

## Iron-mediated oxidative C-H coupling of arenes and alkenes directed by sulfur: a novel route to dihydrobenzofurans

Craig W. Cavanagh,<sup>a</sup> Miles H. Aukland,<sup>a</sup> Quentin Laurent,<sup>a</sup> Alan Hennessy<sup>b</sup> and David J. Procter<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>*School of Chemistry, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL, UK.*

<sup>b</sup>*Syngenta, Jealott's Hill International Research Centre, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG42 6EY, UK.*

E-mail: david.j.procter@manchester.ac.uk

### Contents

General Information .....	S1
Fe(III)-Mediated C-H Coupling of Arylsulfides and Terminal Alkenes .....	S2
Additional Substrates That Failed to Undergo C-H Coupling with 1-octene .....	S11
Pd-Catalysed Deallylation/Cyclisation .....	S12
Pd-catalysed Cross-Coupling .....	S15
Raney Ni Desulfurisation .....	S19
Ni-catalysed Kumada-Corriu coupling .....	S20
Spectra.....	S24

## General Information

Glassware for inert atmosphere reactions was oven-dried and cooled under a flow of nitrogen. THF was distilled over sodium wire and benzophenone; CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was distilled over calcium hydride. All other solvents and reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used as supplied. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra were obtained at room temperature on a 400 or 500 MHz Bruker spectrometer. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were obtained at 100 or 125 MHz. All NMR spectra were processed using *ACDLabs*© NMR software. All chemical shift values are reported in parts per million (ppm) relative to the solvent signal and were determined in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, with coupling constant (*J*) values reported in Hz. The notation of signals is: Proton: δ chemical shift in ppm (number of protons, multiplicity, *J* value(s), proton assignment). Carbon: δ chemical shift in ppm (carbon assignment). If assignment is ambiguous, for example in the case of overlapping signals, a range of shifts is reported. Routine TLC analysis was carried out on aluminium sheets coated with silica gel. Plates were viewed with a 254 nm ultraviolet lamp and dipped in aqueous potassium permanganate/*p*-anisaldehyde, or phosphomolybdic acid solution. Low resolution and high-resolution mass spectra were obtained using either positive and/or negative electrospray ionisation (ES), or atmospheric-pressure chemical ionisation (APCI) techniques. IR spectra were recorded on an ATR FTIR spectrometer using neat samples.

For the synthesis of compounds not included below, please see our preliminary report:

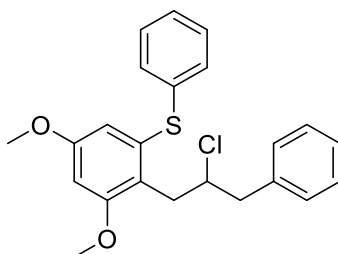
C. W. Cavanagh, M. H. Aukland, A. Hennessy, D. J. Procter, *Chem. Commun.* **2015**, 51, 9272-9275

## Fe(III)-Mediated C-H Coupling of Arylsulfides and Terminal Alkenes

### General Procedure A

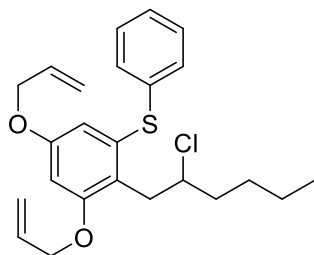
A solution of FeCl<sub>3</sub> (1.4 mmol) in MeNO<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) was added dropwise over 1 h to a stirred solution of the corresponding sulfide (0.34 mmol) and alkene (1.7 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) at room temperature. The mixture was then left to stir for 1 h. The reaction mixture was then quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O (4 ml), diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) and 2,2'-bipyridine (127 mg, 1.4 mmol) was added. The organic layer was then washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 4 ml) and the combined aqueous was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 4 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and solvent removed *in vacuo*. The crude mixture was then passed through a silica plug with CHCl<sub>3</sub> eluent.

### (2-(2-Chloro-3-phenylpropyl)-3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)sulfide **2h**



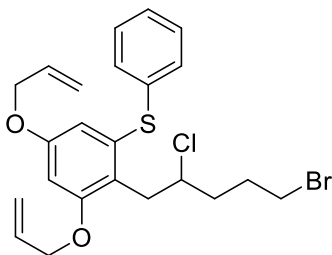
As described in general procedure A, **1a** (50 mg, 0.2 mmol), allylbenzene (135  $\mu$ L, 1 mmol) and FeCl<sub>3</sub> (131 mg, 0.8 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (30 % CHCl<sub>3</sub> in hexanes) gave **XX** (30.1 mg, 0.09 mmol, 46%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 3.02 (1 H, dd, J 14.8, 8.8 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCl), 3.08 (1 H, dd, J 14.5, 4.7 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCl), 3.29 (1 H, dd, J 13.6, 6.6 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCl), 3.39 (1 H, dd, J 13.9, 7.6 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCl), 3.69 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.81 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.45 - 4.52 (1 H, m, CHCl), 6.41 (1 H, d, J 2.5 Hz, aryl H), 6.45 (1 H, d, J 2.5 Hz, aryl H), 7.15 - 7.31 (10 H, m);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 36.1 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCl), 44.3 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCl), 55.3 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.6 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 63.1 (CHCl), 98.4 (aryl C-H), 109.0 (aryl C-H), 121.0 (aryl C), 126.5 (aryl C-H), 126.6 (aryl C-H), 128.2 (aryl C-H), 129.1 (aryl C-H), 129.2 (aryl C-H), 130.0 (aryl C-H), 136.3 (aryl C), 136.6 (aryl C), 138.7 (aryl C), 159.1 (aryl C), 159.4 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1046 (vs), 1154 (s), 1198 (s), 1296 (m), 1437 (m), 1454 (s), 1477 (s), 1571 (vs), 1596 (vs), 2835 (w), 2935 (w), 2957 (w), 3000 (w), 3025 (w); MS (APCI) *m/z* 399 (M+H); HRMS C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub>ClS (M+H) Expected 399.1180, Found 399.1169.

(3,5-bis(Allyloxy)-2-(2-chlorohexyl)phenyl)(phenyl)sulfide **2s**



As described in general procedure A, **1j** (1.00 g, 3.35 mmol), 1-hexene (2.1 mL, 16.8 mmol) and  $\text{FeCl}_3$  (2.16 g, 13.4 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (30%  $\text{CHCl}_3$  in hexanes) gave **2s** (700 mg, 0.10 mmol, 50%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 0.88 (3 H, t,  $J$  7.2 Hz,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.20 - 1.42 (3 H, m,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.51 - 1.64 (1 H, m,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.70 - 1.78 (2 H, m,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.26 (1 H, dd,  $J$  13.7, 7.0 Hz,  $\text{ArCH}_2\text{CHCl}$ ), 3.36 (1 H, dd,  $J$  13.7, 7.6 Hz,  $\text{ArCH}_2\text{CHCl}$ ), 4.24 - 4.34 (1 H, m,  $\text{CHCl}$ ), 4.37 (2 H, dt,  $J$  5.4, 1.3 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 4.53 (2 H, dt,  $J$  4.9, 1.6 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 5.23 (1 H, dq,  $J$  10.4, 1.3 Hz,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.27-5.34 (2 H, m,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.45 (1 H, dq,  $J$  17.2, 1.6 Hz,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.95 (1 H, ddt,  $J$  17.3, 10.6, 5.4, 5.4 Hz,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 6.06 (1 H, ddt,  $J$  17.2, 10.4, 5.1, 5.1 Hz,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 6.39 - 6.44 (2 H, m, aryl H), 7.19 - 7.32 (5 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 14.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 22.2 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 28.9 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 36.4 ( $\text{ArCH}_2\text{CHCl}$ ), 37.5 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 63.3 ( $\text{CHCl}$ ), 68.8 ( $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 68.9 ( $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 99.8 (aryl C-H), 109.6 (aryl C-H), 117.3 ( $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 118.1 ( $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 121.4 (aryl C), 126.7 (aryl C-H), 129.1 (aryl C-H), 130.3 (aryl C-H), 132.8 ( $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2 \times 2$ ), 136.2 (aryl C), 136.8 (aryl C), 157.9 (aryl C), 158.1 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (thin film/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 928 (m), 1024 (s), 1045 (s), 1142 (s), 1176 (s), 1276 (w), 1412 (m), 1456 (m), 1477 (m), 1570 (s), 1595 (s), 2860 (w), 2929 (w), 2956 (w), 3080 (w); MS ( $\text{ES}^+$ )  $m/z$  417 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ); HRMS  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{30}\text{ClO}_2\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ) Expected 417.1650, Found 417.1649.

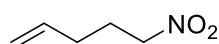
(3,5-bis(Allyloxy)-2-(5-bromo-2-chloropentyl)phenyl)(phenyl)sulfide **2t**



As described in general procedure A, **1j** (95 mg, 0.32 mmol), 5-bromo-1-pentene (250 mg, 1.7 mmol) and  $\text{FeCl}_3$  (217 mg, 1.4 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (30%  $\text{CHCl}_3$  in hexanes) gave **2t** (59.6 mg, 0.08 mmol, 39%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 1.70 - 1.93 (3 H, m,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.03 - 2.17 (1 H, m,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.20 (1 H, dd,  $J$  13.9, 7.6 Hz,  $\text{ArCH}_2\text{CHCl}$ ), 3.25 - 3.36 (3 H, m,  $\text{ArCH}_2\text{CHCl} + \text{CH}_2\text{Br}$ ), 4.17 - 4.26 (1 H, m,  $\text{CHCl}$ ), 4.29 (2 H, dt,  $J$  5.4, 1.3 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 4.46 (2 H, dt,  $J$  5.0, 1.5 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 5.15 (1 H, dq,  $J$  10.6, 1.3 Hz,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.18 - 5.27 (2 H, m,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.36 (1

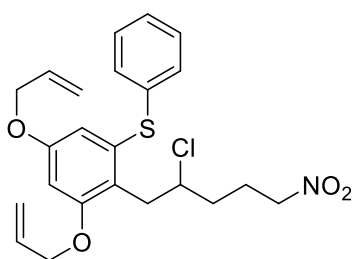
H, dq,  $J$  17.2, 1.5 Hz, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.81 - 5.92 (1 H, m, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>) 5.93 - 6.04 (1 H, m, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.32 - 6.35 (2 H, m, aryl H), 7.12 - 7.25 (5 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_C$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 29.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 33.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>Br), 35.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.2 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCl), 61.8 (CHCl), 68.9 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 69.0 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 99.9 (aryl C-H), 109.8 (aryl C-H), 117.8 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 118.0 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 120.8 (aryl C), 126.8 (aryl C-H), 129.2 (aryl C-H), 130.3 (aryl C-H), 132.7 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 132.8 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 135.9 (aryl C), 136.8 (aryl C), 157.9 (aryl C), 158.2 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\max}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 927.0 (m), 1023 (s), 1044 (s), 1275 (m), 1417 (m), 1439 (m), 1455 (m), 1476 (m), 1569 (s), 1595 (s), 2863 (w), 2916 (w), 2959 (w), 3075 (w); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  481 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>27</sub>ClBrO<sub>2</sub>S (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 481.0598, Found 481.0612.

### 5-Nitro-1-pentene<sup>1</sup>



5-Bromo-1-pentene (2.5 g, 17.0 mmol) was added to a solution of sodium nitrite (1.29 g, 18.7 mmol) in DMF (34 mL) and stirred at rt for 2 h. The reaction was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL) and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with LiCl (10% in H<sub>2</sub>O, 2 × 30 mL), dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and solvent removed *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with 10% CHCl<sub>3</sub> in hexanes eluent to give 5-nitro-1-pentene (0.50 g, 4.9 mmol, 26%) as a yellow oil;  $\delta_H$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 2.07 - 2.22 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.40 (2 H, t,  $J$  6.7 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>), 5.04 - 5.13 (2 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>=CH), 5.77 (1 H, ddt,  $J$  17.0, 10.4, 6.5 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>=CHCH<sub>2</sub>);  $\delta_C$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 26.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 74.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>), 116.8 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 135.7 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>).

### (3,5-bis(Allyloxy)-2-(2-chloro-5-nitropentyl)phenyl)(phenyl)sulfide **2u**

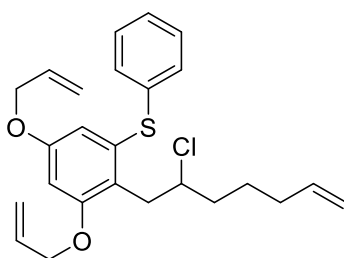


As described in general procedure A, **1j** (95 mg, 0.32 mmol), 5-nitro-1-pentene (193 mg, 1.7 mmol) and FeCl<sub>3</sub> (217 mg, 1.4 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (50% CHCl<sub>3</sub> in hexanes) gave **2u** (42.3 mg, 0.10 mmol, 30%) as a yellow oil;  $\delta_H$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.72 - 1.87 (2 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.01 - 2.15 (1 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.27 - 2.41 (1 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.28 (1 H, dd,  $J$  13.6, 7.8 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCl), 3.38 (1 H, dd,  $J$  13.6, 6.6 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCl), 4.25 - 4.40 (5 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> + CHCl + OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.54 (2 H, dt,  $J$  5.0, 1.4 Hz, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 5.24 (1 H, dq,  $J$  10.5, 1.3 Hz, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.27 - 5.36 (2 H, m, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.44 (1

<sup>1</sup> J. A. Burkhard, B. H. Tchitchanov, E. M. Carreira, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 5379 - 5382

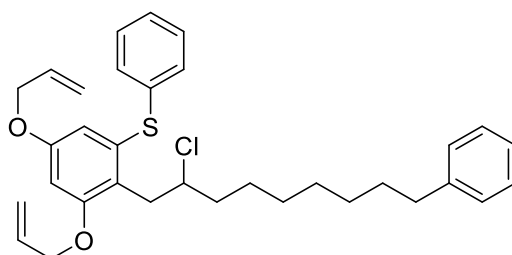
H, dq,  $J$  17.2, 1.6 Hz,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.95 (1 H, ddt,  $J$  17.2, 10.5, 5.4 Hz,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 6.06 (1 H, ddt,  $J$  17.2, 10.5, 5.1 Hz,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 6.42 (2 H, s, aryl H), 7.21 - 7.34 (5 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 24.6 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 33.7 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 36.2 ( $\text{ArCH}_2\text{CHCl}$ ), 61.3 ( $\text{CHCl}$ ), 68.9 ( $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 69.0 ( $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 75.0 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{NO}_2$ ), 99.9 (aryl C-H), 109.8 (aryl C-H), 117.6 ( $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 118.1 ( $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 120.3 (aryl C), 126.9 (aryl C-H), 129.2 (aryl C-H), 130.3 (aryl C-H), 132.7 ( $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 132.8 ( $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 135.7 (aryl C), 136.8 (aryl C), 157.9 (aryl C), 158.4 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (thin film/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 1138 (s), 1169 (s), 1417 (m), 1551 (vs), 1569 (s), 1595 (s), 2864 (w), 2920 (w), 3075 (w); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  448 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ); HRMS  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO}_4\text{ClS}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ) Expected 448.1344, Found 448.1339.

*(3,5-bis(allyloxy)-2-(2-chlorohept-6-en-1-yl)phenyl)(phenyl)sulfide 2v*



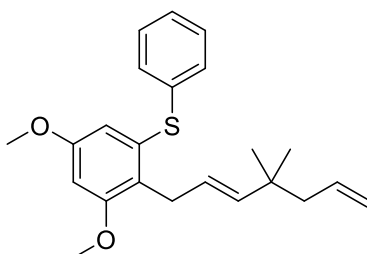
As described in general procedure A, **1j** (95 mg, 0.32 mmol), 1,6-heptadiene (162 mg, 1.7 mmol) and  $\text{FeCl}_3$  (217 mg, 1.4 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (20%  $\text{CHCl}_3$  in hexanes) gave **2v** (70.5 mg, 0.17 mmol, 52%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 1.31 - 1.44 (1 H, m,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.56 - 1.72 (3 H, m,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.88 - 2.01 (2 H, m,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.18 (1 H, dd,  $J$  13.9, 7.3 Hz,  $\text{ArCH}_2\text{CHCl}$ ), 3.27 (1 H, dd,  $J$  13.9, 7.3 Hz,  $\text{ArCH}_2\text{CHCl}$ ), 4.17 - 4.25 (1 H, m,  $\text{CHCl}$ ), 4.28 (2 H, dt,  $J$  5.3, 1.3 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 4.44 (2 H, dt,  $J$  4.8, 1.5 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 4.82 - 4.93 (2 H, m,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.14 (1 H, dq,  $J$  10.6, 1.3 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.17 - 5.25 (2 H, m,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.35 (1 H, dq,  $J$  17.2, 1.5 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.68 (1 H, ddt,  $J$  17.0, 10.2, 6.7 Hz,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.86 (1 H, ddt,  $J$  17.2, 10.3, 5.5 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.96 (1 H, ddt,  $J$  17.3, 10.5, 5.0 Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 6.31 - 6.34 (2 H, m, aryl H), 7.10 - 7.23 (5 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 25.9 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 33.1 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 36.4 ( $\text{ArCH}_2\text{CHCl}$ ), 37.1 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 62.9 ( $\text{CHCl}$ ), 68.8 ( $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 69.0 ( $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 99.8 (aryl C-H), 109.7 (aryl C-H), 114.6 ( $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 117.3 ( $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 118.0 ( $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 121.2 (aryl C), 126.7 (aryl C-H), 129.1 (aryl C-H), 130.3 (aryl C-H), 132.8 ( $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 132.9 ( $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 136.1 (aryl C), 136.9 (aryl C), 138.4 ( $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 157.9 (aryl C), 158.2 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (thin film/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 919 (m), 1024 (m), 1045 (m), 1141 (s), 1172 (s), 1275 (m), 1417 (m), 1439 (m), 1477 (m), 1569 (s), 1595 (s), 2859 (w), 2927 (w), 3075 (w); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  429 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ); HRMS  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{30}\text{ClO}_2\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ) Expected 429.1650, Found 429.1657.

*(3,5-bis(Allyloxy)-2-(2-chloro-9-phenylnonyl)phenyl)(phenyl)sulfide 2w*



As described in general procedure A, **1j** (103 mg, 0.34 mmol), 9-phenyl-1-nonene (346 mg, 1.7 mmol) and FeCl<sub>3</sub> (218 mg, 1.4 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (30% CHCl<sub>3</sub> in hexanes) gave **2w** (78 mg, 0.14 mmol, 42%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.23 - 1.41 (7 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.57 - 1.65 (3 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.71 - 1.78 (2 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.59 - 2.64 (2 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.28 (1 H, dd, *J* 13.7, 6.9 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCl), 3.37 (1 H, dd, *J* 13.7, 7.6 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCl), 4.26 - 4.34 (1 H, m, CHCl), 4.39 (2 H, dt, *J* 5.4, 1.4 Hz, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.54 (2 H, dt, *J* 5.1, 1.5 Hz, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 5.24 (1 H, dq, *J* 10.4, 1.5 Hz, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.26 - 5.33 (2 H, m, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.45 (1 H, dq, *J* 17.3, 1.4 Hz, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.96 (1 H, ddt, *J* 17.3, 10.6, 5.4 Hz, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.06 (1 H, ddt, *J* 17.2, 10.4, 5.1 Hz, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.42 - 6.45 (2 H, m, aryl H), 7.16 - 7.27 (5 H, m, aryl H), 7.27 - 7.32 (5 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 26.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 37.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 63.2 (CHCl), 68.9 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 69.0 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 100.0 (aryl C-H), 109.8 (aryl C-H), 117.3 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 118.0 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 121.4 (aryl C), 125.6 (aryl C-H), 126.7 (aryl C-H), 128.2 (aryl C-H), 128.4 (aryl C-H), 129.1 (aryl C-H), 130.3 (aryl C-H), 132.9 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 132.9 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 136.2 (aryl C), 136.9 (aryl C), 142.9 (aryl C), 158.0 (aryl C), 158.2 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 925 (m), 1024 (s), 1045 (s), 1106 (w), 1145 (s), 1175 (s), 1215 (s), 1275 (w), 1380 (vw), 1416 (m), 1476 (s), 1495 (m), 1569 (vs), 1648 (vw), 2854 (m), 2926 (m), 3024 (w), 3082 (w); MS (APCI) *m/z* 535 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>40</sub>ClO<sub>2</sub>S (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 535.2432, Found 535.2423.

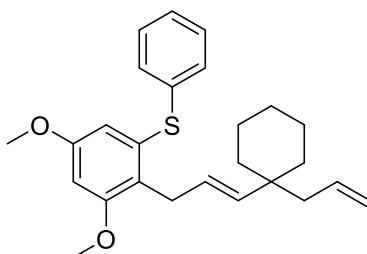
*(E)-(2-(4,4-Dimethylhepta-2,6-dien-1-yl)-3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)sulfide 2y*



As described in general procedure A, **1a** (50 mg, 0.2 mmol), 4,4-dimethylhepta-1,6-diene (127 mg, 1 mmol) and FeCl<sub>3</sub> (131 mg, 0.8 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (30 % CHCl<sub>3</sub> in hexanes) gave **2y** (15.3 mg, 0.04 mmol, 21%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.89 (6 H, s,

C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, 1.95 (2 H, d, *J* 7.3 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.50 (2 H, dd, *J* 6.1, 1.0 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH), 3.69 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.81 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.90 - 4.97 (2 H, m, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.29 (1 H, dt, *J* 15.6, 6.1 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH), 5.40 (1 H, dt, *J* 15.6, 1.0 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH), 5.72 (1 H, ddt, *J* 16.6, 10.6, 7.3 Hz, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.41 (1 H, d, *J* 2.3 Hz, aryl H), 6.43 (1 H, d, *J* 2.5 Hz, aryl H), 7.16 - 7.30 (5 H, m, aryl H); δ<sub>C</sub> (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 26.9 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 30.5 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH), 35.6 (alkyl C<sub>q</sub>), 47.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 55.3 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.7 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 98.5 (aryl C-H), 108.7 (aryl C-H), 116.2 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 123.4 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH), 124.1 (aryl C), 126.4 (aryl C-H), 129.0 (aryl C-H), 130.0 (aryl C-H), 135.5 (aryl C), 136.1 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 136.8 (aryl C), 140.4 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH), 158.7 (aryl C), 158.8 (aryl C); ν<sub>max</sub> (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1050 (s), 1150 (m), 1274 (w), 1295 (w), 1409 (m), 1436 (m), 1477 (m), 1571 (s), 1596 (s), 2834 (w), 2935 (m), 2957 (m), 3000 (w), 3072 (w); MS (ES<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* 369 (M+H); HRMS C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>29</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (M+H) Expected 369.1883, Found 369.1881.

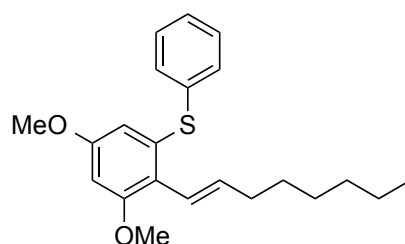
*(E)*-(2-(3-(1-Allylcyclohexyl)allyl)-3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)(phenyl)sulfide **2z**



As described in general procedure A, **1a** (50 mg, 0.2 mmol), 1,1-diallylcyclohexane (168 mg, 1 mmol) and FeCl<sub>3</sub> (131 mg, 0.8 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (30 % CHCl<sub>3</sub> in hexanes) gave **2z** (19.1 mg, 0.04 mmol, 23%) as a colourless oil; δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.15 - 1.31 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.33 - 1.48 (6 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.97 (2 H, d, *J* 7.3 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.53 (2 H, d, *J* 5.3 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH), 3.69 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.81 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.89 - 4.96 (2 H, m, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.22 (1 H, d, *J* 15.9 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH), 5.29 (1 H, dt, *J* 15.9, 5.3 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH), 5.63 - 5.76 (1 H, m, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.41 (1 H, d, *J* 2.5 Hz, aryl H), 6.42 (1 H, d, *J* 2.5 Hz, aryl H), 7.16 - 7.22 (1 H, m, aryl H), 7.24 - 7.29 (4 H, m); δ<sub>C</sub> (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 22.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.7 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH), 35.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 38.7 (alkyl C<sub>q</sub>), 46.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 55.3 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.6 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 98.4 (aryl C-H), 108.5 (aryl C-H), 116.0 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 123.9 (aryl C), 125.7 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH), 126.4 (aryl C-H), 129.0 (aryl C-H), 130.1 (aryl C-H), 135.5 (aryl C), 135.8 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 136.7 (aryl C), 138.4 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH), 158.7 (aryl C), 158.8 (aryl C); ν<sub>max</sub> (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1050 (s), 1144 (m), 1204 (s), 1275 (w), 1295 (w), 1460 (m), 1572 (s), 1597 (s), 2852 (m), 2925 (vs), 3000 (w), 3071 (w); MS (ES<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* 409 (M+H); HRMS C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>33</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (M+H) Expected 409.2196, Found 409.2196.

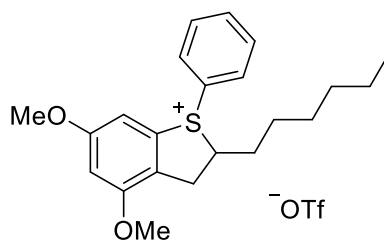


*(E)*-(3,5-Dimethoxy-2-(oct-1-en-1-yl)phenyl)(phenyl)sulfide **3f**



NaNH<sub>2</sub> (8.3 mg, 0.21 mmol) was added in one portion to a solution of **2a** (35.3 mg, 0.09 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL). The solution was stirred under reflux for 18 h, then cooled to room temperature and quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O (2 mL) and diluted with EtOAc (5 mL). The organic phase was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 2 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and solvent removed *in vacuo*. The crude mixture was purified by column chromatography (30% CHCl<sub>3</sub> in hexanes) to give **3f** (27.2 mg, 0.08 mmol, 85%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.89 (3 H, t, *J* 6.6 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.23 - 1.37 (6 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.37 - 1.45 (2 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.19 (2 H, qd, *J* 6.9, 1.3 Hz, CH=CHCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.66 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.83 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 6.27 (1 H, dt, *J* 16.1, 6.9 Hz, ArCH=CHCH<sub>2</sub>), 6.35 (1 H, d, *J* 2.5 Hz, aryl H), 6.39 (1 H, d, *J* 2.5 Hz, aryl H), 6.53 (1 H, dt, *J* 16.1, 1.3 Hz, ArCH=CHCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.21 - 7.33 (5 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.2 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.1 (CH=CHCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 55.3 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.6 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 98.0 (aryl C-H), 107.8 (aryl C-H), 121.0 (aryl C), 122.7 (ArCH=CHCH<sub>2</sub>), 126.9 (aryl C-H), 129.1 (aryl C-H), 131.1 (aryl C-H), 135.7 (aryl C), 136.1 (aryl C), 136.6 (ArCH=CHCH<sub>2</sub>), 158.6 (aryl C), 158.7 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1046 (s), 1153 (s), 1200 (m), 1210 (m), 1298 (m), 1407 (w), 1434 (w), 1459 (m), 1563 (s), 1593 (s), 2854 (w), 2925 (m), 2954 (w), 3000 (w); MS (ES<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* 357.3 (M+H); HRMS C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>29</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (M+H) Expected 357.1883, Found 357.1887.

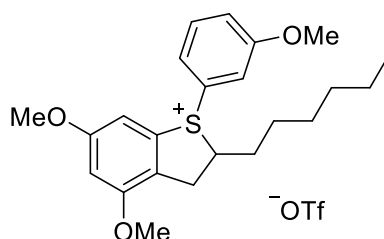
*2*-Hexyl-4,6-dimethoxy-1-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-benzo[*b*]thiophen-1-ium trifluoromethanesulfonate **3h**



AgOTf (62.5 mg, 0.24 mmol) was added to a solution of **2a** (104 mg, 0.24 mmol) in DCE (2.40 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> and the resulting suspension stirred at 80 °C for 18 h. H<sub>2</sub>O (2.50 mL) was then added and the organic layer washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 2.50 mL). The combined aqueous layers were then extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 2.50 mL), the combined organic extracts dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (20% MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) to give **3h** (117 mg, 0.21 mmol, 87%), as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

0.81 - 0.93 (6 H, m, 1 × CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> from isomer A and 1 × CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> from isomer B), 1.15 - 1.38 (13 H, m, 3 × CH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A and 2 × CH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 1.43 - 1.55 (3 H, m, 1 × CH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A and 1 × CH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 1.56 - 1.64 (1 H, m, 1 × CH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 1.73 - 1.84 (1 H, m, 1 × ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A), 1.93 - 2.04 (1 H, m, 1 × ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 2.21 - 2.32 (1 H, m, 1 × ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 3.01 (1 H, dd, *J* 16.7, 10.2 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A), 3.27 - 3.35 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 3.66 - 3.76 (2 H, m, 1 × ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A and 1 × ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 3.84 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.84 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.92 - 3.95 (6 H, m, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.51 - 4.59 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 4.88 - 4.99 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A), 6.70 - 6.76 (2 H, m, 1 × aryl *H* from isomer A and 1 × aryl *H* from isomer B), 6.97 (1 H, d, *J* 2.0 Hz, aryl *H* from isomer B), 7.01 (1 H, d, *J* 2.0 Hz, aryl *H* from isomer A), 7.39 - 7.44 (2 H, m, aryl *H*), 7.59 - 7.65 (6 H, m, aryl *H*), 7.67 - 7.70 (1 H, m, aryl *H* from isomer B), 7.70 - 7.76 (1 H, m, aryl *H* from isomer A); δ<sub>C</sub> (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 13.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> from isomer A), 14.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> from isomer B), 22.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 33.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.4 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A), 34.9 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 56.1 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 56.4 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 56.4 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 65.1 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A), 71.0 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 102.6 (aryl C–H), 102.8 (aryl C–H), 104.3 (aryl C–H), 104.5 (aryl C–H), 120.8 (aryl C), 126.1 (aryl C), 126.2 (aryl C), 126.5 (aryl C), 126.8 (aryl C), 127.0 (aryl C), 130.0 (aryl C–H), 131.1 (aryl C–H), 131.2 (aryl C–H), 131.3 (aryl C–H), 134.4 (aryl C–H), 134.6 (aryl C–H), 157.1 (aryl C), 157.6 (aryl C), 163.1 (aryl C), 163.3 (aryl C); ν<sub>max</sub> (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1029 (s), 1140 (m), 1204 (w), 1223 (s), 1259 (s), 1437 (w), 1447 (w), 1495 (w), 1577 (w), 1607 (w), 2857 (w), 2929 (w), 2953 (w), 3091 (w); MS (ES<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* 357 (M); HRMS C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>29</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (M) Expected 357.1883, Found 357.1884.

*2-Hexyl-4,6-dimethoxy-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[b]thiophen-1-ium trifluoromethanesulfonate 3i*

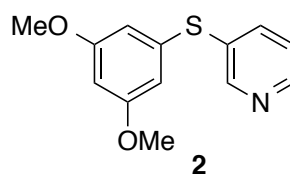
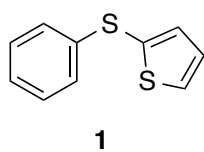


AgOTf (63.8 mg, 0.24 mmol) was added to a solution of **2r** (102 mg, 0.24 mmol) in DCE (2.40 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> and the resulting suspension stirred at 80 °C for 18 h. H<sub>2</sub>O (2.50 mL) was then added and the organic layer washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 2.50 ml). The combined aqueous layers were then extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 2.50 mL) and the combined organic extracts dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (20% MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) to give **3i** (102 mg, 0.21 mmol, 89%), as a colourless oil; δ<sub>H</sub> (500 MHz,

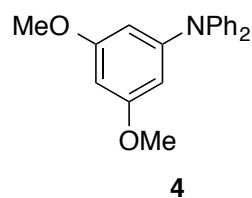
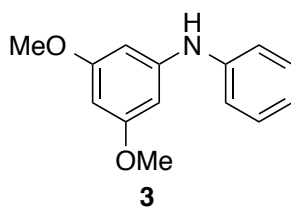
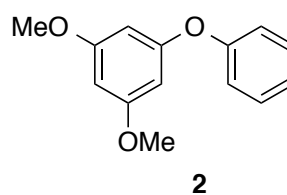
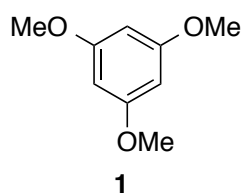
CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.80 - 0.91 (6 H, m, 1 × CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> from isomer A and 1 × CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> from isomer B), 1.17 - 1.63 (16 H, m, 4 × CH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A and 4 × CH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 1.76 - 1.87 (2 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A), 1.92 - 2.02 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 2.22 - 2.34 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 3.02 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A), 3.28 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 3.65 - 3.72 (2 H, m, 1 × ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A and 1 × ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 3.83 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.84 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.87 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.91 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.92 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.93 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.56 (1 H, dd, *J* 7.5, 3.1 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 4.89 (1 H, t, *J* 8.9 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A), 6.72 (2 H, s, aryl *H*), 6.85 (1 H, d, *J* 7.8 Hz, aryl *H*), 6.93 - 6.96 (1 H, m, aryl *H*), 6.98 (1 H, d, *J* 1.8 Hz, aryl *H*), 7.06 (1 H, s, aryl *H*), 7.18 (1 H, dd, *J* 8.3, 2.2 Hz, aryl *H*), 7.22 (2 H, dd, *J* 8.3, 2.2 Hz, aryl *H*), 7.37 (1 H, t, *J* 2.0 Hz, aryl *H*), 7.48 (2 H, dt, *J* 16.6, 8.2 Hz, aryl *H*); δ<sub>C</sub> (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 13.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> from isomer A), 13.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> from isomer B), 22.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 33.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.5 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A), 34.7 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 56.1 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 56.2 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 56.3 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 56.4 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 65.1 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer A), 70.9 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub> from isomer B), 102.6 (aryl C–H), 102.7 (aryl C–H), 104.2 (aryl C–H), 104.4 (aryl C–H), 115.2 (aryl C–H), 116.7 (aryl C–H), 119.5 (aryl C–H), 120.4 (aryl C–H), 120.9 (aryl C–H), 121.6 (aryl C–H), 122.1 (aryl C), 122.5 (aryl C–H), 126.1 (aryl C), 126.4 (aryl C), 126.7 (aryl C), 126.9 (aryl C), 127.0 (aryl C), 131.9 (aryl C–H), 157.1 (aryl C), 157.6 (aryl C), 161.1 (aryl C), 161.3 (aryl C), 163.0 (aryl C), 163.2 (aryl C); ν<sub>max</sub> (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 990 (w), 1028 (s), 1095 (w), 1140 (s), 1204 (w), 1223 (s), 1255 (s), 1317 (w), 1436 (w), 1465 (w), 1483 (w), 1575 (w), 1595 (w), 2856 (w), 2929 (w), 3092 (w); MS (ES<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* 387 (M); HRMS C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>32</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S (M) Expected 387.1976, Found 387.1994.

## Additional Substrates That Failed to Undergo C-H Coupling with 1-octene

A) Heterocyclic sulfide substrate



B) Substrates designed to probe the dependence of sulfur

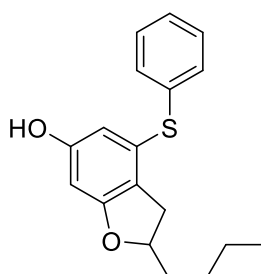


## Pd-Catalysed Deallylation/Cyclisation

### General Procedure B

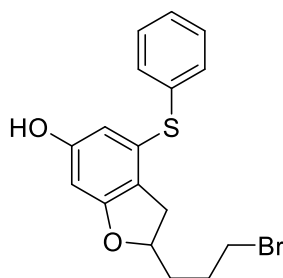
Morpholine (2.2 equiv.) was added to a stirred mixture of the corresponding allyloxy-sulfide (1 equiv.), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0.1 equiv.) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (2.4 equiv.) in THF (0.1 M) at room temperature and stirred for 16 h. The reaction was then cooled to 0 °C and 1 N HCl (10 mL) was added slowly. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 10 mL) and the combined organic extracts were then washed with brine (10 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the corresponding dihydrobenzofuran product.

### 2-Butyl-4-(phenylsulfanyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-6-ol **4a**



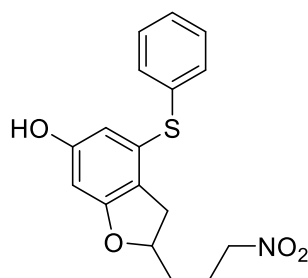
As described in general procedure B, **2s** (50 mg, 0.12 mmol), morpholine (23 μL, 0.26 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (13.9 mg, 0.01 mmol) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (10.9 mg, 0.29 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (10% EtOAc in hexanes), gave **4a** (30.1 mg, 0.10 mmol, 84%) as a pale yellow oil; δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.90 (3 H, t, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.29 - 1.49 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.58 - 1.71 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.72 - 1.86 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.65 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.4, 7.7 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.08 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.4, 8.9 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 4.73 - 4.89 (2 H, m, CH(O) + ArOH), 6.14 (1 H, d, *J* 2.3 Hz, aryl H), 6.19 (1 H, d, *J* 2.3 Hz, aryl H), 7.24 - 7.37 (5 H, m, aryl H); δ<sub>C</sub> (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.2 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 35.8 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 84.5 (CH(O)), 96.4 (aryl C-H), 108.6 (aryl C-H), 120.2 (aryl C), 127.2 (aryl C-H), 129.2 (aryl C-H), 131.2 (aryl C-H), 132.3 (aryl C), 134.0 (aryl C), 156.3 (aryl C), 160.9 (aryl C); ν<sub>max</sub> (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 994 (s), 1111 (s), 1216 (m), 1354 (w), 1439 (s), 1477 (s), 1591 (s), 1609 (s), 2848 (m), 2916 (m), 2955 (m), 3404 (s, br, O-H stretch); MS (ES<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* 301 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 301.1257, Found 301.1255.

2-(3-Bromopropyl)-4-(phenylsulfanyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-6-ol **4b**



As described in general procedure B, **2t** (60.7 mg, 0.12 mmol), morpholine (24  $\mu$ L, 0.26 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (14.9 mg, 0.012 mmol) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (11.8 mg, 0.29 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (10% EtOAc in hexanes), gave **4b** (36.3 mg, 0.09 mmol, 79%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.78 - 2.14 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.66 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.6, 7.3 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.11 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.6, 9.1 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.40 - 3.52 (2 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>Br), 4.76 (1 H, s, ArOH), 4.82 (1 H, dtd, *J* 9.1, 7.3, 7.3, 5.3 Hz, CH(O)), 6.16 (1 H, d, *J* 2.0 Hz, aryl H), 6.19 (1 H, d, *J* 2.0 Hz, aryl H), 7.25 - 7.37 (5 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 28.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 33.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>Br), 34.3 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 34.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 83.3 (CH(O)), 96.5 (aryl C-H), 108.9 (aryl C-H), 119.8 (aryl C), 127.4 (aryl C-H), 129.3 (aryl C-H), 131.3 (aryl C-H), 132.5 (aryl C), 133.9 (aryl C), 156.4 (aryl C), 160.7 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 992 (s), 1113 (s), 1253 (w), 1437 (s), 1476 (m), 1591 (m), 1607 (m), 2849 (w), 2939 (w), 3396 (m, br, O-H stretch); MS (APCI) *m/z* 365 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub>BrS (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 365.0205, Found 365.0188.

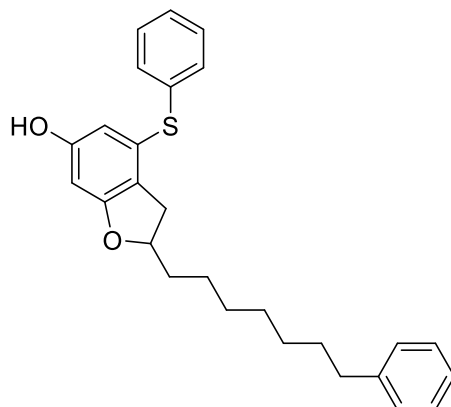
2-(3-Nitropropyl)-4-(phenylsulfanyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-6-ol **4c**



As described in general procedure B, **2u** (41.8 mg, 0.09 mmol), morpholine (20  $\mu$ L, 0.20 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (10.3 mg, 0.009 mmol) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (8.6 mg, 0.22 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (20% EtOAc in hexanes), gave **4c** (25.2 mg, 0.07 mmol, 82%) as a yellow oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.71 - 1.87 (2 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.09 - 2.29 (2 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.64 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.6, 7.3 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.12 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.6, 9.0 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 4.39 - 4.53 (2 H, m, CH(O) + ArOH), 4.69 - 4.79 (2 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>), 6.17 (1 H, d, *J* 2.3 Hz, aryl H), 6.19 (1 H, d, *J* 2.3 Hz, aryl H), 7.28 - 7.37 (5 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 23.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 32.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.3 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 75.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>), 83.0 (CH(O)), 96.6 (aryl C-H), 109.0 (aryl C-H), 119.4 (aryl C), 127.4 (aryl C-H), 129.3

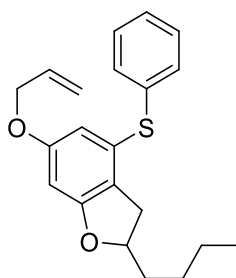
(aryl C-H), 131.4 (aryl C-H), 132.7 (aryl C), 133.8 (aryl C), 156.6 (aryl C), 160.5 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\max}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 993 (s), 1117 (s), 1221 (m), 1377 (m), 1437 (s), 1477 (s), 1549 (s), 1609 (s), 2852 (m), 2934 (m), 3060 (m), 3419 (s, br, O-H stretch); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  332 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>4</sub>NS (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 332.0951, Found 332.0936.

*2-(7-Phenylheptyl)-4-(phenylthio)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-6-ol 4d*



As described in General Procedure B, **2w** (52.0 mg, 0.10 mmol), morpholine (18  $\mu$ L, 0.21 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (12.1 mg, 0.011 mmol) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (9.0 mg, 0.24 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (10% EtOAc in hexanes), gave **4d** (33.1 mg, 0.08 mmol, 81%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 1.22 – 1.44 (8 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.48 – 1.62 (3 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.65 – 1.78 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.50 – 2.62 (3 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O) & ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.01 (1 H, dd,  $J$  15.4, 8.9 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 4.62 – 4.77 (2 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O) & OH), 6.06 (1 H, d,  $J$  2.3 Hz, aryl H), 6.10 (1 H, d,  $J$  2.3 Hz, aryl H), 7.09 – 7.15 (3 H, m, aryl H), 7.17 – 7.30 (7 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 25.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.3 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 36.0 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.1 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>), 84.6 (CH(O)), 96.6 (aryl C-H), 108.8 (aryl C-H), 120.4 (aryl C), 125.6 (aryl C-H), 127.3 (aryl C-H), 128.3 (aryl C-H), 128.4 (aryl C-H), 129.3 (aryl C-H), 131.2 (aryl C-H), 132.3 (aryl C), 134.1 (aryl C), 142.9 (aryl C), 156.4 (aryl C), 161.0 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\max}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 993 (s), 1114 (vs), 1174 (w), 1220 (w), 1266 (w), 1353 (w), 1438 (s), 1477 (s), 1591 (s), 1607 (s), 2853 (m), 2927 (s), 3924 (w), 3402 (br); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  419 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>31</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 419.2027, Found 419.2039.

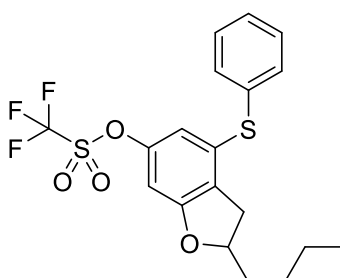
### 6-(Allyloxy)-2-butyl-4-(phenylsulfanyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran **4e**



As described in general procedure B, **2s** (50 mg, 0.12 mmol), morpholine (23  $\mu$ L, 0.26 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (13.9 mg, 0.01 mmol) and NaH (11.7 mg, 0.29 mmol, 60% dispersion in mineral oil), after purification by column chromatography (10% EtOAc in hexanes), gave **4e** (40 mg, 0.11 mmol, 92%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.92 (3 H, t,  $J$  7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.30 - 1.48 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.59 - 1.69 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.73 - 1.84 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.65 (1 H, dd,  $J$  15.4, 7.7 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.08 (1 H, dd,  $J$  15.4, 8.9 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 4.42 (2 H, dt,  $J$  5.3, 1.5 Hz, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.73 - 4.83 (1 H, m, CH(O)), 5.25 (1 H, dq,  $J$  10.5, 1.5 Hz, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.34 (1 H, dq,  $J$  17.3, 1.5 Hz, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>) 5.99 (1 H, ddt,  $J$  17.3, 10.6, 5.3 Hz, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.30 (2 H, s, aryl H), 7.22 - 7.35 (5 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.4 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 35.8 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 69.1 (OCH<sub>2</sub>), 84.4 (CH(O)), 96.1 (aryl C-H), 109.0 (aryl C-H), 117.8 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 120.8 (aryl C), 126.9 (aryl C-H), 129.2 (aryl C-H), 130.4 (aryl C-H), 131.6 (aryl C), 133.1 (CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 134.6 (aryl C), 159.6 (aryl C), 160.9 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 925 (m), 980 (s), 1024 (s), 1114 (s), 1181 (m), 1423 (m), 1477 (s), 1578 (s), 1606 (s), 2859 (w), 2929 (m), 2954 (m); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  341 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 341.1570, Found 341.1567.

### Pd-catalysed Cross-Coupling

#### 2-Butyl-4-(phenylsulfanyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-6-yl trifluoromethanesulfonate **5**



Sodium *tert*-butoxide (187 mg, 1.95 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of *N*-phenyl-bis(trifluoromethanesulfonimide) (696 mg, 1.95 mmol) and **4a** (532 mg, 1.77 mmol) in THF (18 mL) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at 0 °C, then warmed to room temperature and stirred for a further 1 h. The mixture was then quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) and the aqueous layer extracted with EtOAc (3  $\times$  30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (30 mL), dried with

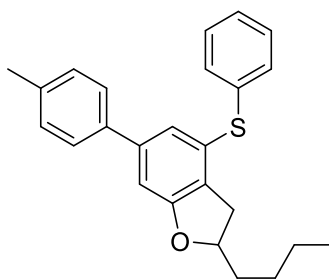


MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes) to give **5** (666 mg, 1.54 mmol, 87%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.94 (3 H, t, *J* 7.1 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.31 - 1.51 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.62 - 1.74 (1 H, m, (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)), 1.76 - 1.89 (1 H, m, (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)), 2.73 (1 H, dd, *J* 16.1, 7.5 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.17 (1 H, dd, *J* 16.1, 9.2 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 4.83 - 4.93 (1 H, m, CH(O)), 6.39 (1 H, d, *J* 2.2 Hz, aryl H), 6.51 (1 H, d, *J* 2.2 Hz, aryl H), 7.35 - 7.43 (5 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.3 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 35.8 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 85.2 (CH(O)), 101.3 (aryl C-H), 112.9 (aryl C-H), 127.1 (aryl C), 128.5 (aryl C-H), 129.6 (aryl C-H), 131.8 (aryl C), 132.5 (aryl C-H), 135.0 (aryl C), 149.6 (aryl C), 160.6 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 983 (s), 1092 (m), 1140 (s), 1209 (vs, C-F stretch?),<sup>1</sup> 1420 (s), 1592 (m), 2861 (w), 2933 (w), 2957 (w); MS (ES<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* 433 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>2</sub> (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 433.0750, Found 433.0749.

### General Procedure C – Pd-catalysed Suzuki coupling

Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (11.6 mg, 0.01 mmol) and boronic acid (0.2 mmol) were added to a microwave vial with Teflon-lined septum pre-flushed with N<sub>2</sub>. K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2 M in H<sub>2</sub>O, 1 mL) and **5** (43 mg, 0.1 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (1 mL) were then added and the resulting mixture was heated to 135 °C and stirred for 5 h. The mixture was then cooled, diluted with H<sub>2</sub>O (15 mL) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 15 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel.

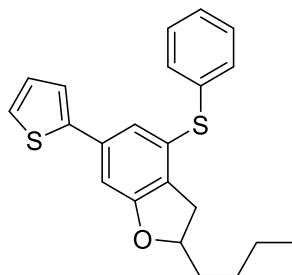
### 2-Butyl-4-(phenylsulfanyl)-6-(*p*-tolyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran **6a**



As described in general procedure C, triflate **5** (44.1 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 4-methylphenylboronic acid (27 mg, 0.2 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (2% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes), gave **6a** (34.6 mg, 0.09 mmol, 90%) as a white solid; m.p 59.9-61.2 °C;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.95 (3 H, t, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.33 - 1.52 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.61 - 1.72 (1 H, m, (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)), 1.78 - 1.89 (1 H, m, (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)), 2.39 (3 H, s, ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.75 (1 H, dd, *J* 16.1, 7.5 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.18 (1 H, dd, *J* 16.1, 9.0 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 4.77 - 4.87 (1 H, m, CH(O)), 6.93 (1 H, d, *J* 1.5 Hz, aryl H), 7.03 (1 H, d, *J* 1.5 Hz, aryl H), 7.19 - 7.34 (7 H, m, aryl H), 7.38 - 7.43 (2 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.1 (ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.9 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 35.8 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 83.9 (CH(O)), 107.2 (aryl C-H), 122.3 (aryl C-H), 126.7 (aryl C-H), 126.8 (aryl C-H), 127.9 (aryl C),

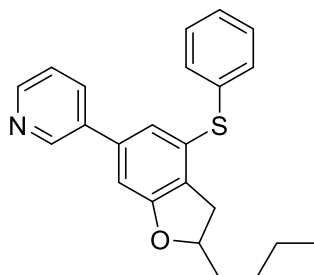
129.2 (aryl C-H), 129.4 (aryl C-H), 130.0 (aryl C-H), 131.2 (aryl C), 135.0 (aryl C), 137.2 (aryl C), 137.7 (aryl C), 142.4 (aryl C), 160.5 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\max}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 814 (vs, oop para-subst. arene), 950 (m), 1206 (m), 1468 (s), 1561 (s), 1578 (s), 2858 (m), 2929 (s), 2954 (s); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  375 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>27</sub>OS (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 375.1777, Found 375.1775.

*2-Butyl-4-(phenylsulfanyl)-6-(thien-2-yl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran 6b*



As described in general procedure C, triflate **5** (42.8 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-thienylboronic acid (25.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (2% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes), gave **6b** (31.2 mg, 0.09 mmol, 87%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.93 (3 H, t,  $J$  7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.32 - 1.50 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.60 - 1.70 (1 H, m, (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)), 1.75 - 1.87 (1 H, m, (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)), 2.71 (1 H, dd,  $J$  16.3, 7.5 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.14 (1 H, dd,  $J$  16.3, 9.0 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 4.81 (1 H, dtd,  $J$  8.9, 7.3, 5.9 Hz, CH(O)), 6.96 (1 H, d,  $J$  1.5 Hz, aryl H), 7.04 (1 H, dd,  $J$  5.1, 3.6 Hz, aryl H), 7.06 (1 H, d,  $J$  1.5 Hz, aryl H), 7.20 (1 H, dd,  $J$  3.6, 1.1 Hz, aryl H), 7.22 - 7.34 (6 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.9 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 35.8 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 84.0 (CH(O)), 106.1 (aryl C-H), 121.1 (aryl C-H), 123.2 (aryl C-H), 124.8 (aryl C-H), 126.8 (aryl C-H), 127.8 (aryl C-H), 128.4 (aryl C), 129.2 (aryl C-H), 130.1 (aryl C-H), 131.6 (aryl C), 134.7 (aryl C), 135.3 (aryl C), 143.8 (aryl C), 160.5 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\max}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 932 (m), 1023 (m), 1224 (s), 1413 (m), 1476 (m), 1569 (s), 1603 (m), 2858 (w), 2930 (m), 2953 (m); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  367 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>23</sub>OS<sub>2</sub> (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 367.1185, Found 367.1186.

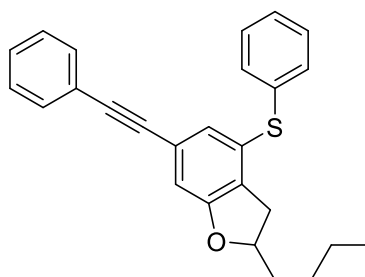
*3-(2-Butyl-4-(phenylsulfanyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-6-yl)pyridine 6c*



As described in general procedure C, **5** (43 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 3-pyridylboronic acid (24.5 mg, 0.2 mmol), after purification by column chromatography (50% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes), gave **6c** (25.7 mg, 0.07 mmol, 71%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.93 (3 H, t,  $J$  7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.33 - 1.52 (4 H,

m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.61 - 1.73 (1 H, m, (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.77 - 1.90 (1 H, m, (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.76 (1 H, dd, *J* 16.3, 7.5 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.19 (1 H, dd, *J* 16.3, 9.0 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 4.79 - 4.90 (1 H, m, CH(O)), 6.88 (1 H, d, *J* 1.5 Hz, aryl H), 6.94 (1 H, d, *J* 1.5 Hz, aryl H), 7.21 - 7.40 (6 H, m, aryl H), 7.76 (1 H, dt, *J* 8.0, 2.0 Hz, aryl H), 8.56 (1 H, d, *J* 3.0 Hz, aryl H), 8.73 (1 H, br. s., aryl H); δ<sub>C</sub> (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.8 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 35.8 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 84.1 (CH(O)), 106.9 (aryl C-H), 121.6 (aryl C-H), 123.5 (aryl C-H), 121.2 (aryl C-H), 128.6 (aryl C), 129.3 (aryl C-H), 130.7 (aryl C-H), 132.4 (aryl C), 134.2 (aryl C-H), 136.1 (aryl C), 138.9 (aryl C), 148.1 (aryl C-H), 148.5 (aryl C-H), 160.6 (aryl C); ν<sub>max</sub> (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 946 (s), 1023 (m), 1218 (s), 1293 (w), 1399 (m), 1426 (s), 1463 (m), 1577 (s), 2858 (w), 2929 (m), 2954 (m); MS (ES<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* 362 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>24</sub>ONS (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 362.1573, Found 362.1566.

**2-Butyl-6-(phenylethynyl)-4-(phenylsulfanyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran 6d**



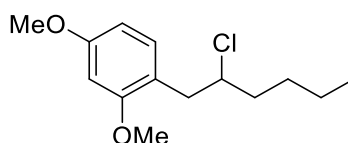
Et<sub>3</sub>N (014 mL, 1.0 mmol) was added to a microwave vial with Teflon-lined septum pre-flushed with N<sub>2</sub> and containing a stirred mixture of PdCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (7.0 mg, 0.01 mmol), phenylacetylene (20 mg, 0.2 mmol) and triflate **5** (43.8 mg, 0.1 mmol) in DMF (0.5 mL). The mixture was heated to 90 °C and stirred for 18 h. The mixture was then cooled to room temperature and diluted with H<sub>2</sub>O. The aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 10 mL) and the combined organic extracts were washed with LiCl (10% in H<sub>2</sub>O, 15 mL), dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (10% CHCl<sub>3</sub> in hexanes) to give **6d** (36.2 mg, 0.09 mmol, 94%) as a pale yellow oil; δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.93 (3 H, t, *J* 6.9 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.32 - 1.47 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.61 - 1.69 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.76 - 1.83 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.73 (1 H, dd, *J* 16.5, 7.5 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.16 (1 H, dd, *J* 16.4, 9.1 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 4.76 - 4.84 (1 H, m, CH(O)), 6.83 (1 H, d, *J* 0.9 Hz, aryl H), 6.96 (1 H, d, *J* 0.9 Hz, aryl H), 7.24 - 7.39 (8 H, m, aryl H), 7.47 - 7.52 (2 H, m, aryl H); δ<sub>C</sub> (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 35.0 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 35.7 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 83.9 (CH(O)), 89.0 (ArC≡CAr), 89.1 (ArC≡CAr), 111.2 (aryl C-H), 123.1 (aryl C), 123.6 (aryl C), 126.5 (aryl C-H), 127.1 (aryl C-H), 128.2 (aryl C-H), 128.3 (aryl C-H), 129.3 (aryl C-H), 129.7 (aryl C), 130.6 (aryl C-H), 131.6 (aryl C-H), 131.7 (aryl C), 134.3 (aryl C), 159.8 (aryl C); ν<sub>max</sub> (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 755 (vs), 987 (m), 1220 (s), 1410 (m), 1562 (s), 1600 (m), 2858 (w), 2929 (m), 2955 (m); MS (ES<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* 385 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>25</sub>OS (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 385.1621, Found 385.1621.

## Raney Ni Desulfurisation

### General Procedure D

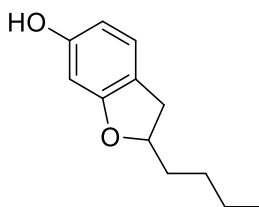
A solution of the corresponding sulfide (0.1 mmol) in EtOH (1 mL) was added dropwise to a suspension of Raney Nickel in EtOH (1 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 1 h and then filtered through Celite (Et<sub>2</sub>O eluent). The solvent was then removed *in vacuo*, and the crude product was purified by column chromatography.

### 1-(2-Chlorohexyl)-2,4-dimethoxybenzene **7a**



As described in General Procedure D, **2a** (40.1 mg, 0.11 mmol), Raney Nickel (700 mg of slurry), after column chromatography on silica gel (10% CHCl<sub>3</sub> in hexanes), gave **7a** (22.8 mg, 0.09 mmol, 81%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.91 (3 H, t,  $J$  7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.19 – 1.46 (3 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.52 – 1.62 (1 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.63 – 1.72 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(Cl)CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.73 – 1.82 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(Cl)CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.93 (1 H, dd,  $J$  13.7, 7.6 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.04 (1 H, dd, 13.7, 6.3 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.81 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.82 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.15 – 4.22 (1 H, m, CHCl), 6.42 – 6.47 (2 H, m, aryl H), 7.08 (1 H, d,  $J$  7.8 Hz, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 37.5 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(Cl)CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.4 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 55.2 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.3 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 63.4 (CHCl), 98.4 (aryl C-H), 103.7 (aryl C-H), 119.0 (aryl C), 131.6 (aryl C-H), 158.4 (aryl C), 159.8 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 935 (w), 1036 (s), 1131 (m), 1155 (s), 1207 (s), 1287 (m), 1437 (w), 1464 (m), 1506 (s), 1587 (m), 1613 (m), 2836 (w), 2858 (w), 2928 (w), 2955 (w); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  257 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Cl (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 257.1303, Found 257.1299

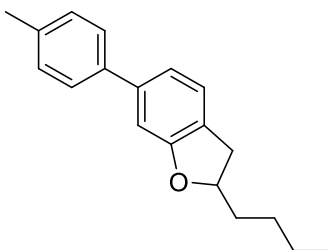
### 2-Butyl-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-6-ol **7b**



As described by general procedure D, **4a** (53.8 mg, 0.18 mmol), Raney Nickel (700 mg of slurry), after column chromatography on silica gel (10% EtOAc in hexanes), gave **7b** (33.3 mg, 0.18 mmol, 97%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.94 (3 H, t,  $J$  7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.33 – 1.54 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.61 – 1.73 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.76 – 1.91 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.78 (1 H, dd,  $J$  15.1, 7.8 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.19 (1 H, dd,  $J$  15.1, 8.8 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.74 – 4.84 (1 H, m, CH(O)), 4.91 (1

H, s, OH), 6.27 – 6.33 (2 H, m, aryl H), 6.94 – 7.00 (1 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_C$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.7 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 35.7 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 84.6 (CH(O)), 97.5 (aryl C-H), 106.8 (aryl C-H) 119.1 (aryl C), 125.0 (aryl C-H), 155.9 (aryl C), 160.8 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\max}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 964 (s), 1096 (s), 1136 (s), 1186 (m), 1214 (m), 1269 (w), 1352 (w), 1458 (s), 1497 (s), 1606 (m), 1622 (m), 2859 (w), 2930 (w), 2956 (w), 3388 (br, w, O-H stretch); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  193 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 193.1223, Found 193.1215.

### 2-Butyl-6-(*p*-tolyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran 7c



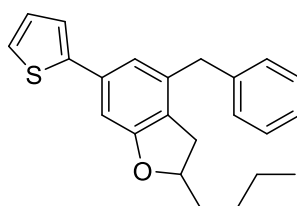
As described by general procedure D, **6a** (37.0 mg, 0.10 mmol), Raney Nickel (700 mg of slurry), after column chromatography on silica gel (10% CHCl<sub>3</sub> in hexanes), gave **7c** (23.5 mg, 0.09 mmol, 89%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_H$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.97 (3 H, t,  $J$  7.0 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.37 – 1.59 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.66 – 1.78 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.83 – 1.95 (1 H, m, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.41 (3 H, s, ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.91 (1 H, dd,  $J$  15.4, 7.8 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.31 (1 H, dd,  $J$  15.4, 8.9 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.78 – 4.88 (1 H, m, CH(O)), 7.00 (1 H, s, aryl H), 7.06 (1 H, d,  $J$  7.6 Hz, aryl H), 7.20 (1 H, d,  $J$  7.6 Hz, aryl H), 7.24 (2 H, d,  $J$  8.1 Hz, aryl H), 7.48 (2 H, d,  $J$  8.1 Hz, aryl H);  $\delta_C$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 13.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.8 (ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 22.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 35.0 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>), 35.6 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>), 83.6 (CH(O)), 107.6 (aryl C-H), 118.8 (aryl C-H), 124.7 (aryl C-H), 125.6 (aryl C), 126.7 (aryl C-H), 129.1 (aryl C-H), 136.6 (aryl C), 138.2 (aryl C), 141.3 (aryl C), 160.0 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\max}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 971 (s), 1110 (w), 1166 (w), 1204 (m), 1295 (m), 1378 (w), 1431 (m), 1483 (s), 1568 (w), 1588 (w), 1618 (w), 2858 (w), 2928 (w), 2954 (w); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  267 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 267.1743, Found 267.1740.

## Ni-catalysed Kumada-Corriu coupling

### General Procedure E

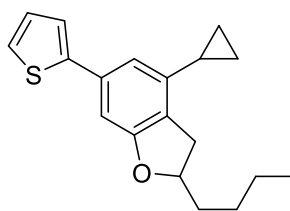
Ni(PPh<sub>3</sub>)Cl<sub>2</sub> (6.5 mg, 0.01 mmol) was added to a microwave vial with Teflon-lined septum before evacuating and backfilling with Ar (3 cycles). Sulfide (0.1 mmol), benzene (1.5 mL) and Grignard reagent solution (0.3 mmol) were then added at room temperature and the mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 24 h. The reaction mixture was then cooled to room temperature and quenched with aqueous saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (10 mL). The aqueous layer was then extracted with EtOAc (3 × 10 mL) and the combined organic extracts were dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel.

4-Benzyl-2-butyl-6-(thien-2-yl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran **8a**



As described in general procedure E, **6b** (33.0 mg, 0.09 mmol), benzylmagnesium chloride (1.82 M in THF, 0.15 mL, 0.3 mmol) and Ni(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6.5 mg, 0.01 mmol), after column chromatography on silica gel (15% toluene in hexanes), gave **8a** (27.4 mg, 0.08 mmol, 88%) as a white solid; m.p. 35.3-36.8 °C;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.93 (3 H, t, *J* 7.3 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.32 - 1.52 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.59 - 1.72 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.75 - 1.88 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.66 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.7, 7.7 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.10 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.7, 8.9 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.94 (2 H, s, ArCH<sub>2</sub>Ar), 4.78 (1 H, dtd, *J* 8.9, 7.7, 6.0 Hz, CH(O)), 6.93 (1 H, d, *J* 1.5 Hz, aryl H), 6.97 (1 H, d, *J* 1.5 Hz, aryl H), 7.05 (1 H, dd, *J* 5.1, 3.6 Hz, aryl H), 7.17 - 7.26 (5 H, m, aryl H), 7.28 - 7.33 (2 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.2 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 35.9 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.7 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>Ar), 83.8 (CH(O)), 105.0 (aryl C-H), 119.3 (aryl C-H), 122.9 (aryl C-H), 124.3 (aryl C-H), 125.7 (aryl C), 126.2 (aryl C-H), 127.8 (aryl C-H), 128.5 (aryl C-H), 128.7 (aryl C-H), 134.6 (aryl C), 137.7 (aryl C), 139.6 (aryl C), 144.7 (aryl C), 160.3 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 841 (m), 971 (w), 1030 (w), 1222 (s), 1434 (s), 1590 (s), 1614 (w), 2858 (w), 2929 (m), 2954 (m), 3026 (w), 3061 (w); MS (APCI) *m/z* 349 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>25</sub>OS (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 349.1621, Found 349.1605.

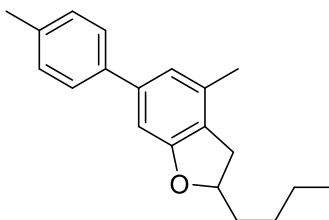
2-Butyl-4-cyclopropyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran **8b**



As described in general procedure E, **6b** (33.0 mg, 0.09 mmol), cyclopropylmagnesium bromide (0.5 M in THF, 0.6 mL, 0.3 mmol) and Ni(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6.5 mg, 0.01 mmol), after column chromatography on silica gel (10% toluene in hexanes) gave **8b** (19.2 mg, 0.07 mmol, 72%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.73 - 0.79 (2 H, m, CH(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 0.92 - 1.00 (5 H, m, CH<sub>3</sub> + CH(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.36 - 1.55 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.66 - 1.96 (3 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub> + CH(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 2.90 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.6, 7.5 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.35 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.6, 8.8 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 4.84 (1 H, dtd, *J* 8.8, 7.5, 6.1 Hz, CH(O)), 6.63 (1 H, d, *J* 1.5 Hz, aryl H), 6.85 (1 H, d, *J* 1.5 Hz, aryl H), 7.02 - 7.07 (1 H, m, aryl H), 7.20 - 7.24 (2 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.80 (CH(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 13.1 (CH(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.2 ((ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 36.0 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 83.8 (CH(O)), 104.3 (aryl C-

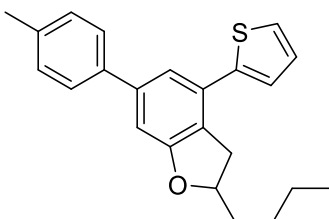
H), 113.9 (aryl C-H), 122.8 (aryl C-H), 124.2 (aryl C-H), 125.9 (aryl C), 127.8 (aryl C-H), 134.6 (aryl C), 140.6 (aryl C), 145.0 (aryl C), 159.7 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\max}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 823 (s), 905 (m), 992 (m), 1023 (s), 1223 (s), 1425 (s), 1432 (s), 1483 (w), 1589 (s), 1613 (m), 2858 (m), 2930 (s), 2953 (s), 3003 (w), 3081 (w); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  299 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>23</sub>OS (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 299.1464, Found 299.1451.

*2-Butyl-4-methyl-6-(p-tolyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran 8c*



As described in general procedure E, **6b** (37.5 mg, 0.1 mmol), methylmagnesium chloride (3 M in THF, 0.1 mL, 0.3 mmol) and Ni(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6.5 mg, 0.01 mmol), after column chromatography on silica gel (10% toluene in hexanes), gave **8c** (20.9 mg, 0.08 mmol, 75%) as a white solid; m.p. 44.1-45.2 °C;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.96 (3 H, t,  $J$  7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.36 - 1.59 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.66 - 1.77 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.83 - 1.95 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.29 (3 H, s, ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.40 (3 H, s, ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.80 (1 H, dd,  $J$  15.4, 7.9 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.23 (1 H, dd,  $J$  15.4, 8.9 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 4.79 - 4.89 (1 H, m, CH(O)), 6.83 (1 H, s, aryl H), 6.89 (1 H, s, aryl H), 7.20 - 7.25 (2 H, m, aryl H), 7.44 - 7.48 (2 H, m, aryl H);  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 19.1 (ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 21.1 (ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.3 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 36.0 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 83.6 (CH(O)), 105.2 (aryl C-H), 120.2 (aryl C-H), 124.9 (aryl C), 126.9 (aryl C-H), 129.3 (aryl C-H), 134.7 (aryl C), 136.8 (aryl C), 138.6 (aryl C), 141.5 (aryl C), 159.9 (aryl C);  $\nu_{\max}$  (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 814 (vs), 975 (s), 1204 (m), 1479 (s), 1598 (s), 2858 (m), 2929 (s), 2954 (s), 3024 (w); MS (APCI)  $m/z$  281 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 281.1900, Found 281.1893.

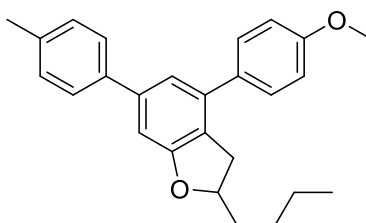
*2-Butyl-4-(thien-2-yl)-6-(p-tolyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran 8d*



As described in general procedure E, **6a** (37.2 mg, 0.1 mmol), 2-thienylmagnesium bromide (1 M in THF, 0.3 mL, 0.3 mmol) and Ni(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6.5 mg, 0.01 mmol), after column chromatography on silica gel (20% CHCl<sub>3</sub> in hexanes), gave **8d** (24.3 mg, 0.07 mmol, 74%) as a colourless oil;  $\delta_{\text{H}}$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.97 (3 H, t,  $J$  6.9 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.37 - 1.59 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.70 - 1.80 (1 H, m,

CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.84 - 1.96 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.41 (3 H, s, ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.09 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.6, 7.6 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.53 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.6, 9.0 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 4.84 - 4.92 (1 H, m, CH(O)), 6.95 (1 H, d, *J* 1.3 Hz, aryl H), 7.13 (1 H, dd, *J* 5.0, 3.5 Hz, aryl H), 7.24 - 7.28 (2 H, m, aryl H), 7.30 - 7.34 (2 H, m, aryl H), 7.36 (1 H, dd, *J* 5.2, 1.1 Hz, aryl H), 7.51 (2 H, d, *J* 7.9 Hz, aryl H); δ<sub>C</sub> (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.1 (ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.0 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 36.2 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 83.7 (CH(O)), 107.0 (aryl C-H), 118.3 (aryl C-H), 122.7 (aryl C), 124.9 (aryl C-H), 125.1 (aryl C-H), 127.0 (aryl C-H), 127.6 (aryl C-H), 129.4 (aryl C-H), 131.5 (aryl C), 137.2 (aryl C), 138.2 (aryl C), 142.1 (aryl C), 143.0 (aryl C), 160.9 (aryl C); ν<sub>max</sub> (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 977 (s), 1045 (w), 1102 (w), 1171 (w), 1201 (s), 1218 (w), 1254 (m), 1297 (m), 1363 (w), 1400 (m), 1420 (s), 1436 (m), 1473 (m), 1516 (w), 1584 (s), 1611 (m), 2858 (w), 2928 (m), 2953 (m), 3023 (w); MS (APCI) *m/z* 349 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>25</sub>OS (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 349.1621, Found 349.1606.

*2-Butyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-(p-tolyl)-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran 8e*

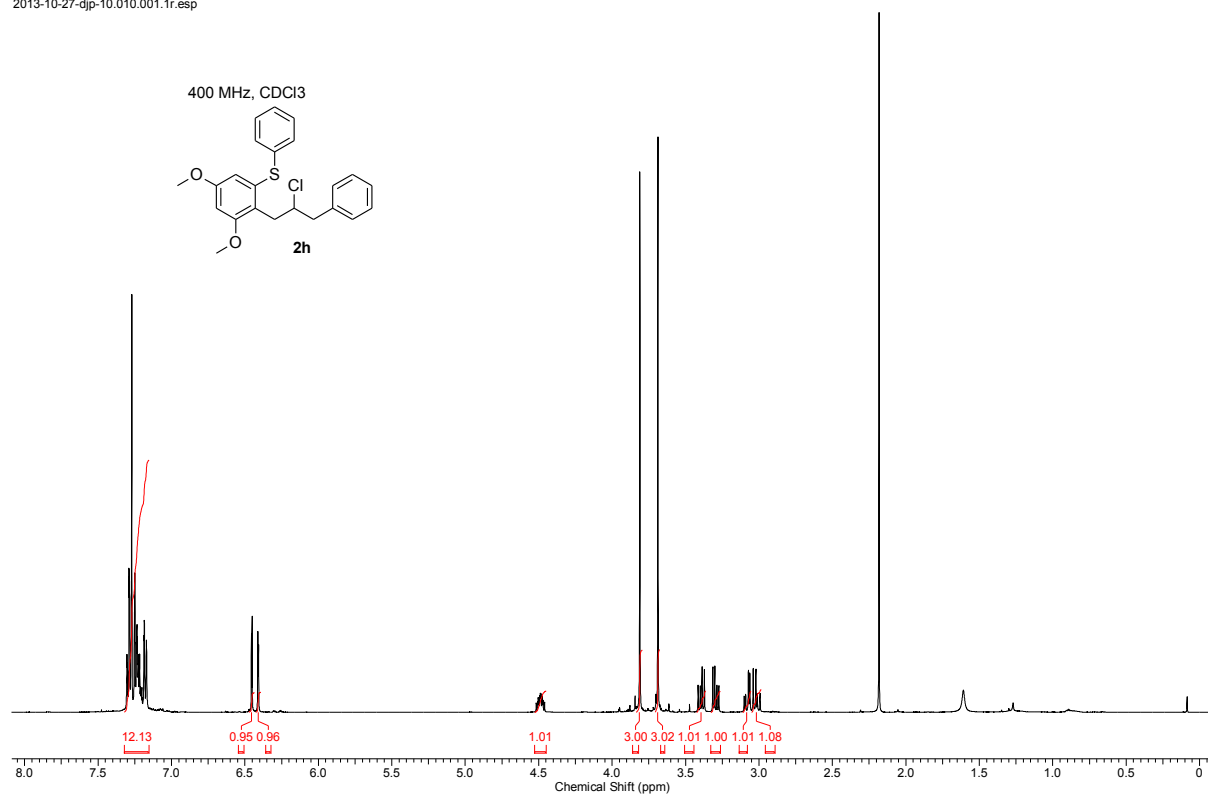


As described in general procedure E, **6a** (35.5 mg, 0.1 mmol), 4-methoxyphenylmagnesium bromide (0.5 M in THF, 0.6 mL, 0.3 mmol) and Ni(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6.5 mg, 0.01 mmol), after column chromatography on silica gel (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes), gave **8e** (22.6 mg, 0.06 mmol, 64%) as a white solid; m.p. 69.8-70.7 °C; δ<sub>H</sub> (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.95 (3 H, t, *J* 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.34 - 1.57 (4 H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.66 - 1.77 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.85 - 1.96 (1 H, m, CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.41 (3 H, s, ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.98 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.7, 8.0 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.38 (1 H, dd, *J* 15.7, 8.7 Hz, ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 3.88 (3 H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.78 - 4.88 (1 H, m, CH(O)), 6.95 - 7.03 (3 H, m, aryl H), 7.12 (1 H, d, *J* 1.5 Hz, aryl H), 7.25 (2 H, d, *J* 8.0 Hz, aryl H), 7.43 - 7.49 (2 H, m, aryl H), 7.52 (2 H, d, *J* 8.0 Hz, aryl H); δ<sub>C</sub> (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 14.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.1 (ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 22.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 27.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 35.4 (ArCH<sub>2</sub>CH(O)), 35.8 (CH(O)CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 55.3 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 83.8 (CH(O)), 106.5 (aryl C-H), 113.8 (aryl C-H), 119.4 (aryl C-H), 123.5 (aryl C), 127.0 (aryl C-H), 129.2 (aryl C-H), 129.4 (aryl C-H), 133.0 (aryl C), 137.0 (aryl C), 138.4 (aryl C), 138.5 (aryl C), 141.9 (aryl C), 158.8 (aryl C), 160.5 (aryl C); ν<sub>max</sub> (thin film/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 814 (vs), 938 (m), 1034 (m), 1108 (m), 1176 (m), 1246 (s), 1290 (m), 1466 (m), 1513 (s), 1609 (m), 2835 (w), 2858 (w), 2929 (w), 2935 (w), 2996 (w), 3029 (w); MS (APCI) *m/z* 373 (M+H<sup>+</sup>); HRMS C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>29</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M+H<sup>+</sup>) Expected 373.2162, Found 373.2144.

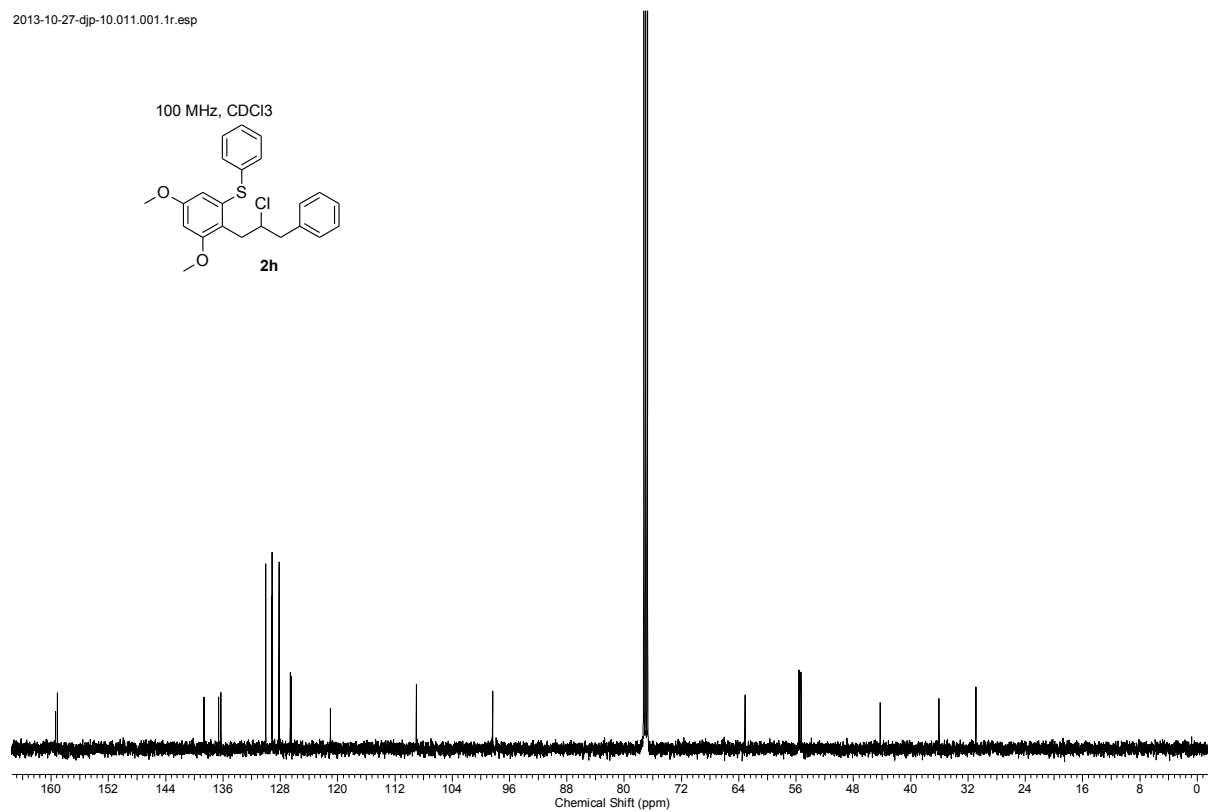


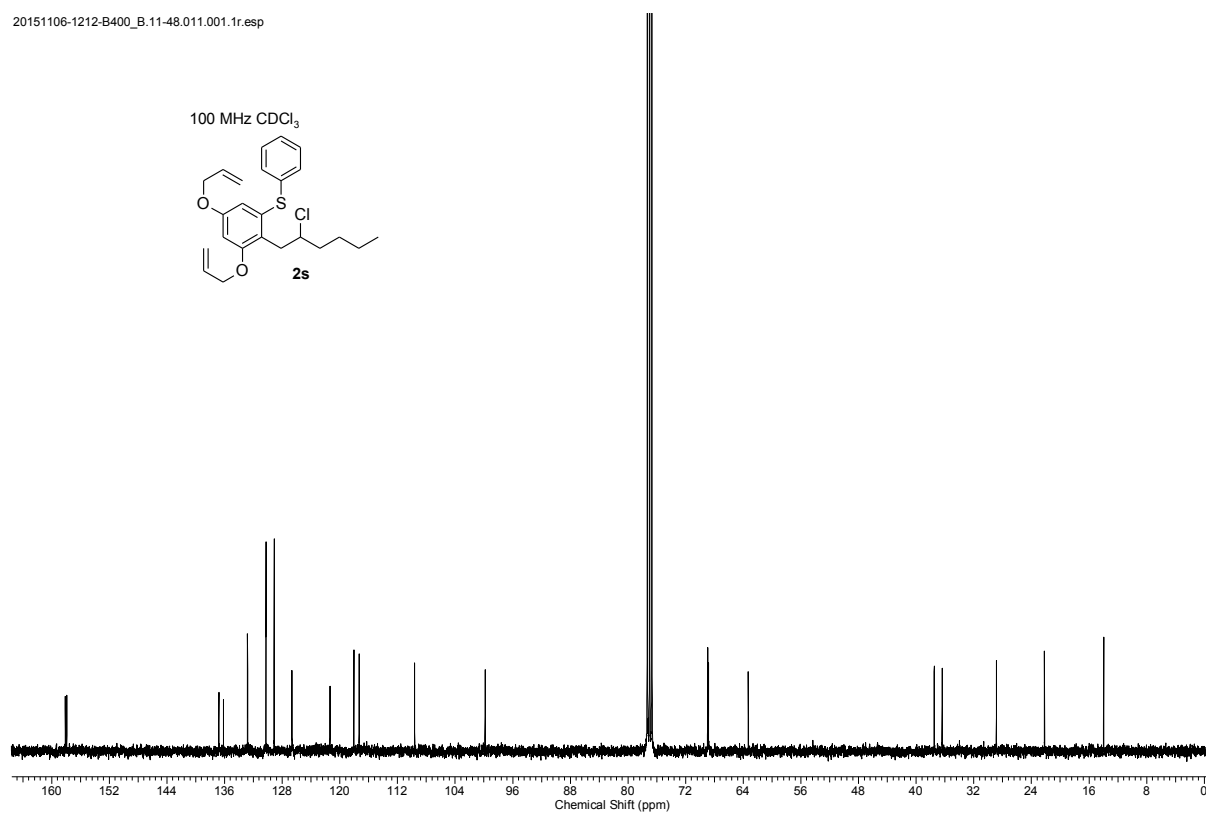
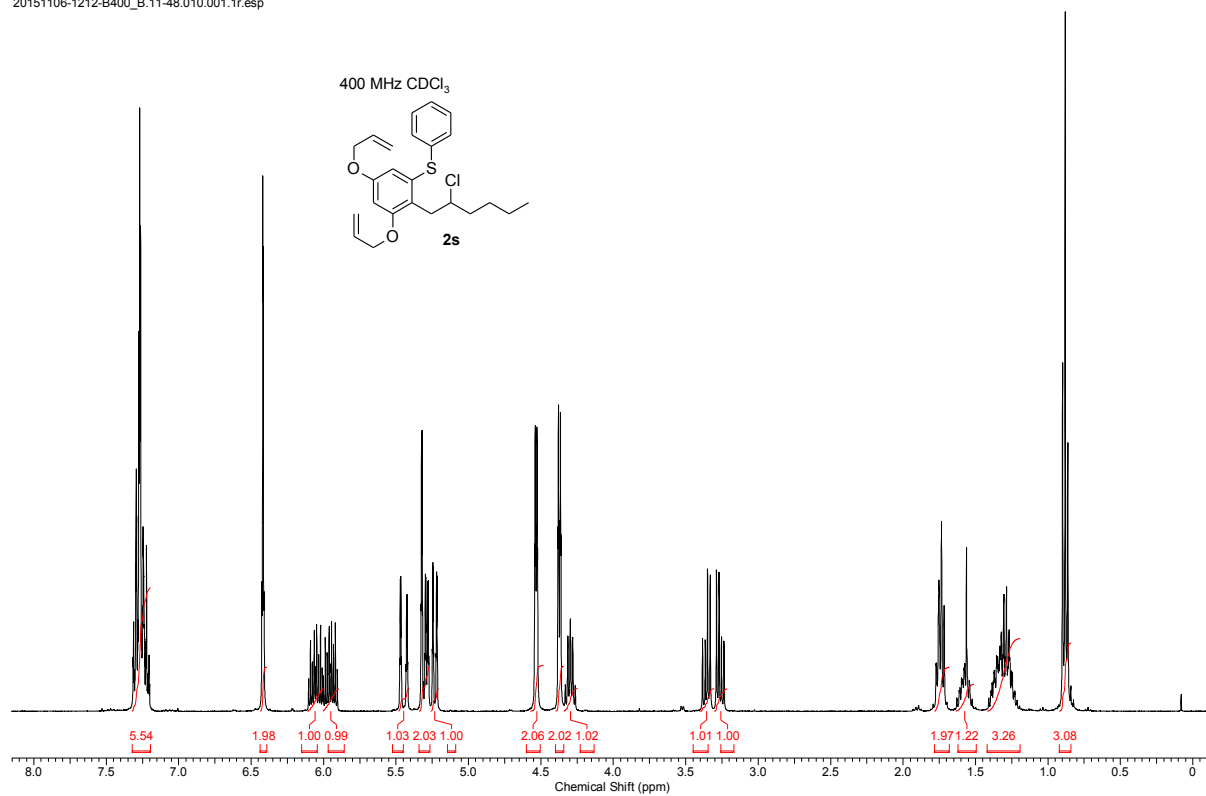
# Spectra

2013-10-27-djp-10.010.001.1r.esp

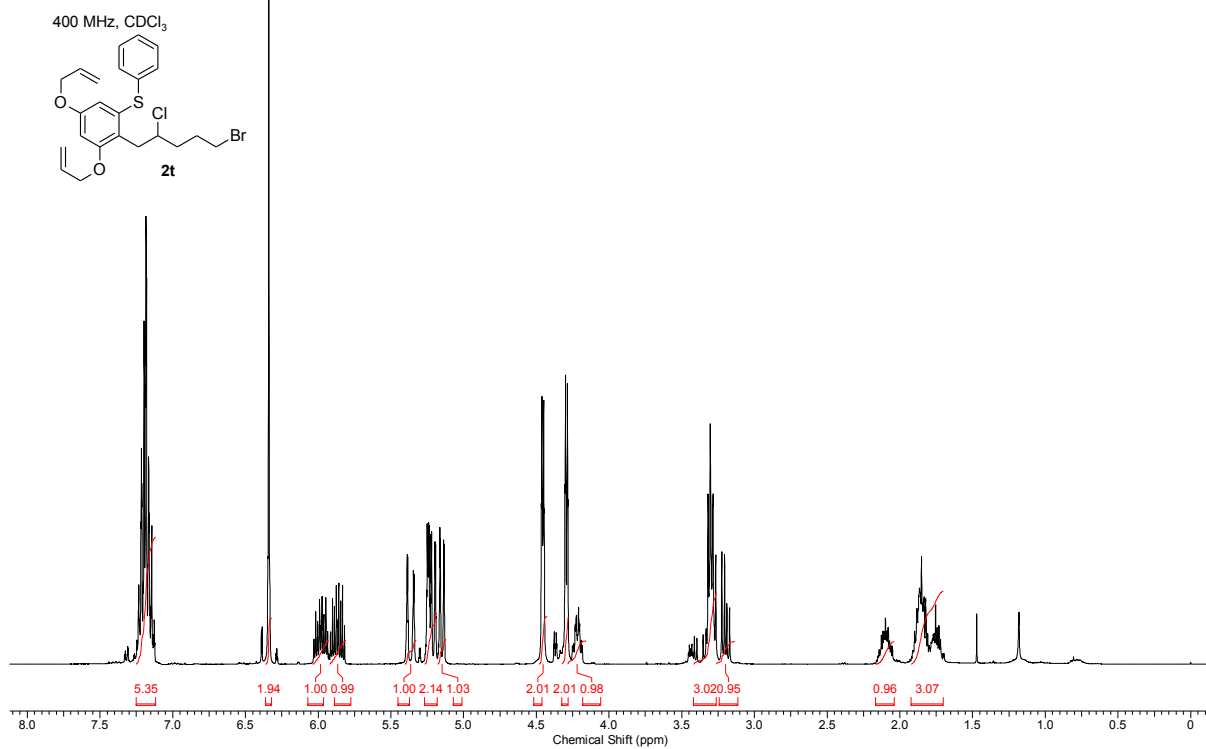


2013-10-27-djp-10.011.001.1r.esp

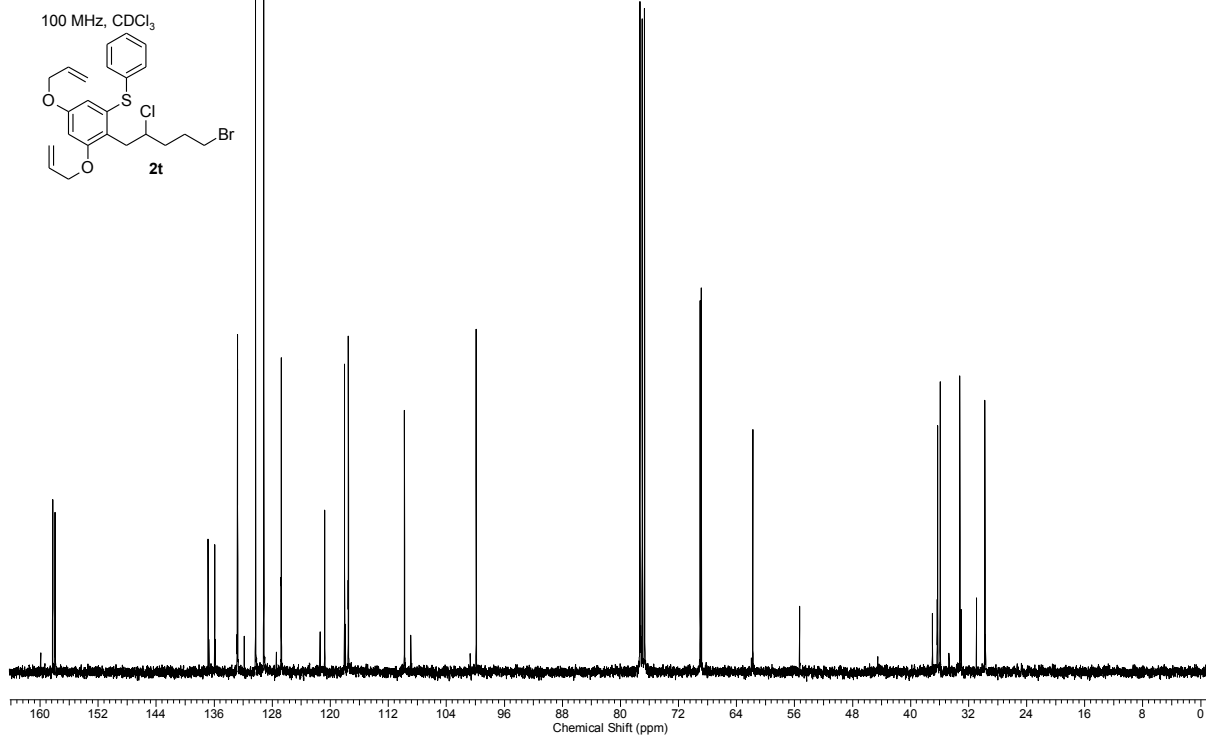




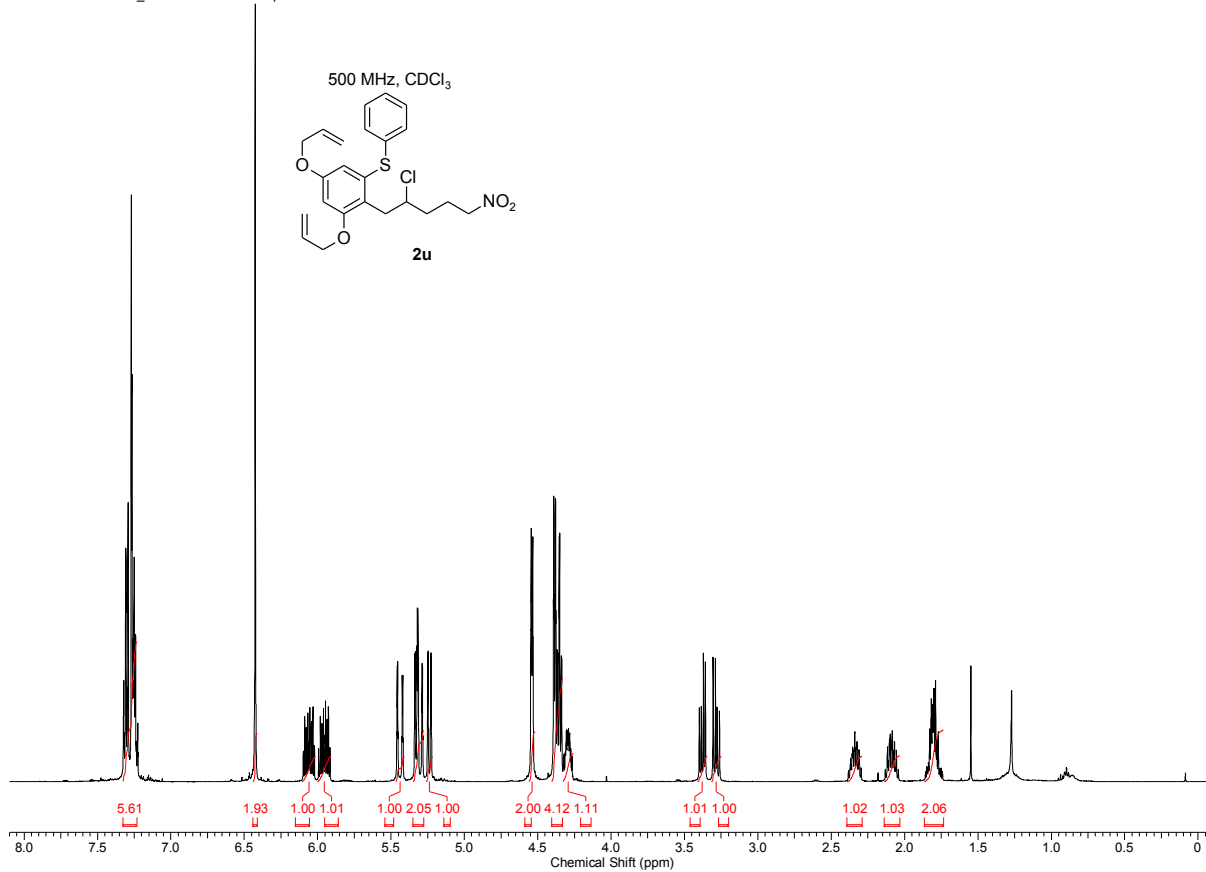
20151123-1937-B400\_B.12-2.010.001.1r.esp



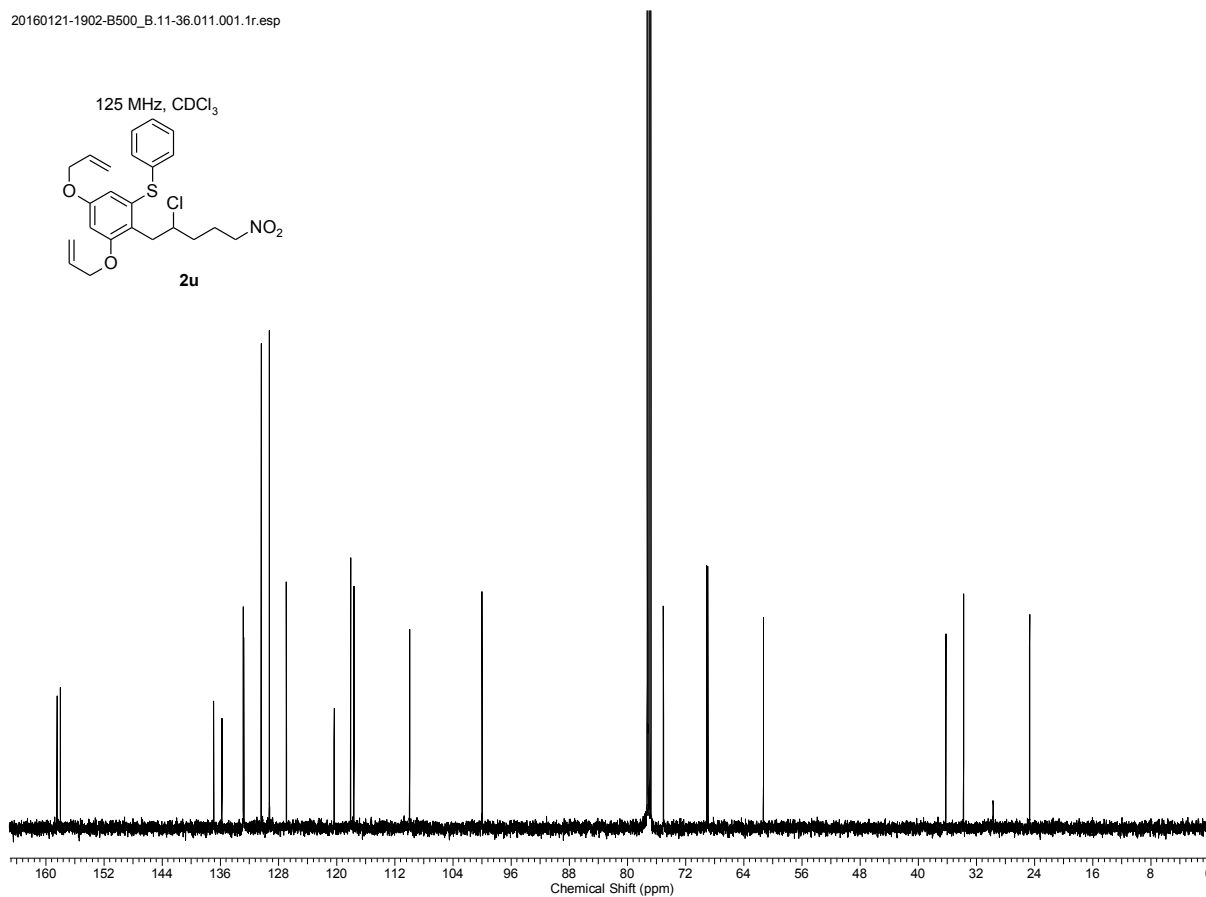
20151123-1937-B400\_B.12-2.011.001.1r.esp



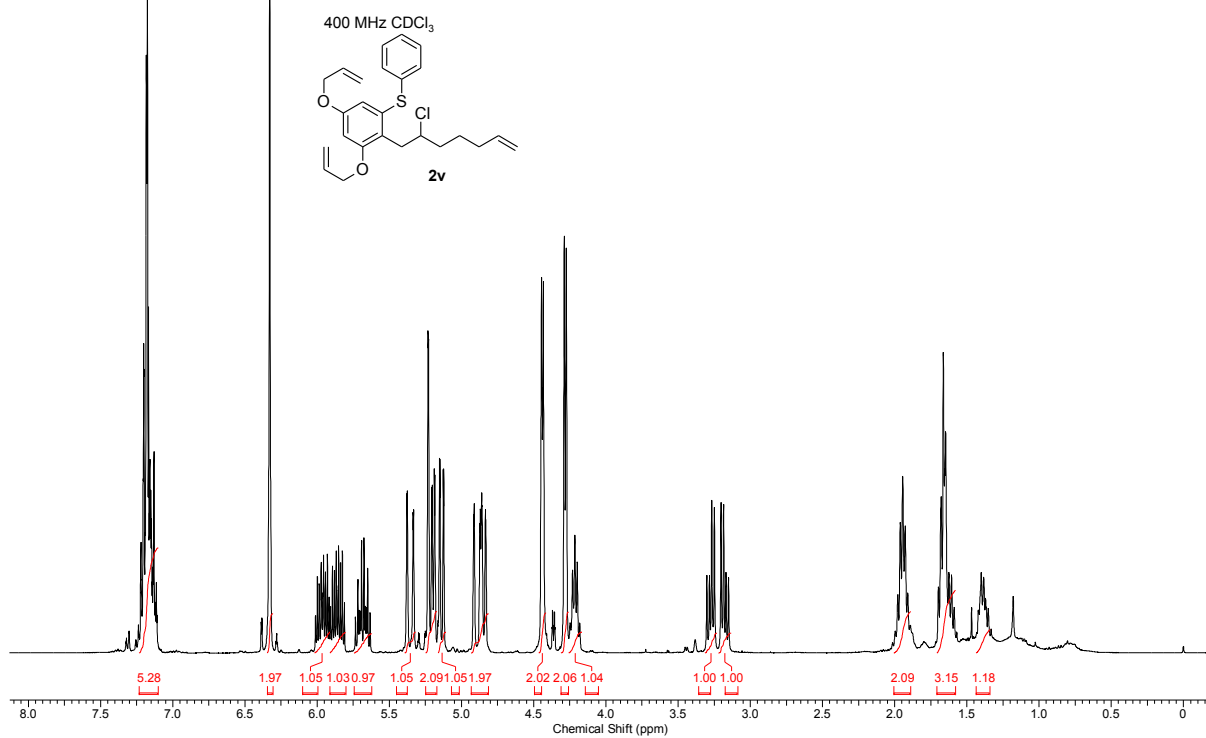
20160121-1902-B500\_B.11-36.010.001.1r.esp



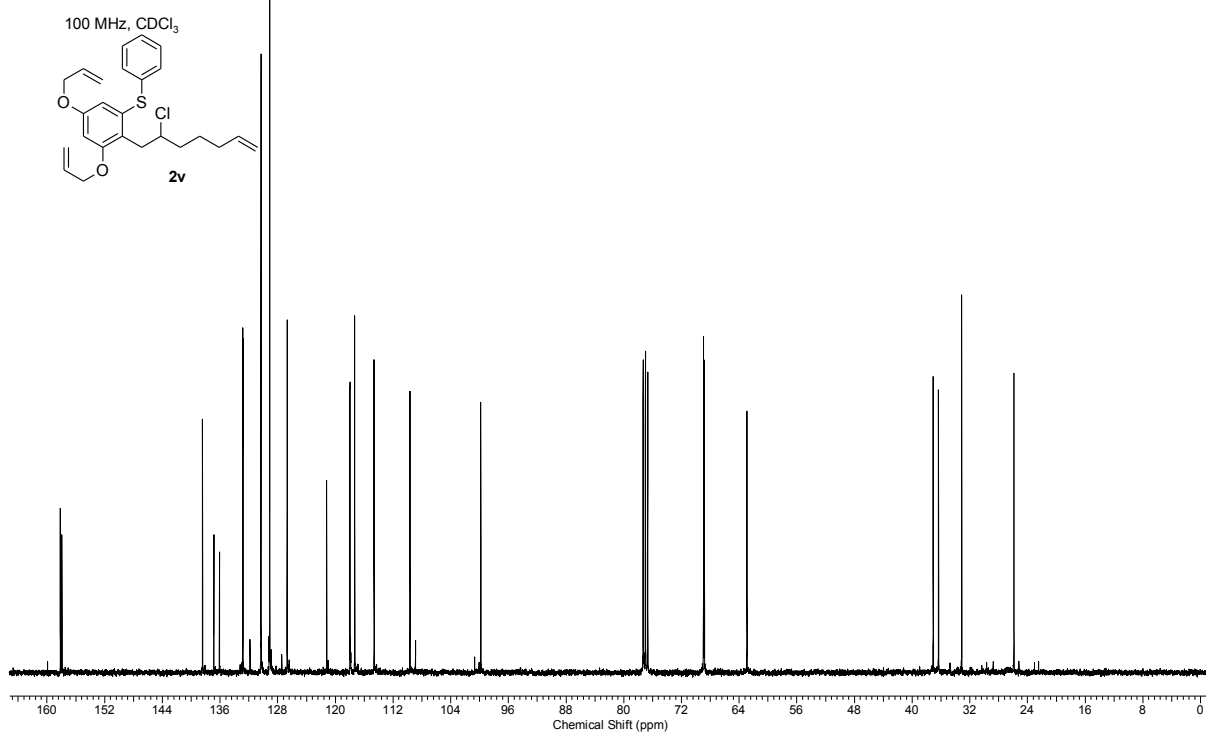
20160121-1902-B500\_B.11-36.011.001.1r.esp



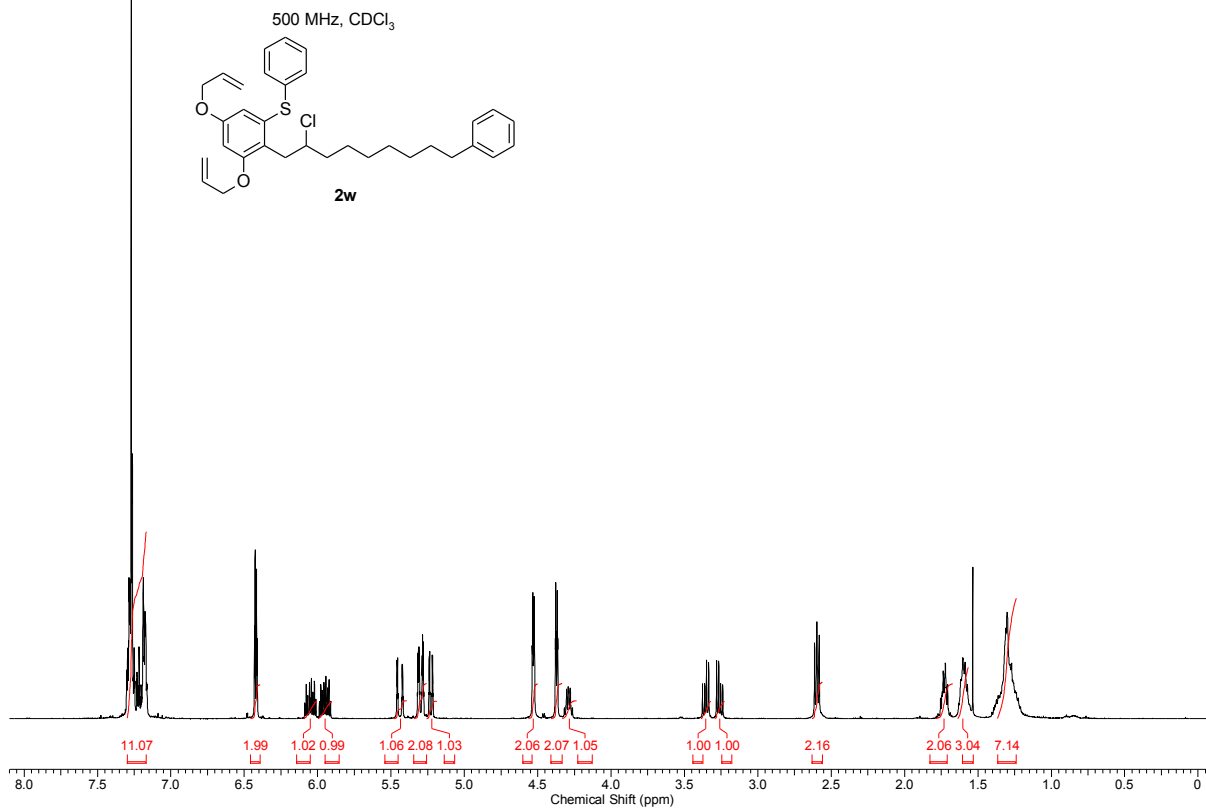
20151123-1937-B400\_B.12-3.010.001.1r.esp



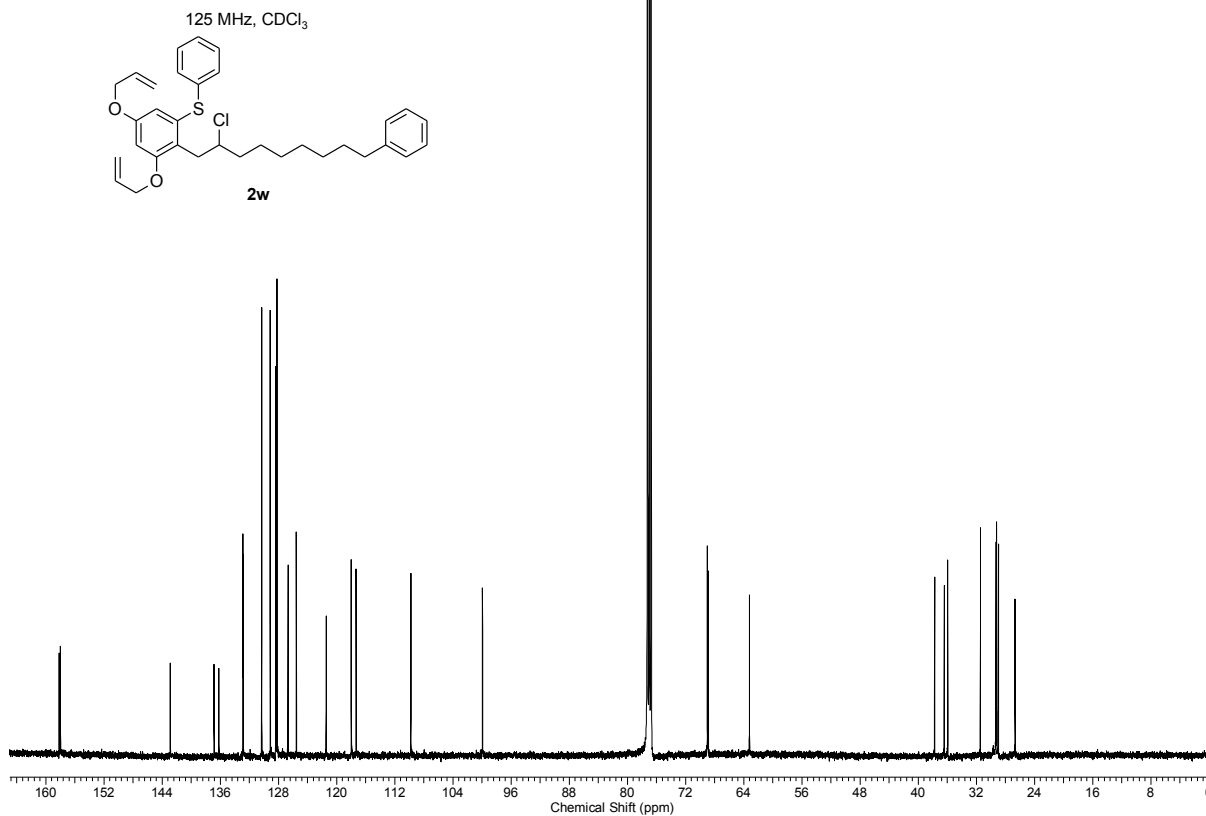
20151123-1937-B400\_B.12-3.011.001.1r.esp

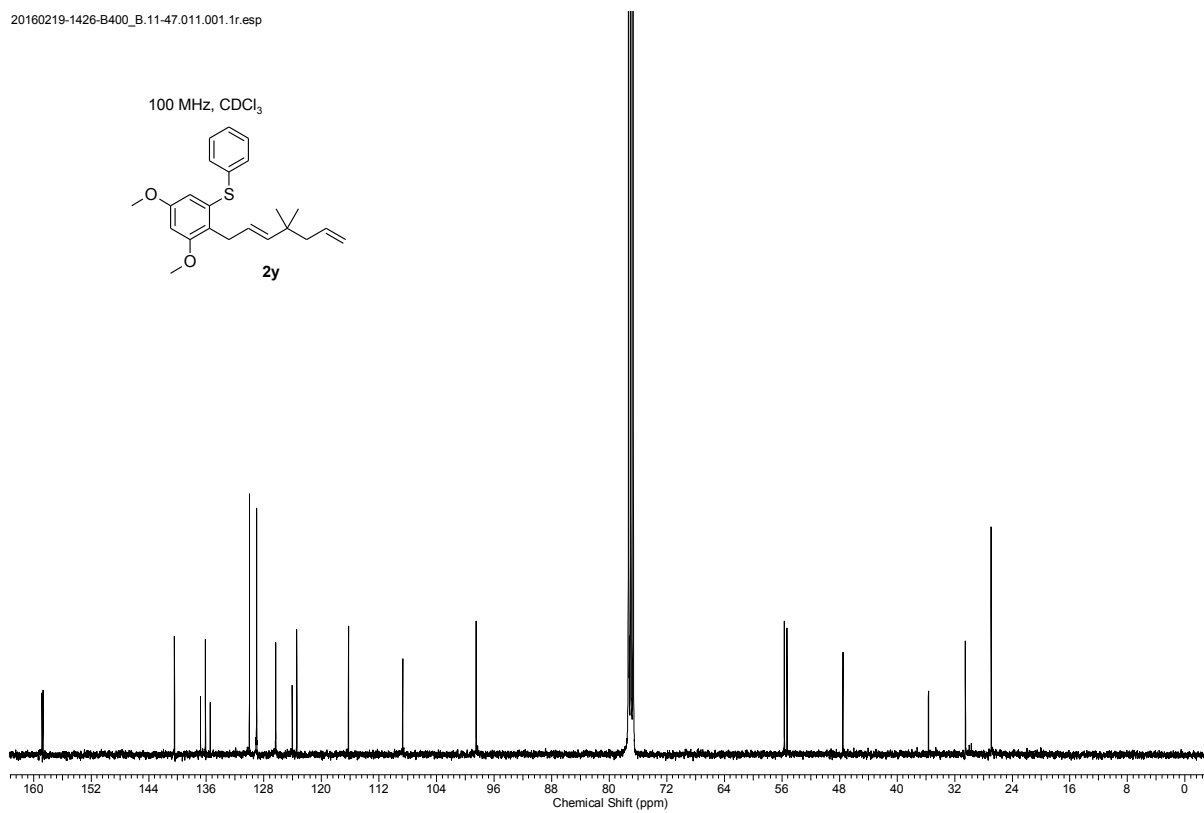
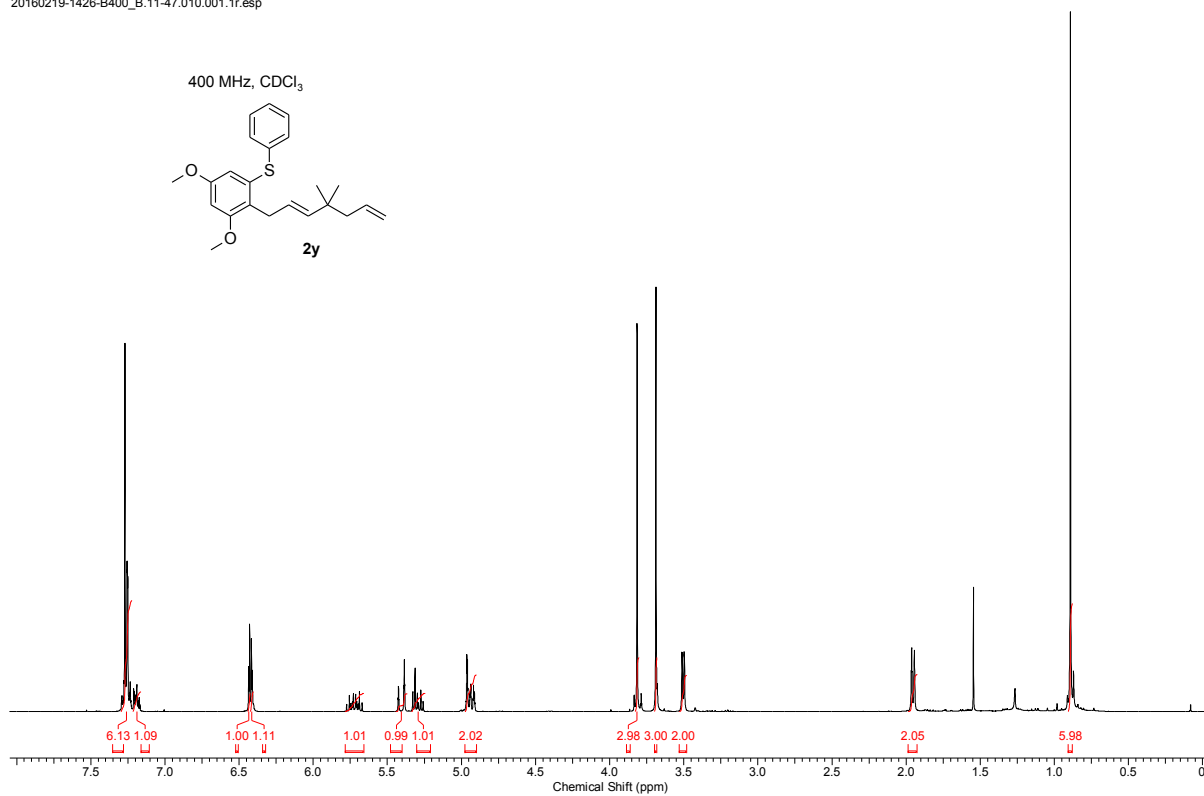


20160121-1902-B500\_B.11-35.010.001.1r.esp

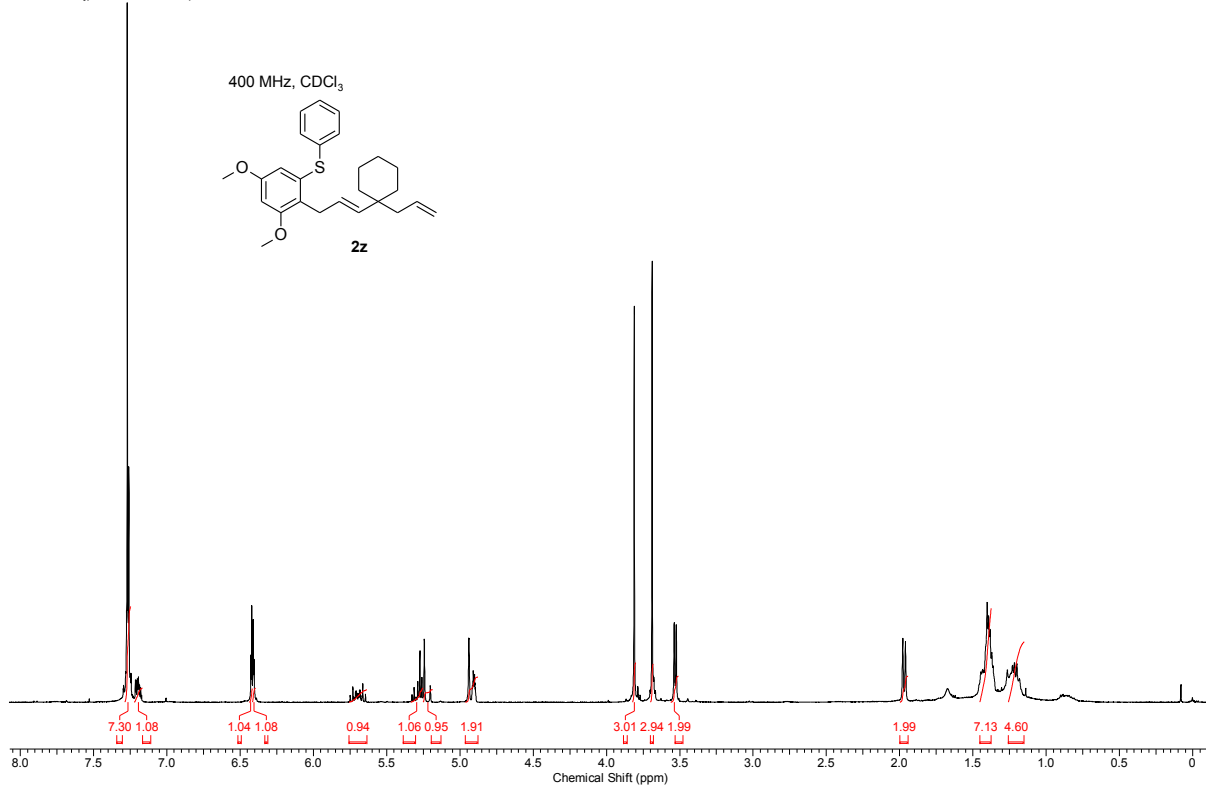


20160122-0936-B500\_B.14-6.010.001.1r.esp

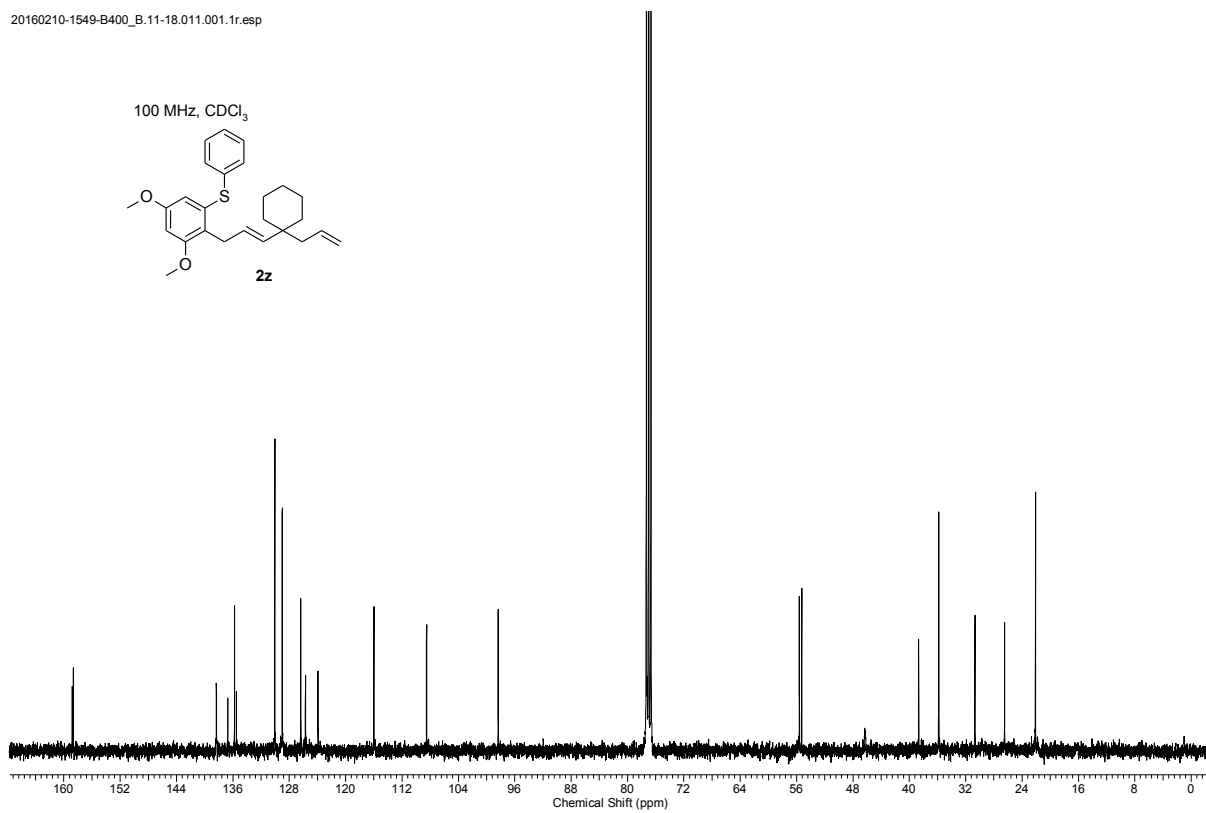




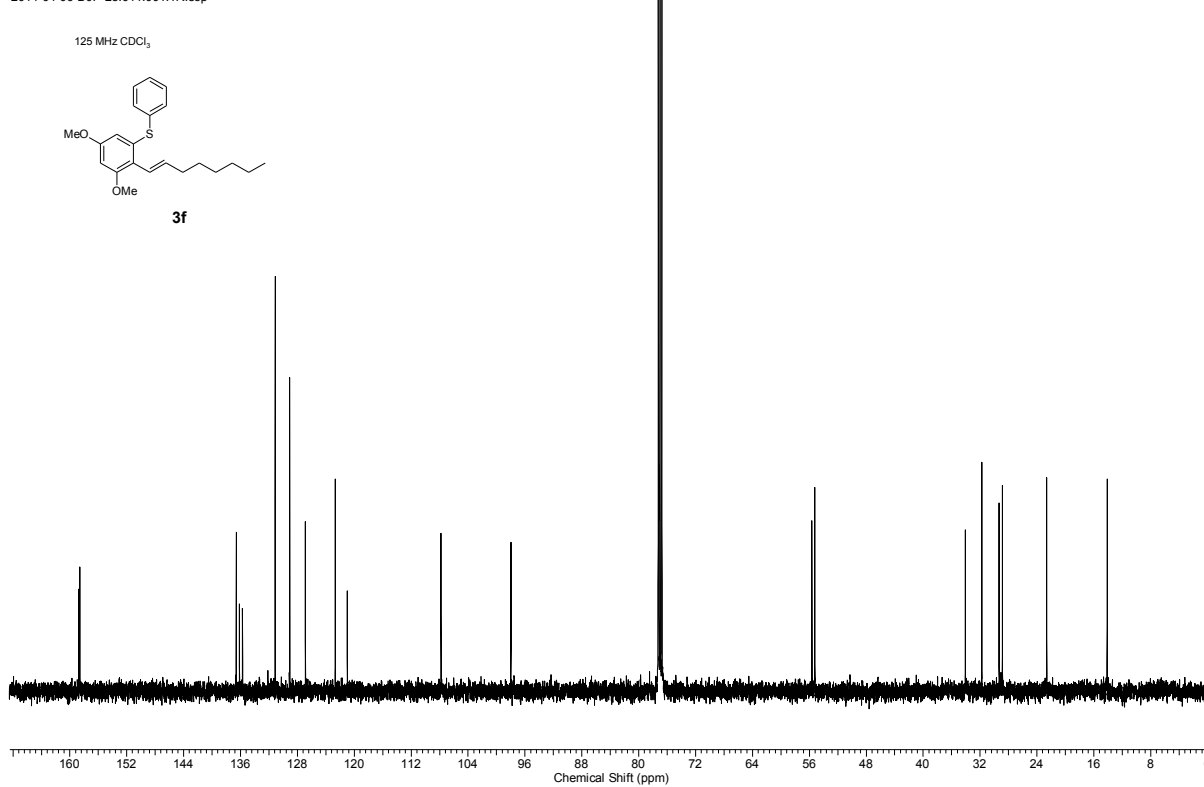
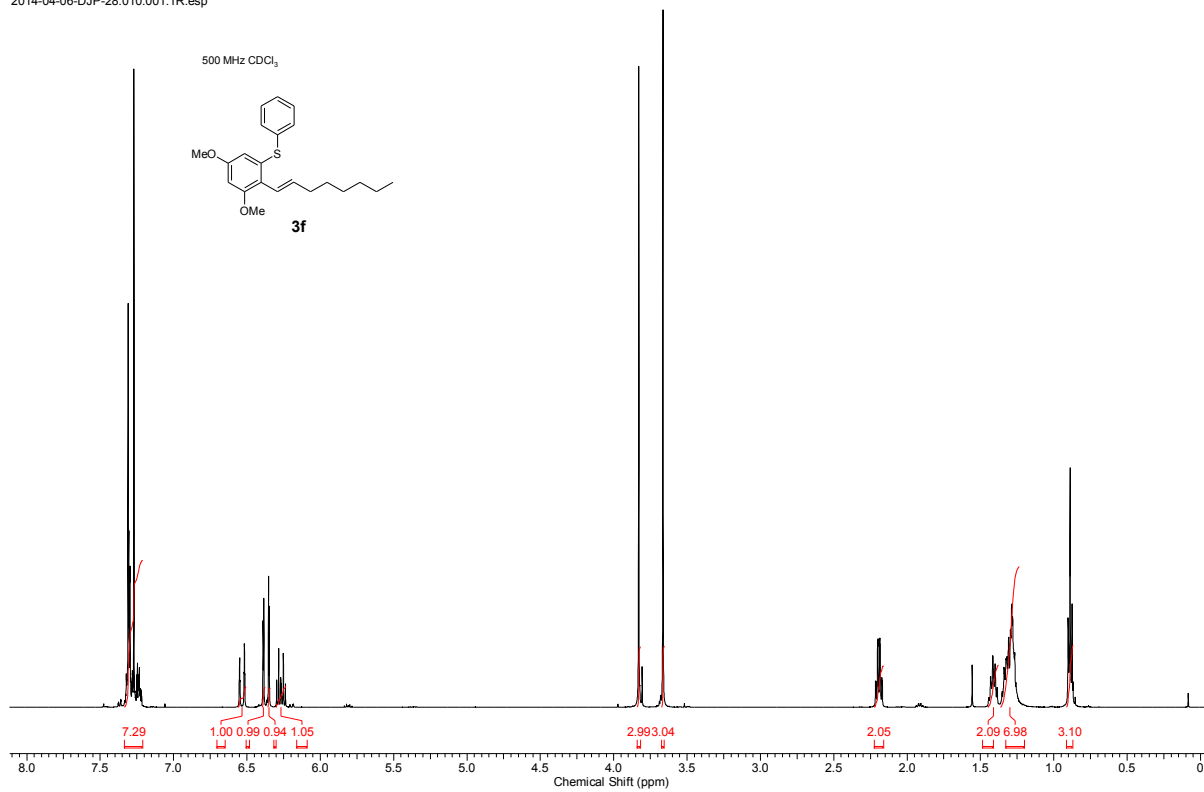
2014-05-01-djp-54.010.001.1r.esp



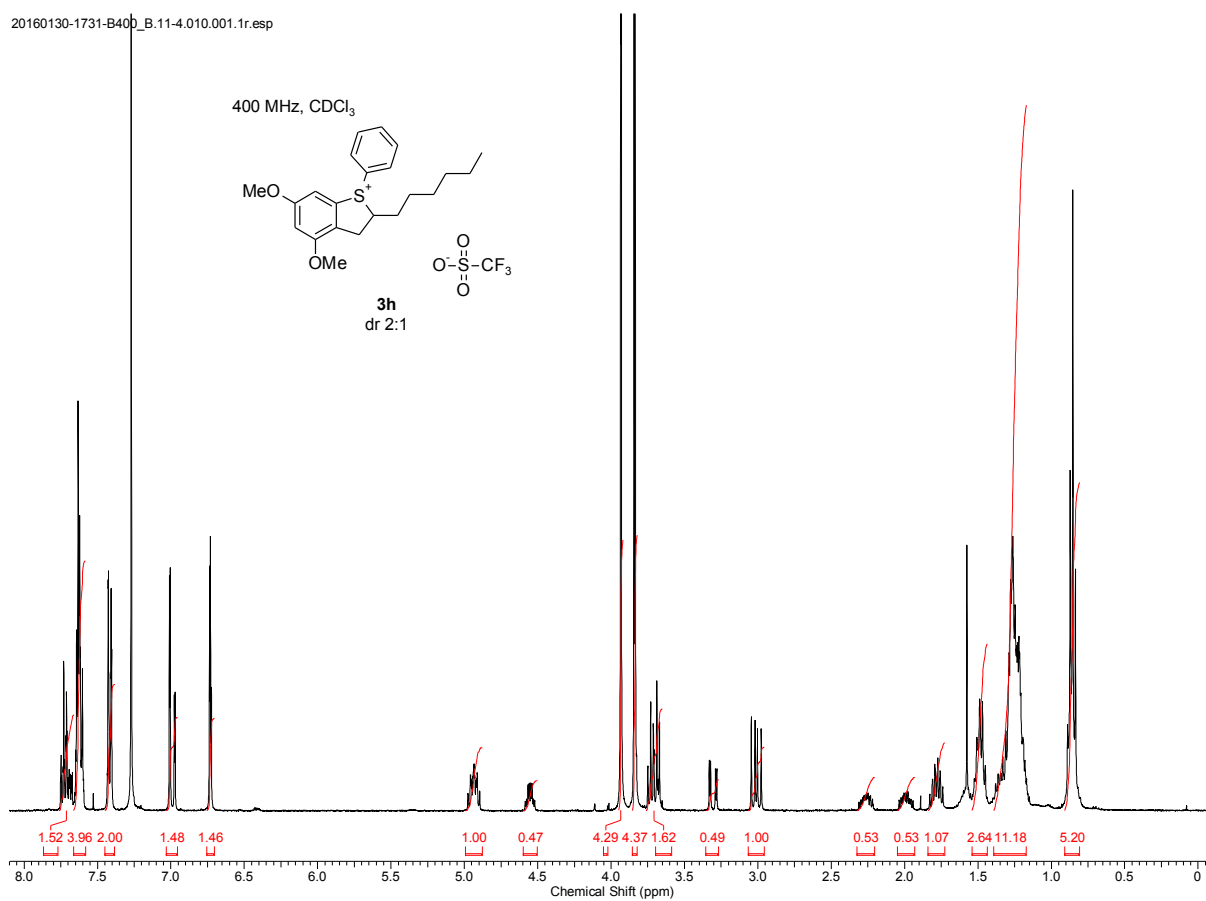
20160210-1549-B400\_B.11-18.011.001.1r.esp



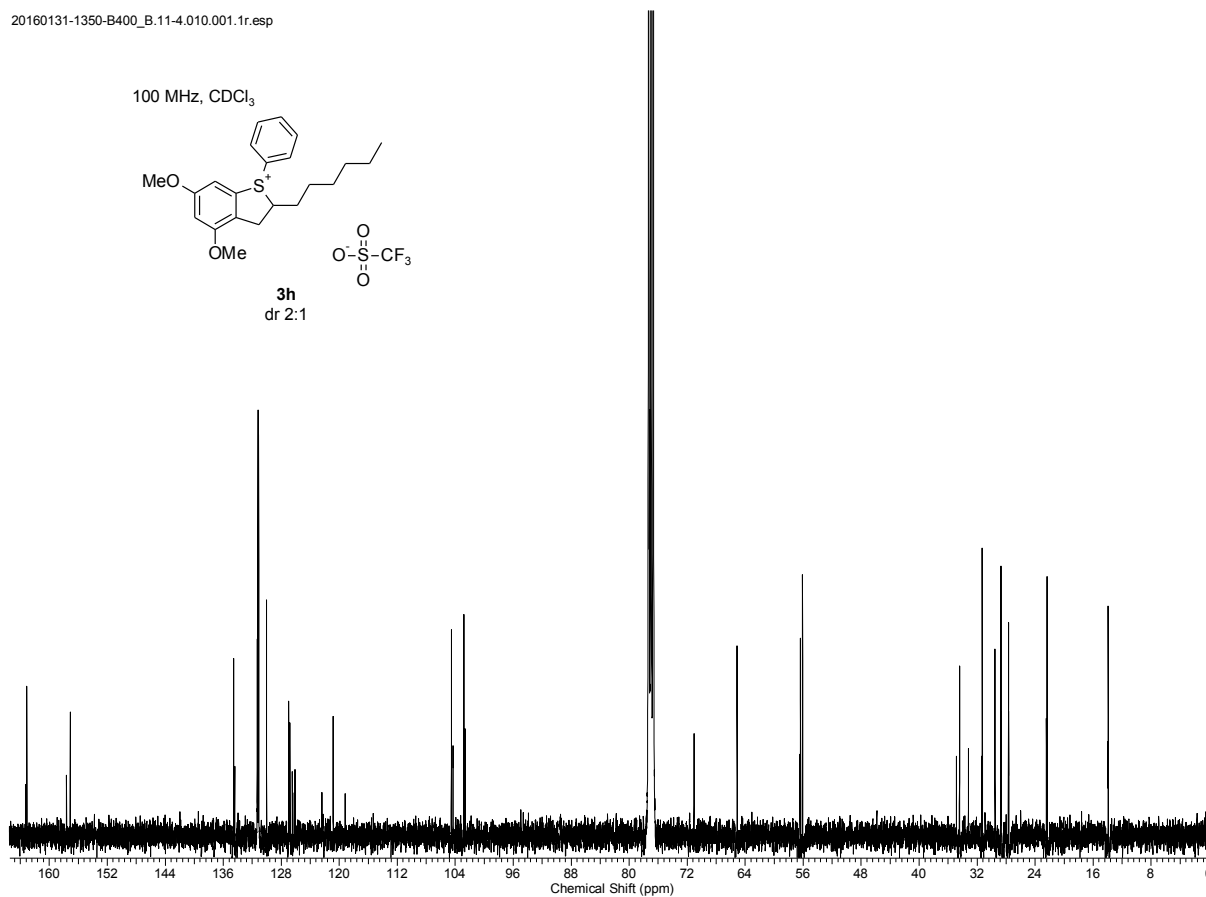




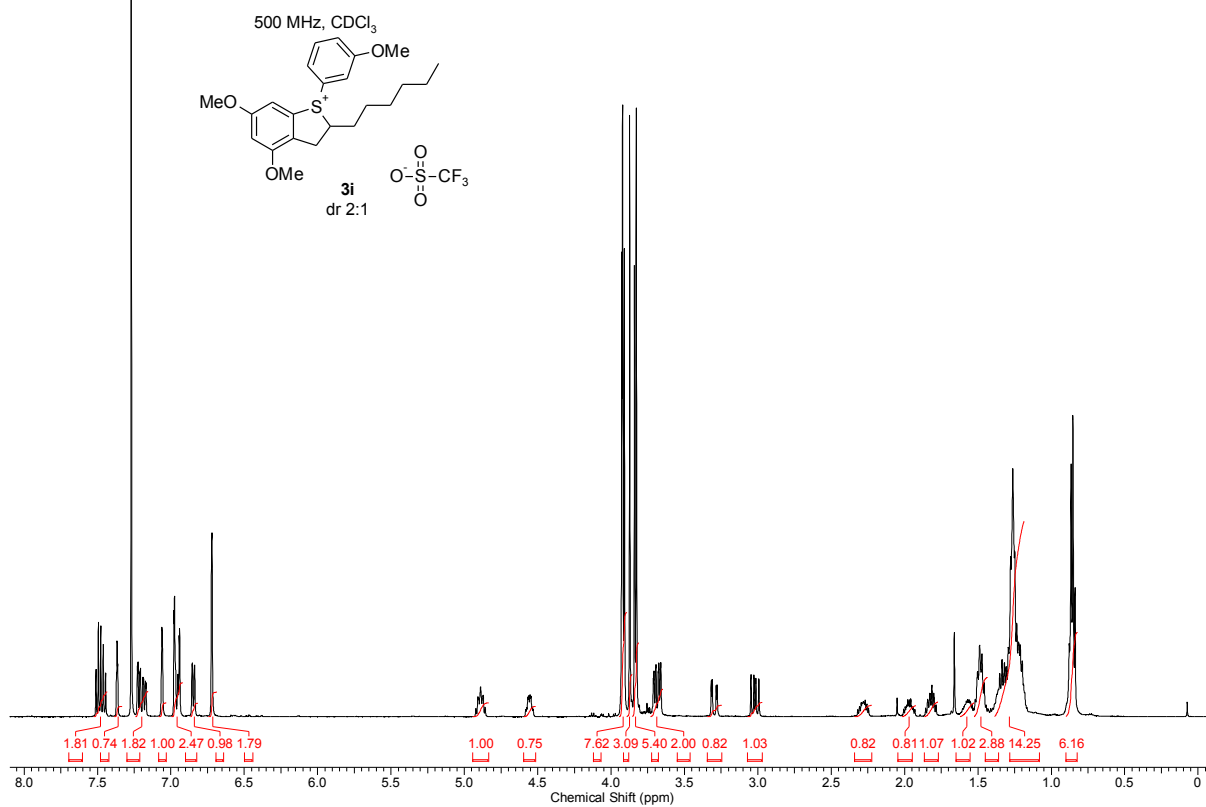
20160130-1731-B400\_B.11-4.010.001.1r.esp



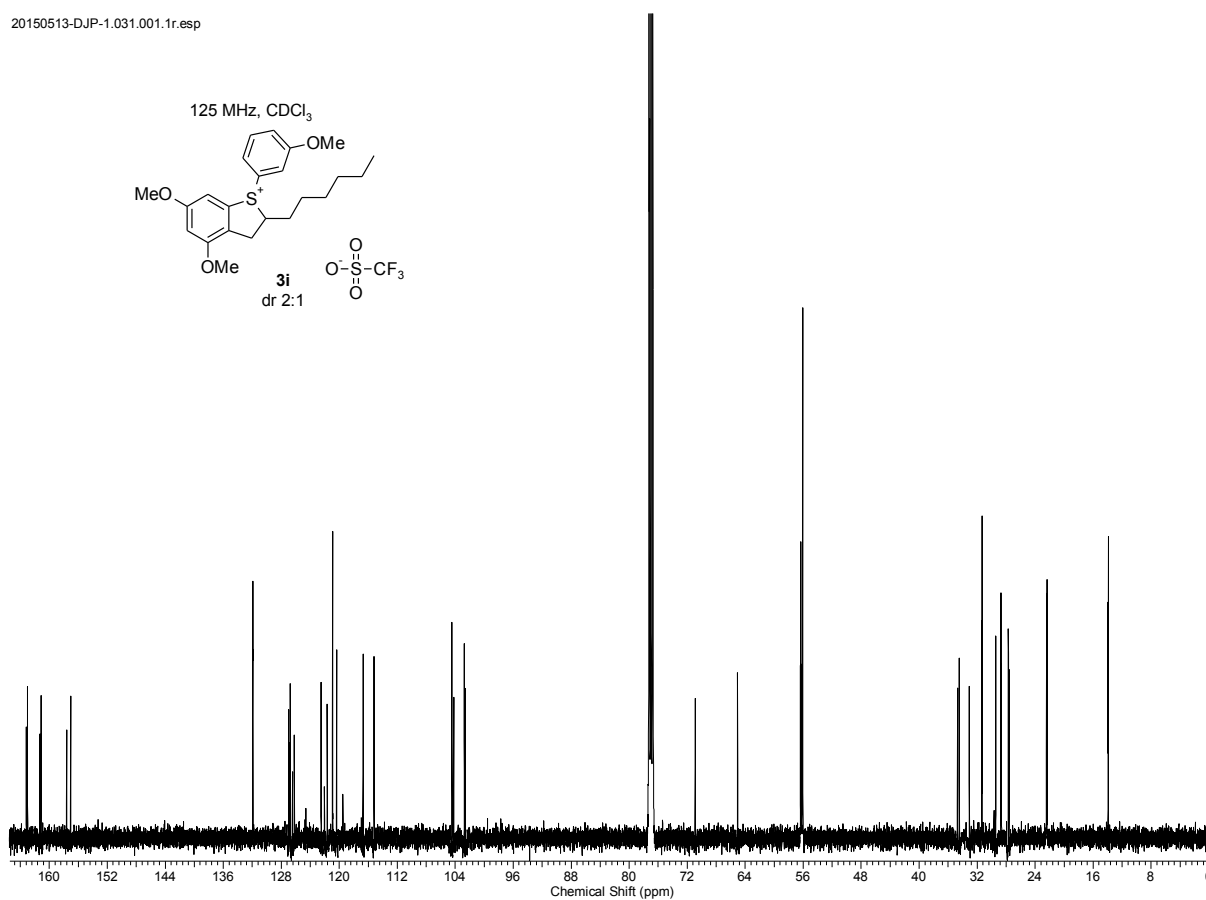
20160131-1350-B400\_B.11-4.010.001.1r.esp



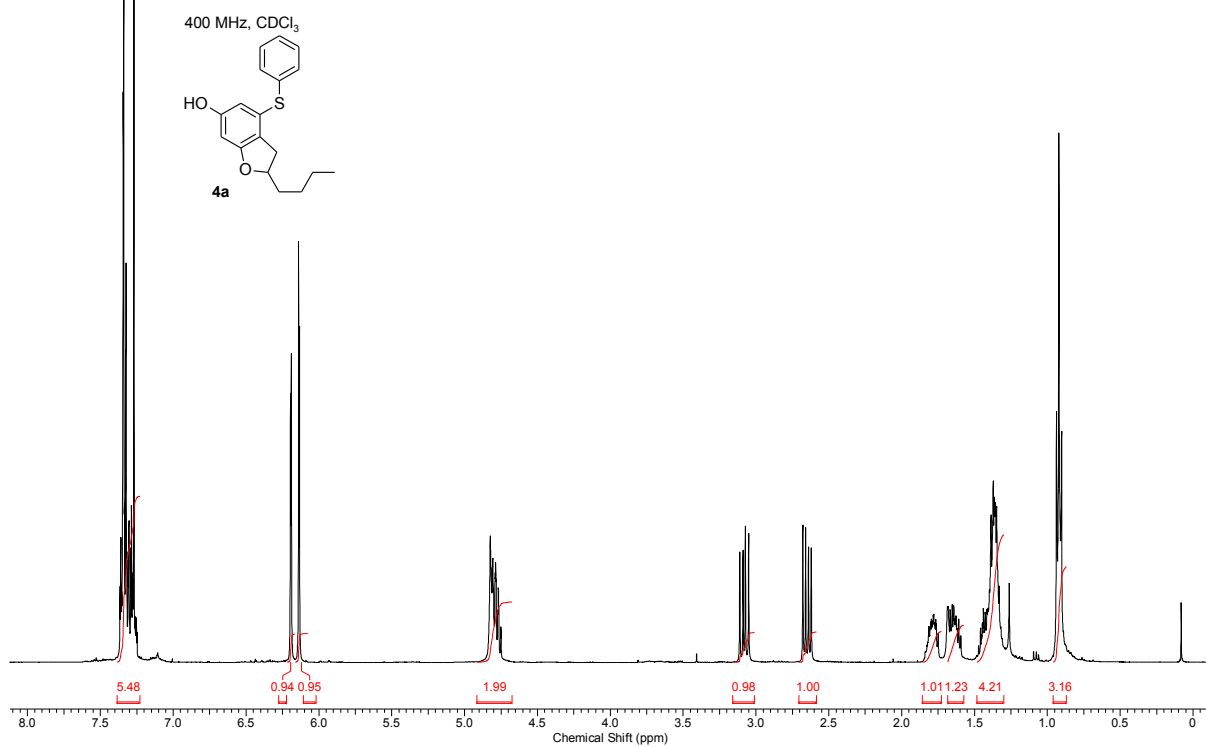
20150513-DJP-1.030.001.1r.esp



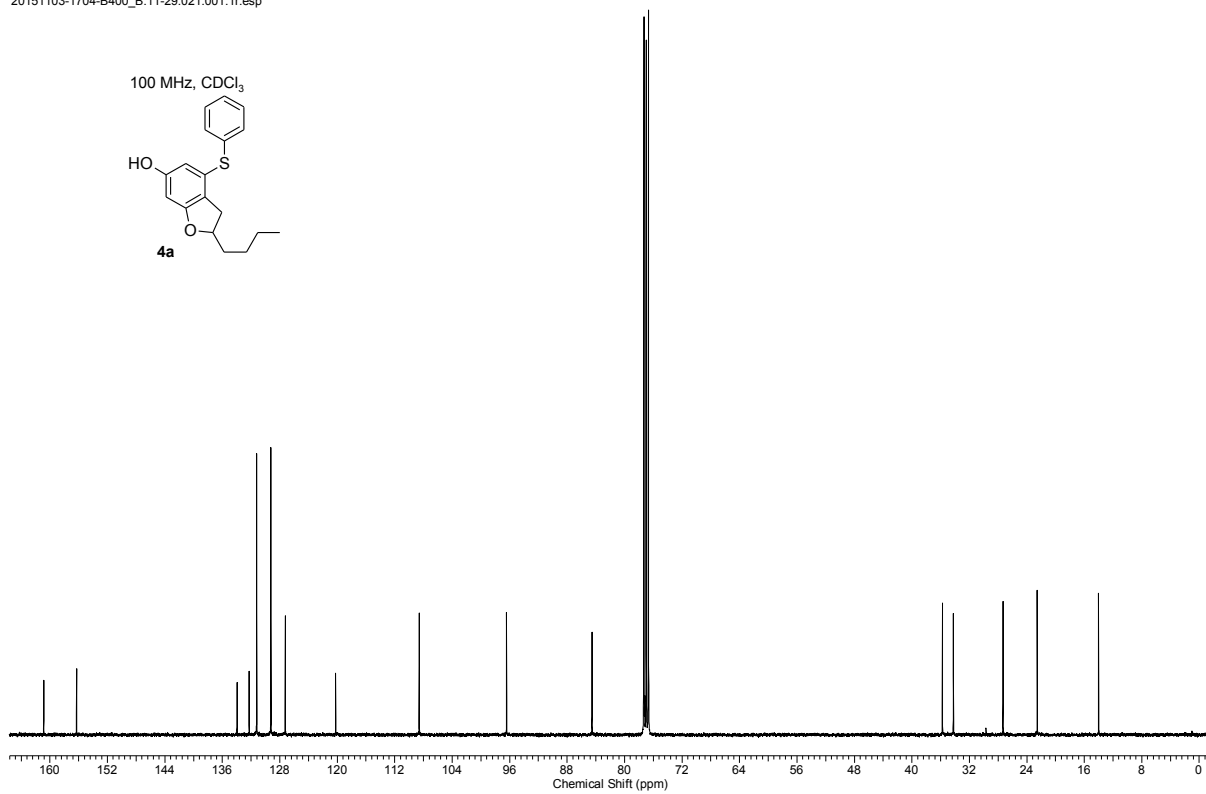
20150513-DJP-1.031.001.1r.esp



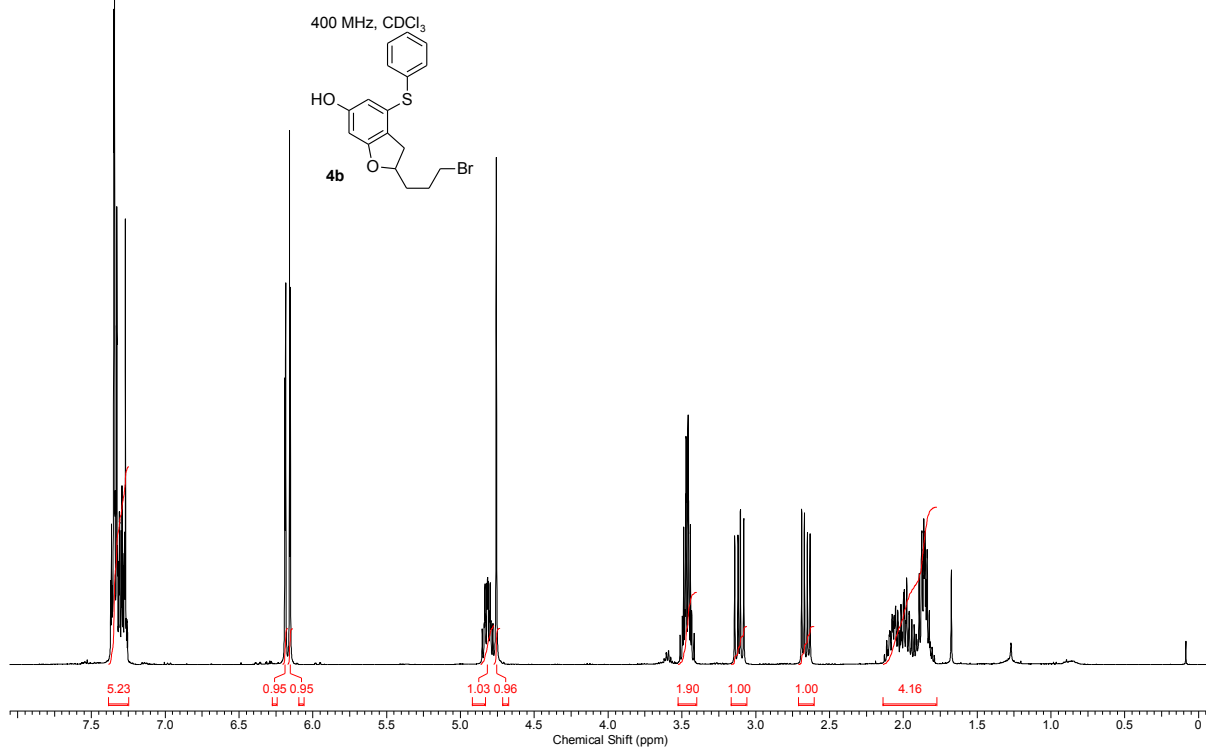
20151103-1704-B400\_B.11-29.020.001.1r.esp



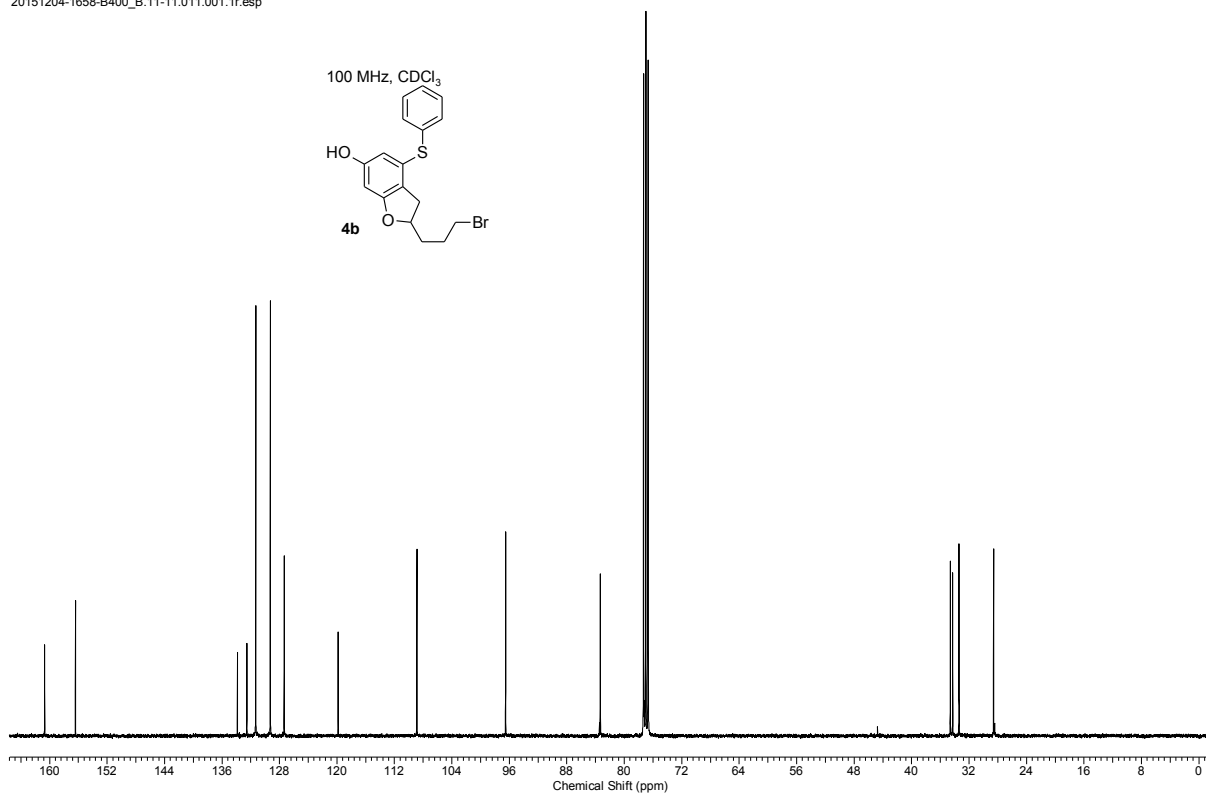
20151103-1704-B400\_B.11-29.021.001.1r.esp



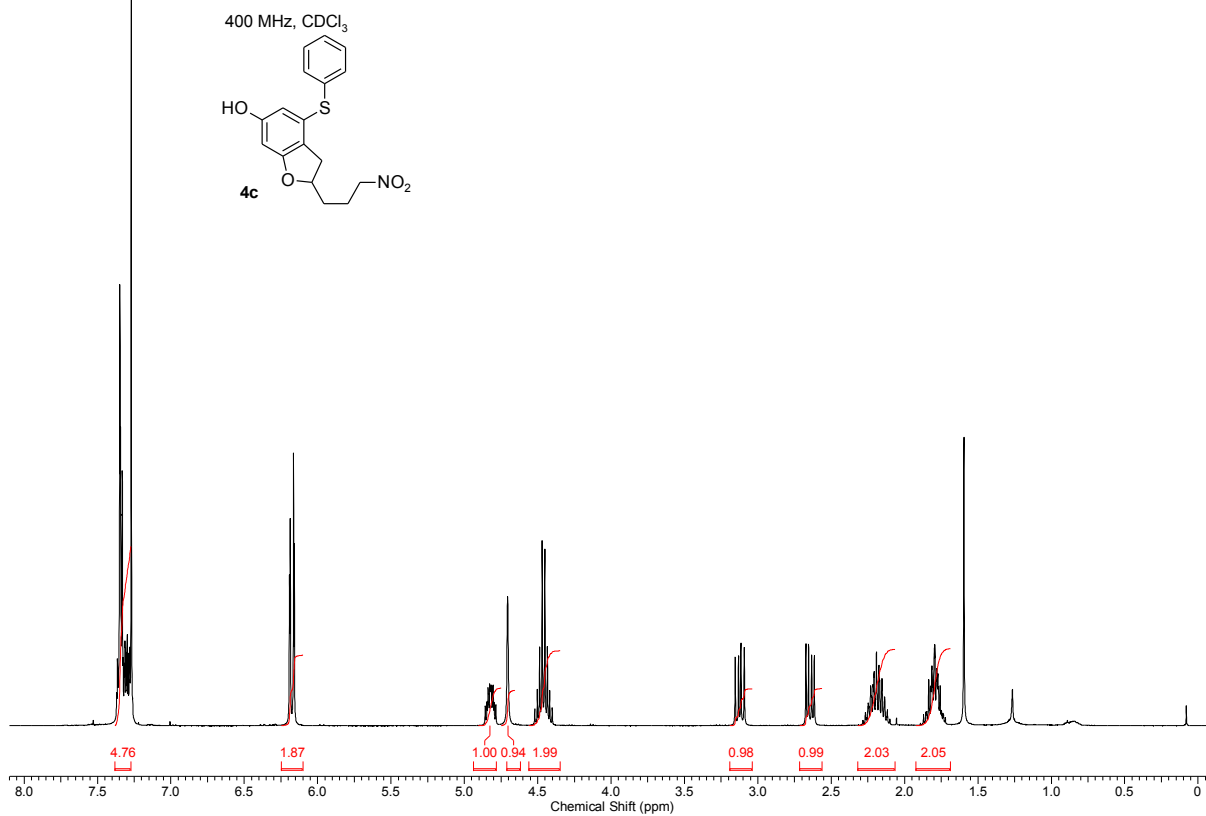
20151204-1658-B400\_B.11-11.010.001.1r.esp



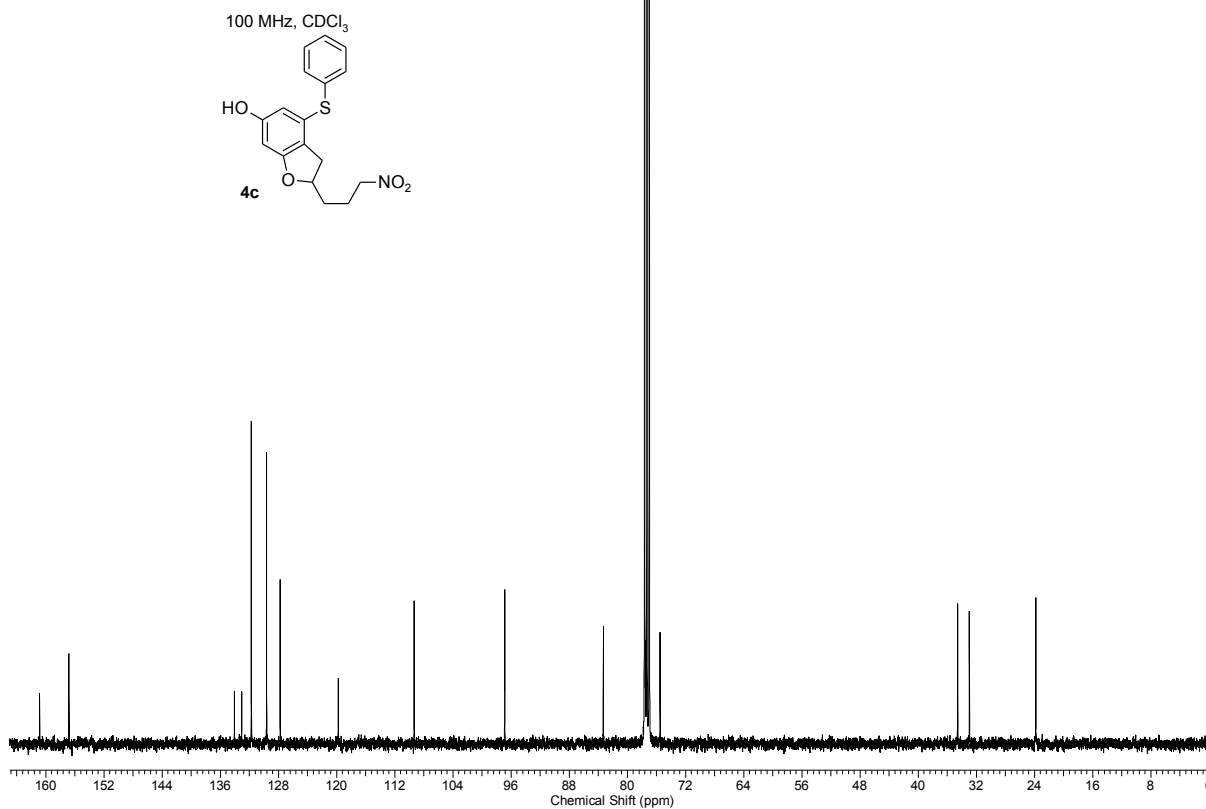
20151204-1658-B400\_B.11-11.011.001.1r.esp

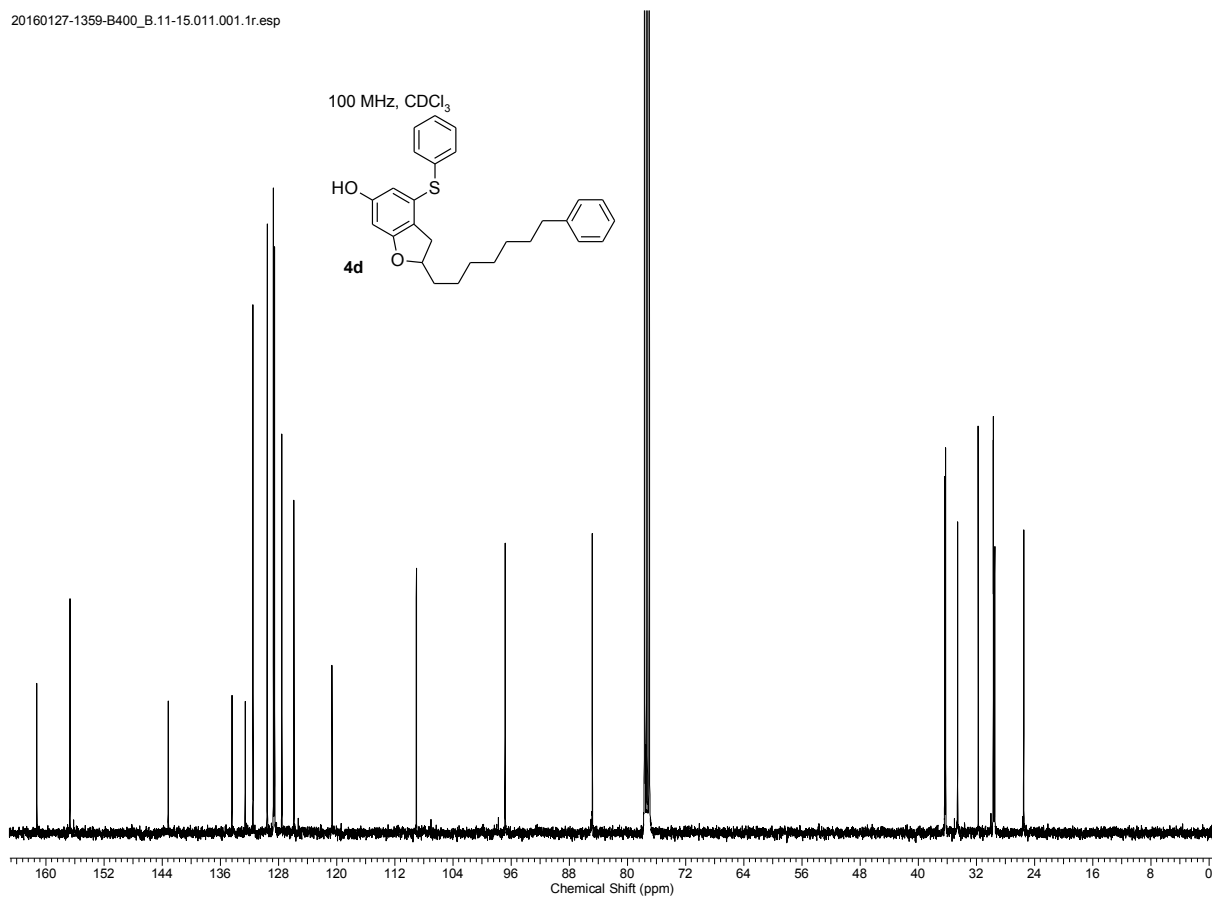
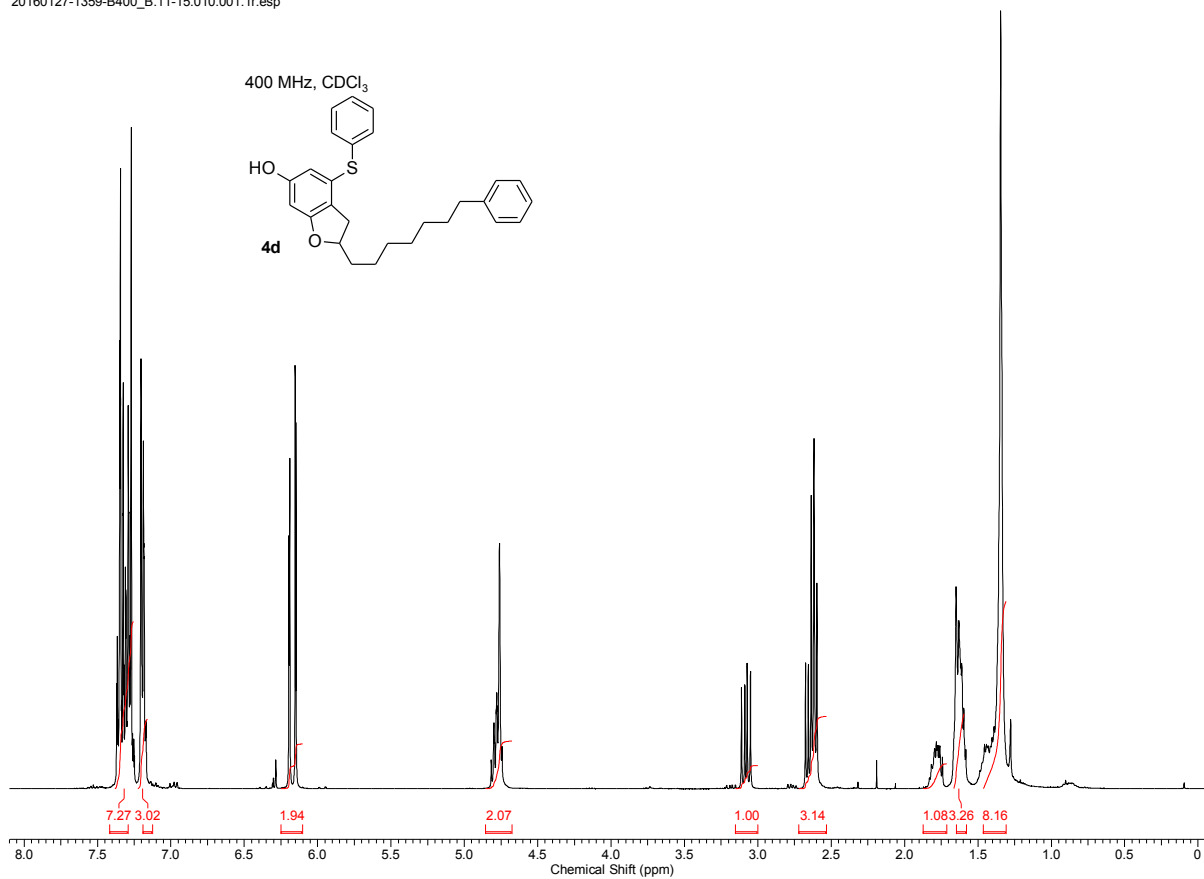


20160127-1359-B400\_B.11-14.010.001.1r.esp

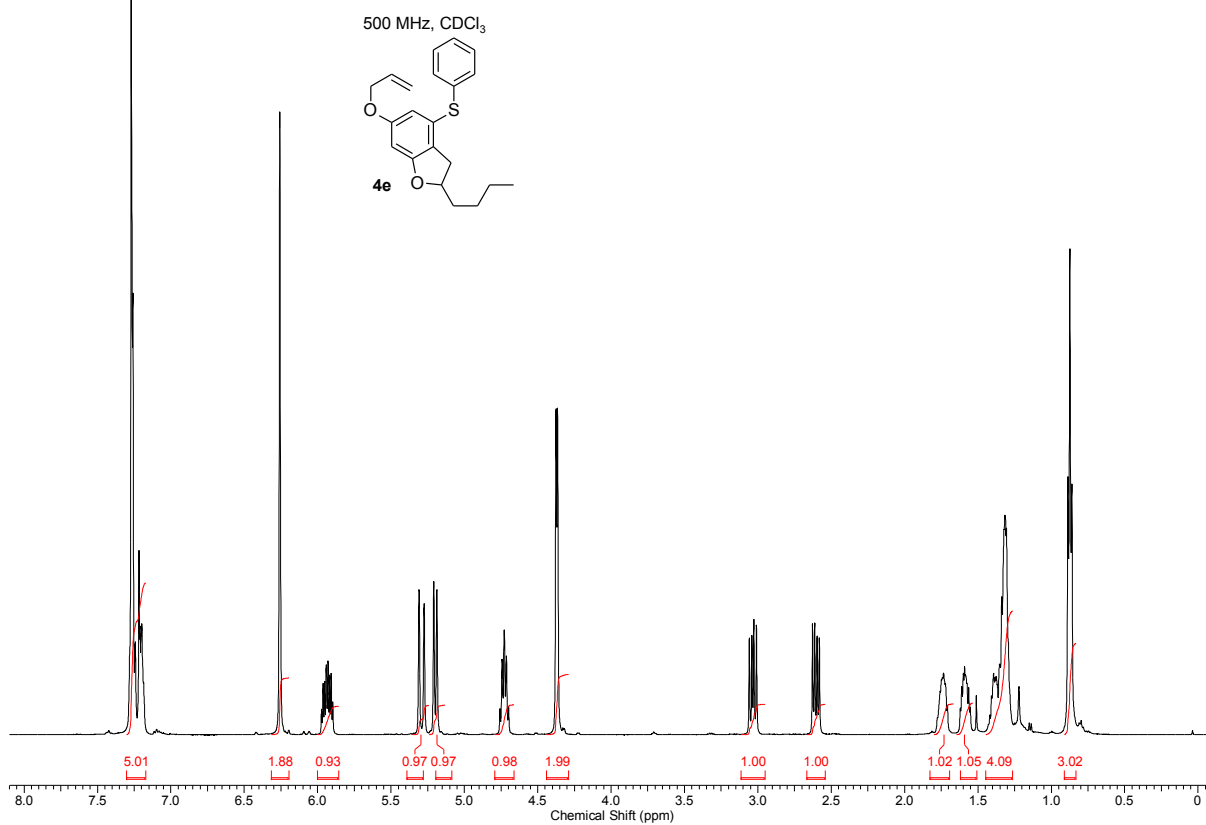


20160127-1359-B400\_B.11-14.011.001.1r.esp

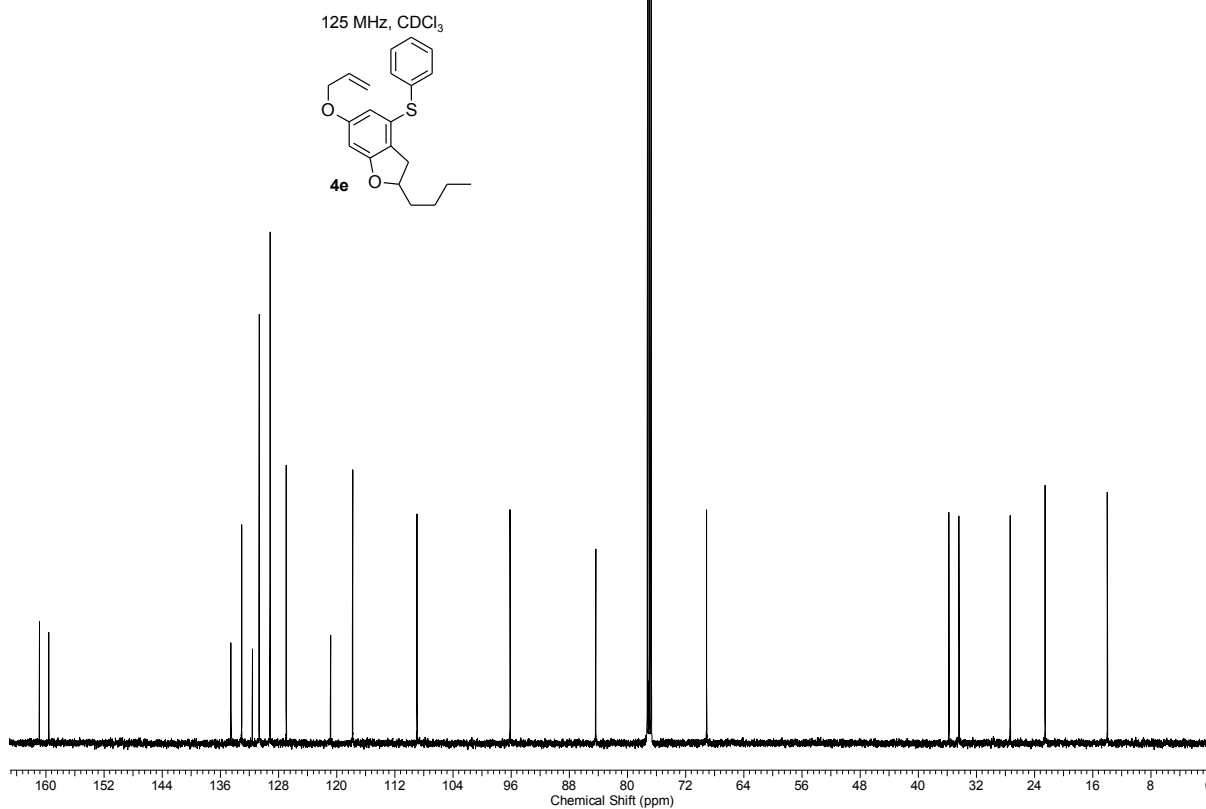




20160128-1732-B500\_B.14-27.010.001.1r.esp

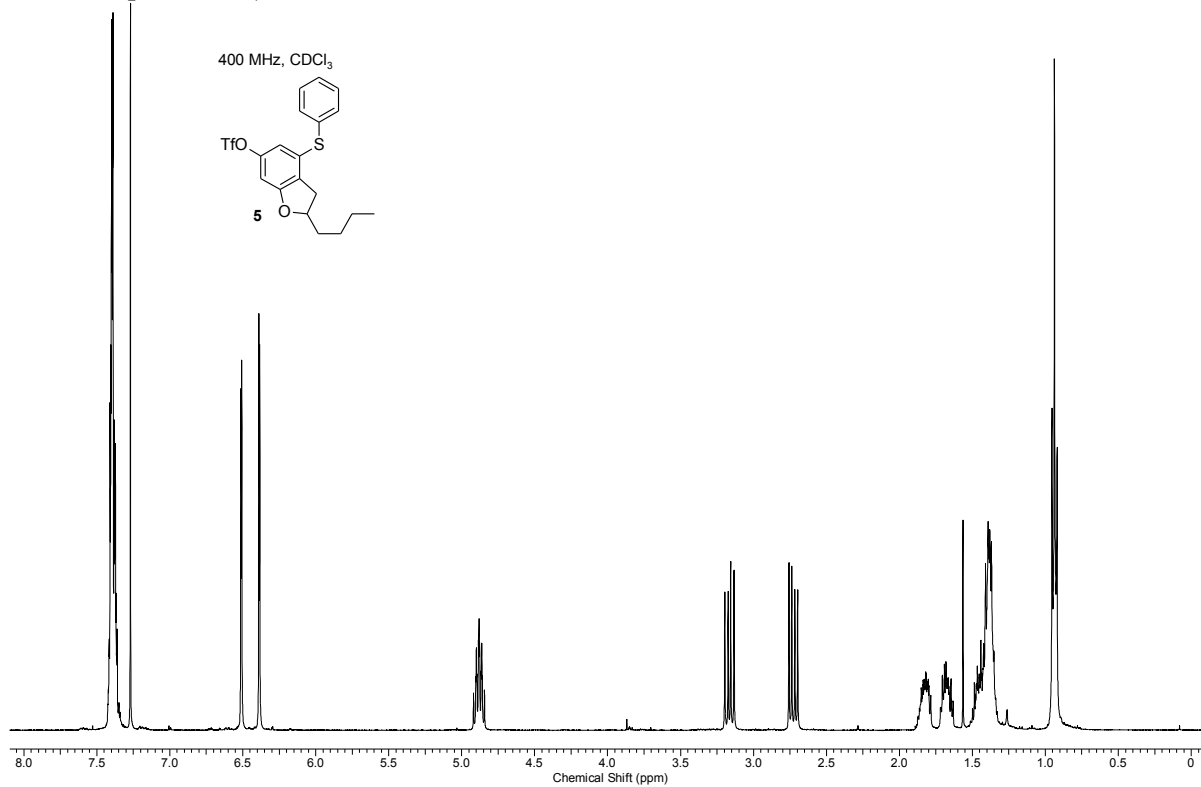


20160128-1732-B500\_B.14-27.011.001.1r.esp

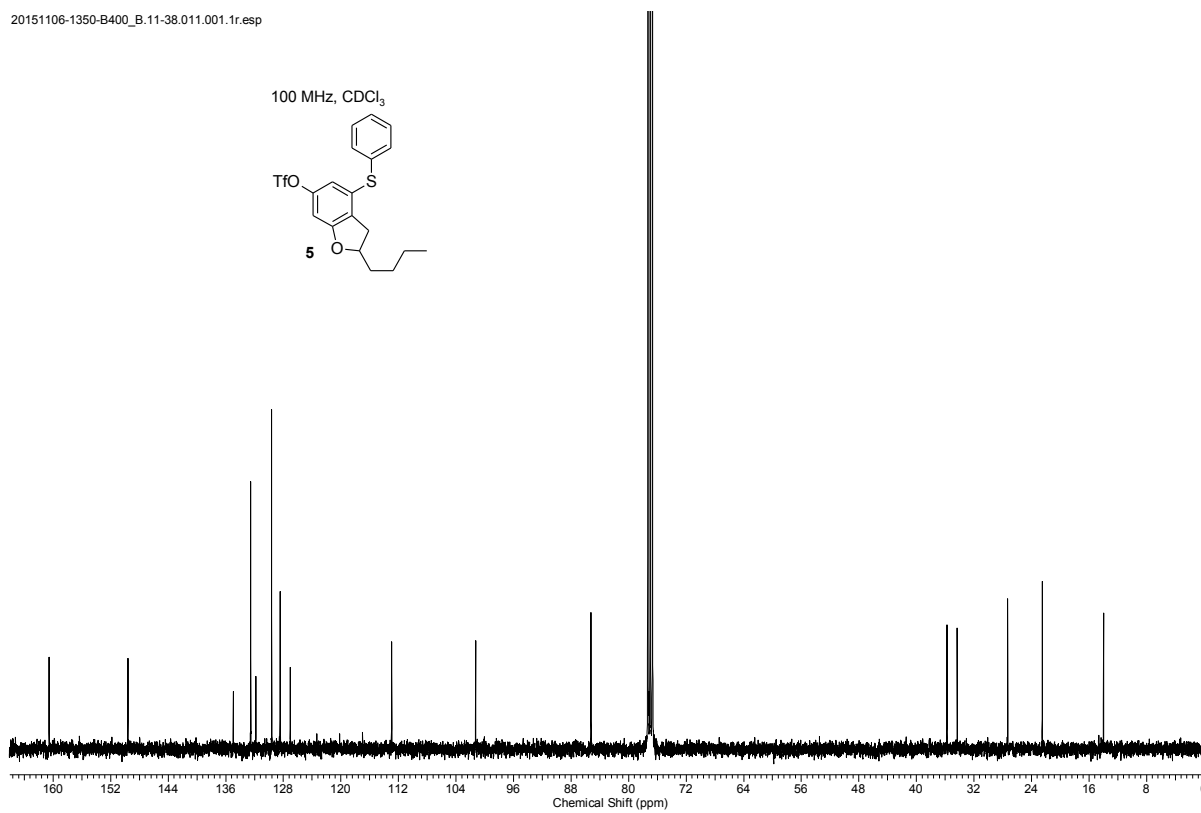


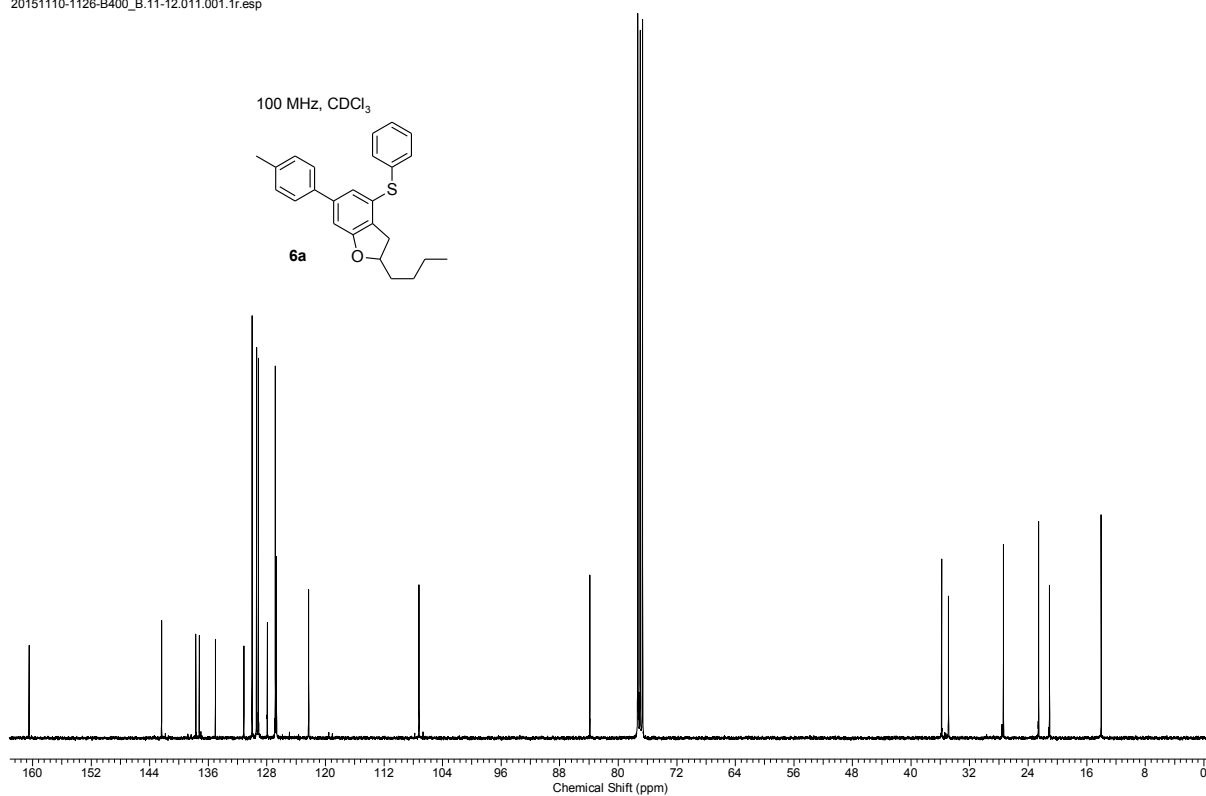
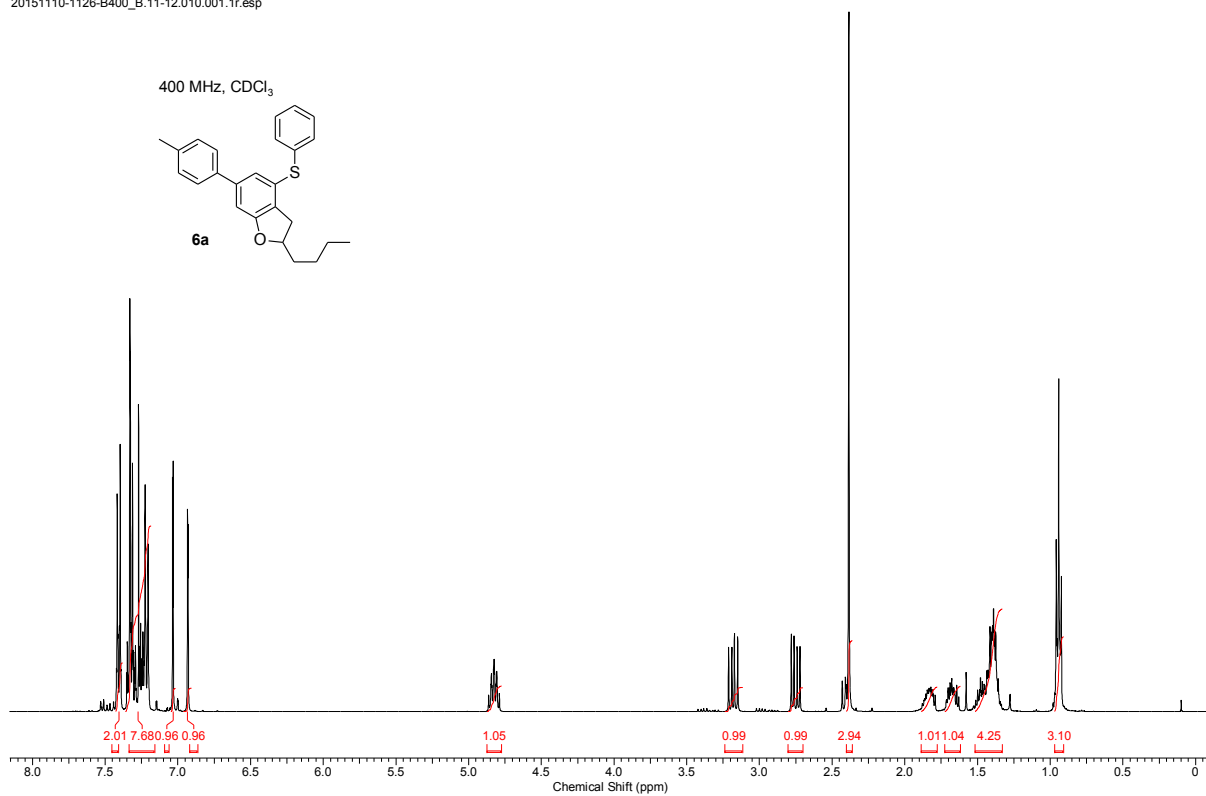


20151106-1350-B400\_B.11-38.010.001.1r.esp

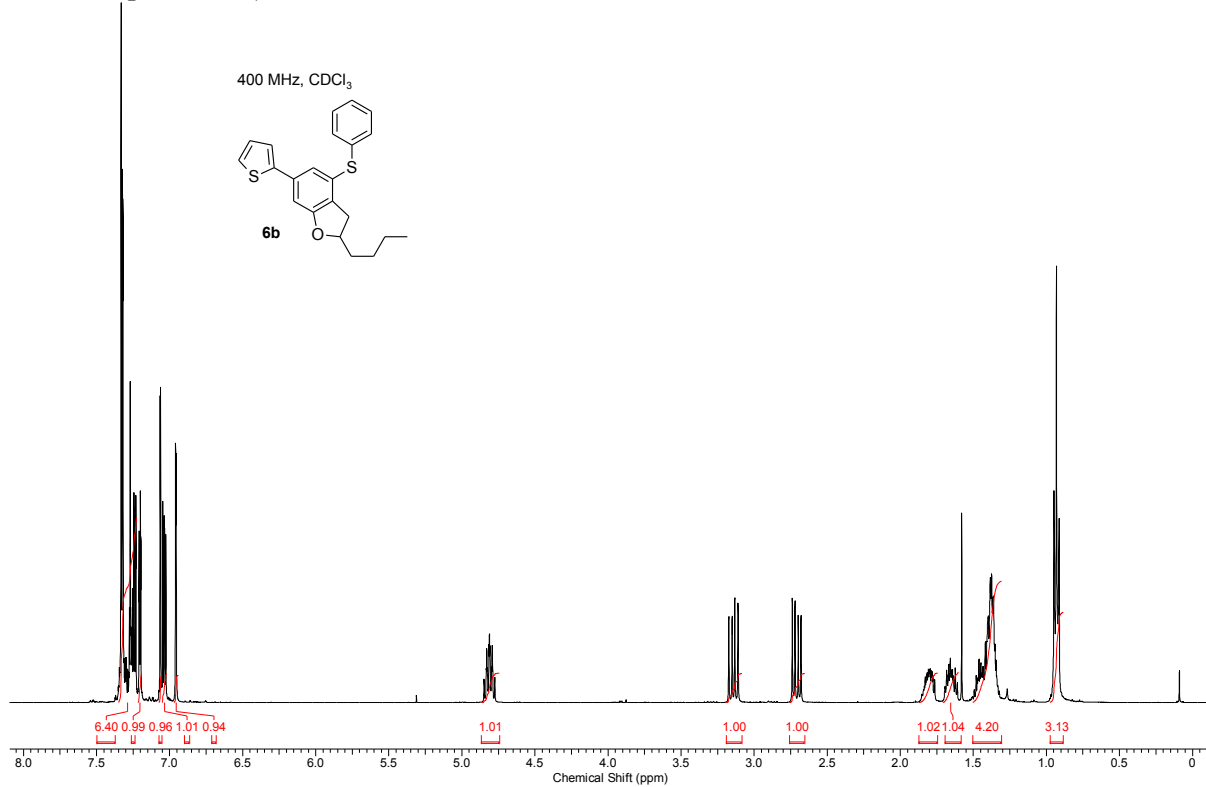


20151106-1350-B400\_B.11-38.011.001.1r.esp

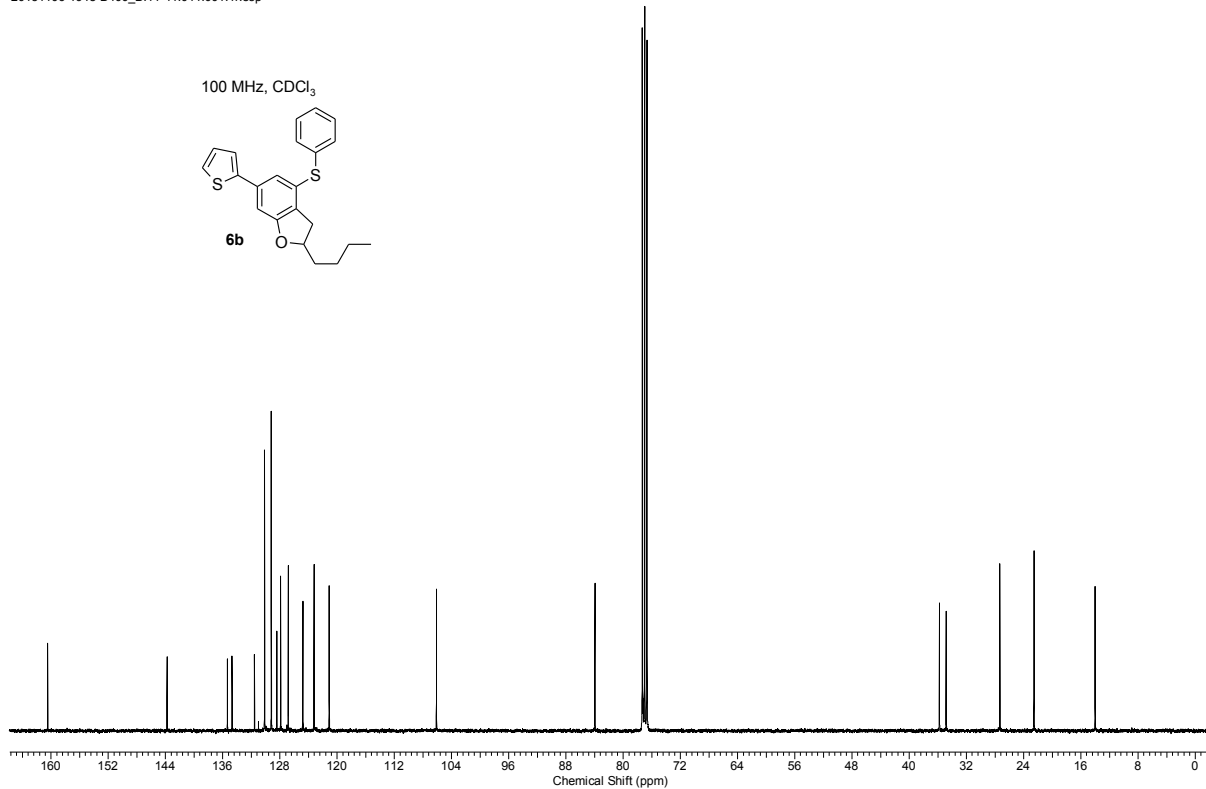




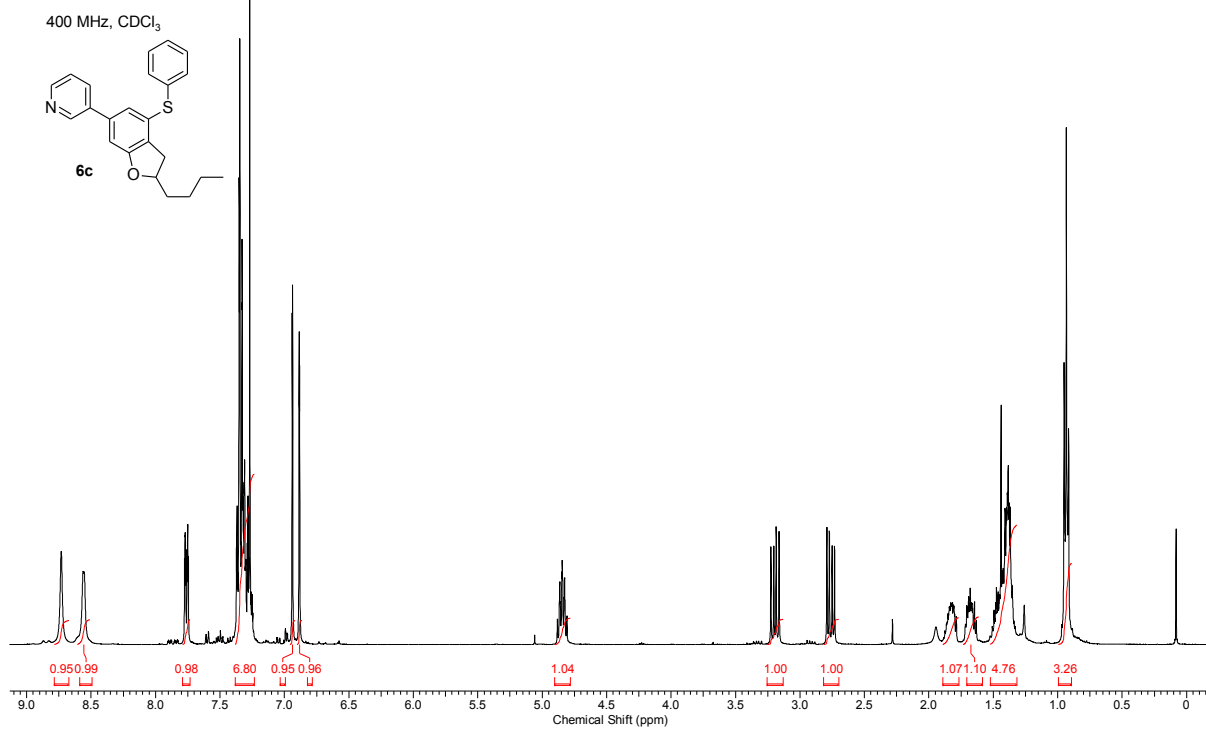
20151106-1948-B400\_B.11-41.010.001.1r.esp



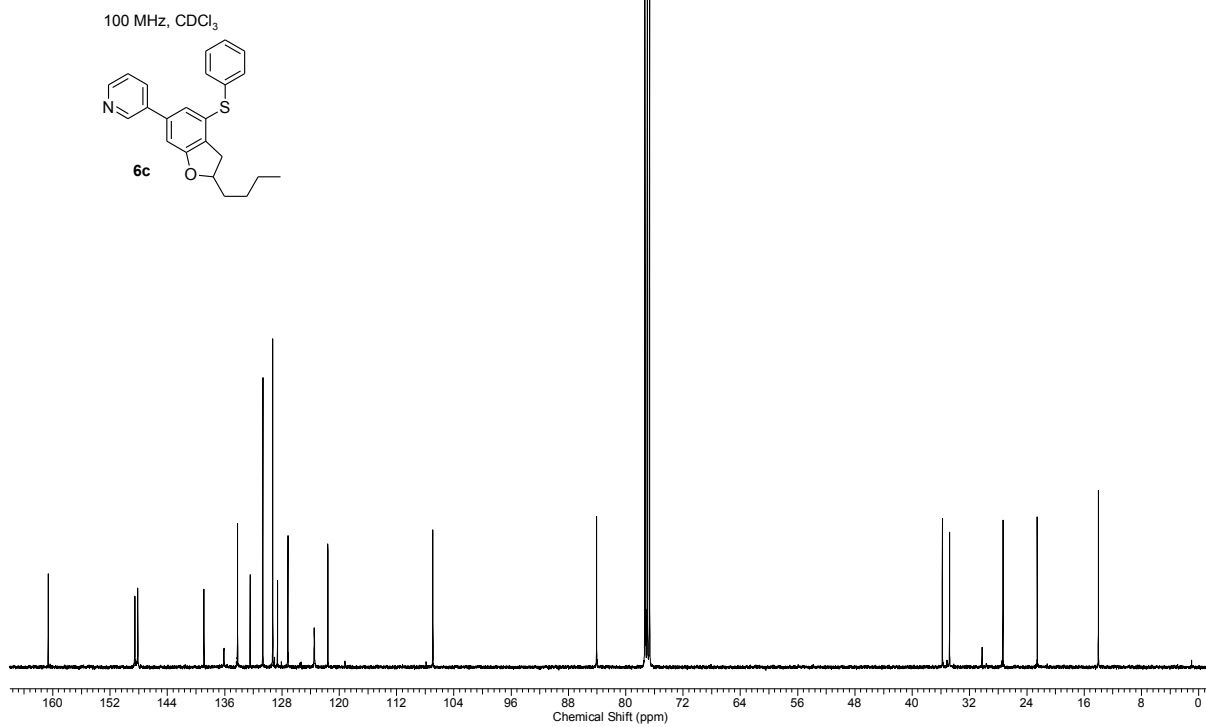
20151106-1948-B400\_B.11-41.011.001.1r.esp



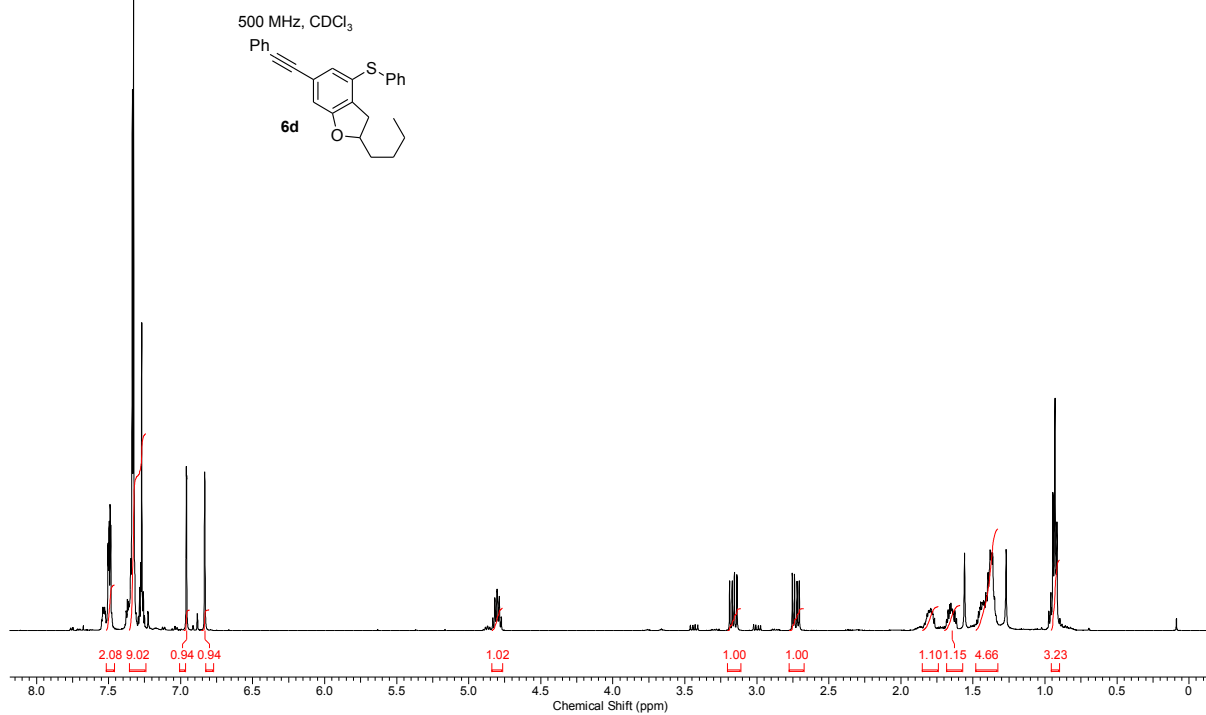
20151103-1704-B400\_B.11-29.030.001.1r.esp



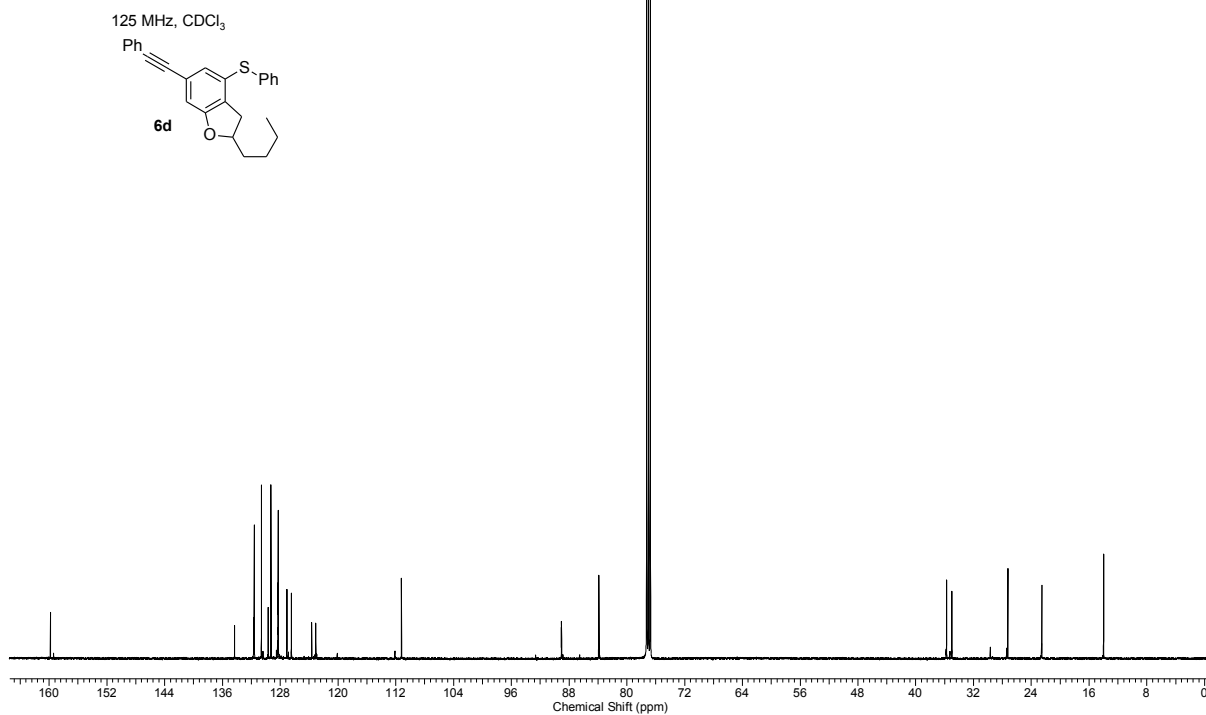
20151103-1704-B400\_B.11-29.031.001.1r.esp



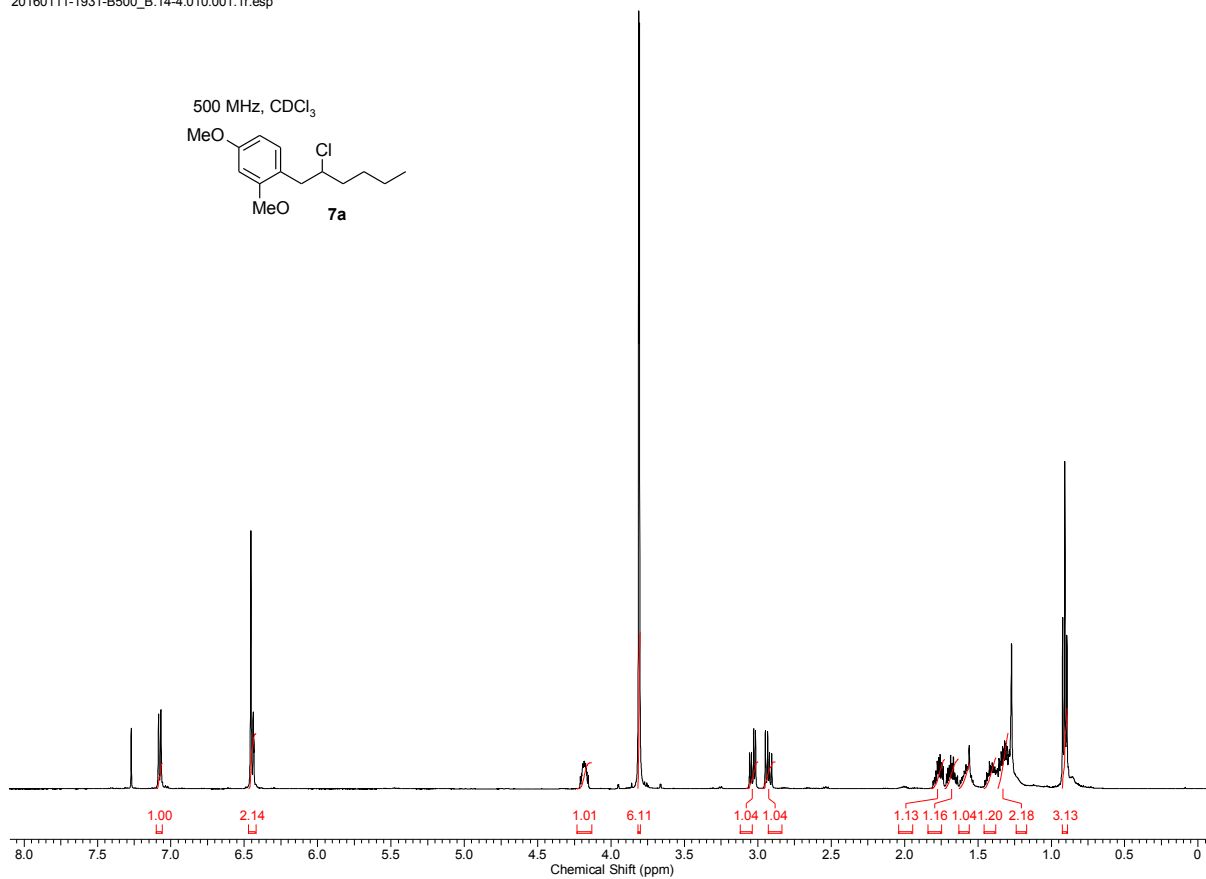
20151109-1156-B500\_B.14-7.010.001.1r.esp



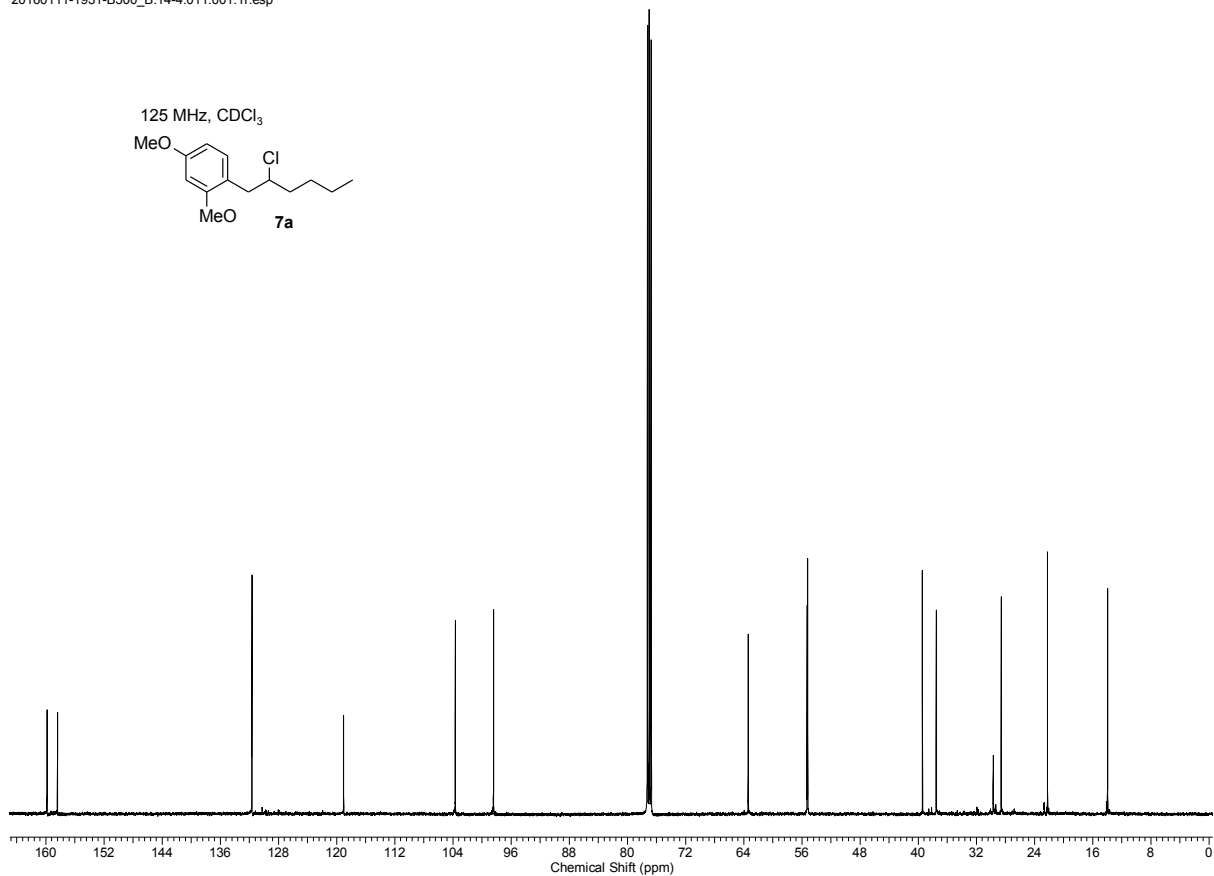
20151109-1156-B500\_B.14-7.011.001.1r.esp

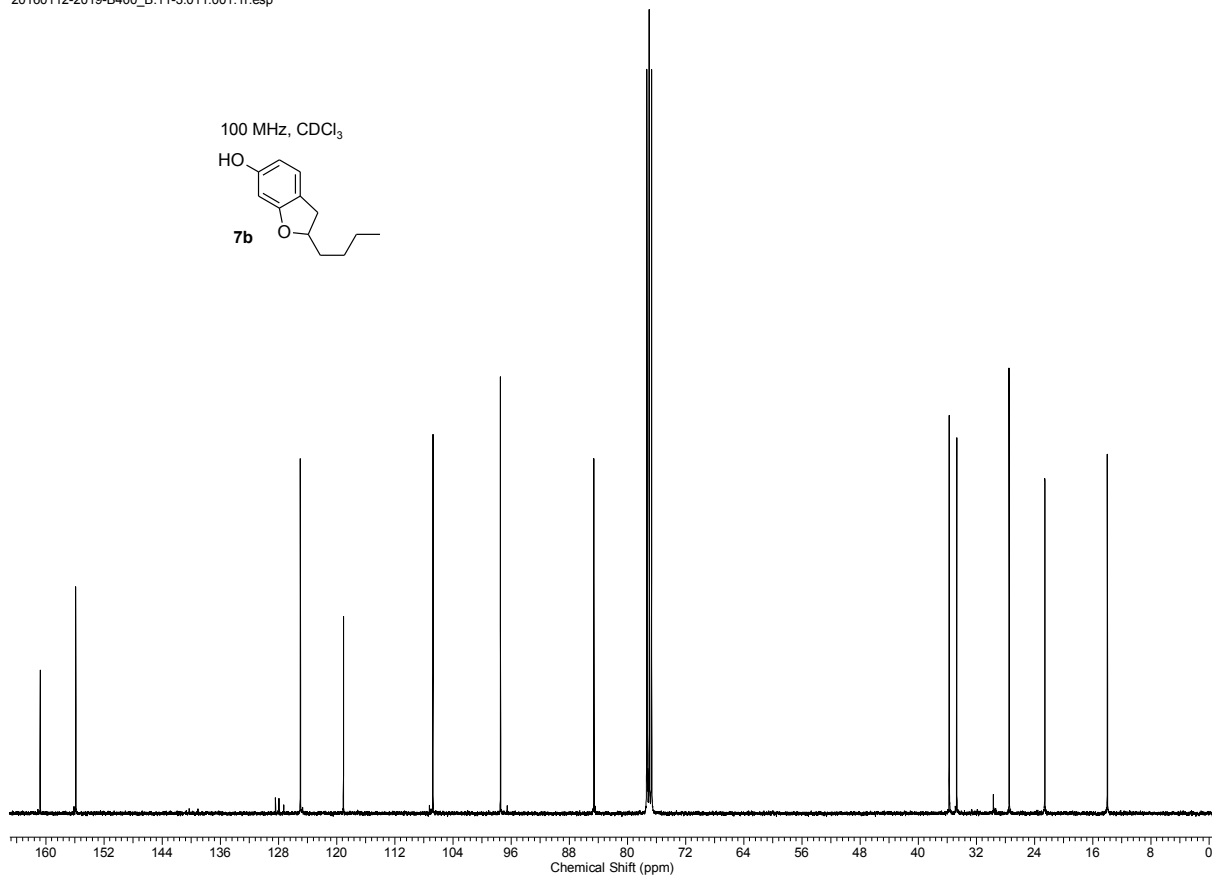
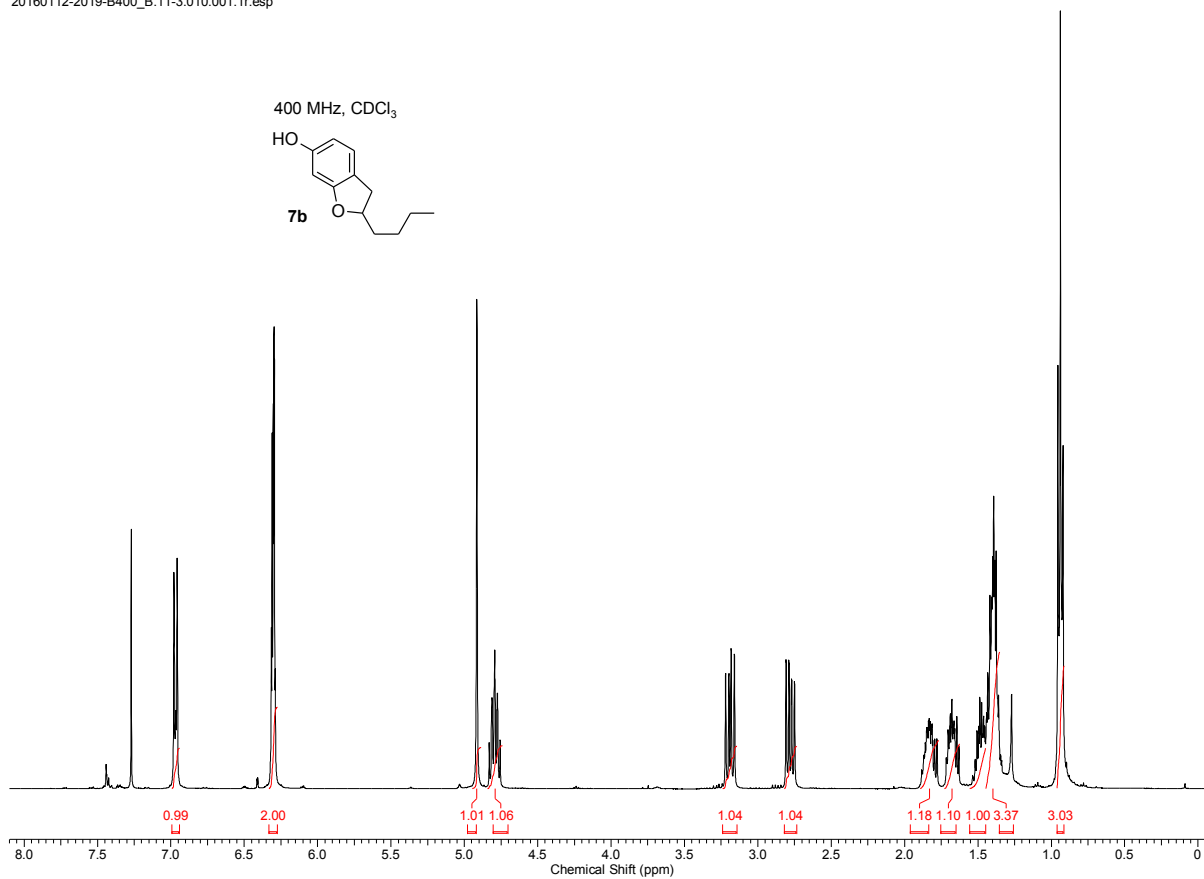


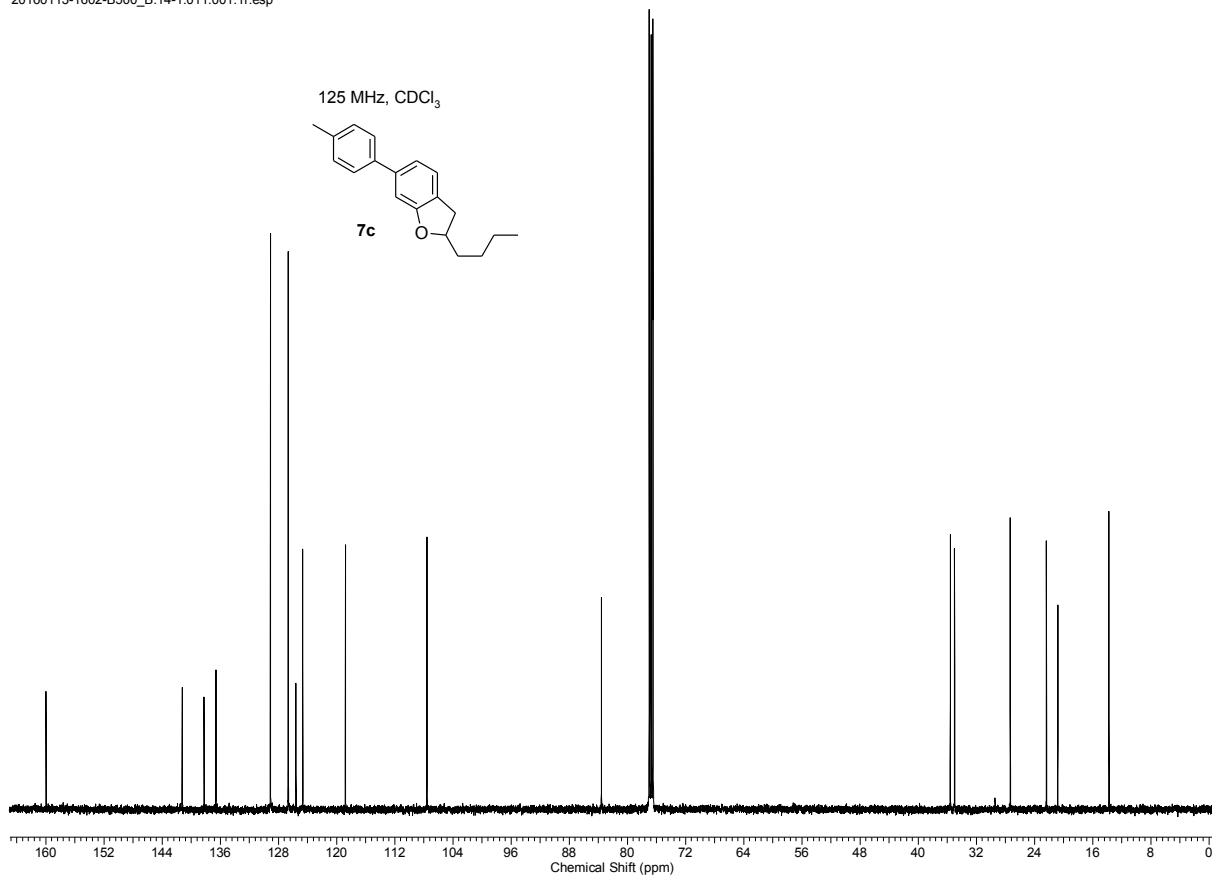
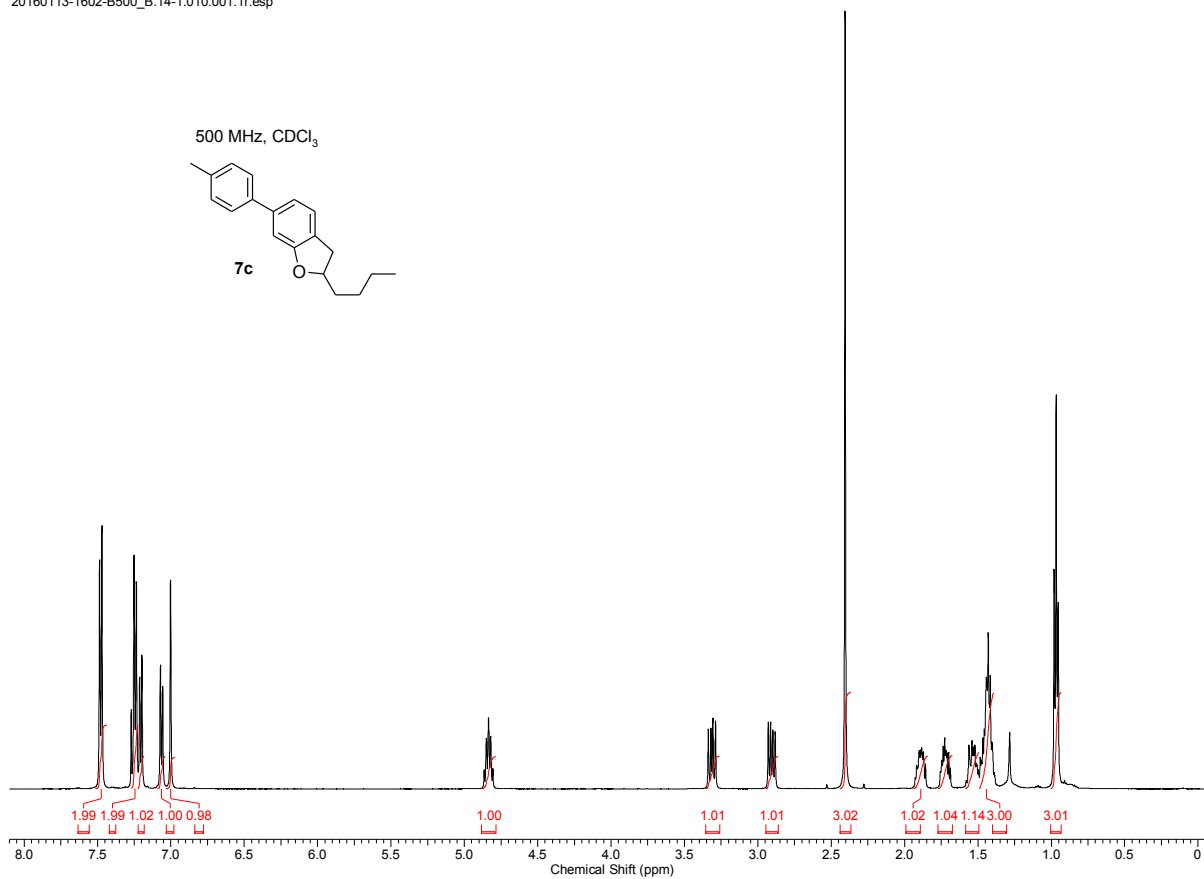
20160111-1931-B500\_B.14-4.010.001.1r.esp



20160111-1931-B500\_B.14-4.011.001.1r.esp

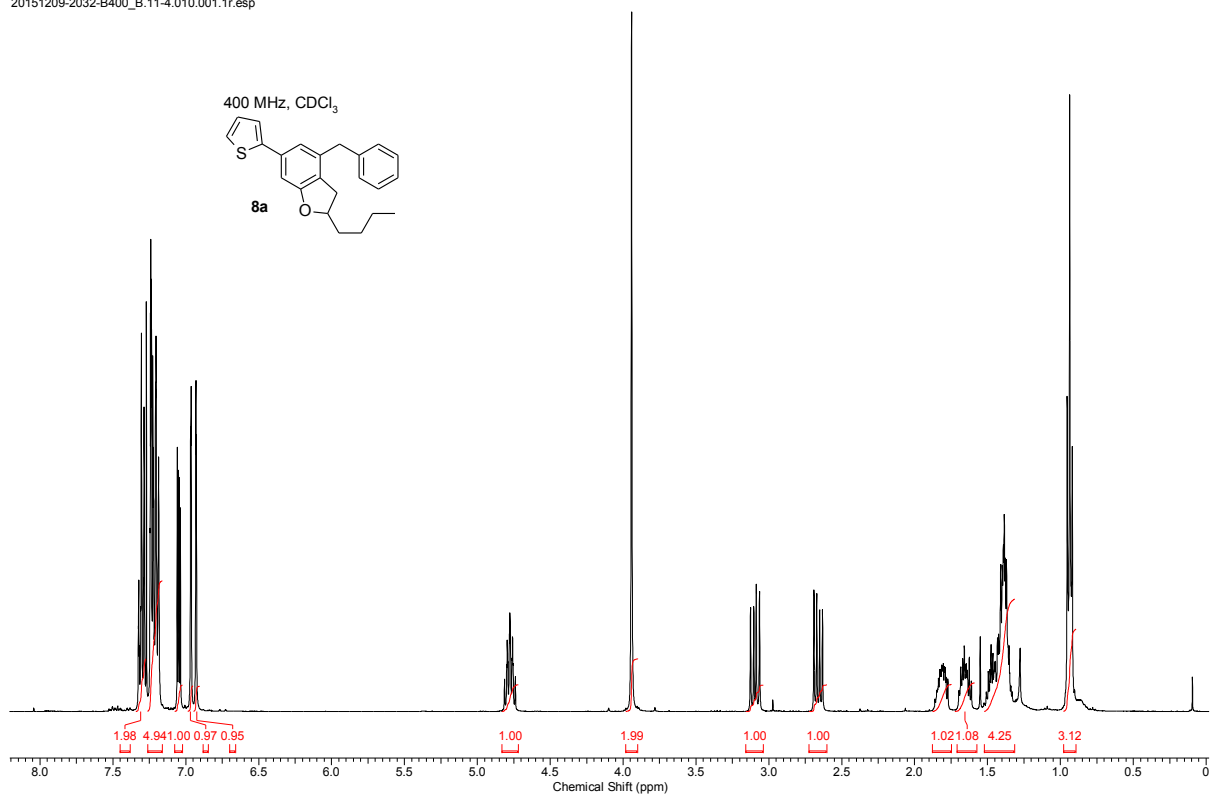




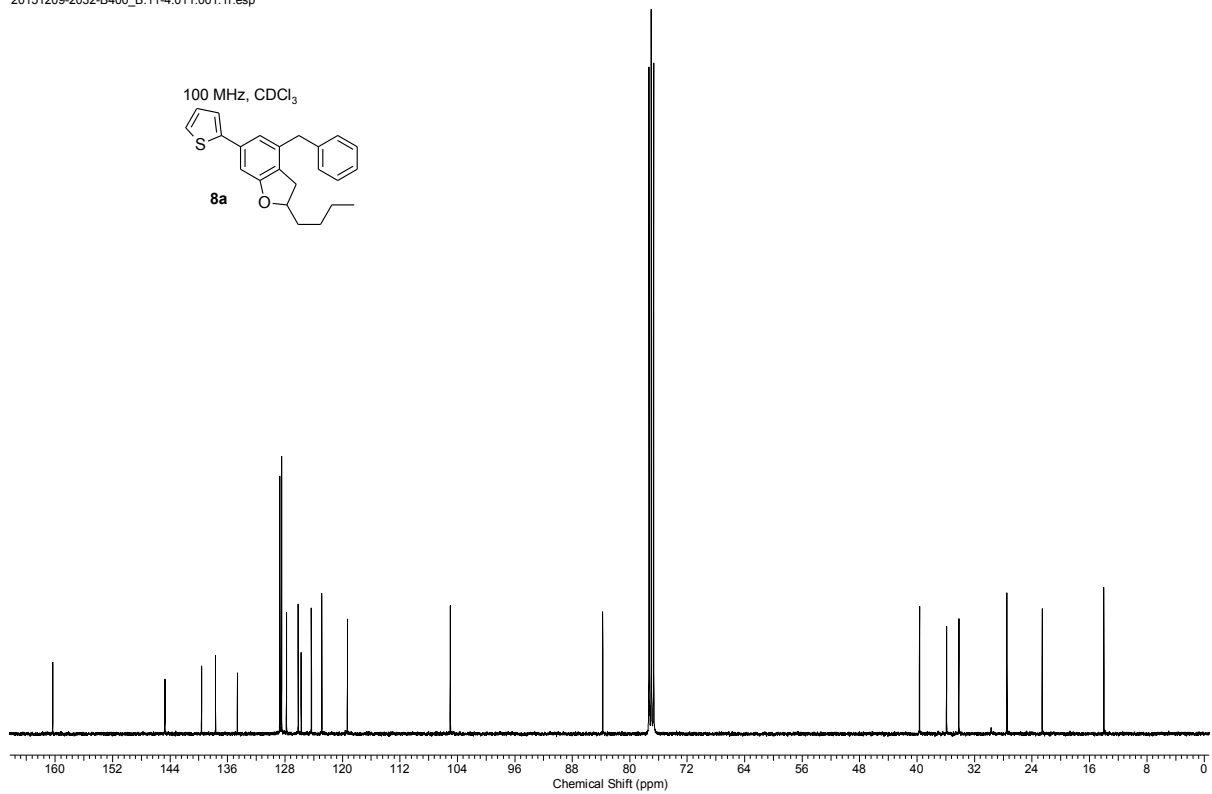




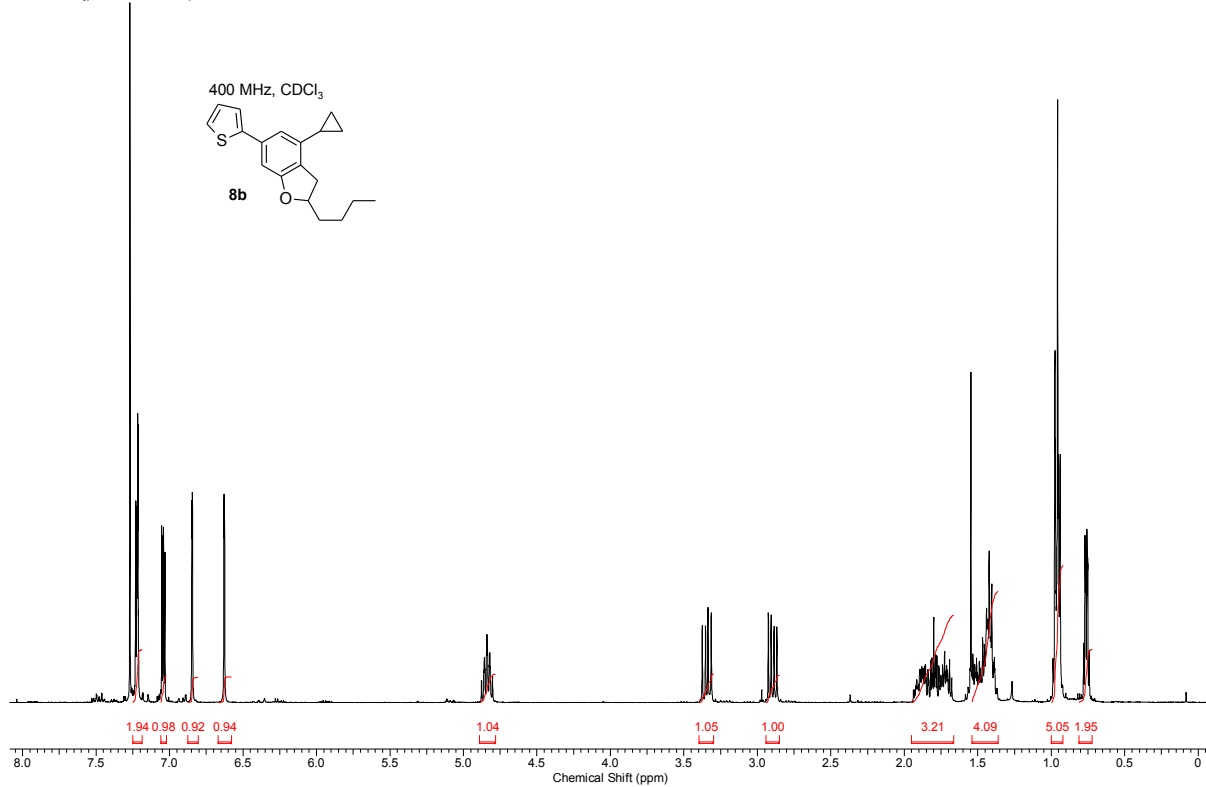
20151209-2032-B400\_B.11-4.010.001.1r.esp



20151209-2032-B400\_B.11-4.011.001.1r.esp



2015-12-19-djp-47.010.001.1r.esp



2015-12-19-djp-47.012.001.1r.esp

