

Supporting Information

Cyclization of *N*-Boc-(*E*)- α,β -Unsaturated γ -Amino Acid Active Esters into *N*-Boc-(*Z*)- α,β -Unsaturated γ -Lactams through *E*→*Z* Isomerization

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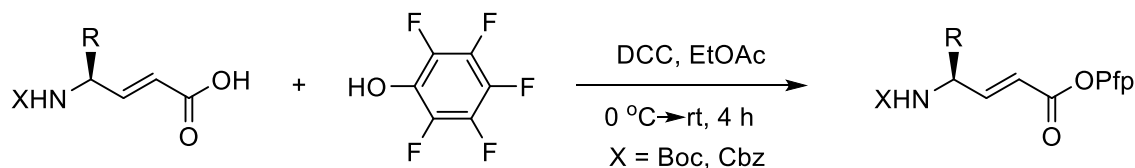
1. Materials and methods

All the cyclization reactions were performed under N₂ conditions. All the amino acids, Boc anhydride, Benzyl chloroformate, N-hydroxysuccinimide, NaBH₄, Oxone, HBTU, HOBT, Ethyl bromoacetate, Triphenyl Phosphine (PPh₃), Trifluoroacetic acid (TFA), N,N-Diisopropylethylamine (DIPEA), DMF, EtOAc, Hexane, were purchased from different commercial sources. Ethyl acetate, Hexane, and THF (over sodium) were distilled before use. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (60-120). Reactions were monitored by analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) and confirmed by UV light chamber and KMnO₄ or ninhydrin staining. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded in deuterated solvents on 400 MHz, 101 MHz, and 377 MHz NMR machines respectively using the residual solvent signal as the internal standard (CDCl₃). Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm, δ) relative to tetramethyl silane (δ 0.00). ¹H NMR splitting patterns are assigned as singlet (s), doublet (d), broad singlet (bs), triplet (t), doublet of doublets (dd), and quintet (qn). Coupling constants (*J*) are reported in Hertz (Hz). Mass spectra were recorded using HRMS Electron Spray Ionization (ESI). IR spectra were recorded on an IR spectrometer. HPLC was done using a Chiralpak[®]-IC column (4.6 mmφ x 250 mmL) of particle size 5 μm. The X-ray data were collected at low temperatures (100, 120 K and 150 K) on a Bruker APEX (II) DUO CCD diffractometer using Mo K_α (λ = 0.71073 Å) and Cu K_α radiation (λ = 1.54178 Å) graphite monochromated radiation.

2. Synthetic procedures for OPfp/ONp esters of (*E*)-vinyllogous amino acids.

The *N*-protected α,β-unsaturated γ-amino esters (Boc/CbzHN-(*S,E*)d^{2,3}γXxx-OEt) were prepared by the previously reported procedures.¹ Boc/Cbz and ethyl ester protecting groups were used to protect the *N*- terminus and *C*- terminus of the (*E*)-vinyllogous amino acids, respectively and the ethyl ester was deprotected by base hydrolysis using 1*N* NaOH, to obtain **1a-1g**.¹ The synthetic details of OPfp esters synthesis is given below. The purification of final OPfp esters was carried out through silica gel column chromatography using ethyl acetate and hexane solvent gradient as eluent.

A) General procedure for the synthesis of OPfp esters of (*E*)-vinyllogous amino acids (2a-2g**).**

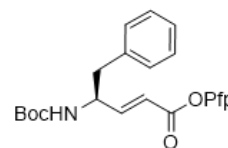


Scheme S1: Synthesis of active esters Boc/CbzHN-(*S,E*)-d^{2,3}γXxx-OPfp (**2a-2g**).

Boc/CbzHN-d^{2,3}γXxx-OH (2 mmol) was dissolved in 50 mL of EtOAc, to this solution DCC (459 mg, 2.2 mmol) was added under ice-cold conditions, after stirring the reaction mixture for about 5 min, pentafluorophenol (368 mg, 2 mmol) was added.² The reaction mixture was allowed to be stirred for 4 h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction (progress of the reaction monitored by TLC), filtration was done by using a sintered funnel for removing urea (DCU) from the reaction mixture in form of residue. The filtrate part containing the product was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude product was purified through a silica gel (60-120 mesh) column by ethyl acetate and hexane mixture as eluent.

Boc-(*S,E*)-d^{2,3}γPhe-OPfp (2a**)** A mixture of Boc-(*S,E*)-d^{2,3}γPhe-OH (**1a**, 582 mg, 2 mmol), DCC (454 mg, 2.2 mmol), EtOAc (50 mL) in 100 ml round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar was stirred vigorously for 5 min. at 0 °C under N₂ atmosphere. Then, pentafluorophenol (368 mg, 2 mmol) was added to the above reaction mixture. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after the completion of the reaction, filtration was done by using a sintered funnel for removing urea (DCU) from the reaction mixture in form of residue. The filtrate part containing the product was concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (1–10% EtOAc in hexane) to provide an active ester as a white solid in 94% yield.

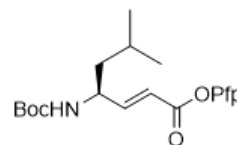
R_f = 0.85 (20% EtOAc in hexane). M.p. 102-104 °C. [α]_D²⁵ = +6 (c 0.1, MeOH). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.19 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 6.10 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (s, 1H), 4.61 (s, 1H), 2.96 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.42 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 161.82, 155.09, 153.40, 142.56, 140.87, 140.11, 139.28, 138.34, 136.74, 135.98, 129.48, 128.89, 127.30, 117.83, 80.44, 52.74, 40.70, 28.40. ¹⁹F NMR



(377 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -152.50, -158.07, -162.40. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{22}H_{20}F_5NO_4Na$ $[M+Na]^+$ m/z 480.1209 found 480.1206. IR: 1765 cm^{-1} .

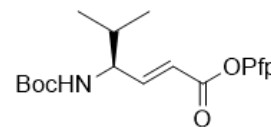
Boc-(*S,E*)- $d^{2,3}$ Leu-OPfp (2b) A mixture of Boc-(*S,E*)- $d^{2,3}$ Leu-OH (**1b**, 514 mg, 2 mmol), DCC (454 mg, 2.2 mmol), EtOAc (50 mL) in 100 ml round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar was stirred vigorously for 5 min. at 0 °C under N_2 atmosphere. Then, pentafluorophenol (368 mg, 2 mmol) was added to the above reaction mixture. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after the completion of the reaction, filtration was done by using a sintered funnel for removing urea (DCU) from the reaction mixture in form of residue. The filtrate part containing the product was concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (1–10% EtOAc in hexane) to provide an active ester as a white solid in 90% yield.

R_f = 0.85 (20% EtOAc in hexane). M.p. 97-99 °C. $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ = -22 (c 0.1, MeOH). 1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.16 (dd, J = 15.6, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.16 (dd, J = 15.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (s, 1H), 1.77 – 1.72 (m, 1H), 1.46 (s, 9H), 1.44 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 0.97 (dd, J = 6.6, 0.9 Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 162.06, 155.24, 154.80, 142.60, 140.86, 140.06, 139.29, 138.34, 136.75, 117.07, 80.24, 50.28, 43.61, 28.47, 24.94, 22.95, 22.12. ^{19}F NMR (377 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -152.40, -158.20, -162.42. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{19}H_{22}F_5NO_4Na$ $[M+Na]^+$ m/z 446.1366 found 446.1361. IR: 1765 cm^{-1} .



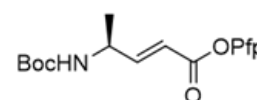
Boc-(*S,E*)- $d^{2,3}$ Val-OPfp (2c) A mixture of Boc-(*S,E*)- $d^{2,3}$ Val-OH (**1c**, 482 mg, 2 mmol), DCC (454 mg, 2.2 mmol), EtOAc (50 mL) in 100 ml round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar was stirred vigorously for 5 min. at 0 °C under N_2 atmosphere. Then, pentafluorophenol (368 mg, 2 mmol) was added to the above reaction mixture. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after the completion of the reaction, filtration was done by using a sintered funnel for removing urea (DCU) from the reaction mixture in form of residue. The filtrate part containing the product was concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (1–10% EtOAc in hexane) to provide an active ester as a white solid in 91% yield.

$R_f = 0.86$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). M.p. 129-131 °C. $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -25$ (c 0.1, MeOH). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 7.19 (dd, $J = 15.6, 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.17 (dd, $J = 15.6, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.30 (s, 1H), 1.99 – 1.89 (m, 1H), 1.47 (s, 9H), 0.98 (dd, $J = 12.5, 6.8$ Hz, 6H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 161.92, 155.48, 153.38, 142.71, 141.09, 140.11, 139.33, 138.36, 136.77, 118.23, 80.27, 57.15, 32.37, 28.49, 19.14, 18.19. $^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (377 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ -152.46, -158.15, -162.44. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{F}_5\text{NO}_4\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ m/z 432.1209 found 432.1215. IR: 1759 cm^{-1} .



Boc-(*S,E*)- $d^{2,3}$ γ Ala-OPfp (2d) A mixture of Boc-(*S,E*)- $d^{2,3}$ γ Ala-OH (**1d**, 430 mg, 2 mmol), DCC (454 mg, 2.2 mmol), EtOAc (50 mL) in 100 ml round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar was stirred vigorously for 5 min. at 0 °C under N_2 atmosphere. Then, pentafluorophenol (368, 2 mmol) was added to the above reaction mixture. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after the completion of the reaction, filtration was done by using a sintered funnel for removing urea (DCU) from the reaction mixture in form of residue. The filtrate part containing the product was concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (1–10% hexane in EtOAc) to provide an active ester as a white solid in 92% yield.

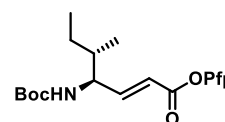
$R_f = 0.80$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). M.p. 91-93 °C. $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -29$ (c 0.1, MeOH). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 7.19 (dd, $J = 15.7, 4.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.14 (dd, $J = 15.7, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.63 (s, 1H), 4.51 (s, 1H), 1.46 (s, 9H), 1.34 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 162.04, 155.11, 155.04, 142.59, 140.86, 140.17, 139.28, 138.35, 136.75, 116.91, 80.30, 28.45, 20.12. $^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (377 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ -152.50, -158.16, -162.46. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_5\text{NO}_4\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ m/z 404.0896 found 404.0889. IR: 1764 cm^{-1} .



Boc-(*S,E*)- $d^{2,3}$ γ Ile-OPfp (2e) A mixture of Boc-(*S,E*)- $d^{2,3}$ γ Ile-OH (**1e**, 514 mg, 2 mmol), DCC (454 mg, 2.2 mmol), EtOAc (50 mL) in 100 ml round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar was stirred vigorously for 5 min. at 0 °C under N_2 atmosphere. Then, pentafluorophenol (368 mg, 2 mmol) was added to the above reaction mixture. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after the completion of the reaction, filtration was done by using a sintered funnel for

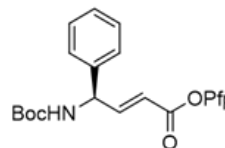
removing urea (DCU) from the reaction mixture in form of residue. The filtrate part containing the product was concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (1–10% EtOAc in hexane) to provide an active ester as a white solid in 90% yield.

$R_f = 0.85$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). M.p. 100-102 °C. $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -18.5$ (c 0.1, MeOH). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 7.18 (dd, $J = 15.7, 5.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.17 (dd, $J = 15.7, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.66 (d, $J = 9.1$ Hz, 1H), 4.39 (s, 1H), 1.73 – 1.66 (m, 1H), 1.54 – 1.48 (m, 1H), 1.47 (s, 9H), 1.19 (ddd, $J = 11.8, 8.3, 6.2$ Hz, 1H), 0.98 – 0.93 (m, 6H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 161.90, 155.41, 153.20, 140.09, 118.29, 80.24, 56.24, 39.14, 28.48, 25.49, 15.59, 11.75. $^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (377 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ -152.44, -158.17, -162.46. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{22}\text{F}_5\text{NO}_4\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ m/z 446.1366 found 446.1375. IR: 1764 cm^{-1} .



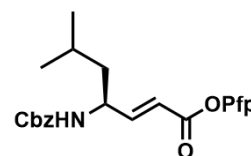
Boc-(*S,E*)- $d^{2,3}$ γ Phg-OPfp (2f) A mixture of Boc-(*S,E*)- $d^{2,3}$ γ Phg-OH (**1f**, 554 mg, 2 mmol), DCC (454 mg, 2.2 mmol), EtOAc (50 mL) in 100 ml round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar was stirred vigorously for 5 min. at 0 °C under N_2 atmosphere. Then, pentafluorophenol (368 mg, 2 mmol) was added to the above reaction mixture. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after the completion of the reaction, filtration was done by using a sintered funnel for removing urea (DCU) from the reaction mixture in form of residue. The filtrate part containing the product was concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (1–10% EtOAc in hexane) to provide an active ester as a white solid in 88% yield.

$R_f = 0.88$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). M.p. 136-138 °C. $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +9$ (c 0.1, MeOH). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 7.44 – 7.33 (m, 4H), 7.32 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 6.24 (dd, $J = 15.6, 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 4.95 (s, 1H), 1.47 (s, 9H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 161.87, 154.91, 152.76, 140.07, 139.32, 138.42, 136.73, 129.44, 128.75, 127.46, 125.13, 118.15, 80.76, 55.99, 28.47. $^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (377 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ -152.34, -157.99, -162.34. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{F}_5\text{NO}_4\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ m/z 466.1053 found 466.1053. IR: 1764 cm^{-1} .

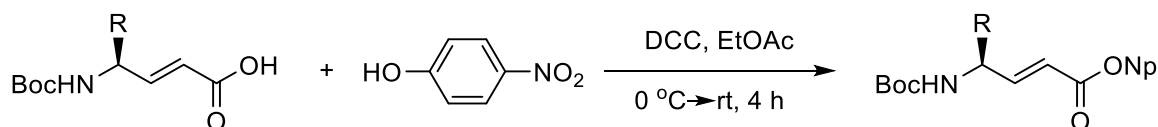


Cbz-(*S,E*)-d^{2,3}γLeu-OPfp (2g) A mixture of Cbz-(*S,E*)-d^{2,3}γLeu-OH (**1g**, 582 mg, 2 mmol), DCC (454 mg, 2.2 mmol), EtOAc (50 mL) in 100 ml round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar was stirred vigorously for 5 min. at 0 °C under N₂ atmosphere. Then, pentafluorophenol (368 mg, 2 mmol) was added to the above reaction mixture. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after the completion of the reaction, filtration was done by using a sintered funnel for removing urea (DCU) from the reaction mixture in form of residue. The filtrate part containing the product was concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (1–15% EtOAc in hexane) to provide an active ester as a white solid in 91% yield.

R_f = 0.82 (20% EtOAc in hexane). [α]_D²⁵ = -42 (*c* 0.1, MeOH). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 5H), 7.16 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 6.17 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (s, 2H), 4.83 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (p, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.74 (m, 1H), 1.48 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 0.97 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 161.95, 155.84, 154.04, 142.69, 140.87, 140.06, 139.28, 138.36, 136.75, 136.20, 128.74, 128.48, 128.32, 117.38, 67.35, 50.80, 43.46, 24.89, 22.91, 22.08. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ -152.39, -158.08, -162.40. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₂H₂₀F₅NO₄Na [M+Na]⁺ *m/z* 480.1210 found 480.1209. IR: 1765 cm⁻¹.



B) General procedure for the synthesis of ONp esters of (*E*)-vinyllogous amino acids (4a-4c).



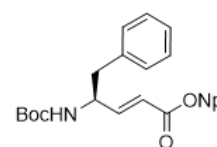
Scheme S2: Synthesis of active esters (**4a-4c**).

BocHN-d^{2,3}γXxx-OH (2 mmol) was dissolved in 50 mL of EtOAc, to this solution DCC (454 mg, 2.2 mmol) was added under ice-cold conditions, after stirring the reaction mixture for about 5 min, *p*-nitrophenol (278 mg, 2 mmol) was added.³ The reaction mixture was allowed to be stirred for 4 h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction (progress of the reaction monitored by TLC), filtration was done by using a sintered funnel for removing urea (DCU) from the reaction mixture in form of residue. The filtrate part containing the product was concentrated

under reduced pressure. The obtained crude product was purified through a silica gel (60-120 mesh) column by ethyl acetate and petroleum ethers mixture as eluent.

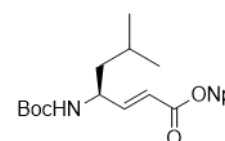
Boc-(*S,E*)-d^{2,3}γPhe-ONp (4a) A mixture of Boc-(*S,E*)-d^{2,3}γPhe-OH (**1a**, 582 mg, 2 mmol), DCC (454 mg, 2.2 mmol), EtOAc (50 mL) in 100 ml round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar was stirred vigorously for 5 min. at 0 °C under N₂ atmosphere. Then, *p*-nitrophenol (278 mg, 2 mmol) was added to the above reaction mixture. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after the completion of the reaction, filtration was done by using a sintered funnel for removing urea (DCU) from the reaction mixture in form of residue. The filtrate part containing the product was concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (1–15% EtOAc in hexane) to provide an active ester as a white solid in 93% yield.

R_f = 0.86 (20% EtOAc in hexane). M.p. 143-146 °C. [α]_D²⁵ = -2 (c 0.1, MeOH). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.30 – 8.25 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.22 – 7.14 (m, 3H), 6.07 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.70 (bs, 1H), 4.61 (s, 1H), 2.96 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.42 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 163.59, 155.51, 155.11, 151.78, 145.45, 136.13, 129.47, 128.89, 127.27, 125.34, 122.56, 119.66, 80.35, 52.75, 40.75, 28.44. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₂₂H₂₄N₂O₆Na [M+Na]⁺ *m/z* 435.1531 found 435.1522. IR: 1743 cm⁻¹.



Boc-(*S,E*)-d^{2,3}γLeu-ONp (4b) A mixture of Boc-(*S,E*)-d^{2,3}γLeu-OH (**1b**, 514 mg, 2 mmol), DCC (454 mg, 2.2 mmol), EtOAc (50 mL) in 100 ml round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar was stirred vigorously for 5 min. at 0 °C under N₂ atmosphere. Then, *p*-nitrophenol (278 mg, 2 mmol) was added to the above reaction mixture. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after the completion of the reaction, filtration was done by using a sintered funnel for removing urea (DCU) from the reaction mixture in form of residue. The filtrate part containing the product was concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (1–15% EtOAc in hexane) to provide an active ester as a white solid in 91% yield.

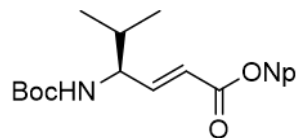
R_f = 0.81 (20% EtOAc in hexane). M.p. 67-69 °C. [α]_D²⁵ = -40 (c 0.1, MeOH). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 8.28 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 6.13 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.44 (t, *J* = 6.5, 1H), 1.73 (dq, *J* = 13.5, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.47 (s,



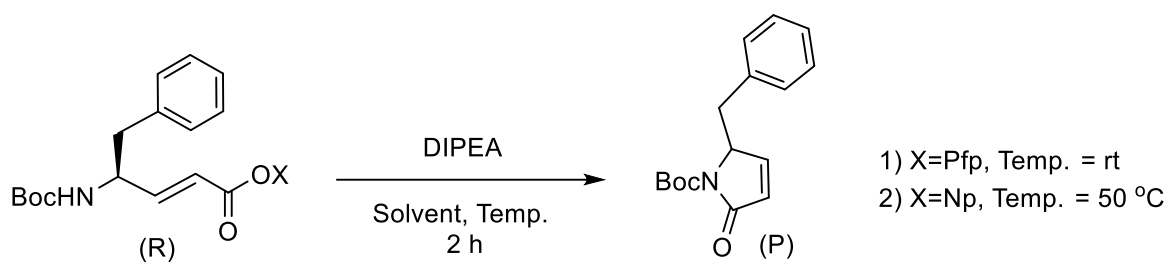
9H), 1.45 – 1.42 (m, 2H), 0.97 (dd, $J = 6.6, 1.3$ Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 163.83, 155.34, 153.04, 145.45, 126.32, 125.35, 122.59, 118.96, 115.77, 80.31, 50.30, 43.67, 28.51, 24.94, 22.89, 22.22. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ m/z 401.1688 found 401.1682. IR: 1740 cm^{-1} .

Boc-(*S,E*)- $\text{d}^{2,3}\gamma\text{Val-ONp}$ (4c) A mixture of Boc-(*S,E*)- $\text{d}^{2,3}\gamma\text{Val-OH}$ (**1c**, 482 mg, 2 mmol), DCC (454 mg, 2.2 mmol), EtOAc (50 mL) in 100 ml round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar was stirred vigorously for 5 min. at 0 °C under N_2 atmosphere. Then, *p*-nitrophenol (278 mg, 2 mmol) was added to the above reaction mixture. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after the completion of the reaction, filtration was done by using a sintered funnel for removing urea (DCU) from the reaction mixture in form of residue. The filtrate part containing the product was concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (1–15% EtOAc in hexane) to provide an active ester as a white solid in 90% yield.

$R_f = 0.80$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). M.p. 102-104 °C. $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -44$ (c 0.1, MeOH). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 8.28 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.12 (dd, $J = 15.6, 5.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.14 (dd, $J = 15.7, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.65 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.27 (s, 1H), 1.93 (dt, $J = 12.8, 6.3$ Hz, 1H), 1.47 (s, 9H), 0.98 (dd, $J = 11.2, 6.8$ Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 163.68, 155.53, 151.64, 145.45, 126.36, 125.34, 122.59, 120.06, 115.92, 80.21, 57.16, 32.32, 28.50, 19.11, 18.23. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ m/z 387.1531 found 387.1531. IR: 1740 cm^{-1} .



3. Reaction condition optimization

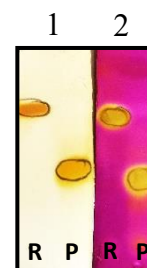


Scheme S3: Transformation of OPfp/ONp ester of α,β -unsaturated amino acid into α,β -unsaturated γ -lactam under various reaction conditions.

Table S1: List of solvents and reaction conditions used for lactamization.

Entry	Solvent	Base (eq.)	Yield ^a (%)
1	DMF	DiPEA (1)	35
2	Dry DMF	DiPEA (5)	88
3	EtOAc	DiPEA (5)	27
4	THF	DiPEA (5)	56
5	DCM	DiPEA (5)	42

^aIsolated yield.



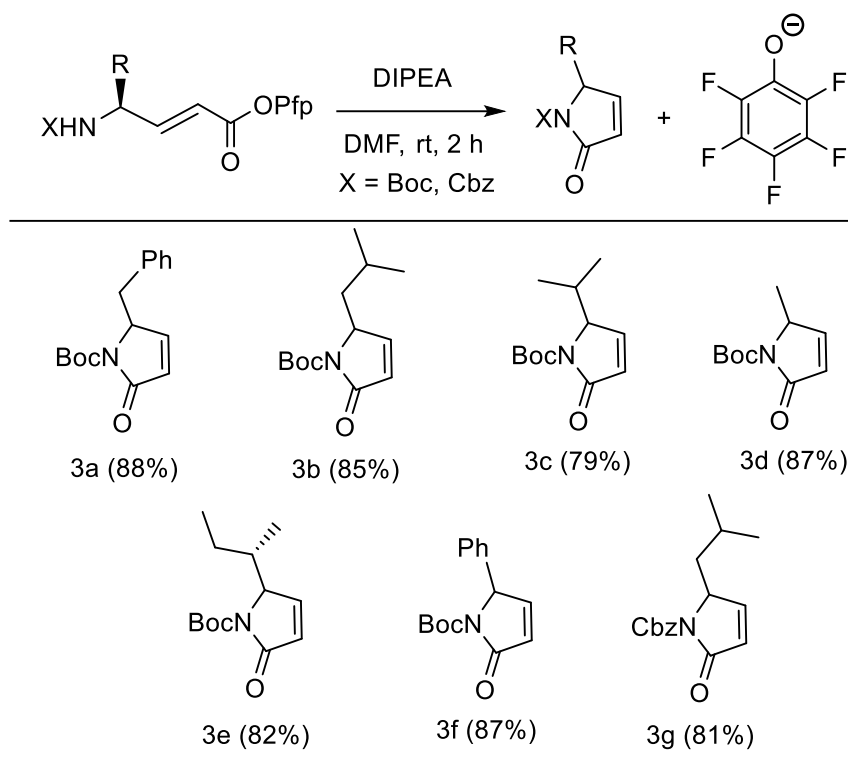
TLC in 20% EtOAc in Pet Ether.

1. Ninhydrin 2. KMnO₄ staining.

Fig. S1. TLC analysis of lactamization reaction.

4. Transformation of active esters into α,β -unsaturated γ -lactam.

A) Synthesis of α,β -unsaturated γ -lactam from OPfp esters.



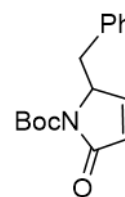
Scheme S4: Synthesis of N -protected-(Z)- α,β -unsaturated γ -lactam from OPfp esters of (E)-vinylglycine derivatives.

Boc- $d^{2,3}\gamma$ Xxx-OPfp (1 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of DMF, to this solution DIPEA (0.87 mL, 5 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), workup was done by diluting the reaction mixture with ethyl acetate (2×50 mL), followed by successive washings with 10% HCl (3×40 mL), 10% Na_2CO_3 (3×40 mL) and brine solution (3×25 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude product was purified through a silica gel (60-120 mesh) column by ethyl acetate and petroleum ethers mixture as eluent.

***tert*-butyl-2-benzyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (3a)** Boc- $d^{2,3}\gamma$ Phe-OPfp (457 mg, 1 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of dry DMF, in a 25 mL of a round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar. Then DIPEA (0.87 mL, 5 mmol) was added to the above solution, the

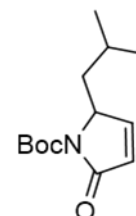
resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at room temperature under an N₂ atmosphere for 2 h. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after completion of the reaction workup was done by diluting the reaction mixture with ethyl acetate (100 mL), followed by successive washings with 10% HCl (3 × 40 mL), 10% Na₂CO₃ (3 × 40 mL) and brine solution (2 × 30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (5–25% EtOAc in hexane) to provide a **3a** as a white solid in 88% yield.

R_f = 0.55 (20% EtOAc in hexane). M.p. 99–102 °C. [α]_D²⁵ = +6 (c 0.1, MeOH). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.17 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 7.02 (dd, *J* = 6.1, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.02 (dd, *J* = 6.1, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (ddt, *J* = 9.5, 3.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.55 (dd, *J* = 13.1, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, *J* = 13.1, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 1.63 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 169.20, 150.05, 149.64, 135.76, 129.51, 128.84, 127.30, 126.79, 83.34, 63.51, 38.74, 28.37. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₉NO₃Na [M+Na]⁺ *m/z* 296.1262, found 296.1262.



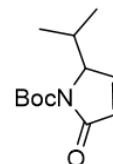
tert-butyl-2-isobutyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (3b) Boc-d^{2,3}γLeu-OPfp (423 mg, 1 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of dry DMF, in a 25 ml of round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar. Then DIPEA (0.87 mL, 5 mmol) was added to the above solution, the resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at room temperature under an N₂ atmosphere for 2 h. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after completion of the reaction workup was done by diluting the reaction mixture with ethyl acetate (100 mL), followed by successive washings with 10% HCl (3 × 40 mL), 10% Na₂CO₃ (3 × 40 mL) and brine solution (2 × 30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (5–25% EtOAc in hexane) to provide a **3b** as an oily liquid with an 85% yield.

R_f = 0.60 (20% EtOAc in hexane). [α]_D²⁵ = +2 (c 0.1, MeOH). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.22 (dd, *J* = 6.1, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (dd, *J* = 6.1, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (ddt, *J* = 9.9, 3.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 1.67 (td, *J* = 4.5, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 1.56 (s, 9H), 1.47 – 1.41 (m, 2H), 0.99 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 0.94 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 169.43, 150.69, 149.45, 126.46, 83.01, 61.54, 41.27, 28.28, 25.29, 24.05, 22.29. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₃H₂₁NO₃Na [M+Na]⁺ *m/z* 262.1418, found 262.1418.



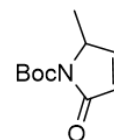
tert-butyl-2-isopropyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (3c) Boc-d^{2,3}γVal-OPfp (409 mg, 1 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of dry DMF, in a 25 ml of round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar. Then DIPEA (0.87 mL, 5 mmol) was added to the above solution, the resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at room temperature under an N₂ atmosphere for 2 h. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after completion of the reaction workup was done by diluting the reaction mixture with ethyl acetate (100 mL), followed by successive washings with 10% HCl (3 × 40 mL), 10% Na₂CO₃ (3 × 40 mL) and brine solution (2 × 30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (5–25% EtOAc in hexane) to provide a **3c** as an oily liquid in 79% yield.

R_f = 0.58 (20% EtOAc in hexane). [α]_D²⁵ = +4 (c 0.1, MeOH). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.12 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (dt, *J* = 3.9, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (qt, *J* = 6.9, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 1.54 (s, 9H), 1.09 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.66 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 169.70, 149.73, 147.94, 127.92, 83.00, 67.41, 28.99, 28.23, 19.63, 14.98. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₂H₁₉NO₃Na [M+Na]⁺ *m/z* 248.1262, found 248.1261.



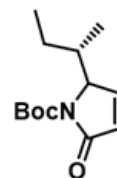
tert-butyl-2-methyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (3d) Boc-d^{2,3}γAla-OPfp (381 mg, 1 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of dry DMF, in a 25 ml of round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar. Then DIPEA (0.87 mL, 5 mmol) was added to the above solution, the resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at room temperature under an N₂ atmosphere for 2 h. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after completion of the reaction workup was done by diluting the reaction mixture with ethyl acetate (100 mL), followed by successive washings with 10% HCl (3 × 40 mL), 10% Na₂CO₃ (3 × 40 mL) and brine solution (2 × 30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (5–25% EtOAc in hexane) to provide a **3d** as an oily liquid in 87% yield.

R_f = 0.52 (20% EtOAc in hexane). [α]_D²⁵ = +6 (c 0.1, MeOH). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.09 (dd, *J* = 6.1, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (dd, *J* = 6.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (dt, *J* = 6.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 1.56 (s, 9H), 1.43 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 169.30, 151.90, 149.53, 126.07, 83.04, 58.53, 28.28, 18.30. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₁H₁₈NO₃Na [M+Na]⁺ *m/z* 220.0949, found 220.0955.



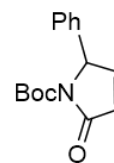
tert-butyl-2-((S)-sec-butyl)-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (3e) Boc-d^{2,3}γIle-OPfp (423 mg, 1 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of dry DMF, in a 25 ml of round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar. Then DIPEA (0.87 mL, 5 mmol) was added to the above solution, the resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at room temperature under an N₂ atmosphere for 2 h. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after completion of the reaction workup was done by diluting the reaction mixture with ethyl acetate (100 mL), followed by successive washings with 10% HCl (3 × 40 mL), 10% Na₂CO₃ (3 × 40 mL) and brine solution (2 × 30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (5–25% EtOAc in hexane) to provide a **3e** as an oily liquid in 82% yield.

R_f = 0.60 (20% EtOAc in hexane). [α]_D²⁵ = -6 (c 0.1, MeOH). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*, mixture of two isomers in ratio of 1:1) δ 7.12 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dd, *J* = 6.1, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.09 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (dt, *J* = 4.0, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (dt, *J* = 3.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (dddd, *J* = 20.7, 10.5, 7.0, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 1.53 (s, 18H), 1.44 – 1.23 (m, 4H), 1.06 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.02 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 0.82 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 0.61 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 169.79, 169.77, 149.66, 149.57, 148.31, 148.12, 127.86, 127.40, 82.94, 67.60, 66.10, 35.87, 35.81, 28.22, 28.20, 27.31, 22.59, 16.59, 12.66, 12.37, 12.26. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₃H₂₁NO₃Na [M+Na]⁺ *m/z* 262.1418, found 262.1418.



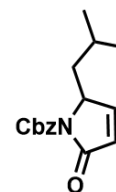
tert-butyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (3f) Boc-d^{2,3}γPhg-OPfp (443 mg, 1 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of dry DMF, in a 25 ml of round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar. Then DIPEA (0.87 mL, 5 mmol) was added to the above solution, the resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at room temperature under an N₂ atmosphere for 2 h. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after completion of the reaction workup was done by diluting the reaction mixture with ethyl acetate (100 mL), followed by successive washings with 10% HCl (3 × 40 mL), 10% Na₂CO₃ (3 × 40 mL) and brine solution (2 × 30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (5–25% EtOAc in hexane) to provide a **3f** as a white solid with an 87% yield.

$R_f = 0.59$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). M.p. 102-104 °C. $[\alpha]_D^{25} = 0$ (c 0.1, MeOH). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 3H), 7.21 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.06 (dd, $J = 6.0$, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.16 (dd, $J = 6.0$, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.53 (t, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.27 (s, 9H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 170.00, 150.31, 148.78, 135.85, 129.00, 128.62, 126.62, 125.44, 83.09, 66.39, 27.89. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ m/z$ 282.1105, found 282.1103.

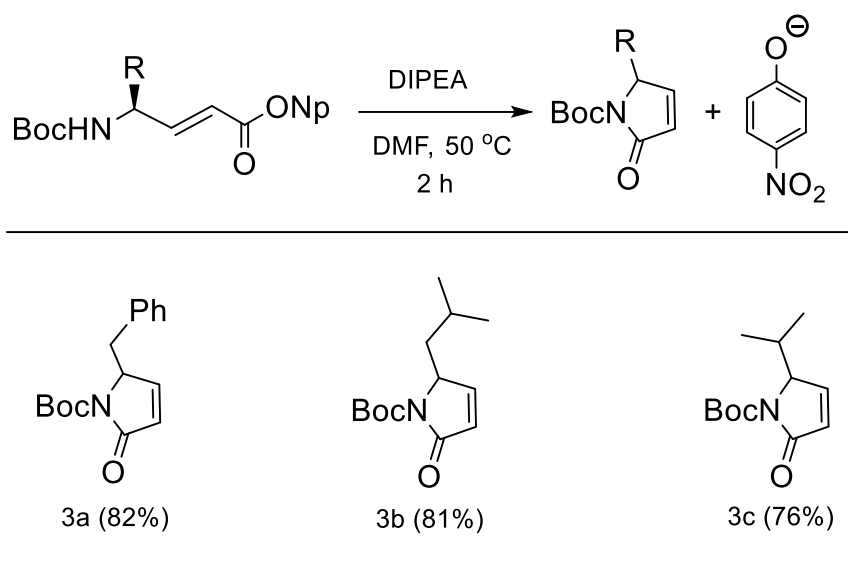


benzyl 2-isobutyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (3g) Cbz- $d^{2,3}\gamma$ Leu-OPfp (457 mg, 1 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of dry DMF, in a 25 ml of round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar. Then DIPEA (0.87 mL, 5 mmol) was added to the above solution, the resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at room temperature under an N_2 atmosphere for 2 h. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after completion of the reaction workup was done by diluting the reaction mixture with ethyl acetate (100 mL), followed by successive washings with 10% HCl (3×40 mL), 10% Na_2CO_3 (3×40 mL) and brine solution (2×30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (5–25% EtOAc in hexane) to provide a **3g** as an oily liquid with an 81% yield.

$R_f = 0.55$ (30% EtOAc in hexane). $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +4$ (c 0.1, MeOH). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 7.46 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.27 (dd, $J = 6.1$, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (dd, $J = 6.1$, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.36 (d, $J = 12.3$ Hz, 1H), 5.27 (d, $J = 12.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.66 (ddd, $J = 7.5$, 3.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 2.0 – 1.94 (m, 1H), 1.69 – 1.62 (m, 1H), 1.45 – 1.38 (m, 1H), 0.93 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H), 0.88 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (101 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 168.92, 151.42, 150.93, 135.42, 128.71, 128.52, 128.34, 126.17, 68.07, 61.60, 40.96, 25.24, 23.85, 22.14. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_3$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ m/z$ 274.1443, found 274.1439.



B) Synthesis of α,β -unsaturated gamma lactam from ONp esters.



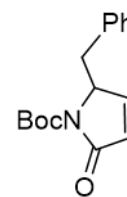
Scheme S5: Synthesis of N -Boc-(Z)- α,β -unsaturated γ -lactam from ONp esters of (E)-vinyllogous amino acids.

BocHN- $d^{2,3}\gamma$ Xxx-ONp (1 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of DMF, to this solution DIPEA (0.87 mL, 5 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred 2 h at 50 °C. After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), workup was done by diluting the reaction mixture with ethyl acetate (50 mL), followed by successive washings with 10% HCl (3 \times 40 mL), 10% Na₂CO₃ (3 \times 40 mL) and brine solution (2 \times 30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude product was purified through a silica gel (60-120 mesh) column by ethyl acetate and petroleum ethers mixture as eluent.

***tert*-butyl-2-benzyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (3a)** Boc- $d^{2,3}\gamma$ Phe-ONp (428 mg, 1 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of dry DMF, in a 25 ml of a round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar. Then DIPEA (0.87 mL, 5 mmol) was added to the above solution, the resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at 50 °C under an N₂ atmosphere for 2 h. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after completion of the reaction workup was done by diluting the reaction mixture with ethyl acetate (100 mL), followed by successive washings with 10% HCl (3 \times 40 mL), 10% Na₂CO₃ (3 \times 40 mL) and brine solution (2 \times 30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The

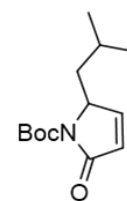
reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (5–25% EtOAc in hexane) to provide **3a** as an oily liquid in 82% yield.

$R_f = 0.59$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). M.p. 99–102 °C. $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +6$ (c 0.1, MeOH). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.17 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 7.02 (dd, $J = 6.1$, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.02 (dd, $J = 6.1$, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (ddt, $J = 9.5$, 3.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.55 (dd, $J = 13.1$, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, $J = 13.1$, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 1.63 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 169.20, 150.05, 149.64, 135.76, 129.51, 128.84, 127.30, 126.79, 83.34, 63.51, 38.74, 28.37. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ m/z 296.1262, found 296.1262.



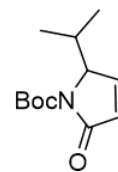
tert-butyl-2-isobutyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (3b) Boc- $d^{2,3}\gamma$ Leu-ONp (394 mg, 2 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of dry DMF, in a 25 ml of round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar. Then DIPEA (1.74 mL, 5 mmol) was added to the above solution, the resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at 50 °C under an N_2 atmosphere for 2 h. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after completion of the reaction workup was done by diluting the reaction mixture with ethyl acetate (100 mL), followed by successive washings with 10% HCl (3×40 mL), 10% Na_2CO_3 (3×40 mL) and brine solution (2×30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (5–25% EtOAc in hexane) to provide **3b** as an oily liquid in 81% yield.

$R_f = 0.60$ (20% EtOAc in hexane). $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +2$ (c 0.1, MeOH). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 7.22 (dd, $J = 6.1$, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (dd, $J = 6.1$, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (ddt, $J = 9.9$, 3.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 1.69 (ddd, $J = 9.3$, 4.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 1.55 (s, 9H), 1.47 – 1.40 (m, 2H), 0.99 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H), 0.94 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform- d) δ 169.43, 150.69, 149.45, 126.46, 83.01, 61.54, 41.27, 28.28, 25.29, 24.05, 22.29. HRMS (ESI) calculated for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ m/z 262.1418, found 262.1418.



tert-butyl-2-isopropyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (3c) Boc-d^{2,3}Val-ONp (380 mg, 1 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of dry DMF, in a 25 ml of round bottom flask with a magnetic stirring bar. Then DIPEA (0.87 mL, 5 mmol) was added to the above solution, the resulting mixture was stirred vigorously at 50 °C under an N₂ atmosphere for 2 h. The progress of the reaction is monitored by TLC, after completion of the reaction workup was done by diluting the reaction mixture with ethyl acetate (100 mL), followed by successive washings with 10% HCl (3 × 40 mL), 10% Na₂CO₃ (3 × 40 mL) and brine solution (2 × 30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (5–25% EtOAc in hexane) to provide a **3c** as an oily liquid with a 76% yield.

R_f = 0.58 (20% EtOAc in hexane). [α]_D²⁵ = +4 (c 0.1, MeOH). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.12 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (dt, *J* = 3.9, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (qt, *J* = 6.9, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 1.54 (s, 9H), 1.09 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.66 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 169.70, 149.73, 147.94, 127.92, 83.00, 67.41, 28.99, 28.23, 19.63, 14.98. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₂H₁₉NO₃Na [M+Na]⁺ *m/z* 248.1262, found 248.1261.



5. Determining the kinetic parameters of lactamization reaction by UV experiment.

The samples of various concentrations are prepared by dissolving (**4a-4c**) in DMF solvent. All spectra were recorded in presence of 5 eq. of DIPEA. The molar extinction coefficient (ϵ) for the 4-nitrophenolate ion was obtained $4110 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ by plotting the absorbance against concentration, under the reaction condition. As shown in Fig. S2, the 4-nitrophenolate ion uniquely absorbs at 431 nm, which was used to spectrophotometrically monitor the formation of the product, as the 4-nitrophenolate ion releases from the substrate as the reaction proceeds shown in Scheme 5. To measure the kinetic parameter of the lactamization reaction, we use ($29.42 \mu\text{M}$ solutions of **4a/4b/4c** and 5 eq. of DIPEA), where the first-order equation reduces to $\ln[A]_t = \ln[A]_0 - kt$ ($[A]_t$: concentration of a reactant at time t ; $[A]_0$: initial concentration of reactant; k : rate constant). The standard curve was first generated to determine the product concentration at a given time from the observed absorbance at 431 nm. The observed absorbance was used to determine the value of $[A]_t$. Plotting $\ln[A]_t$ against time yielded the rate constant, using linear fit method. All the kinetic experiments were performed at 50°C .

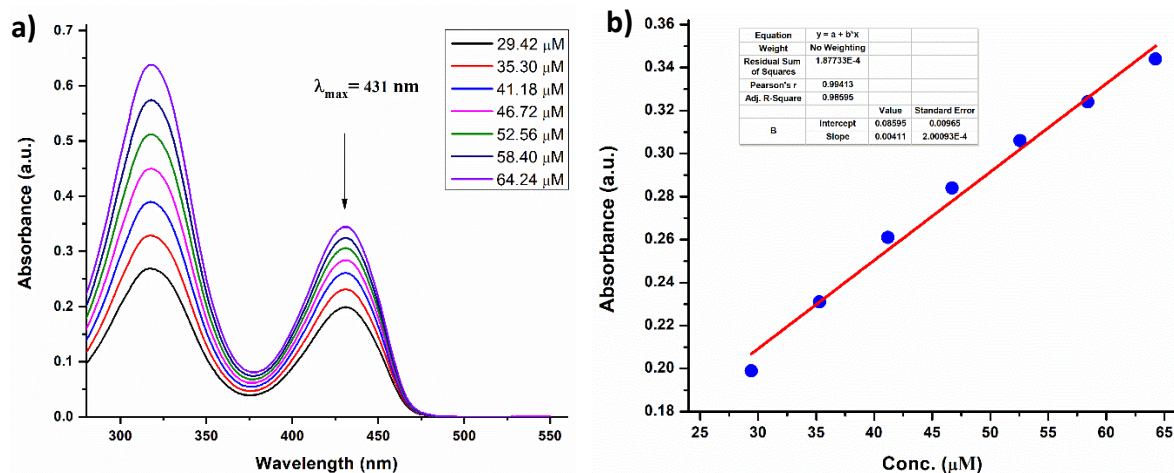


Fig. S2: **a)** λ_{max} 431 nm of 4-nitrophenolate ion under reaction conditions. **b)** Plot of absorbance against concentration.

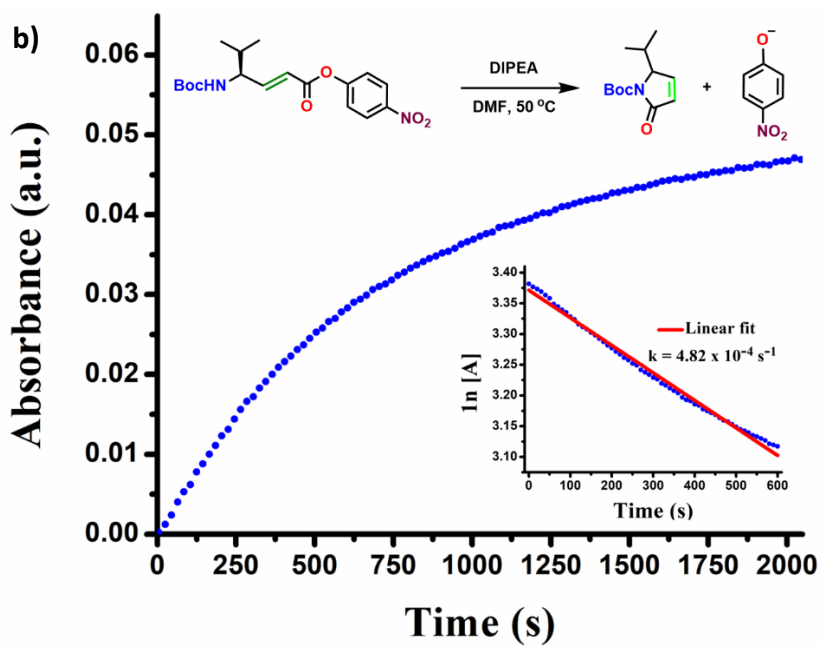
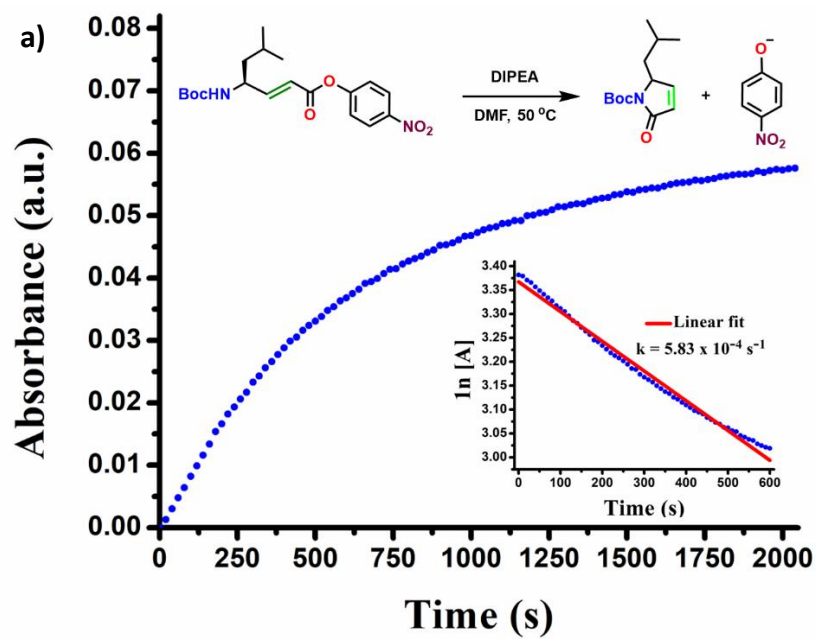


Fig. S3: Kinetic analysis for the transformation of ONp esters into the corresponding α,β -unsaturated γ -lactams (a) **4b** to **3b** and (b) **4c** to **3c**.

6. Determination of the extent of activation by ^1H NMR and IR Experiment

The comparison of ^1H NMR spectra of Boc-dg-Leu-OPfp (**2b**), Boc-dg-Leu-ONp (**4b**), and Boc-dg-Leu-OH (**1b**) shows that a significant increase in chemical shift of protons H1 and H2 in active esters due to the strong electron-withdrawing nature of -ONp and -OPfp groups shown in Fig. S4. The difference in chemical shifts shown in **Table S2** is more for H2 protons compared to H1 protons for both the active esters, this is because H2 is present near the electron-withdrawing groups.

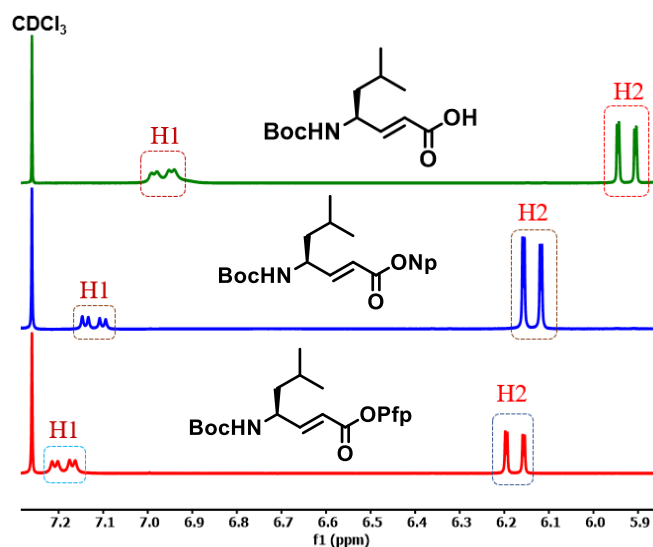
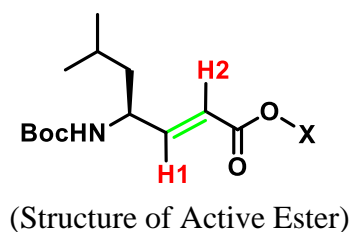


Fig. S4: Combined Partial ^1H NMR spectra of OPfp, ONp esters of α,β -unsaturated γ -amino acid and α,β -unsaturated γ -amino acid.

Table S2: Comparison of chemical shifts of active esters with α,β -unsaturated γ -amino acid.

Active Ester	$\Delta\delta = (\delta_{\text{active ester}} - \delta_{\text{acid}})$ in ppm	
	H1	H2
4b	0.15	0.21
2b	0.22	0.25



The active esters can be arranged for their activating properties in approximately the order: ONp < OPfp. One of the pieces of evidence of this reactivity order was obtained from the comparison IR stretching frequency of the active ester Boc-dg-Phe-OPfp (**2a**) 1766 cm^{-1} and Boc-dg-Phe-ONp (**4a**) 1743 cm^{-1} with their parent molecule Boc-dg-Phe-OH (**1a**) 1699 cm^{-1} shown in Fig. S5. It has been observed that Boc-dg-Phe-OPfp (**2a**) undergoes lactamization reaction at room temperature due to the more activating nature of the -OPfp group confirmed by the IR stretching frequency. However, Boc-dg-Phe-ONp (**4a**) undergoes the same reaction at elevated temperature (50 °C) due to the less activating nature of the -ONp group confirmed by the IR stretching frequency.

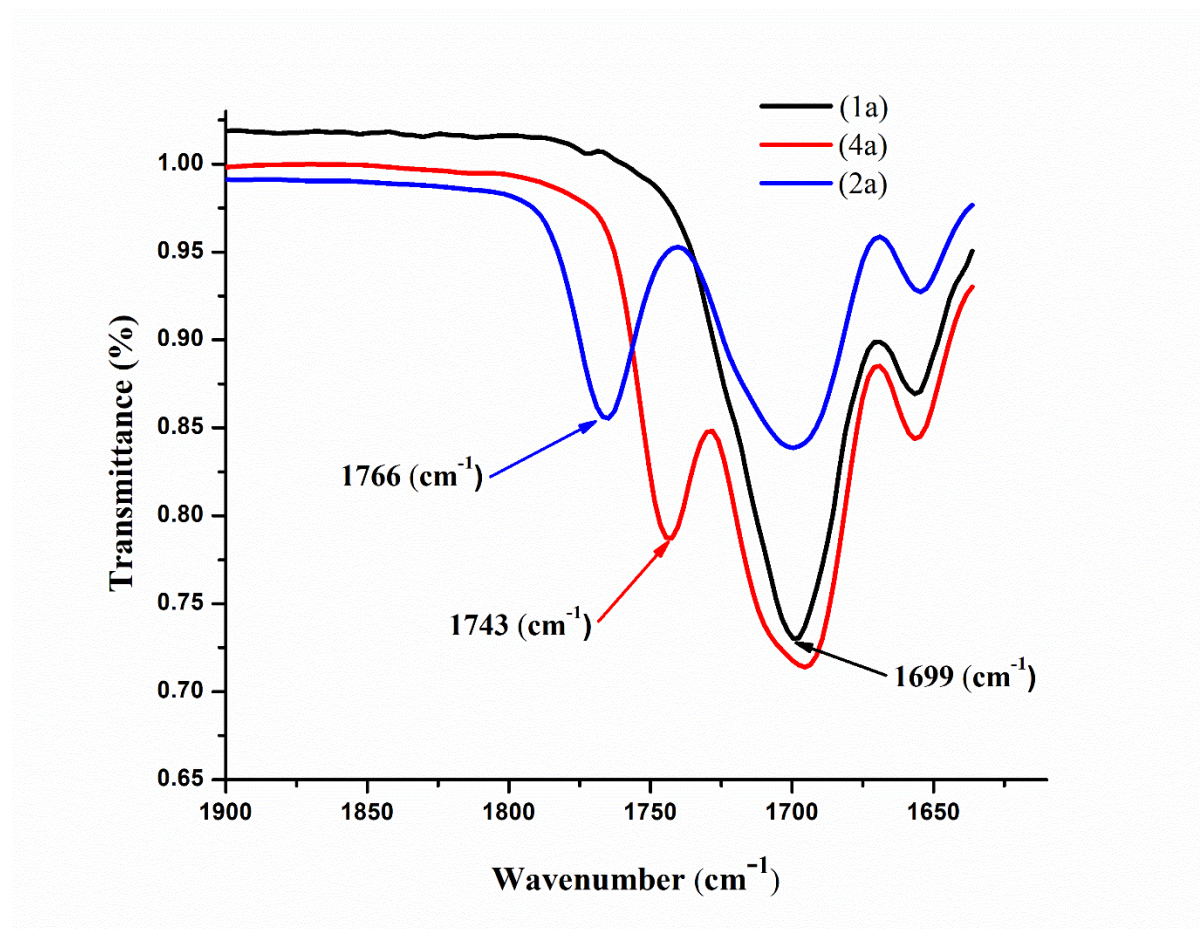


Fig. S5: Combined Partial IR spectra of active esters and α,β -unsaturated γ -amino acid.

7. ORTEP Diagrams

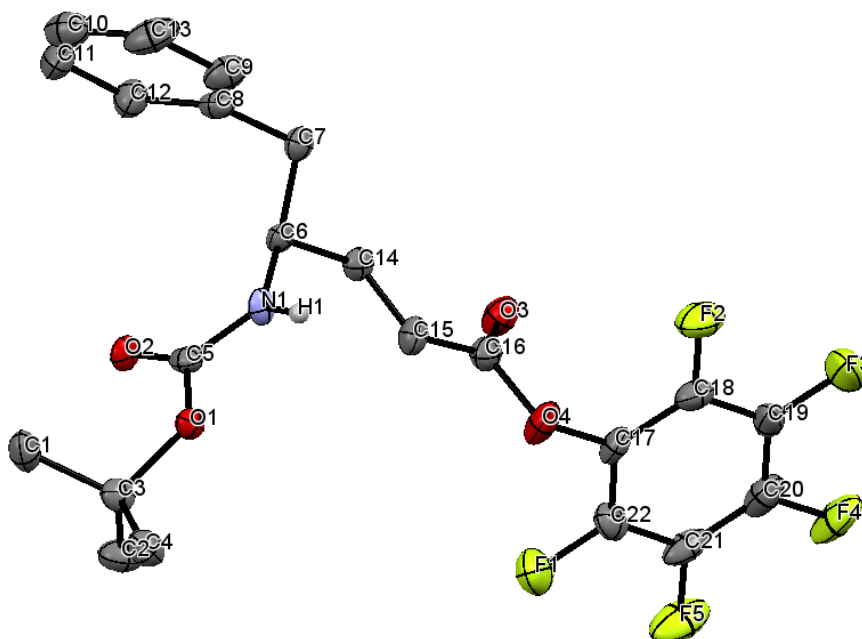


Fig. S6: ORTEP diagram of compound **2a**. H-atoms are omitted for clarity. Ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability (CCDC no 2212219).

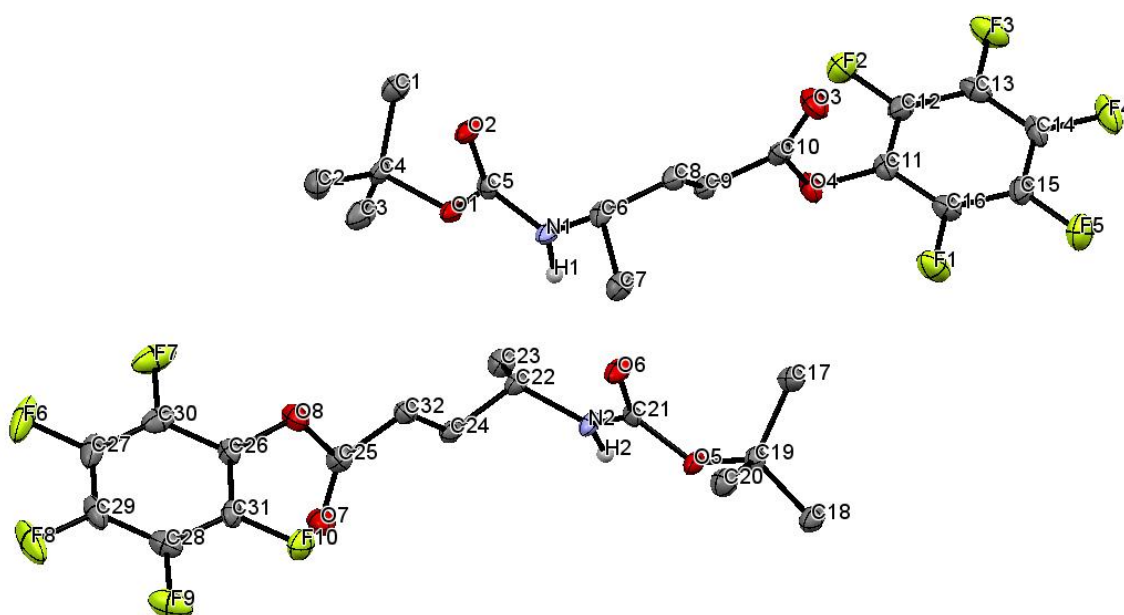


Fig. S7: ORTEP diagram of compound **2d**. H-atoms are omitted for clarity. Ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability (CCDC no 2212205).

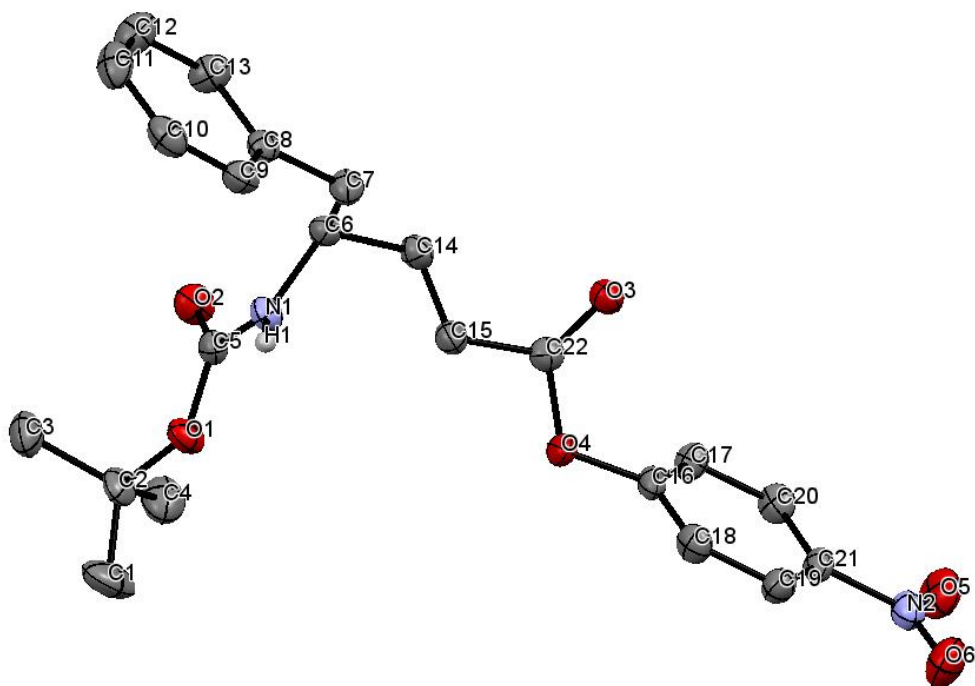


Fig. S8: ORTEP diagram of compound **4a**. H-atoms are omitted for clarity. Ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability (CCDC no 2212221).

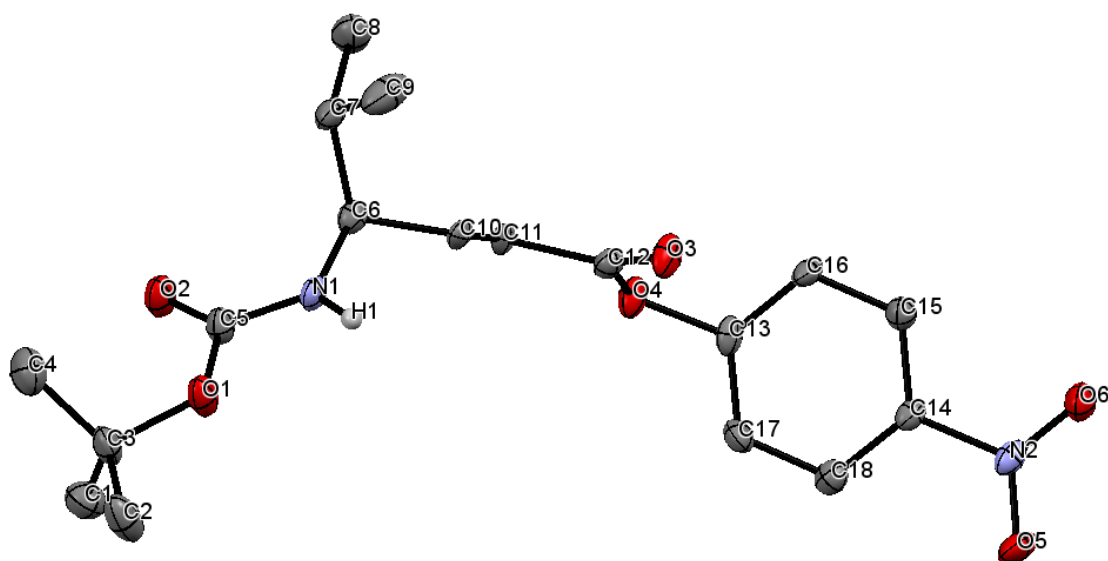


Fig. S9: ORTEP diagram of compound **4c**. H-atoms are omitted for clarity. Ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability (CCDC no 2212220).

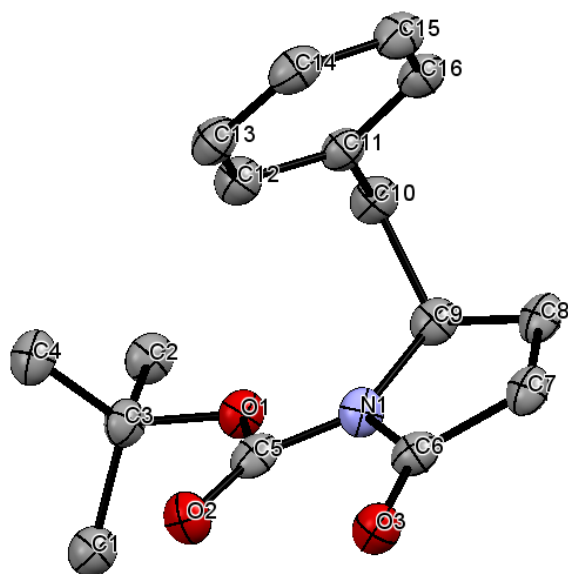


Fig. S10: ORTEP diagram of compound **3a**. H-atoms are omitted for clarity. Ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability (CCDC no 2225785).

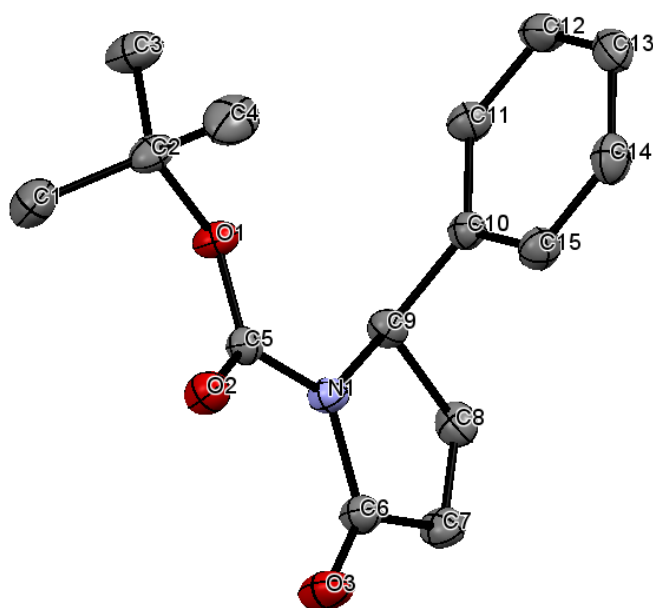


Fig. S11: ORTEP diagram of compound **3f**. H-atoms are omitted for clarity. Ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability (CCDC no 2212223).

Crystallographic Information:

Boc-dg-Phe-OPfp 2a: Crystals of **2a** were grown by slow evaporation from a solution of aqueous methanol at room temperature. A single crystal ($0.16 \times 0.05 \times 0.12$ mm) was mounted on a loop with a small amount of paraffin oil. The X-ray data were collected at 120K temperature on a Bruker APEX(II) DUO CCD diffractometer using Mo K_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$), ω -scans ($2\theta = 56.896$), for a total of 15970 independent reflections. Space group P 21, $a = 10.469$ (6), $b = 9.455$ (6), $c = 11.567$ (6), $\alpha = 90$, $\beta = 110.556$ (14), $\gamma = 90$, $V = 1072.1(10) \text{ \AA}^3$, Monoclinic, $Z = 2$ for chemical formula $C_{22}H_{20}F_5N_4O_4$, with one molecule in asymmetric unit; ρ calcd = 1.417 g cm^{-3} , $\mu = 0.125 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, $F(000) = 472$, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.1422$. The structure was obtained by direct methods using SHELXS-97. The final R value was 0.0687 ($wR_2 = 0.1476$) 4988 observed reflections ($F_o \geq 4\sigma(|F_o|)$) and 293 variables, $S = 0.893$.

Boc-dg-Ala-OPfp 2d: Crystals of **2d** were grown by slow evaporation from a solution of aqueous methanol at room temperature. A single crystal ($0.14 \times 0.1 \times 0.06$ mm) was mounted on a loop with a small amount of paraffin oil. The X-ray data were collected at 150K temperature on a Bruker APEX(II) DUO CCD diffractometer using Mo K_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$), ω -scans ($2\theta = 49.654$), for a total of 16604 independent reflections. Space group P 1, $a = 6.2002$ (9), $b = 9.3687$ (12), $c = 15.799$ (2), $\alpha = 101.093$ (4), $\beta = 99.079$ (4), $\gamma = 105.428$ (4), $V = 846.7$ (2) \AA^3 , Triclinic, $Z = 2$ for chemical formula $C_{16}H_{16}F_5N_4O_4$, with two molecules in asymmetric unit; ρ calcd = 1.496 g cm^{-3} , $\mu = 0.142 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, $F(000) = 392$, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0407$. The structure was obtained by direct methods using SHELXS-97. The final R value was 0.0326 ($wR_2 = 0.0631$) 5740 observed reflections ($F_o \geq 4\sigma(|F_o|)$) and 478 variables, $S = 1.023$.

Boc-dg-Phe-ONp 4a: Crystals of **4a** were grown by slow evaporation from a solution of aqueous methanol at room temperature. A single crystal ($0.15 \times 0.07 \times 0.06$ mm) was mounted on a loop with a small amount of paraffin oil. The X-ray data were collected at 150K temperature on a Bruker APEX(II) DUO CCD diffractometer using Cu K_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$), ω -scans ($2\theta = 66.768$), for a total of 26912 independent reflections. Space group P 21 21 21, $a = 6.1910$ (7), $b = 14.7184$ (16), $c = 22.774$ (3), $\alpha = 90$, $\beta = 90$, $\gamma = 90$, $V = 2075.2$ (4) \AA^3 , Orthorhombic, $Z = 4$ for chemical formula $C_{22}H_{24}N_2O_6$, with one molecule in

asymmetric unit; ρ calcd = 1.32 gcm⁻³, μ = 0.803 mm⁻¹, F (000) = 872, R_{int} = 0.1486. The structure was obtained by direct methods using SHELXS-97. The final R value was 0.0408 (wR2 = 0.0922) 3681 observed reflections ($F_0 \geq 4\sigma(|F_0|)$) and 275 variables, S = 1.037.

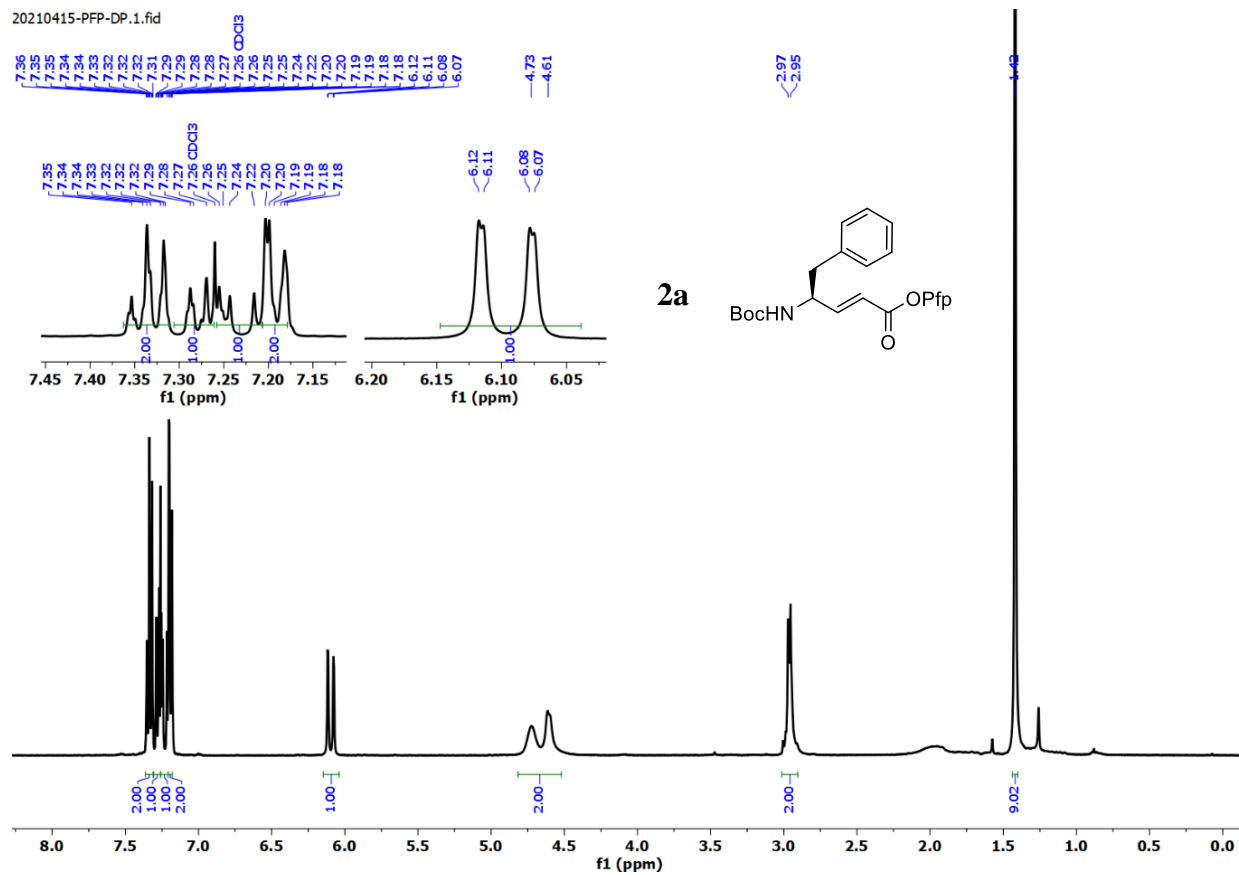
Boc-dg-Val-ONp 4c: Crystals of **4c** were grown by slow evaporation from a solution of aqueous methanol at room temperature. A single crystal (0.12 × 0.07 × 0.05 mm) was mounted on a loop with a small amount of paraffin oil. The X-ray data were collected at 150K temperature on a Bruker APEX(II) DUO CCD diffractometer using Mo K α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å), ω -scans (2θ = 57.602), for a total of 26912 independent reflections. Space group P 21, a = 6.216 (3), b = 5.362 (3), c = 28.415 (13), α = 90, β = 95.424(12), γ = 90, V = 942.8(8) Å³, Monoclinic, Z = 2 for chemical formula C₁₈H₂₄N₂O₆, with one molecule in asymmetric unit; ρ calcd = 1.284 gcm⁻³, μ = 0.097 mm⁻¹, F (000) = 388, R_{int} = 0.1842. The structure was obtained by direct methods using SHELXS-97. The final R value was 0.0899 (wR2 = 0.2110) 4704 observed reflections ($F_0 \geq 4\sigma(|F_0|)$) and 241 variables, S = 1.085.

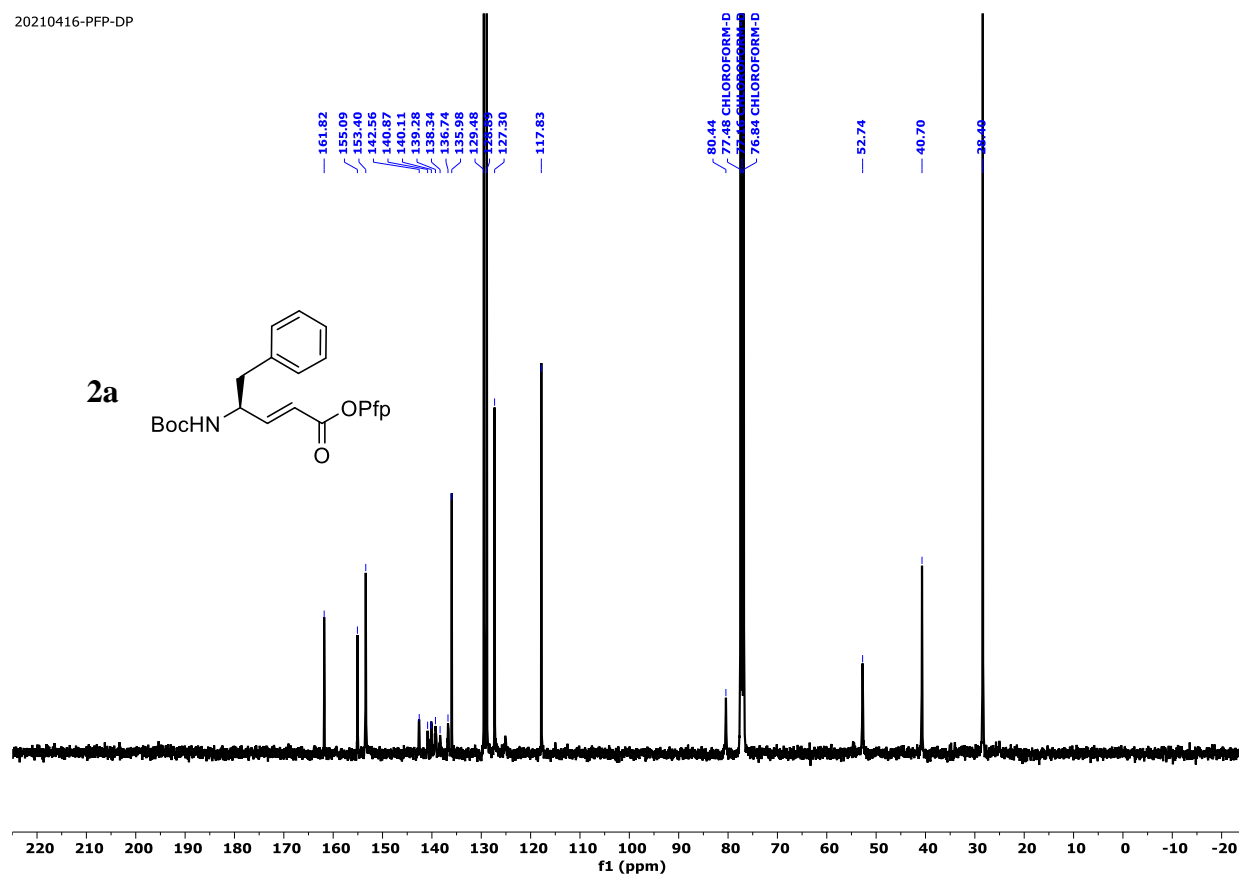
tert-butyl 2-benzyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate 3a: Crystals of **3a** were grown by slow evaporation from a solution of ethyl acetate-pet ether at room temperature. A single crystal (0.11 × 0.6 × 0.08 mm) was mounted on a loop with a small amount of paraffin oil. The X-ray data were collected at 100K temperature on a Bruker APEX(II) DUO CCD diffractometer using Mo K α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å), ω -scans (2θ = 56.76), for a total of 20509 independent reflections. Space group P 21/n, a = 6.146 (3), b = 14.129 (7), c = 16.674 (8), α = 90, β = 99.499 (14), γ = 90, V = 1427.9 (12) Å³, Monoclinic, Z = 4 for chemical formula C₁₆H₁₉N O₃, with one molecule in the asymmetric unit; ρ calcd = 1.271 gcm⁻³, μ = 0.088 mm⁻¹, F (000) = 5, R_{int} = 0.0525. The structure was obtained by direct methods using SHELXS-97. The final R value was 0.0723 (wR2 = 0.1772) 3576 observed reflections ($F_0 \geq 4\sigma(|F_0|)$) and 185 variables, S = 0.790.

tert-butyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate 3f: Crystals of **3f** were grown by slow evaporation from a solution of ethyl acetate-pet ether at room temperature. A single crystal (0.13 × 0.8 × 0.05 mm) was mounted on a loop with a small amount of paraffin oil. The X-ray data were collected at 150K temperature on a Bruker APEX(II) DUO CCD

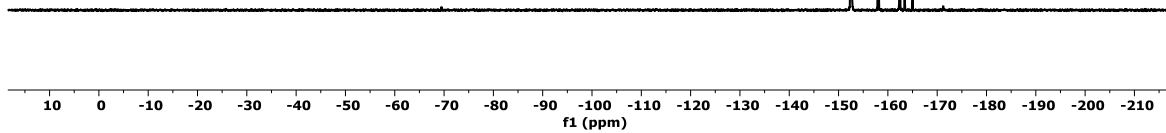
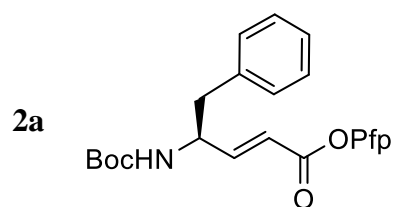
diffractometer using Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$), ω -scans ($2\theta = 56.76$), for a total of 20800 independent reflections. Space group P 21/c, $a = 6.2063 (11)$, $b = 13.323 (3)$, $c = 16.945 (3)$, $\alpha = 90$, $\beta = 91.668 (6)$, $\gamma = 90$, $V = 1400.6 (4) \text{ \AA}^3$, Monoclinic, $Z = 4$ for chemical formula C₁₅ H₁₇ N O₃, with one molecule in the asymmetric unit; $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.23 \text{ gcm}^{-3}$, $\mu = 0.086 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, $F(000) = 552$, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0525$. The structure was obtained by direct methods using SHELXS-97. The final R value was 0.0416 ($wR2 = 0.0915$) 3509 observed reflections ($F_o \geq 4\sigma(|F_o|)$) and 176 variables, $S = 1.022$.

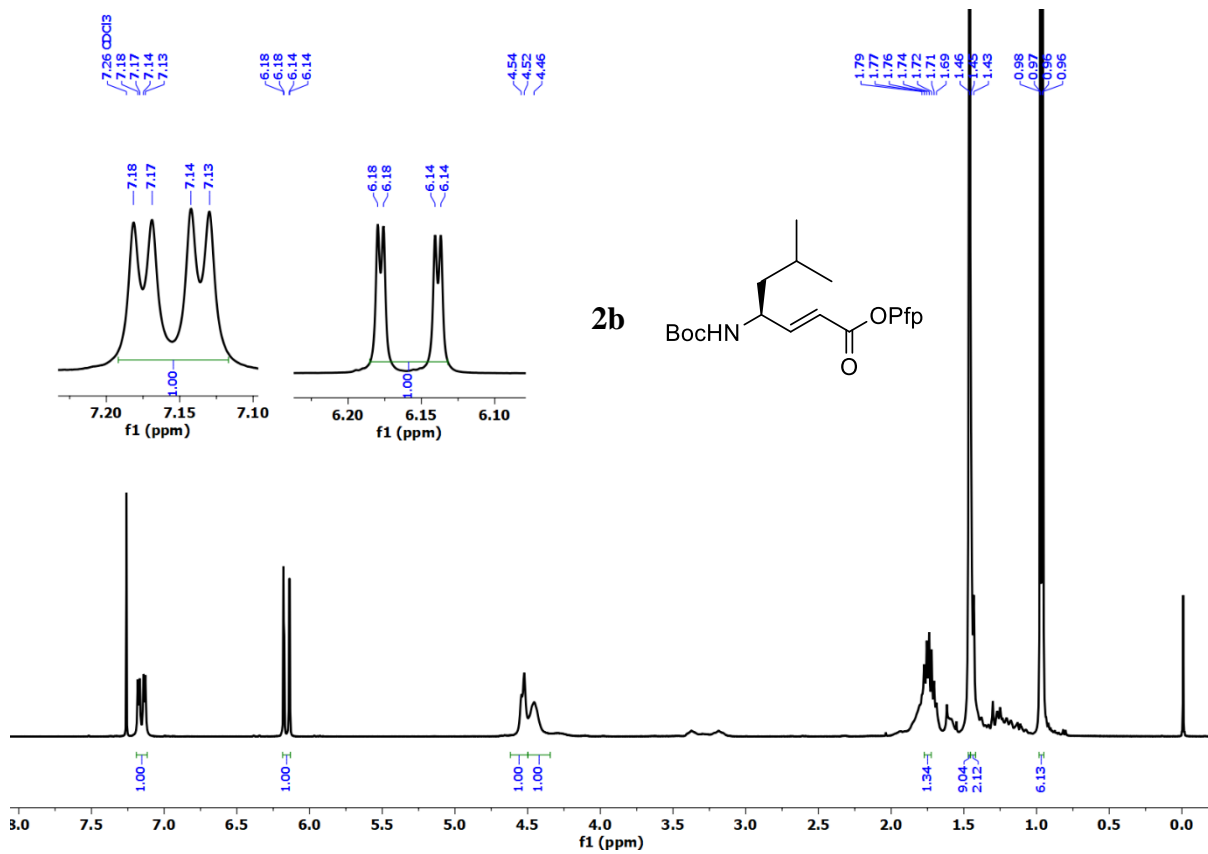
8. ^1H , ^{13}C , and ^{19}F NMR of all compounds

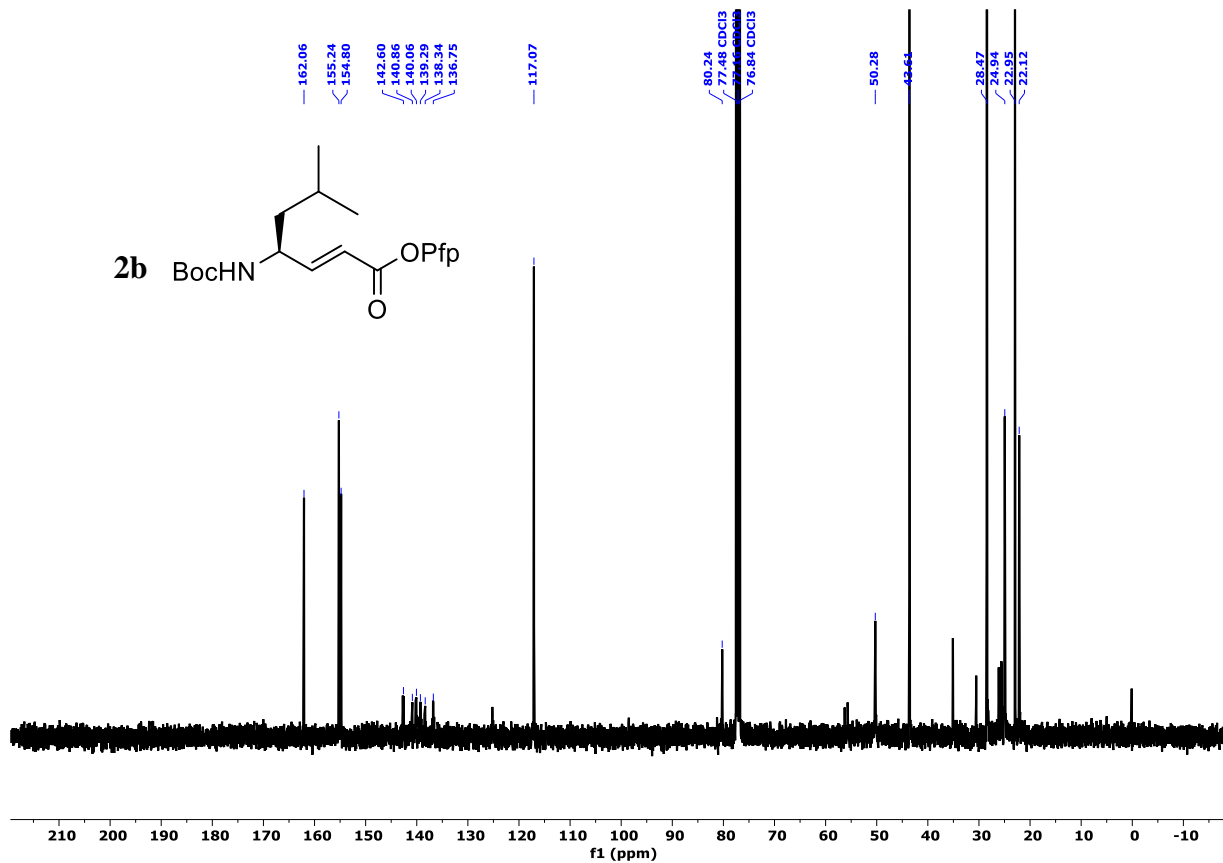


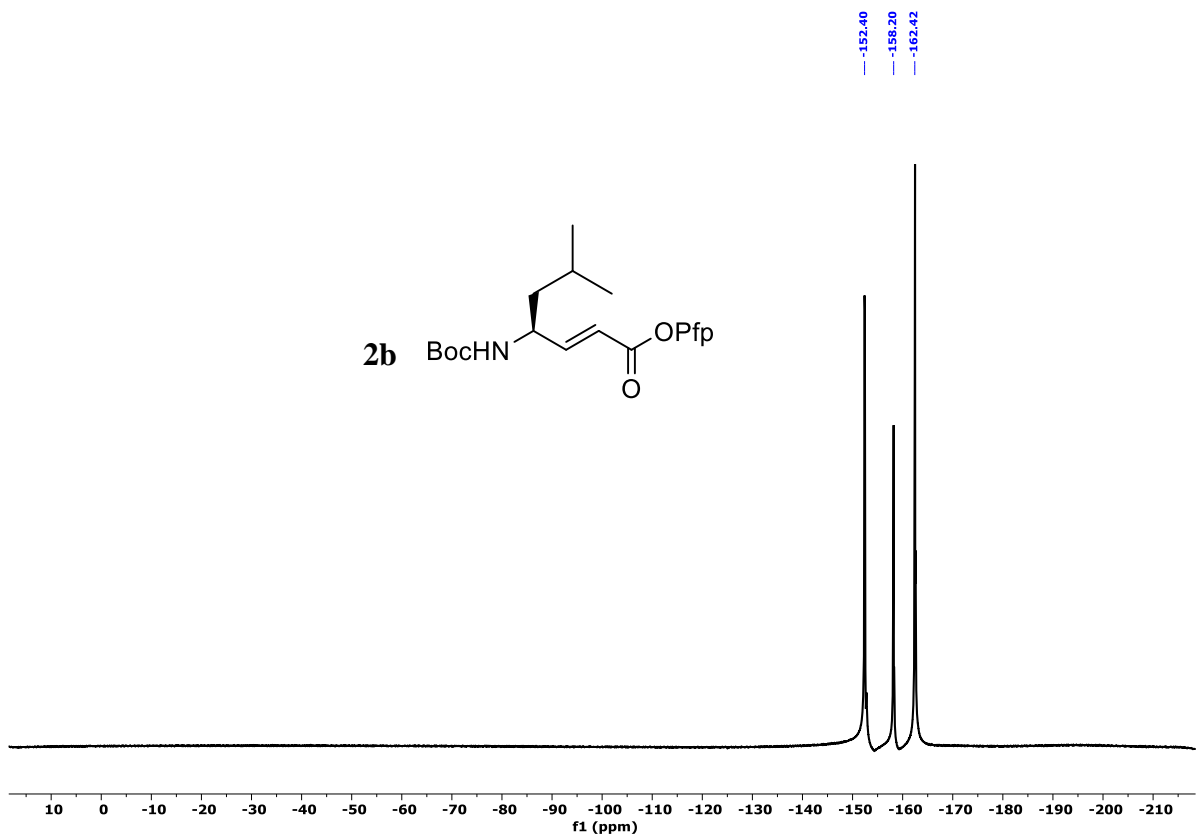


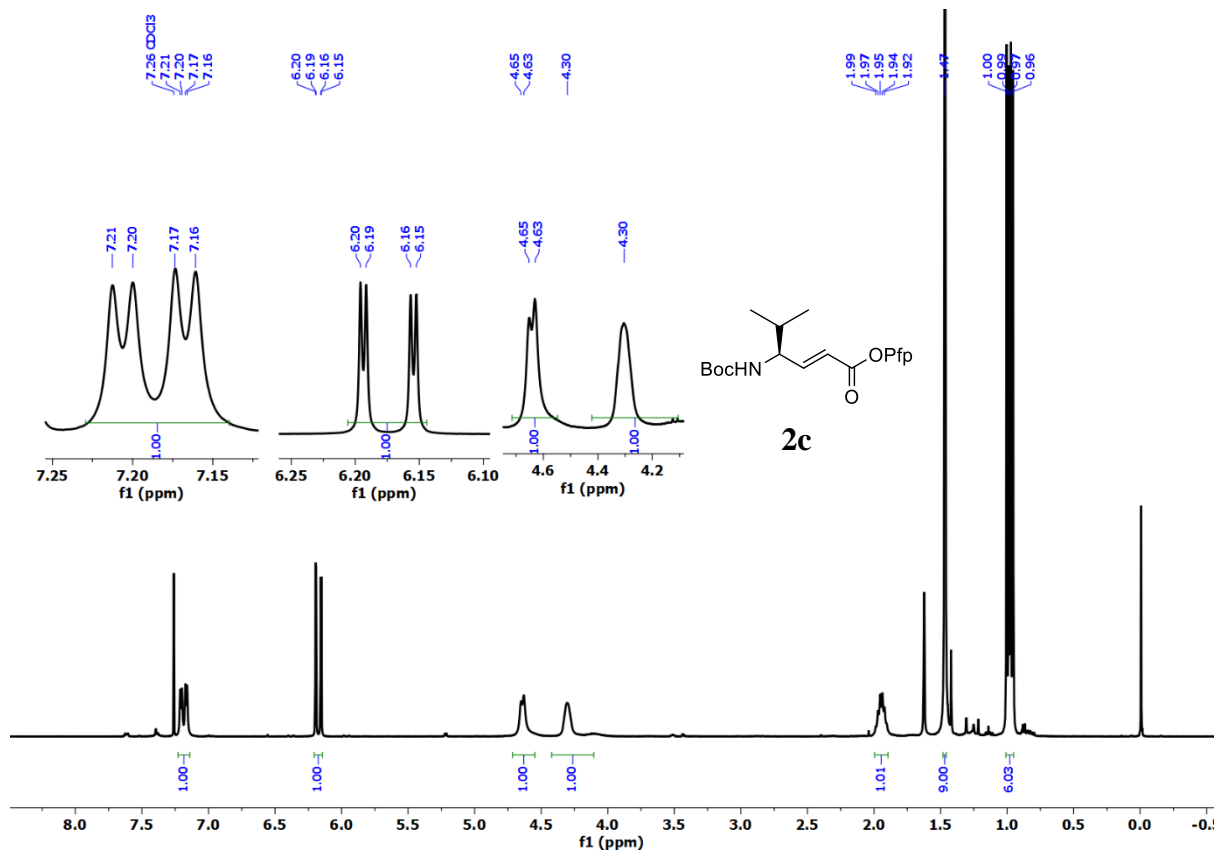
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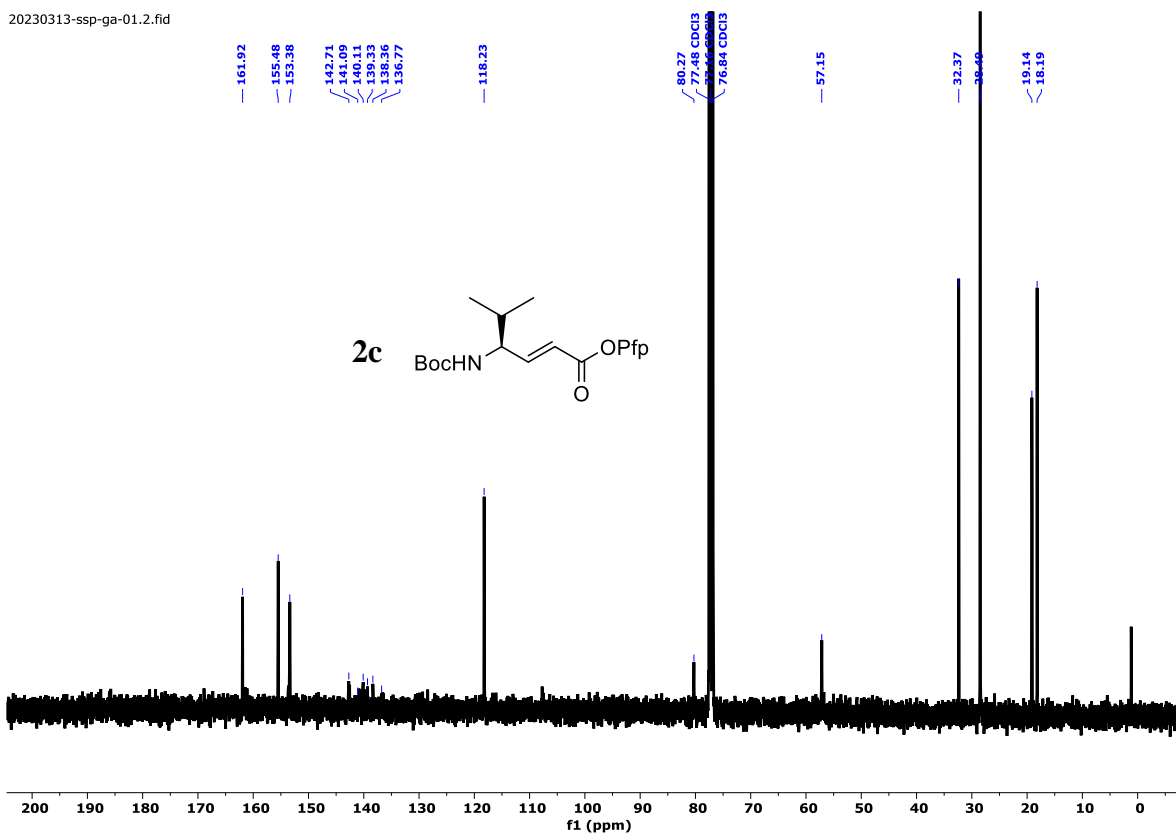


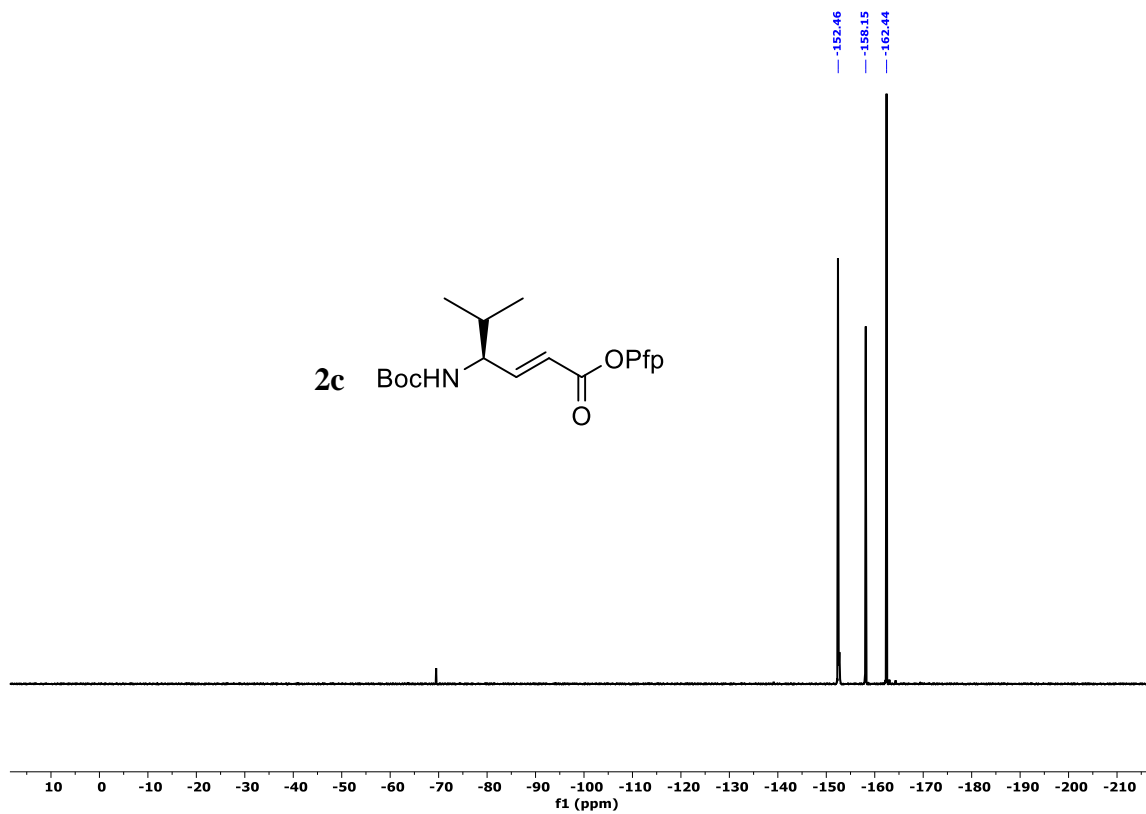


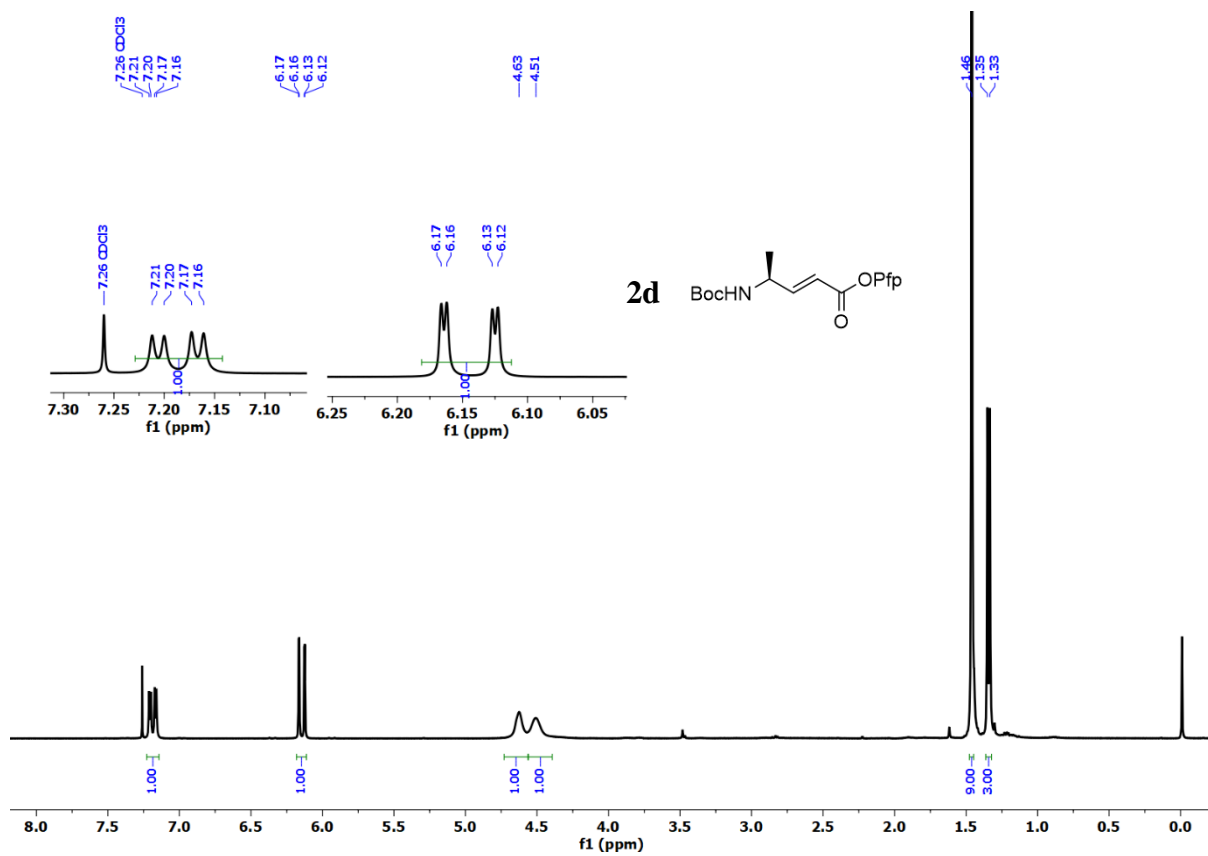


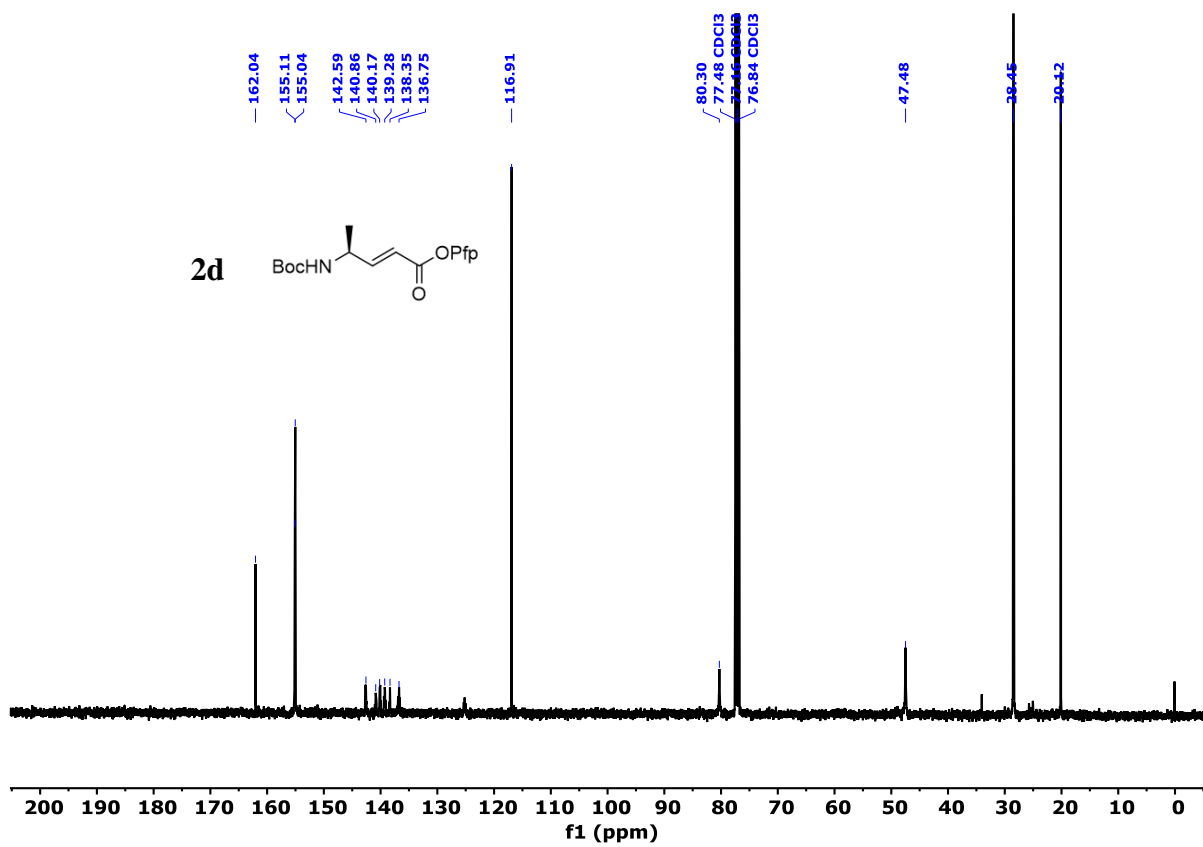


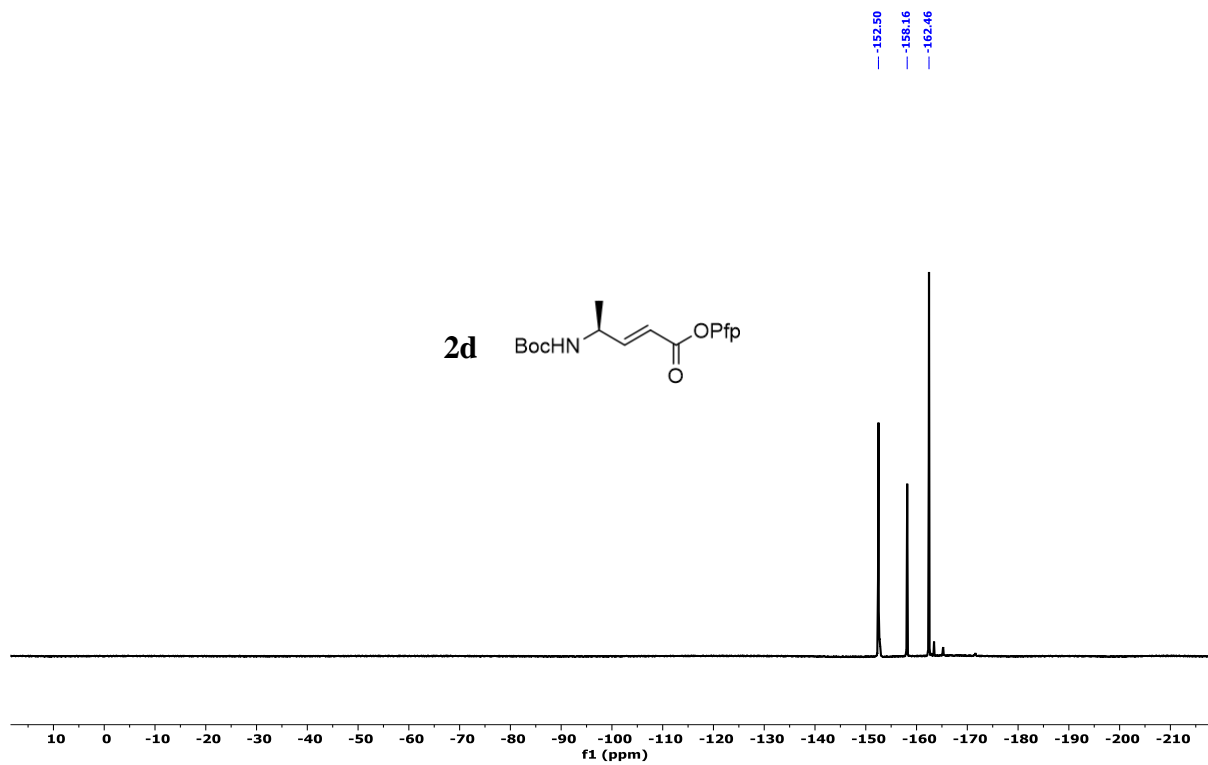


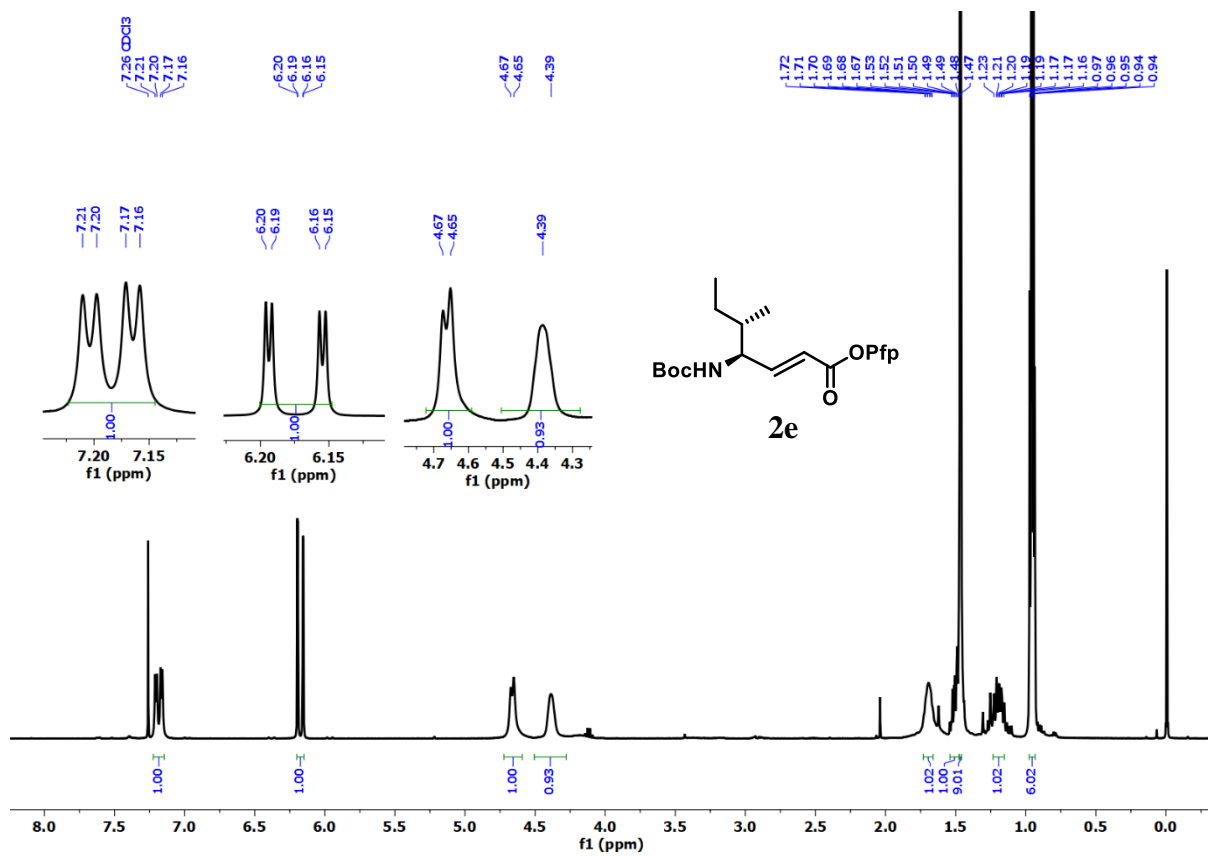


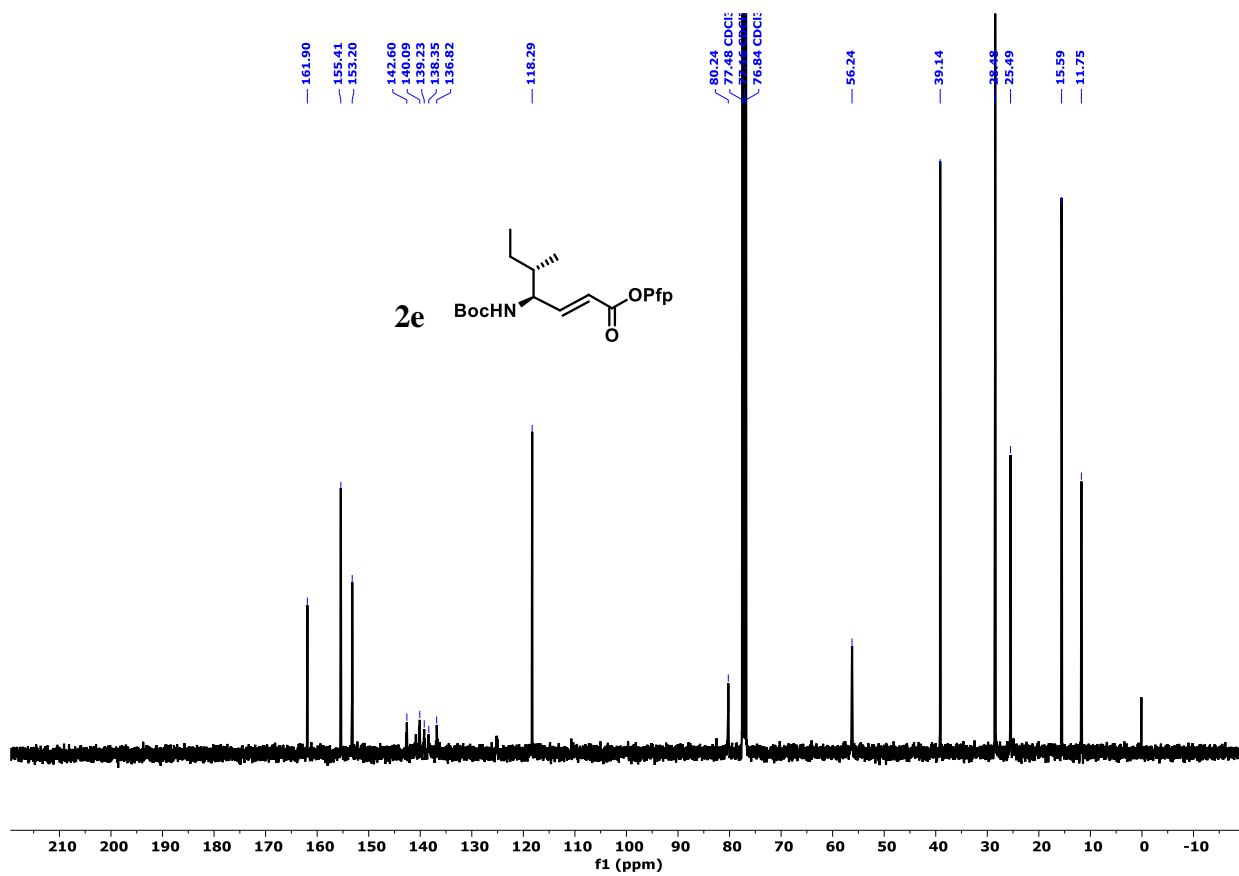


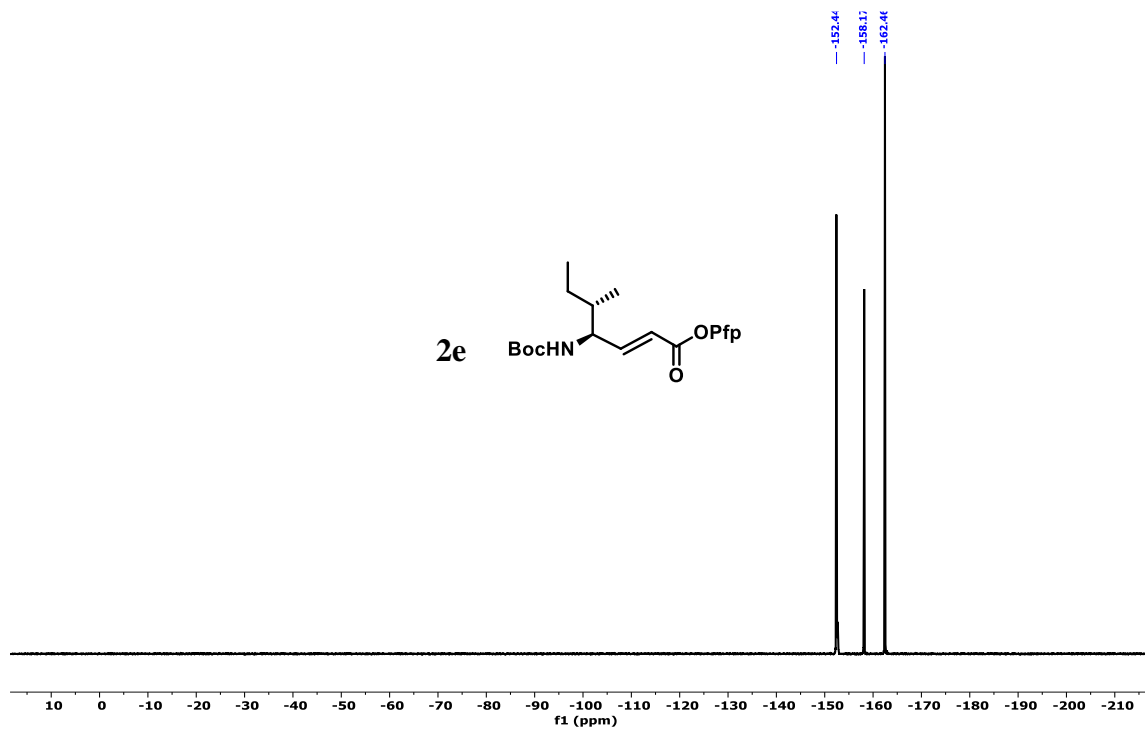


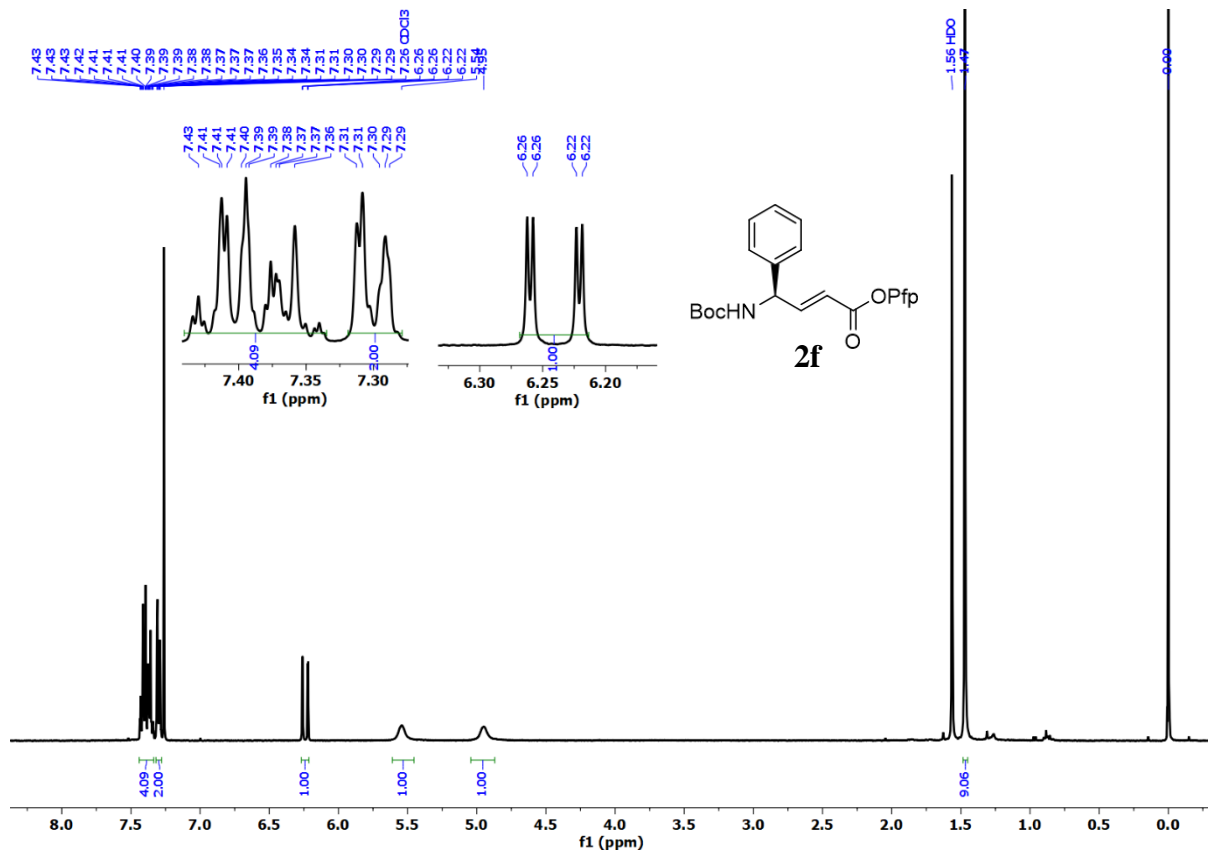


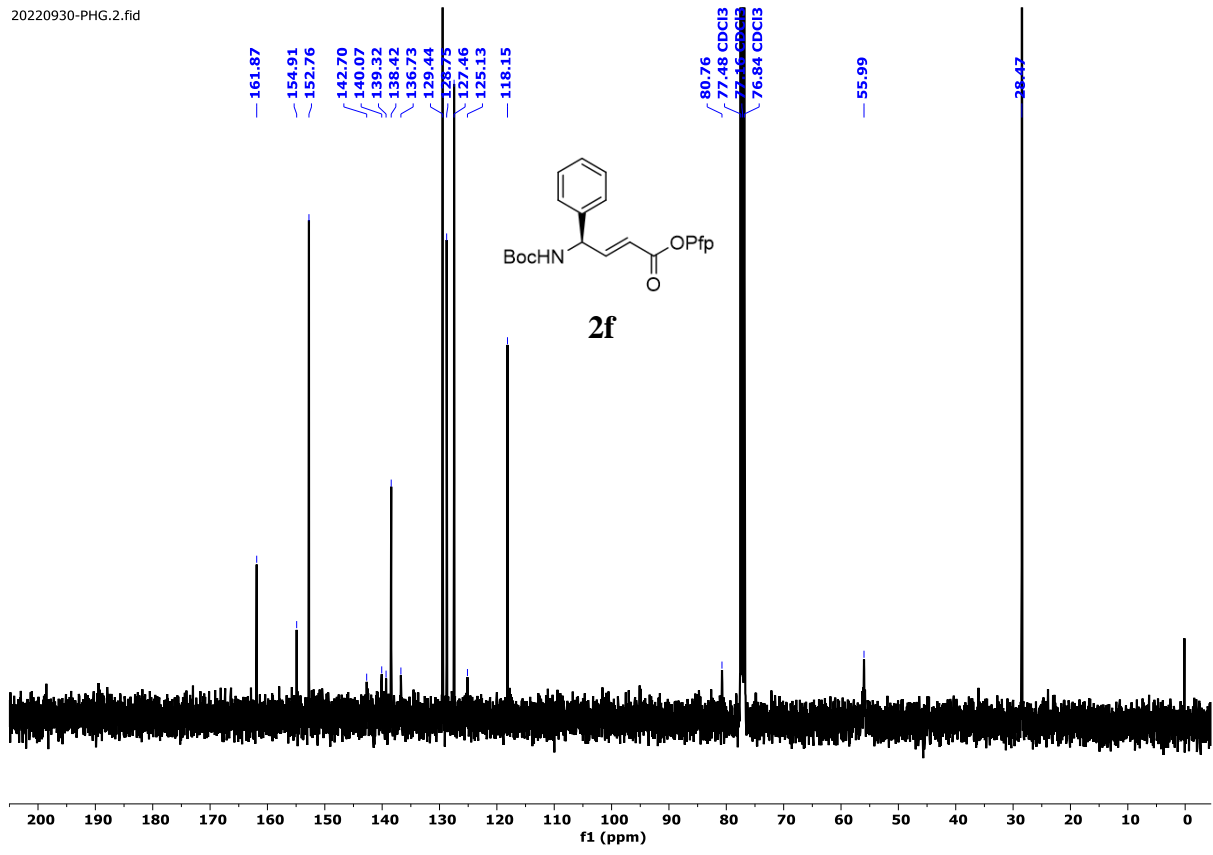




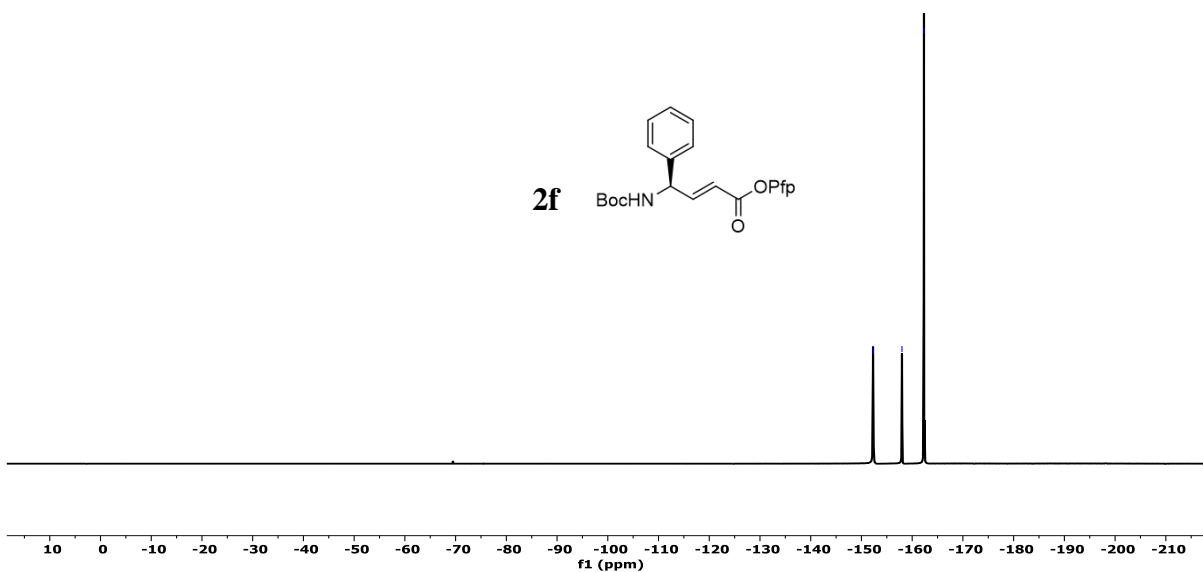
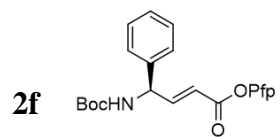


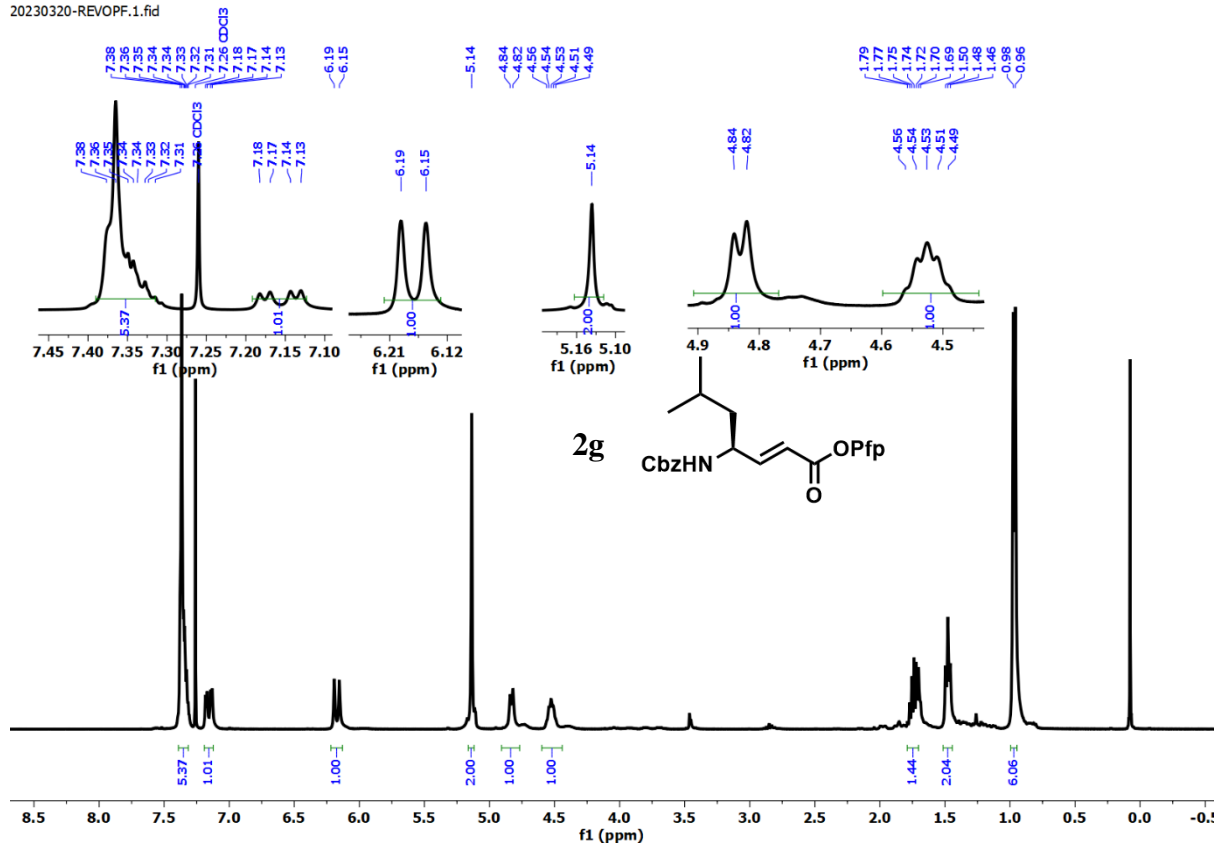


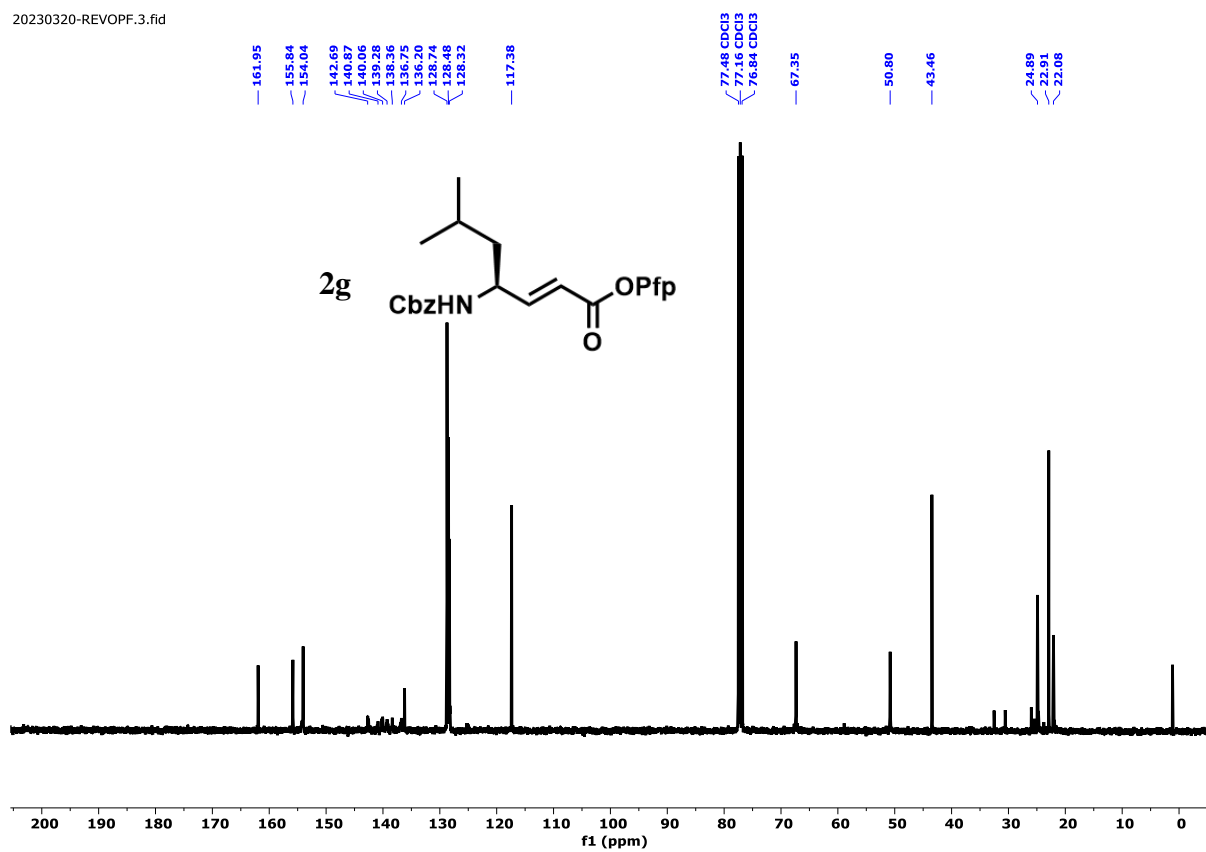




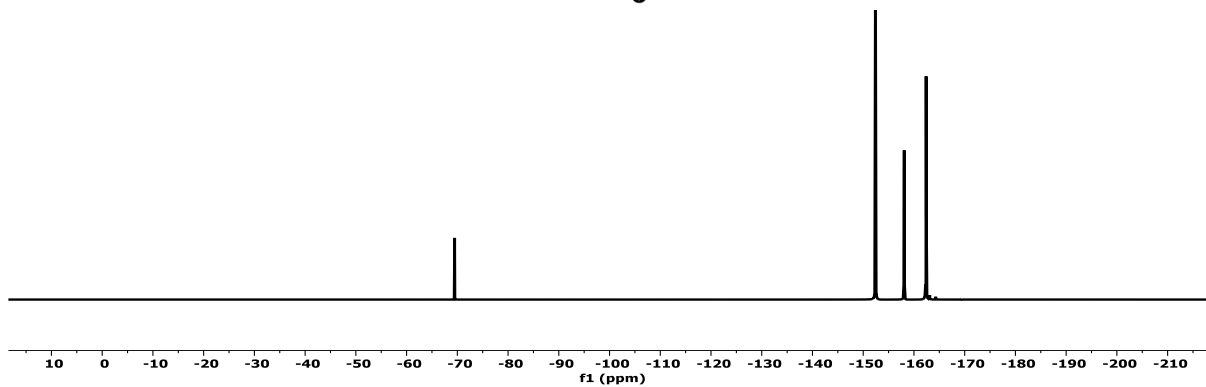
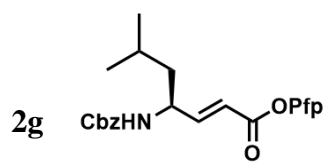
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~162.34



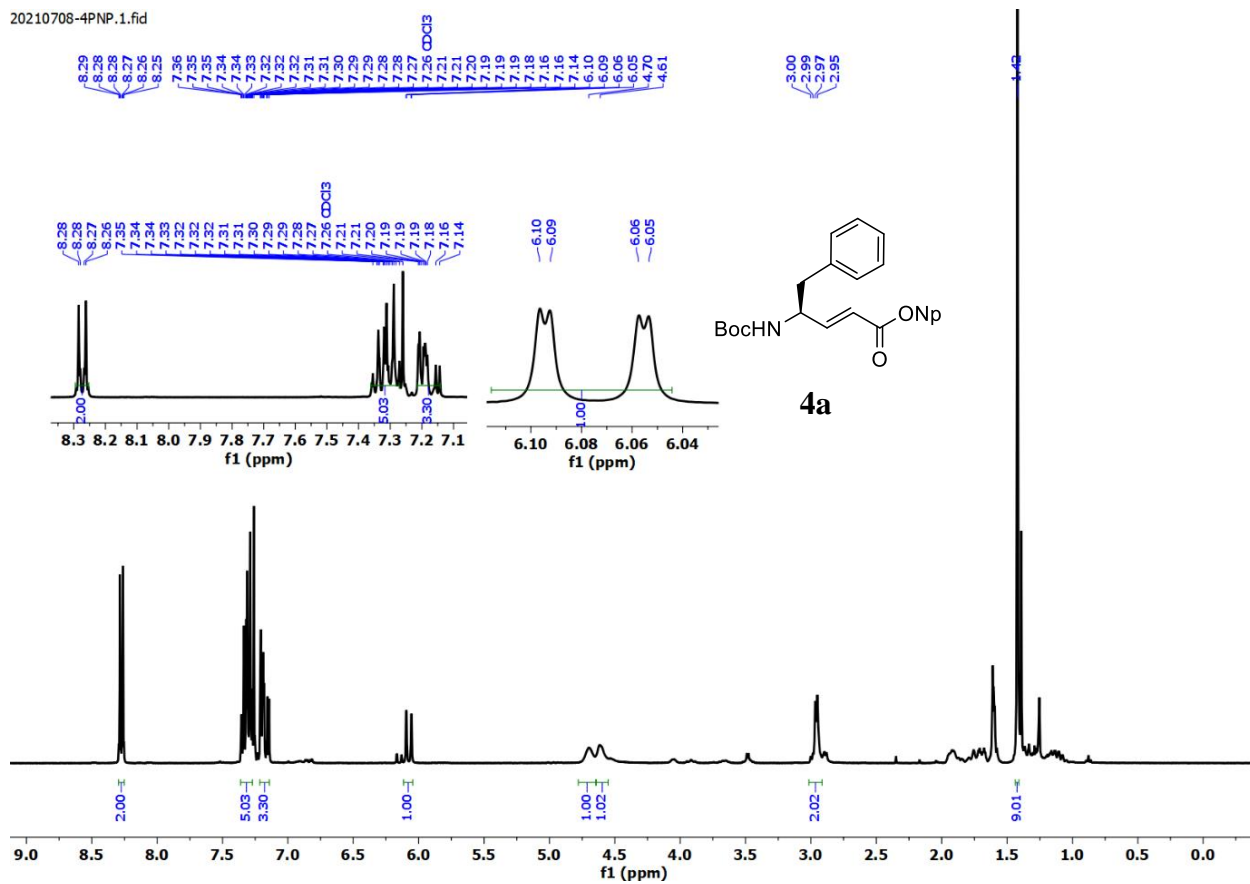


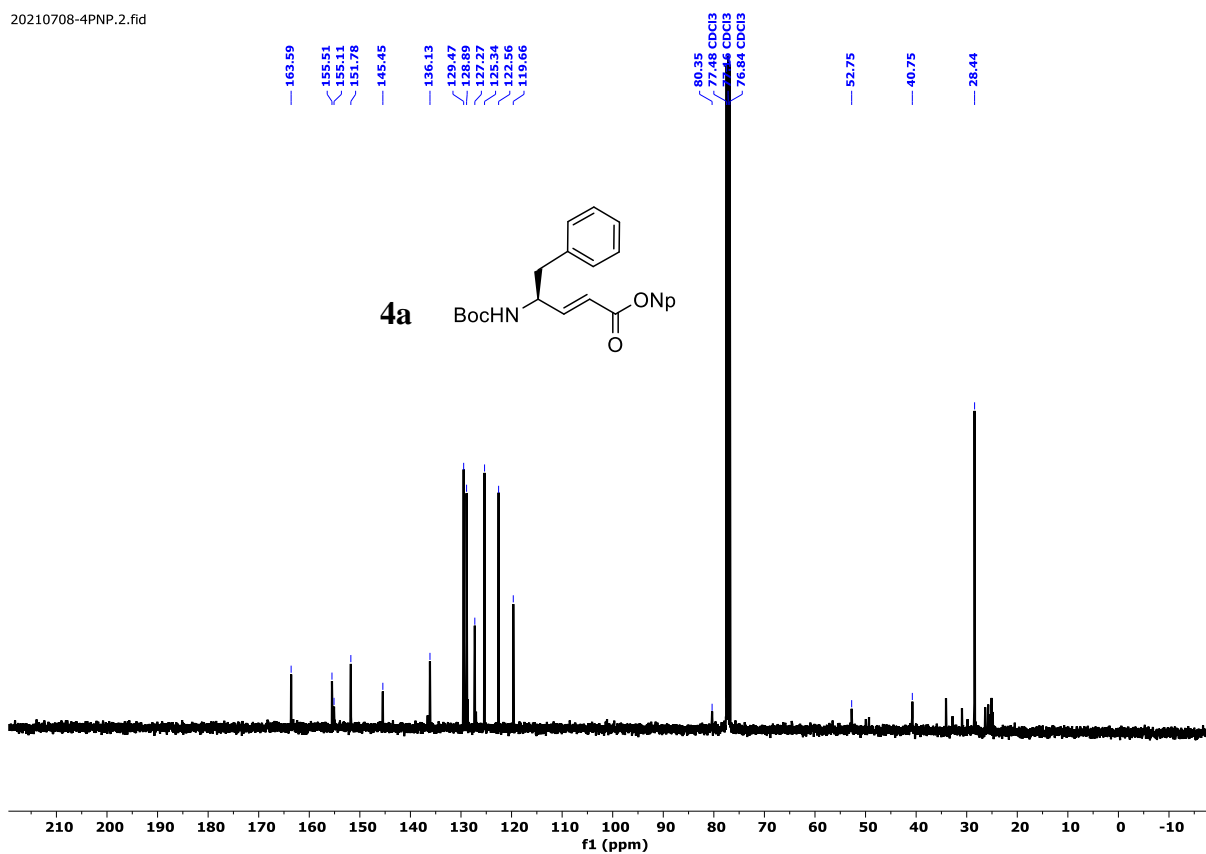


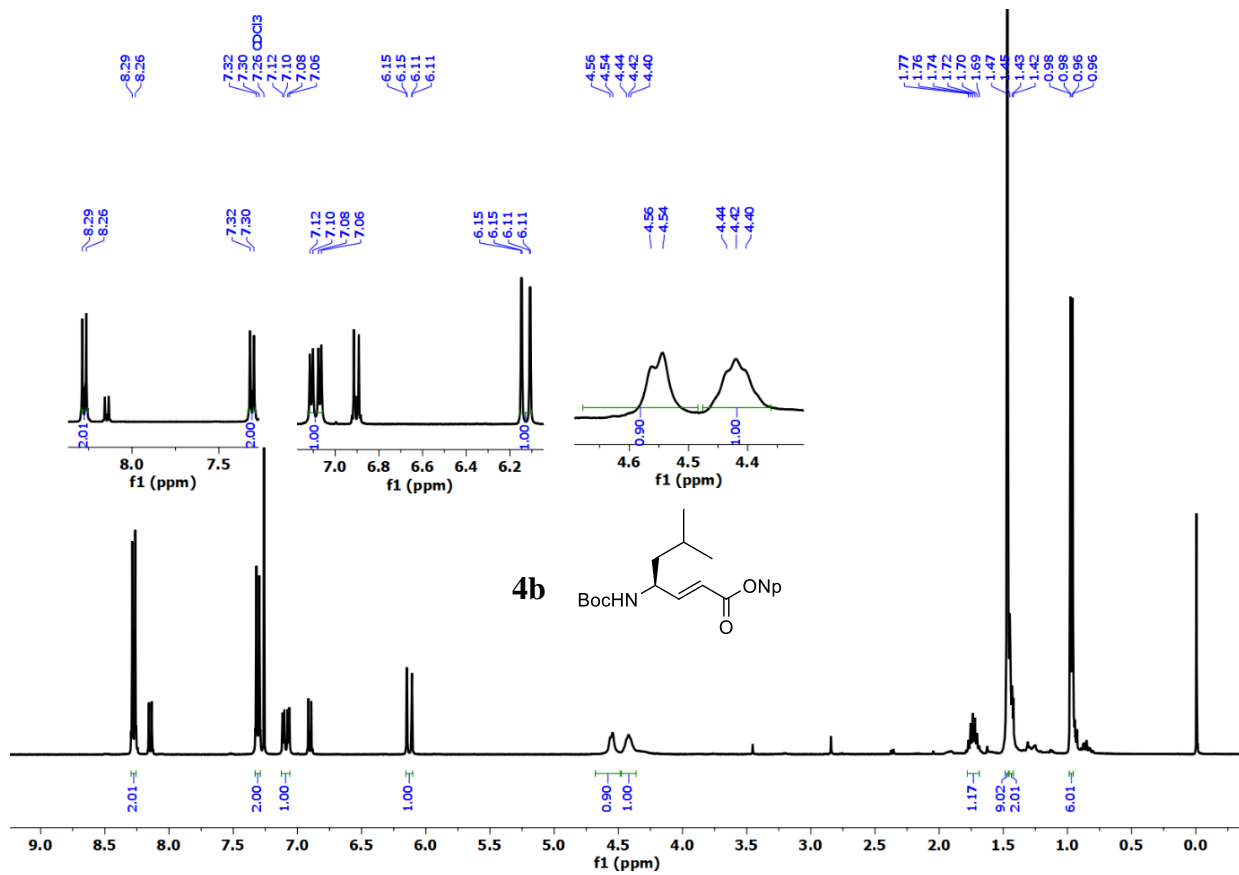
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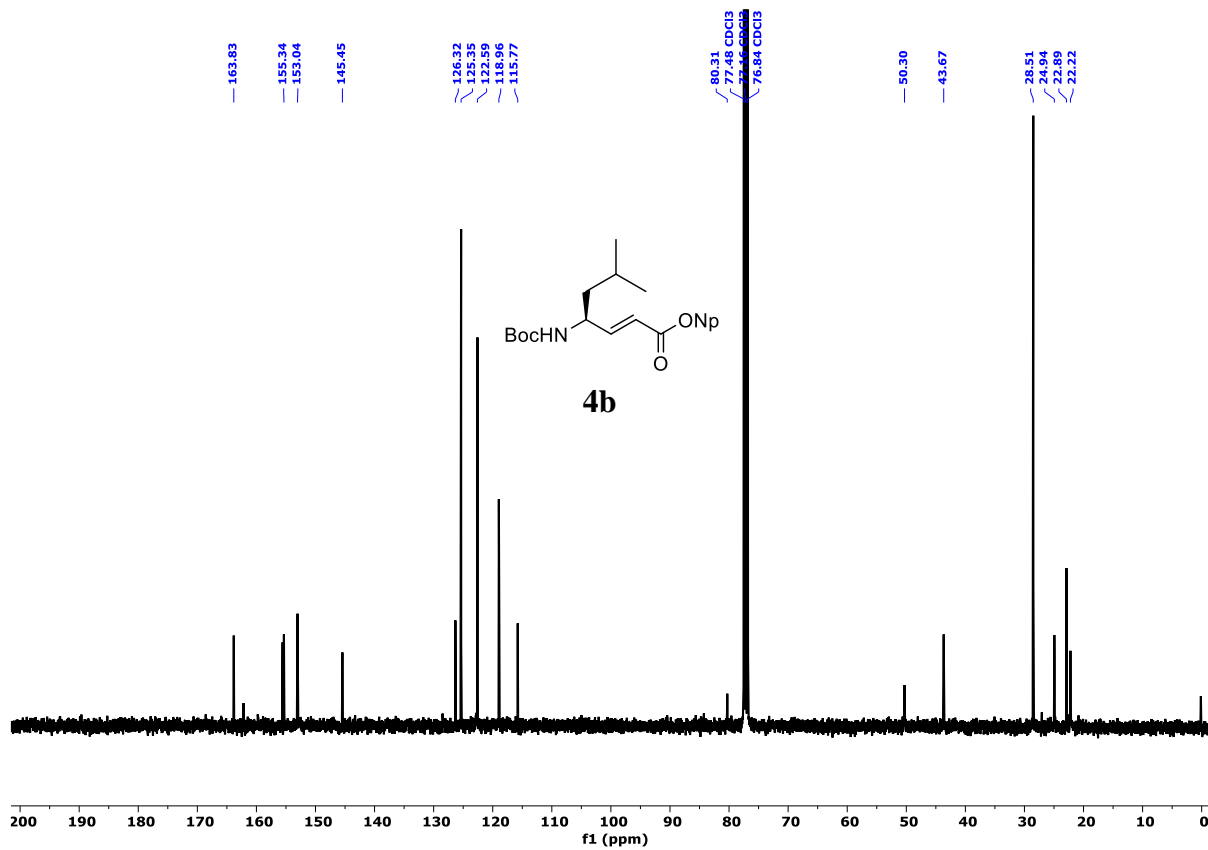


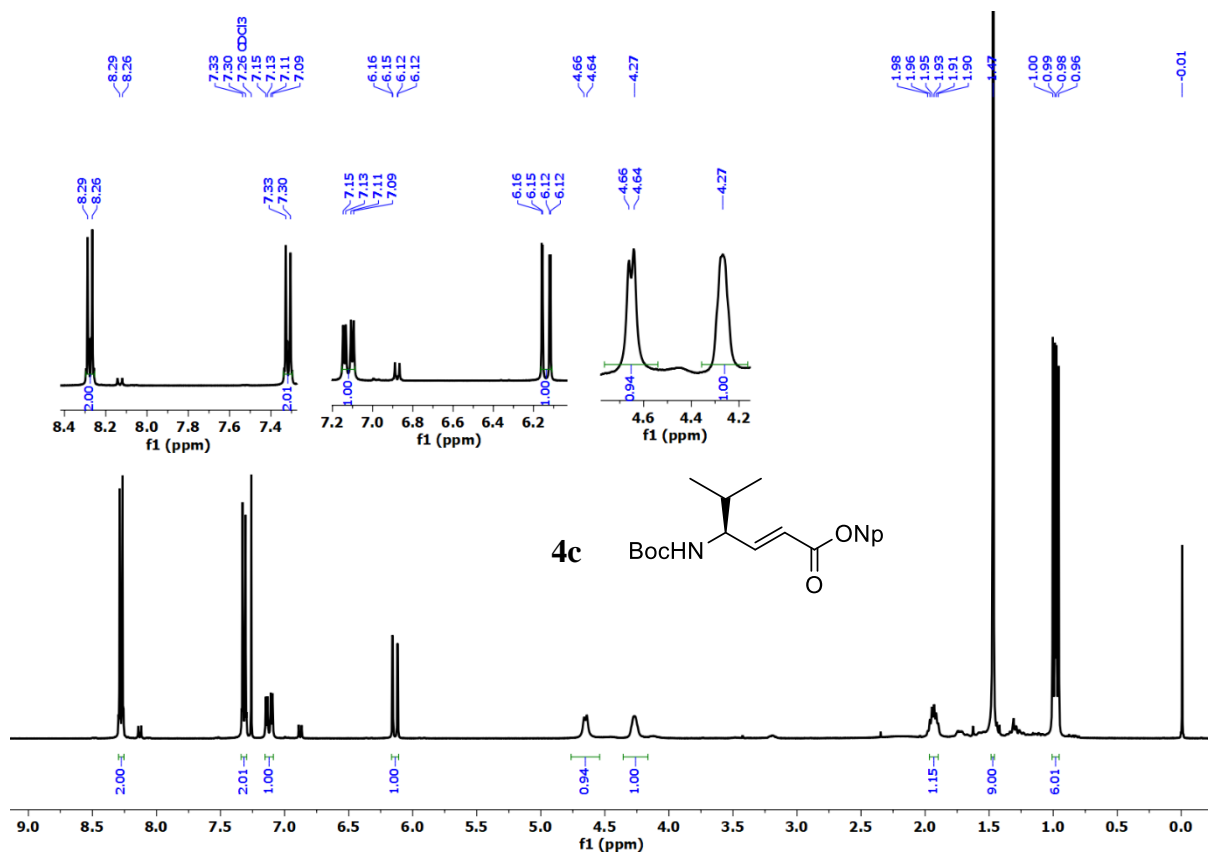
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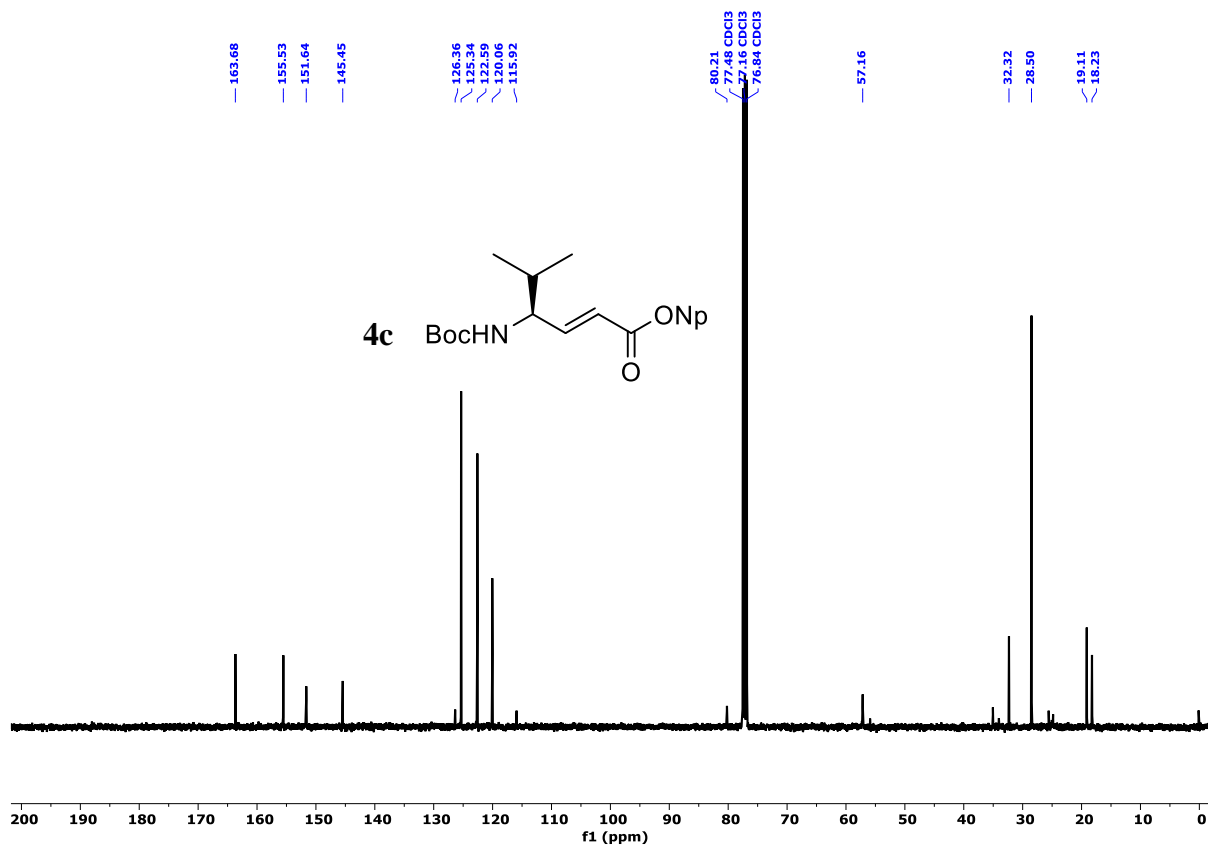


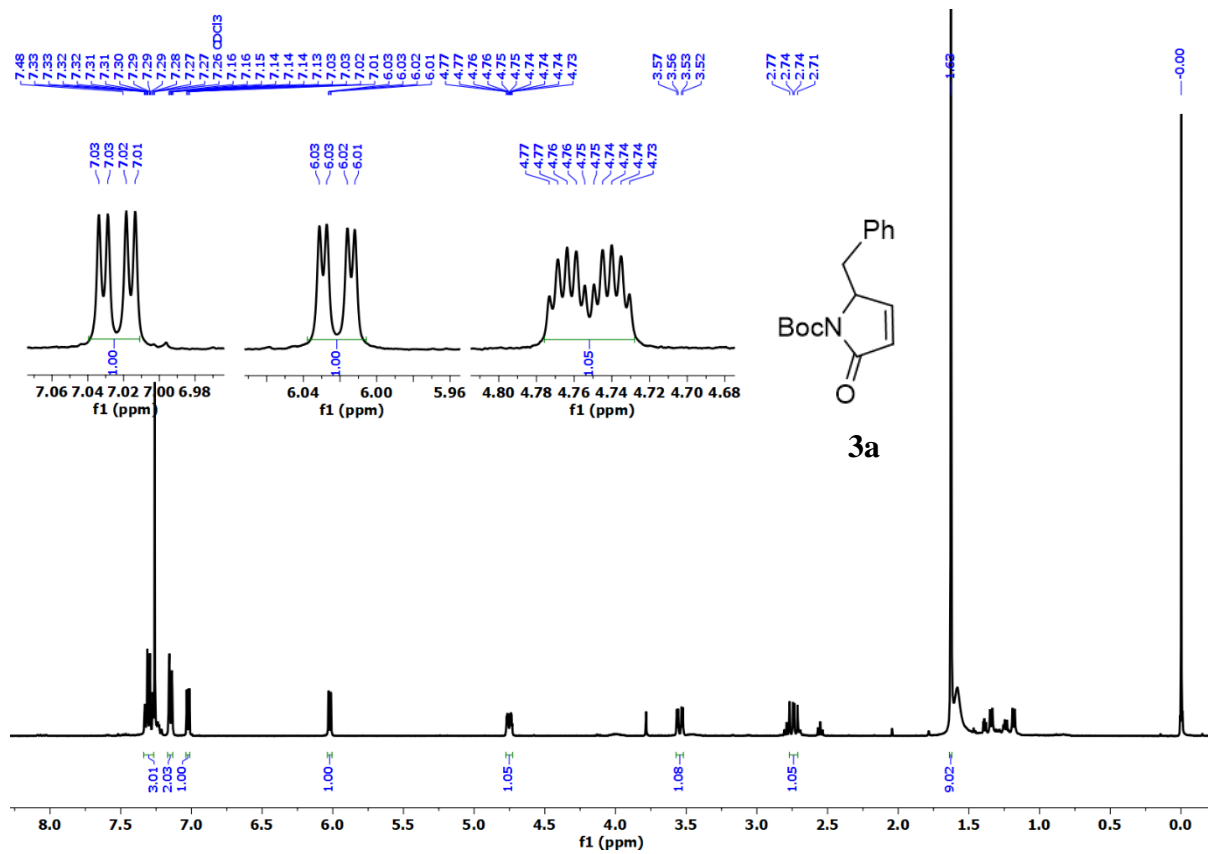


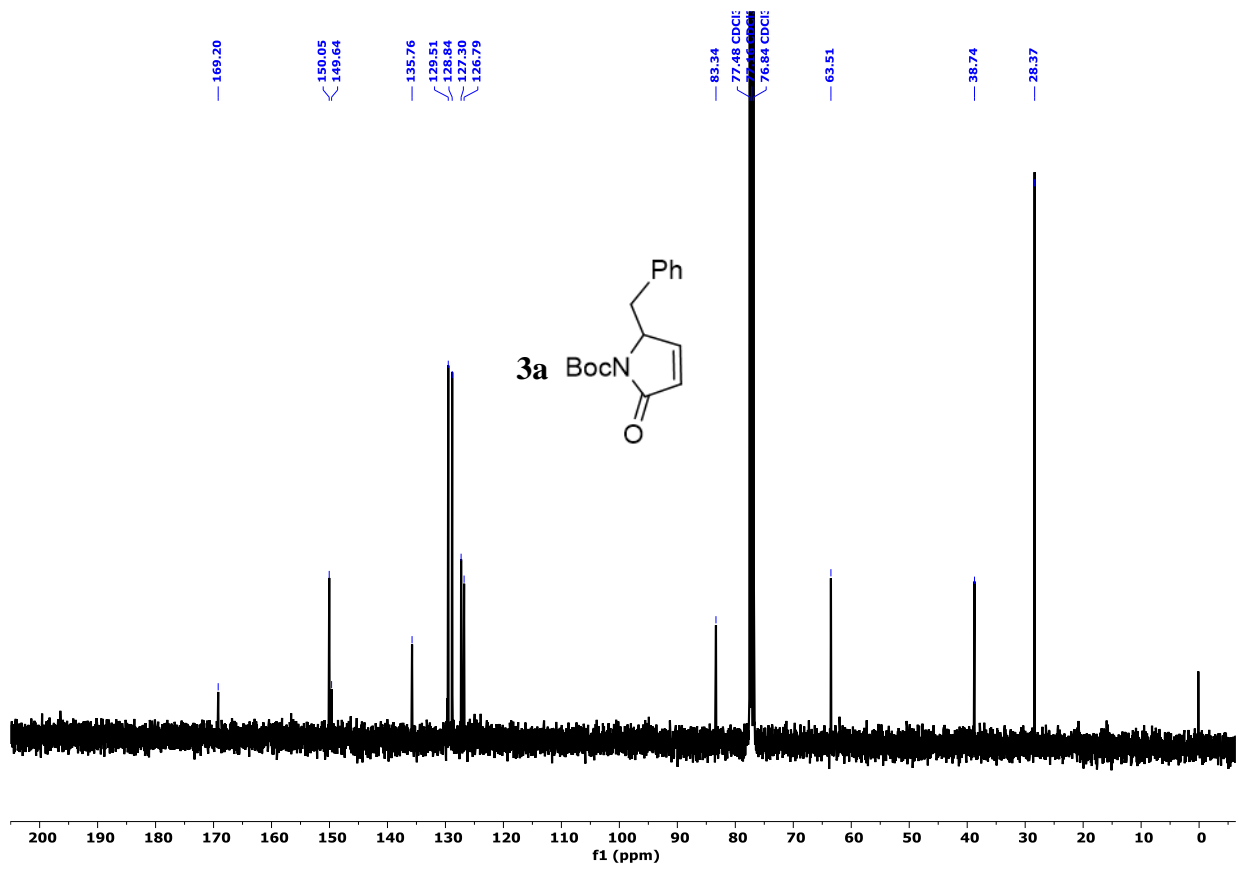


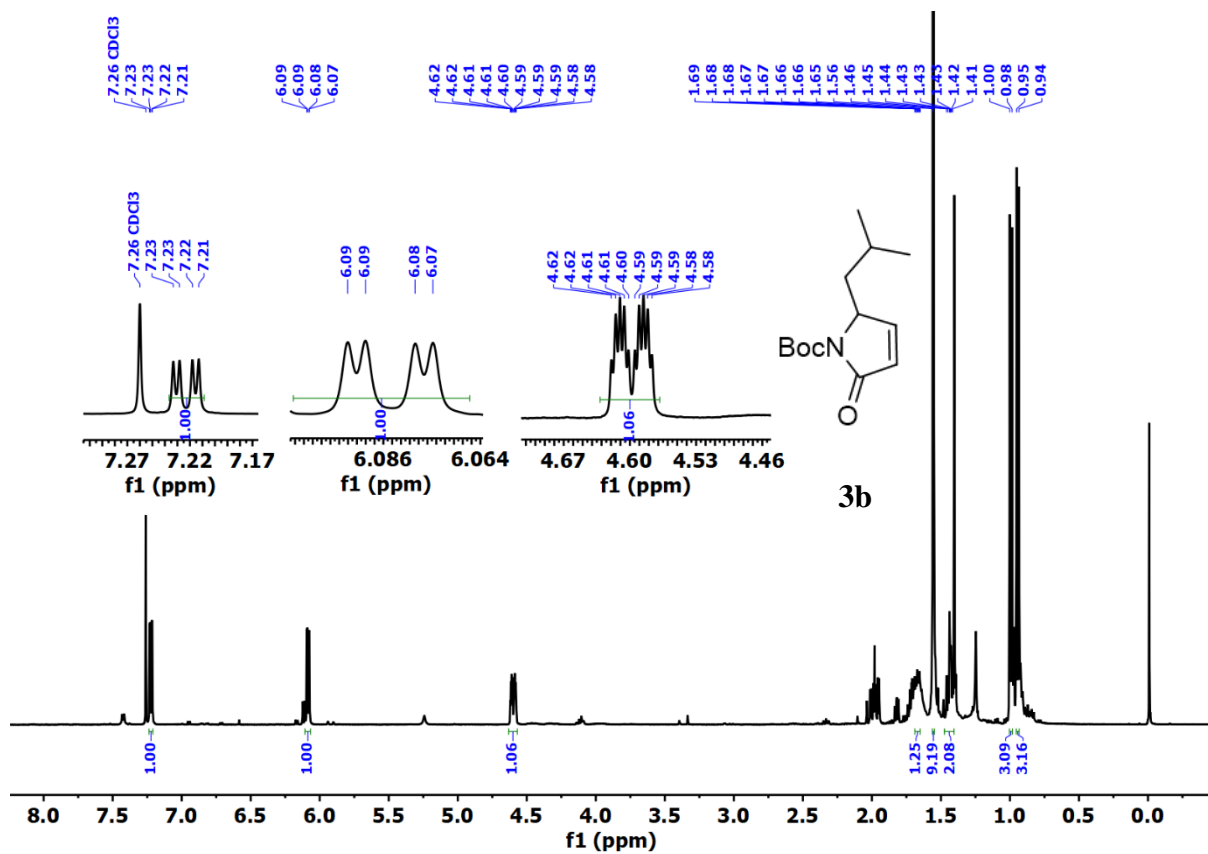


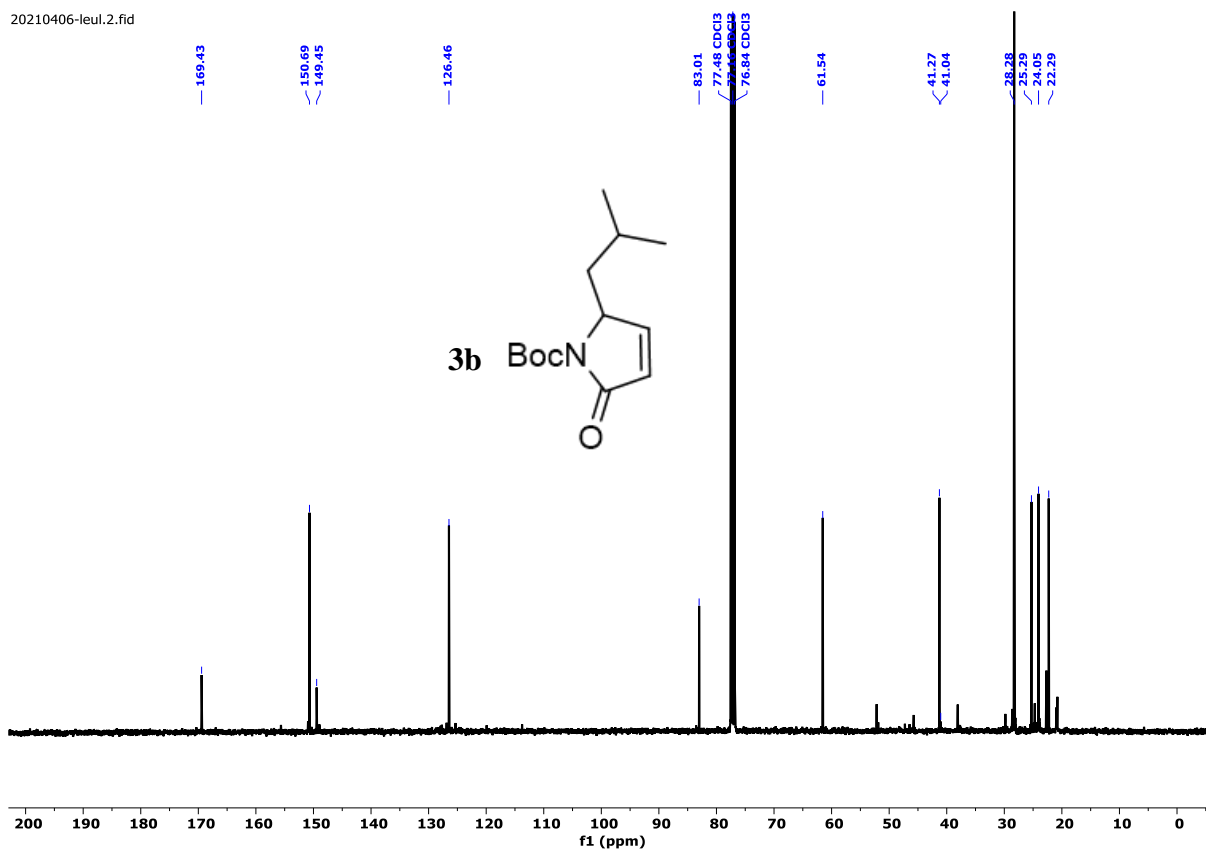


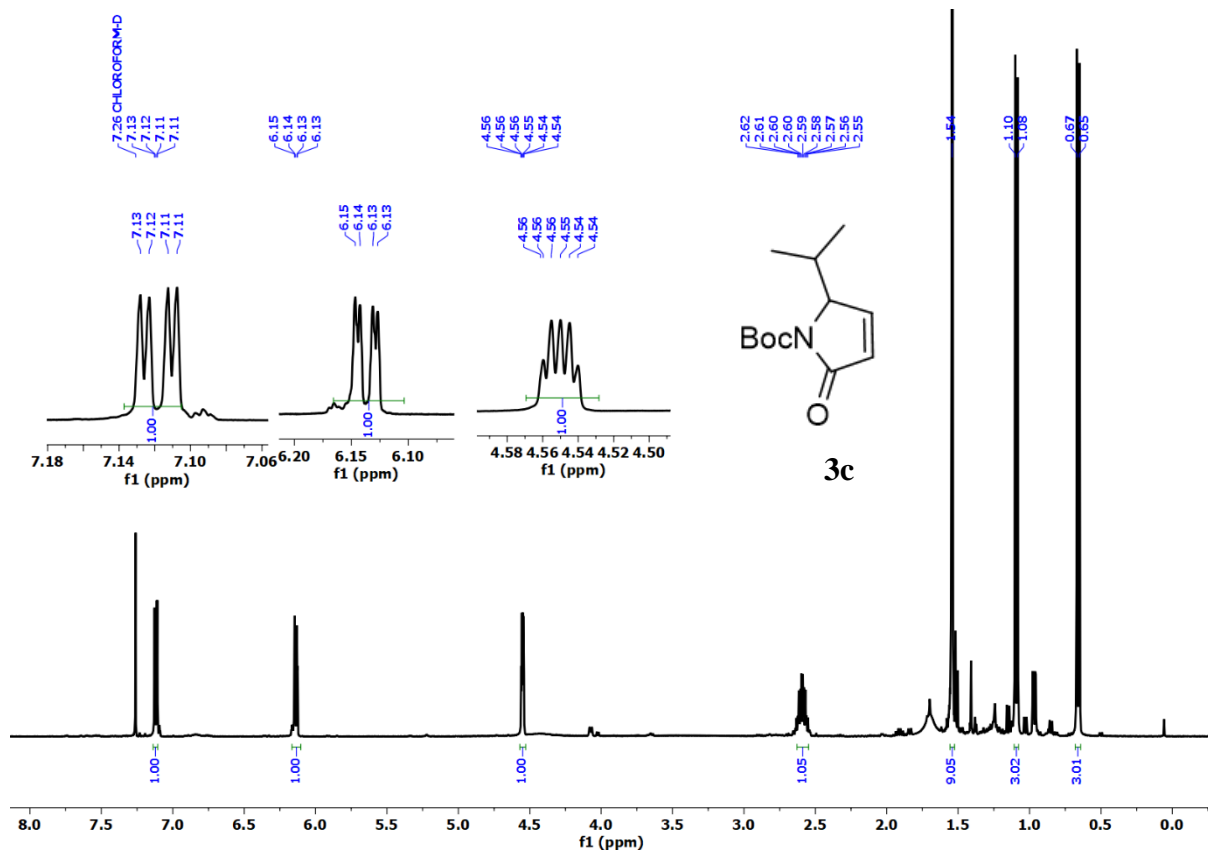


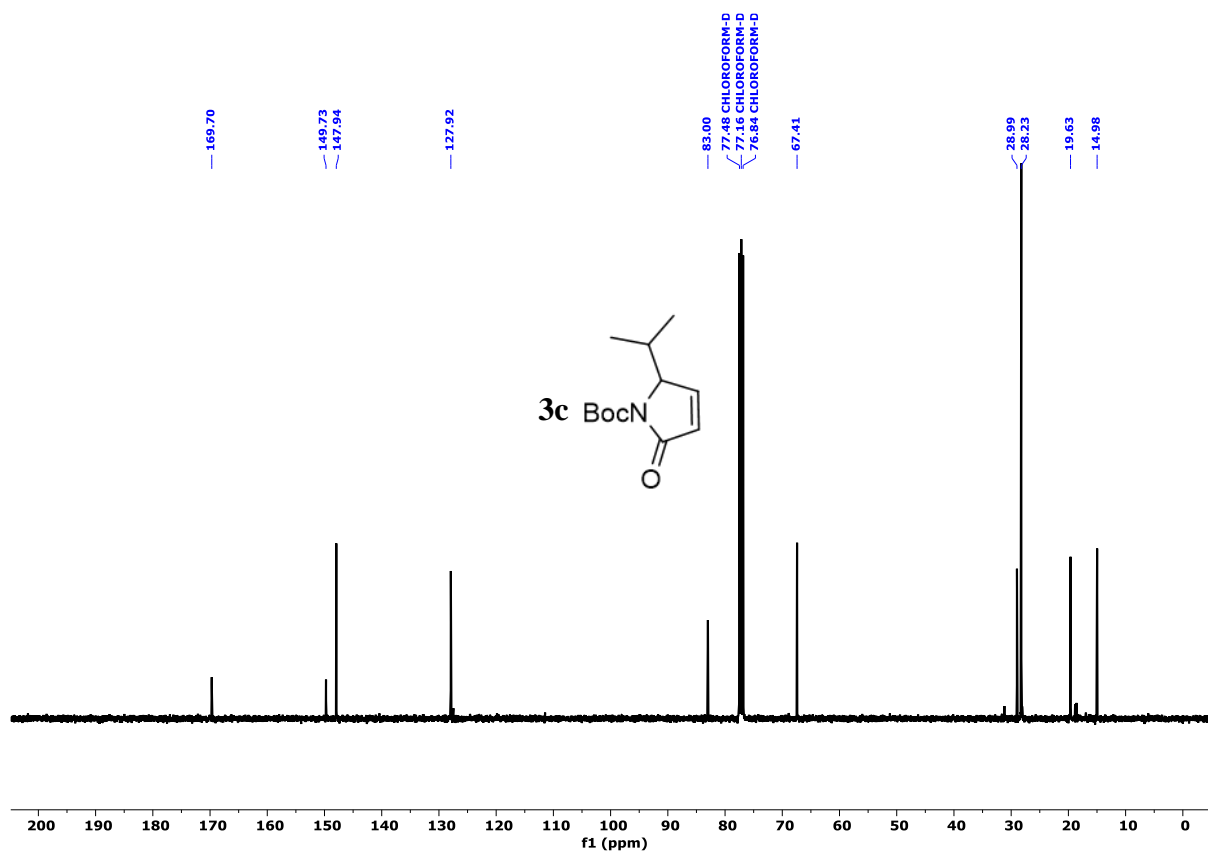


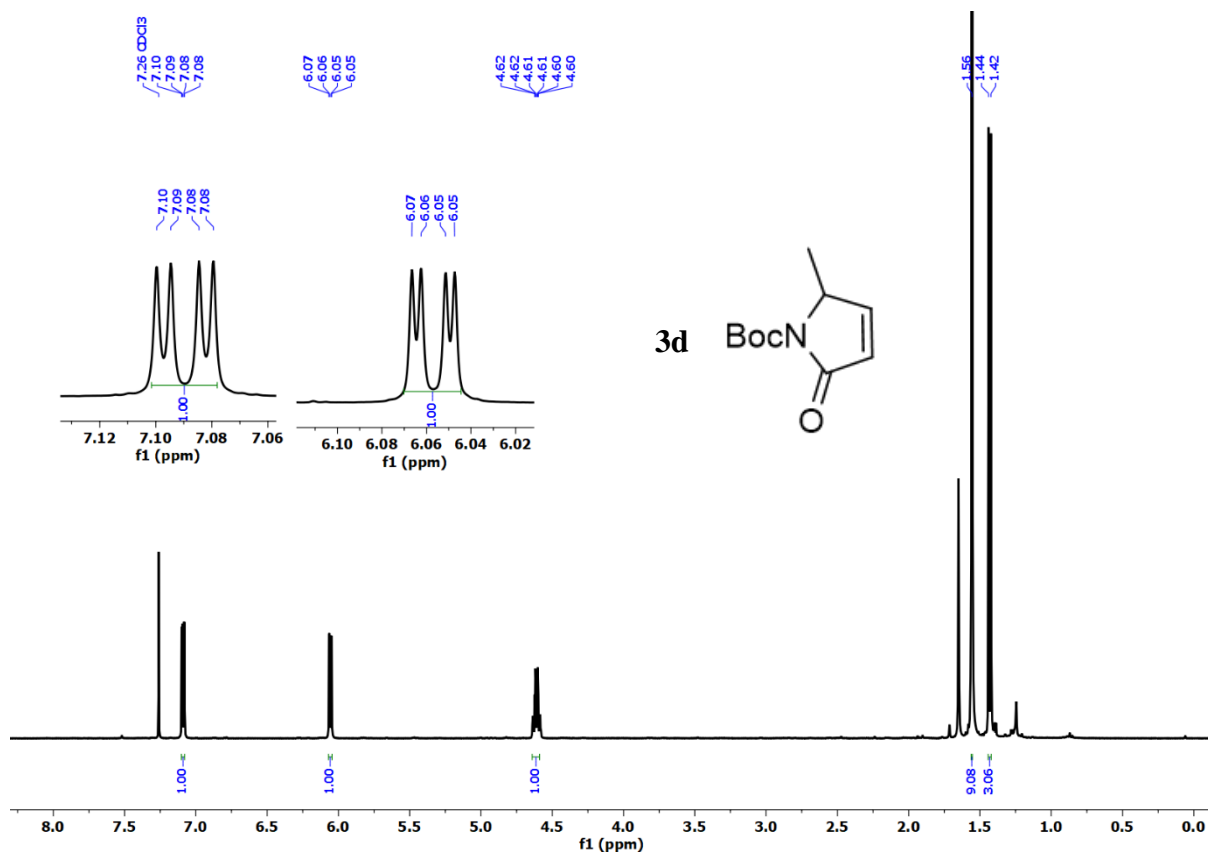


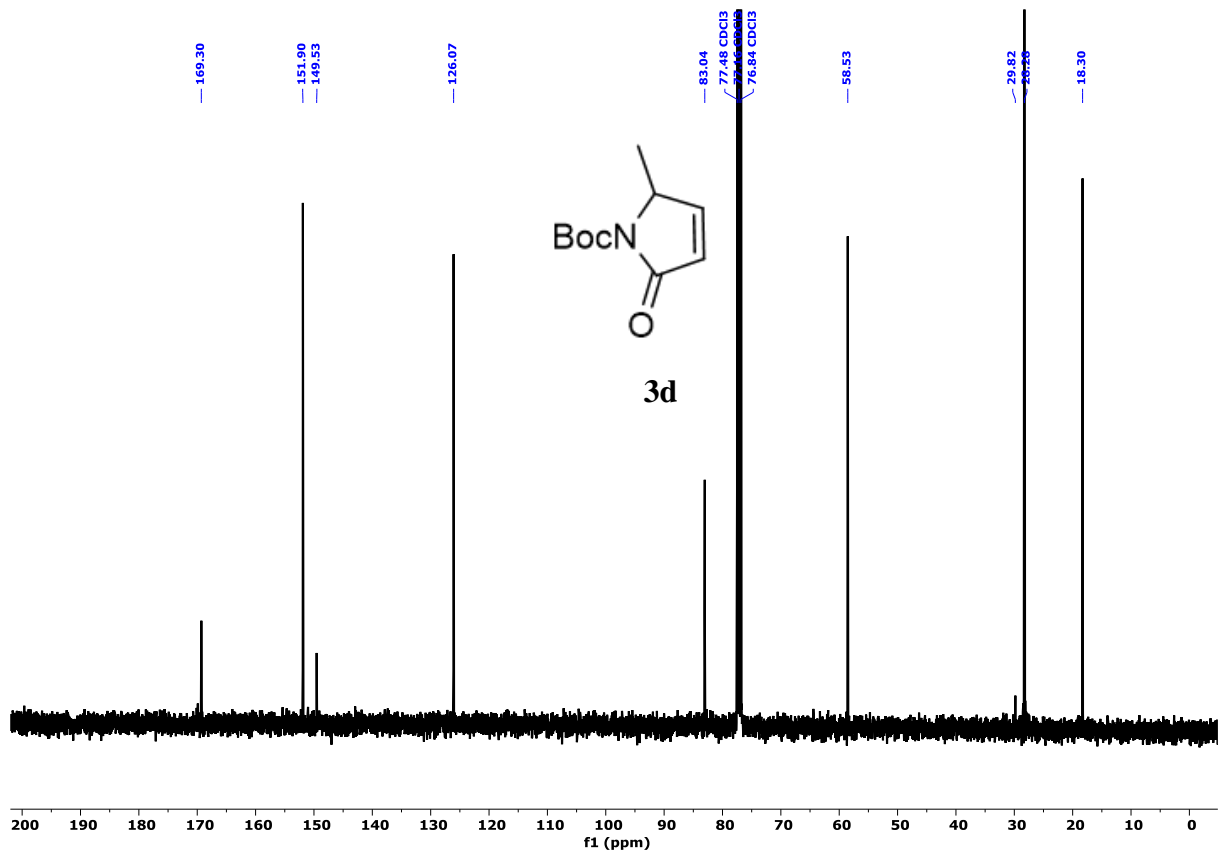


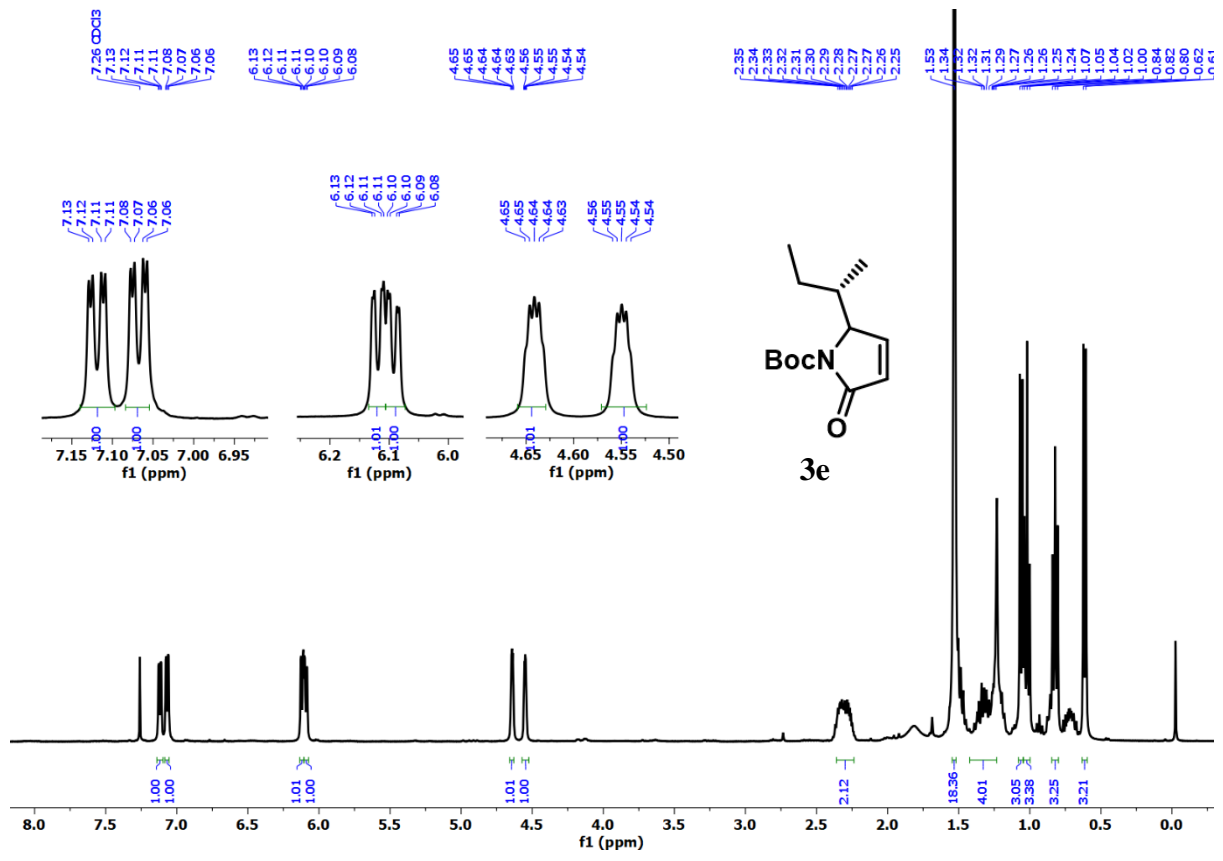


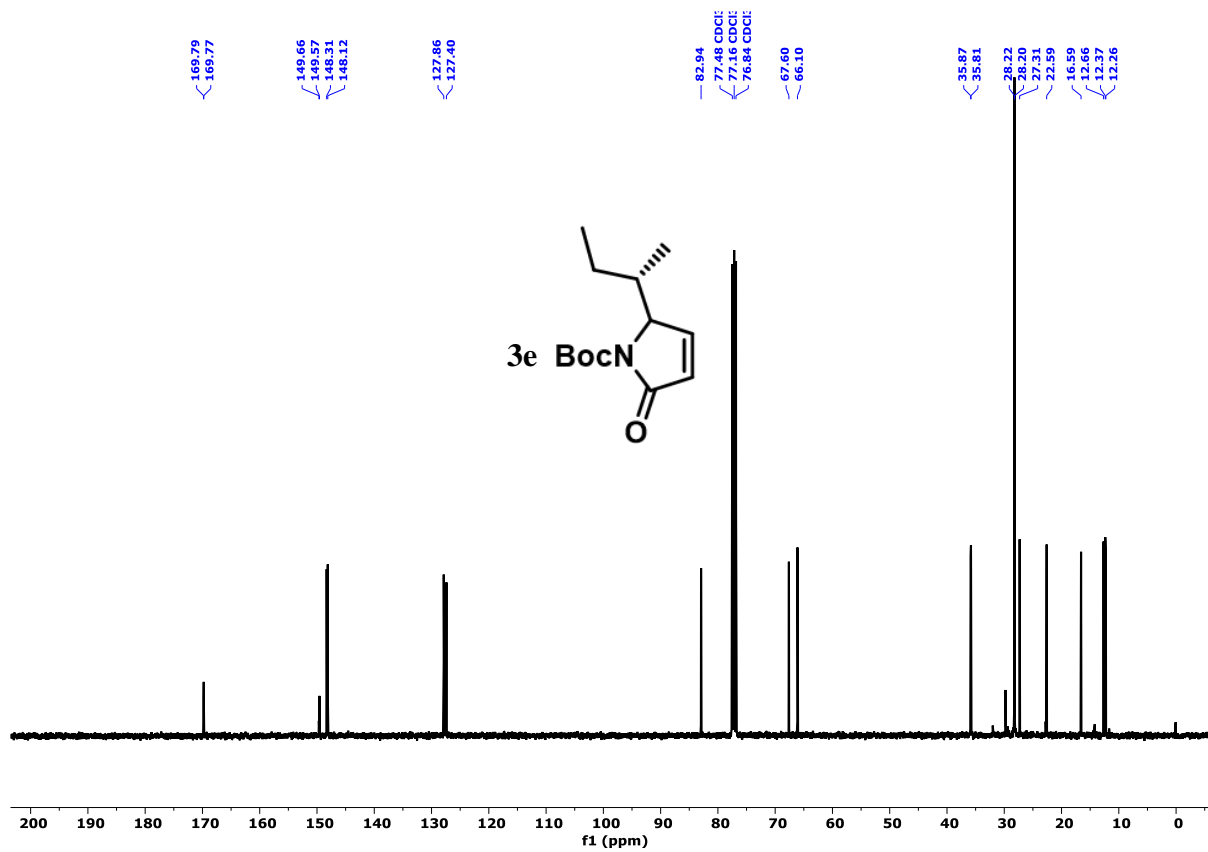


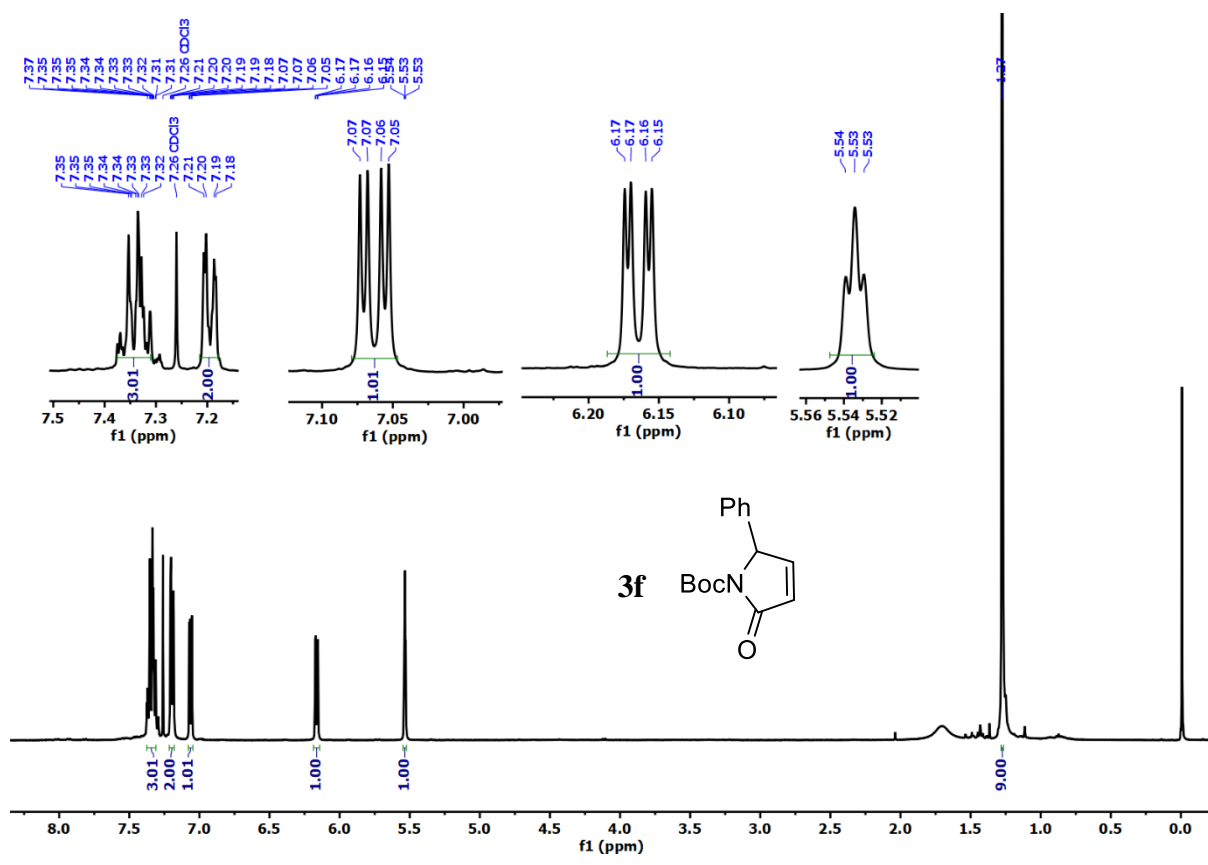


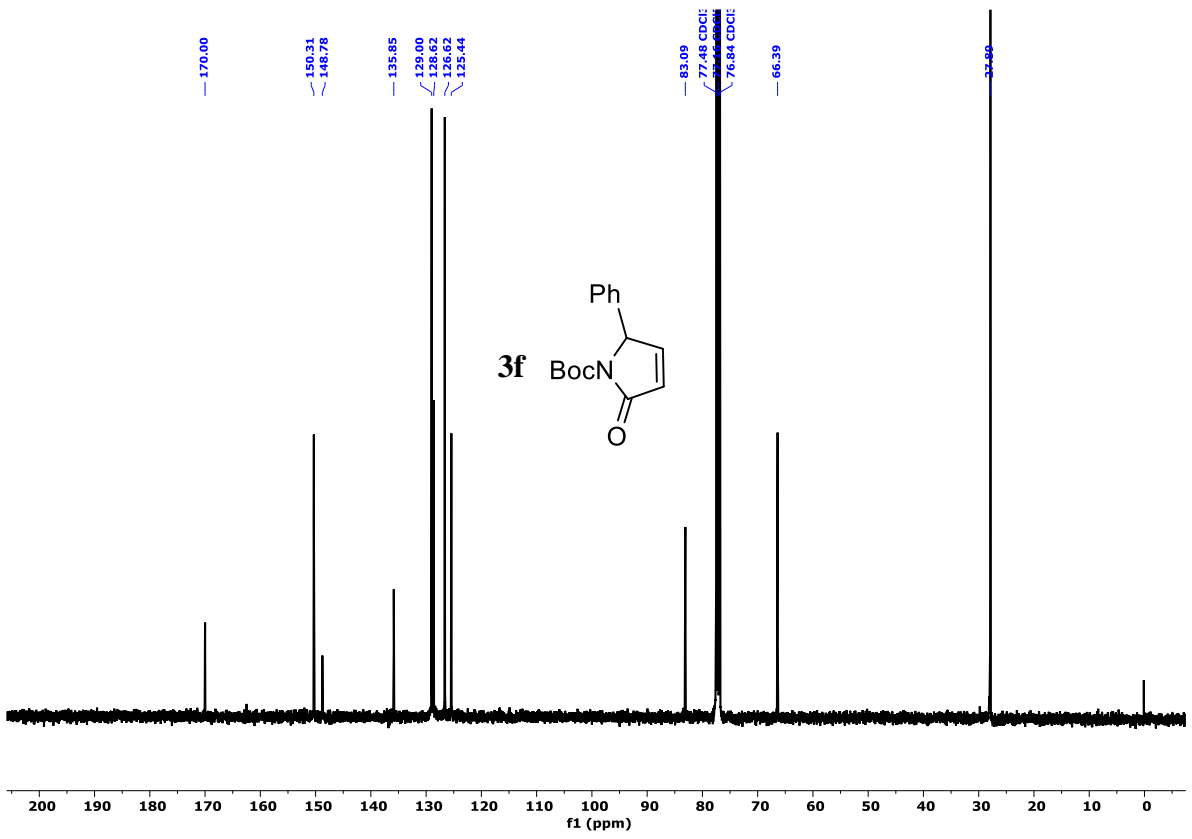


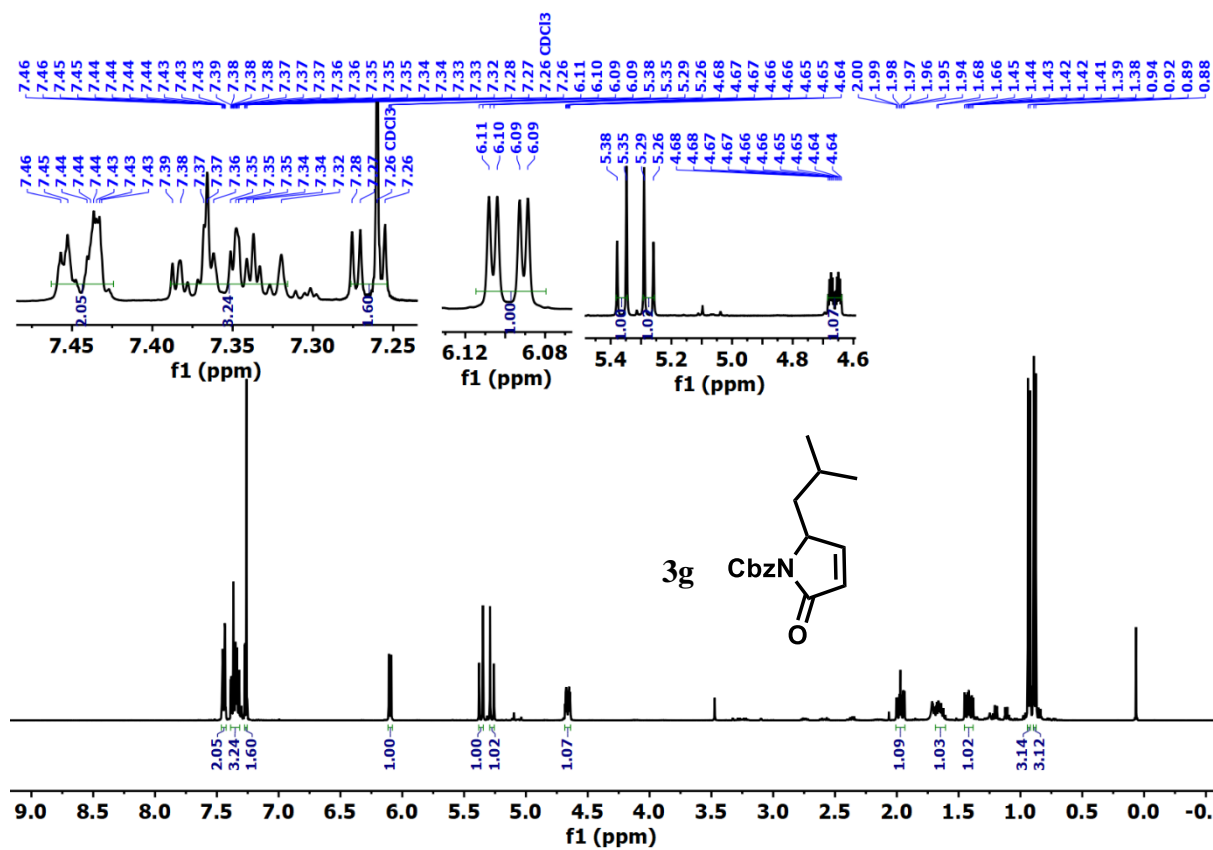


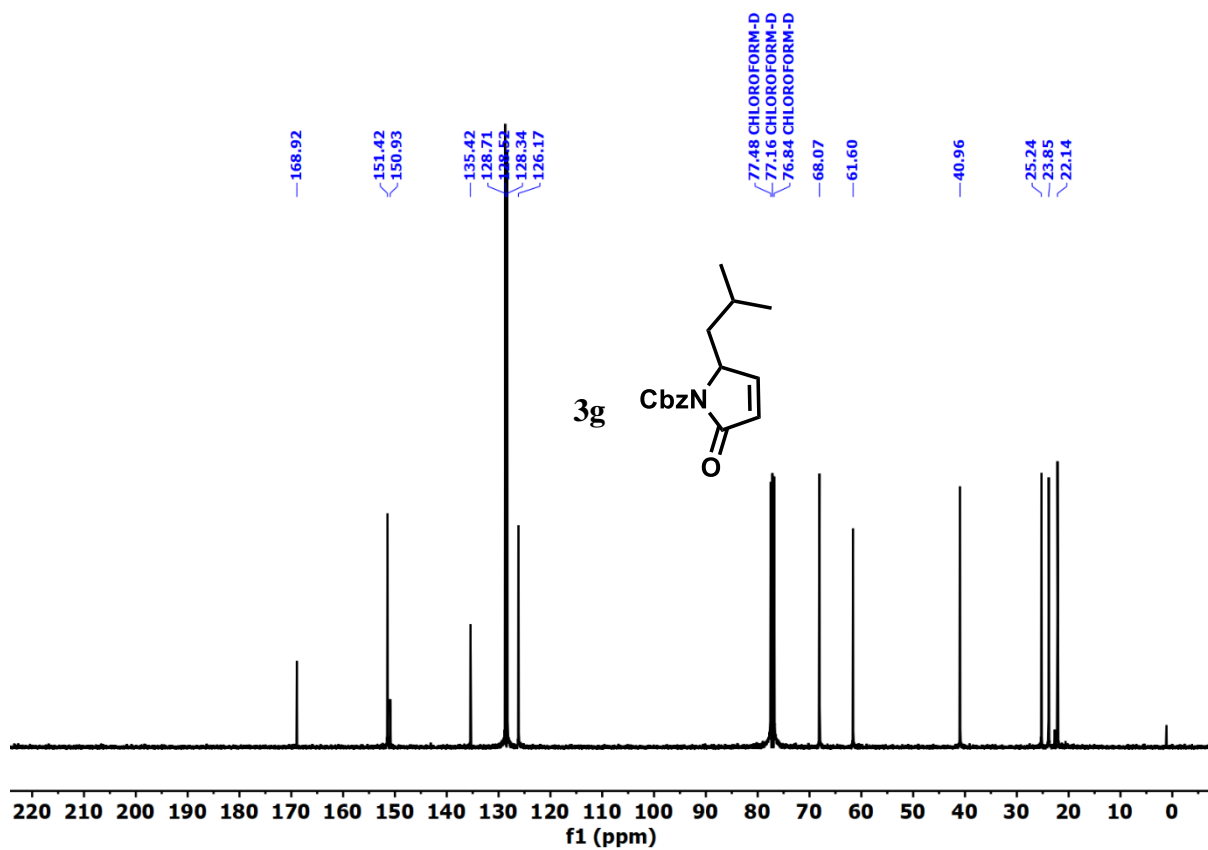


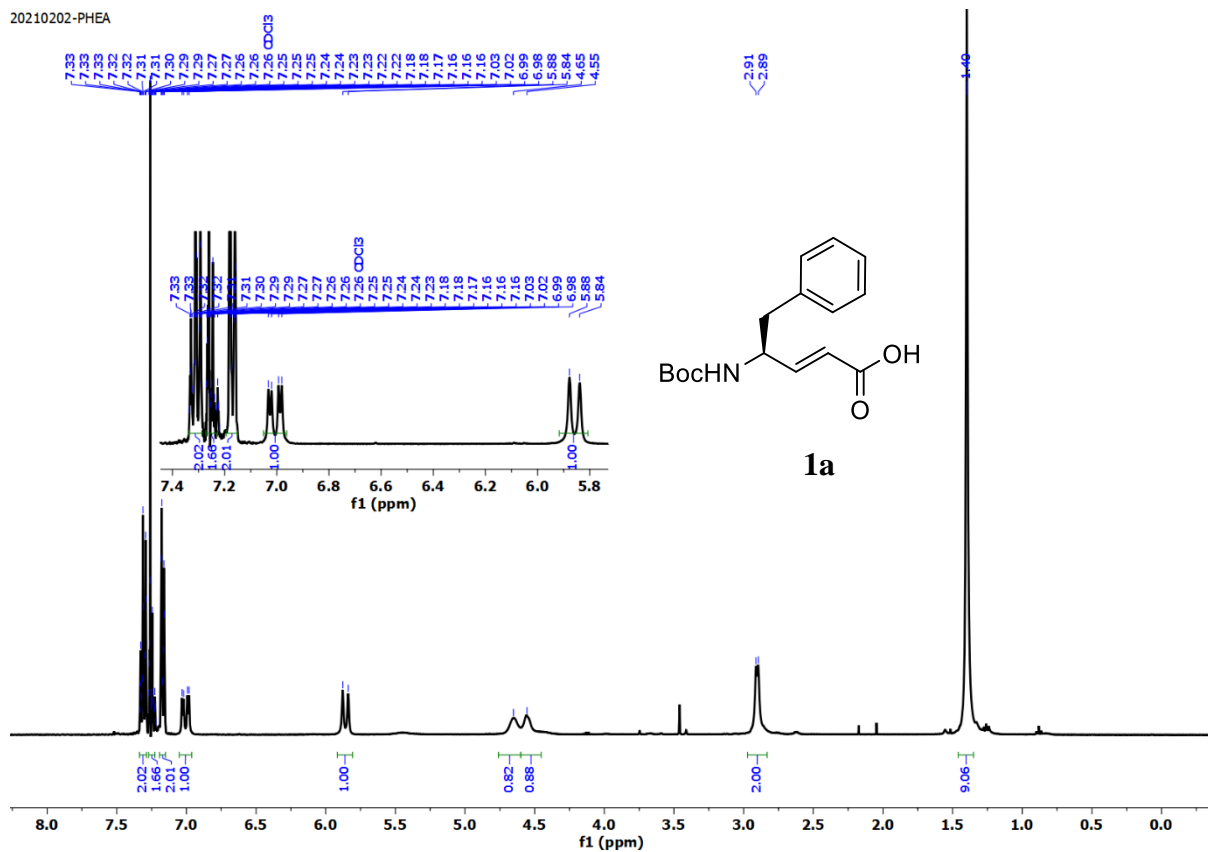


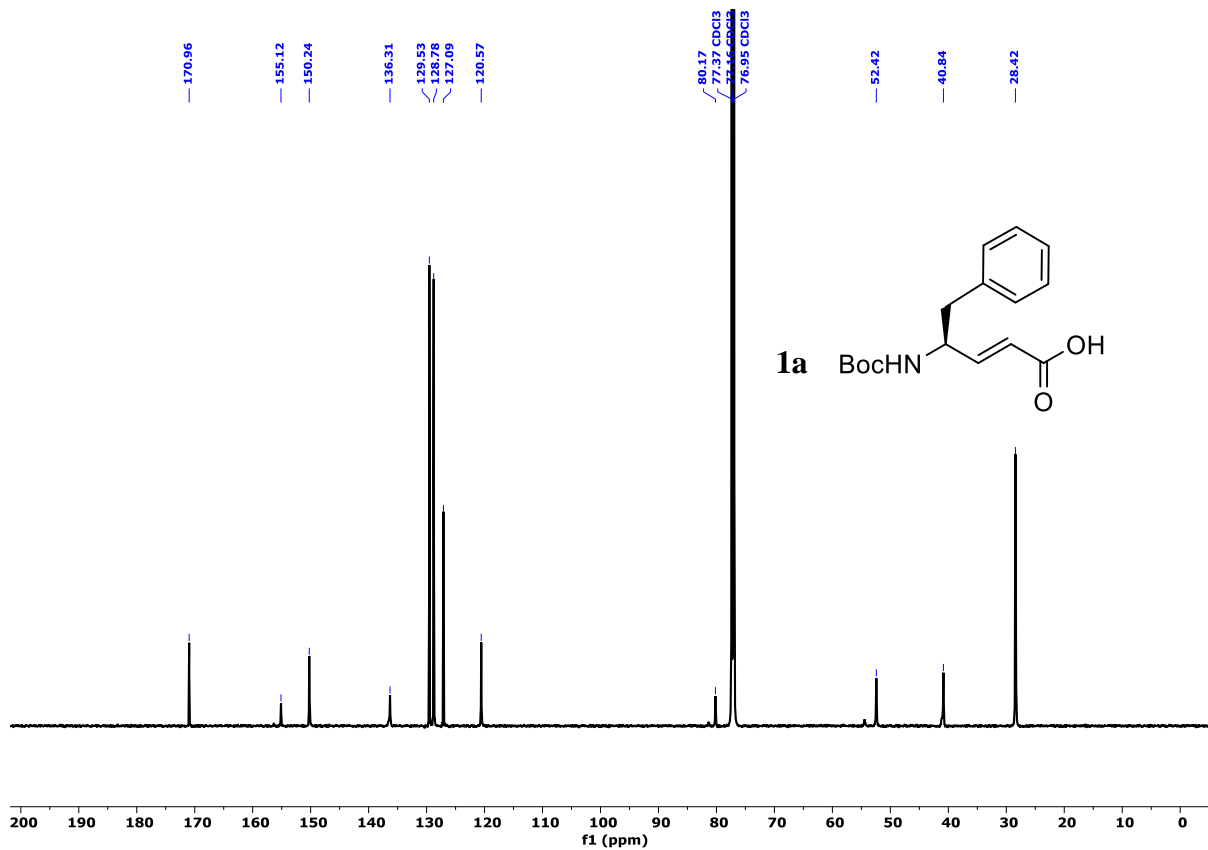


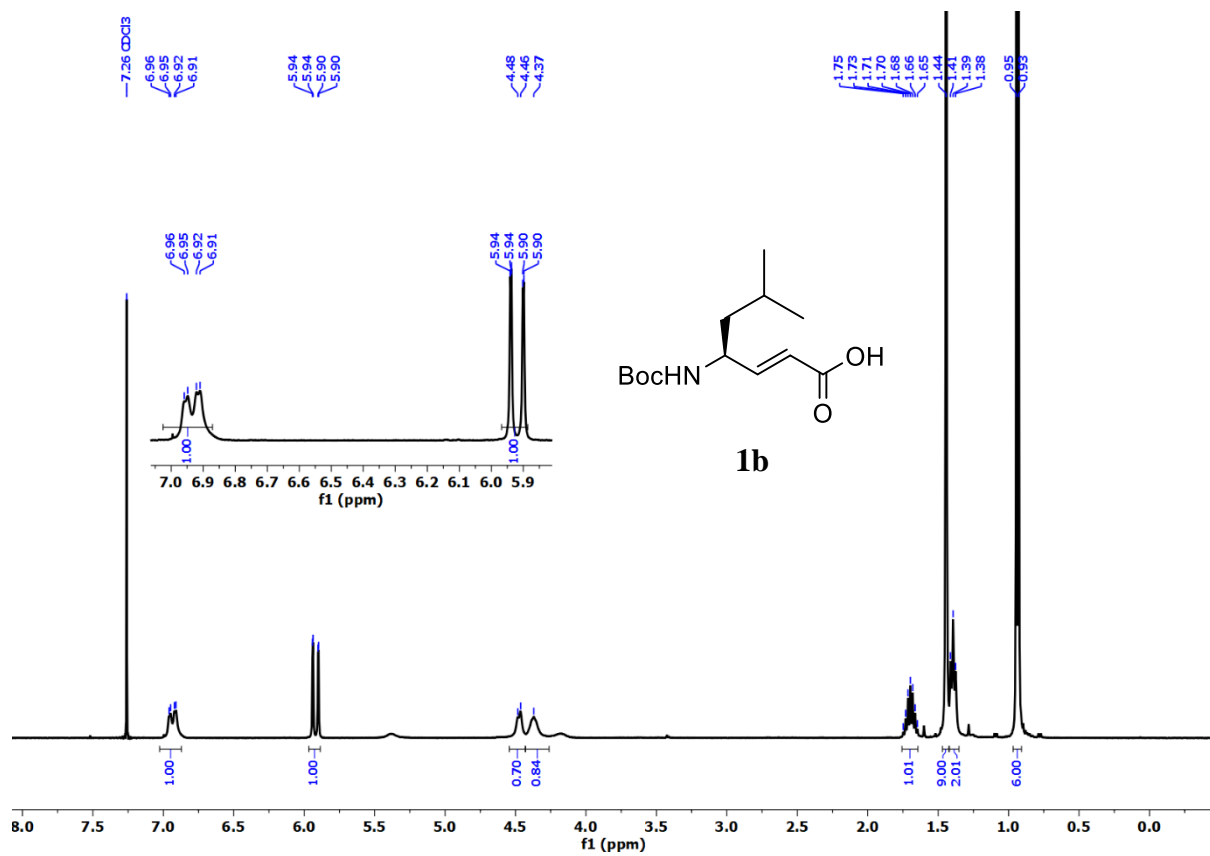


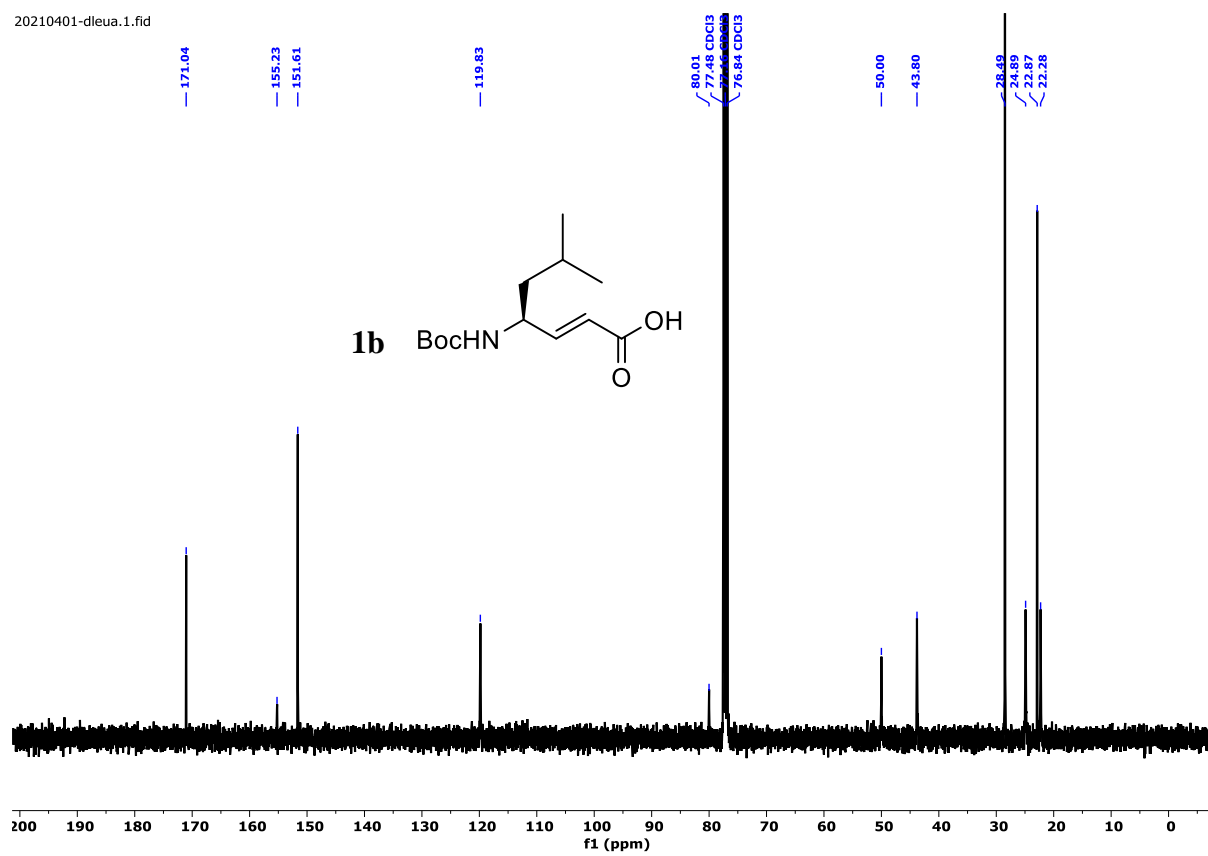




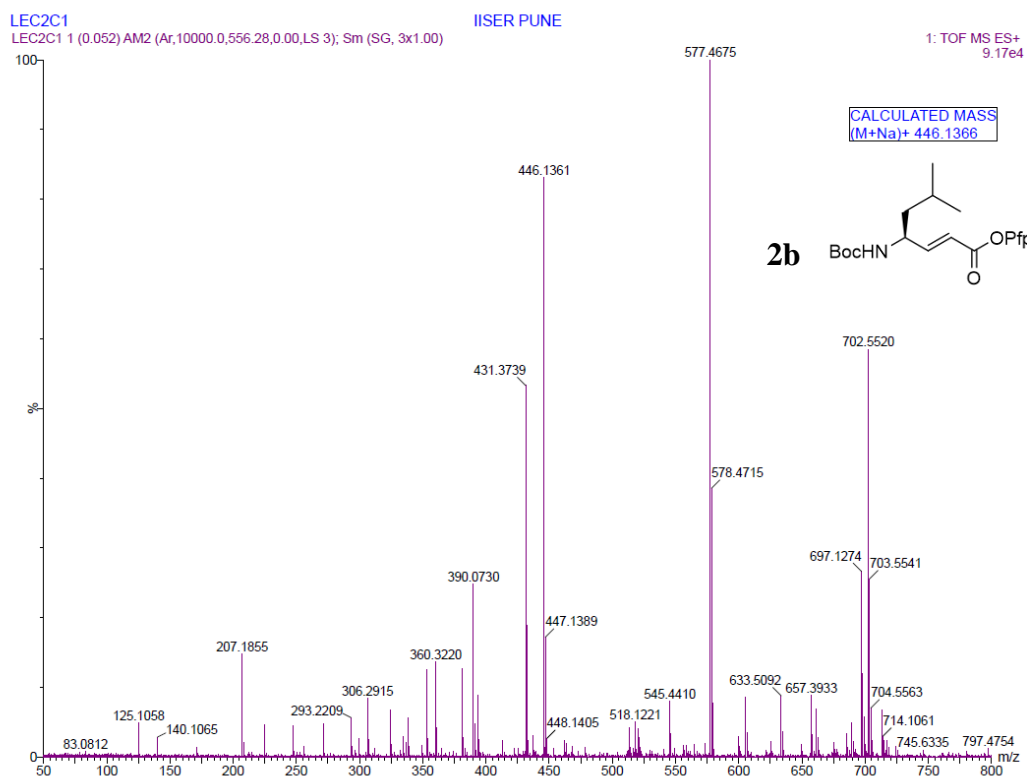
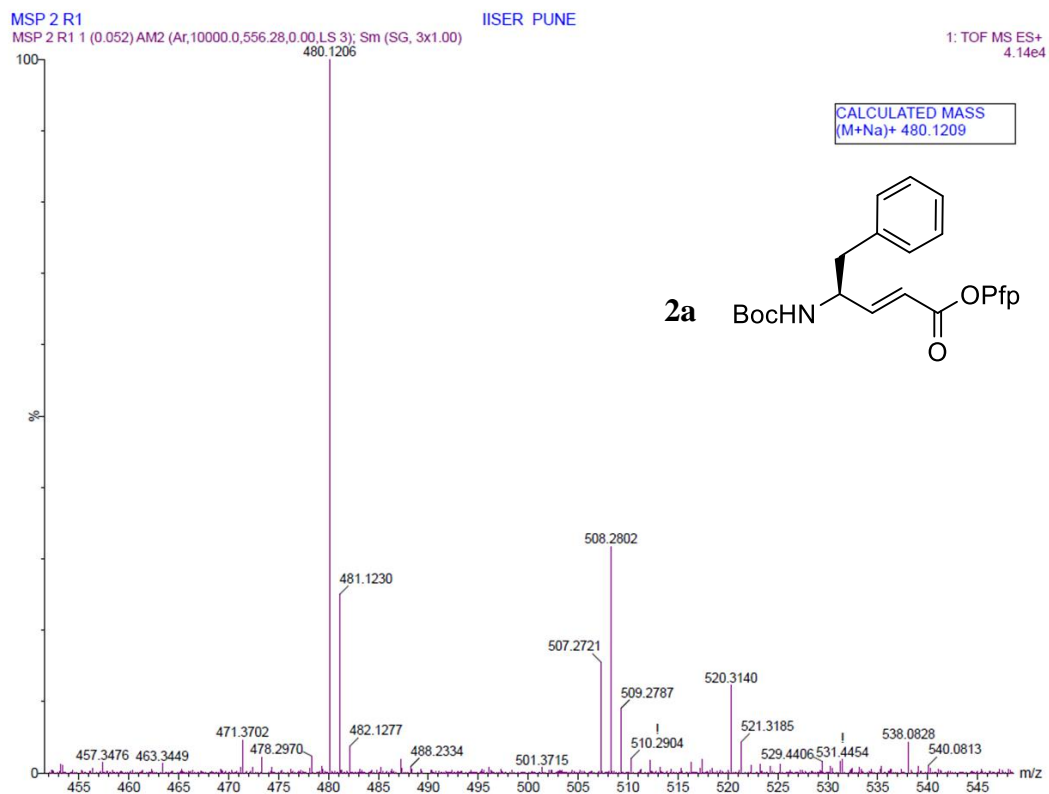








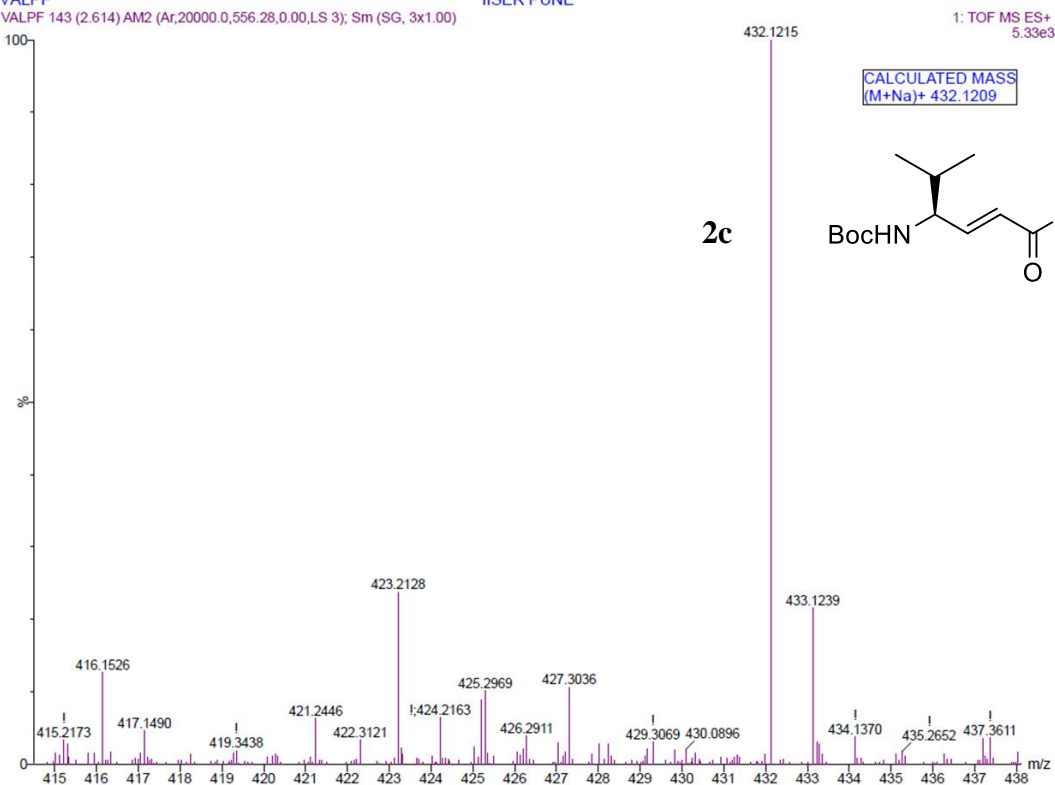
9.1. Mass Spectra of compounds



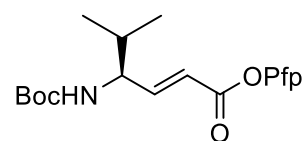
VALPF

VALPF 143 (2.614) AM2 (Ar,20000.0,556.28,0.00,LS 3); Sm (SG, 3x1.00)

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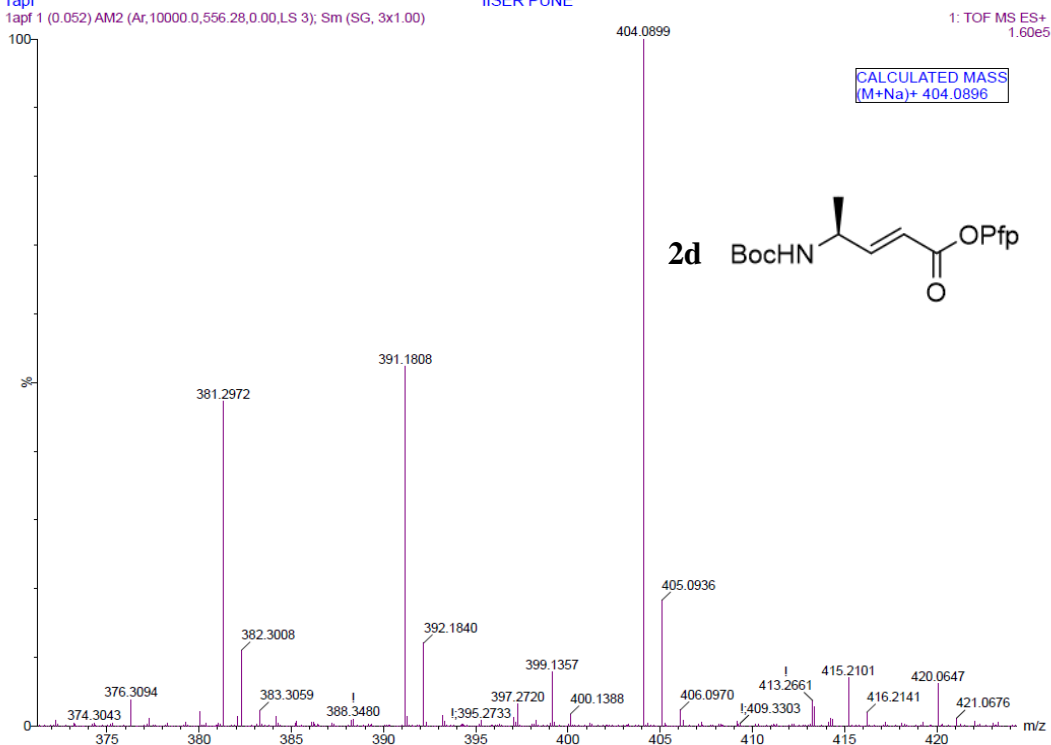
2c



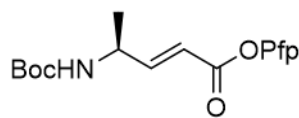
1apf

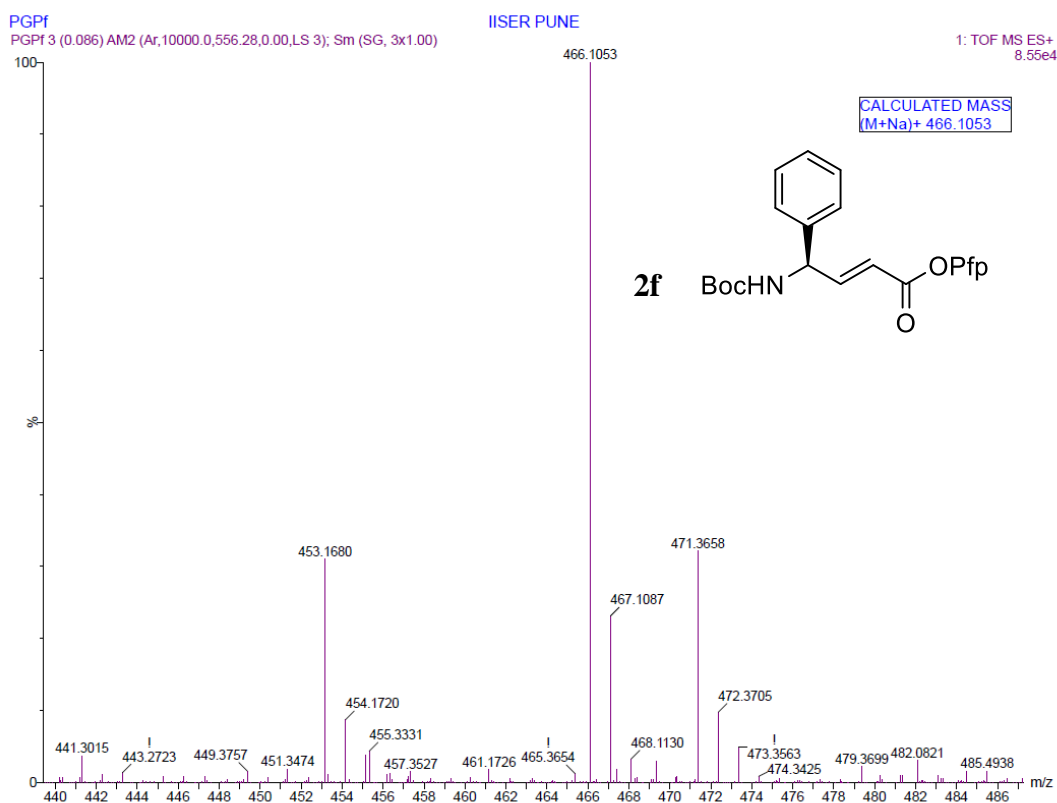
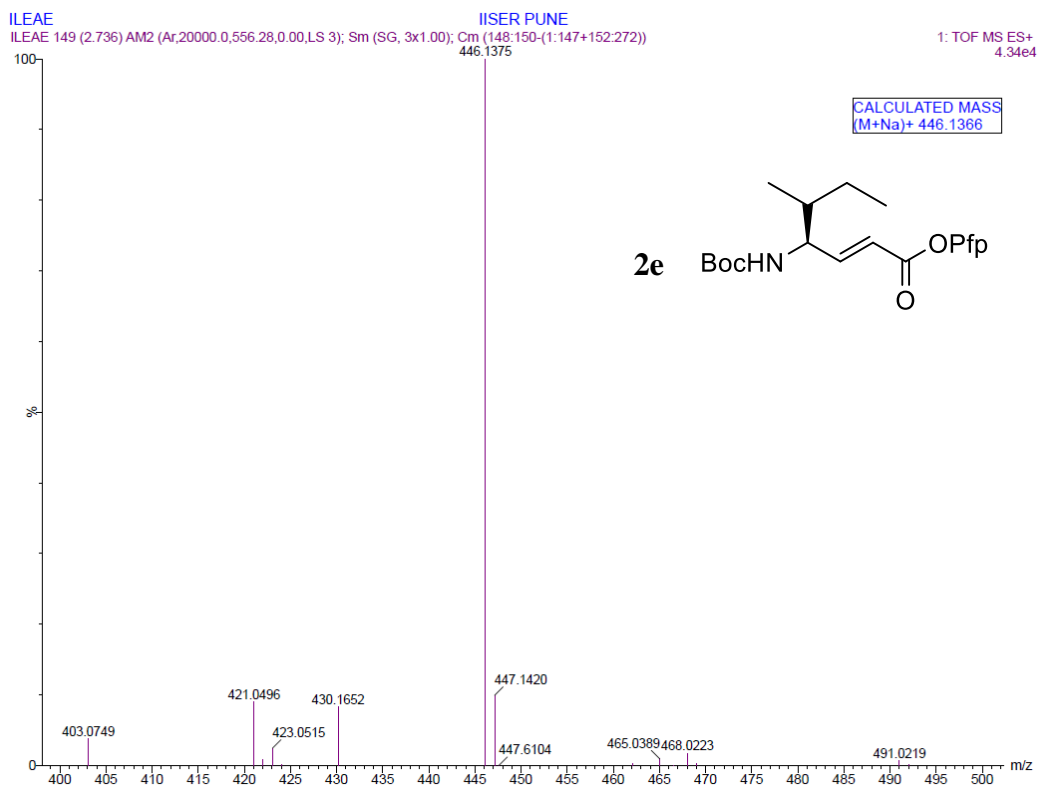
1apf 1 (0.052) AM2 (Ar,10000.0,556.28,0.00,LS 3); Sm (SG, 3x1.00)

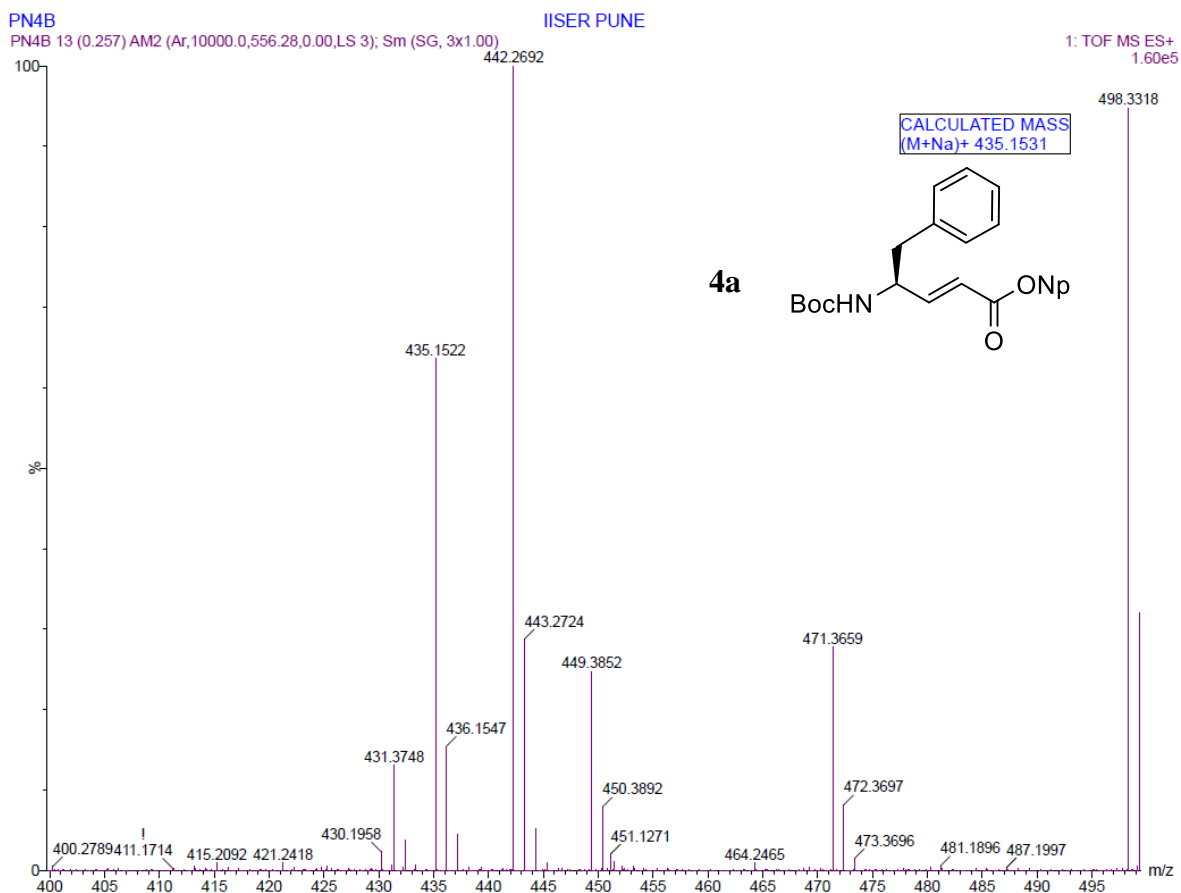
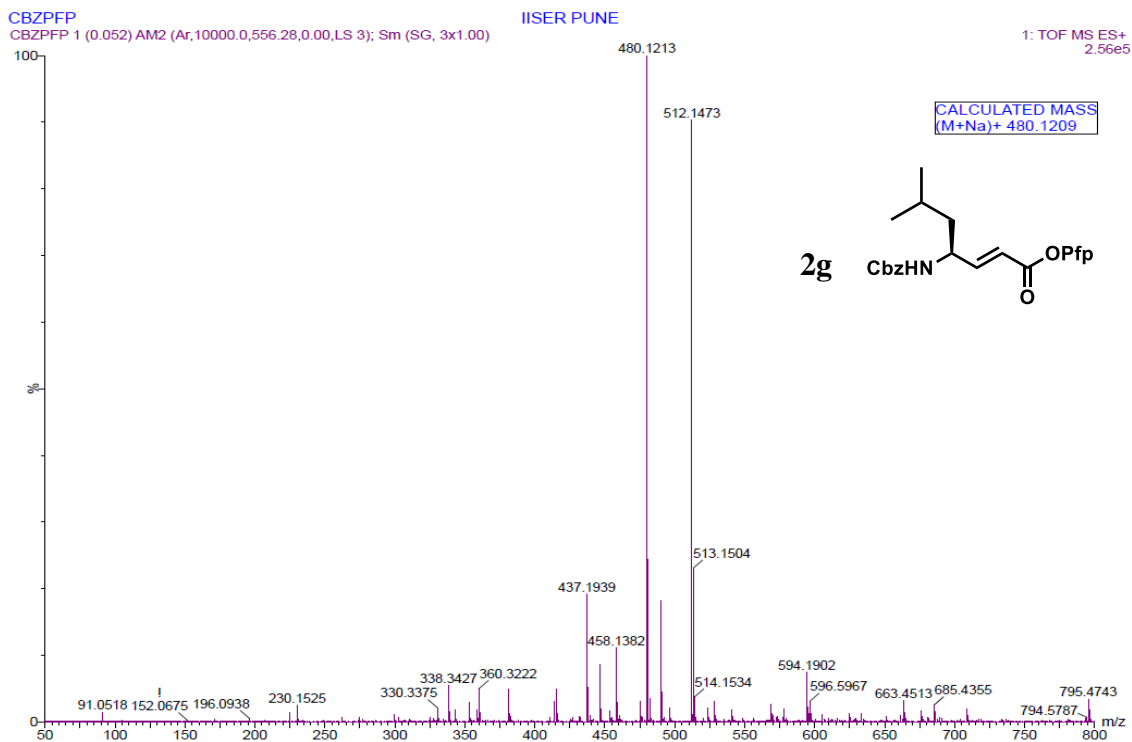
IISER PUNE

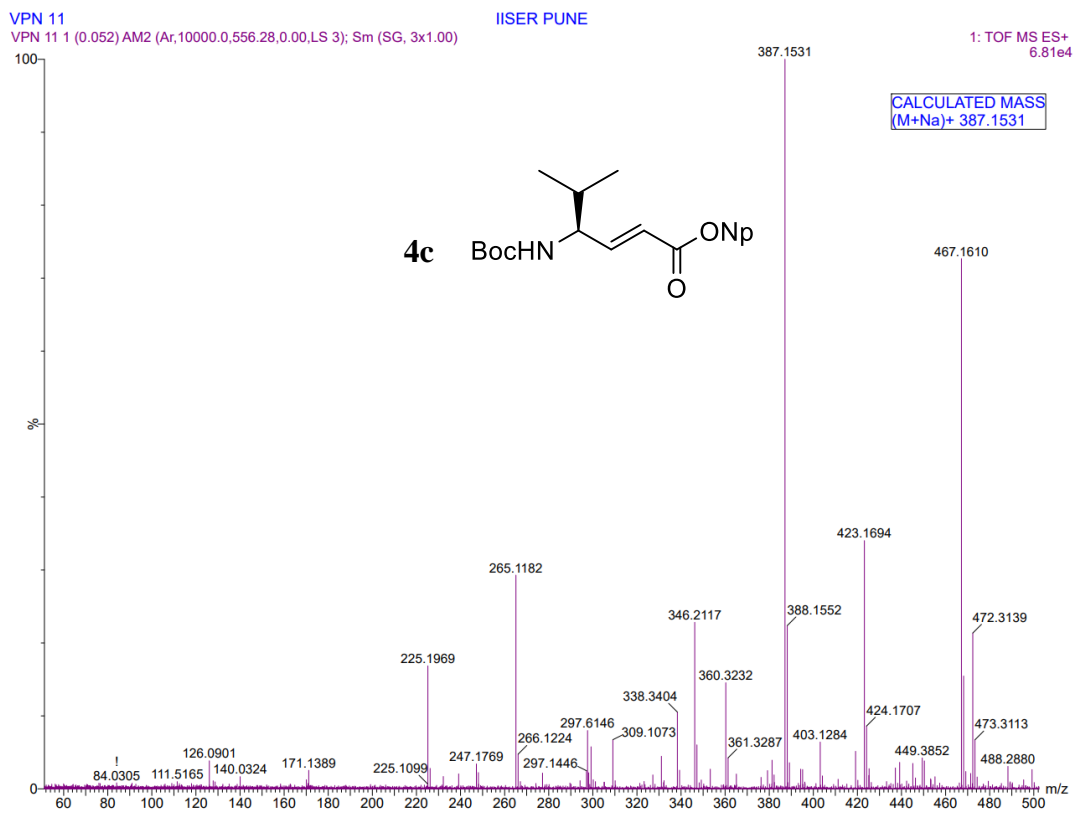
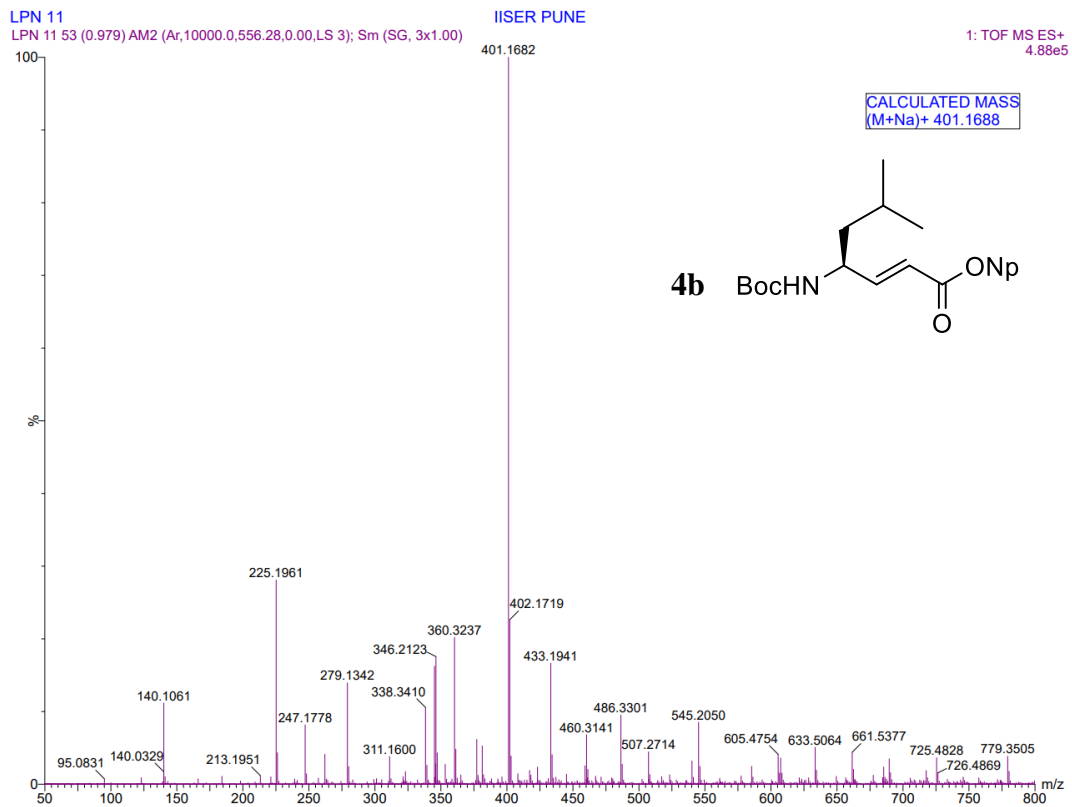


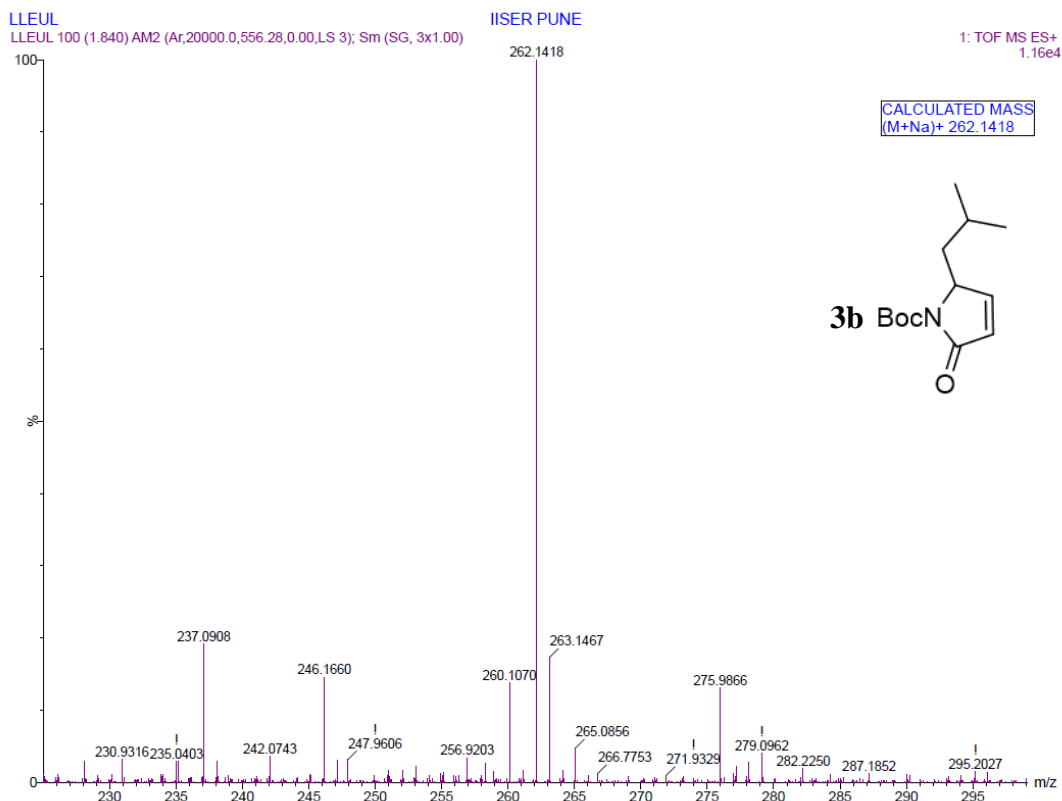
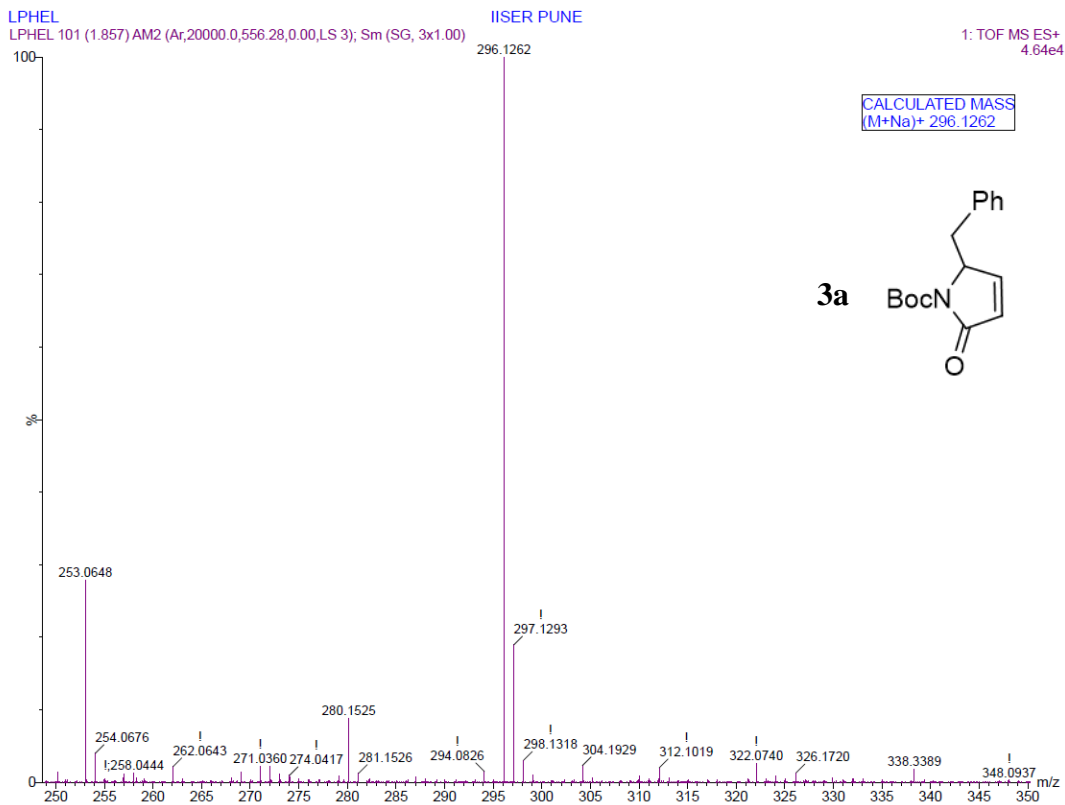
2d

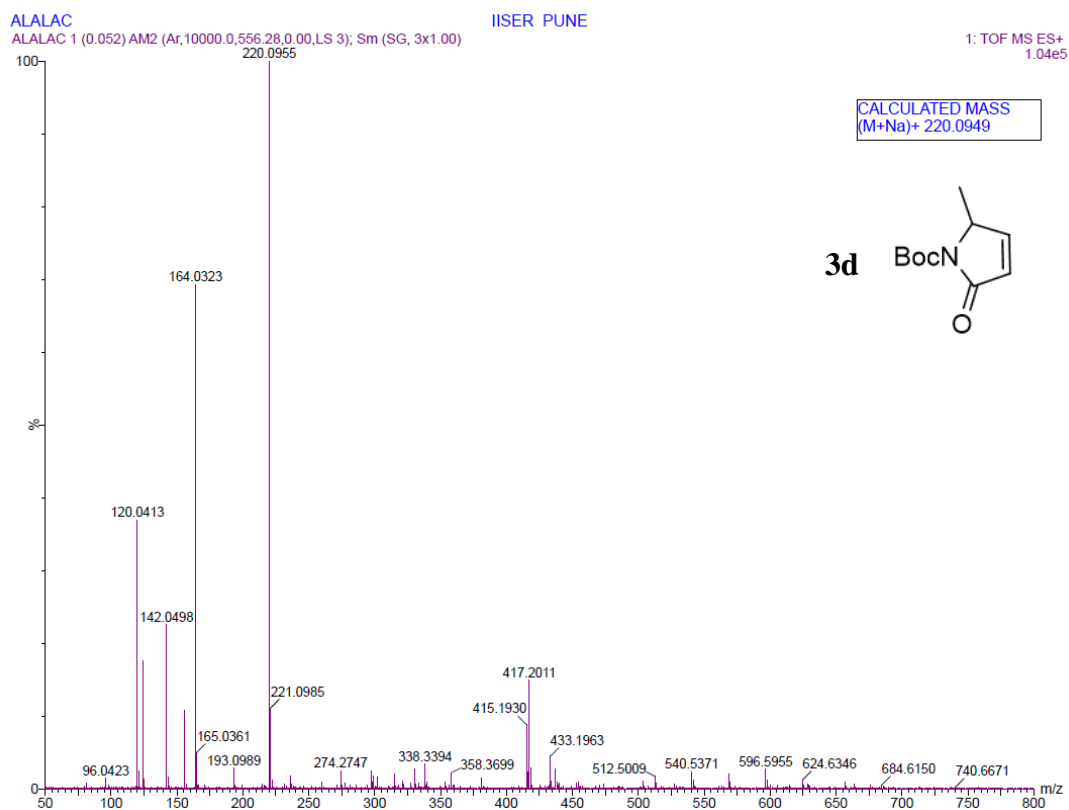
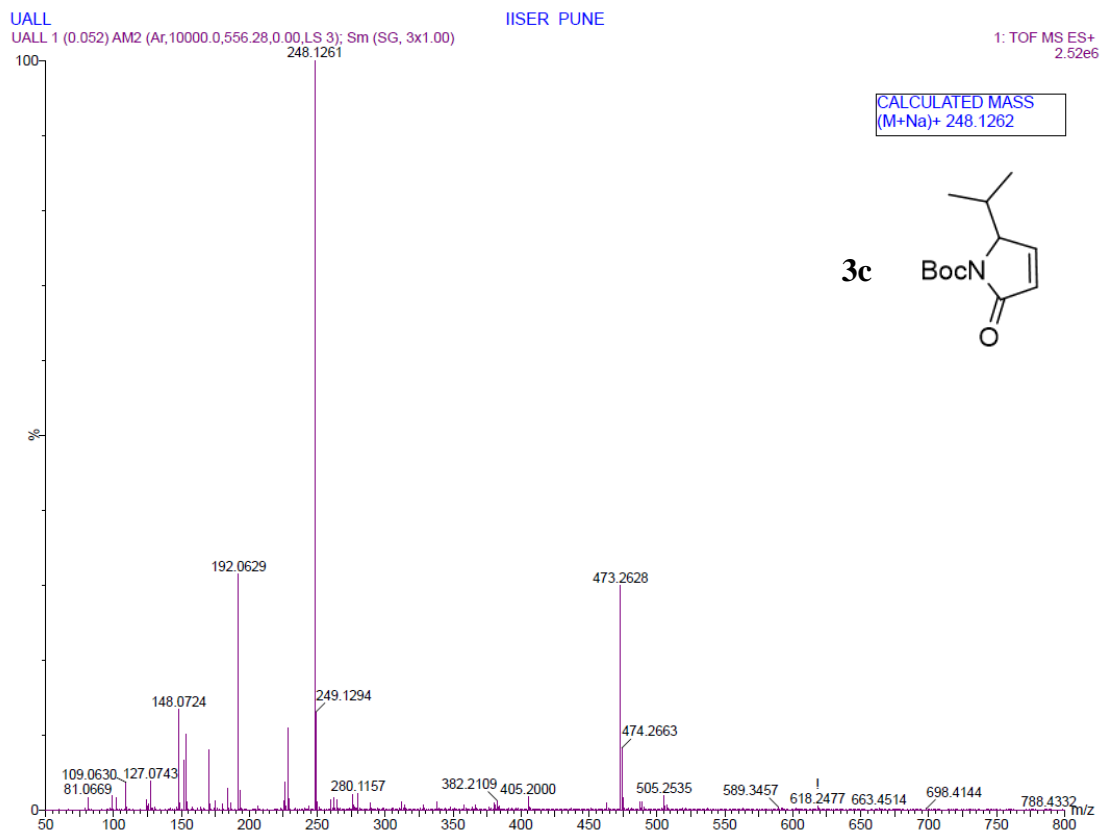


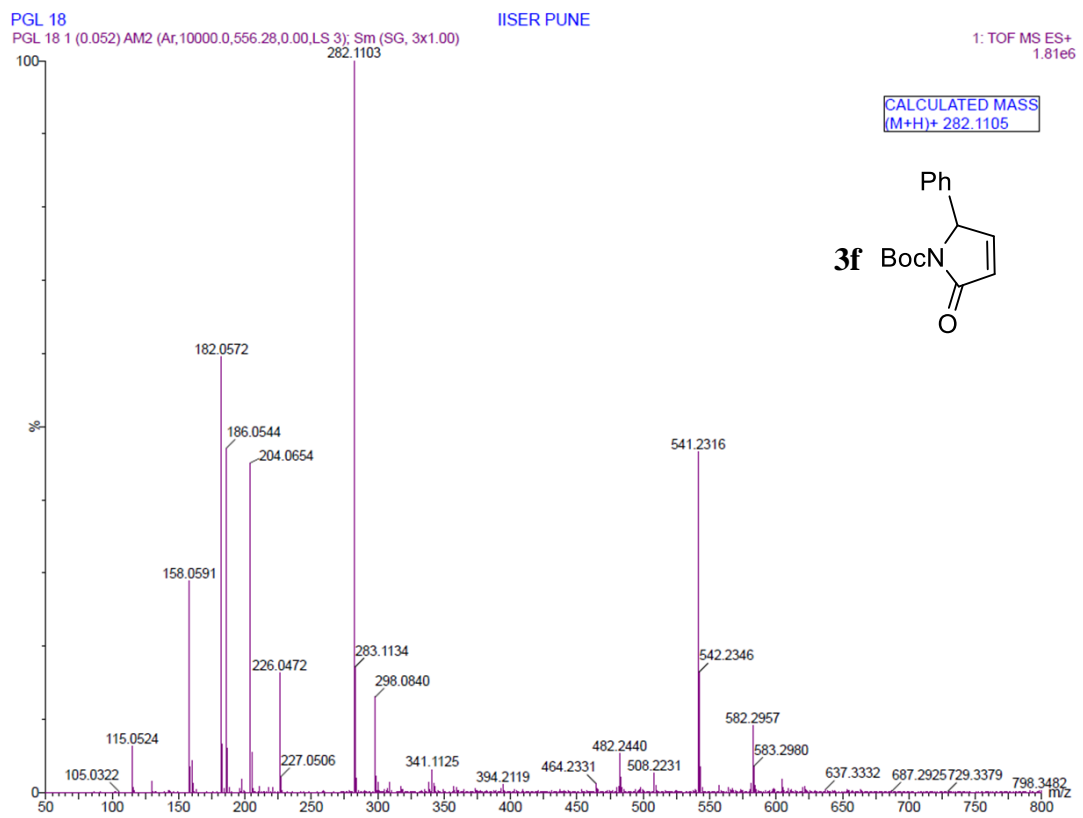
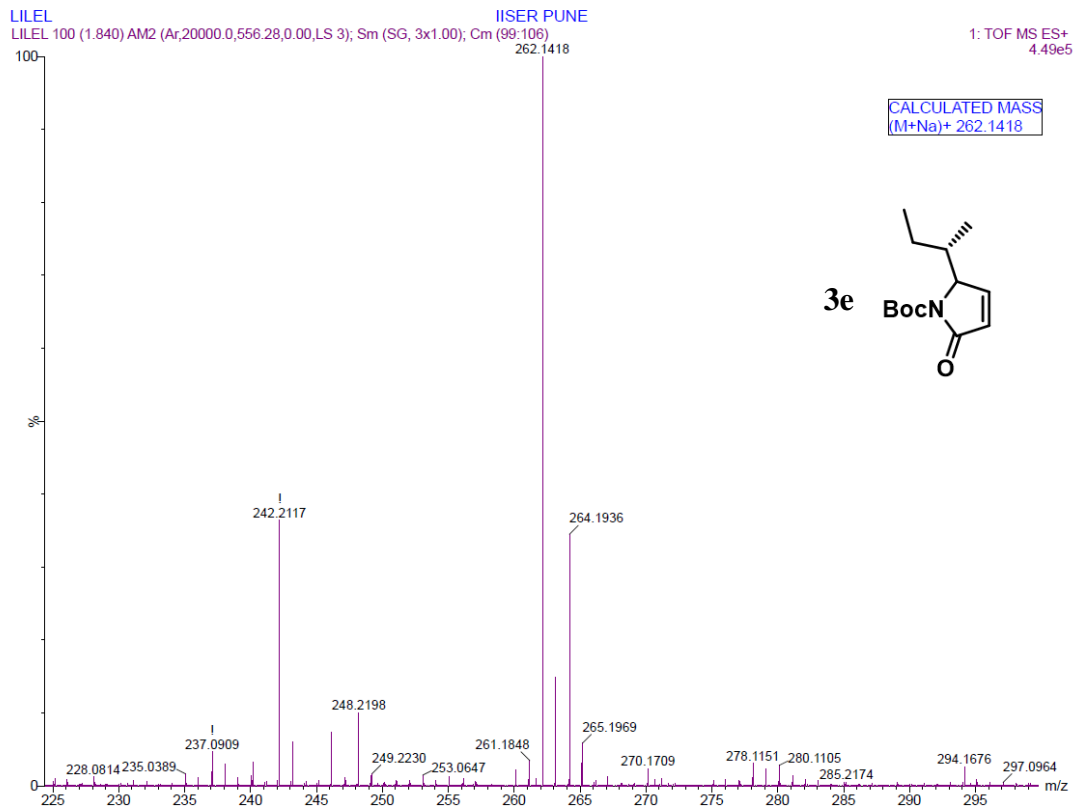








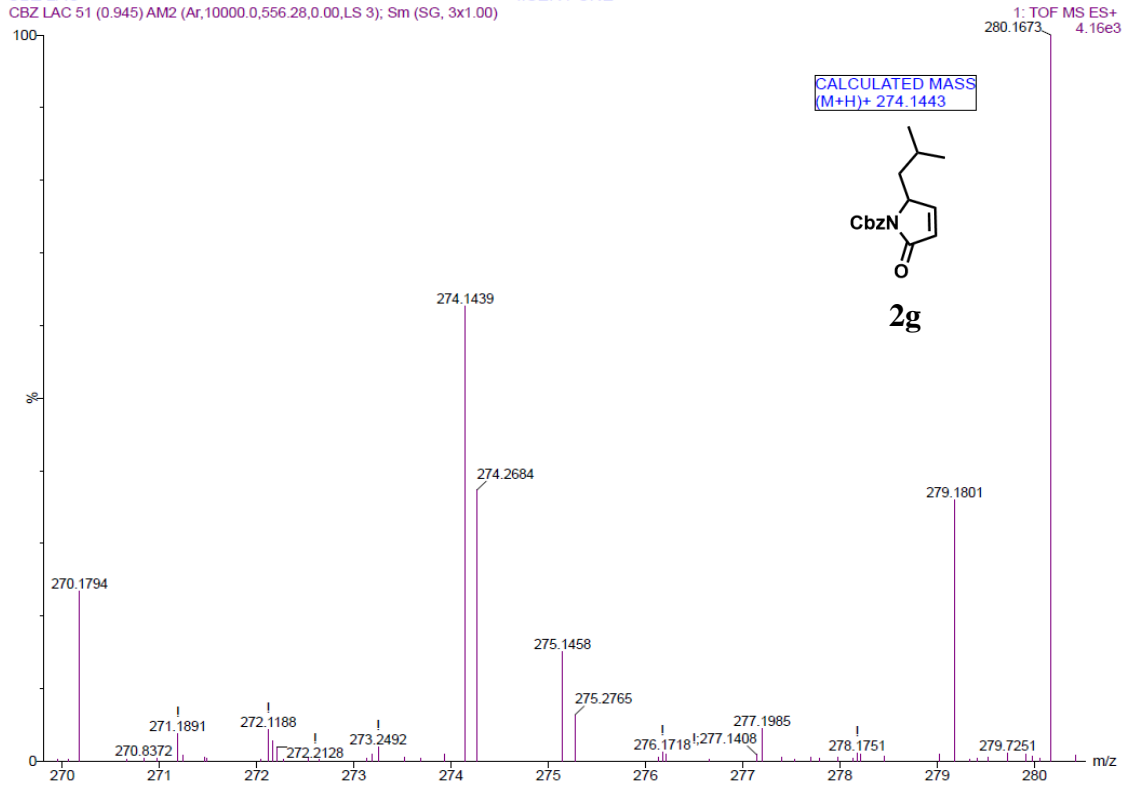




CBZ LAC

CBZ LAC 51 (0.945) AM2 (Ar,10000.0,556.28,0.00,LS 3); Sm (SG, 3x1.00)

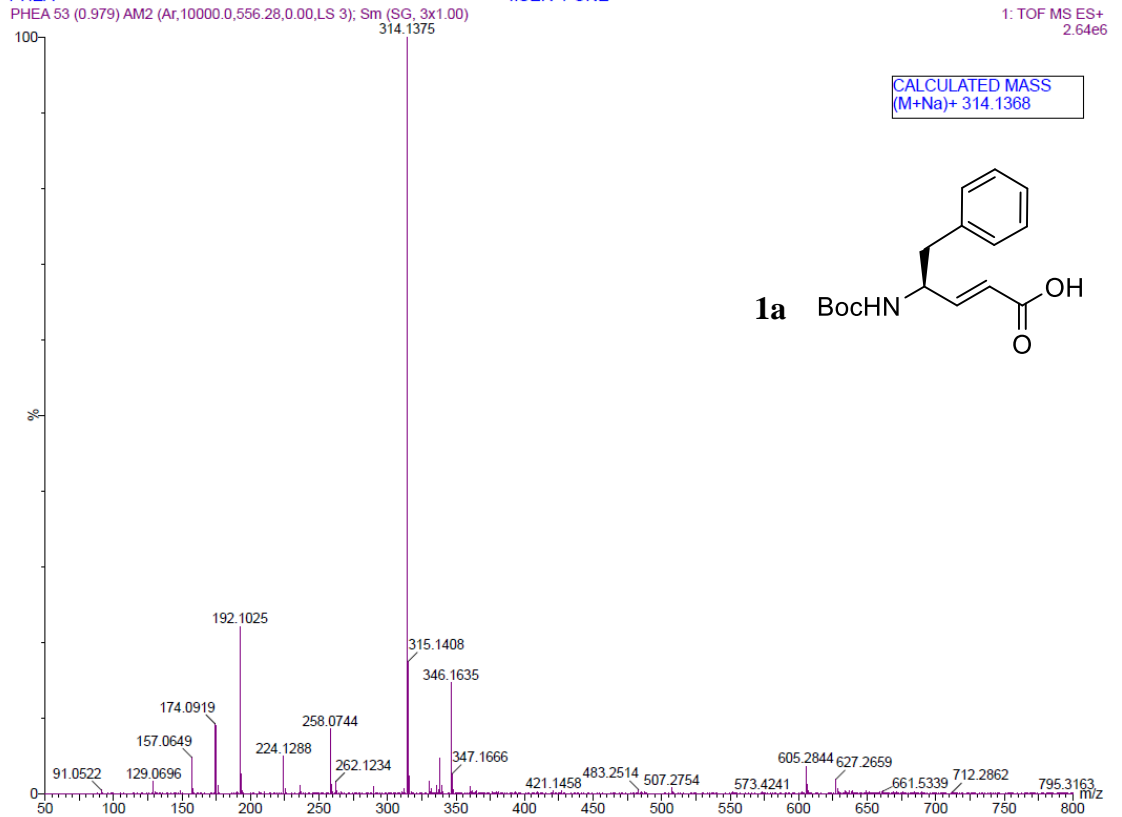
IISER PUNE

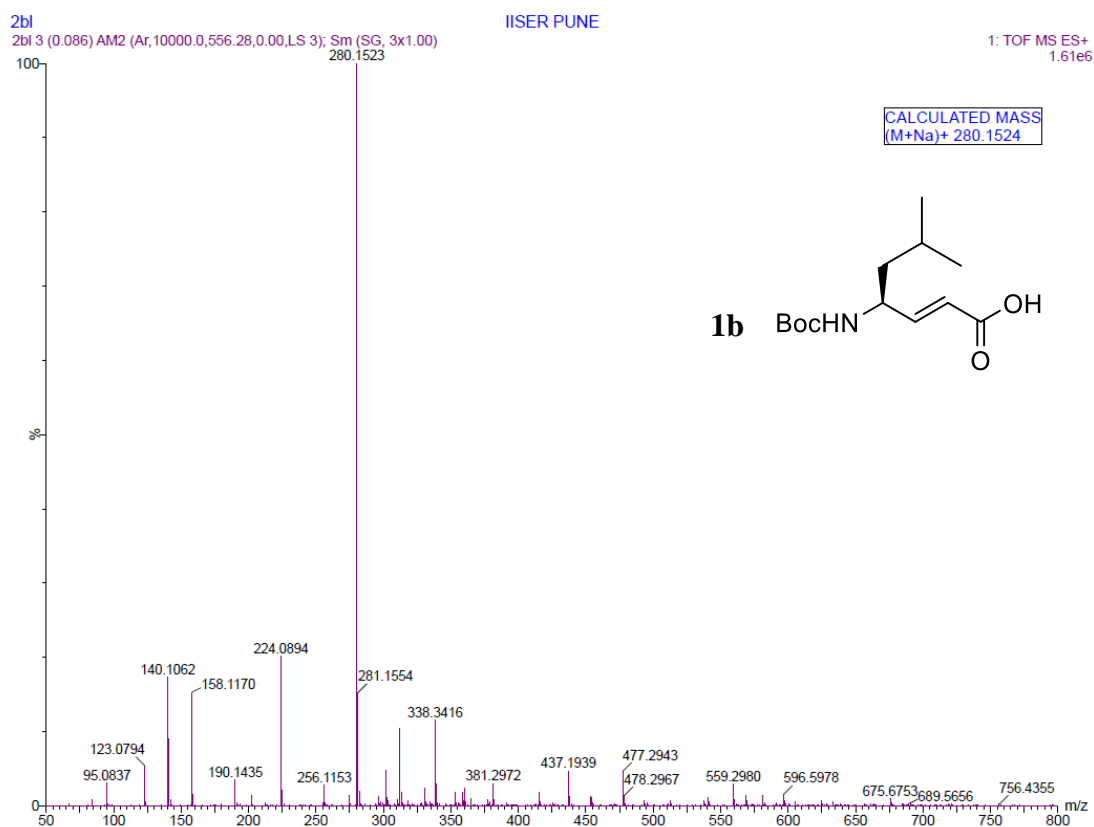


PHEA

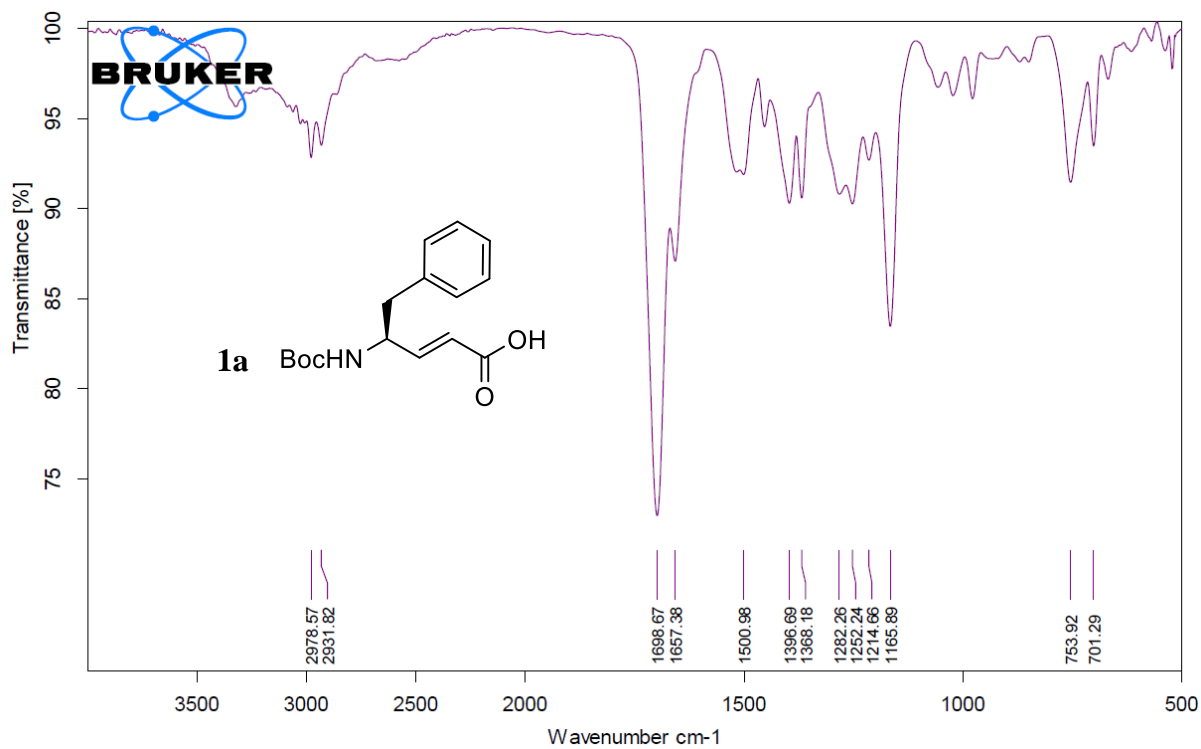
PHEA 53 (0.979) AM2 (Ar,10000.0,556.28,0.00,LS 3); Sm (SG, 3x1.00)

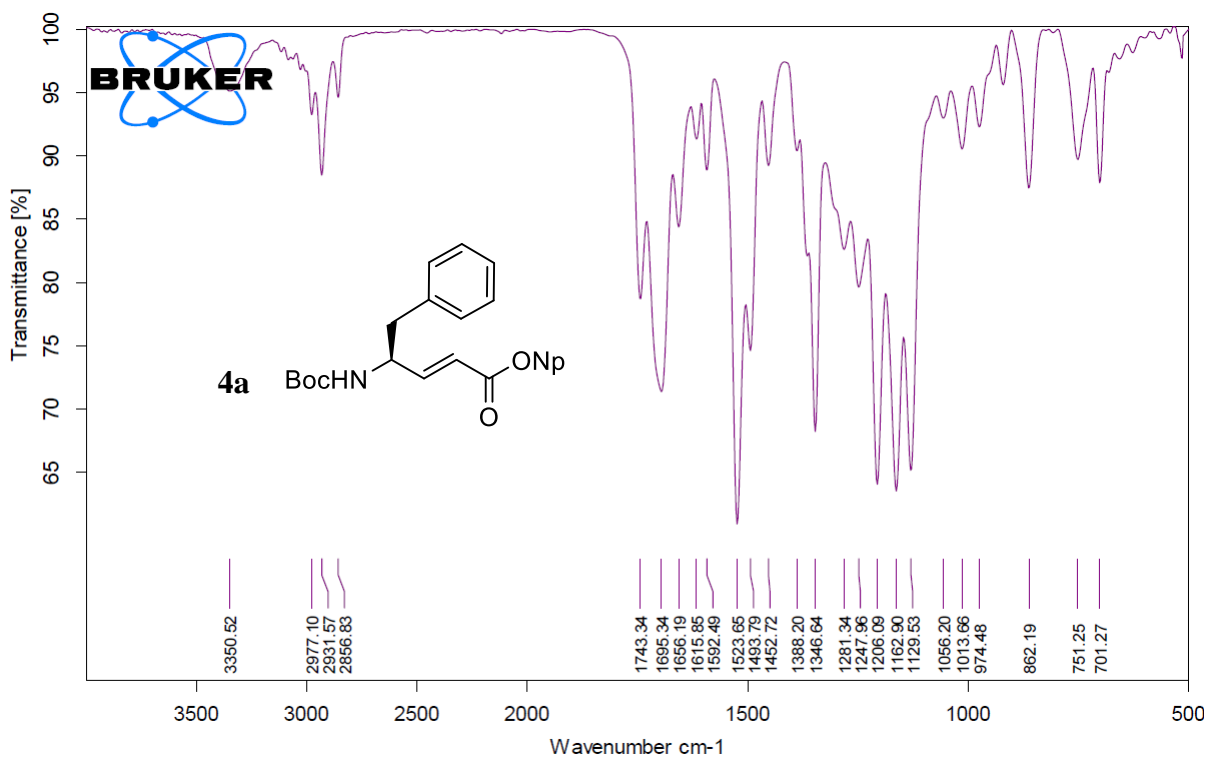
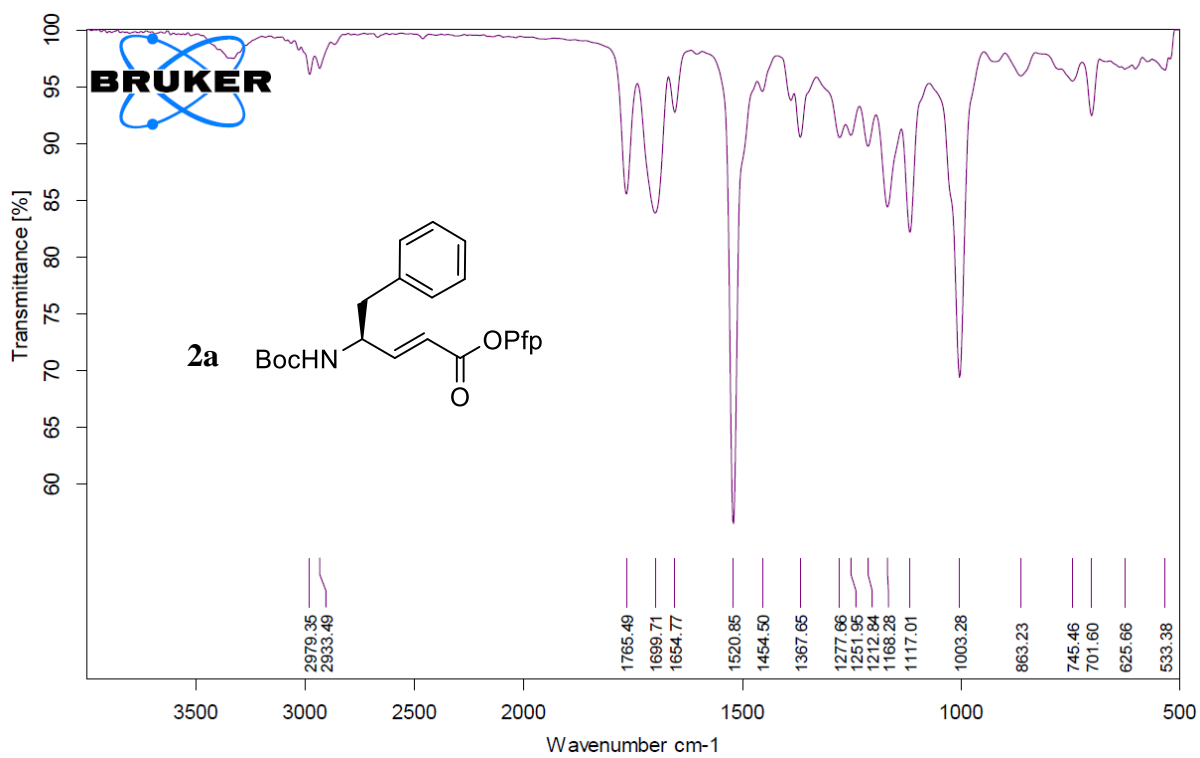
IISER PUNE





9.2. IR Spectra of compounds





10. HPLC Peaks (using chiral column)

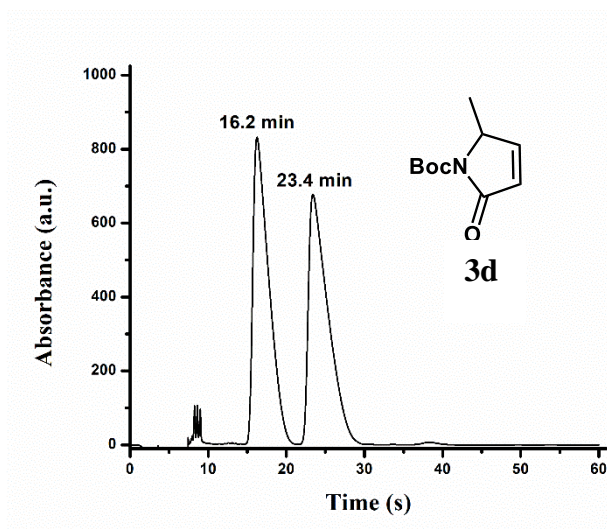


Fig. 12: HPLC traces of **3d** using chiral column.

11. References

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2. H.-Q. Lan, J.-L. Ye, A.-E. Wang, Y.-P. Ruan and P.-Q. Huang, *Chem.—Eur. J.*, 2011, **17**, 958–968.
3. M. Bodanszky, *Nature*, 1955, **175**, 685.