

Electronic Supplementary Information

Synthesis of non-proteinogenic phenylalanine derivatives by rhodium-catalyzed [2+2+2] cycloaddition reactions

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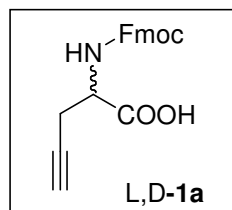
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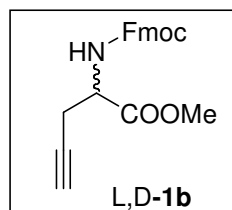
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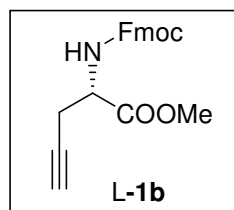
Preparation of propargylglycine amino acids **L,D-1a** and **1b** and characterization data



***N*-α-(((9*H*-Fluoren-9-yl)methoxy)carbonyl)-L,D-propargylglycine, L,D-**1a**.** In a two-necked 100 mL flask, L,D-propargylglycine (0.50 g, 4.42 mmols) and sodium bicarbonate (0.74 g, 8.84 mmols) were taken in a water:dioxane (1:3 (v:v)) mixture (16 mL) and cooled to 0°C with an ice-water bath. *N*-(9-Fluorenylmethoxycarbonyloxy)succinimide (1.51 g, 4.46 mmols) in dioxane (16 mL) was added dropwise to this solution and the resulting mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1h30m (TLC monitoring). The mixture was transferred to a decantation funnel and ethyl acetate (20 mL) and water (10 mL) were added. The resulting organic phase was washed with 1N hydrochloric acid (2 x 25 mL), water (2 x 25 mL), and brine (2 x 25 mL), then dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered, and the solvent was removed by vacuum evaporation to yield *N*-α-(((9*H*-fluoren-9-yl)methoxy)carbonyl)-L,D-propargylglycine, L,D-**1a** (1.46 g, 99% yield) as a colourless solid; mp 173-174°C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃COOD) δ 2.31 (t, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.81-2.87 (m, 2H), 4.28 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 4.65 (t, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H).



***N*-α-(((9*H*-Fluoren-9-yl)methoxy)carbonyl)-L,D-propargylglycine methyl ester, L,D-**1b**.** In a 10 mL flask, trimethylsilyl chloride (0.15 mL, 1.15 mmols) was added dropwise over *N*-α-(((9*H*-fluoren-9-yl)methoxy)carbonyl)-L,D-propargylglycine, L,D-**1a** (0.19 g, 0.56 mmols). Methanol was then added (2 mL) and the reaction was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours (TLC monitoring). The solvent was removed by vacuum evaporation to yield *N*-α-(((9*H*-Fluoren-9-yl)methoxy)carbonyl)-L,D-propargylglycine methyl ester, L,D-**1b** (0.18 g, 95% yield) as a colourless solid; mp 118-119 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.10 (t, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (dd, *J* = 4.4 / 2.2 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.28 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (dt, *J* = 7.6 / 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.68 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.62-7.66 (m, 2H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 22.8, 47.1, 52.4, 52.9, 67.3, 71.9, 78.3, 120.0, 125.1, 127.1, 127.8, 141.3, 143.7, 143.8, 155.6, 170.8; ESI-MS (*m/z*) 350 [M+H]⁺, 372 [M+Na]⁺.

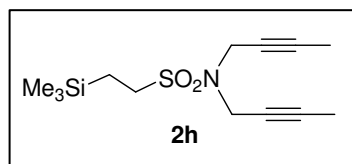


***N*-α-(((9*H*-Fluoren-9-yl)methoxy)carbonyl)-*L*-propargylglycine methyl ester, **L-1b**.**

L-1b was prepared according to the method described above for **L,D-1b**. Colourless solid (0.16 g, 96% yield, >99% ee) $[\alpha]_D^{20} +25.84$ (*c* 0.02, CH₂Cl₂). The ee was determined with HPLC analysis using a chiral column (Kromasil 100 TBB column, 4.6

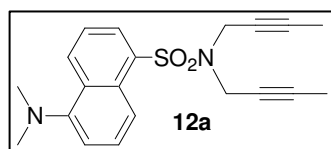
x 250 mm, 5 μm, r.t.; eluent: 99 % hexanes / 1 % THF, flow rate: 1.0 mL/min. over 40 min.; λ = 254 nm; retention time 24.8 min. and 27.0 min. for **L,D-1b**; retention time 24.8 min for **L-1b** (>99% ee)).

Preparation of diynes **2h, **12a-b**, and **7b** and characterization data**



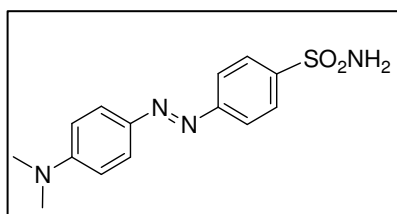
N,N-bis(2-butynyl)-(2-trimethylsilyl)etansulfonamide, **2h**. In a two-necked 100 mL flask, a mixture of 2-(trimethylsilyl)etansulfonamide (1.00 g, 5.51 mmols), potassium carbonate (3.83 g, 27.68 mmols) and 50 mL of acetonitrile

was heated to reflux. 1-Bromo-2-butyne (1.00 mL, 11.08 mmols) was added to this solution and the resulting mixture was stirred for 2h (TLC monitoring). The mixture was cooled to room temperature, salts were filtered off and the solvent was removed by vacuum evaporation to yield *N,N*-bis(2-butynyl)-(2-trimethylsilyl)etansulfonamide, **2h** (0.98 g, 62% yield) as a colourless solid; mp 49-50 °C; IR (ATR) ν (cm⁻¹): 2955, 1323, 1144; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.05 (s, 9H), 1.00-1.07 (m, 2H), 1.82 (t, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 6H), 2.97-3.04 (m, 2H), 4.11 (q, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 4H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -2.0, 3.5, 9.8, 36.8, 48.6, 72.9, 81.3; ESI-MS (*m/z*) 308 [M+Na]⁺; HRMS calcd. for [C₁₃H₂₃NO₂SSi + H]⁺: 308.1111. Found: 308.1123.

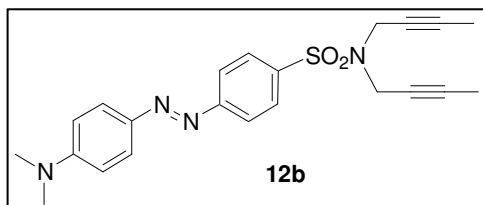


N,N-bis(2-butynyl)-5-(dimethylamino)naphthalene-1-sulfonamide, **12a**. **12a** was prepared according to the method described above for **2h**. Yellow solid (0.42 g, 100% yield); mp 94-95 °C; IR (ATR) ν (cm⁻¹): 2919, 1340, 1144; ¹H NMR (300

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.63 (t, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 6H), 2.87 (s, 6H), 4.17 (q, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 4H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.54 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.4, 36.3, 45.4, 72.2, 81.3, 115.2, 119.8, 123.1, 128.0, 130.0, 130.3, 130.5, 134.6, 151.6; ESI-MS (*m/z*) 355 [M+H]⁺; HRMS calcd. for [C₂₀H₂₂N₂O₂S + H]⁺: 355.1475. Found: 355.1481.



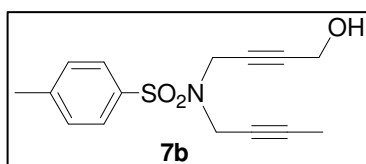
4-Dimethylaminoazobenzene-4'-sulfonamide. A degassed solution of 4-dimethylaminoazobenzene-4'-sulfonyl chloride (0.99 g, 2.98 mmols), 28 mL of ammonium hydroxide (25%) and 60 mL of dichloromethane was stirred at room temperature for 2h (TLC monitoring). The solid obtained was then filtered and washed with ethyl ether (2 x 20 mL) to afford 4-dimethylaminoazobenzene-4'-sulfonamide (0.91 g, 99% yield) as an orange solid; mp 228-229 °C; IR (ATR) ν (cm⁻¹): 3343, 3247, 1604, 1301, 1140; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, acetone-d₆) δ 3.14 (s, 6H), 3.50-3.54 (m, 1H), 3.59-3.63 (m, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.92 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, acetone-d₆) δ 40.4, 62.0, 73.5, 112.5, 123.1, 126.4, 128.1, 144.3, 145.1, 154.4, 155.9; ESI-MS (m/z) 276 [M+H]⁺, 298 [M+Na]⁺.



***N,N*-bis(2-butynyl)-4-dimethylaminoazobenzene-4'-sulfonamide,**

12b. **12b** was prepared according to the method described above for **2h**. Red solid (0.41 g, 99% yield); mp 165-166 °C; IR (ATR) ν (cm⁻¹):

2919, 1602, 1344, 1134; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.64 (t, J = 2.4 Hz, 6H), 3.11 (s, 6H), 4.12 (q, J = 2.4 Hz, 4H), 6.75 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 2H), 7.86-7.92 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.4, 36.7, 40.2, 71.5, 81.9, 111.4, 122.1, 125.7, 128.9, 137.9, 143.6, 153.1, 155.7; ESI-MS (m/z) 409 [M+H]⁺; HRMS calcd. for [C₂₂H₂₄N₄O₂S + H]⁺: 409.1693. Found: 409.1679.

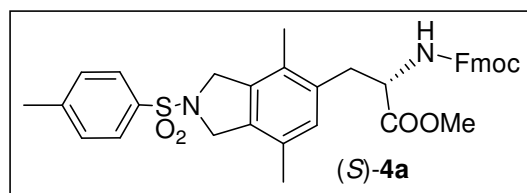


***N*-(2-butynyl)-*N*-(2-propynyl-4-ol)-(4-methylphenyl)sulfonamide, 7b.** In a two-necked 25 mL flask, 1.7 mL (2.72 mmols) of 1.6 M solution *n*-BuLi in hexanes was added dropwise to a solution of *N*-(2-butynyl)-*N*-(2-propynyl)-(4-

methylphenyl)sulfonamide (1.00 g, 5.51 mmols) in 2 mL of anhydrous THF at -78 °C under a nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was stirred for 1h and then a solution of *p*-formaldehyde (0.42 g, 12.68 mmols) in 1 mL of anhydrous THF at -78 °C was added and allowed to warm to room temperature overnight. The reaction was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride (10 mL) and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL), dried over sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated. The product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using mixtures of hexanes/ethyl acetate of increasing polarity (8/2 to 7/3) as the

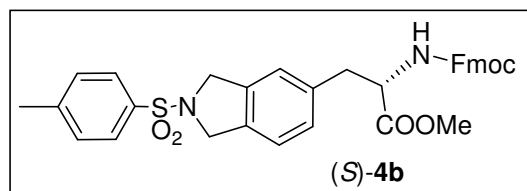
eluent to afford **7b** (0.24 g, 39% yield) as a yellow oil; IR (ATR) ν (cm⁻¹): 3525, 2920, 1345, 1157; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.65 (t, J = 2.4 Hz, 3H), 1.97 (br abs, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 4.06-4.10 (m, 4H), 4.14-4.18 (m, 2H), 7.30 (AA' part, AA'BB' syst., J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (BB' part, AA'BB' syst., J = 8.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.3, 21.4, 36.3, 36.8, 50.6, 71.2, 78.2, 82.0, 83.7, 127.9, 129.3, 135.1, 143.7; HRMS calcd. for [C₁₅H₁₇NO₃S + H]⁺: 292.1002. Found: 292.1016.

Preparation of phenylalanine derivatives (*S*)-**4a** and (*S*)-**4b** by methylation reactions and characterization data



(S)-2-(((9H-Fluoren-9-yl)methoxy)carbonylamino)-3-(4,7-dimethyl-2-tosylisoindolin-5-yl)propanoic acid methyl ester, (*S*)-4a**.** In a 25 mL flask, trimethylsilyl chloride (0.01

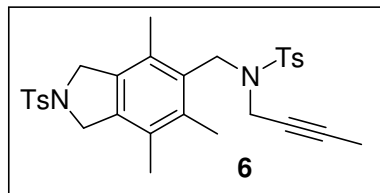
mL, 0.06 mmols) was added dropwise over (*S*)-**3a** (0.020 g, 0.03 mmols). Methanol was then added (1 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 hour (TLC monitoring). The solvent was removed by vacuum evaporation, the residue was taken in dichloromethane, filtered, and the solvent removed to yield (*S*)-**4a** (0.020 g, 96% yield, >99% ee) as a colourless solid [α]_D²⁰ +19.05 (c 0.01, CH₂Cl₂). The ee was determined with HPLC analysis using a chiral column (Kromasil 100 TBB column, 4.6 x 250 mm, 5 μ m, r.t.; eluent: 90 % hexanes / 10 % THF, flow rate: 1.0 mL/min. over 40 min.; λ = 254 nm; retention time 23.8 min. and 27.5 min. for (*R,S*)-**4a**; retention time 27.5 min for (*S*)-**4a** (>99% ee)).



(S)-2-(((9H-Fluoren-9-yl)methoxy)carbonylamino)-3-(2-tosylisoindolin-5-yl)propanoic acid methyl ester, (*S*)-4b**** was prepared according to the methylation method described above.

Colourless solid (95% yield, >99% ee) [α]_D²⁰ +16.0 (c 0.01, CH₂Cl₂). The ee was determined with HPLC analysis using a chiral column (Kromasil 100 TBB column, 4.6 x 250 mm, 5 μ m, r.t.; eluent: 90 % hexanes / 10 % THF, flow rate: 1.0 mL/min. over 40 min.; λ = 254 nm; retention time 36.2 min. and 41.4 min. for (*R,S*)-**4b**; retention time 41.4 min for (*S*)-**4b** (>99% ee)).

Characterization data of homocoupled product **6**



Colourless solid; mp 188-189 °C; IR (ATR) ν (cm^{-1}): 2918, 1342, 1158;

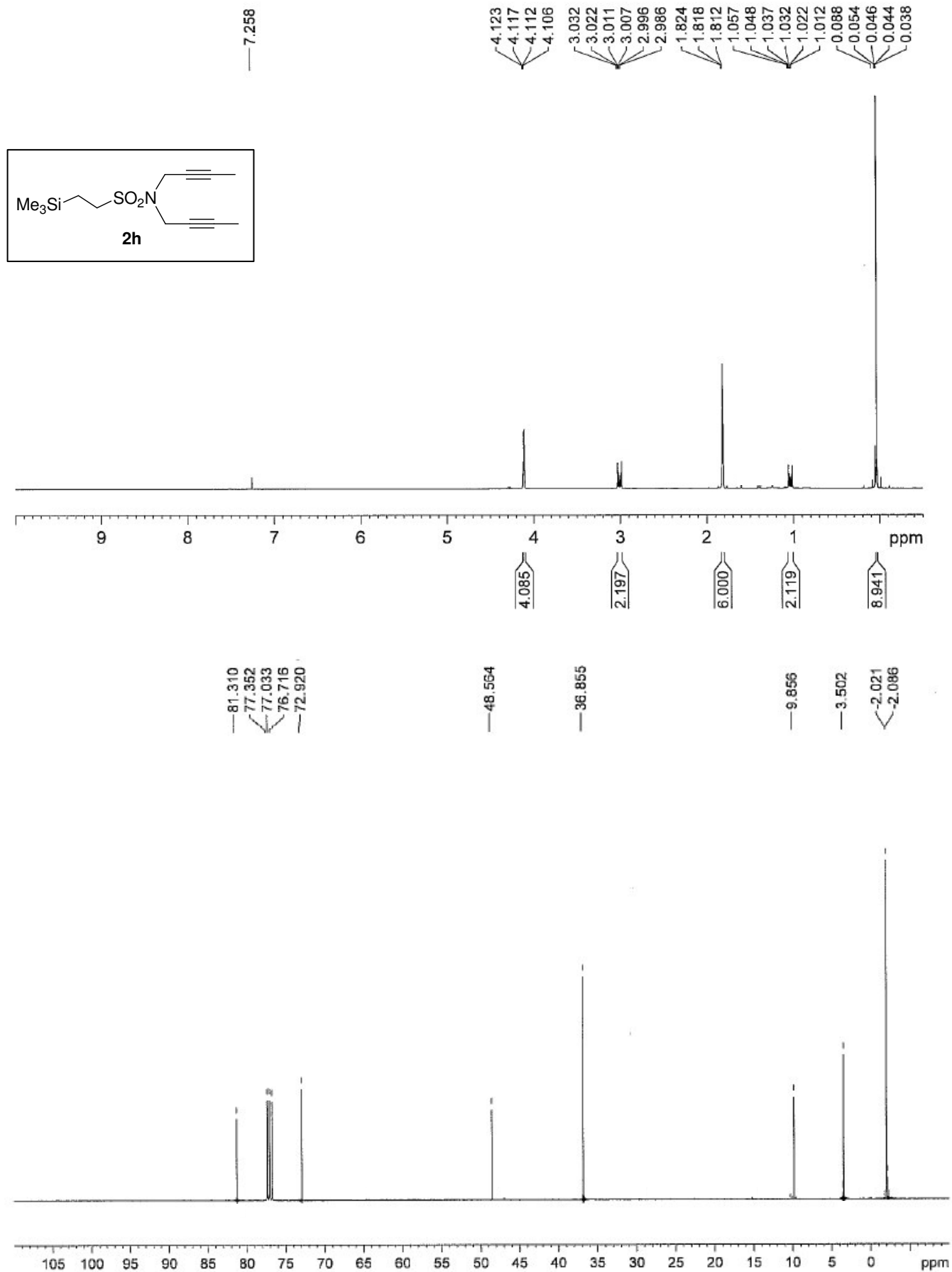
^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.41 (t, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 3H), 2.07 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 3.61 (q, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 2H), 4.42 (s, 2H), 4.55 (br abs, 2H), 4.58 (br abs, 2H), 7.32 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 4H), 7.75-

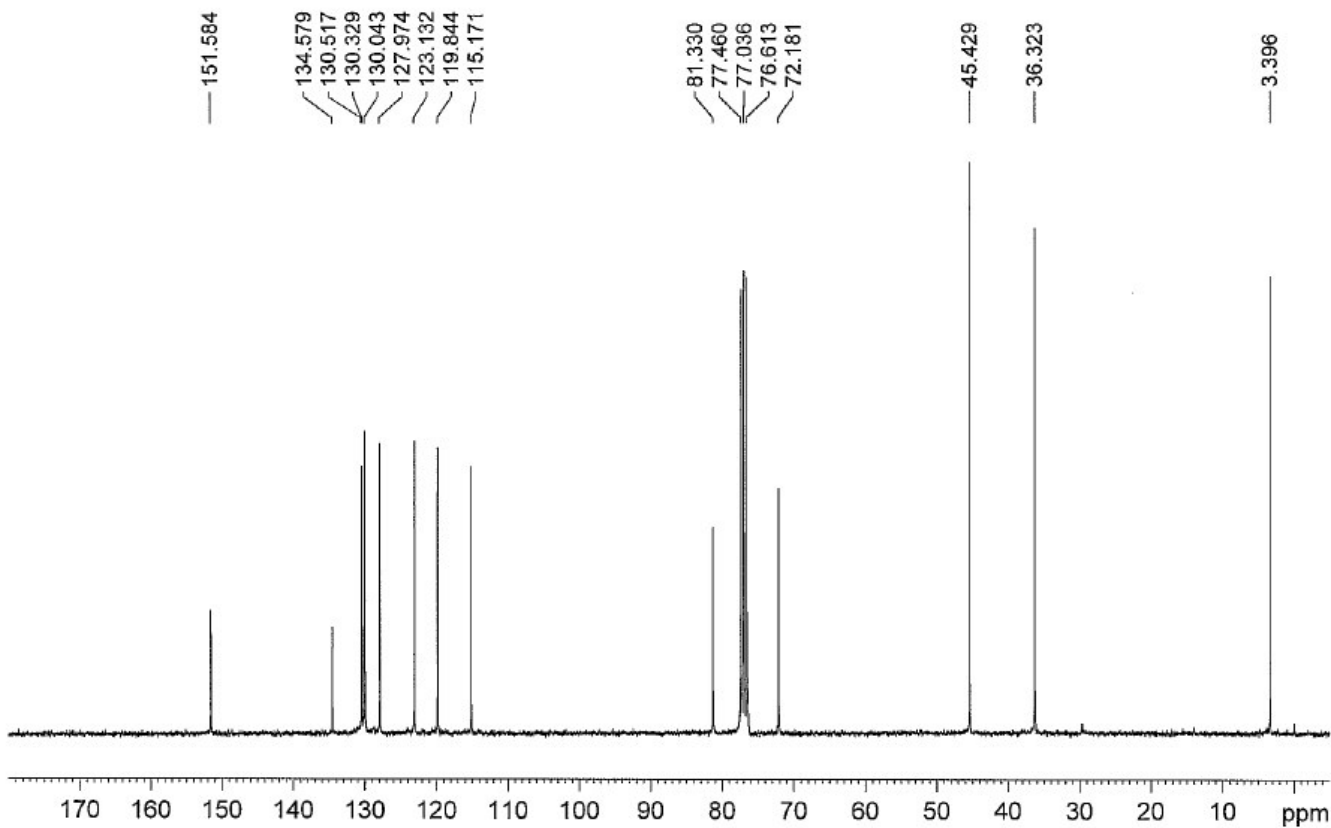
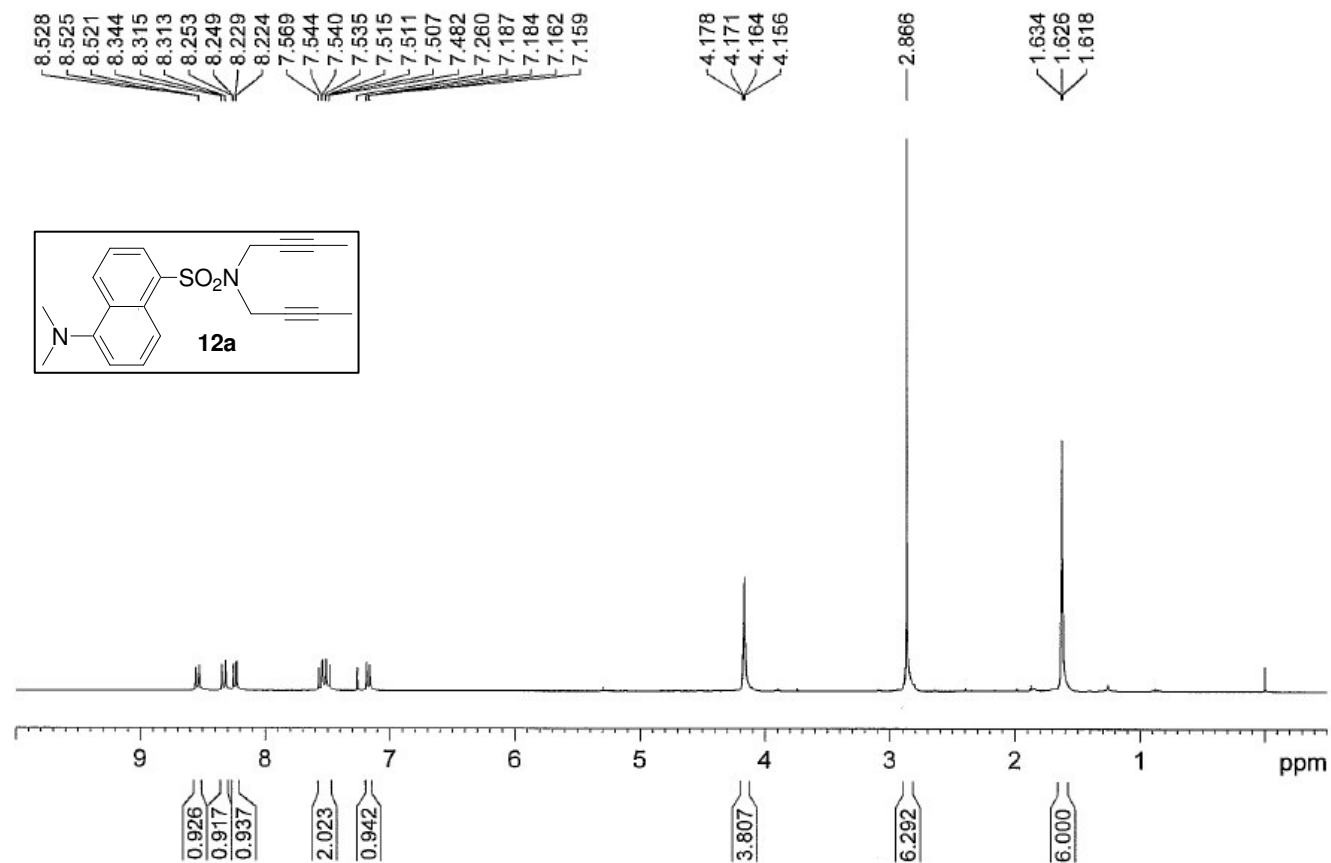
7.82 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.4, 15.9, 16.4, 16.7, 21.7, 35.3, 44.9, 54.2, 54.3, 72.8, 82.3, 127.8,

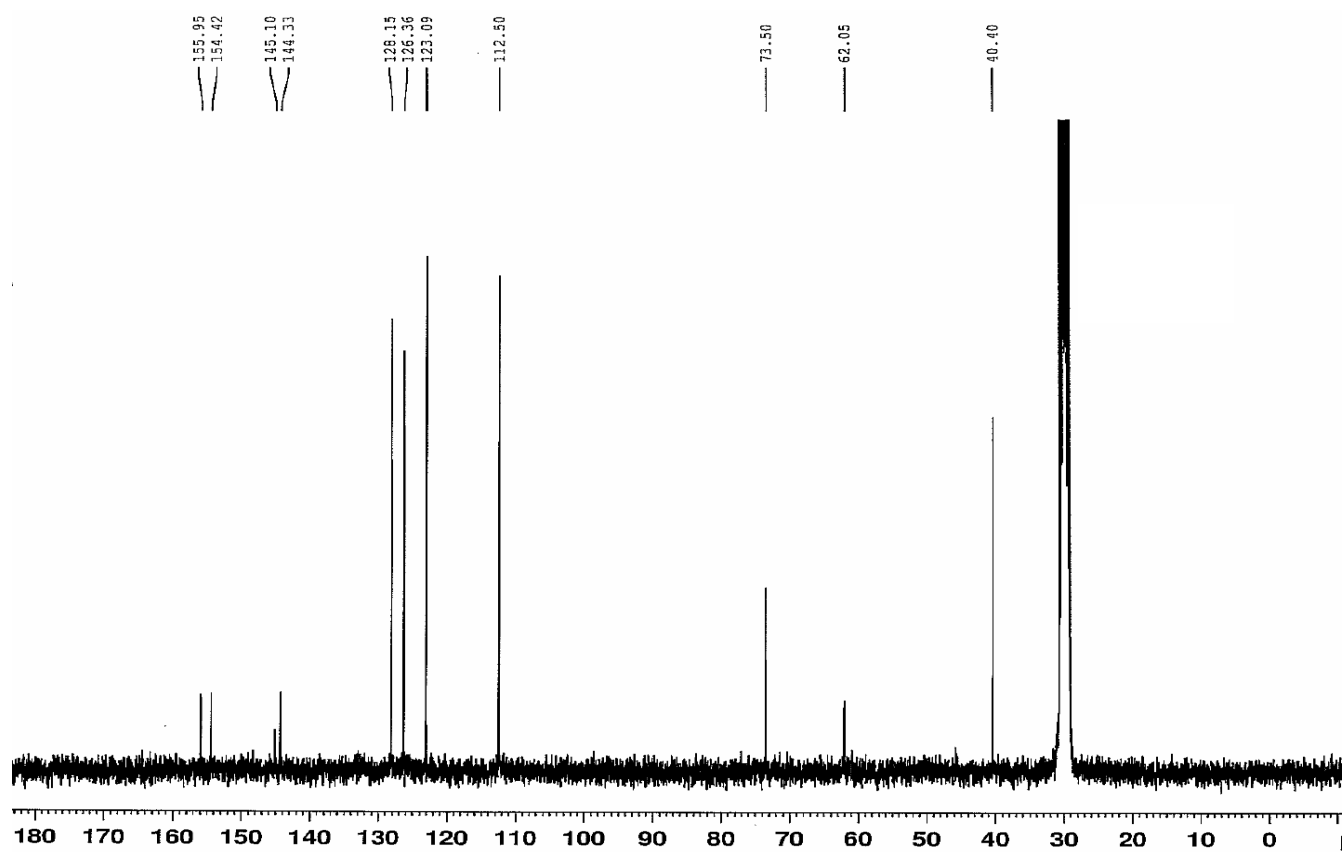
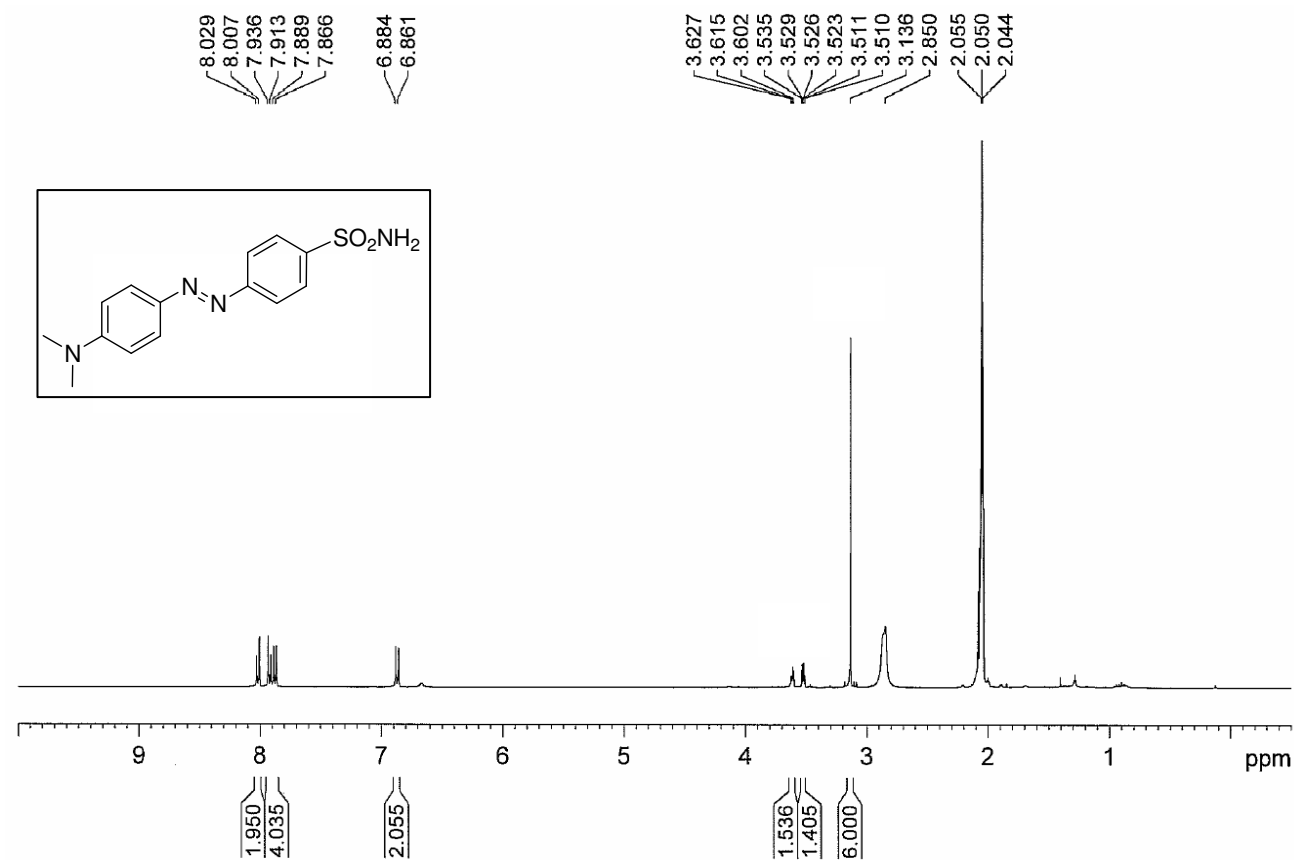
128.6, 129.3, 129.4, 130.1, 130.5, 131.0, 133.2, 134.2, 135.3, 135.8, 137.8, 143.6, 143.9; ESI-MS (m/z) 551

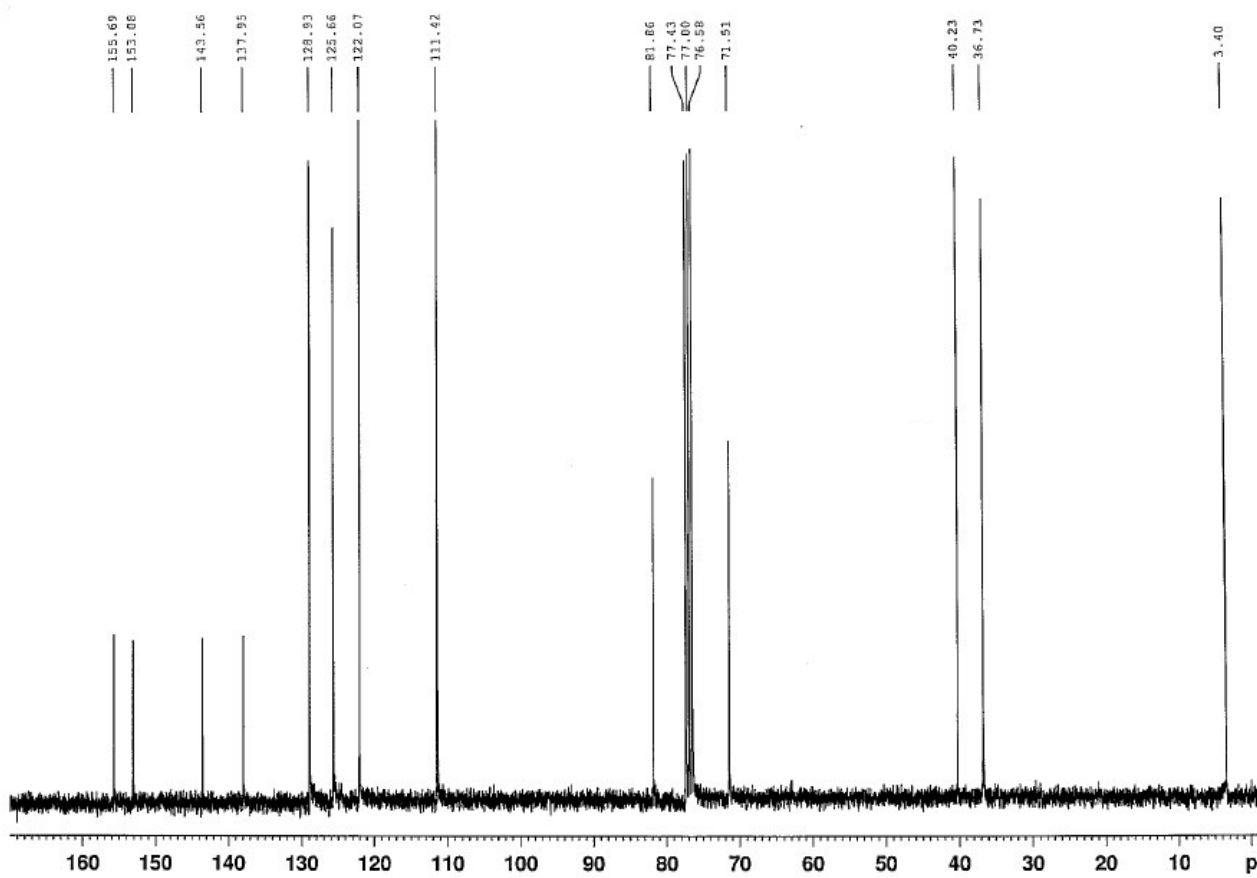
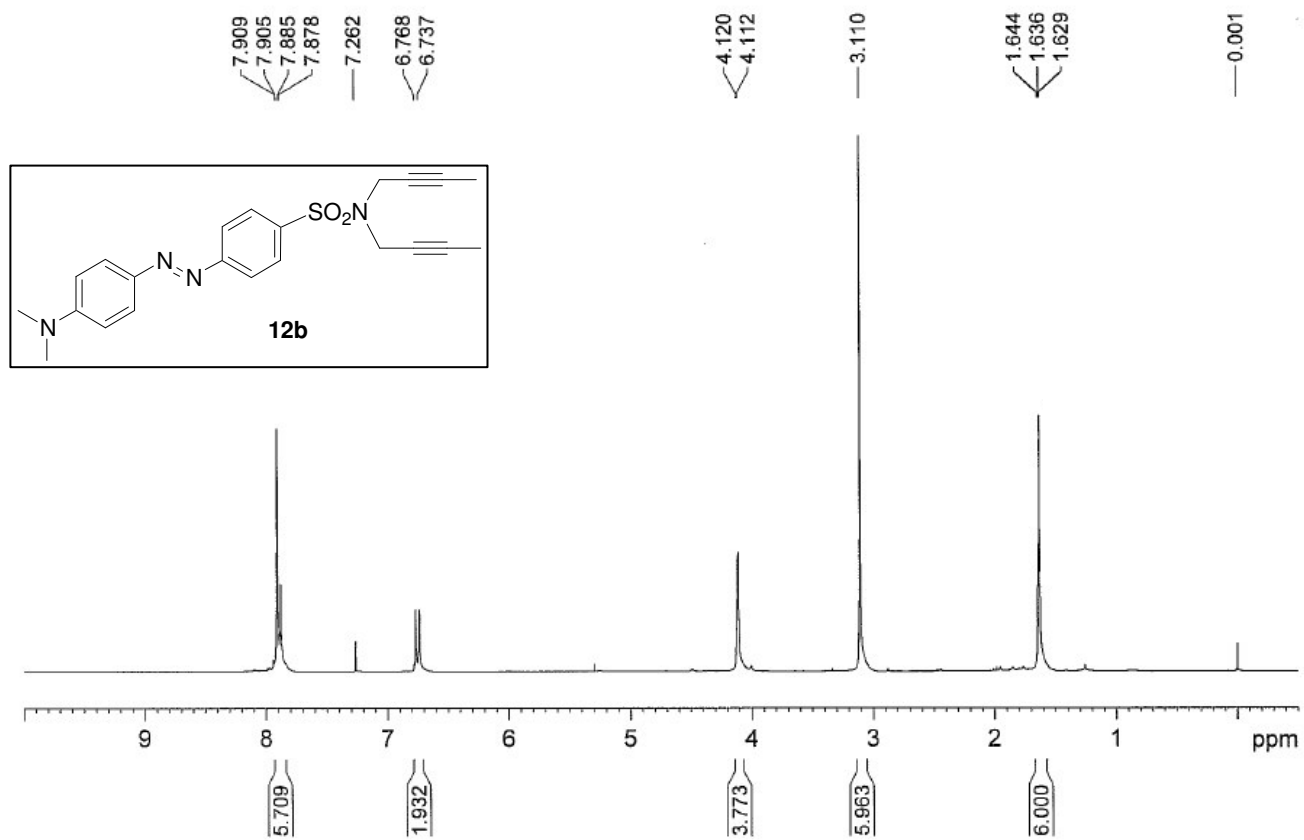
$[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

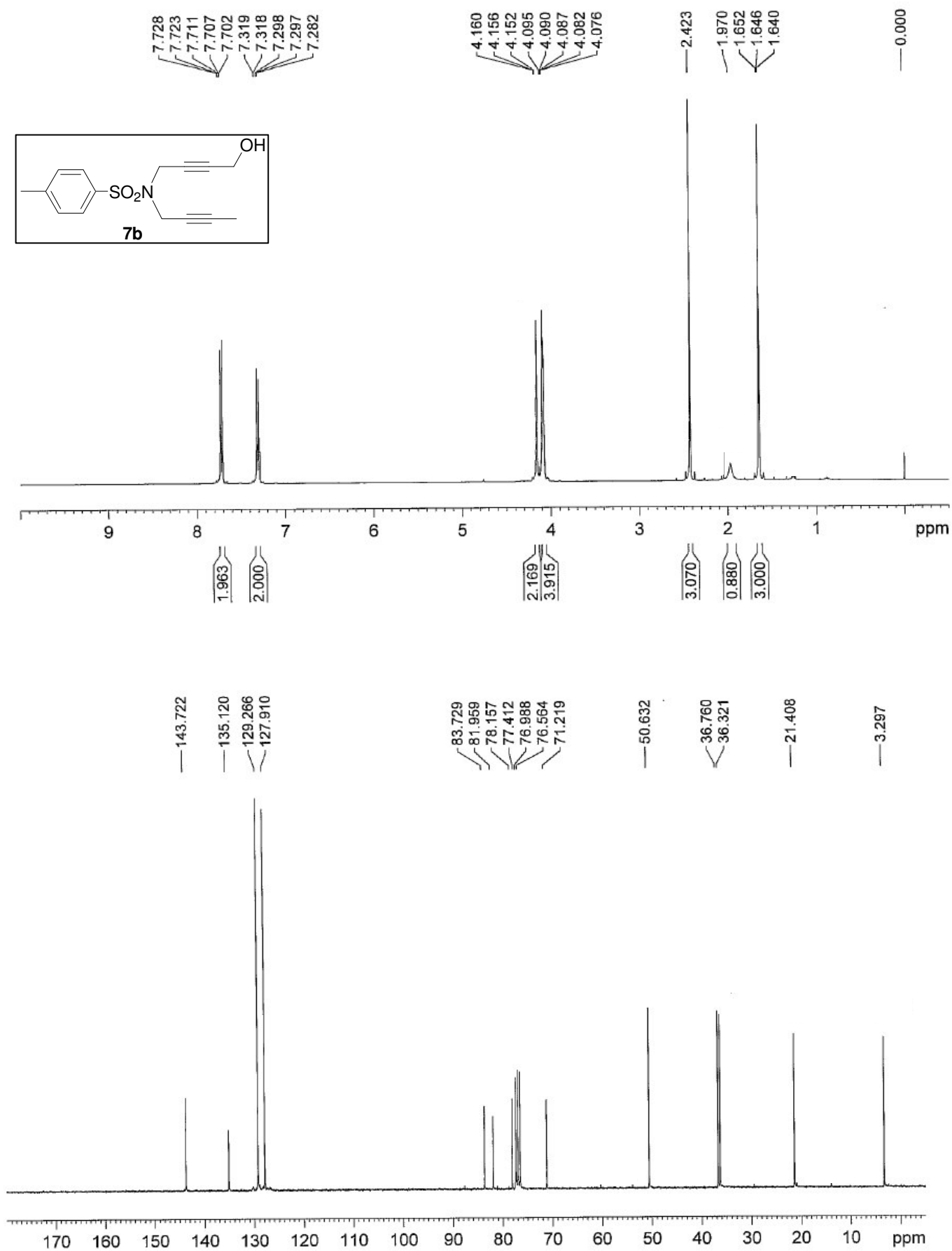
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of diynes 2h, 12a-b, and 7b



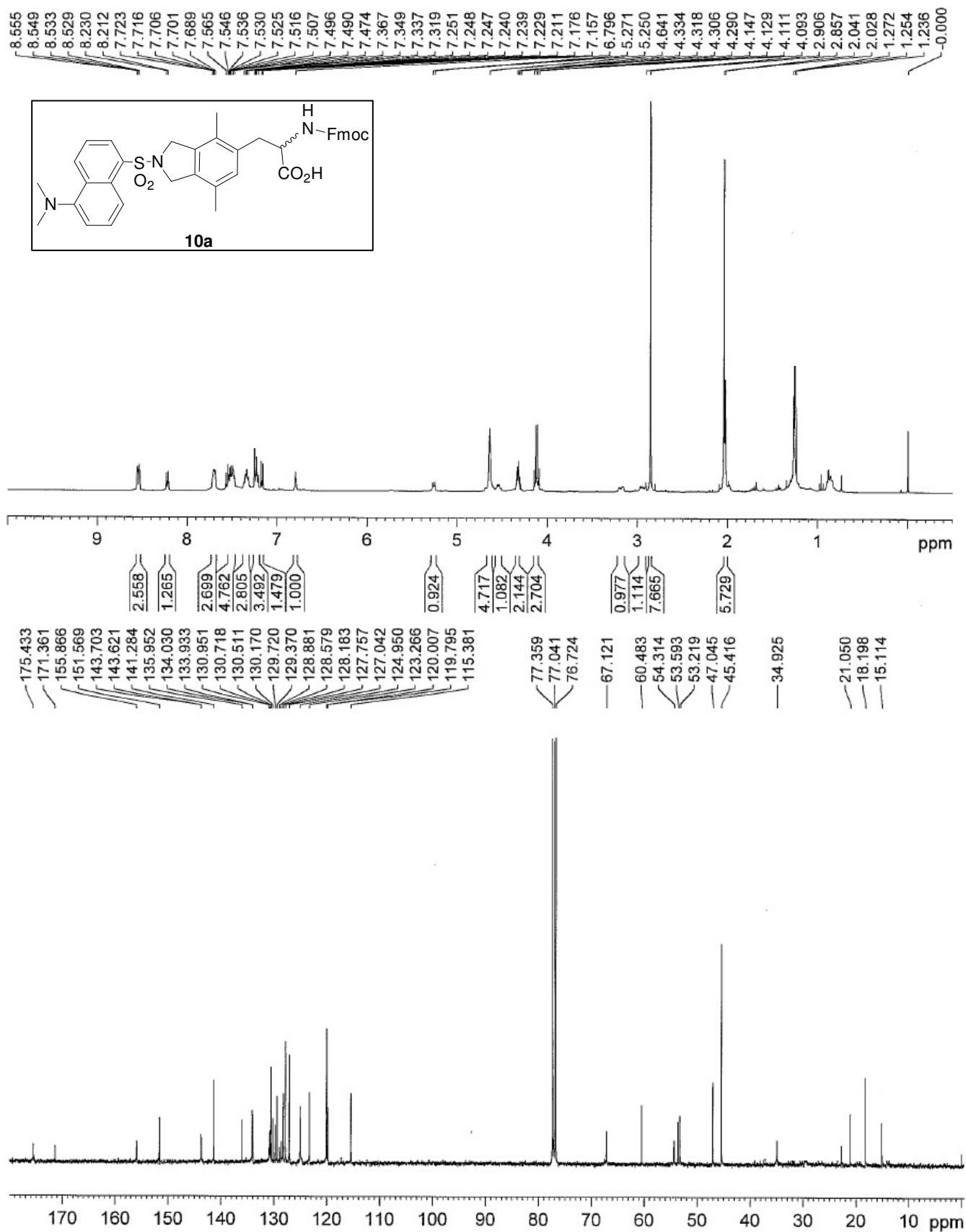


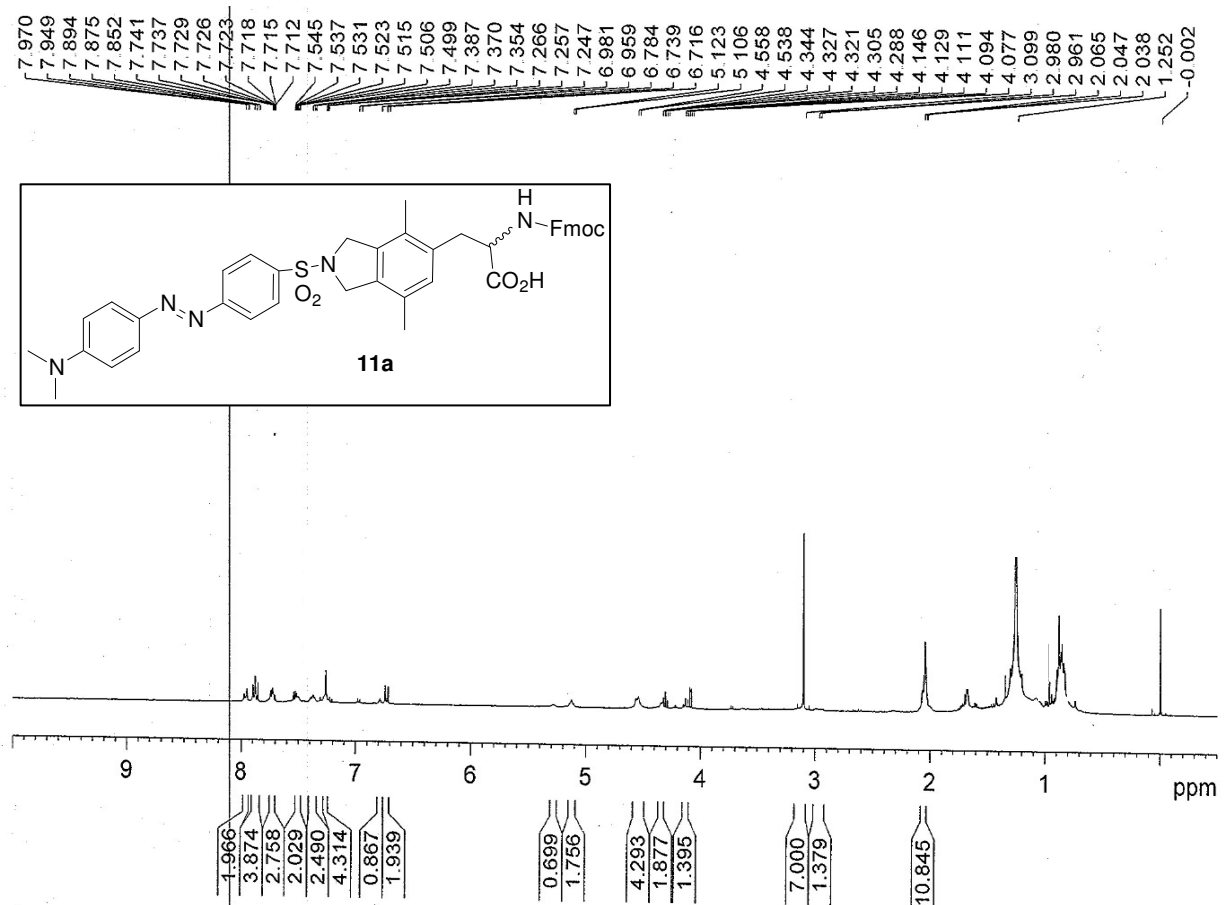


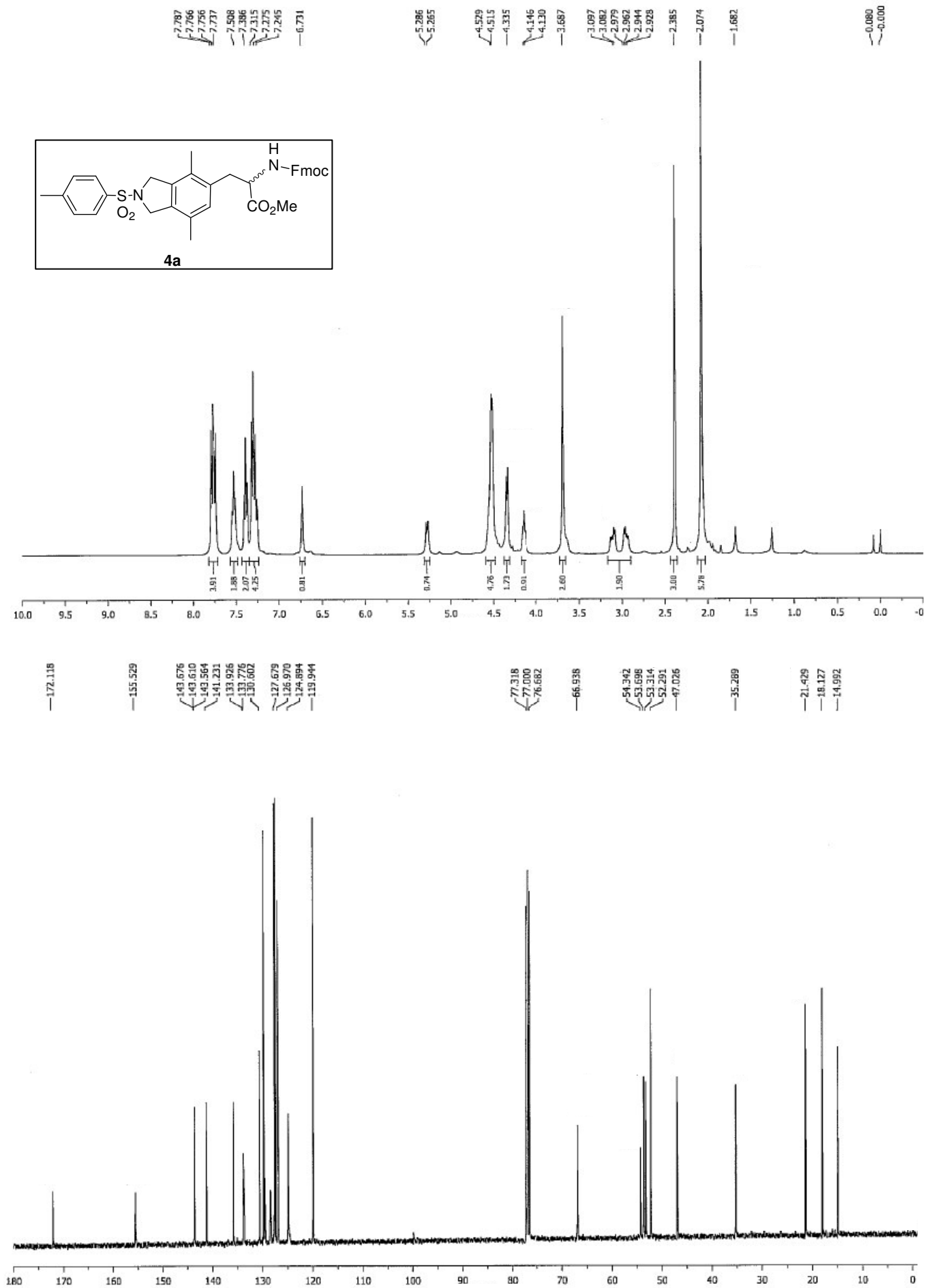




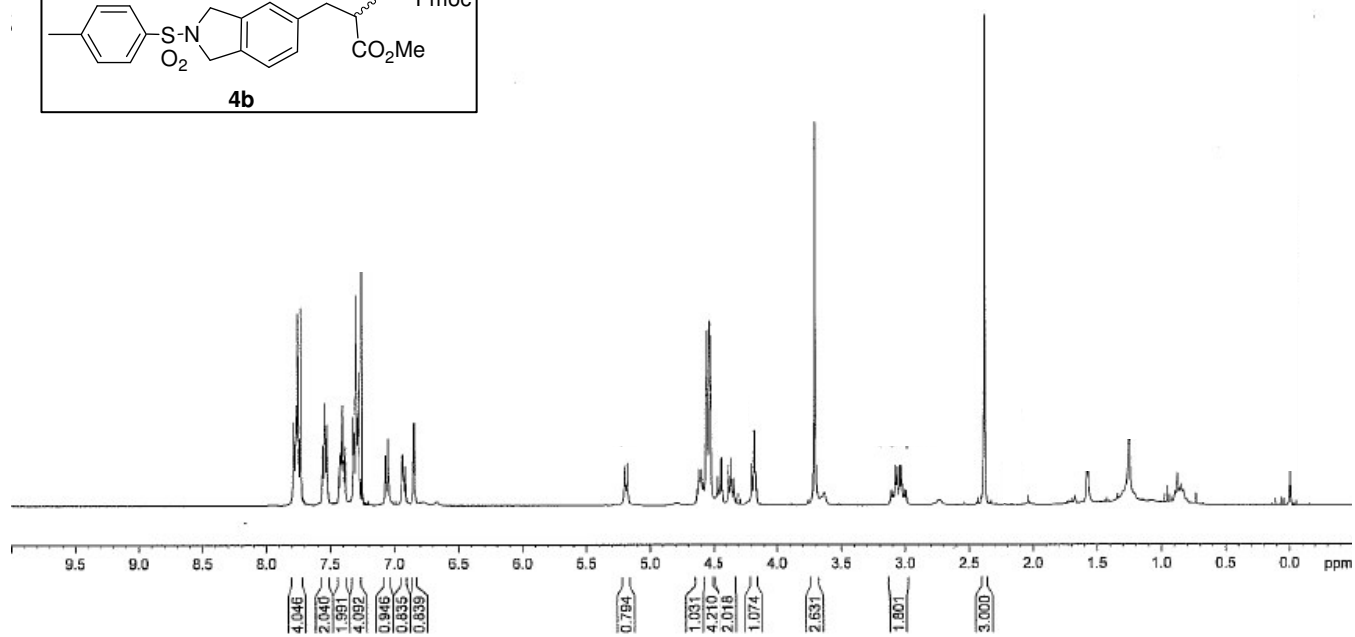
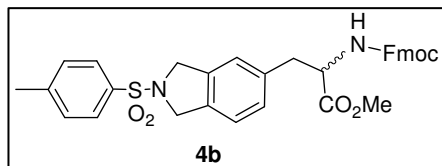
¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of phenylalanine derivatives 10a, 11a, 4a-h, 10b, 11b, 8c/9c, 8a/9a, 8b, 9b, and 5a-f







7.785
7.767
7.753
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7.569
7.543
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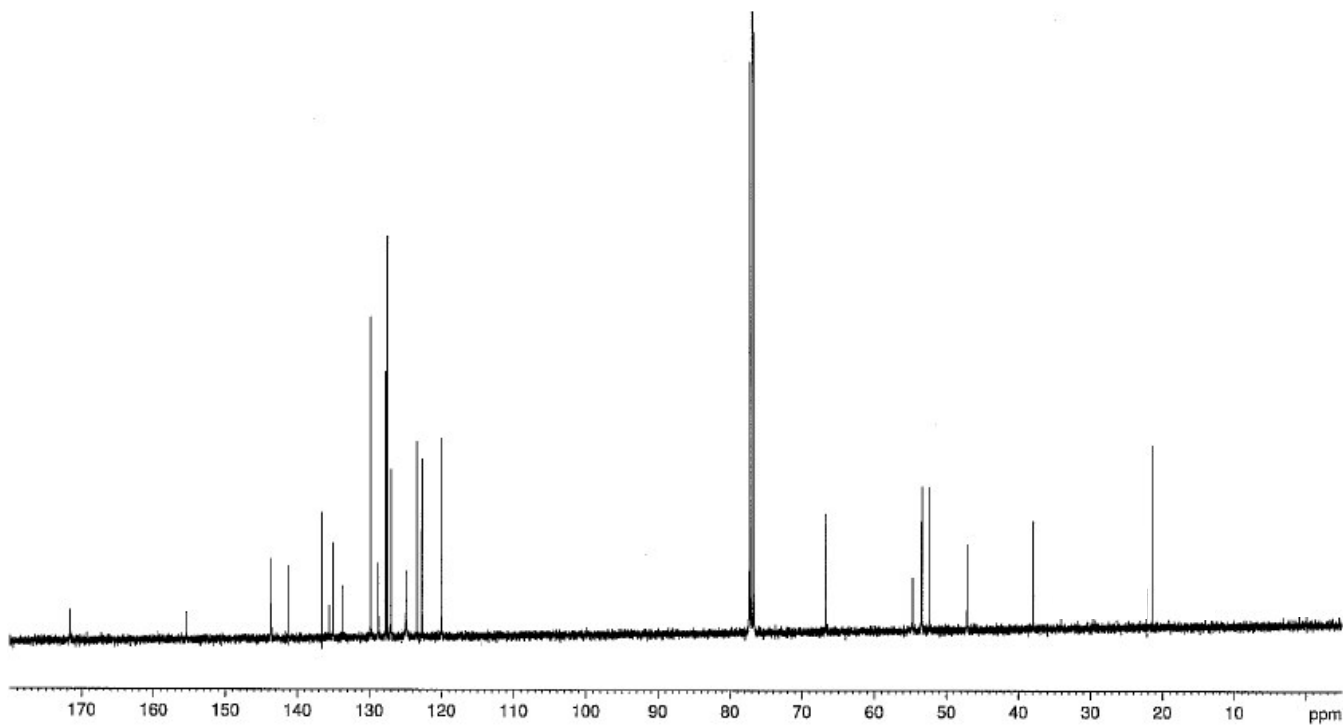
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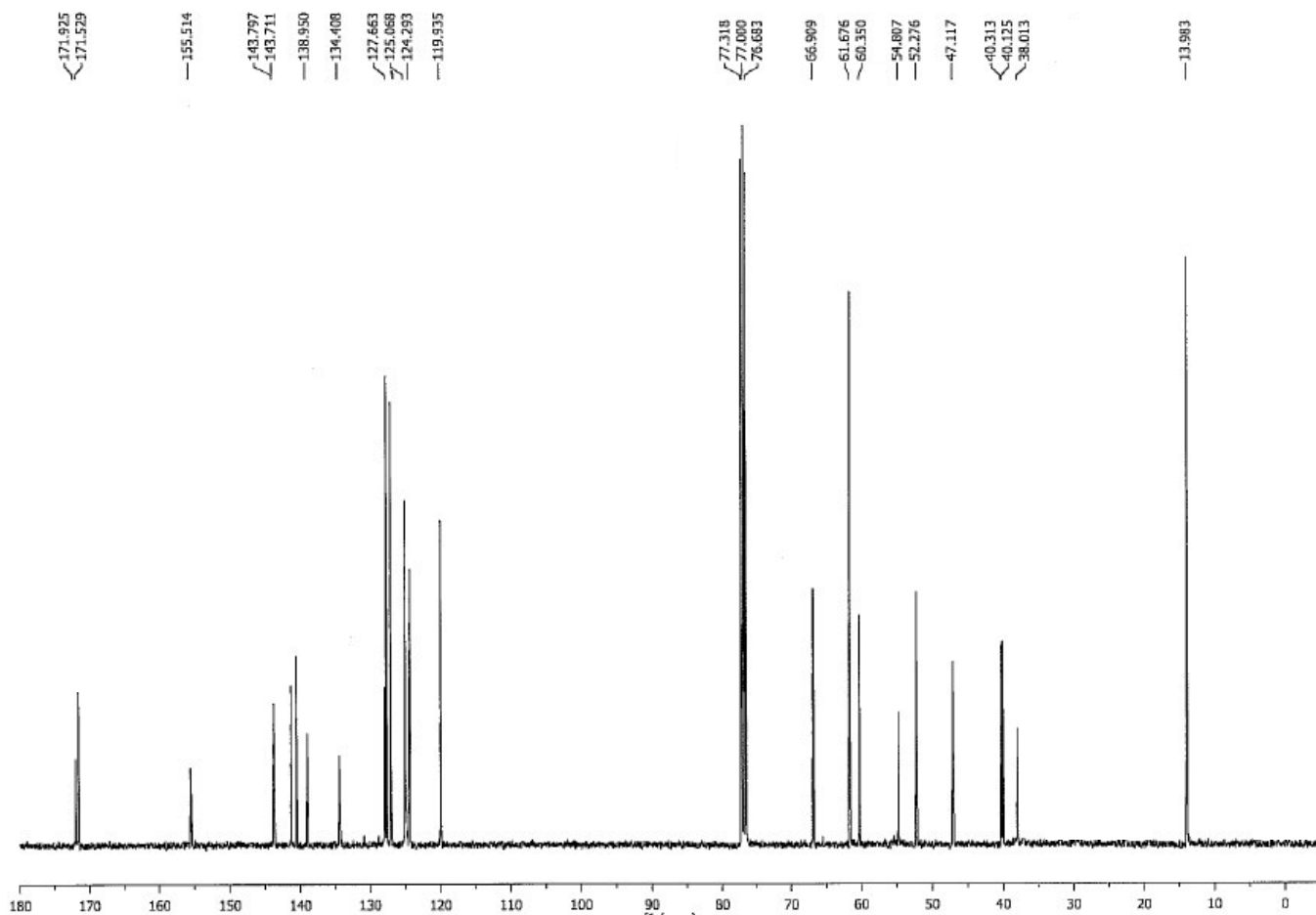
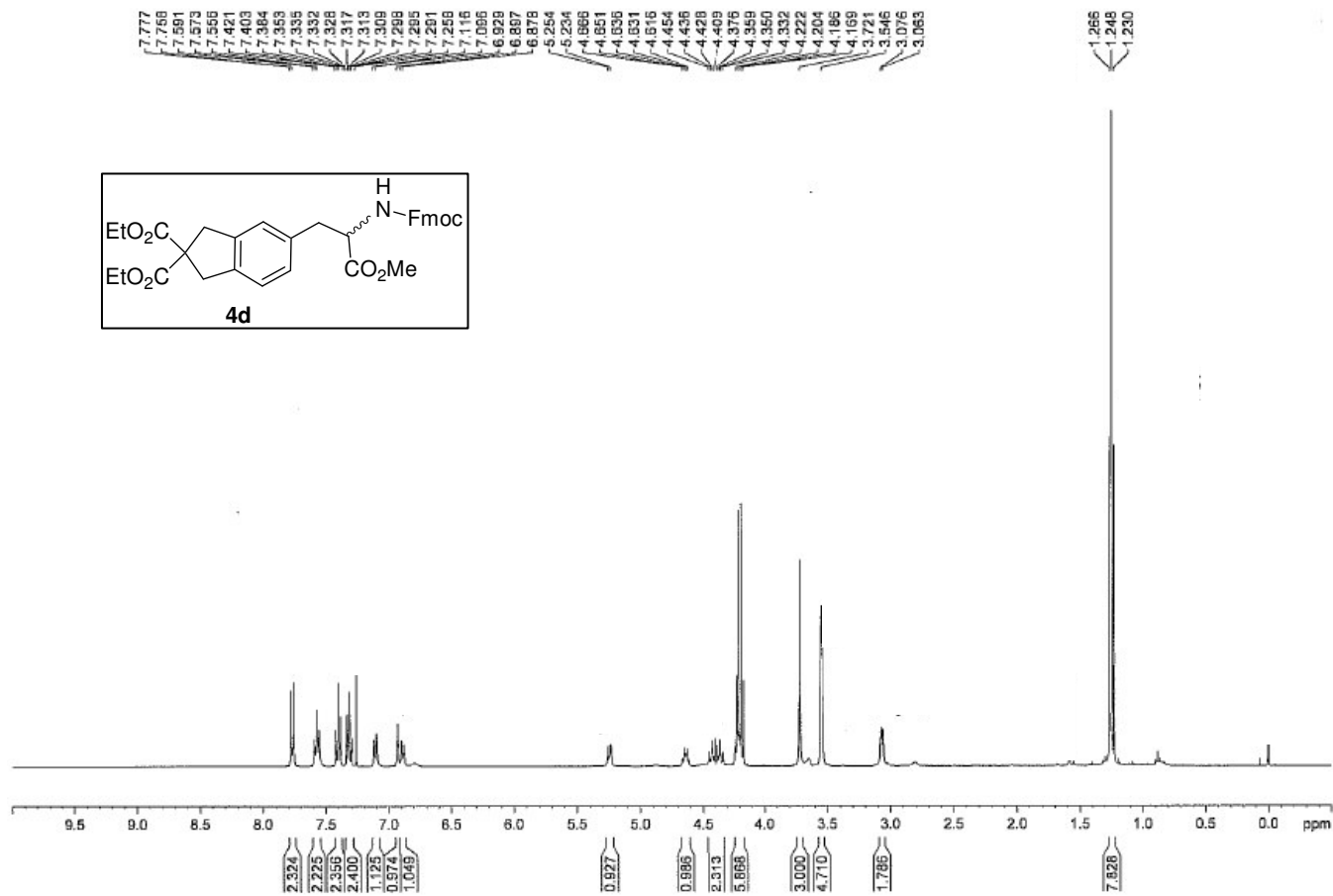
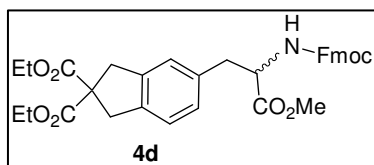
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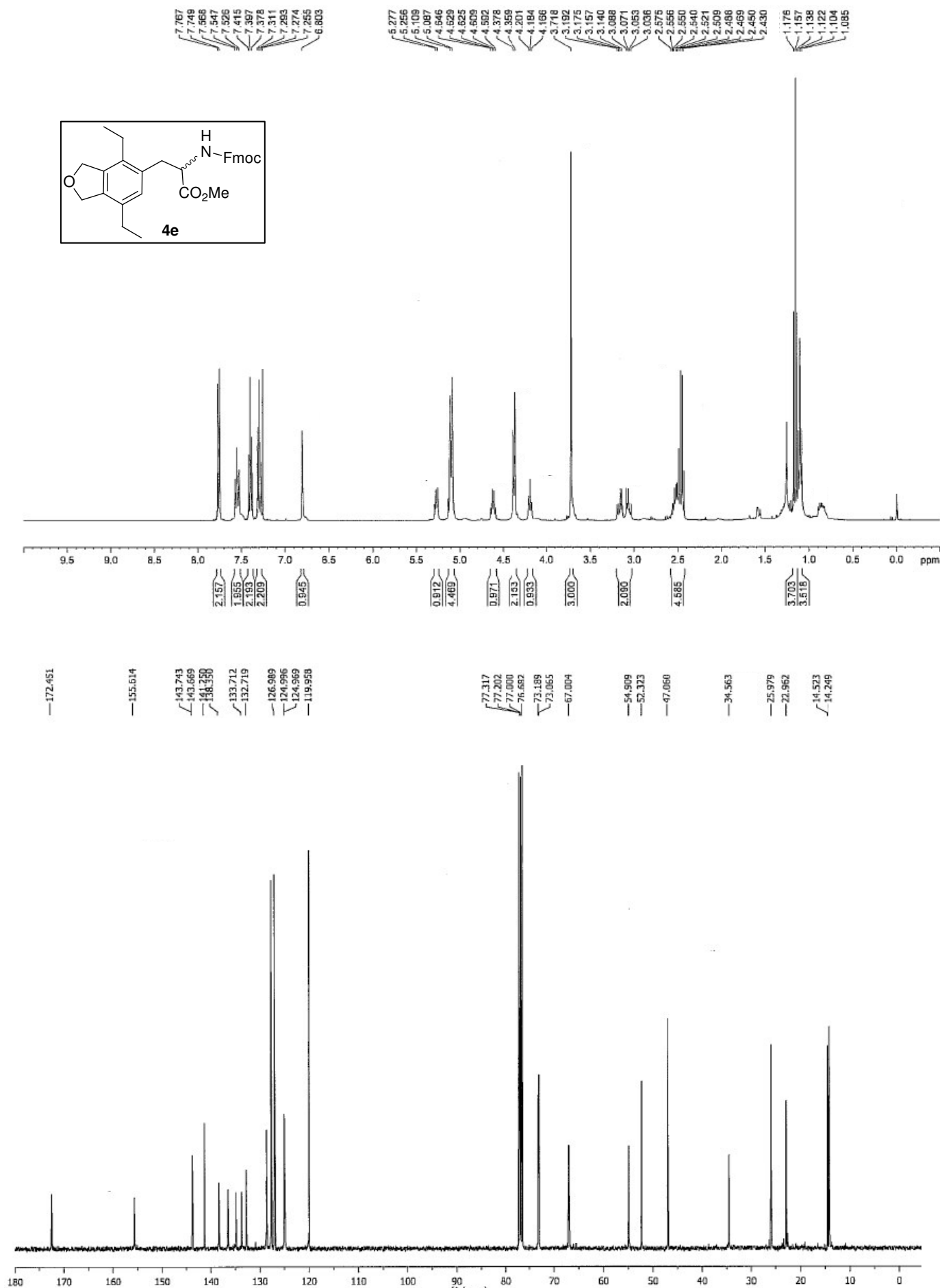
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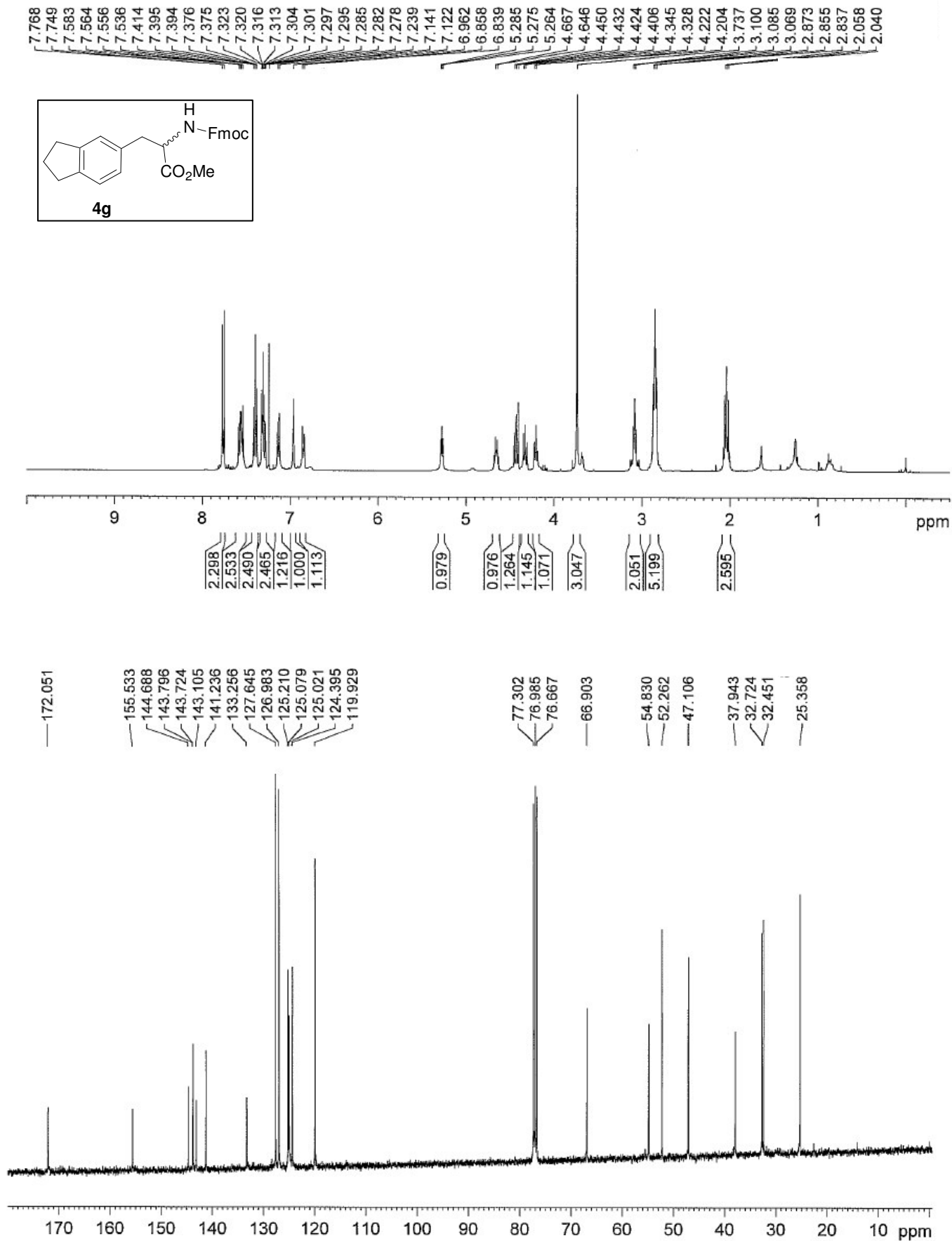
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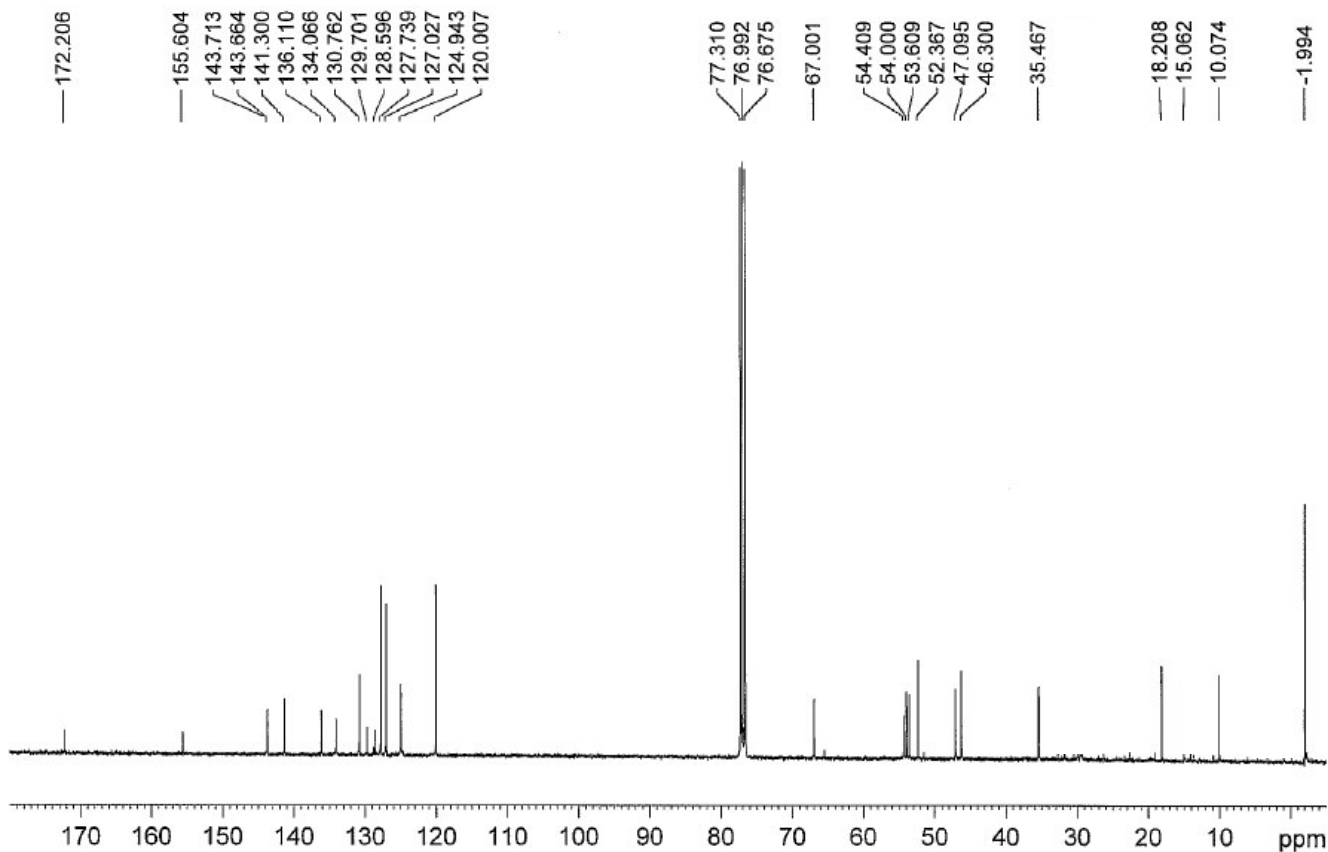
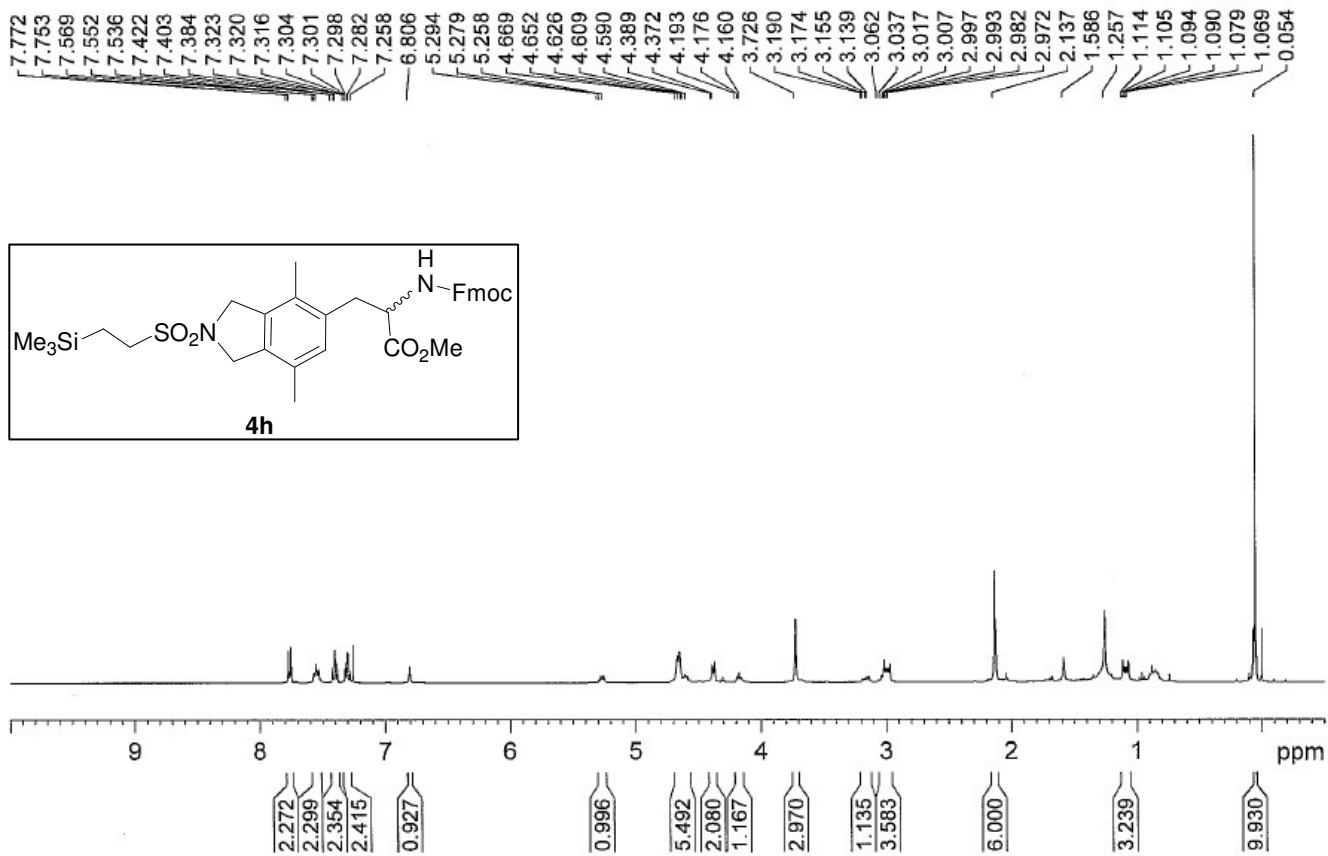
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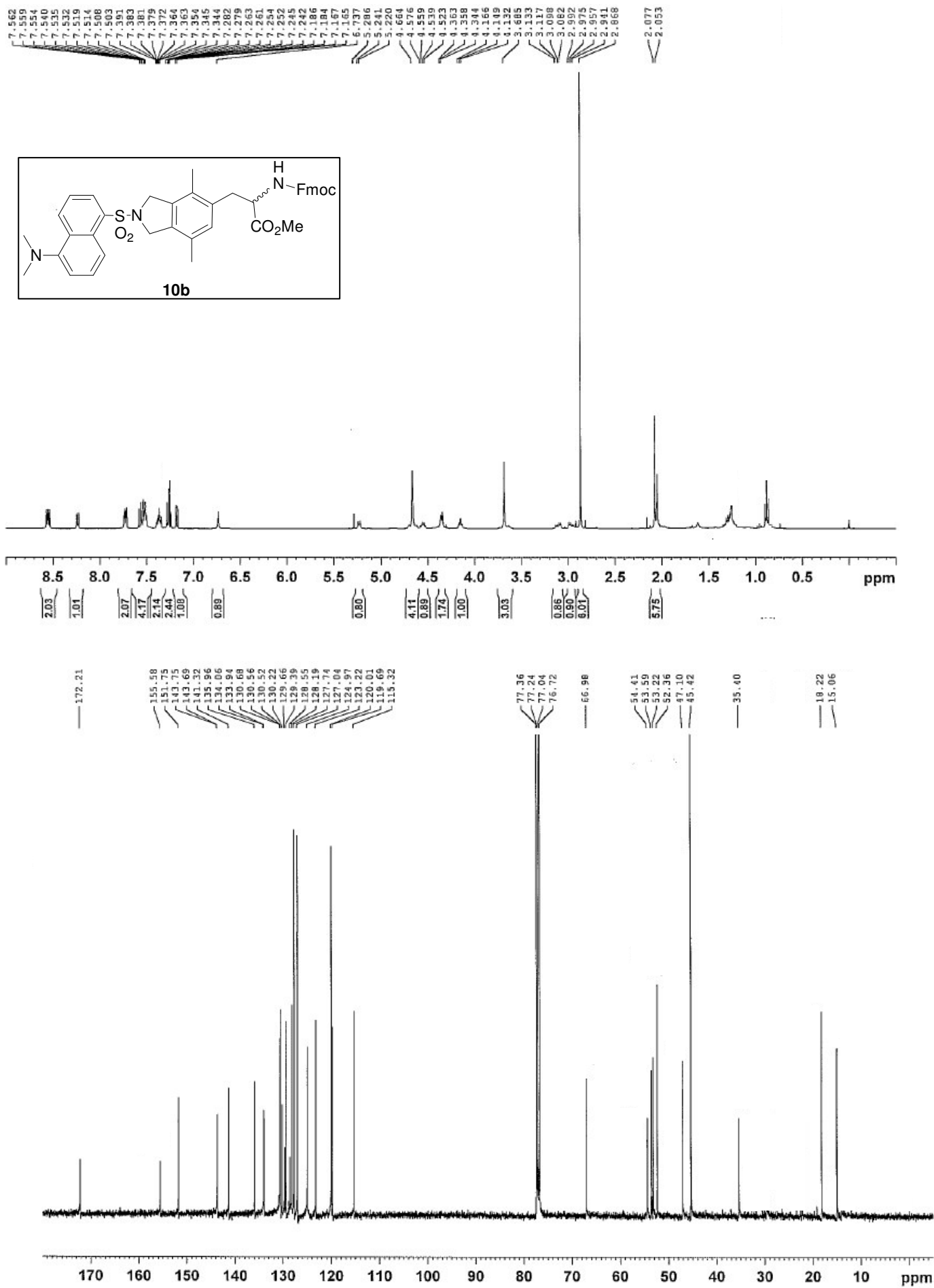


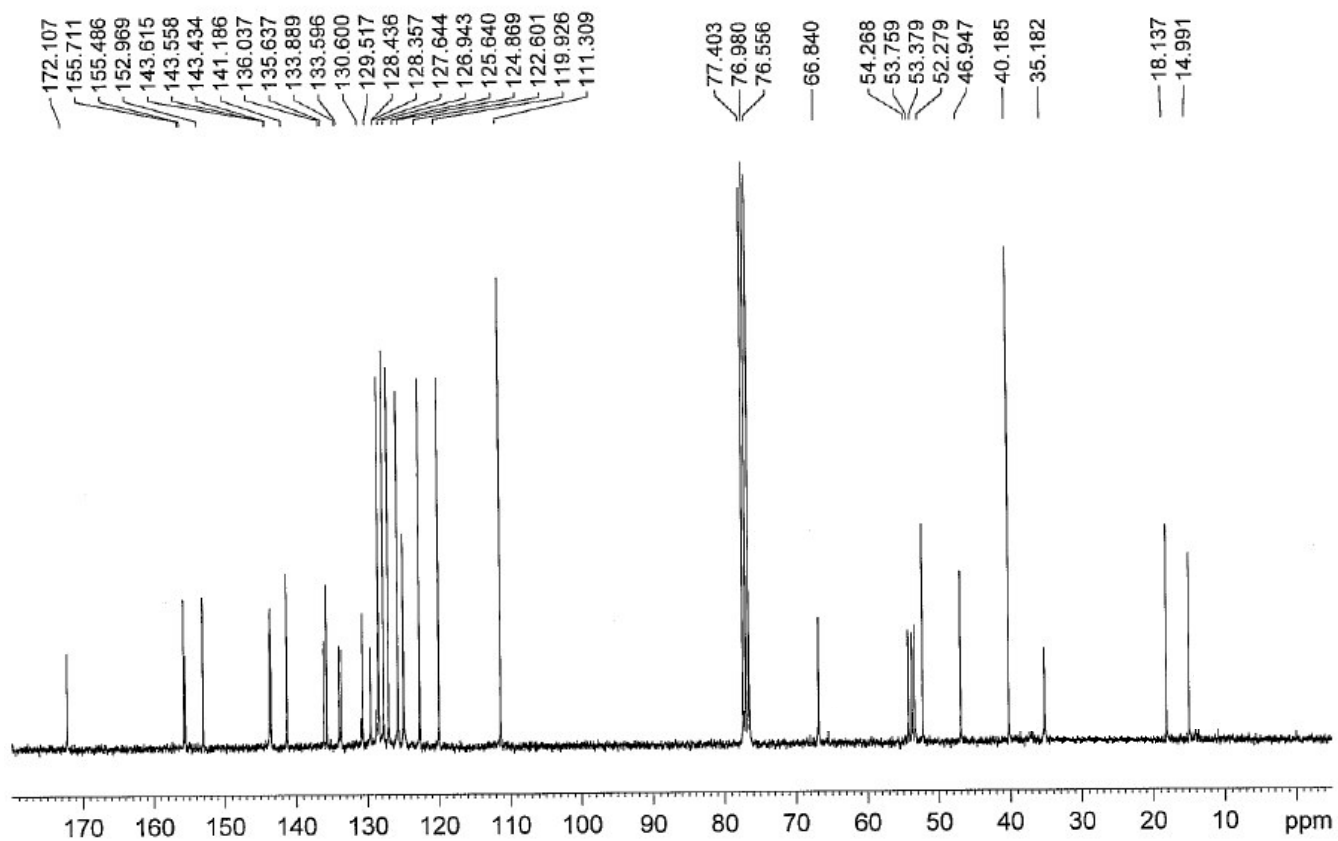
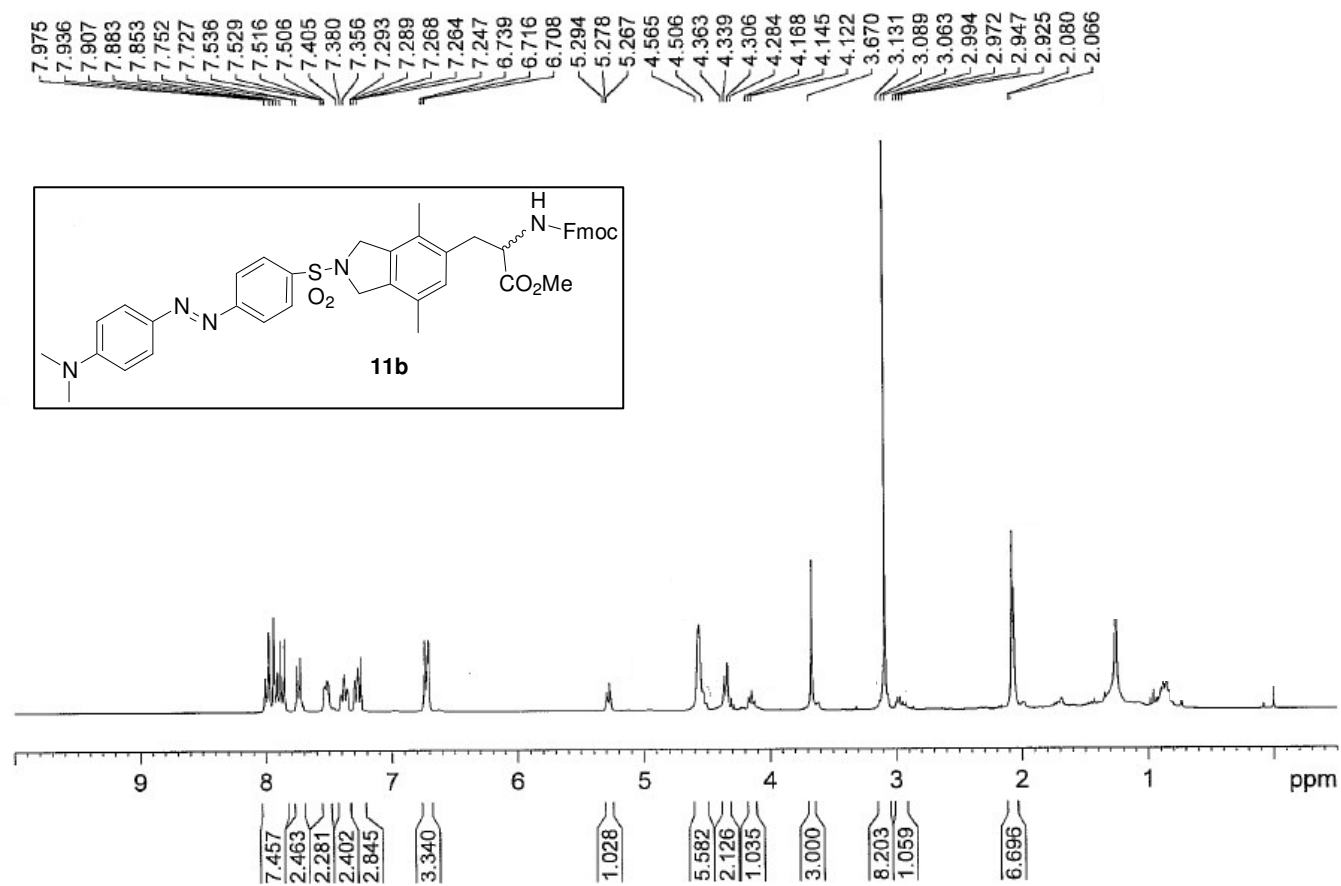


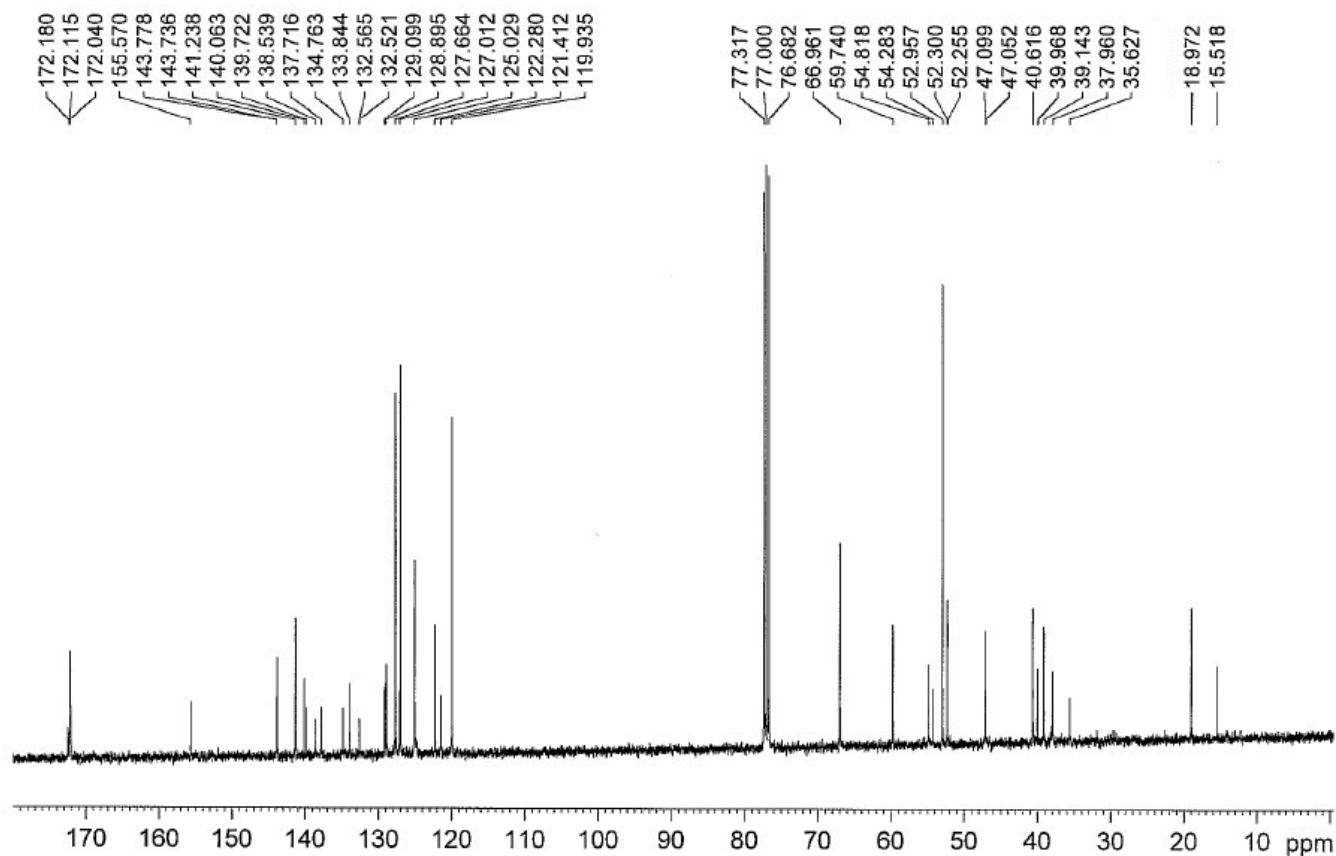
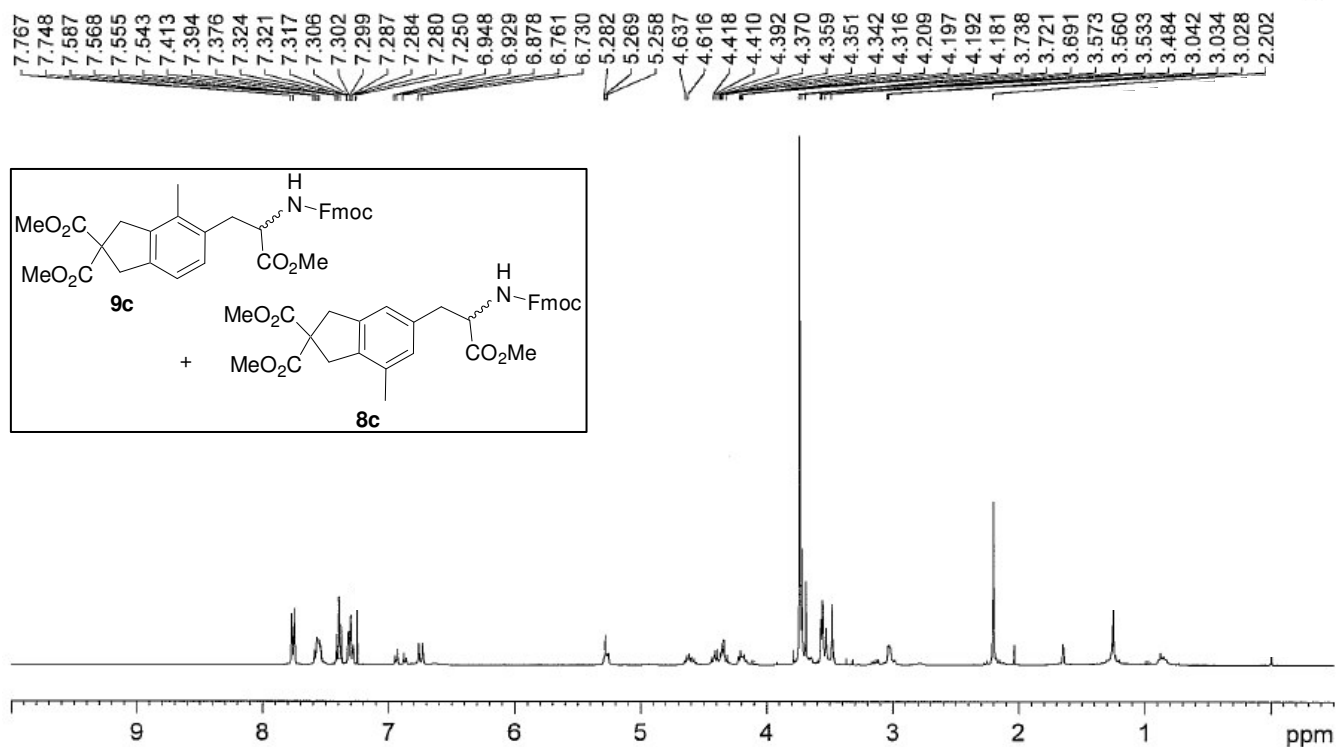


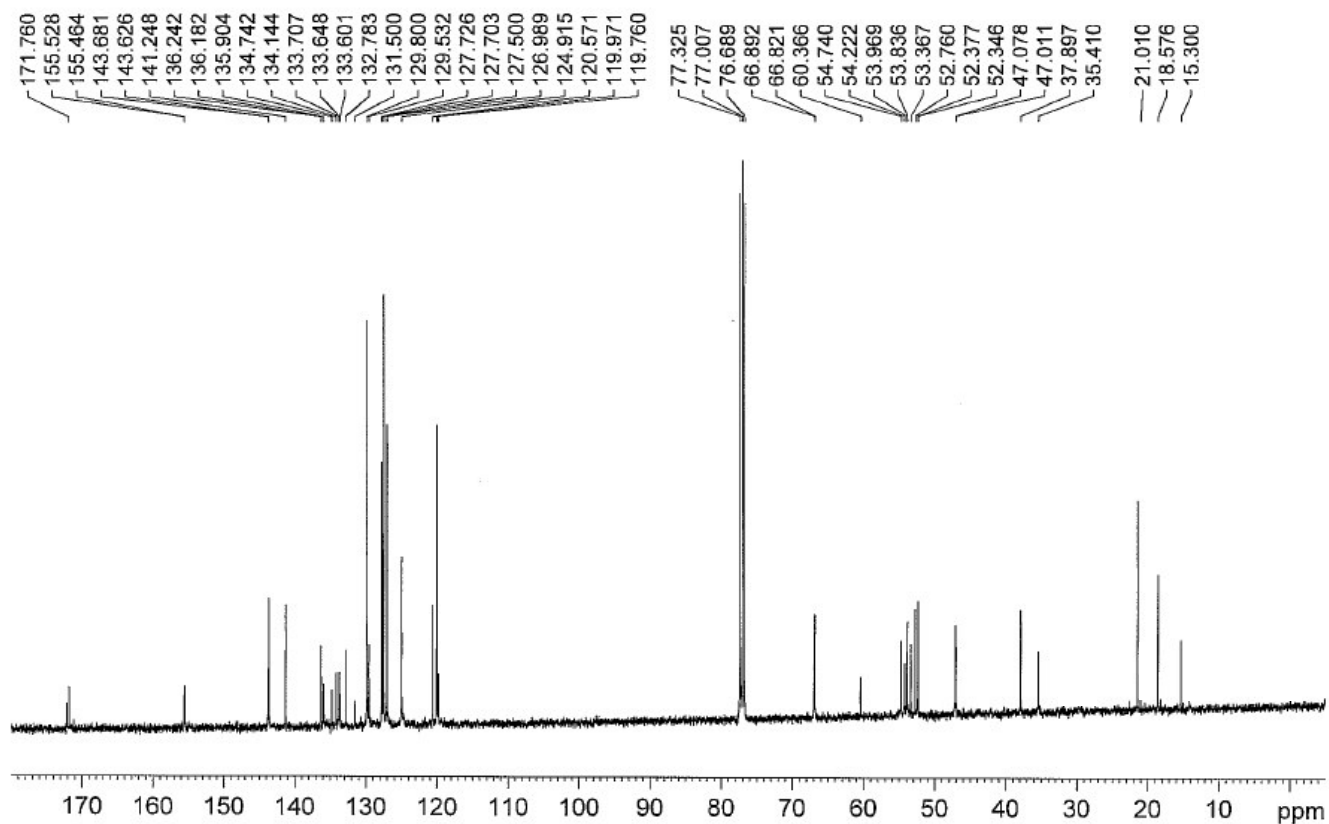
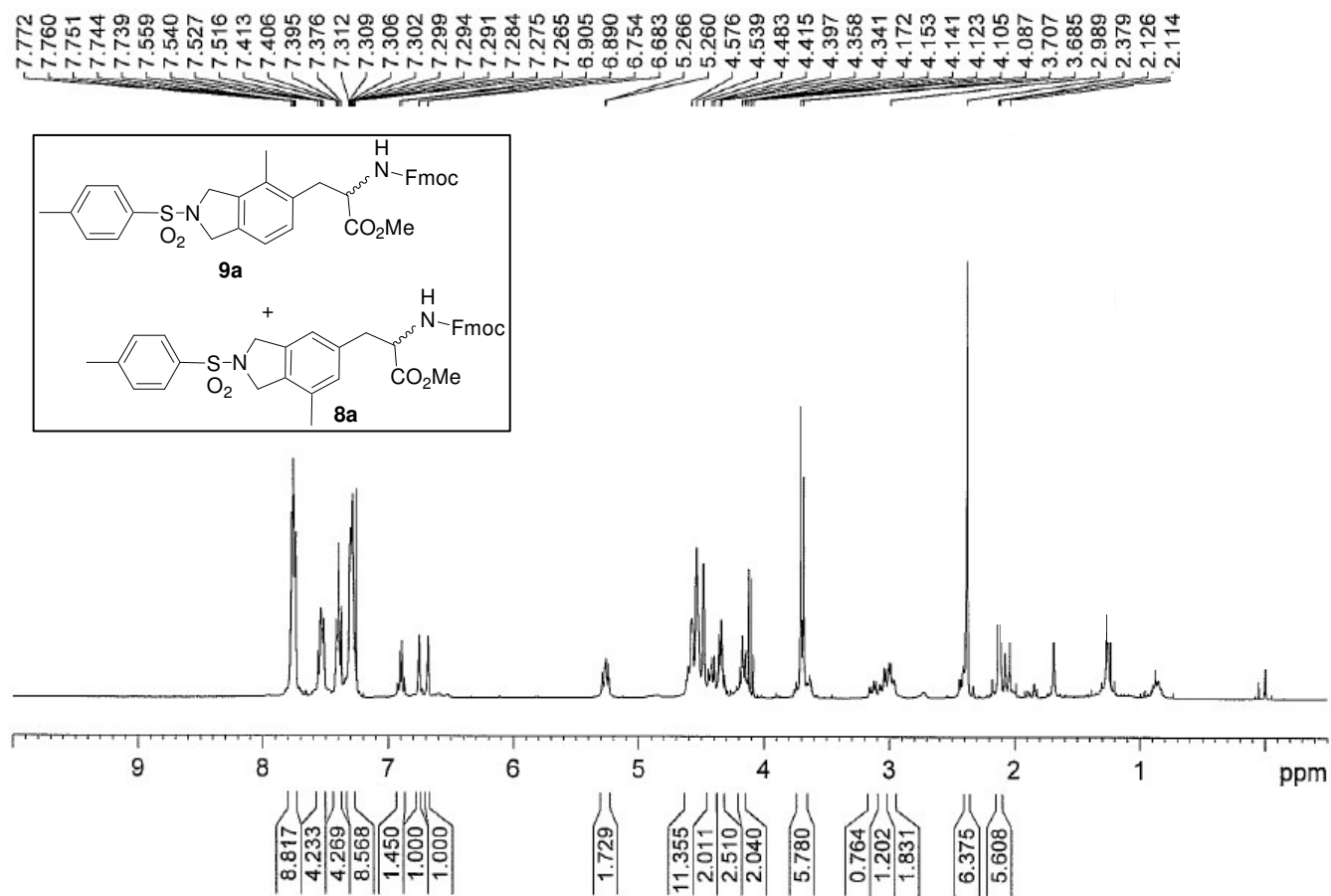


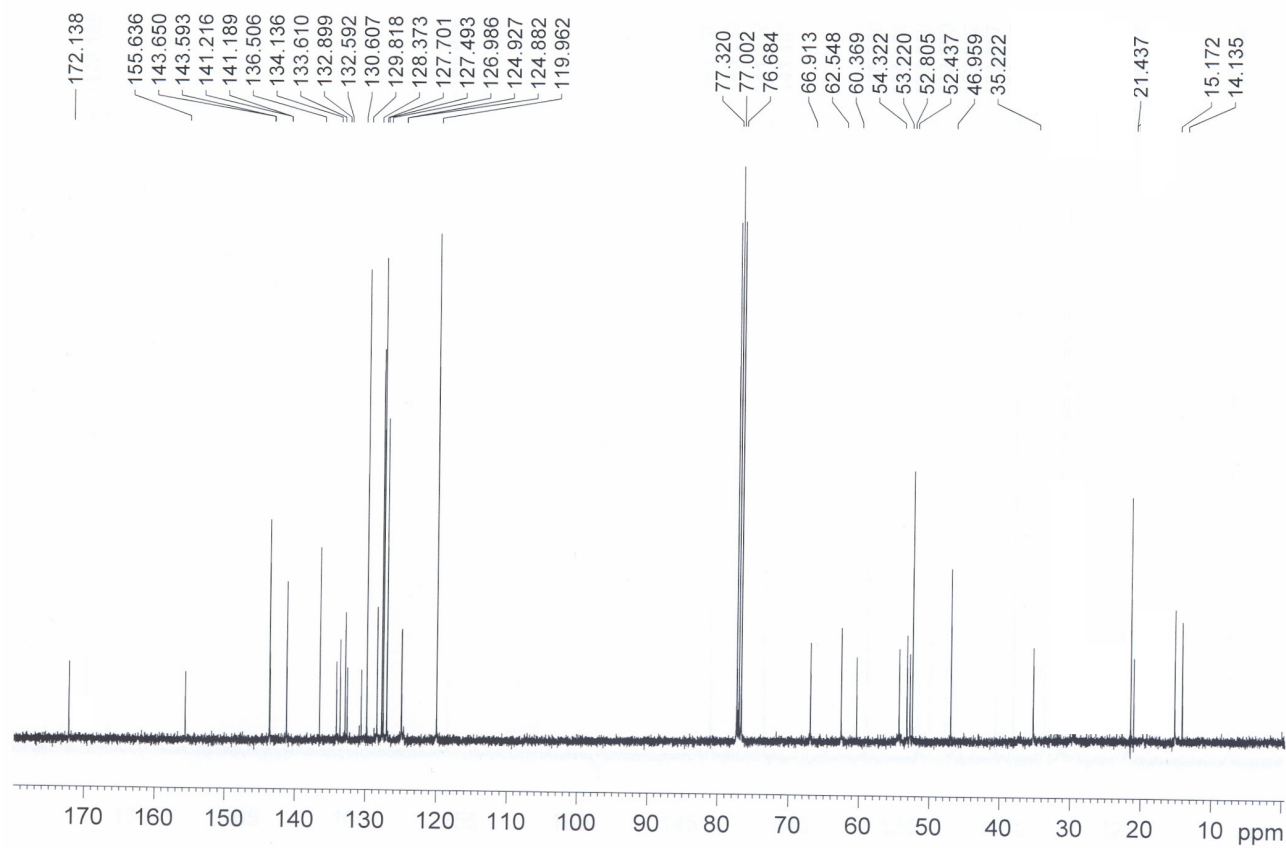
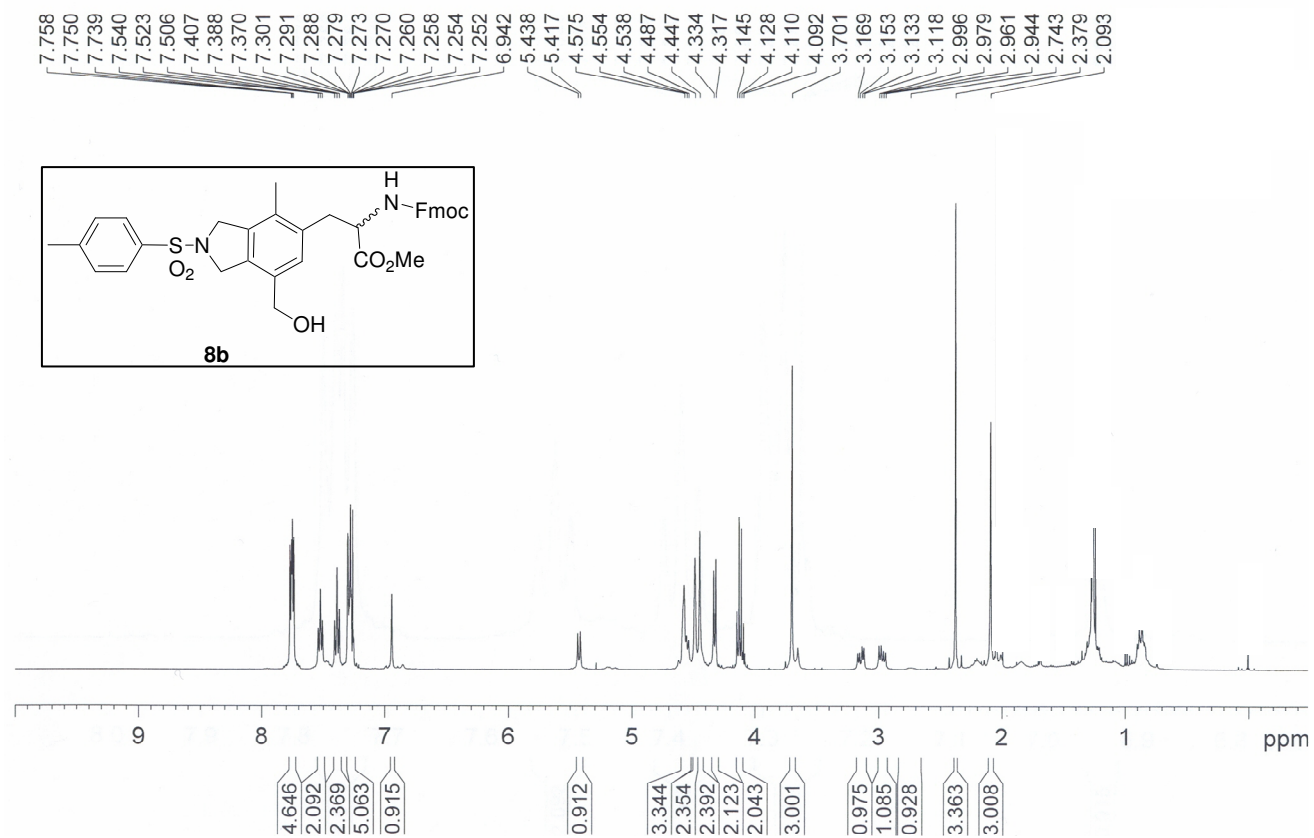




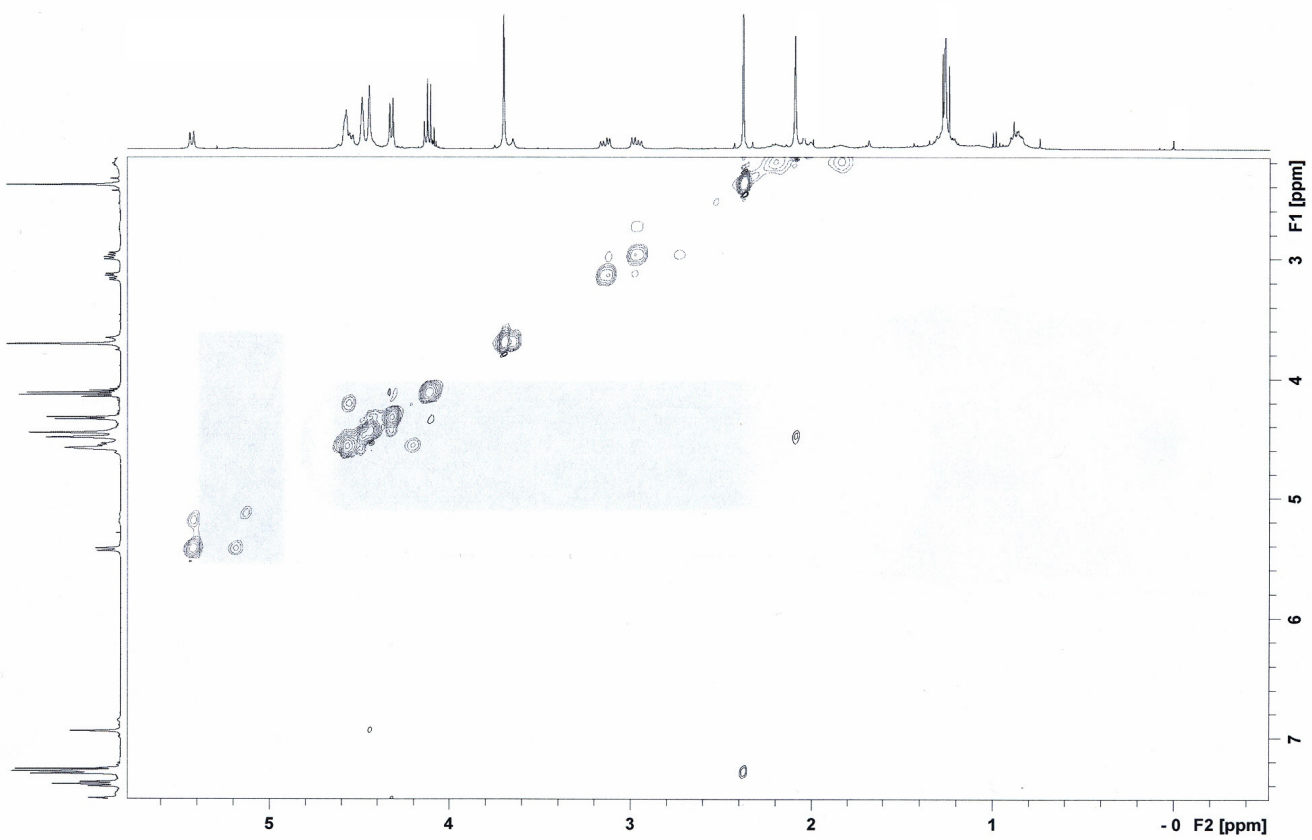
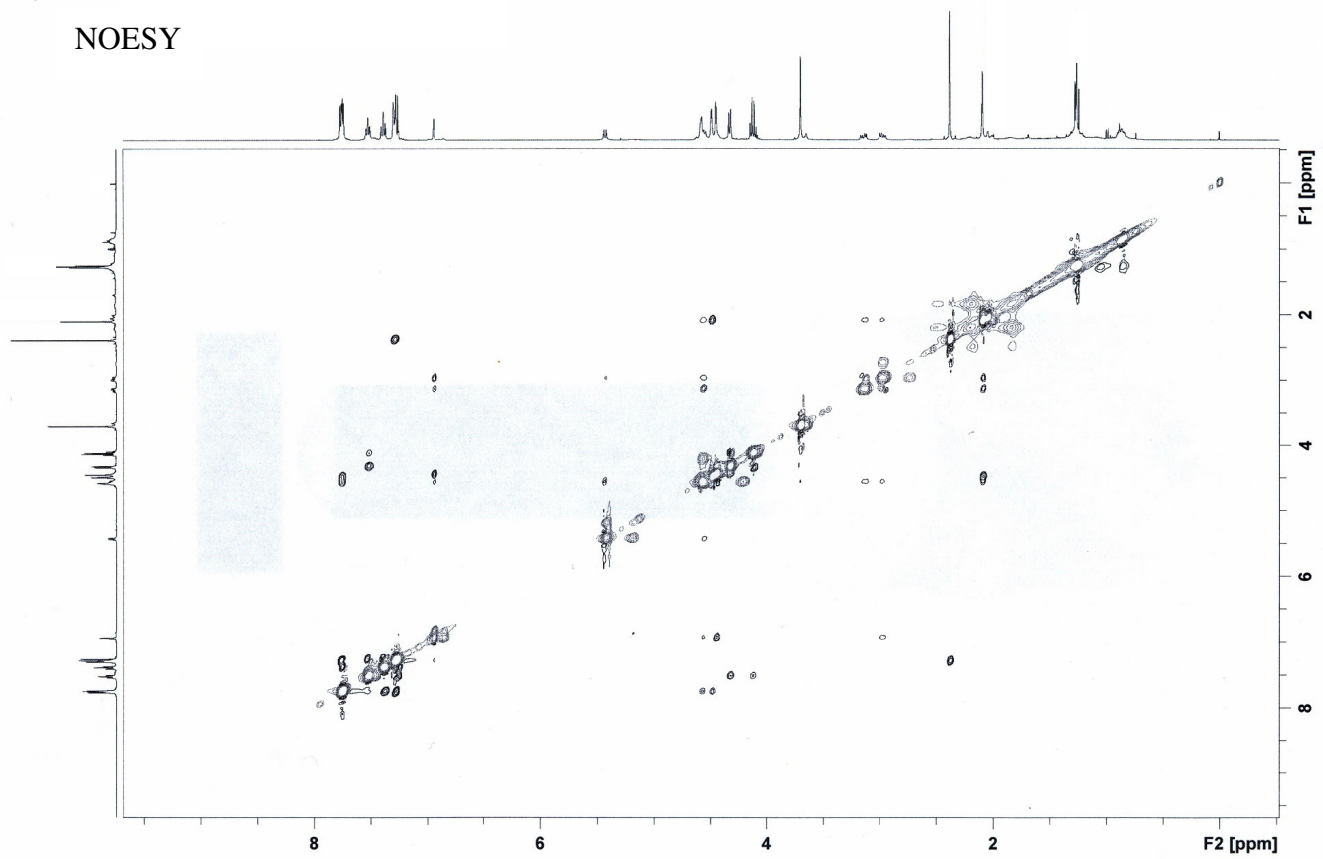




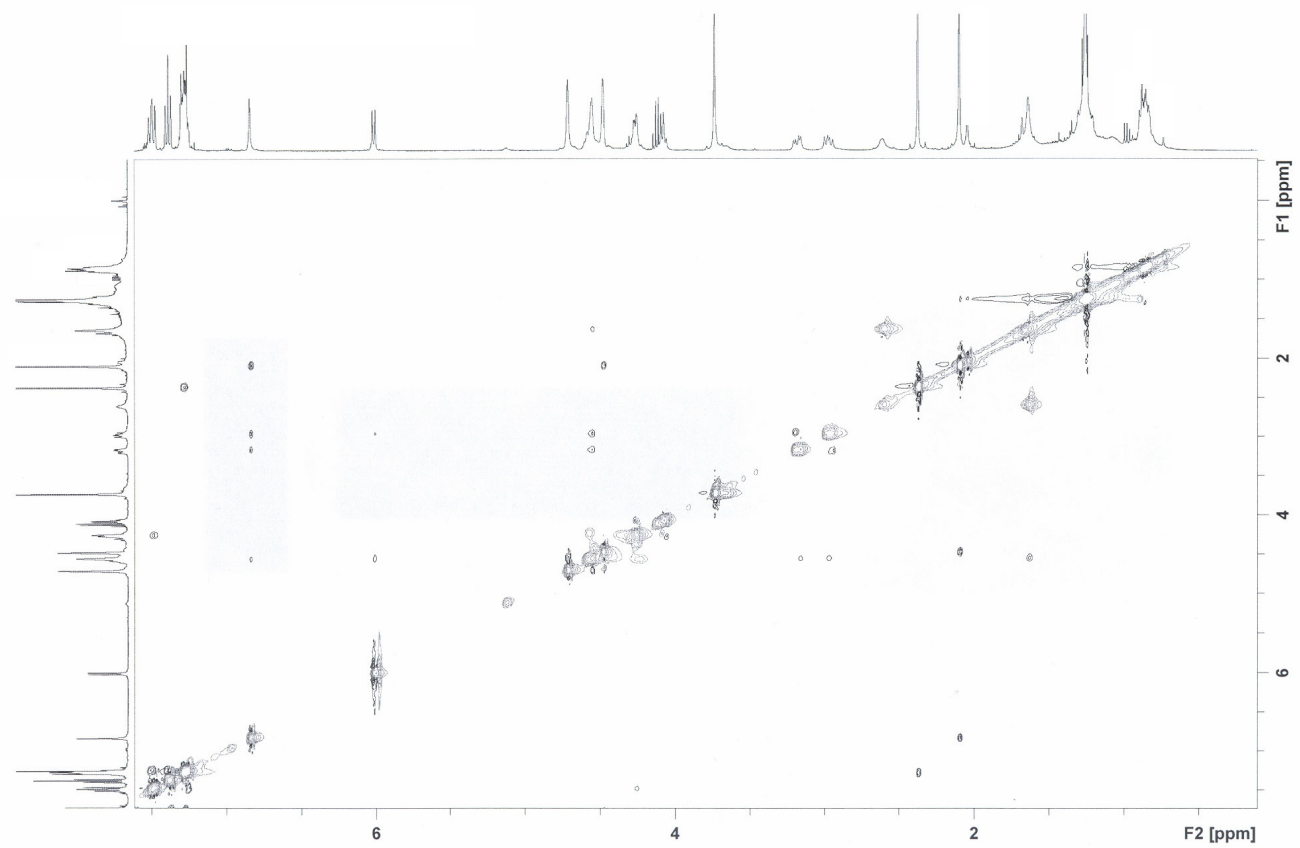
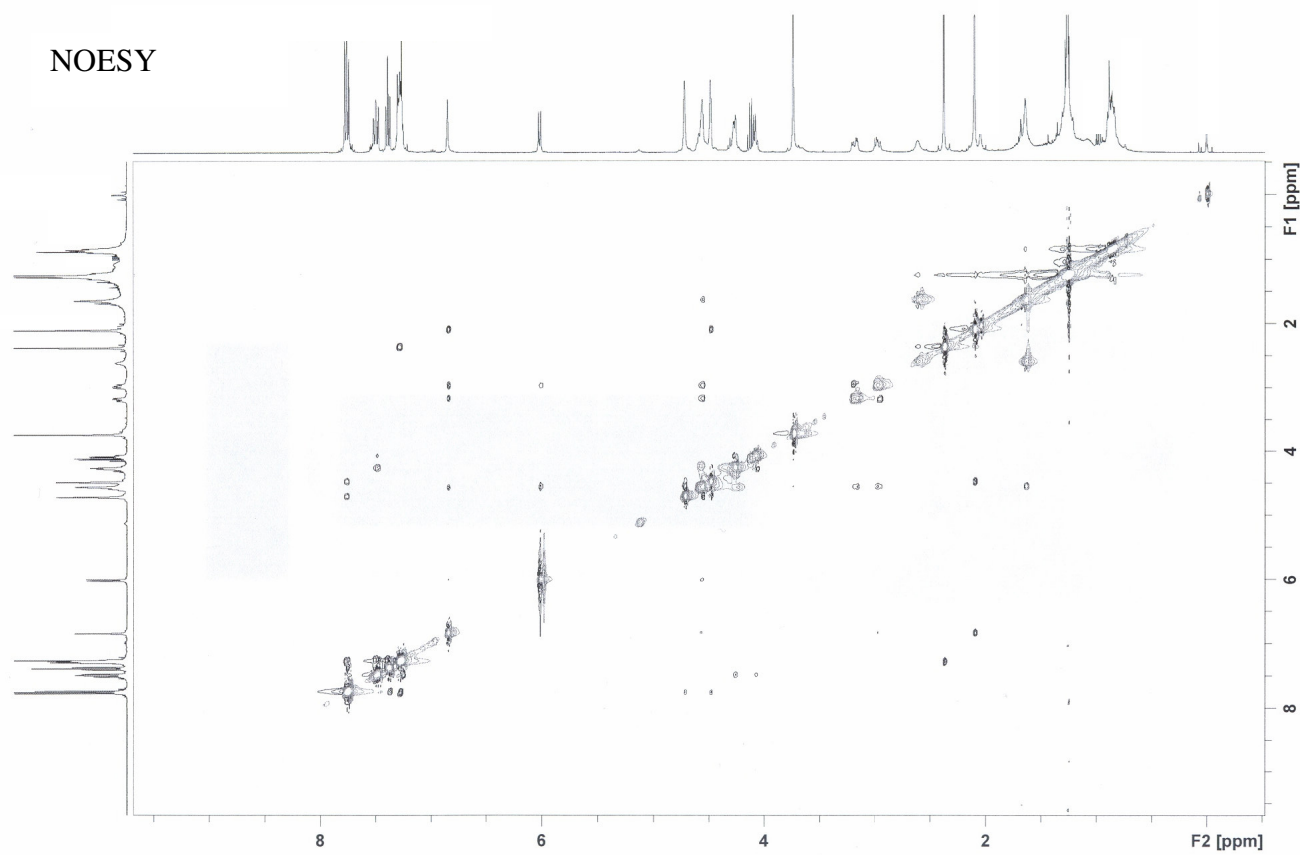


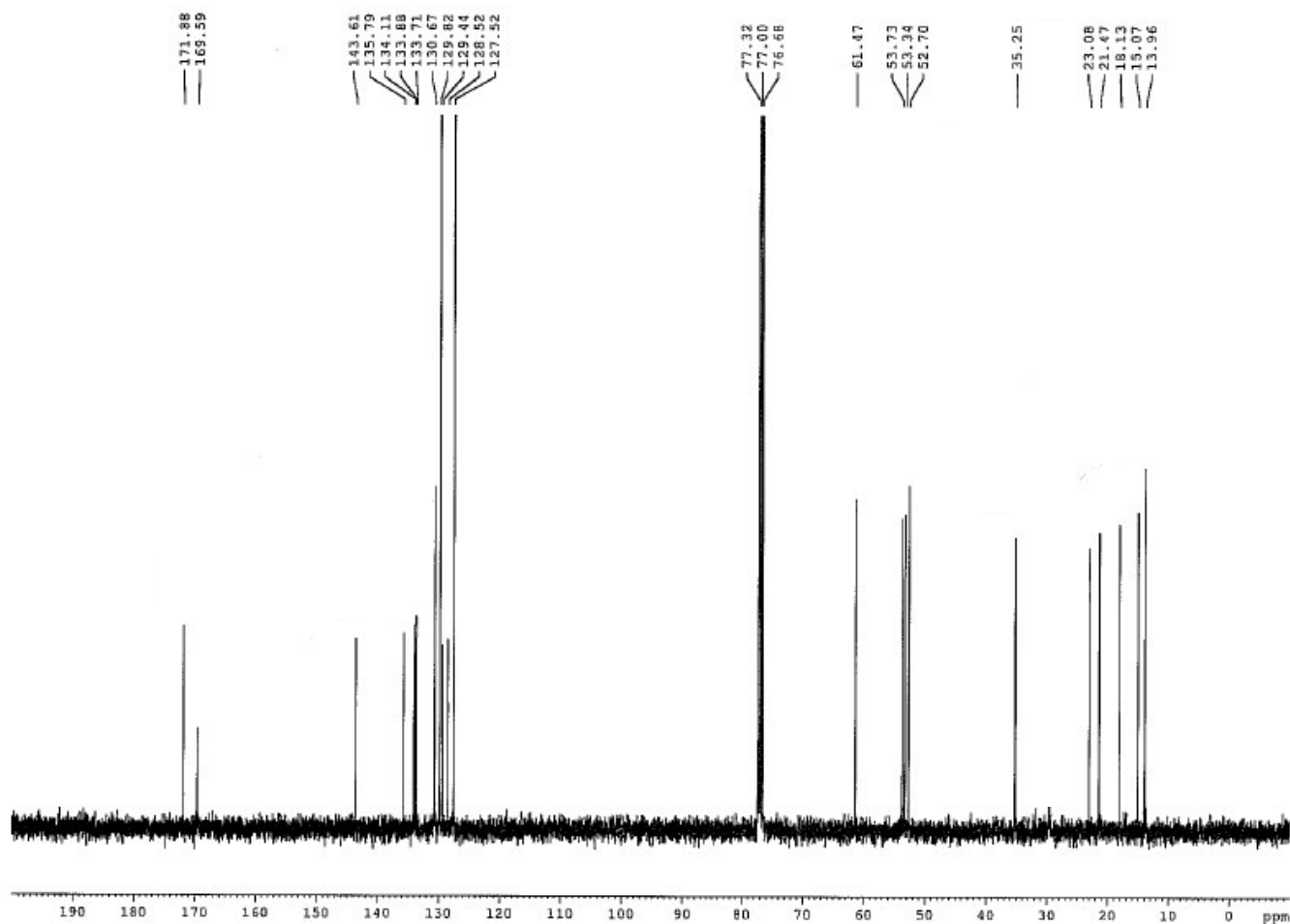
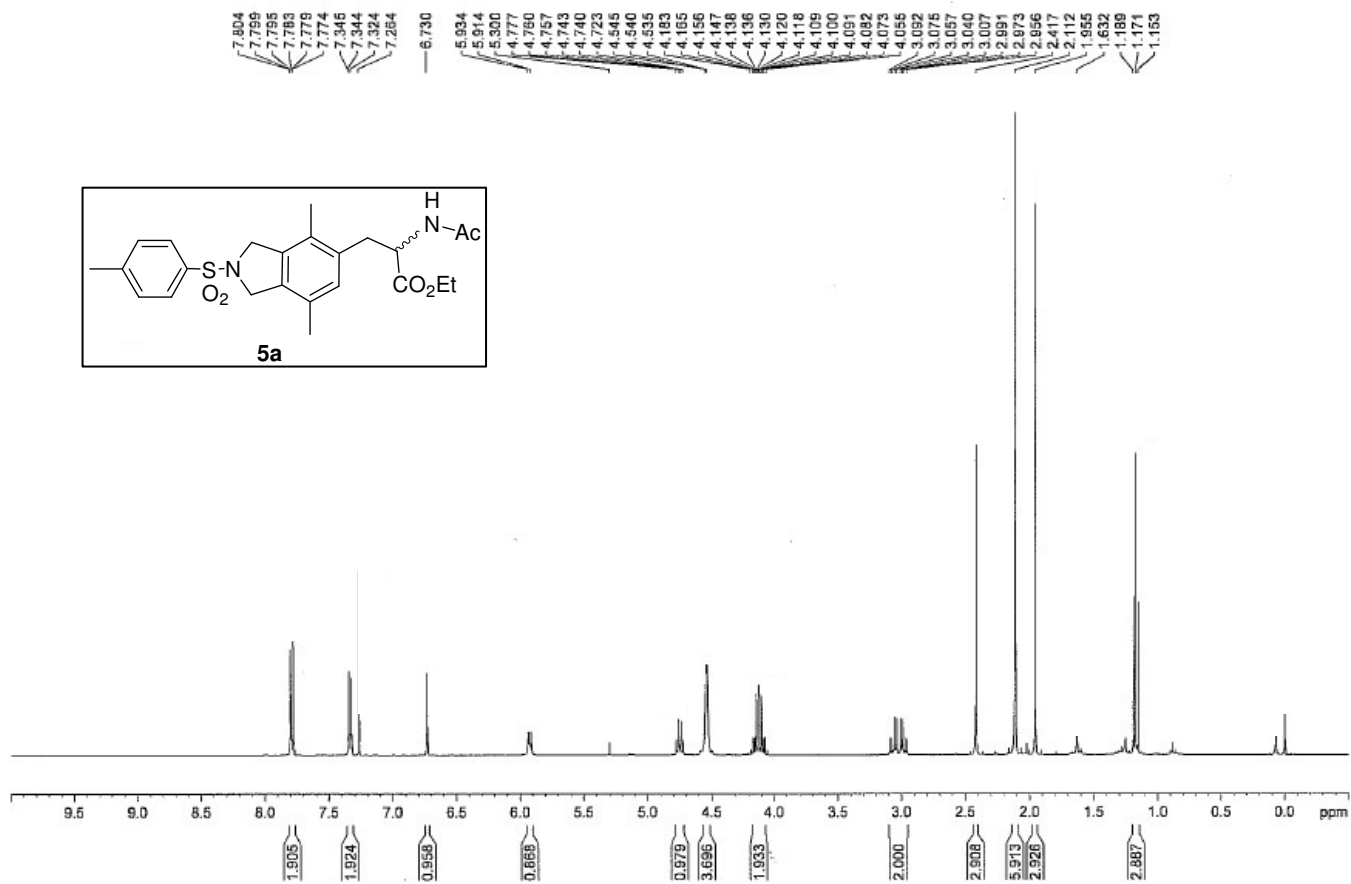


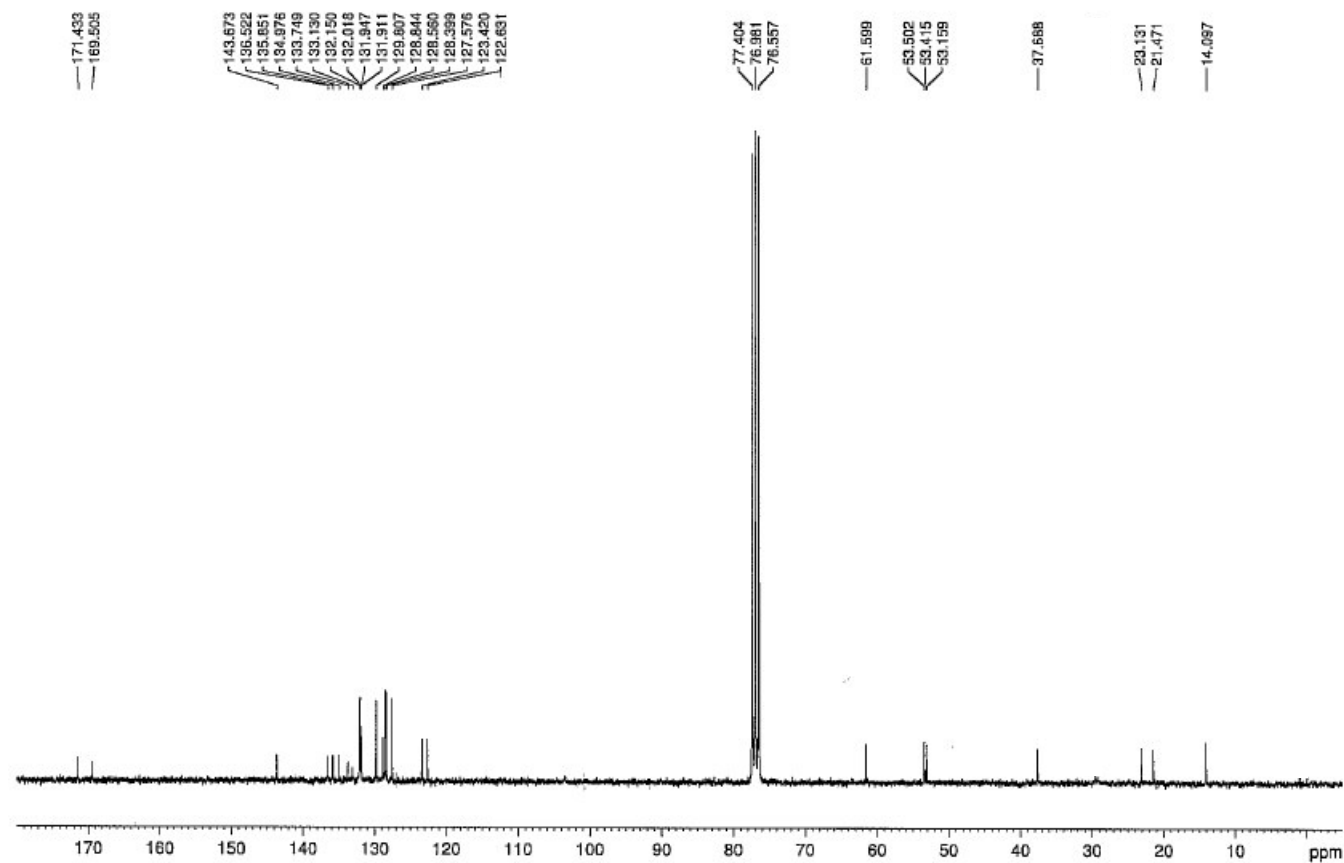
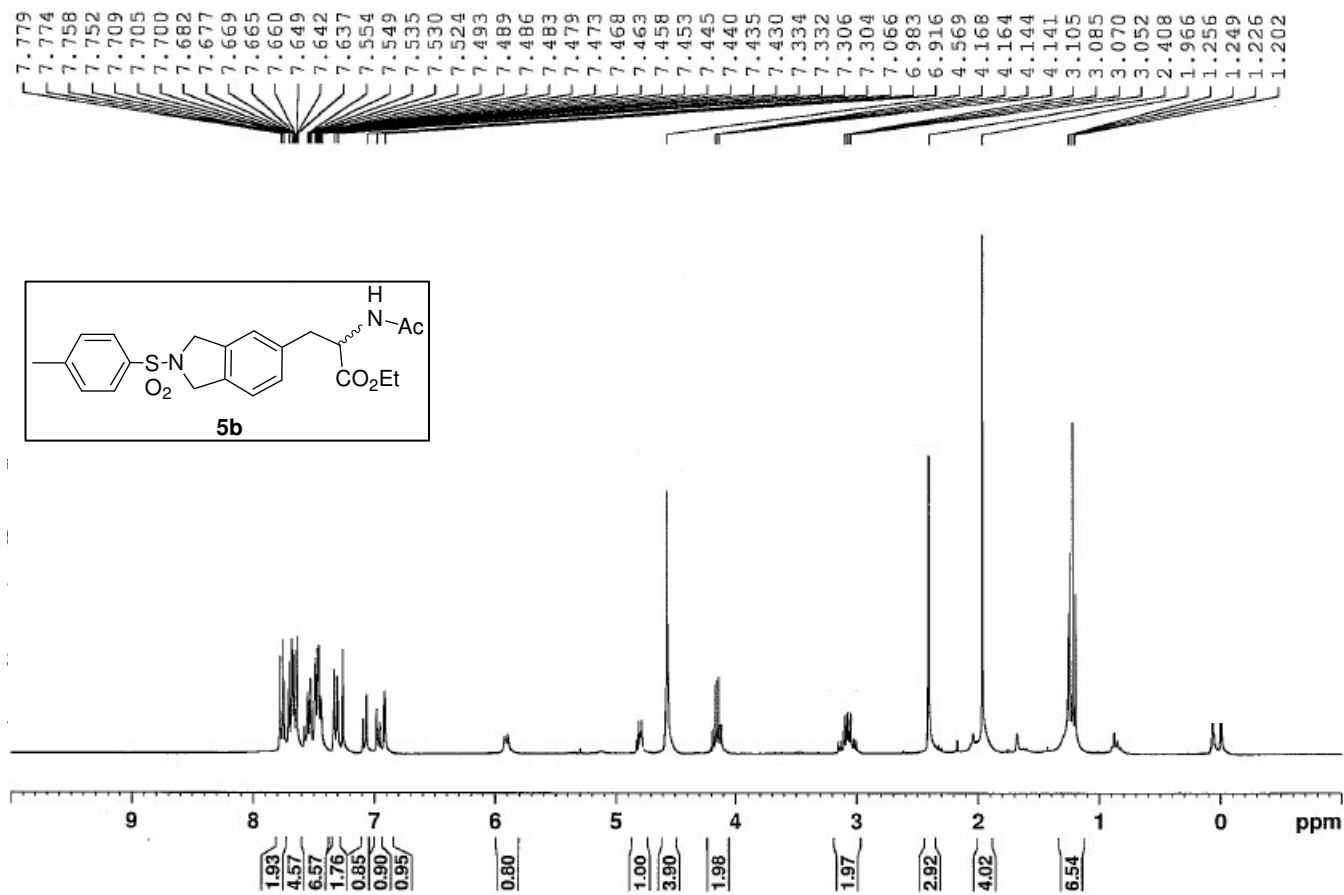
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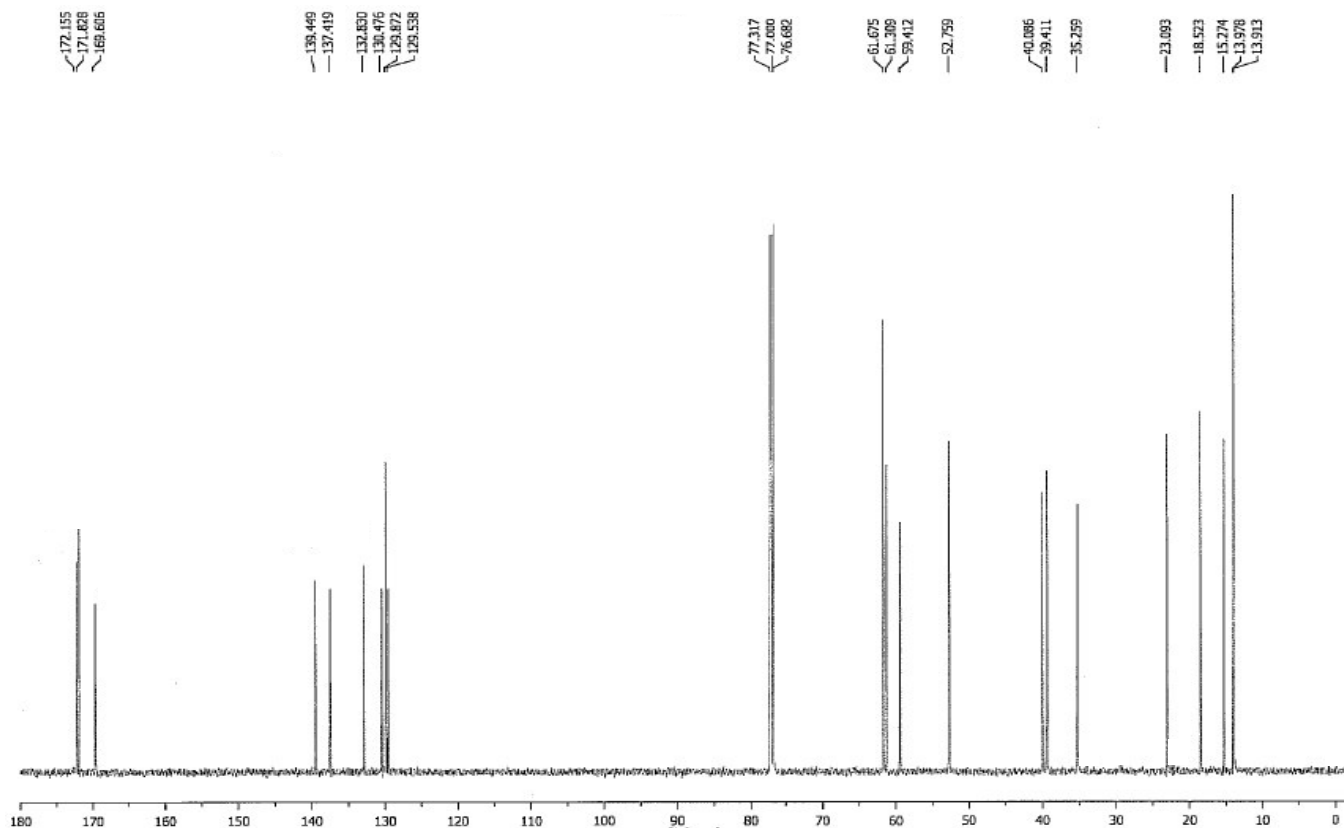
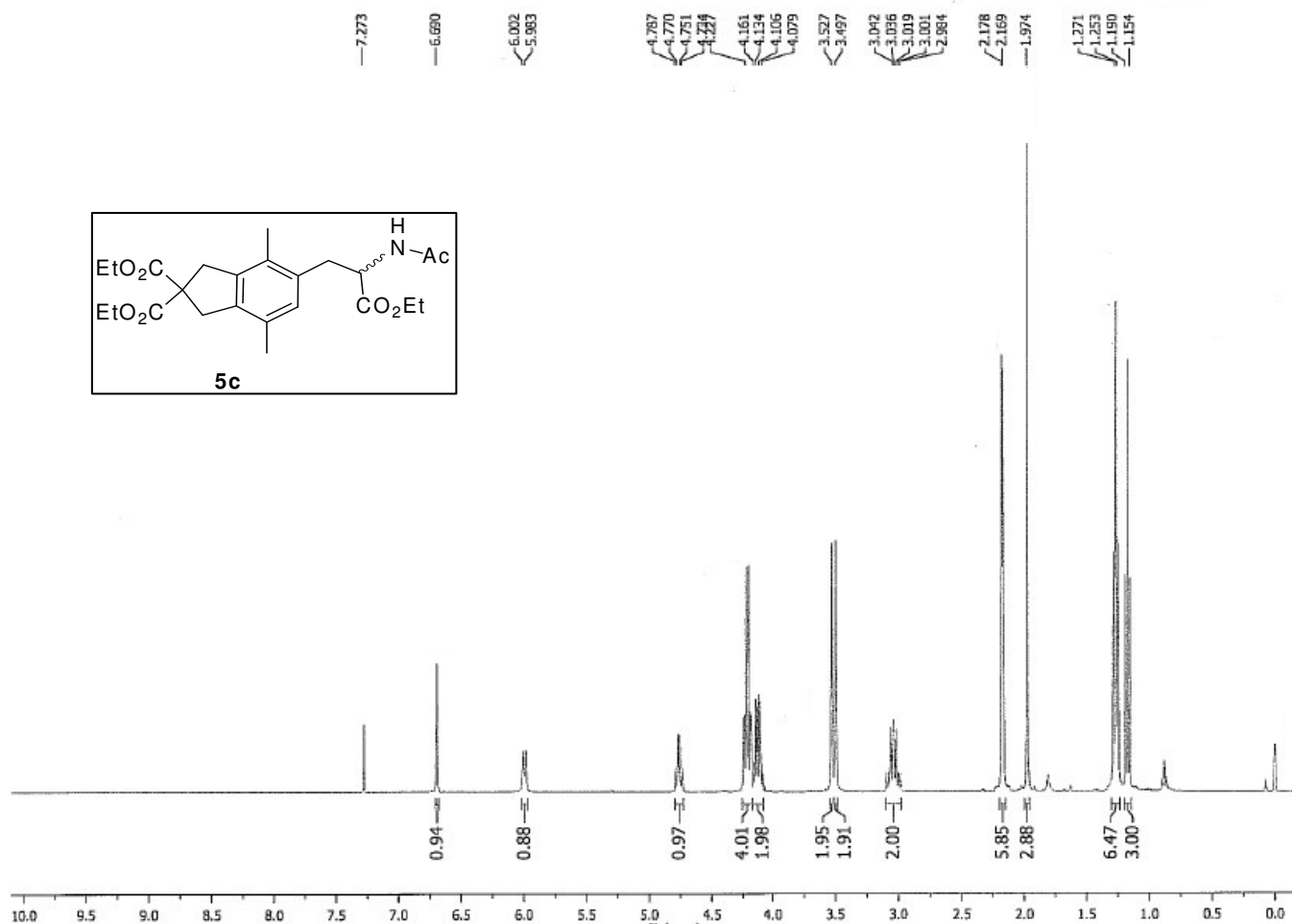
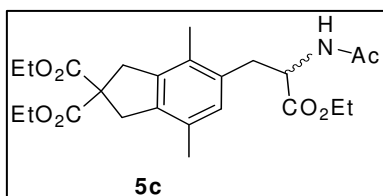


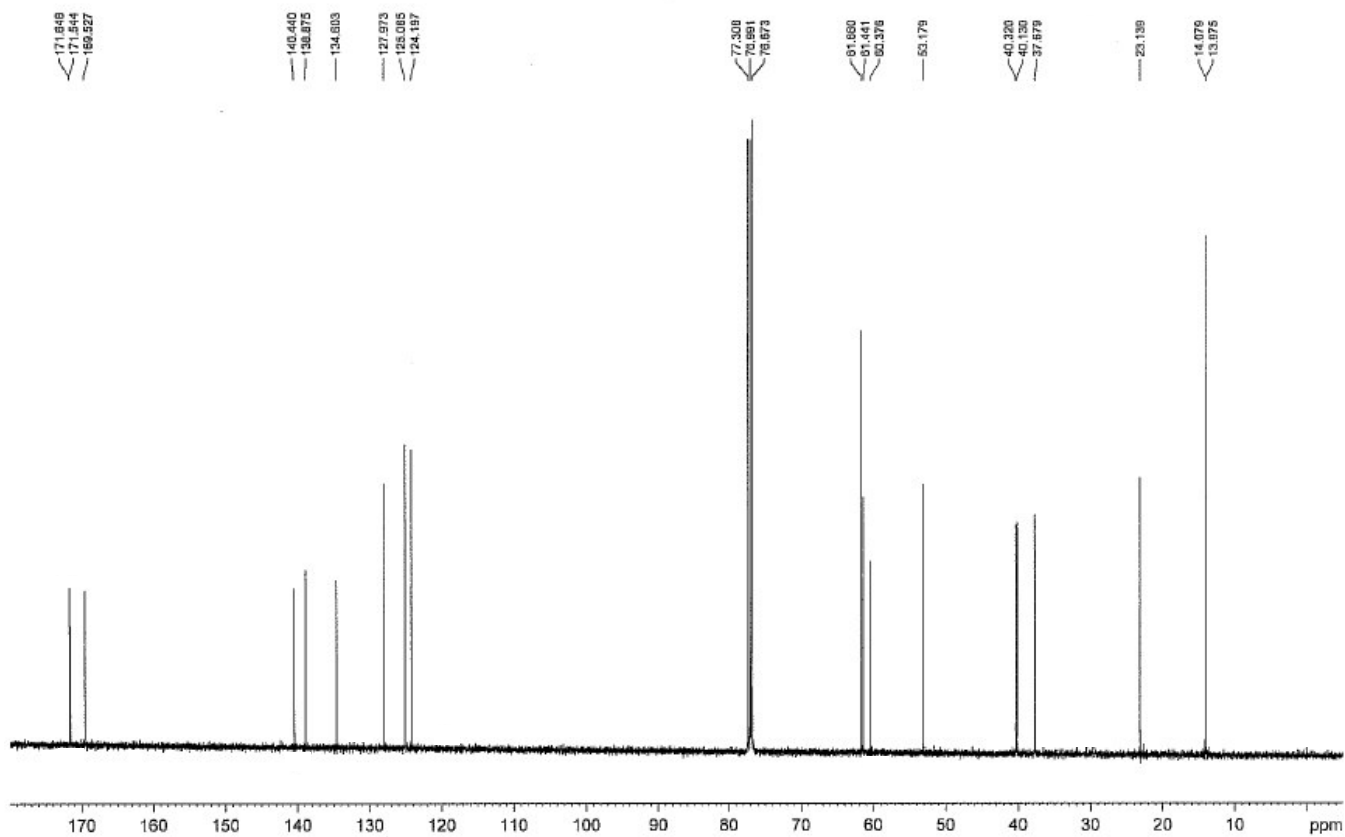
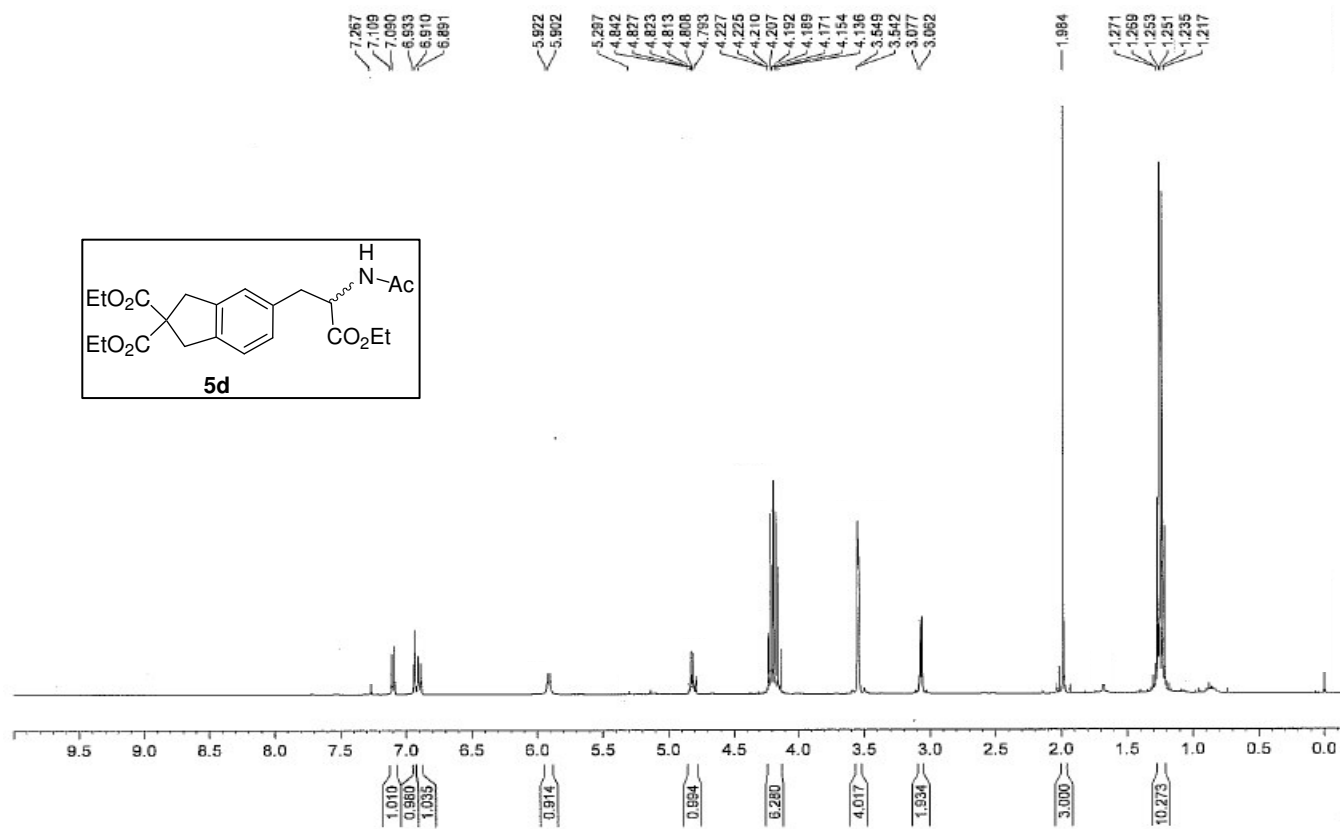
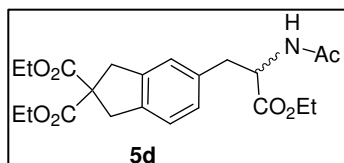
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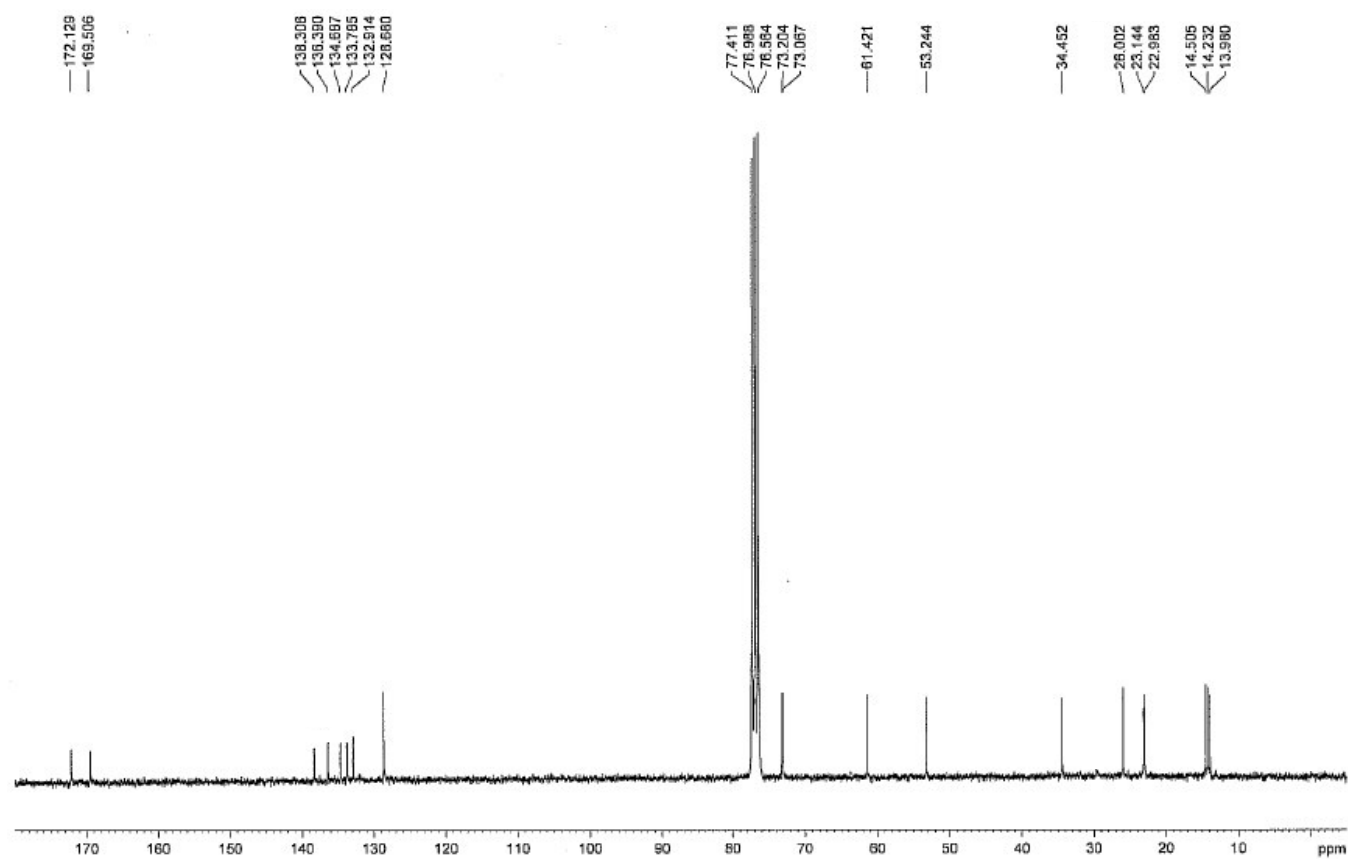
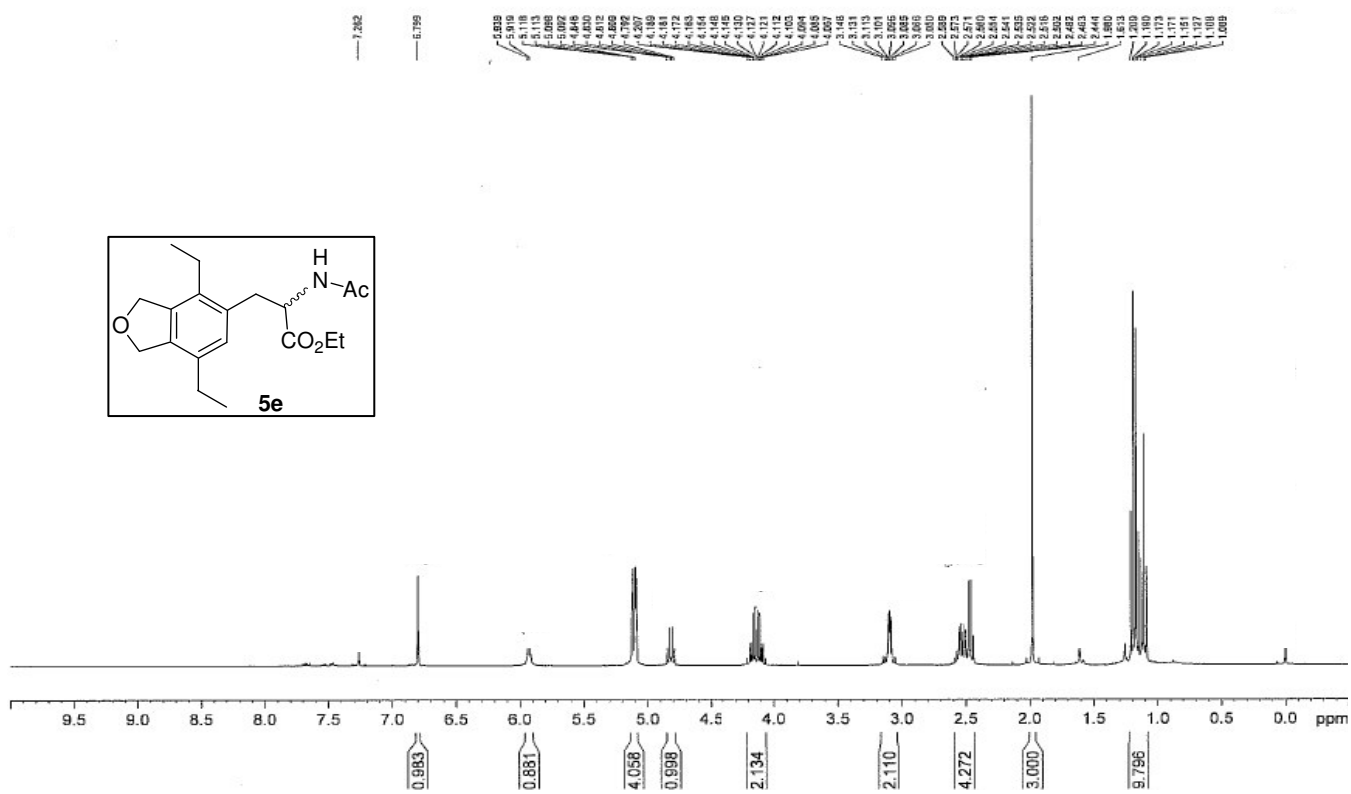


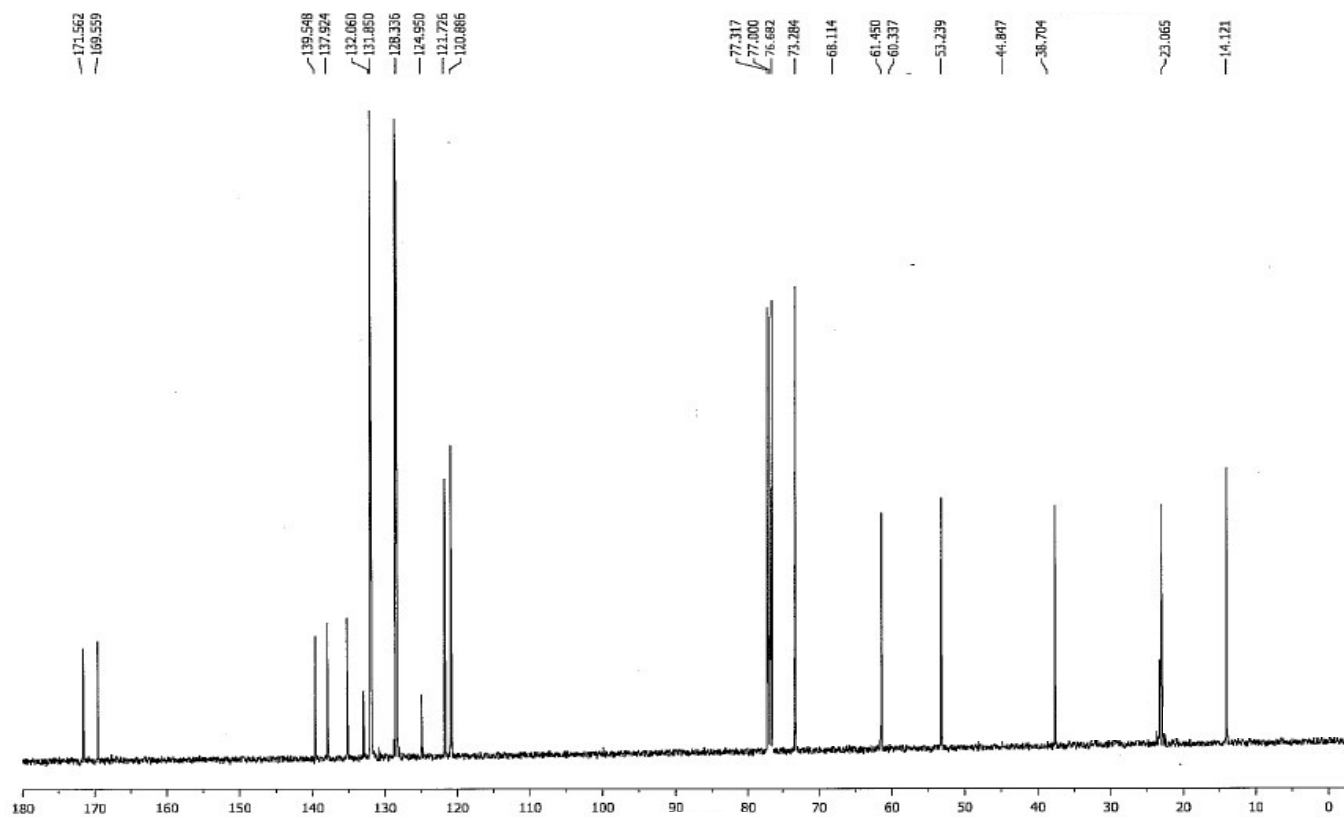
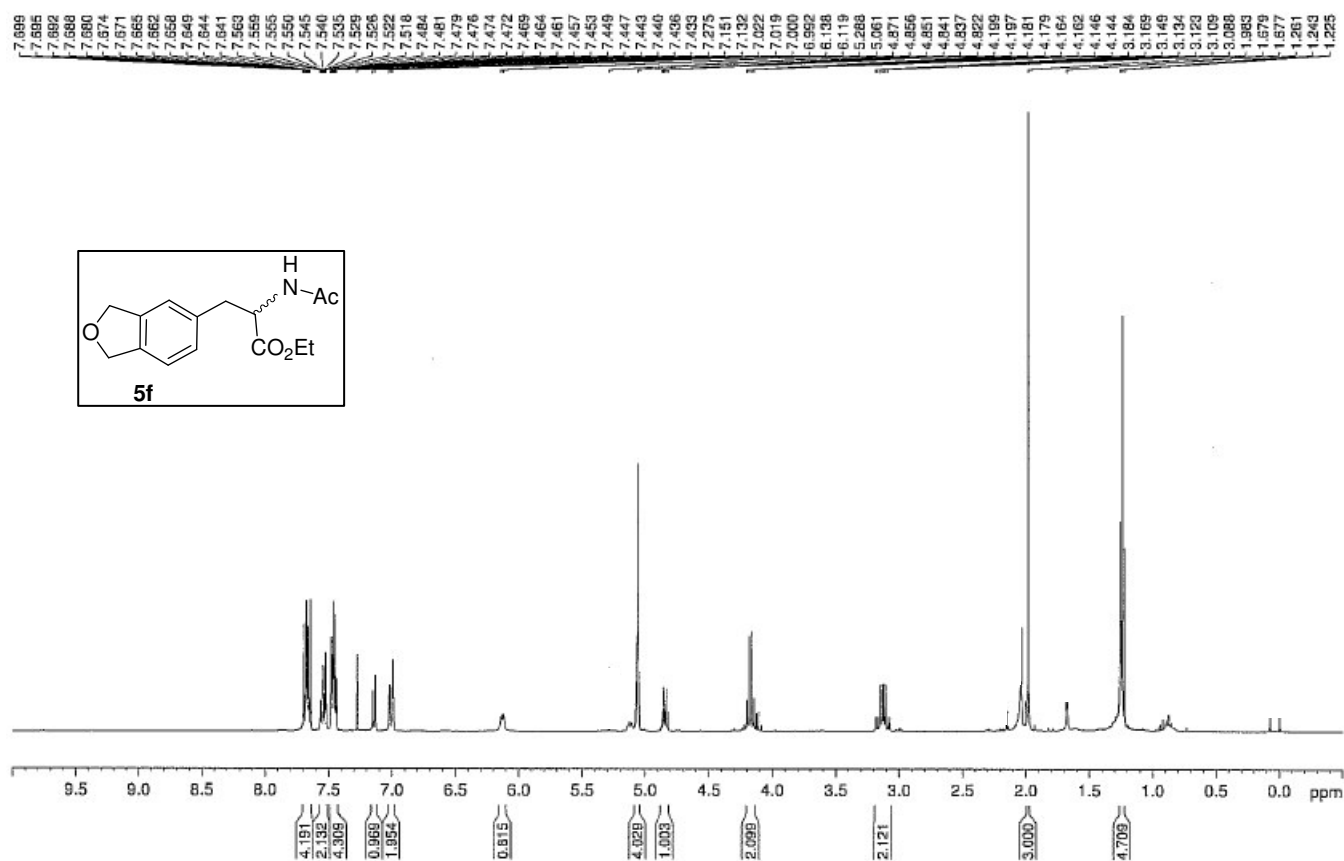












^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of homocoupled product 6

