

## Supporting information

### **$\alpha$ -Hydroxydimethylacetal/ketal as $\alpha$ -hydroxycarbonyl equivalent in interrupted Heyns/Amadori rearrangement: Regioselective synthesis of substituted C2 and C3-acylindoles**

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### **1. General Comments:**

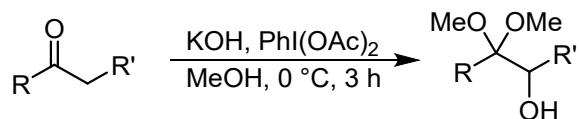
All reactions were carried out under atmospheric pressure using reaction tubes. Column chromatography was performed using Rankem Silica gel (100-200 mesh) and the solvent system used unless otherwise specified, was ethyl acetate-hexane with various percentage of polarity depending on the nature of the substrate. All chemicals and acids were purchased from either AVRA chemicals or Spectrochem and used as received. *o*-acylaniline derivatives **2** were synthesized employing the literature procedure.<sup>1</sup>

### **2. Analytical Methods:**

NMR data were recorded on a Bruker (400 MHz and 500 MHz) spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were referenced to signals of deuterio solvents and residual protiated solvents, respectively. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Thermo Nicolet iS10 FT and Jasco ATR-IR spectrometer. HRMS were recorded by electrospray ionization (ESI) method on a Q-TOF Micro with lock spray source. The crystal data was collected and integrated using a BrukerAxs kappa apex2 CCD diffractometer, with graphite monochromated Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation.

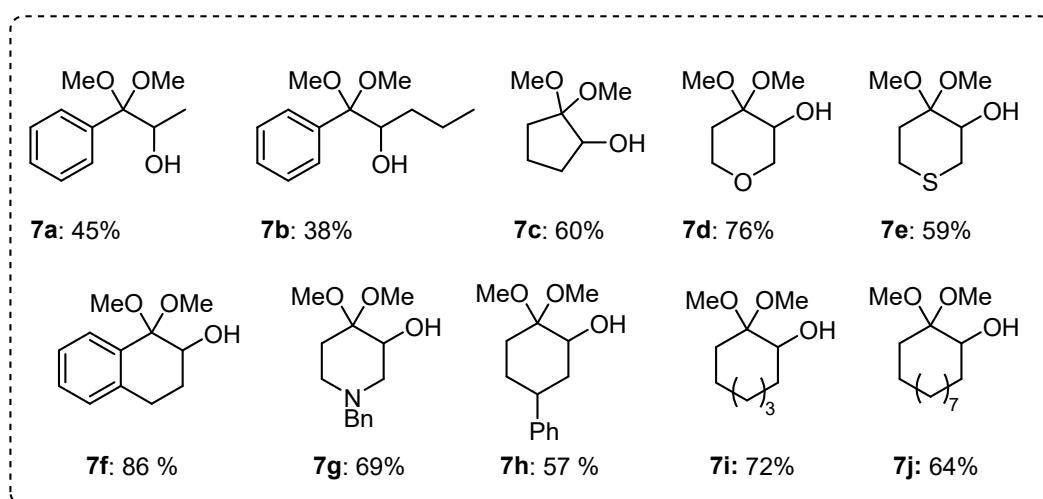
### 3. Synthesis of $\alpha$ -hydroxydimethylacetal/ketal:

#### Approach 1:

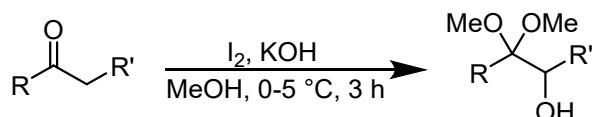


To a round bottom flask KOH (862 mg, 15.4 mmol, 4.5 equiv) was added in 10 mL of MeOH at 0 °C. After 5 minutes the corresponding ketone (3.4 mmol, 1 equiv) is added dropwise. The mixture was stirred for 10 minutes then PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (1.32 g, 4.1 mmol, 1.2 equiv) is added portion wise to the solution at 0 °C. After stirring the reaction mixture for 3 h at the same temperature, it was quenched with water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was then dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude product was then purified by silica gel chromatography using ethylacetate:hexane as an eluent to afford the product in good yield.<sup>2</sup>

Below derivatives were synthesized using this approach in one step from the ketone derivatives.

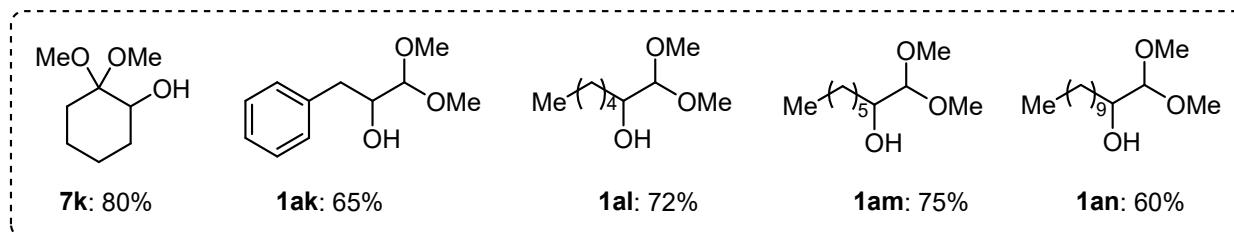


#### Approach 2:



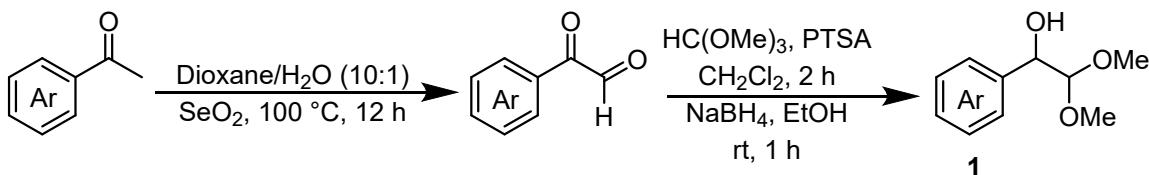
A solution of KOH (711 mg, 12.7 mmol, 2.5 equiv) in 10 mL of MeOH was cooled to 0-5 °C. Then, the corresponding carbonyl derivative (0.5 g, 5.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 minutes, then I<sub>2</sub> (1.42 g, 5.61 mmol, 1.1 equiv) dissolved in MeOH (5 mL) was slowly added to the reaction mixture and stirred for 3 h at the

same temperature. After completion of the reaction, it was quenched with saturated solution of  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$  and extracted with  $\text{EtOAc}$ . The combined organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was suitable for further use or can be purified by column chromatography. Below derivatives were synthesized using this approach in one step from aliphatic aldehydes and ketone derivatives.<sup>3</sup>



### Approach 3:<sup>4-6</sup>

Few of the  $\alpha$ -hydroxydimethylacetal derivatives were synthesized by following this alternative approach from acetophenone derivatives.



In an oven-dried 50 mL round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser,  $\text{SeO}_2$  (2 g, 18.33 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added followed by 10 mL of Dioxane/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (10:1) was introduced. After refluxing the reaction mixture for 15 min at 100 °C, the reaction mixture was cooled down to 50 °C then the corresponding acetophenone derivative (16.66 mmol, 1 equiv) was added dropwise. Subsequently, the temperature was increased to 100 °C and the stirring was continued at the same temperature for 12 h. Then the reaction mixture was cooled down to room temperature and filtered through a silica-gel bed. The filtrate was dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was used for subsequent step without any further purification.

The resultant aryl glyoxal monohydrate (16.64 mmol, 1 equiv) was taken in a 100 mL round bottom flask and dissolved in 30 mL of DCM followed by PTSA (950 mg, 4.99 mmol, 0.3 equiv) and trimethylorthoformate (5.3 g, 49.92 mmol, 3 equiv) were added to the solution dropwise at room temperature. The stirring was continued at the same temperature for 2 h. After the reaction was complete, as indicated by TLC, stirring was stopped and was washed

with water. The organic layer was then concentrated under reduced pressure to give  $\alpha,\alpha$ -dimethoxy methyl aryl ketone. The crude product was then subjected to the next step without further purification.

$\alpha,\alpha$ -dimethoxymethyl aryl ketone (16.50 mmol, 1 equiv) was taken in a 100 mL round bottom flask and 30 mL of EtOH was added. The solution was cooled to 0 °C and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (1.25 g, 33 mmol, 2 equiv) was added portion wise. The reaction was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirring was continued for 1 h. After the completion of reaction, as indicated by TLC (KMnO<sub>4</sub> was used for product confirmation), it was quenched with the addition of saturated solution of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The reaction mixture was extracted with DCM and then the organic layer was collected and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude residue was then further purified by column chromatography over silica-gel to afford the expected products  $\alpha$ -hydroxydimethylacetals in good yield over three steps.

Properties and spectral data of **1a**, **1z**, **1aa**, **1ac**, **1af**, **1ag**, **1ai**, **2c** and **2f** were reported in our earlier communication.<sup>7</sup>

### 3.1: Properties of synthesized compounds 1:

#### 1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,2-dimethoxyethan-1-ol (**1ad**)

Yield: 69% (2.48 g); viscous liquid;  $R_f$ = 0.3 in 20% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3453, 2941, 2832, 1487, 1071, 973, 827, 754. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.25- 7.18 (m, 4H), 4.47 (d,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (d,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 3.01 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  138.0, 133.4, 128.4, 128.2, 107.4, 73.2, 56.1, 54.9.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClO<sub>3</sub>+Na: 239.0451; found: 239.0444.

#### 1-(4-bromophenyl)-2,2-dimethoxyethan-1-ol (**1ae**):

Yield: 63% (2.73 g); viscous liquid;  $R_f$ = 0.3 in 20% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3445, 2940, 1120, 1085, 972, 825. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.38 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.48 (d,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (d,  $J$  = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 2.86 (s, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  138.5, 131.3, 128.8, 121.8, 107.5, 73.3, 56.2, 55.0.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrO<sub>3</sub>+Na: 282.9946; found: 282.9939.

#### 3-(1-hydroxy-2,2-dimethoxyethyl)phenol (**1ah**):

Yield: 58% (1.91 g); viscous liquid;  $R_f$ = 0.2 in 30% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3379, 1596, 1455, 1265, 1122, 1058, 970, 758, 697. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.18 (t,  $J$ = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (s, 2H), 6.75 (d,  $J$ = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (d,  $J$ = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (d,  $J$ = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 3.26 (s, 1H), 2.11 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  156.0, 140.9, 129.6, 119.3, 115.3, 114.0, 107.5, 73.9, 56.1, 55.2.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>4</sub>+Na: 221.0790; found: 221.0785.

### **2,2-dimethoxy-1-(thiophen-2-yl)ethan-1-ol (1aj)**

Yield: 65% (2.03 g); viscous liquid;  $R_f$ = 0.3 in 20% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3441, 2939, 2832, 1123, 1062, 970, 755, 701. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.27 (d,  $J$ = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d,  $J$ = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.99-6.97 (m, 1H), 4.88 (d,  $J$ = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (d,  $J$ = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 2.86 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  142.6, 126.6, 125.5, 125.3, 107.2, 70.5, 56.1, 55.3.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S+Na: 211.0405; found: 211.0398.

## **4: Properties of synthesized compounds 2:**

### **1-(2-aminophenyl)propan-1-one (2b):**

Yield: 84% (0.53 g); Solid; m.p. 45- 47 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.5 in 95:5 hexane/EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3463, 3343, 2978, 1643, 1581, 1214, 945, 751. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.74 (d,  $J$ = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.23 (m, 1H), 6.65- 6.62 (m, 2H), 6.20 (s, 1.6 H), 2.97 (q,  $J$ = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.20 (t,  $J$ = 7.3 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  203.4, 150.3, 134.1, 131.1, 117.9, 117.4, 115.8, 32.4, 8.8.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO+Na: 172.0738; found: 172.0734.

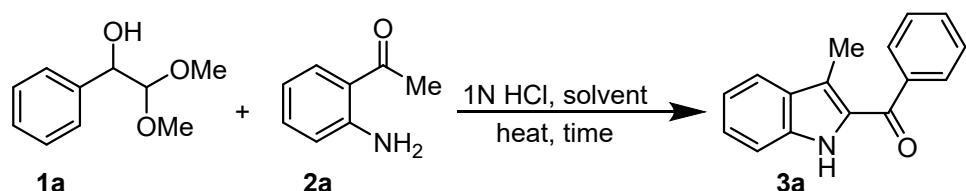
### **1-(2-aminophenyl)pentan-1-one(2d):**

Yield: 88% (0.65 g); viscous liquid;  $R_f$  = 0.5 in 95:5 hexane/EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3464, 3342, 2954, 1641, 1251, 1204, 964, 750. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.74 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.23 (m, 1H), 6.65- 6.62 (m, 2H), 6.20 (s, 1.7 H), 2.92 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.73- 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.43- 1.38 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  203.3, 150.4, 134.2, 131.3, 118.1, 117.4, 115.8, 39.1, 27.2, 22.6, 14.0.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO+Na: 200.1051; found: 200.1044.

### 1-(2-aminophenyl)-2-phenylethan-1-one(2g):

Yield: 63% (0.56 g); White solid; m.p. 80-82 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.5 in 95:5 hexane/EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3467, 3341, 3032, 1611, 1578, 1325, 1206, 978, 747. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.83 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.25- 7.23 (m, 4H), 6.64-6.61 (m, 2H), 4.25 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  200.0, 150.9, 135.4, 134.5, 131.6, 129.5, 128.7, 126.8, 117.6, 117.5, 115.9, 46.2.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO+Na: 234.0895; found: 234.0890.

### Optimization: Synthesis of 3a from 1a and 2a

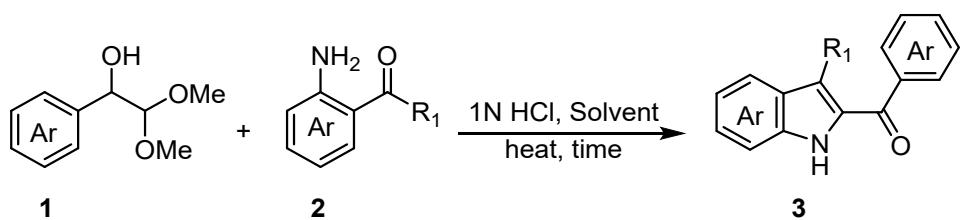


Entry	Acids (equiv)	Temp (°C)	Solvent	Yield (%) <sup>a</sup>
1	-	rt	EtOH	-
2	AcOH (1)	rt	EtOH	-
3	PTSA (1)	rt	EtOH	-
4	1N HCl (2)	rt	EtOH	34
5	ZnCl <sub>2</sub> (0.5)	rt	EtOH	-
6	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub> (0.5)	rt	EtOH	-
7	1N HCl (2)	60	EtOH	50
8	1N HCl (2)	80	EtOH	83
9	1N HCl (2)	90	EtOH	84

10	1N HCl (2)	90	Dioxane	90
11	1N HCl(2)	90	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	87
12	<b>1N HCl (2)</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>Dioxane</b>	<b>94</b>
13	1N HCl (2)	120	Dioxane	93
14	Conc. HCl (2)	90	Toluene	28 <sup>b</sup>
15	PTSA (1)	80	EtOH	60
16	1N HCl (2)	90	H <sub>2</sub> O	66

Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.23 mmol, 1 equiv), **2a** (0.23 mmol, 1 equiv), acid (0.5-2 equiv), solvent (3 mL for 0.23 mmol), temp, 18 h. <sup>a</sup> All are isolated yields. <sup>b</sup> formation of heyns adduct **I** was observed in 40% yield.

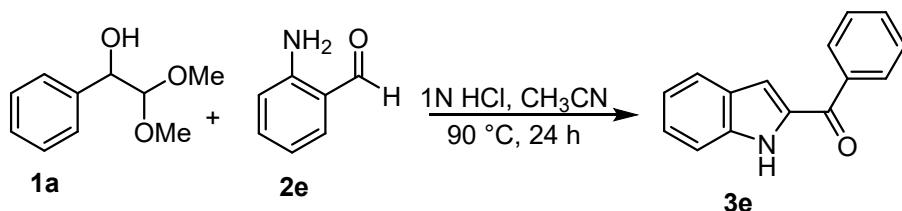
## 5. General procedure for synthesis of 2-acylindole derivatives **3**



In an oven dried 20 mL reaction tube, compound **1** (0.23 mmol, 1 equiv), and *o*-acylaniline derivative **2** (0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) were taken in dioxane solvent (3 mL) and 0.5 mL of 1N HCl (2 equiv) was added. The reaction tube was sealed and kept in a pre-heated oil bath at 100 °C and stirred at the same temperature for 18 h. After consumption of starting material as indicated by TLC, reaction mixture was cooled down to room temperature and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in rotary evaporator. The crude product was then further purified by column chromatography using ethyl acetate: hexane (1:9) as an eluting solvent to afford the 2-acylindole **3** in good to excellent yields.

Properties and spectral data of **3a**, **3c**, **3e**, **3f**, **3h**, **3i**, **3j**, **3k**, **3l**, **3m**, **3p**, **3r**, **3t**, **3u**, **3w**, **3z**, **3aa**, **3ac**, **3af**, **3ag**, **3ai**, **3ak**, **3al** and **5** were reported in our earlier communication.<sup>7</sup>

### 5.1. Synthesis of compound 3e

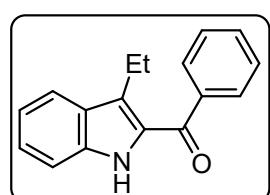


In an oven dried reaction tube, compound **2e** (50 mg, 0.41 mmol, 1 equiv) was taken in 3 mL of acetonitrile and **1a** (76 mg, 0.41 mmol, 1 equiv) was added. To the reaction mixture, 0.5 mL of 1N HCl (2 equiv) was added and the reaction tube was sealed and kept in a pre-heated oil bath at 90 °C and was stirred for 24 h at the same temperature. After the reaction was completed, as indicated by TLC, it was cooled down to room temperature and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was then purified by column chromatography to afford the product **3e** in 72% (65 mg) yield.

### 5.2. Properties of synthesized 2-acylindoles:

#### (3-ethyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone (**3b**)

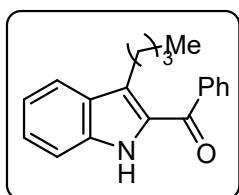
Yield: 81% (46 mg); Solid; m.p. 75-77 °C;  $R_f = 0.5$  in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3327, 2970,



1611, 1526, 1256, 735, 693. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.86 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.41-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.15 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.78 (q,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 1.18 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  189.5, 139.7, 136.8, 132.0, 130.8, 128.6, 128.5, 128.1, 127.5, 126.4, 121.6, 120.3, 112.1, 18.6, 15.7.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO+Na: 272.1051; found: 272.1036.

#### (3-butyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone (**3d**):

Yield: 95% (61 mg); Solid; m.p. 75-77 °C;  $R_f = 0.5$  in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3333, 2954,

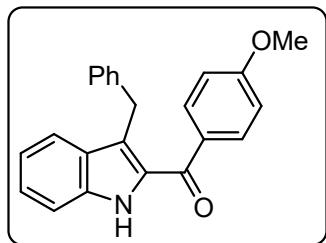


1614, 1525, 1329, 1254, 732, 695. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.82 (s, 1H), 7.77 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.59 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.40-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.15 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 1H), 2.74 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 1.57-1.49 (m, 2H), 1.22-1.13 (m, 2H),

0.77 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  189.6, 139.7, 136.7, 131.9, 131.2, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 126.4, 126.2, 121.7, 120.2, 112.0, 33.5, 25.0, 22.8, 13.8.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO} + \text{Na}$ : 300.1364; found: 300.1348.

### (3-benzyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(4-methoxyphenyl)methanone (3g):

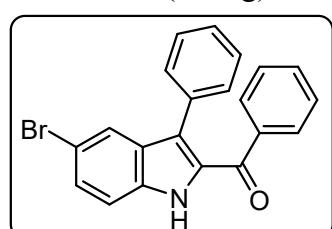
Yield: 74% (58 mg); Solid; m.p. 110-112 °C;  $R_f = 0.4$  in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3322,



3057, 1600, 1253, 1170, 1024, 734.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  9.11 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.20 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.11-7.08 (m, 3H), 6.89 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 4.24 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  188.2, 163.1, 140.8, 136.6, 132.2, 131.7, 131.5, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 126.0, 125.9, 121.8, 121.7, 120.5, 113.8, 112.0, 55.5, 31.3.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_2 + \text{Na}$ : 364.1313; found: 364.1299.

### (5-bromo-3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3n):

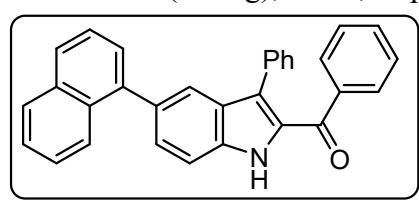
Yield: 74% (64 mg); Solid; m.p. 175-177 °C;  $R_f = 0.5$  in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3313,



3059, 1620, 1258, 740, 696.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  9.49 (s, 1H), 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.52 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.14 (s, 5H), 7.07 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  189.5, 137.2, 135.0, 133.1, 132.0, 131.7, 130.8, 129.6, 129.4, 128.2, 127.7, 127.2, 124.5, 114.4, 113.7.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{14}\text{BrNO} + \text{H}$ : 376.0337; found 376.0315.

### (5-(naphthalen-1-yl)-3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3q):

Yield: 92% (89 mg); Solid; m.p. 185-187 °C;  $R_f = 0.5$  in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3325,

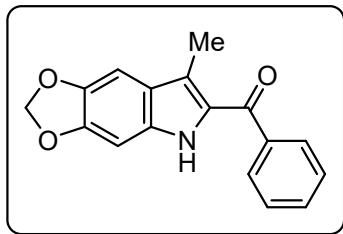


3054, 1621, 1258, 789, 741, 696.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  9.45 (s, 1H), 7.90 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.84 (d,  $J = 12$  Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 3H), 7.52-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.28-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.20 (s, 2H),

7.09- 7.07 (m, 5H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  189.7, 140.7, 137.6, 135.8, 134.1, 133.8, 133.6, 132.1, 131.8, 131.5, 131.0, 129.6, 129.4, 128.3, 128.1, 127.9, 127.7, 127.5, 127.3, 126.9, 126.3, 126.1, 125.8, 125.6, 125.4, 123.1, 111.7.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}+\text{Na}$ : 446.1521; found 446.1497.

**(7-methyl-5H-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-f]indol-6-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3s):**

Yield: 84% (54 mg); Yellow Solid; m.p. 170-175 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.6 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>):

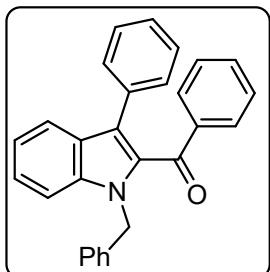


3447, 3055, 1597, 1264, 744.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.97 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 5.97 (s, 2H), 2.15 (s, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  188.1, 148.9, 143.9, 139.7, 133.0, 131.6, 131.2, 128.6, 128.4,

123.4, 121.1, 101.1, 98.4, 91.7, 11.4.

**(1-benzyl-3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone (3v):**

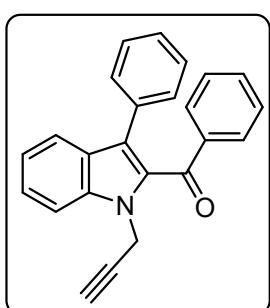
Yield: 31% (28 mg); viscous liquid;  $R_f$ =0.7 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3057, 2923, 1635,



1450, 1342, 1255, 938, 729, 697.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.80 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.20 (m, 6H), 7.18-7.11 (m, 5H), 7.09-7.05 (m, 3H). 5.70 (s, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  190.9, 138.5, 138.1, 138.0, 133.8, 132.7, 132.5, 130.5, 130.1, 128.6, 128.0, 127.7, 127.4, 126.7, 126.6, 126.2, 125.5, 124.5, 121.6, 121.3, 110.9, 47.9; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}+\text{H}$ : 388.1701; found 388.1678.

**phenyl(3-phenyl-1-(prop-2-yn-1-yl)-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone(3x):**

Yield: 28% (22 mg); viscous liquid;  $R_f$ =0.7 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3290, 3058, 2921,

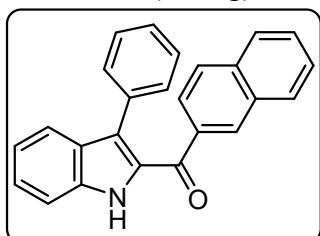


1625, 1246, 926, 732, 695, 640.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.76 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t,  $J$  = 7.5Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.21 (m, 5H), 7.13-7.03 (m, 4H), 5.27 (d,  $J$  = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 2.23 (t,  $J$  = 2.4 Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  190.6, 138.2, 138.1, 133.6, 132.6, 132.1, 130.6, 130.2, 128.1, 127.8, 126.8, 126.5, 125.9, 125.5, 121.9, 121.6, 110.5,

78.8, 72.6, 34.0.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}+\text{H}$ : 336.1388; found 336.1363.

**naphthalen-2-yl(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone (3y):**

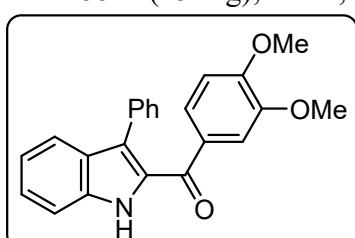
Yield: 96% (77 mg); Solid; m.p. 140-142 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.5 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3316,



3055, 1605, 1328, 1266, 742, 700. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  9.48 (s, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.67- 7.59 (m, 3H), 7.52- 7.44 (m, 3H), 7.38-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.15- 7.11 (m, 3H), 6.90- 6.88 (m, 2H), 6.81- 6.79 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  189.4, 136.5, 134.8, 134.5, 133.9, 132.0, 131.9, 131.2, 130.8, 129.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 127.6, 127.5, 126.8, 126.6, 126.2, 125.4, 125.2, 122.2, 121.2, 112.1.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO+H:348.1388 found 348.1378.

**(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone (3ab):**

Yield: 55% (45 mg); Solid; m.p. 210- 212 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.2 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3262,

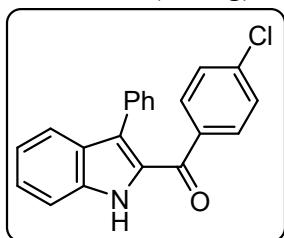


1711, 1266, 1147, 1019, 750, 701. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  9.28 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.21-7.13 (m, 5H), 6.56 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  188.2, 152.5, 148.2, 136.3, 134.1, 131.1, 130.9, 130.2, 128.2, 127.6, 127.0, 126.3, 124.6, 124.1, 122.0, 121.2, 112.3, 112.0, 109.9, 56.0, 55.8.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>+H: 358.1443 found 358.1428.

**(4-chlorophenyl)(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone (3ad):**

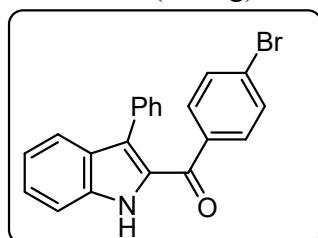
Yield: 91% (69 mg); Solid; m.p. 150-152 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.5 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3590,



3003, 1710, 1360, 1220. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  9.40 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.51(d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.20-7.18 (m, 6H), 7.03 (d,  $J$  = 8.1, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  188.3, 138.0, 136.6, 136.0, 133.6, 131.0, 130.9, 130.7, 128.2, 127.9, 127.7, 127.2, 126.9, 125.7, 122.3, 121.4, 112.1.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClNO+H: 332.0842; found 332.0830.

**(4-bromophenyl)(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone (3ae)**

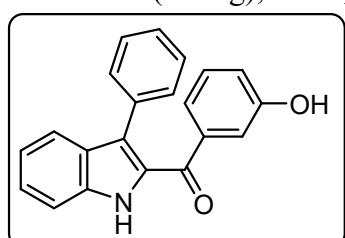
Yield: 98% (85 mg); Solid; m.p. 165- 167 °C;  $R_f$ =0.5 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3328,



3057, 1612, 1333, 1262, 750, 702.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  9.53 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.20-7.17 (m, 8H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  188.5, 136.6, 136.4, 133.5, 131.1, 131.0, 130.8, 130.7, 128.2, 127.7, 127.1, 126.9, 126.6, 125.8, 122.3, 121.4, 112.2.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrNO+H: 376.0337 found 376.0318.

### (3-hydroxyphenyl)(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone (3ah):

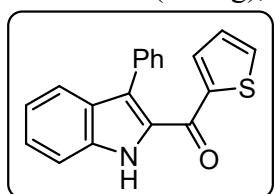
Yield: 97% (70 mg); Solid; m.p. 175-177 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.2 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3326,



1704, 1587, 1276, 754, 700.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  9.21 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.17-7.13 (m, 6H), 7.02 (d,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (s, 1H), 6.88 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (s, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  189.1, 155.2, 138.9, 136.4, 133.9, 130.8, 129.0, 128.1, 127.8, 127.1, 126.8, 125.6, 122.4, 122.3, 121.3, 119.1, 116.1, 112.0.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>+H: 314.1181 found 314.1170.

### (3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(thiophen-2-yl)methanone (3aj):

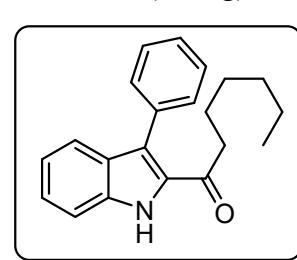
Yield: 96% (66 mg); Solid; m.p. 195-197 °C;  $R_f$ =0.5 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3321,



2926, 1574, 1410, 1262, 750, 694.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  9.19 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd,  $J$  = 5.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.23- 7.10 (m, 5H), 7.06 (dd,  $J$  = 3.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd,  $J$  = 4.8, 3.9 Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  180.8, 142.5, 136.3, 135.0, 134.2, 133.3, 131.0, 130.8, 128.5, 127.7, 127.4, 127.2, 126.4, 123.9, 122.0, 121.3, 112.0.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NOS+H: 304.0796 found 304.0796.

### 1-(3-Phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)heptan-1-one (3am):

Yield: 82% (56 mg); Solid; m.p. 65-70 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.6 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3441, 3331,

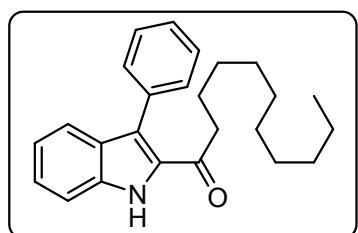


3055, 2929, 1643, 1426, 1265, 741.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24

<sup>°C</sup>):  $\delta$  9.51 (s, 1H), 7.49-7.42 (m, 7H), 7.35 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 1.55-1.52 (m, 2H), 1.20-1.16 (m, 2H), 1.08 (s, 4H), 0.81 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  194.8, 135.7, 134.4, 131.8, 130.6, 128.9, 128.5, 127.9, 126.4, 124.1, 122.1, 120.7, 111.9, 40.1, 31.4, 28.8, 24.8, 22.4, 14.0.

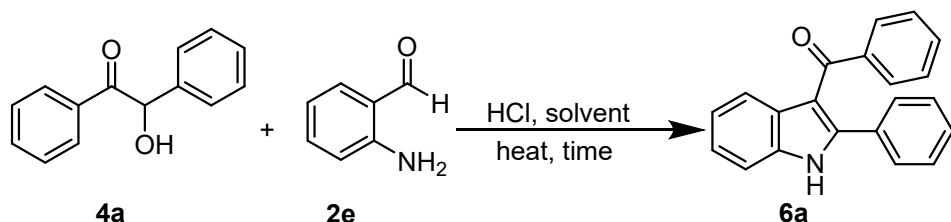
### 1-(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)undecan-1-one (3an):

Yield: 85% (71 mg); Solid; m.p. 40-45 °C;  $R_f$ =0.6 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3442, 3328,



3056, 2927, 2855, 1643, 1265, 745. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  9.59 (s, 1H), 7.42-7.33 (m, 7H), 7.26 (t,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.48-1.44 (m, 2H), 1.17 - 1.09 (m, 11H), 1.00 (s, 3H), 0.78 (t,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  194.9, 135.7, 134.5, 131.8, 130.6, 128.9, 128.5, 127.9, 126.4, 124.1, 122.1, 120.7, 112.0, 40.1, 31.9, 29.5, 29.4, 29.3, 29.2, 29.1, 24.9, 22.7, 14.1.

### 6. Optimization: Synthesis of 3-acylindole 6a



Entry	Acid (equiv)	Temp (°C)	Solvent	Yield (%)
1	PTSA (0.5)	100	Dioxane	36
2	MSA (0.5)	100	Dioxane	22
3	TFA (0.5)	100	Dioxane	29

4	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (0.5)	100	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	15
5	Conc.HCl (2)	100	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	40
6	Conc.HCl (2)	80	THF	44
7	1N HCl (2)	100	Dioxane	32
8	1N HCl (2)	100	EtOH	20
9	Conc.HCl (2)	100	Dioxane	55
<b>10</b>	<b>Conc.HCl (2)</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>Dioxane</b>	<b>65</b>
11	Conc.HCl (2)	100	EtOH	20

Reaction conditions: **4a** (0.23 mmol, 1 equiv), **2e** (0.23 mmol, 1 equiv), Conc. HCl (11.5 N, 0.5 mmol, 2 equiv), Dioxane (3 mL for 0.23 mmol), 120 °C, 24 h.

### General procedure for synthesis of 3-acylindoles **6**:

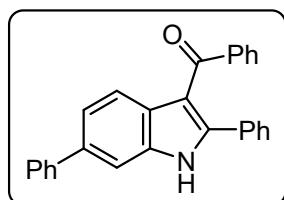
In a 20 mL reaction tube, benzoin derivative **4** or dimethylketal derivative **7** (0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-aminobenzaldehyde derivative **2** (28 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) were taken in 3 mL of dioxane. Conc. HCl (11.5 N, 20 mg, 0.5 mmol, 2 equiv) was added to the reaction mixture and the tube was sealed and kept in a pre-heated oil bath at 120 °C and was then stirred for 24 h. After the completion of reaction, as indicated by TLC, it was cooled down to room temperature and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was then further purified by silica gel chromatography using Ethylacetate:hexane as an eluent to afford 3-acylindole derivatives **6** in good yield.

Properties and spectral data of **6a**, **6c**, **6e**, **6f**, **6j**, **6k**, **6l**, **6n**, **6o**, **6p**, **6p'** and **II** were reported in our earlier communication.<sup>7</sup>

## 6.1. Properties of synthesized 3-acylindoles:

### (2,6-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (6b):

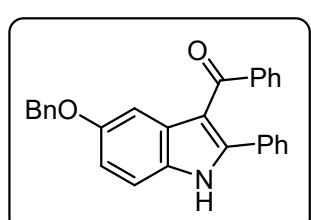
Yield: 61% (52 mg); white solid; m.p. 175-180 °C;  $R_f = 0.3$  in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>):



3236, 3057, 1600, 1452, 1412, 1268, 906, 755. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  9.31 (s, 1H), 7.91 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.59-7.56 (m, 3H), 7.44-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.32-7.27 (m, 4H), 7.17-7.06 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  193.6, 144.6, 141.6, 139.6, 136.9, 136.2, 131.7, 131.5, 129.7, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 127.9, 127.8, 127.3, 126.9, 121.9, 121.7, 113.4, 109.6.

### (5-(benzyloxy)-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (6d):

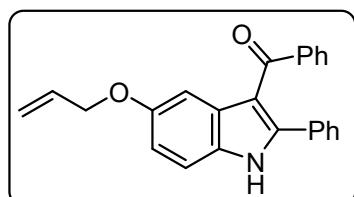
Yield: 43% (40 mg); brown solid; m.p. 160-165 °C;  $R_f = 0.2$  in 10 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>):



3238, 3008, 1600, 1455, 1268, 757.; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.68 (s, 1H), 7.53-7.51 (m, 3H), 7.37-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.22-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.10-7.04 (m, 5H), 7.92 (dd,  $J = 8.8, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.99 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  193.2, 155.2, 144.3, 139.7, 137.4, 131.8, 131.3, 130.6, 129.5, 129.2, 128.6, 128.4, 128.2, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 114.8, 113.6, 111.8, 104.5, 70.6.

### (5-(allyloxy)-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (6g) :

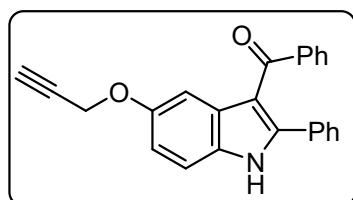
Yield: 45% (37 mg); brown solid; m.p. 165-170 °C;  $R_f = 0.2$  in 10 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>):



3262, 3009, 1600, 1455, 1269, 753. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.64 (s, 1H), 7.52-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.46 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.20 (m, 4H), 7.10-7.04 (m, 5H), 6.88 (dd,  $J = 8.7, 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.03-5.96 (m, 1H), 5.33 (dd,  $J = 17.2, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.18 (dd,  $J = 10.5, 1.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.48-4.47 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  193.2, 155.0, 144.3, 139.7, 133.6, 131.8, 131.3, 130.6, 129.5, 129.4, 129.2, 128.6, 128.2, 127.6, 117.4, 114.7, 113.6, 111.7, 104.5, 69.4.

**phenyl(2-phenyl-5-(prop-2-yn-1-yloxy)-1H-indol-3-yl)methanone (6h):**

Yield: 38% (31 mg); brown solid; m.p. 155-160 °C;  $R_f = 0.2$  in 10 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>):

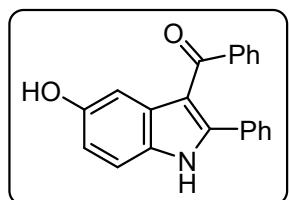


3291, 3057, 1617, 1455, 1268, 755.; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.70 (s, 1H), 7.60-7.58 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.18-7.11 (m, 5H), 6.99 (dd,  $J = 8.7, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.69 (d,  $J = 2.3$  Hz, 2H), 2.48 (t,  $J = 2.3$  Hz, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  193.3, 153.9, 144.6, 139.6, 133.6, 131.6, 131.4, 131.0, 129.6, 129.3, 129.2, 128.7, 128.3, 127.7, 114.7, 113.6, 111.9, 104.8, 78.8, 75.3, 56.5.

**(5-hydroxy-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone (6i):**

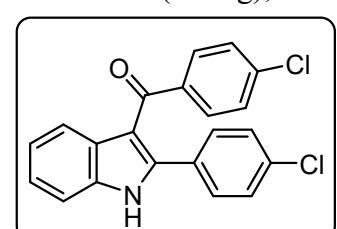
Yield: 29% (21 mg); light green solid; m.p. 230-235 °C;  $R_f = 0.2$  in 30 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>):



3008, 1456, 1269, 753. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  11.96 (s, 1H), 9.02 (s, 1H), 7.48 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.21 (m, 4H), 7.21-7.16 (m, 6H), 6.75 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  192.5, 153.2, 144.9, 140.5, 132.3, 131.5, 130.5, 129.9, 129.7, 129.4, 128.6, 128.3, 128.1, 113.4, 112.7, 112.1, 105.3.

**(4-chlorophenyl)(2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1H-indol-3-yl)methanone (6m)**

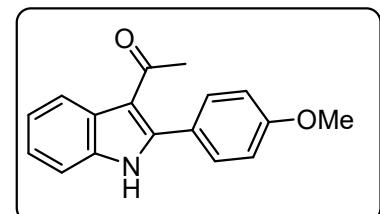
Yield: 57% (48 mg); Solid; m.p. 245-250 °C;  $R_f = 0.6$  in 20 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3596,



3053, 2777, 1590, 1433, 1088, 780. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  12.34 (s, 1H), 7.77 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 3H), 7.40-7.25 (m, 7H), 7.18 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  191.1, 143.6, 138.9, 136.6, 136.3, 133.9, 131.8, 131.3, 130.7, 128.5, 128.3, 123.6, 122.1, 121.1, 112.7, 112.4.

**1-(2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-indol-3-yl)ethan-1-one (6q):**

Yield: 53% (32 mg); Solid; m.p. 205-207 °C;  $R_f = 0.4$  in 20 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2989,



1763, 1376, 1241, 1054. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  11.9 (s, 1H), 8.18 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.23-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.11 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  194.1, 160.5, 145.4, 135.7, 131.8, 127.5, 125.1, 123.1, 122.1,

121.9, 114.4, 114.3, 111.9, 55.7, 30.5.; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>+H: 266.1181 found 266.1193.

### **1-(2-(thiophen-2-yl)-1H-indol-3-yl)ethan-1-one (6r)**

Yield: 51% (29 mg); Solid; m.p. 155- 157 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.4 in 20% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3291, 1763, 1242, 1061, 744. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.65 (s, 1H), 7.61- 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.25 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.07- 7.03 (m, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  184.5, 146.2, 142.1, 134.8, 133.3, 132.6, 127.5, 127.3, 122.5, 121.4, 120.8, 114.3, 110.8, 14.1; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NOS+H: 242.0640 found 242.0652.

### **1-(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)butan-1-one (6s):**

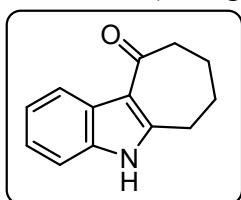
Yield: 48% (30 mg); Solid; m.p. 150-155 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.5 in 20 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3607, 3098, 2844, 2523, 1655, 1413, 1112, 1003, 750. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.62 (s, 1H), 8.32-8.31 (m, 1H), 7.55-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.38-7.36 (m, 1H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 2H), 2.45 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.62-1.55 (m, 2H), 0.75 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  198.4, 143.4, 135.1, 132.9, 129.6, 129.5, 128.6, 127.4, 123.5, 122.5, 122.4, 115.5, 110.7, 43.9, 18.3, 13.7.

### **1,2,3,9-tetrahydro-4H-carbazol-4-one (6t):**

Yield: 88% (38 mg); Solid; m.p. 210-215 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.3 in 40 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3646, 3101, 2838, 2128, 1670, 1468, 1021, 511. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  11.85 (s, 1H), 7.95 (d,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.18- 7.11 (m, 2H), 2.96 (t,  $J$  = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (t,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.14- 2.10 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  193.3, 152.7, 136.3, 124.9, 122.8, 121.9, 120.6, 112.2, 111.9, 38.2, 23.8, 23.1.

**6,7,8,9-tetrahydrocyclohepta[b]indol-10(5H)-one (6u):**

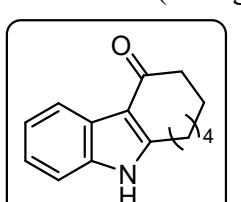
Yield: 93% (43 mg), Solid; m.p. 210-215 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.3 in 40 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3420,



2939, 2085, 1622, 1455, 1016, 747, 410. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  11.75 (s, 1H), 8.15 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (s, 2H), 3.10 (d,  $J$  = 4.7 Hz, 2H), 2.66-2.65 (m, 2H), 1.91-1.83 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  197.0, 149.6, 135.5, 127.7, 122.6, 121.7, 121.3, 114.2, 111.4, 43.1, 27.5, 24.7, 22.2.

**6,7,8,9,10,11-hexahydrocyclonona[b]indol-12(5H)-one (6v):**

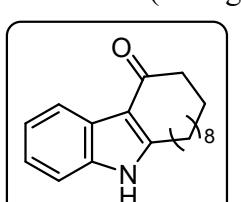
Yield: 48% (25 mg); Solid; m.p. 255-260 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.3 in 40 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3631,



3060, 2855, 2731, 1629, 1271, 1071, 956, 429. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  11.73 (s, 1H), 8.21 (d,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.15- 7.08 (m, 2H), 3.21 (s, 2H), 2.78 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 1.73- 1.68 (m, 4H), 1.51- 1.45 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  198.6, 147.5, 135.1, 127.8, 122.6, 121.9, 121.7, 115.8, 111.3, 31.0, 29.2, 27.0, 26.1, 25.7.

**6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15-decahydrocyclotrideca[b]indol-16(5H)-one (6w):**

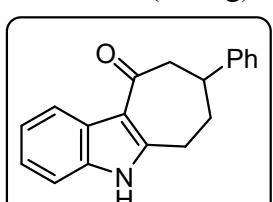
Yield: 35% (23 mg); Solid; m.p. 190-195 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.3 in 40 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3635,



3062, 2862, 2709, 1611, 1329, 1168, 1068, 927. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  11.84 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d,  $J$  = 4.1 Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.12 (m, 2H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 2.88 (s, 2H), 1.74- 1.72 (m, 4H), 1.33-1.31(m, 2H), 1.18 (s, 6H), 1.04- 0.96 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  198.5, 148.2, 135.3, 126.3, 121.9, 121.4, 120.6, 113.9, 111.9, 43.0, 27.2, 26.6, 26.1, 25.98, 25.93, 25.7, 25.1, 24.8, 23.4.

**8-phenyl-6,7,8,9-tetrahydrocyclohepta[b]indol-10(5H)-one (6x):**

Yield: 56% (36 mg); Solid; m.p. 210-215 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.3 in 40 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3631,



3060, 2862, 2736, 1597, 1074, 939, 429. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  11.84 (s, 1H), 8.18 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32- 7.12 (m, 7H), 3.37- 3.10 (m, 3H), 2.80 (d,  $J$  = 12.9 Hz, 1H), 2.28- 1.97 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):

$\delta$  196.8, 195.2, 149.8, 148.0, 147.6, 147.4, 135.6, 135.5, 129.0, 128.9, 127.69, 127.64, 127.2, 127.1, 126.7, 126.5, 122.8, 121.9, 121.4, 114.1, 111.5, 50.7, 42.2, 34.6, 33.8, 31.1, 26.8.

### 8,9-dihydrocyclohepta[b]indole-6,10(5H,7H)-dione (6y):

Yield: 41% (20 mg); Solid; m.p. 180-185 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.1 in 10 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3923, 3812, 3307, 1650, 1508, 1422, 11240, 757. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  12.41 (s, 1H), 8.38 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.98 (t,  $J$  = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 2.91 (t,  $J$  = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 2.10-2.05 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  197.5, 194.1, 136.7, 136.2, 126.9, 126.6, 124.3, 123.6, 116.3, 113.4, 44.3, 42.9, 19.3.

### 5,12-dihydrobenzo[6,7]cyclohepta[1,2-b]indol-7(6H)-one (6z):

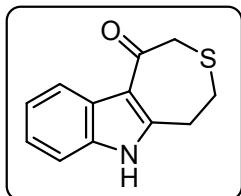
Yield: 40% (23 mg); Solid; m.p. 215-220 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.3 in 40 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3656, 3102, 2129, 1689, 1603, 991, 753. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  11.98 (s, 1H), 8.41 (d,  $J$  = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 3H), 7.20-7.18 (m, 2H), 3.20 (s, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  187.0, 150.6, 140.2, 139.4, 135.7, 131.6, 129.97, 129.95, 128.4, 127.2, 123.1, 122.2, 114.0, 111.7, 33.7, 28.1.

### 5,6-dihydro-2H-oxepino[4,5-b]indol-1(4H)-one (6aa):

Yield: 56% (26 mg) Solid; m.p. 255-260 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.3 in 40 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3600, 3053, 2865, 2719, 1627, 1071, 954. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  11.9 (s, 0.7 H), 11.8 (s, 0.2 H), 8.24 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.13 (m, 2H), 5.09 (s, 0.5 H), 4.36 (s, 1.5 H), 4.11-4.08 (m, 1.5H), 4.03-4.01 (m, 0.5H), 3.34-3.32 (m, 1.5H), 2.87-2.84 (m, 0.5 H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  196.5, 195.0, 147.9, 147.4, 136.2, 135.9, 127.7, 127.5, 123.3, 123.2, 122.2, 122.1, 121.8, 121.7, 112.8, 111.7, 111.4, 78.9, 68.6, 68.1, 66.4, 46.3, 32.1.

**5,6-dihydro-2H-thiepino[4,5-b]indol-1(4H)-one (6ab):**

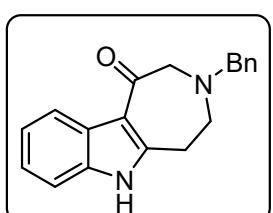
Yield: 34% (17 mg); Solid; m.p. 250-255 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.3 in 40 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3628,



3105, 2729, 2254, 2129, 1632, 987, 765. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  12.00 (s, 1H), 8.15 (d,  $J$ = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d,  $J$ = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.14 (m, 2H), 3.53 (s, 2H), 3.44-3.39 (m, 2H), 3.04 (t,  $J$ = 6.1 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  192.7, 148.0, 135.4, 127.6, 123.0, 122.0, 121.2, 113.6, 111.8, 37.6, 28.3, 27.4.

**3-benzyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydroazepino[4,5-b]indol-1(2H)-one (6ac):**

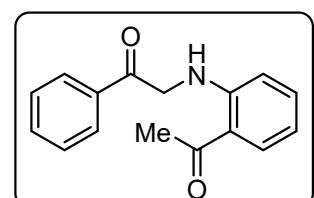
Yield: 25% (17 mg); Solid; m.p. 250-255 °C;  $R_f$ =0.3 in 40 % EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3647,



3073, 2853, 2727, 2129, 1627, 1269, 983, 829. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  11.82 (s, 1H), 8.22 (d,  $J$ = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.37- 7.33 (m, 5 H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.18- 7.11 (m, 2H), 3.83 (s, 2H), 3.61 (s, 2H), 3.22-3.18 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  196.8, 148.1, 139.3, 136.1, 128.9, 128.7, 127.8, 127.5, 123.0, 121.9, 121.7, 113.8, 111.3, 67.2, 58.5, 51.0, 29.4.

**2-((2-acetylphenyl)amino)-1-phenylethan-1-one (I):**

Yield: 64% (88 mg); White solid; m.p. 100-105 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.2 in 10% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>):



3306, 3070, 1694, 1640, 1514, 1241, 750.; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  9.64 (s, 1H), 8.03 (d,  $J$ = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d,  $J$ = 7.8 Hz, 1H) 7.61 (t,  $J$ = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t,  $J$ = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t,  $J$ = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (t,  $J$ = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 4.71 (s, 2H), 2.62 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  200.7, 193.8, 149.6, 134.9, 133.7, 132.8, 128.8, 127.8, 118.5, 114.8, 111.9, 49.6, 27.9.

## 7. Synthetic application:

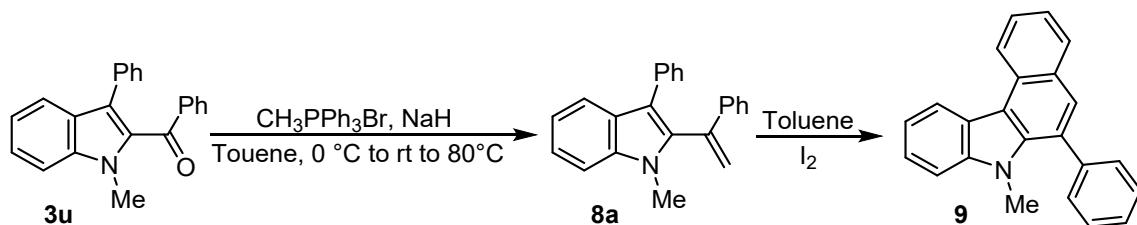
Synthesis, properties and spectral data of **14** was reported in our earlier communication.<sup>7</sup>

### 7.1. Gram scale synthesis

In an oven dried reaction tube **1a** (0.92 g, 5.07 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-amino benzophenone **2i** (1 g, 5.07 mmol, 1 equiv) were taken in 10 mL of dioxane. 5 mL of 1 N HCl was added to the

reaction mixture and the reaction mixture was sealed and kept in a pre-heated oil bath at 100 °C and stirred for 18 h at the same temperature. After completion of reaction, as indicated by TLC, it was cooled down to room temperature and the reaction mixture was extracted with DCM. The solvent was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude was further purified by column chromatography to afford the product **3i** in 94% yield (1.54 g).

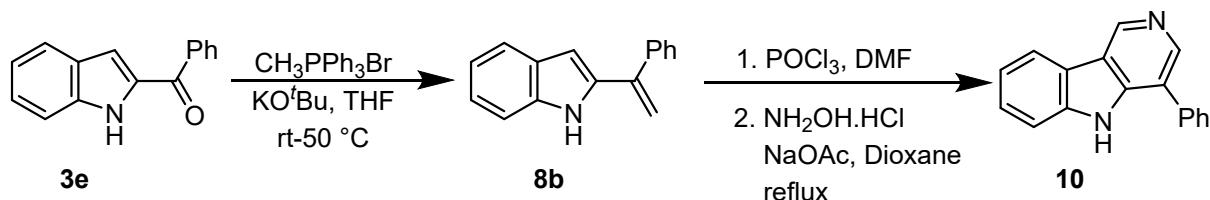
## 7.2. 7-methyl-6-phenyl-7H-benzo[c]carbazole (**9**) <sup>8</sup>



In a 50 mL round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser, CH<sub>3</sub>PPh<sub>3</sub>Br (861 mg, 2.4 mmol, 2.5 equiv.) was taken under nitrogen atmosphere. Then, dry toluene (4 mL) was added under nitrogen and the resulting mixture was cooled down to 0 °C. To the stirring solution, NaH (2.4 mmol, 2.5 equiv., 60% dispersion in mineral oil) was added portion wise at the same temperature. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to rt, and stirred at the same temperature for 45 min. The solution of **3u** (300 mg, 0.9 mmol, 1 equiv) in 4 mL of toluene was added slowly to the stirring solution and then heated at 80 °C for 2 h. After the completion of reaction, as indicated by TLC, reaction mixture was cooled down to room temperature and quenched with saturated solution of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The reaction mixture was extracted with DCM, washed with water, and the organic layer was collected and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was then further purified by column chromatography using ethyl acetate:hexane as an eluent to afford the 2-alkenylindole **8a** in 86% (251 mg) yield as viscous liquid. *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.6 in 10% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3350, 2924, 1763, 1246, 1063, 745, 701. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.82 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.40 - 7.33 (m, 9H), 7.25-7.16 (m, 2H), 6.00 (s, 1H), 5.37 (s, 1H), 3.48 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  139.7, 139.4, 137.1, 135.4, 129.5, 128.8, 128.3, 128.2, 127.0, 126.4, 125.8, 122.2, 120.7, 120.0, 119.4, 116.4, 109.4, 30.7; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N+H: 310.1596 found 310.1597.

2-Alkenylindole **8a** (47 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1 equiv) was taken in a 20 mL reaction tube and dry toluene (10 mL) was added. I<sub>2</sub> (0.015 mmol, 0.1 equiv) was added to the reaction mixture and was stirred for 3 days under 254 nm light at room temperature. After the completion of reaction, the reaction mixture was extracted with DCM and the organic layer was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude was then purified through silica gel chromatography using ethyl acetate:hexane as an eluent to afford the product **9** in 65% (30 mg) yield as white solid. m.p. 105-110 °C; *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.6 in 10% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3436, 2925, 1591, 1473, 1306, 1084, 1034, 745. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.86 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.65 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.71-7.69 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.51-7.46 (m, 6H), 7.42-7.39 (m, 1H), 3.46 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  141.2, 140.5, 136.8, 129.8, 129.3, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 128.1, 127.8, 127.5, 126.7, 124.2, 123.4, 123.2, 122.9, 122.0, 120.0, 116.0, 109.4, 33.1.

### 7.3. Synthesis of 4-phenyl-5H-pyrido[4,3-b]indole (10):

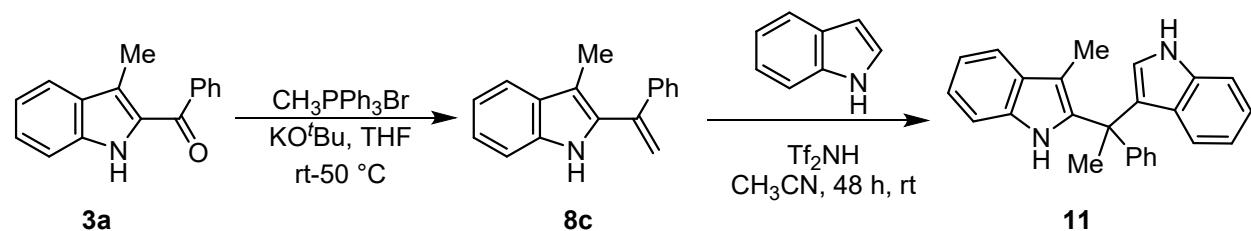


KO<sup>t</sup>Bu (608 mg, 5.42 mmol, 3 equiv) was taken in 10 mL of dry THF in a 50 mL two neck round bottom flask under nitrogen atmosphere. MePPh<sub>3</sub>Br (1.93 g, 5.42 mmol, 3 equiv) was added to the reaction mixture at room temperature. After stirring the mixture for 15 min compound **3e** (400 mg, 1.80 mmol, 1 equiv) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was added dropwise to the reaction mixture. Then the mixture was heated to 50 °C. The reaction mixture was then stirred for overnight. After the completion of reaction, the reaction was quenched with water and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was then purified by column chromatography over hexane/ethylacetate (10:1) as an eluent to afford the corresponding olefin derivative **8b** in 53% (208 mg) yield as brown solid; m.p. 60-65 °C; *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.5 in 10% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3412, 3053, 2886, 1448, 1307, 904, 740, 699.; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.03 (s, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (s, 2H), 7.31 (s, 3H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 7.00 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  141.6, 140.0, 137.8, 136.4, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 122.7, 120.8, 120.1, 112.8, 110.8, 103.3.

2 mL of DMF was taken in a 25 mL round bottom flask.  $\text{POCl}_3$  (0.1 mL, 0.91 mmol, 2 equiv) was added dropwise to the reaction mixture at 0 °C under inert atmosphere. After 15 min olefin compound **8b** (100 mg, 0.45 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in 2 mL of DMF and was added dropwise to the reaction mixture at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was gradually allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 45 min. Ice water 10 mL was added to the reaction mixture followed by 2 mL of 1N NaOH. The reaction mixture was then extracted with ethyl acetate and washed with water. The organic layer was then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and evaporated in rotavapor. The crude product was then purified by column chromatography over hexane/EtOAc (10:2) to afford the formylated product as brown solid.

The formylated product (22 mg, 0.08 mmol, 1 equiv) was taken in a 20 mL reaction tube.  $\text{NH}_2\text{OH} \cdot \text{HCl}$  (13 mg, 0.17 mmol, 2 equiv),  $\text{NaOAc}$  (14 mg, 0.17 mmol, 2 equiv) was added to the reaction tube followed by 4 mL of Dioxane. The reaction tube was then refluxed for 24 h. After the completion of reaction as indicated by TLC it was cooled down to room temperature and extracted with EtOAc and washed with water. The organic layer was then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was then purified by column chromatography over hexane/EtOAc (10:2) as eluent to afford the desired product **10** in 91% (20 mg) yield as brown solid. ; m.p. 240-245 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.2 in 20% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3008, 2986, 1598, 1269, 754,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  11.69 (s, 1H), 9.35 (s, 1H), 8.47 (s, 1H), 8.27 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.61-7.60 (m, 3H), 7.52-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  143.5, 141.7, 141.0, 140.2, 135.5, 129.2, 128.5, 127.9, 126.7, 120.7, 120.6, 120.2, 111.9.

#### 7.4. Synthesis of 2-(1-(1H-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethyl)-3-methyl-1H-indole (**11**):

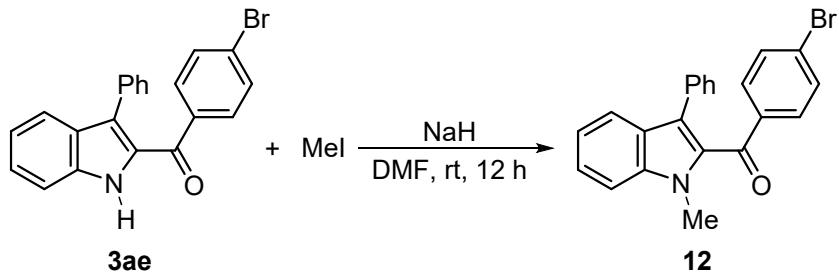


$\text{KO}^t\text{Bu}$  (651 mg, 5.82 mmol, 3 equiv) was taken in a 50 mL two neck round bottom flask and 10 mL of dry THF was added to it under nitrogen atmosphere.  $\text{MePPh}_3\text{Br}$  (2.07 g, 5.82 mmol,

3 equiv) was added to the reaction mixture at RT. After stirring the mixture for 15 min compound **3a** (456 mg, 1.94 mmol, 1 equiv) dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF was added dropwise to the reaction mixture. Then the reaction mixture was heated to 50 °C. The reaction mixture was then stirred for overnight. After the completion of reaction, the reaction was quenched with water and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was then purified by column chromatography over hexane/ethylacetate (10:1) as an eluent to afford the corresponding olefin derivative **8c** in 44% (200 mg) yield.; Yellow solid; m.p. 55-60 °C; *R<sub>f</sub>*= 0.6 in 10% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3412, 3054, 1452, 1325, 904, 749, 700.; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.67 (s, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (s, 5H) 7.16-7.03 (m, 3H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 5.39 (s, 1H), 2.13 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  141.4, 140.3, 135.3, 133.6, 129.5, 128.5, 128.2, 127.9, 122.4, 119.3, 119.0, 116.3, 110.8, 110.6, 9.9.

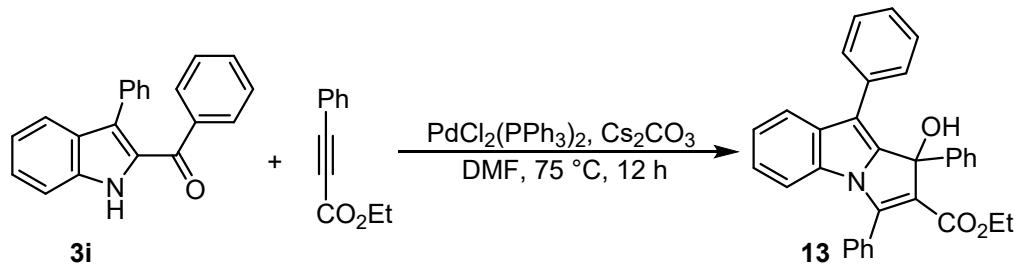
The synthesized olefine derivative **8c** (65 mg, 0.28 mmol, 1 equiv) was taken in 5 mL of CH<sub>3</sub>CN in a 25 mL round bottom flask. Tf<sub>2</sub>NH (15 mg, 0.06 mmol, 0.2 equiv) was added to the flask followed by Indole (99 mg, 0.56 mmol, 2 equiv)) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 48 h. After the reaction was completed as indicated by TLC it was quenched with water and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography over hexane/ethylacetate (10:1) as an eluent to afford the desired product **11** in 82% (80 mg) yield as white solid. m.p. 190-195 °C; *R<sub>f</sub>*= 0.4 in 10% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3438, 3414, 2987, 1460, 1268, 752. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.98 (s, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.54-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (s, 4H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.19-7.09 (m, 4H), 6.95 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.08 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  146.6, 139.6, 137.1, 133.6, 130.4, 128.1, 127.7, 126.4, 125.9, 123.6, 123.3, 122.1, 121.5, 120.9, 119.6, 118.9, 118.0, 111.3, 110.5, 107.1, 44.9, 28.2, 10.1.

## 7.5. Synthesis of (4-bromophenyl)(1-methyl-3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone (12)



In an oven dried reaction tube compound, **3ae** (60 mg, 0.16 mmol, 1 equiv) and NaH (5.76 mg, 0.24 mmol, 1.5 equiv) were added in 3 mL of dry DMF followed by MeI (0.24 mmol, 1.5 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. After the reaction was completed, as indicated by TLC, it was extracted with ice cold water and ethyl acetate. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and crude was further purified by column chromatography using ethyl acetate:hexane as an eluent to afford the product **12** in 94% (58 mg) yield as viscous liquid.  $R_f = 0.5$  in 10% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3057, 2939, 1635, 1366, 1255, 952, 747, 704.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.77 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.42 (m, 4H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 5H), 7.18-7.12 (m, 3H), 3.97 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  189.4, 138.9, 137.1, 133.8, 132.5, 131.6, 131.1, 130.5, 128.2, 127.7, 126.8, 125.9, 125.7, 124.1, 121.6, 121.2, 110.3, 31.7; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{BrNO}+\text{H}$ : 390.0494 found 390.0502.

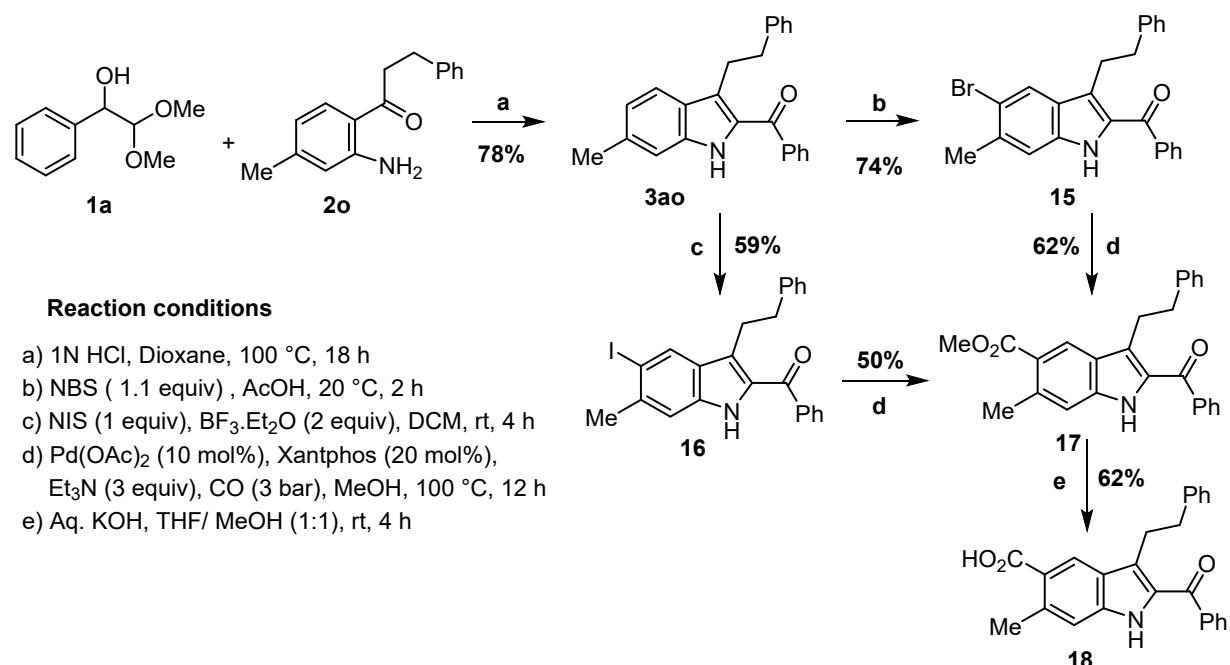
## 7.6. Synthesis of ethyl 1-hydroxy-1,3,9-triphenyl-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-a]indole-2-carboxylate (13)<sup>9</sup>



In an oven dried reaction tube, compound **3i** (100 mg, 0.34 mmol, 1 equiv), alkyne (59 mg, 0.34 mmol, 1 equiv) and DMF (3 mL) was added followed by,  $\text{PdCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2$  (12 mg, 0.017 mmol, 5 mol%) and  $\text{Cs}_2\text{CO}_3$  (219 mg, 0.67 mmol, 2 equiv) were introduced. The reaction mixture was then kept in a pre-heated oil bath at 75 °C and stirred at the same temperature for 12 h. After the reaction was completed, as indicated by TLC, it was cooled down to room temperature and the reaction mixture was washed with ice cold water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The solvent was then dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and evaporated under reduced

pressure. It was further purified by column chromatography using ethylacetate:hexane to afford the product **13** in 53% (83 mg) yield as white solid. m.p. 125- 127 °C;  $R_f$ =0.5 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3482, 3056, 2982, 1675, 1380, 1084, 752, 701. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  7.77- 7.56 (m, 8H), 7.44 (d,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.18- 7.12 (m, 4H), 7.04 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (s, 1H), 4.06- 3.98 (m, 1H), 3.94- 3.86 (m, 1H), 0.89 (t,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  164.3, 149.6, 142.5, 141.5, 132.9, 132.2, 131.9, 130.4, 129.6, 129.0, 128.6, 128.4, 128.1, 127.9, 127.4, 127.1, 125.1, 123.9, 122.1, 121.2, 120.9, 118.7, 111.7, 79.5, 60.1, 13.7; HRMS (ESI/Q-TOF) m/z: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>+Na: 494.1732 found 494.1727.

### 7.7. Synthesis of anti tumor agent: **18**



**Step-b:** **3ao** was synthesized employing the general procedure mentioned earlier. **3ao** (50 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1 equiv) was taken in 3 mL of glacial acetic acid and the reaction mixture was kept at 20 °C. *N*-Bromosuccinimide (29 mg, 0.16 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added portion wise and the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h. After the completion of reaction, as indicated by TLC, the reaction mixture was extracted with DCM and the organic layer was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and was evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude was then purified by silica gel chromatography to afford the corresponding brominated product **15** in 74% (45 mg) yield as a yellow solid. m.p. 135-140 °C;  $R_f$ = 0.5 in 10% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3317, 1612, 1434, 1276,

748.;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.84 (s, 1H), 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.19-7.11 (m, 3H), 6.86 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.97 (t,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.75 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  189.1, 141.2, 139.2, 135.9, 135.8, 132.0, 131.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 128.0, 126.0, 124.3, 123.7, 117.2, 113.2, 37.4, 27.5, 23.9.

**Step-c: 3ao** (50 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1 equiv) was taken in 5 mL of DCM and  $\text{BF}_3\cdot\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (42 mg, 0.3 mmol, 2 equiv) was added to the reaction mixture at room temperature. NIS (33 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1 equiv) was added portion wise to the reaction mixture and it was stirred for 4 h at room temperature. After completion of reaction, as indicated by TLC, it was quenched with water and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was then evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude product was then purified by silica gel chromatography to afford the iodinated product **16** in 59% (40 mg) yield as a yellow solid. m.p. 125-130 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.5 in 10% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3324, 1623, 1535, 1434, 744.;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.84 (s, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.19-7.13 (m, 3H), 6.86 (d,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (t,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 2.74 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  189.1, 141.2, 139.2, 138.4, 136.8, 132.0, 131.5, 131.4, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 126.0, 123.3, 112.3, 91.6, 37.4, 29.0, 27.4.

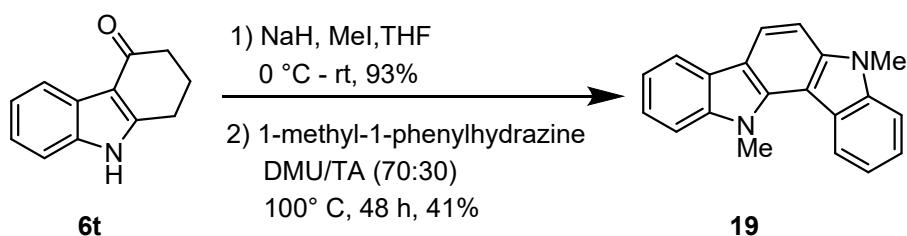
**Step-d:** The brominated product **15** (0.21 mmol, 1 equiv) or the iodinated product **16** (0.075, 1 equiv) was taken in dry MeOH (3 mL).  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (10 mol%), Xantphos (20 mol%), and 3 equiv of  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  were added and pressurized 3 bar with CO. The reaction was continued for 12 h at 100 °C. After the completion of reaction, as indicated by TLC, the reaction was cooled down to room temperature and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was then dried with  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and was evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude reaction mixture was then purified by column chromatography to afford the corresponding ester **17** in 62% (from bromo compounds) or 50% yield (from iodo compounds), respectively.

**Step-e:** The ester **17** (75 mg, 0.19 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in 2 mL of THF/MeOH (1:1). 2 mL of saturated aq. KOH was added and stirred at room temperature for 4 h. After the completion of reaction, the reaction mixture was extracted with DCM and the water layer was collected separately. The water layer was then acidified with 1N HCl and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . Evaporation of solvent followed by

purification of crude product using column chromatography gave the desired product **18** as a white solid in 62% (45 mg) yield.

Properties and spectral data of **17** and **18** were reported in our earlier communication.<sup>7</sup>

### 7.8. Synthesis of 5,12-dimethyl-5,12-dihydroindolo[3,2-a]carbazole (**19**):



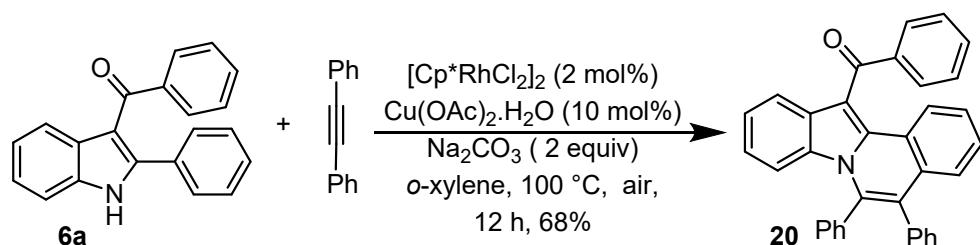
N-methylated starting material was synthesized by treating **6t** (0.54 mmol, 1 equiv) with NaH (1.08 mmol, 2 equiv) in 5 mL of Dry THF at 0 °C. After 10 min CH<sub>3</sub>I (1.62 mmol, 3 equiv) was added dropwise to the reaction mixture and the reaction mixture was gradually allowed to come to room temperature. The reaction mixture was then stirred at the same temperature overnight. After completion of reaction, the reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was then dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was then purified by column chromatography over hexane/EtOAc to afford the methylated product as light pink solid.

*N*-methylphenylhydrazine was synthesized according to the literature procedure.<sup>10</sup>

In a 20 mL reaction tube 1.5 g mixture of *N,N'*-dimethylurea/L-(+)-tartaric acid (70:30) was heated to 100 °C to obtain a clear melt. To the clear melt N-methylated starting material (52 mg, 0.26 mmol) and *N*-methyl phenyl hydrazine (48 mg, 0.39 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 12 h and quenched by adding water to the hot reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was then extracted with DCM and organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under vacuum. The crude was then purified by column chromatography over hexane/EtOAc (10:1) to afford the purified product **19** in 41% (30 mg) yield as a white solid. m.p. 220-225 °C; *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.6 in 15% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3008, 2987, 1469, 1269, 754.; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.59 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.42 (m, 4H), 7.30-7.24 (m, 3H), 4.50 (s, 3H), 3.93

(s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  141.5, 141.0, 140.3, 137.6, 124.3, 124.2, 123.8, 122.6, 121.0, 119.3, 118.9, 118.8, 118.6, 116.1, 108.8, 108.7, 107.0, 101.5, 34.7, 29.6.

### 7.9. Synthesis of (5,6-diphenylindolo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-12-yl)(phenyl)methanone (**20**):



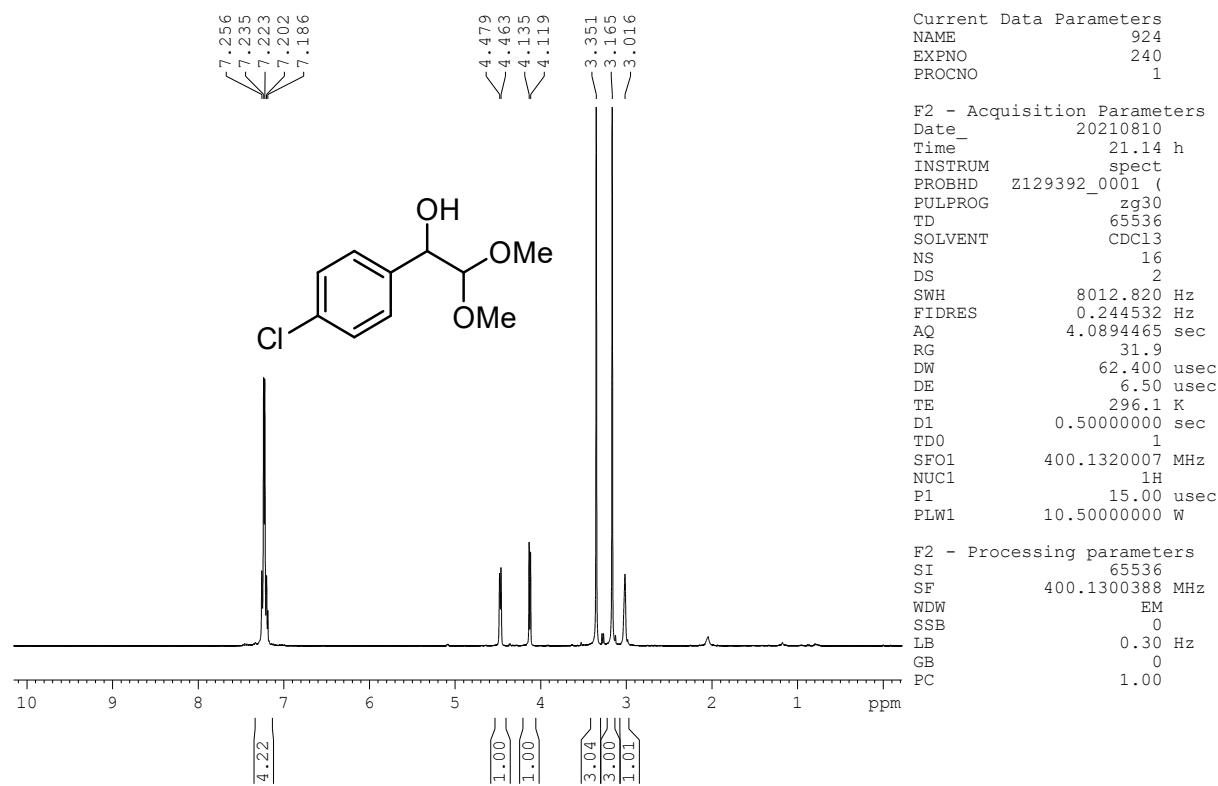
To a 20 mL rection tube **6a** (60 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1equiv) and diphenylacetylene (36 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1 equiv) was added.  $[(\text{Cp}^*\text{RhCl}_2)_2]$  (3 mg, 2 mol %),  $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (4 mg, 10 mol %),  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  (43 mg, 0.40 mmol, 2 equiv) was added to the reaction tube followed by 5 mL of o-xylene. The reaction was then allowed to stir at 100 °C for 12 h under air. After the completion of the reaction as indicated by TLC it was quenched with water and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography over hexane/ethylacetate (10:1) as an eluent to afford the desired product **20** in 68% (65 mg) yield as yellow solid.; m.p. 225-230 °C,  $R_f = 0.8$  in 10% EtOAc; IR ( $\nu_{\text{max}}$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3058, 1637, 1446, 1368, 1257, 1164, 1027, 740, 699.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  8.32 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.58 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.47- 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.37- 7.29 (m, 7H), 7.27- 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.20- 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.10 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 6.81 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 6.02 (t,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C):  $\delta$  195.1, 139.6, 136.3, 136.0, 135.6, 135.0, 133.0, 132.1, 131.6, 130.8, 130.2, 129.7, 129.0, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 127.9, 127.1, 127.0, 126.7, 126.3, 124.1, 124.0, 122.7, 121.2, 120.2, 114.9, 109.8.

## 8. References

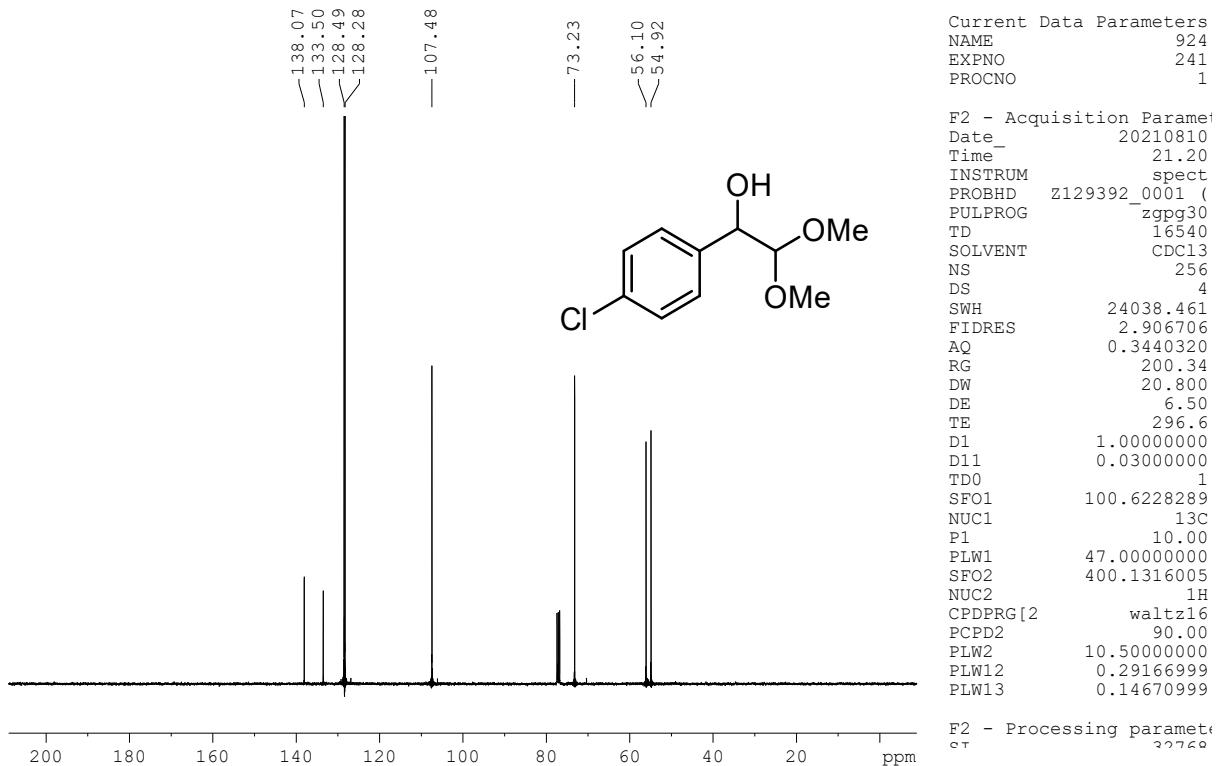
- 1 X. Li, H. Li, W. Song, P.-S. Tseng, L. Liu, I. A. Guzei and W. Tang, *Angew. Chem.*, 2015, **127**, 13097–13100.
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- 9 D. H. Dethe and R. Boda, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2016, **22**, 106–110.
- 10 C. Liu, H. Yang, C. Zhu and H. Fu, *RSC Adv.*, 2019, **9**, 8369–8372.

**9. Spectral data:**

**1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,2-dimethoxyethan-1-ol: 1ad**

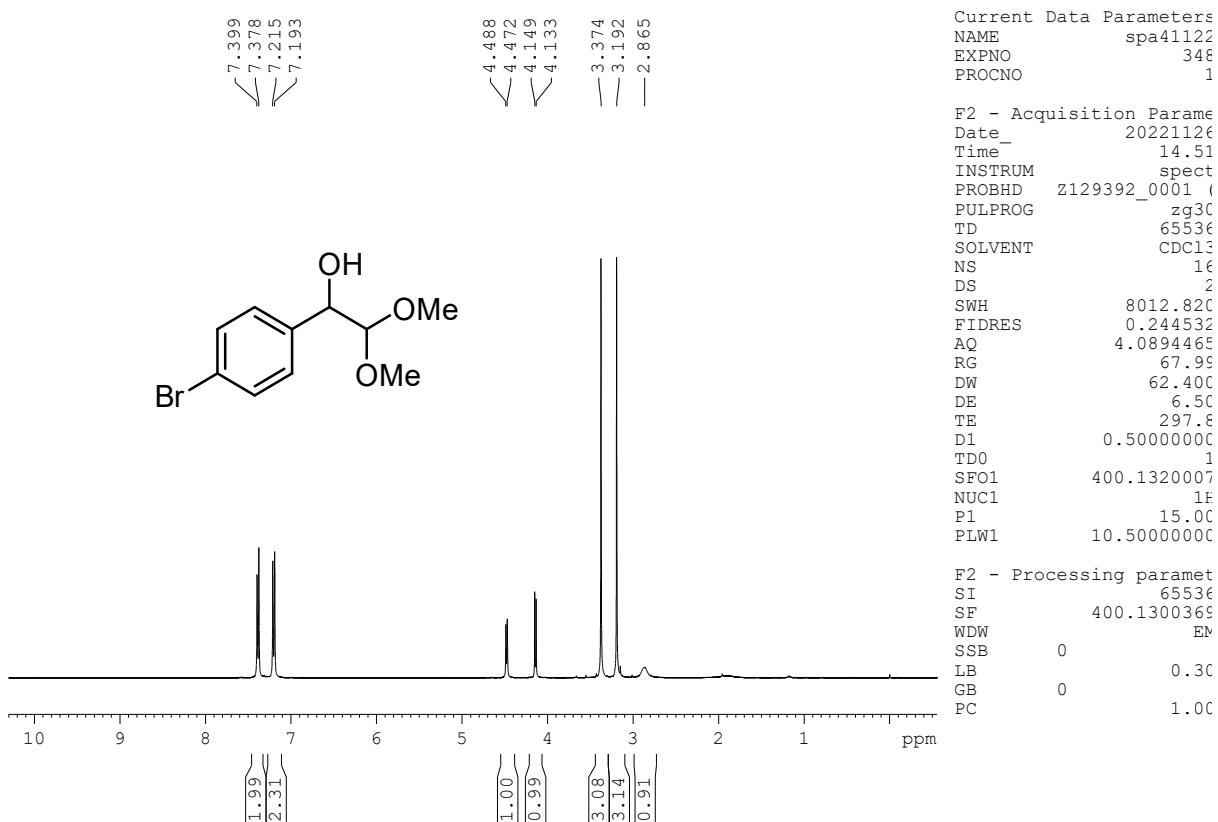


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 1ad

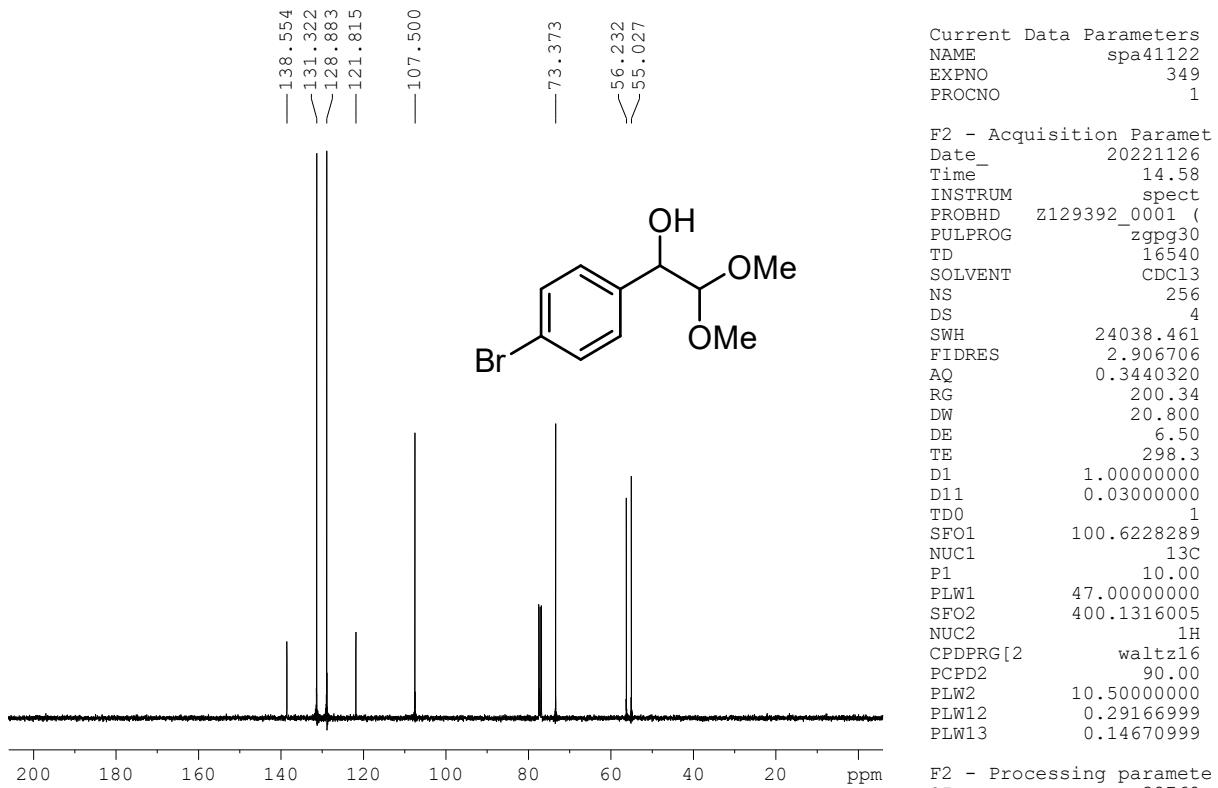


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **1ad**

**1-(4-bromophenyl)-2,2-dimethoxyethan-1-ol: 1ae**

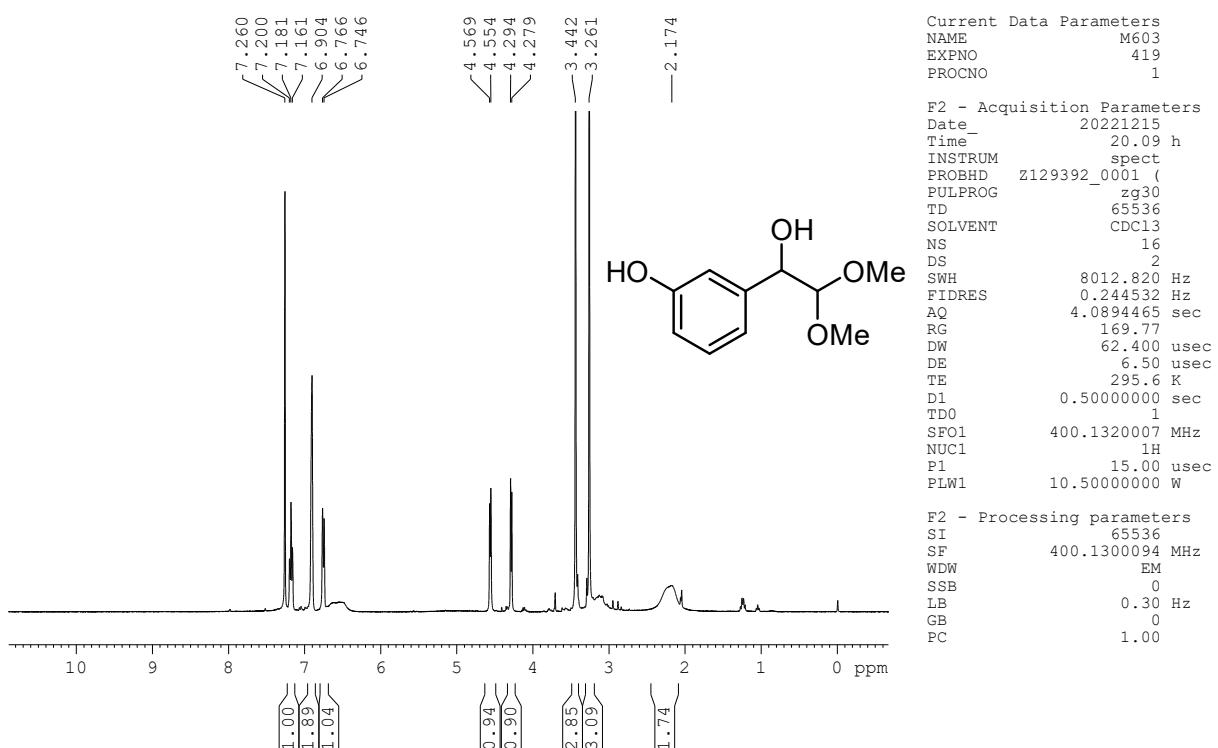


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **1ae**

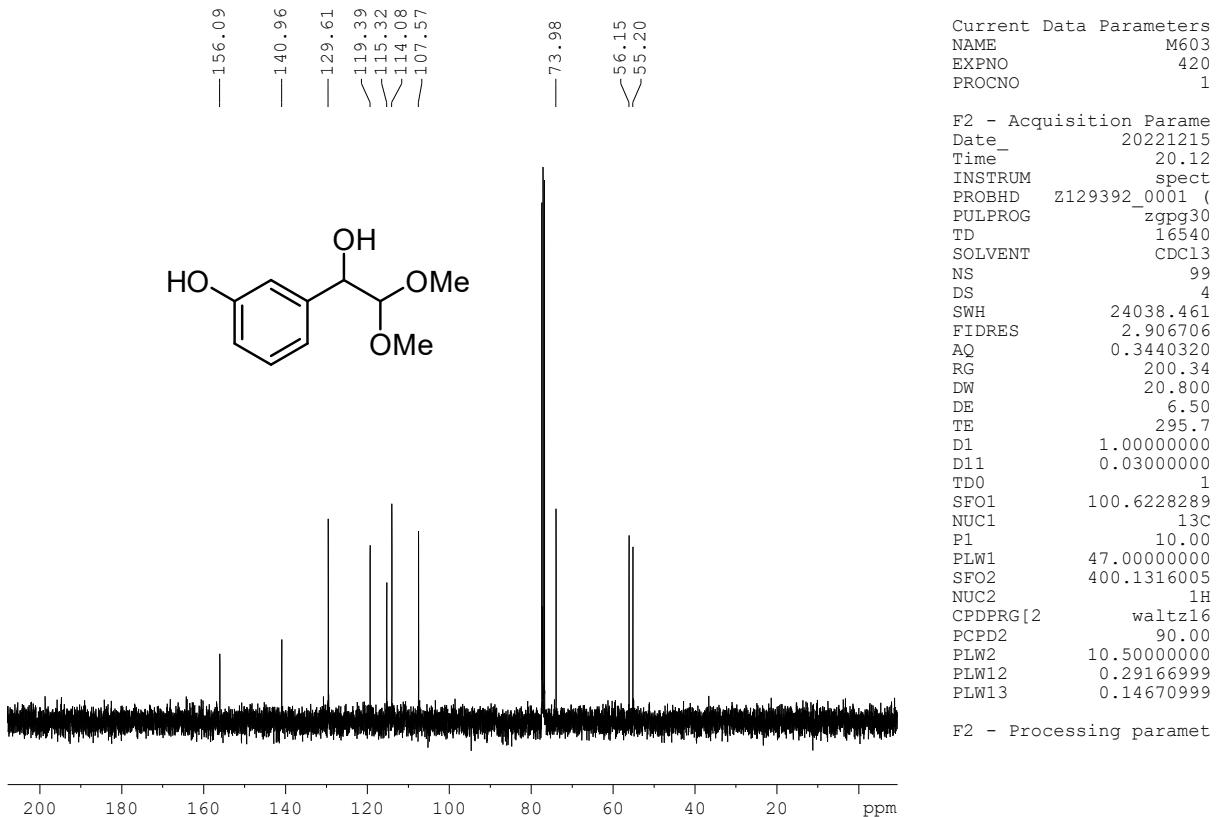


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **1ae**

**3-(1-hydroxy-2,2-dimethoxyethyl)phenol : 1ah**

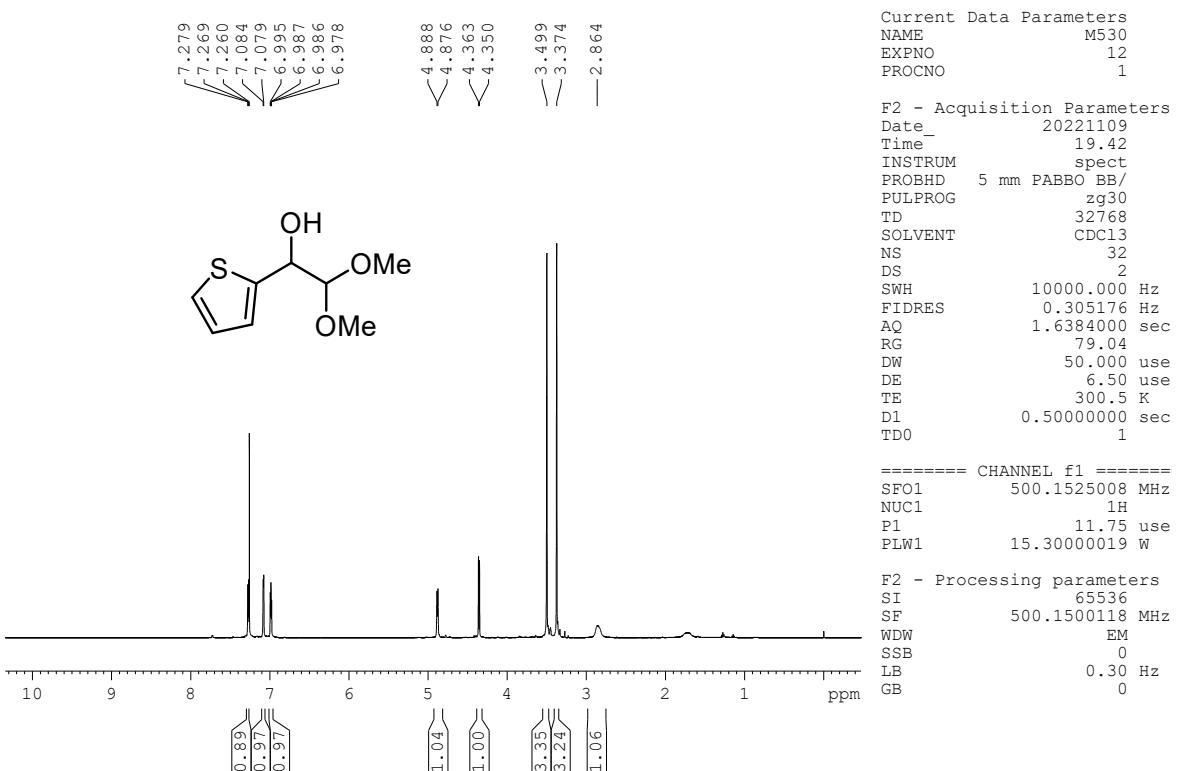


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **1ah**

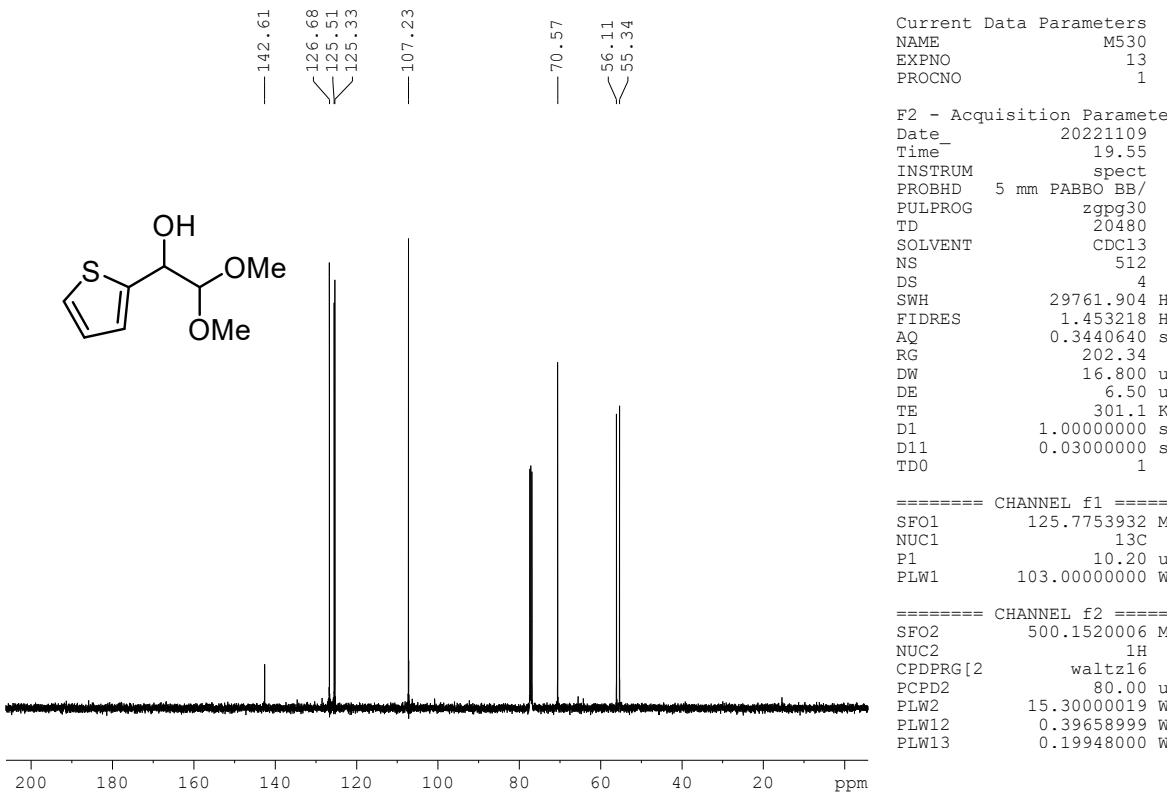


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **1ah**

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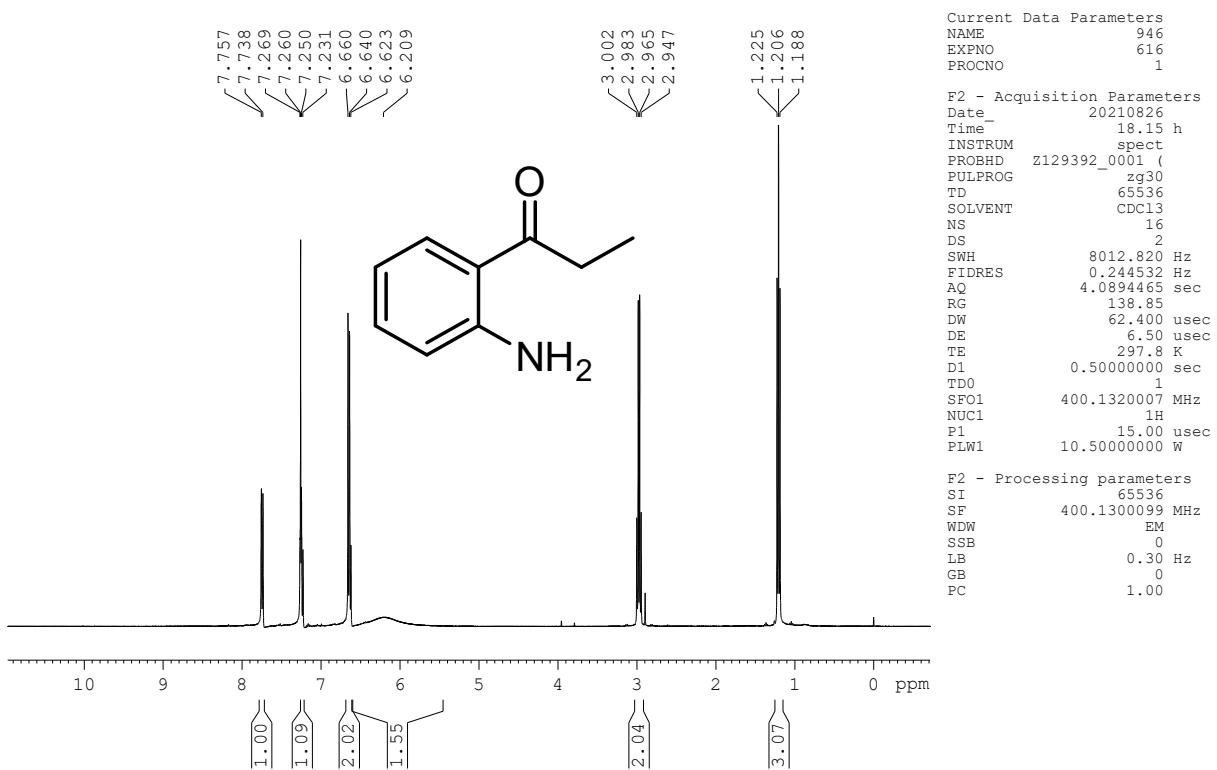


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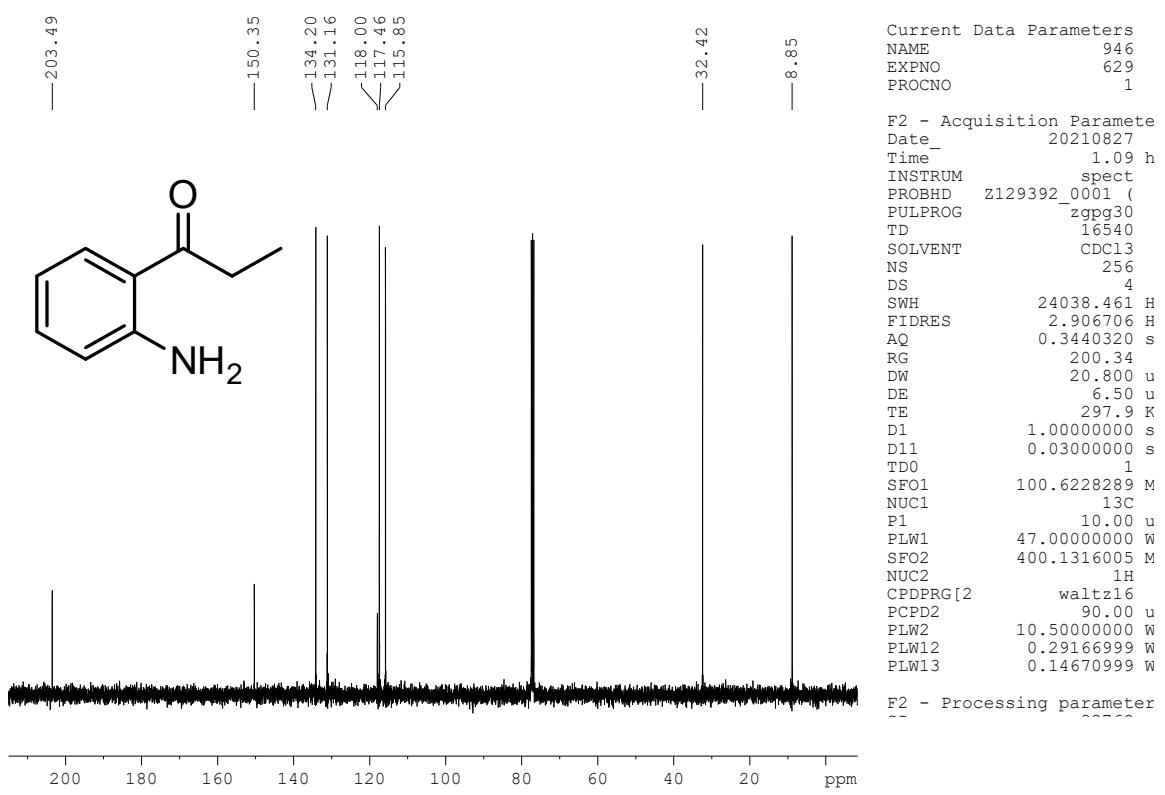


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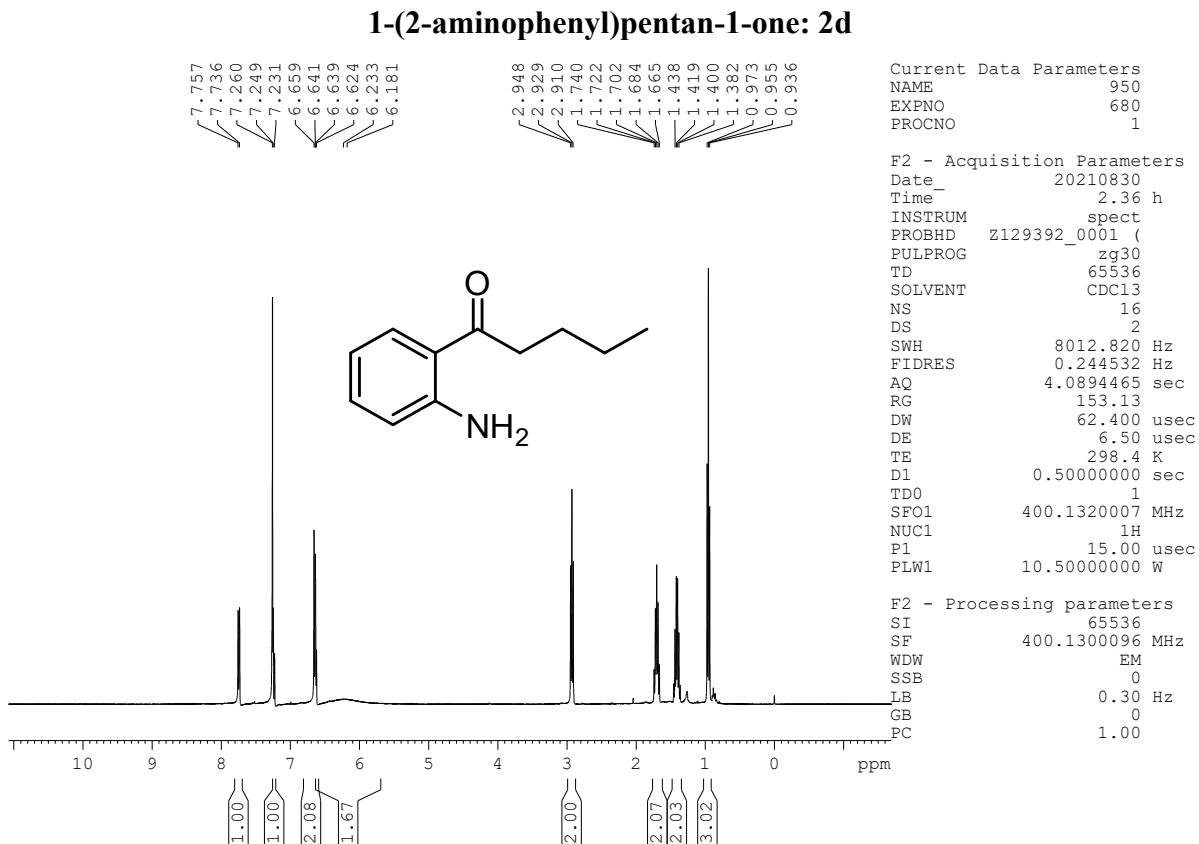
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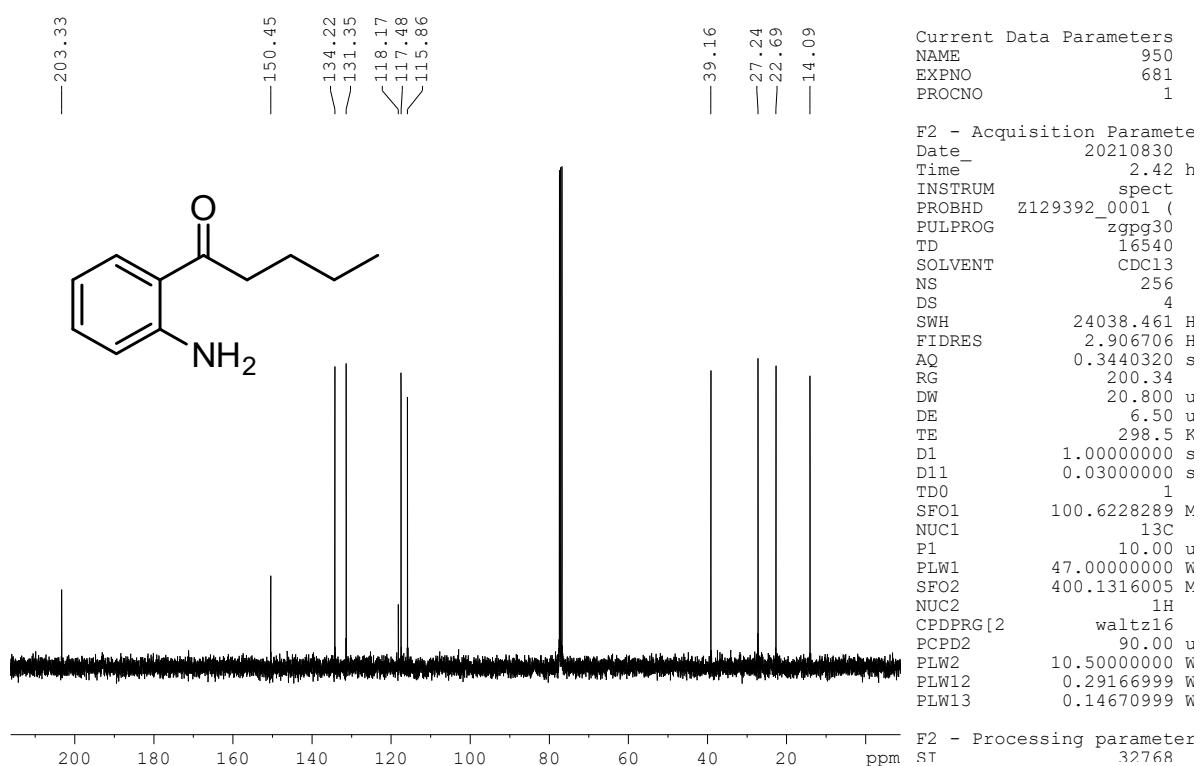
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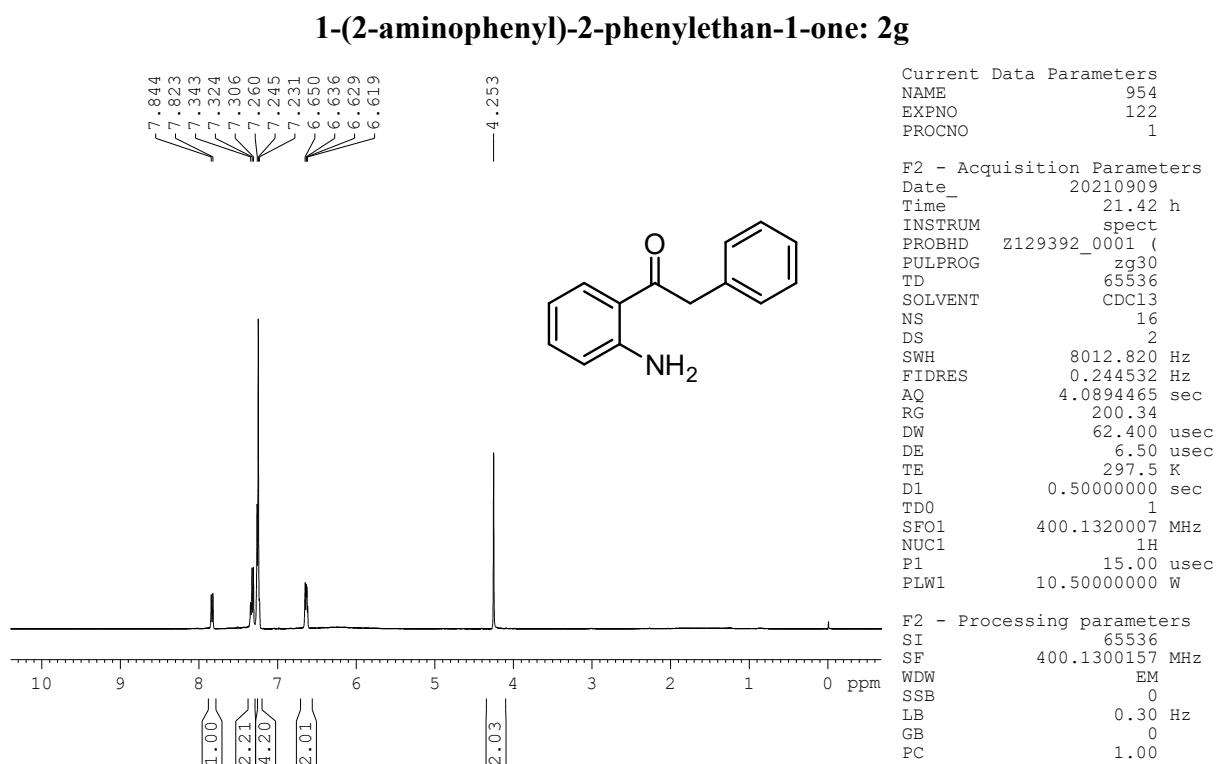
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **2b**



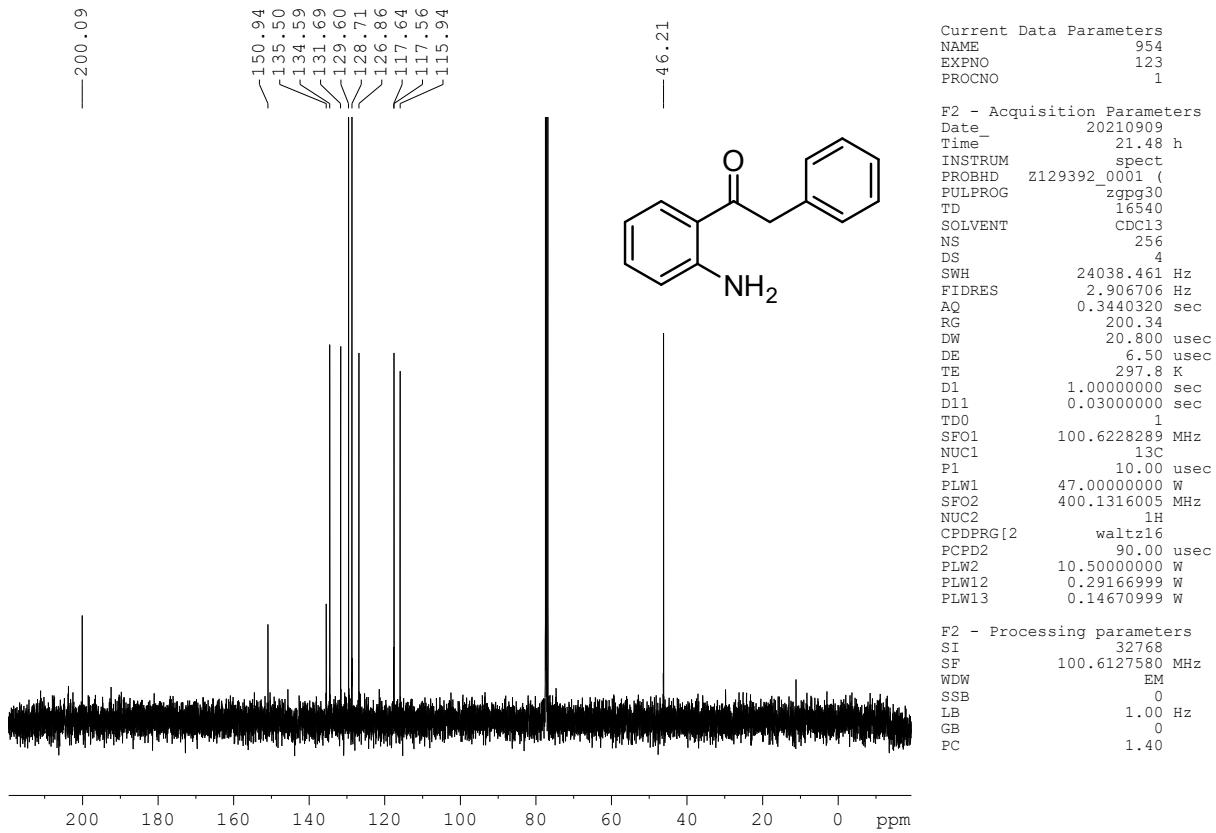
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<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **2d**

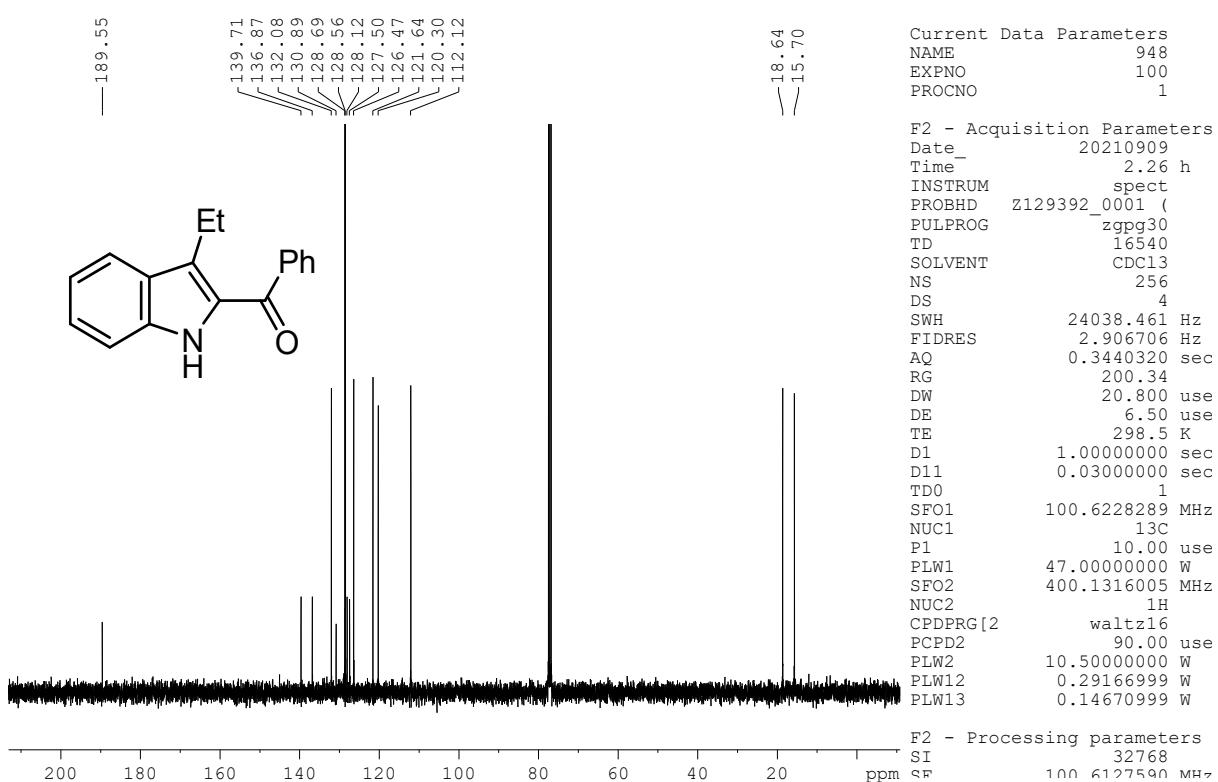
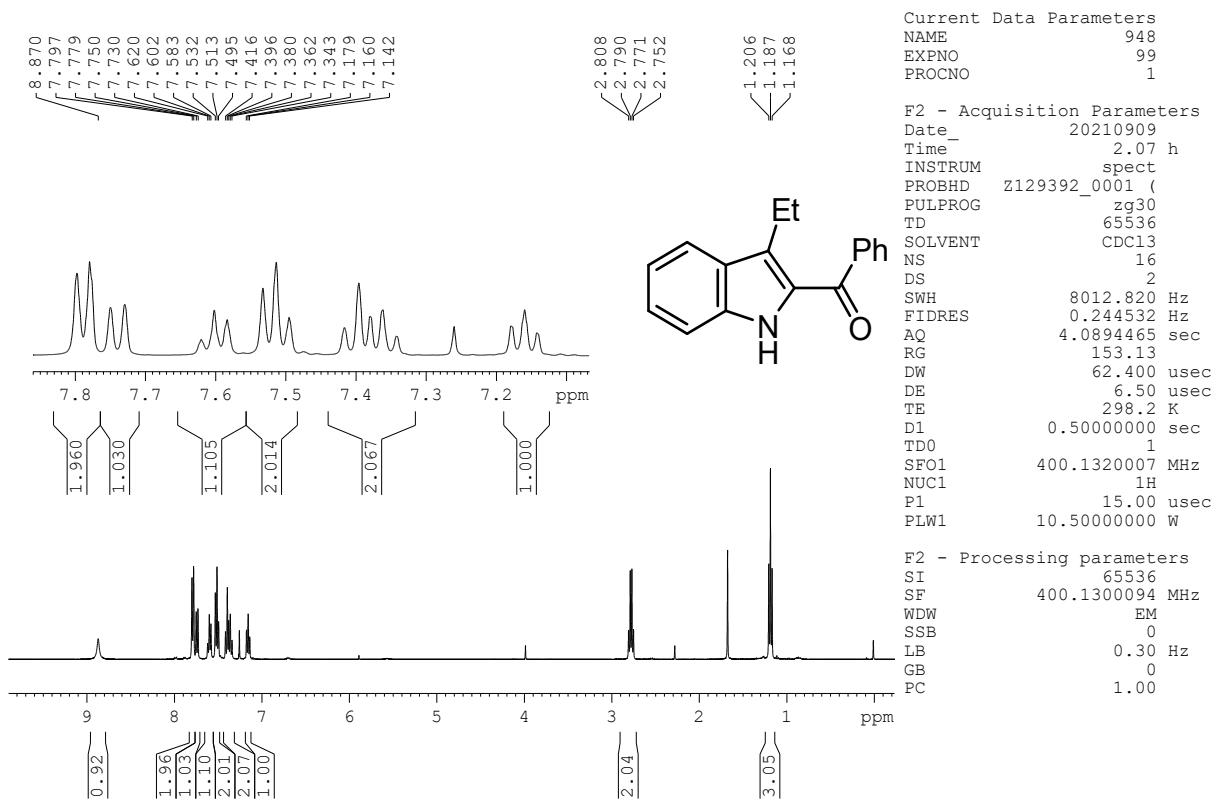


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **2g**



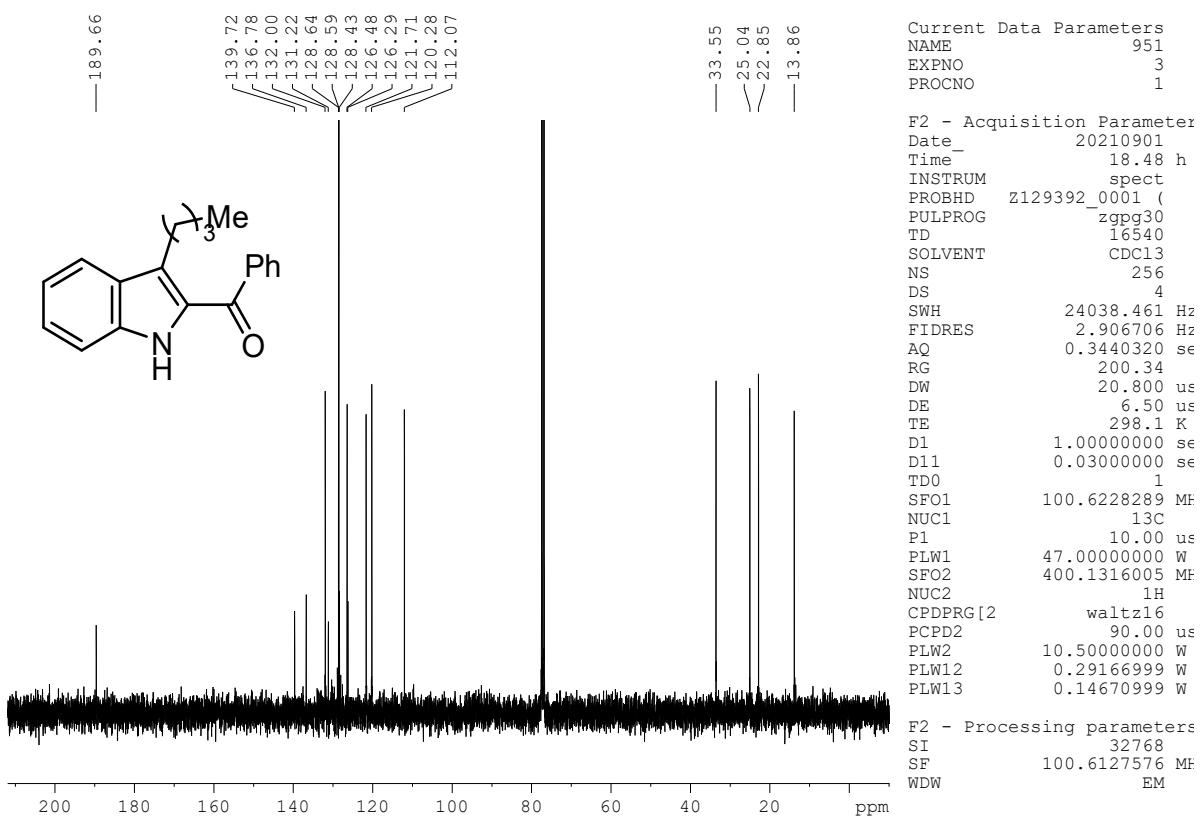
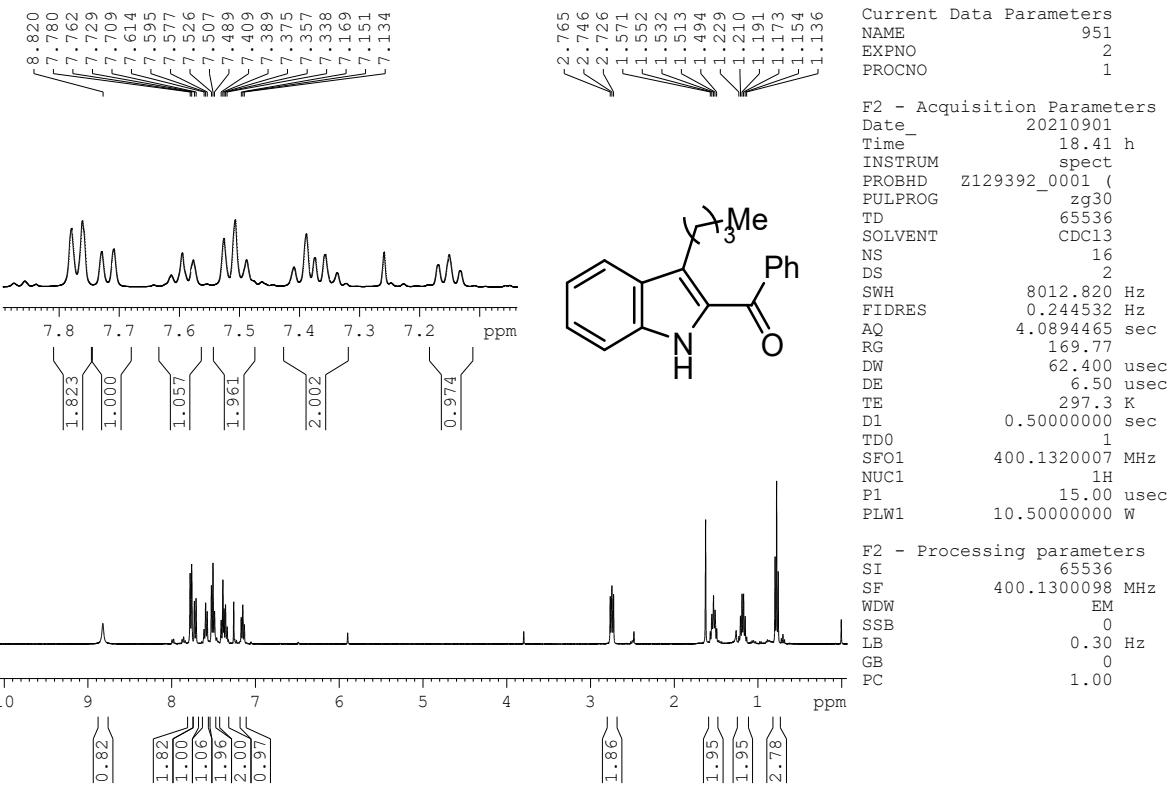
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **2g**

**(3-ethyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone : 3b**



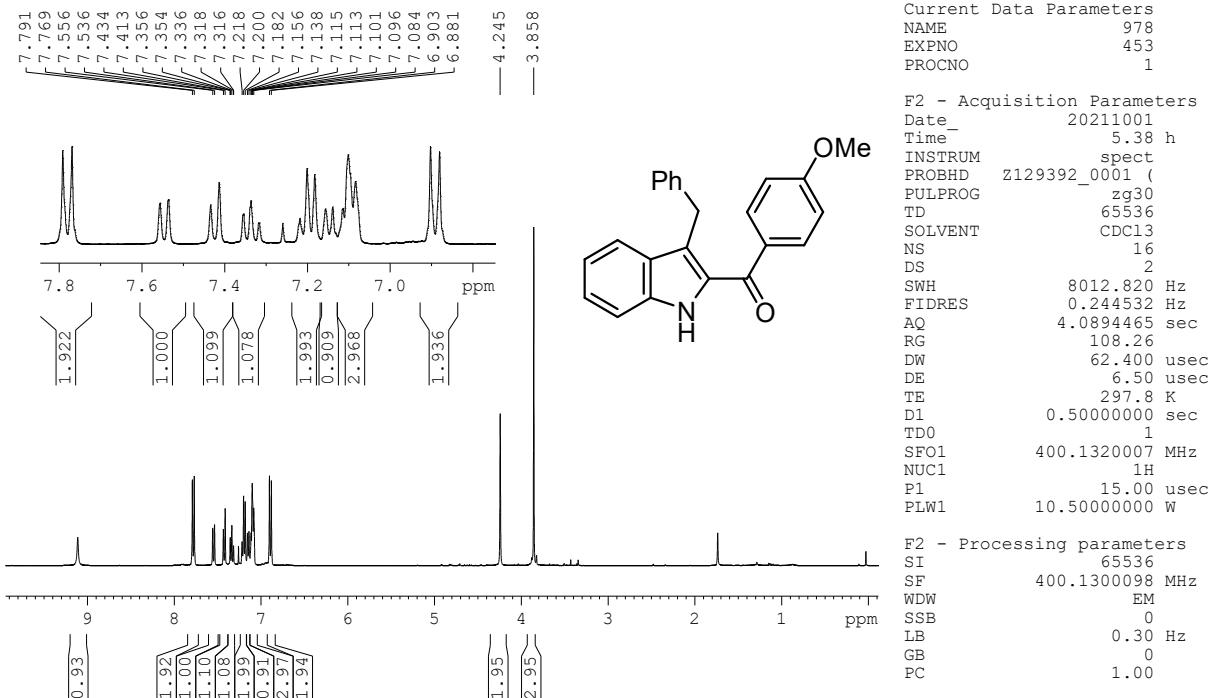
**<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3b**

**(3-butyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone: 3d**

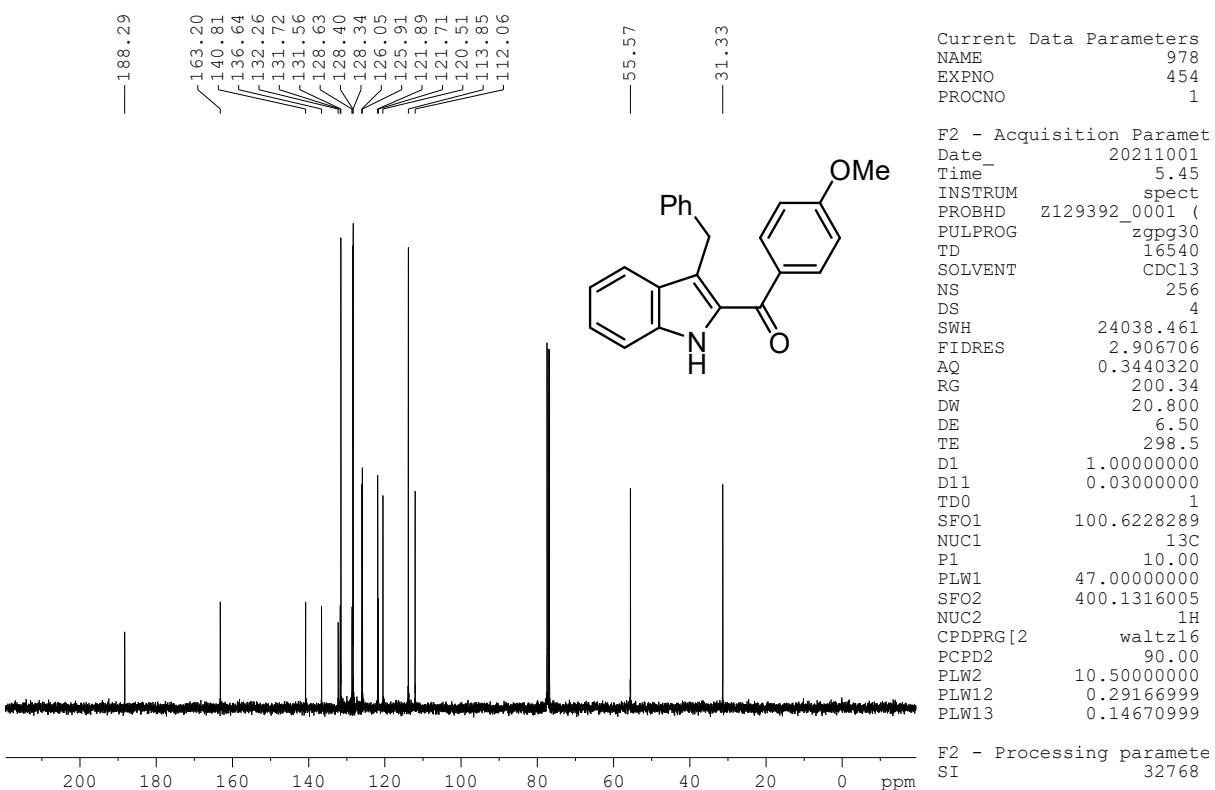


**1<sup>3</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3d**

**(3-benzyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(4-methoxyphenyl)methanone: 3g**

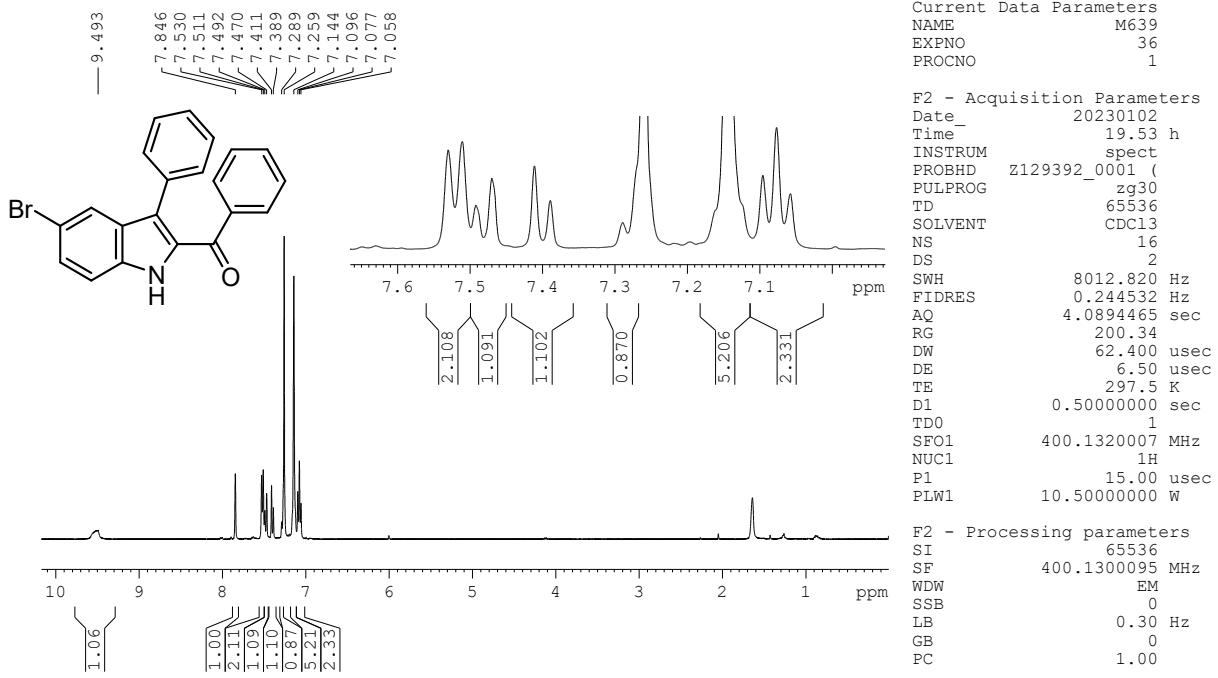


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3g

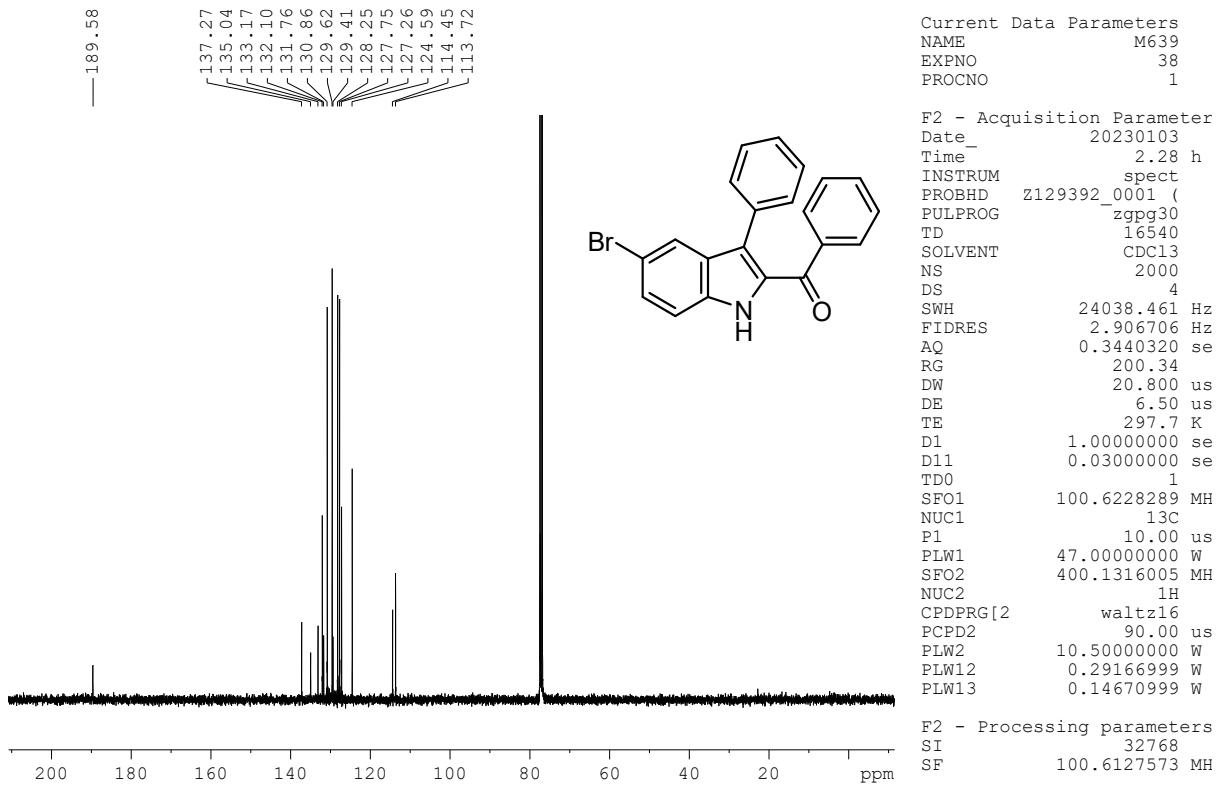


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3g

### (5-bromo-3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone: 3n

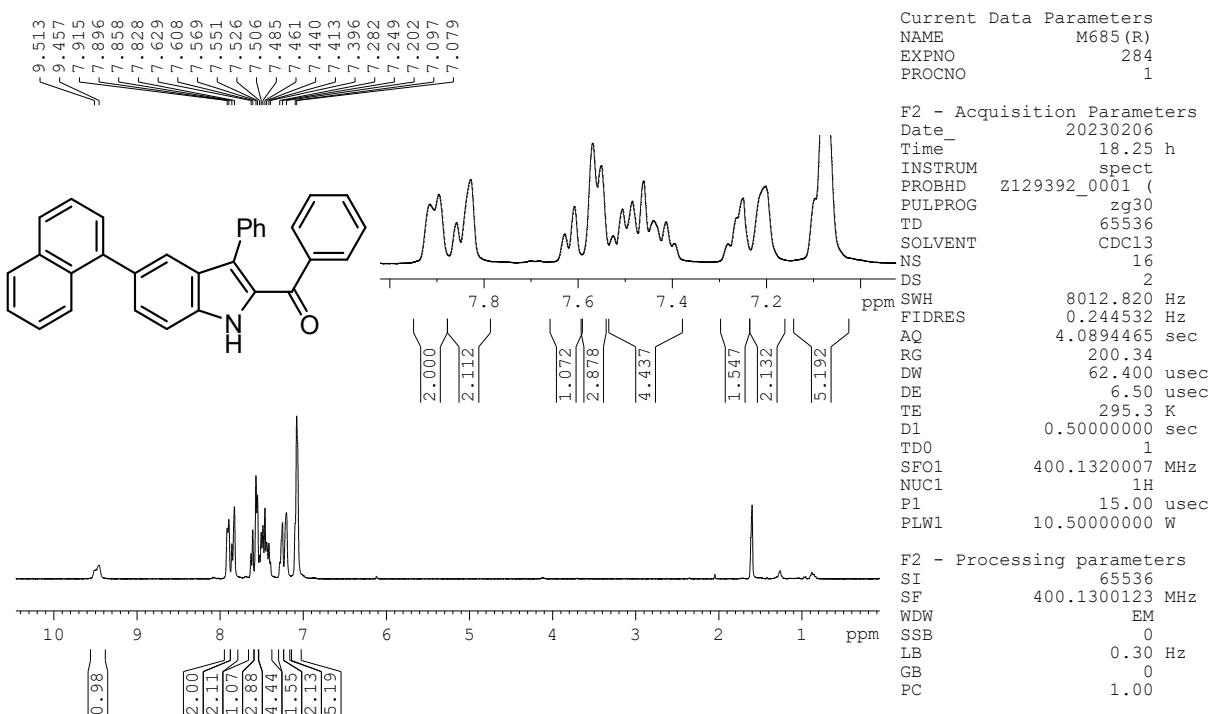


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3n

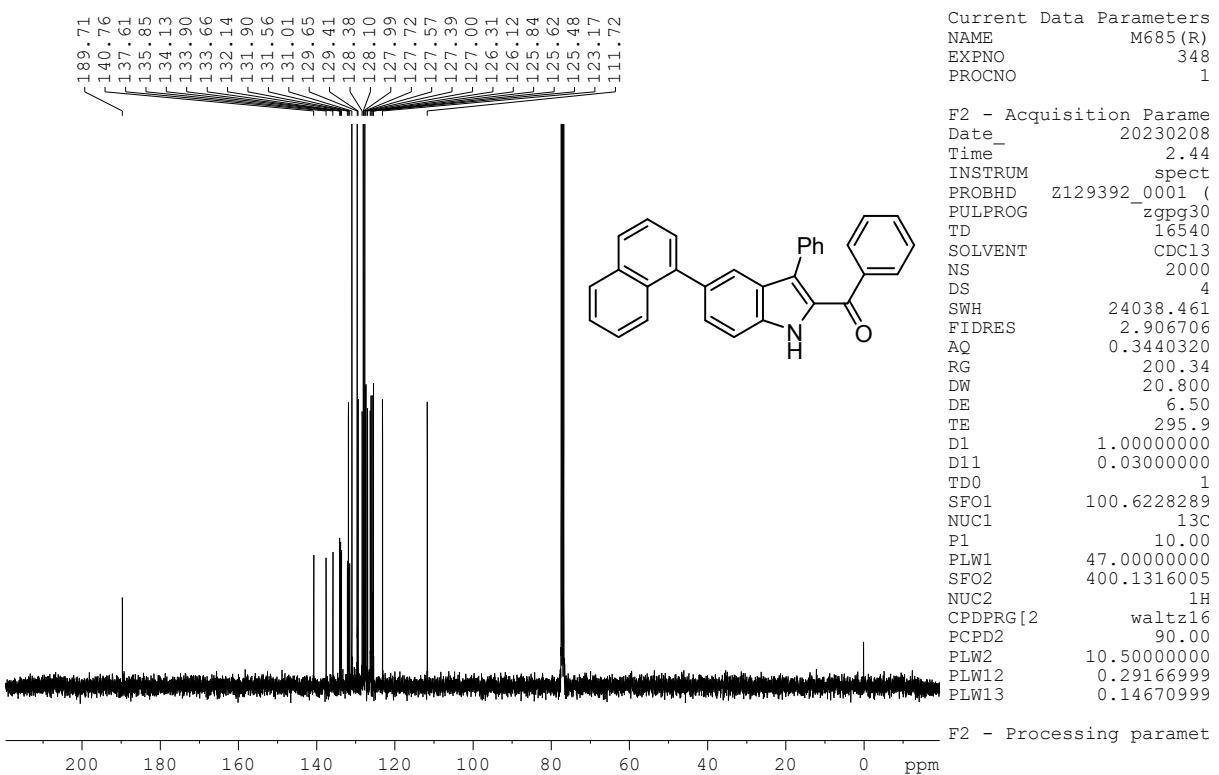


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3n

(5-(naphthalen-1-yl)-3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone: 3q

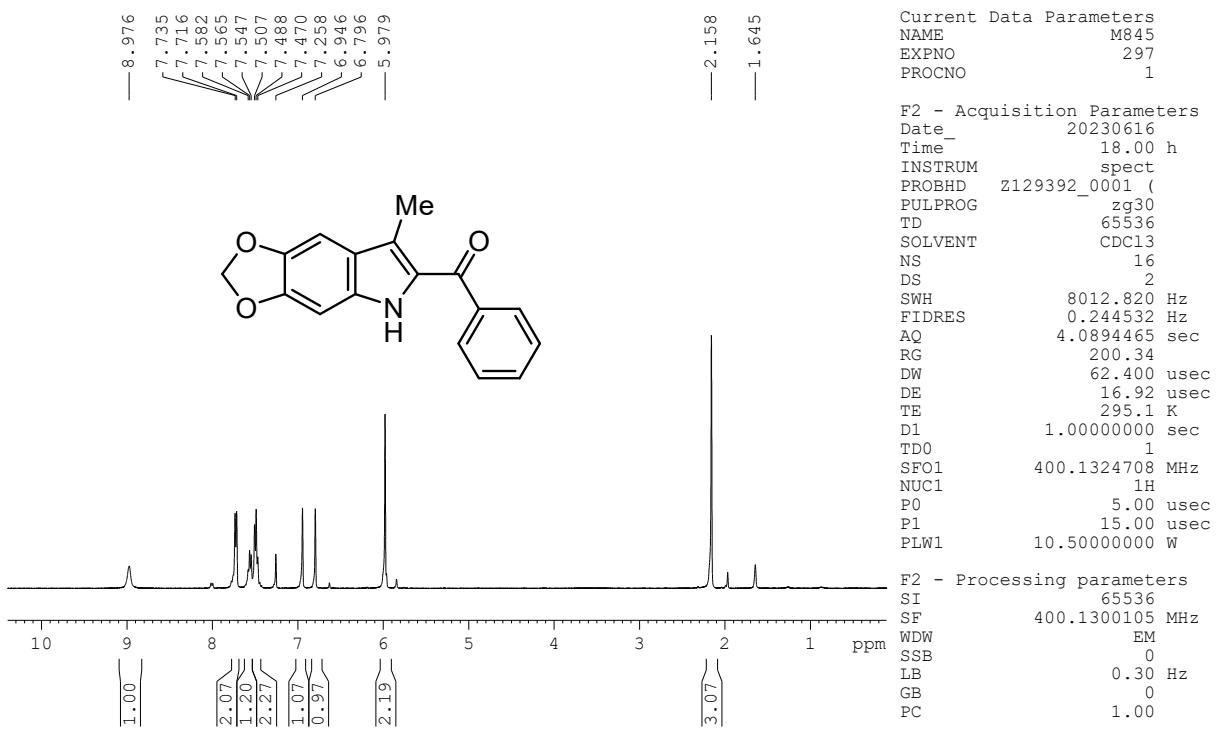


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3q

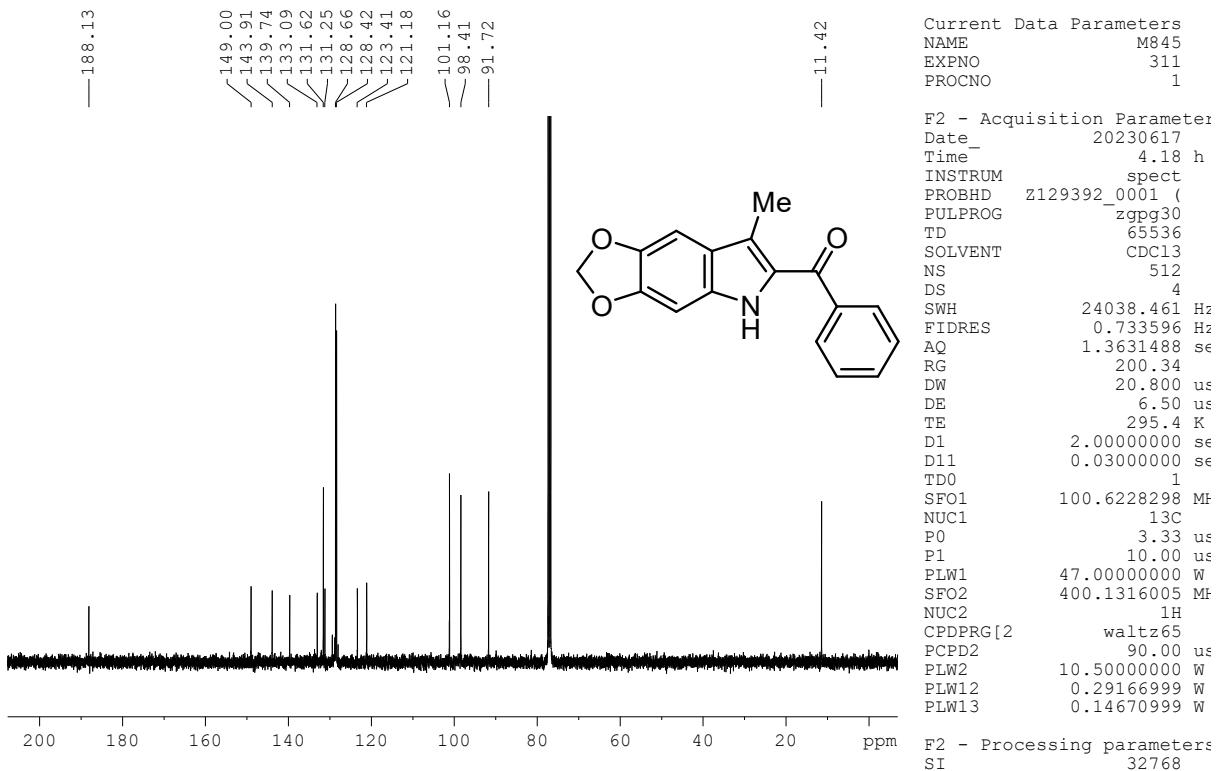


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3q

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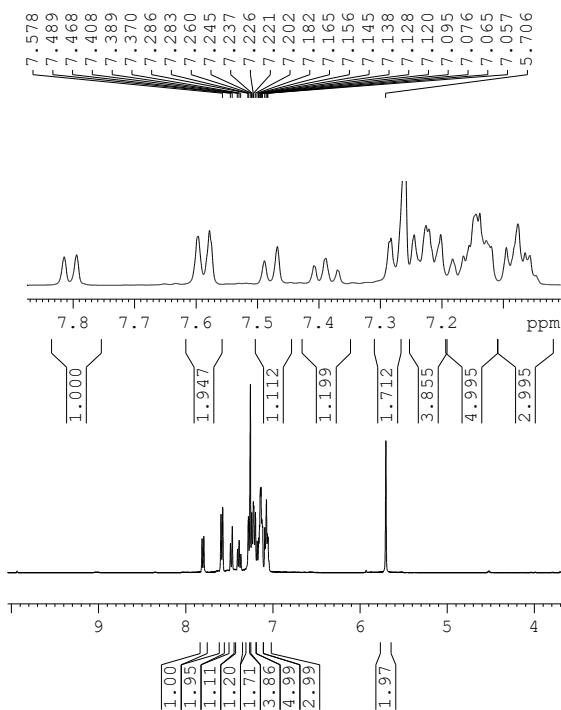


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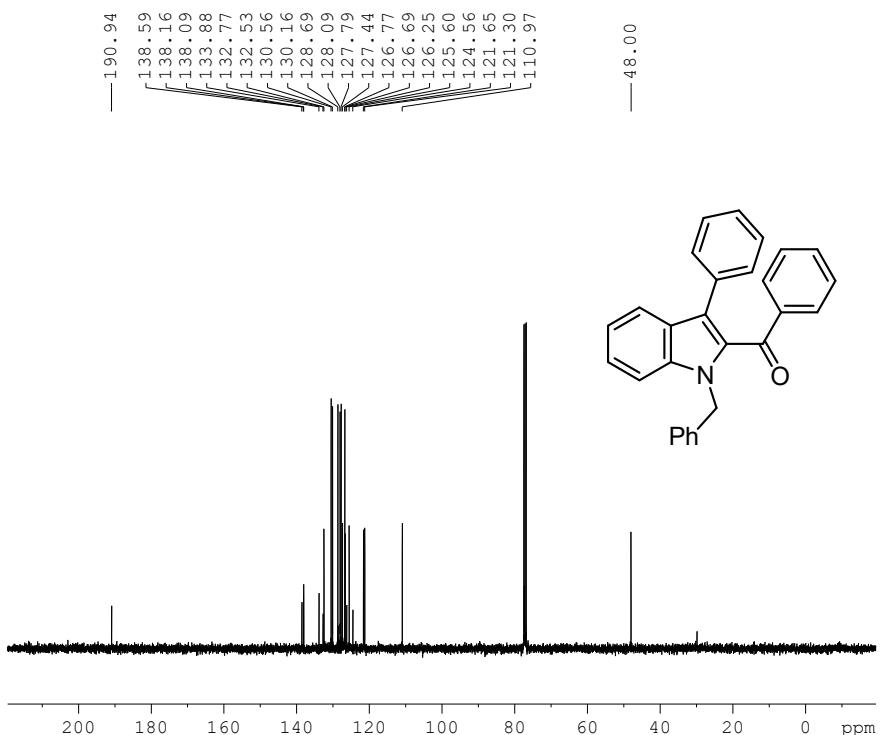


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **3s**

(1-benzyl-3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone: **3v**



$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **3v**



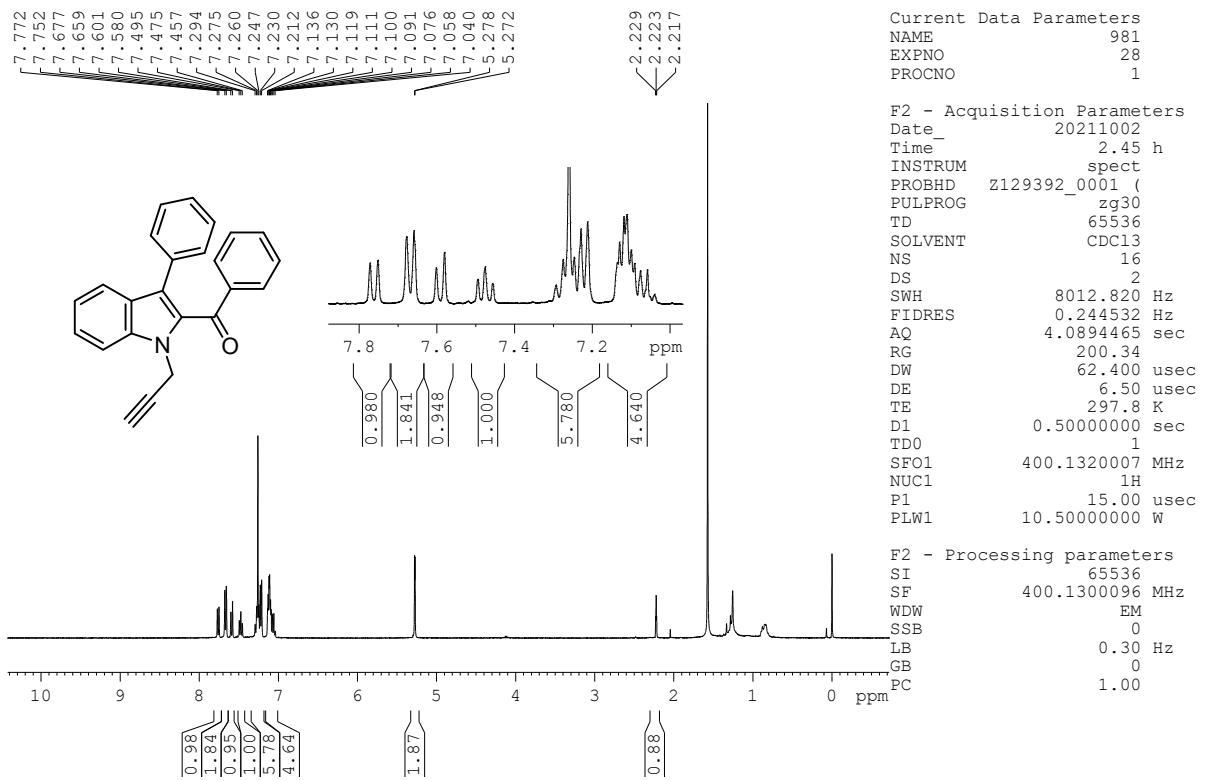
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **3v**

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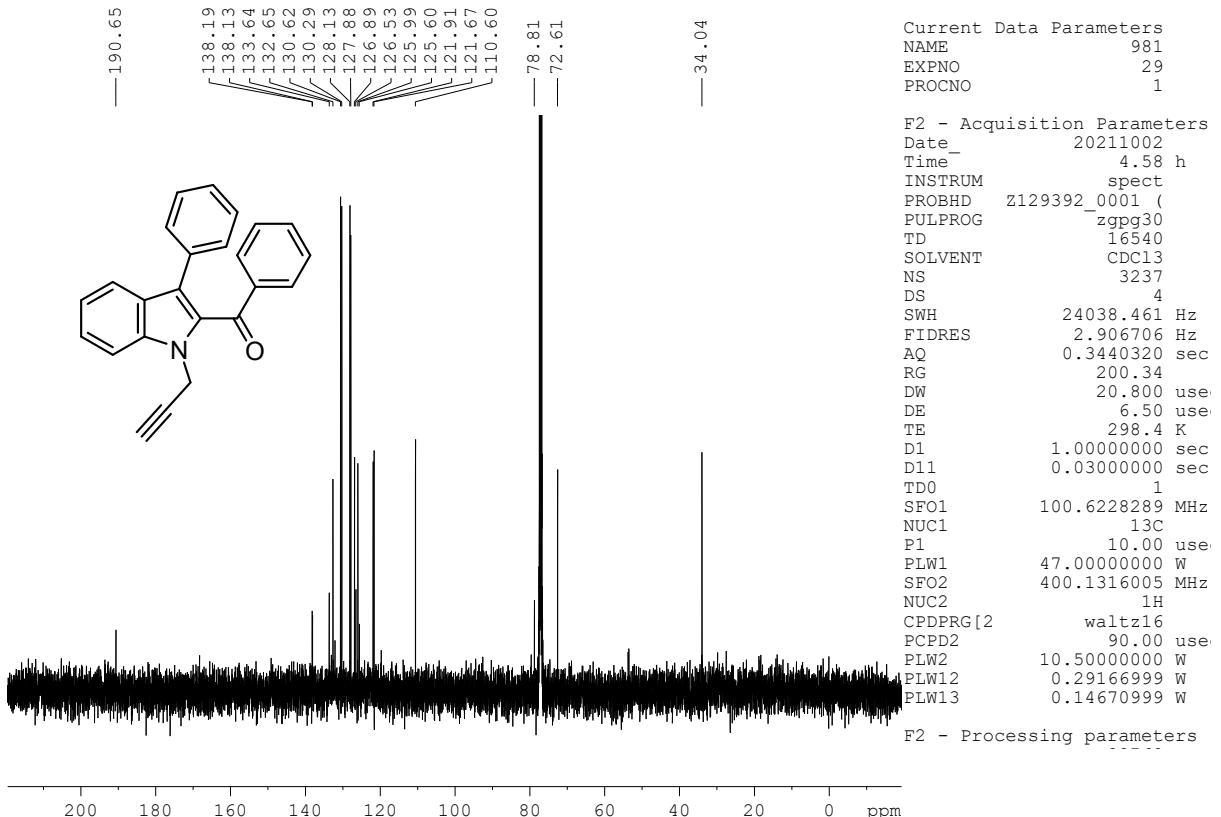
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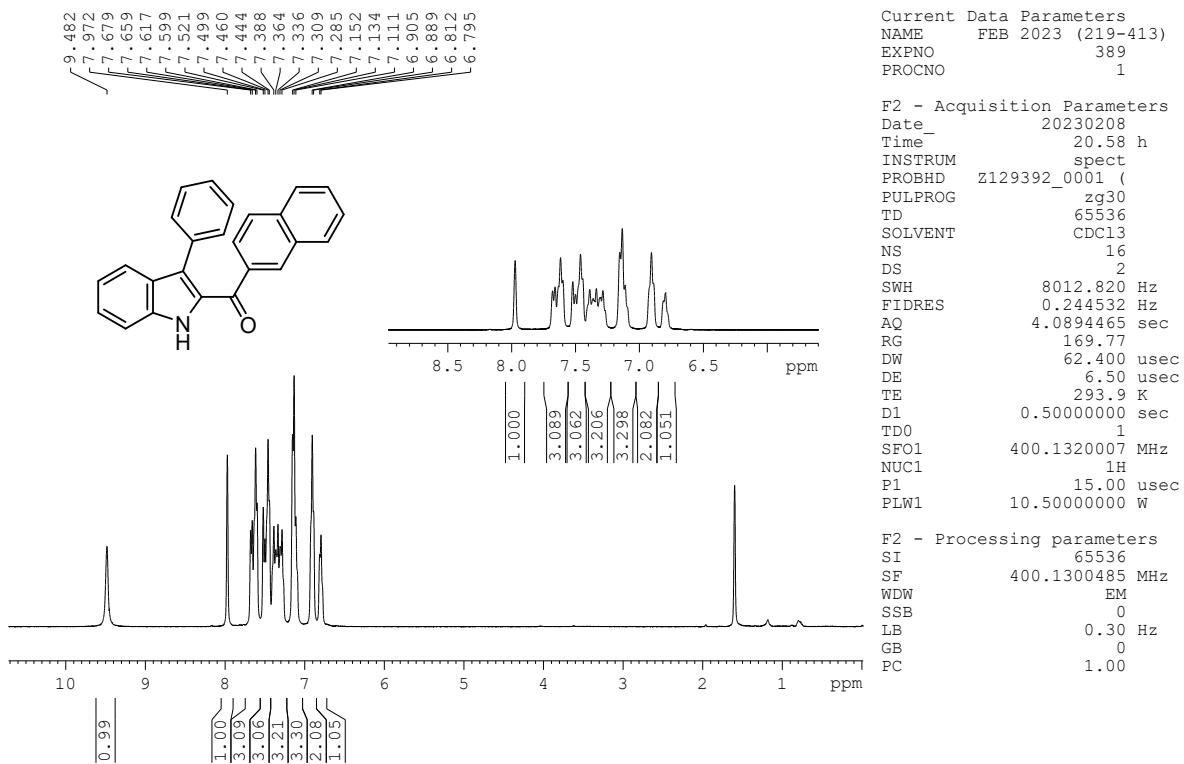


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3x

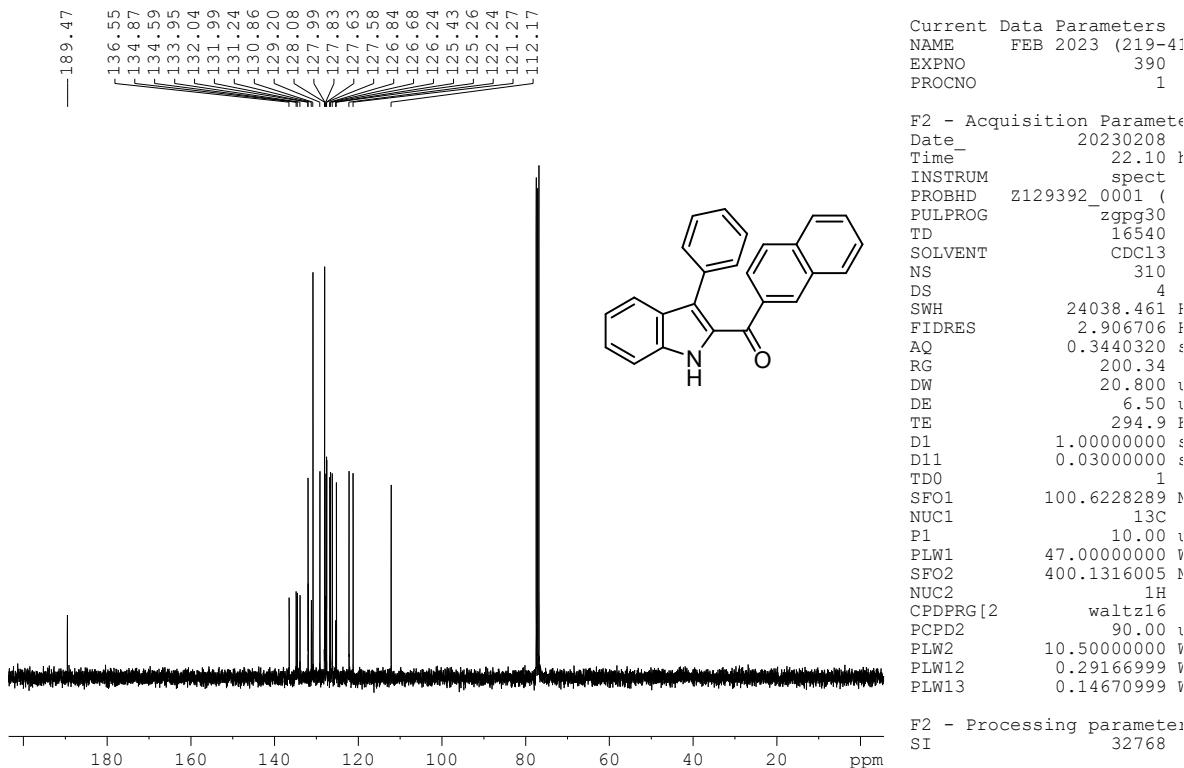


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3x

**naphthalen-2-yl(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone: 3y**

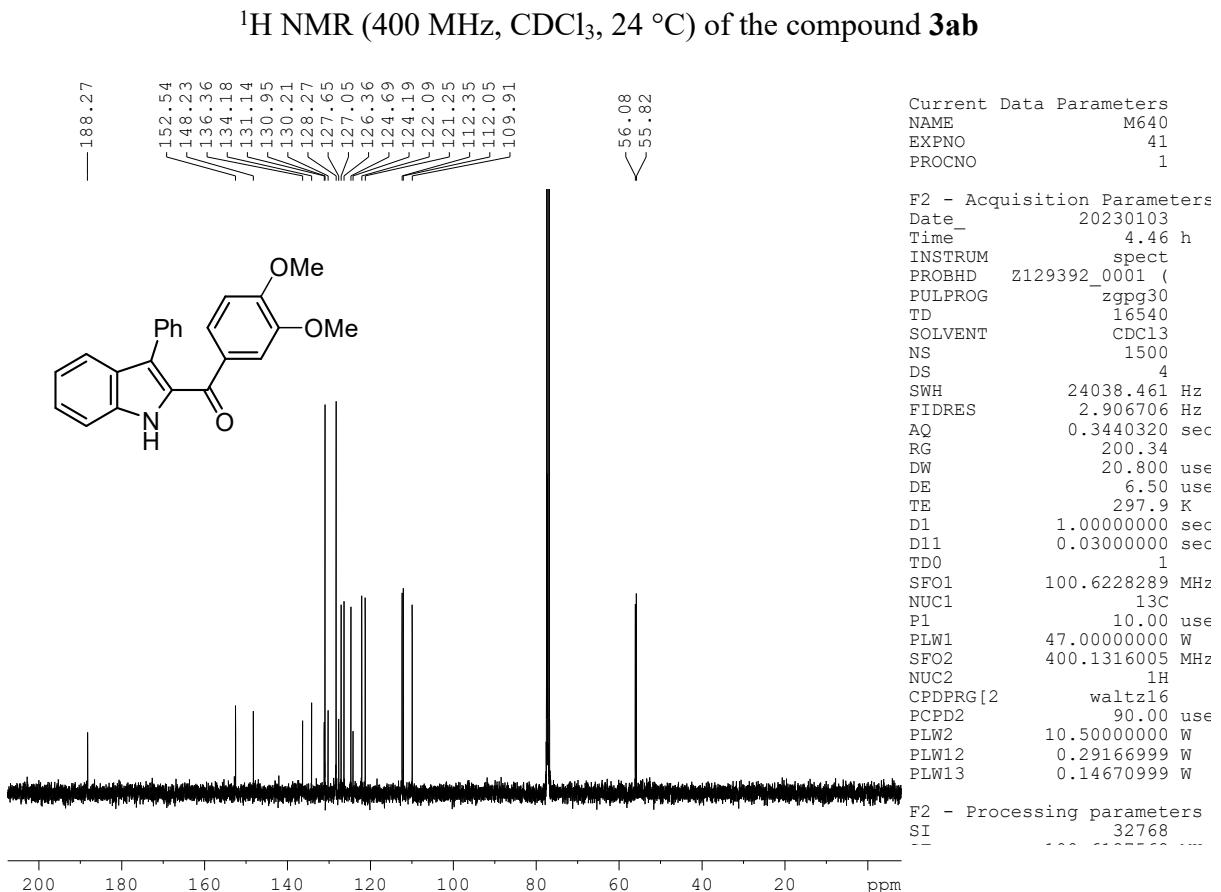
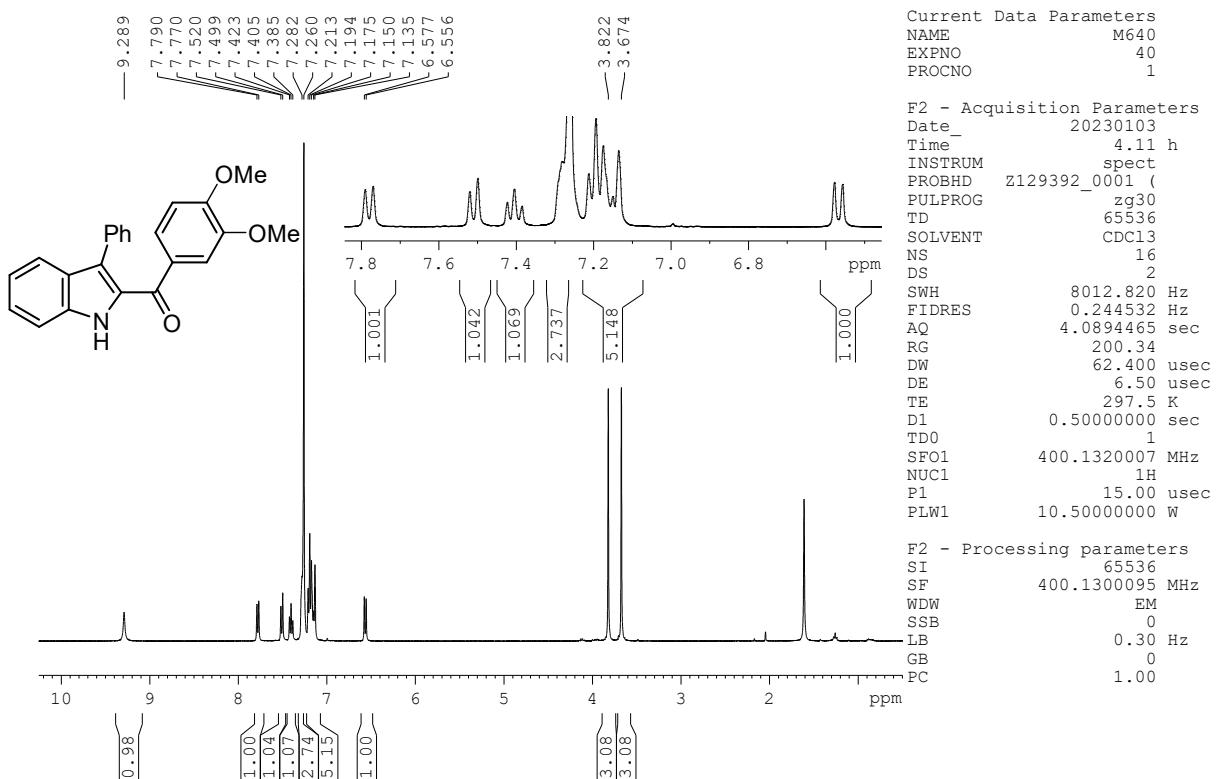


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **3y**



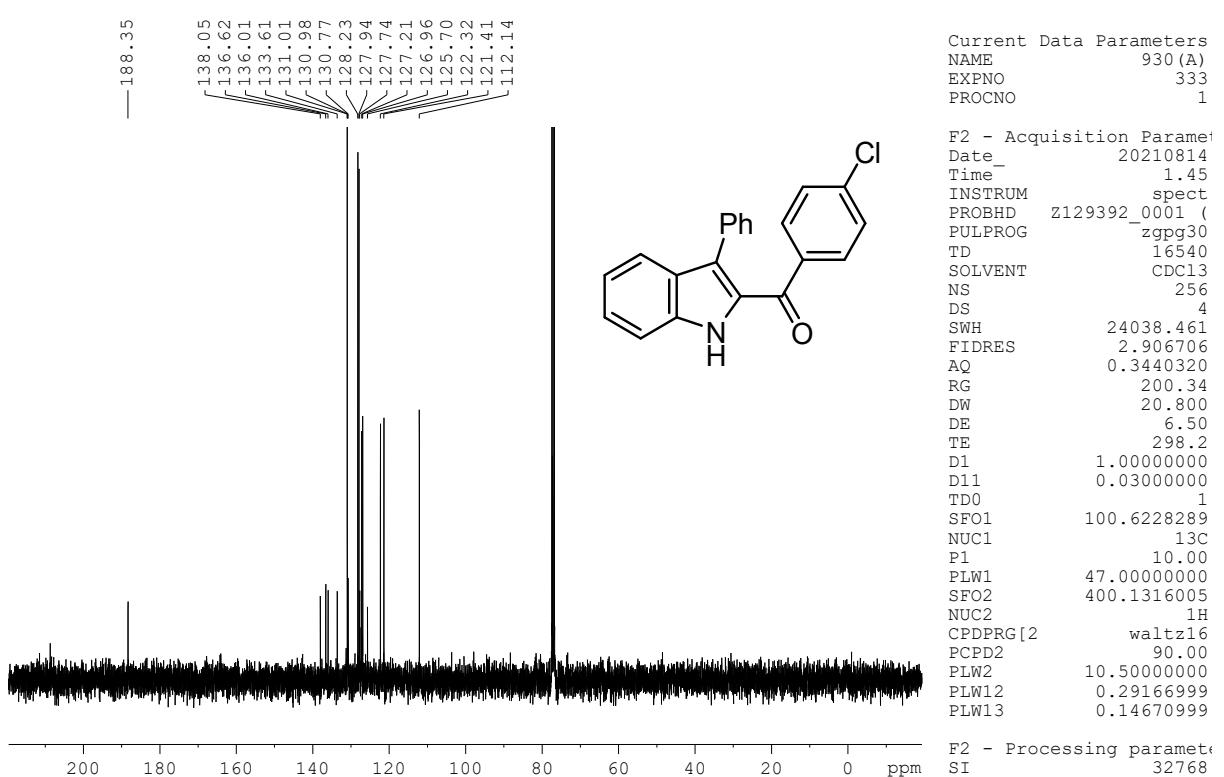
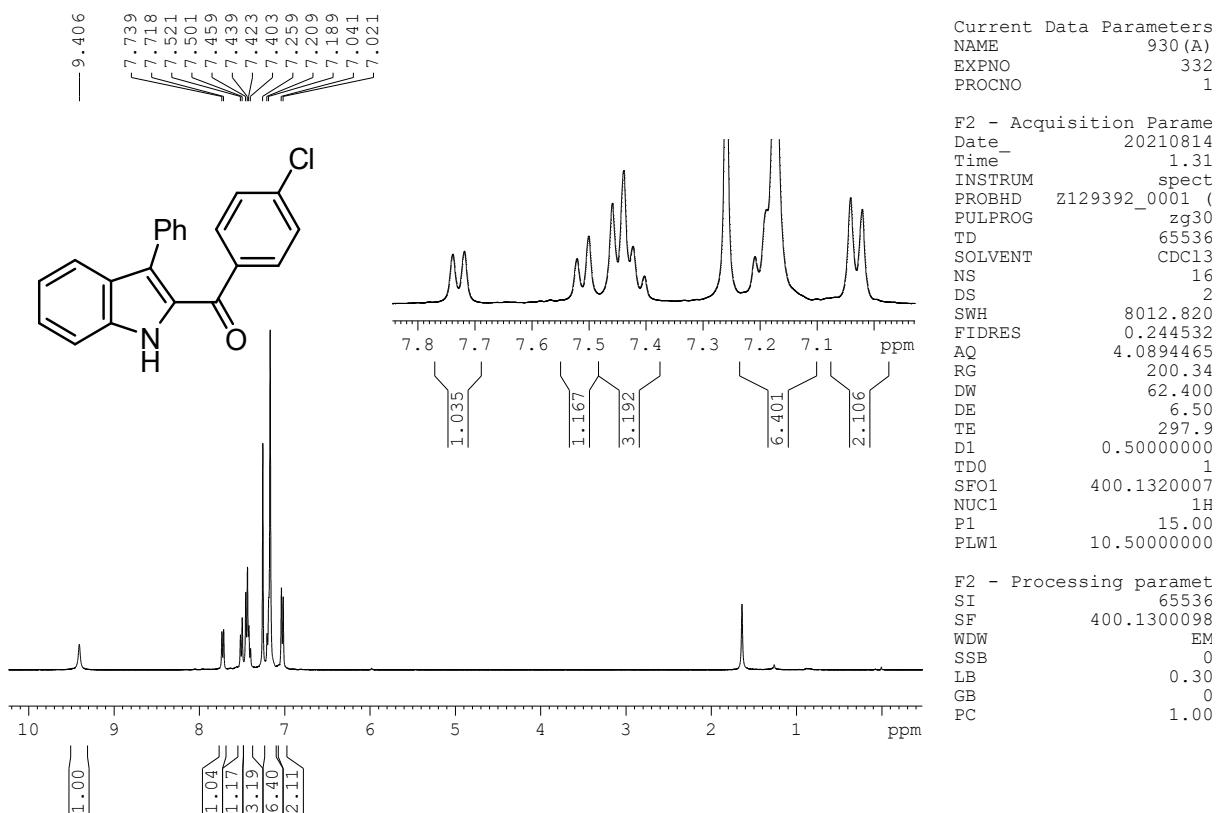
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **3y**

(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone: **3ab**



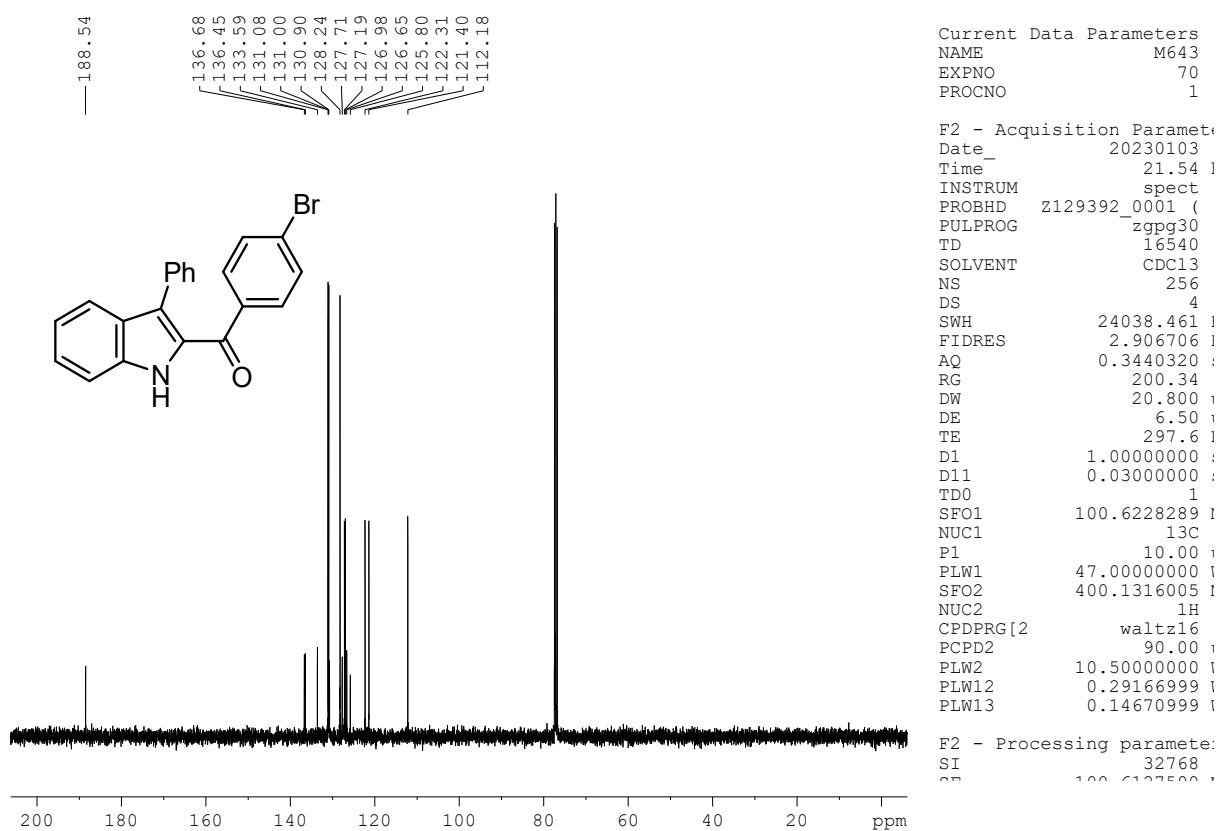
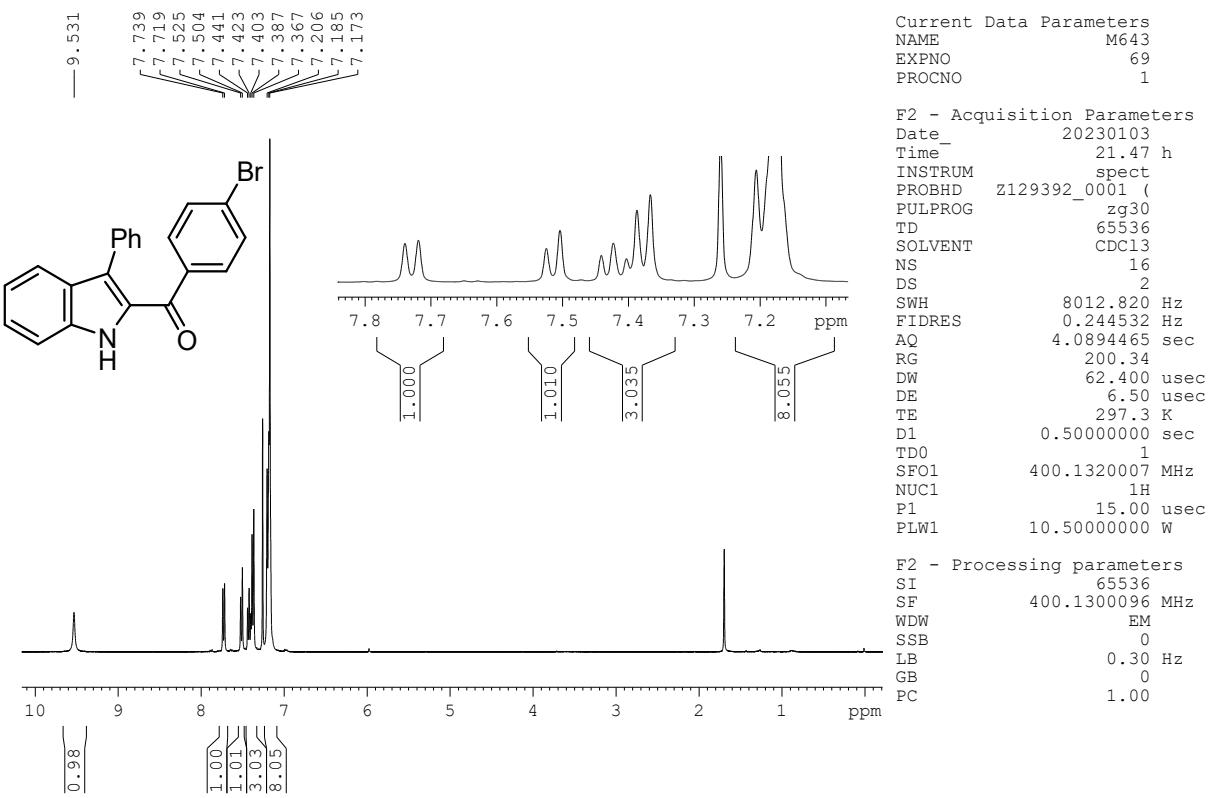
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3ab

### (4-chlorophenyl)(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone: 3ad



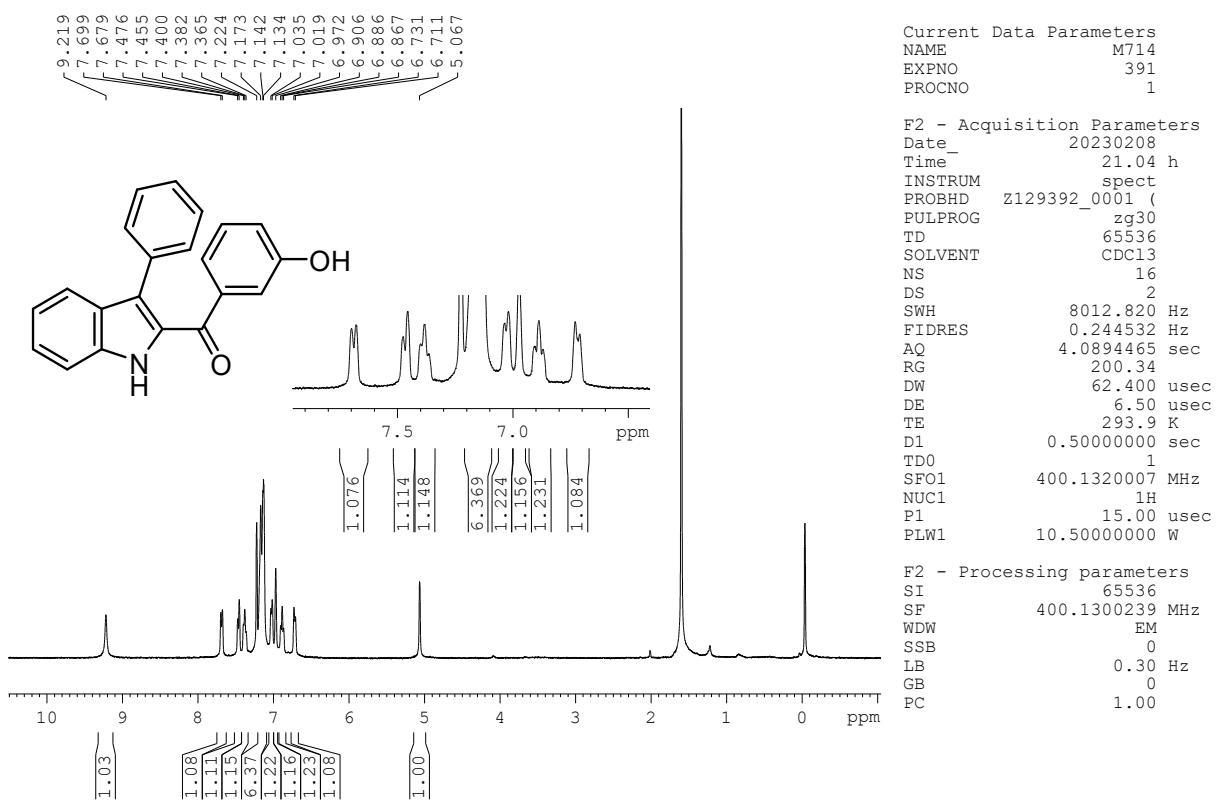
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3ad

(4-bromophenyl)(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone: 3ae

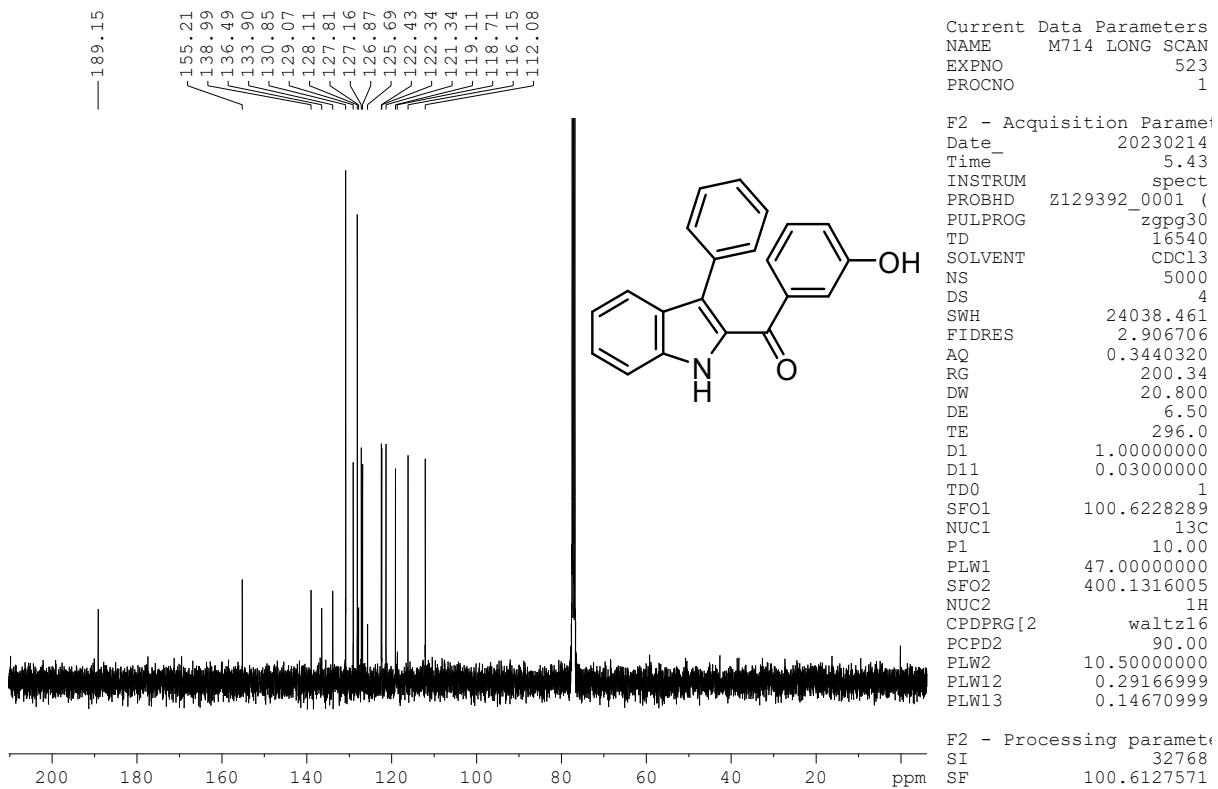


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound 3ae

**(3-hydroxyphenyl)(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone: 3ah**

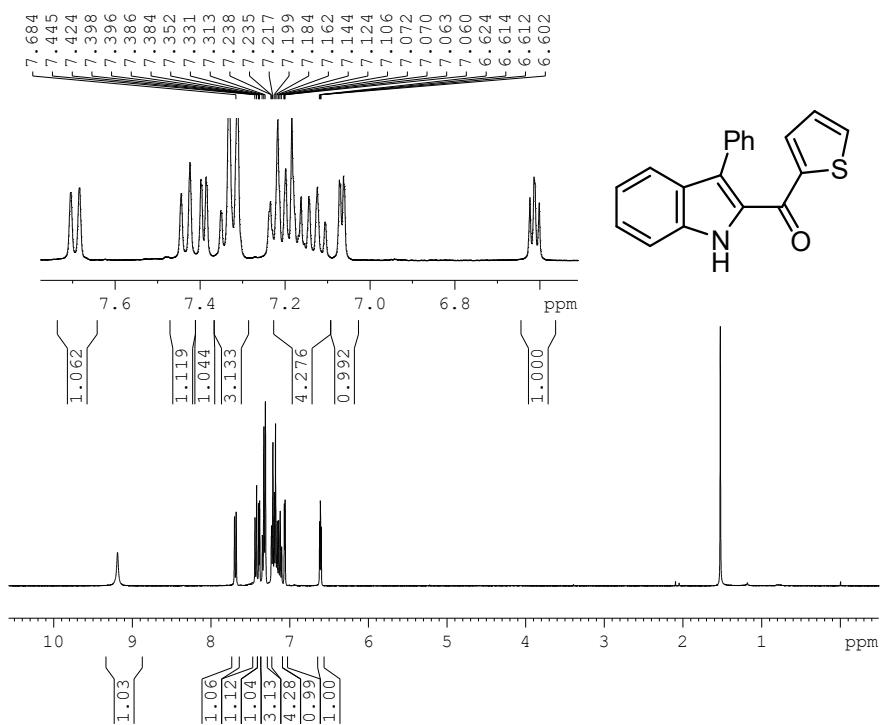


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3ah



<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3ah

**(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(thiophen-2-yl)methanone: 3aj**

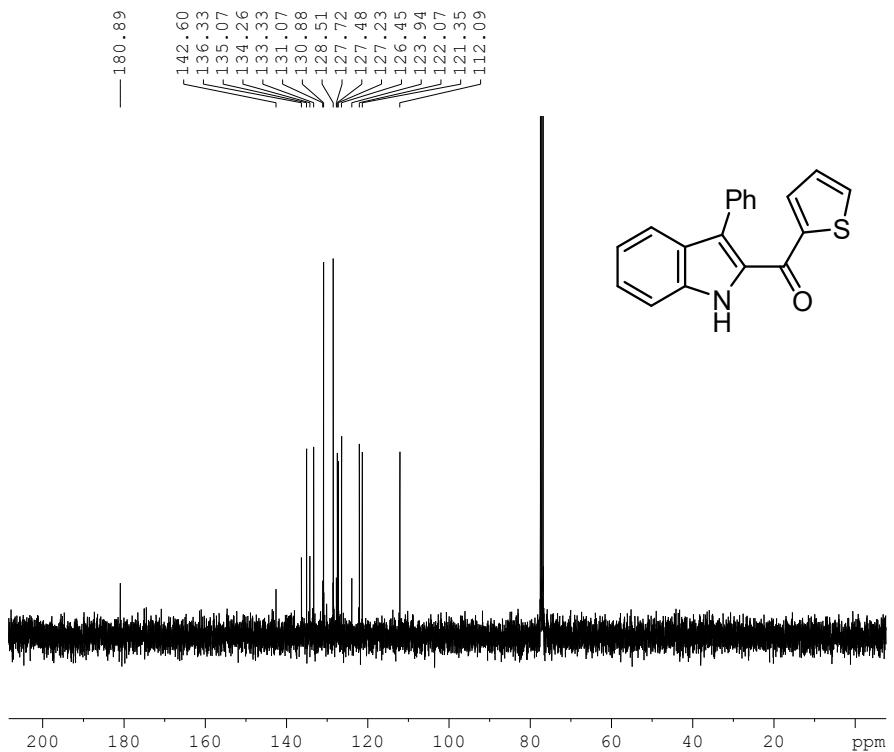


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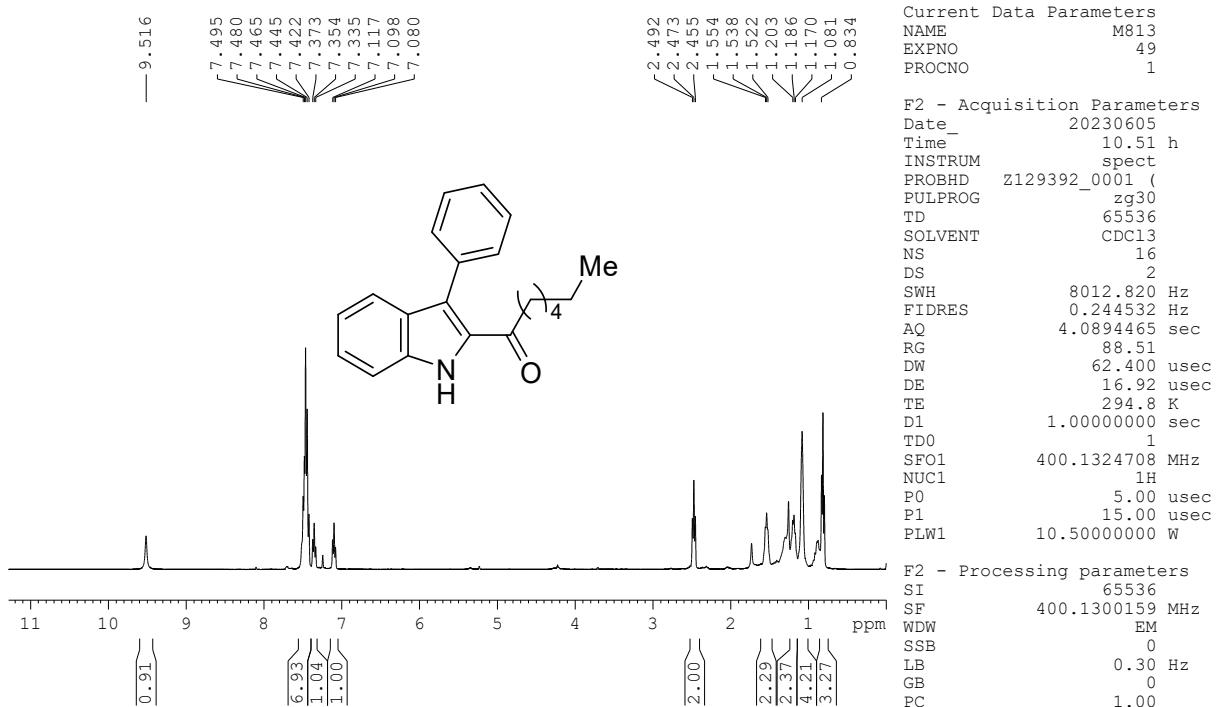
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 AQ 0.3440320 sec  
 RG 200.34  
 DW 20.800 usec  
 DE 6.50 usec  
 TE 297.2 K  
 D1 1.0000000 sec  
 D11 0.03000000 sec  
 TDO 1  
 SFO1 100.6228289 MHz  
 NUC1 13C  
 P1 10.00 usec  
 PLW1 47.00000000 W  
 SFO2 400.1316005 MHz  
 NUC2 1H  
 CPDPRG[2] waltz16  
 PCPD2 90.00 usec  
 PLW2 10.50000000 W  
 PLW12 0.29166999 W  
 PLW13 0.14670999 W

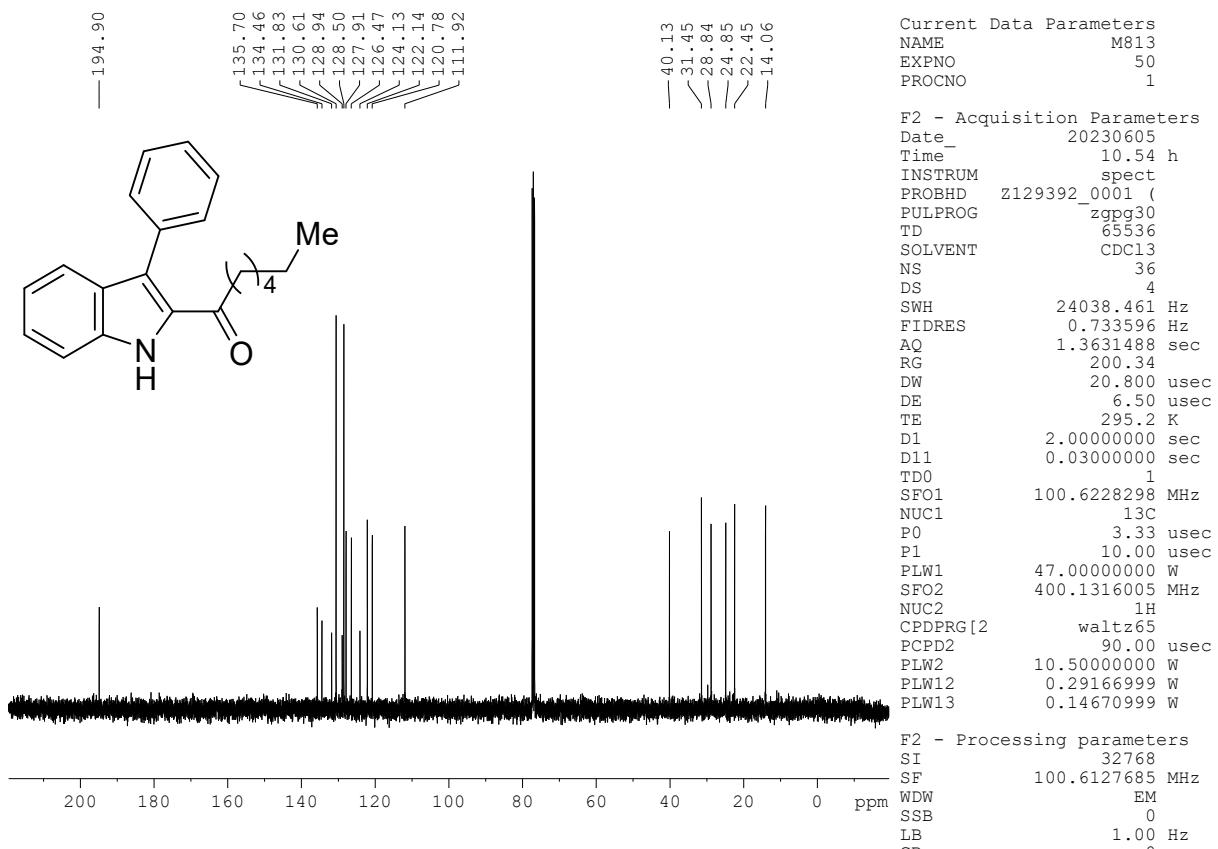
F2 - Processing parameters  
 SI 32768  
 SF 100.6127571 MHz

$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound 3aj

**1-(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)heptan-1-one: 3am**

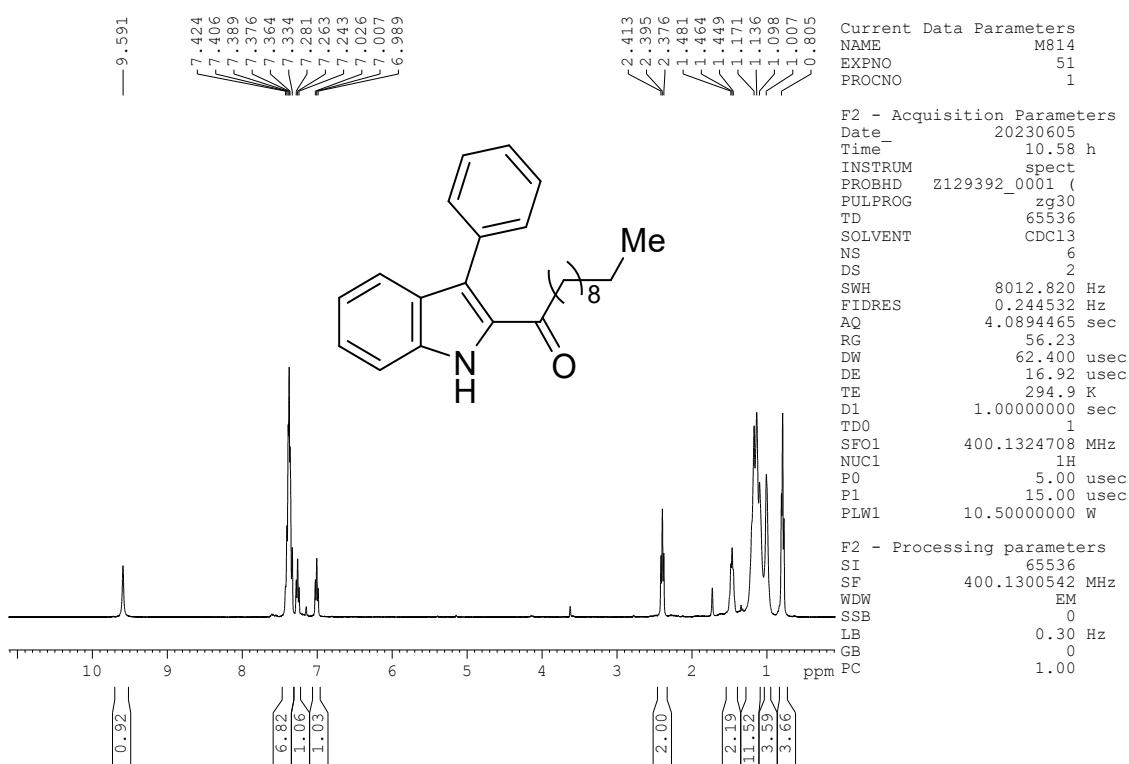


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3am

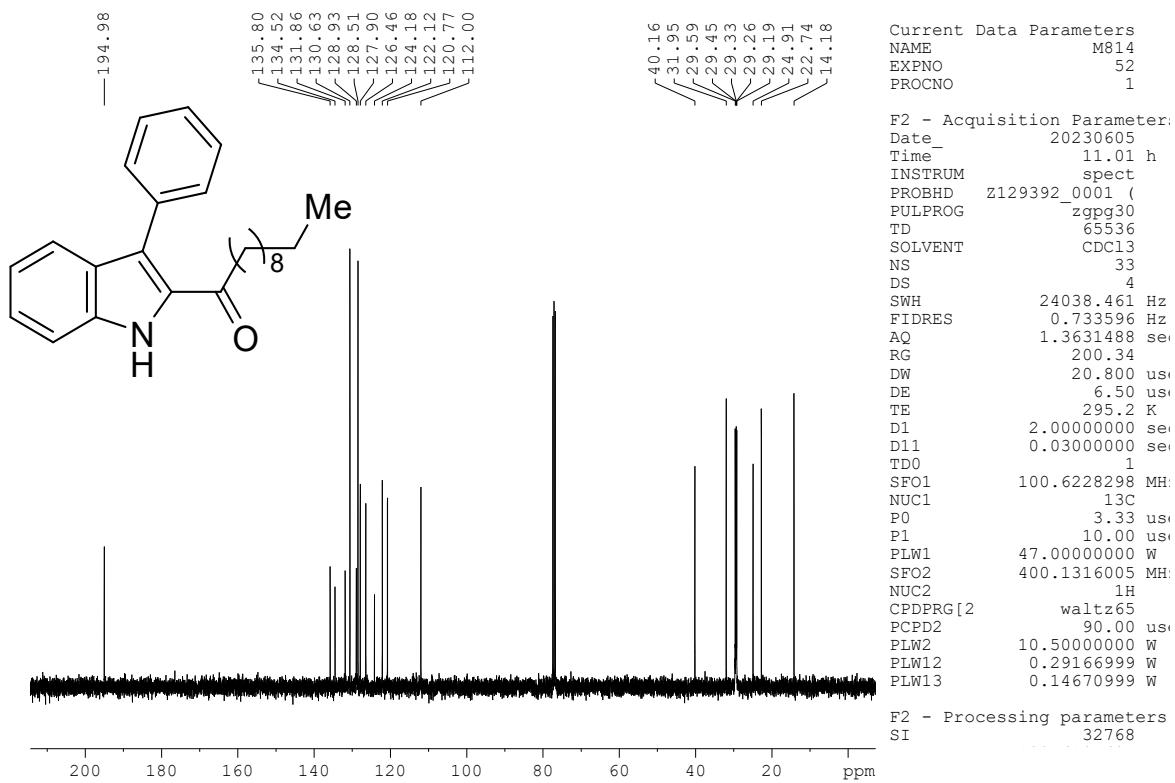


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3am

**1-(3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)undecan-1-one: 3an**

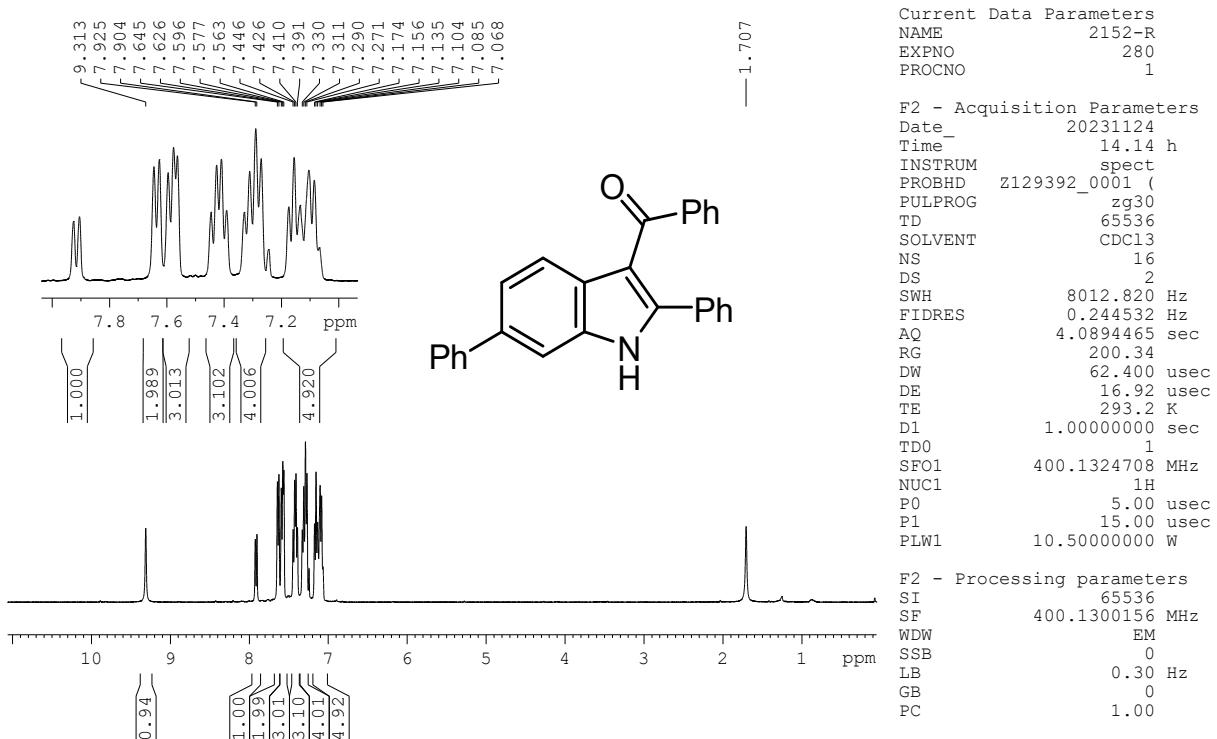


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3an

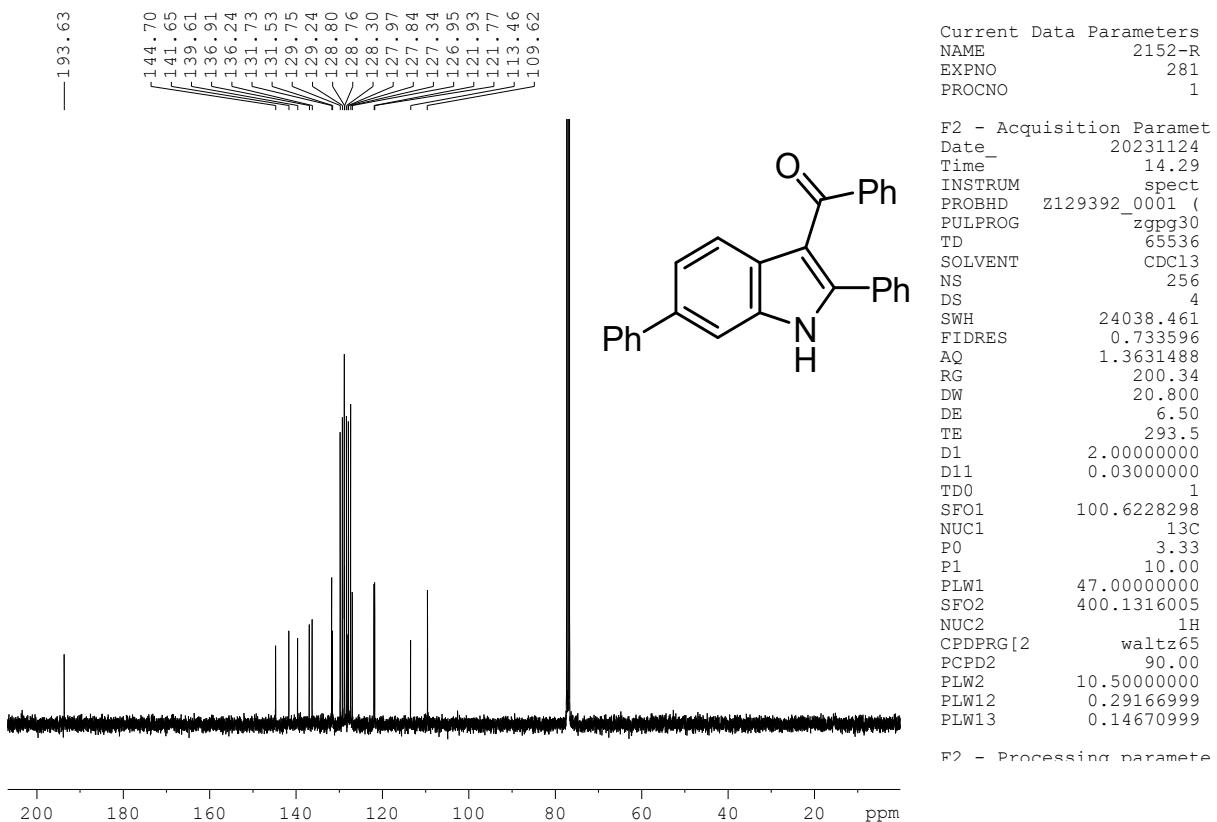


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 3an

**(2,6-diphenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone: 6b**

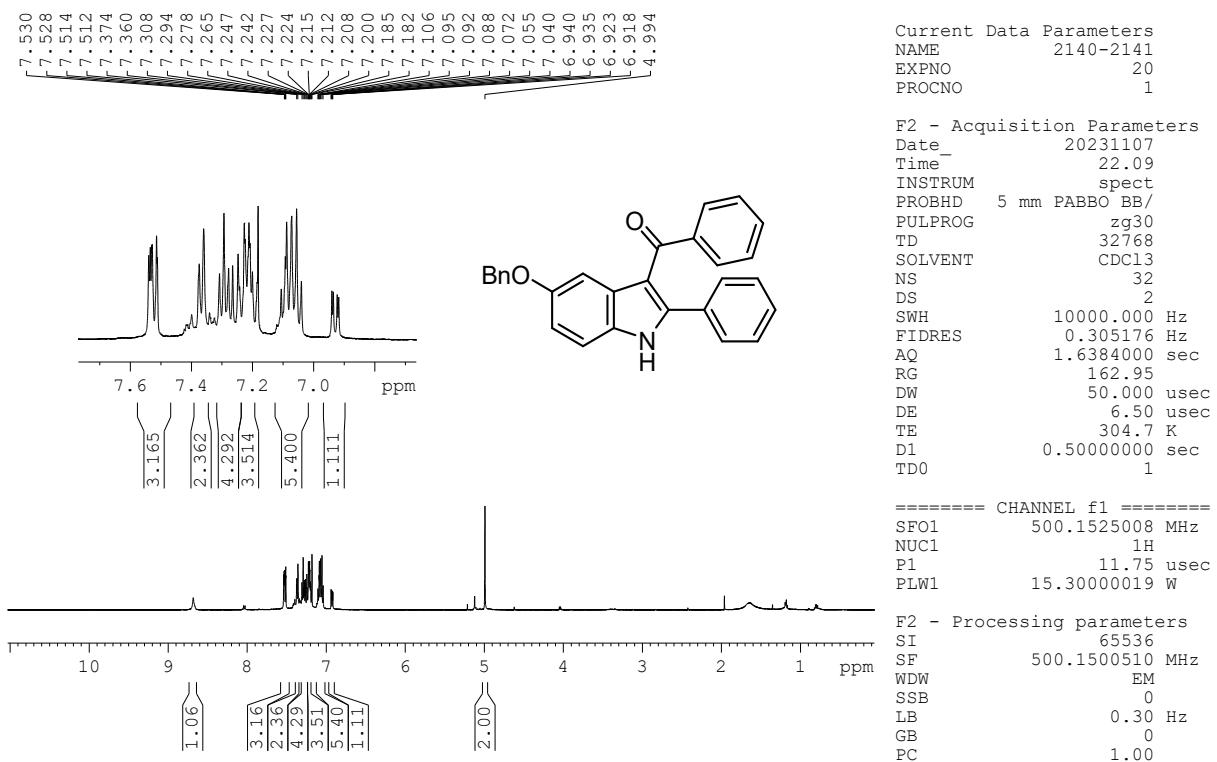


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **6b**

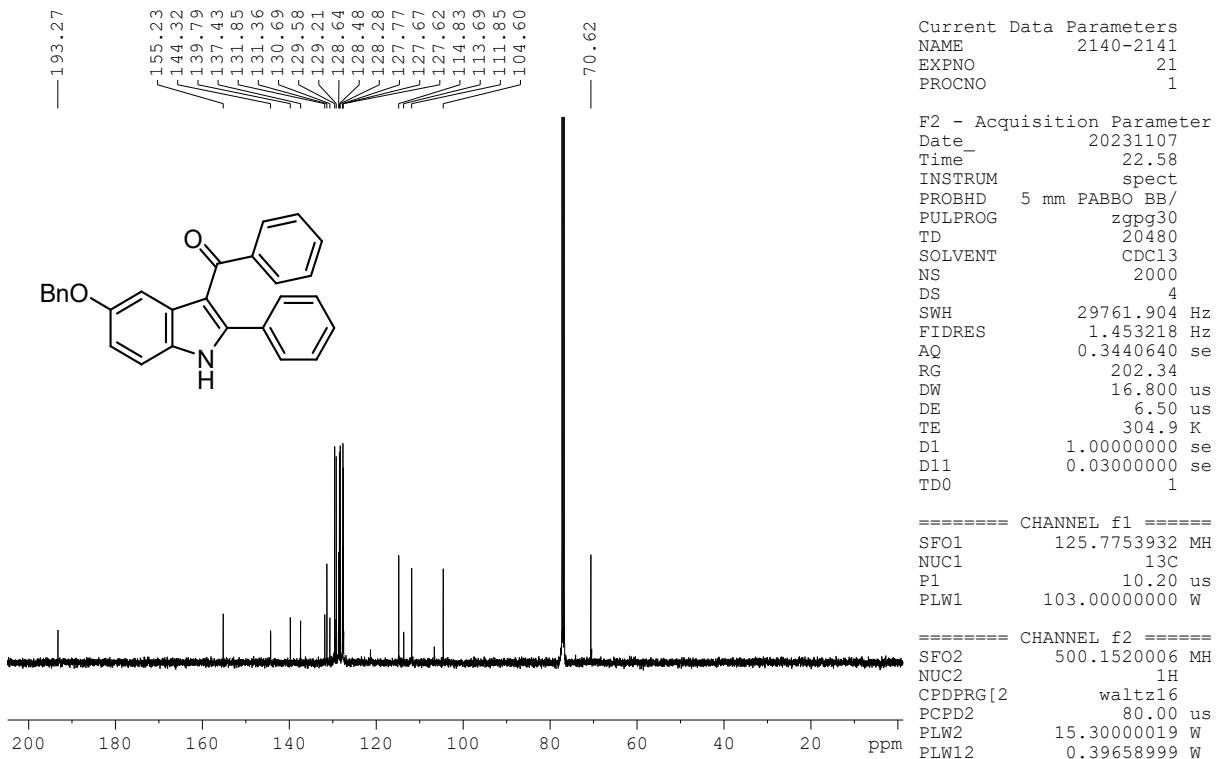


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **6b**

**(5-(benzyloxy)-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone: 6d**

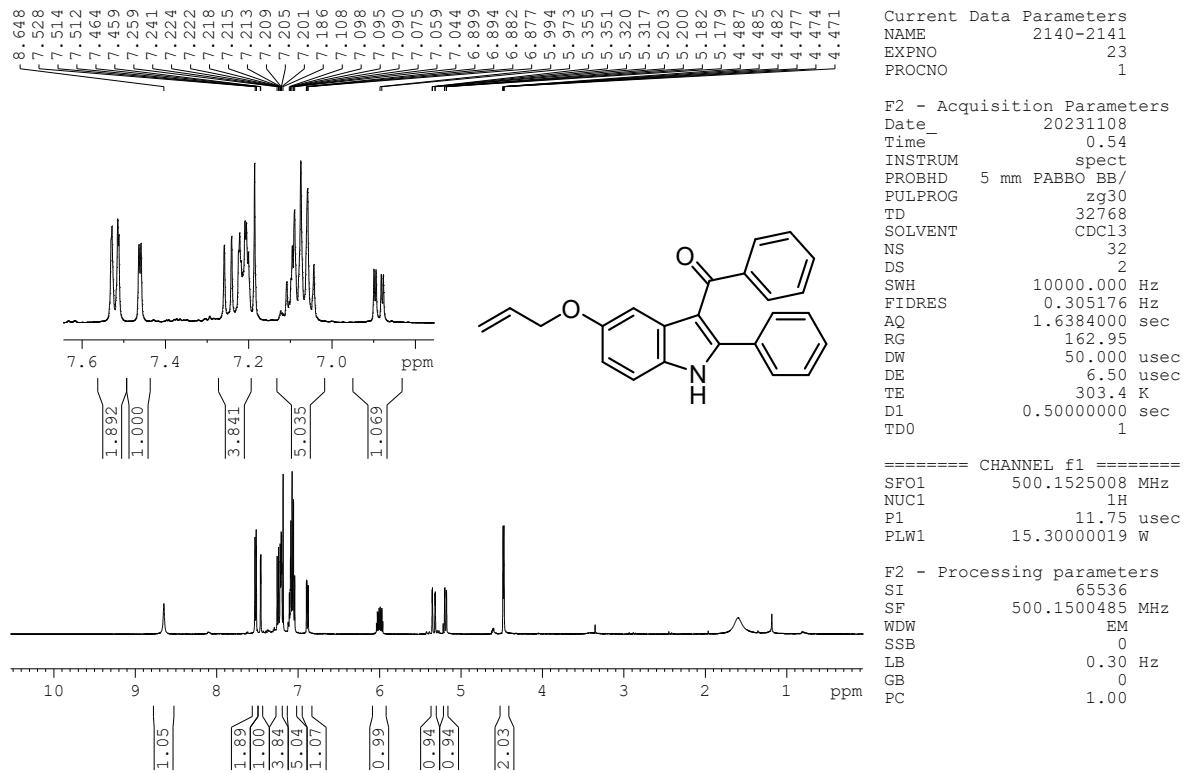


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6d

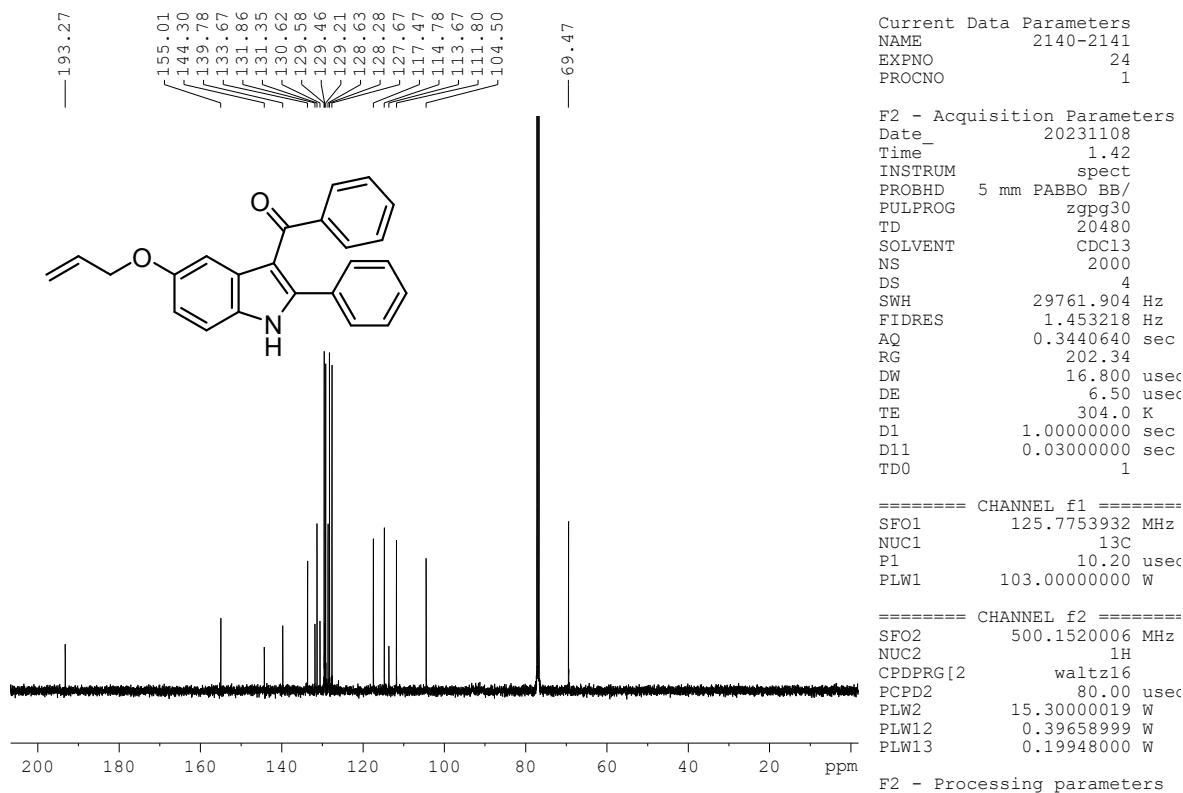


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6d

**(5-(allyloxy)-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone: 6g**

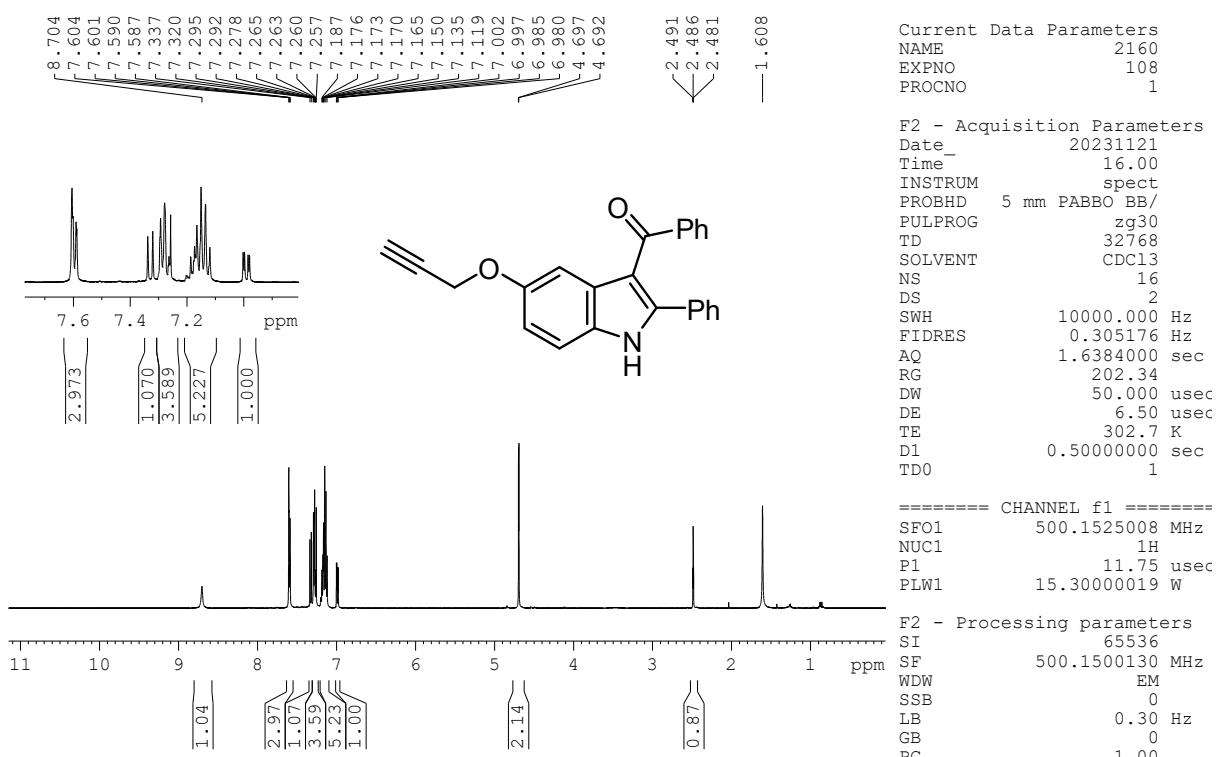


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6g

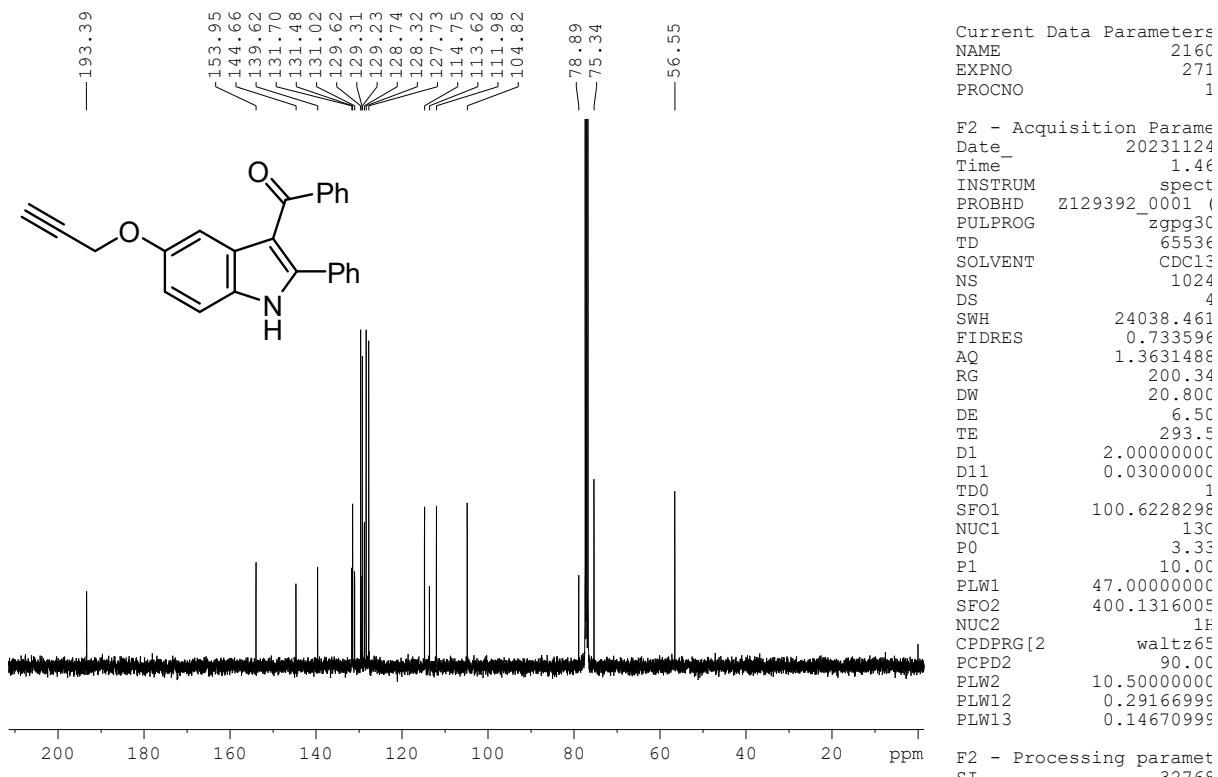


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6g

**phenyl(2-phenyl-5-(prop-2-yn-1-yloxy)-1H-indol-3-yl)methanone: 6h**

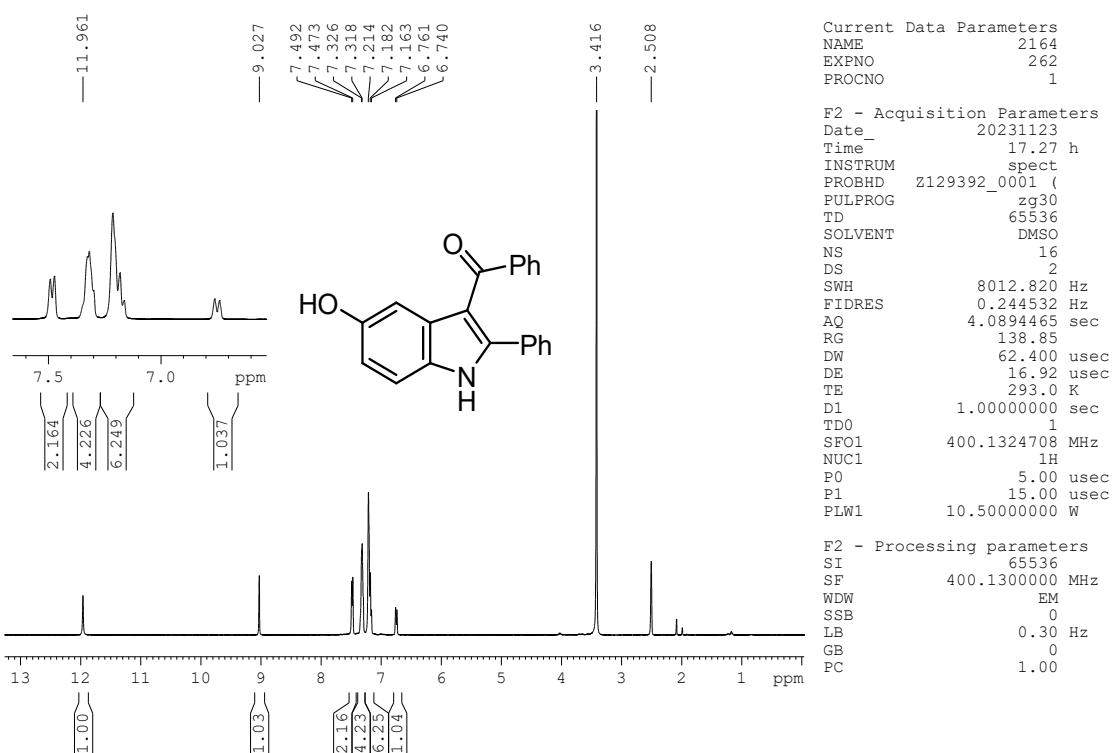


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **6h**

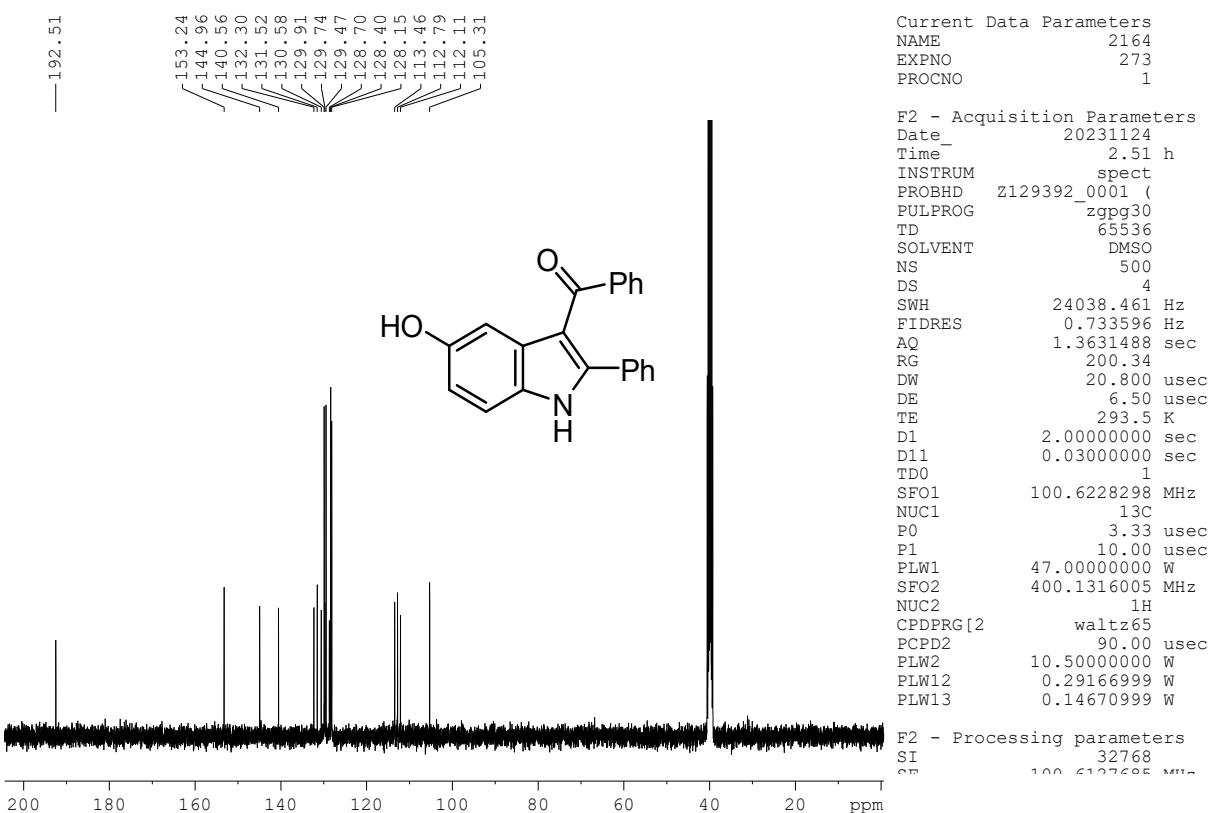


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **6h**

**(5-hydroxy-2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)(phenyl)methanone: 6i**

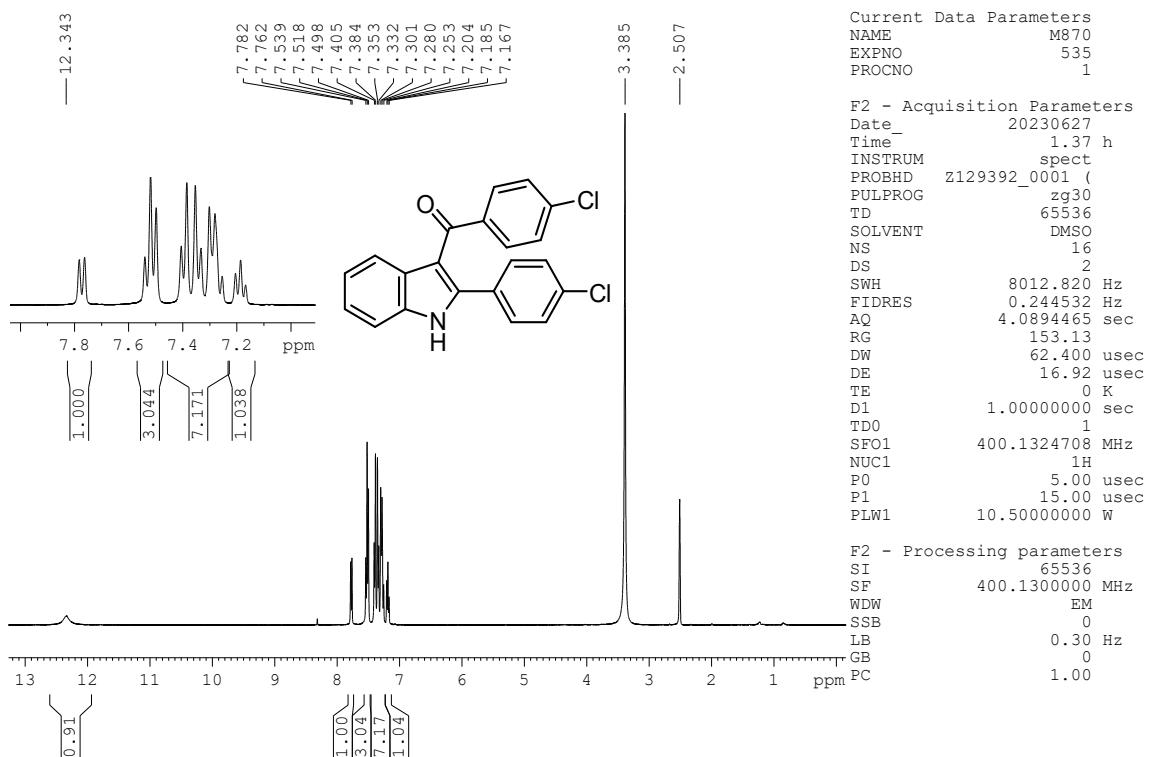


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6i

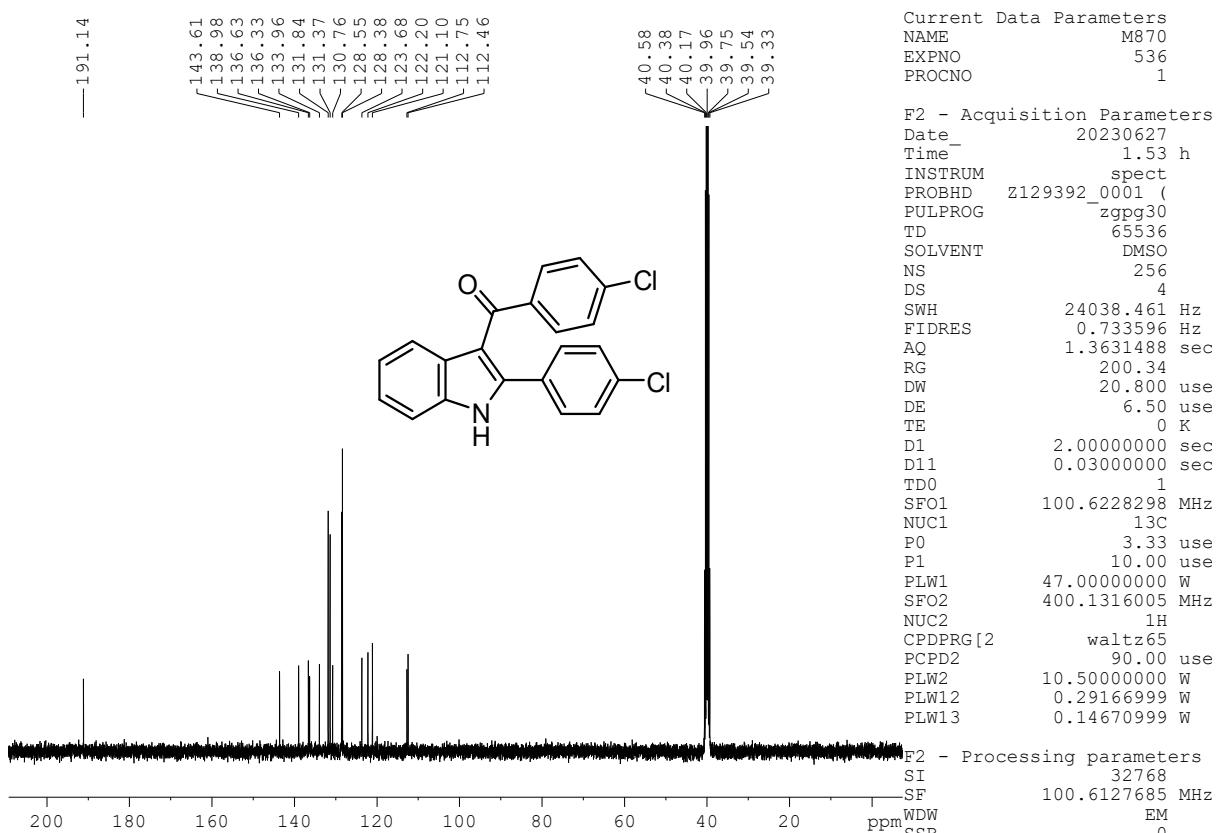


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6i

**(4-chlorophenyl)(2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1H-indol-3-yl)methanone: 6m**

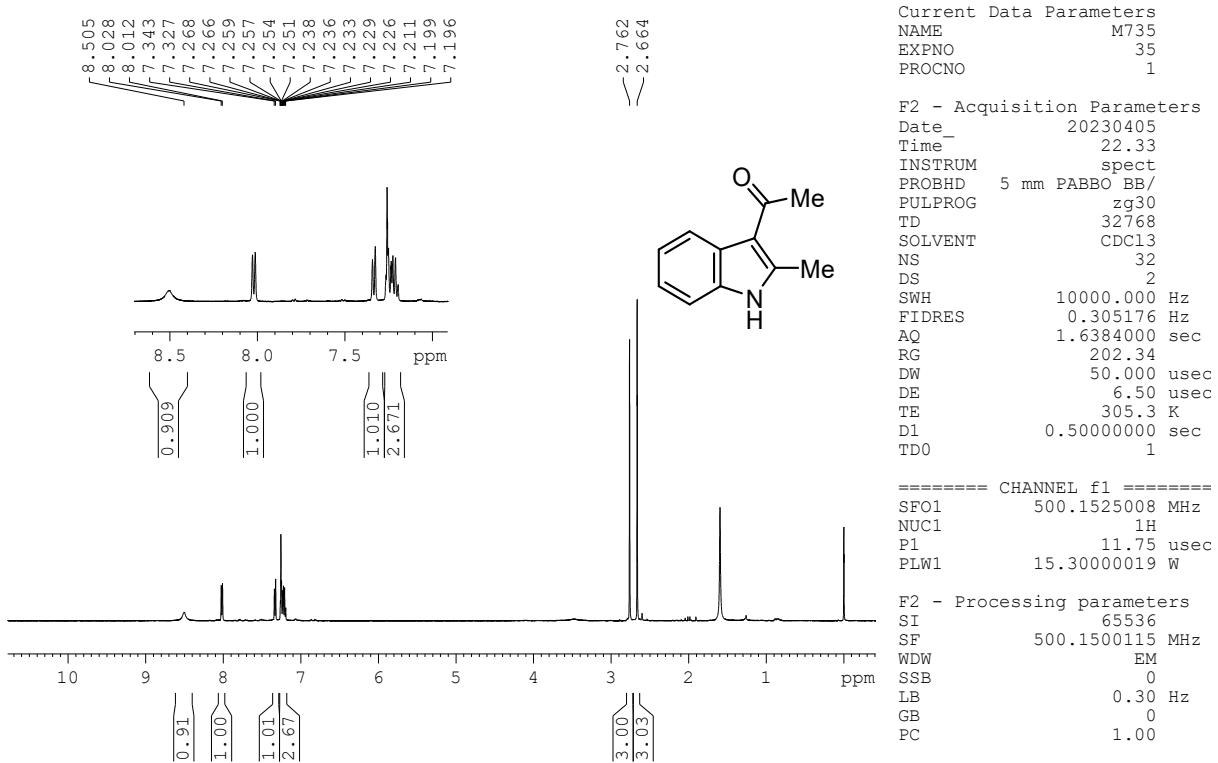


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6m

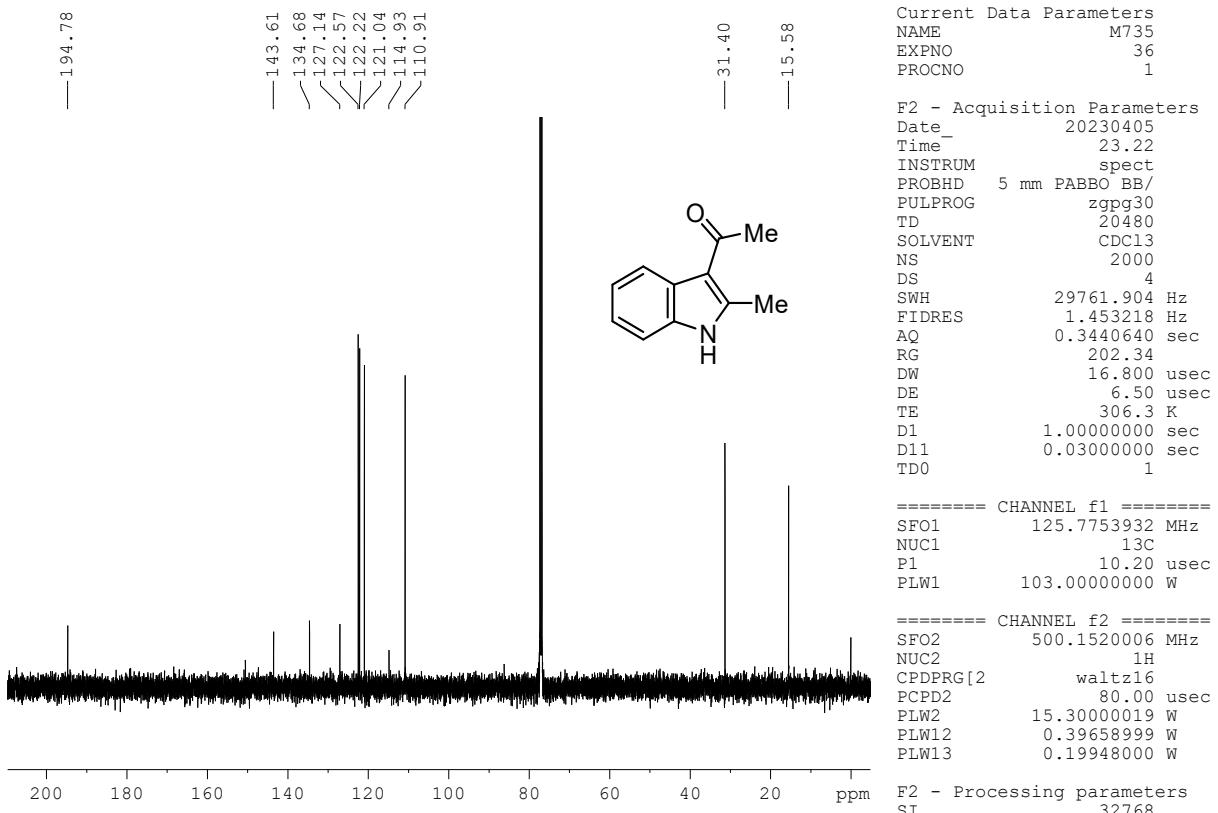


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6m

**1-(2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)ethan-1-one: 6o**

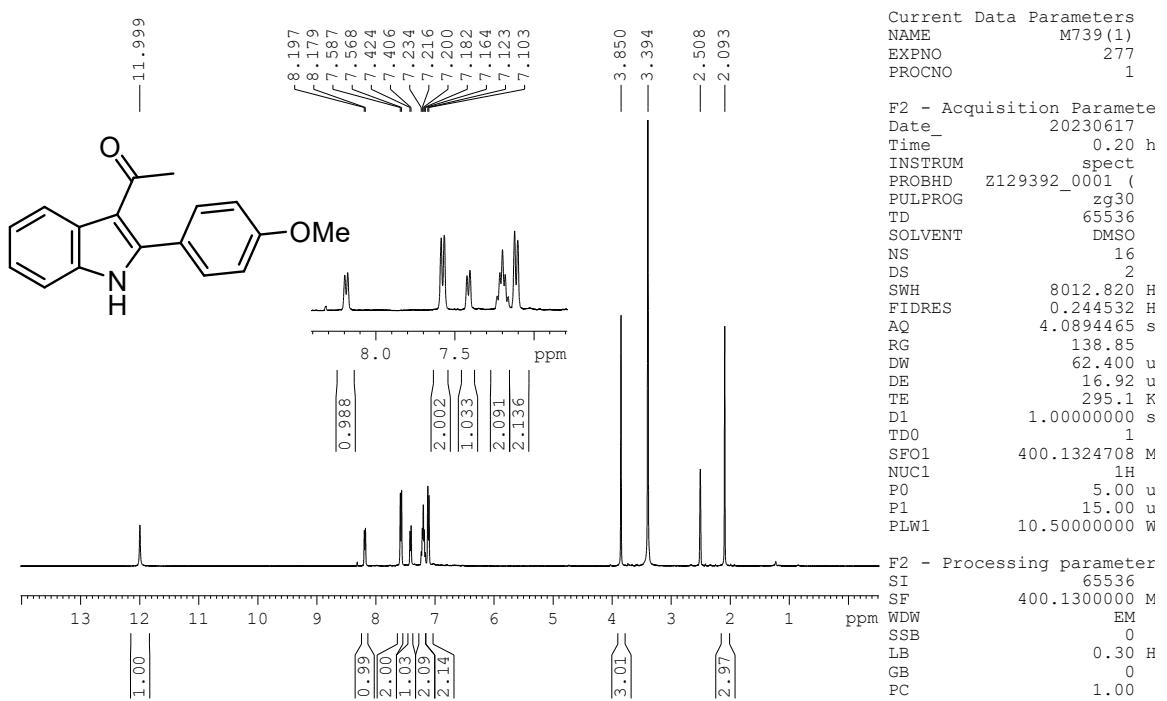


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6o

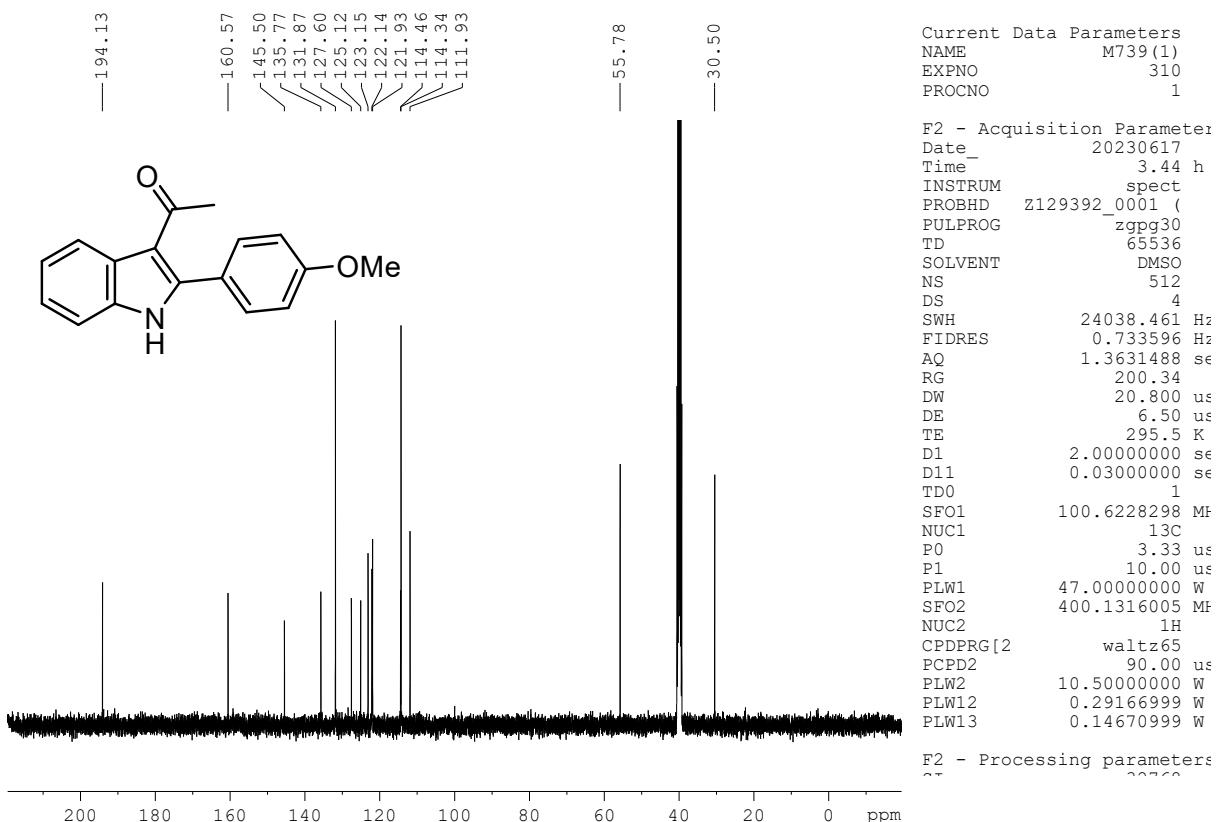


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6o

**1-(2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-indol-3-yl)ethan-1-one: 6q**

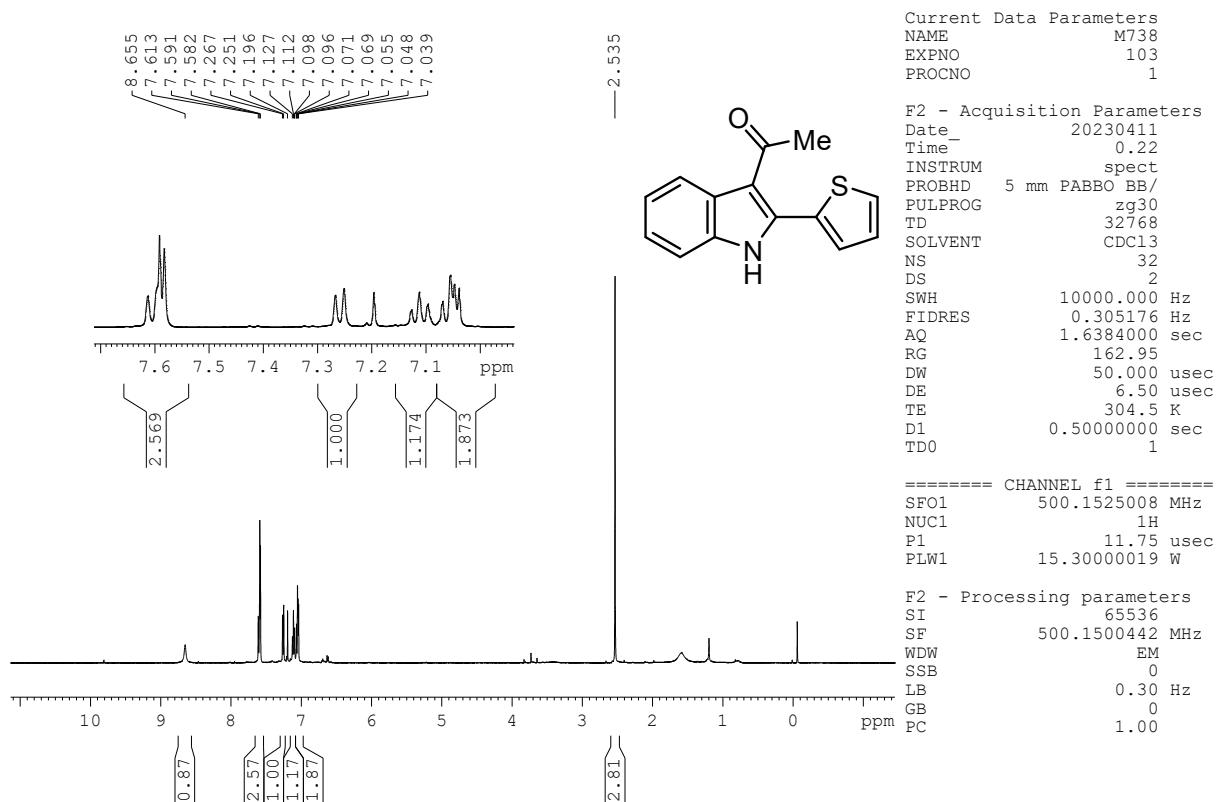


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **6q**

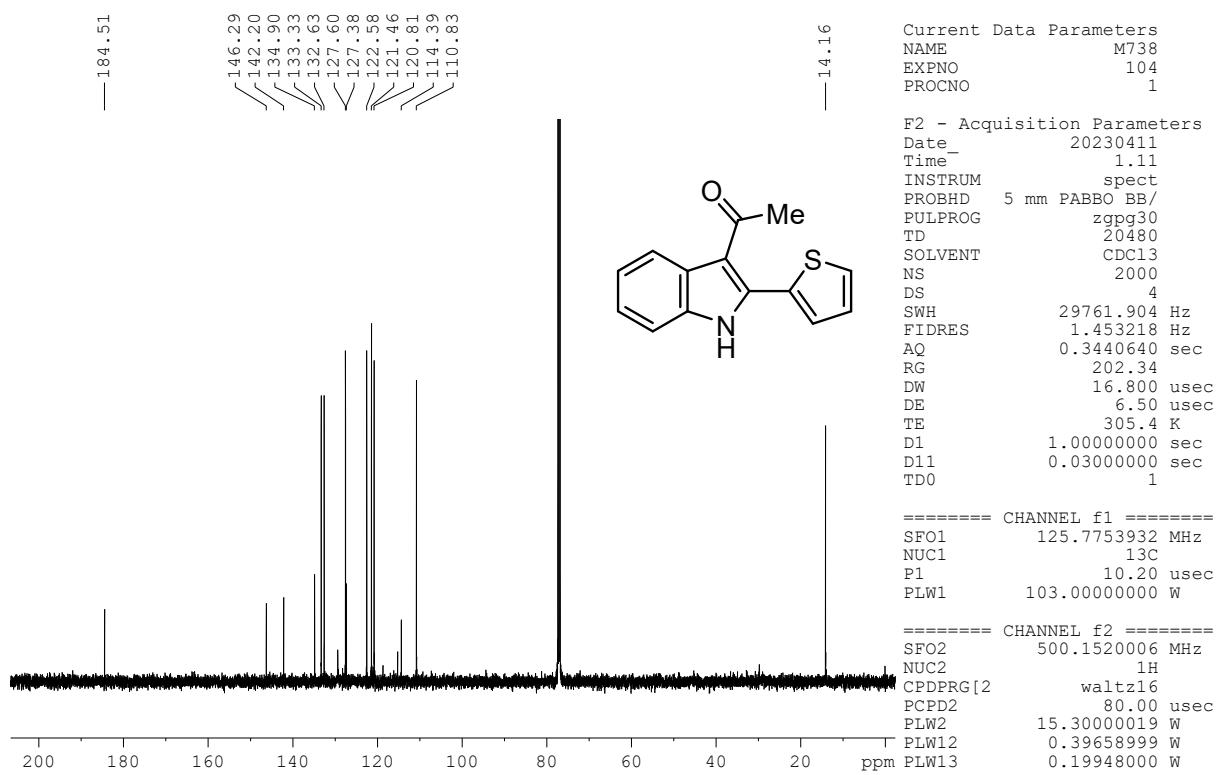


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **6q**

**1-(2-(thiophen-2-yl)-1H-indol-3-yl)ethan-1-one: 6r**

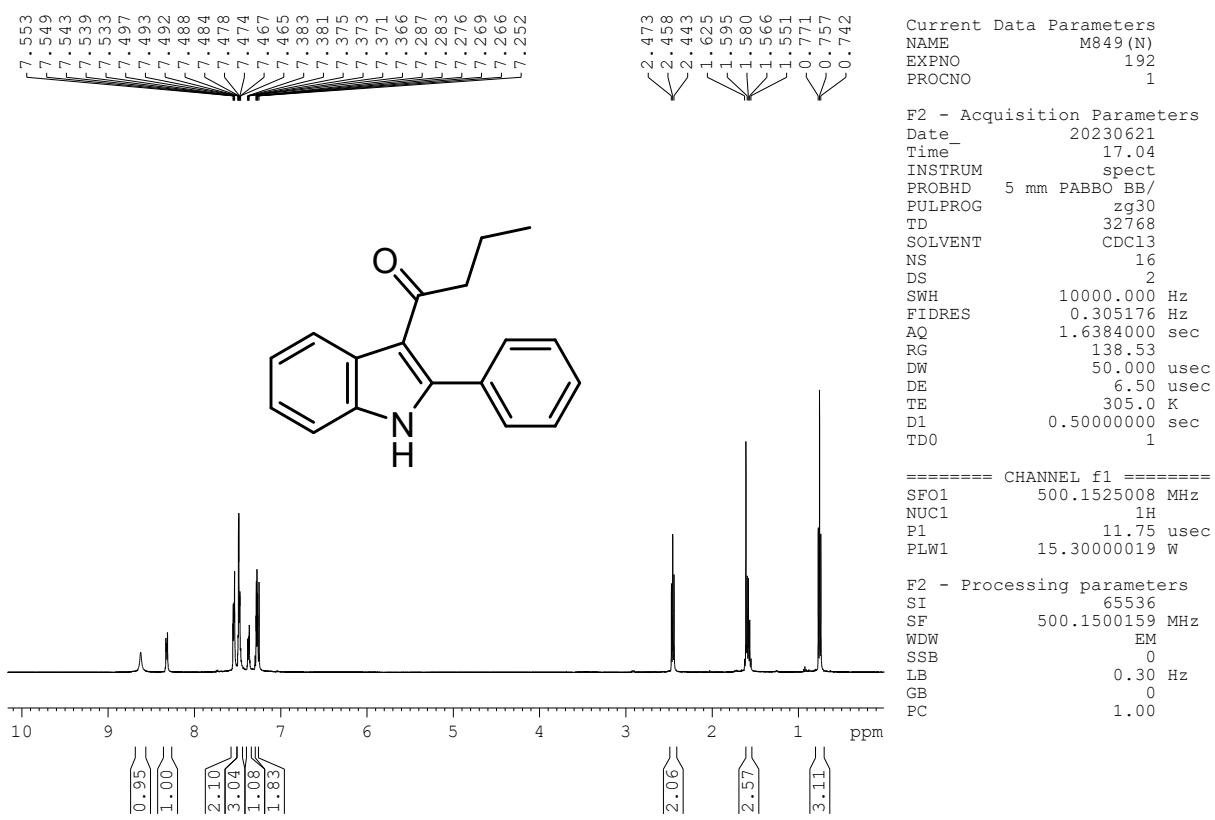


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **6r**

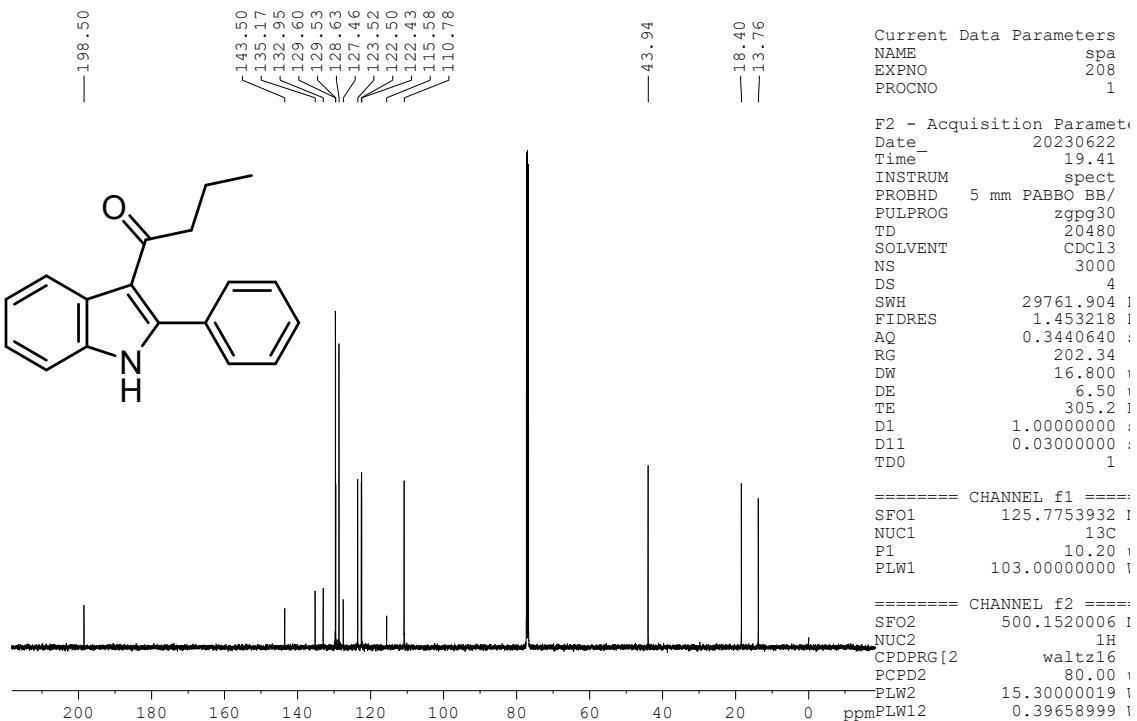


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **6r**

**1-(2-phenyl-1H-indol-3-yl)butan-1-one: 6s**

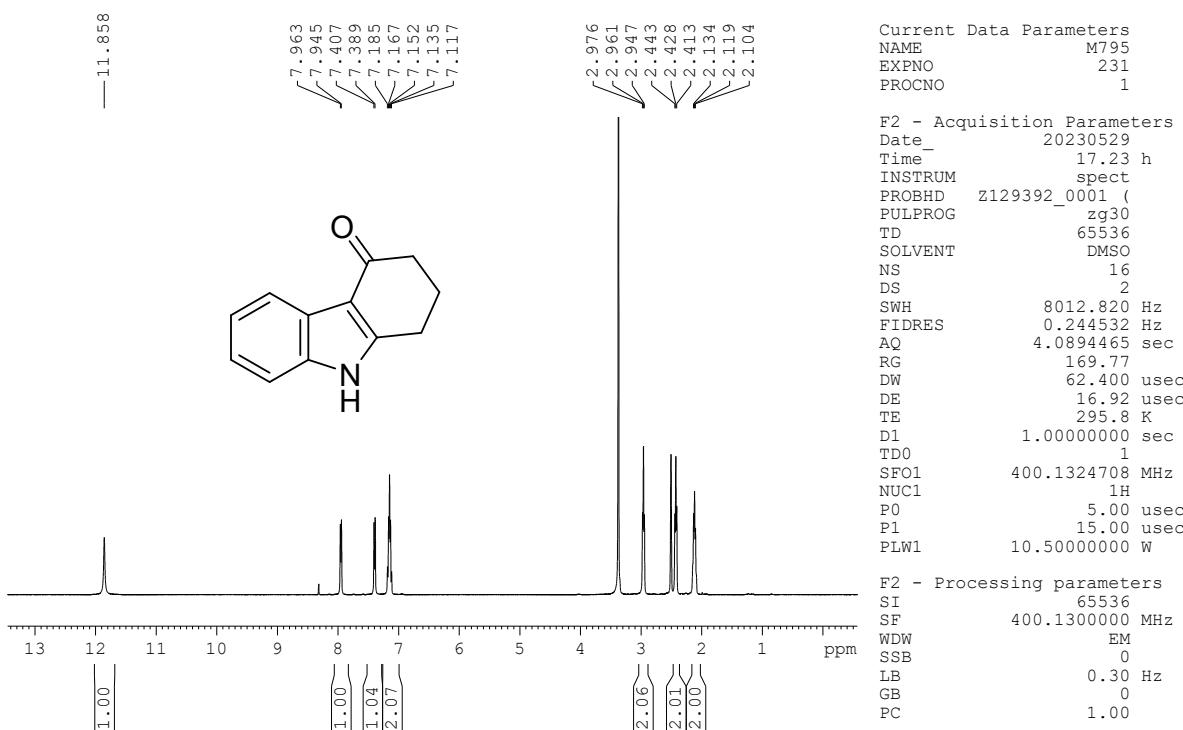


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6s

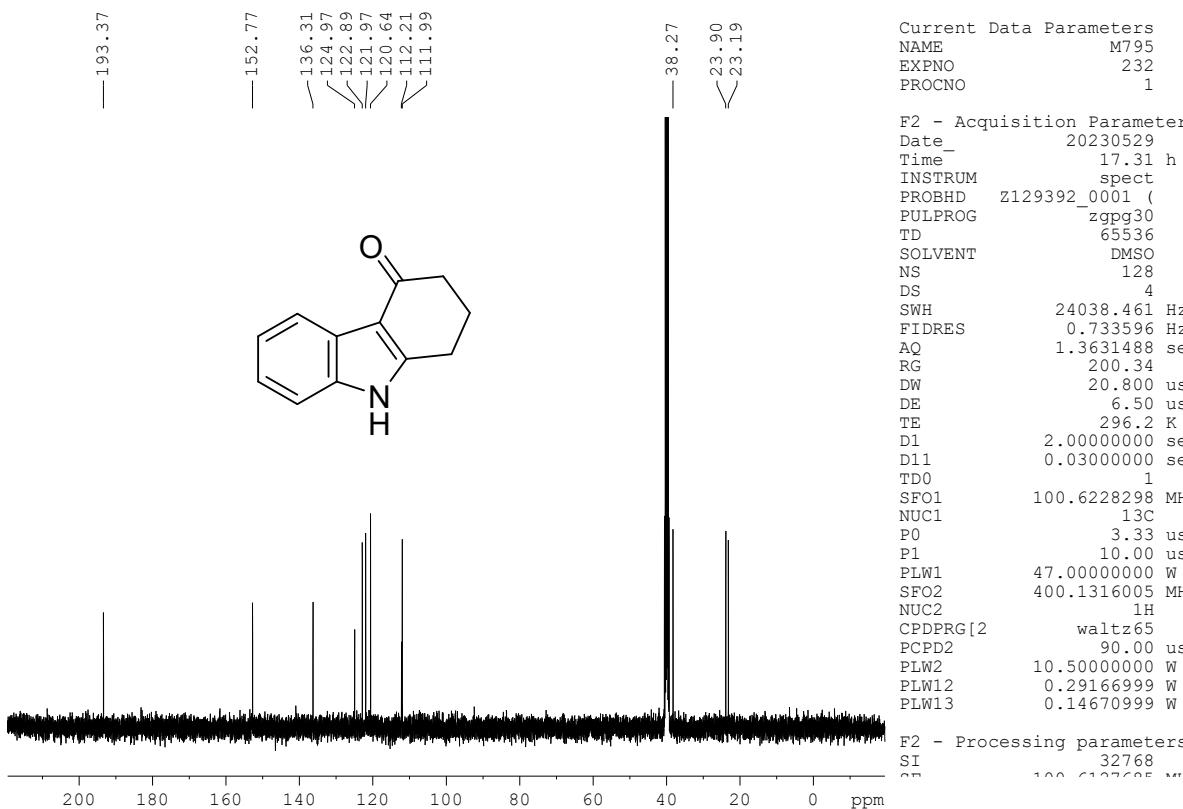


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6s

**1,2,3,9-tetrahydro-4H-carbazol-4-one: 6t**

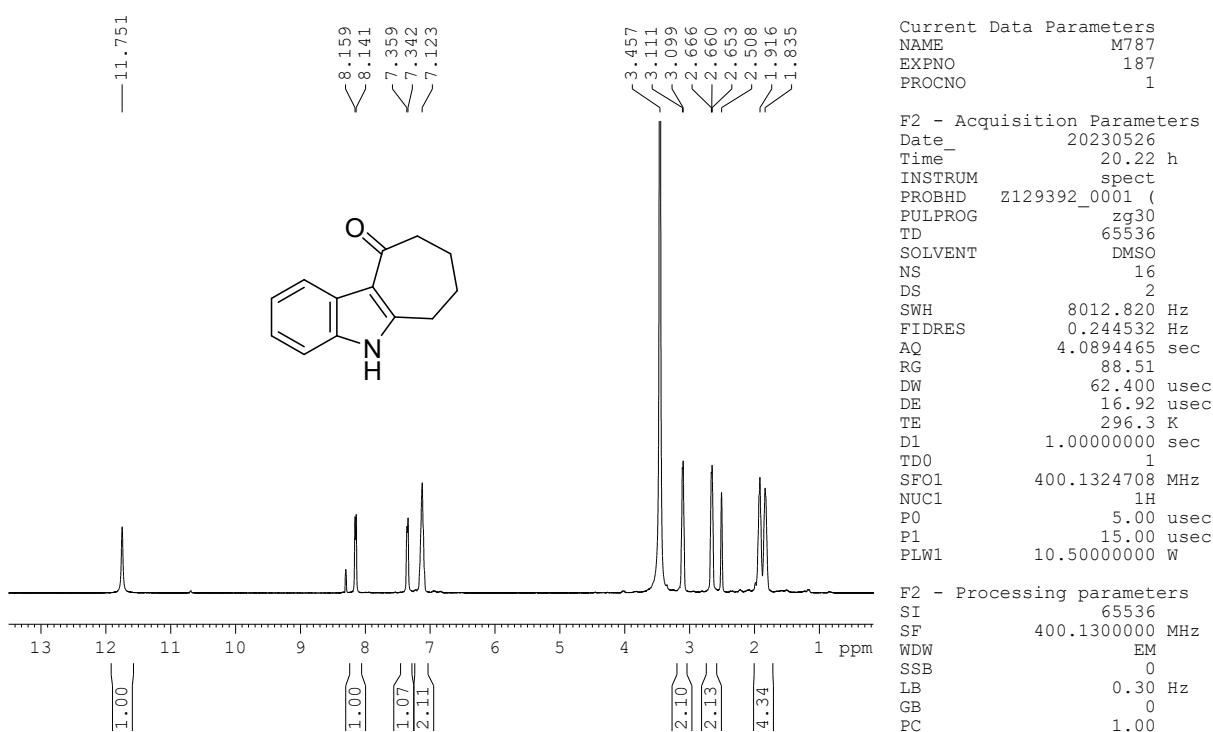


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6t

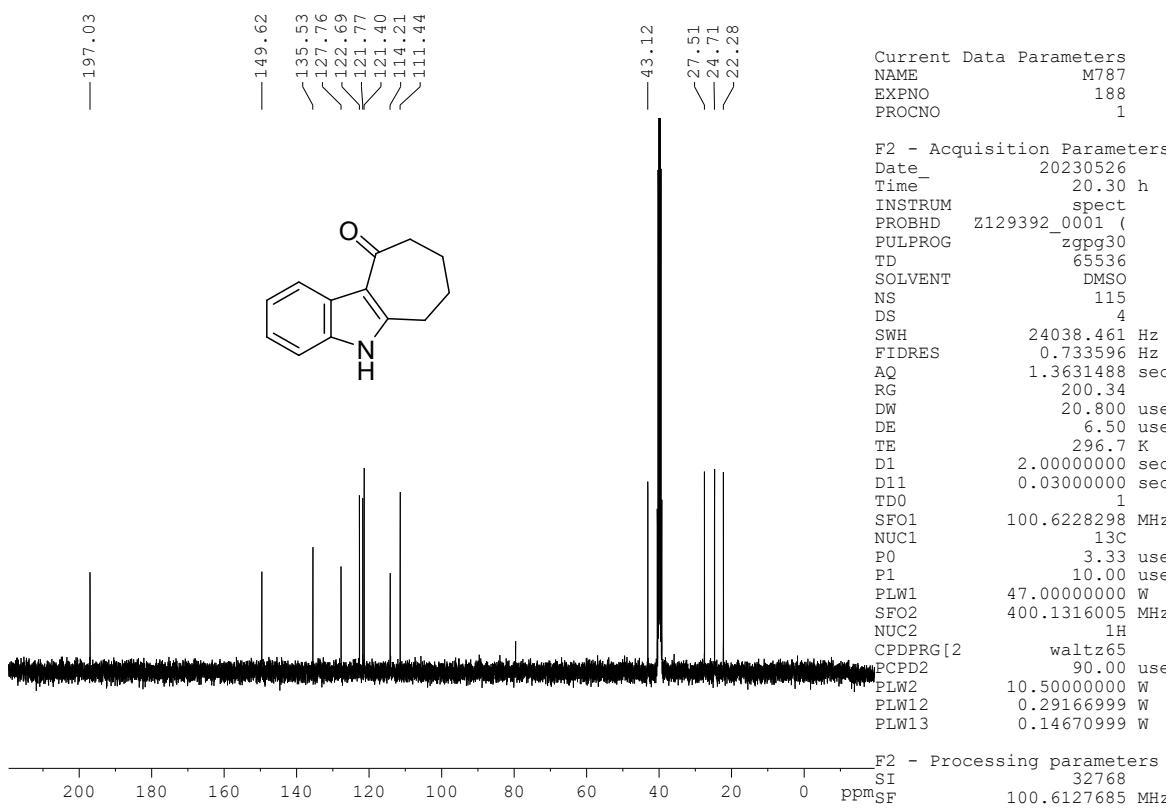


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6t

**6,7,8,9-tetrahydrocyclohepta[b]indol-10(5H)-one: 6u**

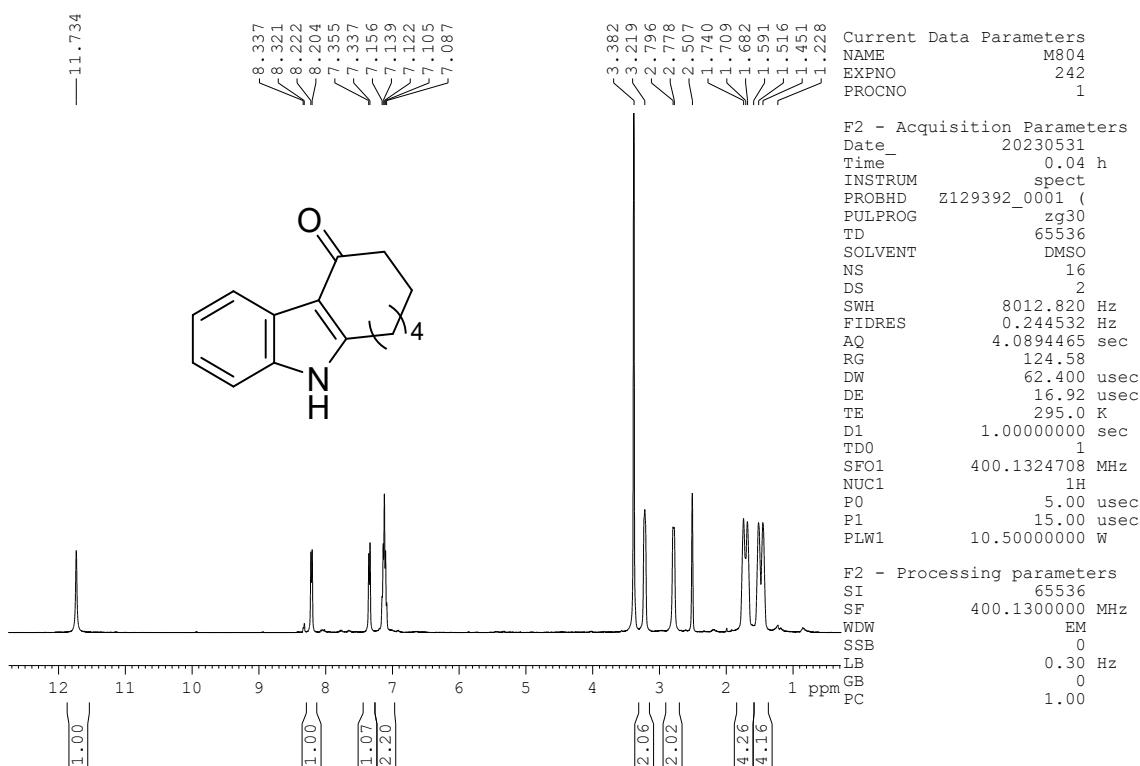


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **6u**

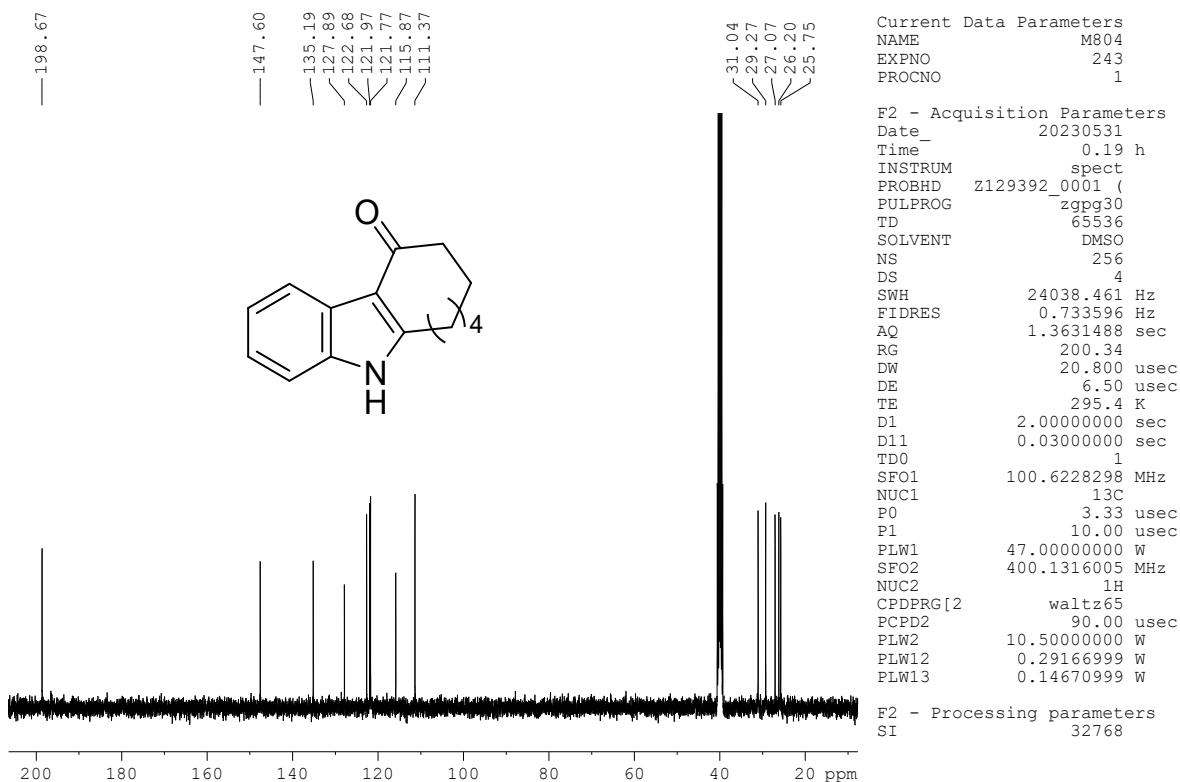


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **6u**

**6,7,8,9,10,11-hexahydrocyclonona[b]indol-12(5H)-one: 6v**

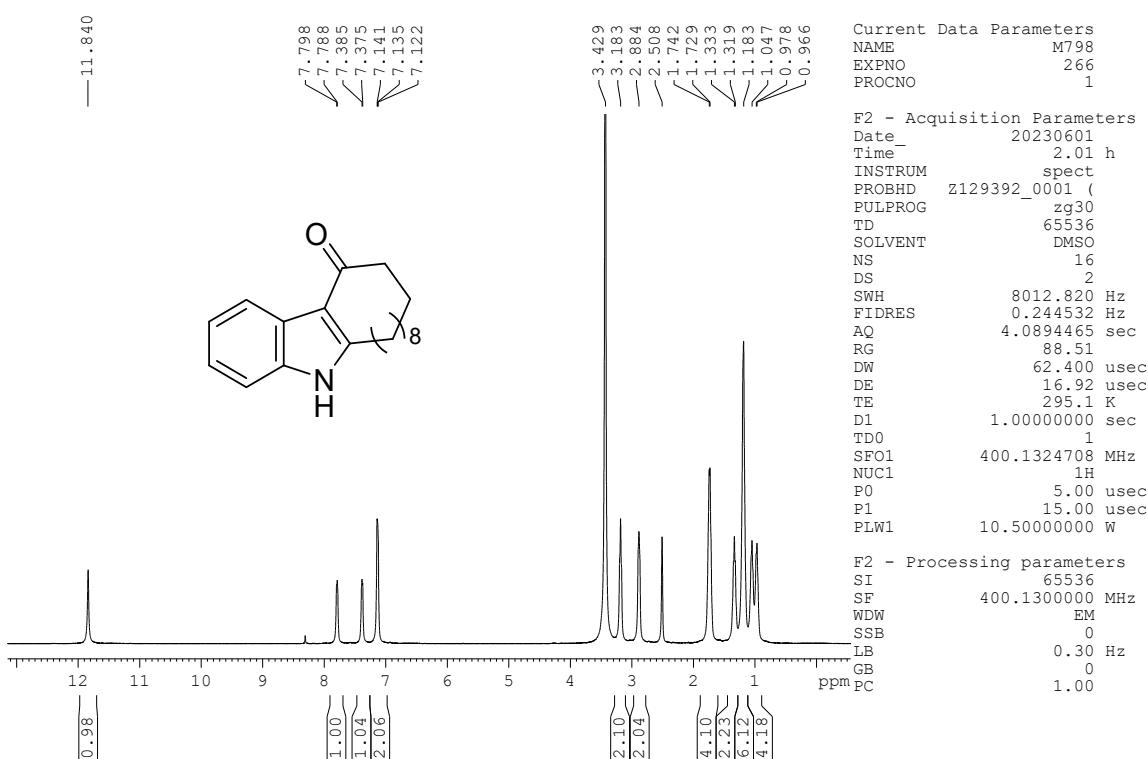


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **6v**

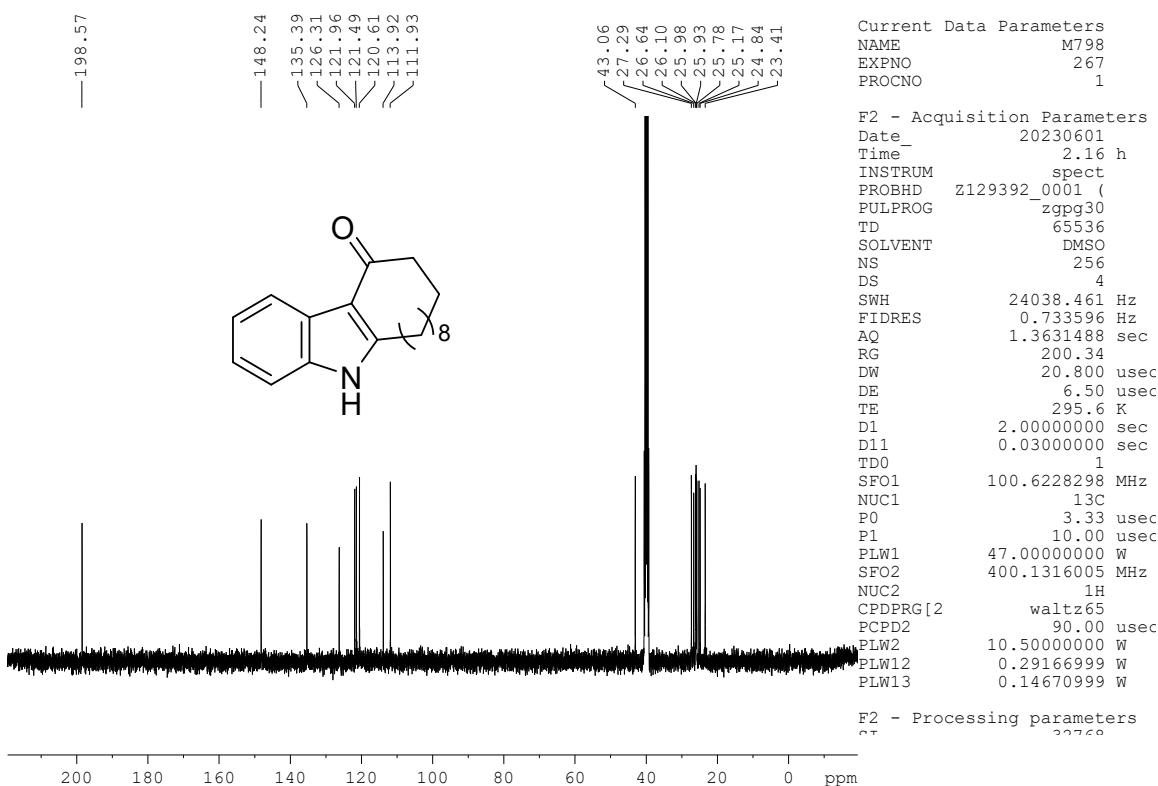


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **6v**

**6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15-decahydrocyclotrideca[b]indol-16(5H)-one: 6w**

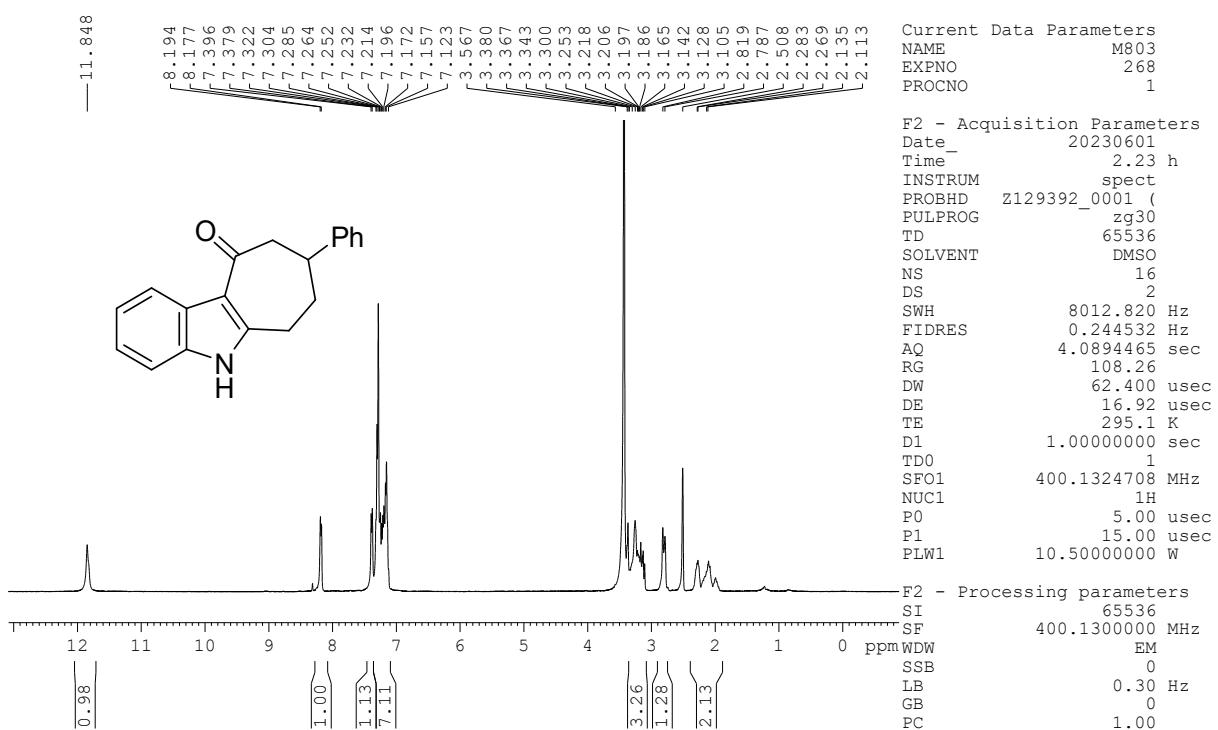


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6w

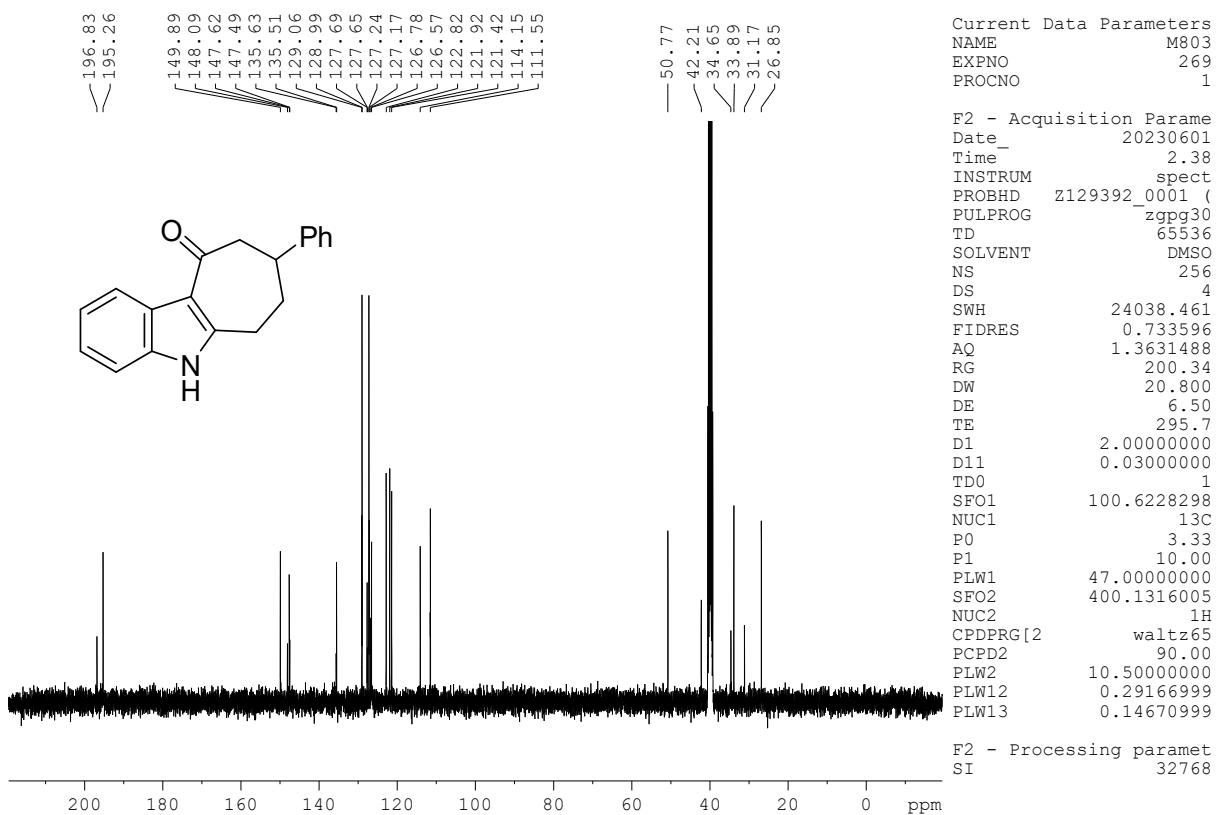


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6w

**8-phenyl-6,7,8,9-tetrahydrocyclohepta[b]indol-10(5H)-one: 6x**

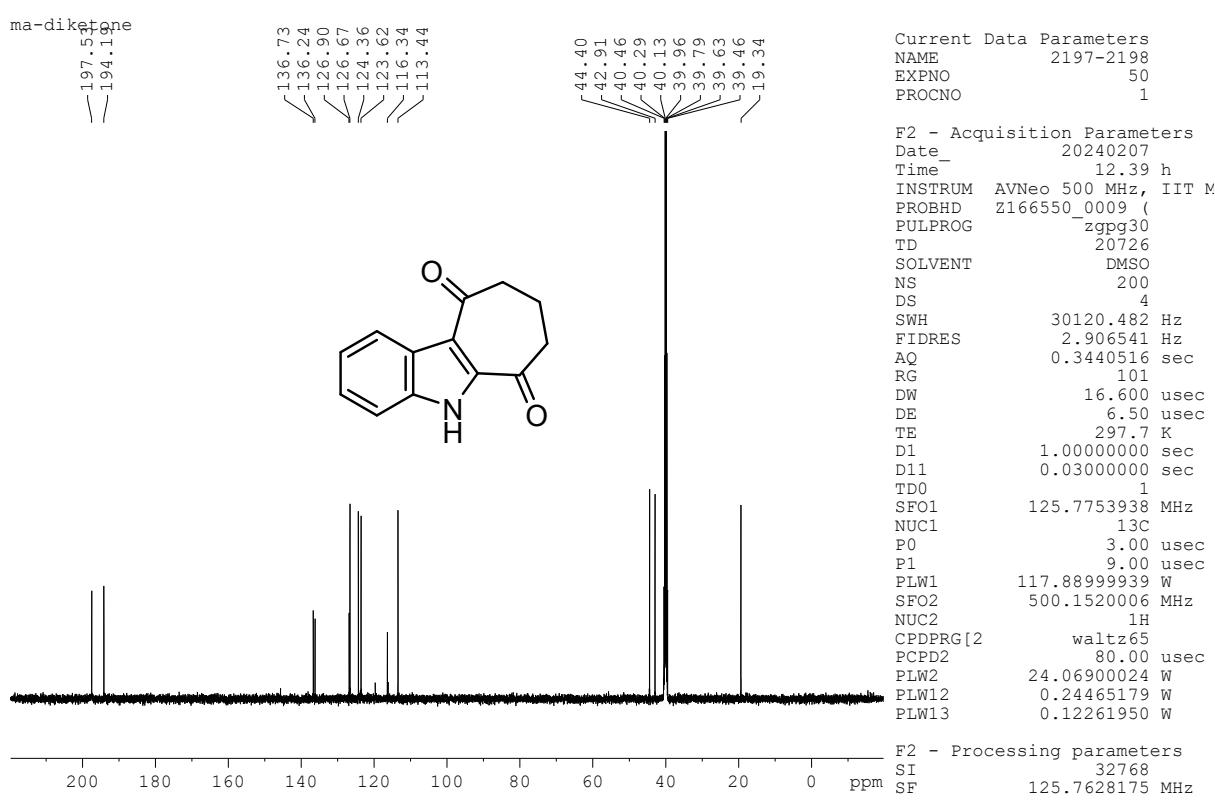
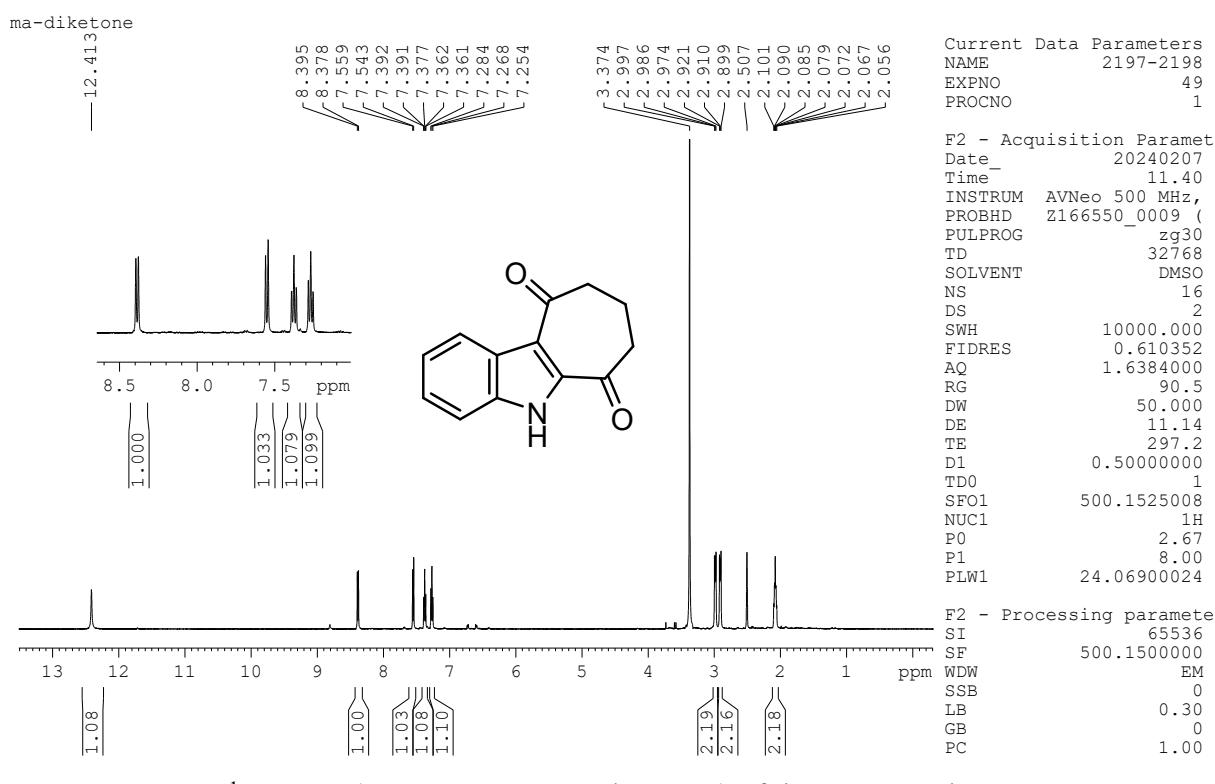


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6x

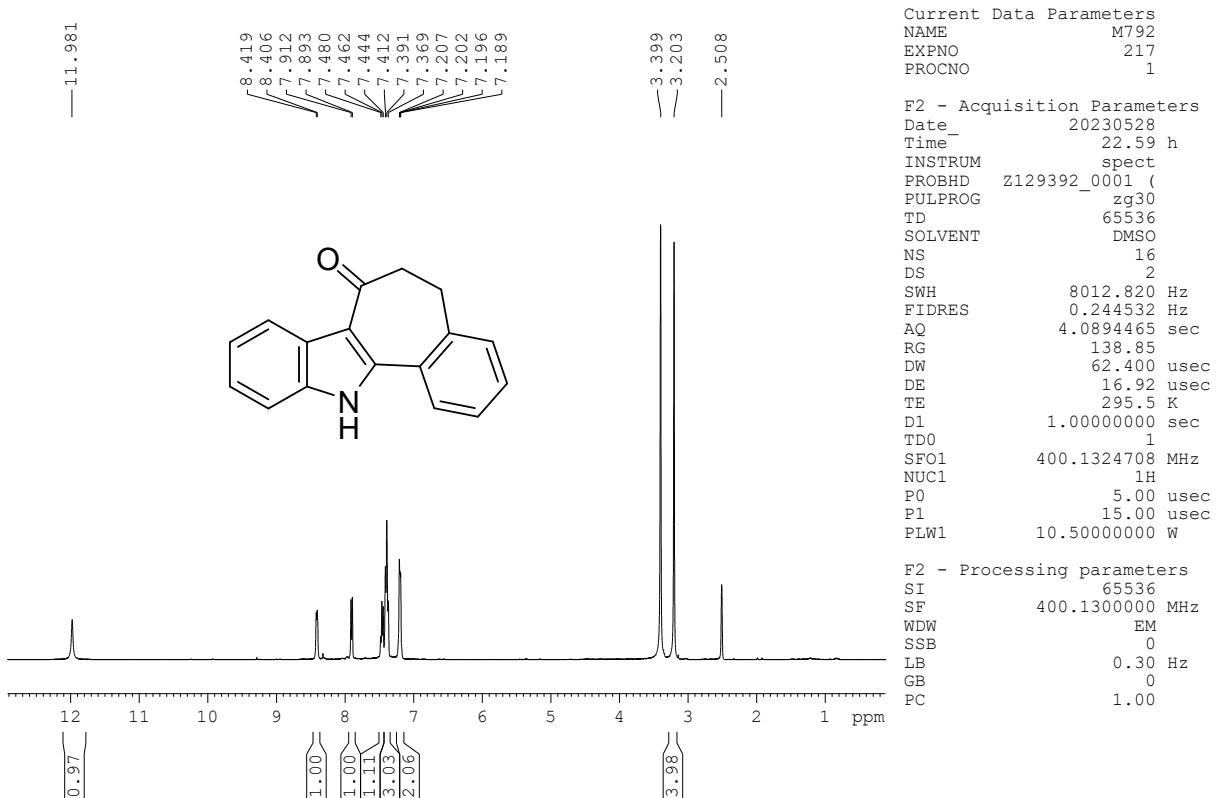


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6x

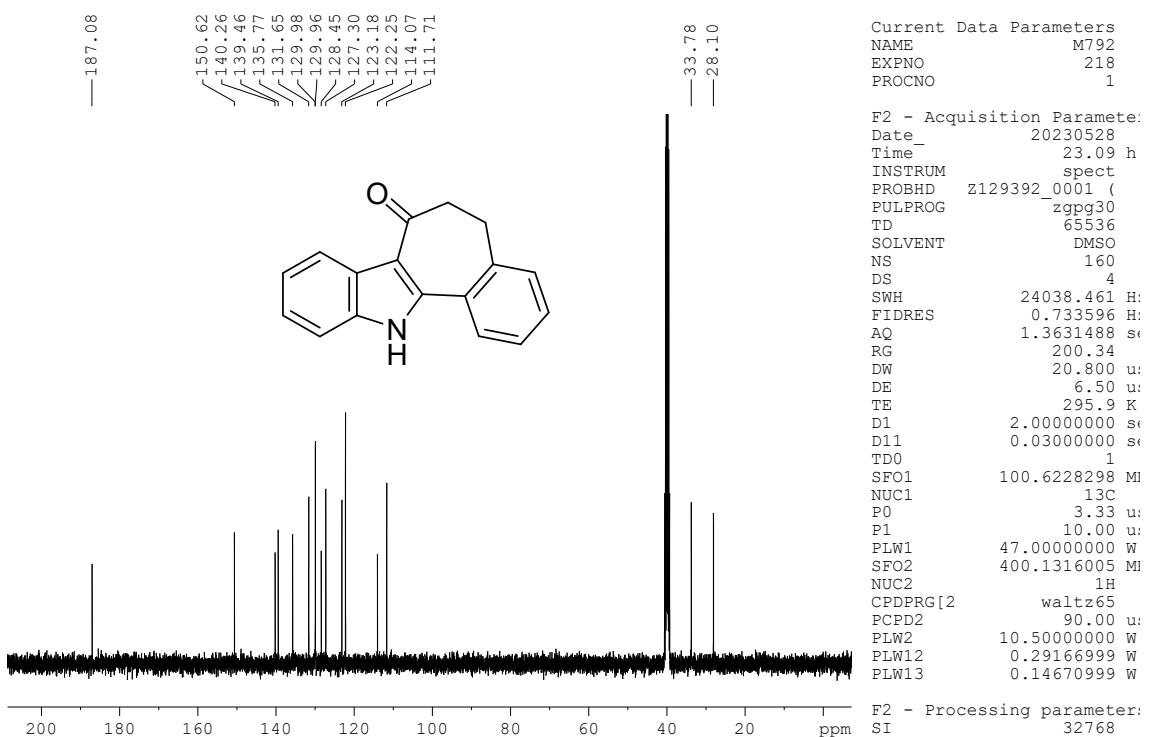
### 8,9-dihydrocyclohepta[b]indole-6,10(5H,7H)-dione: 6y



**5,12-dihydrobenzo[6,7]cyclohepta[1,2-b]indol-7(6H)-one: 6z**

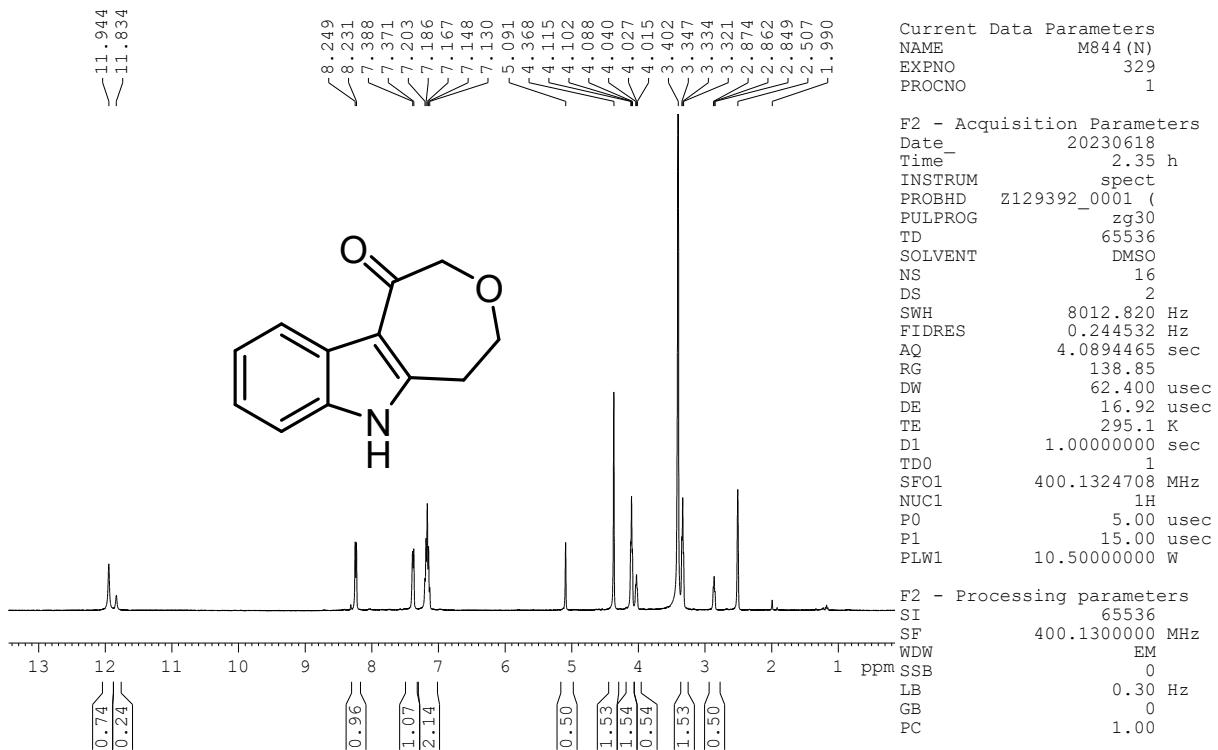


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $\text{d}_6$ , 24 °C) of the compound **6z**

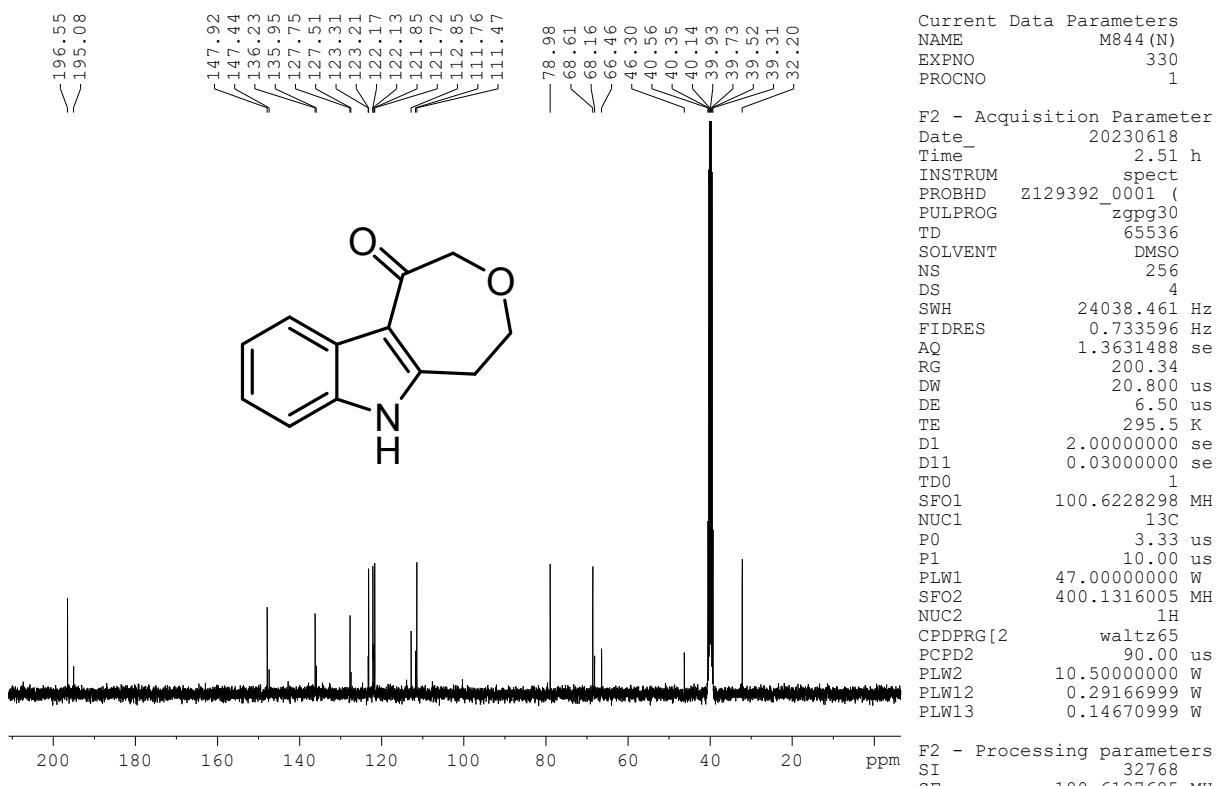


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $\text{d}_6$ , 24 °C) of the compound **6z**

**5,6-dihydro-2H-oxepino[4,5-b]indol-1(4H)-one: 6aa**

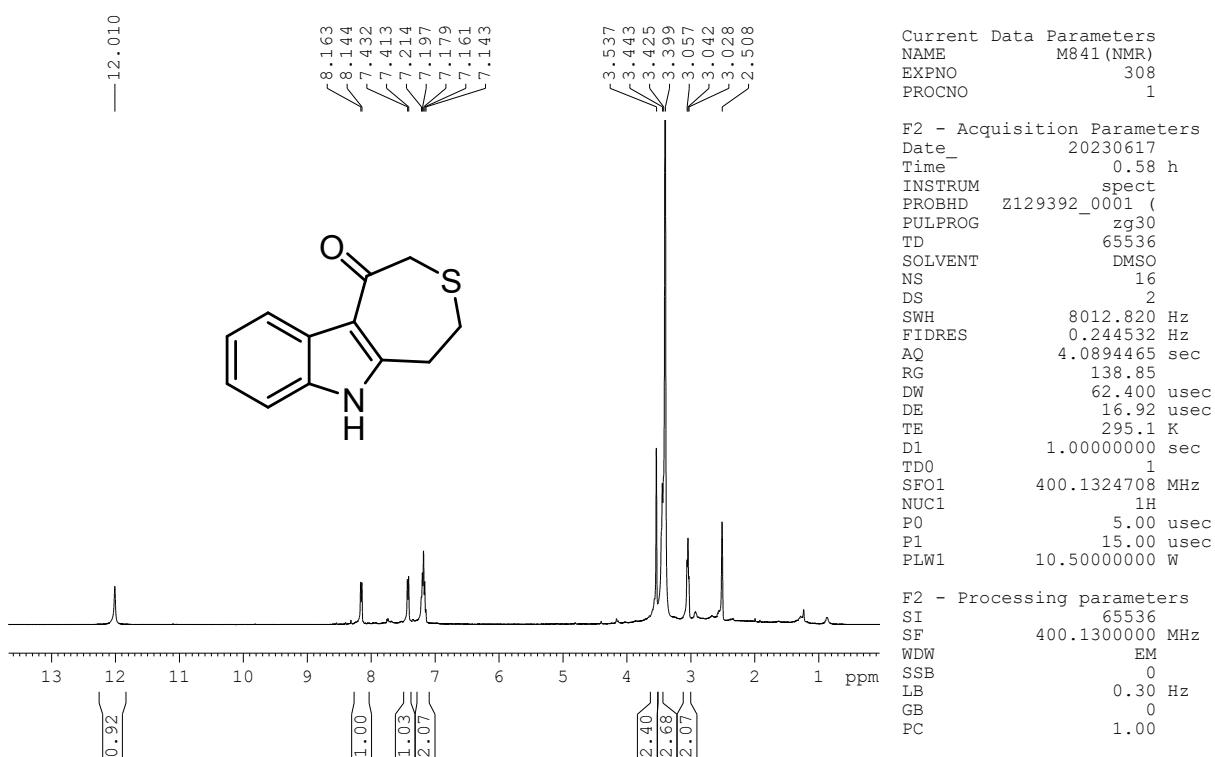


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6aa

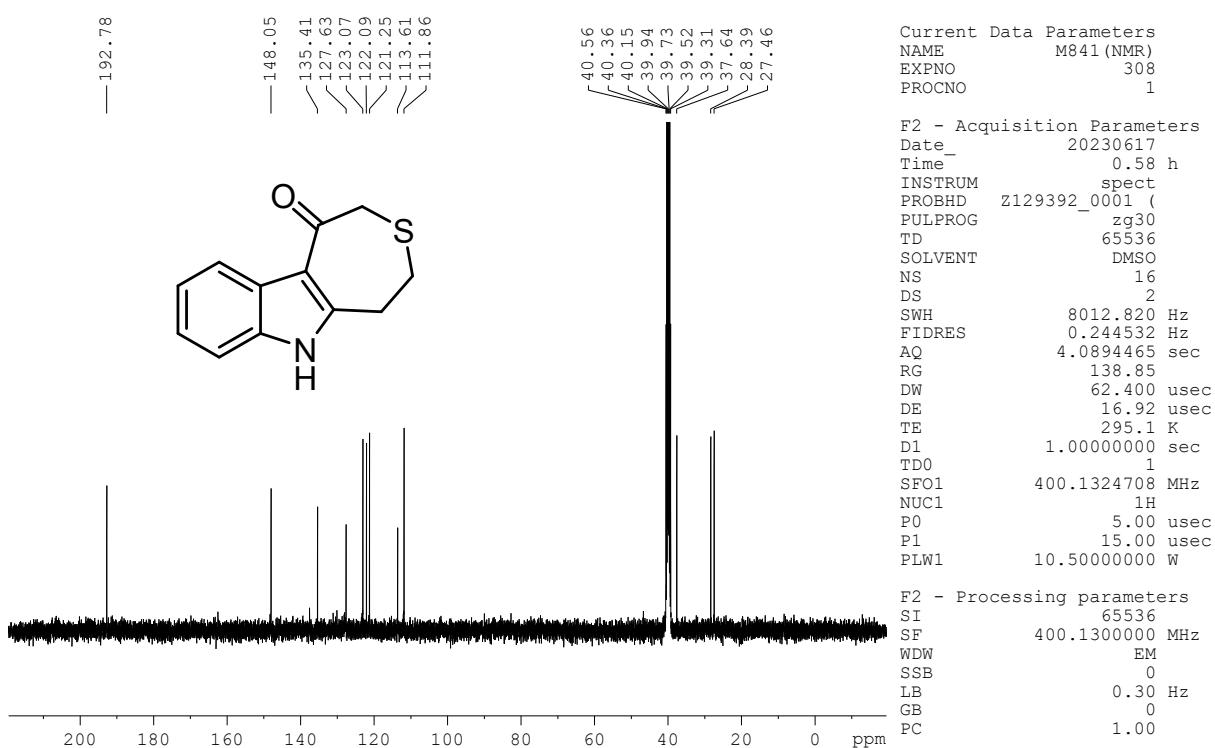


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 6aa

**5,6-dihydro-2H-thiepino[4,5-b]indol-1(4H)-one: 6ab**

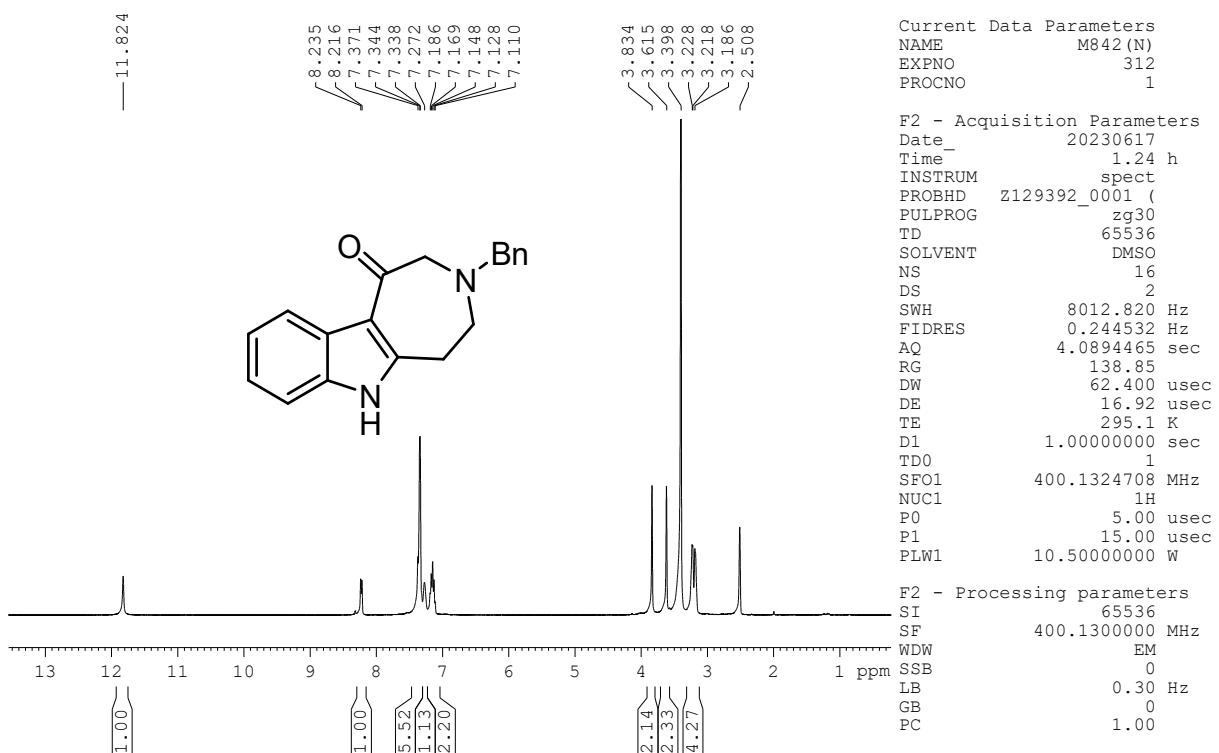


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $\text{d}_6$ , 24 °C) of the compound **6ab**

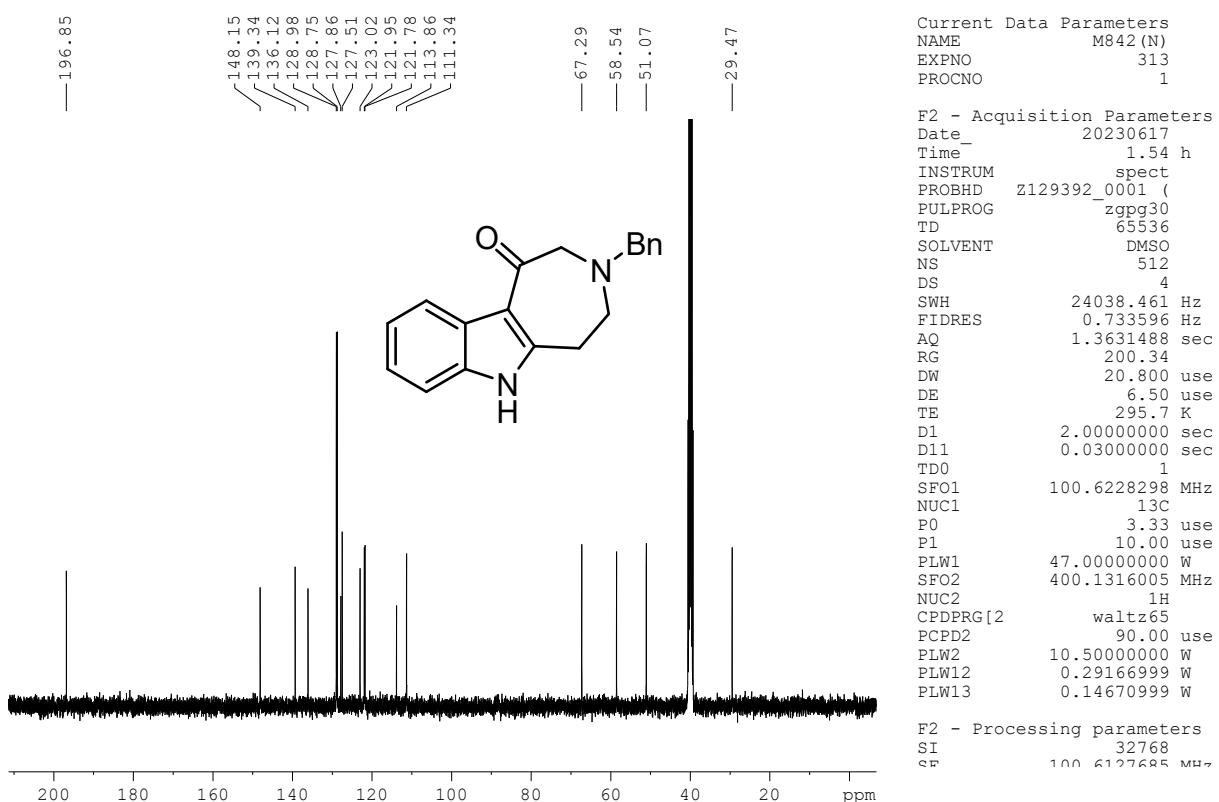


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $\text{d}_6$ , 24 °C) of the compound **6ab**

### 3-benzyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydroazepino[4,5-b]indol-1(2H)-one: 6ac

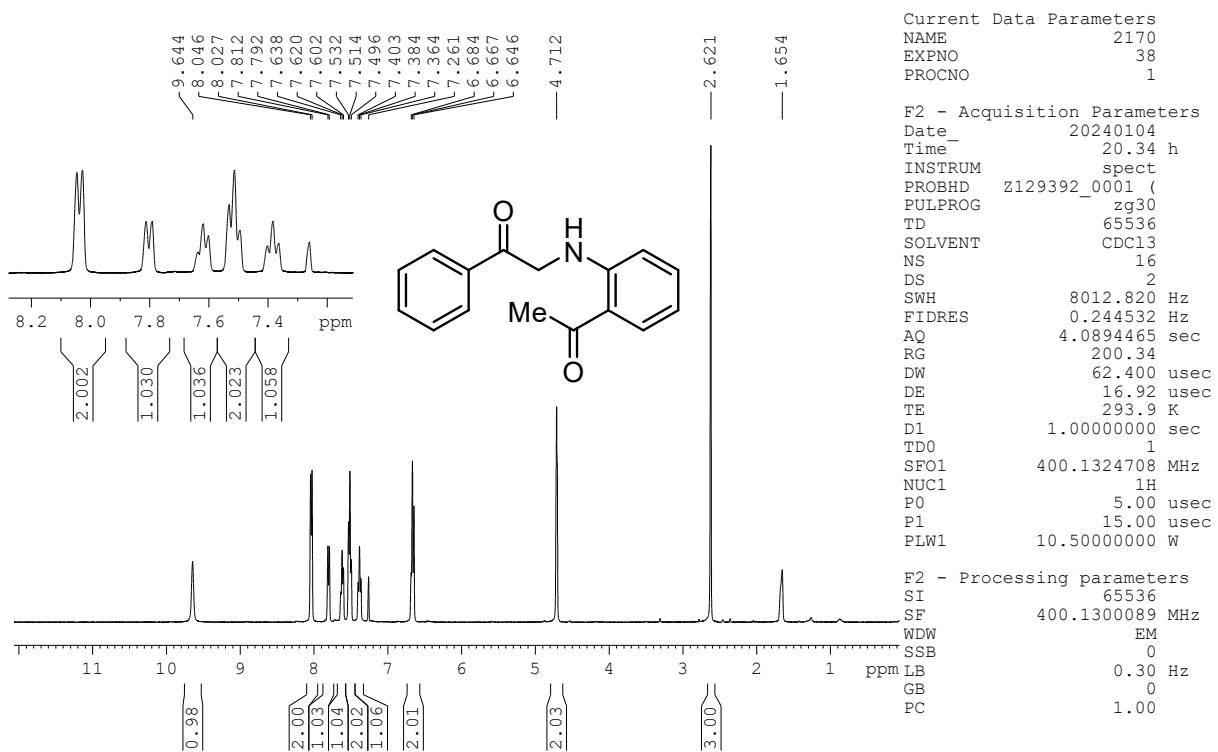


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **6ac**

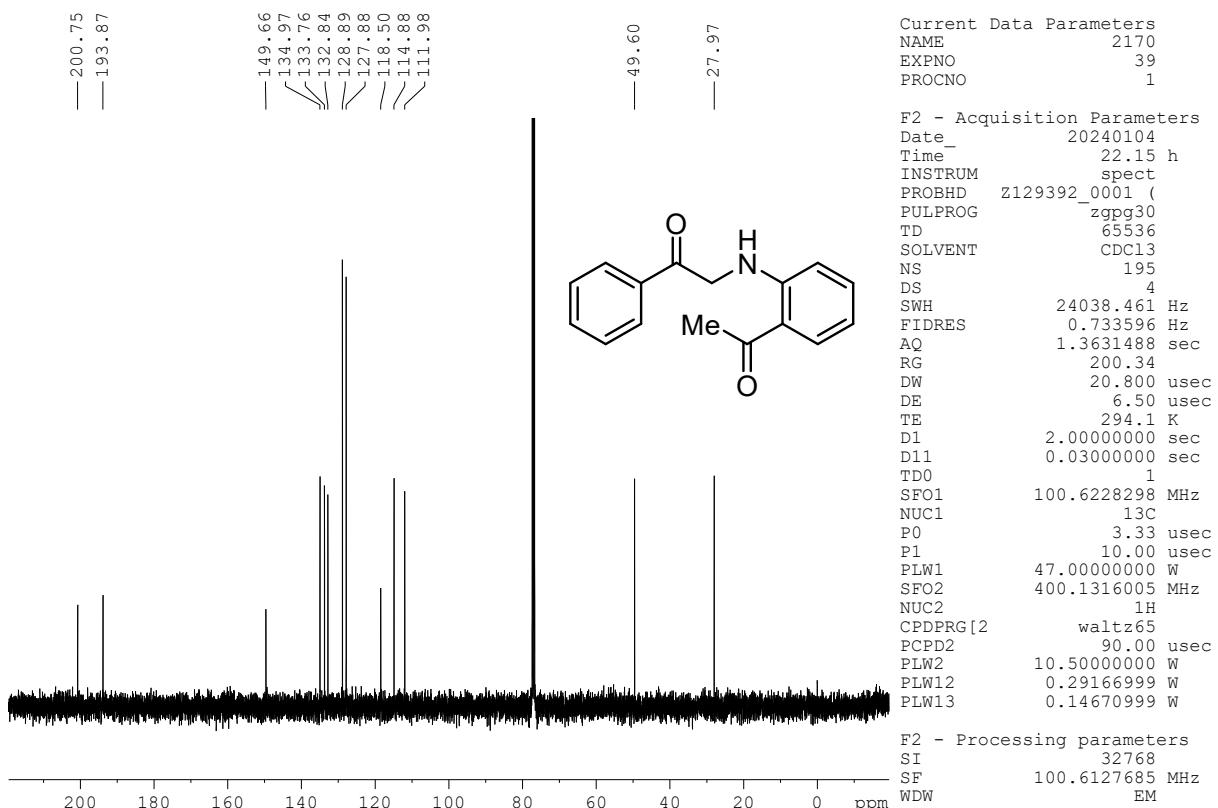


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $\text{d}_6$ , 24 °C) of the compound **6ac**

**2-((2-acetylphenyl)amino)-1-phenylethan-1-one: I**

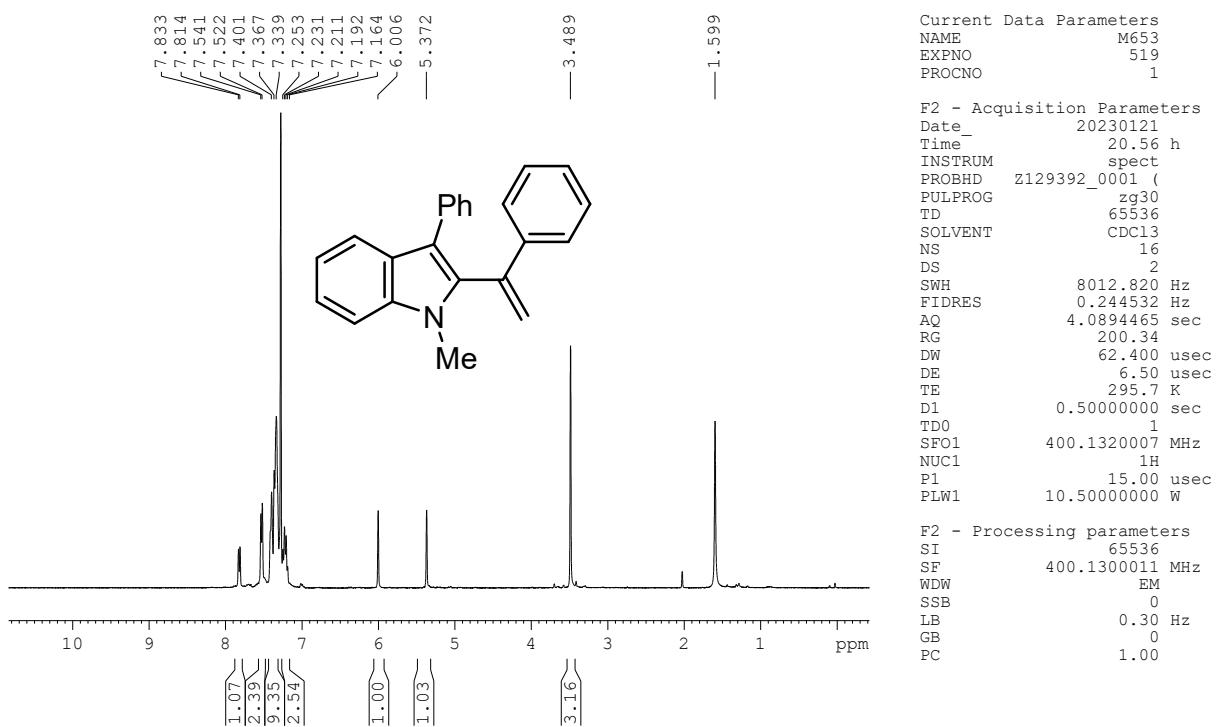


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound I

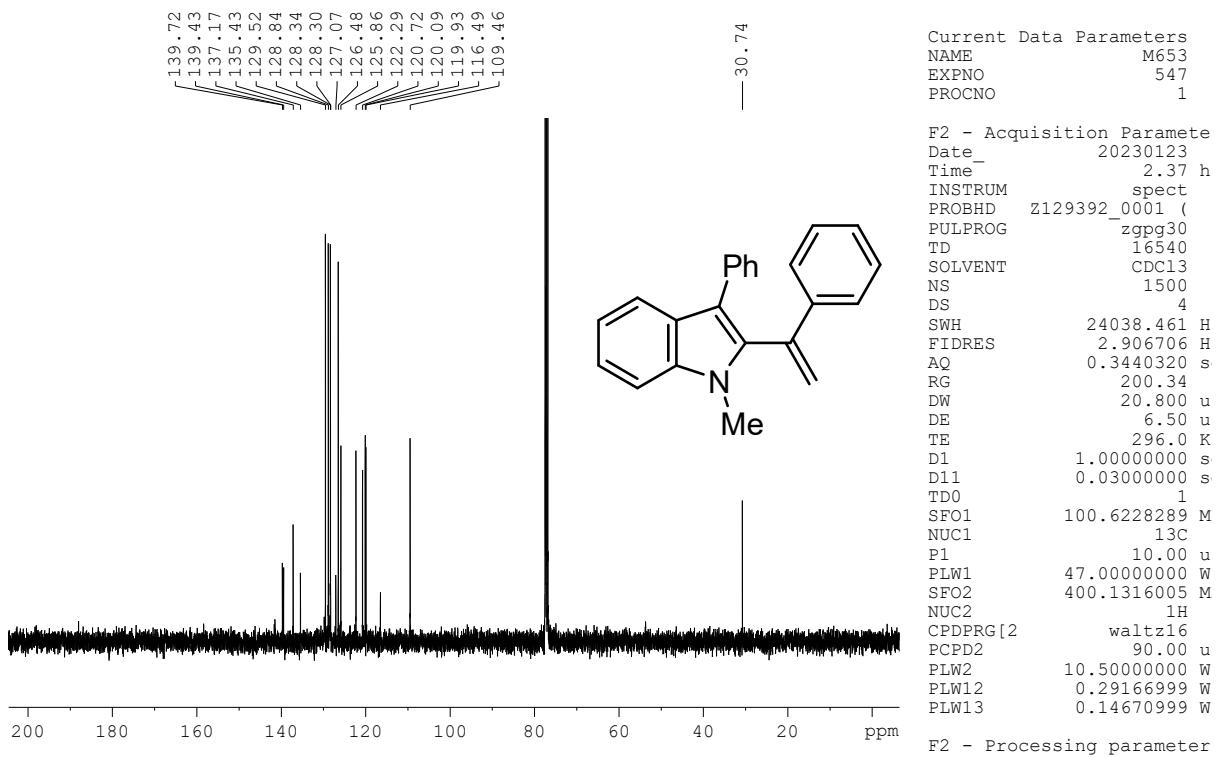


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound I

**1-methyl-3-phenyl-2-(1-phenylvinyl)-1H-indole: 8a**

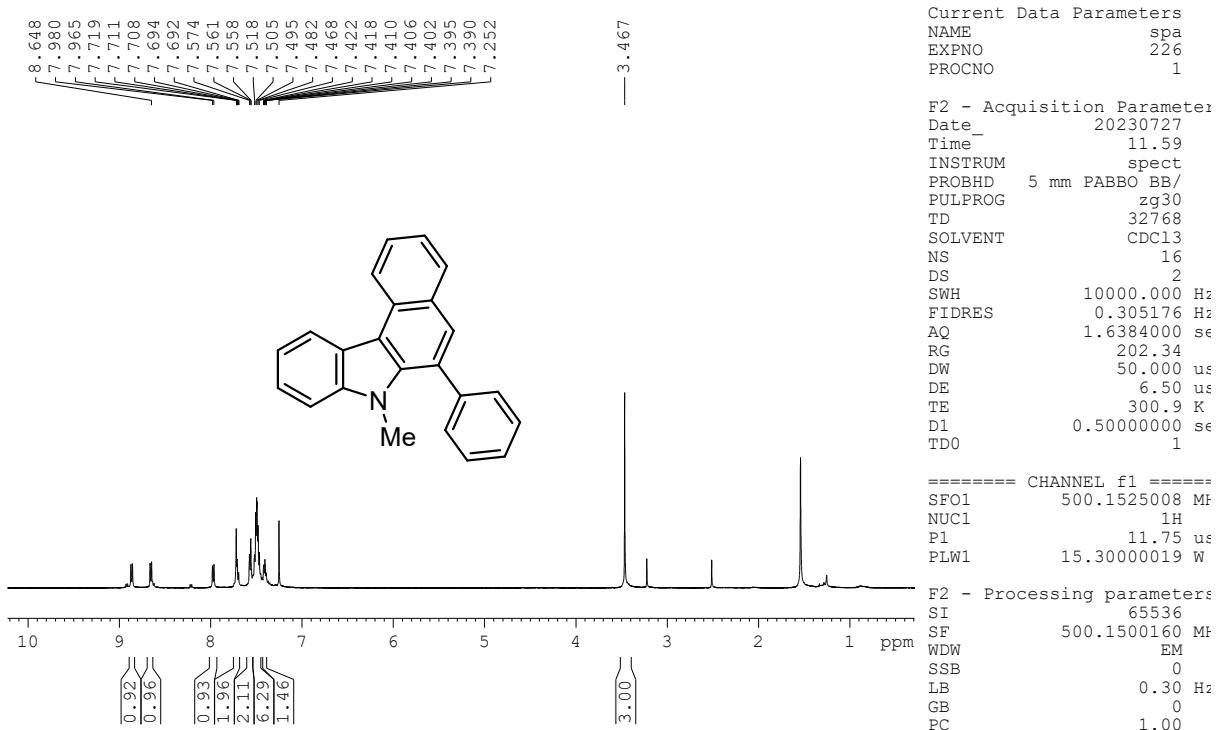


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 8a

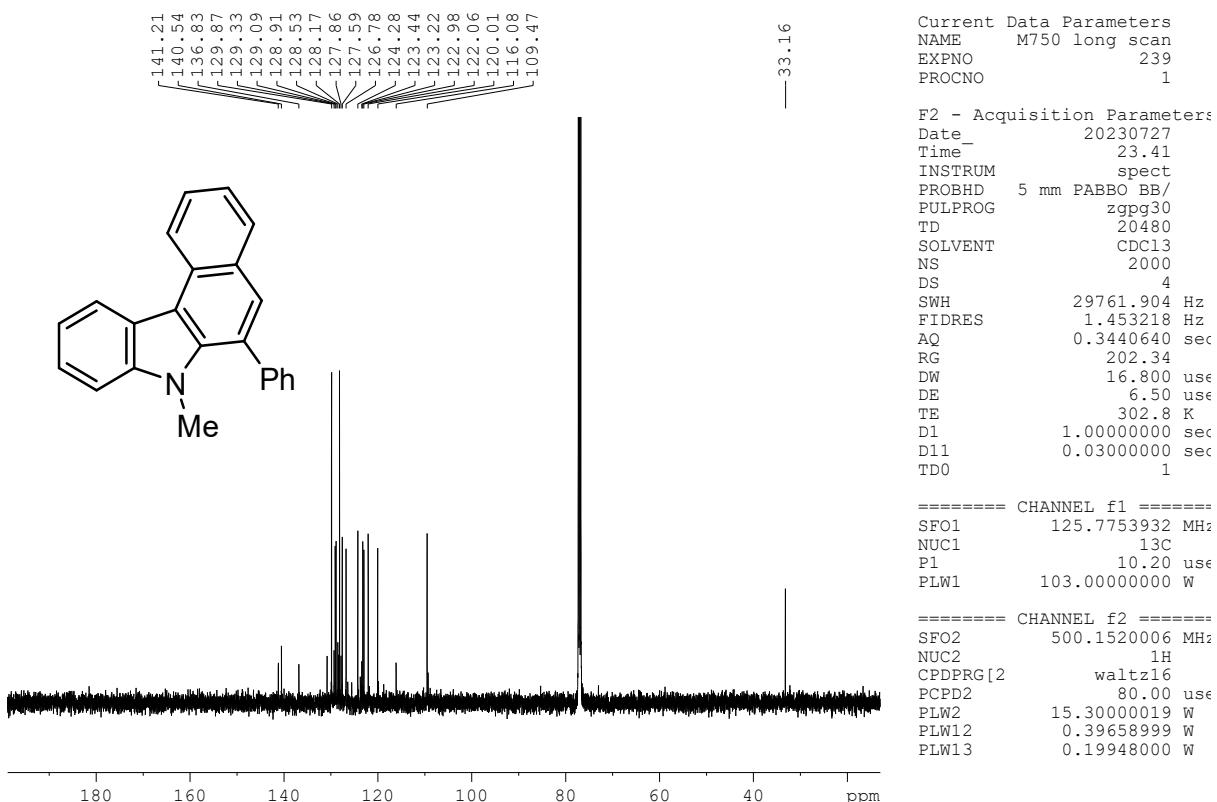


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 8a

**7-methyl-6-phenyl-7H-benzo[c]carbazole: 9**

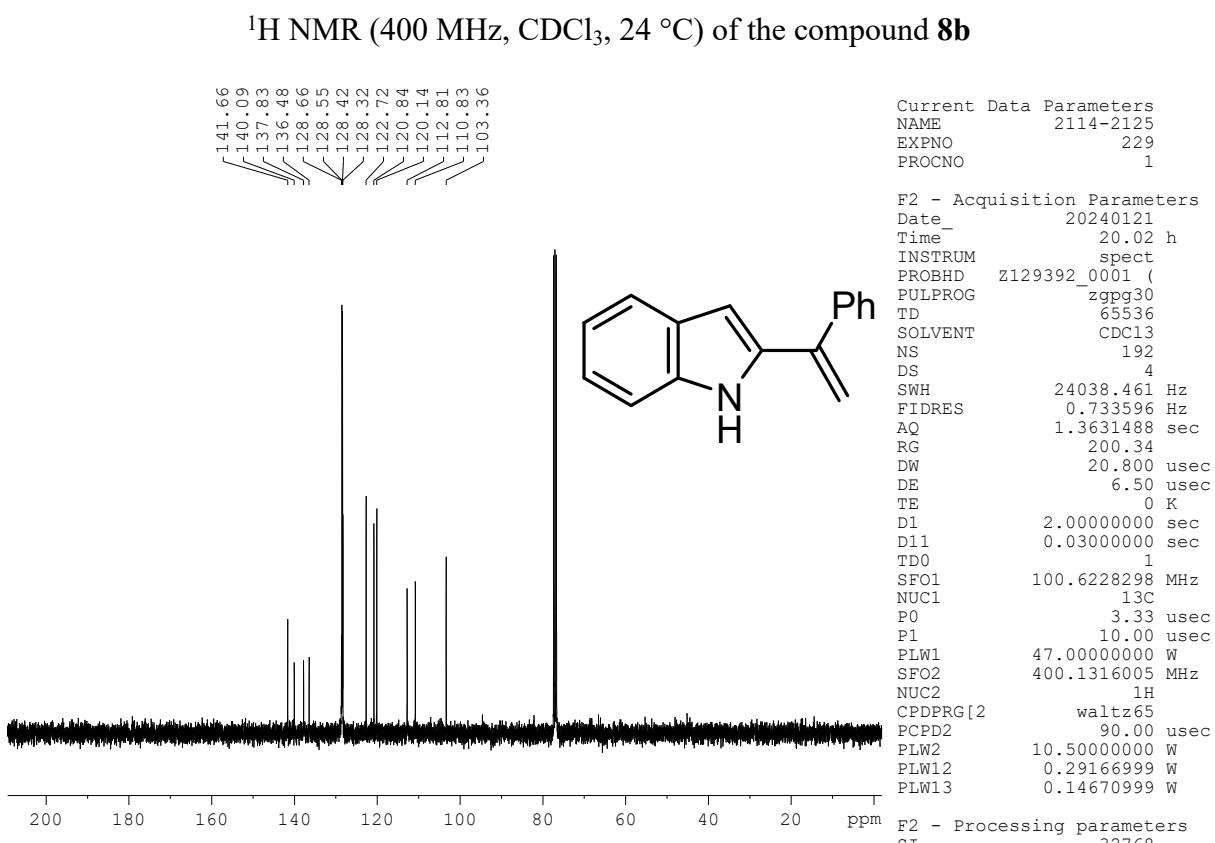
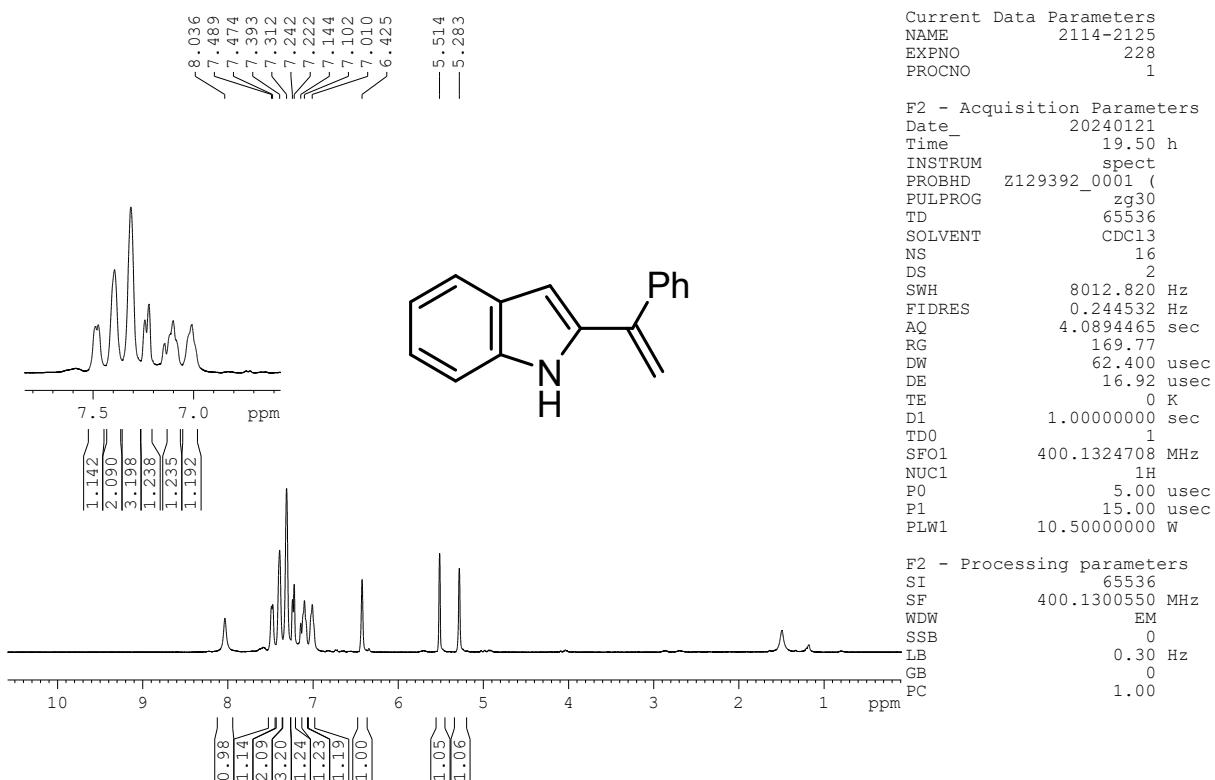


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 9



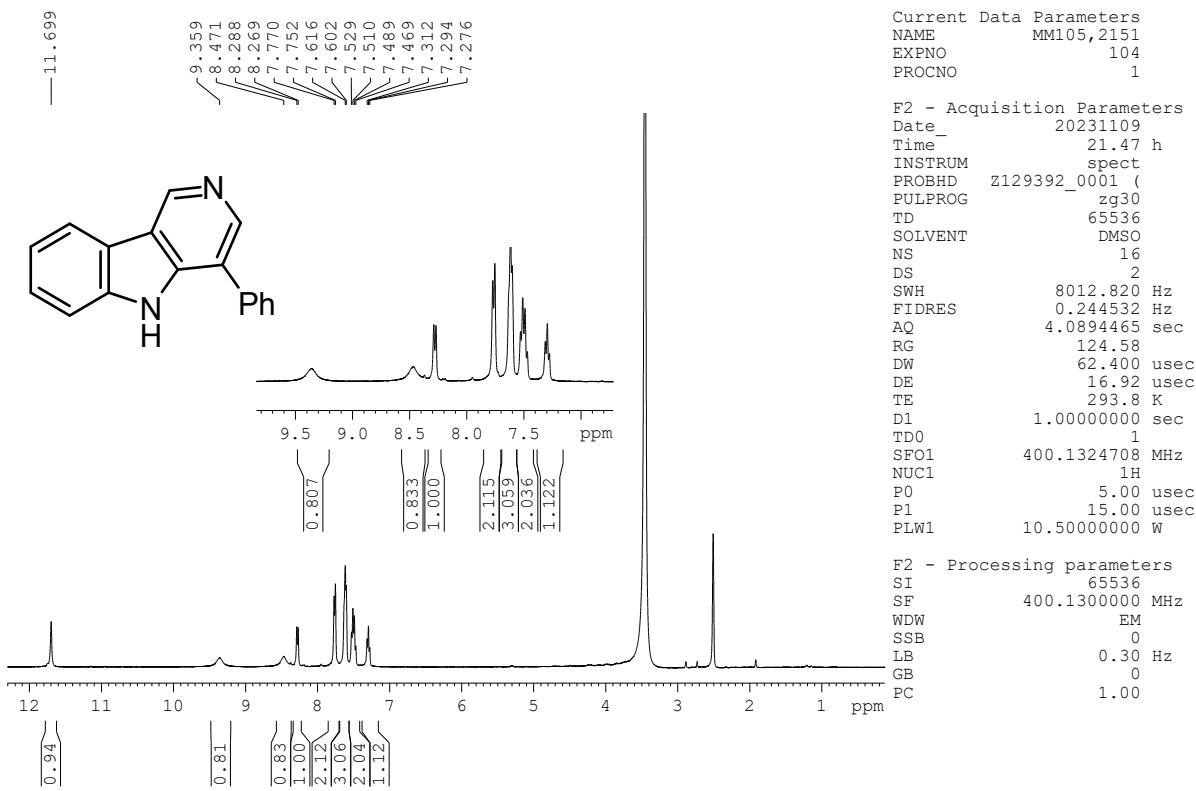
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 9

### 2-(1-phenylvinyl)-1H-indole: 8b

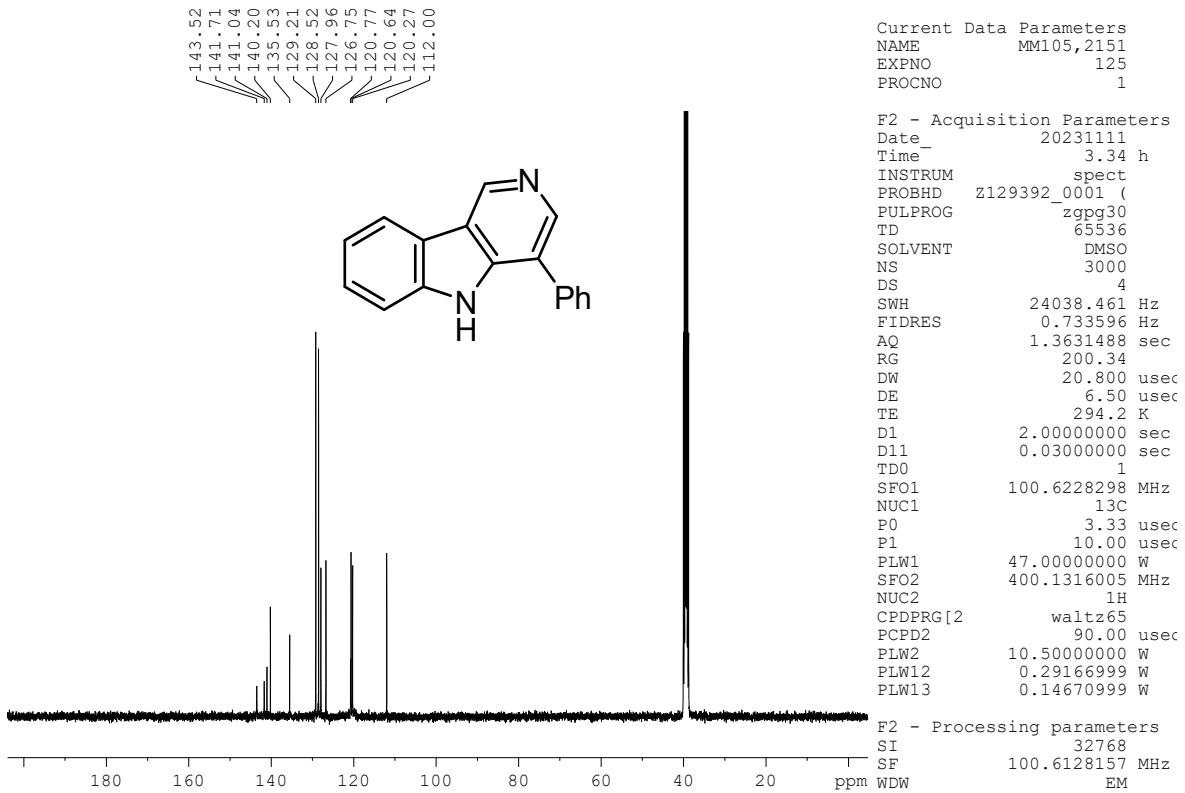


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **8b**

## **4-phenyl-5H-pyrido[4,3-b]indole: 10**

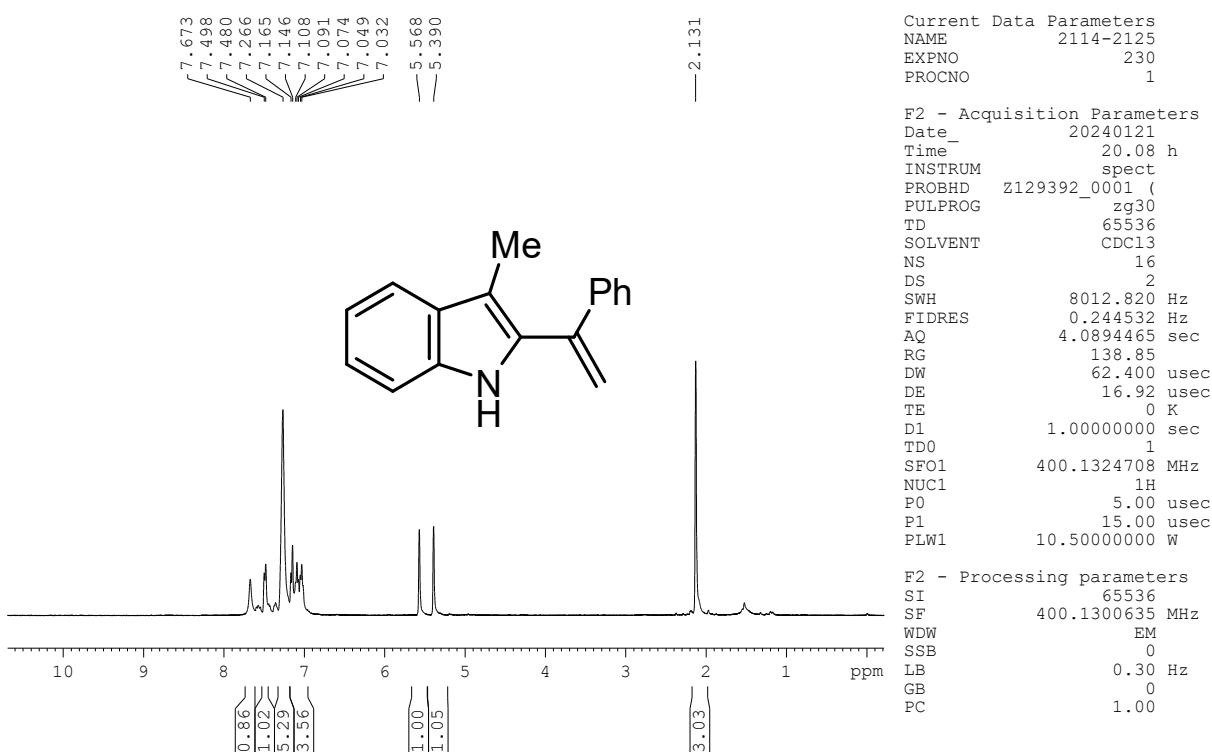


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **10**

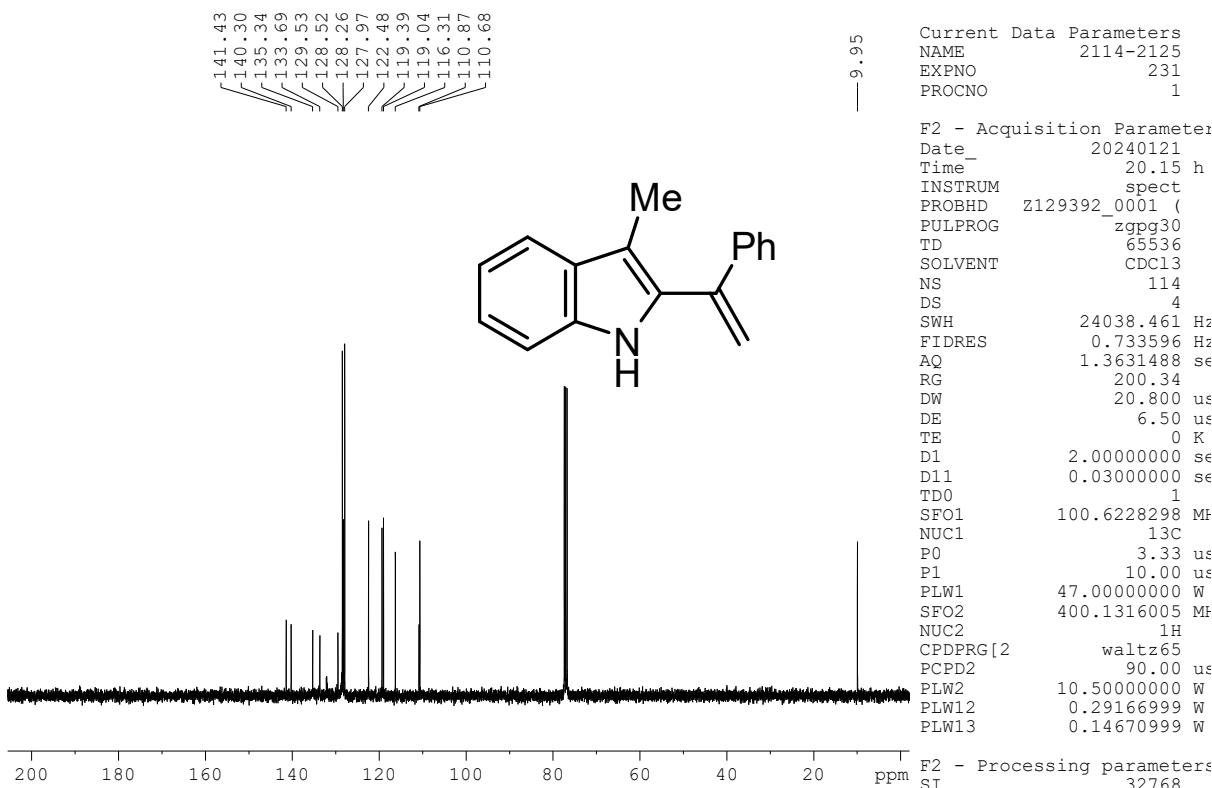


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **10**

**3-methyl-2-(1-phenylvinyl)-1H-indole: 8c**

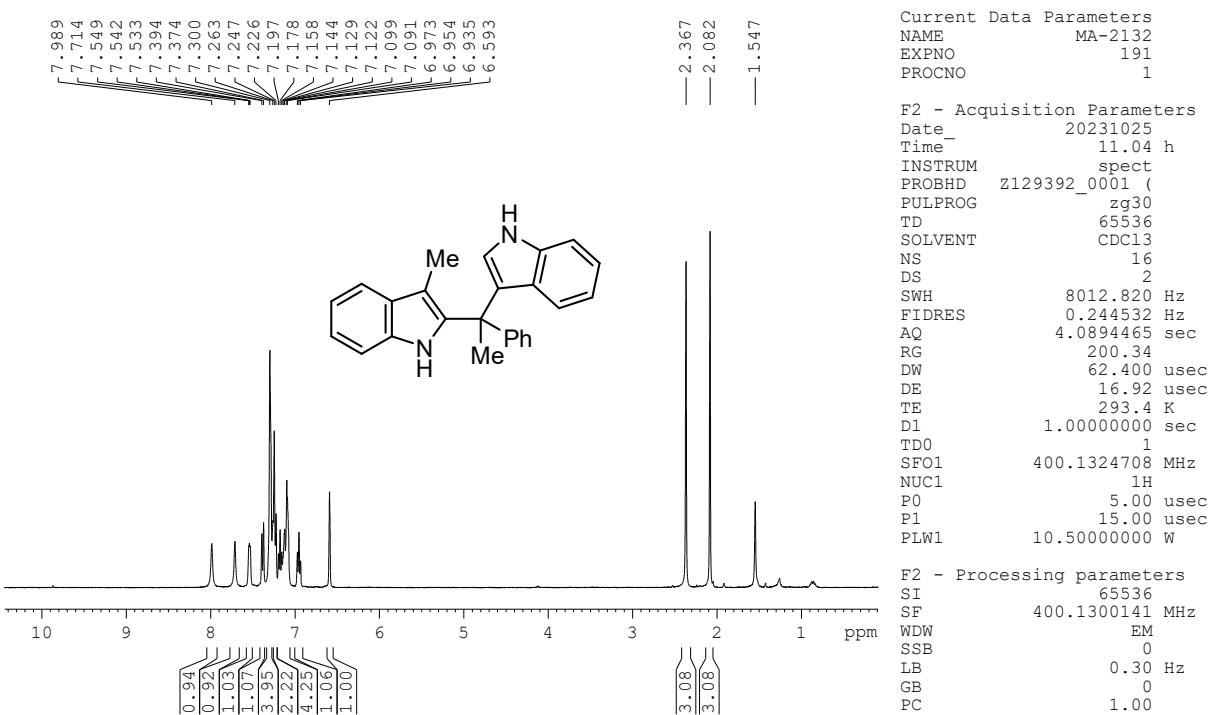


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 8c

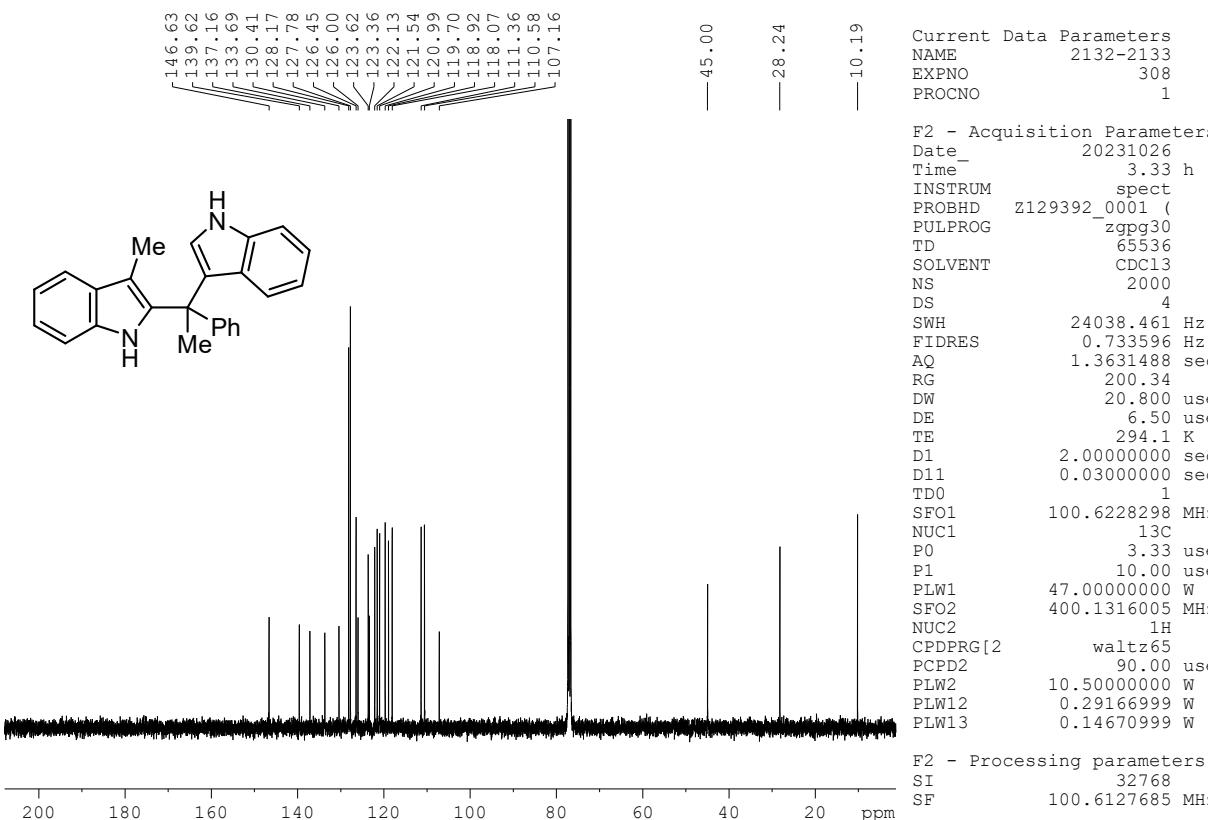


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 8c

**2-(1-(1H-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethyl)-3-methyl-1H-indole: 11**

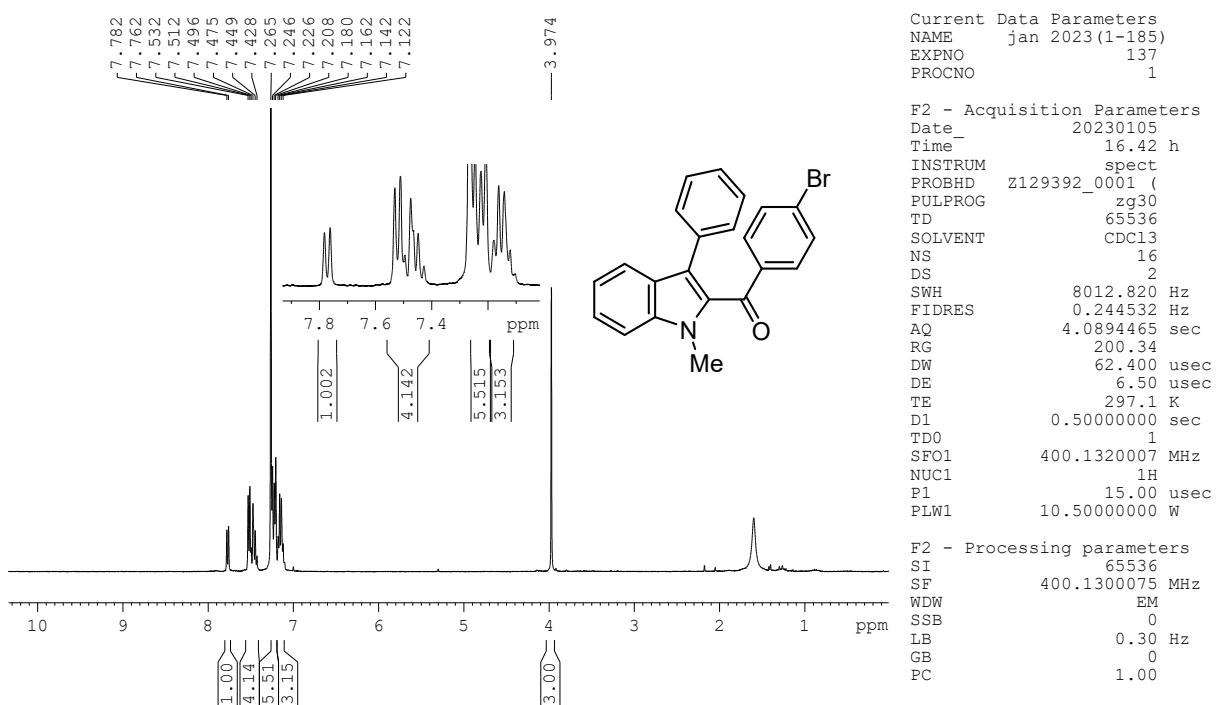


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 11

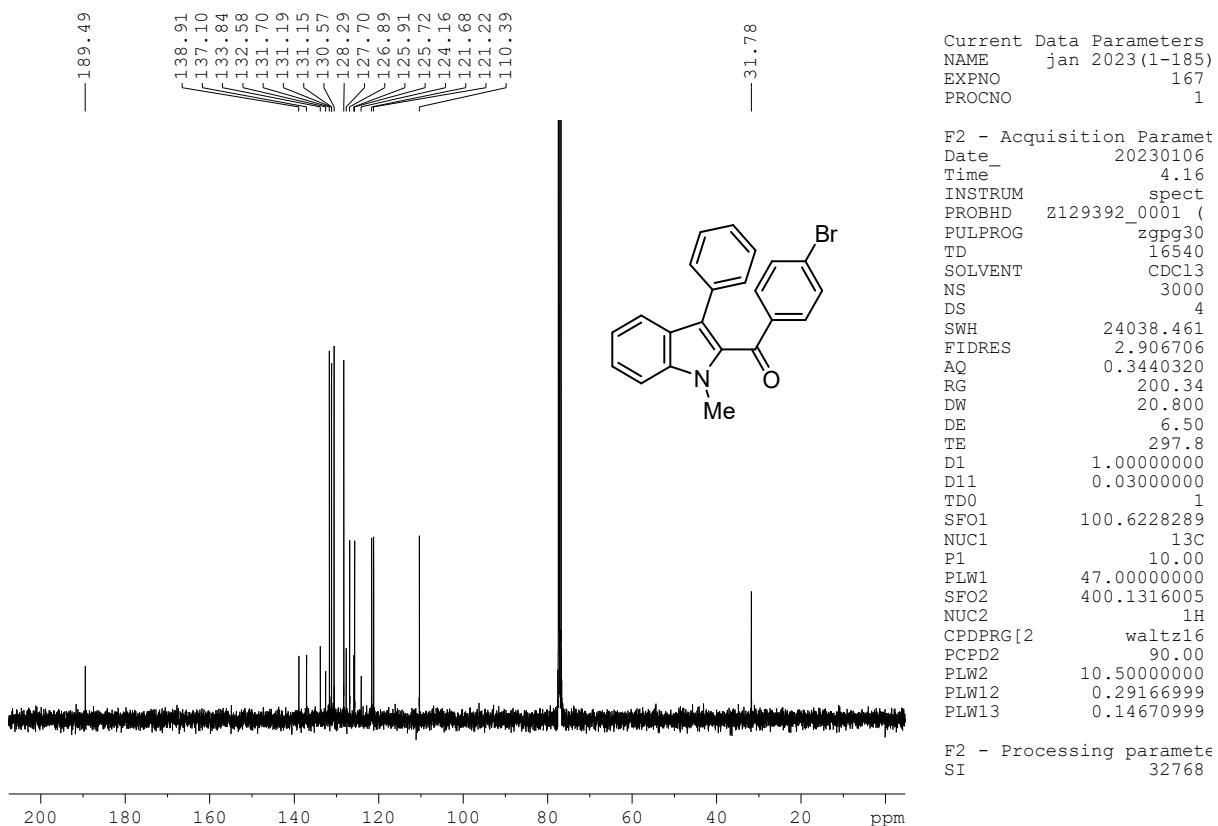


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 11

**(4-bromophenyl)(1-methyl-3-phenyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methanone: 12**

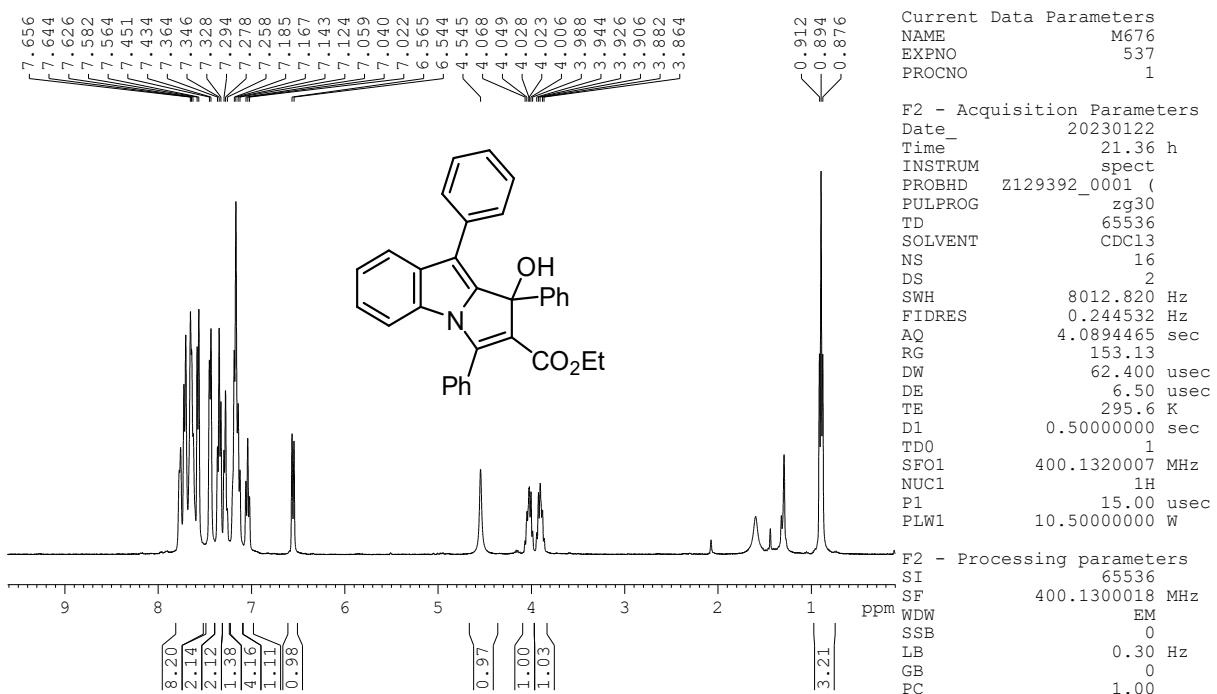


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 12

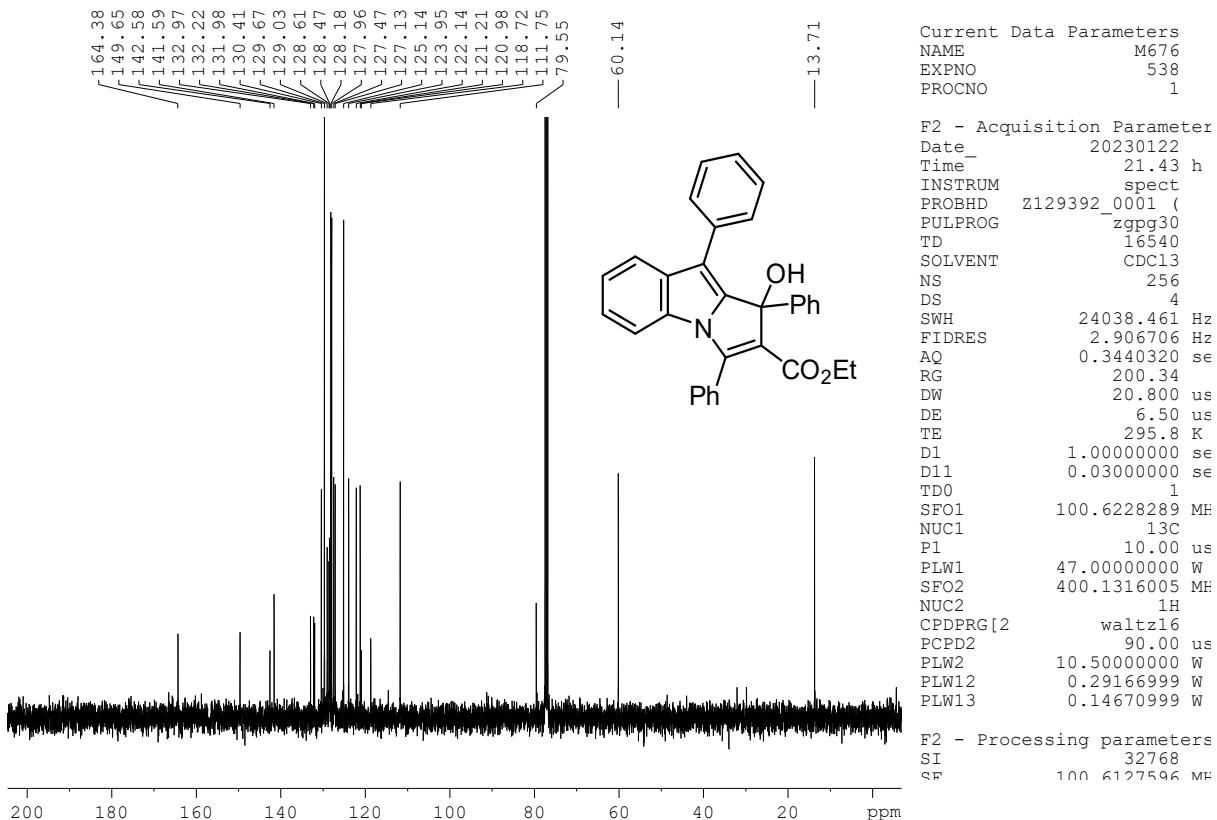


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 12

**ethyl 1-hydroxy-1,3,9-triphenyl-1H-pyrrolo[1,2-a]indole-2-carboxylate: 13**

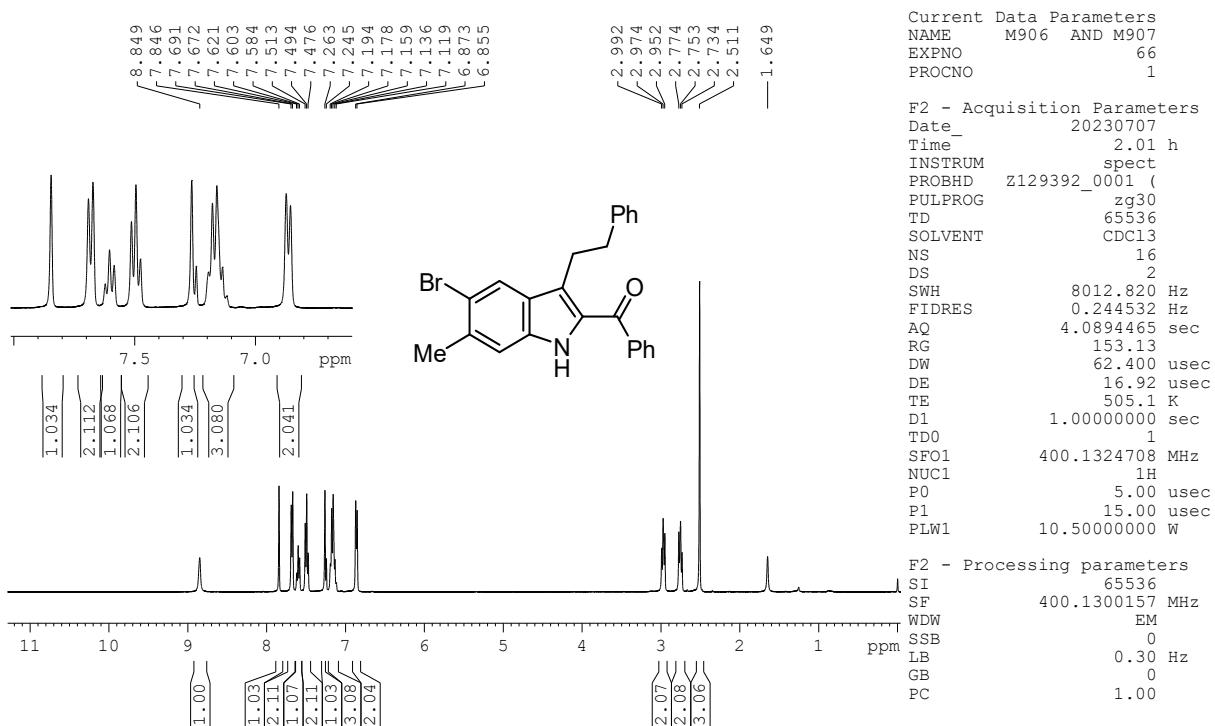


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 13

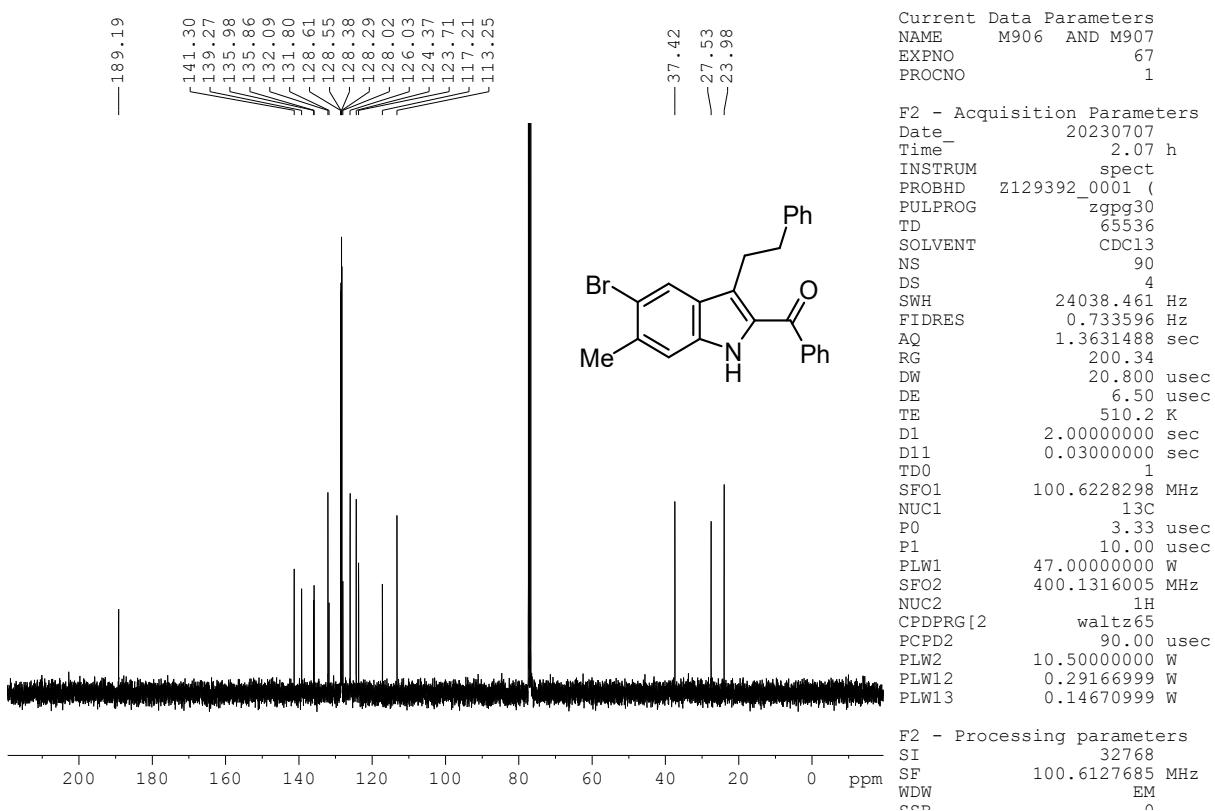


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 13

**(5-bromo-6-methyl-3-phenethyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone: 15**

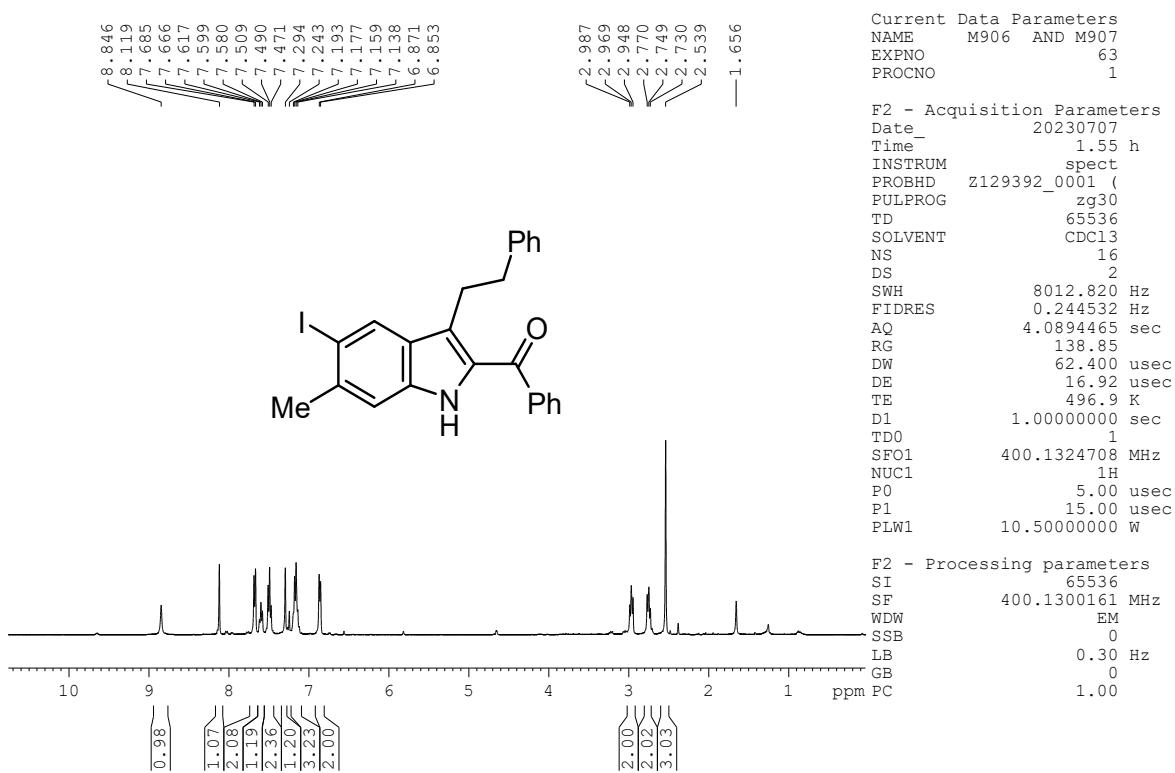


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 15

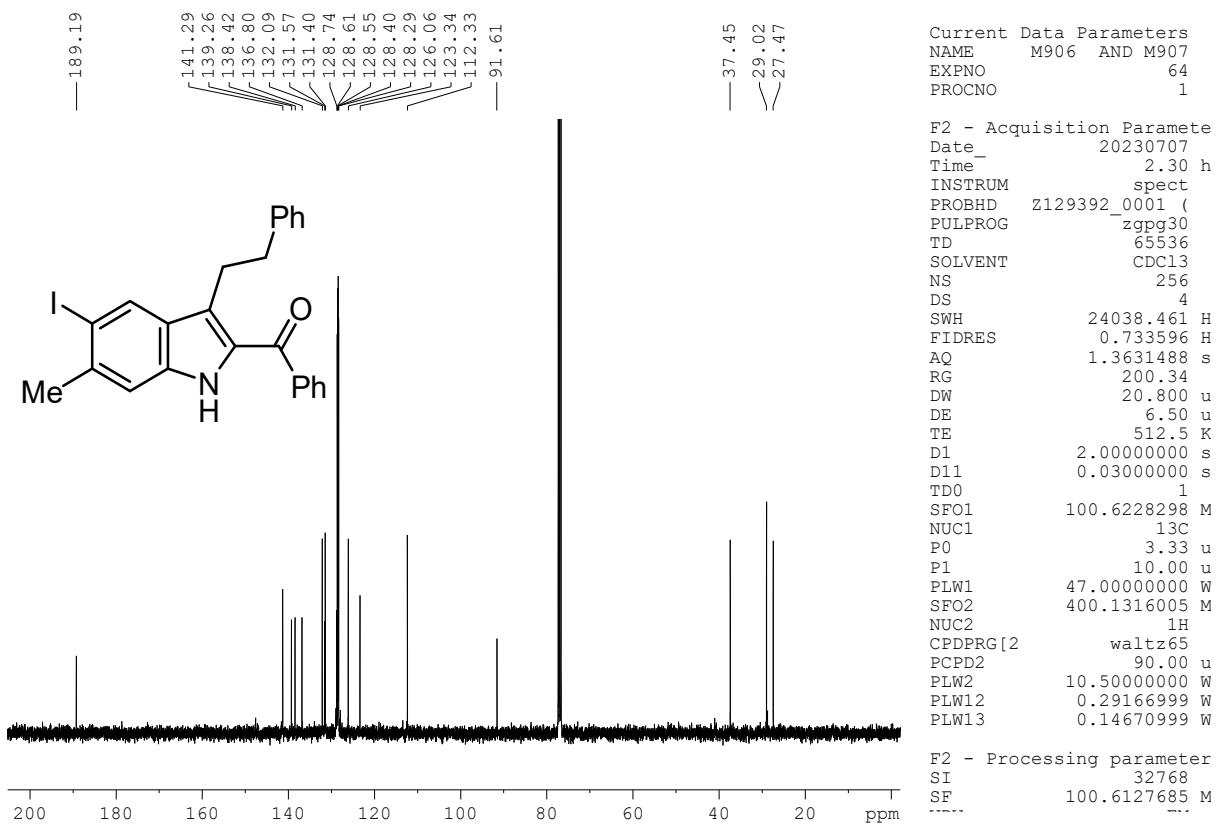


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 15

### (5-*ido*-6-methyl-3-phenethyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methanone: 16

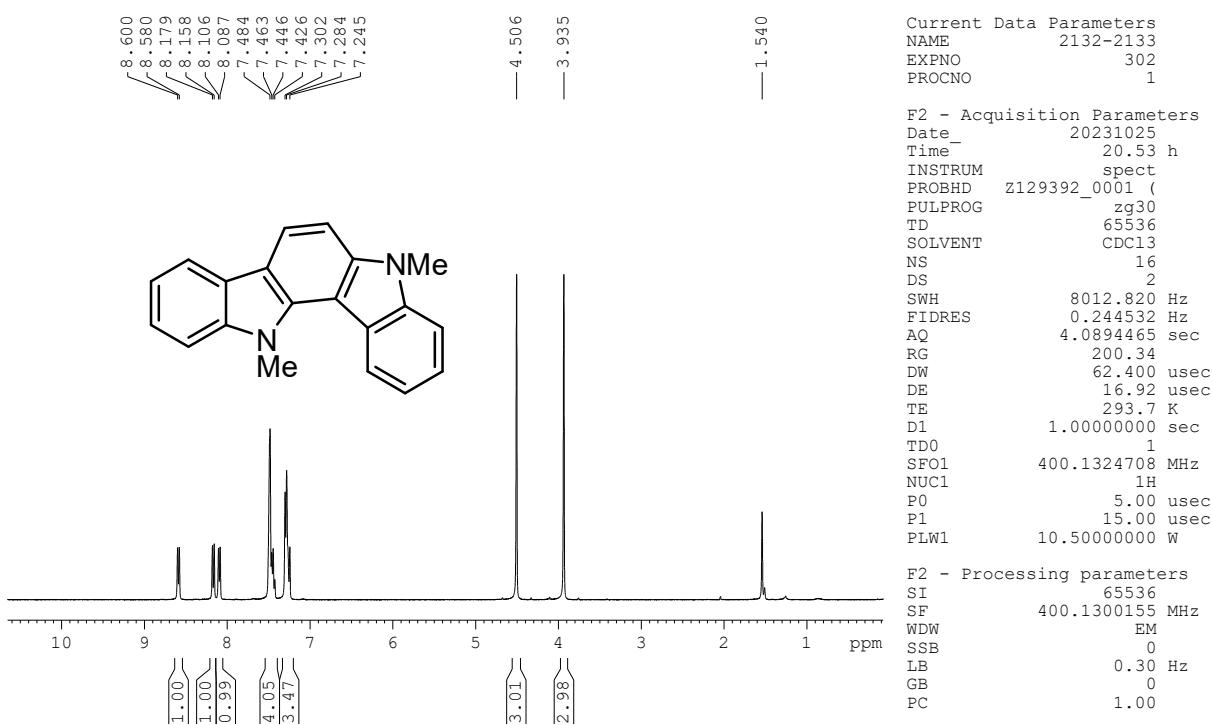


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound **16**

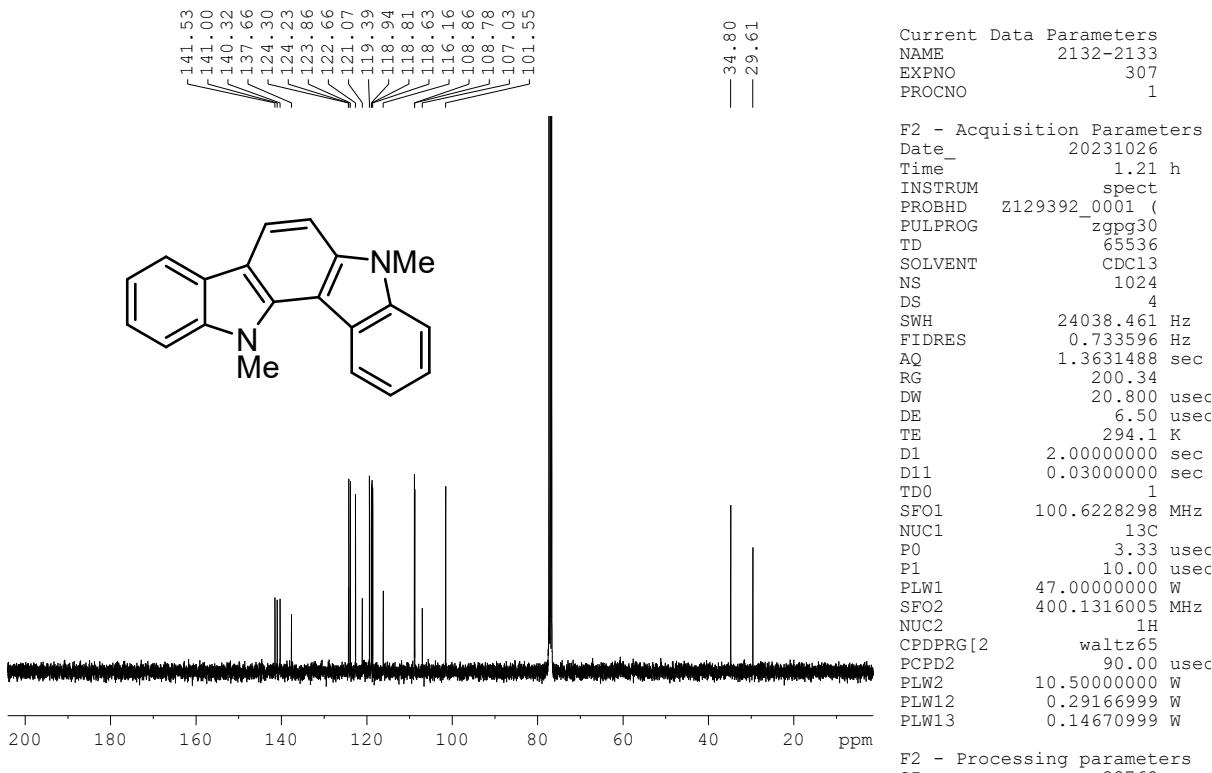


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **16**

**5,12-dimethyl-5,12-dihydroindolo[3,2-a]carbazole: 19**

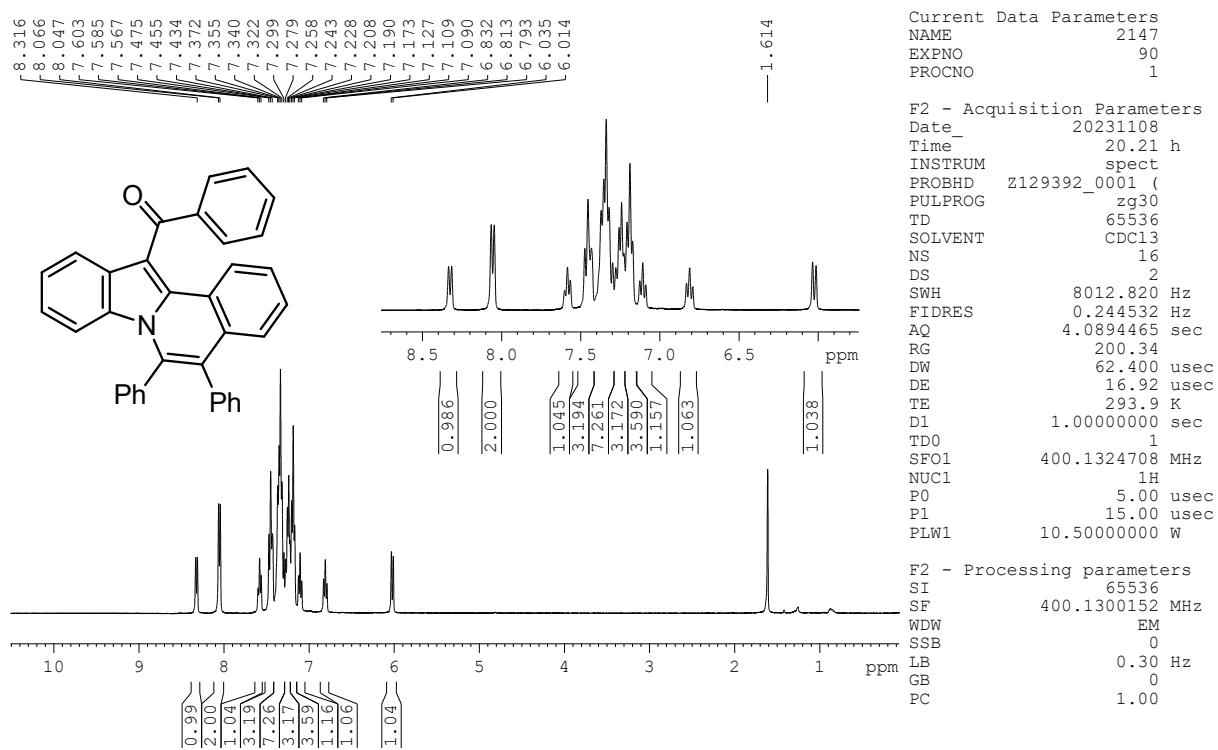


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **19**

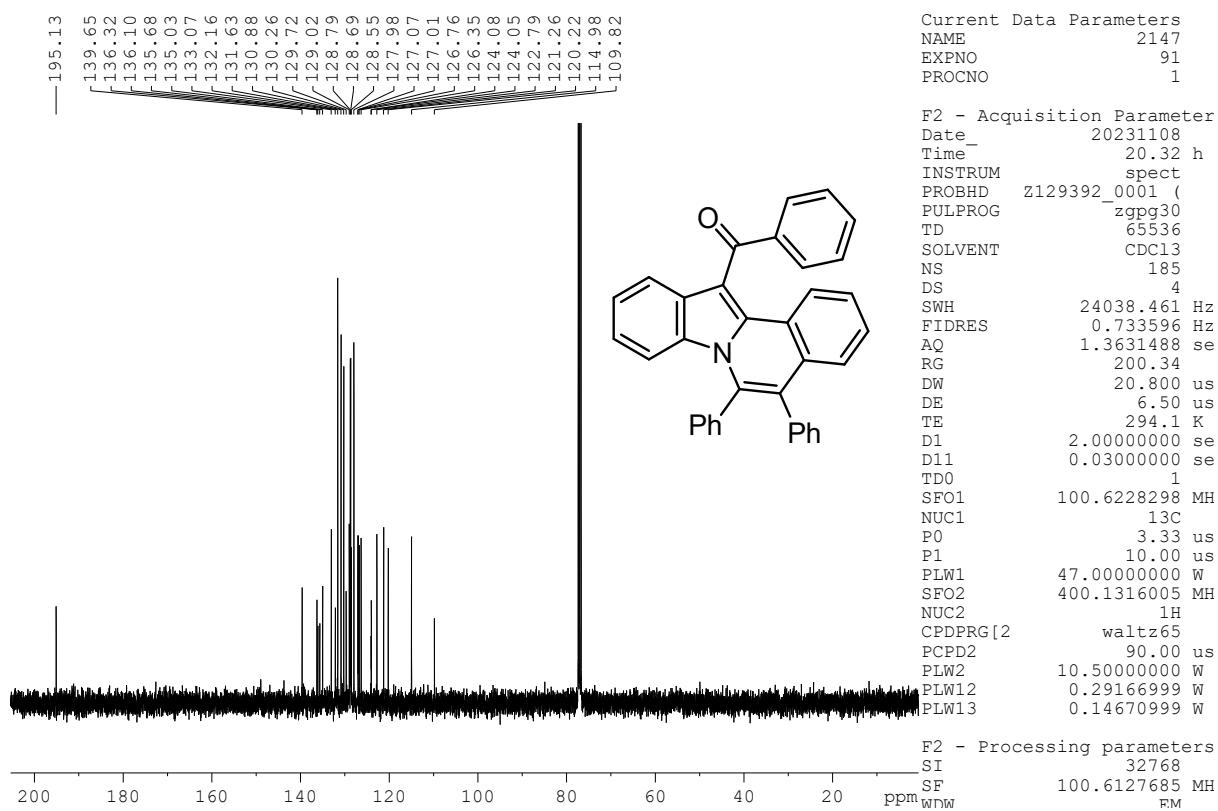


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 24 °C) of the compound **19**

**(5,6-diphenylindolo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-12-yl)(phenyl)methanone: 20**



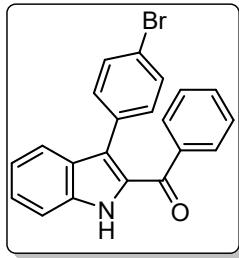
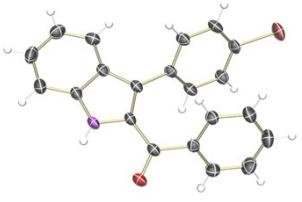
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 20



$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 24 °C) of the compound 20

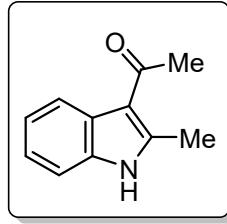
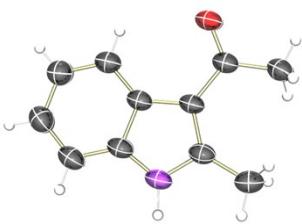
## 10. XRD data of 3j, 6o, 6p, 6p'

### a. Single crystal XRD data of 3j:

DATA	3j
Molecular Structure (ORTEP Structure)	 
Formula	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>14</sub> BrNO
Formula weight	376.24
Color	Brownish white
Temperature/K	296(2)
Radiation	Mo K $\alpha$
Wavelength/ $\text{\AA}$	0.71073
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P -1
<i>a</i> ( $\text{\AA}$ )	8.6408(5)
<i>b</i> ( $\text{\AA}$ )	9.9341(5)
<i>c</i> ( $\text{\AA}$ )	10.3685(5)
$\alpha$ ( $^\circ$ )	98.203(2)
$\beta$ ( $^\circ$ )	101.166(2)
$\gamma$ ( $^\circ$ )	103.107(2)
Volume ( $\text{\AA}^3$ )	834.05(8)
Z	2

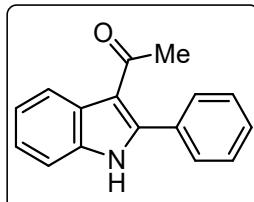
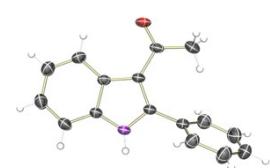
Density (g/mL)	1.498
$\mu$ (1/mm)	2.470
$F$ (000)	380
$\theta$ (min, max)	2.49 to 26.21
No. of unique reflns	12302
No. of parameters	222
$R$ _obs, $wR_2$ _obs	0.0302, 0.0727
$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}}, \Delta\rho_{\text{max}}$ (e $\text{\AA}^{-3}$ )	0.0390, 0.0769
GooF	1.040

**b. Single crystal XRD data of 6o:**

DATA	6o
Molecular Structure (ORTEP Structure)	 
Formula	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO
Formula weight	173.21
Color	Yellowish white
Temperature/K	296(2)
Radiation	Mo K $\alpha$
Wavelength/ $\text{\AA}$	1.54178
Crystal system	monoclinic

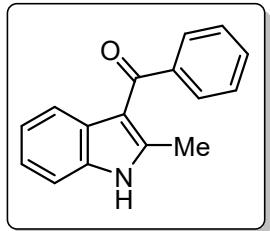
Space group	C 2/c
$a$ (Å)	13.5293(7)
$b$ (Å)	7.3263(3)
$c$ (Å)	19.0986(9)
$\alpha$ (°)	90
$\beta$ (°)	99.741(3)
$\gamma$ (°)	90
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1865.75(15)
Z	8
Density (g/mL)	1.233
$\mu$ (1/mm)	0.632
$F$ (000)	736
$\theta$ (min, max)	4.70 to 71.47
No. of unique reflns	13865
No. of parameters	124
$R$ _obs, $wR_2$ _obs	0.0568, 0.1576
$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}}, \Delta\rho_{\text{max}}$ (eÅ <sup>-3</sup> )	0.0693, 0.1763
GooF	1.065

c. Single crystal XRD data of 6p:

DATA	6p
Molecular Structure (ORTEP Structure)	 
Formula	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>13</sub> NO
Formula weight	235.27
Color	Yellowish white
Temperature/K	296(2)
Radiation	Mo K $\alpha$
Wavelength/ $\text{\AA}$	0.71073
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P -1
<i>a</i> ( $\text{\AA}$ )	7.4062(4)
<i>b</i> ( $\text{\AA}$ )	7.8098(5)
<i>c</i> ( $\text{\AA}$ )	10.9025(6)
$\alpha$ ( $^\circ$ )	101.137(2)
$\beta$ ( $^\circ$ )	93.235(2)
$\gamma$ ( $^\circ$ )	96.394(2)
Volume ( $\text{\AA}^3$ )	612.92(6)
<i>Z</i>	2
Density (g/mL)	1.275

$\mu$ (1/mm)	0.080
$F$ (000)	248
$\theta$ (min, max)	3.242 to 33.143
No. of unique reflns	39332
No. of parameters	166
$R$ _obs, $wR_2$ _obs	0.0575, 0.1773
$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}}, \Delta\rho_{\text{max}}$ (eÅ <sup>-3</sup> )	0.0832, 0.2091
GooF	1.013

**d. Single crystal XRD data of 6p':**

DATA	6p'
Molecular Structure (ORTEP Structure)	 
Formula	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>13</sub> NO
Formula weight	235.27
Color	White colourless
Temperature/K	296(2)
Radiation	Mo K $\alpha$
Wavelength/Å	0.71073
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	C 1 2/c 1

$a$ (Å)	22.8283(19)
$b$ (Å)	7.6726(6)
$c$ (Å)	14.6984(13)
$\alpha$ (°)	90
$\beta$ (°)	106.312(3)
$\gamma$ (°)	90
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	2470.8(4)
$Z$	8
Density (g/mL)	1.265
$\mu$ (1/mm)	0.079
$F$ (000)	992
$\theta$ (min, max)	2.81 to 23.05
No. of unique reflns	8425
No. of parameters	169
$R$ _obs, $wR_2$ _obs	0.0415, 0.1014
$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}}, \Delta\rho_{\text{max}}$ (eÅ <sup>-3</sup> )	0.0651, 0.1160
GooF	1.031