

Access to cyclic *gem*-difluoroacyl scaffolds via electrochemical and visible light photocatalytic radical tandem cyclization of heteroaryl chlorodifluoromethyl ketones

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Supporting information

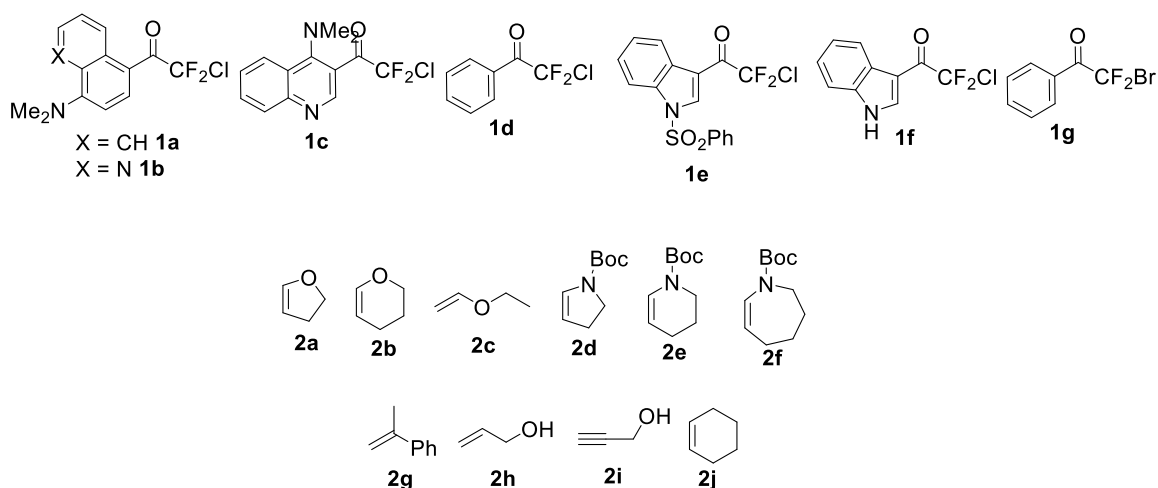
Table of contents

General methods	S2
Structure of the substrates and olefins	S2
General procedure for photocatalytic radical cyclizations	S2
Preparation of 4-dimethylamino-5-chlorodifluoroacetyl quinoline 1c	S3
Preparation of 3-chlorodifluoroacetyl indole 1e	S3
Preparation of 1-phenylsulphonyl-3-chlorodifluoroacetyl indole 1f	S3
Optimization of the reaction conditions for substrates 1e and 1f	S3
Effect of the light source on the reaction of 1a and 1g with 2a and 2b	S4
Cyclic voltammetry	S4
Cells for electrolysis and cyclic voltammetry	S7
Electrolysis	S8
Luminescence quenching experiments	S8
Quantum yield determination	S9
Proposed mechanisms	S10
Additional products under electrochemical and photoredox catalysis	S12
Characterization data of compounds	S13
¹ H, ¹⁹ F and ¹³ C spectra	S20
X-ray structures	S65

General Methods

Solvents and Et₃N were distilled before use. Reagents were obtained commercially and used without further purification. ¹H, ¹⁹F and ¹³C NMR were recorded with a Bruker Avance 300 (in CDCl₃ unless otherwise mentioned) at 300 MHz, 282 MHz and 75 MHz, respectively or a Bruker Avance 400 at 101 MHz (¹³C NMR). Chemical shifts are given in ppm (s = singlet, d = doublet, dd = doublet of doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet, br = broad) relative to residual peak of solvent (δ_H = 7.26 ppm for CHCl₃, δ_C = 77.0 ppm for CDCl₃) or CFCl₃ as external reference for ¹⁹F spectra. Coupling constants (J) are given in Hertz. TLC was performed on Merck silica Gel 60 F254 plates with detection by UV light. Silica gel chromatography was performed on Macherey-Nagel Silica gel 60M (0.04-0.063 mm). Mass spectra were recorded using a micrOTOF-Q [EI or ESI⁺]. Melting points (uncorrected) were determined in capillary tubes on a Büchi apparatus. Solvents for chromatography: DCM = CH₂Cl₂, PE = Petroleum ether, EtOAc = Ethyl acetate). 2-Chloro-1-(4-dimethylamino-naphthalen-1-yl)-2,2-difluoro-ethanone **1a** and *N,N*-dimethyl-5-chlorodifluoro-acetyl-8-quinolyamine **1b** were prepared following our published procedures.^{1,2} Olefins **2a-j** were commercially available as well as Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂·6H₂O and Ir(ppy)₃.

Structure of the substrates and olefins used in this study



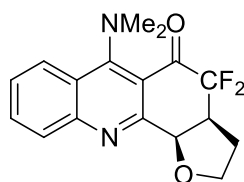
General procedure for photocatalytic radical cyclizations

In an oven-dried flask containing a magnetic stirring bar were added under argon the substrate (1 equiv., 0.55 mmol) and dry DMF (2.5 mL). The mixture was degassed during 15 minutes; the olefin (4.5 equiv., 2.5 mmol) followed by freshly distilled triethylamine (2.5 equiv., 1.4 mmol) were added and the flask was degassed during 10 minutes. Then, *the catalyst* was added and the mixture was degassed again for 15 minutes. The flask was placed at a fixed distance (app. 10 cm) from a 15W fluorescent compact bulb and was stirred at room temperature under visible-light irradiation during 24h. Afterward, the resulting solution was quenched with a NH₄Cl saturated aqueous solution (20 mL) and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). Organic layers were combined and washed with water (3 x 20 mL), saturated aqueous solution of NaCl (1 x 20 mL), and dried over Na₂SO₄. Solvents and volatiles were removed by evaporation under reduced pressure and the crude residue was purified by silica gel chromatography to provide the desired product.

¹ Philippe Hapiot and M. Médebielle, *Journal of Fluorine Chemistry*, **2001**, *107*, 285-300.

² Maurice Médebielle*, Robert Keirouz, Etsuji Okada and Takuro Ashida, *Synlett*, **2001**, *6*, 821-823.

Preparation of 2-Chloro-1-(4-(dimethylamino)quinolin-3-yl)-2,2-difluoroethanone **1c**



The procedure was adapted from the synthesis of the trifluoroacetyl analogue³ using chlorodifluoroacetic anhydride. Product was obtained in 32% isolated yield.

Preparation of 3-chlorodifluoroacetyl indole **1e**⁴

In an oven-dried flask at 0°C, indole (1 equiv., 8.5 mmol) was dissolved in dry diethylether (5 mL) under argon. Then a mixture of chlorodifluoroacetic anhydride (2.5 equiv., 21.3 mmol) in dry diethylether (27 mL) was added dropwise and the reaction mixture was stirred at 0°C during 6 h. Solvent and volatiles were removed by evaporation under reduced pressure and the crude residue was dissolved in EtOAc (25 mL). The organic layer was washed with an aqueous saturated solution of NaHCO₃ (1 x 25 mL) and then dried over Na₂SO₄. After evaporation of solvent, the resulting crude residue was recrystallized in EtOH to give the pure desired product.

Preparation of 1-phenylsulphonyl-3-chlorodifluoroacetyl indole **1f**

In a flask was dissolved NaH at 0°C (1.5 equiv., 2.61 mmol) in dry THF (10 mL). Then, a solution of 3-chlorodifluoroacetyl indole **1e** (1 equiv., 1.74 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added dropwise. After 30 min stirring at 0°C phenylsulfonyl chloride was added dropwise to the mixture and the medium was allowed to warm to room temperature and was stirred during 17h. Afterward, the mixture was hydrolysed with water (15 mL) at 0°C and extraction was made with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL). Organic layers were combined and washed with water (3 x 15 mL) and with a saturated solution of NaCl (1 x 15 mL) and then dry over Na₂SO₄. After filtration, solvents were eliminated by evaporation under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified on chromatography column (PE /EtOAc: 95/5) to give the desired product.

Optimization of the Reaction Conditions of the radical annulation for **1e** and **1f** in the presence of **2a**

	1-phenylsulphonyl-3-chlorodifluoroacetyl indole 1e ^a			
Entry	Photocatalyst	Solvent	Additive	Yield ^b (%)
1	Ru(bpy) ₃ Cl ₂ .6H ₂ O	DMF	Et ₃ N	73
2	/	DMF	Et ₃ N	11 ^{c,d}
3	Ru(bpy) ₃ Cl ₂ .6H ₂ O	DMF	/	N.R
4 ^e	Ru(bpy) ₃ Cl ₂ .6H ₂ O	DMF	Et ₃ N	N.R
5	Ru(bpy) ₃ Cl ₂ .6H ₂ O	DMF	2,6-lutidine	N.R ^{c,f}
6	Ru(bpy) ₃ Cl ₂ .6H ₂ O	DMF	K ₂ HPO ₄	N.R ^{c,f}

^a Reaction conditions : **1e** (0.55 mmol), **2a** (2.5 mmol), additive (1.4 mmol), photocatalyst (5.5 mol%), solvent (2.5 mL), 15 W fluorescent light bulb, 24h, rt. ^b Isolated yield. ^c ¹⁹F-NMR analysis with PhOCF₃ as internal standard. ^d **1e** was detected in 36%. ^e Reaction performed in dark. ^f **1e** was detected in 5-8%

















³ (a) E. Okada, T. Sakaemura, and N. Shimomura, *Chem. Lett.*, **2000**, 29, 50; (b) E. Okada, M. Hatakenaka, T. Sakaemura, N. Shimomura, and T. Ashida, *Heterocycles*, **2012**, 86, 1177.

⁴ Shun-Jiang Yao, Zhi-Hui Ren, Yao-Yu Wang, and Zheng-Hui Gua, *J. Org. Chem.*, **2016**, 81, 4226-4234.

3-chlorodifluoroacetyl indole 1f ^a				
Entry	Photocatalyst	Solvent	Additive	Yield ^b (%)
1	Ir(ppy) ₃	DMF	Et ₃ N	83
2	Ir(ppy) ₃	DMSO	Et ₃ N	56
3	Ir(ppy) ₃	DCM	Et ₃ N	15 ^c
4	Ir(ppy) ₃	CH ₃ CN	Et ₃ N	13 ^c
5	/	DMF	Et ₃ N	Traces
6	Ir(ppy) ₃	DMF	/	8 ^c
7^d	Ir(ppy) ₃	DMF	Et ₃ N	N.R
8	Ir(ppy) ₃	DMF	2,6-lutidine	68 ^c
9	Ir(ppy) ₃	DMF	K ₂ HPO ₄	9 ^c
10	Ir(ppy) ₃ ^e	DMF	Et ₃ N	27 ^c
11	Ru(bpy) ₃ Cl ₂ ·6H ₂ O	DMF	Et ₃ N	9 ^c

^a Reaction conditions : **1f** (0.55 mmol), **2a** (2.5 mmol), additive (1.4 mmol), photocatalyst (5.5 mol%), solvent (2.5 mL), 15 W fluorescent light bulb, 24h, rt. ^b Isolated yield. ^c ¹⁹F-NMR analysis with PhOCF₃ as internal standard. ^d Reaction performed in dark. ^e Photocatalyst 1 mol%.

Effect of the light source on the reaction of **1a** and **1g** with **2a** and **2b**^a

Substrate	Olefin	Lamp	Yield
 1a	 2a	15W	53% ^b
 1a	 2a	28W	55% ^b
 1a	 2a	Blue LED	36% ^b
 1a	 2b	15W	16% ^b
 1a	 2b	28W	16% ^b
 1a	 2b	Blue LED	13% ^c
 1g	 2a	15W	13% ^c
 1g	 2b	15W	11% ^c

^a Reaction conditions : **1** (0.55 mmol), **2** (2.5 mmol), Et₃N (1.4 mmol), Ir(ppy)₃ (5.5 mol%), solvent (2.5 mL), 24h, rt. ^b Isolated yield. ^c ¹⁹F-NMR analysis with PhOCF₃ as internal standard.

Cyclic voltammetry

Electrochemical measurements were performed using an EG & G-Princeton Applied Research 263A all-in-one potentiostat, using a standard three-electrode setup with a glassy carbon electrode (working electrode, diameter = 3 mm), platinum wire auxiliary electrode and a non-aqueous Ag/Ag⁺ (0.01 M AgNO₃ + 0.1 M *n*-Bu₄NClO₄) system in acetonitrile as the reference electrode. All solutions under the study were 0.1 M in the supporting electrolyte *n*-Bu₄NPF₆ (Fluka puriss electrochemical grade) with the

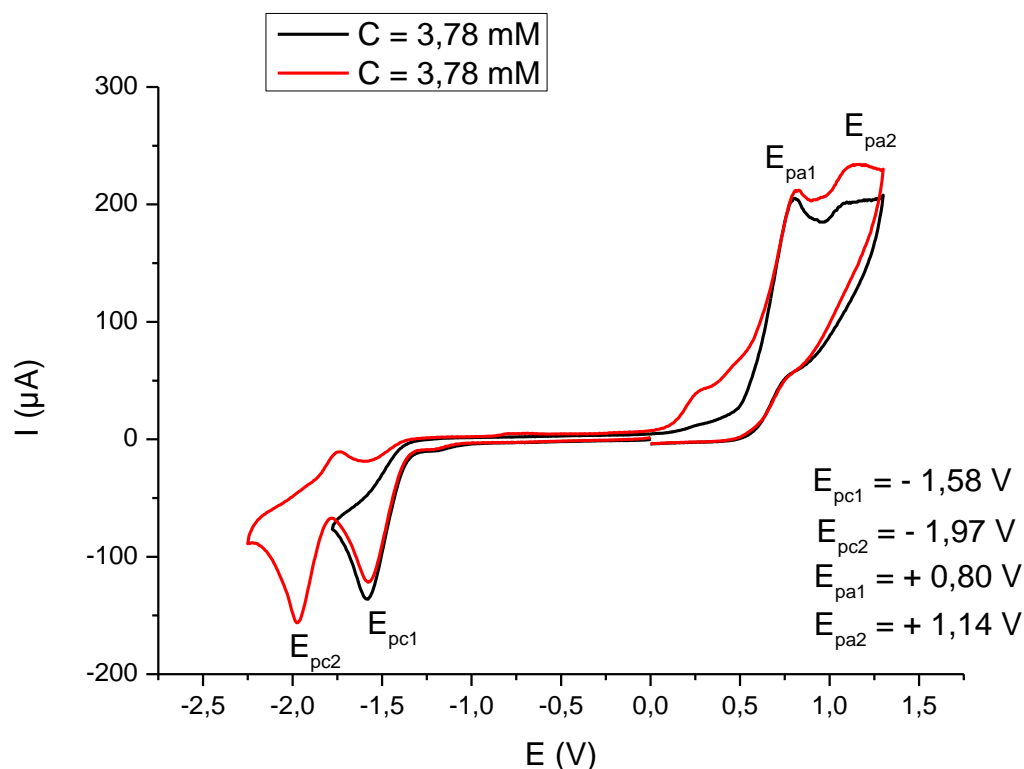
voltage scan rate of 0.2 V s^{-1} . Anhydrous DMF was obtained from Fisher Scientific. Solutions were thoroughly bubbled with dry argon for 15 minutes to remove oxygen before any experiment and kept under positive pressure of argon. Under these experimental conditions the ferrocene/ferricinium couple, used as internal reference for potential measurements, was located at $E_{1/2} = +0.05 \text{ V}$ in DMF.

Electrochemical data for substrates **1a-f** and olefins **2a-j**. Glassy carbon electrode (3 mm) in DMF + 0.1 M $n\text{-Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$ at 0.2 V s^{-1} .

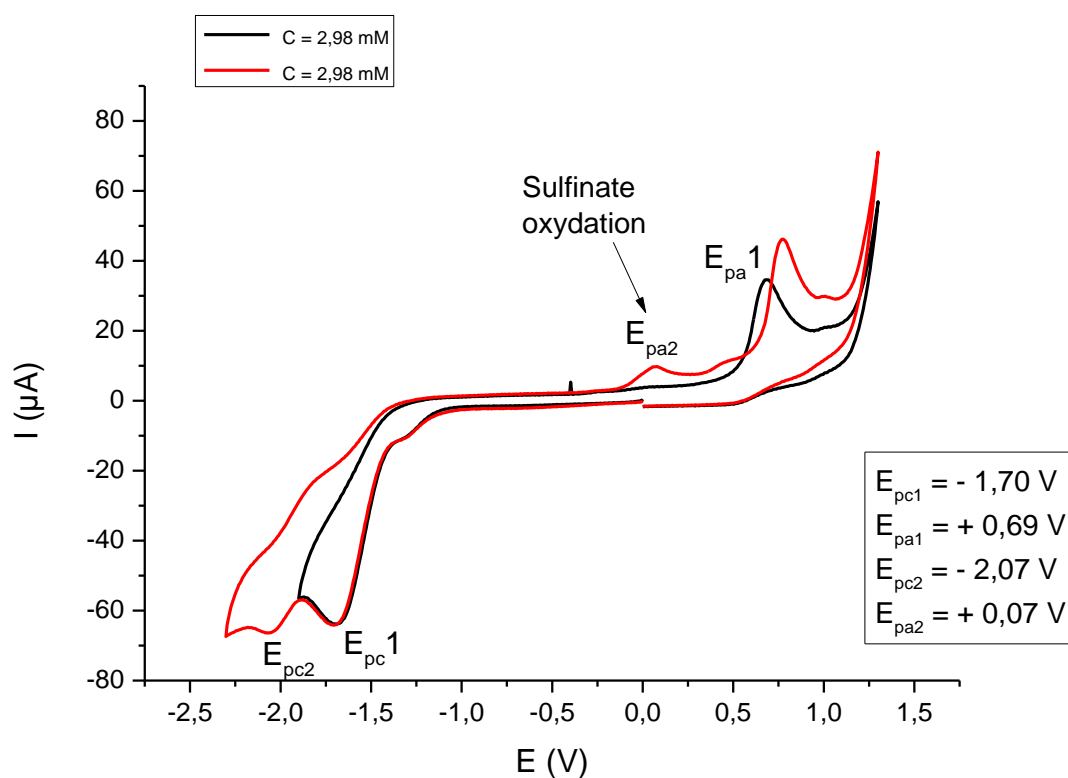
Compound	$E_{pc1} \text{ (V)}^a$	Compound	$E_{pa1} \text{ (V)}^b$
1a	-1.58 (-1.27) ^c	2a	-
1b	-1.45 (-1.14) ^c	2b	-
1c	-1.58 (-1.27) ^c	2c	-
1d	-1.84 (-1.53) ^c	2d	+0.98 (+1.29) ^c
1e	-1.70 (-1.39) ^c	2e	+1.11 (+1.42) ^c
1f	-2.00 (-1.80) ^c	2f-j	-
1g	-1.50 (-1.19) ^c		

^a First cathodic peak potential at 293 K with a glassy carbon electrode in DMF and 0.1 M $n\text{-Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$ as the supporting electrolyte; all potentials are quoted vs. $\text{Ag}/\text{Ag}^+ 0.01 \text{ M}$ in acetonitrile, scan rate: 0.2 V s^{-1} . ^b Anodic peak potential at 293 K with a glassy carbon electrode in DMF and 0.1 M $n\text{-Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$ as the supporting electrolyte; all potentials are quoted vs. $\text{Ag}/\text{Ag}^+ 0.01 \text{ M}$ in acetonitrile, scan rate: 0.2 V s^{-1} . ^c Peak potential quoted vs SCE. $E \text{ (V vs SCE)} = E \text{ (Ag/Ag}^+ 0.01 \text{ M)} + 0.31$

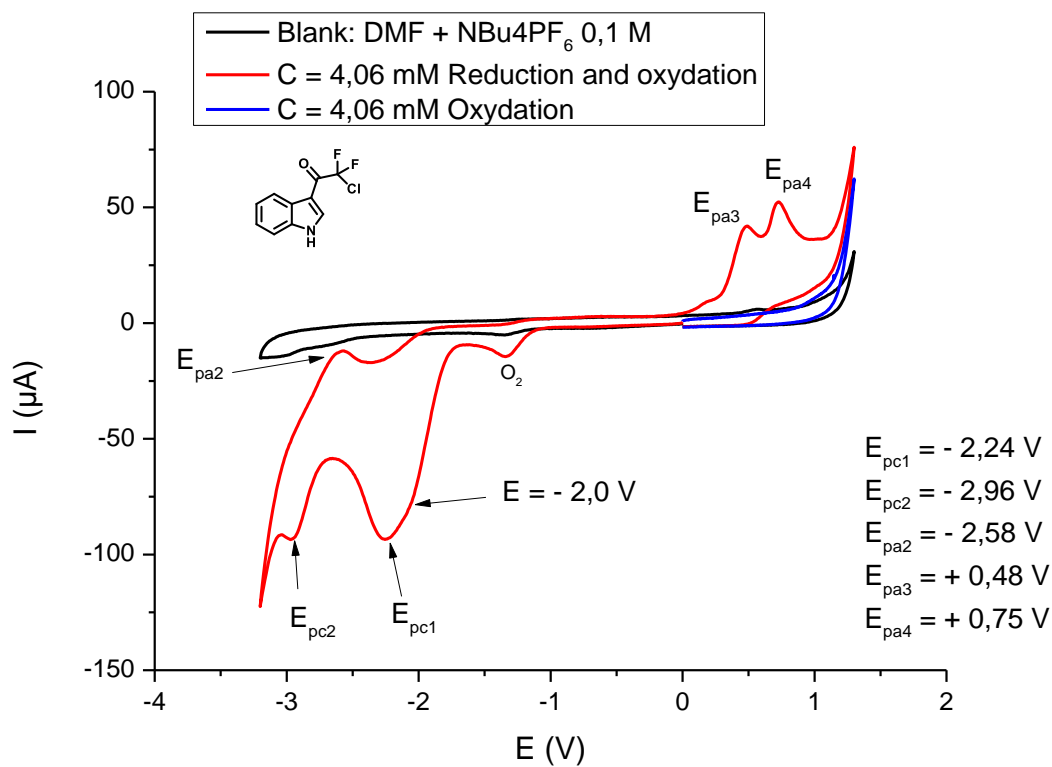
No anodic peak potential could be observed up to oxidation of solvent/electrolyte (onset at $+1.40 \text{ V vs Ag/Ag}^+ 0.01 \text{ M}$ ($+1.71 \text{ V vs SCE}$)) for olefins **2a-c**, **2f-j**. Only for **2d** and **2e** oxidation peak potentials could be measured. Based on the electrochemical data, none of the olefinic acceptors can be oxidized under the photo-redox reactions either under Ruthenium or Iridium catalysis. Et_3N is irreversibly oxidized at $+0.70 \text{ V vs Ag/Ag}^+ 0.01 \text{ M}$ ($+1.01 \text{ V vs SCE}$). 2,6-lutidine gives rise to no oxidation step up to $+1.40 \text{ V vs Ag/Ag}^+ 0.01 \text{ M}$ ($+1.71 \text{ V vs SCE}$).



Cyclic voltammetry of **1a** $C = 3.78$ mM in DMF + 0.1 M $n\text{-Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$

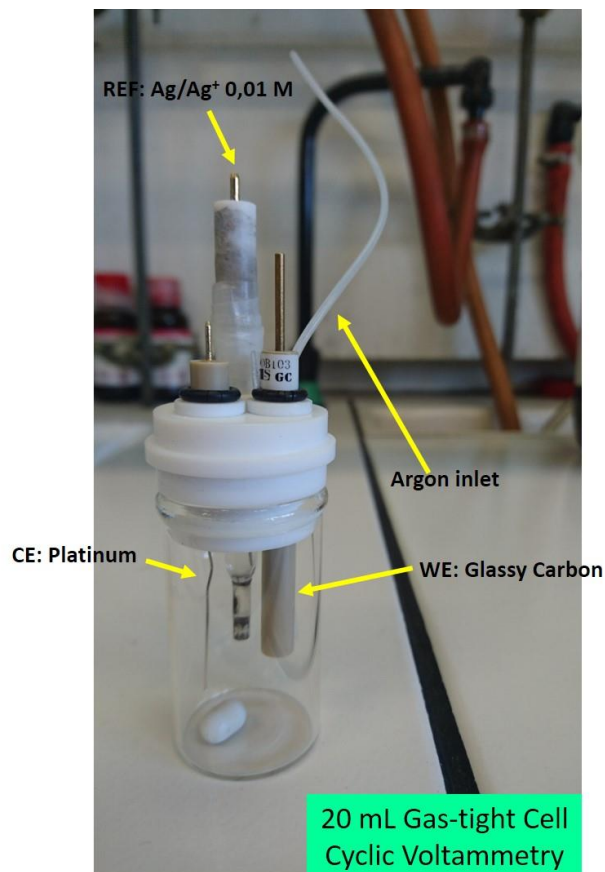
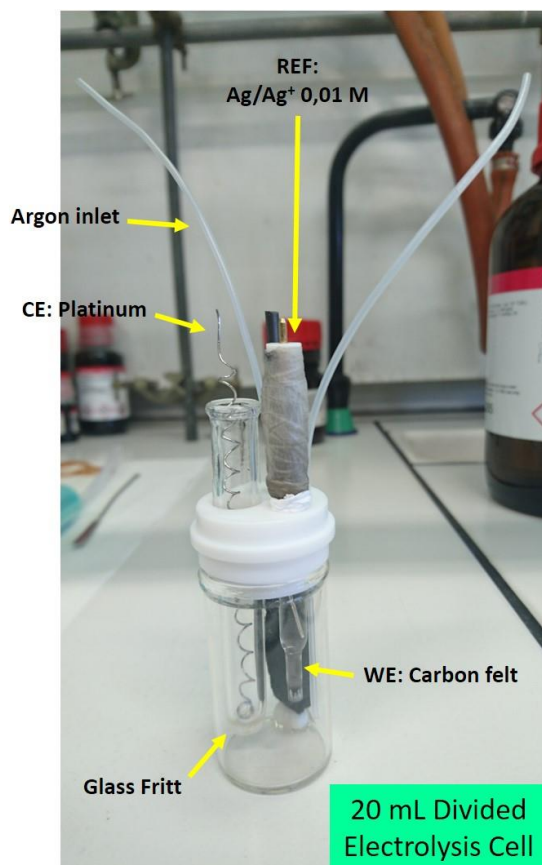


Cyclic voltammetry of *N*-sulfonyl indole **1e**. $C = 2.98$ mM in DMF + 0.1 M $n\text{-Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$



Cyclic voltammetry of indole **1f**. $C = 4.06$ mM in DMF + 0.1 M $n\text{-Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$

Cells for electrolysis and cyclic voltammetry



Electrolysis

Controlled-potential electrolyses were run in a cylindrical divided cell (see Figure) using a carbon felt electrode ($S \sim 2.5 \text{ cm}^2$) as working electrode, a platinum wire as counter electrode separated from the cathodic compartment with a frit glass (porosity 4) and $\text{Ag}/\text{Ag}^+ 0.01\text{M}$ as reference.

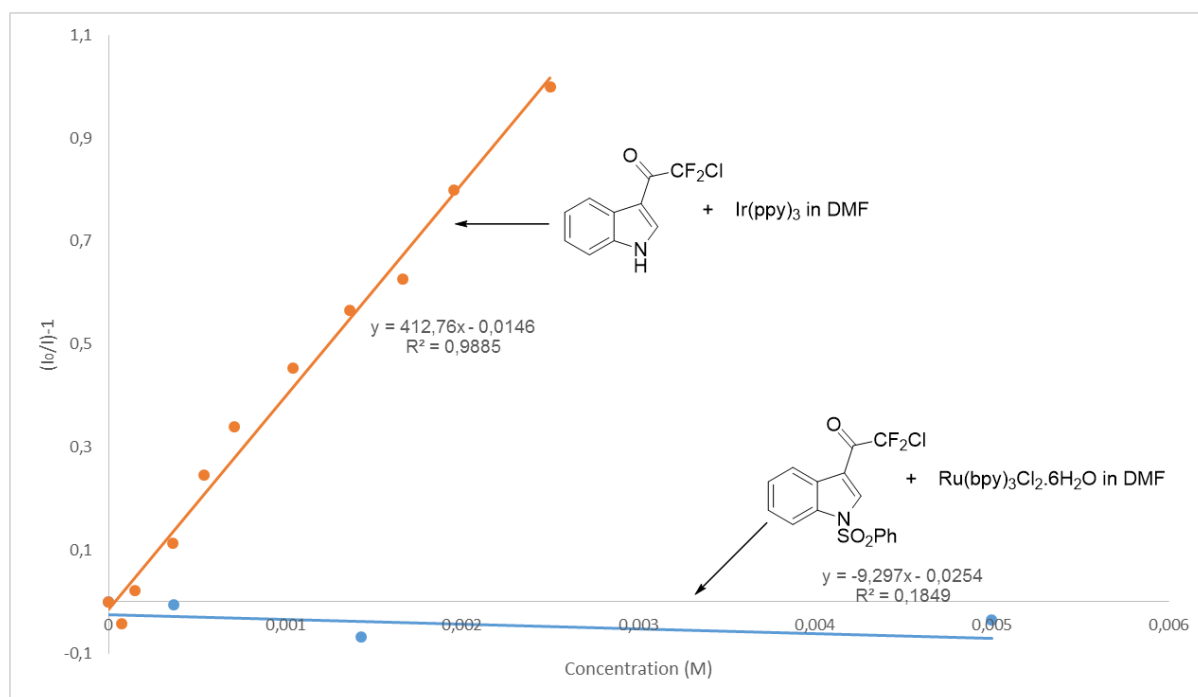
Under argon was introduced in the cathodic compartment, 15 mL of an anhydrous DMF solution containing $n\text{-Et}_4\text{NBF}_4$ 0.1M and 2.5 mL of the same solution in the anodic compartment. The cathodic solution was deoxygenated with argon bubbling for 15 minutes and then was introduced PhNO_2 (25 mol%). Solution was stirred and deoxygenated further for 10 minutes. Then substrate and olefin were introduced. A constant potential of -1.51 V (-1.20 V vs SCE) was then applied at room temperature, with an initial current close to 15-20 mA. The progress of the electrolysis was followed by TLC and ^{19}F NMR. After 1.5-1.8 F/mole of starting material (2 h), the electrolysis was stopped and quenched with an aqueous NH_4Cl solution (40 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL), the combined organic phases were washed with H_2O (4 x 20 mL), dried over Na_2SO_4 and filtered. Concentration under vacuo left a residue that was co-evaporated several times with toluene and purified by silica gel chromatography (PE/EtOAc: 95/5 \rightarrow 80/20).

Luminescence quenching experiments

Emission spectra used in the Stern-Volmer experiments were recorded at room temperature using a 10^{-5}M deaerated DMF solution of the $\text{Ir}(\text{ppy})_3$ or $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ catalyst. The excitation wavelength [400 nm for $\text{Ir}(\text{ppy})_3$, 450 nm for $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$] was chosen so that the absorbance did not exceed 0.1.

UV-Visible spectra were recorded with a double beam Jasco 670 UV-Visible spectrophotometer. Luminescence spectra were recorded on a Horiba-Jobin Yvon Fluorolog-3® spectrofluorimeter equipped with a three-slit double-grating excitation and emission monochromator with dispersions of 2.1 nm.mm⁻¹ (1200 grooves.mm⁻¹). The excitation source was a 450W xenon CW lamp and emission was detected at an angle of 90° by a red-sensitive Hamamatsu R928 photomultiplier tube. Spectra were referenced corrected for both the excitation source light intensity variation (lamp and grating) and the emission spectral response (detector and grating).

A 10⁻⁵M stock solution of the Ir(ppy)₃ or Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂.6H₂O catalyst was prepared, and split in two batches. 2 mL were put in a sealable 10 mm quartz cuvette equipped with a high-vacuum PTFE young valve and intensively degassed by a minimum of three freeze-pump-thaw cycles on a secondary vacuum line (until no bubble was seen during the thawing process). The rest of the solution was used to prepare a 1.5 10⁻²M solution of the appropriate quencher. Then, the latter solution was added by aliquots into the solution of pure Ir(ppy)₃ or Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂.6H₂O complex in the sealable cuvette; after each addition, the cuvette was submitted to three additional freeze-pump-thaw cycles, and an emission spectrum was recorded. Emission intensity was calculated by integration of the emission signal, and I₀/I_t-1 (with I₀: the emission intensity of the pure Ir(ppy)₃ or Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂.6H₂O catalyst solution; I_t: the emission of the same solution after addition of the quencher) was plotted against the quencher concentration.



Stern-Volmer plots - Quenching experiments for substrates **1e** and **1f**

Quantum yield determination for the reaction of **1e** and **1f**

Quantum yield for the photochemical reactions were measured using the xenon lamp of the same Horiba-Jobin Yvon Fluorolog-3® spectrofluorimeter as used for the Stern-Volmer experiments. Sample cavity was equipped with a Thorlabs PM100D photometer. The Ruthenium or Iridium catalyst (1.5 x 10⁻⁷ mol), 3-Chlorodifluoroacetyl indole **1e** or 1-Phenylsulphonyl-3-chlorodifluoroacetyl indole **1f** (2.7 x 10⁻⁶ mol), 2,3-Dihydrofuran **2a** (1.2x10⁻⁵ mol) and in the case of Ru catalyst Et₃N (6.8 x 10⁻⁶ mol) were placed in the same sealable quartz cuvette (3mL) as for the Stern-Volmer experiment, and

thoroughly degassed by three freeze-pump-thaw cycles. The cuvette was stirred (100 rpm) throughout the whole photochemical reaction using a Hellma 300 electronic stirrer.

Excitation was performed at 380 nm and 440 nm for Iridium and Ruthenium respectively, excitation slits were opened at a 10 nm bandwidth. Fluorescence of the catalyst were monitored in time (at their maximal emission wavelength), and it was confirmed that no photobleaching occurred for the Ir compound in the course of the reaction, while only a minor degradation (ca 10%) was observed for the Ruthenium compound.

Incident light power (3.7×10^{-3} W with Iridium and 6.0×10^{-3} W with Ruthenium) was measured in the absence and in the presence of a sample, enabling determination of the absorbed power P_{abs} (2.9×10^{-3} W with Iridium 5.0×10^{-3} W with Ruthenium). The energy E_{abs} (J) absorbed during the irradiation time t_{irr} (s) was calculated using the following relation:

$$E_{\text{abs}} = P_{\text{abs}} \cdot t_{\text{irr}}$$

and converted into an absorbed photon flux n_{photon} (mol) considering

$$n_{\text{photon}} = E_{\text{abs}} / E_{\text{photon}}$$

where E_{photon} (J/mol) corresponds to the energy of 1 mole of photons given by

$$E_{\text{photon}} = N_a \cdot h \cdot c / \lambda_{\text{irr}}$$

with N_a the Avogadro number, h the Planck constant, c the light velocity ($\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$) and λ_{irr} (m) the irradiation wavelength.

Reactant to product conversion yield was determined by injection of the cuvette mixture GC/MS using an Agilent 7820 A GC/5977 E MS spectrometer, equipped with a double HP-5ms Ultra Inert, 30 m, 0,25 mm, 0,25 μm capillary column. For the MS part, ions were produced using an Electronic Impact source and separated using a double quadrupole analyzer. For the GC part, reactant and products were quantified by integrating the FID signal; integration were corrected using the product/reactant response factor, initially determined upon injection of an equimolar amount of the limiting reactant and product, enabling calculation of the conversion rate X_r for the photochemical reaction. The amount of product formed during the reaction n_{prod} (mol) was calculated using equation

$$n_{\text{prod}} = n_{\text{react}} \cdot X_r$$

with n_{react} (mol) corresponding to the amount of limiting reactant introduced into the reaction mixtures

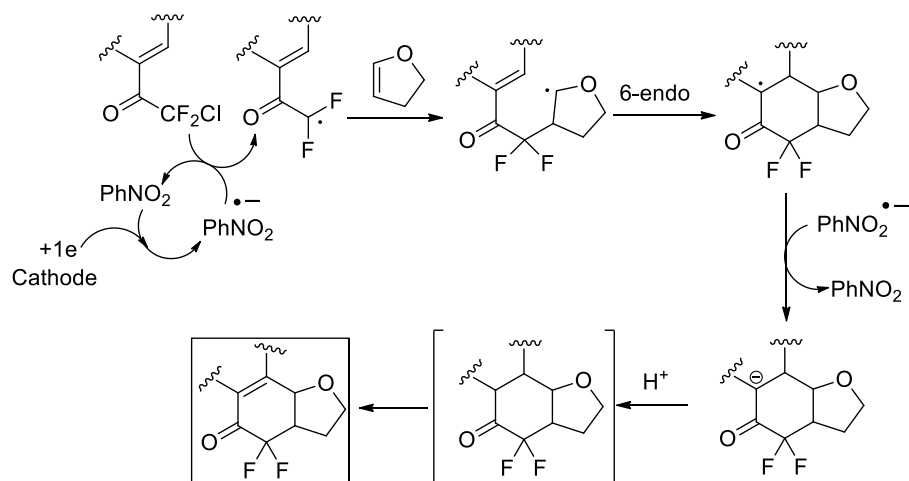
From these values, the photochemical quantum yield of the reaction could be calculated using equation

$$\Phi_r = n_{\text{prod}} / n_{\text{photon}}$$

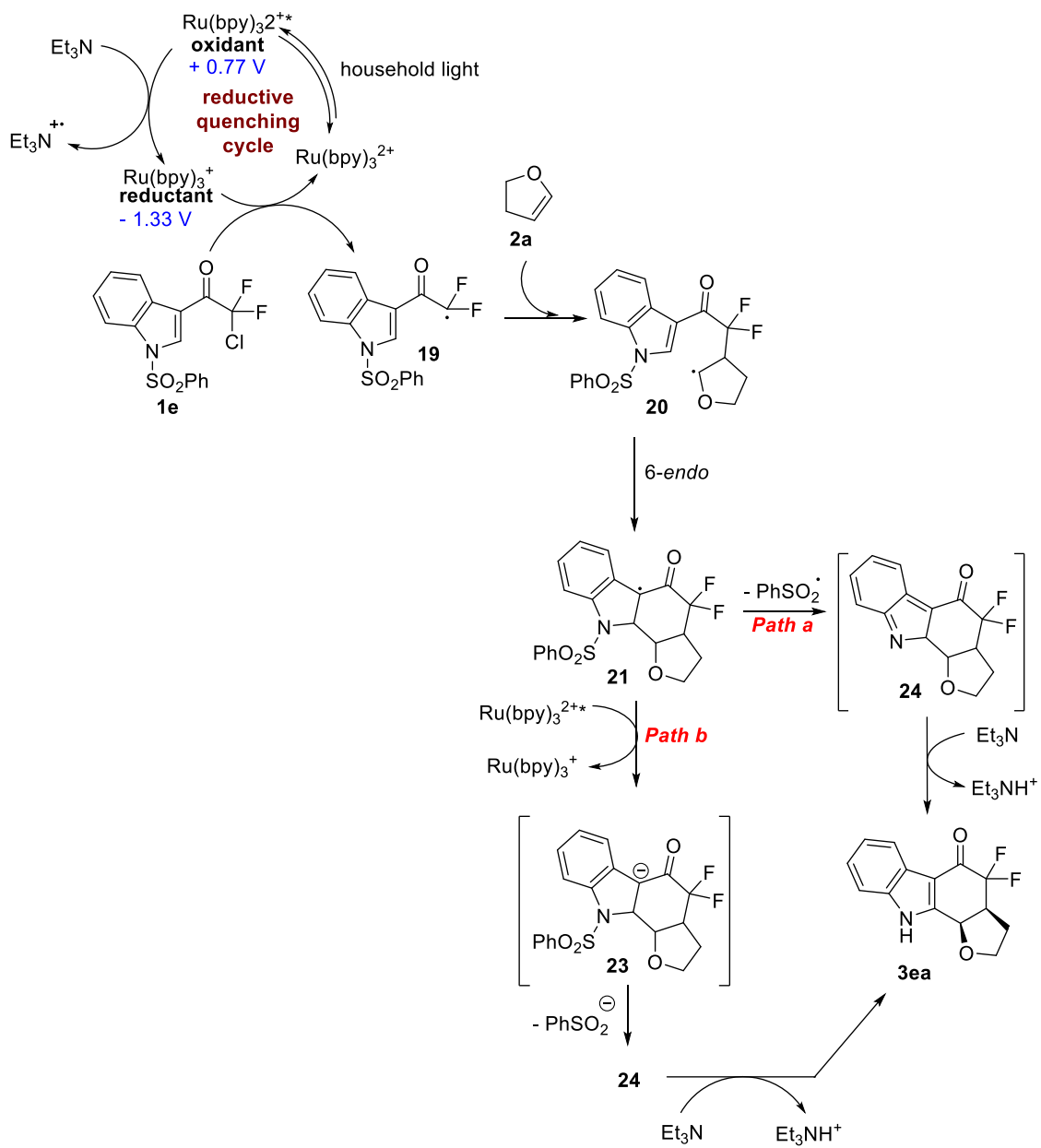
$$\Phi_r^{\text{Iridium}} = 0.063$$

$$\Phi_r^{\text{Ruthenium}} = 0.021$$

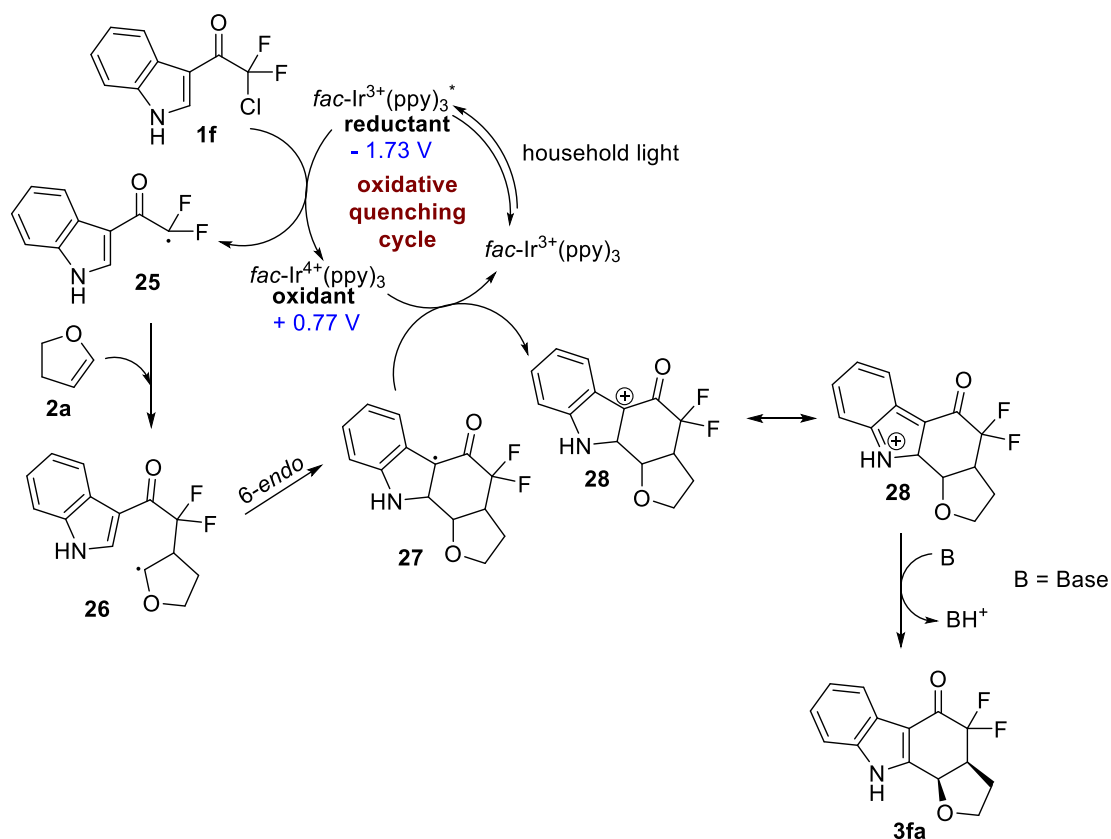
Proposed mechanisms



Proposed electrochemical redox catalyzed mechanism

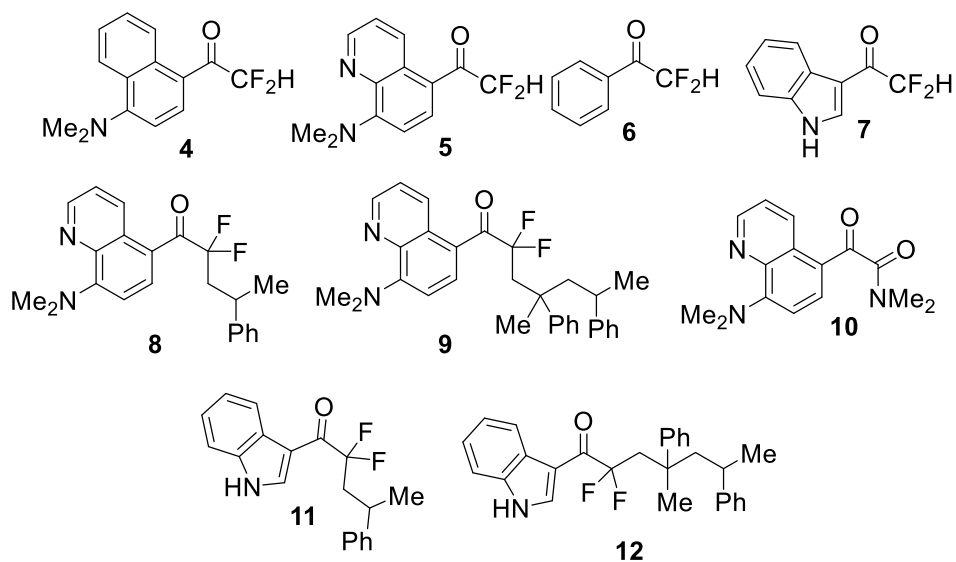


Mechanistic scenarios for the formation of **3ea** from *N*-sulfonyl indole **1e**



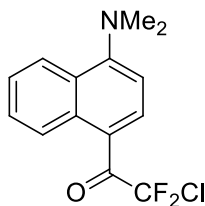
Mechanistic scenarios for the formation of **3ea** under Iridium catalysis from **1f**

Additional products under electrochemical or photoredox catalysis



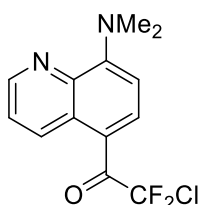
Characterization data of compounds

2-chloro-1-(4-(dimethylamino)naphthalen-1-yl)-2,2-difluoroethanone 1a.



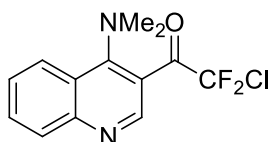
Mp: 80-81°C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.97 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (dt, *J* = 8.4, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (ddd, *J* = 8.6, 6.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 6.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.10 (s, 6H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -57.78. ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.29 (t, *J* = 26.8 Hz), 157.91, 134.29 (t, *J* = 5.3 Hz), 129.22, 127.55, 126.26, 125.67, 125.51, 121.05 (t, *J* = 305.0 Hz), 117.90, 110.30, 44.51.

2-chloro-1-(8-(dimethylamino)quinolin-5-yl)-2,2-difluoroethanone 1b.



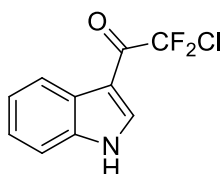
Mp : 37-39°C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.53 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.82 (dd, *J* = 3.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (s, 6H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -57.05. ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 179.64 (t, *J* = 26.5 Hz), 155.44, 146.32, 140.92, 135.72 (t, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 134.57, 130.78, 123.65, 121.02 (t, *J* = 304.7 Hz), 113.06, 109.75, 44.33.

2-Chloro-1-(4-(dimethylamino)quinolin-3-yl)-2,2-difluoroethanone 1c.



Yield: 32%. Yellow solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.00 (s, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.84 – 7.74 (m, 1H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 6H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -59.92. ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, Acetone-d₆) δ 160.12, 151.74, 149.99, 149.92, 132.41, 130.87, 130.43, 127.17, 126.78, 124.80 (t, *J* = 236.3 Hz), 115.36, 45.68. HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for [M+H]⁺ (C₁₃H₁₂ClF₂N₂O) requires m/z 285.0601, found m/z 285.0600.

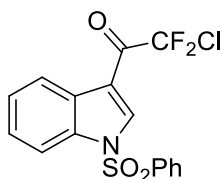
3-Chlorodifluoroacetyl indole 1e.



Yield: 83%. White solid. Mp: 207-208°C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 12.66 (s, 1H), 8.49 – 8.45 (m, 1H), 8.22 – 8.15 (m, 1H), 7.62-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.29 (m, 2H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d₆)

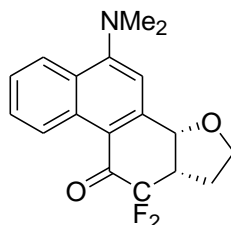
δ -59.98. ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 175.75 (t, J = 28.5 Hz), 137.14, 136.60, 126.20, 124.18, 123.31, 121.19, 120.67 (t, CF_2 , J = 303.8 Hz), 113.00, 107.36. LRMS (ESI) $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 230.0$.

1-Phenylsulphonyl-3-chlorodifluoroacetyl indole 1f.



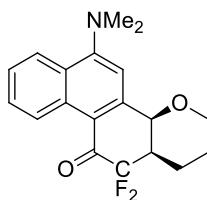
Yield : 87%. White solid. Mp: 131-132°C. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.46 (t, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.37 – 8.31 (m, 1H), 7.95-8.02 (m, J = 5.4, 3.8, 2.4, 1.5 Hz, 3H), 7.69 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.59 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.38 (m, 2H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -61.77. ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 177.19 (t, J = 30.2 Hz), 136.99, 135.12, 134.82 (t, J = 7.0 Hz), 134.43, 129.92, 127.80, 127.36, 126.72, 125.67, 124.21, 120.17 (t, J = 302.6 Hz), 113.32, 112.69. HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{11}\text{ClF}_2\text{NO}_3\text{S}$) requires m/z 370.0111, found m/z 370.0108.

5-(Dimethylamino)-11,11-difluoro-1,2,11,11a-tetrahydrophenanthro[1,2-b]furan-10(3aH)-one 3aa.



PE/ETOAc : 90/10. Yield: 71%. Brown solid. Mp : 97-99°C. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.32 (dd, J = 8.7, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (dd, J = 8.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.69 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.57 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 5.33 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.04 – 3.93 (m, 1H), 3.92 – 3.82 (m, 1H), 3.52 – 3.32 (m, 1H), 3.08 (s, 6H), 2.41 – 2.25 (m, 1H), 2.16 – 1.92 (m, 1H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -99.58 (dd, J = 261.9, 12.2 Hz), -111.60 (dd, J = 261.9, 10.5 Hz). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 184.43 (t, J = 26.3 Hz), 158.06, 144.57, 132.84, 129.34, 127.19, 126.76, 125.90, 125.18, 117.68 (d, J = 1.5 Hz), 114.7 (dd, J = 250.5, 241.5 Hz), 111.89, 76.89 (dd, J = 6.8, 2.3 Hz), 67.32, 45.22, 44.91 (dd, J = 24.0, 21.0 Hz), 26.03 (d, 5.3 Hz). HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2$) requires m/z 318.1300, found m/z 318.1293.

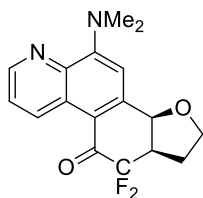
6-(Dimethylamino)-12,12-difluoro-2,3,12,12a-tetrahydro-1H-naphtho[1,2-h]chromen-11(4aH)-one 3ab.



PE/EtOAc : 95/5. Yield: 44%. Brown solid. Mp : 132-134°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 9.36 (dd, J = 8.7, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (dd, J = 8.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.74 – 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.62 – 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 5.20 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (dt, J = 11.3, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.49 – 3.38 (m, 1H), 3.11-3.04 (m, 7H), 1.88 – 1.76 (m, 1H), 1.69 – 1.56 (m, 2H), 1.55 – 1.39 (m, 1H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ -104.36 (dd, J = 265.2, 9.8 Hz), -113.15 (d, J = 263.7 Hz). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 183.01 (t, J = 25.9 Hz), 158.01, 146.00, 133.24, 129.50, 126.05, 125.98, 125.59, 125.49, 115.53 (d, J = 2.4 Hz),

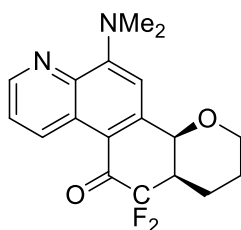
115.28 (dd, $J = 254.1, 234.6$ Hz), 109.68, 70.38 (dd, $J = 6.7, 3.8$ Hz) 62.54, 44.00, 40.92 (t, $J = 21.0$ Hz), 22.68, 19.25 (d, $J = 5.2$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[M+H]^+$ ($C_{19}H_{20}F_2NO_2$) requires m/z 332.1457, found m/z 322.1447.

11-(dimethylamino)-6,6-difluoro-6a,7,8,9a-tetrahydrobenzofuro[6,7-f]quinolin-5(6H)-one 3ba.



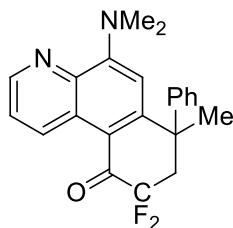
PE/EtOAc : 90/10. Yield: 62%. Brown solid. Mp : 148-150°C. 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 9.73 (dd, $J = 8.8, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 8.82 (dd, $J = 4.1, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, $J = 8.8, 4.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 5.30 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.98 (dd, $J = 15.8, 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.92 – 3.82 (m, 1H), 3.45 – 3.30 (m, 1H), 2.38 – 2.25 (m, 1H), 2.14 – 1.98 (dd, $J = 13.1, 7.9$ Hz, 1H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ -98.55 (dd, $J = 265.8, 12.4$ Hz), -111.33 (dd, $J = 265.8, 10.3$ Hz). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $DMSO-d_6$) δ 182.11 (t, $J = 27$ Hz), 154.26, 146.68, 145.57, 139.72, 133.79, 128.48, 124.01, 114.81 (dd, $J = 249.0, 241.5$ Hz), 111.73, 110.95, 75.93, 75.90, 66.83, 43.93, 43.53 (dd, $J = 24.0, 21.8$ Hz), 25.47 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[M+H]^+$ ($C_{17}H_{17}F_2N_2O_2$) requires m/z 319.1253, found m/z 319.1242.

(12-(Dimethylamino)-6,6-difluoro-6a,8,9,10a-tetrahydro-6H-chromeno[7,8-f]quinolin-5(7H)-one 3bb.



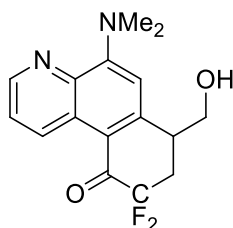
PE/EtOAc : 97/3. Yield: 25%. Orange solid. Mp : 140-142°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 9.86 (dd, $J = 8.8, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 8.80 (dd, $J = 4.1, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd, $J = 8.8, 4.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 5.29 (d, $J = 5.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.81 – 3.75 (m, 1H), 3.50 – 3.37 (m, 7H), 3.08 – 2.97 (m, 1H), 1.98 – 1.87 (m, 1H), 1.81 – 1.67 (m, 1H), 1.64 – 1.54 (m, 1H), 1.53 – 1.39 (m, 1H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ -104.75 (dd, $J = 269.9, 10.3$ Hz), -117.20 (d, $J = 270.4$ Hz). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 182.97 (t, $J = 25.3$ Hz), 155.90, 146.70, 146.16, 140.70, 135.34, 130.05 (d, $J = 1.7$ Hz) 123.83, 115.04 (dd, $J = 255.5, 244.4$ Hz), 113.85 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz), 109.28, 70.66 (dd, $J = 8.1, 2.0$ Hz), 62.31, 44.38, 42.84 (t, $J = 21.2$ Hz), 23.59, 19.58 (d, $J = 6.1$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[M+H]^+$ ($C_{18}H_{19}F_2N_2O_2$) requires m/z 333.1409, found m/z 333.1406.

5-(Dimethylamino)-9,9-difluoro-7-methyl-7-phenyl-8,9-dihydrobenzo[*f*]quinolin-10(7H)-one 3bg



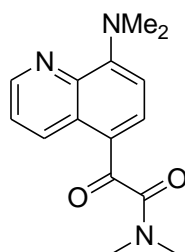
PE/EtOAc: 90/10. Yield: 10%. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.94 (dd, $J = 8.8, 1.6$ Hz, 4H), 8.86 (d, $J = 2.7$ Hz, 5H), 7.60 (dd, $J = 8.8, 4.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.30 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.21 (dd, $J = 8.3, 1.3$ Hz, 2H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 3.20 (s, 6H), 3.00 – 2.85 (m, 1H), 2.77 – 2.65 (m, 1H), 1.99 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -98.58 (ddd, $J = 274.9, 29.6, 13.0$ Hz), -103.03 (dt, $J = 274.9, 9.2$ Hz). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 184.09 (t, $J = 25.4$ Hz), 156.40, 148.08, 146.67, 136.43, 129.88, 129.03, 128.69, 127.31, 127.13, 125.39, 123.98, 123.89, 112.67 (t, $J = 2.4$ Hz), 47.23 (t, $J = 21.2$ Hz), 44.14, 29.80 (d, $J = 3.8$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{21}\text{F}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}$) requires m/z 367.1616, found m/z 367.1601

5-(Dimethylamino)-9,9-difluoro-7-(hydroxymethyl)-8,9-dihydrobenzof[*f*]quinolin-10(7*H*)-one 3bh



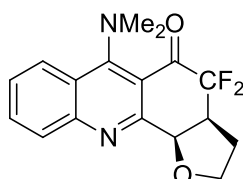
PE/EtOAc: 7/3. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.83 (dd, $J = 8.8, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.77 (dd, $J = 4.1, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, $J = 8.8, 4.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 4.07 – 3.90 (m, 2H), 3.39 (s, 7H), 2.82 – 2.47 (m, 2H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -99.53 (ddd, $J = 274.1, 27.3, 12.2$ Hz), -101.51 – -103.79 (m). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 182.36 (t, $J = 25.3$ Hz), 153.74, 149.67, 146.07, 139.35, 133.90, 129.51, 123.79, 114.31 (t, $J = 245.4$ Hz), 112.54, 111.24, 64.89 (d, $J = 2.3$ Hz), 43.93, 39.79, 32.36 (t, $J = 22.2$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$) requires m/z 307.1253, found m/z 307.1253.

2-(8-(Dimethylamino)quinolin-5-yl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-oxoacetamide 8.



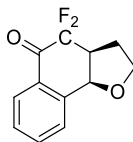
PE/EtOAc : 7/3. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.79 (dd, $J = 8.7, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.84 (dd, $J = 4.1, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, $J = 8.7, 4.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.38 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 6H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 3.00 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 191.83, 168.23, 155.37, 146.64, 146.41, 140.99, 137.36, 134.81, 129.52, 123.52, 117.44, 110.80, 44.25, 37.39, 34.11. HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$) requires m/z 272.1394, found m/z 272.1392.

6-(Dimethylamino)-4,4-difluoro-2,3,3a,4-tetrahydrofuro[3,2-*c*]acridin-5(11*bH*)-one 3ca.



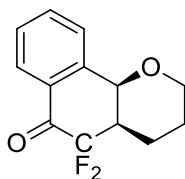
PE/EtOAc : 80/20. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.18 (dd, $J = 8.6, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.09 (dd, $J = 8.4, 0.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (ddd, $J = 8.3, 6.9, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 5.17 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.02 (ddd, $J = 23.8, 12.2, 6.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.20 (s, 6H), 2.44 – 2.20 (m, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -111.95 (dd, $J = 256.0, 15.1$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{F}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$) requires m/z 319.1253, found m/z 319.1243.

4,4-Difluoro-2,3,3a,4-tetrahydronaphtho[1,2-b]furan-5(9bH)-one 3da.



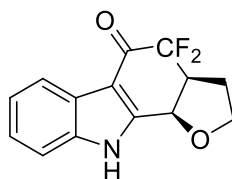
PE/EtOAc: 90/10. Yield: 53%. Colorless oil. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.04 (dd, $J = 7.9, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.70 (m, 1H), 7.65 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.31 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.99 (dd, $J = 15.9, 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.86-3.77 (m, 1H), 3.49 – 3.30 (m, 1H), 2.35-2.26 (m, 1H), 2.03 – 1.86 (m, 1H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -100.46 (dd, $J = 273.8, 12.1$ Hz), -112.78 (dd, $J = 273.8, 10.9$ Hz). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 184.80 (t, $J = 26.6$ Hz), 140.74, 136.06, 130.29, 129.41, 128.55 (d, $J = 3.8$ Hz), 126.82, 114.63 (dd, $J = 249.1, 244.0$ Hz), 75.17 (t, $J = 4.4$ Hz), 67.03, 43.77 (dd, $J = 23.0, 20.4$ Hz), 24.95 (dd, $J = 3.8, 1.8$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_2\text{NaO}_2$) requires m/z 247.0541, found m/z 247.0545.

5,5-Difluoro-3,4,4a,10b-tetrahydro-2H-benzo[h]chromen-6(5H)-one 3db.



PE/EtOAc : 97/3. Yield : 16%. White solid. Mp : 58-60°C. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.17 – 8.10 (m, 1H), 7.79 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 7.54 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 5.33 (d, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.80 – 3.70 (m, 1H), 3.40 (td, $J = 11.5, 2.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.14 – 2.97 (m, 1H), 1.97 – 1.84 (m, 1H), 1.81 – 1.67 (m, 1H), 1.66 – 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.45 – 1.29 (m, 1H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -107.28 (dd, $J = 274.9, 7.9$ Hz), -118.16 – -119.76 (m). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 184.85 (t, $J = 26.3$ Hz), 141.36, 135.95, 129.54 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz), 128.88, 128.40 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 127.90, 115.0 (dd, $J = 258.6, 243.4$ Hz), 70.10 (dd, $J = 7.1, 3.0$ Hz), 61.91, 43.09 (t, $J = 21.2$ Hz), 23.89, 19.09 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2\text{NaO}_2$) requires m/z 261.0698, found m/z 261.0694.

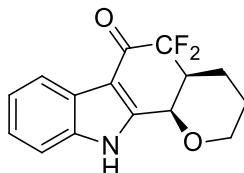
4,4-Difluoro-3a,4,10,10b-tetrahydro-2H-furo[2,3-a]carbazol-5(3H)-one 3ea.



DCM/PE: 90/10. Yield: 83%. White solid. Mp > 210°C. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 8.09 – 8.03 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.30 (pd, $J = 7.2, 1.4$ Hz, 2H), 5.49 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.00-4.08 (m, 1H),

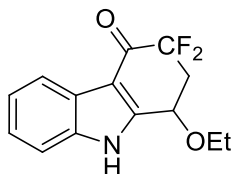
3.78-3.85 (m, 1H), 3.48-3.58 (m, 1H), 2.39 – 2.23 (m, 1H), 2.05 – 1.89 (m, 1H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CD_3OD) δ -95.24 (dd, $J = 280.6, 13.5$ Hz), -113.36 (dd, $J = 280.5, 7.6$ Hz). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 177.93 (t, $J = 26.1$ Hz), 148.83 (s), 137.7 (s), 124.51 (s), 123.49 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz), 122.90 (s), 120.75 (s), 115.78 (dd, $J = 252.4, 243.3$ Hz), 112.74 (s), 109.27 (s), 70.91 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz), 67.75 (s), 46.25 (dd, $J = 25.5, 22.2$ Hz), 25.50 (d, $J = 5.8$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2$) requires m/z 264.0831, found m/z 264.0840.

5,5-Difluoro-3,4,4a,5,11,11b-hexahydropyrano[2,3-a]carbazol-6(2H)-one 3eb.



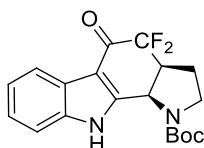
DCM/PE: 90/10. Yield : 67 %. White solid. $\text{Mp} > 210^\circ\text{C}$. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.88 (br. s, 1H), 8.23 (dd, $J = 6.3, 2.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.40 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 5.51 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.88 (ddt, $J = 11.4, 4.0, 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.38 (td, $J = 11.7, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.14-3.04 (m, 1H), 2.02 (d, $J = 16.3$ Hz, 1H), 1.84 – 1.66 (m, 1H), 1.57 – 1.48 (m, 2H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -102.58 (dd, $J_{\text{AB}} = 278.2, 10.6$ Hz), -119.51 (d, $J = 277.8$ Hz). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 178.07 (t, $J = 25.9$ Hz), 149.45, 137.37, 124.24, 124.00, 122.88, 120.60, 116.51 (dd, $J = 256.5, 242.4$ Hz), 112.76, 109.30 (d, $J = 5.2$ Hz), 66.46, 63.39, 41.86 (t, $J = 22.2$ Hz), 22.61, 19.59. HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2$) requires m/z 278.0987, found m/z 278.0991.

1-Ethoxy-3,3-difluoro-2,3-dihydro-1H-carbazol-4(9H)-one 3ec.



DCM/PE: 90/10. Yield: 75%. Pale brown solid. $\text{Mp} : 194\text{-}196^\circ\text{C}$. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.07 (br. s, 1H), 8.27 – 8.20 (m, 1H), 7.41-7.47 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 5.08 (dd, $J = 9.6, 5.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.82-3.94 (m, 1H), 3.67-3.78 (m, 1H), 3.13-3.26 (m, 1H), 2.34-2.56 (m, 1H), 1.37 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -102.43 (ddd, $J = 281.5, 35.0, 10.5$ Hz), -108.41 (ddd, $J = 281.4, 6.5, 4.0$ Hz). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 178.55 (t, $J = 25.7$ Hz), 151.28 (s), 137.17 (s), 124.30 (s), 123.92 (s), 122.87 (s), 120.66 (s), 114.93 (dd, $J = 250.0$ Hz, 244 Hz), 112.79 (s), 108.92 (s), 67.61 (dd, $J = 7.5, 3.8$ Hz), 64.62 (s), 38.23 (t, $J = 22.2$ Hz), 15.29 (s). HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2$) requires m/z 266.0987, found m/z 266.0985.

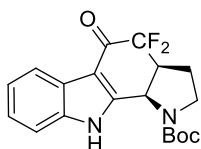
tert-Butyl 4,4-difluoro-5-oxo-3,3a,4,5,10,10b-hexahydropyrrolo[2,3-a]carbazole-1(2H)-carboxylate 3ed.



PE/DCM: 60/40. Yield: 44%. Pale yellow solid. $\text{Mp} : 178\text{-}180^\circ\text{C}$. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-D_6) δ 11.37 (br. s, 1H), 8.02 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 5.49 (d, $J = 7.1$

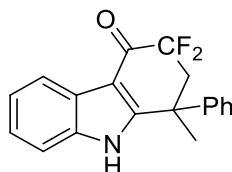
Hz, 1H), 3.67 – 3.48 (m, 2H), 3.23 – 3.16 (m, 1H), 2.25 – 2.12 (m, 1H), 1.91 – 1.83 (m, 1H), 1.53 (s, 9H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -92.72 (ddd, *J* = 280.5, 14.0, 1.3 Hz), -117.86 (dd, *J* = 280.5, 4.4 Hz). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 177.24 (t, *J* = 25.3 Hz), 149.06, 137.44, 123.96, 123.27, 122.60, 120.25, 115.03 (dd, *J* = 252.5, 243.4 Hz), 113.28, 108.35 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 80.13, 45.93, 45.24, 27.95, 27.77 (t, *J* = 11.1 Hz), 24.67, 23.99. HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for [M+H]⁺ (C₁₉H₂₁F₂N₂O₃) requires *m/z* 363.1515, found *m/z* 363.1503.

***tert*-Butyl 5,5-difluoro-6-oxo-2,3,4,4a,5,6,11,11b-octahydro-1H-pyrido[2,3-*a*]carbazole-1-carboxylate 3ee.**



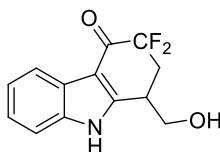
DCM/PE: 70/30. Yield: 33%. Pale yellow solid. Mp > 210 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-*d*₆) δ 11.69 (s, 1H), 11.53 (s, 1H), 8.12 – 8.04 (m, 2H), 7.50 (ddd, *J* = 10.1, 8.1, 3.9 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 4H), 6.17 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 1H), 4.10 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 3.09 – 2.91 (m, 4H), 2.71 (dd, *J* = 18.7, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (dd, *J* = 19.1, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 1.91 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 2H), 1.67 – 1.40 (m, 20H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, Acetone-*d*₆) δ -102.71 – -104.67 (m), -121.06 (dd, *J* = 276.0, 81.0 Hz). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Acetone-*d*₆) δ, 178.74 (t, *J* = 25.3 Hz, CO), 178.65 (t, *J* = 25.3 Hz, CO), 155.41, 154.27, 149.72, 149.63, 138.17, 125.72, 124.94, 123.73, 121.69, 117.22 (dd, *J* = 257.6, 244.4 Hz), 113.28, 113.24, 110.95 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 110.64 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 81.26, 81.10, 60.50, 49.27 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz), 47.98 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz), 45.12 (t, *J* = 22.2 Hz), 44.74 (t, *J* = 22.2 Hz), 41.72, 40.13, 28.36, 23.91, 23.65, 21.33, 20.80, 14.43. HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for [M+H]⁺ (C₂₀H₂₃F₂N₂O₃) requires *m/z* 377.1671, found *m/z* 377.1656.

3,3-Difluoro-1-methyl-1-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-carbazol-4(9H)-one 3eg.



PE/DCM: 70/30. Yield: 42%. Greenish solid. Mp > 210°C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.43 (br s, 1H), 8.10-8.06 (m, 1H), 7.55 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.24 (m, 5H), 7.15 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 3.13 – 2.97 (m, 1H), 2.95-2.82 (m, 1H), 1.90 (s, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ -100.68 (ddd, *J* = 276.3, 27.3, 11.2 Hz), -103.62 (*J* = 276.3, 12.8, 8.8 Hz). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 179.08 (t, *J* = 25.4 Hz), 156.61, 145.82, 137.21, 128.40, 126.84, 126.14, 124.17, 124.10, 122.88, 120.64, 114.54 (t, *J* = 246.4 Hz), 111.26, 110.01, 46.80 (t, *J* = 21.3 Hz), 40.61 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 27.76. HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for [M+H]⁺ (C₁₉H₁₆F₂NO) requires *m/z* 312.1194, found *m/z* 312.1184.

3,3-Difluoro-1-(hydroxymethyl)-2,3-dihydro-1H-carbazol-4(9H)-one 3eh.

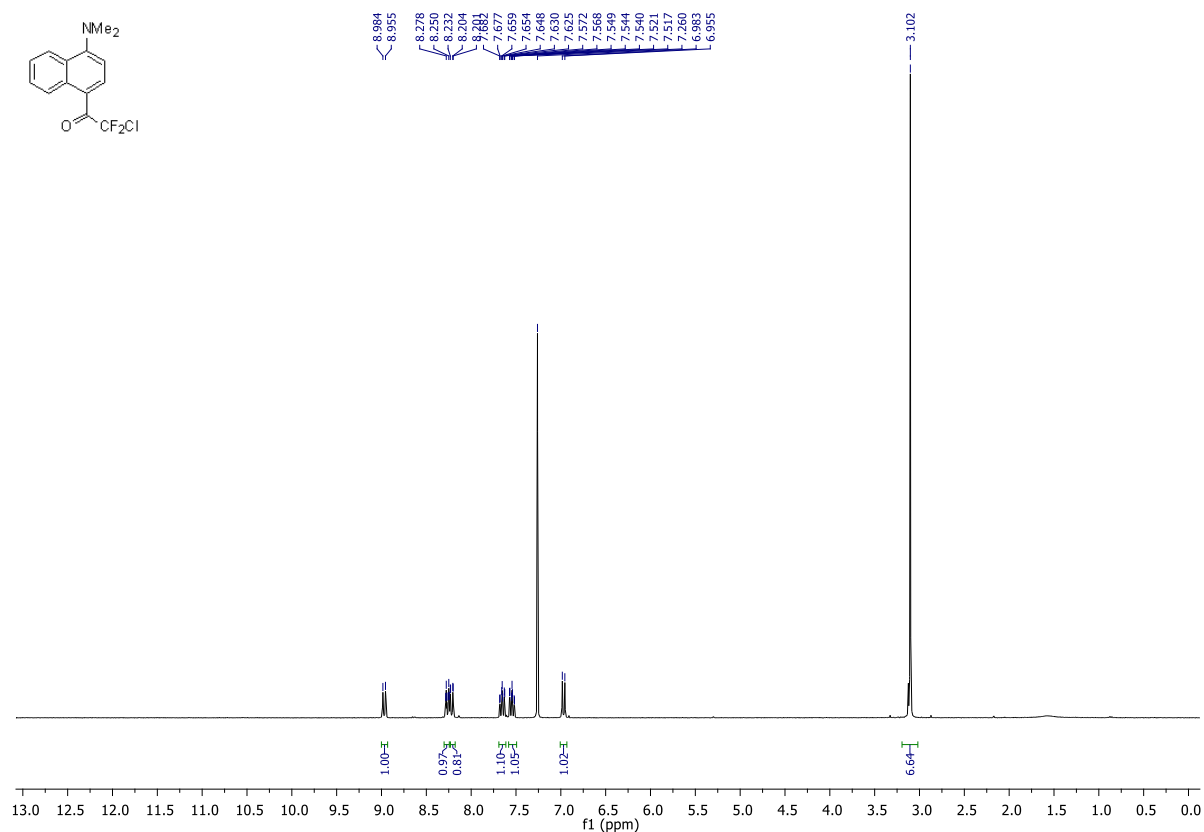


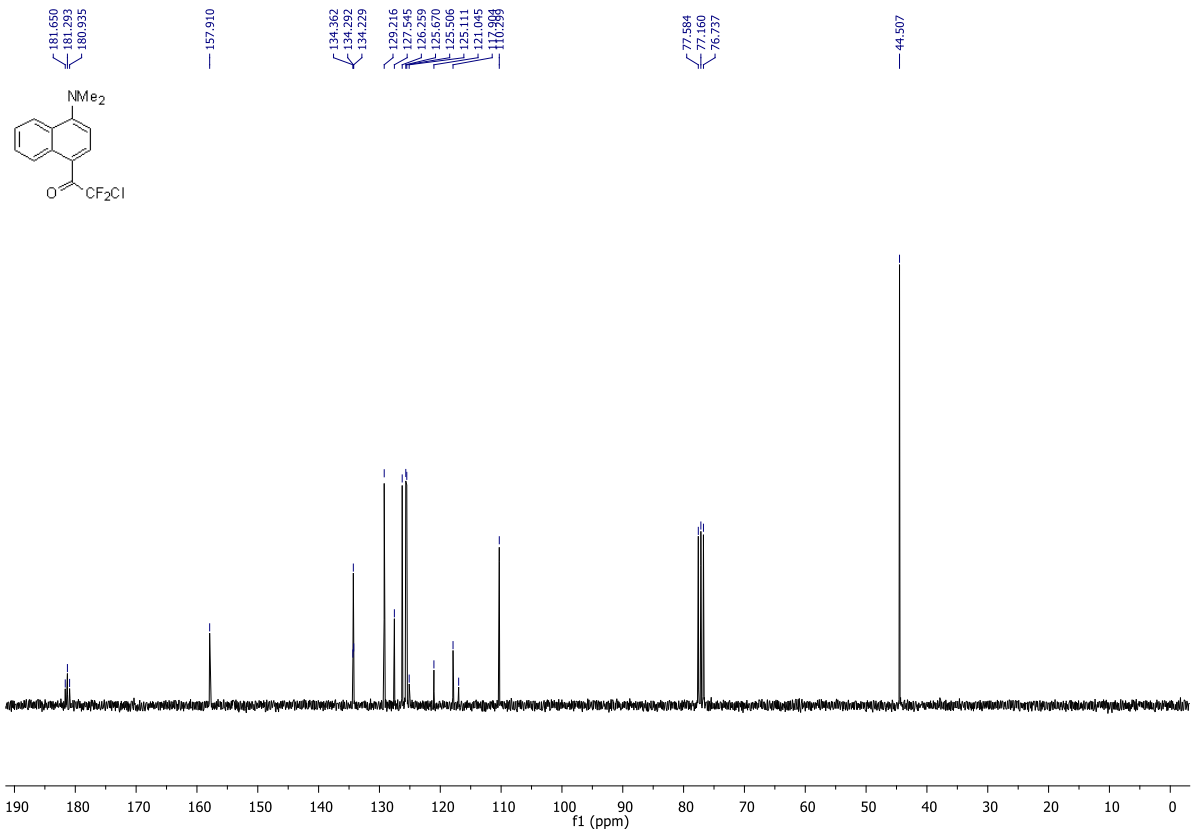
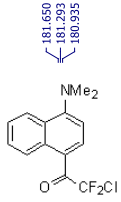
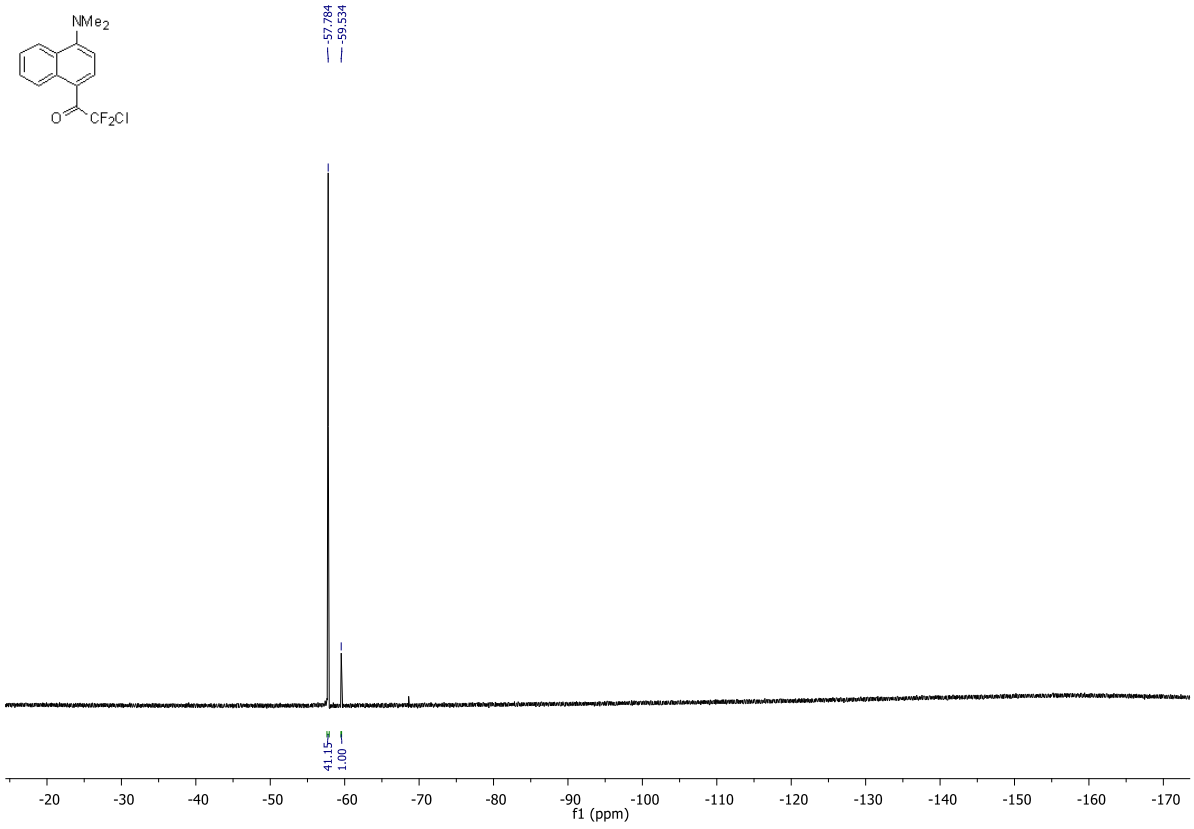
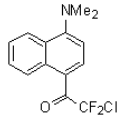
PE/EtOAc: 50/50. Yield: 38%. Brown-orange solid. Mp : 151-153°C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.08-8.02 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 4.05 – 3.87 (m, 2H), 3.59-3.48 (m, 1H),

2.76 – 2.62 (m, 1H), 2.62-2.42 (m, 1H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CD_3OD) δ -106.46 (ddd, $J = 275.1, 27.0, 10.9$ Hz), -108.73 (ddd, $J = 275.1, 14.5, 8.1$ Hz). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 181.60 (t, $J = 26.3$ Hz), 154.68, 138.91, 125.80, 125.27, 123.98, 121.98, 116.57 (dd, $J = 249.5, 246.44$ Hz), 113.19, 111.85, 63.97, 36.17 (dd, $J = 6.1, 3.0$ Hz), 35.81 (t, $J = 24.2$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): exact mass calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2$) requires m/z 252.0831, found m/z 252.0837.

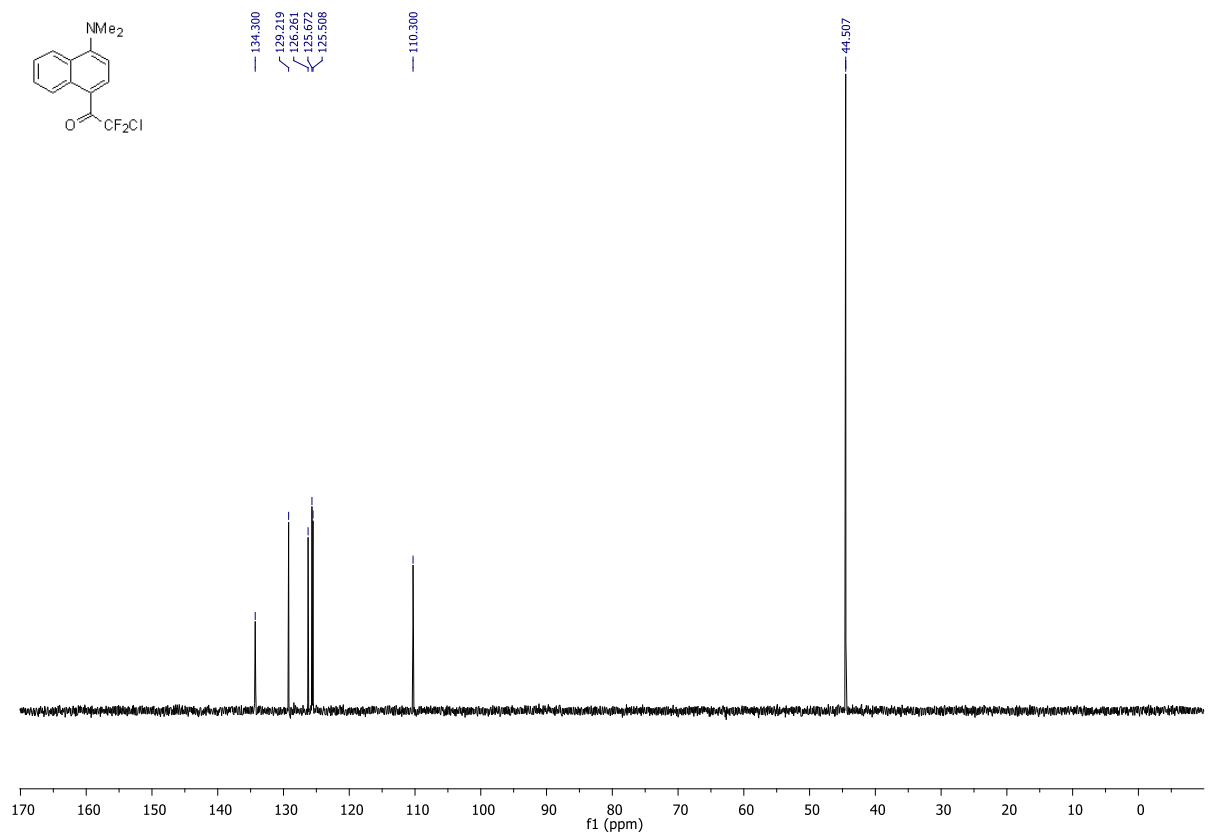
^1H , ^{19}F and ^{13}C Spectra

1a

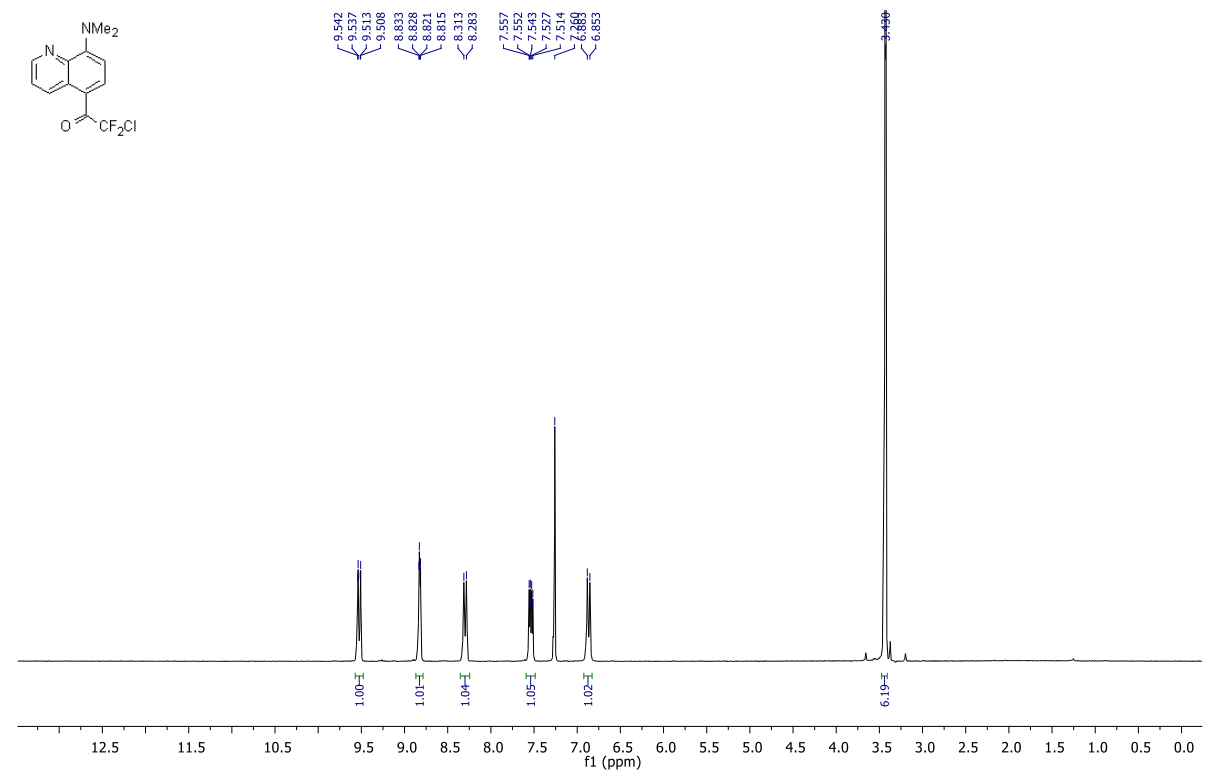


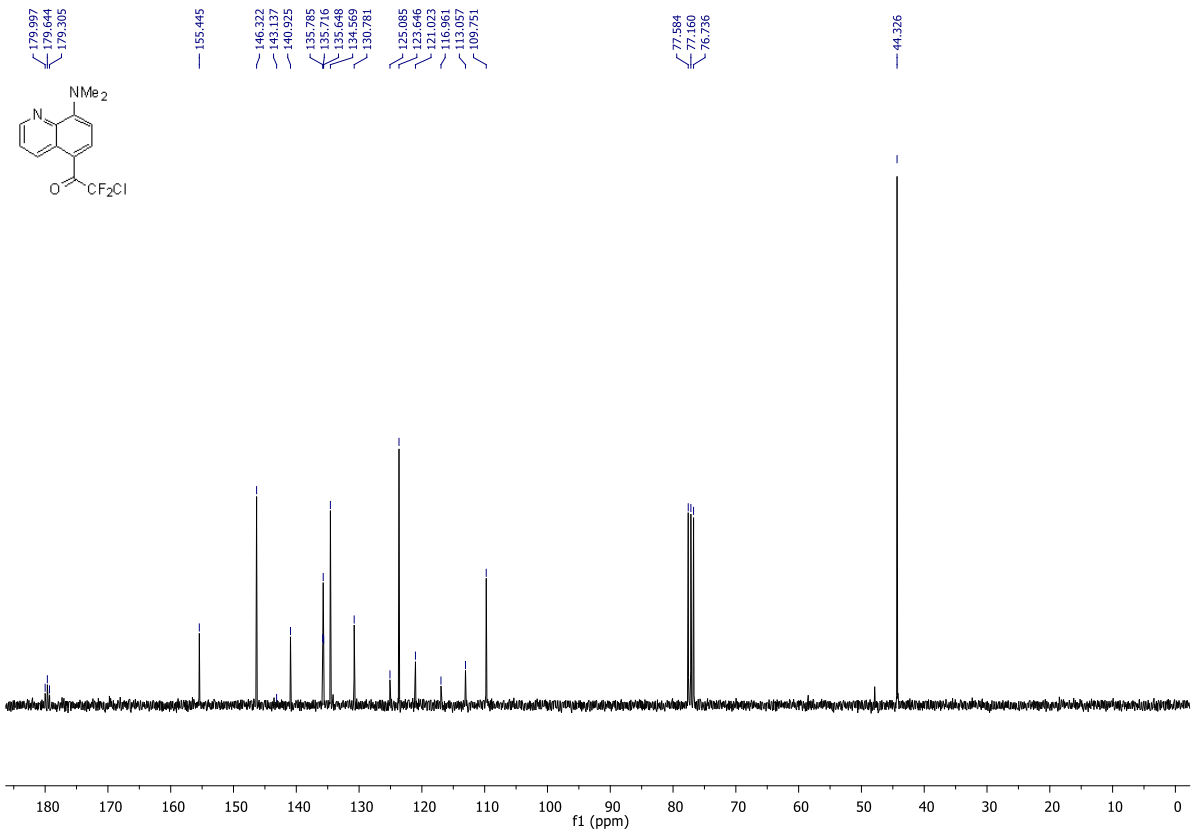
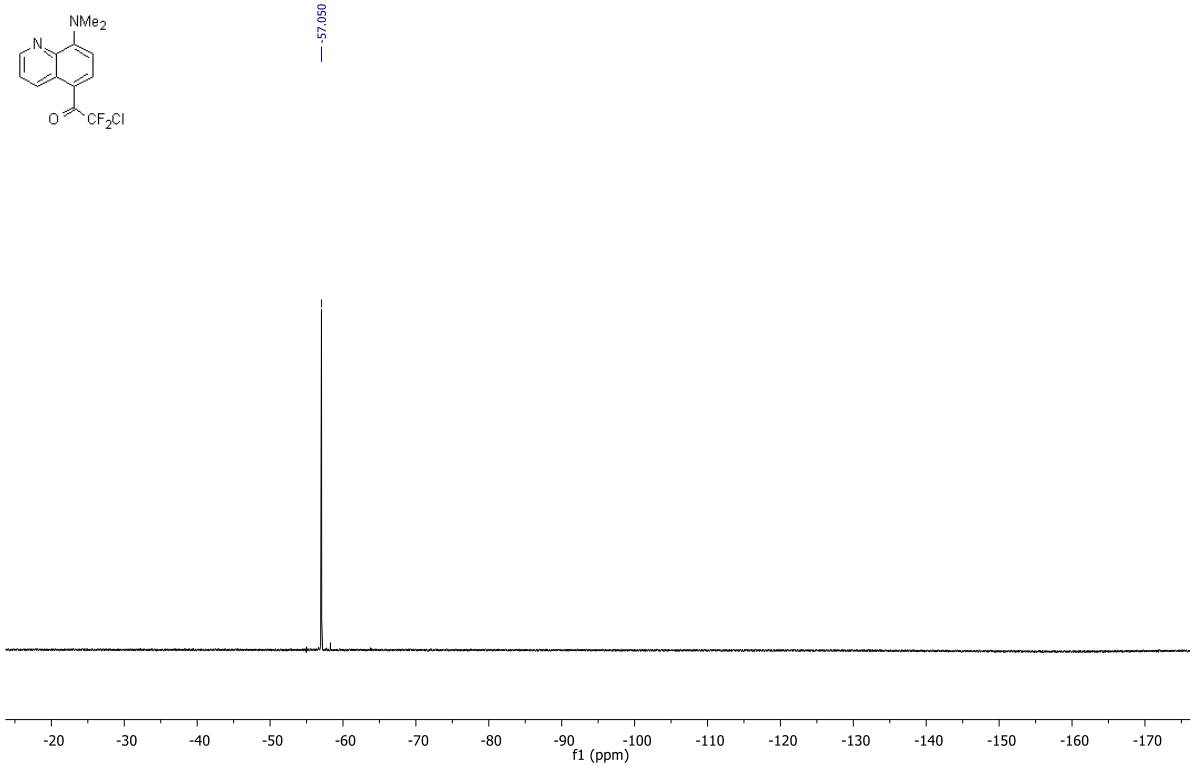
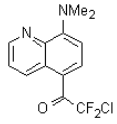


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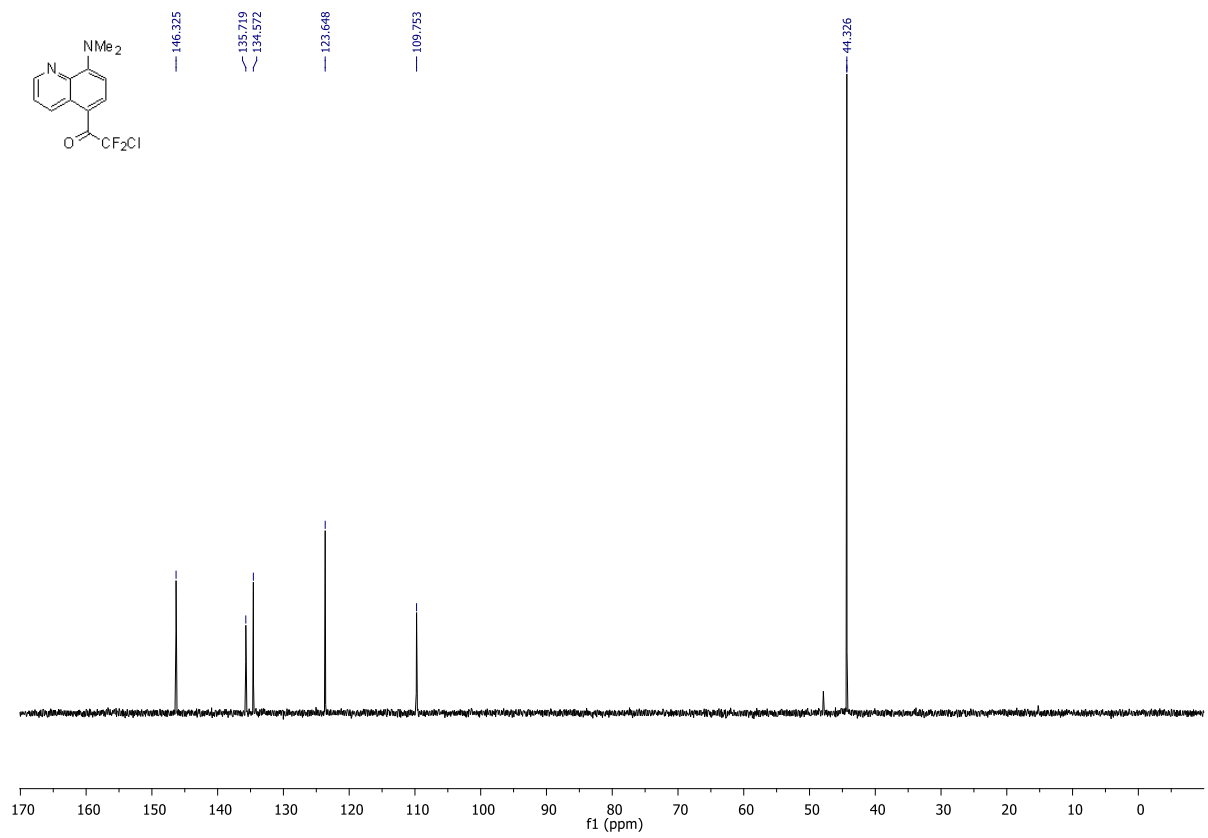


1b

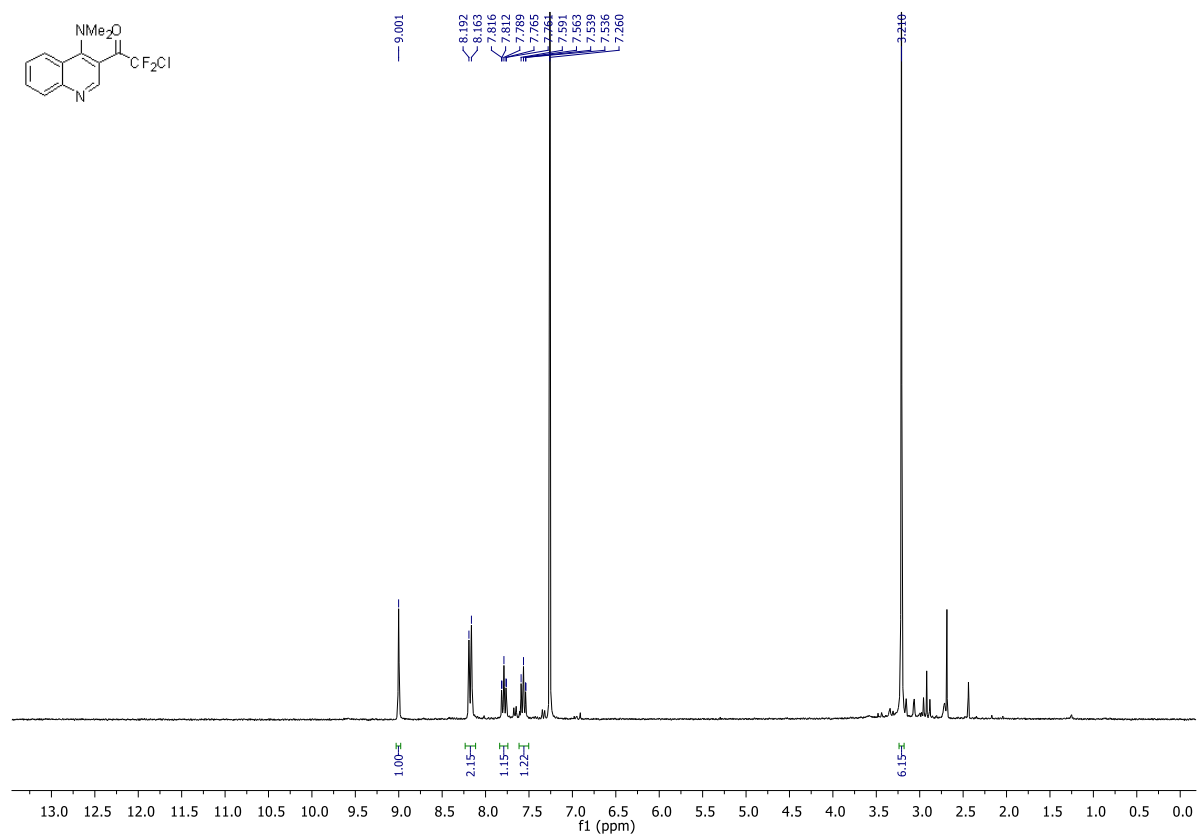


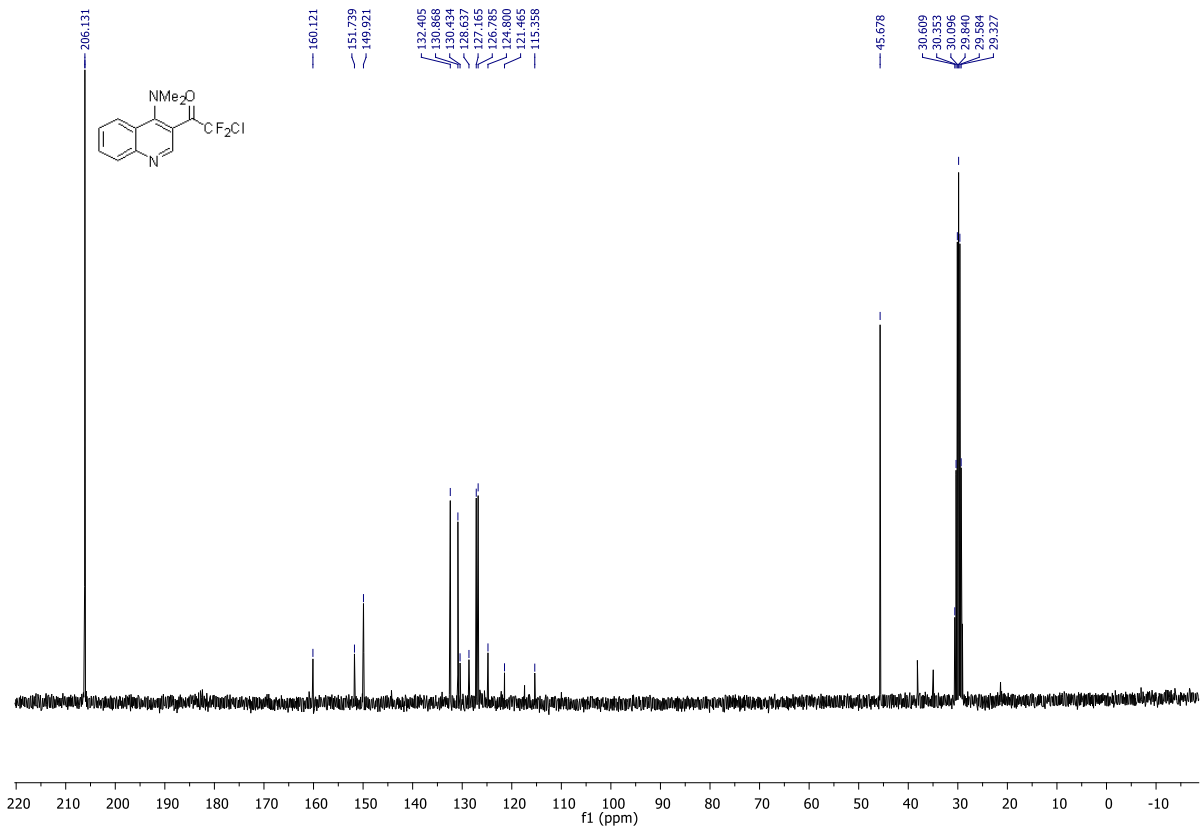
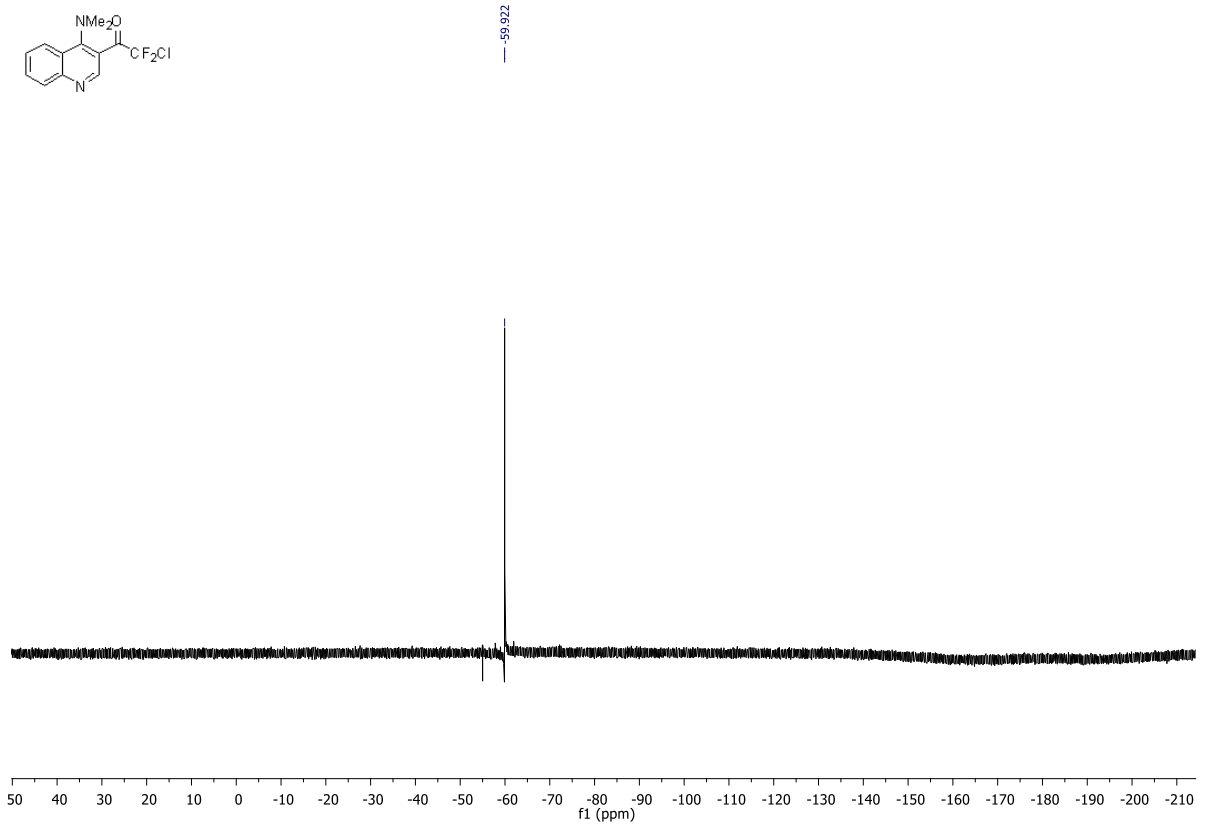
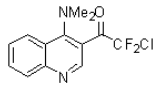


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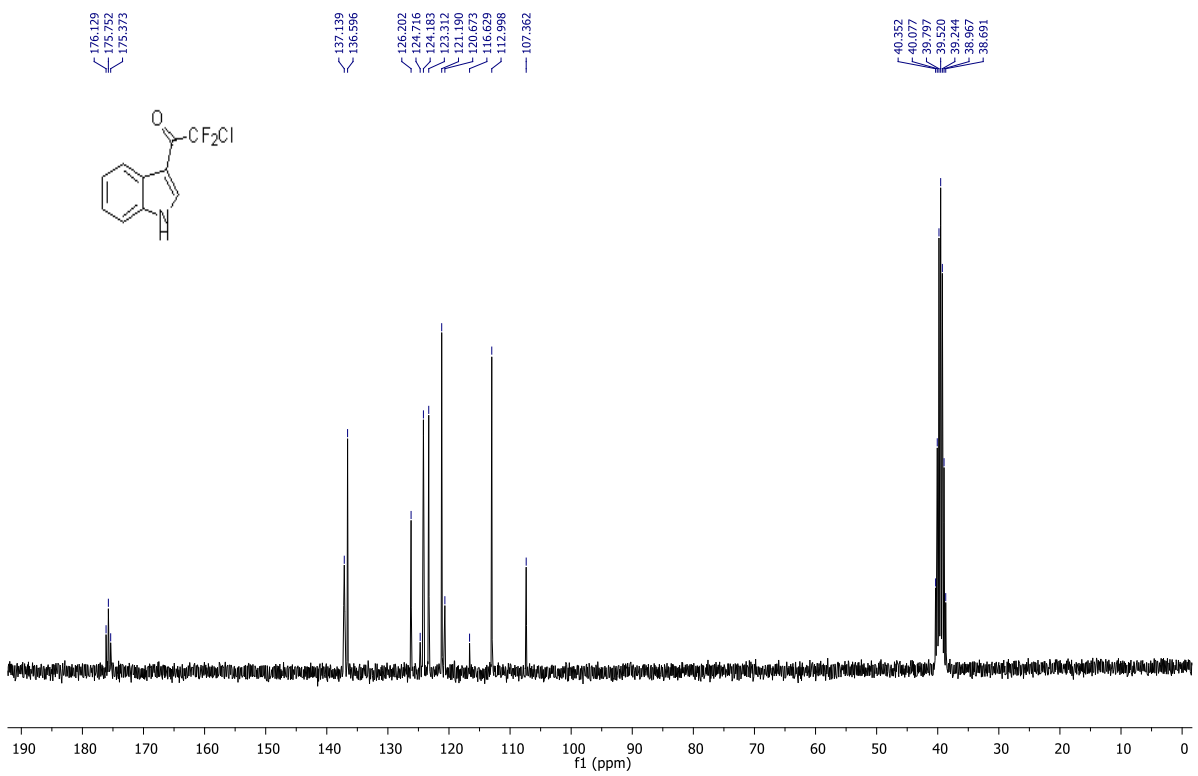
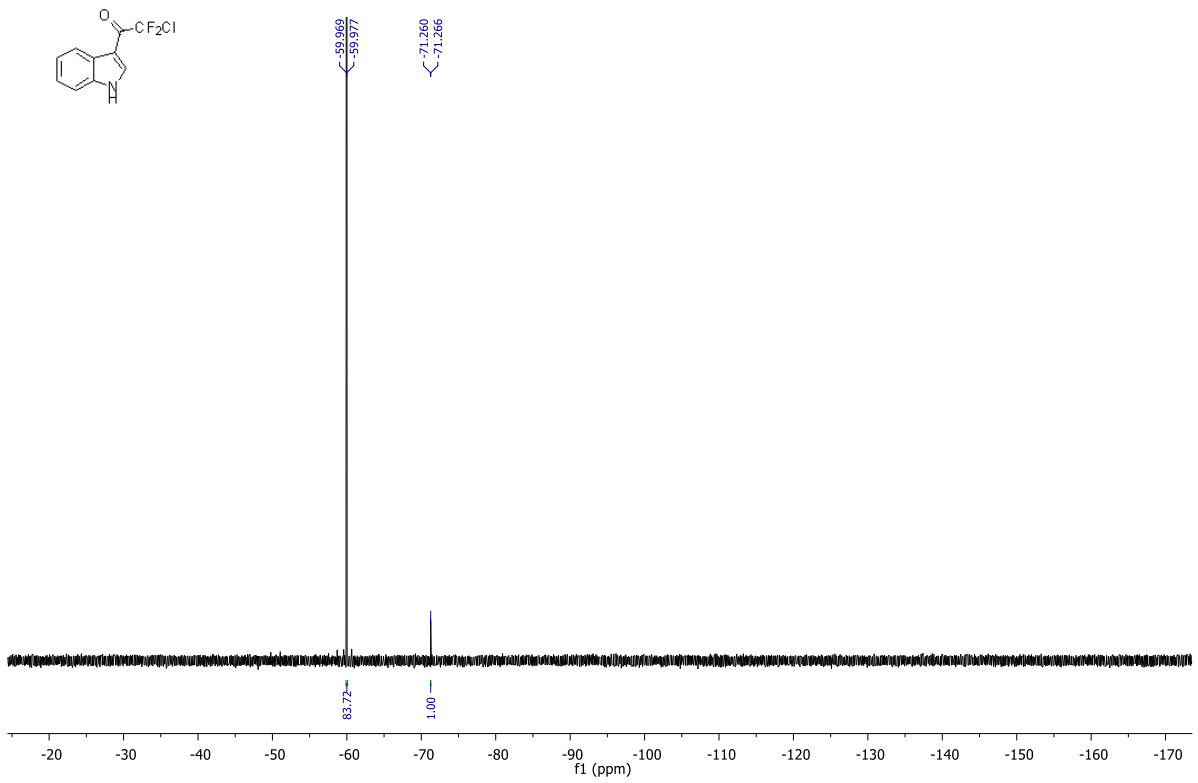


1c

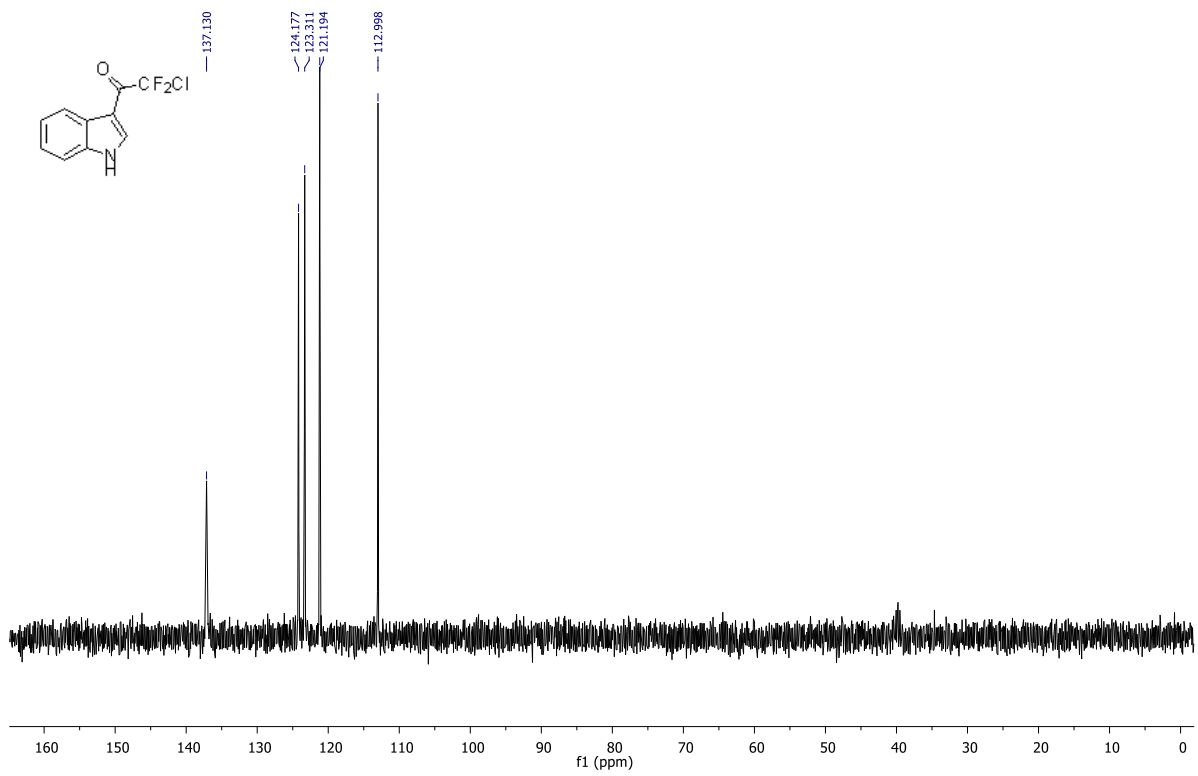




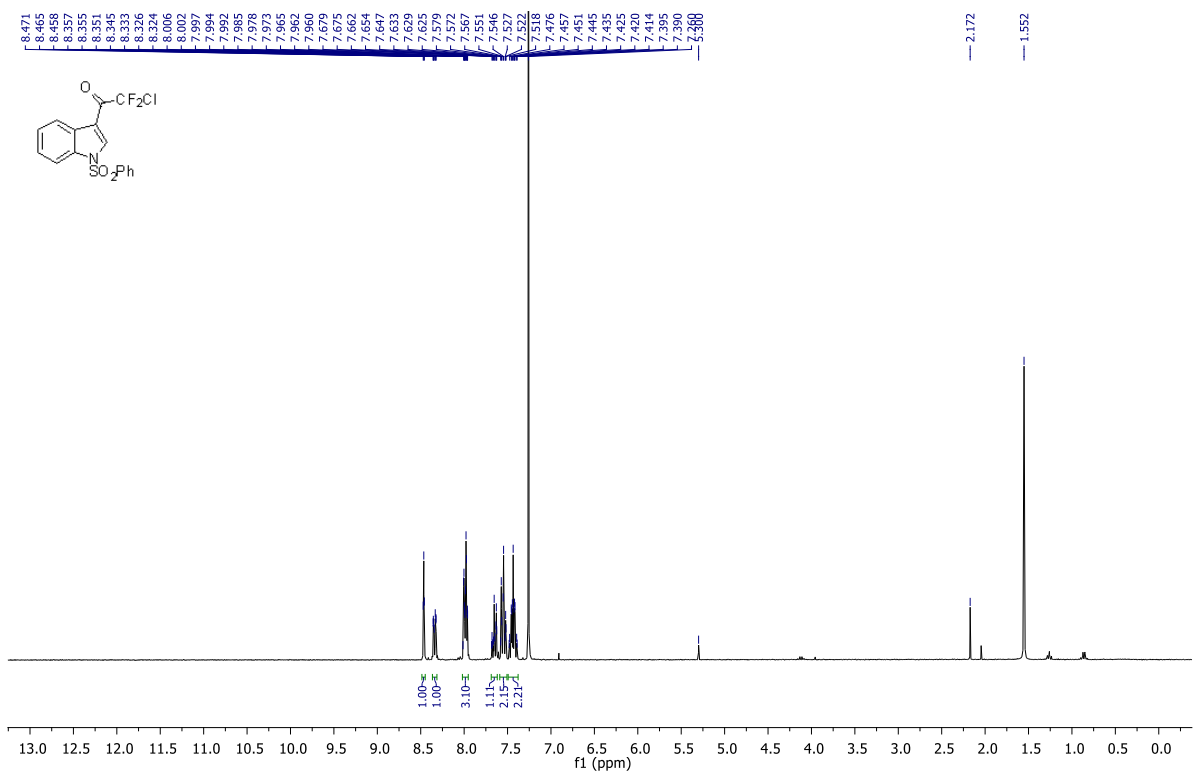
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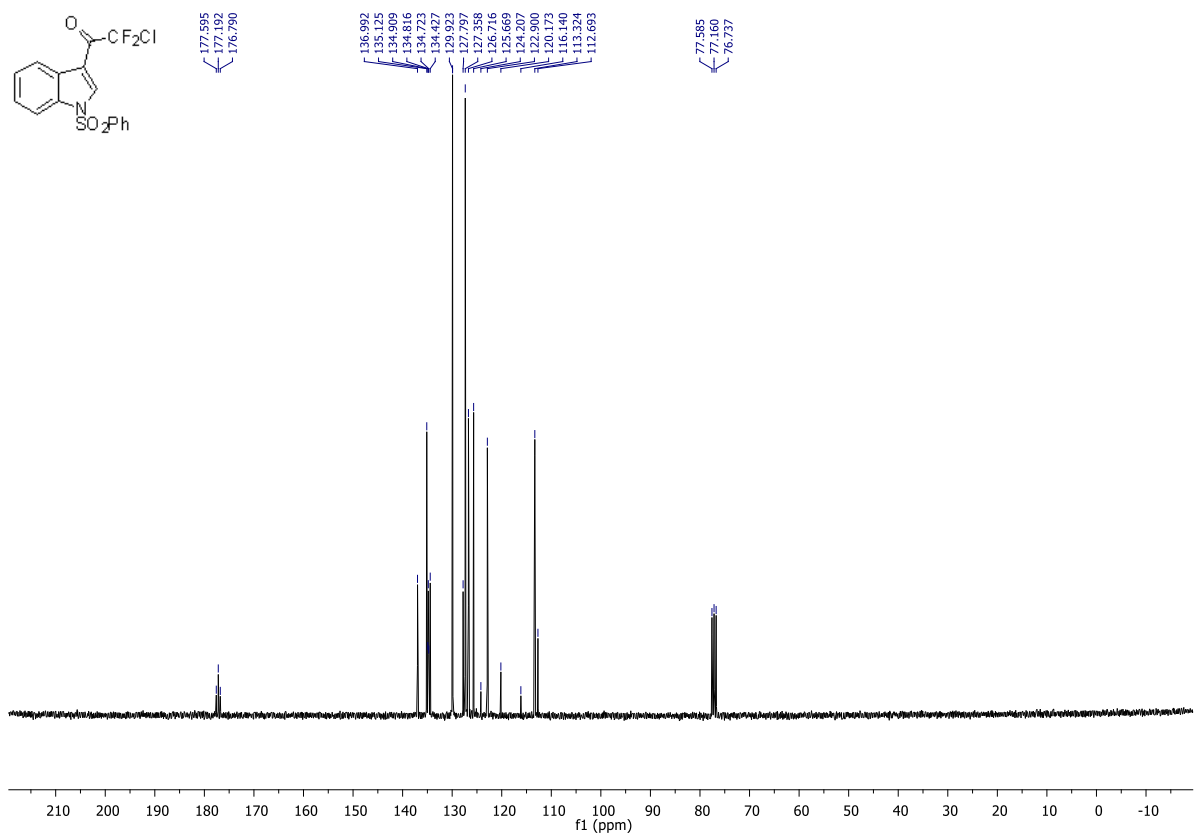
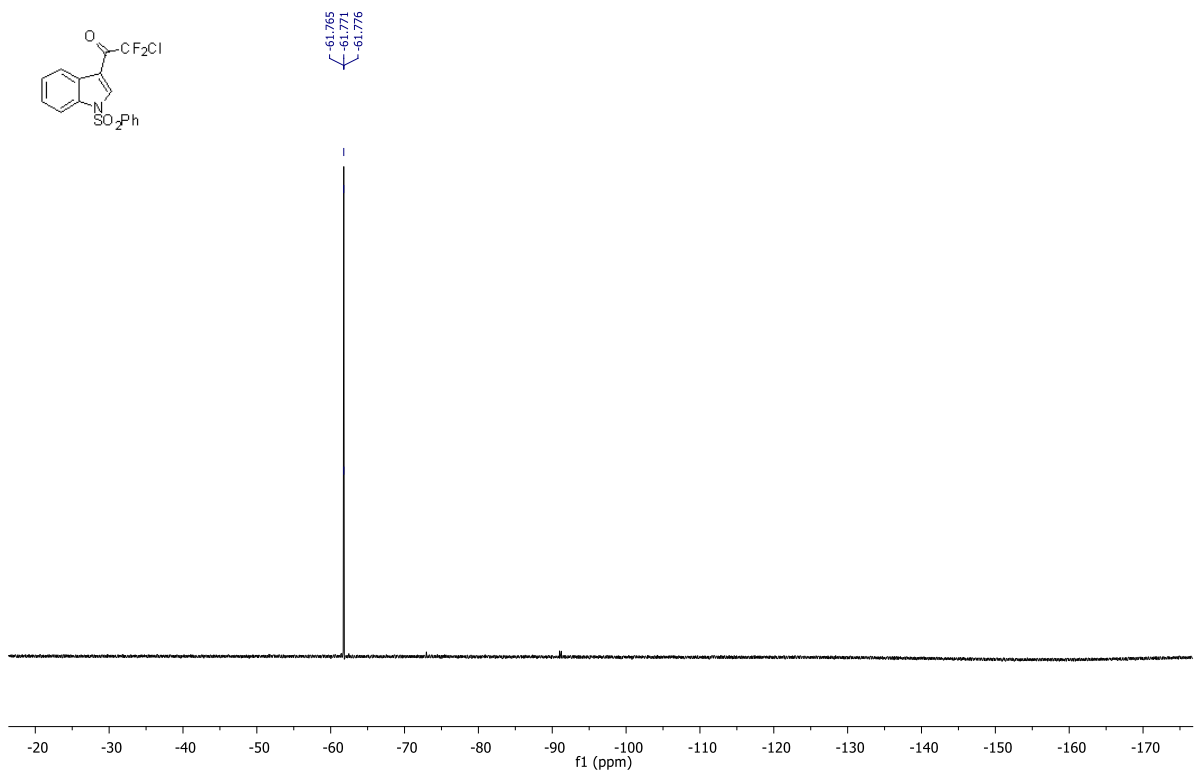


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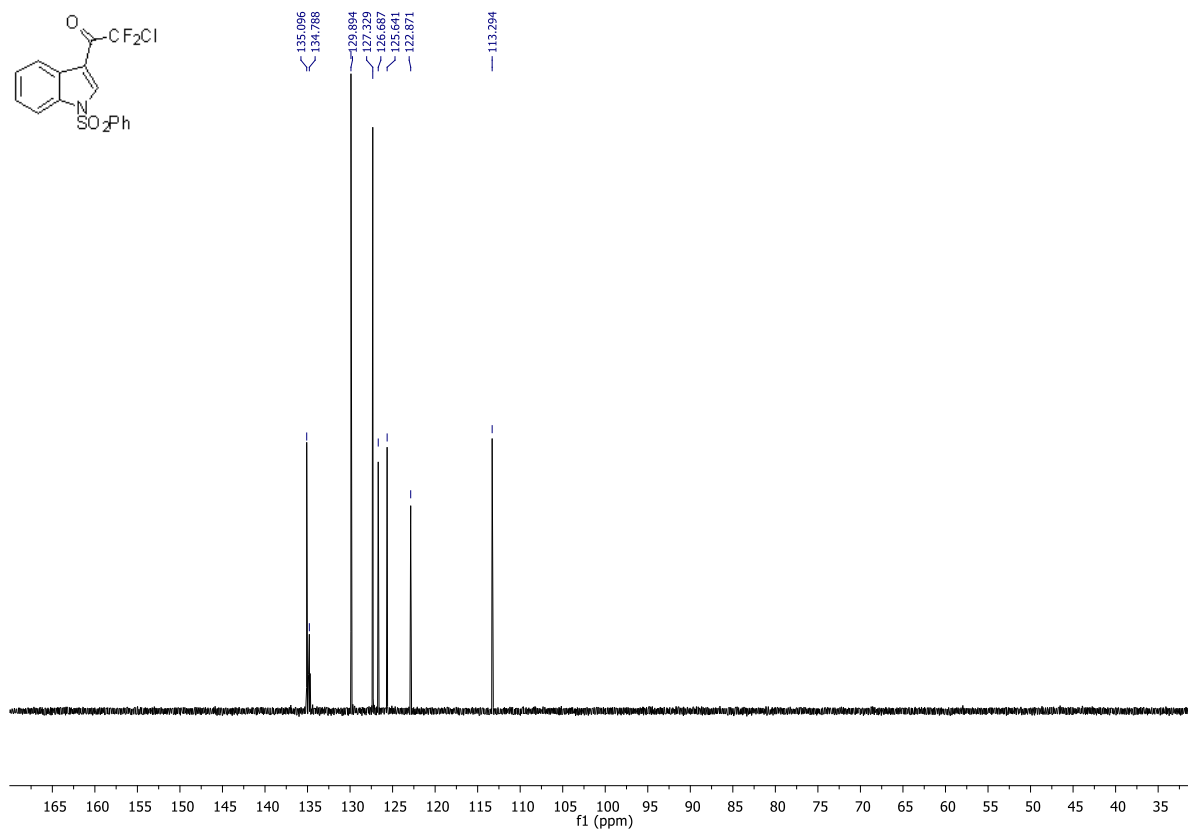
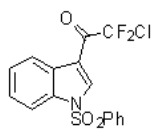


1f

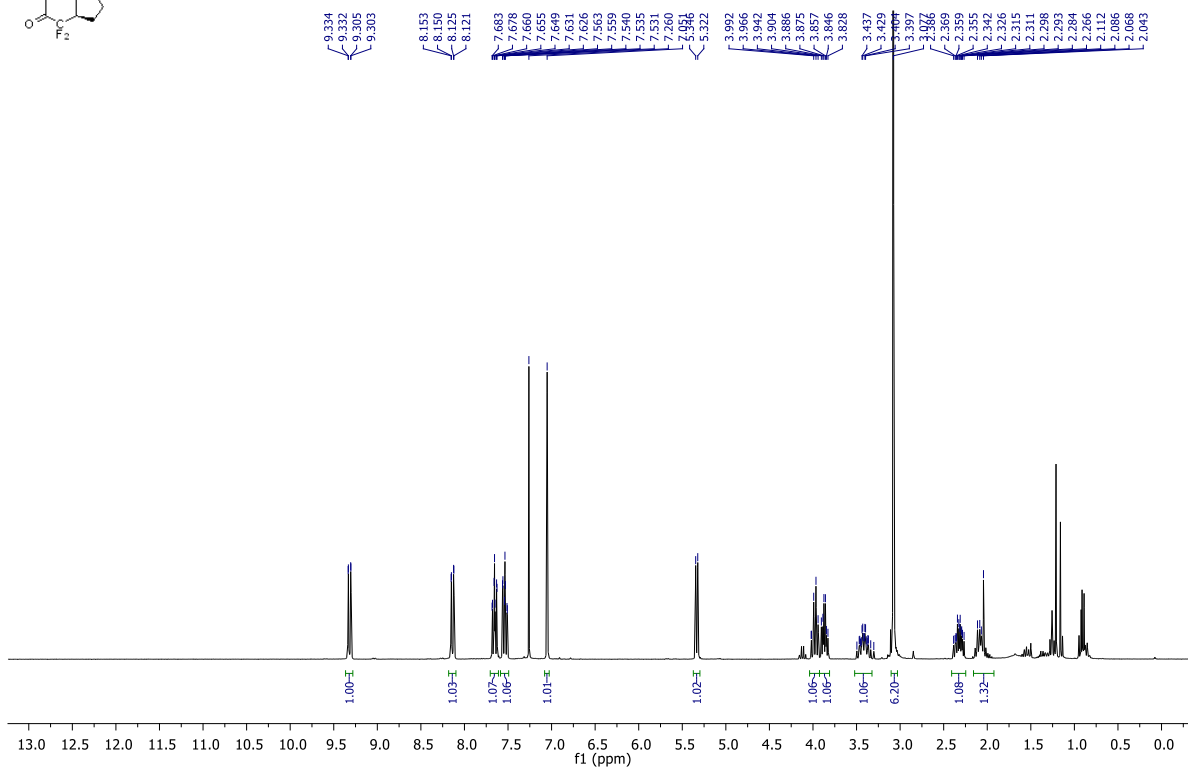
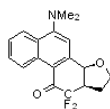


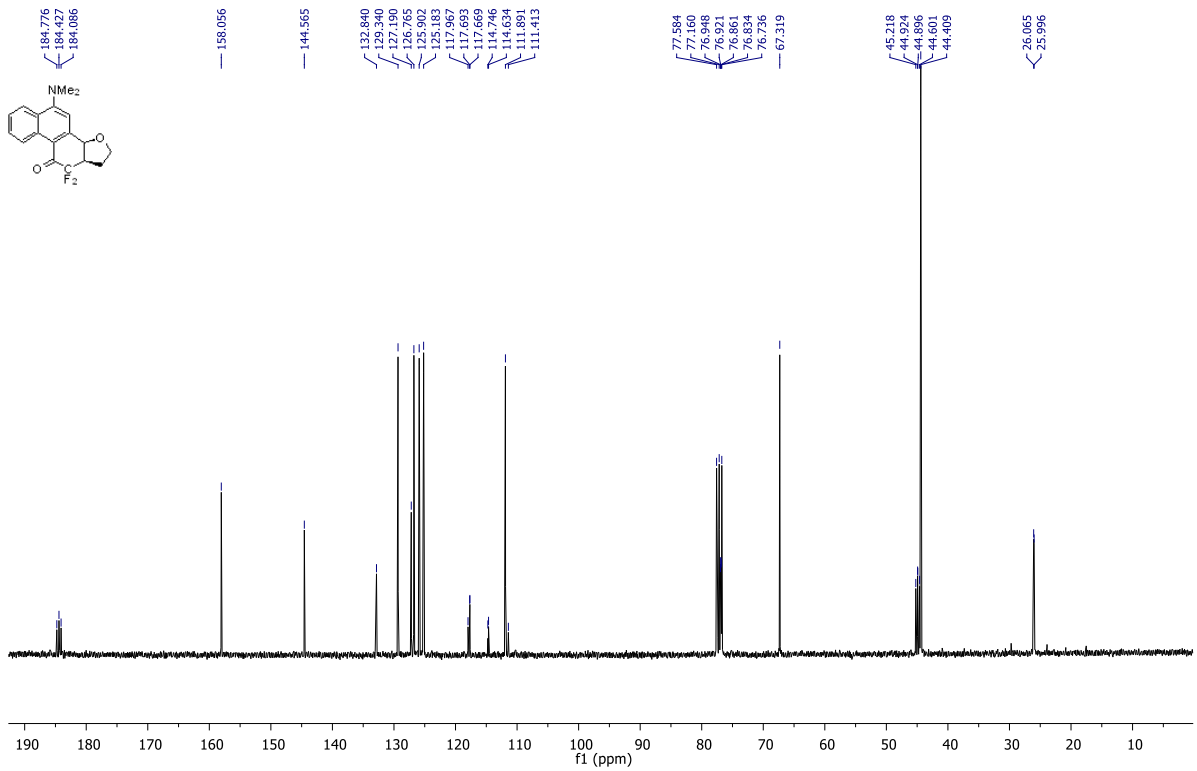
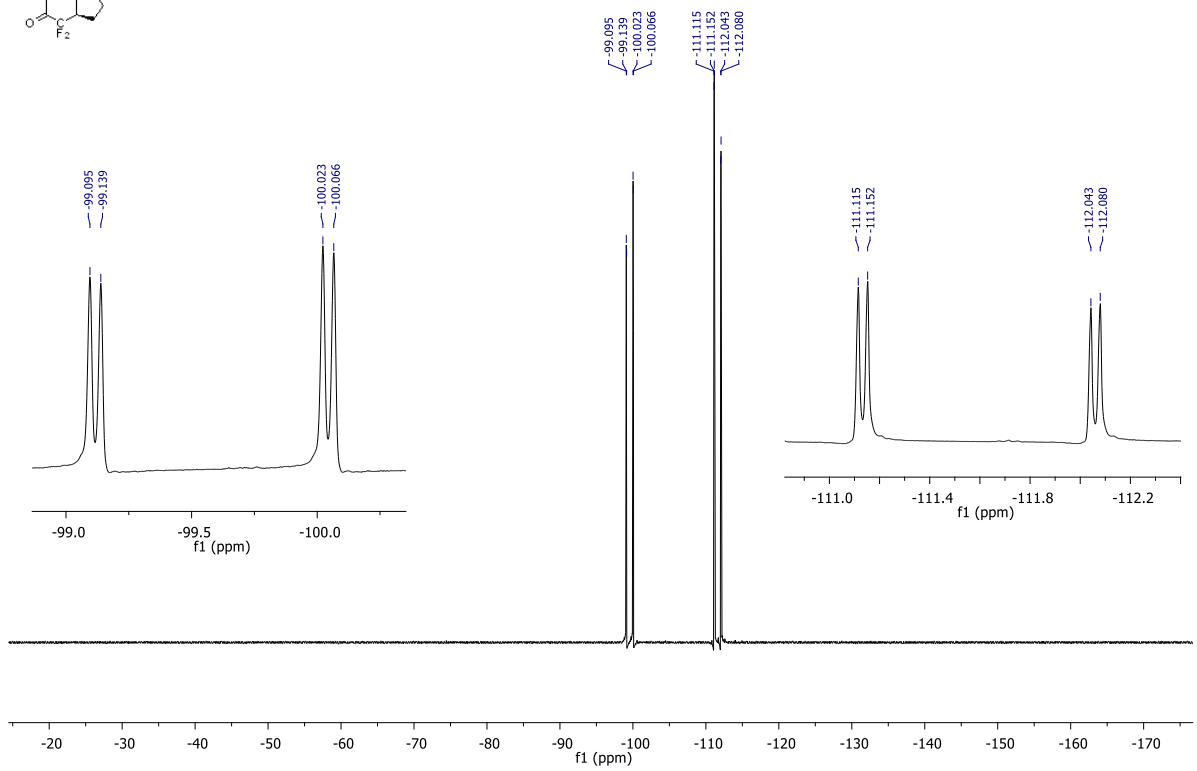
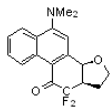


DEPT

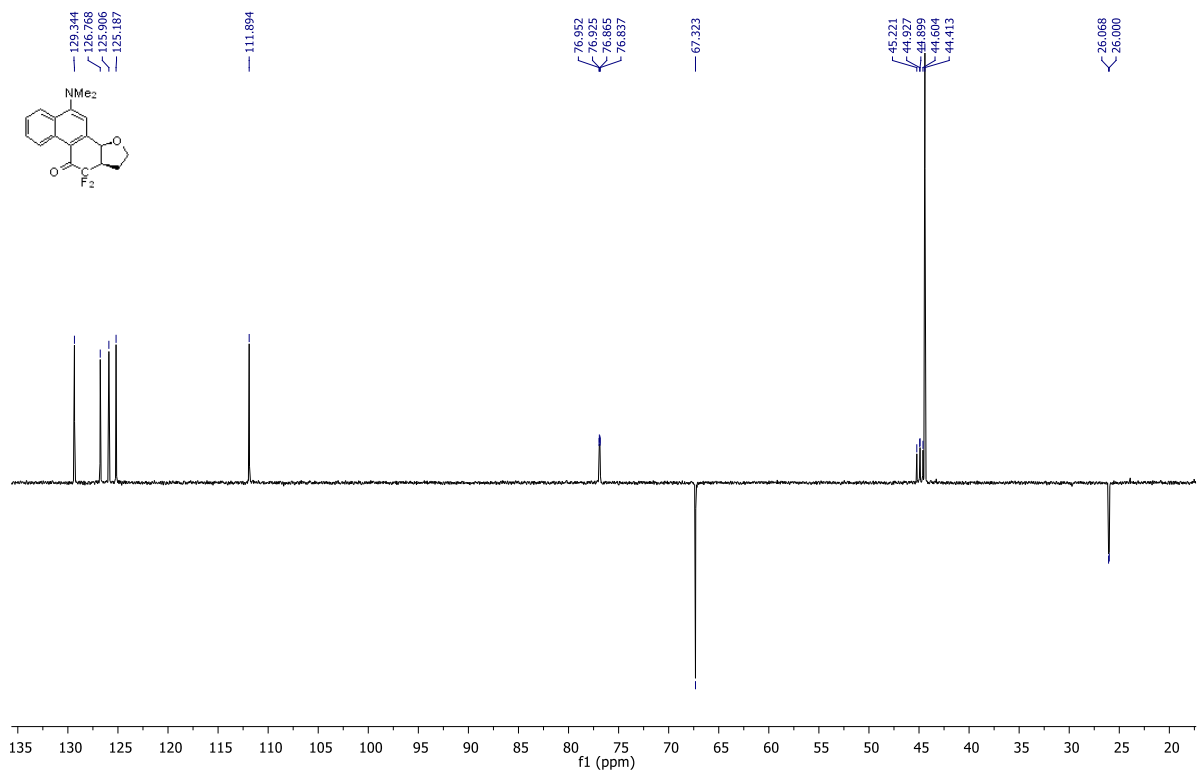


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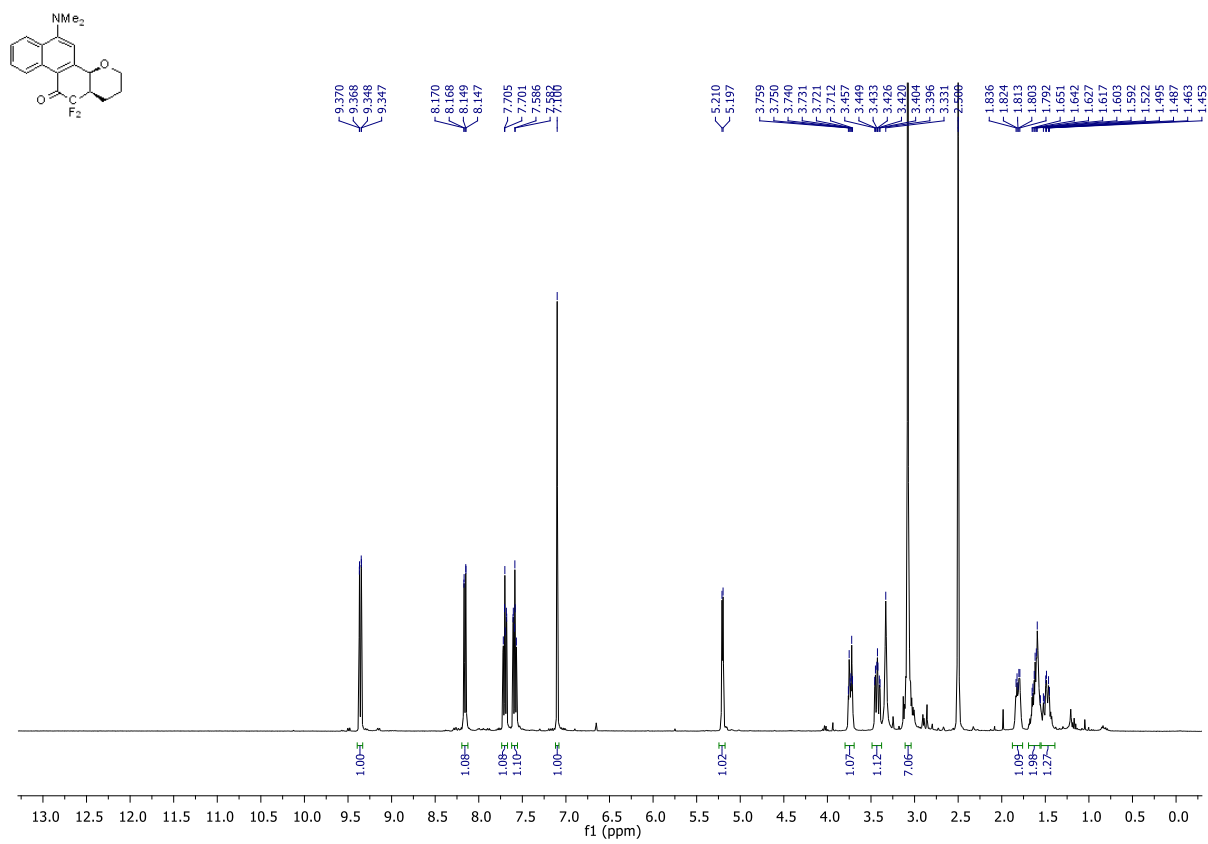


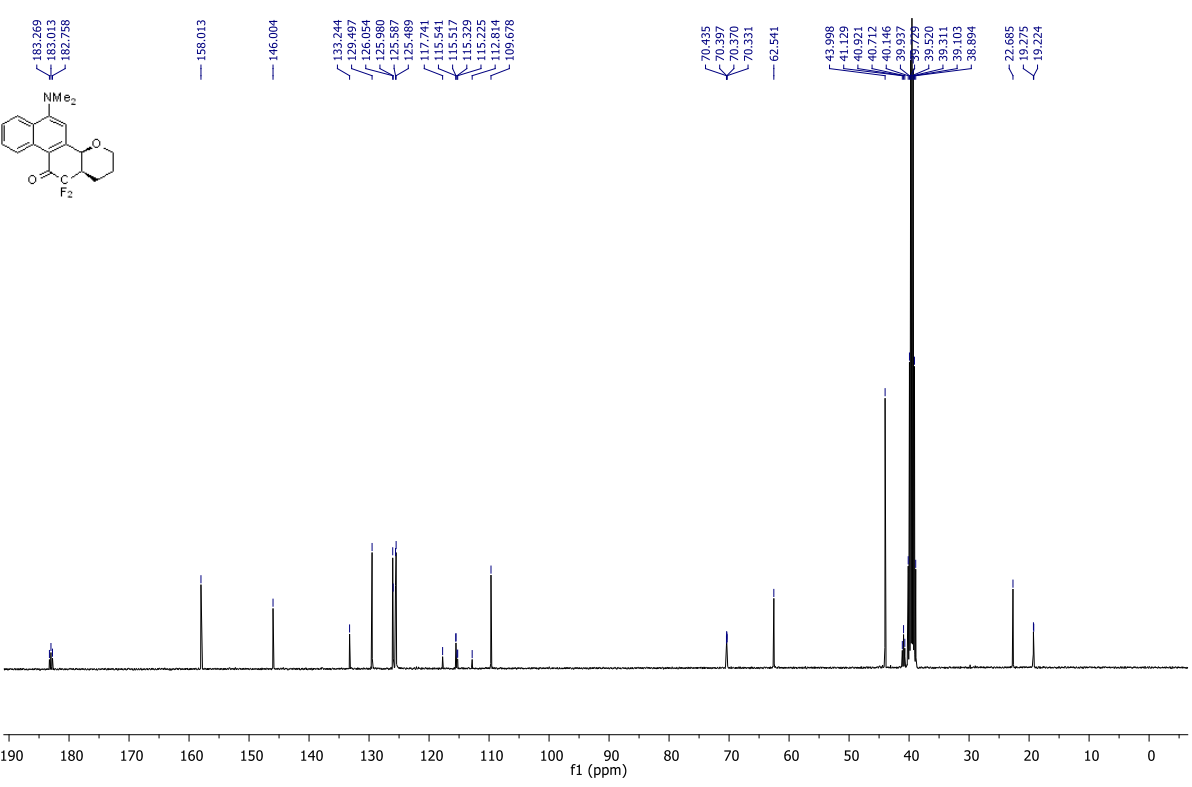
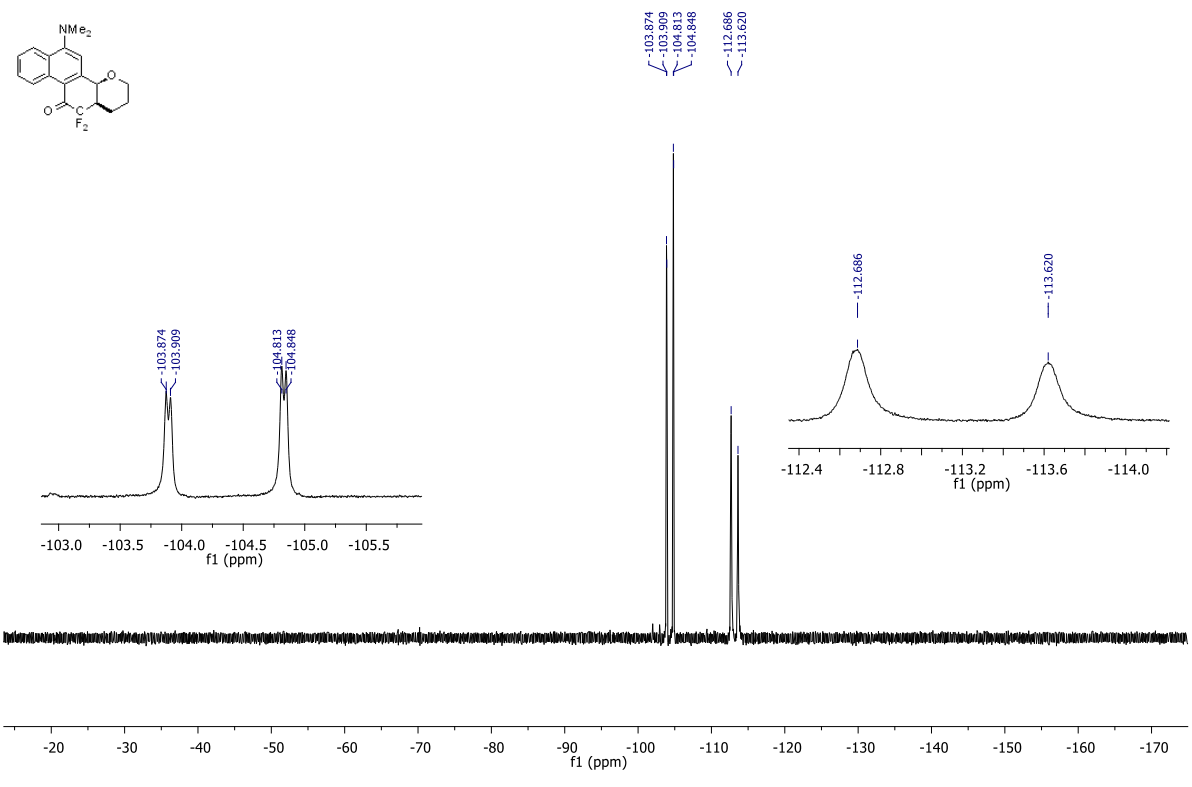


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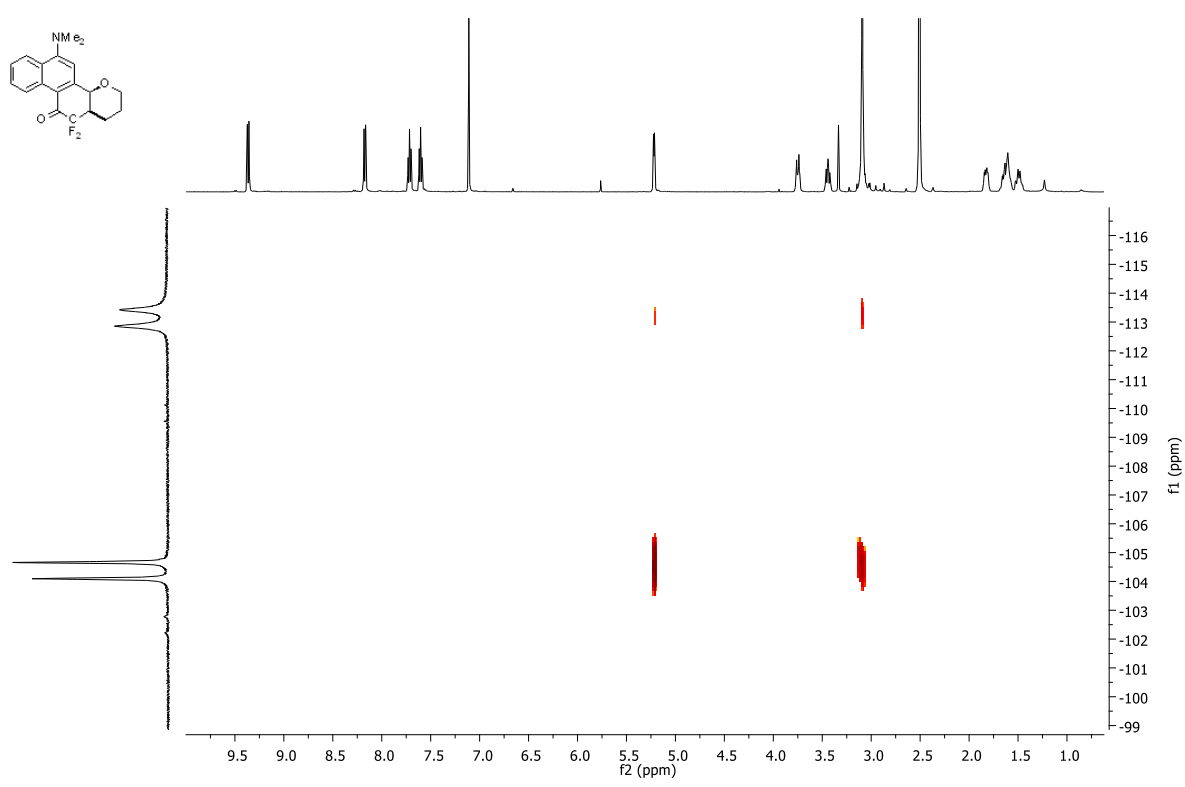
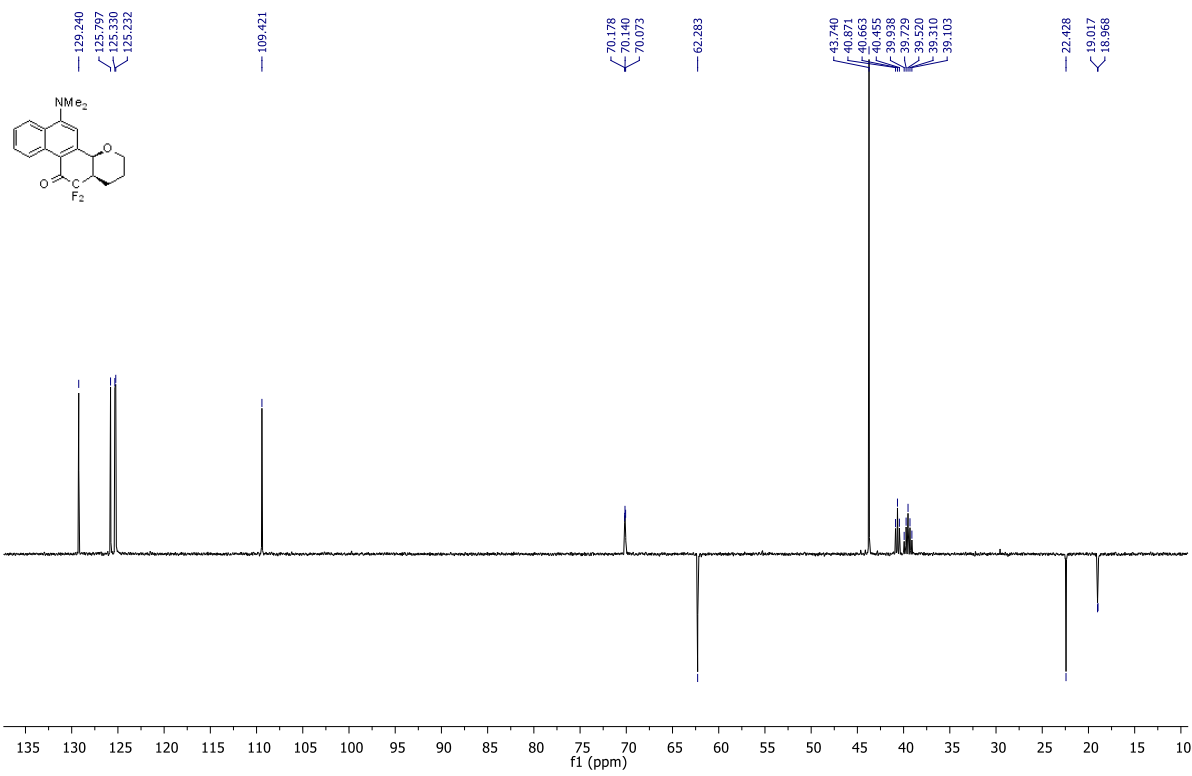


3ab

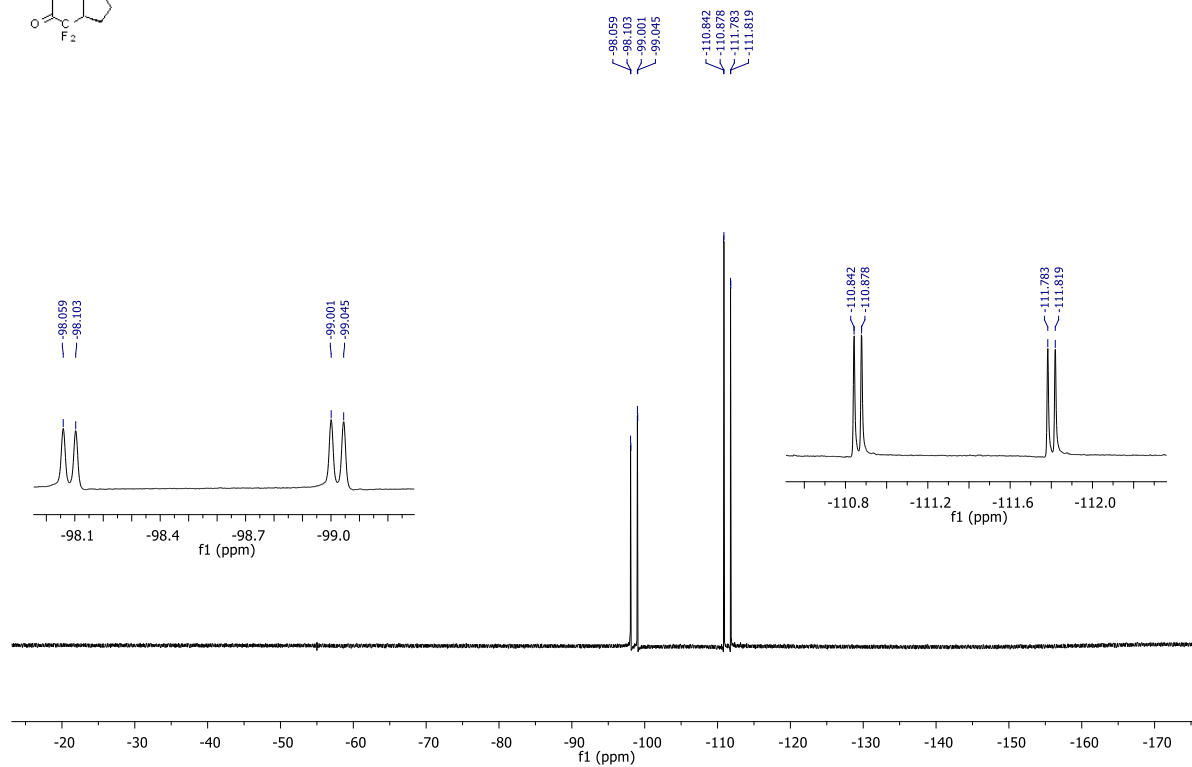
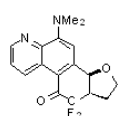
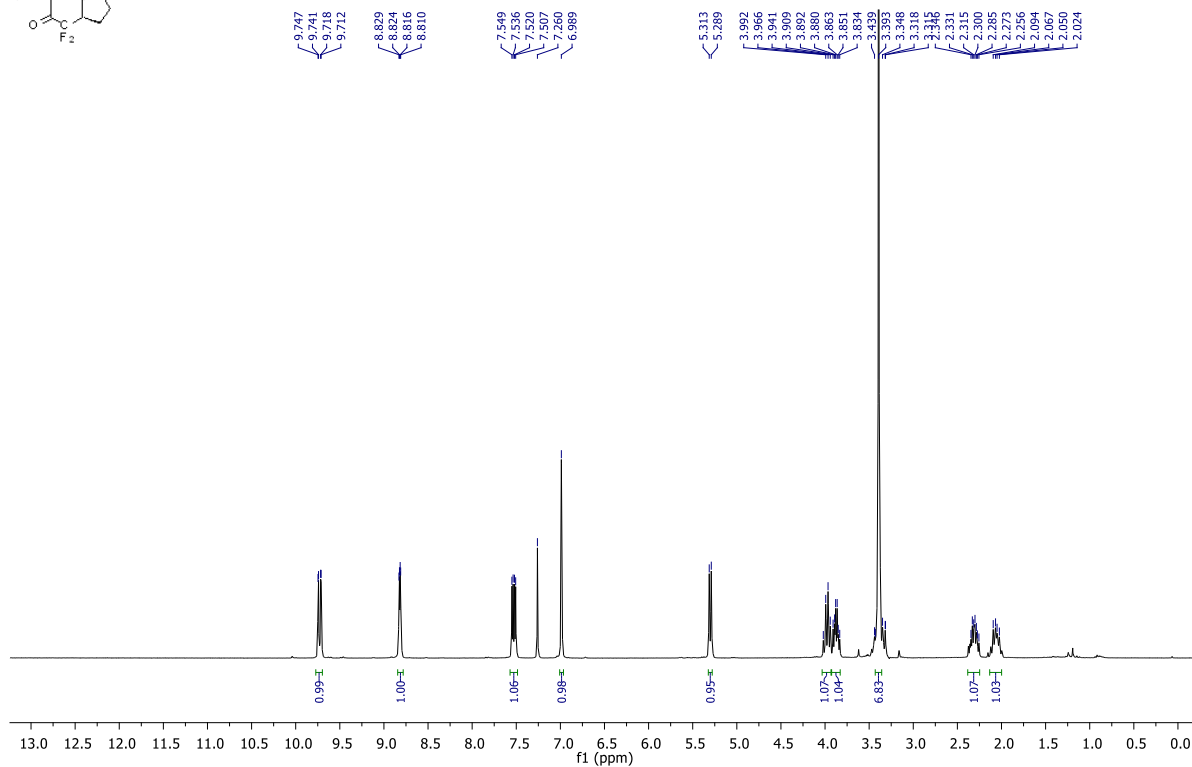
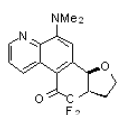


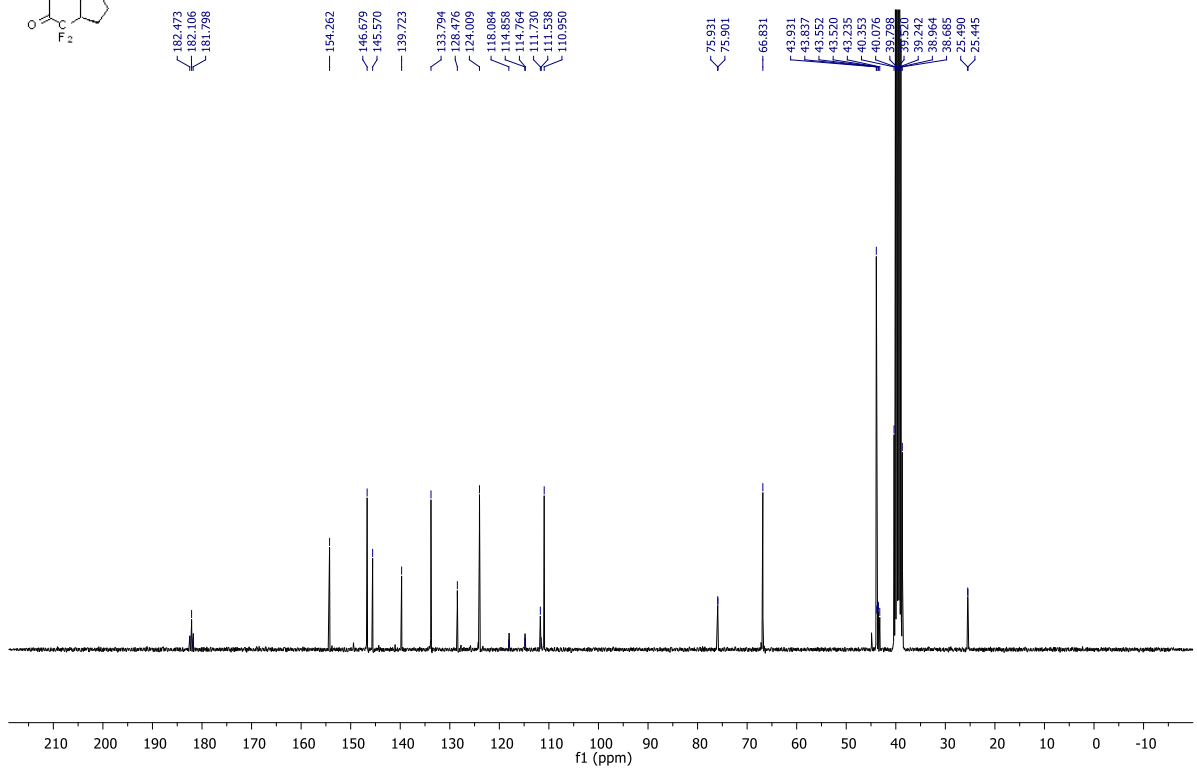
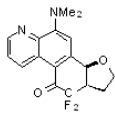


DEPT

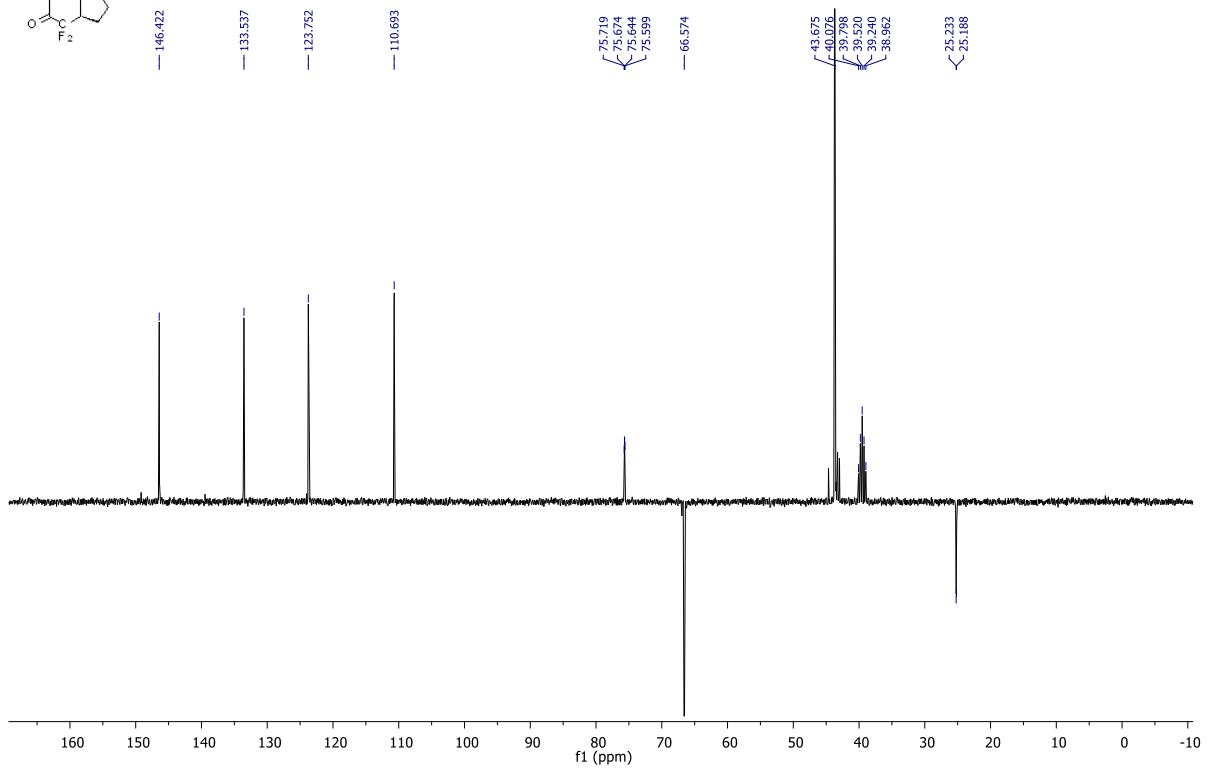
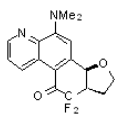


3ba

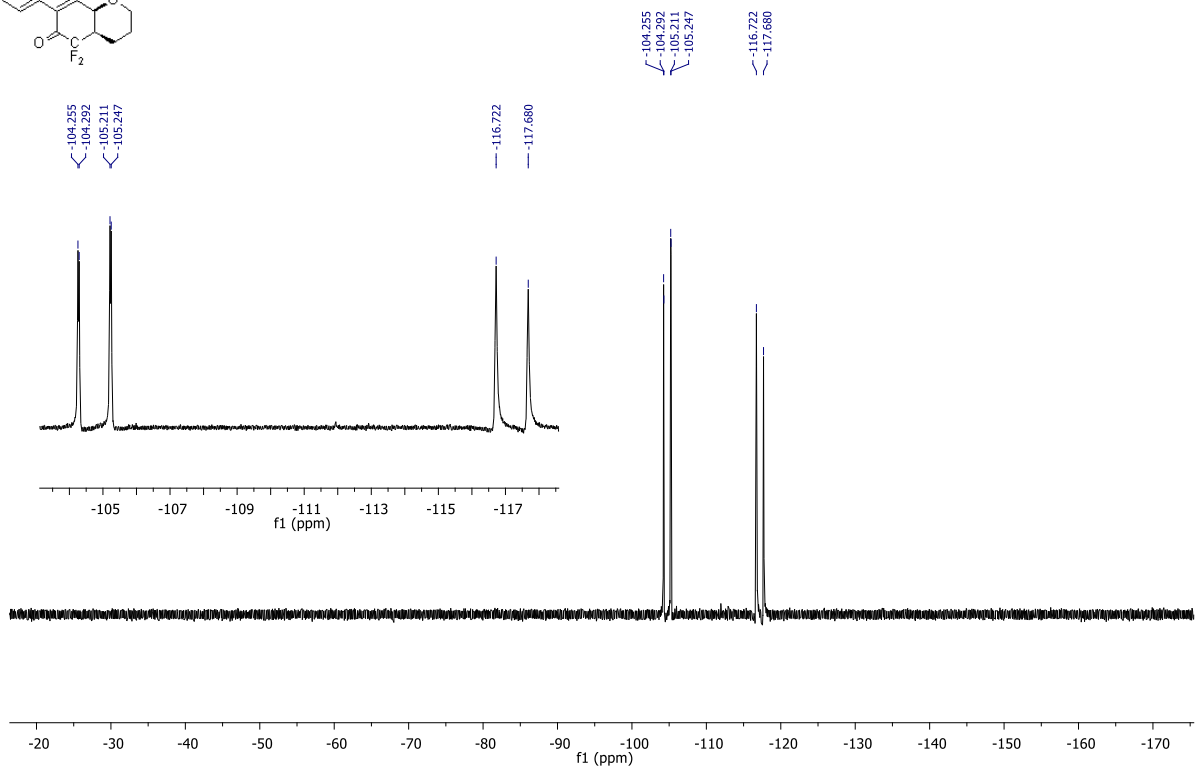
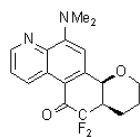
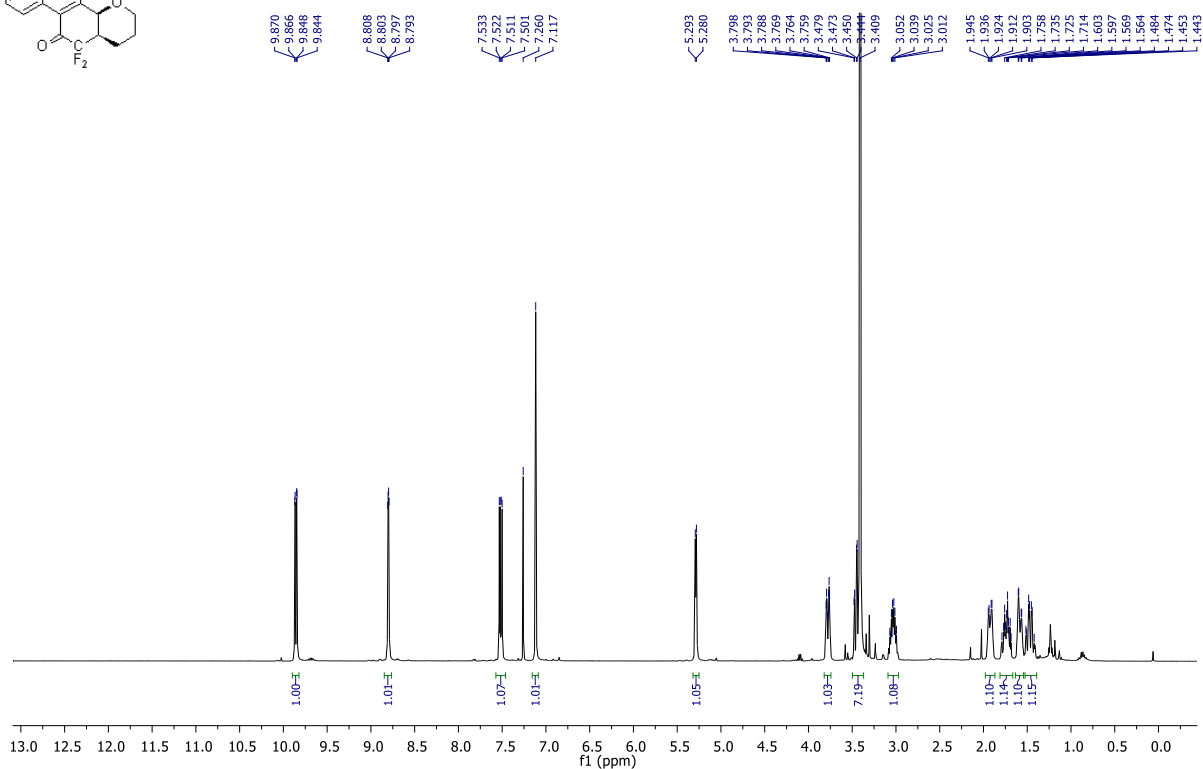
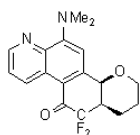


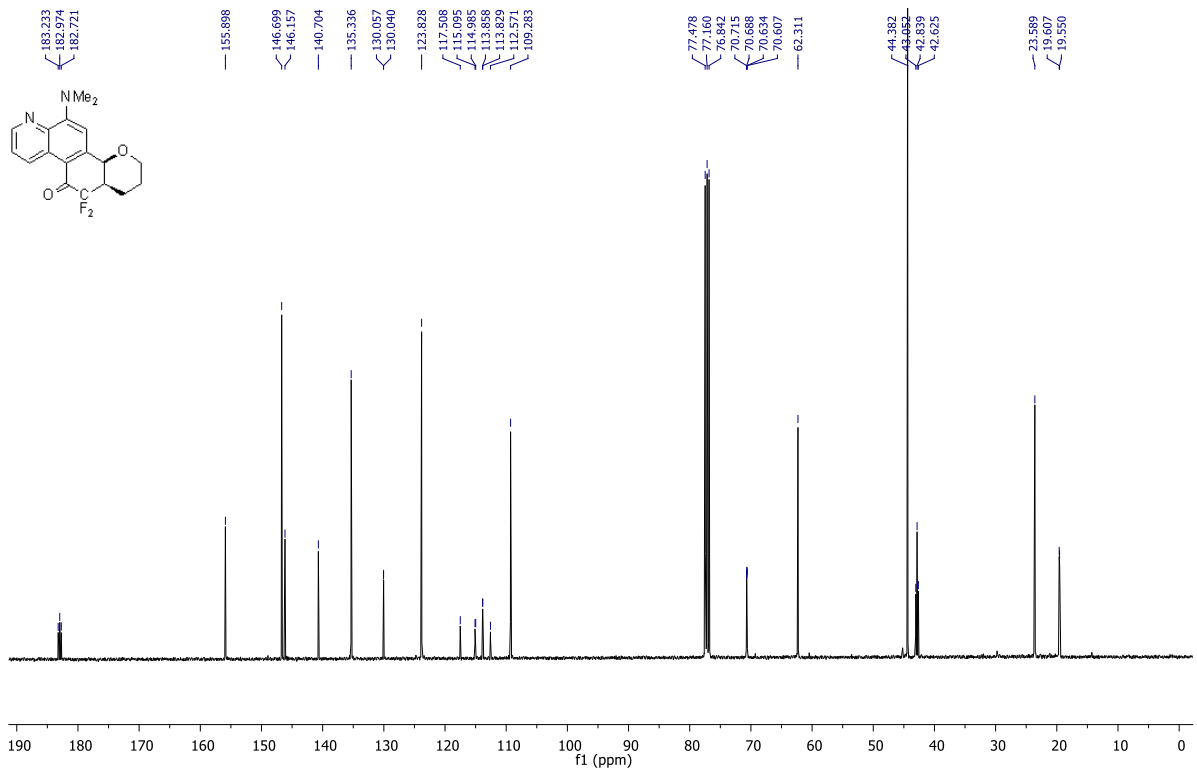


DEPT

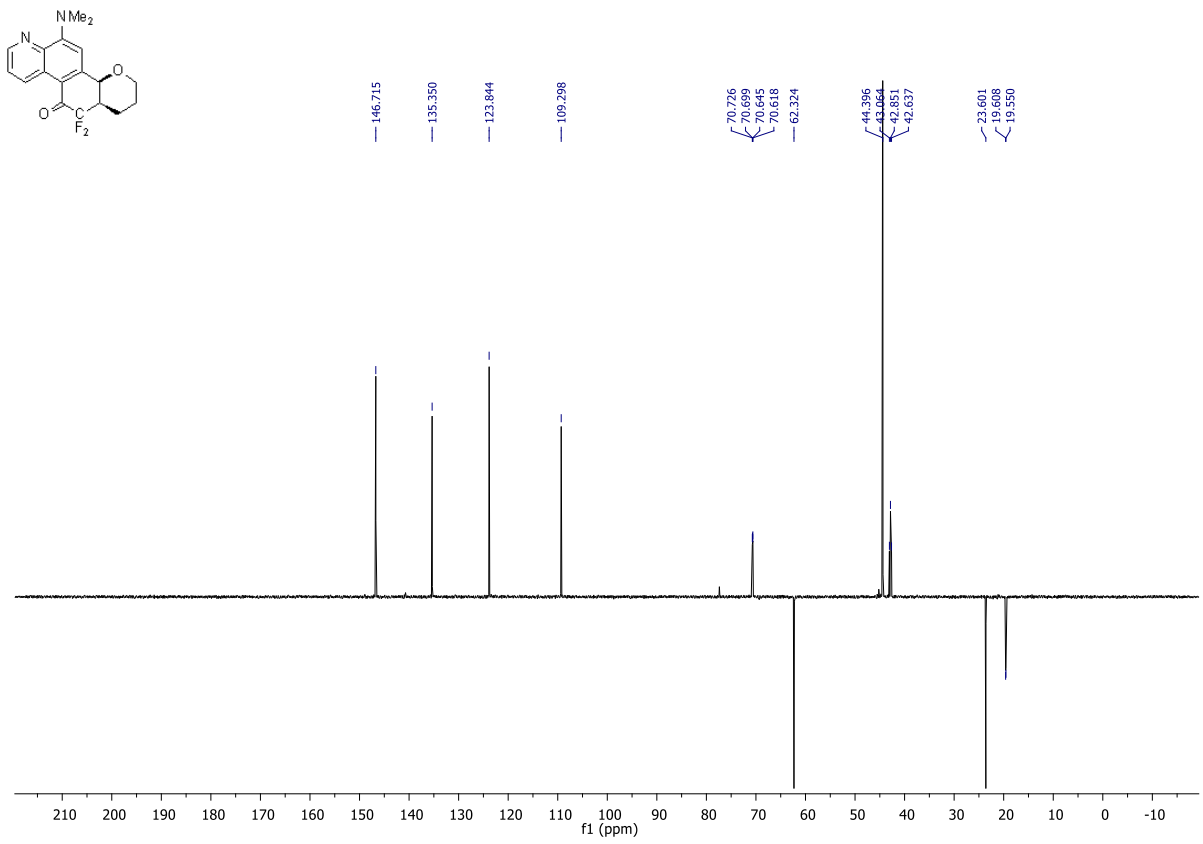


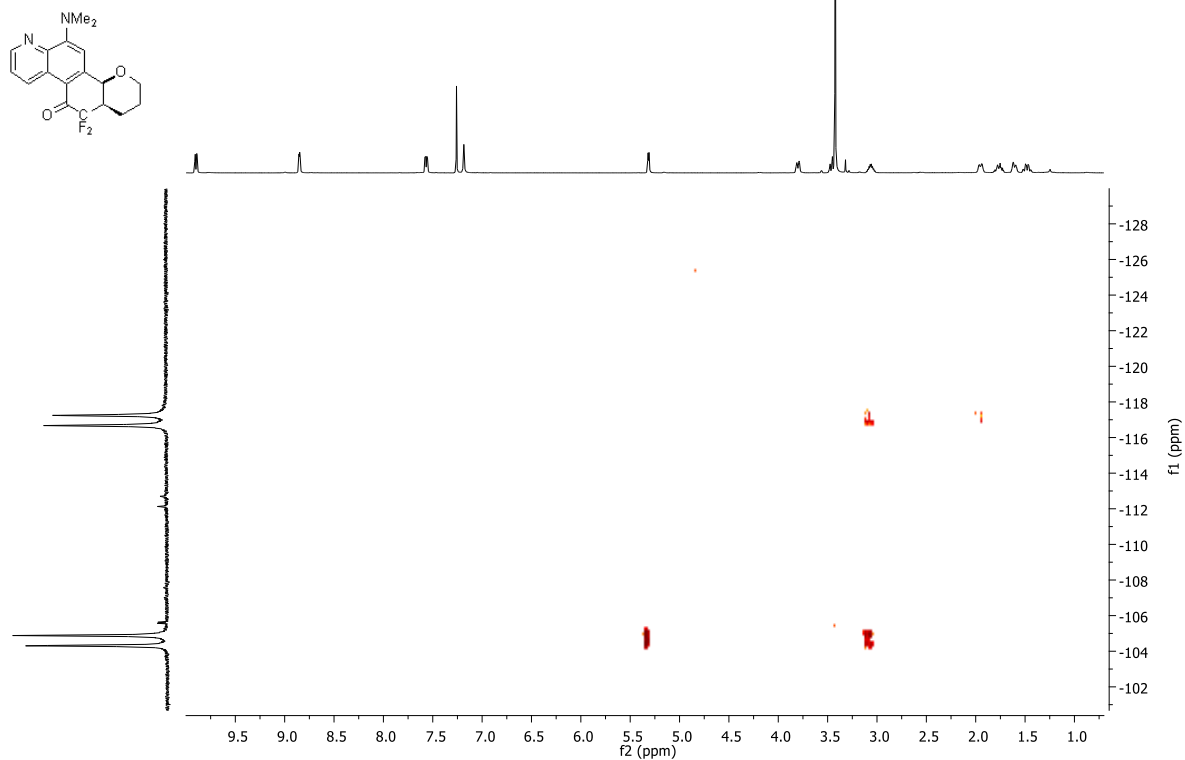
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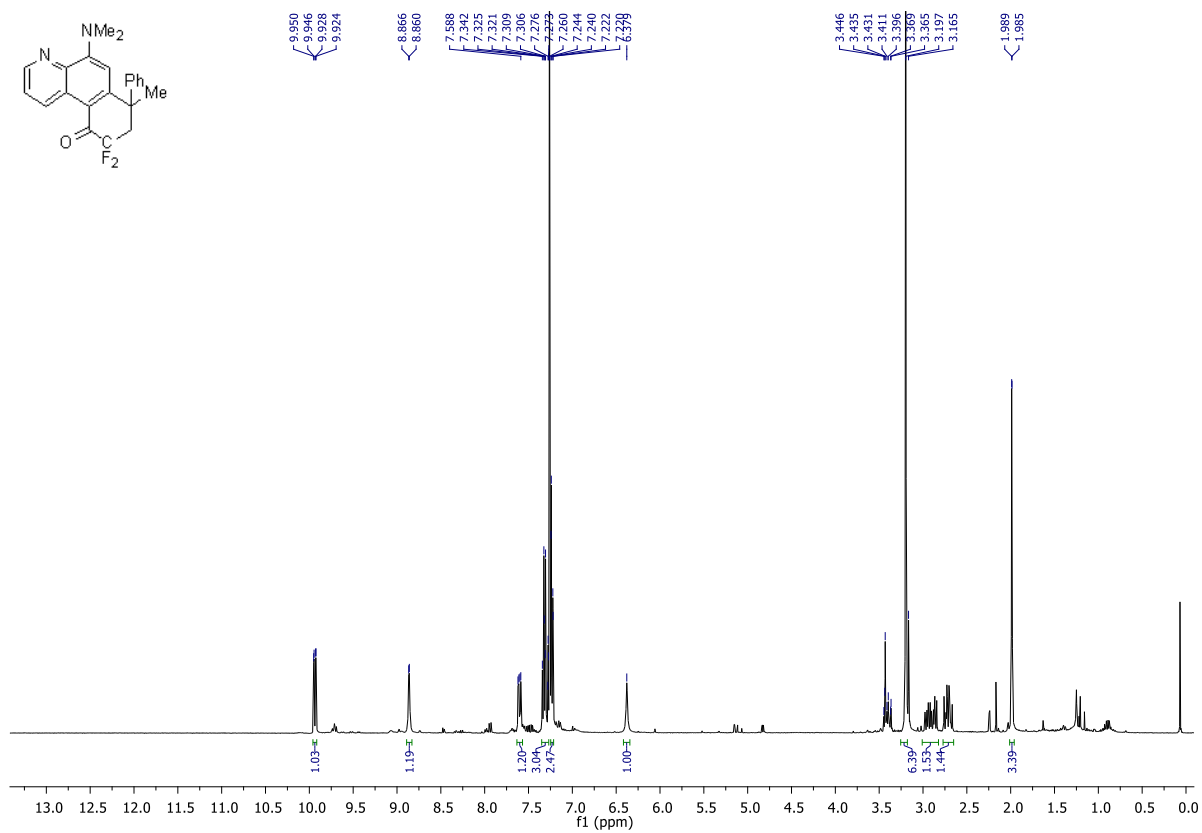


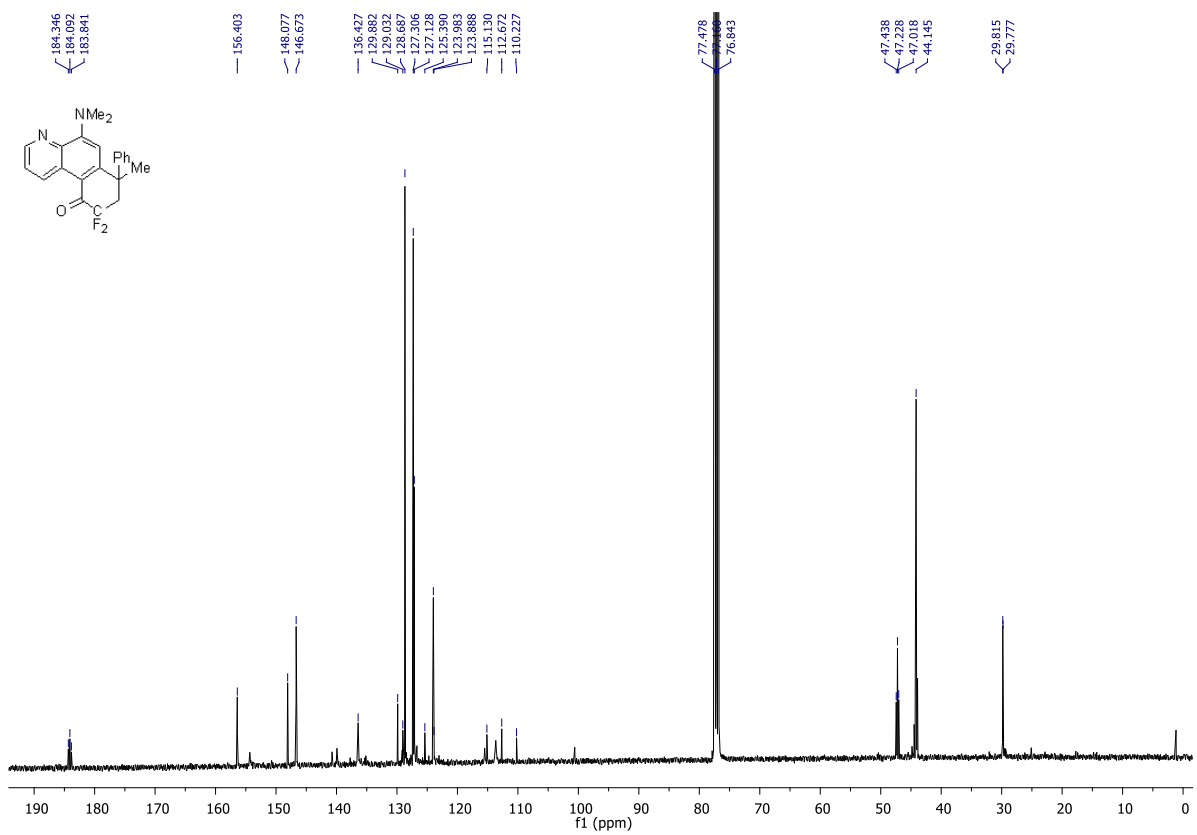
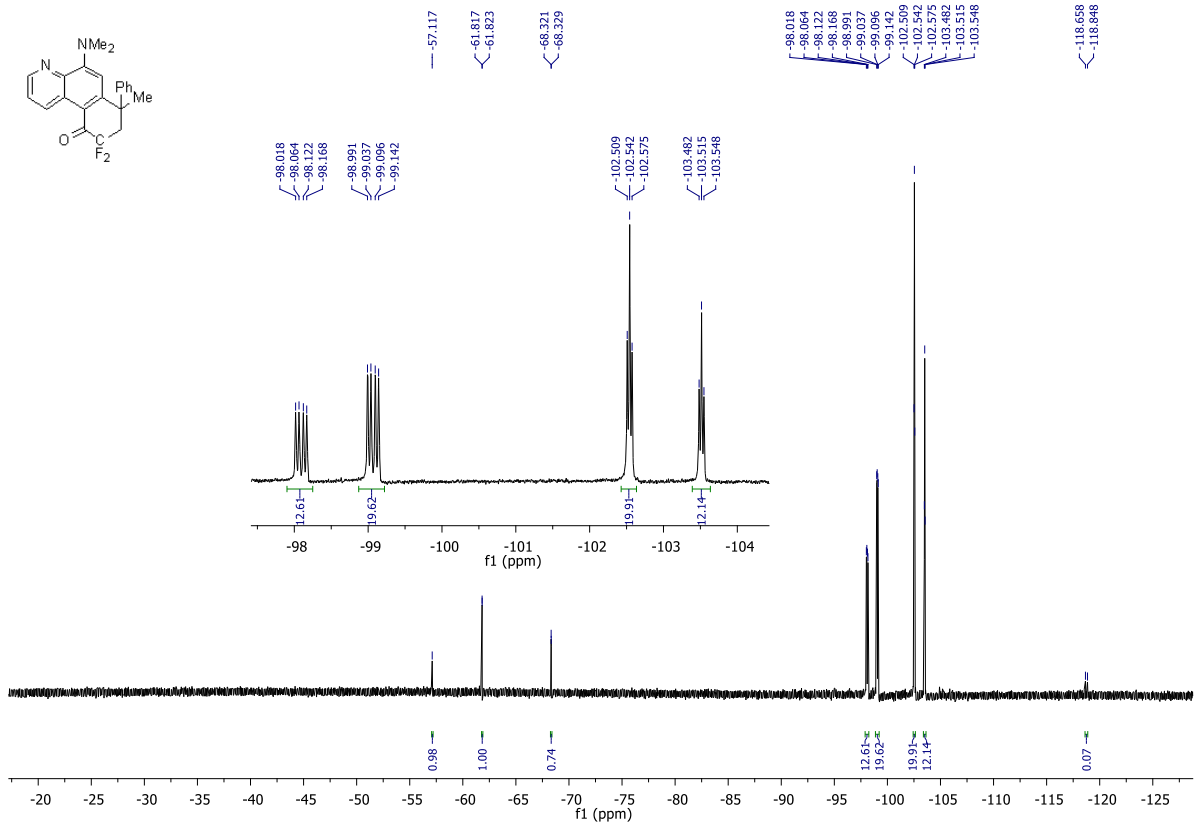
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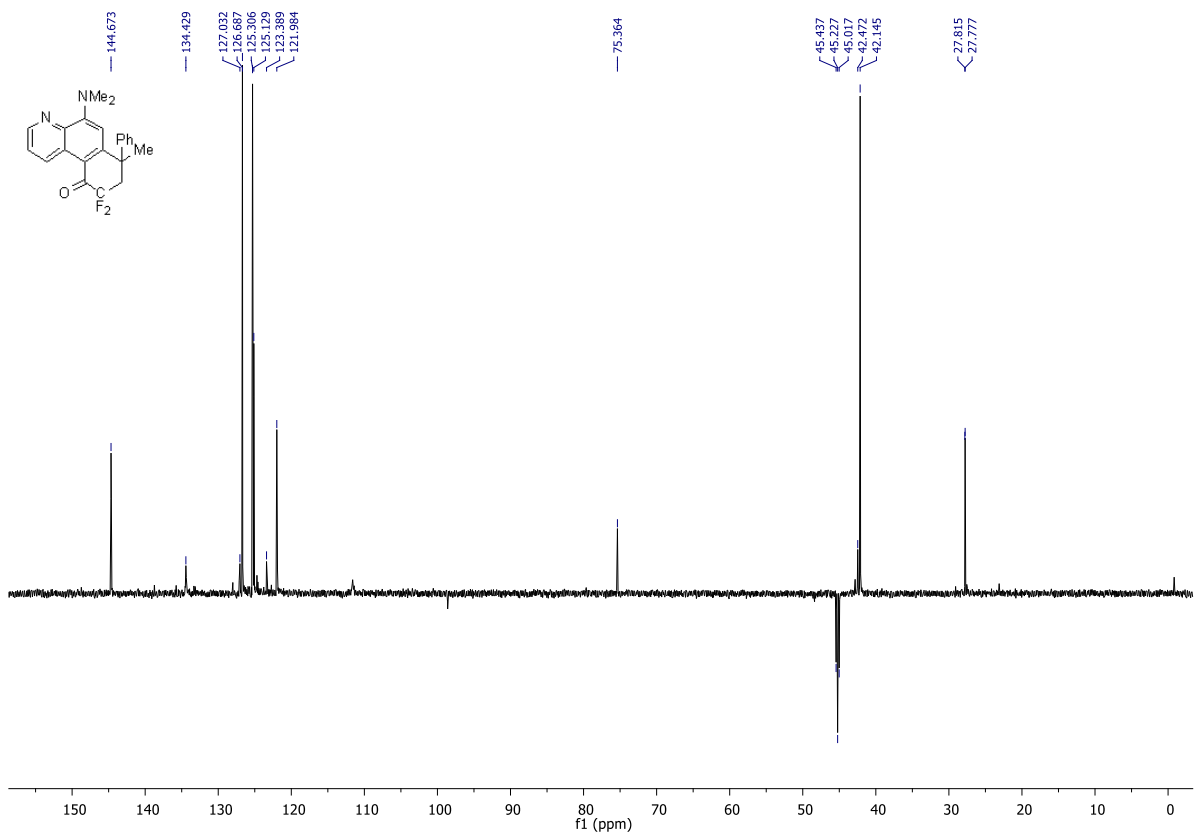


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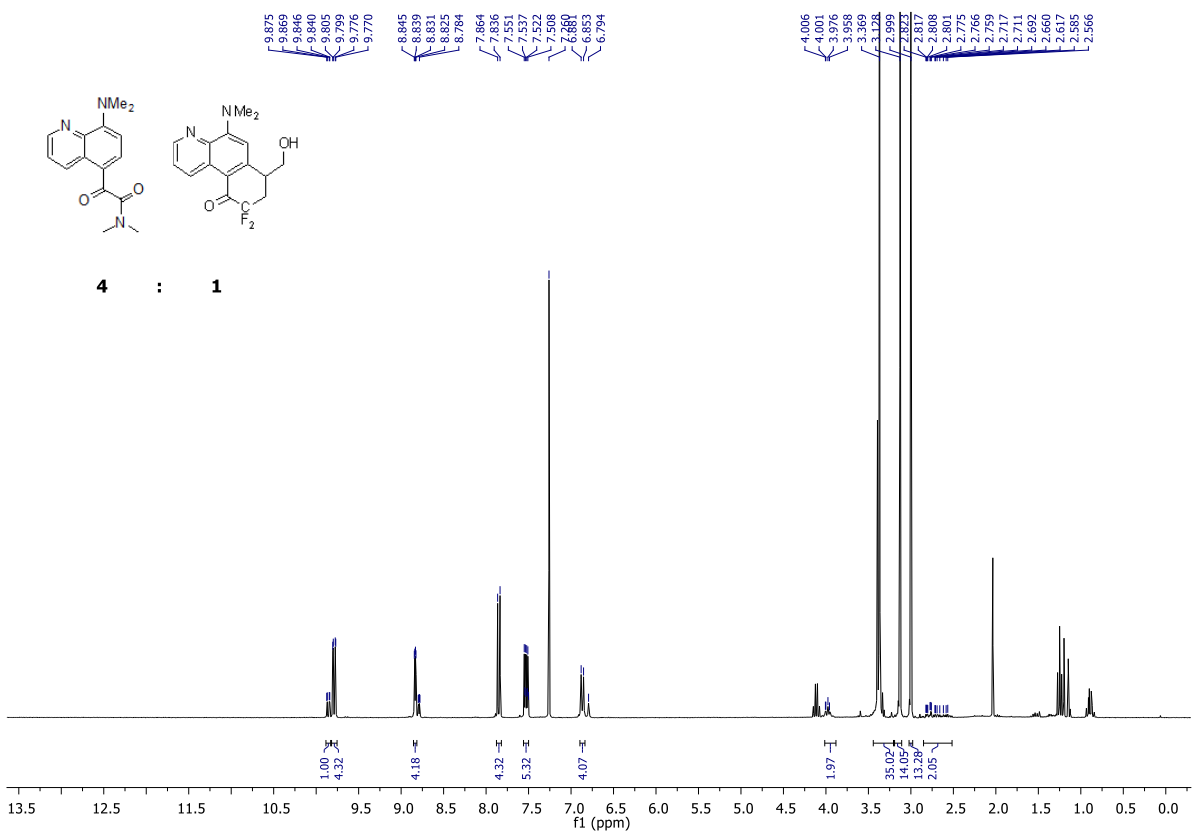


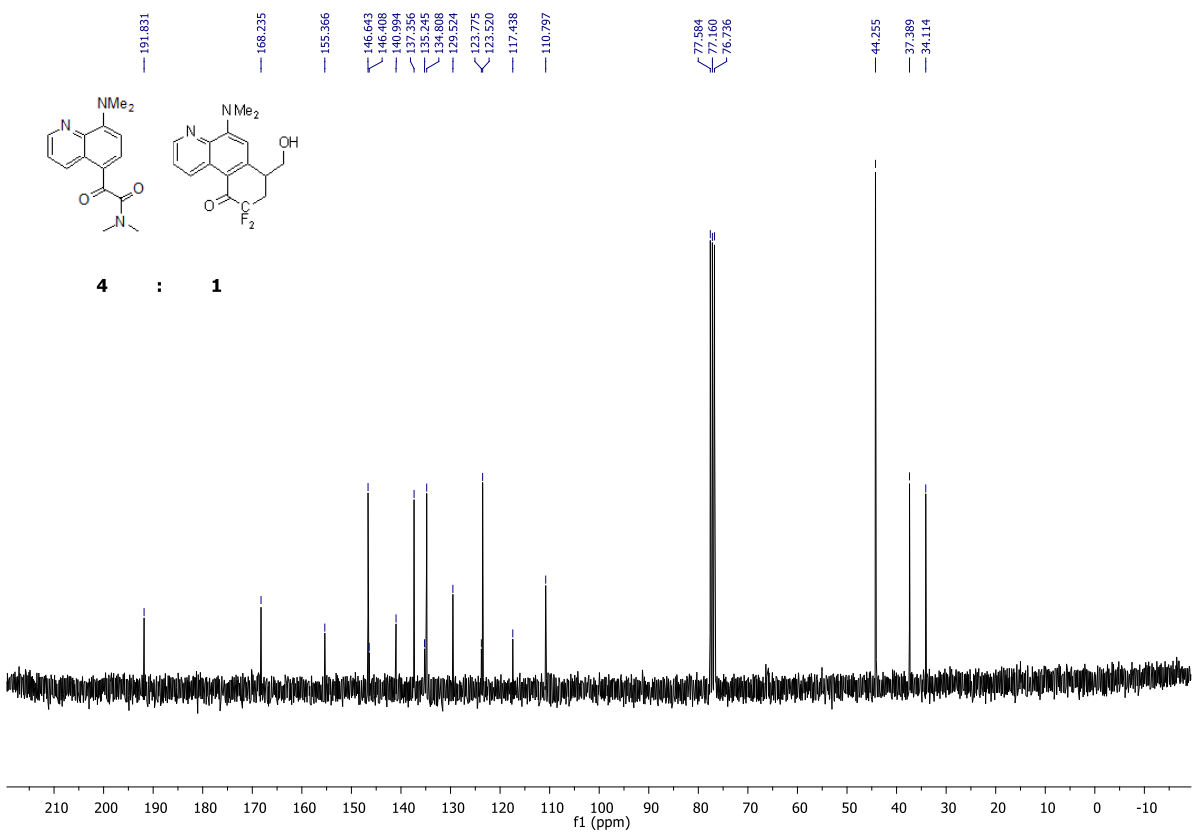
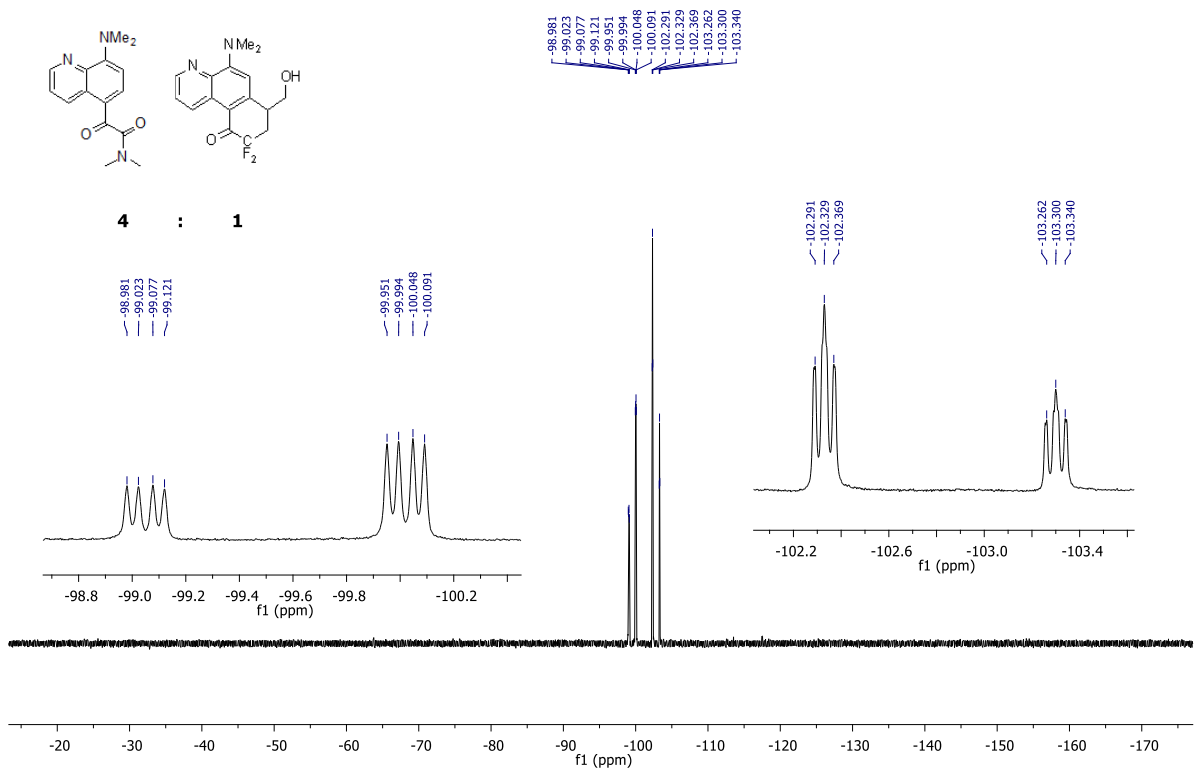


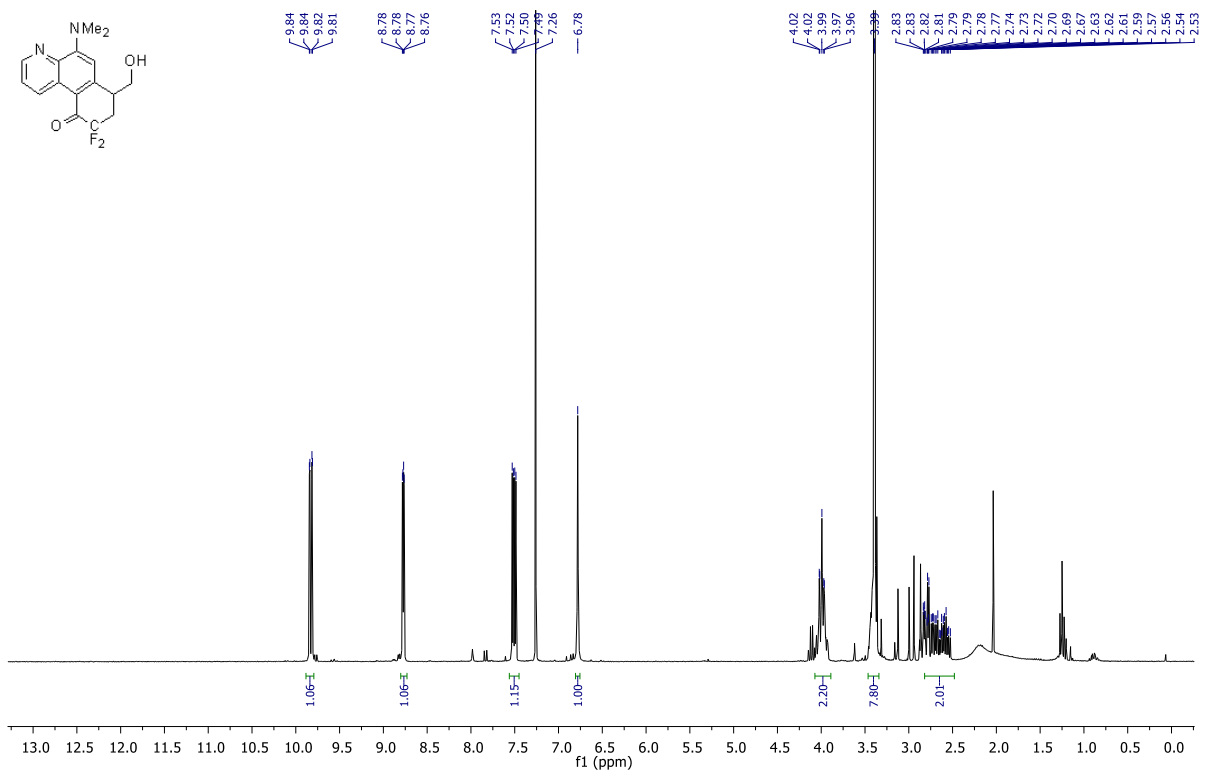
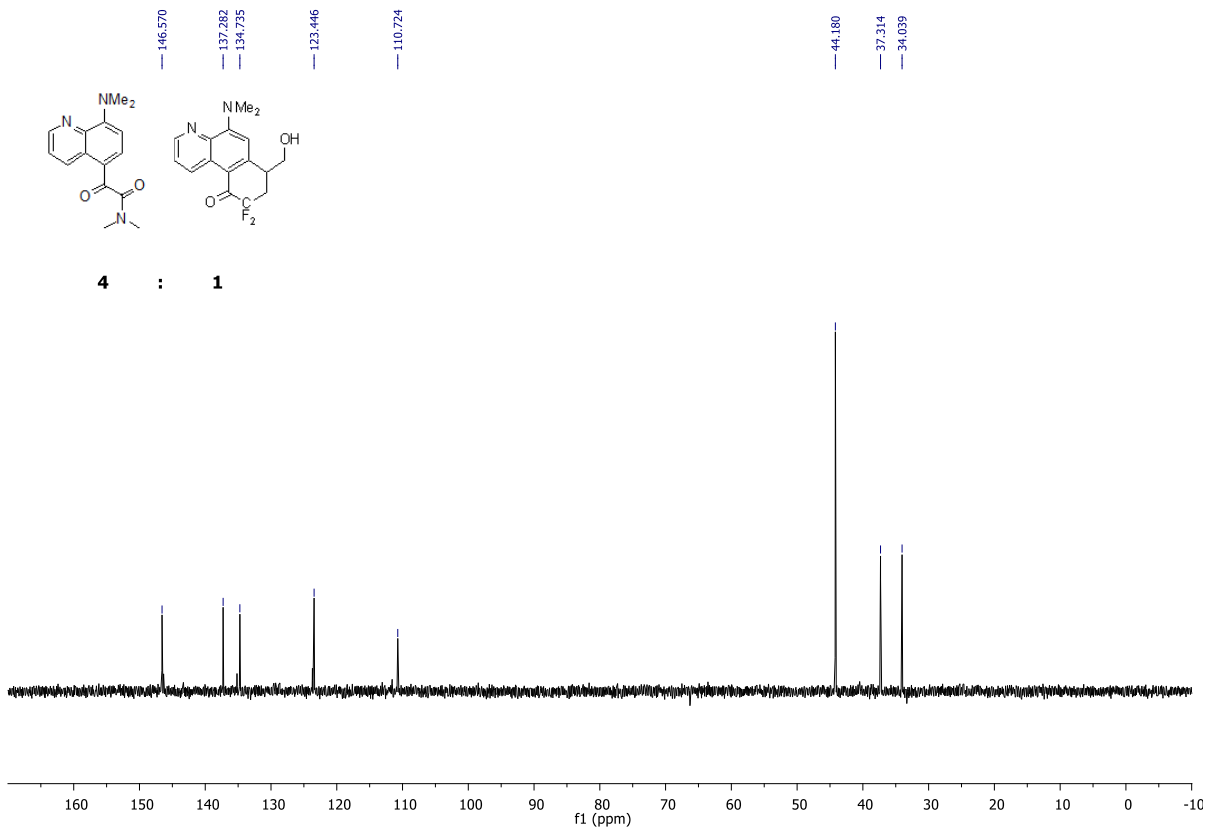
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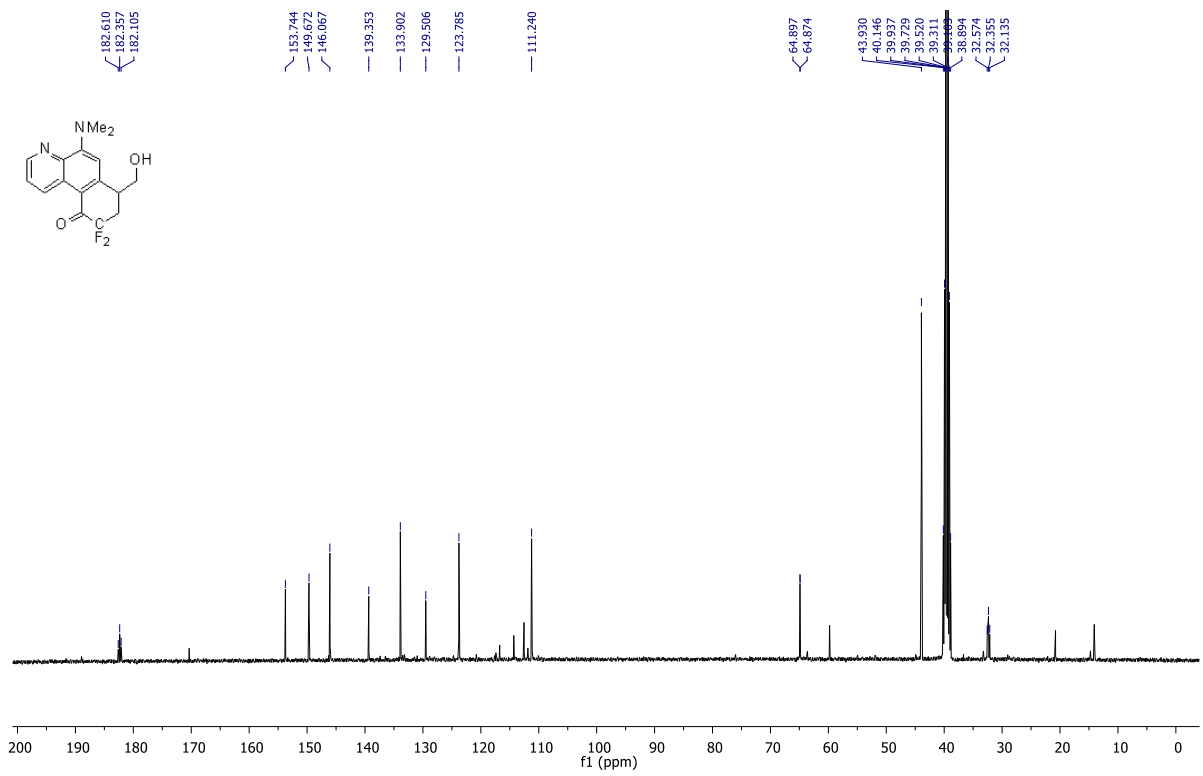


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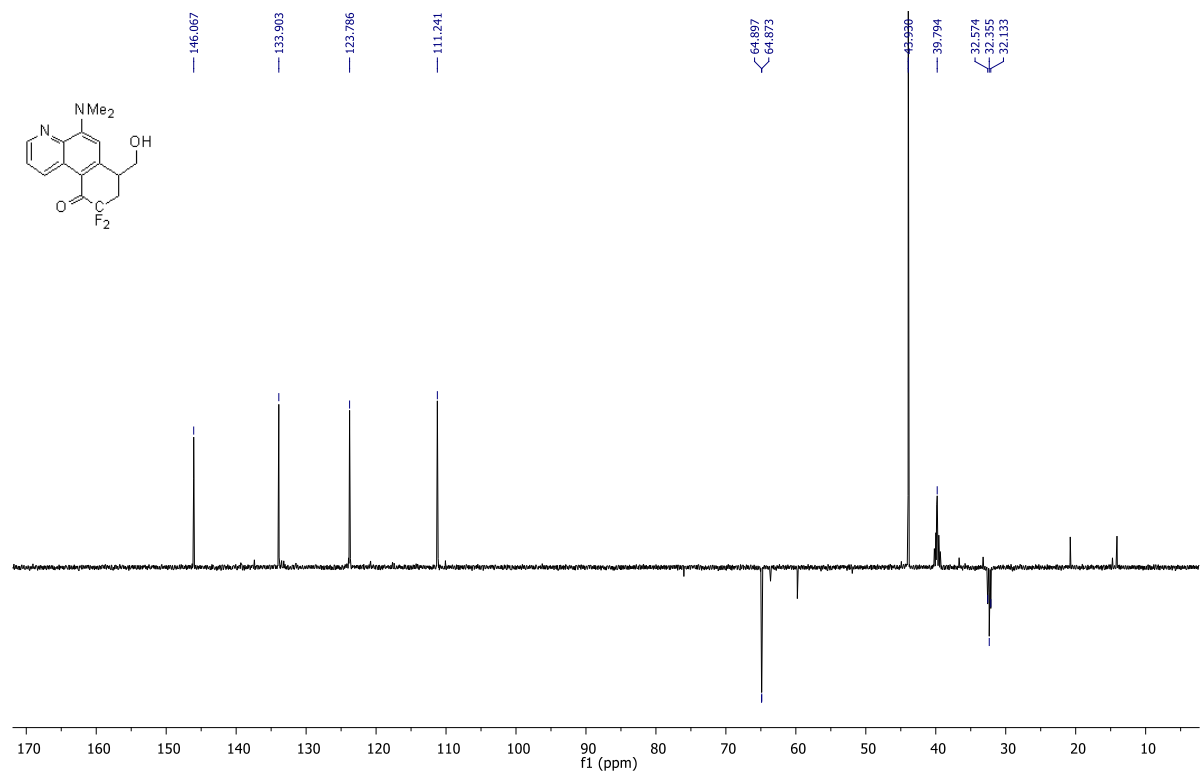




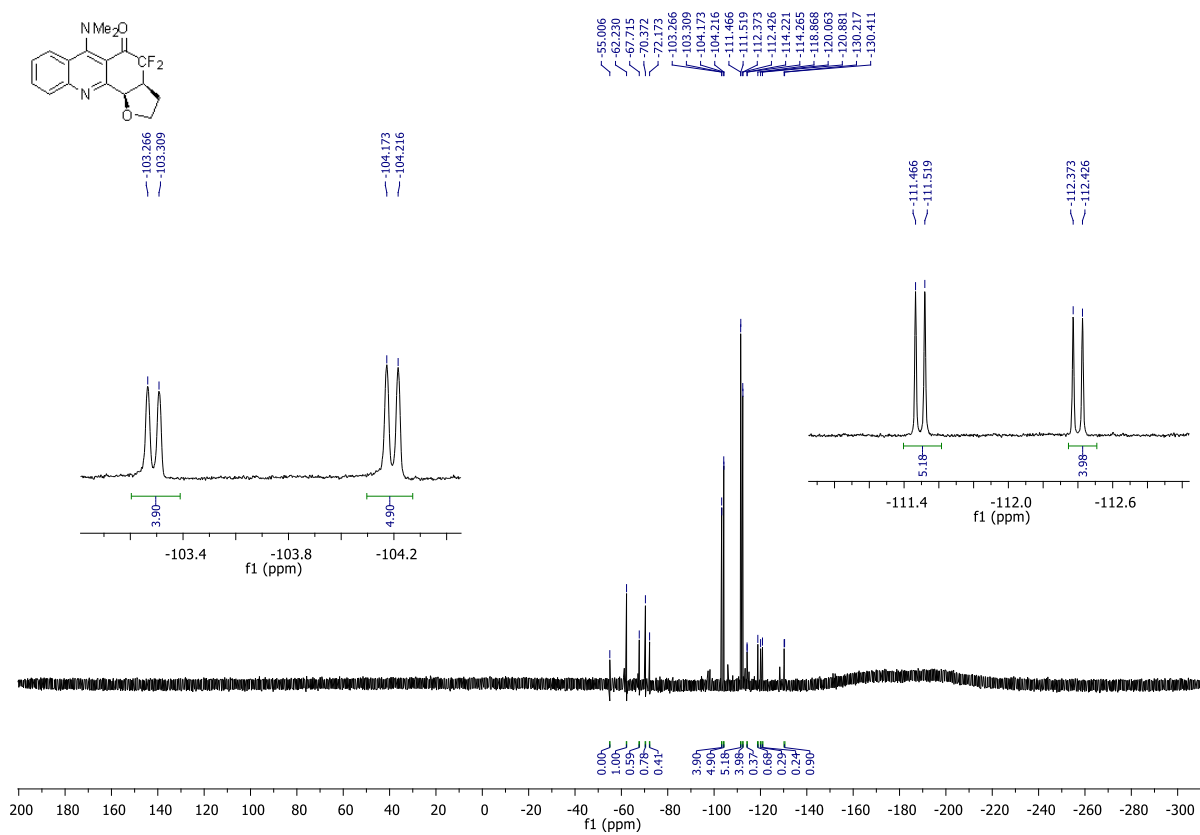
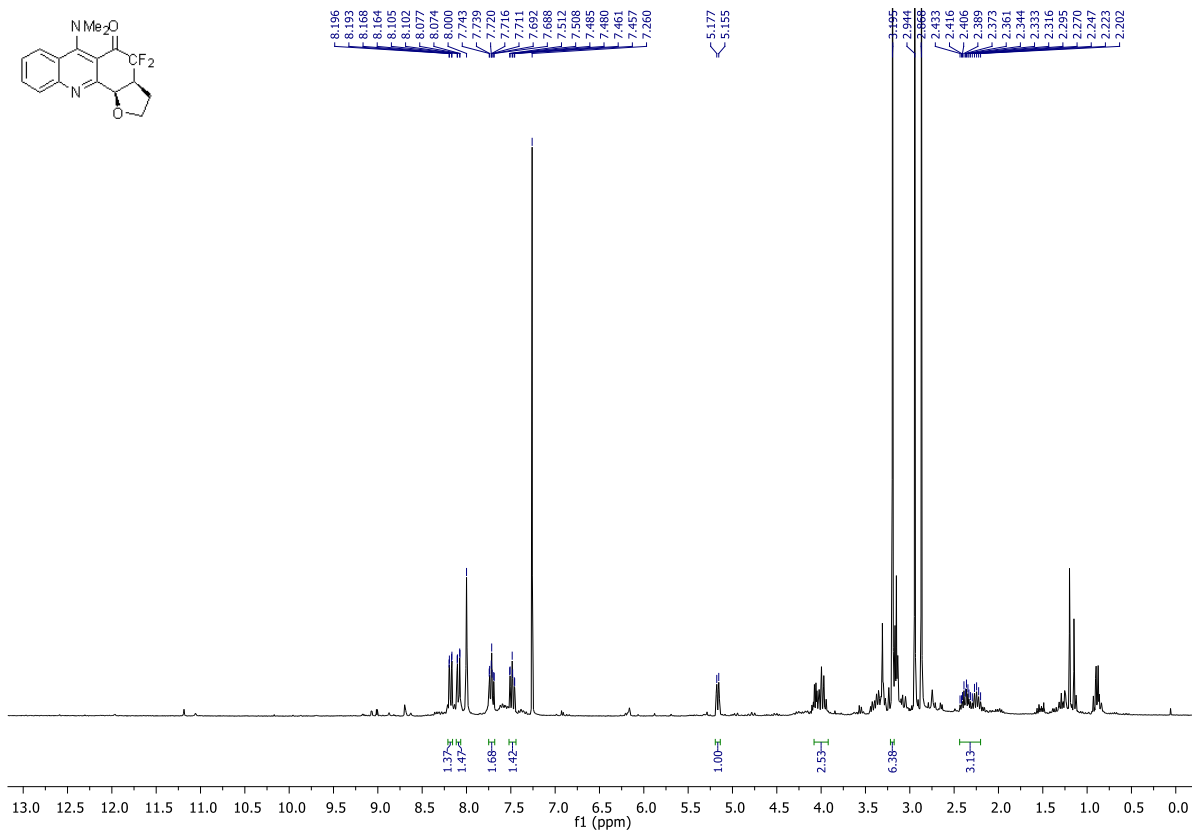




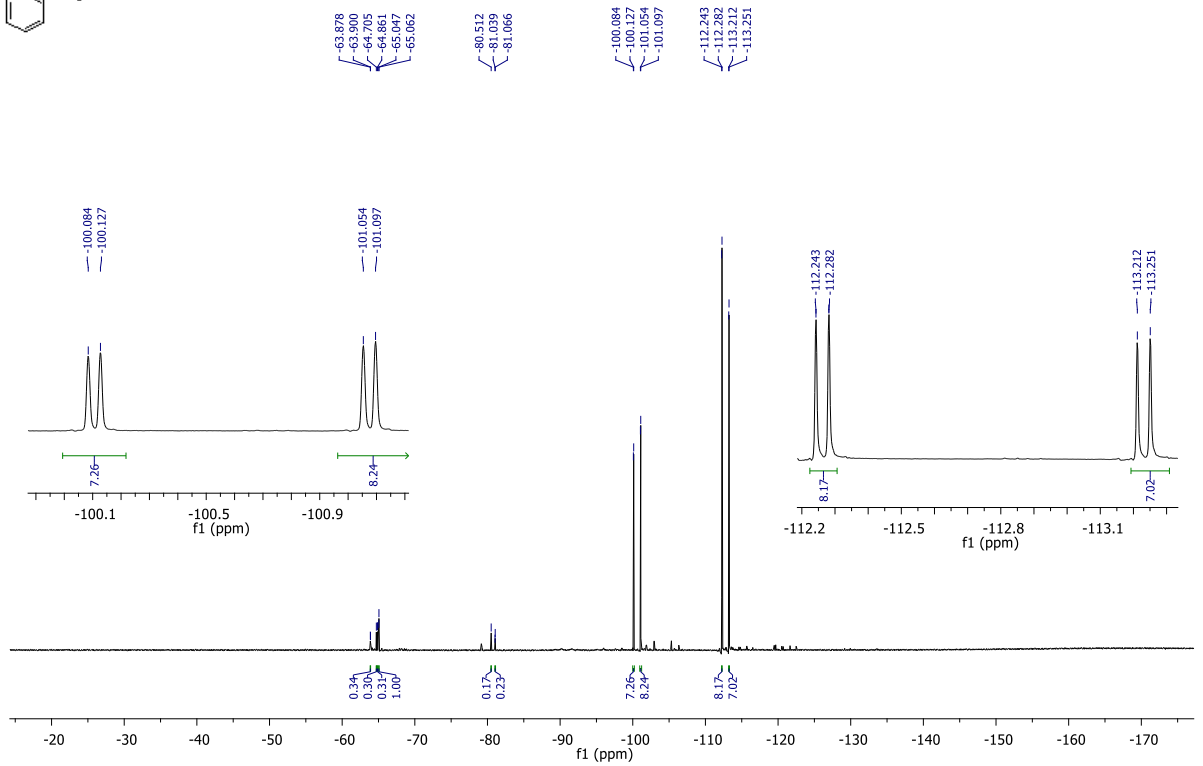
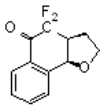
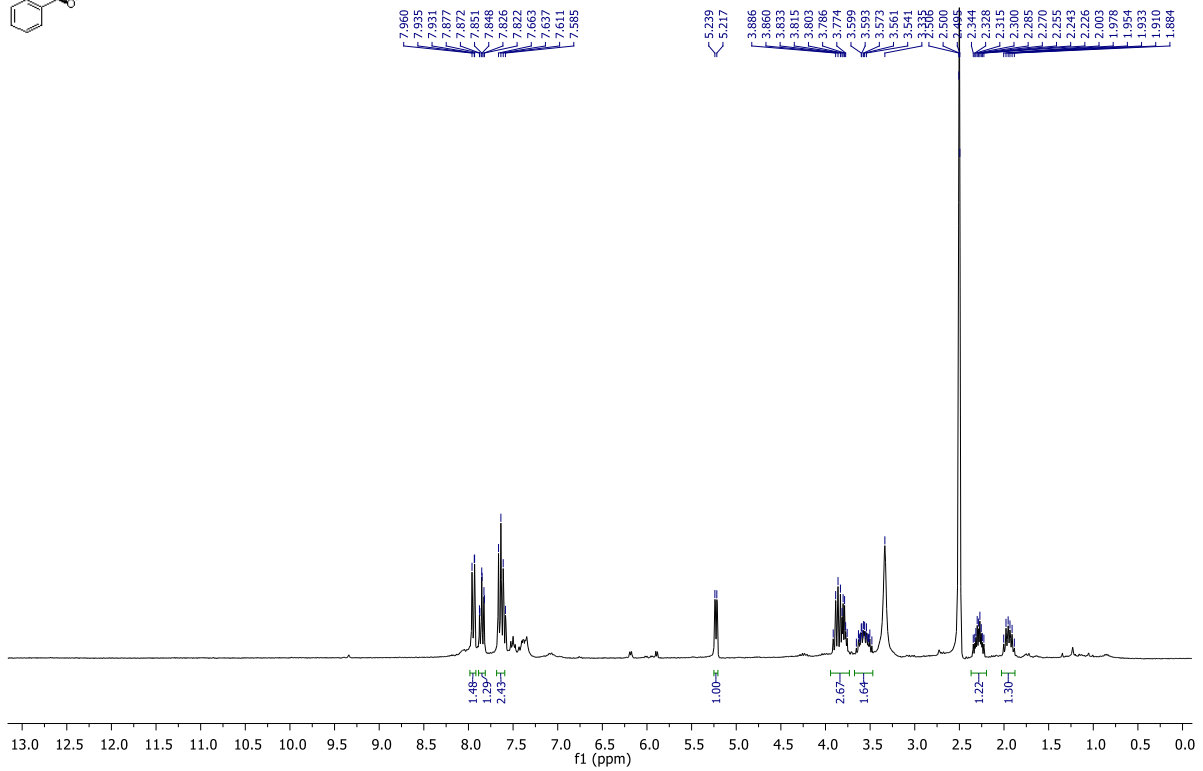
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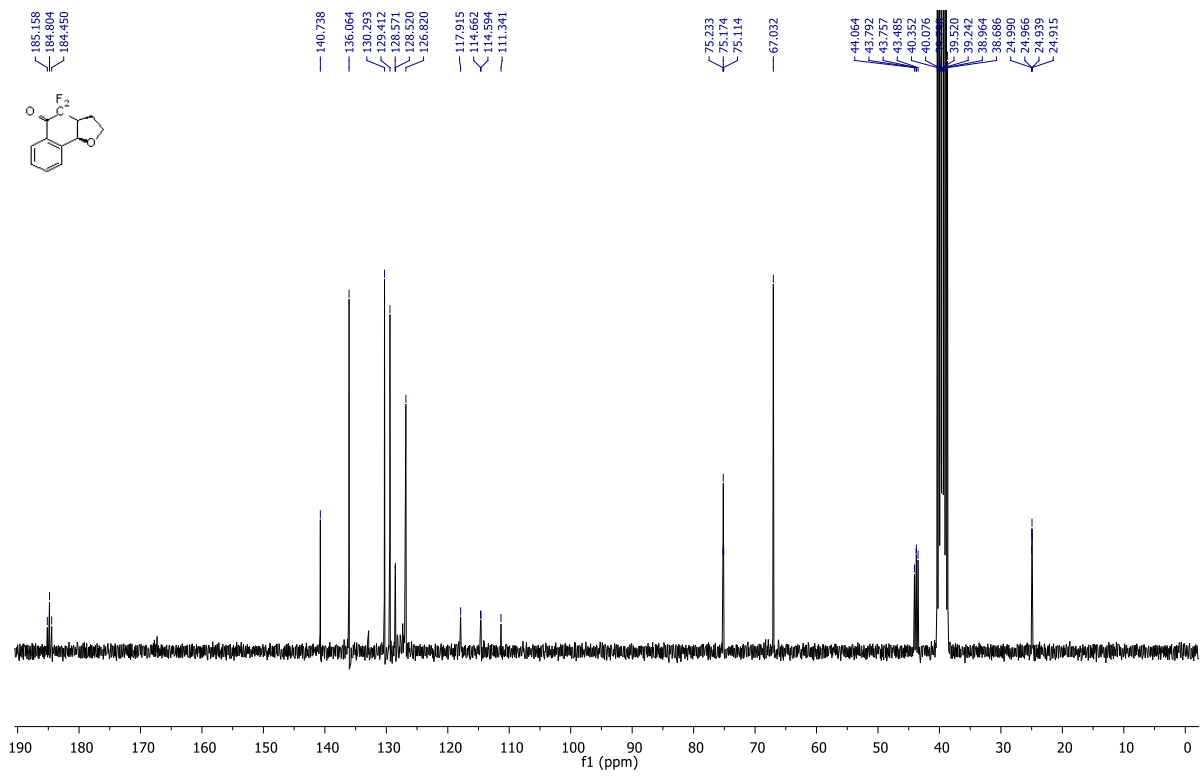


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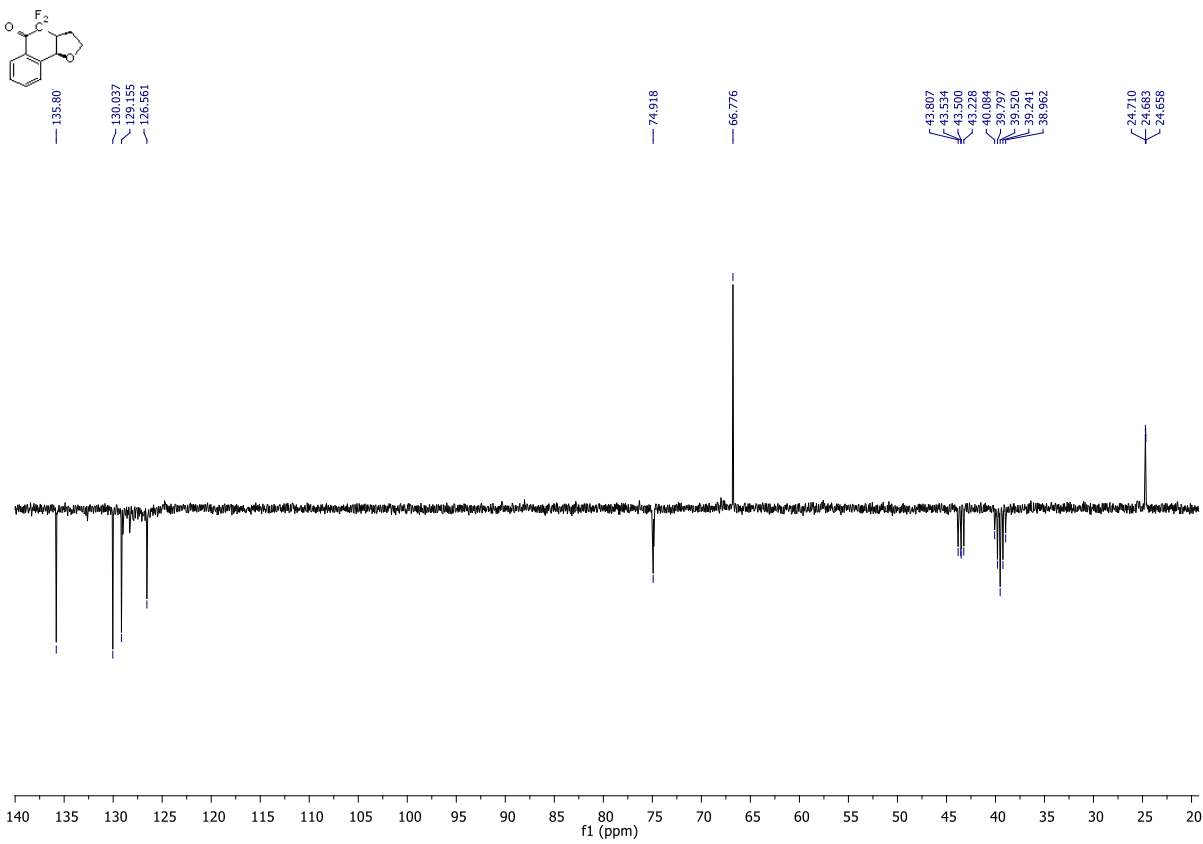


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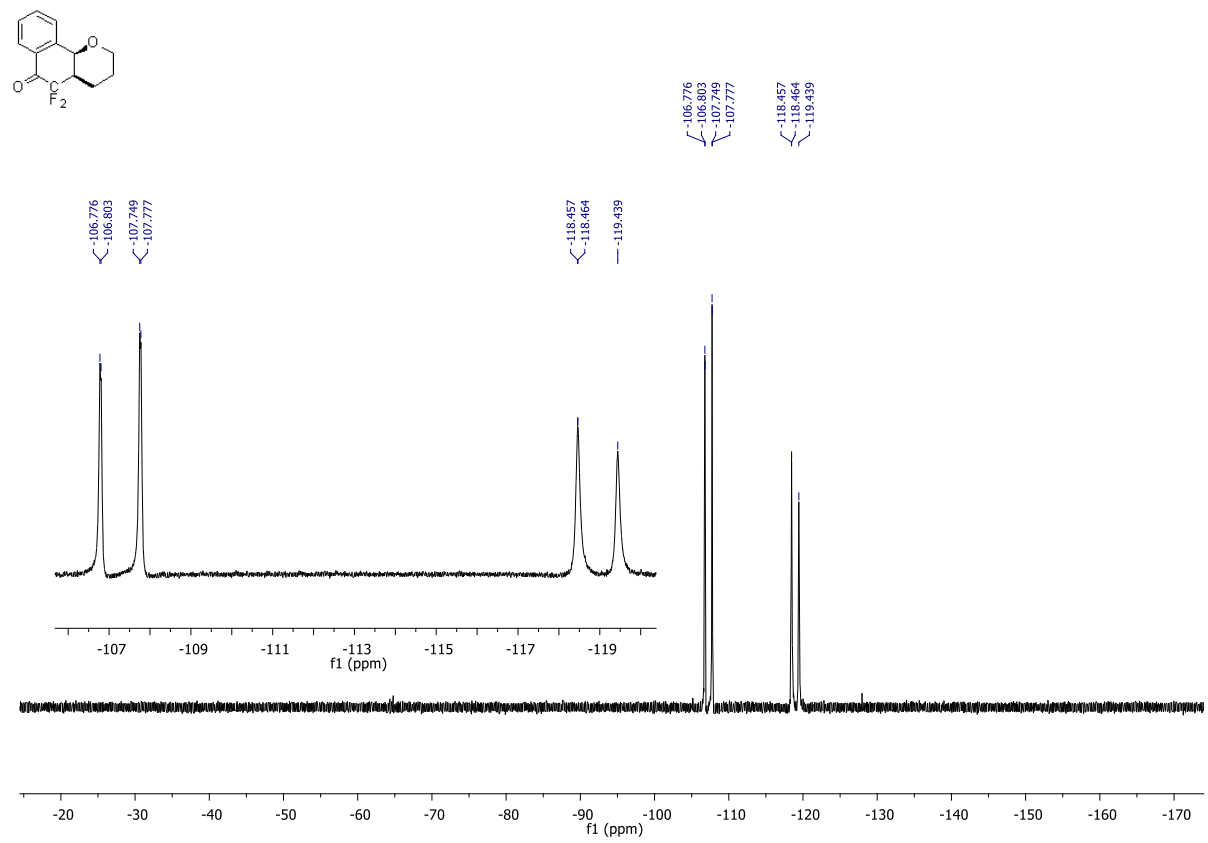
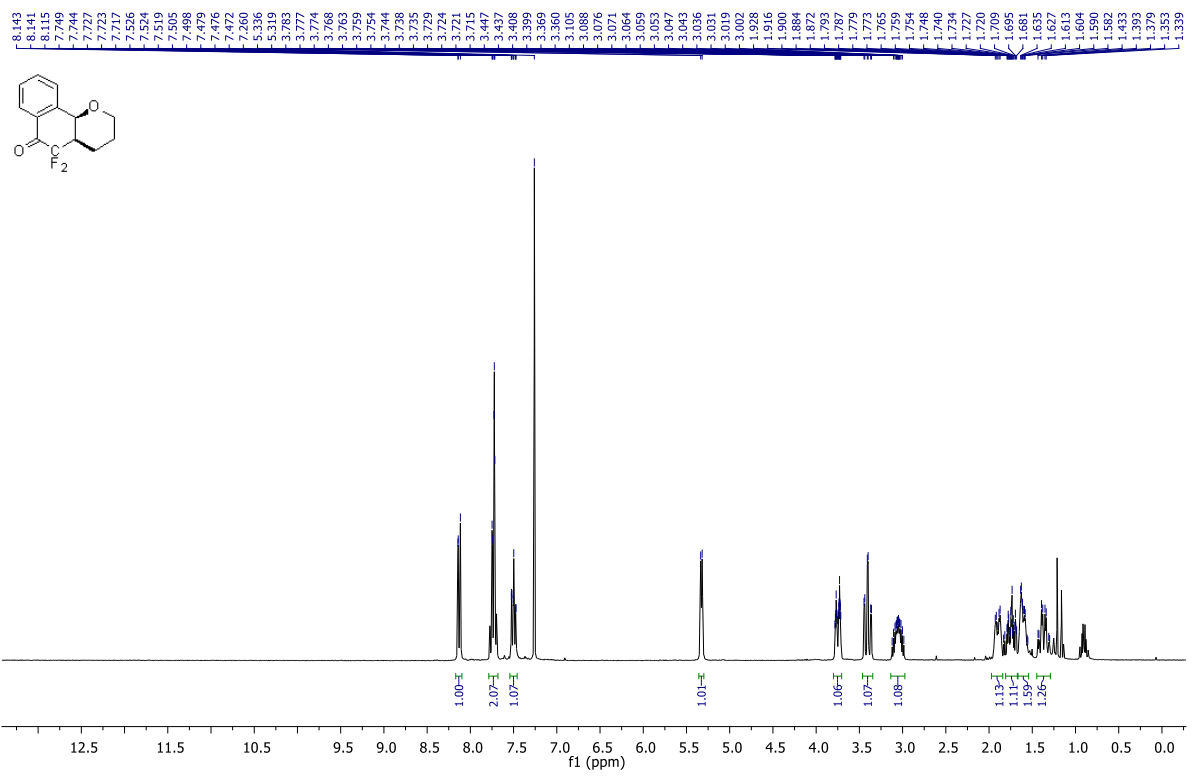


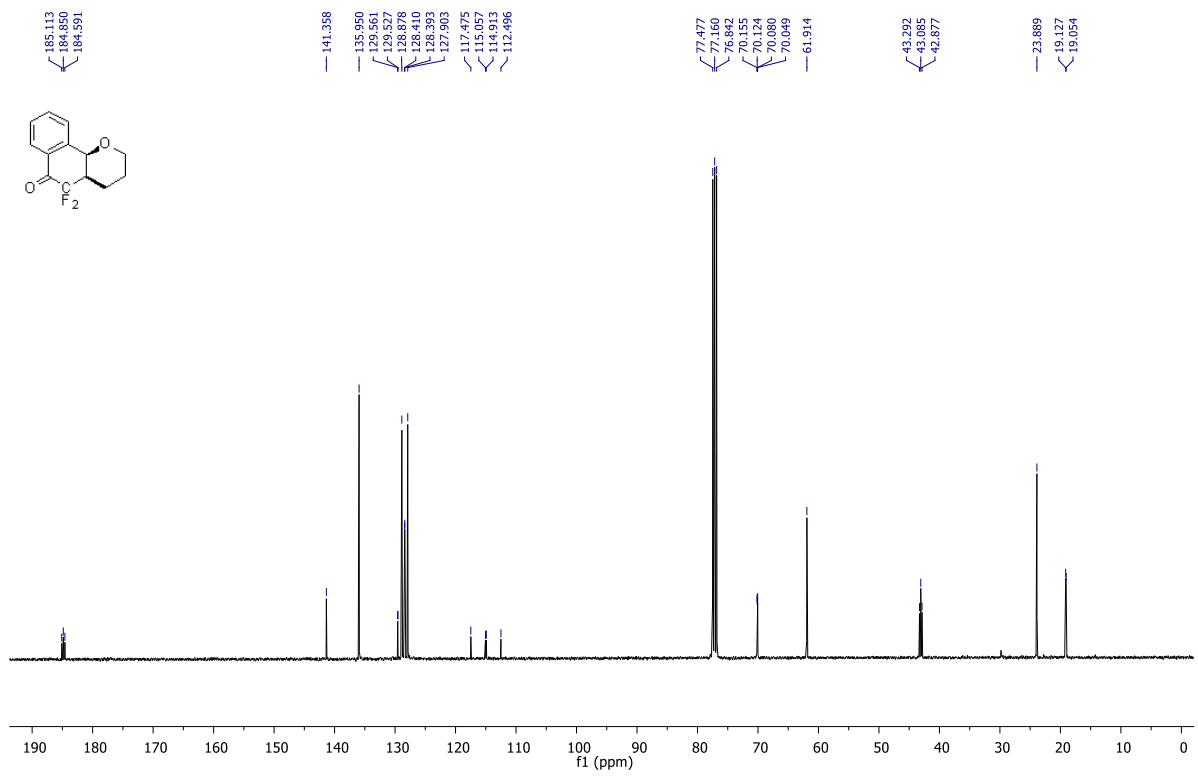


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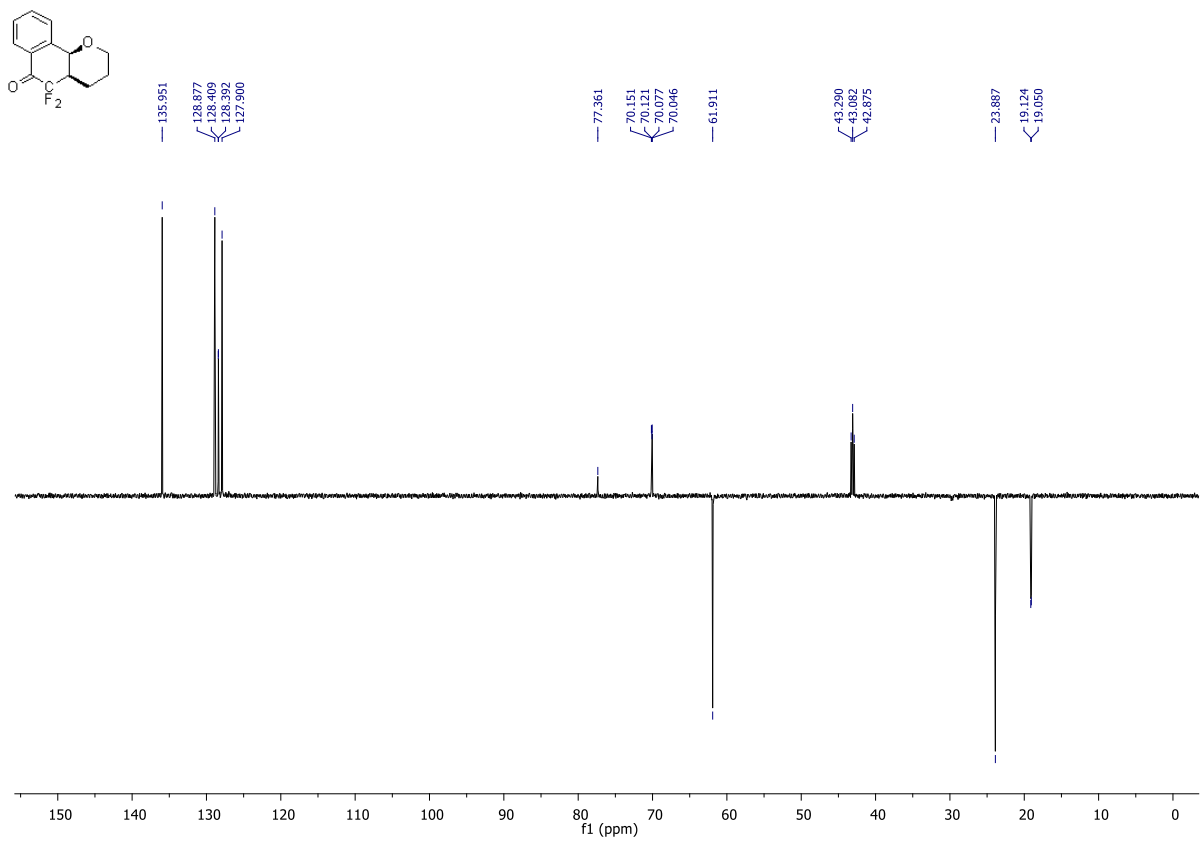


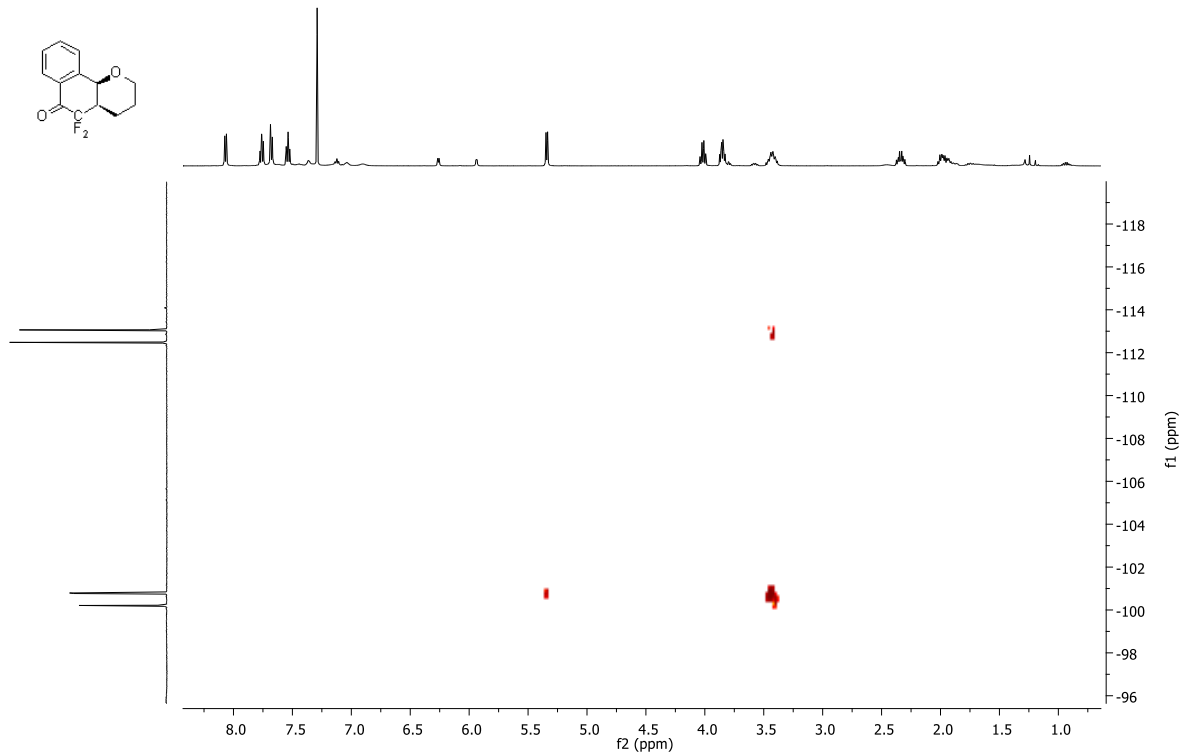
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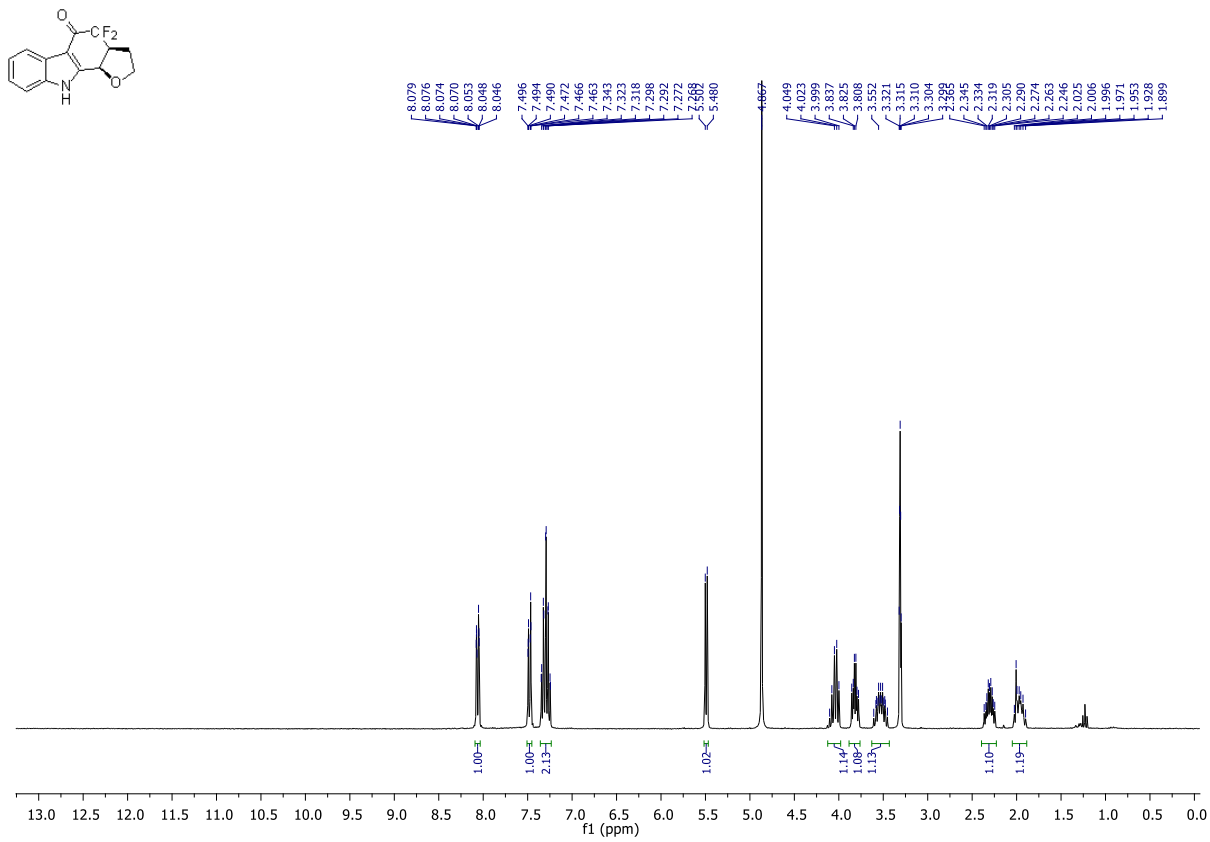


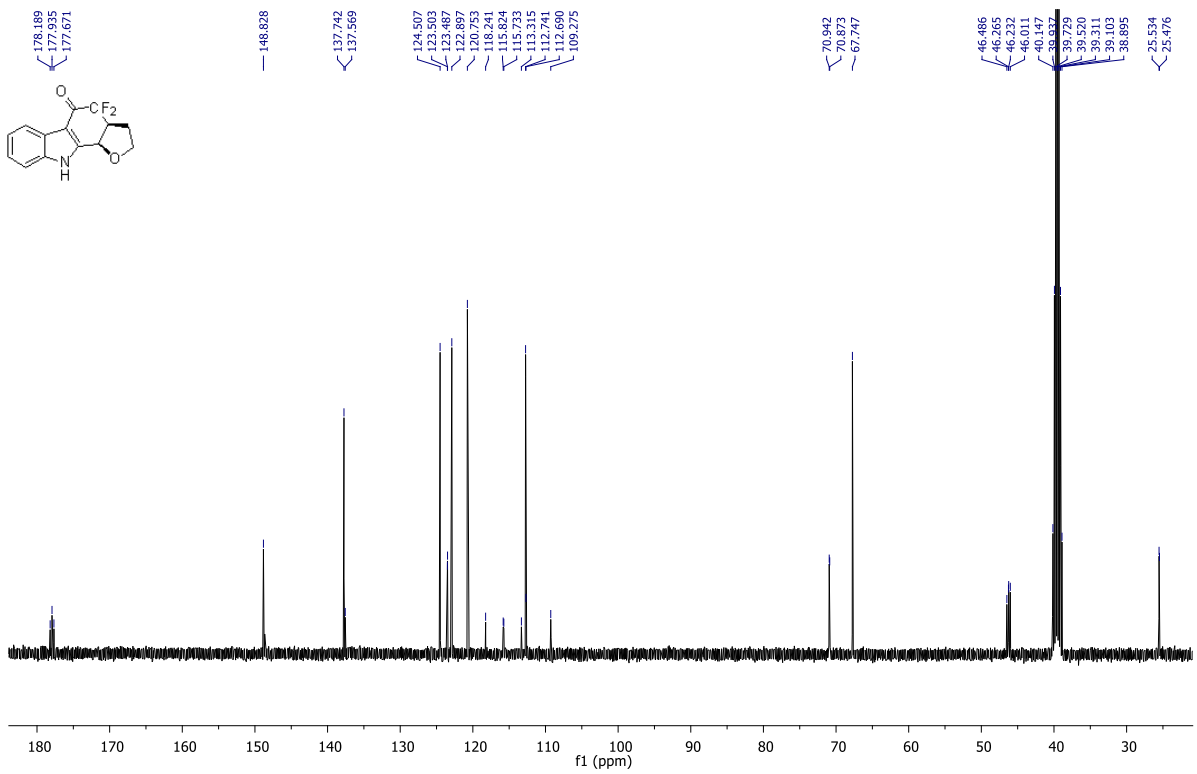
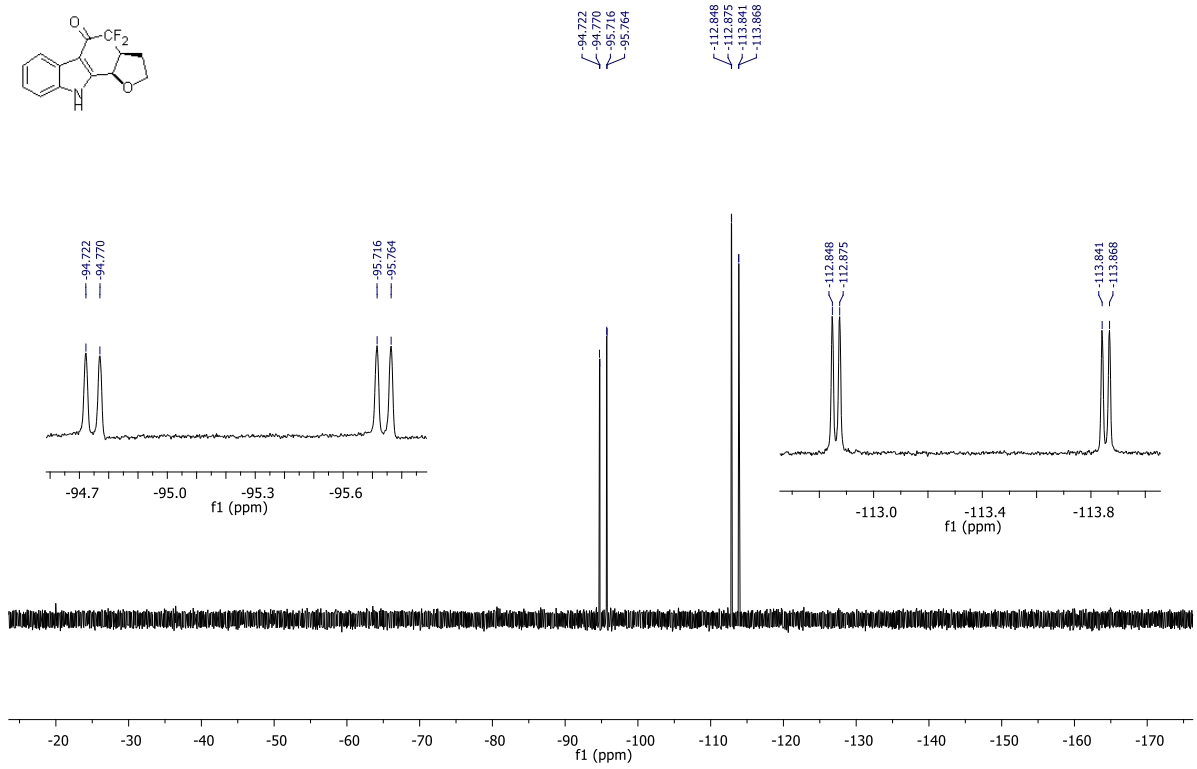
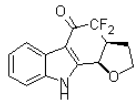
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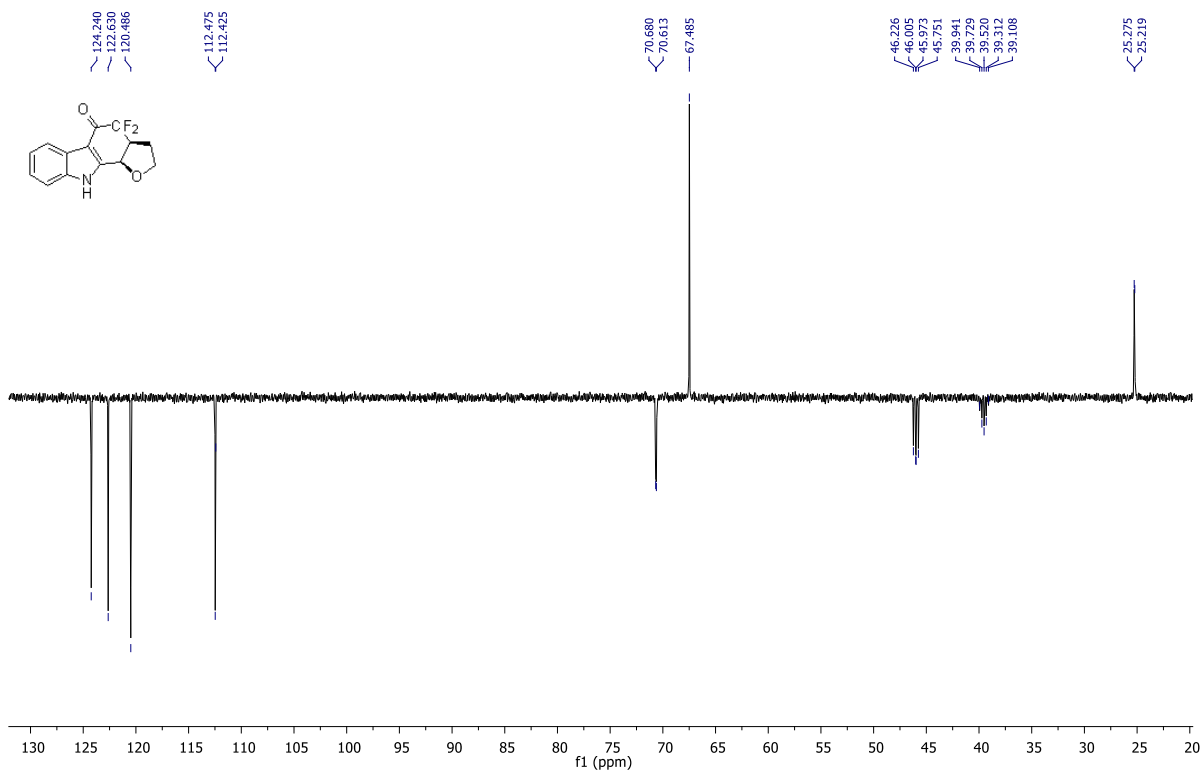


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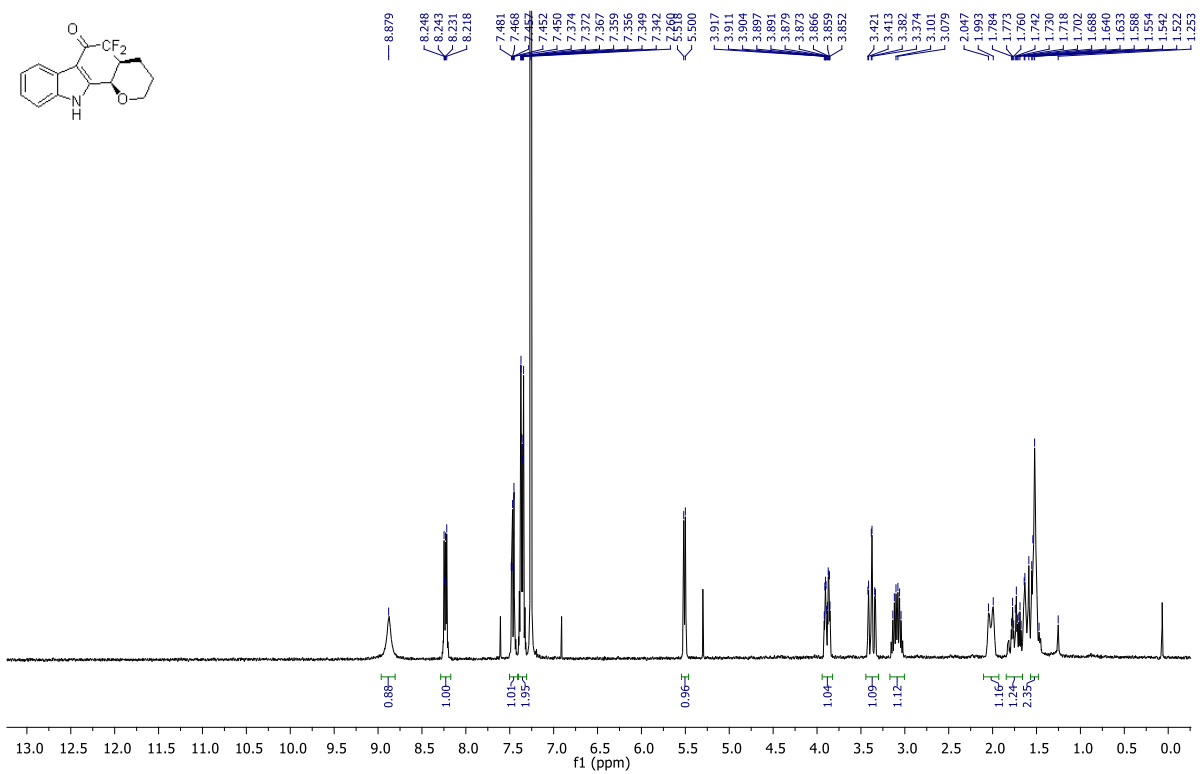


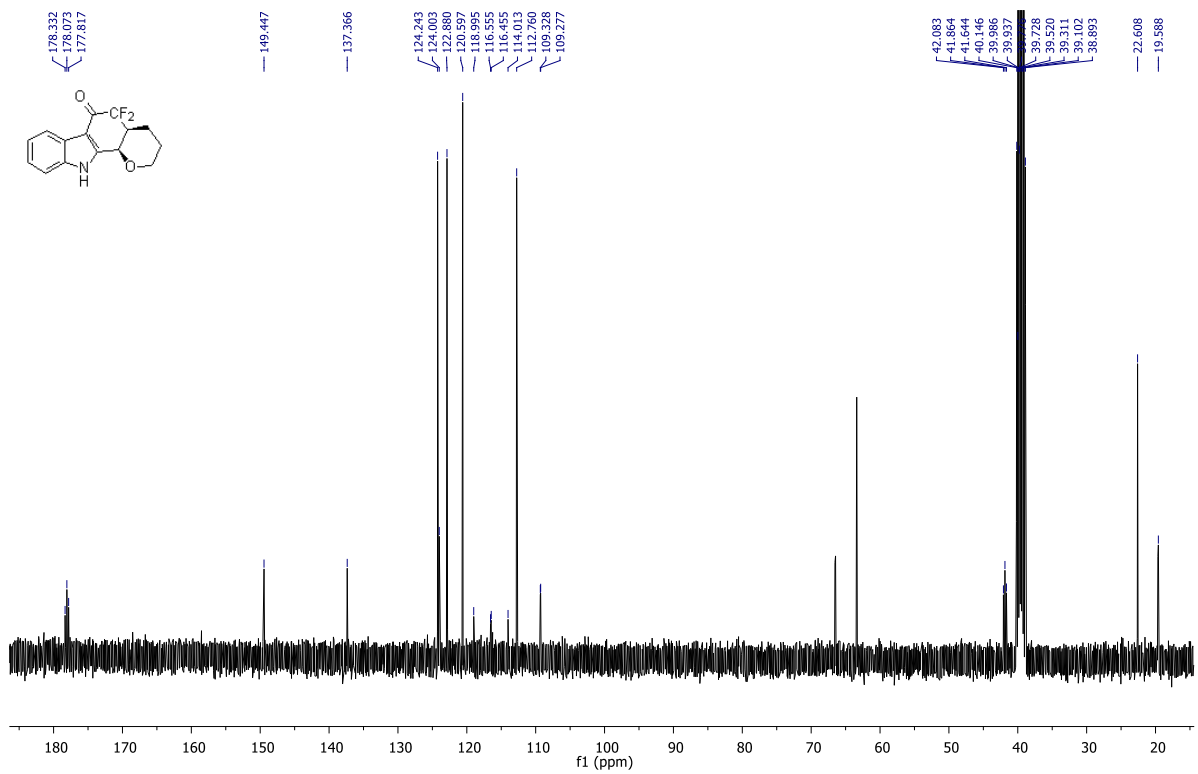
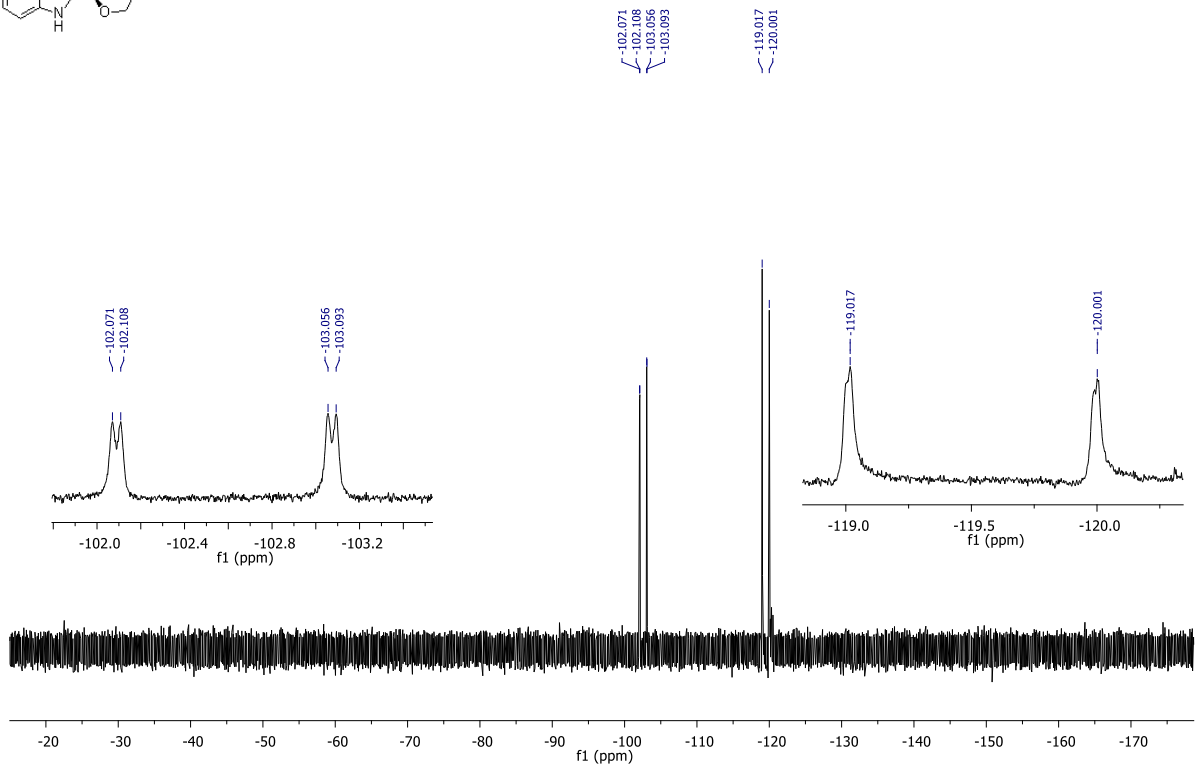
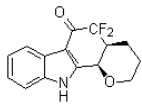


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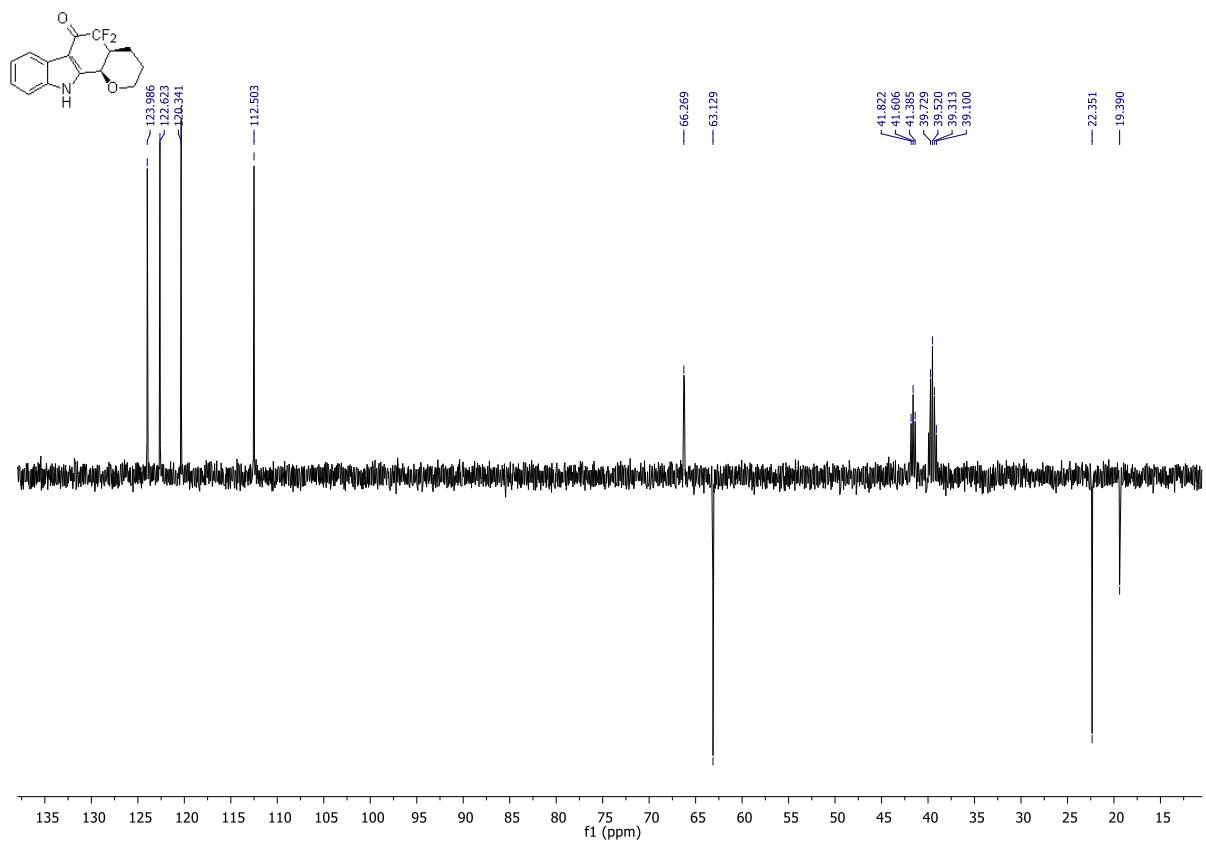


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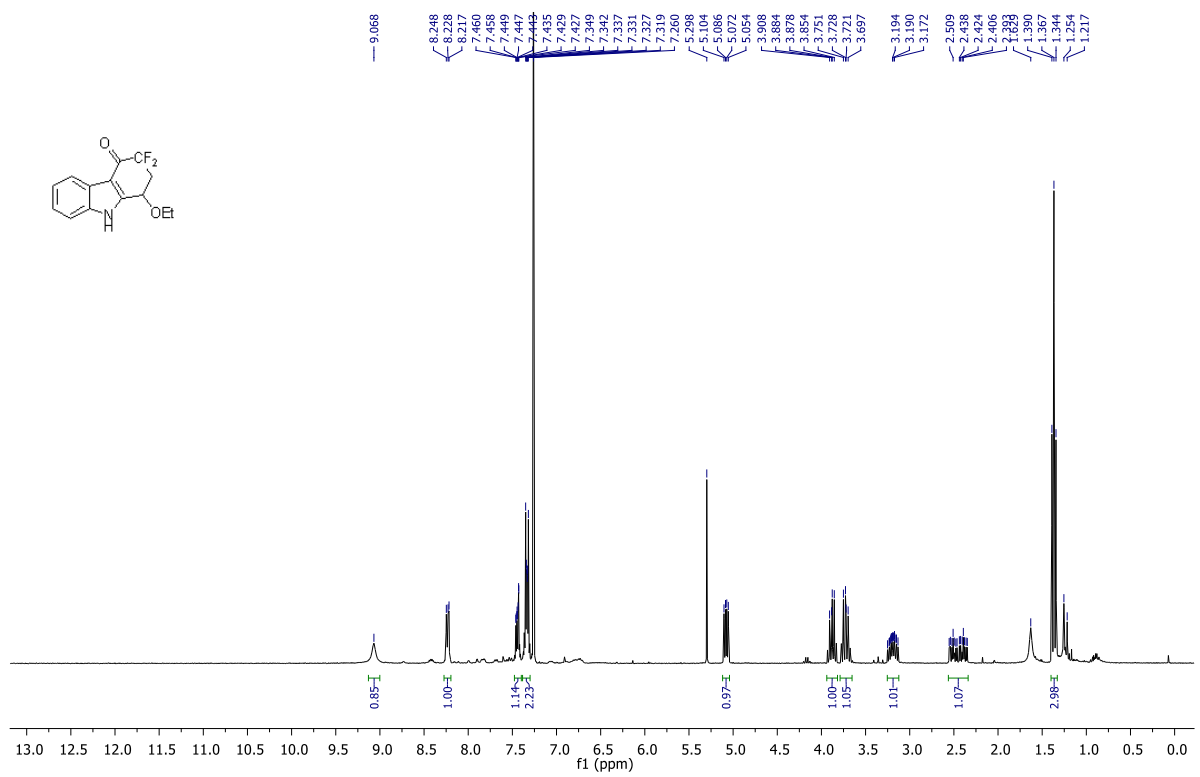


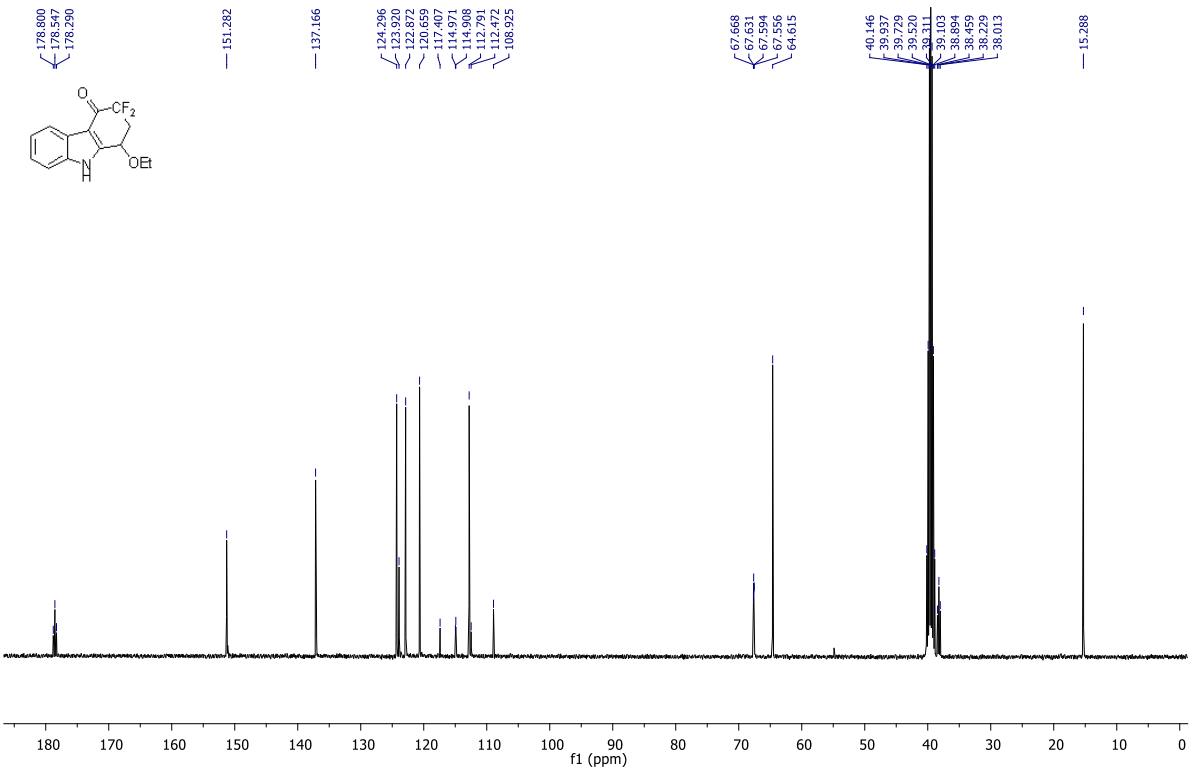
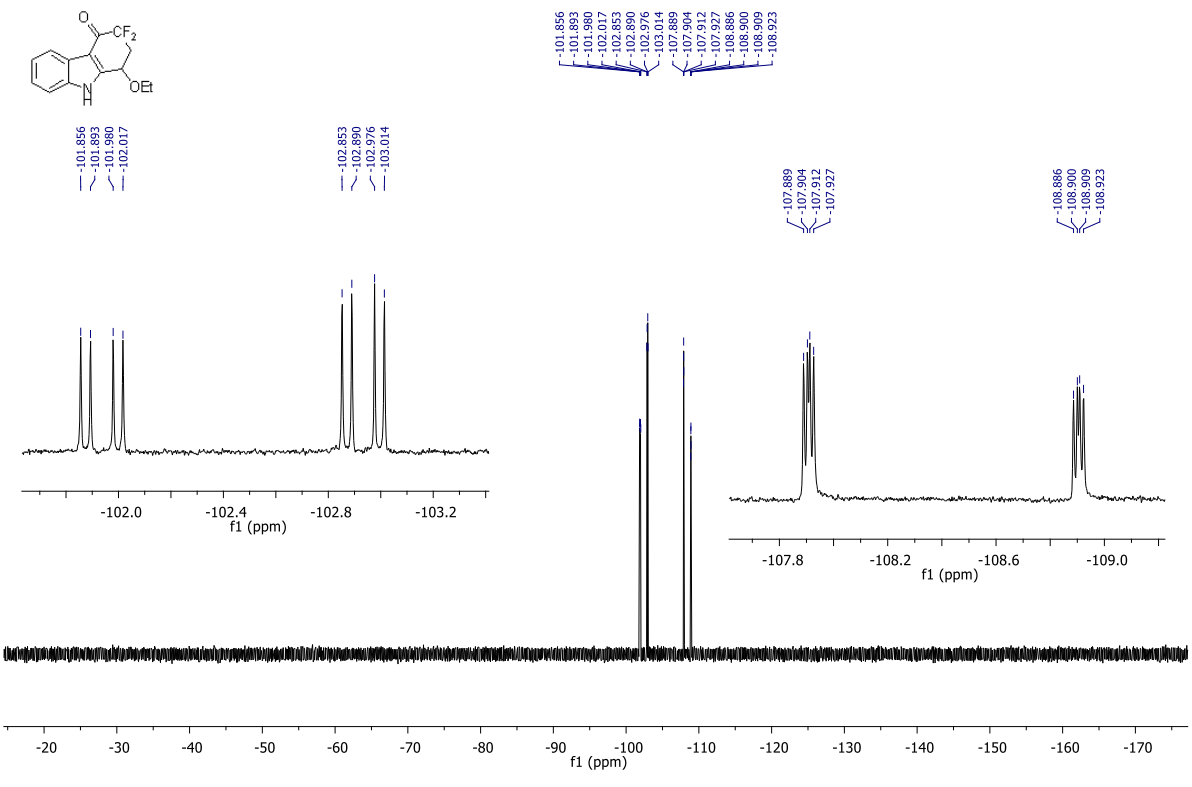


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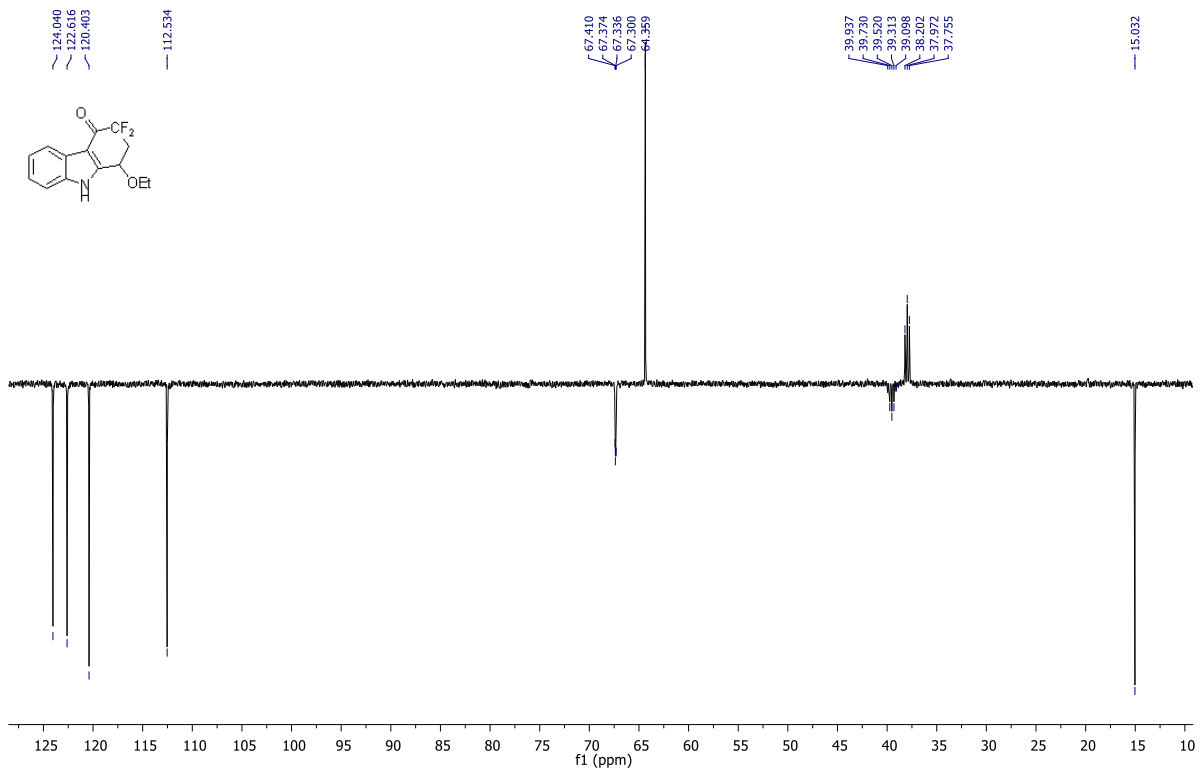


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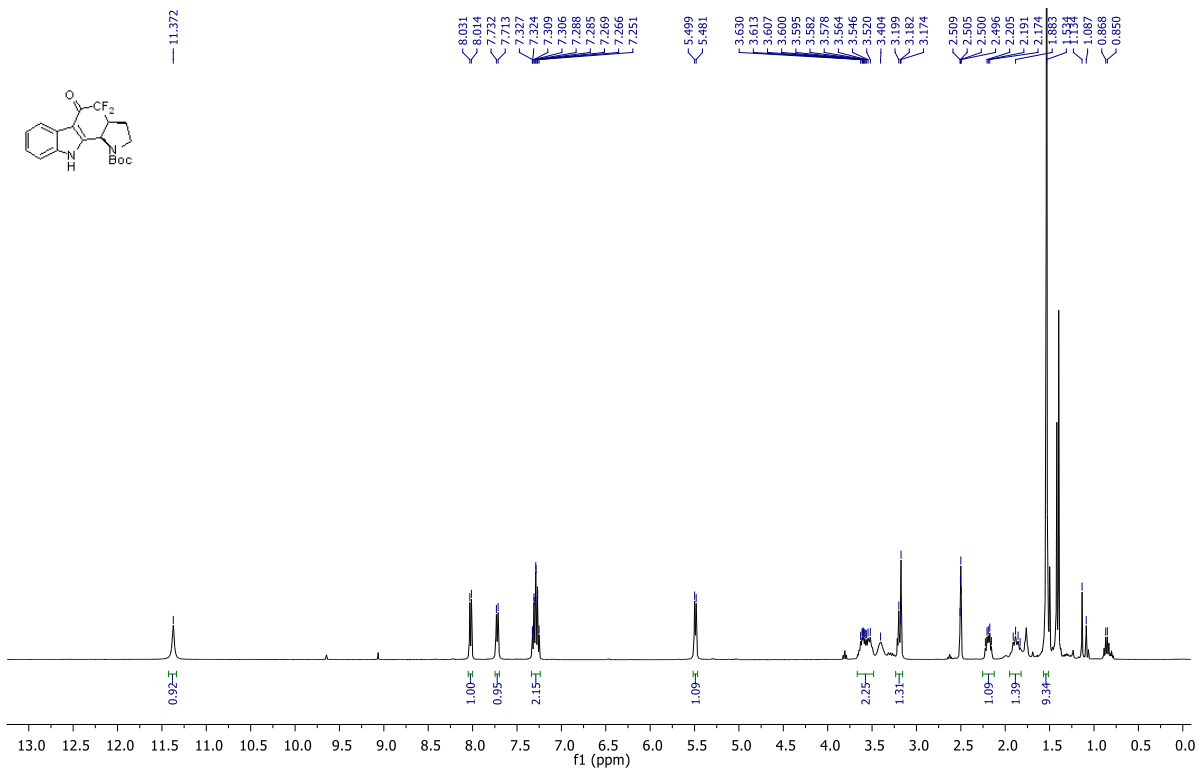


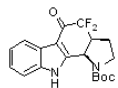
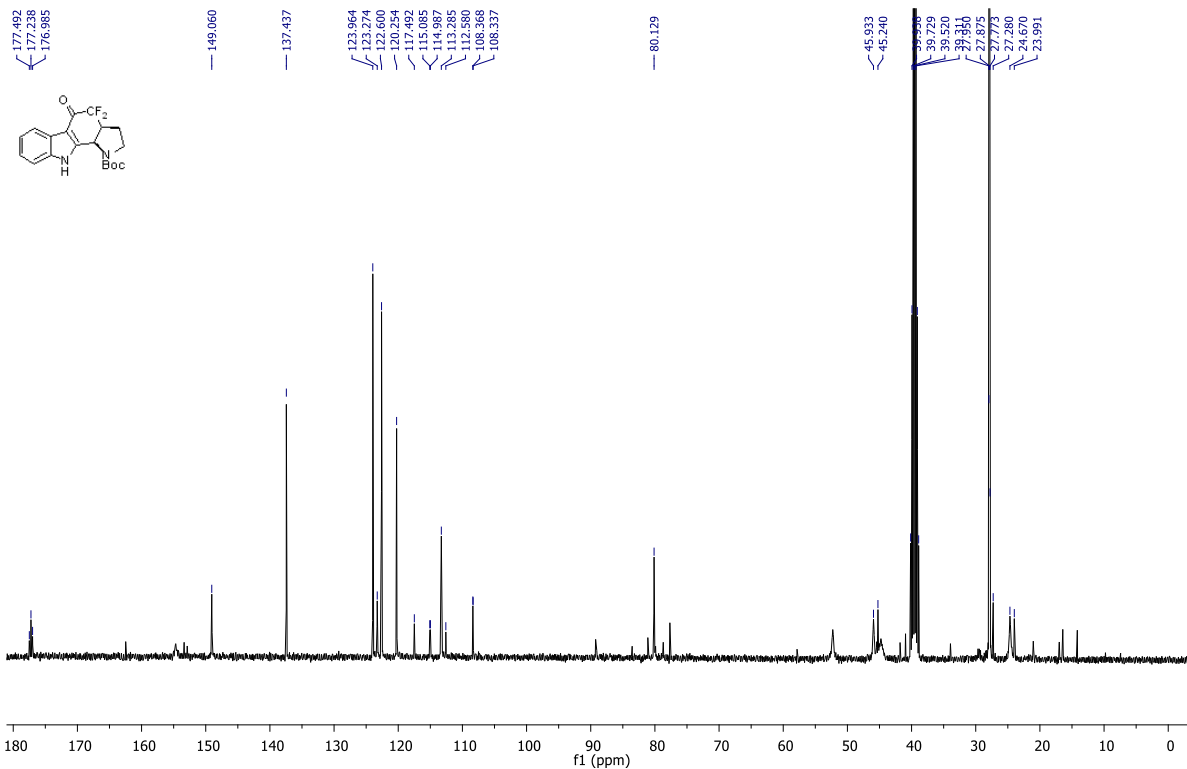
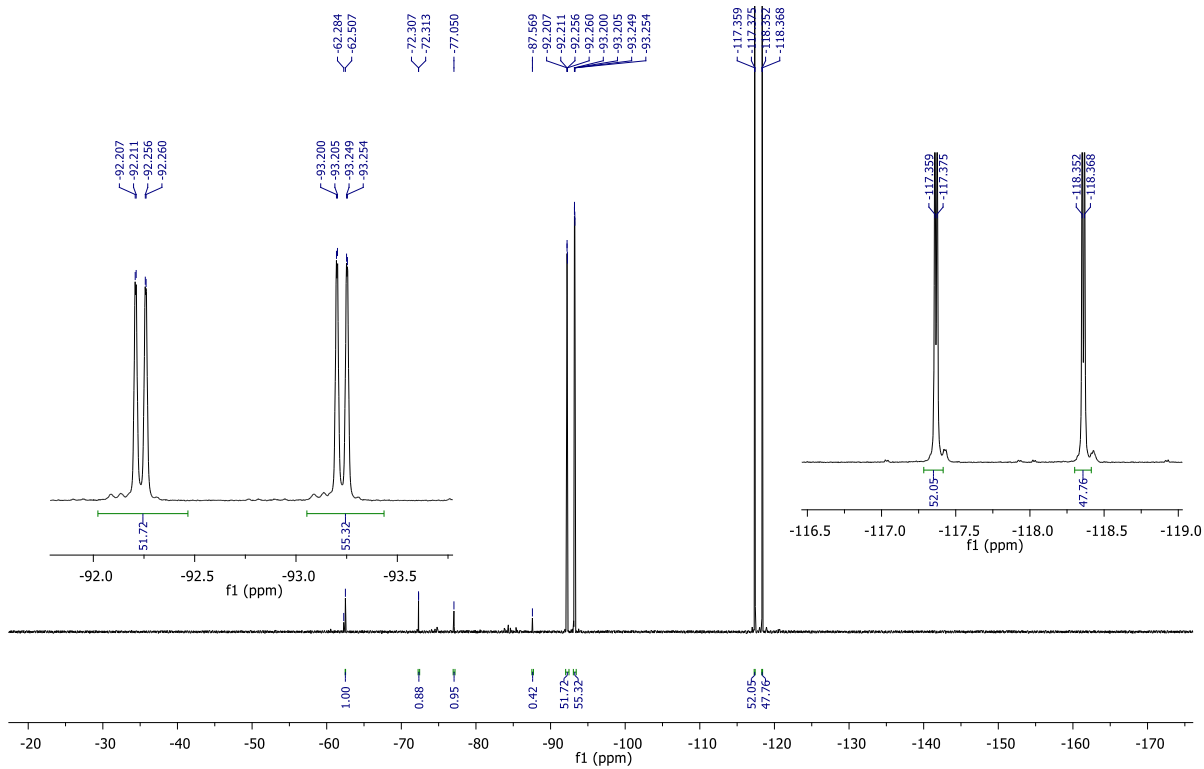


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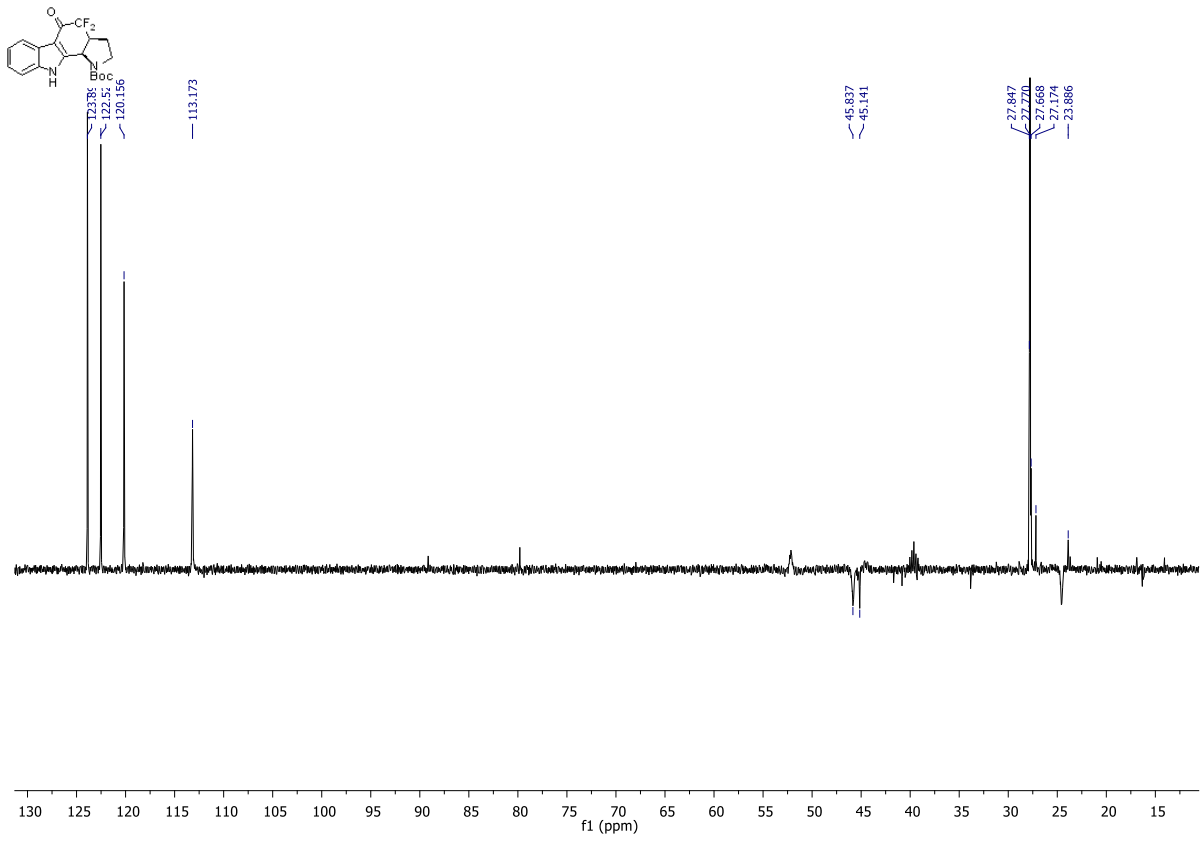


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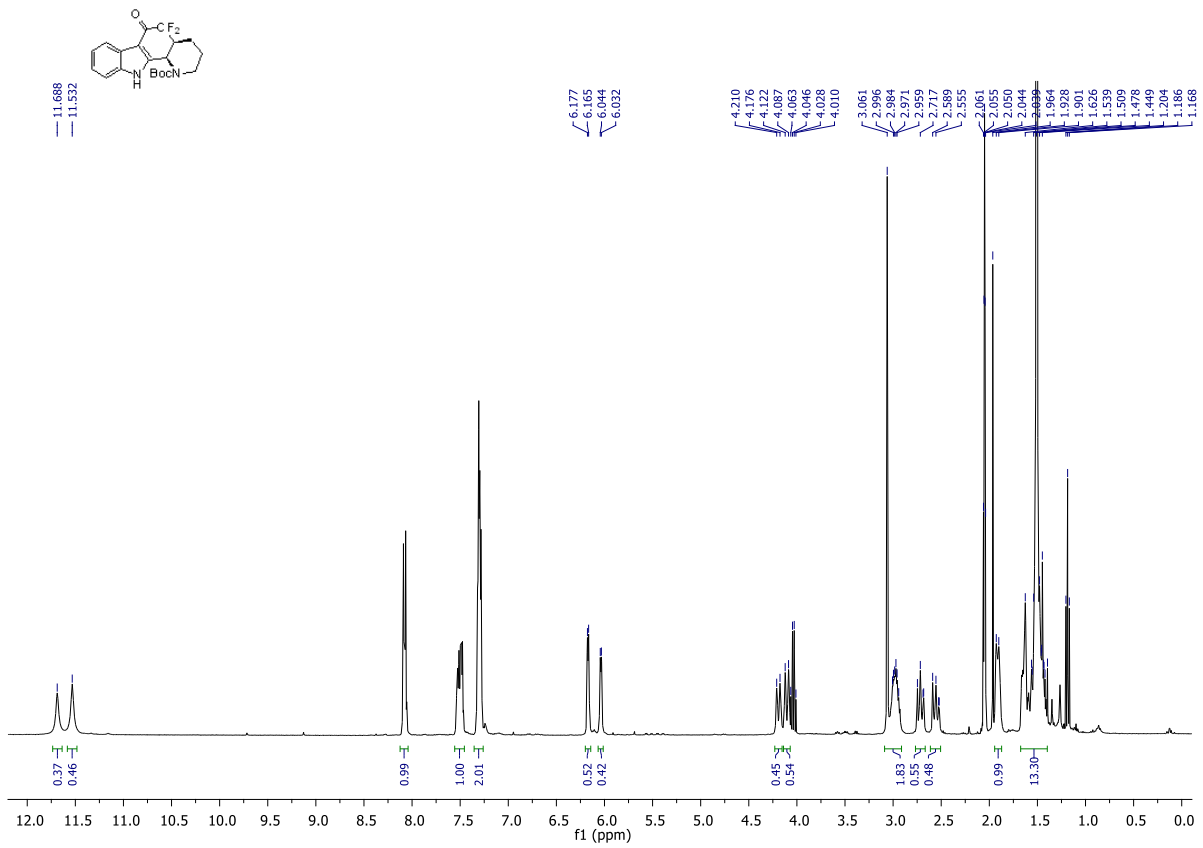


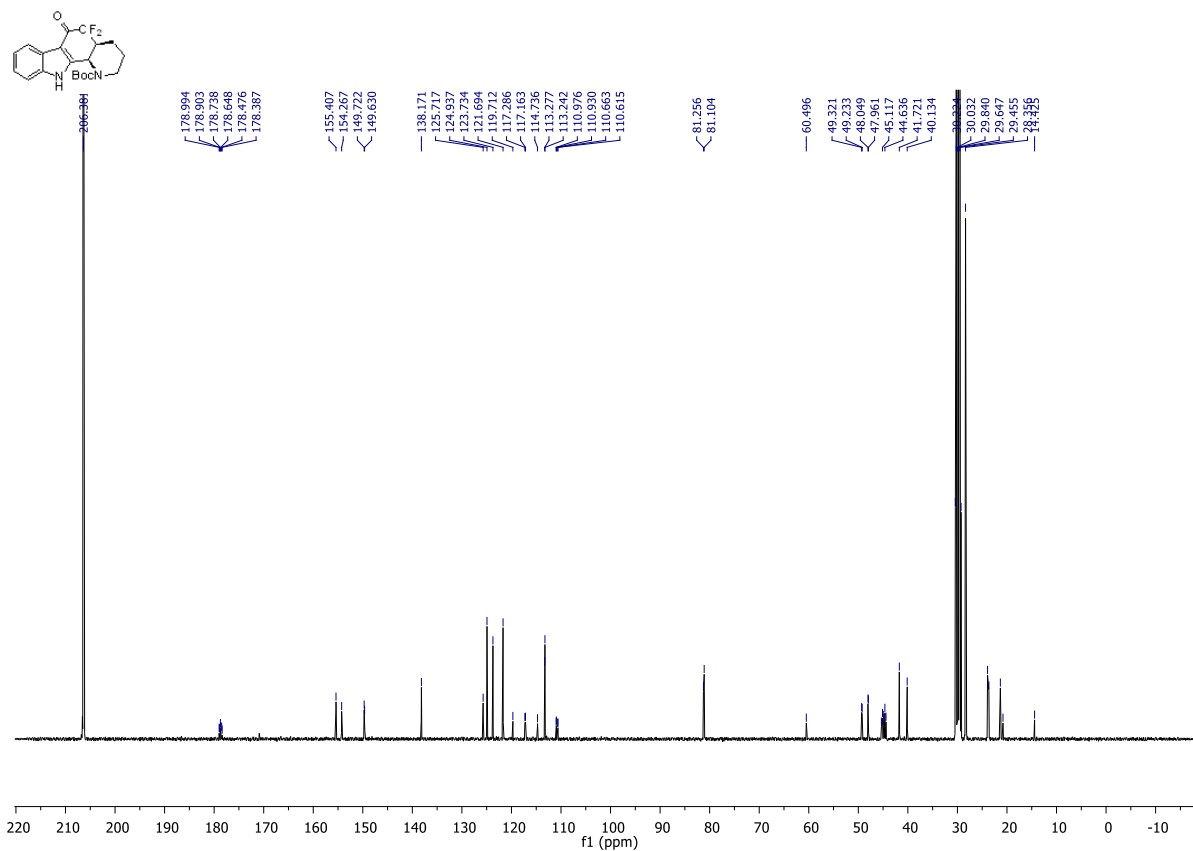
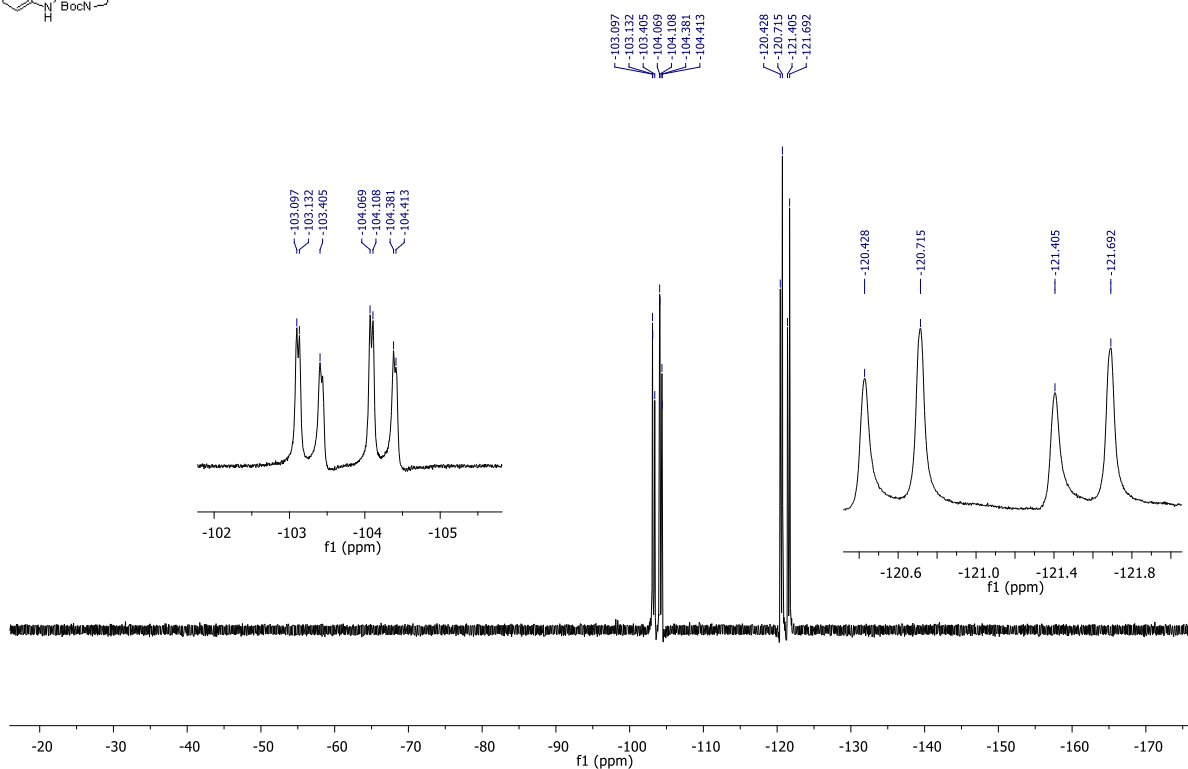
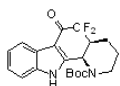


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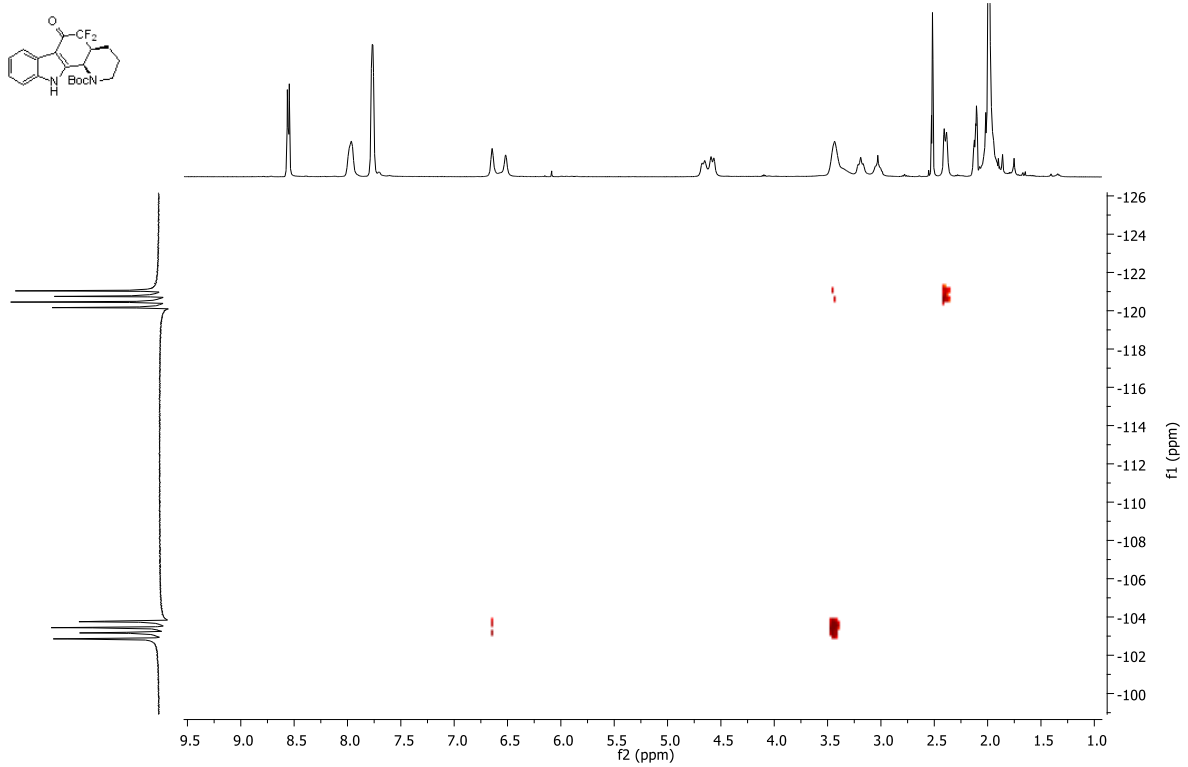
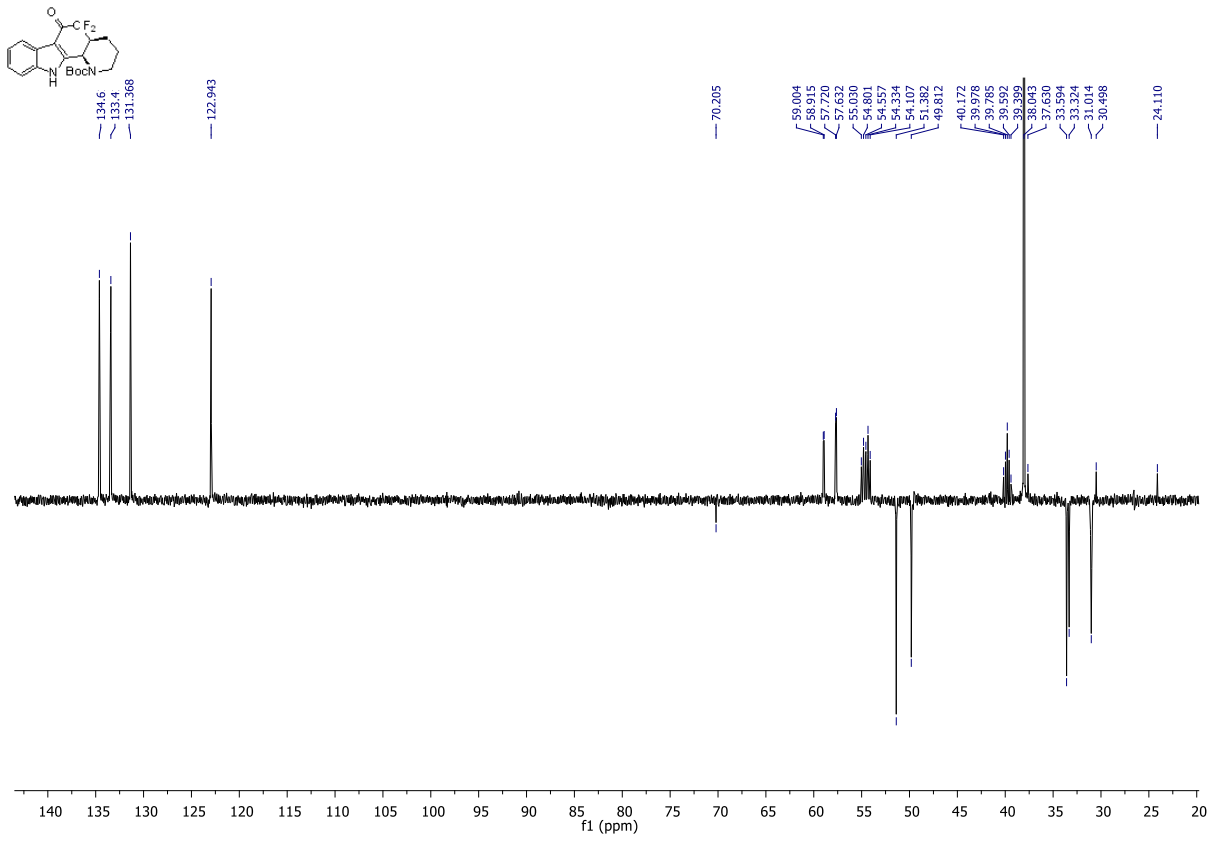


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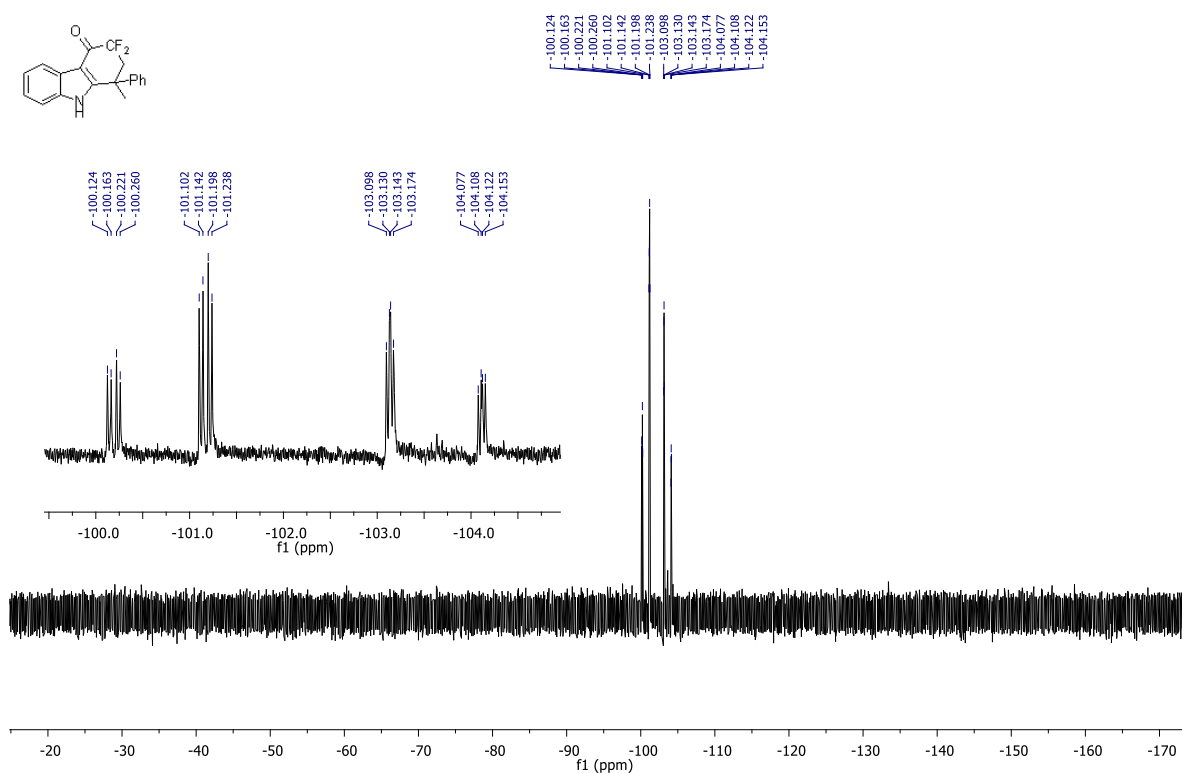
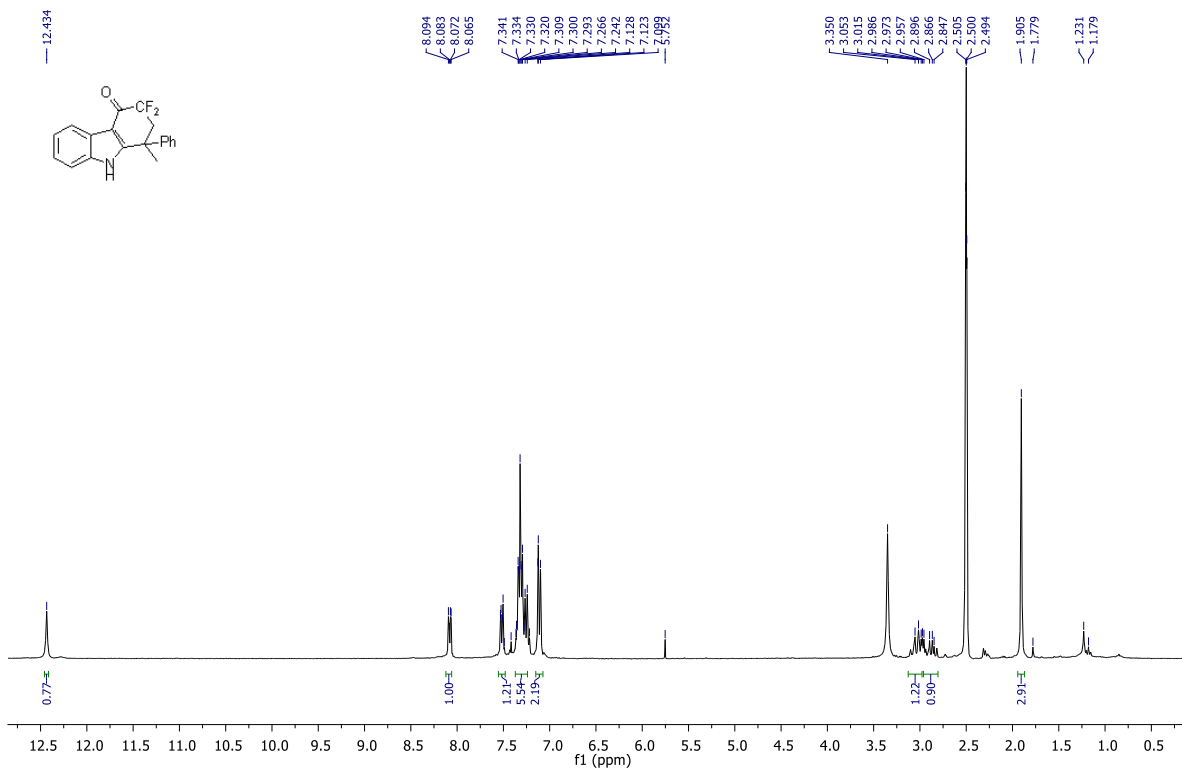


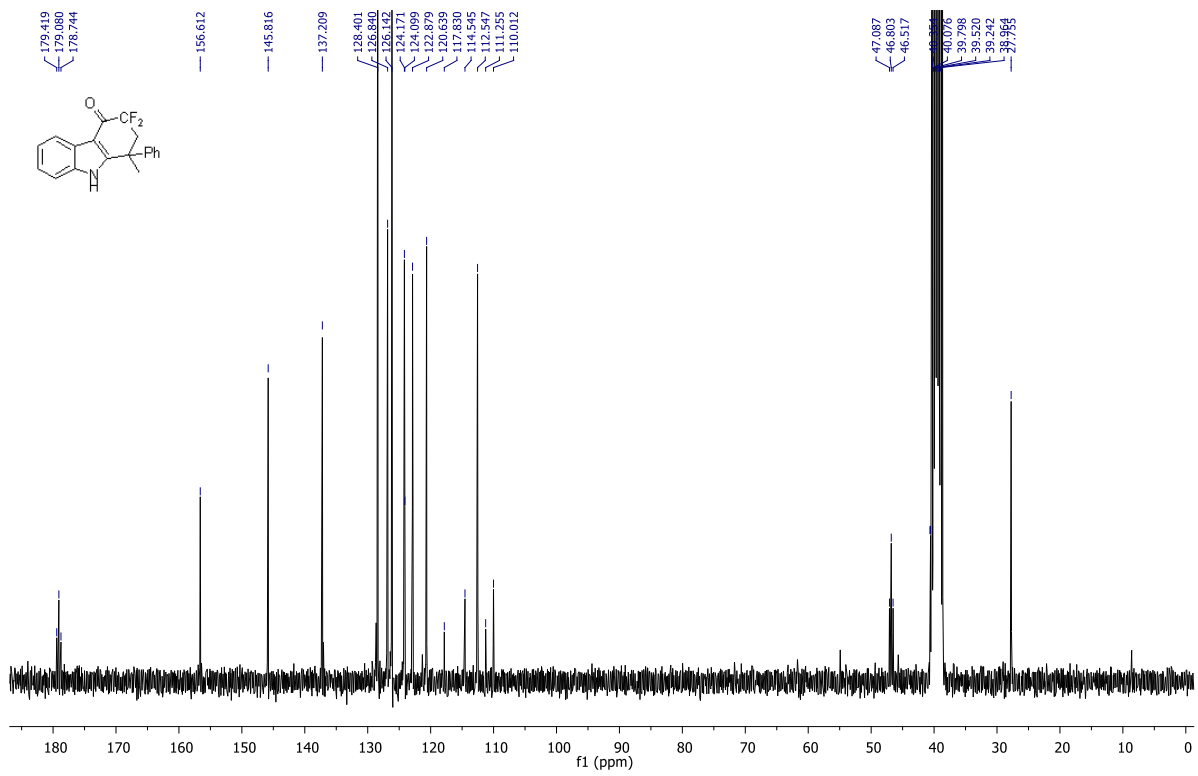


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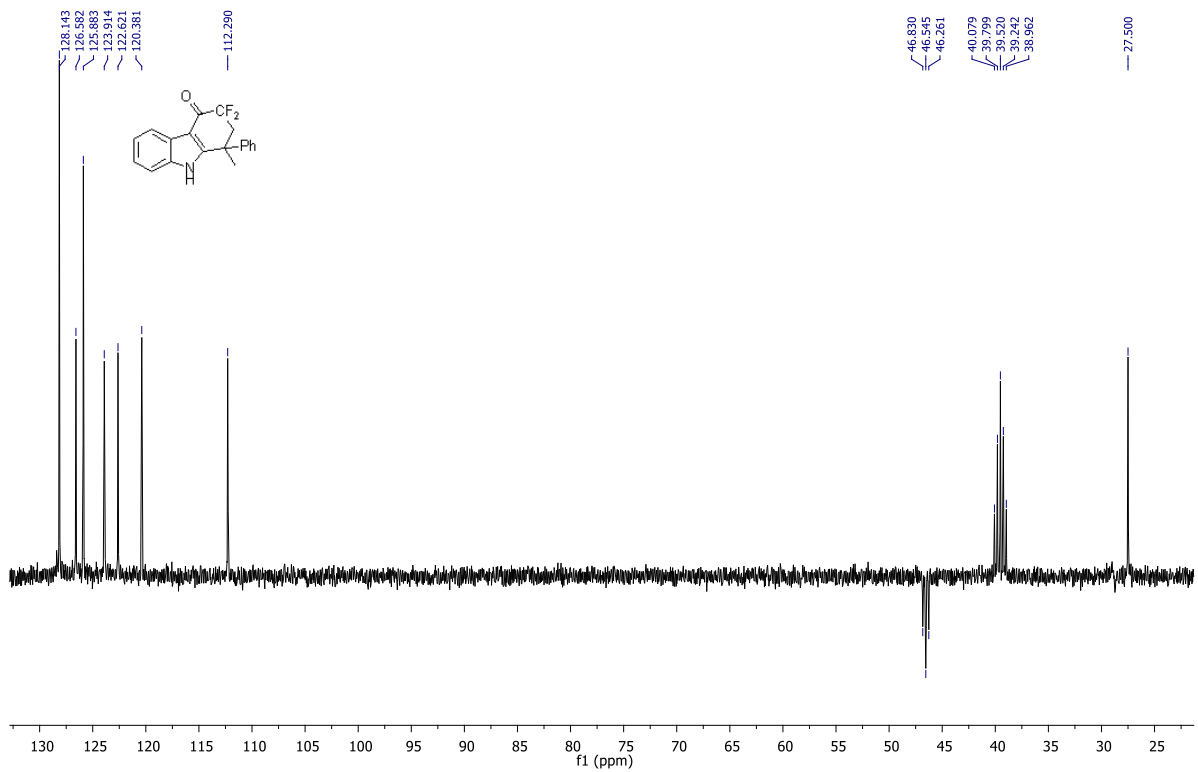


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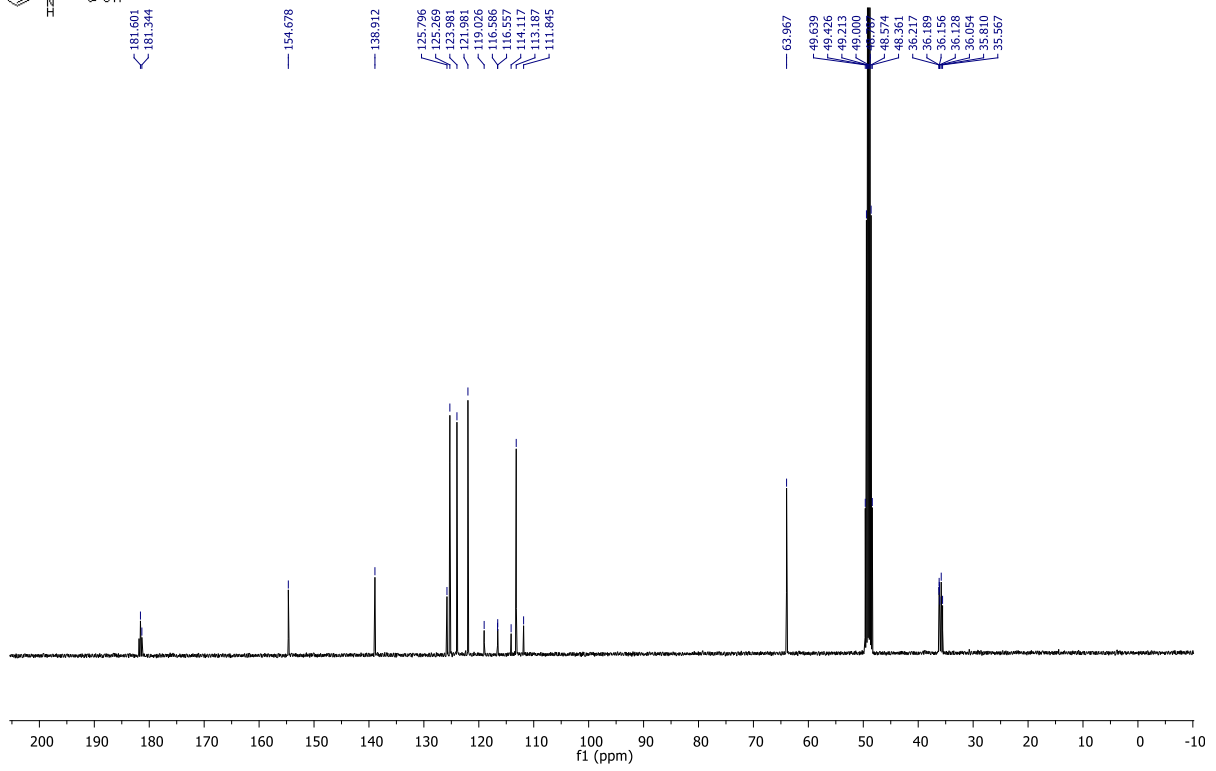
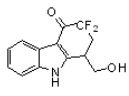




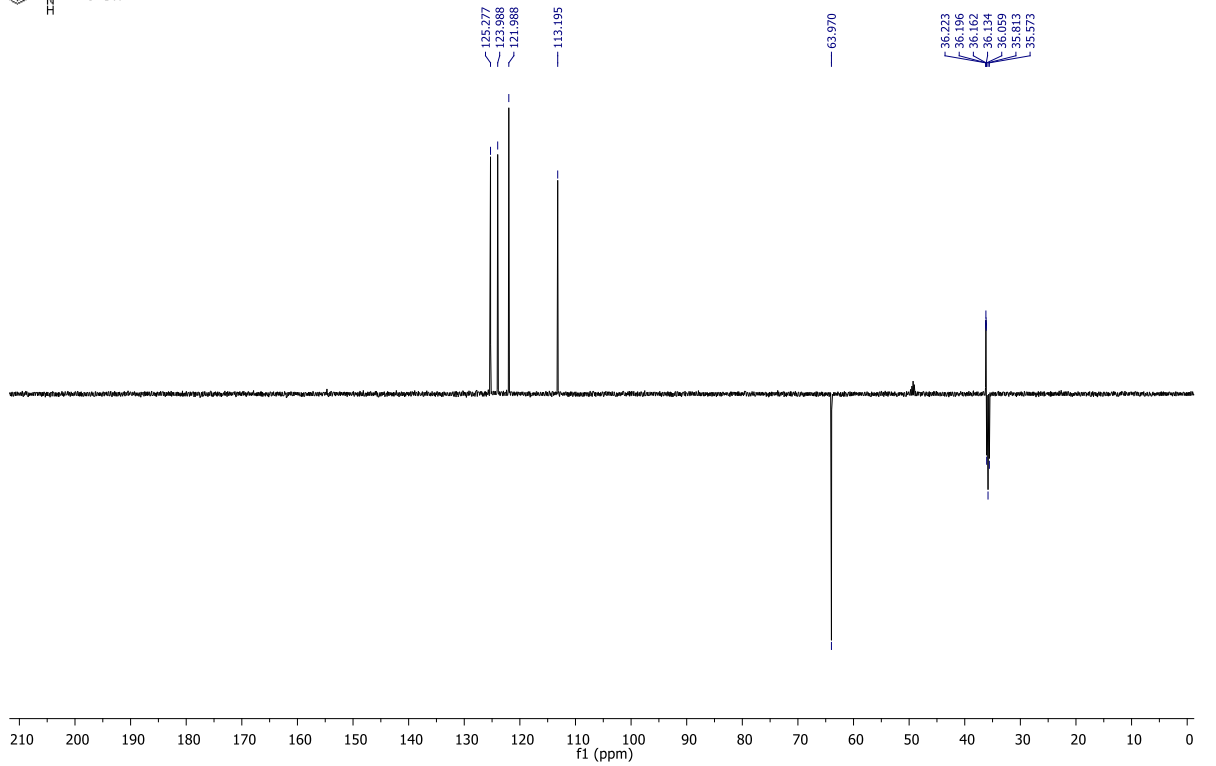
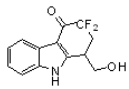
DEPT



3eh



DEPT



X-Ray Diffraction Characterizations

The single-crystal XRD studies of **3aa** and **3eb** were performed with a Gemini diffractometer and the related analysis software.⁵ An absorption correction based on the crystal faces was applied to the data set analytical.⁶ The structures were solved by direct methods with the SIR97 program⁷ combined with Fourier difference syntheses and refined against F for reflections with $[I/\sigma(I) > 3]$ with the CRYSTALS program.⁸ All atomic displacement parameters for non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic terms. The hydrogen atoms were located theoretically based on the conformation of the supporting atom and refined by using a riding model.

CCDC 1522232 and 1522233 for **3aa** and **3eb**, respectively, contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre.

	3aa	3eb
CCDC	1522232	1522233
Empirical formula	C ₁₈ H ₁₇ F ₂ N ₁ O ₂	C ₁₅ H ₁₃ F ₂ N ₁ O ₂
Formula weight (g.mol⁻¹)	317.3	277.3
T (K)	293	293
Crystal system	monoclinic	triclinic
Space group	P2 ₁ /c	P-1
a (Å)	16.129(2)	7.4538(9)
b (Å)	11.1367(9)	9.224(2)
c (Å)	8.7194(9)	10.116(2)
α (°)	90	72.85(2)
β (°)	104.776(8)	78.35(2)
γ (°)	90	73.76(2)
V (Å³)	1514.4(2)	632.6(2)
Z	4	2
Crystal shape	needle	needle
Crystal colour	colorless	colorless
Crystal size (mm³)	0.048×0.075×0.544	0.034×0.061×0.403
Density (calculated)	1.403	1.455
μ (mm⁻¹)	0.108	0.116
F(000)	664	288
θ range (°)	3.04–29.38	2.76–29.33
Index range	-21 ≤ h ≤ 20 0 ≤ k ≤ 14 0 ≤ l ≤ 12	-9 ≤ h ≤ 9 -11 ≤ k ≤ 11 0 ≤ l ≤ 13
Reflns collected / unique [R_{int}]	7530 / 3512 [0.035]	5792 / 2928 [0.069]
Data / restraints / parameters	1474 / 0 / 208	960 / 0 / 181
R / R_w	0.0470 / 0.0532	0.0562 / 0.0475
S	1.12	1.12

⁵ CrysAlisPro, v. 1.171.33.46 (rel. 27-08-2009 CrysAlis171.NET), Oxford Diffraction Ltd., **2009**

⁶ J. de Meulenaar, H. Tompa, *Acta Crystallogr.* **1965**, 19, 1014–1018.

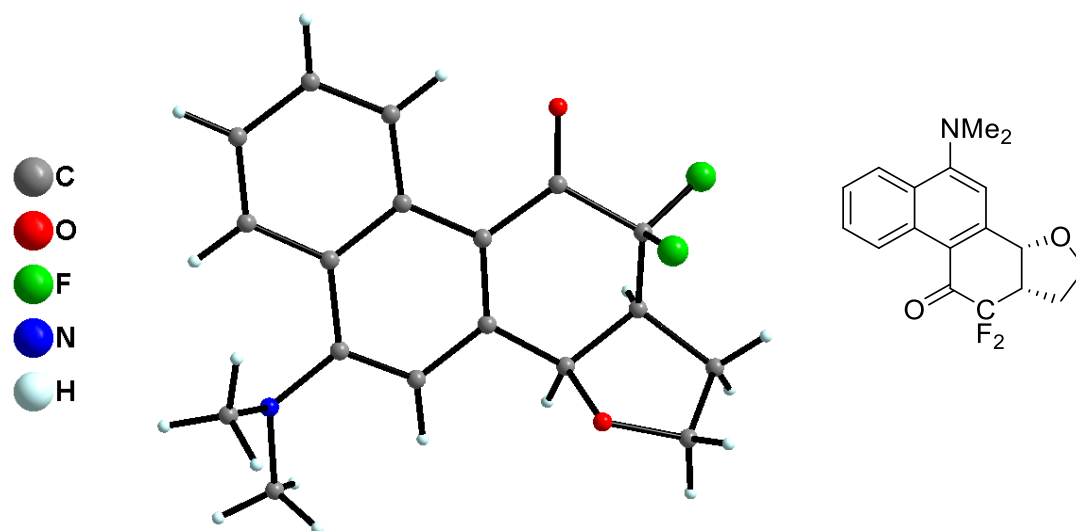
⁷ G. Cascarano, A. Altomare, C. Giacovazzo, A. Guagliardi, A. G. G. Moliterni, D. Siliqi, M. C. Burla, G. Polidori, M. Camalli, *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. A* **1996**, 52, C-79.

⁸ D. J. Watkin, C. K. Prout, J. R. Carruthers, P. W. Betteridge, CRYSTALS Issue 11, Chemical Crystallography Laboratory, Oxford, UK, **1999**.

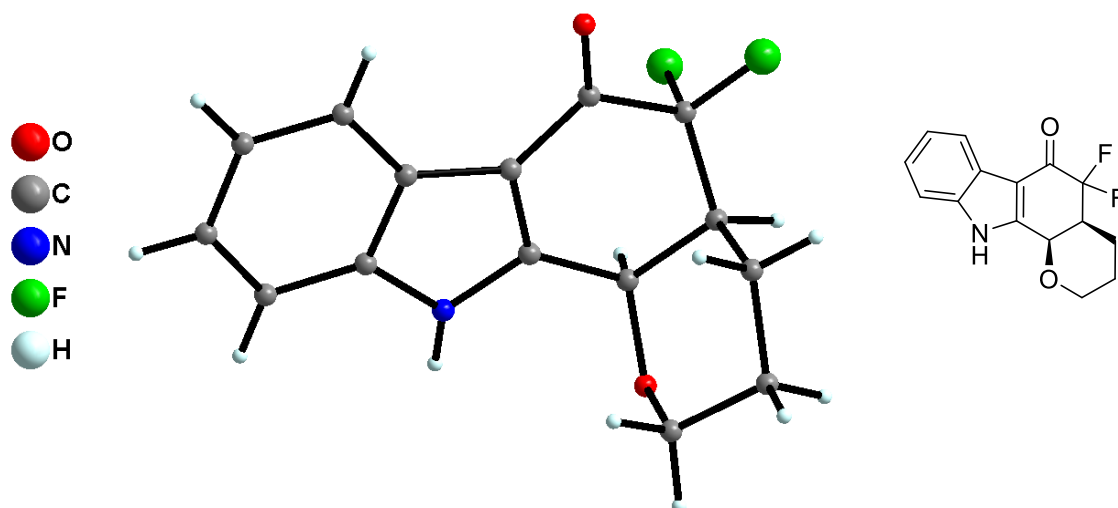
$\Delta\rho_{\max} / \Delta\rho_{\min}$ ($e^{-}\cdot\text{\AA}^{-3}$)
Absorption correction

0.22 / -0.24
analytical

0.26 / -0.32
analytical



Crystal structure of **3aa** molecule.



Crystal structure of **3eb** molecule.