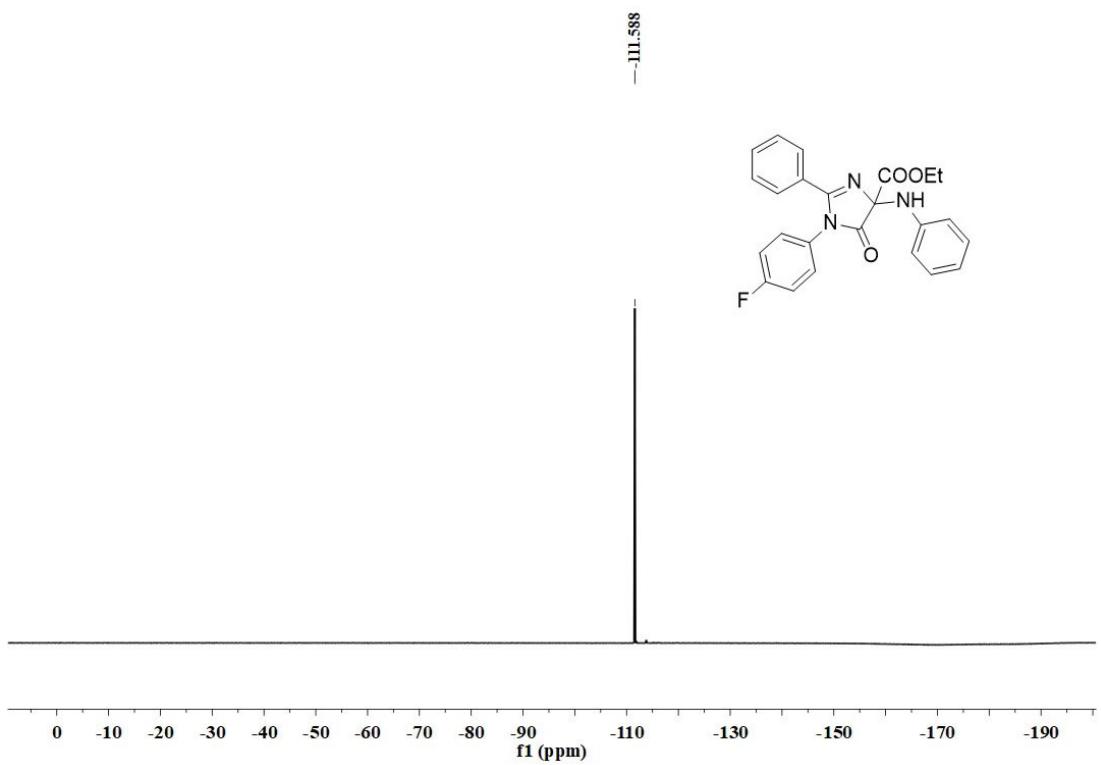
**4eaa**



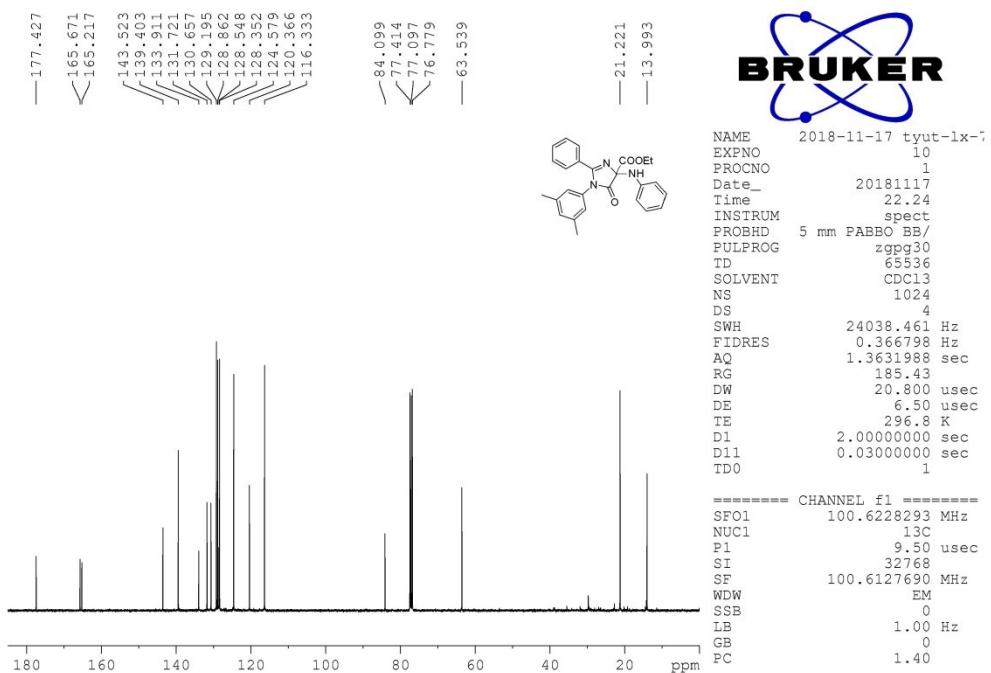
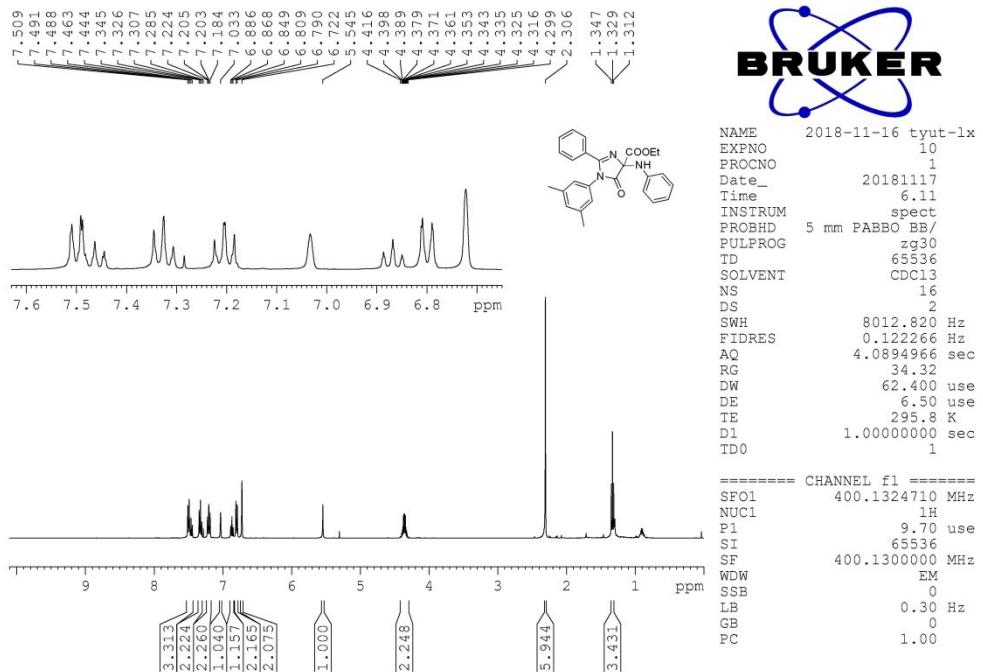


**4faa**

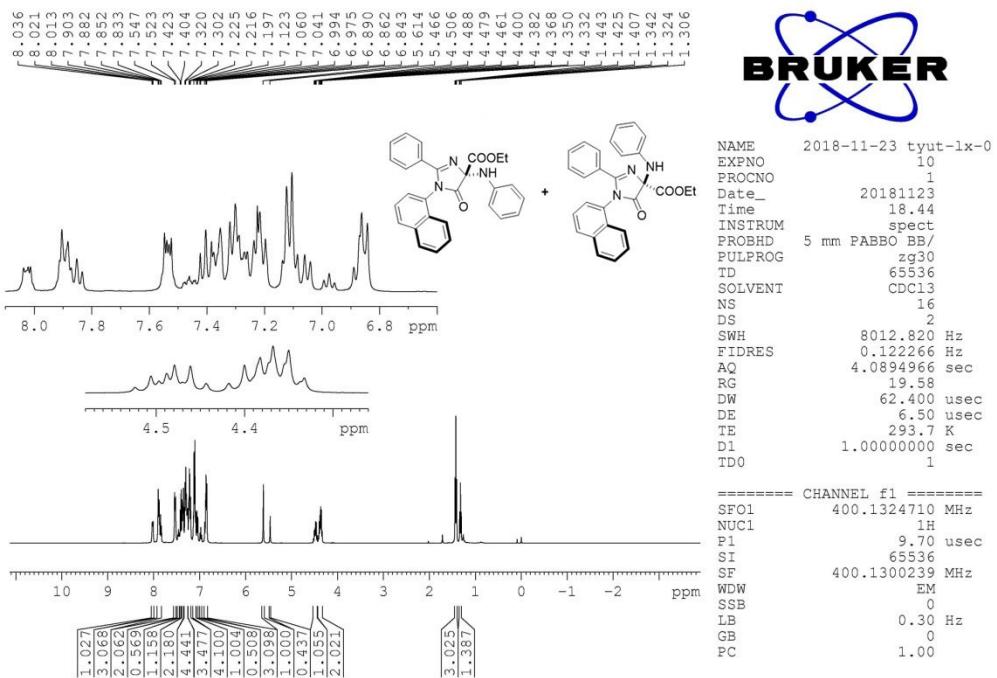




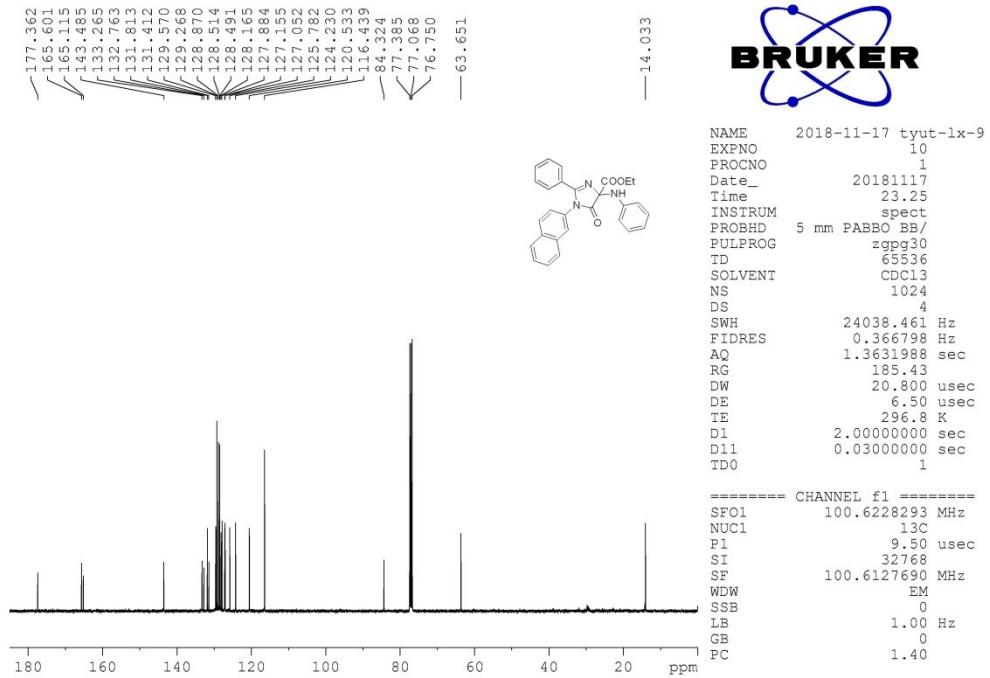
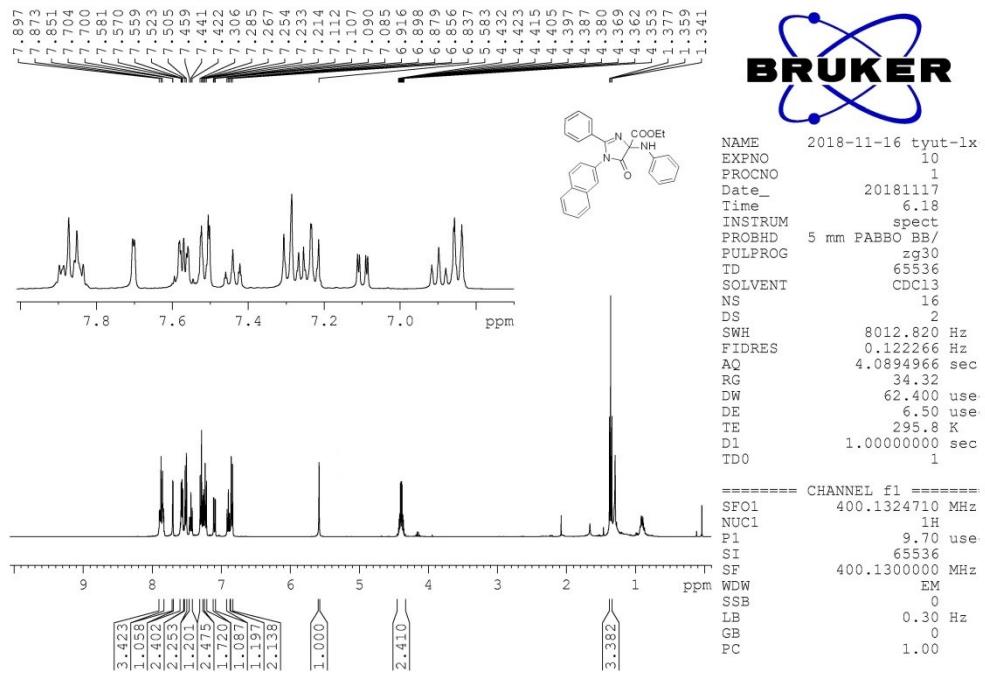
**4gaa**



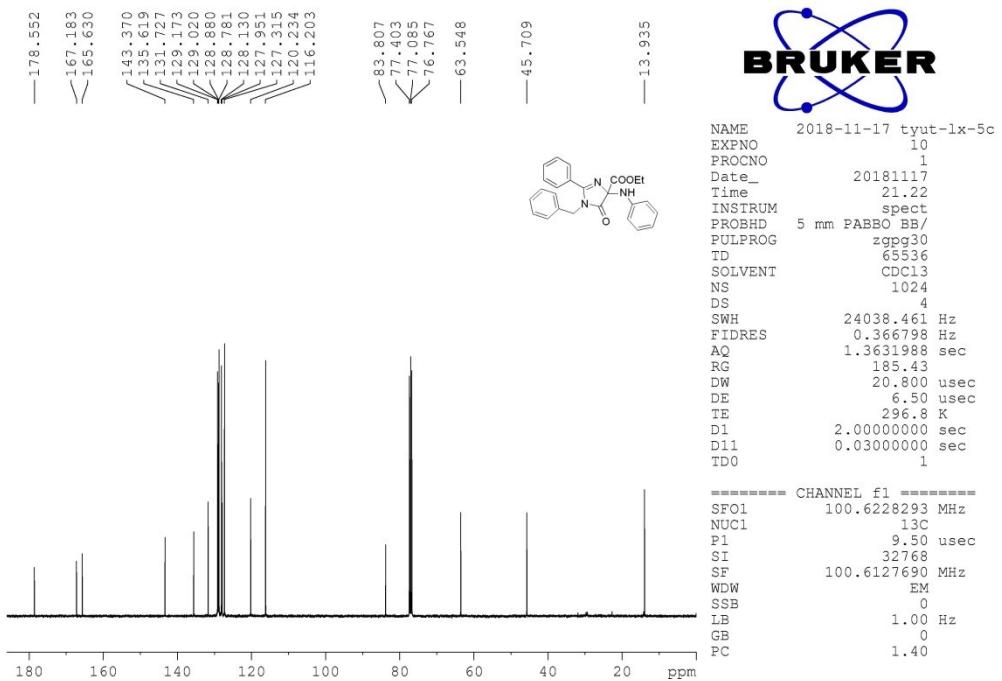
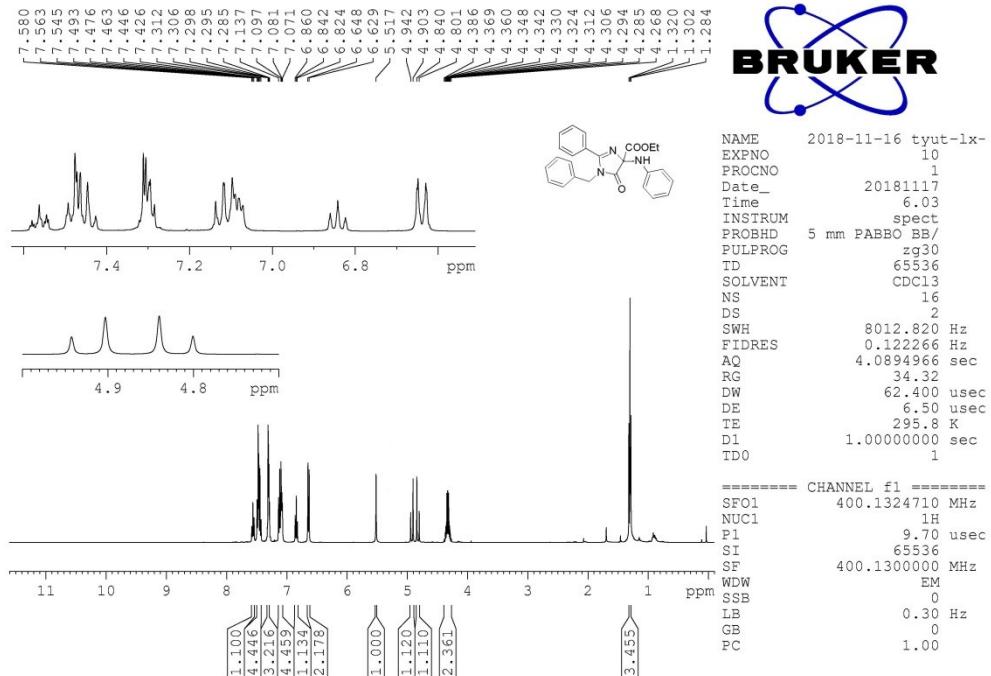
**4h<sub>aa</sub>**



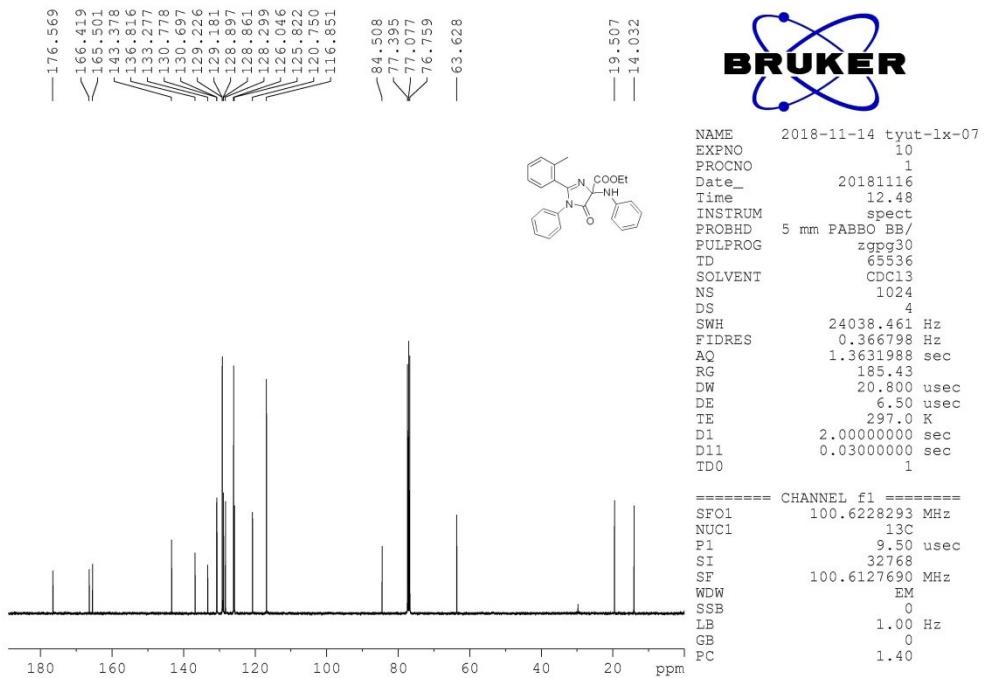
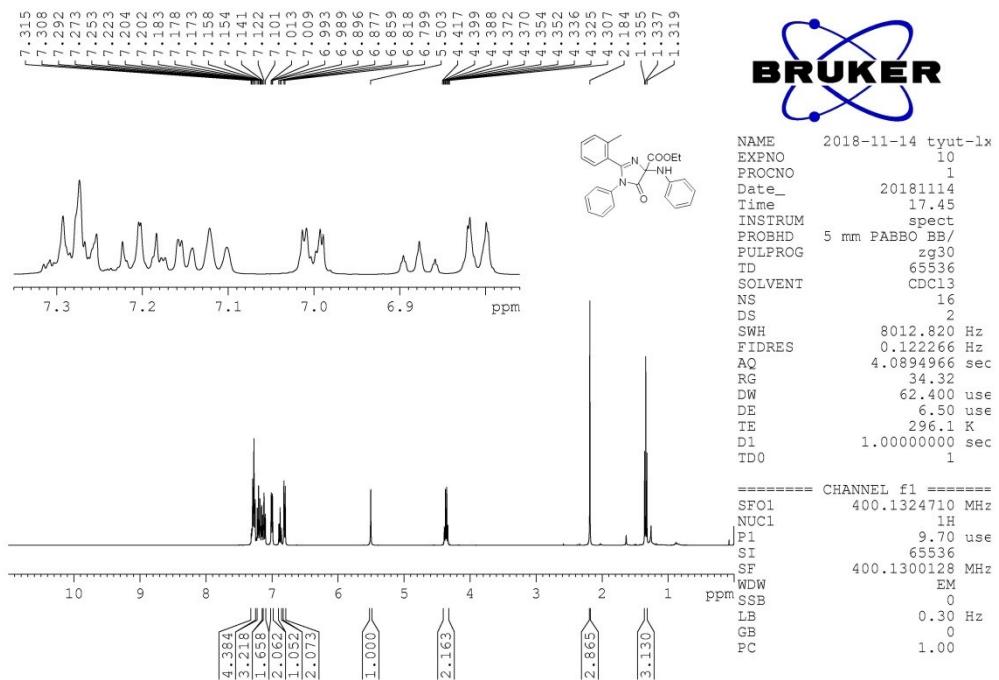
**4iaa**



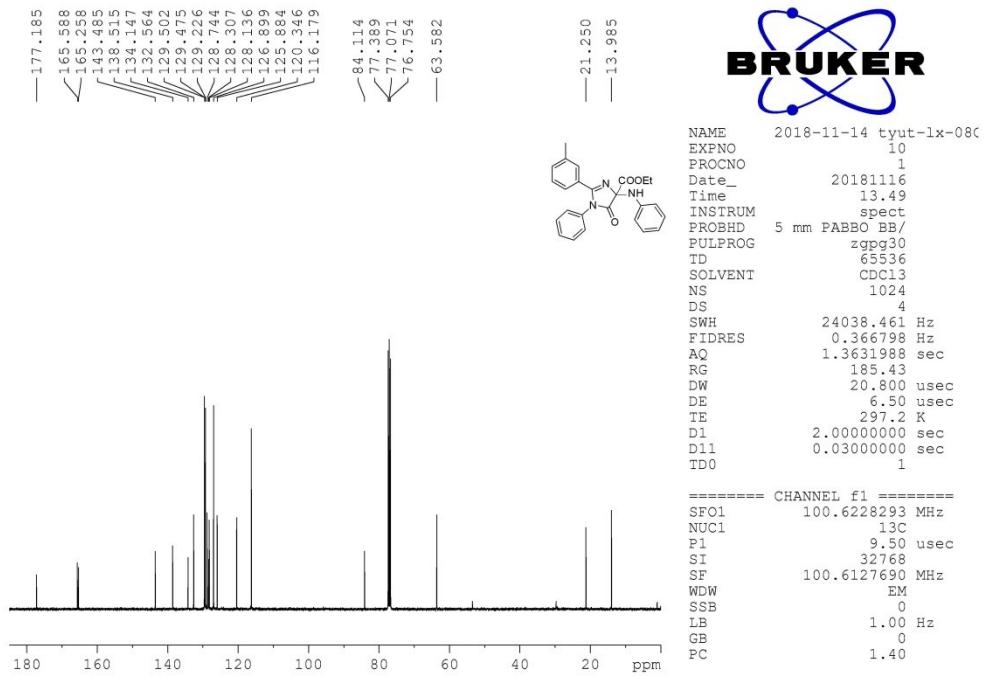
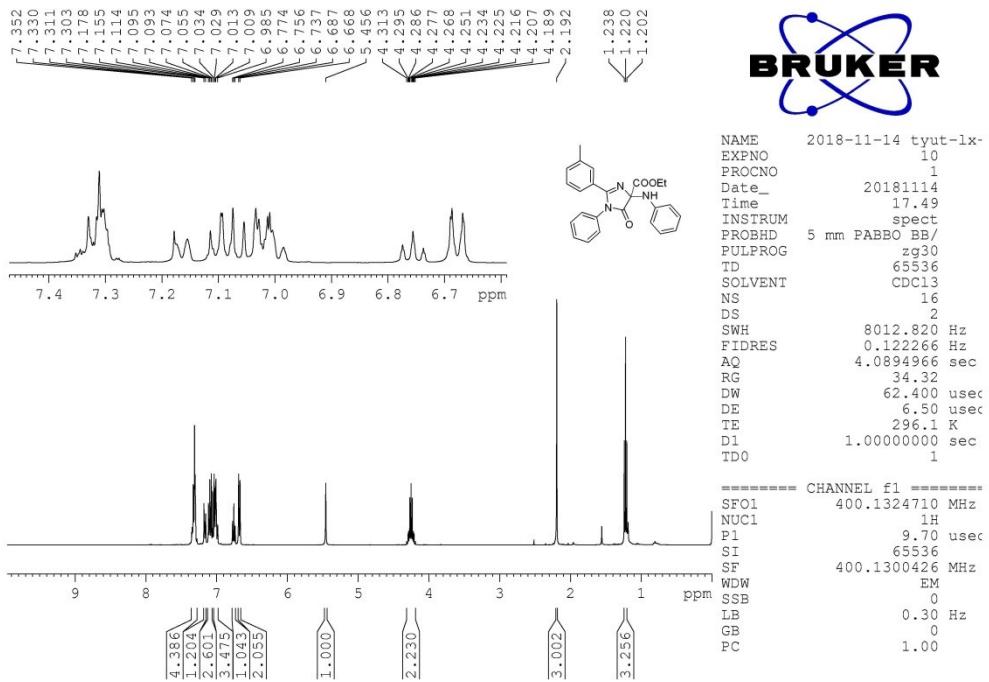
**4kka**



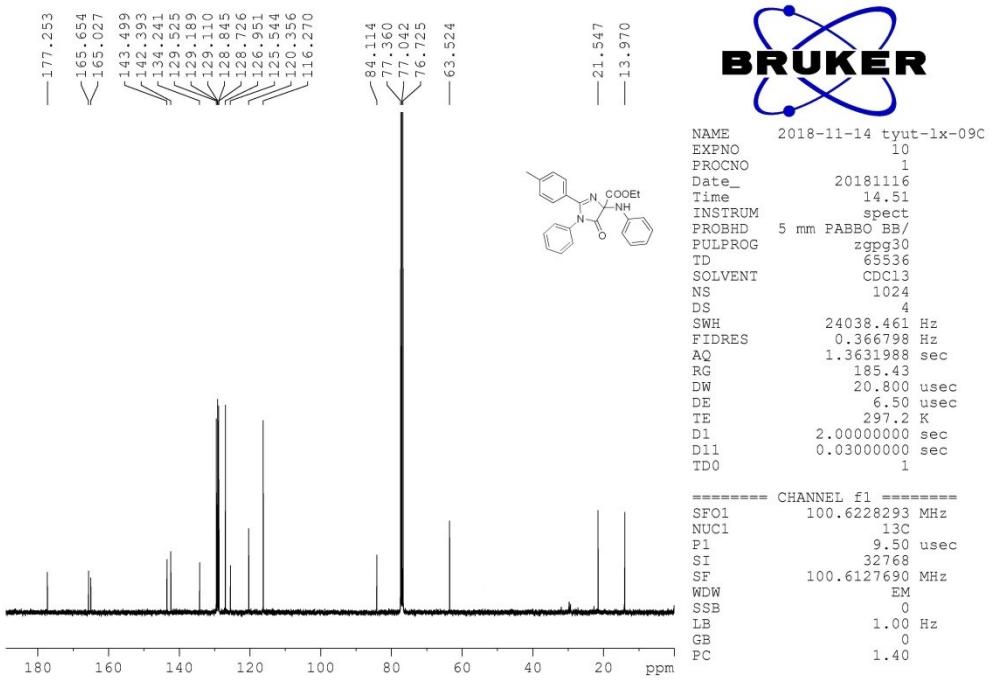
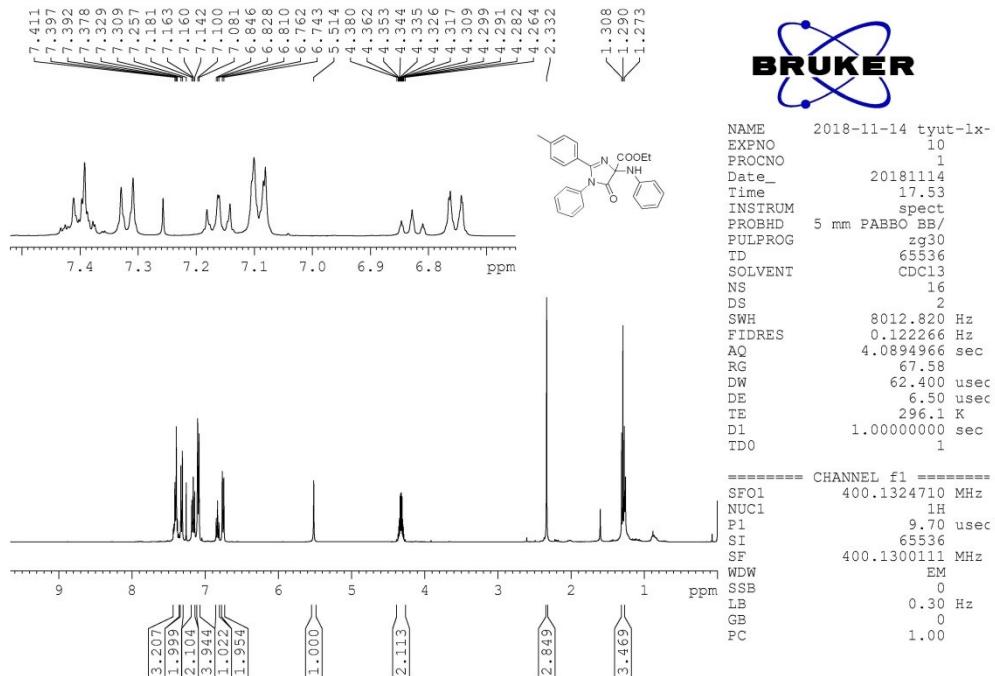
**4laa**



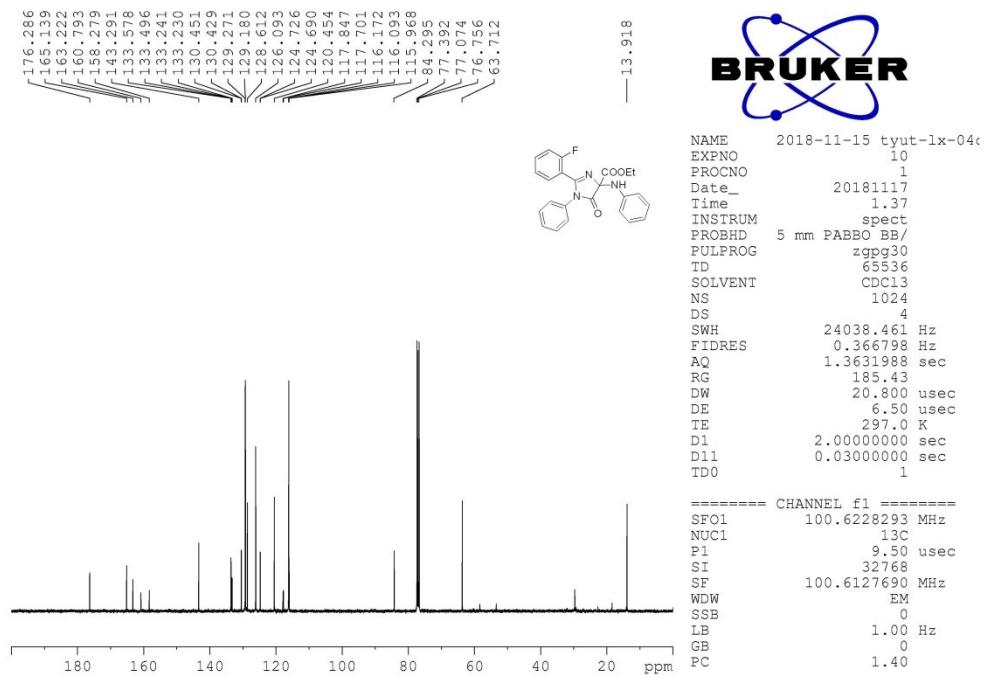
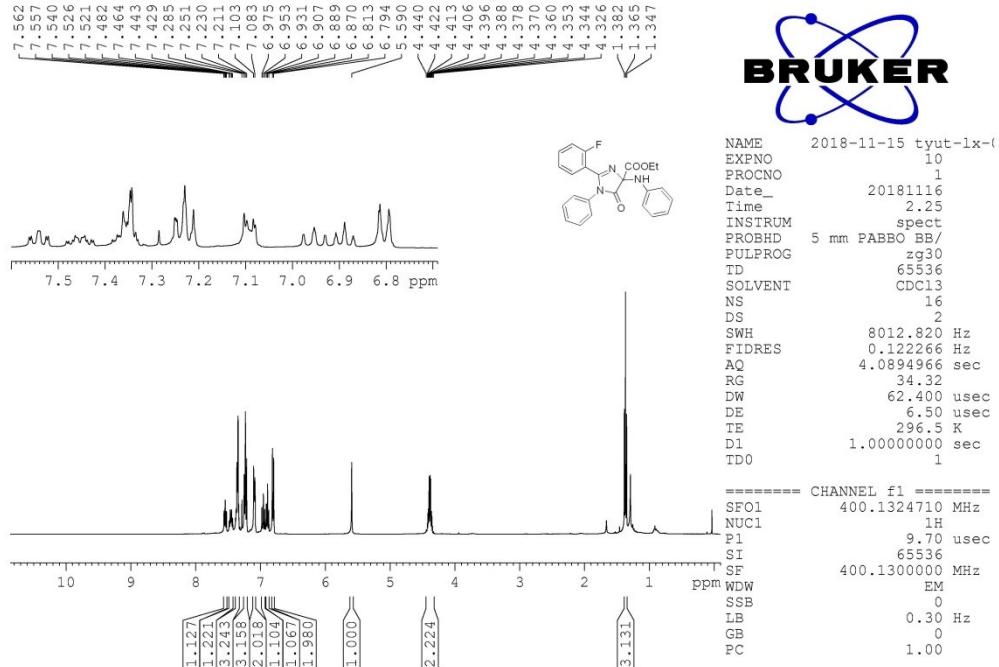
**4maa**

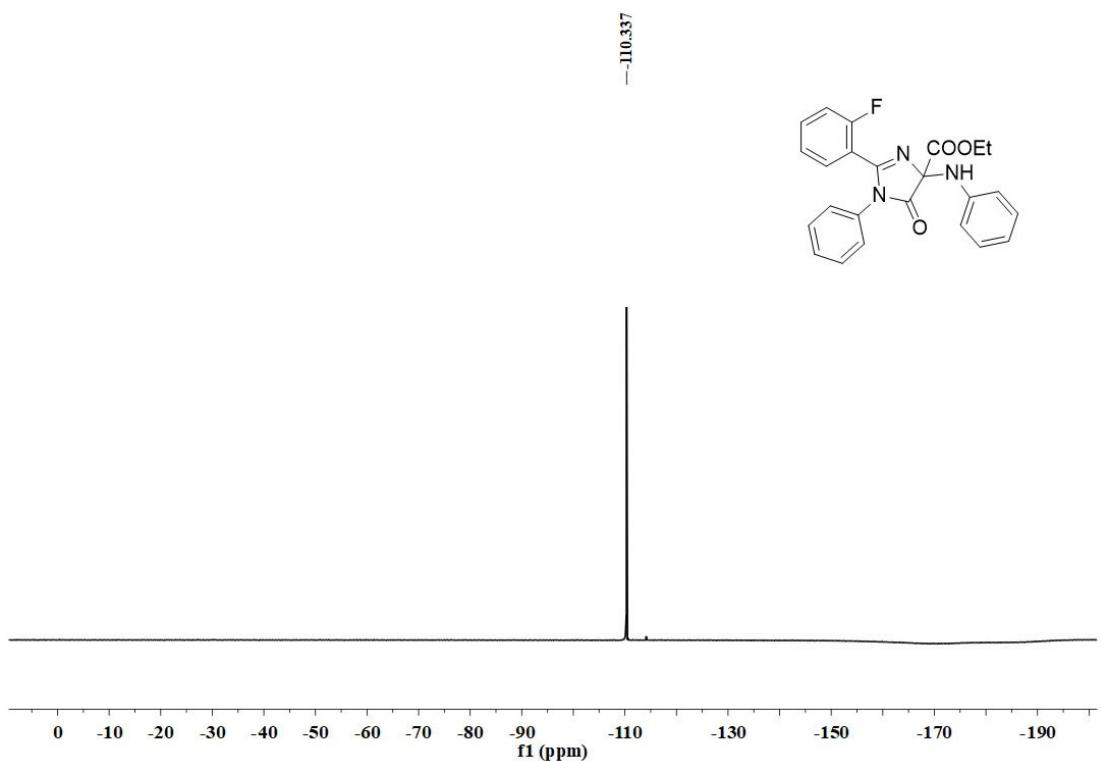


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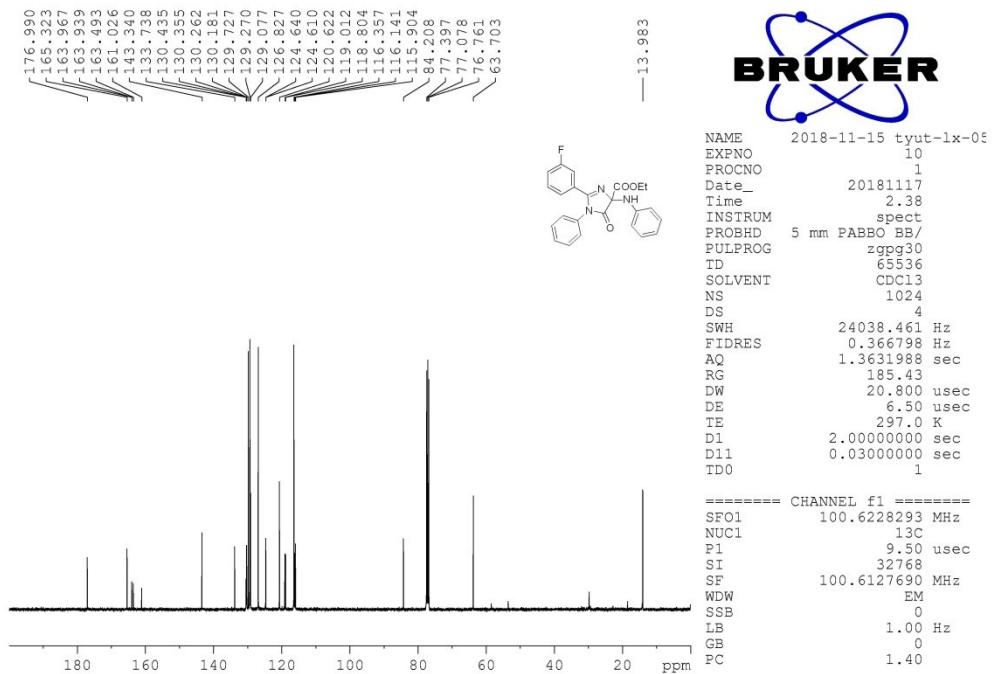
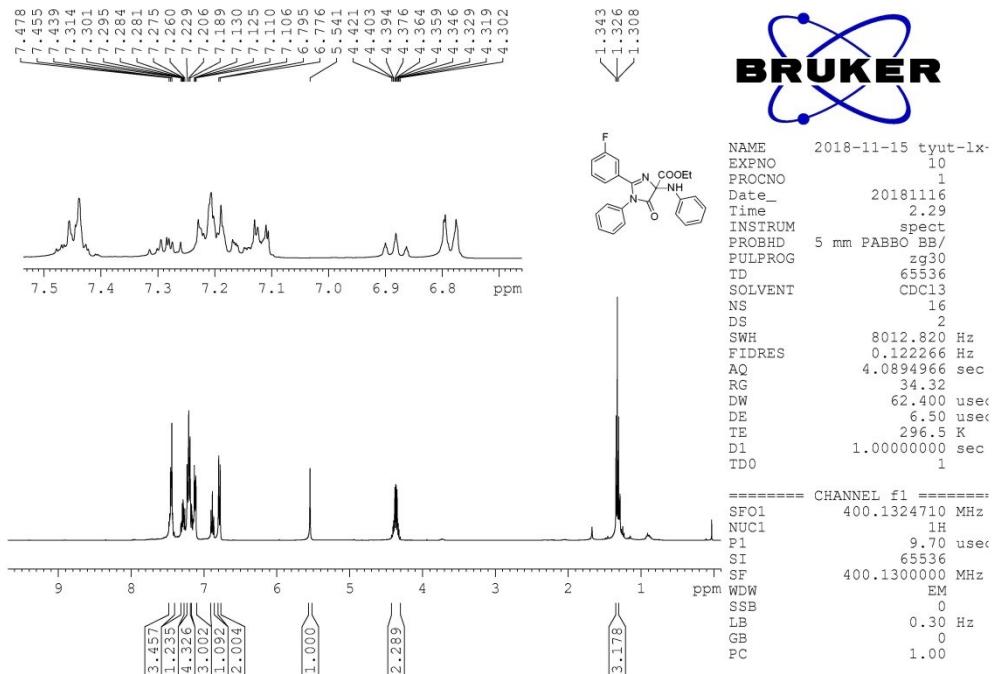


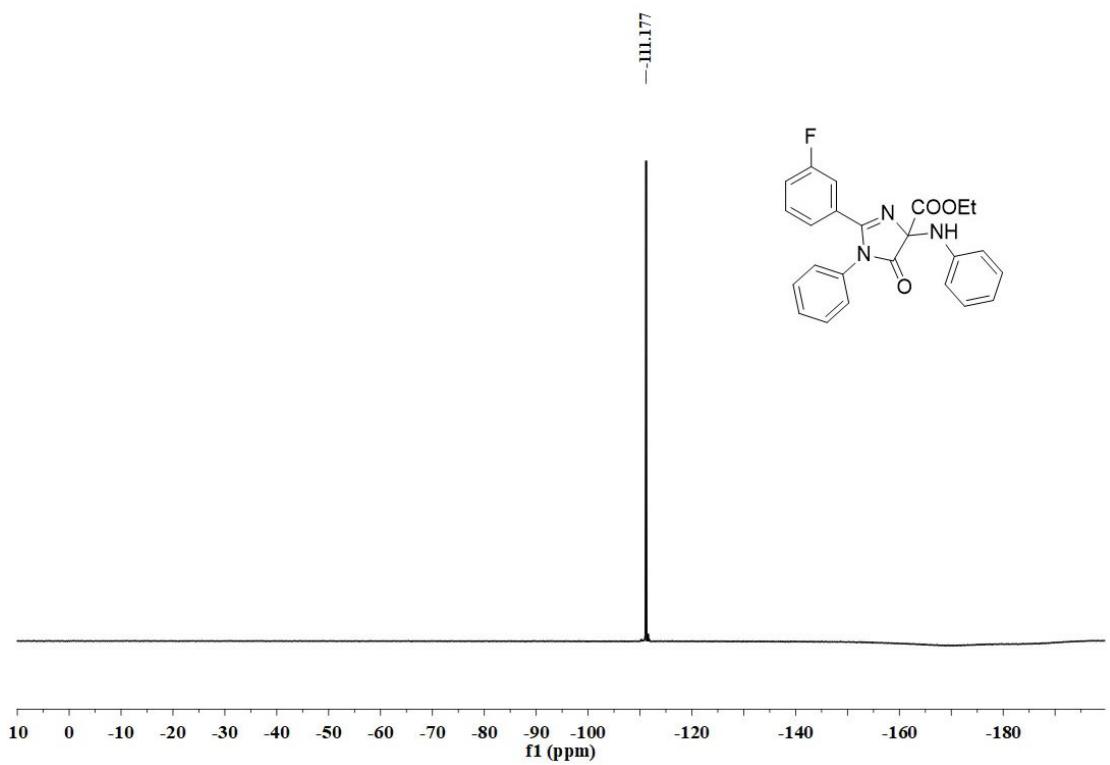
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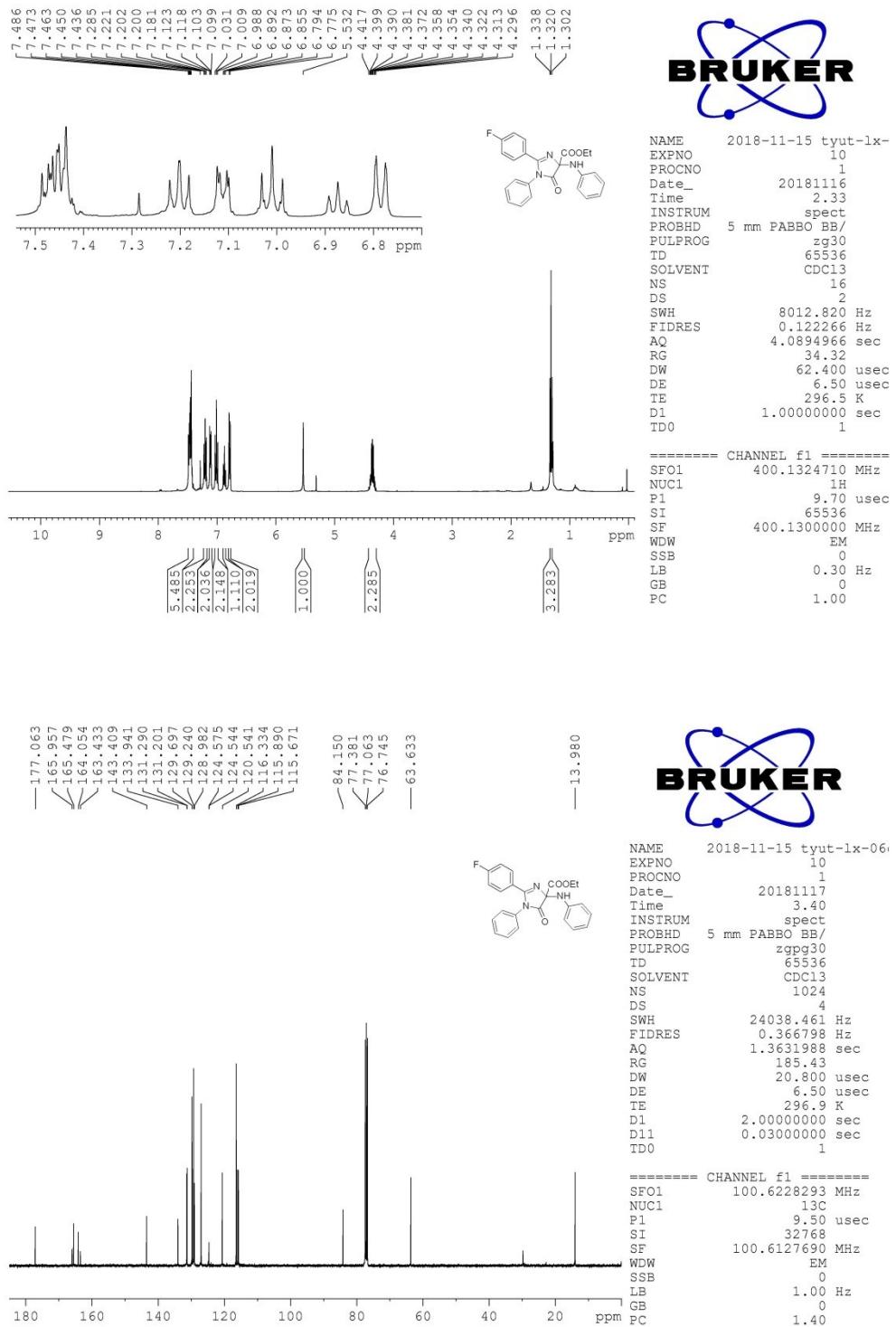


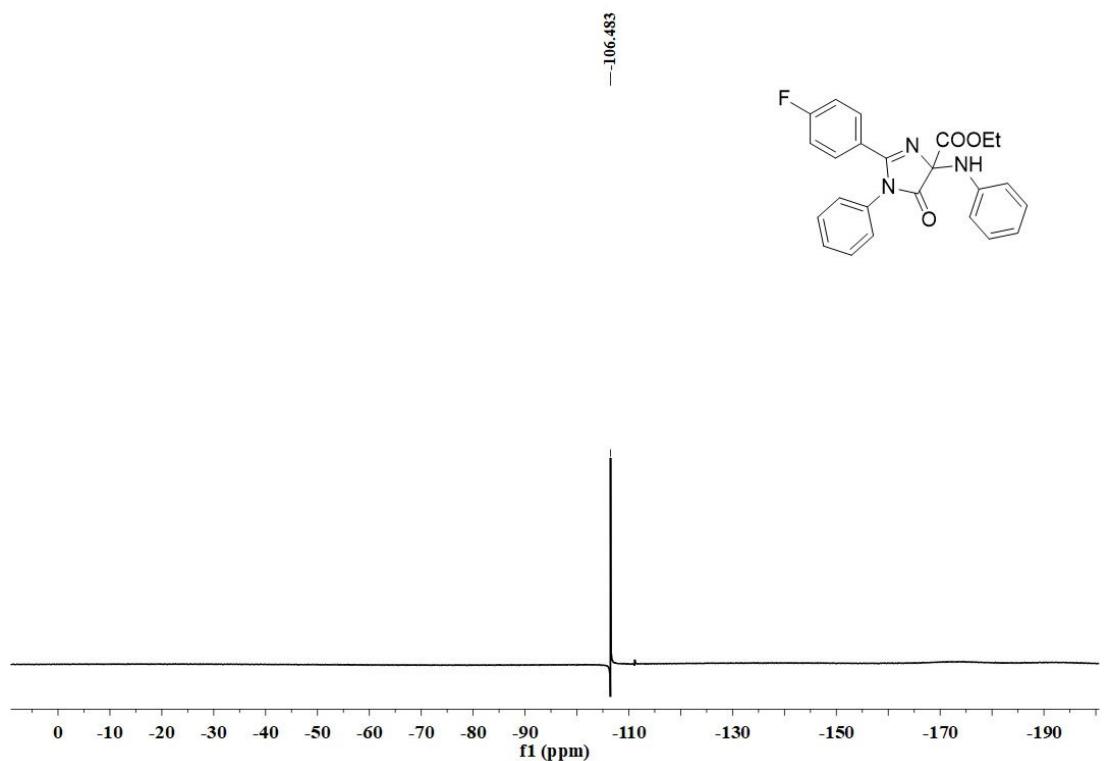
4paa



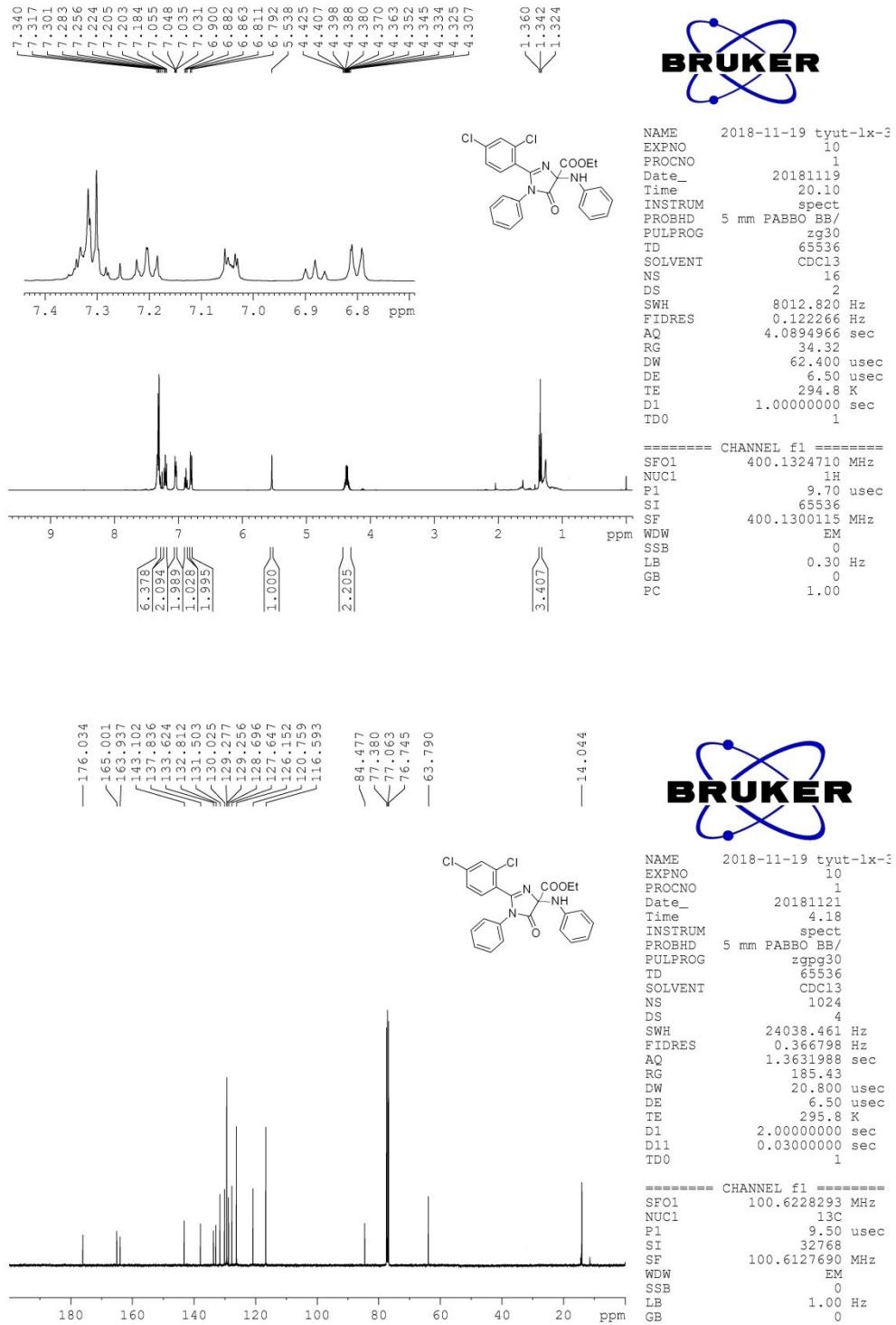


**4qaa**

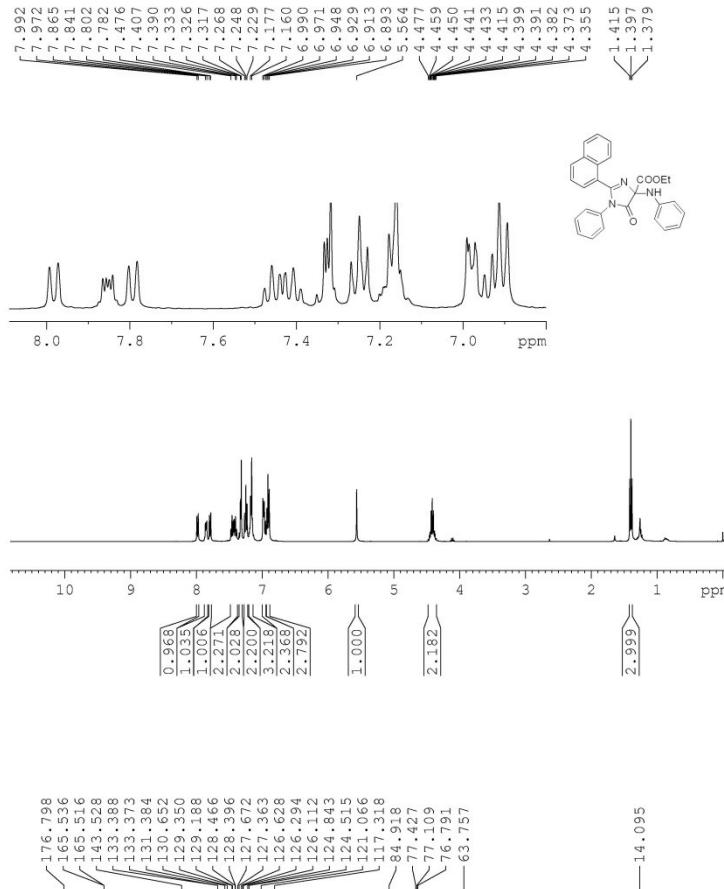




4raa



4saa

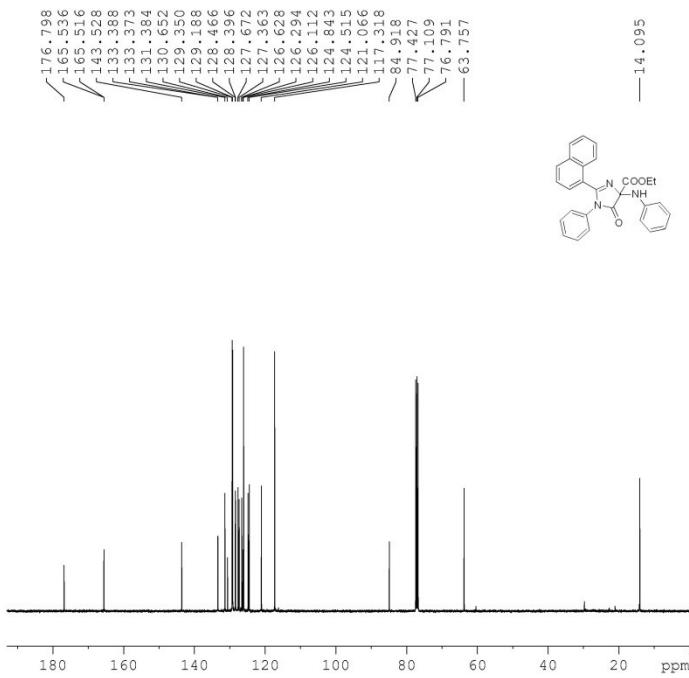


```

NAME      2018-11-19  tyut-lx
EXPNNO          10
PROCNO         1
Date_    20181119
Time     20.02
INSTRUM   spect
PROBHD  5 mm PABBO BB/
PULPROG  zg30
TD        65536
SOLVENT   CDC13
NS           16
DS            2
SWH       8012.800 Hz
FIDRES  0.122266 Hz
AQ        4.089496 sec
RG        34.32
DW        62.400 usec
DE         6.50 usec
TE        294.8 K
D1    1.0000000 sec
TD0           1

```

```
===== CHANNEL f1 =====
SF01          400.1324710 MHz
NUC1           1H
P1              9.70 use
SI              65536
SF          400.1300172 MHz
WDW             EM
SSB              0
LB              0.30 Hz
GB              0
PC              1.00
```



```

NAME      2018-11-19  tyut-lx-
EXPNO          10
PROCNO         1
Date_   20181121
Time       2.16
INSTRUM    spect
PROBHD  5 mm PABBO BB/
PULPROG zggp30
TD        65536
SOLVENT   CDC13
NS         1024
DS           4
SWH      24038.461 Hz
FIDRES  0.366798 Hz
AQ        1.3631988 sec
RG        185.43
DW        20.800 usec
DE         6.50 usec
TE        295.8 K
D1    2.0000000 sec
D11   0.03000000 sec

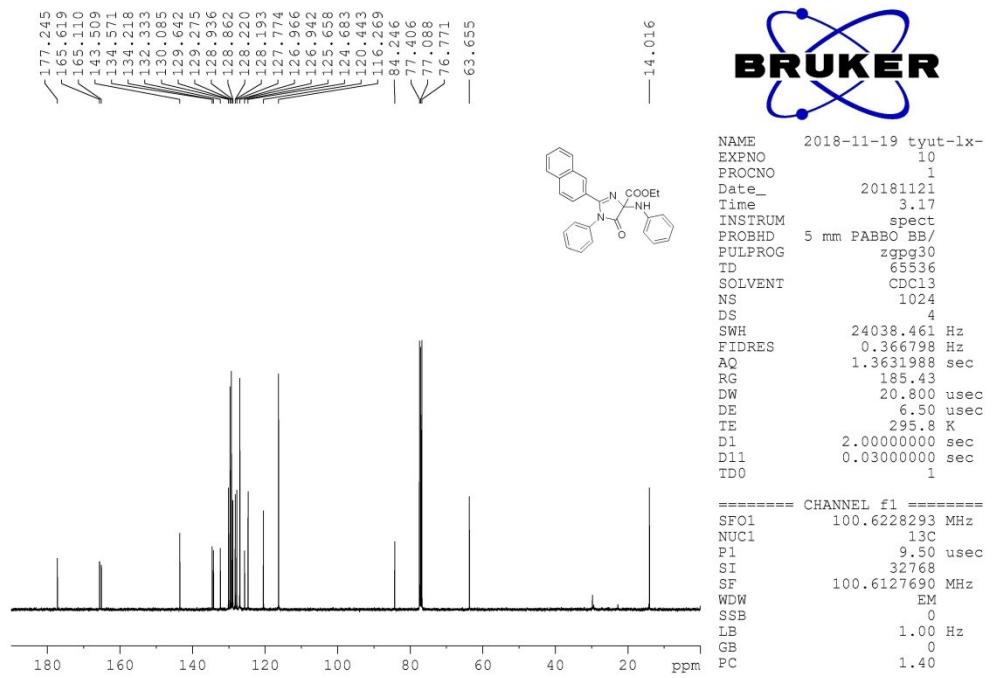
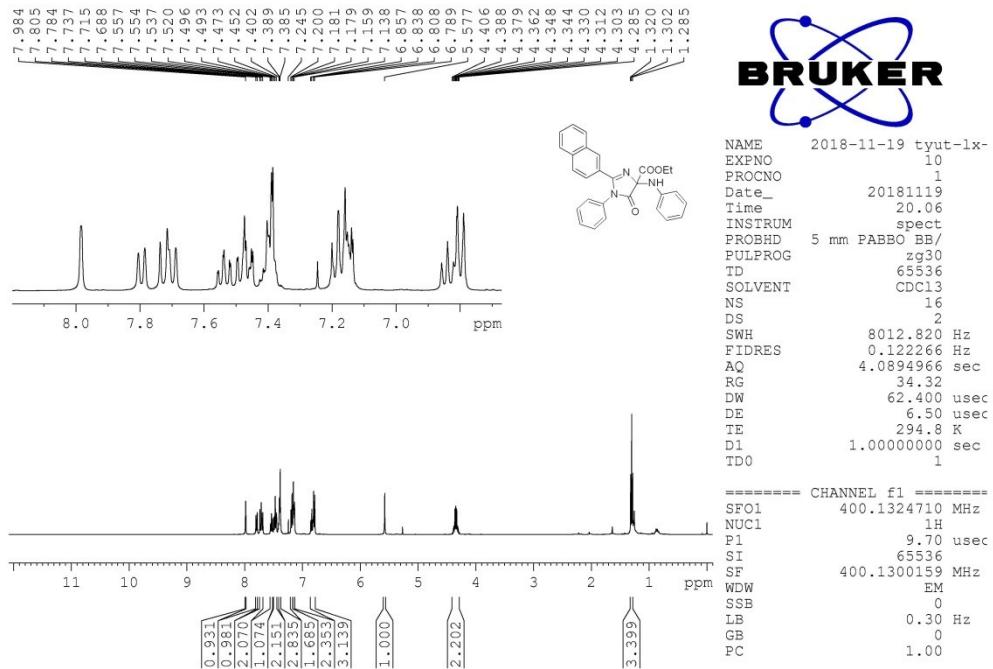
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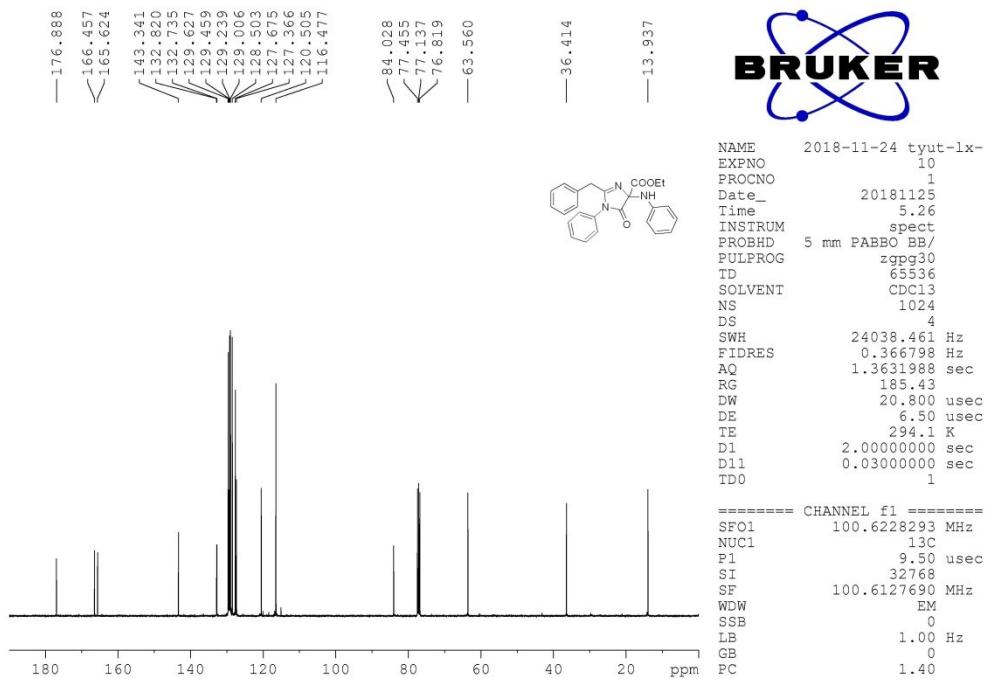
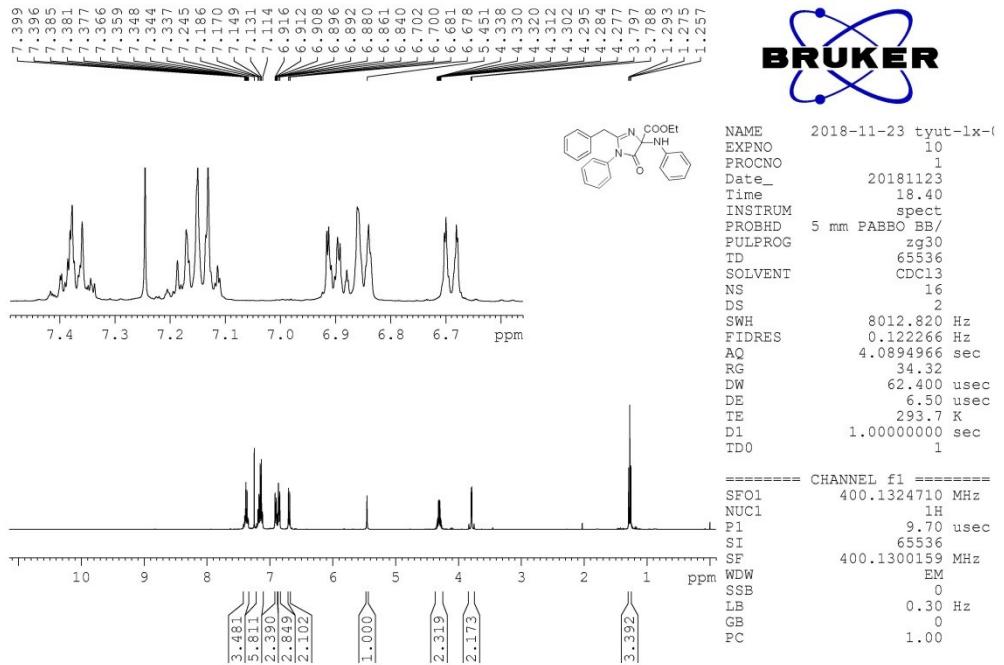
===== CHANNEL f1 =====
SFO1      100.6228293 MHz
NUC1      13C
P1         9.50  usec
SI         32768
SF         100.6127690 MHz
WDW        EM
SSB        0
LB         1.00 Hz
GB        0
PC         1.40

```

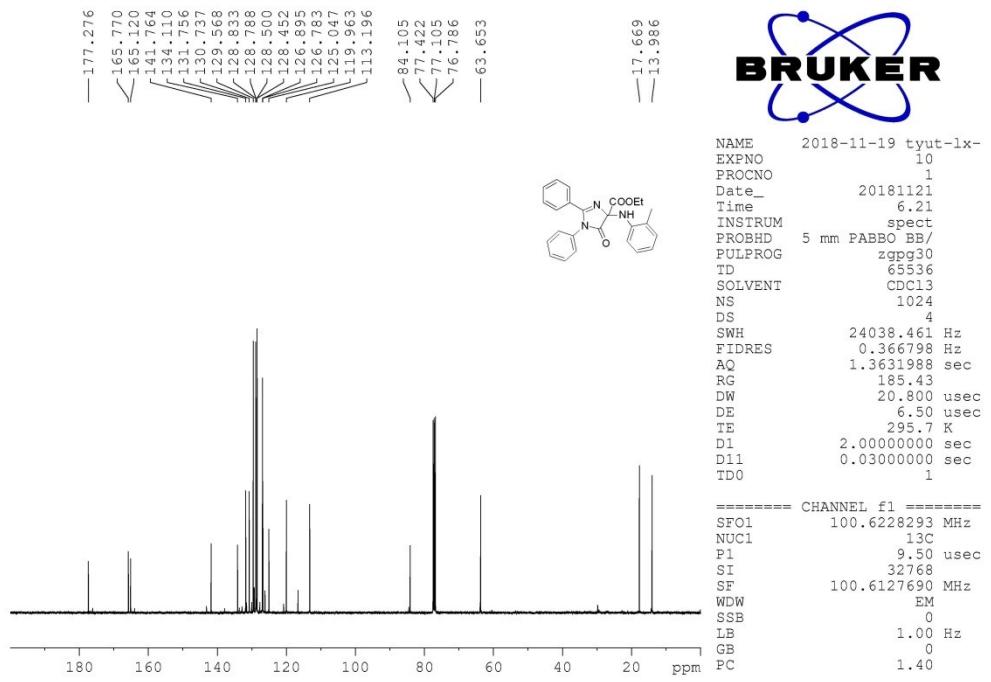
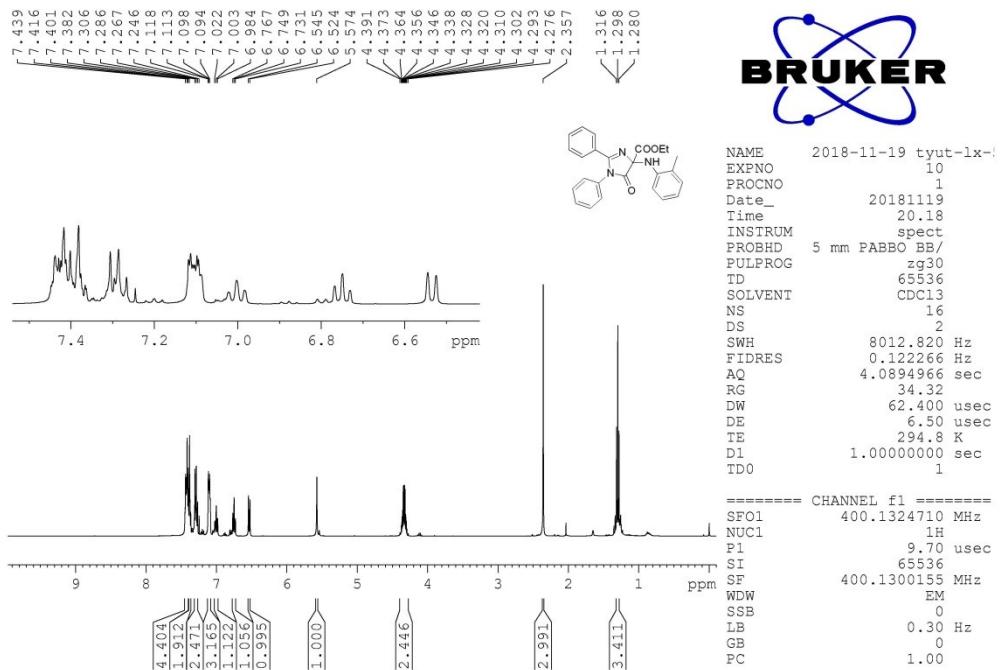
**4taa**



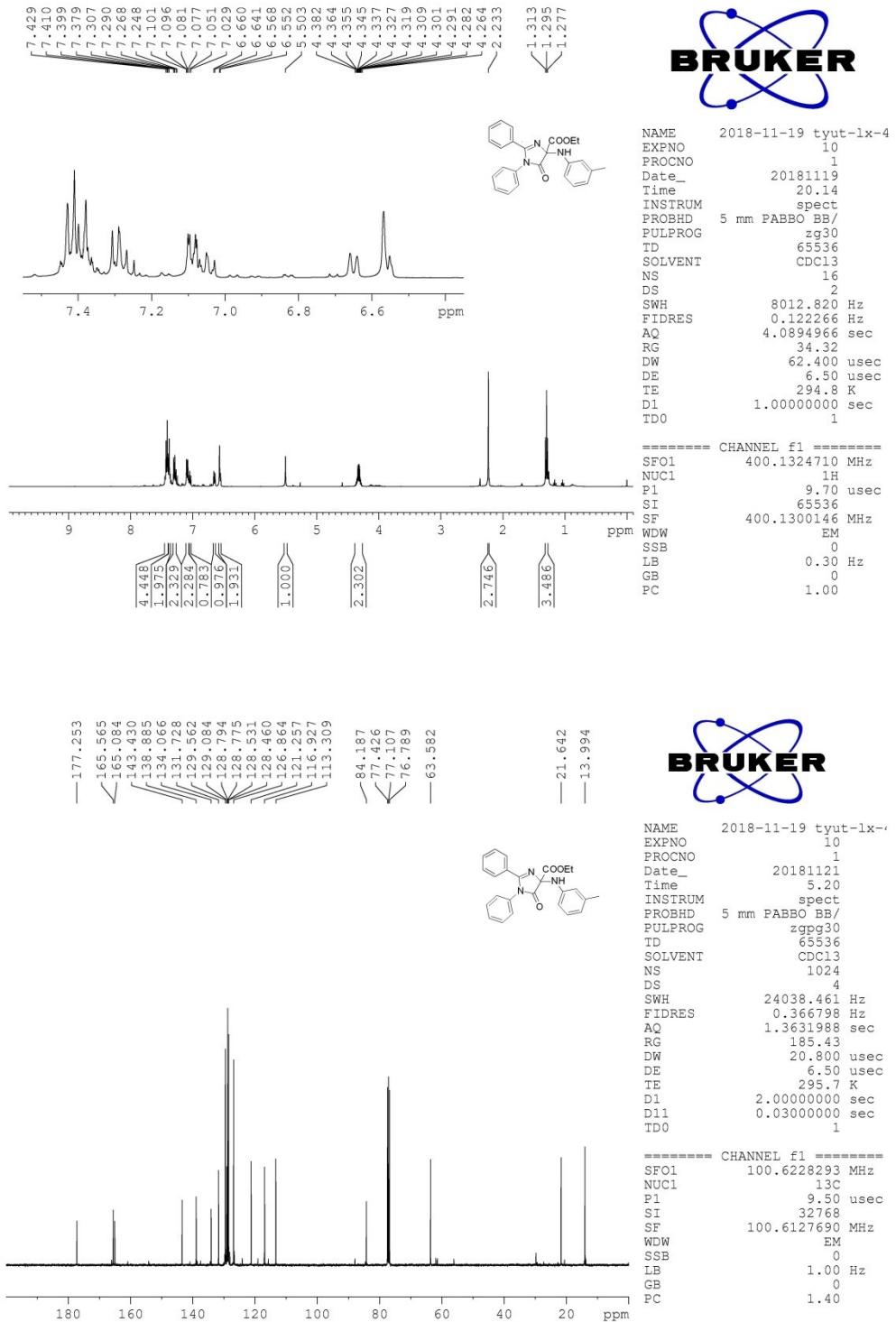
**4uaa**



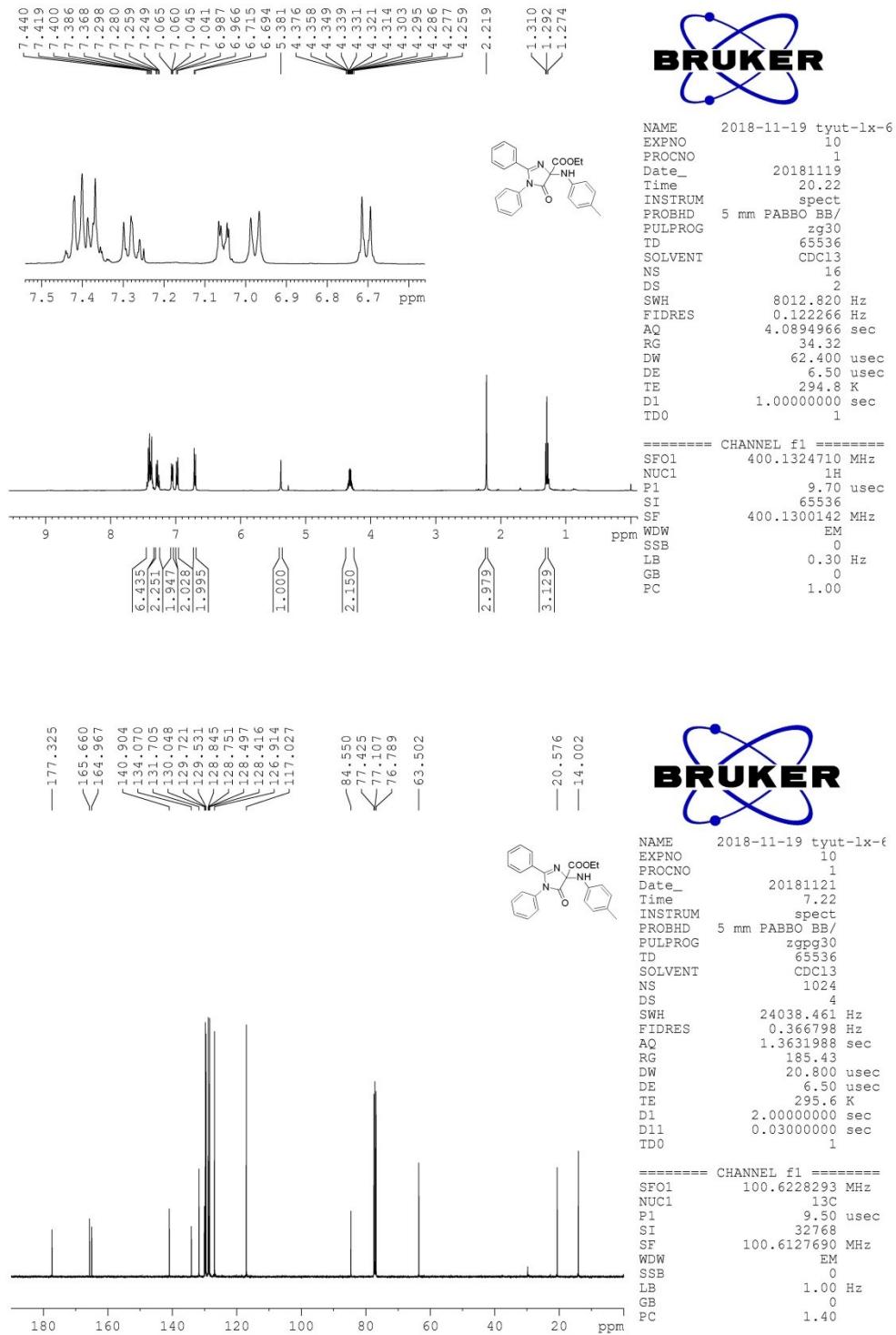
**4aba**



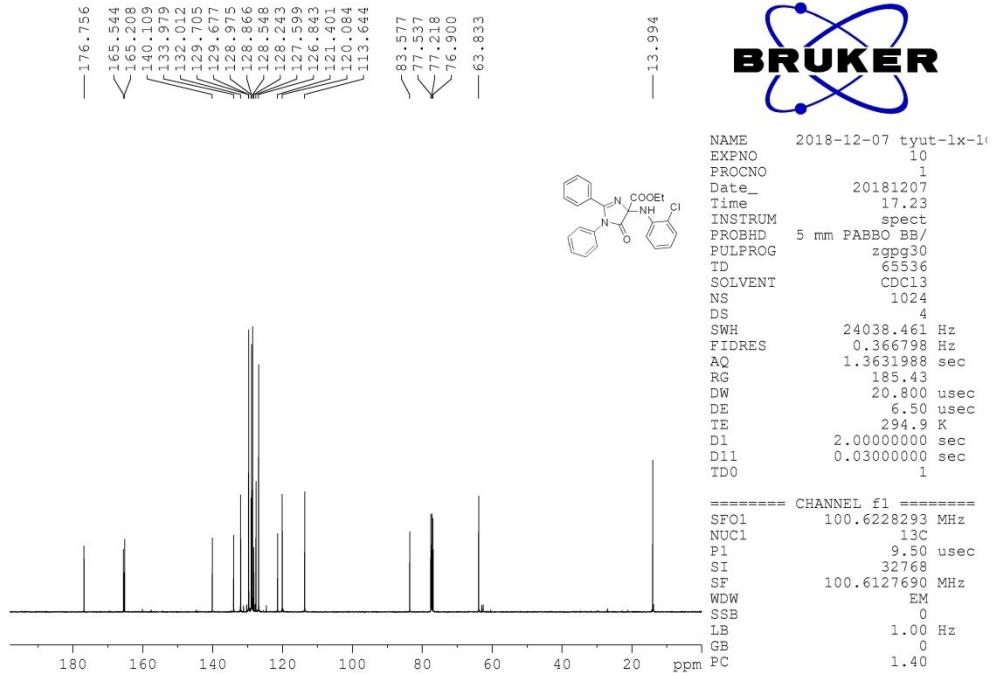
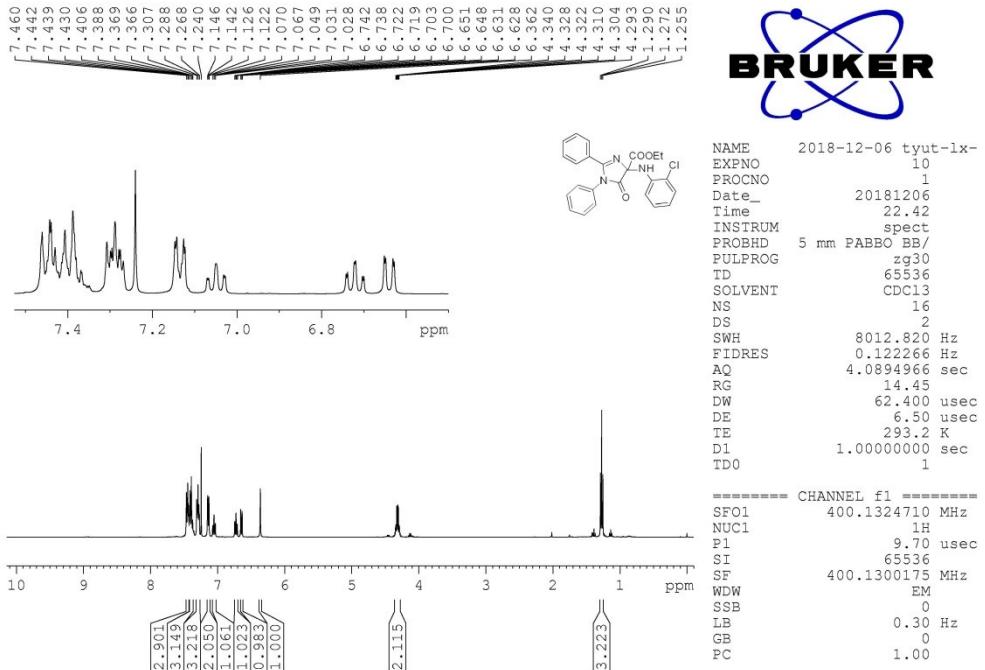
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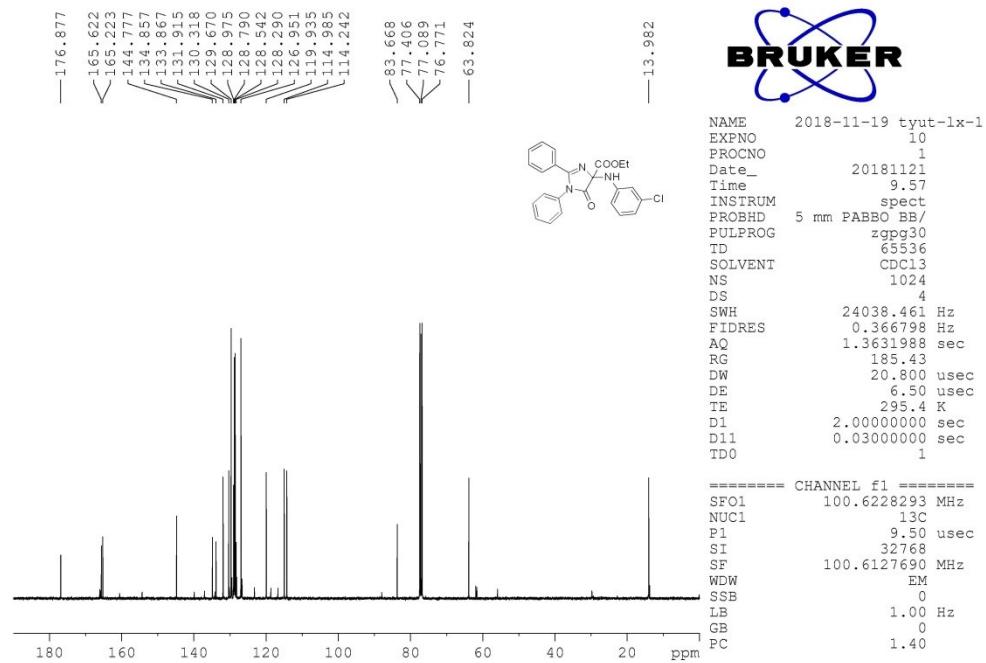
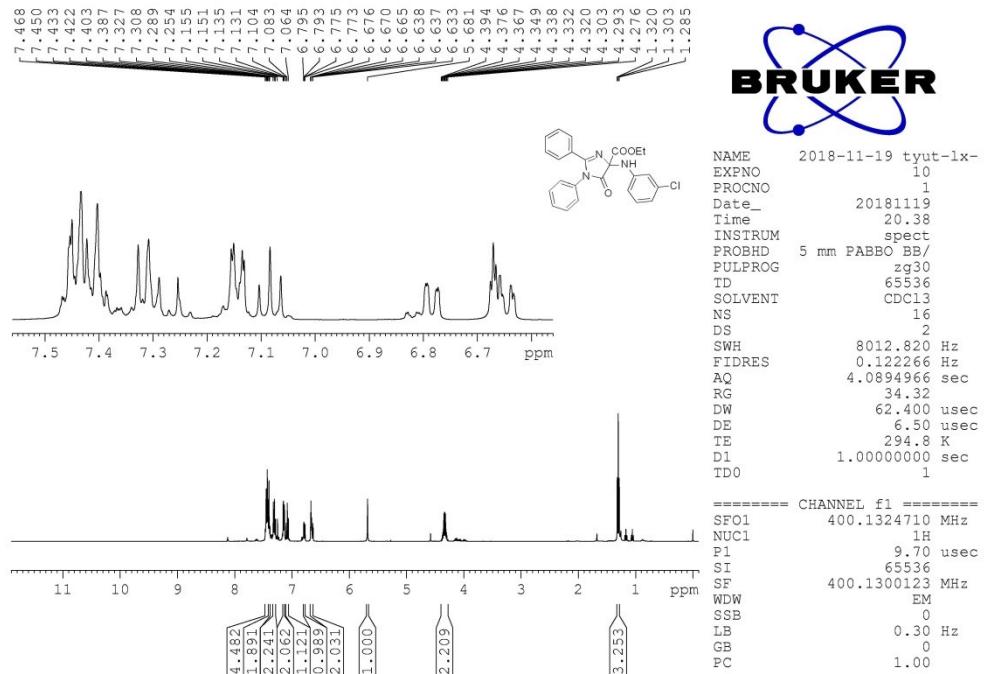
4ada



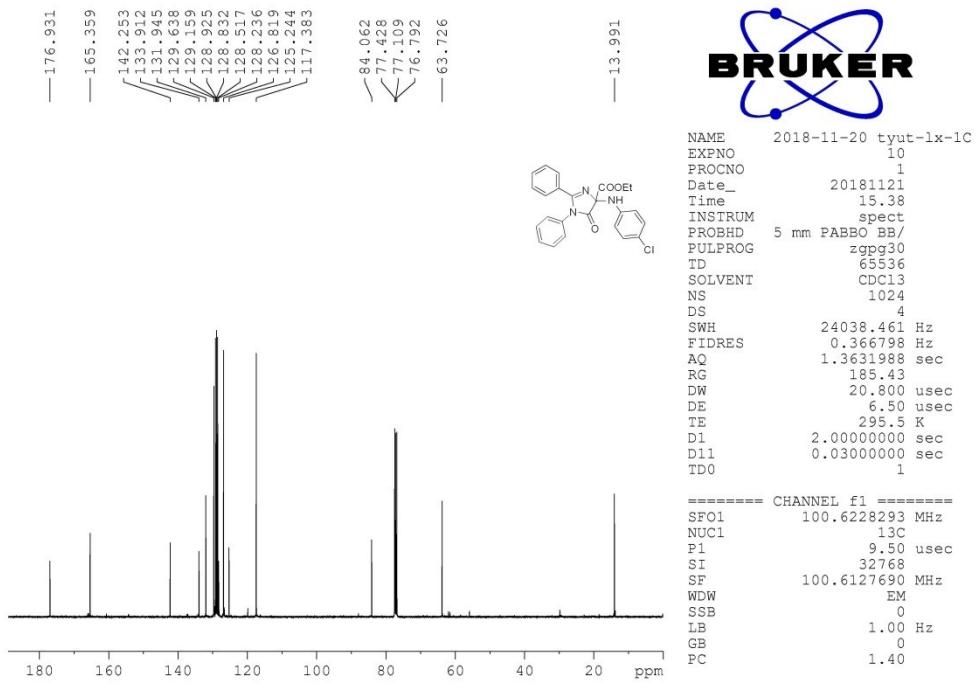
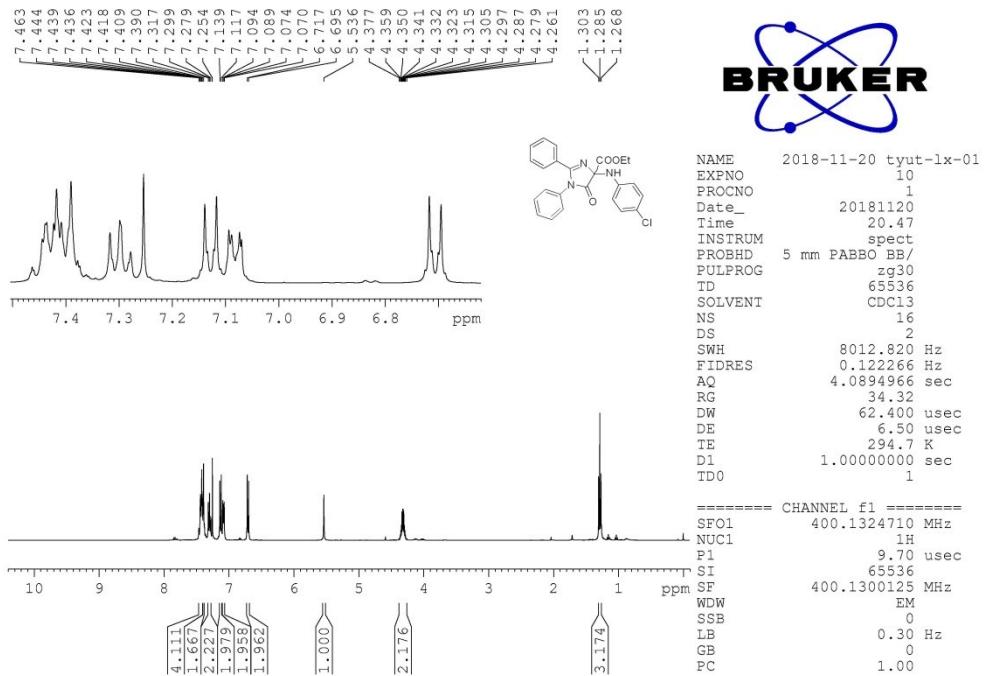
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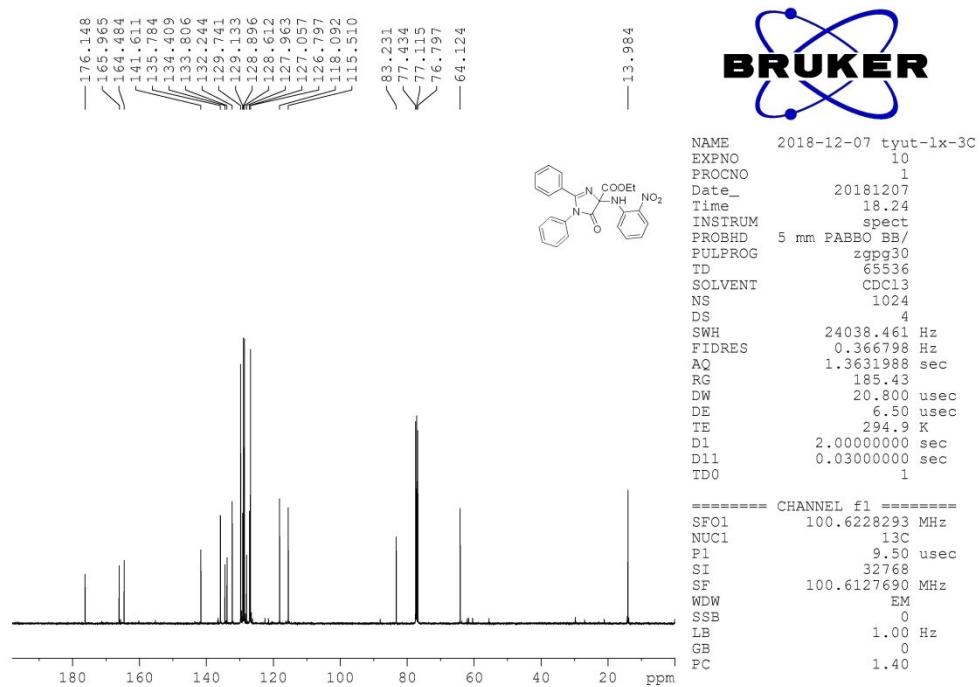
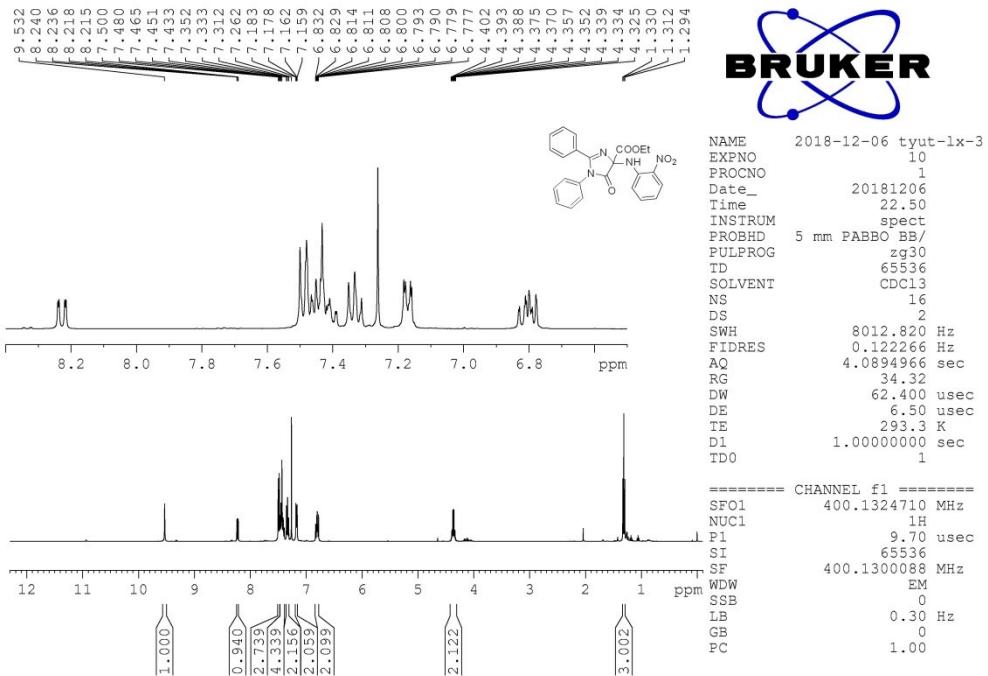
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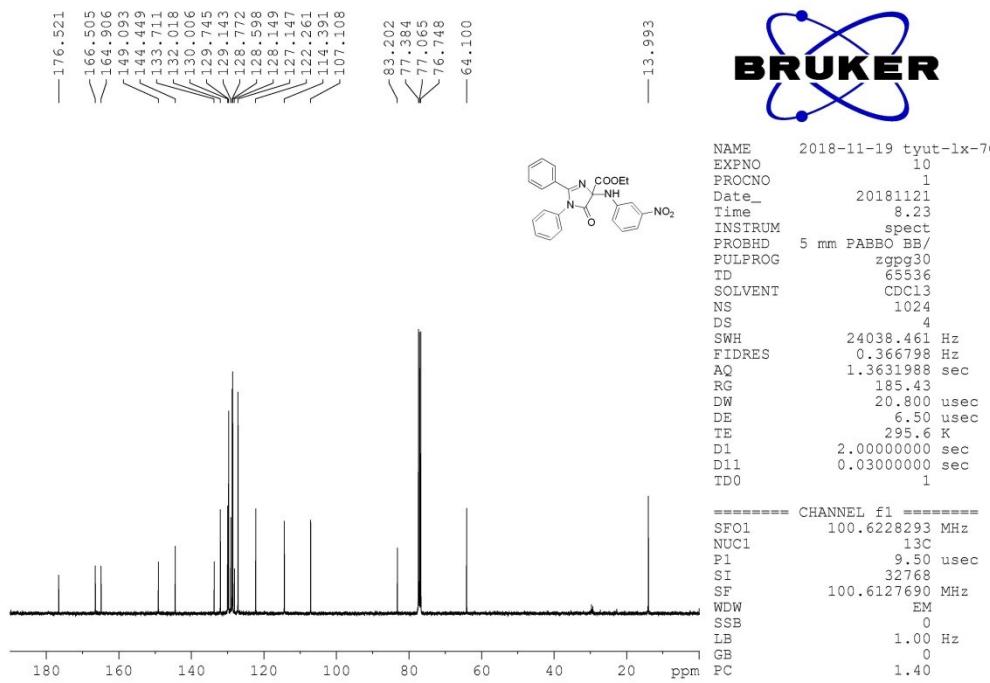
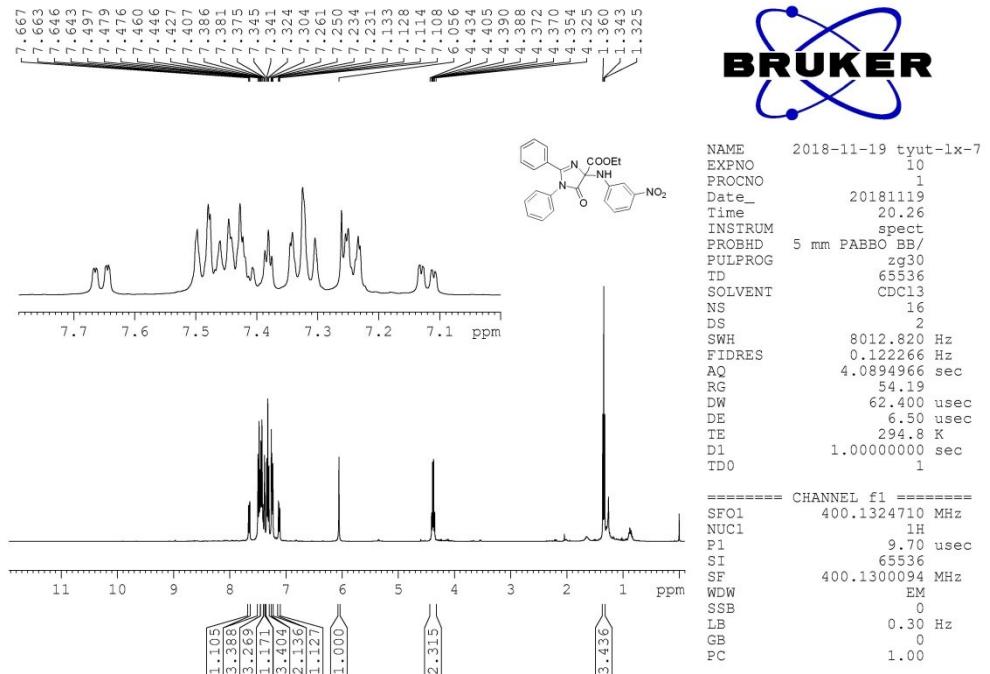
**4aga**



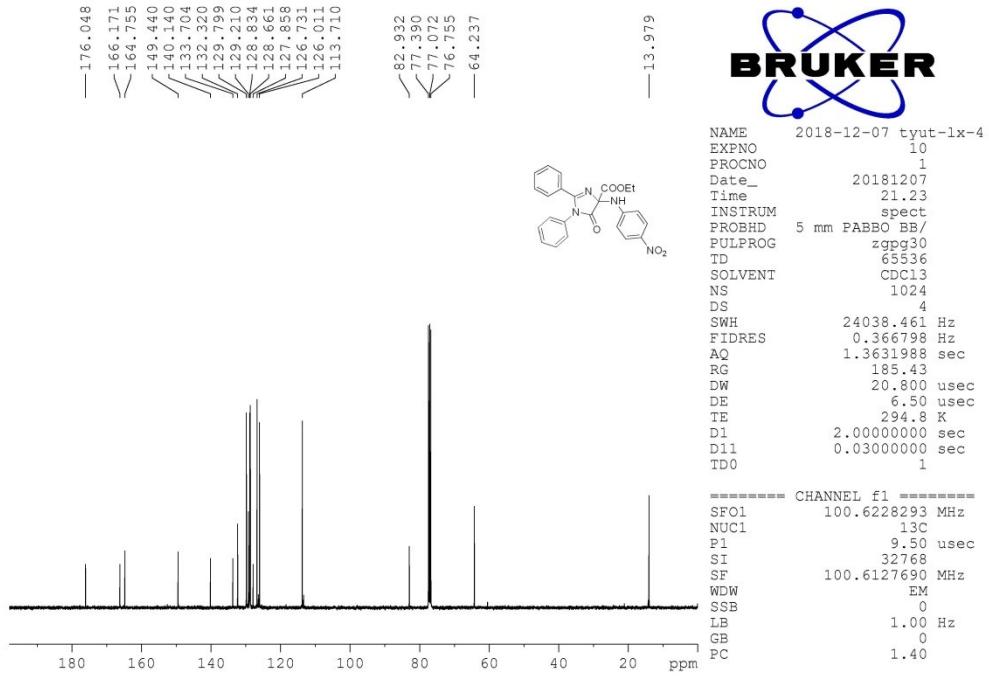
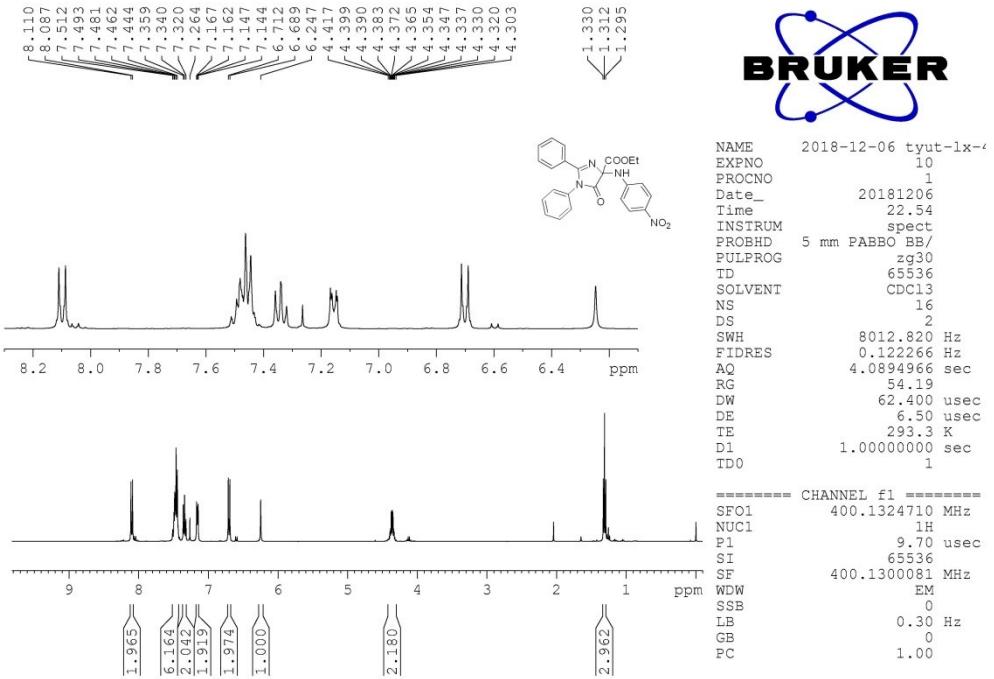
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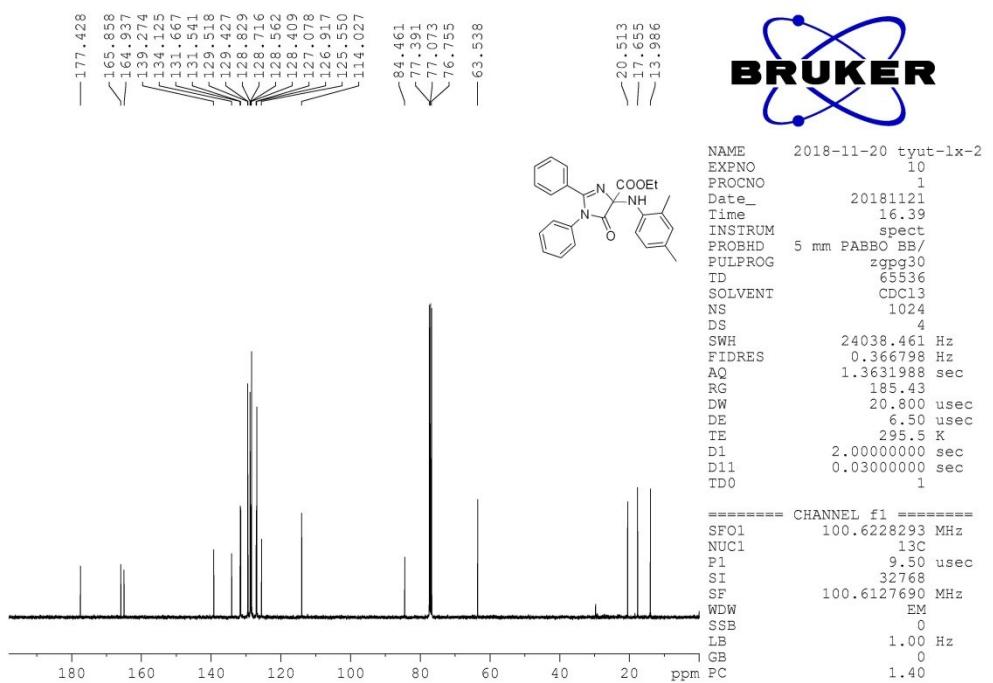
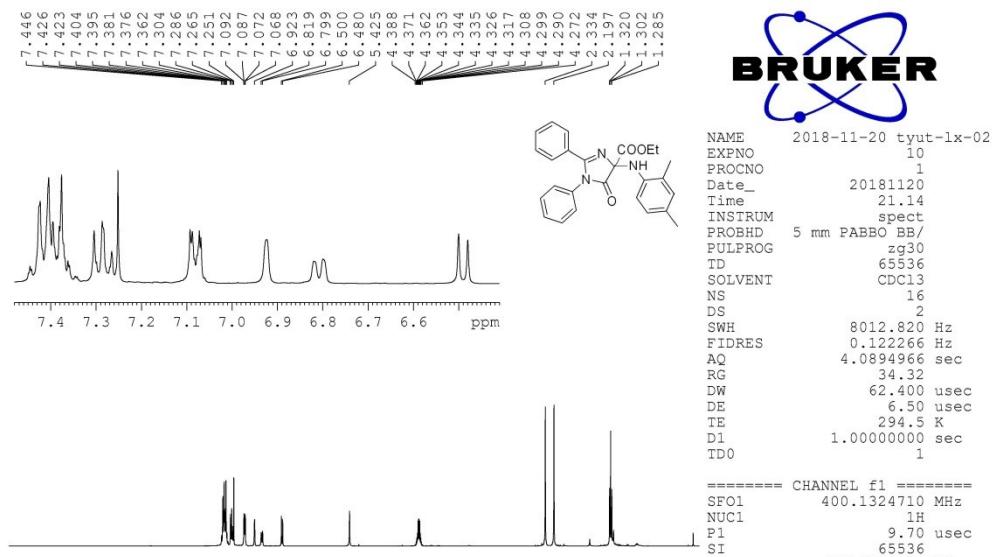
**4aia**



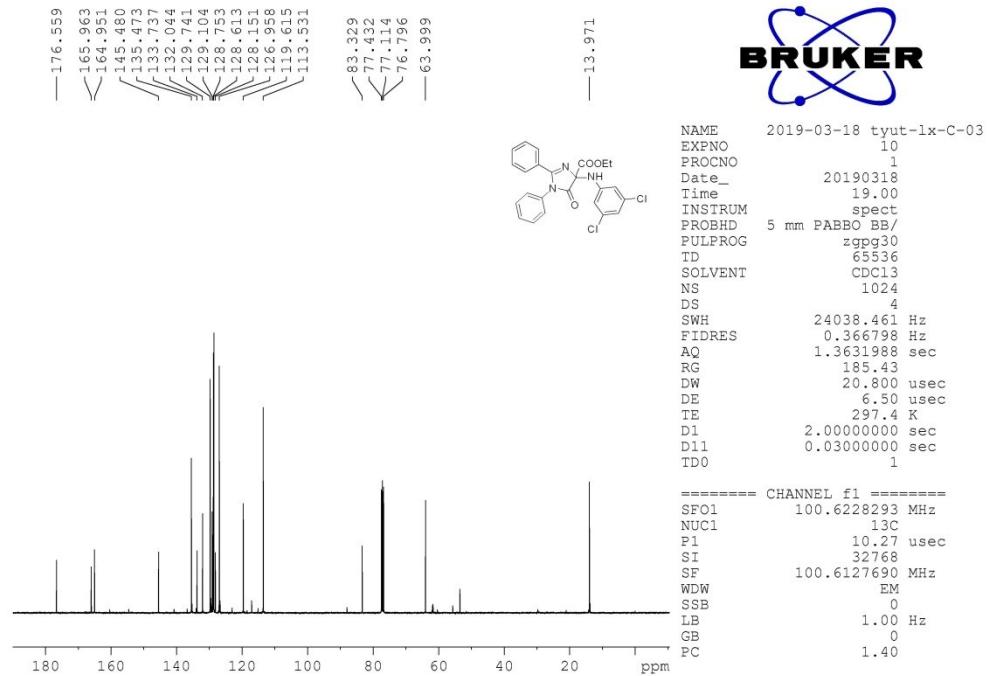
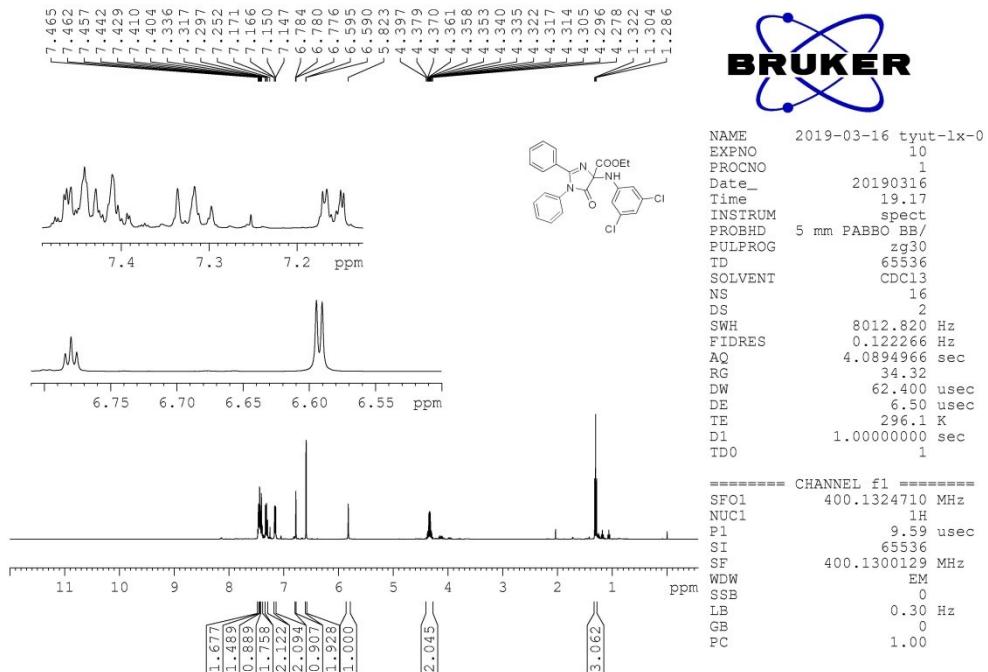
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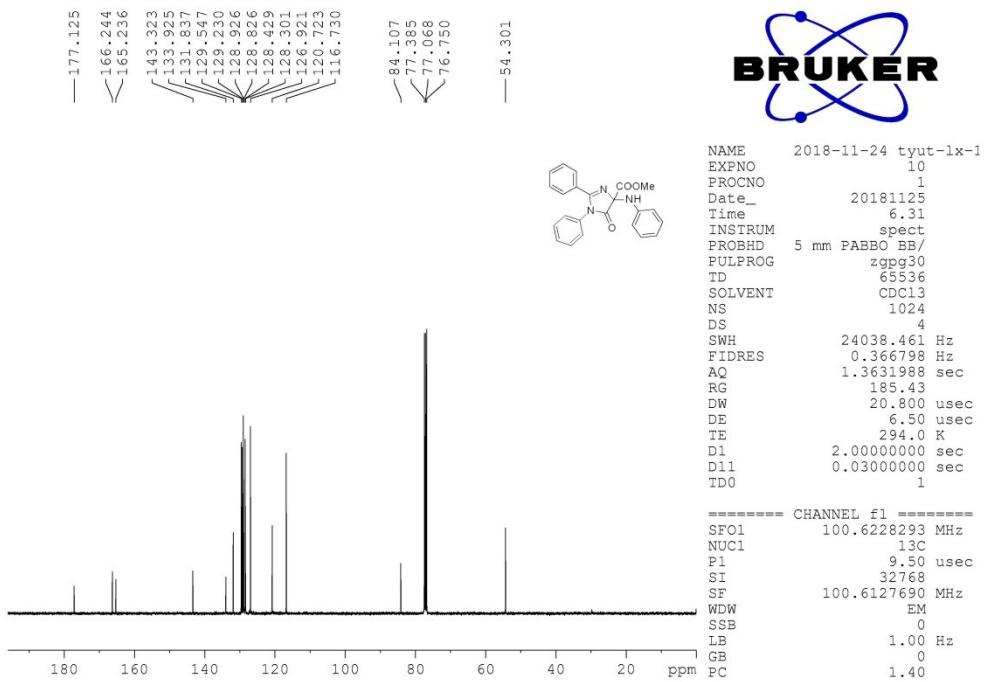
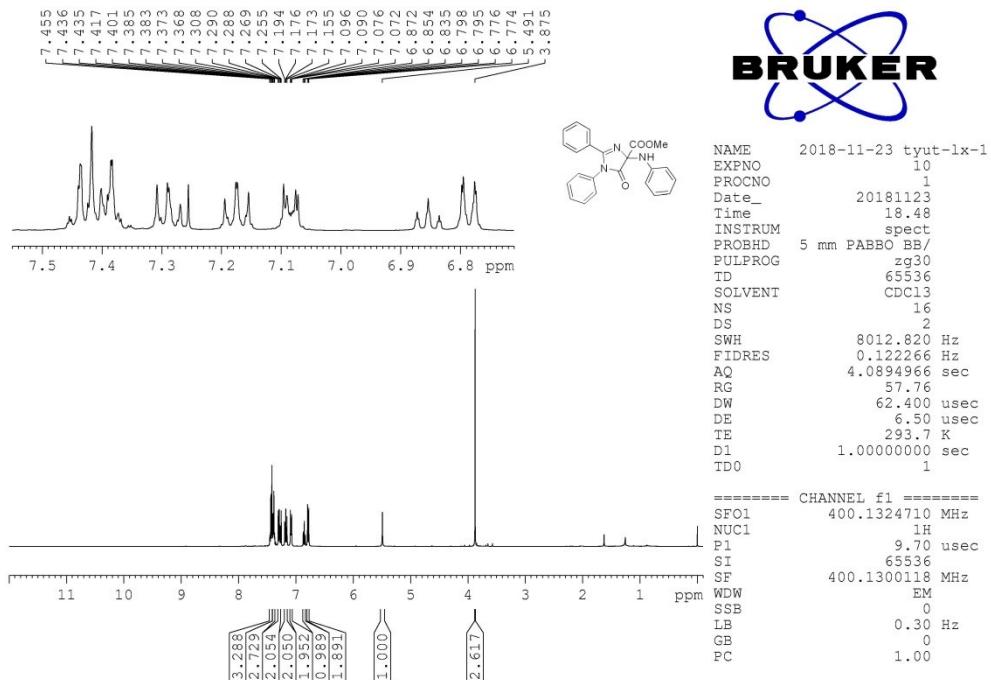
**4aka**



**4ala**



**4aab**



4aac

