

## Evidence for Heterolytic Cleavage of a Cyclic Oxonium Ylide: Implications for the Mechanism of the Stevens [1,2]-Shift

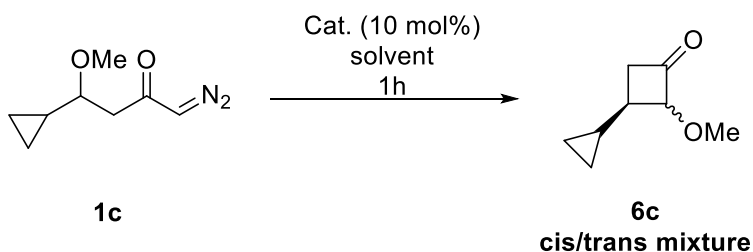
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### Supplementary Information

#### Contents

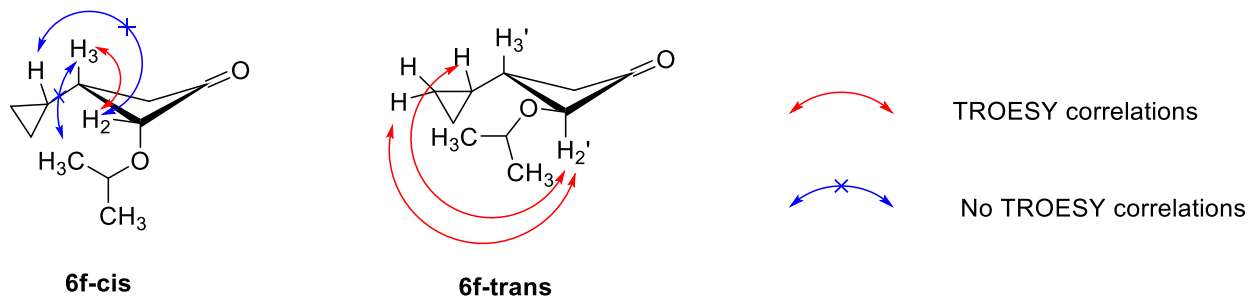
Table 1: Formation of the Cyclobutanone Derivatives via Endocyclic [1,2]-Stevens Rearrangement	S2
Scheme 1: TROESY Correlations of <b>6f</b>	S3
Scheme 2: HMBC Correlations of <b>15a</b> and <b>16a</b>	S4
Scheme 3: nOe Correlations of <b>15a</b> and <b>16a</b>	S4
1. Experimental Section	S3
1.1 Materials and Methods	S3
2. Procedures and Characterizations	S4
2.1 Preparation of Diazo Ketones <b>1a</b> and <b>1b</b>	S4
2.1.1 Preparation of alcohol <b>S-1b</b>	S5
2.1.2 General Procedure for Preparation of Esters <b>S-2</b>	S5
2.1.3 General Procedure for the Synthesis of Carboxylic Acids <b>S-3</b>	S6
2.1.4 Preparation of Diazo Ketone <b>1a</b>	S7
2.1.5 Preparation of Diazo Ketone <b>1b</b>	S8
2.2 General Procedure for the Reaction of Diazo Ketones <b>1a</b> and <b>1b</b> with Cu(hfacac) <sub>2</sub> :	S8
2.3 General Procedure for Construction of Diazo Ketones <b>1c-f</b>	S10
2.4 General procedure for Decomposition of Diazo Ketone <b>1c-f</b> with Cu(hfacac) <sub>2</sub> to Generate Cyclobutanones <b>6c-f</b>	S17
2.5 Procedure for the Formation of Esters <b>12a</b> and <b>12b</b>	S20
2.6 Procedure for the Treatment of Diazo Ketone <b>12a</b> with Cu(hfacac) <sub>2</sub> to Generate Compounds <b>15a</b> and <b>16a</b>	S25
3. References	S26
4. NMR Spectra	S27
5. X-Ray Structure of <b>S-5b</b>	S75

**Table 1:** Formation of the Cyclobutanone Derivatives via Endocyclic [1,2]-Stevens Rearrangement

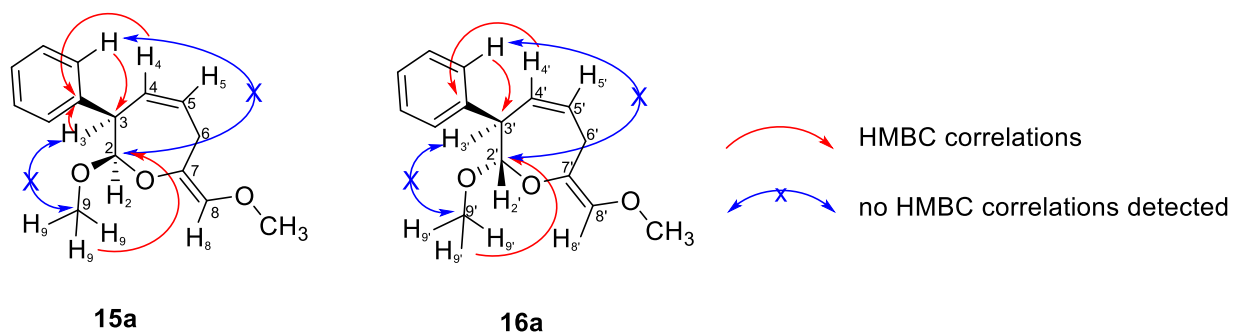
Entry	Catalyst	Solvent	Temp (°C)	Yield% 6 <sup>a</sup> , (cis:trans) <sup>b</sup>
1	Cu(hfacac) <sub>2</sub>	DCM	rt	60 (6:1)
2	Cu(hfacac) <sub>2</sub>	DCM	-10	50 <sup>c</sup> (6:1)
<b>3</b>	<b>Cu(hfacac)<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>DCM</b>	<b>reflux</b>	<b>80 (6:1)</b>
4	Cu(tfacac) <sub>2</sub>	DCM	reflux	72 (2:1)
5	Cu(acac) <sub>2</sub>	DCM	reflux	65 (1:1)
6	Cu powder	DCM	reflux	NR
7	Cu powder (1 eq)	DCM	reflux	ND <sup>d</sup> (1:1)
8	Rh <sub>2</sub> (OAc) <sub>4</sub>	DCM	reflux	73 (2.2:1)
9	Cu(hfacac) <sub>2</sub>	toluene	reflux	75 <sup>e</sup> (2.5:1)
10	Cu(hfacac) <sub>2</sub>	Benzene	reflux	80 (4:1)

<sup>a</sup>Combined yield of both diastereomers. <sup>b</sup>Ratios were determined <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis via integration of ether O–C–H resonances <sup>c</sup>45% starting diazocarbonyl was recovered. <sup>d</sup>Reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 16h and a very messy crude mixture was obtained and the presence of cyclobutanones and starting material was confirmed by crude <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum. <sup>e</sup>The cyclobutanones **6c** were not isolated as a pure mixture due to very complicated reaction mixture.

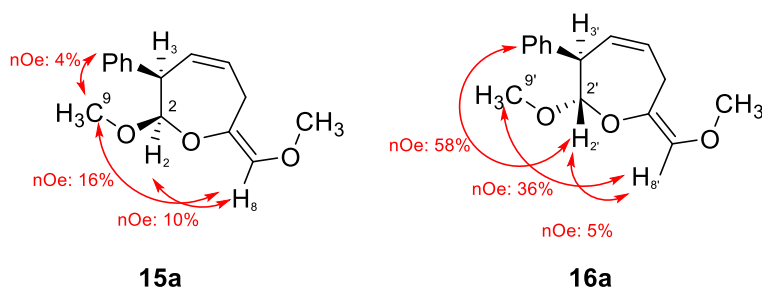
**Scheme 4: TROESY Correlations of 6f**



**Scheme 5: HMBC Correlations of 15a and 16a**



**Scheme 6: nOe Correlations of 15a and 16a**



## 1. Experimental Section

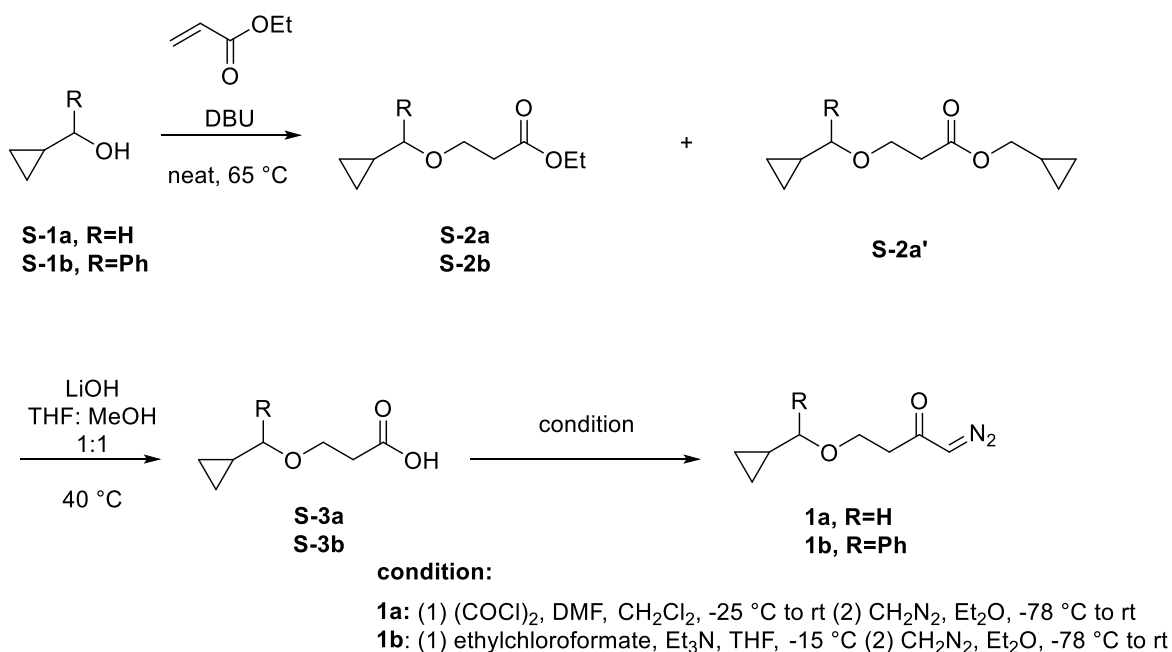
### 1.1 Materials and Methods

Reactions were carried out in flame or oven dried glassware under a positive argon atmosphere unless otherwise stated. Transfer of anhydrous solvents and reagents was accomplished with oven-dried syringes or cannulae. Solvents and some reagents were distilled before use: methylene chloride, 1,2-

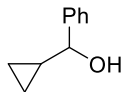
dichloroethane, diisopropylamine from calcium hydride, tetrahydrofuran and diethylether from sodium/benzophenone ketyl and benzene and toluene from sodium metal. Diazomethane was generated based on the Sigma-Aldrich protocol from Diazald®.<sup>1</sup> All other solvents and commercially available reagents were used without further purification. Thin layer chromatography was performed on glass plates precoated with 0.25 mm silica gel; the stains for TLC analysis were conducted with 2.5 % *p*-anisaldehyde in AcOH-H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>-EtOH (1:3:86) and further heating until development of color. Flash chromatography was performed on 230-400 mesh silica gel with the indicated eluents. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded in indicated deuterated solvents and are reported in ppm in the presence of TMS as internal standard and coupling constants (J) are reported in hertz (Hz). The spectra are referenced to residual solvent peaks: CDCl<sub>3</sub> (7.26 ppm, <sup>1</sup>H; 77.26 ppm, <sup>13</sup>C), CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5.32 ppm, <sup>1</sup>H, 54.00 ppm, <sup>13</sup>C) as internal standards. Proton nuclear magnetic spectra (<sup>1</sup>H NMR) and carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (<sup>13</sup>C NMR) were recorded at 500 and 125 MHz respectively Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded neat and reported in cm<sup>-1</sup>. Mass spectra were recorded by using electron impact ionization (EI) or electrospray ionization (ESI) as specified in each case.

## 2. Procedures and Characterizations

### 2.1 Preparation of Diazo Ketones 1a and 1b



### 2.1.1 Preparation of alcohol **S-1b**

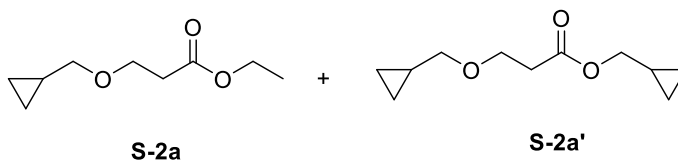


**S-1b**

Solid LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (0.31 g, 8.2 mmol) was added to dry THF (25 mL) and the suspension was cooled down to 0 °C. A solution of cyclopropyl phenyl ketone (0.95 mL, 6.8 mmol) in dry THF (5.0 mL) was added dropwise. The reaction was allowed to stir at 0 °C, with gradual warming to room temperature over 2h. The reaction mixture was cooled down again to 0 °C after completion and was quenched with a very slow addition of the saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl to avoid severe gas evolution. The reaction mixture was filtered over Celite to separate the insoluble white precipitate and the filtrate was retained. The aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 5.0 mL). The organic layers were combined and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. No further purification was required and alcohol **S-1b** was obtained as a pale yellow oil (1.0 g, 98%); R<sub>f</sub> 0.40 (30:70 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3366, 3082, 3005, 1493, 1452, 1025 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.44-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.29 (ddd, *J* = 6.5, 1.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.01 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.06 (br s, 1H), 1.22 (dddd, *J* = 8.2, 8.2, 8.2, 5.0, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 0.64 (dddd, *J* = 8.8, 8.0, 5.6, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 0.56 (dddd, *J* = 10.0, 8.3, 5.6, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 0.50-0.45 (m, 1H), 0.40-0.35 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.8, 128.3, 127.5, 126.0, 78.5, 19.2, 3.59, 2.83; HRMS (EI) calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O [M]<sup>+</sup> 148.0888; found 148.0884.

### 2.1.2 General Procedure for Preparation of Esters **S-2**

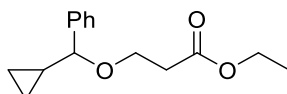
Ethyl acrylate (1.0 equiv.) was added to a flask containing corresponding alcohols **S-1** (3.5 equiv.) followed by the slow addition of DBU (1.0 equiv.) to the reaction mixture. The reaction was heated up to 65 °C overnight. The crude mixture was cooled to room temperature and was then directly loaded on a silica gel column and chromatographed eluting with mixture of EtOAc: hexane to isolate the desired product.



column chromatography (30:70 EtOAc: hexane) was used to isolate inseparable esters **S-2a** and **S-2a'** in a 1:7 ratio. Pale yellow (0.57 mg, 57%), R<sub>f</sub> 0.50 (30:70 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3083, 3006, 2869, 1737, 1384, 1187, 1109 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.86 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.22 (d,

$J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 2.54 (t,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 2H), 1.24-1.15 (m, 2H), 0.50-0.43 (m, 4H), 0.22-0.19 (m, 2H), 0.14-0.11 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  171.6, 75.6, 69.1, 65.8, 35.1, 10.4, 9.7, 3.1, 2.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  198.1256; found 198.1254.

**S-2a**: observed peaks:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.17 (q,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 3.73-3.70 (m, 2H), 3.22 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.61-2.58 (m, 2H), 1.29 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 1.08-0.94 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  171.5, 66.2, 65.7, 60.3, 15.0, 14.1.

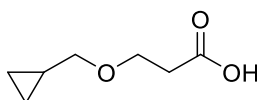


**S-2b**

**S-2b**: Following the general procedure employing alcohol **S-1b**, generated ester **S-2b** as the single isolated product. column chromatography (30:70 EtOAc: hexane) was used to isolate esters **S-2b** as a pale yellow oil (0.85 mg, 35%);  $R_f$  0.60 (30:70 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3083, 3004, 2981, 2906, 2873, 1736, 1603, 1492, 1453, 1372, 1346, 1262, 1185, 1137, 1095, 1068  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.38-7.30 (m, 5H), 4.18 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.73 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.66-3.62 (m, 2H), 2.63-2.59 (m, 2H), 1.29 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 1.24-1.15 (m, 1H), 0.68-0.54 (m, 1H), 0.53-0.42 (m, 2H), 0.33-0.26 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  171.6, 142.0, 128.3, 127.5, 126.6, 86.1, 64.2, 60.4, 35.4, 17.7, 14.2, 4.1, 2.1; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{20}\text{NaO}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  271.1305; found 271.1302.

### 2.1.3 General Procedure for the Synthesis of Carboxylic Acids S-3

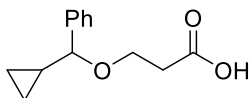
The corresponding ester **S-2** was dissolved in MeOH: THF (1:1, 0.25 M) and an aqueous solution of LiOH (2.0 M, 2.0 equiv.) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at 40 °C until the consumption of starting materials was confirmed by TLC. An equal volume of water was added to the reaction and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was acidified with 1.0 M HCl to pH = 1 followed by extraction with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (3 x 5.0 mL). Combined organic layers were dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Acids **S-3** were obtained pure and were used for the next step without further purification.



**S-3a**

**S-3a**: light yellow oil (95%); IR (cast film) 3082, 3006, 2873, 1712, 1399, 1239, 1189, 1098, 1069  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  9.20-8.40 (br s, 1H), 3.72 (t,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 2H), 3.30 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 2.64 (t,  $J = 6.2$

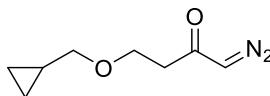
Hz, 2H), 1.11-1.02 (m, 1H), 0.55-0.47 (m, 2H), 0.23-0.17 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.1, 75.7, 65.3, 34.8, 10.3, 2.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_3$   $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$  143.0714; found 143.0713.



**S-3b**

**S-3b**: yellow oil (82%); IR (cast film) 3083, 3028, 3007, 2918, 2876, 1713, 1453, 1137  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.43-7.29 (m, 5H), 3.73 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.67 (dt,  $J_{\text{AB}} = 16.2$  Hz,  $J_{\text{AX}} = 6.5$  Hz, 1H), 3.65 (dt,  $J_{\text{AB}} = 16.2$  Hz,  $J_{\text{AX}} = 6.5$  Hz, 1H), 2.68 (dt,  $J_{\text{AB}} = 16.7$  Hz,  $J_{\text{AX}} = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.68 (dt,  $J_{\text{AB}} = 16.7$  Hz,  $J_{\text{AX}} = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.20 (dddd,  $J = 8.0, 8.0, 8.0, 5.2, 5.2$ , 1H), 0.69-0.63 (m, 1H), 0.53-0.46 (m, 2H), 0.34-0.29 (m, 1H), (the peak corresponding to the carboxylic acid proton did not observed);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  177.2, 141.6, 128.4, 127.7, 126.7, 86.5, 63.8, 35.0, 17.6, 4.2, 2.2; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_3$   $[\text{M}]^+$  220.1099; found 220.1097.

#### 2.1.4 Preparation of Diazo Ketone 1a

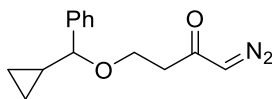


**1a**

Oxalyl chloride (0.16 mL, 1.9 mmol) and catalytic amount of DMF (2 drops) was added to a solution of carboxylic acid **S-3a** (0.25 g, 1.6 mmol) in dichloromethane (11 mL) at  $-25^\circ\text{C}$  and the reaction was stirred for 1h then warmed to room temperature and stirred overnight.  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was immediately dissolved in  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (10 mL). The acid chloride solution was added to a fresh solution of  $\text{CH}_2\text{N}_2$  (~5 equivalents, prepared from Diazald<sup>®</sup>) in  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  via cannulae at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ . The reaction was warmed gradually to room temperature overnight. Excess amount of diazomethane was quenched by dropwise addition of glacial acetic acid (1.0 mL) and the reaction mixture was washed with water. Combined organic layers were dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by flash chromatography, using a 50:50 mixture of hexane: EtOAc, afforded diazo ketone **1a** in 55 % yield as a yellow oil (0.15 mg, 55%);  $R_f$  0.40 (50:50 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3082, 3005, 2866, 2104, 1639, 1359, 1096  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.38 (br s, 1H), 3.71 (t,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 2H), 3.26 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.58 (br s, 2H), 1.03 (dddd,  $J = 6.8, 6.8, 6.8, 5.0, 5.0$ , 1H), 0.54-0.50 (m, 2H),

0.20-0.17 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  193.1, 75.9, 66.0, 55.0, 41.4, 10.5, 3.0; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  169.0972; found 169.0969.

### 2.1.5 Preparation of Diazo Ketone **1b**



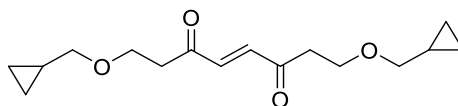
**1b**

To a solution of carboxylic acid **S-3b** (0.52 mg, 2.4 mmol) in dry THF (12 mL) was added  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (0.36 mL, 2.6 mmol) followed by the addition of ethylchloroformate solution (0.25 mL, 2.6 mmol) in THF (2 mL) at  $-15^\circ\text{C}$ . The reaction was stirred for 1 h at  $-15^\circ\text{C}$  and an additional 3h of stirring at  $-5^\circ\text{C}$ . After the formation of white solid the reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was immediately dissolved in  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  and transferred to an ethereal solution of  $\text{CH}_2\text{N}_2$  (~5 equivalents, prepared from Diazald®) at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ . The reaction mixture was stirred overnight with gradual warming to room temperature. The excess  $\text{CH}_2\text{N}_2$  was quenched with glacial acetic acid (2.0 mL) and the reaction mixture was washed with water. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous phase was washed with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (2x5.0 mL). The organic layers were combined and dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ . The crude mixture was obtained after filtration and solvent removal by reduced pressure and was purified by column chromatography (30:70  $\text{EtOAc}$ : hexane) to isolate diazo ketone **1b** as a yellow solid (0.31 mg, 53%); mp  $38-40^\circ\text{C}$   $R_f$  0.20 (30:70  $\text{EtOAc}$ : hexane); IR (cast film) 3085, 3005, 2869, 2103, 1639, 1453, 1360,  $1088\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.40-7.30 (m, 5H), 5.39 (br s, 1H), 3.72 (d,  $J = 7.7\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 3.68-3.60 (m, 2H), 2.59 (br s, 2H), 1.18 (dddd,  $J = 8.0, 8.0, 8.0, 5.2, 5.2$ , 1H), 0.68-0.63 (m, 1H), 0.52-0.45 (m, 2H), 0.33-0.28 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  193.1, 141.8, 128.4, 127.6, 126.7, 68.4, 64.5, 54.9, 41.6, 17.6, 4.2, 2.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  267.1104; found 267.1096.

### 2.2 General Procedure for the Reaction of Diazo Ketones **1a** and **1b** with $\text{Cu}(\text{hfacac})_2$ :

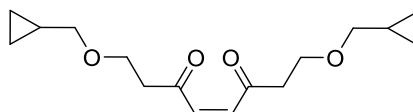
To a refluxing solution of  $\text{Cu}(\text{hfacac})_2$  (10 mol%) in dichloroethane (0.010 M) was added a solution of diazo ketone **1a/1b** (1.0 equiv.) in the same solvent (0.10 M) via syringe pump over 4h. Consumption of diazo ketone **1a/1b** was monitored by TLC and the reaction mixture was quenched by 10% aqueous solution of  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ . The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was washed with DCM (3x). The combined organic layers were dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure and the products were purified by flash chromatography.





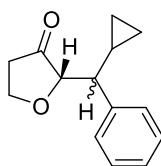
**8a-isomer E**

**8a-isomer E:** column chromatography (30:70 EtOAc: hexane) was used to isolate alkene **8a-isomer E** as a white solid (33 mg, 40%); mp 50-52 °C;  $R_f$  0.37 (30:70 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3081, 3004, 2899, 2820, 1675, 1407, 1388, 1351, 1110, 1059  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.94 (s, 2H), 3.79 (t,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz, 4H), 3.30 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 4H), 2.95 (t,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz, 4H), 1.07-1.02 (m, 2H), 0.56-0.52 (m, 4H), 0.22-0.19 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  198.8, 136.7, 75.9, 65.1, 41.8, 10.5, 3.0; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{NaO}_4$   $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  303.1567; found 303.1561.



**8a-isomer Z**

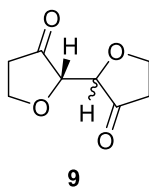
**8a-isomer Z:** column chromatography (30:70 EtOAc: hexane) was used to isolate alkene **8a-isomer Z** as a colorless oil (11 mg, 13%);  $R_f$  0.26 (40:60 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3005, 2867, 1696, 1608, 1393, 1255, 1143, 1097  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  6.38 (s, 2H), 3.76 (t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 4H), 3.28 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 4H), 2.85 (t,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz, 4H), 1.06-1.03 (m, 2H), 0.56-0.52 (m, 4H), 0.22-0.19 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  201.5, 135.7, 76.8, 65.3, 42.8, 10.5, 3.0; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{NaO}_4$   $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  303.1567; found 303.1566.



**6b**

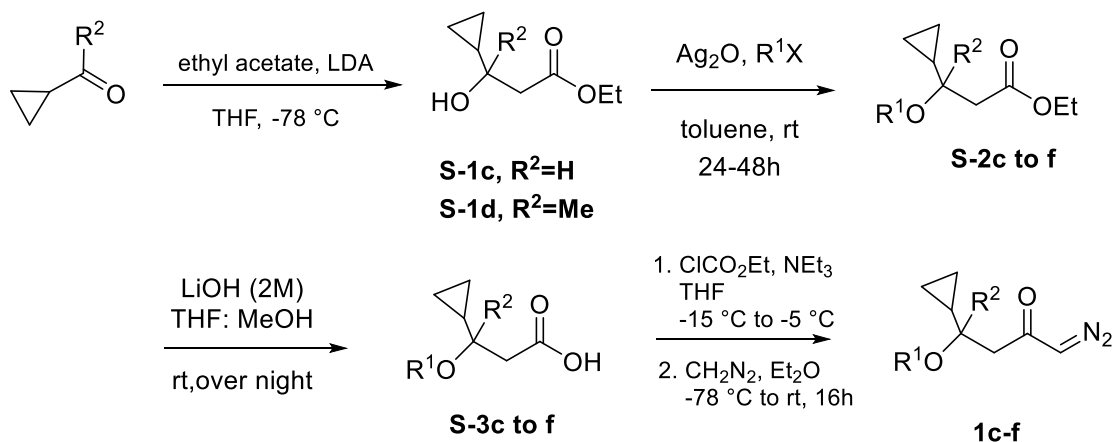
**6b:** column chromatography (30:70 EtOAc: hexane) was used to isolate an inseparable mixture of diastereomers as a colorless oil (54 mg, 60%);  $R_f$  0.51 (30:70 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3079, 3063, 3028, 3001, 2925, 2888, 1755, 1602, 1495, 1453, 1430, 1402, 1360, 1155, 1142, 1093, 1042, 1019  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.35 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.18 (m, 6H), 4.37-4.31 (m, 1H), 4.13 (d,  $J$  = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (dd,  $J$  = 9.2, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.01-3.98 (m, 3H), 2.52-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.32 (dd,  $J$  = 10.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.26 (dddd,  $J$  = 18.0, 6.1, 6.1, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (dd,  $J$  = 10.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 1.82 (dddd,  $J$  = 18.0, 9.3, 9.3, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 1.53-1.40 (m, 2H), 0.66 (dddd,  $J$  = 9.1, 8.0, 5.7, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 0.59-0.45 (m, 3H), 0.33 (dddd,

$J = 9.4, 5.6, 4.6, 4.6$  Hz, 1H), 0.28-0.24 (m, 1H), 0.15-0.08 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  216.2, 215.9, 142.6, 140.0, 129.3, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 126.8, 126.6, 83.7, 83.2, 65.1, 64.9, 52.8, 52.4, 37.7, 37.1, 14.2, 11.4, 6.1, 5.4, 5.2, 4.2; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}]^+$  216.1150; found 216.1149.

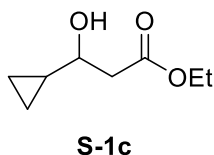


**9:** was isolated as two inseparable diastereomers; colorless oil (1.5 mg, 4.3%);  $R_f$  0.20 (30:70 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3200, 2967, 2918, 1743, 1402, 1365, 1178, 1070, 1026  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 4.39-4.32 (m, 4H), 4.20-4.12 (m, 8H), 2.62-2.54 (m, 8H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  213.2, 212.5, 80.3, 79.3, 66.0, 65.7, 37.0, 36.8; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_4$   $[\text{M}]^+$  170.0579; found 170.0580.

### 2.3 General Procedure for Construction of Diazo Ketones **1c-f**



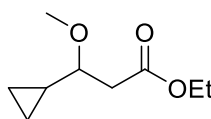
#### 2.3.1 Preparation of alcohol **1c**



A flame dried round bottom flask was charged with diisopropylamine (3.3 mL, 24 mmol) in THF (80 mL) and was cooled to  $-78$  °C. A solution of *n*-BuLi in hexane (2.5 M, 9.4 mL, 24 mmol) was added dropwise and the reaction was stirred for 15 min at  $-78$  °C. Ethyl acetate (1.9 mL, 21 mmol) was added dropwise with an additional 45 min stirring at  $-78$  °C. Then a solution of cyclopropanecarboxaldehyde (1.6 mL, 21

mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added to the reaction mixture. The reaction temperature was maintained at -78 °C over 2 h and the reaction completion was monitored with TLC. Then the reaction was warmed to room temperature followed by the addition of saturated ammonium chloride and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3×10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (30:70 EtOAc: hexane) after concentration under reduced pressure and alcohol **S-1c** was isolated as a yellow oil.

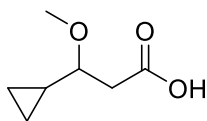
**S-1c**: (3.3 g, 97%); *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.27 (30:70 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3447, 3003, 2983, 1735, 1412, 1372, 1343, 1280, 1249, 1186, 1139, 1025 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 4.16 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.32 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 8.4, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.94 (dddd, *J* = 8.1, 8.1, 8.1, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 0.57-0.47 (m, 2H), 0.40 (dddd, *J* = 4.5, 4.5, 4.5, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 0.22 (dddd, *J* = 4.5, 4.5, 4.5, 4.5 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.7, 72.7, 60.7, 41.4, 16.8, 14.2, 3.2, 2.2; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+ Na]<sup>+</sup> 181.0835; found 181.0836.



**S-2c**

To a stirred solution of alcohol **1-1c** (1.5 g, 9.5 mmol) in dry toluene (20 mL) was added anhydrous CaSO<sub>4</sub> (2.6 g, 19 mmol) and freshly prepared Ag<sub>2</sub>O<sup>2</sup> (4.4 g, 19 mmol). The reaction mixture was cooled down to 0 °C and iodomethane (1.2 mL, 19 mmol) was added dropwise. The ice bath was removed and the flask was covered in aluminum foil. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. An additional aliquots of Ag<sub>2</sub>O, CaSO<sub>4</sub> and MeI (the same amount as before) were added and the reaction progress was monitored by TLC. (Addition of excess Ag<sub>2</sub>O, CaSO<sub>4</sub> and MeI may be required if the starting alcohol has not been consumed completely.) The reaction mixture was stirred overnight and was filtered through a Celite plug. The Celite was washed with ethyl acetate and the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was used in the next step without further purifications.

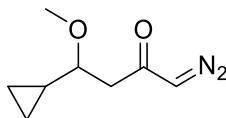
**S-2c**: yellow oil (1.7 g, quant.); *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.29 (20:80 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3082, 2982, 2937, 2824, 1738, 1394, 1279, 1250, 1138, 1111, 1027 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 4.18-4.08 (m, 2H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 2.98 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 8.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (dd, *J* = 14.9, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (dd, *J* = 14.9, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.88-0.81 (m, 1H), 0.66-0.59 (m, 1H), 0.47-0.40 (m, 2H), 0.12-0.06 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.5, 81.9, 60.3, 57.0, 40.9, 14.4, 14.2, 4.7, 0.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+ H]<sup>+</sup> 173.1172; found 173.1173.



**S-3c**

Ester **S-2c** (1.6 g, 9.5 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH:THF (1:1, 72 mL) and the aqueous solution of LiOH (2.0 M, 9.5 mL, 19 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature until complete consumption of starting materials. An equal volume of water was added to the reaction and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was acidified with 1.0 M HCl to pH = 1 followed by extraction with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3×10 mL). Combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Acid **S-3c** was obtained as a pure mixture and was used for the next step without further purification.

**S-3c**: yellow oil (1.36 g, quant.); IR (cast film) 3083, 3006, 2983, 2828, 1711, 1408, 1286, 1218, 1190, 1107, 1069 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.48 (s, 3H), 3.00 (ddd, *J* = 8.8, 7.9, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (dd, *J* = 15.2, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.66 (dd, *J* = 15.2, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 0.93-0.87 (m, 1H), 0.74-0.69 (m, 1H), 0.55-0.47 (m, 2H), 0.17-0.14 (m, 1H), (the peak corresponding to the carboxylic acid proton was not observed); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.5, 81.8, 57.0, 40.5, 14.2, 5.2, 0.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M-H]<sup>-</sup> 143.0714; found 143.0714.

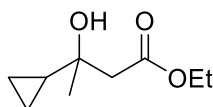


**1c**

To a solution of carboxylic acid **S-3c** (0.70 g, 4.9 mmol) in dry THF (25 mL) was added Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.74 mL, 5.3 mmol) followed by the addition of a solution of ethylchloroformate (0.51 mL, 5.3 mmol) in THF (4.0 mL) at -15 °C. The reaction was stirred for 1 h at -15 °C and an additional 3h at -5 °C. After the formation of the white salt the reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was immediately dissolved in Et<sub>2</sub>O and transferred to an ethereal solution of CH<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (~5 equivalents, prepared from Diazald®) at -78 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight by gradual warming to the room temperature. The excess CH<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub> was quenched with glacial acetic acid (1 mL) and the reaction mixture was washed with water. The organic layer was separated, combined and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> followed by filtration. The crude mixture was obtained after solvent removal and was purified by column chromatography (40:60 EtOAc: hexane) to isolate diazo ketone **1c**.

**1c**: yellow oil (0.53 g, 65%);  $R_f$  0.27 (50:50 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3082, 3004, 2981, 2932, 2824, 2104, 1637, 1367, 1105, 1023  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.35 (br s, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 2.99 (ddd,  $J$  = 8.5, 8.5, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (m, 2H), 0.89 (dddd,  $J$  = 13.5, 10.0, 7.9, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 0.70-0.64 (m, 1H), 0.49-0.43 (m, 2H), 0.14-0.10 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  193.1, 82.2, 57.1, 55.4, 47.0, 14.6, 5.2, 0.6; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_9\text{ON}_2$   $[\text{M}-\text{OCH}_3]^+$  137.0714; found 137.0715.

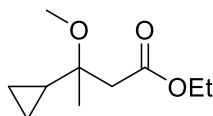
### 2.3.2 Preparation of Diazo Ketone 1d



**S-1d**

Alcohol **S-1d** was synthesized according to the procedure provided for **S-1c** using cyclopropylmethylketone as the starting material.

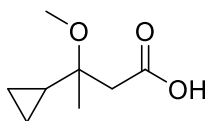
**S-1d**: yellow oil, (1.1 g, 68%);  $R_f$  0.35 (20:80 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3512, 3087, 3004, 2980, 2935, 2907, 1713, 1464, 1395, 1372, 1330, 1218, 1200, 1140, 1096  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.21 (q,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (q,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (br s, 1H), 2.59 (d,  $J$  = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 2.53 (d,  $J$  = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 1.31 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.21 (s, 3H), 0.94-0.88 (m, 1H), 0.47-0.35 (m, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  173.0, 69.1, 60.6, 46.1, 27.0, 20.8, 14.2, 0.7, 0.0; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{16}\text{NaO}_3$   $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  195.0992; found 195.0990.



**S-2d**

Compound **S-2d** was synthesized according to the procedure provided for **S-2c**.

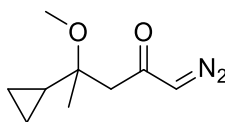
**S-2d**: Yellow oil (0.14g, 30%);  $R_f$  0.50 (20:80 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3086, 2981, 2942, 2829, 1735, 1465, 1368, 1313, 1238, 1199, 1144, 1096  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.13 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 2.55 (d,  $J$  = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (d,  $J$  = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 1.26 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H), 1.07-1.03 (m, 1H), 0.48-0.39 (m, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  170.9, 75.2, 60.2, 46.7, 44.4, 16.5, 18.5, 14.2, 1.3, 1.2; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{18}\text{NaO}_3$   $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  208.1148; found 209.1147.



**S-3d**

Carboxylic acid **S-3d** was prepared according to the procedure provided for **S-3c**.

**S-3d**: Colorless oil (62 mg, 52%); IR (cast film) 3086, 3010, 2984, 2944, 2831, 1732, 1709, 1465, 1436, 1409, 1386, 1314, 1239, 1201, 1150, 1095  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  3.41 (s, 3H), 2.61 (d,  $J = 15.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.52 (d,  $J = 15.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.04 (s, 3H), 1.02-0.97 (m, 1H), 0.65-0.47 (m, 3H), 0.20-0.13 (m, 1H), (the peak corresponding to the carboxylic acid proton was not observed);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.5, 76.7, 50.0, 45.5, 17.7, 17.4, 2.4, 0.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_3$   $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$  157.0943; found 157.0870.

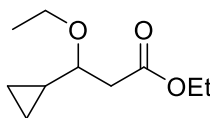


**1d**

Diazo ketone **1d** was prepared according to the procedure provided for **1c**.

**1d**: yellow oil, (21 mg, 34%);  $R_f$  0.49 (30:70 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3271, 3086, 2979, 2944, 2829, 2102, 1634, 1465, 1429, 1356, 1163, 1093  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.49 (br s, 1H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 2.55-2.44 (br m, 2H), 1.03 (s, 3H), 1.00-0.95 (m, 1H), 0.55-0.42 (m, 3H), 0.22-0.14 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  193.2, 76.0, 55.9, 51.4, 49.7, 18.5, 18.4, 2.0, 0.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  183.1128; found 183.1130.

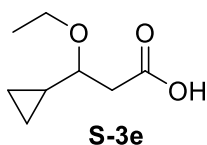
### 2.3.3 Preparation of Diazo Ketone **1e**



**S-2e**

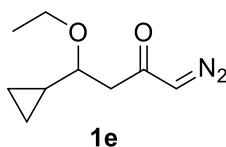
Compound **S-2e** was synthesized according to the procedure provided for compound **S-2c** using iodoethane as an alkyl halide. The reaction was stirred for 40 h and 60% of the starting alcohol was recovered.

**S-2e**: yellow oil (230 mg, 39%);  $R_f$  0.47 (20:80 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3082, 2978, 2932, 2873, 1738, 1463, 1445, 1430, 1390, 1372, 1317, 1279, 1189, 1139, 1096, 1028  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.18 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 3.75 (dq,  $J = 9.2, 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.50 (dq,  $J = 9.2, 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.12 (ddd,  $J = 8.2, 8.2, 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.66 (dd,  $J = 14.7, 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 2.57 (dd,  $J = 14.7, 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 1.29 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H), 1.19 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H), 0.95-0.88 (m, 1H), 0.66-0.61 (m, 1H), 0.51-0.43 (m, 2H), 0.18-0.14 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  171.7, 80.3, 64.7, 60.3, 41.3, 15.5, 15.1, 14.2, 4.5, 1.0; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_3$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  187.1329; found 187.1328.



Compound **S-3e** was prepared according to the procedure provided for compound **S-3c**.

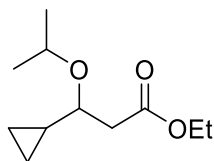
**S-3e**: yellow oil (180 mg, 92%); IR (cast film) 3082, 3006, 2977, 2931, 2897, 1712, 1429, 1406, 1293, 1206, 1140, 1122, 1096  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  3.85 (dq,  $J = 9.2, 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.54 (dq,  $J = 9.2, 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.10 (ddd,  $J = 8.4, 8.4, 4.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.71 (dd,  $J = 15.4, 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.67 (dd,  $J = 15.2, 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.24 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H), 0.92 (dddd,  $J = 8.4, 8.4, 8.4, 5.2, 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 0.70 (dddd,  $J = 8.9, 7.9, 5.7, 4.5$ , 1H), 0.56-0.51 (m, 1H), 0.50-0.45 (m, 1H), 0.17 (dddd,  $J = 9.5, 5.9, 4.8, 4.8$ , 1H), (the peak corresponding to the carboxylic acid proton was not observed);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  175.8, 80.1, 64.8, 40.7, 15.4, 14.7, 5.0, 0.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_3$   $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$  157.0870; found 157.0871.



Compound **1e** was prepared according to the procedure provided for compound **1c**.

**1e**: yellow oil (99 mg, 47%);  $R_f$  0.42 (40:60 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3081, 3005, 2975, 2929, 2894, 2871, 2103, 1638, 1361, 1092, 1053  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.40 (br s, 1H), 3.77 (dq,  $J = 6.9, 9.1$  Hz, 1H), 3.45 (dq,  $J = 6.9, 9.1$  Hz, 1H), 3.12 (ddd,  $J = 8.5, 8.5, 4.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.69-2.55 (br s, 2H), 1.21 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H), 0.87 (dddd,  $J = 8.2, 8.2, 8.2, 5.0, 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 0.67-0.62 (m, 1H), 0.52-0.43 (m, 2H), 0.18-0.14 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  193.4, 80.5, 64.8, 55.3, 47.4, 15.6, 15.4, 4.9, 1.0; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  183.1128; found 183.1129.

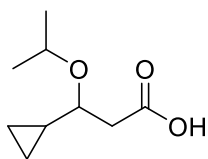
### 2.3.4 Preparation of Diazo Ketone 1f



**S-2f**

Ester **S-2f** was synthesized according to the procedure provided for compound **S-2c** using isopropyl bromide as an alkyl halide.

**S-2f**: yellow oil (1.9 g, 75%);  $R_f$  0.63 (30:70 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 2974, 2934, 2902, 1738, 1466, 1369, 1340, 1311, 1278, 1188, 1140, 1063  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.16 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 3.79 (sep,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.79 (ddd,  $J = 5.3, 7.9, 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.61 (dd,  $J = 14.5, 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.54 (dd,  $J = 14.5, 5.5$  Hz, 1H), 1.28 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H), 1.17 (d,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 3H), 1.11 (d,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 3H), 0.94-0.81 (m, 1H), 0.63-0.57 (m, 1H), 0.51-0.45 (m, 1H), 0.43-0.38 (m, 1H), 0.20-0.16 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  171.7, 77.8, 69.7, 60.3, 41.7, 23.1, 22.3, 15.8, 14.2, 4.3, 1.5; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{20}\text{NaO}_3$   $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  223.1305; found 223.1304.

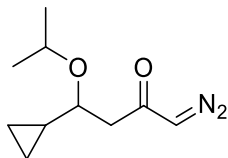


**S-3f**

Compound **S-3f** was prepared according to the procedure provided for compound **S-3c**.

**S-3f**: light yellow oil (1.6 g, 98%); IR (cast film) 3083, 3006, 2974, 2934, 1711, 1466, 1408, 1311, 1208, 1122, 1061, 1048  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  3.89 (sep,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 1H), 3.21 (ddd,  $J = 7.1, 7.1, 5.5$  Hz, 1H), 2.67 (dd,  $J = 15.1, 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.64 (dd,  $J = 15.1, 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.21 (d,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 3H), 1.15 (d,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 3H), 0.94 (dddd,  $J = 4.9, 4.9, 8.2, 8.2, 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 0.65 (dddd,  $J = 9.0, 8.9, 5.8, 4.5$  Hz, 1H), 0.52 (dddd,  $J = 8.6, 8.6, 5.7, 4.6$  Hz, 1H), 0.44 (ddd,  $J = 9.6, 9.6, 5.1$  Hz, 1H), 0.19 (dddd,  $J = 9.7, 4.9, 4.9, 4.9$  Hz, 1H), (the peak corresponding to the carboxylic acid proton was not observed);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  176.6, 77.5, 69.9, 41.2, 23.2, 22.0, 15.5, 4.6, 1.4; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_3$   $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$  171.1027; found 171.1029.





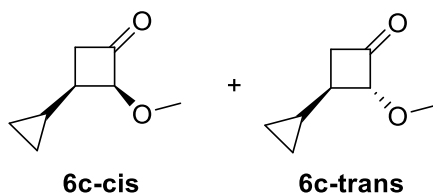
**1f**

Compound **1f** was prepared according to the procedure provided for compound **1c**.

**1f**: yellow oil (0.22 mg, 32%);  $R_f$  0.24 (30:70 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3081, 3005, 2972, 2913, 2102, 1637, 1366, 1328, 1170, 1122, 1065  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.39 (br s, 1H), 3.80 (sep,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 1H), 3.24 (ddd,  $J = 8.1, 8.1, 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.67-2.52 (m, 2H), 1.17 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 3H), 1.11 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 3H), 0.88 (d,  $J = 5.1, 5.1, 8.2, 8.2, 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 0.61 (d,  $J = 9.0, 8.1, 5.6, 4.4$  Hz, 1H), 0.48 (d,  $J = 8.6, 8.6, 5.5, 4.6$  Hz, 1H), 0.41 (ddd,  $J = 9.5, 9.5, 5.1$  Hz, 1H), 0.19 (d,  $J = 9.7, 5.0, 5.0, 5.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  193.5, 77.9, 69.8, 55.4, 47.8, 23.2, 22.2, 16.0, 4.5, 1.5; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_2$   $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$  219.1104; found 219.1098.

#### 2.4 General procedure for Decomposition of Diazo Ketone **1c-f** with $\text{Cu}(\text{hfacac})_2$ to Generate Cyclobutanones **6c-f**

To a refluxing solution of Cu catalyst (10 mol%) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.01M) was added the solution of diazo ketone **1c-f** (1 equiv.) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.1M) via syringe pump over 1 h. Consumption of starting diazo ketone was monitored by TLC and the reaction mixture was quenched by 10% solution of  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ . The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was washed with DCM (3 $\times$ ). The combined organic layers were dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by flash chromatography.

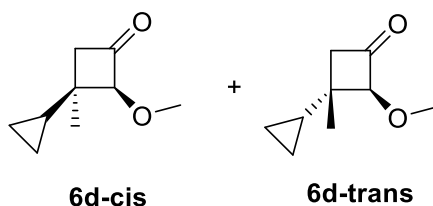


**6c-cis** and **6c-trans** were isolated by flash chromatography (40:60 EtOAc: hexane) in 6:1 ratio (20 mg, 80%).

**6c-cis**: yellow oil;  $R_f$  0.60 (40:60 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3081, 3003, 2952, 2834, 1787, 1436, 1268, 1214, 1344, 1214, 1165, 1145, 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.46 (ddd,  $J = 8.8, 2.9, 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 2.82 (ddd,  $J = 17.0, 2.9, 9.5$  Hz, 1H), 2.31 (ddd,  $J = 17.0, 3.5, 2.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.01 (d,  $J = 9.5, 9.5, 3.5$  Hz, 1H), 0.73 (d,  $J = 8.3, 8.3, 8.3, 5.0, 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 0.58-0.53 (m, 1H), 0.42-0.36 (m, 1H), 0.13

(ddd,  $J = 9.5, 5.0, 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 0.08 (ddd,  $J = 9.5, 5.0, 5.0$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  206.0, 89.6, 58.8, 44.6, 35.2, 9.7, 4.8, 2.1; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}]^+$  140.0837; found 140.0835.

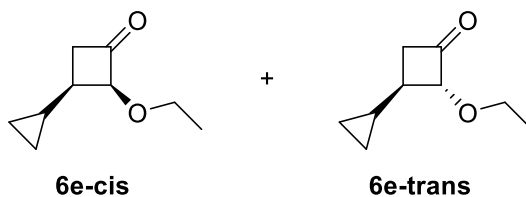
**6c-trans**: yellow oil;  $R_f$  0.65 (40:60 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3082, 3004, 2953, 1786, 1437, 1267, 1267, 1192, 1166, 1087  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.23 (ddd,  $J = 7.5, 2.6, 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.46 (s, 3H), 2.69 (ddd,  $J = 16.8, 9.5, 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.42 (ddd,  $J = 16.8, 9.5, 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.01 (dddd,  $J = 9.5, 9.5, 7.5, 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 1.03 (dddd,  $J = 7.8, 7.8, 7.8, 5.0, 5.0, 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 0.60-0.54 (m, 2H), 0.28-0.21 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  204.9, 92.8, 58.0, 42.9, 36.6, 14.1, 3.6, 3.2; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}]^+$  140.0837; found 140.0835.



Cyclobutanones **6d-cis** and **6d-trans** were isolated by flash chromatography (20:80 EtOAc: hexane) in 1.4:1 ratio (8.0 mg, 50%).

**6d-cis**: colorless oil;  $R_f$  0.47 (20:80 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3083, 3002, 2931, 1788, 1461, 1412, 1347, 1194, 1144, 1112, 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.22 (dd,  $J = 2.6, 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 2.45 (dd,  $J = 16.8, 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.31 (dd,  $J = 16.8, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.43 (s, 3H), 0.97 (dddd,  $J = 8.4, 8.4, 5.5, 5.5$  Hz, 1H), 0.50-0.43 (m, 1H), 0.49-0.43 (m, 1H), 0.29-0.21 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  204.9, 95.0, 59.2, 48.1, 35.9, 26.0, 13.6, 0.7, 0.6; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^+$  14.0915; found 151.0916.

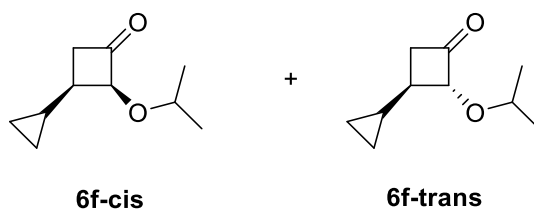
**6d-trans**: colorless oil;  $R_f$  0.33 (20:80 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3088, 3006, 2952, 2849, 1788, 1463, 1434, 1293, 1196  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.12 (dd,  $J = 2.6, 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 2.42 (dd,  $J = 16.3, 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.14 (dd,  $J = 16.3, 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 1.20 (dddd,  $J = 8.4, 8.4, 5.4, 5.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 0.59-0.55 (m, 2H), 0.38-0.33 (m, 1H), 0.25-0.21 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  205.0, 92.9, 59.0, 48.2, 36.1, 16.5, 19.0, 2.3, 1.7; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^+$  14.0915; found 151.0916.



**6e-cis** and **6e-trans** were isolated by flash chromatography (20:80 EtOAc: hexane) in 6:1 ratio (56 mg, 70%).

**6e-cis**: yellow oil;  $R_f$  0.41 (20:80 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3080, 3001, 2979, 2933, 2875, 1788, 1431, 1337, 1182, 1064  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.64 (ddd,  $J = 8.8, 2.7, 2.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.69 (q,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.68 (q,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.90 (ddd,  $J = 17.1, 2.8, 9.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.42 (ddd,  $J = 17.1, 3.1, 3.1$ , 1H), 2.10 (dddd,  $J = 9.2, 9.2, 9.2, 3.6$  Hz, 1H), 1.26 (t,  $J = 7.1$ , 3H), 0.86 (dddd,  $J = 8.2, 8.2, 8.2, 5.2, 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 0.69-0.54 (m, 1H), 0.53-0.47 (m, 1H), 0.25-0.16 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  206.3, 88.3, 66.8, 44.5, 35.5, 15.1, 10.0, 4.9, 2.2; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}]^+$  154.0994; found 154.0989.

**6e-trans**: yellow oil;  $R_f$  0.50 (20:80 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3080, 2979, 2929, 2874, 1786, 1444, 1398, 1334, 1212, 1177, 1122, 1052, 1019  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.33 (ddd,  $J = 7.7, 2.9, 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.77 (dq,  $J = 9.3, 7.1$  Hz, 1H), 3.69 (dq,  $J = 9.3, 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.73 (ddd,  $J = 17.0, 9.6, 2.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.42 (ddd,  $J = 17.0, 9.5, 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.08 (dddd,  $J = 9.7, 9.7, 7.2, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.27 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H), 1.10 (dddd,  $J = 8.2, 8.2, 7.3, 5.0, 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 0.63-0.58 (m, 2H), 0.34-0.27 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  205.4, 91.7, 66.2, 42.7, 36.9, 15.3, 14.1, 3.6, 3.1; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}]^+$  154.0994; found 154.1002.

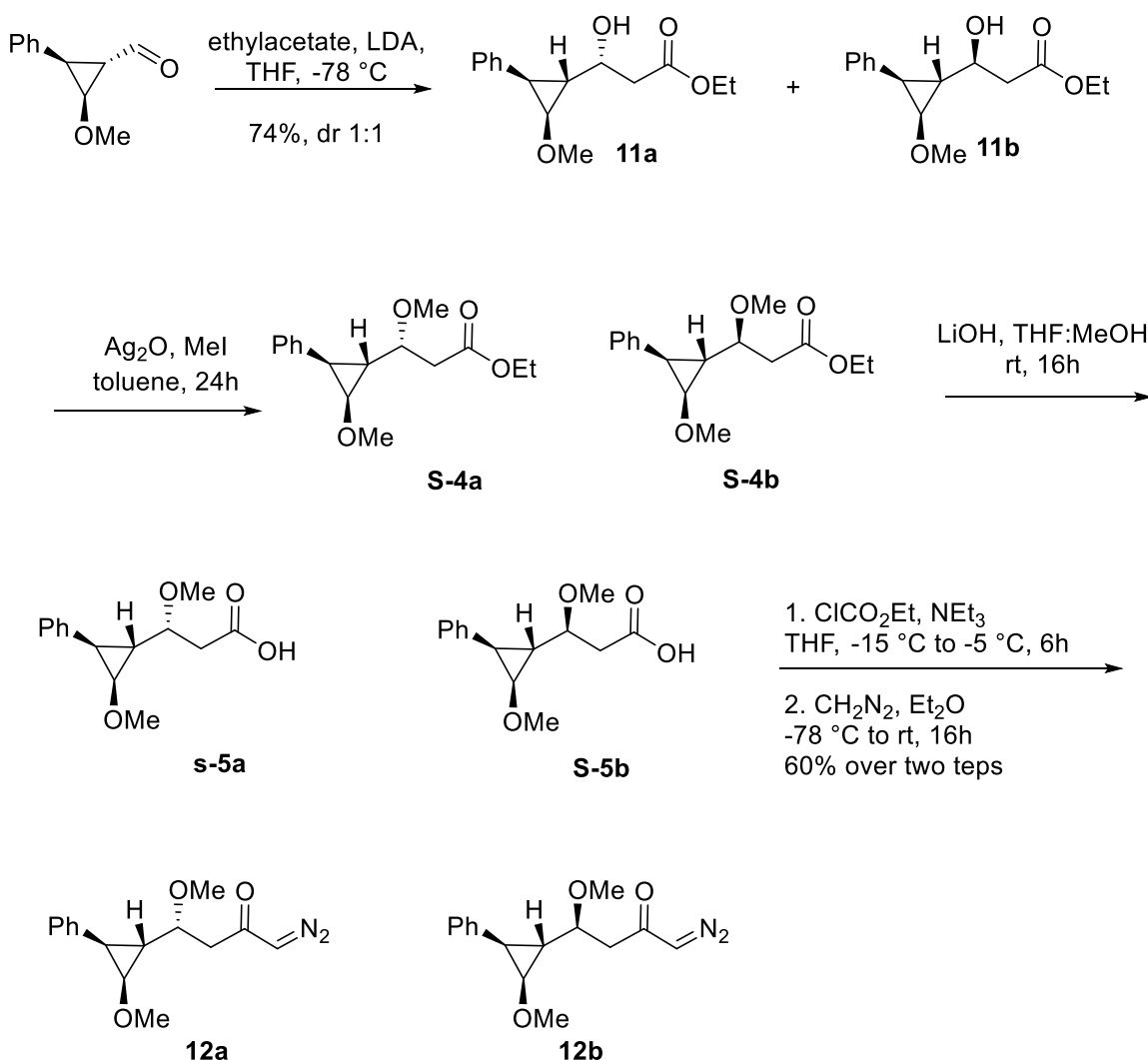


**6f-cis** and **6f-trans** were isolated by flash chromatography (20:80 EtOAc: hexane) in 4.8:1 ration (0.12 g, 78%)

**6f-cis**: colorless oil;  $R_f$  0.42 (20:80  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ : Pentane); IR (cast film) 3080, 2974, 2933, 2875, 1788, 1731, 1382, 1182, 1139, 1119  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  4.71 (ddd,  $J = 8.9, 2.7, 2.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.77 (sep,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.90 (ddd,  $J = 17.1, 9.7, 2.9$  Hz, 1H), 2.41 (ddd,  $J = 17.1, 3.5, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.10 (dddd,  $J = 8.9, 8.9, 8.9, 3.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.26 (d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 6H), 0.92-0.84 (m, 1H), 0.70-0.65 (m, 1H), 0.52-0.48 (m, 1H), 0.26-0.18 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  206.9, 86.6, 72.6, 44.2, 35.8, 22.6, 21.8, 10.2, 5.0, 2.2; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{16}\text{NaO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  191.1043; found 191.1038.

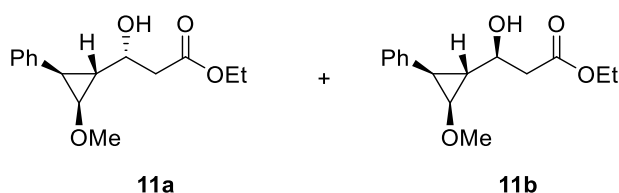
**6f-trans:** colorless oil;  $R_f$  0.31 (20:80  $E_2O$ : Pentane); IR (cast film) 3347, 3080, 2973, 2926, 2850, 1787, 1465, 1431, 1382, 1323, 1142, 1120, 1083  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$  NMR (500 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  4.35 (ddd,  $J = 7.7, 2.6, 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.84 (sep,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.90 (ddd,  $J = 17.0, 9.5, 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 2.43 (ddd,  $J = 17.0, 9.7, 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.05 (dddd,  $J = 9.8, 9.8, 9.8, 7.3, 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 1.26 (d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 3H), 1.24 (d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 3H), 1.13-1.07 (m, 1H), 0.62-0.57 (m, 2H), 0.35-0.26 (m, 2H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (125 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  206.0, 90.1, 72.7, 42.4, 37.3, 22.5, 22.4, 13.9, 3.4, 2.9; HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{10}H_{16}NaO_2$   $[M+Na]^+$  191.1043; found 191.1038.

## 2.5 Procedure for the Formation of Esters 12a and 12b



A flame dried flask was charged with diisopropylamine (1.9 mL, 14 mmol) in THF (50 mL) and was cooled down to  $-78\text{ }^{\circ}C$ . A solution of  $n$ -BuLi in hexane (2.5 M, 5.5 mL, 14 mmol) was added dropwise and the

reaction was stirred for 15 min at  $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Ethyl acetate (1.2 mL, 13 mmol) was added dropwise with an additional 45 min stirring at  $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Then a solution of 2-methoxy-3-phenyl carlopropanecarboxaldehyde<sup>3</sup> (2.2 g, 13 mmol) in THF (2.5 mL) was added to the reaction mixture. The reaction temperature was kept at  $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  over 2 h and the reaction completion was monitored with TLC. Then the reaction was warmed to room temperature followed by the addition of saturated ammonium chloride (30 mL) and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3×10 mL). The combined organic layers was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The alcohols **11a** and **11b** were separated by flash chromatography (40:60 EtOAc: hexane) as two diastereomers in a 1:1 ratio (2.4 g, 74%).

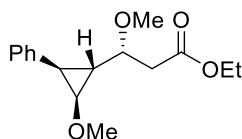


**11a**: colorless oil; *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.29 (40:60 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3447, 3086, 3060, 3026, 2983, 2936, 2904, 2826, 1731, 1603, 1498, 1462, 1399, 1372, 1294, 1251, 1178, 1116, 1087 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.32–7.20 (m, 5H), 4.19 (dq, *J*<sub>AB</sub> = 11.0 Hz, *J*<sub>AX</sub> = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (dq, *J*<sub>AB</sub> = 11.0 Hz, *J*<sub>AX</sub> = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (dddd, *J* = 7.4, 7.4, 3.6, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 3.14 (b, 1H), 2.68 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.06 (dd, *J* = 6.7, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 1.64 (ddd, *J* = 7.1, 7.1, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.6, 136.7, 128.0 (2C), 125.9, 68.7, 63.6, 60.8, 58.2, 40.9, 31.4, 27.3, 14.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub> [M+ Na]<sup>+</sup> 287.1254; found 287.1255.

**11b**: light yellow oil; *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.38 (40:60 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3457, 3060, 2983, 2936, 2904, 2825, 1732, 1603, 1498, 1462, 1447, 1424, 1400, 1372, 1348, 1296, 1250, 1219, 1177, 1086 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.32–7.26 (m, 4H), 7.23–7.20 (m, 1H), 4.23–4.13 (m, 2H), 3.93 (ddd, *J* = 10.3, 7.8, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 2.97 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (dd, *J* = 16.3, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (dd, *J* = 16.3, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (dd, *J* = 7.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 1.64 (ddd, *J* = 6.5, 6.5, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.6, 137.0, 128.0, 127.9, 125.8, 68.1, 63.1, 60.9, 58.1, 41.0, 31.4, 27.1, 14.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub> [M+ Na]<sup>+</sup> 287.1254; found 287.1255.

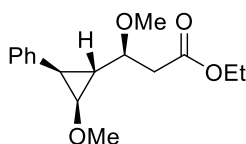
To a stirred solution of the corresponding alcohol **11** (1 equiv.) in dry toluene (0.50 M) was added anhydrous CaSO<sub>4</sub> (2 equiv.) and freshly prepared Ag<sub>2</sub>O<sup>2</sup> (2 equiv.). The reaction mixture was cooled down to 0 °C and iodomethane (3 equiv.) was added dropwise. The ice bath was removed and the flask was covered in aluminum foil. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. Additional

aliquots of Ag<sub>2</sub>O, CaSO<sub>4</sub> and MeI (the same amount as before) were added and the reaction progress was monitored by TLC (Addition of excess Ag<sub>2</sub>O, CaSO<sub>4</sub> and MeI may be required if the starting alcohol has not been consumed completely). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight and was filtered through Celite. The Celite was washed with ethyl acetate (2×) and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was used in the next step without further purifications.



**S-4a**

**S-4a:** Colorless oil (0.70 g, 92%); *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.45 (50:50 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3059, 2983, 2937, 2902, 2825, 1734, 1603, 1498, 1461, 1447, 1372, 1302, 1273, 1244, 1209, 1112, 1030 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.32-7.22 (m, 5H), 4.13 (dq, *J*<sub>AB</sub> = 10.5 Hz, *J*<sub>AX</sub> = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (dq, *J*<sub>AB</sub> = 10.5 Hz, *J*<sub>AX</sub> = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (dd, *J* = 6.7, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 3.39 (ddd, *J* = 7.9, 7.9, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 2.68 (dd, *J* = 14.9, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.56 (dd, *J* = 14.9, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 1.93 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.63 (ddd, *J* = 6.7, 6.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 1.21 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.3, 136.6, 128.0, 127.9, 125.9, 78.4, 64.7, 60.6, 58.1, 57.4, 39.9, 29.8, 26.5, 14.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub> [M+ Na]<sup>+</sup> 301.1410; found 301.1407.

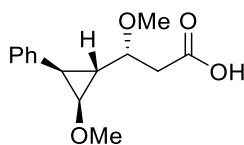


**S-4b**

**S-4b:** Yellow oil (1.1 g, quant.); *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.55 (40:60 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3060, 2989, 2936, 2906, 2825, 1734, 1603, 1498, 1461, 1447, 1374, 1350, 1222, 1208, 1192, 1173, 1115, 1093 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.32-7.27 (m, 4H), 7.25-7.20 (m, 1H), 4.21 (dq, *J*<sub>AB</sub> = 10.8 Hz, *J*<sub>AX</sub> = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (dq, *J*<sub>AB</sub> = 10.8 Hz, *J*<sub>AX</sub> = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (ddd, *J* = 7.7, 7.7, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 3.38 (dd, *J* = 6.7, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 2.73 (dd, *J* = 15.2, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (dd, *J* = 15.2, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.62 (ddd, *J* = 7.7, 6.8, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.3, 136.7, 128.0, 127.9, 125.9, 78.1, 62.5, 60.6, 58.2, 57.3, 40.2, 29.8, 29.3, 14.2; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub> [M+ Na]<sup>+</sup> 301.1410; found 301.1412.

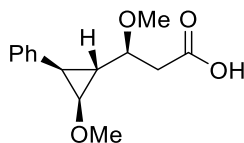
Corresponding ester **S-4** (1 equiv.) was dissolved in MeOH: THF (1:1, 0.26 M) and an aqueous solution of LiOH (2.0 M, 2.0 equiv.) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room

temperature until the consumption of starting materials. An equal volume of water was added to the reaction and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was acidified with 1.0 M HCl to pH = 1 followed by extraction with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3×). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure. The pure acid **S-5** was obtained and used in the next step without further purification



**S-5a**

**S-5a**: yellow solid (0.63 g, quant.); mp: 68 - 70 °C; IR (cast film) 3087, 3060, 3026, 2987, 2937, 2826, 1730, 1710, 1603, 1498, 1447, 1424, 1348, 1224, 1178, 1111, 1091 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.34-7.21 (m, 5H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 3.41-3.37 (m, 1H), 3.40 (ddd, *J* = 4.9, 8.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.70 (dd, *J* = 15.5, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (dd, *J* = 15.5, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 1.93 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.64 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 8.0, 3.3 Hz, 1H), (the peak corresponding to the carboxylic acid proton did not observed); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.1, 136.3, 128.1, 128.0, 126.0, 78.1, 68.8, 58.2, 57.4, 39.5, 29.5, 26.4; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M-H]<sup>-</sup> 249.1132; found 249.1137.

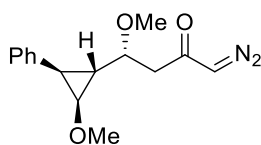


**S-5b**

**S-5b**: white solid (0.50 mg, 54%); mp: 70-72 °C; IR (cast film) 3086, 3061, 3027, 2987, 2936, 2826, 1734, 1710, 1603, 1498, 1447, 1424, 1351, 1300, 1225, 1196, 1178, 1113, 1090 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.34-7.28 (m, 4H), 7.25-7.22 (m, 1H), 3.49-3.45 (m, 1H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 3.39 (dd, *J* = 6.7, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 2.81-2.72 (m, 2H), 2.19 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 1.64 (ddd, *J* = 7.5, 3.1 Hz, 1H), (the peak corresponding to the carboxylic acid proton did not observed); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.3, 136.4, 128.1, 128.0, 126.0, 78.0, 62.4, 58.2, 57.3, 39.9, 29.7, 29.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M-H]<sup>-</sup> 249.1132; found 249.1129.

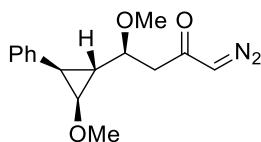
To a solution of carboxylic acid **S-5** (1 equiv.) in dry THF (0.20 M) was added Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.1 equiv.) followed by the addition of ethyl chloroformate solution (1.1 equiv.) in THF (1.2 M) at -15 °C. The reaction was stirred

for 1 h at -15 °C and an additional 3 h stirring at -5 °C. After the formation of a white salt the reaction mixture, it was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was immediately dissolved in Et<sub>2</sub>O and transferred to an ethereal solution of CH<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (~5 equivalents, prepared from Diazald®) at -78 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight with gradual warming to the room temperature. The CH<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub> was quenched with excess glacial acetic acid and the reaction mixture was washed with water. The organic layer was separated and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. The crude mixture was obtained after solvent removal and was purified by column chromatography to isolate diazo ketones **12** as a yellow oil.



**12a**

**12a**: yellow oil (0.19, 58%); *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.17 (30:70 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3088, 3026, 2984, 2936, 2825, 2102, 1635, 1603, 1498, 1424, 1447, 1353, 1228, 1179, 1151, 1105, 1032, 1008 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.32-7.11 (m, 5H), 5.28 (br s, 1H), 3.53 (ddd, *J* = 6.8, 6.8, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 3.41 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 8.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 2.67-2.49 (br m, 2H), 1.89 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.57 (ddd, *J* = 6.7, 6.7, 3.3 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 192.5, 136.7, 128.0, 127.8, 125.9, 78.7, 65.2, 58.2, 57.5, 55.8, 45.9, 30.4, 26.5; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [*M*+ *H*]<sup>+</sup> 275.1390; found 275.1385.

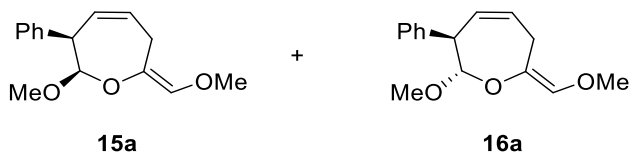


**12b**

**12b**: yellow oil (80 mg, 73%); *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.28 (40:60 EtOAc:hexane); IR (cast film) 3088, 2984, 2935, 2825, 2104, 1637, 1603, 1498, 1447, 1422, 1371, 1338, 1150, 1110, 1089 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.32-7.26 (m, 4H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 1H), 5.36 (br s, 1H), 3.50 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 7.6, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 3.36 (ddd, *J* = 6.8, 6.8, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 2.70- 2.60 (br m, 2H), 2.16 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.57 (ddd, *J* = 7.4, 7.4, 3.3 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 192.5, 136.7, 128.1, 127.9, 126.0, 78.4, 62.5, 58.2, 57.4, 55.7, 46.2, 30.1, 29.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [*M*+Na]<sup>+</sup> 297.1210; found 297.1204.



## 2.6 Procedure for the Treatment of Diazo Ketone **12a** with Cu(hfacac)<sub>2</sub> to Generate Compounds **15a** and **16a**



To a solution of Cu(hfacac)<sub>2</sub> (18 mg, 0.036 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3.6 mL, 0.010 M) at reflux was added a solution of diazo ketone **12a** (0.10 g, 0.36 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3.6 mL, 0.10 M) via syringe pump over 2 h. Consumption of diazo ketone **12a** was monitored by TLC and the reaction mixture was quenched by 10% solution of aqueous K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was washed with DCM (3×5 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by flash chromatography. The obtained oxepines **15a** and **16a** were isolated in 1:1 ratio. (13 mg, 26%)

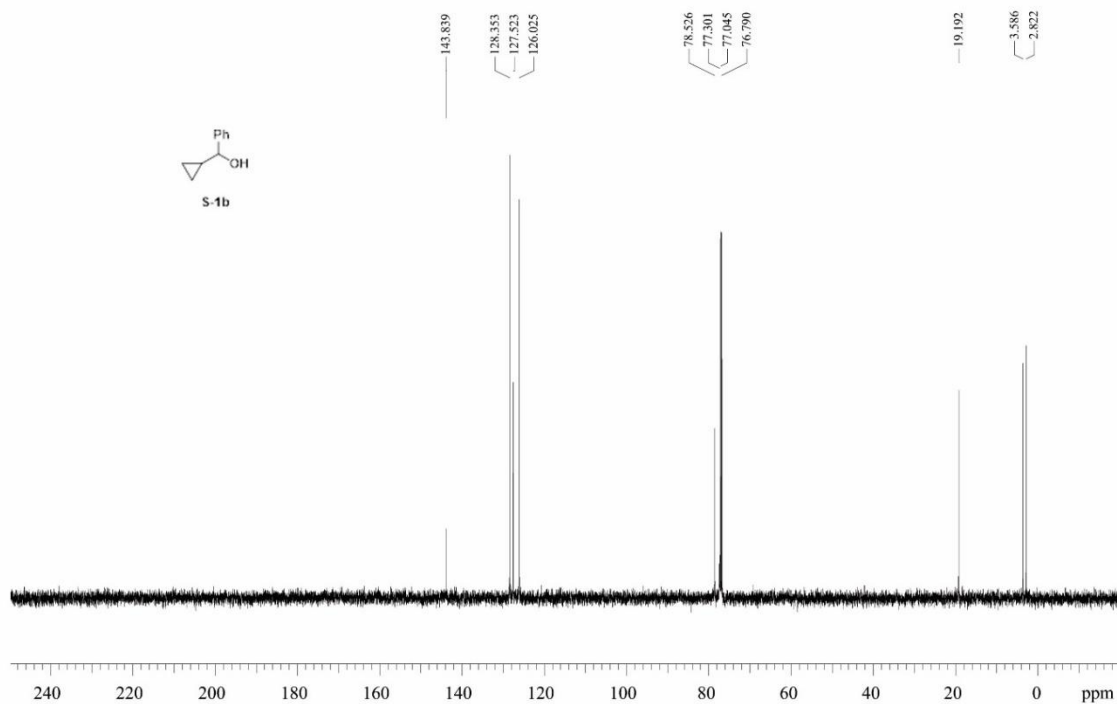
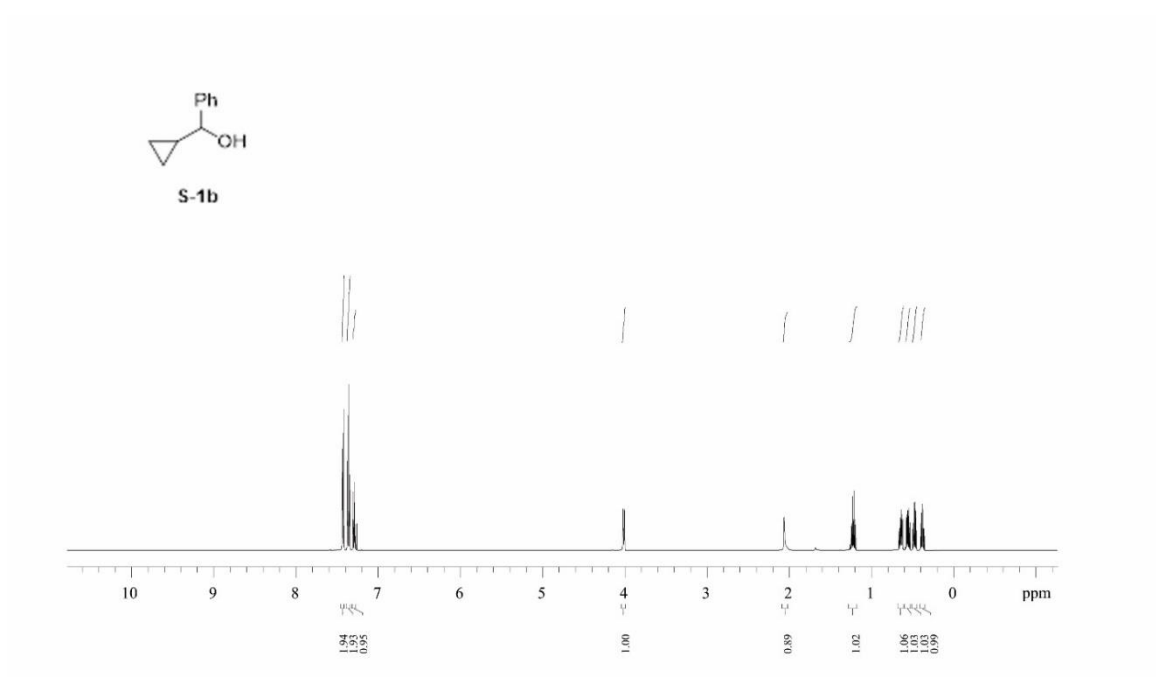
**15a**: colorless oil; *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.59 (20:80 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3060, 3026, 2993, 2931, 2898, 2833, 1689, 1655, 1602, 1492, 1543, 1417, 1361, 1349, 1246, 1221, 1154, 3311, 1110, 1072, 1036, 1003 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 7.31-7.28 (m, 4H), 7.25-7.22 (m, 1H), 6.06 (dd, *J* = 0.7, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (dddd, *J* = 11.0, 5.4, 4.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (dddd, *J* = 11.0, 4.0, 1.7, 0.6, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (dd, *J* = 1.9, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (dddd, *J* = 4.1, 4.1, 1.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 3.28 (dddd, *J* = 17.5, 5.4, 1.8, 1.8, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (dddd, *J* = 17.5, 4.7, 2.2, 1.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 140.8, 138.3, 135.4, 129.7, 129.3, 128.0, 126.8, 126.7, 106.2, 59.8, 55.9, 50.7, 27.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+ Na]<sup>+</sup> 269.1148; found 269.1145.

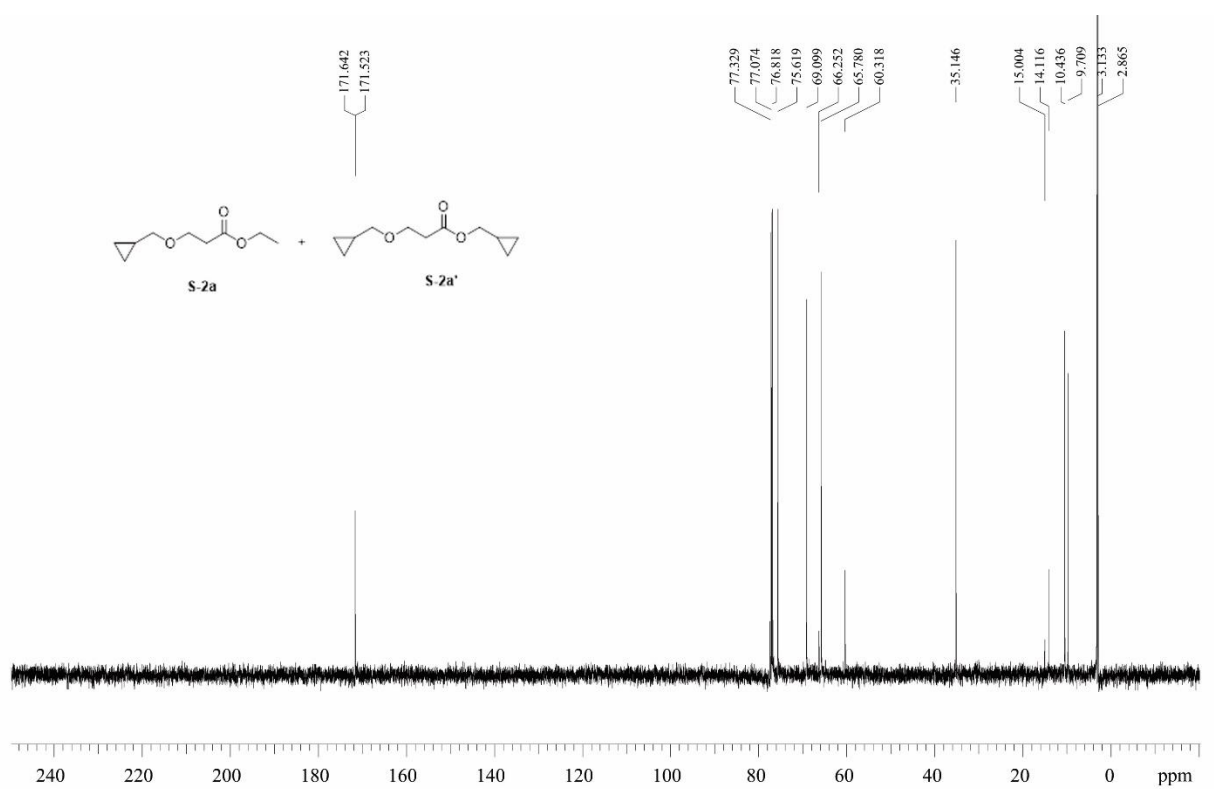
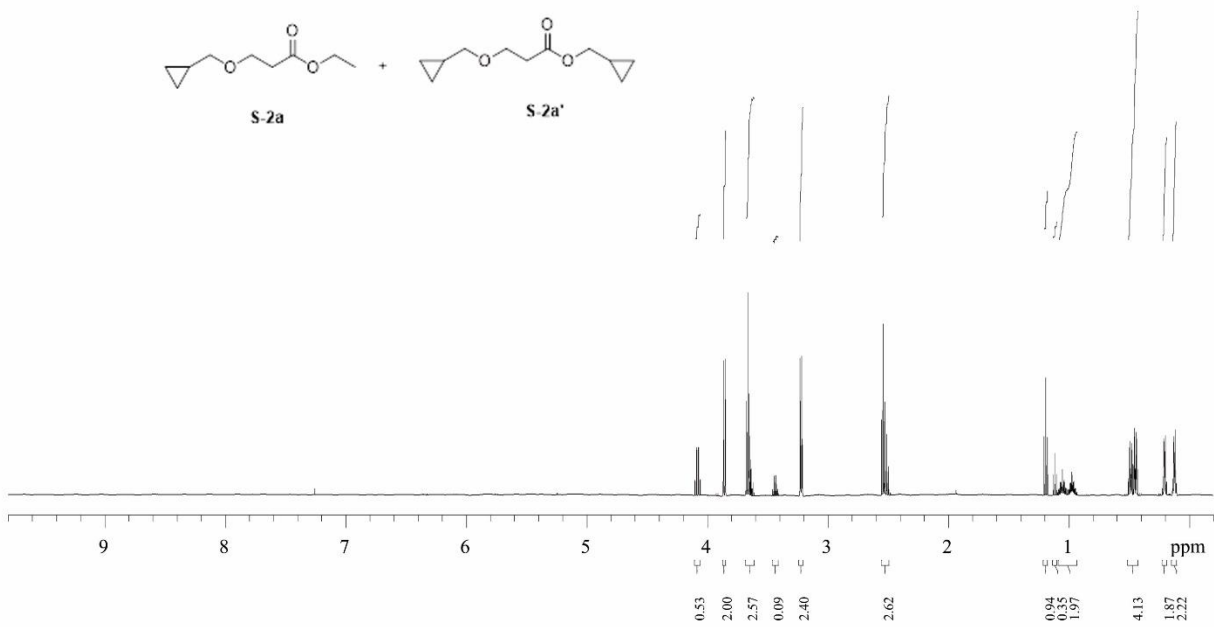
**16a**: colorless oil; *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.55 (20:80 EtOAc: hexane); IR (cast film) 3085, 3061, 3028, 3001, 2931, 2834, 1696, 1654, 1599, 1494, 1453, 1357, 1251, 1211, 1170, 1130, 1035, 1009 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 7.32-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.22 (m, 3H), 6.05 (ddd, *J* = 2.1, 1.0, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 5.67 (dddd, *J* = 11.1, 5.6, 3.7, 2.3, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (dddd, *J* = 11.1, 4.5, 2.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.81 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.92-3.88 (m, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.34-3.29 (m, 1H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.07-3.01 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 141.5, 137.6, 136.2, 129.9, 128.5, 128.3, 126.6, 126.5, 108.3, 59.8, 55.5, 50.1, 27.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 269.1148; found 269.1145.

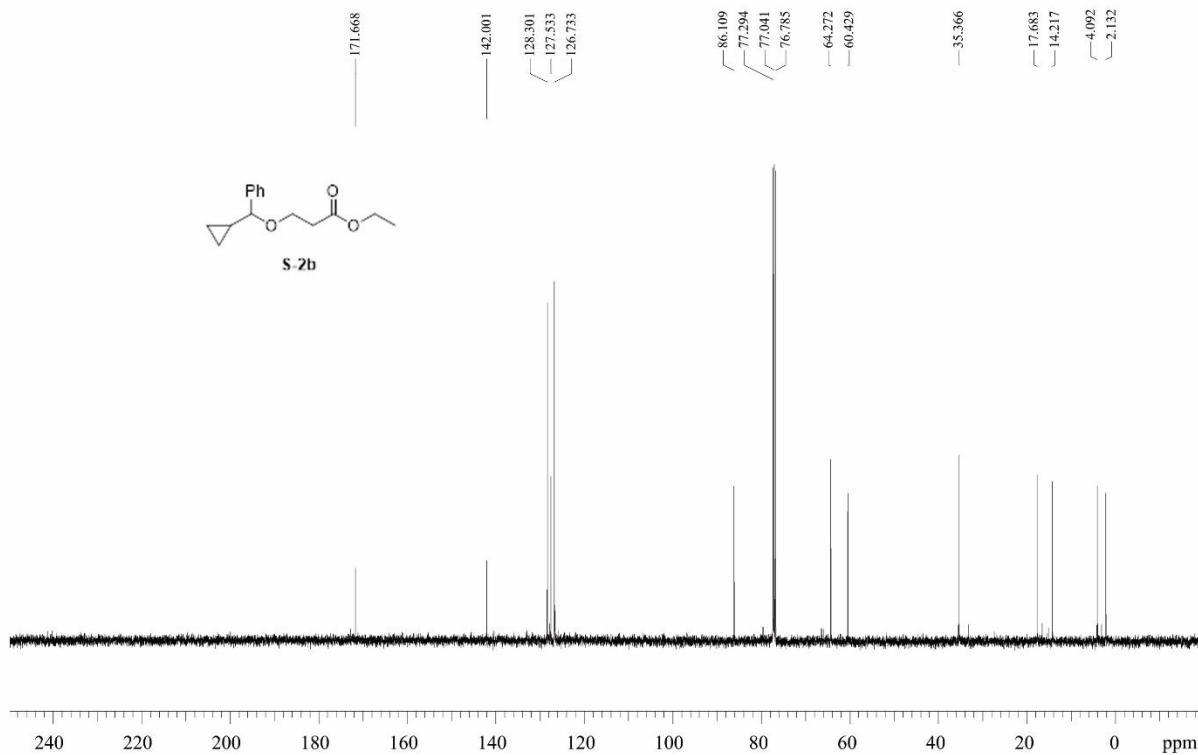
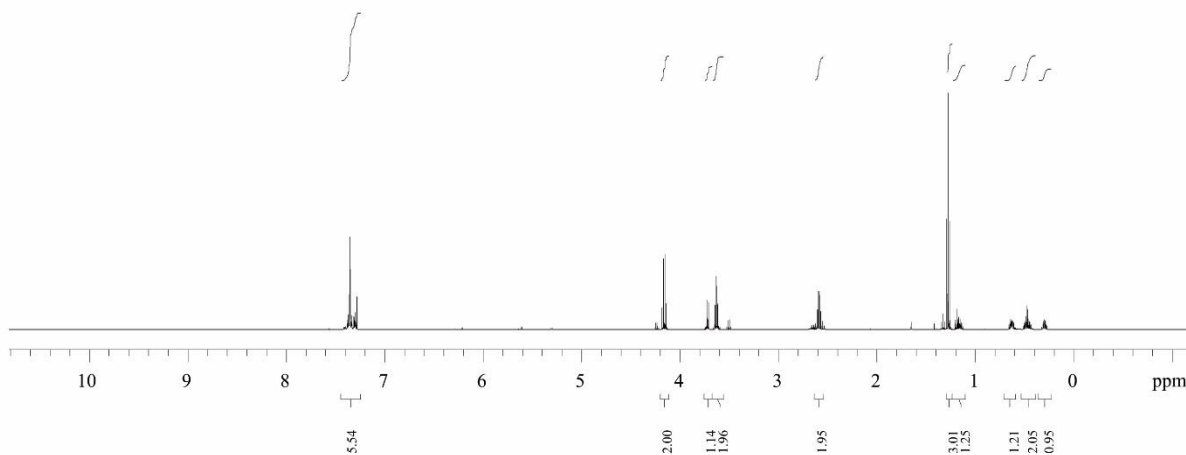
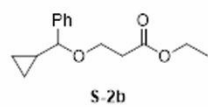
### 3. References

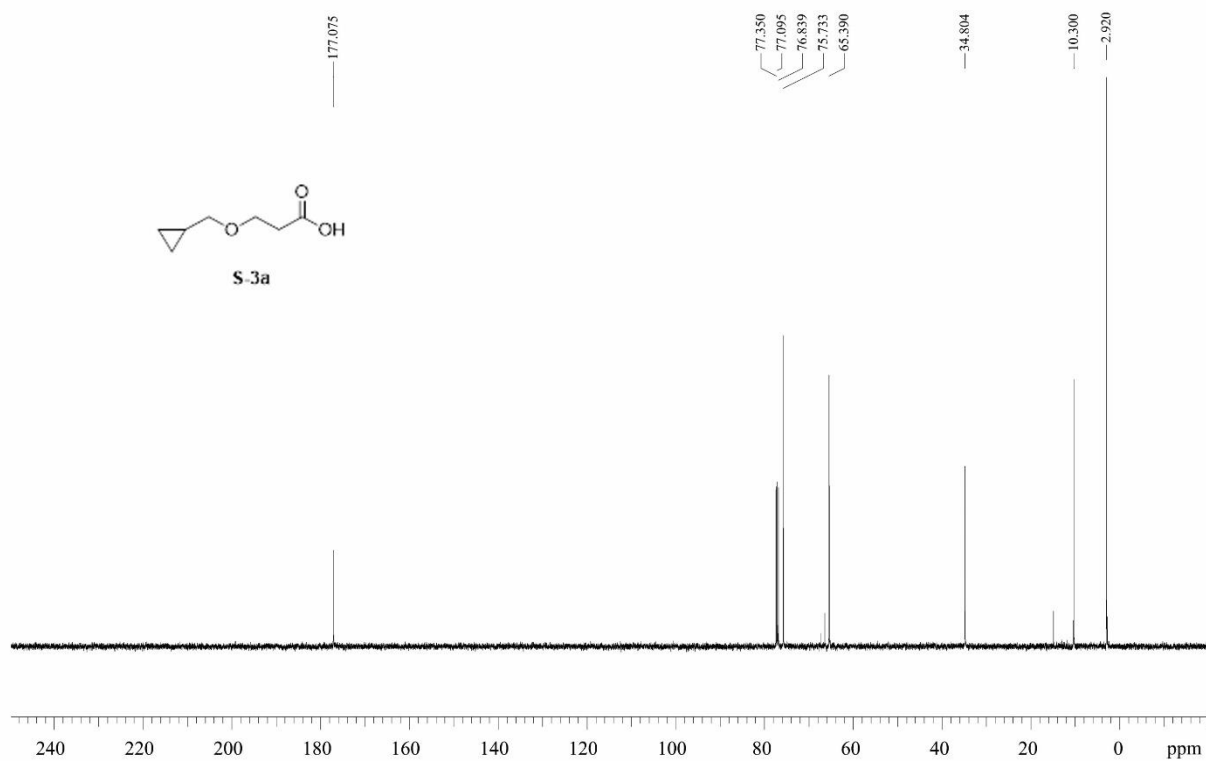
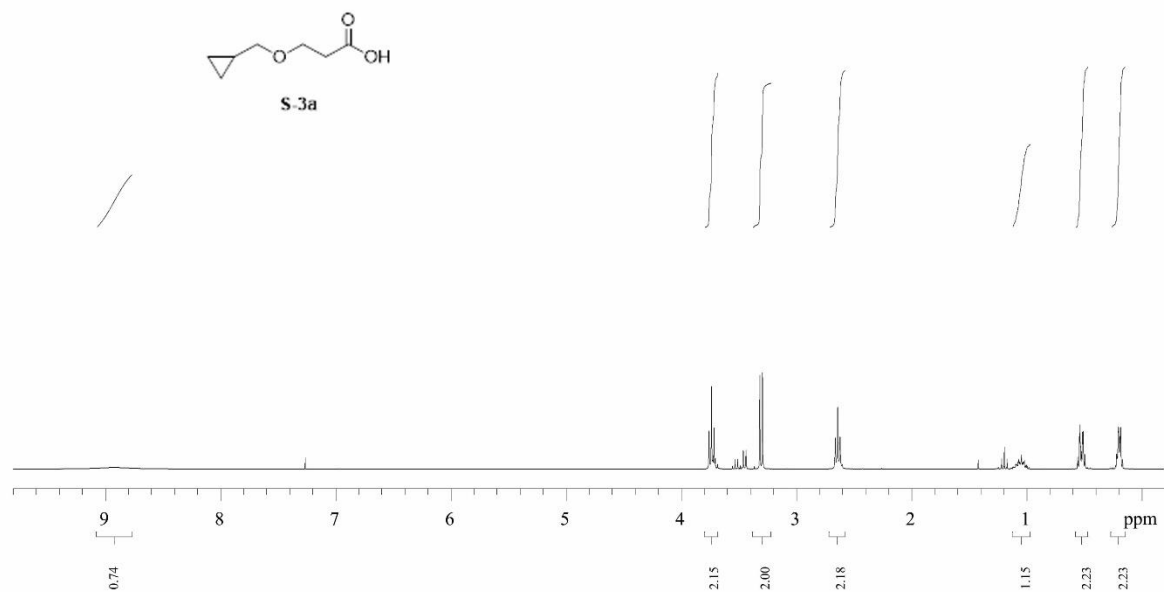
1. Diazald® and Diazomethane Generators, [http://www.sigmaaldrich.com/content/dam/sigmaaldrich/docs/Aldrich/Bulletin/al\\_techbull\\_al180.pdf](http://www.sigmaaldrich.com/content/dam/sigmaaldrich/docs/Aldrich/Bulletin/al_techbull_al180.pdf) (accessed Sep 25, 2017).
2. A. Bouzide and G. Sauvé, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1997, **38**, 5945–5948.
3. M. -H. Le Tadic-Biadatti and M. Newcomb, *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans. 2*, 1996, **7**, 1467.

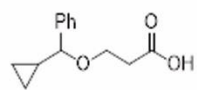
#### 4. NMR Spectra



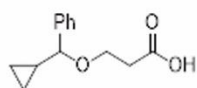
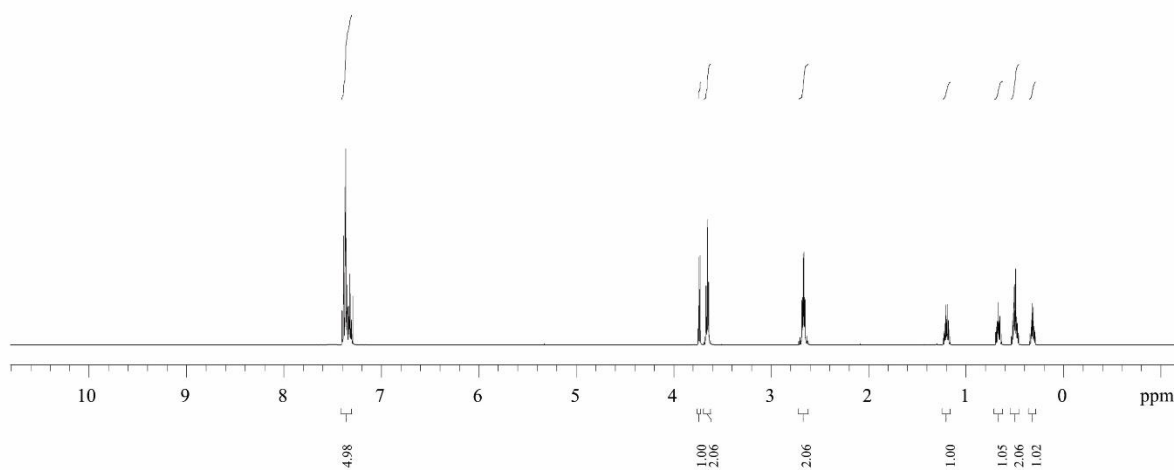




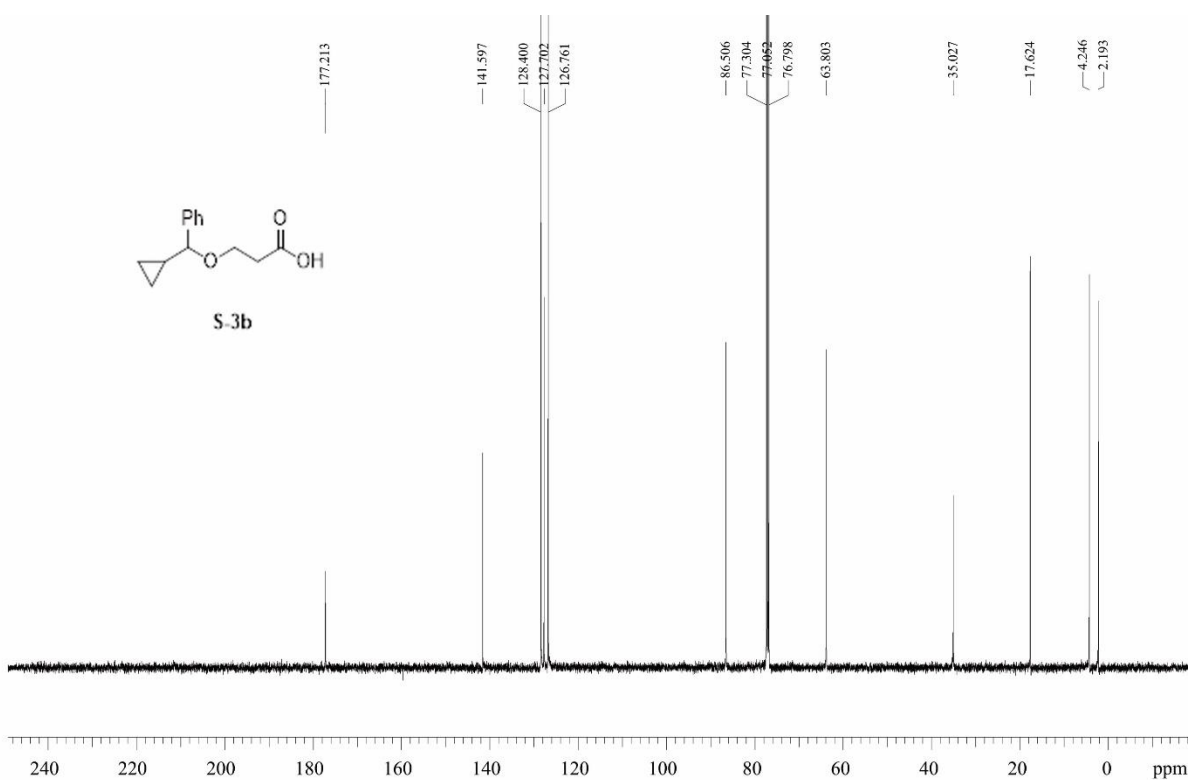


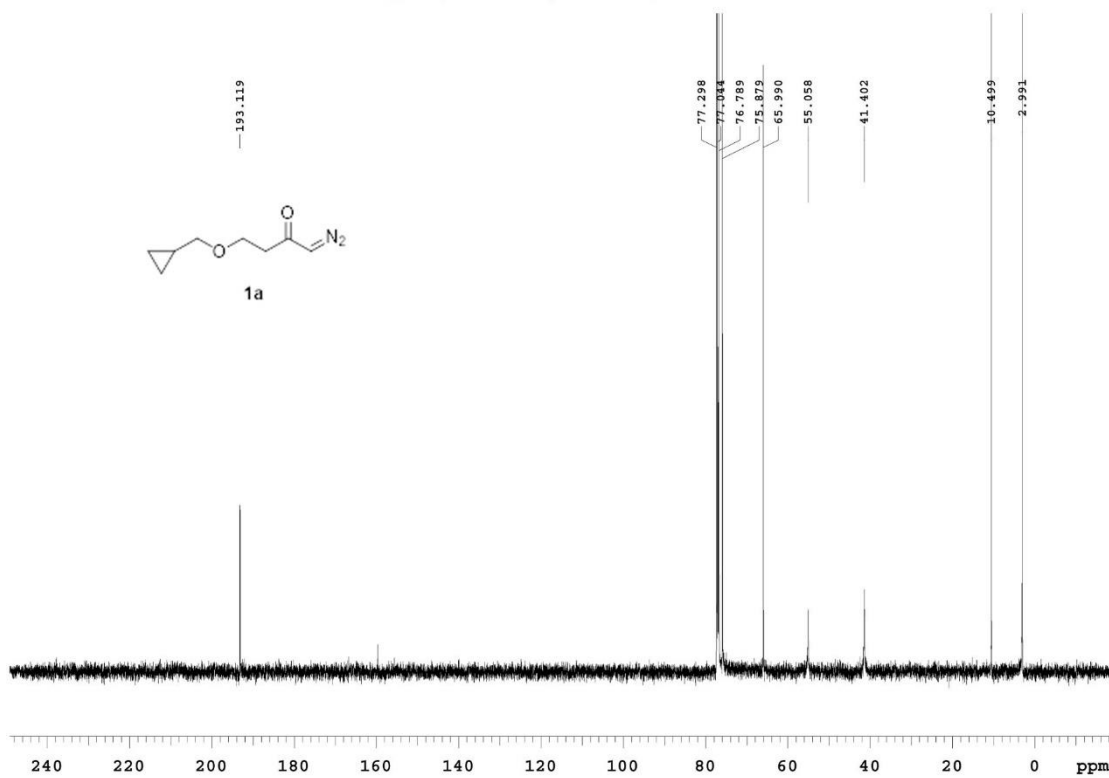
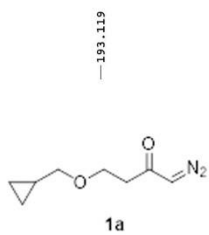
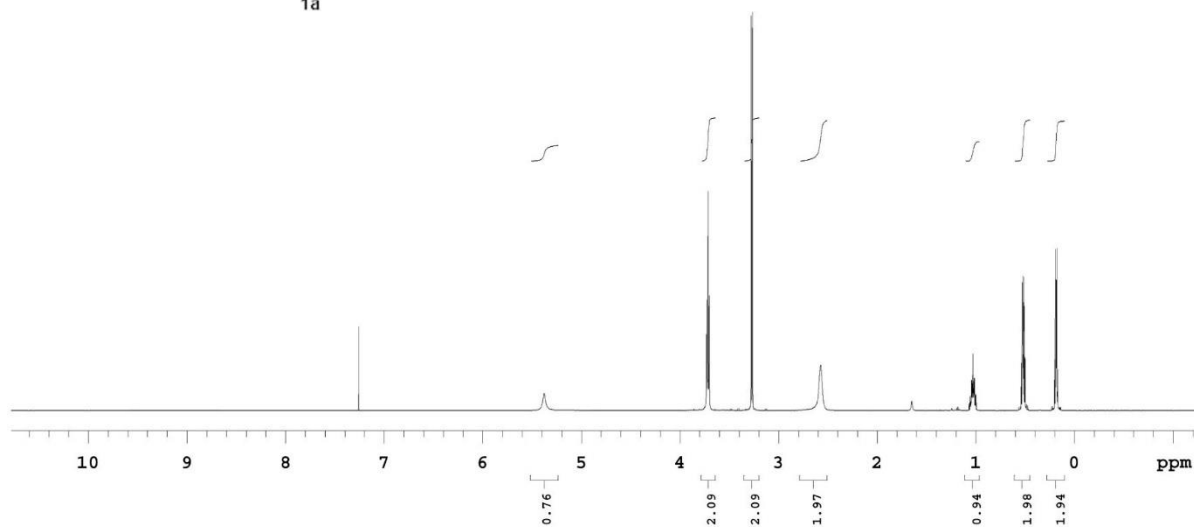
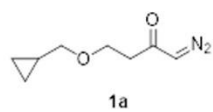


S-3b

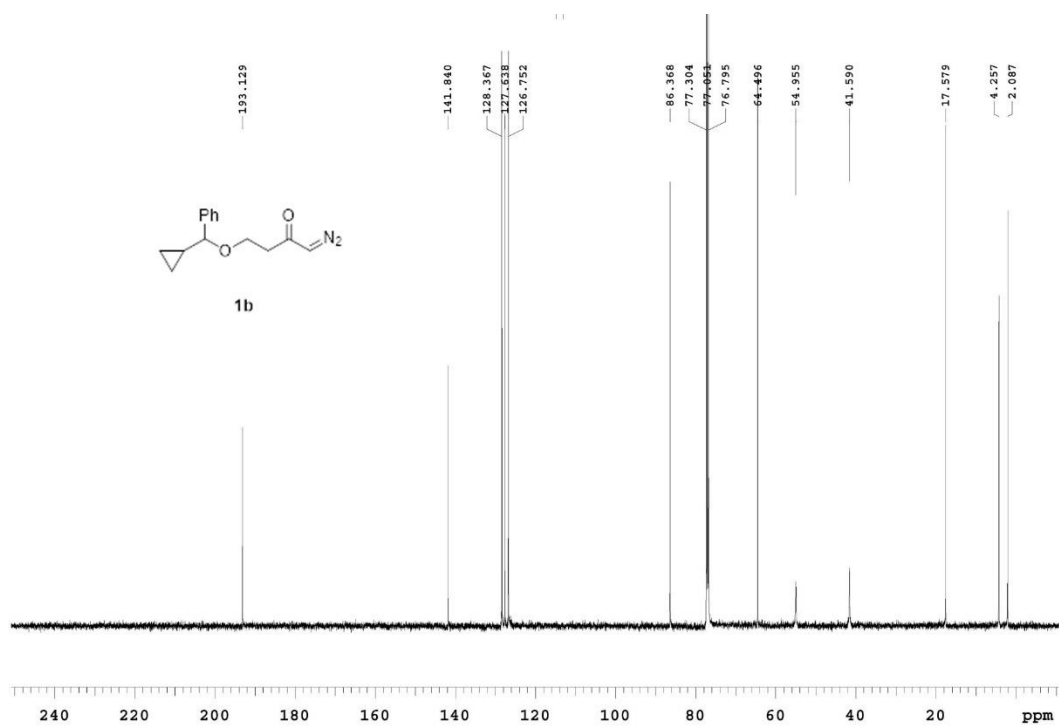
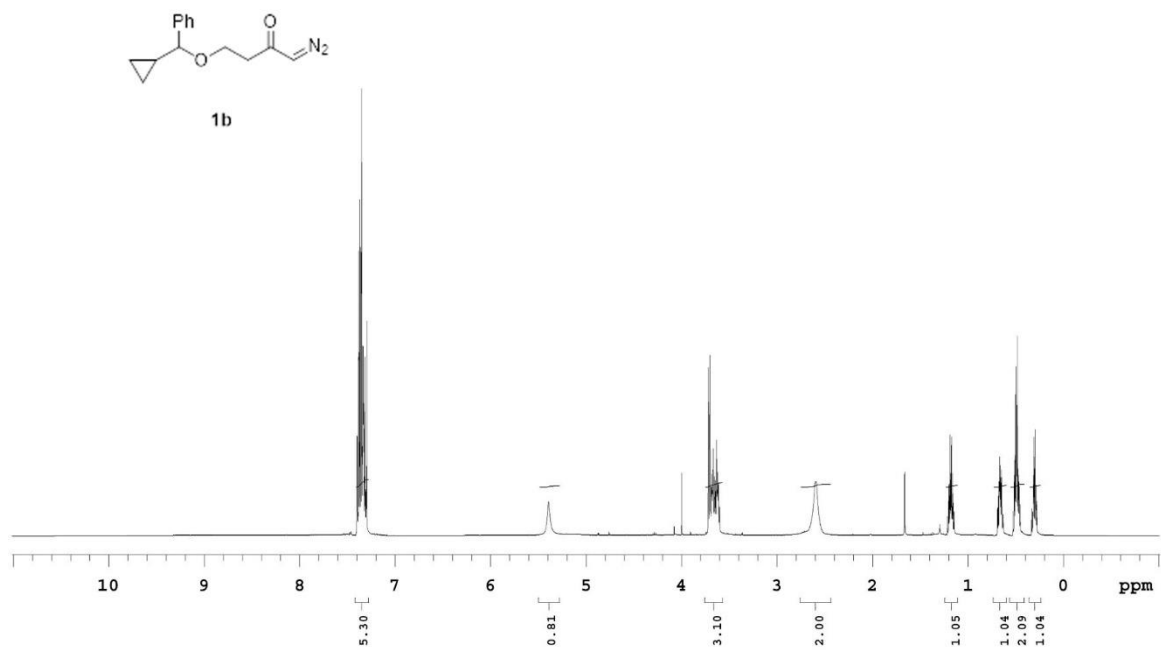


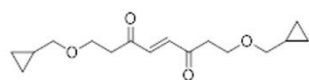
S-3b



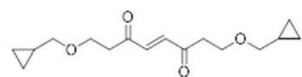
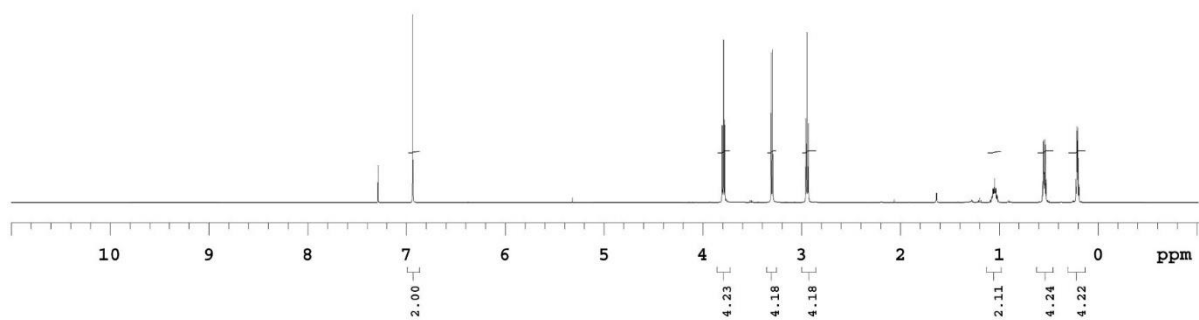




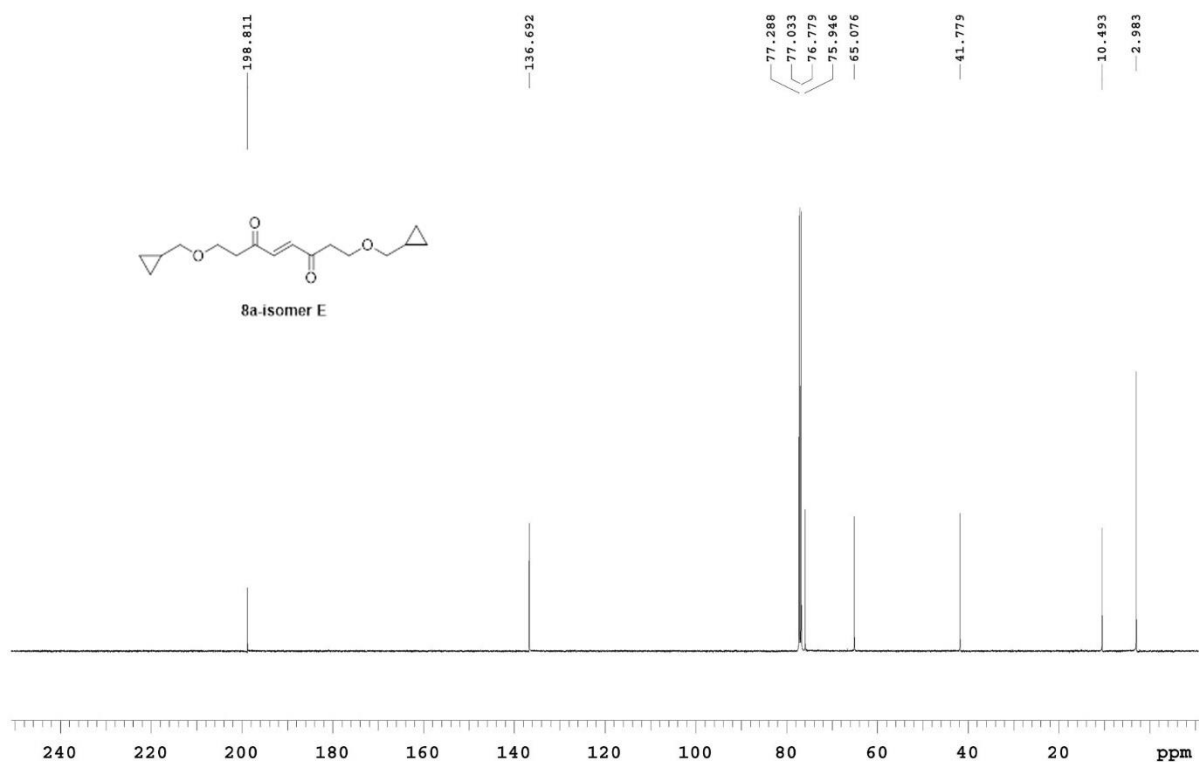


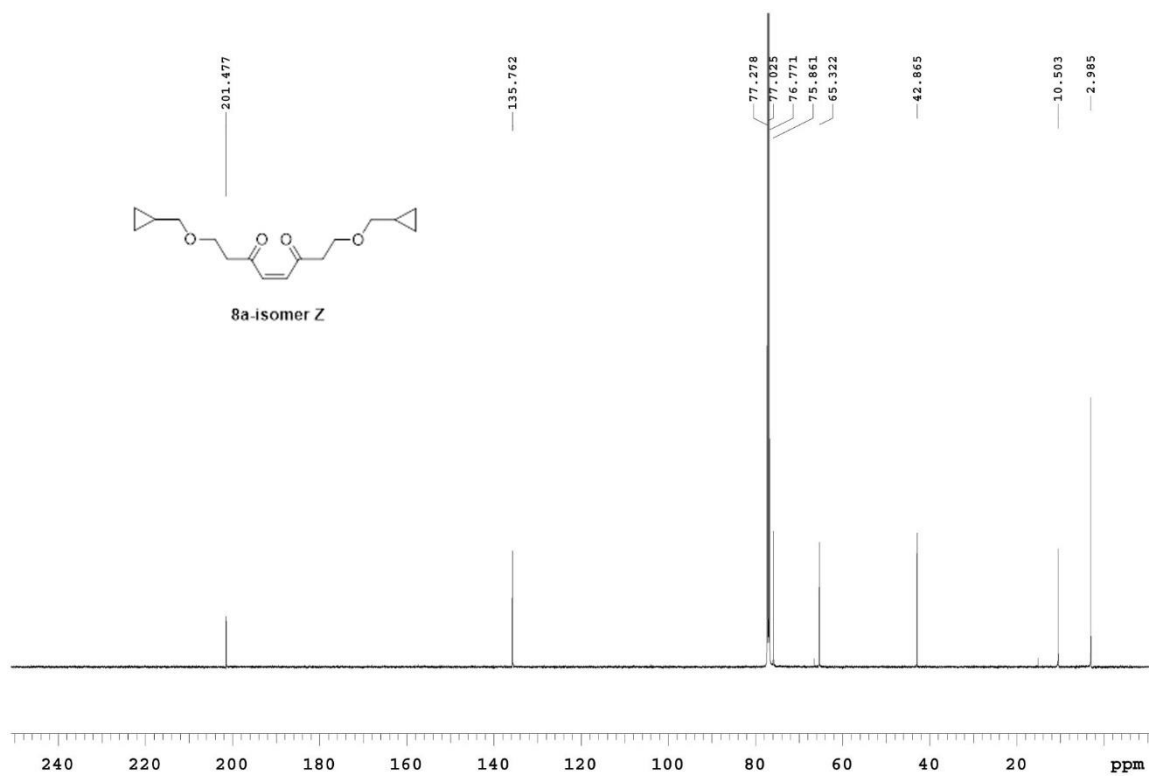
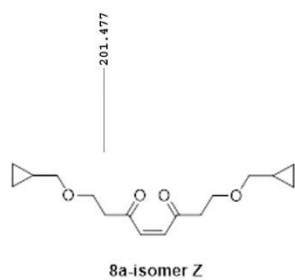
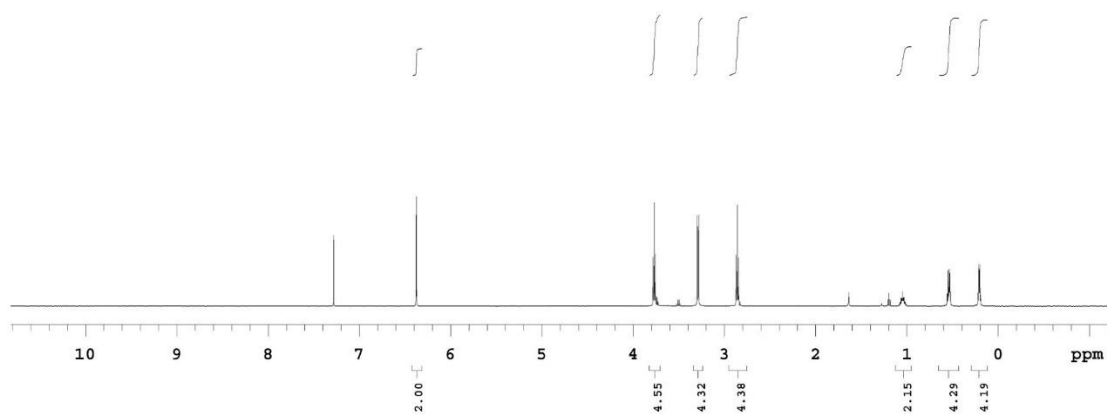
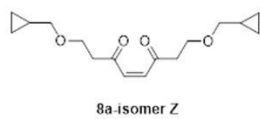


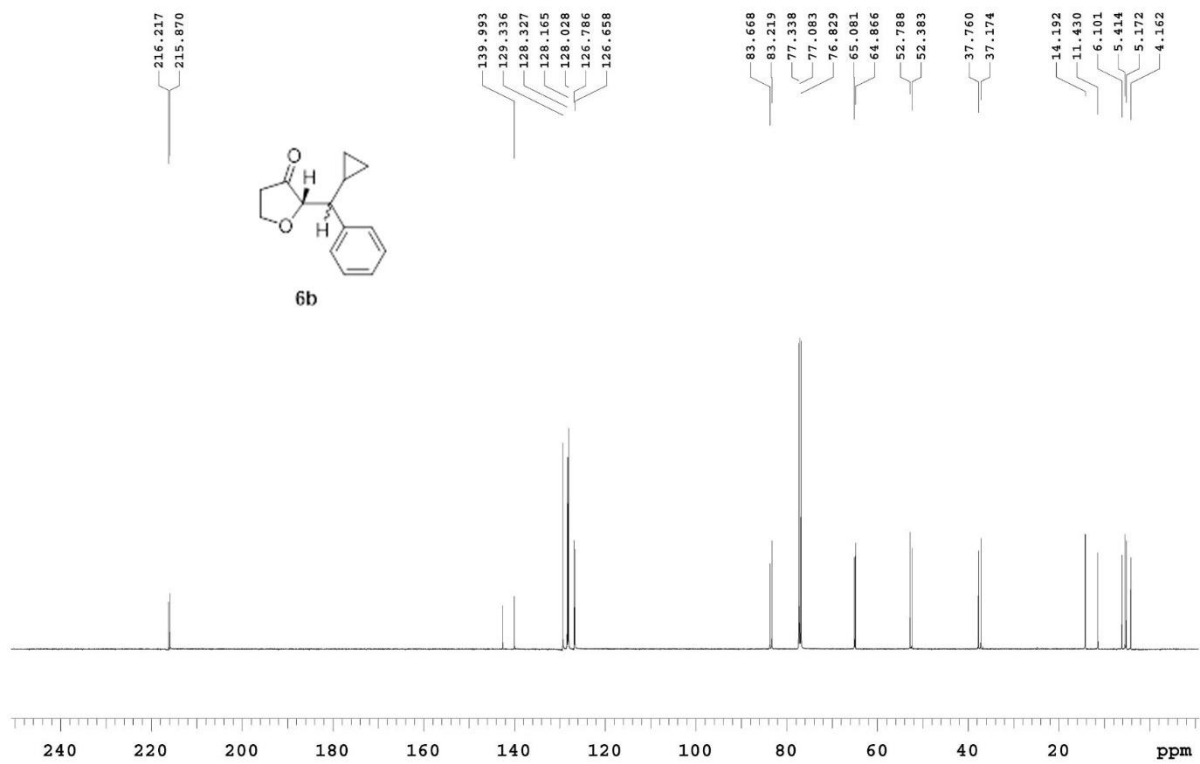
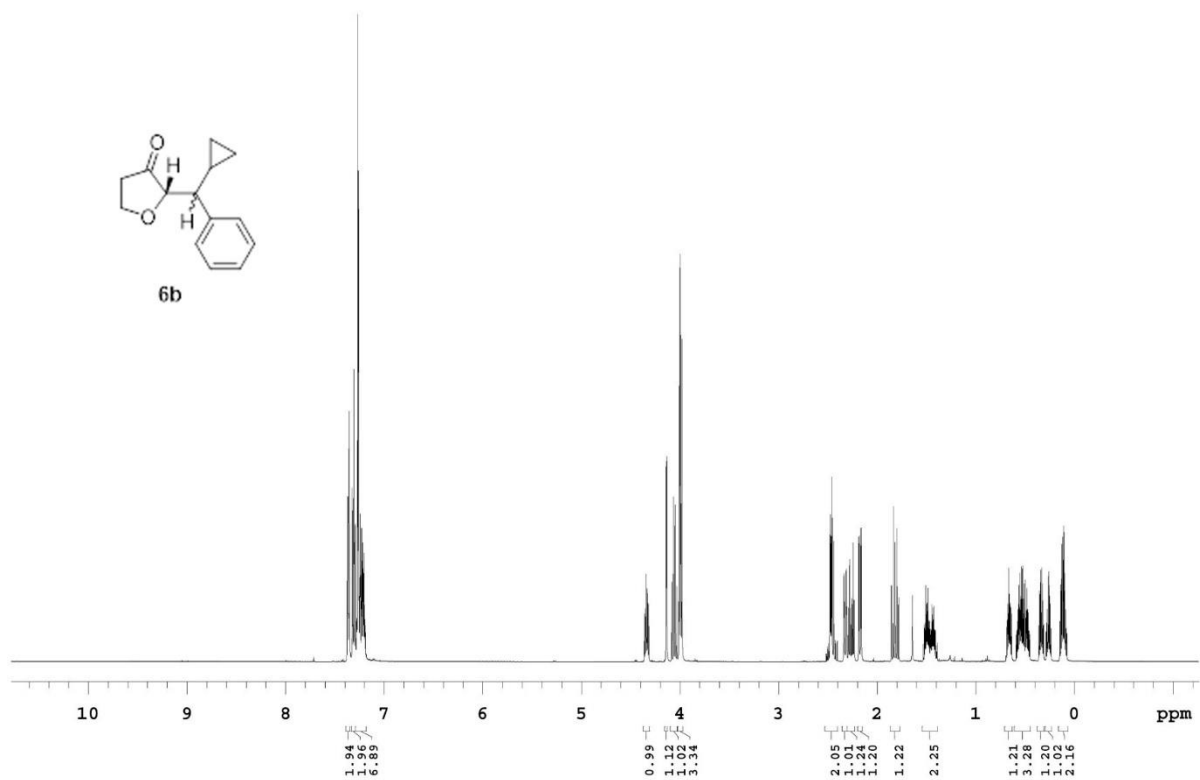
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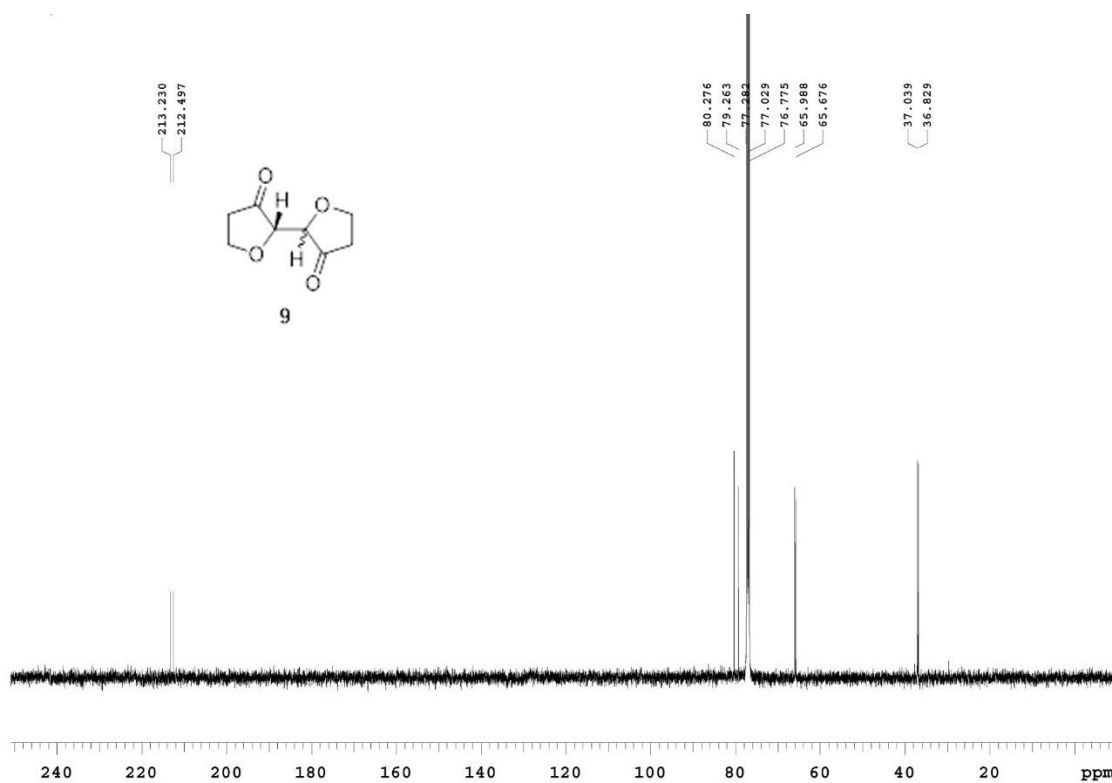
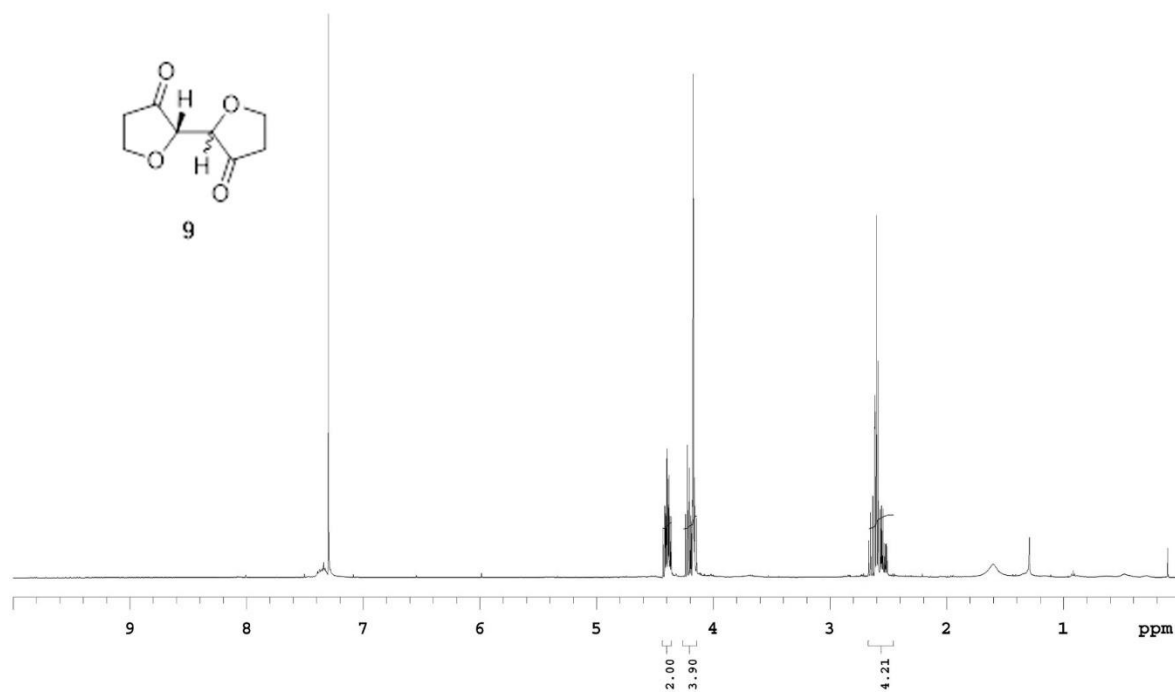


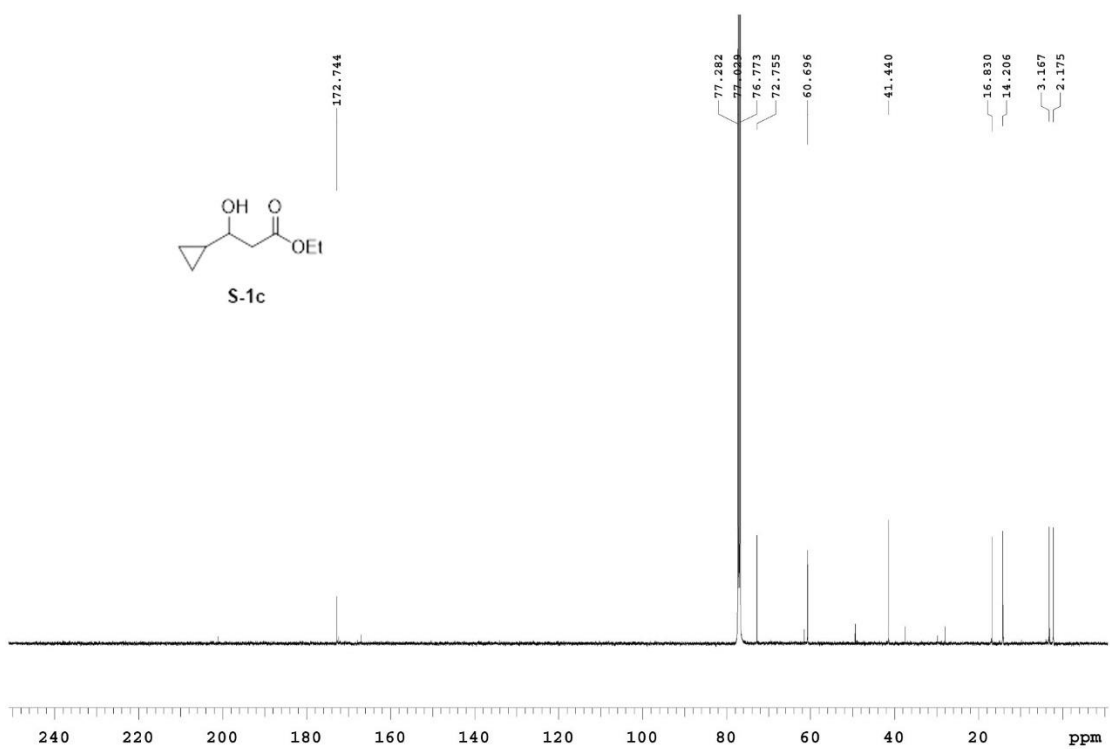
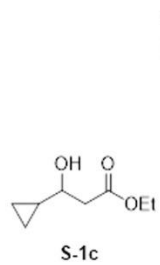
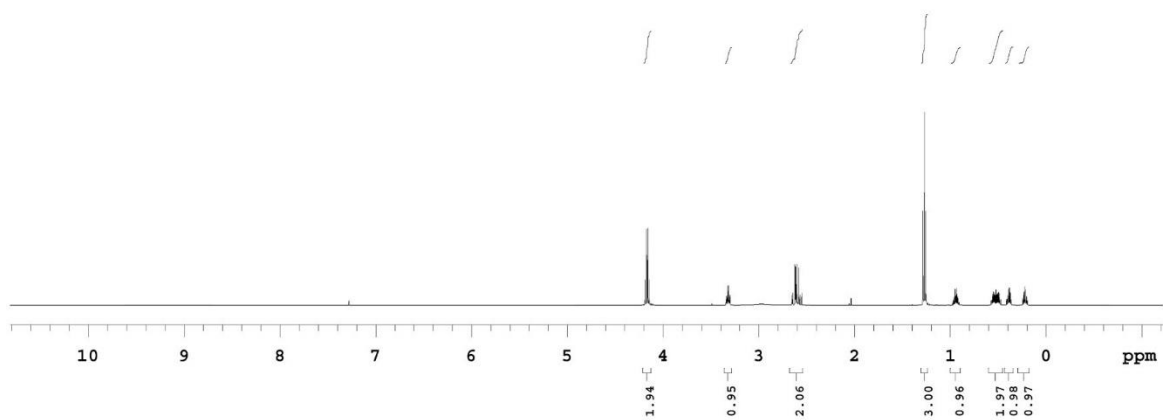
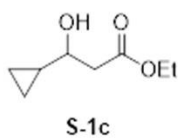
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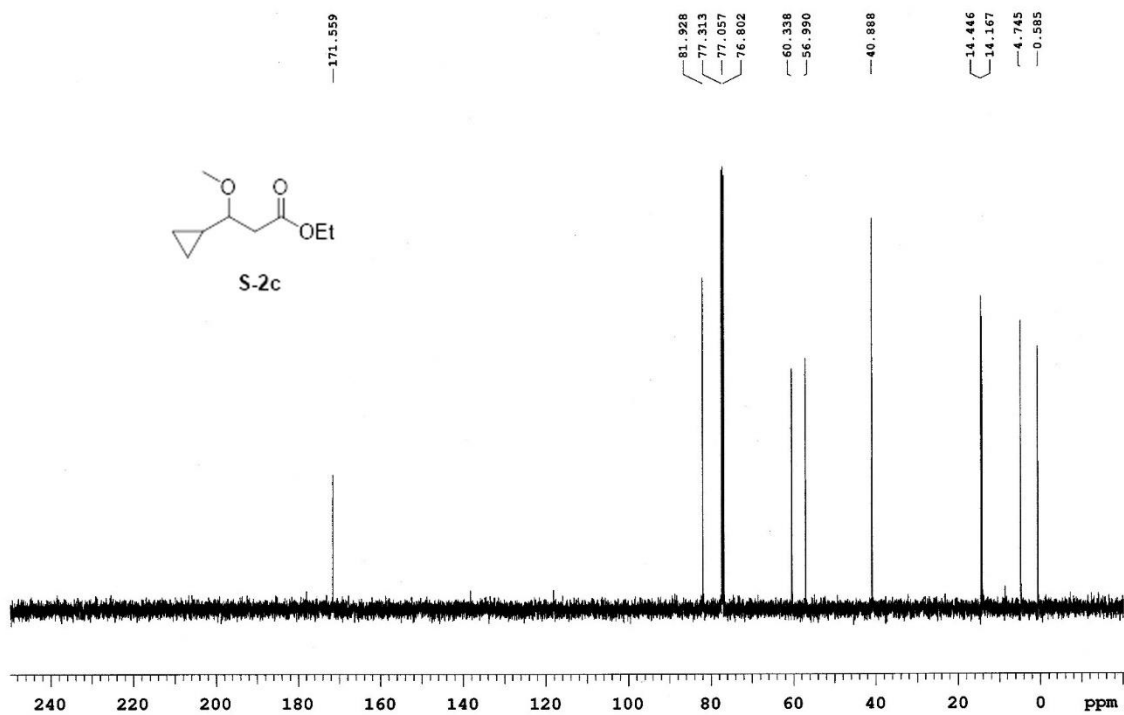
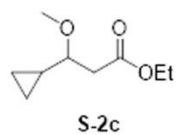
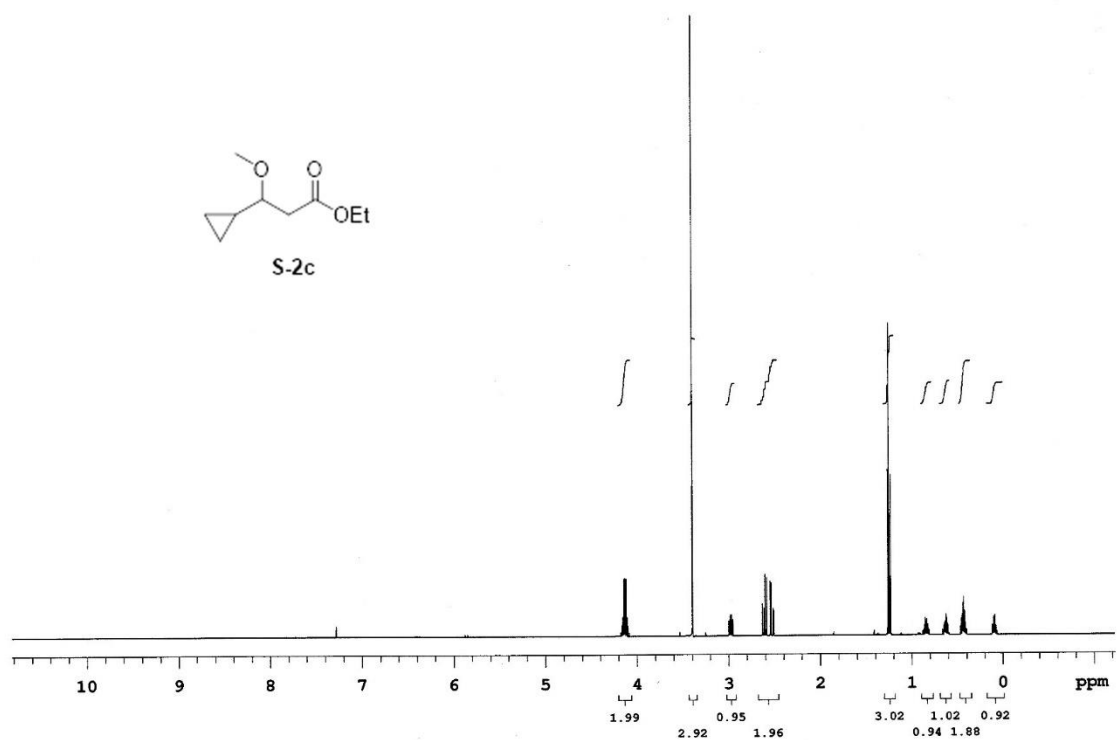
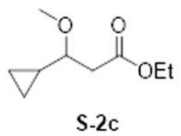


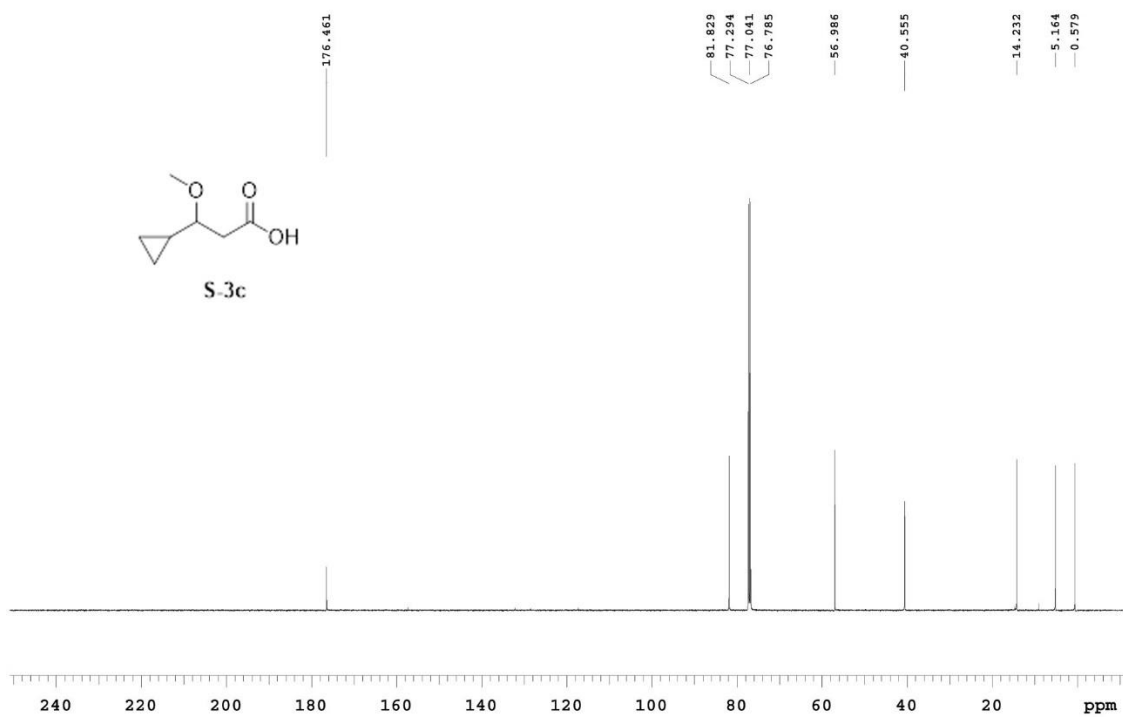
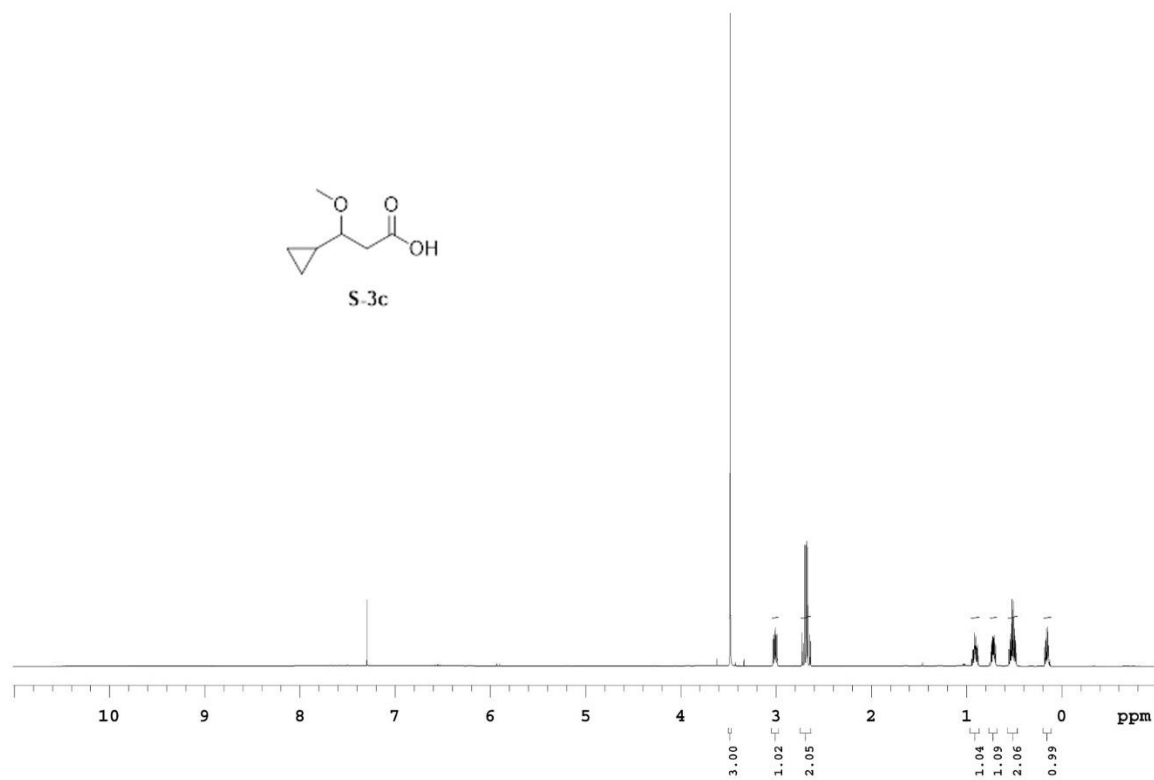




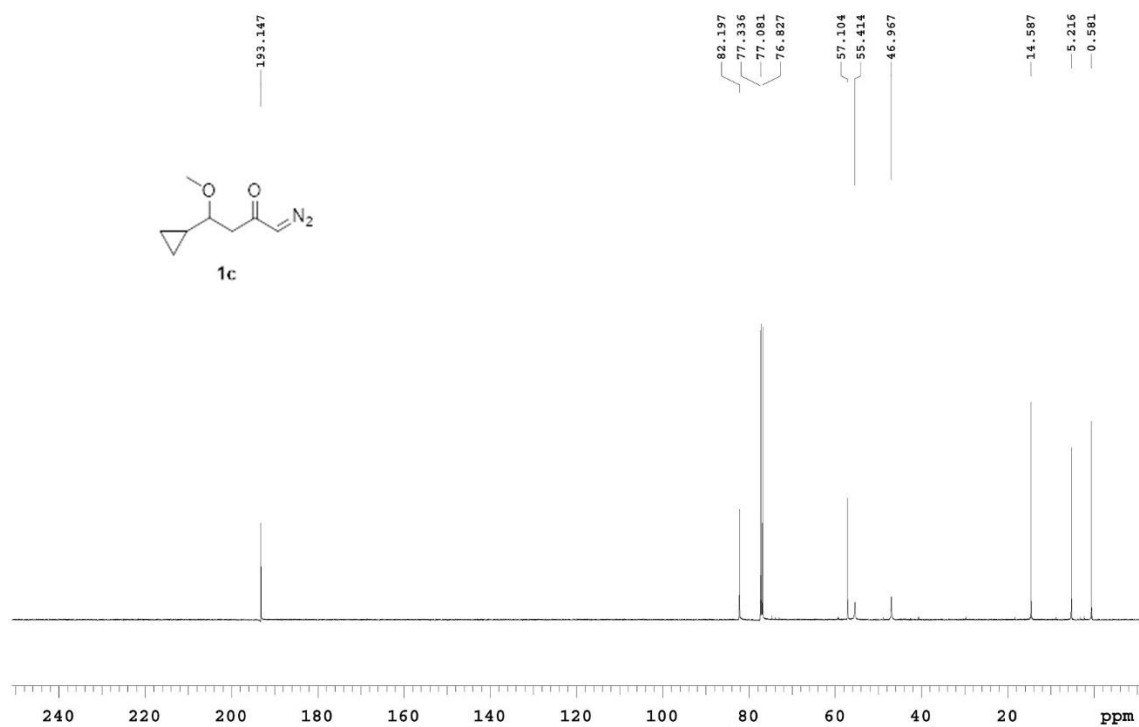
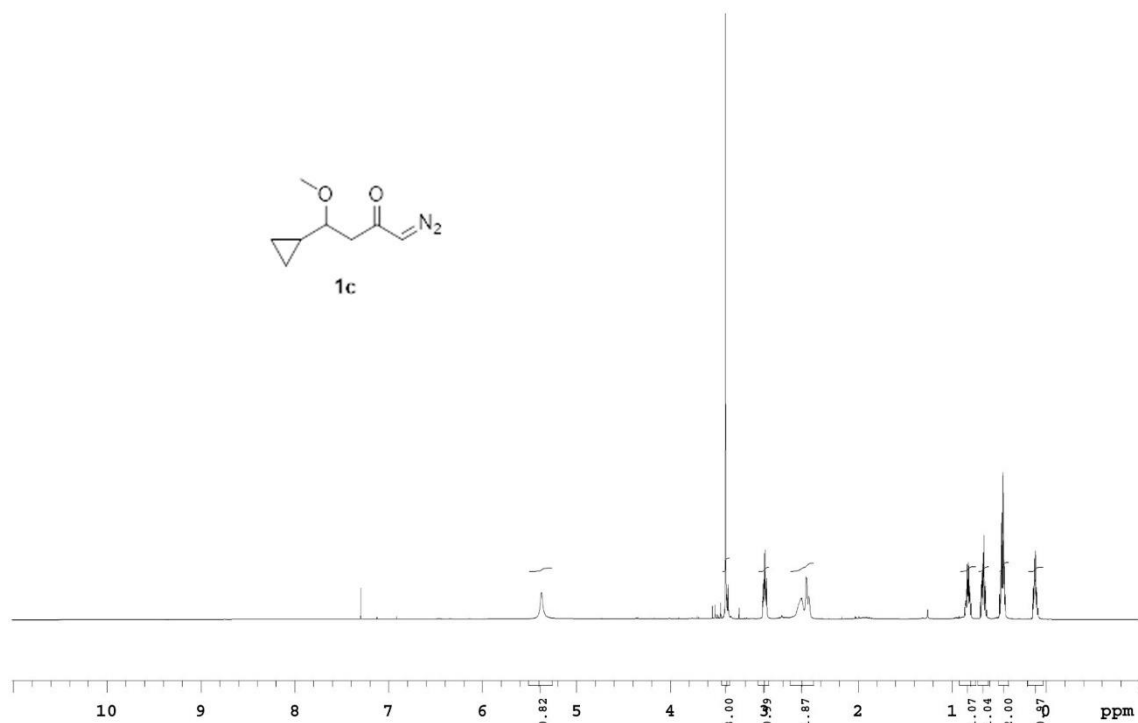


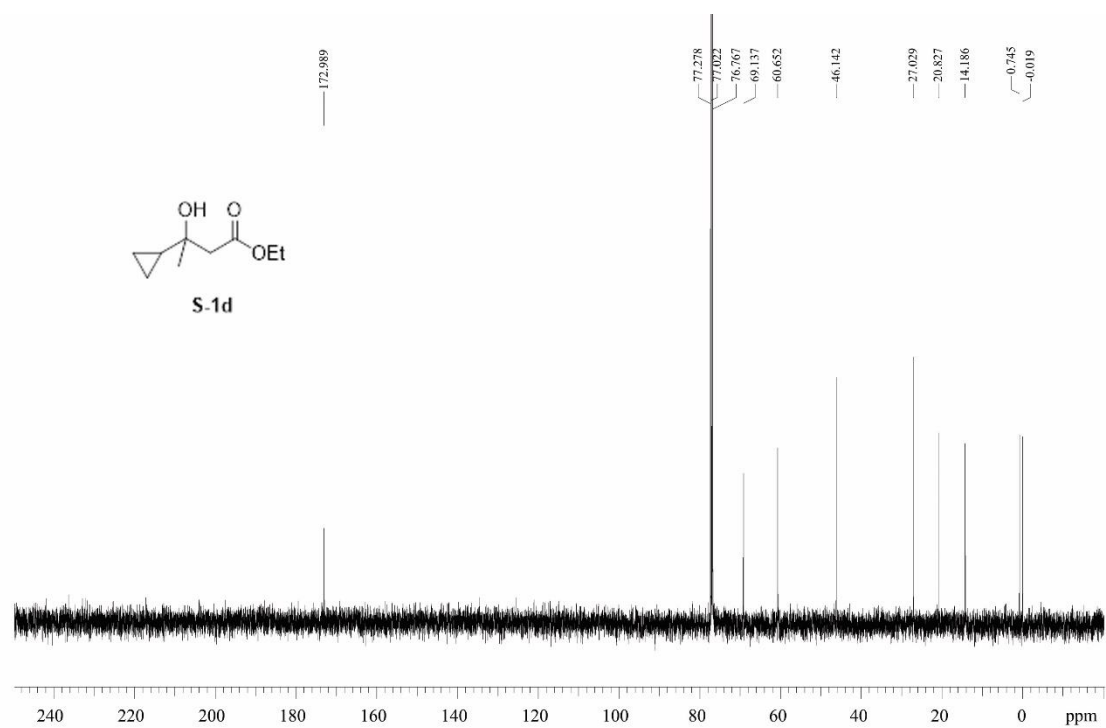
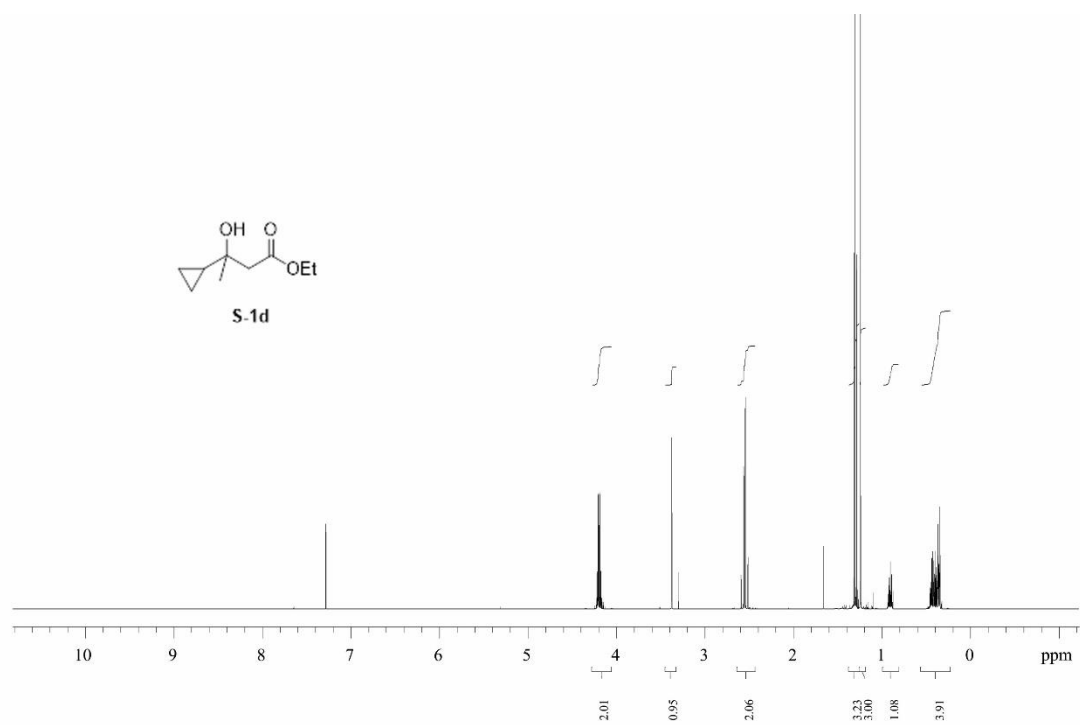


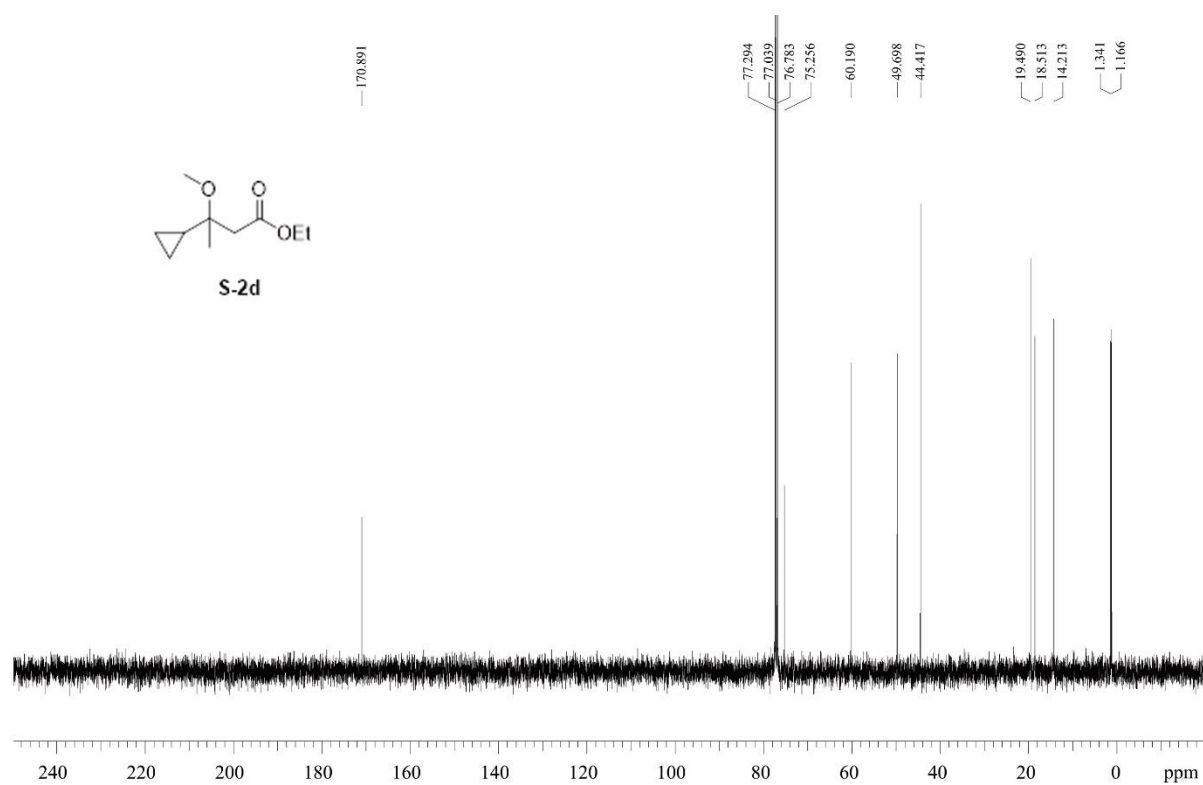
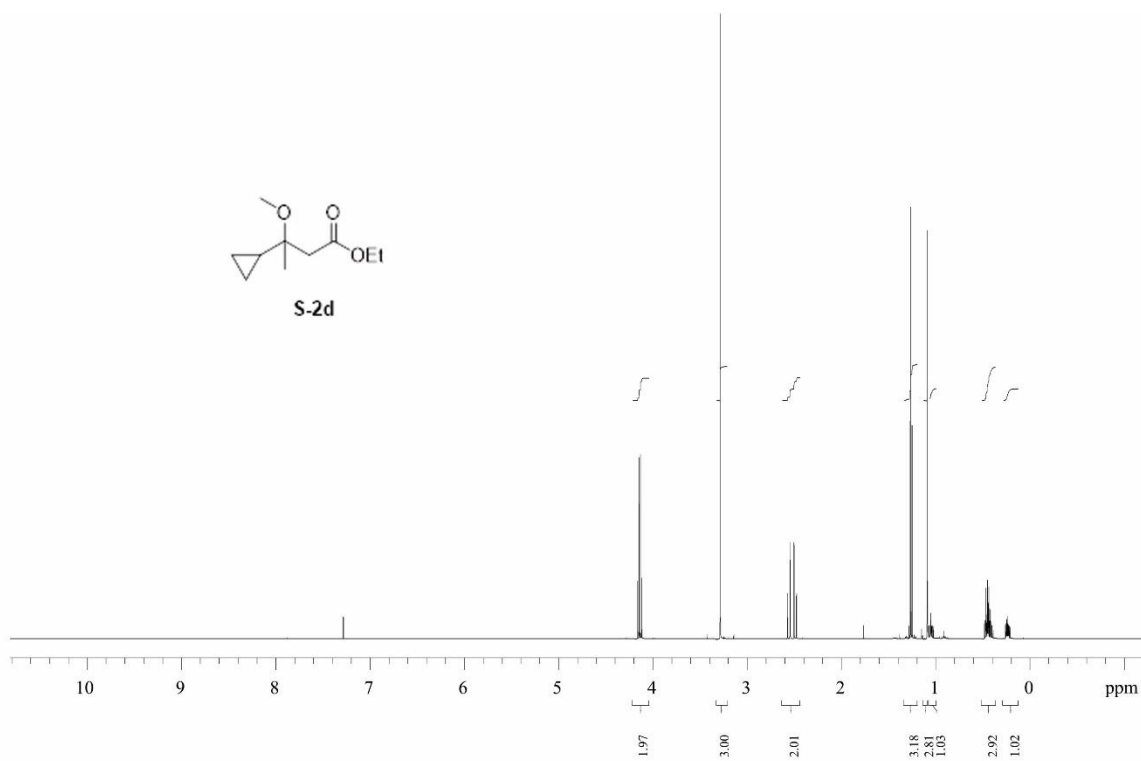


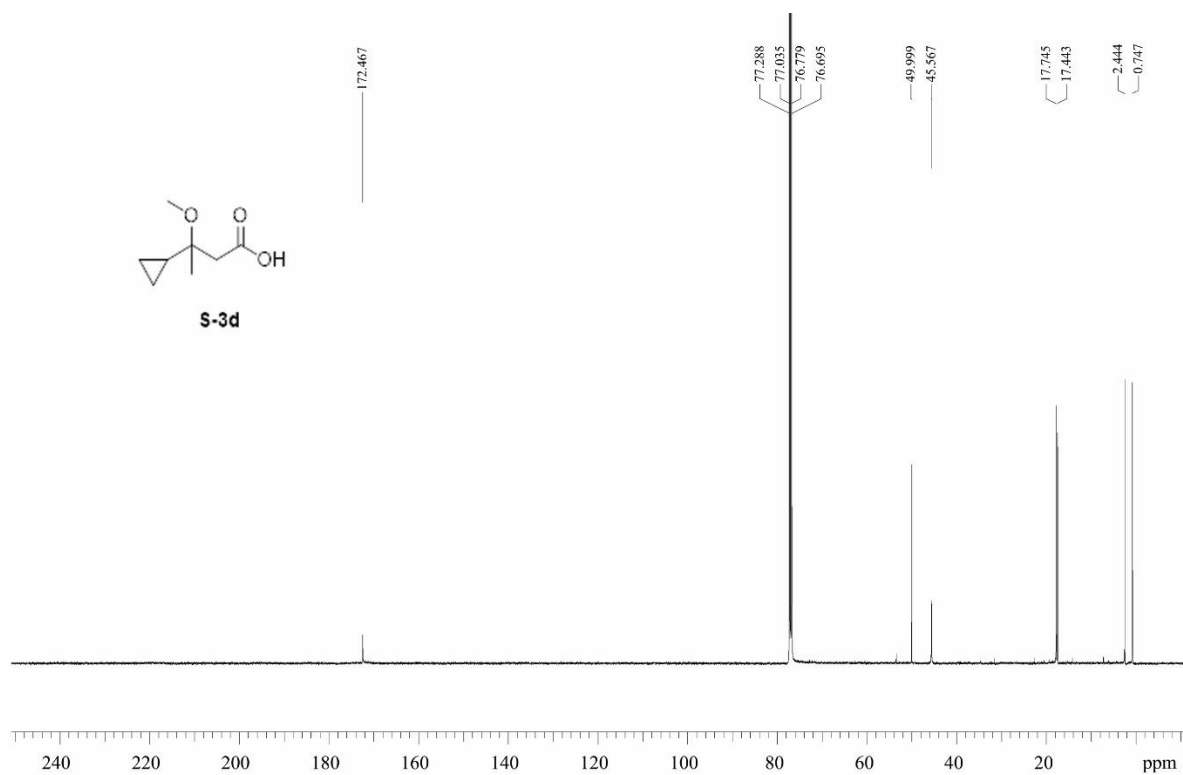
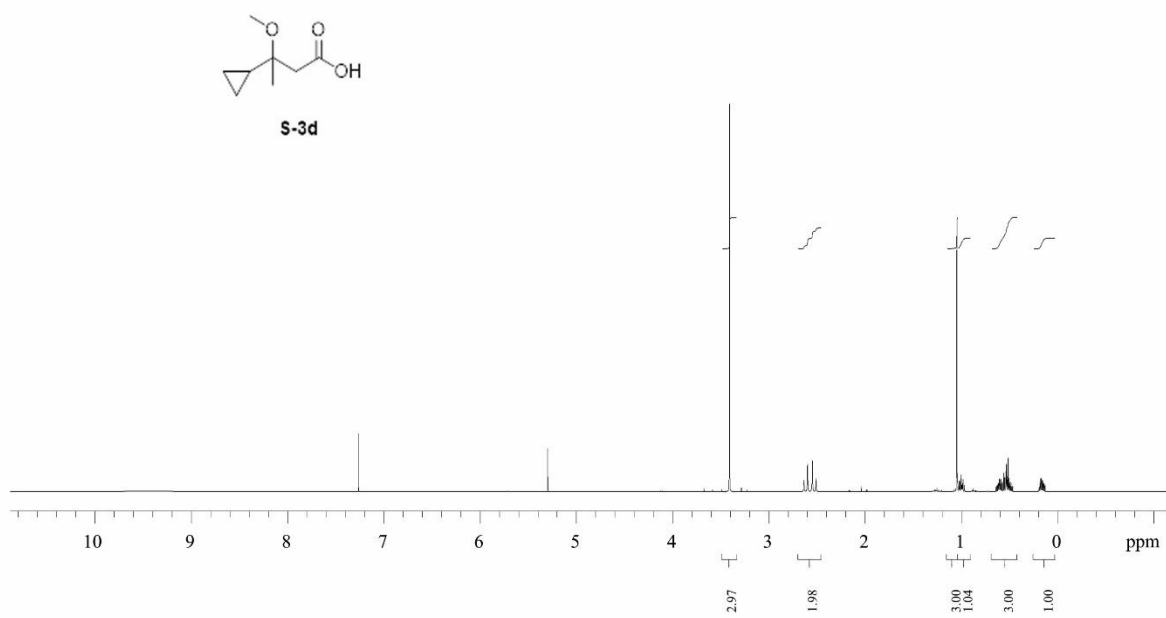


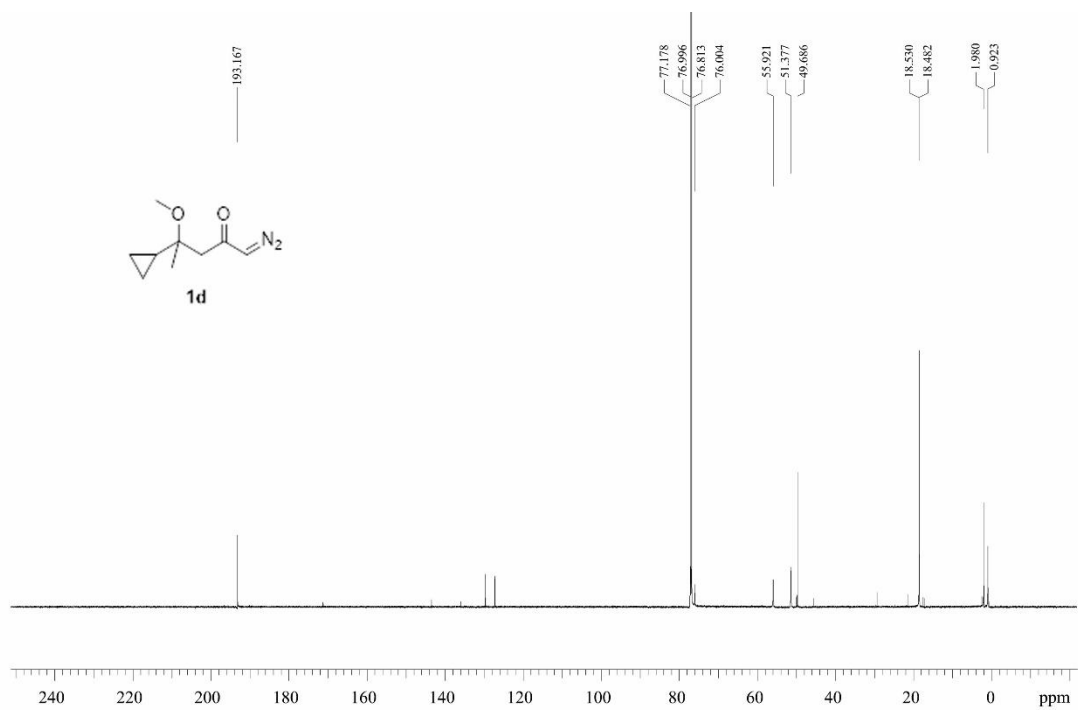
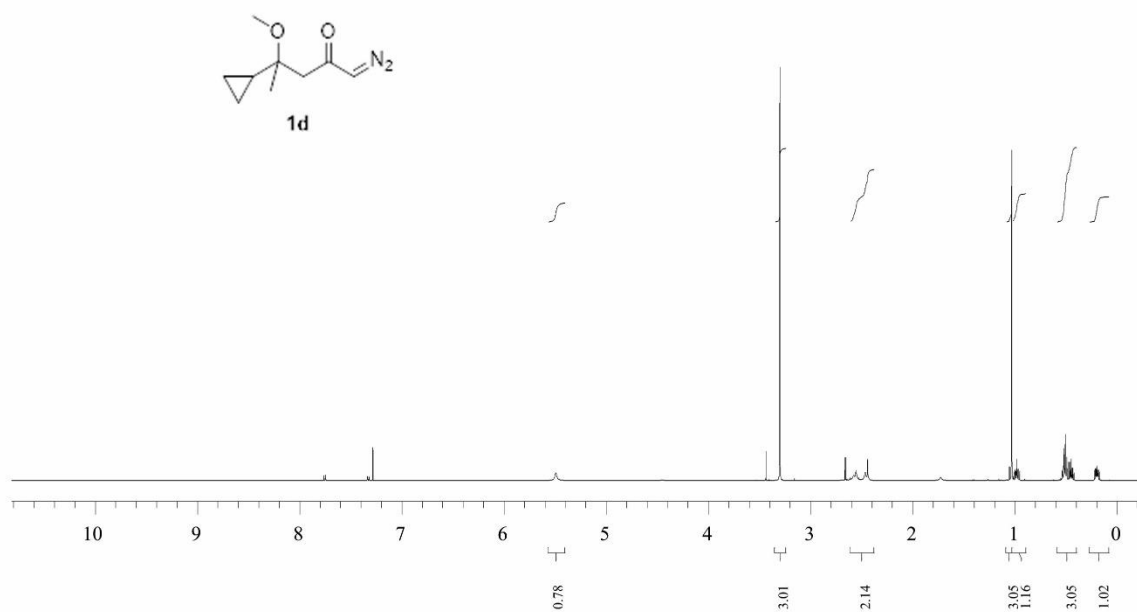


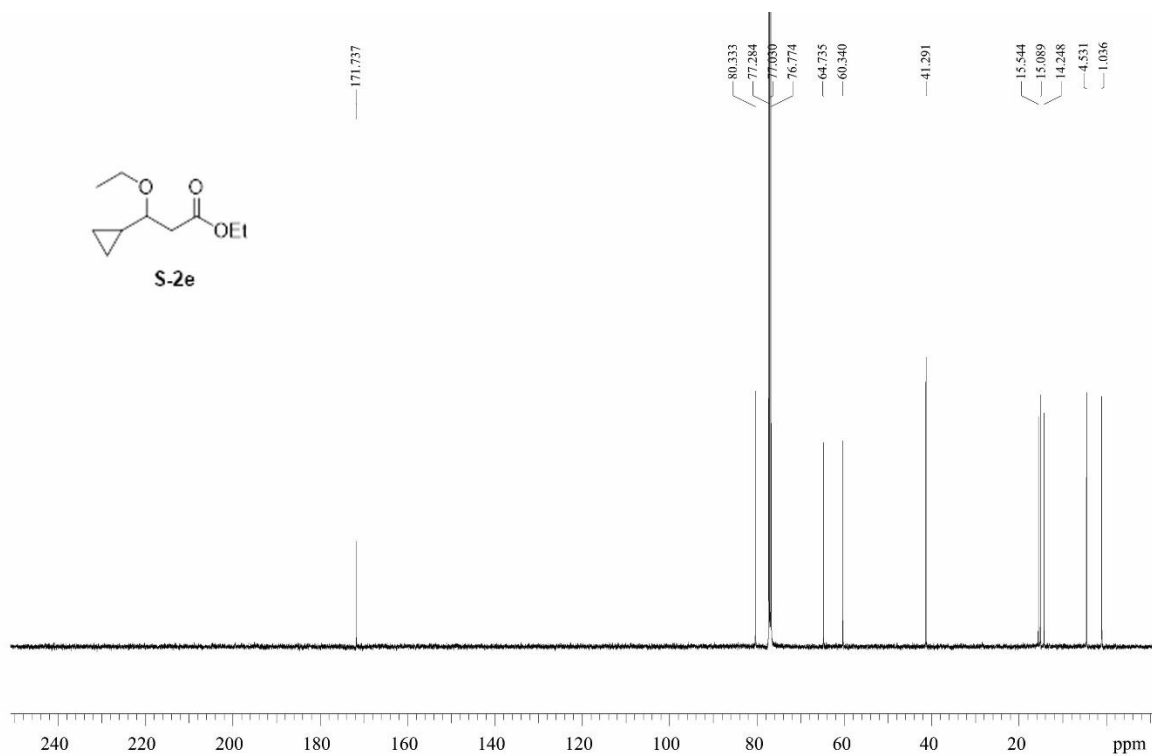
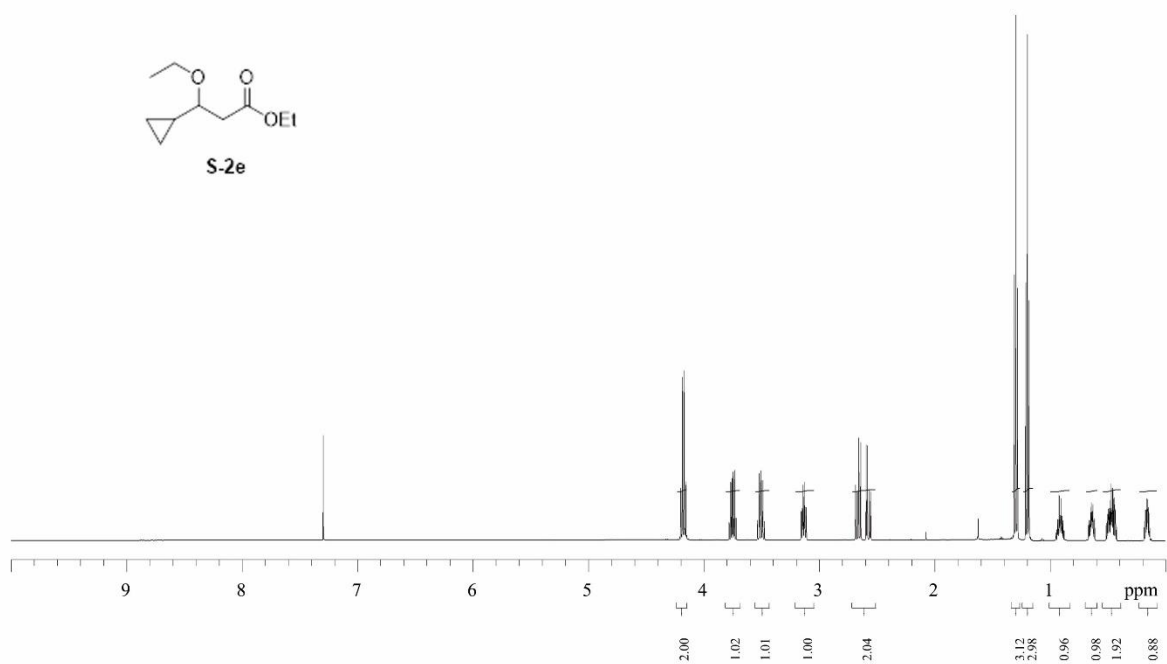


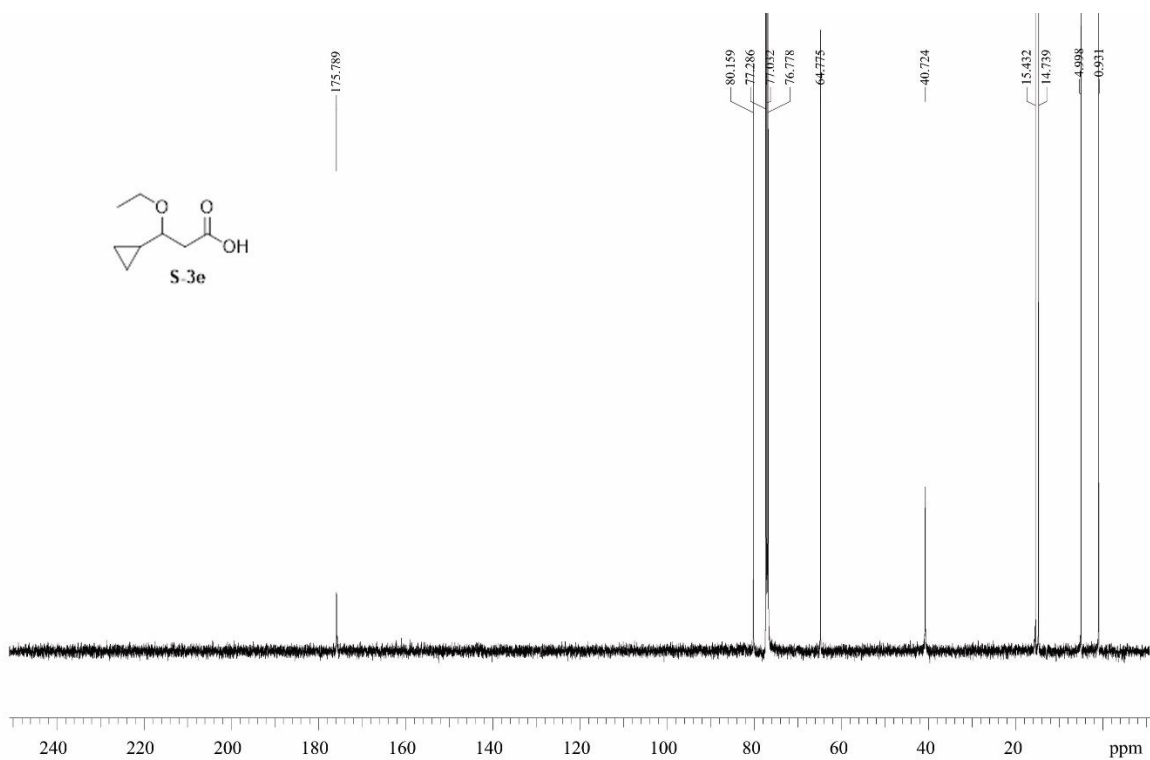
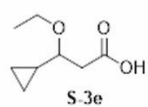
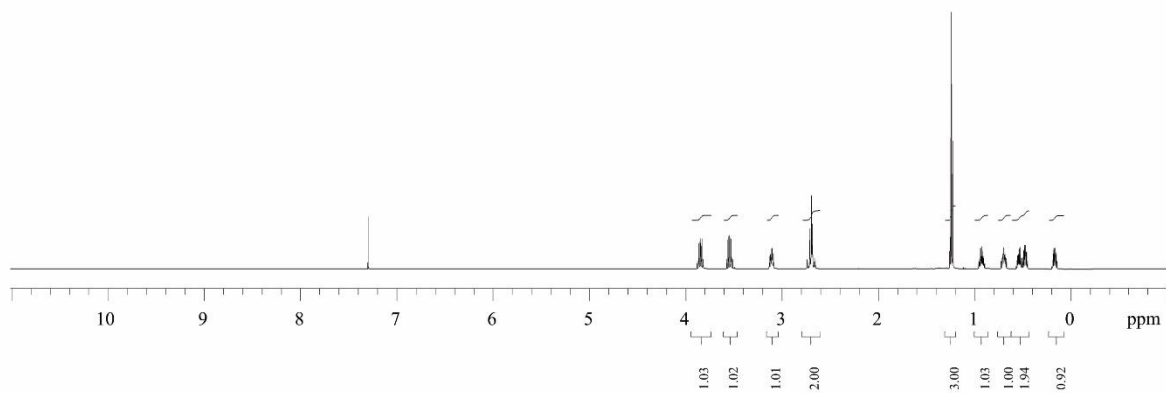
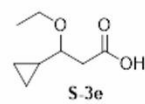


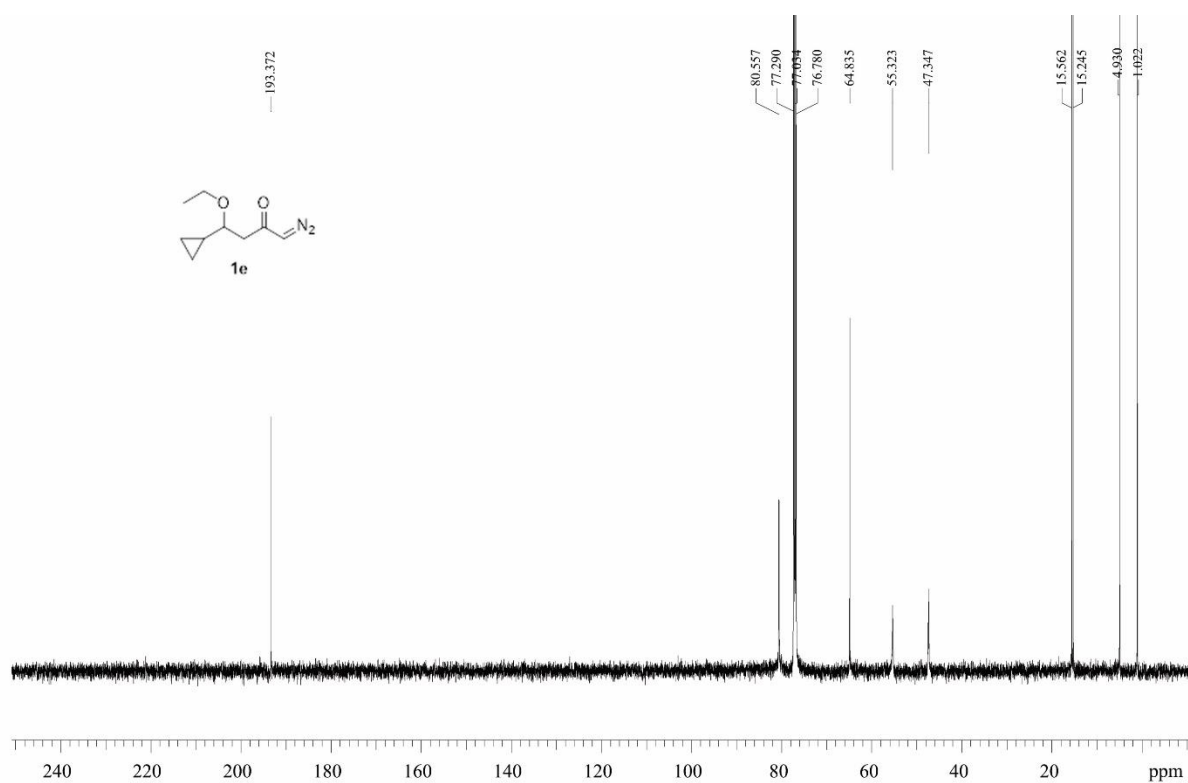
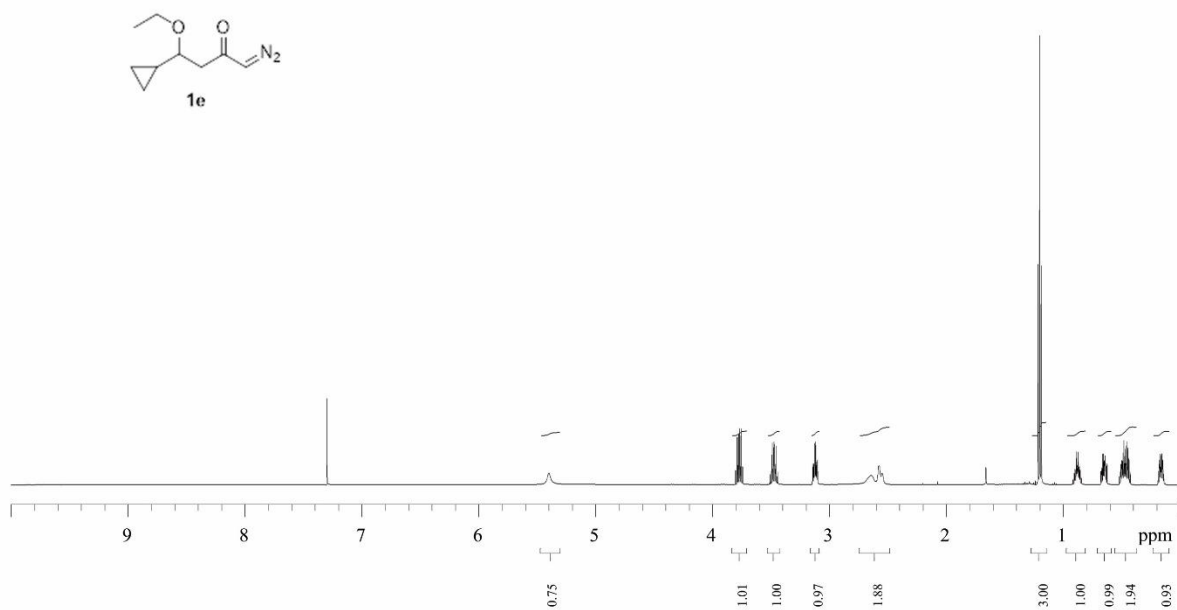




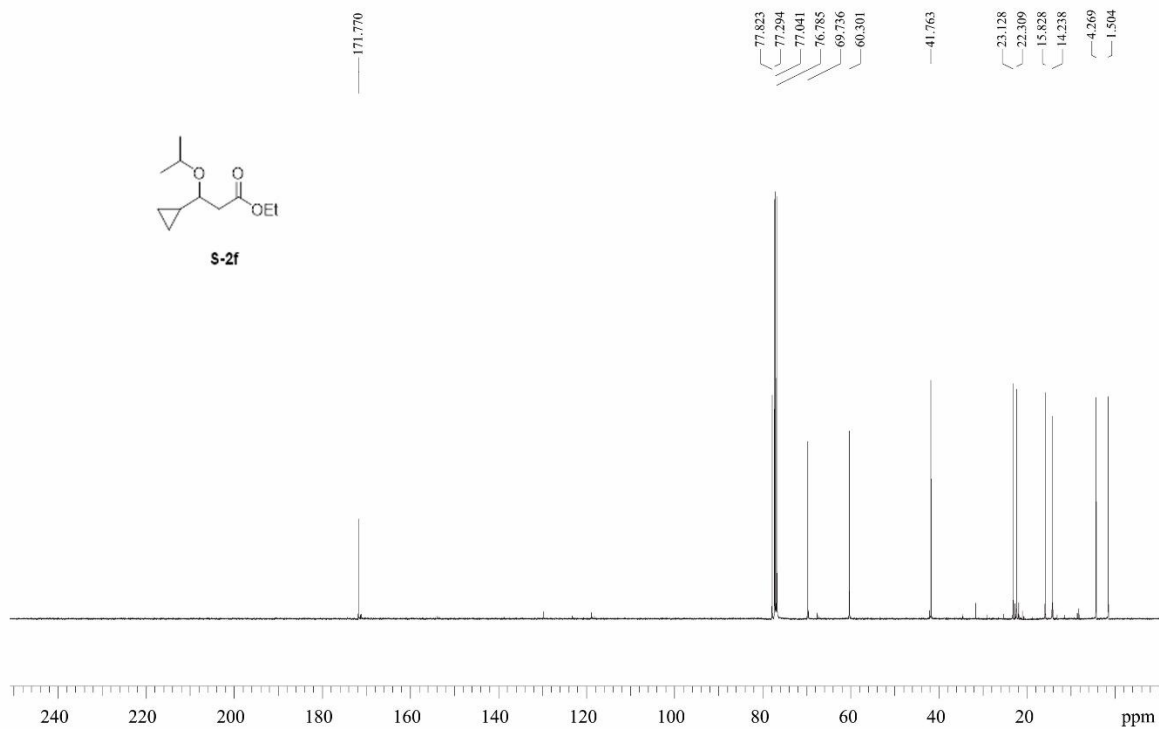
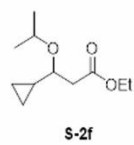
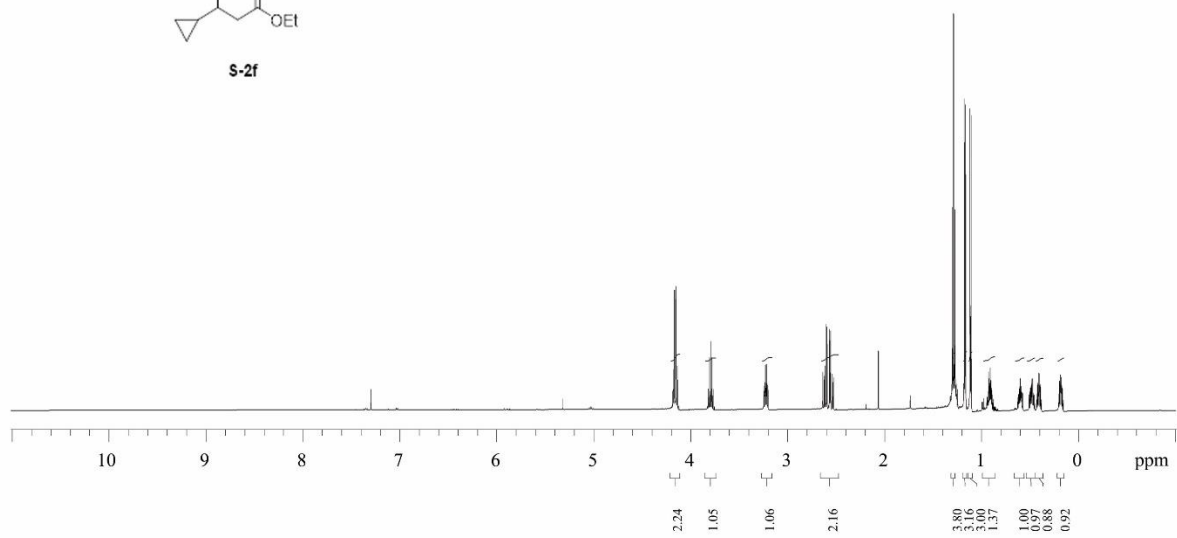
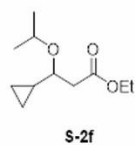


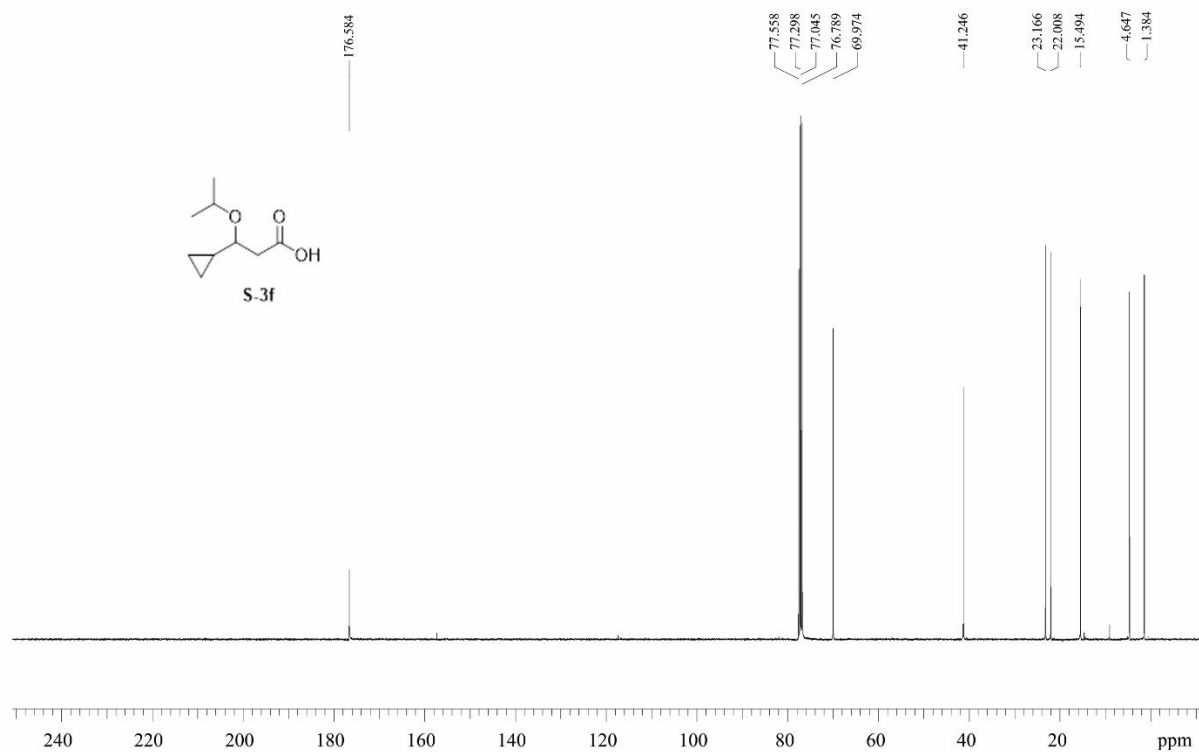
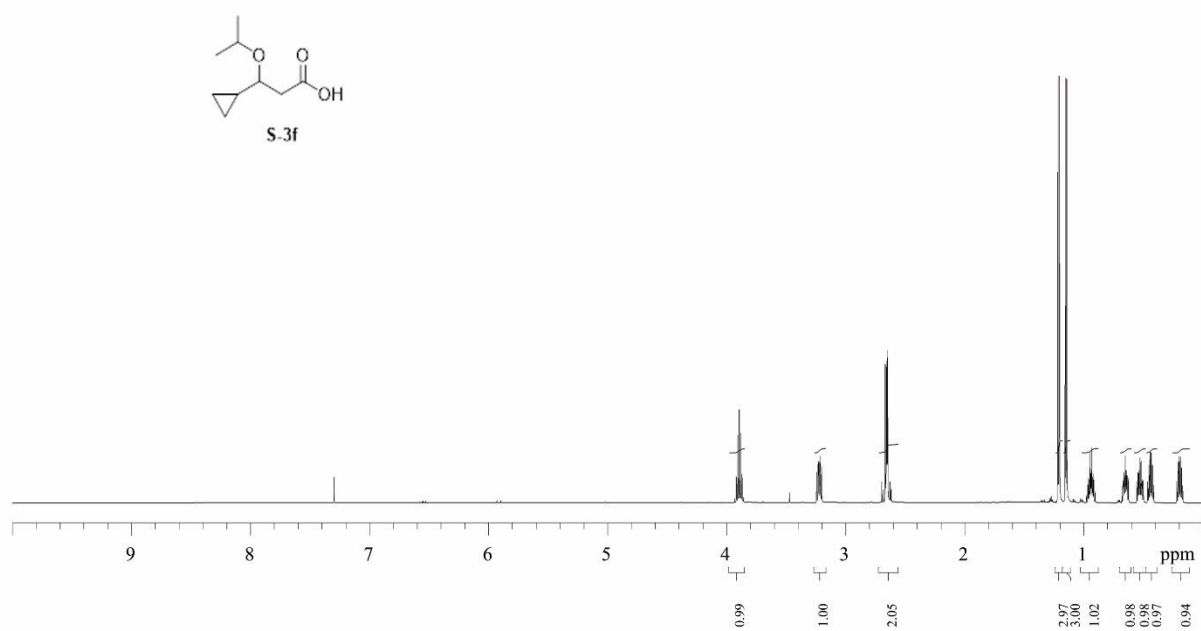


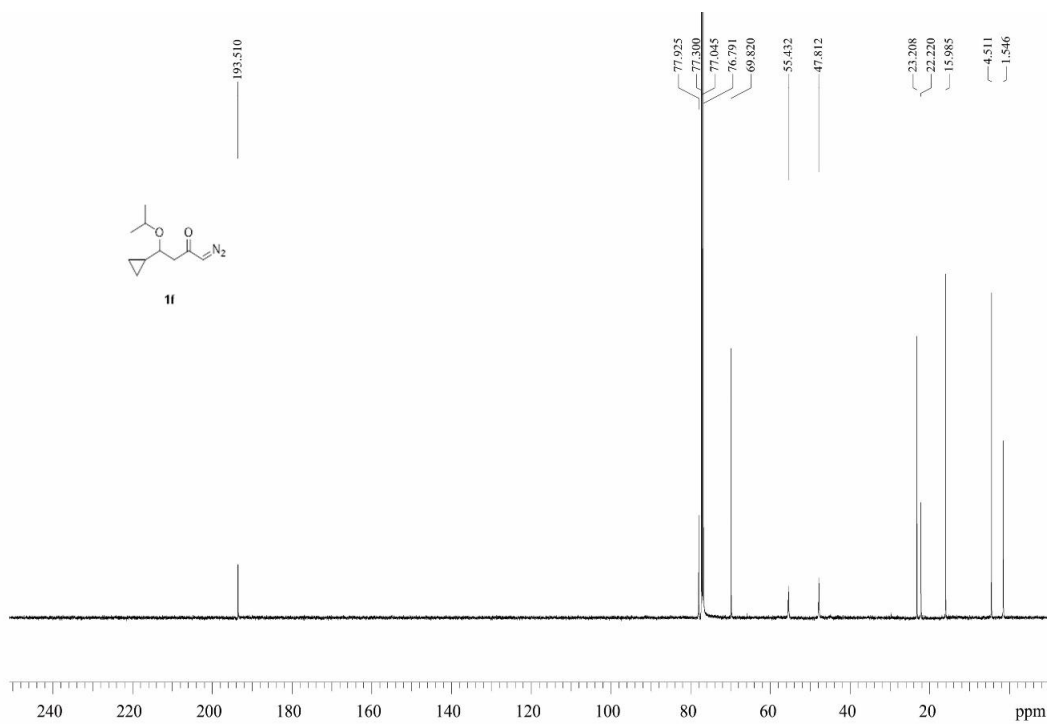
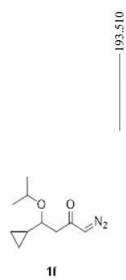
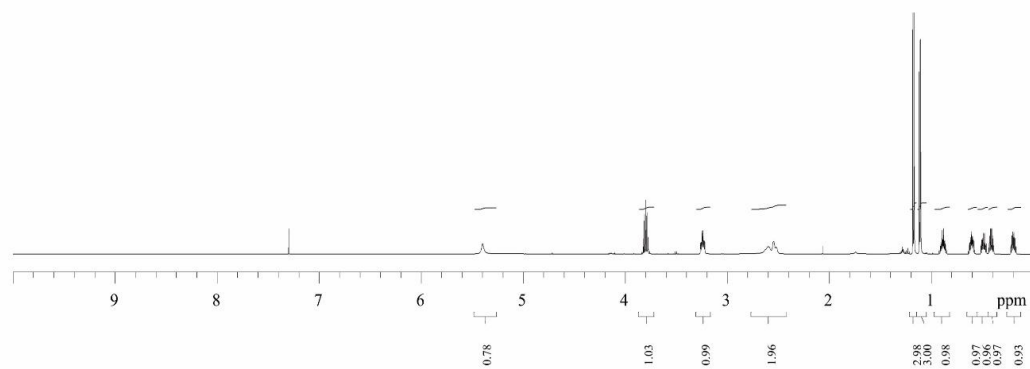
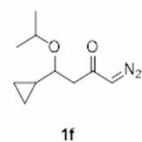


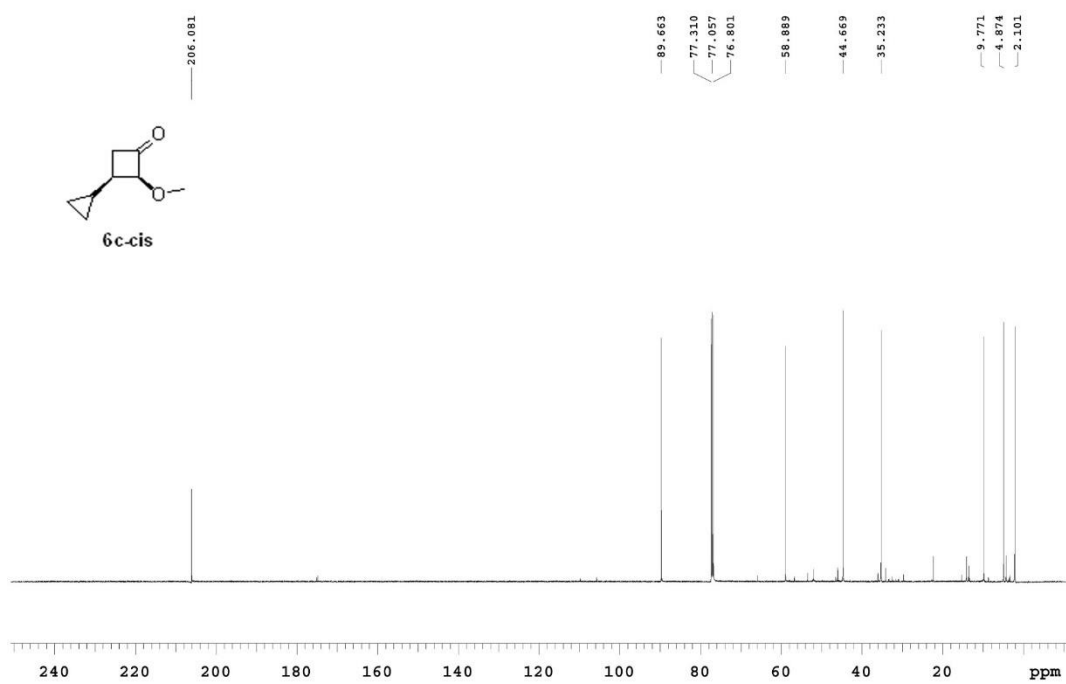
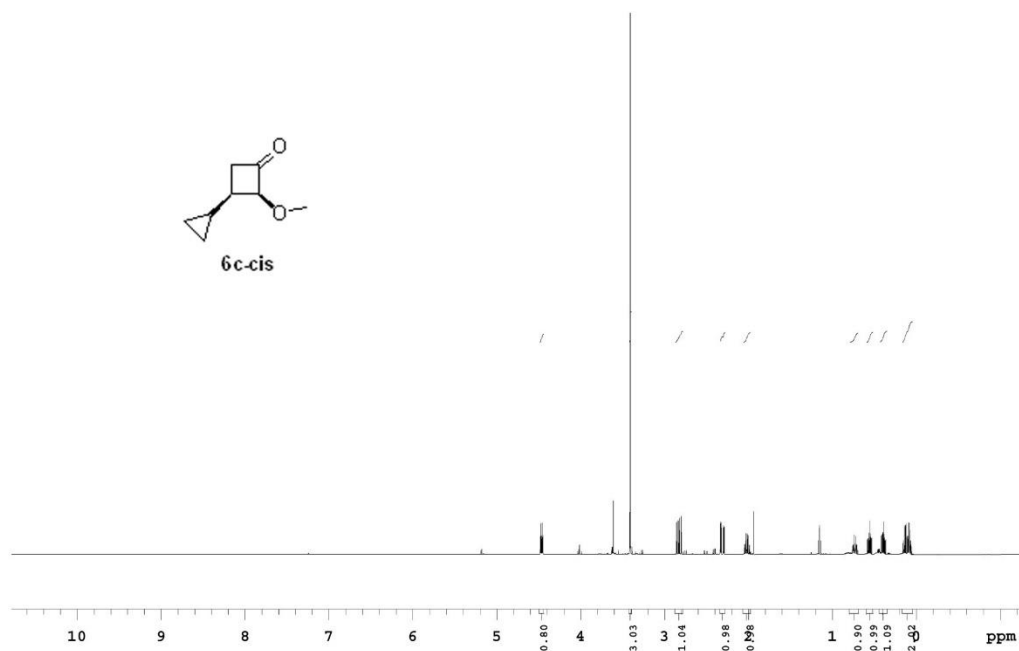


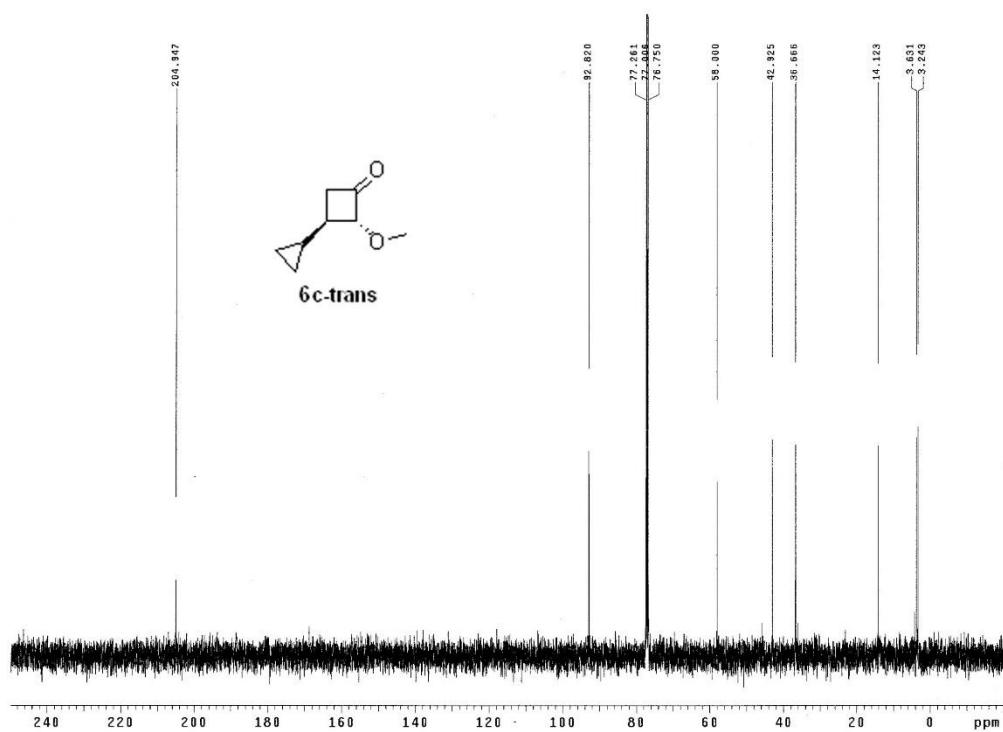
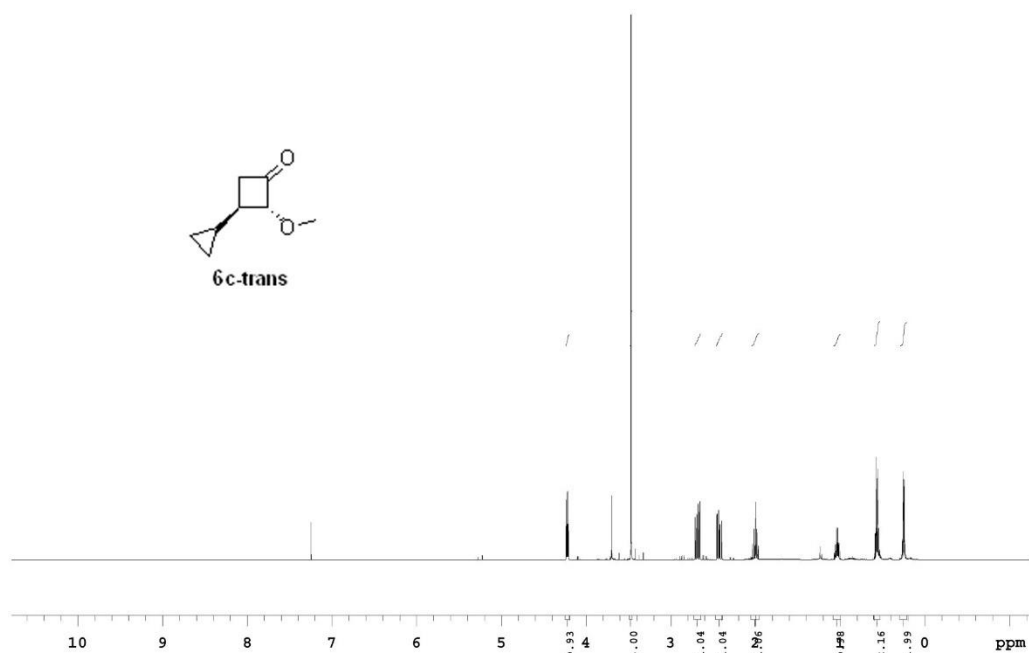


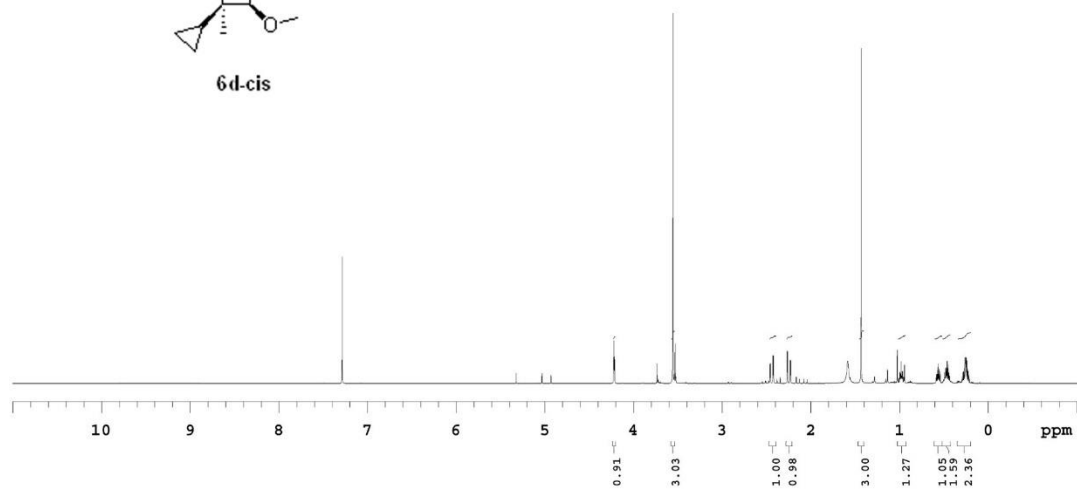
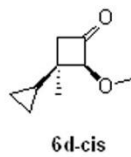




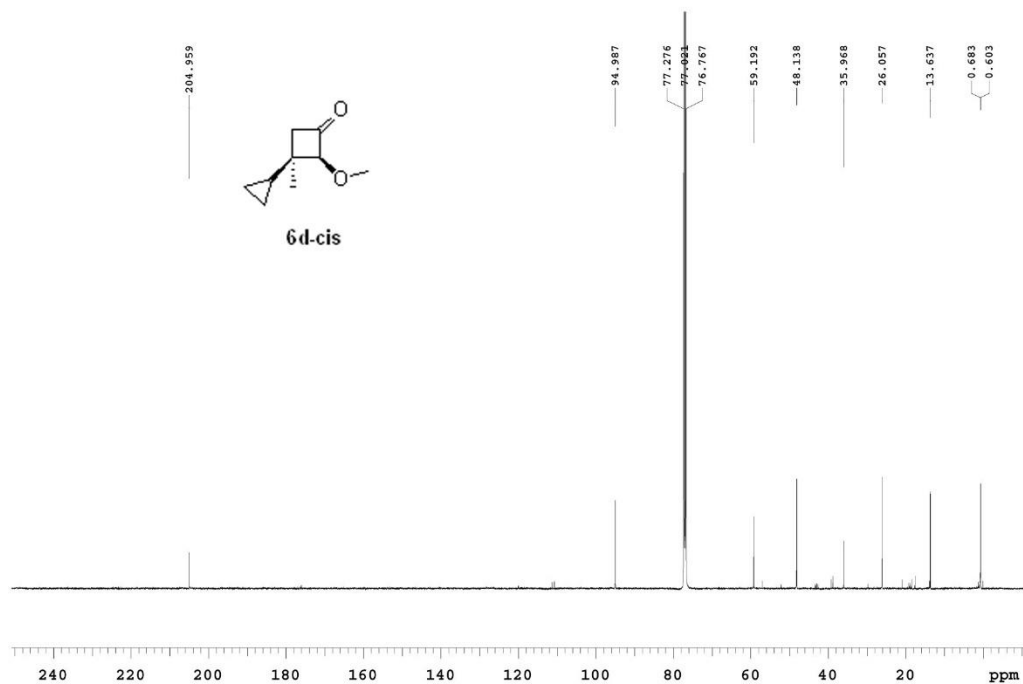
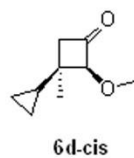


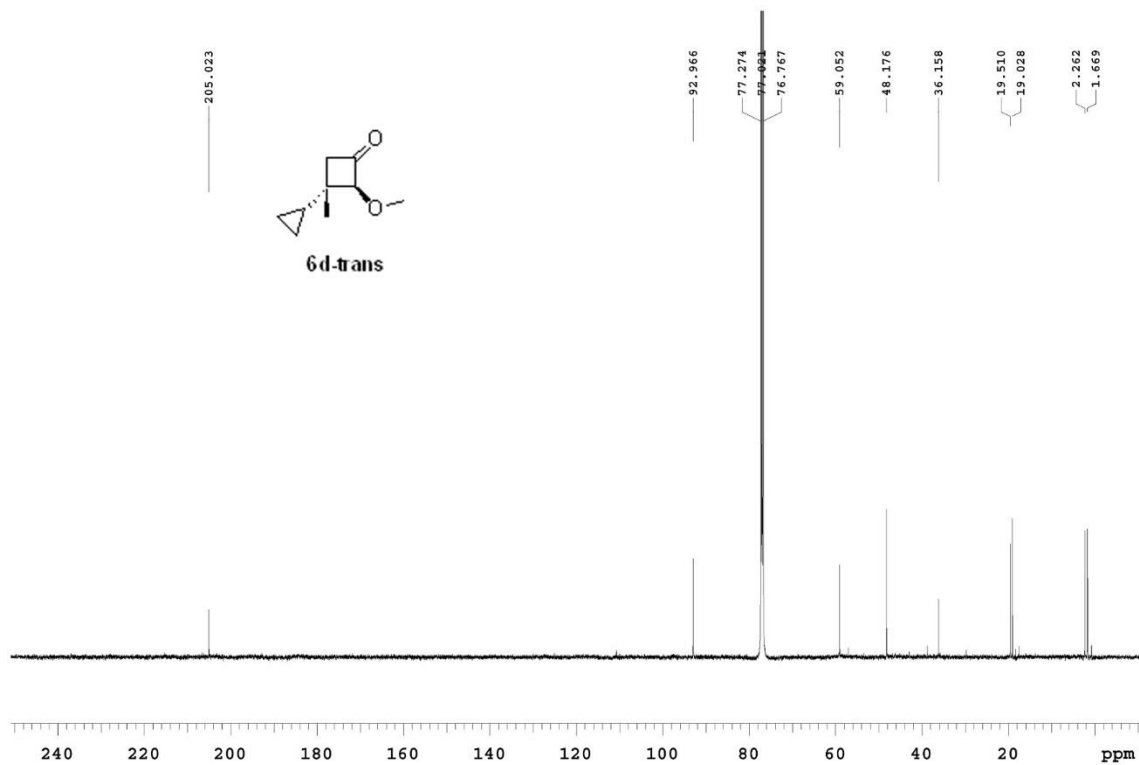
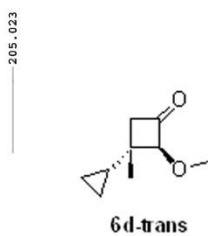
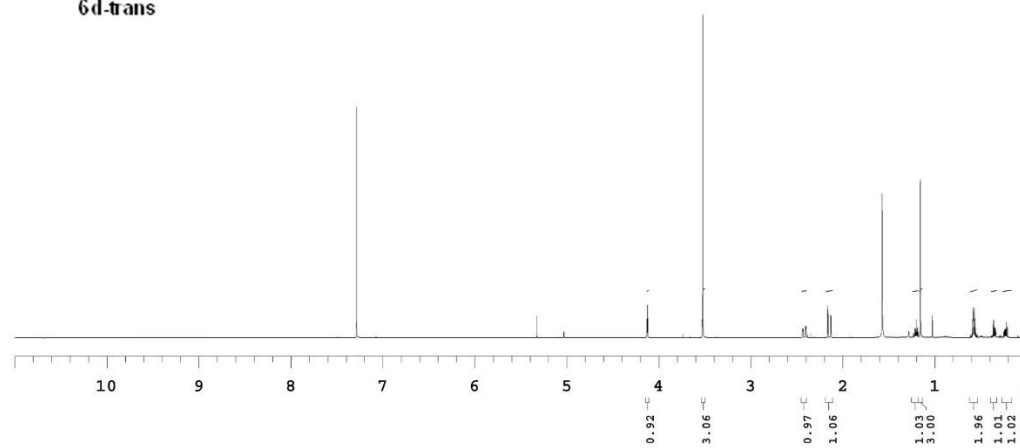
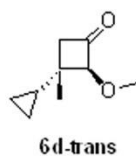


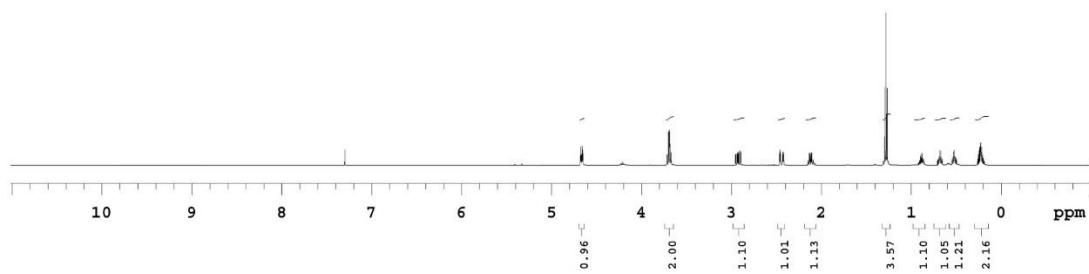
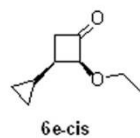




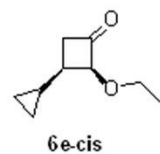
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88.347

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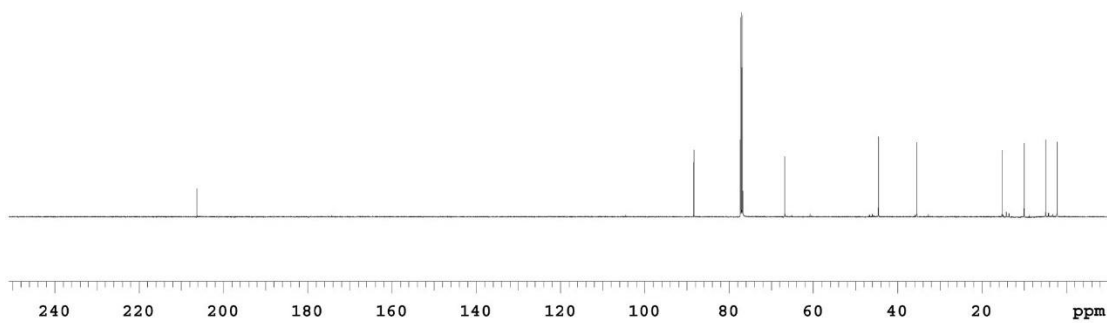
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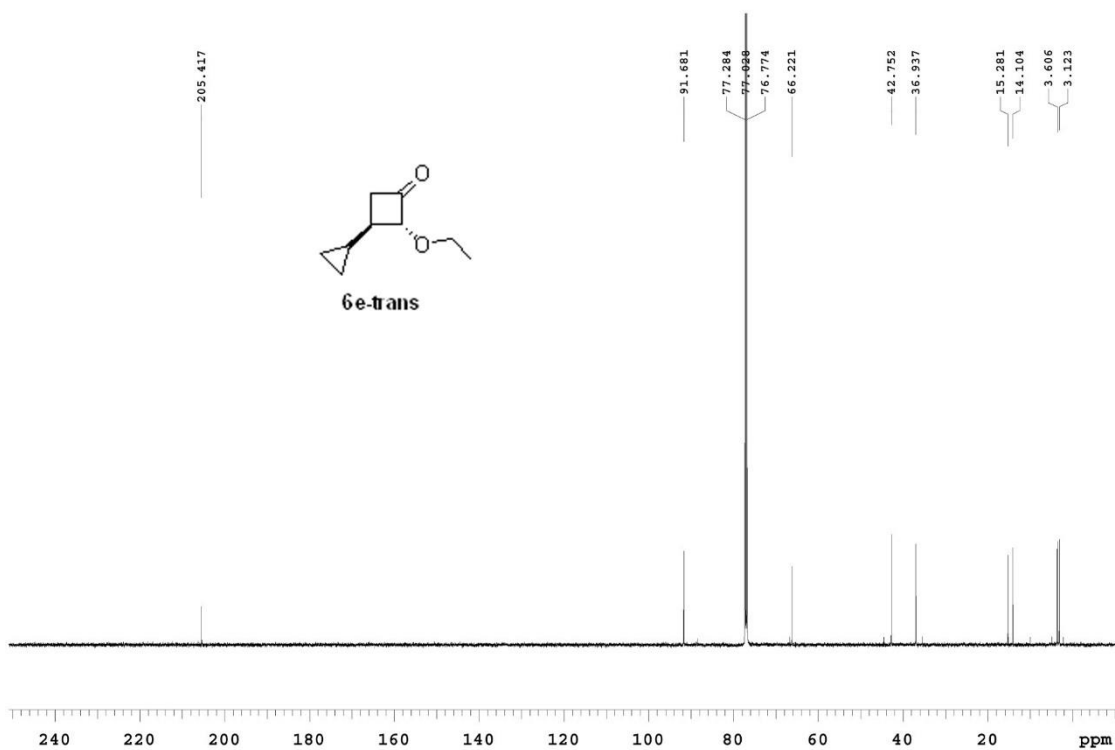
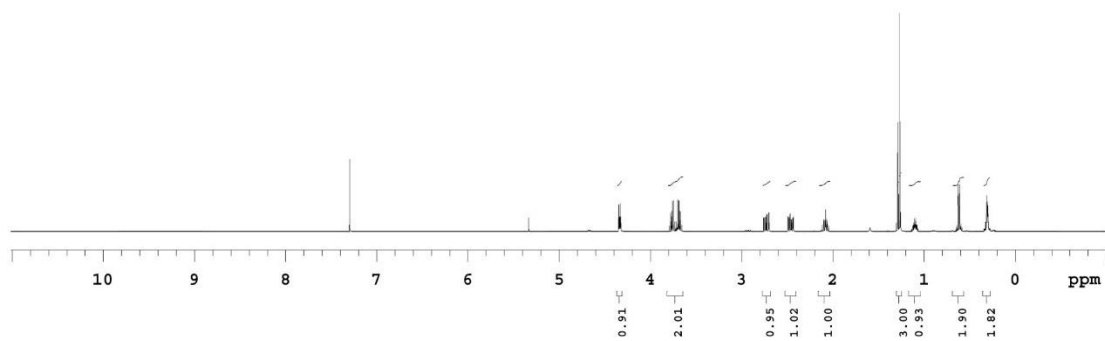
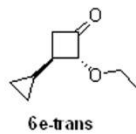
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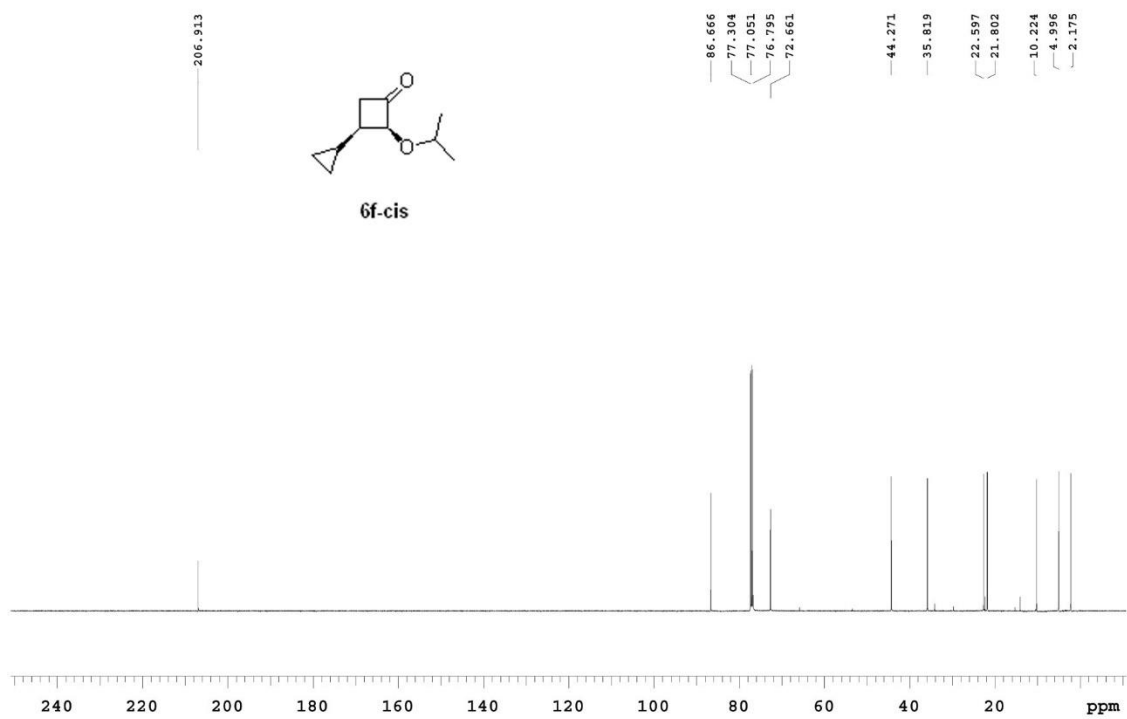
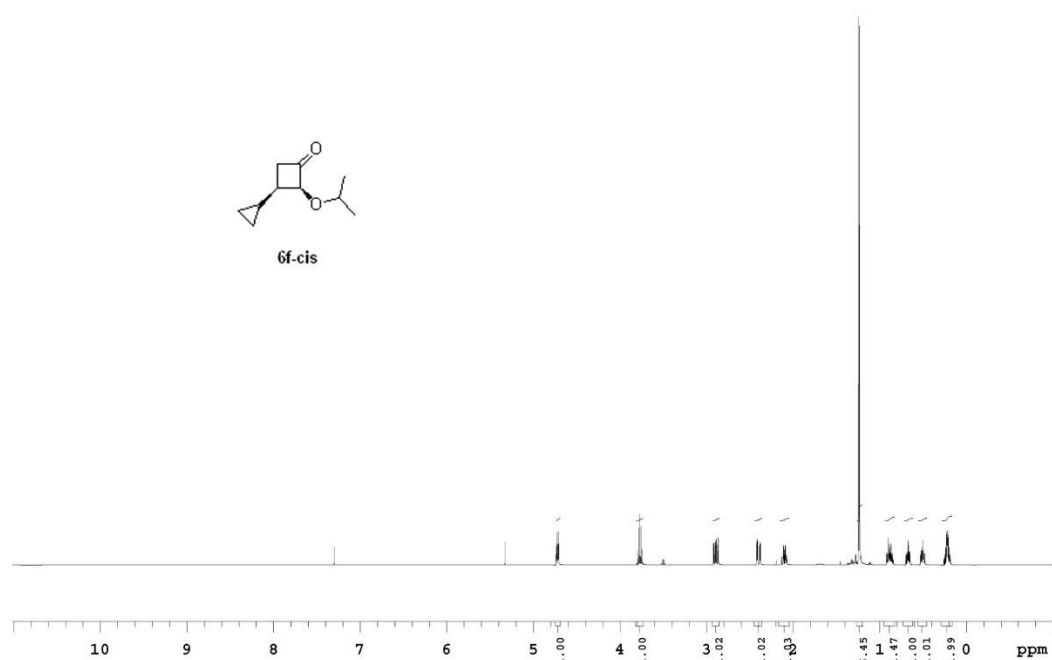
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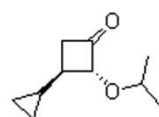
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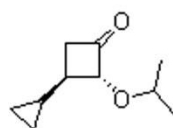
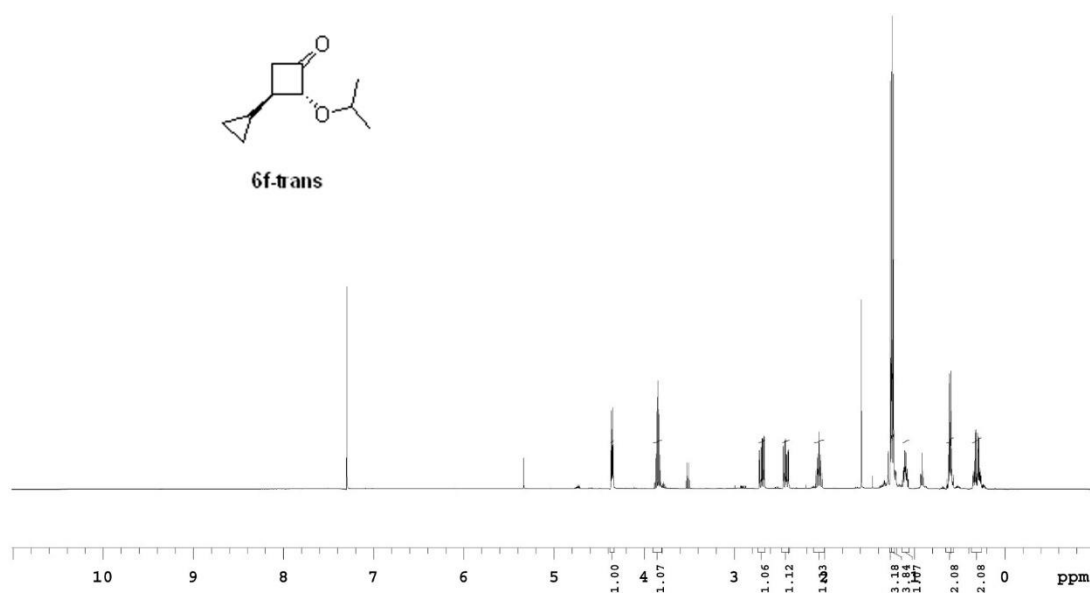




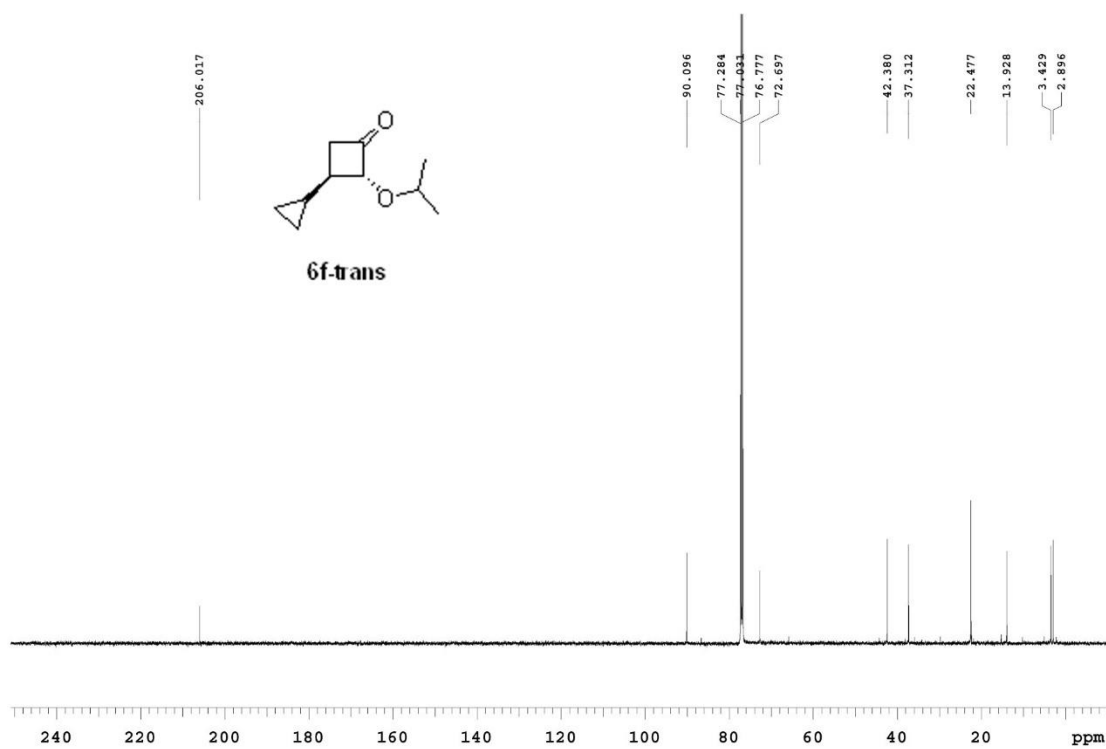


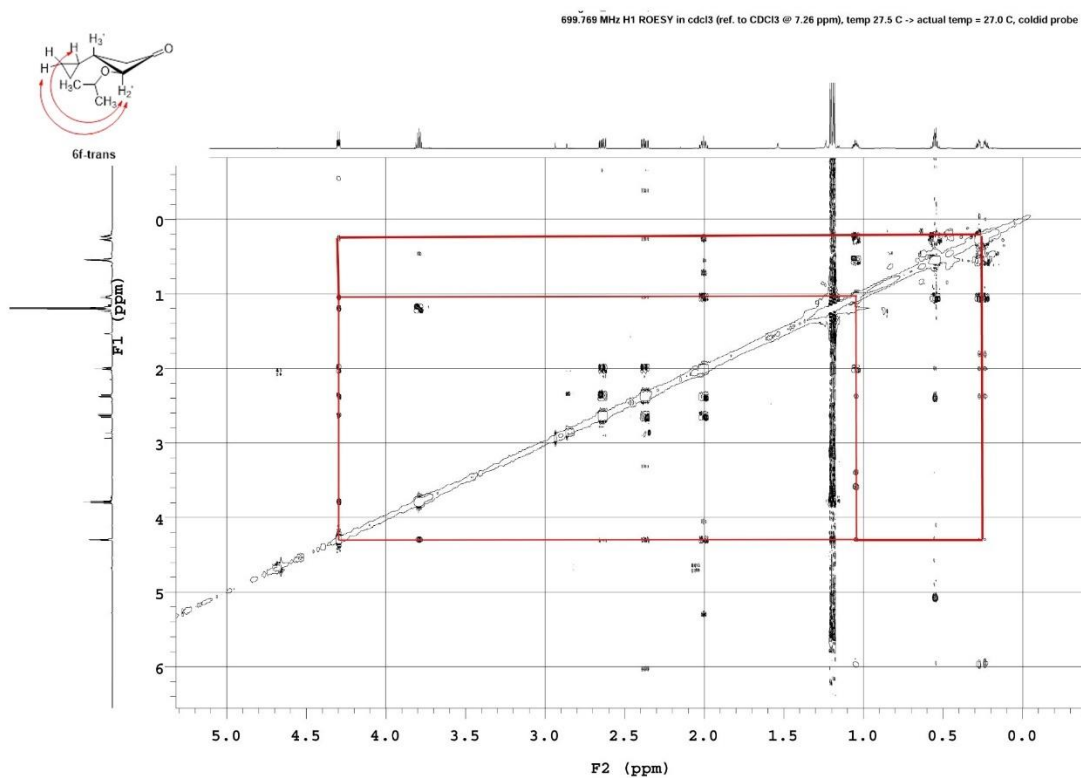
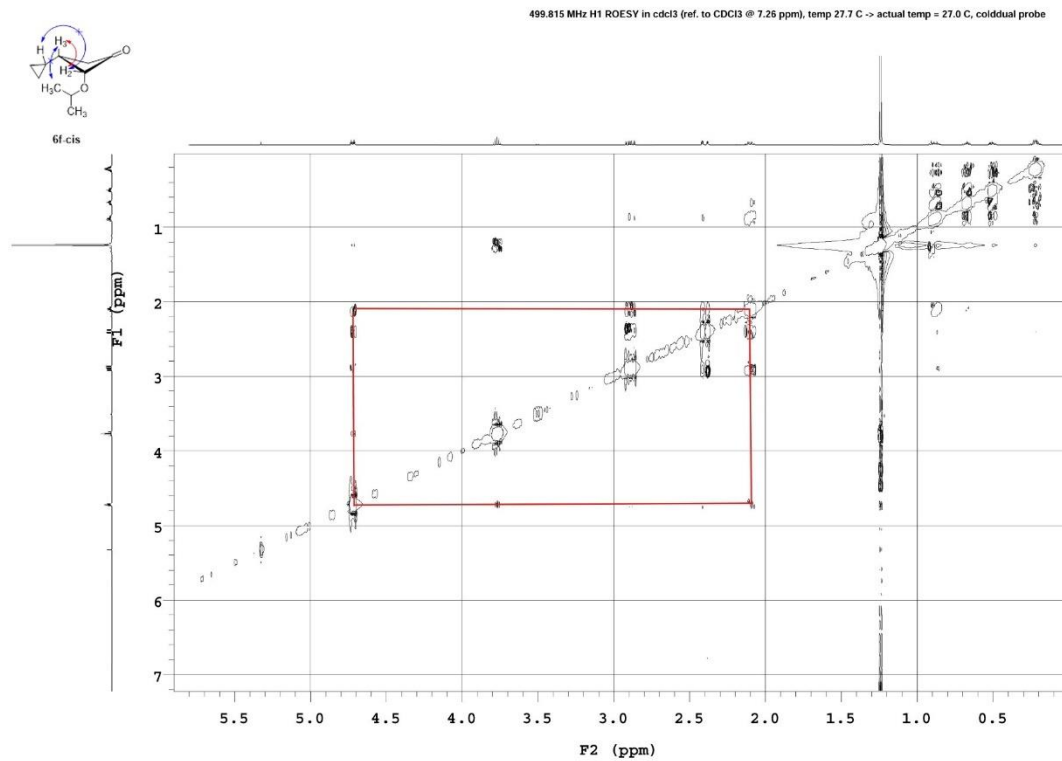


6f-trans

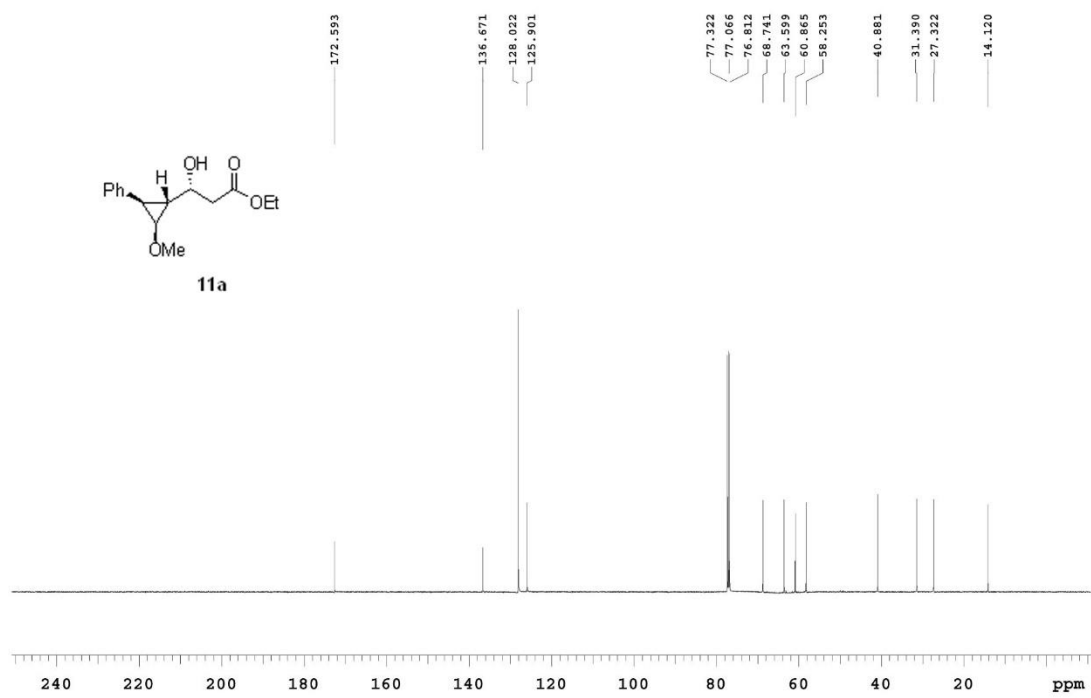
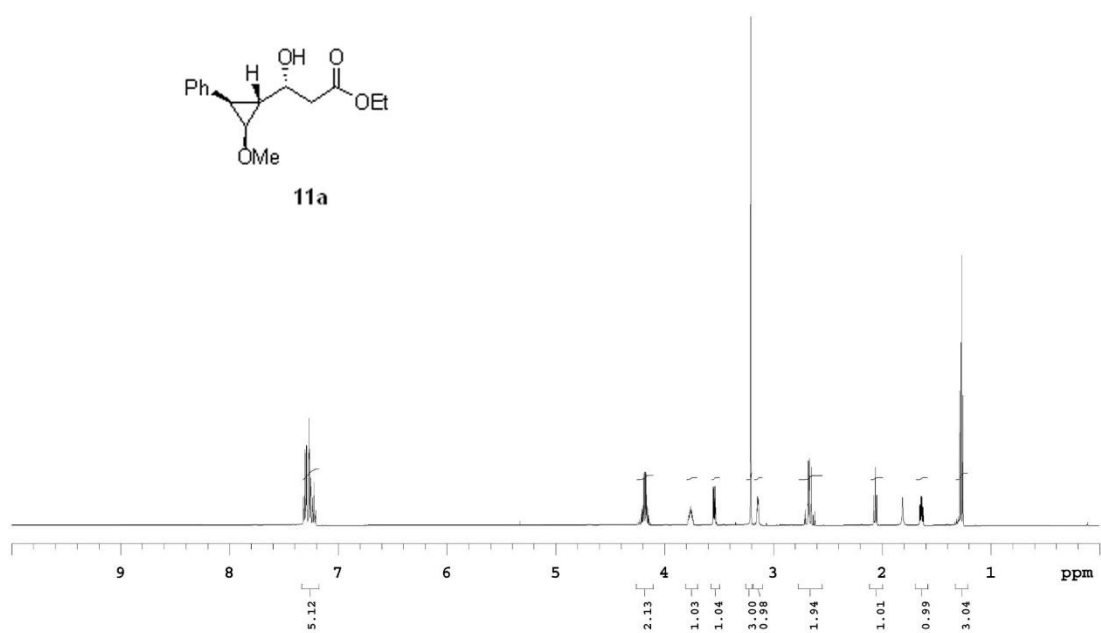


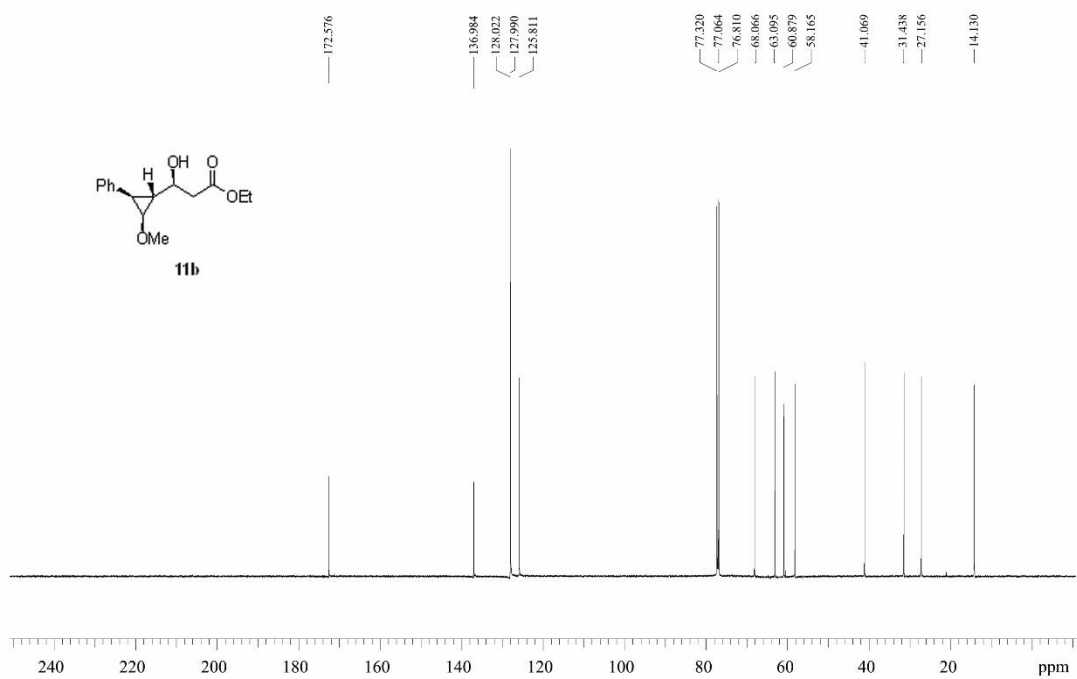
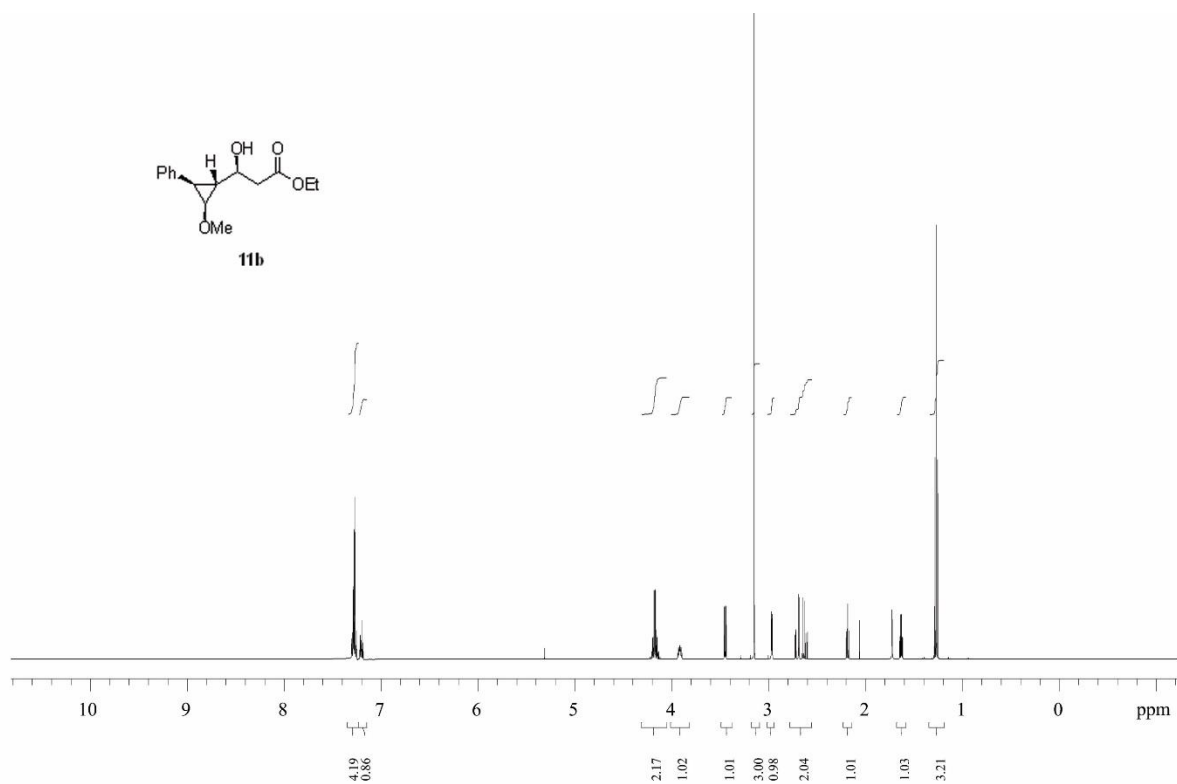
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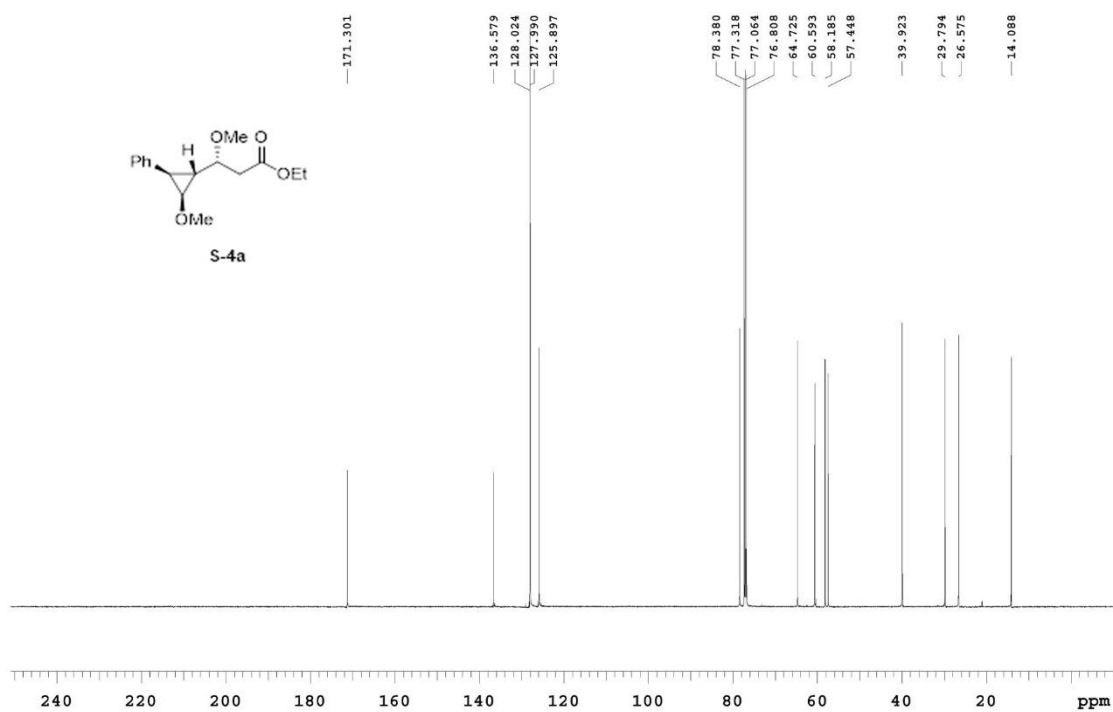
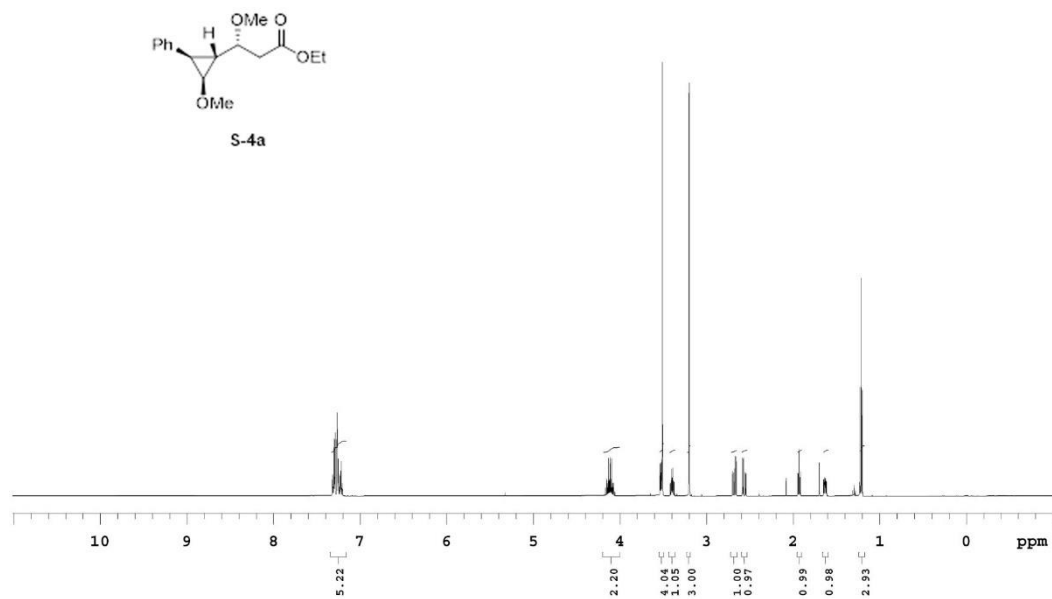


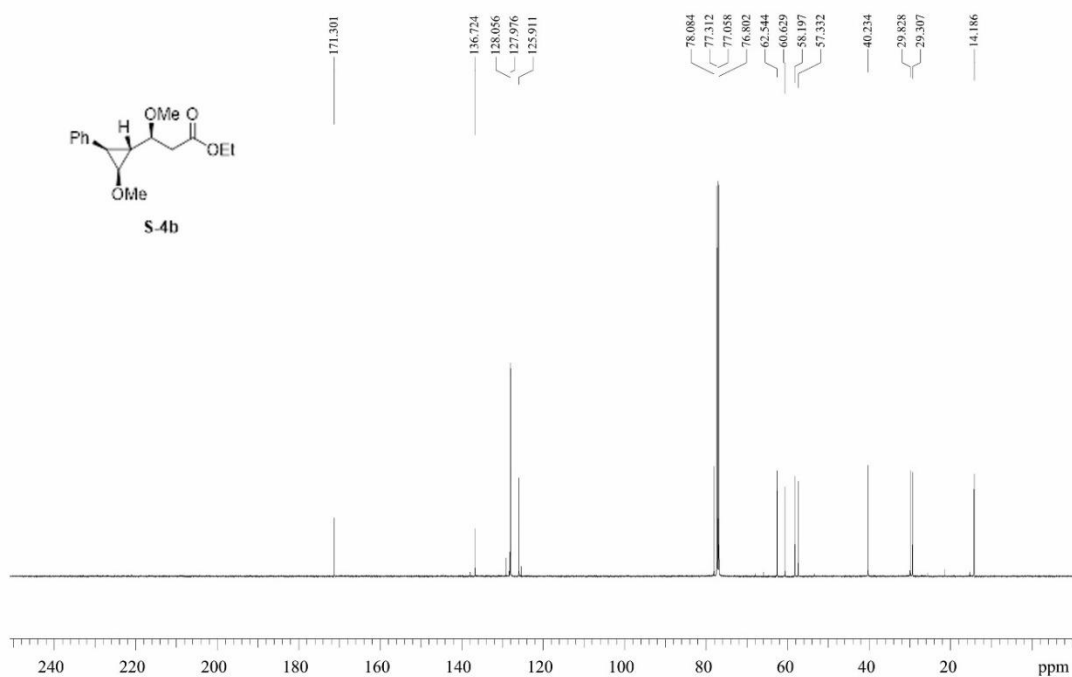
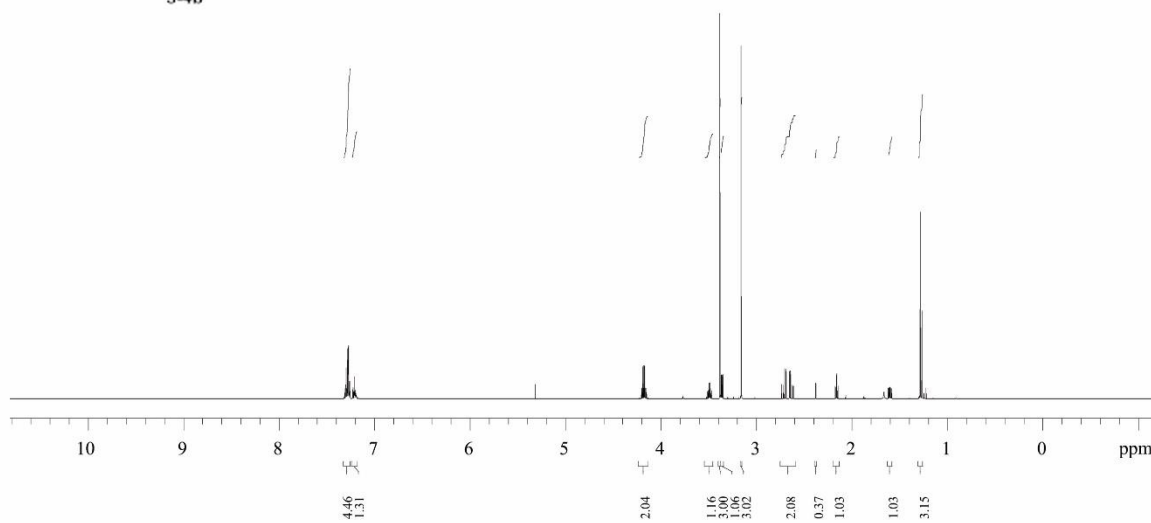
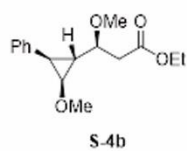


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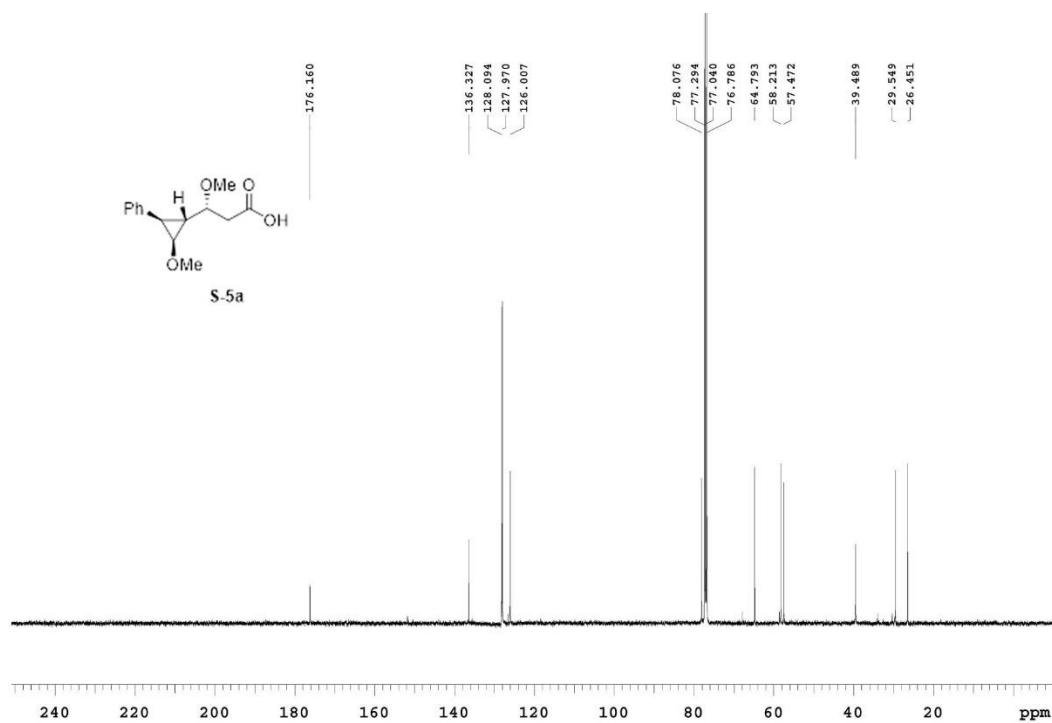
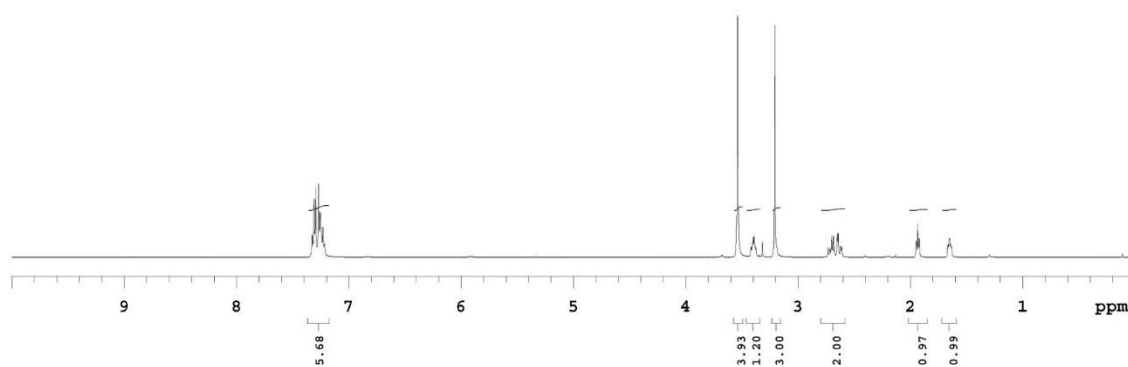
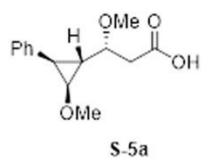


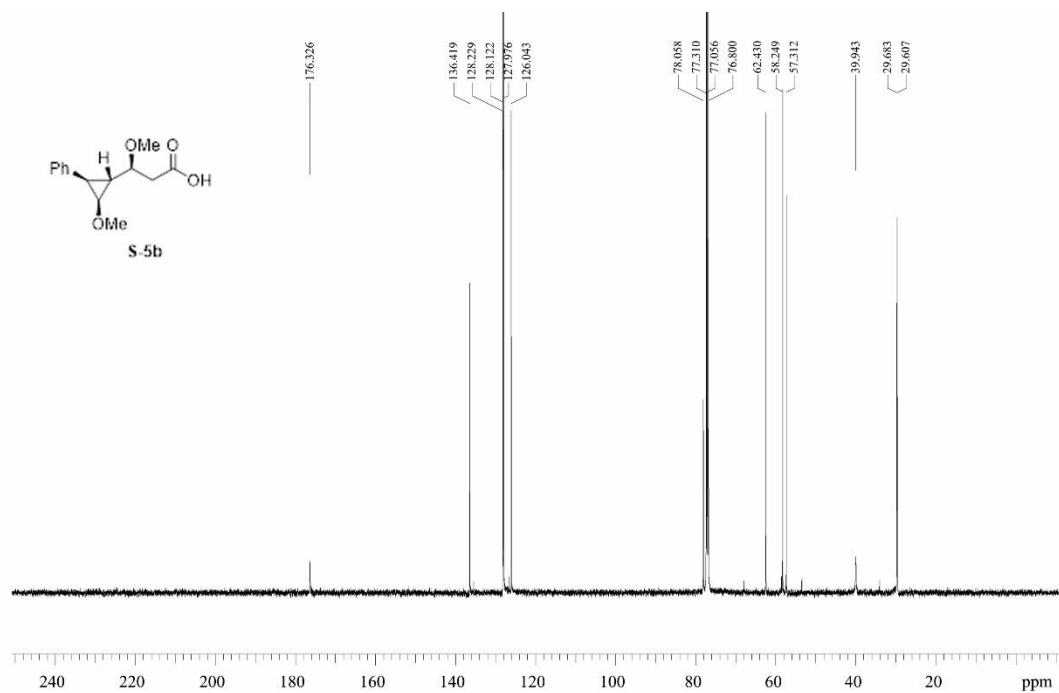
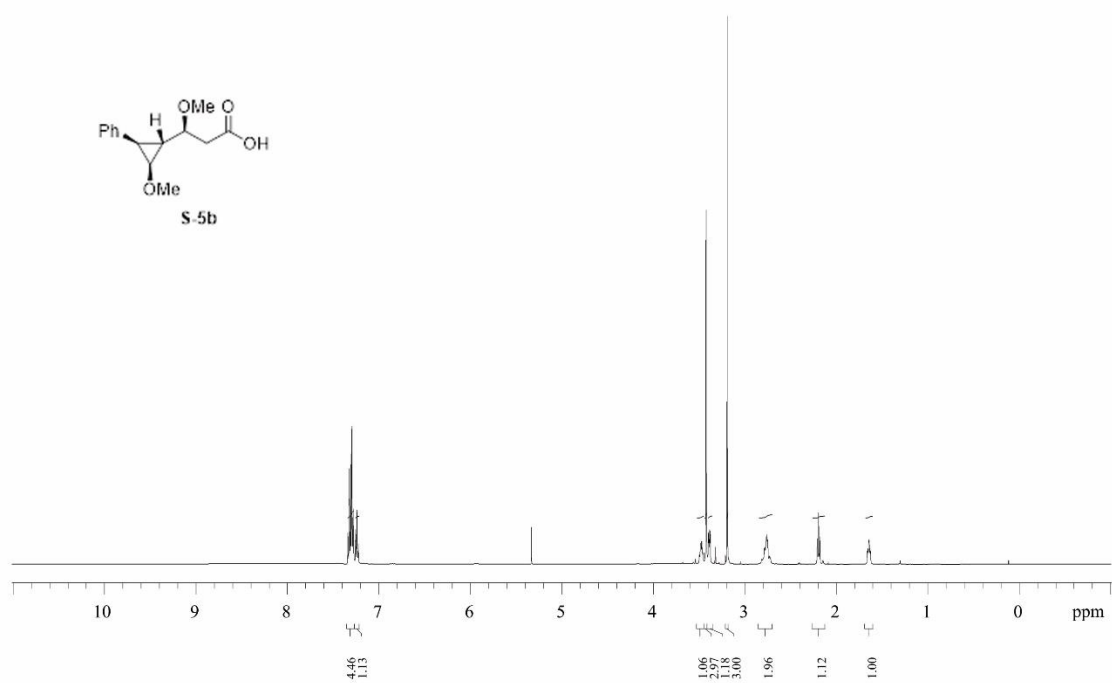


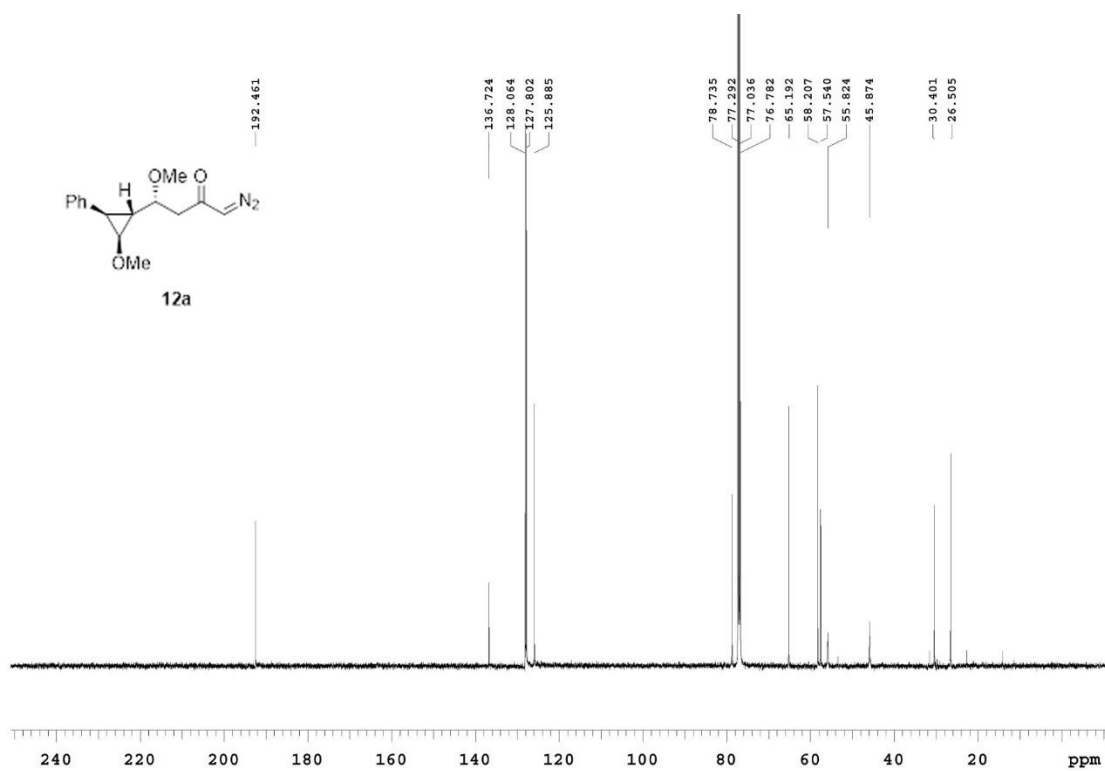
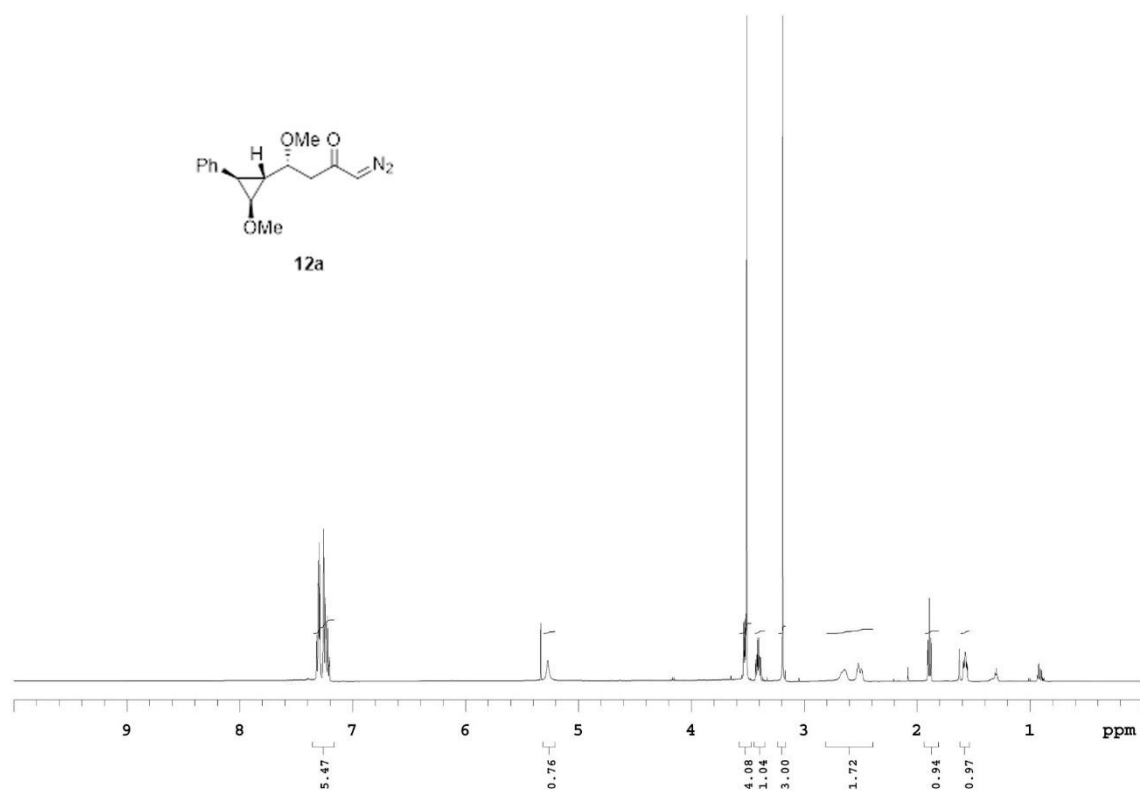


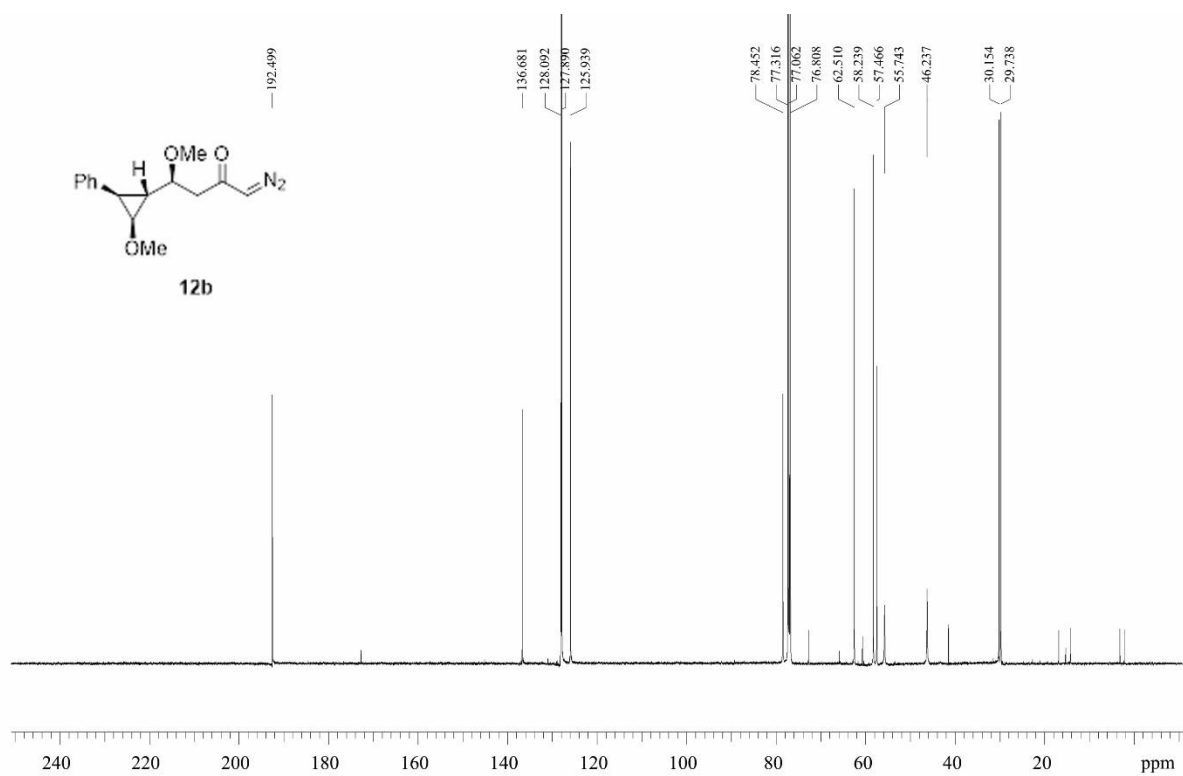
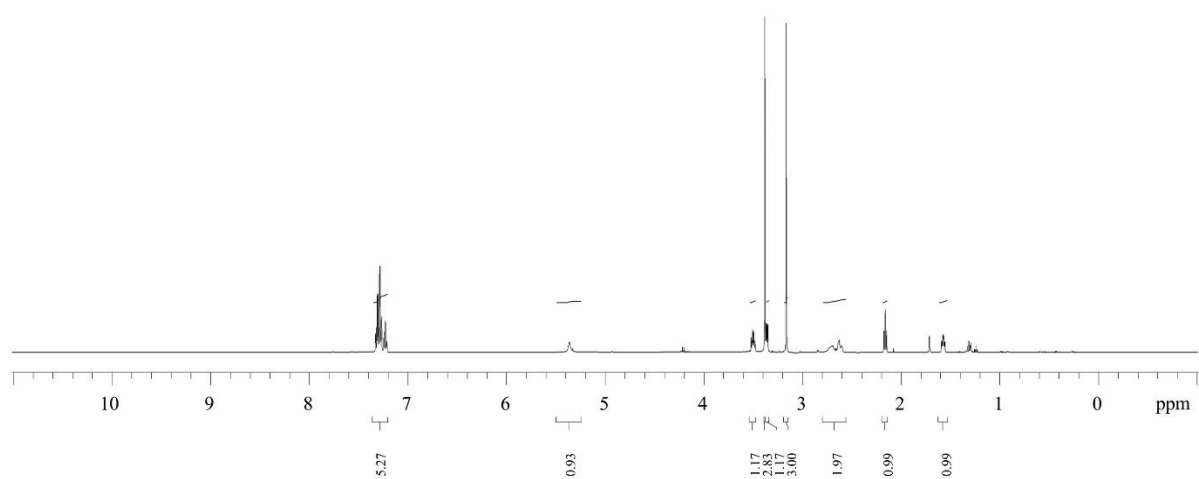
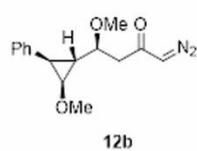


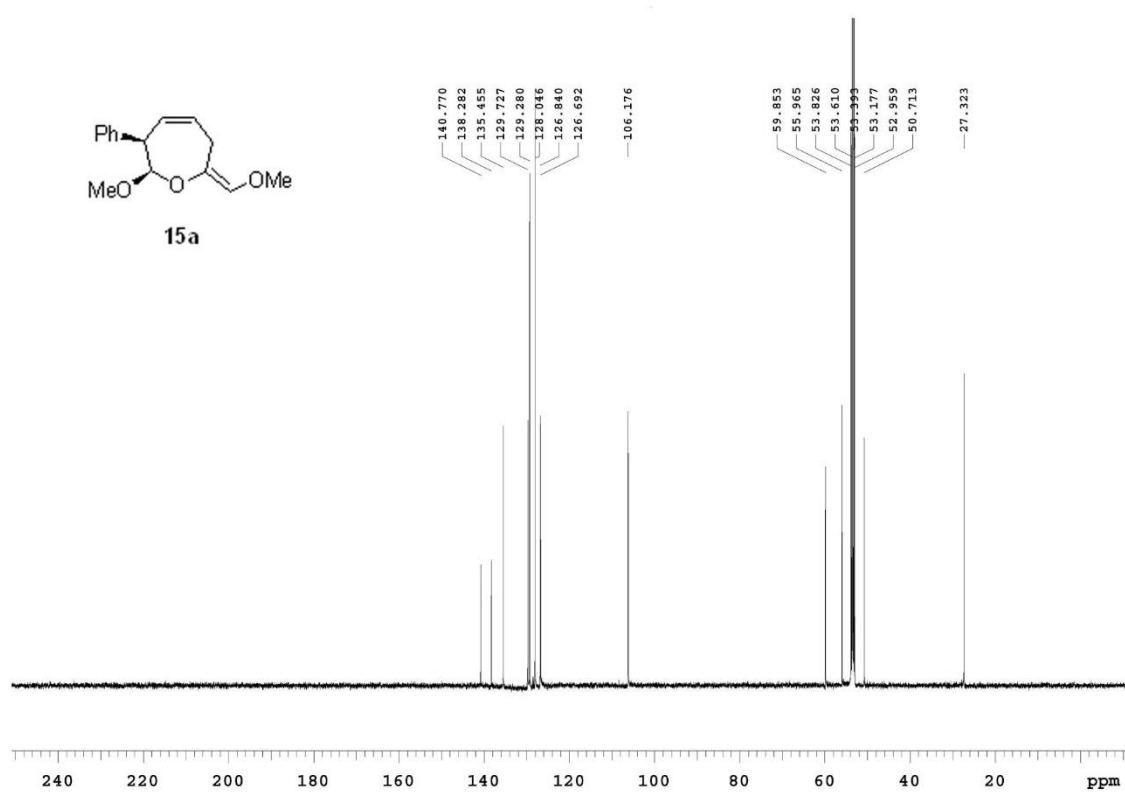
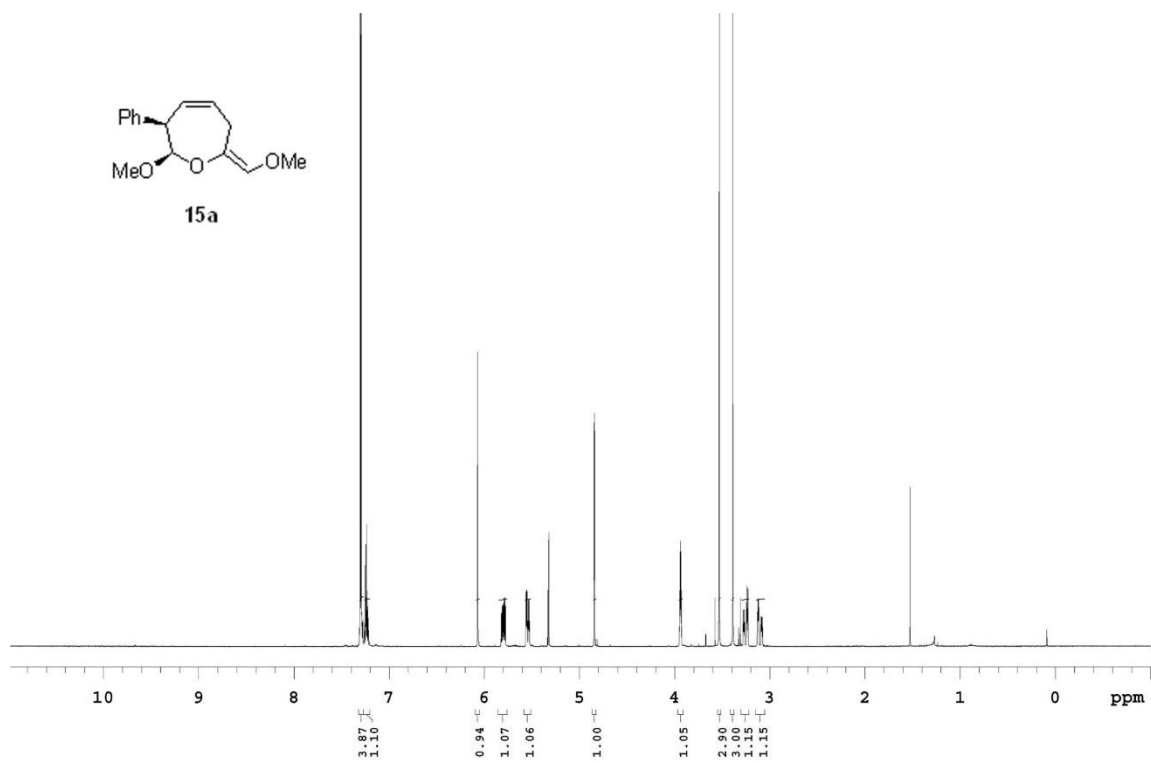


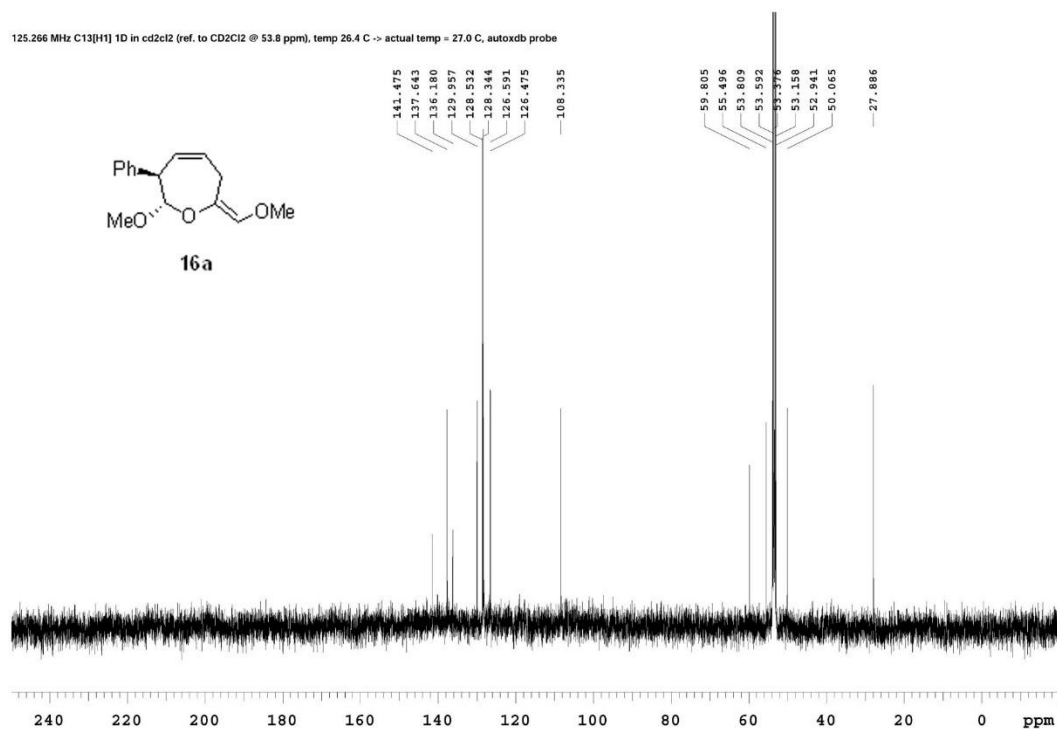
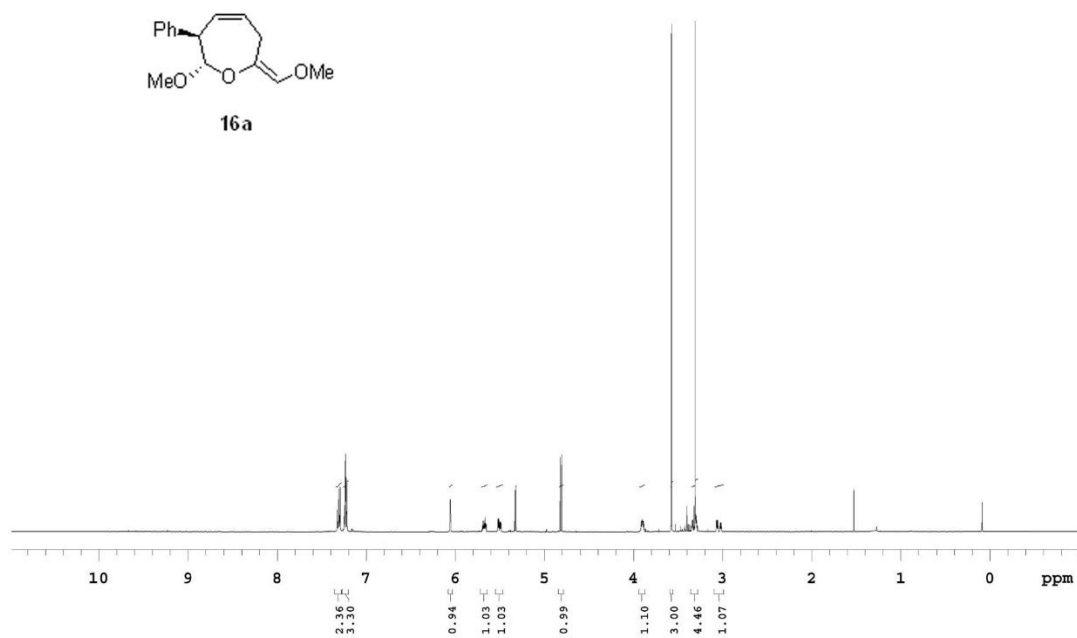




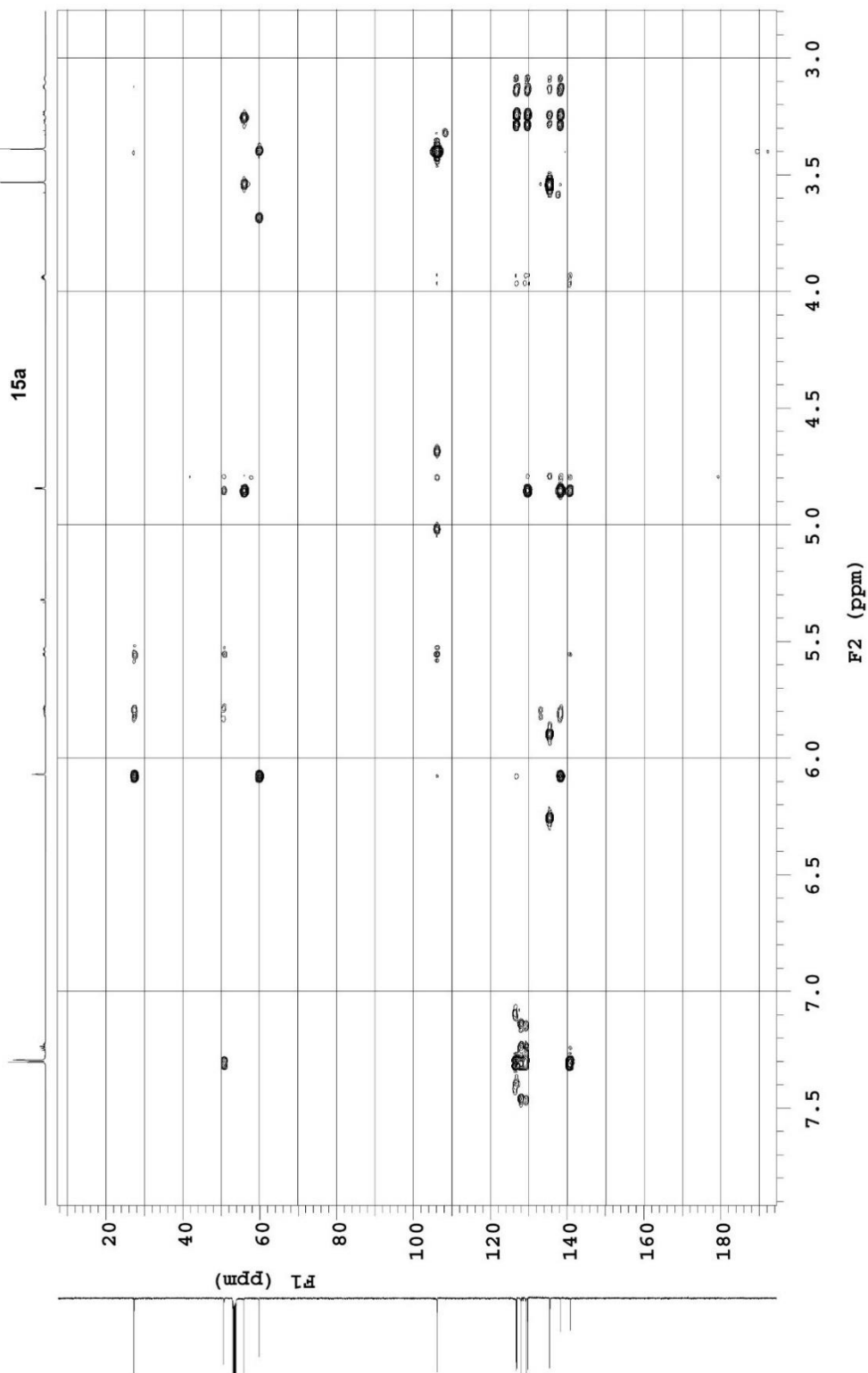
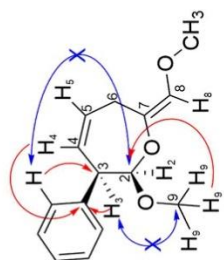




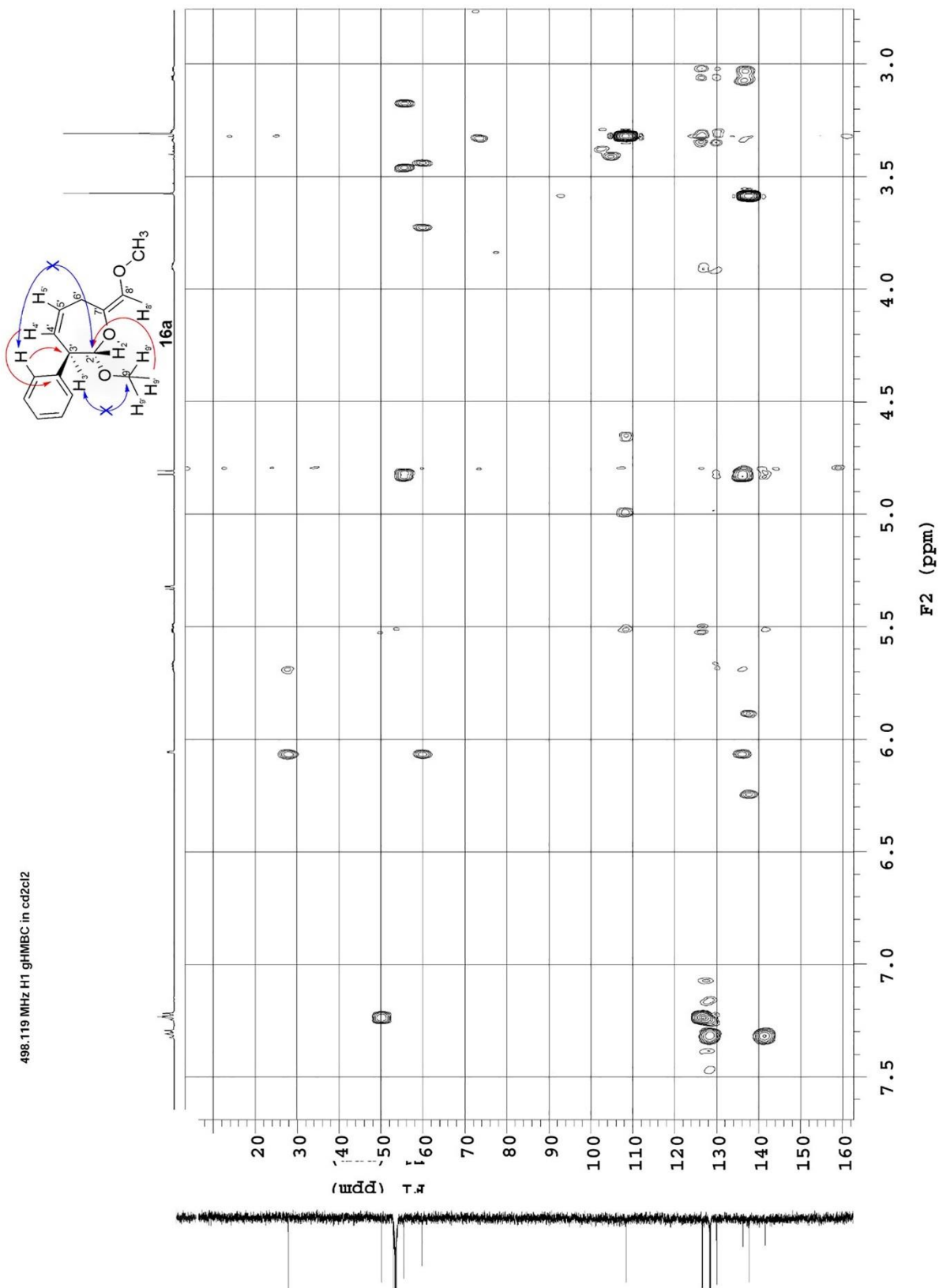




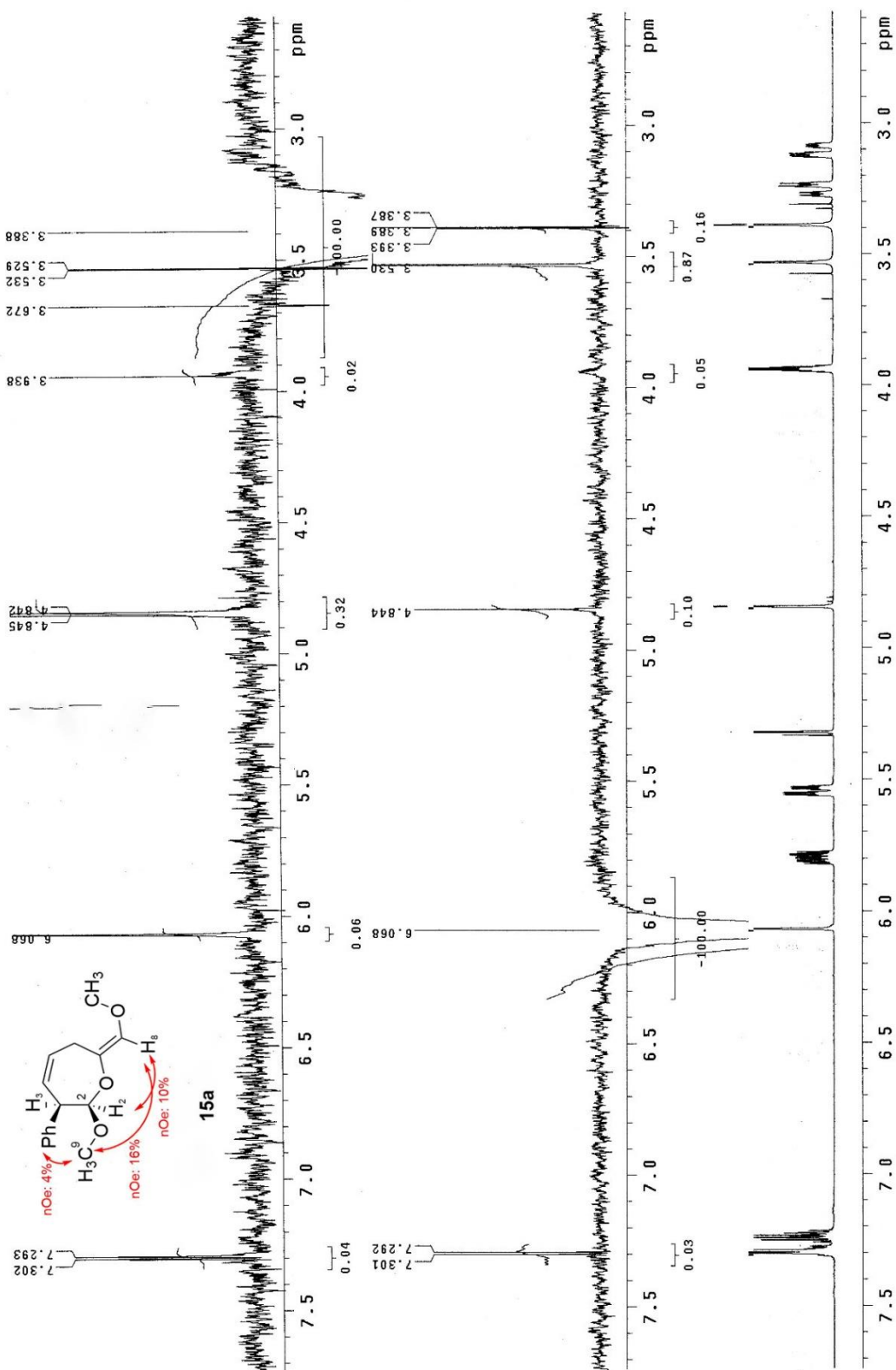
File: /mnt/d600/home13/westnmz/nmrdata/DATE\_FROM\_NMRSERVICE/Nargess/2014.03/2014.03.06\_j5\_SNH-06-074-F2\_C-NMR

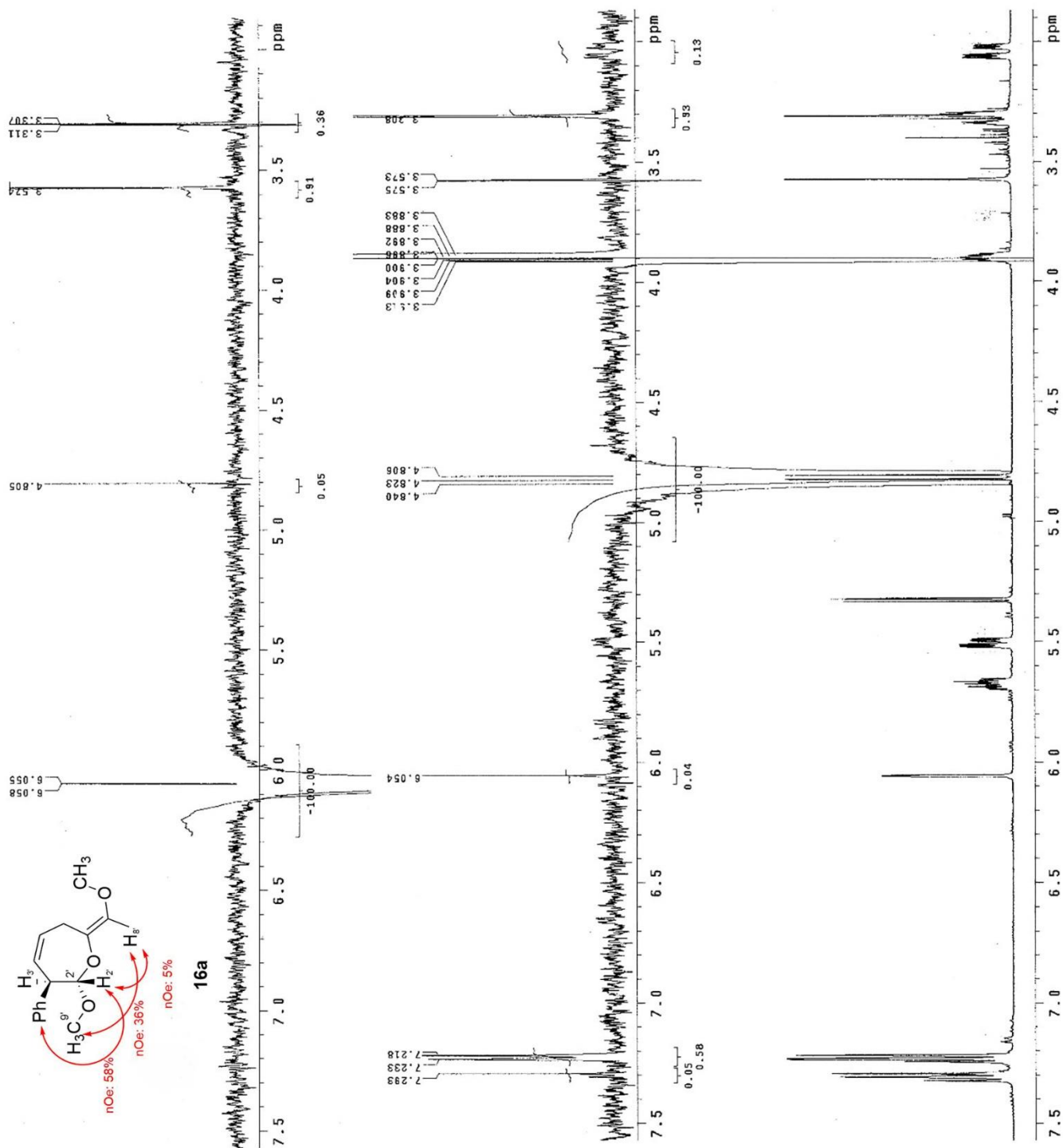


498.119 MHz <sup>1</sup>H 1D gHMBC in cd<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>









## 5. X-Ray Structure of S-5b

