

Supporting Information for

One-pot synthesis of chiral β -hydroxysulfones from alkynes via aerobic oxysulfonylation and asymmetric reduction in MeOH/H₂O

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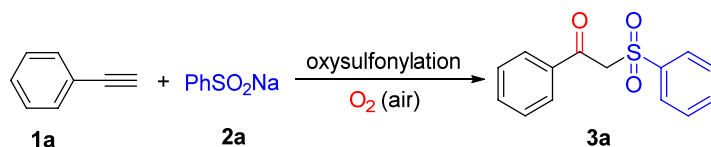
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1. General information

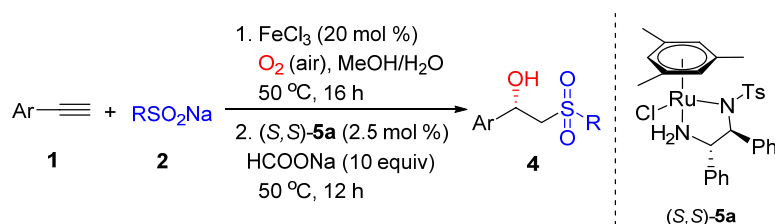
Unless otherwise noted, all reagents, catalysts and solvents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Column chromatography was performed with silica gel (200-300 mesh). NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker ADVANCE III (400 MHz) spectrometers. CDCl₃ was the solvent used for the NMR analysis, with tetramethylsilane as the internal standard. Chemical shifts were reported upfield to TMS (0.00 ppm) for ¹H NMR and relative to CDCl₃ (77.0 ppm) for ¹³C NMR. Optical rotation was measured on a MCP-500. Melting point were determined using X-4 made by Peking Taike Apparatus Co. Ltd. HPLC analysis was conducted on a Waters 2489 Series instrument with chiral column OJ-H, AD-H, AS-H and OD-H. HRMS spectra were acquired using an Agilent 6210 ESI/TOF mass spectrometer.

2. Screening the optimal conditions for the aerobic oxysulfonylation of phenylacetylene



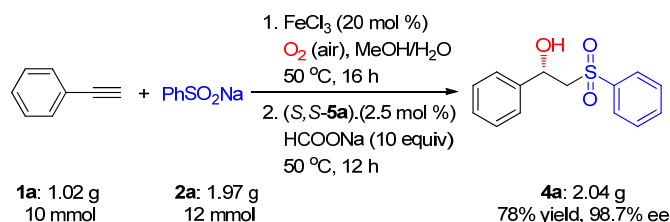
Phenylacetylene **1a** (0.2 mmol, 21 mg), sodium benzenesulfinate **2a** (0.3 mmol, 49 mg), and FeCl₃ (0.04 mmol, 6.5 mg) were put into a 10 mL of glass tube, then 4 mL of MeOH/H₂O (v/v = 3/1) was added. The mixture was stirred at 50°C for 16 h under air atmosphere. After the reaction was complete, 5.0 mL of H₂O was added, the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the product **3a** (48 mg, 93% yield). White solid, mp. 93-95°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.99-7.93 (m, 4H), 7.73-7.64 (m, 2H), 7.62-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.54-7.50 (m, 2H), 4.79 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 188.0, 138.7, 135.7, 134.4, 134.3, 129.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.6, 63.5.

3. General procedure for the one-pot synthesis of chiral β -hydroxysulfones



The corresponding alkyne **1** (0.2 mmol), sodium sulfinate **2** (0.3 mmol), and FeCl_3 (0.04 mmol, 6.5 mg) were put into a 10 mL of glass tube, then 4 mL of MeOH/ H_2O (v/v = 3/1) was added. The mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 16 h under air atmosphere. After the aerobic oxysulfonylation of alkyne **1** was complete monitored by TLC, (S,S)-**5a** (0.005 mmol, 3.2 mg) and HCOONa (2 mmol, 136 mg) were added, and then degassed 3 time, the mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 12 h under nitrogen atmosphere. After the reaction was complete, 5.0 mL of H_2O was added, the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3×10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the corresponding chiral β -hydroxysulfone **4**.

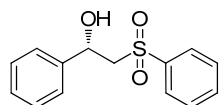
4. Gram-scale one-pot synthesis of chiral β -hydroxysulfone **4a**



Phenylacetylene **1a** (10 mmol, 1.02 g), sodium benzenesulfinate **2a** (12 mmol, 1.97 g), and FeCl_3 (2 mmol, 324 mg) were put into a 50 mL of glass tube, then 20 mL of MeOH/ H_2O (v/v = 3/1) was added. After the aerobic oxysulfonylation of alkyne **1a** was complete monitored by TLC, (S,S)-**5a** (0.2 mmol, 131 mg) and HCOONa (50 mmol, 3.4 g) were added, and then degassed 3 time, the mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 12 h under nitrogen atmosphere. After the reaction was complete, 5.0 mL of H_2O was added, the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3×20 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give chiral β -hydroxysulfone **4a** (2.04 g, 78% yield, 98.7% ee).

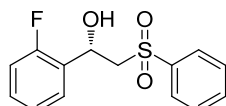
5. Analytical data of the products

(*S*)-1-phenyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethanol (**4a**, CAS: 224634-51-9, known compound^[1])



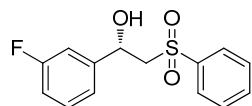
Colourless oil; 82% yield (42.1 mg), 99.6% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). ($[\alpha]_D^{20}$ -49.03 (*c* 0.04, CHCl₃)). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.03-8.00 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.72 (m, 1H), 7.67-7.63 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.32 (m, 5H), 5.35 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.55 (dd, *J*₁ = 14.4 Hz, *J*₂ = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, *J*₁ = 14.4 Hz, *J*₂ = 2.0 Hz, 1H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 140.6, 139.4, 134.1, 129.5, 128.8, 128.4, 128.0, 125.6, 68.5, 64.0. **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H column, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90:10 (v/v), 1.0 mL/min, 215 nm, 25 °C), *t*₁ = 28.872 min (major), *t*₂ = 34.006 min (minor).

(*S*)-1-(2-Fluorophenyl)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethanol (**4b**, CAS: 1572476-84-6, known compound^[1])



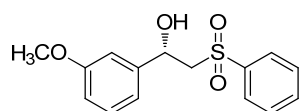
Yellow oil; 79% yield (44.2 mg), 99.8% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.01 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66-7.58 (m, 3H), 7.30-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.01-6.96 (m, 1H), 5.49 (br, 1H), 3.87 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.54-3.52 (m, 2H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 159.0 (d, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 244.6 Hz), 138.8, 134.2, 129.8 (d, ³*J*_{C-F} = 8.2 Hz), 129.5, 128.0, 127.3, 127.2, 124.7 (d, ⁴*J*_{C-F} = 3.5 Hz), 115.3 (d, ²*J*_{C-F} = 20.9 Hz), 63.1 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.2 Hz), 62.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 1.3 Hz). **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), *t*₁ = 29.031 min (major), *t*₂ = 41.486 min (minor).

(*S*)-1-(3-Fluorophenyl)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethanol (**4c**, CAS: 1572476-86-8, known compound^[1])



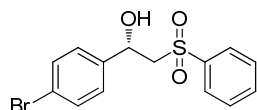
Yellow oil; 74% yield (41.4 mg), 97.1% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.01 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.02-6.99 (m, 1H), 5.33 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (dd, *J*₁ = 14.4 Hz, *J*₂ = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 163.0 (d, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 245.4 Hz), 143.2 (d, ³*J*_{C-F} = 6.9 Hz), 139.0, 134.3, 130.4 (d, ³*J*_{C-F} = 8.0 Hz), 129.6, 128.0, 121.2 (d, ⁴*J*_{C-F} = 3.0 Hz), 115.3 (d, ²*J*_{C-F} = 21.0 Hz), 112.9 (d, ²*J*_{C-F} = 22.5 Hz), 67.9 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 1.8 Hz), 63.8. **HPLC** (Chiralcel OD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), *t*₁ = 23.297 min (minor), *t*₂ = 25.981 min (major).

(*S*)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethanol (**4d**, CAS:2244130-72-9, known compound^[2])



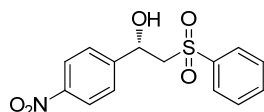
Yellow solid, mp. 74-75 °C; 71% yield (39.3 mg), 97.5% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.02-8.00 (m, 2H), 7.74-7.72 (m, 1H), 7.64 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.92-6.84 (m, 3H), 5.30 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.70 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.57-3.51 (m, 1H), 3.39 (dd, *J*₁ = 14.4 Hz, *J*₂ = 1.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 159.9, 142.1, 139.2, 134.2, 129.9, 129.5, 128.0, 117.8, 113.9, 111.1, 68.4, 64.0, 55.3. HPLC (Chiralcel OJ-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 85/15, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), *t*₁ = 30.646 min (major), *t*₂ = 40.201 min (minor).

(*S*)-1-(4-bromophenyl)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethanol (**4e**, CAS: 1572476-81-3, known compound^[1])



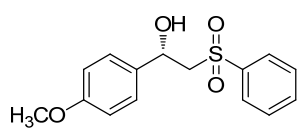
Yellowish oil; 72% yield (49.1 mg), 97.8% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.00-7.98 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.63 (m, 3H), 7.50-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.30 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (dd, *J*₁ = 14.4 Hz, *J*₂ = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (dd, *J*₁ = 14.4 Hz, *J*₂ = 2.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 139.6, 139.0, 134.3, 131.9, 129.6, 128.0, 127.4, 122.3, 67.9, 63.8. HPLC (Chiralcel OJ-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80/20, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), *t*₁ = 35.052 min (major), *t*₂ = 50.457 min (minor).

(*S*)-1-(4-nitrophenyl)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethanol (**4f**, CAS: 1634620-32-8, known compound^[3])



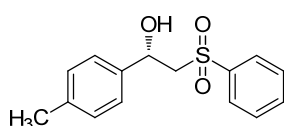
Yellow solid, mp. 63-64 °C; 77% yield (47.3 mg), 99.0% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.24-8.22 (m, 2H), 8.02-8.00 (m, 2H), 7.77 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.48 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (s, 1H), 3.50 (dd, *J*₁ = 14.4 Hz, *J*₂ = 10 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, *J*₁ = 14.4 Hz, *J*₂ = 2.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 147.6, 138.8, 134.5, 129.7, 128.0, 126.6, 124.0, 67.6, 63.6. HPLC (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 85/15, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), *t*₁ = 48.457 min (major), *t*₂ = 68.203 min (minor).

(*S*)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethanol (**4g**, CAS:502188-71-8, known compound^[4])



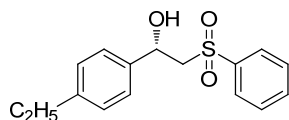
Yellow oil; 69% yield (40.3 mg), 99.3% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.00 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.27 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 1H), 3.55 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 2.0 Hz, 1H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 159.6, 139.3, 134.1, 132.8, 129.5, 128.0, 127.0, 114.1, 68.1, 63.9, 55.3. **HPLC** (Chiralcel OJ-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80/20, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 46.799 min (major), t_2 = 72.356 min (minor).

(*S*)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)-1-(*p*-tolyl)ethanol (**4h**, CAS: 502188-72-9, known compound^[1])



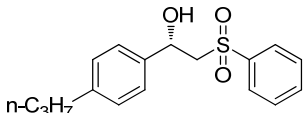
Yellow solid, mp. 67-68 °C. 79% yield (43.6 mg), 99.6% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.01 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (t, J = 7.6 Hz 1H), 7.64 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.29 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 1H), 3.52 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (d, J = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 139.2, 138.2, 137.7, 134.1, 129.5, 129.4, 128.0, 125.6, 68.4, 64.0, 21.1. **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 35.443 min (major), t_2 = 39.281 min (minor).

(*S*)-1-(4-ethylphenyl)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethanol (**4i**, unknown compound)

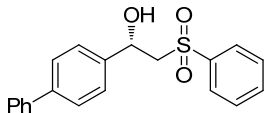


Yellow oil; 74% yield (50.8 mg), 99.5% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.00 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.31 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 1H), 3.56 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 144.6, 139.2, 137.9, 134.1, 129.5, 128.3, 128.0, 125.7, 68.4, 63.9, 28.6, 15.6. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₈O₃NaS ([M+Na]⁺): 313.0869, Found: 313.0870. **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 25.266 min (minor), t_2 = 28.599 min (major).

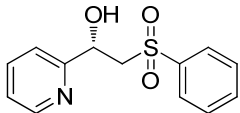
(*S*)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)-1-(4-propylphenyl)ethanol (**4j**, unknown compound)

 Yellow solid; mp. 54-55 °C, 72% yield (43.7 mg), 99.4% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.02 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.30 (d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (dd, *J*₁ = 14.4, *J*₂ = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, *J*₁ = 14.4, *J*₂ = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.67-1.63(m, 2H), 0.95(t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 143.1, 139.3, 137.9, 134.1, 129.5, 128.9, 128.0, 125.6, 68.4, 64.0, 37.7, 24.5, 13.8. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C₁₇H₂₀O₃NaS ([M+Na]⁺): 327.1025, Found: 327.1028. **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t₁ = 39.111 min (minor), t₂ = 43.609 min (major).

(*S*)-1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethanol (**4k**, unknown compound)

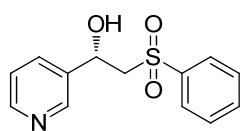
 Yellow solid, mp. 86-87 °C, 71% yield (52.8 mg), 99.9% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.04-8.01 (m, 2H), 7.76 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (m, 4H), 7.49 (m, 2H), 7.43 (m, 3H), 5.39 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (dd, *J*₁ = 14.4 Hz, *J*₂ = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (dd, *J*₁ = 14.4 Hz, *J*₂ = 2.0 Hz, 1H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 141.4, 140.5, 139.6, 139.2, 134.2, 129.5, 128.8, 128.0, 127.5, 127.1, 126.1, 68.3, 63.9. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C₂₀H₁₈O₃NaS ([M+Na]⁺): 361.0869, Found: 361.0870. **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t₁ = 51.863 min (major), t₂ = 57.968 min (minor).

(*S*)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)-1-(pyridin-2-yl)ethanol (**4l**, unknown compound)

 Yellow oil; 57% yield (30.1 mg), 99.5% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 2:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.46 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.69-7.56 (m, 4H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (m, 1H), 3.68-3.64 (m, 2H), 3.28-3.24 (m, 2H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 157.1, 149.4, 139.1, 136.7, 133.7, 129.3, 128.1, 123.3, 122.0, 55.2, 30.8. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄O₃NS ([M+H]⁺): 264.0689, Found: 264.0690. **HPLC** (Chiralcel OD-H,

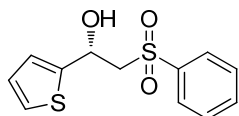
n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80/20, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 22.283 min (major), t_2 = 25.515 min (minor).

(*S*)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)-1-(pyridin-3-yl)ethanol (**4m**, unknown compound)



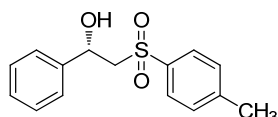
Yellow oil; 47% yield (24.6 mg), 95.1% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 1:2). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.59 (s, 1H), 8.03 (dd, J_1 = 8.4 Hz, J_2 = 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.78-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.67 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 5.40 (d, J = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 1H), 3.54 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.40 (dd, J_1 = 14.0 Hz, J_2 = 1.6 Hz, 1H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 149.7, 147.5, 138.9, 134.4, 133.6, 129.7, 128.0, 123.7, 66.5, 63.6. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄O₃NS ([M+H]⁺): 264.0689, Found: 264.0691. **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 26.283 min (major), t_2 = 34.820 min (minor).

(*S*)-2-(phenylsulfonyl)-1-(thiophen-2-yl)ethanol (**4n**, CAS:1572476-92-6, known compound^[1])



Yellow oil; 56% yield (29.6 mg), 99.6% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 6:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.01 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 5.61 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 1H), 3.66 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 2.0 Hz, 1H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 144.1, 139.1, 134.2, 129.5, 128.0, 126.8, 125.6, 124.2, 65.0, 63.8. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C₁₂H₁₂NaO₃S₂ ([M+Na]⁺): 291.0120, Found: 291.0119. **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 85/15, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 40.665 min (major), t_2 = 51.234 min (minor).

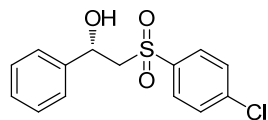
(*S*)-1-phenyl-2-tosylethanol (**4o**, CAS: 71899-75-7, known compound^[3])



Yellow solid, mp. 52-53 °C, 72% yield (39.7 mg), 95.7% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.88 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.31 (m, 5H), 5.30 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 1H), 3.42 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 145.3, 140.7, 136.1, 130.1, 128.8, 128.3, 128.0, 125.7, 68.5, 64.0, 21.7. **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0

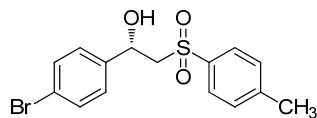
mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 28.455 min (major), t_2 = 46.323 min (minor).

(*S*)-2-((4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl)-1-phenylethanol (**4p**, unknown compound)



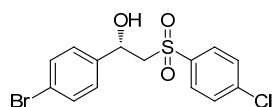
Yellow oil; 77% yield (45.6 mg), 99.5% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.93 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.38-7.33 (m, 5H), 5.35 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.60-3.37 (m, 3H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 141.0, 140.5, 137.8, 129.8, 129.6, 128.9, 128.5, 125.7, 68.6, 64.1. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₃O₃ClNaS ([M+Na]⁺): 319.0166, Found: 319.0164. **HPLC** (Chiralcel OD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 27.056 min (major), t_2 = 33.930 min (minor).

(*S*)-1-(4-bromophenyl)-2-tosylethanol (**4q**, unknown compound)



Yellow oil; 69% yield (48.9 mg), 99.2% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.87 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.27 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.48 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (s, 3H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 145.5, 139.7, 136.0, 131.9, 130.2, 128.0, 127.4, 122.2, 67.9, 63.8, 21.7. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₅BrO₃NaS ([M+Na]⁺): 376.9817, Found: 376.9819. **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 34.273 min (major), t_2 = 50.817 min (minor).

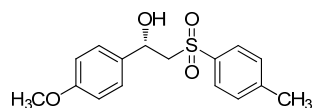
(*S*)-1-(4-bromophenyl)-2-((4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl)ethanol (**4r**, unknown compound)



Yellow oil; 71% yield (53.1 mg), 99.5% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.94 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.31 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (s, 1H), 3.51 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 2.0 Hz, 1H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 141.1, 139.5, 137.6, 132.0, 129.9, 129.5, 127.4, 122.4, 68.0, 63.9. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₂O₃BrClNaS ([M+Na]⁺): 396.9271, Found: 396.9273. **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, detector: 215 nm, flow rate:

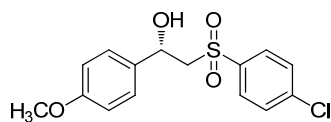
1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 28.571 min (major), t_2 = 48.253 min (minor).

(*S*)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-tosylethanol (**4s**, CAS: 398139-23-6, known compound^[3])



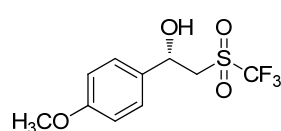
Yellow oil; 67% yield (41.1 mg), 99.3% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.87 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.24 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 1H), 3.52 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 159.6, 145.2, 136.2, 132.9, 130.1, 128.0, 127.0, 114.1, 68.1, 64.0, 55.3, 21.7. **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 50.476 min (major), t_2 = 60.133 min (minor).

(*S*)-2-((4-chlorophenyl)sulfonyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethanol (**4t**, unknown compound)



Yellow oil; 64% yield (41.7 mg), 97.1% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.93 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.27 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.60 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (dd, J_1 = 14.4 Hz, J_2 = 2.0 Hz, 1H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 159.7, 140.8, 137.9, 132.7, 129.7, 129.6, 127.0, 114.2, 68.3, 64.0, 55.3. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₅O₄ClNaS ([M+Na]⁺): 349.0272, Found: 349.0273. **HPLC** (Chiralcel AD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 41.336 min (major), t_2 = 57.460 min (minor).

(*S*)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-((trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl)ethanol (**4u**, unknown compound)

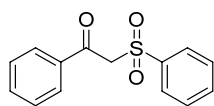


Colourless oil; 17% yield (10.1 mg), 71.2% ee. Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 4:1). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.37 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.91 (q, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 1.78 (brs, 1H), 1.53 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H); **¹³C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 159.0, 138.0, 126.7, 113.9, 77.24, 70.0, 55.3, 25.0. **HRMS** (ESI) calcd for C₁₀H₁₁F₃NaO₄S ([M+Na]⁺): 307.0222, Found: 307.0221. **HPLC** (Chiralcel OD-H, n-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 215 nm, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C), t_1 = 7.592 min (major), t_2 = 8.100 min (minor).

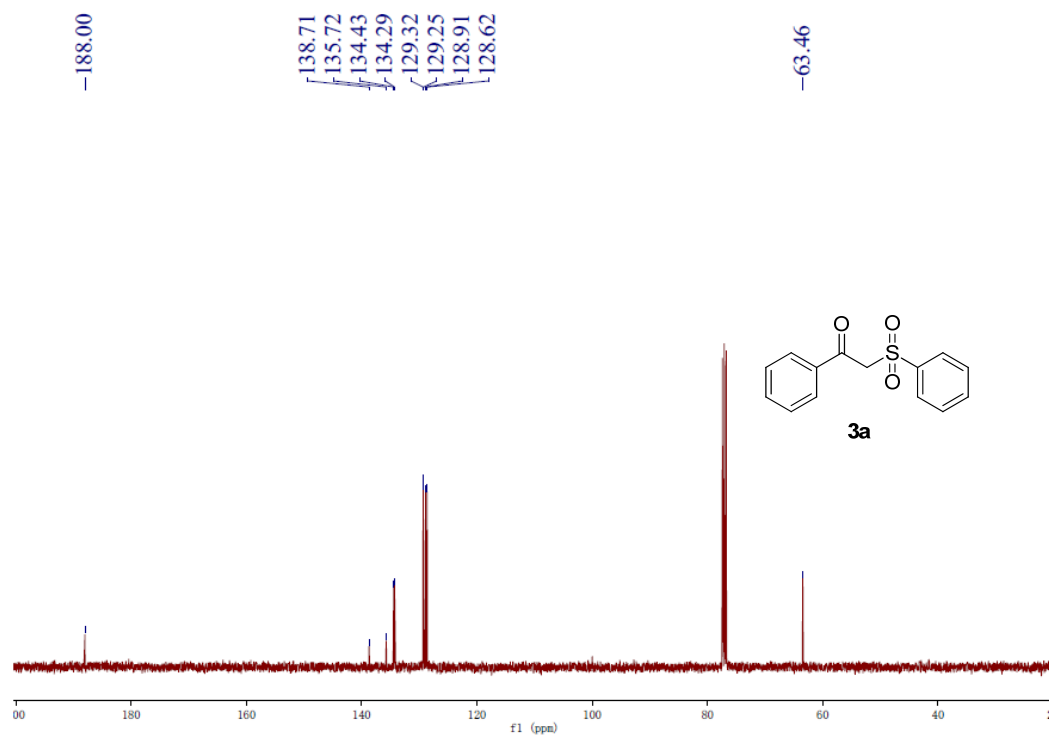
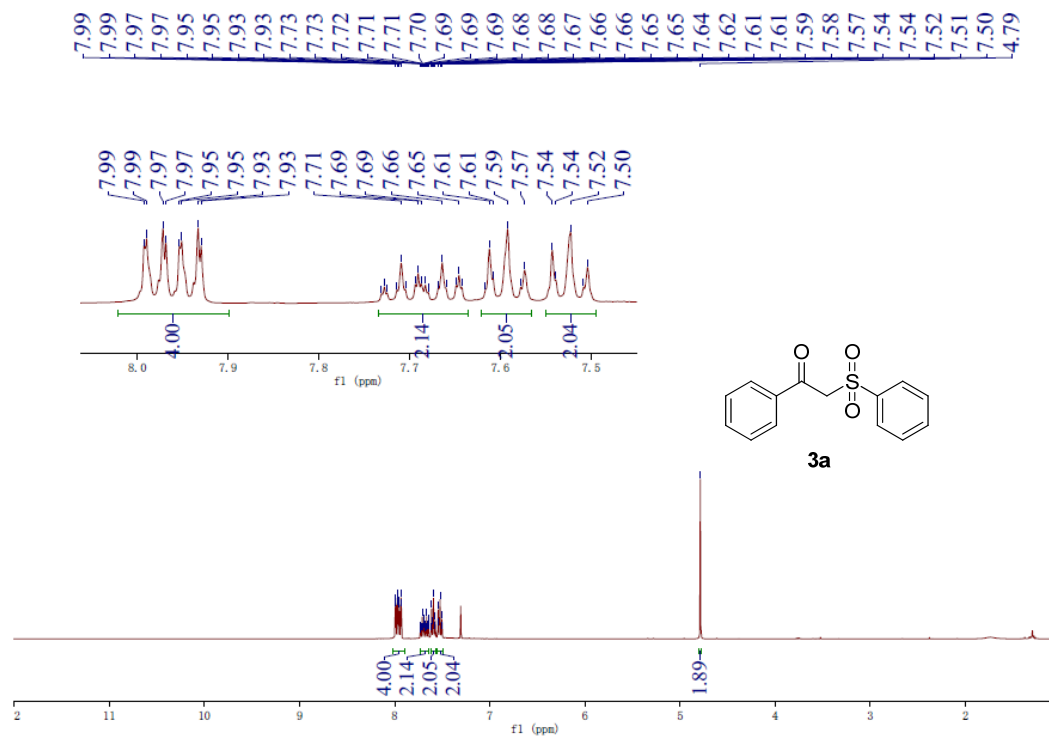
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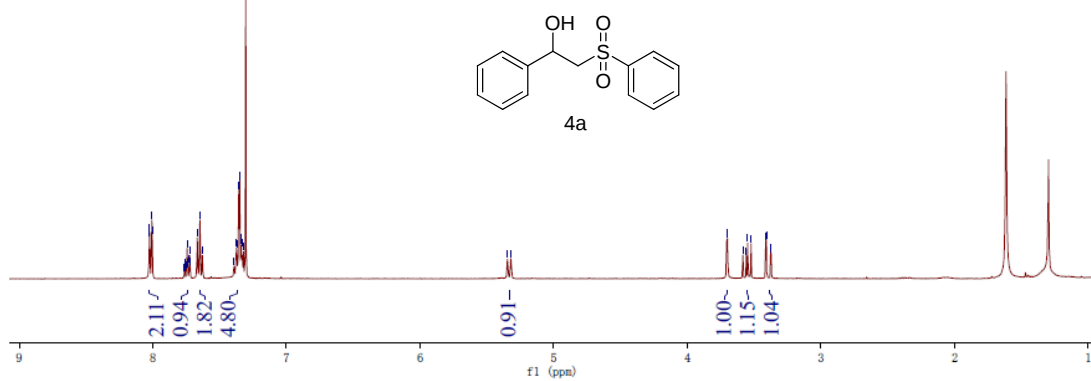
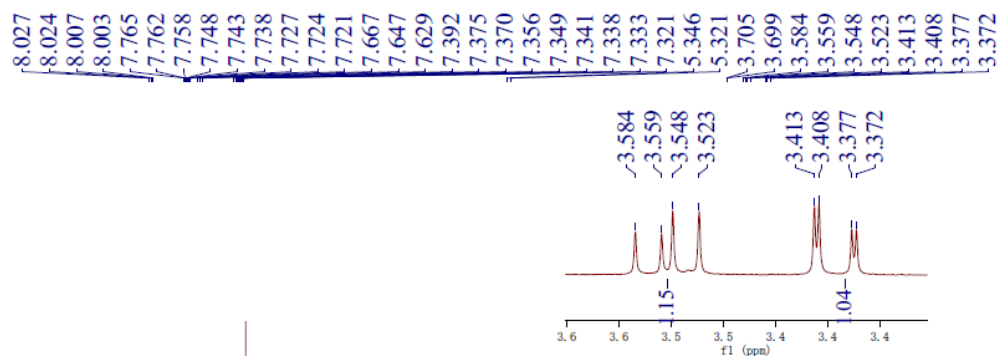
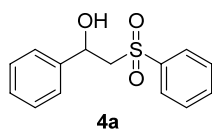
- [1] Huang, X. F.; Zhang, S. Y.; Geng, Z. C.; Liu, P.; Li, H. Y.; Wang, X. W. *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, **2013**, 355, 2860.
- [2] Enders, D.; Grossmann, A.; Huang, H.; Raabe, G. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2011**, 4298.
- [3] Zhang, D. C.; Cheng, T. Y.; Zhao, Q. K.; Xu, J. Y.; Liu, G. H. *Org. Lett.* **2014**, 16, 5764.
- [4] Zhao, G.; Hu, J. B.; Qian, Z. S.; Yin, W. X. *Tetrahedron Asymmetry*, **2002**, 12, 2095.

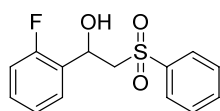
6. NMR spectra of the products



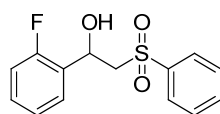
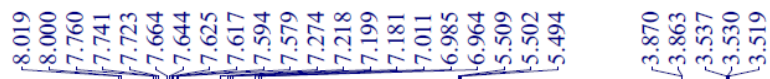
3a



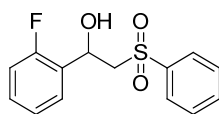
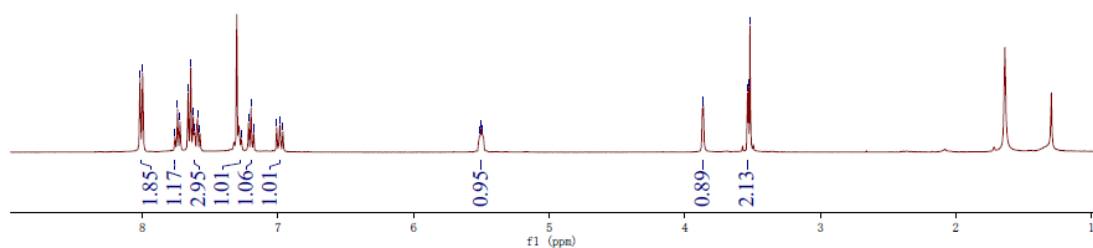
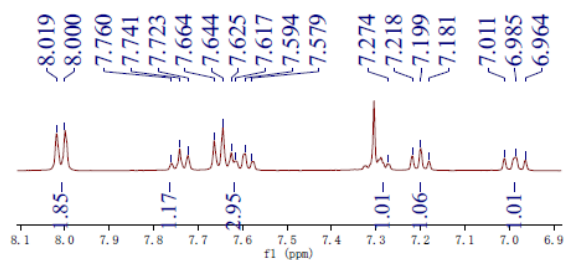




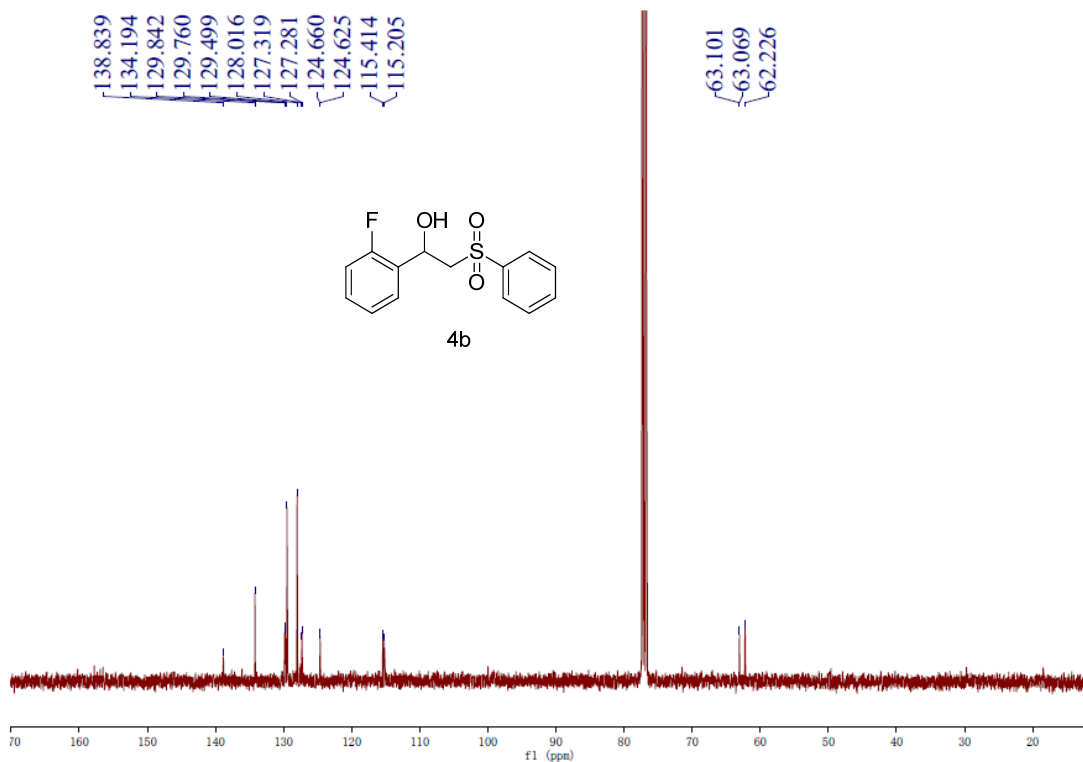
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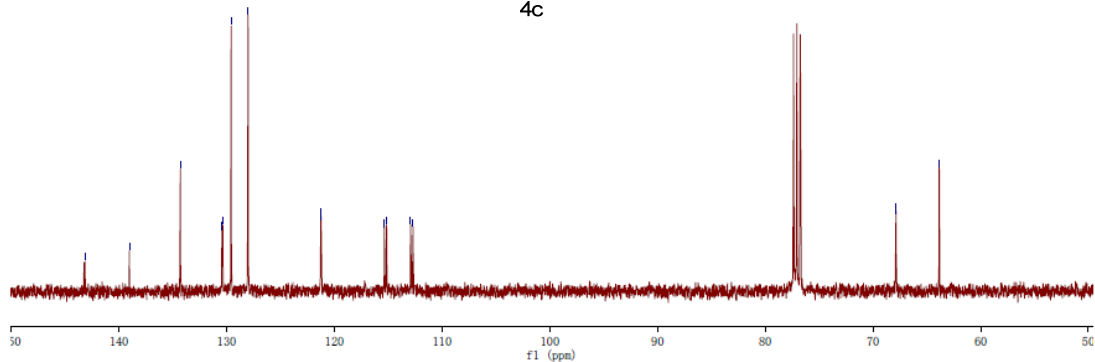
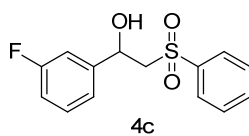
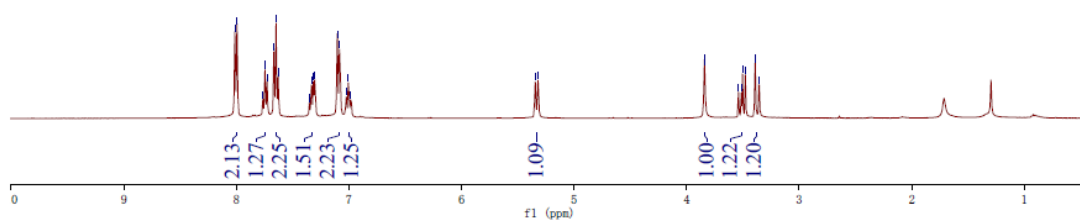
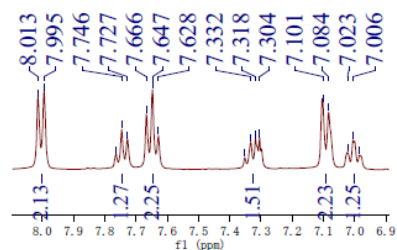
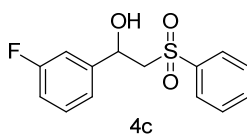
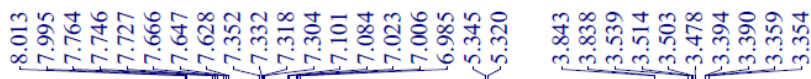
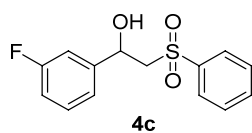


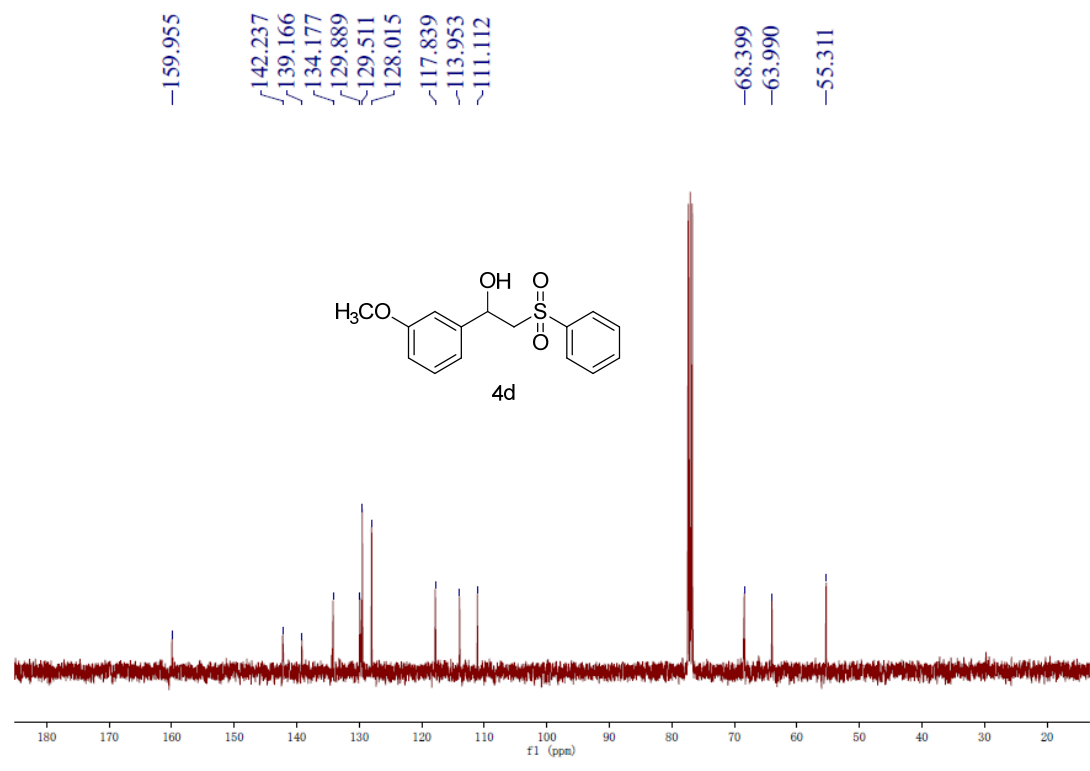
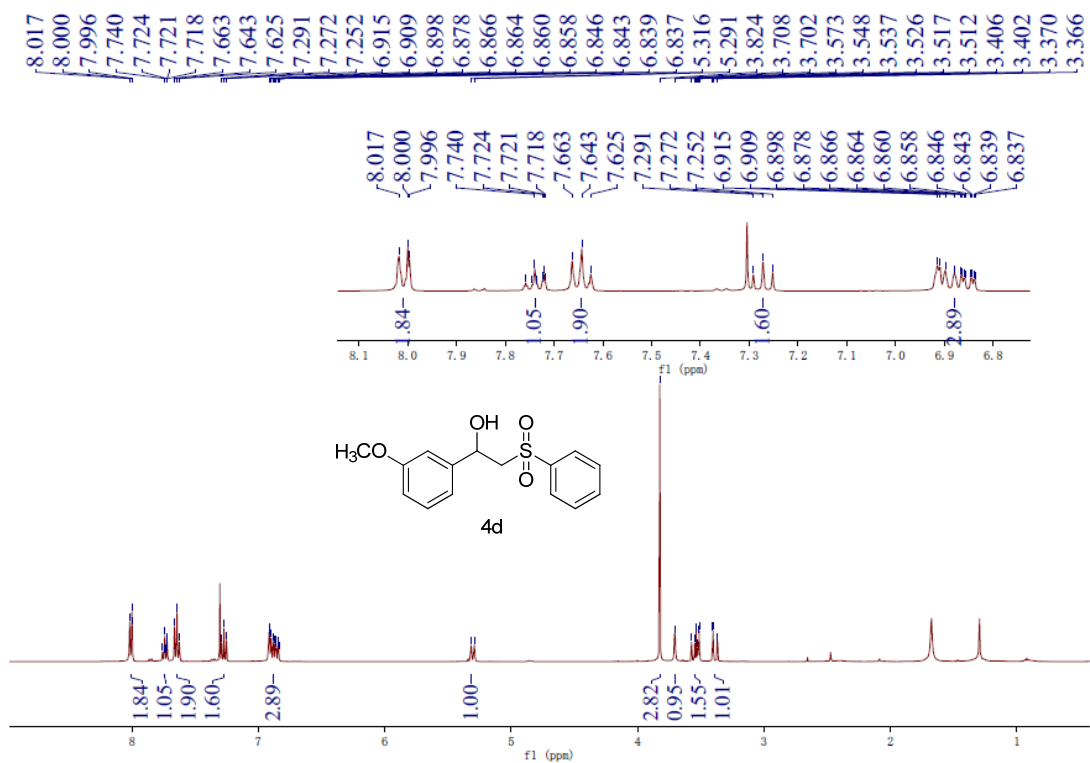
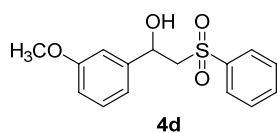
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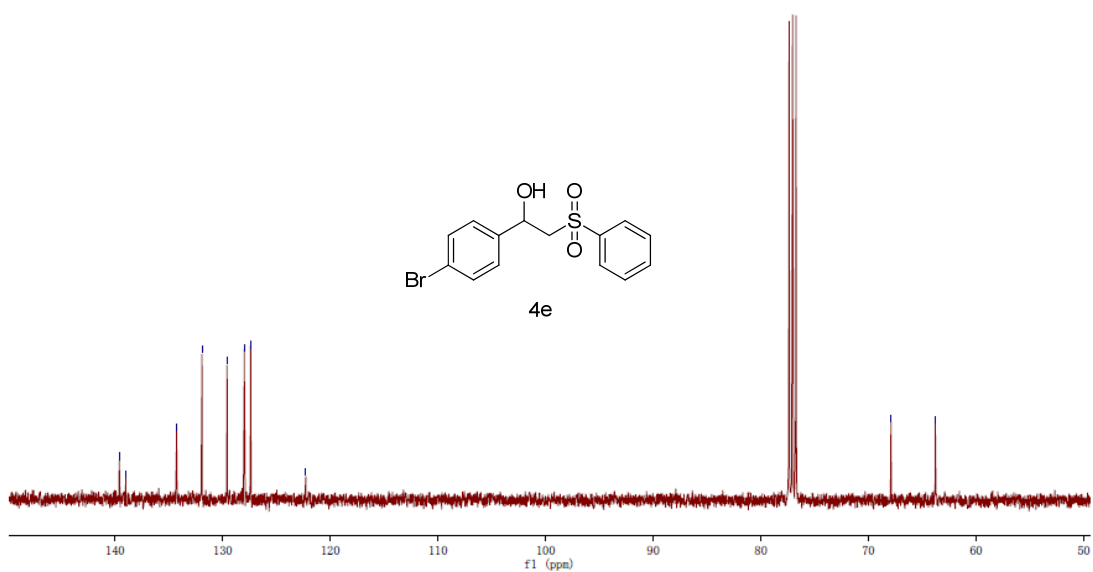
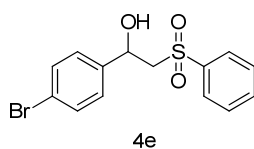
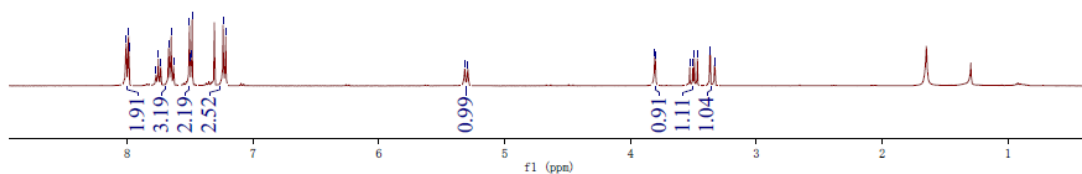
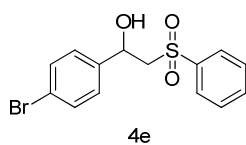
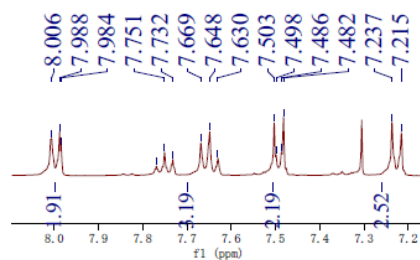
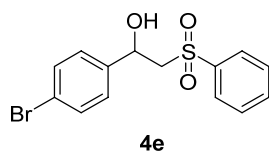


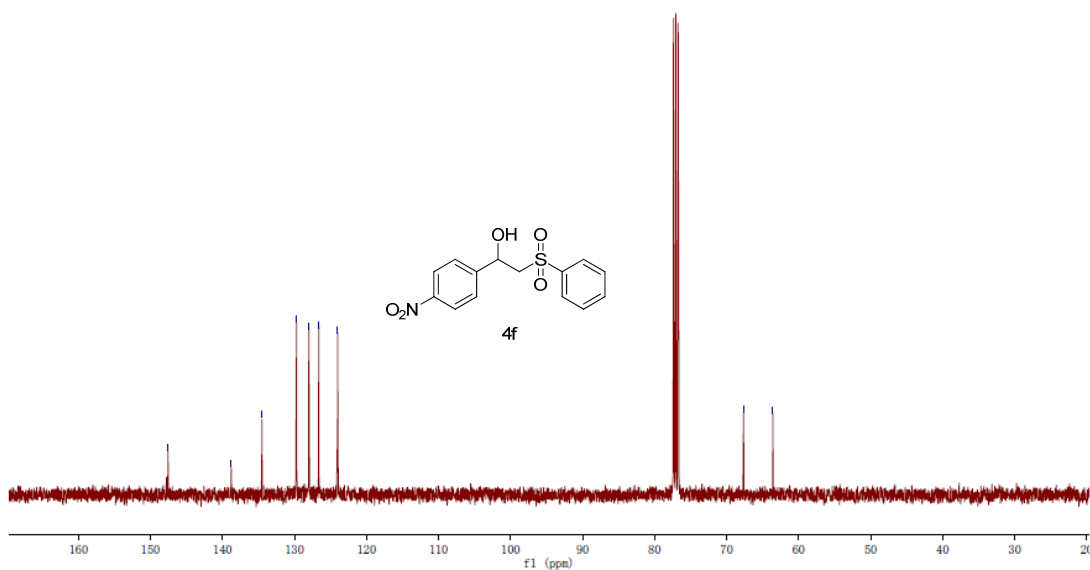
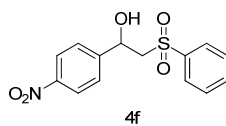
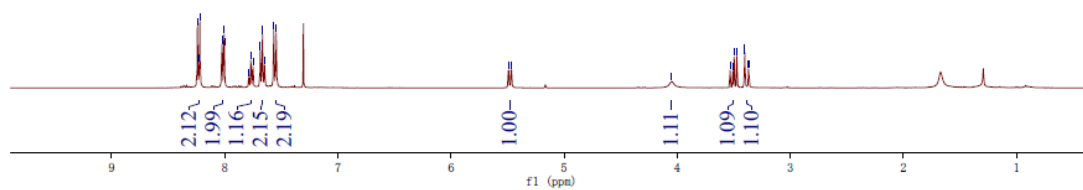
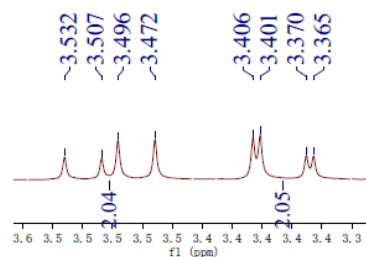
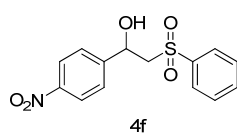
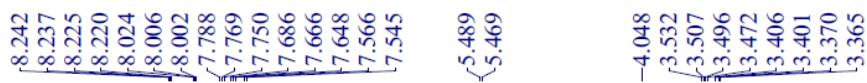
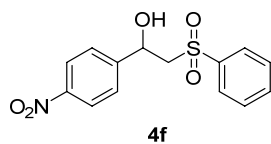
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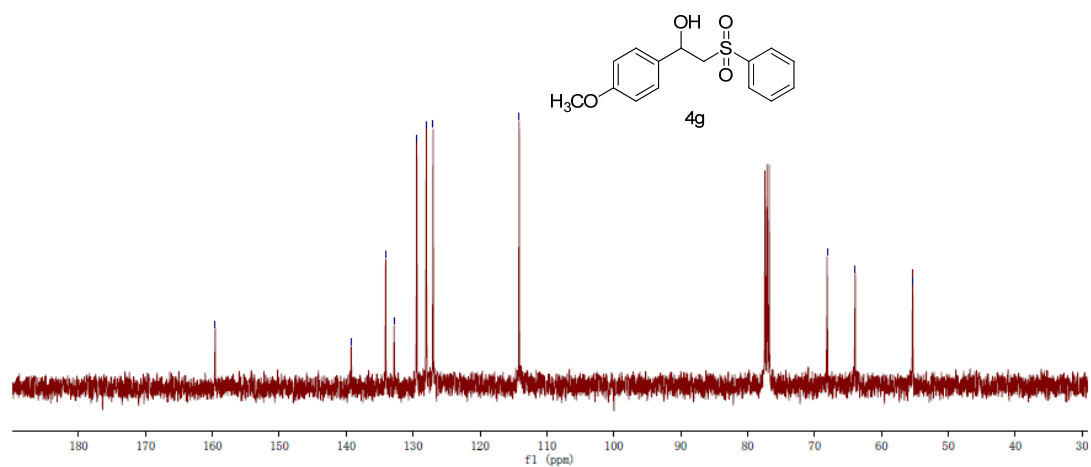
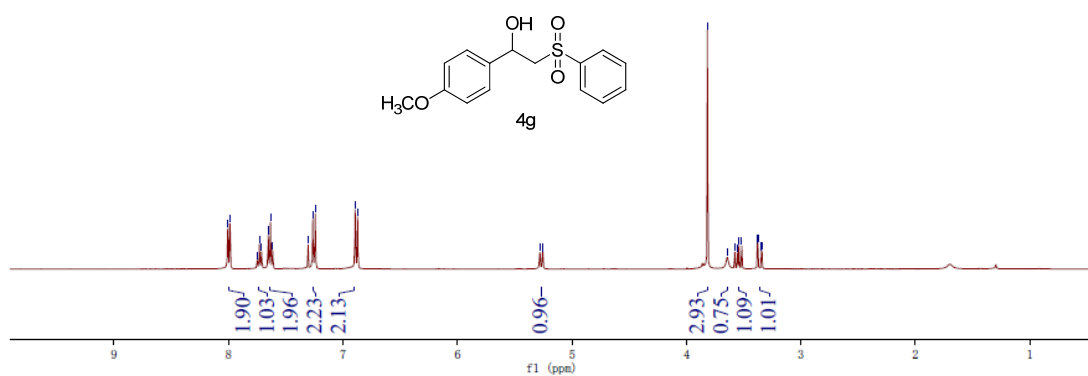
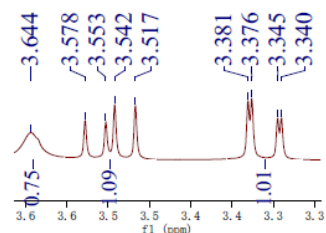
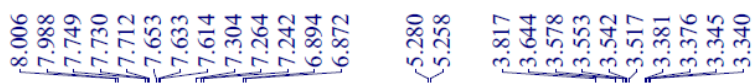
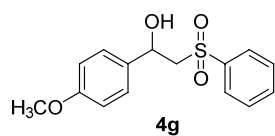


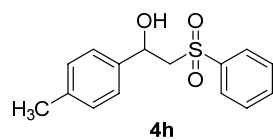






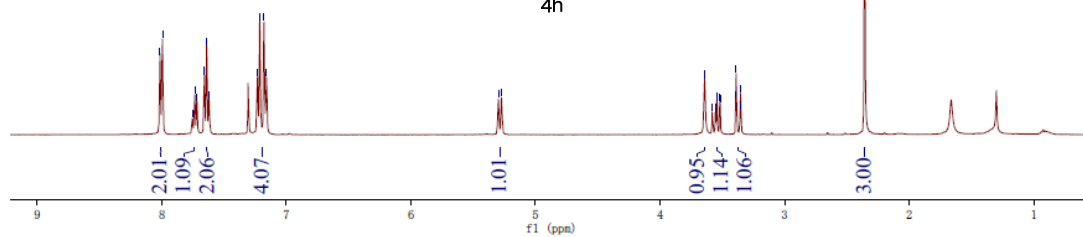
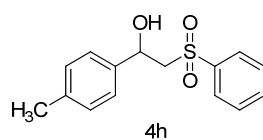
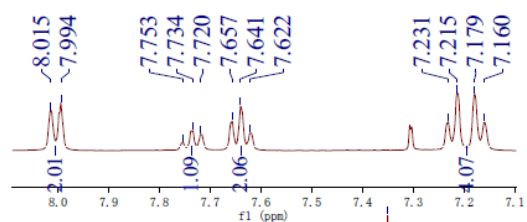






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7.720
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7.622
7.231
7.215
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7.160

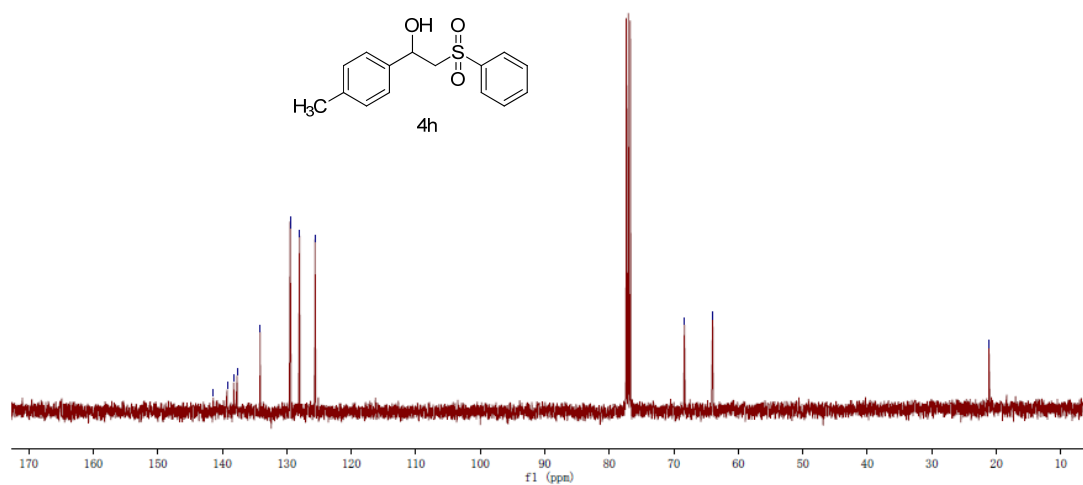
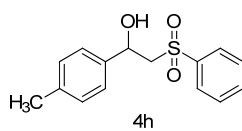
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3.389
3.357
3.353
2.358

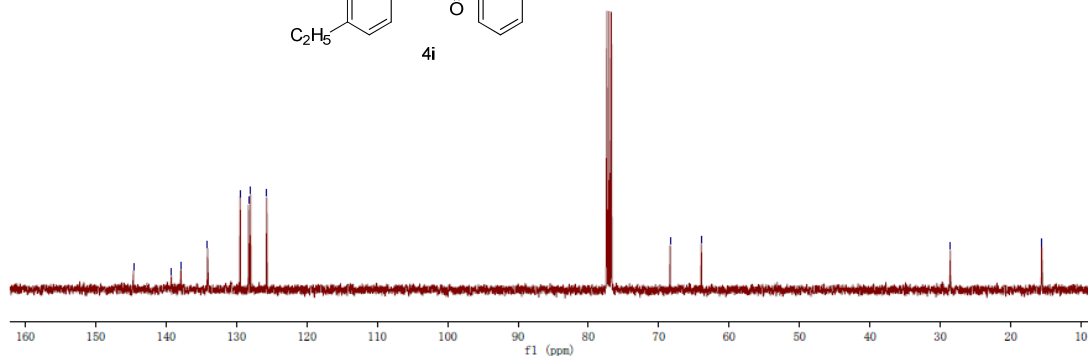
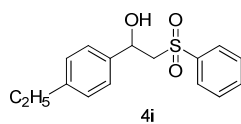
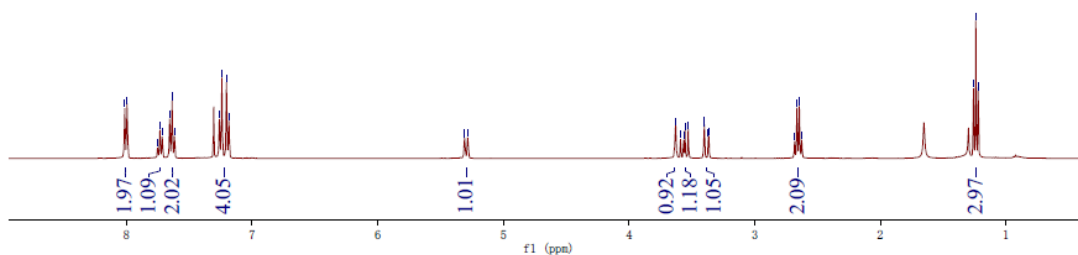
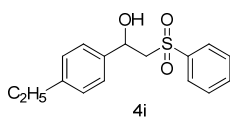
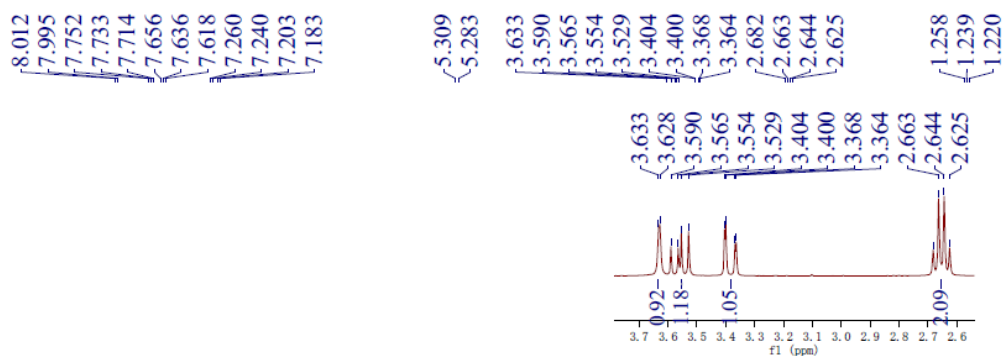
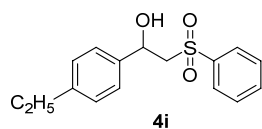


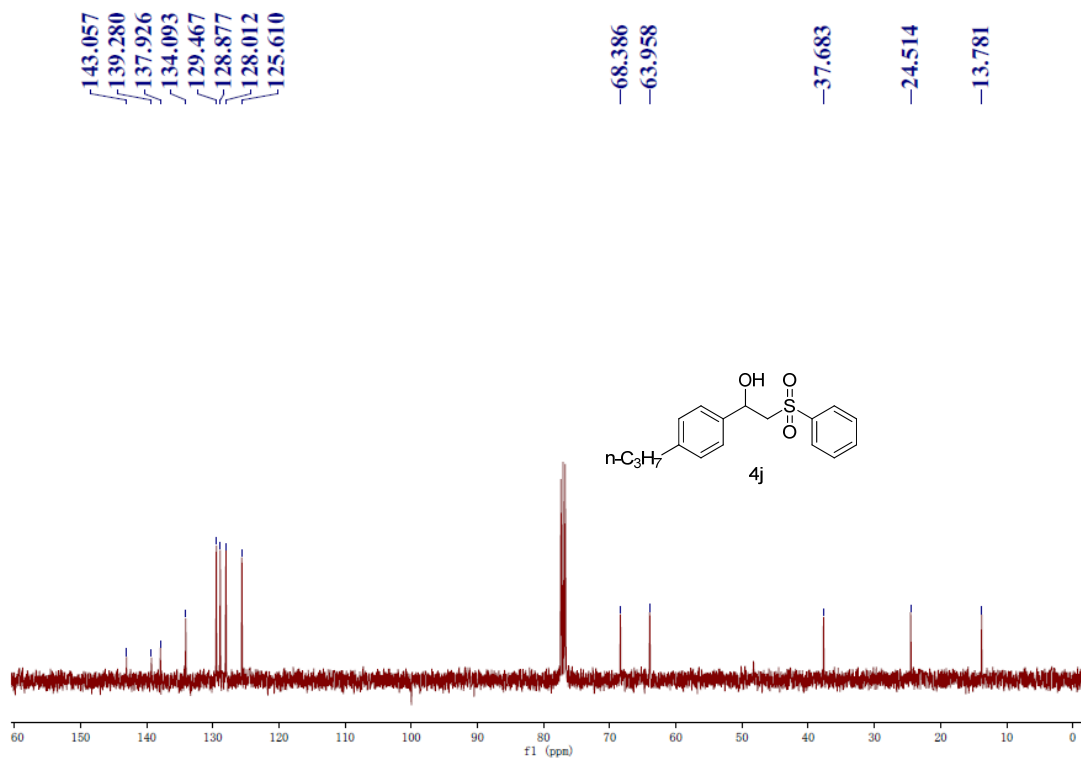
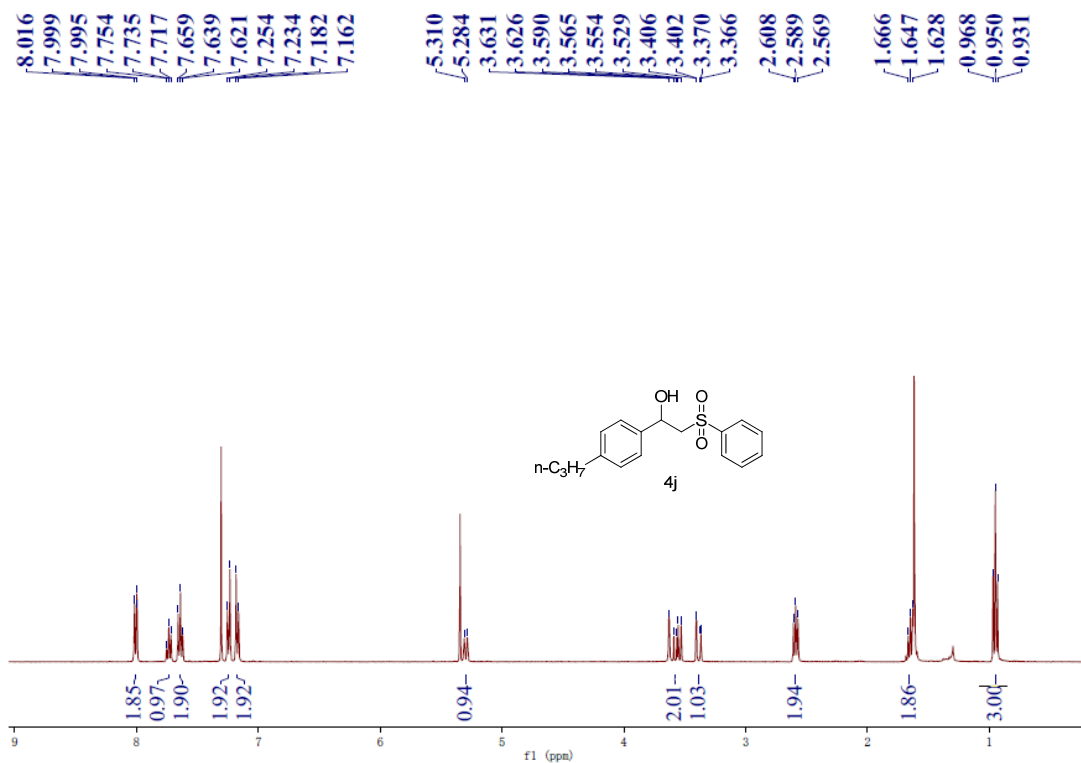
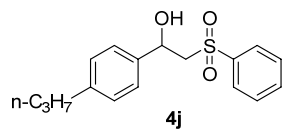
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134.114
129.483
129.450
128.018
125.613

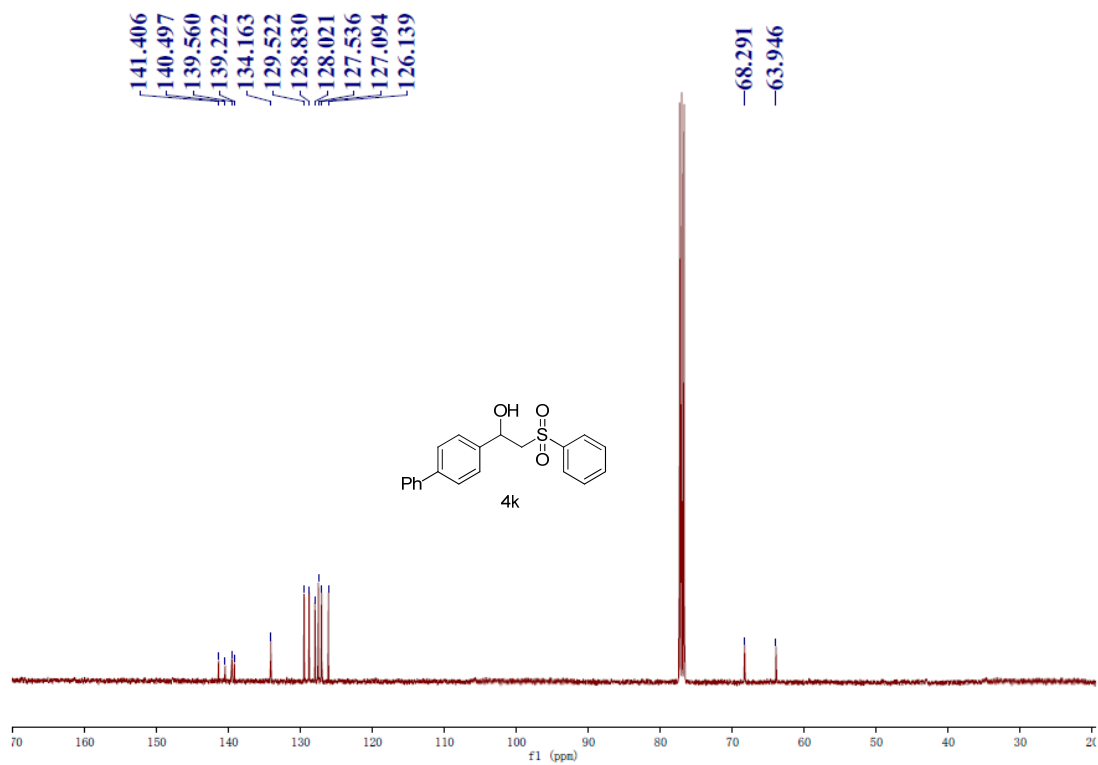
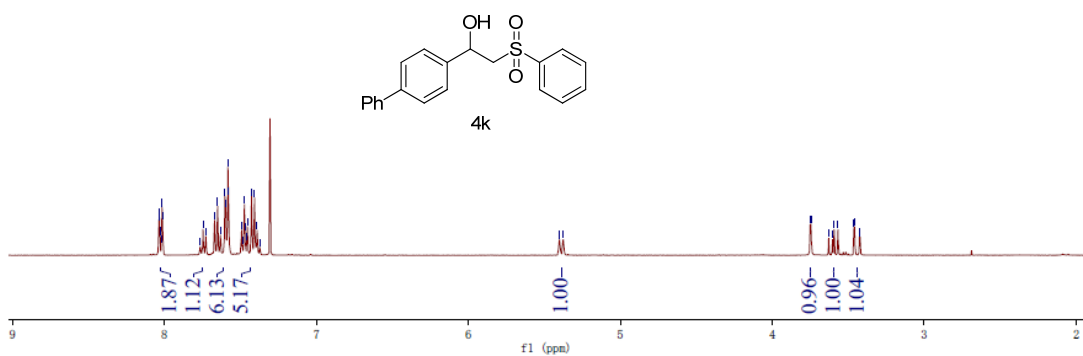
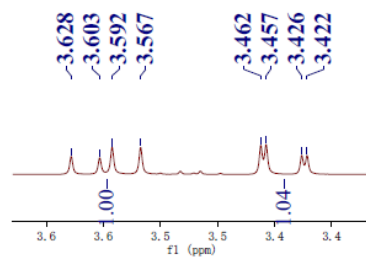
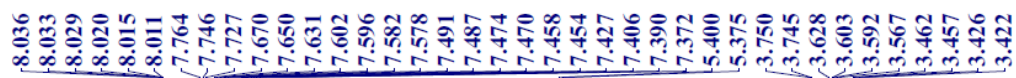
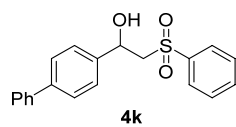
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63.974

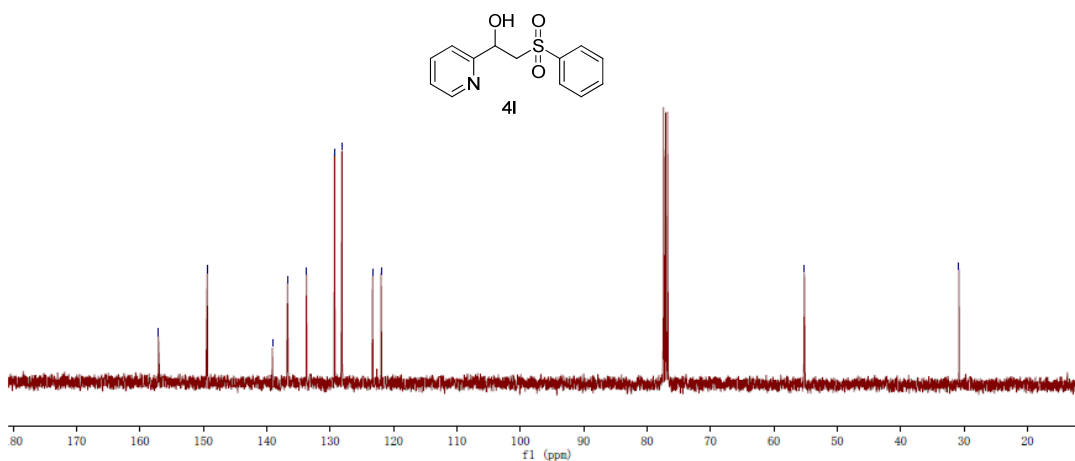
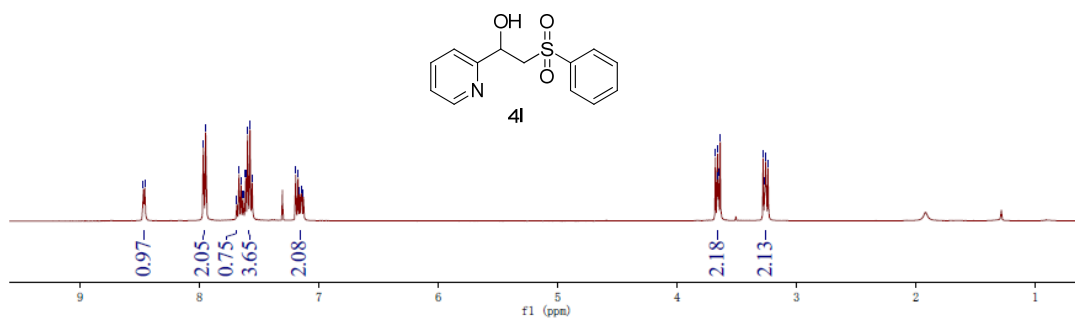
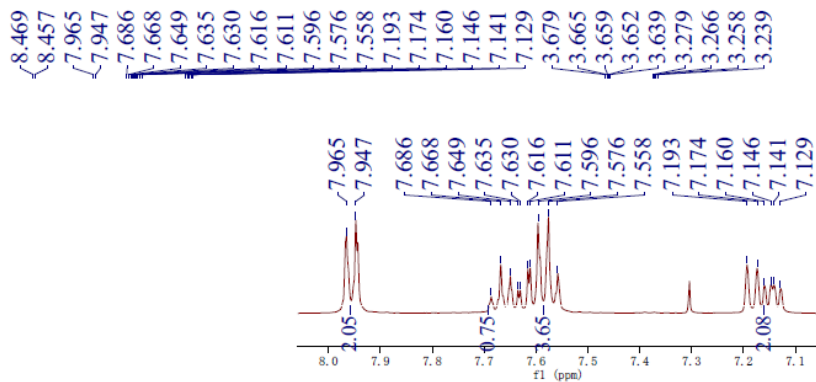
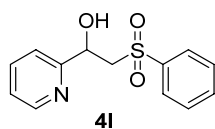
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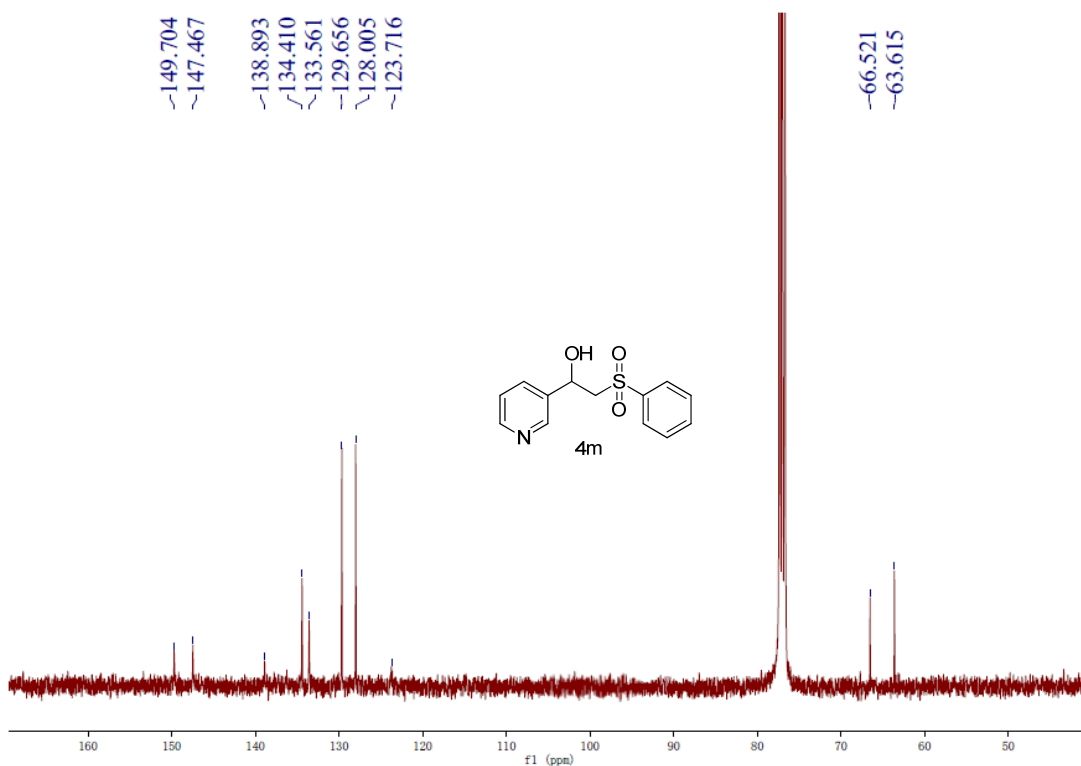
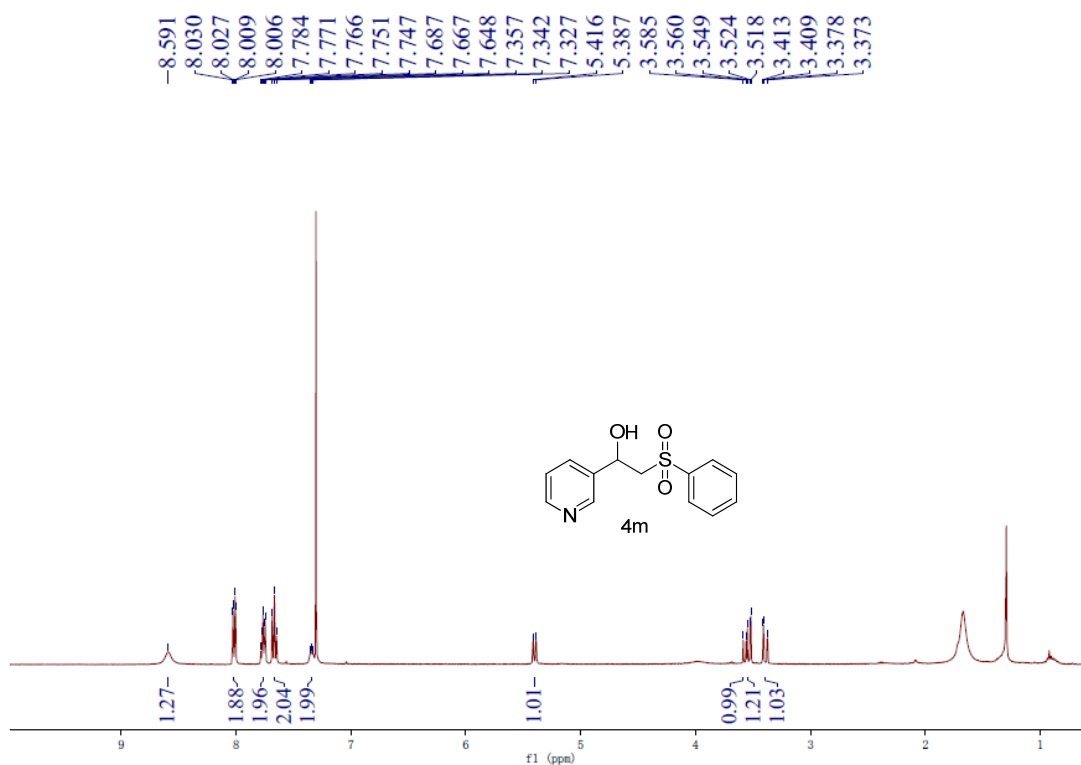
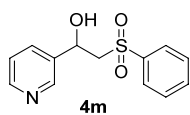


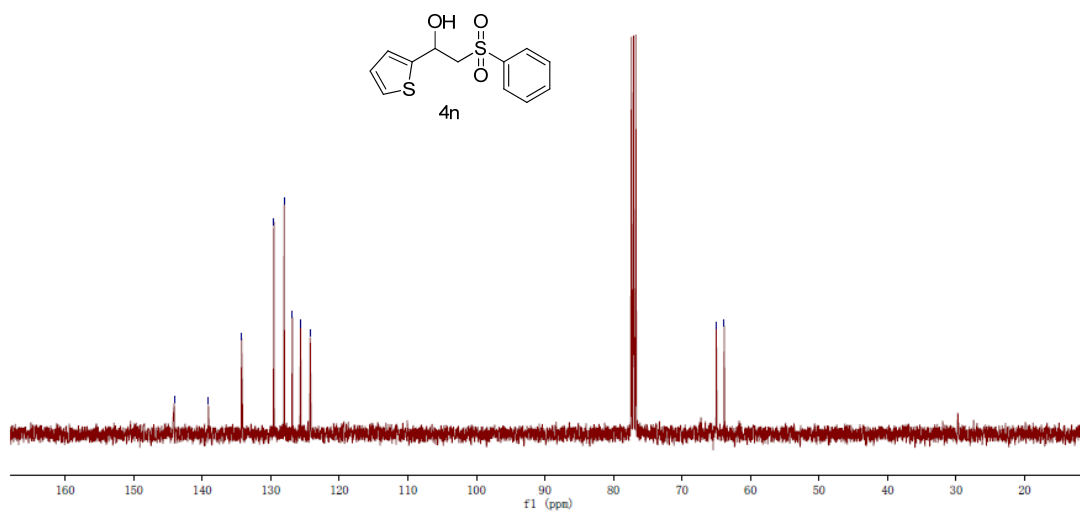
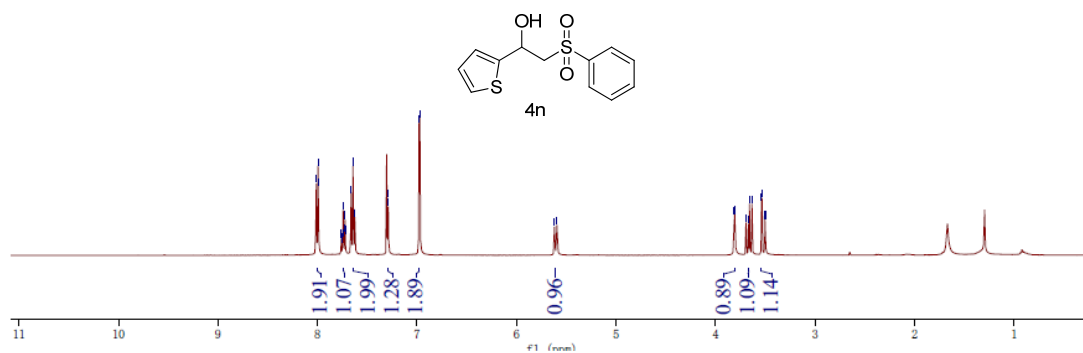
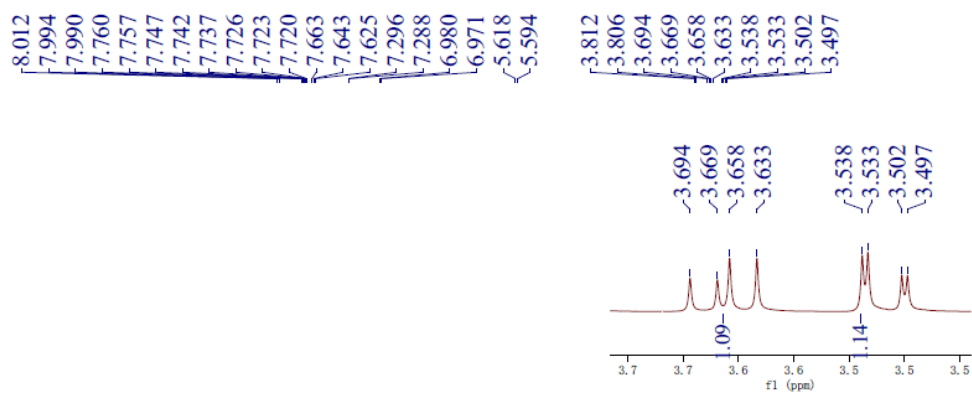
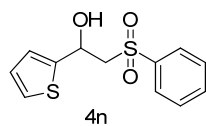


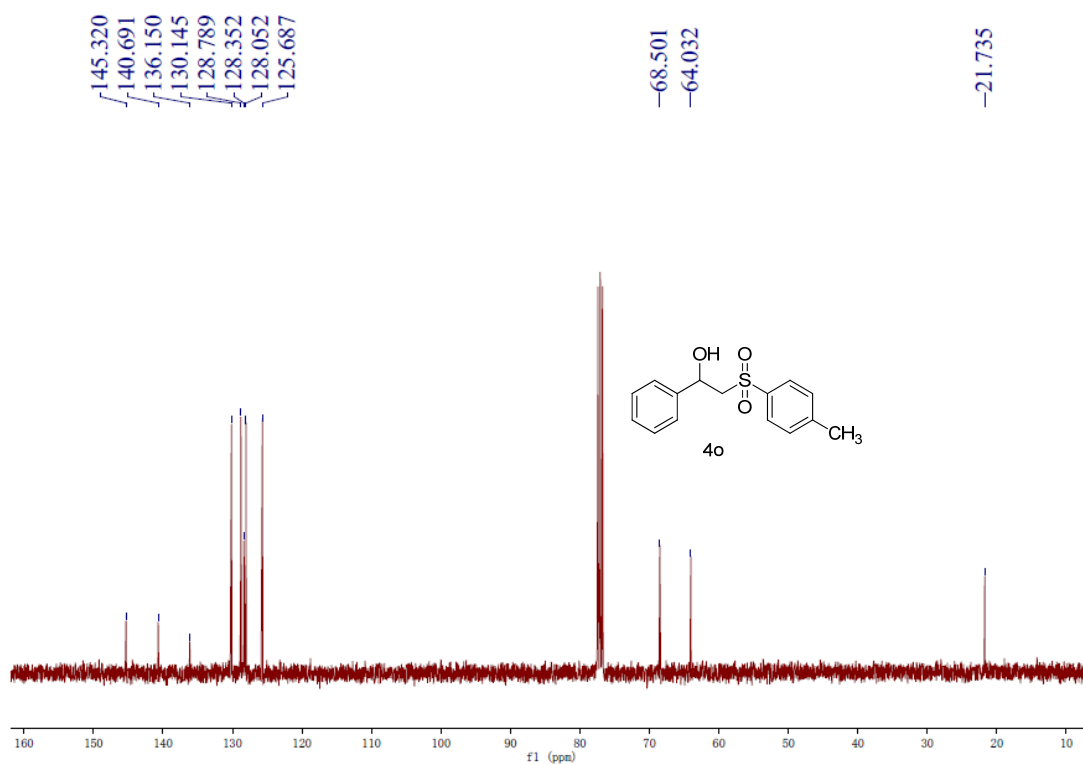
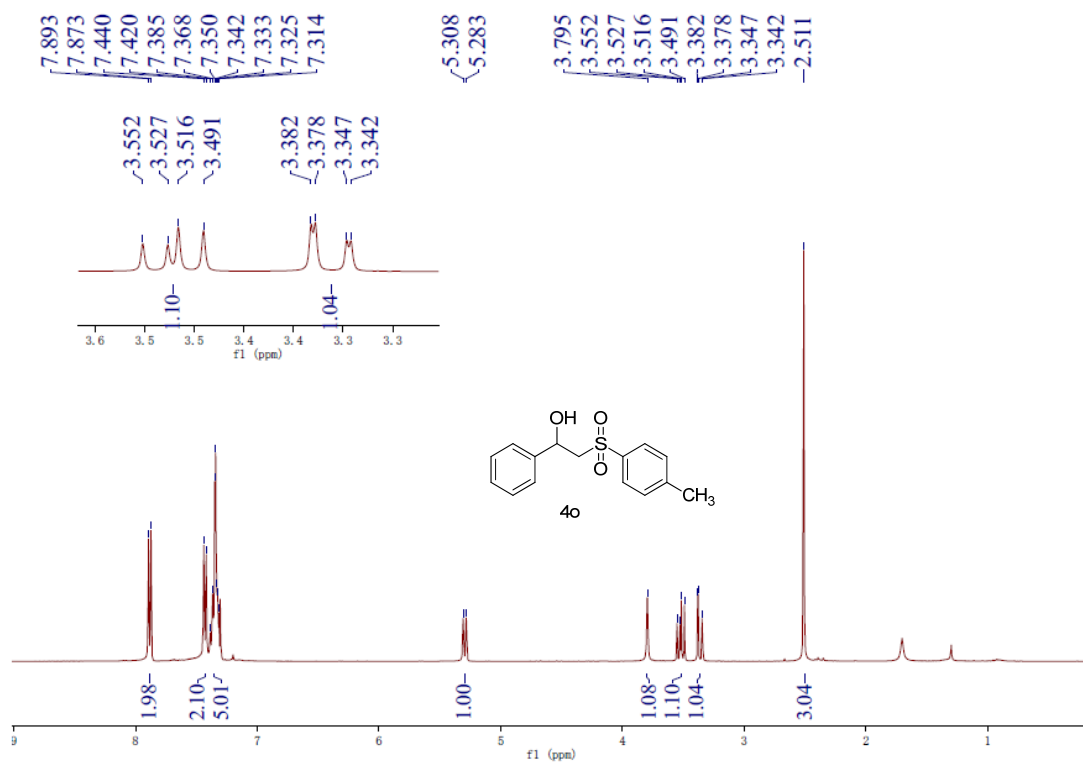
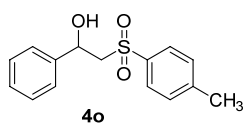


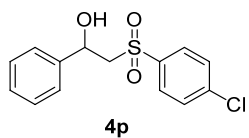








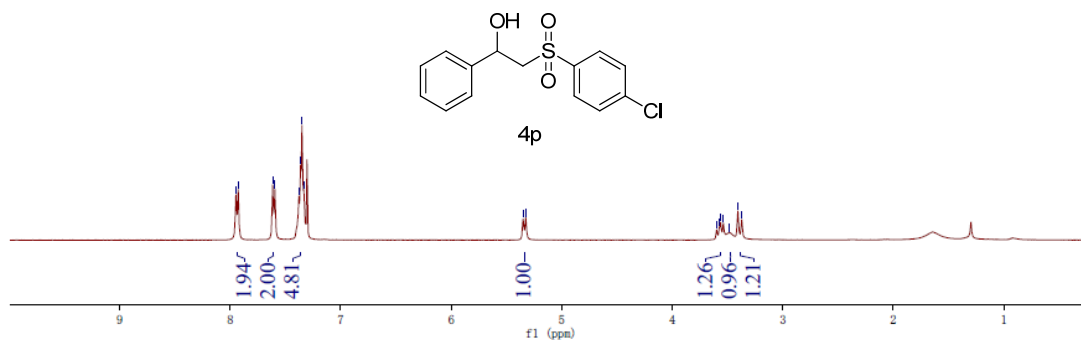
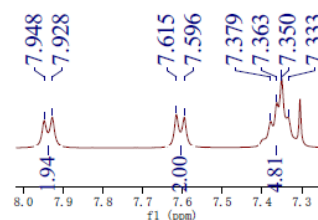




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7.596
7.379
7.363
7.350
7.333

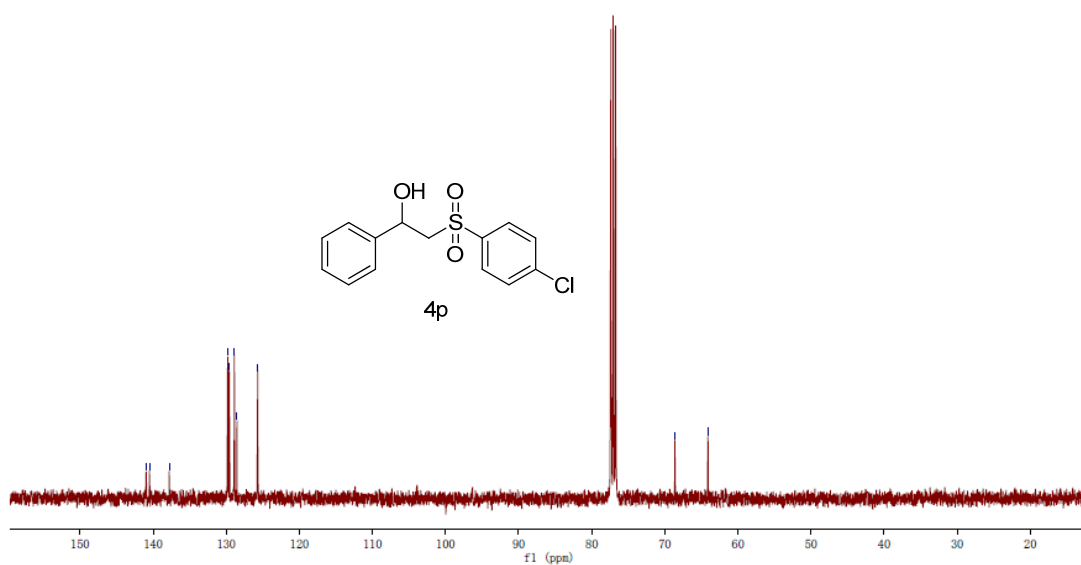
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5.325

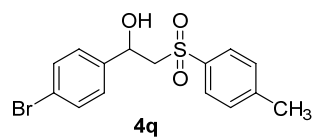
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3.562
3.537
3.479
3.406
3.370



140.956
140.510
137.803
129.803
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128.892
128.538
125.691

68.630
64.089

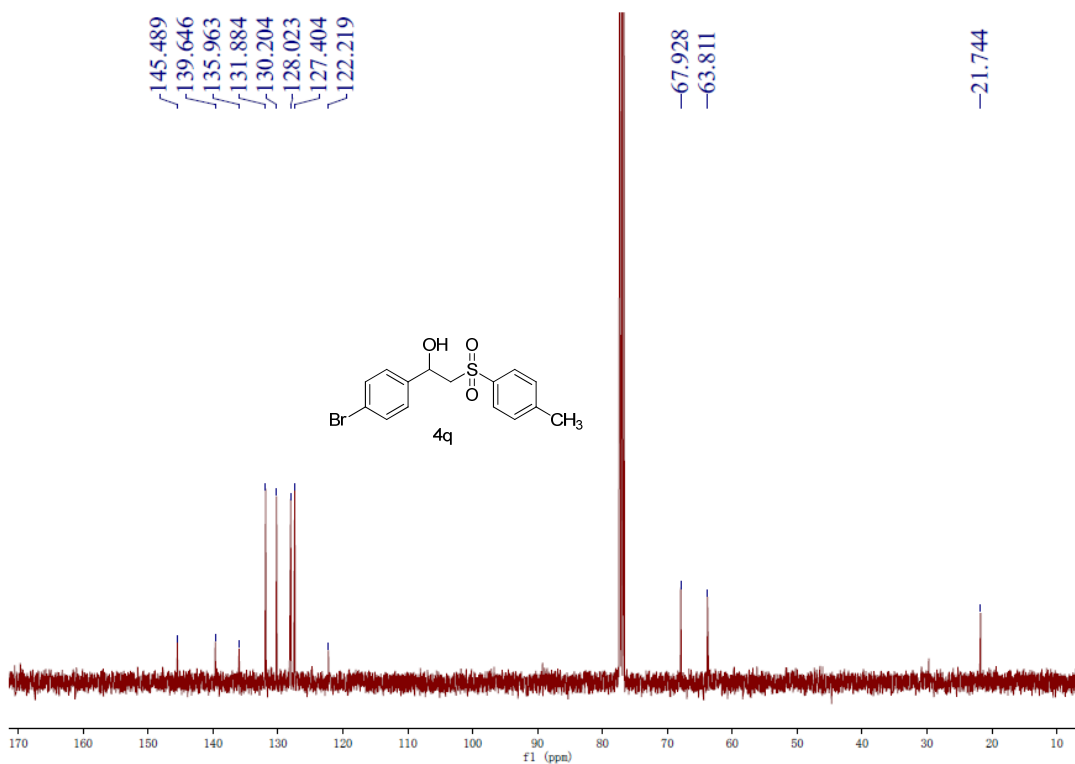
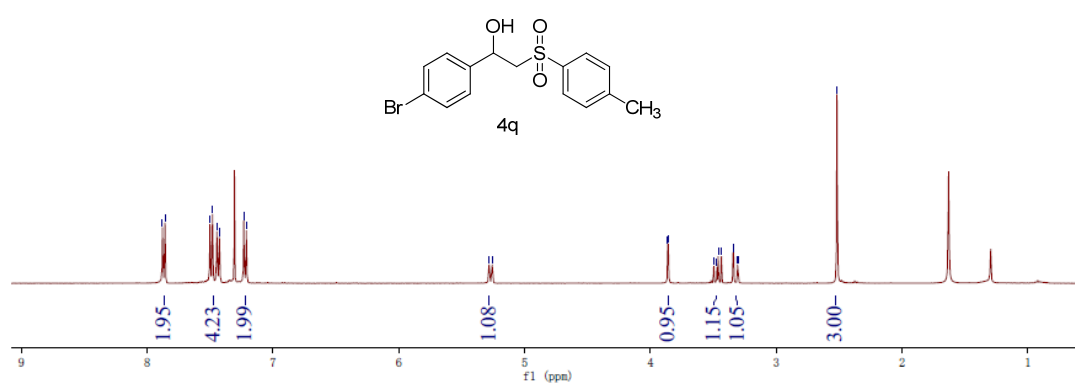


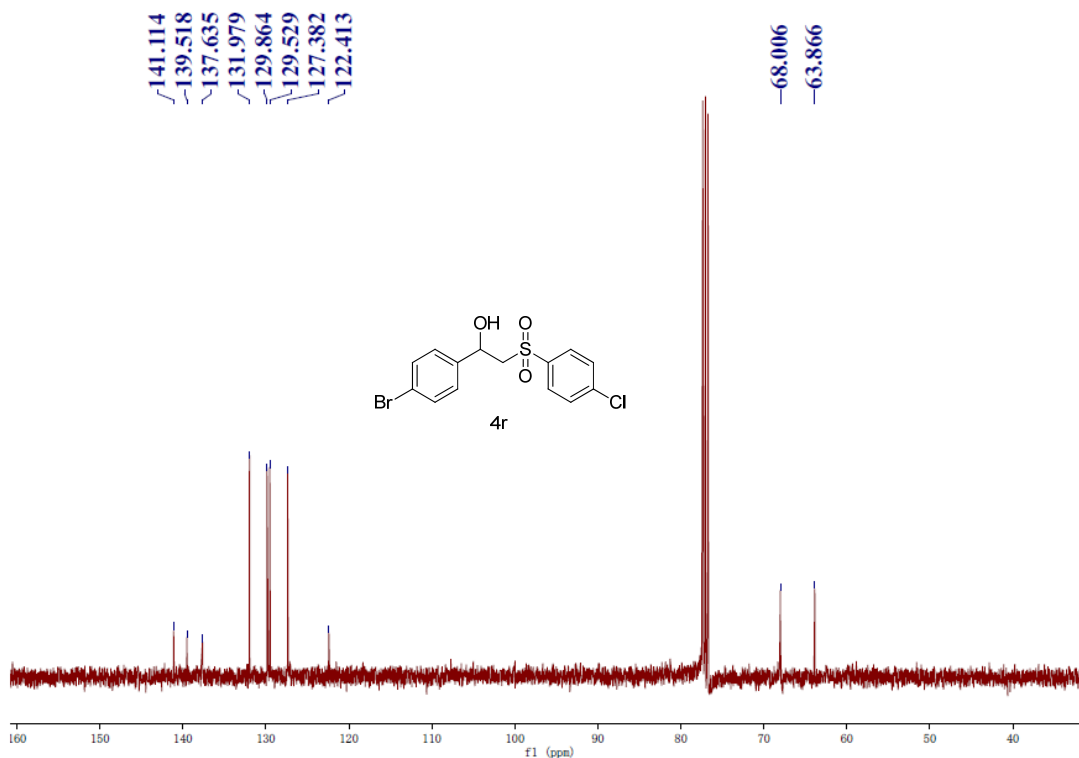
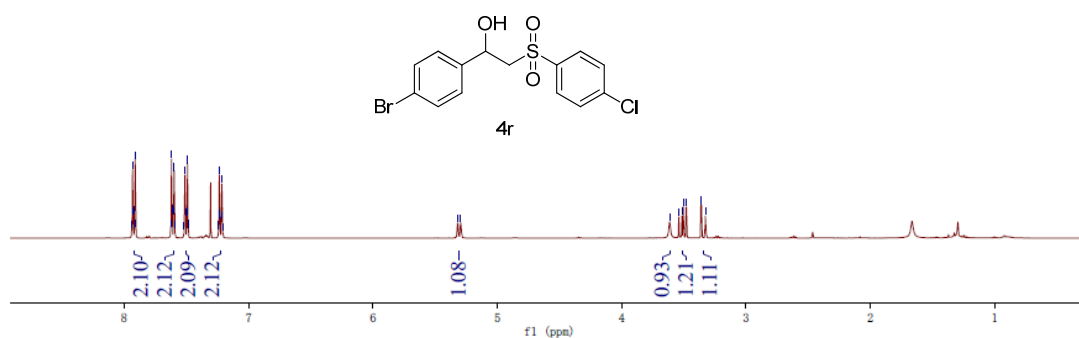
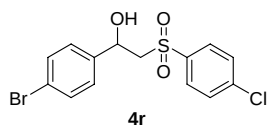


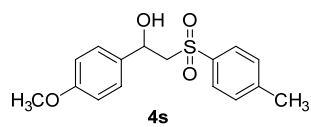
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7.425
7.231
7.210

5.282
5.257

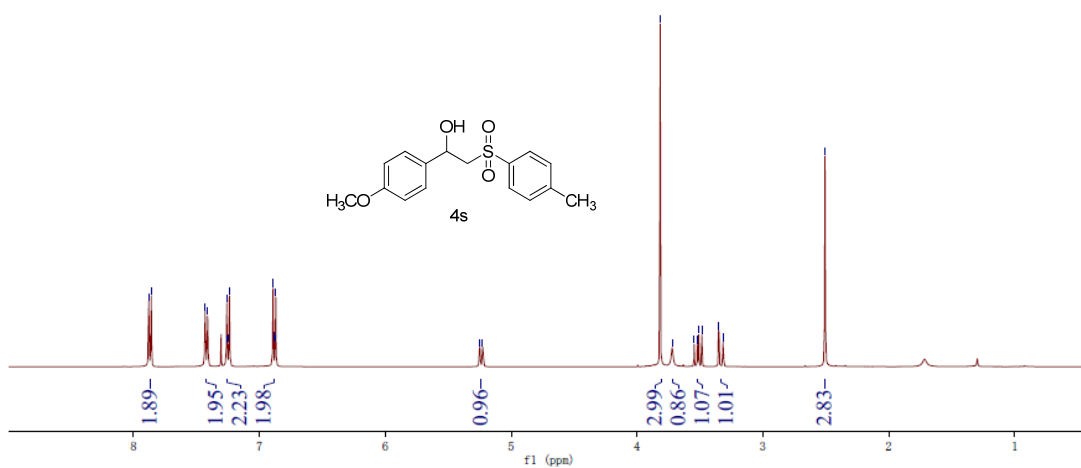
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3.435
3.343
3.339
3.307
3.303
-2.517



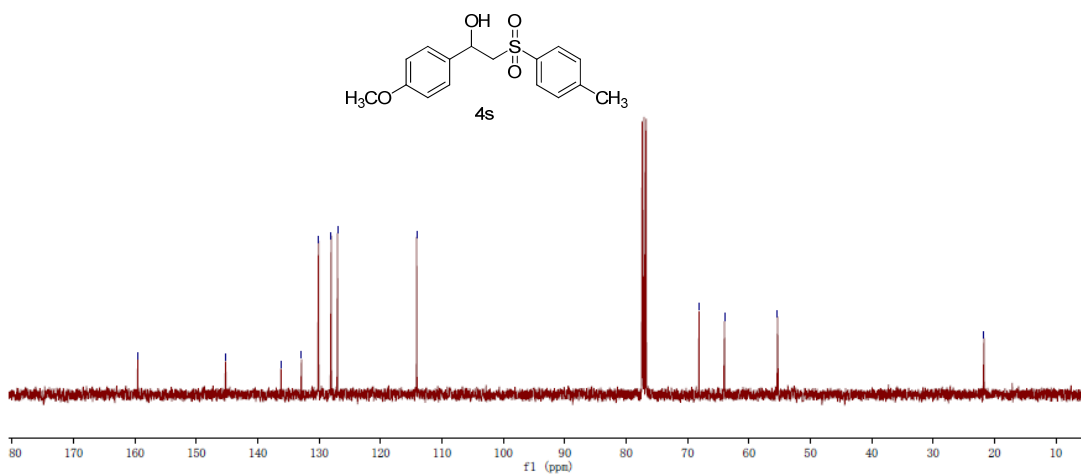


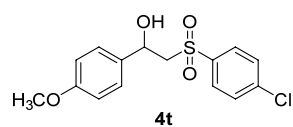


¹H NMR peaks (ppm): 7.880, 7.859, 7.431, 7.411, 7.260, 7.255, 7.244, 7.238, 6.892, 6.887, 6.875, 6.870, 5.247, 5.226, 3.816, 3.720, 3.546, 3.520, 3.510, 3.485, 3.353, 3.348, 3.317, 3.312, -2.506

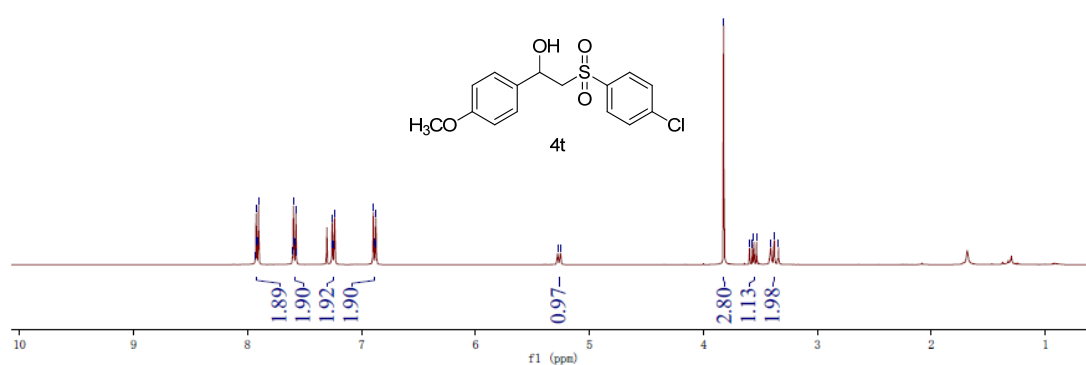


¹³C NMR peaks (ppm): 159.564, 145.248, 136.212, 132.875, 130.111, 128.043, 127.007, 114.123, 68.136, 63.987, 55.340, 21.725

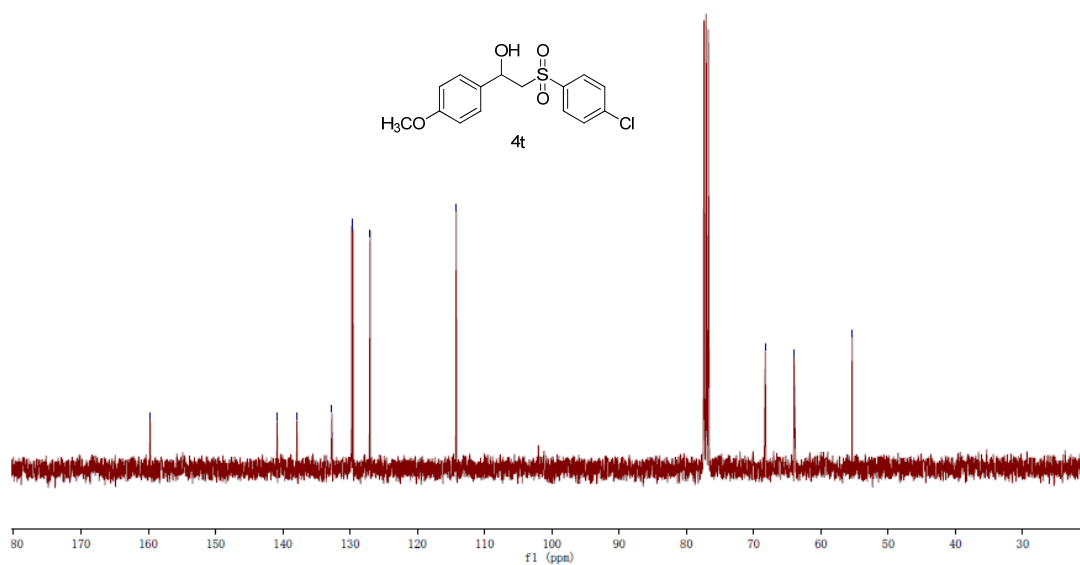


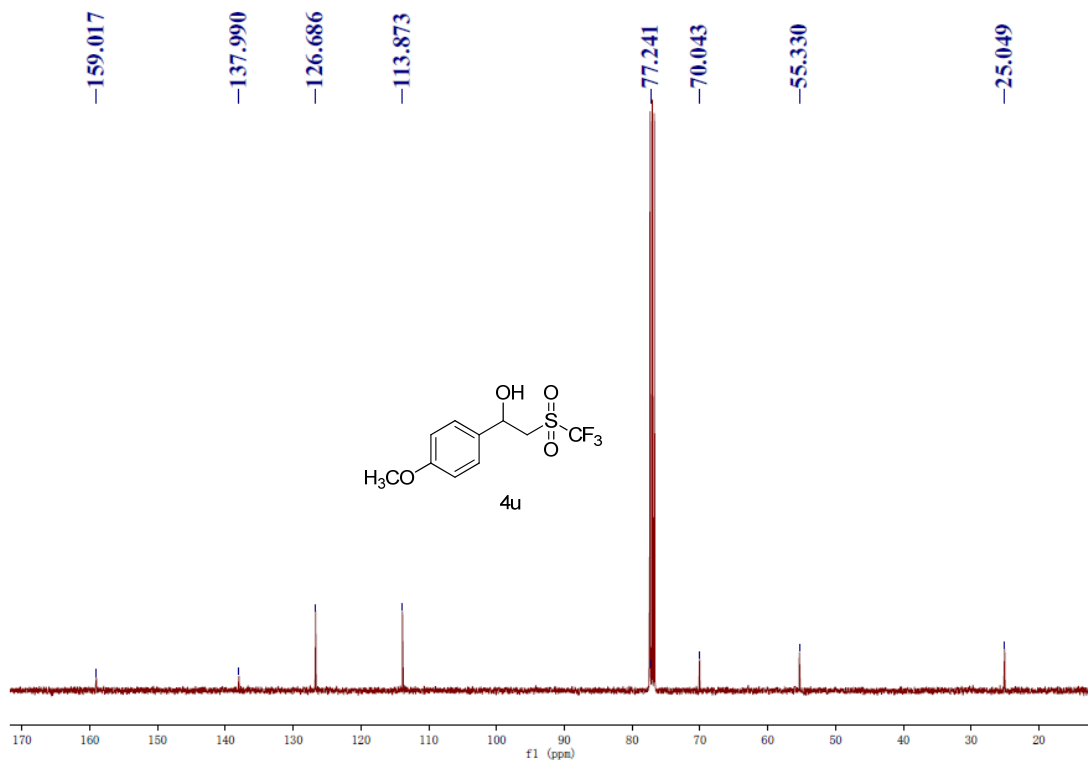
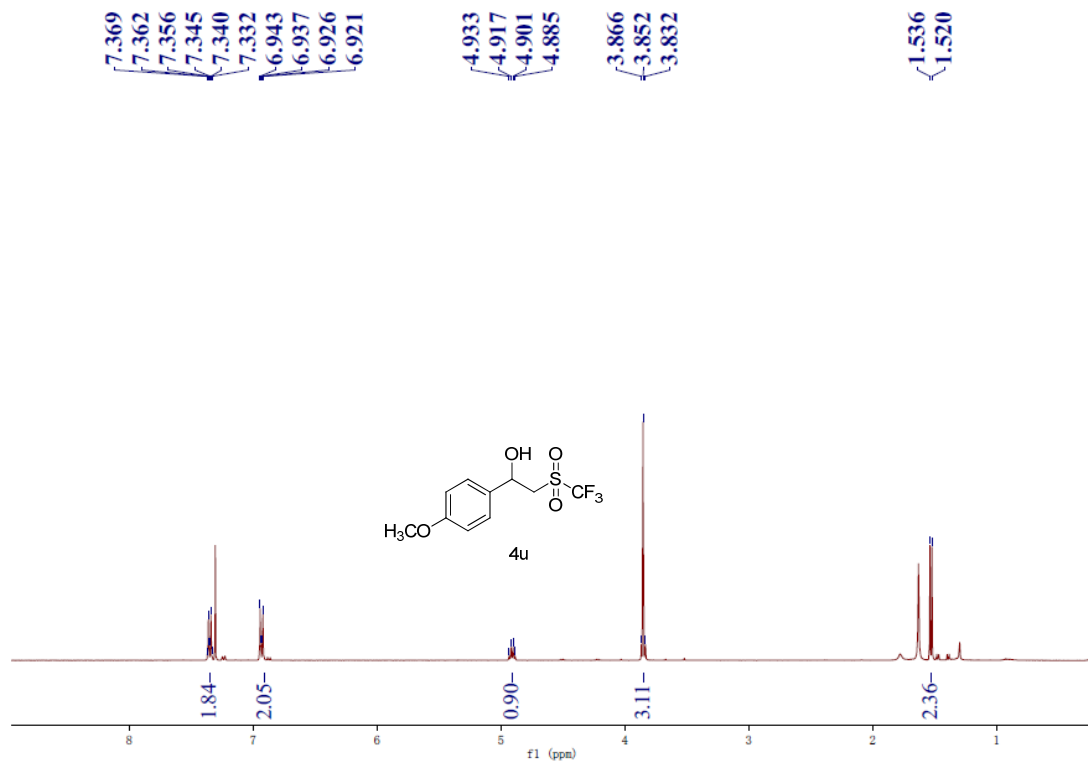
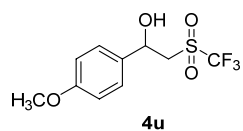


7.933, 7.925, 7.921, 7.909, 7.904, 7.604, 7.598, 7.593, 7.582, 7.577, 7.570, 7.258, 7.253, 7.242, 7.237, 6.896, 6.891, 6.879, 6.874, 5.280, 5.255, 3.823, 3.595, 3.570, 3.559, 3.534, 3.409, 3.382, 3.377, 3.346, 3.341

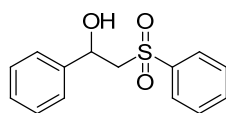


159.712, 140.840, 137.892, 132.690, 129.729, 129.569, 127.015, 114.212, 68.271, 64.003, 55.352

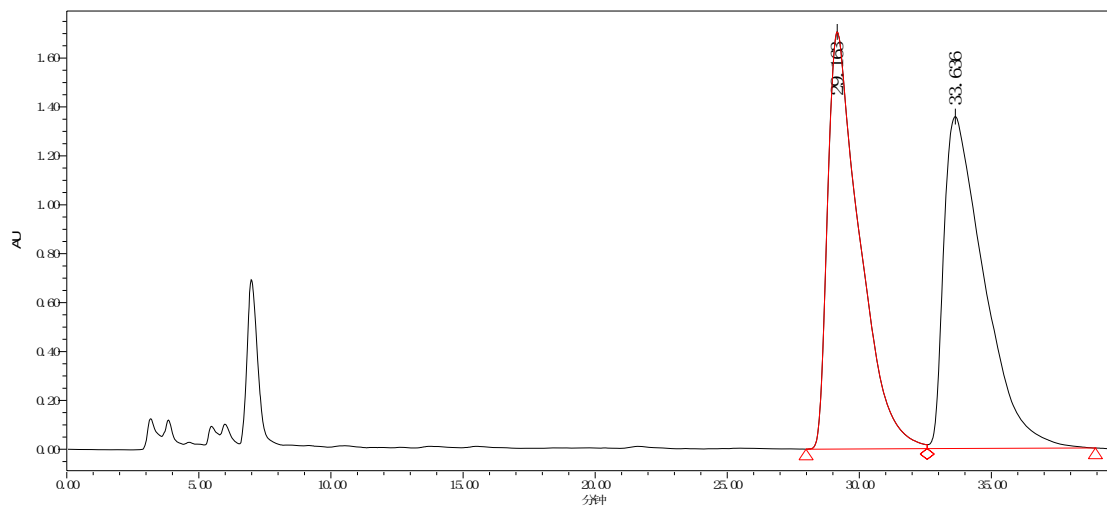




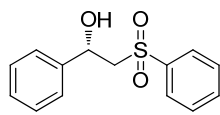
7. HPLC spectra of the products



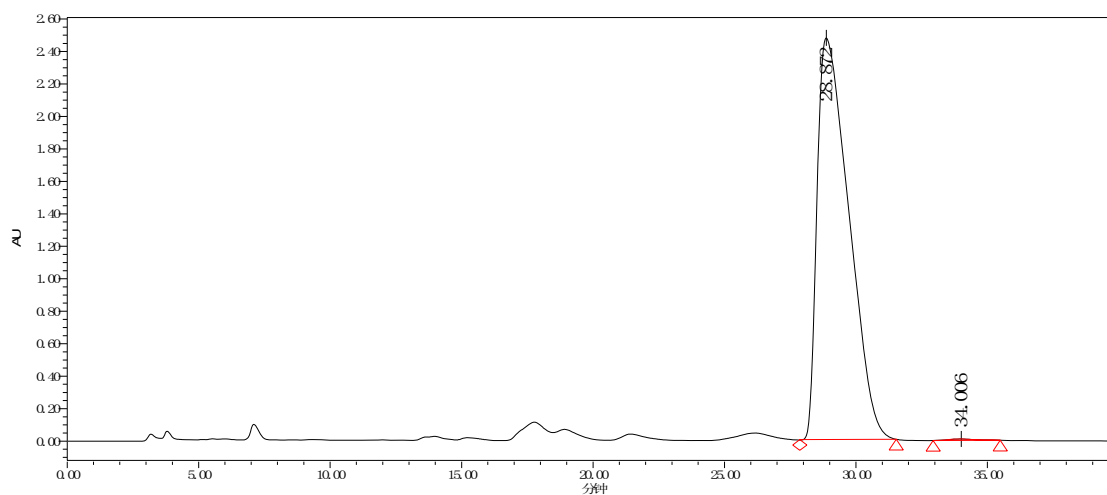
Racemate-4a



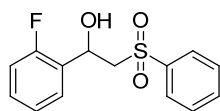
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value (%)
1	29.163	50.13	0
2	33.636	49.87	



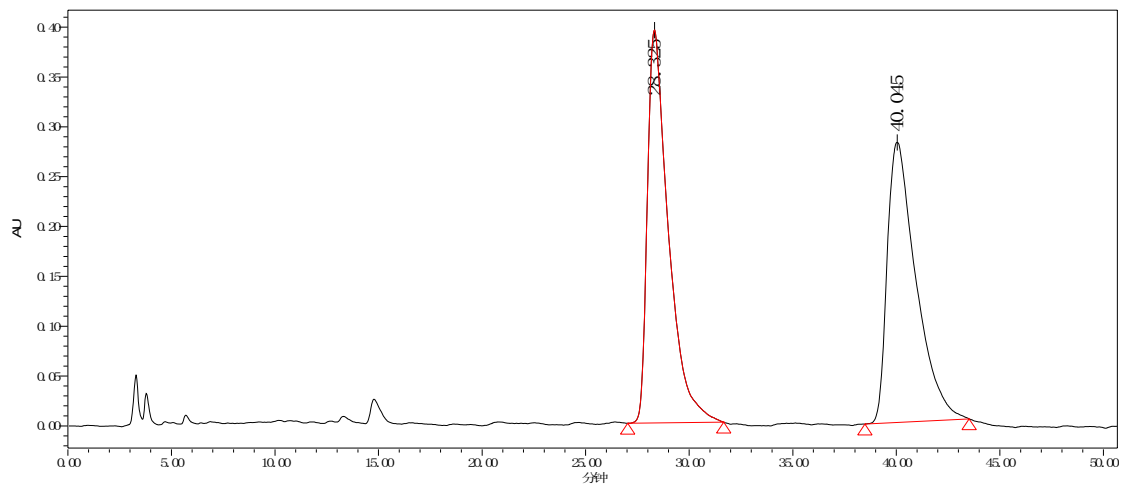
(S)-4a



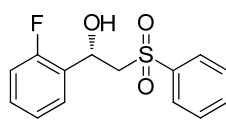
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	28.872	99.81	99.6
2	34.006	0.19	



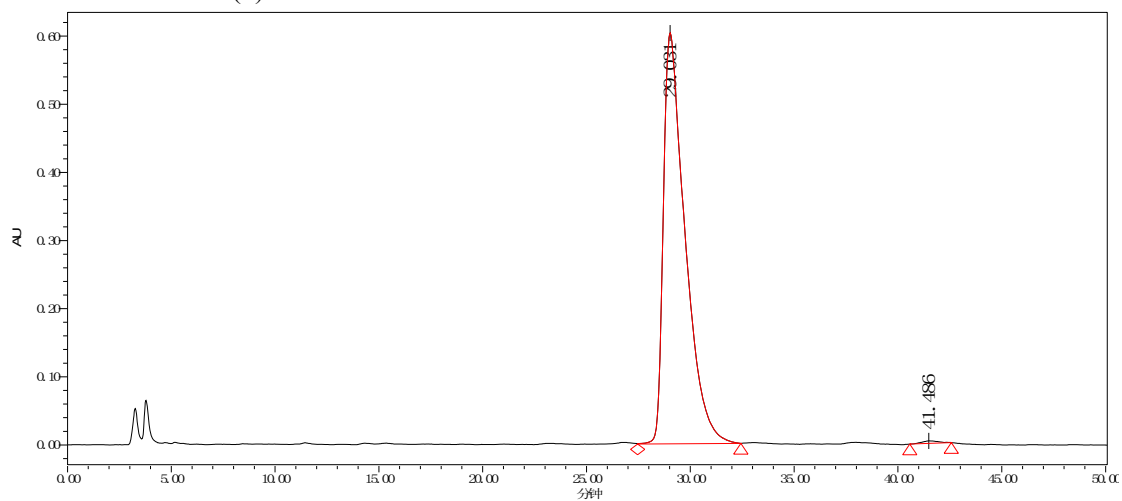
Racemate-4b



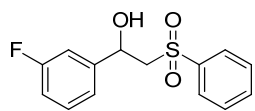
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	28.325	50.23	0
2	40.045	49.77	



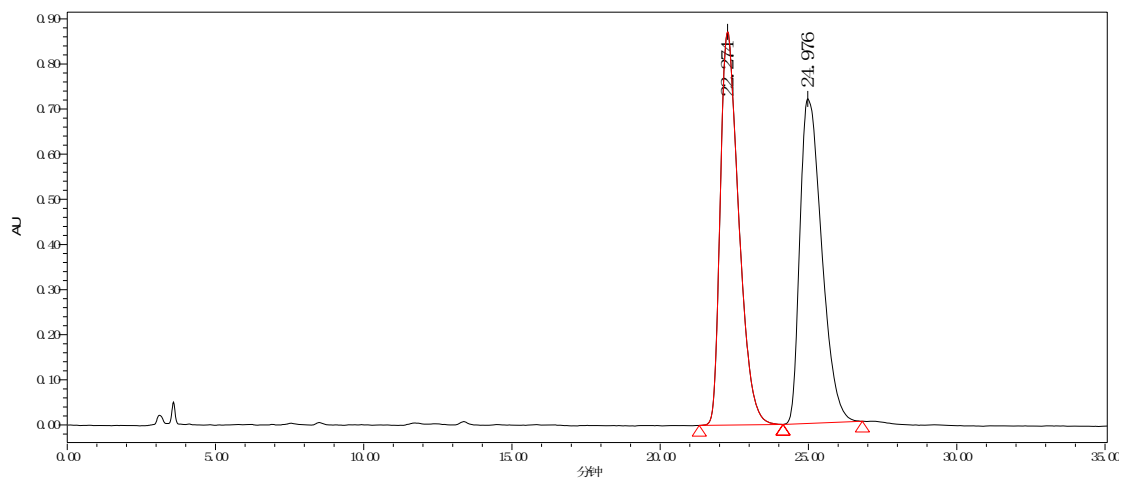
(S)-4b



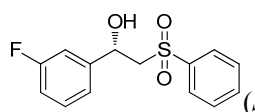
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1	29.031	99.90	99.8
2	41.486	0.10	



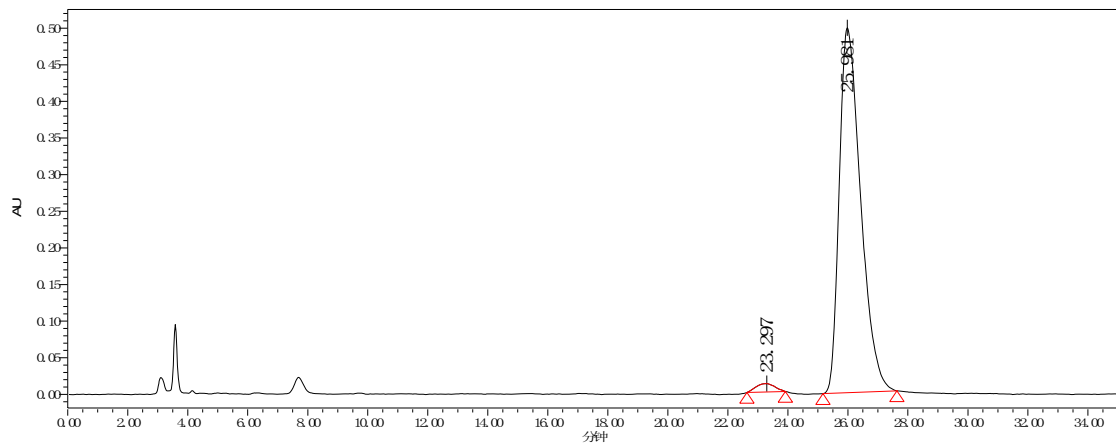
Racemate-4c



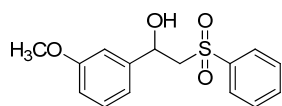
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	22.274	50.36	0
2	24.976	49.64	



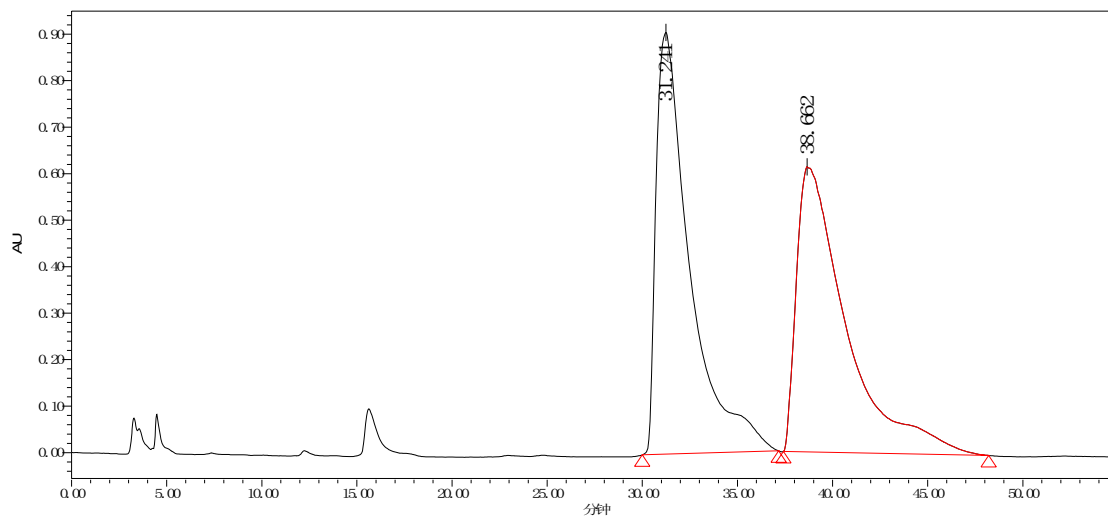
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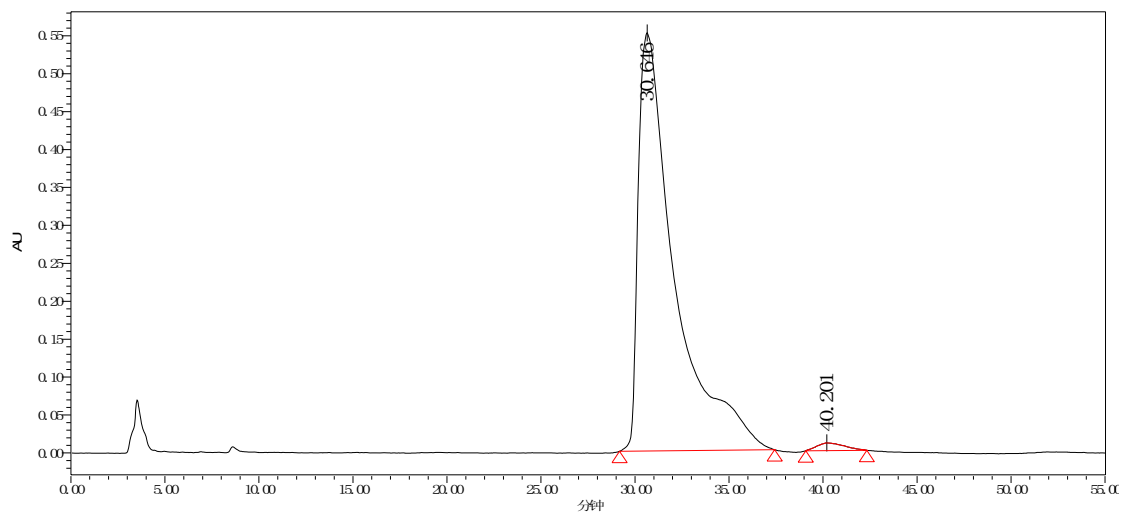
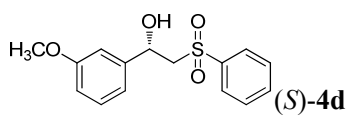
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	23.297	1.47	97.1
2	25.981	98.53	



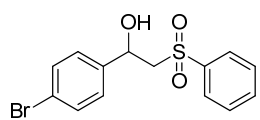
Racemate-4d



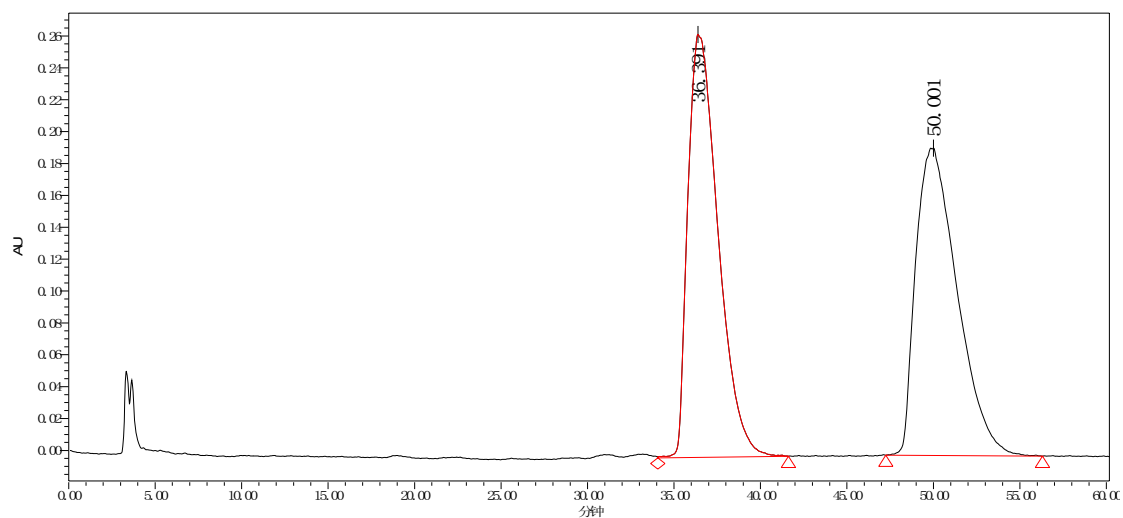
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	31.241	50.67	0
2	38.662	49.33	



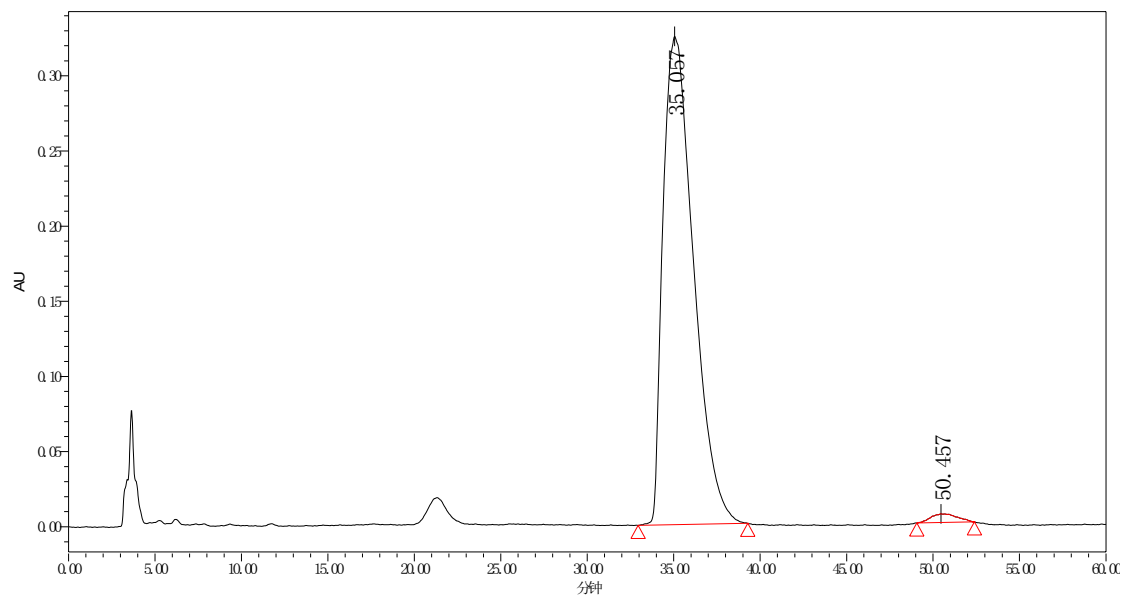
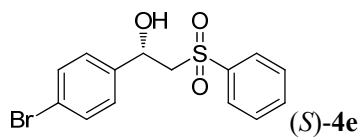
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	30.646	98.74	97.5
2	40.201	1.26	



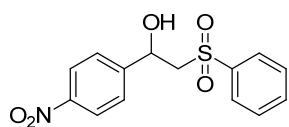
Racemate-4e



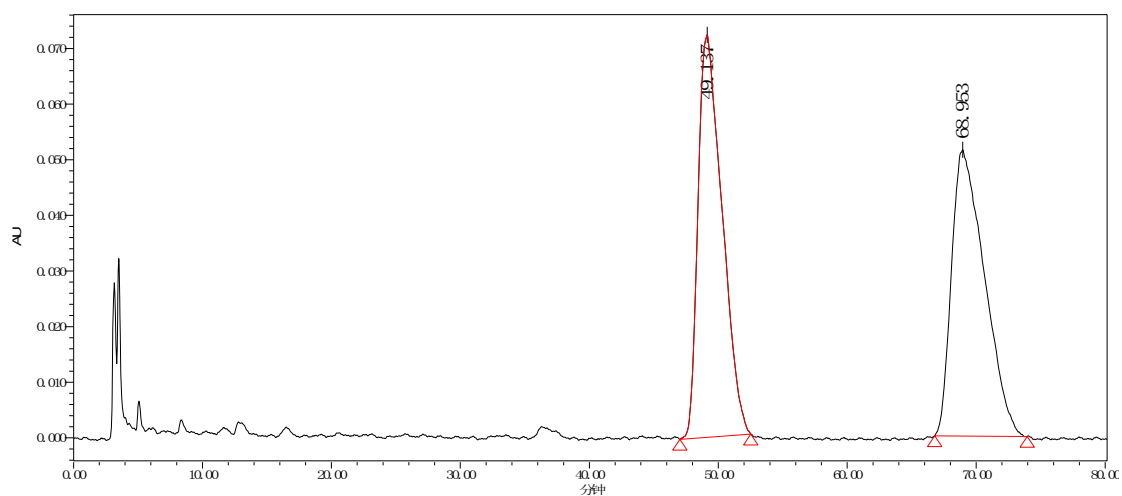
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	36.391	50.06	0
2	50.001	49.94	



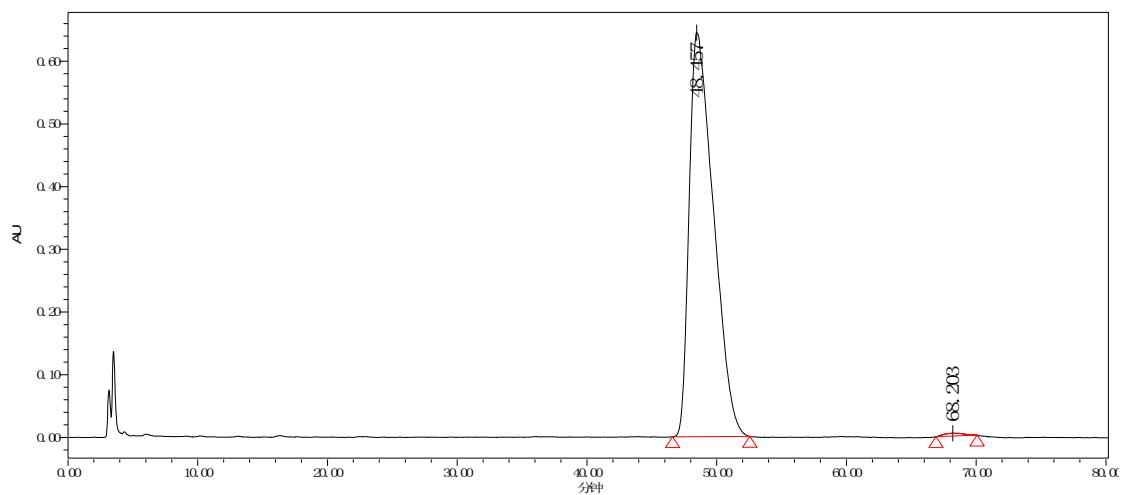
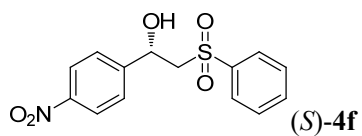
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	35.057	98.92	97.8
2	50.457	1.08	



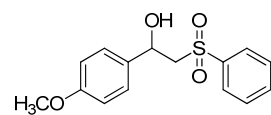
Racemate-4f



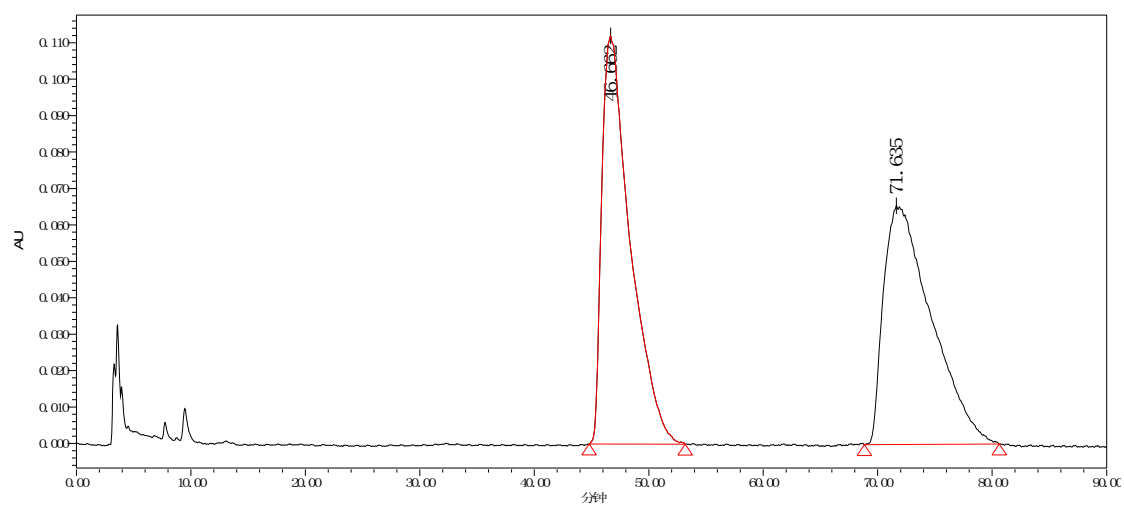
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	49.137	50.44	0
2	68.953	49.56	



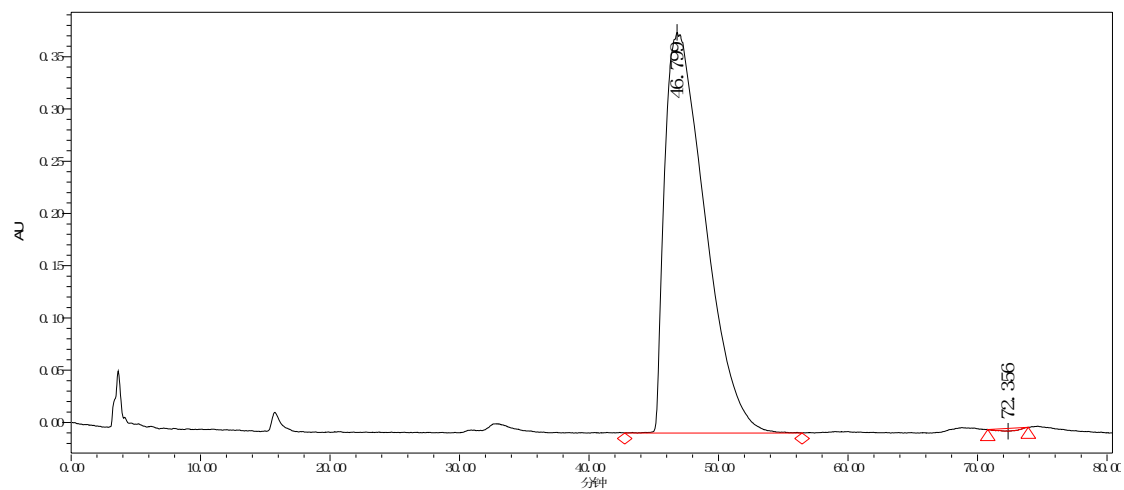
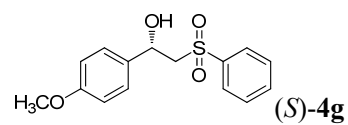
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1	48.457	99.52	99.0
2	68.203	0.48	



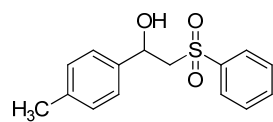
Racemate-4g



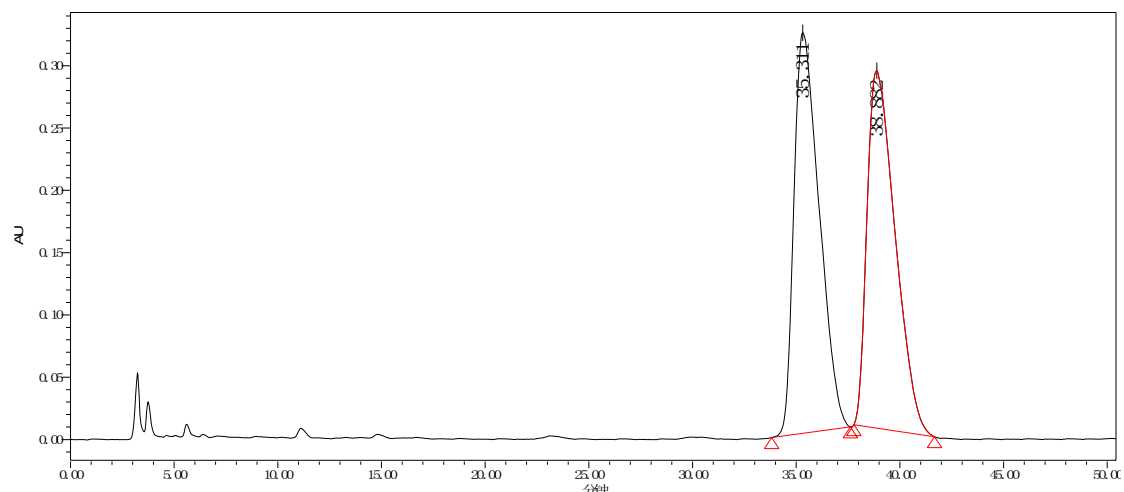
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	46.662	50.22	0
2	71.635	49.78	



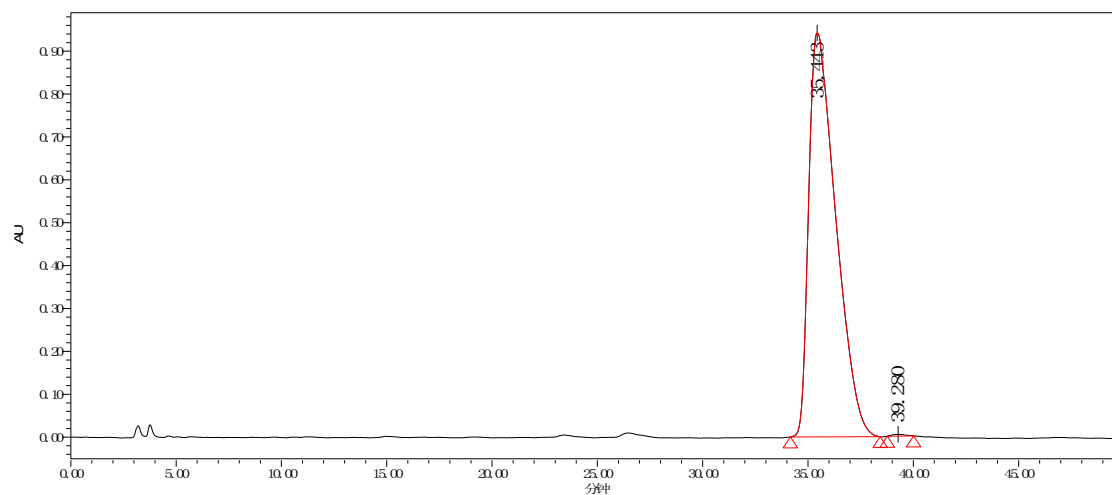
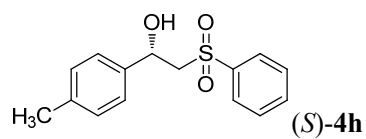
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	46.799	99.68	99.3
2	72.356	0.32	



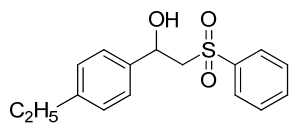
Racemate-4h



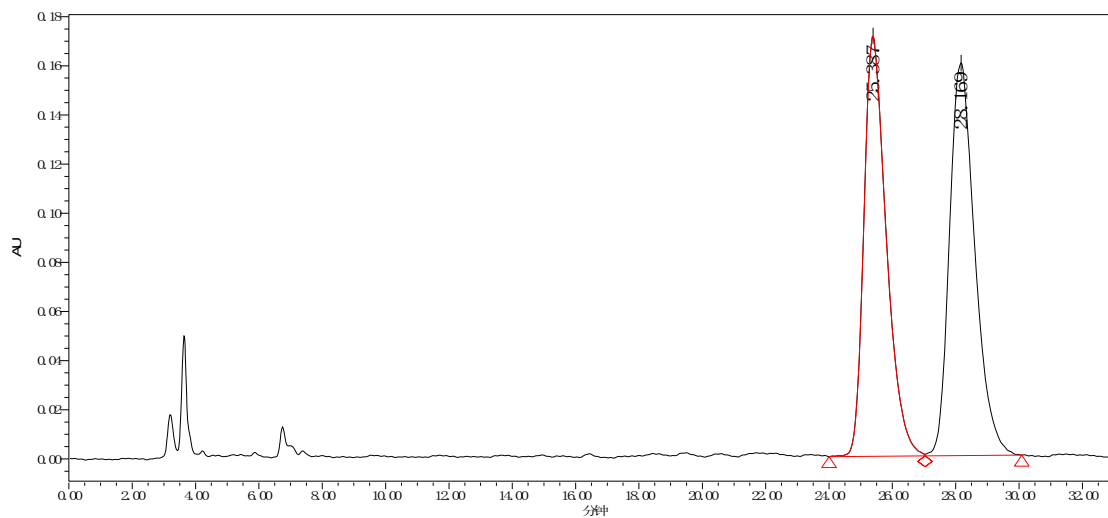
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	35.311	50.02	0
2	38.882	49.98	



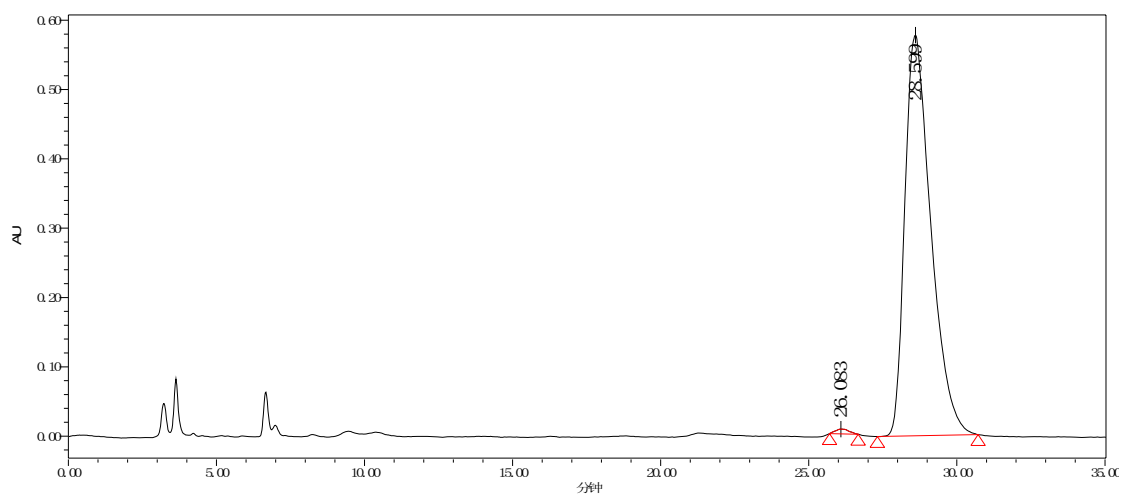
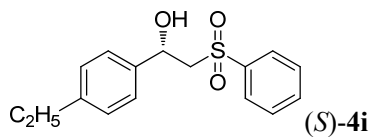
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	35.443	99.81	99.6
2	39.281	0.19	



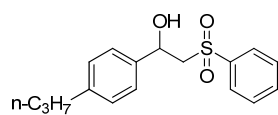
Racemate-4i



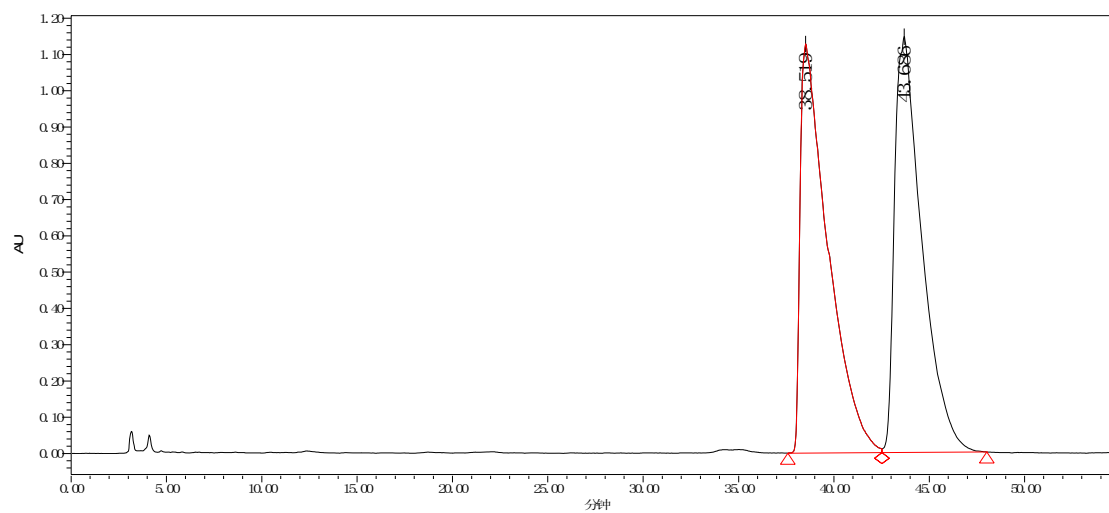
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	25.387	49.59	0
2	28.169	50.41	



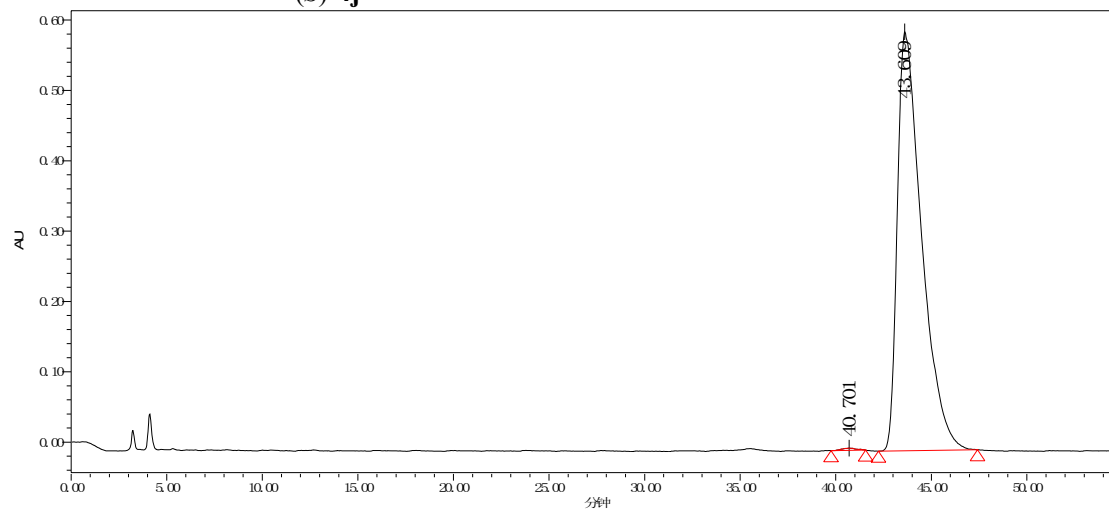
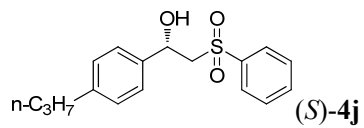
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	25.266	0.21	99.5
2	28.599	99.79	



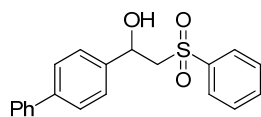
Racemate-4j



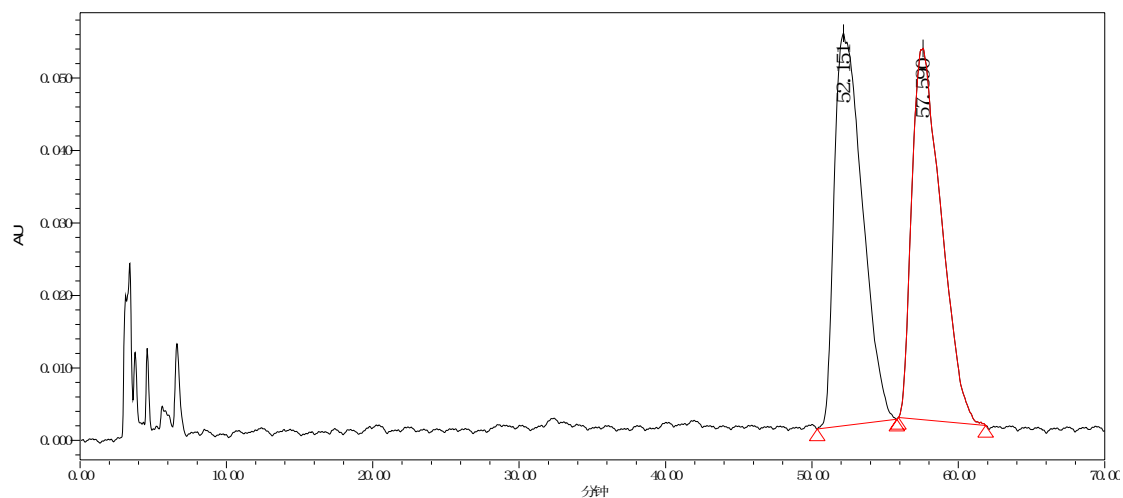
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	38.519	49.84	0
2	43.686	50.16	



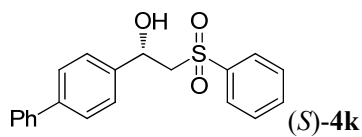
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	39.111	0.29	99.4
2	43.609	99.71	



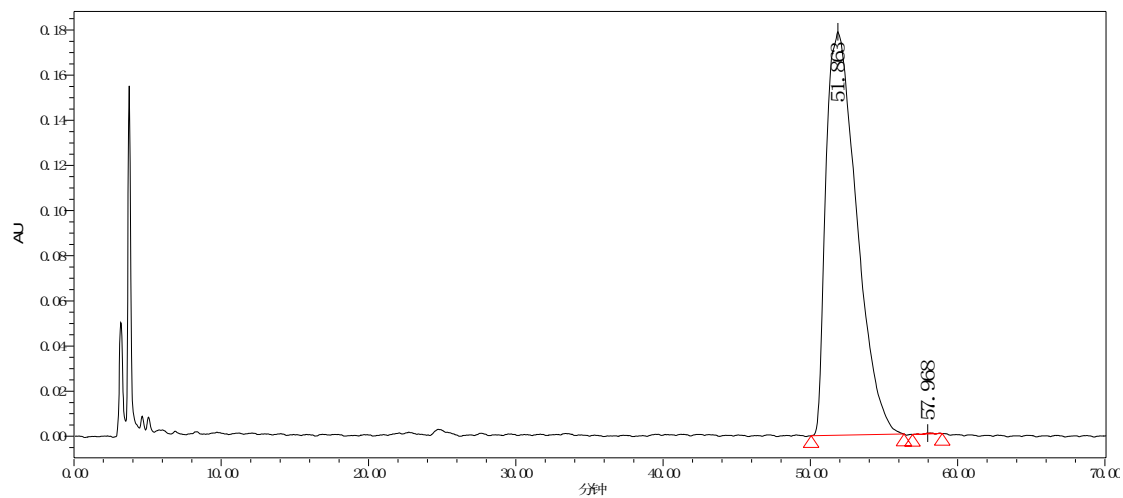
Racemate-4k



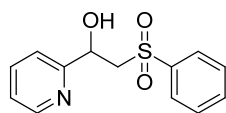
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	52.151	50.42	0
2	57.590	49.58	



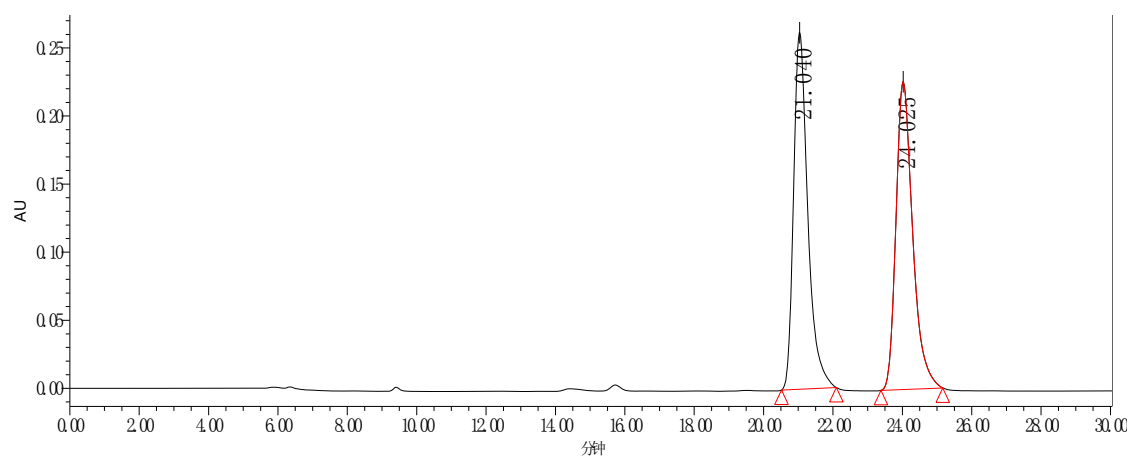
(S)-4k



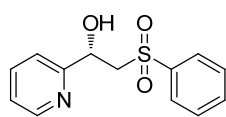
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	51.863	99.95	99.9
2	57.968	0.05	



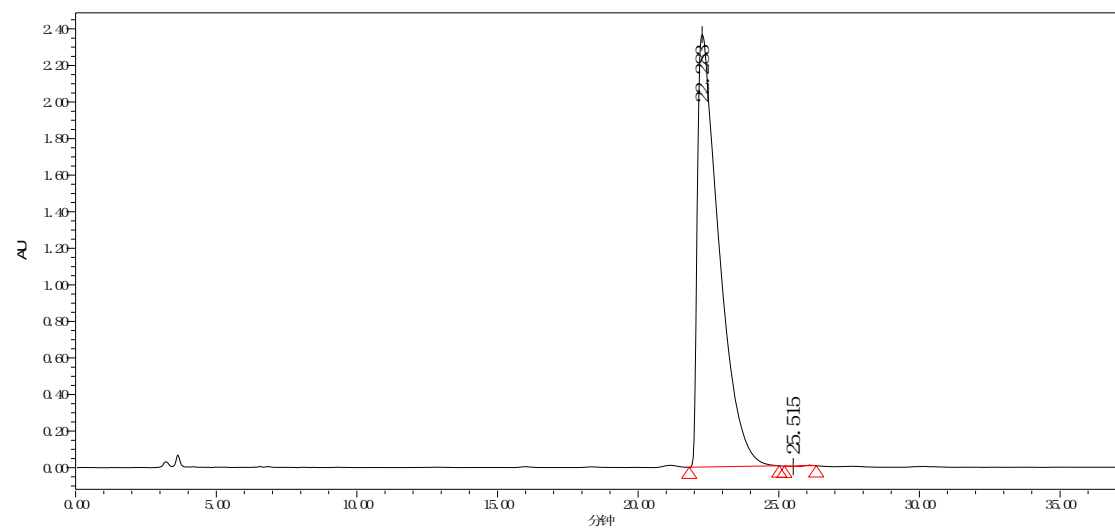
Racemate-41



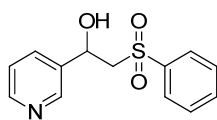
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	21.040	49.54	0
2	24.025	50.46	



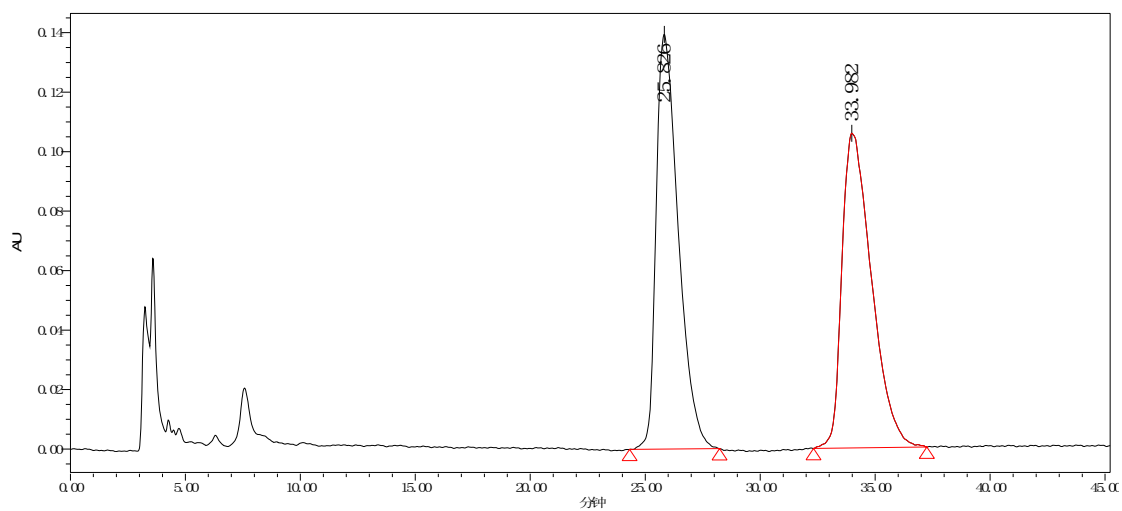
(S)-41



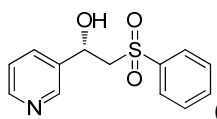
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	22.283	99.79	99.5
2	25.515	0.21	



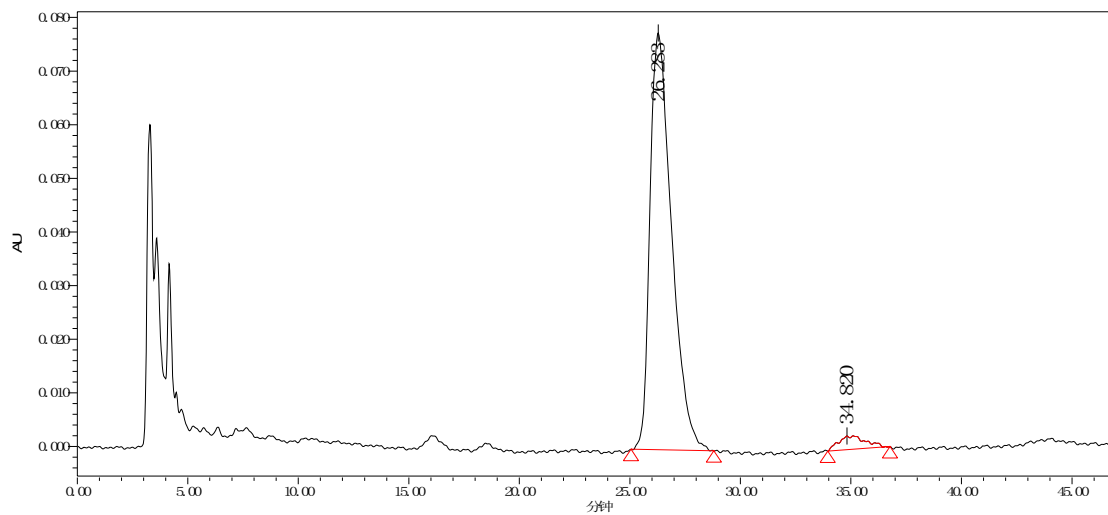
Racemate-4m



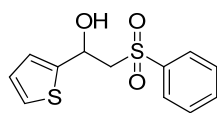
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	25.826	50.19	0
2	33.982	49.81	



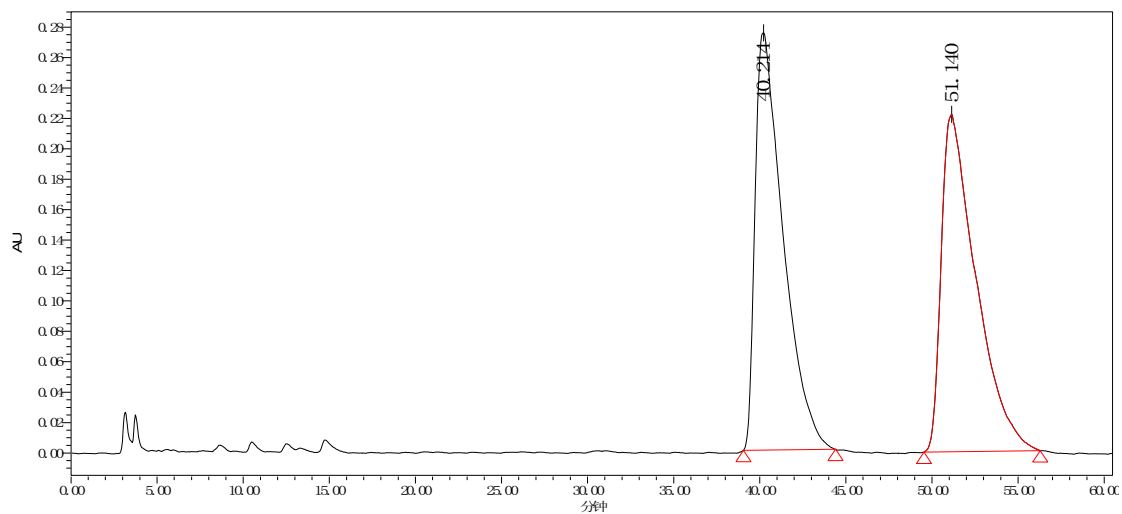
(S)-4m



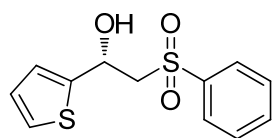
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	26.283	97.51	95.1
2	34.820	2.49	



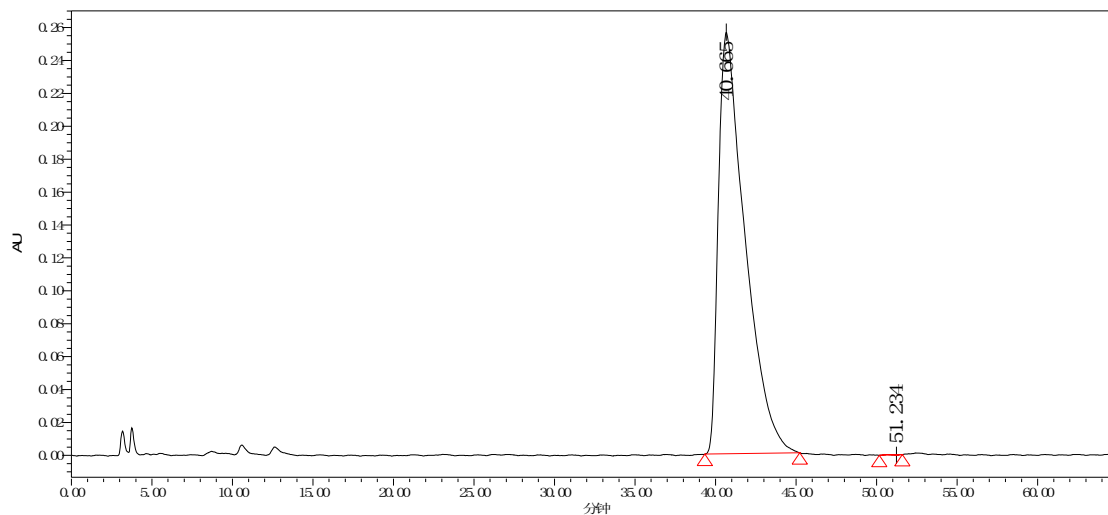
Racemate-4n



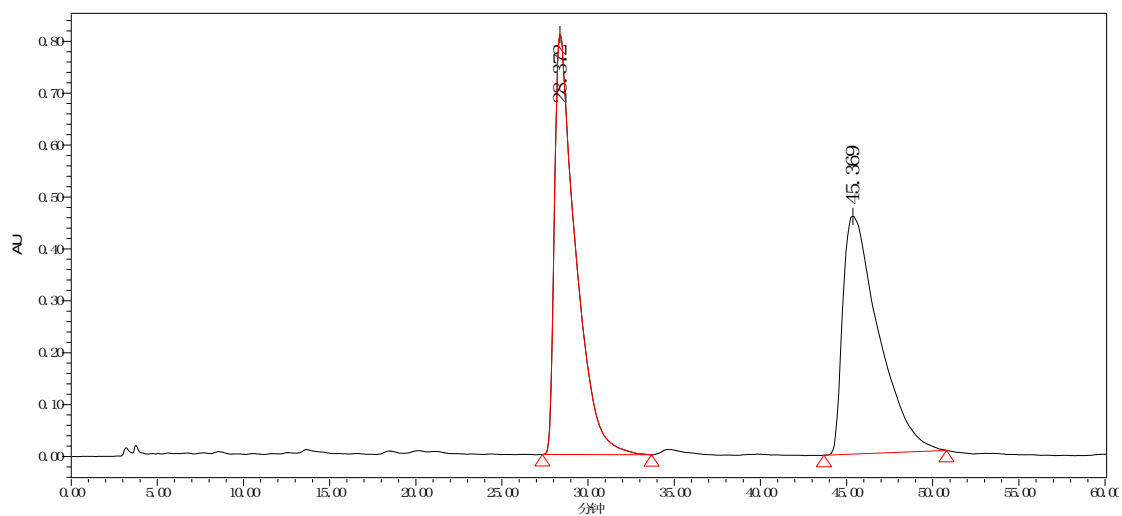
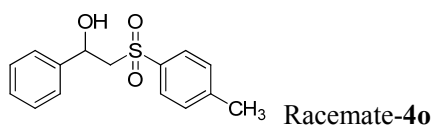
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	40.214	50.12	0
2	51.140	49.88	



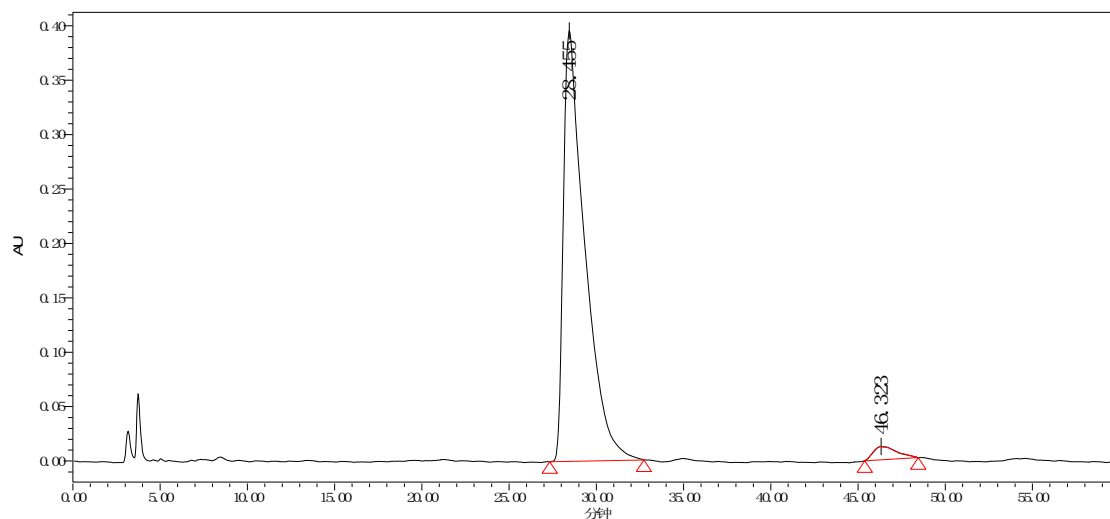
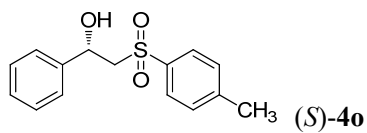
(S)-4n



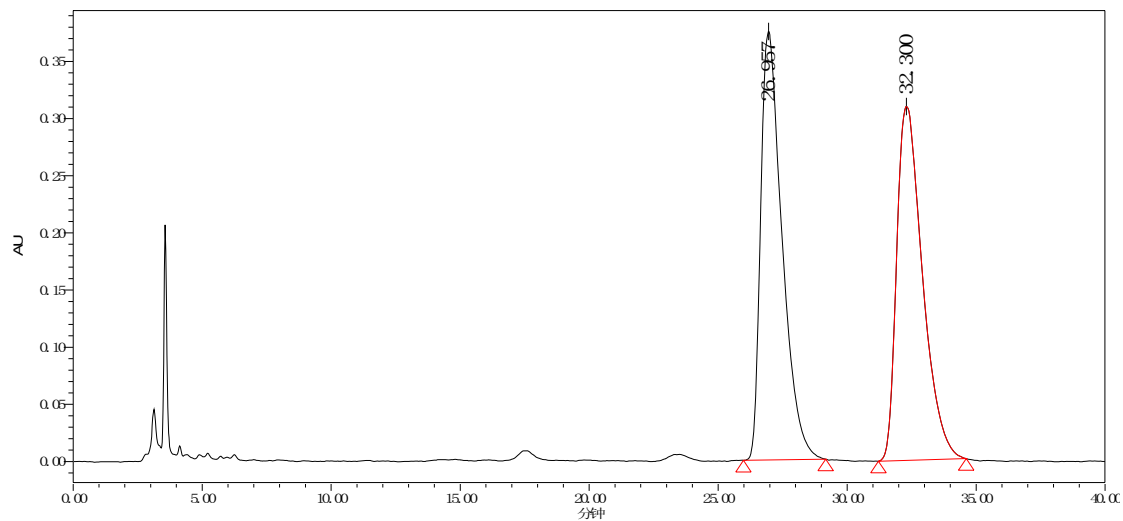
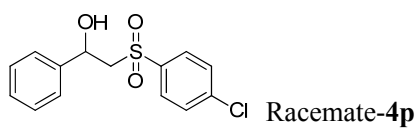
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	40.665	99.82	99.6
2	51.234	0.18	



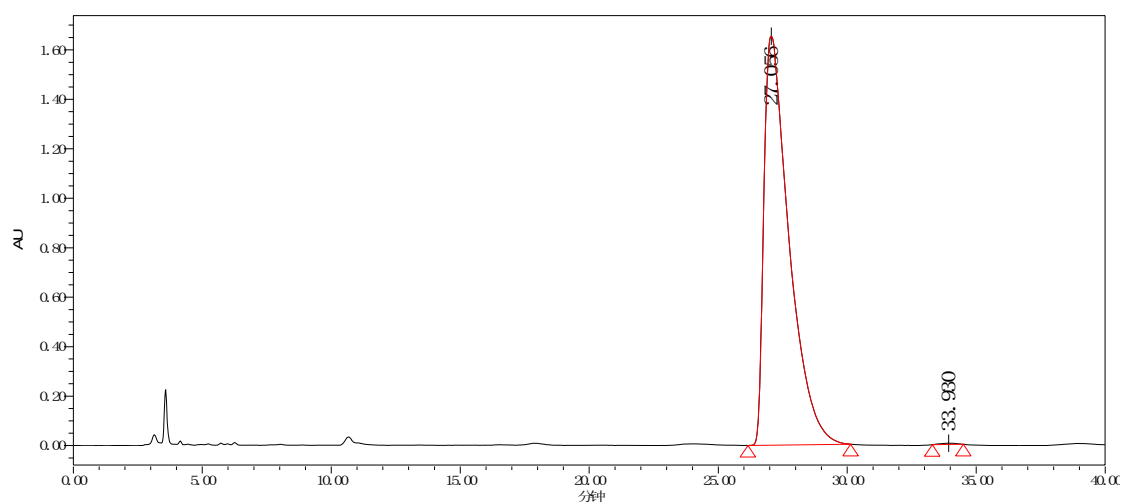
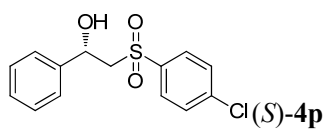
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	28.372	50.52	0
2	45.369	49.48	



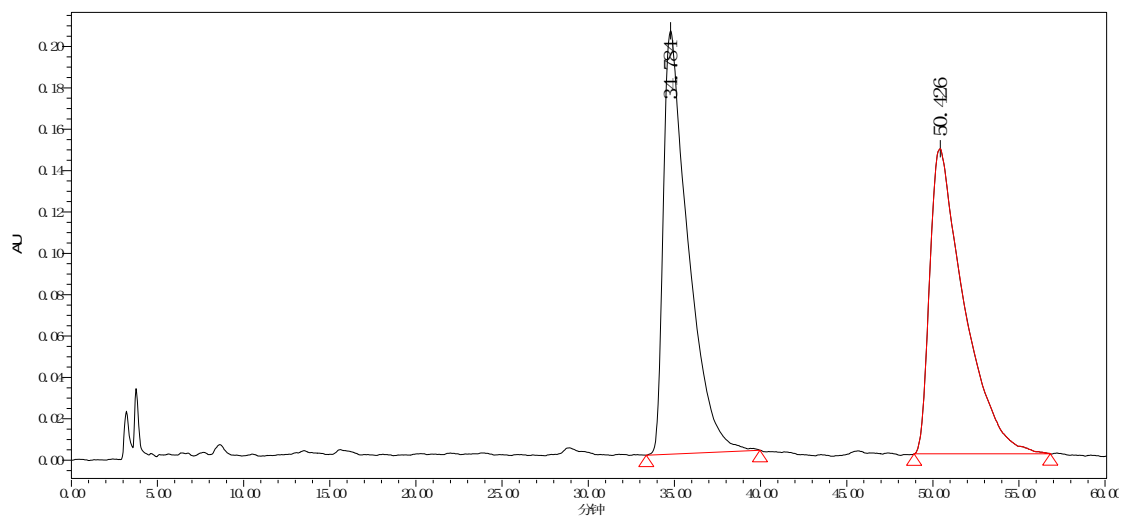
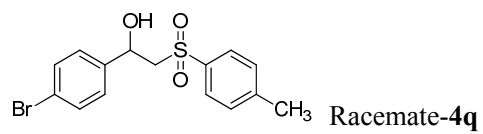
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	28.455	97.89	95.7
2	46.323	2.11	



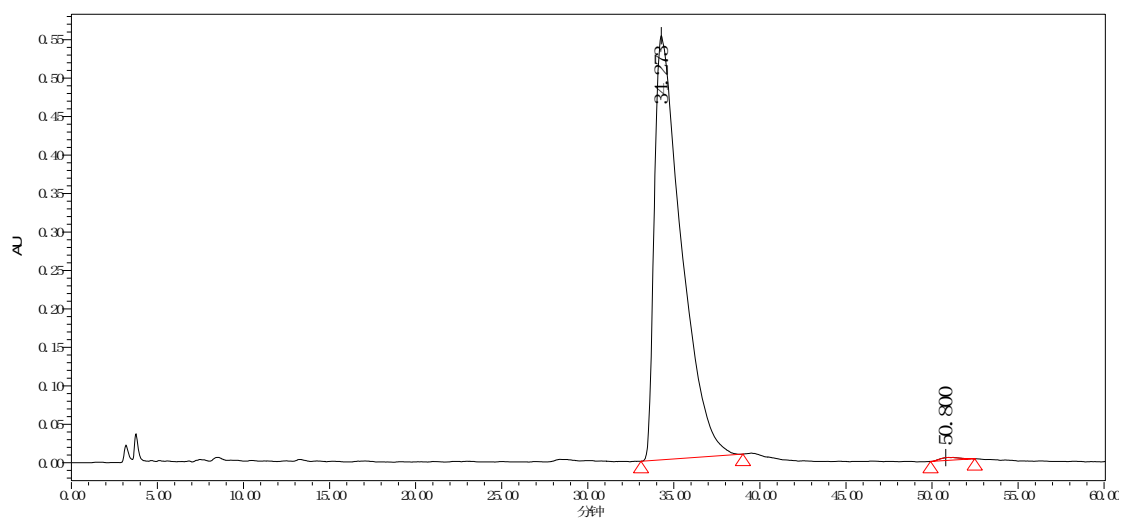
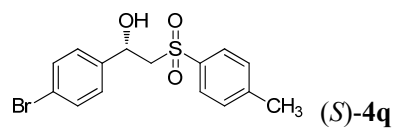
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	26.957	50.19	0
2	32.300	49.81	



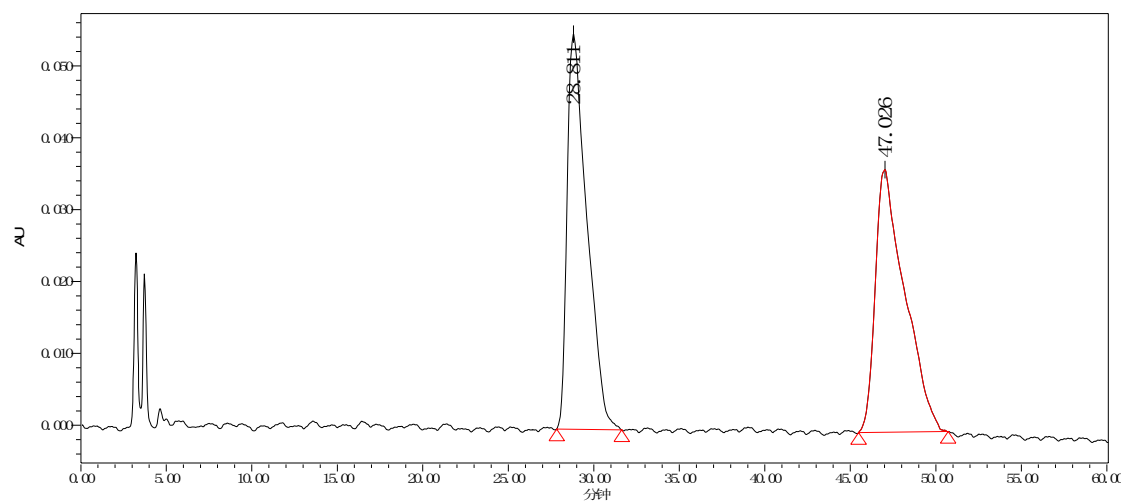
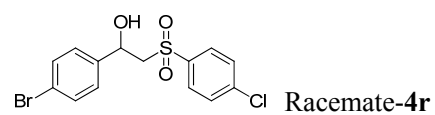
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	27.056	99.78	99.5
2	33.930	0.22	



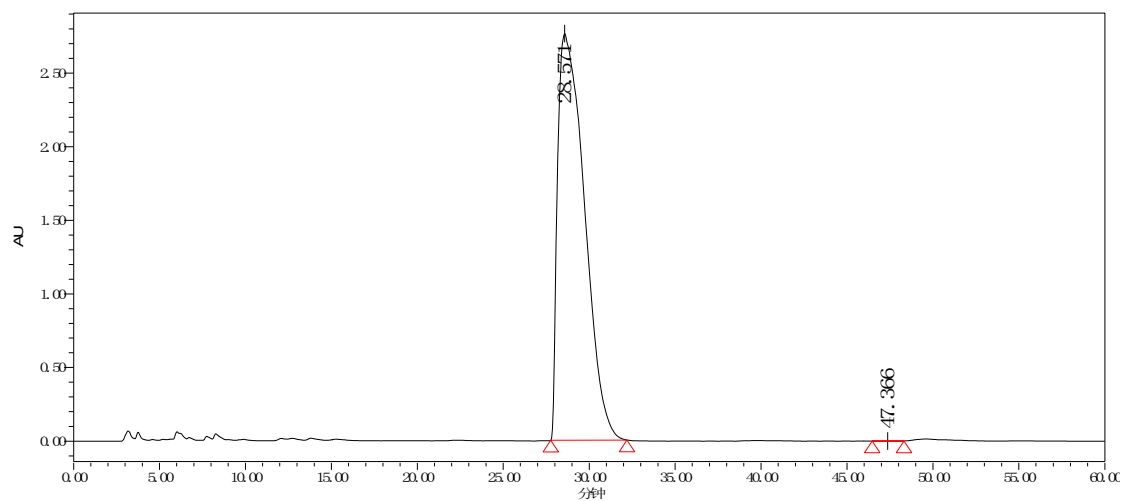
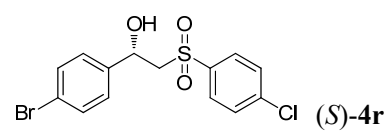
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	34.784	49.45	0
2	50.426	50.55	



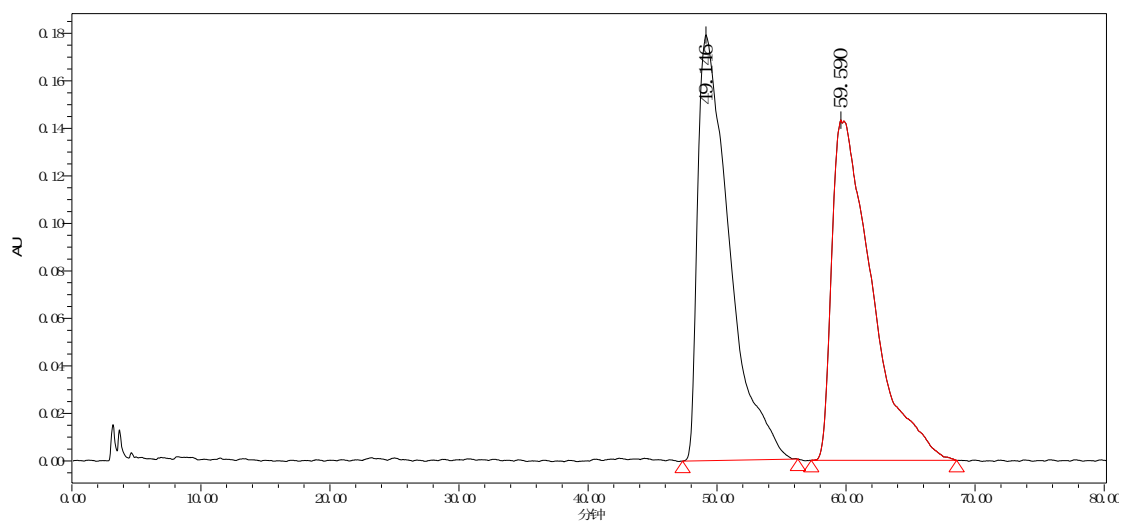
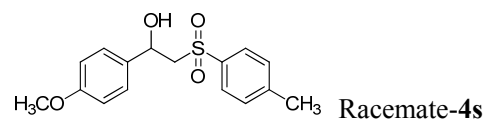
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	34.273	99.60	99.2
2	50.817	0.40	



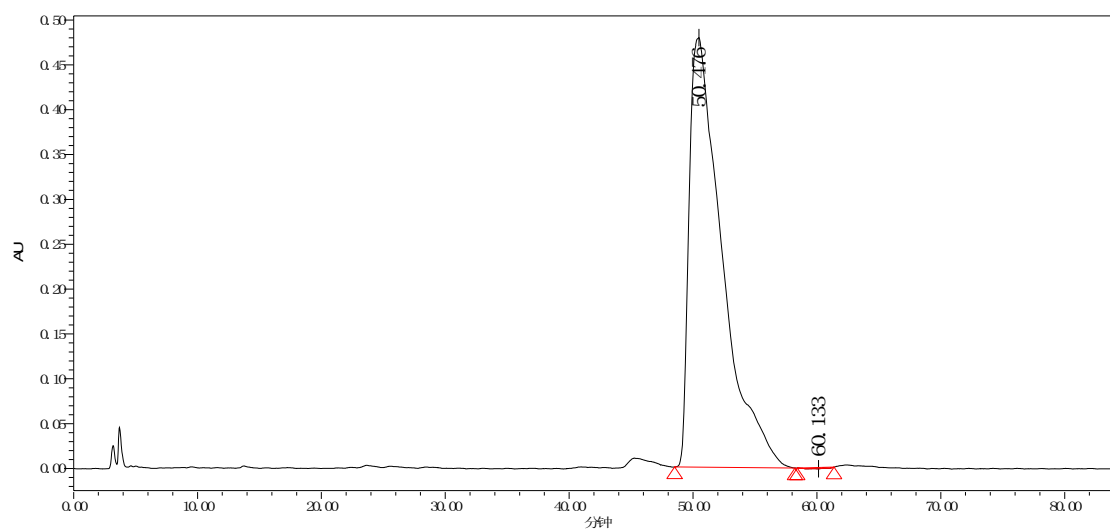
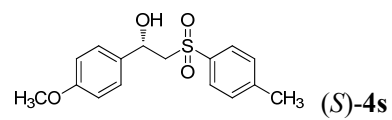
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	28.811	50.17	0
2	47.026	49.83	



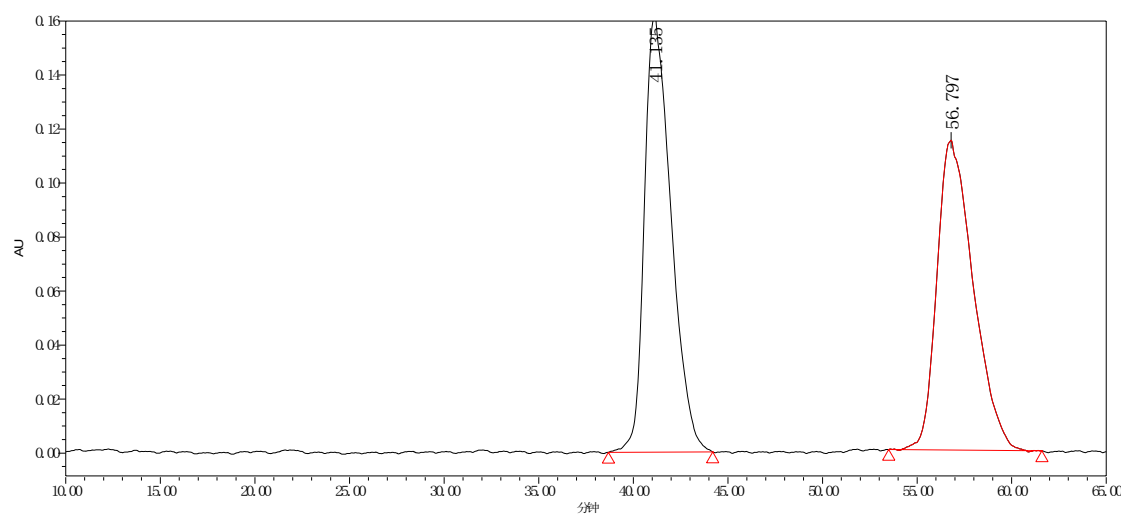
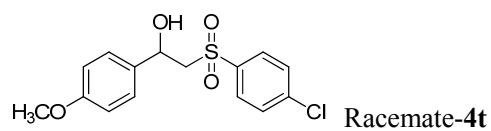
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	28.571	99.77	99.5
2	48.253	0.23	



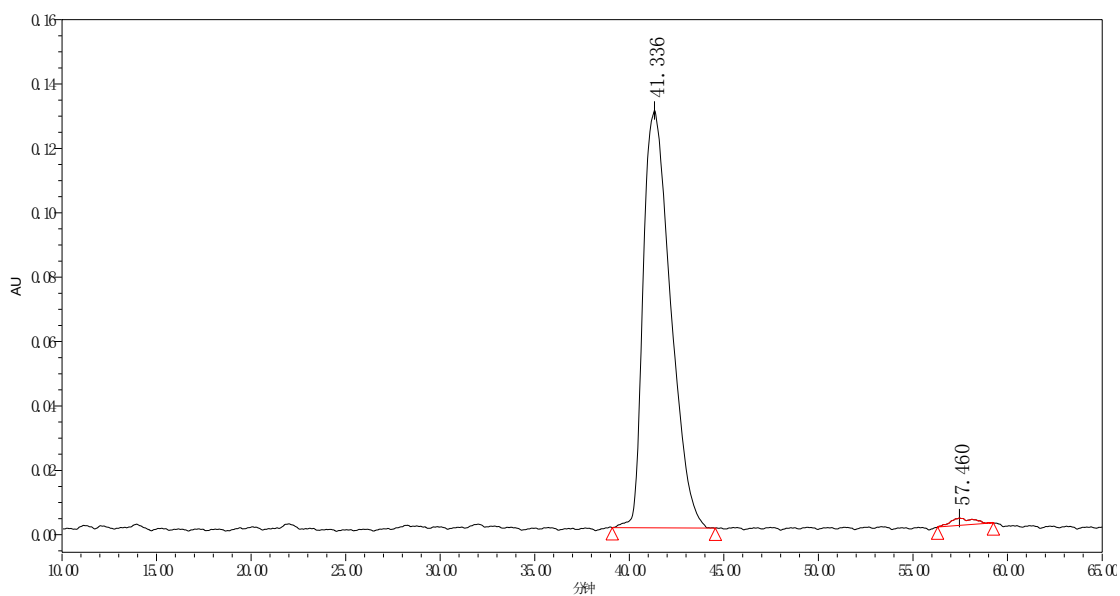
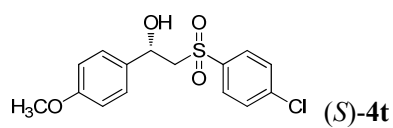
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	49.146	49.75	0
2	59.590	50.25	



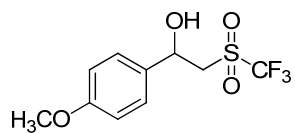
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	50.476	99.65	99.3
2	60.133	0.35	



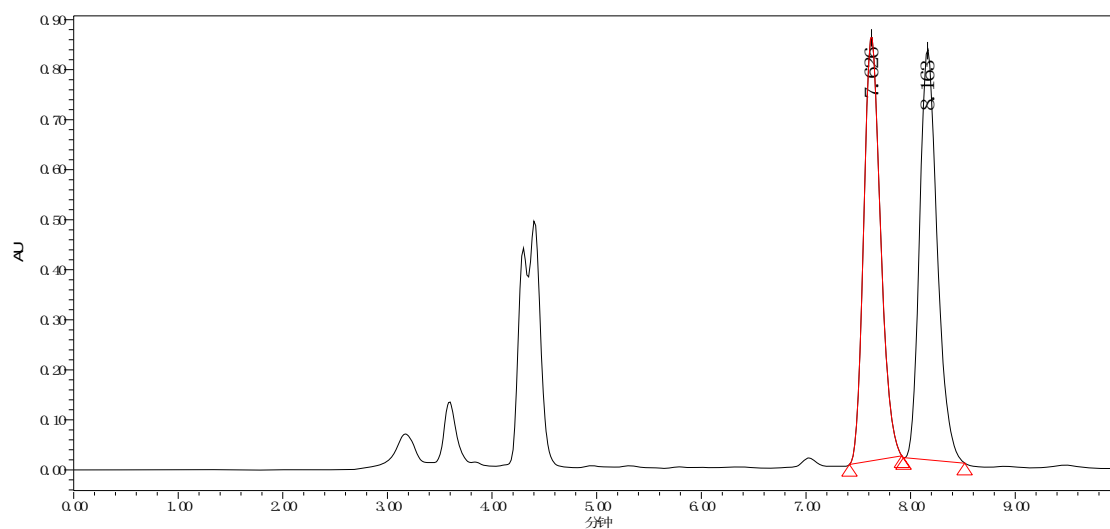
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	41.135	50.86	0
2	56.797	49.14	



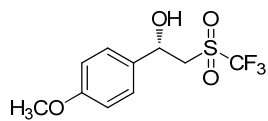
Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	41.336	98.59	97.1
2	57.460	1.41	



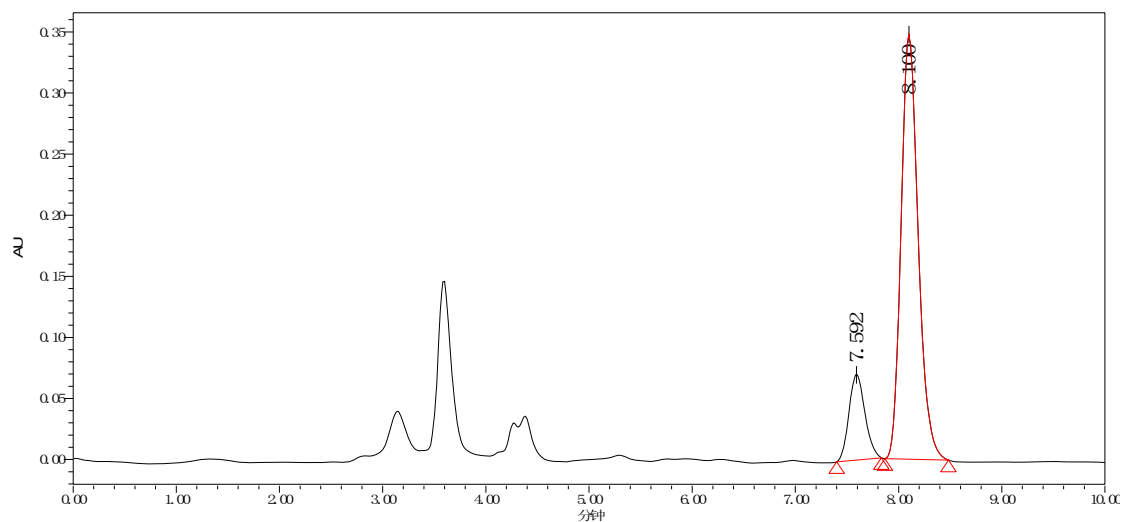
Racemate-4u



Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	7.626	50.04	0
2	8.163	49.96	



(S)-4u



Peak	Ret Time [min]	% Area	ee value(%)
1	7.592	12.14	71.2
2	8.100	83.36	