

Supporting Information

Synthesis of the Fused Tetracyclic Spiroindoles via Palladium-Catalysed Cascade Cyclisation

Iwata Akira, Shinsuke Inuki, Shinya Oishi, Nobutaka Fujii,* and Hiroaki Ohno*

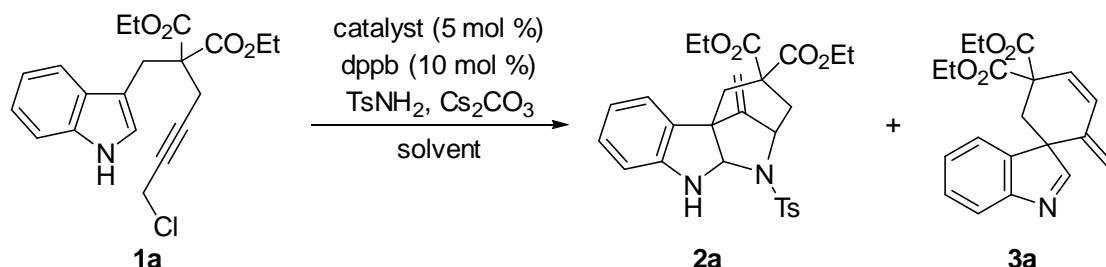
*Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kyoto University, Sakyo-ku,
Kyoto 606-8501, Japan*

E-mail: hohno@pharm.kyoto-u.ac.jp; nfujii@pharm.kyoto-u.ac.jp

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Optimization of Reaction Conditions



entry	catalyst (mol %)	TsNH ₂ (equiv)	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (equiv)	solvent (M)	temp. (°C)	yield (%) ^a	
						2a	3a
1	Pd(dba) ₂ (5)	TsNH ₂ (1)	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2)	THF (0.1)	rt	ca. 72	3
2	Pd(dba) ₂ (5)	TsNH ₂ (1)	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2)	dioxane (0.1)	70	ca. 13	<1
3	Pd(dba) ₂ (5)	TsNH ₂ (1)	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2)	DMF (0.1)	rt	ca. 59	<1
4	Pd(dba) ₂ (5)	TsNH ₂ (1)	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2)	CH ₃ CN (0.1)	40	ca. 54	-
5	Pd(dba) ₂ (2.5)	TsNH ₂ (1)	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2)	THF (0.1)	rt	37	<5
6	Pd ₂ (dba) ₃ ·CHCl ₃ (2.5)	TsNH ₂ (1)	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2)	THF (0.1)	rt	59	7
7	Pd ₂ (dba) ₃ ·CHCl ₃ (2.5)	TsNH ₂ (1.5)	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2)	THF (0.1)	rt	68	4
8	Pd ₂ (dba) ₃ ·CHCl ₃ (2.5)	TsNH ₂ (1.5)	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (1)	THF (0.1)	rt	69	5
9	Pd ₂ (dba) ₃ ·CHCl ₃ (2.5)	TsNH ₂ (1.5)	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (2)	THF (0.067)	rt	72	5
10	Pd ₂ (dba) ₃ ·CHCl ₃ (2.5)	TsNH ₂ (1.5)	Cs ₂ CO ₃ (1)	THF (0.067)	rt	61	9

^a Isolated yields.

Experimental Section

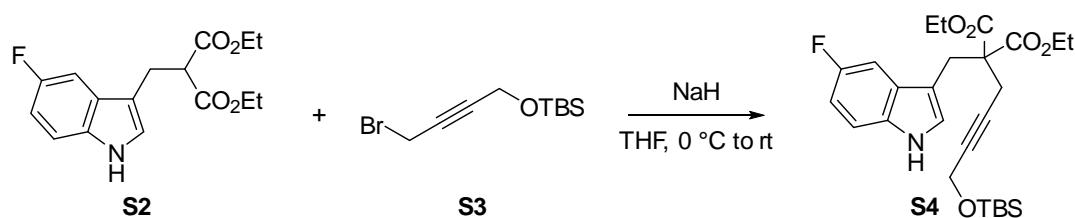
General Methods.

All reactions under argon atmosphere were performed using syringe-septum cap techniques and all glassware was dried in an oven at 80 °C for 2 h prior to use. For flash chromatography, silica gel (Wakosil C-200: Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd) or NH₂ silica gel (Chromatorex NH-DM1020: Fuji Silysia Chemical Ltd.) was employed. Thin layer chromatography was performed on Merck TLC silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ or Wako NH₂ silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ plate (layer thickness 0.25 mm), which were developed using standard visualizing agents: UV fluorescence (254 nm) and anisaldehyde with heating. Melting points were measured by a hot stage melting point apparatus (uncorrected). ¹H NMR spectra were recorded using a JEOL AL-400 or JEOL ECA-500 spectrometer, and chemical shifts are reported in δ (ppm) relative to TMS as internal standard. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded using a JEOL AL-400 or JEOL ECA-500 spectrometer and referenced to the residual solvent signal. ¹H NMR spectra are tabulated as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (b = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), number of protons, and coupling constant(s). Exact mass (HRMS) spectra were recorded on a JMS-HX/HX 110A mass spectrometer. Infrared (IR) spectra were obtained on a JASCO FT/IR-4100 FT-IR spectrometer with JASCO ATR PRO410-S.

Preparation of the Substrates.

The known compounds **S1**,¹ **S6-8**² and **S9**³ were prepared according to the literature procedure.

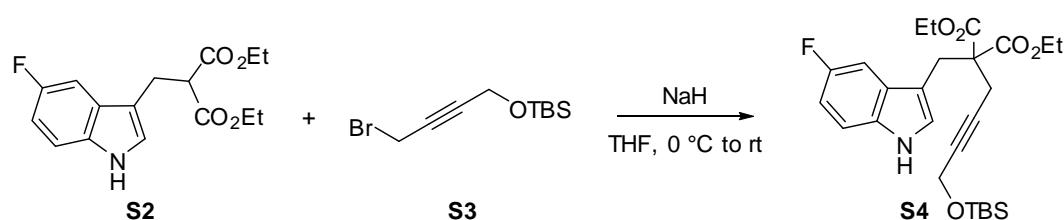
- 1 Jones, D. T.; Artman, G. D.; Williams, R. M. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2007**, *48*, 1291–1294.
- 2 Cera, G.; Crispino, P.; Monari, M.; Bandini, M. *Chem. Commun.* **2011**, *47*, 7803–7805.
- 3 Miyake, Y.; Endo, S.; Moriyama, T.; Sakata, K.; Nishibayashi, Y. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, *52*, 1758–1762.



Diethyl 2-[(5-Fluoro-1*H*-indol-3-yl)methyl]malonate (**S2**).

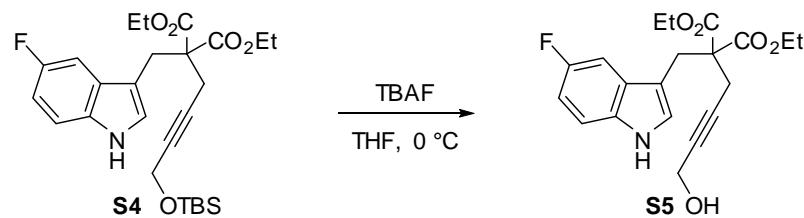
The malonate **S2** was prepared by use of a slight modification of the Williams' procedure.¹ To a stirred mixture of **S1** (1.0 g, 5.20 mmol) and diethyl malonate (736 μL, 4.85 mmol) in Et₂O (2.6 mL) was added dropwise ethylpropiolate (529 μL, 5.20 mmol) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 45 min at this temperature, followed by quenching with H₂O. The whole was extracted with Et₂O. The extract was washed successively with H₂O and brine, and dried over MgSO₄. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give an oily residue, which was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel with *n*-hexane–EtOAc (8:1) to give **S2** as a pale yellow needle (1.27 g, 77% yield): mp 60–61 °C; IR (neat): 3410 (NH), 1726 (C=O); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.21 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 3.33 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 3.72 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 4.12–4.20 (m, 4H), 6.93 (ddd, *J* = 9.2, 9.2, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.23–7.26 (m, 2H), 8.00 (br s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.9 (2C), 24.4, 52.9, 61.4 (2C), 103.5 (d, *J* = 24.0 Hz), 110.4 (d, *J* = 26.4 Hz), 111.8 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 112.3 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz) 124.4,

127.5 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz), 132.6, 157.8 (d, $J = 235$ Hz), 169.2 (2C). *Anal.* Calcd for $C_{16}H_{18}FNO_4$: C, 62.53; H, 5.90; N, 4.56. Found: C, 62.41; H, 5.93; N, 4.50.



Diethyl 2-{4-[(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)oxy]but-2-yn-1-yl}-2-[(5-fluoro-1*H*-indol-3-yl)methyl]malonate (S4**).**

To a solution of **S2** (1.14 g, 3.71 mmol) in THF was added NaH (60% suspension in mineral oil; 297 mg, 7.42 mmol) at 0 °C. The suspension was stirred for 30 min at 0 °C, then **S3** (1.17 g, 4.45) in THF was added dropwise. The reaction was warmed up to room temperature and stirred for 2 h, followed by quenching with H₂O. The whole was extracted with EtOAc. The extract was washed successively with H₂O and brine, and dried over MgSO₄. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give an oily residue, which was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel with *n*-hexane–EtOAc (5:1) to give **S4** as a colorless oil (682 mg, 38%): IR (neat): 3387 (NH), 2332 (C≡C), 1736 (C=O); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.14 (s, 6H), 0.92 (s, 9H), 1.23 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 6H), 2.81 (t, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.51 (s, 2H), 4.10–4.22 (m, 4H), 4.37 (t, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 2H), 6.90 (ddd, $J = 9.0, 9.0, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, $J = 9.0, 4.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.29 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 8.12 (br s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ –5.2 (2C), 13.9 (2C), 18.3, 23.1, 25.8 (3C), 27.3, 51.8, 58.0, 61.6 (2C), 80.2, 82.4, 103.8 (d, $J = 24.0$ Hz), 110.0 (d, $J = 4.8$ Hz), 110.4 (d, $J = 26.4$ Hz), 111.6 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz), 125.3, 128.5 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz), 132.3, 157.9 (d, $J = 234$ Hz), 170.1 (2C). HRMS (FAB) calcd C₂₆H₃₆FNO₅Si: [M⁺], 489.2347; found: [M⁺], 489.2350.

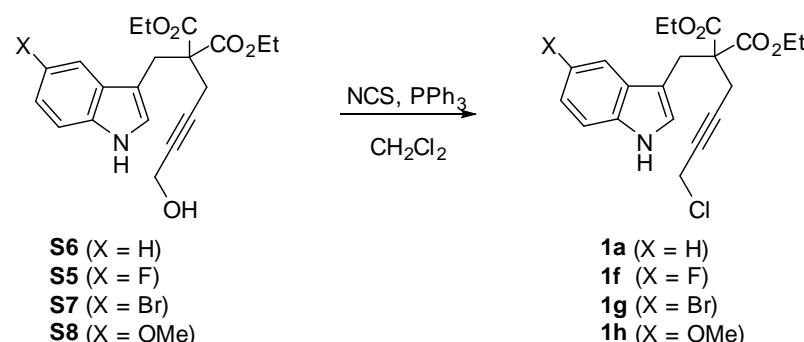


Diethyl 2-[(5-Fluoro-1*H*-indol-3-yl)methyl]-2-(4-hydroxybut-2-yn-1-yl)malonate (S5**).**

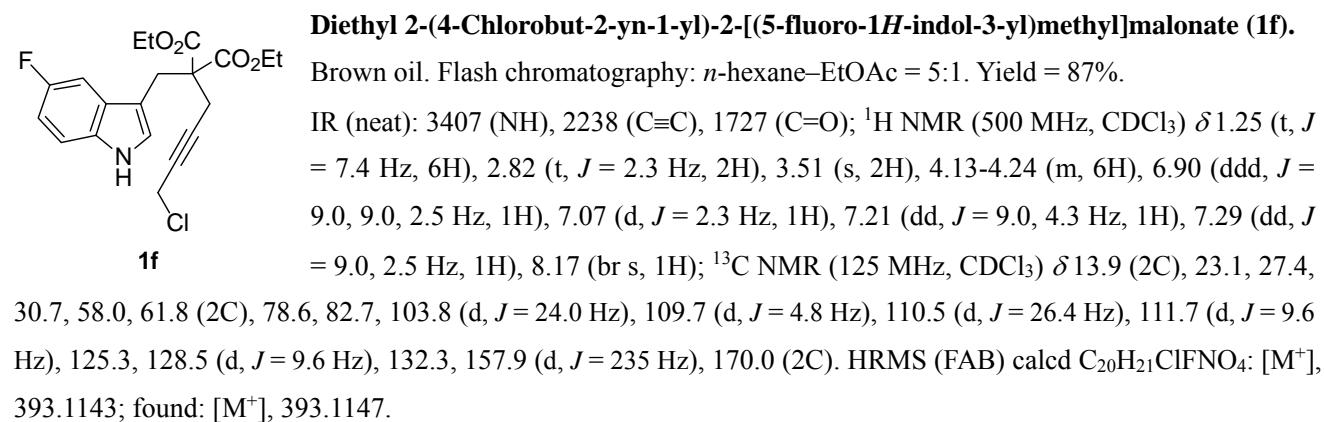
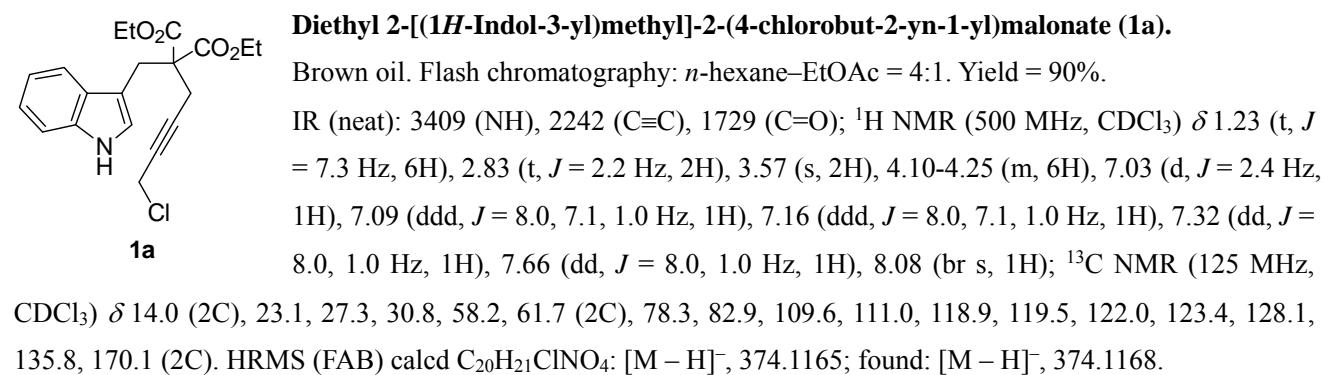
To a stirred solution of **S4** (638 mg, 1.30 mmol) in THF (6.5 mL) was added TBAF (1.00 M solution in THF; 1.43 mL, 1.43 mmol) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred for 1.5 h at this temperature and quenched by addition of saturated NH₄Cl. The whole was extracted with EtOAc. The extract was washed with H₂O and brine, and dried over MgSO₄. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give an oily residue, which was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel with *n*-hexane–EtOAc (3:1) to give **S5** as a pale yellow oil (485 mg, 99% yield): IR (neat): 3410 (NH), 3403 (OH), 2254 (C≡C), 1720 (C=O); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.24 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 6H), 1.97 (s, 1H), 2.80 (s, 2H), 3.51 (s, 2H), 4.11–4.25 (m, 4H), 4.31 (s, 2H), 6.90 (ddd, $J = 8.9, 8.9, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, $J = 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, $J = 8.9, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.29 (dd, $J = 10.0, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 8.19 (br s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.9 (2C), 23.1, 27.3, 51.2, 58.0, 61.7 (2C), 81.4, 82.2, 103.7 (d, $J = 23.0$ Hz), 109.7 (d,

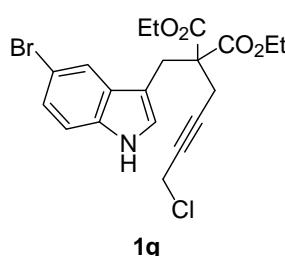
$J = 4.8$ Hz), 110.4 (d, $J = 25.9$ Hz), 111.7 (d, $J = 10.5$ Hz), 125.4, 128.5 (d, $J = 11.5$ Hz), 132.3, 157.9 (d, $J = 235$ Hz), 170.2 (2C). HRMS (FAB) calcd C₂₀H₂₂FNO₅: [M⁺], 375.1482; found: [M⁺], 375.1478.

General procedure for the synthesis of propargyl chloride **1a and **1f-h**.**



To a stirred mixture of a propargyl alcohol (1.0 equiv) and PPh₃ (1.5 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ was added NCS (1.2 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 1.5–3 h at this temperature and quenched by addition of H₂O. The whole was extracted with EtOAc. The extract was washed with H₂O, brine and dried over MgSO₄. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give an oily residue, which was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel to give the corresponding propargyl chloride.



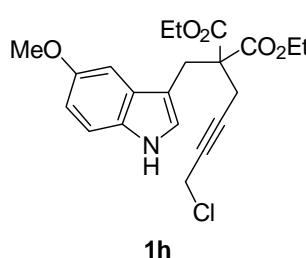


Diethyl 2-[(5-Bromo-1H-indol-3-yl)methyl]-2-(4-chlorobut-2-yn-1-yl)malonate (1g).

Brown oil. Flash chromatography: *n*-hexane–EtOAc = 4:1. Yield = 73%.

IR (neat): 3384 (NH), 2238 (C≡C), 1727 (C=O); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.27 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 2.80 (t, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 2H), 3.52 (s, 2H), 4.15–4.25 (m, 6H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (br s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.0 (2C), 23.1, 27.2, 30.7, 57.8,

61.9 (2C), 78.7, 82.6, 109.3, 112.5, 112.9, 121.5, 124.8, 124.9, 129.7, 134.4, 169.9 (2C). HRMS (FAB) calcd C₂₀H₂₁BrClNO₄: [M⁺], 453.0342; found: [M⁺], 453.0345.

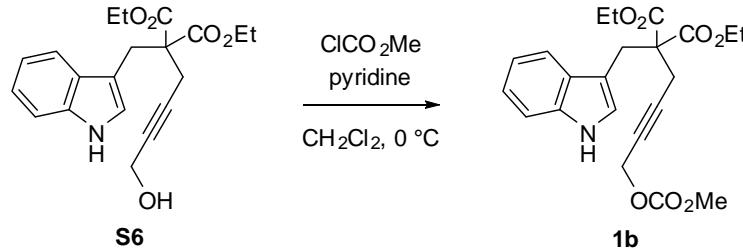


Diethyl 2-(4-Chlorobut-2-yn-1-yl)-2-[(5-methoxy-1H-indol-3-yl)methyl]malonate (1h).

Brown oil. Flash chromatography: *n*-hexane–EtOAc = 4:1. Yield = 70%.

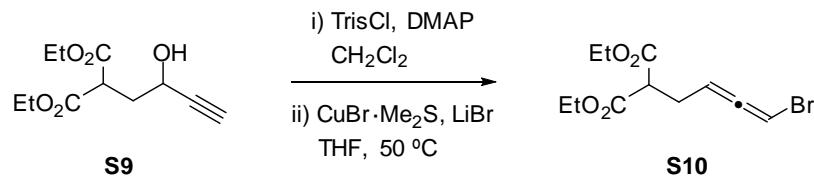
IR (neat): 3417 (NH), 2239 (C≡C), 1732 (C=O); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 2.85 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 3.53 (s, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 4.14–4.24 (m, 6H), 6.83 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H),

7.20 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (br s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.0 (2C), 23.1, 27.4, 30.7, 55.9, 58.5, 61.7 (2C), 78.3, 83.1, 100.5, 109.4, 111.8, 112.6, 124.1, 128.6, 131.0, 154.2, 170.0 (2C). HRMS (FAB) calcd C₂₁H₂₄ClNO₅: [M⁺], 405.1343; found: [M⁺], 405.1345.



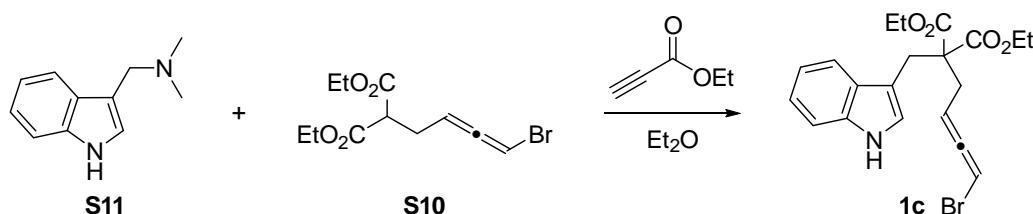
Diethyl 2-[(1*H*-Indol-3-yl)methyl]-2-{4-[(methoxycarbonyl)oxy]but-2-yn-1-yl}malonate (1b).

To a stirred mixture of **S6** (50 mg, 0.135 mmol), pyridine (33 μ L, 0.41 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (675 μ L) was added ClCO₂Me (14 μ L, 0.20 mmol) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred for 30 min at this temperature and quenched by addition of saturated NH₄Cl. The whole was extracted with Et₂O. The extract was washed with H₂O, 1N HCl, brine and dried over MgSO₄. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give an oily residue, which was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel with *n*-hexane–EtOAc (4:1) to give **1b** as a brown oil (47.5 mg, 82% yield): IR (neat): 3407 (NH), 2252 (C≡C), 1731 (C=O); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.22 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 2.82 (t, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 2H), 3.56 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 4.10–4.23 (m, 4H), 4.78 (t, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (br s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.9 (2C), 23.0, 27.3, 55.1, 55.9, 58.1, 61.6 (2C), 77.3, 83.7, 109.5, 110.0, 118.8, 119.4, 122.0, 123.5, 128.1, 135.8, 155.2, 170.0 (2C). HRMS (FAB) calcd C₂₂H₂₅NO₇: [M – H][–], 414.1558; found: [M – H][–], 414.1564.



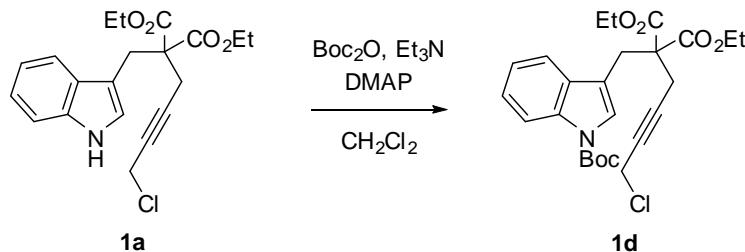
Diethyl 2-(4-Bromobuta-2,3-dien-1-yl)malonate (S10)

To a stirred mixture of **S9** (410 mg, 1.8 mmol) and TrisCl (1.36 g, 4.5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (41 mL) was added DMAP (770 mg, 6.3 mmol) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 3 h at this temperature. Concentration of the mixture under reduced pressure followed by rapid filtration through a short pad of silica gel with Et_2O to give a crude sulfonate, which was used without further purification. $\text{CuBr}\cdot\text{Me}_2\text{S}$ (1.10 g, 5.4 mmol) and LiBr (465 mg, 0.373 mmol) was dissolved in THF (18 mL) at room temperature under argon, and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at this temperature. To this mixture was added a solution of the above crude sulfonate in THF (26 mL) at room temperature. The mixture was allowed to warm to 50°C and stirred at this temperature for 1.5 h, which was quenched by addition of saturated NH_4Cl and 28% NH_4OH . The whole was extracted with EtOAc . The extract was washed with H_2O and brine and dried over MgSO_4 . The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give an oily residue, which was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel with *n*-hexane– EtOAc (30:1) to give **S10** as a colorless oil (330 mg, 63% yield): IR (neat): 1958 (C=C=C), 1732 (C=O); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.26–1.31 (m, 6H), 2.73–2.78 (m, 2H), 3.52 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.18–4.27 (m, 4H), 5.45 (dd, $J = 12.6, 5.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.00 (ddd, $J = 5.7, 2.4, 2.4$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.0 (2C), 21.2, 50.8, 61.7 (2C), 73.7, 97.3, 168.4, 168.5, 202.3; HRMS (FAB) calcd $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{16}\text{BrNO}_4$: $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$, 291.0232; found: $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$, 291.0227.



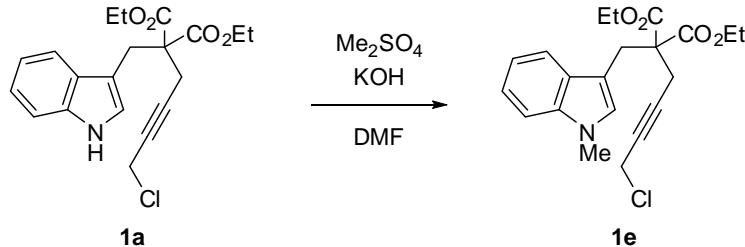
Diethyl 2-(4-Bromobuta-2,3-dien-1-yl)-2-[(1*H*-indol-3-yl)methyl]malonate (1c).

To a stirred mixture of **S11** (286 mg, 1.13 mmol) and **S10** (306 mg, 1.05 mmol) in Et_2O (1.1 mL) was added dropwise ethylpropiolate (115 μL , 1.13 mmol) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 5 h at this temperature, followed by quenching with H_2O . The whole was extracted with EtOAc . The extract was washed successively with H_2O and brine, and dried over MgSO_4 . The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give an oily residue, which was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel with *n*-hexane– EtOAc (8:1 to 5:1) to give **1c** as a brown oil (285 mg, 64% yield): IR (neat): 3393 (NH), 1957 (C=C=C), 1720 (C=O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.18–1.24 (m, 6H), 2.75–2.77 (m, 2H), 3.42–3.52 (m, 2H), 4.10–4.22 (m, 4H), 5.34–5.41 (m, 1H), 5.92–5.97 (m, 1H), 7.03 (d, $J = 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd, $J = 8.0, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, $J = 8.0, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.05 (br s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.9 (2C), 28.0, 31.9, 58.6, 61.5 (2C), 72.4, 95.7, 109.5, 111.1, 118.7, 119.4, 121.9, 123.4, 128.0, 135.7, 170.7 (2C), 203.6. HRMS (FAB) calcd $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{BrNO}_4$: $[\text{M}^+]$, 419.0732; found: $[\text{M}^+]$, 419.0724.



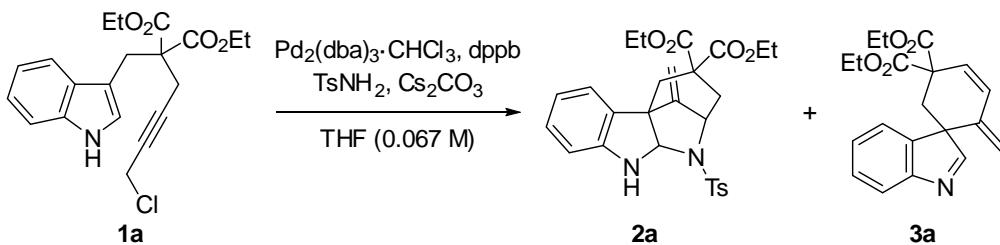
Diethyl 2-[(1-*tert*-Butoxycarbonyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl]methyl]-2-(4-chlorobut-2-yn-1-yl)malonate (1d**).**

To a stirred mixture of **1a** (100 mg, 0.27 mmol), DMAP (3.2 mg, 0.027 mmol) and Et_3N (46 μL , 0.32 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (2.6 mL) was added Boc_2O (70 mg, 0.32 mmol) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 30 min at this temperature and quenched by addition of H_2O . The whole was extracted with EtOAc . The extract was washed with H_2O , brine and dried over MgSO_4 . The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give an oily residue, which was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel with *n*-hexane– EtOAc (10:1) to give **1d** as a colorless oil (91.0 mg, 72% yield): IR (neat): 1733 (C=O); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.26 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 6H), 1.66 (s, 9H), 2.83 (t, J = 2.2 Hz, 2H), 3.49 (s, 2H), 4.14–4.25 (m, 6H), 7.22 (ddd, J = 7.6, 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (ddd, J = 7.6, 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.63 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.05–8.14 (br m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.0 (2C), 23.2, 26.9, 28.2 (3C), 30.7, 57.9, 61.9 (2C), 78.7, 82.6, 83.7, 114.4, 115.2, 119.1, 122.5, 124.4, 124.9, 131.0, 135.1, 149.6, 169.7 (2C). HRMS (FAB) calcd $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{30}\text{ClNO}_6$: [M $^+$], 475.1762; found: [M $^+$], 475.1758.



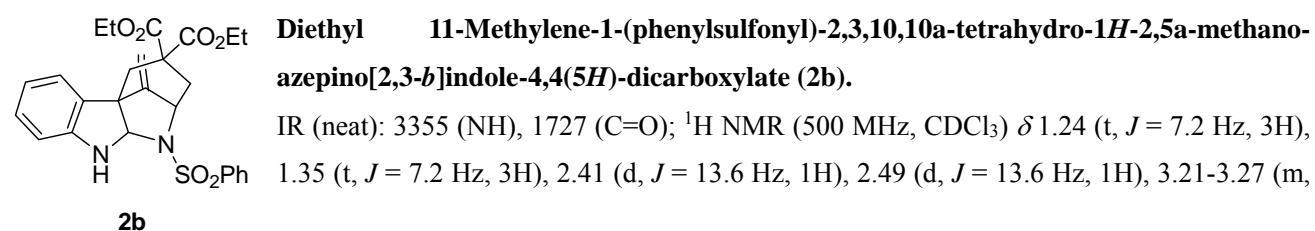
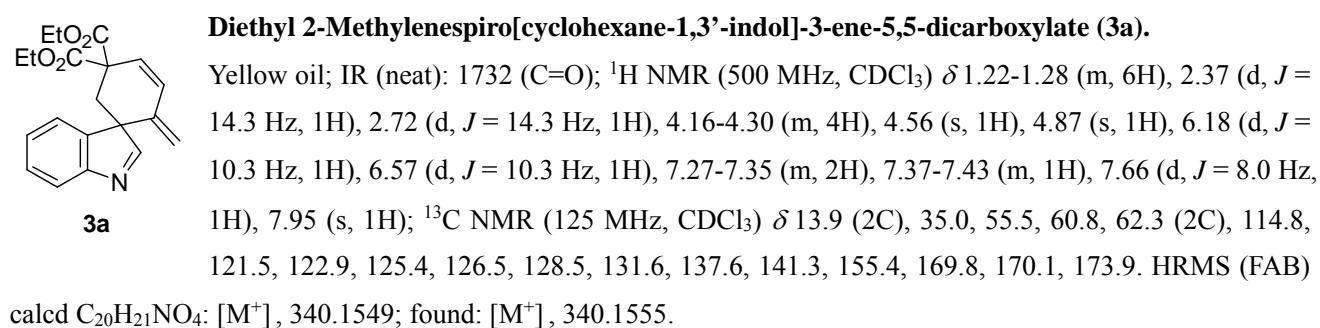
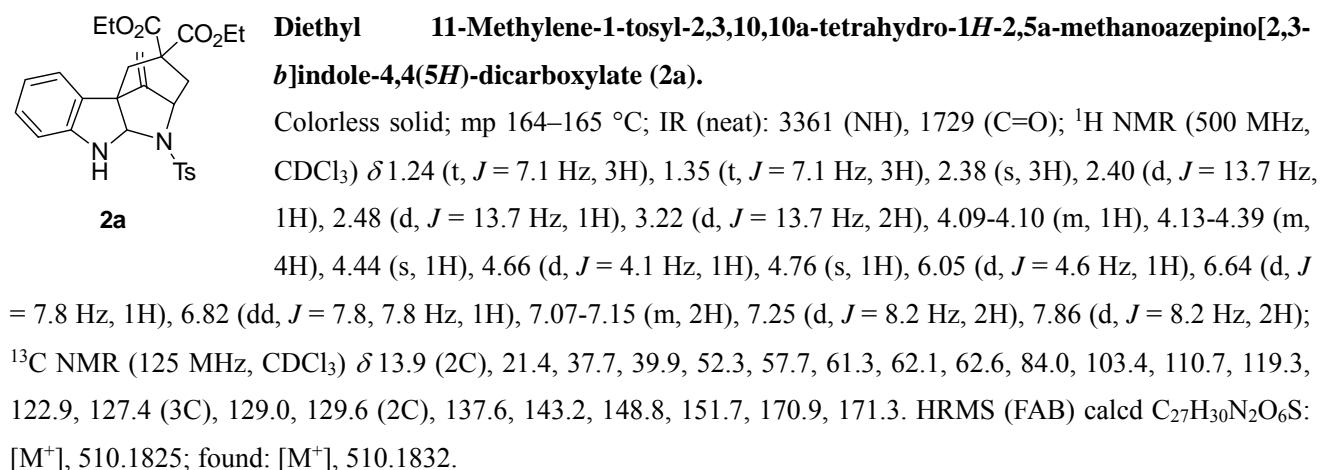
Diethyl 2-(4-Chlorobut-2-yn-1-yl)-2-[(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)methyl]malonate (1e**).**

To a stirred mixture of **1a** (183 mg, 0.49 mmol) and KOH (64 mg, 0.97 mmol) in DMF (4.8 mL) was added Me_2SO_4 (92 μL , 0.32 mmol) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 3.5 h at this temperature and quenched by addition of H_2O . The whole was extracted with EtOAc . The extract was washed with H_2O , brine and dried over MgSO_4 . The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give an oily residue, which was purified by flash chromatography over silica gel with *n*-hexane– EtOAc (6:1) to give **1e** as a pale yellow oil (100 mg, 53% yield): IR (neat): 2252 (C≡C), 1735 (C=O); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.24 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 2.83 (t, J = 2.3 Hz, 2H), 3.54 (s, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 4.11–4.24 (m, 6H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 7.08 (ddd, J = 7.6, 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (ddd, J = 7.6, 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.23–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.0 (2C), 23.1, 27.3, 30.8, 32.7, 58.2, 61.6 (2C), 78.2, 83.0, 107.8, 109.1, 118.9 (2C), 121.5, 128.1, 128.6, 136.6, 169.7 (2C). HRMS (FAB) calcd $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{24}\text{ClNO}_4$: [M $^+$], 389.1394; found: [M $^+$], 389.1390.

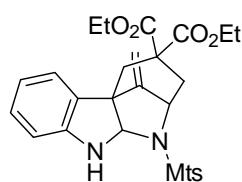


General Procedure for the Palladium-Catalyzed Cascade Cyclization of Propargyl Chlorides.

To a stirred mixture of **1a** (30 mg, 0.080 mmol) and TsNH₂ (20.5 mg, 0.16 mmol) were added Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (2.1 mg, 3.9 μmol, 2.5 mol %), dppf (3.4 mg, 8.0 μmol, 10 mol %), and Cs₂CO₃ (52 mg, 0.16 mmol) at room temperature under argon. The mixture was stirred for 3 h at this temperature, and H₂O was added to the mixture. The whole was extracted with EtOAc. The extract was washed with H₂O, brine and dried over MgSO₄. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to give an oily residue, which was purified by flash chromatography over NH₂ silica gel with *n*-hexane–EtOAc (8:1) to give **2a** (29.3 mg, 72% yield) and **3a** (1.4 mg, 5.2% yield).

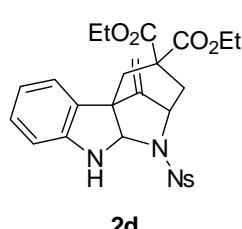


2H), 4.10-4.12 (m, 1H), 4.13-4.40 (m, 4H), 4.46 (s, 1H), 4.67 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.77 (s, 1H), 6.07 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.83 (dd, $J = 7.7, 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, $J = 7.7, 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.55 (m, 3H), 7.99 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.9 (2C), 37.7, 39.9, 52.3, 57.7, 61.3, 62.1, 62.6, 84.0, 103.6, 110.8, 119.4, 122.9, 127.3 (2C), 127.4, 128.9 (2C), 129.0, 132.5, 140.5, 148.8, 151.6, 170.9, 171.2. HRMS (FAB) calcd $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{S}$: [M $^+$], 496.1668; found: [M $^+$], 496.1668.



Diethyl 1-(Mesitylsulfonyl)-11-methylene-2,3,10a-tetrahydro-1*H*-2,5a-methanoazepino[2,3-*b*]indole-4,4(5*H*)-dicarboxylate (2c).

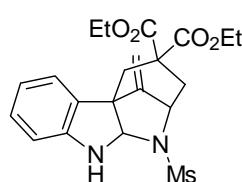
IR (neat): 3377 (NH), 1728 (C=O); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.22-1.28 (m, 6H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.38 (d, $J = 14.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.64 (s, 6H), 2.73 (dd, $J = 13.7, 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.08 (dd, $J = 14.5, 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.21 (d, $J = 13.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.02 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.10-4.33 (m, 4H), 4.37 (t, $J = 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.52 (s, 1H), 4.92 (s, 1H), 5.98 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.76 (dd, $J = 8.0, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.95 (s, 2H), 7.03-7.09 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.7, 13.9, 21.0, 23.1 (2C), 38.6, 39.4, 51.5, 58.0, 62.0, 62.3, 62.4, 82.8, 103.7, 109.9, 118.6, 122.8, 126.8, 128.9, 132.0 (2C), 133.9, 140.2 (2C), 142.6, 148.9, 151.4, 170.9, 171.5. HRMS (FAB) calcd $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{S}$: [M $^+$], 538.2138; found: [M $^+$], 538.2142.



Diethyl 11-Methylene-1-[(2-nitrophenyl)sulfonyl]-2,3,10a-tetrahydro-1*H*-2,5a-methanoazepino[2,3-*b*]indole-4,4(5*H*)-dicarboxylate (2d).

The reaction was performed for 2 h at 60 °C.

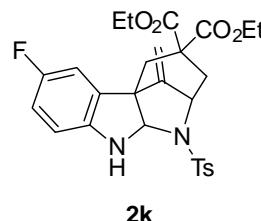
IR (neat): 3372 (NH), 1728 (C=O); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.24 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.31 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.46-2.51 (m, 2H), 3.23-3.32 (m, 2H), 4.10-4.40 (m, 5H), 4.57 (s, 1H), 4.66 (d, $J = 4.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.95 (s, 1H), 6.07 (d, $J = 4.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.63 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.86 (dd, $J = 7.4, 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.12-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.59-7.71 (m, 3H), 8.18 (dd, $J = 7.4, 1.7$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.8, 14.0, 37.8, 39.9, 52.3, 57.9, 62.3, 62.6, 62.8, 84.0, 104.3, 111.0, 119.8, 123.0, 124.4, 127.3, 129.1, 129.5, 132.1, 133.1, 134.6, 148.5, 148.9, 151.5, 170.8, 171.1. HRMS (FAB) calcd $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_3\text{O}_8\text{S}$: [M $^+$], 541.1519; found: [M $^+$], 541.1511.



Diethyl 11-Methylene-1-(methylsulfonyl)-2,3,10a-tetrahydro-1*H*-2,5a-methanoazepino[2,3-*b*]indole-4,4(5*H*)-dicarboxylate (2e).

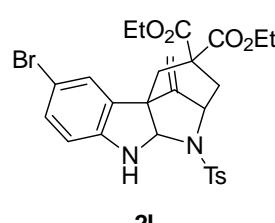
The reaction was performed for 24 h at 60 °C.

IR (neat): 3345 (NH), 1728 (C=O); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.24 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.33 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.43-2.48 (m, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 3.20-3.26 (m, 2H), 4.11-4.33 (m, 4H), 4.35-4.37 (m, 1H), 4.50 (s, 1H), 4.55 (d, $J = 4.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.96 (s, 1H), 5.78 (d, $J = 4.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.87 (dd, $J = 7.4, 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.17 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.9, 14.0, 37.5, 40.5, 40.6, 52.6, 58.2, 61.8, 62.2, 62.6, 84.0, 103.4, 111.2, 119.8, 122.9, 127.8, 129.1, 148.6, 152.1, 170.7, 171.2. HRMS (FAB) calcd $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{S}$: [M $^+$], 434.1512; found: [M $^+$], 434.1512.



Diethyl 7-Fluoro-11-methylene-1-tosyl-2,3,10,10a-tetrahydro-1*H*-2,5a-methanoazepino[2,3-*b*]indole-4,4(5*H*)-dicarboxylate (2k**).**

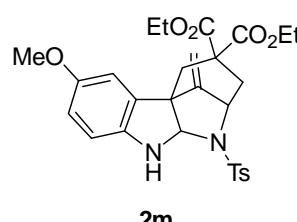
IR (neat): 3345 (NH), 1730 (C=O); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 3H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 3H), 2.32 (d, *J* = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.48 (d, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 3.20-3.23 (m, 2H), 4.09-4.11 (m, 1H), 4.13-4.41 (m, 4H), 4.46 (s, 1H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 6.07 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 6.80-6.86 (m, 2H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.8, 14.0, 21.5, 37.6, 39.9, 52.2, 57.7, 61.2, 62.2, 62.7, 84.4, 103.6, 110.6 (d, *J* = 22.8 Hz), 111.2 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 115.1 (d, *J* = 25.2 Hz), 127.4 (2C), 128.9 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz), 129.6 (2C), 137.5, 143.3, 144.7, 151.3, 157.1 (d, *J* = 243.5 Hz), 170.9, 171.11. HRMS (FAB) calcd C₂₇H₂₉FN₂O₆S: [M⁺], 528.1730; found: [M⁺], 528.1724.



Diethyl 7-Bromo-11-methylene-1-tosyl-2,3,10,10a-tetrahydro-1*H*-2,5a-methanoazepino[2,3-*b*]indole-4,4(5*H*)-dicarboxylate (2l**).**

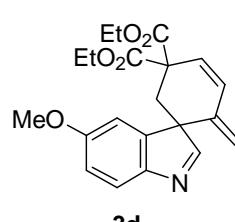
The reaction was performed for 3 h at 60 °C.

IR (neat): 3364 (NH), 1730 (C=O); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.32 (d, *J* = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.48 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 3.17-3.23 (m, 2H), 4.10 (s, 1H), 4.12-4.38 (m, 4H), 4.49 (s, 1H), 4.65 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 6.06 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.8, 14.0, 21.5, 37.5, 39.8, 52.2, 57.6, 61.2, 62.2, 62.6, 84.1, 103.7, 111.0, 119.3, 126.0, 127.3 (2C), 129.0, 129.6 (2C), 129.7, 137.4, 143.3, 147.9, 151.1, 170.8, 171.0. HRMS (FAB) calcd C₂₇H₂₉BrN₂O₆S: [M⁺], 588.0930; found: [M⁺], 588.0926.



Diethyl 7-Methoxy-11-methylene-1-tosyl-2,3,10,10a-tetrahydro-1*H*-2,5a-methanoazepino[2,3-*b*]indole-4,4(5*H*)-dicarboxylate (2m**).**

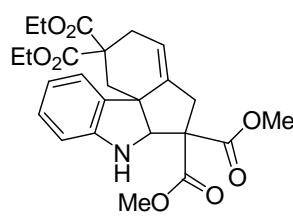
IR (neat): 3352 (NH), 1731 (C=O); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 2.35 (d, *J* = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.46 (dd, *J* = 14.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.20-3.26 (m, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 4.08-4.11 (m, 1H), 4.13-4.39 (m, 4H), 4.44 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 4.47 (s, 1H), 4.77 (s, 1H), 6.03 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.67-6.71 (m, 2H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.9, 14.0, 21.5, 37.7, 40.0, 52.3, 56.0, 57.9, 61.3, 62.1, 62.6, 84.3, 103.4, 110.1, 111.2, 113.6, 127.4 (2C), 128.8, 129.6 (2C), 137.6, 142.4, 143.1, 151.6, 153.7, 170.9, 171.3. HRMS (FAB) calcd C₂₈H₃₂N₂O₇S: [M⁺], 540.1930; found: [M⁺], 540.1935.



Diethyl 5'-Methoxy-2-methylenespiro[cyclohexane-1,3'-indol]-3-ene-5,5-dicarboxylate (3d**).**

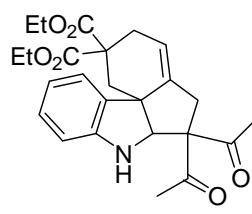
IR (neat): 1732 (C=O); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.22-1.30 (m, 6H), 2.38 (d, *J* = 14.3 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (d, *J* = 14.3 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.19-4.27 (m, 4H), 4.58 (s, 1H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 6.17 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd,

$J = 8.6, 2.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.9 (2C), 25.8, 35.2, 55.5, 55.7, 60.9, 62.3, 109.1, 113.6, 114.9, 121.9, 125.3, 131.6, 137.8, 143.0, 149.0, 158.9, 169.8, 170.1, 171.9. HRMS (FAB) calcd $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_5$: $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$, 370.1654; found: $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$, 370.1653.



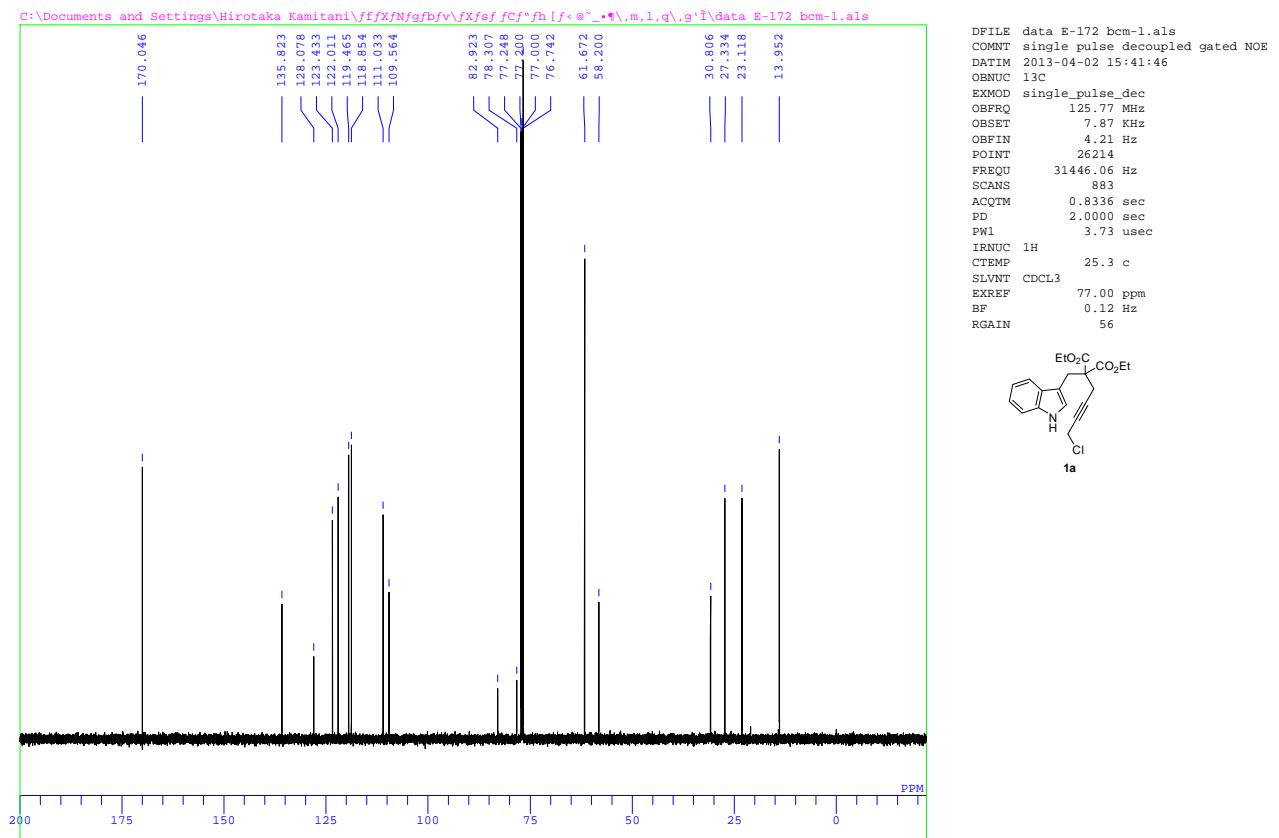
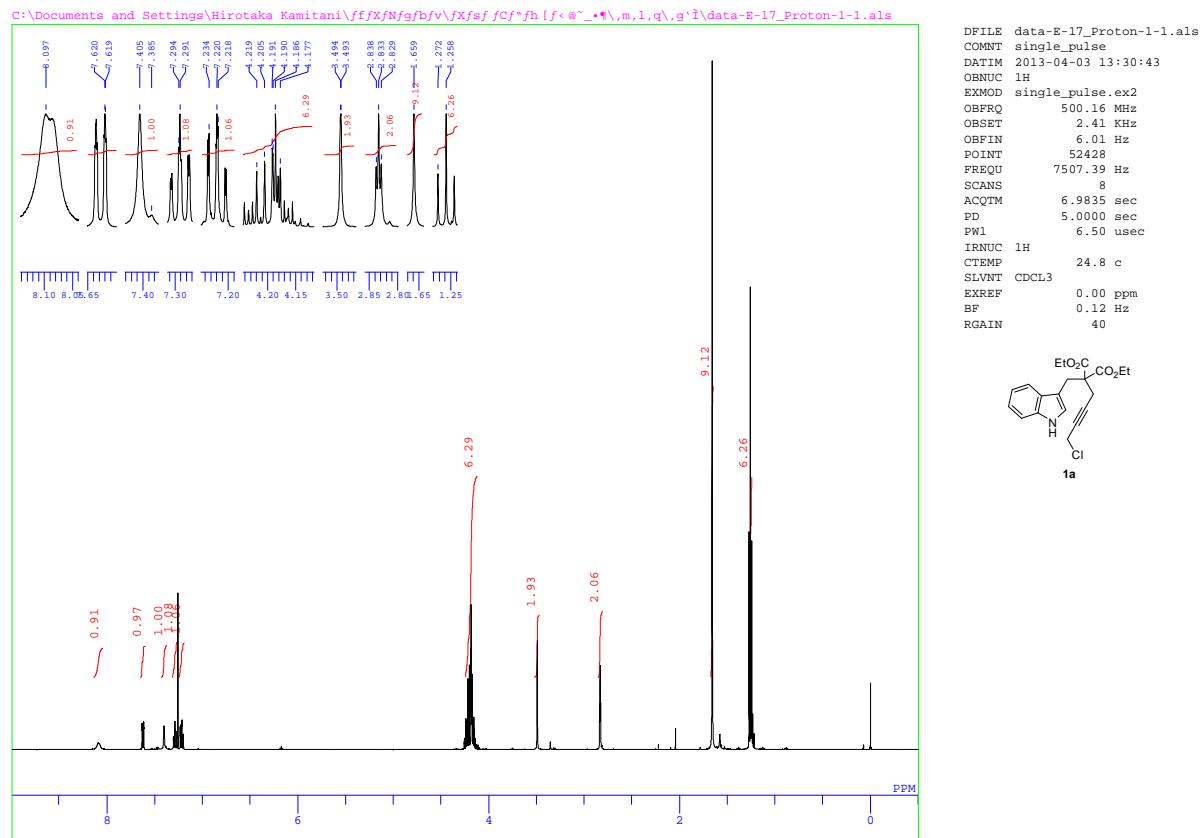
2,2-Dimethyl 6,6-Dimethyl 3,5,6a,7-Tetrahydro-1*H*-indeno[1,7*a*-*b*]indole-2,2,6,6-tetracarboxylate (4a).

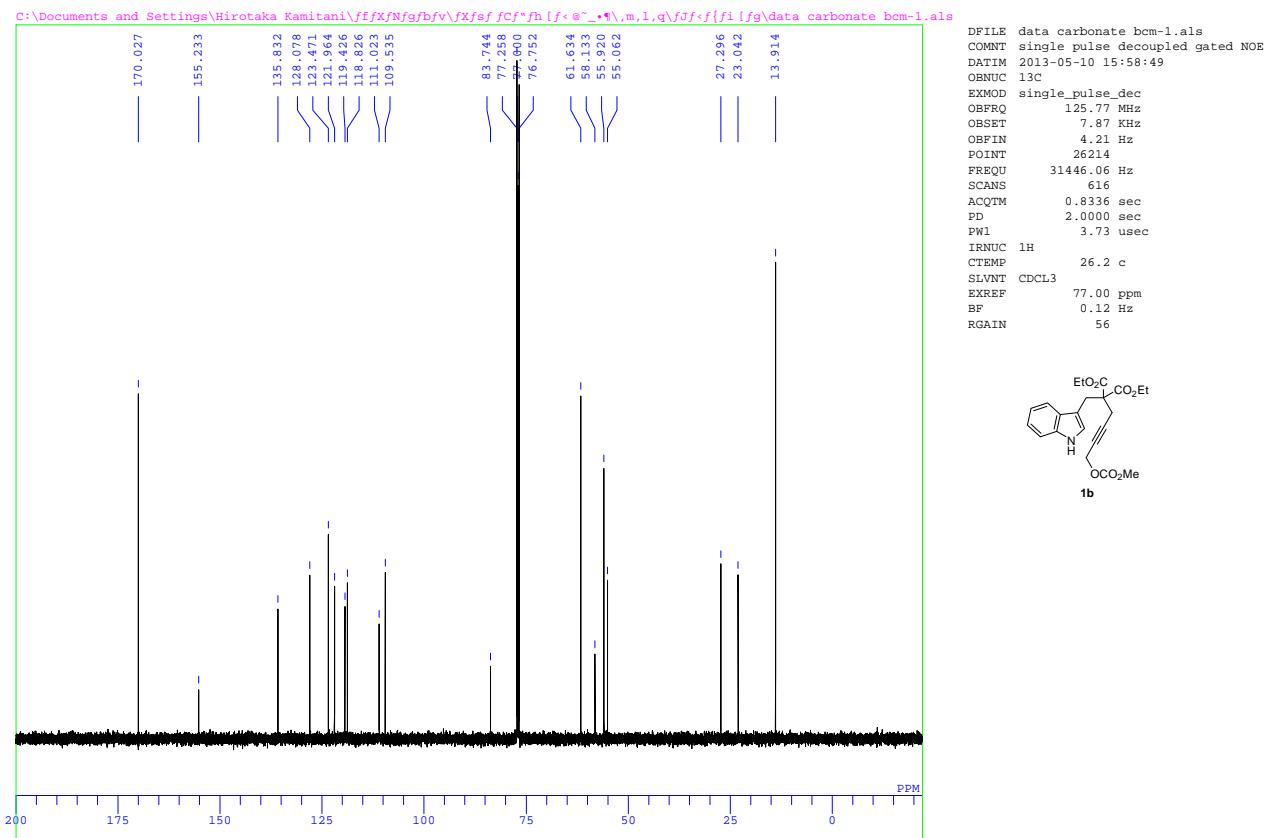
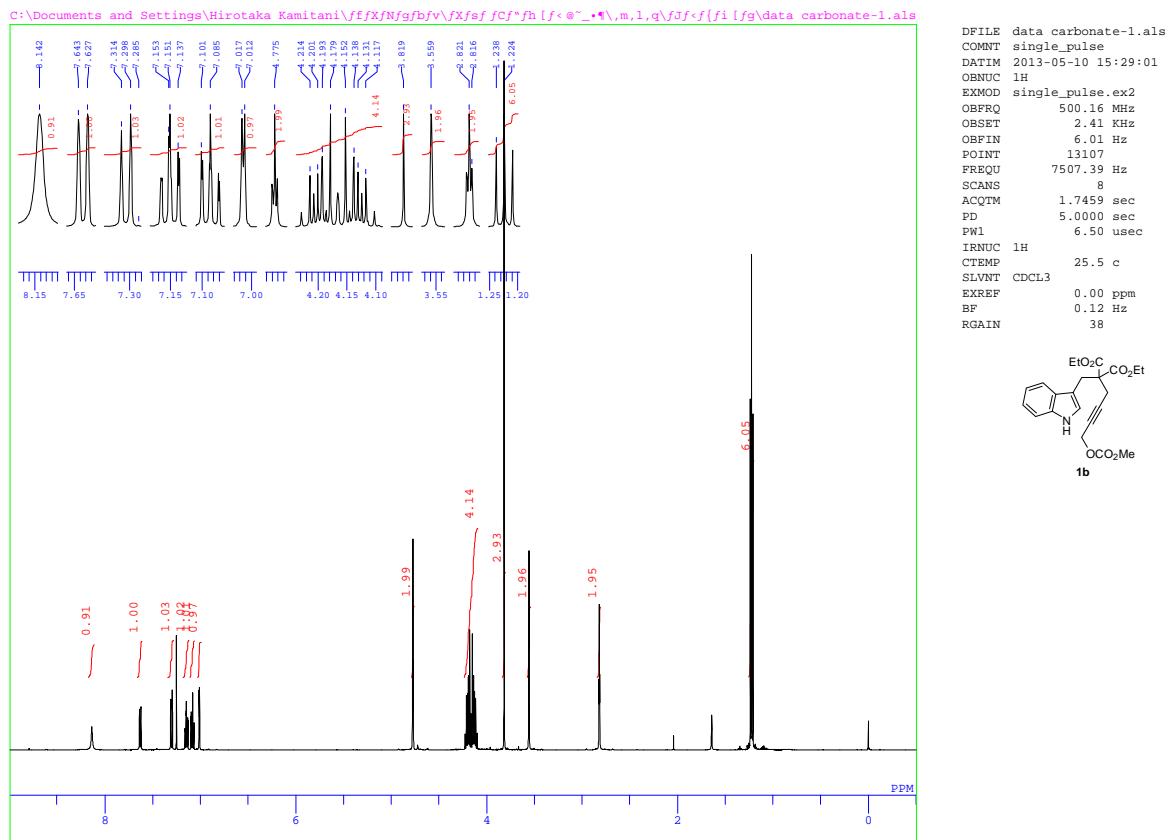
IR (neat): 1735 (C=O); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.13 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.23-1.28 (m, 3H), 2.53 (d, $J = 14.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.66-2.90 (m, 5H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 4.00-4.34 (m, 5H), 4.76 (s, 1H), 5.70-5.76 (m, 1H), 6.53 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dd, $J = 8.0, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.99 (dd, $J = 8.0, 8.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.8, 13.9, 29.6, 29.7, 38.6, 39.9, 52.6, 52.9, 53.9, 54.7, 61.5, 65.6., 74.2, 109.4, 118.0, 119.4, 123.6, 128.2, 135.0, 140.9, 149.6, 169.3, 170.6, 171.0, 171.8. HRMS (FAB) calcd $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_8$: $[\text{M}^+]$, 471.1893; found: $[\text{M}^+]$, 471.1901.

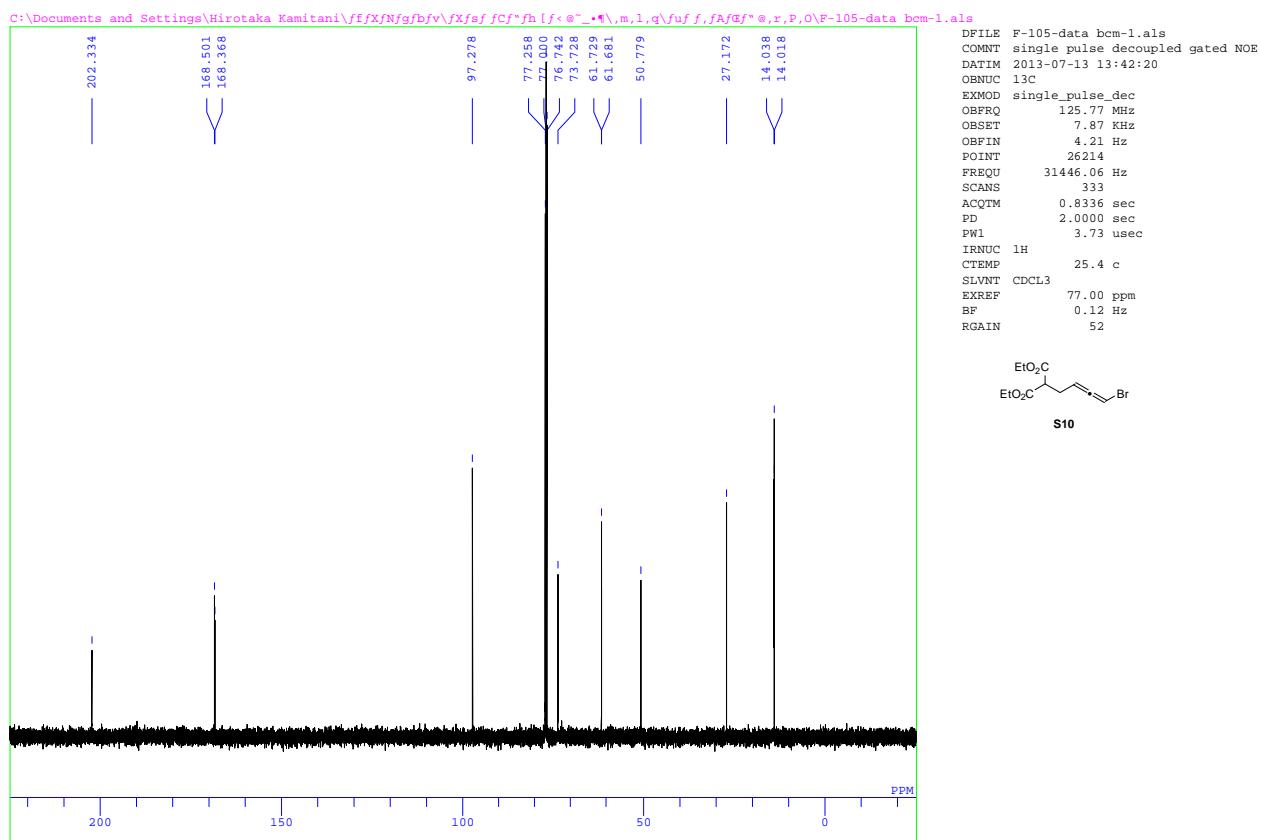
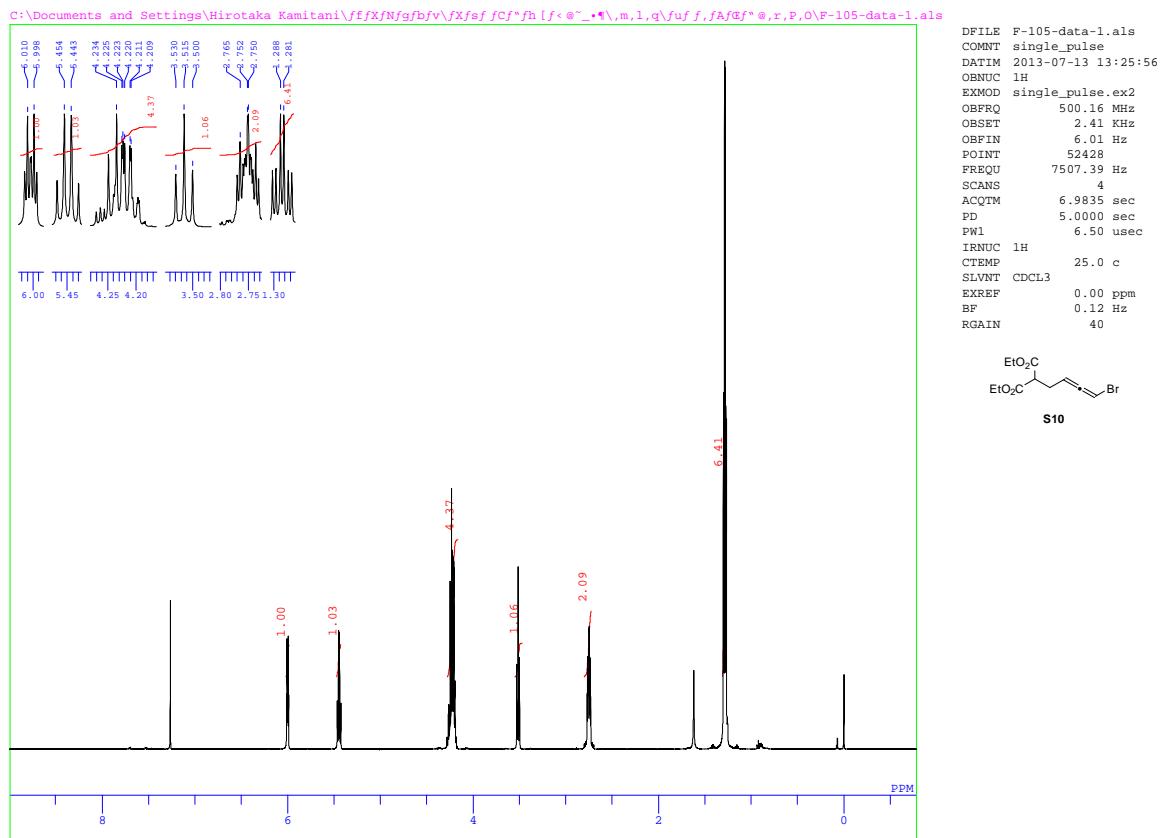


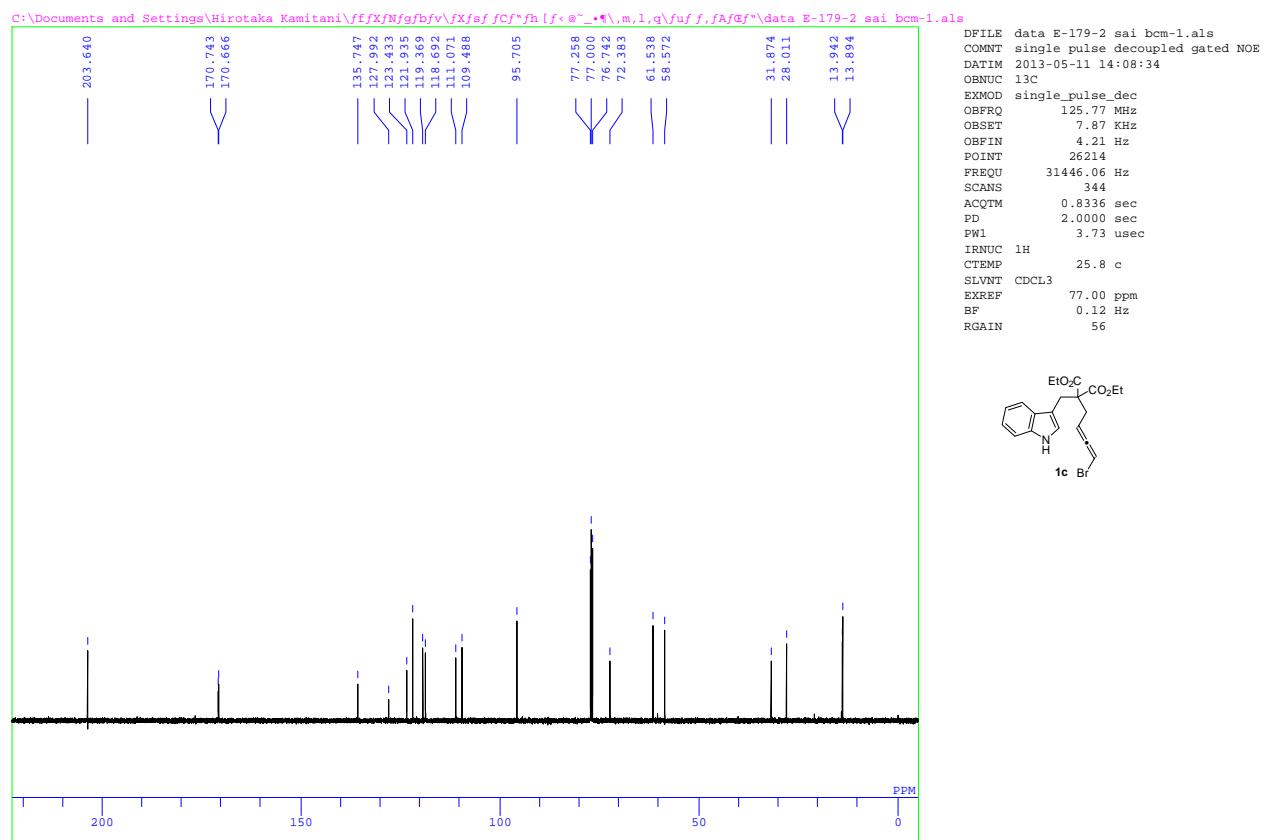
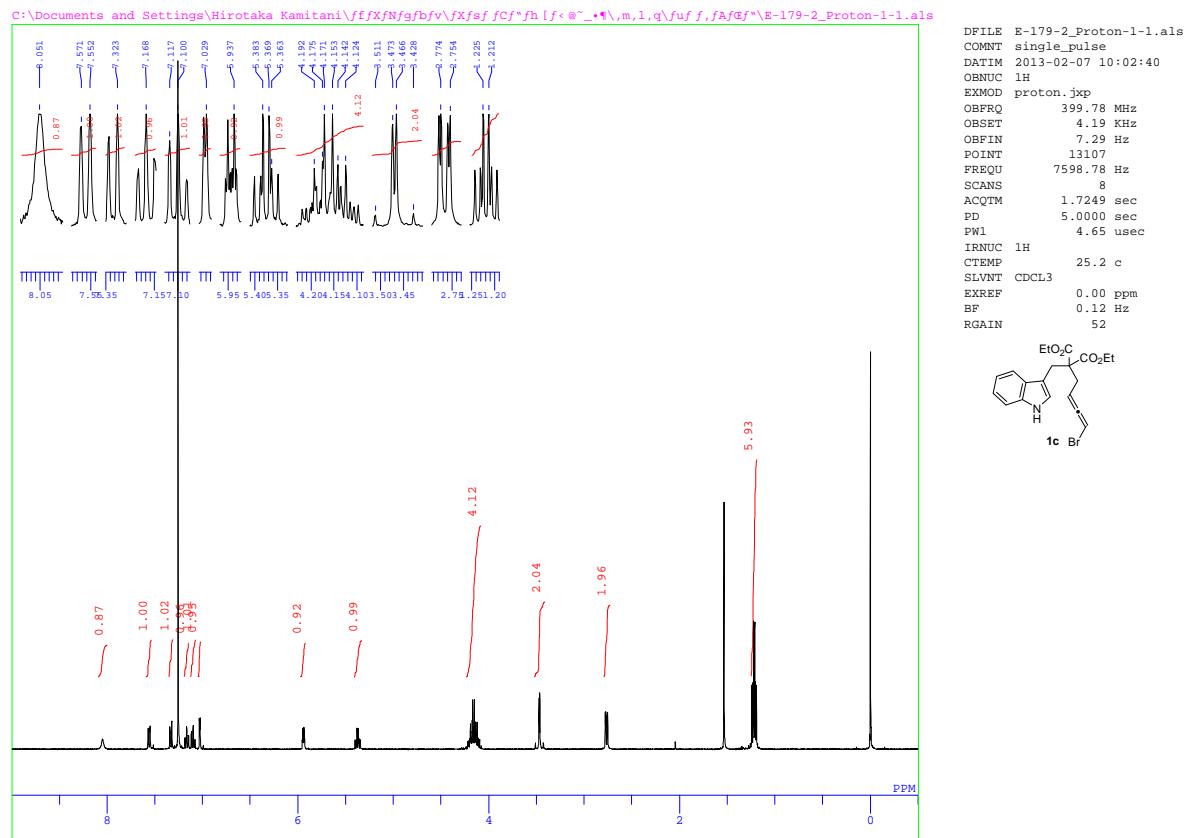
Diethyl 6,6-Diacetyl 5,6,6a,7-tetrahydro-1*H*-indeno[1,7*a*-*b*]indole-2,2(3*H*)-dicarboxylate (4b).

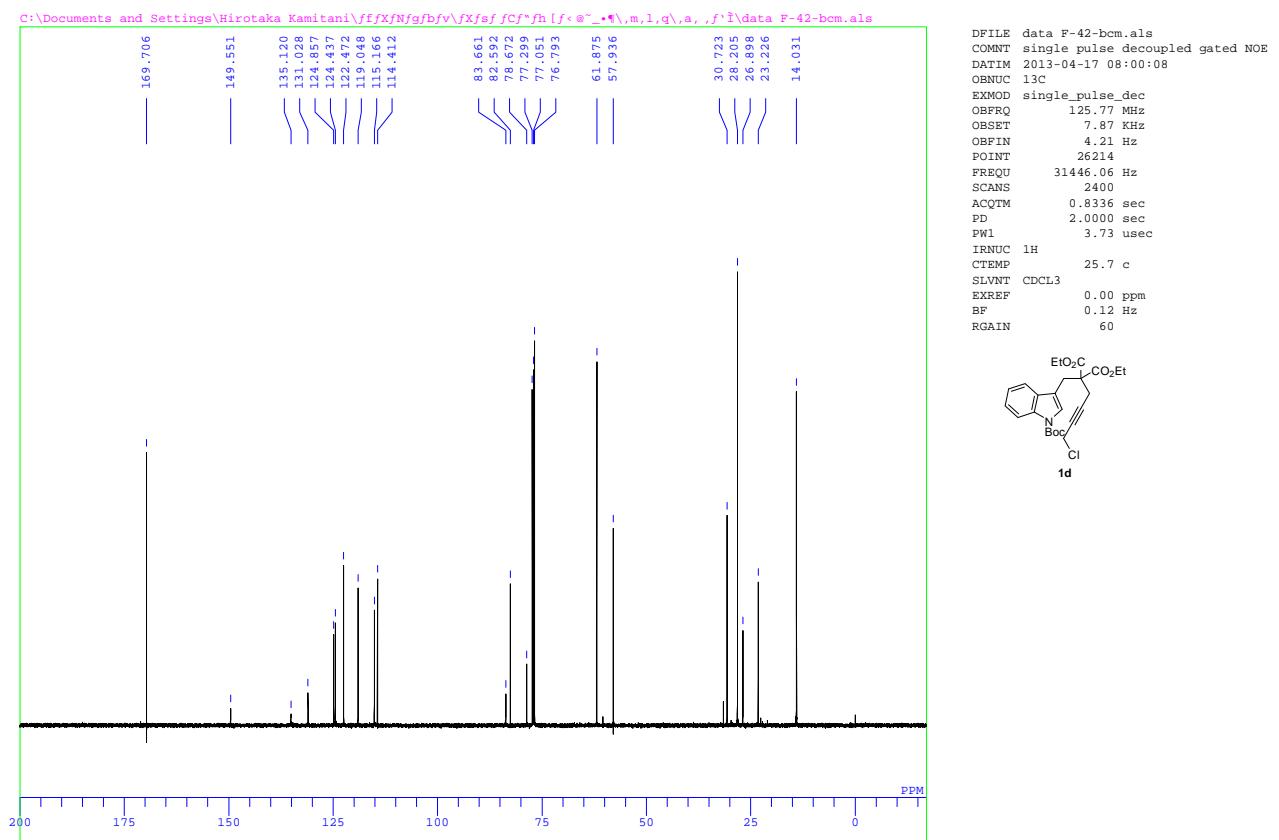
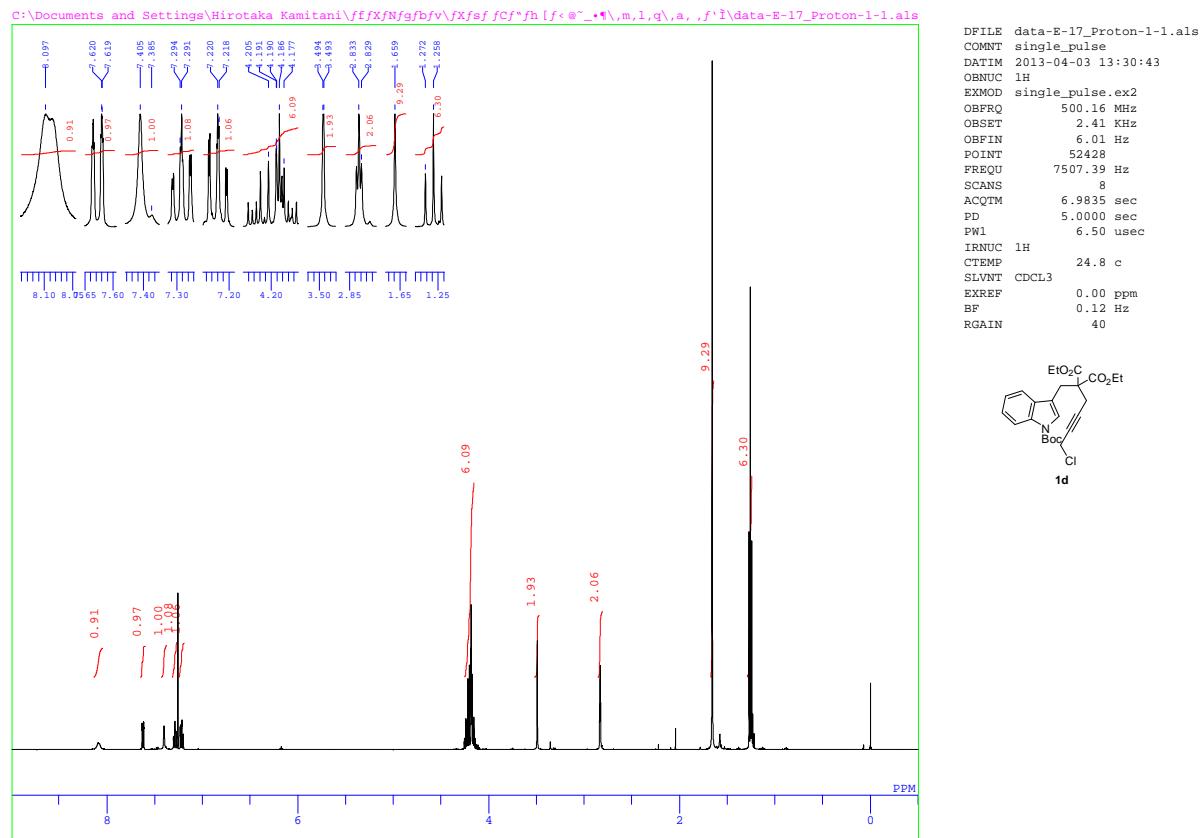
IR (neat): 3406 (NH), 1728 (C=O); ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.15 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H), 1.25 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 2.37 (d, $J = 14.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.64-2.73 (m, 3H), 2.84-2.91 (m, 2H), 4.04-4.20 (m, 4H), 4.43 (br s, 1H), 4.83 (s, 1H), 5.70-5.75 (m, 1H), 6.55 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.70 (dd, $J = 8.0, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd, $J = 8.0, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.00 (ddd, $J = 8.0, 8.0, 1.1$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.8, 13.9, 26.3, 28.8, 29.5, 36.3, 40.4, 54.2, 55.0, 61.6 (2C), 73.3., 79.5, 110.2, 117.6, 119.8, 123.4, 128.3, 136.0, 141.1, 149.4, 170.8, 171.7, 203.1, 204.8. HRMS (FAB) calcd $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_6$: $[\text{M}^+]$, 439.1995; found: $[\text{M}^+]$, 439.2000.

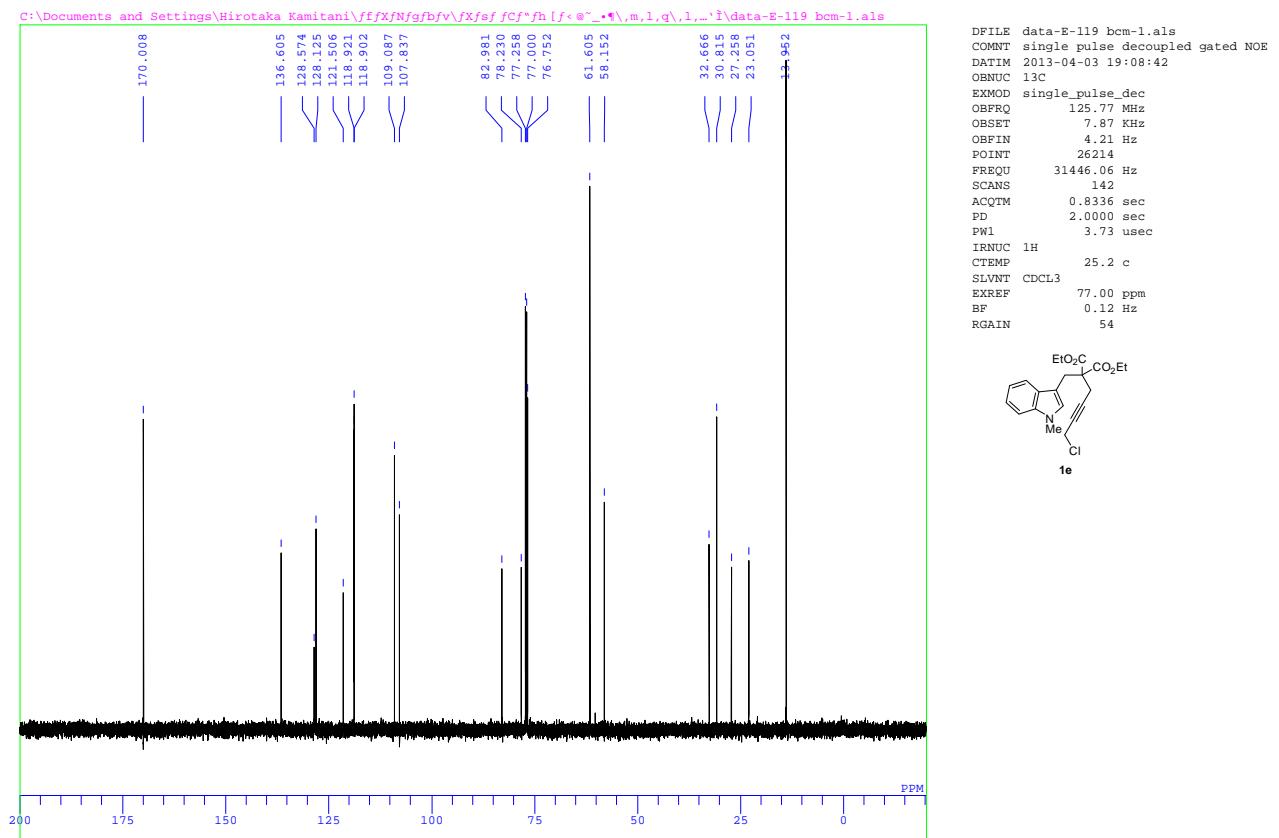
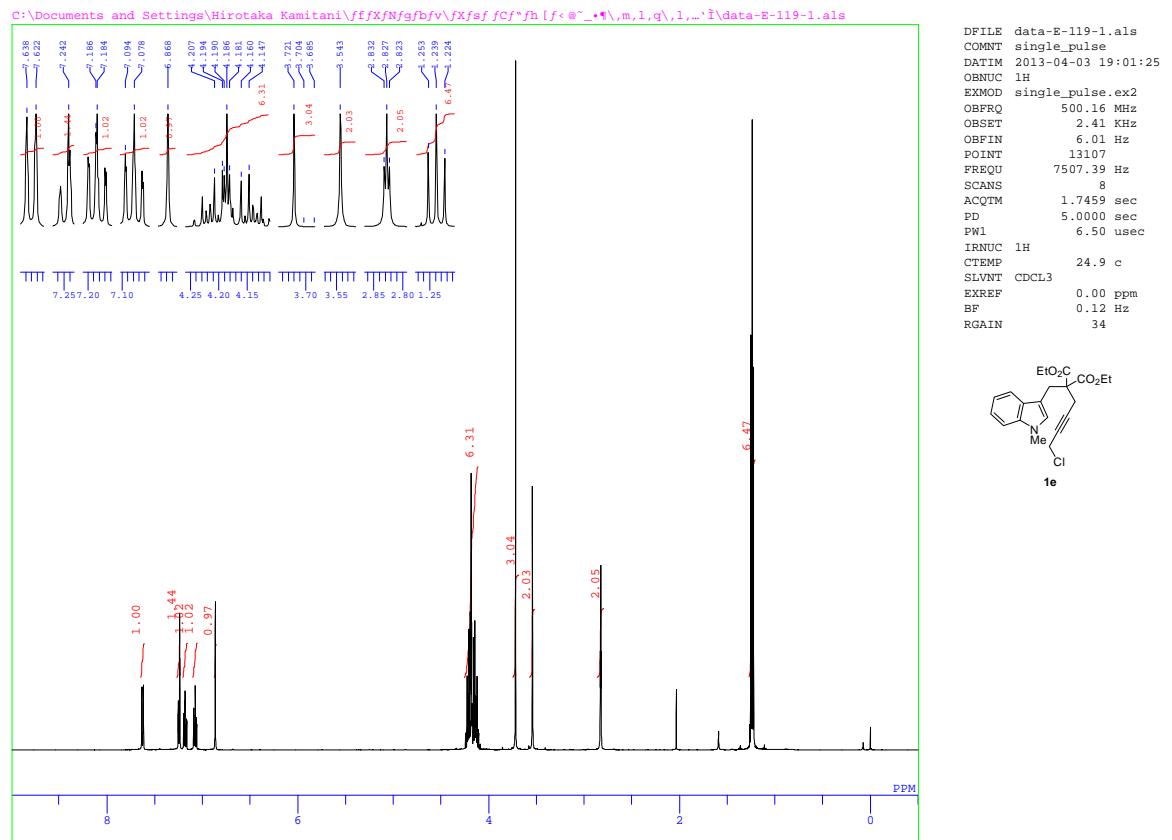


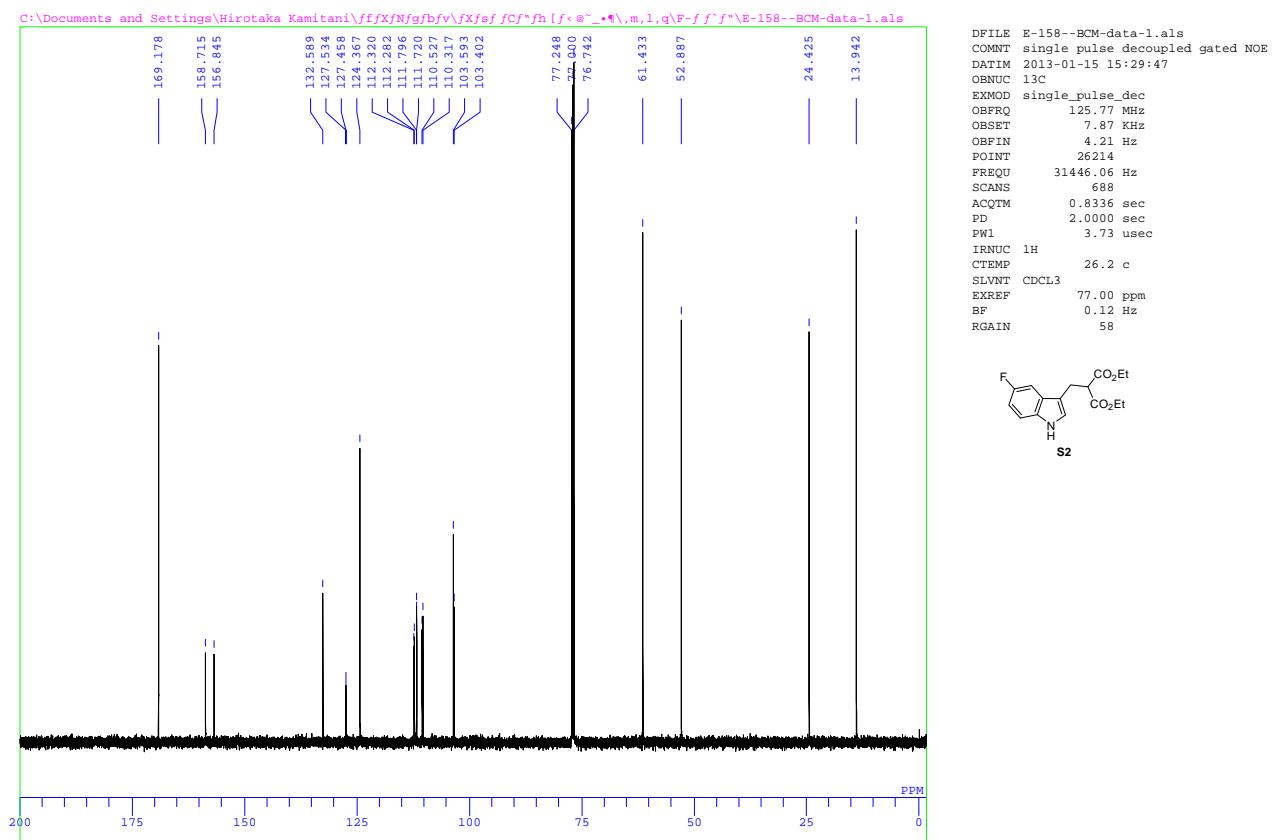
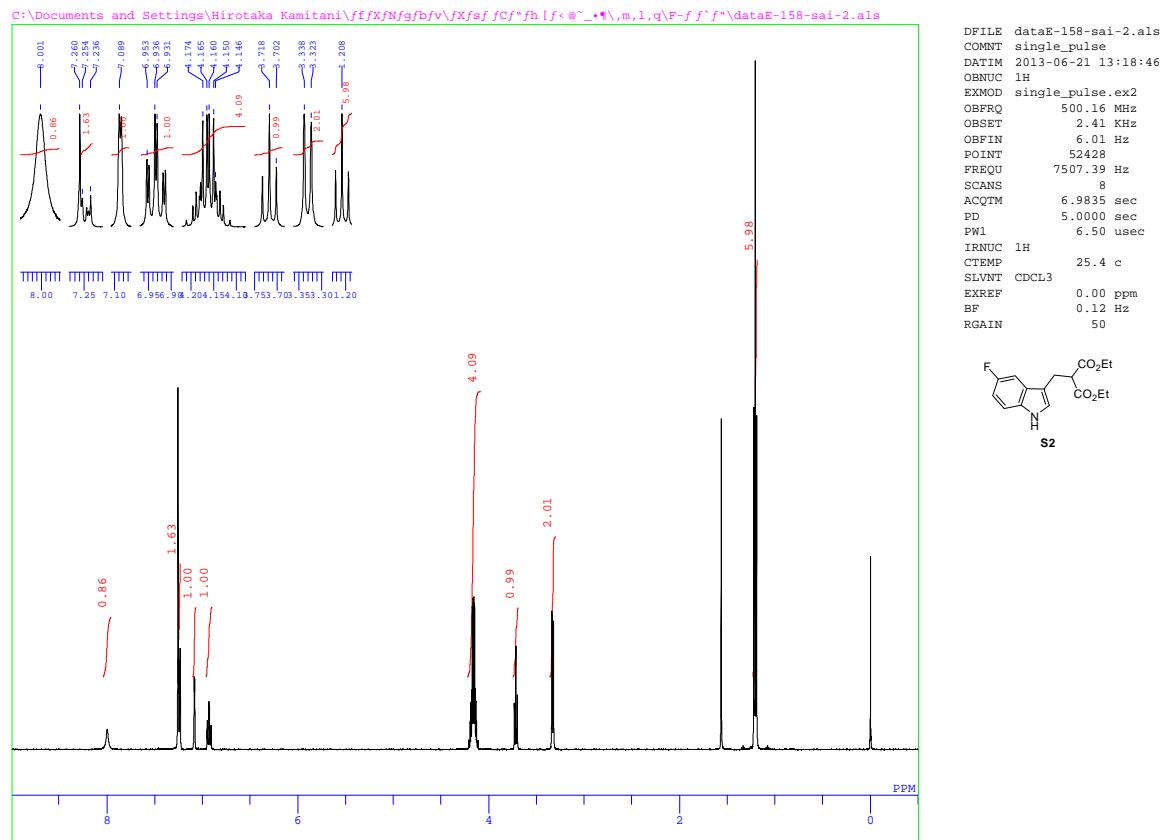


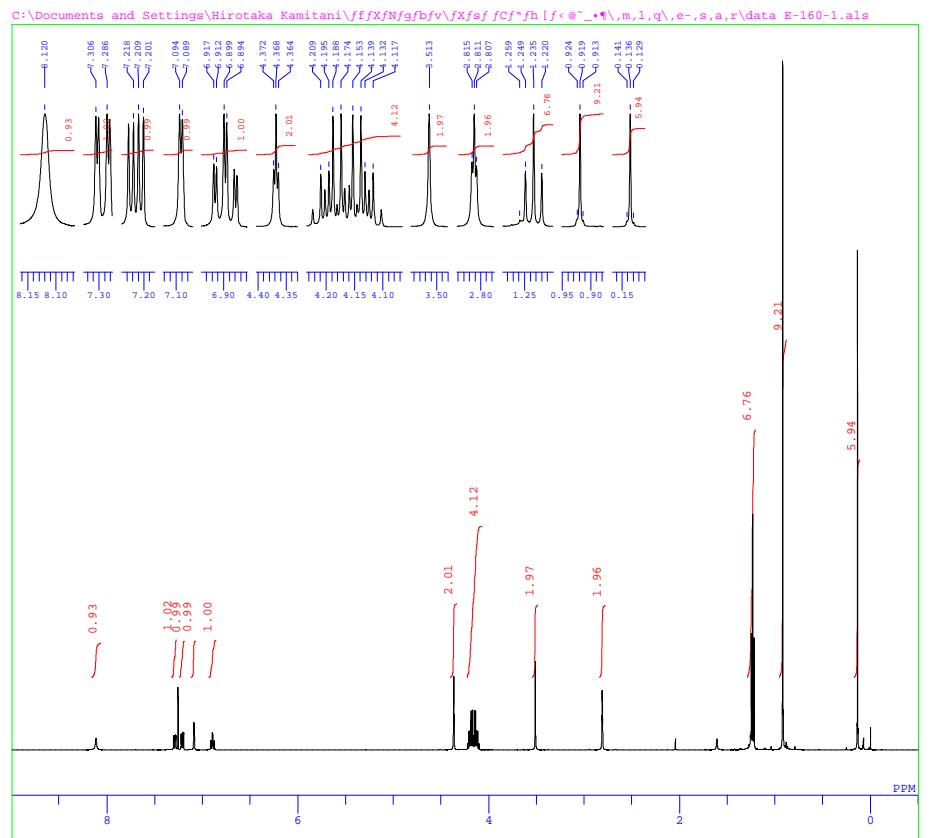










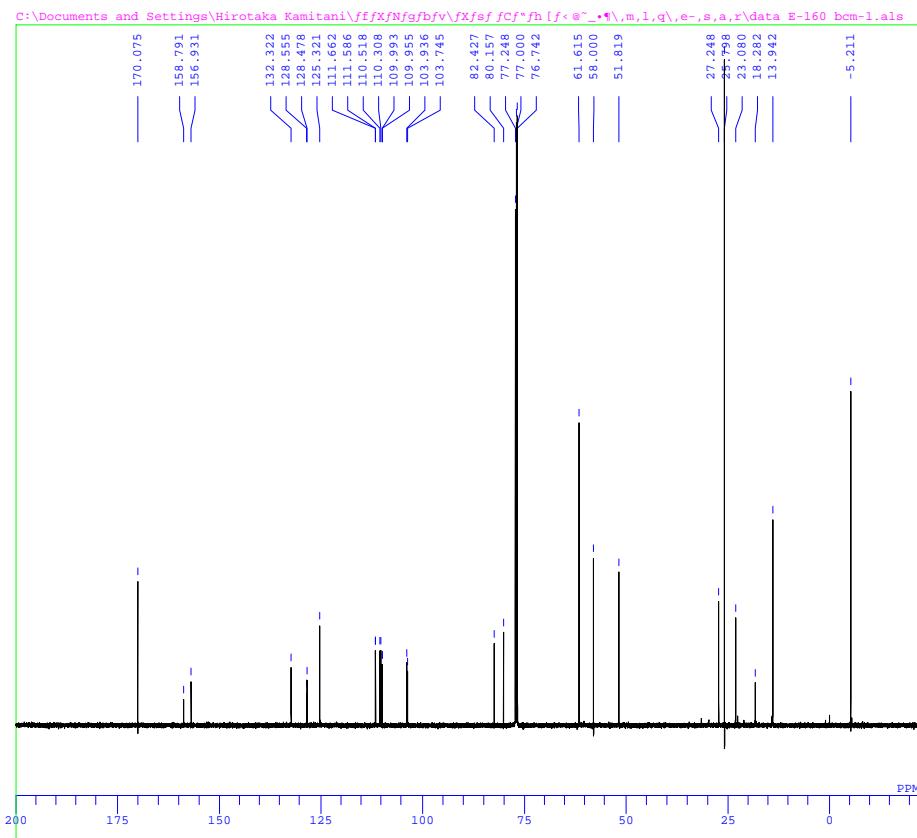
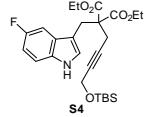


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DFILE data E-160-1.als
COMNT single_pulse
DATIM 2013-04-04 23:52:33
OBNUC 1H
EXMOD single_pulse.ex2
OBFRQ 500.16 MHz
OBSET 2.41 KHz
OBFIN 6.01 Hz
POINT 52428
FREQU 7507.39 Hz
SCANS 8
ACQTIM 6.9835 sec
PD 5.0000 sec
PW1 6.50 usec

IRNUC 1H
CTEMP 25.3 c
SLVNT CDCL3
EXREF 0.00 ppm
BF 0.12 Hz
RGAIN 38

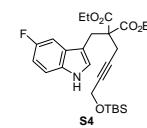
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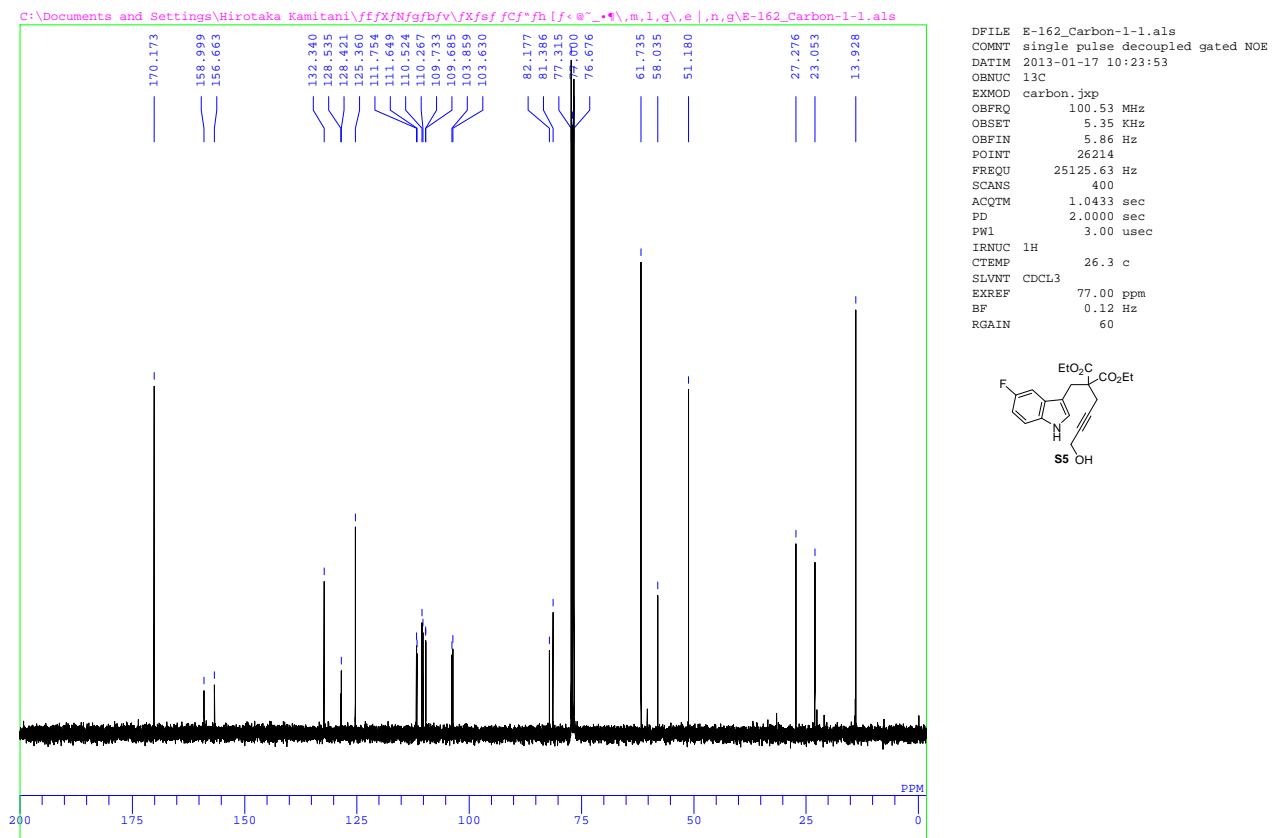
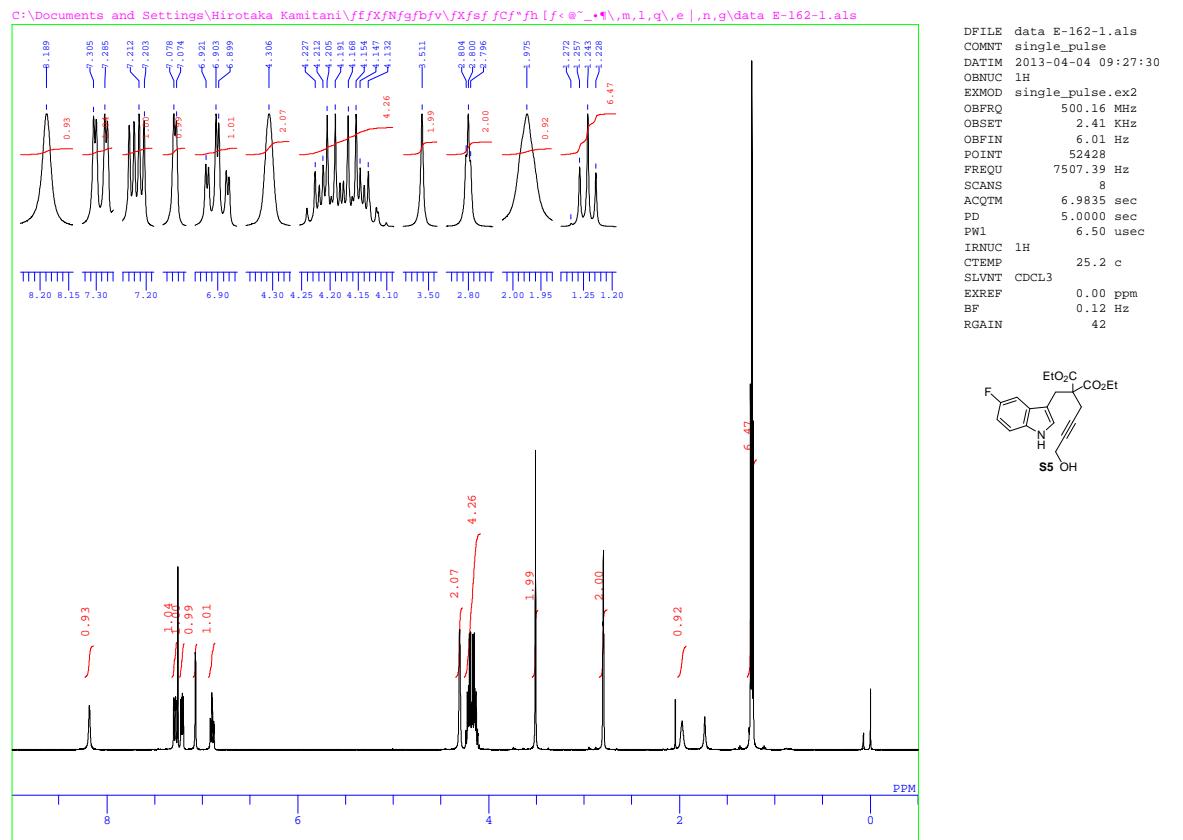


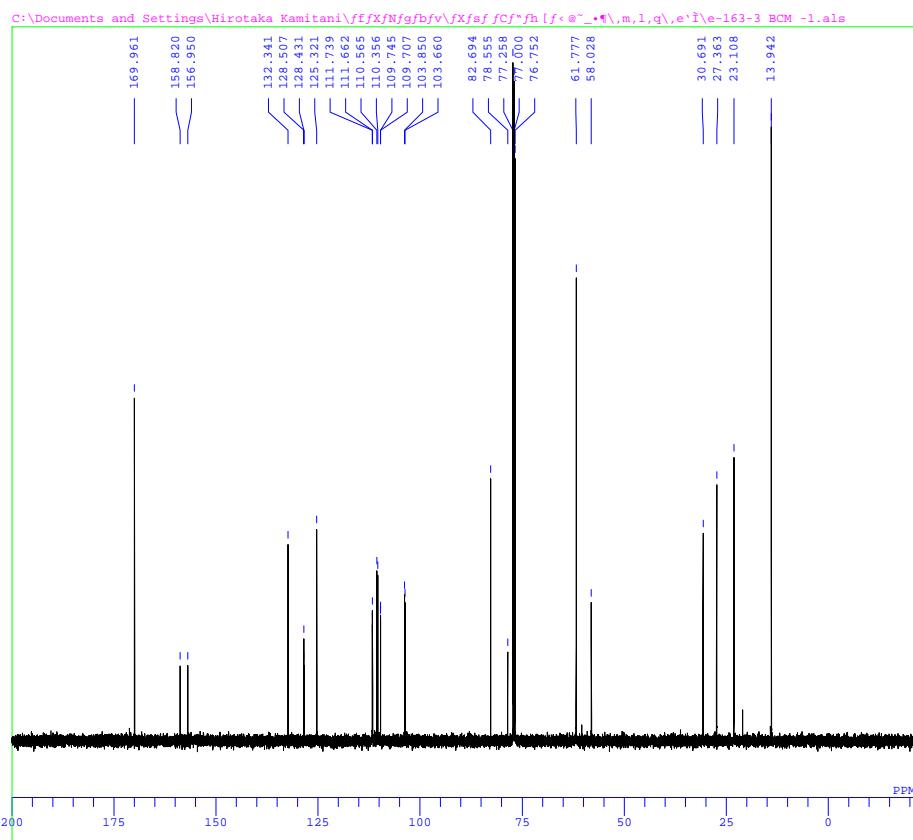
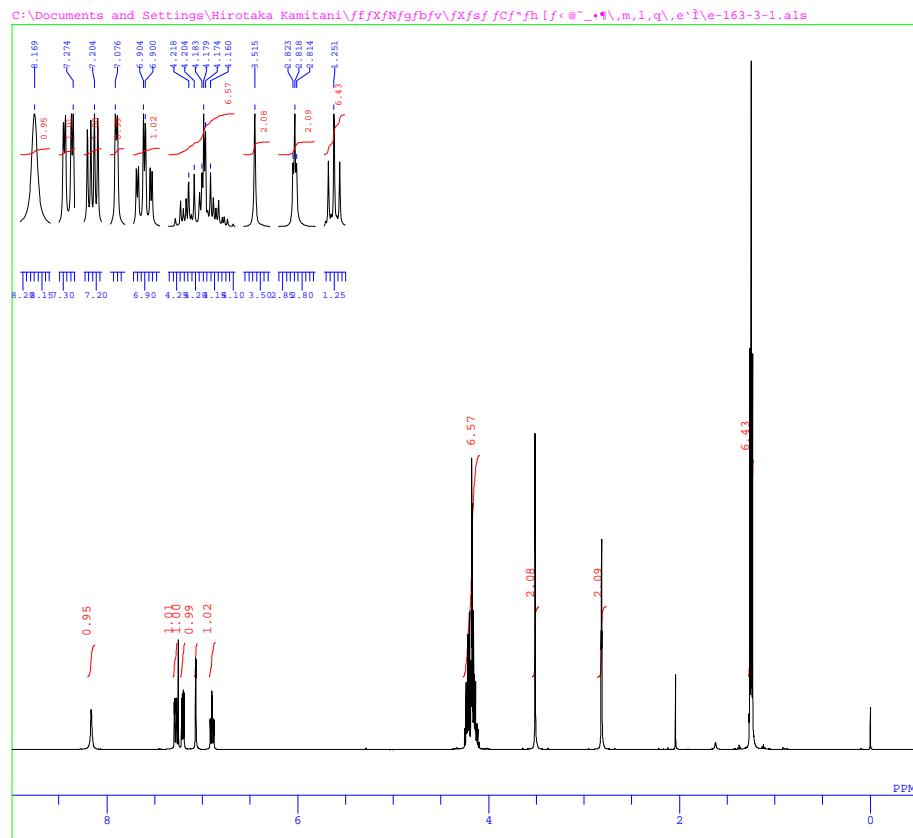
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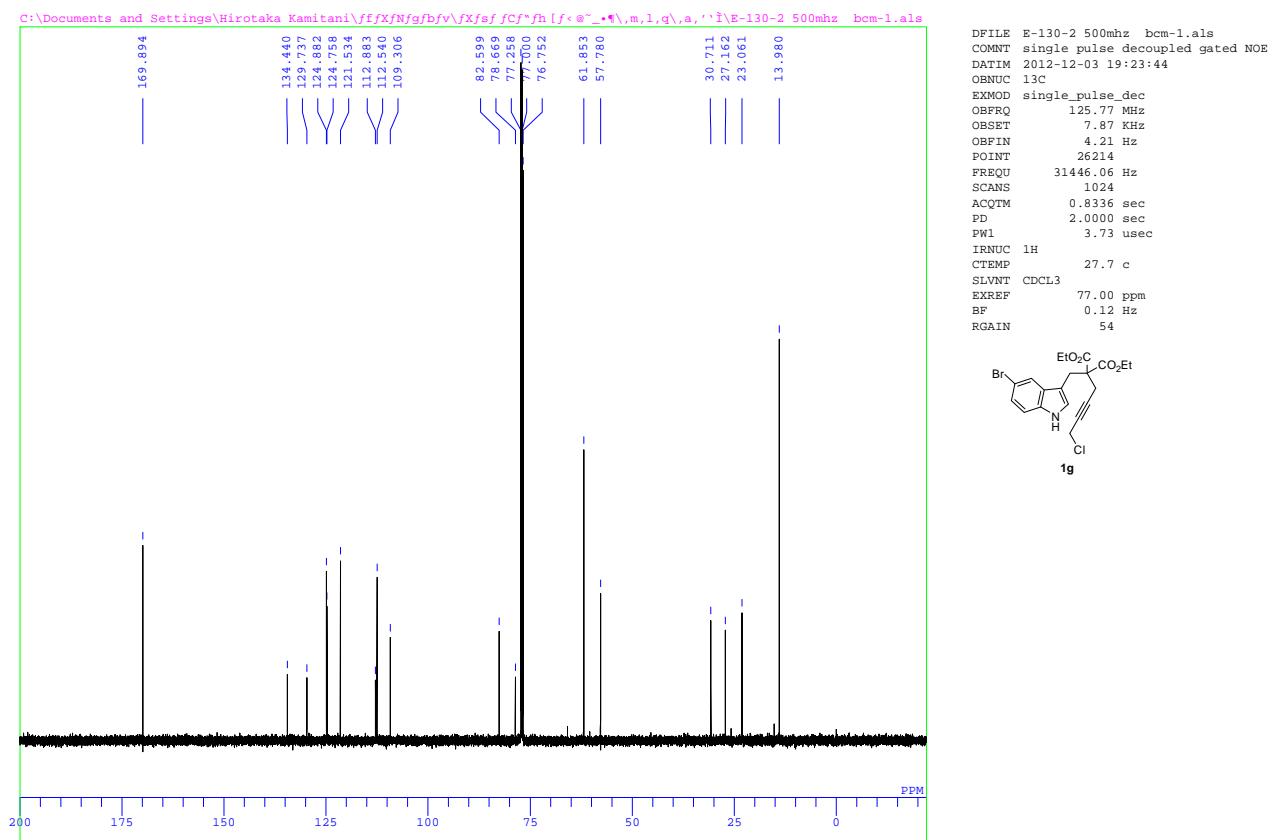
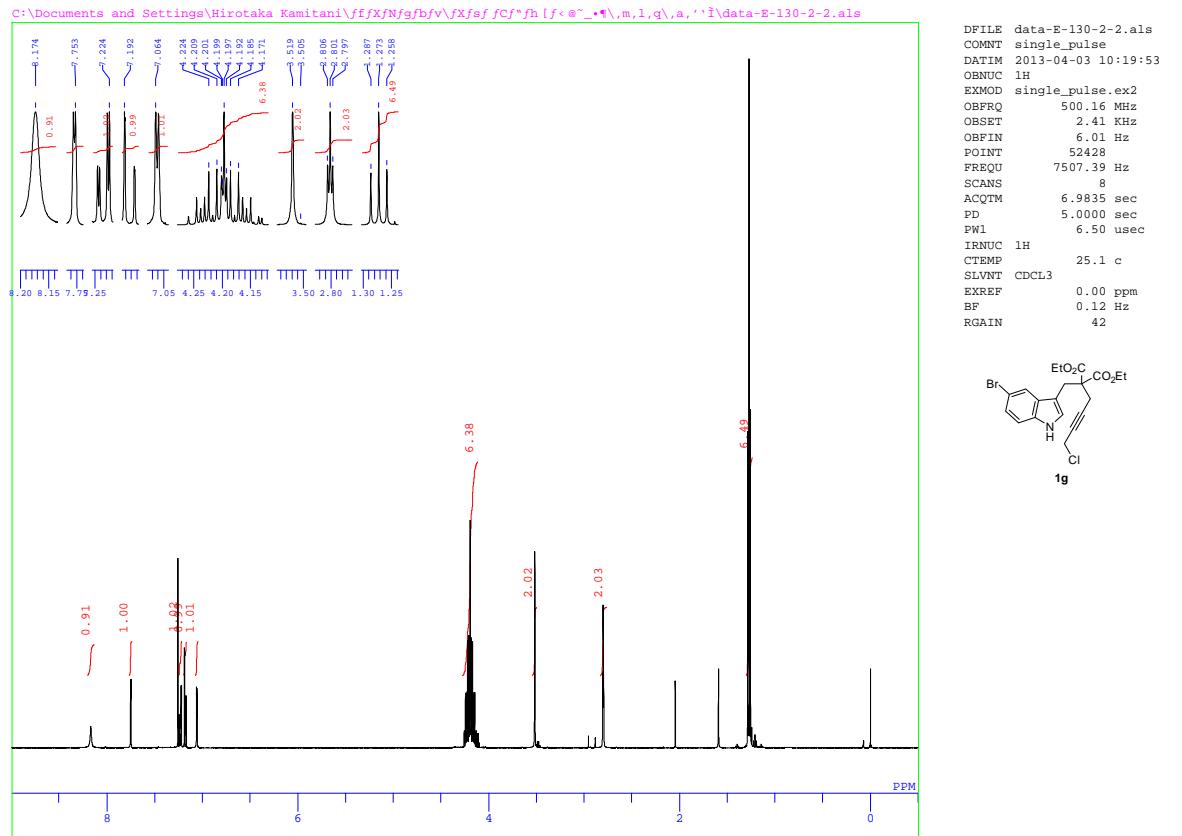
DFILE data E-160 bcm-1.als
COMMT single pulse decoupled gated NOE
DATIM 2013-04-05 03:04:19
OBNC 13C
EXMOD single_pulse_dec
OBFRQ 125.77 MHz
OBSET 7.87 kHz
OBFIN 4.21 Hz
POINT 26214
FREQU 31446.06 Hz
SCANS 4048
ACQTM 0.8336 sec
PD 2.0000 sec
PW1 3.73 usec
IRNUC 1H
CTEMP 25.6 c
SLVNT CDCL3
EXREF 77.00 ppm
BF 0.12 Hz

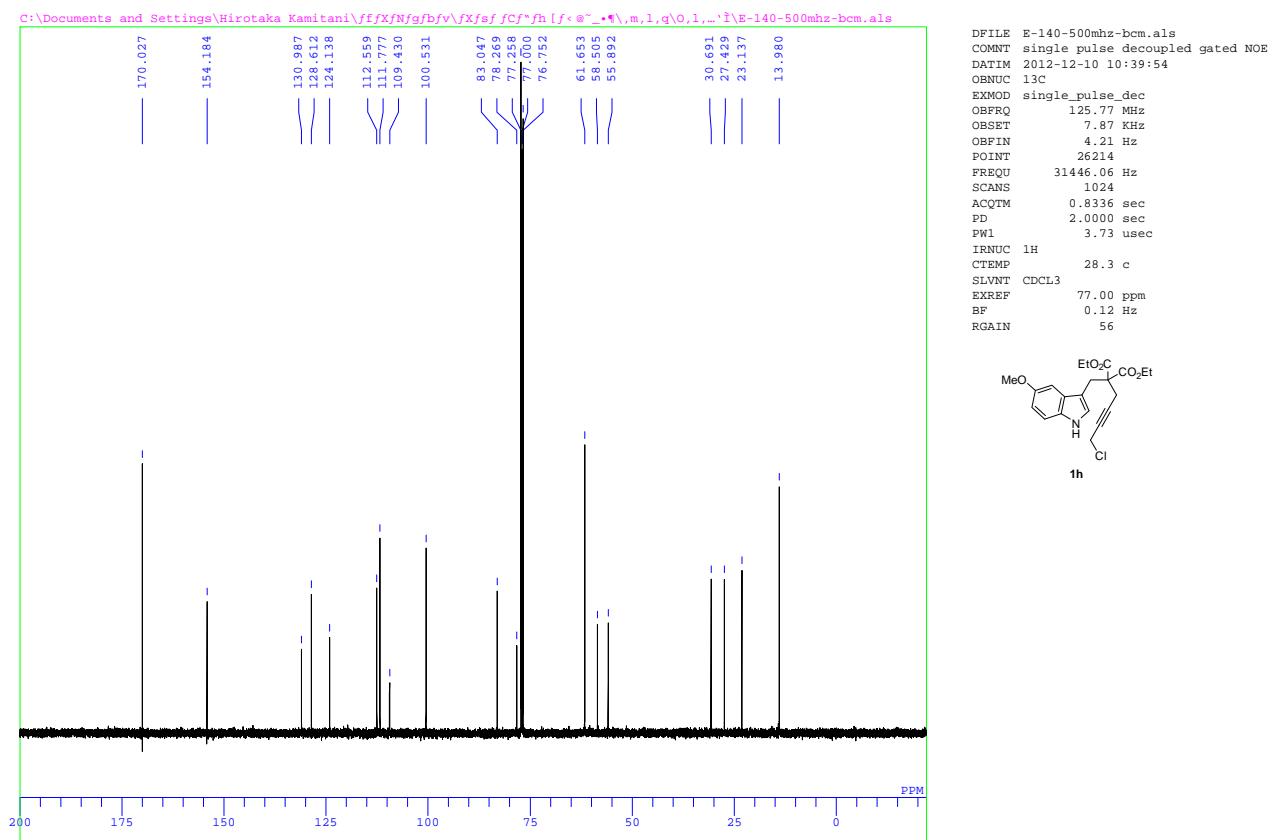
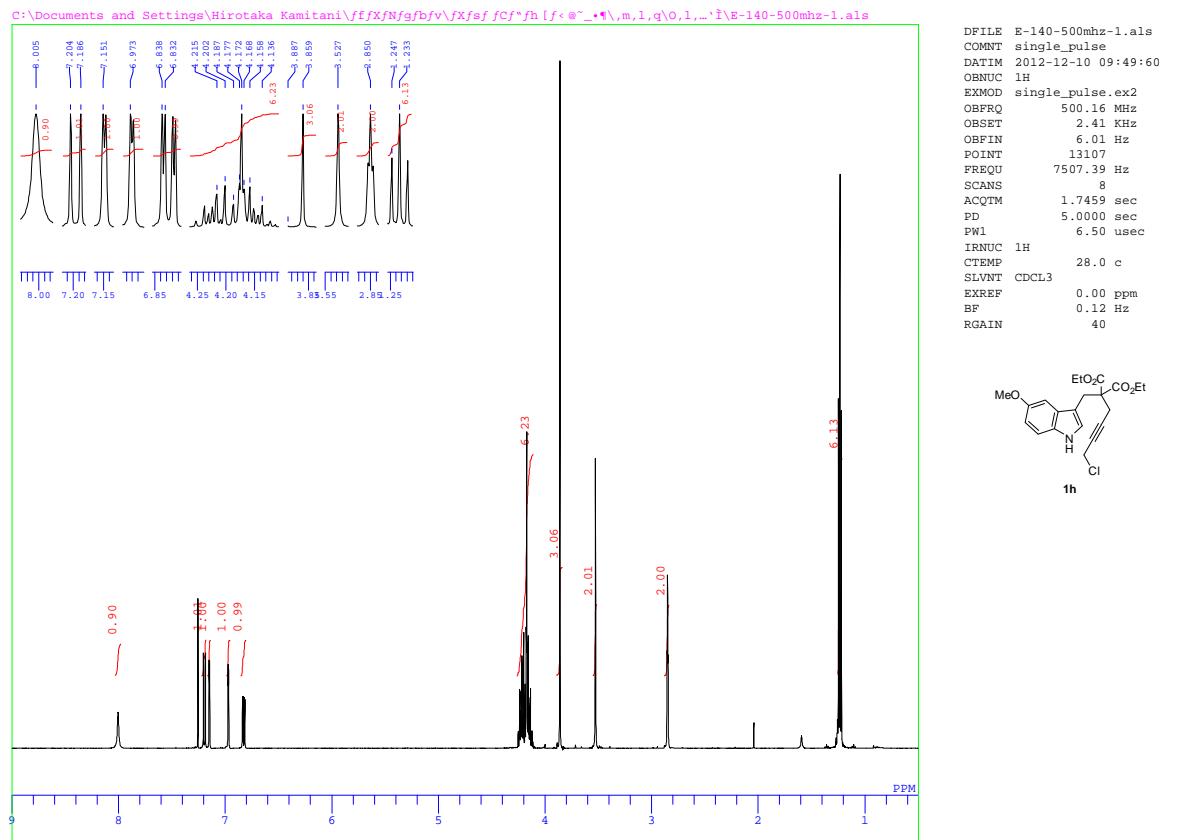
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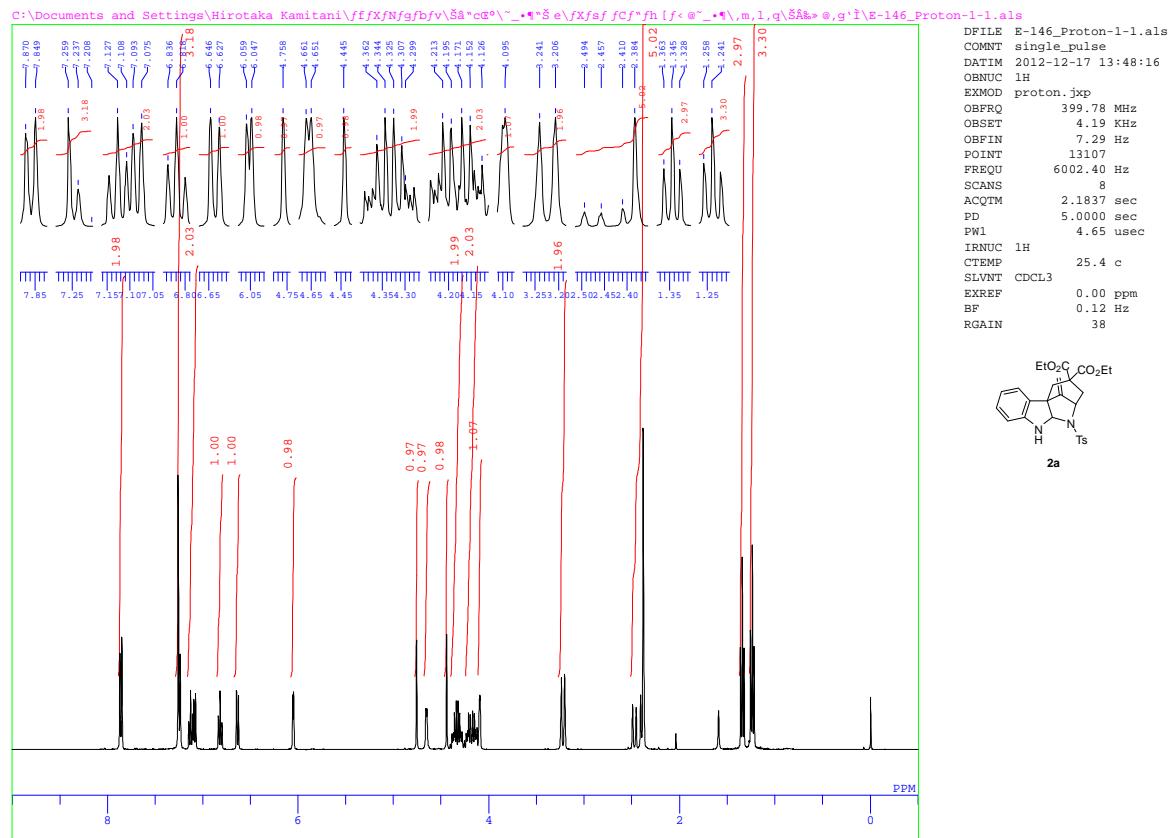


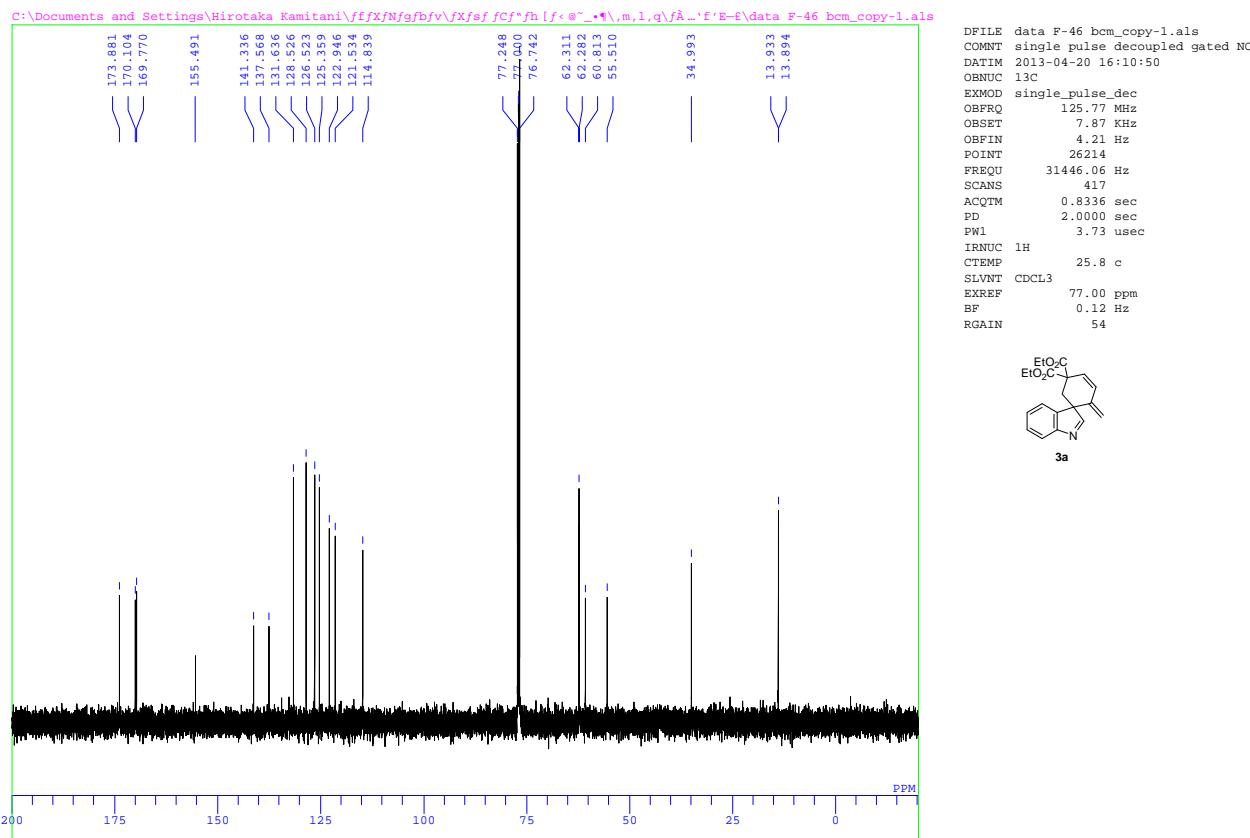
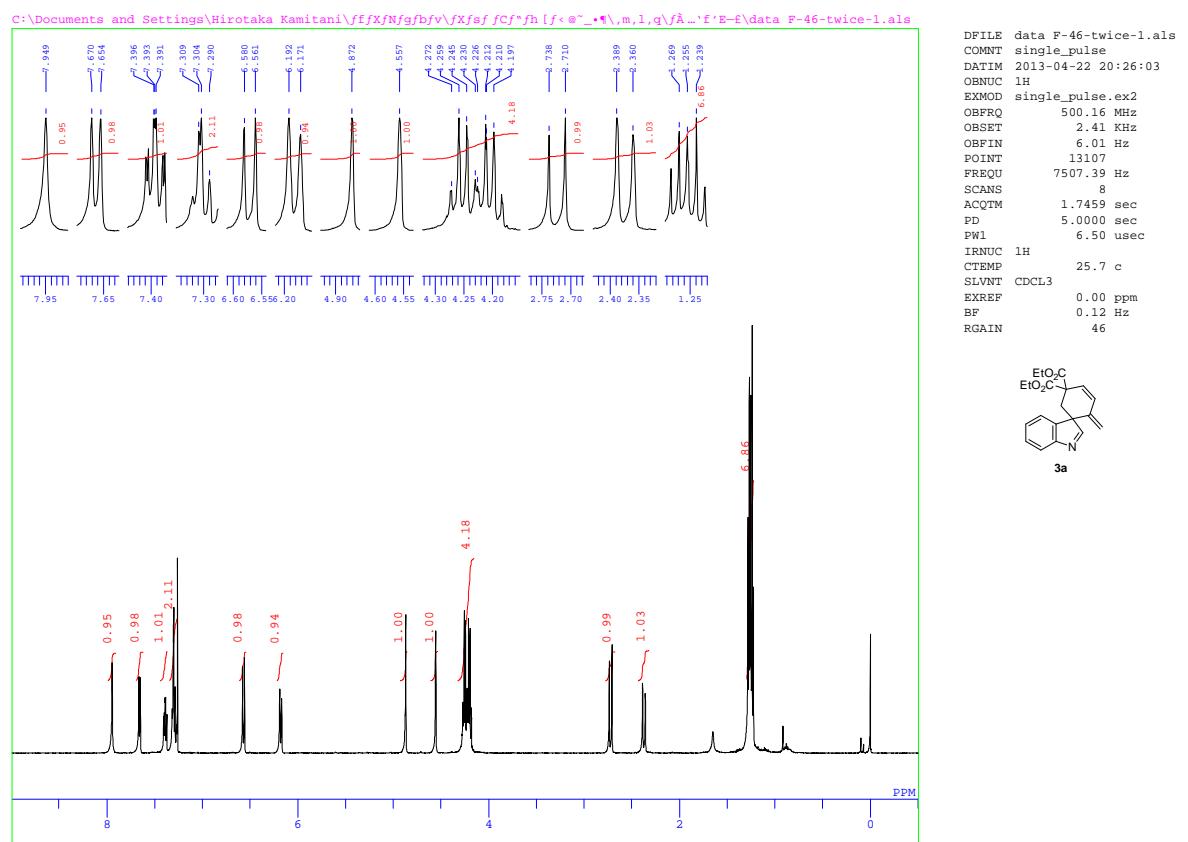


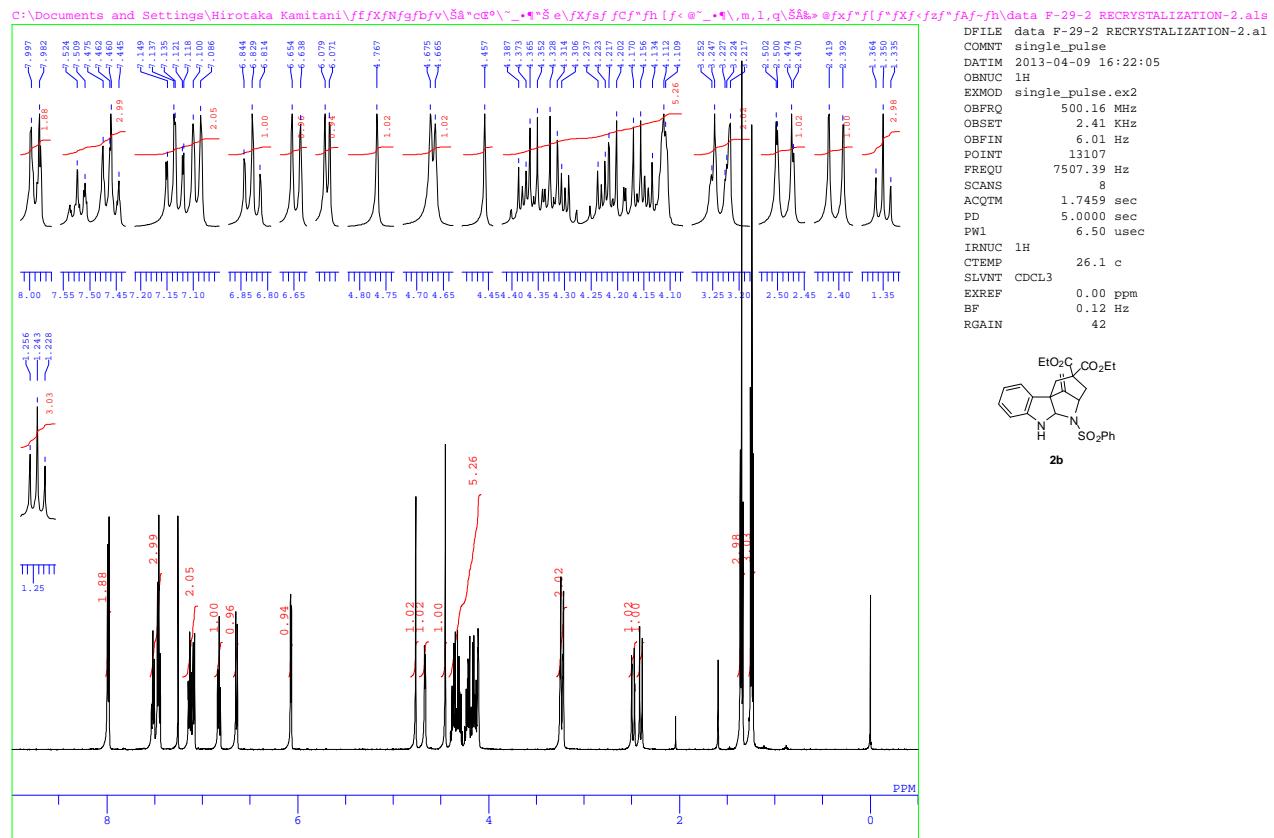


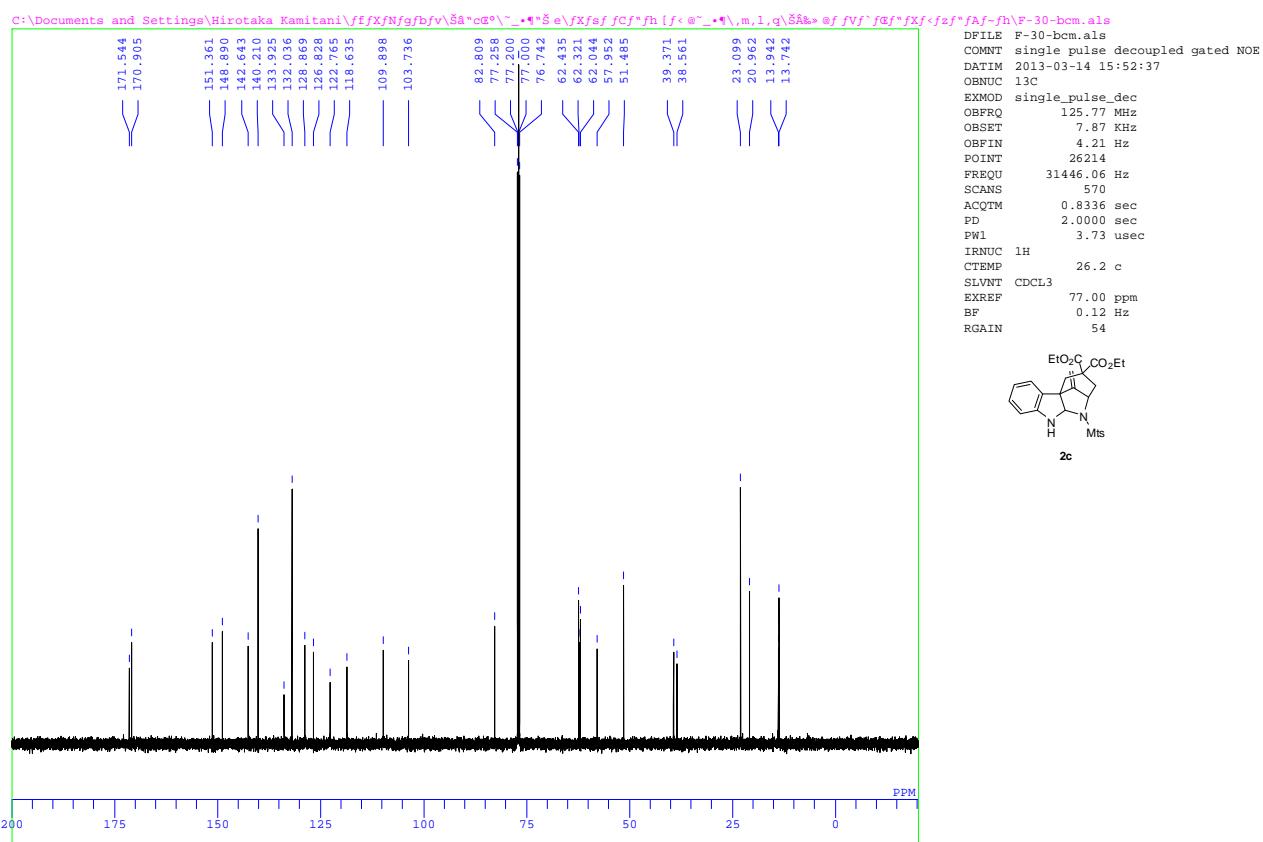
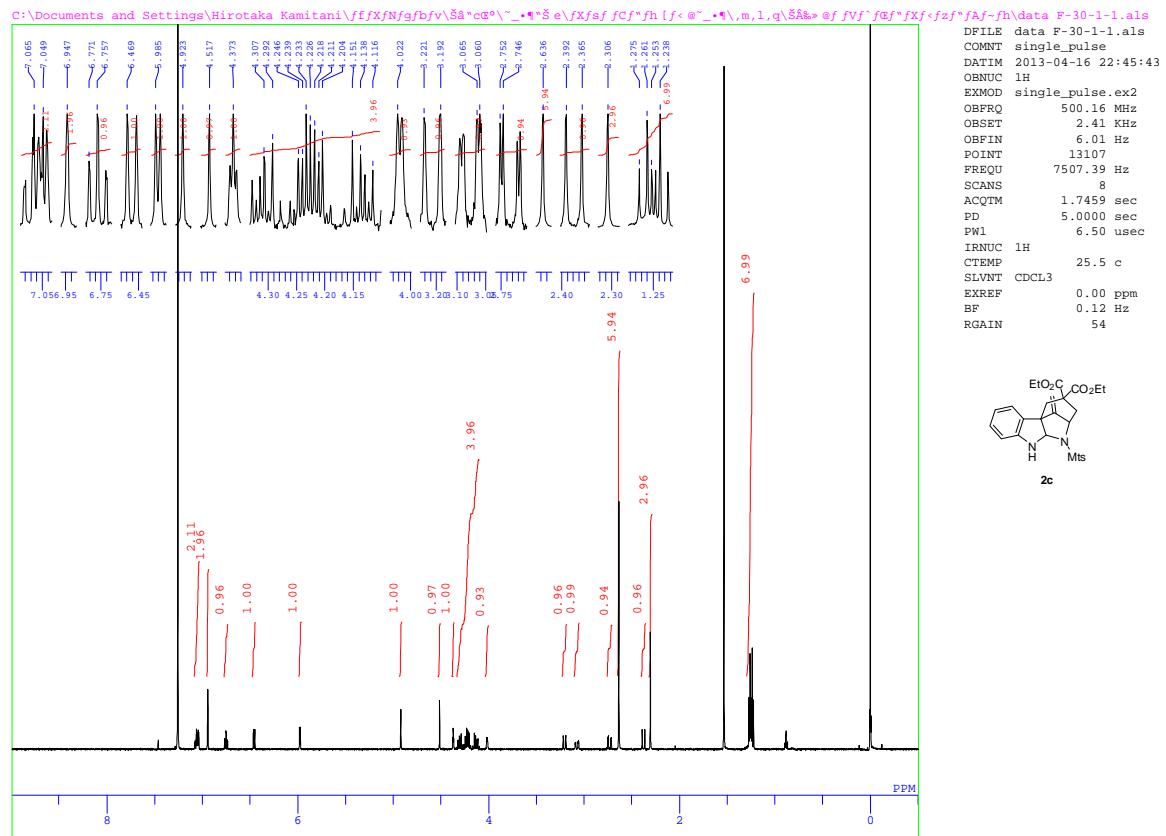


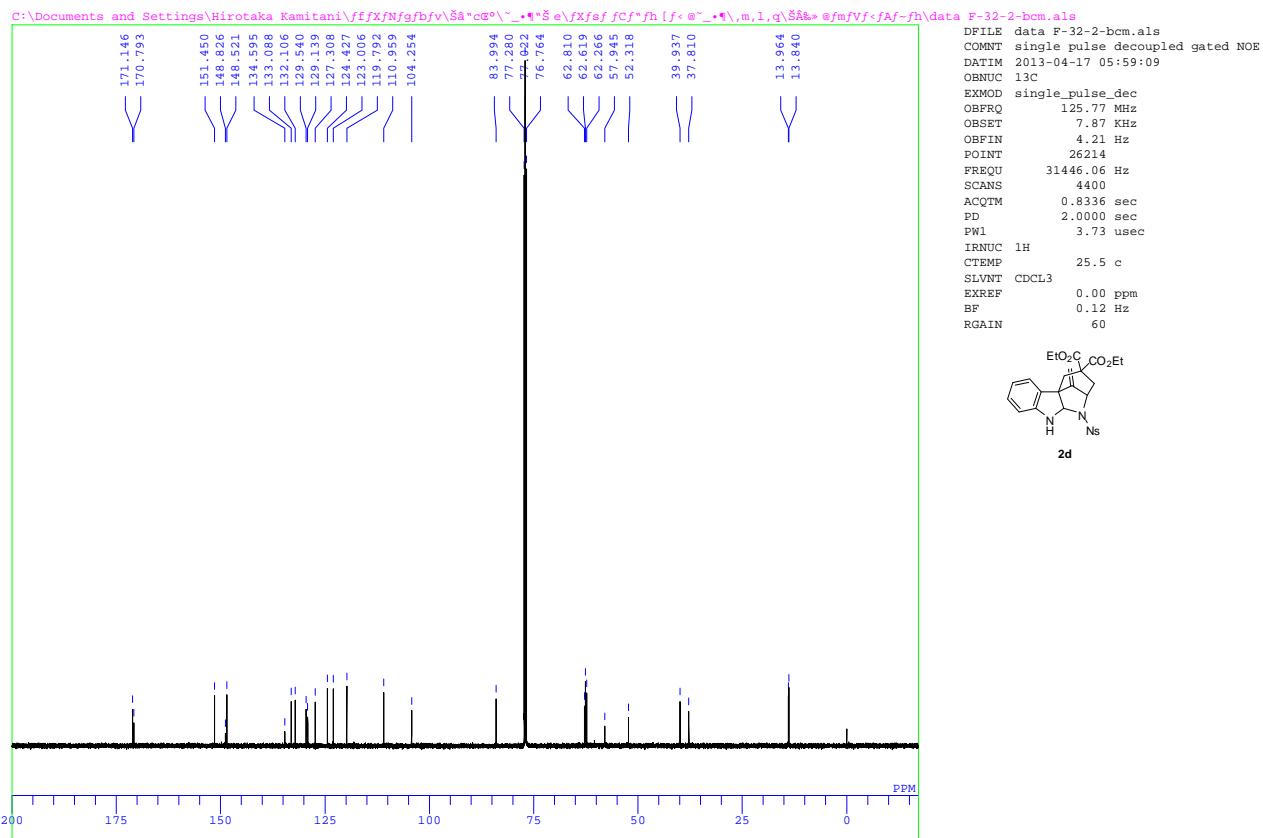
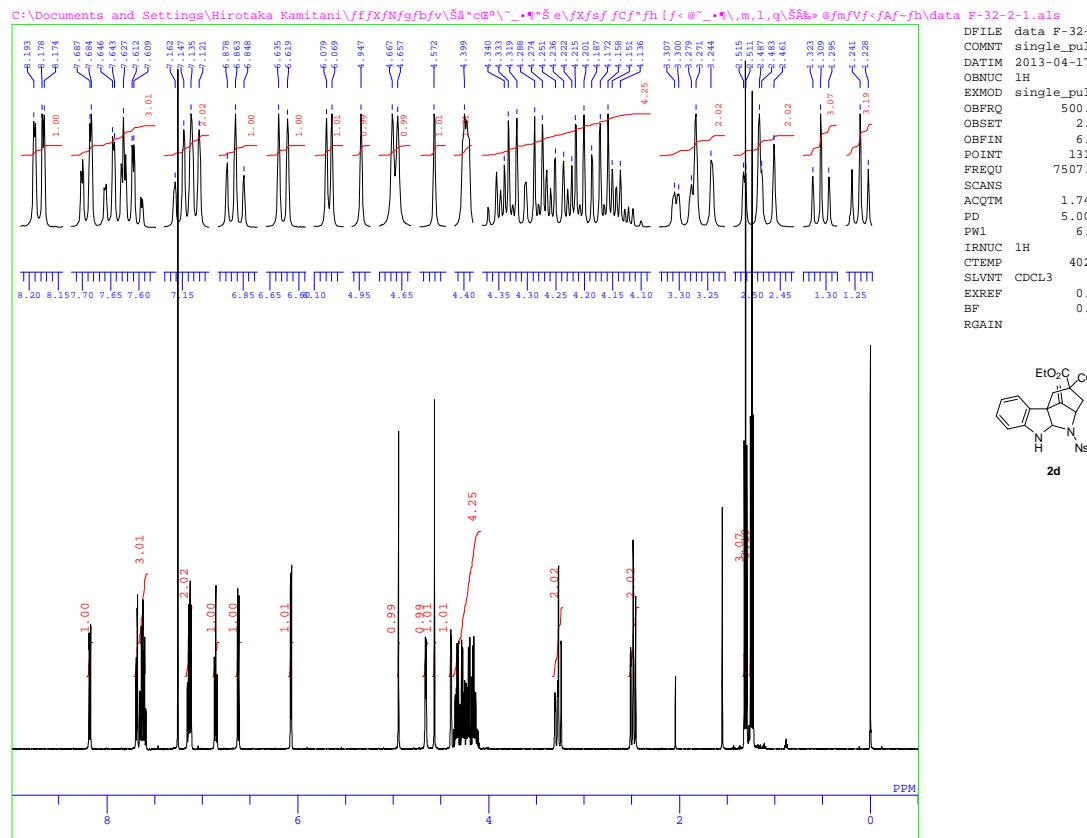


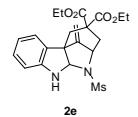
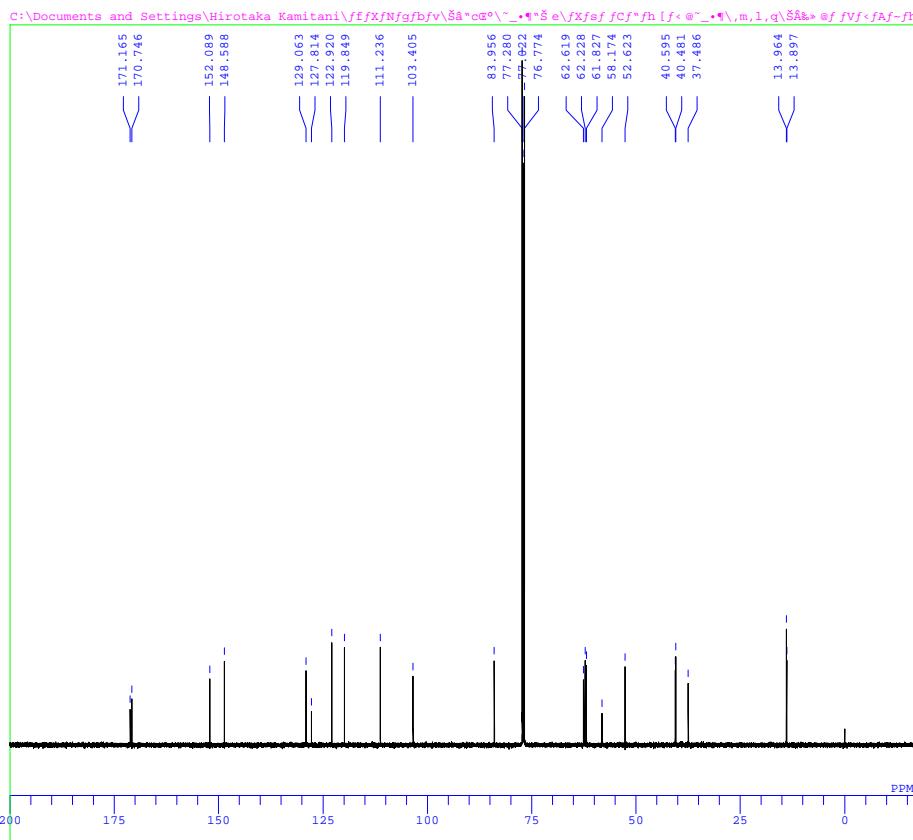
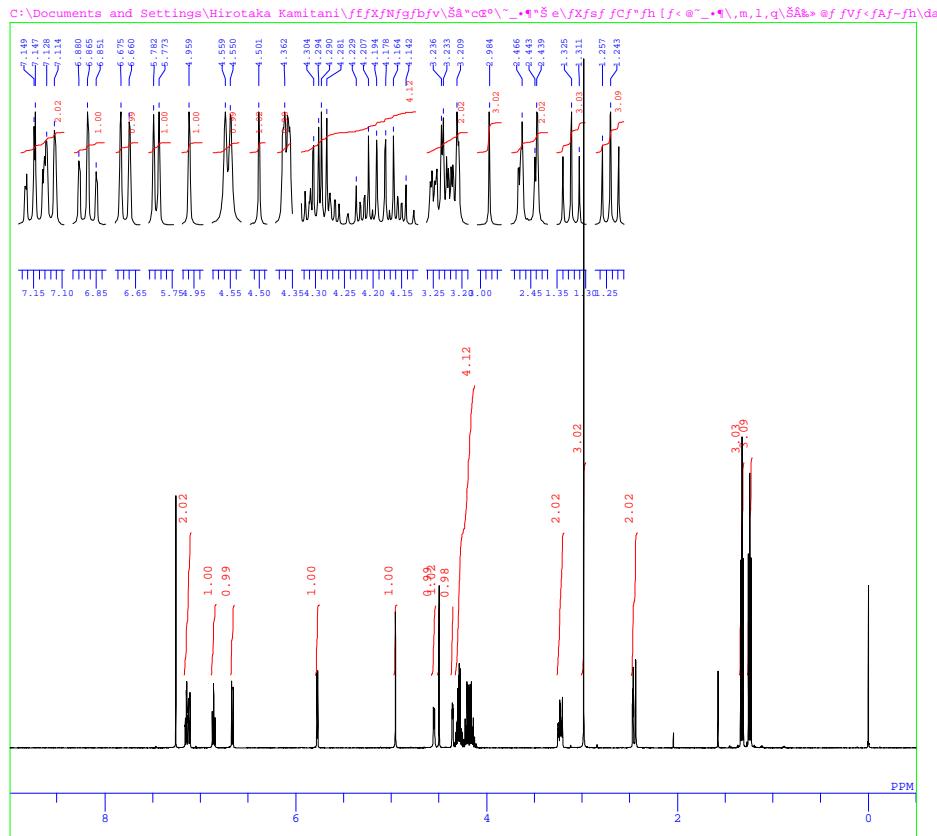


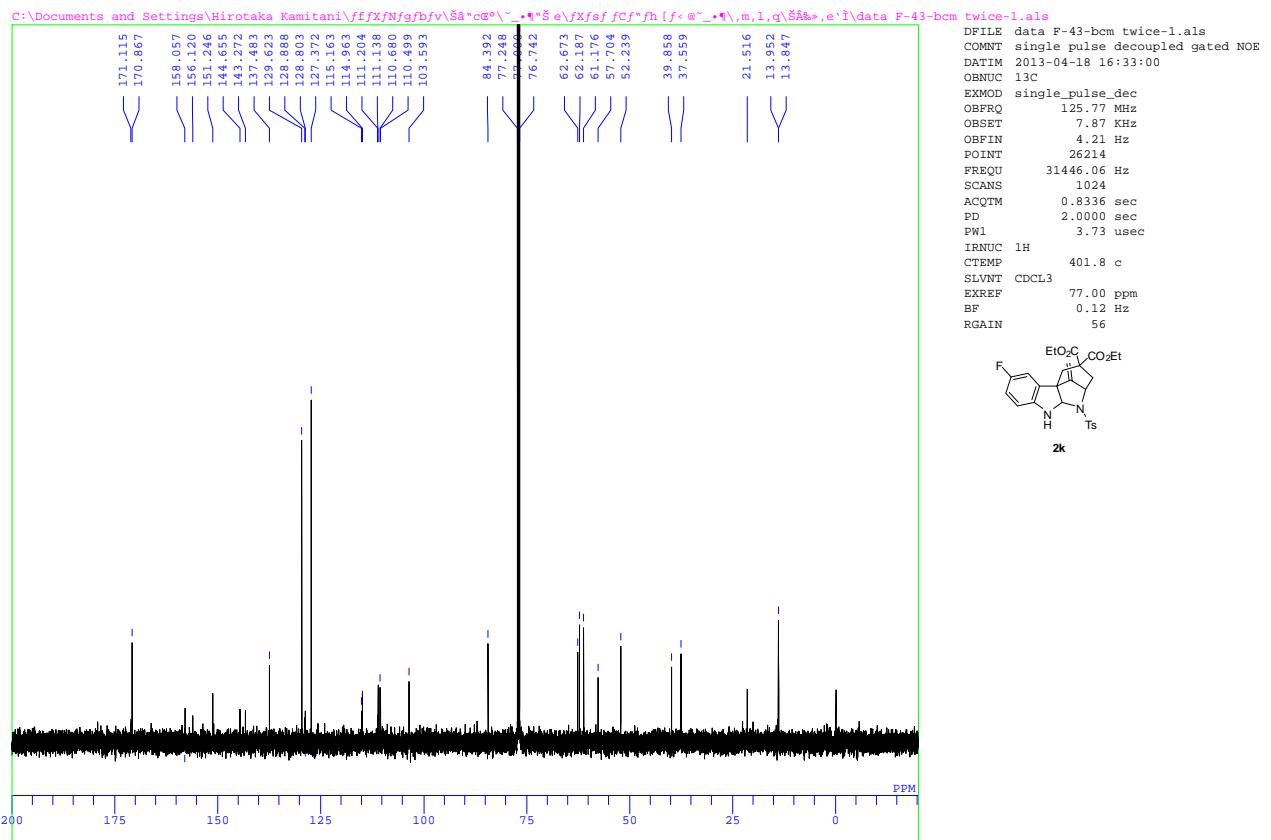
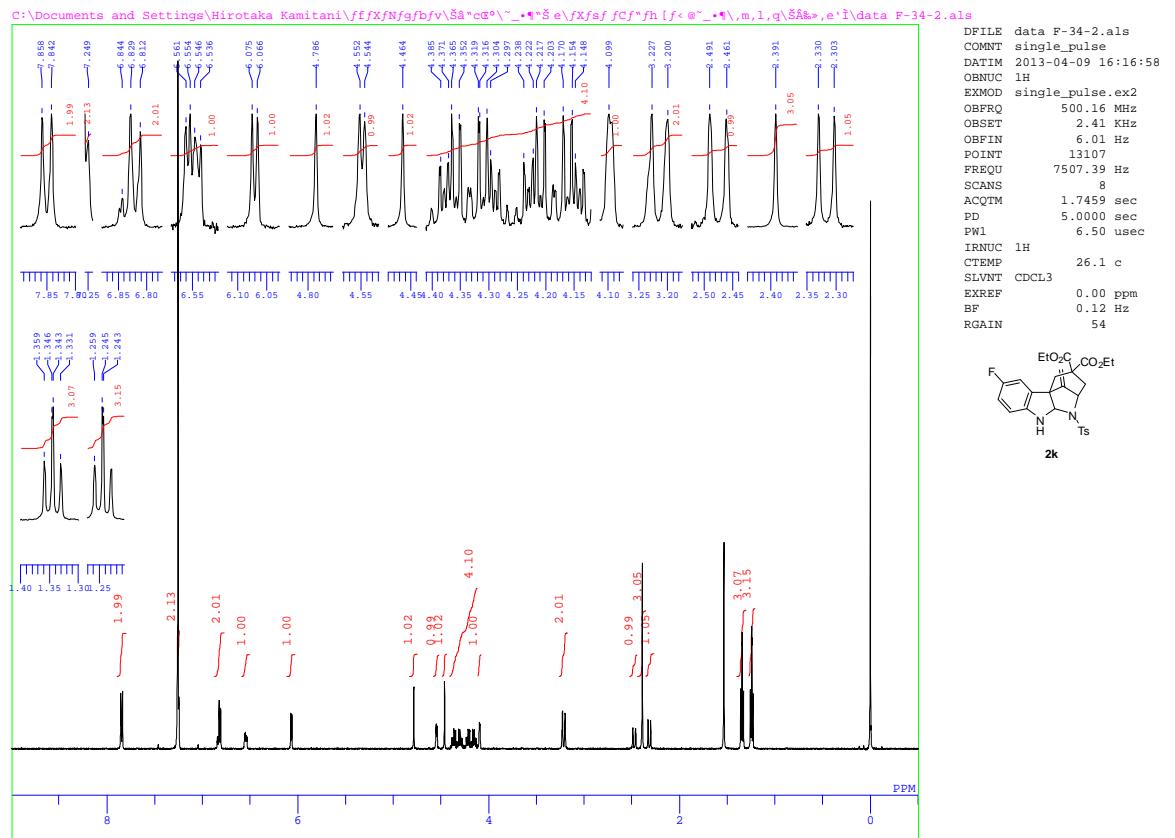


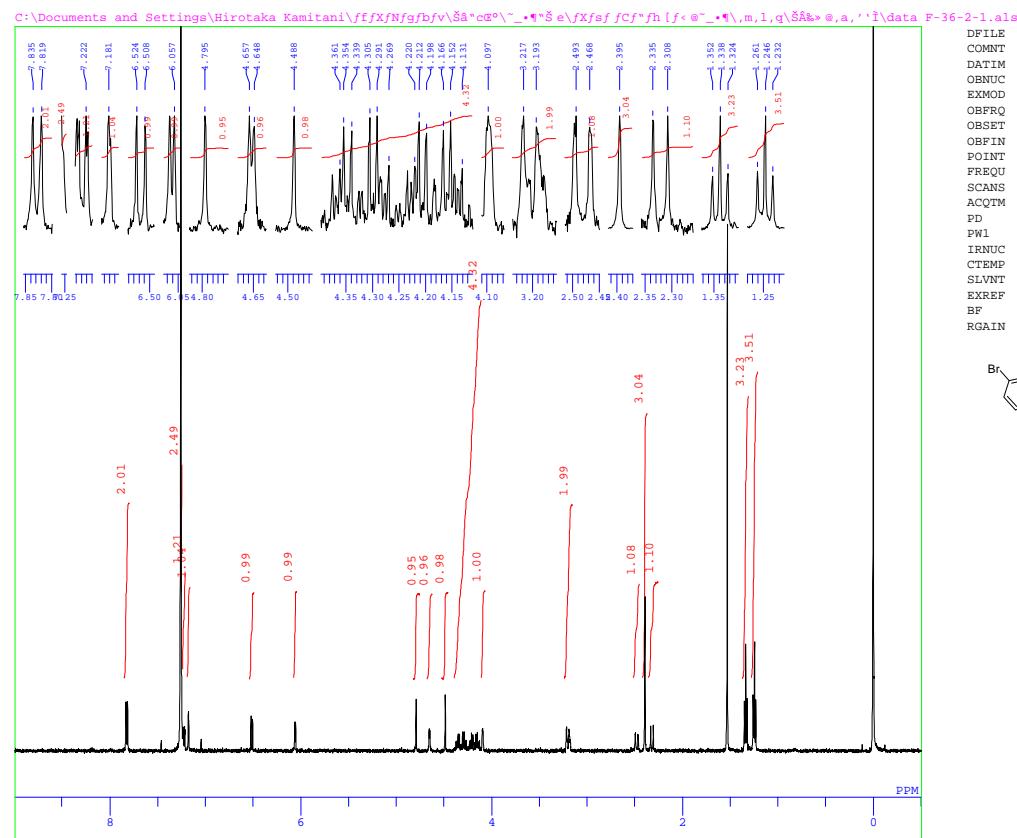




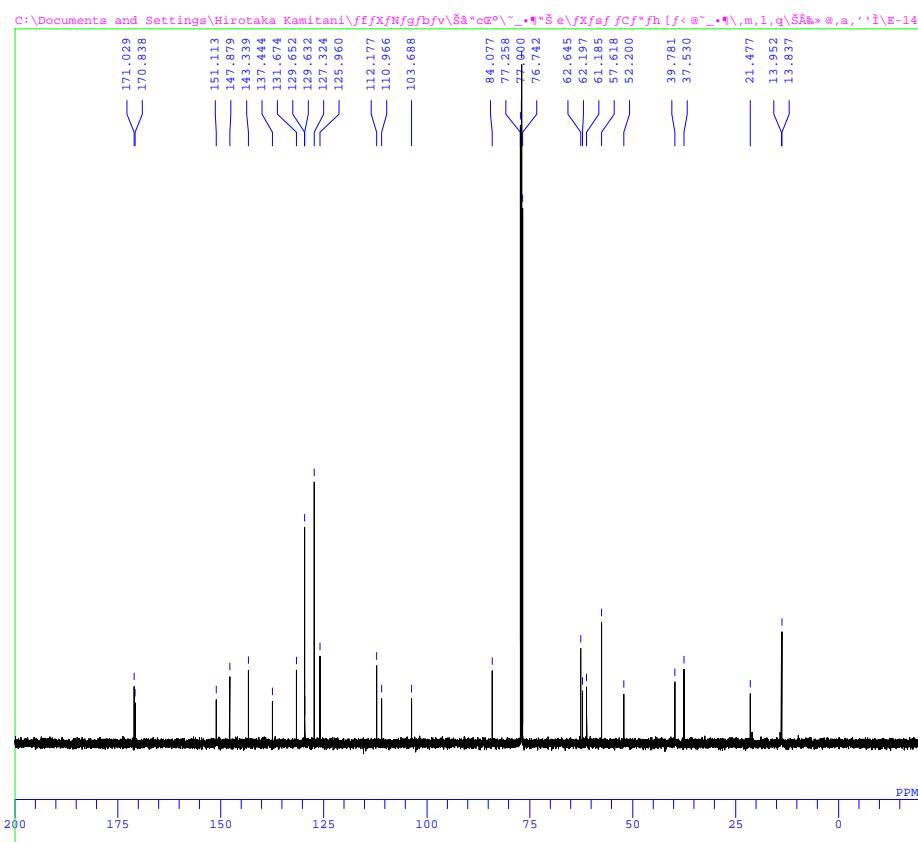
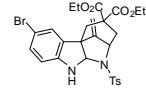








DFILE data F-36-2-1.als
 COMNT single_pulse
 DATIM 2013-04-12 11:19:40
 QBNUC 1H
 EXMOD single_pulse.ex2
 OBFQ 500.16 MHz
 OBSET 2.41 kHz
 OBFIN 6.01 Hz
 POINT 13107
 FREQU 7507.39 Hz
 SCANS 8
 ACQTM 1.7459 sec
 PD 5.0000 sec
 PW1 6.50 usec
 IRNUC 1H
 CTEMP 137.3 c
 SLVNT CDCL₃
 EXREF 0.00 ppm
 BF 0.12 Hz
 RGAIN 56



DFILE E-142-1-500mhz BCM.als
 COMNT single pulse decoupled gated NOE
 DATIM 2012-12-14 15:42:13
 QBNUC 13C
 EXMOD single_pulse_dec
 OBFQ 125.77 MHz
 OBSET 7.87 kHz
 OBFIN 4.21 Hz
 POINT 26214
 FREQU 31446.06 Hz
 SCANS 1024
 ACQTM 0.8336 sec
 PD 2.0000 sec
 PW1 3.73 usec
 IRNUC 1H
 CTEMP 27.4 c
 SLVNT CDCL₃
 EXREF 77.00 ppm
 BF 0.12 Hz
 RGAIN 50

