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Supporting Information

Catalyst-Free Three-Component Synthesis of Highly Functionalized 2,3-Dihydropyrroles

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1. General Experimental

The preparation experiments were performed under an argon atmosphere in oven dried glassware. Solvents used as reaction media were distilled immediately before use: THF and ether were distilled from Na/benzophenone ketyl, dichloromethane was distilled from Mg and I₂. All reagents were purchased at the highest commercial quality and used without further purification. Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) using ultra violet light (UV) as the visualizing agent. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (NMR) were recorded on Bruker AV-400 instruments and were calibrated using residual undeuterated solvent as an internal reference (¹H NMR: CHC1₃ 7.26 ppm, MeOH 3.31 ppm). The following abbreviations were used to indicate multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, qui = quintet, sxt = sextet, dd = doublet of doublets, dt = doublet of triplets, m = multiplet).

General Procedure A: Preparation of pyruvic amides (3)

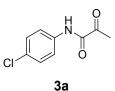
To a solution of pyruvic acid (1.1 equiv) in anhydrous DMF (0.3 M) was added HATU (1.3 equiv) at 0°C. After stirring for 10 minutes, amine (1.0 equiv) and DIEA (3.0 equiv) were slowly added. The resulting reaction mixture was warmed to r.t. and stirred for several hours until the reaction is complete as indicated by TLC. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and water, the separated organic layer was washed sequentially with 5% citric acid solution, half-saturated aqueous NaCl for five times, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA 100:1).

General Procedure B: Preparation of 2,3-dihydropyrroles (4)

A solution of amine (1.0 equiv), aldehyde (2.0 equiv), pyruvic amide (2.0 equiv) and acetic acid (V_{EtOH} : V_{AcOH} = 12:1) in anhydrous EtOH (amine concentration: 0.025 mol/L) was stirred under reflux for 8 h. After cooled down to r.t., ethanol was removed under vacuum,

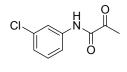
and the residue was diluted with EtOAc and water. After separation, the aqueous phase was extracted two more times with EtOAc. The combined organic phases were successively washed with saturated aqueous KHSO₄, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, and brine, dried over MgSO₄, concentrated *in vacuo* and chromatographed gradiently on silica gel with PE/EA (5:1~3:1) to give the dihydropyrrole products.

2. Preparation Procedure for 3, 4, 5 and 6



N-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-oxopropanamide (3a)

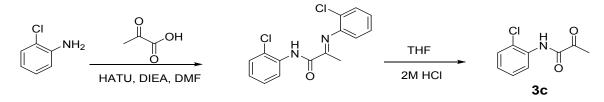
Using 4-chloroaniline (1.0 g, 7.8 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure A, the title compound **3a** was obtained (810 mg, 52% yield) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.73 (s, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.57 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.1, 157.6, 135.0, 130.6, 129.5, 121.1, 24.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₉H₇NO₂Cl⁻ [M-H]⁻: 196.0171, found 196.0170.



3b

N-(3-Chlorophenyl)-2-oxopropanamide (3b)

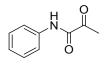
Using 3-chloroaniline (1.0 g, 7.8 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure A, the title compound **3b** was obtained (900 mg, 59% yield) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.73 (s, 1H), 7.78 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.0, 157.7, 137.5, 135.1, 130.4, 125.5, 120.0, 117.9, 24.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₉H₇NO₂Cl⁻[M-H]⁻: 196.0171, found 196.0172.



N-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2-oxopropanamide (3c)

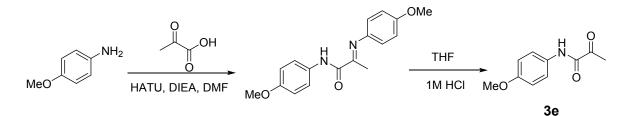
To a solution of pyruvic acid (2.8 g, 31.4 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (30 ml) was added HBTU (11.9 g, 31.4 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 10 minutes, 2-chloroaniline (2.0 g, 15.7 mmol) and DIEA (6.1 g, 47.1 mmol) were slowly added. The resulting reaction mixture was warmed to r.t. and stirred for several hours until the reaction is complete as indicated by TLC. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and water, the separated organic layer was washed sequentially with 5% citric acid solution, half-saturated aqueous NaCl for five times, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA 100:1) to produce the imine intermediate (~ 600 mg).

A solution of the intermediate (500 mg) in THF (12 ml) and 2 M HCl (5 ml) was stirred under reflux for 3 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and water, the separated organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford **3c** (316 mg, 98% yield) as a pale yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.38 (s, 1H), 8.45 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.58 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.7, 157.7, 133.3, 129.5, 128.0, 125.8, 123.9, 121.1, 24.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₉H₇NO₂Cl⁻[M-H]⁻: 196.0171, found 196.0166.



2-Oxo-*N*-phenylpropanamide (3d) ^{3d}

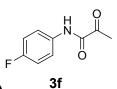
Using aniline (3.0 g, 7.8 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure A, the title compound **3d** was obtained (3.0 g, 57% yield) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.72 (s, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.5, 157.7, 136.4, 129.4, 125.4, 119.8, 24.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₉H₁₀NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 164.0706, found 164.0712.



N-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-oxopropanamide (3e)

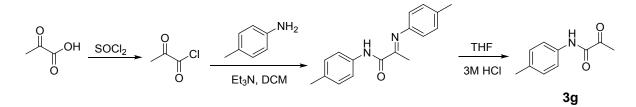
To a solution of pyruvic acid (1.2 g, 13.6 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (20 ml) was added HATU (6.7 g, 17.7 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 10 minutes, *p*-anisidine (3.0 g, 24.4 mmol) and DIEA (5.3 g, 41.0 mmol) were slowly added. The resulting reaction mixture was warmed to r.t. and stirred for several hours until the reaction is complete as indicated by TLC. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and water, the separated organic layer was washed sequentially with 5% citric acid solution, and half-saturated aqueous NaCl for five times, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA 100:1~50:1) to produce the imine intermediate (~1.6 g).

A solution of the imine intermediate (1.2 g, 4.0 mmol) in THF (45 ml) and 1 M HCl (24 ml) was stirred under reflux for 3 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and water, the separated organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA 10:1) to afford **3e** (720 mg, 93% yield) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.65 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.56 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.7, 157.4, 157.2, 129.6, 121.4, 114.5, 55.6, 24.3. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₀H₁₀NO₃⁻ [M-H]⁻: 192.0666, found 192.0665.



N-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2-oxopropanamide (3f)

Using *p*-fluoroaniline (1.0 g, 9.0 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure A, the title compound **3f** was obtained (350 mg, 22% yield) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.71 (s, 1H), 7.61 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.3, 161.2, 158.2 (d, *J* = 119.0 Hz), 132.5 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz), 121.6 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 116.1 (d, *J* = 23.0 Hz), 24.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₉H₇NO₂F⁻[M-H]⁻: 180.0466, found 180.0461.

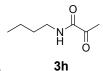


2-Oxo-N-(p-tolyl)propanamide (3g)

A solution of pyruvic acid (5.0 g, 57 mmol) in $SOCl_2$ (30 ml) was refluxed for 2 h. After cooled down to r.t., $SOCl_2$ was removed under vacuum to afford the acyl chloride intermediate.

To a cold (0 °C) solution of acyl chloride in dichloromethane (15 ml) was added *p*-toluidine (15.3 g, 143 mmol) and Et₃N (23 g, 228 mmol). The medium was stirred at room temperature for several hours until the reaction is complete as indicated by TLC. The reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane and water, the separated organic layer was washed with 1 M HCl, brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA 50:1) to give the imine intermediate (~4.0 g).

A solution of the imine intermediate (4.0 g) in THF (20 ml) and 3 M HCl (20 ml) was stirred under reflux for 3 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and water, the separated organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under vacum to afford the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA 10:1) to afford **3g** (2.2 g, 82% yield) as a pale yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.67 (s, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.6, 157.6, 135.2, 133.9, 129.9, 119.8, 24.2, 21.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₀H₁₀NO₂⁻ [M-H]⁻: 176.0717, found 176.0724.



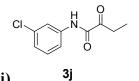
N-Butyl-2-oxopropanamide (3h)

Using *n*-butylamine (1.0 g, 13.7 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure A, the title compound **3h** was obtained (504 mg, 26% yield) as a purple solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.96 (s, 1H), 3.29-3.24 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 1.54-1.47 (m, 2H), 1.34 (sxt, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.3, 160.2, 39.0, 31.2, 24.4, 19.9, 13.6. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m*/*z* calcd. for C₇H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 144.1019, found 144.1018.



N-Cyclohexyl-2-oxopropanamide (3i)

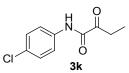
Using cyclohexylamine (1.0 g, 10.1 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure A, the title compound **3i** was obtained (1.0 g, 61% yield) as a brown crystal. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.81 (s, 1H), 3.76-3.67 (m, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 1.92-1.88 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.64 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.60 (m, 2H), 1.42-1.32 (m, 2H), 1.25-1.16 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.8, 159.3, 48.5, 32.8, 25.5, 24.8, 24.5. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₉H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 170.1176, found 170.1179.



N-(3-Chlorophenyl)-2-oxobutanamide (3j)

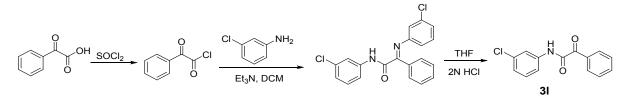
Using 3-chloroaniline (1.5 g, 11.8 mmol) and 2-oxobutyric acid (1.3 g, 13 mmol) in accordance with General Procedure A, the title compound **3j** was obtained (270 mg, 11% yield) as a pale yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.75 (s, 1H), 7.79 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 1.2, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 1.2, 8.0 Hz, 1H),

3.05 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.17 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.6, 157.7, 137.6, 135.1, 130.4, 125.5, 120.0, 117.9, 30.1, 7.3. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₀H₉NO₂Cl⁻[M-H]⁻: 210.0327, found 210.0326.



N-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-oxobutanamide (3k)

Using 4-chloroaniline (2.6 g, 20.2 mmol) and 2-oxobutyric acid (3.3 g, 32.3 mmol) in accordance with General Procedure A, the title compound **3k** was obtained (900 mg, 20% yield) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.76 (s, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.04 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.61 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.8, 157.6, 135.1, 130.5, 129.4, 121.1, 30.1, 7.3. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₀H₉NO₂Cl⁻[M-H]⁻: 210.0327, found 210.0327.



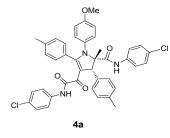
N-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-oxo-2-phenylacetamide (31)

A solution of benzoylformic acid (3.0 g, 20 mmol) in $SOCl_2(20 \text{ ml})$ was refluxed for 2 h. After cooled down to r.t., $SOCl_2$ was removed under vacuum to afford the acyl chloride intermediate.

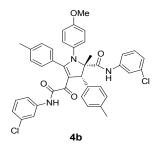
To a cold (0 °C) solution of acyl chloride in dichloromethane (10 ml) was added 3chloroaniline (2.8 g, 22 mmol) and Et₃N (8.0 g, 80 mmol). The medium was stirred at room temperature for several hours until the reaction is complete as indicated by TLC. The reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane and water, the separated organic layer was washed with 1 M HCl, brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA 50:1) to give the imine intermediate (~2.7 g).

A solution of the imine intermediate (2.4 g) in THF (30 ml) and 2 M HCl (20 ml) was stirred under reflux for 3 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and water, the separated

organic layer was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under vacum to afford the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA 10:1) to afford **3l** (1.5 g, 88% yield) as a pale yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.97 (s, 1H), 8.42 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.872-7.868 (m, 1H), 7.68 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 187.0, 158.9, 137.9, 135.1, 135.0, 133.0, 131.7, 130.4, 128.8, 125.5, 120.2, 118.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₄H₉NO₂Cl⁻[M-H]^{-:} 258.0327, found 258.0339.



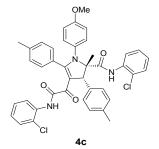
(2S,3R)-*N*-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((4-chlorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetyl)-1-(4methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-3,5-di-p-tolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4a) Using *p*-anisidine (31 mg, 0.25 mmol), *p*-tolualdehyde (60 mg, 0.5 mmol), and **3a** (100 mg, 0.5 mmol) in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (89 mg, 51% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.90 (s, 1H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.20-7.15 (m, 6H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.11 (s, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 1.67 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.4, 168.3, 166.3, 162.4, 158.3, 140.5, 137.3, 135.8, 135.6, 134.2, 130.8, 129.6, 129.33, 129.26, 129.21, 129.1, 128.84, 128.77, 128.69, 128.3, 128.0, 121.6, 121.1, 114.4, 111.0, 78.6, 61.0, 55.4, 23.5, 21.5, 21.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₄₁H₃₆N₃O₄Cl₂ [M+H]⁺: 704.2077, found 704.2052.



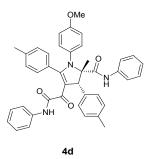
(2S,3R)-N-(3-Chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetyl)-1-(4-

methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-3,5-di-p-tolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4b)

Using *p*-anisidine (31 mg, 0.25 mmol), *p*-tolualdehyde (60 mg, 0.5 mmol), and **3b** (100 mg, 0.5 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (87 mg, 49% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.63 (s, 1H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.22-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 4H), 7.11-7.09 (m, 1H), 7.05-6.95 (m, 8H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.70 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.2, 168.4, 166.5, 162.6, 162.5, 158.3, 140.6, 138.3, 138.1, 137.5, 134.4, 134.3, 130.9, 129.73, 129.67, 129.4, 129.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.3, 128.0, 124.8, 124.3, 120.8, 120.1, 118.7, 118.0, 114.4, 111.0, 78.7, 60.8, 55.4, 23.7, 21.4, 21.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₄₁H₃₆N₃O₄Cl₂ [M+H]⁺: 704.2077, found 704.2076.

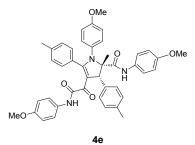


(2S,3R)-*N*-(2-Chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((2-chlorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetyl)-1-(4methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-3,5-di-p-tolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4c) Using *p*-anisidine (31 mg, 0.25 mmol), *p*-tolualdehyde (60 mg, 0.5 mmol), and 3c (100 mg, 0.5 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (109 mg, 62% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.93 (s, 1H), 8.79 (s, 1H), 7.70 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 14.0 Hz, 2H), 7.37-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.271-7.269 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14-7.06 (m, 4H), 7.02-6.97 (m, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 3H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.65 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.8, 168.6, 166.0, 161.5, 158.3, 140.2, 137.1, 135.2, 134.1, 133.9, 131.5, 129.40, 129.35, 129.23, 129.18, 129.10, 128.9, 128.5, 128.3, 127.6, 127.4, 124.83, 124.76, 123.5, 122.9, 121.23, 121.20, 114.4, 111.8, 78.9, 61.5, 55.4, 24.3, 21.6, 21.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m*/*z* calcd. for C₄₁H₃₆N₃O₄Cl₂ [M+H]⁺: 704.2077, found 704.2079.



(2S,3R)-1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-4-(2-oxo-2-(phenylamino)acetyl)-*N*-phenyl-3,5di-p-tolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4d)

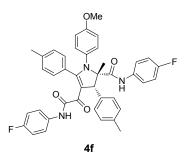
Using *p*-anisidine (74 mg, 0.6 mmol), *p*-tolualdehyde (144 mg, 1.2 mmo), and **3d** (200 mg, 1.2 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (75 mg, 20% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.32-7.28 (m, 4H), 7.21-7.14 (m, 4H), 7.12-7.07 (m, 3H), 7.05-6.99 (m, 5H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.83 (s, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.75 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 185.8, 170.6, 169.5, 167.4, 160.2, 141.4, 138.8, 138.1, 137.9, 135.9, 132.0, 131.5, 131.1, 130.1, 129.7, 129.6, 129,29, 129.26, 128.7, 126.3, 125.4, 124.1, 121.5, 115.1, 111.7, 79.7, 60.9, 55.8, 25.0, 21.3, 21.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₄₁H₃₈N₃O₄ [M+H]⁺: 636.2857, found 636.2840.



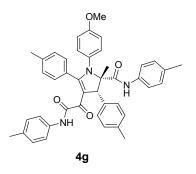
(2S,3R)-1-Butyl-*N*-(3-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetyl)-2methyl-3,5-di-p-tolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4e)

Using *p*-anisidine (62 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolualdehyde (120 mg, 1.0 mmol), and **3e** (200 mg, 1.0 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (105 mg, 30% yield) as a yellow crystalline solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.32-7.26 (m,

4H), 7.05 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 3H), 7.01 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (s, 4H), 6.72-6.70 (m, 4H), 4.83 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.73 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 185.9, 170.7, 169.4, 167.1, 160.2, 158.8, 158.0, 141.3, 137.9, 136.03, 136.01, 132.1, 131.8, 131.5, 131.1, 130.9, 130.2, 129.7, 129.6, 128.8, 126.0, 123.1, 115.1, 114.5, 111.8, 79.5, 61.0, 55.82, 55.81, 55.80, 25.1, 21.3, 21.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₄₃H₄₂N₃O₆[M+H]⁺: 696.3068, found 696.3066.

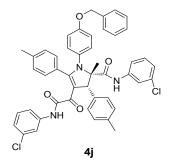


(2S,3R)-*N*-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-(2-((4-fluorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetyl)-1-(4methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-3,5-di-p-tolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4f) Using *p*-anisidine (62 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolualdehyde (120 mg, 1.0 mmol), and 3f (180mg, 1.0 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (85 mg, 25% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.49 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.11-7.03 (m, 6H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.93-6.87 (m, 6H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 1.69 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.9, 168.3, 166.1, 161.6, 161.0, 160.7, 158.5, 158.4, 158.3, 140.4, 137.4, 134.9, 133.10, 133.06, 131.2, 129.4, 129.2, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 122.3 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 121.6 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 115.7 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 115.5 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 114.5, 78.7, 61.3, 55.5, 23.8, 21.6, 21.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₄₁H₃₆N₃O₄F₂[M+H]⁺: 672.2668, found 672.2681.

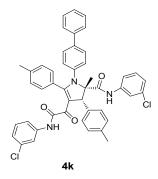


(2S,3R)-1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-4-(2-oxo-2-(p-tolylamino)acetyl)-*N*,3,5-tri-ptolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4g)

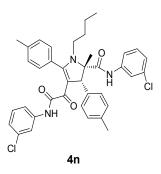
Using *p*-anisidine (172 mg, 1.4 mmol), *p*-tolualdehyde (336 mg, 2.8 mmol), and **3g** (500 mg, 2.8 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (238 mg, 23% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.45 (s, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.07-6.97 (m, 12H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 6H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.8, 168.0, 165.8, 162.2, 162.1, 158.0, 140.0, 136.8, 134.54, 134.50, 134.3 134.0, 133.6, 131.0, 129.2, 129.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.3, 128.1, 120.5, 119.8, 114.1, 111.2, 78.3, 60.8, 55.2, 23.5, 21.3, 21.0, 20.80, 20.79. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₄₃H₄₂N₃O₄ [M+H]⁺: 664.3170, found 664.3168.



(2S,3R)-1-(4-(Benzyloxy)phenyl)-*N*-(3-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2oxoacetyl)-2-methyl-3,5-di-p-tolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4j) Using BnOPhNH₂ (50 mg, 0.25 mmol), *p*-tolualdehyde (60 mg, 0.5 mmol), and **3b** (100 mg, 0.5 mmol) in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (73 mg, 37% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36-7.35 (m, 4H), 7.21(d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 7.17-7.11 (m, 5H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 7.03-6.94 (m, 6H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.75 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.71 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.0, 168.3, 166.4, 162.1, 162.0, 157.5, 140.6, 138.2, 138.0, 137.6, 136.4, 134.6, 134.5, 134.4, 131.2, 129.79, 129.76, 129.42, 129.35, 129.2, 128.9, 128.7, 128.24, 128.15, 127.6, 124.8, 124.4, 120.5, 120.0, 118.4, 117.9, 115.4, 111.1, 78.8, 70.3, 60.9, 23.6, 21.5, 21.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m*/*z* calcd. for C₄₇H₄₀Cl₂N₃O₄ [M+H]⁺: 780.2390, found 780.2401.

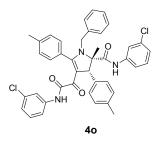


(2S,3R)-1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-*N*-(3-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2oxoacetyl)-2-methyl-3,5-di-p-tolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4k) Using 4-aminobiphenyl (42 mg, 0.25 mmol), *p*-tolualdehyde (60 mg, 0.5 mmol), and **3b** (100 mg, 0.5 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (49 mg, 26% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.60 (s, 1H), 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.41-7.38 (m, 4H), 7.34-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 5H), 7.11-7.07 (m, 3H), 7.03-6.97 (m, 7H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.77 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.3, 168.4, 165.4, 161.7, 140.9, 139.6, 139.5, 138.2, 138.1, 137.7, 137.6, 134.51, 134.49, 134.3, 129.9, 129.8, 129.5, 129.4, 129.0, 128.27, 128.25, 128.1, 127.81, 127.77, 127.3, 126.9, 124.9, 124.6, 120.7, 120.1, 118.6, 118.0, 111.9, 78.8, 61.3, 23.6, 21.6, 21.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₄₆H₃₈Cl₂N₃O₃ [M+H]⁺: 750.2285, found 750.2258.



(2S,3R)-1-Butyl-*N*-(3-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetyl)-2methyl-3,5-di-p-tolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4n)

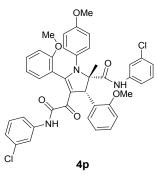
Using butylamine (19 mg, 0.25 mmol), *p*-tolualdehyde (60 mg, 0.5 mmol), and **3b** (100 mg, 0.5 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, except that no acetic acid was added in the reaction media, the title compound was obtained (87 mg, 51% yield) as a yellow crystalline solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.72 (s, 1H), 7.46-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.29 (s, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.12-7.07 (m, 3H), 7.04-6.97 (m, 5H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (s, 1H), 3.25-3.18 (m, 1H), 3.12-3.05 (m, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.88 (s, 3H), 1.33-1.30 (m, 2H), 1.01 (sxt, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 0.66 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.6, 169.2, 168.5, 162.0, 140.2, 138.4, 137.84, 137.83, 137.5, 136.4, 134.5, 134.4, 129.8, 129.7, 129.6, 128.7, 127.9, 124.9, 124.3, 120.8, 120.7, 119.8, 118.6, 117.7, 110.1, 79.1, 58.4, 45.5, 32.4, 23.3, 21.7, 21.0, 20.3, 13.4. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₃₈H₃₇N₃O₃Cl₂Na⁺[M+Na]⁺: 676.2104, found 676.2092.



(2S,3R)-1-Benzyl-*N*-(3-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetyl)-2methyl-3,5-di-p-tolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (40)

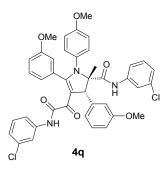
Using benzylamine (54 mg, 0.5 mmol), *p*-tolualdehyde (120 mg, 1.0 mmol), and **3b** (200 mg, 1.0 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (94 mg, 28% yield) as a yellow solid. The single crystal was obtain by wap crystallization. ¹H NMR

(400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.63 (s, 1H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.24-7.18 (m, 7H), 7.11-7.05 (m, 4H), 7.03-6.95 (m, 6H), 6.66-6.59 (m, 3H), 5.10 (s, 1H), 4.57 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 1.79 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.0, 169.7, 168.0, 161.8, 140.1, 138.3, 137.7, 137.6, 137.4, 136.4, 134.5, 134.1, 129.8, 129.65, 129.64, 129.62, 129.5, 128.9, 128.6, 128.0, 127.8, 127.3, 124.7, 124.4, 120.5, 119.8, 118.4, 117.7, 110.5, 79.6, 58.8, 48.7, 23.5, 21.6, 21.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m*/*z* calcd. for C₄₁H₃₆N₃O₃Cl₂ [M+H]⁺: 688.2128, found 688.2119.



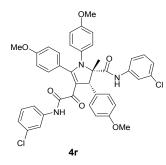
(2S,3R)-*N*-(3-Chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetyl)-3,5-bis(2methoxyphenyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4p)

Using *p*-anisidine (31 mg, 0.25 mmol), 2-methoxy-benzaldehyde (68 mg, 0.5 mmol), and **3b** (100 mg, 0.5 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (63 mg, 34% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.20 (s, 1H), 8.38 (s, 1H), 7.46 (s, 1H), 7.35-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 3H), 7.13-7.06 (m, 4H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.94-6.92 (m, 2H), 6.87-6.83 (m, 4H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.53-6.49 (m, 1H), 5.79 (s, 1H), 3.92(s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 1.70 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 183.4, 168.9, 163.1, 161.4, 158.4, 158.2, 156.1, 139.0, 138.2, 134.7, 134.6, 131.8, 130.7, 130.0, 129.8, 128.6, 127.9, 127.8, 124.5, 124.4, 121.3, 121.1, 120.4, 120.2, 120.06, 120.05, 118.2, 117.9, 113.99, 113.97, 112.7, 111.9, 111.0, 78.8, 56.3, 55.7, 55.4, 53.8, 22.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₄₁H₃₆Cl₂N₃O₆ [M+H]⁺: 736.1976, found 736.1986.



(2S,3R)-*N*-(3-Chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetyl)-3,5-bis(3methoxyphenyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4q)

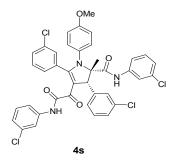
Using *p*-anisidine (31 mg, 0.25 mmol), 3-methoxy-benzaldehyde (68 mg, 0.5 mmol), and **3b** (100 mg, 0.5 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (69 mg, 38% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.47 (s, 1H), 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.22-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.10 (m, 3H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 3H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.91-6.83 (m, 7H), 6.69-6.65 (m, 3H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 1.73 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 185.2, 170.6, 169.0, 167.3, 161.0, 160.42, 160.36, 140.4, 140.2, 139.6, 134.9, 134.8, 132.7, 131.79, 131.78, 131.51, 131.49, 130.7, 130.6, 130.13, 130.10, 130.05, 130.04, 126.0, 125.1, 123.8, 121.9, 121.3, 119.5, 115.12, 115.11, 113.7, 111.6, 79.8, 61.3, 55.8, 55.6, 55.5, 24.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₄₁H₃₆Cl₂N₃O₆ [M+H]⁺: 736.1976, found 736.1974.



(2S,3R)-*N*-(3-Chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetyl)-1,3,5-tris(4methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4r)

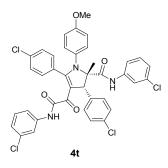
Using *p*-anisidine (31 mg, 0.25 mmol), 4-methoxy-benzaldehyde (68 mg, 0.5 mmol), and **3b** (100 mg, 0.5 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was

obtained (73 mg, 40% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.81 (s, 1H), 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.25-7.23 (m, 4H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.11 (m, 1H), 7.09-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.03-6.96 (m, 4H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.70-6.67 (m, 5H), 5.06 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 1.65 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.1, 168.6, 166.2, 162.54, 162.50, 161.2, 159.2, 158.4, 138.4, 138.25, 138.23, 134.5, 131.24, 131.23, 131.1, 129.8, 129.5, 129.0, 124.8, 124.5, 123.2, 120.8, 120.1, 118.7, 118.0, 114.6, 114.1, 113.9, 110.9, 78.6, 60.7, 55.5, 55.34, 55.27, 23.9. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₄₁H₃₆Cl₂N₃O₆ [M+H]⁺: 736.1976, found 736.1956.

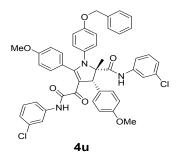


(2S,3R)-*N*,3,5-Tris(3-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetyl)-1-(4methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4s)

Using *p*-anisidine (31 mg, 0.25 mmol), 3-chlorobenzaldehyde (70 mg, 0.5 mmol), and **3b** (100 mg, 0.5 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (56 mg, 30% yield) as a yellow crystalline solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.47 (d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.17-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.11-7.06 (m, 7H), 7.04-6.98 (m, 2H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 1.80 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 184.8, 170.0, 167.7, 167.1, 160.6, 141.4, 140.0, 139.4, 135.1, 135.0, 134.90, 134.89, 133.4, 131.9, 131.1, 131.0, 130.8, 130.7, 130.6, 130.51, 130.45, 129.4, 128.5, 126.1, 125.3, 123.6, 121.7, 121.12, 121.11, 119.3, 115.22, 115.21, 111.3, 80.0, 60.7, 55.8, 24.4. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m*/*z* calcd. for C₃₉H₃₀Cl₄N₃O₄ [M+H]⁺: 744.0985, found 744.0984.



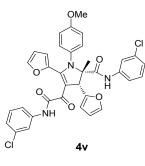
(2S,3R)-*N*-(3-Chlorophenyl)-3,5-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2oxoacetyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4t) Using *p*-anisidine (31 mg, 0.25 mmol), 4-chlorobenzaldehyde (70 mg, 0.5 mmol), and 3b (100 mg, 0.5 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (55 mg, 30% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.66 (s, 1H), 7.57 (s, 1H), 7.28-7.21 (m, 7H), 7.17-7.13 (m, 5H), 7.09-6.99 (m, 3H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.23 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 1.72 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 182.7, 167.8, 165.7, 161.3, 158.8, 137.9, 137.6, 136.7, 136.4, 134.7, 133.8, 130.6, 130.2, 130.06, 130.05, 129.7, 129.6, 129.29, 129.28, 128.90, 128.88, 125.3, 124.9, 120.6, 119.9, 118.4, 117.8, 114.7, 110.8, 79.0, 60.7, 55.5, 23.9. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₃₉H₃₀Cl₄N₃O₄ [M+H]⁺: 744.0985, found 744.0968.



(2S,3R)-1-(4-(Benzyloxy)phenyl)-*N*-(3-chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2oxoacetyl)-3,5-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4u)

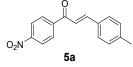
Using BnOPhNH₂ (76 mg, 0.38 mmol), 4-methoxy-benzaldehyde (103 mg, 0.76 mmol), and **3b** (150 mg, 0.76 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (100 mg, 32% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.65 (s, 1H),

7.86 (s, 1H), 7.36-7.35 (m, 6H), 7.25-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.15-7.09 (m, 2H), 7.05-6.97 (m, 4H), 6.86 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.77-6.69 (m, 6H), 5.11 (s, 1H), 4.95 (s, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 1.68 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.1, 168.5, 166.1, 162.4, 161.2, 159.2, 157.6, 138.4, 138.2, 136.4, 134.52, 134.45, 131.3, 131.19, 131.17, 129.88, 129.84, 129.5, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 127.6, 124.8, 124.5, 123.1, 120.6, 120.0, 118.5, 118.0, 115.5, 114.1, 114.0, 110.9, 78.6, 70.3, 60.7, 55.4, 55.3, 23.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₄₇H₃₉Cl₂N₃O₆Na⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 834.2108, found 834.2102.



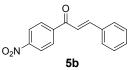
(2S,3R)-*N*-(3-Chlorophenyl)-4-(2-((3-chlorophenyl)amino)-2-oxoacetyl)-3,5-di(furan-2-yl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (4v)

Using *p*-anisidine (31 mg, 0.25 mmol), furan-2-carbaldehyde (48 mg, 0.5 mmol), and **3b** (100 mg, 0.5 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (31 mg, 19% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.72 (s, 1H), 8.49 (s, 1H), 7.57-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.32 (s, 1H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.09-7.06 (m, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.38-6.37 (m, 1H), 6.28-6.27 (m, 1H), 6.21 (s, 2H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 1.62 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.0, 168.3, 161.6, 159.2, 153.2, 150.5, 144.9, 144.2, 142.6, 138.7, 138.5, 134.8, 134.6, 131.1, 130.1, 130.0, 128.7, 124.73, 124.69, 120.5, 119.8, 118.5, 117.8, 116.6, 114.8, 112.4, 110.8, 109.0, 107.2, 76.9, 55.6, 55.0, 22.9. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m*/*z* calcd. for C₃₅H₂₈Cl₂N₃O₆ [M+H]⁺: 656.1350, found 656.1348.



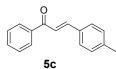
(E)-1-(4-Nitrophenyl)-3-(p-tolyl)prop-2-en-1-one (5a)

4-Tolualdehyde (0.73 g, 6.05 mmol) and a 6 M NaOH aqueous solution (50 µL, 0.3 mmol) were successively added to a solution of 4-nitroacetophenone (1.0 g, 6.05 mmol) in methanol (4 ml). The reaction was stirred for 4h at r.t. The precipitate was flitrered, washed with MeOH and dried in vacuo to provide chalcone **5a** as a white solid (1.2 g, 75% yield). The spectroscopic data are consistent with material from commercial sources. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.34 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 189.2, 150.1, 147.0, 143.4, 142.1, 131.7, 130.0, 129.5, 128.9, 123.9, 120.4, 21.7.



(E)-1-(4-Nitrophenyl)-3-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (5b)

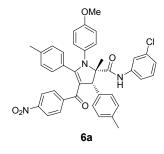
4-Nitroacetophenone (1.0 g, 6.05 mmol) and benzaldehyde (642 mg, 6.05 mmol) were dissolved in methanol (30 ml). An aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide (5 % w/v, 15 ml) was added slowly and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The obtained solid was filtered, washed with water (15 ml) and crystallized from methanol to provide chalcone **5b** as a yellow solid (1.2 g, 80% yield). The spectroscopic data are consistent with material from commercial sources. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.67-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.51-7.45 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 189.2, 150.2, 146.9, 143.2, 134.4, 131.4, 129.5, 129.3, 128.8, 124.0, 121.4.



(E)-1-phenyl-3-(p-tolyl)prop-2-en-1-one (5c)

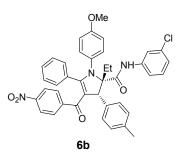
Acetophenone (2.0 g, 16.6 mmol) and *p*-tolualdehyde (2.0 g, 16.6 mmol) were dissolved in methanol (80 ml). An aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide (5 % w/v, 40 ml) was added slowly and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The obtained solid was filtered, washed with water (15 ml) and crystallized from methanol to provide chalcone **5c** as a yellow solid (2.7 g, 73% yield). The spectroscopic data are consistent with previously

reported.¹ ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.03-8.01 (m, 2H), 7.80 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61-7.48 (m, 6H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 190.8, 145.1, 141.3, 138.5, 132.8, 132.3, 129.9, 128.7, 128.63, 128.62, 121.2, 21.7.



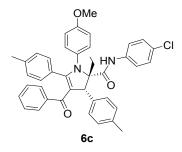
(2S,3R)-*N*-(3-Chlorophenyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-4-(4-nitrobenzoyl)-3,5-di-ptolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (6a)

A solution of 4-anisidine (63 mg, 0.51 mmol), 4-tolualdehyde (123 mg, 1.02 mmol), pyruvic amide 3b (200 mg, 1.02 mmol) and chalcone 5a (272 mg, 1.02 mmol) in EtOH (19 ml) and HOAc (1.6 ml) was stirred under reflux for 8 h. After cooled down to r.t., ethanol was removed under vacuum, and the residue was diluted with EtOAc and water. After separation, the aqueous phase was extracted two more times with EtOAc. The combined organic phases were successively washed with saturated aqueous KHSO₄, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, and brine, dried over MgSO₄, concentrated in vacuo and chromatographed gradiently on silica gel with pentane/diethyl ether (5:1~1:1) to give the dihydropyrrole 6a (80 mg, 23% yield) as a yellow solid, and **4b** (80 mg, 23% yield) as a yellow solid. **6a**: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.21-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.06-7.02 (m, 3H), 6.92-6.85 (m, 7H), 6.70 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.95 (s, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.08 (s, 3H), 1.70 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 189.0, 169.3, 162.8, 158.0, 148.0, 146.3, 140.2, 137.9, 137.8, 135.2, 134.4, 131.6, 130.4, 129.75, 129.73, 129.6, 129.1, 128.6, 127.9, 127.7, 125.0, 122.4, 121.0, 118.9, 114.7, 114.4, 77.7, 62.4, 55.4, 23.7, 21.3, 21.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₄₀H₃₅N₃O₅Cl [M+H]⁺: 672.2260, found 672.2245.



(2S,3R)-*N*-(3-Chlorophenyl)-2-ethyl-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(4-nitrobenzoyl)-3,5-di-ptolyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (6b)

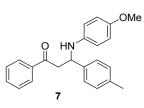
A solution of 4-anisidine (117 mg, 0.95 mmol), 4-tolualdehyde (114 mg, 0.95 mmol), pyruvic amide 3j (200 mg, 0.95 mmol) and chalcone 5b (240 mg, 0.95 mmol) in EtOH (38 ml) and HOAc (3.0 ml) was stirred under reflux for 8 h. After cooled down to r.t., ethanol was removed under vacuum, and the residue was diluted with EtOAc and water. After separation, the aqueous phase was extracted two more times with EtOAc. The combined organic phases were successively washed with saturated aqueous KHSO₄, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, and brine, dried over MgSO₄, concentrated *in vacuo* and chromatographed gradiently on silica gel with PE/EA (5:1~3:1) to give the dihydropyrrole product 6b as a yellow solid (98 mg, 16% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.76 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.41-7.36 (m, 4H), 7.23-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.14 (m, 2H), 7.07-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 3H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.74-6.72 (m, 1H), 6.67 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 3H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.52-2.46 (m, 1H), 2.16-2.09 (m, 1H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 190.6, 170.9, 168.5, 159.5, 149.0, 148.2, 141.0, 140.1, 139.7, 134.7, 132.5, 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 129.3, 129.22, 129.21, 129.18, 128.3, 125.9, 123.8, 123.37, 123.35, 121.9, 115.8, 114.8, 83.1, 57.5, 55.8, 27.2, 21.1, 8.6. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z calcd. for C₄₀H₃₅N₃O₅Cl [M+H]⁺: 672.2260, found 672.2262.



(2S,3R)-4-benzoyl-*N*-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-ethyl-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,5-di-p-tolyl-2,3dihydro-1H-pyrrole-2-carboxamide (6c)

A solution of *p*-anisidine (58 mg, 0.47 mmol), *p*-tolualdehyde (56 mg, 0.47 mmol), **3k** (100 mg, 0.47 mmol), and 5c (105 mg, 0.47 mmol) in EtOH (9.2 ml) and HOAc (0.74 ml) was stirred under reflux for 8 h. After cooled down to r.t., ethanol was removed under vacuum, and the residue was diluted with ethyl acetate and water. After separation, the aqueous phase was extracted two more times with ethyl acetate. The combined organic phases were successively washed with saturated aqueous KHSO₄, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, and brine, dried over MgSO₄, concentrated *in vacuo* and chromatographed gradiently on silica gel with PE/EA (5:1~3:1) to give the dihydropyrrole product 6c as a yellow solid (53 mg, 18% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 (s, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.96-6.93 (m, 5H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.60 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 2.37-2.21 (m, 1H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 2.09-2.03 (m, 1H), 1.07 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.1, 169.6, 160.4, 157.1, 140.4, 139.2, 137.0, 135.64, 135.61, 132.2, 130.3, 129.9, 129.7, 129.4, 128.9, 128.8, 128.5, 128.3, 128.1, 127.8, 127.3, 121.7, 114.8, 114.0, 80.3, 57.2, 55.4, 26.5, 21.3, 21.1, 8.3. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z calcd. for C₄₁H₃₈N₂O₃Cl [M+H]⁺: 641.2565, found 641.2558.

3. Mechanism studies

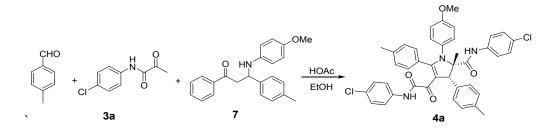


(E)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-3-(p-tolyl)but-2-en-1-one (7)

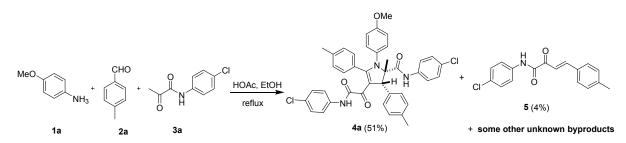
Compound 7 was prepared following the known method².

To a solution of **5c** (1.3 g, 6.0 mmol) in anhydrous EtOH (3 ml) was added 4-methoxyaniline (1.1 g, 9.0 mmol) and K_3PO_4 (192 mg). After stirring for five hours at r.t., the reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate and water. After separation, the aqueous phase was extracted two more times with ethyl acetate. The combined organic phase was washed with

brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with PE/EA (50:1), the title compound was obtained (550 mg, 27% yield) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.91 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (s, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.48 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.6, 152.4, 141.4, 140.4, 137.0, 136.9, 133.5, 129.6, 128.8, 128.3, 126.5, 115.5, 114.8, 55.8, 55.5, 46.6, 21.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₂₃H₂₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 346.1802, found 346.1786.

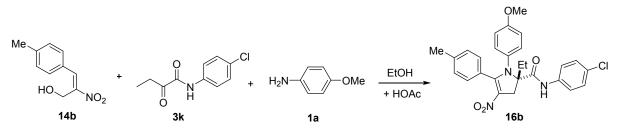


Using *p*-tolualdehyde (49 mg, 0.41 mmol), **3a** (80 mg, 0.41 mmol), and **7** (140 mg, 0.41 mmol) in EtOH (8 ml) and HOAc (0.64 ml) was stirred under reflux for 8 h. After cooled down to r.t., ethanol was removed under vacuum, and the residue was diluted with ethyl acetate and water. After separation, the aqueous phase was extracted two more times with ethyl acetate. The combined organic phases were successively washed with saturated aqueous KHSO₄, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, and brine, dried over MgSO₄, concentrated *in vacuo* and chromatographed gradiently on silica gel with PE/EA $5:1\sim3:1$ to give the dihydropyrrole product **4a** as a yellow solid (64 mg, 45%).

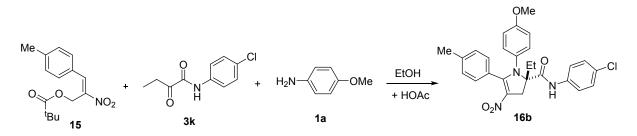


Using p-anisidine (31 mg, 0.25 mmol), p-tolualdehyde (60 mg, 0.5 mmol), and **3a** (100 mg, 0.5 mmol) in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (89 mg,

51% yield) as a yellow solid, and the aldol condensation product **5** was obtained (6 mg, 4% yield) as a yellow solid, along with unknown byproducts. Spectra data of the aldol product: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.03 (s, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.24 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.2, 159.1, 149.4, 142.9, 135.4, 131.7, 130.4, 130.1, 129.6, 129.4, 121.1, 116.8, 21.8. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₇H₁₄ClNO₂Na [M+Na]⁺: 322.0605, found 322.0602.

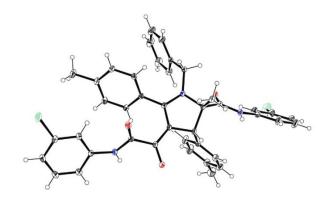


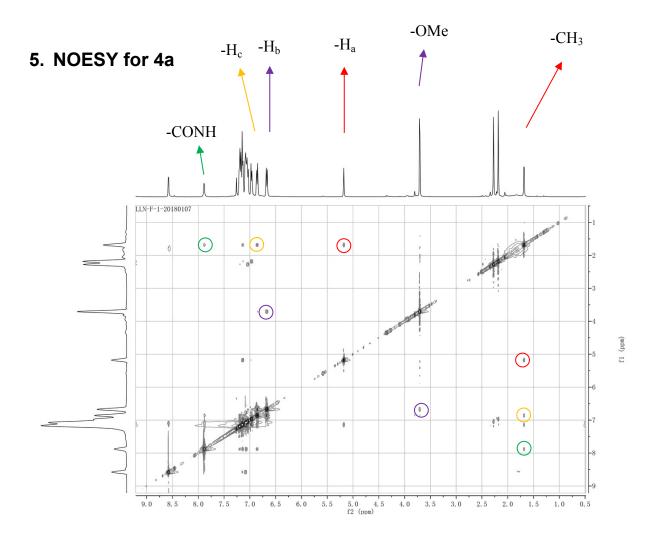
Using *p*-anisidine (58 mg, 0.47 mmol), **14b** (91 mg, 0.47 mmol), and **3k** (100 mg, 0.47 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (45 mg, 19% yield) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.59 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.70-3.66 (m, 4H), 3.52 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.07-2.02 (m, 1H), 1.89-1.83 (m, 1H), 1.06 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.8, 161.3, 159.0, 140.3, 136.7, 129.7, 129.6, 129.3, 129.0, 128.7, 125.9, 122.3, 121.4, 114.3, 75.7, 55.4, 36.9, 27.8, 21.7, 7.5. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calcd. for C₂₇H₂₅N₃O₄CI [M-H]⁻: 490.1539, found 490.1535.



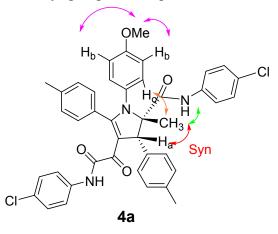
Using *p*-anisidine (58 mg, 0.47 mmol), **15** (130 mg, 0.47 mmol), and **3k** (100 mg, 0.47 mmol), in accordance with General Procedure B, the title compound was obtained (55 mg, 23% yield) as a yellow solid.

4. ORTEP Drawing for 4o





The correlation between the methyl group and the proton was observed:



6. Kinetics of α-Glucosidase Inhibition

The commercially available α -glucosidase from baker's yeast (Sigma, G5003) was selected as the target protein using *p*-nitrophenyl- α -D-glucopyranoside (pNGP, Sigma, N1377) as the substrate. The compounds and acarbose were dissolved in DMSO. The enzyme and the substrate were dissolved in 0.05 M potassium phosphate buffer with pH 6.8. The enzymatic reaction mixture composed of 20 µL α -glucosidase (0.03 U/ml), 30 µL of substrate (0.6, 1.2, 2.4 mM), 10 µL of test compounds (0, 0.62, 5 µM) or acarbose (0, 0.19, 0.39 mM), and 140 µL of potassium phosphate buffer was incubated at 37 °C for 20 min. The enzymatic activity was detected by spectrophotometer at the wavelength of 405 nm. The inhibitory kinetics of the investigated compounds on α -glucosidase was analyzed using the Lineweaver-Burk plot of the substrate concentration and velocity. Results are the average of three independent experiments, each performed in duplicate.

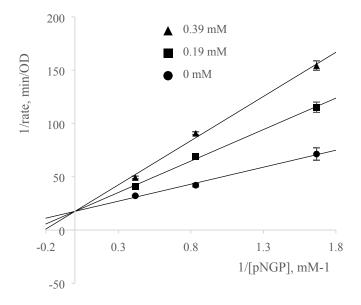


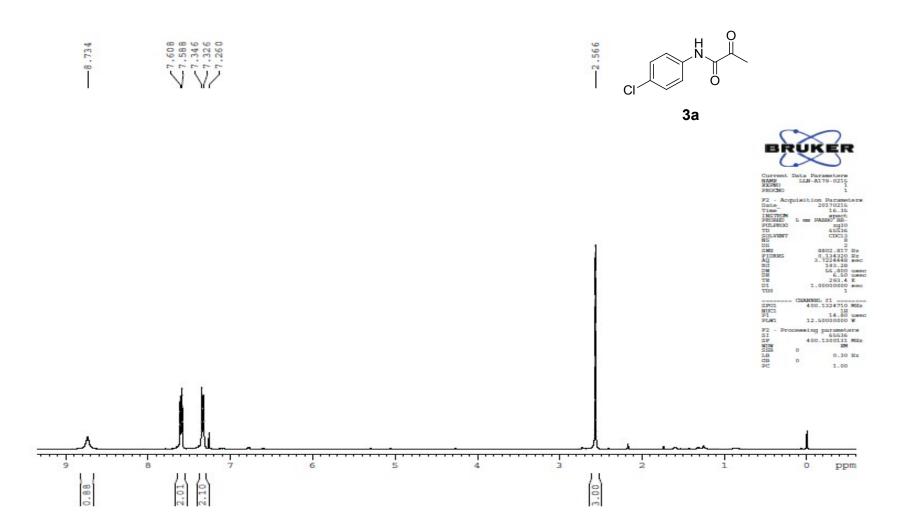
Fig. S1 Lineweaver-Burk plot of acarbose

7. Reference

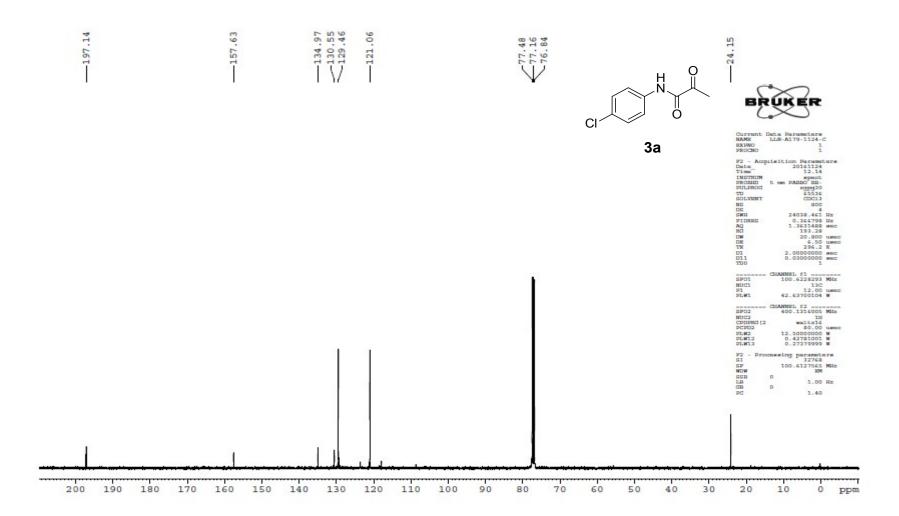
- Jin-Lin Zuo, Jia-Xiang Yang, Fu-ZhiWang, Xiang-Nan Dang, Jian-Liang Sun, De-Chun Zou,Yu-Peng Tian, Na Lin, Xu-Tang Tao, Min-Hua Jiang. Journal of Photochemistry and Photobiology A: Chemistry. 2008, 199, 322-329.
- Barahman Movassagh, Sakineh Khosousi. Monatshefte fuer Chemie. 2012, 143, 1503-1506.

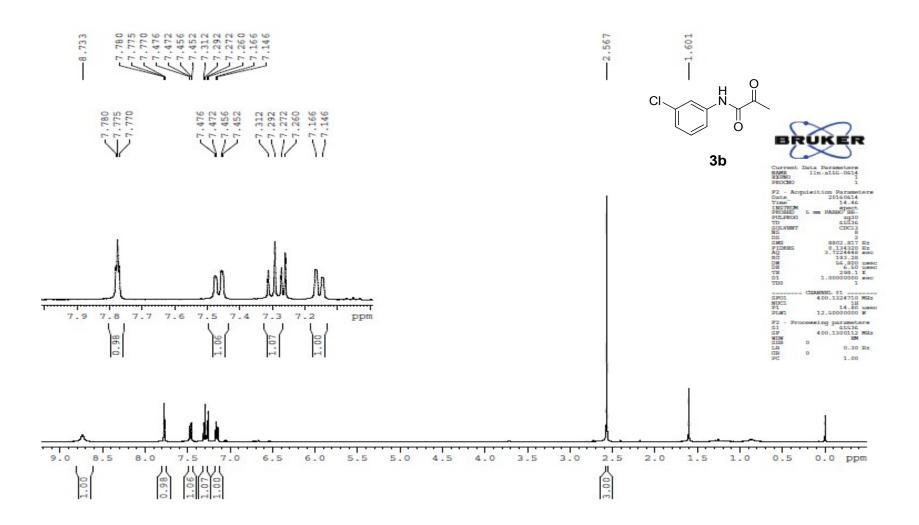
8. Spectra Data

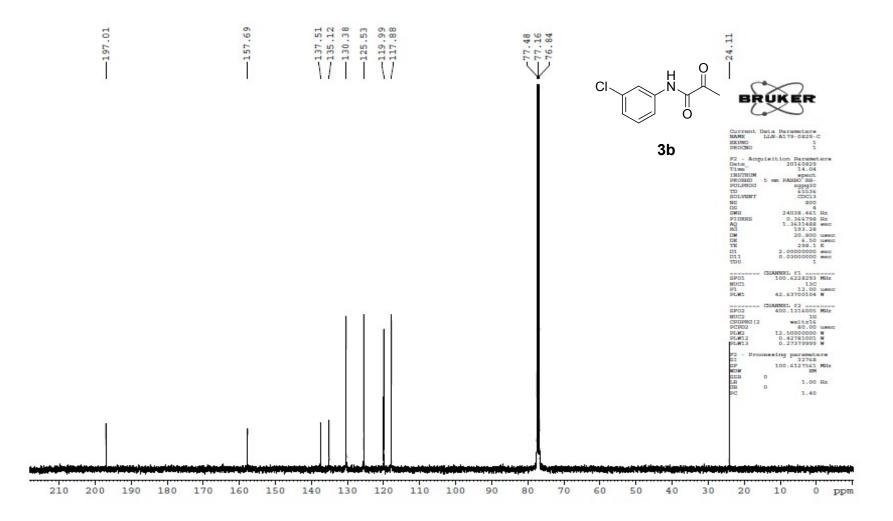
Spectra data are shown from the next page.



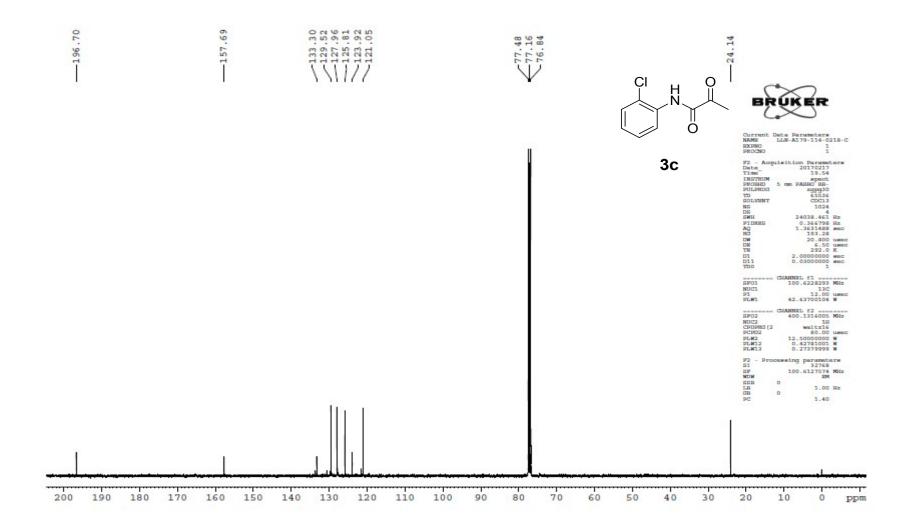
SI-30

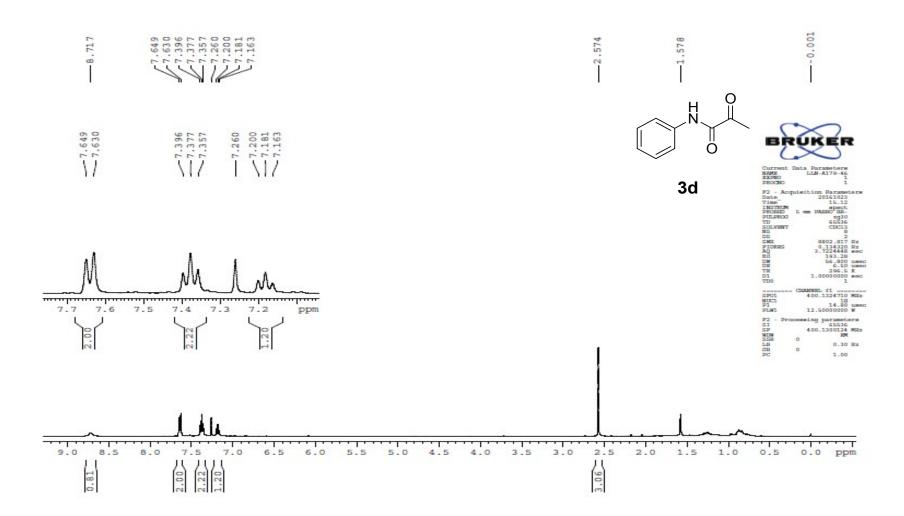


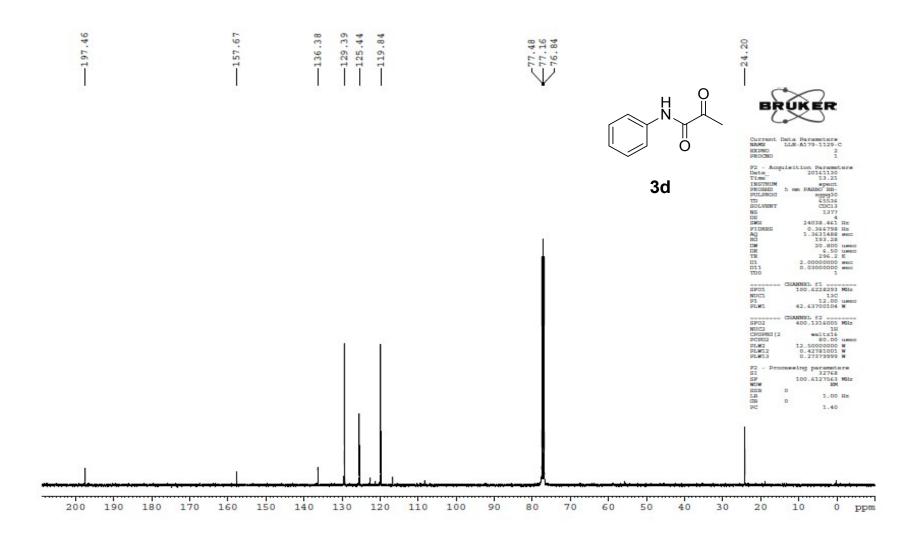


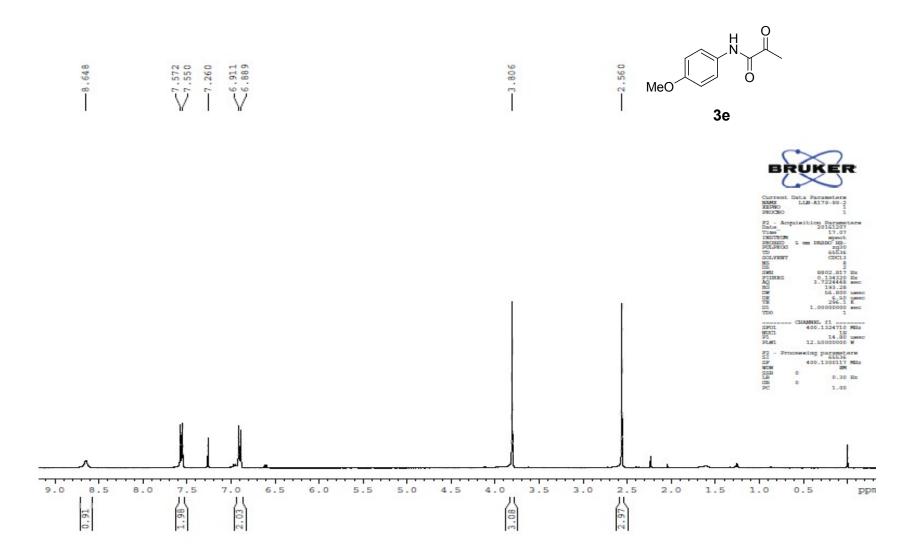


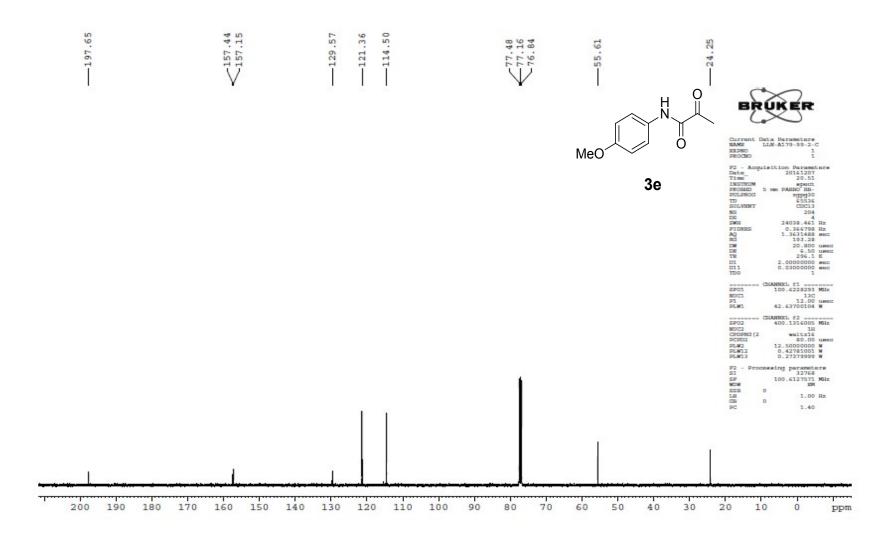


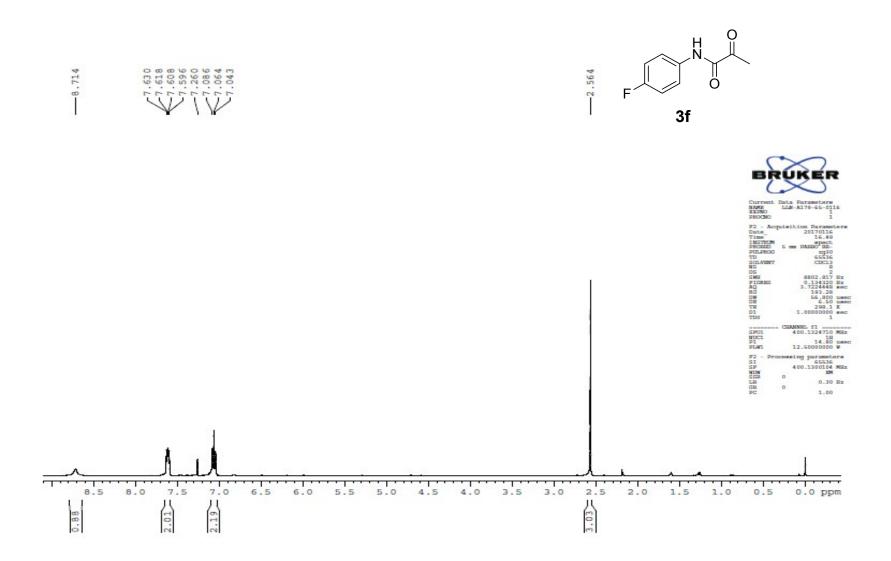


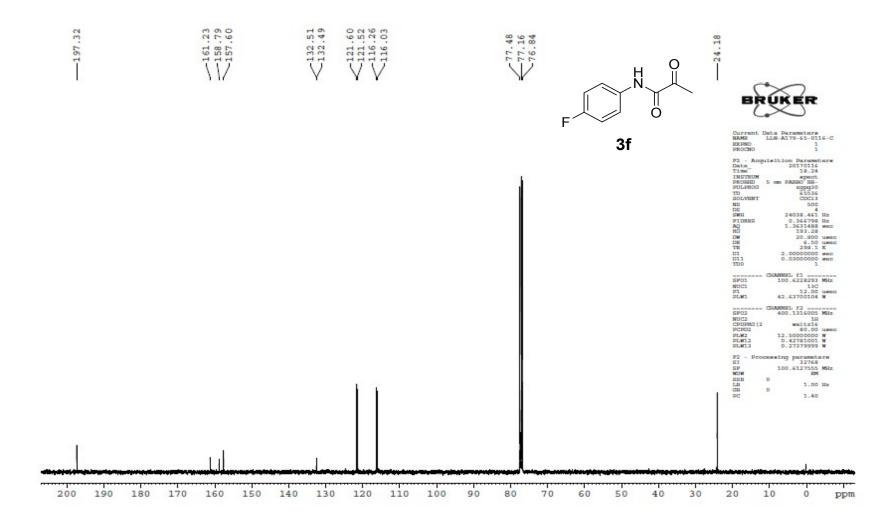


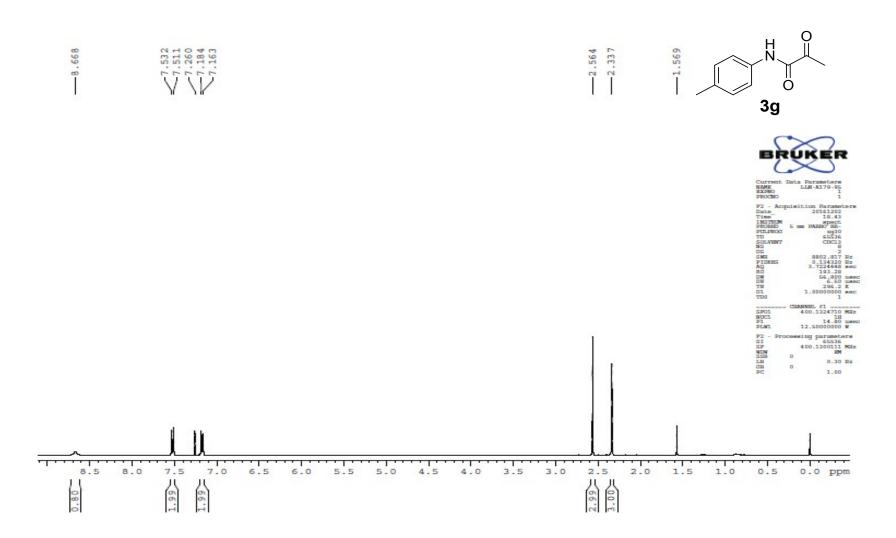




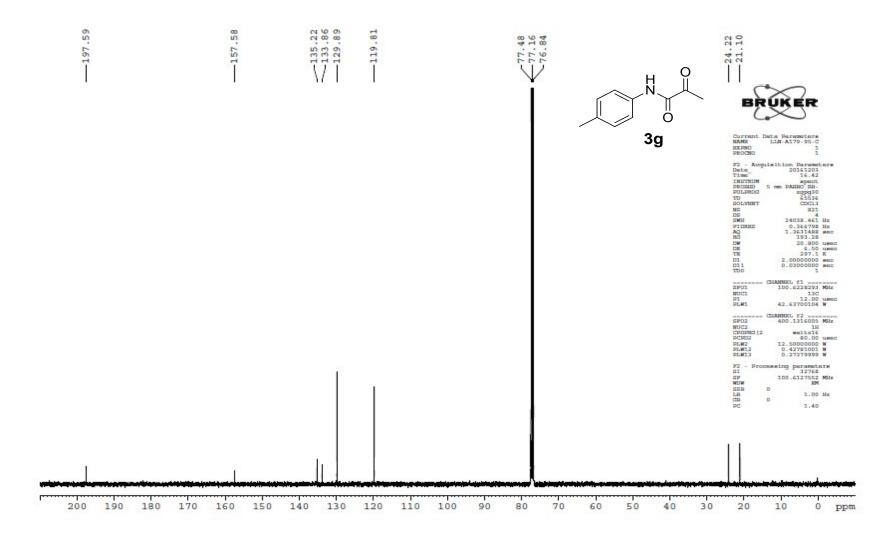


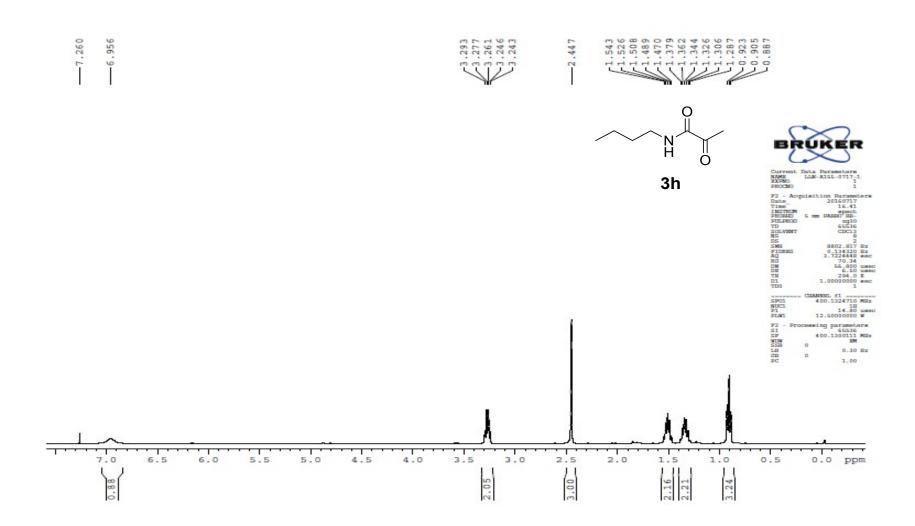


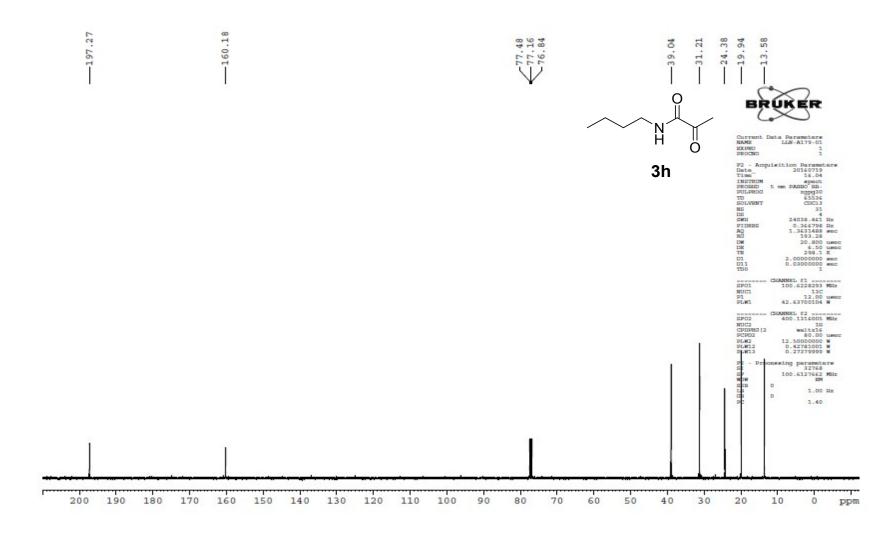


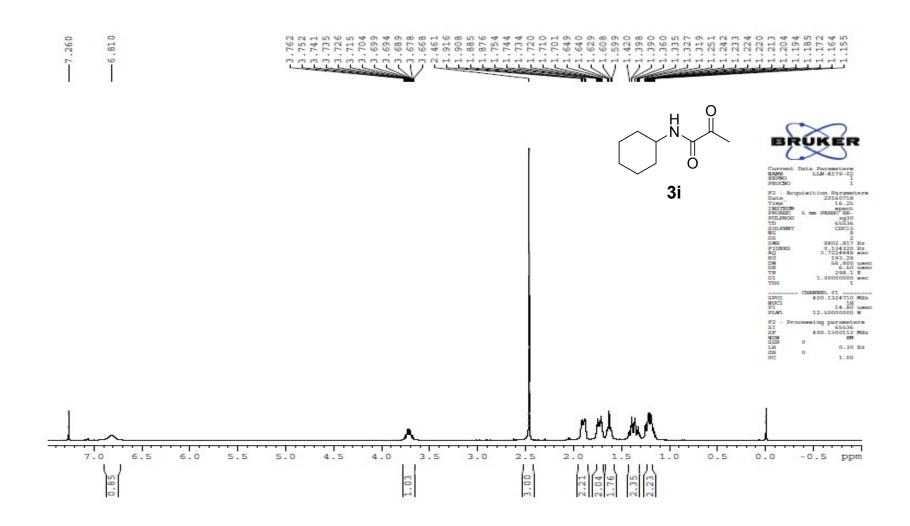


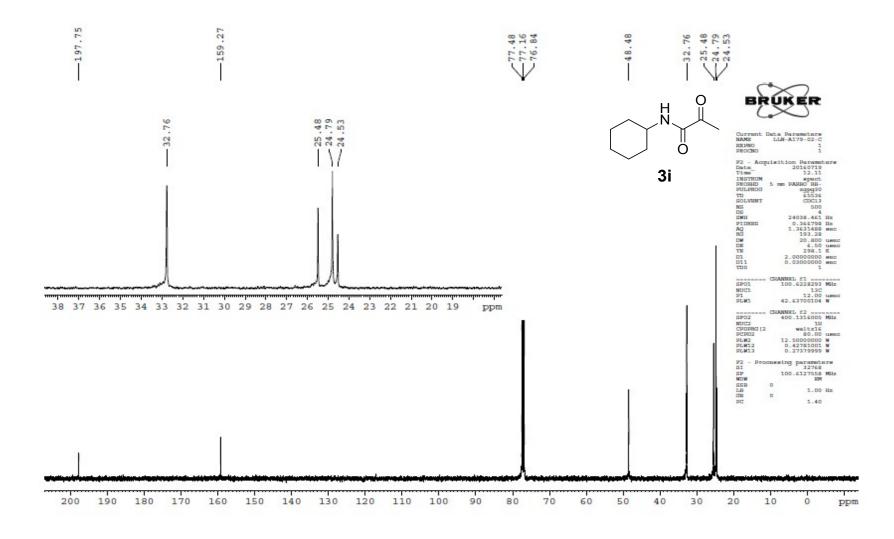
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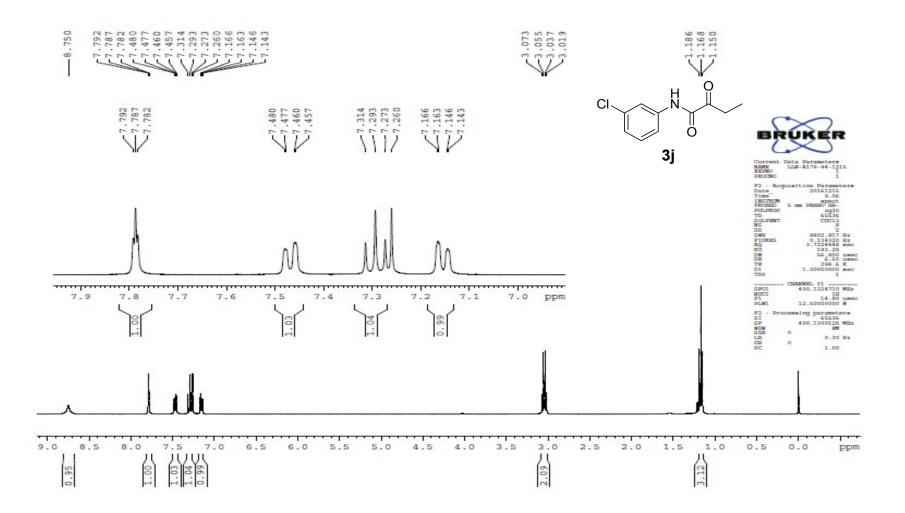


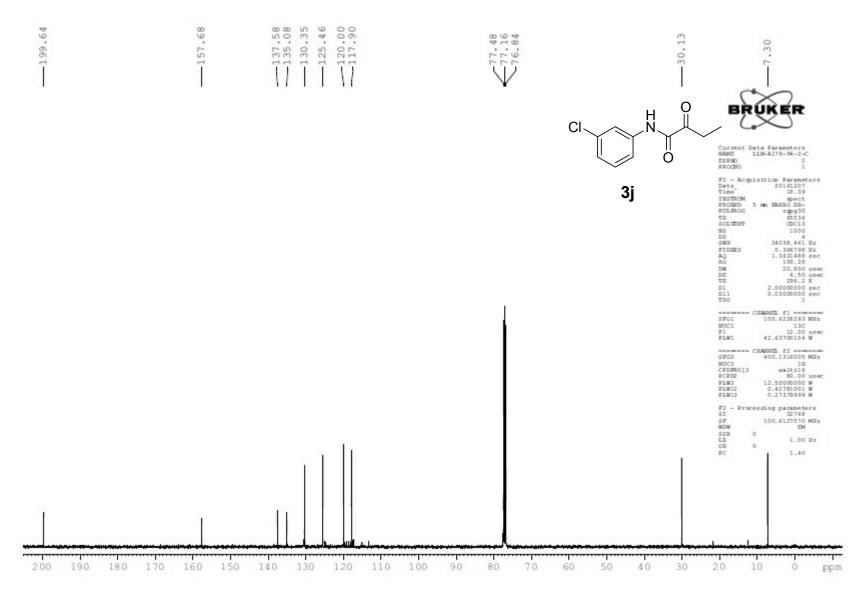


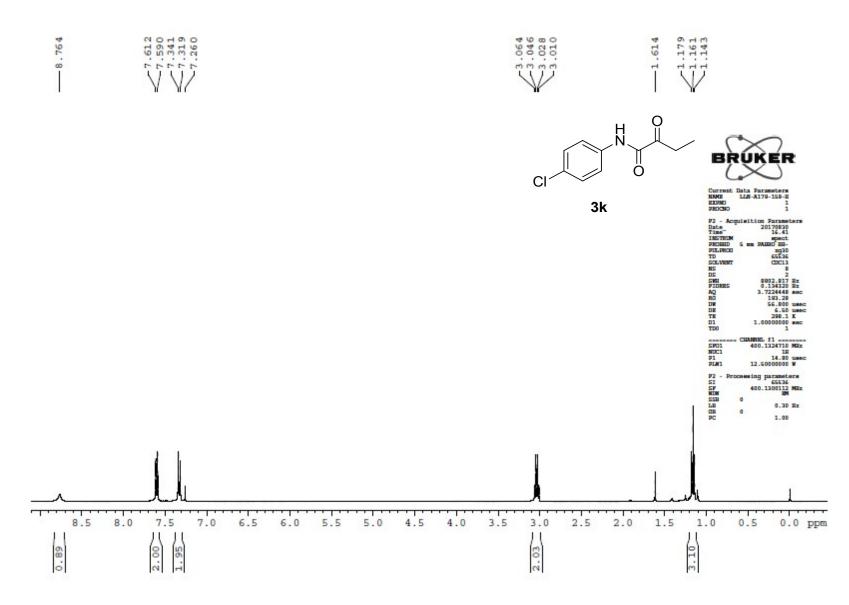


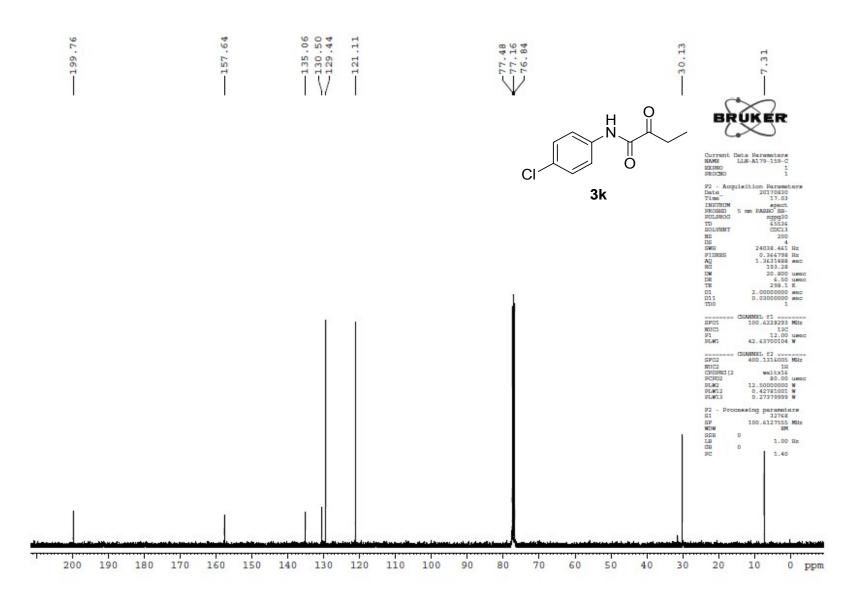


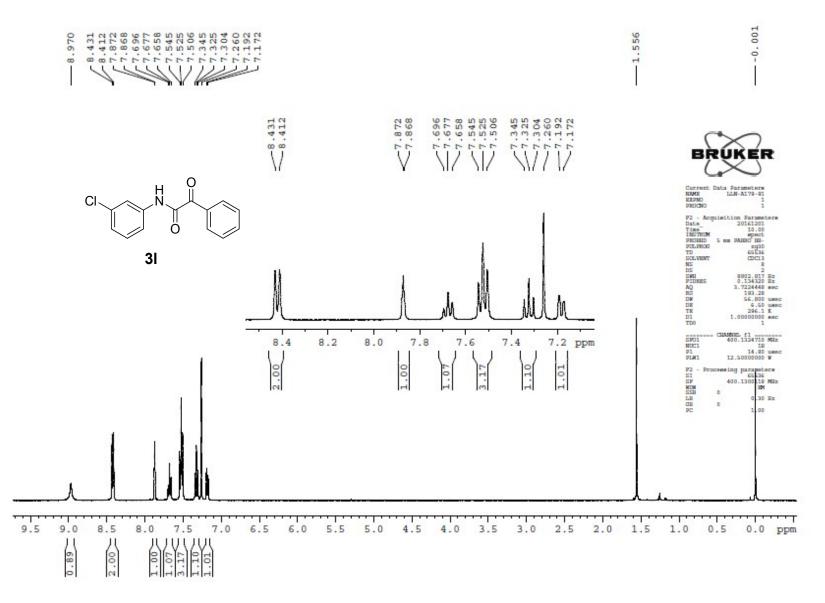


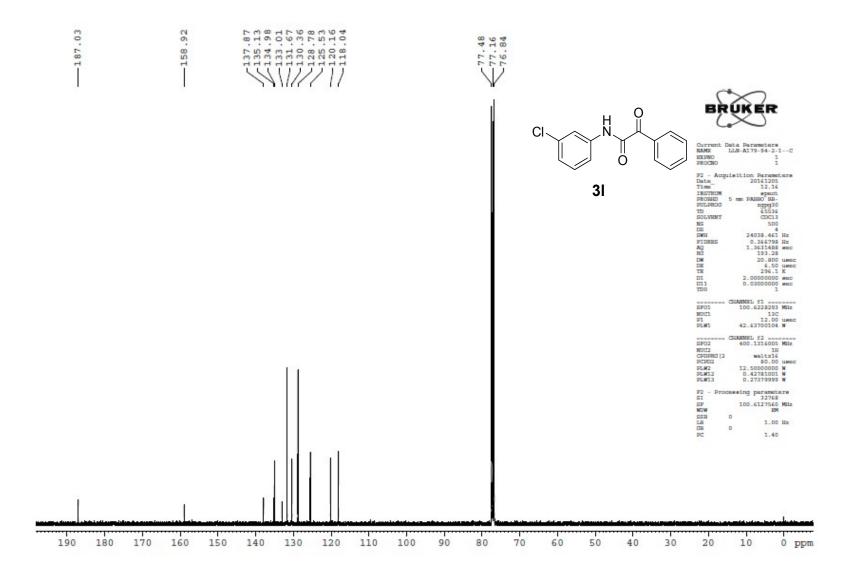


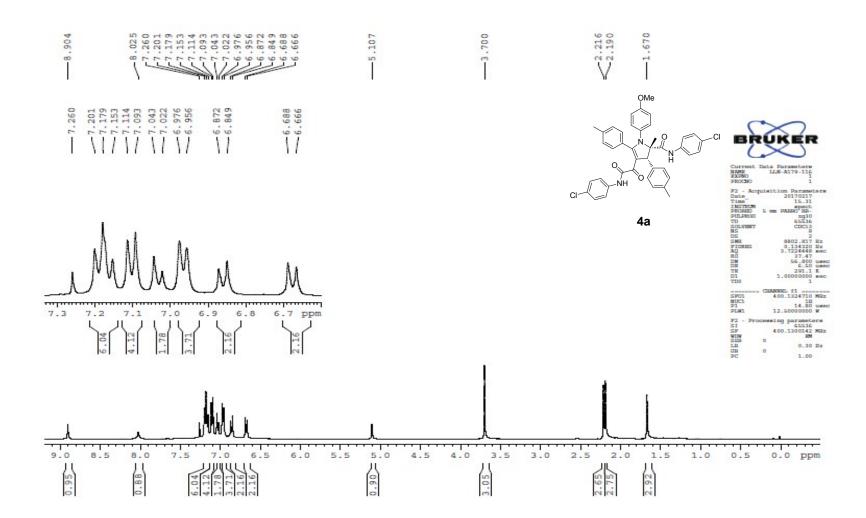


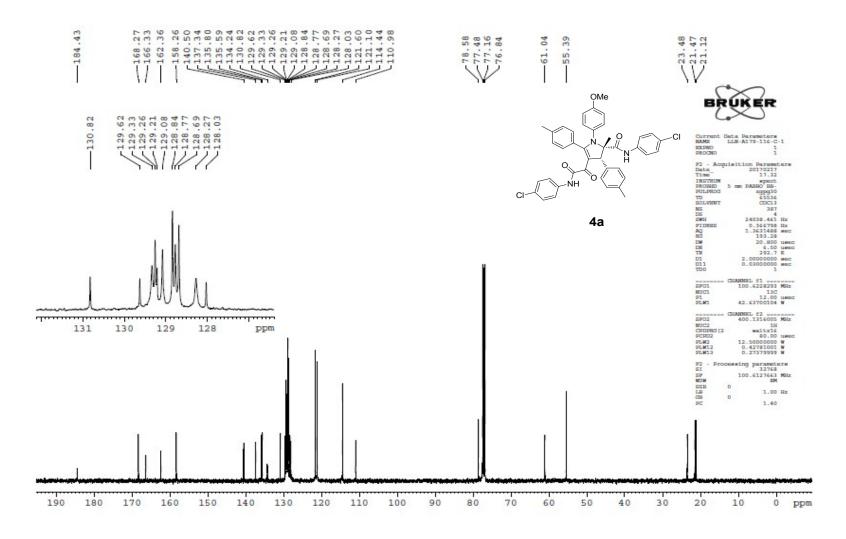


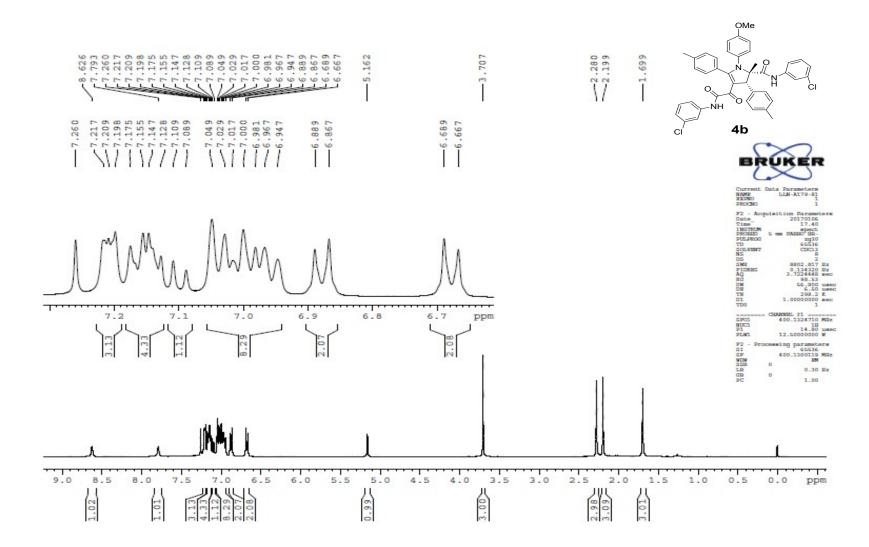


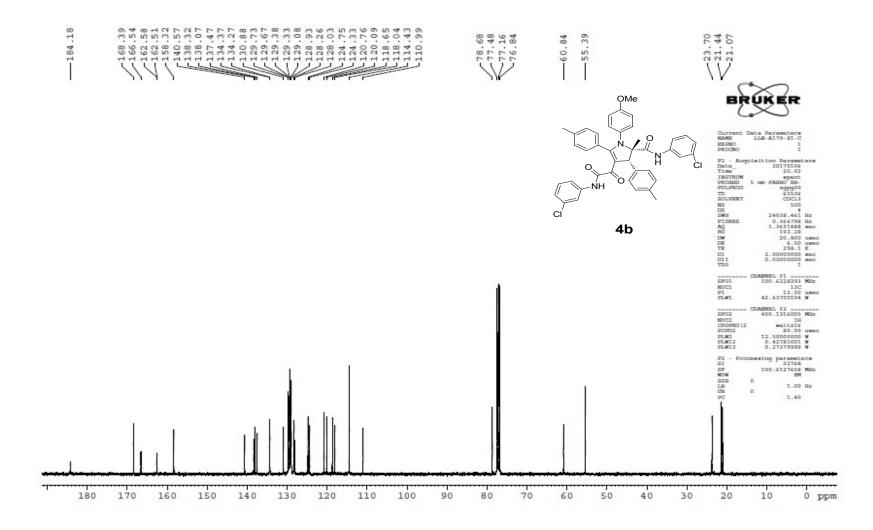


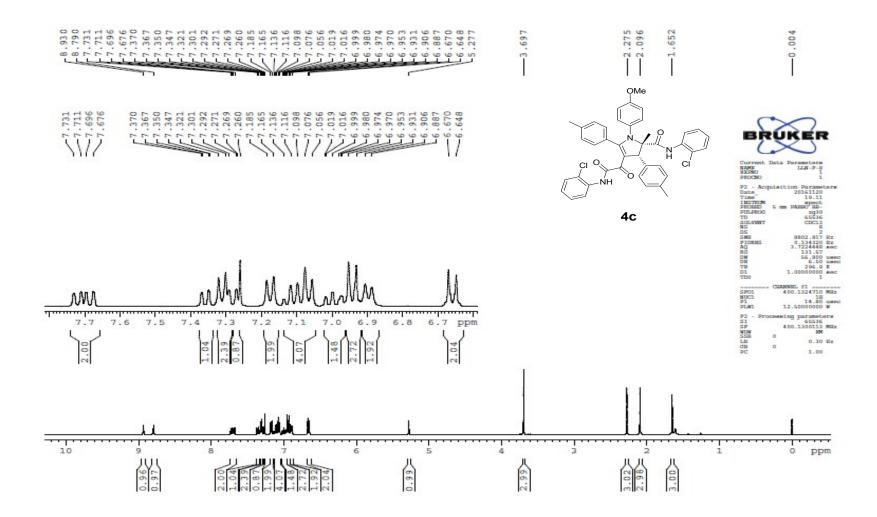


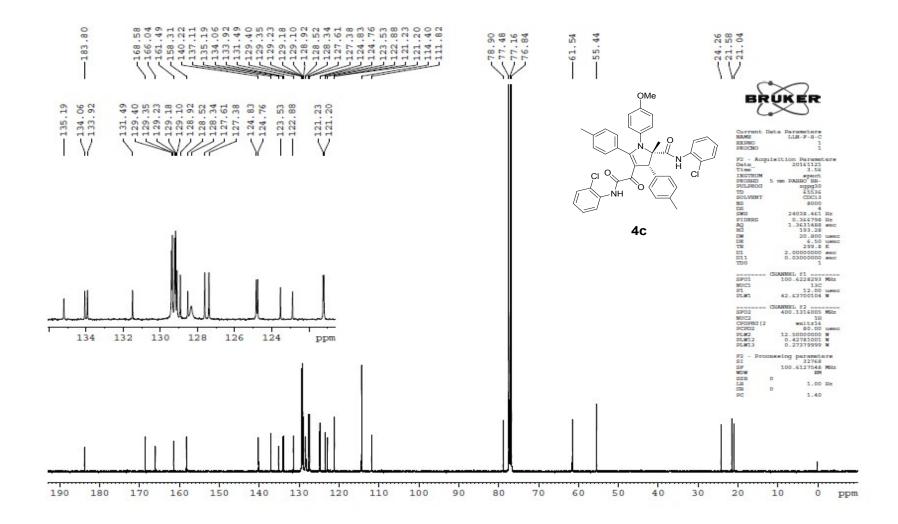


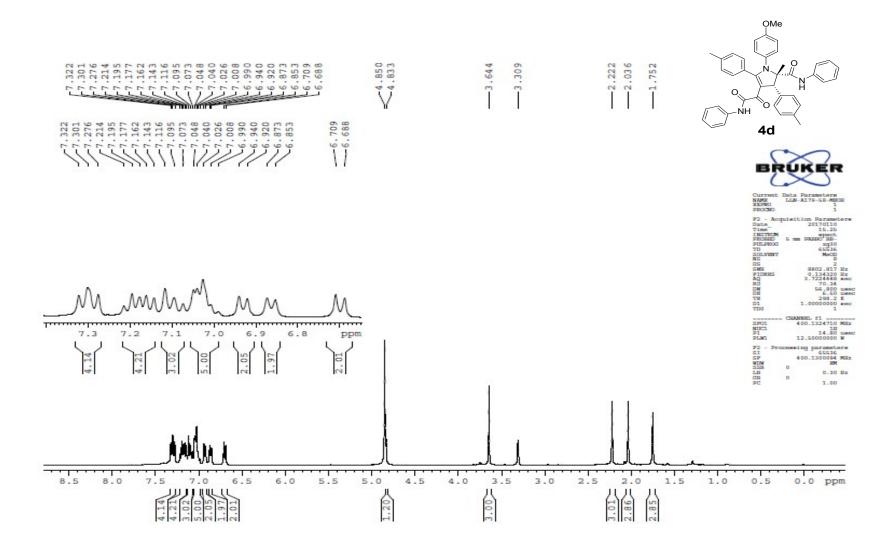


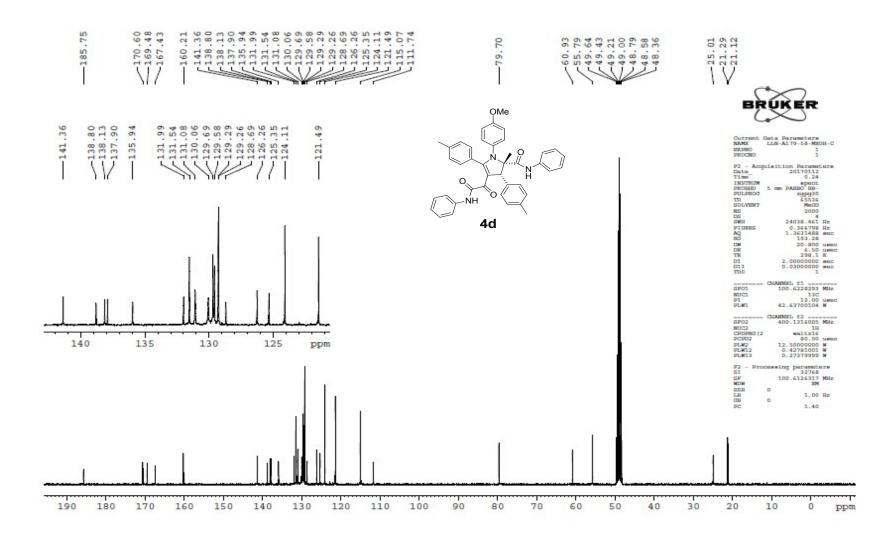




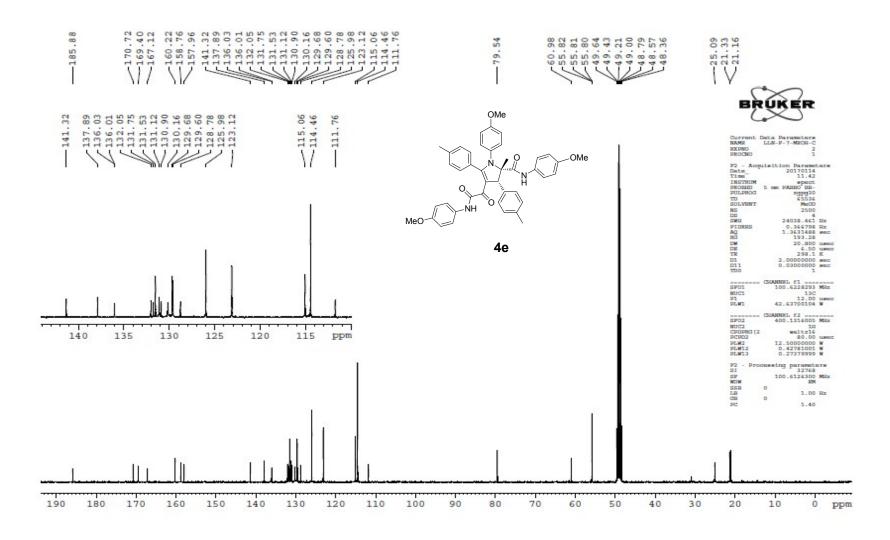


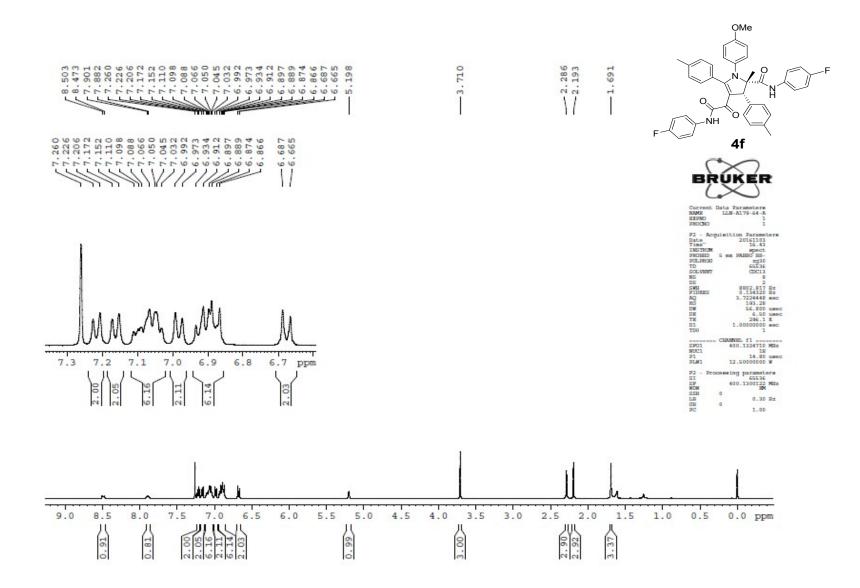


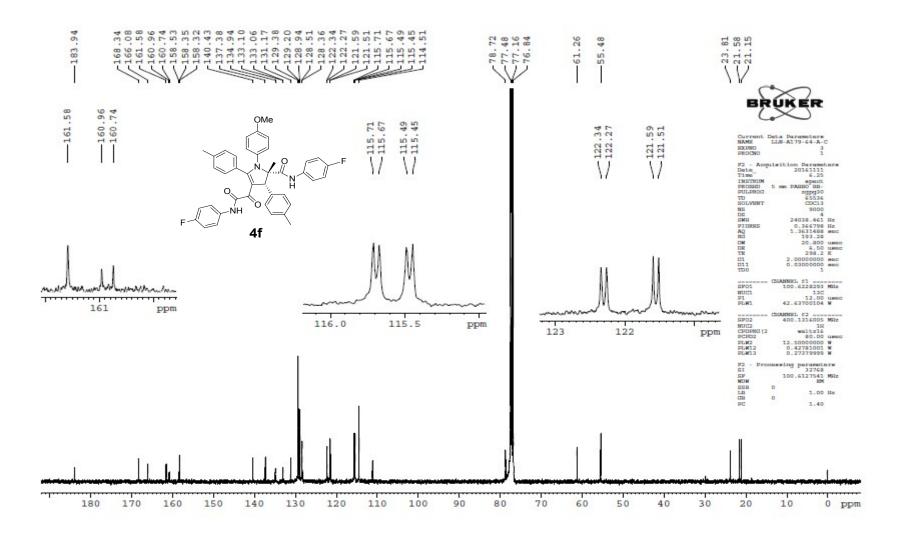


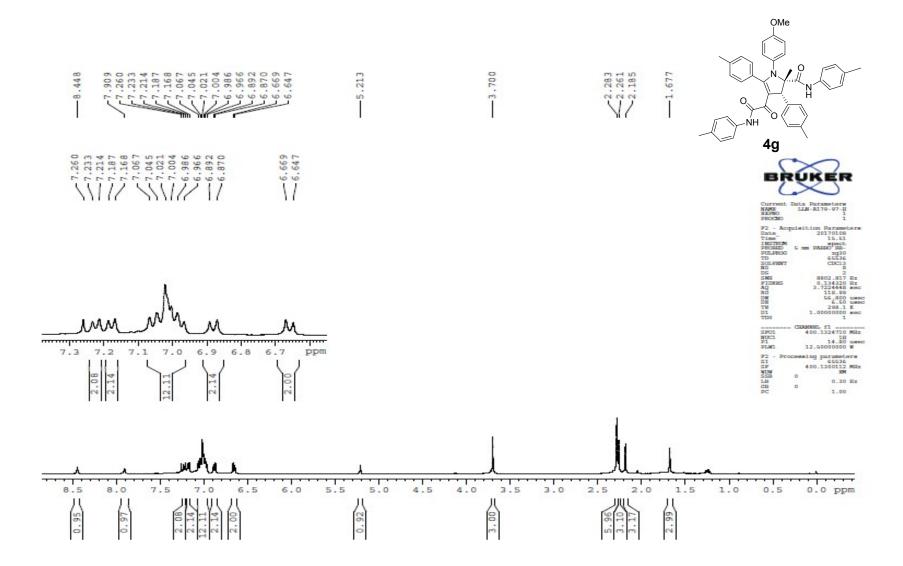


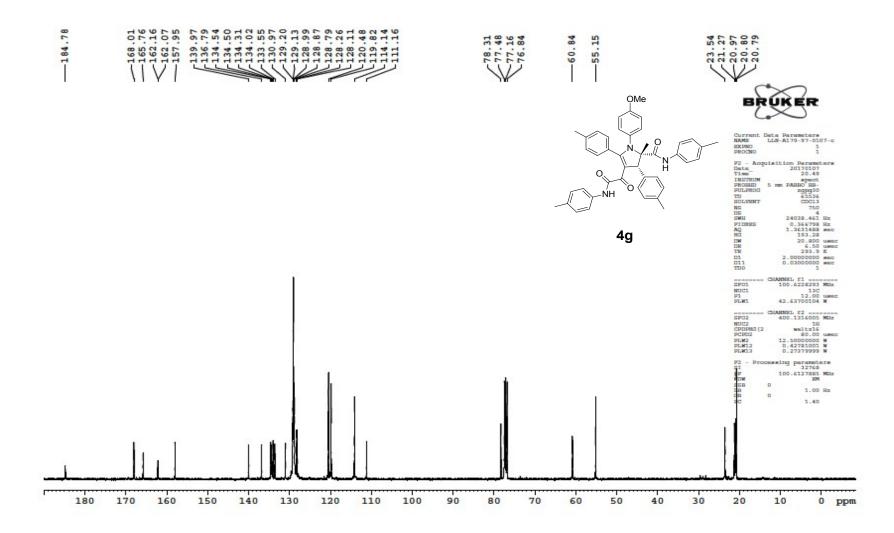


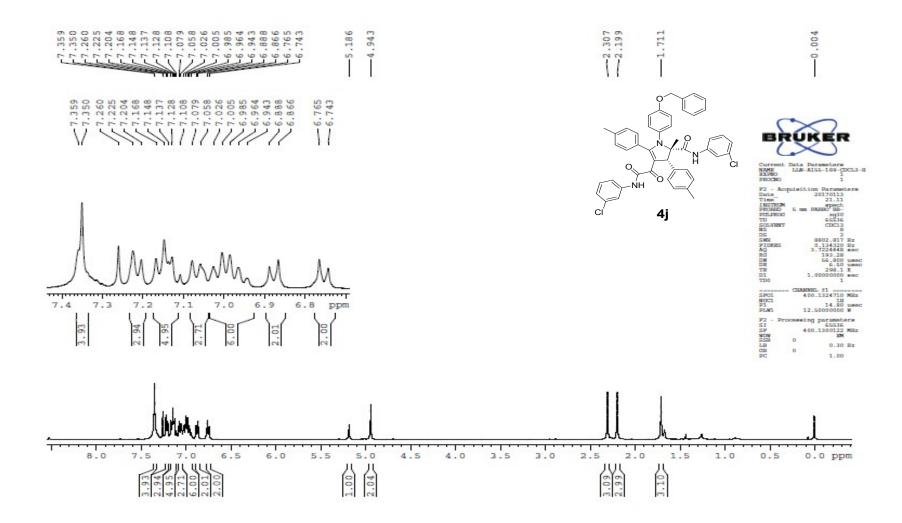


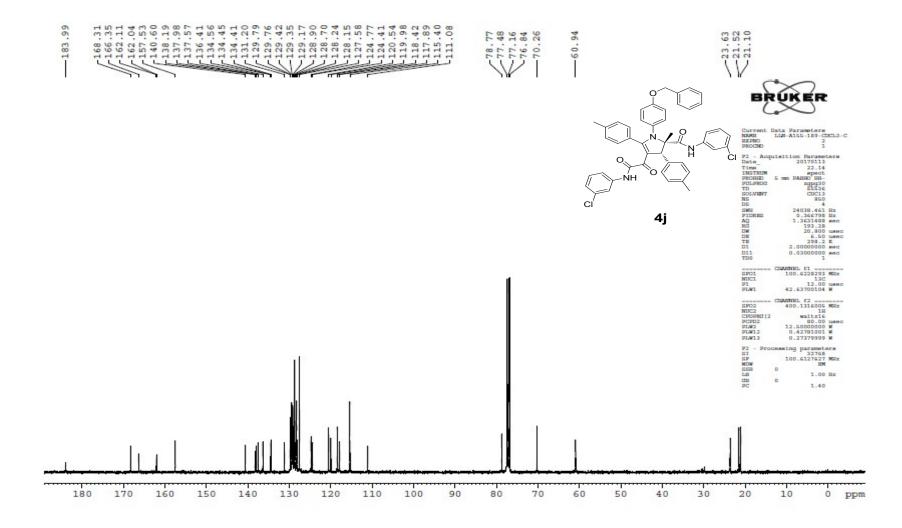


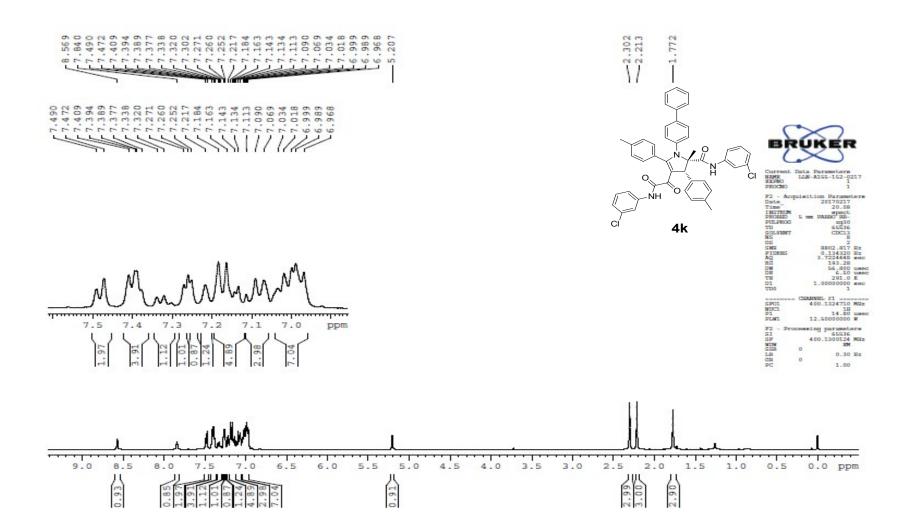


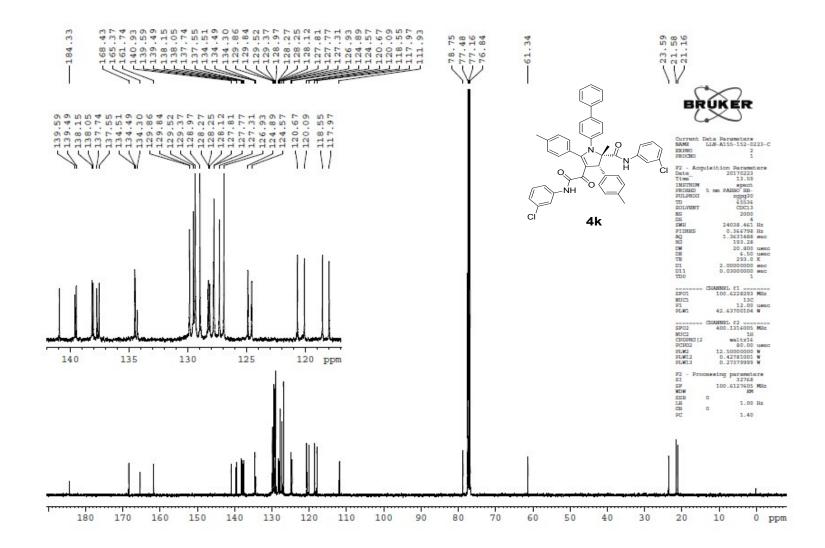












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