

## Direct Intramolecular Amination of Tryptophan Esters to Prepare Pyrrolo[2,3-b]indoles

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## 1. Experimental Section

### (i) General Remarks

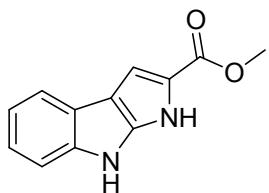
<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE AV400 (400MHz for H and 101MHz for C). Signal positions were recorded in ppm with the abbreviations s, d, t, q, and m denoting singlet, doublet, triplet, quartet, and multiplet respectively. All NMR chemical shifts were referenced to residual solvent peaks or to Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> as an internal standard. NMR Spectra recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> were referenced to residual CHCl<sub>3</sub> at 7.26 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H or 77.0 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C. NMR spectra recorded in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> were referenced to residual DMSO at 2.49 ppm and 3.33 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H or 39.6 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C. All coupling constants *J* were quoted in Hz. Data were reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity, coupling constant and integration. HRMS were measured using Q-TOF LC-MS and the ESI-FTICR technique. Reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) on 0.25mm silica gel glass plates coated with 60 F254. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (200-300 mesh) using a mixture of petroleum ether (60-90°C) and acetone as eluant. Commercially available reagents were used as received without further purification. Raw materials **1d-m**<sup>1</sup>, **1s**<sup>1</sup>, **1n-1p**<sup>2</sup>, **1q-r**<sup>3</sup>, **1t-w**<sup>3</sup> were prepared by the known methods.<sup>1-3</sup>

### (ii) General Procedure for the Preparation of Product **2a-w**

Methyl 2-amino-3-(1H-indol-3-yl) propanoate hydrochloride **1a** (0.5 mmol, 130.0 mg, 1 equiv) was added to a mixture of I<sub>2</sub> (0.15 mmol, 38.1 mg, 0.3 equiv) and Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>•12H<sub>2</sub>O (1.75 mmol, 626.8 mg, 3.5 equiv) under air, and then *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide (0.5 mmol, 68.6 μL, 1 equiv) and 1,4-dioxane (2 mL) were added. After the mixture was stirred at 80°C for 1.5h, the residue was mixed with silica gel and concentrated. The resulting mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether: acetone (5:1) as eluent to give the desired product methyl 1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate **2a** (94.3mg, 88%).

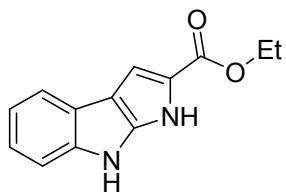
## 2. The Characterization of Products

### methyl 1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (**2a**)



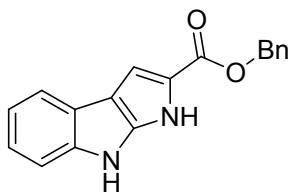
White solid (94.3 mg, 88%). Mp: 248–249 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.90 (s, 1H), 11.11 (s, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.14 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 7.02 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  162.0, 142.9, 141.8, 121.9, 121.2, 120.1, 119.5, 119.2, 112.2, 109.7, 107.4, 51.3. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2^+[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ : 215.0815, found 215.0811.

#### **ethyl 1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2b)**



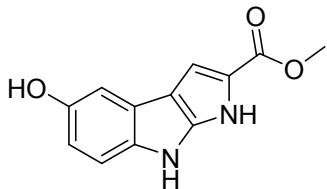
White solid (106.5 mg, 93%). Mp: 181–182 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): 11.86 (s, 1H), 11.10 (s, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.13–7.08 (m, 2H), 7.02 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (q,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.31 (t,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  161.6, 142.9, 141.8, 121.8, 121.2, 120.4, 119.4, 119.2, 112.2, 109.6, 107.2, 59.7, 15.0. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2^+[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ : 229.0972, found 229.0970.

#### **benzyl 1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2c)**



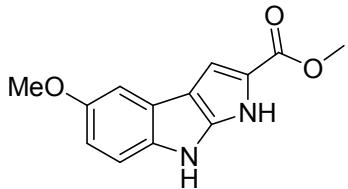
White solid (140.5 mg, 97%). Mp: 163–164 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.93 (s, 1H), 11.12 (s, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.36–7.33 (m, 2H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 7.10 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.31 (s, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  161.3, 143.1, 141.9, 137.5, 128.9, 128.3, 128.2, 121.9, 121.2, 120.0, 119.5, 119.3, 112.2, 109.8, 107.8, 65.1. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2^+[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ : 291.1128, found 291.1131.

#### **methyl 5-hydroxy-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2d)**



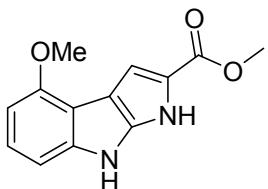
Yellow solid (42.0 mg, 37%). Mp: 243–244 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 11.74 (s, 1H), 10.69 (s, 1H), 8.75 (s, 1H), 7.11–7.07 (m, 2H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 162.0, 151.2, 143.8, 135.7, 122.0, 119.7, 112.4, 110.5, 109.8, 107.5, 105.1, 51.2. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>[M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 231.0764, found 231.0764.

### **methyl 5-methoxy-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2e)**



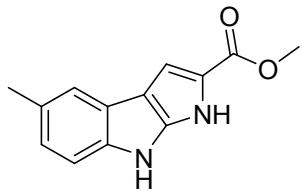
Yellowish solid (50.1 mg, 41%). Mp: 216–217 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 11.80 (s, 1H), 10.84 (s, 1H), 7.21–7.19 (m, 2H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 6.72 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 162.0, 153.8, 143.7, 136.5, 129.8, 121.7, 120.0, 112.6, 109.9, 107.4, 103.3, 55.9, 51.3. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>[M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 245.0921, found 245.0923.

### **methyl 4-methoxy-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2f)**



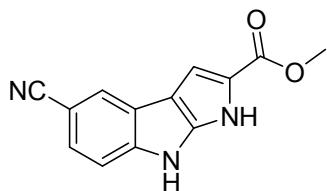
Yellowish solid (71.0 mg, 63%). Mp: 212–213 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 11.90 (s, 1H), 11.14 (s, 1H), 7.06–7.01 (m, 2H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 162.0, 153.1, 142.8, 141.8, 123.0, 120.0, 110.7, 108.3, 107.7, 105.7, 101.3, 55.7, 51.3. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>[M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 245.0921, found 245.0922.

### **methyl 5-methyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2g)**



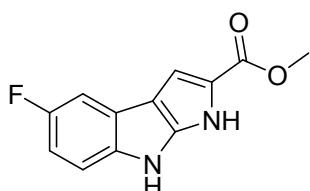
Yellowish solid (85.5 mg, 75%). Mp: 236–237 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.85 (s, 1H), 10.96 (s, 1H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.21 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  162.0, 143.3, 140.0, 128.0, 123.0, 121.3, 119.9, 119.4, 111.9, 109.6, 107.3, 51.3, 21.6. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2^+[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ : 229.0972, found 229.0975.

#### **methyl 5-cyano-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2h)**



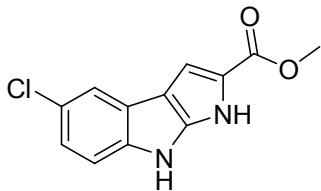
Yellowish solid (55.5 mg, 46%). Mp: 260–261 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.21 (s, 1H), 11.85 (s, 1H), 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.49 (s, 2H), 7.21 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  161.9, 143.8, 143.3, 125.2, 123.7, 121.6, 121.2, 113.1, 108.9, 107.5, 101.1, 51.5. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2^+[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ : 240.0768, found 240.0768.

#### **methyl 5-fluoro-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2i)**



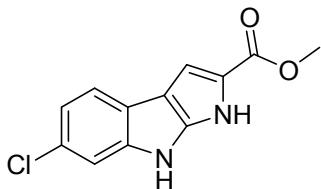
Yellowish solid (70.5 mg, 61%). Mp: 247–248 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.95 (s, 1H), 11.18 (s, 1H), 7.43 (dd,  $J$  = 9.8, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.31–7.27 (m, 1H), 7.13 (s, 1H), 6.92 (td,  $J$  = 9.2, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  162.0, 158.4, 156.1, 144.0, 138.2, 121.7, 121.6, 120.6, 112.7, 112.6, 109.6, 109.6, 108.9, 108.7, 107.5, 105.2, 104.9, 51.4. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_2^+[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ : 233.0721, found 233.0722.

#### **methyl 5-chloro-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2j)**



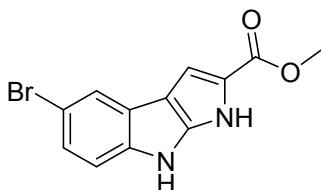
Yellowish solid (90.1 mg, 72%). Mp: 288–289 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.01 (s, 1H), 11.33 (s, 1H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.34 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  162.0, 143.5, 140.2, 123.8, 122.4, 121.4, 120.9, 118.7, 113.4, 109.0, 107.5, 51.4. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_2^+[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ : 249.0425, found 249.0420.

#### **methyl 6-chloro-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2k)**



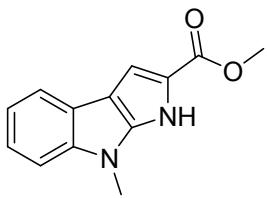
Yellowish solid (79.8 mg, 64%). Mp: 292–293 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.05 (s, 1H), 11.37 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d,  $J = 8.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.09 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  162.0, 143.1, 142.3, 126.0, 120.7, 120.3, 120.0, 119.4, 111.9, 109.1, 107.3, 51.4. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_2^+[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ : 249.0425, found 249.0427.

#### **methyl 5-bromo-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2l)**



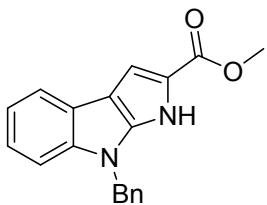
Yellowish solid (130.1 mg, 89%). Mp: 277–278 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  12.03 (s, 1H), 11.37 (s, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  161.9, 143.3, 140.4, 124.0, 123.0, 121.6, 120.9, 114.0, 111.6, 108.9, 107.5, 51.4. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}\text{BrN}_2\text{O}_2^+[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ : 292.9926, 293.9959, 294.9905, 295.9939, found 292.9920, 293.9953, 294.9901, 295.9937.

#### **methyl 8-methyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2m)**



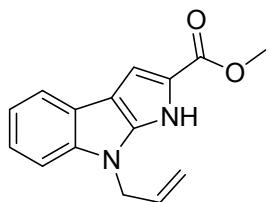
White solid (95.0 mg, 83%). Mp: 256–257 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 12.11 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.10–7.06 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 162.0, 144.3, 142.2, 121.9, 120.9, 120.3, 119.7, 119.5, 110.1, 108.4, 107.8, 51.4, 30.3. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>[M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 229.0972, found 229.0976.

#### **methyl 8-benzyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2n)**



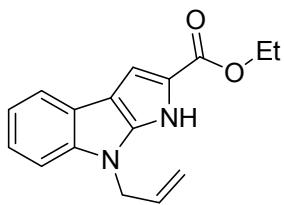
White solid (118.0 mg, 78%). Mp: 244–245 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 12.25 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.23–7.20 (m, 4H), 7.14–7.05 (m, 2H), 5.55 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 162.0, 143.8, 141.3, 138.0, 129.0, 127.8, 127.4, 122.0, 121.2, 120.6, 119.9, 119.6, 110.8, 108.8, 107.8, 51.4, 46.8. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>[M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 305.1285, found 305.1286.

#### **methyl 8-allyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2o)**



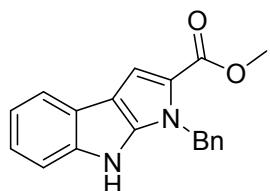
White solid (100.0 mg, 79%). Mp: 224–225 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 12.09 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18–7.14 (m, 2H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.99–5.92 (m, 1H), 5.12 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (d, *J* = 17.1 Hz, 1H), 4.94 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 162.0, 143.6, 141.4, 133.6, 122.0, 121.1, 120.4, 119.8, 119.6, 117.2, 110.6, 108.6, 107.7, 51.4, 45.8. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>[M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 255.1128, found 255.1132.

#### **ethyl 8-allyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2p)**



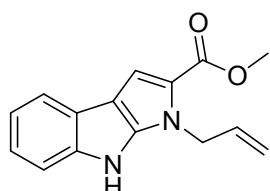
White solid (120.2 mg, 94%). Mp: 176–177 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 12.04 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.17–7.14 (m, 2H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.99–5.92 (m, 1H), 5.12 (d, *J* = 10.2 Hz, 1H), 5.00 (d, *J* = 17.1 Hz, 1H), 4.94 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 4.27 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.32 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 161.6, 143.5, 141.3, 133.7, 121.9, 121.1, 120.7, 119.8, 119.5, 117.1, 110.6, 108.6, 107.6, 59.8, 45.8, 15.1. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>[M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 269.1285, found 269.1285.

### **methyl 1-benzyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2q)**



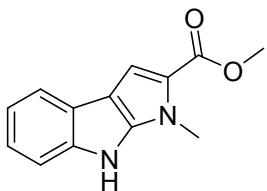
Yellowish solid (60.5 mg, 40%). Mp: 156–157 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 11.53 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.26–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.20–7.08 (m, 4H), 5.77 (s, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 162.5, 144.2, 140.8, 136.9, 129.0, 127.8, 126.9, 122.3, 121.8, 120.6, 120.3, 119.6, 111.7, 110.0, 108.9, 51.1, 49.3. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>[M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 305.1285, found 305.1289.

### **methyl 1-allyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2r)**



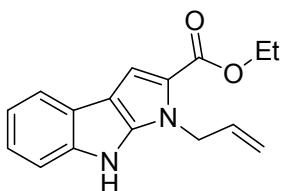
Yellowish solid (30.0 mg, 24%). Mp: 133–134 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.71–7.69 (m, 1H), 7.34 (s, 1H), 7.30–7.28 (m, 1H), 7.20–7.16 (m, 2H), 6.07–6.00 (m, 1H), 5.20 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 5.06 (d, *J* = 17.1 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 162.5, 144.2, 140.9, 133.5, 122.3, 121.9, 120.6, 120.0, 119.6, 117.1, 111.7, 109.7, 108.8, 51.1, 48.2. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>[M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 255.1128, found 255.1132.

**methyl 1-methyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2s)**



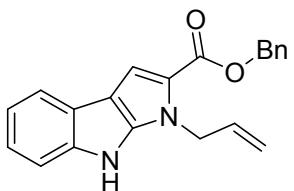
White solid (20.0 mg, 18%). Mp: 195–196 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  11.42 (s, 1H), 7.65 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.14 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  162.0, 145.5, 141.4, 122.2, 121.4, 120.0, 119.8, 119.5, 112.2, 109.0, 107.4, 51.1, 33.5. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2^+[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ : 229.0972, found 229.0970.

**ethyl 1-allyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2t)**



Yellowish solid (39.0 mg, 29%). Mp: 97–98 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.95 (s, 1H), 7.70–7.68 (m, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 7.30–7.28 (m, 1H), 7.19–7.14 (m, 2H), 6.08–5.98 (m, 1H), 5.19 (d,  $J$  = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.13 (d,  $J$  = 5.1 Hz, 2H), 5.05 (d,  $J$  = 17.1 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (q,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  162.2, 144.1, 140.9, 133.5, 122.2, 121.9, 120.6, 120.3, 119.5, 117.0, 111.7, 109.7, 108.7, 59.8, 48.2, 14.6. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2^+[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ : 269.1285, found 269.1287.

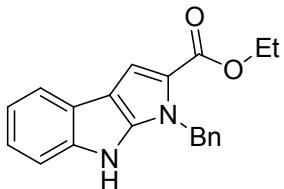
**benzyl 1-allyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2u)**



Yellowish solid (44.9 mg, 27%). Mp: 111–112 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.86 (s, 1H), 7.69–7.66 (m, 1H), 7.44–7.41 (m, 3H), 7.37 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.19–7.13 (m, 2H), 6.05–5.98 (m, 1H), 5.30 (s, 2H), 5.19 (d,  $J$  = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (d,  $J$  = 4.9 Hz, 2H), 5.04 (d,  $J$  = 17.1 Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  161.8, 144.3, 140.9, 136.8, 133.4, 128.6, 128.1, 128.0,

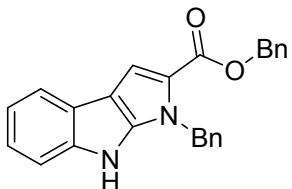
122.4, 121.8, 120.7, 119.9, 119.6, 117.2, 111.8, 110.1, 108.9, 65.5, 48.2. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $C_{21}H_{19}N_2O_2^+[M + H]^+$ : 331.1441, found 331.1441.

### **ethyl 1-benzyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2v)**



Yellowish solid (61.9 mg, 39%). Mp: 167–168 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  11.51 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (s, 1H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.25–7.21 (m, 1H), 7.18–7.07 (m, 4H), 5.76 (s, 2H), 4.20 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  162.2, 144.2, 140.8, 137.1, 128.9, 127.8, 126.9, 122.2, 121.8, 120.6, 120.5, 119.5, 111.7, 109.9, 108.8, 59.8, 49.3, 14.5. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $C_{20}H_{19}N_2O_2^+[M + H]^+$ : 319.1441, found 319.1442.

### **benzyl 1-benzyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2w)**



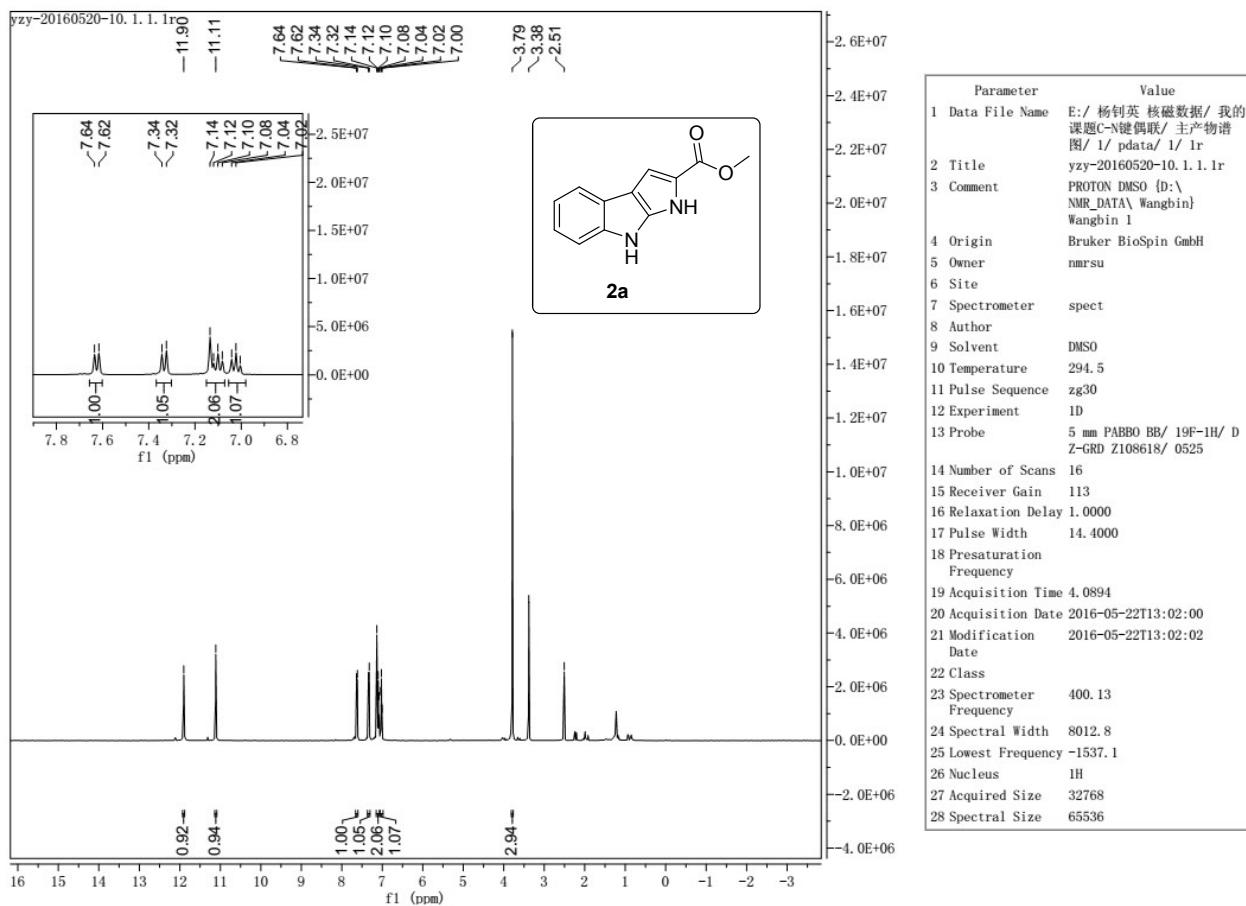
Yellowish solid (67.5 mg, 36%). Mp: 153–154 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  11.56 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44–7.35 (m, 7H), 7.33–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.27–7.24 (m, 1H), 7.15–7.08 (m, 4H), 5.78 (s, 2H), 5.27 (s, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  161.8, 144.3, 140.9, 136.9, 136.7, 129.0, 128.6, 128.0, 128.0, 127.9, 127.0, 122.3, 121.8, 120.6, 120.3, 119.6, 111.7, 110.3, 109.0, 65.5, 49.4. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for  $C_{25}H_{21}N_2O_2^+[M + H]^+$ : 381.1598, found 381.1597.

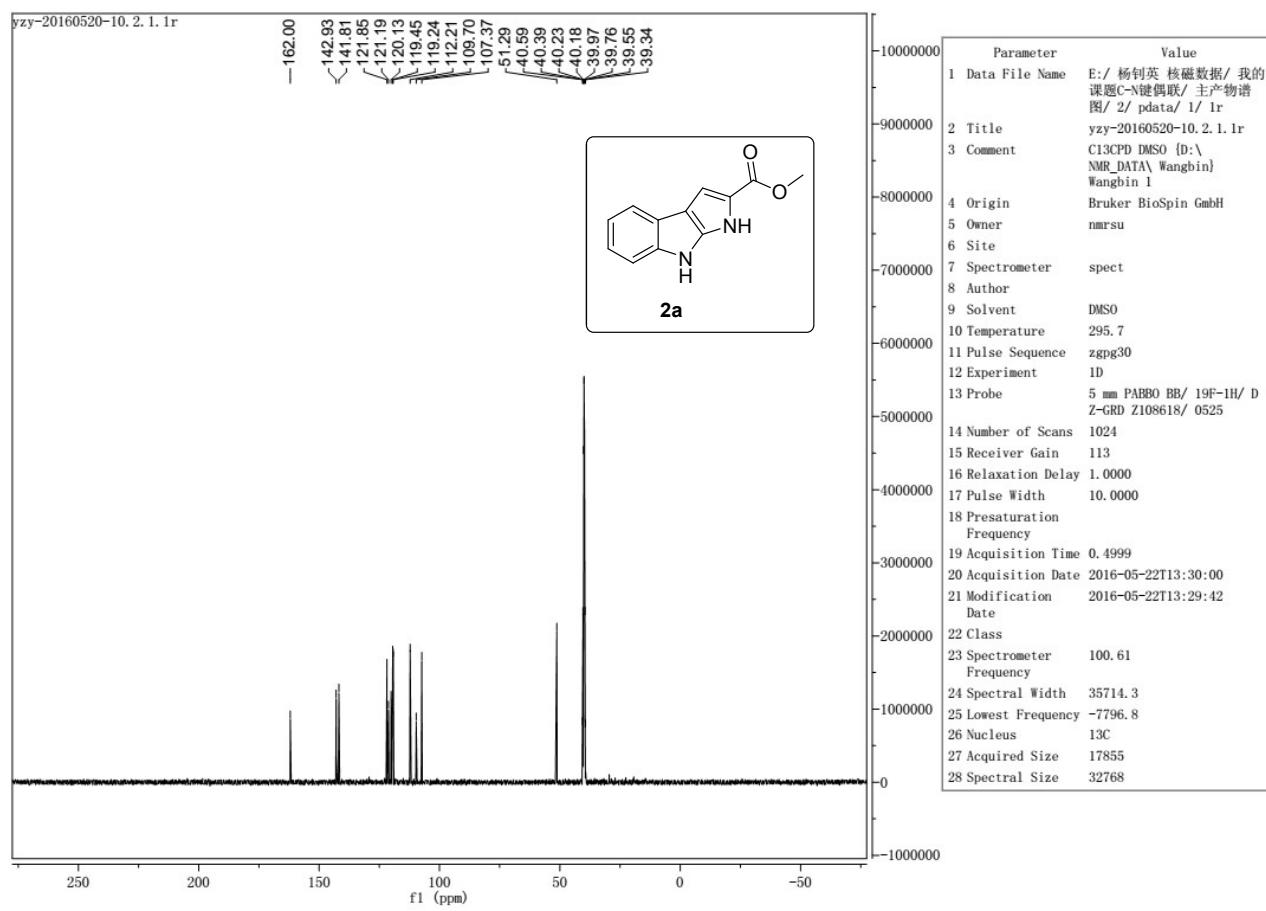
### **3. References**

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- Benson, S. C.; Lee, L.; Yang, L.; Snyder, J. K. *Tetrahedron* **2000**, *56*, 1165.
- Kumaraswamy, G.; Pitchaiah, A.; Ramakrishna, G.; Ramakrishna, D. S.; Sadaiah, K. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2006**, *47*, 2013.

## 4. NMR and HRMS Spectra

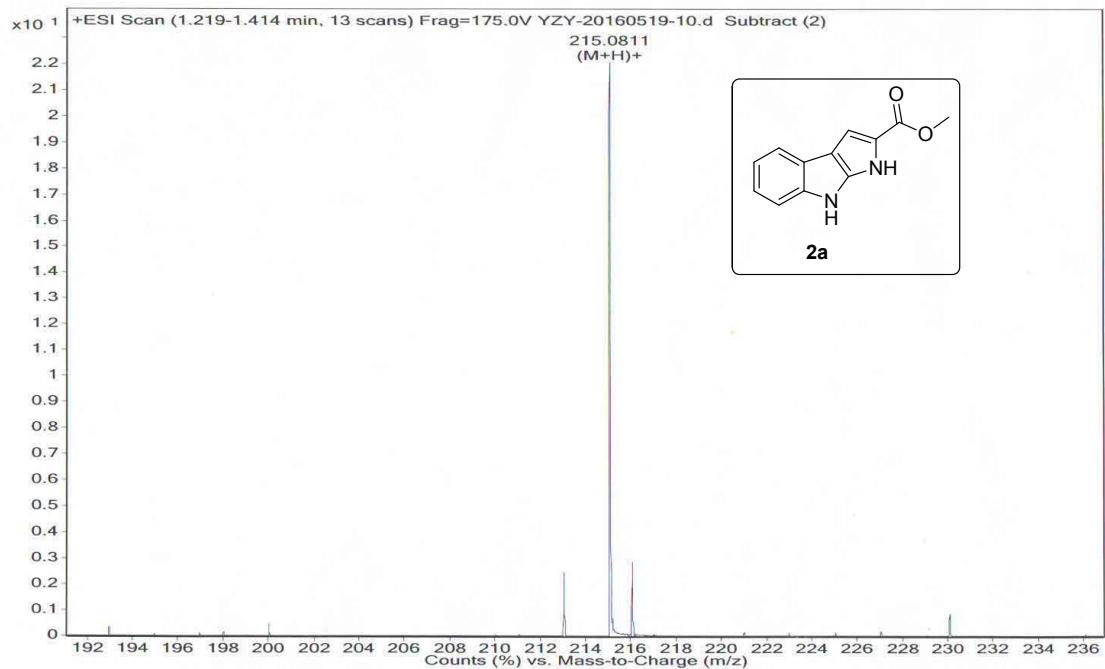
<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and MS spectra for products 2.  
methyl 1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2a)



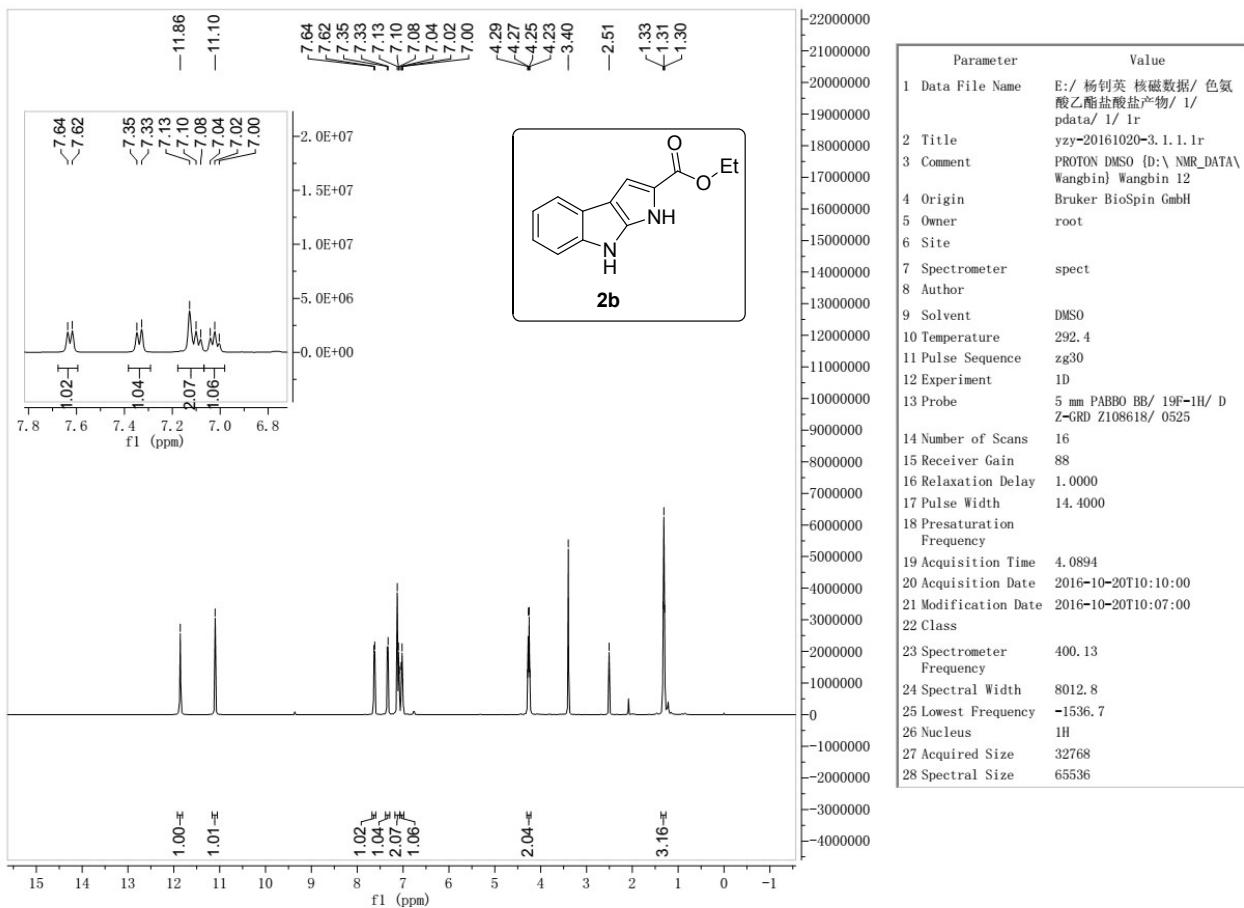


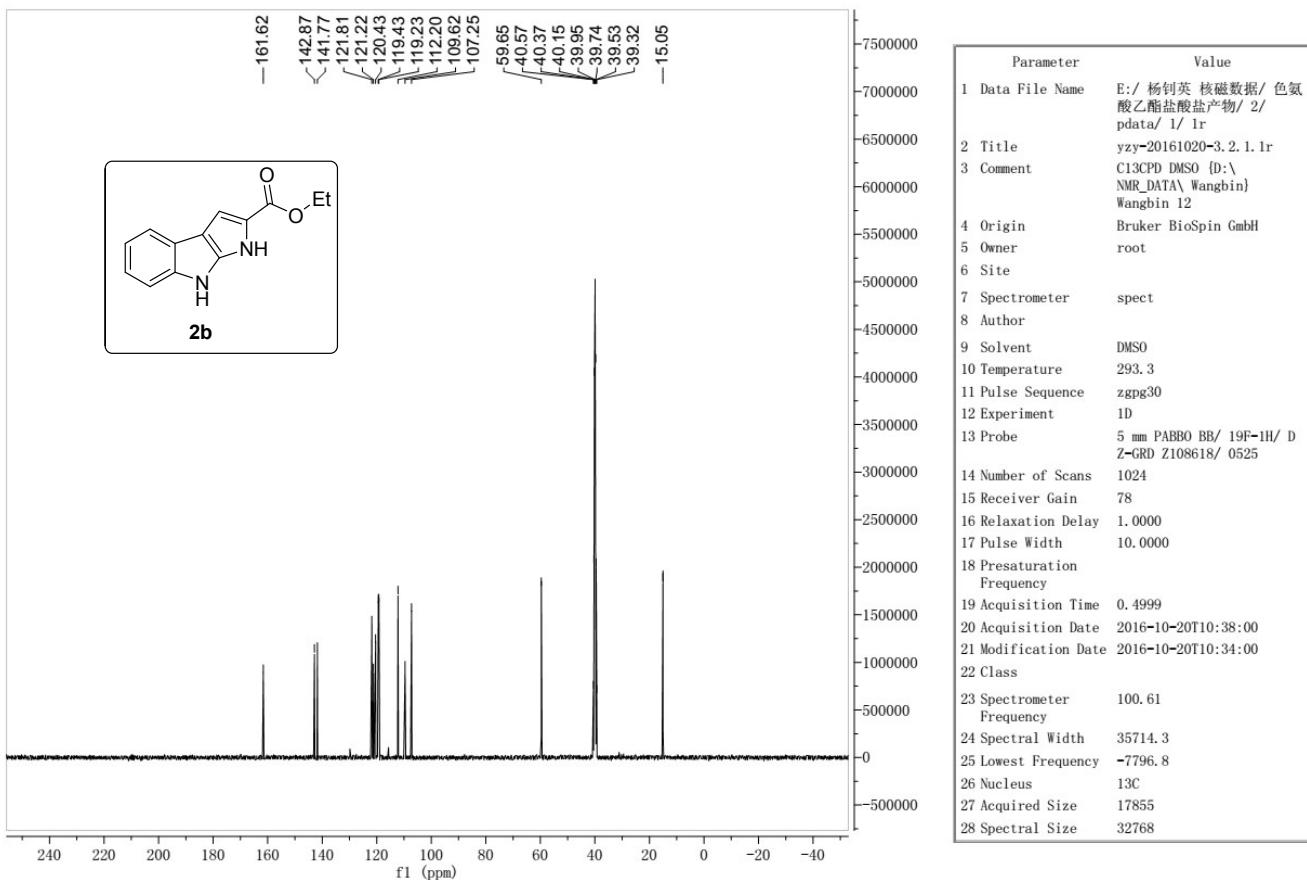
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Some Ions Missed  
6/14/2016 10:35:44 AM

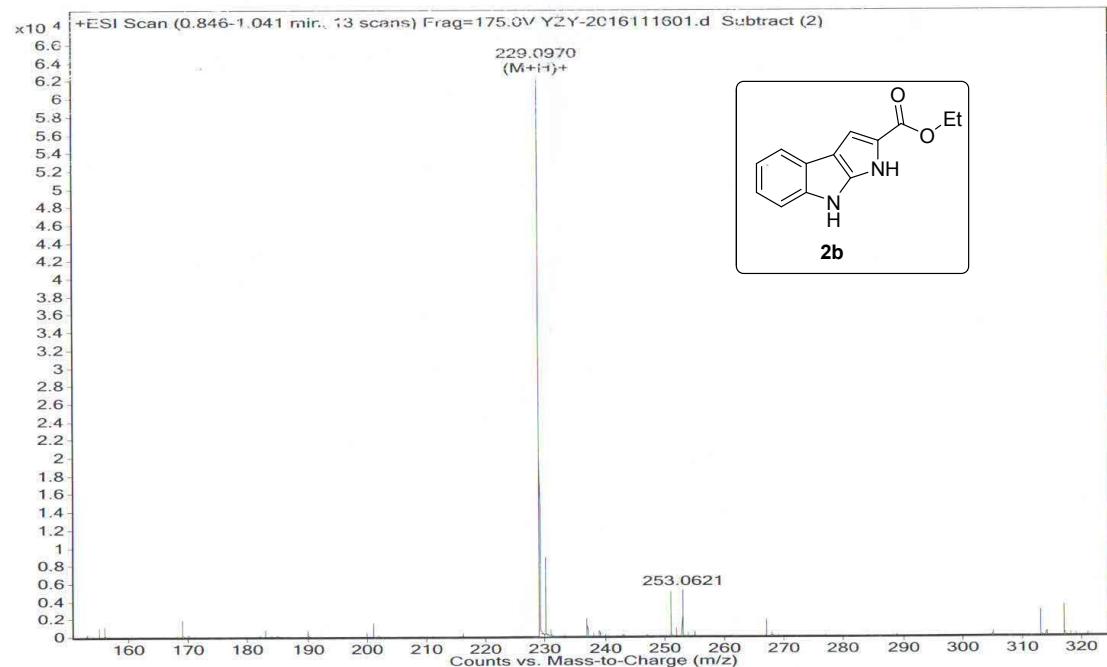


**ethyl 1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2b)**

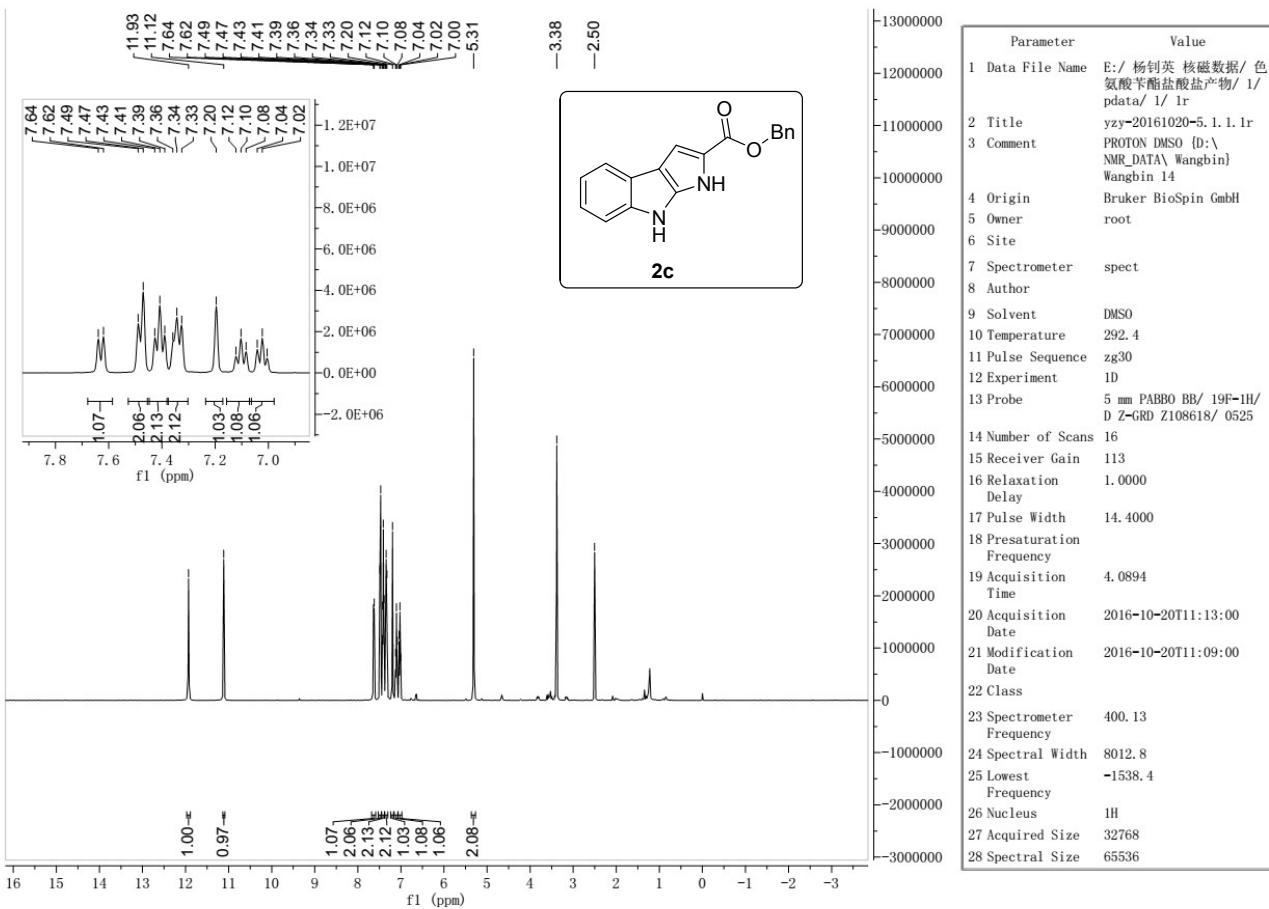


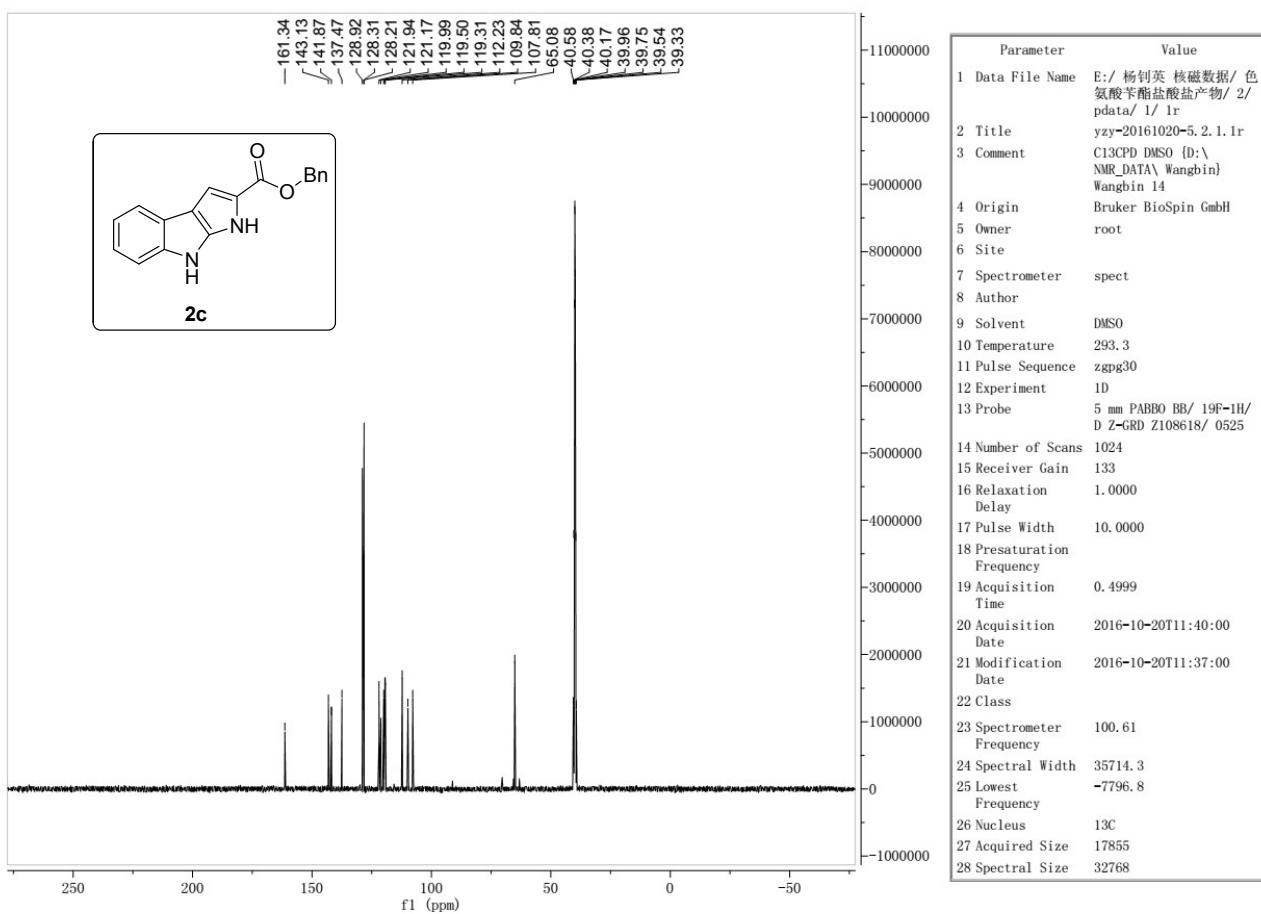


Sample Name	Sample1	Position	P1-A1	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
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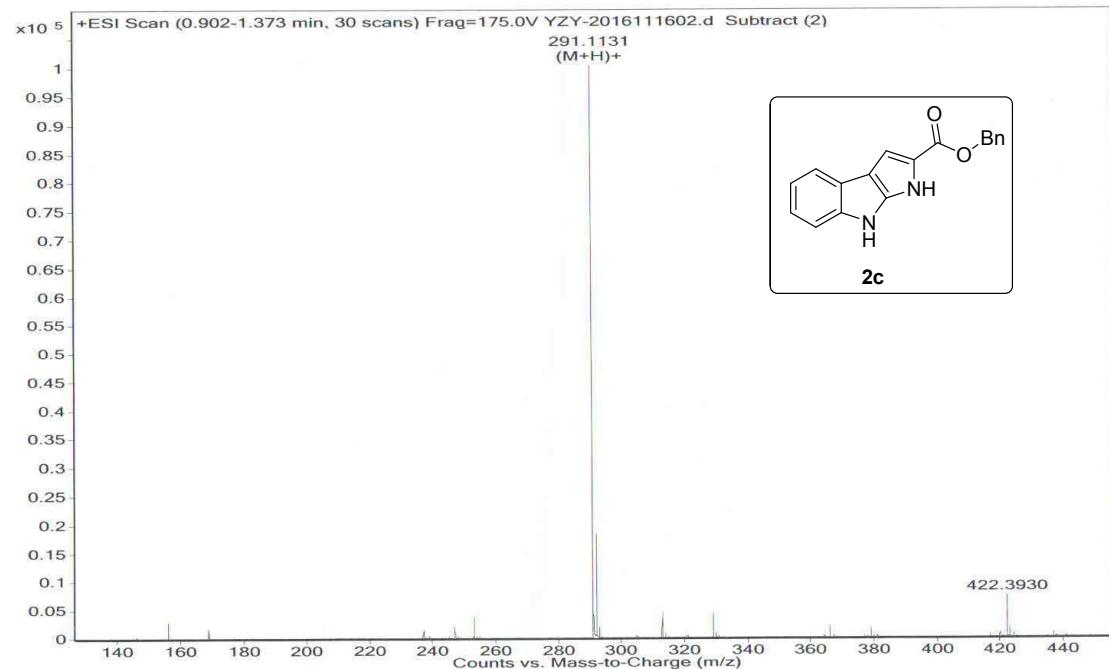


**benzyl 1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2c)**

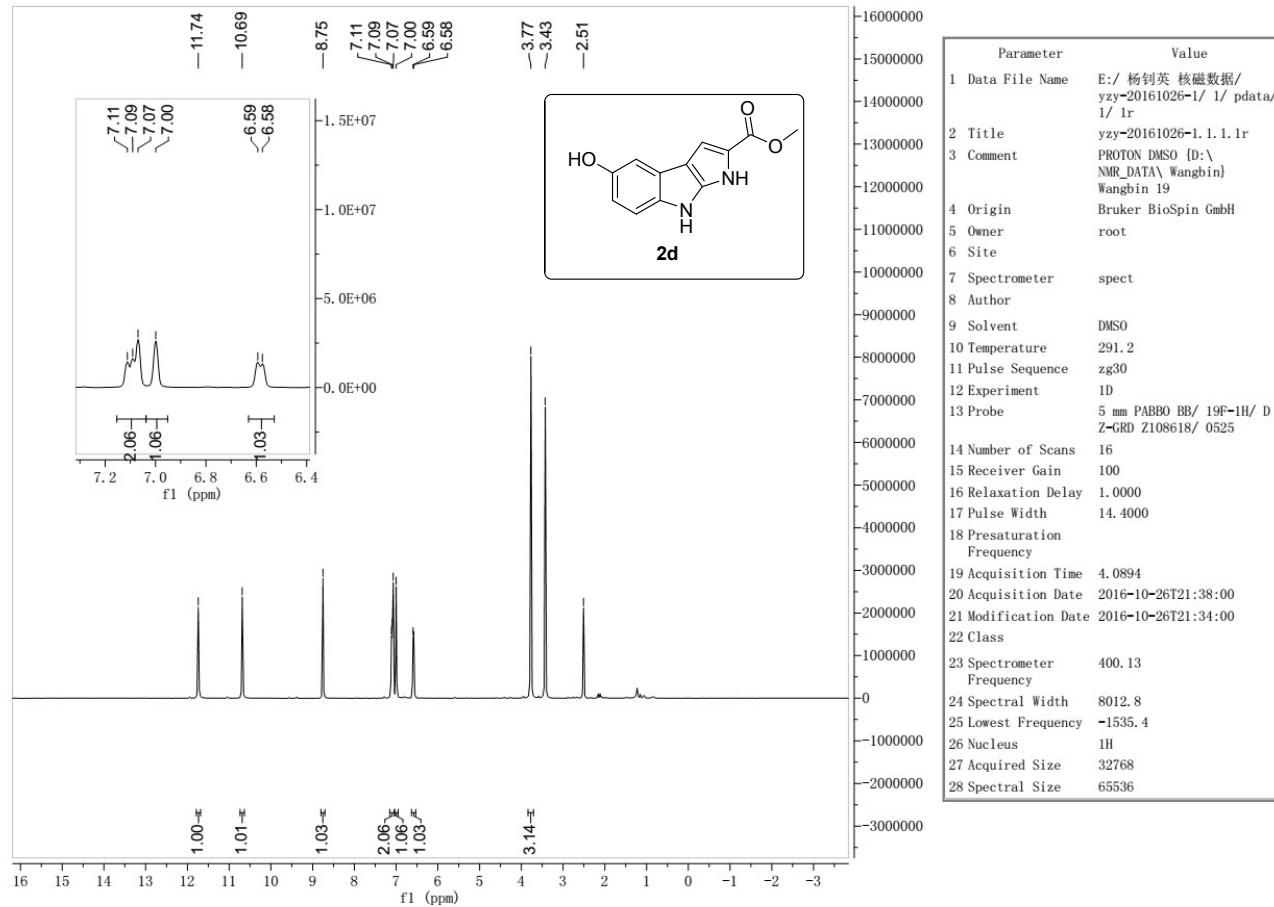


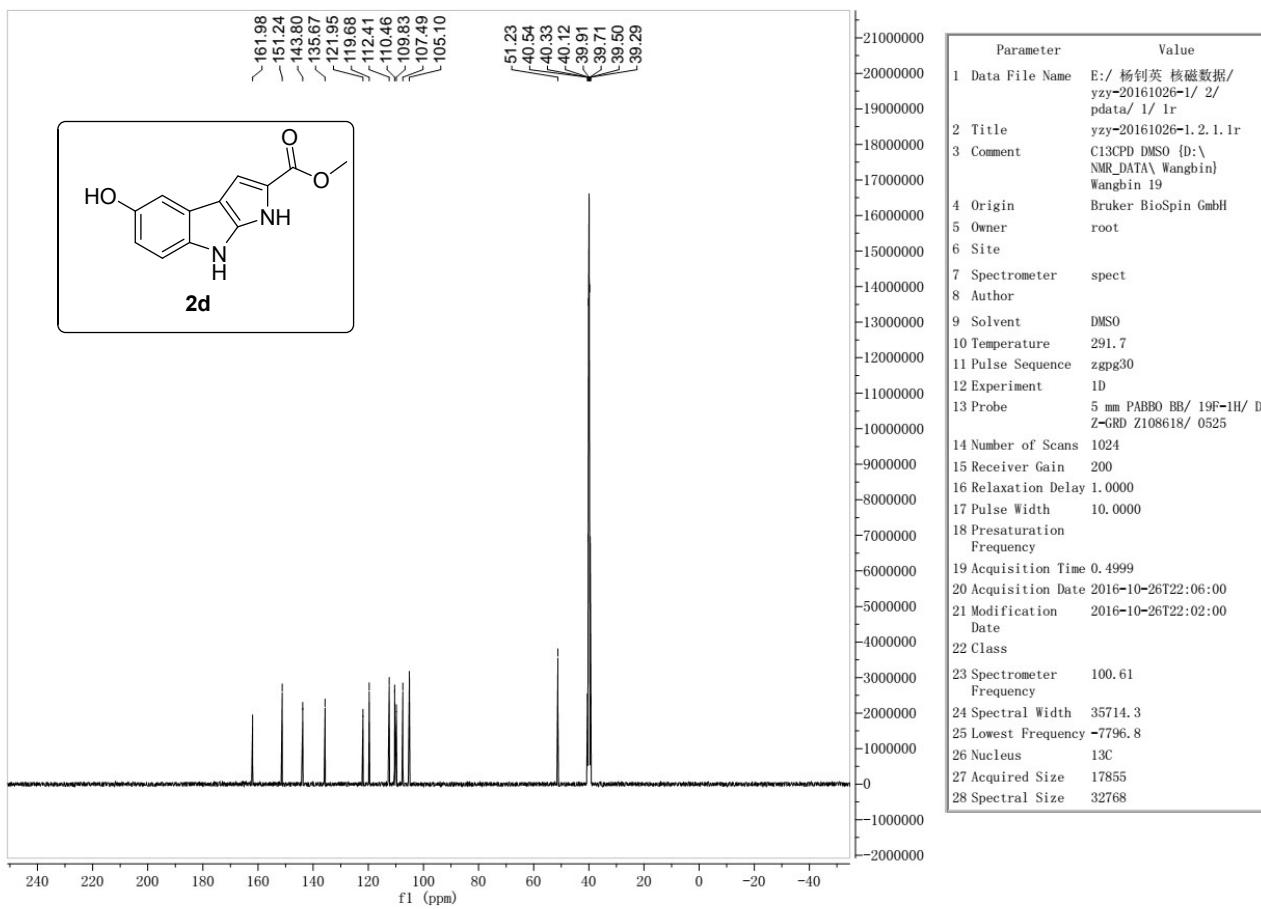


Sample Name	Sample2	Position	P1-A2	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-2016111602.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment		Acquired Time



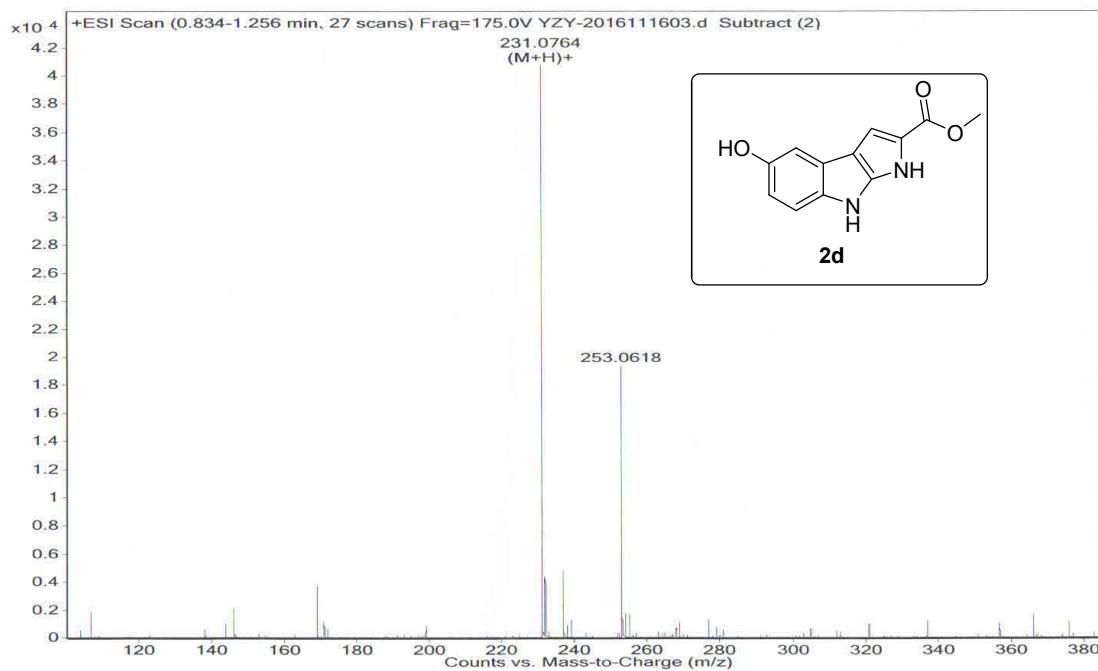
**methyl 5-hydroxy-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2d)**



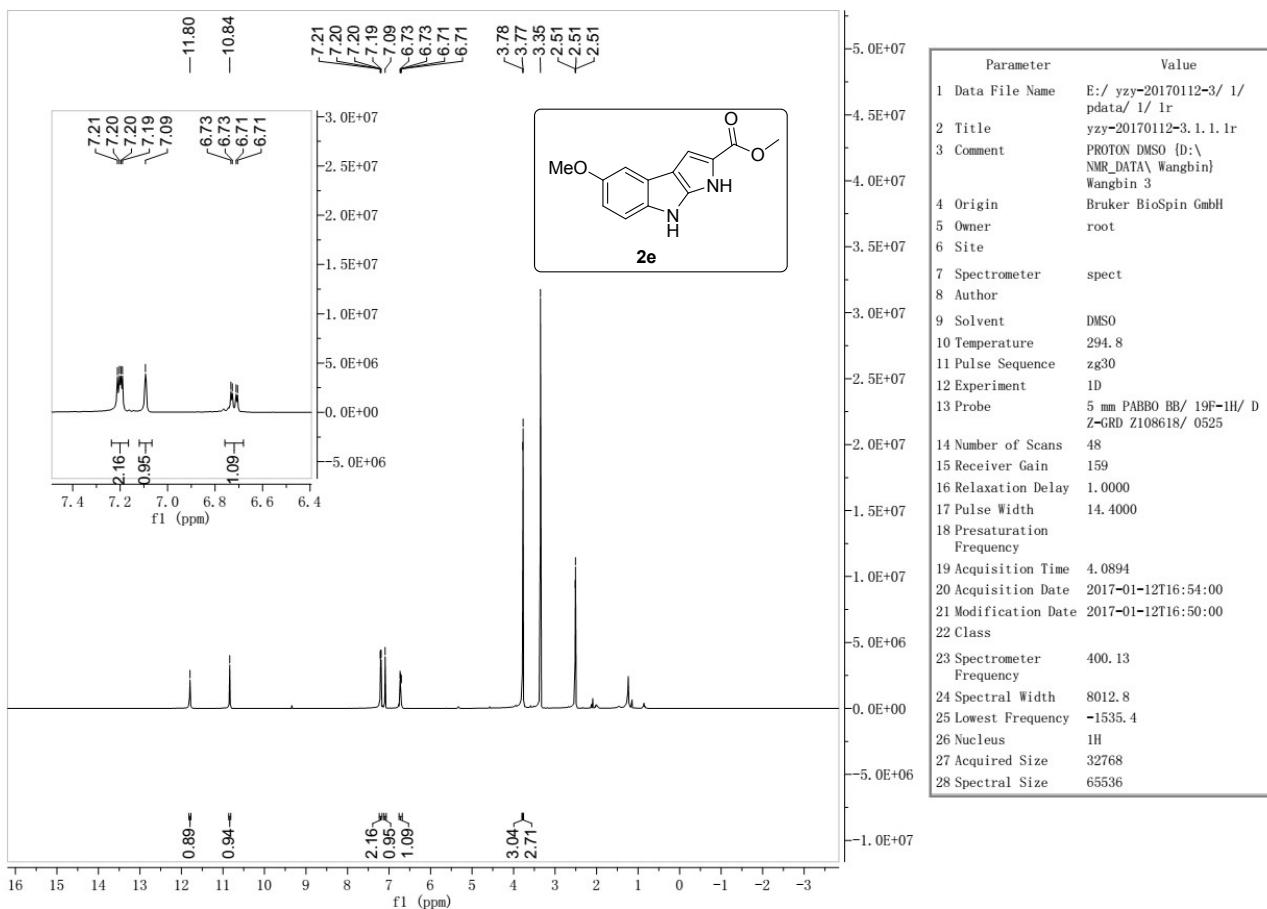


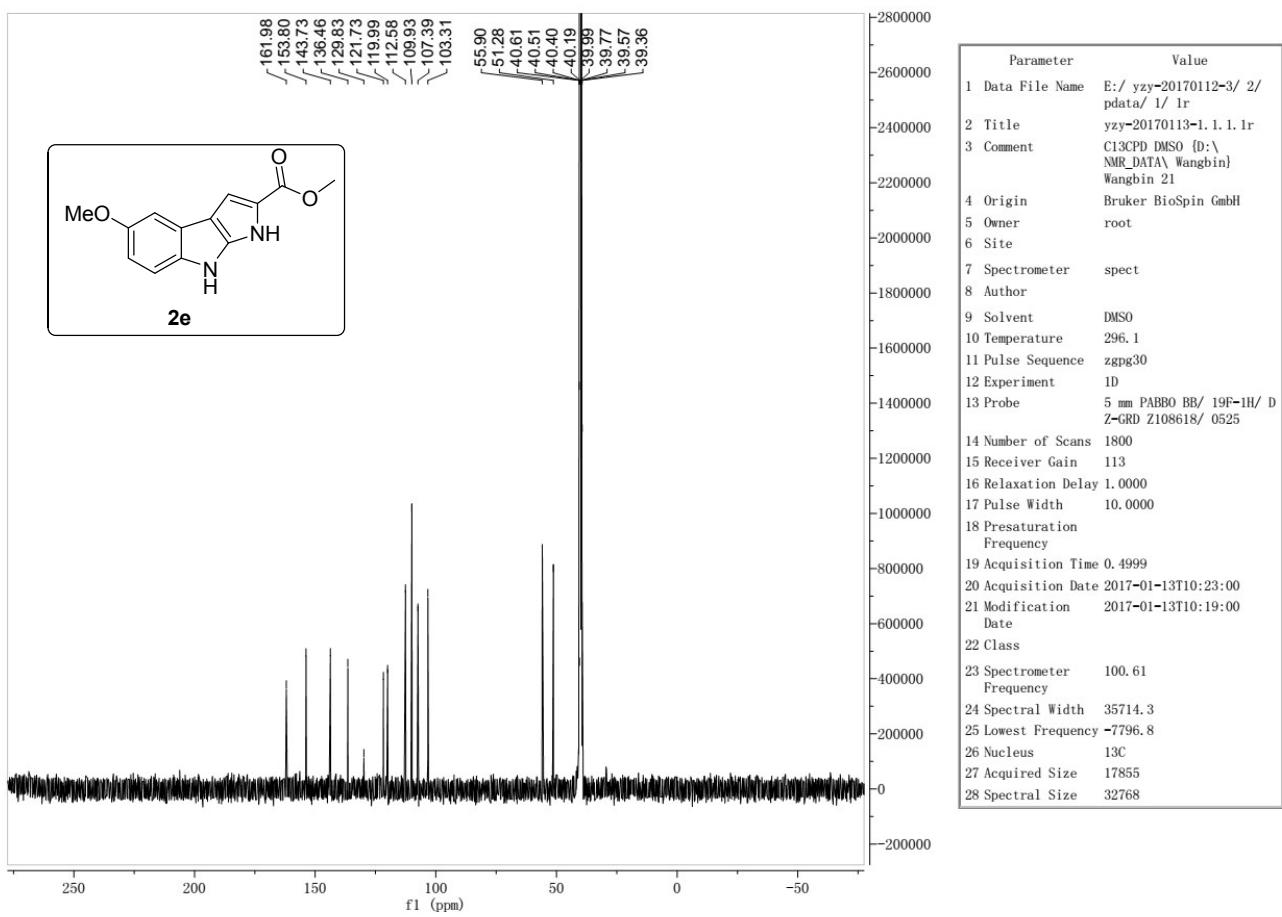
Sample Name	Sample3	Position	P1-A3	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
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Some Ions Missed  
11/16/2016 4:57:37 PM

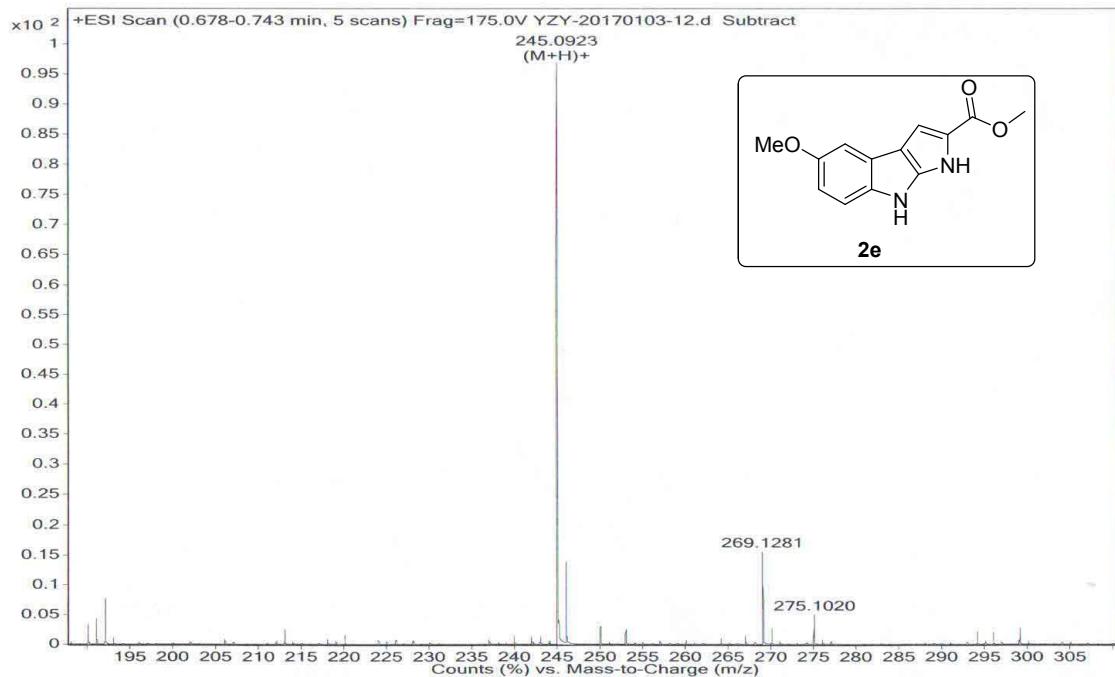


**methyl 5-methoxy-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2e)**

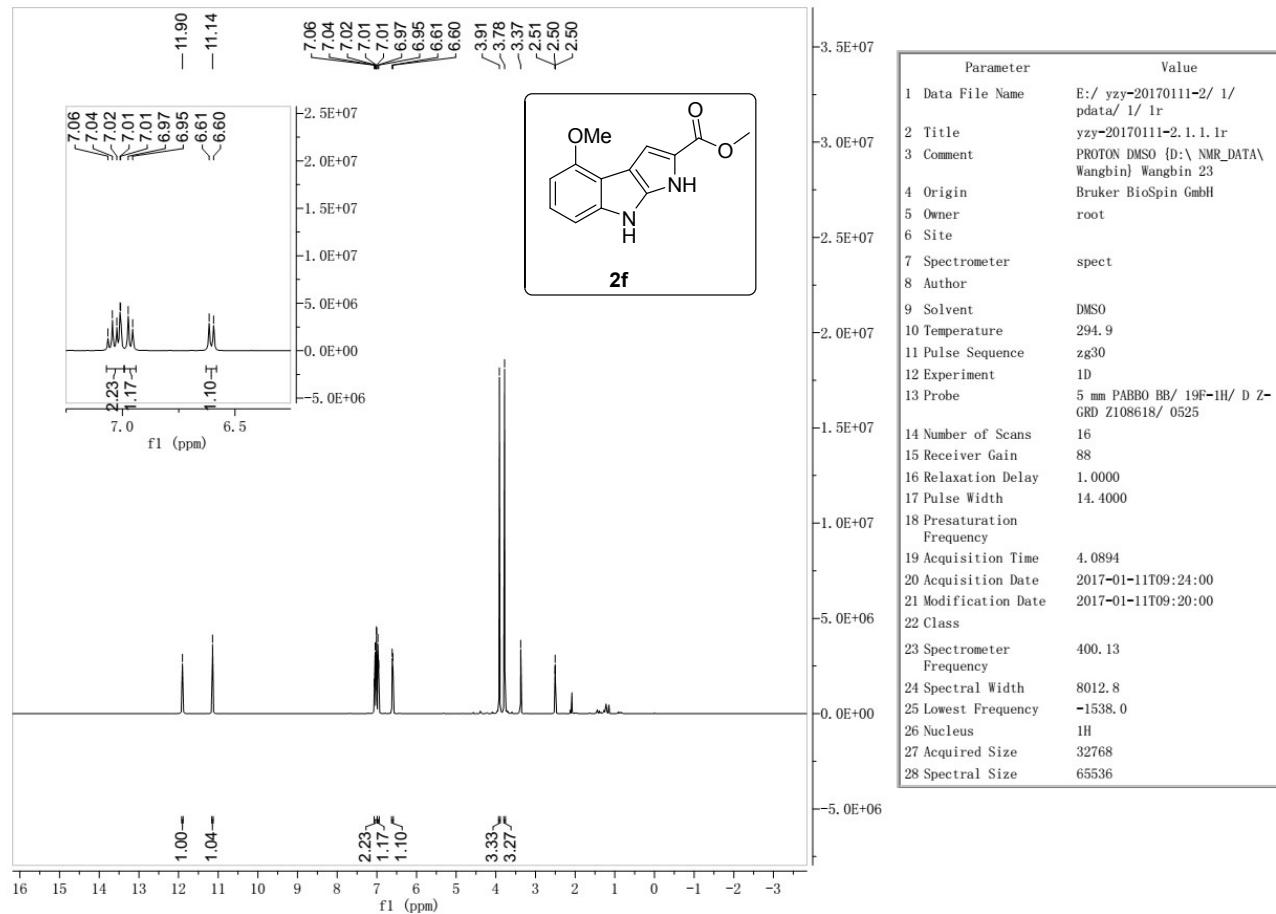


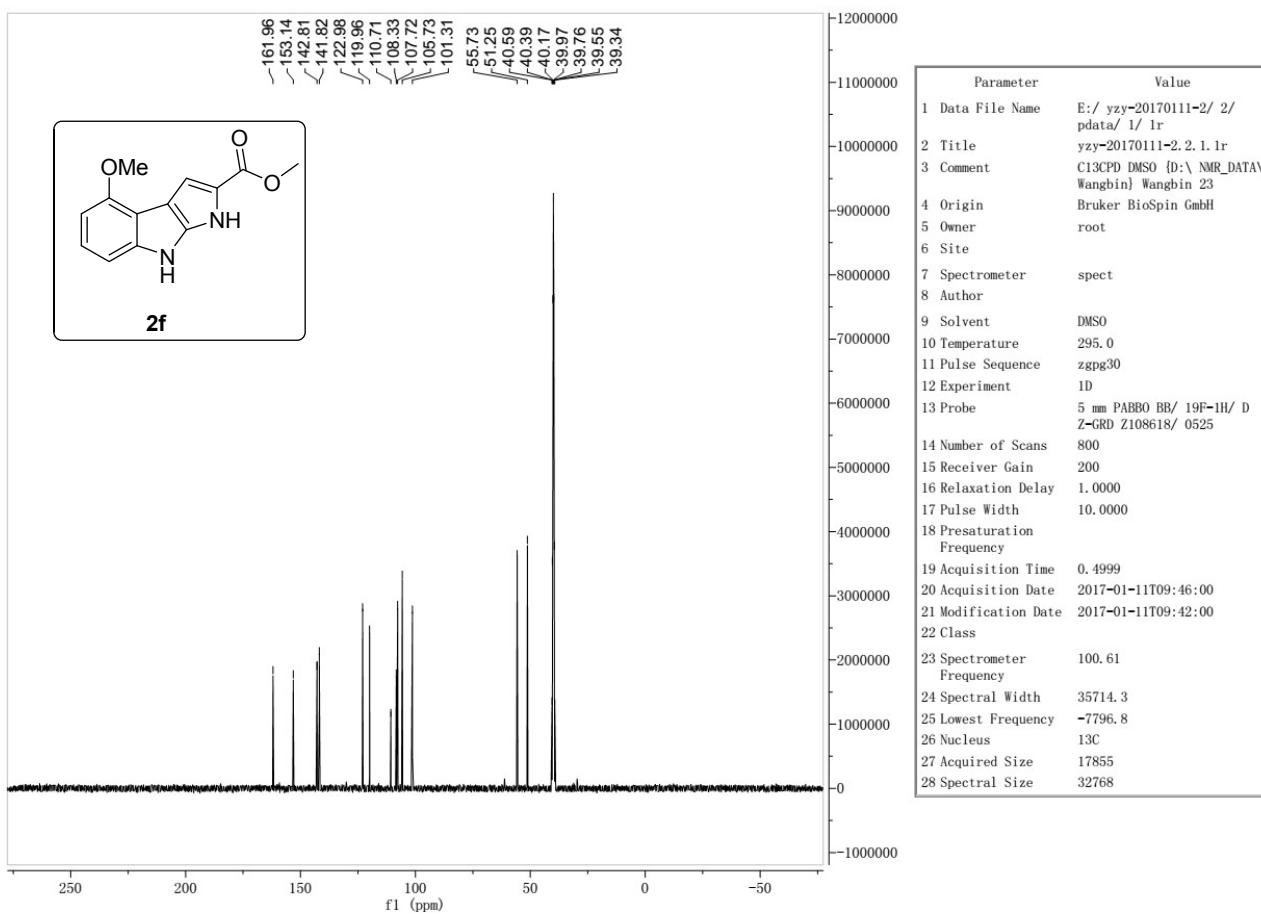


Sample Name	Sample3	Position	P1-A3	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
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						1/3/2017 4:47:57 PM

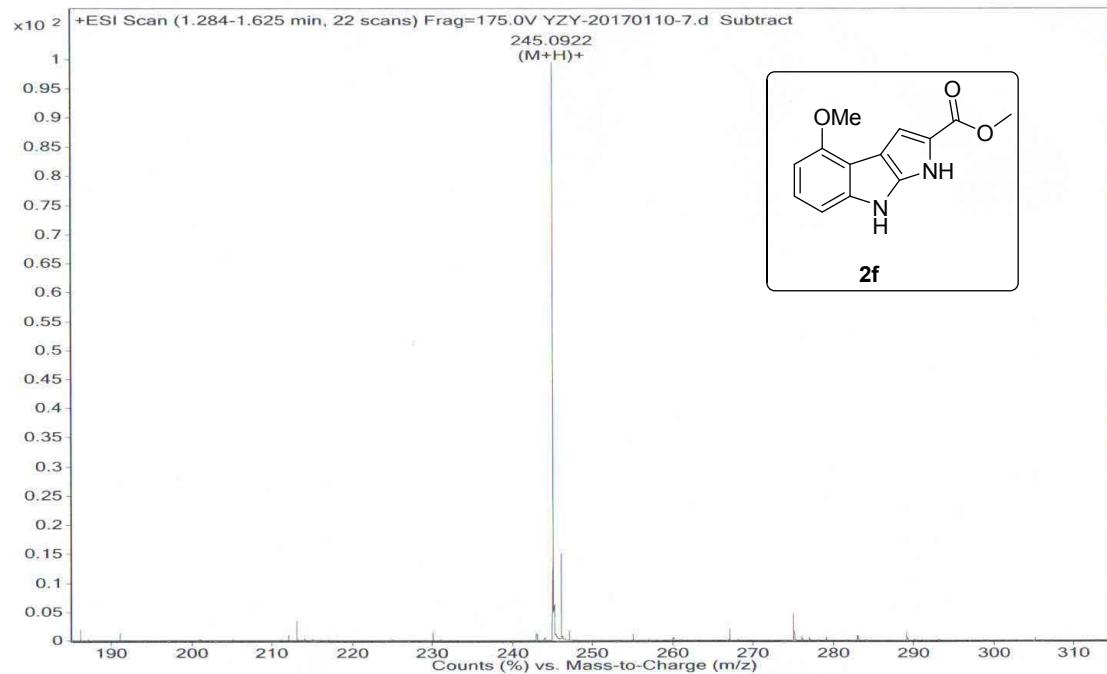


**methyl 4-methoxy-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2f)**

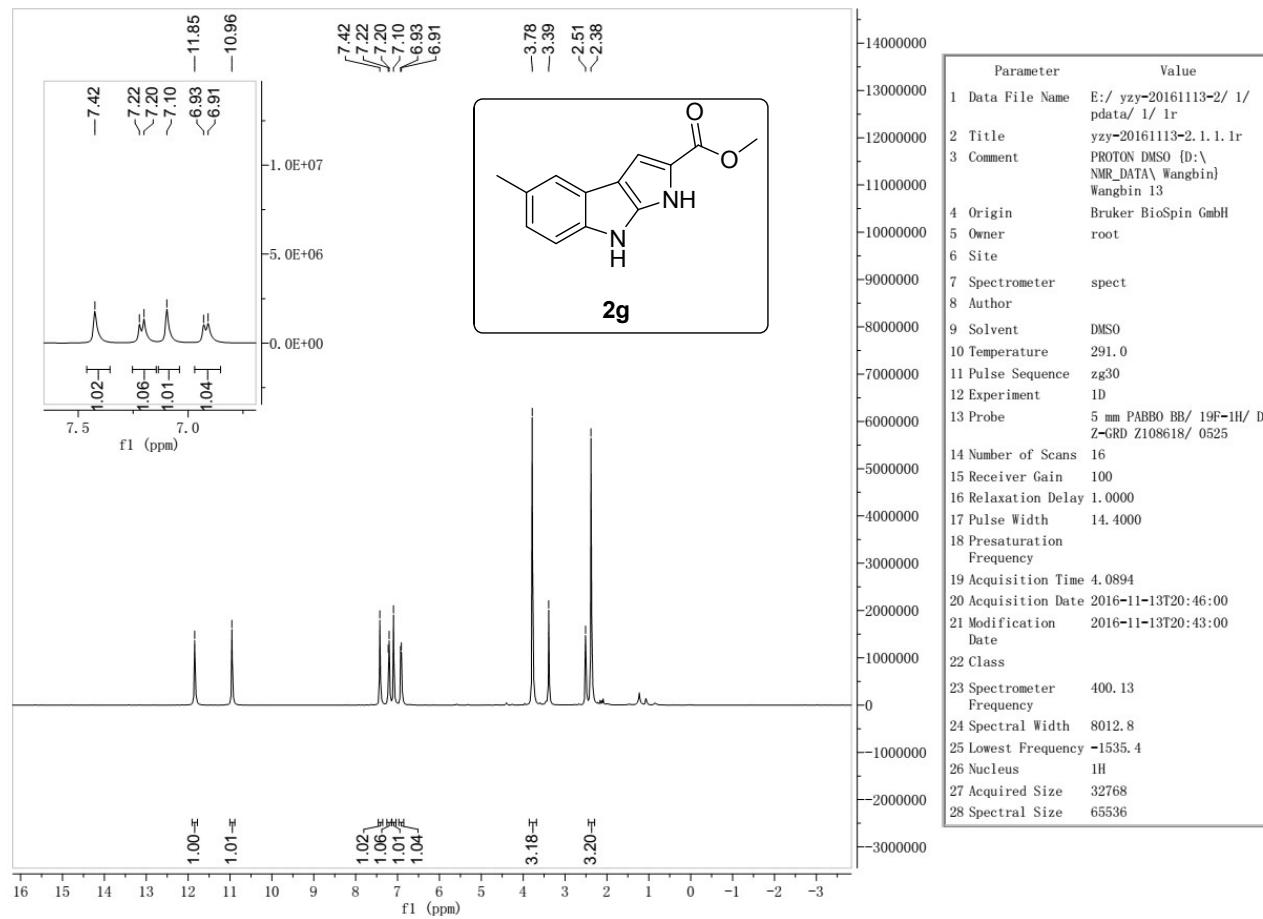


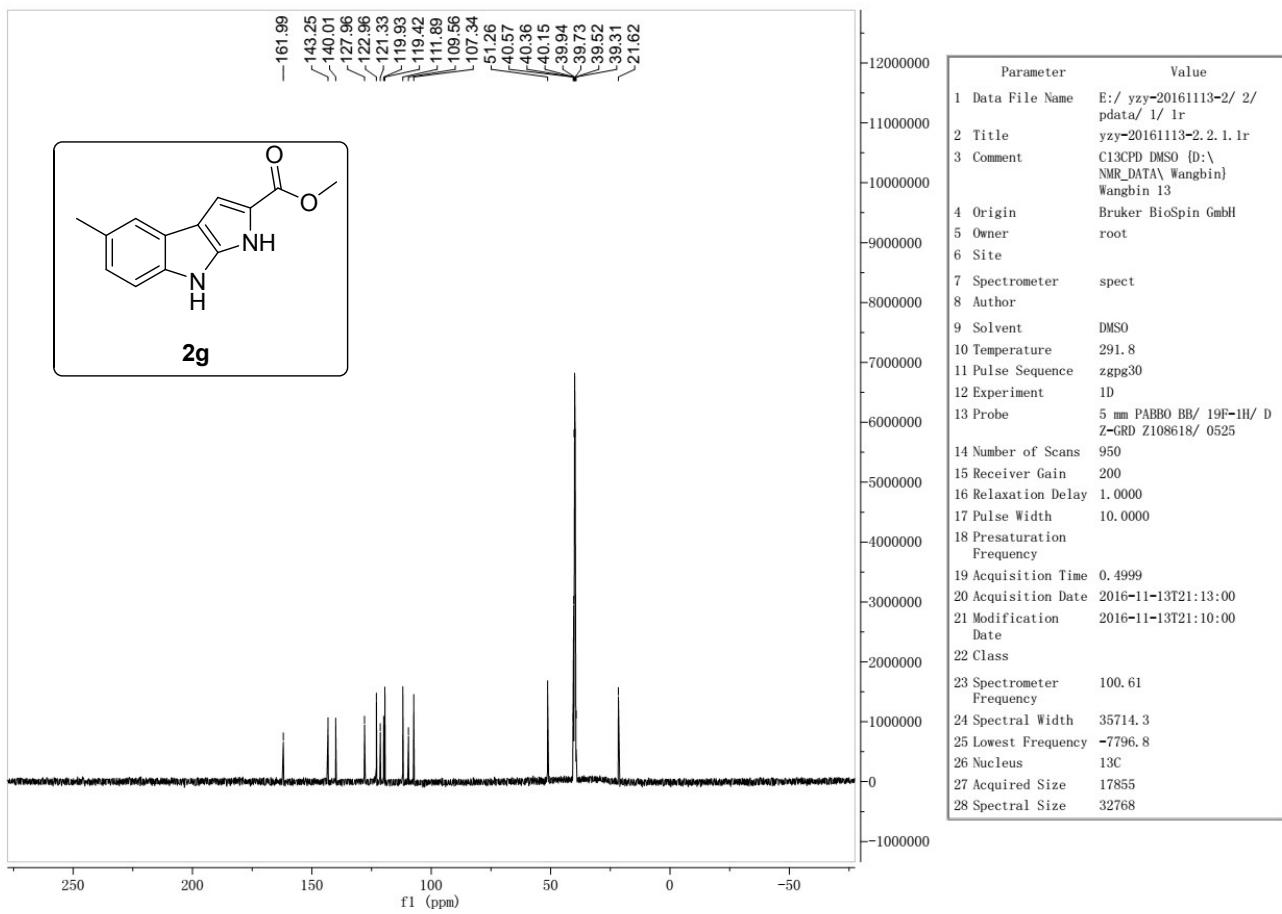


Sample Name	Sample47	Position	P1-F2	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-20170110-7.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment		Acquired Time
						Some Ions Missed
						2/21/2017 8:59:37 PM

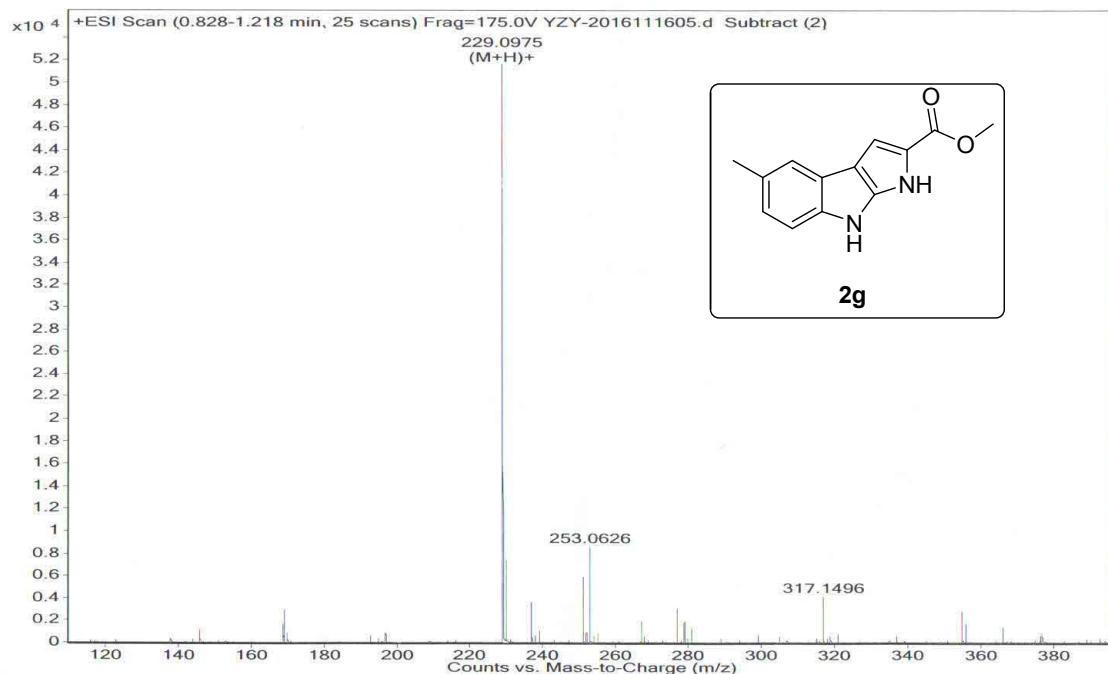


**methyl-5-methyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2g)**

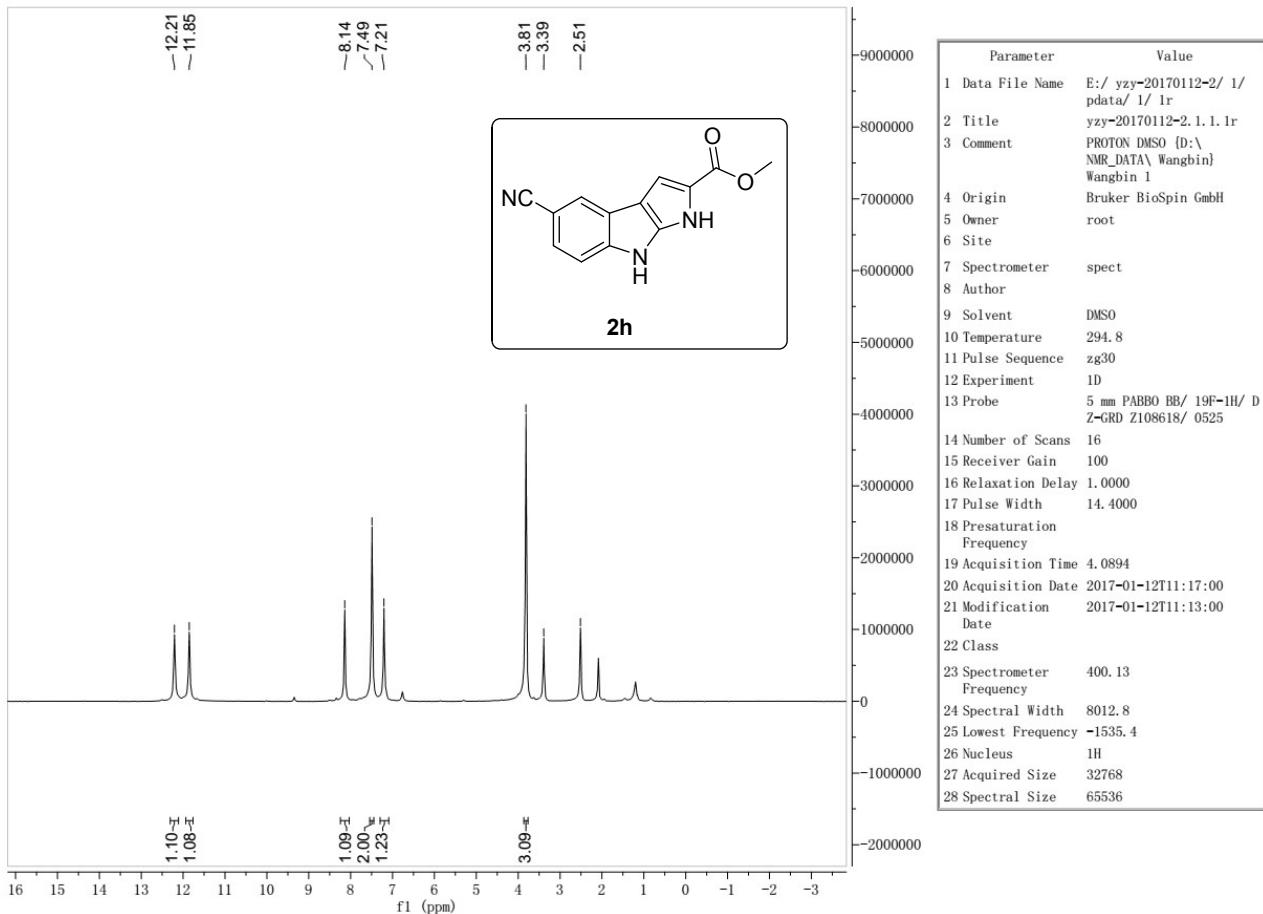


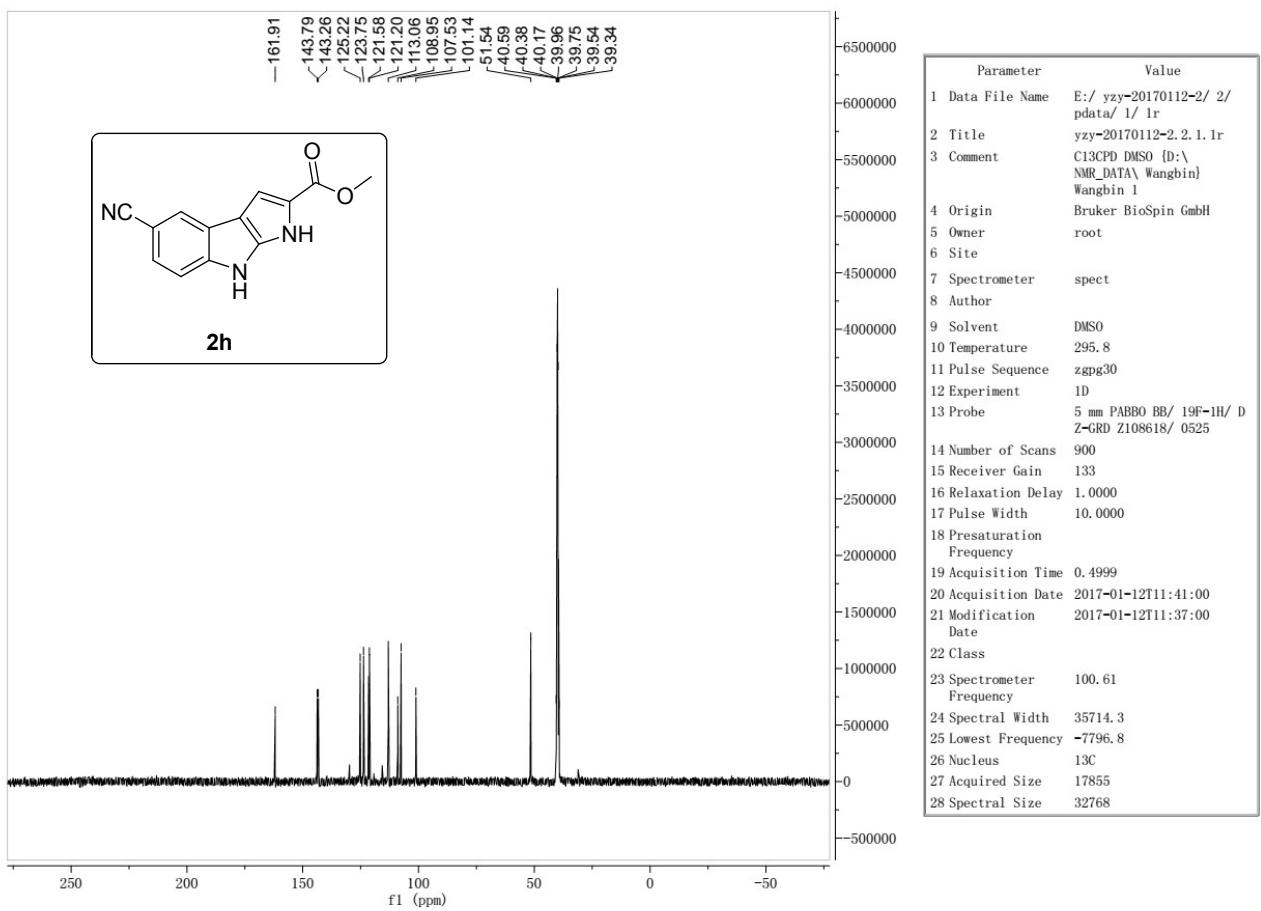


Sample Name	Sample5	Position	P1-A5	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-2016111605.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment	Acquired Time	Some Ions Missed 11/16/2016 5:09:00 PM

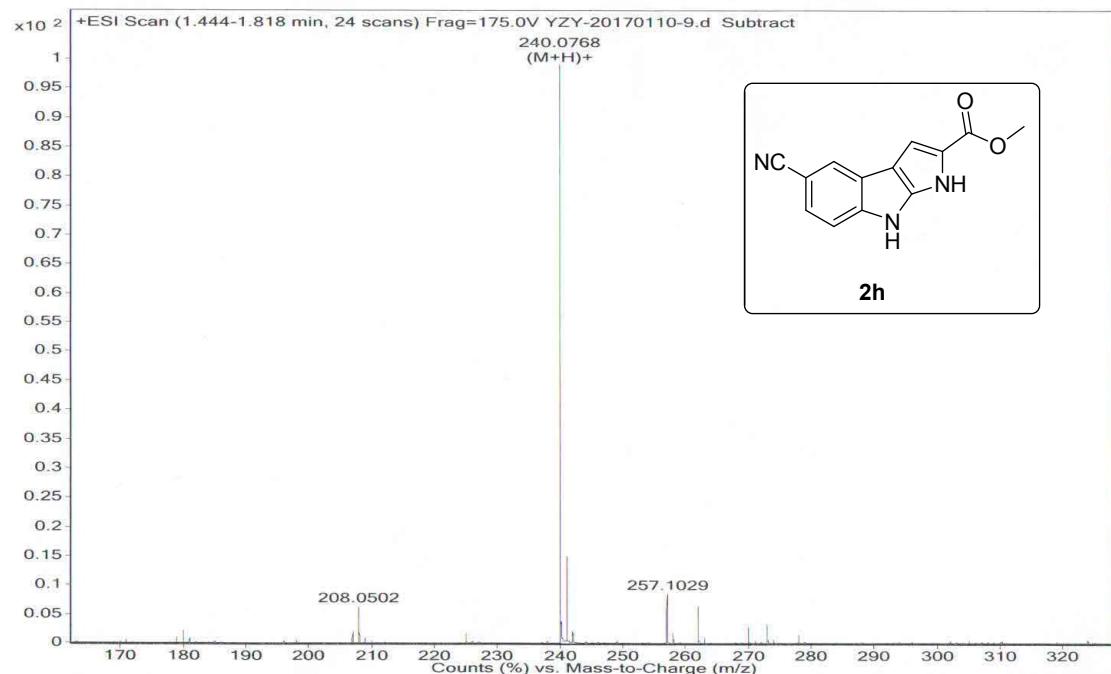


**methyl 5-cyano-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2h)**

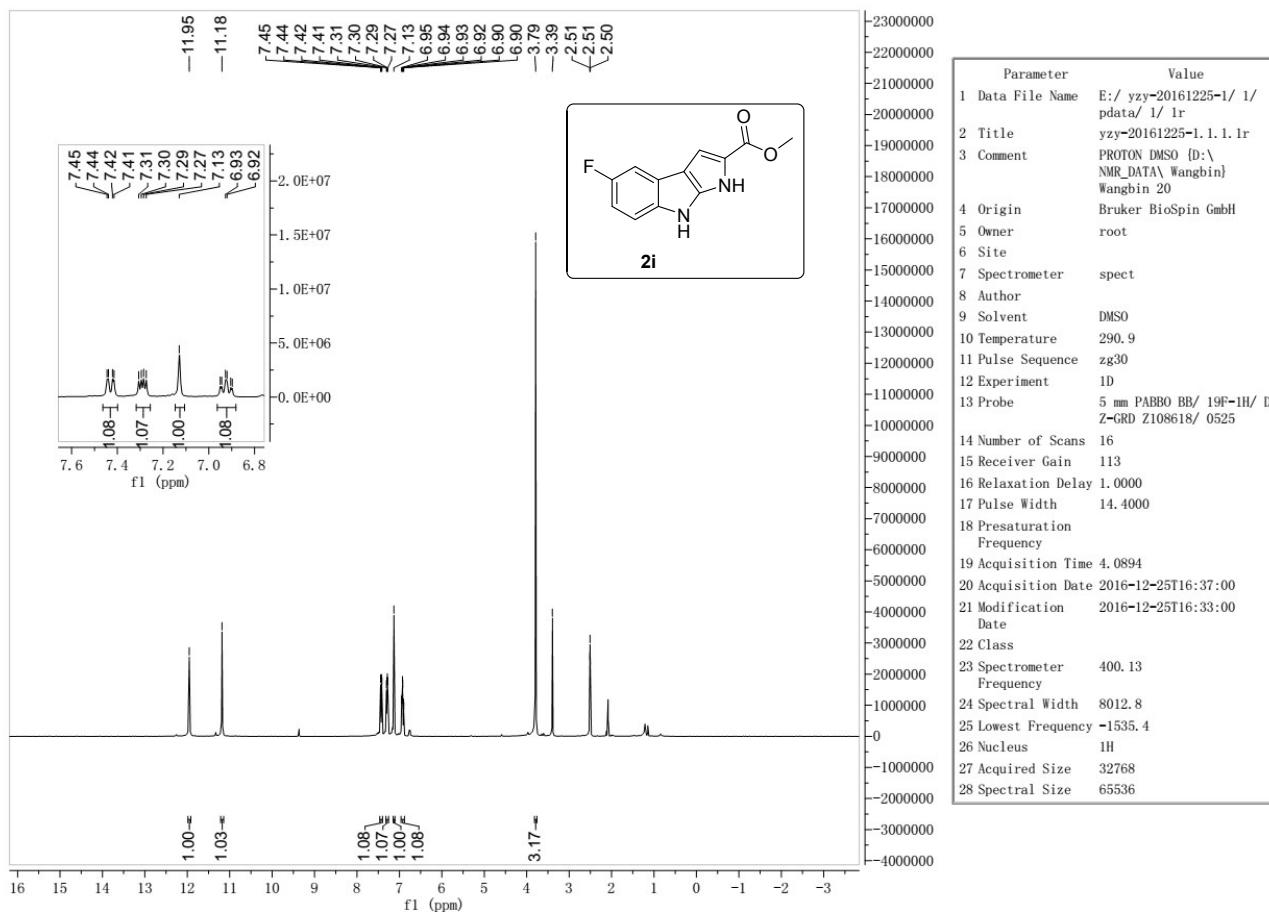


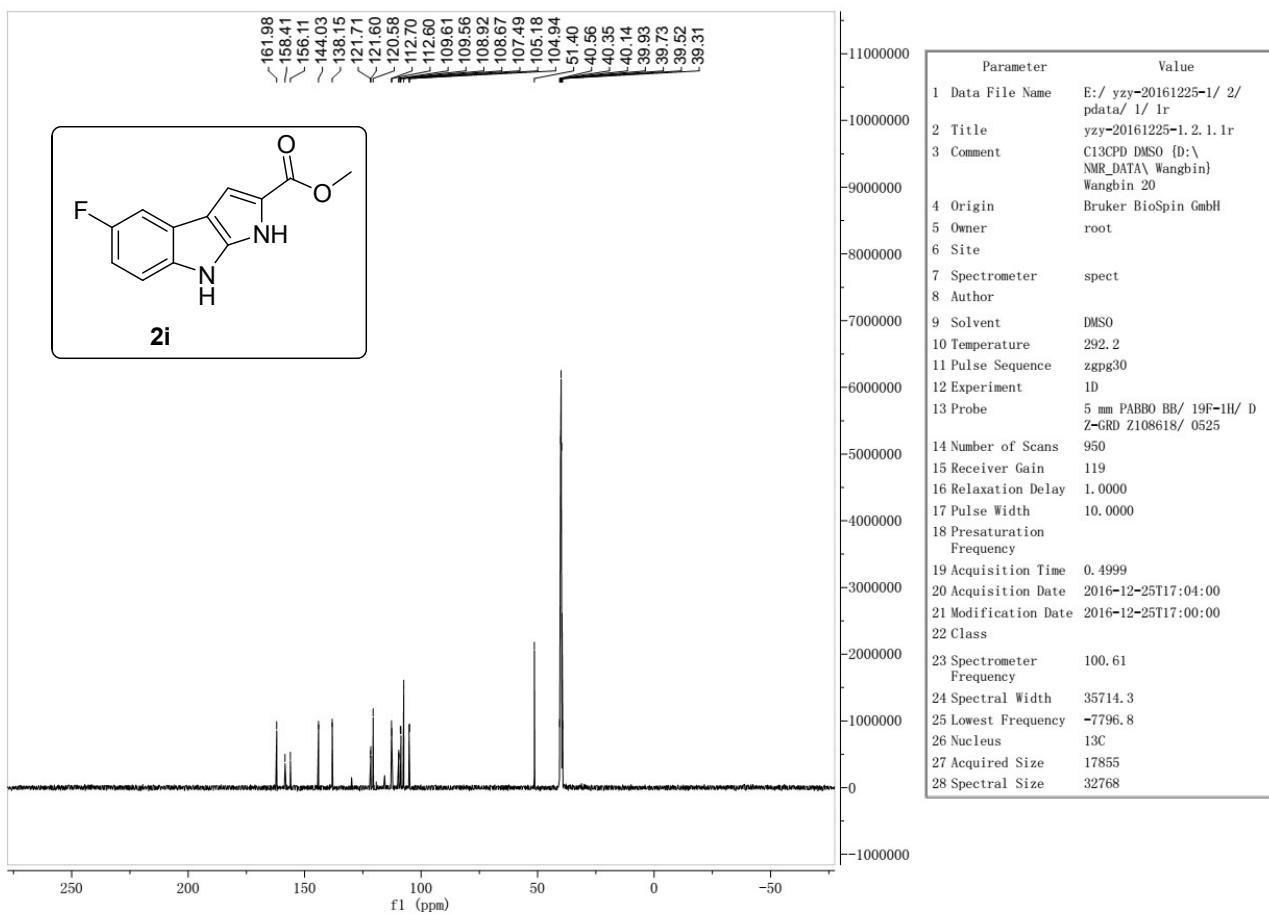


Sample Name	Sample49	Position	P1-F4	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-20170110-9.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment	Acquired Time	Some Ions Missed 2/21/2017 9:10:58 PM

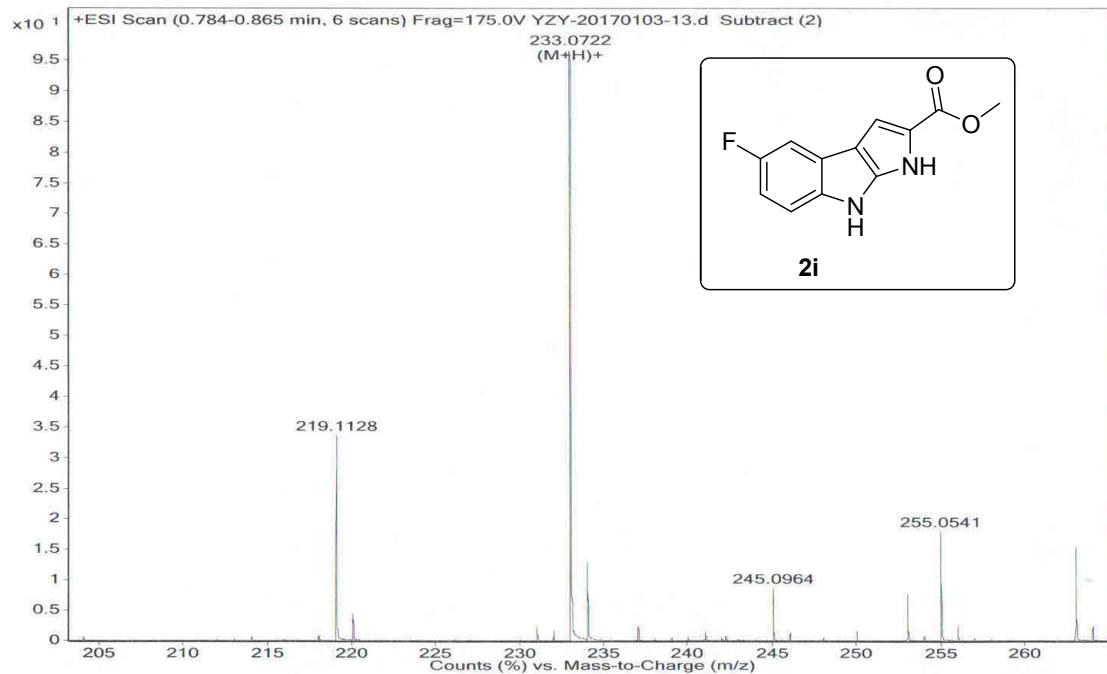


**methyl 5-fluoro-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2i)**

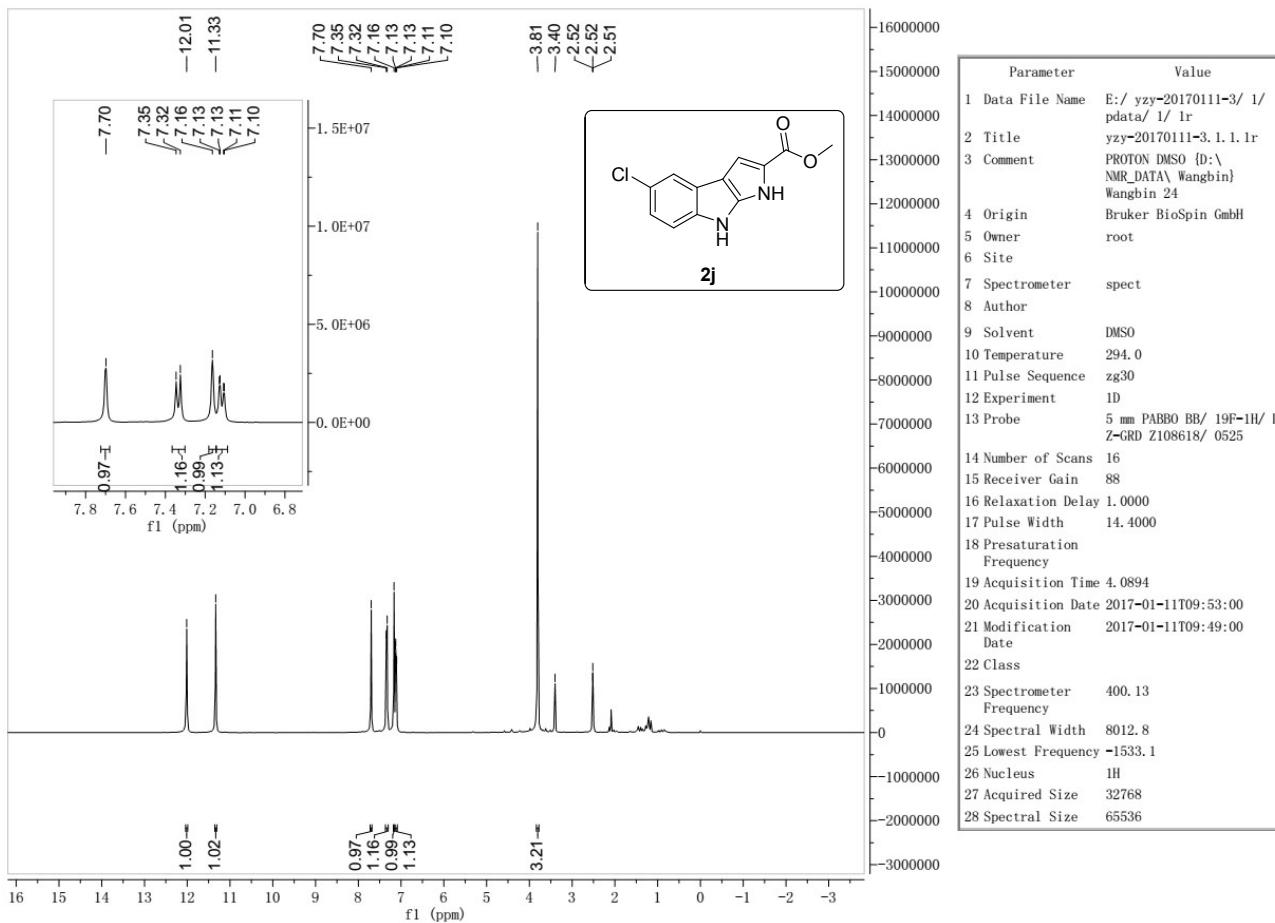


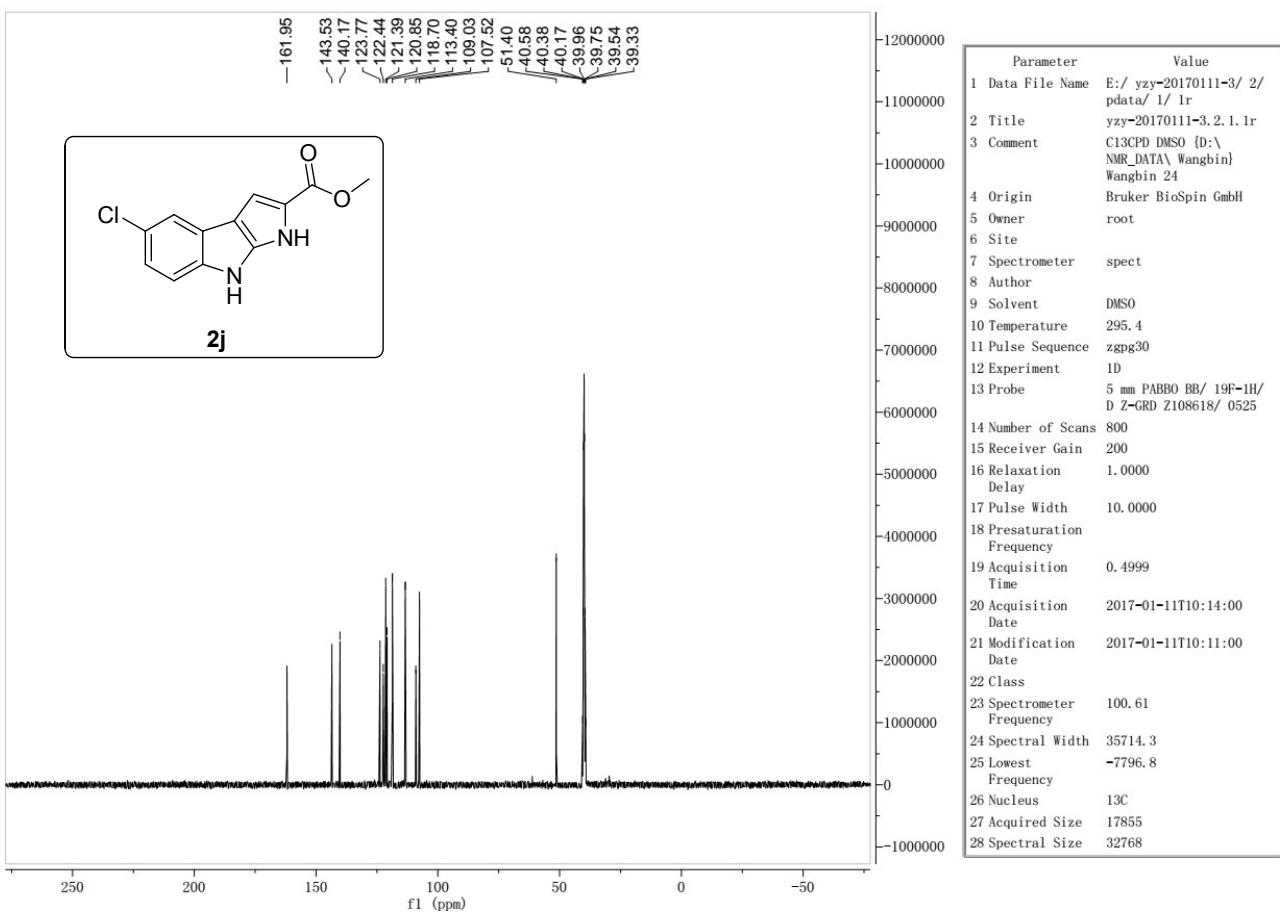


Sample Name	Sample	Position	P1-A4	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
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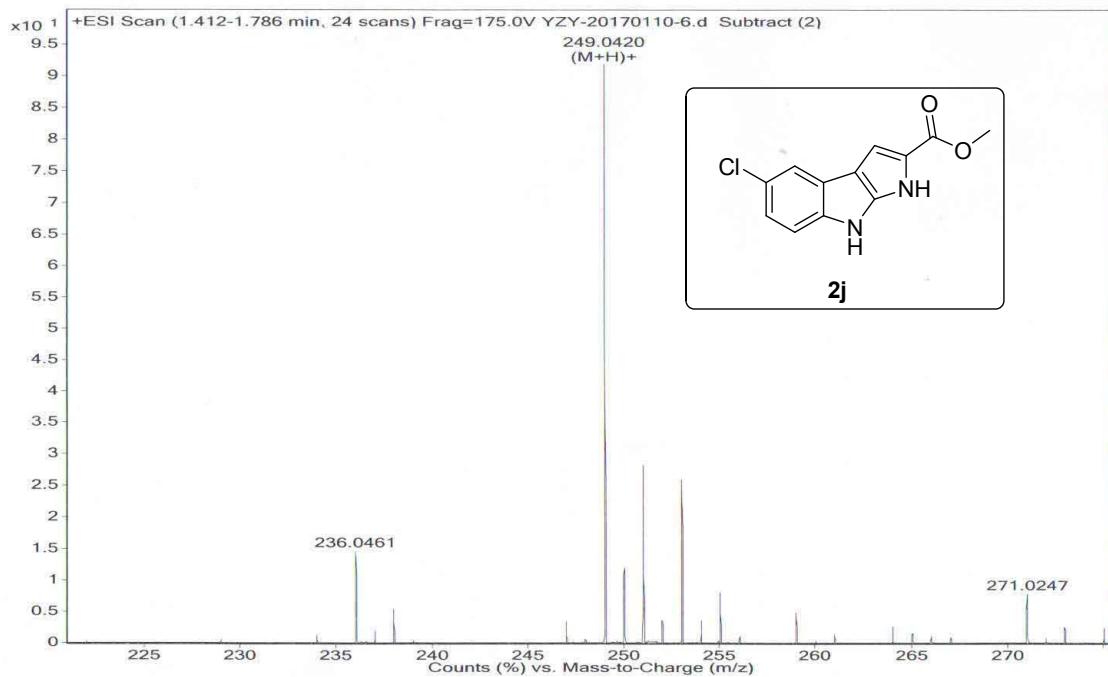


**methyl 5-chloro-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2j)**

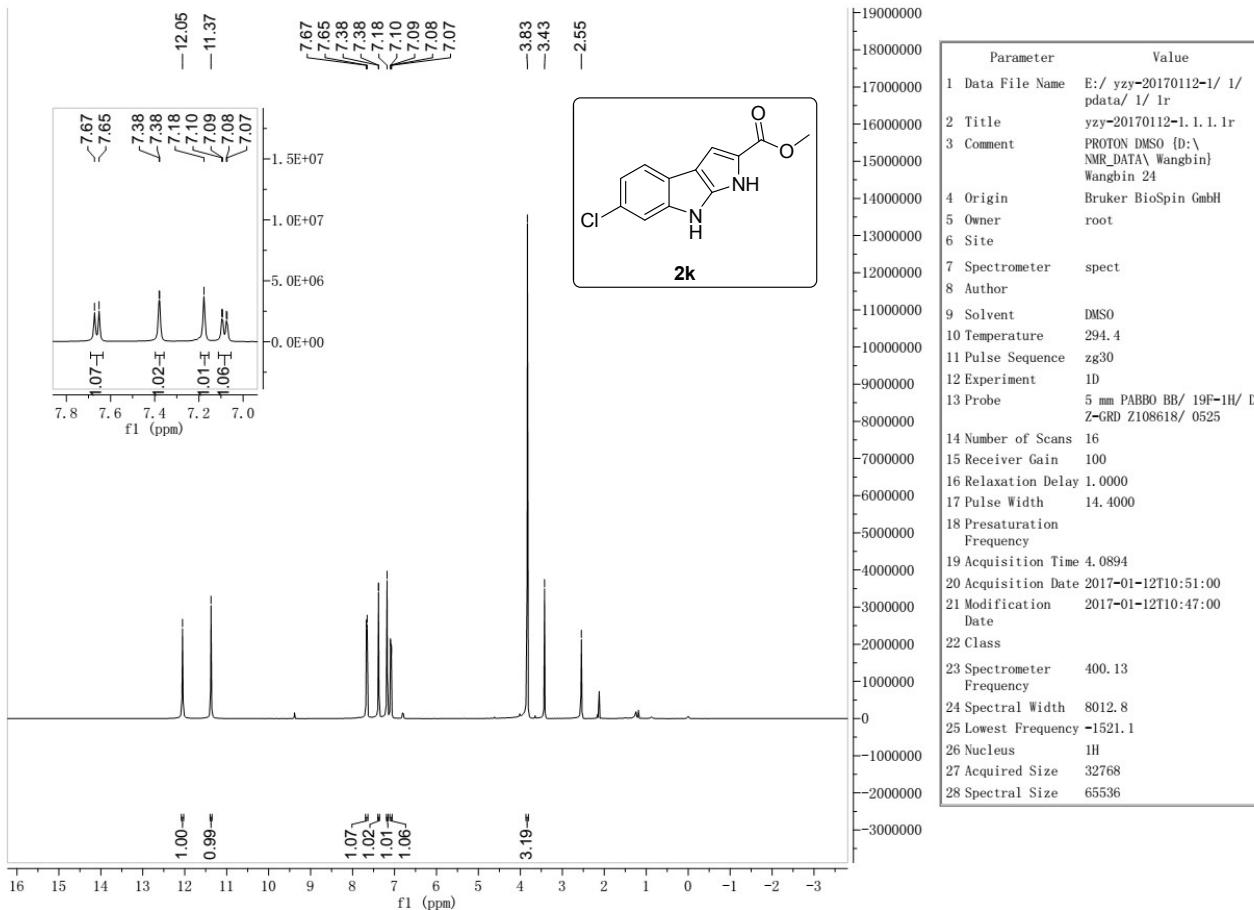


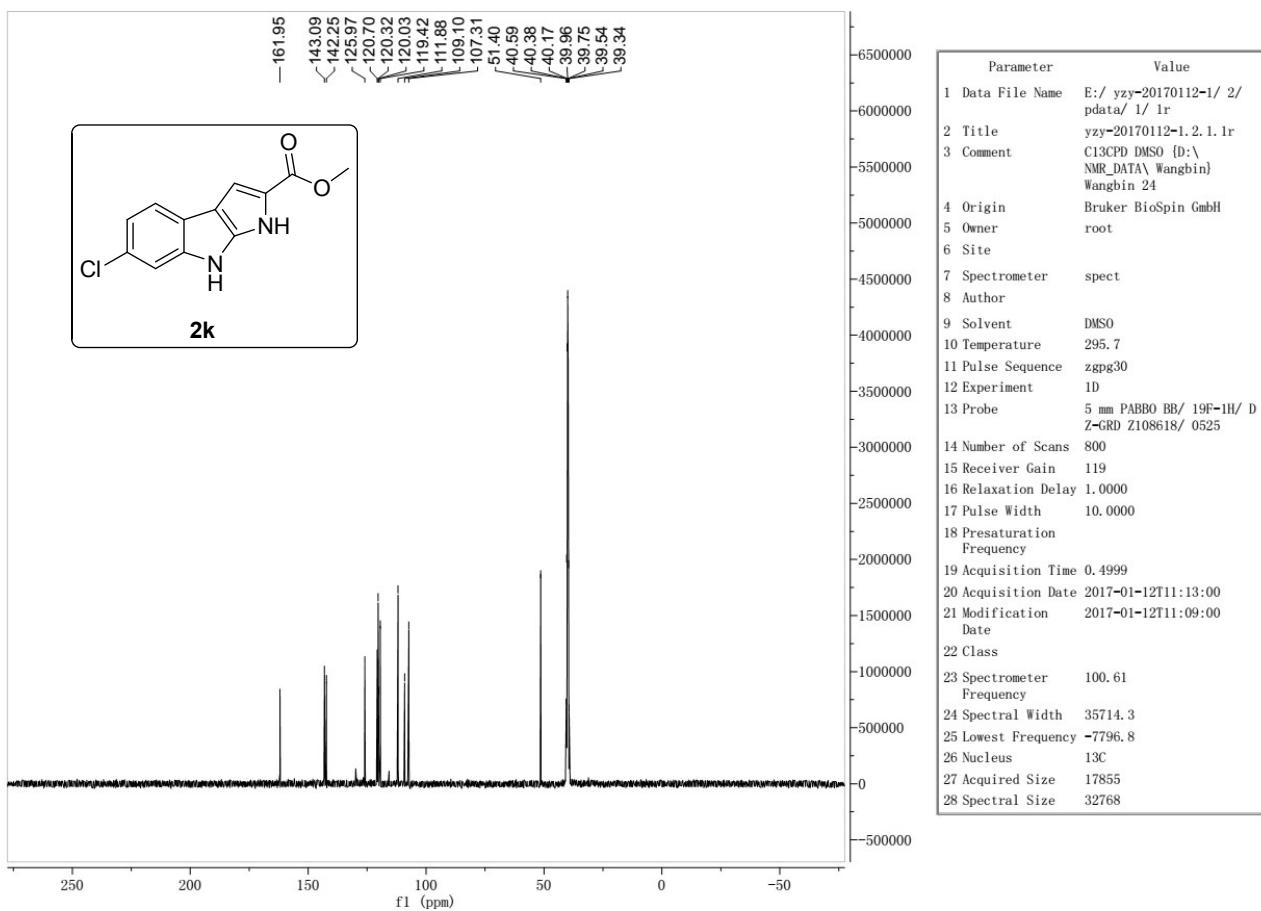


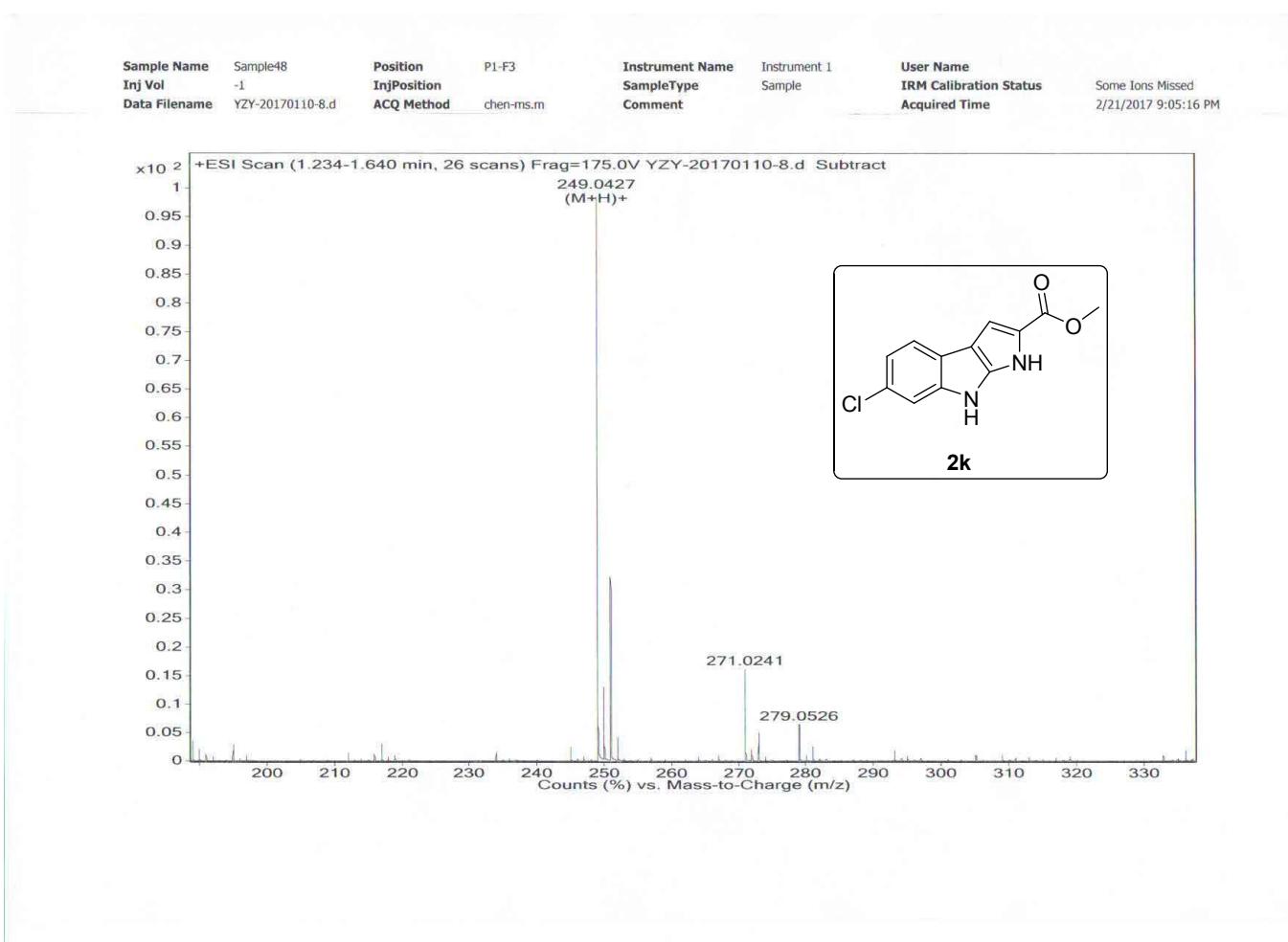
Sample Name	Sample46	Position	P1-F1	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-20170110-6.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment	Acquired Time	Some Ions Missed 2/21/2017 8:53:55 PM



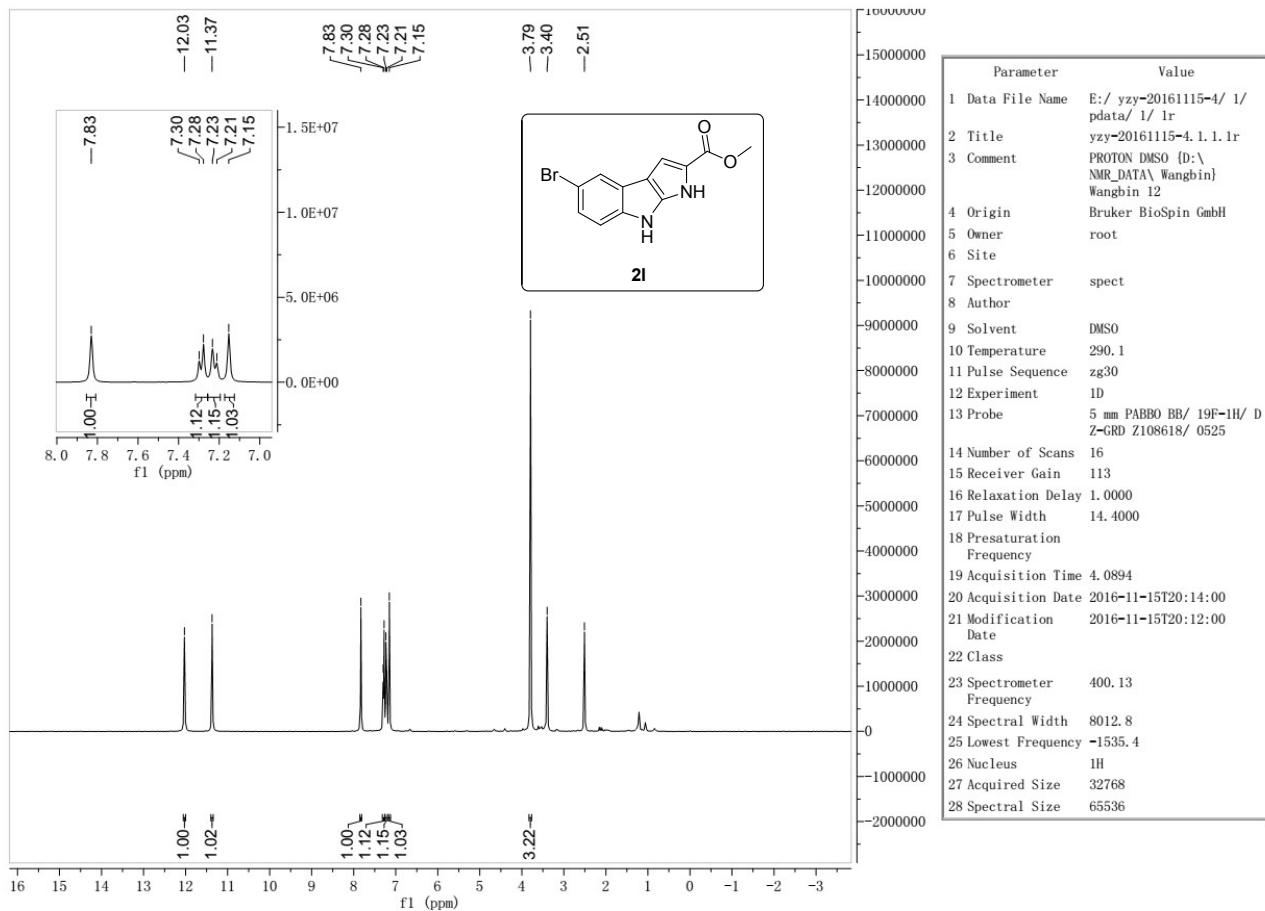
### **methyl 6-chloro-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2k)**

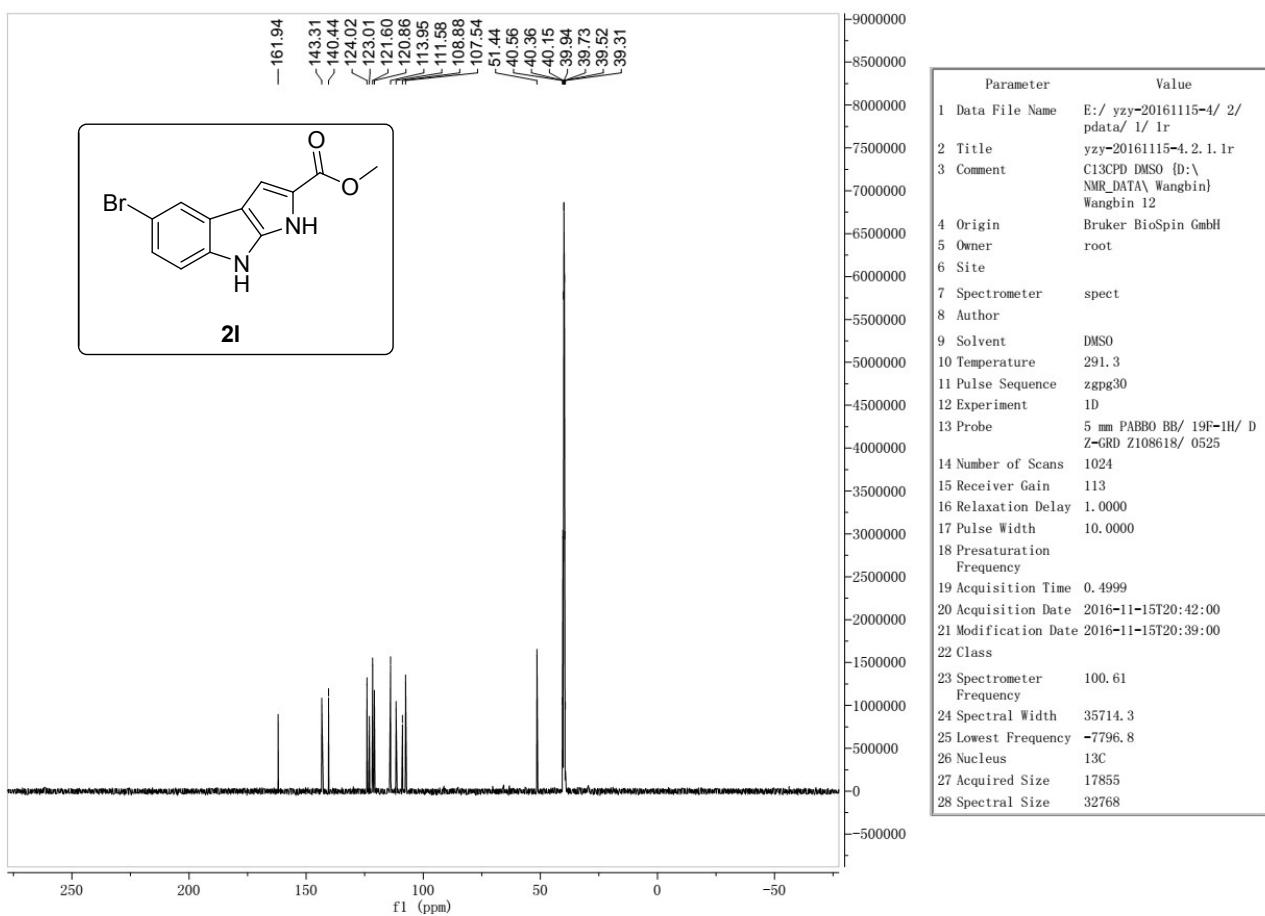




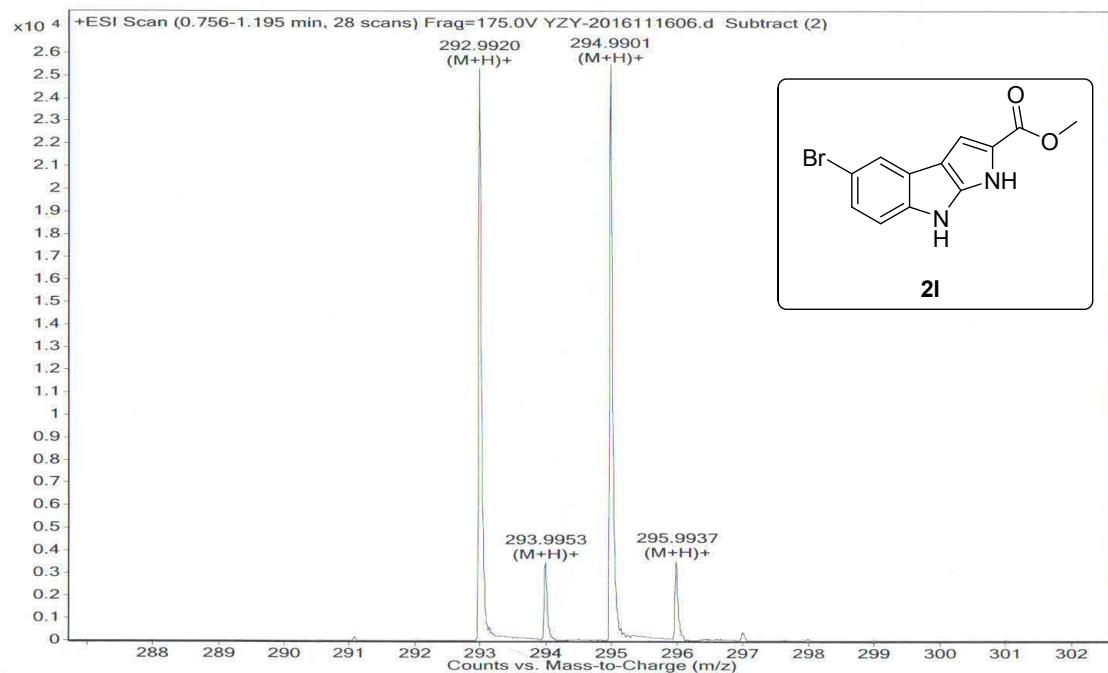


**methyl 5-bromo-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2l)**

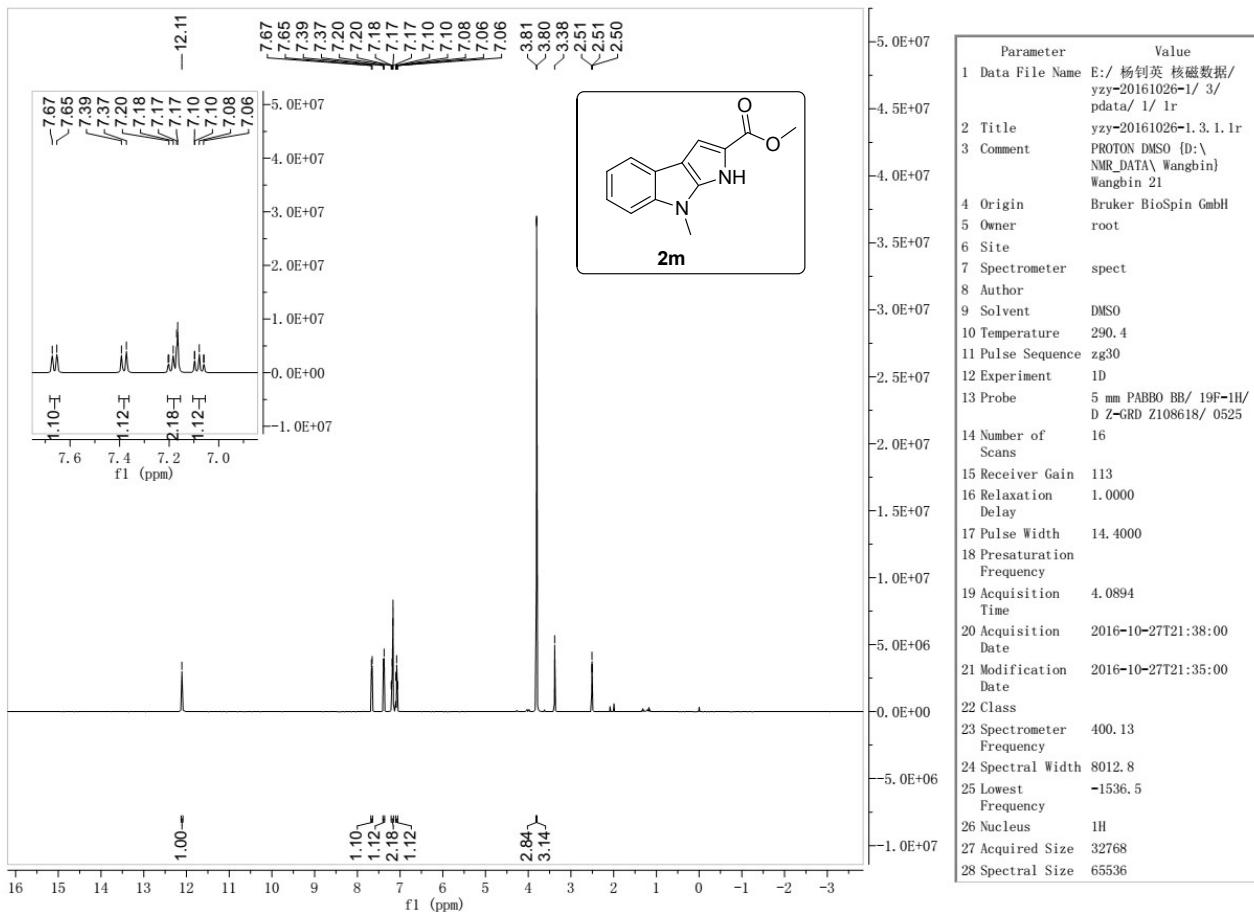


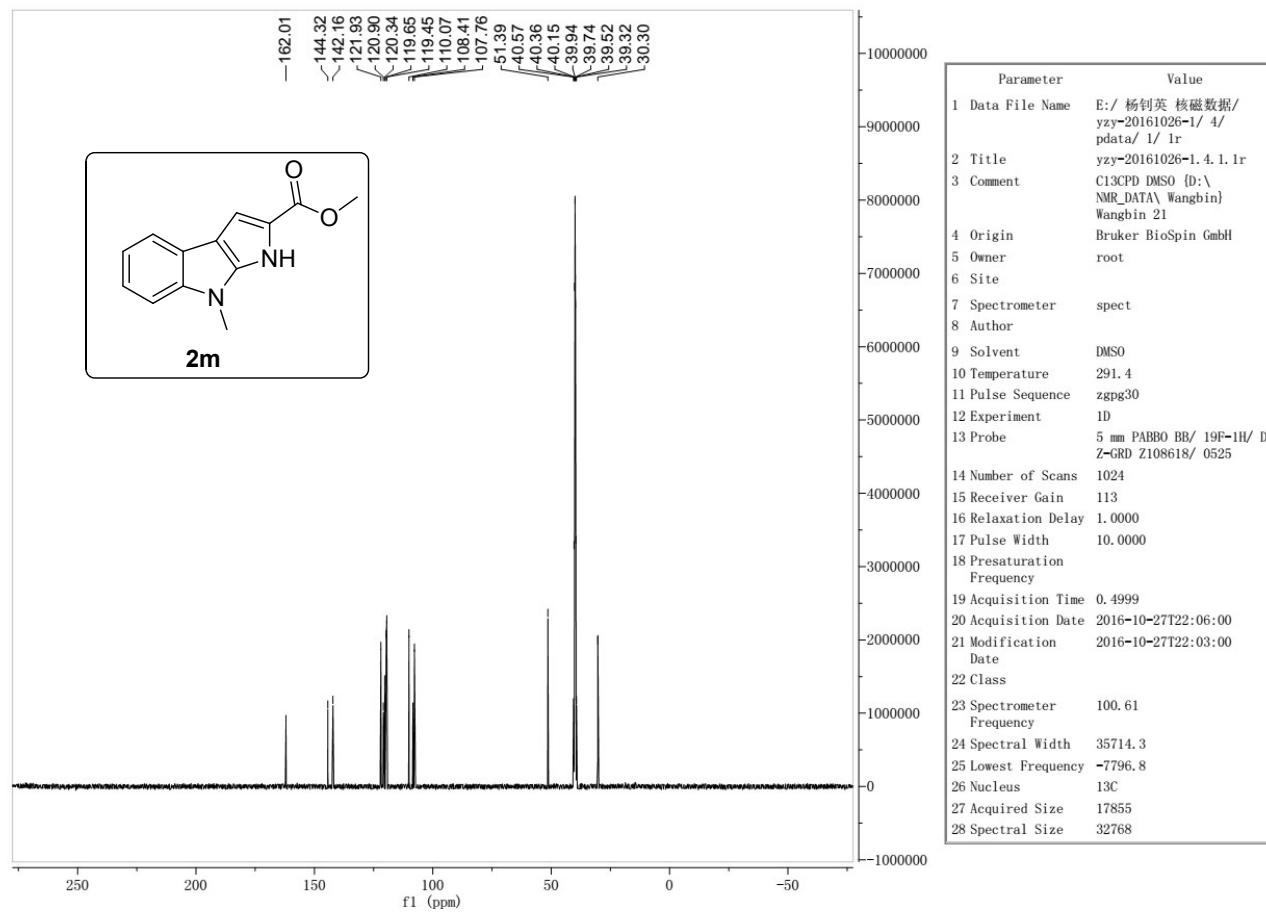


Sample Name	Sample6	Position	P1-A6	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name	
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status	
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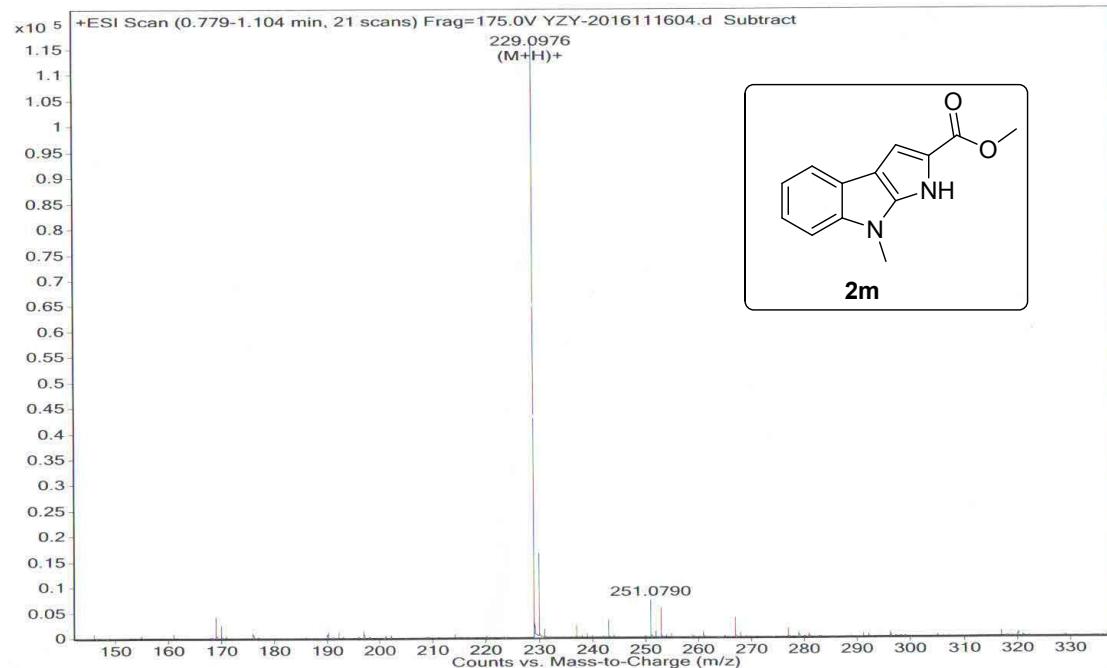


**methyl 8-methyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2m)**

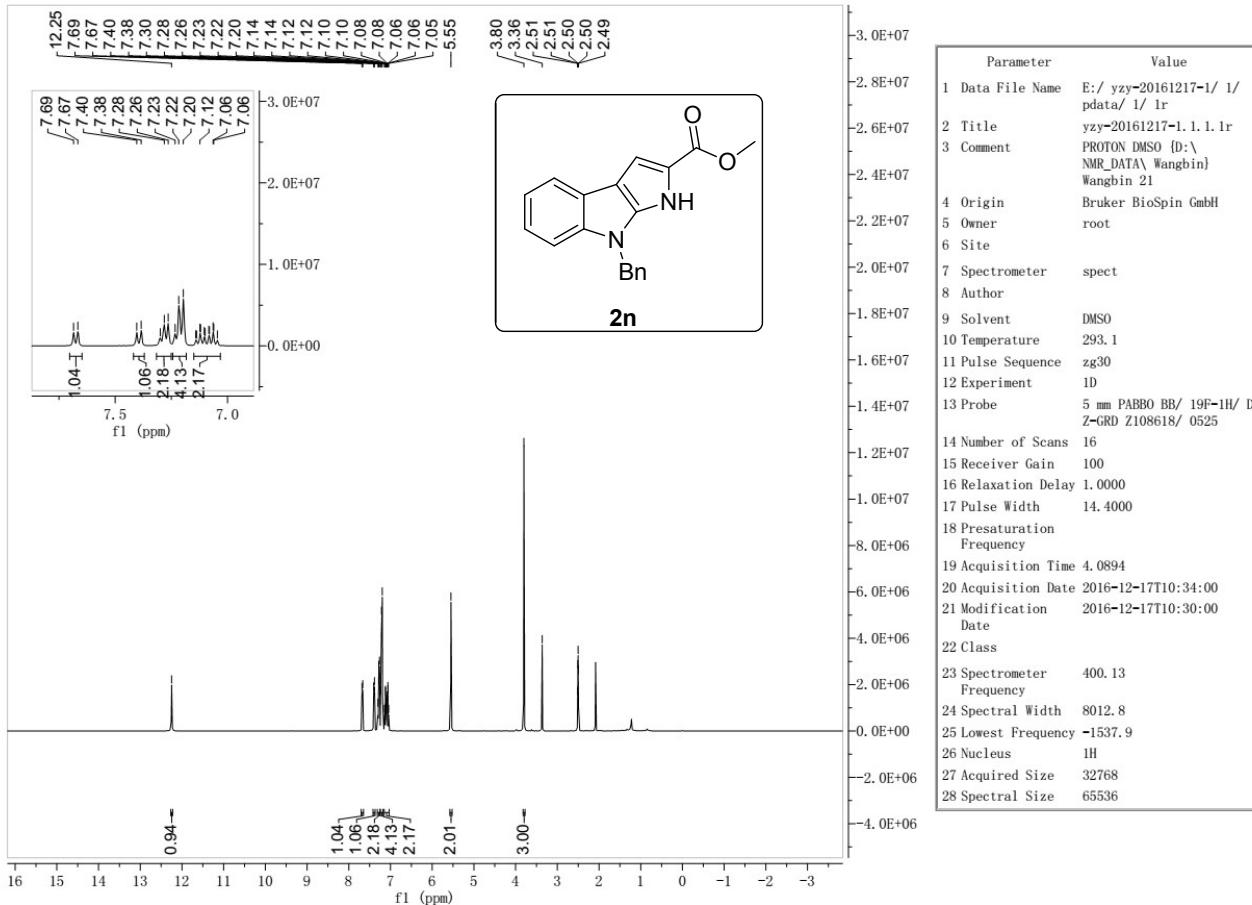


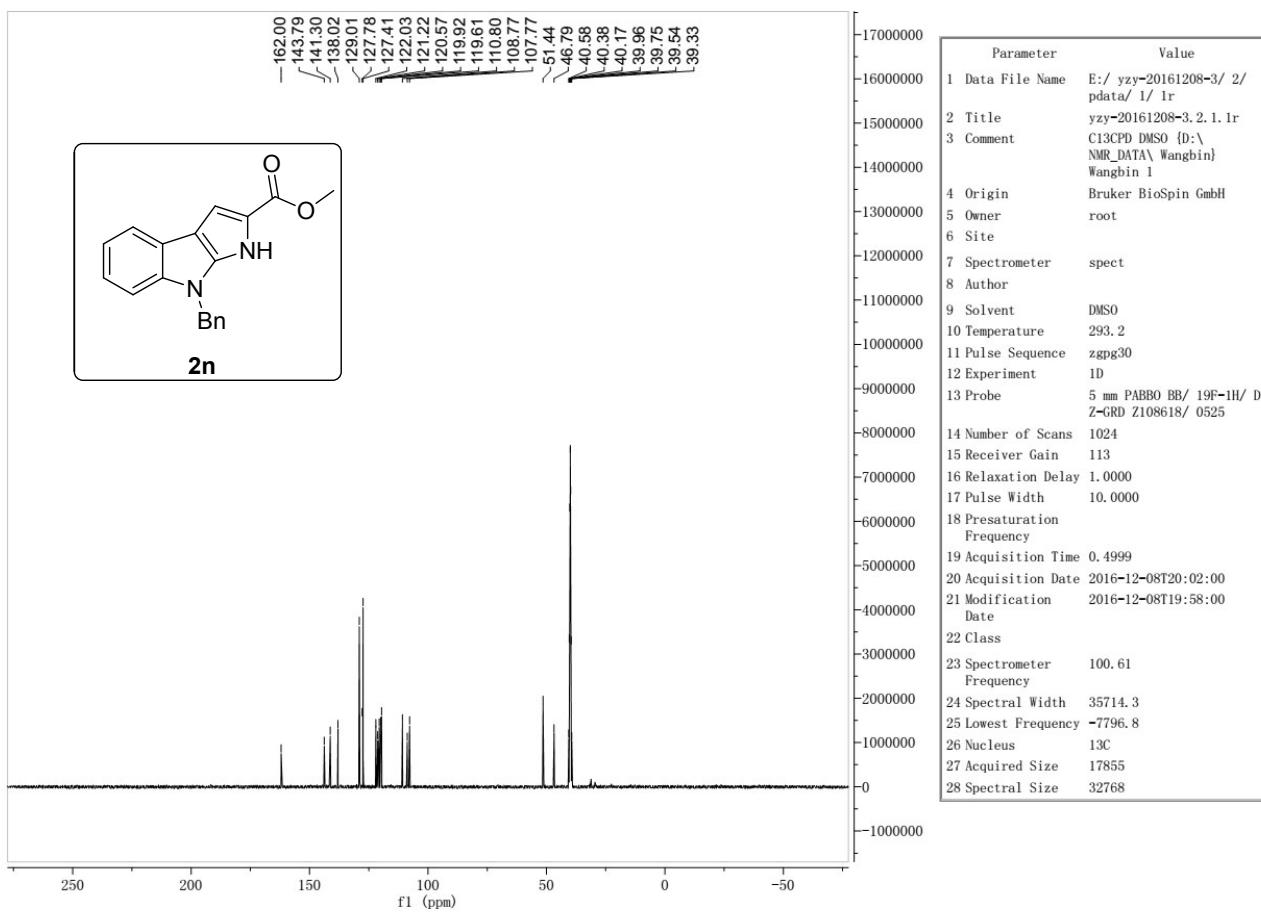


Sample Name	Sample4	Position	P1-A4	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-2016111604.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment		Acquired Time

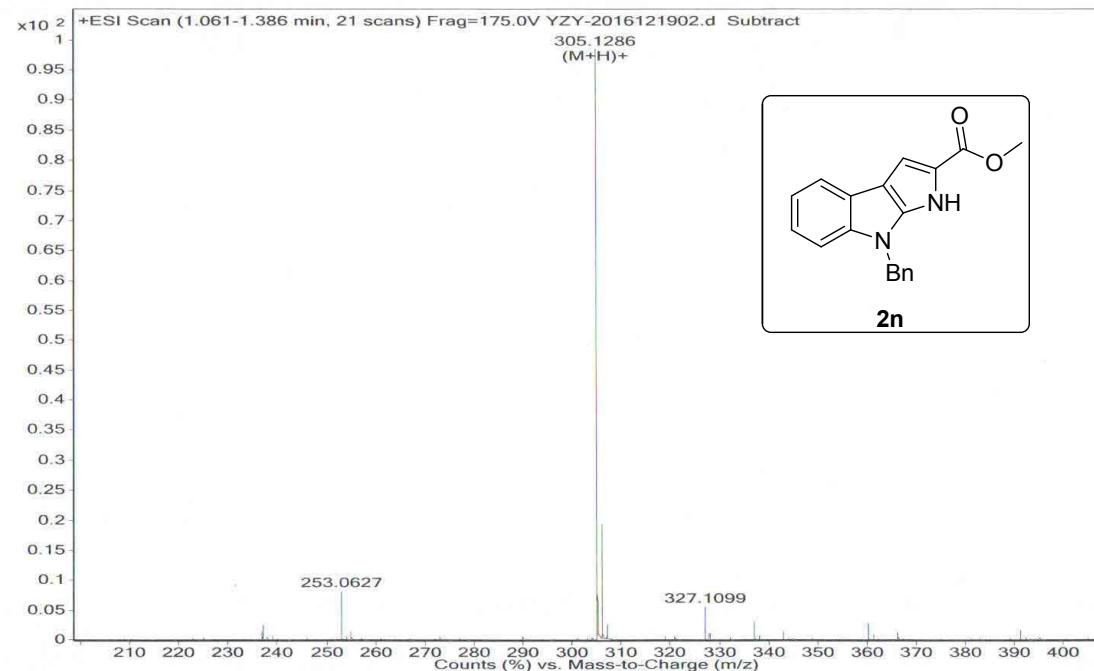
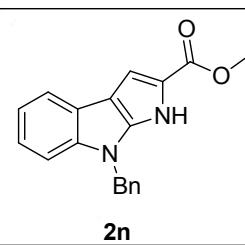


### **methyl 8-benzyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2n)**

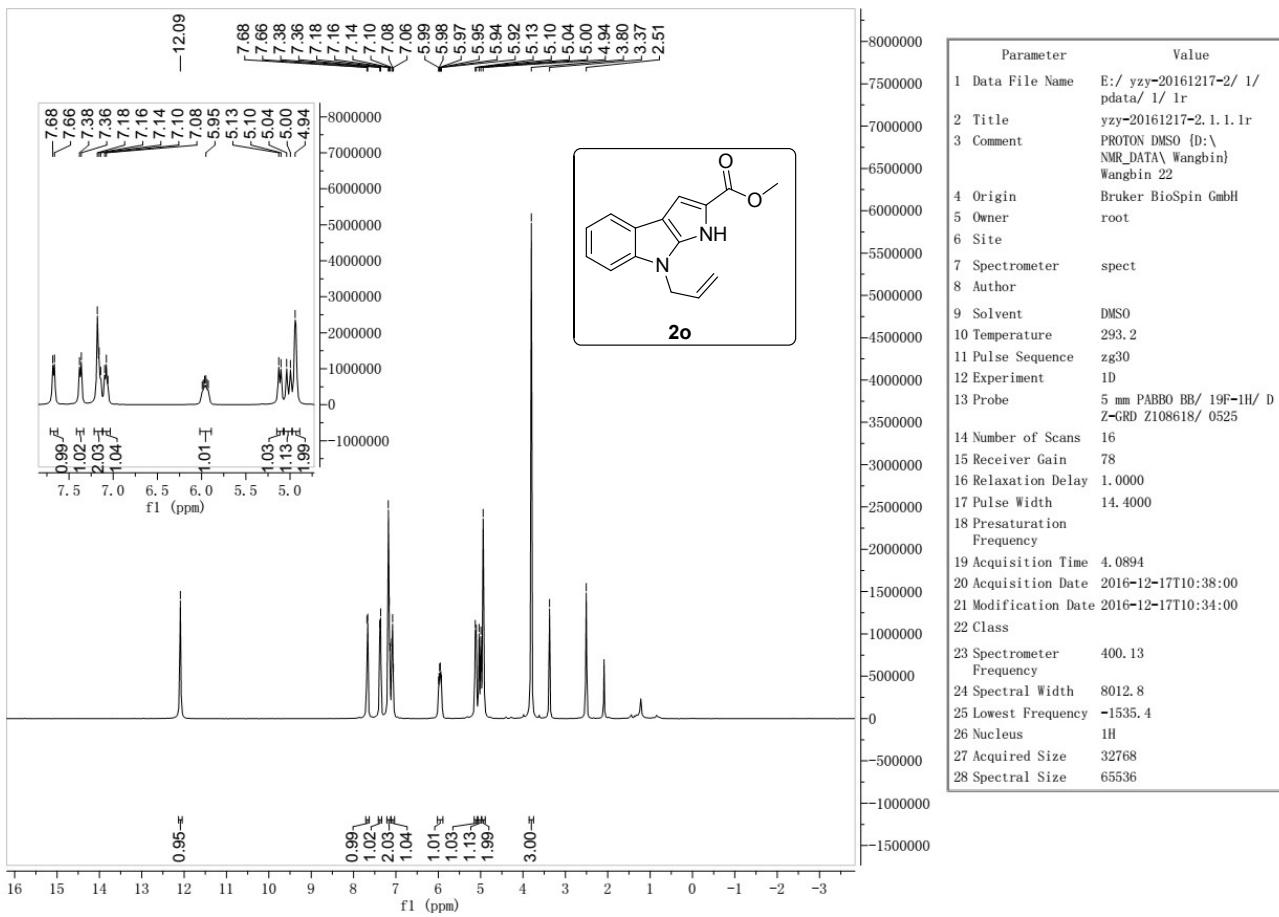


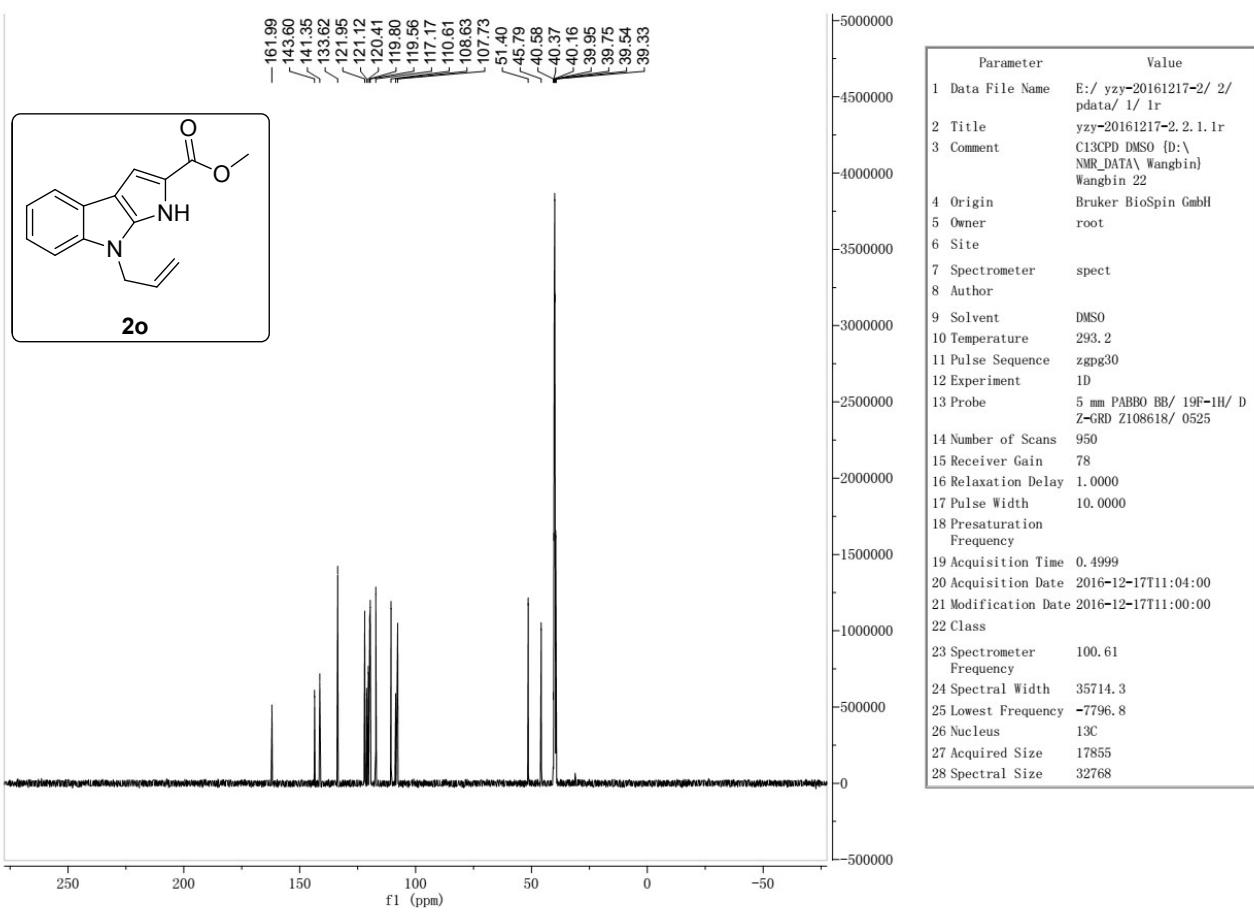


Sample Name	Sample10	Position	P1-B1	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-2016121902.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment		Acquired Time

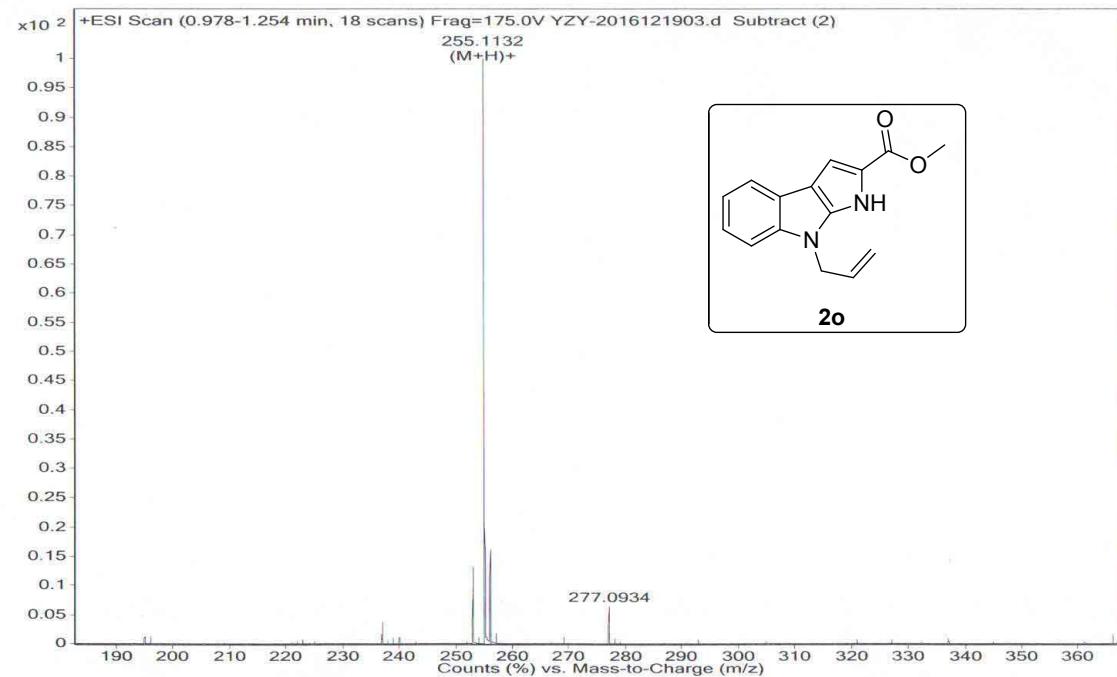


**methyl 8-allyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2o)**

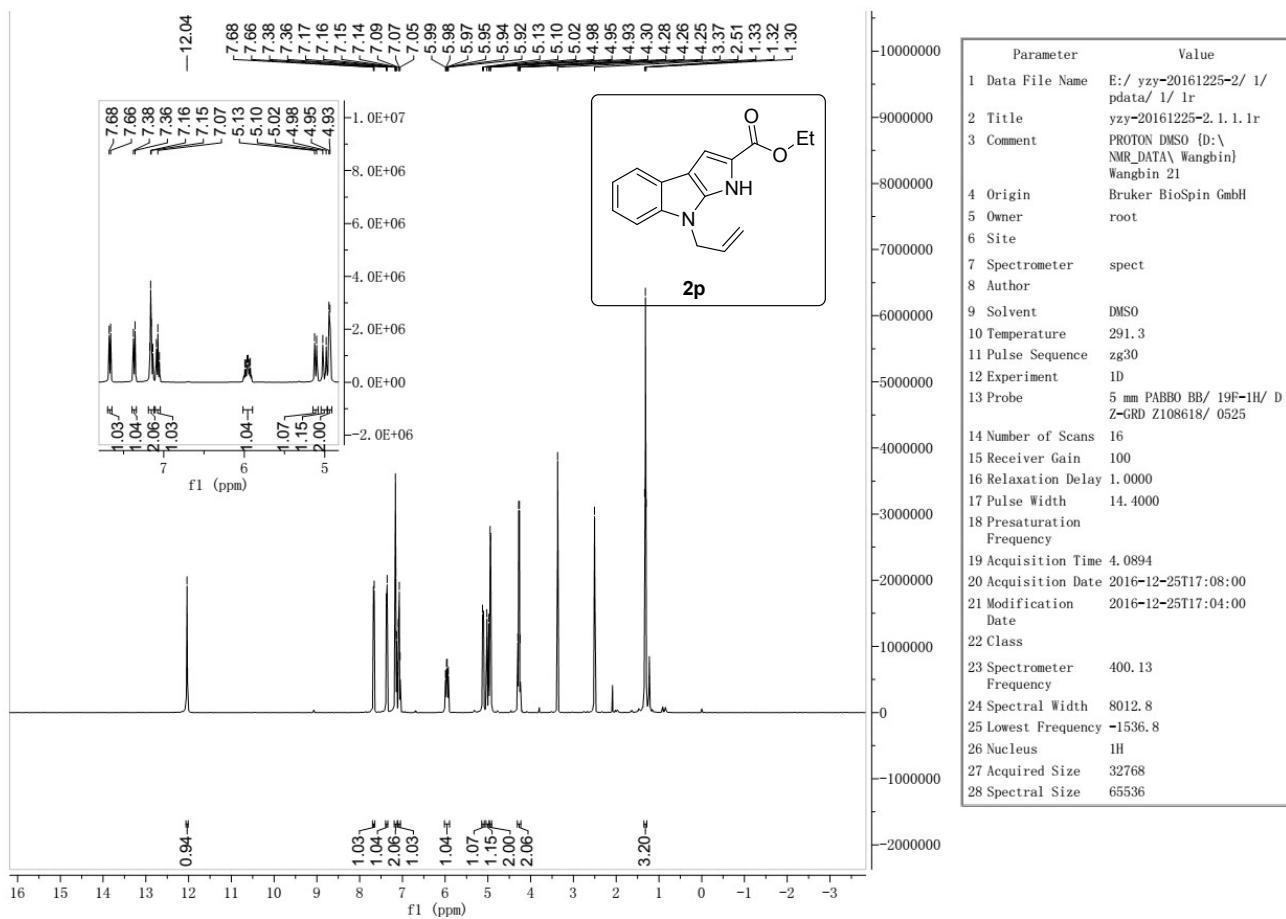


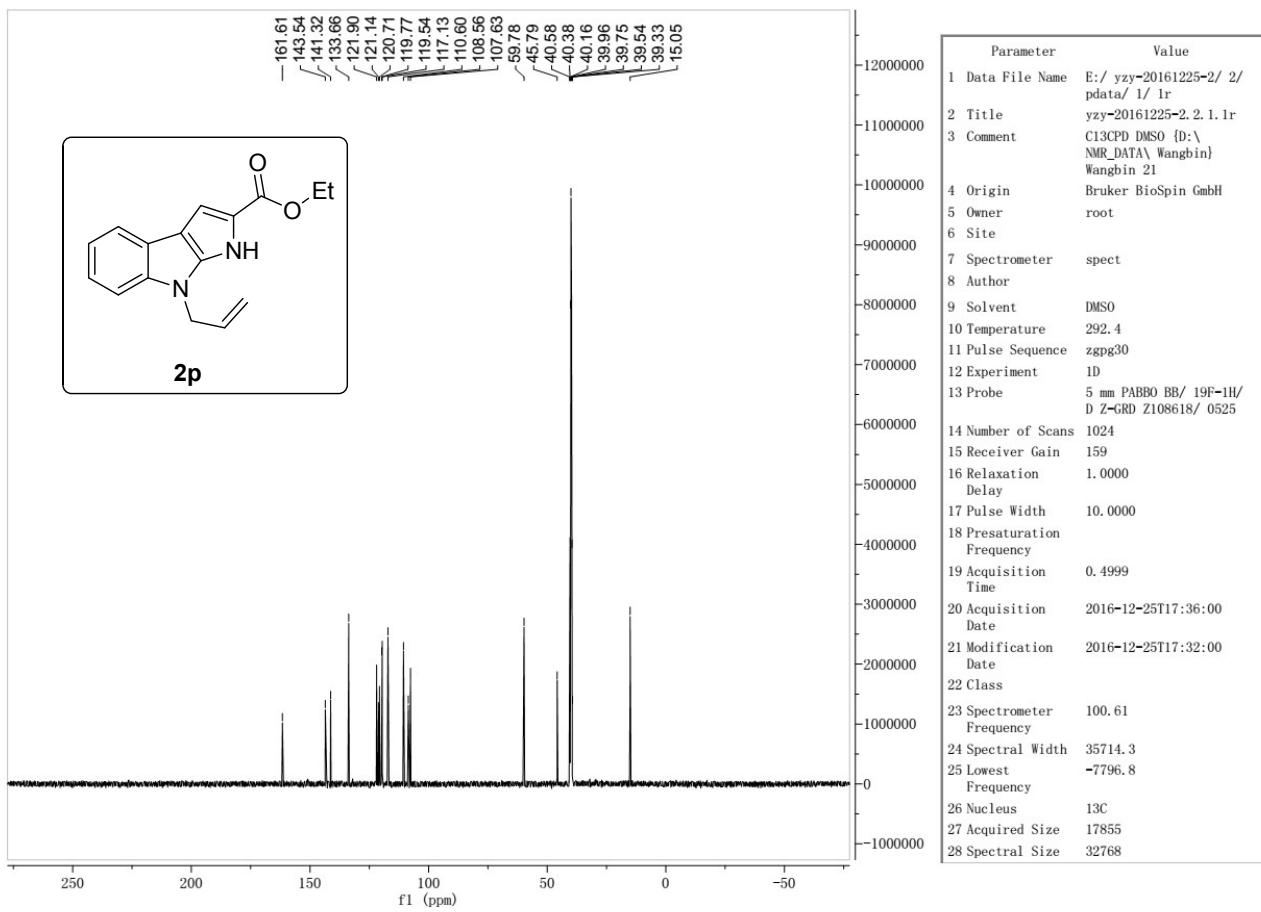


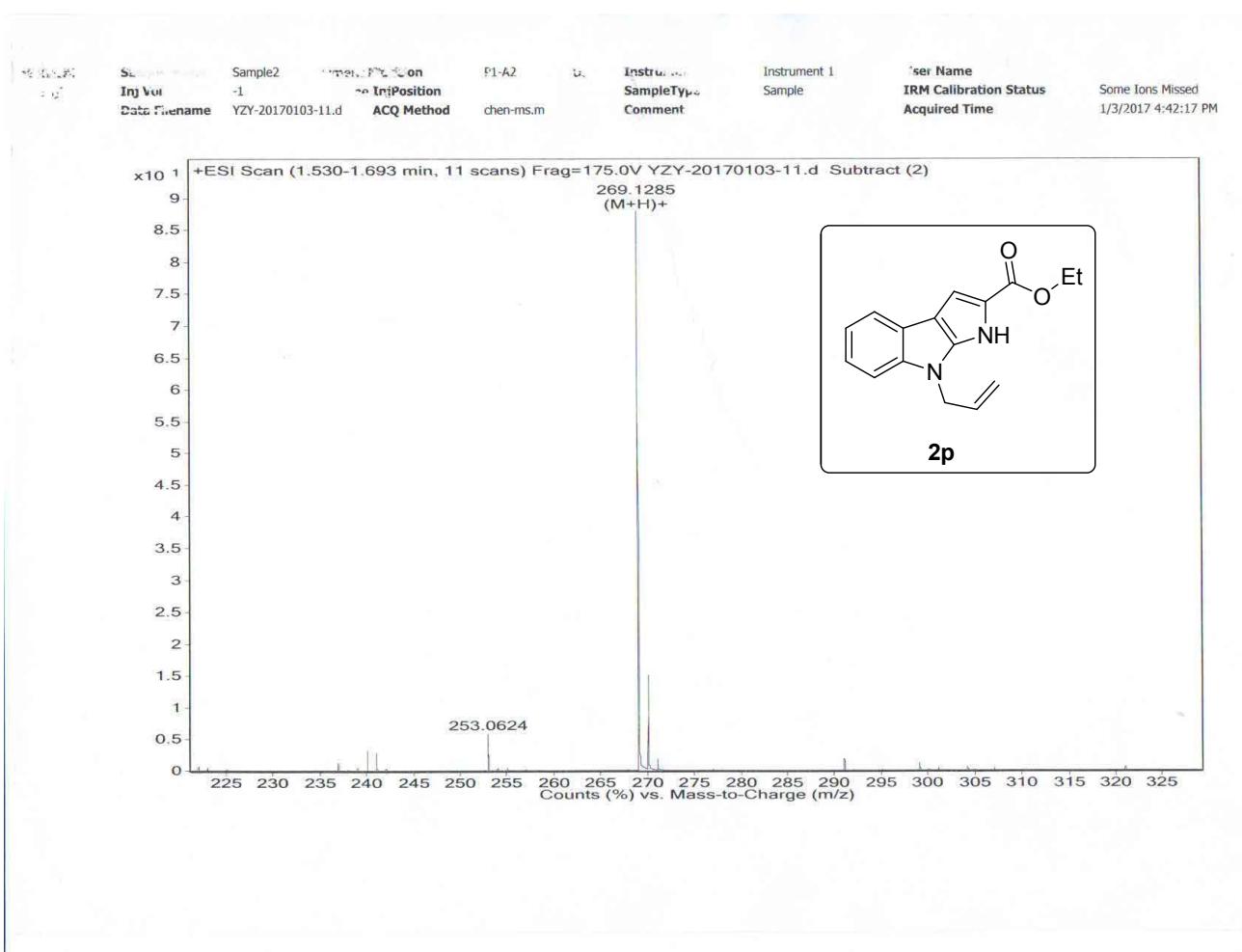
Sample Name	Sample11	Position	P1-B2	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-2016121903.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment	Acquired Time	Some Ions Missed 12/22/2016 5:03:53 PM



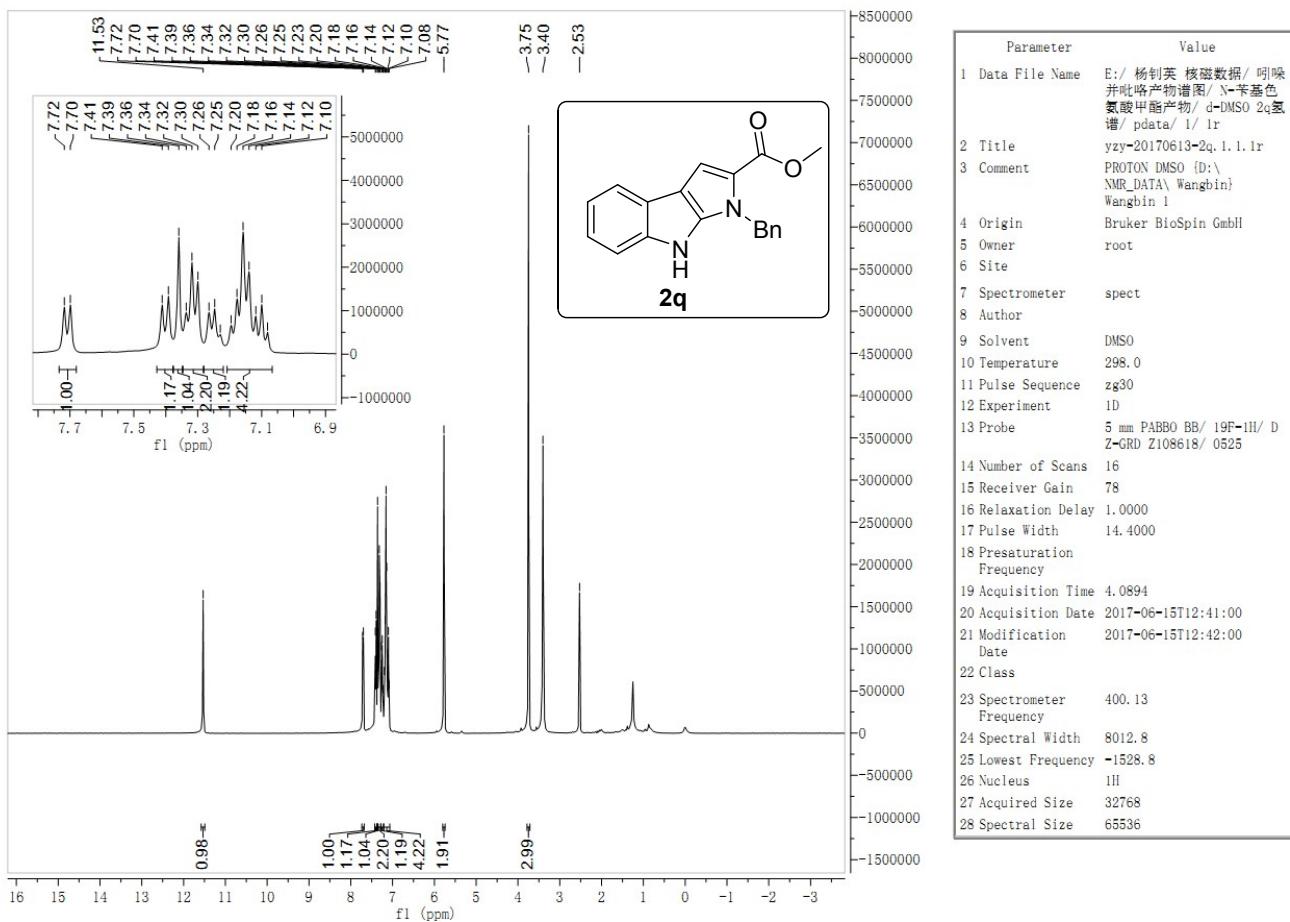
**ethyl 8-allyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2p)**

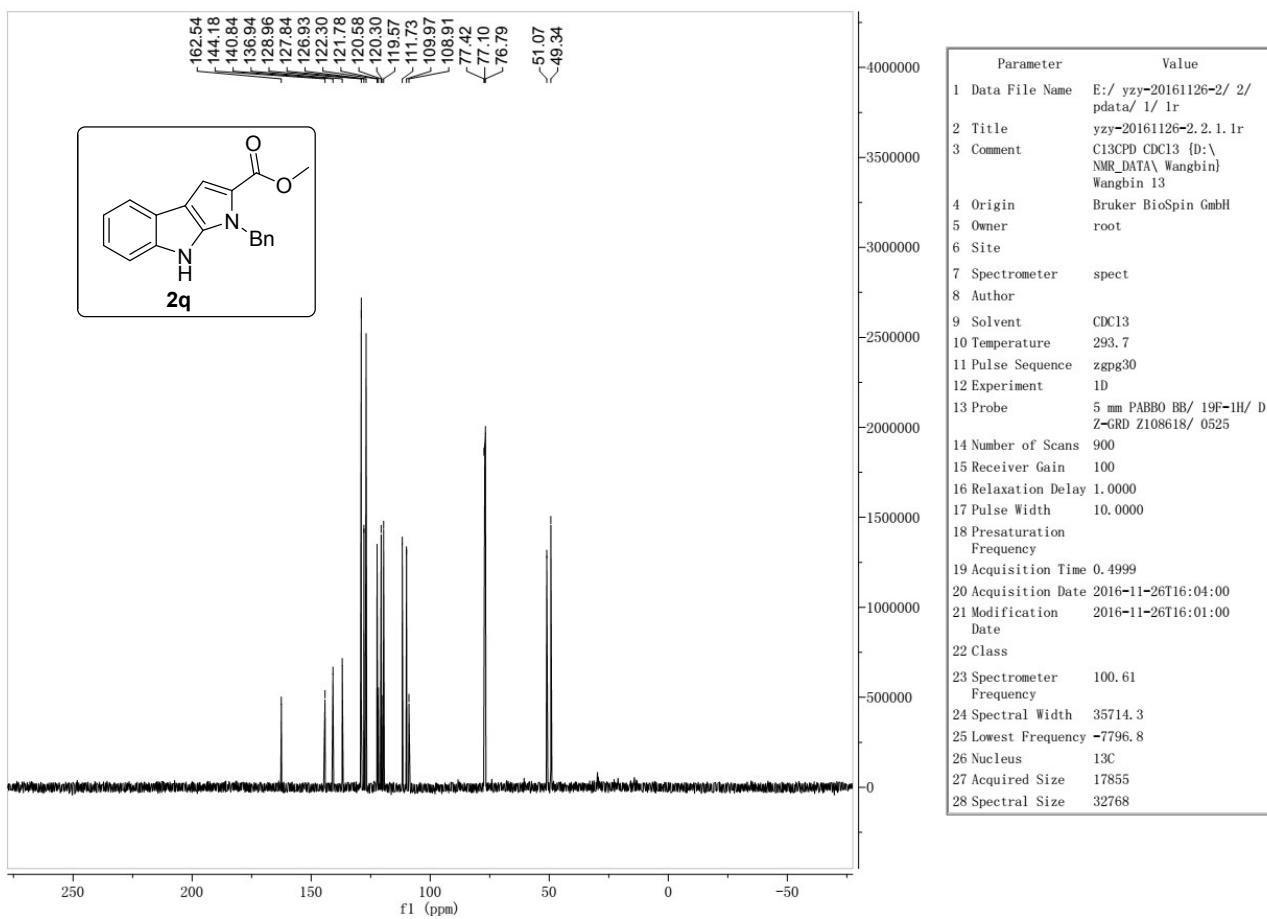




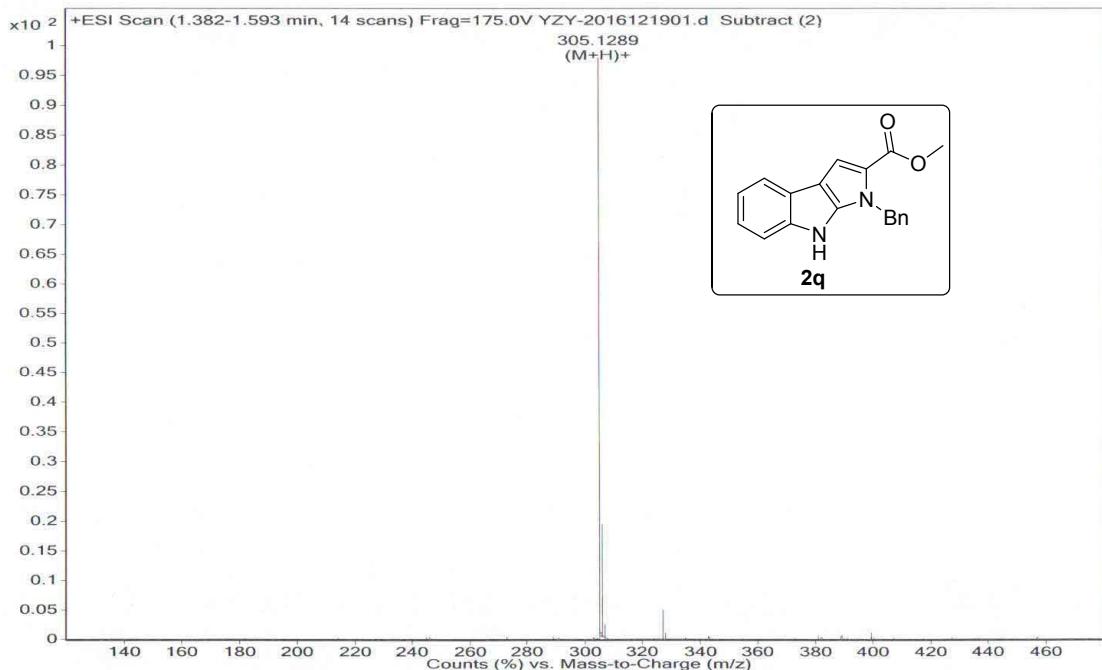


**methyl 1-benzyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2q)**

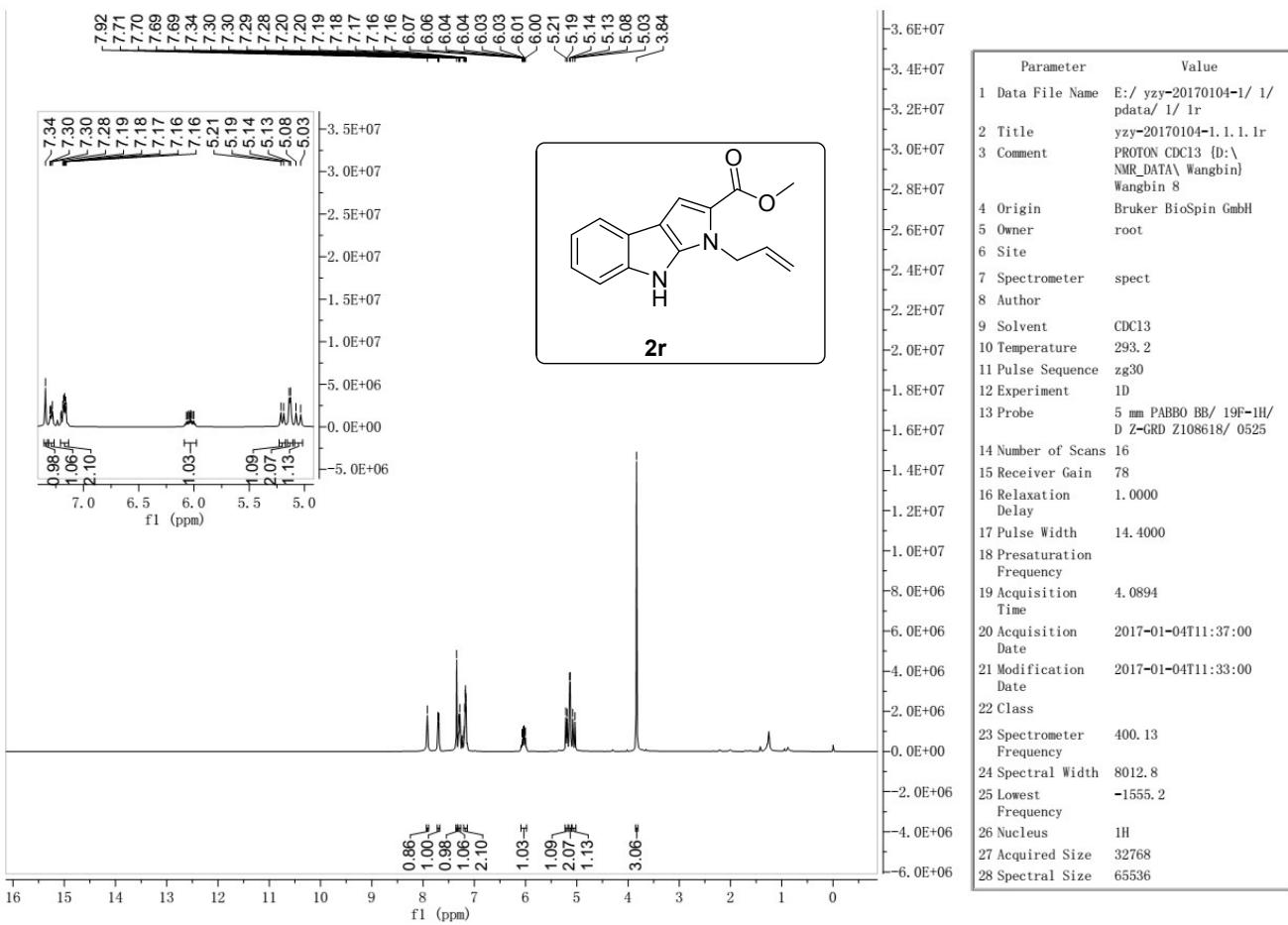


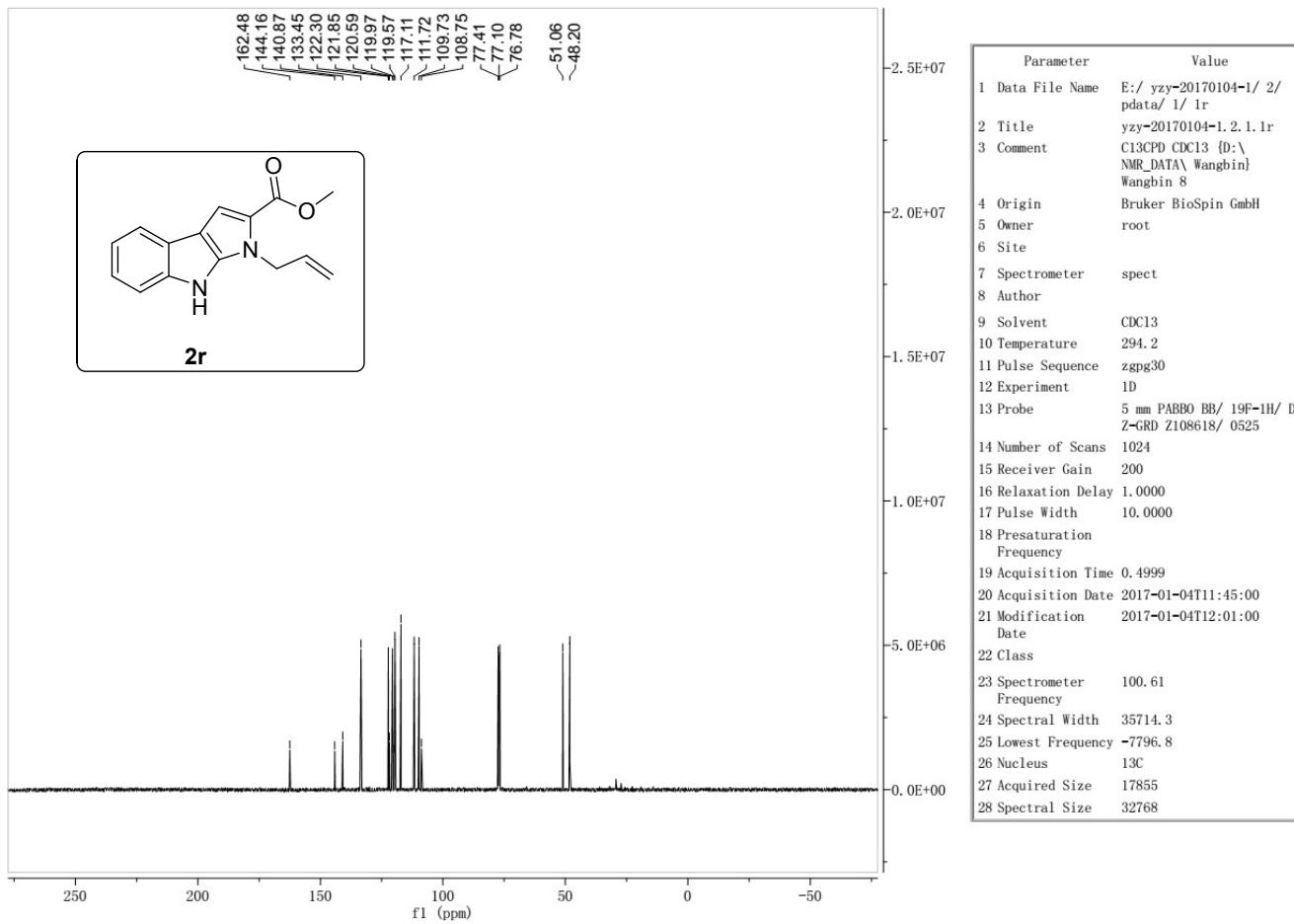


Sample Name	Sample9	Position	P1-A9	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-2016121901.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment	Acquired Time	Some Ions Missed 12/22/2016 4:52:31 PM

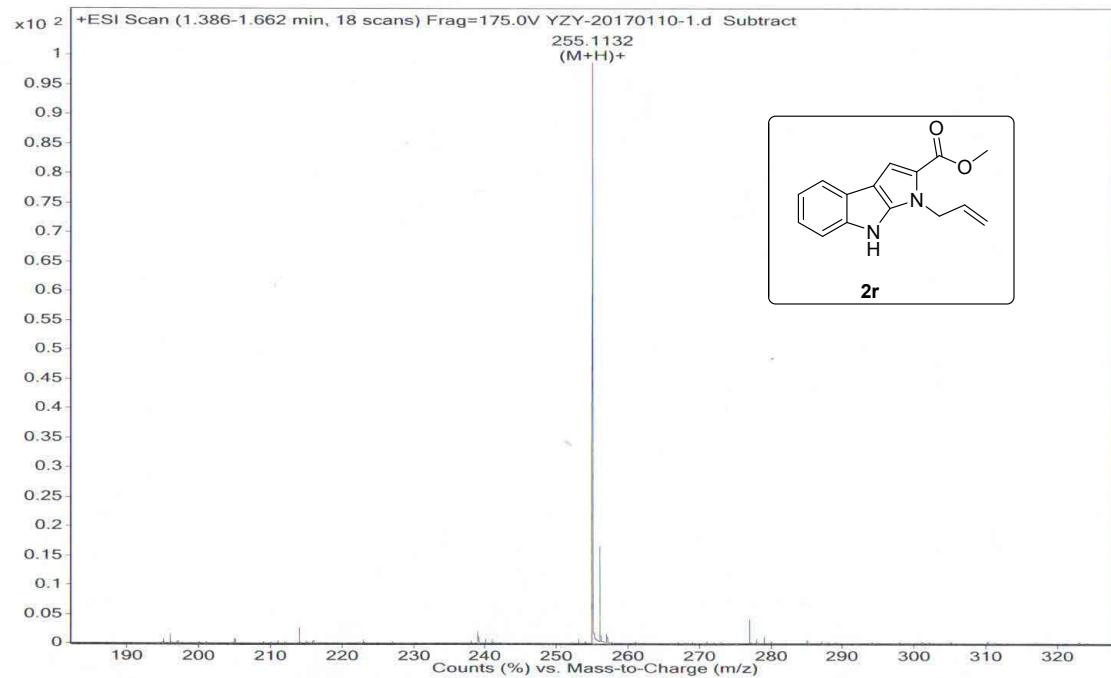


**methyl 1-allyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2r)**

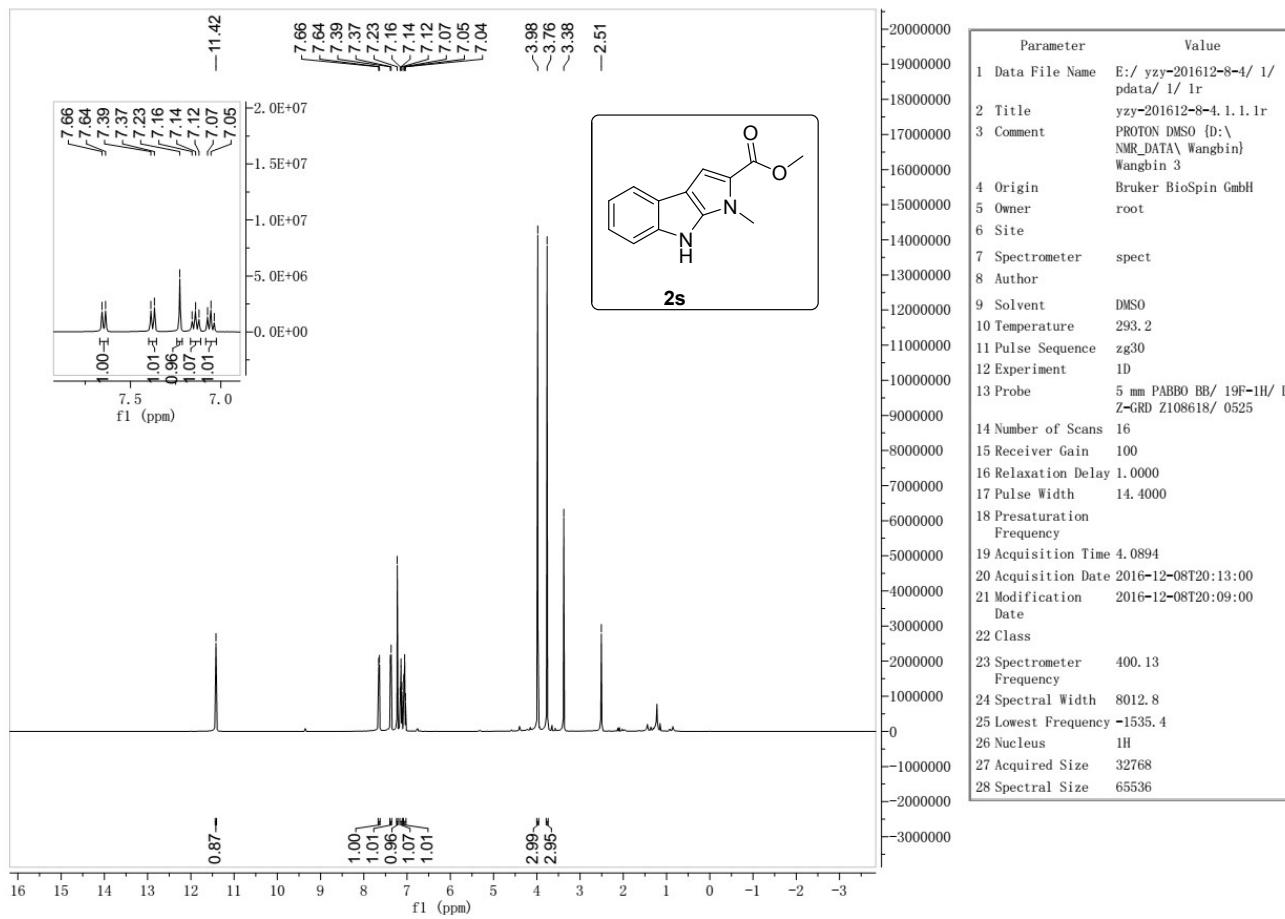


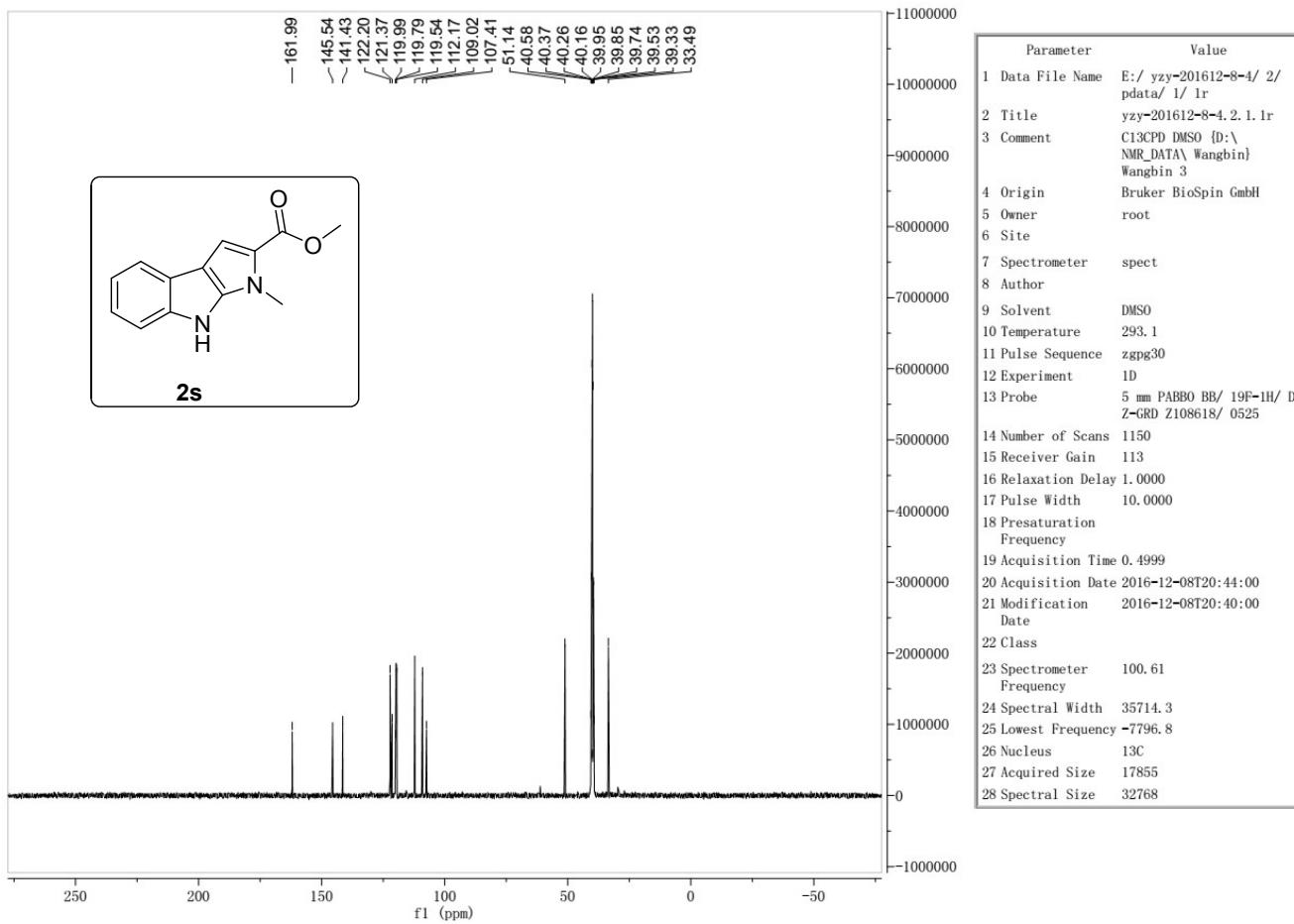


Sample Name	Sample41	Position	P1-E5	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-20170110-1.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment	Acquired Time	Some Ions Missed 2/21/2017 8:25:31 PM

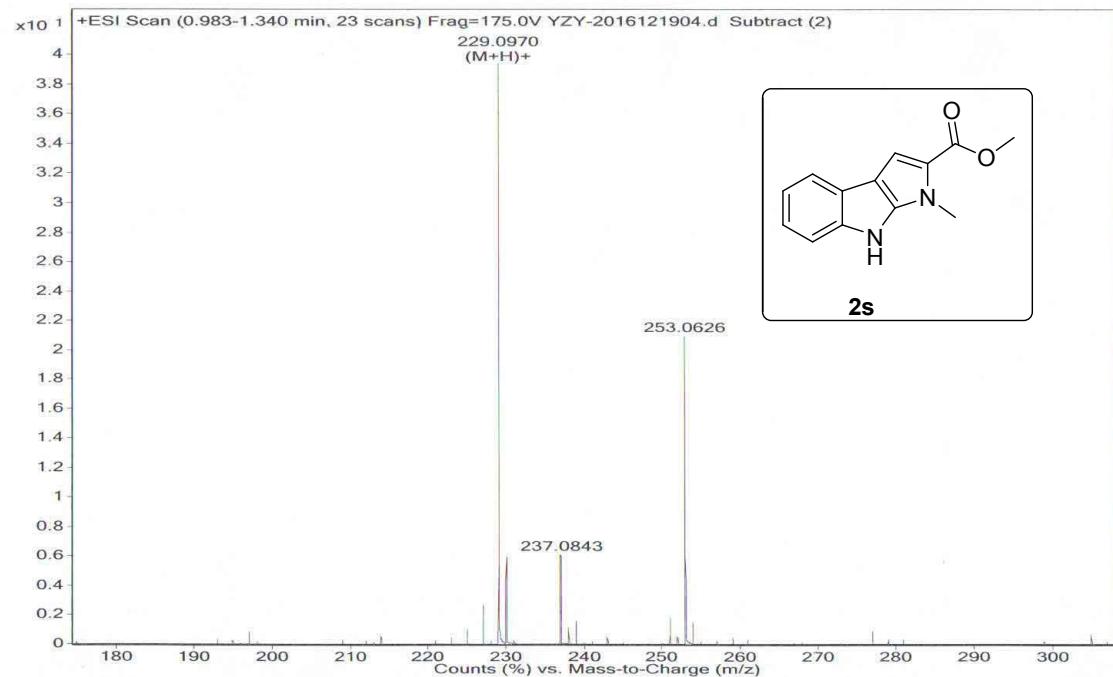


**methyl 1-methyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2s)**

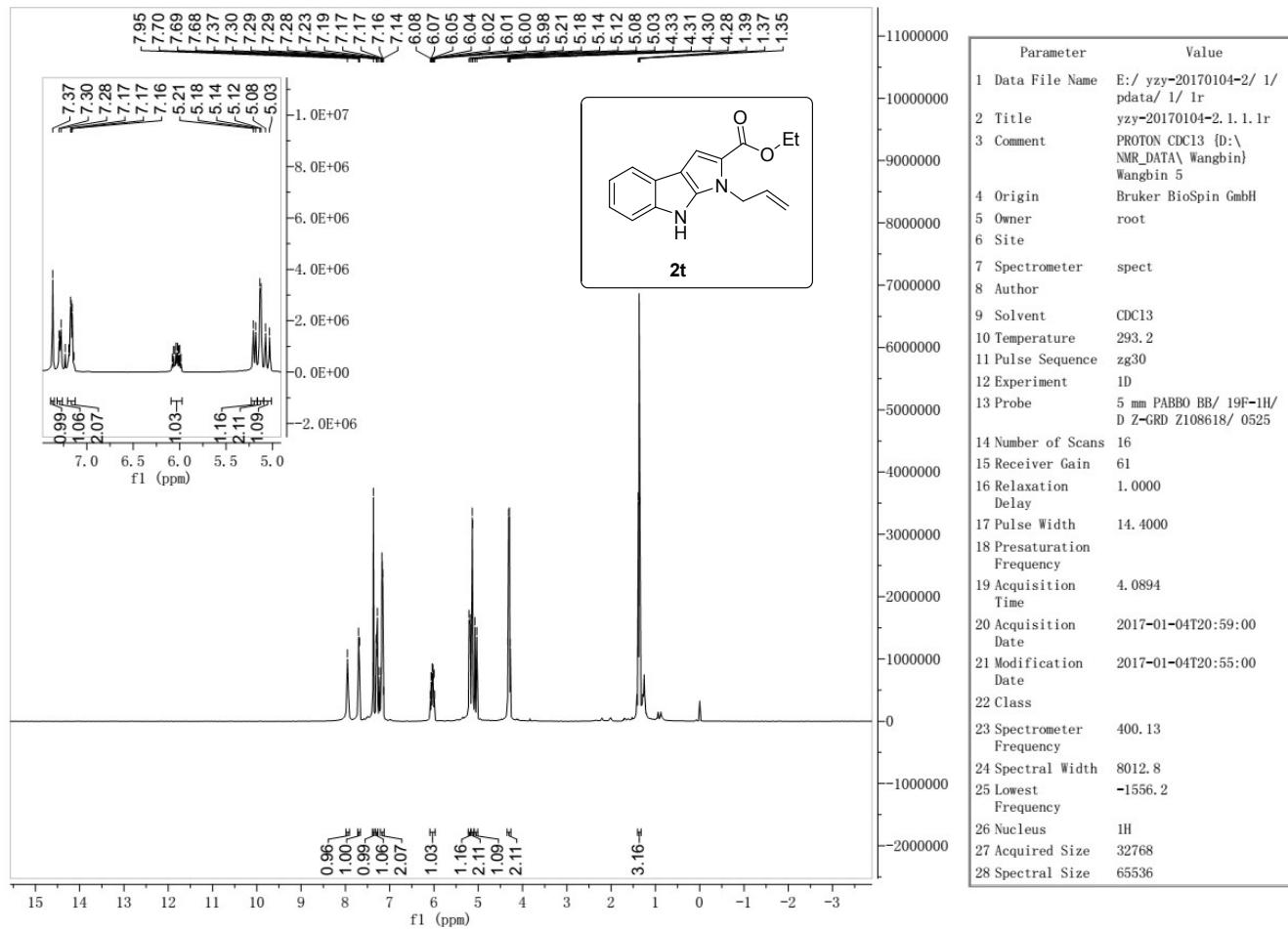


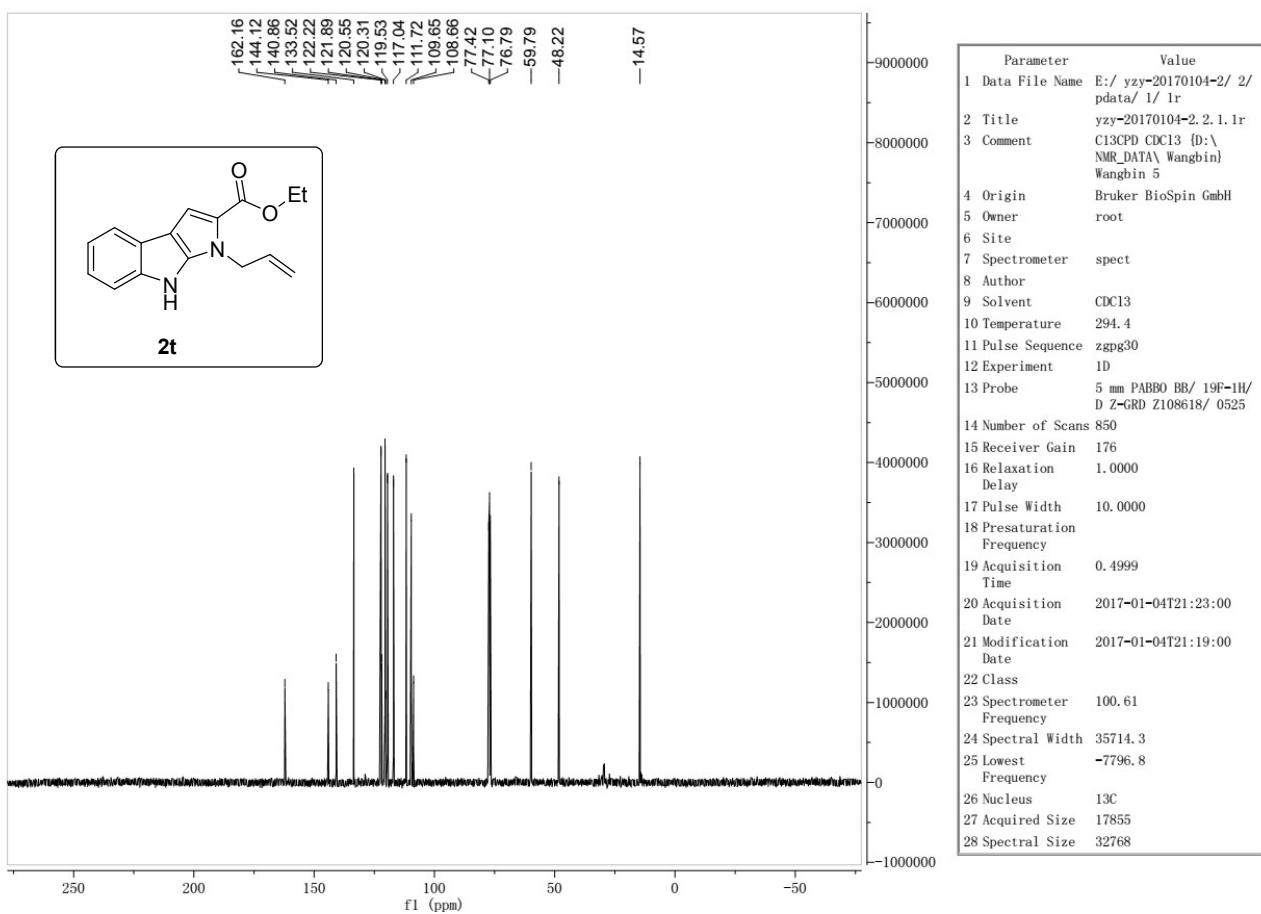


Sample Name	SampleI2	Position	P1-B3	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-2016121904.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment		Acquired Time

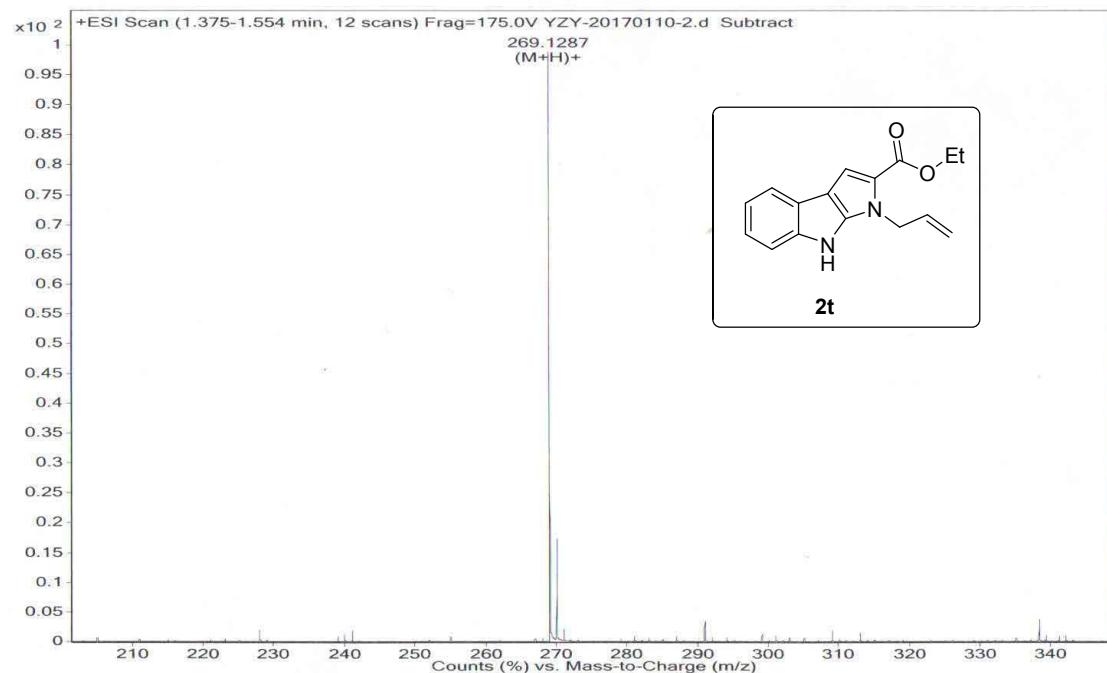


**ethyl 1-allyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2t)**

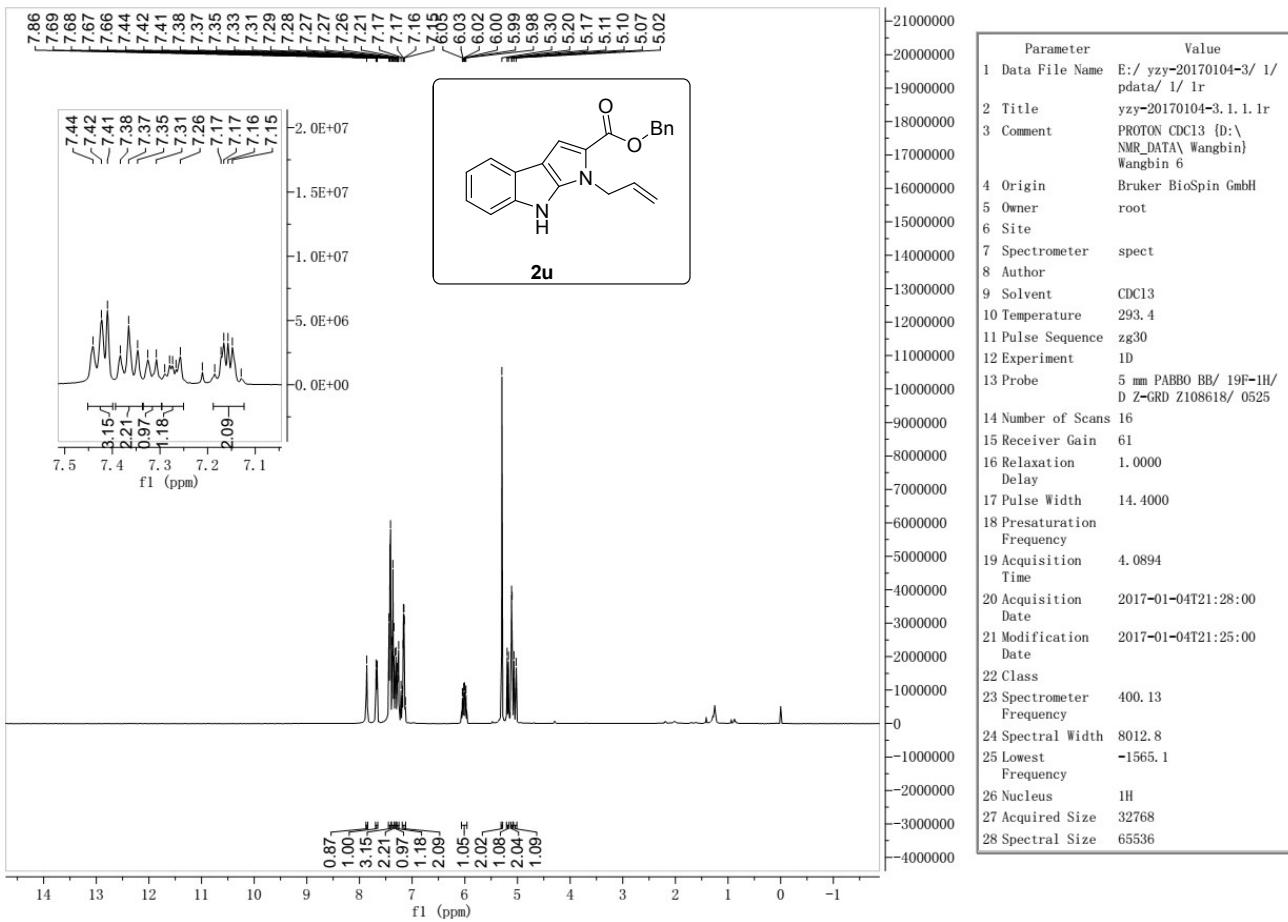


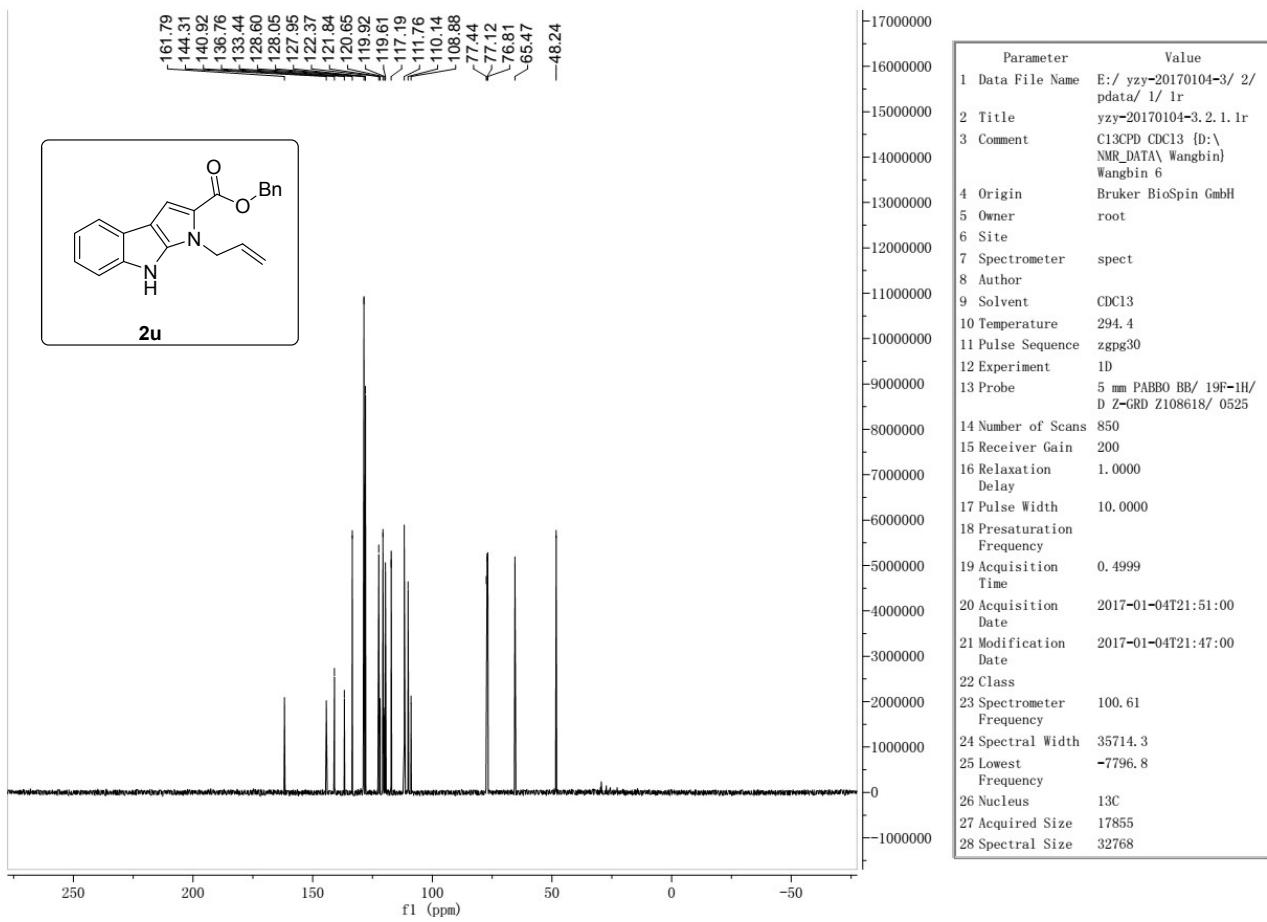


Sample Name	Sample42	Position	P1-E6	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-20170110-2.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment		Acquired Time

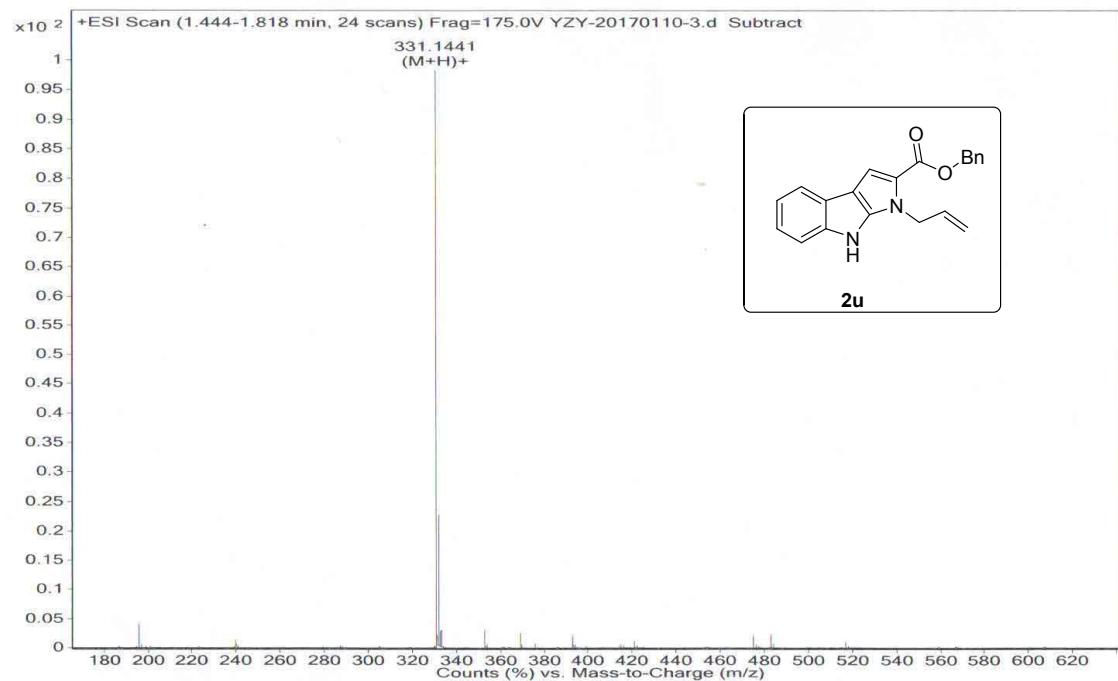


**benzyl 1-allyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2u)**

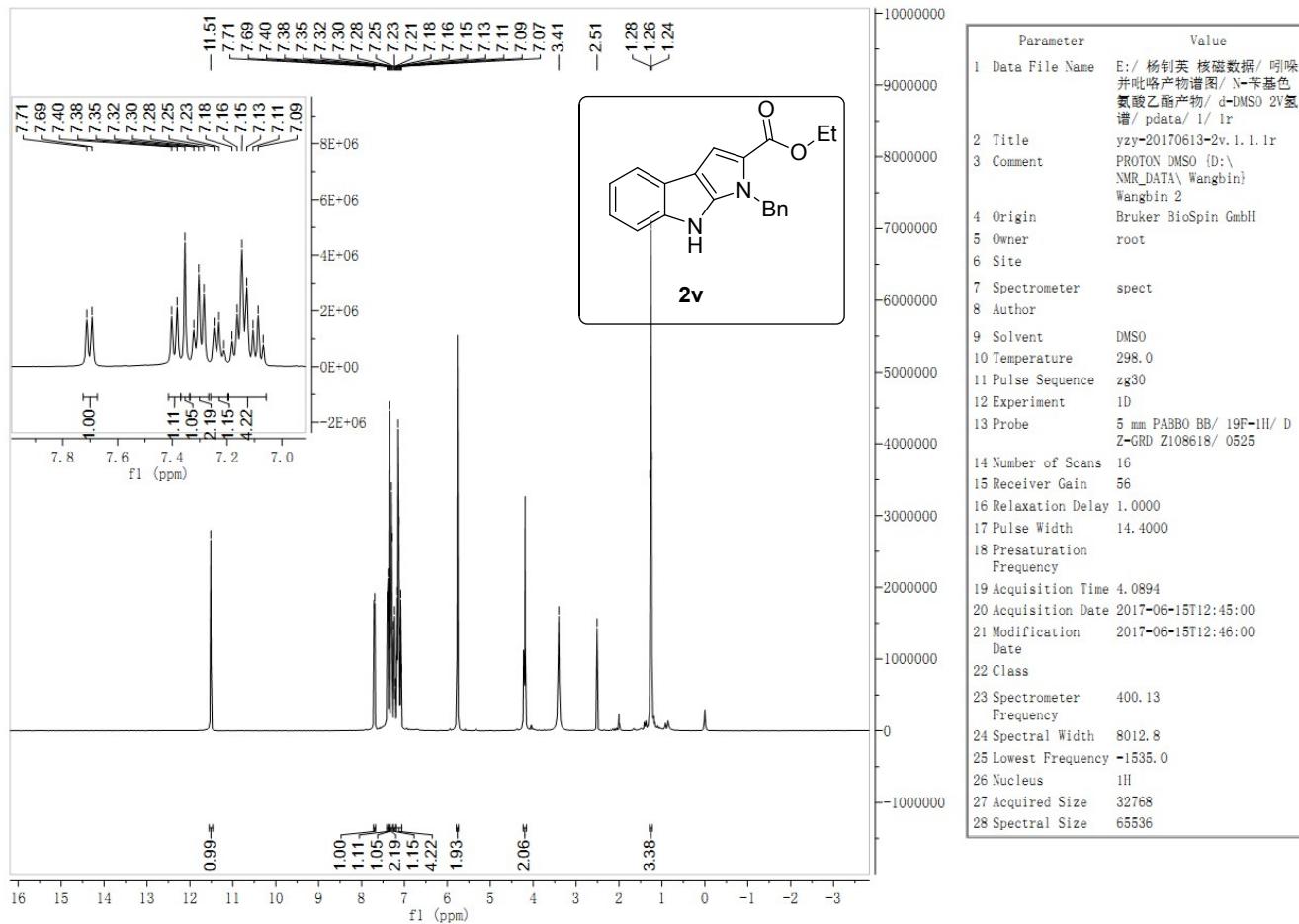


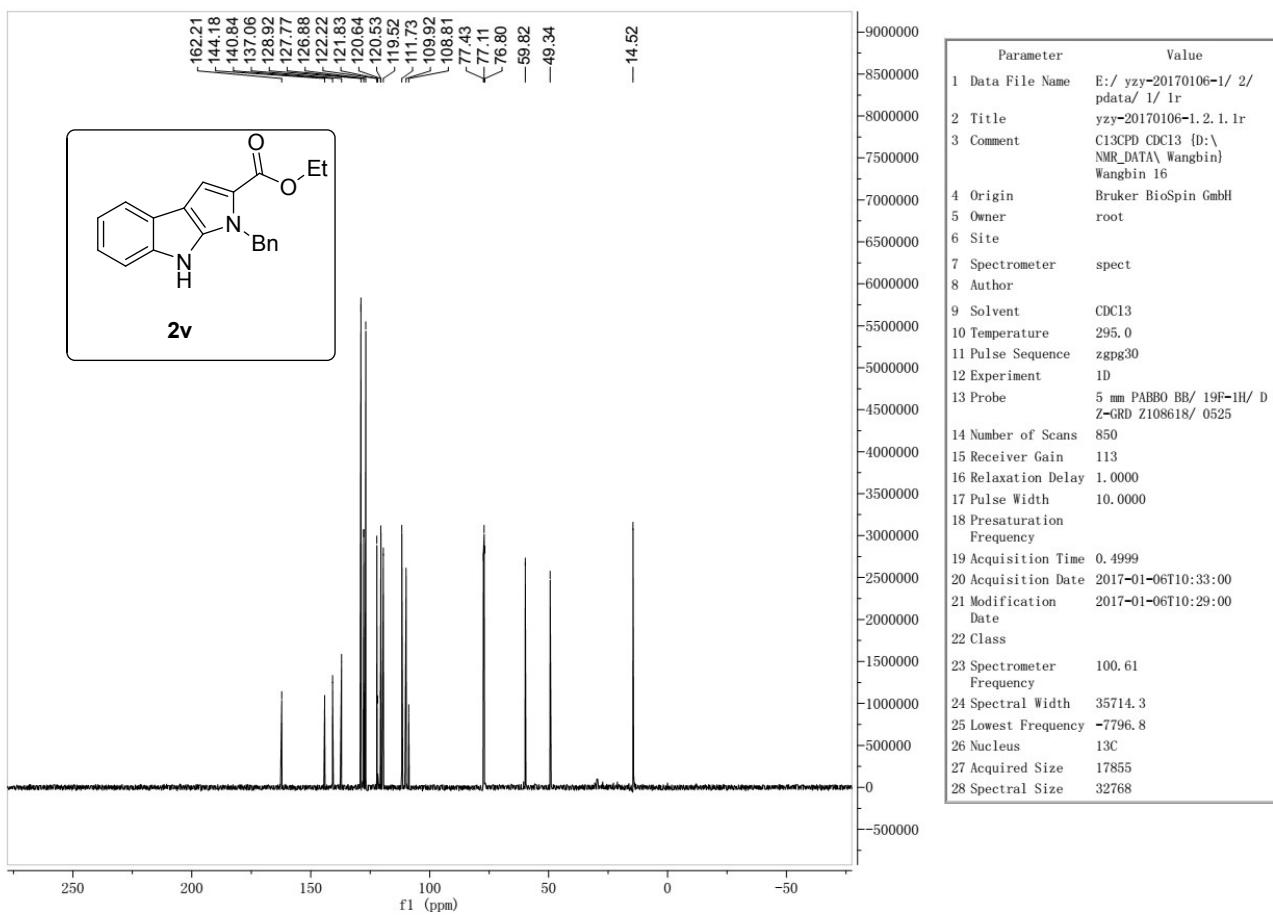


Sample Name	Sample43	Position	P1-E7	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-20170110-3.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment		Acquired Time

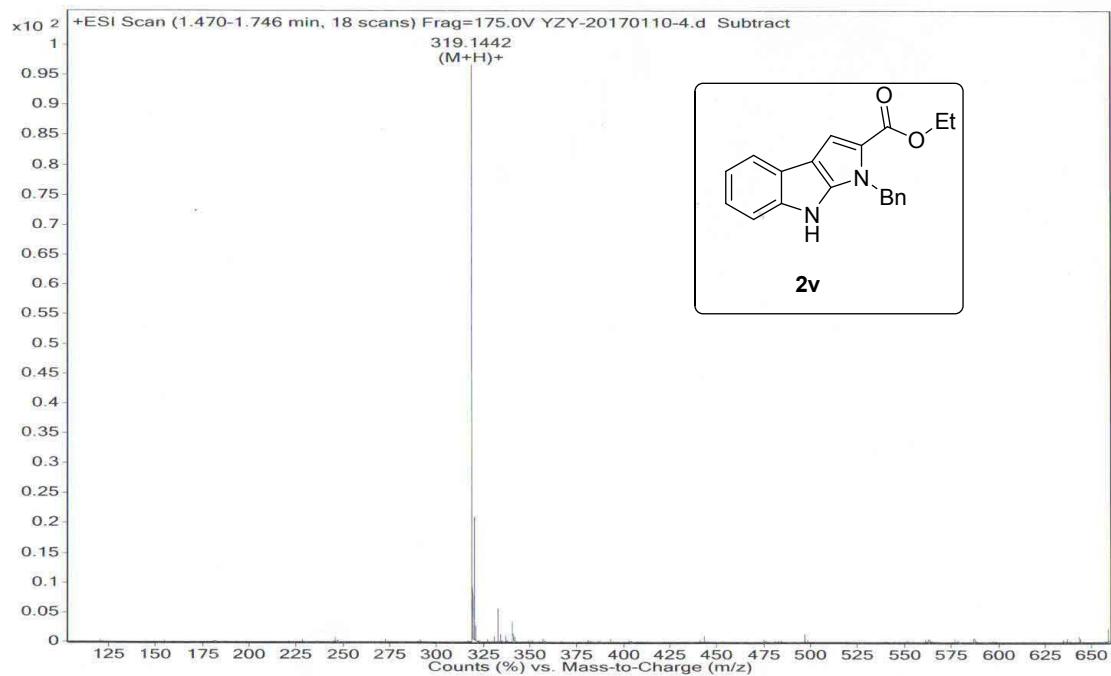


**ethyl 1-benzyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2v)**

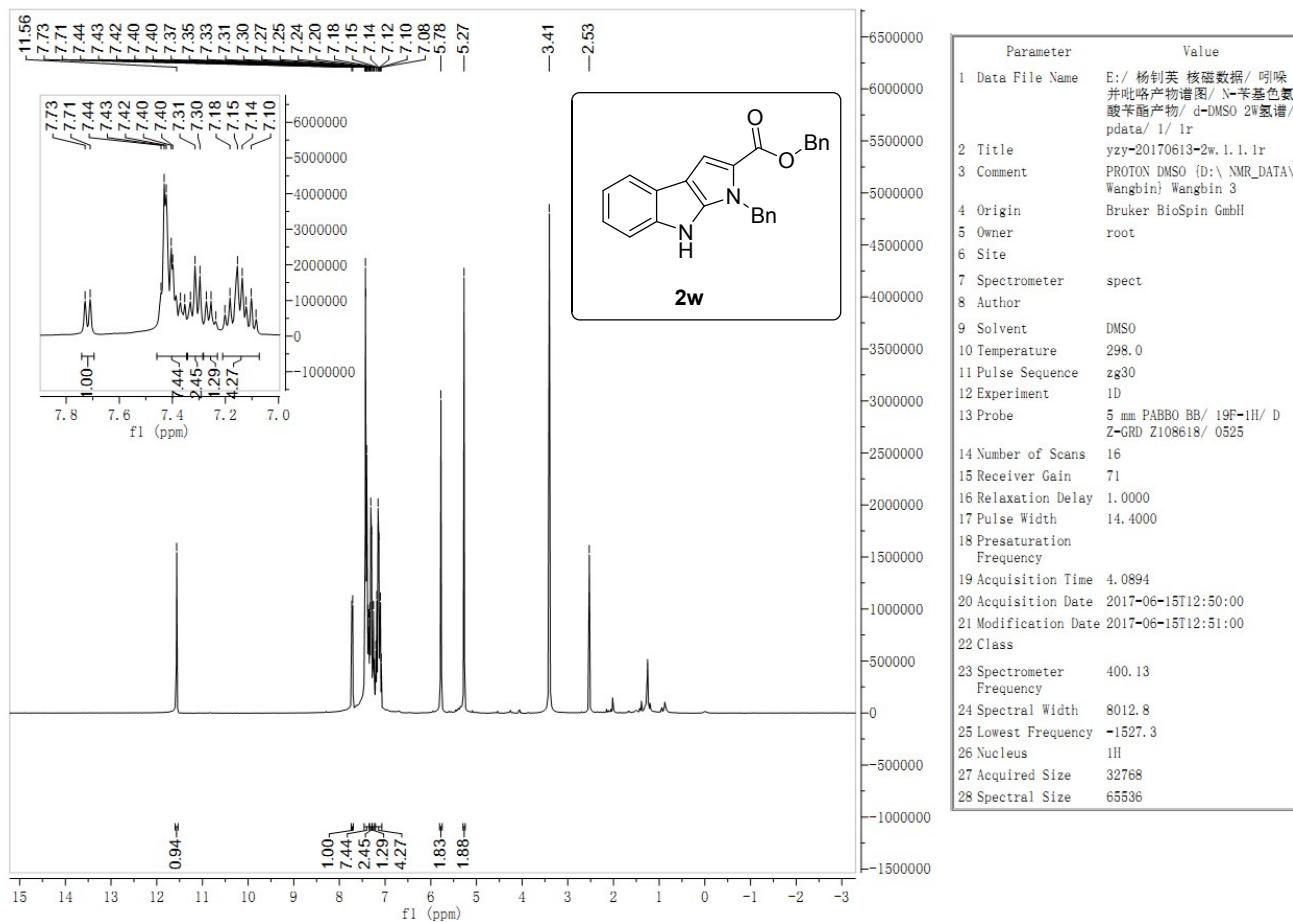


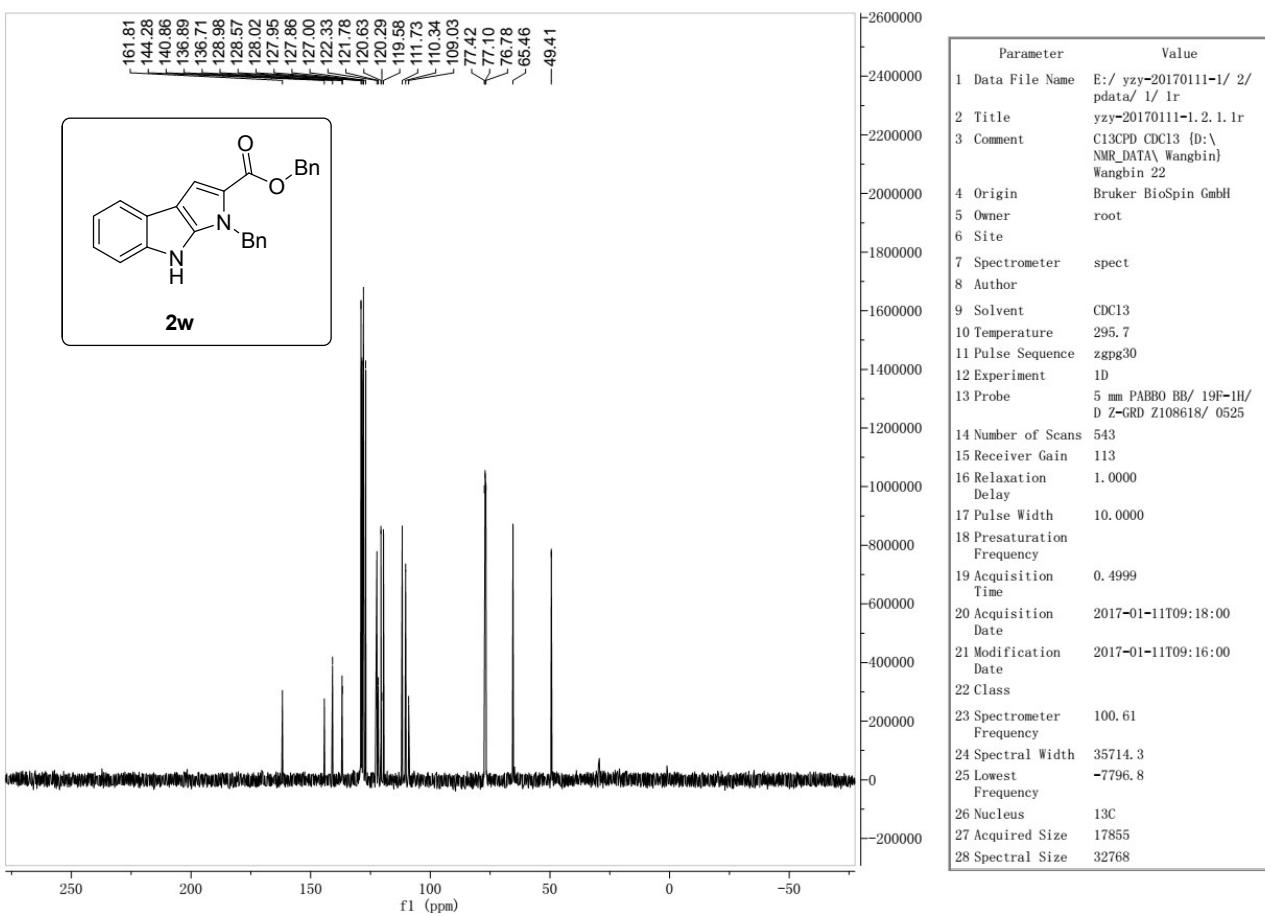


Sample Name	Sample44	Position	P1-E8	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-20170110-4.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment	Acquired Time	Some Ions Missed 2/21/2017 8:42:34 PM



### **benzyl 1-benzyl-1,8-dihydropyrrolo[2,3-b]indole-2-carboxylate (2w)**





Sample Name	Sample45	Position	P1-E9	Instrument Name	Instrument 1	User Name
Inj Vol	-1	InjPosition		SampleType	Sample	IRM Calibration Status
Data Filename	YZY-20170110-5.d	ACQ Method	chen-ms.m	Comment	Acquired Time	Some Ions Missed 2/21/2017 8:48:15 PM

