

## Supplementary Material

### Dehydrogenative C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Bond Functionalization of Tetrahydroisoquinolines Mediated by Organic Oxidants under Mild Conditions

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#### General Remarks:

All reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography using Merck 60 F254 precoated silica gel plates (0.25 mm thickness). Preparative thin layer chromatography was performed using Merck 60 F254 silica gel purchased from Merck KGA. Column chromatography was carried out on silica gel (12-26, ICN Biomedicals) using petrol ether/ethyl acetate as eluents. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were measured on a Bruker Ultrashield Advance III spectrometer (<sup>1</sup>H at 500.26 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C at 125.79 MHz) using CDCl<sub>3</sub> as solvent with CHCl<sub>3</sub> as internal standard. Chemical shifts (δ) are given in parts per million (ppm) and coupling constants are given in Hertz (Hz). The proton spectra are reported as follows δ/ppm (multiplicity, number of protons, coupling constant J/Hz). Two dimensional spectra (COSY, HSQC, HMBC) were used where appropriate to aid the assignments in <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C spectra. High-resolution mass spectral analyses (HRMS) were carried out using Bruker ESI-TOF MS. IR spectra were measured on a PerkinElmer FT-IR 1725X spectrophotometer using ATR technique. The peak intensities are defined as very strong (vs), strong (s), middle (m) or weak (w).

### **General procedure I for DDQ oxidation/Mannich reaction of *N*-Aryl substituted THIQs**

To a stirred solution of tetrahydroisoquinoline (0.25 mmol, 1 equiv.) in acetonitrile (2ml) was added DDQ (0.263 mmol, 1.05 equiv.) and solution was allowed to stir at room temperature next 30 min. Subsequently L-Proline (0.075 mmol, 0.3 equiv.), acetone (0.185 ml, 10 equiv.) and TFA (0.15 mmol) were added and solution stirred until TLC showed full conversion. Upon completion of reaction, excess of solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure on the vacuum evaporator. Residue was redissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and solids were removed by filtration through cellite, solvent evaporated and remaining organic material was purified using SiO<sub>2</sub> column chromatography with Petrol ether/Ethyl acetate as an eluents.

### **General procedure II for DDQ oxidation/Mannich reaction of *N*-unsubstituted THIQs**

2-Iodoxybenzoic acid (IBX) (70 mg, 0.25 mmol) was dissolved in DMSO (0.5 mL) with vigorous stirring for approximately 20 min at ambient temperature. This IBX solution was then added to a solution of amine (0.25 mmol) in DMSO (0.5 mL) and allowed to stir at room temperature for 10-20 min. The mixture was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (1 mL) and then basified with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (1 mL). Following extraction with EtOAc (5 mL) the organic phase was washed with water (3 x 10 mL) and brine (1 x 10 mL) and then dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure in vacuum evaporator to yield the corresponding imine which was used in the next step without purification.

To the solution of crude imine in the 2 ml of ketone was added L-Proline (0.075 mmol, 0.3 equiv.), and TFA (0.15 mmol) and solution stirred until TLC showed full conversion. Upon completion of reaction, reaction was quenched with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and water phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 15 ml), organic phase was washed once more with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and then dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure in vacuum evaporator. Remaining organic material was purified using SiO<sub>2</sub> column chromatography with Petrol ether/Ethyl acetate as an eluents.

### **General procedure III for DDQ oxidation/Strecker reaction of *N*-Aryl substituted THIQs**

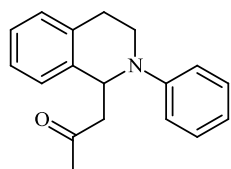
To a stirred solution of tetrahydroisoquinoline (0.25 mmol, 1 equiv.) in acetonitrile (2ml) was added DDQ (0.263 mmol, 1.05 equiv.) and solution was allowed to stir at room temperature for 30 min. Subsequently TMSCN (0.3 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was added and solution stirred until

TLC showed full conversion. Upon completion of reaction, excess of solvent and TMSCN was evaporated under reduced pressure on the vacuum evaporator. Residue was redissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and solids were removed by filtration through celite, solvent was evaporated and remaining organic material was purified using  $\text{SiO}_2$  column chromatography with Petrol ether/Ethyl acetate as an eluents.

#### General procedure IV for Ru catalyzed photoredox oxidation/Mannich reaction of *N*-Aryl substituted pyrrolidines

To a stirred solution of *N*-aryl-substituted pyrrolidine (0.3 mmol, 1 equiv.) in acetonitrile (2ml) was added  $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.003 mmol, 1 mol %), L-Proline (0.09 mmol, 0.3 equiv.), and acetone (10 equiv.). Solution was irradiated with 14W CFL lamp. After first 24h additional 1 mol% of  $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  catalyst was added. Solution was stirred for the next 24-96h. After this time excess of solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure on the vacuum evaporator. Remaining organic material was purified using  $\text{SiO}_2$  column chromatography with Petrol ether/Ethyl acetate as an eluents.

#### 1-(2-Phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-one (1a)

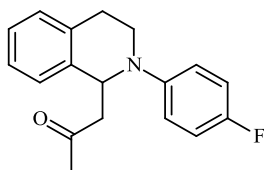


General procedure I was followed with 2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (52.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), acetone (145.2 mg, 0.185 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction

was conducted at r.t. for 4 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (52 mg, 78 %) as yellowish oil.

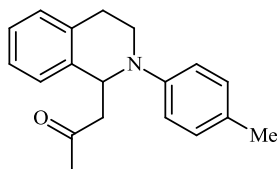
**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.24 (t, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz), 7.12-7.15 (m, 4H, ArH), 6.93 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz), 6.77 (t, 1H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz), 5.39 (t, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz), 3.64 (dt, 1H,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz, 13.0 Hz), 3.52 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz, 8.9 Hz, 12.5 Hz), 3.02-3.07 (m, 2H), 2.81 (dd, 2H,  $J$  = 7.2, 16.2 Hz), 2.06 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ );  **$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  207.2, 148.8, 138.3, 134.4, 129.3, 128.6, 126.83, 126.78, 126.3, 118.2, 114.8, 54.8, 50.2, 42.0, 31.1, 27.2. **IR** (ATR):  $\nu$  = 3060 (m), 3025 (m), 2913 (m), 2836 (m), 1711 (vs), 1599 (vs), 1501 (vs), 1393 (s), 1355 (s), 1275 (m), 1230 (m), 1159 (m), 1033 (m), 928 (w), 755 (s), 695 (m)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; **MS** (ESI)  $m/z$  266  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ . Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S1</sup>

### 1-(2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-one (2a)



General procedure I was followed with 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (69.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), acetone (145.2 mg, 0.185 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 6 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (52 mg, 73 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.13-7.20 (m, 4H, ArH), 6.89-6.97 (m, 4H, ArH), 5.31 (t, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz), 3.59 (dt, 1H,  $J$  = 4.9, 12.5 Hz), 3.48-3.53 (m, 1H), 3.00-3.06 (m, 2H), 2.76-2.83 (m, 2H), 2.09 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  207.1, 156.4 (d,  $J$  = 237.6 Hz), 145.7, 138.0, 134.1, 128.8, 126.74, 126.72, 126.3, 117.1 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz), 115.6 (d,  $J$  = 22.1 Hz), 55.5, 50.0, 42.6, 30.9, 26.7; **IR** (ATR):  $\nu$  = 3055 (m), 2915 (m), 2836 (m), 1711 (s), 1510 (vs), 1357 (m), 1231 (s), 1161 (m), 1033 (w), 926 (w), 815 (m), 754 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **MS** (ESI)  $m/z$  284 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S1</sup>

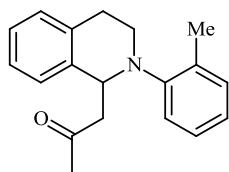
### 1-(2-(*p*-Tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-one (3a)



General procedure I was followed with 2-(*p*-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (55.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), acetone (145.2 mg, 0.185 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 6 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (49 mg, 71 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.15-7.19 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.12-7.14 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.06 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz), 6.87 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz), 5.35 (t, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz), 3.64 (dt, 1H,  $J$  = 5.0 Hz, 12.5 Hz), 3.01-3.08 (m, 2H), 2.76-2.83 (m, 2H), 2.26 (s, 3H, ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.08 (s, 3H, COCH<sub>3</sub>); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  207.3, 146.9, 138.3, 134.4, 129.8, 128.8, 127.9, 126.8, 126.7, 126.2, 115.6, 55.1, 50.1, 42.2, 31.0, 27.0, 20.3; **MS** (ESI)  $m/z$  280 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S1</sup>

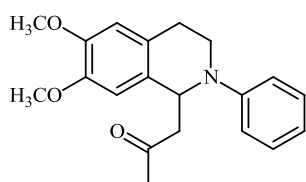


### 1-(2-(*o*-Tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-one (4a)



General procedure I was followed with 2-(*o*-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (55.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), acetone (145.2 mg, 0.185 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 24 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (36 mg, 52 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.13-7.23 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.04 (t, 1H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz), 6.98 (t, 1H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz), 6.84 (d, 1H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 4.97 (dd, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 5.0 Hz, 8.0 Hz), 3.44-3.50 (m, 1H), 3.19 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 3.2 Hz, 13.2 Hz), 3.02 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 15.5 Hz), 2.84 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz, 11.0 Hz, 16.5 Hz), 2.74 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.0, 15.5 Hz), 2.64 (brd, 1H,  $J$  = 16.5 Hz), 2.30 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.03 (s, 3H, COCH<sub>3</sub>); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  207.0, 149.7, 138.5, 135.0, 133.5, 131.1, 129.2, 126.5, 126.4, 126.3, 126.2, 123.6, 122.3, 57.1, 50.6, 43.7, 30.0, 26.1, 17.9; **IR** (ATR):  $\nu$  = 3061 (m), 3019 (m), 2923 (s), 2830 (m), 1711 (vs), 1598 (m), 1492 (vs), 1455 (m), 1356 (s), 1279 (m), 1214 (m), 1035 (w), 926 (w), 762 (s), 731 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **MS** (ESI)  $m/z$  280 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S1</sup>

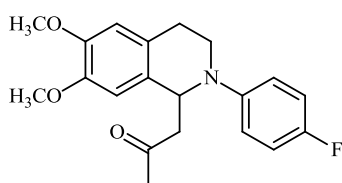
### 1-(6,7-Dimethoxy-2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-one (5a)



General procedure I was followed with 6,7-dimethoxy-2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (67.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), acetone (145.2 mg, 0.185 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 4 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (58 mg, 71 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.24 (t, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 6.93 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 6.78 (t, 1H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz), 6.69 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.61 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 5.30 (t, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz), 3.84 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.83 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.66 (dt, 1H,  $J$  = 5.0 Hz, 13.0 Hz), 3.49 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 4.5 Hz, 9.7 Hz, 12.8 Hz), 3.04 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz, 16.5 Hz), 2.97 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.8 Hz, 9.8 Hz, 15.8 Hz), 2.82 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 12.2 Hz), 2.70 (dt, 1H,  $J$  = 4.2 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.08 (s, 3H, COCH<sub>3</sub>); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  207.6, 148.9, 147.7, 147.3, 130.1, 129.2, 126.2, 118.4, 115.1, 111.3, 109.7, 55.9, 55.8, 54.5, 50.1, 41.9, 31.1, 26.5; **IR** (ATR):  $\nu$  = 2998 (m), 2935

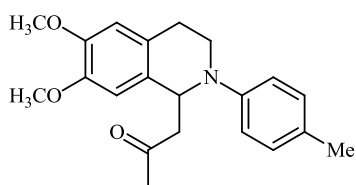
(m), 2835 (m), 2253 (w), 1710 (s), 1599 (s), 1510 (vs), 1464 (m), 1388 (m), 1356 (m), 1248 (s), 1115 (m), 1034 (m), 929 (w), 862 (w), 803 (w), 754 (m), 696 (m)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; **MS** (ESI)  $m/z$  326  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ . Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S1</sup>

**1-(2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-one (6a)**



General procedure I was followed with 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (71.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), acetone (145.2 mg, 0.185 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 4 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (56 mg, 65 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  6.86-6.94 (m, 4H, ArH), 6.66 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.59 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 5.18 (t, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz), 3.838 (s, 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.831 (s, 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.58 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 3.8 Hz, 5.2 Hz, 12.8 Hz), 3.46 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 4.2 Hz, 10.5 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 3.01 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz, 16.2 Hz), 2.92 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.8 Hz, 10.2 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.78 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.64 (dt, 1H,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.09 (s, 3H,  $\text{COCH}_3$ ); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  207.5, 156.6 (d,  $J$  = 238.0 Hz), 147.8, 147.5, 145.9, 129.8, 126.0, 117.5 (d,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz), 115.6 (d,  $J$  = 22.4 Hz), 111.4, 109.6, 55.9, 55.8, 55.3, 50.0, 42.6, 31.0, 26.0; **IR** (ATR):  $\nu$  = 2999 (w), 2937 (m), 2836 (m), 2253 (w), 1711 (s), 1610 (m), 1511 (vs), 1465 (m), 1357 (m), 1246 (s), 1116 (m), 1036 (w), 930 (w), 811 (m), 732 (w)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; **HRMS**:  $m/z$  (ESI/TOF) calc for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{FNO}_3\text{Na}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$ ) 366.1476, found 366.1469;

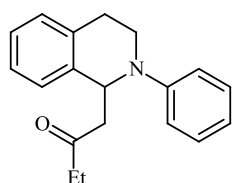
**1-(6,7-Dimethoxy-2-(p-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-one (7a)**



General procedure I was followed with 6,7-dimethoxy-2-(p-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (70.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), acetone (145.2 mg, 0.185 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 4 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (59 mg, 70 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.05 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 6.86 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 6.68 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.59 (s,

1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 5.24 (t, 1H, C(1)H,  $J = 6.2$  Hz), 3.842 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.838 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.64 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 5.0 Hz, 12.9 Hz), 3.46 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 4.1$  Hz, 10.1 Hz, 13.1 Hz), 3.02 (dd, 1H,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.95 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 5.8$  Hz, 10.2 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.79 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.66 (brdt, 1H,  $J = 3.5$  Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.25 (s, 3H, ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.08 (s, 3H, COCH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  207.7, 147.7, 147.3, 147.0, 130.1, 129.8, 128.1, 126.2, 116.0, 111.4, 109.7, 55.9, 55.8, 54.9, 49.9, 42.1, 31.0, 26.3, 20.3; IR (ATR):  $\nu =$  2999 (m), 2915 (m), 2834 (m), 2252 (w), 1710 (s), 1613 (m), 1515 (vs), 1463 (m), 1387 (m), 1355 (m), 1248 (s), 1116 (m), 1037 (m), 929 (w), 861 (w), 806 (m), 733 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI)  $m/z$  340 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S2</sup>

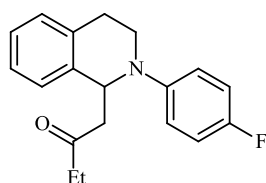
### 1-(2-Phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)butan-2-one (1b)



General procedure I was followed with 2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (52.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), ethyl methyl ketone (180.3 mg, 0.224 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL).

The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 6 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (43 mg, 62 %) as yellowish oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.26 (t, 2H, ArH,  $J = 8.0$  Hz), 7.13-7.18 (m, 4H, ArH), 6.95 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J = 8.5$  Hz), 6.78 (t, 1H, ArH,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 5.43 (t, 1H, C(1)H,  $J = 6.2$  Hz), 3.65 (dt, 1H,  $J = 5.2$  Hz, 12.5 Hz), 3.54 (ddd, 1H,  $J = 4.5$  Hz, 8.6 Hz, 12.9 Hz), 3.02-3.10 (m, 2H), 2.77-2.87 (m, 2H), 2.36 (dq, 1H,  $J = 7.3$ , 17.9 Hz), 2.26 (dq, 1H,  $J = 7.3$ , 17.9 Hz), 0.99 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  209.9, 148.8, 138.3, 134.4, 129.3, 128.6, 126.8, 126.7, 126.2, 118.1, 114.6, 55.1, 48.9, 41.9, 37.2, 27.2, 7.5; IR (ATR):  $\nu =$  3060 (m), 3026 (m), 2975 (m), 2936 (m), 2837 (m), 1710 (vs), 1598 (vs), 1501 (vs), 1393 (s), 1350 (m), 1272 (m), 1228 (m), 1112 (m), 1038 (w), 944 (w), 752 (s), 695 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI)  $m/z$  280 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S1</sup>

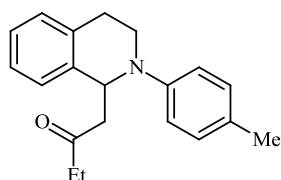
### 1-(2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)butan-2-one (2b)



General procedure I was followed with 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (71.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), ethyl methyl ketone (180.3 mg, 0.224 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075

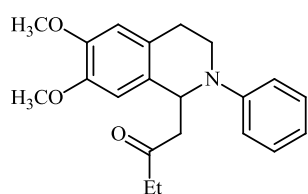
mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 6 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (40 mg, 54%) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.12-7.18 (m, 4H, ArH), 6.88-6.96 (m, 4H, ArH), 5.32 (t, 1H, C(1)H, *J* = 6.2 Hz), 3.58 (dt, 1H, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 13.0 Hz), 3.48-3.53 (m, 1H), 2.99-3.07 (m, 2H), 2.74-2.81 (m, 2H), 2.36 (dq, 1H, *J* = 7.2, 17.7 Hz), 2.28 (dq, 1H, *J* = 7.2, 17.7 Hz), 0.99 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.2 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 209.8, 156.4 (d, *J* = 237.8 Hz), 145.7, 138.1, 134.2, 128.8, 126.8, 126.2, 116.9 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 115.6 (d, *J* = 22.0 Hz), 55.8, 48.8, 42.5, 37.2, 26.8, 7.5; **IR** (ATR): ν = 3054 (w), 2975 (m), 2936 (m), 2837 (w), 1710 (s), 1510 (vs), 1456 (m), 1394 (m), 1354 (m), 1232 (s), 1112 (m), 945 (w), 814 (m), 760 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **MS** (ESI) *m/z* 298 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S3</sup>

### 1-(2-(*p*-Tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)butan-2-one (3b)



General procedure I was followed with 2-(*p*-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (55.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), ethyl methyl ketone (180.3 mg, 0.224 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7 μL, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 4 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (40 mg, 55%) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.12-7.15 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.05 (d, 2H, ArH, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 6.86 (d, 2H, ArH, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 5.36 (t, 1H, C(1)H, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 3.62 (dt, 1H, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 12.5 Hz), 3.47-3.52 (m, 1H), 2.99-3.08 (m, 2H), 2.73-2.81 (m, 2H), 2.27-2.37 (m, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.99 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>, *J* = 7.2 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 210.0, 146.9, 138.4, 134.4, 129.8, 128.7, 126.8, 126.7, 126.1, 118.3, 115.5, 55.4, 48.8, 42.0, 37.1, 27.0, 20.3, 7.5; **IR** (ATR): ν = 3025 (m), 2973 (m), 2914 (m), 1710 (vs), 1616 (s), 1517 (vs), 1455 (m), 1392 (m), 1275 (m), 1269 (m), 1205 (m), 1111 (m), 1042 (w), 944 (m), 807 (m), 759 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **MS** (ESI) *m/z* 294 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S3</sup>

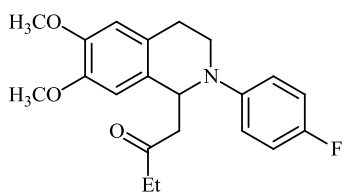
### 1-(6,7-Dimethoxy-2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)butan-2-one (5b)



General procedure I was followed with 6,7-dimethoxy-2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (67.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), ethyl methyl ketone (180.3 mg, 0.224 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25

mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 6 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (52 mg, 61 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.24 (t, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz), 6.95 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz), 6.78 (t, 1H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz), 6.66 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.61 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 5.32 (t, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz), 3.85 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.83 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.66 (dt, 1H,  $J$  = 5.0 Hz, 13.0 Hz), 3.50 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 4.2 Hz, 9.2 Hz, 12.5 Hz), 3.02 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.2 Hz, 15.8 Hz), 2.96-3.02 (m, 1H), 2.78 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.72 (dt, 1H,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.37 (dq, 1H,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 17.8 Hz), 2.28 (dq, 1H,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 17.8 Hz), 0.99 (t, 3H, COCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  210.3, 148.9, 147.7, 147.3, 130.2, 129.3, 126.2, 118.2, 114.9, 111.3, 109.7, 55.9, 55.8, 54.9, 48.8, 41.8, 37.4, 26.6, 7.5; **IR** (ATR):  $\nu$  = 2936 (s), 2835 (m), 1709 (s), 1599 (s), 1511 (vs), 1463 (m), 1388 (m), 1354 (m), 1253 (s), 1115 (m), 1031 (m), 864 (w), 753 (m), 696 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **MS** (ESI)  $m/z$  340 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S4</sup>

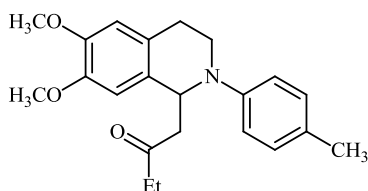
**1-(2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)butan-2-one (6b)**



General procedure I was followed with 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (71.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), ethyl methyl ketone (180.3 mg, 0.224 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 6 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (49 mg, 55 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  6.87-6.94 (m, 4H, ArH), 6.62 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.59 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 5.20 (t, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz), 3.84 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.57 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 3.9 Hz, 5.4 Hz, 12.9 Hz), 3.43-3.49 (m, 1H), 2.99 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.88-2.98 (m, 1H), 2.74 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz, 15.5 Hz), 2.66 (dt, 1H,  $J$  = 3.8 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.26-2.40 (m, 2H, COCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.99 (t, 3H, COCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  210.2, 156.5 (d,  $J$  = 238.1 Hz), 147.8, 147.4, 145.8, 129.9, 126.0, 117.25 (d,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz), 115.6 (d,  $J$  = 22.0 Hz), 111.4, 109.5, 55.9, 55.8, 55.6, 48.7, 42.4, 37.3, 26.2, 7.5; **IR** (ATR):  $\nu$  = 2936 (m), 2835 (m), 2254 (w), 1709 (s), 1610 (m), 1511 (vs), 1463 (m), 1355 (m), 1230 (s),

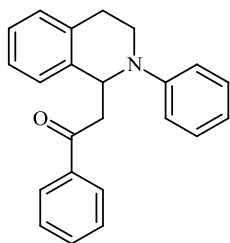
1115 (m), 1028 (w), 945 (w), 813 (m), 733 (w)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; **HRMS**:  $m/z$  (ESI/TOF) calc for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{24}\text{FNO}_3\text{Na}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$ ) 380.1632, found 380.1620;

### 1-(6,7-Dimethoxy-2-(*p*-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)butan-2-one (7b)



General procedure I was followed with 6,7-dimethoxy-2-(*p*-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (70.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), ethyl methyl ketone (180.3 mg, 0.224 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 6 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (51 mg, 58 %) as yellowish oil.  **$^1\text{H}$  NMR** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.05 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz), 6.86 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz), 6.65 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.29 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 5.26 (t, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 6.2 Hz), 3.84 (s, 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.83 (s, 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.63 (dt, 1H,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz, 12.0 Hz), 3.46 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 4.2 Hz, 10.2 Hz, 12.5 Hz), 2.94-3.01 (m, 2H), 2.75 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 15.5 Hz), 2.67 (brdt, 1H,  $J$  = 3.5 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.36 (dq, 1H,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 17.9 Hz), 2.28 (dq, partially hidden by  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_3$  signal, 1H,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 17.9 Hz), 0.98 (t, 3H,  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz);  **$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  210.4, 147.7, 147.3, 147.0, 130.2, 129.8, 127.9, 126.2, 115.8, 111.3, 109.6, 55.9, 55.8, 55.3, 48.6, 41.9, 37.3, 26.5, 20.3, 7.5; **IR** (ATR):  $\nu$  = 2935 (s), 2834 (m), 1709 (s), 1613 (m), 1516 (vs), 1462 (m), 1387 (m), 1355 (m), 1252 (s), 1114 (m), 1030 (w), 947 (w), 814 (m), 732 (w)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; **HRMS**:  $m/z$  (ESI/TOF) calc for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO}_3\text{Na}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$ ) 376.1883, found 376.1880;

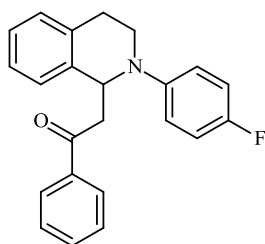
### 1-Phenyl-2-(2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)ethanone (1c)



General procedure I was followed with 2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (52.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), acetophenone (300.4 mg, 0.292 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. over night. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (49 mg, 60 %) as yellowish oil.  **$^1\text{H}$  NMR** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.87 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz), 7.54 (t, 1H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz), 7.42 (t, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz), 7.11-7.27 (m, 7H, ArH), 6.99 (d, 1H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 6.77 (t, 1H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz), 5.69 (dd, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  =

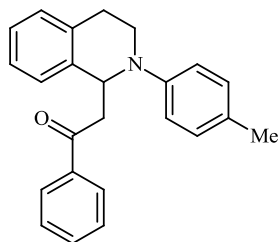
5.5 Hz, 7.0 Hz), 3.63-3.71 (m, 2H) 3.60 (dd, 1H,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 16.8 Hz), 3.42 (dd, 1H,  $J = 7.2$ , 16.8 Hz), 3.10-3.16 (m, 1H), 2.95 (dt, 1H,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 16.0 Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  198.6, 148.7, 138.5, 137.2, 134.5, 133.1, 129.3, 128.5, 128.1, 127.1, 126.8, 126.2, 117.9, 114.3, 55.0, 45.3, 42.1, 27.5; **IR** (ATR):  $\nu = 3060$  (m), 3028 (m), 2906 (m), 2838 (m), 1680 (vs), 1598 (vs), 1501 (vs), 1449 (m), 1393 (m), 1349 (m), 1282 (s), 1206 (m), 1032 (m), 751 (s), 693 (m)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; **MS** (ESI)  $m/z$  328  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ . Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S5</sup>

### 2-(2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-1-phenylethanone (2c)



General procedure I was followed with 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (69.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), acetophenone (300.4 mg, 0.292 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t over night. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (62 mg, 61 %) as yellowish oil.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.85 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J = 7.5$  Hz), 7.53 (t, 1H, ArH,  $J = 7.5$  Hz), 7.41 (t, 2H, ArH,  $J = 7.8$  Hz), 7.21 (d, 1H, ArH,  $J = 7.5$  Hz), 7.12-7.17 (m, 3H, ArH), 6.92 (d, 4H, ArH,  $J = 6.5$  Hz), 5.57 (t, 1H, C(1)H,  $J = 6.2$  Hz), 3.56-3.61 (m, 3H), 3.34 (dd, 1H,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 16.5 Hz), 3.06-3.12 (m, 1H), 2.87 (dt, 1H,  $J = 4.1$  Hz, 16.0 Hz);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  198.6, 156.3 (d,  $J = 237.0$  Hz), 145.6, 138.3, 137.2, 134.2, 133.1, 128.7, 128.5, 128.1, 127.0, 126.8, 126.3, 116.6 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 115.6 (d,  $J = 22.1$  Hz), 55.8, 45.1, 42.6, 27.1; **IR** (ATR):  $\nu = 3059$  (w), 2906 (w), 2836 (w), 1681 (s), 1512 (vs), 1450 (m), 1280 (m), 1232 (m), 818 (m), 756 (m), 693 (w)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; **MS** (ESI)  $m/z$  346  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ . Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S5</sup>

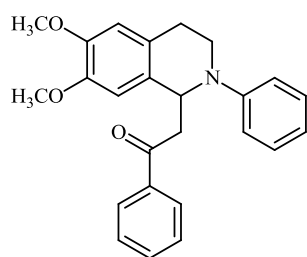
### 1-Phenyl-2-(2-(p-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)ethanone (3c)



General procedure I was followed with 2-(p-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (55.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), acetophenone (300.4 mg, 0.292 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. over night. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the

title compound (49 mg, 57 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.84 (d, 2H, ArH, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 7.52 (t, 1H, ArH, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.40 (t, 2H, ArH, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.21 (d, 1H, ArH, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.09-7.15 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.04 (d, 2H, ArH, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 6.89 (d, 2H, ArH, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 5.61 (t, 1H, C(1)H, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 3.54-3.67 (m, 3H), 3.36 (dd, 1H, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 16.2 Hz), 3.10 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 9.2 Hz, 15.8 Hz), 2.88 (dt, 1H, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.23 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 198.7, 146.8, 138.6, 137.3, 134.4, 133.0, 129.8, 128.6, 128.5, 128.1, 127.6, 127.1, 126.7, 126.1, 115.2, 55.4, 45.1, 42.2, 27.4, 20.3; **IR** (ATR): ν = 3060 (m), 3027 (m), 2917 (m), 2858 (m), 1680 (vs), 1615 (m), 1517 (vs), 1459 (m), 1393 (m), 1278 (m), 1205 (m), 1020 (w), 937 (w), 804 (m), 754 (m), 692 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **HRMS**: *m/z* (ESI/TOF) calc for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NONa (M+Na<sup>+</sup>) 364.1672, found 364.1665;

### 2-(6,7-dimethoxy-2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-1-phenylethanone (5c)

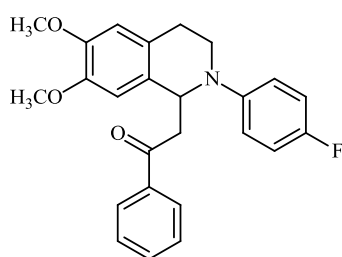


General procedure I was followed with 6,7-dimethoxy-2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (67.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), acetophenone (300.4 mg, 0.292 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7 μL, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. over night. The mixture was purified by column

chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (58 mg, 60 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.85 (d, 2H, ArH, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.52 (t, 1H, ArH, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.41 (t, 2H, ArH, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.24 (t, 2H, ArH, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 6.98 (d, 2H, ArH, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 6.76 (t, 1H, ArH, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 6.70 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.63 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 5.36 (dd, 1H, C(1)H, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 7.0 Hz), 3.84 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.74 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.68 (dt, 1H, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 12.5 Hz), 3.32-3.61 (m, 2H), 3.39 (dd, 1H, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 3.03 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 8.4 Hz, 15.6 Hz), 2.81 (dt, 1H, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 16.0 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 199.1, 148.9, 147.8, 147.3, 137.3, 133.1, 130.4, 129.3, 128.5, 128.1, 126.3, 118.1, 114.7, 111.3, 110.1, 55.9 (2C overlapped), 55.0, 45.1, 42.0, 27.0; **IR** (ATR): ν = 3059 (m), 2999 (m), 2934 (m), 2835 (m), 1679 (s), 1599 (s), 1510 (vs), 1464 (m), 1389 (m), 1354 (m), 1251 (s), 1116 (m), 1031 (m), 912 (w), 865 (w), 759 (m), 694 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **MS** (ESI) *m/z* 388 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published d

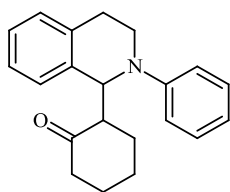


**2-(2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)-1-phenylethanone (6c)**



General procedure I was followed with 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (71.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), acetophenone (300.4 mg, 0.292 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 6 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (72 mg, 71 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.85 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz), 7.53 (d, 1H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz), 7.41 (t, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz), 6.92 (d, 4H, ArH,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz), 6.67 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.62 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 5.44 (t, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz), 3.84 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.74 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.52-3.63 (m, 3H), 3.33 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 16.2 Hz), 3.00 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 6.1 Hz, 9.6 Hz, 15.9 Hz), 2.74 (brd, 1H,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  199.0, 156.4 (d,  $J$  = 237.5 Hz), 147.8, 147.4, 145.8, 137.3, 133.2, 130.1, 128.6, 128.1, 126.1, 117.1 (d,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz), 115.6 (d,  $J$  = 22.1 Hz), 111.4, 109.9, 55.9 (3C overlapped), 44.9, 42.6, 26.6; **IR** (ATR):  $\nu$  = 3060 (w), 2935 (m), 2837 (m), 2253 (w), 1680 (s), 1511 (vs), 1465 (m), 1355 (m), 1248 (s), 1116 (m), 1023 (w), 913 (w), 821 (w), 733 (w), 694 (w) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **HRMS**:  $m/z$  (ESI/TOF) calc for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>FNO<sub>3</sub>Na (M+Na<sup>+</sup>) 428.1632, found 428.1625;

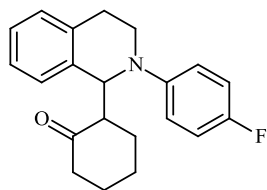
**2-(2-Phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)cyclohexanone (1d)**



General procedure I was followed with 2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (52.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), cyclohexanone (245.4 mg, 0.259 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 12 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (37 mg, 48 %) as colorless oil. Major isomer is marked with \*. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz, 1: 1.37 diastereomeric mixture):  $\delta$  5.68 (d, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz), 5.63\* (d, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 5.0 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz, 1: 1.37 diastereomeric mixture):  $\delta$  211.87\*, 211.80, 149.3\*, 149.2, 140.3\*, 135.9, 135.0, 134.5\*, 129.3, 129.2\*, 128.6, 127.9, 127.8\*, 127.2\*, 126.6\*, 126.3\*, 125.7, 118.1, 116.3\*, 114.8, 112.3\*, 59.3\*, 56.4, 54.9, 54.0\*, 43.5\*, 43.1\*, 42.6, 41.3,

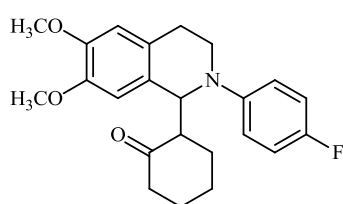
32.7\*, 30.1, 28.6\*, 27.7\*, 27.3, 27.2, 25.6\*, 23.8. **MS** (ESI)  $m/z$  306  $[M+H]^+$ . Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S7</sup>

### 2-(2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)cyclohexanone (2d)



General procedure I was followed with 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (69.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), cyclohexanone (245.4 mg, 0.259 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 12 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (46 mg, 57 %) as colorless oil. Major isomer is marked with \*. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 500 MHz, 1: 1.34 diastereomeric mixture):  $\delta$  5.52 (d, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz), 5.44\* (d, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 5.0 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 125.8 MHz, 1: 1.37 diastereomeric mixture):  $\delta$  211.89, 211.70\*, 156.3\* (d,  $J$  = 237.9 Hz), 155.1 (d,  $J$  = 235.4 Hz), 146.0\*, 139.9, 135.7\*, 134.8\*, 134.3, 128.7\*, 127.9, 127.8\*, 127.1, 126.6\*, 126.2, 125.7\*, 117.1\* (d,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz), 115.5\* (d,  $J$  = 22.0 Hz), 115.4 (d,  $J$  = 21.9 Hz), 113.6 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz), 59.2, 56.3\*, 55.6\*, 54.5, 43.9, 43.3\*, 43.0, 41.2\*, 32.6, 30.3\*, 28.6, 27.3\*, 27.2, 26.6\*, 25.5, 23.6\*; **MS** (ESI)  $m/z$  324  $[M+H]^+$ . Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S7</sup>

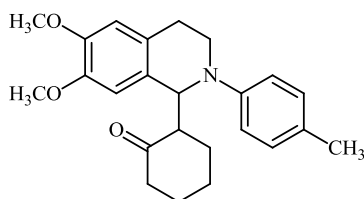
### 2-(2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)cyclohexanone (6d)



General procedure I was followed with 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (71.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), cyclohexanone (245.4 mg, 0.259 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 12 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (53 mg, 55 %) as colorless oil. Major isomer is marked with \*. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 500 MHz, 1: 1.29 diastereomeric mixture):  $\delta$  5.40\* (d, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 4.5 Hz), 5.35 (d, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 125.8 MHz, 1: 1.29 diastereomeric mixture):  $\delta$  212.52, 212.12\*, 156.6\* (d,  $J$  = 237.8 Hz), 155.4 (d,  $J$  = 235.7 Hz), 147.7\*, 147.5, 147.08, 147.04\*, 146.2, 146.0\*, 132.0, 127.5\*, 127.0\*, 126.1, 117.1\* (d,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz), 115.6\* (d,  $J$  = 21.9 Hz), 115.4 (d,  $J$  = 21.7 Hz), 114.4 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz),

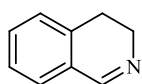
111.2\*, 111.1, 110.84\*, 110.77; **HRMS**:  $m/z$  (ESI/TOF) calc for  $C_{23}H_{26}FNO_3Na$  ( $M+Na^+$ ) 406.1789, found 406.1778;

### 2-(6,7-Dimethoxy-2-(p-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)cyclohexanone (7d)



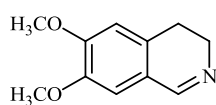
General procedure I was followed with 6,7-dimethoxy-2-(p-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (70.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), cyclohexanone (245.4 mg, 0.259 ml, 2.5 mmol), DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), TFA (5.7  $\mu$ L, 0.075 mmol) and L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 12 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (42 mg, 44 %) as colorless oil. Signals that can be certainly assigned to major isomer are marked with \*, and signals that can be certainly assigned to minor isomer are marked with +.  **$^1H$  NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 500 MHz, 1: 1.29 diastereomeric mixture):  $\delta$  5.47\* (d, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 3.5 Hz), 5.42 (d, 1H, C(1)H,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz);  **$^{13}C$  NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 125.8 MHz, 1: 1.29 diastereomeric mixture):  $\delta$  212.62, 211.27, 147.6<sup>+</sup>, 147.4\*, 147.2<sup>+</sup>, 147.0\*, 132.3, 129.8, 129.7, 127.9, 127.6, 127.2, 126.3, 125.9, 115.6, 113.2, 111.2\*, 111.1<sup>+</sup>, 110.93\*, 110.88<sup>+</sup>, 59.4, 56.5, 56.0\*, 55.93<sup>+</sup>, 55.85<sup>+</sup>, 55.76\*, 54.8, 54.0, 43.29, 43.23, 43.16, 41.5, 32.8, 30.2, 28.9, 27.3, 26.9, 26.5, 25.7<sup>+</sup>, 24.0\*, 20.27\*, 20.15<sup>+</sup>; **HRMS**:  $m/z$  (ESI/TOF) calc for  $C_{24}H_{29}NO_3Na$  ( $M+Na^+$ ) 402.2040, found 402.2029;

### 3,4-Dihydroisoquinoline (9a)



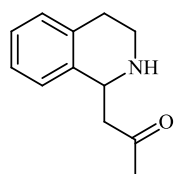
General procedure II was followed with 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (266.4 mg, 2.0 mmol), IBX (560.0 mg, 2.0 mmol), in DMSO (2 + 2 mL) to yield the title compound (188 mg, 72 %) as brownish oil.  **$^1H$  NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  8.31 (s, 1H, C(1)H), 7.33 (t, 1H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz), 7.23-7.28 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.13 (d, 1H, ArH,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz), 3.73-3.76 (m, 2H, C(2)H<sub>2</sub>), 2.72 (t, 2H, C(4)H<sub>2</sub>,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz);  **$^{13}C$  NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  160.3, 136.2, 131.0, 128.4, 127.3, 127.1, 127.0, 47.3, 24.9. **IR** (ATR):  $\nu$  = 3396 (m), 3021 (m), 2942 (s), 2896 (m), 2847 (m), 1627 (vs), 1576 (m), 1452 (m), 1210 (m), 1005 (m), 880 (m), 755 (vs), 694 (m), 592 (m)  $cm^{-1}$ ; **MS** (ESI)  $m/z$  132 [ $M+H$ ]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S8</sup>

### 6,7-Dimethoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (9b)



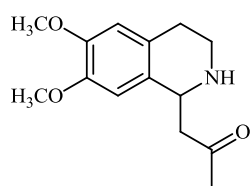
General procedure II was followed with 6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (386.5 mg, 2.0 mmol), IBX (560.0 mg, 2.0 mmol), in DMSO (2 + 2 mL) to yield the title compound (281 mg, 73 %) as brownish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 8.18 (s, 1H, C(1)H), 6.76 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.63 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.85 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.68 (td, 2H, C(3)H<sub>2</sub>, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 8.5 Hz), 2.63 (t, 2H, C(4)H<sub>2</sub>, *J* = 8.0 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 129.3, 150.9, 147.5, 129.5, 121.2, 110.08, 110.07, 55.8, 55.7, 47.0, 24.4; **IR** (ATR): ν = 3376 (m), 2939 (m), 2836 (m), 1574 (m), 1515 (s), 1462 (m), 1280 (s), 1120 (vs), 1015 (m), 858 (m), 731 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **MS** (ESI) *m/z* 192 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S9</sup>

### 1-(1,2,3,4-Tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-one (10)



General procedure II was followed with 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (33.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol), trifluoroacetic acid (8.6 mg, 5.6 μL, 0.075 mmol), and acetone (2 mL). The reaction was conducted overnight at room temperature. After reaction work-up the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 60/40/1) to give the title compound (23.3 mg, 49 %) as slightly yellow oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.12-7.14 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.08-7.10 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.04-7.05 (m, 1H, ArH), 4.49 (dd, 1H, C(1)H, *J* = 2.5, 9.0 Hz), 3.16 (dt, 1H, *J* = 5.5, 12.0 Hz), 2.83-3.02 (m, 4H), 2.73 (dt, 1H, *J* = 4.8, 16.5 Hz), 2.40 (brs, 1H, NH), 2.20 (s, 3H, COCH<sub>3</sub>); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 208.3, 137.8, 135.5, 129.4, 126.1, 125.8, 125.5, 51.8, 50.5, 41.0, 30.6, 29.8; **IR** (ATR): ν = 3334 (m), 3062 (m), 3020 (m), 2920 (s), 2833 (m), 1711 (vs), 1493 (m), 1454 (m), 1360 (m), 1163 (m), 1125 (w), 756 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **MS** (ESI) *m/z* 190 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S10</sup>

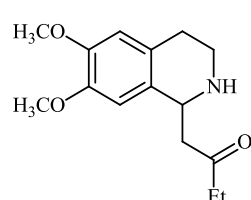
### 1-(6,7-Dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)propan-2-one (11a)



General procedure II was followed with 6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (47.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol), trifluoroacetic acid (8.6 mg, 5.6 μL, 0.075 mmol), and acetone (2 mL). The reaction was conducted overnight at room temperature. After reaction work-up the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica

gel (petrolether/ethylacetate/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 50/50/1) to give the title compound (25.7 mg, 41 %) as slightly yellow oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 6.57 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.52 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 4.43 (t, 1H, C(1)H, *J* = 6.2 Hz), 3.84 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.83 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.13 (dt, 1H, *J* = 5.5, 12.0 Hz), 2.98 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 7.5 Hz, 12.2 Hz), 2.89 (brd, 2H, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 2.64 (dt, 1H, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 16.5 Hz), 2.21 (s, 3H, COCH<sub>3</sub>); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 208.4, 147.5, 147.3, 129.6, 127.6, 111.9, 108.8, 56.0, 55.8, 51.5, 50.6, 40.9, 30.8, 29.3; **IR** (ATR): ν = 3335 (m), 2936 (s), 2835 (m), 1709 (s), 1608 (m), 1516 (vs), 1463 (m), 1358 (m), 1260 (s), 1224 (s), 1117 (s), 1036 (m), 855 (w) 781 (w), 734 (w) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **HRMS**: *m/z* (ESI/TOF) calc for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Na (M+Na<sup>+</sup>) 272.1257, found 272.1252;

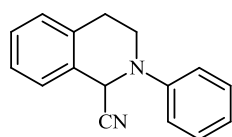
### 1-(6,7-Dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolin-1-yl)butan-2-one (11b)



General procedure II was followed with 6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline (47.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), L-proline (8.6 mg, 0.075 mmol), trifluoroacetic acid (8.6 mg, 5.6 μL, 0.075 mmol), and acetone (2 mL). The reaction was conducted overnight at room temperature. After

reaction work-up the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 50/50/1) to give the title compound (24.8 mg, 38 %) as slightly yellow oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 6.57 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.52 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 4.44 (dd, 1H, C(1)H, *J* = 5.0, 7.5 Hz), 3.84 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.83 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.54 (dt, 1H, *J* = 2.8, 6.8 Hz) 3.13 (dt, 1H, *J* = 5.9, 12.5 Hz), 2.98 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 7.5 Hz, 12.2 Hz), 2.93 (brt, 1H, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 2.87 (brd, 2H, *J* = 5.0 Hz), 2.76 (dt, 1H, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.64 (dt, 1H, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 16.0 Hz), 2.42-2.55 (m, 2H, COCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>) 1.08 (t, 3H, COCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>, *J* = 7.5 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 211.0, 147.5, 147.3, 129.8, 127.6, 111.9, 108.8, 56.0, 55.8, 51.6, 49.3, 40.8, 36.9, 29.3, 7.6. **IR** (ATR): ν = 3343 (m), 2937 (s), 2835 (m), 1708 (s), 1662 (s), 1607 (s), 1516 (vs), 1461 (s), 1272 (m), 1224 (s), 1119 (s), 1023 (w), 858 (w) 802 (w), 732 (w) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **HRMS**: *m/z* (ESI/TOF) calc for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Na (M+Na<sup>+</sup>) 286.1414, found 286.1406;

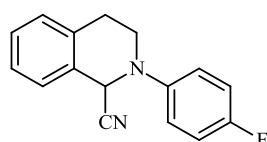
### 2-Phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (12a)



General procedure III was followed with 2-phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (52.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), trimethylsilyl cyanide (29.8 mg, 0.038 ml, 0.3 mmol), and DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 72 h. The mixture was purified by

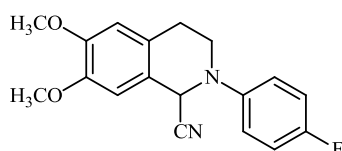
column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (44 mg, 75 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.36 (t, 2H, ArH, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.22-7.32 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.08 (d, 2H, ArH, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.02 (t, 1H, ArH, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 5.51 (s, 1H, C(1)H), 3.76 (dddd, 1H, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 3.0 Hz, 6.0 Hz, 12.5 Hz), 3.47 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 10.9 Hz, 12.1 Hz), 3.14 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 10.6 Hz, 16.4 Hz), 2.95 (dt, 1H, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 16.5 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 148.3, 134.5, 129.5 (2C overlapped), 129.3, 128.7, 127.0, 126.8, 121.8, 117.7, 117.5, 53.1, 44.1, 28.4; **IR** (ATR): ν = 3063 (m), 3030 (m), 2927 (m), 2833 (m), 1934 (w), 1598 (vs), 1500 (vs), 1456 (m), 1378 (s), 1204 (s), 1146 (m), 1029 (m), 940 (m), 909 (s), 737 (vs), 694 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **MS** (ESI) *m/z* 235 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S11</sup>

### 2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (12b)



General procedure III was followed with 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (69.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), trimethylsilyl cyanide (29.8 mg, 0.038 ml, 0.3 mmol), and DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 72 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (37 mg, 58 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.21-7.31 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.02-7.08 (m, 4H, ArH), 5.38 (s, 1H, C(1)H), 3.61 (dddd, 1H, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 2.2 Hz, 6.2 Hz, 12.3 Hz), 3.44 (dt, 1H, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 11.8 Hz), 3.14 (ddd, 1H, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 10.8 Hz, 16.5 Hz), 2.93 (dt, 1H, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 16.0 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 158.6 (d, *J* = 242.2 Hz), 145.1, 134.2, 129.42, 129.36, 128.8, 127.0, 126.8, 120.4 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 117.4, 116.2 (d, *J* = 22.4 Hz), 54.7, 44.7, 28.5; **IR** (ATR): ν = 3067 (m), 2929 (m), 2835 (m), 1725 (w), 1510 (vs), 1459 (m), 1380 (m), 1234 (s), 1163 (m), 942 (m), 825 (m), 758 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **MS** (ESI) *m/z* 253 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S12</sup>

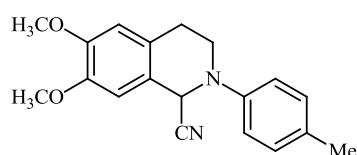
### 2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (12c)



General procedure III was followed with 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-6,7-dimethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (71.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), trimethylsilyl cyanide (29.8 mg, 0.038 ml, 0.3 mmol), and DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 72 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (52 mg, 67 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H**

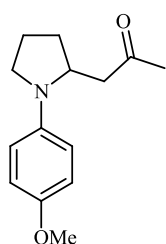
**NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.05-7.06 (m, 4H, ArH), 6.72 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.68 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 5.33 (s, 1H, C(1)H), 3.882 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.876 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.61 (brdd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz, 12.5 Hz), 3.41 (dt, 1H,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 11.8 Hz), 3.08 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.8 Hz, 10.8 Hz, 16.2 Hz), 2.83 (dt, 1H,  $J$  = 2.5 Hz, 15.0 Hz); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  158.6 (d,  $J$  = 242.2 Hz), 149.4, 148.1, 145.1 (d,  $J$  = 2.1 Hz), 126.5, 120.9, 120.5 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz), 117.6, 116.1 (d,  $J$  = 22.4 Hz), 111.5, 109.3, 56.0, 55.9, 54.5, 44.8, 28.1. **IR** (ATR):  $\nu$  = 3004 (w), 2936 (m), 2836 (m), 2254 (w), 1612 (m), 1515 (vs), 1464 (m), 1379 (m), 1244 (s), 1120 (m), 1029 (m), 824 (m), 734 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **HRMS**:  $m/z$  (ESI/TOF) calc for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na (M+Na<sup>+</sup>) 335.1166, found 335.1158;

### 6,7-Dimethoxy-2-(*p*-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline-1-carbonitrile (12d)



General procedure III was followed with 6,7-dimethoxy-2-(*p*-tolyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (70.8 mg, 0.25 mmol), trimethylsilyl cyanide (29.8 mg, 0.038 ml, 0.3 mmol), and DDQ (56.7 mg, 0.25 mmol), in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 72 h. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (48 mg, 62 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.16 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz), 6.99 (d, 2H, ArH,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz), 6.73 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 6.67 (s, 1H, C(5)H or C(8)H), 5.38 (s, 1H, C(1)H), 3.88 (s, 6H, 2OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.69 (brdd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz, 12.5 Hz), 3.40 (td, 1H,  $J$  = 3.8 Hz, 10.9 Hz), 3.07 (ddd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.8 Hz, 11.0 Hz, 16.2 Hz), 2.82 (brdt, 1H,  $J$  = 2.2 Hz, 15.5 Hz), 2.31 (s, 3H, ArCH<sub>3</sub>); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz):  $\delta$  149.3, 148.0, 146.3, 131.8, 130.0, 126.8, 121.2, 118.4, 117.8, 111.5, 109.3, 56.0, 55.9, 53.9, 44.4, 28.1, 20.5; **IR** (ATR):  $\nu$  = 3004 (w), 2934 (m), 2835 (m), 2254 (w), 1614 (m), 1518 (vs), 1464 (m), 1380 (m), 1247 (s), 1120 (m), 1029 (m), 860 (w), 734 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **HRMS**:  $m/z$  (ESI/TOF) calc for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na (M+Na<sup>+</sup>) 331.1417, found 331.1410;

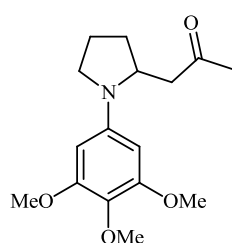
### 1-(1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)pyrrolidin-2-yl)propan-2-one (13a)



General procedure IV was followed with 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyrrolidine (53.2 mg, 0.30 mmol), acetone (174.2 mg, 0.222 ml, 3.0 mmol), tris(2,2'-bipyridyl)dichlororuthenium(II) hexahydrate (4.5 mg, 0.006 mmol), and L-proline (10.4 mg, 0.09 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 4 days. The mixture was purified by column

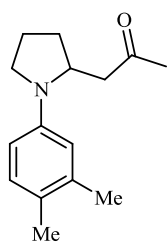
chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (20 mg, 34 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 6.85 (d, 2H, ArH, *J* = 9.0 Hz), 6.52 (d, 2H, ArH, *J* = 9.0 Hz), 4.13-4.16 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.36-3.40 (m, 1H), 3.13 (dd, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 16.5 Hz), 2.85 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 17.0 Hz), 2.43 (dd, 1H, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 16.5 Hz), 2.16 (s, 3H, COCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.08-2.14 (m, 1H), 1.96-2.02 (m, 2H), 1.72-1.74 (m, 1H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 208.3, 151.0, 141.4, 115.1, 112.8, 55.9, 54.5, 48.5, 46.7, 31.4, 30.9, 23.2; **IR** (ATR): ν = 2957 (m), 2905 (m), 2832 (m), 1710 (s), 1515 (vs), 1364 (m), 1242 (s), 1181 (m), 1152 (m), 1042 (m), 816 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **MS** (ESI) *m/z* 234 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S13</sup>

### 1-(1-(3,4,5-Trimethoxyphenyl)pyrrolidin-2-yl)propan-2-one (13b)



General procedure IV was followed with 1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)pyrrolidine (71.2 mg, 0.30 mmol), acetone (174.2 mg, 0.222 ml, 3.0 mmol), tris(2,2'-bipyridyl)dichlororuthenium(II) hexahydrate (4.5 mg, 0.006 mmol), and L-proline (10.4 mg, 0.09 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 4 days. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 3/1) to give the title compound (13 mg, 18 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 5.78 (s, 2H, ArH), 4.21 (brdd, 1H, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 9.0 Hz), 3.84 (s, 6H, 2OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.77 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.38-3.41 (m, 1H), 3.19 (dd, 1H, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 16.5 Hz), 2.86 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 16.8 Hz), 2.47 (dd, 1H, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 17.0 Hz), 2.18 (s, 3H, COCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.08-2.14 (m, 1H), 2.00-2.04 (m, 2H), 1.73-1.76 (m, 1H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 208.4, 154.3, 143.7, 129.5, 89.9, 61.4, 56.3, 54.6, 48.4, 42.2, 32.0, 31.3, 23.5; **IR** (ATR): ν = 2956 (m), 2827 (w), 1708 (s), 1611 (s), 1512 (vs), 1456 (s), 1362 (m), 1252 (vs), 1126 (vs), 1011 (m), 924 (w), 792 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **HRMS**: *m/z* (ESI/TOF) calc for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>Na (M+Na<sup>+</sup>) 316.1519, found 316.1500;

### 1-(1-(3,4-Dimethylphenyl)pyrrolidin-2-yl)propan-2-one (13c)

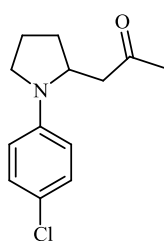


General procedure IV was followed with 1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)pyrrolidine (52.6 mg, 0.30 mmol), acetone (174.2 mg, 0.222 ml, 3.0 mmol), tris(2,2'-bipyridyl)dichlororuthenium(II) hexahydrate (4.5 mg, 0.006 mmol), and L-proline (10.4 mg, 0.09 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 4 days. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (21

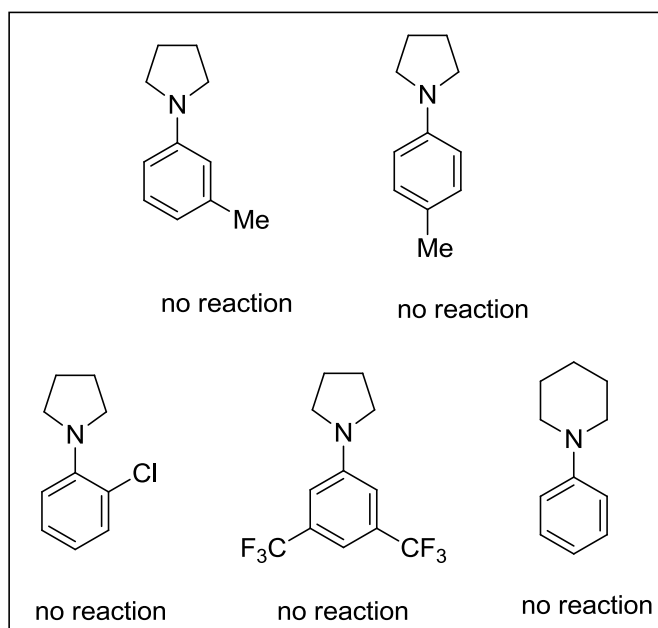


mg, 36 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.00 (d, 1H, HC(5)Ar, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 6.41 (s, 1H, HC(2)Ar), 6.35 (dd, 1H, HC(6)Ar, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 8.2 Hz), 4.19-4.22 (m, 1H), 3.39-3.42 (m, 1H), 3.16 (dd, 1H, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 16.8 Hz), 2.90 (dd, 1H, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 16.8 Hz), 2.44 (dd, 1H, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 17.0 Hz), 2.25 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.19 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.09-2.13 (m, 1H), 1.98-2.03 (m, 2H), 1.74-1.77 (m, 1H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 208.4, 144.9, 137.3, 130.4, 123.8, 113.5, 109.4, 54.0, 48.0, 46.6, 31.3, 30.9, 23.1, 20.3, 18.5; **IR** (ATR): ν = 2962 (m), 2919 (m), 1707 (s), 1613 (s), 1508 (vs), 1453 (m), 1357 (vs), 1288 (m), 1148 (s), 1014 (m), 836 (m), 797 (s), 704 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **HRMS**: *m/z* (ESI/TOF) calc for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NONa (M+Na<sup>+</sup>) 254.1515, found 254.1507;

### 1-(1-(4-Chlorophenyl)pyrrolidin-2-yl)propan-2-one (13d)



General procedure IV was followed with 1-(4-chlorophenyl)pyrrolidine (54.5 mg, 0.30 mmol), acetone (174.2 mg, 0.222 ml, 3.0 mmol), tris(2,2'-bipyridyl)dichlororuthenium(II) hexahydrate (4.5 mg, 0.006 mmol), and L-proline (10.4 mg, 0.09 mmol) in acetonitrile (2 mL). The reaction was conducted at r.t. for 4 days. The mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrolether/ethylacetate = 7/1) to give the title compound (8 mg, 13 %) as yellowish oil. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.15 (d, 2H, *m*-ArH, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 6.45 (brd, 2H, *o*-ArH, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 4.18 (t, 1H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 3.14 (dd, 1H, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 16.5 Hz), 2.82 (d, 1H, *J* = 17.0 Hz), 2.44 (dd, 1H, *J* = 10.2 Hz, 15.5 Hz), 2.17 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.08-2.14 (m, 1H), 1.97-2.04 (m, 2H), 1.74-1.77 (m, 1H); **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125.8 MHz): δ 207.9, 145.0, 129.1, 120.6, 112.9, 54.1, 48.0, 46.2, 31.4, 30.9, 23.1; **IR** (ATR): ν = 2968 (m), 1711 (s), 1599 (s), 1501 (vs), 1367 (s), 1153 (m), 1097 (m), 976 (w), 811 (m), 707 (w) cm<sup>-1</sup>; **MS** (ESI) *m/z* 238 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data are in agreement with the published data.<sup>S13</sup>

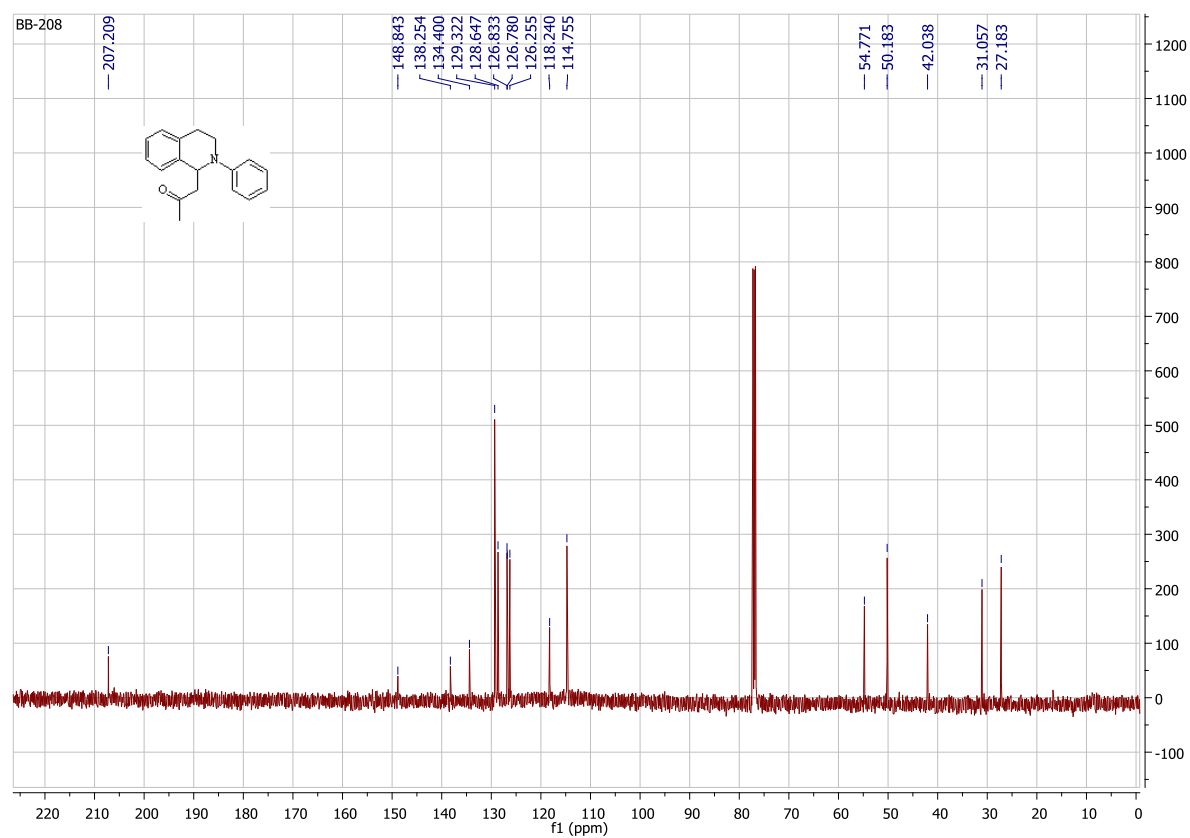
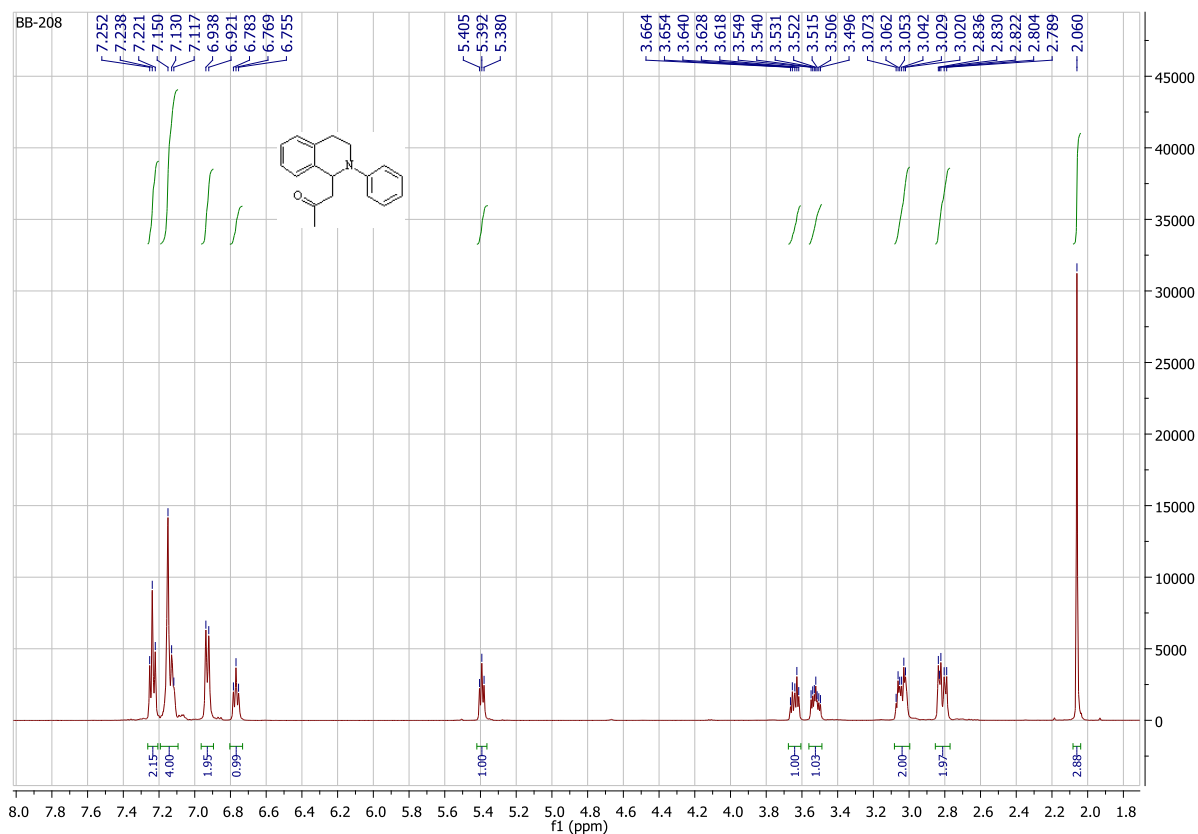


Scheme S1. Substrates that did not react under photoredox reaction conditions of C-H oxidation/Mannich reaction.

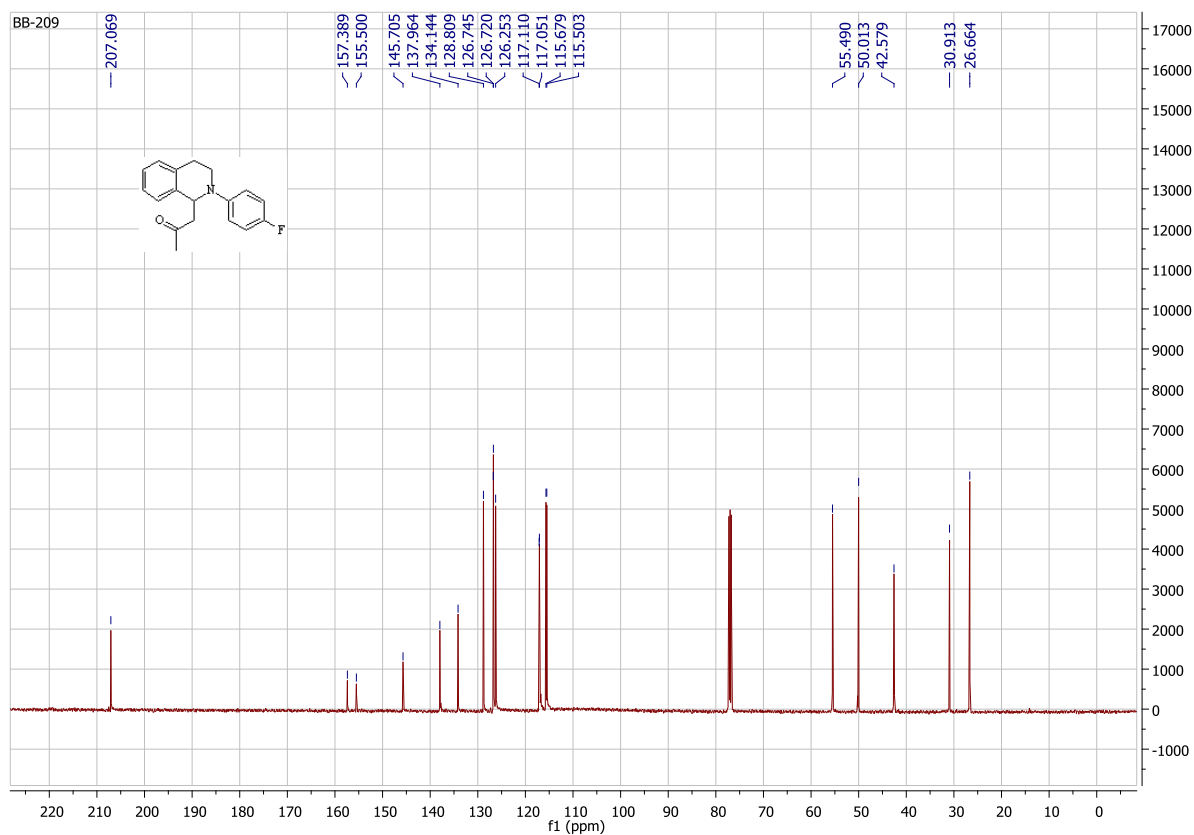
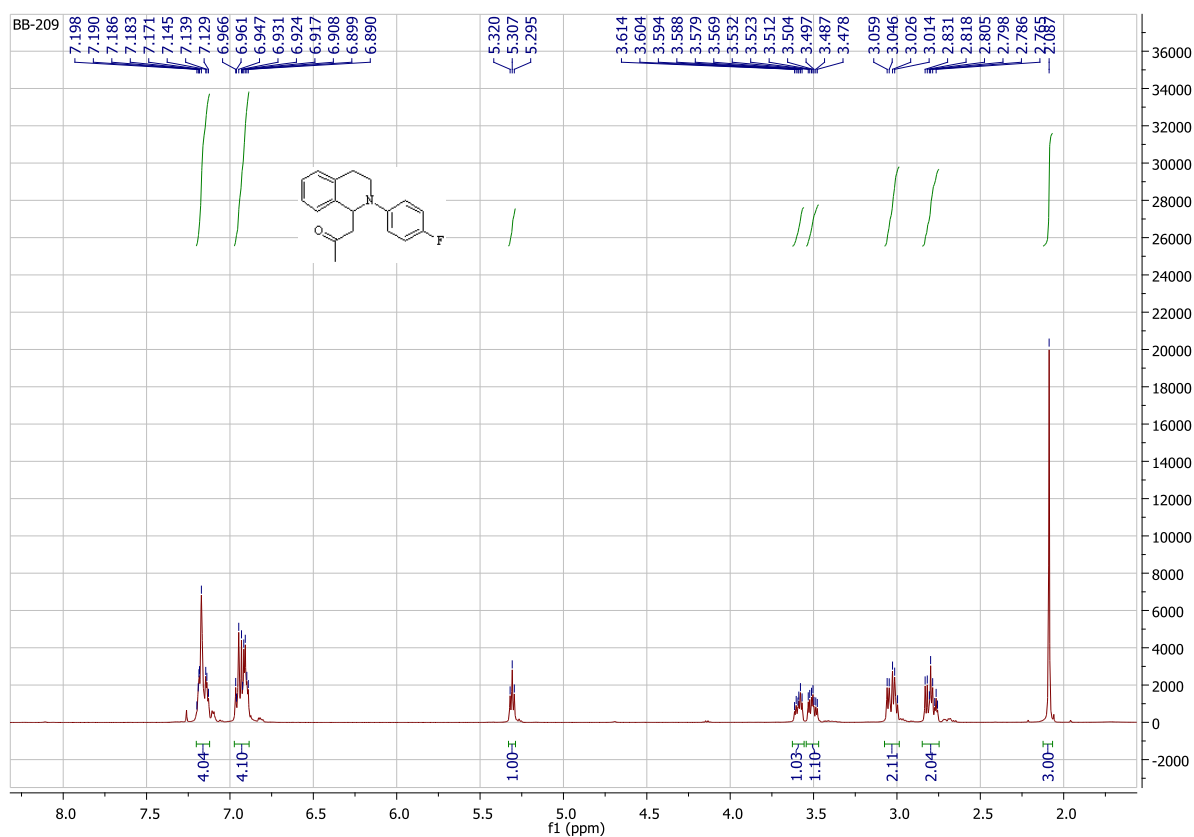
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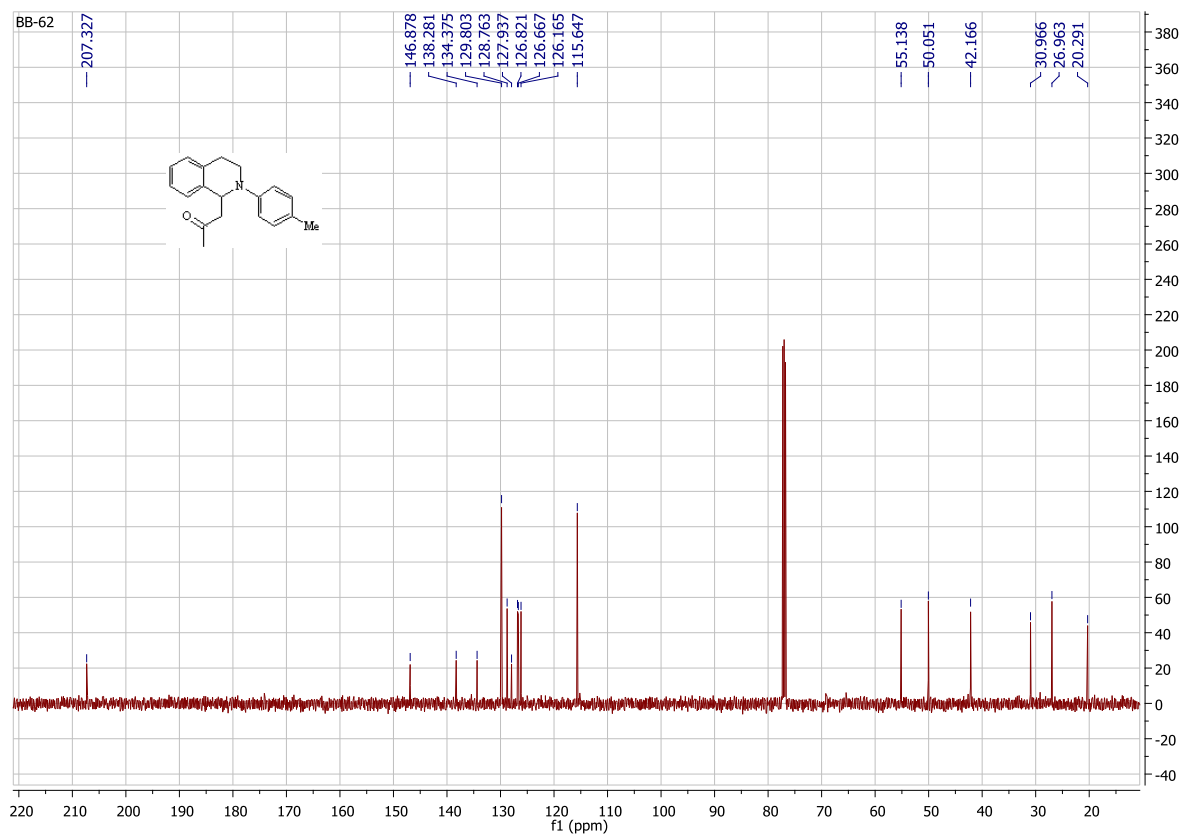
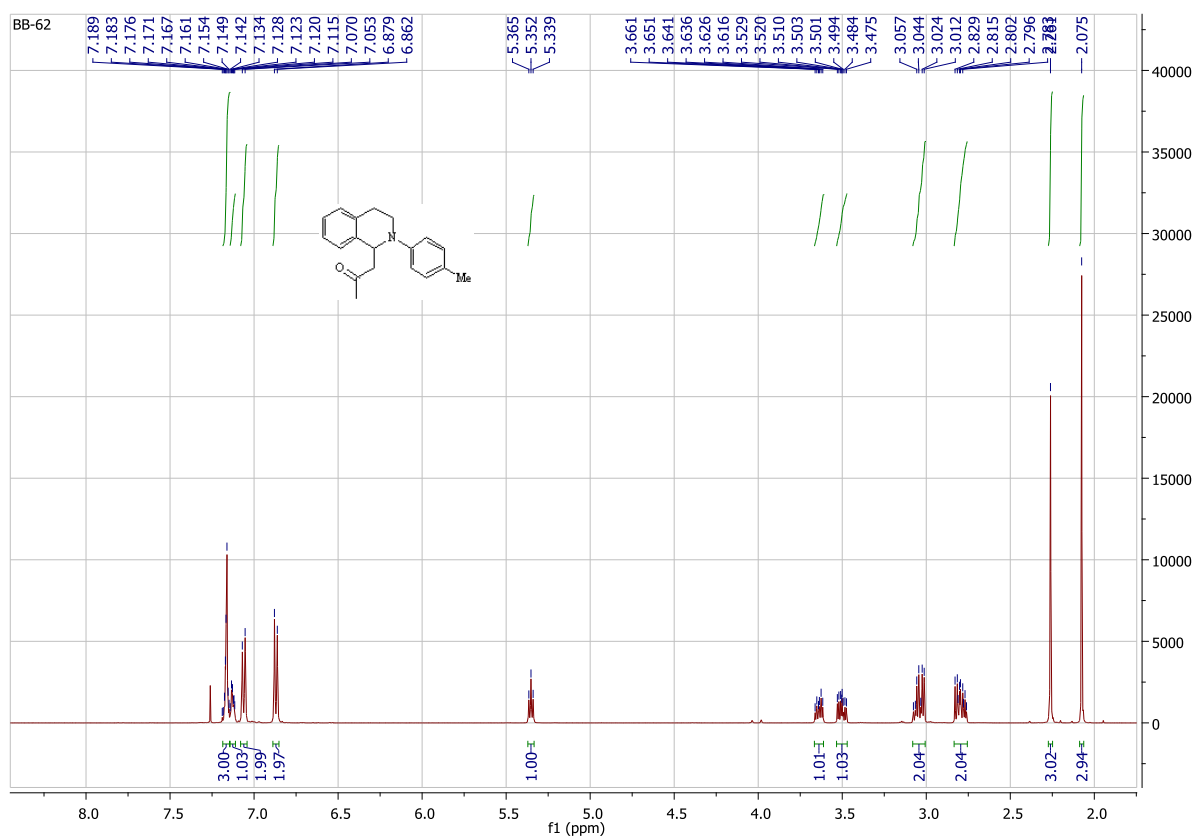
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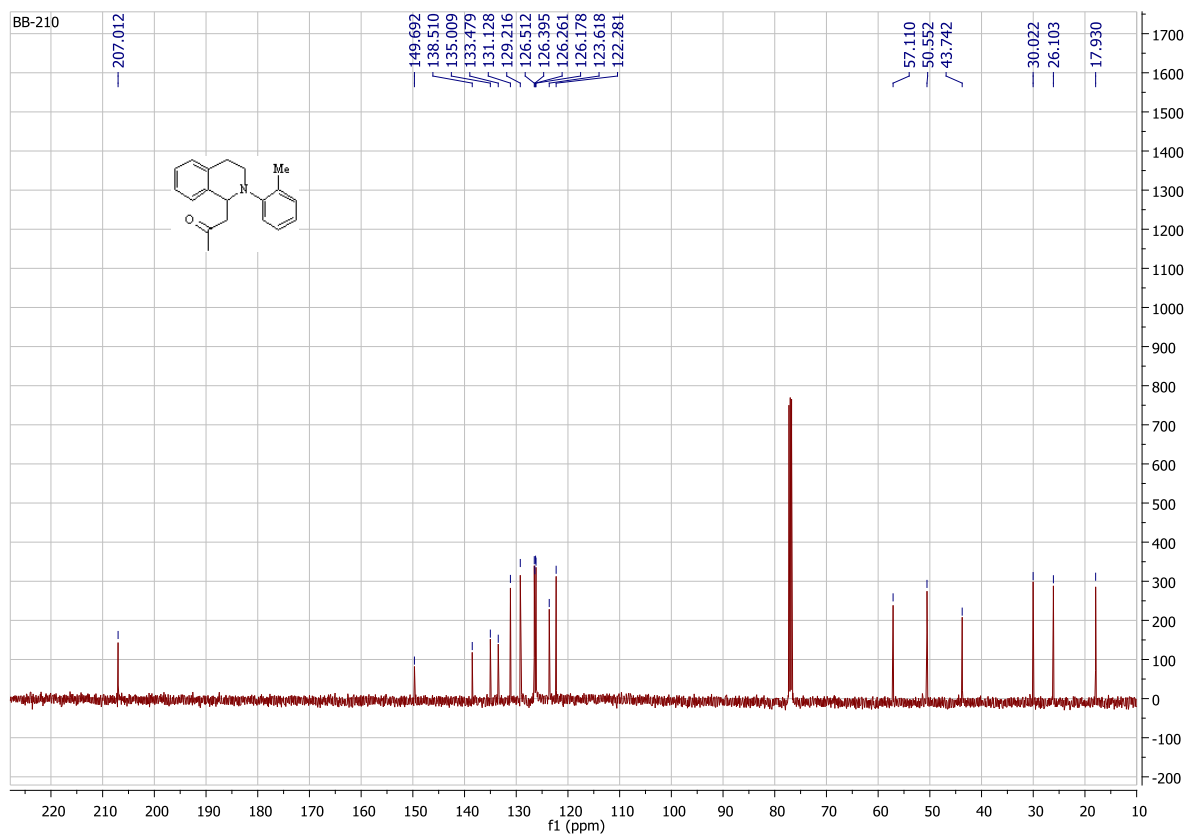
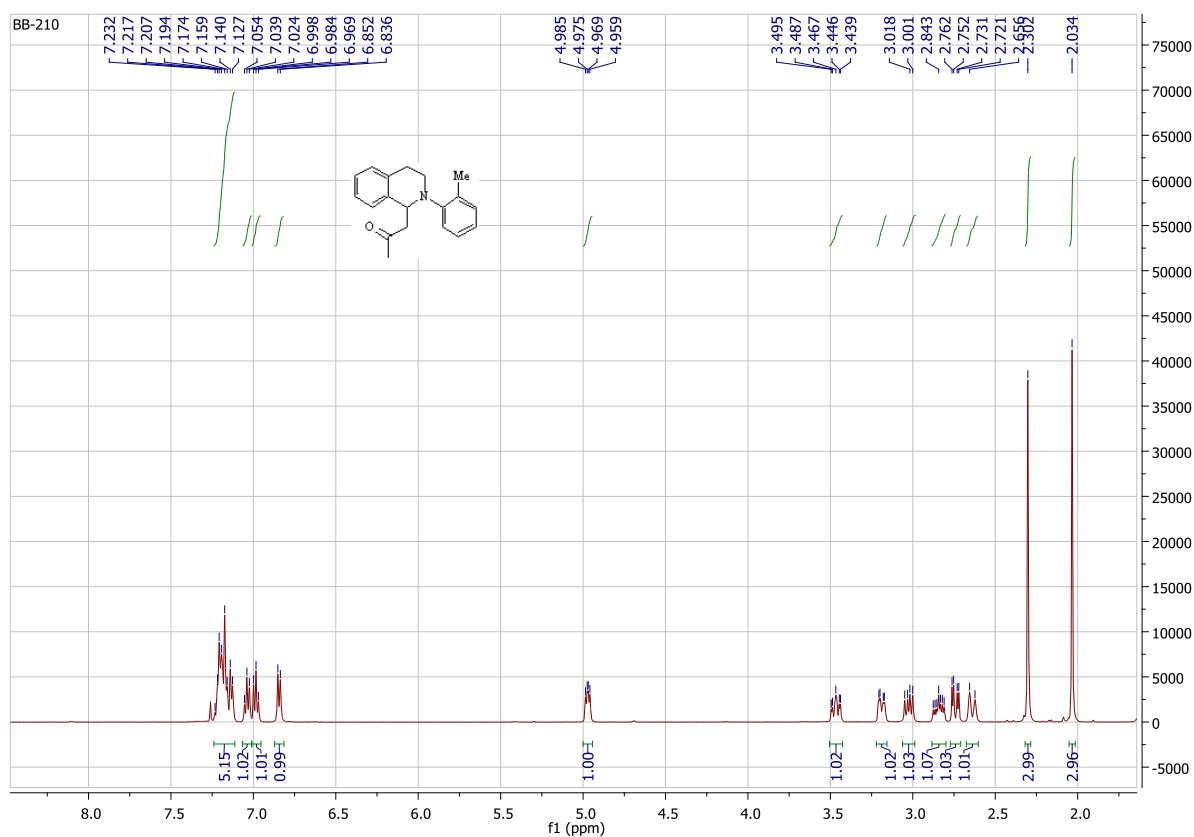
2a



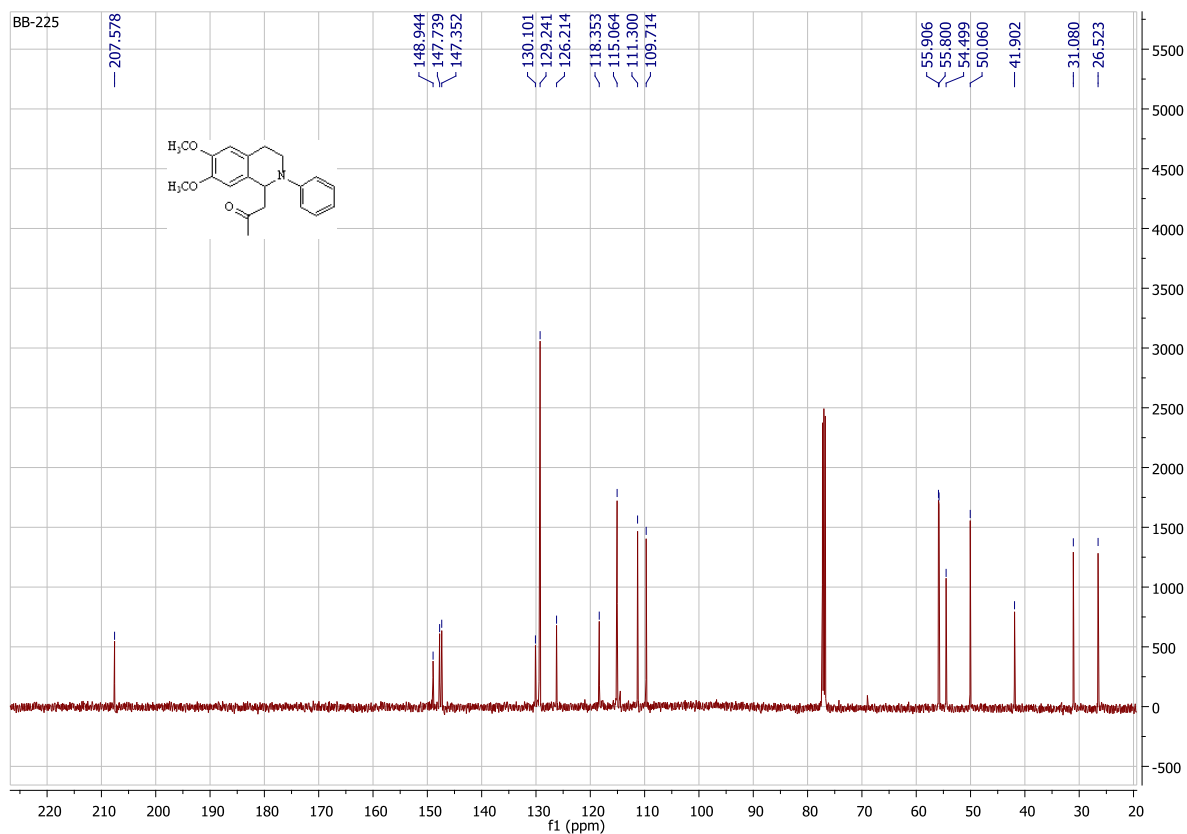
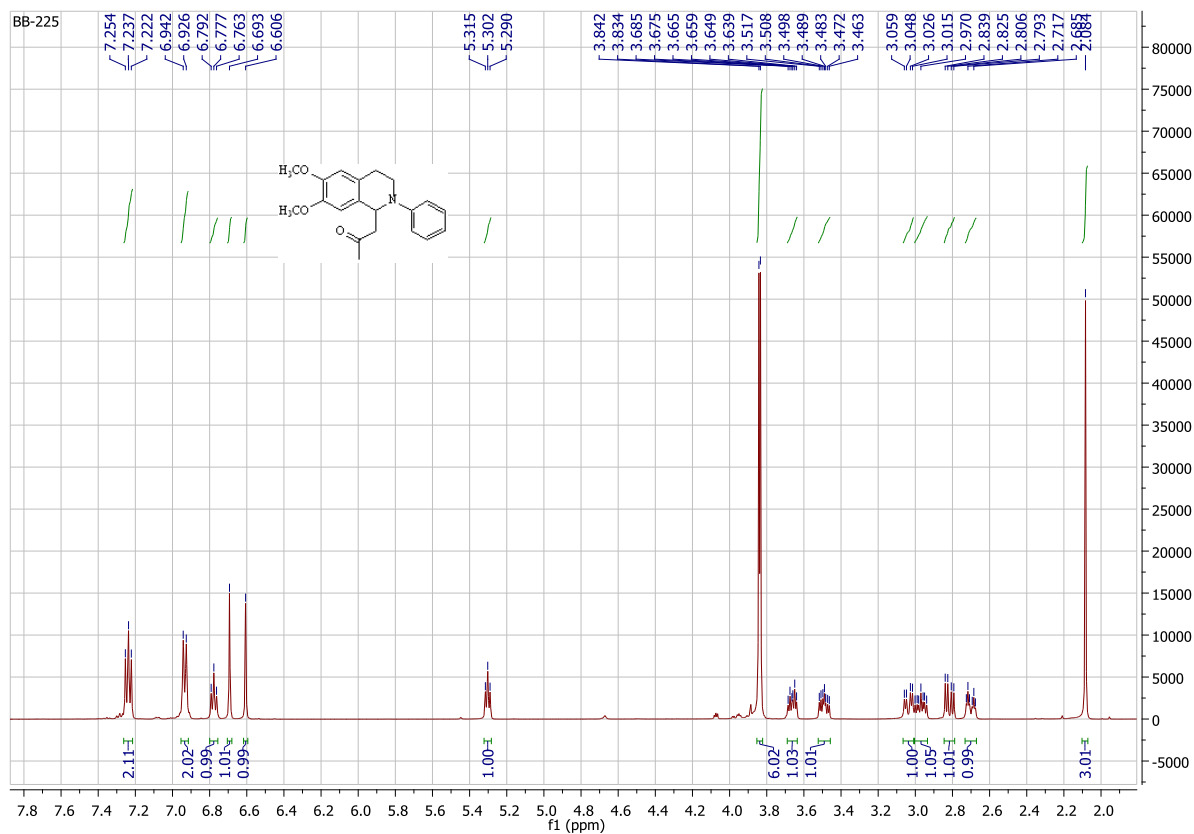
3a



4a

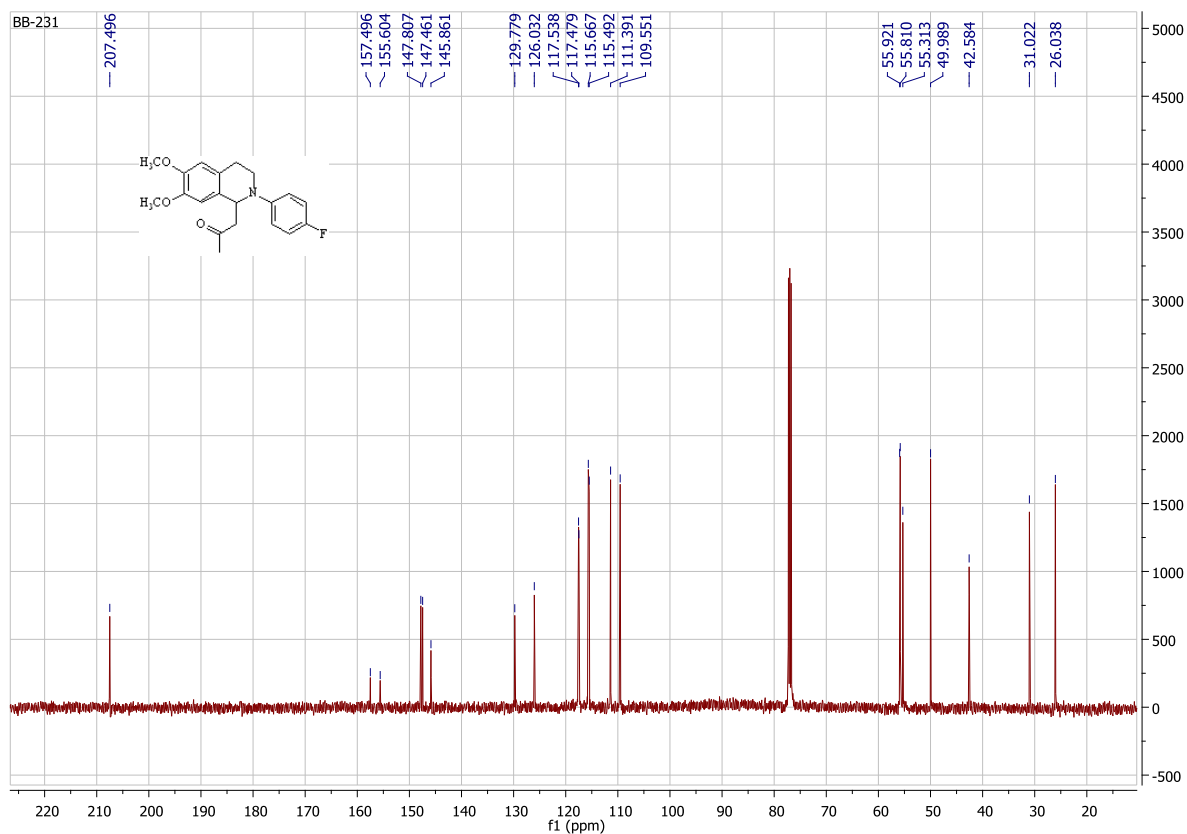
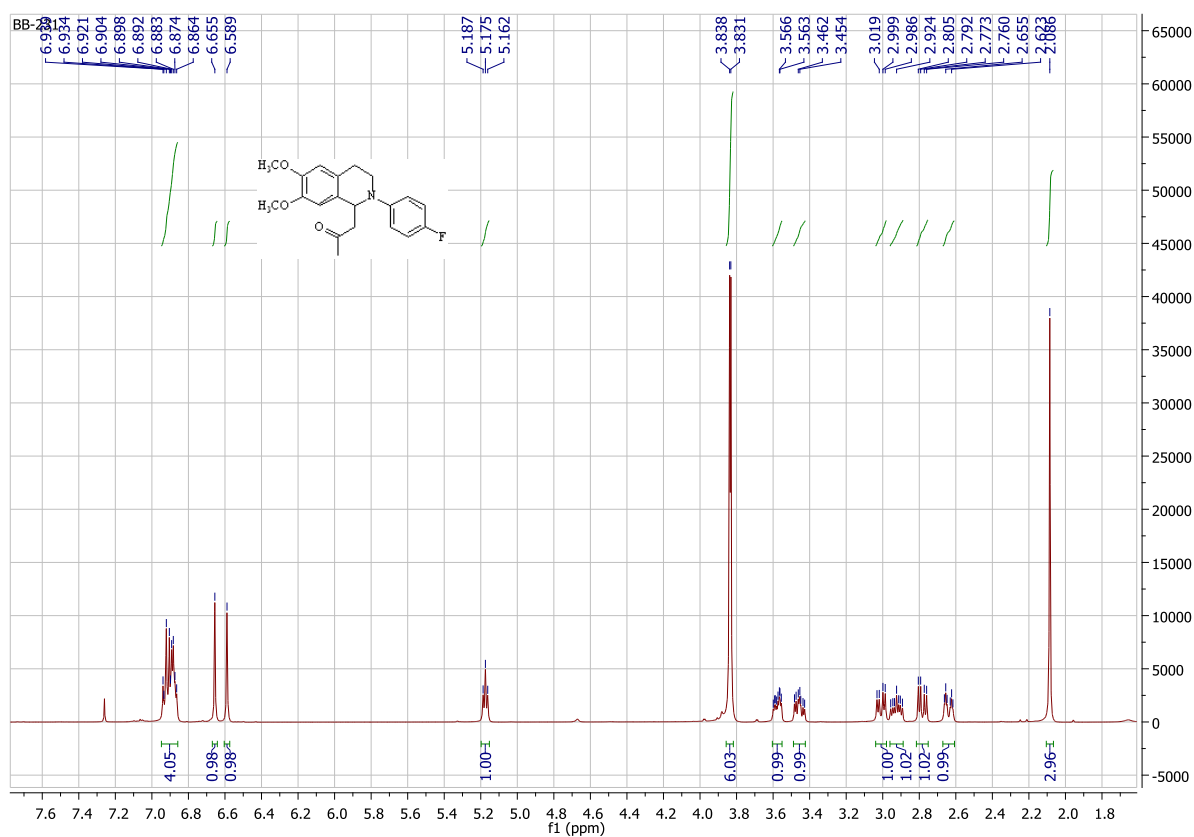


5a

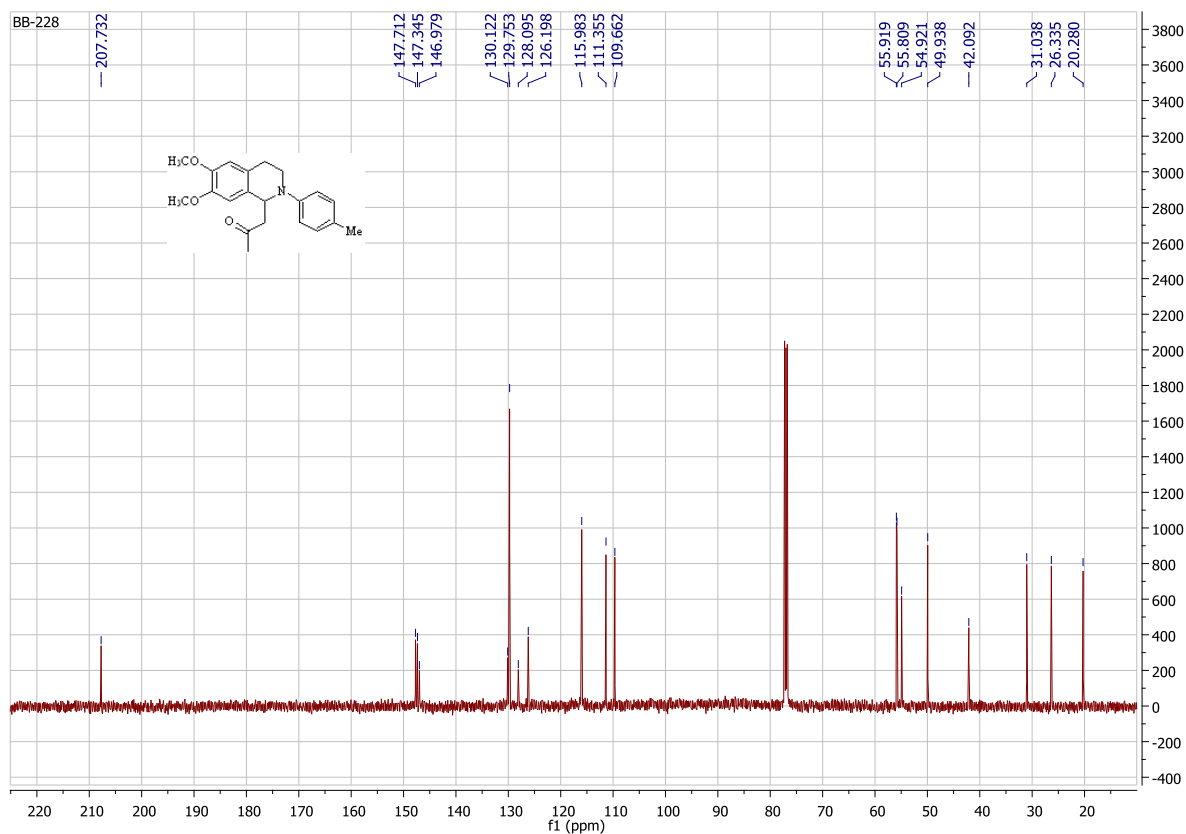
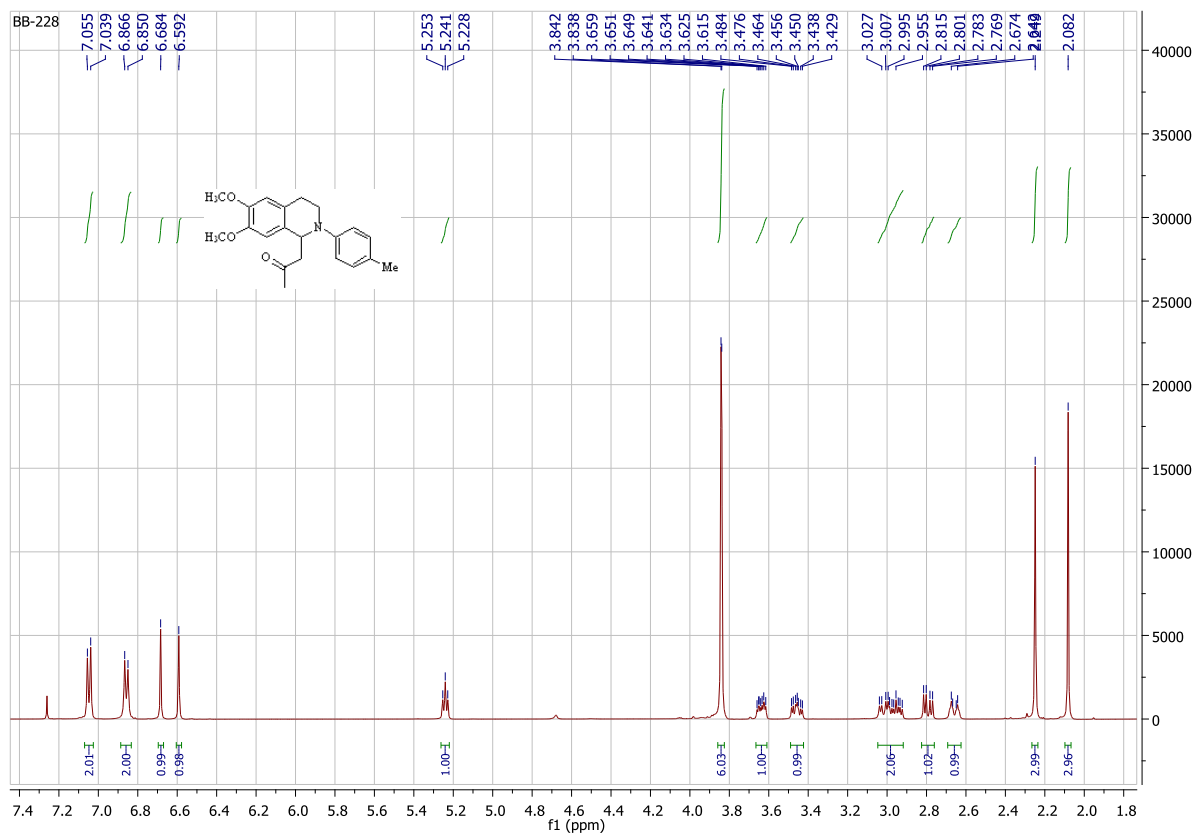




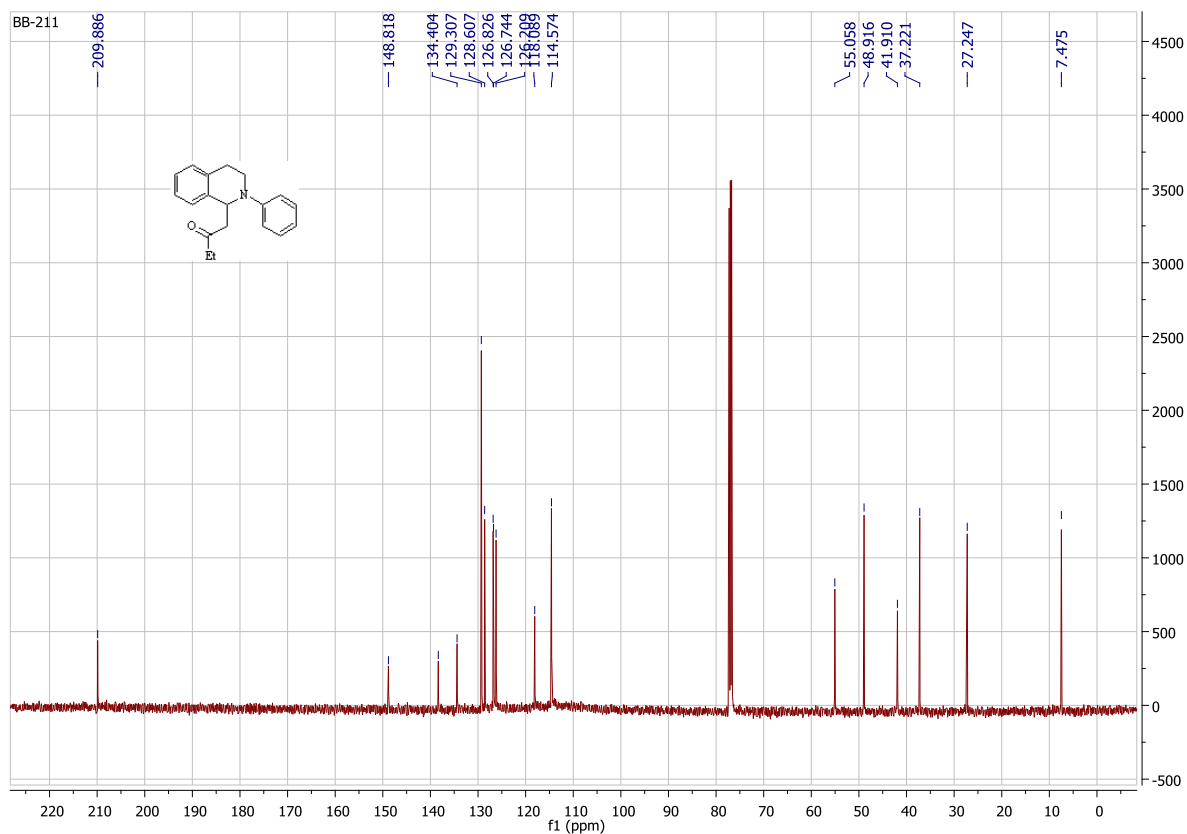
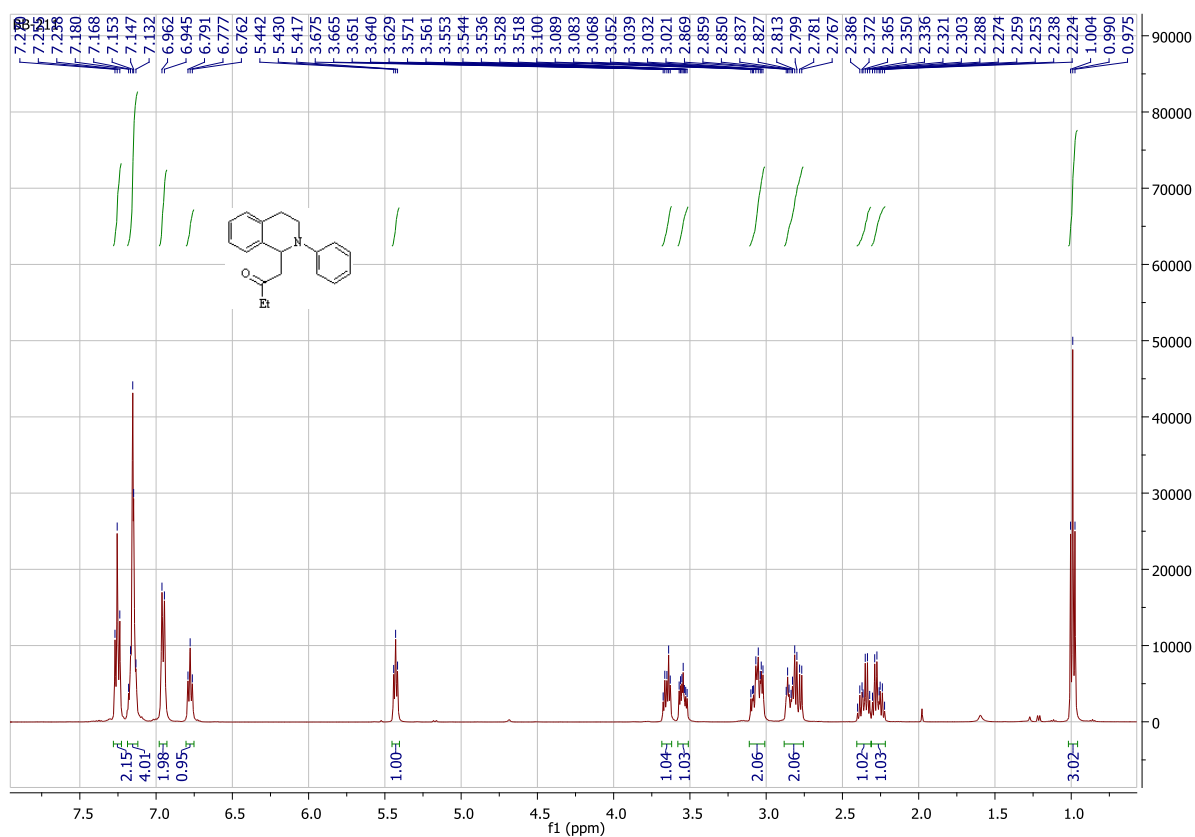
6a



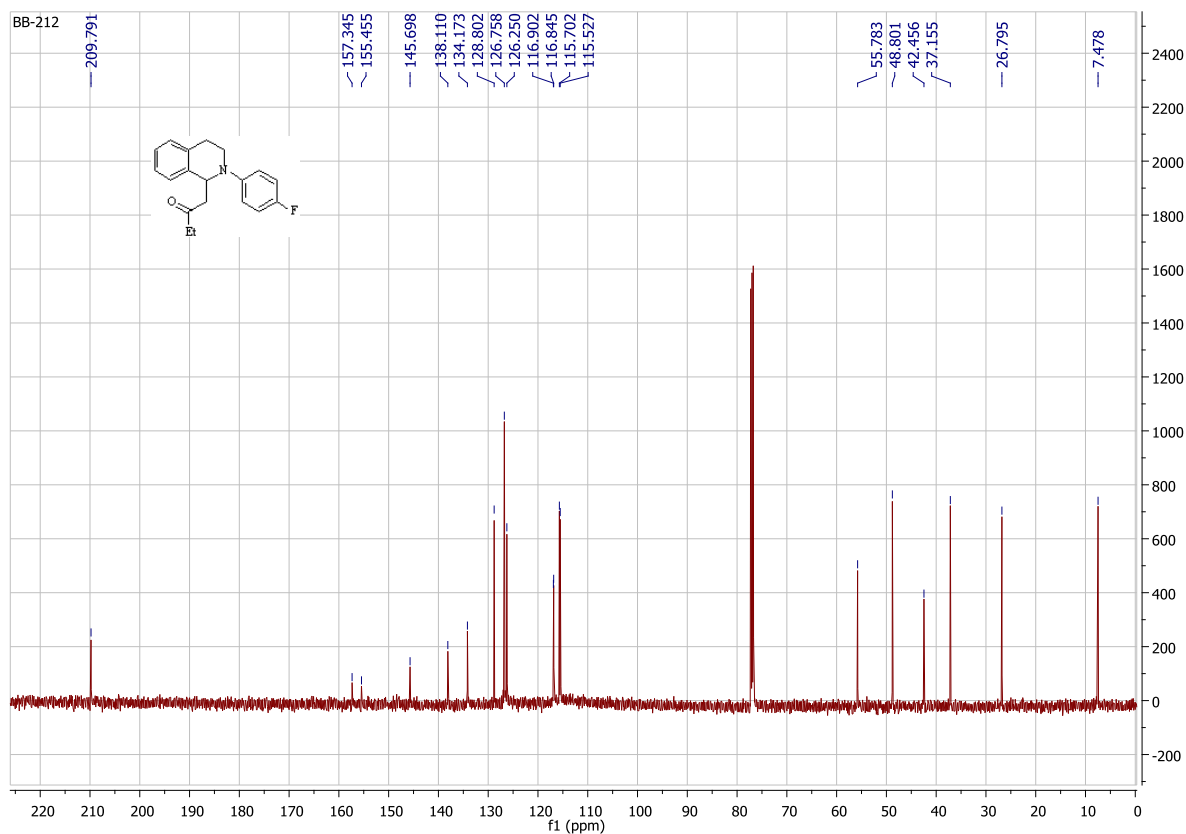
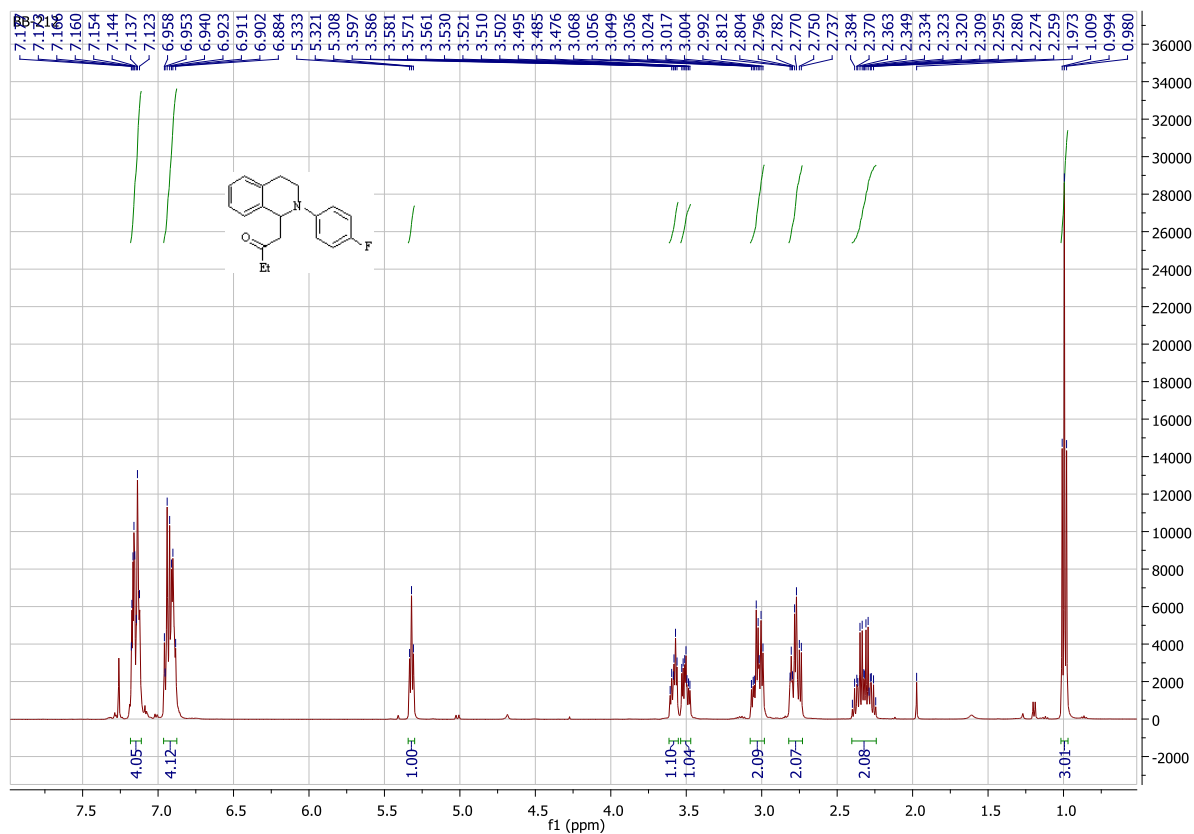
7a



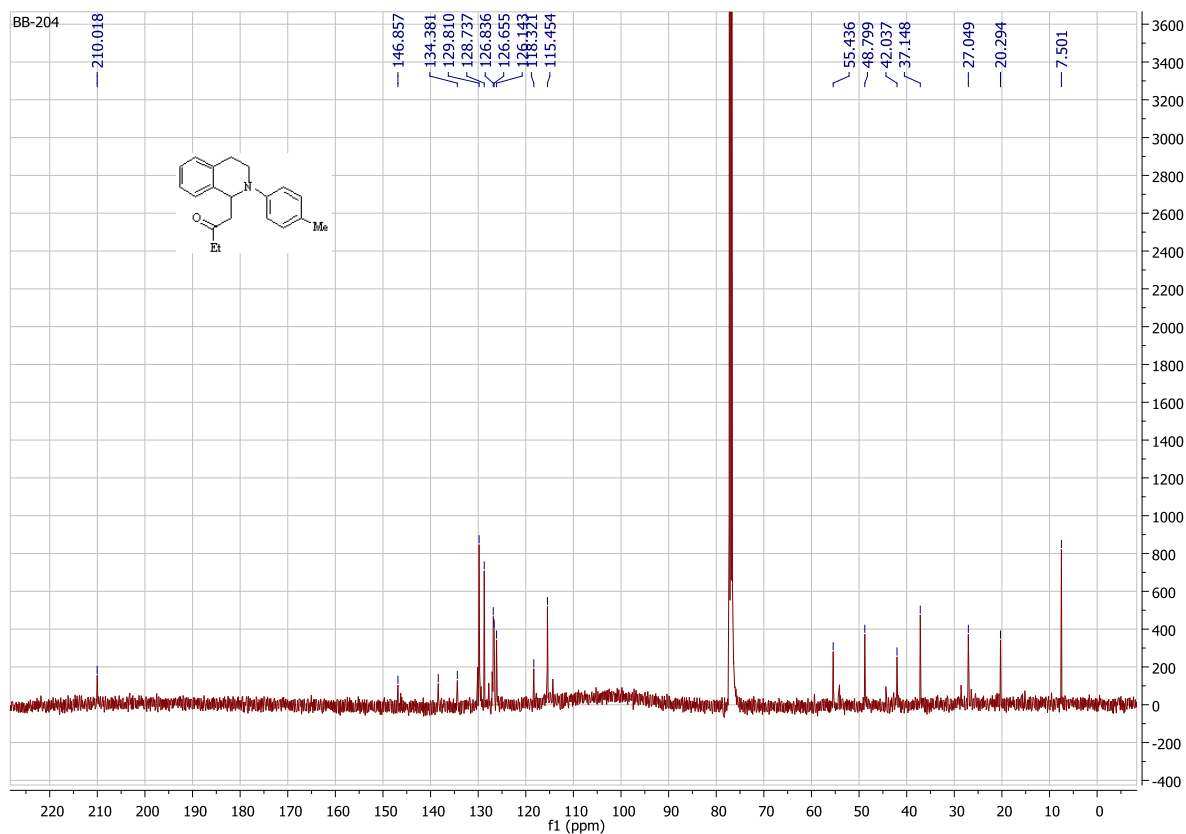
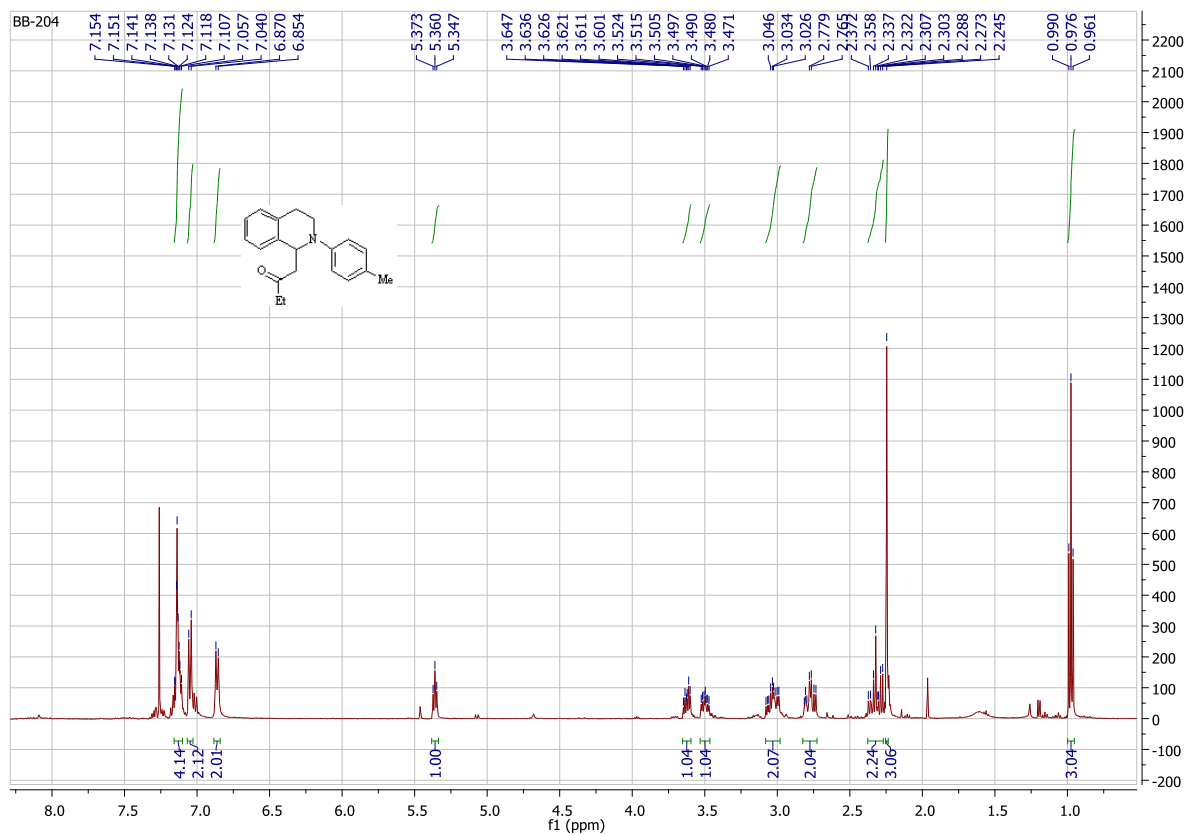
1b



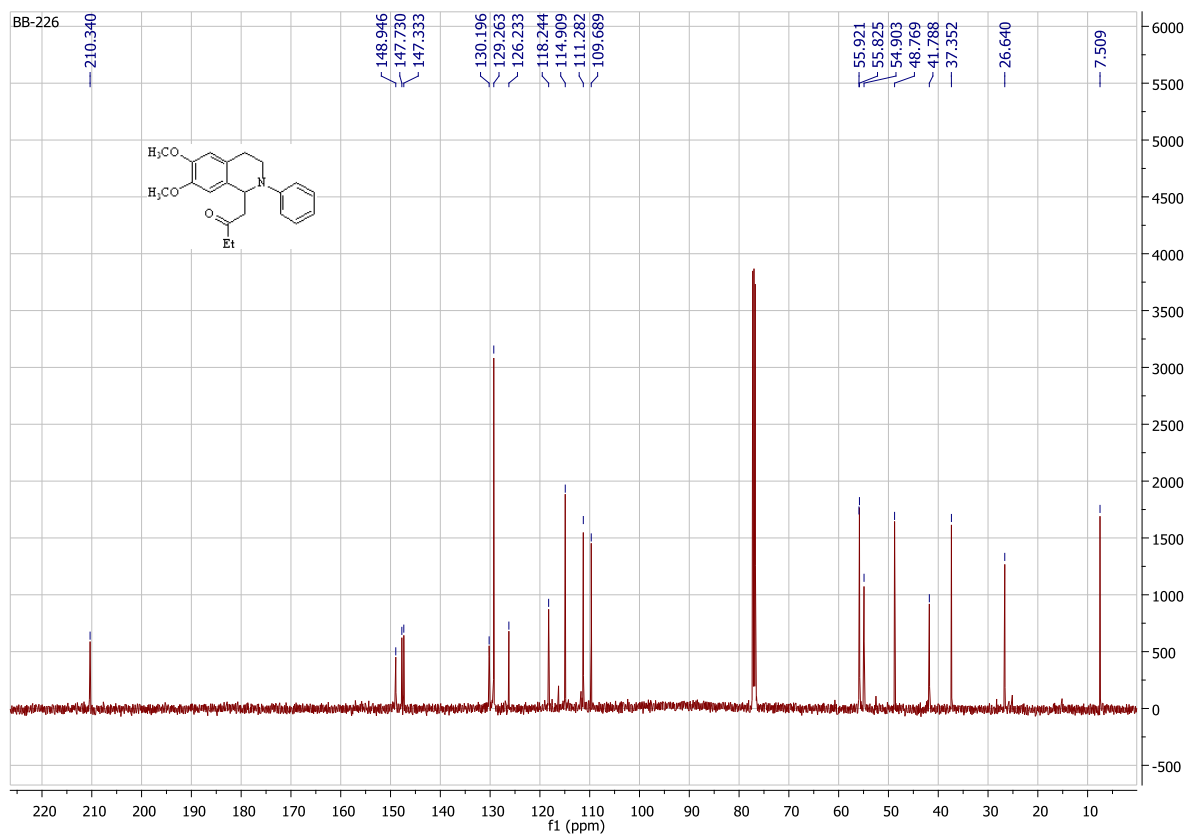
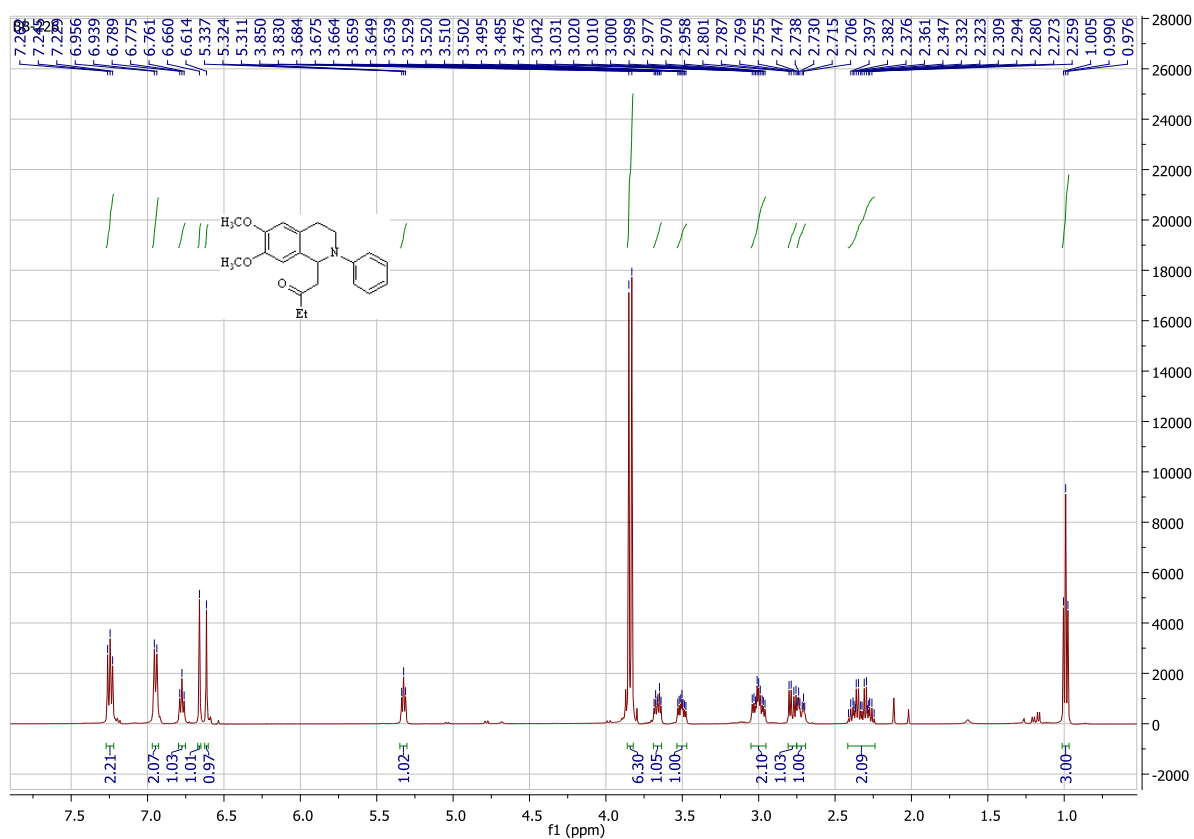
2b



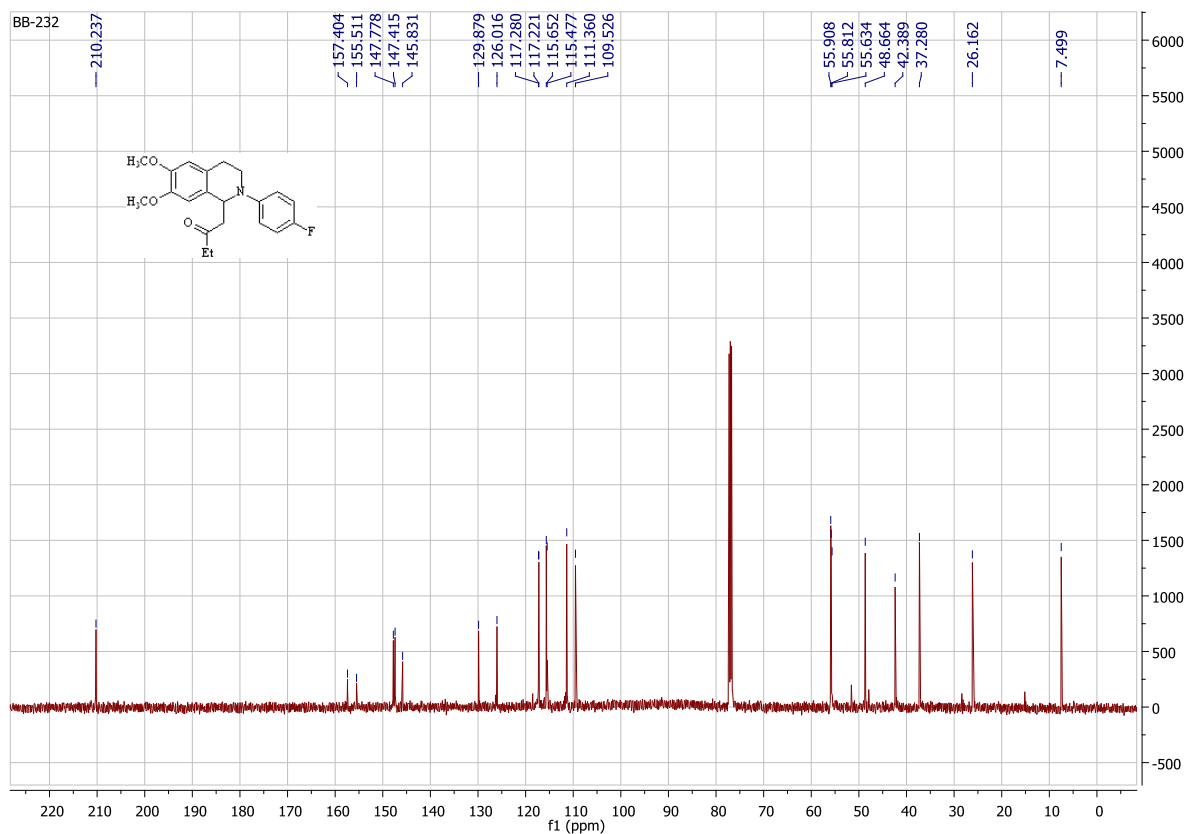
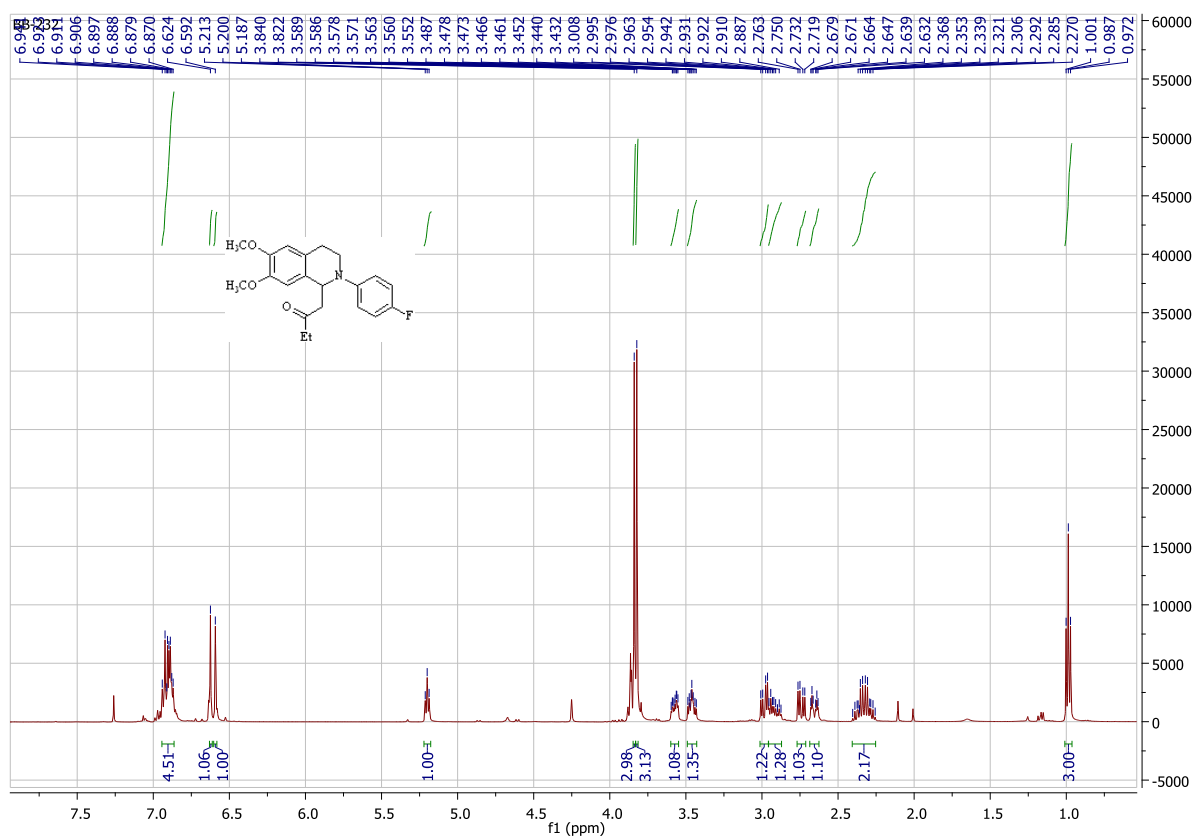
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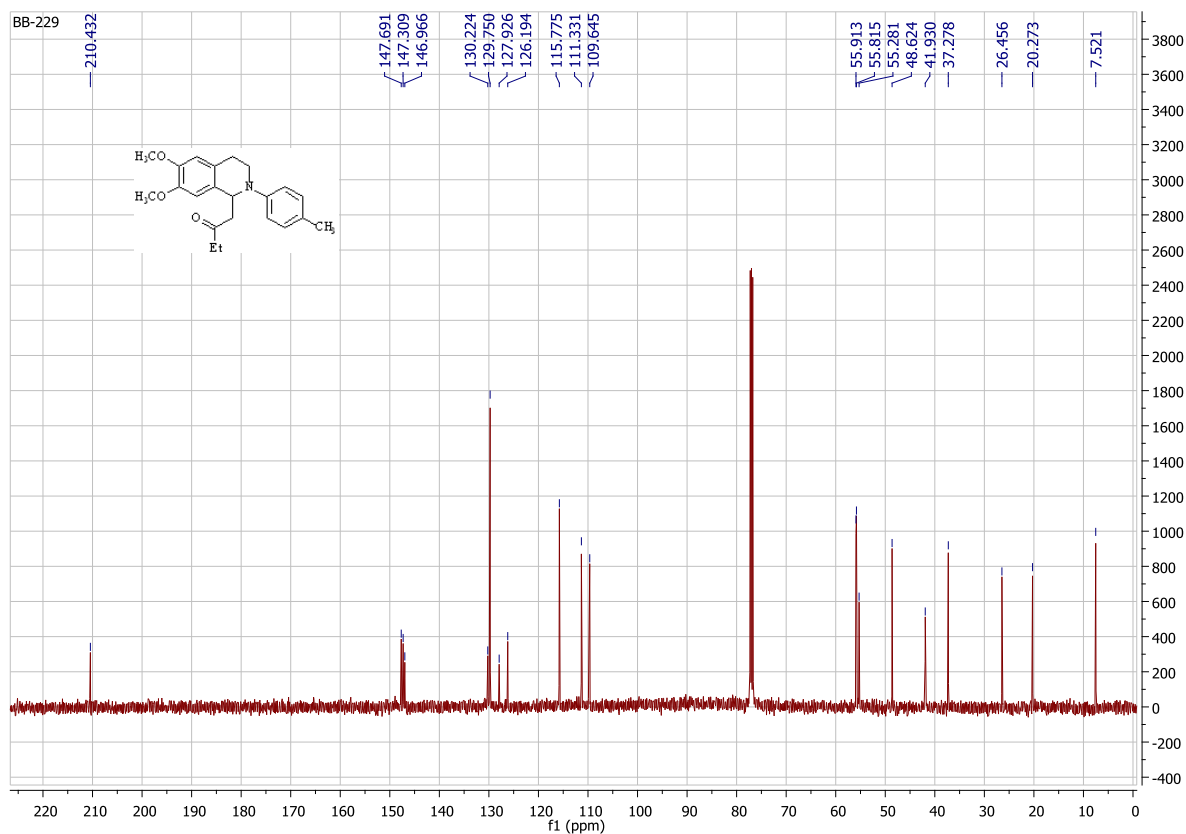
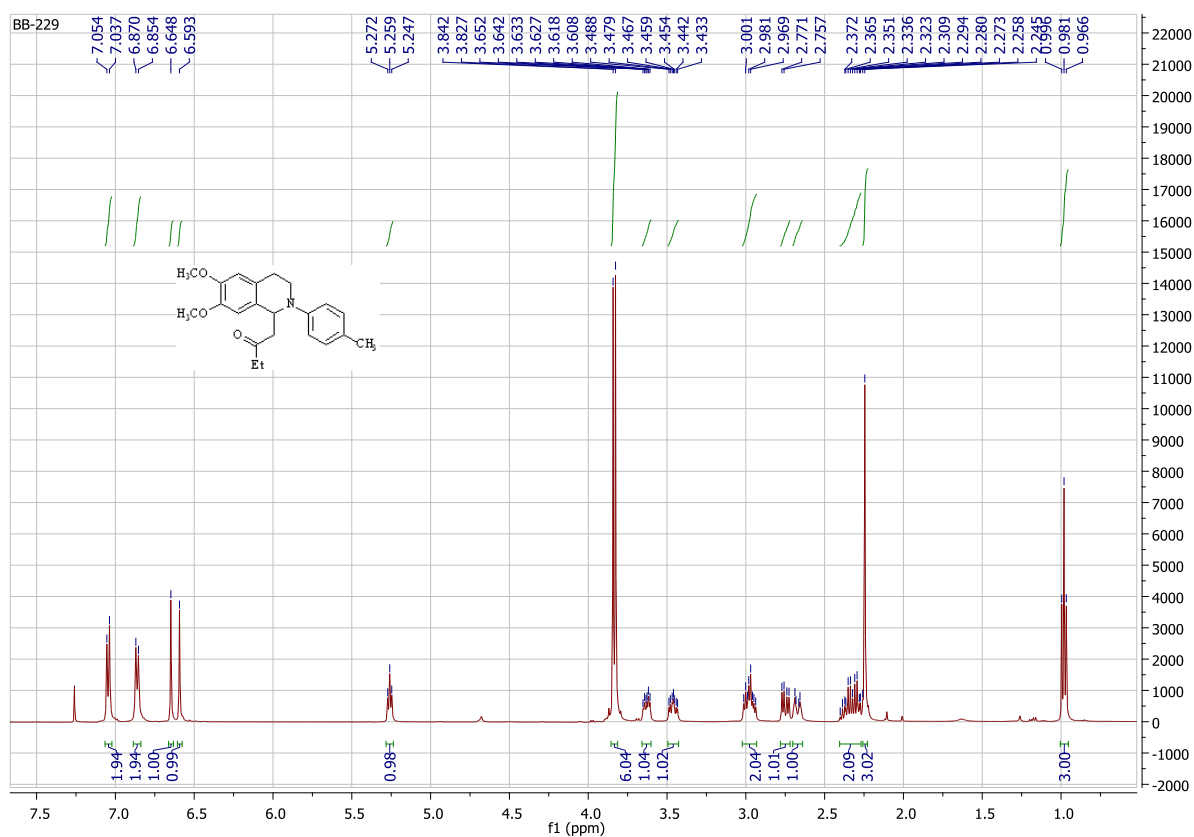
5b



6b

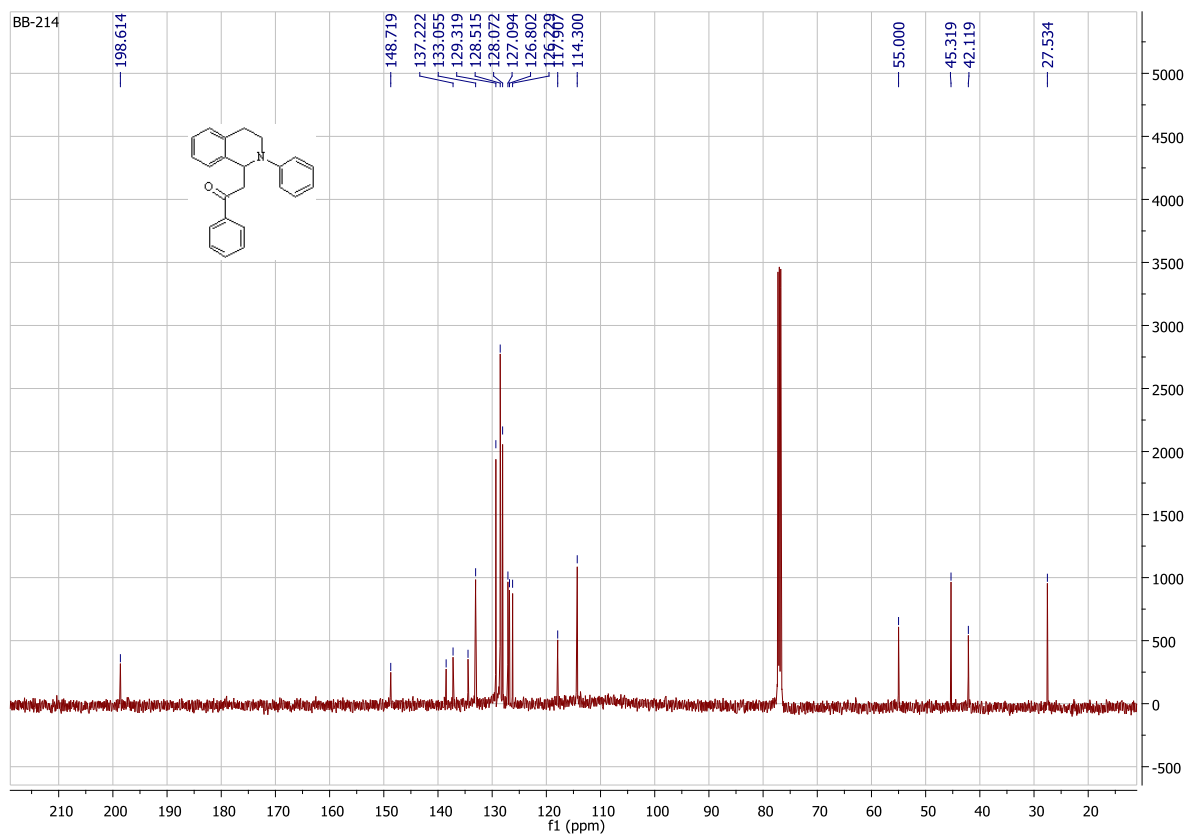
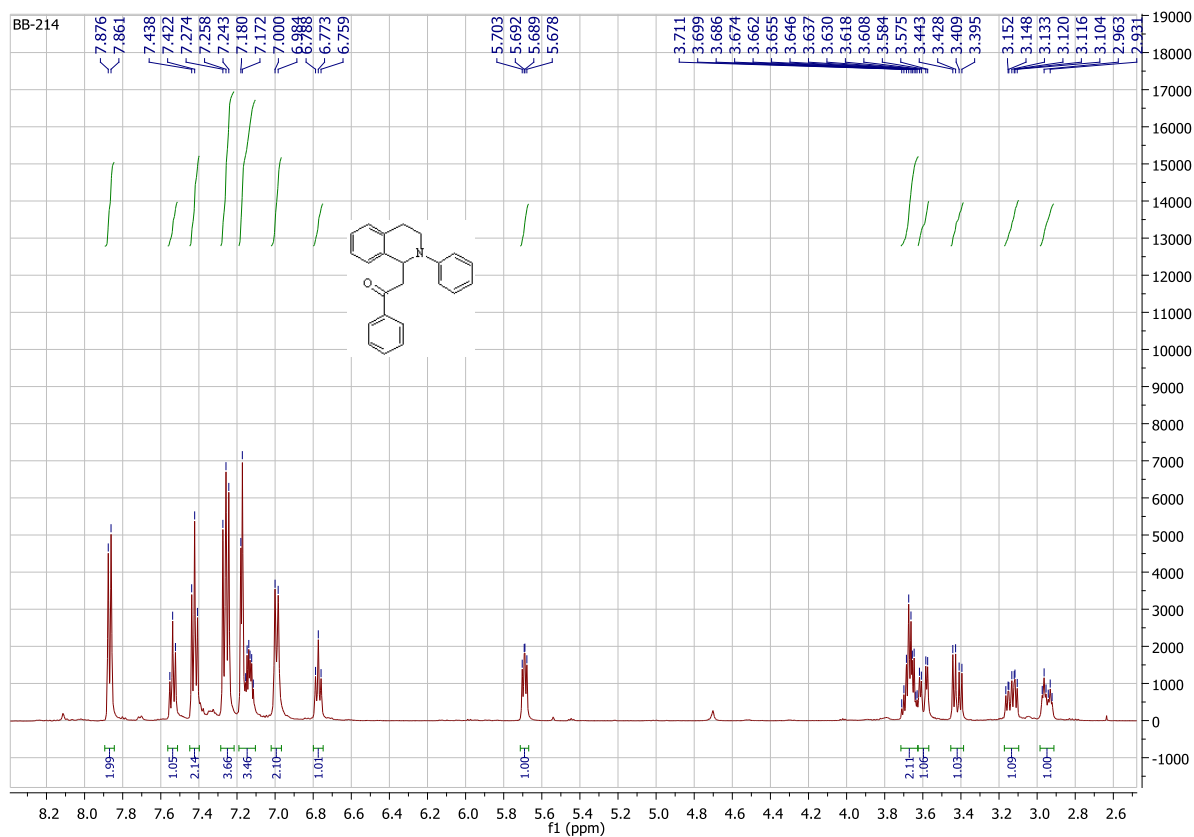


7b

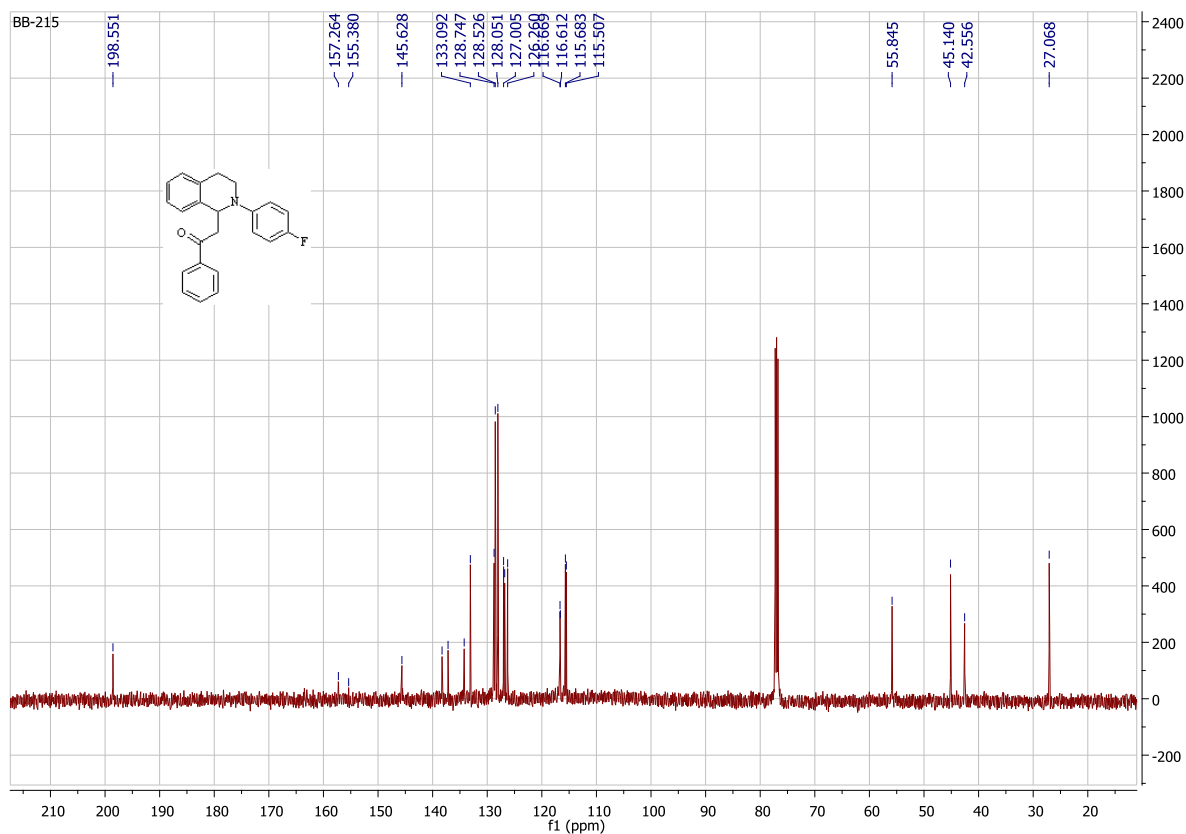
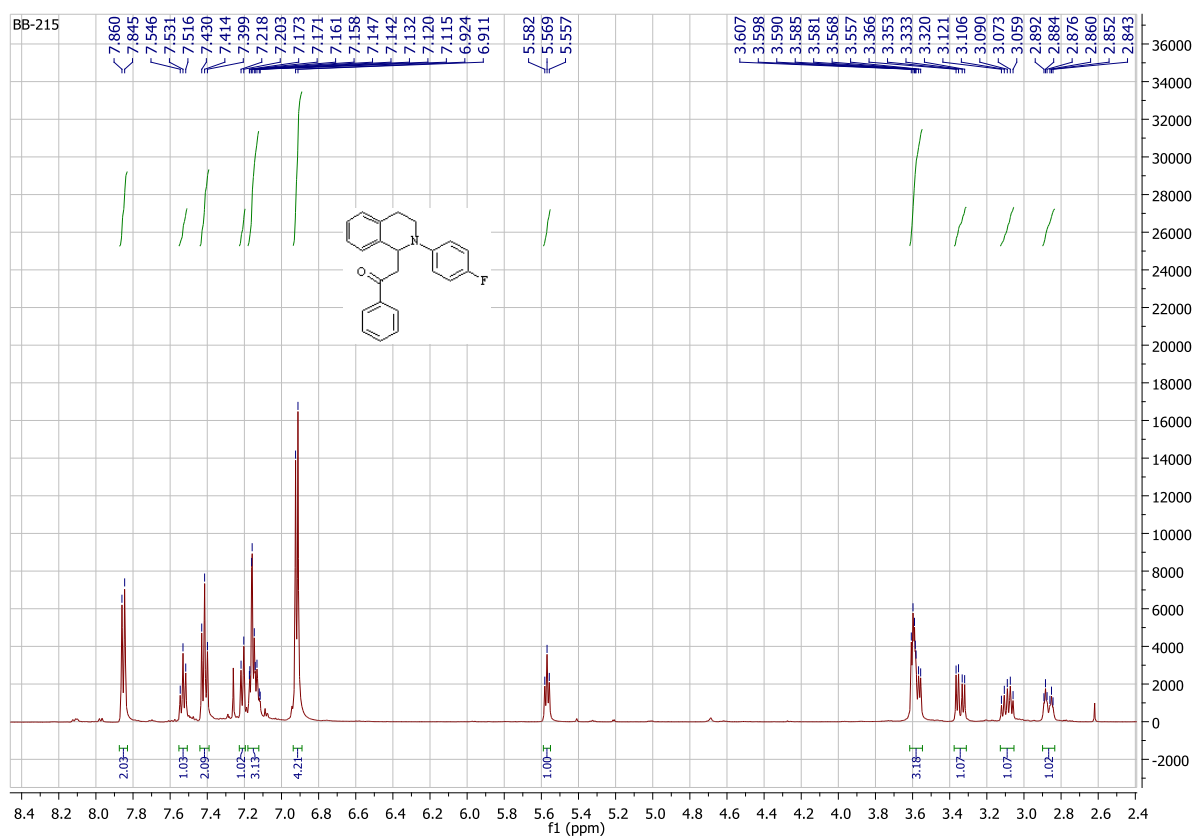




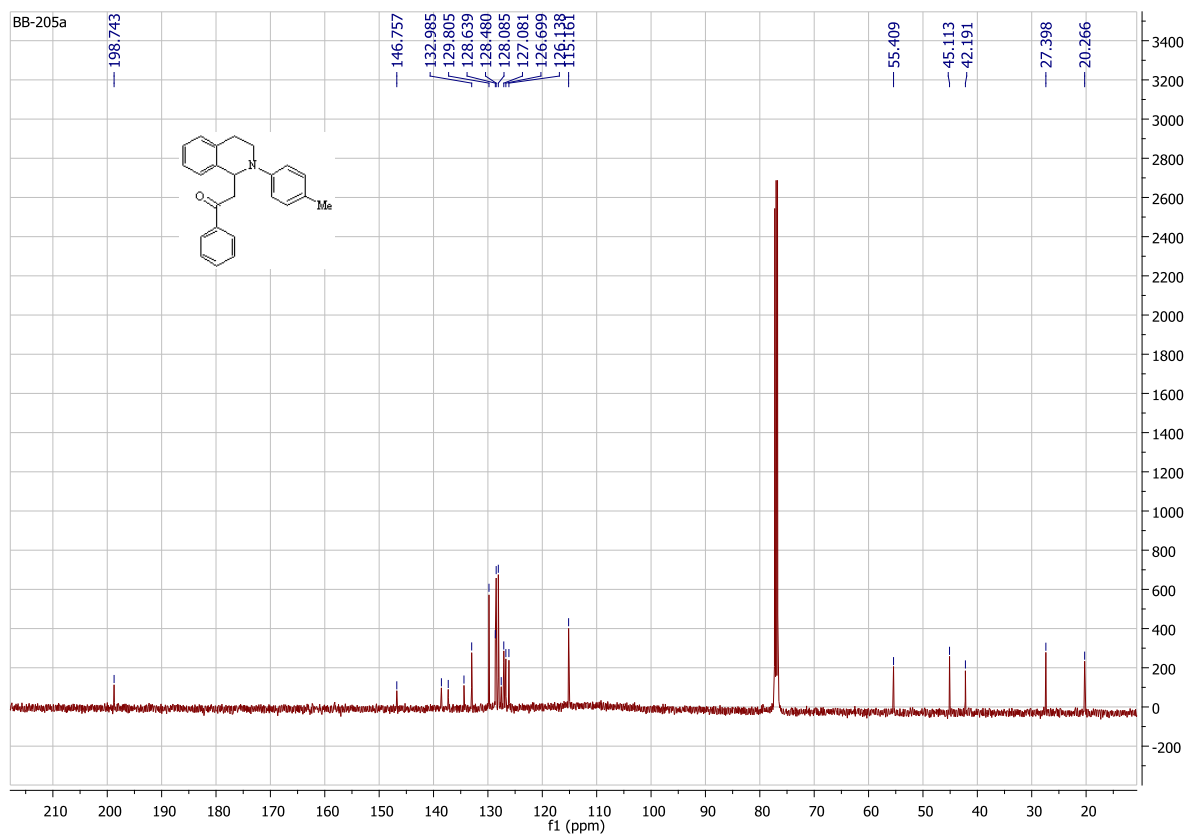
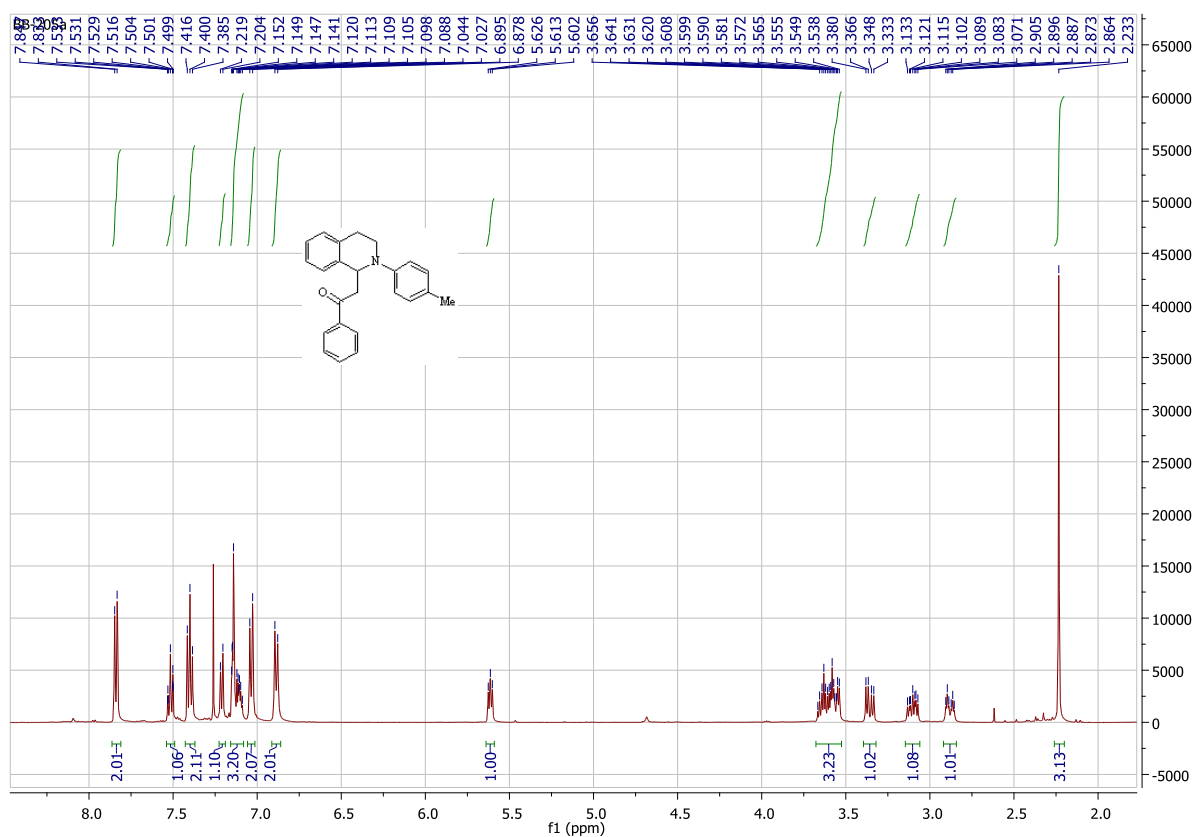
1c



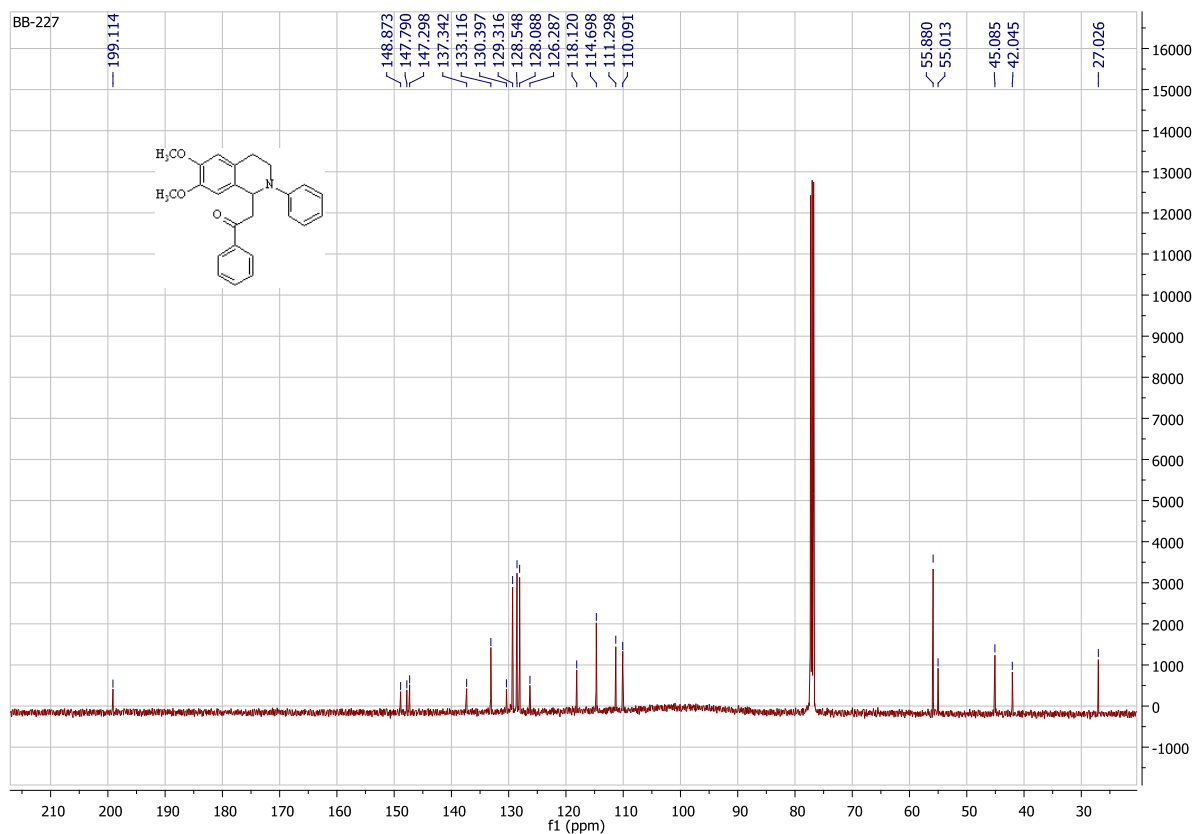
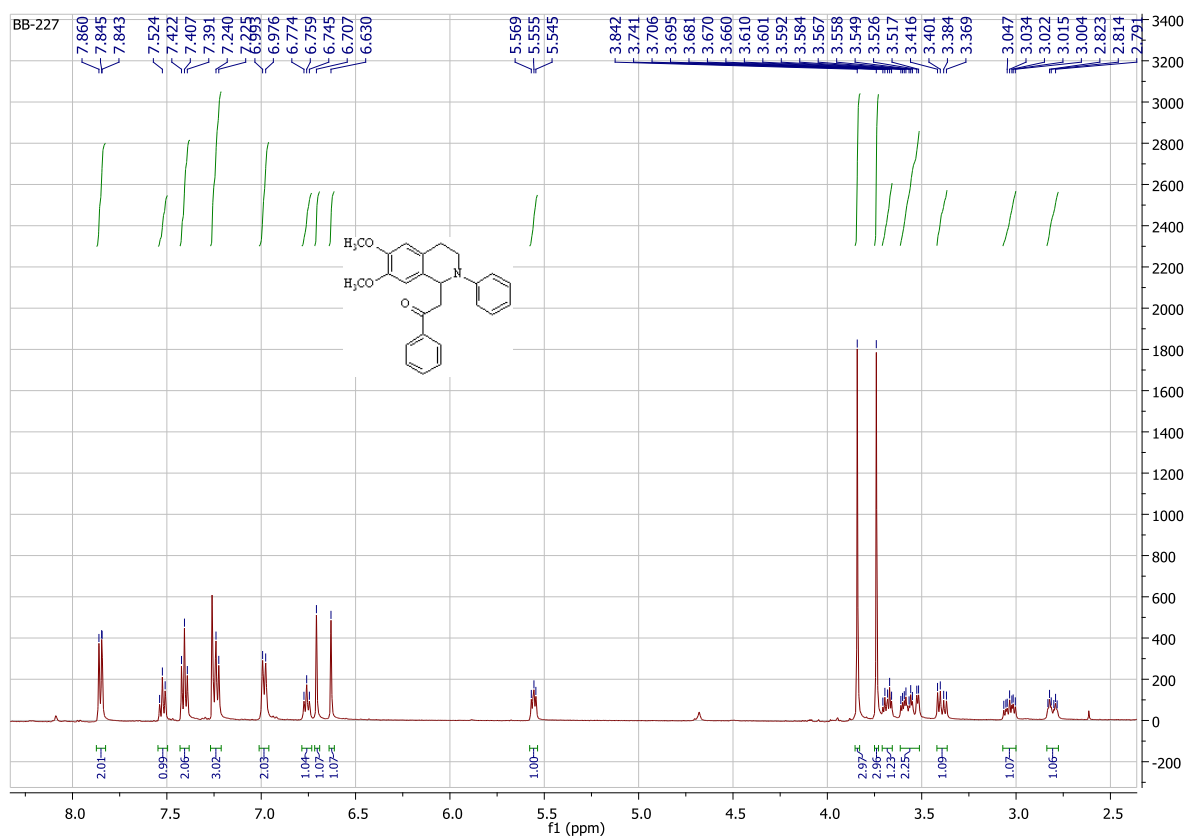
2c



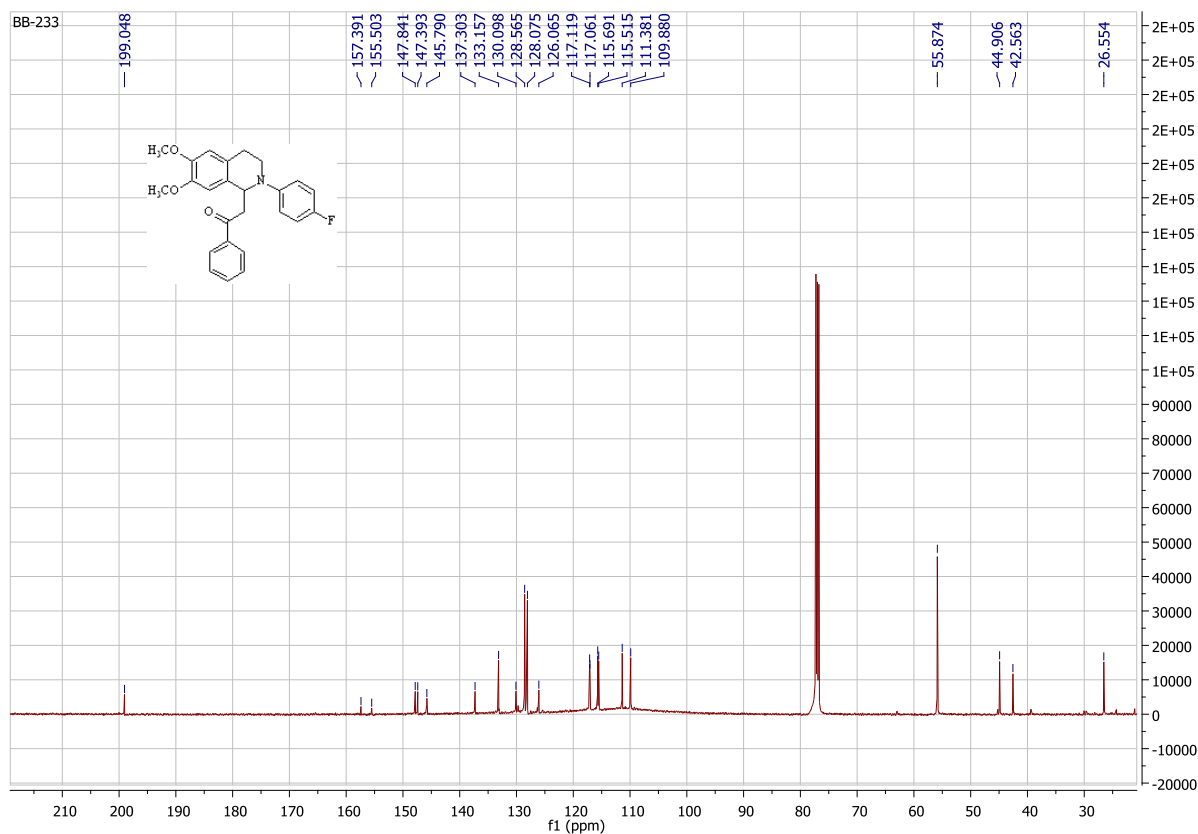
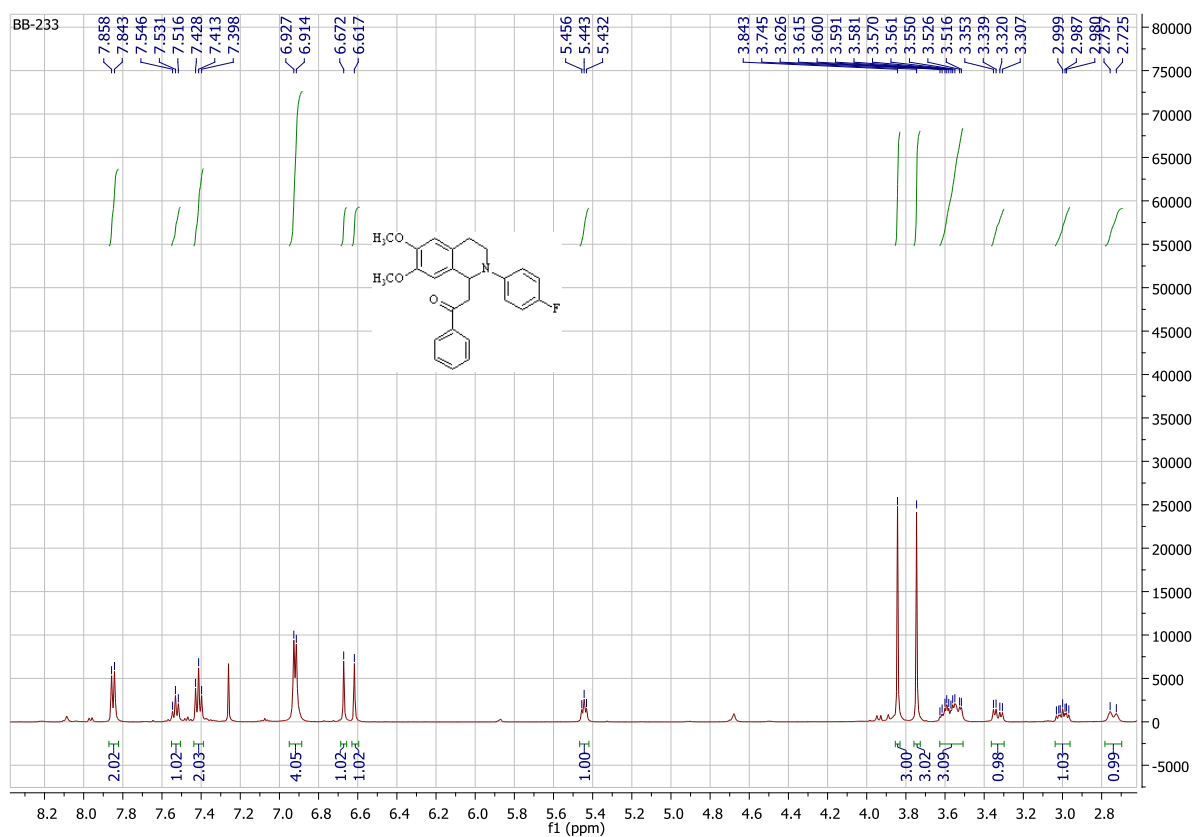
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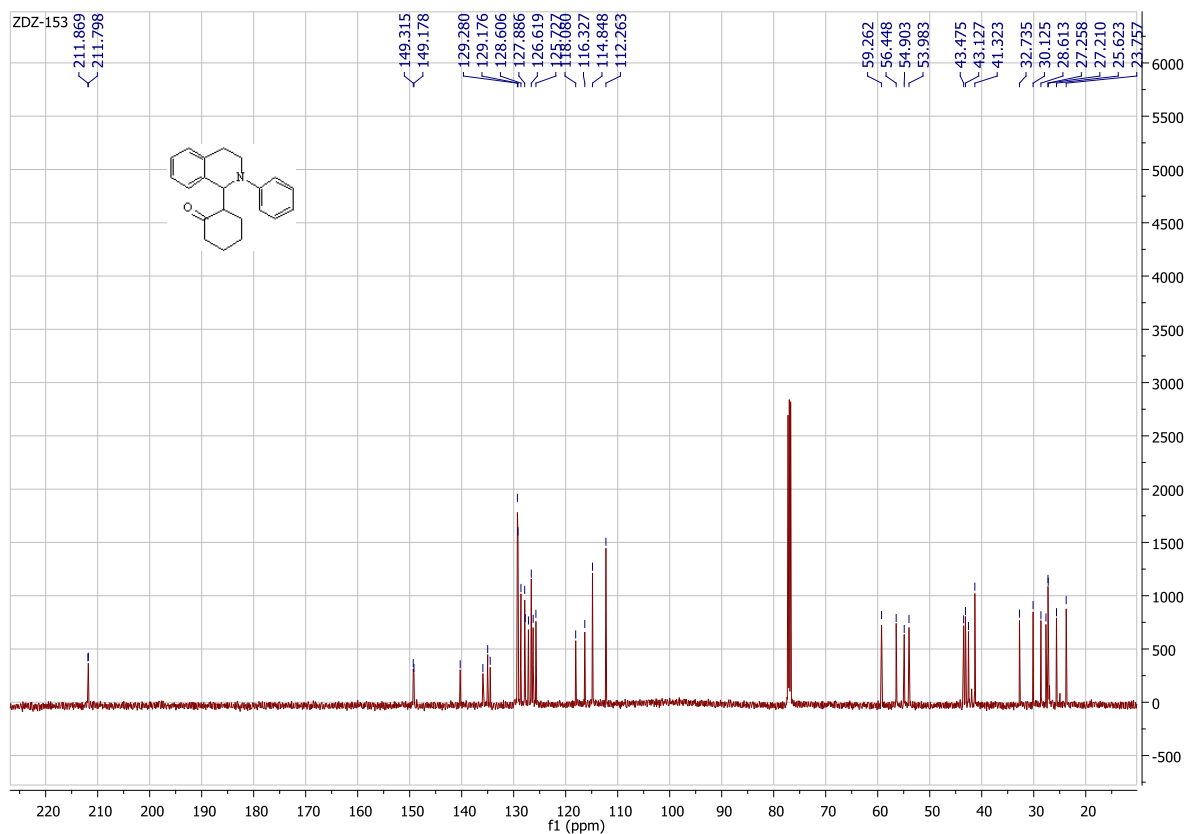
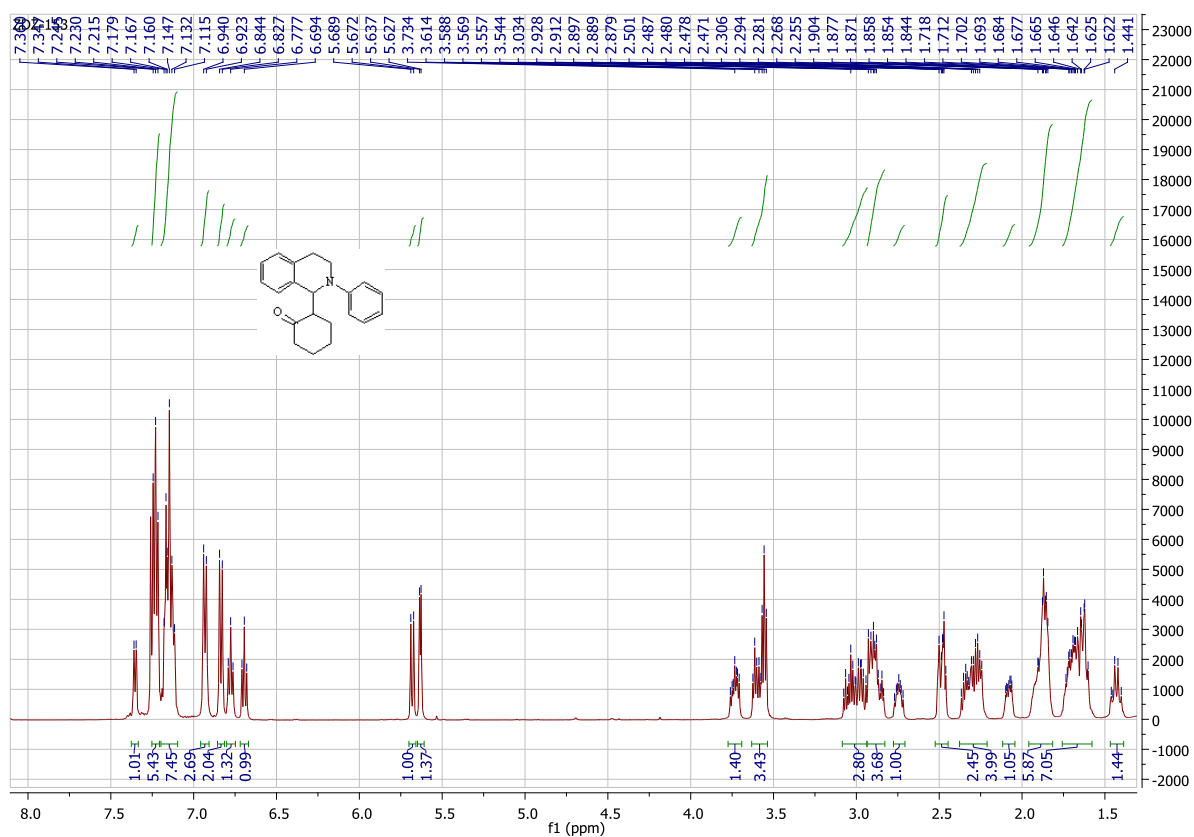
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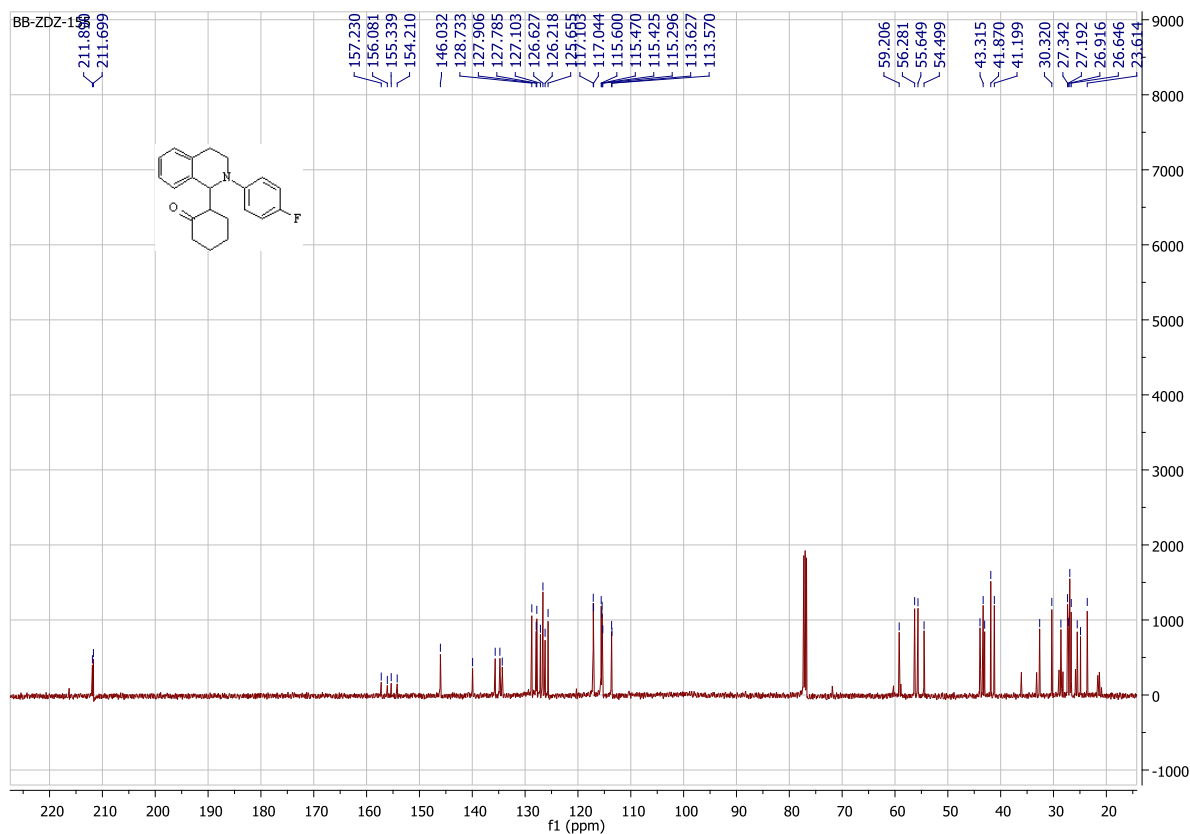
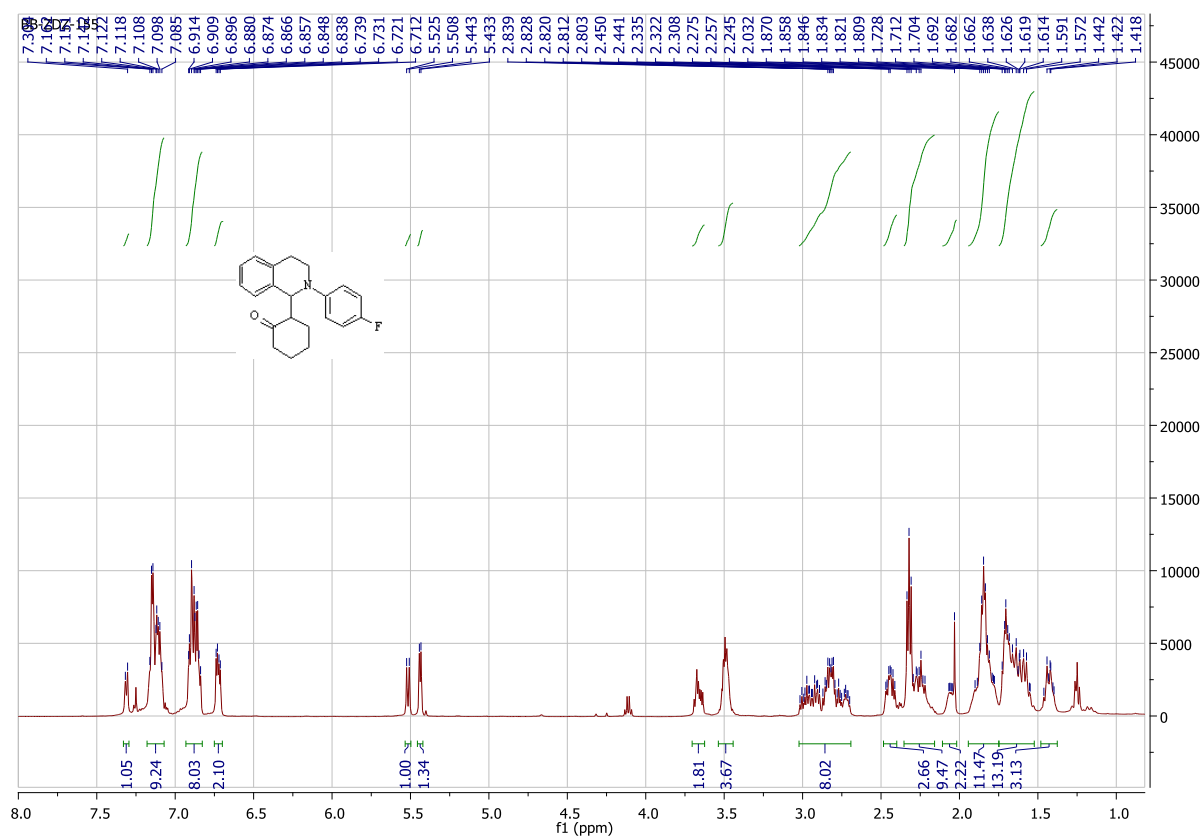
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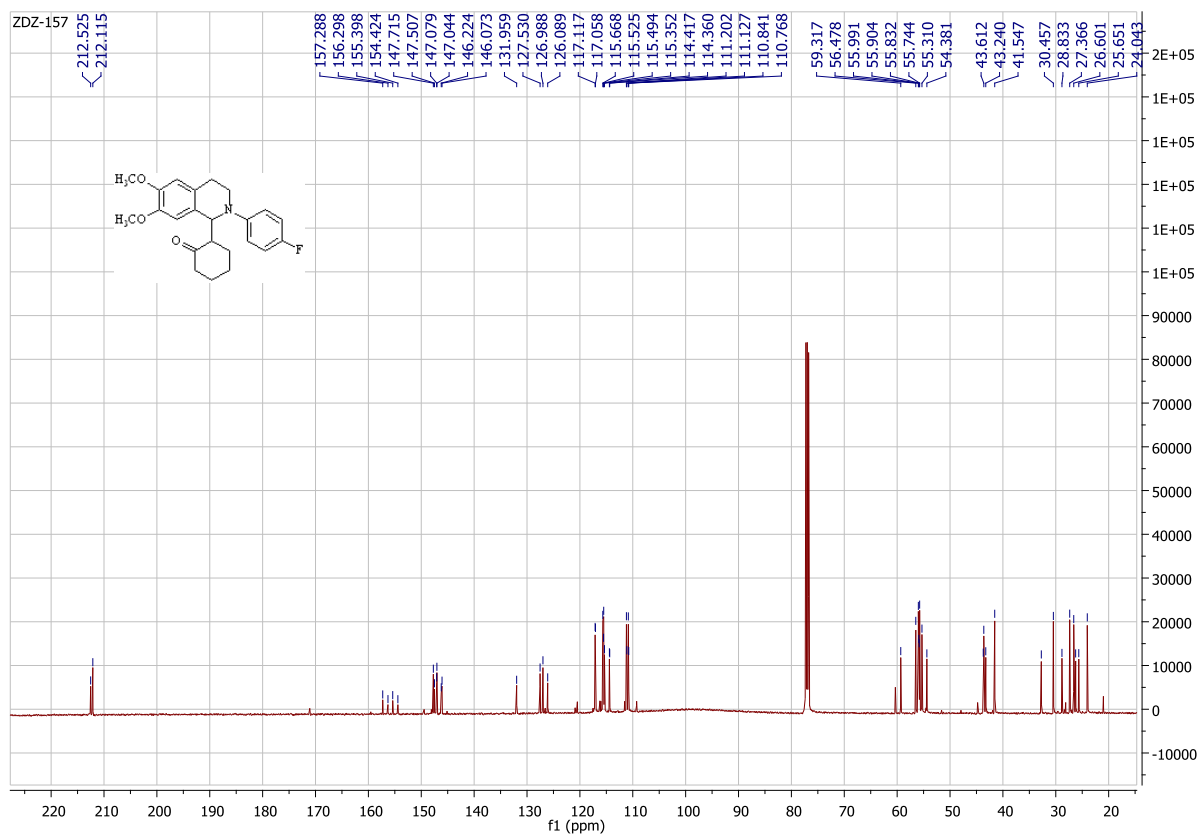
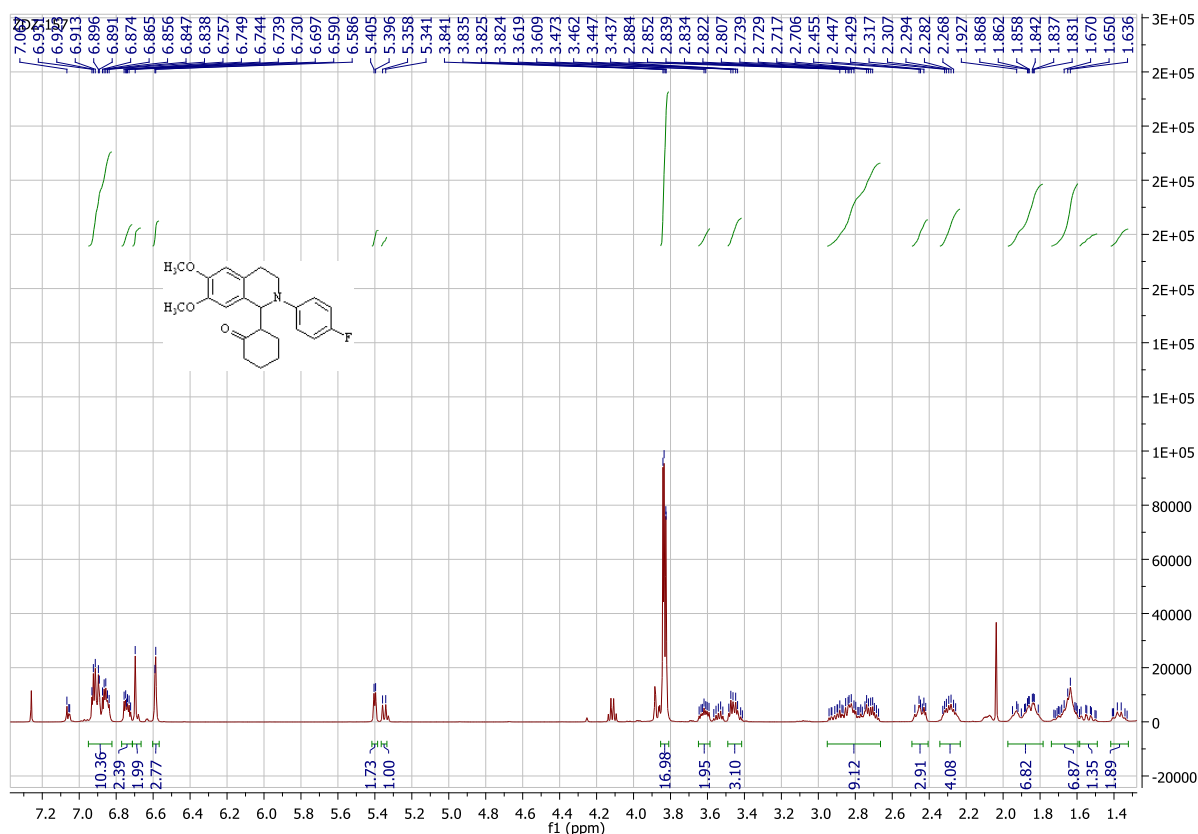
1d



2d

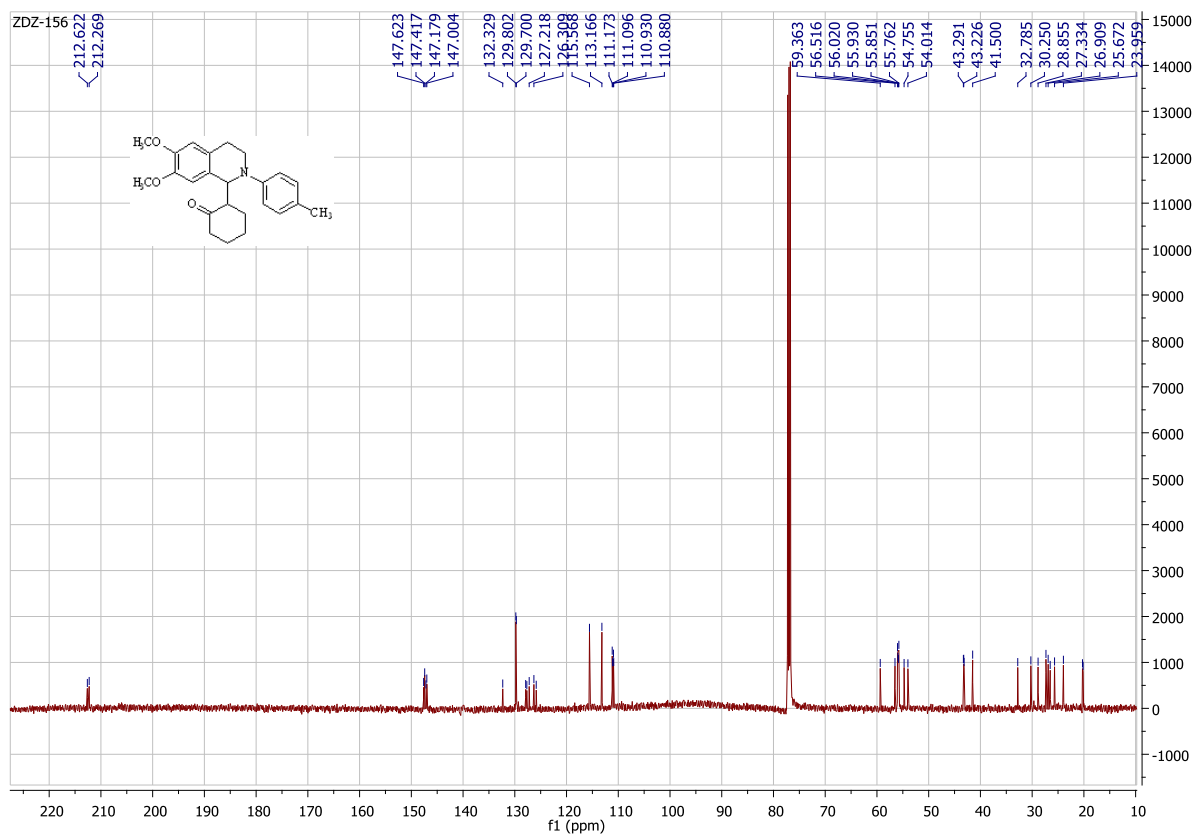
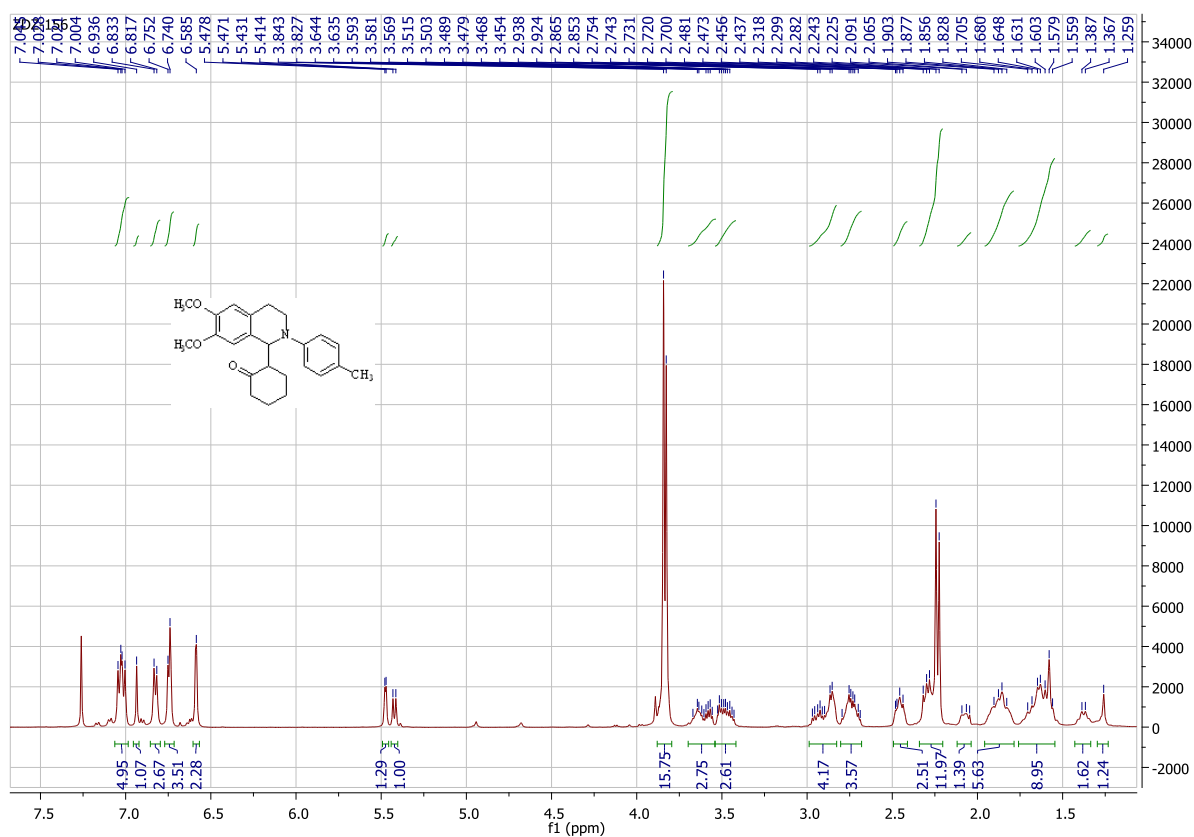


5c

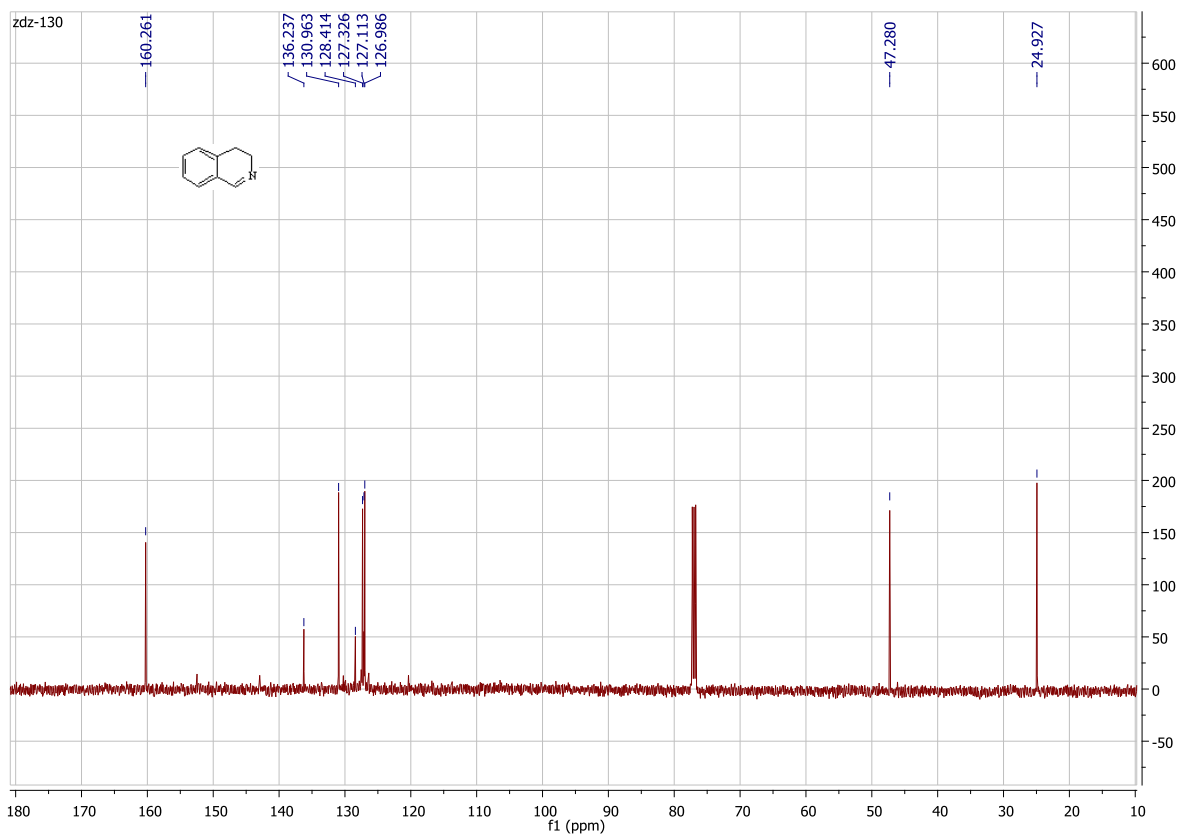
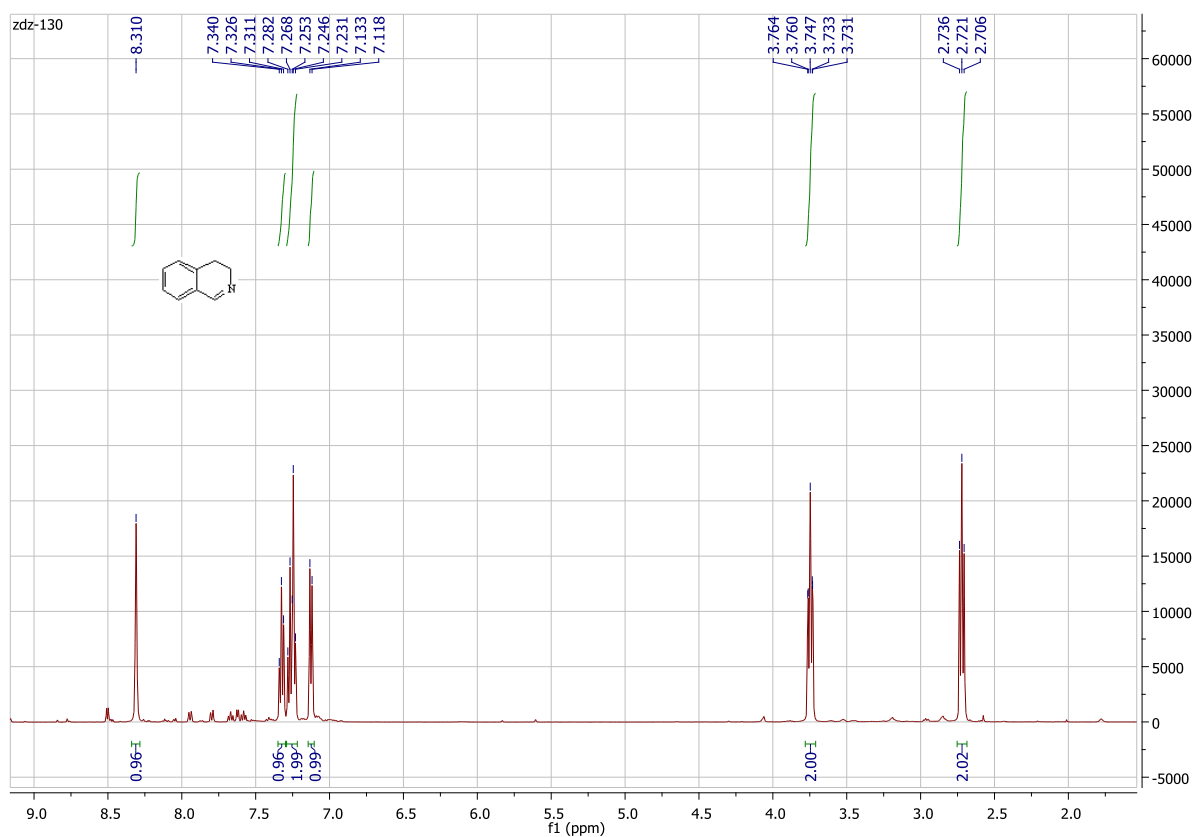




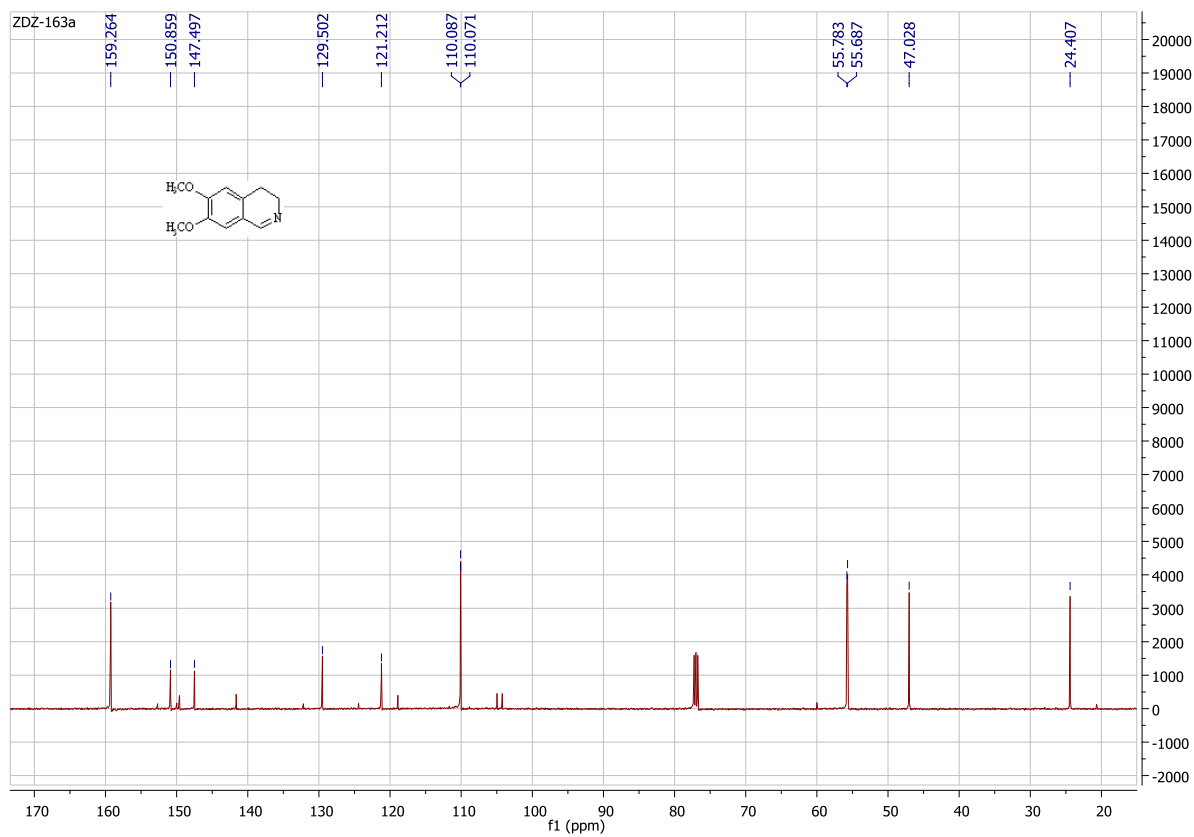
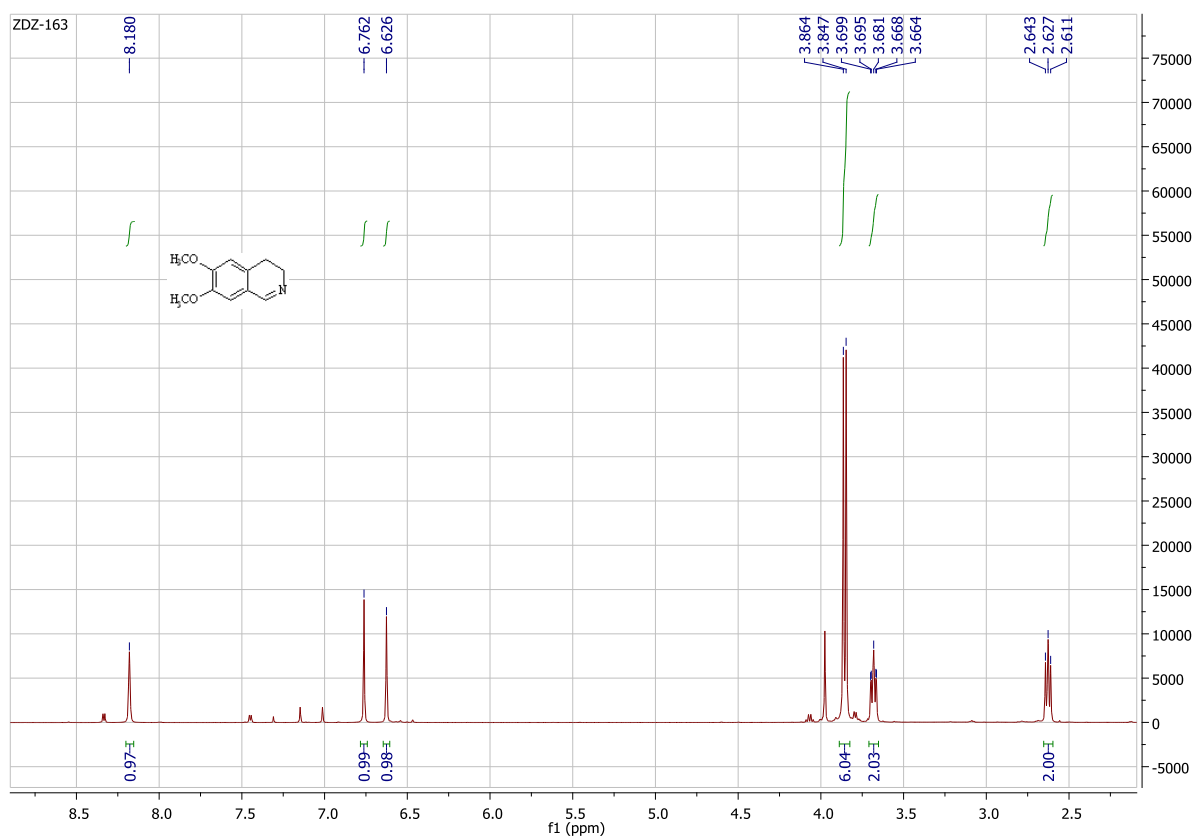
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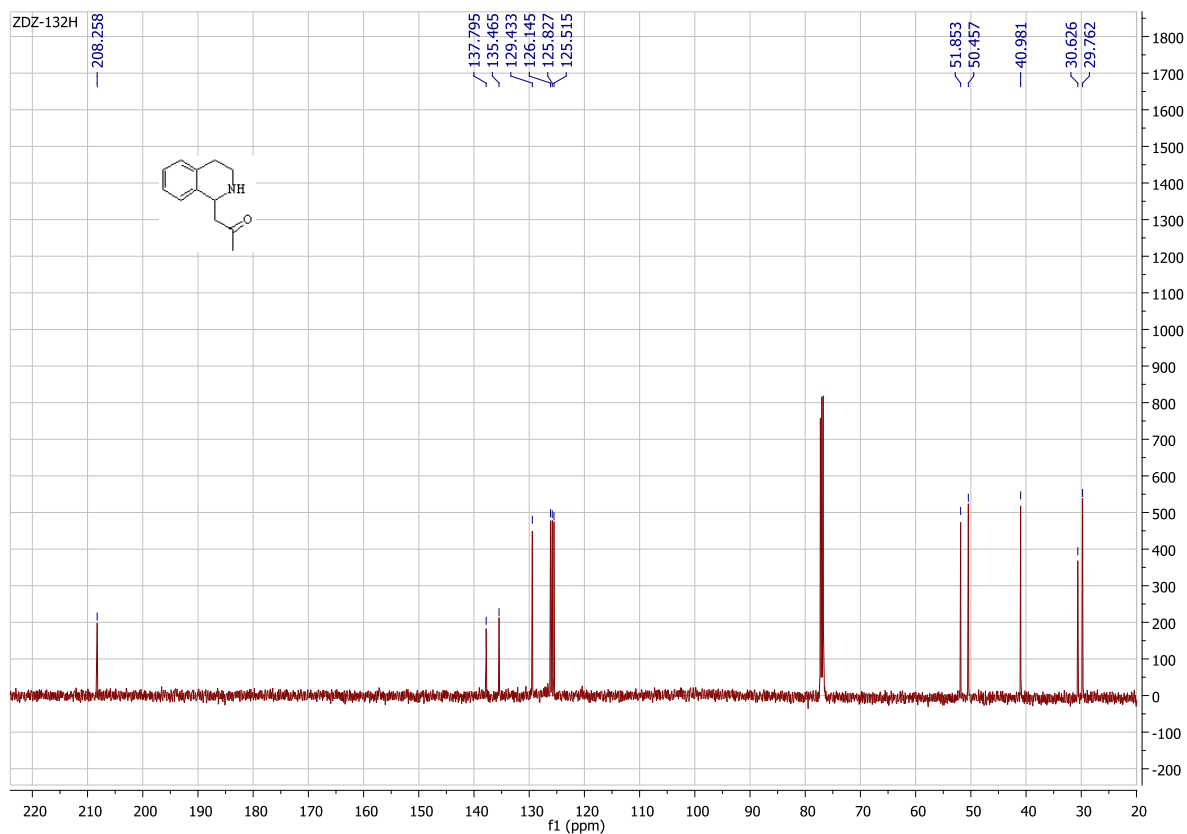
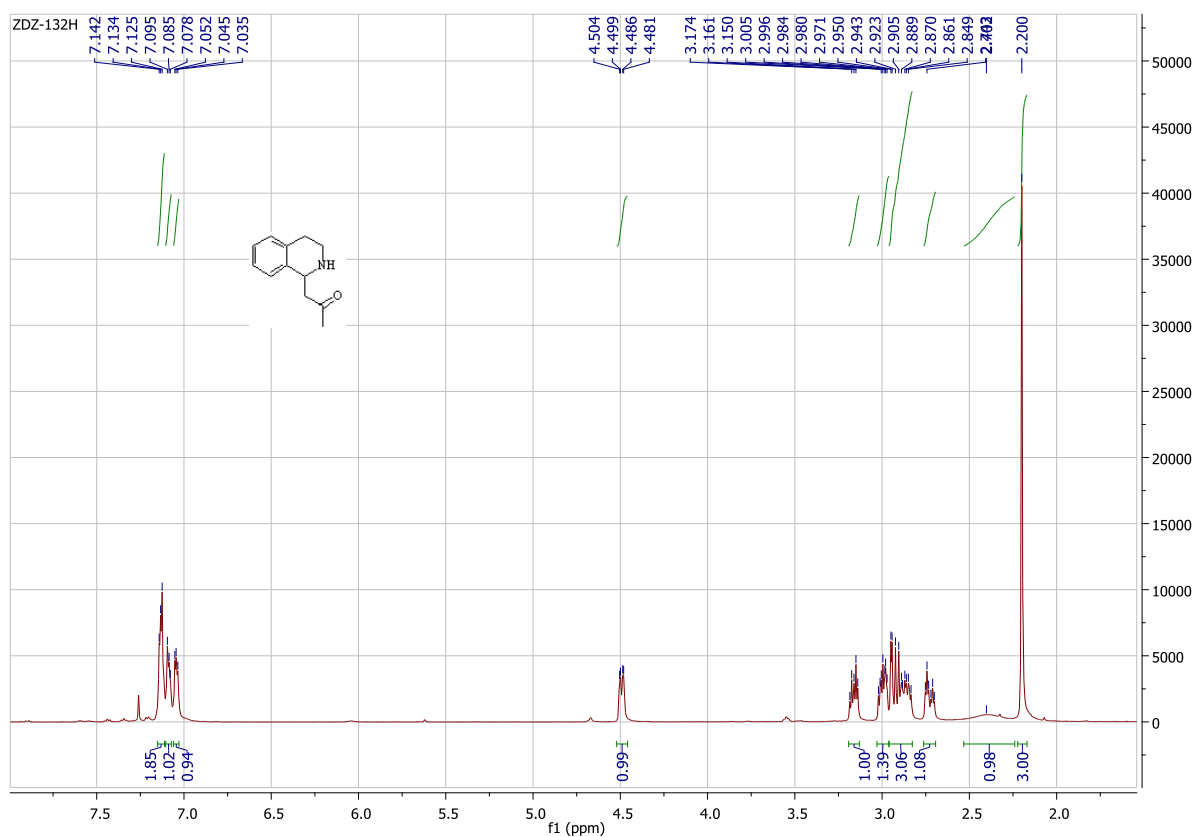


9a

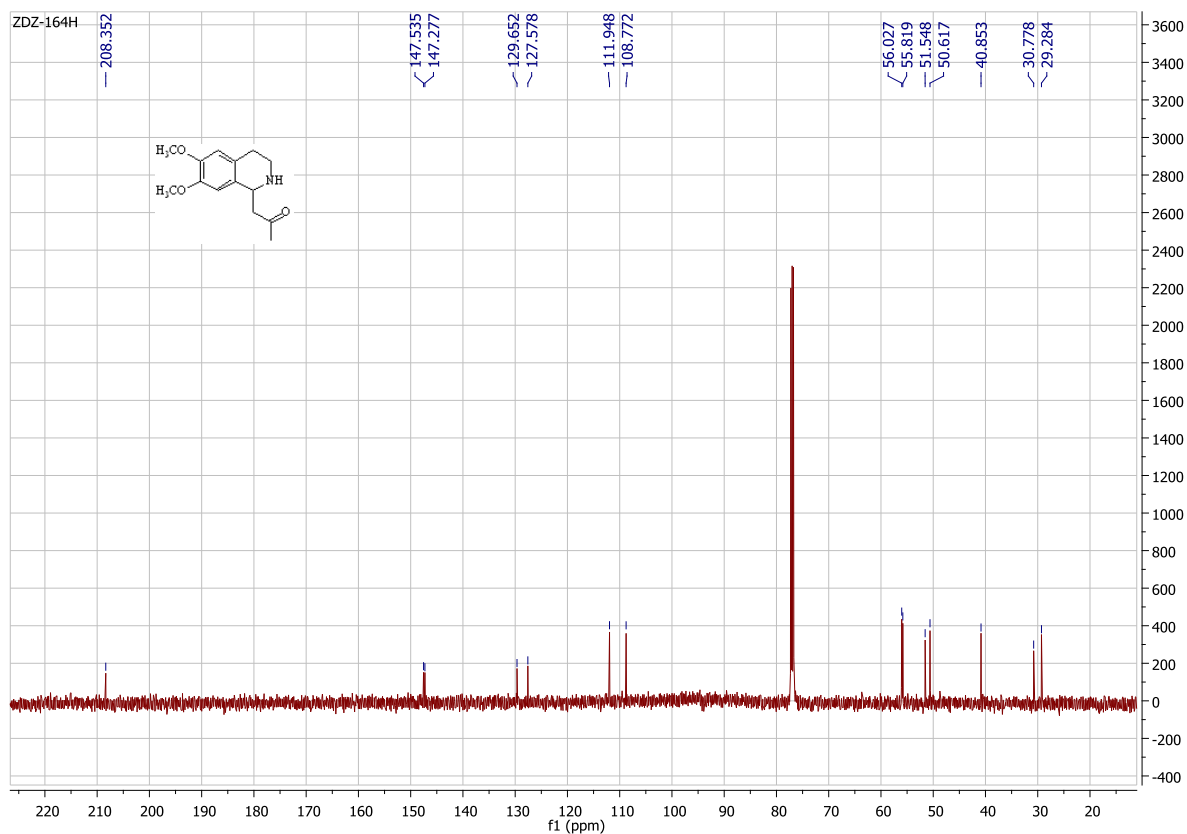
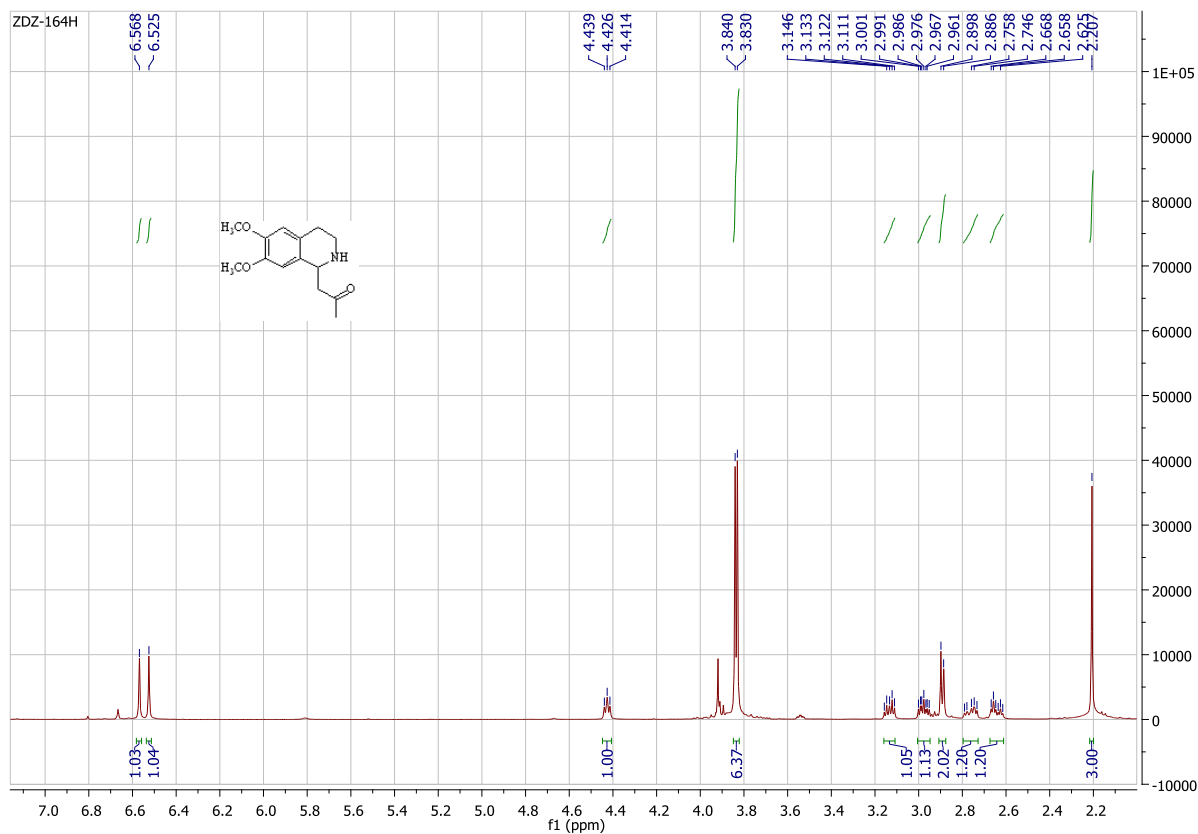


9b

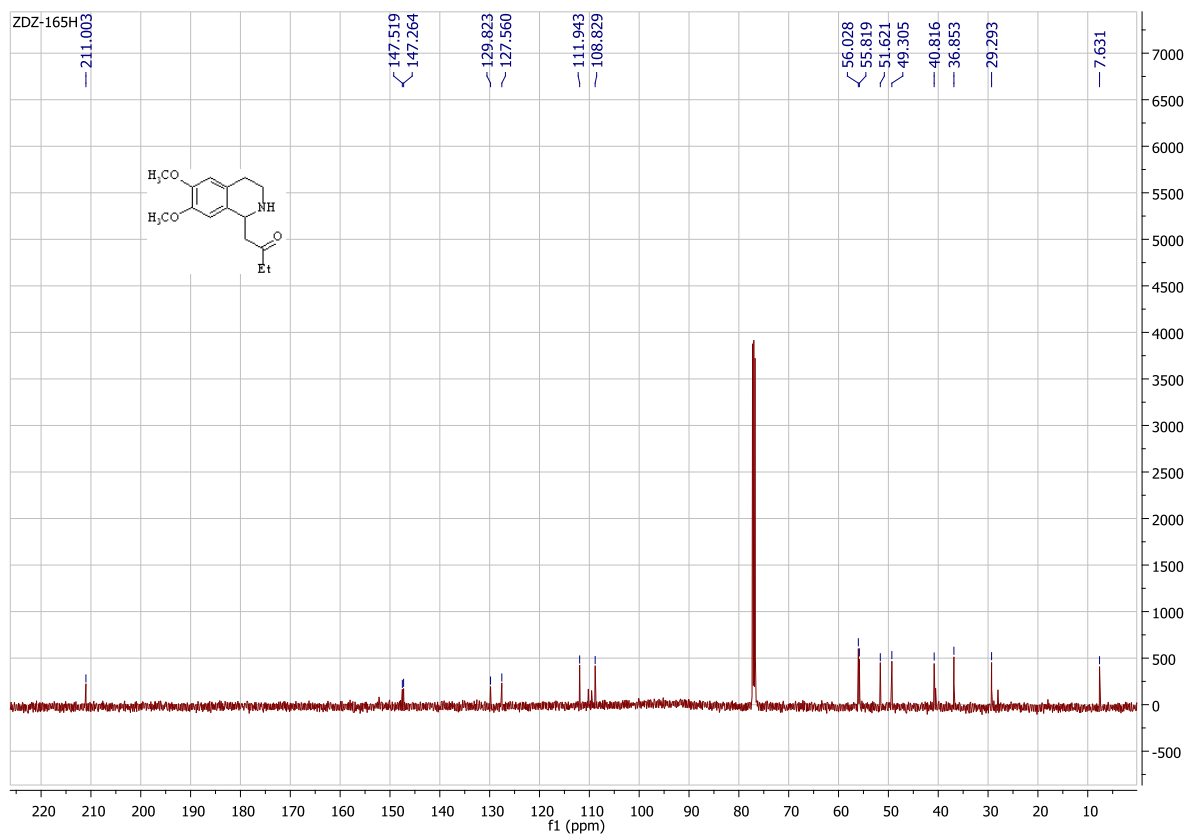
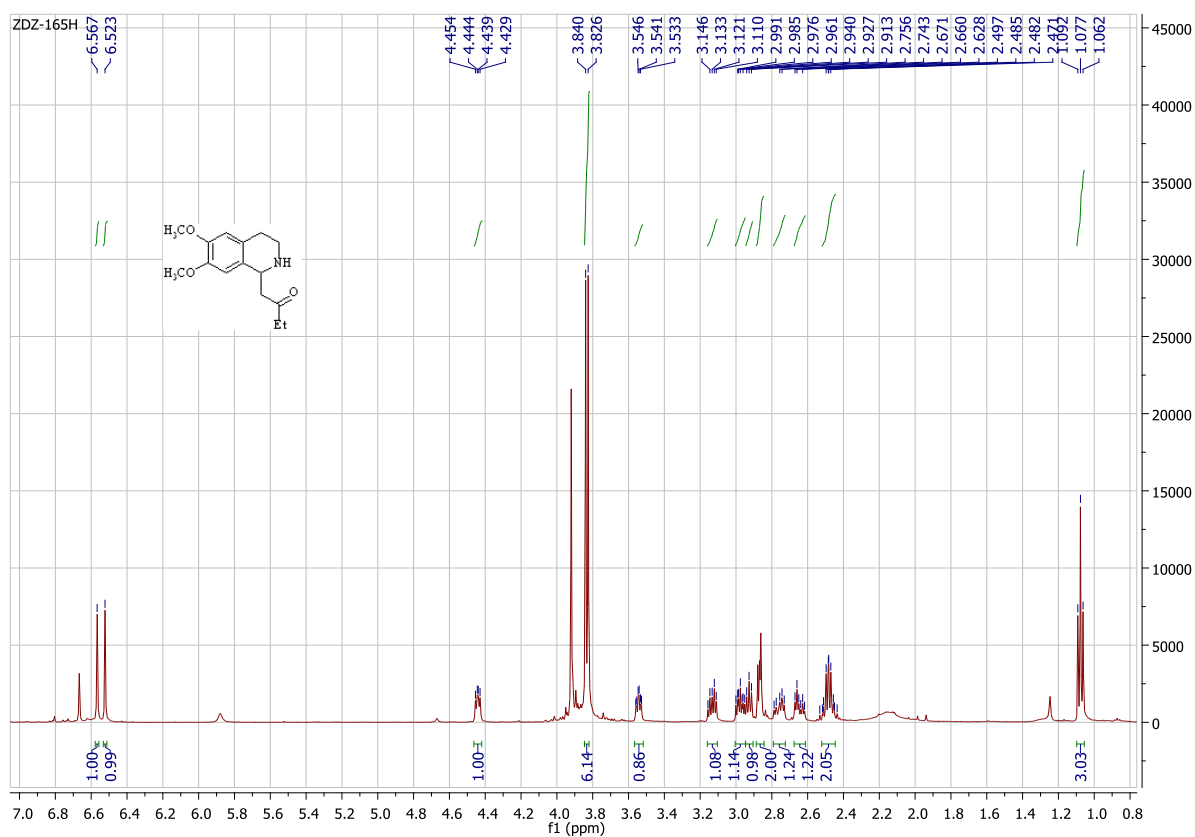




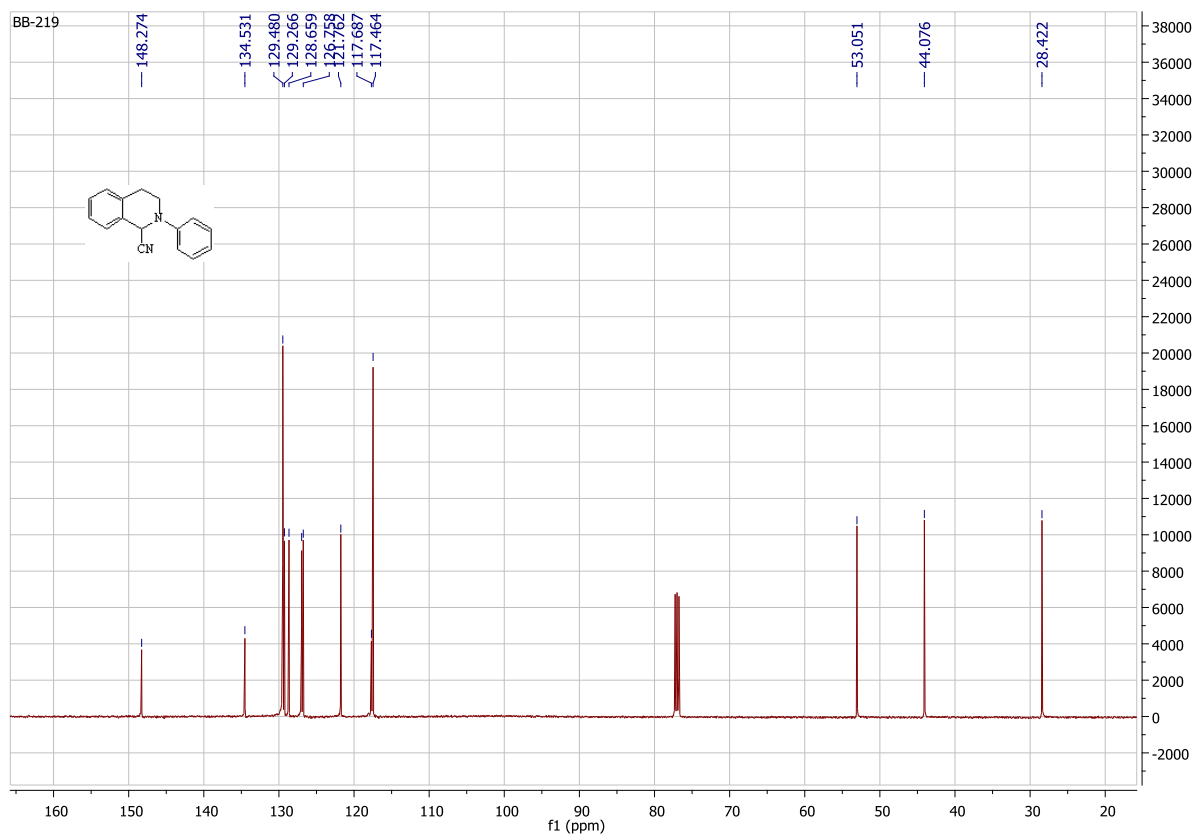
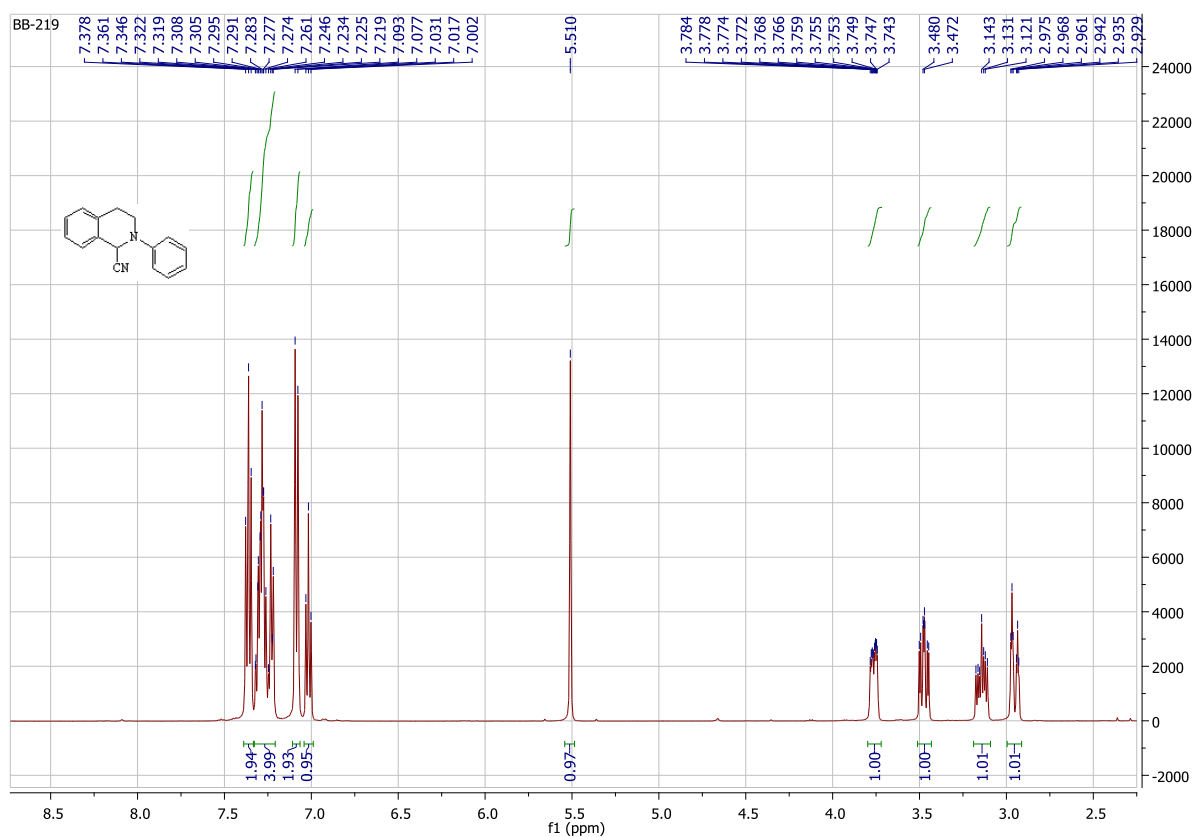
11a



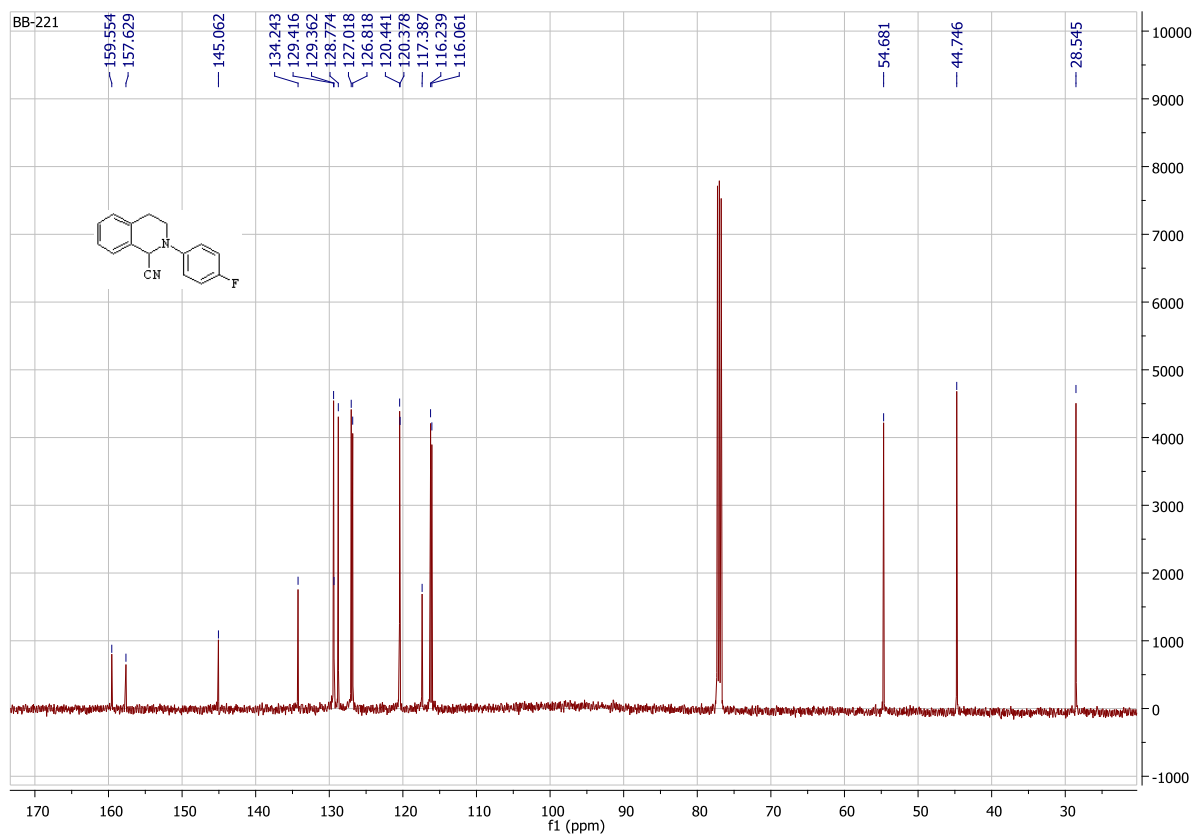
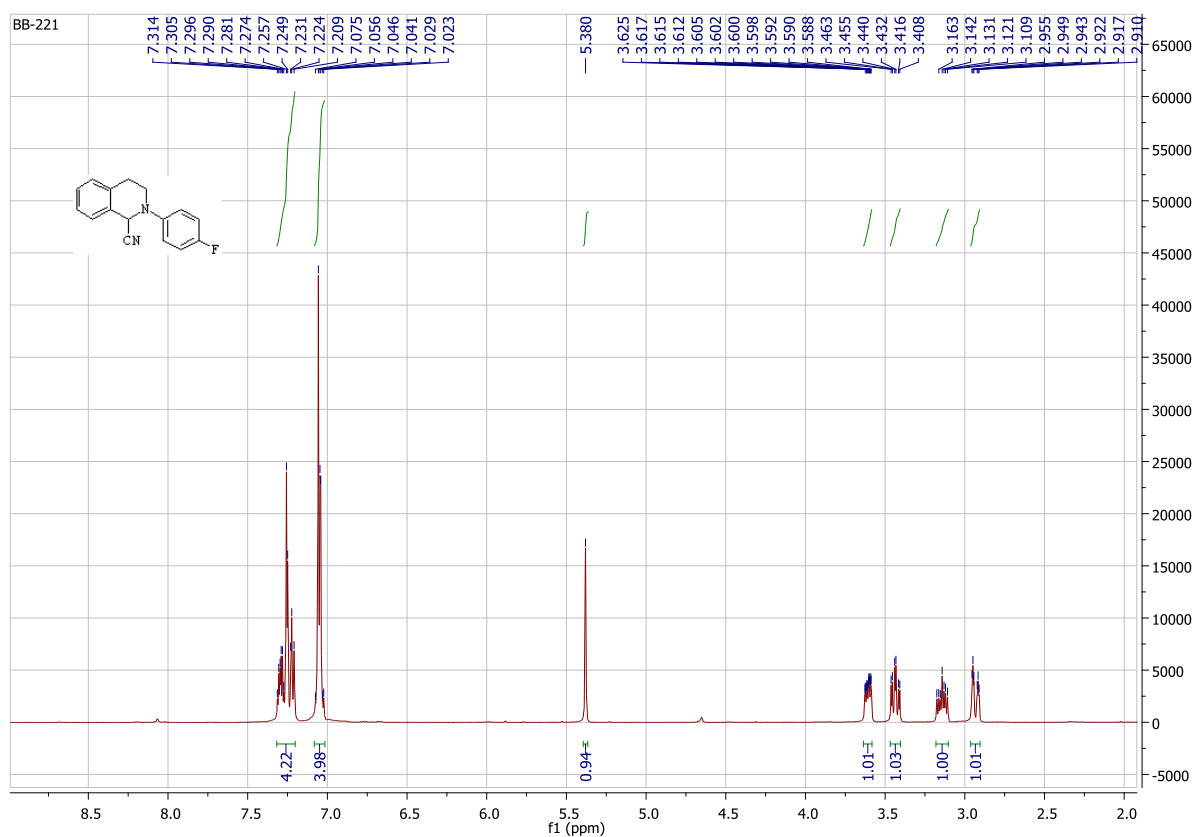
11b



12a

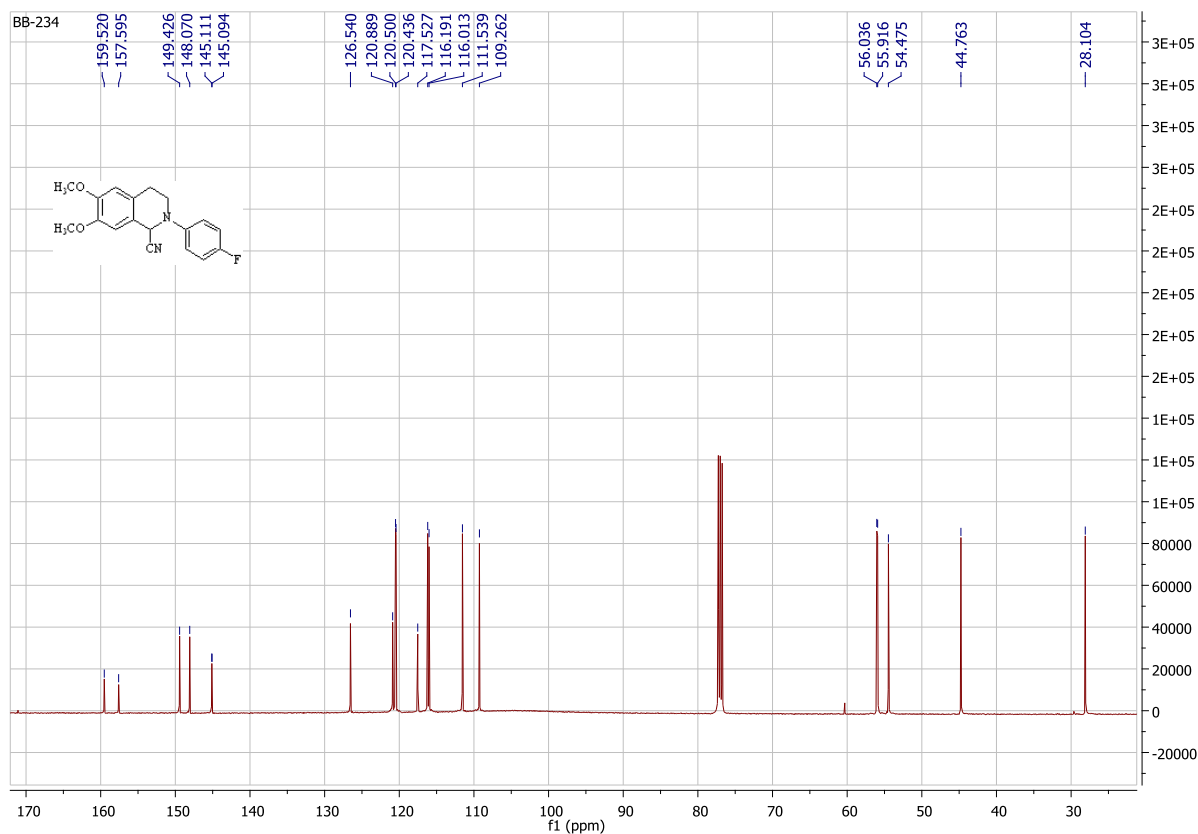
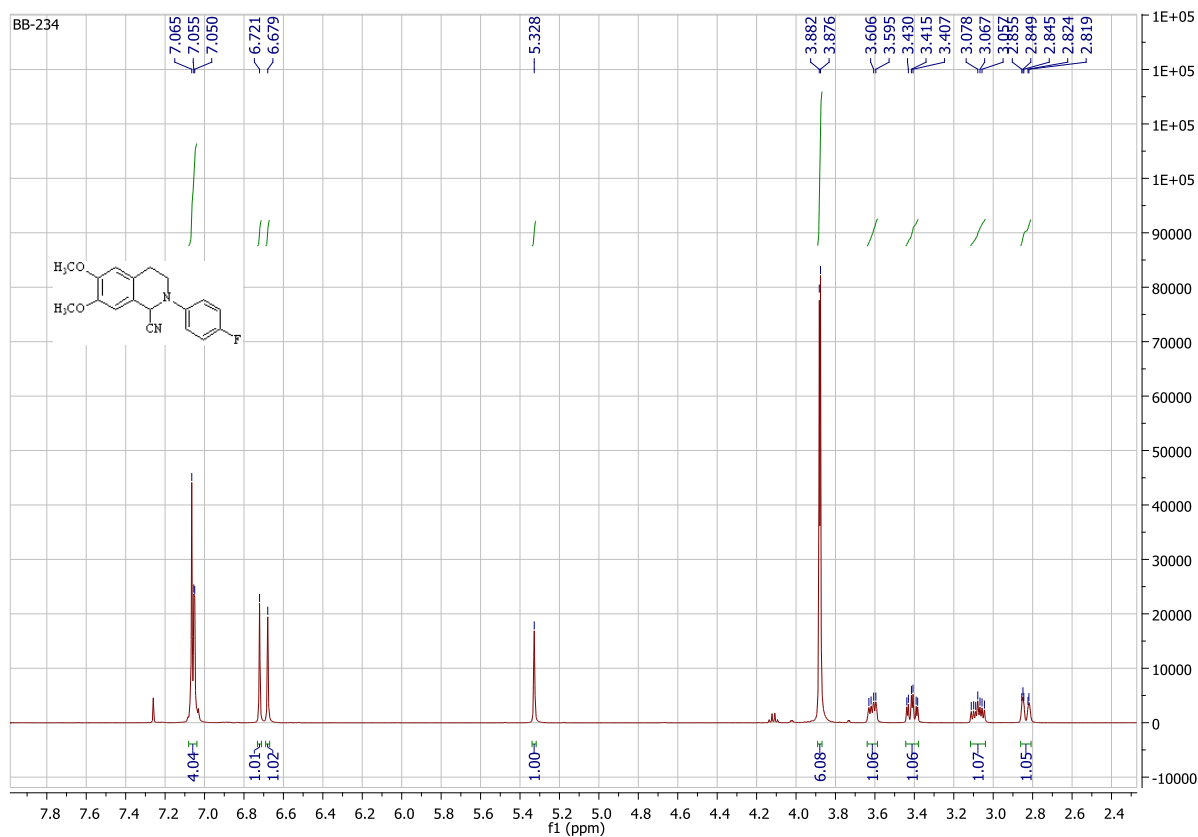


12b

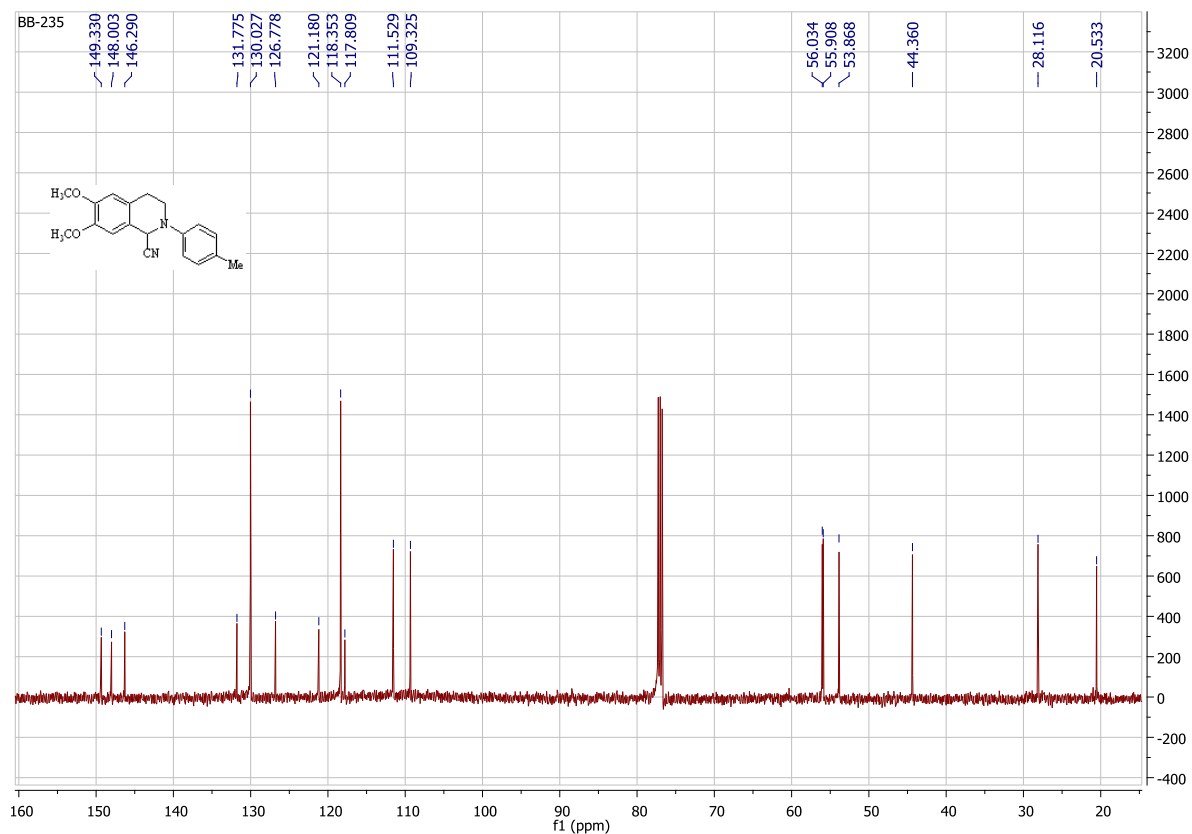
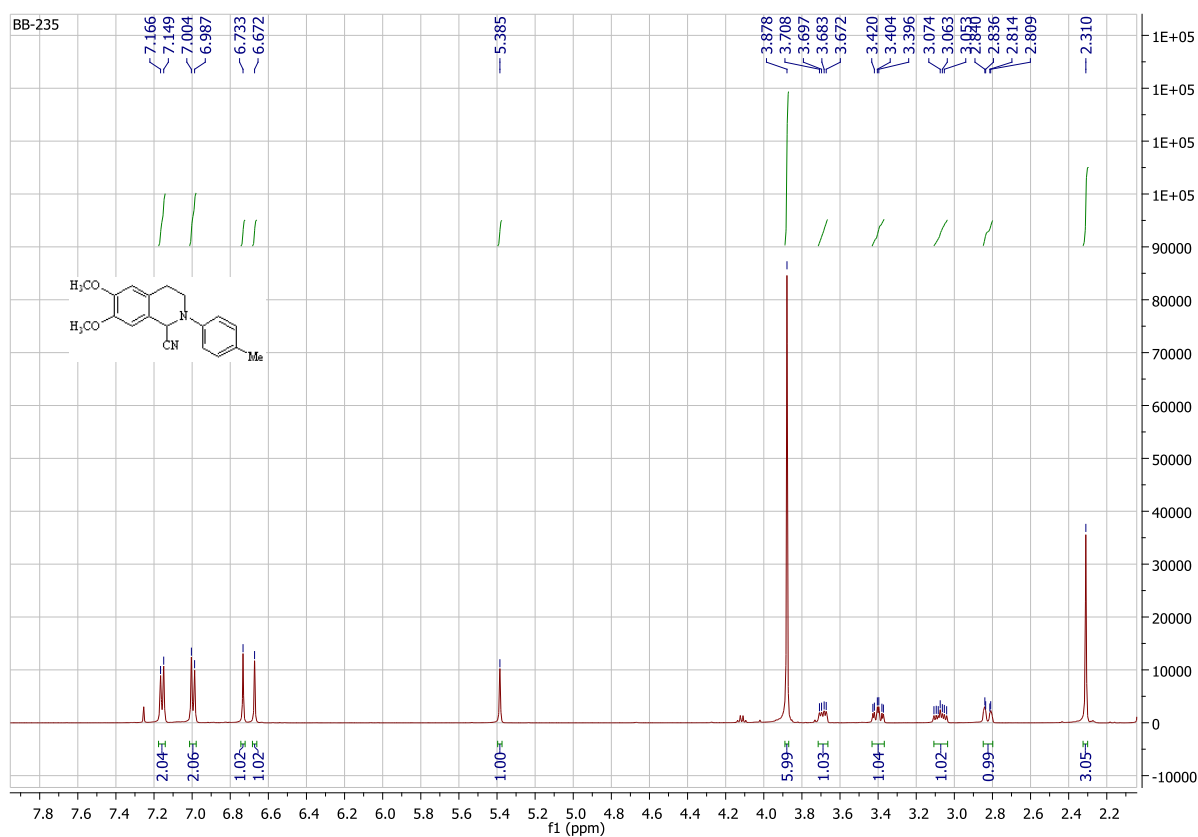




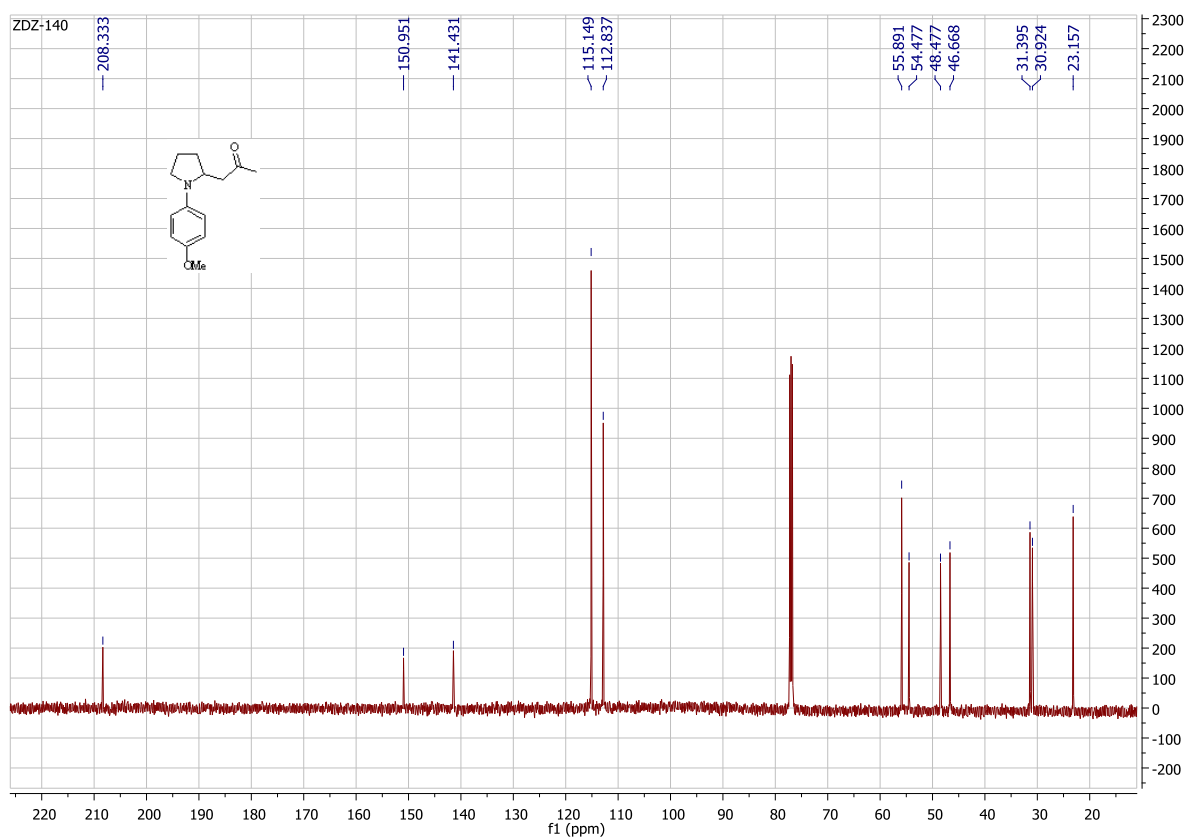
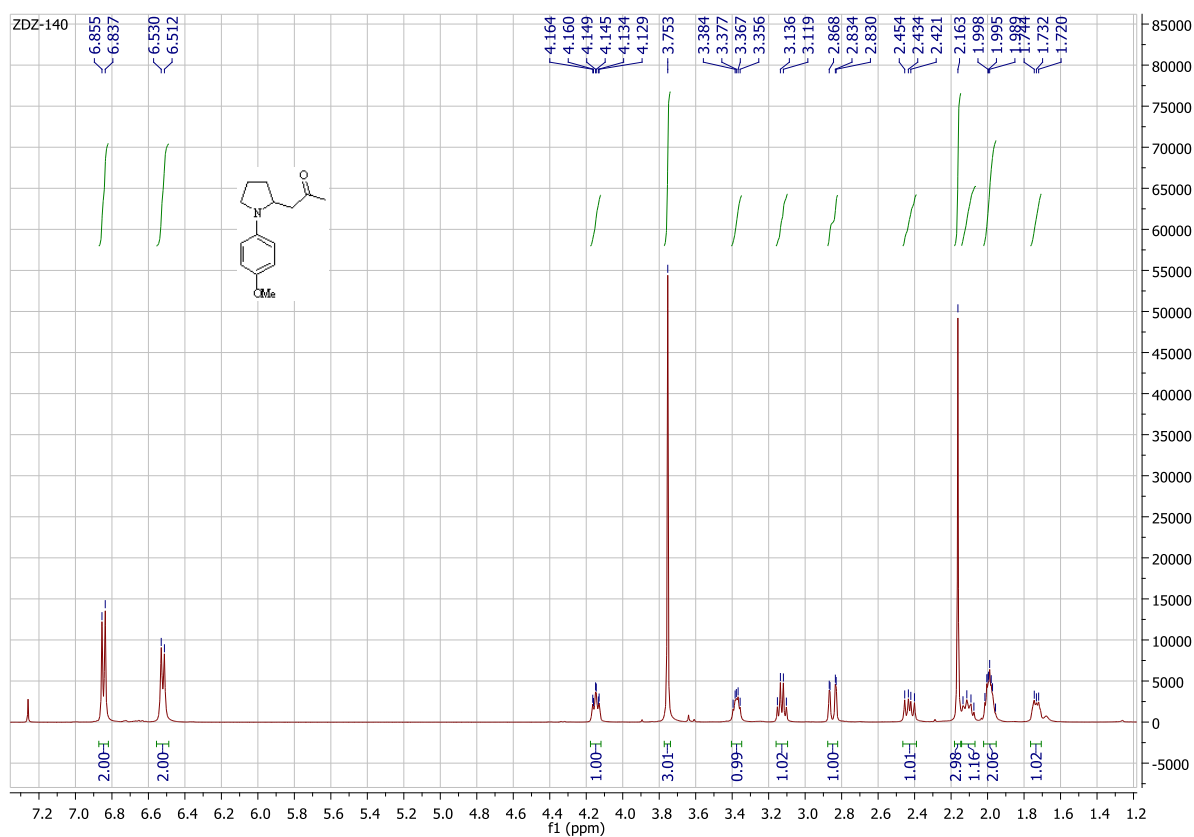
12c



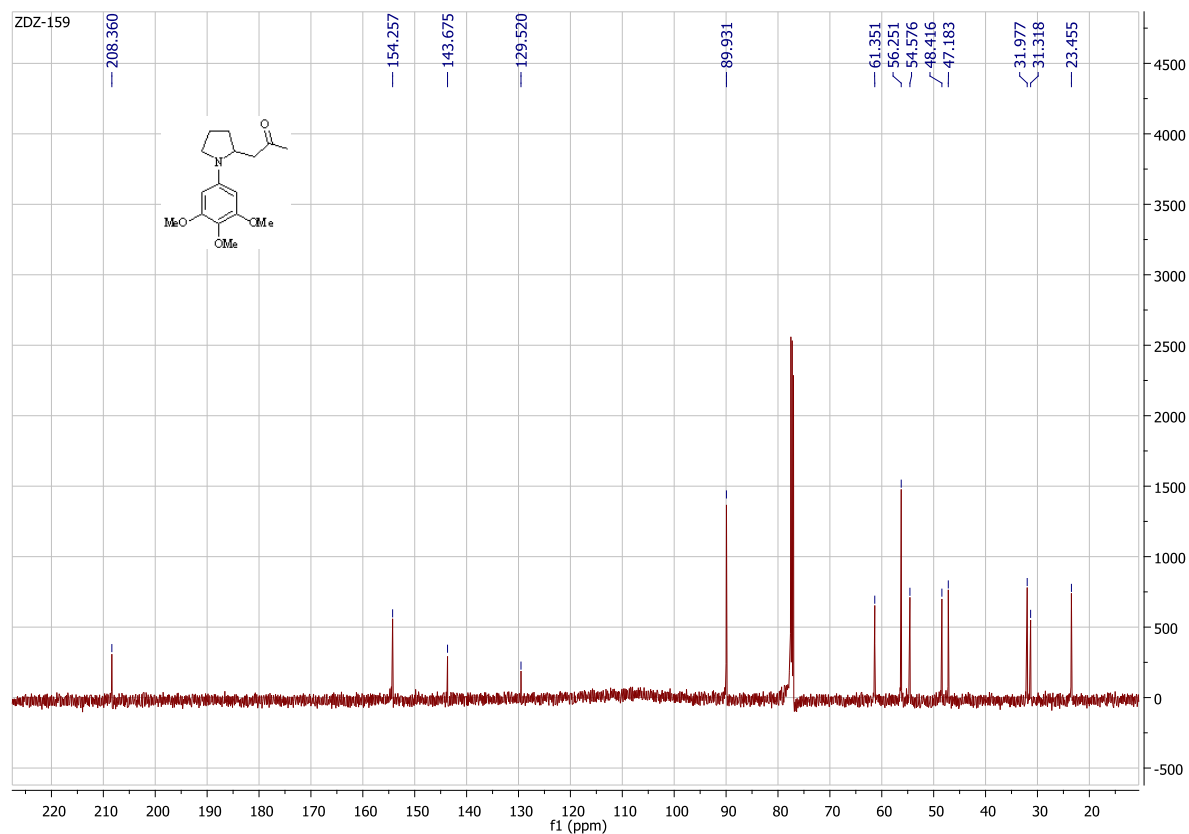
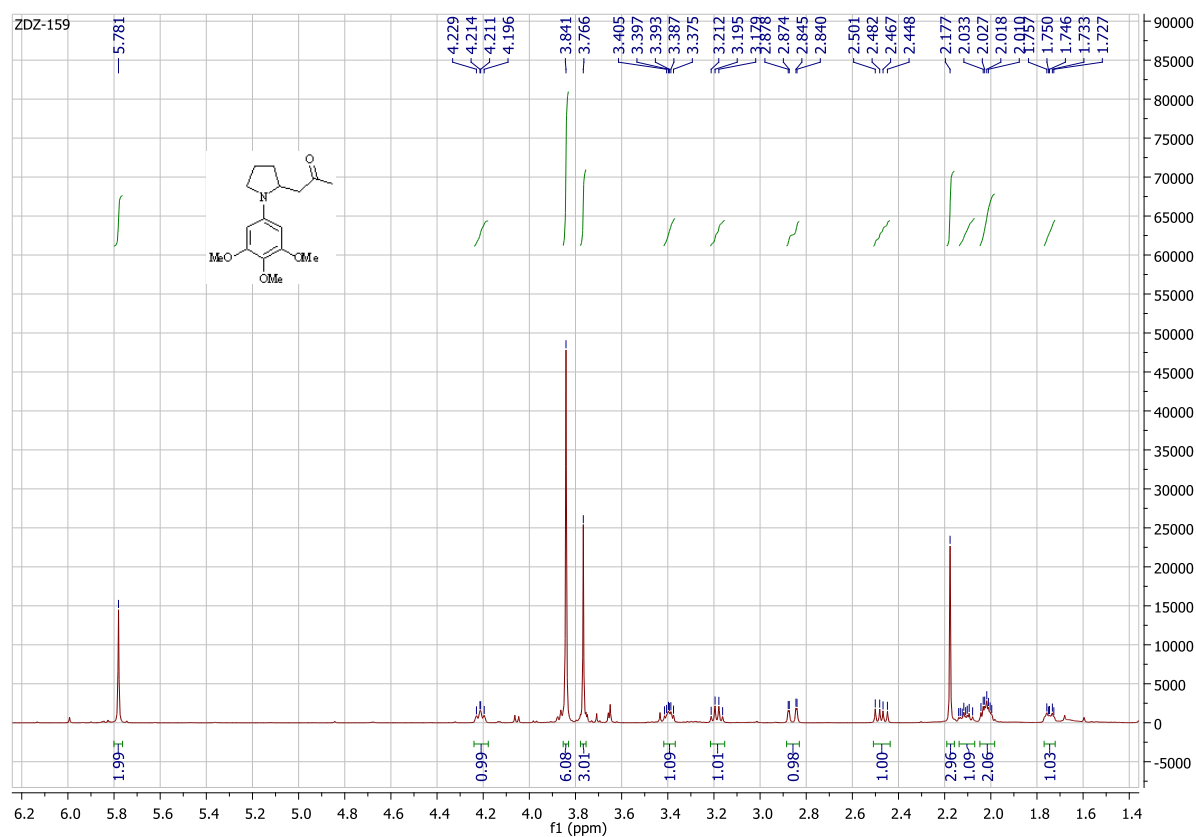
12d



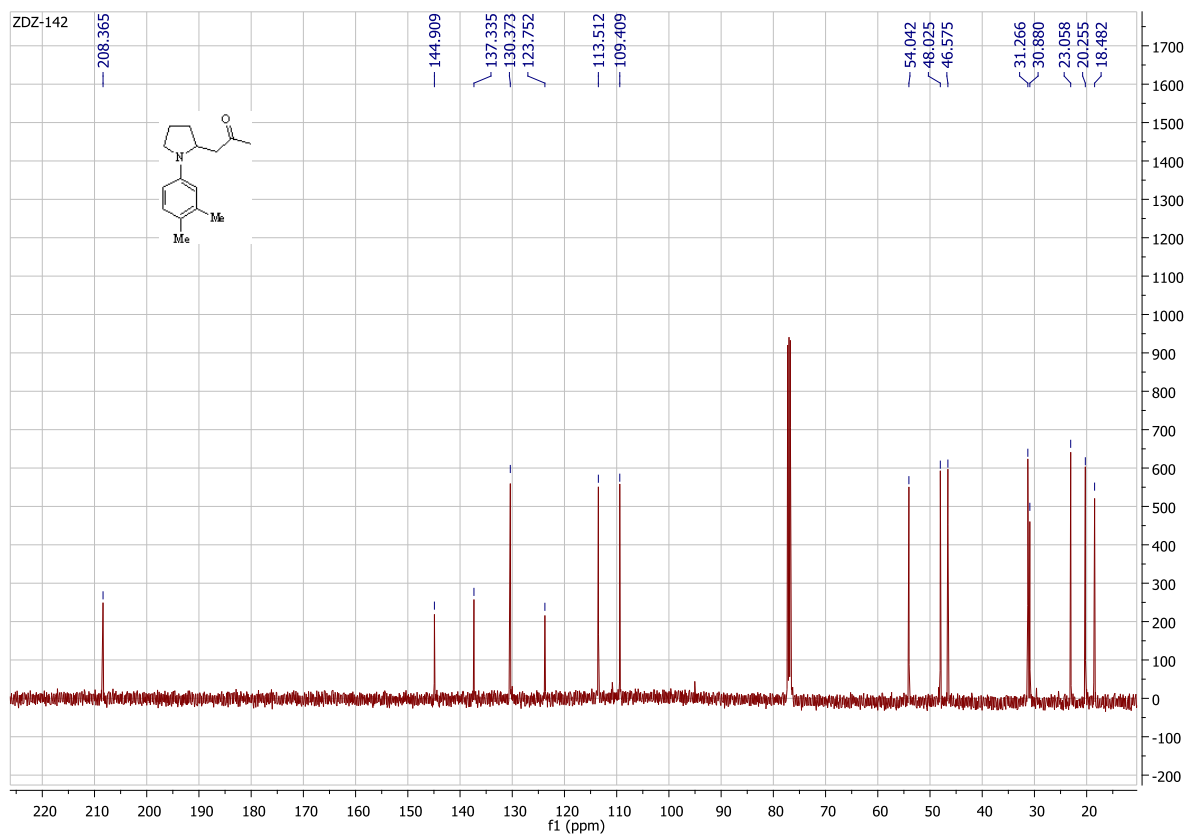
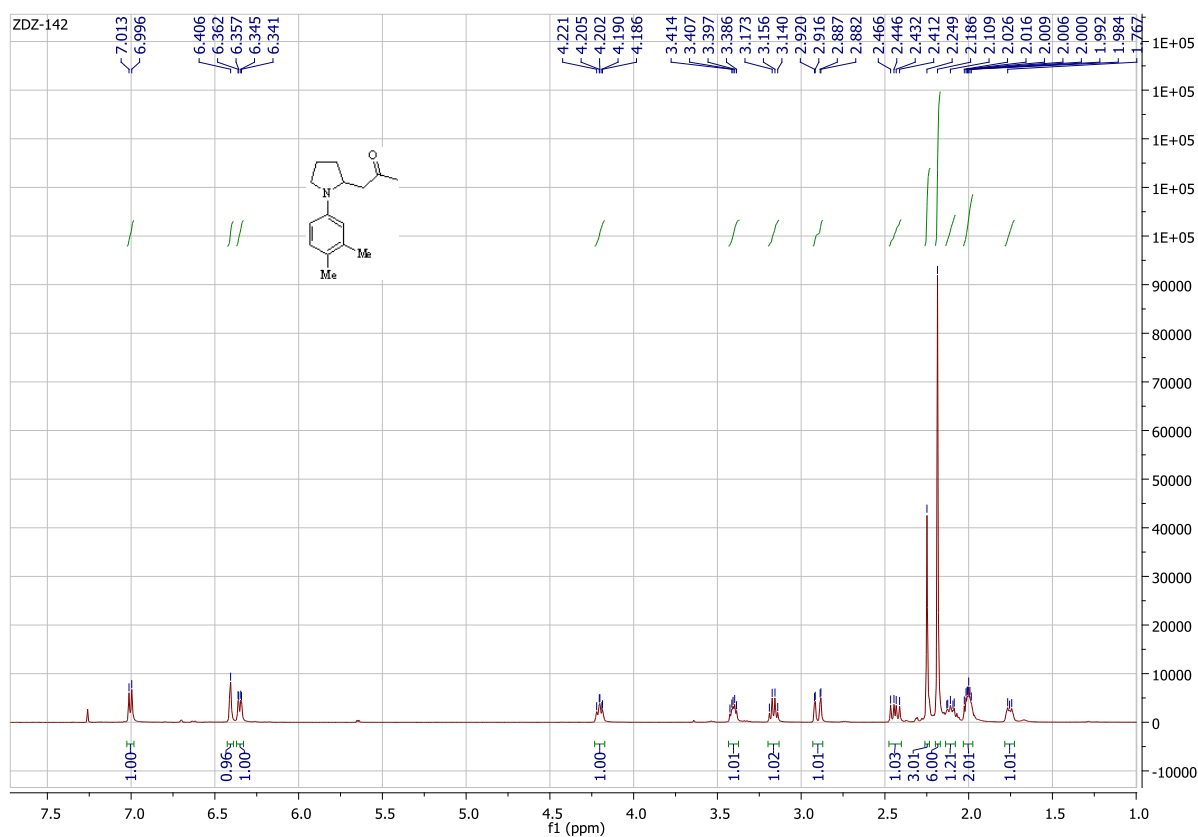
**13a**



13b



13c



13d

