

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

IBX-Mediated Oxidation of Unactivated Cyclic Amines: Application in Highly Diastereoselective Oxidative Ugi-type and aza-Friedel-Crafts Reactions

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General information

Starting materials were purchased from Sigma Aldrich, Fisher Scientific and Acros Organics and were used without purification, unless stated otherwise. (3a*R*,6a*S*)-Octahydrocyclopenta[*c*]pyrrole hydrochloride was purchased from AK Scientific and dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, washed with sat. aq. Na₂CO₃, extracted with CH₂Cl₂, dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated *in vacuo* before use. Unless stated otherwise, the solvents were purchased from VWR Chemicals and were used without further treatment. Cyclohexane (cHex) was purified by distillation before use. Celite® 512 medium was purchased from Sigma Aldrich. Column Chromatography was performed on Silica-P Flash Silica Gel (particle size 40-63 μm, pore diameter 60 Å) from Silicycle. Preparative thin layer chromatography was performed on Silica Gel plates F₂₅₄ (20 x 20 cm, 2000 μm, pore diameter 60 Å) from Silicycle. Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) was performed using TLC plates F₂₅₄ (silica gel 60 on aluminium) from Merck Serono KGaA (Darmstadt) and compounds were visualized by UV detection (254 or 366 nm) and stained with basic aq. KMnO₄ or ninhydrin/ethanol.

¹H, ¹³C, COSY, HSQC, HMBC and NOESY nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 500 (500.23 MHz for ¹H and 125.78 MHz for ¹³C) in CDCl₃ or DMSO-*d*₆ using the residual solvent as internal standard (CDCl₃: δ = 7.26 for ¹H NMR and δ = 77.16 for ¹³C NMR, DMSO-*d*₆: δ = 2.50 for ¹H NMR and δ = 39.52 for ¹³C NMR) or Bruker Avance 400 (400.13 MHz for ¹H and 100.62 MHz for ¹³C) using the residual solvent as internal standard (CDCl₃: δ = 7.26 for ¹H NMR and δ = 77.16 for ¹³C NMR, DMSO-*d*₆: δ = 2.50 for ¹H NMR and δ = 39.52 for ¹³C NMR). Chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm and coupling constants (*J*) are quoted in hertz (Hz). Resonances are described as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), bs (broad singlet) and m (multiplet) or combinations thereof. The COSY-, HMBC- and HSQC-NMR spectra were used for the assignment of the proton signals and the NOESY-NMR spectra were used for the assignment of the relative stereochemistry. The APT-NMR spectra were used for the assignment of the carbons. Names of chemical structures were deduced from generic names and/or important functionalities.

Electrospray Ionization (ESI) high resolution mass spectrometry was carried out using a Bruker micrOTOF-Q instrument in positive ion mode (capillary potential of 4500 V). Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded neat using a FTIR-8400s from Shimadzu. Signal intensities are described as strong (s), medium (m), weak (w) or broad (br). Melting points were determined on a Büchi M-565 and are not corrected.

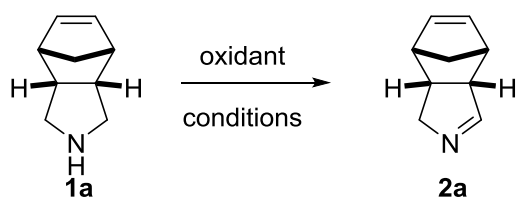
X-ray single crystal data were collected at 100K on a Bruker X8 Prospector with Cu microsource and focusing optics, and Apex II detector. Data were integrated and corrected for absorption with SAINT V8.34A and SADABS 2012/1, and the structure was solved and refined with SHELX 2014 and shelXle. Hydrogen atoms were detected in the Fourier difference maps, those on C were refined with constraints on bond lengths and angles, those on N were refined freely.

Optimization data

General procedure for optimization of the reaction conditions for the oxidation of meso-pyrrolidine **1a** with IBX in Supplementary table S1:

To a solution of pyrrolidine **1a** (0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.2 M) was added IBX (70 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.). The reaction mixture was stirred for 0.5 - 1 h at rt or 60 °C (oil bath, closed vessel). The reaction mixture was cooled to rt, quenched with sat. aq. Na₂S₂O₄ (1 mL), washed with sat. aq. Na₂CO₃/brine (3:1, 10 mL), extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 10 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated *in vacuo*. Subsequently, the yield of **2a** was determined with ¹H-NMR spectroscopy after dissolving the crude product in CDCl₃ and adding 2,5-dimethylfuran (0.125 mmol, 0.5 eq.) as standard for NMR spectroscopy.

Supplementary table S1: Optimization of reaction conditions for IBX-mediated oxidation.



Entry	Oxidant	Solvent	T [°C]	t	Yield
1	NaIO ₃	DMSO	rt	30 min	– ^[a]
2	PhI(OAc) ₂	DMSO	rt	30 min	38%
3	PhI(CO ₂ CF ₃) ₂	DMSO	rt	30 min	33%
4	DMP	DMSO	rt	30 min	55%
5	IBX	DMSO	rt	30 min	90%
6	IBX	DMF	rt	30 min	92%
7	IBX	MeCN	rt	1 h	19%
8	IBX	MeCN	60	1 h	78%
9	IBX	MeOH	60	1 h	81%
10	IBX	CH ₂ Cl ₂	60	1 h	95%
11	IBX	THF:DMSO (9:1)	60	1 h	94%
12	IBX	THF	60	1 h	58%
13	IBX	DMC	60	1 h	31%
14	IBX	TFE	60	1 h	47%
15	IBX	EtOAc	60	1 h	19%
16	IBX	toluene	60	1 h	10%

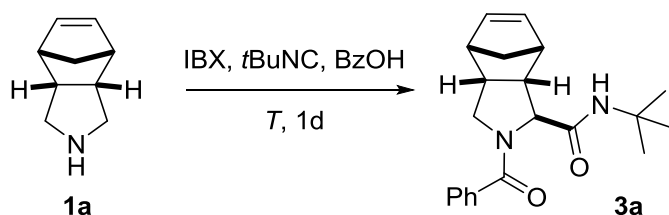
^a used with and without preactivation¹

¹ Nicolaou, K. C.; Montagnon, T.; Baran, P. S. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, **2002**, *41*, 1386.

General procedure for optimization of the reaction conditions for the oxidative Ugi-type reaction in Table 3 and Supplementary table S2:

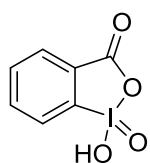
To a solution of pyrrolidine **1a** (0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.5 M) were added IBX (70 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.), benzoic acid (0.375 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and *tert*-butyl isocyanide (0.375 mmol, 1.5 eq.). The reaction mixture was stirred for 24 h at rt or 60 °C (oil bath, closed vessel). The suspension was cooled to rt, quenched with sat. aq. Na₂S₂O₄ (1 mL), washed with sat. aq. Na₂CO₃/brine (3:1, 10 mL), extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 10 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated *in vacuo*. Subsequently, the yield of **3a** was determined with ¹H-NMR spectroscopy after dissolving the crude product in CDCl₃ and adding 2,5-dimethylfuran (0.125 mmol, 0.5 eq.) as standard for NMR spectroscopy.

Supplementary table S2: Optimization of reaction conditions for oxidative Ugi-type reaction.



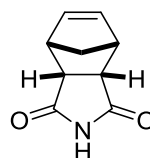
Entry	Solvent [0.5 M]	T [°C]	Yield
1	DMSO [0.2 m]	rt	26%
2	DMSO	rt	37%
3	TFE	60	19%
4	MeOH	60	25%
5	MeCN	60	50%
6	CH ₂ Cl ₂	60	54%

Synthetic procedures

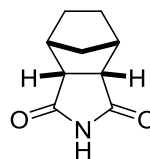


o-iodoxybenzoic acid² (IBX, S1): To a solution of Oxone[®] (74.3 g, 242 mmol, 6.0 eq.) in H₂O (0.2 M) was added 2-iodobenzoic acid (10.0 g, 40.3 mmol, 1.0 eq.). The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at 70 °C and then cooled to rt. The solid was filtered off, washed with cold H₂O (500 mL) and cold acetone (300 mL) and dried *in vacuo* (60 °C, 18 h). Compound **S1** (7.17 g, 25.5 mmol, 63%) was obtained without the need of purification as an off-white solid. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 8.15 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.06 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.84 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 167.6 (C*), 146.6 (C*), 133.5 (CH), 133.1 (CH), 131.5 (C*), 130.1 (CH), 125.1 (CH) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 3097 (w), 1636 (m), 1560 (w), 1331 (m), 1294 (s), 1246 (m), 1138 (m), 831 (m), 773 (m), 748 (s), 692 (s), 673 (s), 648 (m), 592 (s), 577 (s).

Substrate synthesis



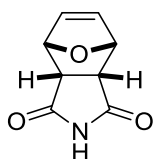
imid S2a: To a solution of maleimide (7.28 g, 75.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in diethyl ether (0.68 M) was added cyclopentadiene (7.0 mL, 80.0 mmol, 1.06 eq.) dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at rt. The product was filtered off and washed with diethyl ether. Compound **S2a** (12.0 g, 73.5 mmol, 98%) was obtained without the need of purification as an off-white solid. **R_f** = 0.30 (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH 100:1 v/v). **mp**: 184.4 – 188.6 °C. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.47 (bs, 1H, NH), 6.17 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H, CH=CH), 3.36 (s, 2H, C(O)CHCHCH₂), 3.31 – 3.22 (m, 2H, C(O)CH), 1.72 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.51 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, CH₂) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 178.5 (C*), 134.7 (CH), 52.4 (CH₂), 47.4 (CH), 45.0 (CH) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 3159 (m), 2991 (m), 1753.17 (m), 1697 (s), 1352 (m), 1294 (m), 1186 (s), 1120 (s), 991 (m), 839 (s), 829 (s), 729 (s), 660 (s), 604 (s). **HRMS** (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₉H₁₀NO₂ [M+H]⁺:164.0706, found: 164.0711.



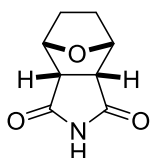
imid S2b: To a solution of palladium on carbon 10% (15 mg, 0.04 mol%) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.1 mL) and methanol (27 mL) was added imid **S2a** (6.56 g, 4.0 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 63 h at rt under H₂ atmosphere (1 atm.). The reaction mixture was filtered over Celite[®], washed with methanol and concentrated *in vacuo*. Compound **S2b** (5.86 g, 36.3 mmol, 90%) was obtained without the need of purification as an off-white solid. **R_f** = 0.21 (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH 100:1 v/v). **mp**: 175 – 177 °C. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.01 (bs, 1H, NH), 3.10 (s, 2H, C(O)CH), 2.72 (s, 2H, C(O)CHCHCH₂), 1.76 – 1.48 (m, 4H, CH₂CHCH₂CH₂), 1.46 – 1.25 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 179.6 (C*), 50.3 (CH), 42.2 (CH₂), 39.3 (CH), 24.8 (CH₂) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 3173 (w), 1695 (s), 1350 (m),

² Adapted procedure from: Frigerio, M.; Santagostino M.; Sputore, S. *J. Org. Chem.*, **1999**, *64*, 4537.

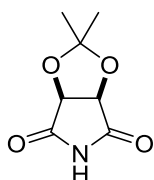
1177 (s), 995 (m), 822 (m), 588 (s), 459 (s). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $C_9H_{11}NNaO_2$ $[M+Na]^+$: 188.0682, found: 188.0689.



imid S2c: To a solution of maleimide (1.46 g, 15 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in H_2O (1.07 M) was added furan (1.34 mL, 18 mmol, 1.2 eq.) dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at 90 °C under microwave irradiation and then cooled to rt. The product was filtered off and washed with H_2O (100 mL) and diethyl ether (20 mL). Compound **S2c** (1.38 g, 0.84 mmol, 54%) was obtained without the need of purification as an off-white solid. $R_f = 0.23$ (CH_2Cl_2 :MeOH 100:1 v/v). **mp:** 168.6 - 171.3 °C. **1H NMR** (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.15 (bs, 1H, NH), 6.52 (s, 2H, CH=CH), 5.32 (s, 2H, OCH), 2.89 (s, 2H, C(O)CH) ppm. **^{13}C NMR** (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 176.1 (C*), 136.7 (CH), 81.1 (CH), 48.9 (CH) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 3148 (w), 1772 (m), 1701 (s), 1352 (m), 1287 (m), 1204 (m), 1186 (s), 897 (m), 820 (s), 733 (s), 633 (s), 582 (s). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $C_8H_7NNaO_3$ $[M+Na]^+$: 188.0318, found: 188.0320.



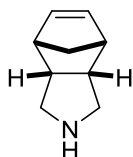
imid S2d: To a solution of palladium on carbon 10% (0.10 g, 0.04 mol%) in CH_2Cl_2 (0.1 mL) and methanol (100 mL) was added imid **S2c** (10.19 g, 62.0 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 48 h at rt under H_2 atmosphere (1 atm.). The reaction mixture was filtered over Celite[®], washed with methanol and concentrated *in vacuo*. Compound **S2d** (9.9 g, 59.0 mmol, 96%) was obtained without the need of purification as an off-white solid. $R_f = 0.21$ (CH_2Cl_2 :MeOH 100:1 v/v). **mp:** 184 - 186 °C. **1H NMR** (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.76 (bs, 1H, NH), 4.94 - 4.86 (m, 2H, OCH), 2.91 (s, 2H, NC(O)CH), 1.90 - 1.83 (m, 2H, CH_2CH_2), 1.62 - 1.54 (m, 2H, CH_2CH_2) ppm. **^{13}C NMR** (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 177.8 (C*), 79.2 (CH), 51.4 (CH), 28.6 (CH) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 3004 (w), 1672 (s), 1306 (m), 1182 (s), 899 (m), 839 (m), 815 (s), 559 (m), 455 (s).



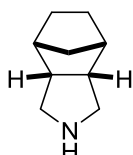
imid S2f:³ To a solution of $Mn(ClO_4)_2 \cdot 6 H_2O$ (15 mg, 0.3 mol%) in acetone (100 mL) was added picolic acid (44 mg, 1.8 mol%) and maleimide (1.94 g, 20.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C and an aq. sodiumacetate solution (1.0 mL, 0.6 M) and hydrogen peroxide (2.58 mL, 30.0 mmol, 1.5 eq.) were added. The solution was stirred for 29 h at rt, after which it was quenched with solid sodium thiosulfate. The suspension was filtered, washed with acetone, dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting oil was diluted in acetone (100 mL) and 2,2-dimethoxypropane (9.2 mL, 74.9 mmol, 4.0 eq.) and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate (356 mg, 1.9 mmol, 0.1 eq.) were added. The solution was stirred 144 h at rt (until conversion was complete according to TLC). The reaction was quenched with sat. aq. $NaHCO_3$ (20 mL), extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 x 20 mL), dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (SiO_2) with an eluent gradient (10:1 \rightarrow 1:1 v/v *c*Hex:EtOAc) to obtain compound **S2f** (740 mg, 4.30 mmol, 22%) as a colourless oil. $R_f = 0.31$ (*c*Hex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v). **mp:** 143.4 - 146.4 °C. **1H NMR** (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.13 (bs, 1H, NH), 4.88 (s, 2H, CH), 1.51 (s, 3H, CH_3), 1.44 (s, 3H, CH_3) ppm. **^{13}C NMR** (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 172.2 (C*), 116.5 (C*), 76.1 (CH), 26.8

³ First part of procedure adapted from P. Saisaha, D. Pijper, R. P. van Summeren, R. Hoen, C. Smit, J. W. de Boer, R. Hage, P. L. Alsters, B. L. Feringa, W. R. Browne, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2010**, *8*, 4444.

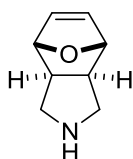
(CH₃), 25.7 (CH₃) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 3205 (m), 3094 (w), 1717 (s), 1375 (m), 1354 (m), 1192 (s), 1153 (m), 1097 (s), 987 (m), 849 (m), 756 (s), 712(m), 633 (w), 575 (s).



pyrrolidine 1a: To a solution of LiAlH₄ (3.5 g, 92.0 mmol, 1.5 eq.) in THF⁴ (500 mL, anh.) was slowly added imid **S2a** (10.0 g, 61.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) under N₂ atmosphere at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 18 h at 45 °C, after which the reaction was quenched with H₂O (5 mL) to remove the excess of LiAlH₄. The suspension was filtered over Celite[®], washed with THF and concentrated *in vacuo* to give compound **1a** (3.0 g, 22.0 mmol, 36%) as a yellow solid. **R_f** = 0.09 (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH:NEt₃ 100:1:0.5 v/v). **mp:** 100.5 – 109.4 °C. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.24 – 6.15 (m, 2H, CH=CH), 2.84 – 2.78 (m, 2H, NHCH₂CHCH₂), 2.76 – 2.64 (m, 3H, NHCH₂CH), 2.57 (d, *J* = 12.2 Hz, 2H, NHCH₂), 1.78 (bs, 1H, NH), 1.47 – 1.36 (m, 2H, CHCH₂CH) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 135.8 (CH), 53.1 (CH₂), 50.1 (CH₂), 48.2 (CH), 46.5 (CH) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 3051 (w), 2957 (m), 2930 (s), 1344 (m), 1250 (m), 1092 (m), 895 (m), 870 (m), 800 (s), 743 (s), 689 (m). **HRMS** (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₉H₁₄N [M+H]⁺: 136.1121, found: 136.1126.



pyrrolidine 1b: To a solution of LiAlH₄ (2.0 g, 54.0 mmol, 1.5 eq.) in THF⁴ (300 mL, anh.) was slowly added imid **S2b** (5.8 g, 36.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) under N₂ atmosphere at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 18 h at 70 °C, after which the reaction was quenched with H₂O (4 mL) to remove the excess of LiAlH₄. The suspension was filtered over Celite[®], washed with THF and concentrated *in vacuo* to give compound **1b** (3.6 g, 26.0 mmol, 72%) as a yellow solid. **R_f** = 0.66 (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH:NEt₃ 100:1:0.5 v/v). **mp:** 96.8 – 103.3 °C. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.91 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 2H, NHCH₂), 2.64 – 2.55 (m, 2H, NHCH₂), 2.41 – 2.35 (m, 2H, NHCH₂CH), 2.13 (s, 2H, NHCH₂CHCH₂), 1.88 (bs, 1H, NH), 1.54 – 1.26 (m, 6H, CH₂CHCH₂CH₂) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 48.3 (CH₂), 45.8 (CH), 43.0 (CH₂), 41.1 (CH), 23.3 (CH₂) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 2937 (s), 2864 (m), 1290 (m), 1250 (m), 1221 (w), 1184 (w), 1111 (m), 1005 (m), 961 (w), 910 (m), 843 (s), 797 (m), 598 (s). **HRMS** (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₉H₁₆N [M+H]⁺: 138.1277, found: 138.1291.

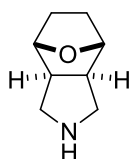


pyrrolidine 1c: To a solution of LiAlH₄ (1.7 g, 45.0 mmol, 1.5 eq.) in THF⁵ (250 mL, anh.) was slowly added imid **S2c** (5.0 g, 30.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) under N₂ atmosphere at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 18 h at 40 °C, after which the reaction was quenched with H₂O (4 mL) to remove the excess of LiAlH₄. The suspension was filtered over Celite[®], washed with THF and concentrated *in vacuo* to give compound **1c** (3.1 g, 20.0 mmol, 65%) as a red oil. **R_f** = 0.07 (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH:NEt₃ 100:1:0.5 v/v). **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.36 (s, 2H, CH=CH), 4.70 (s, 2H, OCH), 2.92 – 2.83 (m, 4H, CH₂), 2.45 (bs, 1H, NH), 2.30 – 2.22 (m, 2H, CH₂CH) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 137.1 (CH), 83.9 (CH), 51.6 (CH₂), 46.8 (CH) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 3258 (w), 2991 (w), 2926 (w), 1308 (w), 1067 (w), 949 (m), 891 (s),

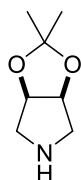
⁴ Distilled under nitrogen from sodium/benzophenone before use

⁵ Distilled under nitrogen from sodium/benzophenone before use

964 (s), 843 (s), 810 (s), 712 (s), 692 (s), 590 (s). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $C_8H_{12}NO$ $[M+H]^+$: 138.0913, found: 138.0920.



pyrrolidine 1d: To a solution of $LiAlH_4$ (3.4 g, 86.0 mmol, 1.5 eq.) in THF⁵ (500 mL, anh.) was slowly added imid **S2d** (9.6 g, 58.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) under N_2 atmosphere at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 19 h at 45 °C, after which the reaction was quenched with H_2O (5 mL) to remove the excess of $LiAlH_4$. The suspension was filtered over Celite[®], washed with THF and concentrated *in vacuo* to give compound **1d** (6.0 g, 43.0 mmol, 75%) as a yellow oil. $R_f = 0.07$ ($CH_2Cl_2:MeOH:NEt_3$ 100:1:0.5 v/v). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 4.30 – 4.23 (m, 2H, OCH), 2.92 (dd, $J = 11.3$ Hz, 6.4 Hz, 2H, NCH_2), 2.69 (dd, $J = 11.3$, 2.4 Hz, 2H, NCH_2), 2.40 (bs, 1H, NH), 2.24 – 2.20 (m, 2H, NCH_2CH), 1.64 – 1.56 (m, 2H, CH_2CH_2), 1.42 – 1.35 (m, 2H, CH_2CH_2) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 81.3 (CH), 53.3 (CH_2), 49.9 (CH), 28.9 (CH_2) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 3173 (m), 2945 (s), 2909 (m), 2853 (s), 1221 (m), 1182 (s), 1082 (s), 1024 (s), 1005 (s), 989 (s), 959 (s), 912 (s), 901 (s), 795 (s), 629 (s), 584 (s). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $C_8H_{14}NO$ $[M+H]^+$: 140.1070, found: 140.1069.



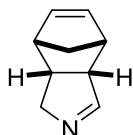
pyrrolidine 1f: To a solution of $LiAlH_4$ (230 mg, 6.1 mmol, 1.5 eq.) in THF⁶ (35 mL, anh.) was slowly added imid **S2f** (700 mg, 4.1 mmol, 1.0 eq.) under N_2 atmosphere at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 18 h at 55 °C, after which the reaction was quenched with H_2O (2 mL) to remove the excess of $LiAlH_4$. The suspension was filtered over Celite[®], washed with THF and concentrated *in vacuo* to give compound **1f** (444 mg, 3.1 mmol, 51%) as a colourless oil. $R_f = 0.16$ ($CH_2Cl_2:MeOH:NEt_3$ 100:1:0.5 v/v). **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 4.65 (s, 2H, $NHCH_2CH$), 3.11 (d, $J = 14.0$ Hz, 2H $NHCH_2$), 2.51 (d, $J = 13.3$ Hz, 2H, $NHCH_2$), 1.75 (bs, 1H, NH), 1.45 (s, 3H, CH_3), 1.31 (s, 3H, CH_3) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 110.3 (C*), 81.7 (CH), 54.4 (CH_2), 26.1 (CH_3), 23.9 (CH_3) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 2980 (m), 2928 (s), 1373 (m), 1207 (s), 1150 (m), 1080 (m), 1034 (s), 897 (m), 851 (s), 822 (m), 625 (m). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $C_7H_{14}NO_2$ $[M+H]^+$: 144.1019, found: 144.1025.

⁶ Distilled under nitrogen from sodium/benzophenone before use

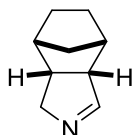
Oxidation of meso-pyrrolidines

General procedure 1:

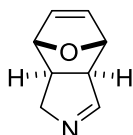
To a solution of the pyrrolidine (0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.2 M) was added IBX (140 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.). The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at 60 °C (oil bath) in a closed vessel. The reaction was cooled to rt, quenched with sat. aq. Na₂S₂O₄ (2 mL), washed with sat. aq. Na₂CO₃/brine (3:1, 20 mL), extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 20 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated *in vacuo*. If necessary, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography.



1-pyrroline 2a: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1a** (69 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1 eq.) according to general procedure 1. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO₂) with an eluent gradient (1:1 → 1:2 v/v cHex:EtOAc, 100:1 → 50:1 v/v CH₂Cl₂:MeOH), to obtain compound **2a** (59 mg, 0.44 mmol, 88%) as a light yellow solid. *R*_f = 0.24 (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH 100:1 v/v). **mp:** 81.0 – 85.0 °C. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.28 (s, 1H, N=CH), 6.11 – 5.94 (m, 2H, HC=CH), 3.72 – 3.62 (m, 1H, NCH₂), 3.55 – 3.41 (m, 1H, N=CHCH), 3.24 – 3.11 (m, 1H, NCH₂), 3.03 (s, 1H, N=CHCHCHCH₂), 2.92 (s, 1H, NCH₂CHCHCH₂), 2.83 – 2.73 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH), 1.52 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H, CHCH₂CH), 1.36 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H, CHCH₂CH) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.2 (CH), 135.5 (CH), 133.6 (CH), 62.9 (CH₂), 60.3 (CH), 51.1 (CH₂), 45.4 (CH), 44.2 (CH), 41.0 (CH) ppm. **IR** (neat): *v*_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2958 (m), 2918 (m), 2798 (m), 1339 (s), 1207 (m), 1182 (s), 1096 (m), 953 (m), 899 (m), 841 (m), 800 (m), 739 (s), 725 (s). **HRMS** (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₉H₁₂N [M+H]⁺: 134.0964, found: 110.0966.

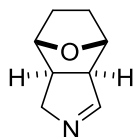


1-pyrroline 2b: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1b** (73 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1 eq.) according to general procedure 1. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO₂) with an eluent gradient (1:1 v/v cHex:EtOAc, 100:1 v/v CH₂Cl₂:MeOH), to obtain compound **2b** (65 mg, 0.48 mmol, 97%) as a light yellow solid. *R*_f = 0.24 (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH 100:1 v/v). **mp:** 81.0 – 88.1 °C. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.41 (s, 1H, N=CH), 3.84 – 3.77 (m, 1H, NCH₂), 3.70 – 3.61 (m, 1H, NCH₂), 3.23 – 3.13 (m, 1H, N=CHCH), 2.64 – 2.53 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH), 2.50 (s, 1H, N=CHCHCHCH₂), 2.16 (s, 1H, NCH₂CHCHCH₂), 1.52 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 1H, CHCH₂CH), 1.43 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H, CHCH₂CH), 1.31 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H, CH₂CH₂), 1.19 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H, CH₂CH₂) ppm. **¹³C-NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.2 (CH), 60.9 (CH₂), 58.3 (CH), 42.6 (CH), 42.1 (CH₂), 40.0 (CH), 38.5 (CH), 26.0 (CH₂), 22.1 (CH₂) ppm. **IR** (neat): *v*_{max} (cm⁻¹) = 2945 (s), 2860 (m), 1670 (w), 1381 (w), 1298 (m), 1225 (m), 1177 (m), 1161 (m), 1119 (s), 1092 (s), 1018 (w), 995 (w), 889 (m), 822 (w), 656 (w). **HRMS** (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₉H₁₄N [M+H]⁺: 136.1121, found: 136.1125.



1-pyrroline 2c: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1c** (79 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1 eq.) according to general procedure 1. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO₂) with an eluent gradient (1:1 v/v cHex:EtOAc, 100:1 → 10:1 v/v CH₂Cl₂:MeOH), to obtain compound **2c** (66 mg [3% cHex], 0.47 mmol, 95%) as a reddish brown solid. *R*_f = 0.18 (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH 100:1 v/v). **mp:** 100.0 – 109.2 °C. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.49 – 7.36 (m, 1H, N=CH), 6.46 – 6.29 (m, 2H, CH=CH), 4.95 (s, 1H, NCH₂CHCHO), 4.75 (s, 1H, N=CHCHCHO), 4.04 – 3.86 (m, 1H, NCH₂), 3.72 – 3.59 (m, 1H, NCH₂), 3.10 (dd, *J* = 7.1 Hz, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H, N=CHCH), 2.57 – 2.44 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 164.1 (CH),

137.5 (CH), 136.2 (CH), 84.2 (CH), 79.7 (CH), 63.6 (CH₂), 59.7 (CH), 42.3 (CH) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 2978 (m), 1458 (w), 1342 (m), 1229 (m), 1190 (m), 1157 (s), 1032 (s), 997 (m), 949 (s), 897 (s), 866 (m), 810 (s), 723 (s), 692 (s), 681 (s), 625 (s). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for C₈H₁₀NO [M+H]⁺: 136.0757, found: 136.0758.

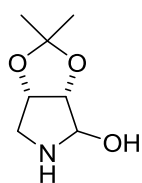


1-pyrroline 2d: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1d** (72 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1 eq.) according to general procedure 1. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO₂) with an eluent gradient (1:1 cHex:EtOAc, 100:1 → 20:1 v/v CH₂Cl₂:MeOH), to obtain compound **2d** (60 mg [17% CH₂Cl₂], 0.36 mmol, 71%) as a light yellow solid. **R_f** = 0.18 (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH 100:1 v/v). **mp:** 150.6 – 157.2 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.35 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H, N=CH), 4.51 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CHCHO), 4.34 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H, N=CHCHCHO), 4.10 – 4.00 (m, 1H, NCH₂), 3.74 – 3.65 (m, 1H, NCH₂), 3.03 (dd, J = 7.8 Hz, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H, N=CHCH), 2.42 – 2.34 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH), 1.79 – 1.64 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂), 1.58 – 1.43 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.1 (CH), 82.6 (CH), 77.4 (CH), 67.9 (CH₂), 61.1 (CH), 44.1 (CH), 29.3 (CH₂), 28.7 (CH₂) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 2949 (m), 1655 (w), 1393 (m), 1315 (m), 1225 (s), 1215 (s), 1175 (s), 1047 (m), 972 (s), 924 (s), 805 (s), 623 (s). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for C₈H₁₂NO [M+H]⁺: 138.0913, found: 138.0916.



1-pyrroline 2e:⁷ Prepared from pyrrolidine **1e** (56 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1 eq.) according to general procedure 1. Compound **2e** (38 mg, 0.35 mmol, 70%) was obtained without the need of purification as a light yellow solid. **R_f** = 0.38 (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH 100:1 v/v). **mp:** 99.8 – 111.7 °C. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.32 – 7.28 (m, 1H, NHCH), 4.11 – 3.98 (m, 1H, NHCH₂), 3.57 – 3.46 (m, 1H, NHCH₂), 3.27 (t, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H, NHCHCH), 2.72 – 2.57 (m, 1H, NHCH₂CH), 1.73 – 1.19 (m, 6H, CH₂CH₂CH₂) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.6 (CH), 70.3 (CH₂), 55.2 (CH), 38.7 (CH), 34.8 (CH₂), 29.4 (CH₂), 25.0 (CH₂) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 2931 (s), 2901 (m), 1466 (m), 1306 (m), 1204 (s), 1182 (s), 1157 (m), 1134 (s), 1070 (m), 932 (s). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for C₇H₁₂N [M+H]⁺: 110.0964, found: 110.0973.



α -hydroxypyrrolidine 2f:⁸ To a solution of pyrrolidine **1f** (0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.2 M) was added IBX (70 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.). The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at 60 °C in an oil bath. The reaction was cooled to rt, quenched with sat. aq. Na₂S₂O₄ (1 mL), washed with sat. aq. Na₂CO₃/brine (3:1, 10 mL), extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 10 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated *in vacuo*. Compound **2f** was obtained in 48% yield, as determined with ¹H-NMR spectroscopy after dissolving the crude product in CDCl₃ and adding 2,5-dimethylfuran (0.125 mmol, 0.5 eq.) as standard for NMR spectroscopy. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.72 – 4.66 (m, 1H, NHCH₂CH), 4.37 (dd, J = 7.1, 3.9 Hz, 1H, NHCHOCH), 3.33 (dd, J = 9.9, 6.1 Hz, 1H, NHCH₂), 3.26 (d, J = 4.1 Hz, 1H, NHCHO), 2.59 (dd, J = 9.8, 3.5 Hz, 1H, NHCH₂), 1.51 (s, 1H, CH₃), 1.32 (s, 1H, CH₃) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 113.6 (C*), 85.4 (CH), 80.8 (CH), 77.4 (CH), 52.5 (CH₂), 27.0 (CH₃), 25.2 (CH₃).

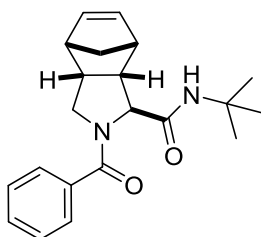
⁷ Signals of the trimerized product are visible in the NMR spectrum.

⁸ Full characterization was not possible due to instability of compound **2f** towards aqueous workup and silica gel chromatography. Proposed structure was determined with 2D-NMR spectroscopy.

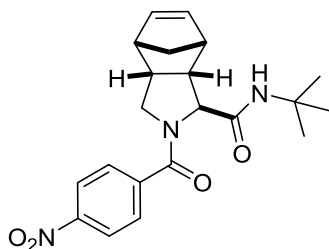
Oxidative Ugi-type three-component reaction

General procedure 2:

To a solution of the pyrrolidine (0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH_2Cl_2 (0.5 M) were added IBX (140 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.), the carboxylic acid (0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and the isocyanide (0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.). The reaction mixture was stirred for 48 h at 60 °C (oil bath) in a closed vessel. The suspension was cooled to rt, quenched with sat. aq. $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ (2 mL), washed with sat. aq. Na_2CO_3 /brine (3:1, 20 mL), extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 20 mL), dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated *in vacuo*. If necessary, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography or preparative thin layer chromatography. Note: Rotamers were observed in all NMR spectra.⁹



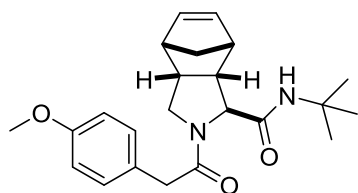
prolyl peptide 3a: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1a** (69 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.0 eq.), benzoic acid (92 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and *t*-butyl isocyanide (87 μL , 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) according to general procedure **2**. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO_2) with an eluent gradient (4:1 \rightarrow 2:1 v/v cHex:EtOAc), to obtain compound **3a** (99 mg, 0.29 mmol, 59%) as an off-white solid. $R_f = 0.48$ (cHex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v). **mp:** 191.0 – 193.7 °C (decomposition). **$^1\text{H NMR}$** (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.45 – 7.32 (m, 5H, *Ph*), 6.64 (s, 1H, *NH*), 6.20 (dd, $J = 5.7$ Hz, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1H, $\text{NCH}_2\text{CHCHCH}=\text{CH}$), 5.91 (dd, $J = 5.7$ Hz, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1H, $\text{C(O)CHCHCHCH}=\text{CH}$), 4.43 (s, 1H, C(O)CH), 3.55 (dd, $J = 11.7$ Hz, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H, NCH_2), 3.45 – 3.38 (m, 1H, C(O)CHCH), 3.08 – 2.98 (m, 2H, $\text{NCH}_2\text{CHCHCH}_2\text{CH}$), 2.93 – 2.84 (m, 1H, $\text{NCH}_2\text{CHCHCH}_2$), 2.82 – 2.74 (m, 1H, NCH_2CH), 1.49 – 1.36 (m, 2H, CHCH_2CH), 1.32 (s, 9H $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$) ppm. **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$** (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 170.3 (C^*), 169.7 (C^*), 136.7 (C^*), 134.9 (CH), 134.4 (CH), 130.1 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 126.6 (CH), 63.0 (CH), 52.1 (CH_2), 51.7 (CH_2), 47.1 (CH), 46.6 (CH), 45.6 (CH), 45.0 (CH), 28.8 (CH_3) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 3300 (w), 2935 (w), 1670 (m), 1599 (s), 1566 (s), 1535 (s), 1410 (s), 1389 (m), 1317 (m), 1223 (m), 1205 (m), 731 (m), 716 (s), 621 (m). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ [$\text{M}+\text{H}$] $^+$: 339.2067, found: 339.2056.



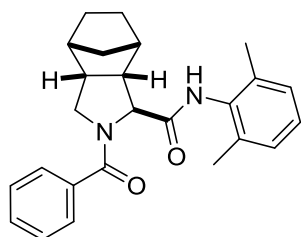
prolyl peptide 3b: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1a** (69 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.0 eq.), 4-nitrobenzoic acid (125 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and *t*-butyl isocyanide (87 μL , 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) according to general procedure **2**. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO_2) with an eluent gradient (4:1 \rightarrow 2:1 v/v cHex:EtOAc), to obtain compound **3b** (114 mg [12% CH_2Cl_2], 0.26 mmol, 52%) as an off-white solid. $R_f = 0.40$ (cHex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v). **mp:** >150 °C decomposition. **$^1\text{H NMR}$** (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.27 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H, $\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)\text{CH}$), 7.59 – 7.51 (m, 2H, $\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)\text{CHCH}$), 6.40 (s, 1H, *NH*), 6.22 (dd, $J = 5.7$ Hz, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1H, $\text{CH}=\text{CH}$), 5.93 (dd, $J = 5.8$ Hz, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1H, $\text{CH}=\text{CH}$), 4.37 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H, *NCH*), 3.60 (dd, $J = 11.7$ Hz, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H, NCH_2), 3.43 – 3.31 (m, 1H, NCH_2), 3.04 (s, 1H, *CH*), 2.97 – 2.89 (m, 2H, *CH*), 2.81 (s, 1H, *CH*), 1.51 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H, CHCH_2CH), 1.42 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H, CHCH_2CH), 1.34 (s, 9H, $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$) ppm. **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$** (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 169.9 (C^*), 167.4 (C^*), 148.7 (C^*), 142.6 (C^*), 135.1 (CH), 134.5 (CH), 127.8 (CH), 124.0 (CH), 63.5 (CH), 52.2 (CH_2), 51.8 (CH_2), 51.4 (C^*), 47.0 (CH), 46.7 (CH), 45.7 (CH), 28.9 (CH_3) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) =

⁹ Two sets of resonances were observed in all ^1H and ^{13}C spectra, corresponding to different rotamers. Incomplete coalescence was observed at 100 °C, as depicted on S38.

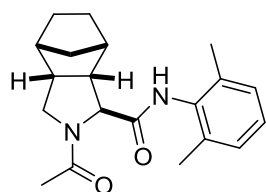
3308 (m), 2976 (m), 2932 (m), 1599 (m), 1520 (s), 1437 (m), 1340 (s), 1313 (m), 1227 (m), 1209 (m), 1016 (w), 854 (m), 831 (m), 602 (m). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $C_{21}H_{26}N_3O_4$ $[M+H]^+$: 384.1918, found: 384.1908.



prolyl peptide 3c: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1a** (69 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.0 eq.), 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetic acid (126 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and *t*-butyl isocyanide (87 μ L, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) according to general procedure **2**. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO_2) with an eluent gradient (10:1 \rightarrow 1:1 v/v *c*Hex:EtOAc), to obtain compound **3c** (103 mg, 0.28 mmol, 56%) as an off-white solid. R_f = 0.34 (*c*Hex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v). **mp**: 133.7 – 140.9 $^{\circ}C$ (decomposition). **1H NMR** (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.12 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H, C(OMe)CHCH), 6.84 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, C(OMe)CH), 6.10 – 6.03 (m, 1H, CH=CH), 5.74 – 5.63 (m, 1H, CH=CH), 4.14 (s, 1H, NCH), 3.78 (s, 3H, H_3CO), 3.52 – 3.45 (m, 2H, C^*CH_2), 3.36 – 3.22 (m, 2H, NCH_2 , CH), 3.24 – 3.15 (m, 1H, NCH_2), 2.94 (s, 1H, CH), 2.91 – 2.87 (m, 1H, CH), 2.83 (s, 1H, CH), 1.66 (s, 1H, NH), 1.39 – 1.34 (m, 1H, CHCH $_2$ CH), 1.31 – 1.25 (m, 10H, C(CH $_3$) $_3$, CHCH $_2$ CH) ppm. **^{13}C NMR** (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 170.5 (C *), 170.0 (C *), 158.7 (C *), 135.2 (CH), 134.5 (CH), 129.9 (CH), 126.3 (C *), 114.2 (CH), 63.2 (CH), 55.4 (CH $_3$), 51.7 (CH $_2$), 51.1 (C *), 50.0 (CH $_2$), 47.1 (CH), 46.6 (CH), 45.8 (CH), 45.2 (CH), 41.8 (CH $_2$), 28.8 (CH $_3$) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 3283 (w), 2934 (w), 1647 (s), 1626 (s), 1516 (m), 1389 (w), 1290 (w), 1277 (w), 1250 (s), 1219 (m), 1024 (m), 856 (w), 820 (m), 735 (m). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $C_{23}H_{31}N_2O_3$ $[M+H]^+$: 383.2329, found: 383.2331.

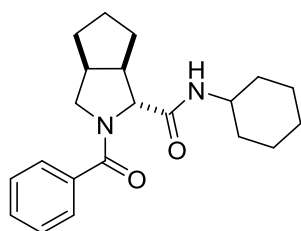


prolyl peptide 3d: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1b** (73 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.0 eq.), benzoic acid (92 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and 1,3-dimethylbenzene isocyanide (98 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) according to general procedure **2**. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO_2) with an eluent gradient (100:1 \rightarrow 5:1 v/v *c*Hex:EtOAc), to obtain compound **3d** (118 mg, 0.30 mmol, 61%) as an off-white solid. R_f = 0.64 (*c*Hex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v). **mp**: 77.7 – 91.8 $^{\circ}C$. **1H NMR** (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.09 (bs, 1H, NH), 7.59 – 7.37 (m, 5H, Ph), 7.12 – 7.01 (m, 3H, C(CH $_3$)CHCHCH), 5.22 (s, 1H, NCH), 3.62 (dd, J = 11.9 Hz, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H, NCH_2), 3.49 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H, NCH_2), 3.30 – 3.17 (m, 1H, $NCHCH$), 2.78 – 2.66 (m, 1H, NCH_2CH), 2.42 (s, 1H, $NCHCHCHCH_2CH$), 2.33 – 2.14 (m, 7H, CH $_3$, CH $_3$, $NCH_2CHCHCH_2$), 1.72 – 1.19 (m, 6H, CH $_2CHCH_2CH_2$) ppm. **^{13}C NMR** (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 169.57 (C *), 169.58 (C *), 136.1 (C *), 135.2 (C *), 133.9 (C *), 130.5 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 127.3 (CH), 126.8 (CH), 60.6 (CH), 50.3 (CH $_2$), 44.4 (CH), 44.3 (CH), 42.0 (CH $_2$), 41.5 (CH), 41.0 (CH), 23.3 (CH $_2$), 22.9 (CH $_2$), 18.6 (CH $_3$) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 3263 (br), 2953 (w), 1684 (s), 1609 (s), 1516 (s), 1447 (s), 1420 (s), 1398 (s), 1375 (s), 1296 (w), 1175 (m), 881 (m), 766 (s), 721 (s), 698 (s). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $C_{25}H_{29}N_2O_2$ $[M+H]^+$: 389.2224, found: 389.2221.

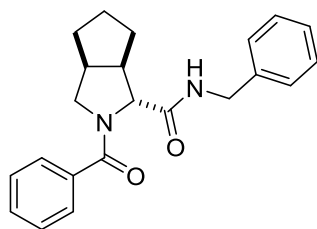


prolyl peptide 3e: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1b** (73 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.0 eq.), acetic acid (43 μ L, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and 1,3-dimethylbenzene isocyanide (98 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) according to general procedure **2**. Purification was achieved by preparative thin layer chromatography (SiO_2 , *c*Hex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v), to obtain compound **3e** (70 mg, 0.22 mmol, 43%) as an off-white solid. **Two-step procedure:** To a solution of pyrrolidine **1b** (72 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH_2Cl_2 (0.2 M) were added IBX (140 mg, 0.5 mmol,

1.0 eq.). The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at 60 °C (oil bath) in a closed vessel. The suspension was cooled to rt and acetic acid (43 μ L, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and 1,3-dimethylbenzene isocyanide (98 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1 eq.) were added, after which stirring was proceeded for 23 h at 60 °C (oil bath) in a closed vessel. The suspension was cooled to rt, quenched with sat. aq. $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ (2 mL), washed with sat. aq. Na_2CO_3 /brine (3:1, 20 mL), extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 20 mL), dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification was achieved by preparative thin layer chromatography (SiO_2 , cHex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v), to obtain compound **3e** (88 mg, 0.27 mmol, 54%) as an off-white solid. $R_f = 0.73$ (cHex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v). mp: 171.6 – 179.5 °C. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.18 (bs, 1H, NH), 7.16 – 7.00 (m, 3H, Ar), 4.89 (s, 1H, NCH), 3.62 (d, $J = 11.5$ Hz, 1H, NCH₂), 3.47 (dd, $J = 11.7$ Hz, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H, NCH₂), 3.18 (dd, $J = 10.9$ Hz, $J = 4.9$ Hz, 1H, NCHCH), 2.81 – 2.68 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH), 2.44 – 2.34 (m, 1H, NCHCHCHCH₂), 2.34 – 2.30 (m, 1H, NCH₂CHCHCH₂), 2.18 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 6H, CH₃), 1.60 – 1.58 (m, 1H, CHCH₂CH), 1.54 – 1.49 (m, 1H, CHCH₂CH), 1.45 – 1.39 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂), 1.35 – 1.27 (m, 2H, CH₂CH₂) ppm. $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 169.8 (C*), 169.6 (C*), 135.2 (C*), 134.0 (C*), 128.2 (CH), 127.1 (CH), 77.4 (CH), 60.2 (CH), 48.4 (CH₂), 44.6 (CH), 43.8 (CH), 42.0 (CH₂), 41.5 (CH), 40.9 (CH), 23.3 (CH₂), 22.9 (CH₂), 22.6 (CH₃), 18.5 (CH₃) ppm. IR (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 3309 (w), 1647 (s), 1506 (m), 1471 (m), 1406 (s), 1375 (m), 1192 (m), 1034 (w), 847 (w), 773 (m), 640 (m). HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_2$ [M+Na]⁺: 349.1886, found: 349.1879.



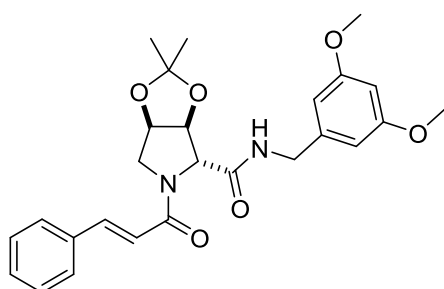
prolyl peptide 3f: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1e** (56 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.0 eq.), benzoic acid (92 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and cyclohexyl isocyanide (95 μ L, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) according to general procedure **2**. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO_2) with an eluent gradient (100:1 \rightarrow 8:1 v/v cHex:EtOAc), to obtain compound **3f** (96 mg, 0.27 mmol, 54%) as a yellow oil. $R_f = 0.45$ (cHex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.52 – 7.32 (m, 5H, Ph), 6.73 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H NH), 4.65 – 4.54 (m, 1H, CHC(O)), 3.85 – 3.67 (m, 2H, NCH₂, NCHCH), 3.29 (d, $J = 11.3$ Hz, 1H, NCH₂), 3.24 – 3.13 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH), 2.75 – 2.68 (m, 1H, C(O)NHCH), 2.02 – 1.51 (m, 10H, CH₂)¹⁰, 1.42 – 1.03 (m, 6H, CH₂)¹⁰ ppm. $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 170.6 (C*), 170.1 (C*), 136.3 (C*), 130.3 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 127.0 (CH), 66.6 (CH), 56.0 (CH₂), 48.3 (CH), 44.3 (CH), 43.4 (CH), 33.1 (CH₂), 32.8 (CH₂), 26.3 (CH₂), 25.6 (CH₂), 24.7 (CH₂) ppm. IR (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 3302 (br), 2928 (s), 1616 (s), 1541 (s), 1522 (m), 1418 (s), 1225 (w), 891 (w), 725 (m), 698 (s). HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ [M+H]⁺: 341.2224, found: 341.2207.



prolyl peptide 3g: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1e** (56 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.0 eq.), benzoic acid (92 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and benzyl isocyanide (86 μ L, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) according to general procedure **2**. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO_2) with an eluent gradient (100:1 \rightarrow 2:1 v/v cHex:EtOAc) and by preparative thin layer chromatography (SiO_2 , cHex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v), to obtain compound **3g** (72 mg, 0.21 mmol, 41%) as a yellow oil.

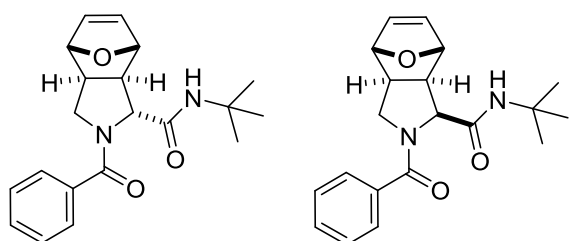
¹⁰ Signals are overlapped with the signals of the rotamers.

$R_f = 0.35$ (cHex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.46 – 7.09 (m, 10H, *Ph*)¹¹, 4.63 (s, 1H, *CHC(O)*), 4.47 – 4.31 (m, 2H, NHCH_2)¹⁰, 3.67 (dd, $J = 11.3\text{ Hz}$, $J = 7.4\text{ Hz}$, 1H, NCH_2), 3.26 (dd, $J = 11.2\text{ Hz}$, $J = 2.8\text{ Hz}$, 1H, NCH_2), 3.22 – 3.12 (m, 1H, NCHCH), 2.78 – 2.58 (m, 1H, NCH_2CH), 1.97 – 1.16 (m, 6H, $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$)¹⁰ ppm. $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 171.1 (C*), 170.7 (C*), 138.5 (C*), 136.1 (C*), 128.5 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 127.2 (CH), 127.1 (CH), 66.5 (CH), 56.0 (CH₂), 44.6 (CH), 43.6 (CH₂), 43.5 (CH), 33.1 (CH₂), 32.7 (CH₂), 31.1 (CH₂), 26.3 (CH₂), 25.7 (CH₂) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 3290 (br), 2945 (w), 1616 (s), 1541 (m), 1497 (m), 1447 (m), 1418 (s), 1361 (w), 1228 (m), 721 (m), 696 (s), 677 (m), 663 (m). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 349.1911, found: 349.1895.



prolyl peptide 3h: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1f** (72 mg, 0.50 mmol, 1.0 eq.), cinnamic acid (109 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and 1-(isocyanomethyl)-3,5-dimethoxybenzyl (117 μL , 0.75 mmol, 1.5 eq.) according to general procedure **2**. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO_2) with an eluent gradient (20:1 \rightarrow 1:2 v/v cHex:EtOAc) and by preparative thin layer chromatography (SiO_2 , cHex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v), to obtain compound **3h** (110 mg [3% CH_2Cl_2],

0.23 mmol, 45%) as a yellow solid. $R_f = 0.34$ (cHex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v). **mp**: 52.1 – 61.5 $^\circ\text{C}$. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.71 (d, $J = 15.4\text{ Hz}$, 1H, C(O)CH=CH), 7.53 (dd, $J = 6.5\text{ Hz}$, $J = 3.0\text{ Hz}$, 2H, *Ph*), 7.43 – 7.35 (m, 3H, *Ph*), 7.12 (d, $J = 8.0\text{ Hz}$, 1H, $\text{CH}_2\text{C}^*\text{CH}$), 6.72 (d, $J = 15.5\text{ Hz}$, 1H, C(O)CH=CH), 6.43 – 6.37 (m, 2H, $\text{CH}_2\text{C}^*\text{CHC(OMe)CH}$), 5.13 (d, $J = 5.7\text{ Hz}$, 1H, NCH), 4.95 – 4.89 (m, 2H, CHO), 4.41 – 4.33 (m, 1H, NHCH_2), 4.31 – 4.23 (m, 1H, NHCH_2), 4.00 (d, $J = 11.9\text{ Hz}$, 1H, NCH_2), 3.81 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.77 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.72 – 3.66 (m, 1H, NCH_2), 1.75 (bs, 1H, NH), 1.41 (s, 3H, C^*CH_3), 1.32 (s, 3H, C^*CH_3) ppm. $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (126 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 168.7 (C*), 165.8 (C*), 160.6 (C*), 158.6 (C*), 143.7 (CH), 134.9 (C*), 130.2 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 128.1 (CH), 118.6 (C*), 117.2 (CH), 112.0 (C*), 103.9 (CH), 98.6 (CH), 80.6 (CH), 79.8 (CH), 65.7 (CH), 55.5 (CH₃), 53.2 (CH₂), 39.1 (CH₂), 26.9 (CH₃), 24.9 (CH₃) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 3294 (br), 2935 (w), 1647 (s), 1610 (m), 1578 (w), 1508 (s), 1418 (s), 1373 (m), 1261 (m), 1205 (s), 1155 (s), (m), 1034 (m), 974 (m), 764 (m), 702 (m), 565 (w). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 467.2177, found: 467.2167.

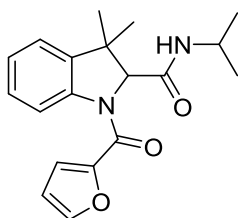


prolyl peptide 3i (major) and prolyl peptide 3i' (minor): Prepared from pyrrolidine **1c** (40 mg [87% pure], 0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.), benzoic acid (46 mg, 0.38 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and *t*-butyl isocyanide (44 μL , 0.38 mmol, 1.5 eq.) according to general procedure **2**. Purification was achieved by preparative thin layer chromatography (SiO_2 ,

cHex:EtOAc 1:3, v/v), to obtain the compound **3i** (32 mg, 0.09 mmol, 38%) as an off-white solid and the diastereoisomer **3i'** (16 mg, 0.05 mmol, 19%) as an off-white solid in a 2:1 diastereoisomeric ratio. **3i**: $R_f = 0.14$ (cHex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v). **mp**: 176.8 – 185.3 $^\circ\text{C}$. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.49 – 7.38 (m, 5H, *Ph*), 6.93 (s, 1H, NH), 6.42 (dd, $J = 6.1\text{ Hz}$, $J = 1.9\text{ Hz}$, 1H, $\text{NCH}_2\text{CHCHCH=CH}$), 6.35 (dd, $J = 1.5\text{ Hz}$, $J = 1.5\text{ Hz}$, 1H,

¹¹ Signals are overlapped with the signals of the rotamers and CHCl_3 .

NCH₂CHCHCH=CH), 4.95 – 4.84 (m, 2H, NCH₂CHCHO, NCH), 4.65 (s, 1H, NCHCHCHO), 3.73 (dd, *J* = 11.9 Hz, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, NCH₂), 3.52 (dd, *J* = 12.0 Hz, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H, NCH₂), 2.98 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H, NCHCH), 2.42 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CH), 1.35 (s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃) ppm. ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.1 (C*), 169.8 (C*), 137.1 (CH), 136.6 (CH), 136.2 (CH), 130.3 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 127.0 (C*), 84.0 (CH), 83.7 (CH), 64.1 (CH), 52.9 (CH₂), 51.4 (C*), 44.7 (CH), 44.3 (CH), 28.8 (CH₃) ppm. IR (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 3292 (w), 2966 (w), 1676 (s), 1601 (s), 1570 (s), 1541 (s), 1447 (m), 1425 (s), 1356 (m), 1281 (w), 1259 (w), 1223 (m), 1030 (w), 941 (w), 903 (s), 868 (w), 847 (w), 719 (s), 692 (s), 665 (s), 619 (m). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₂₀H₂₅N₂O₃ [M+H]⁺: 341.1860, found: 341.1849. **3i**: *R*_f = 0.10 (cHex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v). *mp*: 184.0 – 190.0 °C (decomposition). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.59 – 7.19 (m, 5H, *Ph*), 6.50 – 6.31 (m, 2H, HC=CH), 4.86 (s, 1H, CHO), 4.78 – 4.59 (m, 2H, NCH, CHO), 3.53 (t, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 3.40 – 3.30 (m, 1H, NCH₂),¹² 2.68 – 2.56 (m, 1H, NHCH₂CH), 2.54 – 2.40 (m, 1H, NCHCH),¹³ 1.30 (s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃), ppm.¹⁴ ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 168.4 (C*), 168.0 (C*), 137.2 (CH), 137.1 (C*), 136.7 (CH), 130.3 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 79.4 (CH, CH), 60.5 (CH), 53.0 (CH₂), 50.7 (C*), 47.2 (CH), 45.4 (CH), 29.1 (CH₃) ppm. IR (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 2974 (w), 1670 (s), 1624 (s), 1418 (s), 1313 (w), 1223 (m), 1142 (m), 986 (m), 951 (m), 906 (m), 822 (w), 661 (m). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₂₀H₂₅N₂O₃ [M+H]⁺: 341.1860, found: 341.1850.



prolyl peptide 3j: To a solution of 3,3-dimethylindoline (37 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in DMSO (0.5 M) were added IBX (70 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.), furoic acid (43 mg, 0.38 mmol, 1.5 eq.) and *i*-propyl isocyanide (35 μ L, 0.38 mmol, 1.5 eq.). The reaction mixture was stirred for 48 h at rt. The suspension was quenched with sat. aq. Na₂S₂O₄ (2 mL), washed with sat. aq. Na₂CO₃/brine (3:1, 20 mL), extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 20 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification was achieved by flash

chromatography (SiO₂) with an eluent gradient (100:1 → 5:1 v/v cHex:EtOAc) and by preparative thin layer chromatography (SiO₂, cHex:EtOAc 1:1, v/v), to obtain compound **3j** (32 mg [13% CH₂Cl₂], 0.09 mmol, 35%) as a yellow solid. *R*_f = 0.32 (cHex:EtOAc 1:1 v/v). *mp*: 63.2 – 73.8 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H, NC*CH), 7.59 – 7.55 (m, 1H, OCHCHCH), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 2H, OCHCHCH, NC*CHCH), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 2H, NC*CHCHCH), 6.54 (dd, *J* = 3.5 Hz, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H, OCHCH), 5.43 – 5.35 (m, 1H, NH) 4.95 (s, 1H, NCH), 4.07 – 3.93 (m, 1H, NHCH), 1.43 (s, 3H, C*CH₃), 1.40 (s, 3H, C*CH₃), 0.94 (dd, *J* = 13.5 Hz, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 6H, CH(CH₃)₂) ppm. ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.6 (C*), 158.1 (C*), 147.5 (C*), 145.3 (CH), 141.1 (C*), 139.9 (C*), 128.3 (CH), 125.5 (CH), 122.5 (CH), 118.4 (CH), 118.0 (CH), 112.2 (CH), 75.0 (CH), 45.0 (C*), 41.4 (CH), 32.7 (CH₃), 29.8 (C*), 22.9 (CH₃), 22.6 (CH₃), 22.4 (CH₃) ppm. IR (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 3285 (br), 2966 (w), 1653 (s), 1558 (m), 1477 (s), 1456 (s), 1394 (s), 1366 (s), 1283 (m), 1171 (w), 885 (w), 750 (s), 594 (w). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₉H₂₃N₂O₃ [M+H]⁺: 327.1703, found: 327.1707.

¹² Signal overlaps with H₂O peak. The H₂O was an impurity in the solvent MeOD-*d*₄.

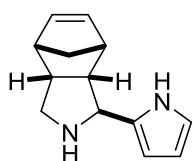
¹³ Signal overlaps with residual solvent peak of MeOD-*d*₄.

¹⁴ Signals are overlapped with the signals of the rotamers.

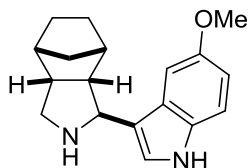
Oxidative aza-Friedel-Crafts reaction

General procedure 3:

To a solution of the pyrrolidine (0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.25 M) were added IBX (70 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.). The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at 60 °C (oil bath) in a closed vessel. The suspension was cooled to rt and trifluoroacetic acid (38 μL, 0.5 mmol, 2.0 eq.) and the pyrrole or indole (0.5 mmol, 2.0 eq.) were added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at 60 °C (oil bath) in a closed vessel. The suspension was cooled to rt, quenched with sat. aq. Na₂S₂O₄ (2 mL), washed with sat. aq. Na₂CO₃/brine (3:1, 20 mL), extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 20 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated *in vacuo*. If necessary, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography.



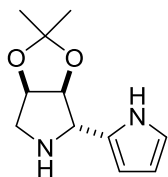
pyrrolyl pyrrolidine 4a: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1a** (33 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and pyrrole (35 μL, 0.50 mmol, 2.0 eq.) according to general procedure **3**. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO₂) with an eluent gradient (100:0 → 20:1 v/v CH₂Cl₂:MeOH), to obtain compound **4a** (24 mg, 0.12 mmol, 48%) as a grey solid. **R_f** = 0.32 (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH 20:1 v/v). **mp:** > 86.3 °C decomposition. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.04 (bs, 1H, C*NH), 6.72 – 6.64 (m, 1H, C*NHCH), 6.32 – 6.21 (m, 2H, HC=CH), 6.20 – 6.14 (m, 1H, C*NHCHCH), 6.05 – 5.95 (m, 1H, C*NHCHCHCH), 3.82 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H, C*CHNH), 3.06 (dt, *J* = 9.0 Hz, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H, NHCHCH), 3.00 – 2.95 (m, 1H, CHCH₂CH), 2.93 – 2.78 (m, 3H, CHCH₂CH, NHCH₂CH), 2.50 (dd, *J* = 11.8 Hz, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H, NHCH₂), 2.29 – 2.06 (bs, 1H, CH₂NH), 1.60 (dt, *J* = 8.2 Hz, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H, CHCH₂CH), 1.52 (dt, *J* = 8.2 Hz, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H, CHCH₂CH) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 155.5 (C*), 136.5 (CH), 116.7 (CH), 108.5 (CH), 104.4 (CH), 58.7 (CH), 54.7 (CH), 53.6 (CH₂), 49.0 (CH₂), 48.7 (CH), 46.0 (CH), 45.8 (CH) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 3072 (w), 2934 (m), 2862 (m), 1448 (w), 1414 (w), 1028 (w), 918 (m), 879 (m), 833 (m), 725 (s), 563 (w). **HRMS** (ESI): *m/z* calculated for C₁₃H₁₇N₂ [M+H]⁺: 201.1386, found: 201.1394.



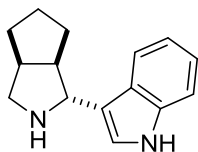
pyrrolyl pyrrolidine 4b: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1b** (38 mg, 0.26 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and 5-methoxy-1H-indole (77 μL, 0.52 mmol, 2.0 eq.) according to general procedure **3**. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO₂) with an eluent gradient (100:0 → 20:1 v/v CH₂Cl₂:MeOH), to obtain compound **4b** (44 mg, 0.16 mmol, 60%) as a dark yellow oil. **R_f** = 0.66 (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH 50:1 v/v). **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.94 (bs, 1H, C*NH), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H, NHC*CH), 7.09 (s, 1H, C*CHC(OMe)), 6.98 (s, 1H, C*NHCHC*), 6.85 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H, C(OMe)CH), 4.45 (s, 1H, CH₂NHCH), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.03 – 2.91 (m, 2H, NHCH₂), 2.78 – 2.54 (m, 2H, NHCH₂CH, NHCHCH), 2.46 – 2.36 (m, 1H, NHCH₂CHCHCH₂CH), 2.27 – 2.19 (m, 1H, NHCH₂CHCHCH₂), 2.01 (bs, 1H, CH₂NH), 1.80 (t, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 1.71 – 1.36 (m, 5H, CH₂CHCH₂CH₂) ppm. **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 154.0 (C*), 131.9 (C*), 126.8 (C*), 121.4 (CH), 119.9 (C*),¹⁵ 112.3 (CH), 112.0 (CH), 101.0 (CH), 56.1 (CH), 55.0 (CH₃), 52.0 (CH), 46.4 (CH₂), 45.9 (CH), 43.4 (CH₂), 40.9 (CH), 40.8 (CH), 23.6 (CH₂), 23.1 (CH₂) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{\max} (cm⁻¹) = 2941 (w), 1481 (m), 1437 (m), 1290 (w),

¹⁵ Very weak signal assigned with HMBC.

1209 (s), 1171 (m), 1101 (w), 1051 (w), 1028 (m), 924 (m), 795 (m), 733 (m), 640 (m), 606 (m). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $C_{18}H_{23}N_2O$ $[M+H]^+$: 283.1805, found: 283.1801.

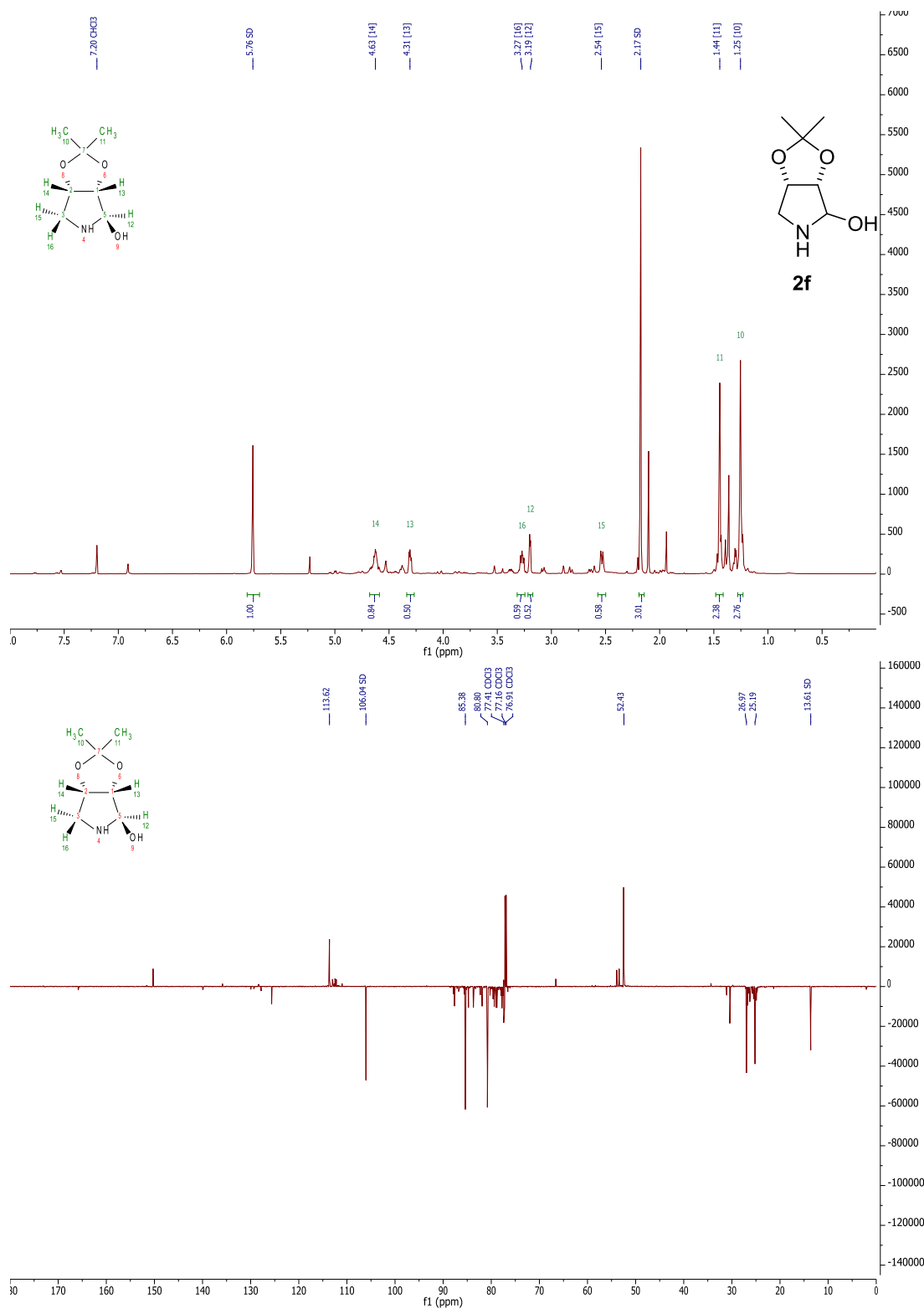


pyrrolyl pyrrolidine 4c: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1f** (36 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and pyrrole (35 μ L, 0.50 mmol, 2.0 eq.) according to general procedure **3**. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO_2) with an eluent gradient (100:0 \rightarrow 20:1 v/v CH_2Cl_2 :MeOH), to obtain compound **4c** (27 mg, 0.13 mmol, 52%, $dr > 13:1$) as a brown solid. $R_f = 0.92$ (CH_2Cl_2 :MeOH 50:1 v/v). **mp:** 112.0 – 124.2 $^{\circ}C$. **1H NMR** (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.80 (bs, 1H, NHC^*), 6.77 – 6.65 (m, $J = 3.1$ Hz, $J = 1.7$ Hz, 1H, C^*NHCH), 6.16 (q, $J = 2.9$ Hz, 1H, $C^*NHCHCH$), 6.05 – 6.00 (m, 1H, $C^*NHCHCHCH$), 4.95 (d, $J = 5.4$ Hz, 1H, $NHCHCH$), 4.67 (dd, $J = 5.4$ Hz, $J = 3.7$ Hz, 1H, $NHCH_2CH$), 4.34 (s, 1H, $NHCHC^*$), 3.03 (d, $J = 13.6$, 1H, $NHCH_2$), 2.63 (dd, $J = 13.6$, 3.9 Hz, 1H, $NHCH_2$), 2.47 (bs, 1H, CH_2NH), 1.50 (s, 3H, C^*CH_3), 1.36 (s, 3H, C^*CH_3) ppm. **^{13}C NMR** (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 129.3 (C^*), 116.7 (CH), 110.6 (C^*), 108.8 (CH), 105.1 (CH), 86.0 (CH), 82.3 (CH), 62.5 (CH), 52.6 (CH_2), 26.1 (CH_3), 23.9 (CH_3) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 3265 (w), 1381 (w), 1367 (w), 1204 (m), 1090 (m), 1045 (m), 1030 (s), 947 (w), 891 (m), 881 (m), 866 (m), 851 (m), 710 (s), 604 (s). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $C_{18}H_{23}N_2O$ $[M+H]^+$: 209.1285, found: 209.1279.

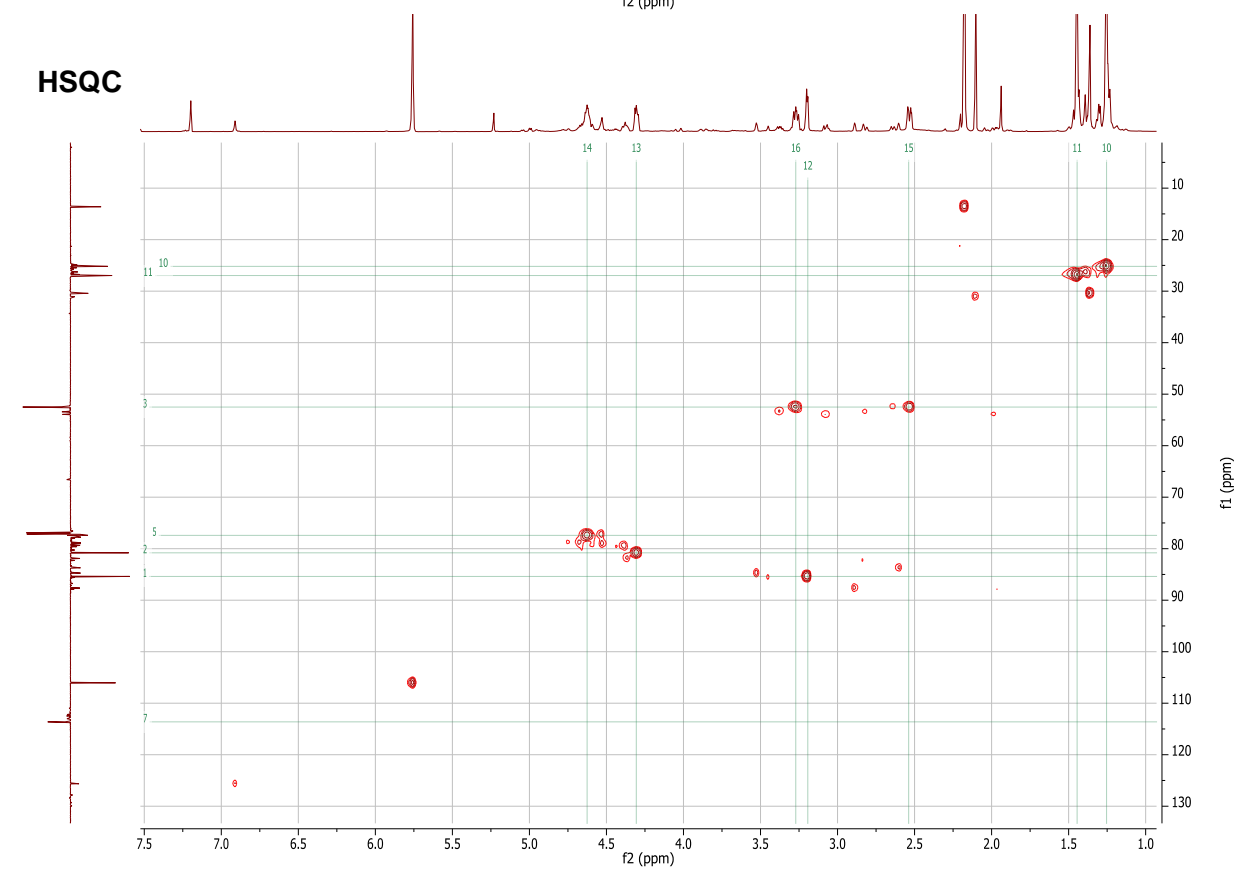
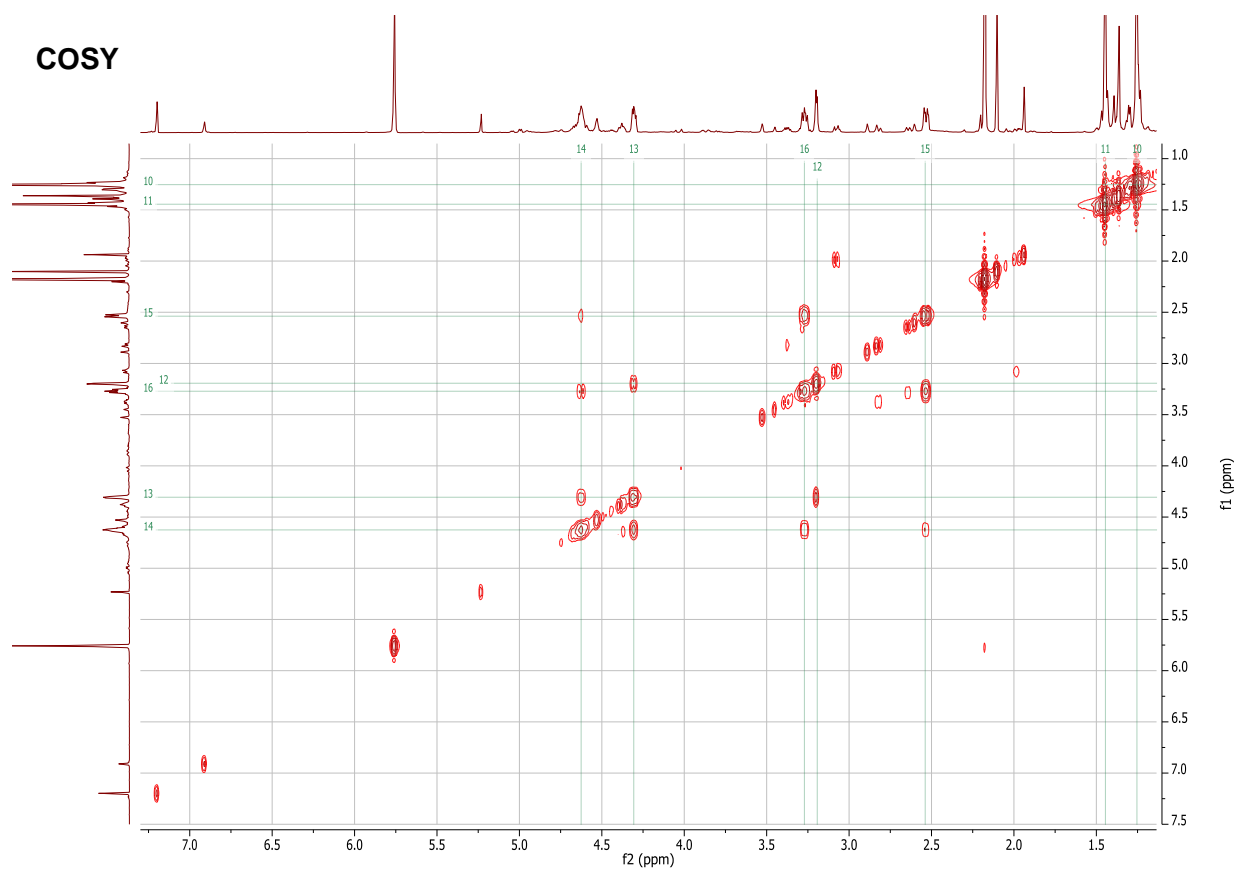


pyrrolyl pyrrolidine 4d: Prepared from pyrrolidine **1e** (29 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and indole (60 mg, 0.50 mmol, 2.0 eq.) according to general procedure **3**. Purification was achieved by flash chromatography (SiO_2) with an eluent gradient (100:0 – 20:1 v/v CH_2Cl_2 :MeOH), to obtain compound **4d** (43 mg, 0.19 mmol, 75%) as a brown solid. $R_f = 0.10$ (CH_2Cl_2 :MeOH 20:1 v/v). **mp:** > 69.8 $^{\circ}C$ decomposition. **1H NMR** (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.22 (bs, 1H, NHC^*), 7.74 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H, NHC^*C^*CH), 7.35 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H, NHC^*CH), 7.23 – 7.06 (m, 3H, $CHNHC^*CHCHCH$), 3.92 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H, $NHCHCH$), 3.40 (dd, $J = 10.7$, 8.0 Hz, 1H, $NHCH_2$), 2.89 – 2.73 (m, 2H, $NHCH_2CHCH$), 2.55 (dd, $J = 10.7$, 7.1 Hz, 1H, $NHCH_2$), 2.40 (bs, 1H, $NHCH_2$), 1.74 – 1.43 (m, 6H, $CH_2CH_2CH_2$) ppm. **^{13}C NMR** (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 136.7 (C^*), 126.6 (C^*), 122.2 (CH), 122.0 (CH), 119.6 (CH), 119.6 (CH), 117.1 (C^*), 111.5 (CH), 63.1 (CH), 53.7 (CH_2), 50.8 (CH), 44.3 (CH), 32.1 (CH_2), 31.4 (CH_2), 25.5 (CH_2) ppm. **IR** (neat): ν_{max} (cm^{-1}) = 2930 (w), 2860 (w), 1456 (w), 1448 (w), 1339 (w), 735 (s), 608 (m), 426 (m). **HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for $C_{15}H_{19}N_2$ $[M+H]^+$: 227.1543, found: 227.1542.

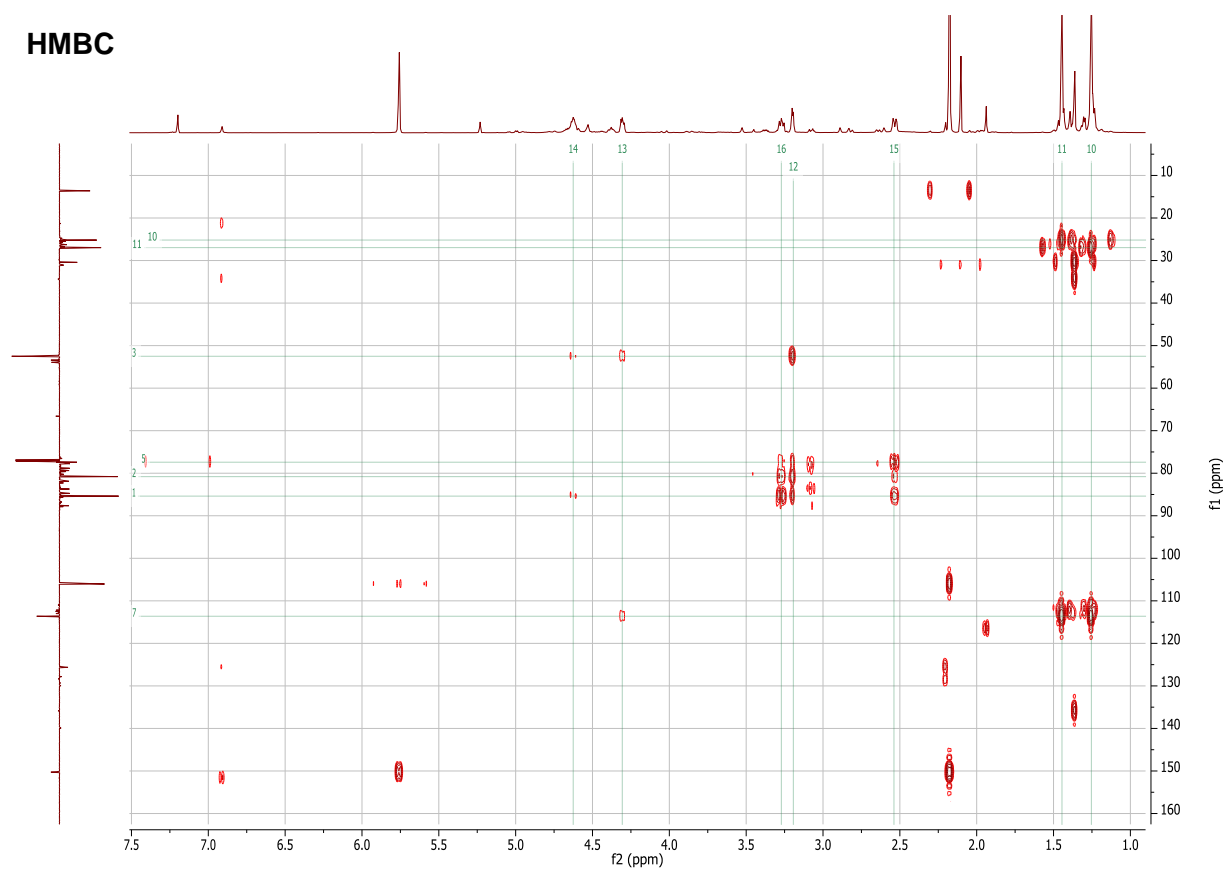
Structural analysis of compound 2f¹⁶



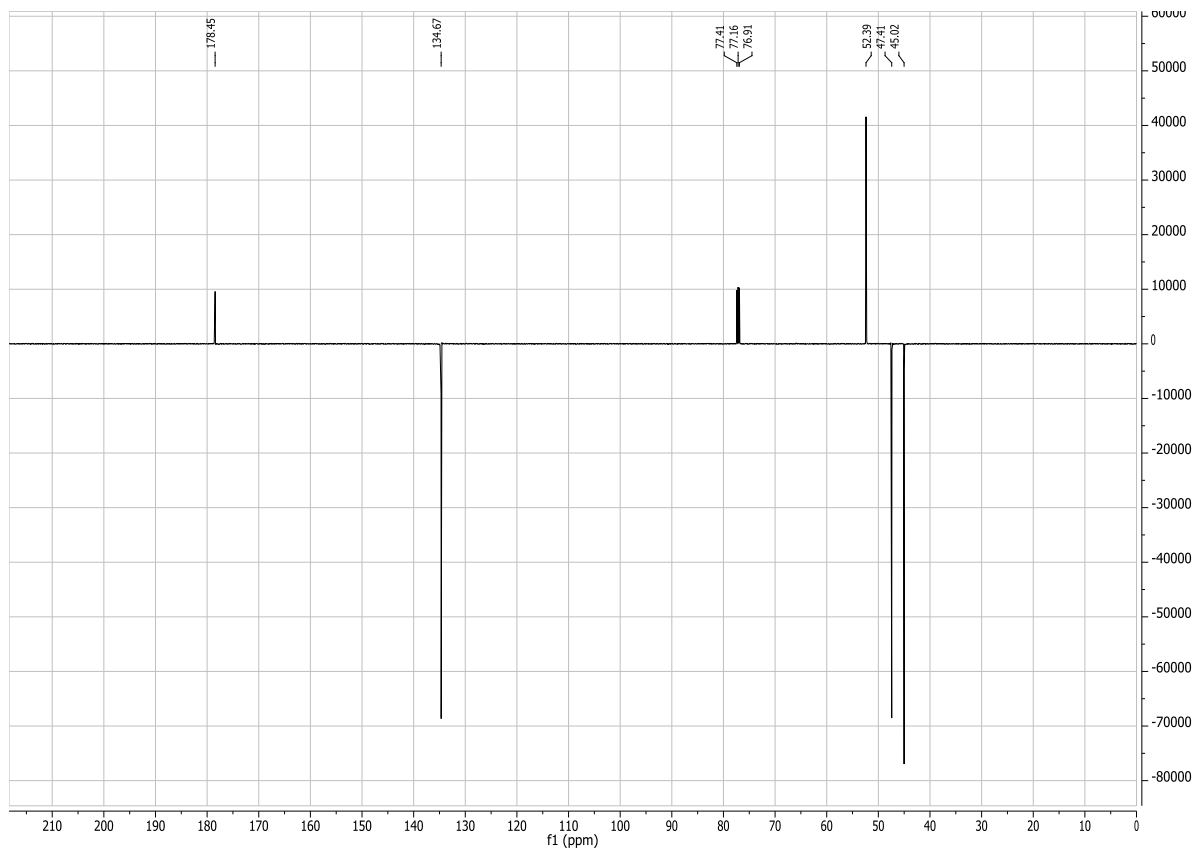
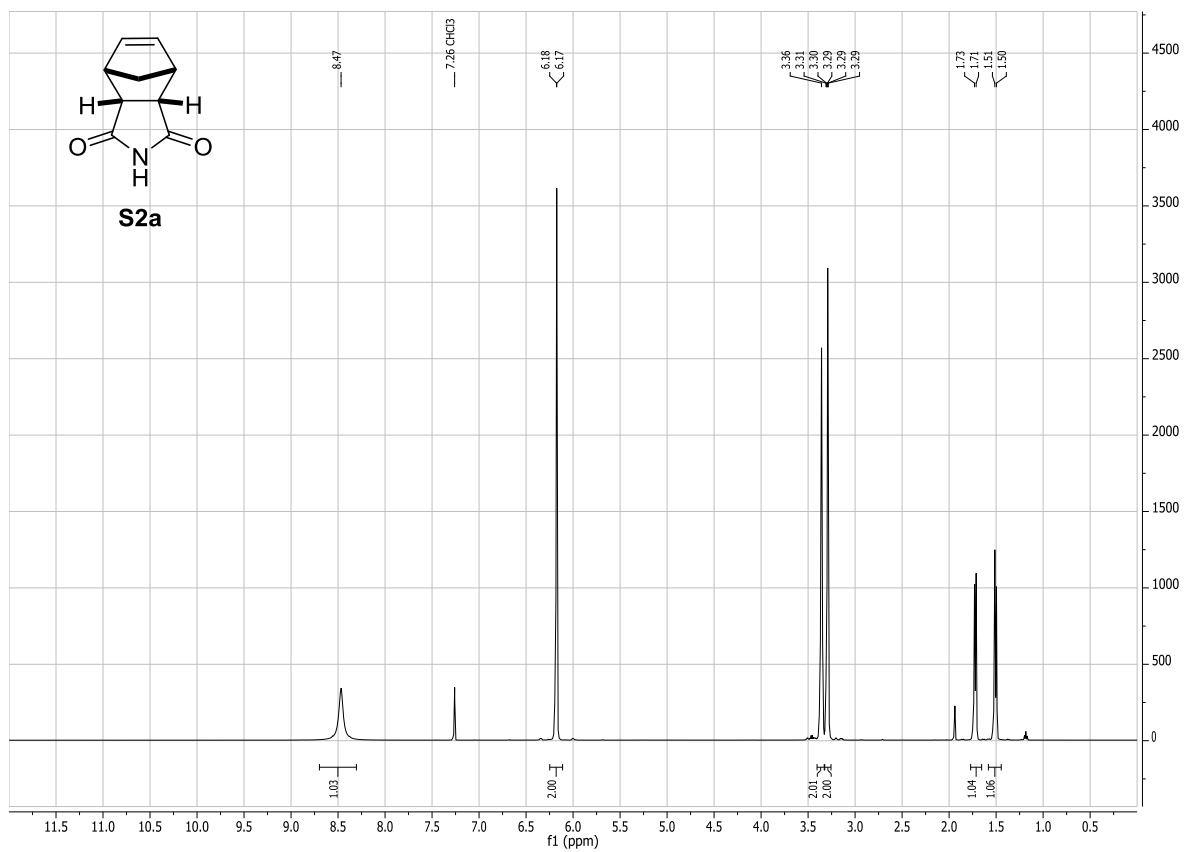
¹⁶ Relative stereochemistry at the hemiaminal stereocenter undetermined
S18

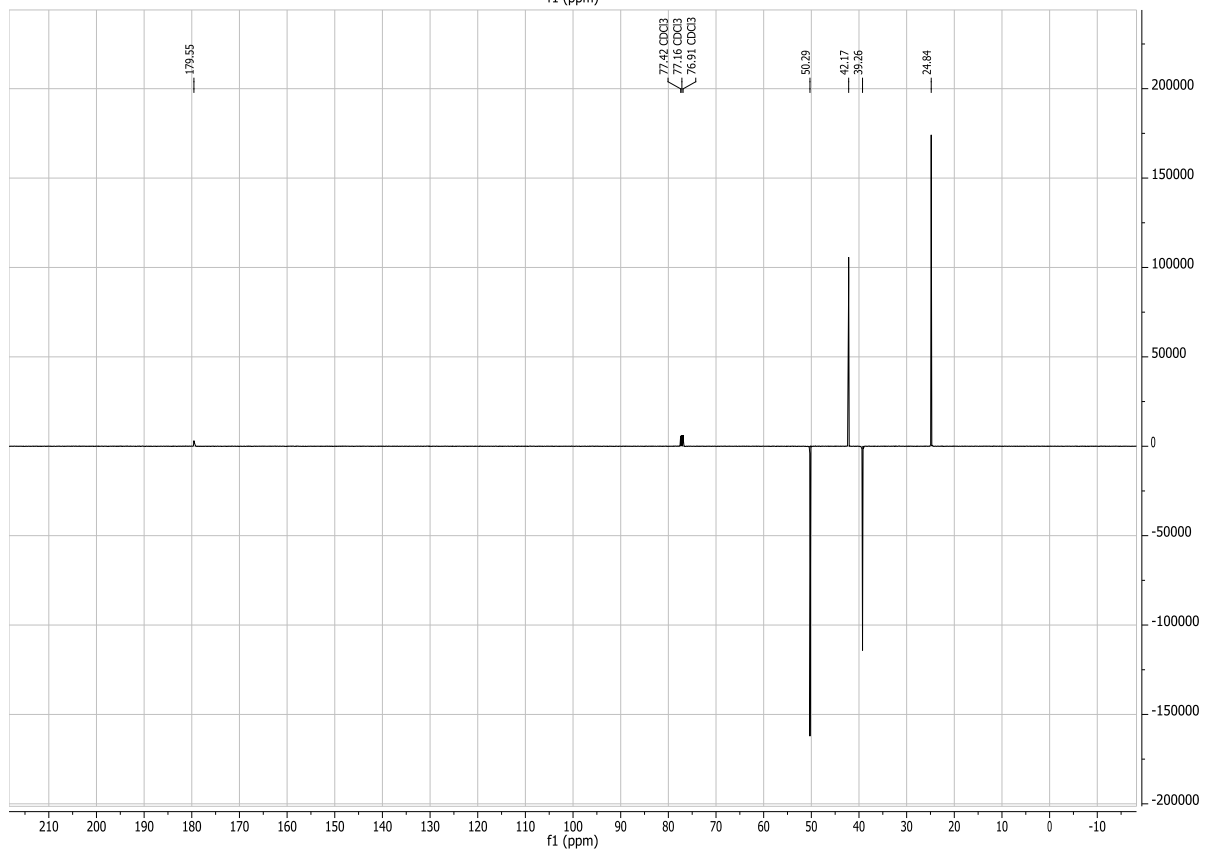
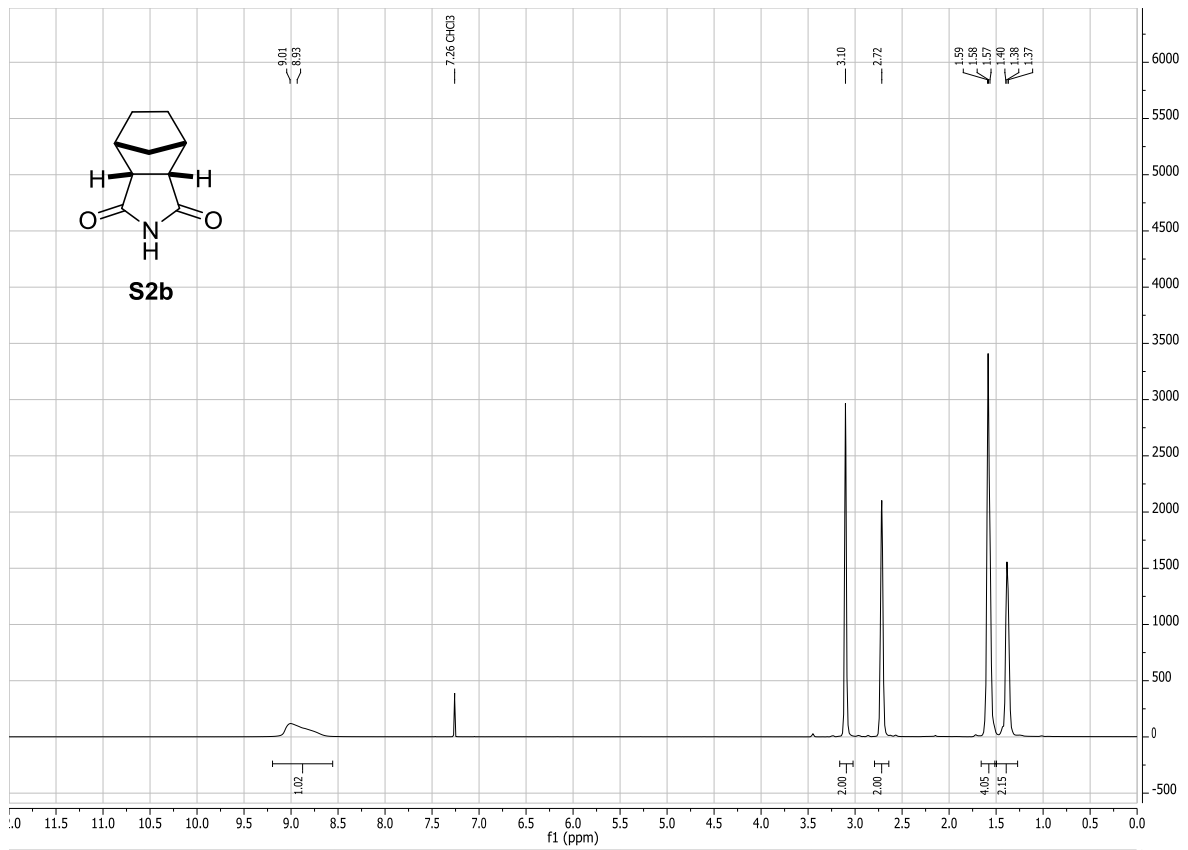


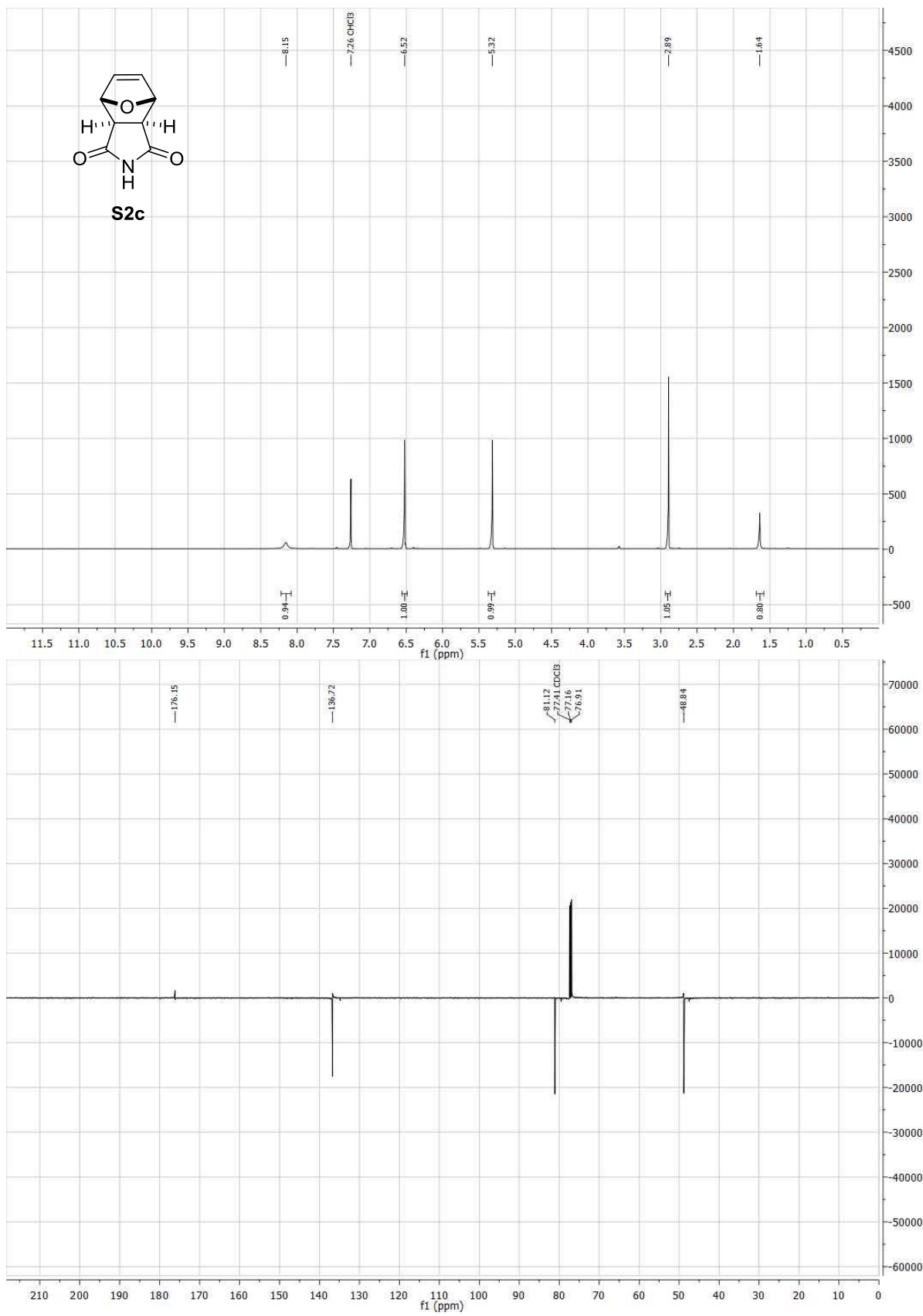
HMBC

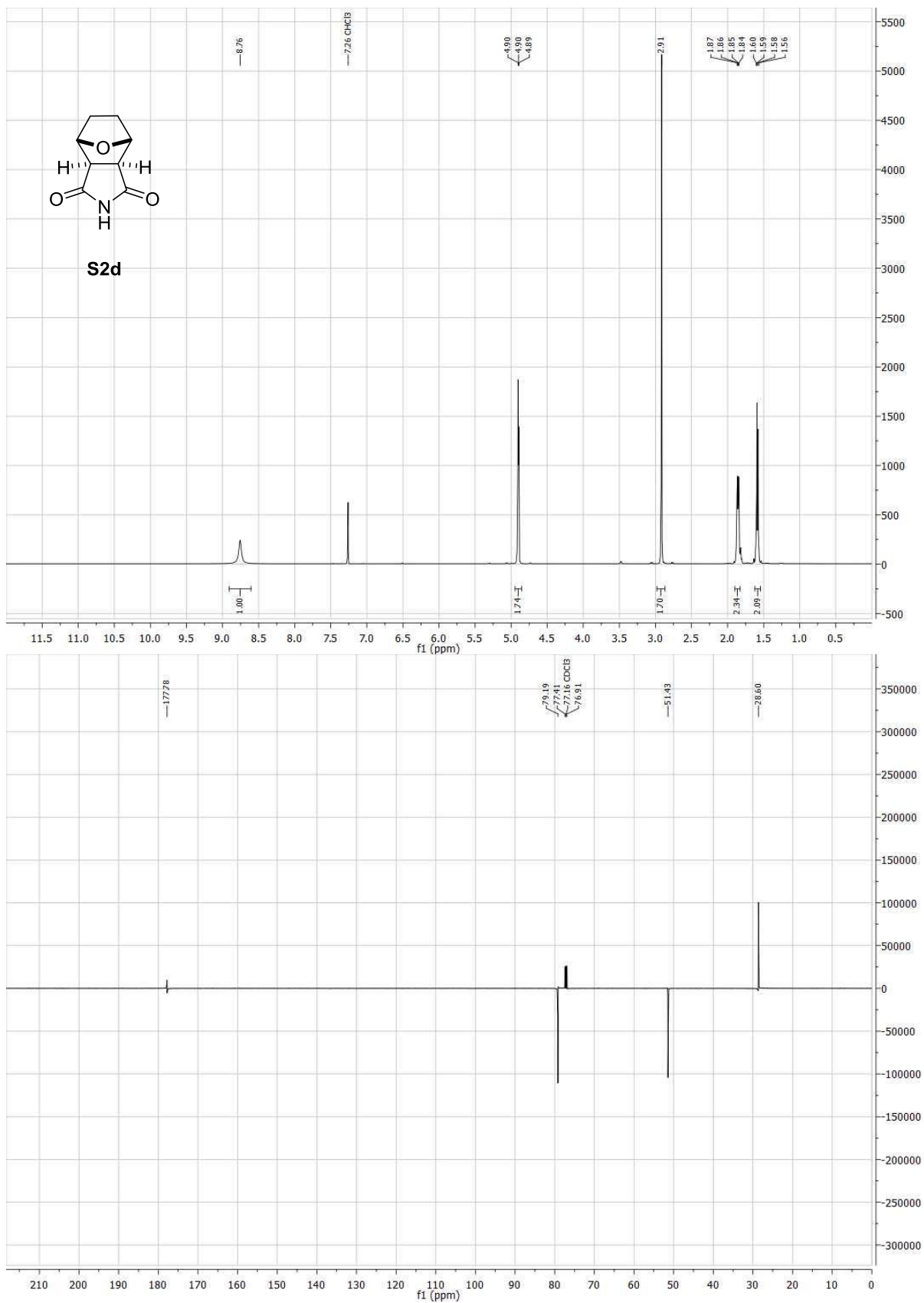


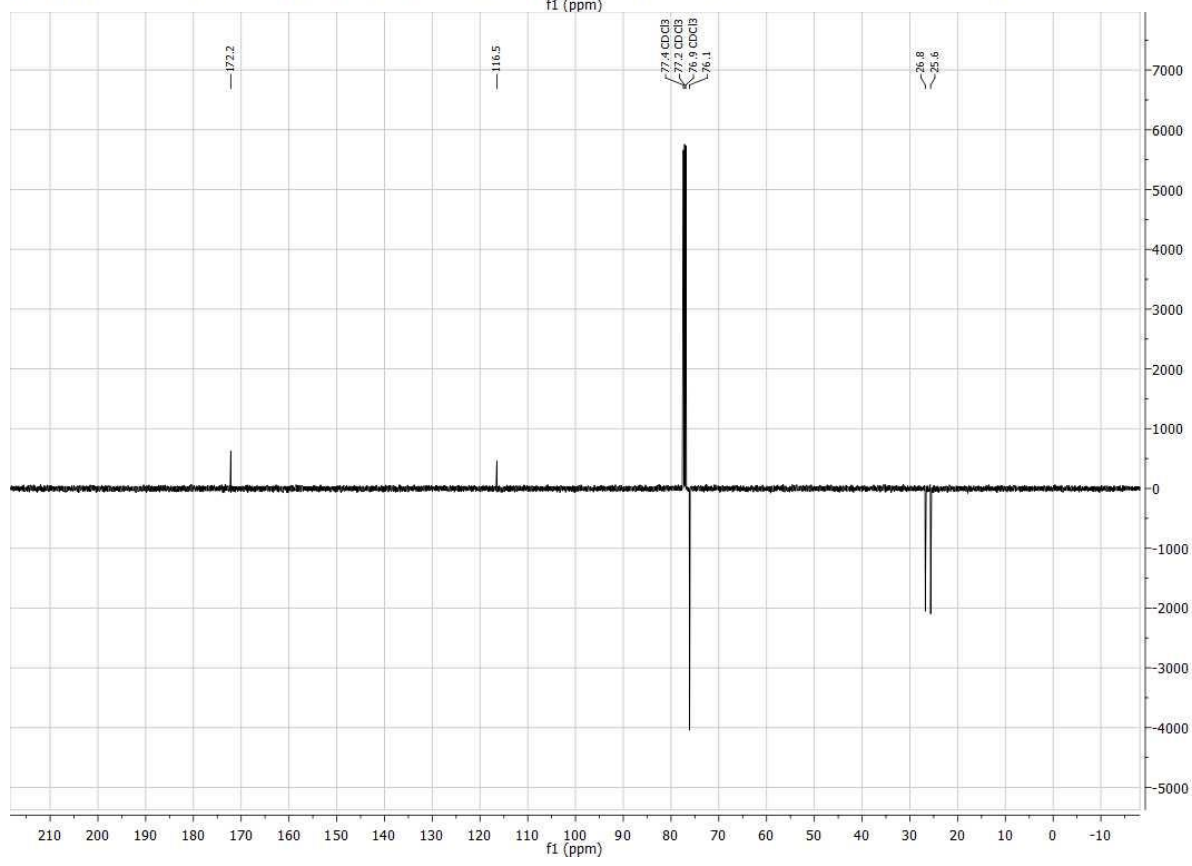
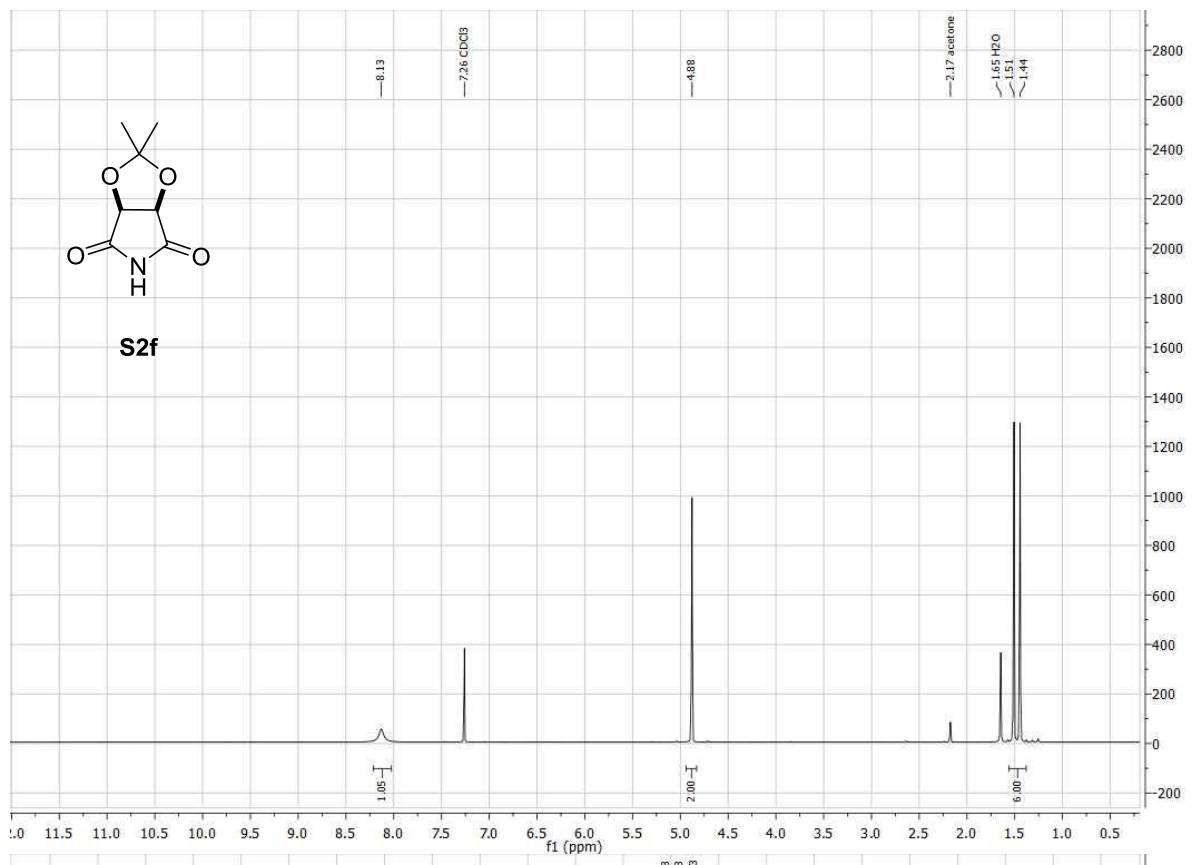
Copies of NMRs

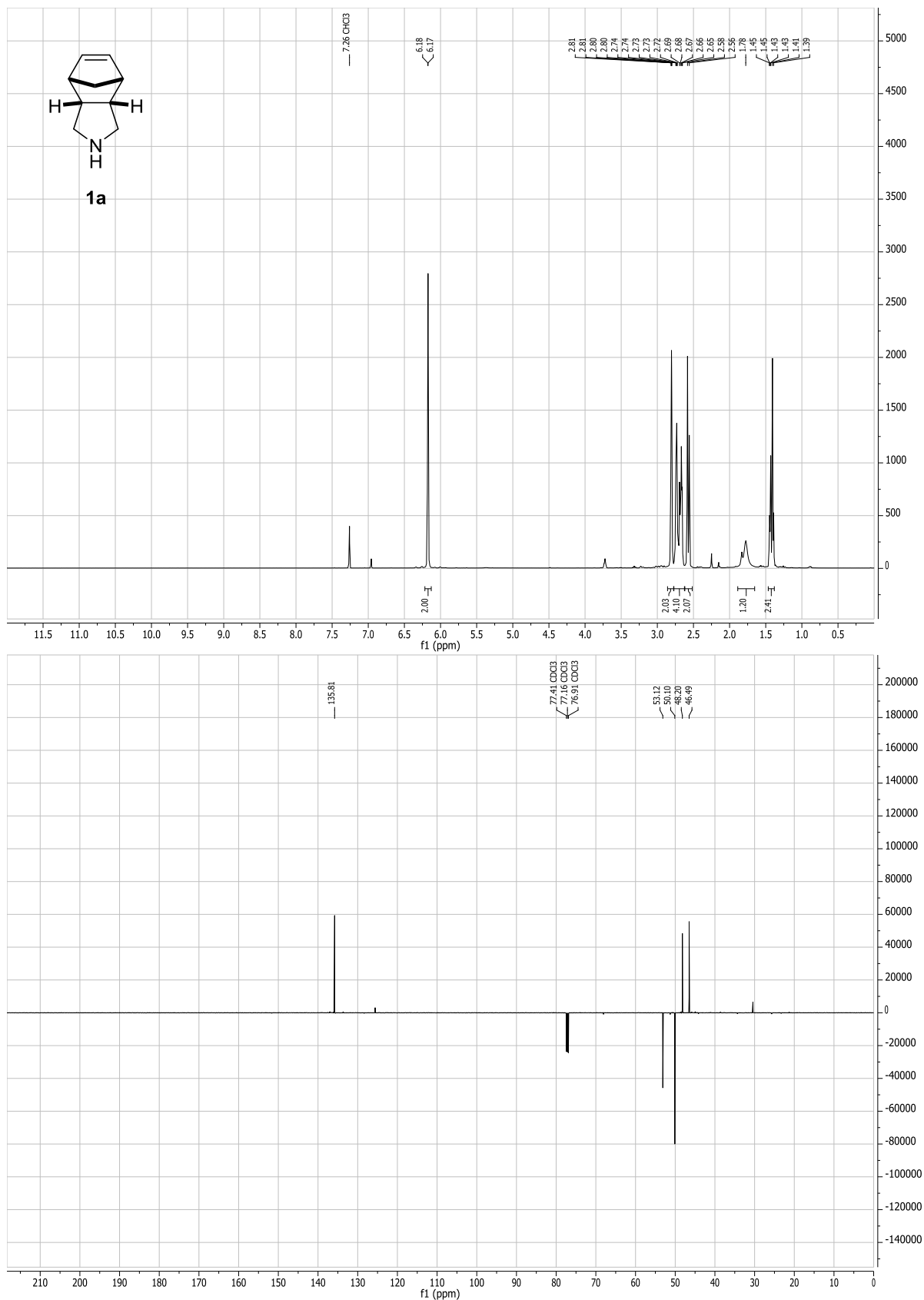


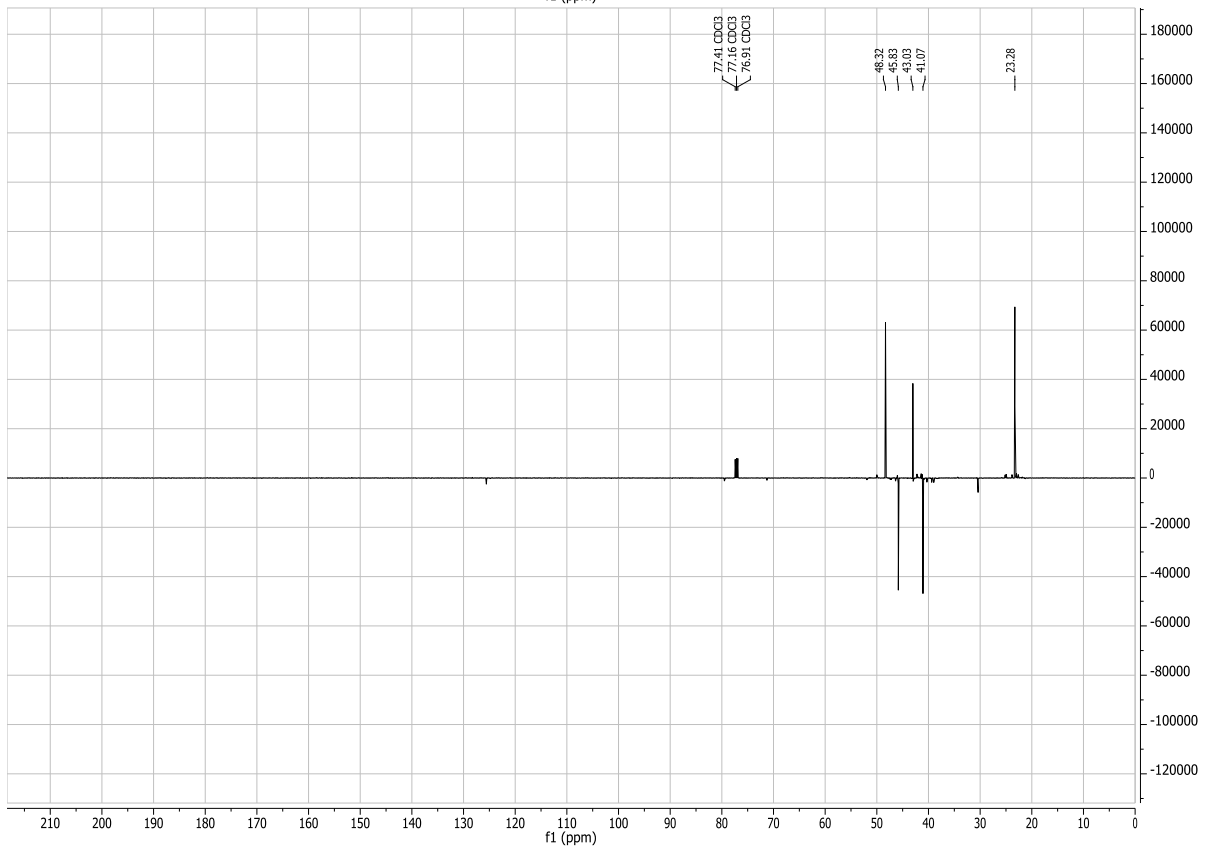
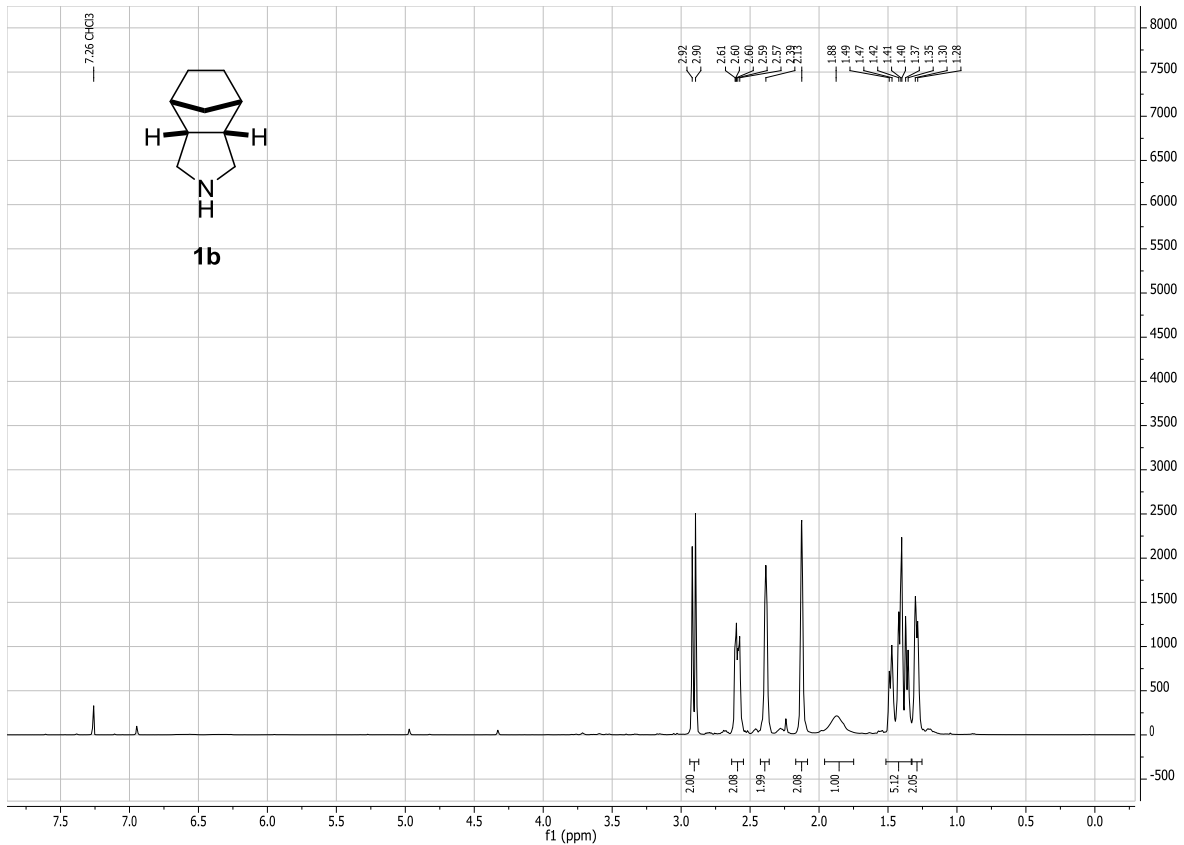


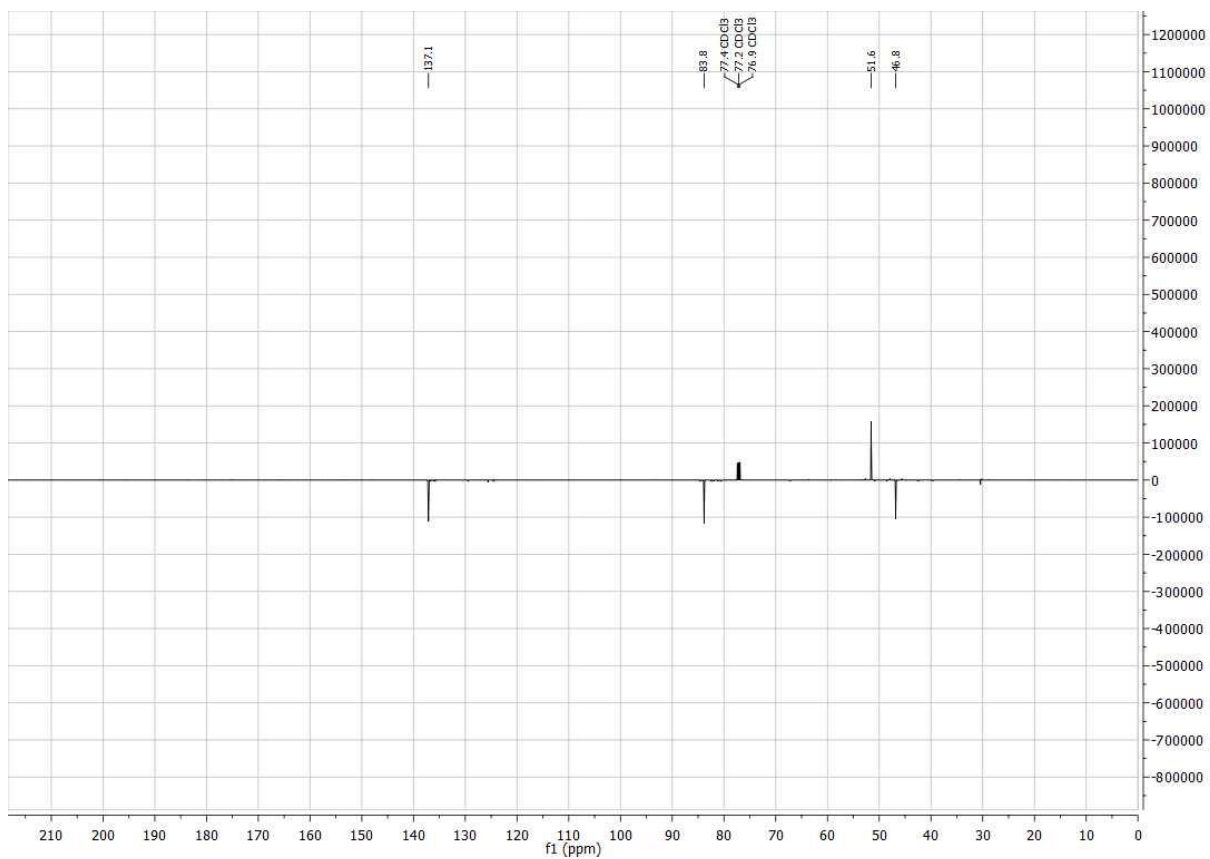
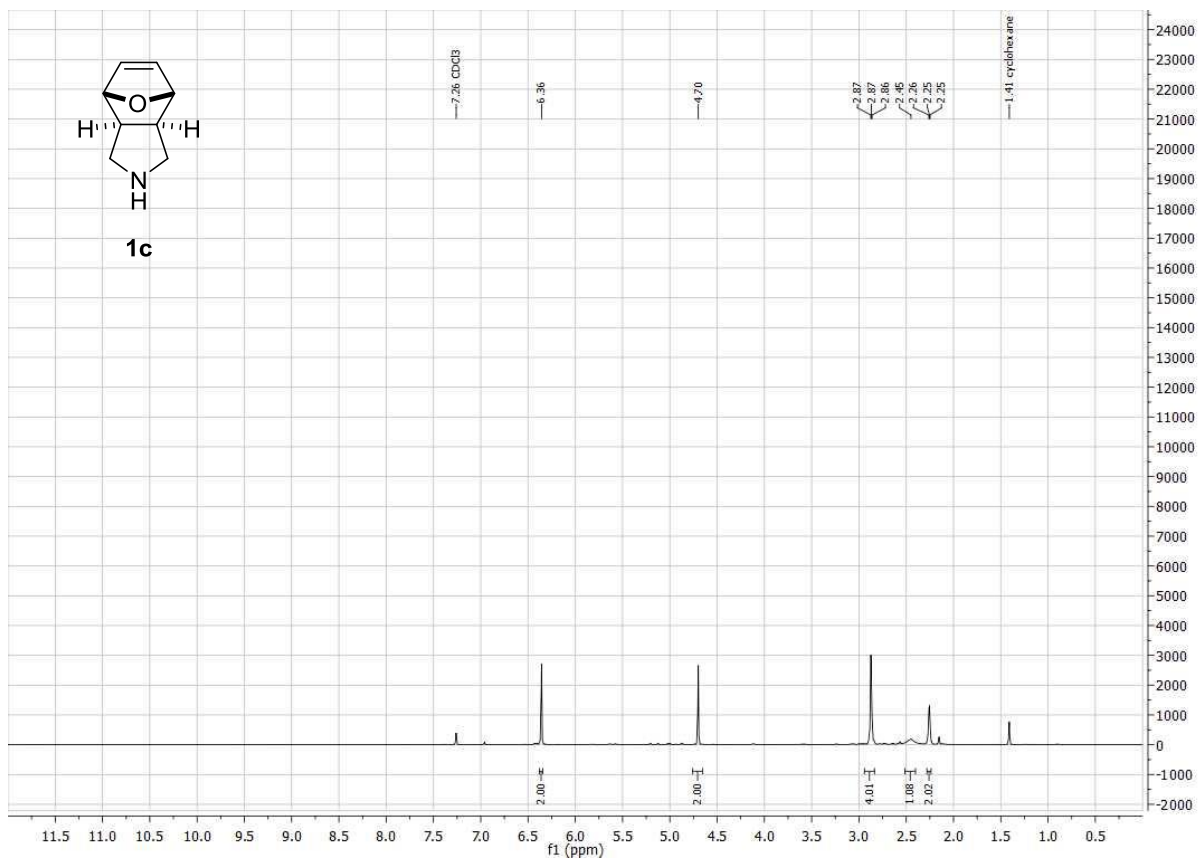


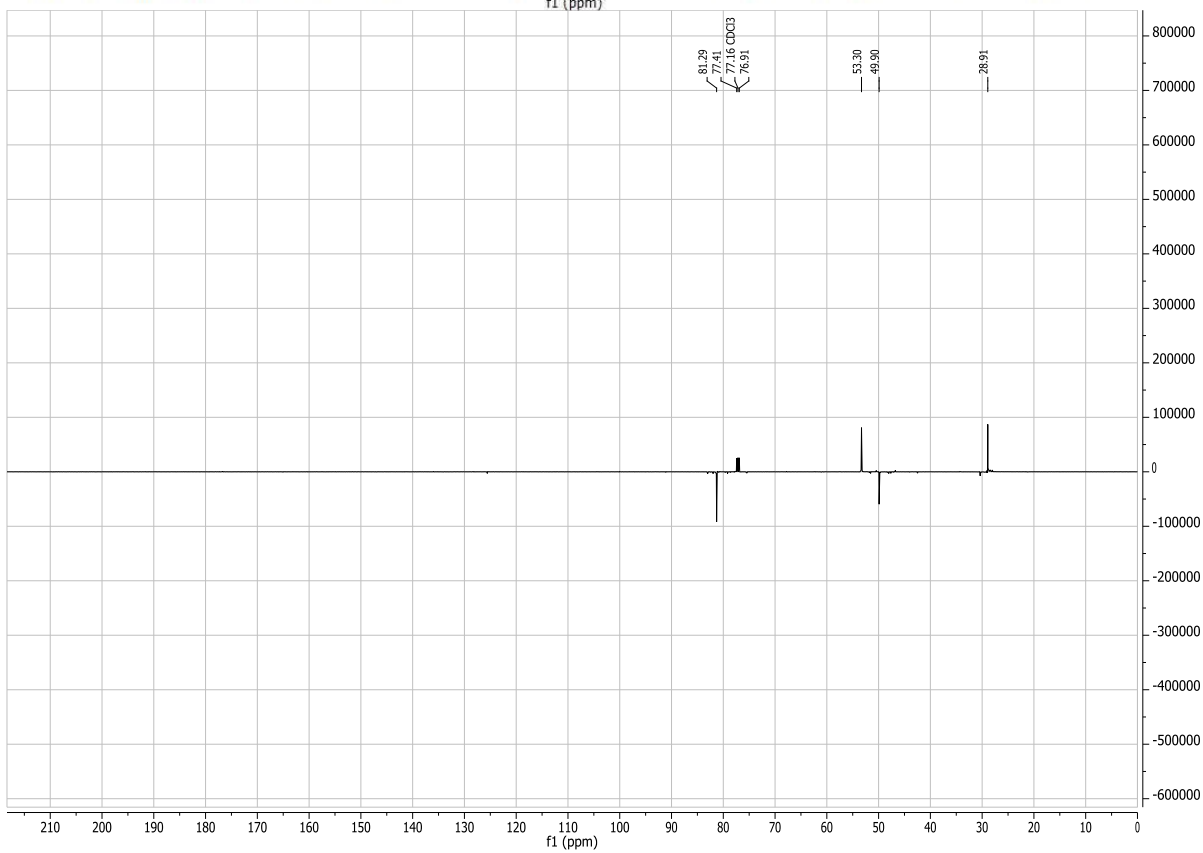
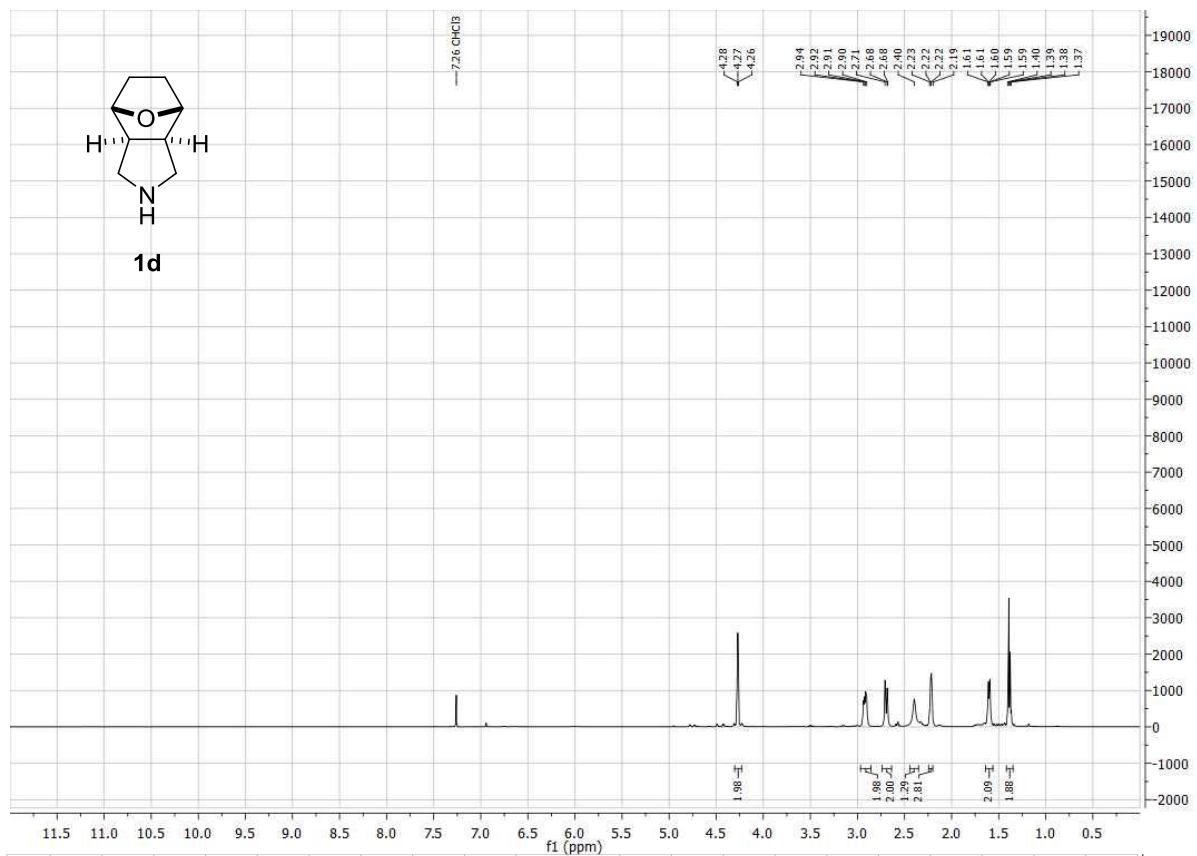


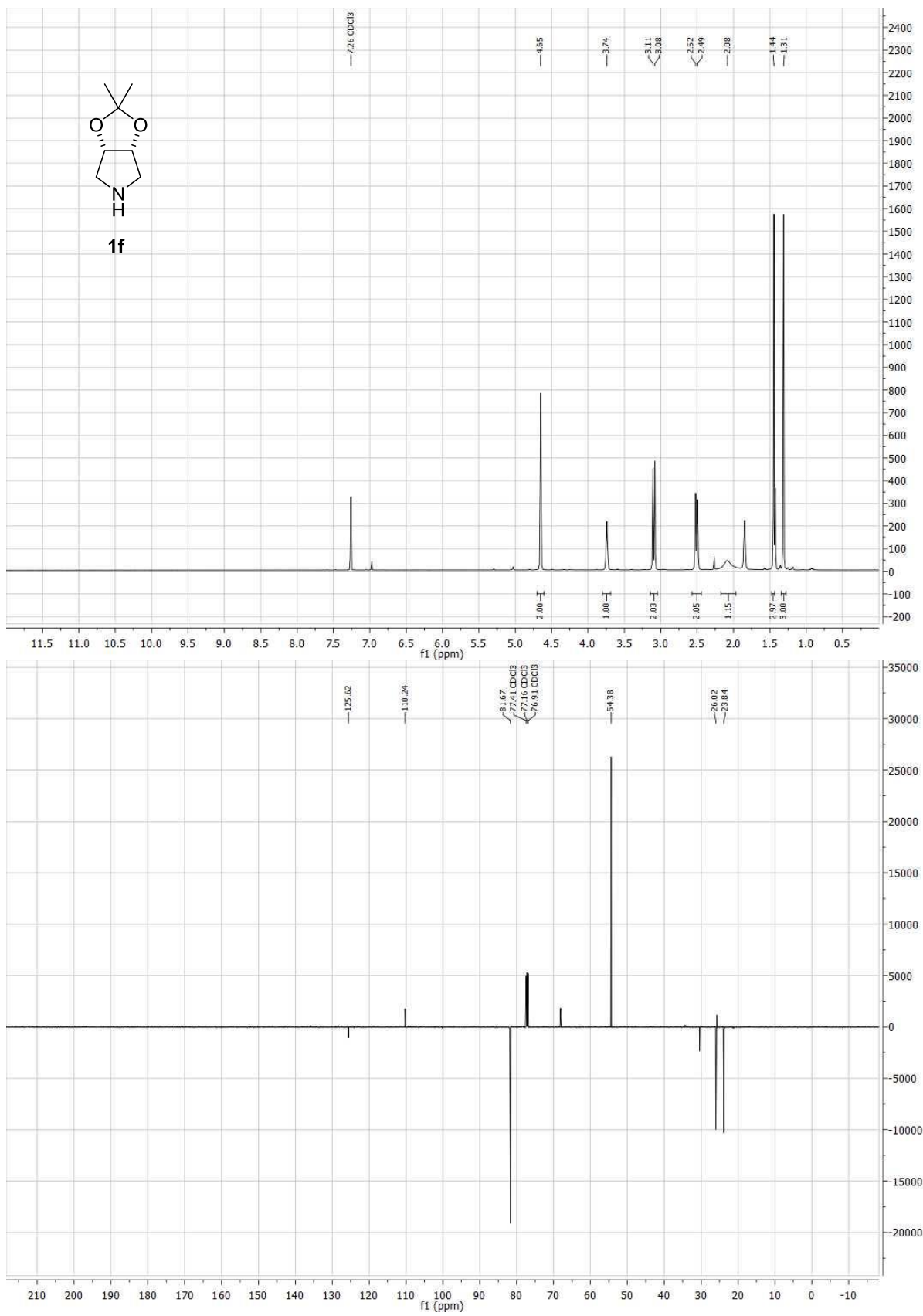


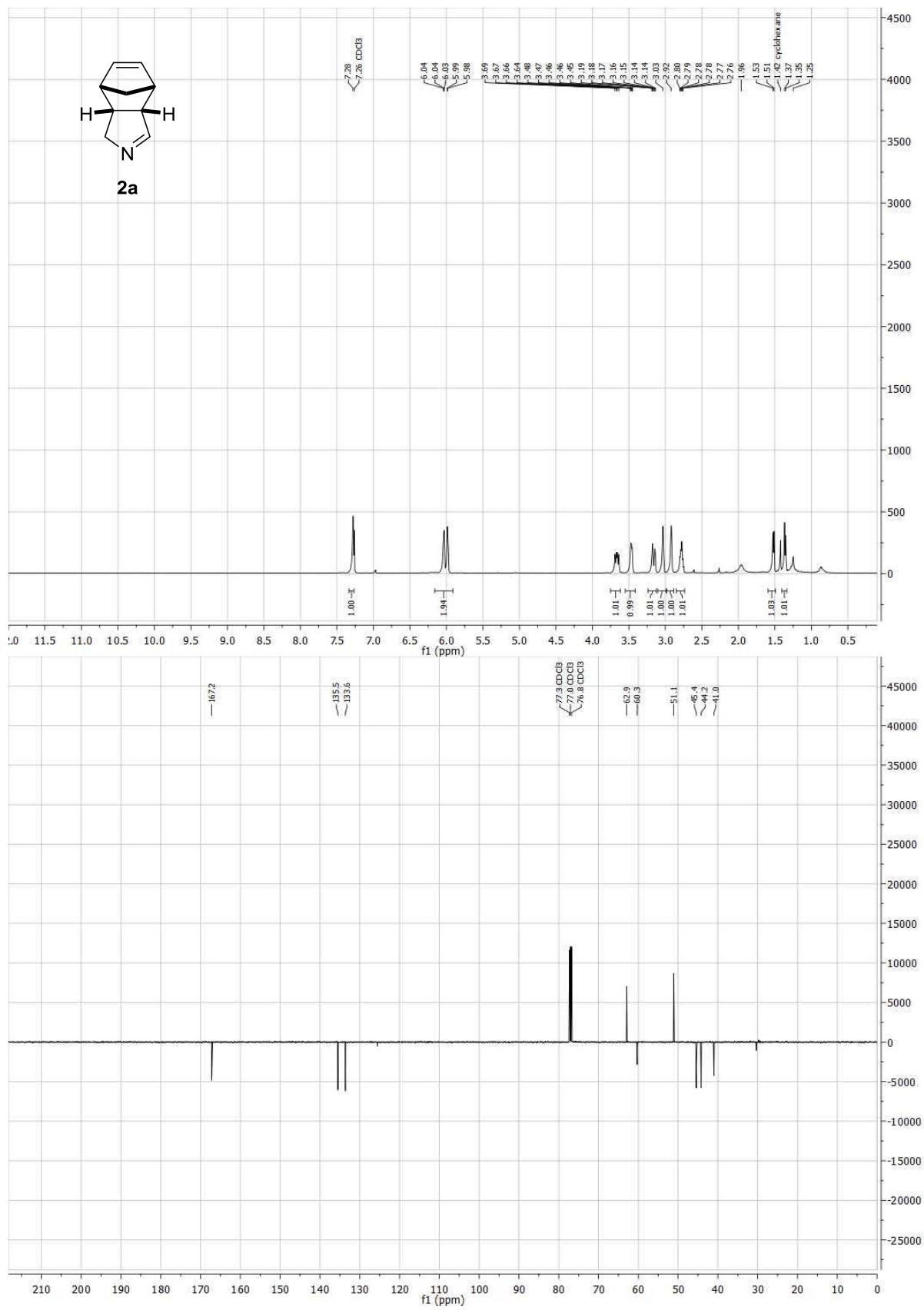


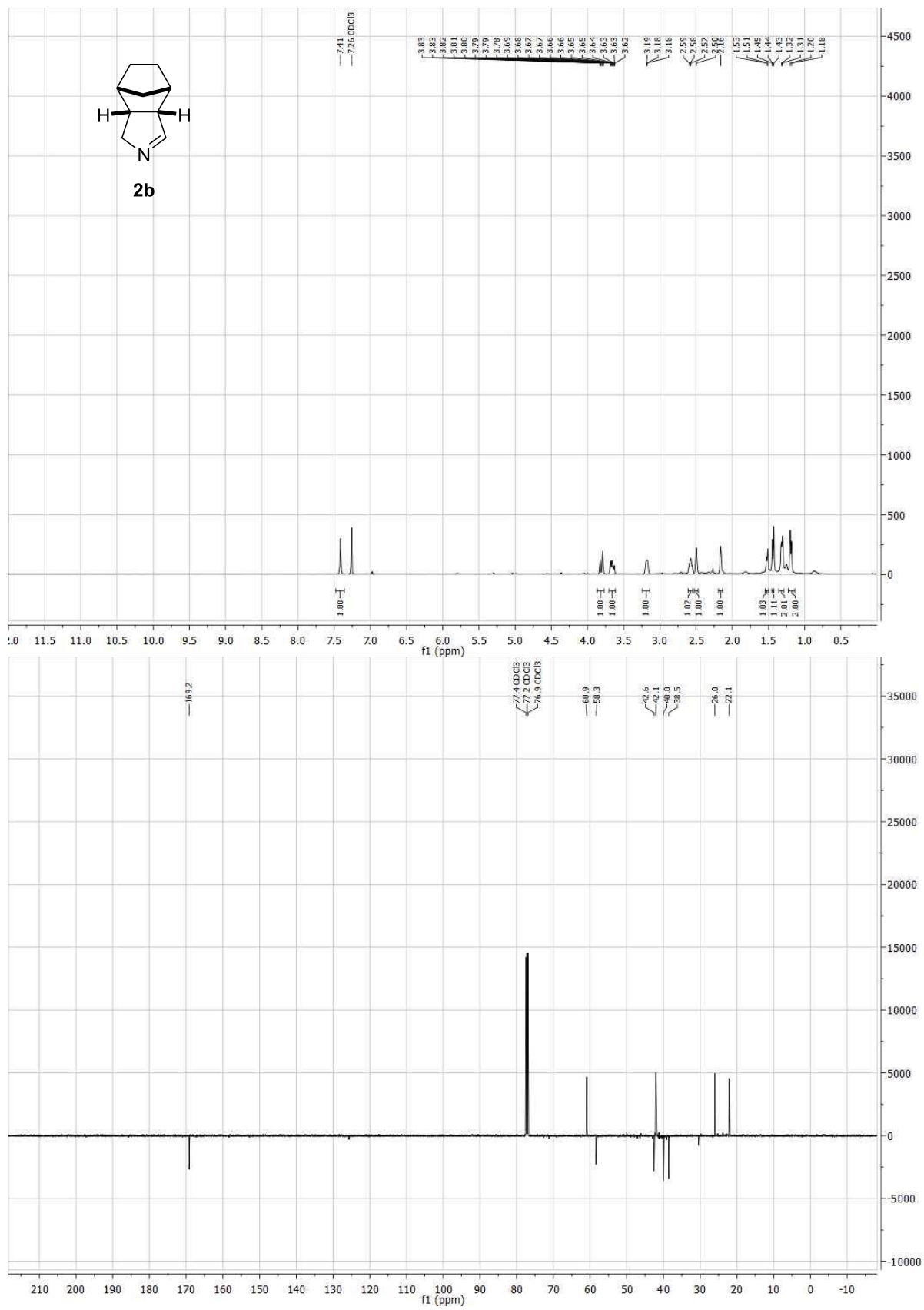


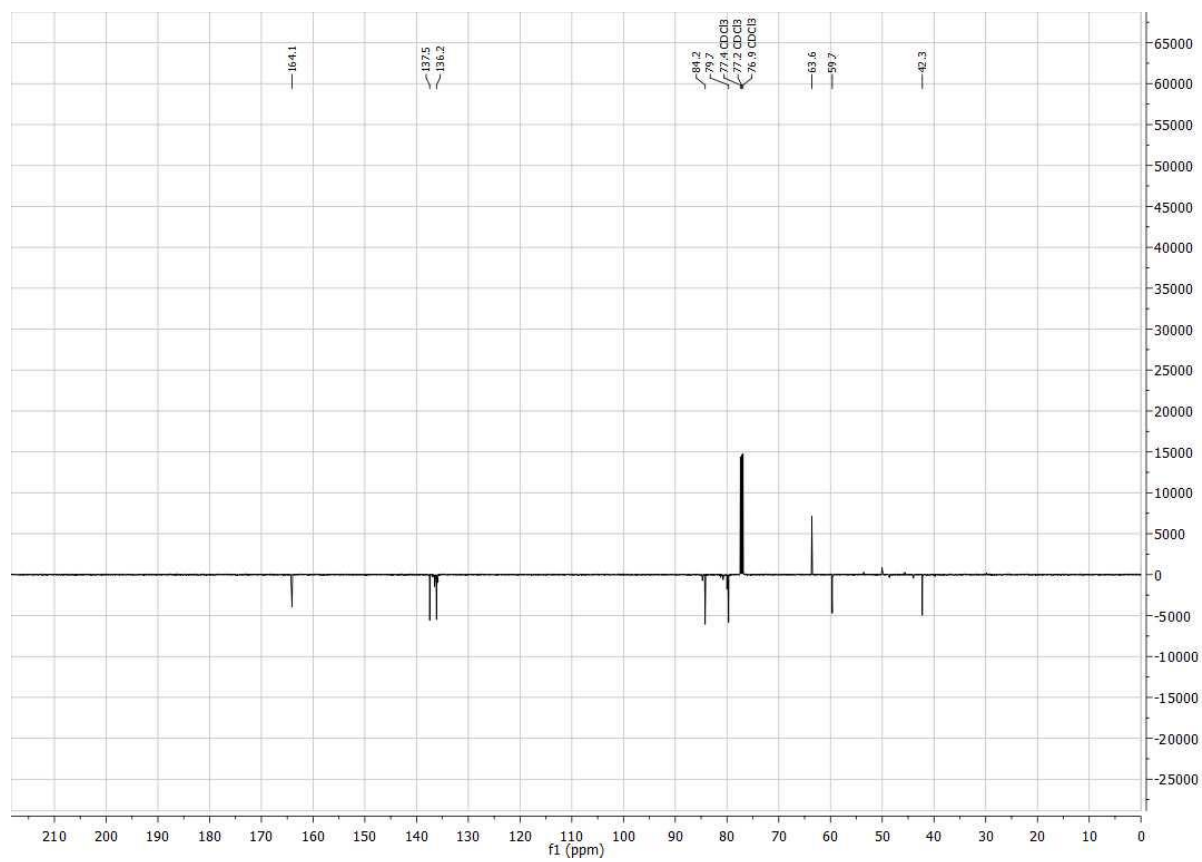
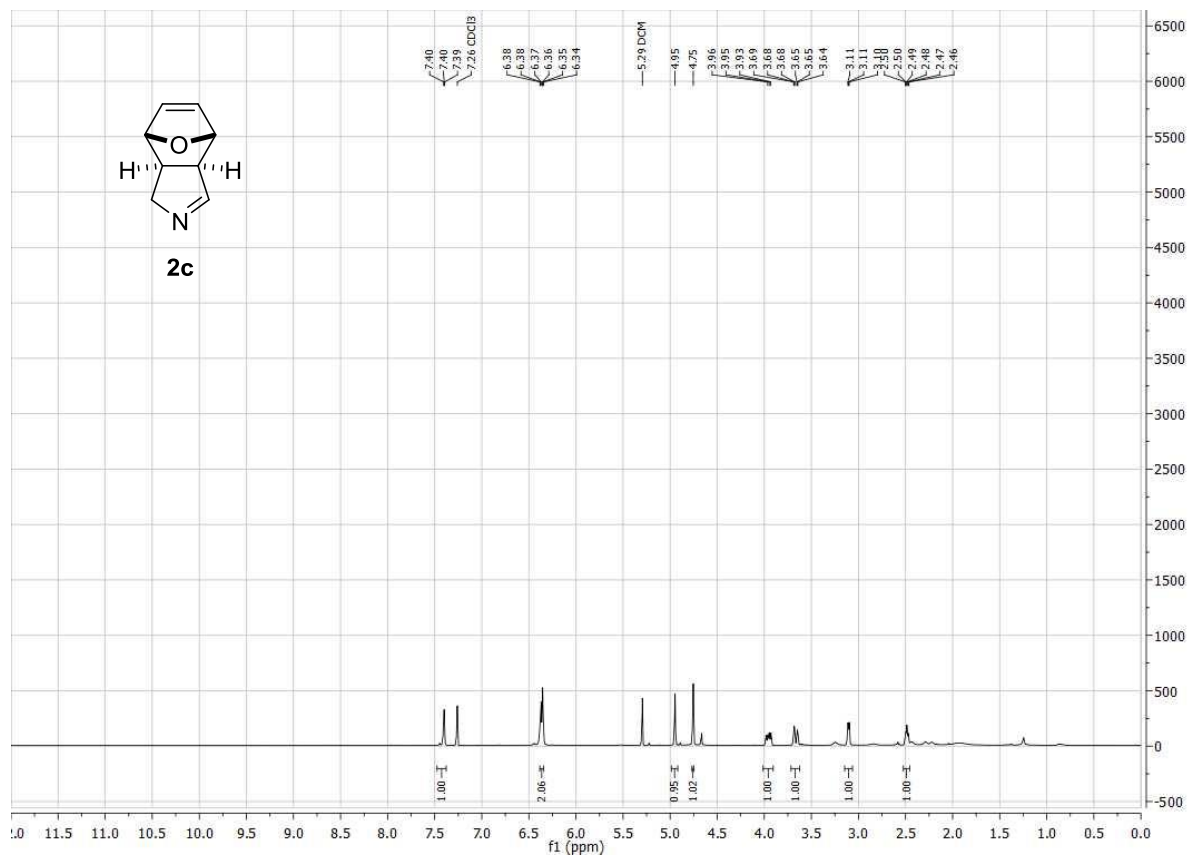


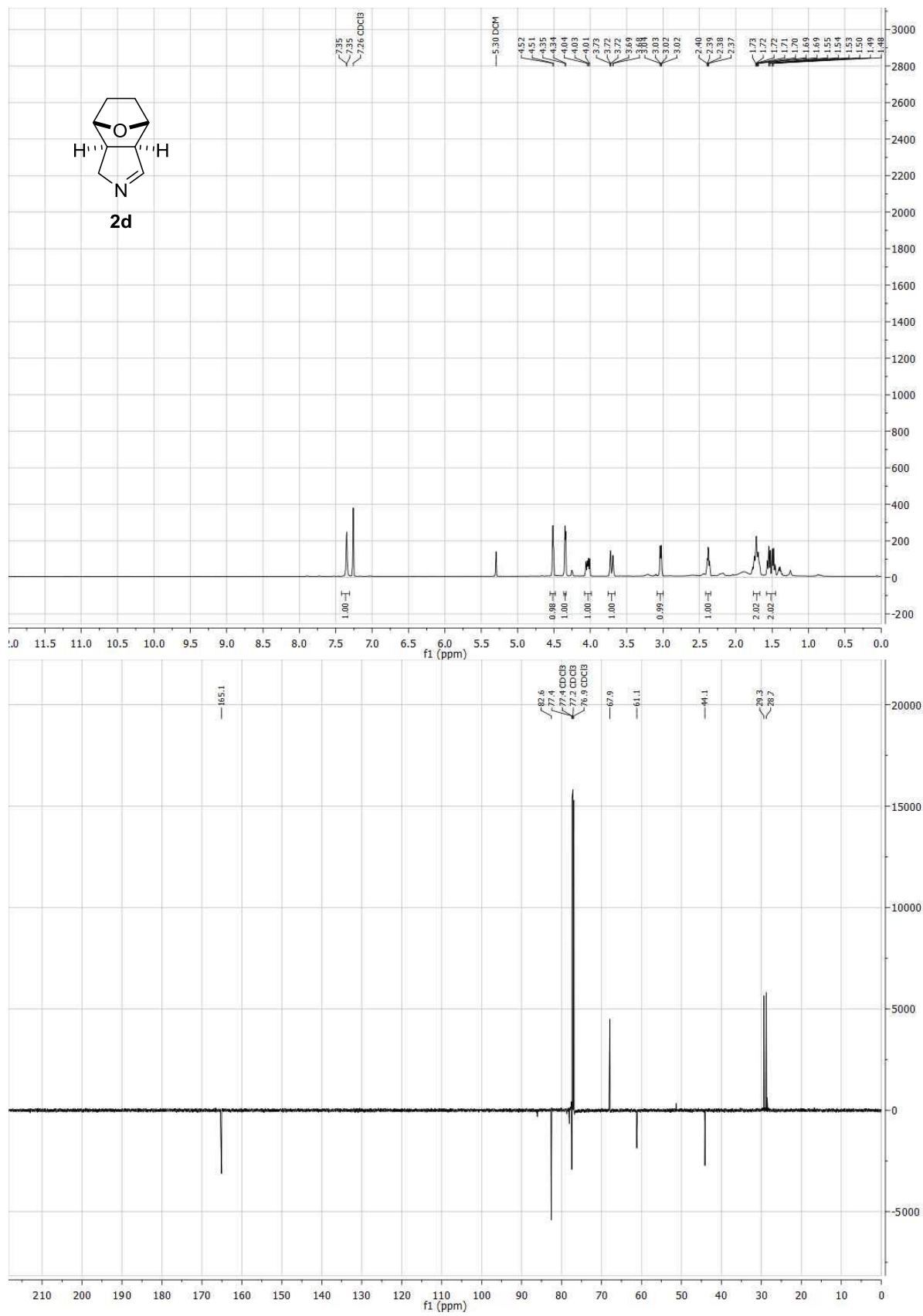


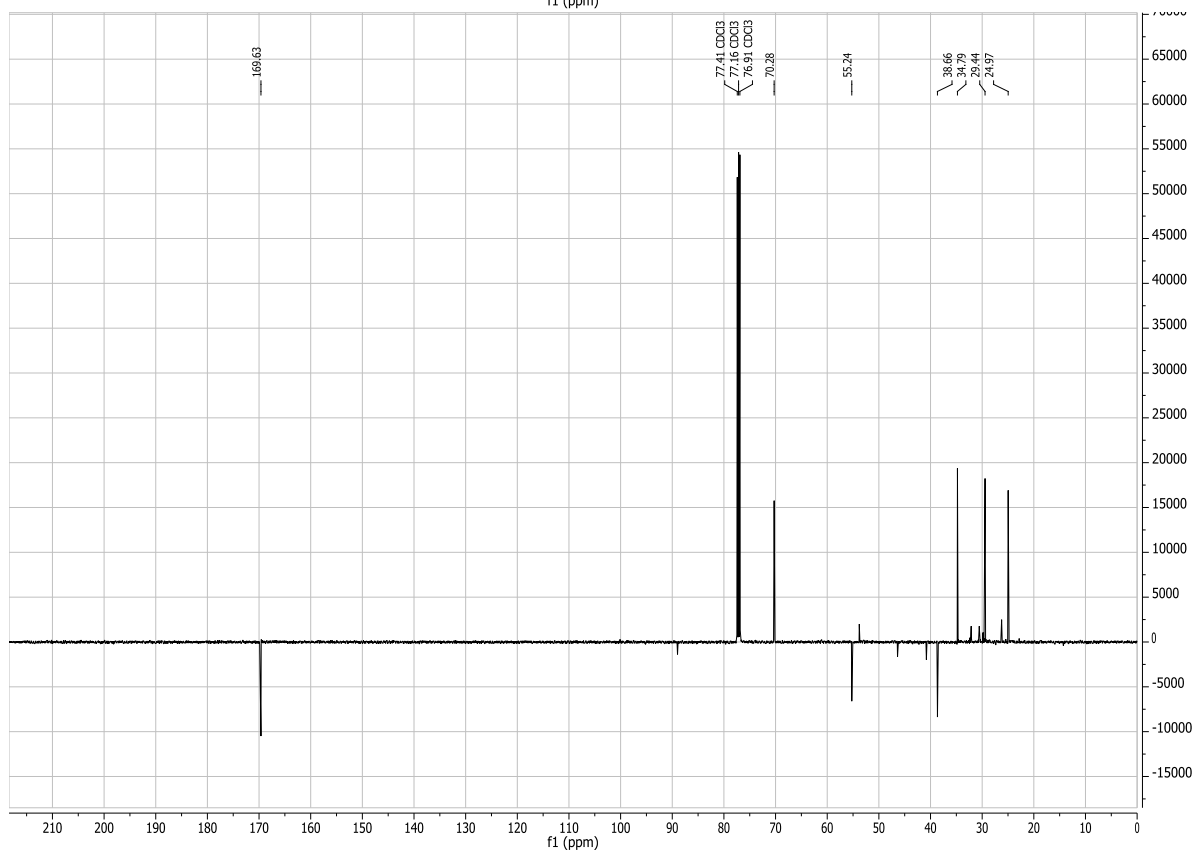
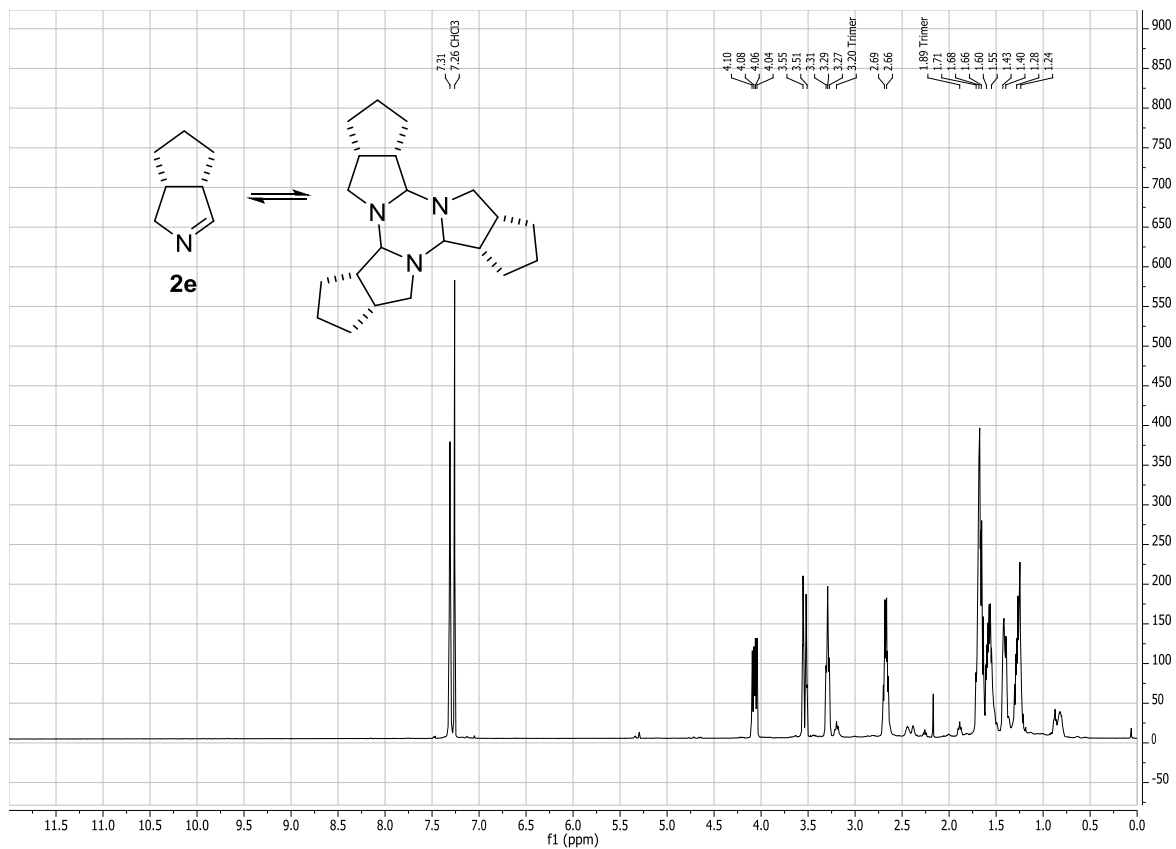


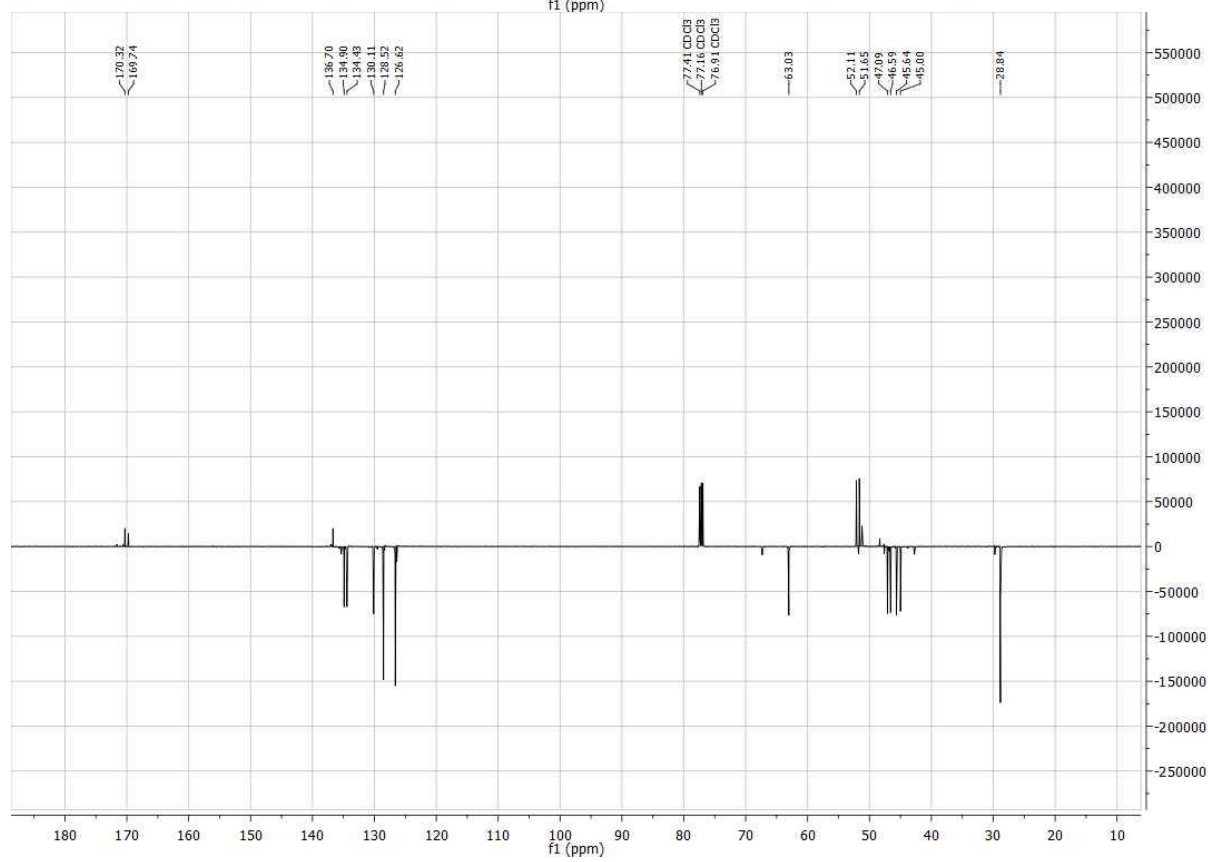
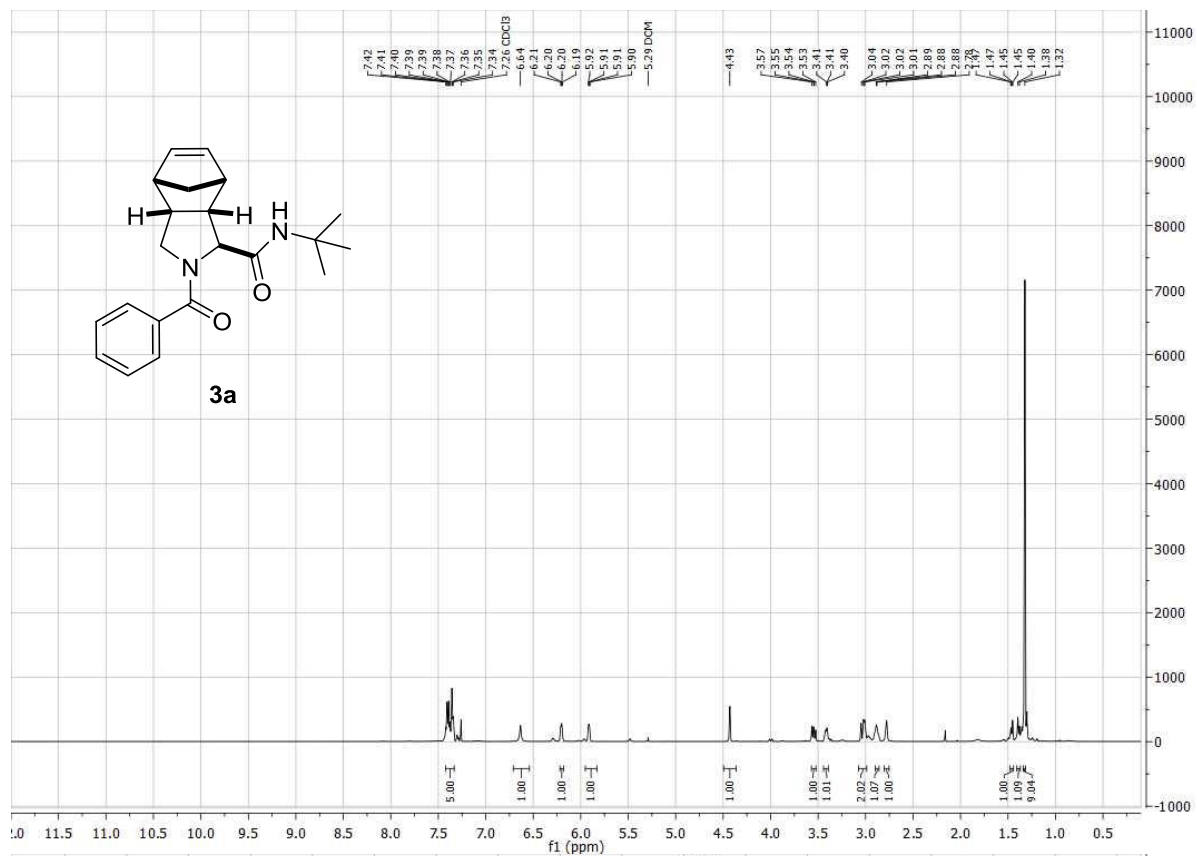


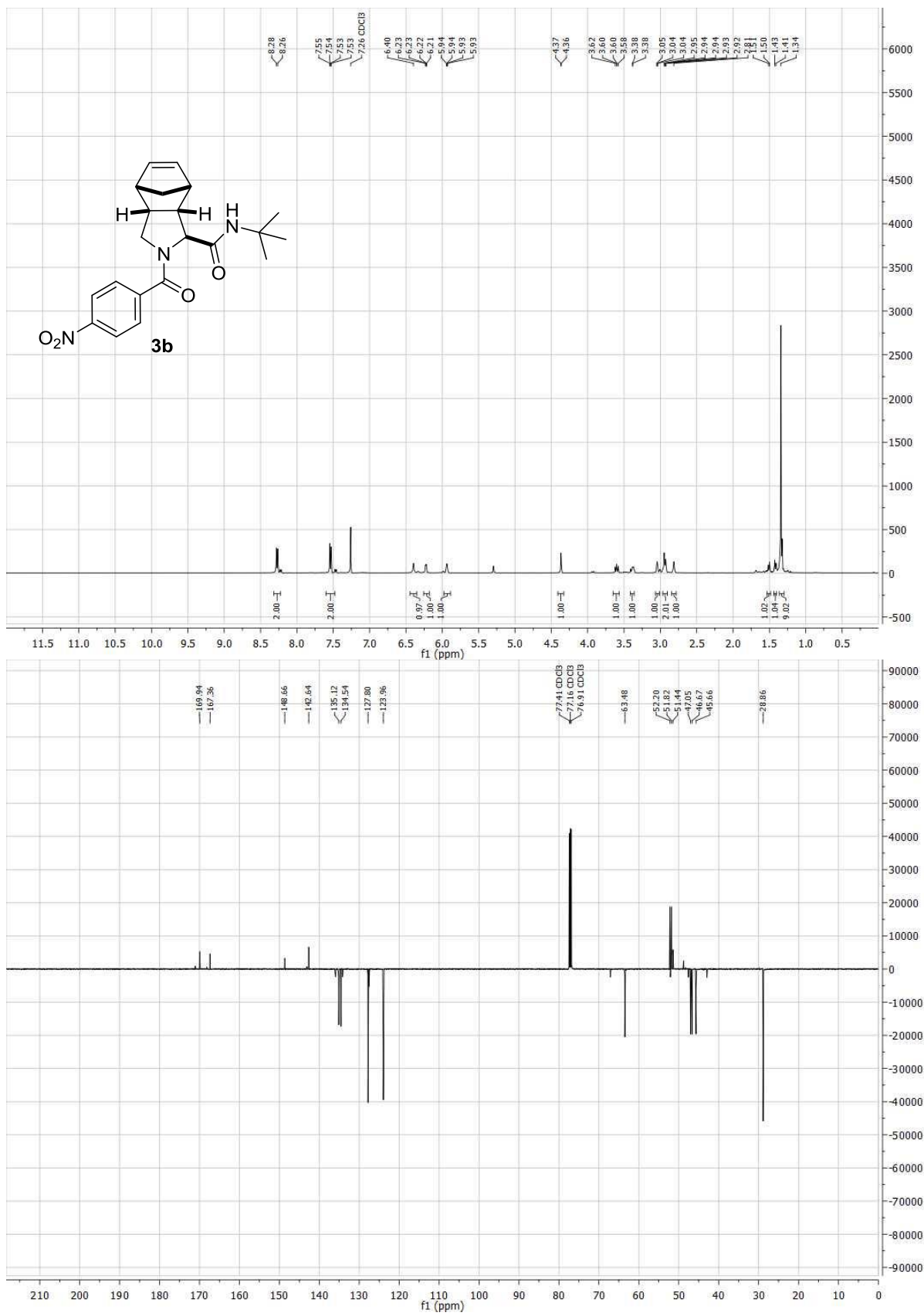












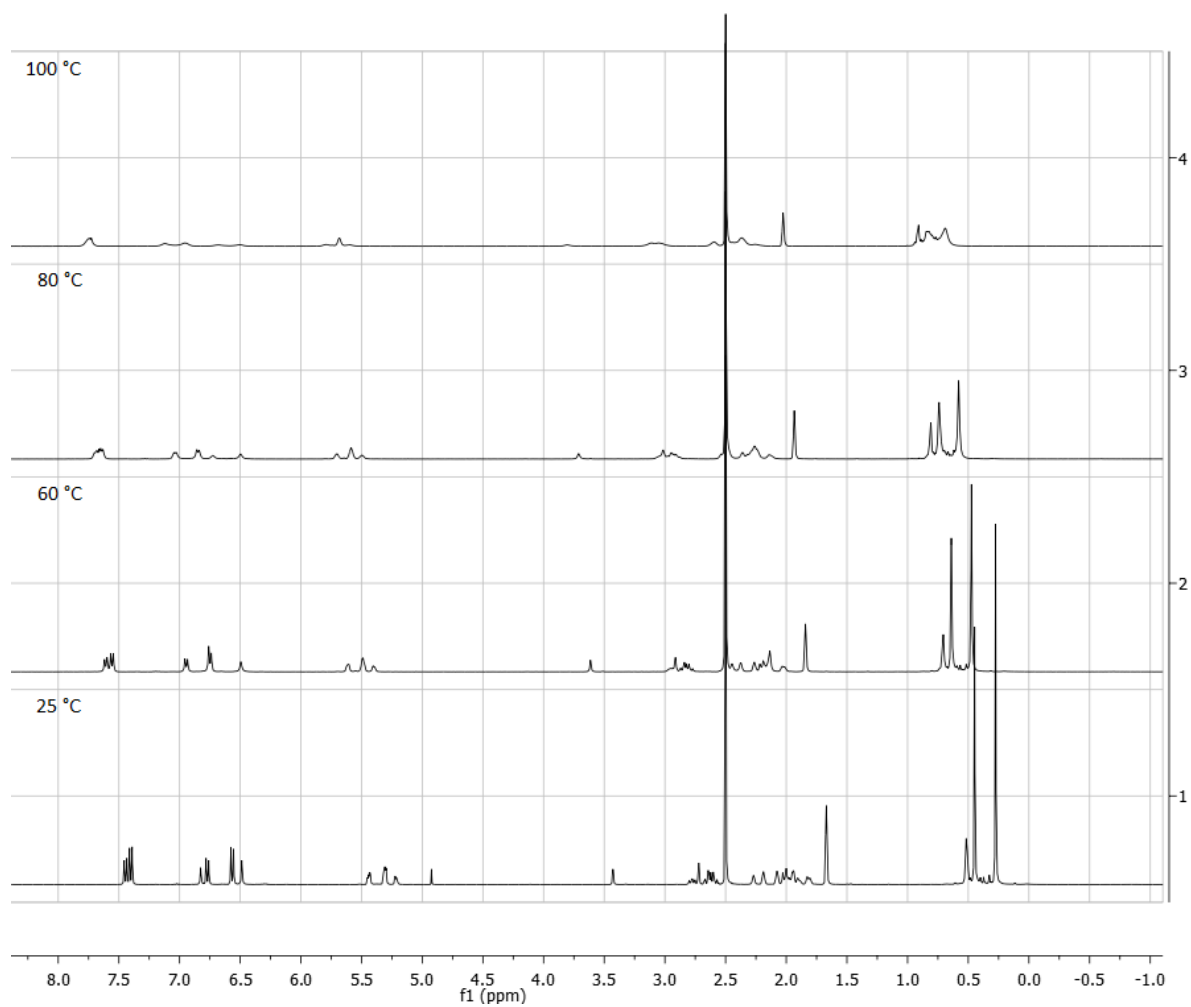


Figure S1. High temperature NMR spectra of **3b** in DMSO-*d*₆ showing incomplete coalescence of the rotameric signals.

