

# Organocatalytic cascade reaction for asymmetric synthesis of novel chroman-fused spirooxindoles that potently inhibit cancer cell proliferation

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## **1. Experimental details**

### **1.1 General methods for synthesis**

NMR data was obtained for  $^1\text{H}$  at 400 MHz, and for  $^{13}\text{C}$  at 100 MHz. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm from tetramethylsilane with the solvent resonance as the internal standard in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  solution. ESI HRMS was recorded on a Waters SYNAPT G2. In each case, enantiomeric ratio was determined by HPLC analysis on chiral column in comparison with authentic racemates, using a Daicel Chiralpak AD-H Column (250 x 4.6 mm) or Daicel Chiralpak OD-H Column (250 x 4.6 mm). UV detection was monitored at 254 nm. Optical rotation data were examined in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  solution at 20 °C. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (300-400 mesh) eluting with ethyl acetate and petroleum ether. TLC was performed on glass-backed silica plates. UV light and  $\text{I}_2$  were used to visualize products. Melting points were determined on a Mel-Temp apparatus and are uncorrected. All chemicals were used without purification as commercially available unless otherwise noted.

### **1.2 Cell culture and cellular proliferation assay**

TheA549, HepG2, MCF-7, HCT116 and U87 human cancer cells were purchased from American Type Culture Collection (ATCC, Manassas, VA, U.S.A.). The cells were cultured in DMEM or RPMI-1640 medium (GIBCO, NY, U.S.A.) supplemented with 10 % fetal bovine serum (GE Healthcare, Hyclone Laboratories, Logan, Utah, U.S.A.), 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  streptomycin, 100 IU/ml penicillin, and 0.03 % L-glutamine and maintained at 37 °C with 5 %  $\text{CO}_2$  in a humidified atmosphere.

Human cancer cells were dispensed in 96-well flat bottom microtiter plates at a density of  $5 \times 10^4$  to  $1 \times 10^5$  cells/mL. After 24 h incubation, they were treated with different concentrations of 5a-5n, 6a, 7a-7f and 8a for the indicated time periods. Cell viability was measured by the 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT) assay.

### **1.3 Molecular docking of 7e to MDM2**

The initial three dimensional geometric coordinates of the X-ray crystal structure of MDM2 (PDB code: 4LWU) was downloaded from the Protein Data Bank (PDB) (<http://www.pdb.org/pdb/home/home.do>). In addition, we used Accelrys Discovery Studio version 3.5 (Accelrys Inc., USA) with CHARMM force-field parameters to dock

pre-generated conformations of 7e into its targets for testing the binding conformation of the complex. We performed flexible-ligand docking to a rigid receptor with grid-based scoring, in which 7e was allowed to be flexible and structurally rearranged in response to MDM2.

#### **1.4 Imaging the p53-MDM2 interaction in cytoplasm by fluorescent probe**

Human breast adenocarcinoma MCF-7 cells were plate on confocal dish and allowed to adhere for 12-24 h. After the medium was removed, the cells were carefully washed with culture medium without fetal bovine serum and then incubated at room temperature in the presence of the p53-MDM2 fluorescent probe for 25 min. The fluorescence imaging was performed by using Zeiss AxioObserver A1 fluorescence microscope and Zeiss LSM780 confocal fluorescence microscope.

#### **1.5 Cell cycle and apoptosis assay by Flow Cytometry (FCM) and fluorescent microscopy**

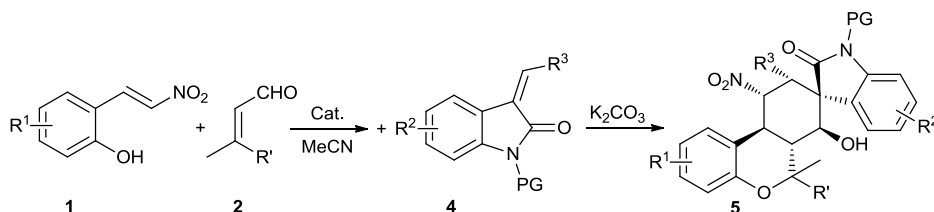
After incubation with 7e for 24 h, the cells were stained with PI at 37 °C for 30 min, and then the morphology was observed by a fluorescence microscopy (Olympus, Tokyo, Japan). Annexin V/PI dual staining assay was employed to determine the involvement of apoptosis in 7e-induced cell death, using Annexin-V-FLUOS Staining Kit (Roche) as the manufacturer's instructions. In the caspase-dependent assay, pan-caspase inhibitor Z-VAD-FMK (5 µM) was added to MCF-7 cells 2 h before 7e treatment.

#### **1.6 Western blot analysis**

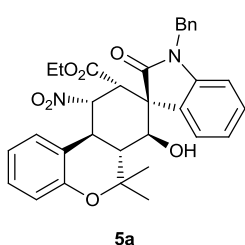
Antibodies against caspase-3, MDM2,  $\beta$ -actin and HRP-conjugated secondary antibodies were purchased from Santa Cruz Biotechnology (Santa Cruz, CA, U.S.A.). Antibodies against p21 and p53 were purchased from Cell Signaling Technology (CST, Beverly, MA, U.S.A.). The MCF-7 cells were harvested, washed twice with cold PBS and then lysed in cell lysis buffer, supplemented with the proteinase inhibitors 100 µg/mL at 4 °C for 1 h. After 12,000 g centrifugation at 4 °C for 10 min, the protein concentration was determined by a BCA Protein Assay Kit (CWBIO, Beijing, China). Equal amounts of total proteins were separated by 12% SDS-PAGE, and transferred onto Immobilon-P Transfer Membrane (Millipore Corporation, Billerica, MA, USA). The membranes were blocked with 5 % skimmed milk at room temperature for 1 h, incubated with indicated primary antibodies at 4 °C overnight and horseradish peroxidase (HRP)-conjugated secondary antibody at room temperature for 2 h, then visualized by using ECL reagents.

## 2. General procedure for the asymmetric synthesis of chroman-fused spirooxindoles

### 2.1 Procedure for the asymmetric synthesis of **5**

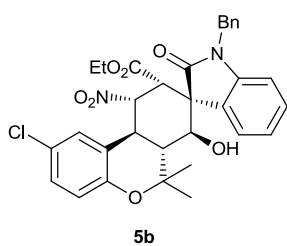


To a solution of 2-nitrovinyl phenol **1** (0.5 mmol) and  $\beta,\beta$ -disubstituted aldehyde **2** (0.5 mmol) in 2 mL of acetonitrile was added 10 mol% of catalyst and AcOH subsequently. The reaction was stirred at 0 °C for 3-4 hours, After which olefinic oxindole **4** (0.4 mmol) was added followed by the addition of 0.2 mmol of  $K_2CO_3$  in 0.4 mL of water. The reaction was kept in 0 °C for another 3 hours. Then water was added and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ , concentrated and purified by silica-gel chromatography to give chroman-fused spirooxindole **5**.



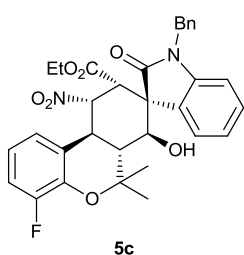
Compound **5a** was obtained as white solid in 64% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 90:10 by  $^1H$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and the enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254 nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 90/10, 1 mL/min),  $t_{major} = 7.9$  min,  $t_{minor} = 11.0$  min.

m.p. 214.2-215.8 °C,  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +151.5$  (C=0.068,  $CHCl_3$ ).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  7.36 - 7.22 (m, 7H), 7.21 - 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.06 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.97 - 6.89 (m, 3H), 6.74 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.36 (dd,  $J = 11.6, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.24 (dd,  $J = 10.8, 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 5.03 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.78 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.16 (m, 2H), 3.96 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.56 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.59 (dd,  $J = 12.2, 10.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.39 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.20 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  175.24, 168.68, 153.76, 143.74, 135.06, 129.96, 129.21, 128.92, 128.03, 127.83, 127.15, 127.09, 123.79, 123.31, 121.99, 121.75, 118.43, 109.86, 82.50, 80.94, 69.83, 62.25, 54.54, 50.19, 47.42, 43.94, 33.62, 31.25, 23.40, 13.89. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $C_{32}H_{32}N_2NaO_7^+$   $[M+Na]^+$  579.2102, found 579.2101.



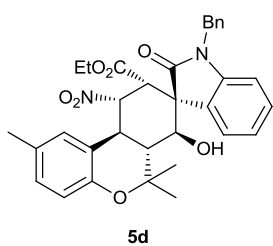
Compound **5b** was obtained as white solid in 60% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 88:12 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and the enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak OD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 90/10, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 16.3$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 10.0$  min.

m.p. 215.6-218.9 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +113.3$  (C=0.060,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38 - 7.22 (m, 7H), 7.15 (dd,  $J = 8.4, 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.92 - 6.82 (m, 2H), 6.76 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.31 (dd,  $J = 11.6, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.23 (dd,  $J = 10.4, 4.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.03 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.78 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.23 - 4.10 (m, 2H), 3.93 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.57 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.60 - 2.51 (m, 1H), 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.46 - 1.36 (m, 4H), 1.20 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  175.16, 168.62, 152.41, 143.72, 134.98, 131.10, 130.06, 128.94, 128.05, 127.87, 127.17, 126.84, 126.78, 123.71, 123.36, 122.33, 119.68, 109.94, 82.03, 81.54, 69.64, 62.33, 54.42, 50.01, 47.18, 43.97, 33.67, 31.13, 23.33, 13.87. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{31}\text{ClN}_2\text{NaO}_7^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ 613.1712$ , found 613.1713.



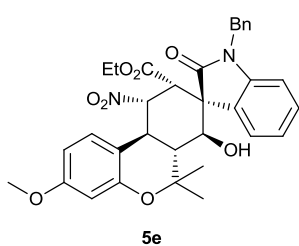
Compound **5c** was obtained as white solid in 62% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 90:10 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and the enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254 nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 90/10, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 7.8$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 12.1$  min.

m.p. 191.3-193.0 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +100.9$  (C = 0.114,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.37 - 7.22 (m, 7H), 7.10 - 6.98 (m, 3H), 6.91 - 6.83 (m, 1H), 6.73 (dd,  $J = 16.5, 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.35 (dd,  $J = 11.7, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.25 (dd,  $J = 10.6, 4.7$  Hz, 1H), 5.04 (d,  $J = 15.7$  Hz, 1H), 4.77 (d,  $J = 15.7$  Hz, 1H), 4.16 (qd,  $J = 7.1, 3.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.98 (t,  $J = 11.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.56 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.61 (dd,  $J = 12.0, 10.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.49 - 1.42 (m, 4H), 1.20 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  175.21, 168.64, 152.83 ( $J_{\text{CF}} = 220$  Hz), 143.73, 141.49, 141.43 ( $J_{\text{CF}} = 12$  Hz), 135.00, 132.23, 130.07, 128.88 ( $J_{\text{CF}} = 15$  Hz), 127.88, 127.03 ( $J_{\text{CF}} = 24$  Hz), 123.77, 123.39, 121.60, 121.53, 117.24, 114.99 ( $J_{\text{CF}} = 18$  Hz), 109.95, 82.33, 69.66, 62.34, 54.46, 50.10, 47.36, 43.97, 33.80, 31.35, 23.25, 13.89. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{31}\text{FN}_2\text{NaO}_7^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ 597.2008$ , found 597.2005.



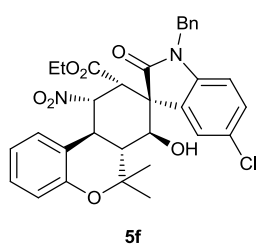
Compound **5d** was obtained as white solid in 52% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 92:8 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and the enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak OD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 95/5, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 26.8$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 16.2$  min.

m.p. 121.2-123.1 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +109.5$  ( $C = 0.116$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.37 - 7.21 (m, 7H), 7.06 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.77 - 6.68 (m, 2H), 6.35 (dd,  $J = 11.6, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.24 (dd,  $J = 10.8, 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 5.02 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.79 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.23 - 4.09 (m, 2H), 3.92 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.56 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.59 - 2.47 (m, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.45 - 1.32 (m, 4H), 1.20 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  175.28, 168.67, 151.42, 143.74, 135.09, 131.12, 129.96, 129.46, 128.94, 128.42, 127.84, 127.16, 127.14, 123.80, 123.32, 122.45, 118.22, 109.85, 82.40, 80.77, 69.87, 62.24, 54.56, 50.20, 47.69, 43.94, 33.60, 31.10, 23.43, 21.11, 13.89. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_7^+[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ 593.2258$ , found 593.2263.



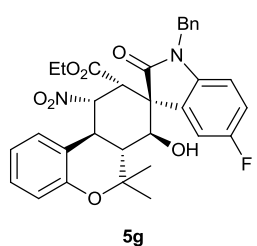
Compound **5e** was obtained as white solid in 50% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 92:8 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and the enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 90/10, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 13.7$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 15.8$  min.

m.p. 112.7-115.3  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +94.1$  ( $C = 0.136$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.39 - 7.17 (m, 7H), 7.05 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.54 - 6.42 (m, 2H), 6.29 (dd,  $J = 11.6, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.20 (dd,  $J = 10.8, 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 5.03 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.78 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.15 (qd,  $J = 7.2, 3.6$  Hz, 2H), 3.93 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.52 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.67 - 2.55 (m, 1H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.49 - 1.38 (m, 4H), 1.19 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  175.26, 168.73, 159.73, 154.75, 143.75, 135.09, 129.95, 128.93, 127.83, 127.17, 127.11, 123.83, 123.30, 122.70, 120.59, 109.85, 107.21, 104.17, 82.95, 80.95, 69.81, 62.23, 55.35, 54.58, 50.23, 47.26, 43.94, 33.14, 31.33, 23.23, 13.89. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_8^+[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ 609.2207$ , found 609.2211.



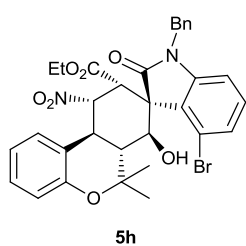
Compound **5f** was obtained as white solid in 62% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 88:12 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and the enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 98/2, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 40.1$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 45.2$  min.

m.p. 257.8-258.2 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +98.1$  ( $C = 0.054$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38 - 7.13 (m, 8H), 6.98 - 6.87 (m, 3H), 6.65 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.30 (dd,  $J = 11.6, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.22 (dd,  $J = 10.4, 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 5.04 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.74 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.31 - 4.07 (m, 2H), 3.95 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.54 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.70 - 2.46 (m, 1H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.49 - 1.37 (m, 4H), 1.22 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  174.82, 168.62, 153.72, 142.23, 134.59, 129.84, 129.03, 128.98, 128.94, 128.78, 128.14, 128.01, 127.10, 124.47, 121.99, 121.79, 118.48, 110.80, 82.39, 80.80, 69.84, 62.54, 54.79, 50.01, 47.51, 44.06, 33.60, 31.29, 23.44, 13.95. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{31}\text{ClN}_2\text{NaO}_7^+[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  613.1712, found 613.1711.



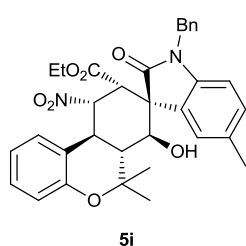
Compound **5g** was obtained as white solid in 65% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 90:10 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and The enantiomeric excess was determined to be 97% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 95/5, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 14.5$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 15.8$  min.

m.p. 251.6-252.4 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +129.2$  ( $C = 0.072$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.36 - 7.23 (m, 5H), 7.22 - 7.16 (m, 1H), 7.07 (dd,  $J = 8.4, 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.99 - 6.89 (m, 4H), 6.65 (dd,  $J = 8.4, 4.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.33 (dd,  $J = 11.6, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.23 (dd,  $J = 10.8, 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 5.03 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.75 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.18 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.92 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.55 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.58 (dd,  $J = 12.0, 10.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.46 - 1.36 (m, 4H), 1.21 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  178.09, 171.46, 160.24, 157.85, 154.56, 137.63, 130.99, 130.92, 127.64, 122.30, 121.89, 118.73, 115.95, 115.71, 110.60, 110.53, 81.44, 61.08, 56.26, 55.39, 49.04, 31.31, 29.71, 23.08, 14.25. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{31}\text{FN}_2\text{NaO}_7^+[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  597.2008, found 597.2021.



Compound **5h** was obtained as white solid in 58% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 85:15 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and the enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 90/10, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 29.8$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 16.4$  min.

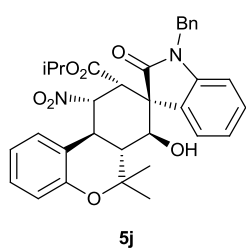
m.p. 118.5-122.3 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -96.0$  (C = 0.076,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.40 - 7.19 (m, 7H), 7.14 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.90 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.00 (dd,  $J = 9.6, 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.15 - 5.04 (m, 2H), 4.77 (d,  $J = 16.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.66 (d,  $J = 9.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.51 (dd,  $J = 13.6, 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.88 (m, 2H), 3.15 (dd,  $J = 13.6, 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.25 (d,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.63 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 0.86 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  175.06, 169.15, 154.07, 145.24, 134.75, 130.75, 128.96, 128.91, 128.68, 127.97, 127.90, 127.41, 127.16, 120.90, 120.23, 118.79, 118.20, 108.84, 86.84, 76.97, 69.91, 61.92, 57.40, 46.56, 44.45, 43.57, 31.50, 26.90, 21.98, 13.49. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{31}\text{BrN}_2\text{NaO}_7^+ [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  657.1207, found 657.1205.



Compound **5i** was obtained as white solid in 60% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 92:8 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and the enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 90/10, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 6.6$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 7.4$  min.

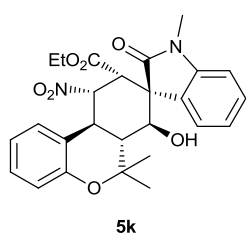
m.p. 159.3-162.1 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +93.5$  (C = 0.23,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.37 - 7.20 (m, 7H), 7.06 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.77 - 6.69 (m, 2H), 6.35 (dd,  $J = 11.6, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.24 (dd,  $J = 10.8, 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 5.02 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.79 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.21 - 4.10 (m, 2H), 3.92 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.56 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.65 - 2.46 (m, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.44 - 1.33 (m, 4H), 1.20 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  175.28, 168.67, 151.42, 143.74, 135.09, 131.12, 129.96, 129.46, 128.94, 128.42, 127.84, 127.16, 127.14, 123.80, 123.32, 122.45, 118.22, 109.85, 82.40, 80.77, 69.87, 62.24, 54.56, 50.20, 47.69, 43.94, 33.60, 31.10, 23.43, 21.11, 13.89. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_7^+ [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  593.2258, found 593.2260.





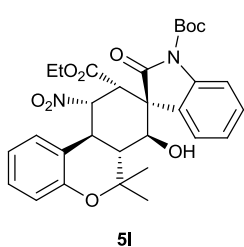
Compound **5j** was obtained as white solid in 66% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 93:7 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and the enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 92/8, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 7.6$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 16.0$  min. m.p.

224.0-226.2  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +123.5$  ( $C = 0.098$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38 - 7.24 (m, 7H), 7.24 - 7.18 (m, 1H), 7.08 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.00 - 6.91 (m, 3H), 6.77 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.36 (dd,  $J = 11.6, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.28 (dd,  $J = 10.8, 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 5.16 - 5.02 (m, 2H), 4.79 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.99 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.53 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.61 (dd,  $J = 12.0, 10.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.41 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.21 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 3H), 1.17 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  175.30, 168.22, 153.77, 143.74, 135.11, 129.98, 129.31, 128.94, 128.02, 127.84, 127.19, 127.07, 123.94, 123.19, 122.01, 121.75, 118.42, 109.84, 82.43, 80.99, 70.40, 69.82, 54.57, 50.09, 47.40, 43.95, 33.59, 31.27, 23.44, 21.74, 21.37. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_7^+[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  593.2258, found 593.2261.



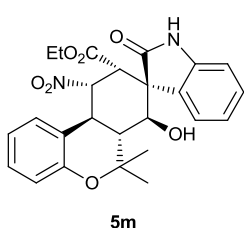
Compound **5k** was obtained as white solid in 58% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 90:10 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and the enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 95/5, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 17.8$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 21.4$  min. m.p.

178.2-181.4  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +107.3$  ( $C = 0.082$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.31 - 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.21 - 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.10 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd,  $J = 16.0, 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 6.27 (dd,  $J = 11.6, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.20 (dd,  $J = 10.4, 3.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.15 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.93 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.50 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 2.52 (dd,  $J = 12.0, 10.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.39 - 1.33 (m, 4H), 1.18 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  175.01, 168.69, 153.74, 144.60, 130.11, 129.16, 128.04, 127.00, 123.73, 123.33, 122.01, 121.77, 118.41, 108.85, 82.44, 80.91, 69.56, 62.21, 54.50, 50.11, 47.43, 33.57, 31.25, 26.44, 23.35, 13.90. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_7^+[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  503.1789, found 503.1790.



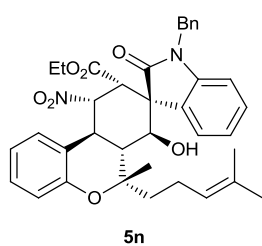
Compound **5l** was obtained as white solid in 68% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 92:8 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and the enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 95/5, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 7.5$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 42.8$  min. m.p.

178.2-181.4 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +111.8$  ( $C = 0.068$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.90 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.45 - 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.32 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.20 (dd,  $J = 13.2, 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.98 - 6.84 (m, 3H), 6.14 (dd,  $J = 11.6, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.15 (dd,  $J = 10.8, 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.13 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.96 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.61 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.51 (dd,  $J = 12.0, 10.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 9H), 1.44 (d,  $J = 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.40 (s, 3H), 1.16 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  173.44, 168.34, 153.72, 148.60, 140.84, 130.29, 128.83, 128.13, 125.96, 125.11, 123.44, 122.11, 121.67, 118.41, 115.59, 85.45, 82.54, 80.87, 70.14, 62.37, 54.82, 50.35, 47.31, 33.47, 31.25, 28.08, 23.36, 13.84. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_9^+ [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  589.2157, found 589.2151.



Compound **5m** was obtained by deprotection of compound **5l** with 25%  $\text{CF}_3\text{COOH}$  in DCM as white solid in 94% yield. The enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 93/7, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 35.1$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 32.4$  min. m.p. 208.5 - 210.2 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +188.5$  ( $C = 0.076$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600

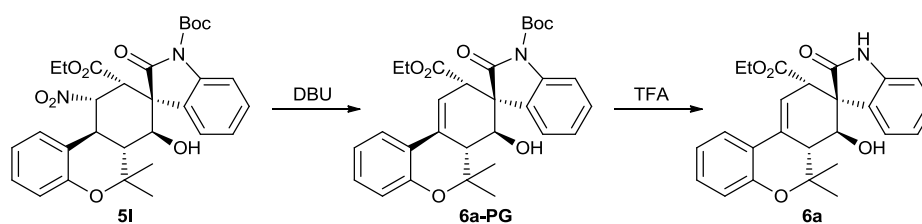
MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.14 (s, 1H), 7.31 - 7.23 (m, 2H), 7.20 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.97 - 6.86 (m, 3H), 6.84 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.18 (dd,  $J = 11.6, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.19 (dd,  $J = 10.8, 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.20 - 4.10 (m, 2H), 3.93 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.57 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.55 - 2.41 (m, 1H), 1.76 (s, 1H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.19 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  176.89, 168.55, 153.73, 141.52, 130.04, 128.83, 128.08, 127.60, 124.09, 123.29, 122.00, 121.67, 118.43, 110.32, 82.47, 80.79, 69.63, 62.24, 54.87, 49.98, 47.36, 33.55, 31.27, 23.27, 13.85. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_7^+ [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  489.1632, found 489.1636.



Compound **5n** was obtained as white solid in 48% yield for two steps after flash chromatography. The dr value was calculated to be 88:12 by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture and the enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak OD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 95/5, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 26.0$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 11.7$  min.

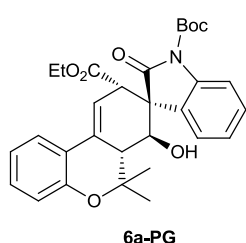
m.p. 83.5-85.3 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +123.9$  ( $C = 0.046$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38 - 7.15 (m, 8H), 7.05 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.97 - 6.88 (m, 3H), 6.73 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.36 (dd,  $J = 11.6$ , 5.6 Hz, 1H), 5.27 (dd,  $J = 10.8$ , 4.8 Hz, 1H), 5.10 - 5.00 (m, 2H), 4.75 (d,  $J = 15.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.15 (m, 2H), 3.97 (t,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.56 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.75 - 2.60 (m, 1H), 2.33 - 2.19 (m, 1H), 2.11 - 1.99 (m, 1H), 1.92 - 1.78 (m, 1H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.62 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s, 3H), 1.40 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.19 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  175.19, 168.72, 154.25, 143.75, 135.09, 131.45, 129.96, 129.00, 128.93, 128.09, 127.82, 127.17, 127.10, 124.42, 123.76, 123.29, 122.01, 121.60, 118.15, 109.87, 82.88, 82.54, 69.78, 62.26, 54.54, 50.17, 46.11, 43.93, 43.36, 33.40, 25.69, 22.11, 21.37, 17.57, 13.90. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{37}\text{H}_{40}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_7^+$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  647.2728, found 647.2733.

## 2.2 Procedure for the synthesis of compound 6a



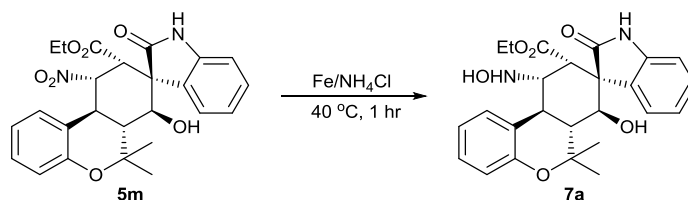
To a solution of compound **5l** (113.2 mg, 0.2 mmol) in 1 mL of DMF was added 15.2 mg of DBU (0.1 mmol) and heated at 60 °C for 4 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature before the addition of water, then extracted with DCM. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , concentrated and purified by silica-gel chromatography to afford the elimination product **6a-PG** (41.5 mg, 40% yield). **6a-PG** (31mg, 0.06 mmol) was subsequently dissolved in a mixture of 25% TFA in DCM (2 mL) and stirred for 30 min. The solvent was then distilled under reduced pressure. The residue was added to saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and extracted with DCM. The organic layer was washed with saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and saline then dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The solvent was distilled under reduced pressure to afford compound **6a** (23.9 mg, 38%

two-step yield) as white solid. The enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254 nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 90/10, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 15.8$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 9.4$  min. m.p. 142.5-144.3 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -76.2$  (C = 0.042, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.33 (brs, 1H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.30 - 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.21 - 7.10 (m, 2H), 7.06 - 6.90 (m, 3H), 6.84 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.10 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.04 - 3.92 (m, 2H), 3.91 - 3.80 (m, 1H), 2.82 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.01 (s, 1H), 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H), 0.93 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  177.86, 165.64, 153.39, 146.71, 141.82, 130.06, 128.96, 128.30, 127.82, 126.51, 124.76, 122.30, 121.65, 120.13, 117.85, 110.27, 67.54, 60.72, 57.49, 43.21, 30.95, 29.03, 27.36, 22.60, 13.64. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup>[M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 442.1625, found 442.1627.



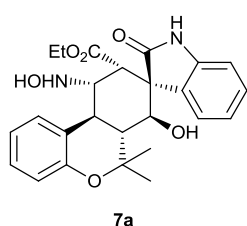
Compound **6a-PG** was obtained as white solid, m.p. 186.5-187.8 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -50.9$  (C = 0.112, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.94 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 - 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.21 - 7.10 (m, 3H), 6.97 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.08 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.98 (s, 1H), 3.88 (qd,  $J = 7.2, 2.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.78 (d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 1H), 1.89 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 1.63 (s, 9H), 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 0.93 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.63, 165.34, 153.37, 149.35, 147.15, 140.58, 129.23, 128.33, 128.23, 127.92, 126.48, 124.38, 124.25, 121.43, 120.18, 117.91, 115.41, 84.46, 67.56, 60.87, 57.09, 43.21, 30.97, 28.97, 28.11, 27.29, 22.62, 13.54. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NNaO<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup>[M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 542.2149, found 542.2152.

### 2.3 Procedure for the synthesis of compound 7

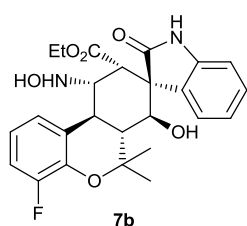


To a suspension of compound **5m** (46.6 mg, 0.1 mmol) and Fe powder (28mg, 0.5 mmol) in 3 mL of ethanol was added NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (13.5 mg, 0.25 mmol) in 1 mL of water. The reaction mixture was heated at 40 °C for 1 hour, then filtrated. The filtrate was diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, then saline. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous NaSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by silica-gel chromatography to afford compound **7a** (29.8

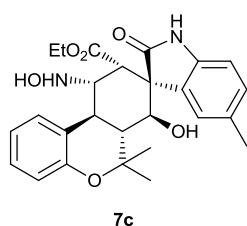
mg, 66% yield). Compound **7b** - **7f** was synthesized following the same procedure using related substrate.



**7a** was obtained as white solid in 66% yield. The enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak OD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 90/10, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 16.5$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 13.4$  min. m.p. 68.5-72.3 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +13.3$  (C = 0.060, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.90 - 8.52 (m, 1H), 7.31 - 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.22 - 7.08 (m, 3H), 7.03 - 6.91 (m, 2H), 6.89 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.69 - 6.57 (m, 1H), 5.64 (brs, 1H), 5.03 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.85 (s, 1H), 4.46 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.31 - 4.06 (m, 2H), 3.52 - 3.39 (m, 1H), 2.86 (t,  $J = 11.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.40 (t,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.32 - 2.09 (m, 1H), 1.58 (s, 3H), 1.31 - 1.18 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  178.23, 171.64, 154.57, 141.76, 131.21, 129.34, 129.25, 127.55, 123.54, 122.67, 122.30, 121.90, 118.71, 110.09, 81.61, 70.13, 60.89, 56.22, 54.79, 49.16, 48.47, 32.63, 31.34, 23.10, 14.26. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 475.1840, found 475.1843.

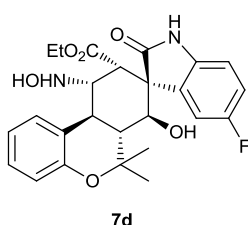


**7b** was obtained as white solid in 67% yield, m.p. 138.1-148.5 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +17.7$  (C = 0.062, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.48 (s, 1H), 7.23 - 7.11 (m, 2H), 7.10 - 6.87 (m, 4H), 6.71 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 5.57 (brs, 1H), 5.14 - 4.94 (m, 1H), 4.76 (s, 1H), 4.56 - 4.40 (m, 1H), 4.31 - 4.06 (m, 2H), 3.47 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.89 (t,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.44 (t,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.25 (brs, 1H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 1.28 - 1.14 (m, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  178.10, 171.56, 154.36, 142.04, 141.93, 141.69, 129.41, 129.13, 123.64, 122.80, 121.72, 121.65, 117.60, 114.70, 114.51, 110.04, 82.95, 70.01, 60.96, 56.20, 54.70, 49.09, 48.41, 32.88, 31.37, 22.92, 14.25. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>27</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 493.1745, found 493.1748.

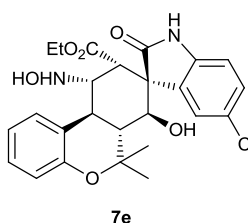


**7c** was obtained as white solid in 62% yield, m.p. 148.3-155.2 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +18.4$  (C = 0.114, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.52 - 8.25 (m, 1H), 7.32 - 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.18 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.09 - 6.93 (m, 3H), 6.88 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.68 - 6.54 (m, 1H), 5.62 (brs, 1H), 5.14 - 4.92 (m, 1H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 4.63 - 4.38 (m, 1H), 4.35 - 4.01 (m, 2H), 3.46 (d,  $J = 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.87 (t,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.42 (t,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.02 (brs, 1H), 1.61 (s, 3H), 1.29 - 1.21 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR

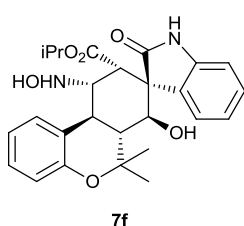
(100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  178.26, 171.46, 154.47, 140.20, 131.03, 129.68, 127.95, 127.70, 123.97, 122.07, 121.88, 120.36, 118.86, 111.02, 81.46, 69.97, 61.14, 56.12, 55.26, 49.01, 48.54, 32.48, 31.42, 26.92, 23.07, 14.29. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 489.1996, found 489.2001.



**7d** was obtained as white solid in 50% yield, m.p. 133.2-144.5 °C,  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +16.6$  (C = 0.048, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.59 - 8.43 (m, 1H), 7.32 - 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.04 - 6.93 (m, 2H), 6.92 - 6.82 (m, 2H), 6.67 - 6.57 (m, 1H), 5.66 (brs, 1H), 5.13 - 4.91 (m, 1H), 4.73 (s, 1H), 4.47 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.28 - 4.10 (m, 2H), 3.48 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (t, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (t, *J* = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (brs, 1H), 1.59 (s, 3H), 1.30 - 1.24 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  178.09, 171.46, 159.05 (*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 239 Hz), 154.56, 137.63, 130.99, 130.92, 127.64, 122.30, 121.89, 118.73, 115.83 (*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 24 Hz), 110.57 (*J*<sub>CF</sub> = 7 Hz), 81.44, 61.08, 56.26, 55.39, 49.04, 31.31, 29.71, 23.08, 14.25. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>27</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 493.1745, found 493.1740.



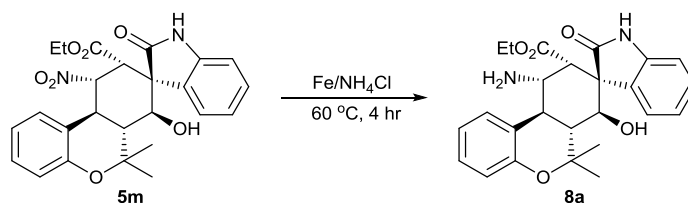
**7e** was obtained as white solid in 67% yield, m.p. 147.2-152.3 °C,  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +13.6$  (C=0.102, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.03 (s, 1H), 7.23 - 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.59 (brs, 1H), 5.11 - 4.91 (m, 1H), 4.80 (s, 1H), 4.37 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.32 - 4.03 (m, 2H), 3.43 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (t, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 2.75 - 2.50 (m, 1H), 2.33 (t, *J* = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 1.60 (s, 3H), 1.28 - 1.11 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  178.10, 171.74, 154.60, 139.19, 132.20, 129.57, 129.27, 127.50, 124.37, 122.86, 122.36, 121.85, 118.66, 109.72, 81.63, 70.17, 60.79, 56.29, 54.75, 49.20, 48.46, 32.62, 31.29, 23.15, 14.28. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>27</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 509.1450, found 509.1454.



**7f** was obtained as white solid in 66% yield, m.p. 136.5-142.8 °C,  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +33.3$  (C = 0.024, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.29 (s, 1H), 7.41 - 7.10 (m, 5H), 7.08 - 6.95 (m, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (brs, 1H), 5.26 - 4.98 (m, 2H), 4.64 (s, 1H), 4.57 - 4.39 (m, 1H),

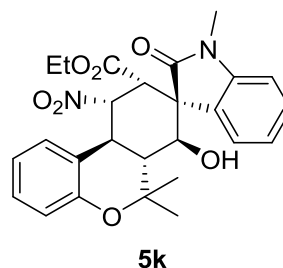
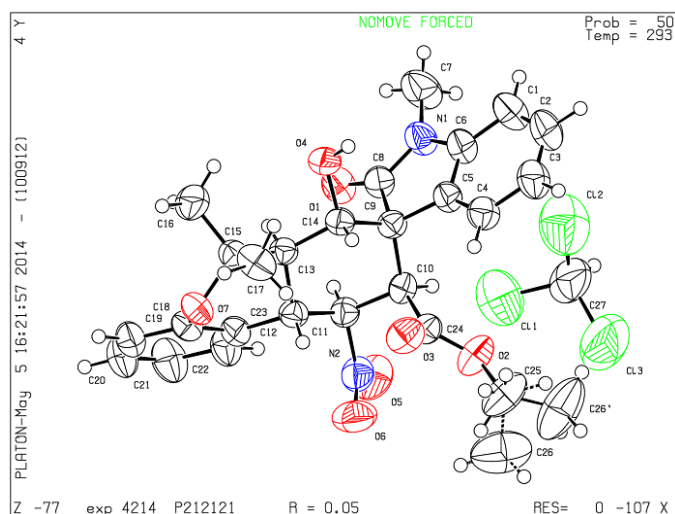
3.45 (d,  $J = 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.87 (t,  $J = 11.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.45 (t,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.95 (s, 1H), 1.60 (s, 3H), 1.33 - 1.24 (m, 6H), 1.15 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  178.02, 171.06, 154.61, 141.75, 131.16, 129.31, 129.24, 127.52, 123.97, 122.64, 122.39, 121.84, 118.64, 109.93, 81.58, 68.67, 56.35, 54.80, 49.13, 48.26, 32.70, 31.29, 23.13, 21.96, 21.88, 14.15. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_6^+ [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  489.1996, found 489.1993.

## 2.4 Procedure for the synthesis of compound 8a



To a suspension of compound **5m** (46.6 mg, 0.1 mmol) and Fe powder (56 mg, 1 mmol) in 3 mL of ethanol was added  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  (27 mg, 0.5 mmol) in 1 mL of water. The reaction mixture was heated at  $60\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for 4 hours, then filtrated. The filtrate was diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , then saline. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $\text{NaSO}_4$  and concentrated. The residue was purified by silica-gel chromatography to afford compound **8a** (27 mg, 62% yield) as white solid. The enantiomeric excess was determined to be 99% by HPLC on Chiralpak AD-H column at 254nm (Hexane/isopropanol = 90/10, 1 mL/min),  $t_{\text{major}} = 39.5$  min,  $t_{\text{minor}} = 20.6$  min. mp.  $156.3\text{--}159.5\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +107.5$  ( $C = 0.036$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.37 (s, 1H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.23 - 7.14 (m, 3H), 7.03 - 6.95 (m, 2H), 6.89 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.76 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.93 (d,  $J = 10.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.39 (dd,  $J = 10.4, 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.25 - 4.03 (m, 2H), 3.17 - 2.93 (m, 2H), 2.40 (t,  $J = 11.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.19 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  178.24, 171.80, 154.75, 141.67, 131.89, 129.31, 129.22, 127.15, 124.59, 123.71, 122.65, 121.39, 118.36, 109.97, 81.37, 70.56, 60.73, 55.43, 53.35, 48.48, 45.59, 31.28, 29.70, 23.13, 14.18. HRMS (ESI-TOF) calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5^+ [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  437.2071, found 437.2074.

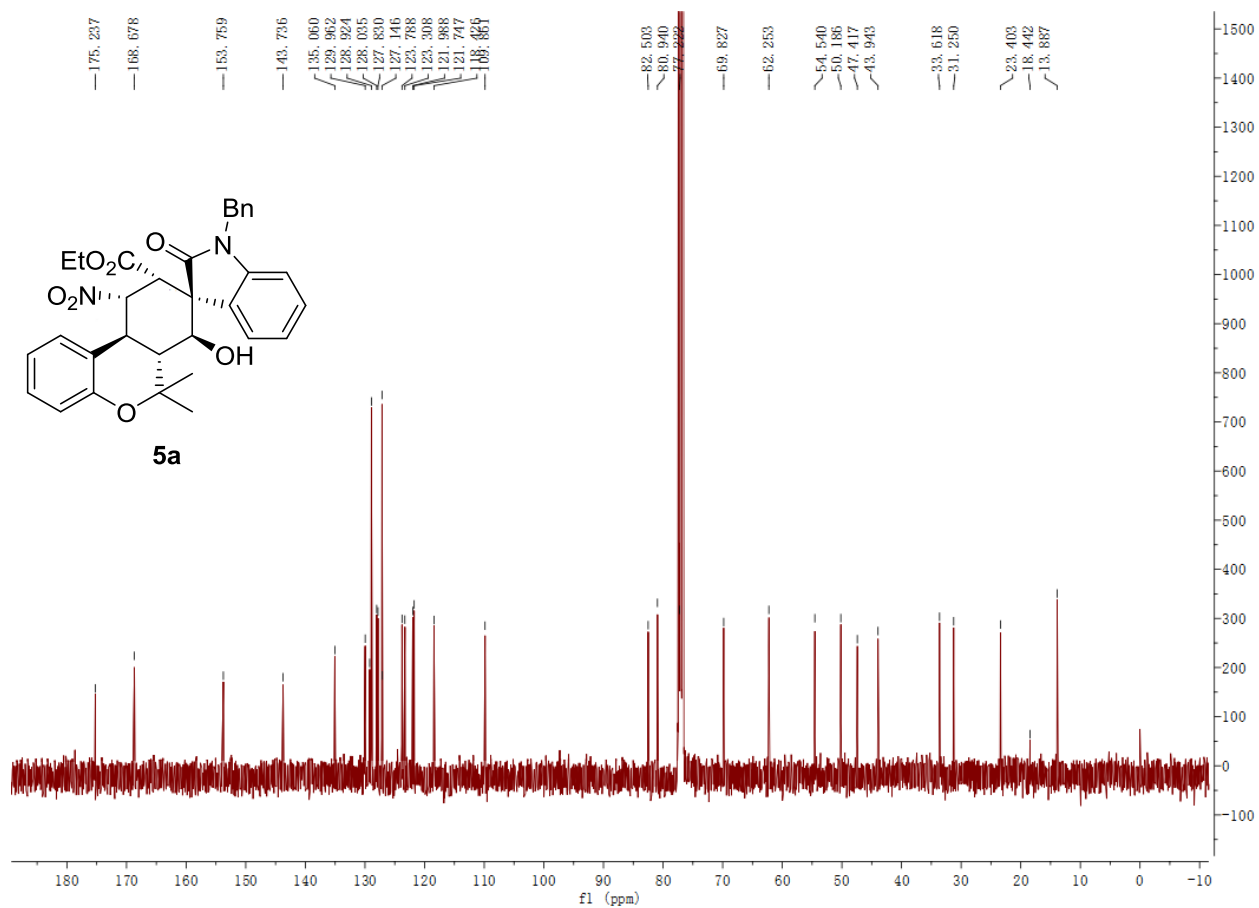
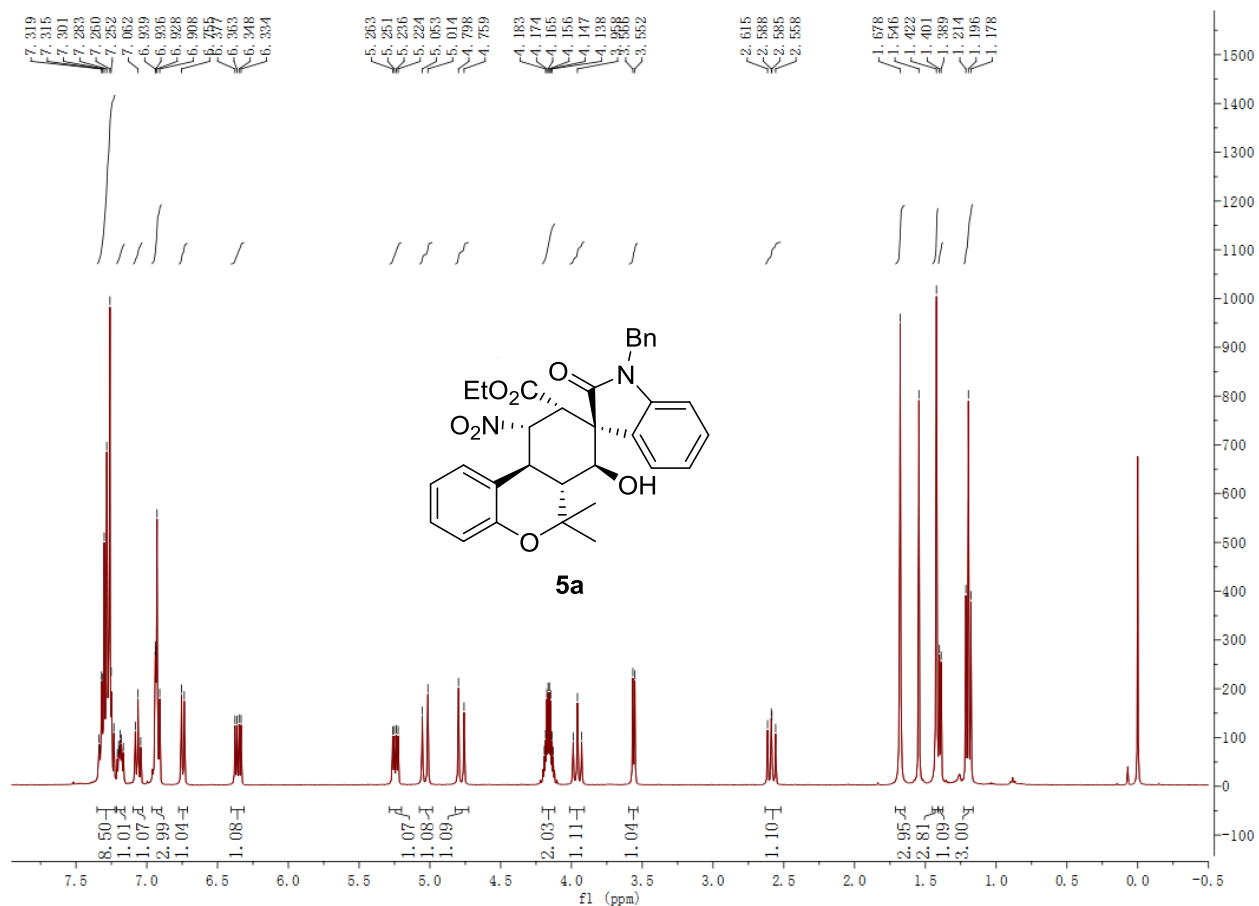
### 3. Crystal data of compound 5k



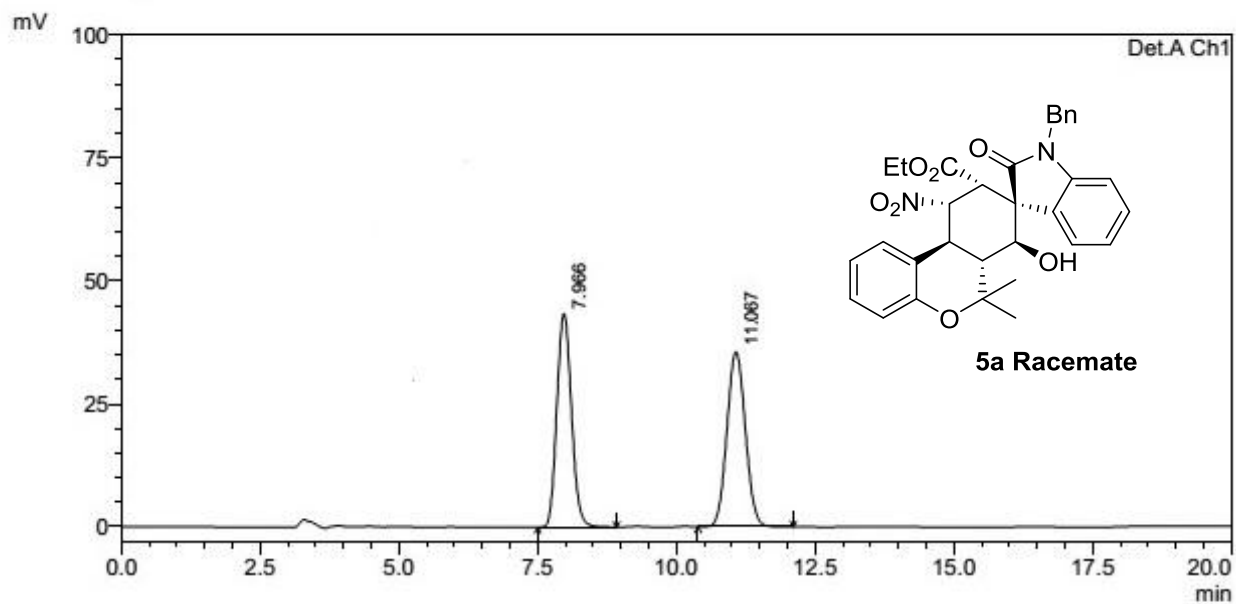
Bond precision: C-C = 0.0051 Å	Wavelength=1.54184
Empirical formula	C <sub>27</sub> H <sub>29</sub> Cl <sub>3</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>
Formula weight	599.87
Temperature/K	293(2)
Crystal system	orthorhombic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>
a/Å	11.0927(7)
b/Å	15.2908(9)
c/Å	17.2201(10)
α/°	90.00
β/°	90.00
γ/°	90.00
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	2920.8(3)
Z	4
ρ <sub>calc</sub> /mg/mm <sup>3</sup>	1.364
m/mm <sup>-1</sup>	3.237
F(000)	1248.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.23 × 0.22 × 0.17
Radiation	CuKα (λ = 1.54184)
2θ range for data collection	7.74 to 134.48 °
Index ranges	-13 ≤ h ≤ 10, -18 ≤ k ≤ 18, -20 ≤ l ≤ 20
Reflections collected	19017
Independent reflections	5243 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0462, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0428]
Data/restraints/parameters	5243/1297/367
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.033
Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ (I)]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0532, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1389
Final R indexes [all data]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0751, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1619
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.30/-0.35
Flack parameter	-0.01(3)



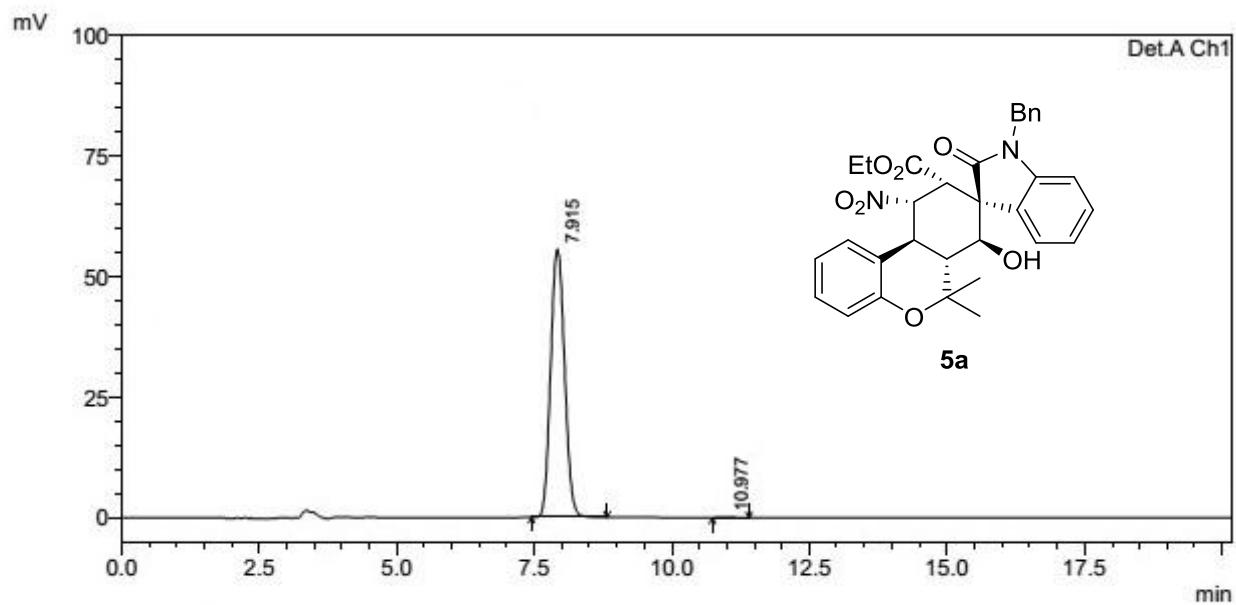
## 4. NMR spectra and HPLC chromatograms



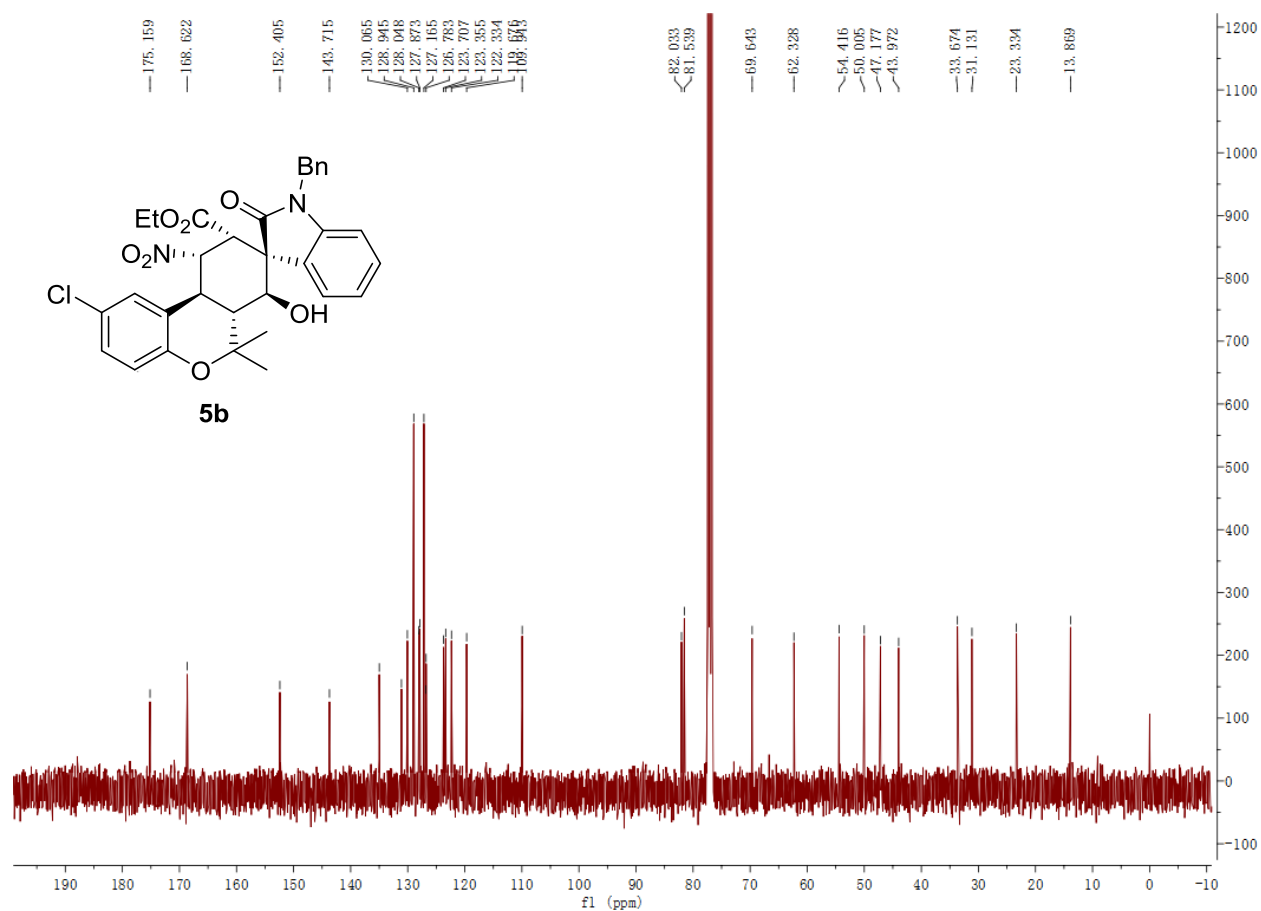
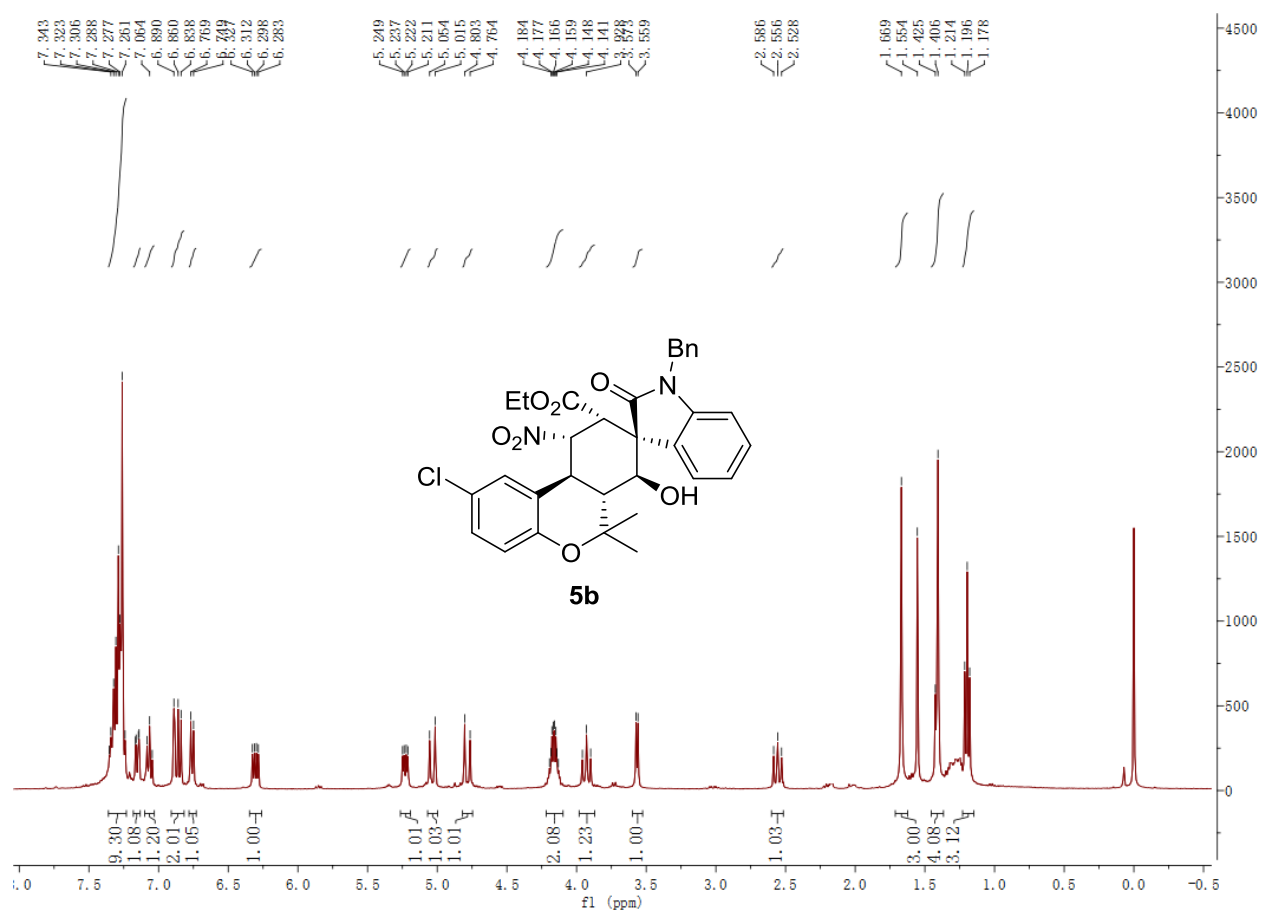
<Chromatogram>



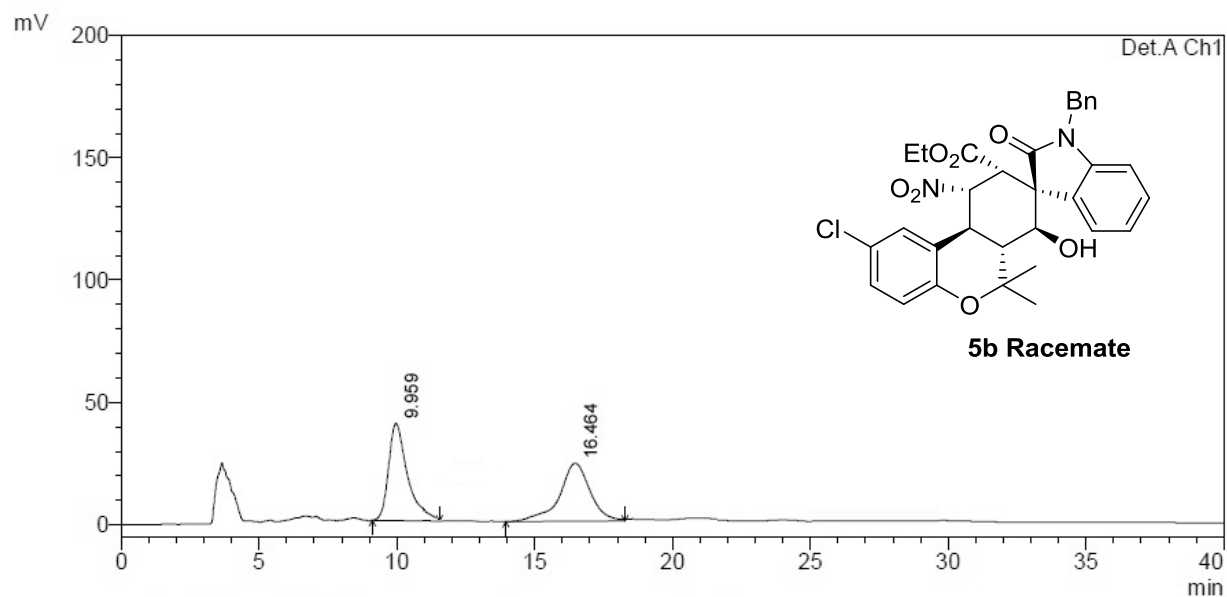
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	7.966	799799	49.061
2	11.067	830427	50.939
Total		1630226	100.000



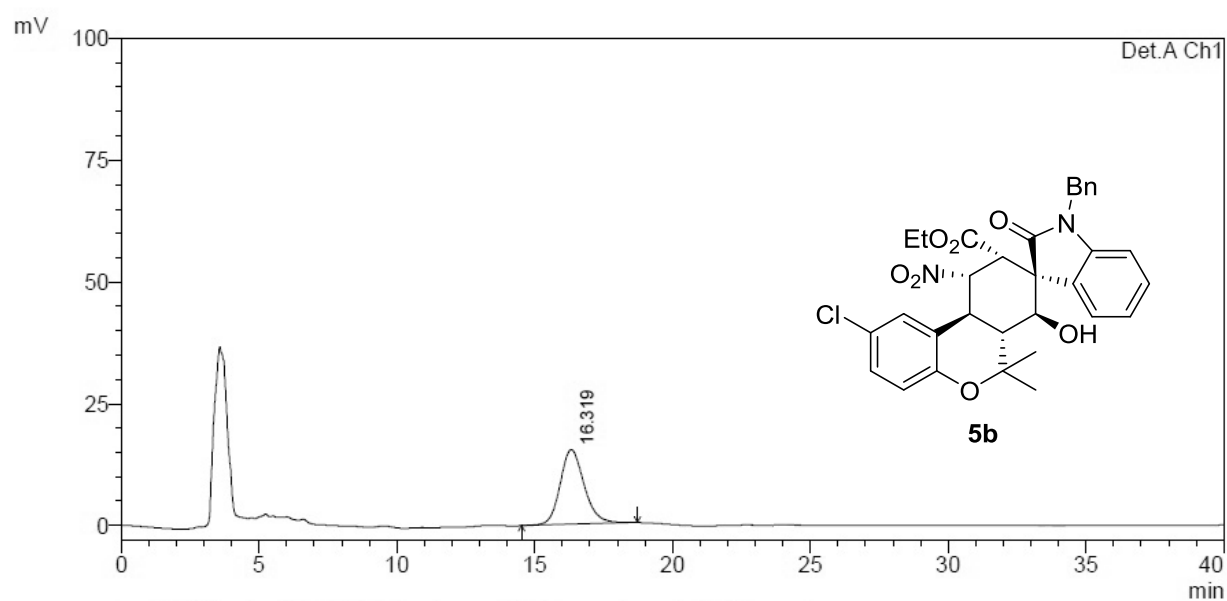
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	7.915	979930	99.873
2	10.977	1251	0.127
Total		981180	100.000



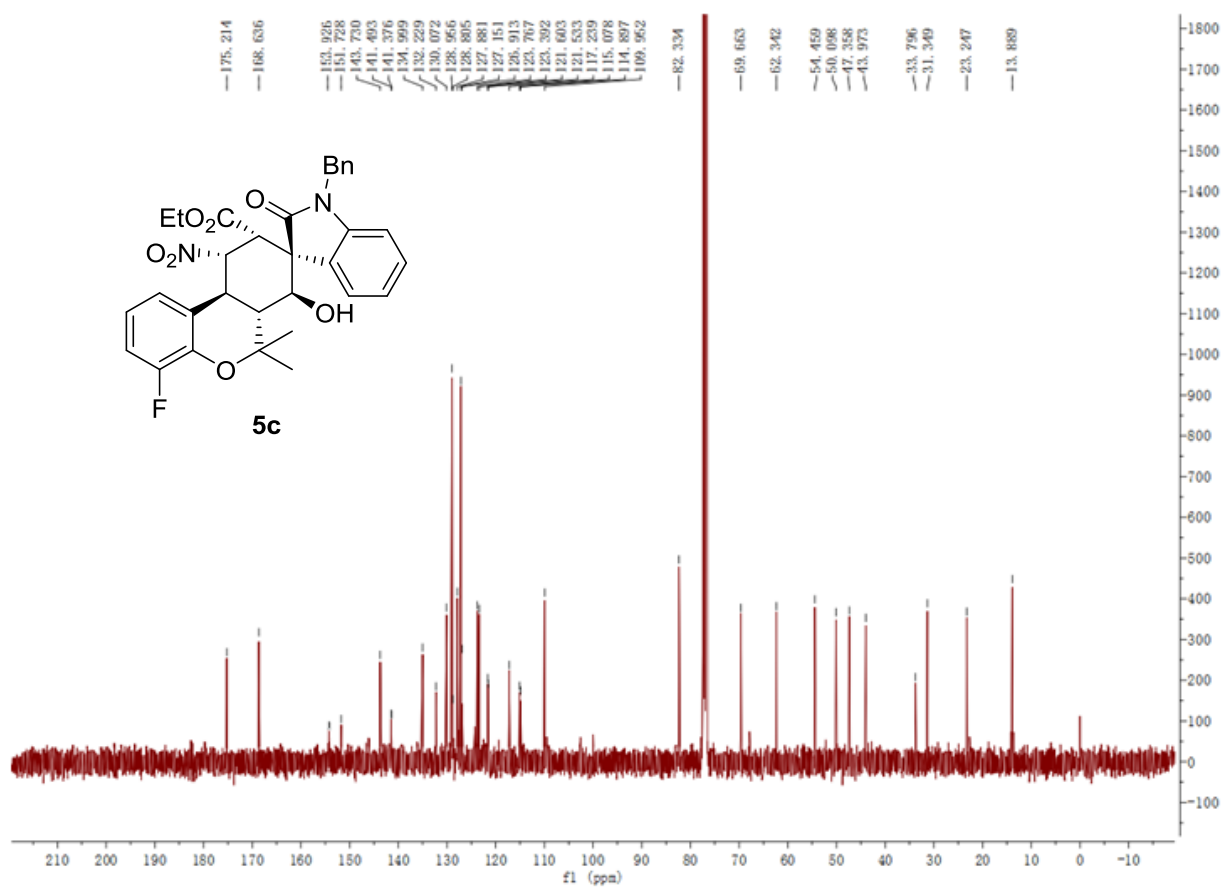
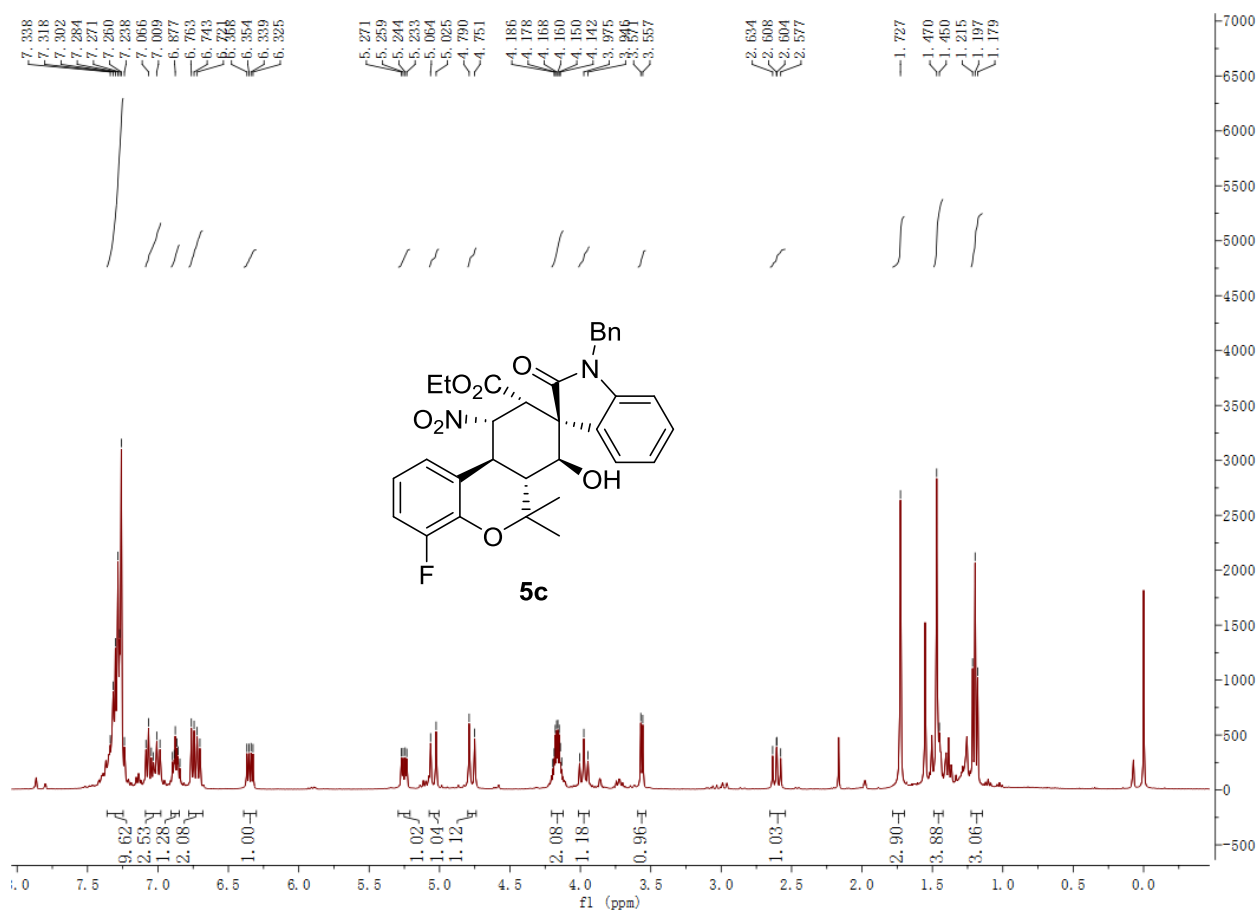
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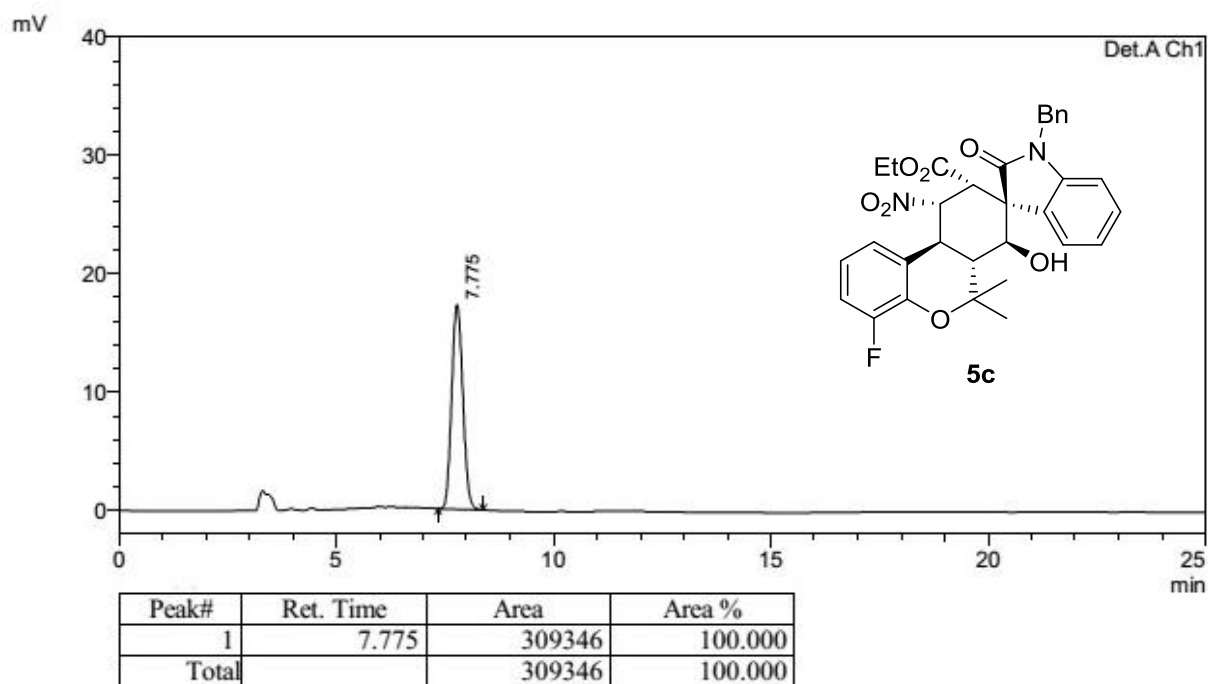
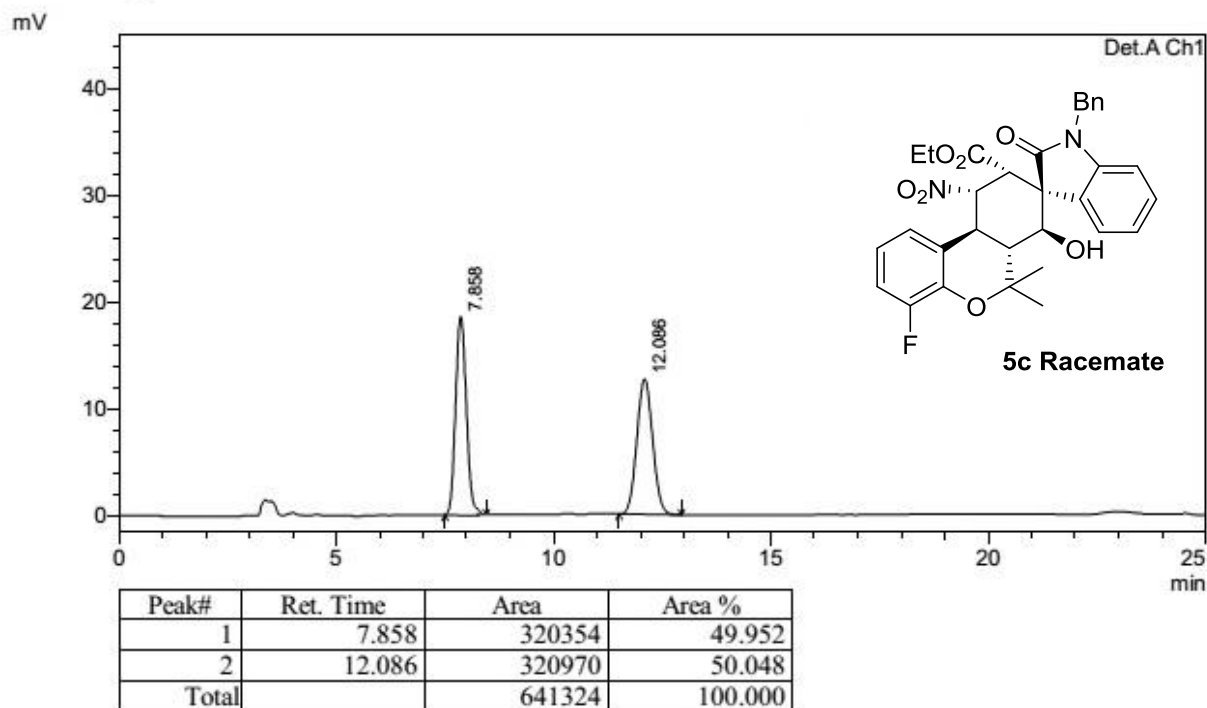
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	9.959	1849463	50.317
2	16.464	1826151	49.683
Total		3675614	100.000

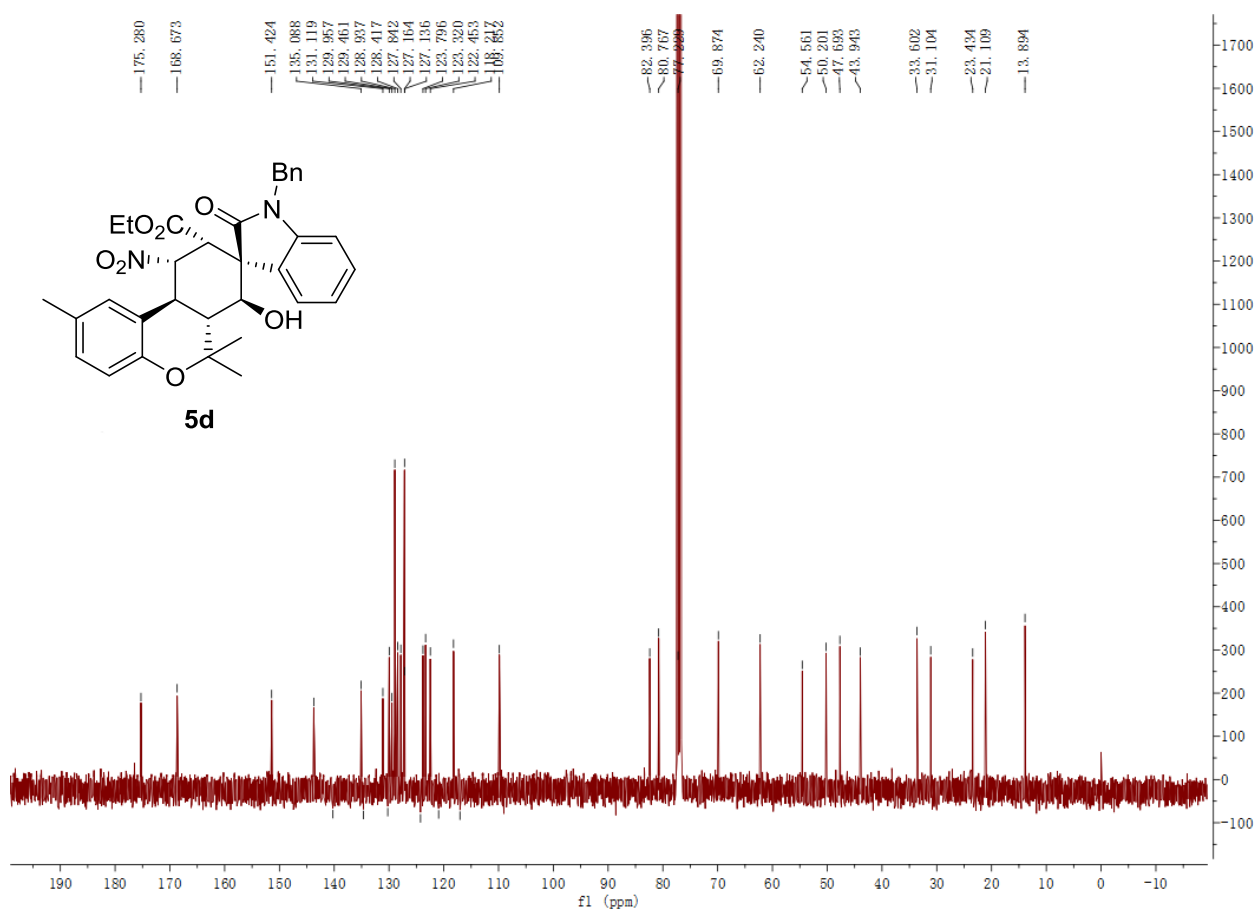
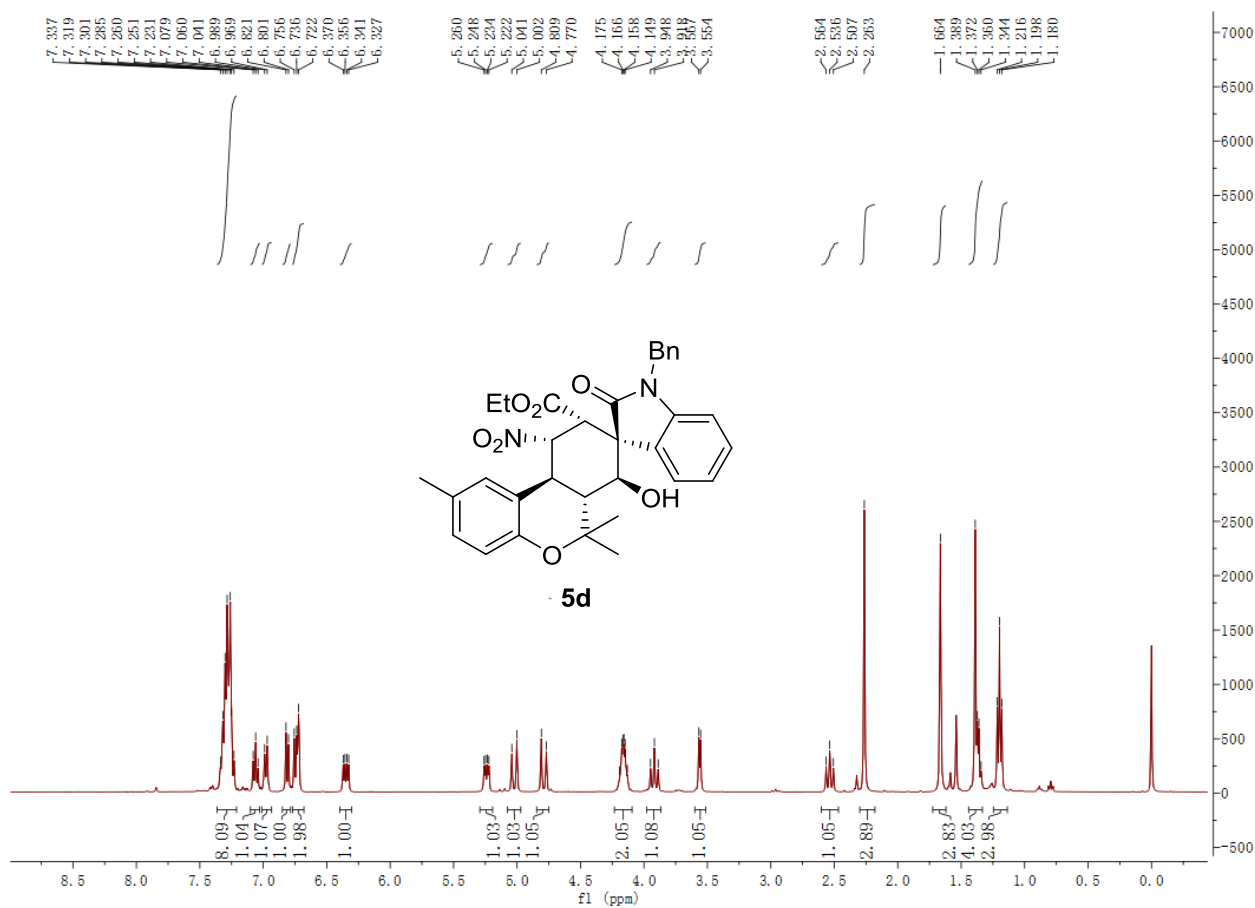


Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	16.319	933022	100.000
Total		933022	100.000

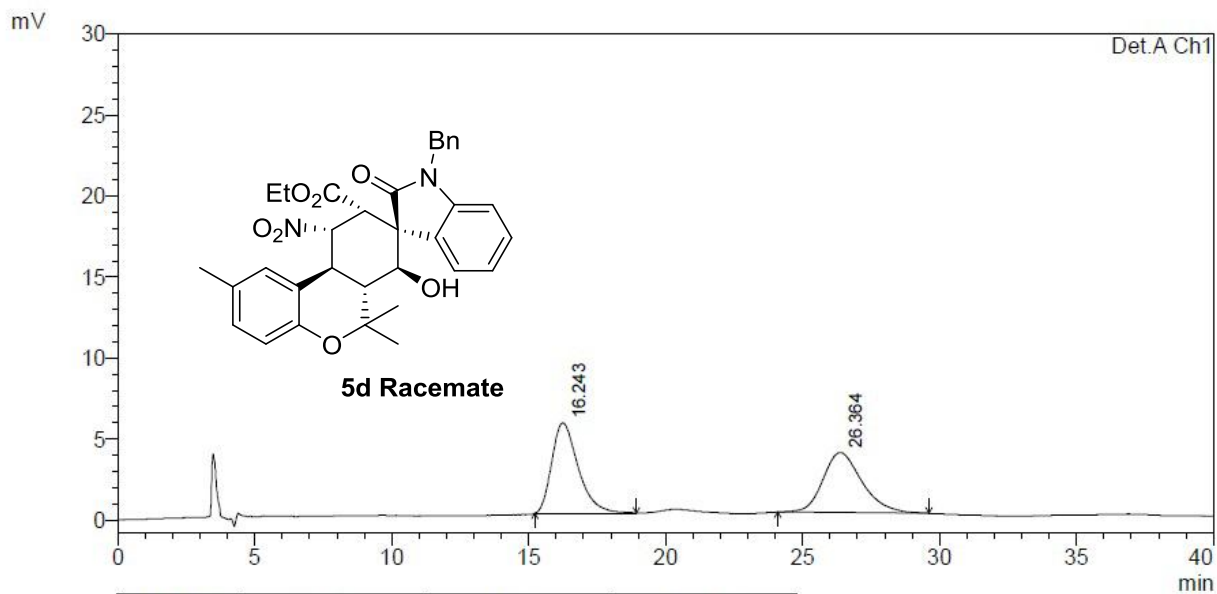


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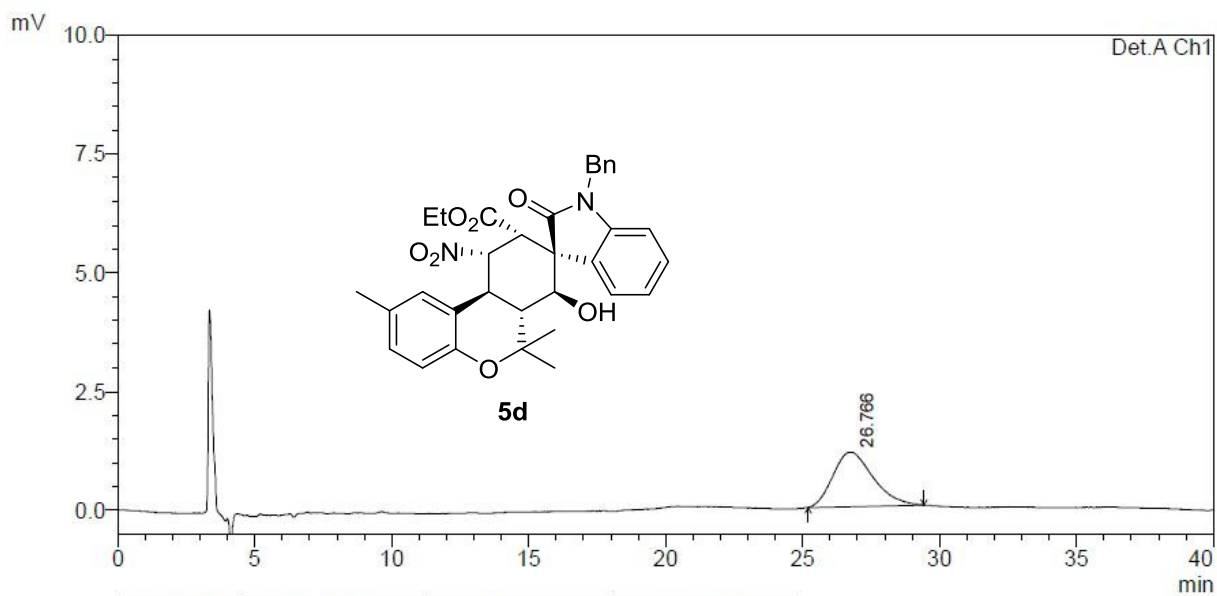




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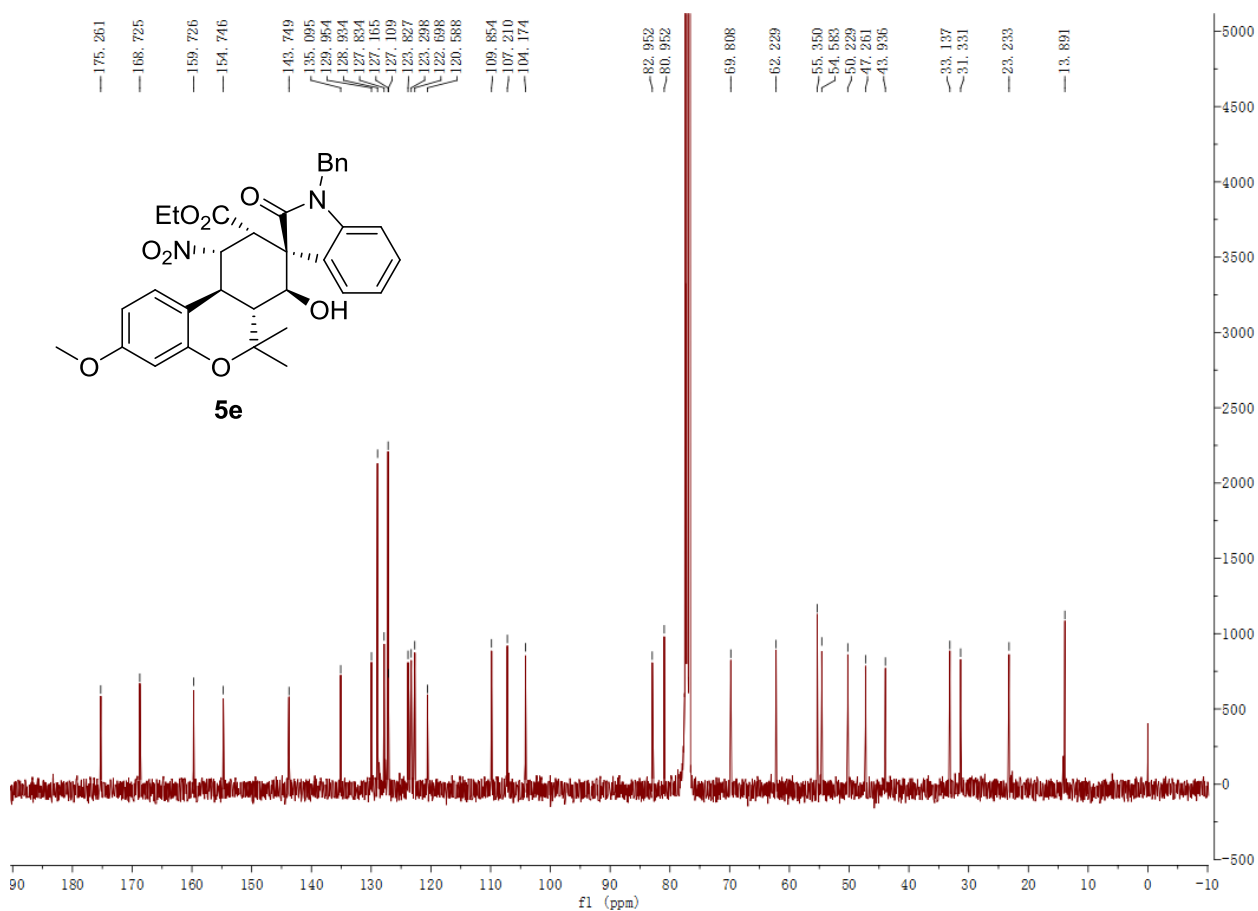
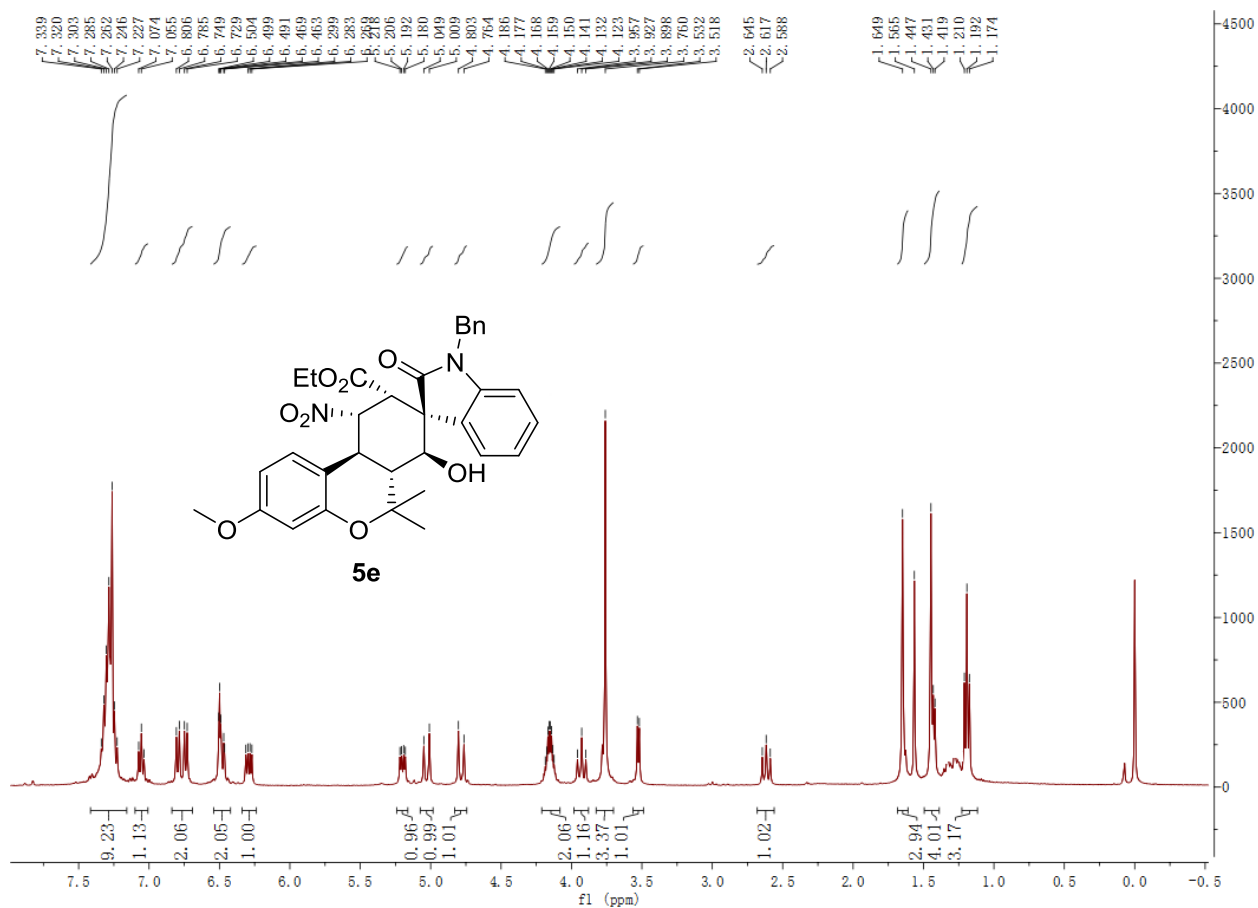


Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	16.243	374697	50.304
2	26.364	370169	49.696
Total		744866	100.000

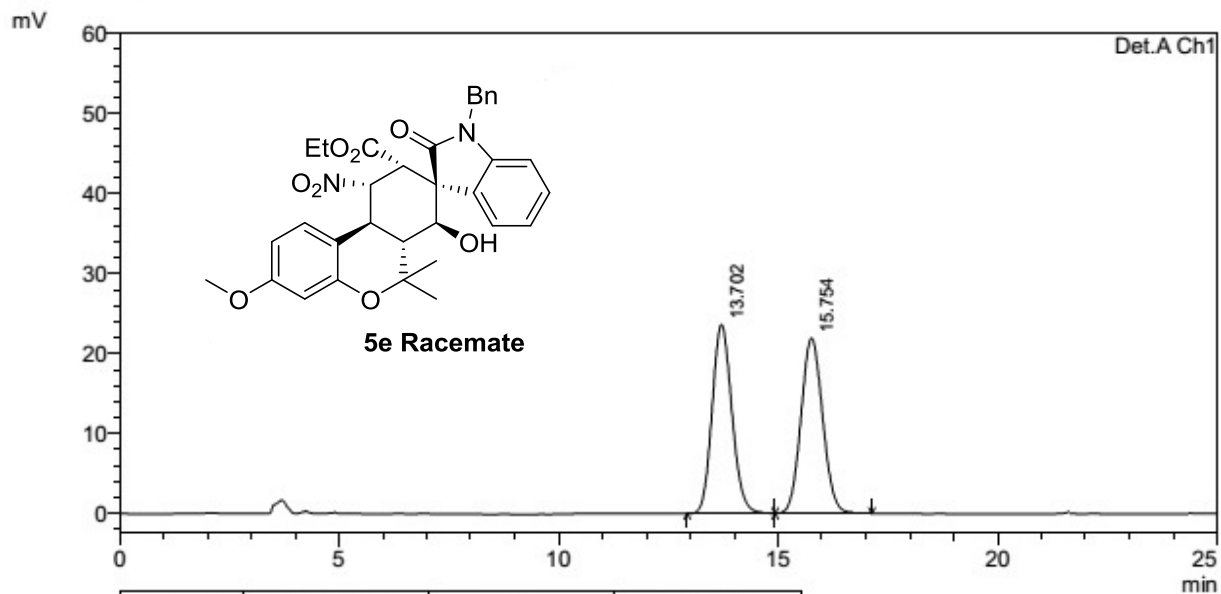


Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
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Total		116857	100.000

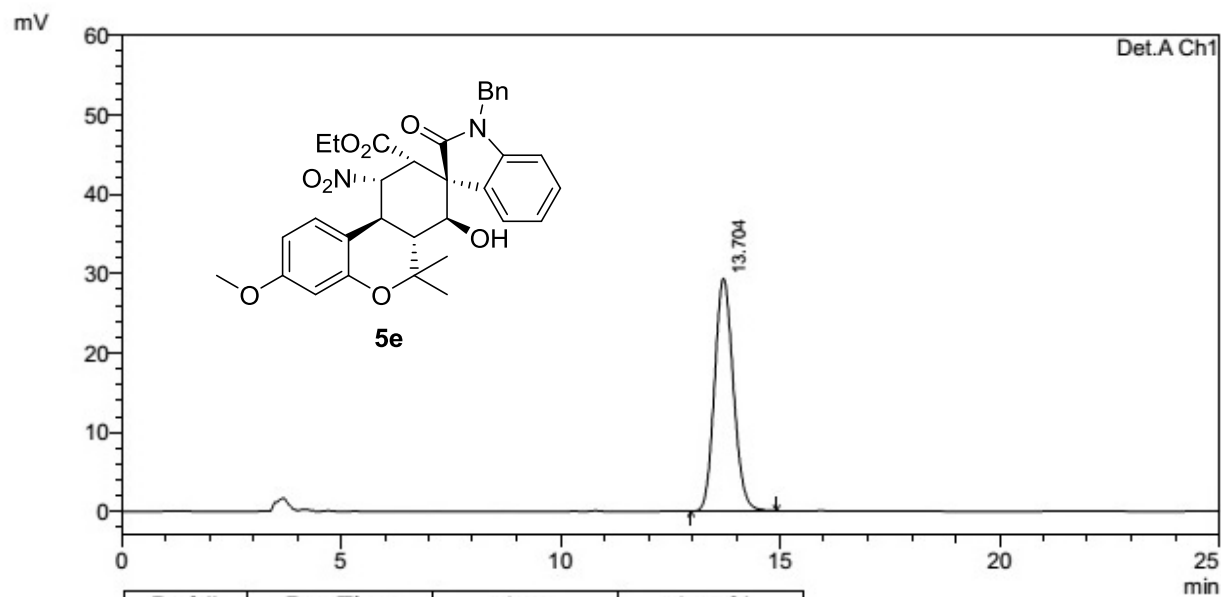




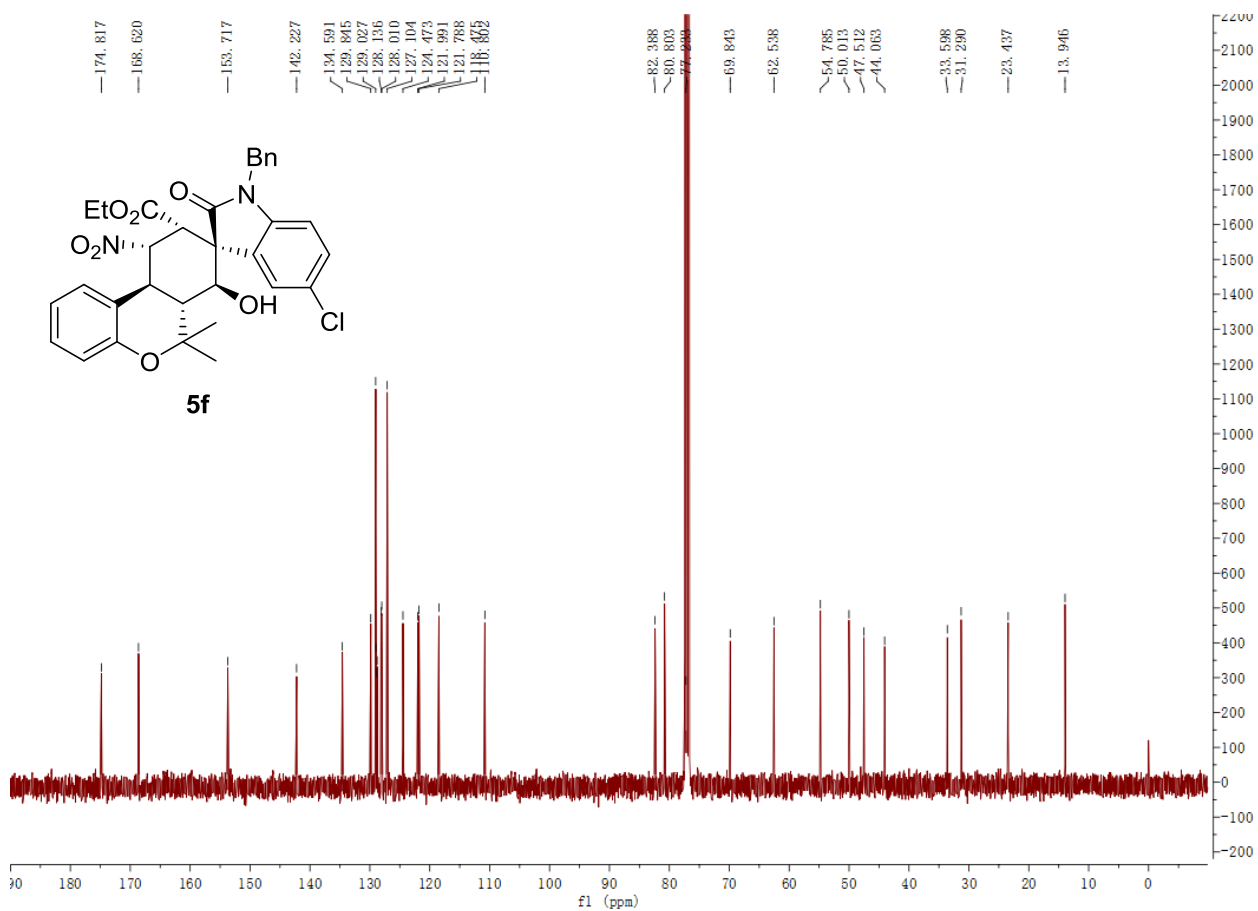
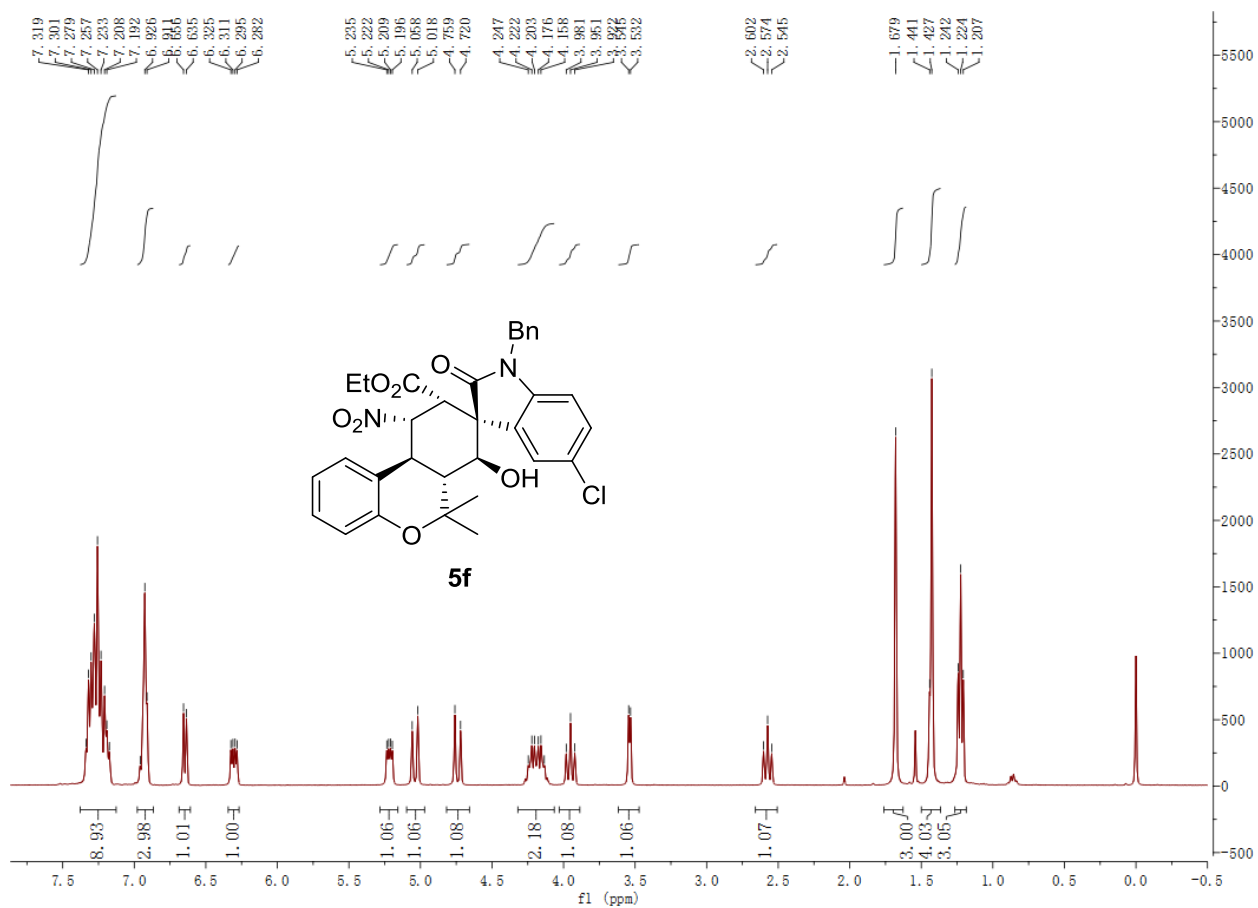
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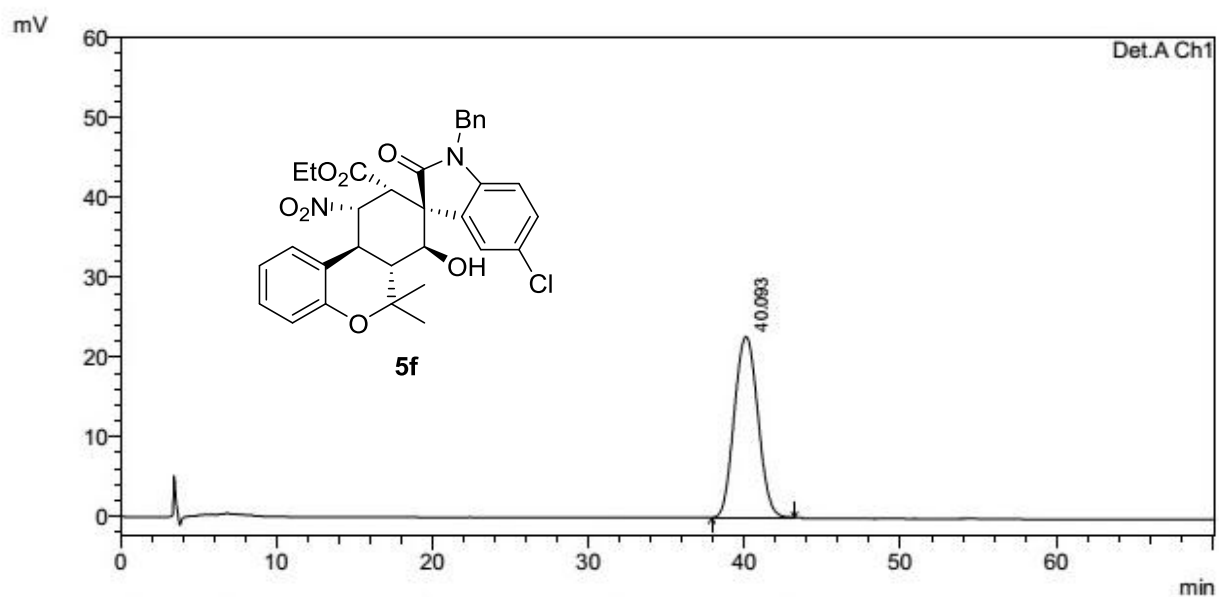
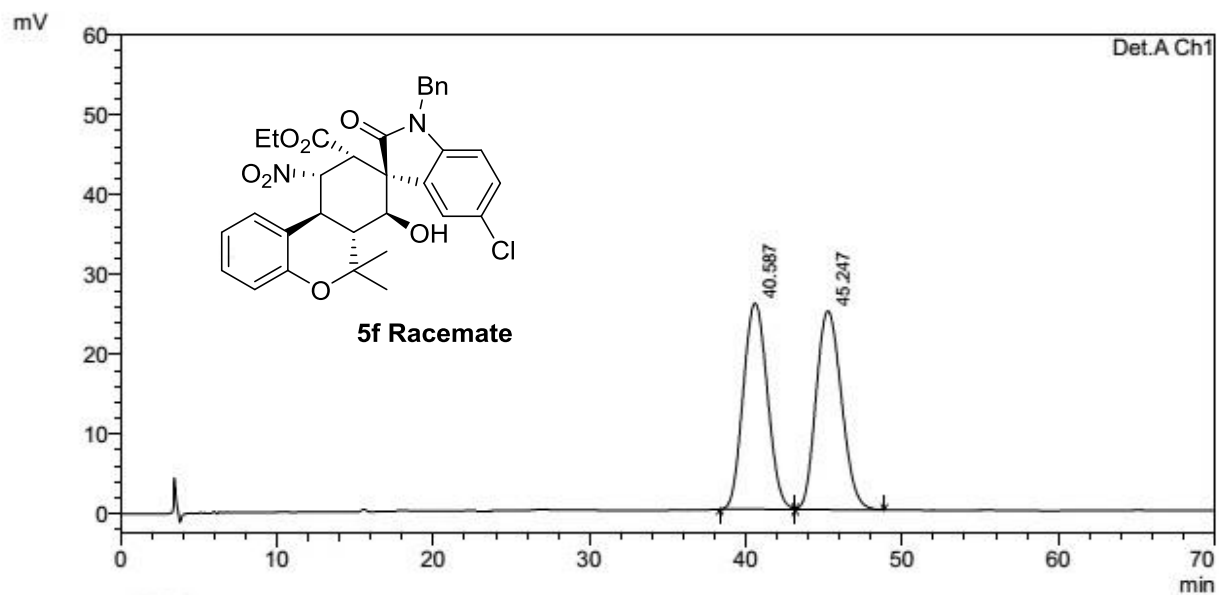
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	13.702	741247	49.706
2	15.754	750003	50.294
Total		1491250	100.000

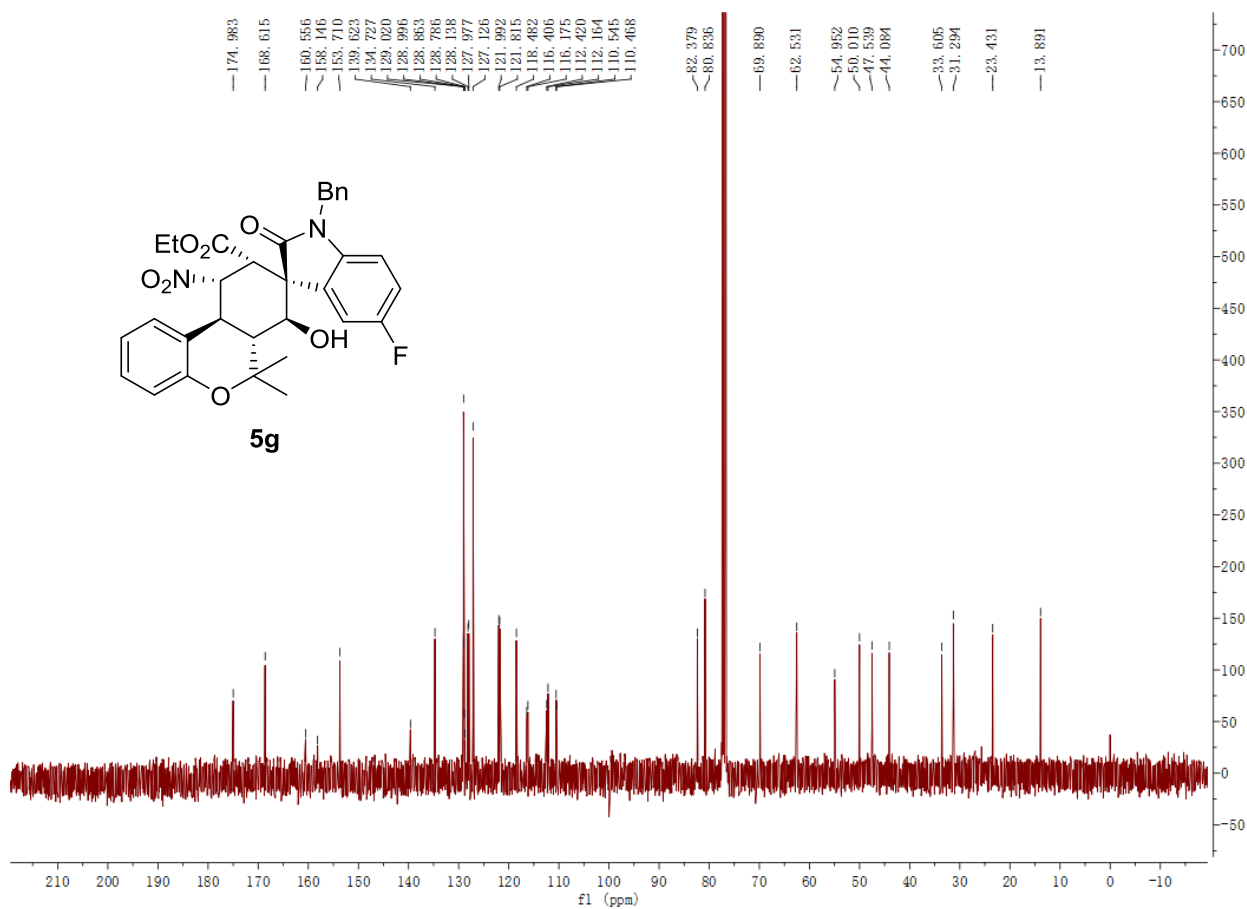
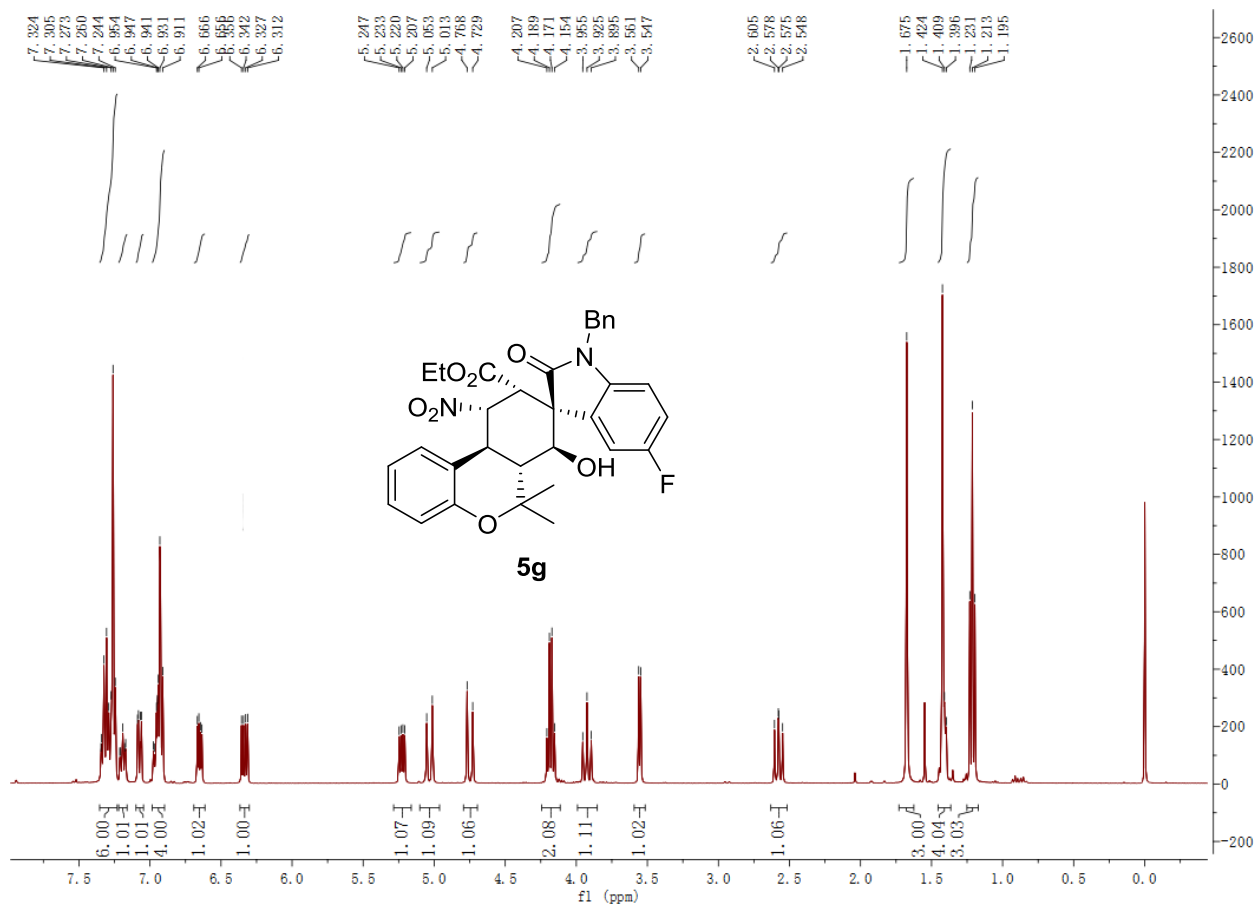


Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	13.704	872217	100.000
Total		872217	100.000



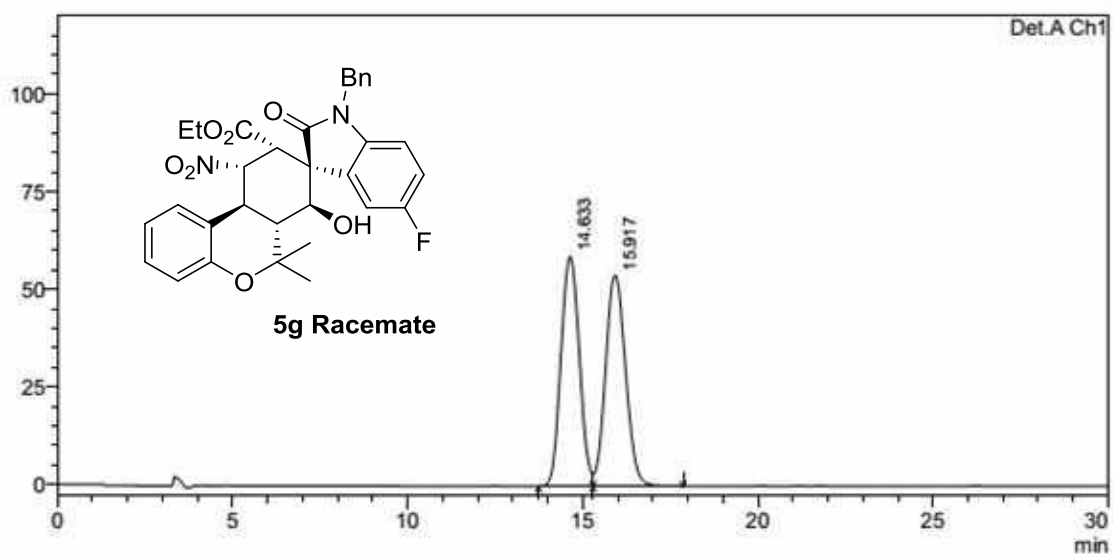
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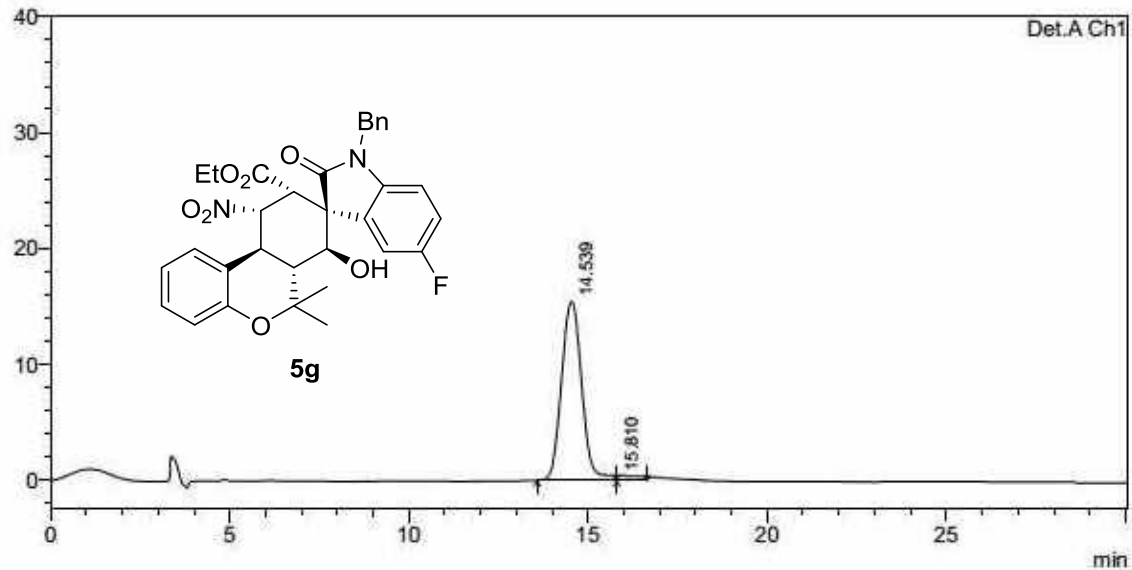
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mV

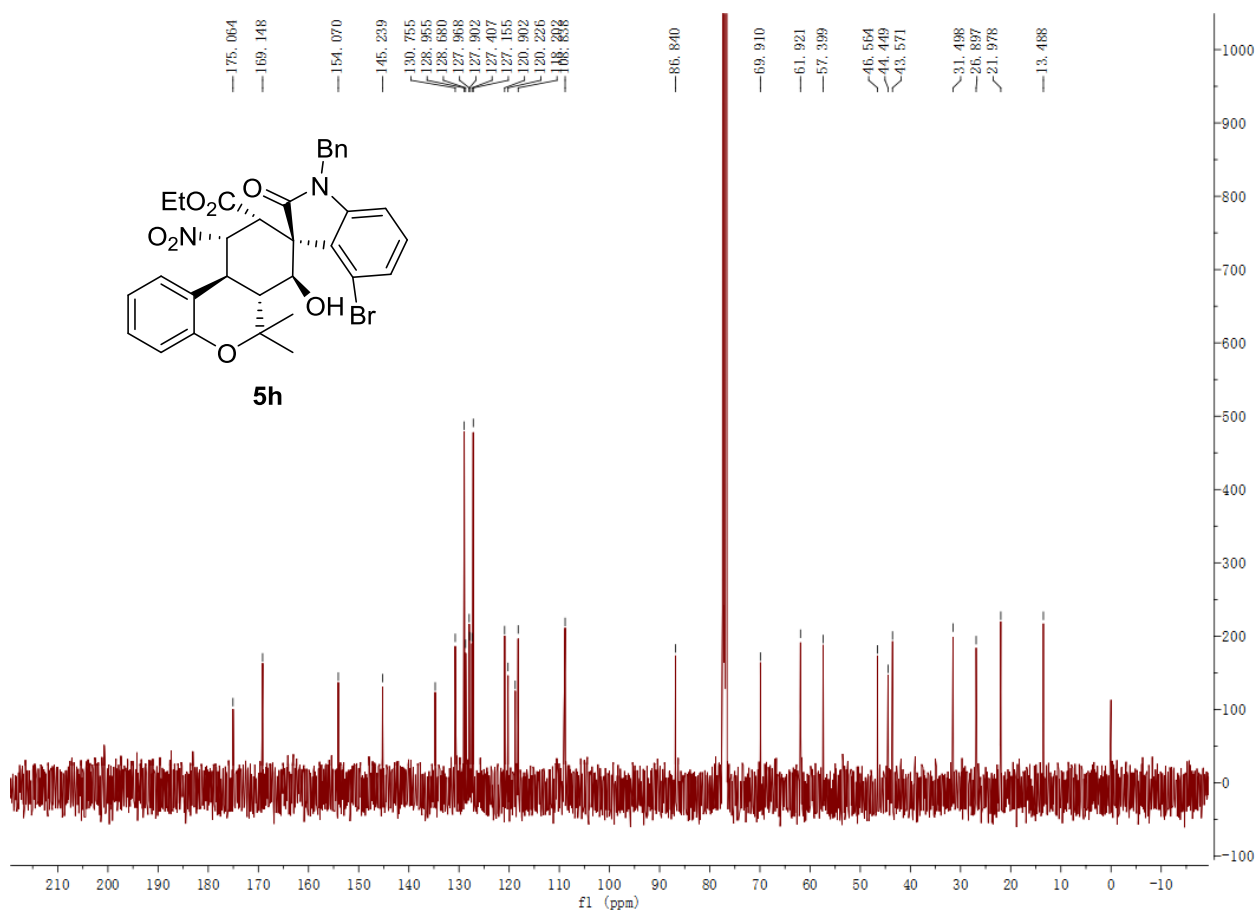
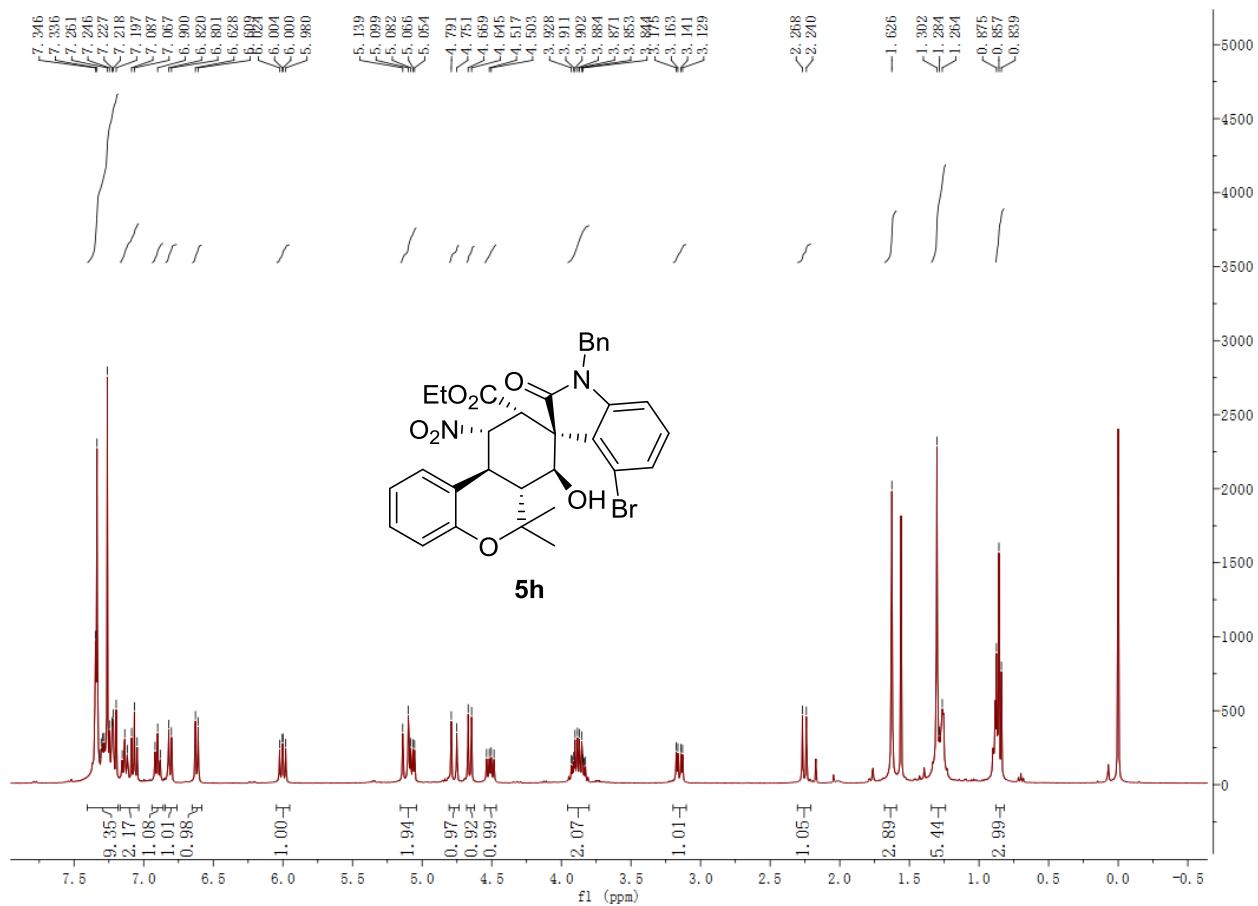


Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	14.633	2136057	49.814
2	15.917	2152013	50.186
Total		4288070	100.000

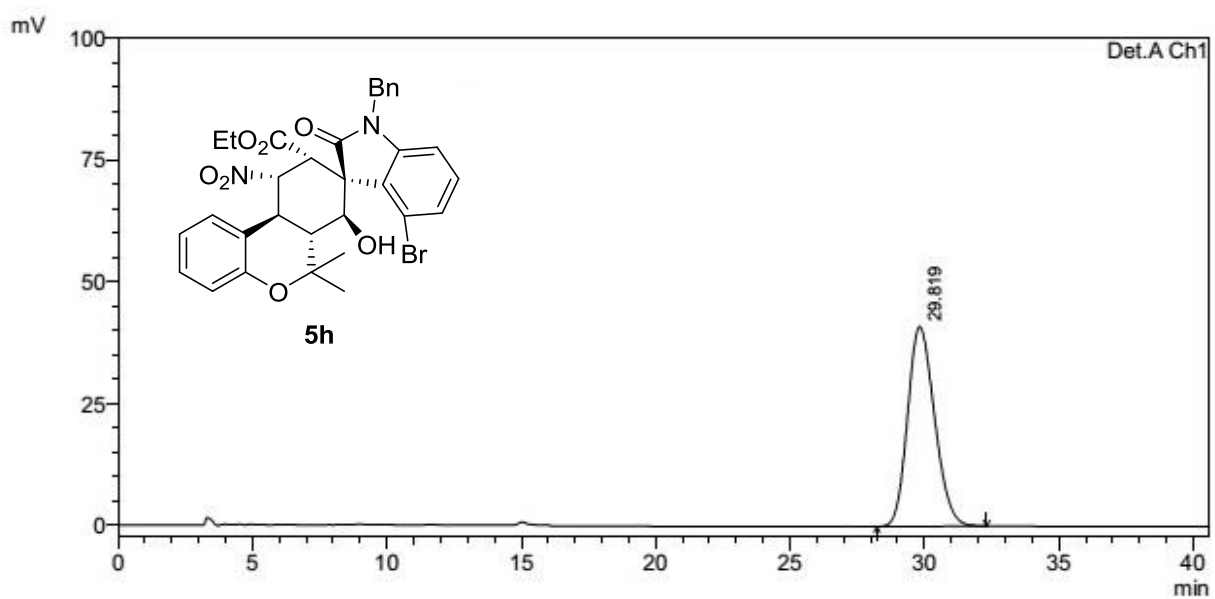
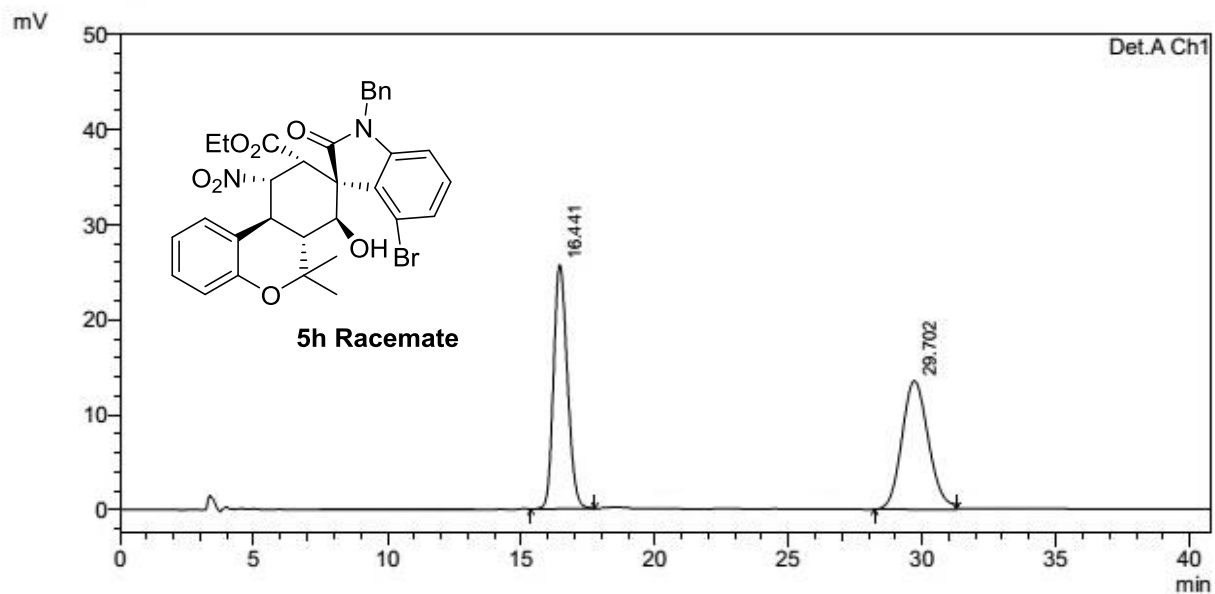
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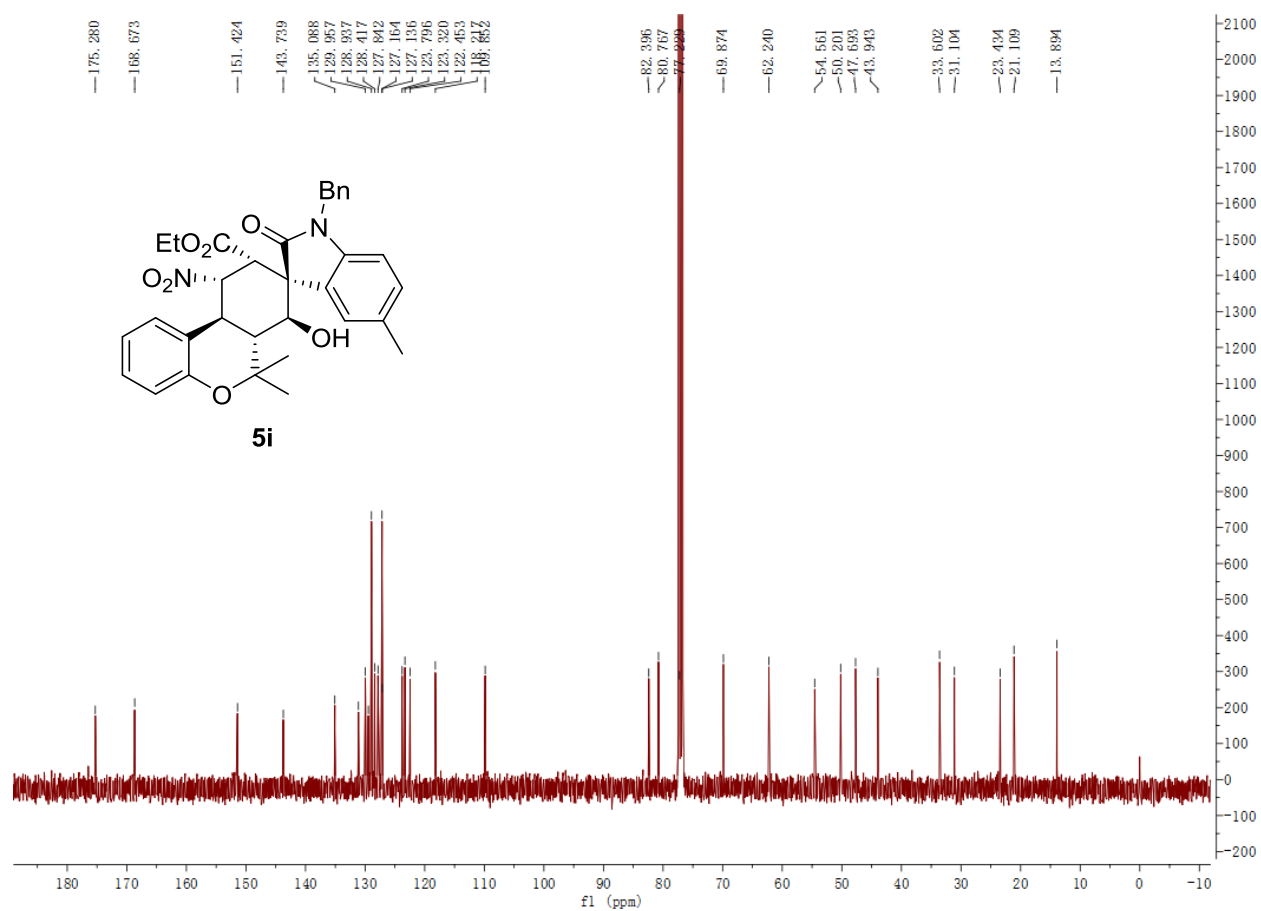
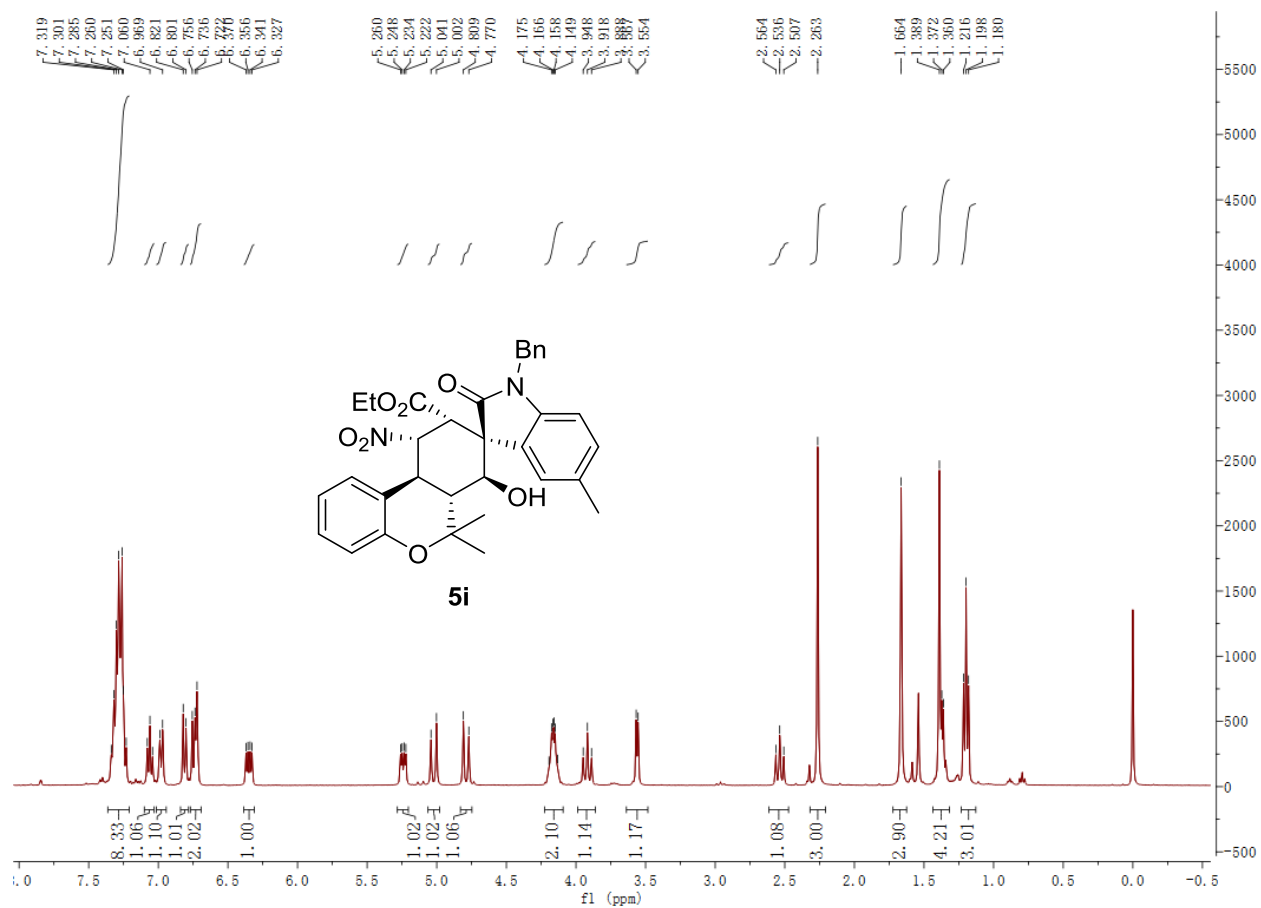
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1	14.539	605143	98.663
2	15.810	8203	1.337
Total		613346	100.000



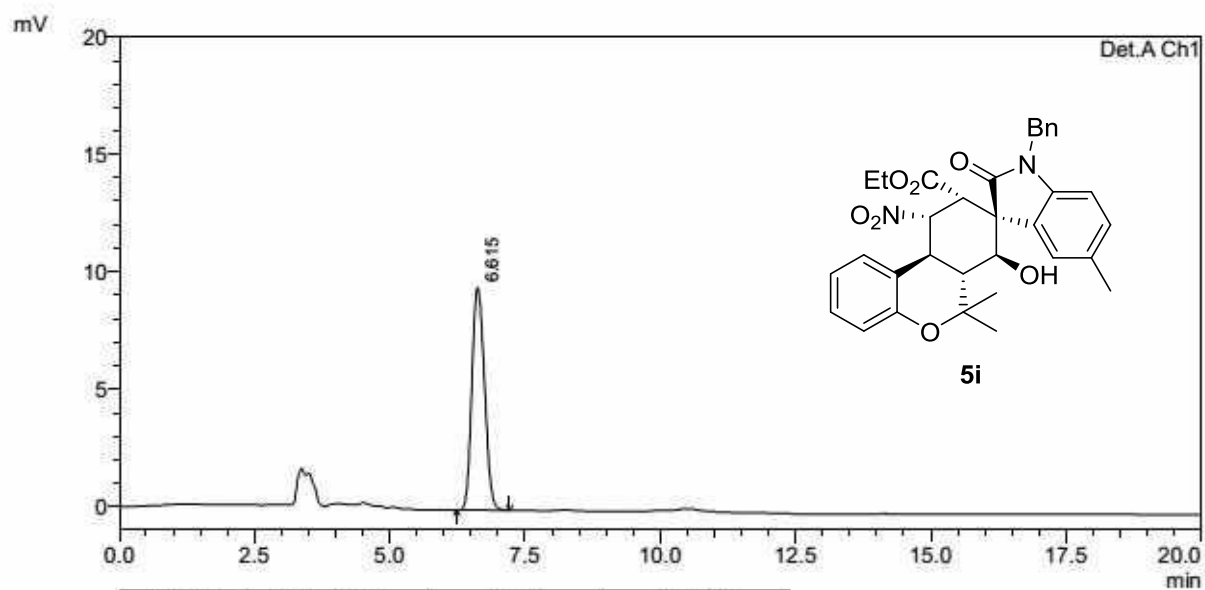
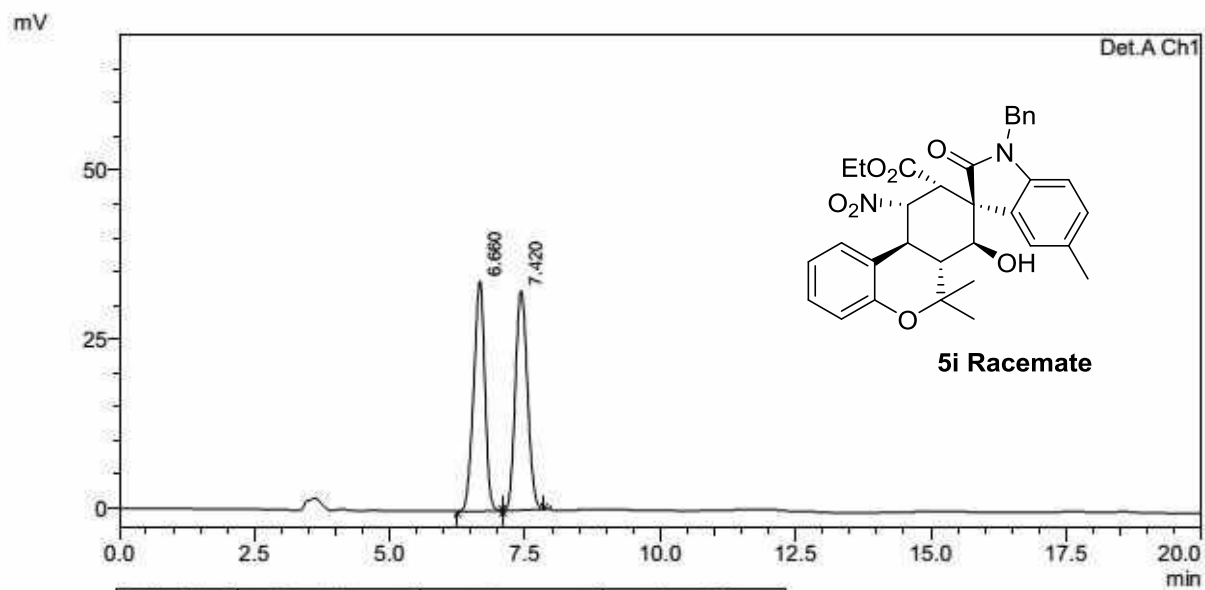
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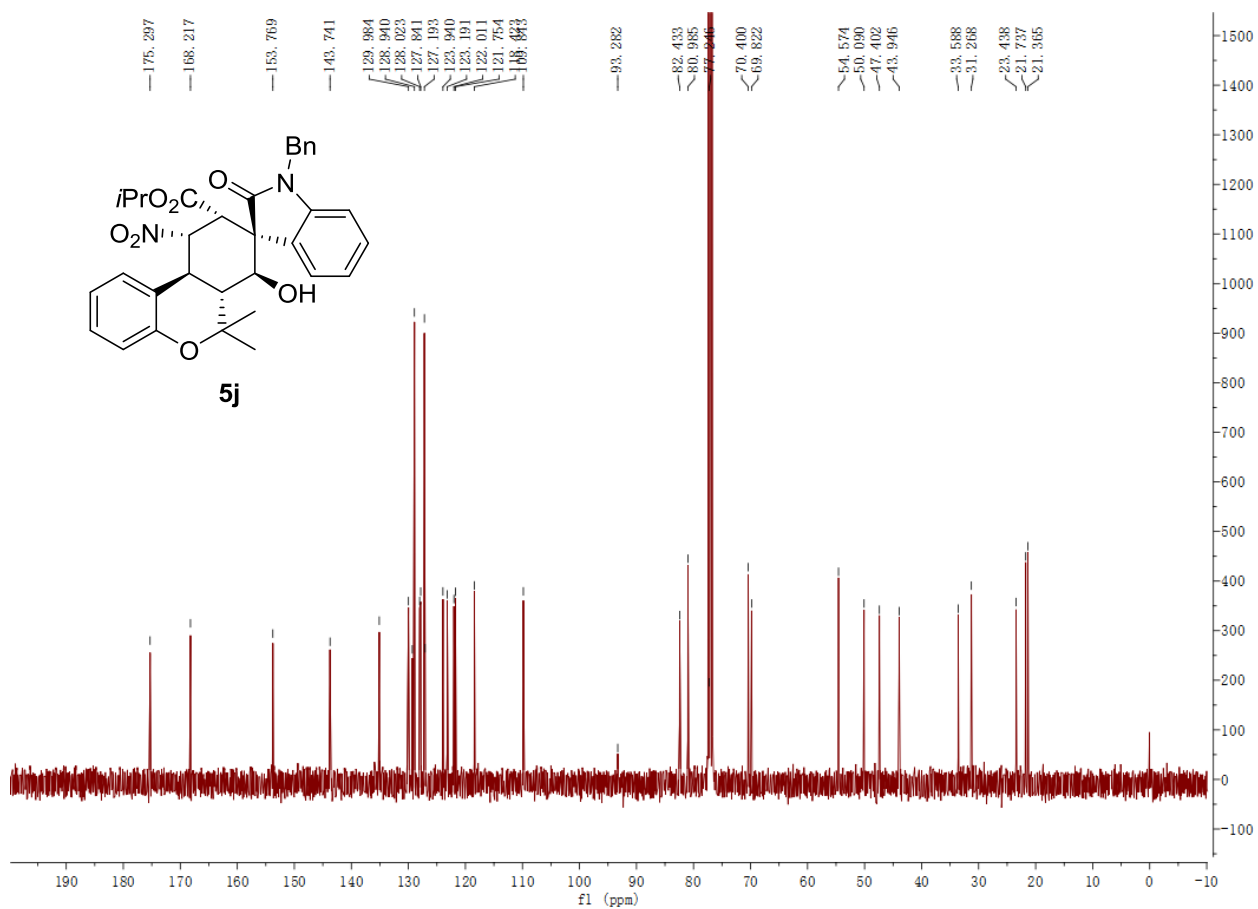
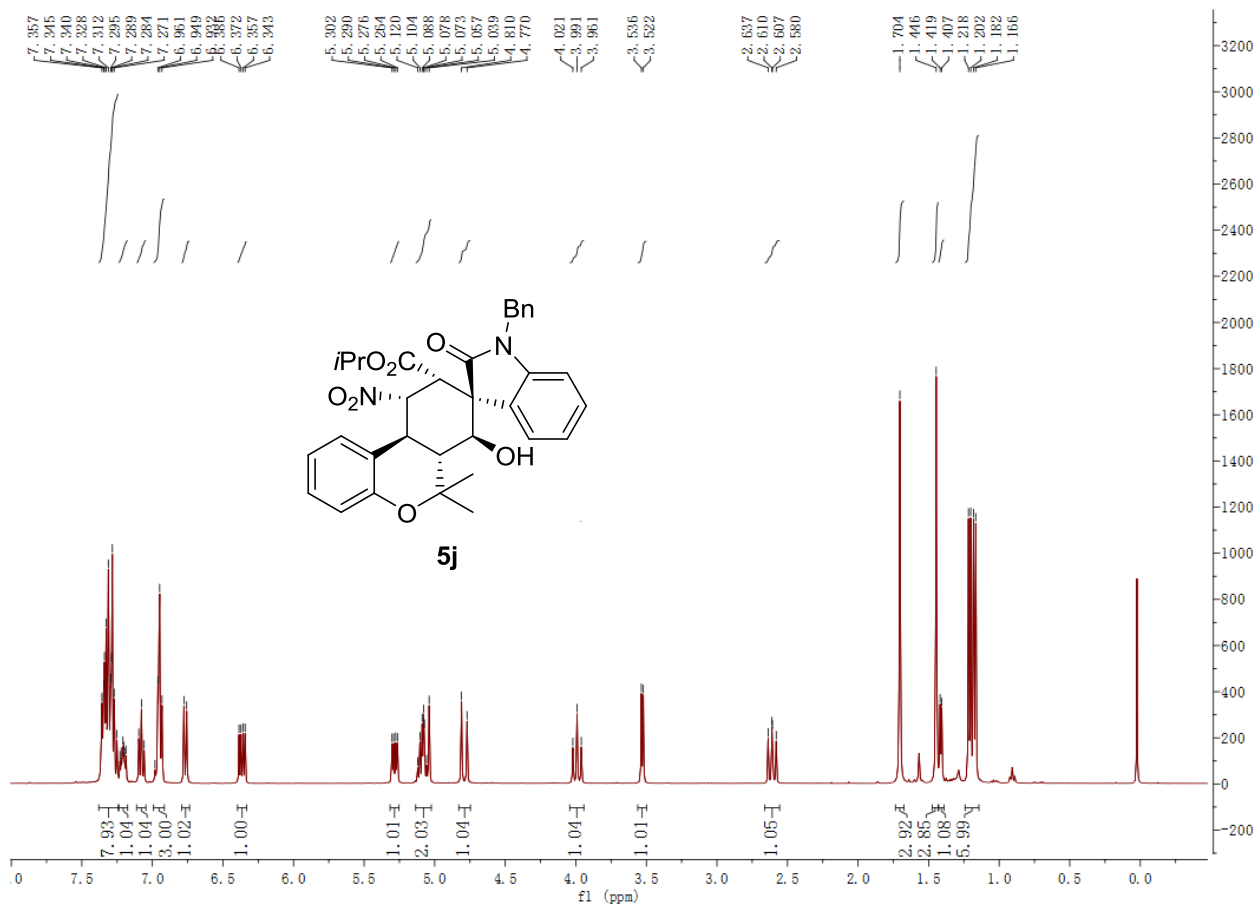




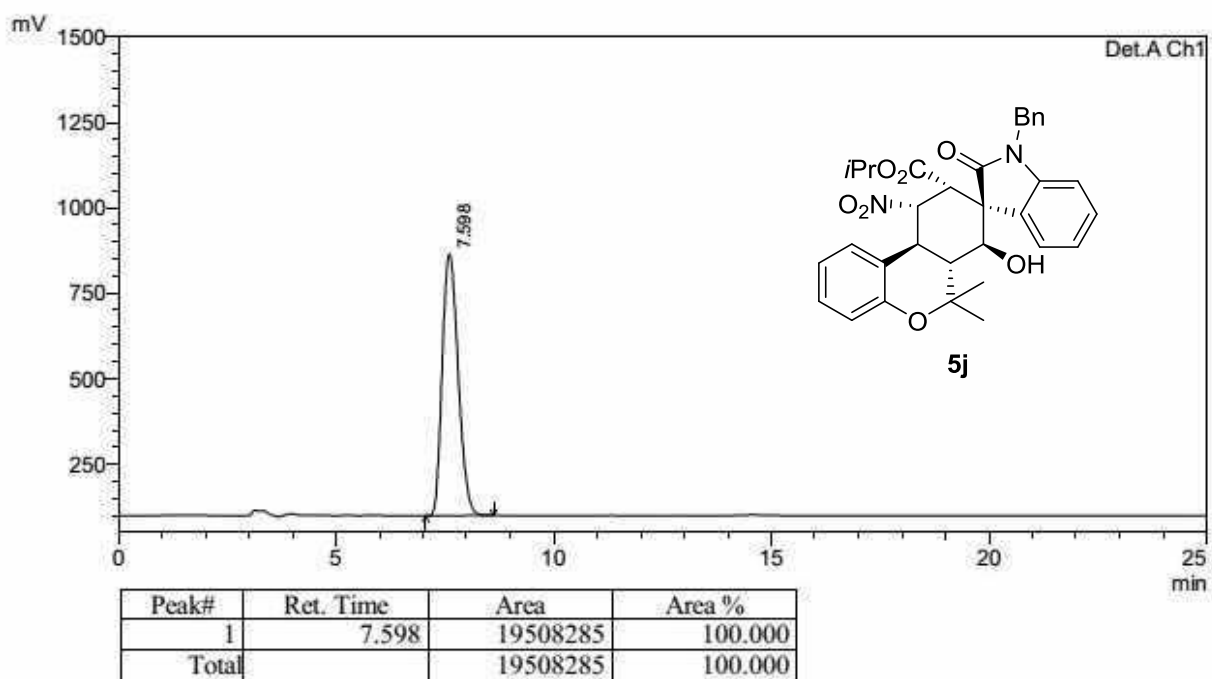
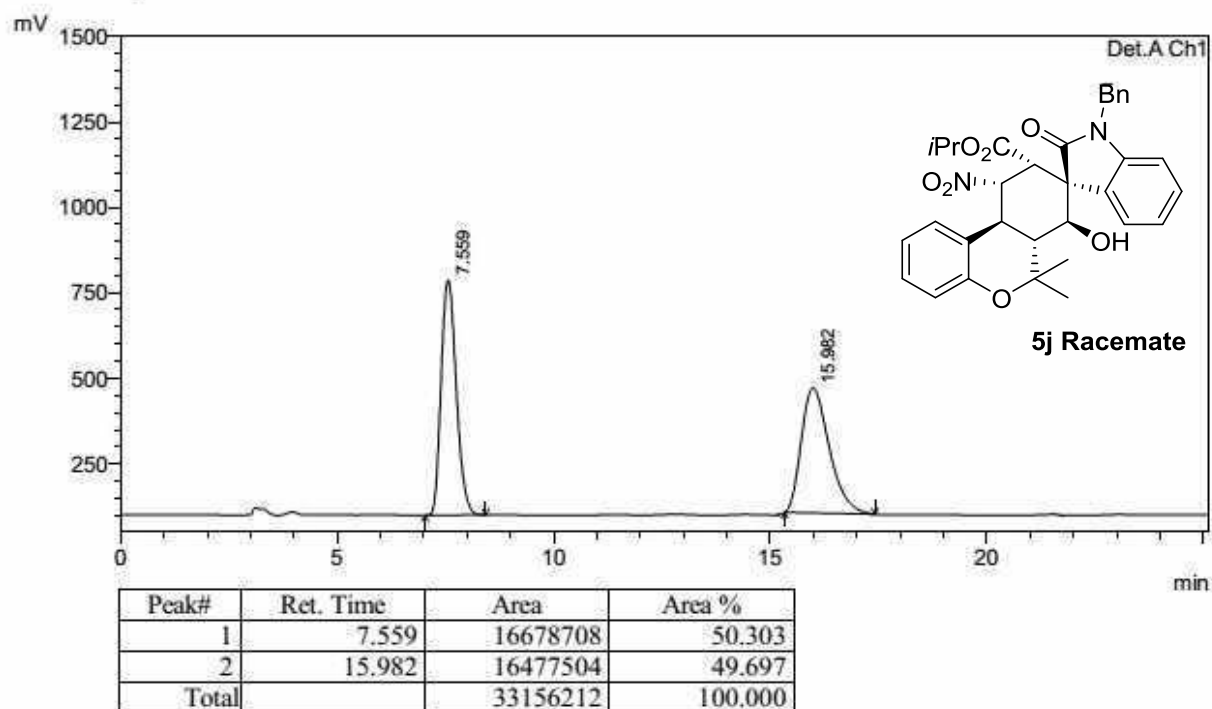


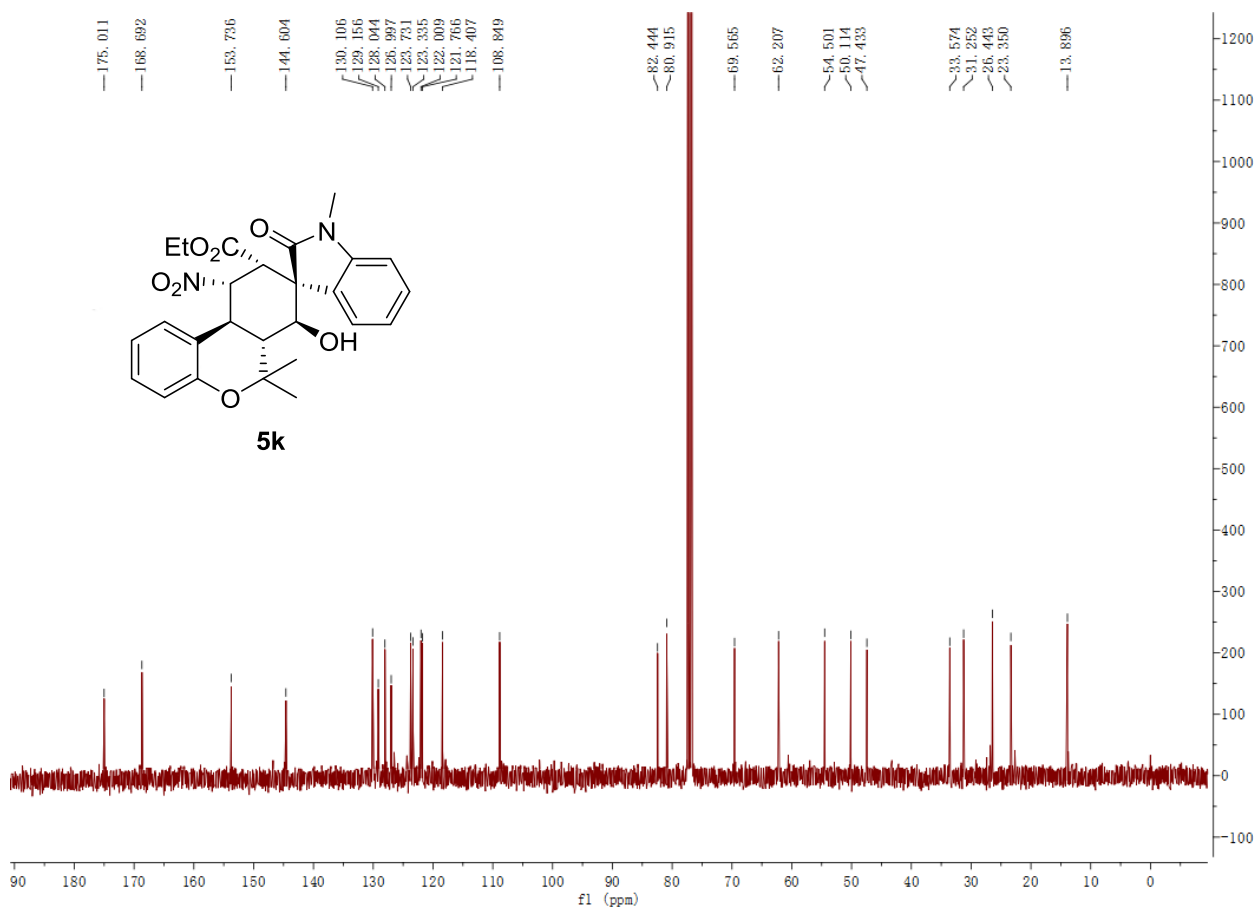
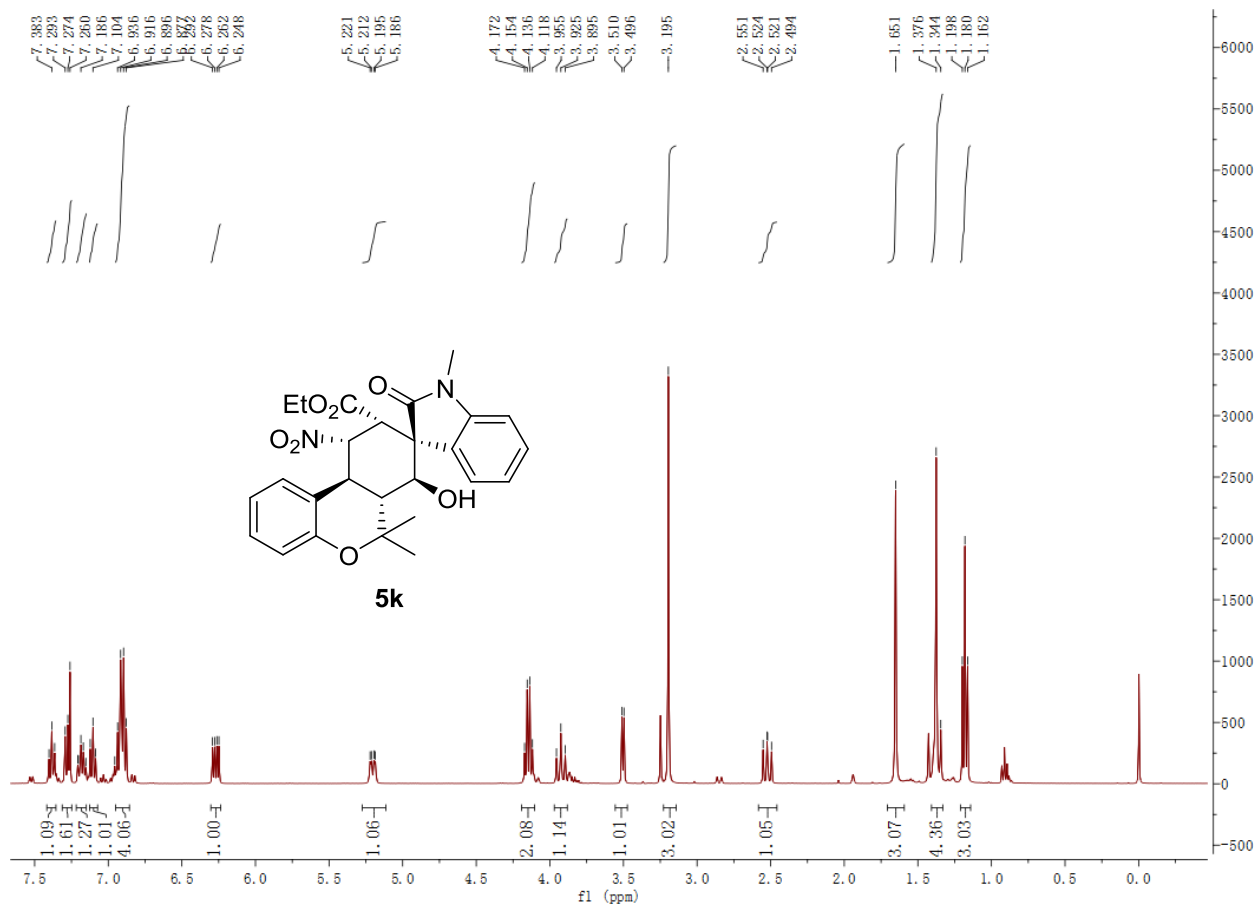
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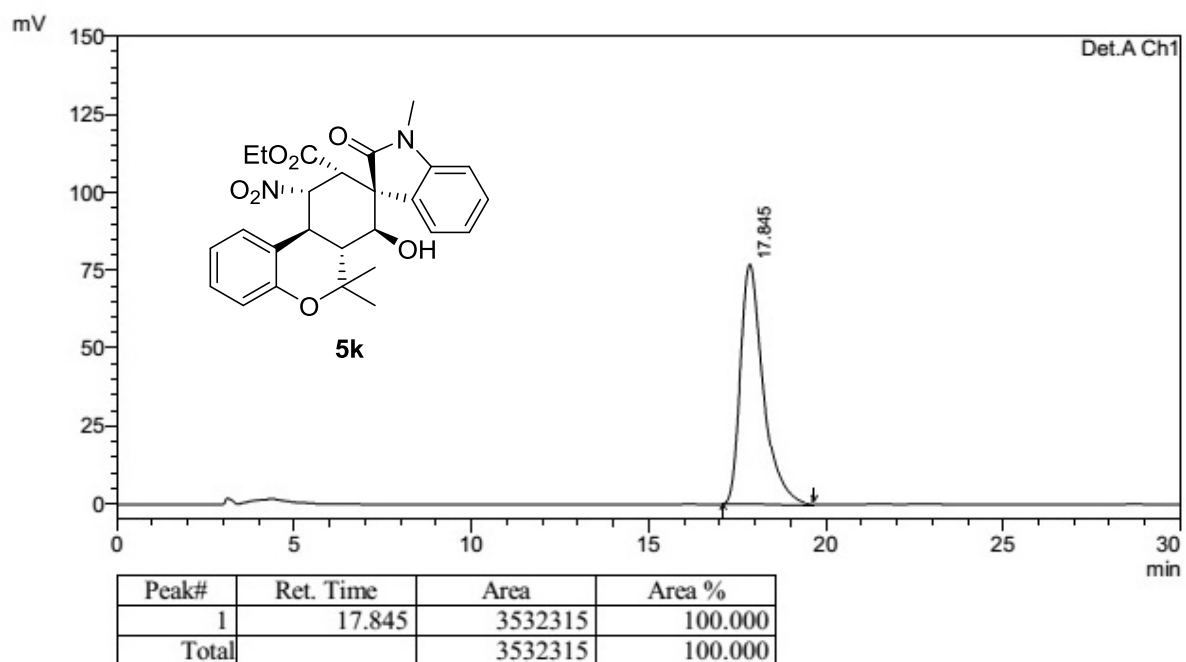
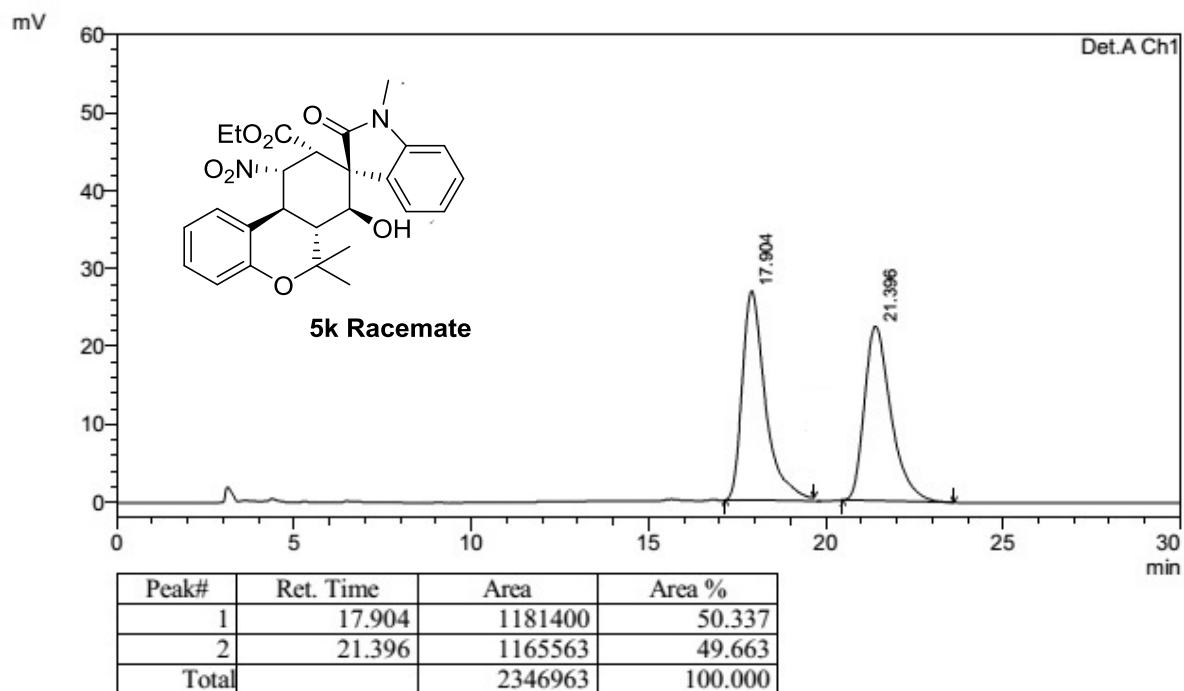


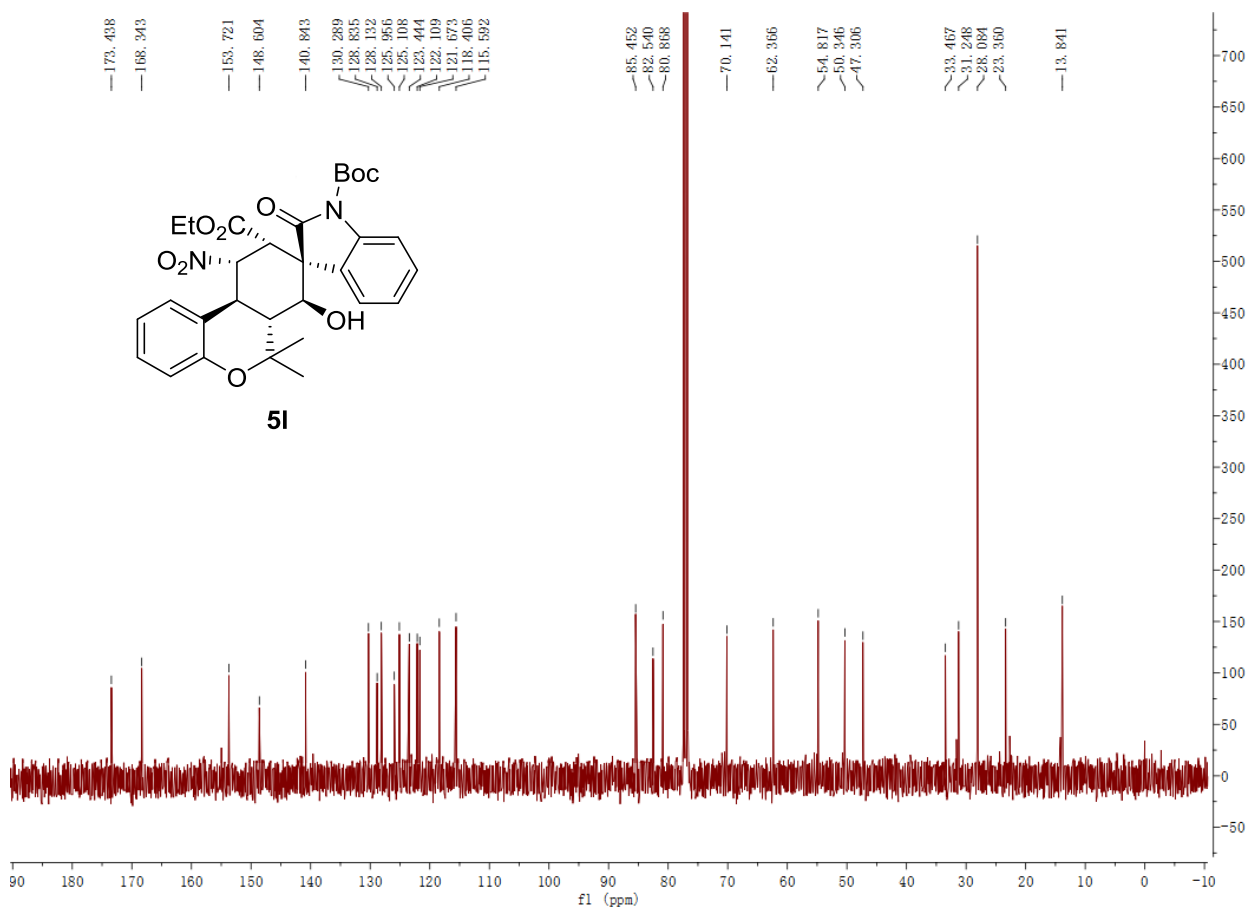
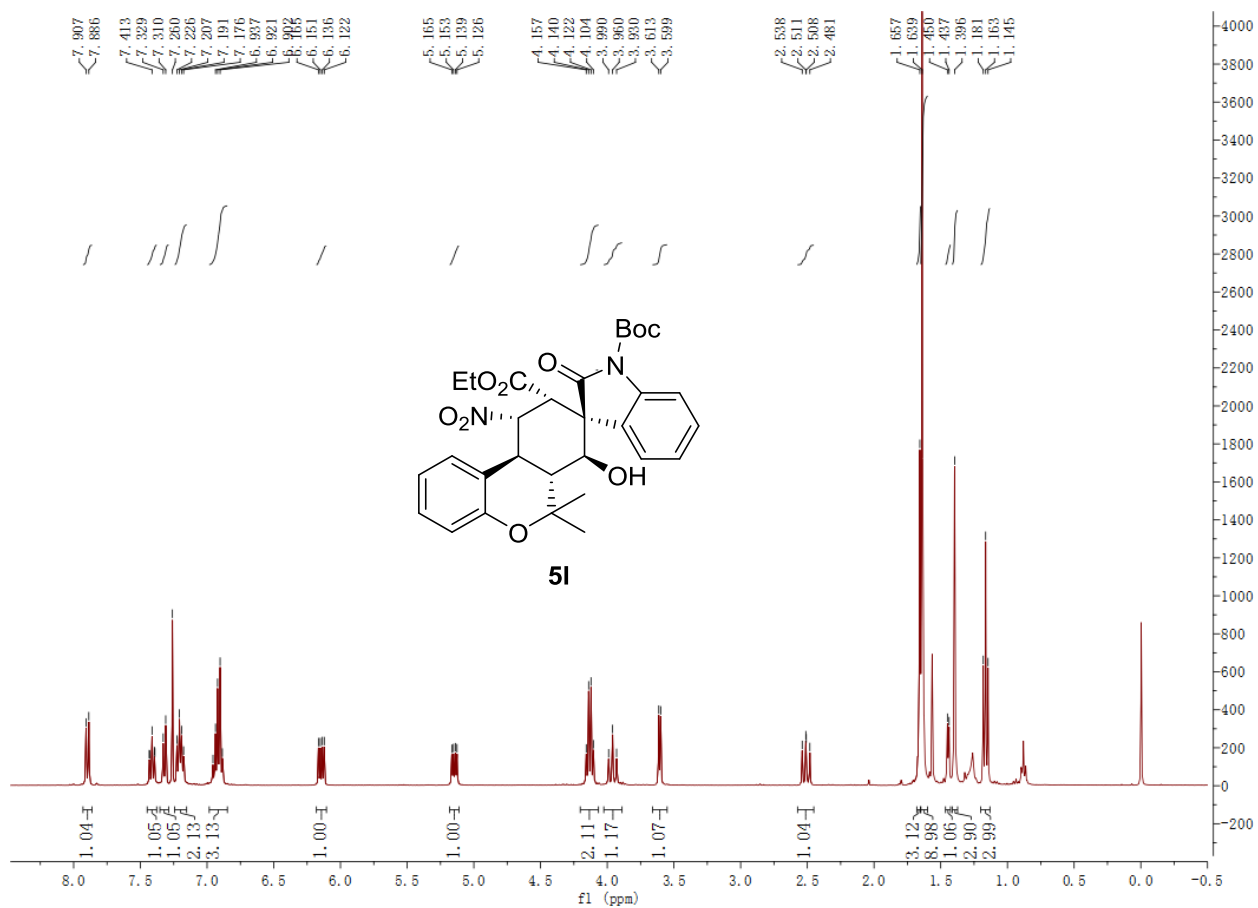
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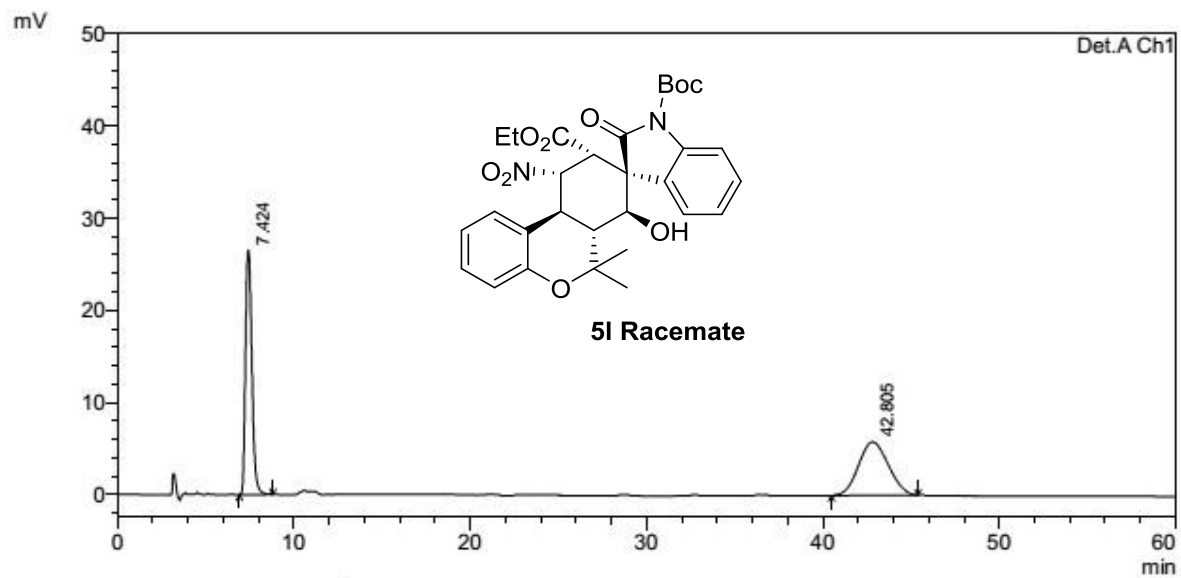


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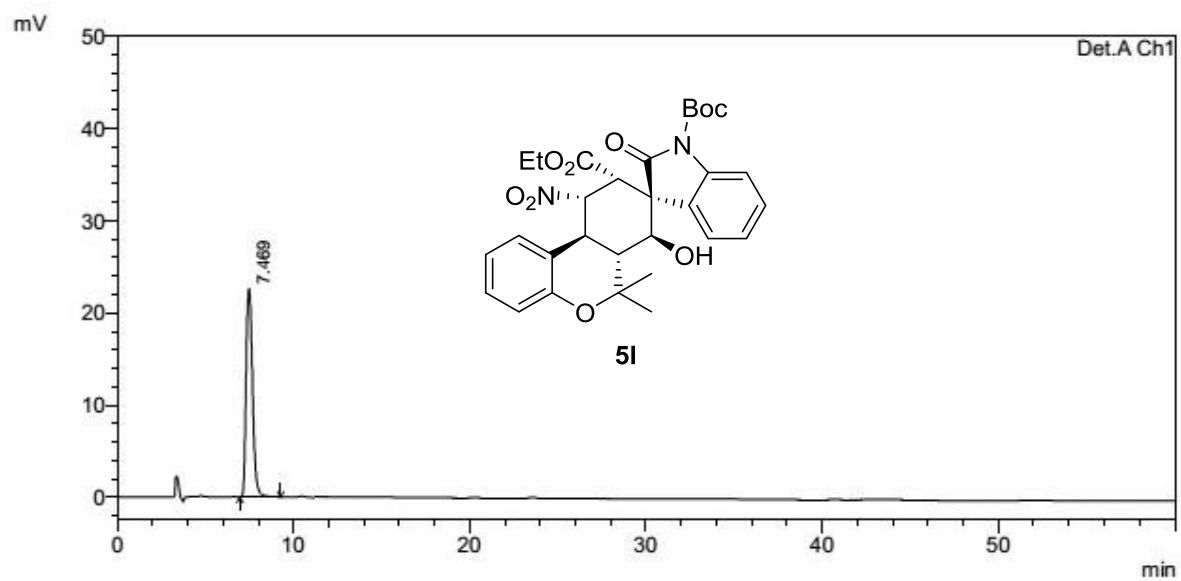




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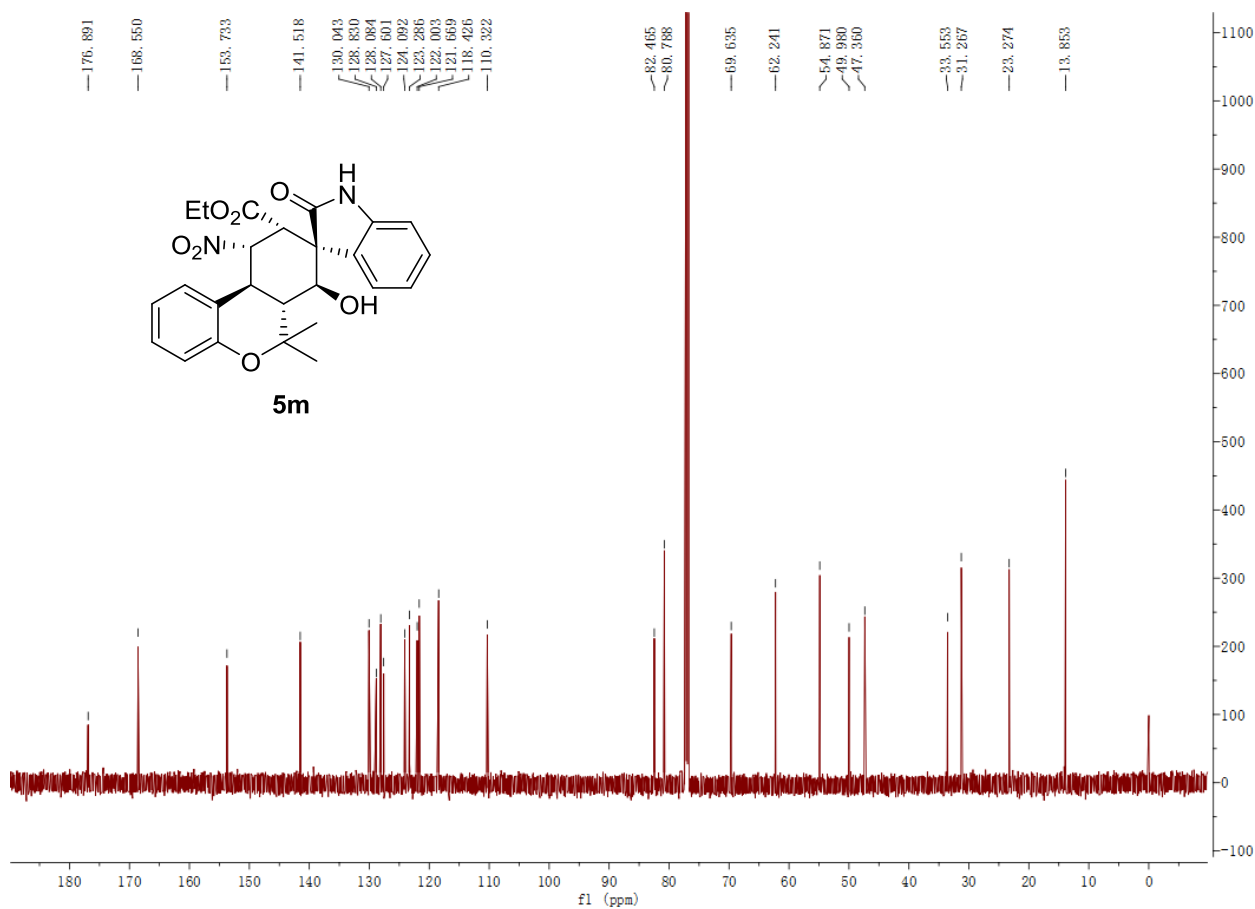
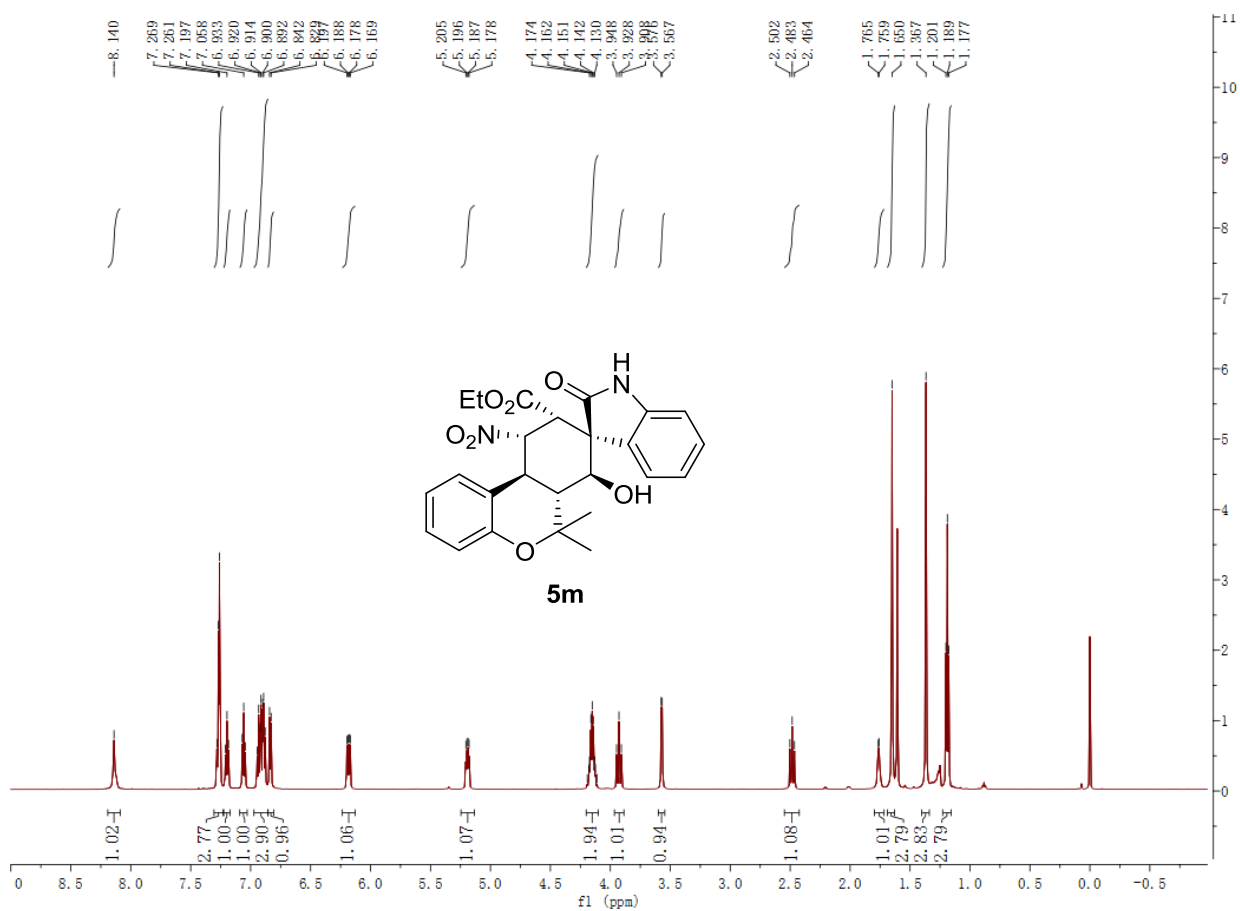


Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
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2	42.805	684354	50.373
Total		1358586	100.000

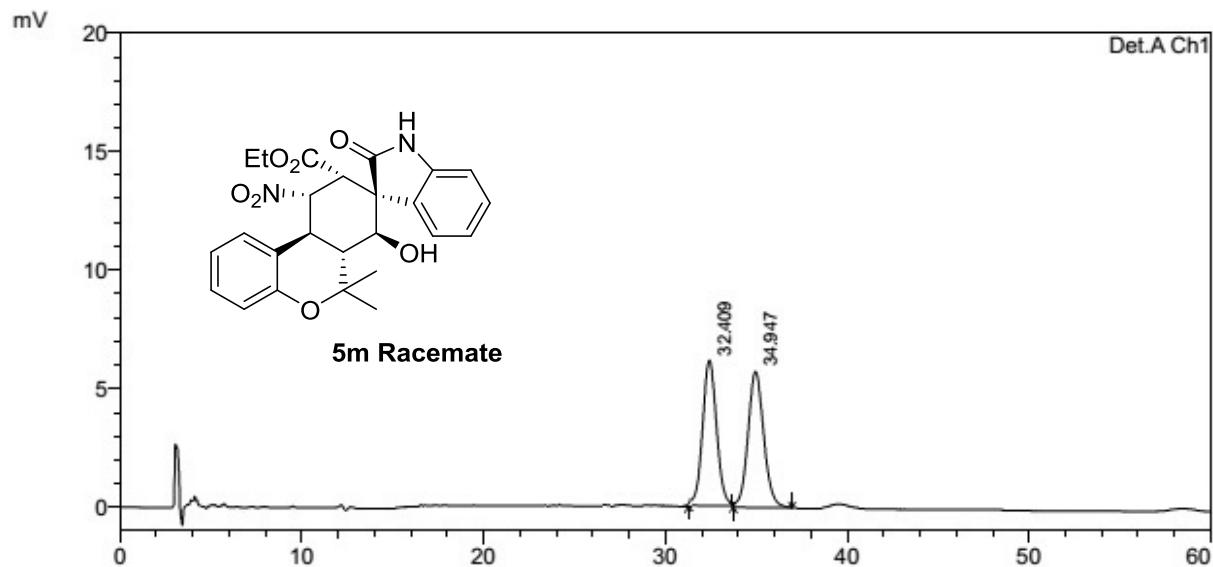


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1	7.469	579987	100.000
Total		579987	100.000

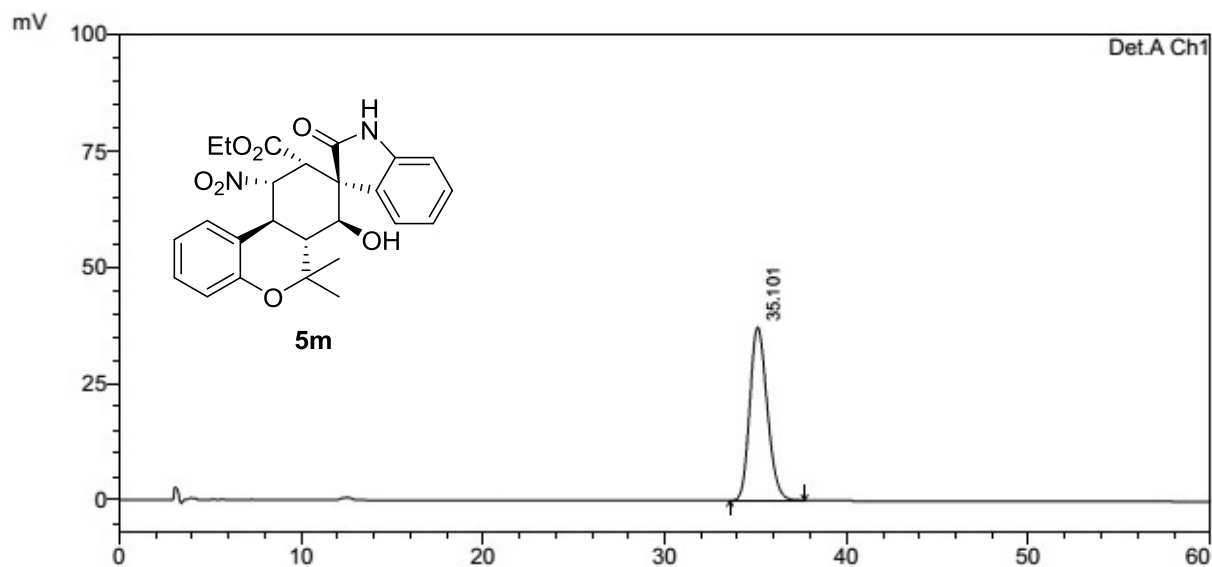




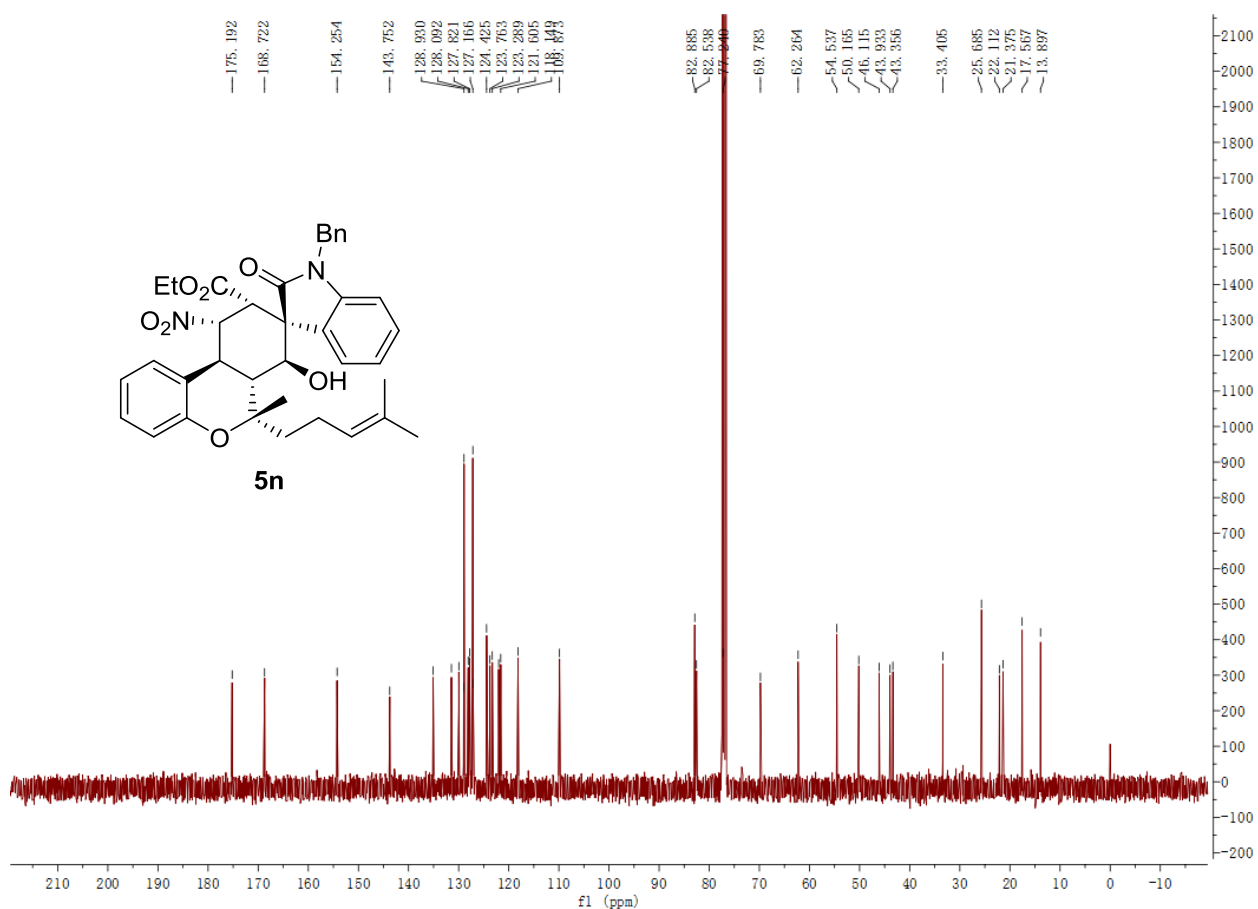
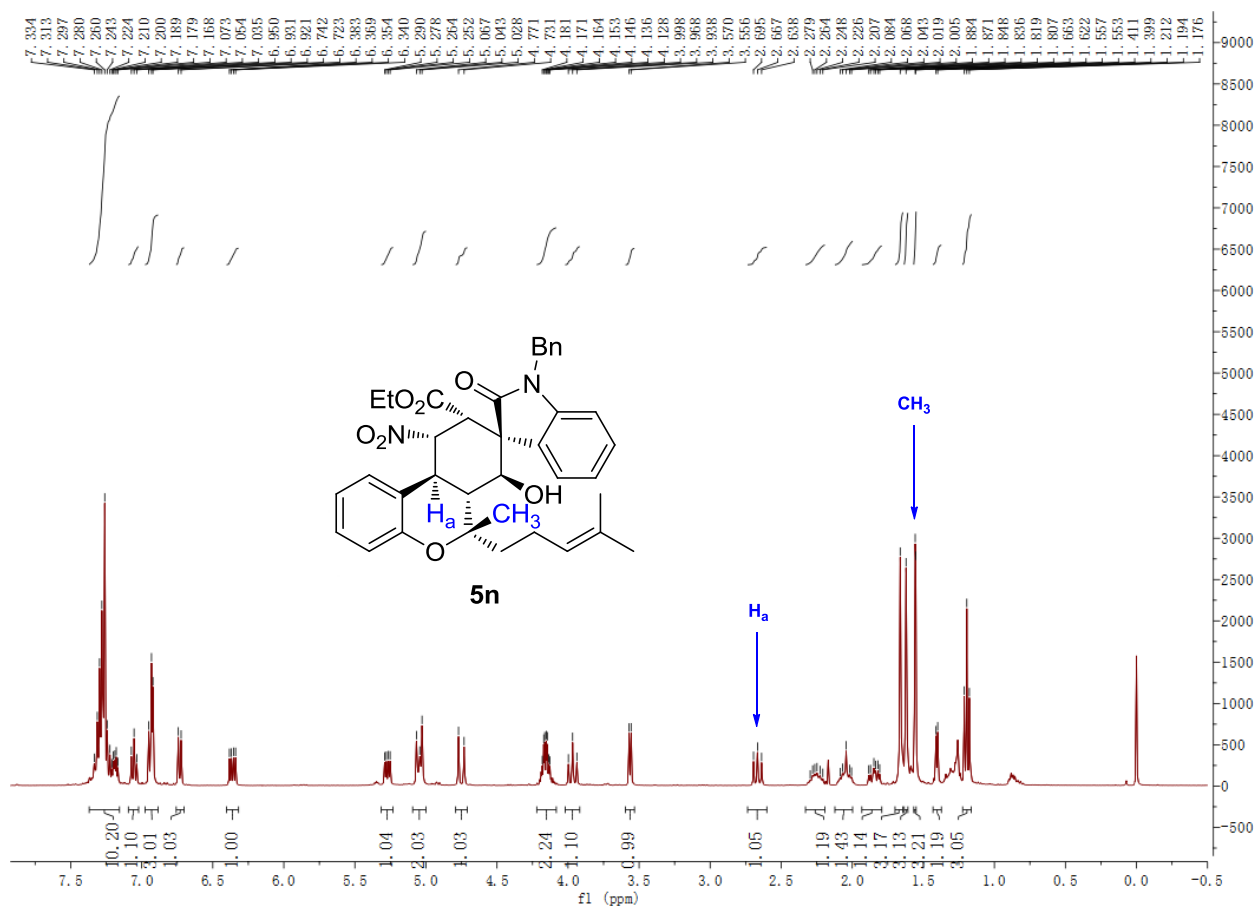
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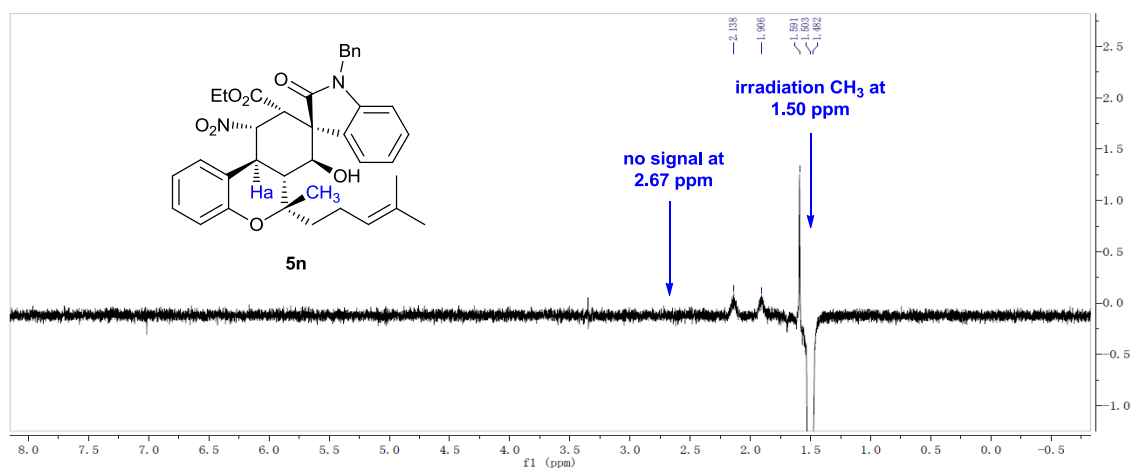


Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	32.409	341541	49.650
2	34.947	346352	50.350
Total		687893	100.000

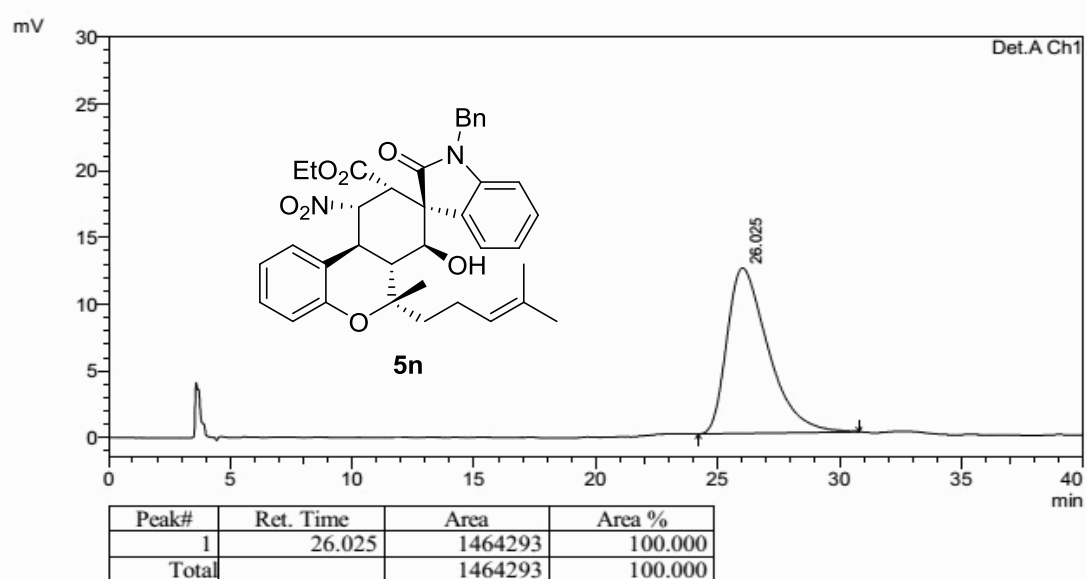
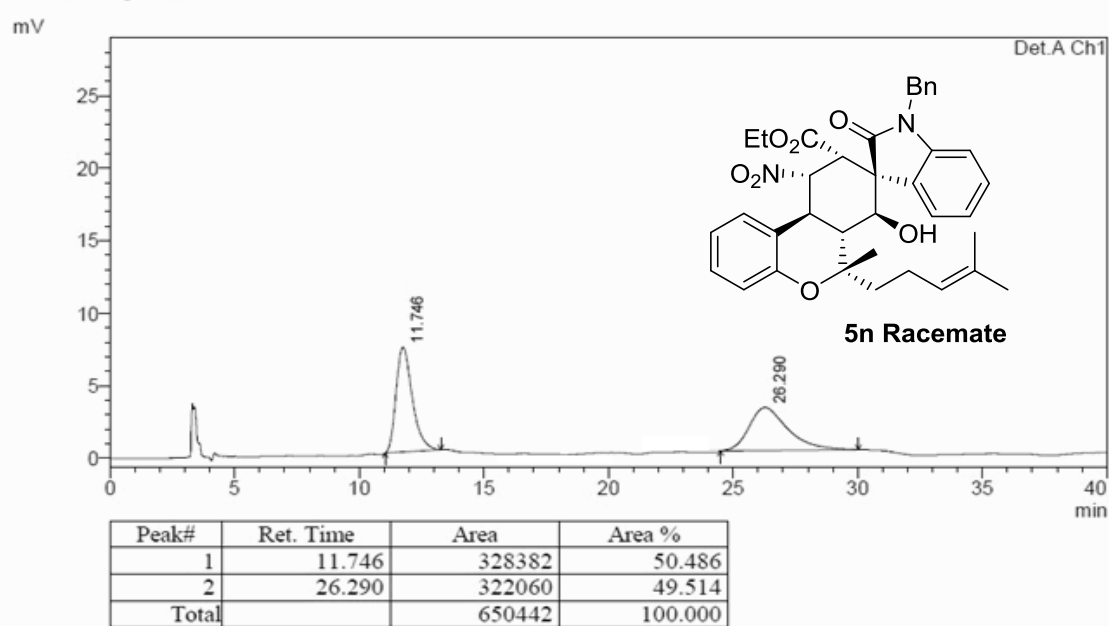


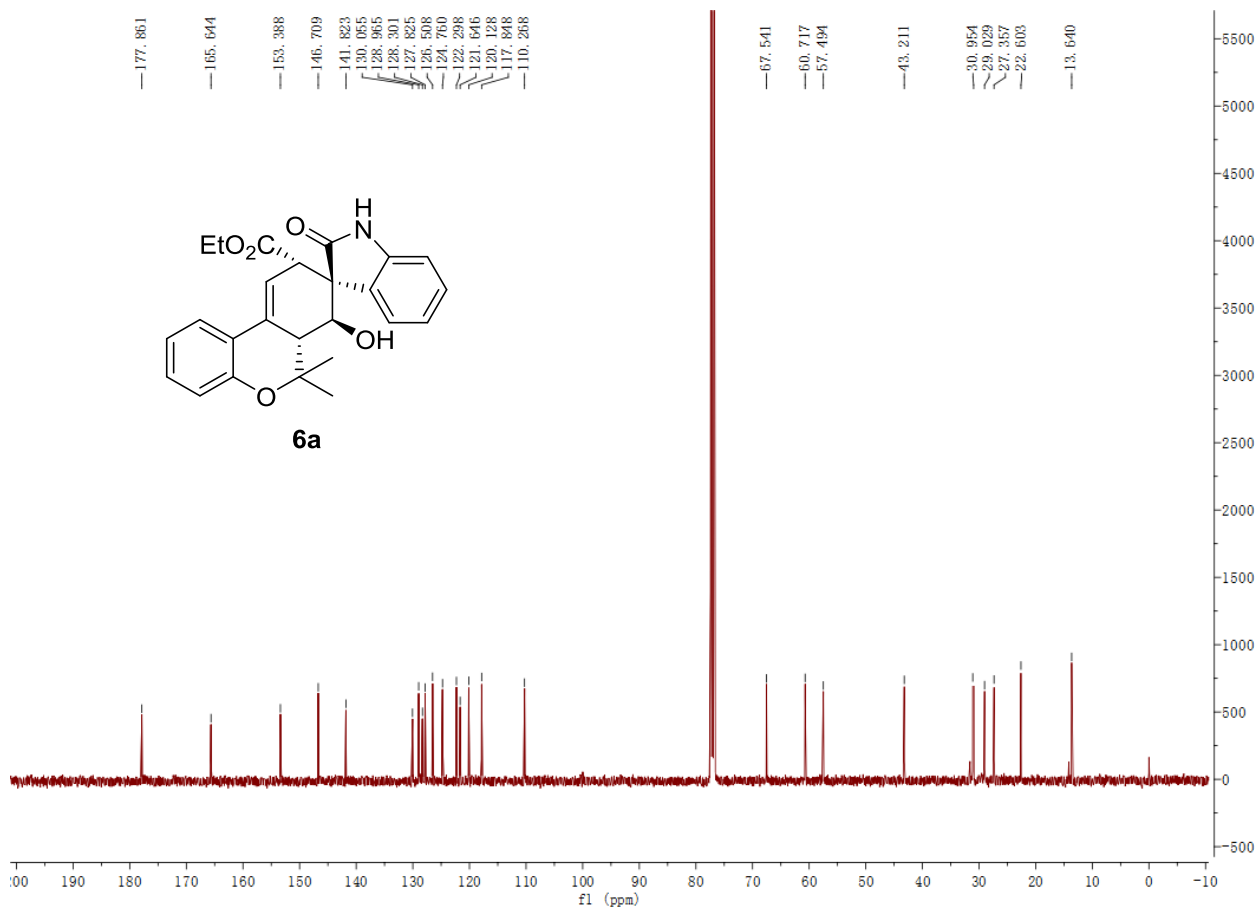
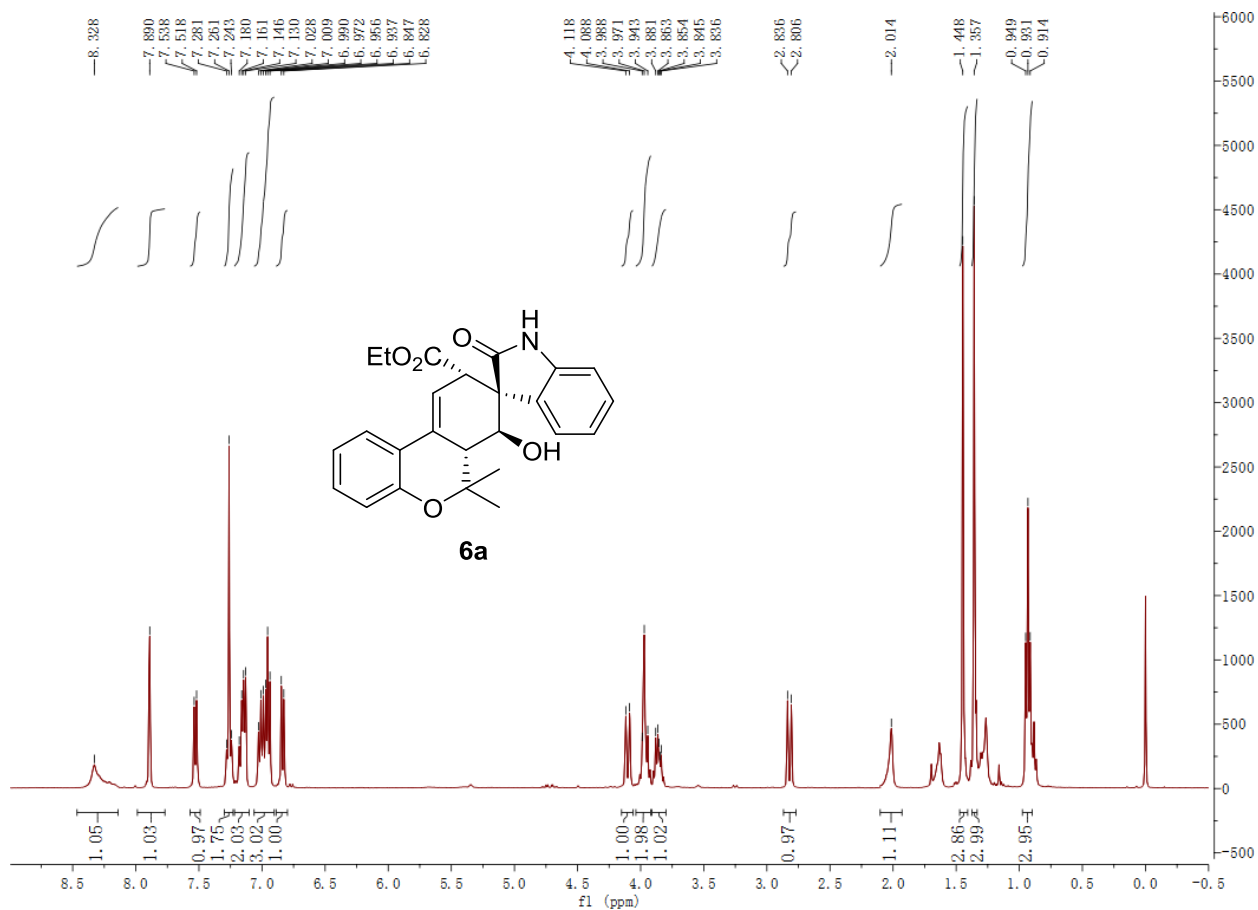
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1	35.101	2486580	100.000
Total		2486580	100.000



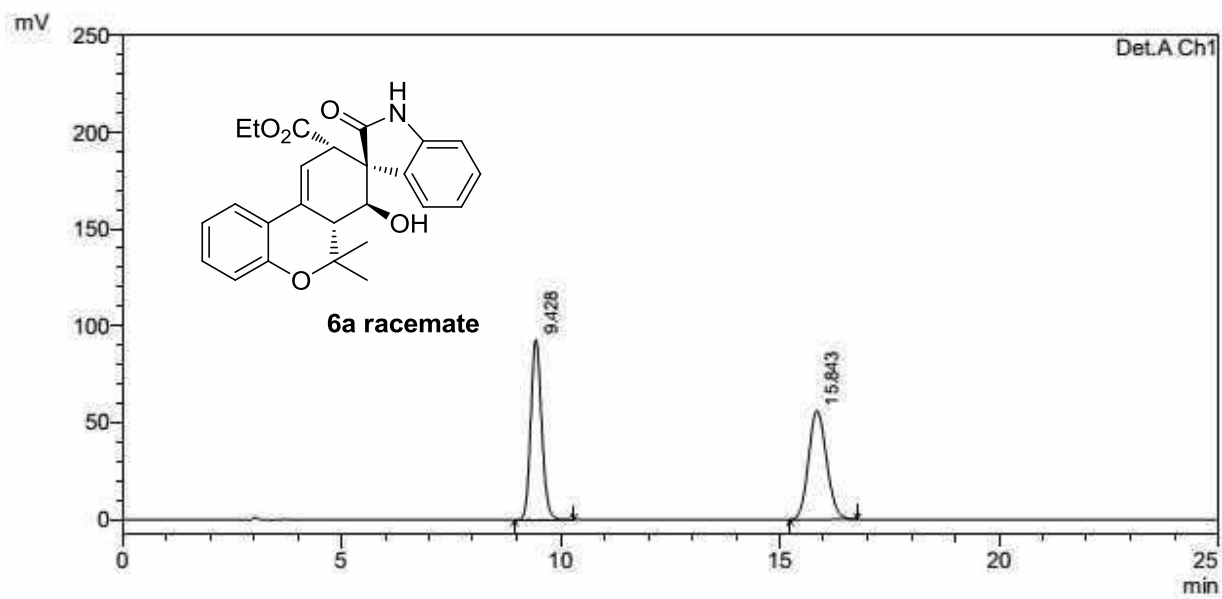


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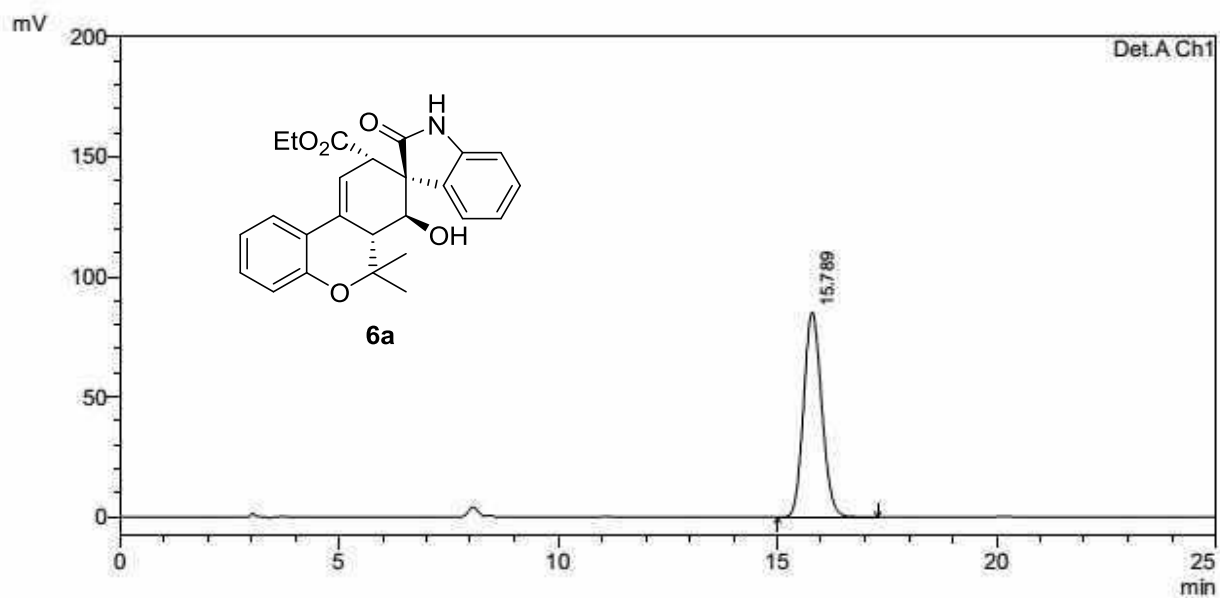




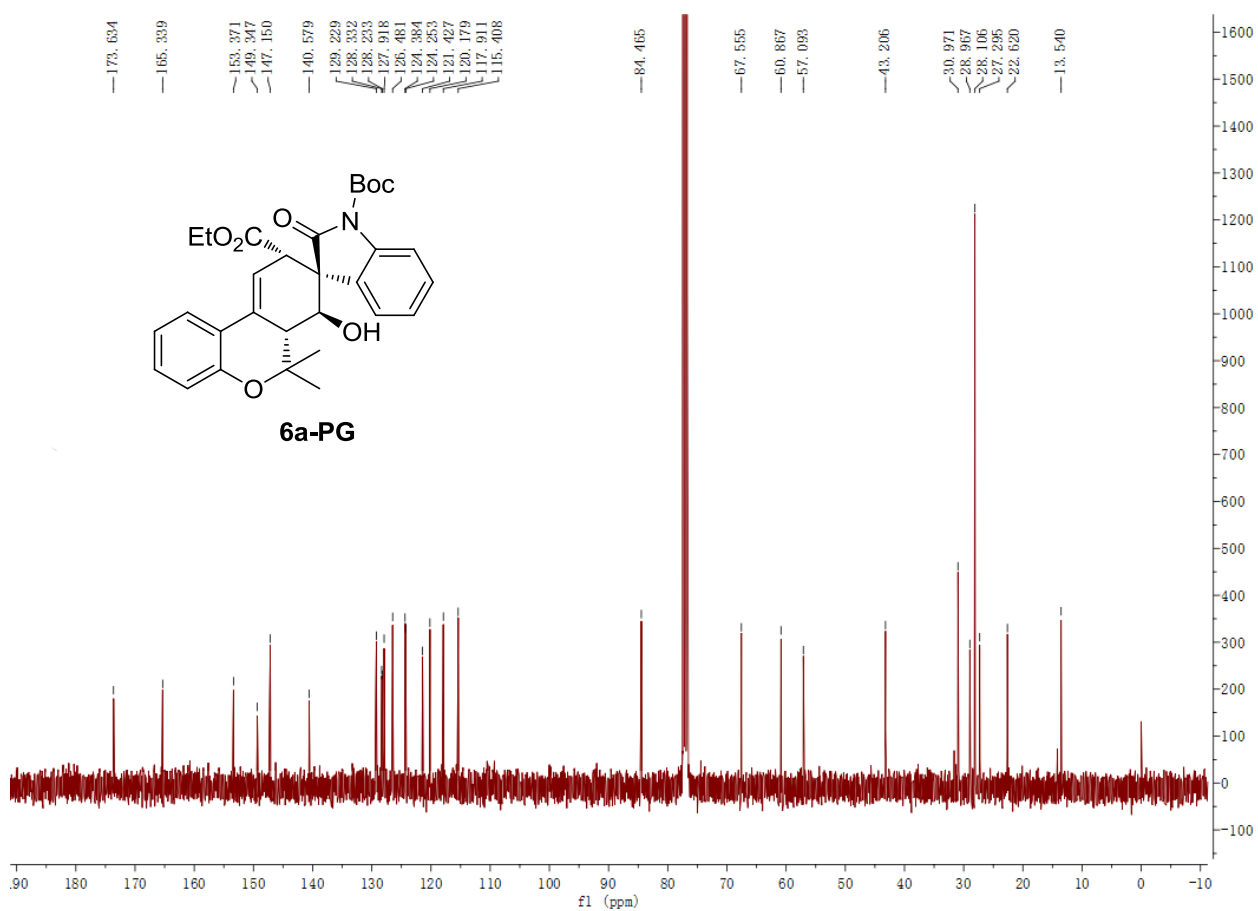
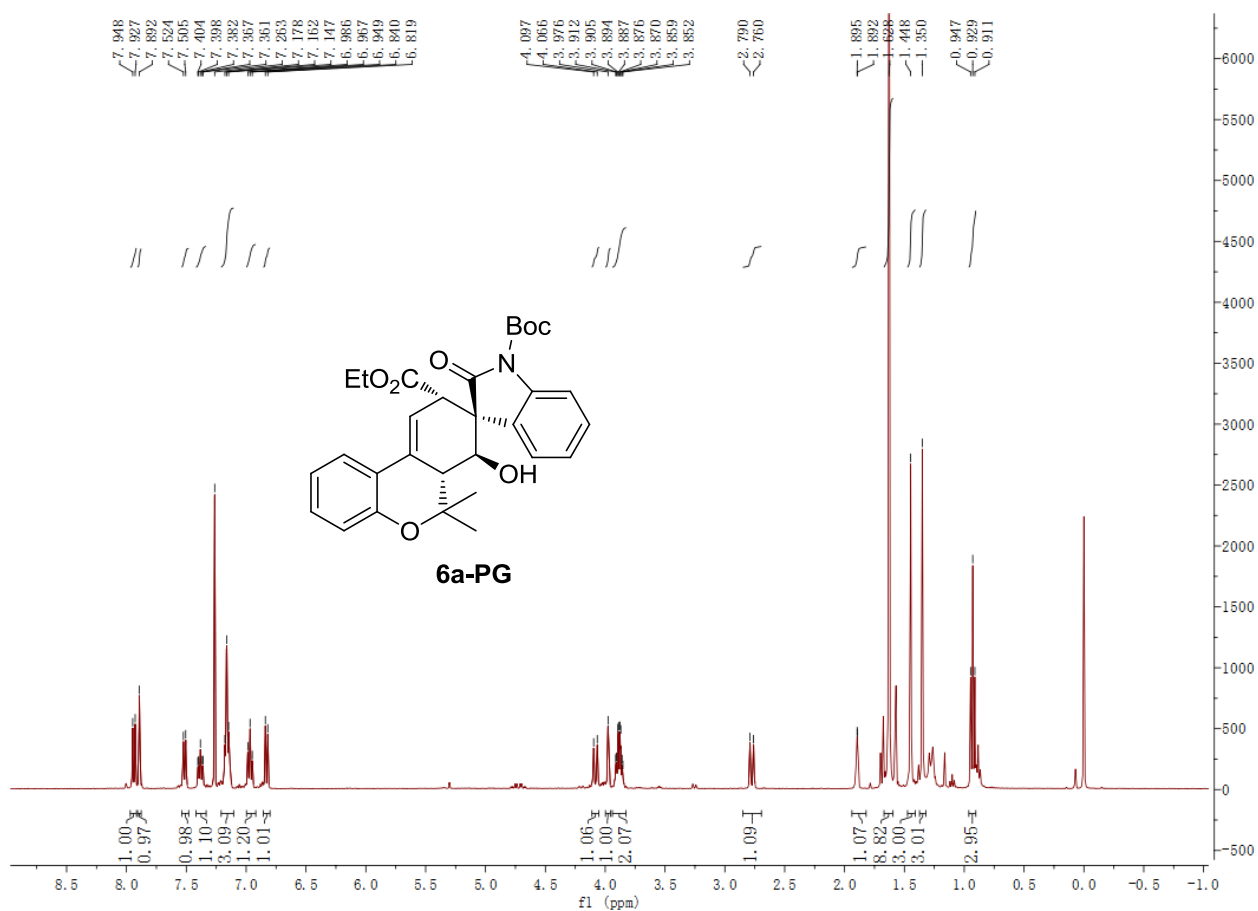
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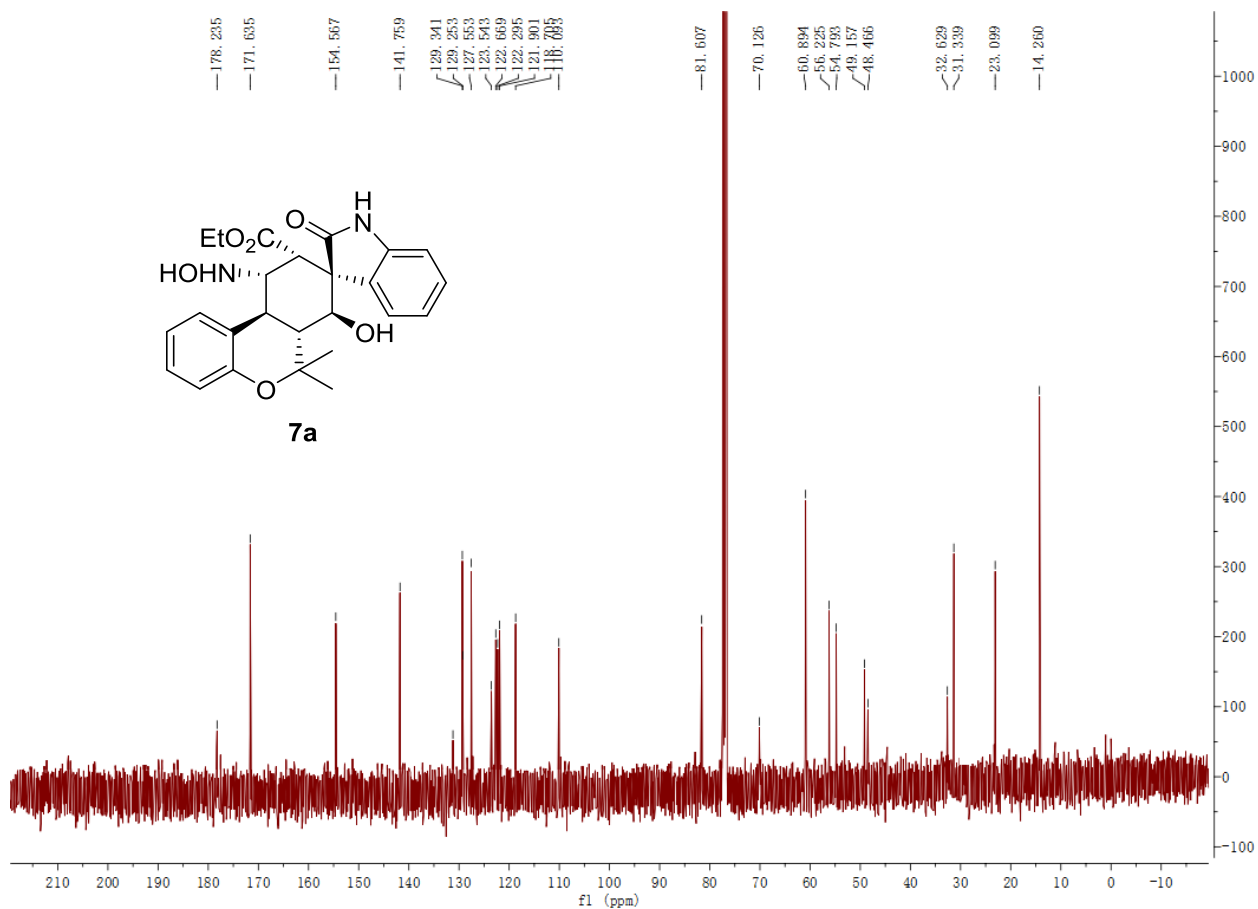
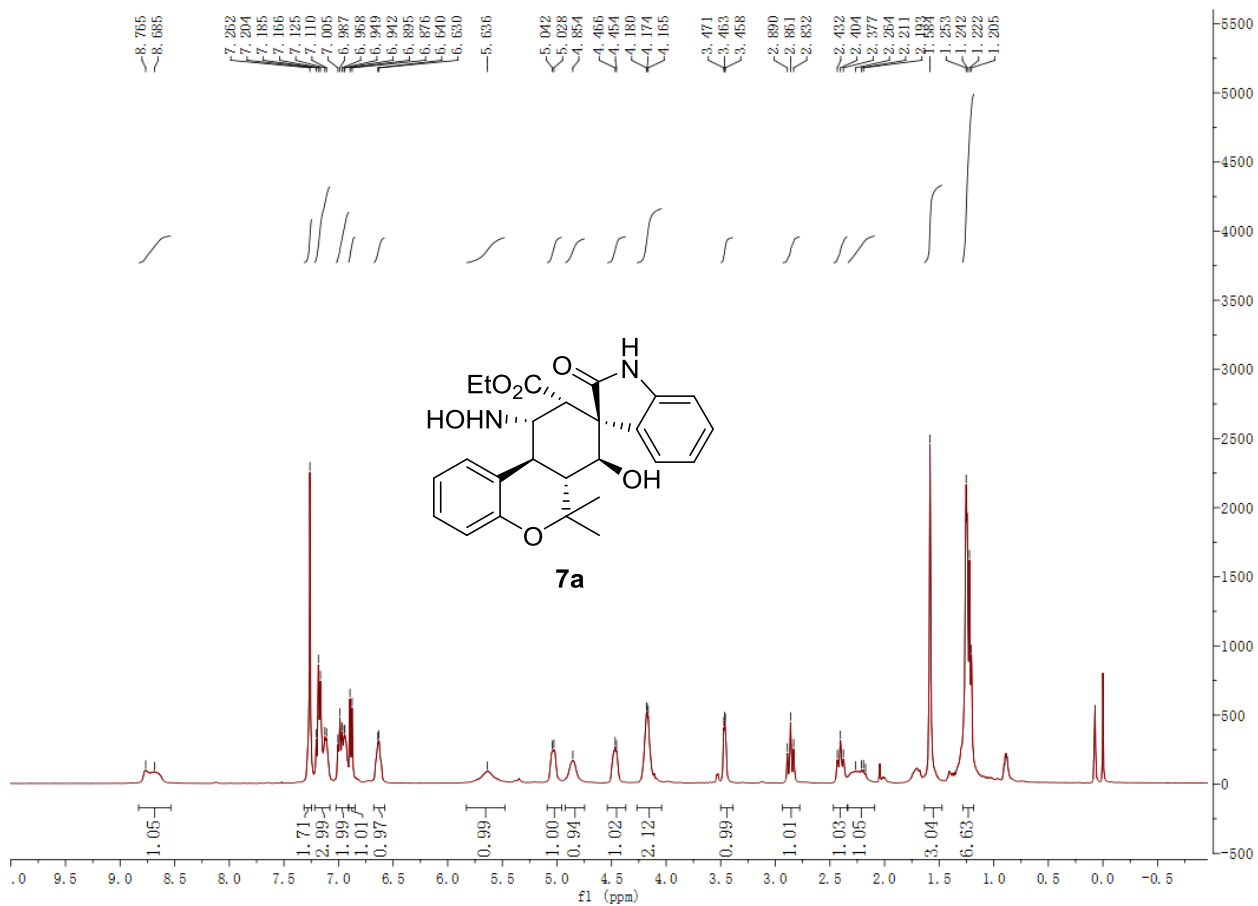


Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	9.428	1607431	49.949
2	15.843	1610697	50.051
Total		3218128	100.000



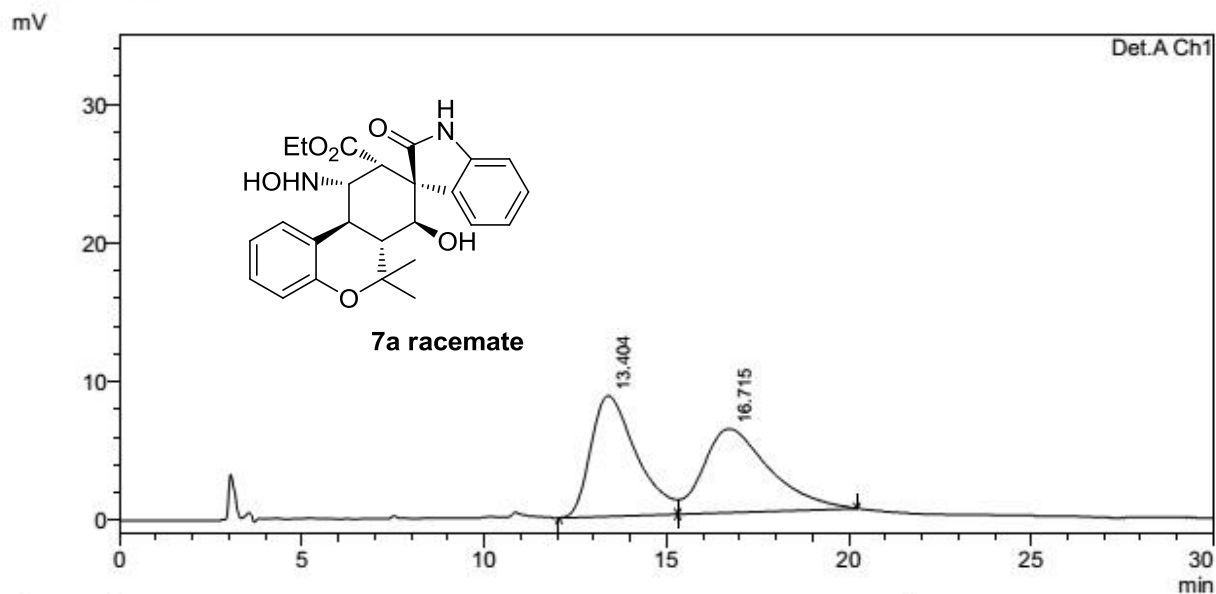
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	15.789	2468489	100.000
Total		2468489	100.000



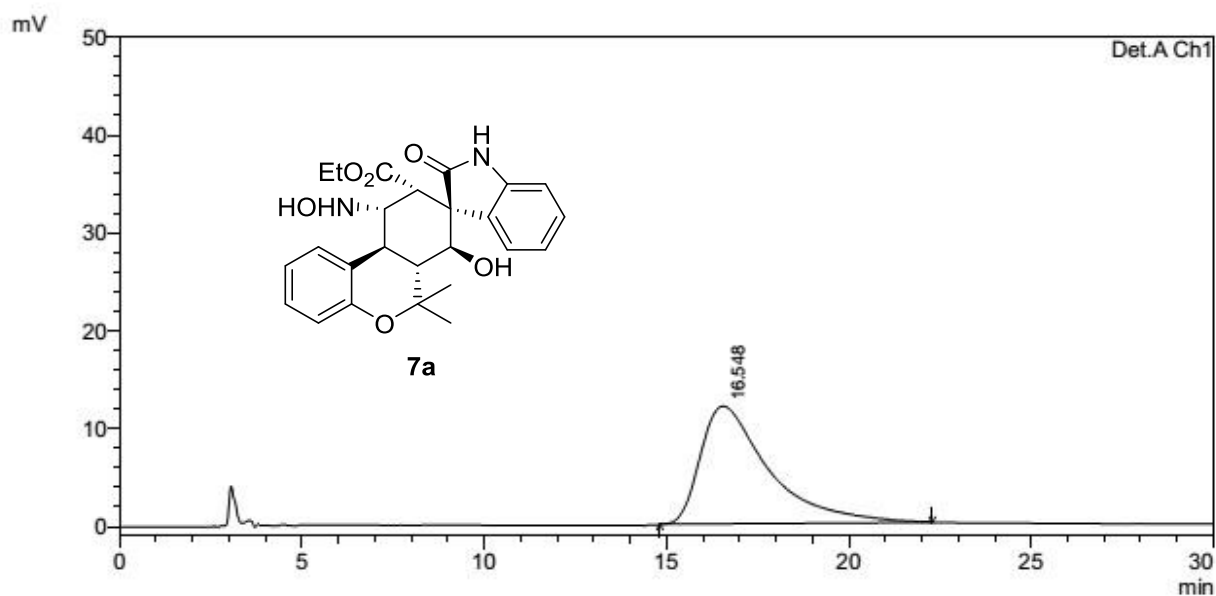




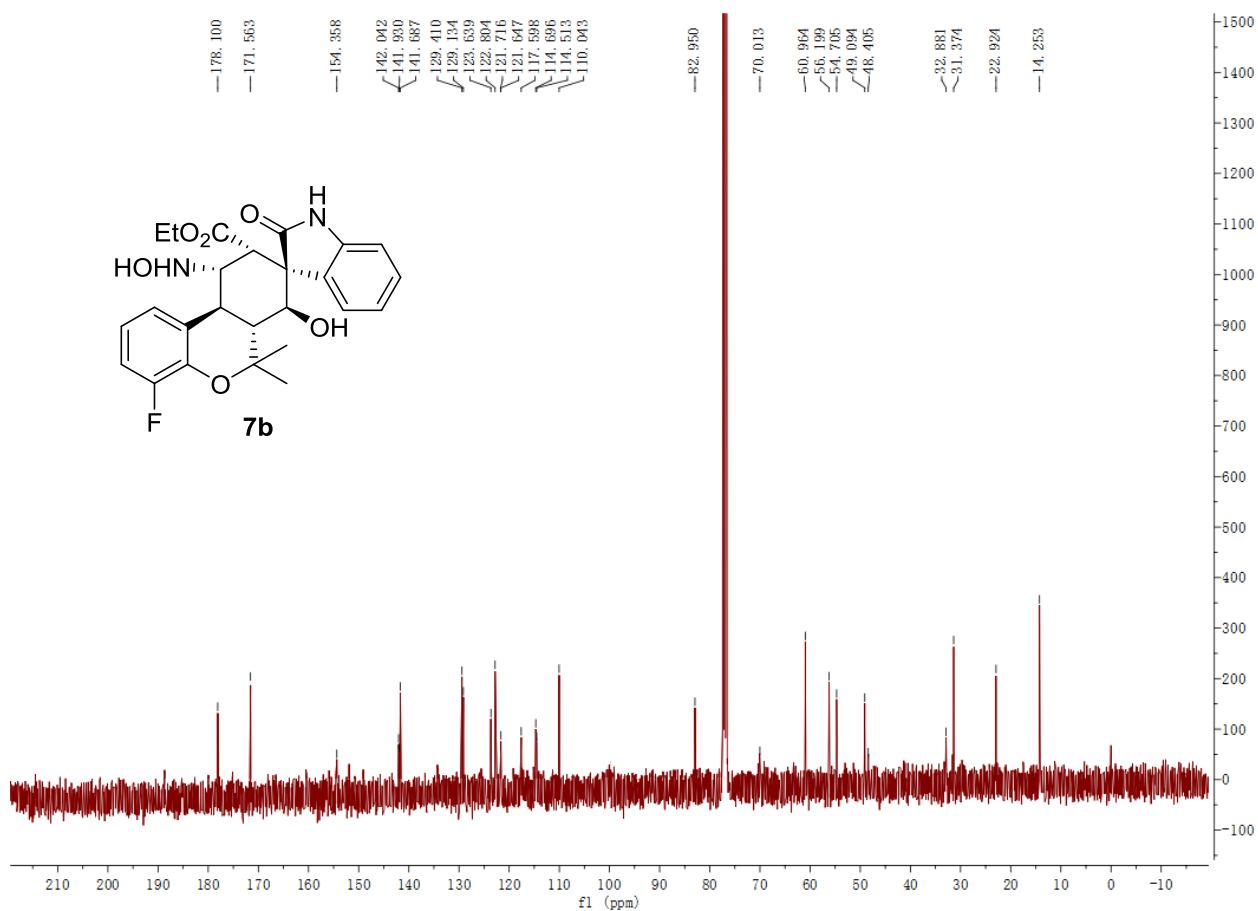
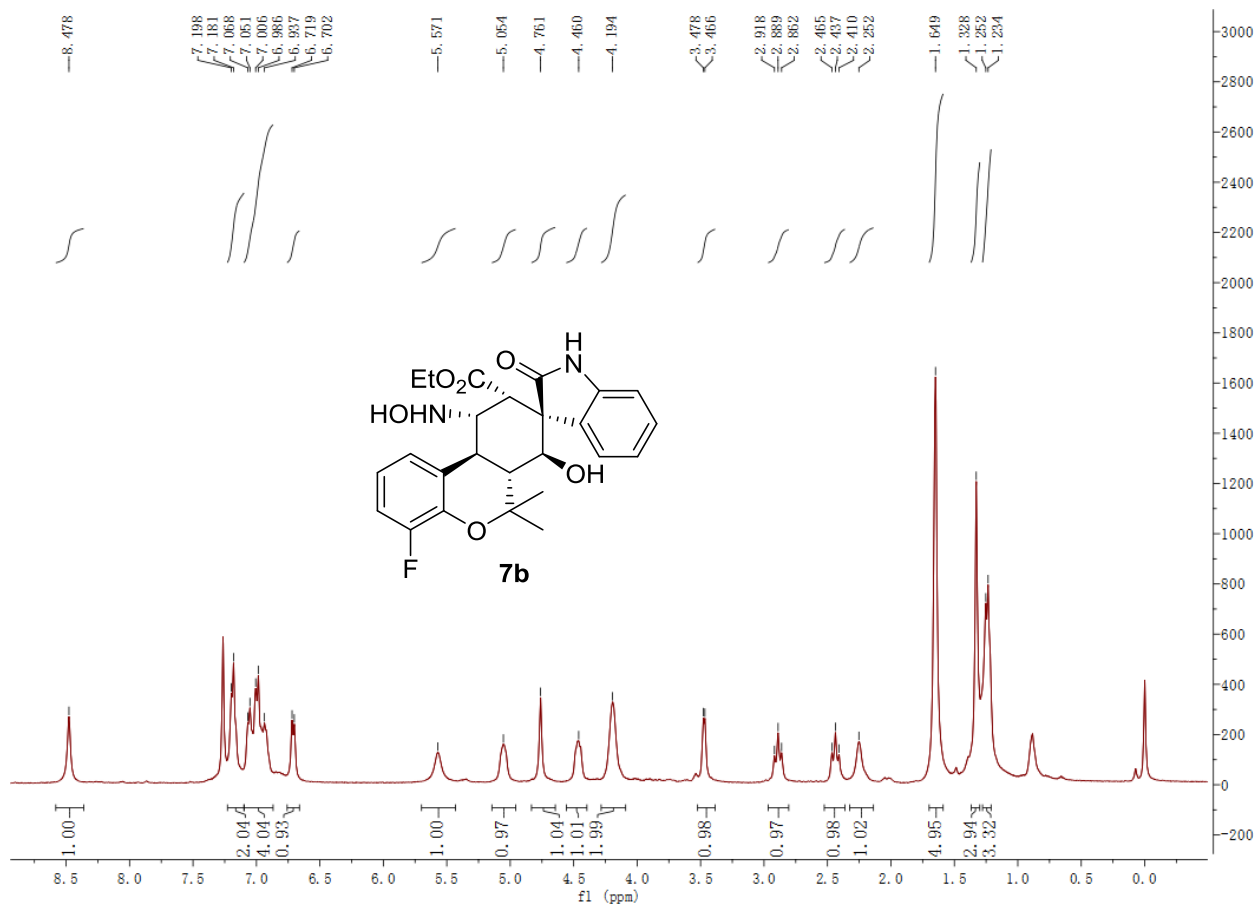
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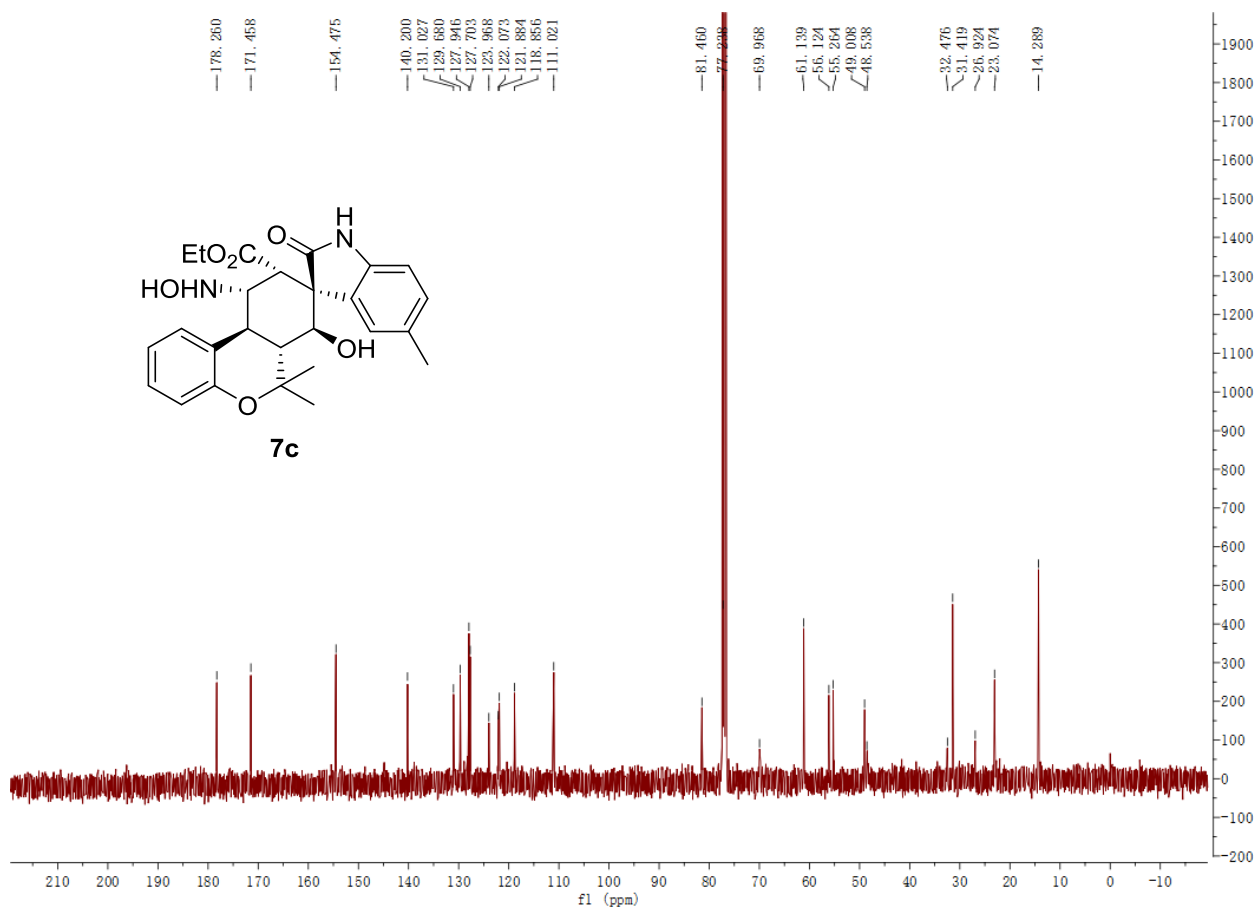
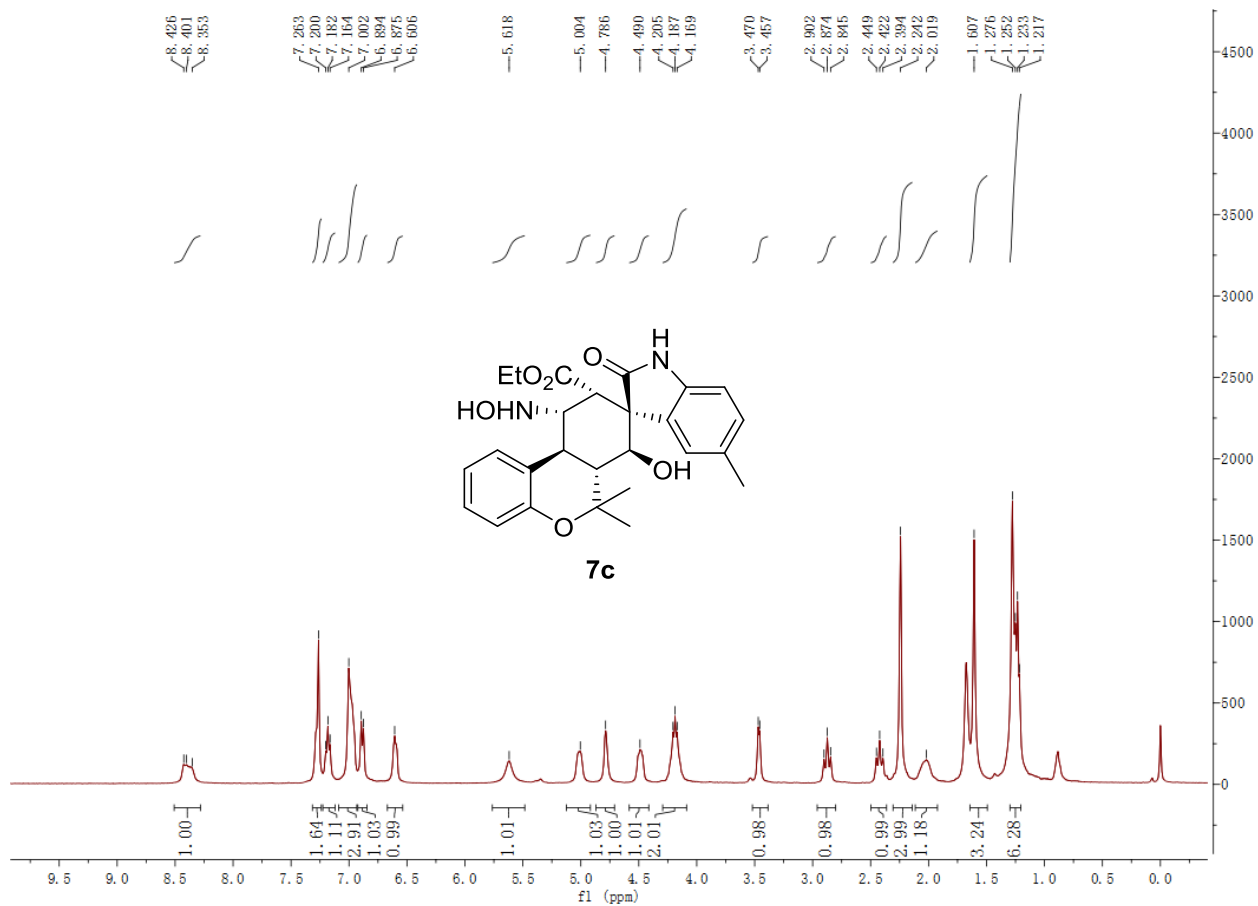


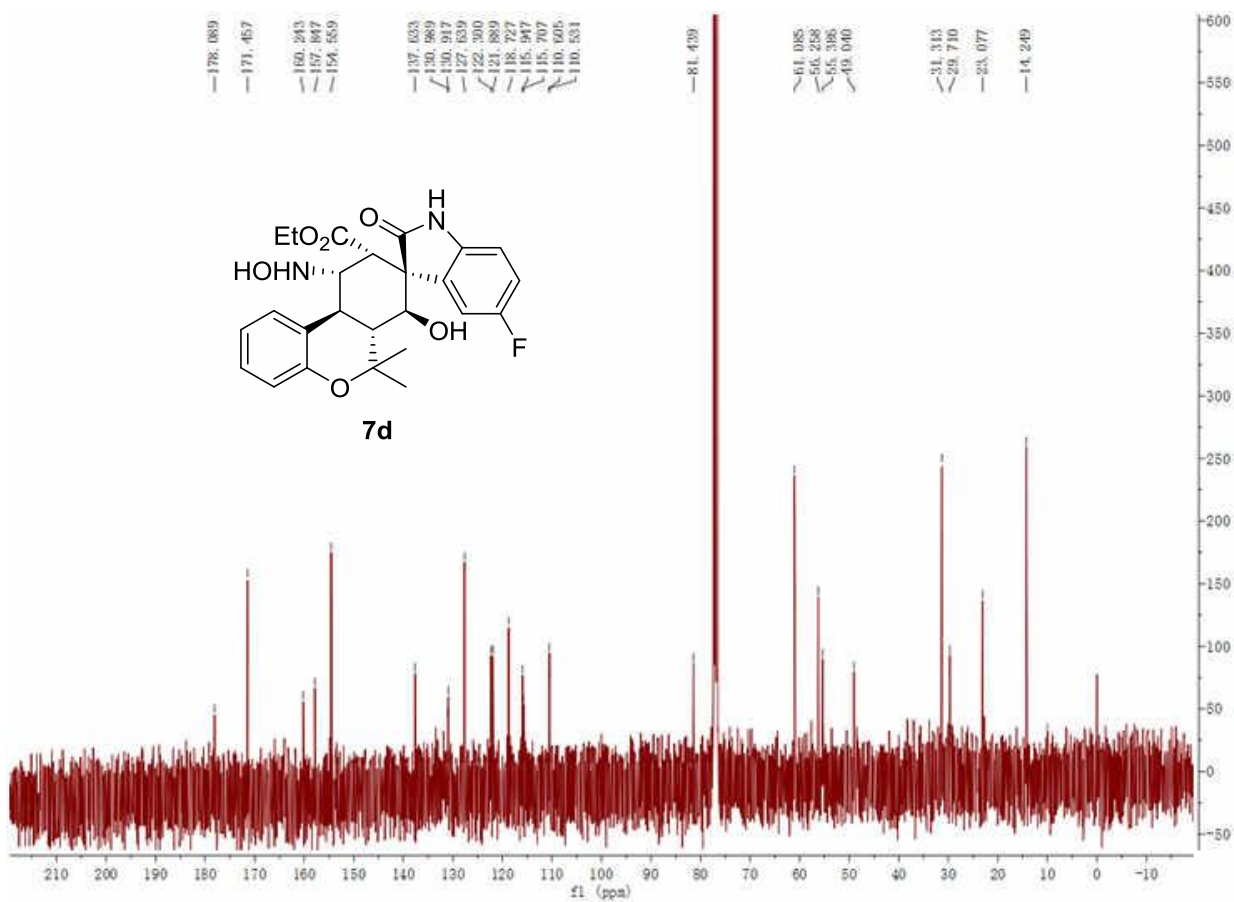
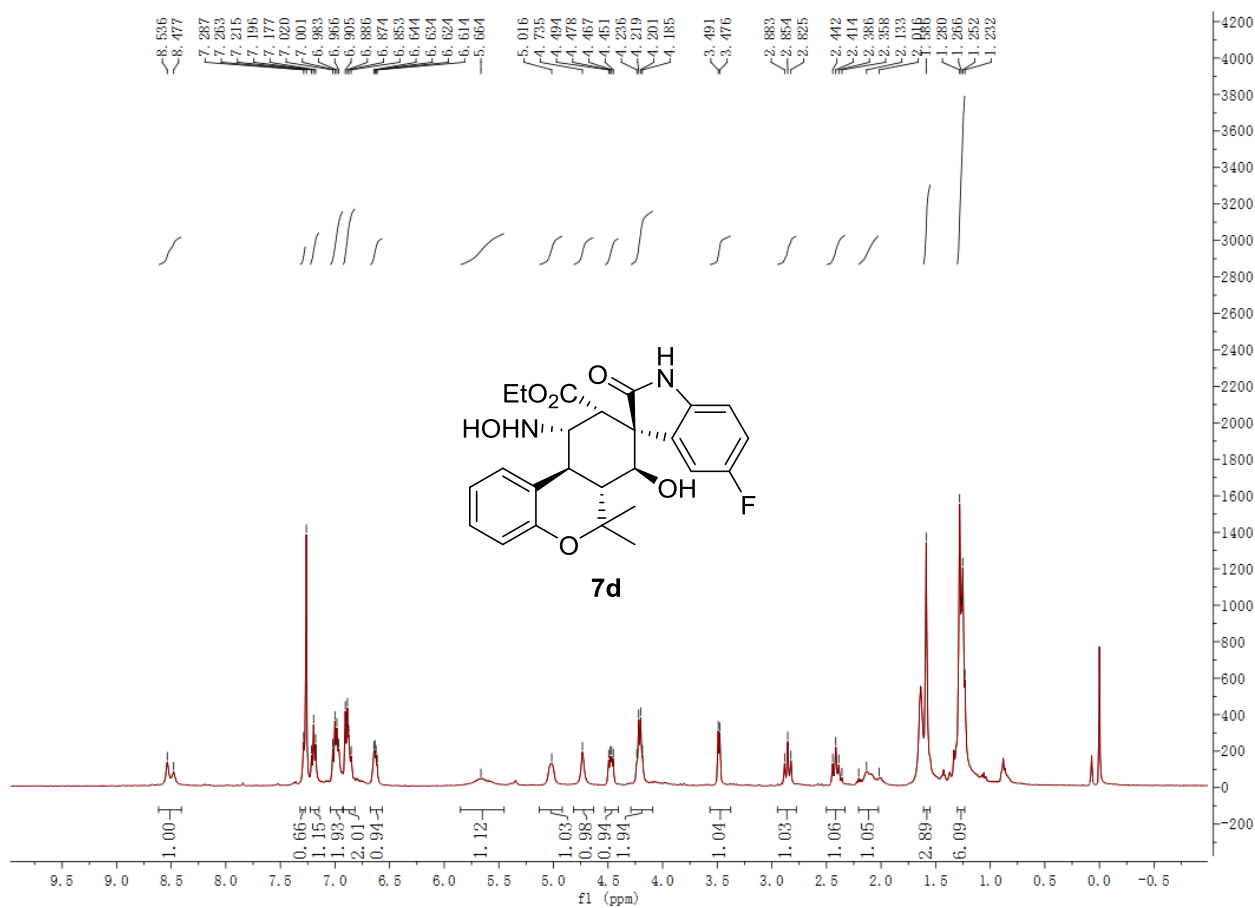
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	13.404	752485	49.690
2	16.715	761876	50.310
Total		1514362	100.000

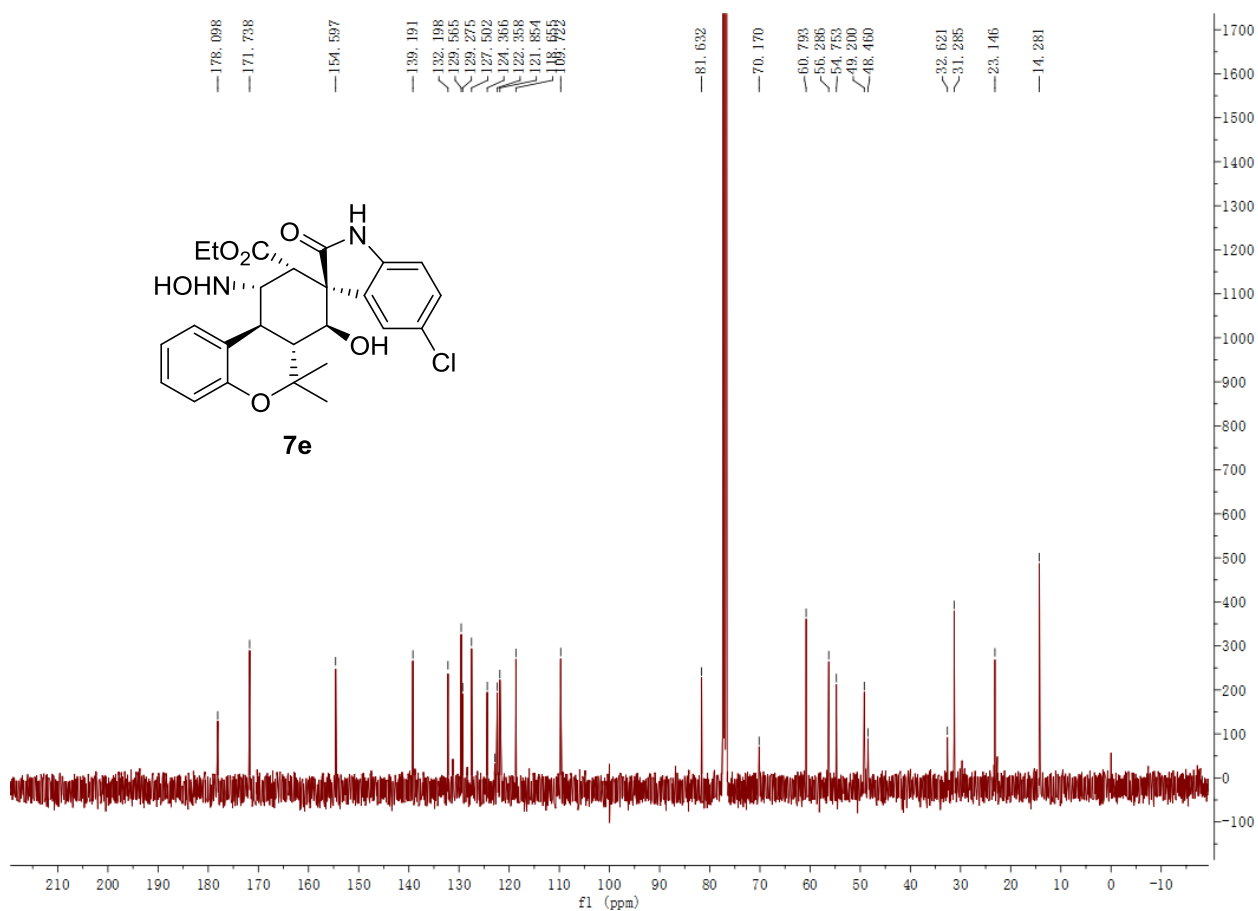
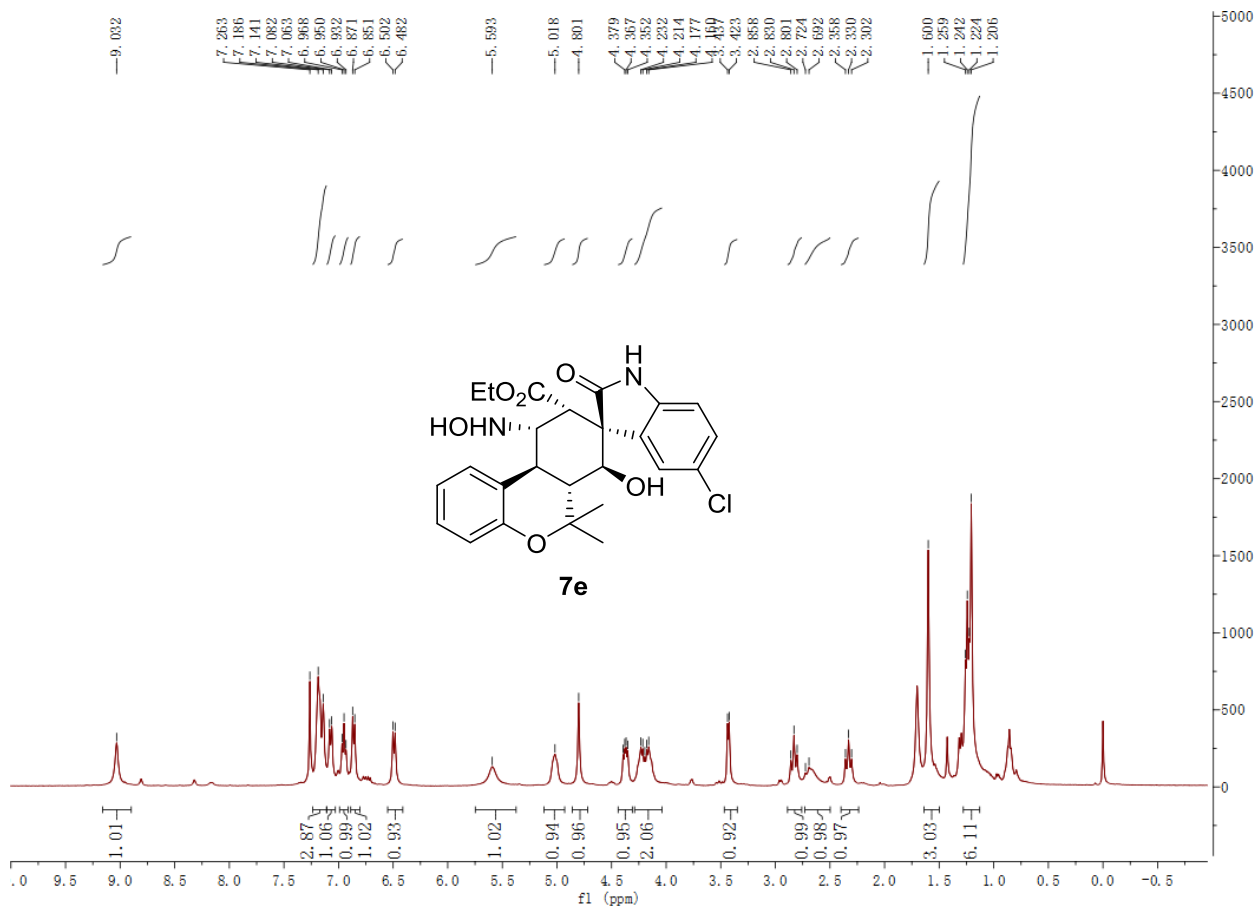


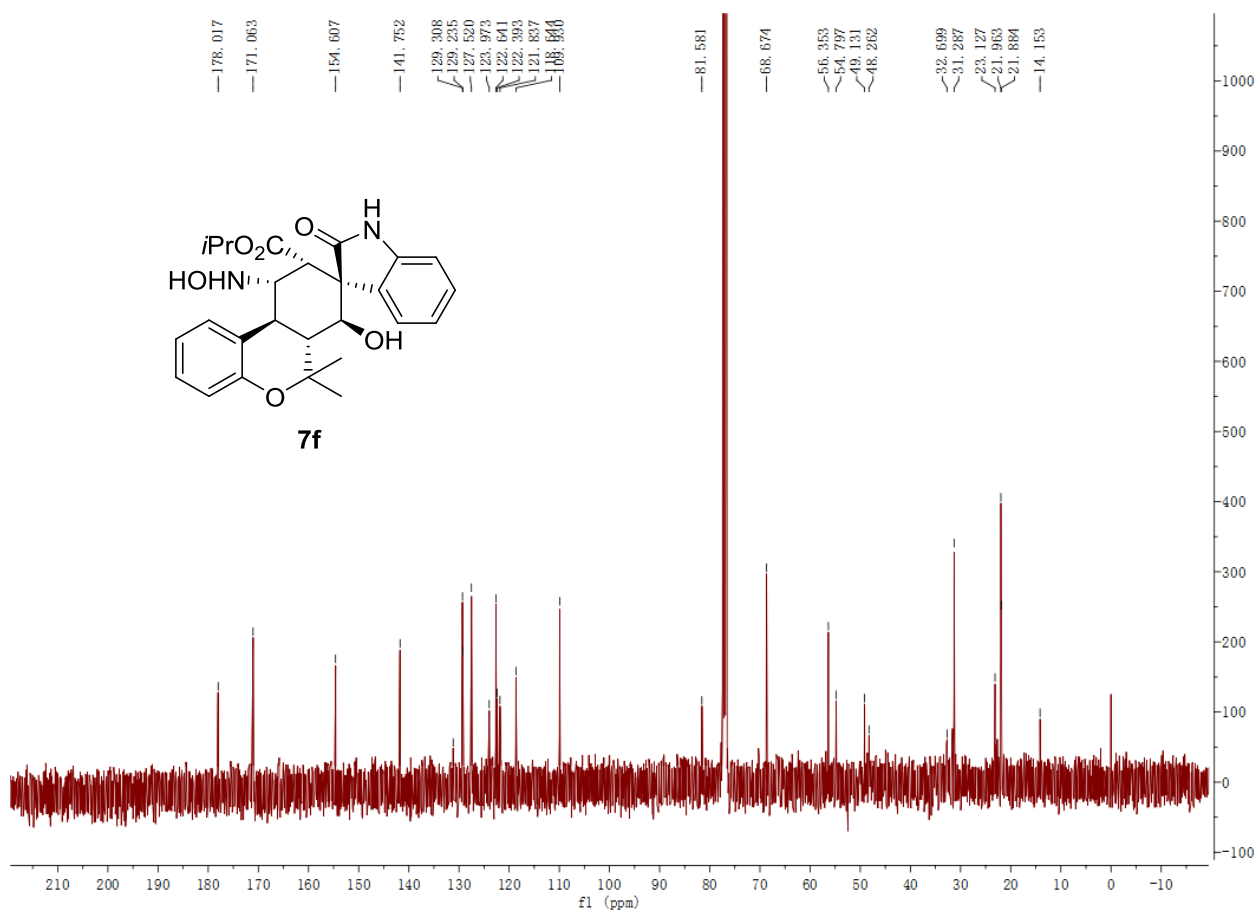
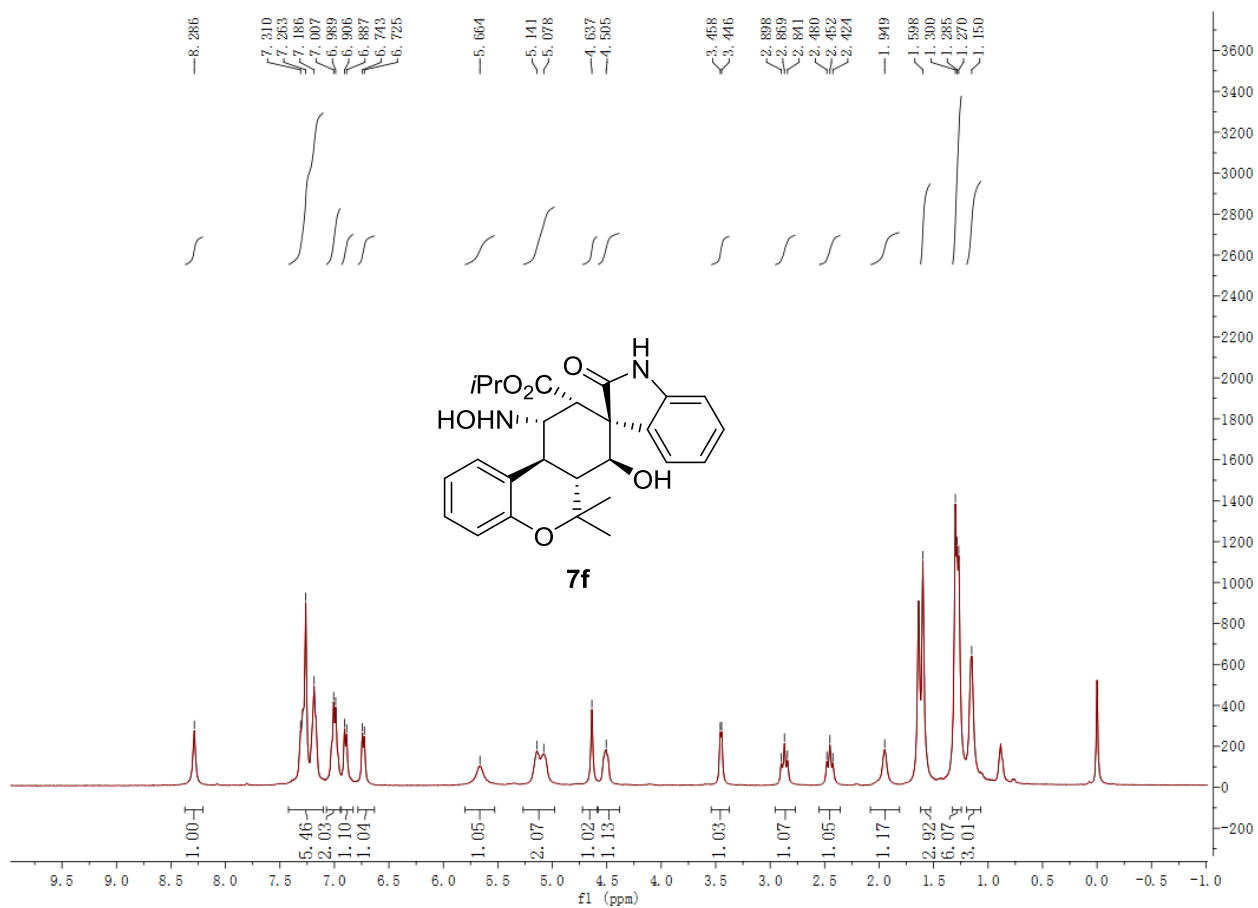
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	16.548	1567770	100.000
Total		1567770	100.000

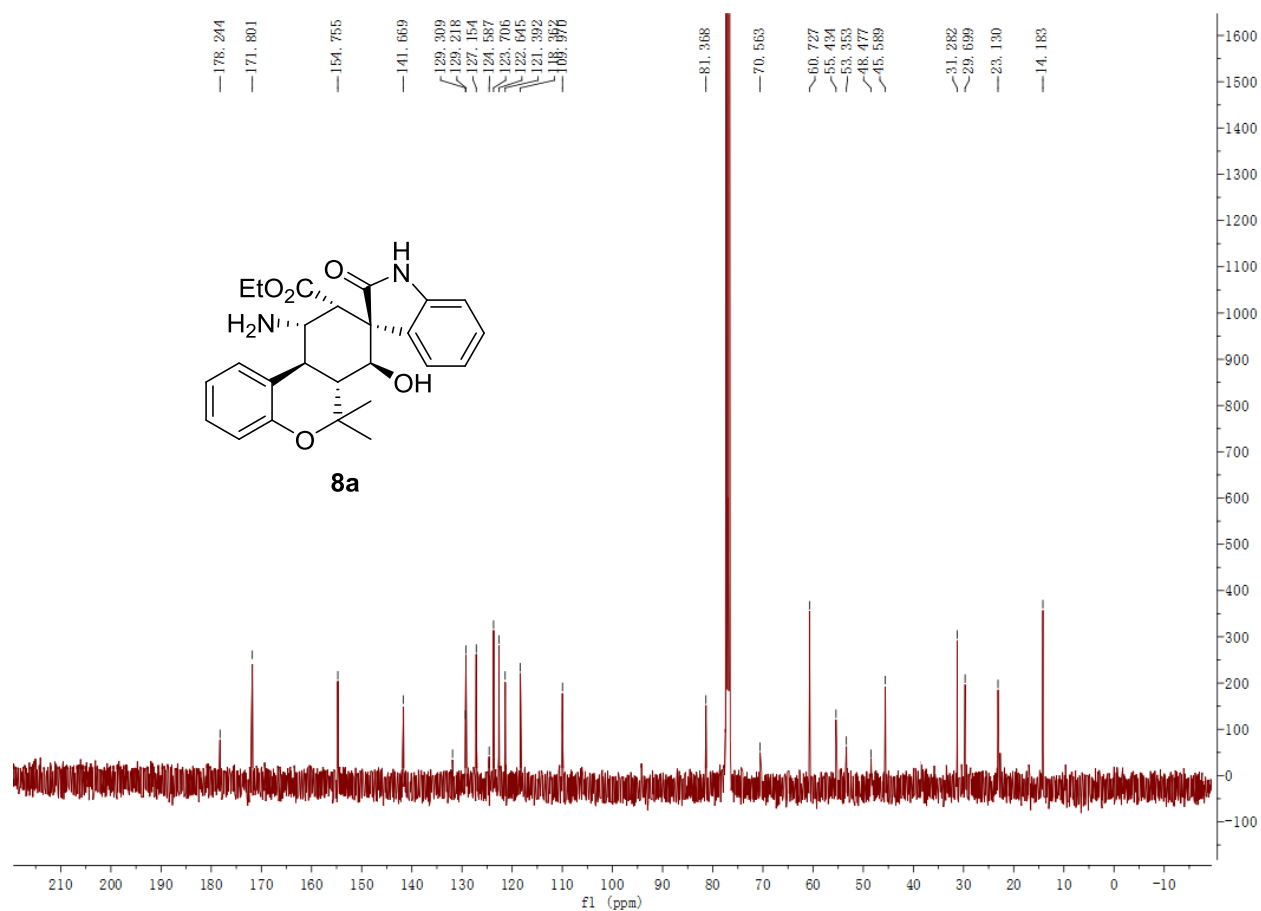
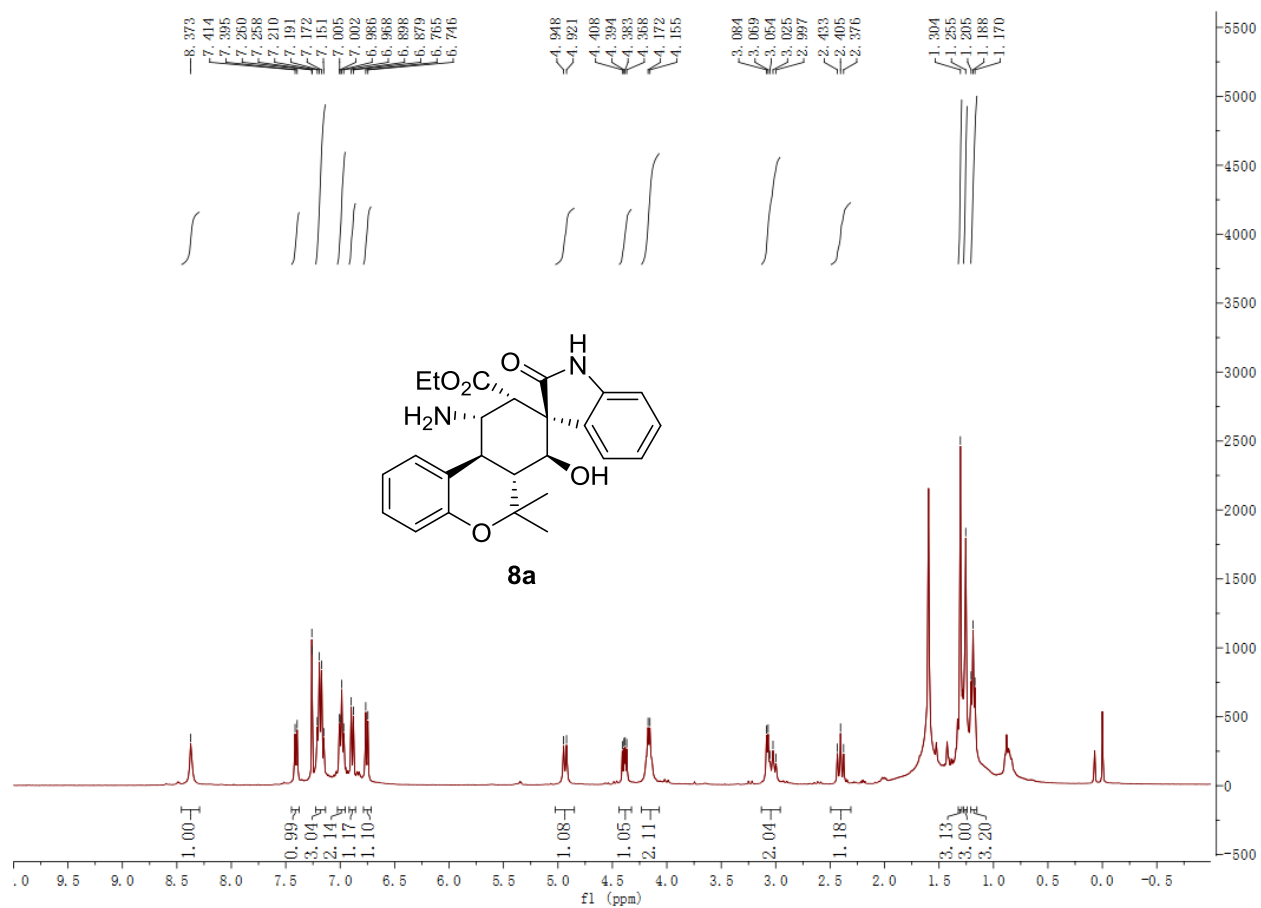




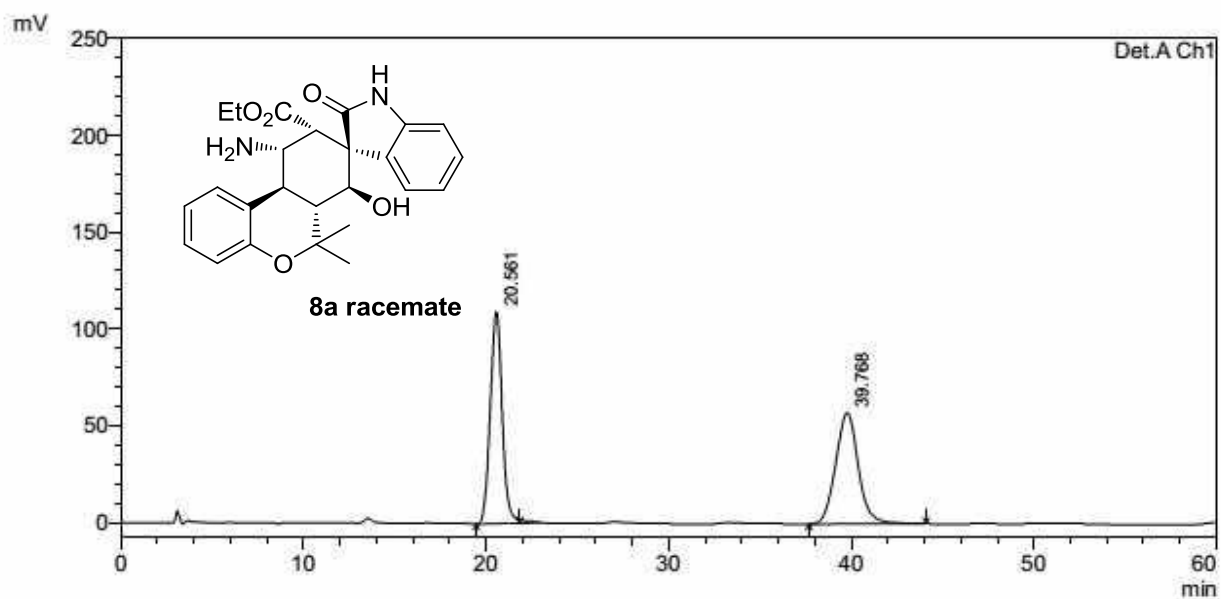




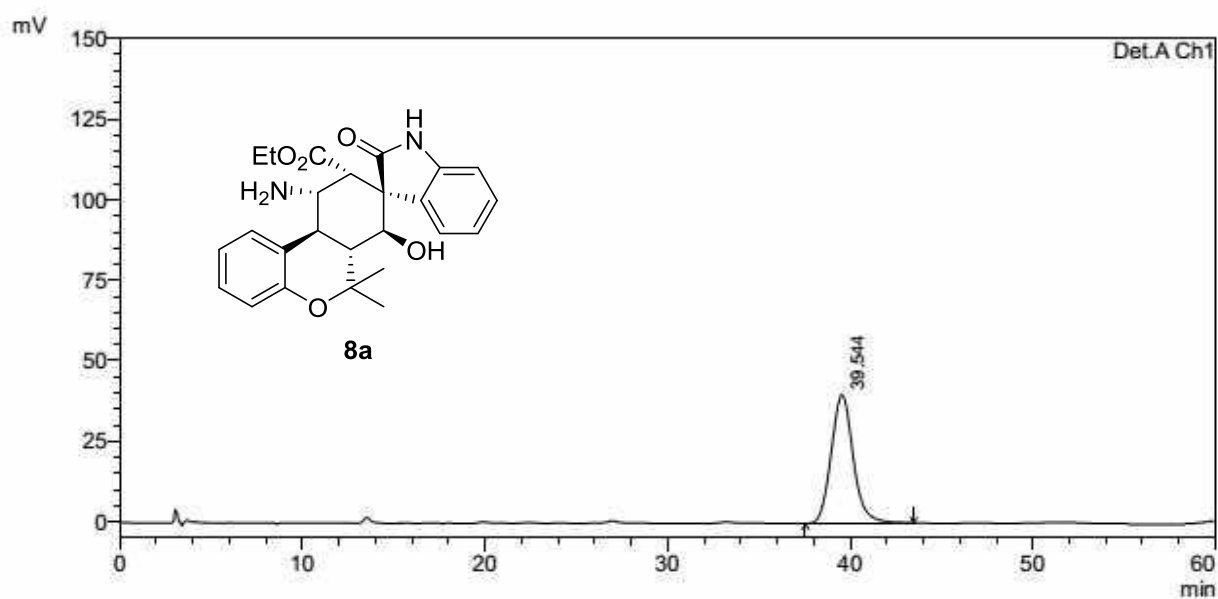




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Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	20.561	4949773	49.999
2	39.768	4949658	50.001
Total		9899431	100.000



Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area %
1	39.544	3358345	100.000
Total		3358345	100.000



## 5. SupplementaryTable S1-2

Table S1. Sensitivity of Different Cancer Cell Linesto Compounds **5a-5n**, **6a**, **7a-7f** and **8a**<sup>a</sup>.

	MCF-7	A549	HepG2	HCT116	U87
<b>5a</b>	71.4	84.6	71.7	83.3	86.4
<b>5b</b>	82.0	87.1	82.6	87.6	72.7
<b>5c</b>	76.4	73.2	85.1	70.1	85.6
<b>5d</b>	70.6	75.7	71.2	74.4	70.1
<b>5e</b>	75.0	86.6	73.7	76.9	72.4
<b>5f</b>	82.0	80.4	75.5	79.9	76.6
<b>5g</b>	79.2	76.1	89.0	75.4	90.3
<b>5h</b>	78.6	91.6	78.0	91.1	88.0
<b>5i</b>	72.2	87.5	91.6	88.6	75.1
<b>5j</b>	90.0	85.0	89.5	86.3	90.6
<b>5k</b>	46.5	66.7	56.4	57.2	63.7
<b>5l</b>	68.2	75.5	65.2	72.9	63.6
<b>5m</b>	32.3	29.3	33.5	21.7	60.2
<b>5n</b>	59.1	66.1	68.4	65.3	63.7
<b>6a</b>	40.3	56.0	65.5	73.2	75.9
<b>7a</b>	30.1	36.9	55.7	32.8	24.1
<b>7b</b>	46.7	67.1	64.7	54.6	87.2
<b>7c</b>	23.6	14.8	52.6	37.5	40.3
<b>7d</b>	12.3	18.6	24.5	27.0	36.5
<b>7e</b>	15.7	15.4	21.3	23.9	40.4
<b>7f</b>	29.9	67.9	66.1	68.6	65.3
<b>8a</b>	45.7	51.0	58.9	61.4	66.9

<sup>a</sup>The cellular viable percentage (%) at 50  $\mu$ M were obtained by the MTT assay.

Table S2. The cellular proliferation IC<sub>50</sub> of different cancer cell lines to Compounds **5k**, **5m**, **6a**, **7a-7f** and **8a**<sup>a</sup>.

	MCF-7	A549	HepG2	HCT116	U87
<b>5k</b>	49.8±9.6	>50	>50	>50	>50
<b>5m</b>	27.6±6.5	38.0±7.3	46.9±8.0	33.2±9.4	>50
<b>6a</b>	41.9±8.2	>50	>50	>50	>50
<b>7a</b>	21.8±6.4	44.2±12.1	>50	37.1±10.7	42.3±8.6
<b>7b</b>	47.6±7.1	>50	>50	>50	>50
<b>7c</b>	9.4±3.5	17.3±7.2	>50	43.8±10.1	36.6±7.6
<b>7d</b>	2.5±1.1	4.8±1.8	16.2±5.0	25.4±6.9	41.9±13.8
<b>7e</b>	1.7±0.5	5.9±3.2	18.4±5.1	13.0±3.5	37.5±8.4
<b>7f</b>	35.3±8.8	>50	40.8±13.6	>50	>50
<b>8a</b>	47.5±11.3	>50	>50	>50	>50

<sup>a</sup> The cellular proliferation IC<sub>50</sub> were obtained by the MTT assay and were expressed as the mean ± SD of three independent experiments.

6. Supplementary Figure S1-4

Figure S1. Fluorescence microscopic imaging of MCF-7cells. A1: bright-field image of blank cells;A2: fluorescence microscopic image of blank cells;B1: bright-field image of cell treated with 10μM probe; B2: fluorescence microscopic image of cells stained by 10μM probe; C1: bright-field image of cell treated with 0.1μM **7e** and 10μM probe; C2: fluorescence microscopic image of celltreated with 0.1μM **7e** and 10μM probe; D1: bright-field image of cell treated with 0.25μM **7e** and 10μM probe; D2: fluorescence microscopic image of celltreated with 0.25μM **7e** and 10μM probe; E1: bright-field image of cell treated with 1μM **7e** and 10μM probe; E2: fluorescence microscopic image of celltreated with 1μM **7e** and 10μM probe; F1: bright-field image of cell treated with 5μM **7e** and 10μM probe; F2: fluorescence microscopic image of celltreated with 5μM **7e** and 10μM probe;G1: bright-field image of cell treated with 25μM **7e** and 10μM probe; G2: fluorescence microscopic image of celltreated with 25μM **7e** and 10μM probe;H1: bright-field image of cell treated with 50μM **7e** and 10μM probe; H2: fluorescence microscopic image of celltreated with 50μM **7e** and 10μM probe;.

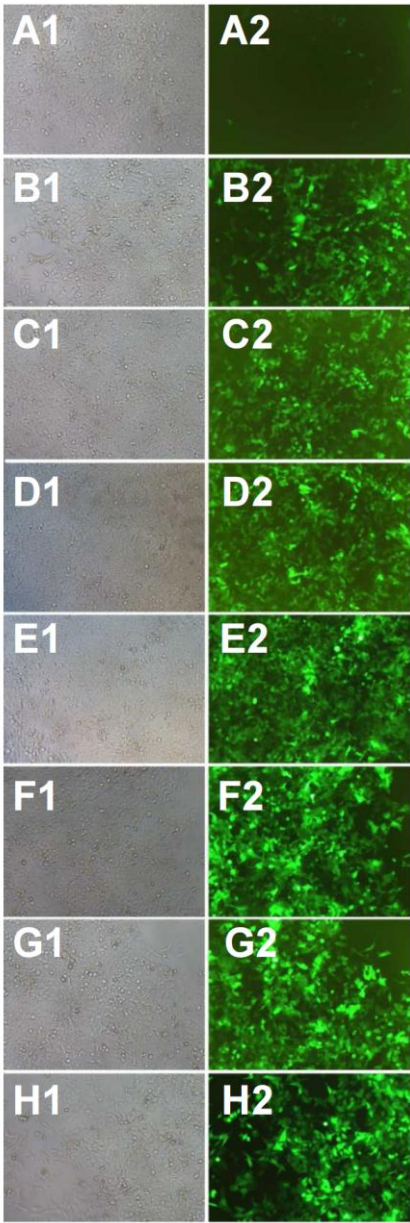


Figure S2. Cell cycle analysis of blank cells (A), Nutlin-3 5 $\mu$ M treated cells(B), Nutlin-3 10 $\mu$ M treated cells(C), **7e** 5 $\mu$ M treated cells(D), **7e** 10 $\mu$ M treated cells(E).

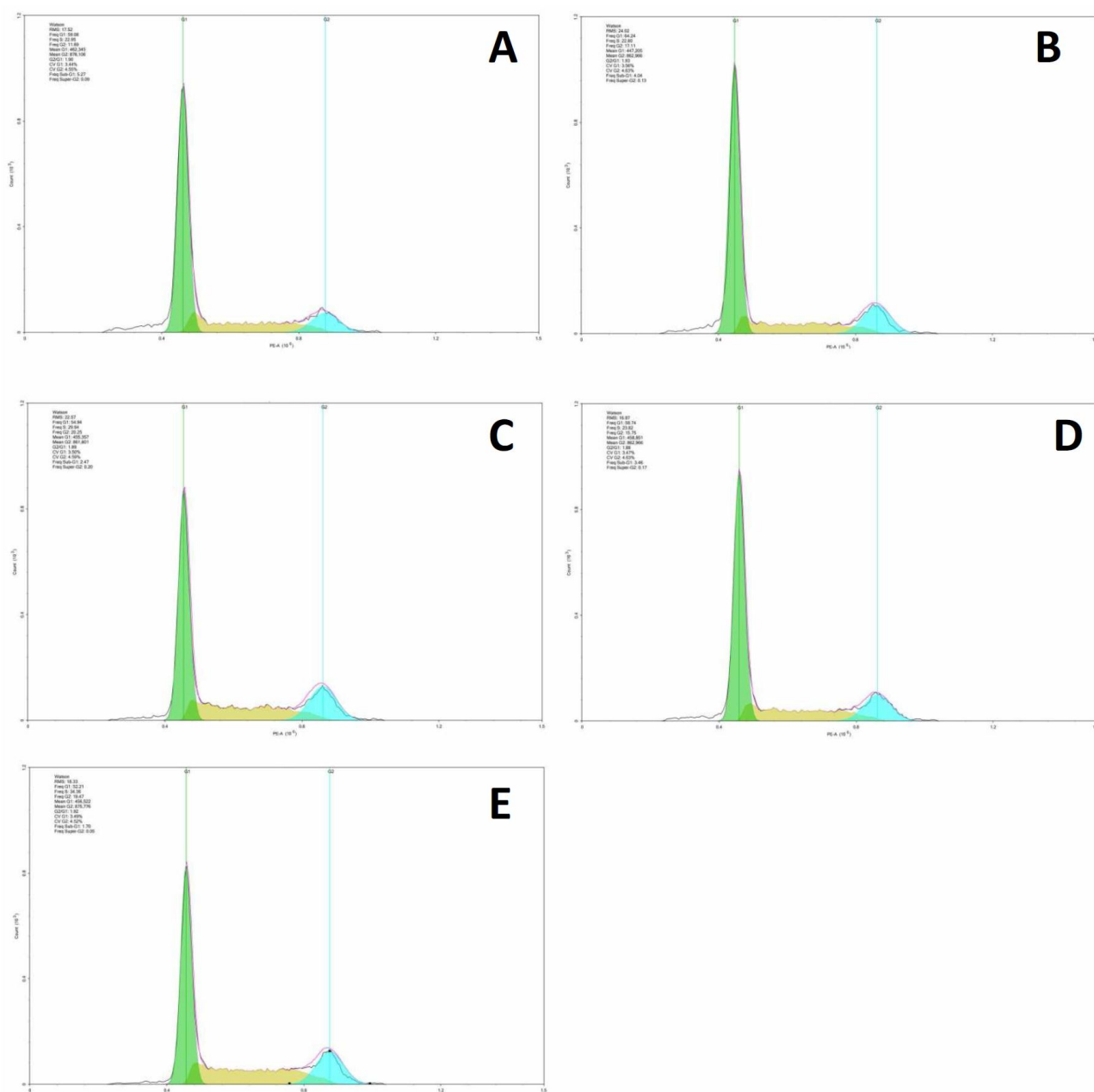


Figure S3. The MCF-7 cells were treated with Nutlin-3 (5μM) or **7e** (5μM) for 24 h then stained with PI and observed by fluorescence microscope (×200 magnification), the blue arrow suggested mitotic cells, the yellow arrow suggested apoptotic cells.

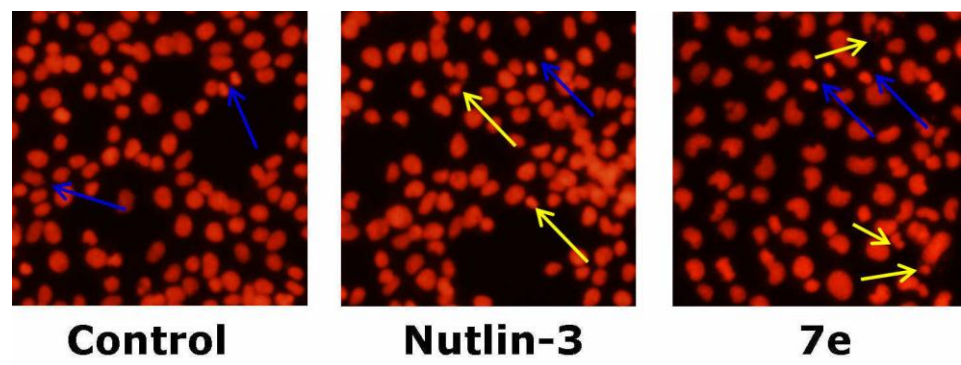


Figure S4. The MCF-7 cells were treated with **7e** (5μM) for 24 h without or with co-incubation of pan-caspase inhibitor Z-VAD-FMK (5 μM), then revealed by Annexin-V/PI double staining using flow cytometry analysis.

