

Supporting Information for

Enantioselective Construction of 2,2'-Bisindolylmethane Scaffold via Catalytic Asymmetric Reactions of 2-Indolylmethanols with 3-Alkylindoles

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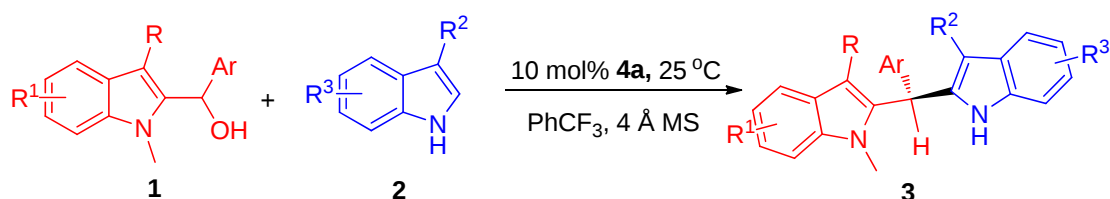
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General information:

^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were measured at 400 and 100 MHz, respectively. The solvent used for NMR spectroscopy was CDCl_3 , using tetramethylsilane as the internal reference. HRMS (ESI) was determined by a micrOTOF-Q II HRMS/MS instrument (Bruker). Enantiomeric ratios (er) were determined by chiral high-performance liquid chromatography (chiral HPLC). The chiral columns used for the determination of enantiomeric excesses by chiral HPLC were Chiralpak OD-H columns. Optical rotation values were measured with instruments operating at $\lambda = 589$ nm, corresponding to the sodium D line at the temperatures indicated. Analytic grade solvents for the column chromatography and commercially available reagents were used as received. All starting materials commercially available were used directly. Substrates **1** were synthesized according to the literature method.¹

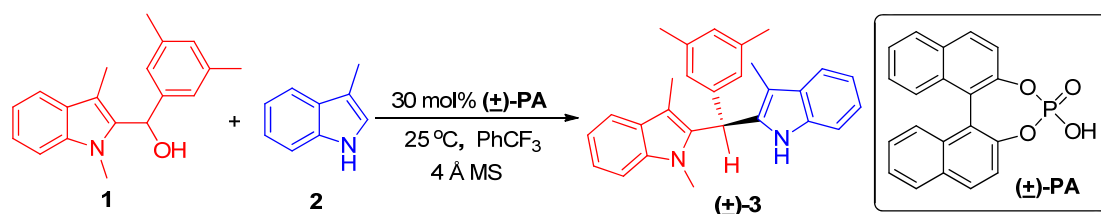
General procedure for the catalytic asymmetric reactions of 2-indolylmethanols with 3-alkylindoles:



Benzotrifluoride (0.5 mL) was added to the mixture of 2-indolylmethanols **1** (0.05 mmol), 3-alkylindoles **2** (0.05 mmol), the catalyst **4a** (0.005 mmol), and 4 Å molecular sieves (50 mg). After being stirred at 25 °C for 16 h, the reaction mixture was filtered to remove the molecular sieves, and the solid powder was washed with ethyl acetate. The resultant solution was concentrated under the reduced pressure to give the residue, which was purified through flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford pure products **3**.

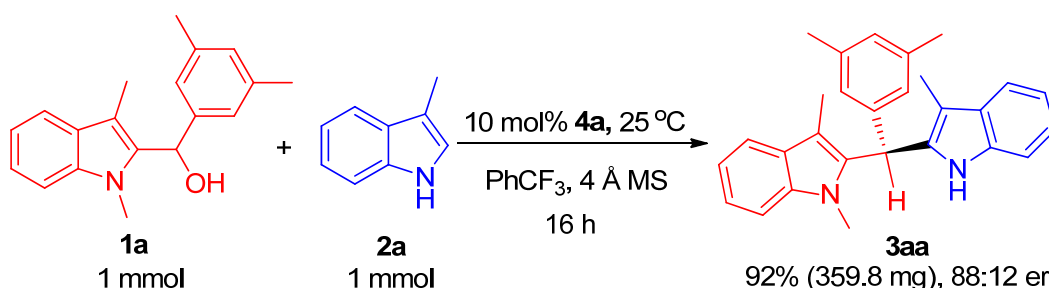
¹ S. Qi, C. Y. Liu, J. Y. Ding, F. S. Han, *Chem. Commun.* **2014**, 50, 8605.

General procedure for the synthesis of racemic products:



Benzotrifluoride (0.5 mL) was added to the mixture of 2-indolylmethanols **1** (0.05 mmol), 3-alkylindoles **2** (0.05 mmol), the racemic phosphoric acid **(+)-PA** (0.015 mmol), and 4 Å molecular sieves (50 mg). After being stirred at 25 °C for 16 h, the reaction mixture was filtered to remove the molecular sieves, and the solid powder was washed with ethyl acetate. The resultant solution was concentrated under the reduced pressure to give the residue, which was purified through flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford pure products **(+)-3**. These products were used as racemic standards for HPLC determination.

Procedure for large scale synthesis of product 3aa:



Benzotrifluoride (5 mL) was added to the mixture of 2-indolylmethanol **1a** (1 mmol), 3-methylindole **2a** (1 mmol), the catalyst **4a** (0.1 mmol), and 4 Å molecular sieves (250 mg). After being stirred at 25 °C for 16 h, the reaction mixture was filtered to remove the molecular sieves, and the solid powder was washed with ethyl acetate. The resultant solution was concentrated under the reduced pressure to give the residue, which was purified through flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford pure product **3aa**.

Characterization of products:

(S)-2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)(3-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methyl)-1,3-dimethyl-1H-indole (3aa): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 90% (17.7 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 78-80 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -2.2$ (c 0.36, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 – 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.20 – 7.14 (m, 3H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 6.83 (s, 2H), 6.03 (s, 1H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 6H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.85 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.4, 137.4, 135.7, 133.9, 133.6, 131.7, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 125.3, 120.4, 120.3, 118.2, 117.8, 117.4, 117.3, 109.8, 108.0, 107.8, 107.4, 39.6, 29.1, 20.3, 7.6, 7.5; IR (KBr): 3436, 3053, 2961, 2917, 2850, 2359, 1600, 1459, 1100, 1013, 803, 737 cm⁻¹; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C₂₈H₂₈N₂-H)⁺ requires m/z 391.2174, found m/z 391.2188; Enantiomeric ratio: 90:10, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 254 nm): t_R = 5.153 (major), t_R = 5.770 (minor).

(S)-1,3-dimethyl-2-((3-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methyl)-1H-indole (3ba): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 98% (17.9 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 96-98 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -11.6$ (c 0.16, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.62 – 7.53 (m, 3H), 7.36 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (t, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.18 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.15 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.82 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.7, 135.7, 134.0, 133.6, 131.3, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 126.1, 120.6, 120.5, 118.3, 117.9, 117.4, 117.3, 109.8, 108.1, 107.8, 107.5, 39.7, 29.0, 7.7, 7.6; IR (KBr): 3435, 2917, 2855, 2360, 2340, 1600, 1458, 1101, 739, 700 cm⁻¹; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C₂₆H₂₄N₂-H)⁺ requires m/z 363.1856, found m/z 363.1880; Enantiomeric ratio: 81:19, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 254 nm): t_R = 6.957 (major), t_R = 8.433 (minor).

(S)-1,3-dimethyl-2-((3-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(m-tolyl)methyl)-1H-indole (3ca):

Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 74% (14.0 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 80-82 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -1.9$ (c 0.16, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 5.9 Hz, 3H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.18 (m, 3H), 7.17 – 7.10 (m, 4H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.82 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.5, 137.5, 135.7, 133.9, 133.7, 131.5, 128.5, 128.2, 127.7, 127.6, 126.9, 124.7, 120.5, 120.4, 118.2, 117.8, 117.4, 117.3, 109.8, 108.0, 107.8, 107.5, 39.6, 29.0, 20.5, 7.7, 7.6; IR (KBr): 3435, 2963, 2918, 2855, 1604, 1459, 1262, 1096, 1020, 738 cm⁻¹; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C₂₇H₂₆N₂-H)⁺ requires *m/z* 377.2018, found *m/z* 377.2012; Enantiomeric ratio: 80:20, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 254 nm): *t_R* = 6.010 (major), *t_R* = 7.040 (minor).

(S)-1,3-dimethyl-2-((3-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(p-tolyl)methyl)-1H-indole (3da):

Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 89% (16.8 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 177-179 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -1.8$ (c 0.22, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 4.6 Hz, 3H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 7.11 (m, 5H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.03 (s, 1H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 1.81 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 135.7, 135.5, 133.9, 133.7, 131.6, 128.5, 128.5, 127.7, 127.5, 120.5, 120.4, 118.2, 117.8, 117.4, 117.3, 109.8, 108.0, 107.8, 107.4, 39.3, 29.0, 20.1, 7.7, 7.5. IR (KBr): 3411, 3047, 2962, 2921, 2854, 1721, 1612, 1261, 1097, 1014, 803, 744 cm⁻¹; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C₂₇H₂₆N₂-H)⁺ requires *m/z* 377.2018, found *m/z* 377.2010. Enantiomeric ratio: 84:16, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 254 nm): *t_R* = 6.043 (major), *t_R* = 7.013 (minor).

(S)-2-((3,4-dimethylphenyl)(3-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methyl)-1,3-dimethyl-1H-indole (3ea): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 98% (19.2 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 179-181 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -1.8$ (c 0.16, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60 – 7.52 (m, 3H), 7.28

(d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.09 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.88 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.01 (s, 1H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 1.82 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 136.1, 135.8, 135.7, 134.4, 133.8, 133.8, 131.8, 129.0, 128.7, 128.5, 127.7, 124.9, 120.4, 120.3, 118.2, 117.7, 117.4, 117.3, 109.7, 107.9, 107.8, 107.3, 39.3, 29.1, 18.8, 18.4, 7.6, 7.5; IR (KBr): 3436, 2963, 2922, 2854, 1600, 1262, 1096, 1020, 800, 736 cm^{-1} ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{-H})^-$ requires m/z 391.2174, found m/z 391.2174; Enantiomeric ratio: 80:20, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30$ °C, 254 nm): $t_R = 5.510$ (major), $t_R = 6.270$ (minor).

(S)-5-bromo-2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)(3-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methyl)-1,3-dimethyl-1H-indole (3fa): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h ; yield: 70% (16.5 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 88-90 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -18.8$ (c 0.1, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.57 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.80 (s, 2H), 5.99 (s, 1H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 6H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 1.81 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.4, 137.4, 135.7, 133.9, 133.8, 131.7, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 125.3, 120.4, 120.3, 118.2, 117.8, 117.4, 117.3, 109.8, 108.0, 107.8, 107.4, 39.6, 29.1, 20.4, 7.6, 7.6.; IR (KBr): 3436, 2962, 2924, 2853, 2360, 1609, 1261, 1069, 1021, 737 cm^{-1} ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{27}\text{BrN}_2\text{-H})^-$ requires m/z 469.1280, found m/z 469.1280; Enantiomeric ratio: 88:12, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30$ °C, 254 nm): $t_R = 5.120$ (major), $t_R = 5.770$ (minor).

(S)-2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)(3-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methyl)-1,3,6-trimethyl-1H-indole (3ga): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h ; yield: 76% (15.5 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 201-203 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -18.5$ (c 0.12, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.56 (dd, $J = 10.0, 6.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.14 (dd, $J = 6.3, 2.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.08 (s, 1H), 6.98 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.80 (s, 2H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 6H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 1.79 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3)

δ 138.5, 137.3, 136.1, 133.8, 133.1, 131.8, 130.3, 128.5, 127.7, 125.6, 125.3, 120.2, 119.5, 18.1, 117.3, 117.1, 109.8, 107.9, 107.8, 107.3, 39.6, 29.0, 20.9, 20.3, 7.7, 7.5; IR(KBr): 3419, 2963, 2915, 2855, 1599, 1460, 1261, 1097, 803, 739 cm^{-1} ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{-H})^-$ requires m/z 405.2331, found m/z 405.2369; Enantiomeric ratio: 80:20, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 80/20, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 254 nm): $t_R = 5.493$ (major), $t_R = 6.260$ (minor).

(S)-2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)(3-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methyl)-1,3,7-trimethyl-1H-indole (3ha): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 80% (16.2 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 89-91 $^\circ\text{C}$; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -5.3$ (c 0.13, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.56 (dd, $J = 8.2, 5.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dd, $J = 5.8, 3.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.19 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 7.00 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, $J = 4.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.80 (s, 2H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.75 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 6H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 1.75 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.6, 137.3, 134.6, 134.2, 133.9, 131.7, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7, 125.3, 123.8, 120.3, 119.6, 118.1, 117.8, 117.3, 115.5, 109.8, 108.4, 107.3, 39.6, 31.9, 20.4, 19.7, 7.7, 7.6; IR (KBr): 3439, 2963, 2916, 2856, 1600, 1459, 1262, 1101, 1022, 801, 740 cm^{-1} ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{-H})^-$ requires m/z 405.2331, found m/z 405.2337; Enantiomeric ratio: 94:6, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 254 nm): $t_R = 4.397$ (minor), $t_R = 4.877$ (major).

(S)-2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)(3-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methyl)-3-ethyl-1-methyl-1H-indol (3ia): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 80% (16.2 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 211-213 $^\circ\text{C}$; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -6.0$ (c 0.12, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.62 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.29 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.80 (s, 2H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 3.49 (s, 3H), 2.40 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 2.25 (s, 6H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 0.94 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.5, 137.3, 136.0, 133.9, 133.3, 131.7, 128.5, 127.7, 126.8, 125.3, 120.4, 120.3, 118.2, 117.8, 117.8, 117.3, 114.9, 109.8, 108.0, 107.4, 39.4, 29.3, 20.3, 16.4, 14.2, 7.7;

IR (KBr): 3435, 3051, 2961, 2920, 2851, 1616, 1262, 1102, 1013, 807 cm^{-1} ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{-H})^-$ requires m/z 405.2331, found m/z 405.2344; Enantiomeric ratio: 83:17, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flowrate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 254 nm): $t_R = 5.883$ (major), $t_R = 6.727$ (minor).

(S)-2-((1,3-dimethyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(3,5-dimethylphenyl)methyl)-5-methoxy-3-methyl-1H-indole (3ab): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 72% (17.0 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 85-87 $^\circ\text{C}$; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -16.7$ (c 0.1, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.69 (d, $J = 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.27 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.16 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 6.79 (s, 2H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 6H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.80 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.0, 137.5, 135.7, 133.3, 133.2, 132.4, 130.3, 128.0, 127.7, 125.3, 123.1, 120.6, 120.0, 117.8, 117.4, 111.5, 111.2, 108.1, 107.8, 107.1, 39.6, 29.0, 28.7, 20.4, 7.6, 7.5; IR (KBr): 3435, 2963, 2922, 2853, 1600, 1464, 1262, 1197, 1021, 800, 738 cm^{-1} ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{27}\text{BrN}_2\text{-H})^-$ requires m/z 469.1280, found m/z 469.1286; Enantiomeric ratio: 81:19, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 254 nm): $t_R = 6.130$ (minor), $t_R = 7.230$ (major).

(S)-2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)(3-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methyl)-4-methoxy-3-methyl-1H-indole (3ac): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 76% (16.1 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 80-82 $^\circ\text{C}$; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -33.0$ (c 0.1, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.55 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.27 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.12 (dd, $J = 11.8, 5.4$ Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, $J = 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.82 – 6.75 (m, 3H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 6H), 2.10 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz, 3H), 1.79 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.9, 138.4, 137.4, 135.7, 133.7, 132.6, 129.0, 128.9, 127.8, 127.7, 125.3, 120.4, 117.7, 117.4, 110.5, 110.3, 108.0, 107.8, 107.2, 99.3, 54.9, 39.7, 29.1, 28.7, 20.4, 7.6, 7.6; IR (KBr): 3401, 2963, 2923, 2854, 1719, 1599, 1261, 1097,

1022, 800 cm^{-1} ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{O}-\text{H})^-$ requires m/z 421.2274, found m/z 421.2276; Enantiomeric ratio: 78:22, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 254 nm): $t_R = 6.207$ (minor), $t_R = 7.317$ (major).

(S)-2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)(3-ethyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methyl)-1,3-dimethyl-1H-indole (3ad): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 75% (15.2 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. $90-92^\circ\text{C}$; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -15.5$ (c 0.28, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.61 (dd, $J = 6.2, 2.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 (s, 1H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.16 – 7.08 (m, 3H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 6.78 (s, 2H), 6.01 (s, 1H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 2.67 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 2.25 (s, 6H), 1.80 (s, 3H), 1.14 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.7, 137.3, 135.7, 134.1, 133.9, 131.1, 127.8, 127.6, 125.3, 120.4, 120.2, 118.1, 117.7, 117.7, 117.4, 113.9, 109.9, 108.0, 107.8, 39.5, 29.1, 20.3, 16.6, 13.7, 7.7; IR (KBr): 3429, 3052, 2962, 2918, 2855, 1610, 1261, 1099, 1013, 809, 738 cm^{-1} ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2-\text{H})^-$ requires m/z 405.2331, found m/z 405.2329; Enantiomeric ratio: 80:20, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 95/5, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 254 nm): $t_R = 7.303$ (major), $t_R = 8.443$ (minor).

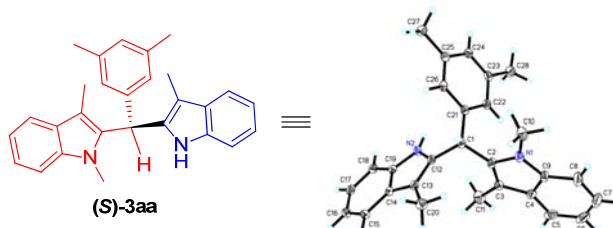
(S)-2-((1,3-dimethyl-1H-indol-2-yl)(p-tolyl)methyl)-5-methoxy-3-methyl-1H-indole (3cc): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 72% (14.7 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. $75-77^\circ\text{C}$; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -6.1$ (c 0.24, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.56 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.28 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.12 (dd, $J = 11.4, 8.4$ Hz, 4H), 7.03 (dd, $J = 21.2, 5.2$ Hz, 3H), 6.80 (dd, $J = 8.7, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.01 (s, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.81 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.9, 135.7, 135.5, 133.7, 132.6, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 127.7, 127.5, 120.5, 117.8, 117.4, 110.5, 110.3, 108.0, 107.8, 107.2, 99.3, 54.9, 39.4, 29.0, 20.1, 7.6; IR (KBr): 3436, 2920, 2855, 2360, 1624, 1598, 1483, 1215, 803, 738 cm^{-1} ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}-\text{H})^-$ requires m/z 407.2124, found m/z 407.2127; Enantiomeric ratio: 77:23, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H,

hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 254 nm): t_R = 7.530 (minor), t_R = 8.230 (major).

(S)-2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)(3-ethyl-1H-indol-2-yl)methyl)-1,3,7-trimethyl-1H-indole (3hd): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 81% (17.1 mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 179-181 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ = -22.7 (c 0.10, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61 (dd, J = 6.3, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.15 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.99 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (s, 2H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.74 (s, 3H), 2.66 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.24 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 6H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.14 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.9, 137.2, 134.4, 134.1, 131.1, 128.5, 127.7, 125.4, 123.8, 120.2, 119.6, 118.1, 117.8, 117.7, 115.5, 113.8, 109.9, 108.4, 39.5, 31.9, 20.3, 19.7, 16.6, 13.7, 7.8; IR (KBr): 3448, 2963, 2924, 2852, 1600, 1262, 1096, 1022, 807, 704 cm⁻¹; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C₃₀H₃₂N₂-H)⁺ requires m/z 419.2487, found m/z 419.2509; Enantiomeric ratio: 84:16, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 254 nm): t_R = 4.180 (minor), t_R = 5.027 (major).

2-((1H-indol-2-yl)(phenyl)methyl)-3-methyl-1H-indole (8): Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1; Reaction time = 16 h; yield: 80% (13.4mg); pale yellow solid; m.p. 90-92 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.90 (s, 1H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.59 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 4H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18–7.08 (m, 4H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 5.90 (s, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.2, 138.7, 136.2, 135.3, 133.3, 129.3, 128.9, 128.6, 128.4, 127.4, 121.9, 121.8, 120.4, 120.0, 119.4, 118.6, 110.8, 108.7, 102.6, 42.8, 8.6. IR(KBr): 3397, 3054, 2963, 2920, 1618, 1492, 1288, 1099, 1020, 741 cm⁻¹; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C₂₄H₂₀N₂-H)⁺ requires m/z 335.1548, found m/z 335.1550. Enantiomeric ratio: 53:47, determined by HPLC (Daicel Chirapak OD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 85/15, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 254 nm): t_R = 7.367(major), t_R = 12.893(minor).

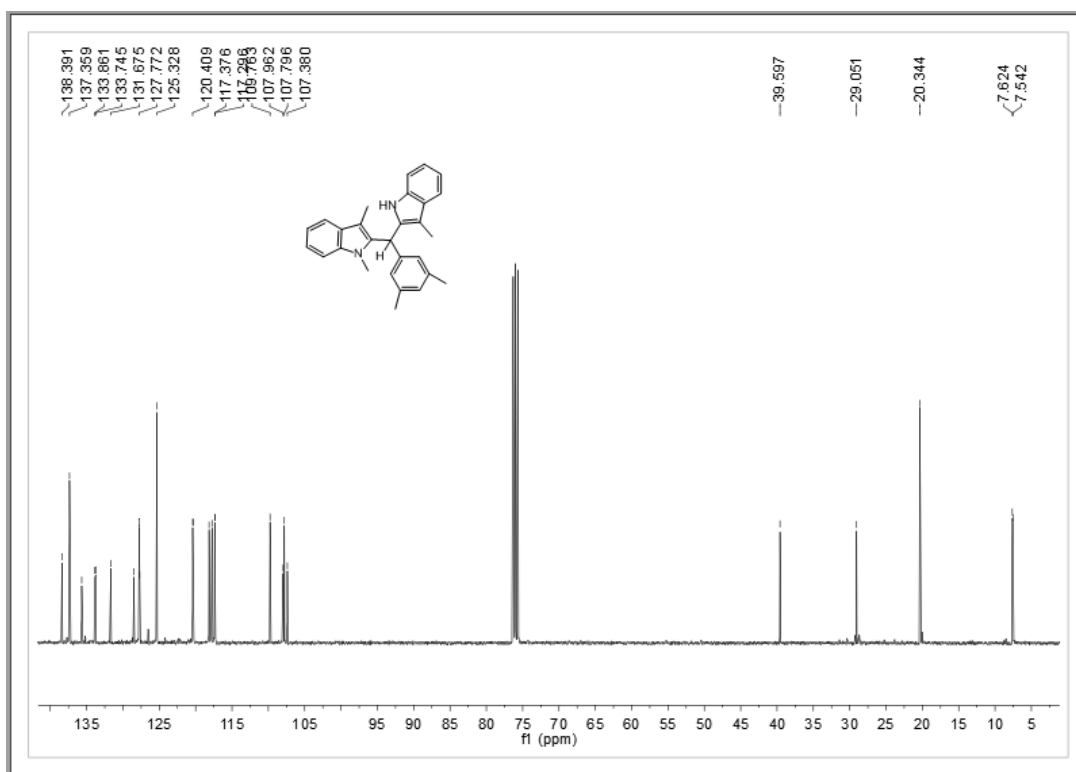
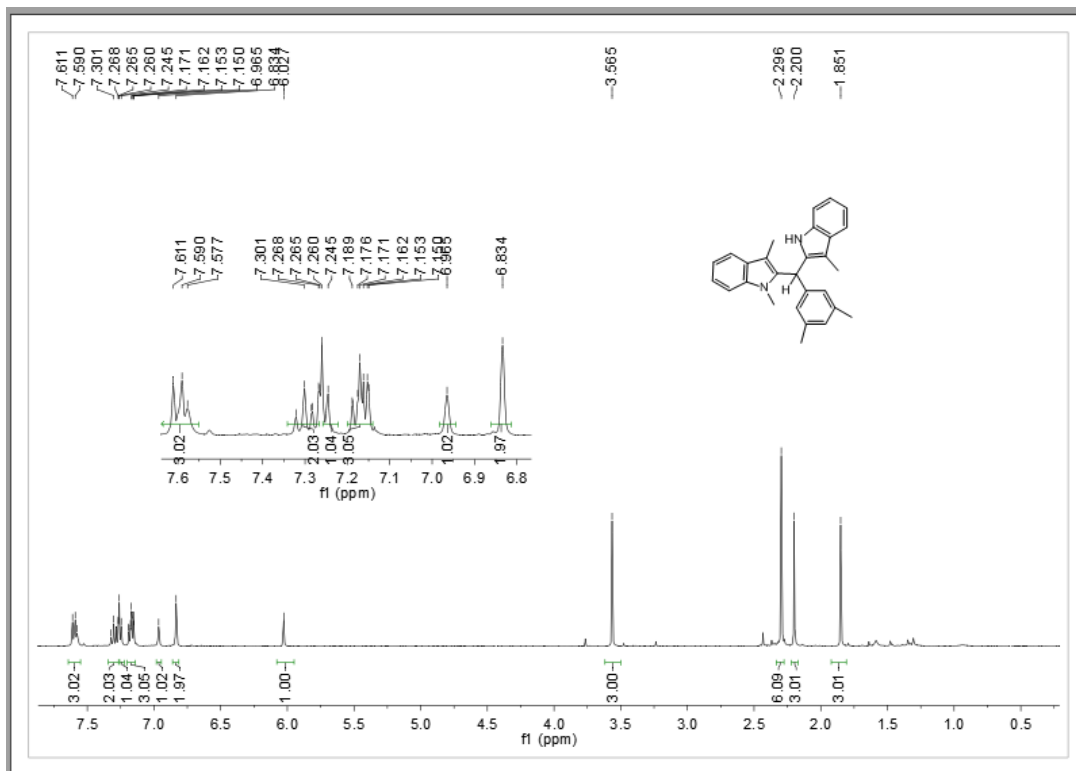
X-ray single crystal data for compound 3aa



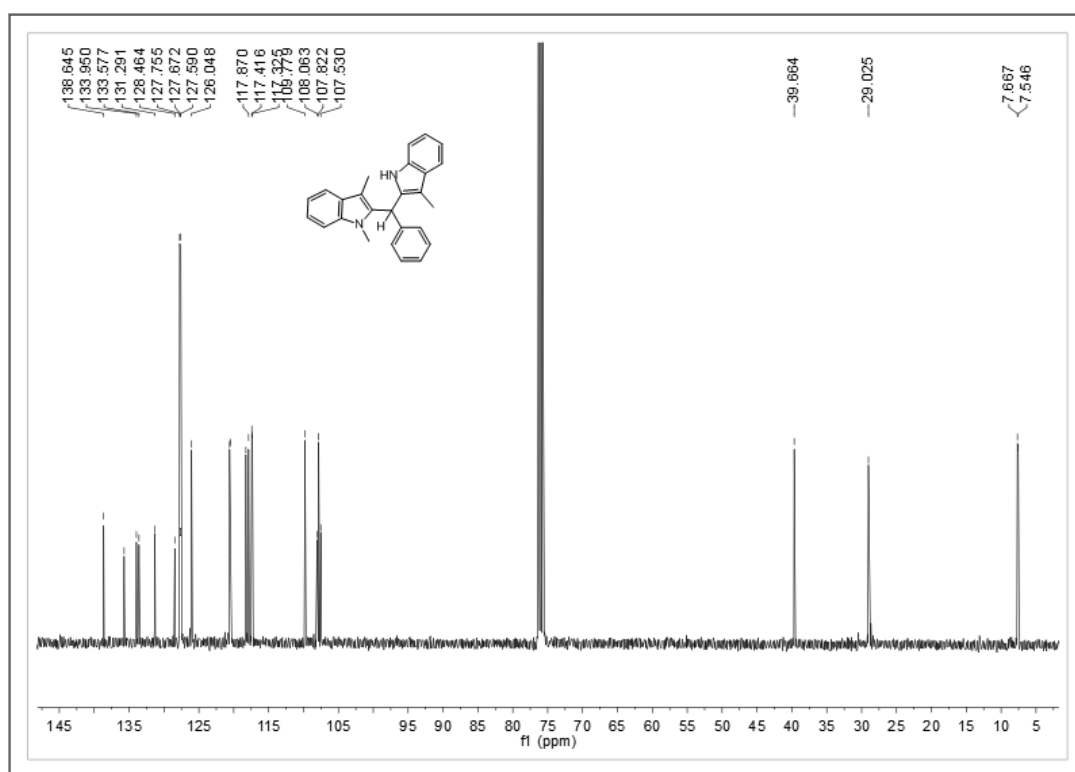
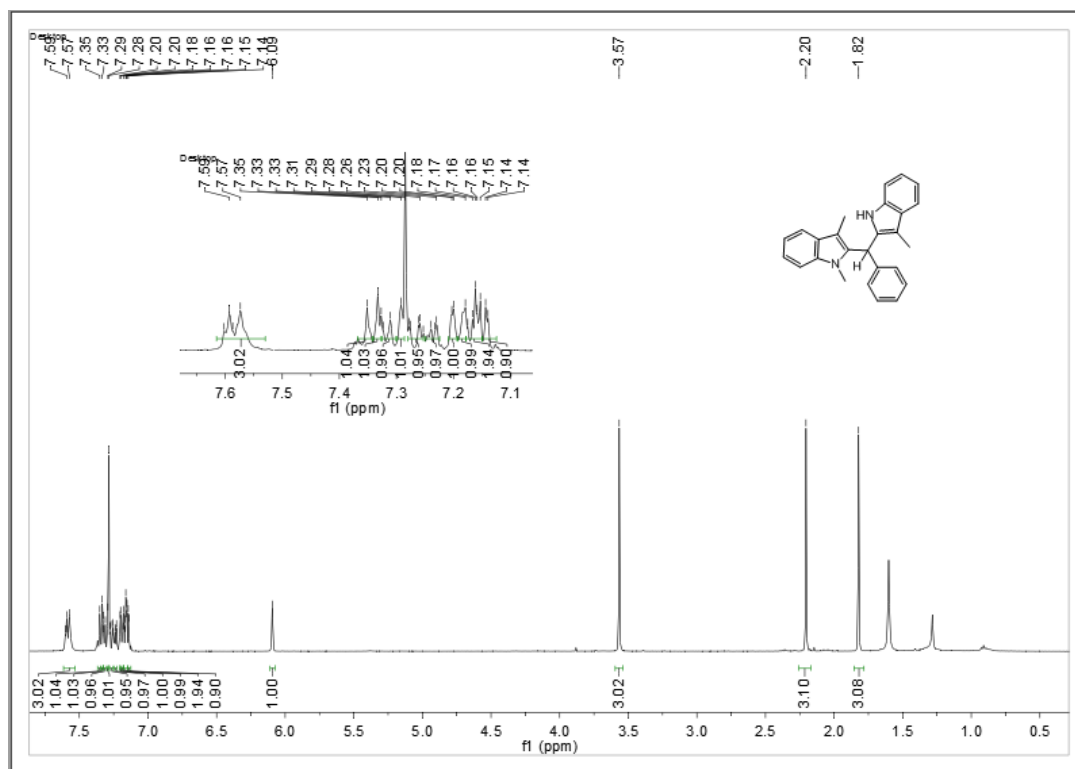
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Formula weight	392.52	
Temperature	130 K	
Wavelength	1.54178 Å	
Crystal system	Monoclinic	
Space group	P 1 21 1	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 9.20980(10) Å	α = 90°.
	b = 8.35700(10) Å	β = 105.3780(10)°.
	c = 14.8849(2) Å	γ = 90°.
Volume	1104.62(2) Å ³	
Z	2	
Density (calculated)	1.180 Mg/m ³	
Absorption coefficient	0.522 mm ⁻¹	
F(000)	420	
Crystal size	0.15 x 0.1 x 0.06 mm ³	
Theta range for data collection	3.079 to 69.612°.	
Index ranges	-11 ≤ h ≤ 11, -10 ≤ k ≤ 8, -18 ≤ l ≤ 17	
Reflections collected	8154	
Independent reflections	3399 [R(int) = 0.0382]	
Completeness to theta = 67.679°	99.5 %	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	0.7532 and 0.5183	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²	
Data / restraints / parameters	3399 / 1 / 276	
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.049	
Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0440, wR2 = 0.1186	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0446, wR2 = 0.1193	
Absolute structure parameter	0.1(3)	
Extinction coefficient	n/a	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.232 and -0.203 e.Å ⁻³	

NMR Spectra of products

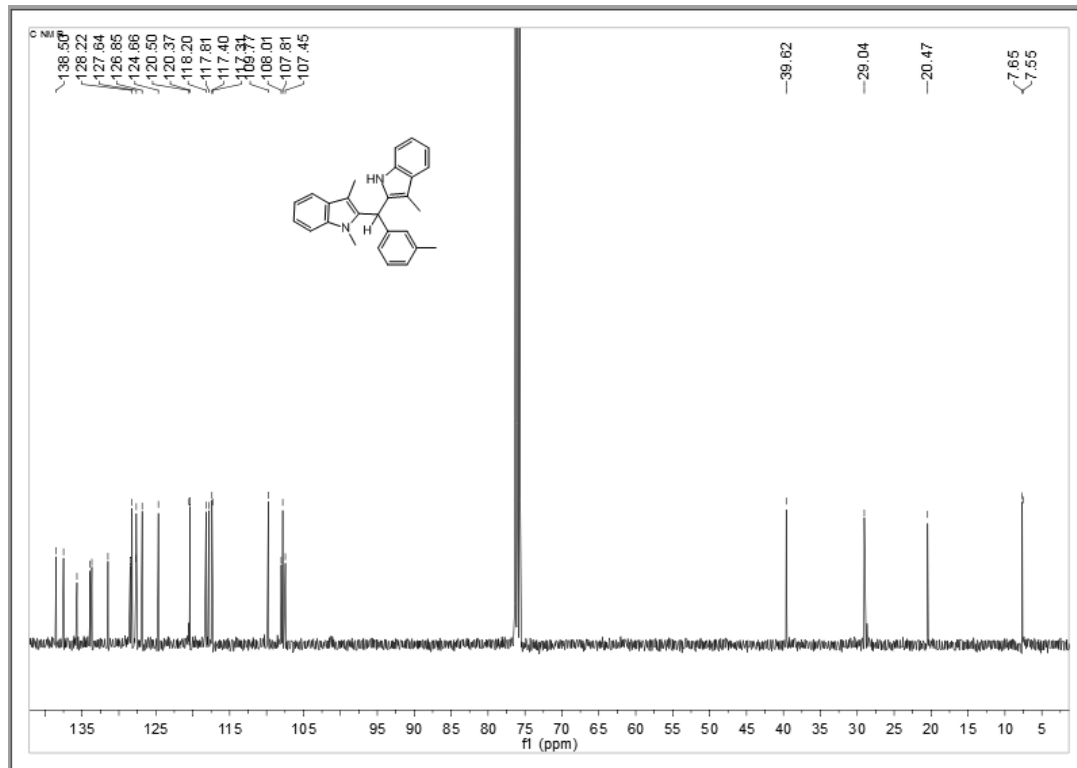
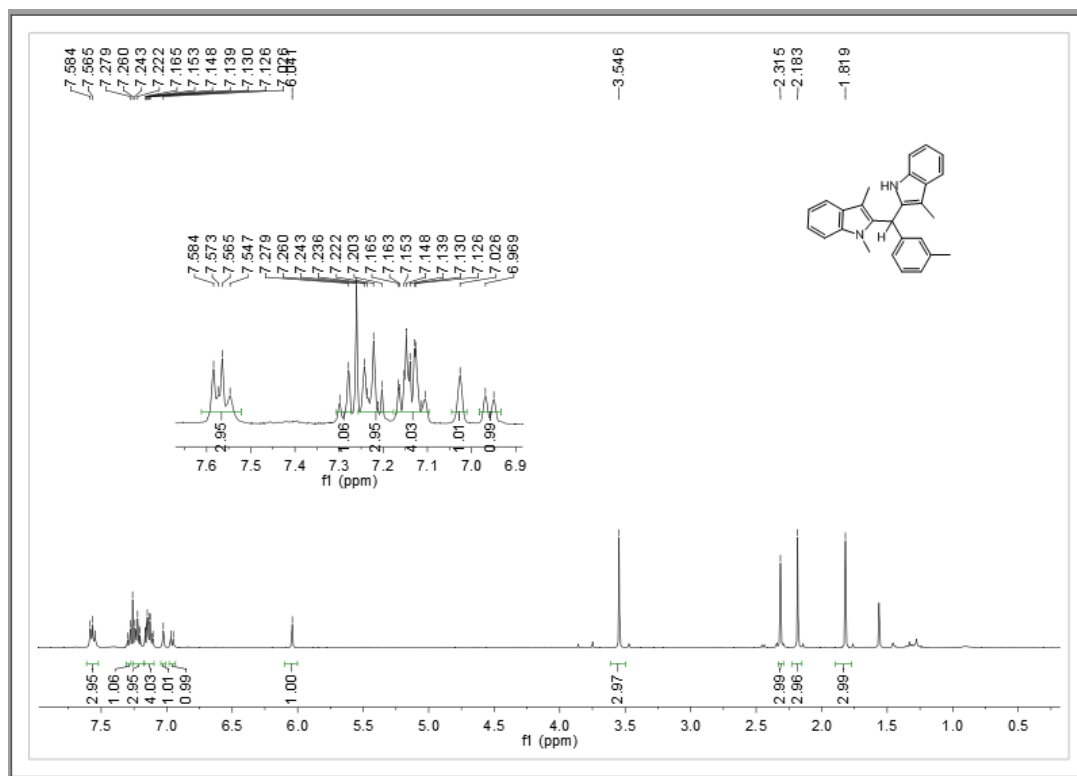
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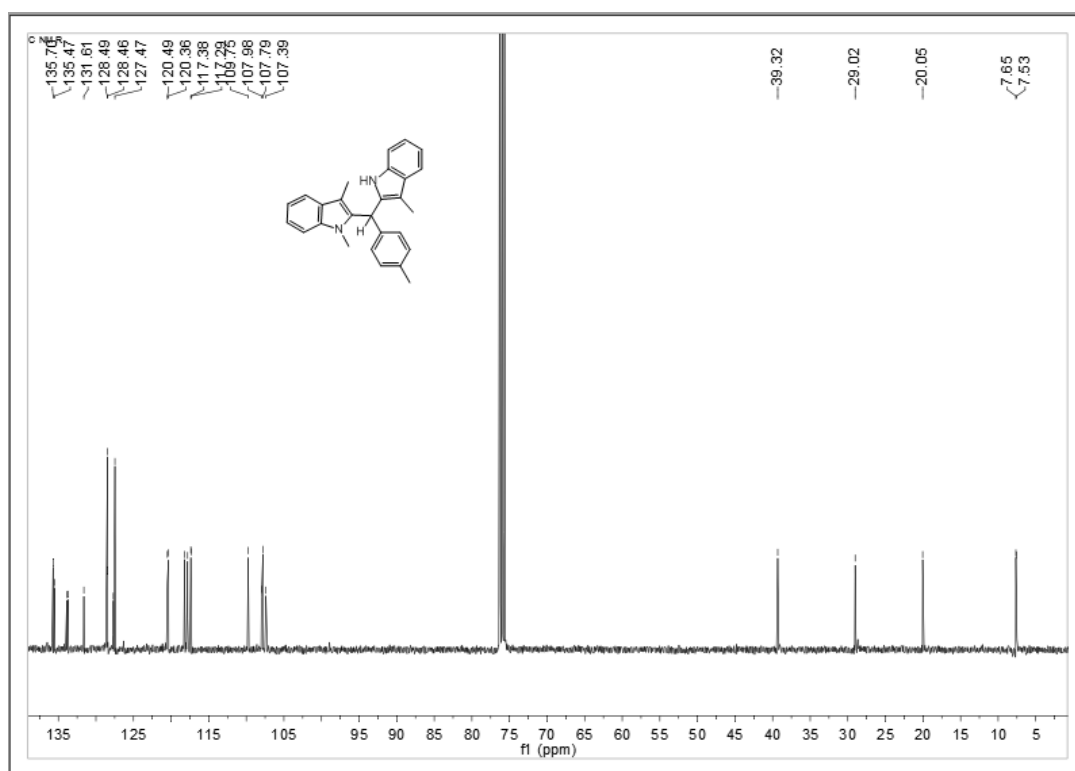
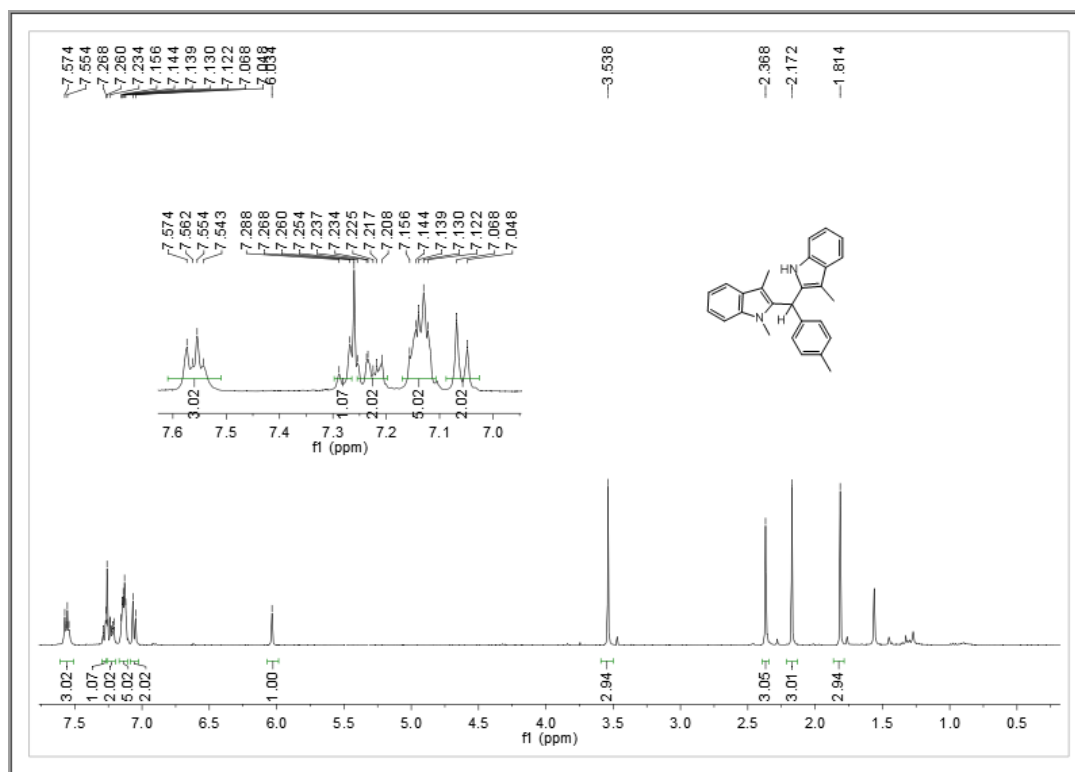
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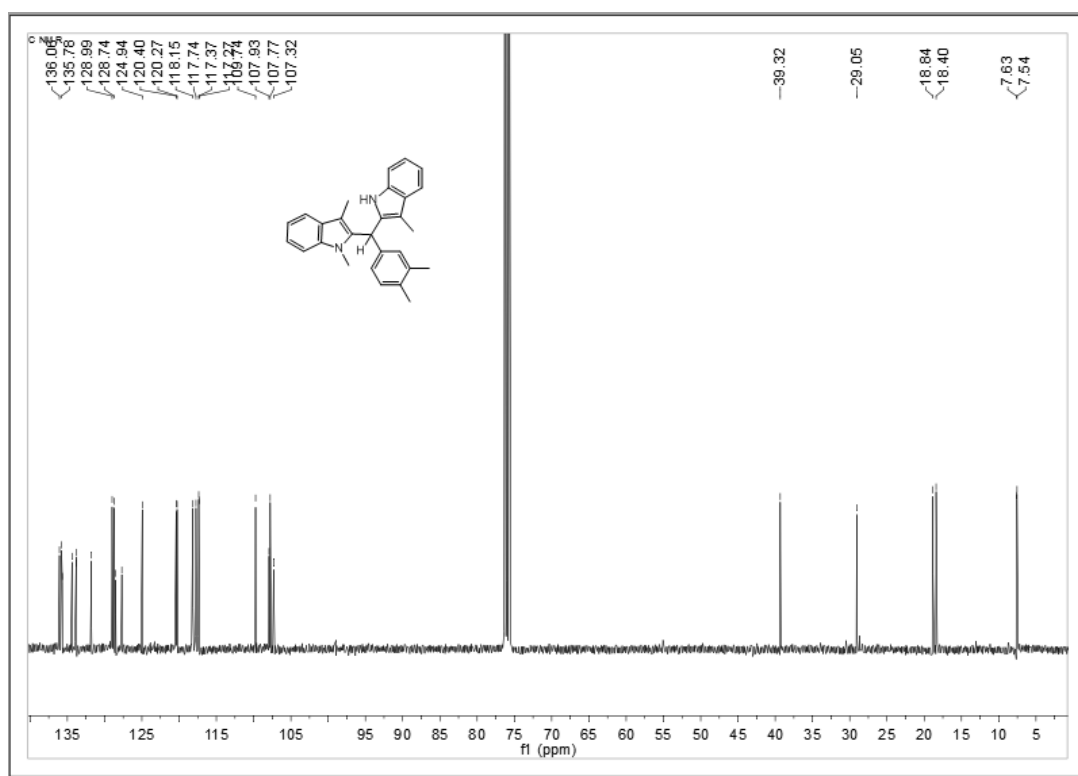
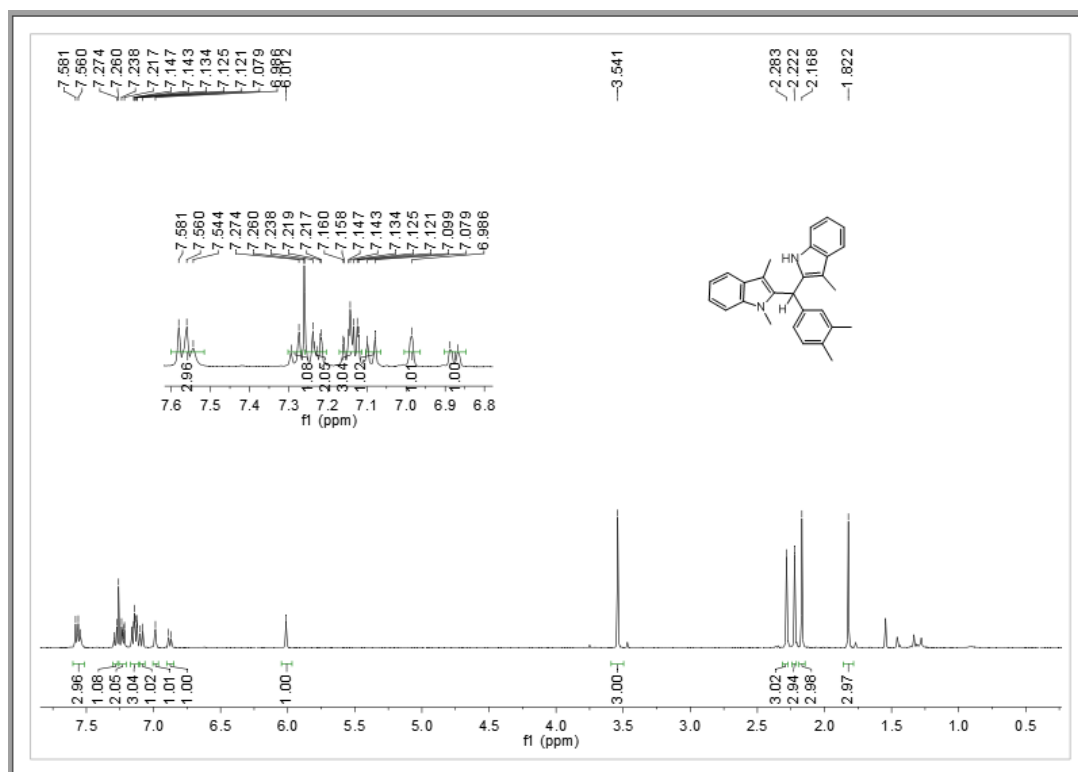
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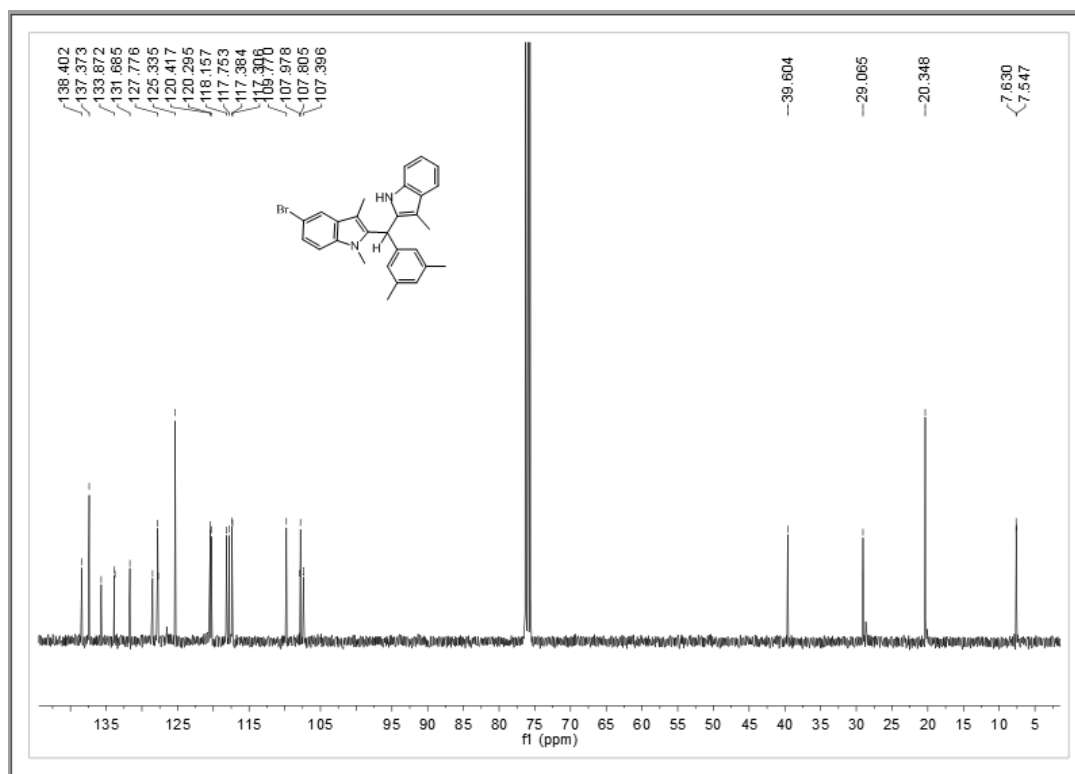
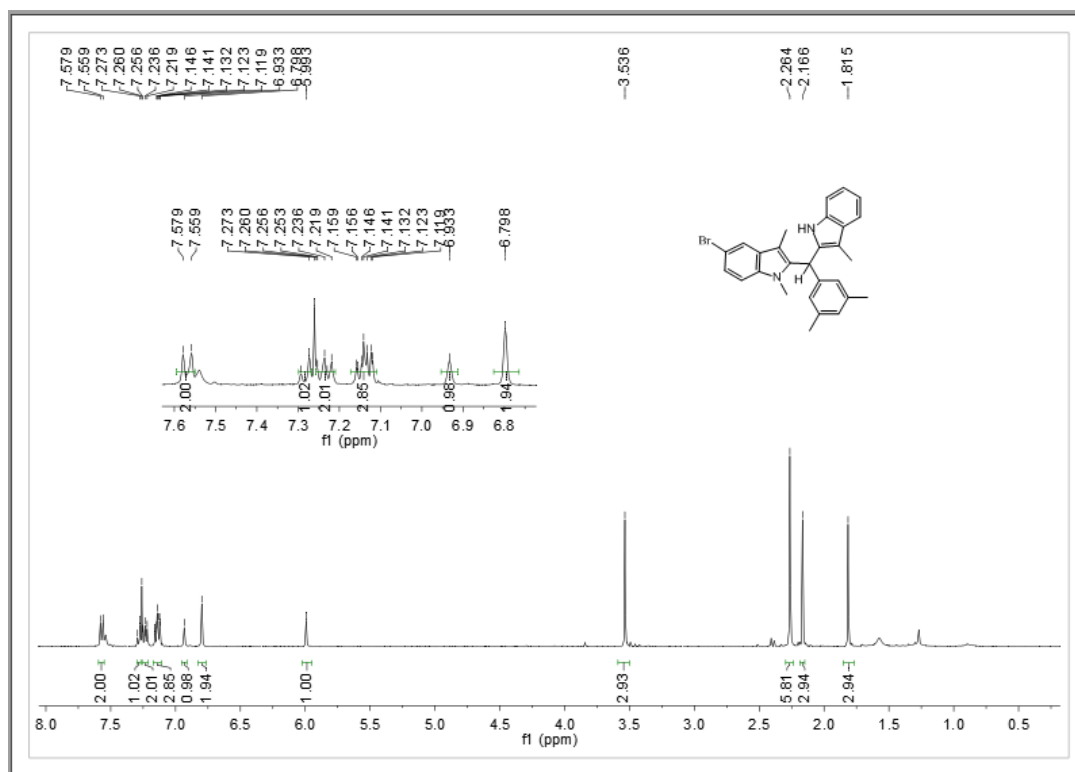
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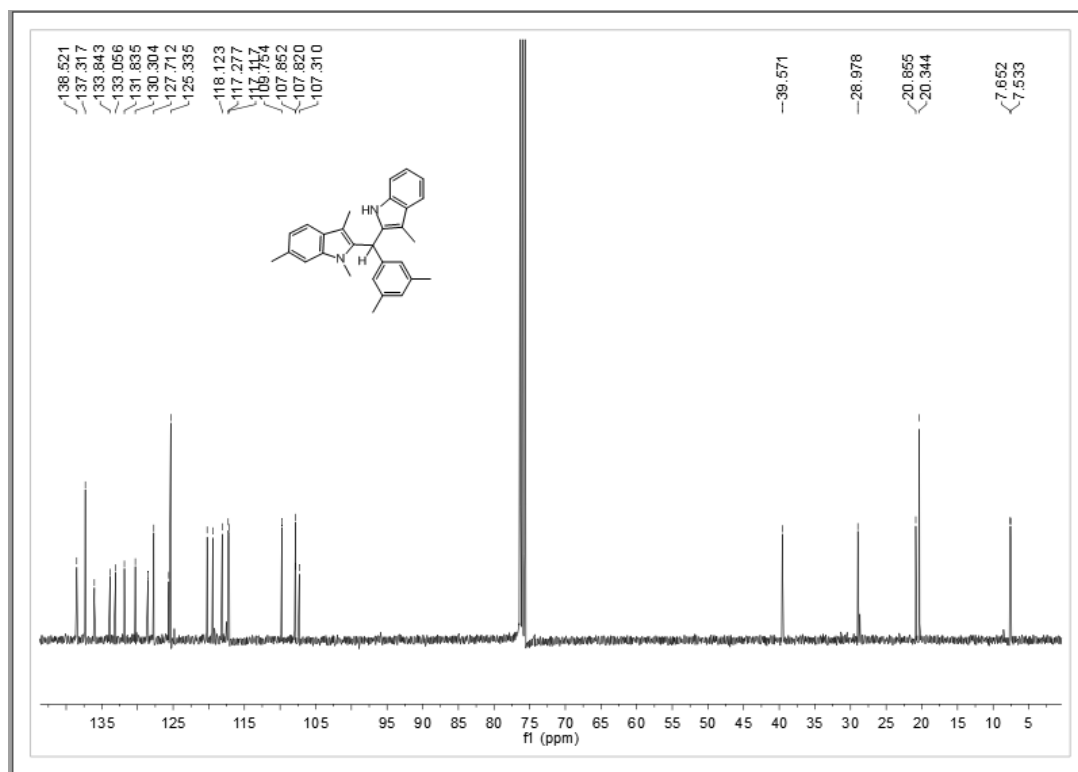
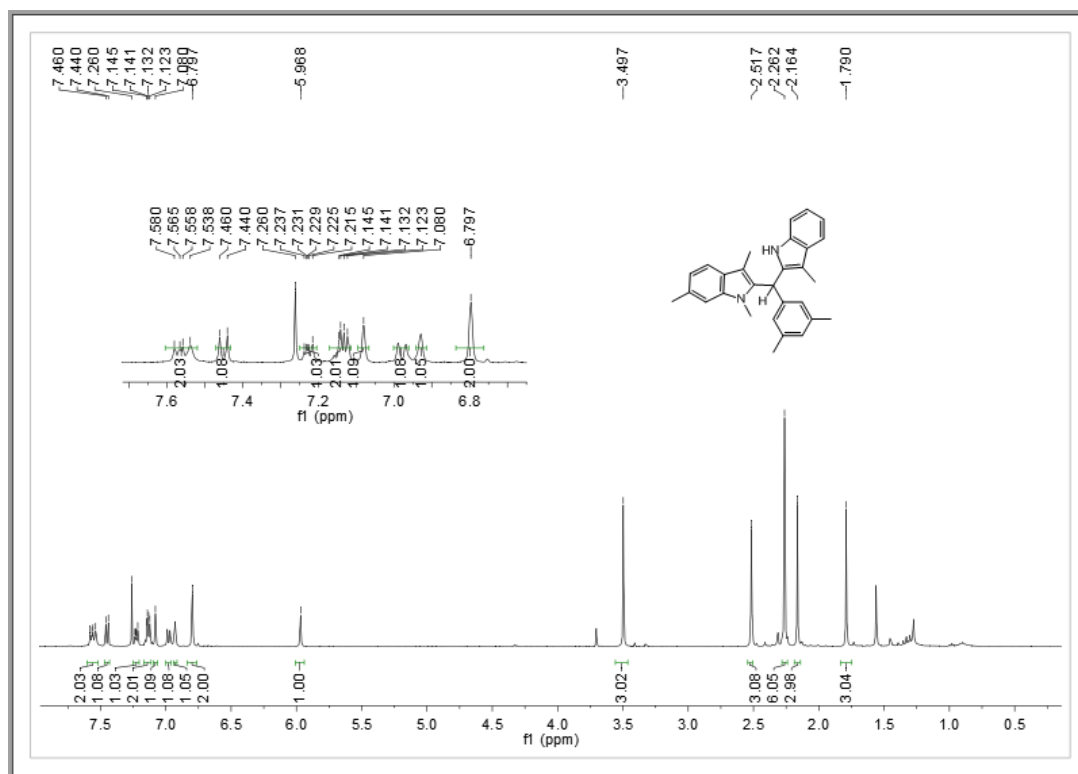
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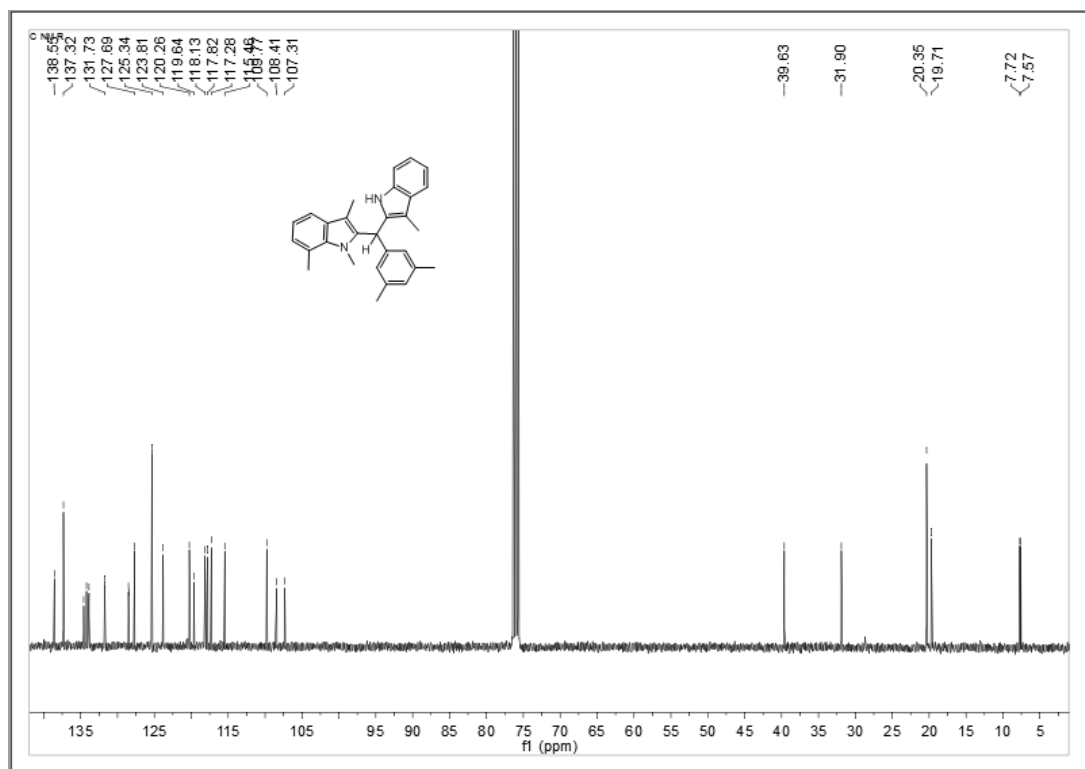
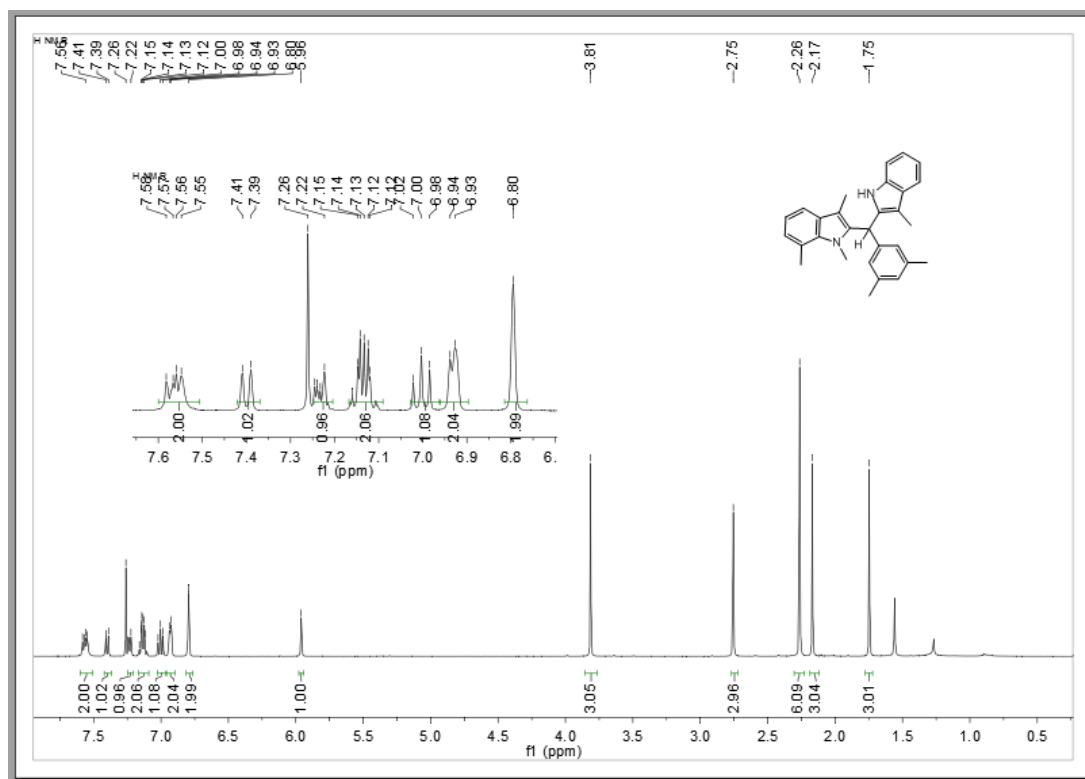
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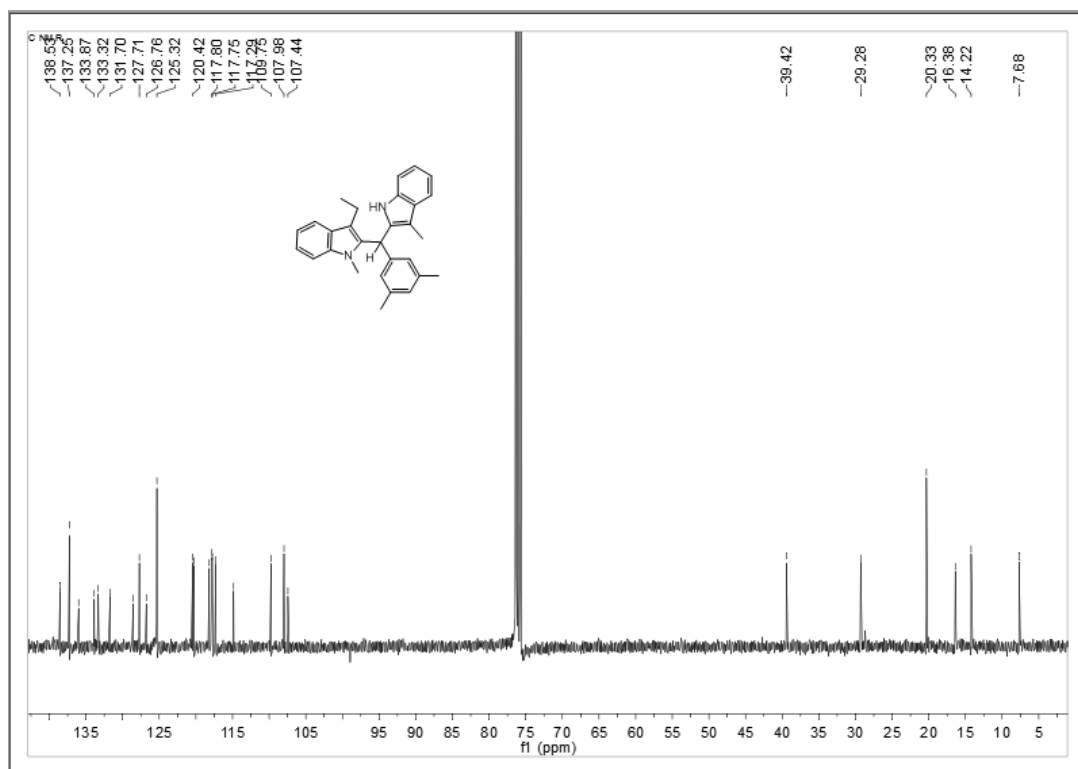
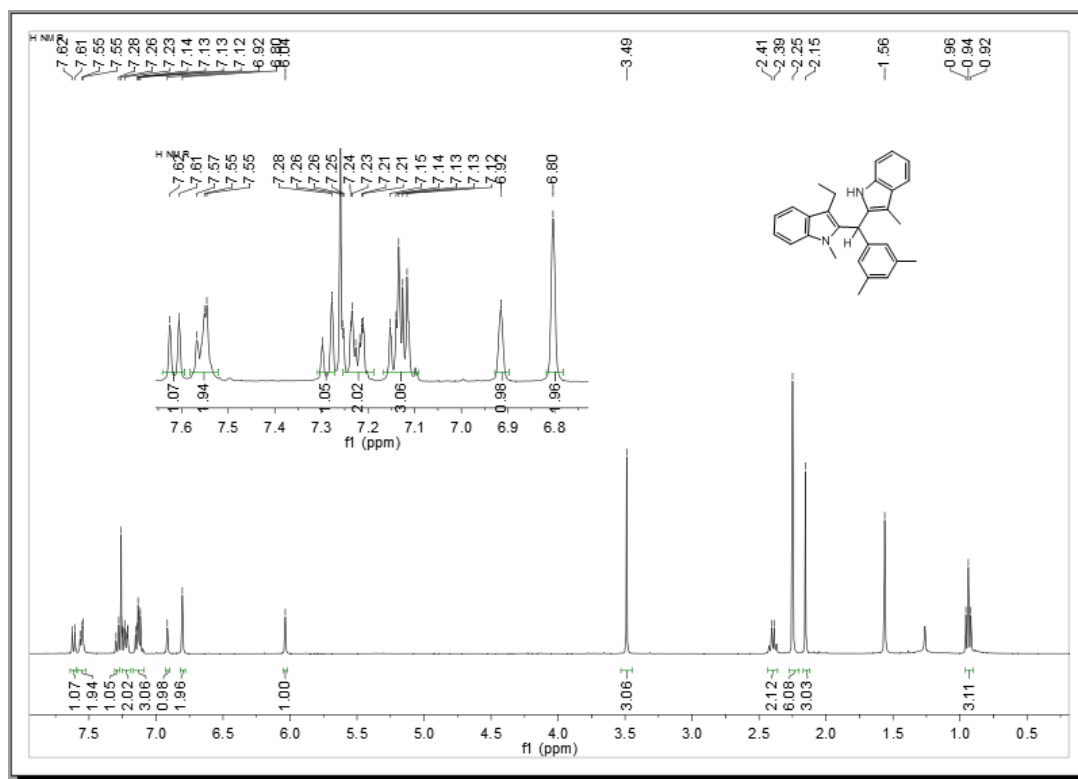
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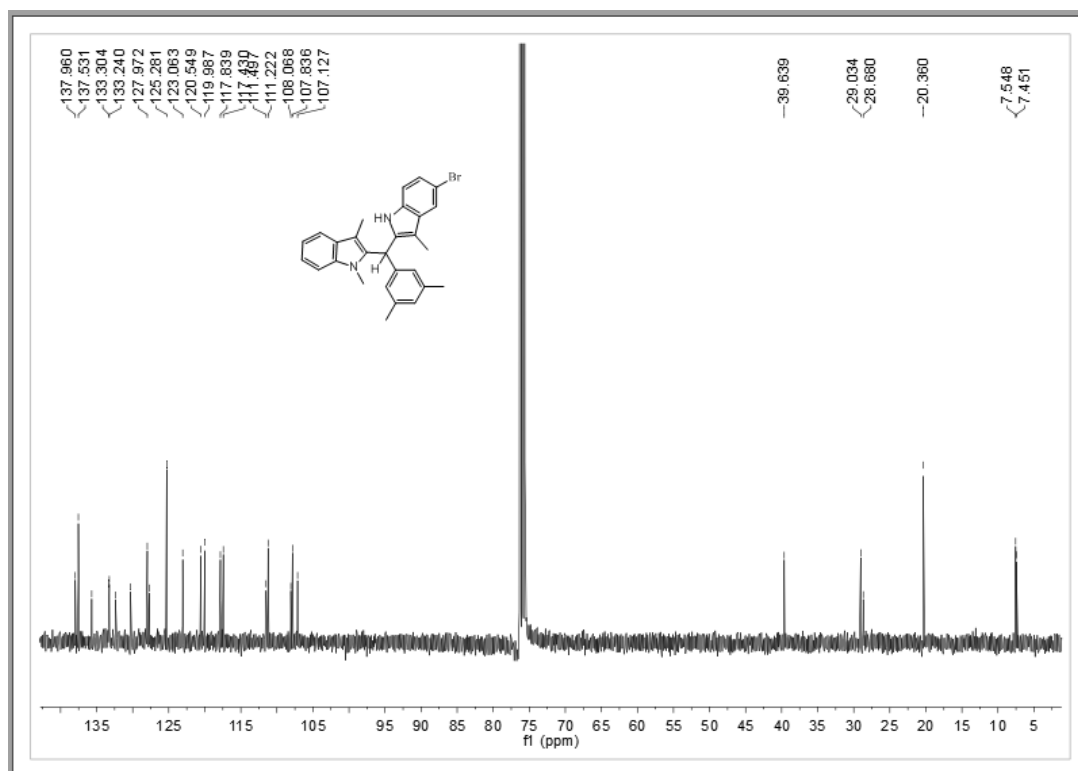
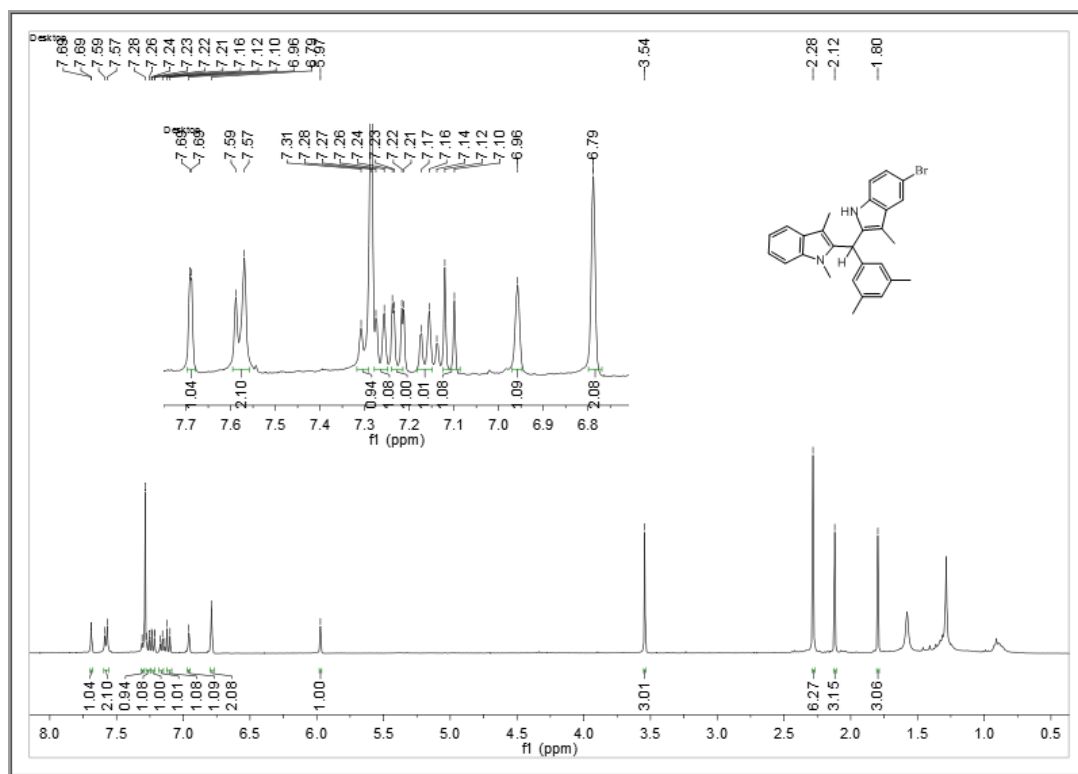
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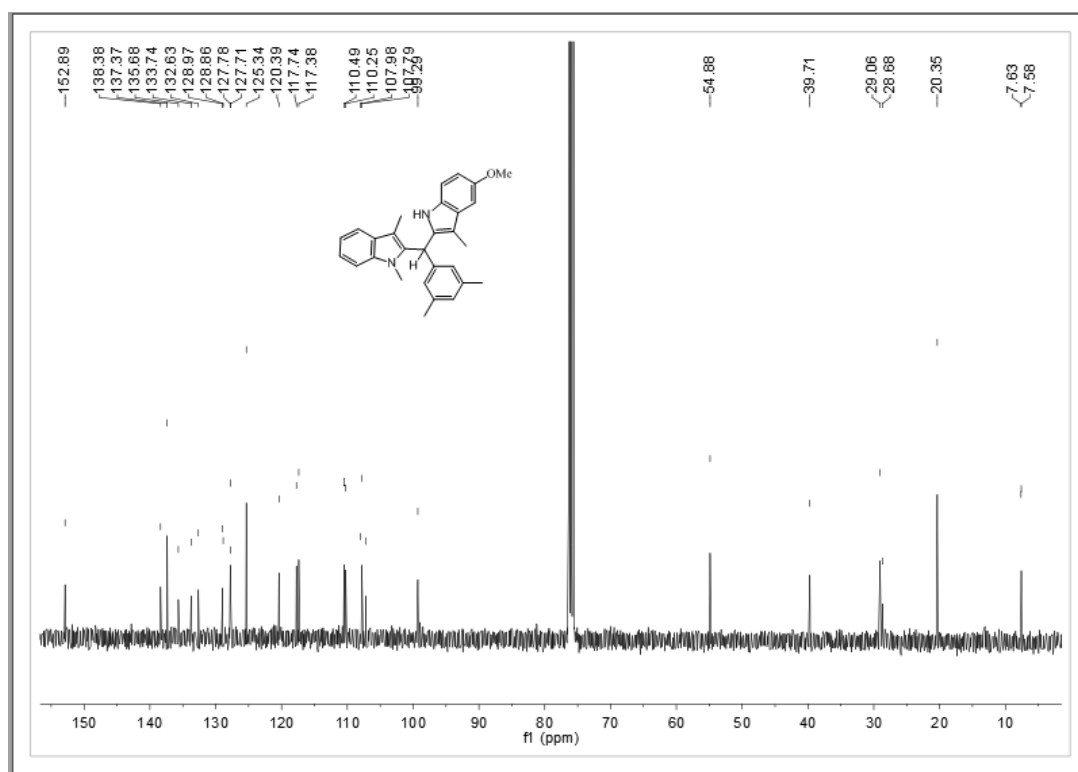
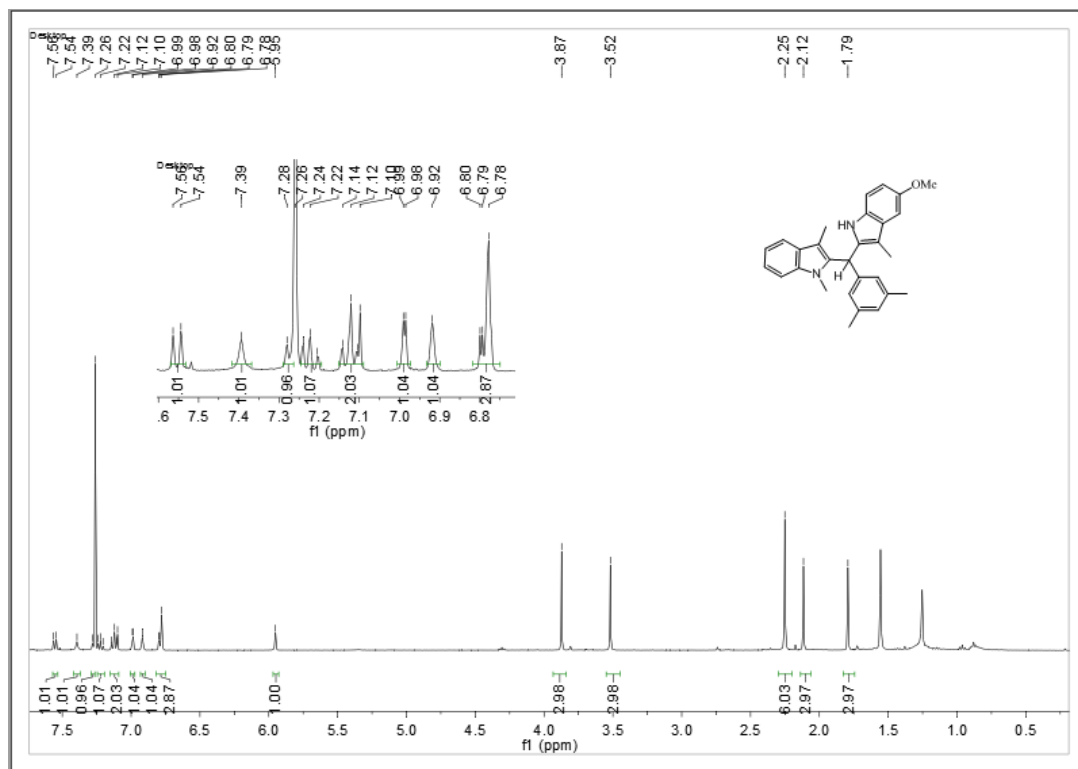
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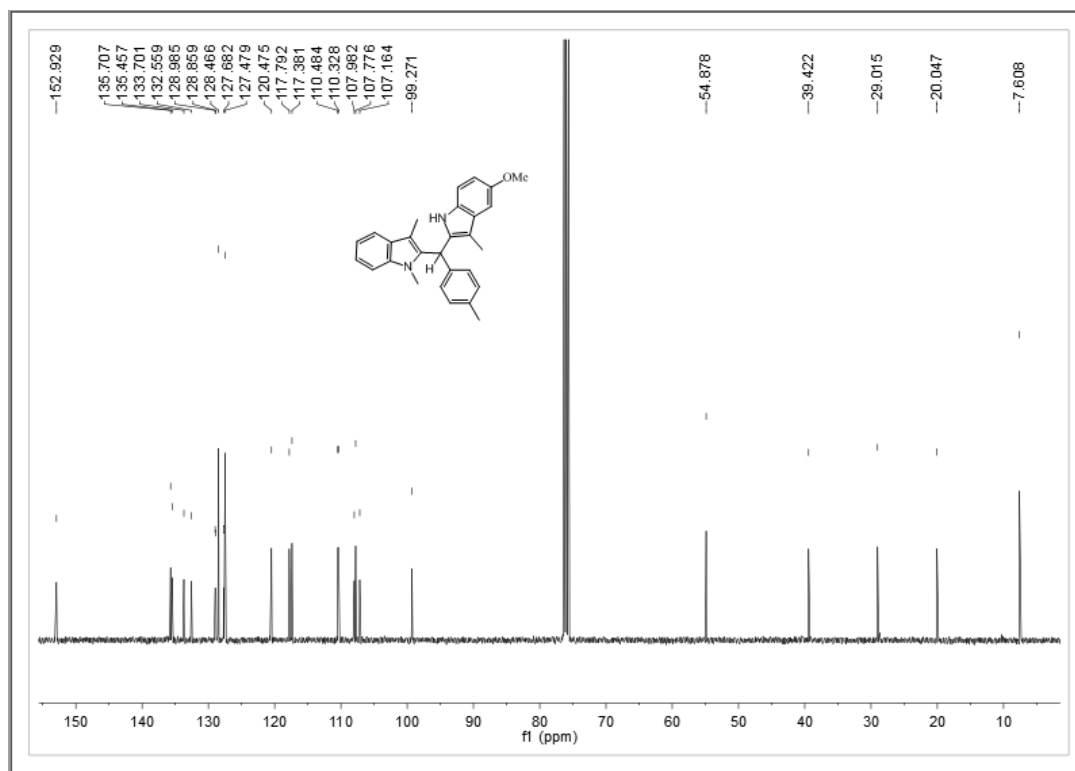
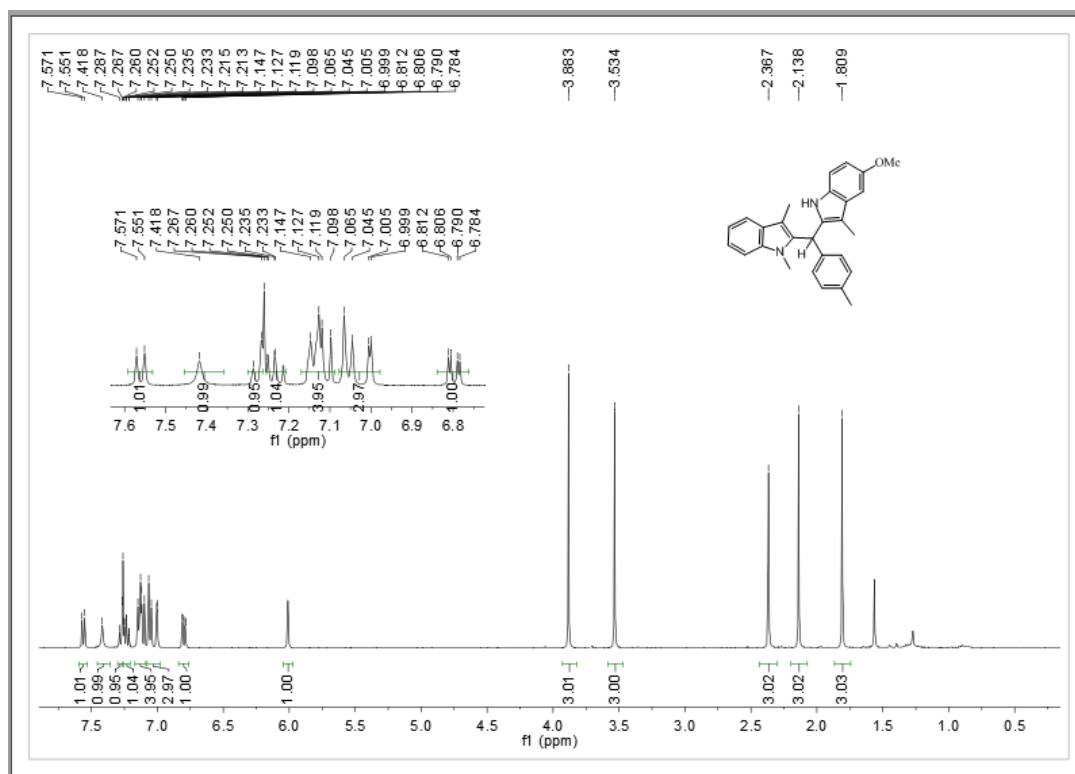
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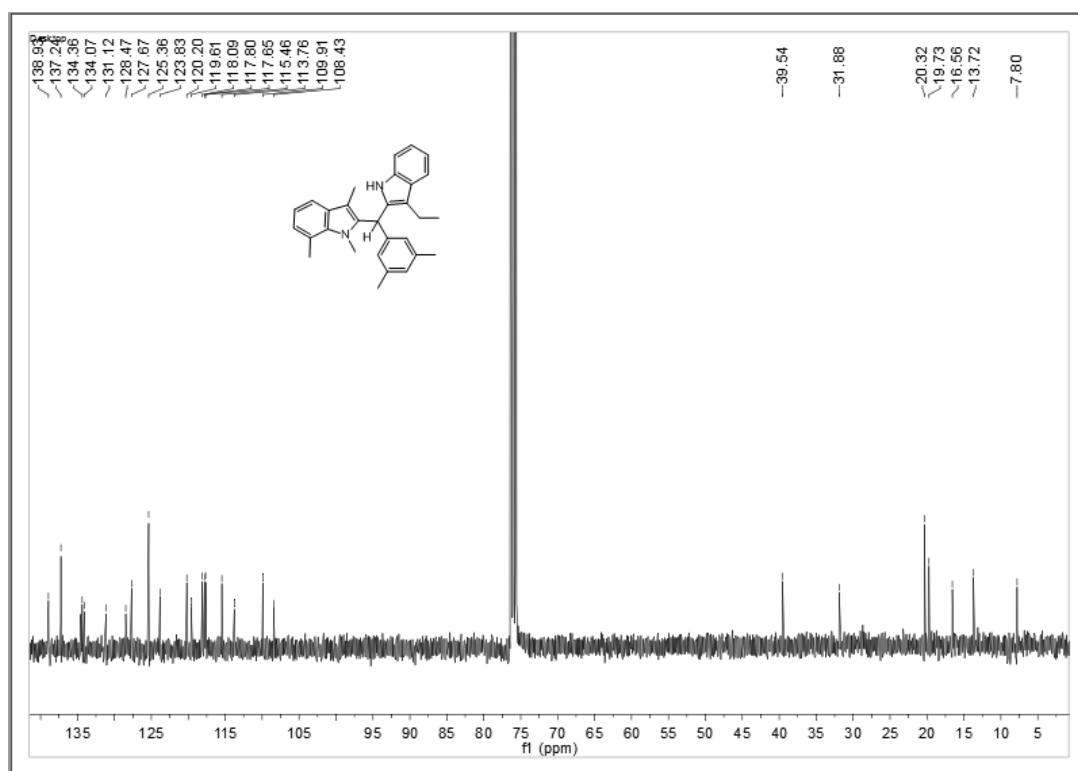
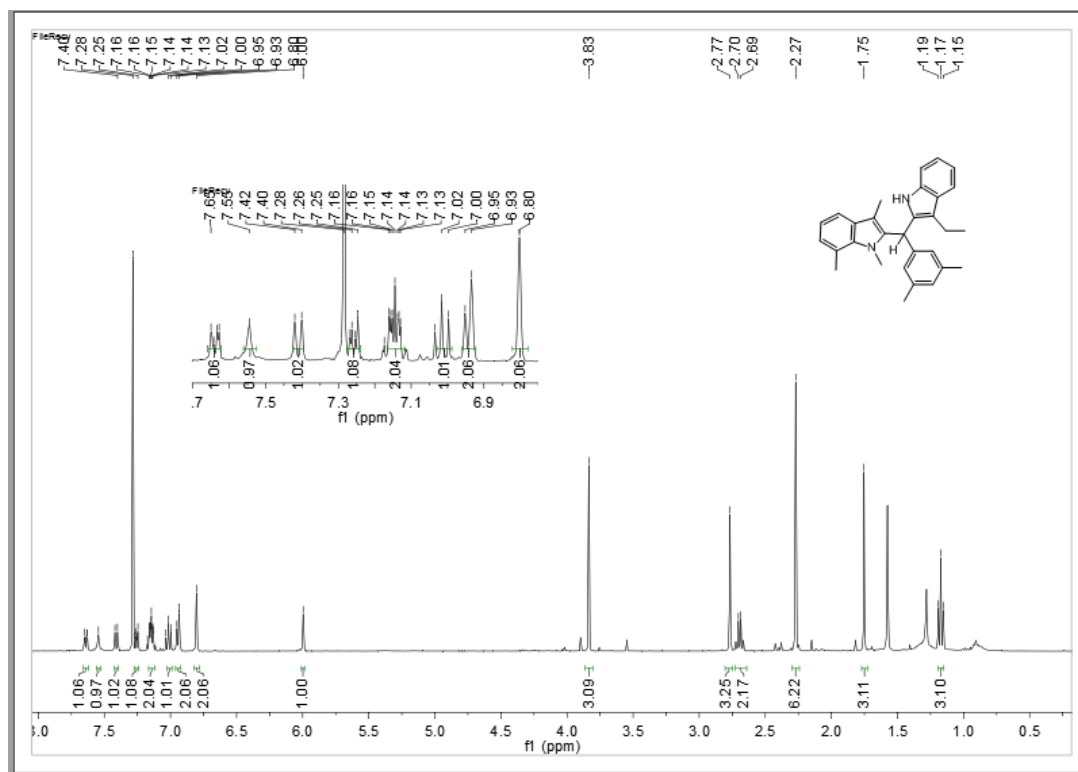
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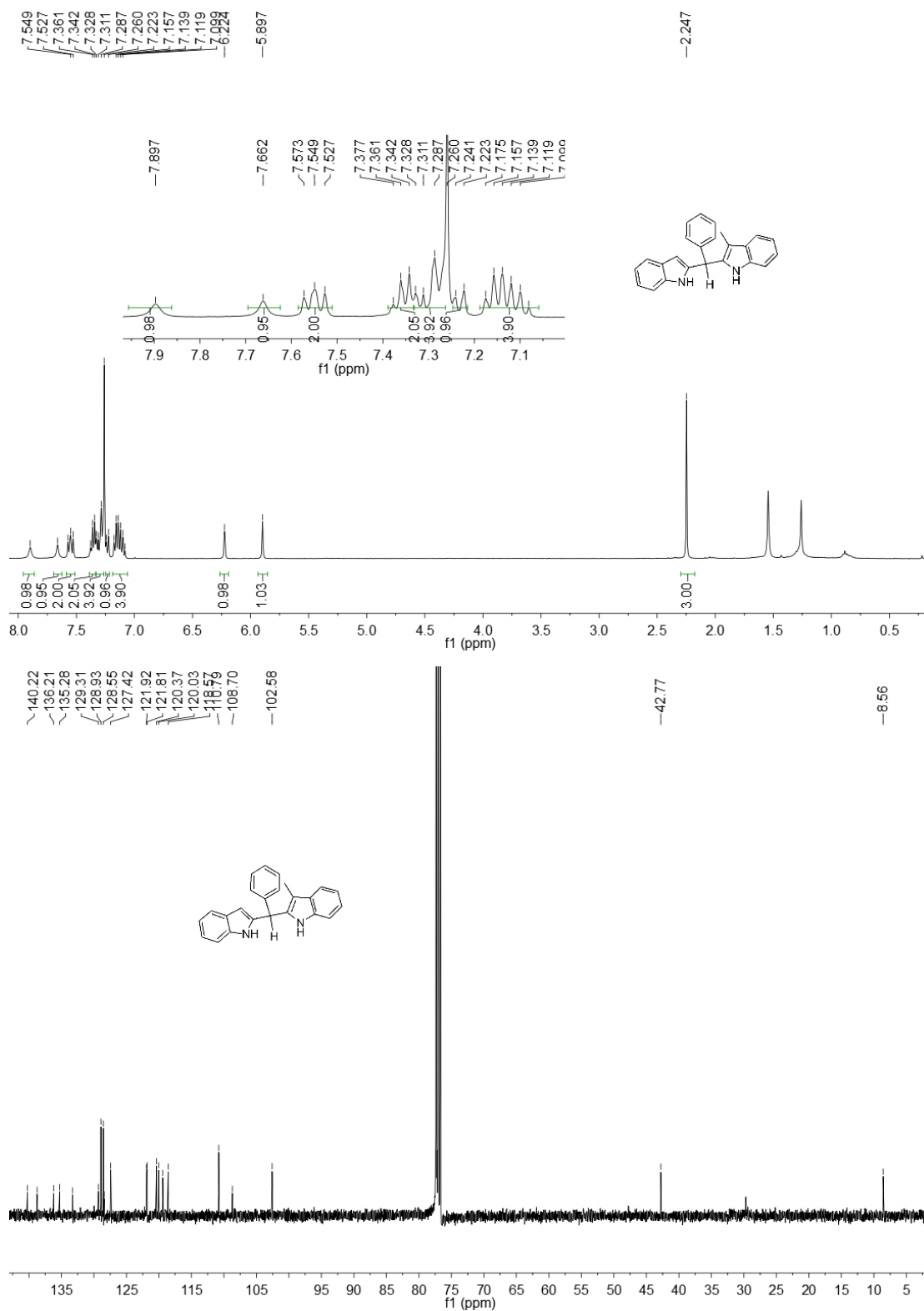
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3hd

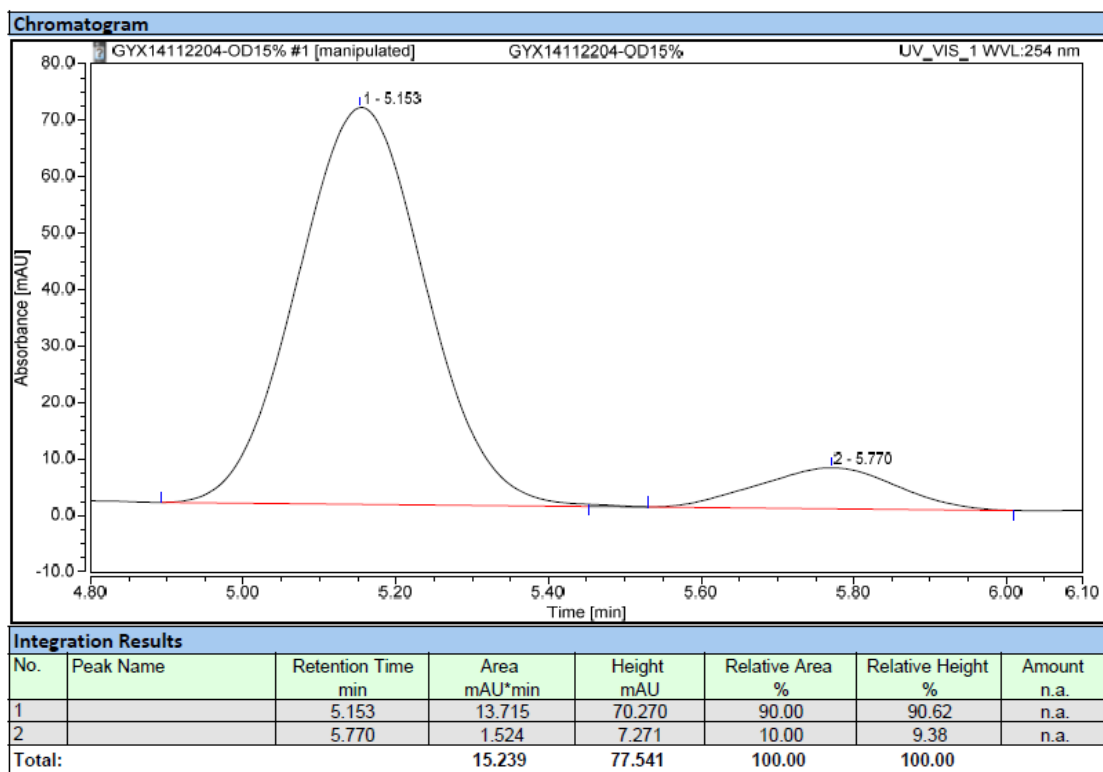
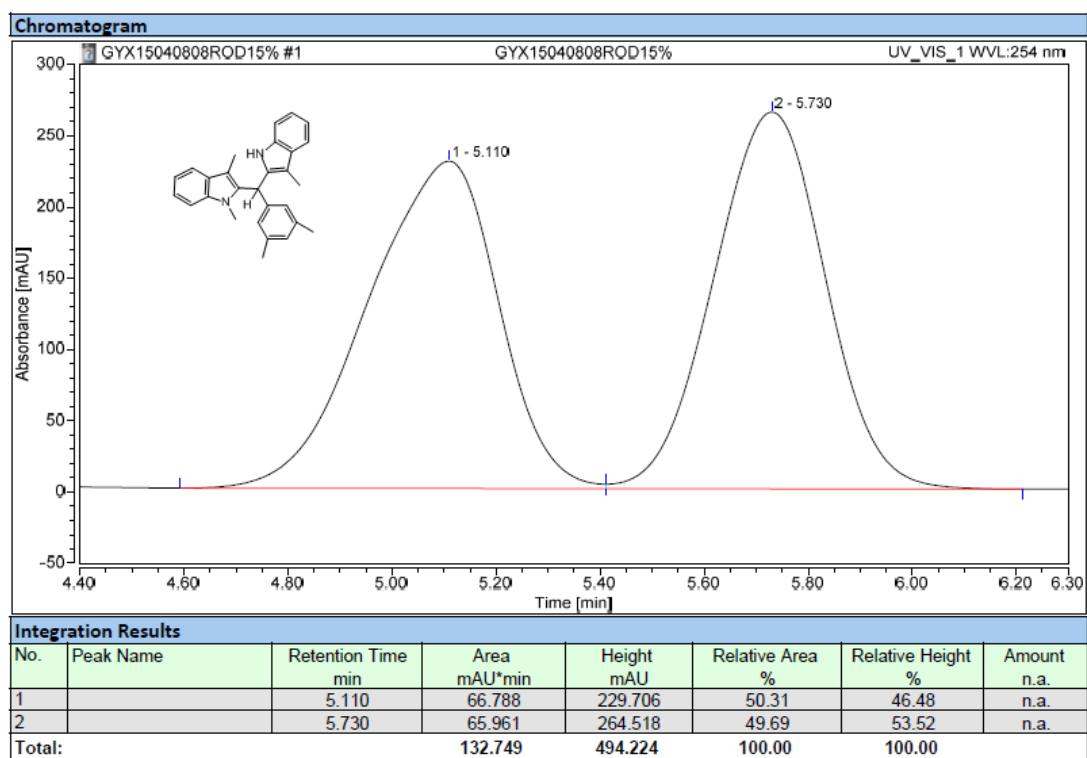


Compound 8:

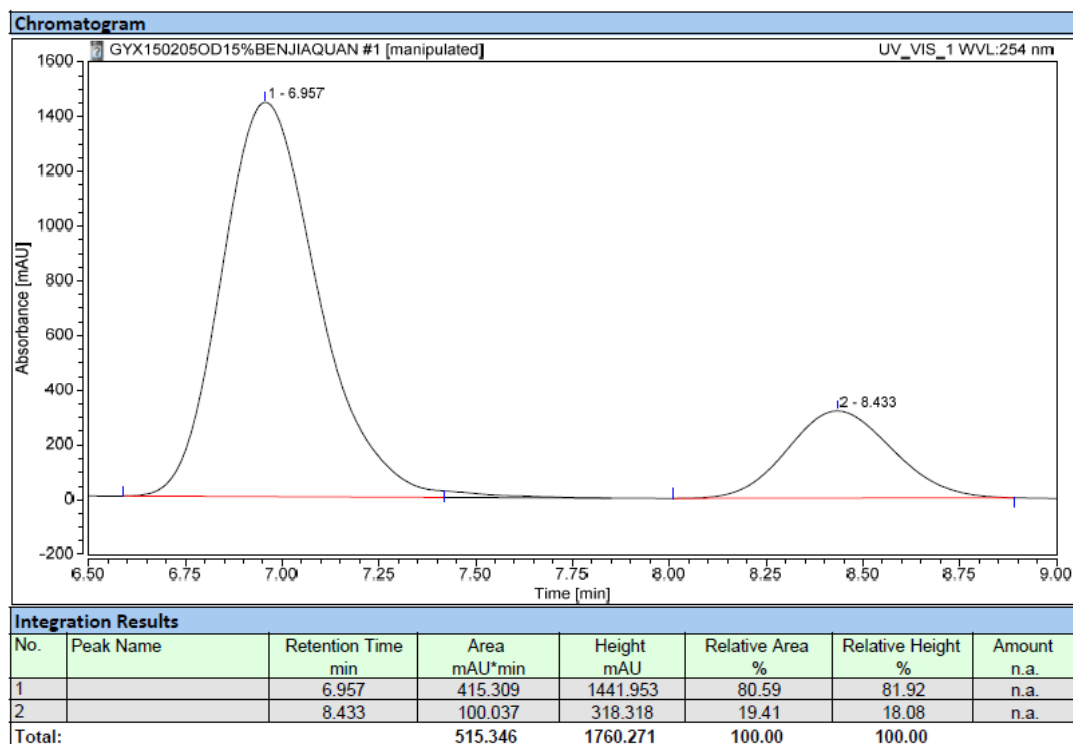
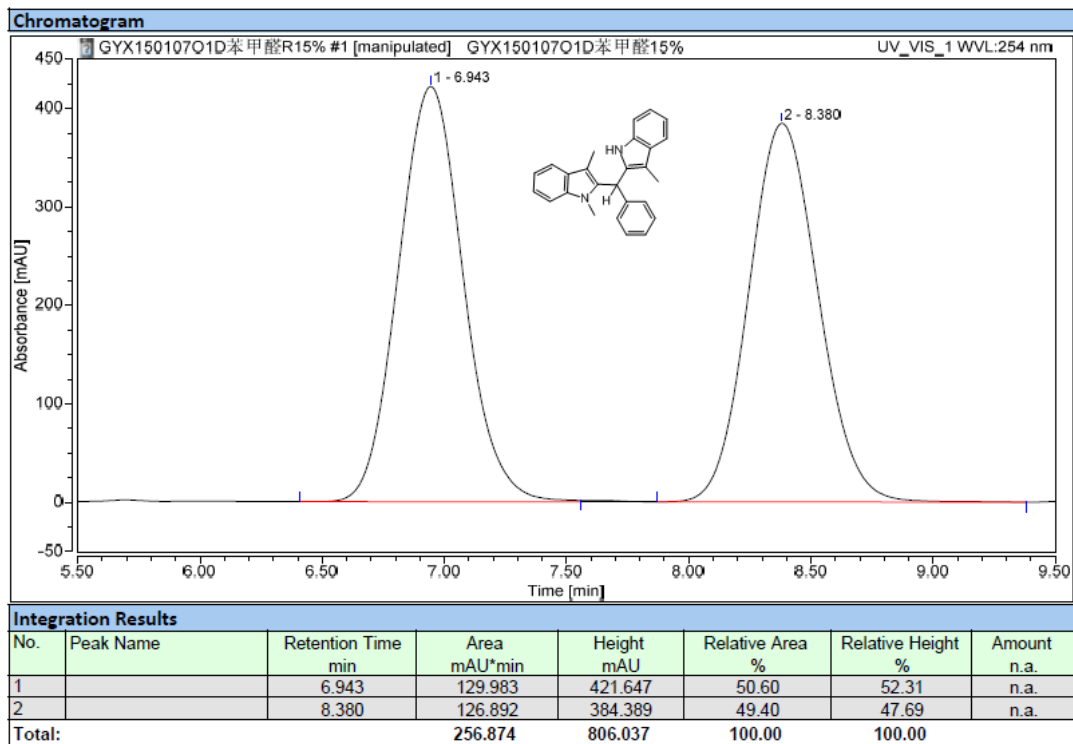


HPLC Spectra of products

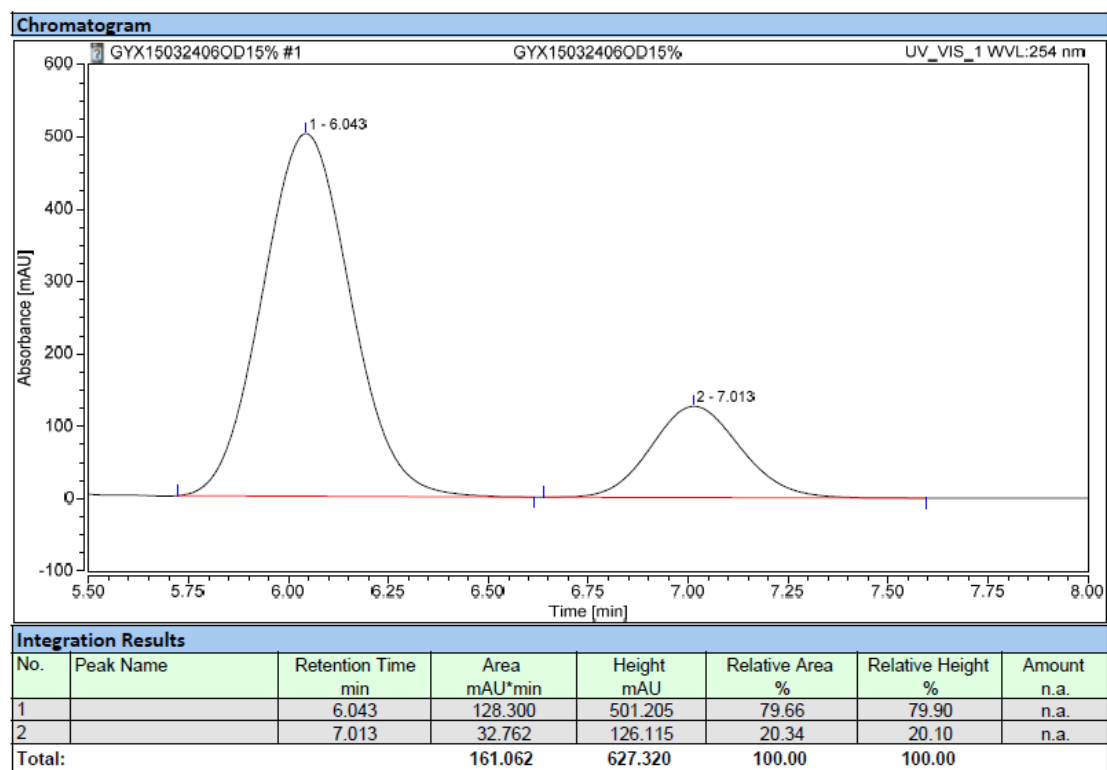
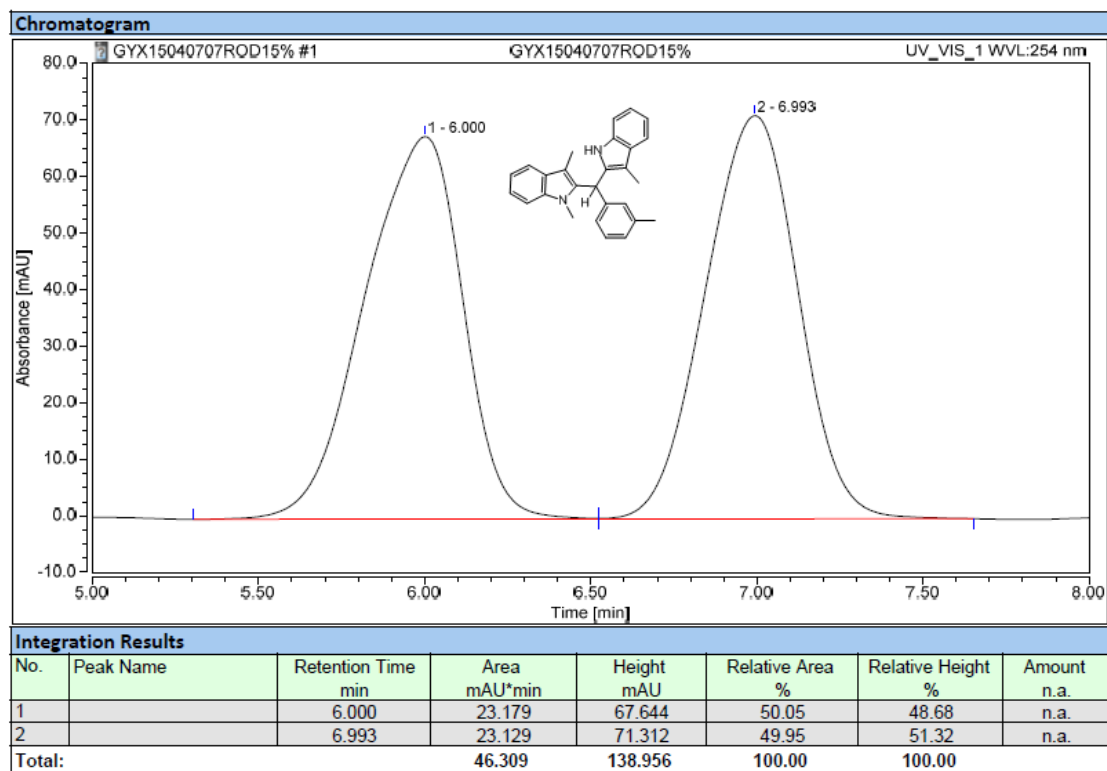
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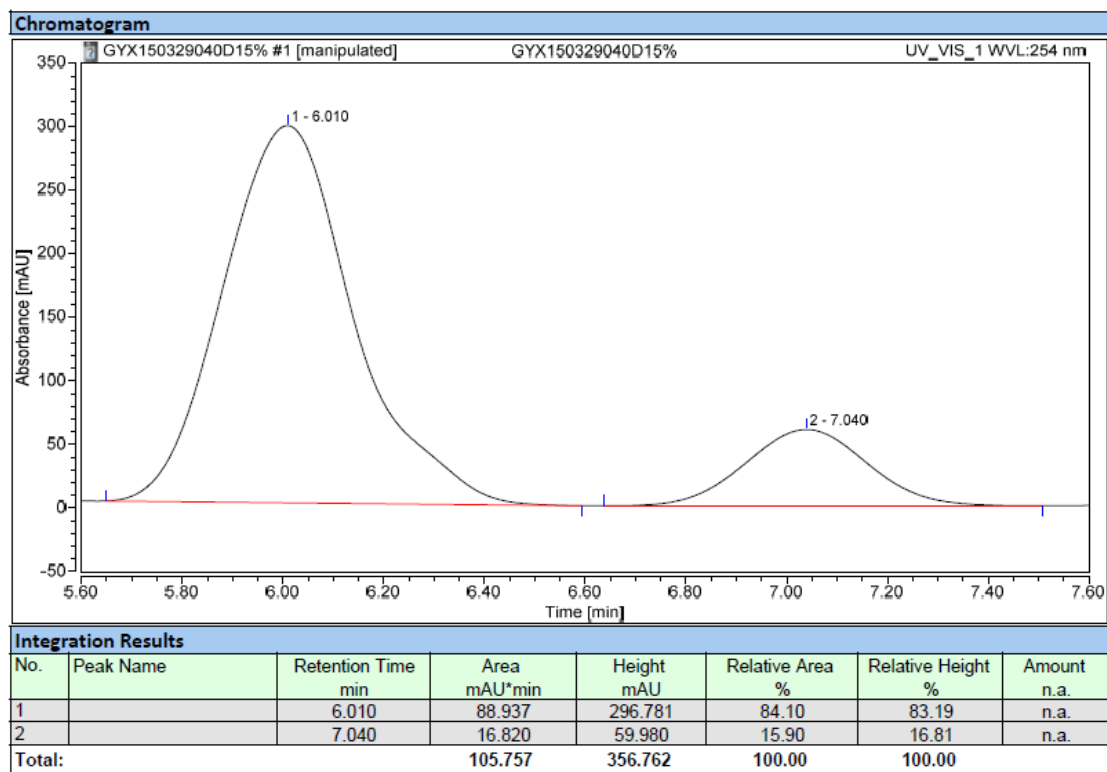
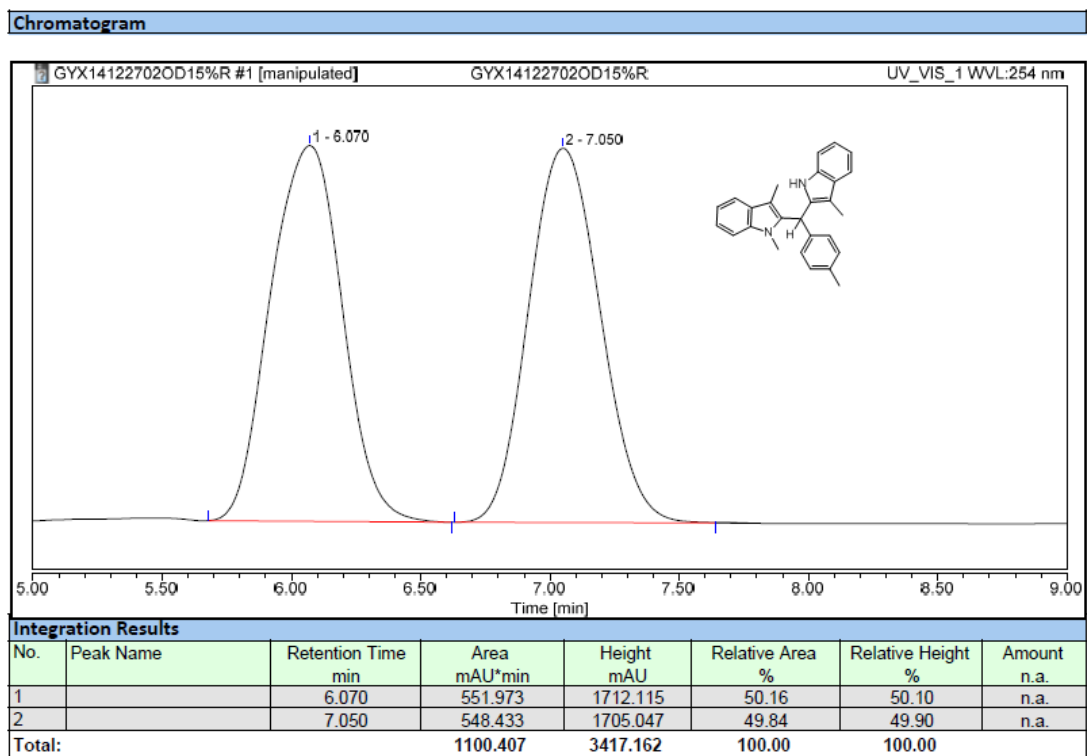
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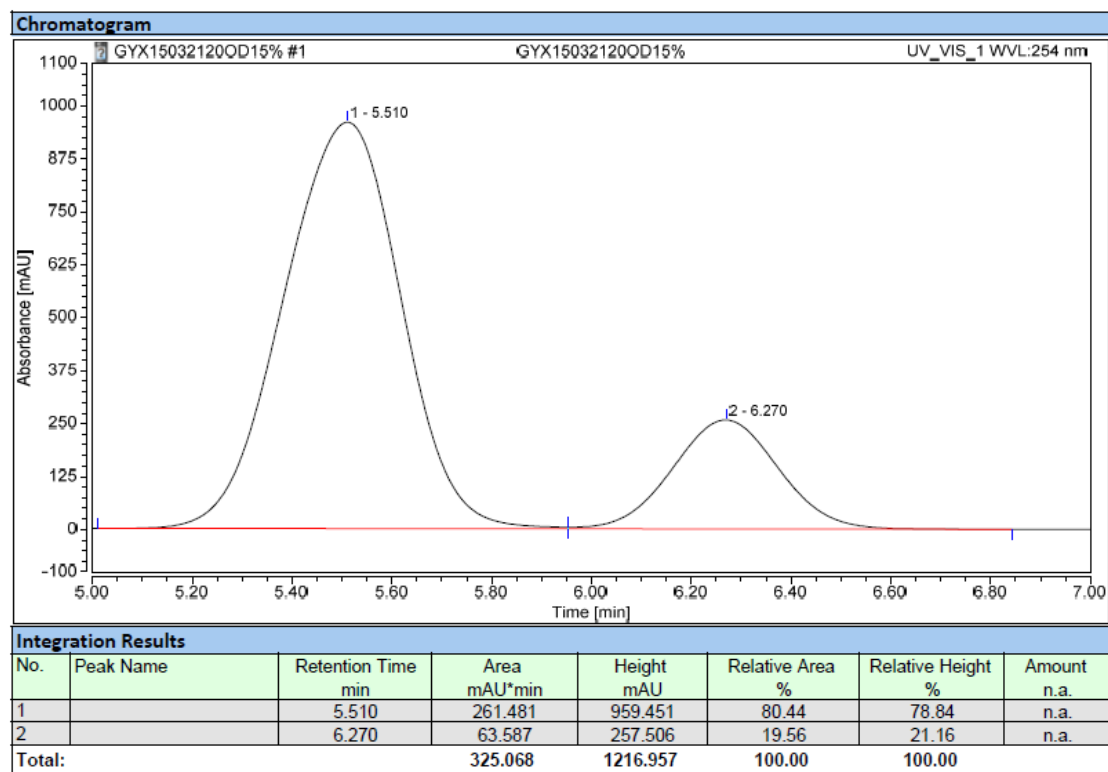
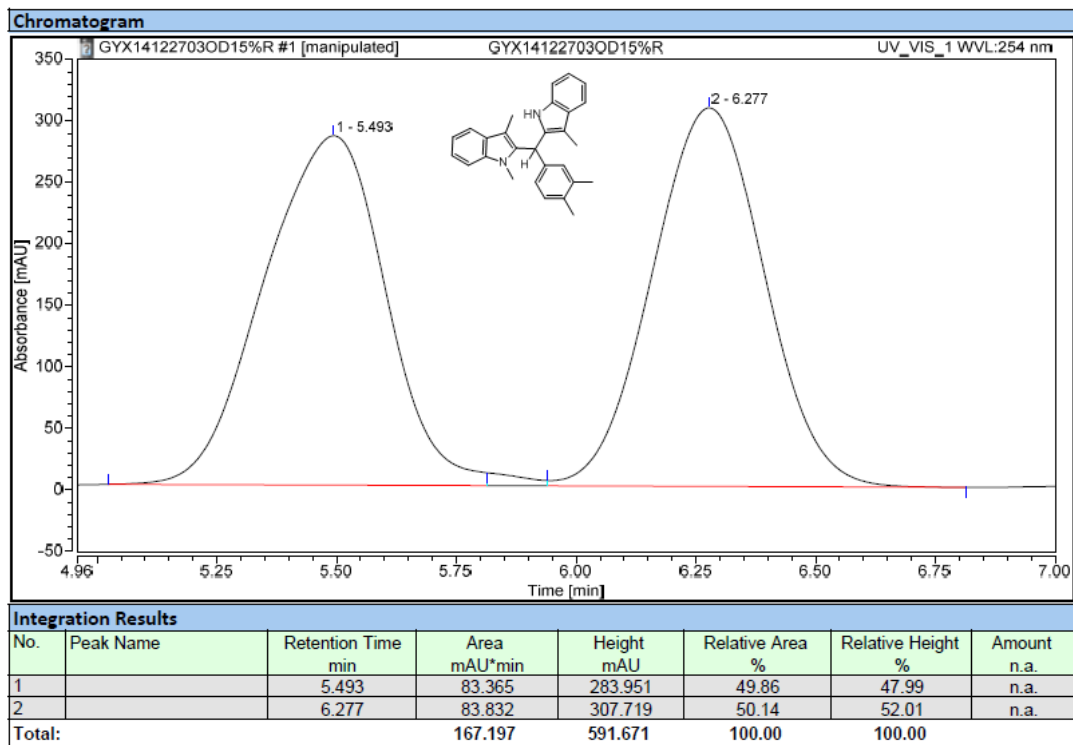
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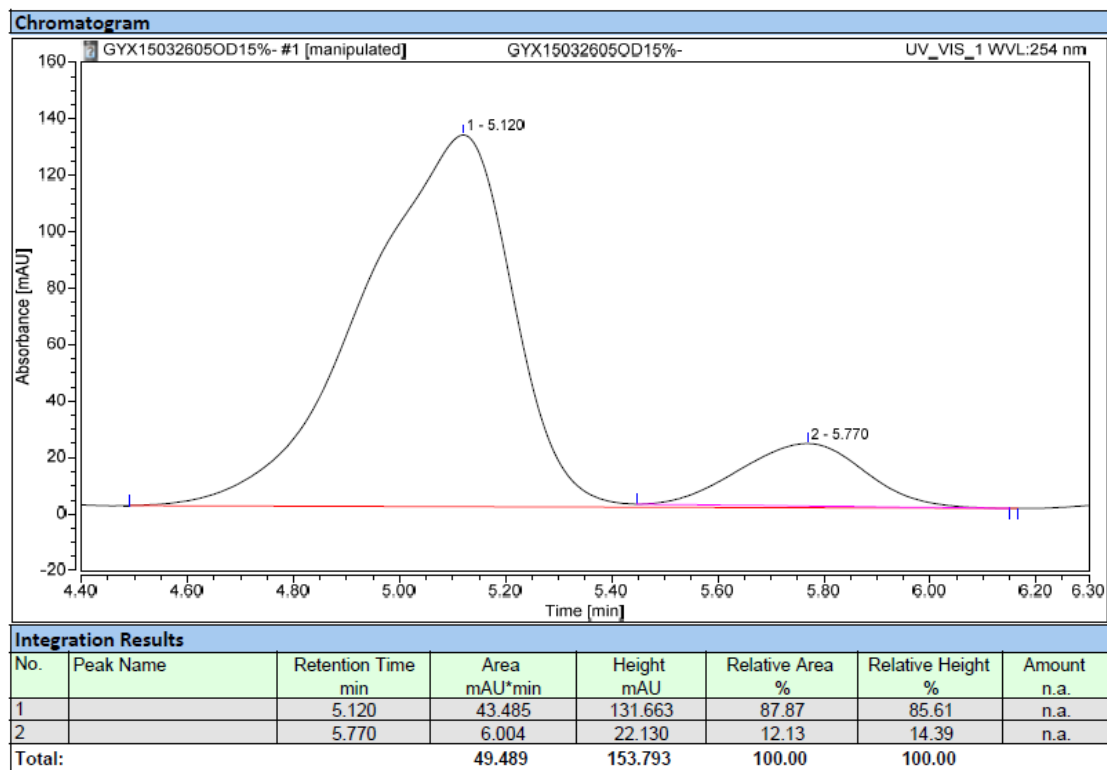
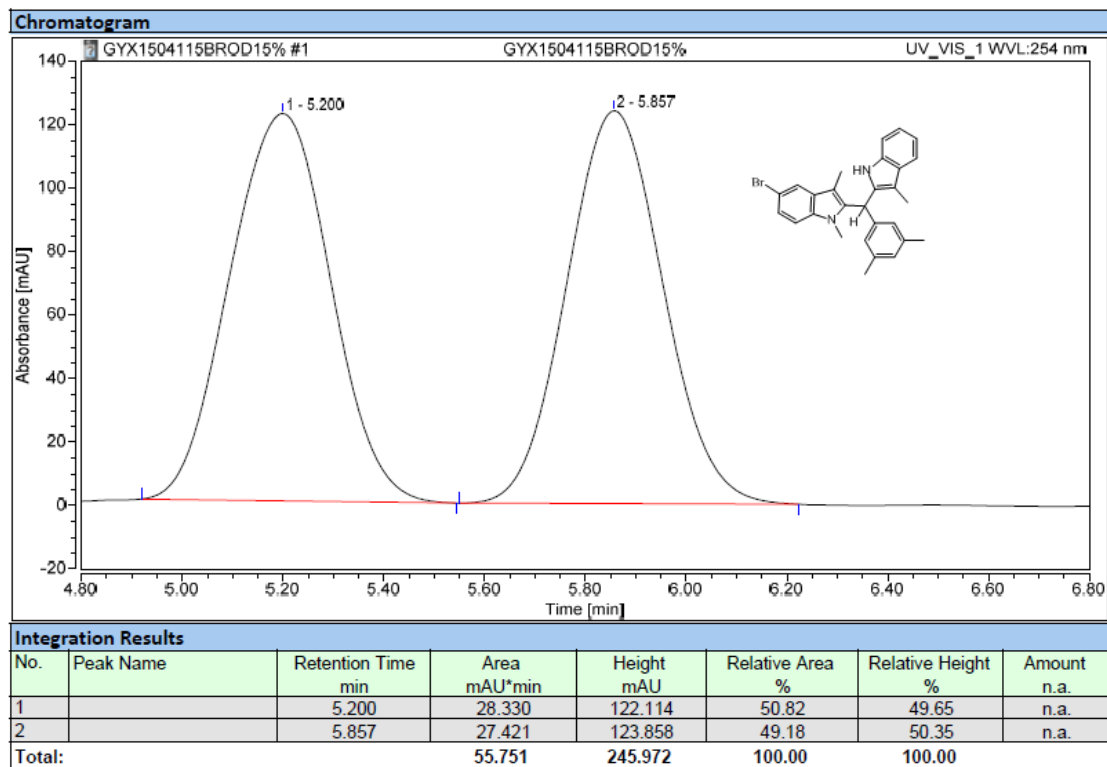
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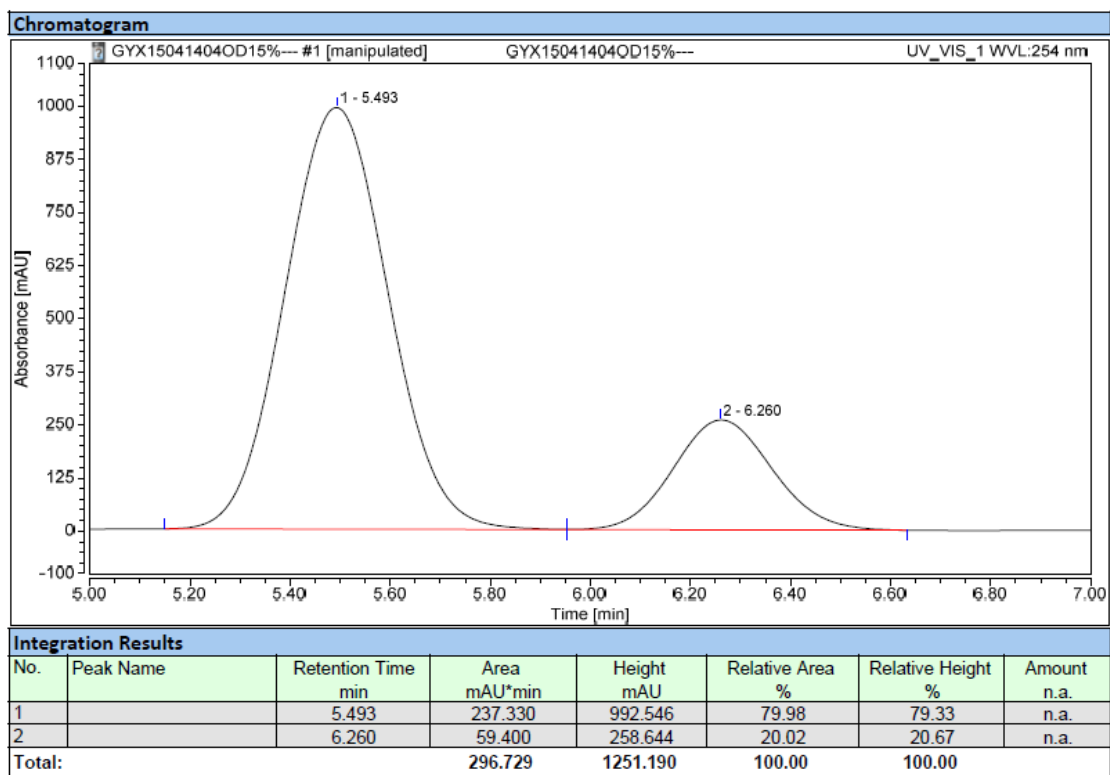
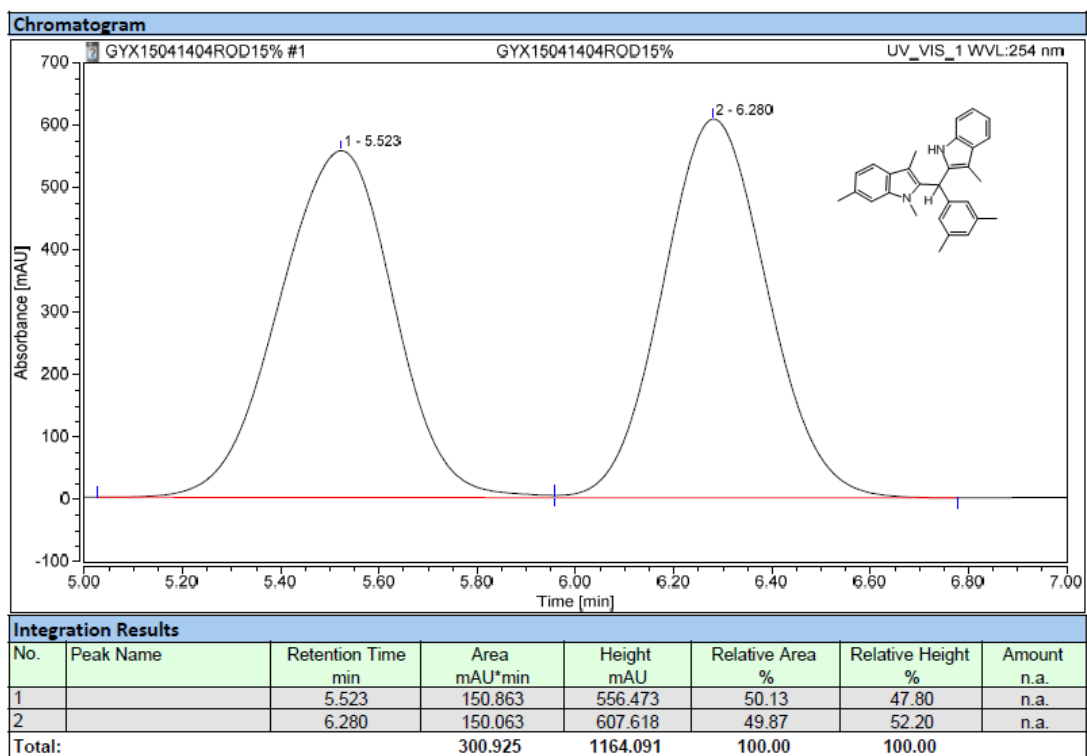
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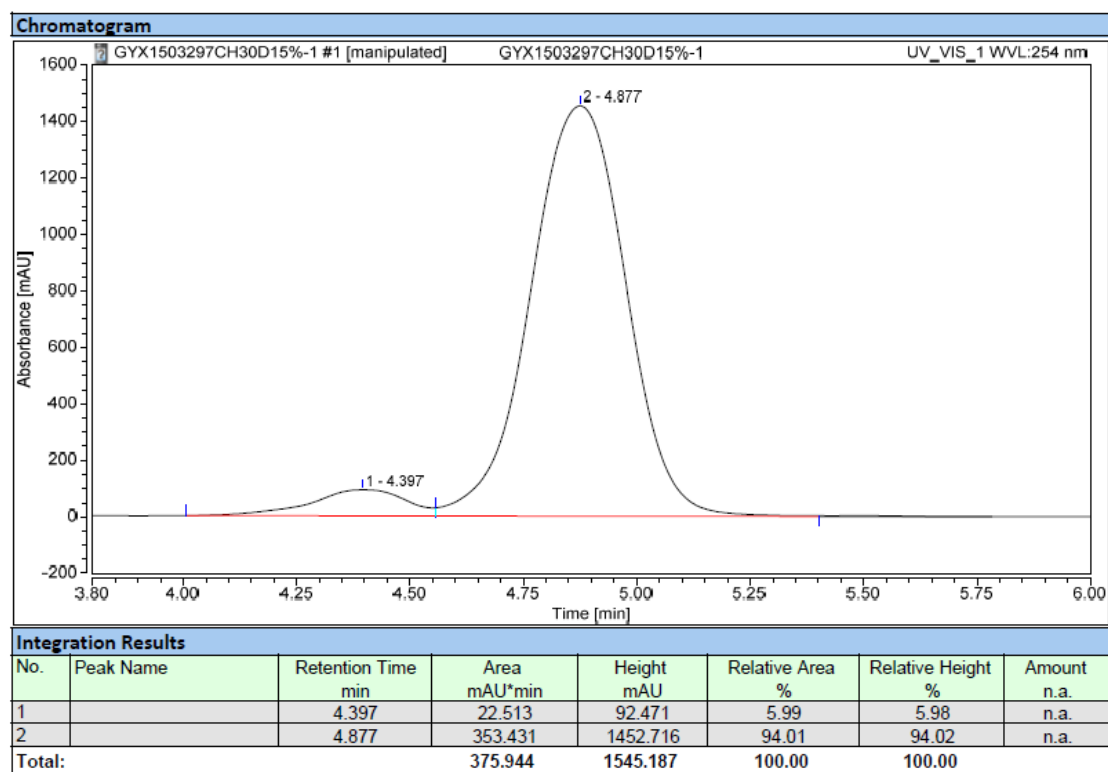
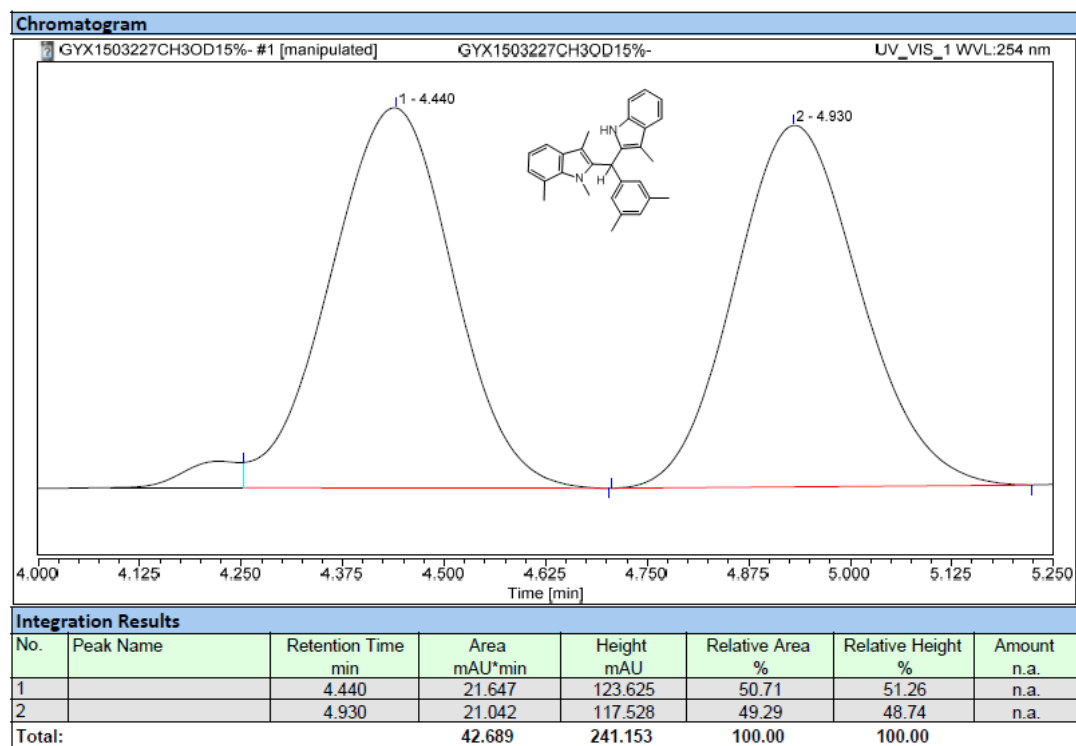
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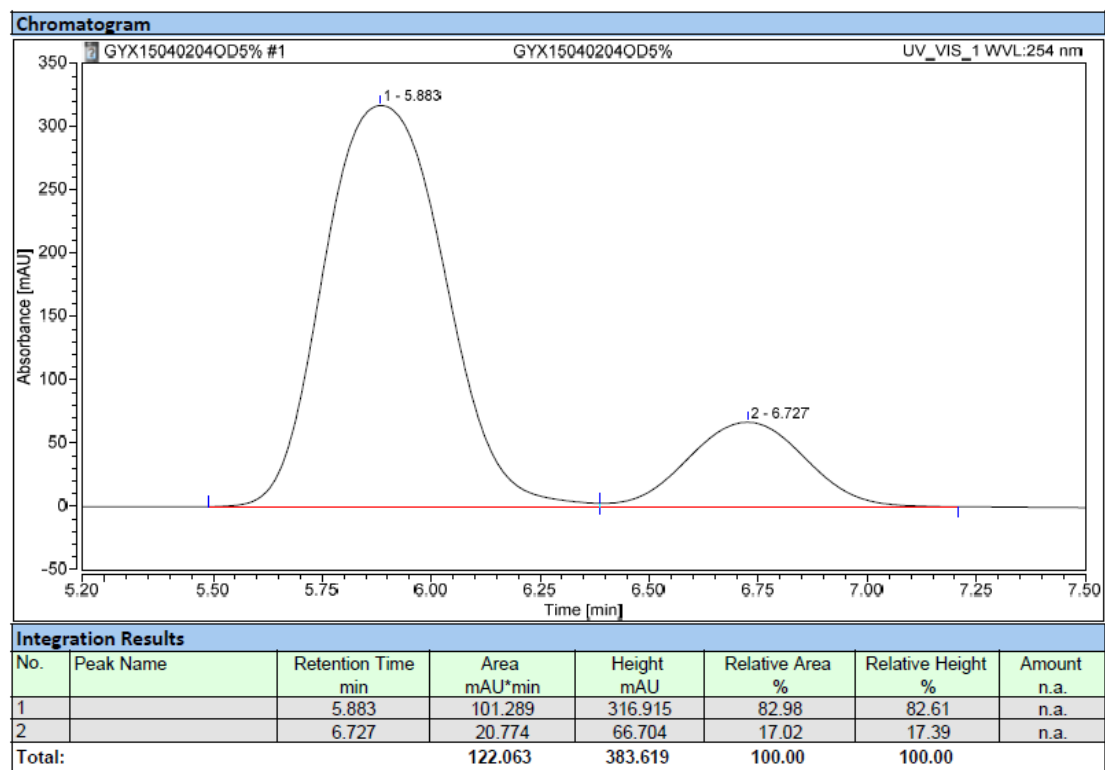
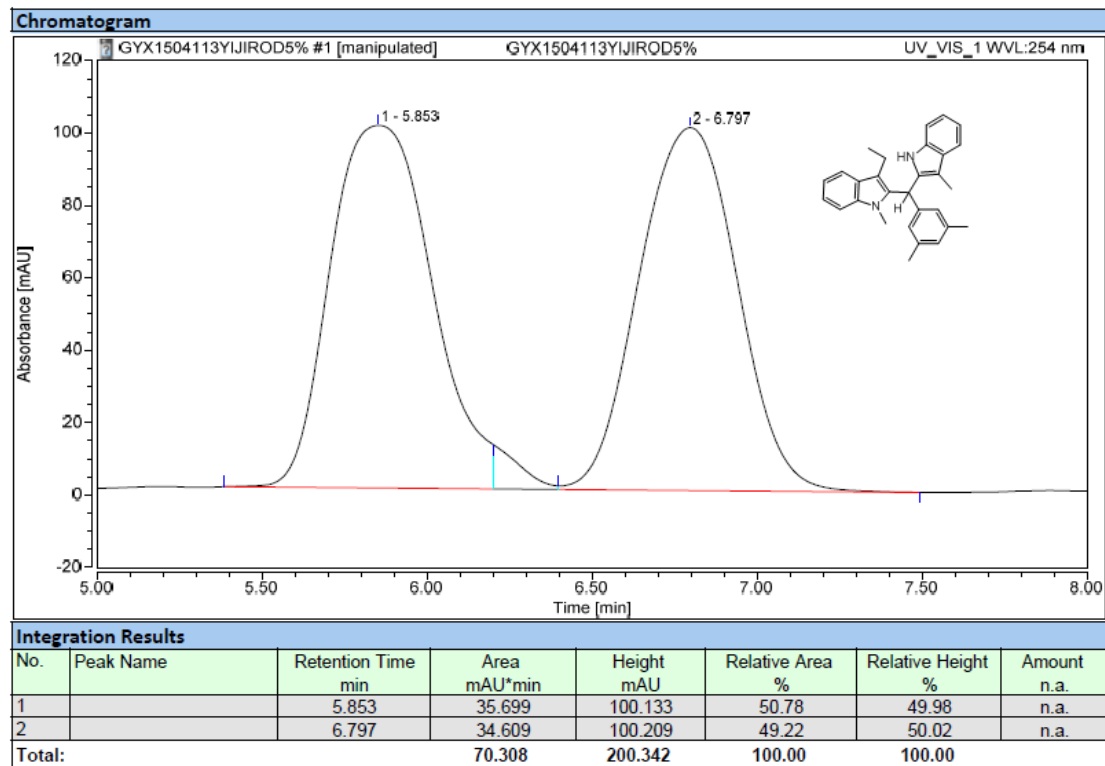
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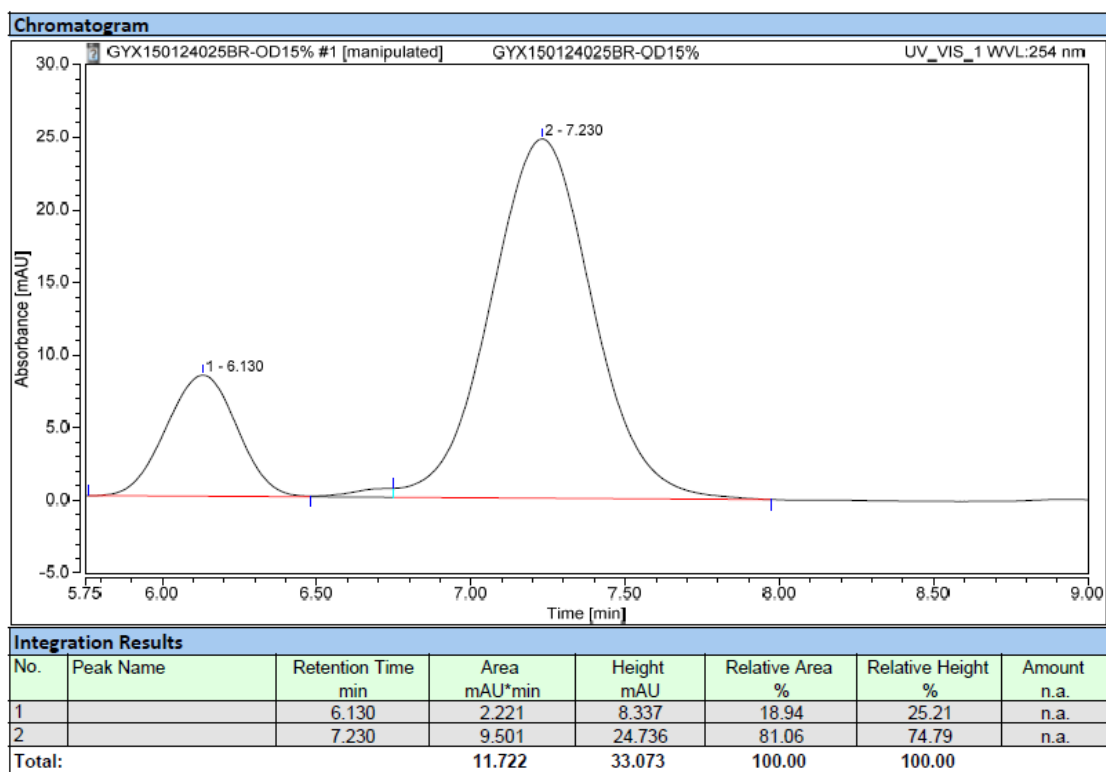
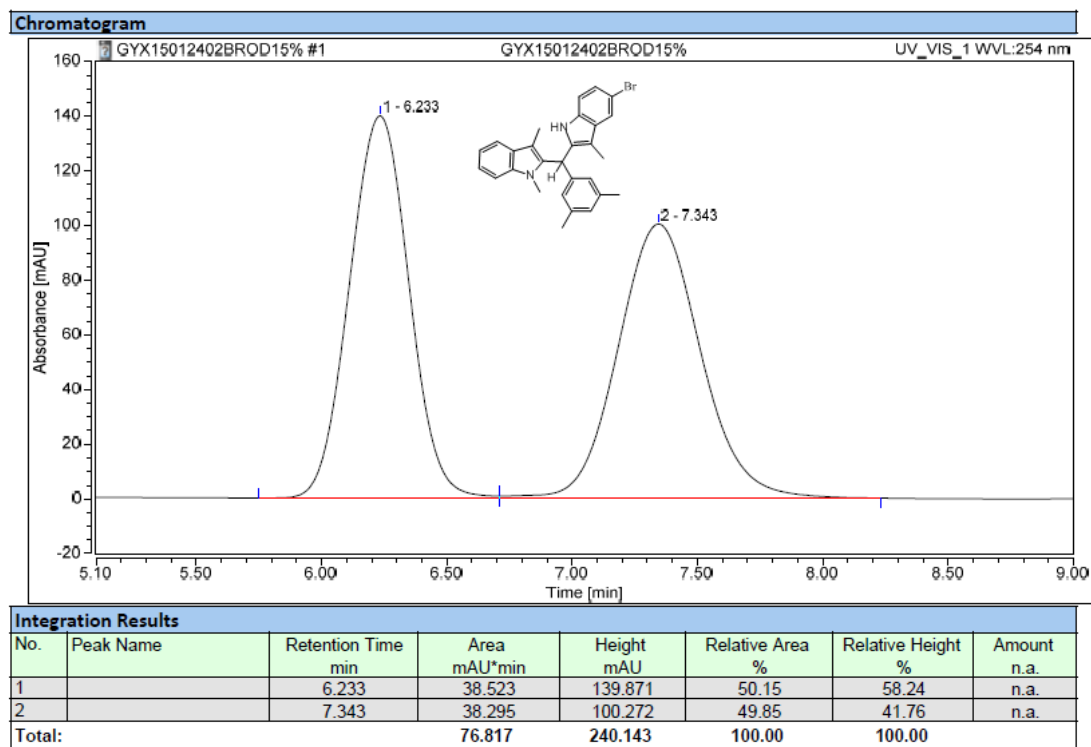
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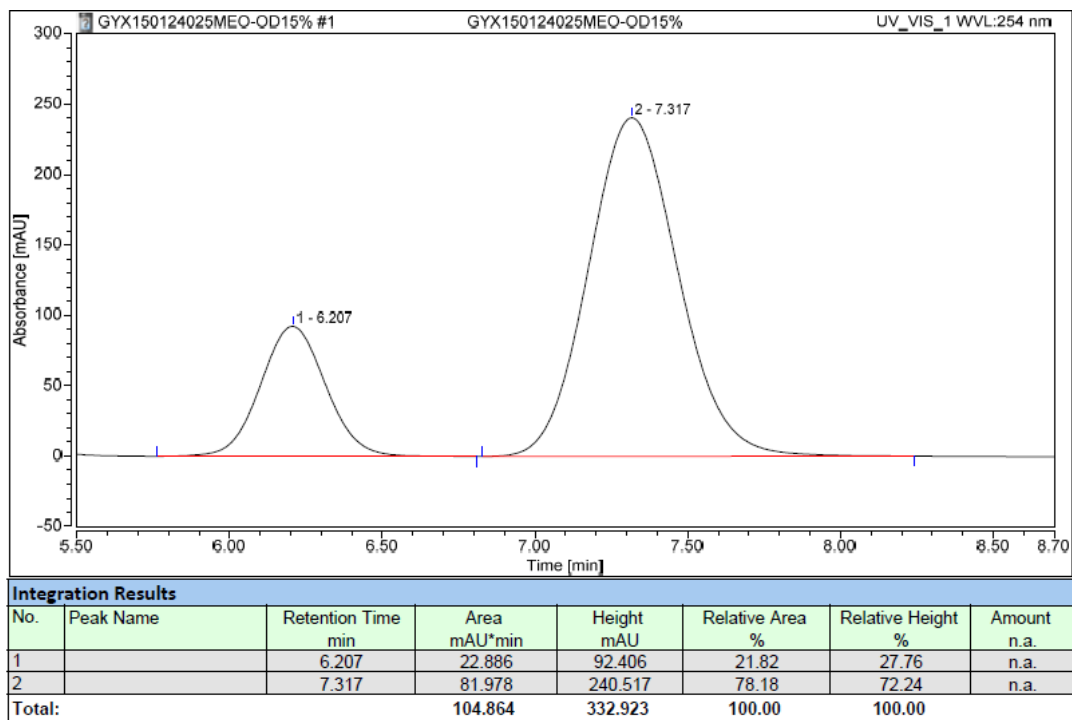
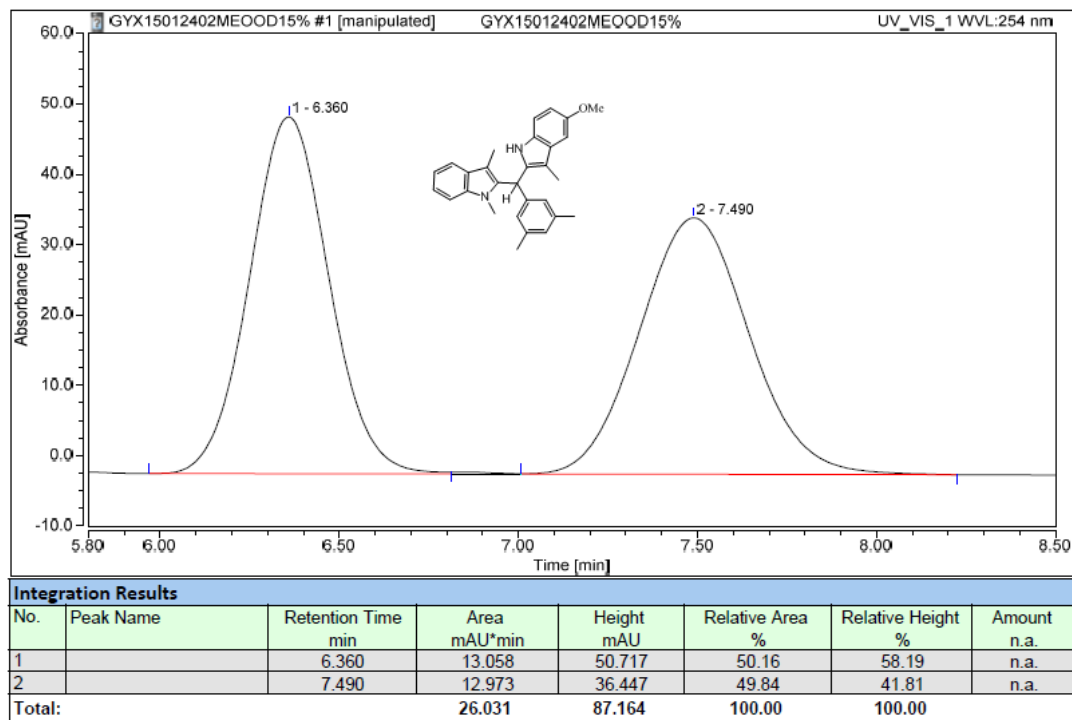
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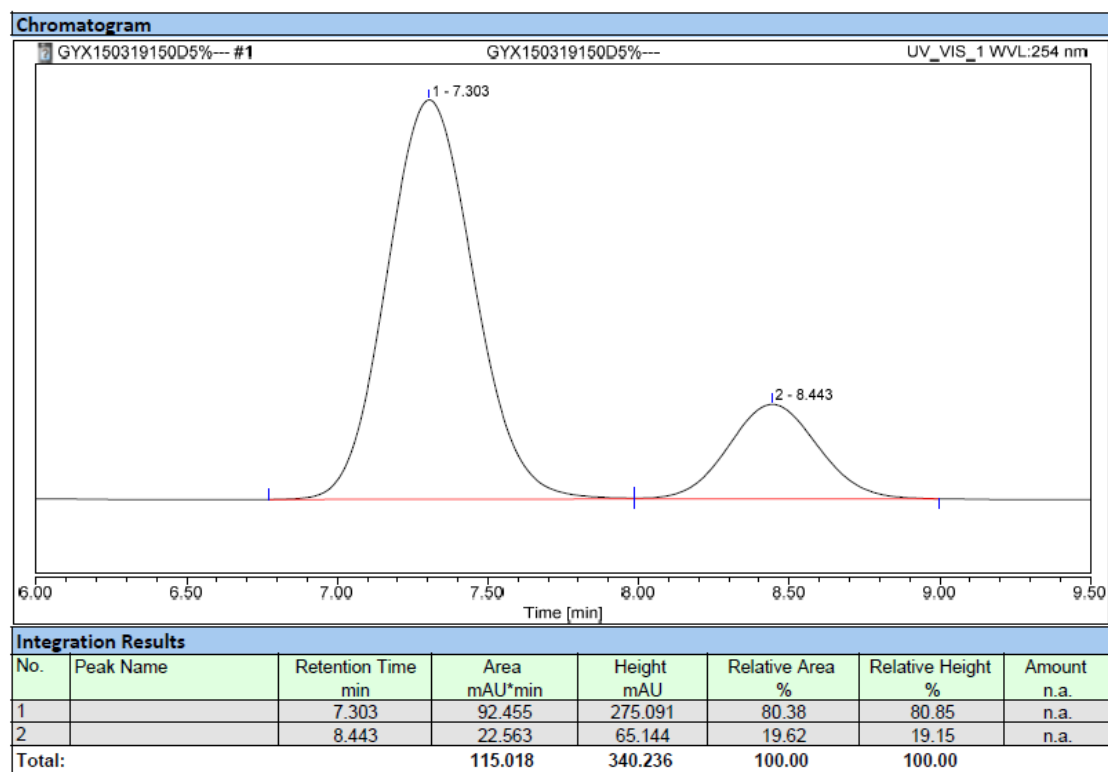
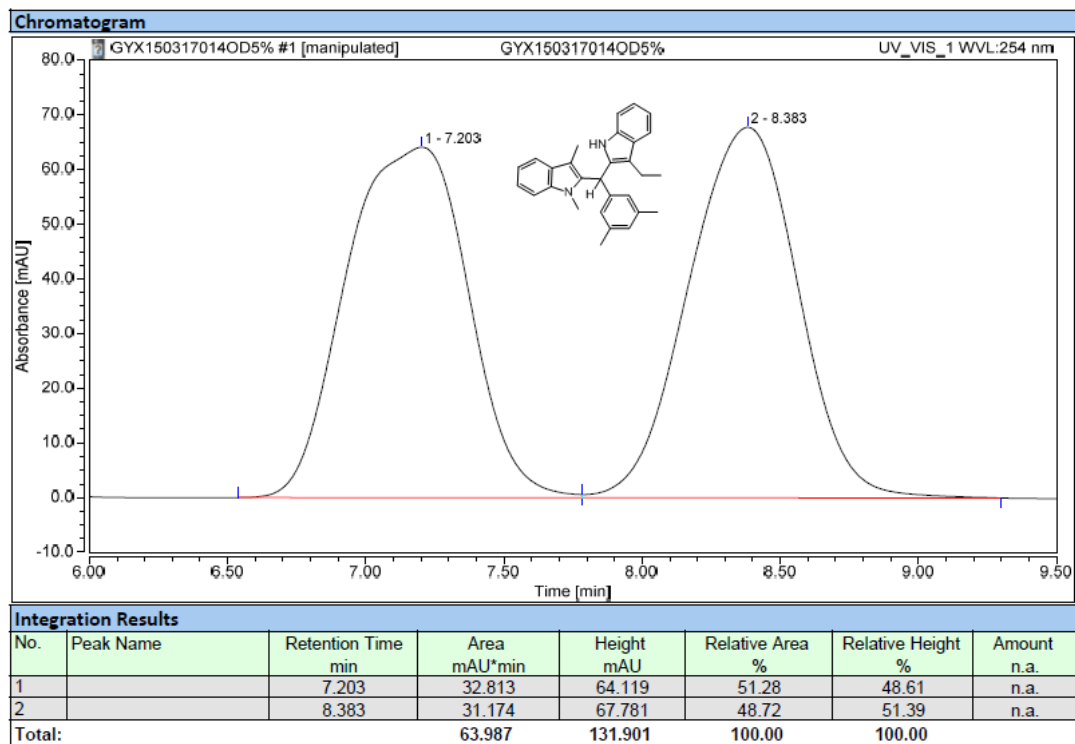
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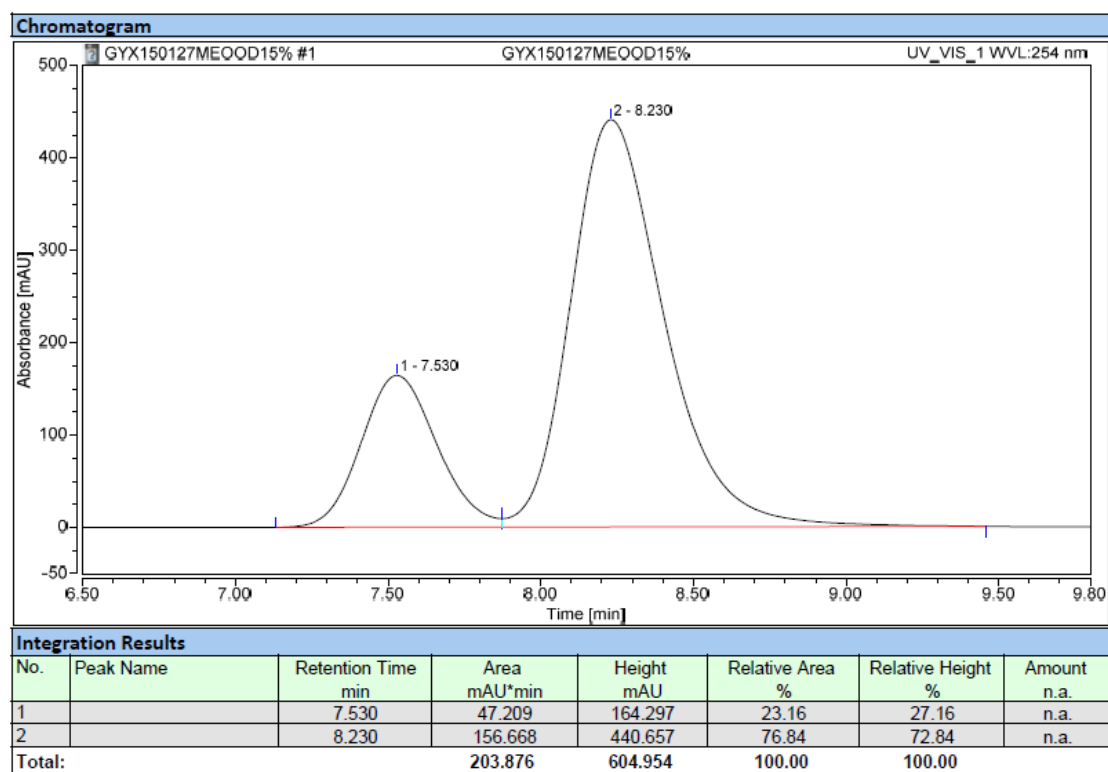
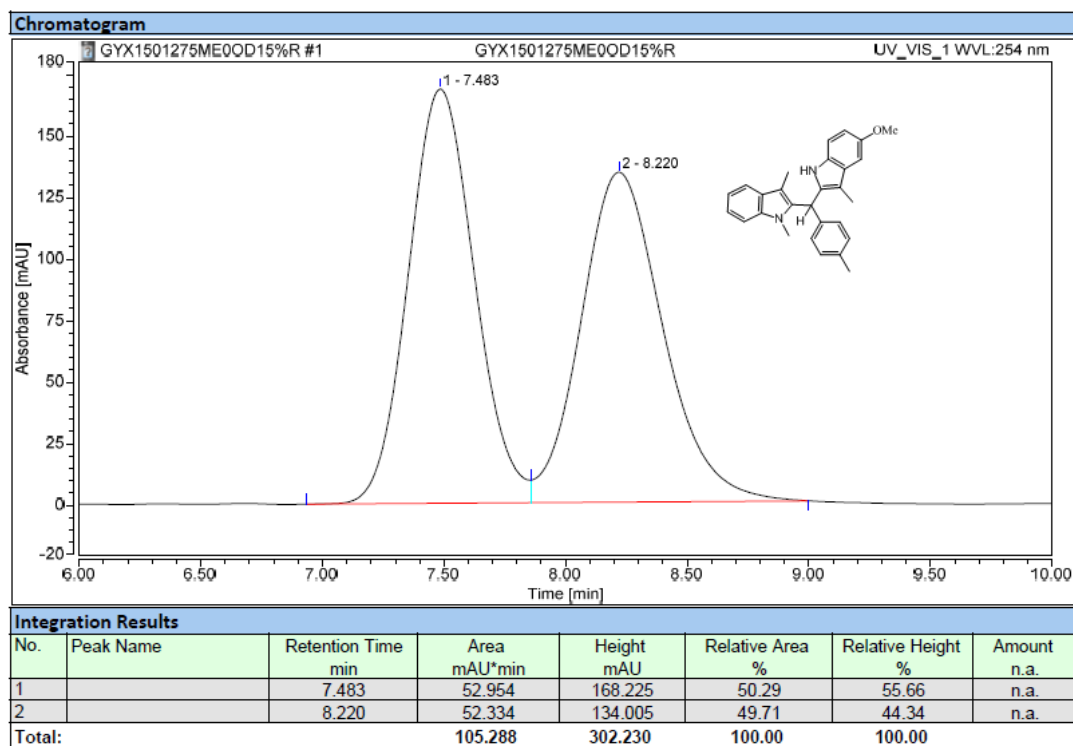
3ac



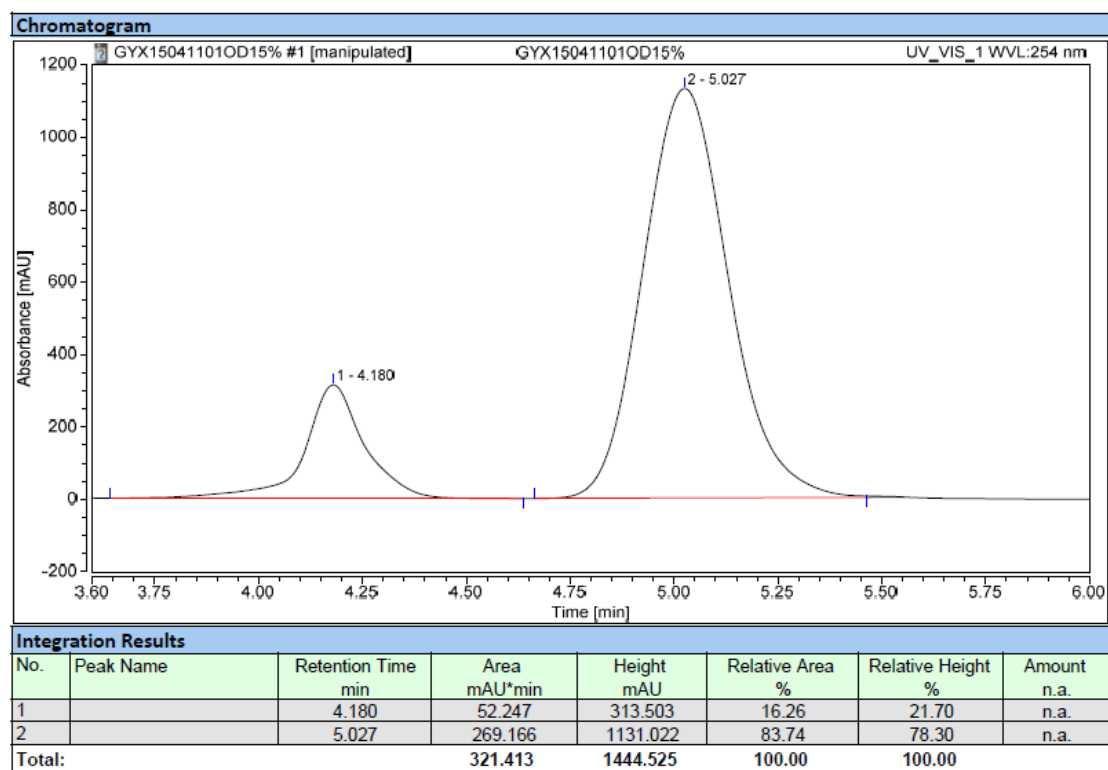
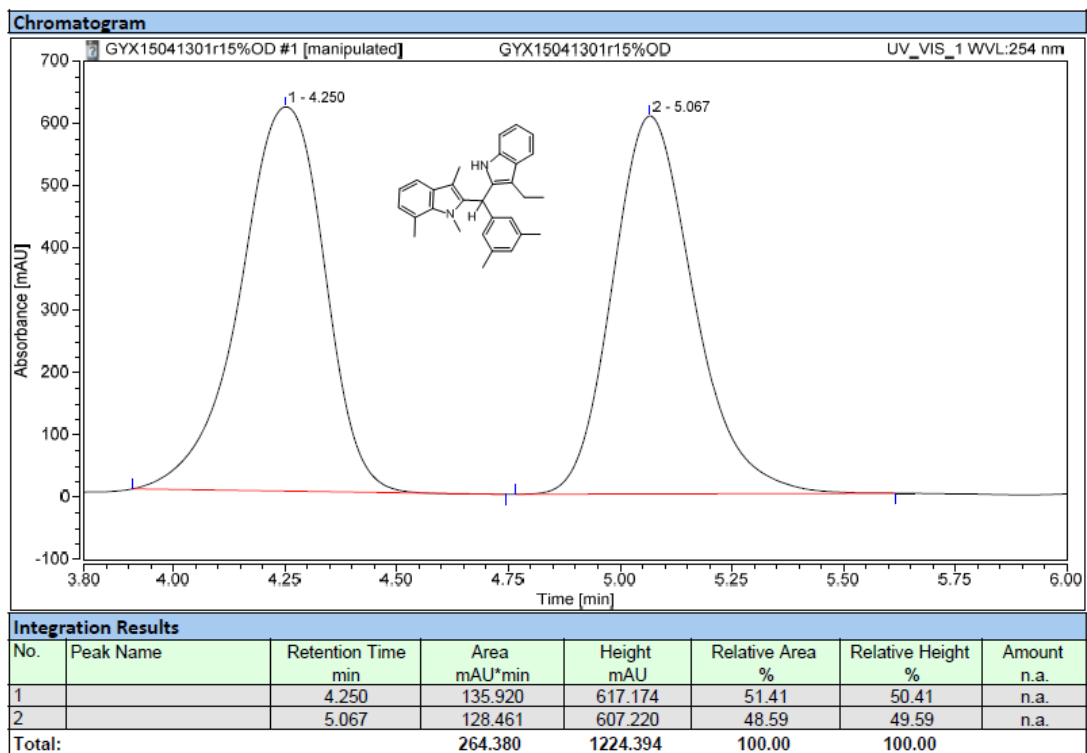
3ad



3cc



3hd



Compound 8:

