

Supporting Information

Preparation of Highly Substituted Tetrahydropyrans *via* a Metal Assisted [4+2] Dipolar Cycloaddition Reaction

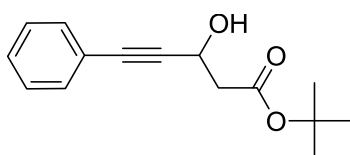
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Experimental section

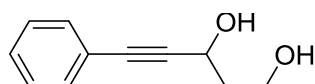
General Information. High resolution mass spectroscopy was carried out on a Jeol SX 102 machine, using fast atom bombardment (FAB⁺) ionisation technique. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy was carried out using a Bruker DPX 400 instrument. The spectra were calibrated where possible to the signals of tetramethylsilane or the small quantity of CHCl₃ present in CDCl₃. Where possible, coupling constants (*J*) are shown denoting the multiplicity as a singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), quarter (q), multiplet (m). The size of the coupling constant is given in Hertz (Hz). Fourier transformation Infra Red spectroscopy was recorded using a Paragon 1000 Perkin Elmer FT-IR spectrophotometer in the range of 3500-600 cm⁻¹ following a standard background correction. Flash silica column chromatography was used as a standard purification procedure using Fluka Kiesel gel 60, 0.04-0.063 mm particle size. Thin layer chromatography was used where possible as a standard procedure for monitoring the course and rate of a given reaction. TLC plates used were Merck aluminium backed sheets with Kiesel gel 60 F₂₅₄ silica coating. DCM was distilled over CaH₂ for anhydrous reactions. Petrol was distilled collecting the fraction distilling below 60 °C. THF was dried over sodium/benzophenone and freshly distilled before use. Diethyl ether was purchased from Fischer Scientific (99+ %) and used without purification. Ethyl acetate was distilled over CaCl₂ for general use. Dicobalt octacarbonyl was purchased from Strem (stabilised by 1-5% hexane) and used without any further purification. Anhydrous reactions were carried out in oven-dried glassware and under an atmosphere of nitrogen. All metal carbonyl complexes were stored under a nitrogen atmosphere and kept at -18 °C in a freezer.

'Butyl-3-hydroxy-5-phenylpent-4-ynoate (3)



Butyl lithium (26.1 mL, 2.5 M solution, 65.2 mmol, 1.1 eq) was added dropwise to a solution of diisopropyl amine (9.1 mL, 6.56 g, 65.2 mmol, 1.1 eq) in THF (90 mL) at 0°C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 minutes and *t*-butyl acetate (9.6 mL, 8.26 g, 71.1 mmol) was added at -78°C. The reaction mixture was stirred one more hour and a solution of 3-phenylpropionaldehyde (7.62 g, 58.6 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was slowly added. After 30 minutes, the reaction was quenched with a solution of saturated ammonium chloride (25 mL). Most of the organic solvents were evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was taken up in ethyl acetate (30 mL) and washed with water (30 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (2×15 mL). The organic extracts were combined and dried over magnesium sulfate. Evaporation of the solvent afforded the desired compound in 99% yield (14.42 g, 58.5 mmol) as a yellow oil; *R*_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.42; ν_{max} (film)/cm⁻¹ 1733 (C=O), 2234 (C≡C), 2931 (ArC–H), 2978 (ArC–H) and 3444 (OH); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.49 (9H, s, CH₃), 2.61 (1H, d, *J* 6.4 Hz, CHCHH), 2.76 (1H, d, *J* 5.2 Hz, CHCHH), 3.35 (1H, d, *J* 6.4 Hz, OH), 4.93 (1H, dt, *J* 5.2, 6.4 Hz, CHOH), 7.27-7.34 (3H, m, ArCH) and 7.40-7.45 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 29 (3CH₃), 42.9 (CHCH₂), 59.5 (CH), 81.5 (OC(CH₃)₃), 84.8 (C≡C), 88.2 (C≡C), 122.4 (ArC), 128.3 (2ArCH), 128.5 (2ArCH) and 131.7 (1ArCH) and 170.8 (C=O); HRMS (EI) (M⁺), found 247.1339, C₁₅H₁₉O₃ requires 247.1334 (+1.9 ppm); *m/z* 247 (10%), 191 (29%), 173 (100%), 131 (44%) and 57 (59%).

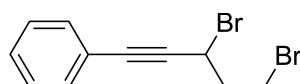
5-Phenylpent-4-yne-1,3-diol (4)



Lithium borohydride (71.0 mL, 142.0 mmol, 2.0 M solution, 2.5 eq) was added over an hour to a solution of *t*-butyl-3-hydroxy-5-phenylpent-4-ynoate (14.09 g, 57.2 mmol) in THF (200 mL). Methanol (46.3 mL, 1.1 mol, 20 eq) was then added *via* a syringe pump over an hour at 0°C. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for a further 30 min. Ice cold water (10 mL) was added and the resulting mixture was extracted from ethyl acetate (3×30 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over magnesium sulfate to give the *title compound* in 99% yield (10.04 g, 57.0 mmol) as a yellow oil; *R*_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.13; ν_{max} (film)/cm⁻¹ 1049 (C–O), 2230 (C≡C), 2886 (ArC–H), 2953 (ArC–H) and 3341 (OH); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.92-2.09 (2H,

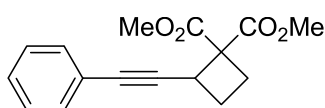
m, CHCH₂), 2.33 (1H, broad s, OH), 2.99 (1H, broad s, OH), 3.85 (1H, ddd, *J* 4.0, 6.4, 10.8 Hz, CHHOH), 4.00 (1H, ddd, *J* 4.0, 7.6, 10.8 Hz, CHHOH), 4.81 (1H, dd, *J* 4.4, 6.4 Hz CHOH), 7.16-7.29 (3H, ArCH) and 7.31-7.42 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_c (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 38.9 (CHCH₂), 60.7 (CH₂OH), 62.3 (CHOH), 85.4 (C \equiv C), 89.2 (C \equiv C), 122.4 (ArC), 128.3 (2ArCH), 128.5 (ArCH) and 131.8 (2ArCH); no mass ion could be observed.

1-(3,5-Dibromopent-1-ynyl)benzene (5)



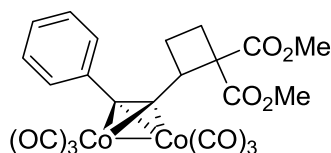
Bromine (5.6 mL, 17.52 g, 114.7 mmol, 2.4 eq) was added dropwise to a solution of triphenylphosphine (31.33 g, 119.5 mmol, 2.5 eq) in DCM (250 mL) at 0°C. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir until the phosphonium salt precipitated (approximately 20 min). A solution of diol **303** (8.42 g, 47.8 mmol) and imidazole (8.13 g, 119.5 mmol, 2.5 eq) in DCM (150 mL) was slowly added *via* a cannula to the phosphonium salt at 0°C and the resulting reaction mixture was allowed to stir overnight at room temperature. The reaction mixture was quenched with ice-cold water (30 mL) and extracted from ethyl acetate (3×15 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo*. Triphenylphosphine oxide and triphenylphosphine were recrystallised thrice from cold petrol using DCM and filtered off. The filtrates were combined and the solvents were removed *in vacuo* affording the *title compound* in 99% (14.41 g, 47.8 mmol) as an orange oil; *R_f* (petrol) 0.24; ν_{\max} (film)/cm⁻¹ 755 (C–Br), 689 (C–Br), 2224 (C \equiv C), 2965 (ArC–H) and 3054 (ArC–H); δ_H (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 2.61 (2H, dt, *J* 6.4, 6.8 Hz, CHCH₂), 3.62 (2H, t, *J* 6.4 Hz, CH₂Br), 4.97 (1H, t, *J* 6.8 Hz, CHBr), 7.24-7.37 (3H, m, ArCH) and 7.40-7.47 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_c (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 30.0 (CHCH₂), 35.4 (CHBr), 41.9 (CH₂Br), 86.6 (C \equiv C), 87.7 (C \equiv C), 121.8 (ArC), 128.4 (2ArCH), 129.1 (ArCH) and 131.9 (2ArCH); no mass ion could be observed.

Dimethyl 2-(2-phenylethynyl)cyclobutane-1,1-dicarboxylate (6)



Dimethyl malonate (0.9 mL, 1.08 g, 7.7 mmol, 1.1 eq) was added to a suspension of sodium hydride (620 mg, 15.4 mmol, 60% in mineral oil, 2.2 eq) in THF (140 mL) at 0°C under a nitrogen atmosphere. A solution of 1-(3,5-dibromopent-1-ynyl)benzene (2.11 g, 7.0 mmol) in THF (60 mL) was added *via* a cannula over 5 min and the resulting mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was heated to reflux for 6 hours. Most of the solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* and the residue was taken up in diethyl ether (20 mL). The organic crude solution was washed with water (25 mL), dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude cyclobutane was purified by flash chromatography (5% ethyl acetate/petrol) affording the *title compound* as a yellow oil in 74% yield (1.41 g, 5.2 mmol); *R*_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.92; ν_{max} (film)/cm⁻¹ 1754 (C=O), 1737 (C=O), 2227 (C≡C), 2953 (ArC–H) and 3001 (ArC–H); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 2.09-2.33 (3H, m, 1H CHCH₂CHH + 2H CHCH₂CH₂), 2.73-2.82 (1H, m, CHCH₂CHH), 3.71 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.72 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.95 (1H, t, *J* 8.8 Hz, CH), 7.17-7.24 (3H, m, ArCH) and 7.26-7.41 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 24.4 (CHCH₂), 26.1 (CHCH₂CH₂), 31.5 (CH), 52.7 (CO₂CH₃), 52.8 (CO₂CH₃), 57.7 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 84.4 (C≡C), 88.0 (C≡C), 123.1 (ArC), 128.0 (ArCH), 128.2 (2ArCH), 131.6 (2ArCH), 169.6 (C=O) and 171.1 (C=O); HRMS (EI) (*M*⁺), found 273.1127, C₁₆H₁₆O₄ requires 273.1121 (+0.8 ppm); *m/z* 273 (24%), 213 (20%), 145 (100%), 141 (37%) and 113 (61%).

Dimethyl 2-(2-phenylethynyl)cyclobutane-1,1-dicarboxylate dicobalt hexacarbonyl (2)



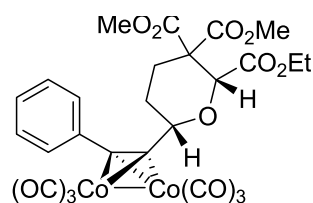
Dicobalt octacarbonyl (1.81 g, 5.3 mmol, 1.2 eq) was added to a solution of dimethyl 2-(2-phenylethynyl)cyclobutane-1,1-dicarboxylate (1.20 g, 4.4 mmol) in DCM (60 mL). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 4 hours at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere. The solvent was evaporated and the residue was taken up in ethyl acetate (20 mL). The resulting solution was washed with water (25 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (2×10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered through celite and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography (15 % ethyl acetate/petrol) affording the desired dicobalt hexacarbonyl complex in 97% yield (2.38 g, 4.3 mmol) as a

dark red oil; R_f (15% ethyl acetate/petrol) 0.83; ν_{\max} (film)/ cm^{-1} 1731 (C=O), 2018 (C \equiv O), 2048 (C \equiv O), 2088 (C \equiv O) and 2993 (ArC–H); δ_H (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 2.15-2.26 (1H, m, CHCH₂CHH), 2.35-2.52 (2H, m, CHCH₂CH₂), 2.60-2.69 (1H, m, CHCH₂CHH), 2.97 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.65 (3H, s, OCH₃), 4.47 (1H, dd, J 9.2, 10.4 Hz, CH₂CH), 7.17-7.28 (3H, m, ArCH) and 7.36-7.46 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_C (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 26.7 (CHCH₂), 28.8 (CHCH₂CH₂), 46.5 (CHCH₂), 52.3 (CO₂CH₃), 52.6 (CO₂CH₃), 58.6 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 81.9 (C–C), 93.4 (C–C), 127.6 (ArCH), 128.6 (2ArCH), 129.7 (2ArCH), 131.8 (ArC), 169.5 (C=O), 171.2 (C=O) and 199.4 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB) ($M^+ - 3\text{CO}$), found 473.9574, C₁₉H₁₆Co₂O₇ requires 473.9560 (+2.6 ppm); m/z 503 (5%), 475 (4%), 447 (26%), 419 (14%), 391 (21%), 390 (80%), 331 (21%) and 273 (15%).

Typical procedure for cycloaddition reactions (7-21)

Dimethyl 2-(2-phenylethynyl)cyclobutane-1,1-dicarboxylate **6** (70 mg, 0.257 mmol) was dissolved in DCM (5 ml) in a 10 mL oven dried round-bottom flask. Activated 4 Å molecular sieves were added (150 mg). Dicobalt octacarbonyl (100 mg, 0.292, 1.14 eq) was added and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature under nitrogen atmosphere for 1.5 hour. The aldehyde (3.0 eq) and scandium triflate (9 mg, 5 mol%) were added successively. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature. (Refer to table for reaction times). After complete conversion of the starting material (TLC monitoring) the crude reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and silica and the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (5% ethyl acetate/petrol) for all the tetrahydropyrans synthesized.

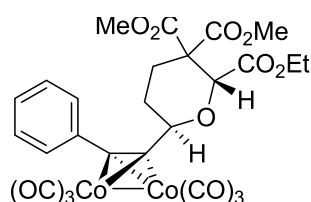
(2R,6S) and (2S,6R)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl 2-ethyl 3,3-dimethyl dihydro-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2H-pyran-2,3,3(4H)-tricarboxylate (**7a**) isolated in 34% as a dark red oil.



R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.34; IR ν_{\max} (DCM)/ cm^{-1} 1116 (C–O), 1732 (C=O), 2021, 2053, 2091 (C=O_{complex}), 2959 (ArC–H); δ_H (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 1.18 (3H, t, J 7.2 Hz, OCH₂CH₃), 1.53-1.66 (1H, m, CHCHH), 1.98-2.07 (1H, m, CHCHH), 2.21-2.31 (1H, m, CHCH₂CHH), 2.68 (1H, ddd, J 2.8,

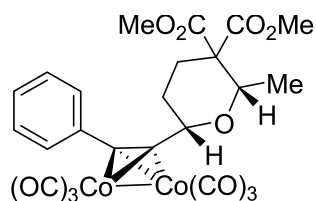
4.0, 13.6 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 4.13-4.23 (2H, m, OCH₂CH₃), 4.63 (1H, s, OCHCO₂Et), 4.80 (1H, dd, *J* 2.5, 11.2 Hz, CH₂CHO), 7.18-7.29 (3H, m, ArCH) and 7.52-7.58 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_c (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 12.9 (OCH₂CH₃), 28.8 (CHCH₂), 30.5 (CHCH₂CH₂), 51.6 (OCH₃), 52.0 (OCH₃), 56.5 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 60.2 (OCH₂CH₃), 77.3 (CH₂CHO), 78.0 (OCHCO₂Et), 89.3 (CoCCCo), 94.1 (CoCCCo), 126.8 (ArCH), 127.7 (2ArCH), 128.9 (2ArCH), 136.6 (ArC), 167.4 (CO₂CH₃), 167.7 (CO₂CH₃), 169.4 (CO₂CH₂CH₃) and 198.1 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) (M-3CO), found 575.9890, C₂₃H₂₂Co₂O₁₀ requires 575.9877 (+2.2 ppm); *m/z* 548 (100%), 520 (5%) and 492 (92%).

(2R,6R) and (2S,6S)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl 2-ethyl 3,3-dimethyl dihydro-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2H-pyran-2,3,3(4H)-tricarboxylate (**7b**) isolated in 24% as a dark red oil.



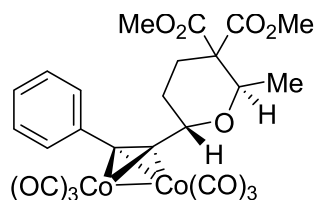
R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.52; IR ν_{\max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1069 (C-O), 1737 (C=O), 2021, 2053, 2057 (C≡Ocomplex), and 2991 (ArC-H); δ_H (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.23 (3H, t, *J* 7.2 Hz, OCH₂CH₃), 1.50-1.68 (1H, m, CHCHH), 1.93-2.06 (1H, m, CHCHH), 2.24-2.35 (1H, m, CHCH₂CHH), 2.57-2.66 (1H, m, CHCH₂CHH), 3.68 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.72 (3H, s, OCH₃), 4.18 (2H, q, *J* 7.2 Hz, OCH₂CH₃), 4.83 (1H, dd, *J* 2.4, 11.2 Hz, CH₂CHO), 5.42 (1H, s, OCHCO₂Et), 7.21-7.30 (3H, m, ArCH) and 7.50-7.56 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_c (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 13.0 (OCH₂CH₃), 24.0 (CHCH₂), 28.9 (CHCH₂CH₂), 51.9 (OCH₃), 52.2 (OCH₃), 54.3 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 60.6 (OCH₂CH₃), 72.1 (CH₂CHO), 75.3 (OCHCO₂Et), 89.0 (CoCCCo), 94.9 (CoCCCo), 126.8 (ArCH), 127.7 (2ArCH), 128.9 (2ArCH), 136.6 (ArC), 167.3 (CO₂CH₃), 167.6 (CO₂CH₃), 168.6 (CO₂Et) and 198.2 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) (M-2CO), found 603.9815, C₂₄H₂₂Co₂O₁₁ requires 603.9826 (-1.8 ppm); *m/z* 576 (17%), 548 (100%), 520 (12%) and 492 (52%).

(2S,6R) and (2R,6S)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-2-methyl-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**8a**) isolated in 45% as a dark red crystal.



Rf (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.76; IR ν_{\max} (DCM)/ cm^{-1} 1264, (C-O), 1730 (C=O), 2022, 2050, 2090 ($\text{C}\equiv\text{O}_{\text{complex}}$) and 2953 (ArC-H); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 1.39 (3H, d, J 6.4 Hz, CHCH_3), 1.91-2.08 (3H, m, 2H CHCH_2 + 1H CHCH_2CHH), 2.50-2.58 (1H, m, CHCH_2CHH), 3.68 (3H, s, CO_2CH_3), 3.70 (3H, s, CO_2CH_3), 4.13 (1H, q, J 6.4 Hz, OCHCH_3), 4.73 (1H, dd, J 3.2, 10.0 Hz, CH_2CHO), 7.21-7.30 (3H, m, ArCH) and 7.46-7.51 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 18.2 (CHCH_3), 29.8 (CHCH_2), 32.0 (CHCH_2CH_2), 52.0 (CO_2CH_3), 52.6 (CO_2CH_3), 56.7 ($\text{C}(\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3)_2$), 77.4 (OCHCH_3), 77.9 (CH_2CHO), 89.6 (CoCCCo), 96.9 (CoCCCo), 127.7 (ArCH), 128.7 (2ArCH), 129.8 (2ArCH), 137.8 (ArC), 169.4 (CO_2CH_3), 171.4 (CO_2CH_3) and 199.4 ($\text{CO}_{\text{complex}}$); HRMS (FAB⁺) ($\text{M}-2\text{CO}$), found 545.9782, $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{20}\text{Co}_2\text{O}_9$ requires 545.9771 (+2.1 ppm); m/z 518 (5%), 490 (100%), 462 (5%) and 434 (18%); mp 112-113 °C.

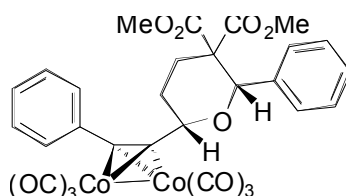
(2R, 6R) and (2S, 6S)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-2-methyl-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**8b**) isolated in 28% as a dark red oil.



Rf (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.71; IR ν_{\max} (DCM)/ cm^{-1} 1262, (C-O), 1730 (C=O), 2028, 2050, 2089 ($\text{C}\equiv\text{O}_{\text{complex}}$) and 2957 (ArC-H); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 1.29 (3H, d, J 6.9 Hz, CHCH_3), 1.44-1.57 (1H, m, CHCHH), 1.92-2.01 (1H, m, CHCHH), 2.25-2.35 (1H, m, CHCH_2CHH), 2.39-2.47 (1H, m, CHCH_2CHH), 3.66 (3H, s, CO_2CH_3), 3.71 (3H, s, CO_2CH_3), 4.85 (1H, dd, J 2.8, 11.2 Hz, CH_2CHO), 4.97 (1H, q, J 6.8 Hz, OCHCH_3), 7.21-7.30 (3H, m, ArCH) and 7.46-7.52 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 14.7 (CHCH_3), 23.7 (CHCH_2), 30.2 (CHCH_2CH_2), 52.8 (CO_2CH_3), 52.9 (CO_2CH_3), 57.0 ($\text{C}(\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3)_2$), 68.6 (CH_2CHO), 71.2 (OCHCH_3), 90.0 (CoCCCo), 97.8 (CoCCCo), 126.9 (ArCH), 128.7 (2ArCH), 129.9 (2ArCH), 137.8 (ArC), 169.5 (CO_2CH_3), 170.0

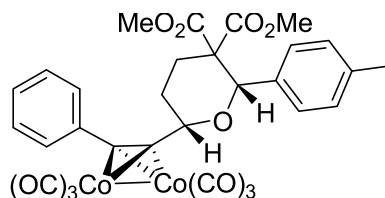
(CO₂CH₃) and 199.4 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) (M-2CO), found 545.9780, C₂₂H₂₀Co₂O₉ requires 545.9771 (+1.7 ppm); *m/z* 518 (20%), 490 (100%) and 434 (48%).

(2R, 6R) and (2S, 6S) Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-2-phenyl-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**9**) isolated in 34% as a dark red solid.



R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.68; IR ν_{max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1083, 1262 (C-O), 1731, 1736 (C=O), 2020, 2051, 2091 (C \equiv O_{complex}), 2848 and 2913 (ArC-H); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 2.09-2.18 (2H, m, CHCH₂), 2.36-2.46 (1H, m, CHCH₂CHH), 2.72 (1H, dt, *J* 3.6, 13.6 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 3.54, (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.69 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 4.99-5.05 (1H, m, CH₂CHO), 5.27 (1H, s, OCHAr), 7.23-7.32 (6H, m, ArCH), 7.40-7.45 (2H, m, ArCH) and 7.55-7.60 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 30.0 (CHCH₂), 32.7 (CHCH₂CH₂), 51.7 (CO₂CH₃), 52.6 (CO₂CH₃), 59.1 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 79.2 (OCHAr), 82.8 (CH₂CHO), 89.9 (CoCCC₂Co), 96.0 (CoCCC₂Co), 126.0 (2ArCH), 126.4 (2ArCH), 126.5 (ArCH), 126.8 (ArCH), 127.7 (2ArCH), 128.8 (2ArCH), 137.6 (ArC), 138.9 (ArC), 169.0 (CO₂CH₃), 171.2 (CO₂CH₃) and 198.2 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) *m/z* (M-2CO), found 607.9940, C₂₇H₂₂Co₂O₉ requires 607.9928 (+2.1 ppm); *m/z* 580 (90%), 552 (43%), 524 (100%) and 496 (48%); mp 114-115 °C.

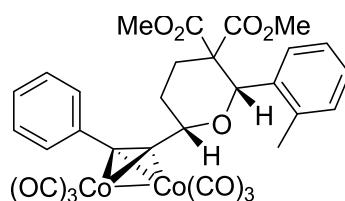
(2R, 6R) and (2S, 6S)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2-p-tolyl-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**10**) isolated in 64% as a dark red cristal.



R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.75; IR ν_{max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1083, 1262 (C-O), 1731, (C=O), 2090, 2051, 2023 (C \equiv O_{complex}) and 2952 (ArCH); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 2.08-2.18 (2H, m, CHCH₂), 2.33 (3H, s, ArCH₃), 2.37-2.49 (1H, m, CHCH₂CHH), 2.72 (1H, dt, *J* 3.6, 13.2 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 3.57 (3H, s,

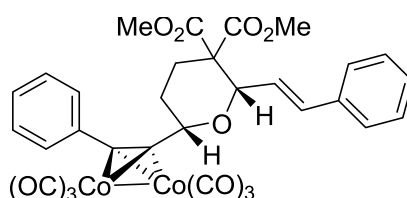
CO_2CH_3), 3.69 (3H, s, CO_2CH_3), 4.94 (1H, dd, J 6.0, 8.2 Hz, CH_2CHO), 5.24 (1H, s, OCHAr), 7.27-7.36 (5H, m, ArCH), 7.32-7.37 (2H, m, ArCH) and 7.56-7.63 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 21.2 (ArCH_3), 30.1 (CHCH_2), 32.7 (CHCH_2CH_2), 51.7 (CO_2CH_3), 53.3 (CO_2CH_3), 60.4 ($\text{C}(\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3)_2$), 79.2 (CH_2CHO), 82.9 (OCHAr), 89.9 (CoCCCo), 96.1 (CoCCCo), 127.3 (1 ArCH), 127.9 (4 ArCH), 128.8 (2 ArCH), 129.9 (2 ArCH), 136.0 (ArC), 137.0 (ArC), 137.7 (ArC), 169.0 (CO_2CH_3), 171.2 (CO_2CH_3) and 199.3 ($\text{CO}_{\text{complex}}$); HRMS (FAB^+) ($\text{M}-2\text{CO}$), found 622.0096, $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{24}\text{Co}_2\text{O}_9$ requires 622.0084 (+1.9 ppm); m/z 594 (100%), 566 (79%), 538 (96%) and 510 (57%); mp 114.1-114.8 °C.

(2R, 6R) and (2S, 6S)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2-o-tolyl-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate, (**11**) isolated in 43% as a dark red oil.



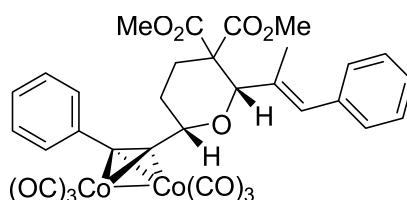
R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.77; IR ν_{max} (DCM)/ cm^{-1} 1261, 1083 (C-O), 1732, (C=O), 2090, 2051, 2022 ($\text{C}\equiv\text{O}_{\text{complex}}$), 2958 and 3002 (ArC-H); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 2.01-2.08 (1H, m, CHCHH), 2.09-2.21 (1H, m, CHCHH), 2.27-2.39 (4H, m, 1H, CHCH_2CHH + ArCH_3), 2.64 (1H, dt, J 4.4, 13.6 Hz, CHCH_2CHH), 3.49 (3H, s, CO_2CH_3), 3.57 (3H, s, CO_2CH_3), 4.99 (1H, dd, J 3.6, 10.4 Hz, CH_2CHO), 5.34 (1H, s, OCHAr), 6.99-7.12 (3H, m, ArCH), 7.16-7.24 (4H, m, ArCH) and 7.44-7.52 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 20.0 (ArCH_3), 29.7 (CHCH_2), 31.9 (CHCH_2CH_2), 51.9 (CO_2CH_3), 52.6 (CO_2CH_3), 57.8 ($\text{C}(\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_3)_2$), 78.3 (CH_2CHO), 79.3 (OCHAr), 90.1 (CoCCCo), 96.3 (CoCCCo), 124.8 (ArCH), 127.7 (ArCH), 127.8 (ArCH), 128.7 (2 ArCH), 129.0 (ArCH), 129.8 (ArCH), 129.9 (2 ArCH), 135.8 (ArC), 136.5 (ArC), 137.7 (ArC), 169.4 (CO_2CH_3), 171.0 (CO_2CH_3) and 199.3 ($\text{CO}_{\text{complex}}$); HRMS (FAB^+) ($\text{M}-2\text{CO}$), found 622.0071, $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{24}\text{Co}_2\text{O}_9$ requires 622.0084 (-2.0 ppm); m/z 594 (76%), 566 (72%), 538 (100%) and 510 (65%); mp 114-115 °C.

(2R, 6R) and (2S, 6S)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2-styryl-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**12**) isolated in 82% as a dark red oil.



R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.69; IR ν_{max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1084, 1264 (C-O), 1731 (C=O), 2021, 2050, 2088 (C≡O_{complex}), 2953 (ArC-H), 3025 and 3058 (=CH); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.97-2.20 (2H, m, CHCH₂), 2.64-2.55 (2H, m, CHCH₂CH₂), 3.62 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.66 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 4.72 (1H, d, *J* 5.2 Hz, OCHCH=CH), 4.84-4.90 (1H, m, CH₂CHO), 6.49 (1H, dd, *J* 5.2, 16.4 Hz, CH=CHPh), 6.60 (1H, d, *J* 16.4 Hz, CH=CHPh), 7.11-7.30 (8H, m, ArCH) and 7.48-7.54 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 28.8 (CHCH₂), 30.7 (CHCH₂CH₂), 51.1 (CO₂CH₃), 51.7 (CO₂CH₃), 56.9 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 77.2 (CH₂CHO), 80.3 (OCHCH), 88.9 (CoCCCo), 95.5 (CoCCCo), 125.5 (2ArCH), 125.9 (CH=CHPh), 126.4 (ArCH), 126.8 (ArCH), 127.4 (2ArCH), 127.8 (2ArCH), 129.2 (CH=CHPh), 129.8 (2ArCH), 136.2 (ArC), 136.7 (ArC), 168.0 (CO₂CH₃), 170.0 (CO₂CH₃) and 198.3 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) (M-3CO) found 606.0144, C₂₆H₂₄Co₂O₈ requires 606.0135 (+1.5 ppm); *m/z* 578 (80%), 550 (4%) and 522 (100%).

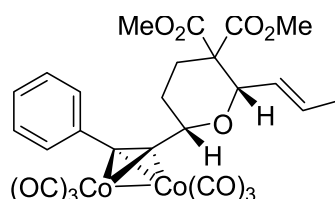
(2R, 6R) and (2S, 6S)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2-((E)-1-phenylprop-1-en-2-yl)-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**13**) isolated in 84% as a dark red oil.



R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.75; IR ν_{max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1075, 1259 (C-O), 1731, 1736 (C=O), 2021, 2050, 2089 (C≡O_{complex}), 2952 (ArC-H), 2997, 3027 and 3057 (=CH); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.89 (3H, s, CHCCH₃), 2.03-2.14 (2H, m, CHCH₂), 2.25-2.41 (1H, m, CHCH₂CHH), 2.66 (1H, dt, *J* 3.6, 13.2 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 3.71 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.74 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 4.82 (1H, s, OCHC=), 4.94-5.00 (1H, m, CH₂CHO), 6.66 (1H, s, C=CHPh), 7.16-7.26 (2H, m, ArCH), 7.27-7.38 (6H, m, ArCH) and 7.57-7.63 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 15.7 (CHCCH₃), 29.9 (CHCH₂), 32.8 (CHCH₂CH₂), 52.0 (CO₂CH₃), 52.6 (CO₂CH₃), 58.4 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 79.8 (CH₂CHO), 84.9 (OCHCCH₃), 90.1 (CoCCCo), 96.2 (CoCCCo), 126.3 (ArCH), 127.2 (ArCH), 127.9 (=CHPh),

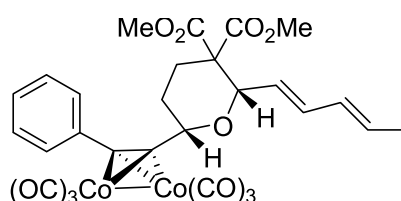
128.0 (2ArCH), 128.8 (2ArCH), 129.1 (2ArCH), 129.9 (2ArCH), 135.9 (CHCCH₃), 137.7 (ArC), 137.9 (ArC), 169.7 (CO₂CH₃), 171.6 (CO₂CH₃) and 199.3 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) (M-2CO), found 648.0250, C₃₀H₂₆Co₂O₉ requires 648.0241 (+1.3 ppm); *m/z* 620 (20%), 592 (100%) and 536 (27%).

(2R, 6R) and (2S, 6S)-Dicolab t octacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2-((E)-prop-1-enyl)-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**14**) isolated in 82% as a dark red oil.



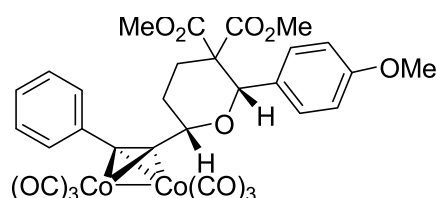
R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.77; IR ν_{\max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1082, 1266 (C-O), 1726, 1731 (C=O), 2021, 2051, 2090 (C≡O_{complex}), 2954 (ArC-H) and 3058 (=CH); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.62 (3H, d, *J* 6.4 Hz, CHCH₃), 1.79-2.02 (2H, m, CHCH₂), 2.13 (1H, dt, *J* 4.8, 13.2 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 2.55 (1H, ddd *J* 2.8, 4.0, 13.2 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 3.64 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.67 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 4.41 (1H, d, *J* 6.4 Hz, OCHCH), 4.78 (1H, dd, *J* 3.2, 11.2 Hz, CH₂CHO), 5.64 (1H, ddd, *J* 0.8, 6.4, 15.2 Hz, CH=CHCH₃), 5.83 (1H, ddd, *J* 1.6, 6.4, 15.2 Hz, CH=CHCH₃), 7.19-7.29 (3H, m, ArCH) and 7.46-7.53 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 16.9 (CHCH₃), 28.8 (CHCH₂), 30.8 (CHCH₂CH₂), 51.0 (CO₂CH₃), 51.8 (CO₂CH₃), 57.2 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 77.0 (CH₂CHO), 81.3 (OCHCH), 88.9 (CoCCCo), 95.5 (CoCCCo), 126.7 (ArCH), 126.9 (CH=CHCH₃), 127.3 (CH=CHCH₃), 127.7 (2ArCH), 128.9 (2ArCH), 136.8 (ArC), 168.2 (CO₂CH₃), 170.0 (CO₂CH₃) and 198.3 (CO_{Complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) (M-2CO) found 571.9915, C₂₆H₂₄Co₂O₈ requires 571.99278 (-1.4 ppm); *m/z* 629 (4%), 572 (19%), 545 (14%), 517 (65%), 516 (100%), 488 (15%) and 460 (30%).

(2R, 6R) and (2S, 6S)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-2-((1E,3E)-penta-1,3-dienyl)-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**15**) isolated in 51% as a dark red oil.



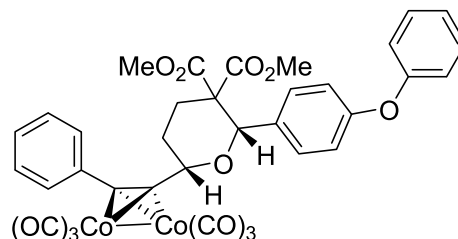
Rf (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.78; IR ν_{\max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1083, 1262 (C-O), 1731 (C=O), 2020, 2089 (C≡O_{complex}), 2953 (ArC-H), 3019 and 3057 (=CH); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.75 (3H, d, *J* 6.8 Hz, CH₃), 1.98-2.10 (2H, m, CHCH₂), 2.19 (1H, dt, *J* 5.2, 13.2 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 2.63 (1H, ddd, *J* 2.8, 4.0, 13.2 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 3.72 (6H, s, OCH₃), 4.59 (1H, d, *J* 6.0 Hz, OCHCH), 4.87 (1H, dd, *J* 4.0, 10.8 Hz, CH₂CHO), 5.62 (1H, dd, *J* 6.8, 14.9 Hz, CH₃CH=CH), 5.92 (1H, dd, *J* 6.0, 15.6 Hz, OCHCH), 6.03-6.14 (1H, m, CH₃CH=CH), 6.24 (1H, dd, *J* 10.4, 15.6 Hz, CH₃CH=CHCH), 7.27-7.36 (3H, m, ArCH) and 7.52-7.59 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 18.2 (CHCH₃), 29.8 (CHCH₂), 31.7 (CHCH₂CH₂), 52.1 (CO₂CH₃), 52.6 (CO₂CH₃), 58.1 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 78.2 (CH₂CHO), 81.7 (OCHCH), 89.9 (CoCCCo), 96.5 (CoCCCo), 127.4 (OCHCH), 127.8 (ArCH), 128.8 (2ArCH), 129.7 (CH₃CH), 129.8 (2ArCH), 131.2 (CH₃CH=CH), 131.5 (CH₃CH=CHCH), 137.8 (ArC), 169.1 (CO₂CH₃), 180.0 (CO₂CH₃) and 199.4 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) (M-2CO), found 598.0071, C₂₆H₂₄Co₂O₉ requires 598.0084 (-2.1 ppm); *m/z* 570 (37%), 542 (100%), 514 (11%) and 486 (89%).

(2R, 6R) and (2S, 6S)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**16**) isolated in 85% as a dark red oil.



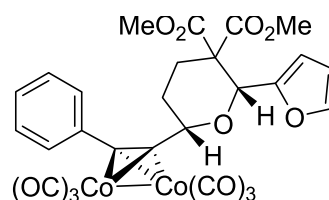
Rf (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.61; IR ν_{\max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1085, 1251 (C-O), 1731, 1736 (C=O), 2021, 2090 (C≡O_{complex}) and 2954 (ArC-H); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 2.01-2.11 (2H, m, CHCH₂), 2.28-2.38 (1H, m, CHCH₂CHH), 2.64 (1H, dt, *J* 3.2, 13.2 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 3.49 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.61 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.72 (3H, s, ArOCH₃), 4.91-4.97 (1H, m, CH₂CHO), 5.14 (1H, s, OCHAr), 6.70-6.75 (2H, m, ArCH), 7.17-7.25 (3H, m, ArCH), 7.26-7.31 (2H, m, ArCH) and 7.48-7.53 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 29.0 (CHCH₂), 31.6 (CHCH₂CH₂), 50.7 (CO₂CH₃), 51.5 (CO₂CH₃), 54.0 (ArOCH₃), 58.0 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 78.2 (OCHAr), 81.6 (CH₂CHO), 88.9 (CoCCCo), 95.1 (CoCCCo), 111.4 (2ArCH), 126.7 (ArCH), 127.6 (2ArCH), 127.8 (2ArCH), 128.8 (2ArCH), 130.1 (ArC), 136.6 (ArC), 157.8 (ArC), 168.0 (CO₂CH₃), 170.2 (CO₂CH₃) and 198.4 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) (M-2CO), found 638.0047, C₂₈H₂₄Co₂O₁₀ requires 638.0033 (+2.2 ppm); *m/z* 610 (77%), 582 (75%), 554 (100%) and 526 (26%).

(2R, 6R) and (2S, 6S)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-2-(4-phenoxyphenyl)-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**17**) isolated in 65% as a dark red oil.



R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.66; IR ν_{max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1072, 1240, 1263 (C-O), 1730 (C=O), 2021, 2050, 2089 (C≡O_{complex}), 2952 and 3059 (ArC-H); δ_H(400 MHz; CDCl₃) 2.09-2.21 (2H, m, CHCH₂), 2.33-2.45 (1H, m, CHCH₂CHH), 2.72 (1H, dt, *J* 3.2, 13.6 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 3.57, (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.70 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 4.94 (1H, dd, *J* 4.0, 10.0 Hz, CH₂CHO), 5.18 (1H, s, OCHAr), 6.79-6.86 (2H, ArCH), 6.90-6.96 (2H, ArCH), 6.97-7.06 (1H, m, ArCH), 7.18-7.36 (7H, m, ArCH) and 7.47-7.54 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_C(100 MHz; CDCl₃) 30 (CHCH₂), 32.7 (CHCH₂CH₂), 51.7 (CO₂CH₃), 52.6 (CO₂CH₃), 59.0 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 72.3 (OCHAr), 82.5 (CH₂CHO), 90.0 (CoCCCo), 96.0 (CoCCCo), 117.3 (2ArCH), 119.1 (2ArCH), 123.2 (ArCH), 127.9 (ArCH), 128.8 (2ArCH), 128.9 (2ArCH), 129.7 (2ArCH), 129.9 (2ArCH), 133.8 (ArC), 137.7 (ArC), 156.6 (ArC), 157.2 (ArC), 168.9 (CO₂CH₃), 171.2 (CO₂CH₃) and 199.4 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB) (M⁺-3CO), found 672.0253, C₃₂H₂₆Co₂O₉ requires 672.0241 (+1.8 ppm); *m/z* 672 (21%), 644 (11%), 616 (3%) and 588 (100%).

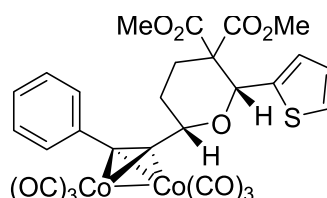
(2R, 6S) and (2S, 6R)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl 2-(furan-2-yl)-dihydro-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**18**) isolated in 95% as a dark red crystal.



R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.62; IR ν_{max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1080, 1263 (C-O), 1734 (C=O), 2022, 2052, 2091 (C≡O_{complex}) and 2953 (ArCH); δ_H(400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.94-2.06 (1H, m, CHCHH), 2.07-2.17

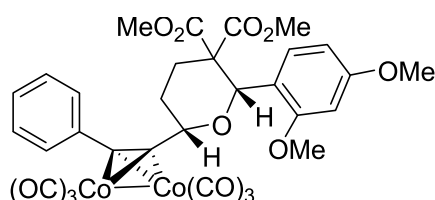
(1H, m, CHCHH), 2.34 (1H, dt, *J* 4.4, 13.2 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 2.73 (1H, ddd, *J* 2.8, 4.0, 13.2 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 3.59 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.80 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 5.03 (1H, dd, *J* 2.8, 11.2 Hz, CH₂CHO), 5.34 (1H, s, OCHAr), 6.33 (2H, d, *J* 1.2 Hz, ArCH), 7.27-7.36 (4H, m, ArCH) and 7.55-7.60 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_c (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 29.9 (CHCH₂), 31.8 (CHCH₂CH₂), 52.1 (CO₂CH₃), 52.9 (CO₂CH₃), 57.6 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 78.0 (OCHAr), 78.9 (CH₂CHO), 89.9 (CoCCCo), 95.6 (CoCCCo), 106.5 (ArCH), 110.3 (ArCH), 127.9 (ArCH), 128.8 (2ArCH), 129.8 (2ArCH), 137.7 (ArC), 140.9 (ArCH), 152.2 (ArC), 168.5 (CO₂CH₃), 170.8 (CO₂CH₃) and 199.3 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) (M-2CO), found 597.9734, C₂₅H₂₀Co₂O₁₀ requires 597.9720 (+2.2 ppm); *m/z* 570 (22%), 540 (100%) and 486 (42%); mp 119-120.

(2R, 6S) and (2S, 6R)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2-(thiophen-2-yl)-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**19**) isolated in 89% as a dark red solid.



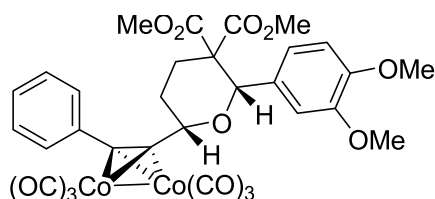
R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.66; IR ν_{\max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1077, 1265 (C-O), 1728 (C=O), 2024, 2052, 2091 (C≡O_{complex}) and 2952 (ArC-H); δ_H (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.98-2.19 (2H, m, CHCH₂), 2.20-2.32 (1H, dt, *J* 4.0, 12.8 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 2.60-2.70 (1H, broad d, *J* 12.8 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 3.49 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 3.70 (3H, s, CO₂CH₃), 4.96 (1H, broad d, *J* 9.8 Hz, CH₂CHO), 5.50 (1H, s, OCHAr), 6.83-6.98 (2H, m, ArCH), 7.12-7.31 (4H, m, ArCH) and 7.47-7.57 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_c (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 29.9 (CHCH₂), 32.3 (CHCH₂CH₂), 52.0 (CO₂CH₃), 52.7 (CO₂CH₃), 59.2 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 79.4 (OCHAr), 79.8 (CH₂CHO), 90.2 (CoCCCo), 95.5 (CoCCCo), 124.6 (ArCH), 124.8 (ArCH), 125.8 (ArCH), 127.9 (ArCH), 128.8 (2ArCH), 129.9 (2ArCH), 137.6 (ArC), 142.0 (ArC), 168.6 (CO₂CH₃), 171.1 (CO₂CH₃) and 199.3 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) (M-2CO), found 613.9482, C₂₅H₂₀Co₂O₉S requires 613.9492 (-1.6 ppm); *m/z* 614 (5%), 586 (77%), 558 (100%), 530 (9%), 502 (27%); mp 122-123.

(2R, 6R) and (2S, 6S)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-2-(2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**20**) isolated in 92% as a dark red oil.



R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.30; IR ν_{max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1045, 1085, 1158, 1208, 1255 (C-O), 1732, 1736 (C=O), 2019, 2050, 2089 (C \equiv O_{complex}), 2952 and 3000 (ArC-H); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.58-1.71 (1H, m, CHCHH), 2.01-2.12 (1H, m, CHCHH), 2.52-2.68 (2H, m, CHCH₂CH₂), 3.48 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.58 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.67 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.73 (3H, s, OCH₃), 4.88 (1H, dd, *J* 2.6, 11.2 Hz, CH₂CHO), 5.13 (1H, s, OCHAR), 6.27 (1H, d, *J* 2.4 Hz, ArCH), 6.42 (1H, dd, *J* 2.0, 8.4 Hz, ArCH), 7.20-7.28 (3H, m, ArCH), 7.51-7.57 (2H, m, ArCH) and 7.72 (1H, d, *J* 8.4 Hz, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 29.6 (CHCH₂), 30.9 (CHCH₂CH₂), 50.9 (OCH₃), 51.2 (OCH₃), 54.0 (CO₂CH₃), 54.2 (CO₂CH₃), 57.3 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 76.4 (CH₂CHO), 78.5 (OCHAR), 89.0 (CoCCC₂Co), 95.0 (CoCCC₂Co), 95.4 (ArCH), 102.3 (ArCH), 118.3 (ArC), 126.7 (ArCH), 127.7 (2ArCH), 128.9 (2ArCH), 130.5 (ArCH), 136.7 (ArC), 155.7 (ArOMe), 159.0 (ArOMe), 168.3 (CO₂CH₃), 168.6 (CO₂CH₃) and 198.4 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) (M-3CO), found 640.0177, C₂₈H₂₆Co₂O₁₀ requires 640.0189 (-2.0 ppm); *m/z* 612(100%), 584 (13%) and 556 (12%).

(2R, 6R) and (2S, 6S)-Dicobalt hexacarbonyl dimethyl dihydro-2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-(2-phenylethynyl)-2H-pyran-3,3(4H)-dicarboxylate (**21**) isolated in 92% as a dark red oil.

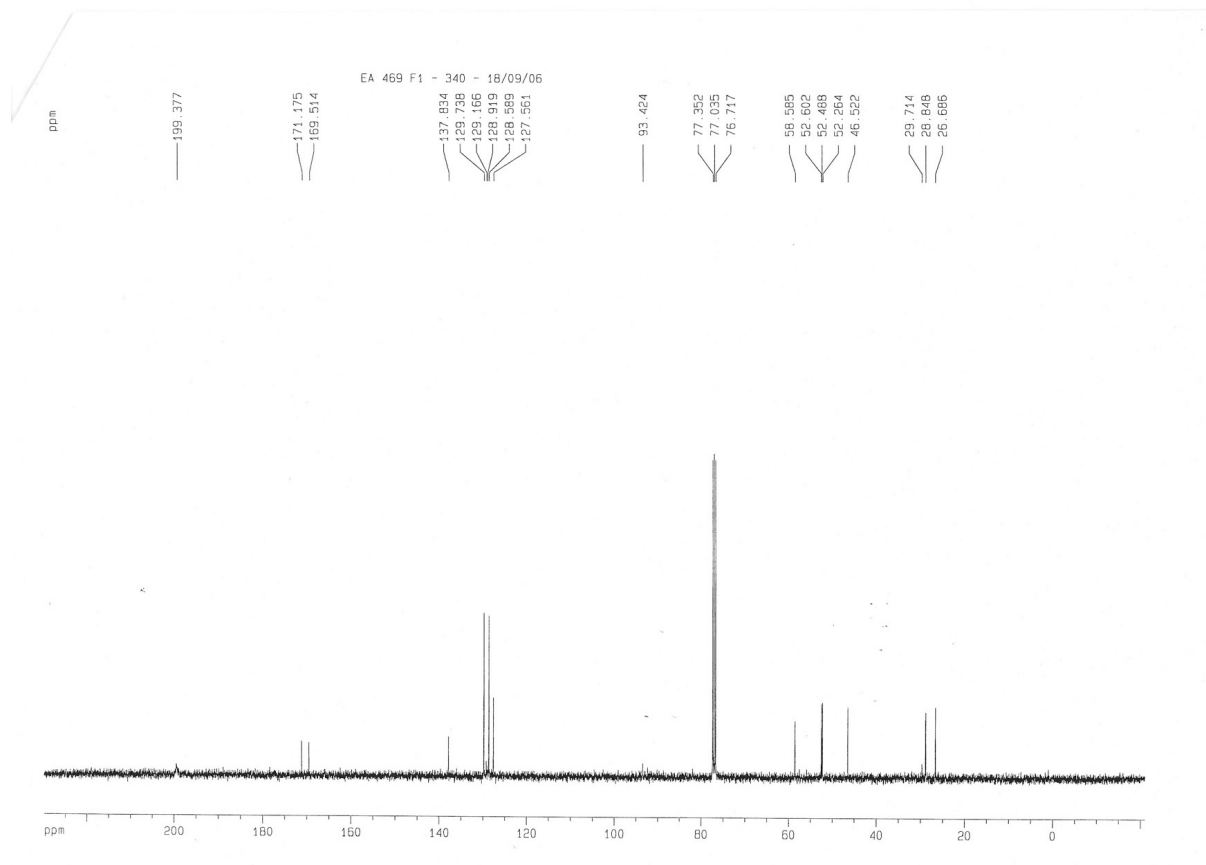
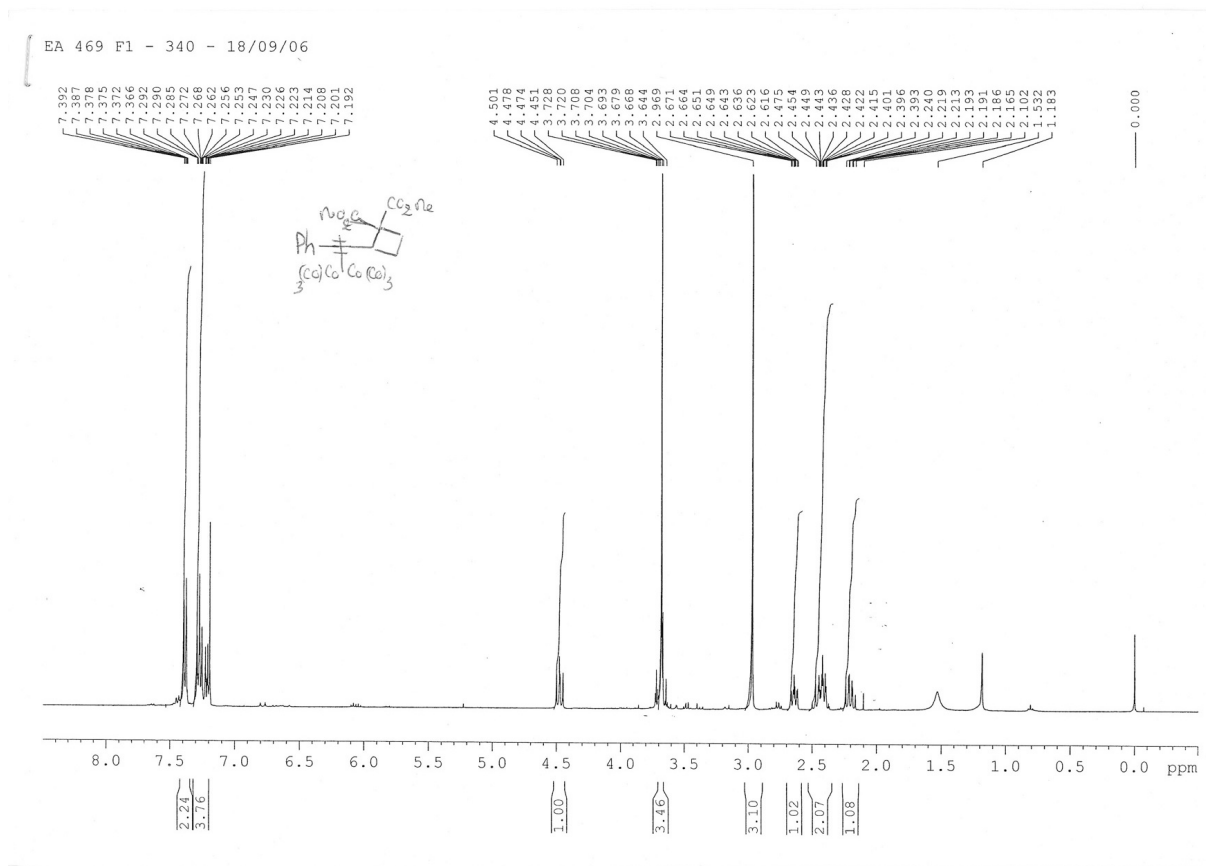


R_f (15% EtOAc/petrol) 0.19; IR ν_{max} (DCM)/cm⁻¹ 1029, 1074, 1234, 1264 (C-O), 1731 (C=O), 2022, 2050, 2090 (C \equiv O), 2953, 3002 and 3075 (ArC-H); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 2.03-2.11 (2H, m, CHCH₂), 2.28-2.37 (1H, m, CHCH₂CHH), 2.64 (1H, dd, *J* 3.2, 13.2 Hz, CHCH₂CHH), 3.49 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.62 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.66 (3H, s, OCH₃), 3.80 (3H, s, OCH₃), 4.95 (1H, dd, *J* 6.0, 8.0 Hz, CH₂CHO), 5.17 (1H, s, OCHAR), 6.68 (1H, d, *J* 8.4 Hz, ArCH), 6.83 (1H, dd, *J* 2.0, 8.4 Hz, ArCH), 7.03 (1H, d, *J* 2.0 Hz, ArCH), 7.19-7.27 (3H, m, ArCH) and 7.48-7.55 (2H, m, ArCH); δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 29.0 (CHCH₂), 37.7 (CHCH₂CH₂), 50.7 (CO₂CH₃), 51.6 (CO₂CH₃), 54.4 (ArOCH₃),

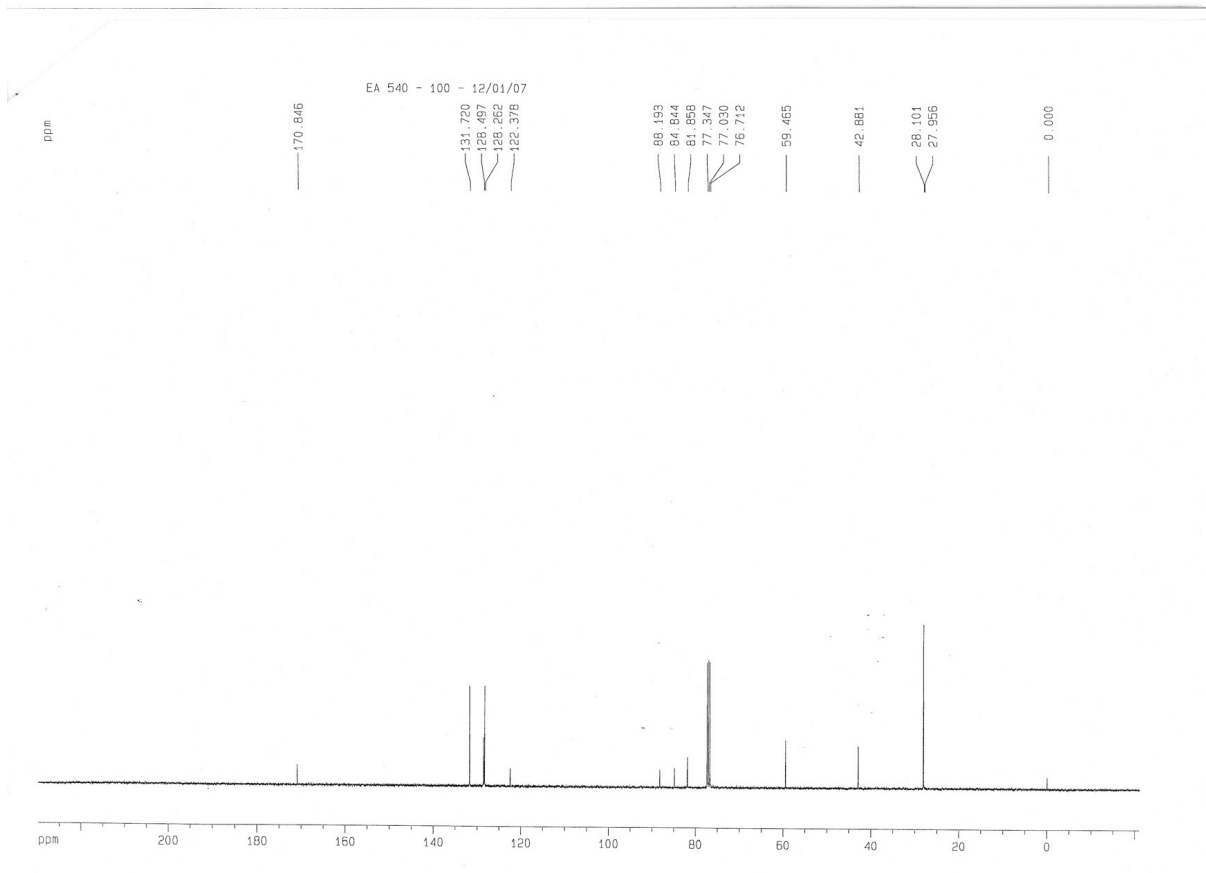
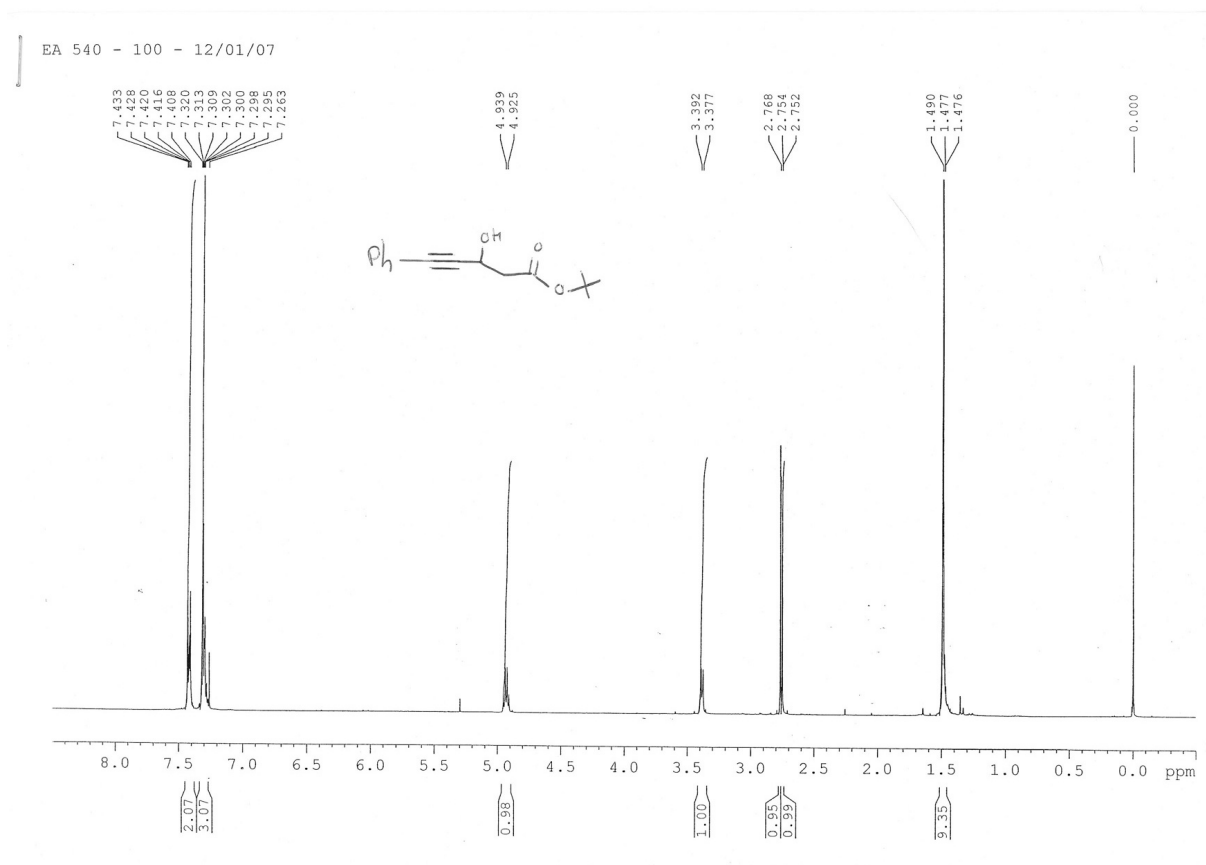
54.6 (ArOCH₃), 58.2 (C(CO₂CH₃)₂), 78.3 (OCHAr), 81.6 (CH₂CHO), 89.0 (CoCCCo), 95.1 (CoCCCo), 108.4 (ArCH), 109.3 (ArCH), 118.4 (ArCH), 126.9 (ArCH), 127.8 (2ArCH), 128.7 (2ArCH), 130.5 (ArC), 136.6 (ArC), 146.8 (ArCOMe), 147.1 (ArCOMe), 168.1 (CO₂CH₃), 170.2 (CO₂CH₃) and 198.2 (CO_{complex}); HRMS (FAB⁺) (M–3CO), found 640.0178, C₂₈H₂₆Co₂O₁₀ requires 640.0189 (–1.8 ppm); *m/z*, 612(43%), 584 (100%) and 556 (60%).

Proton and Carbon Spectra Section

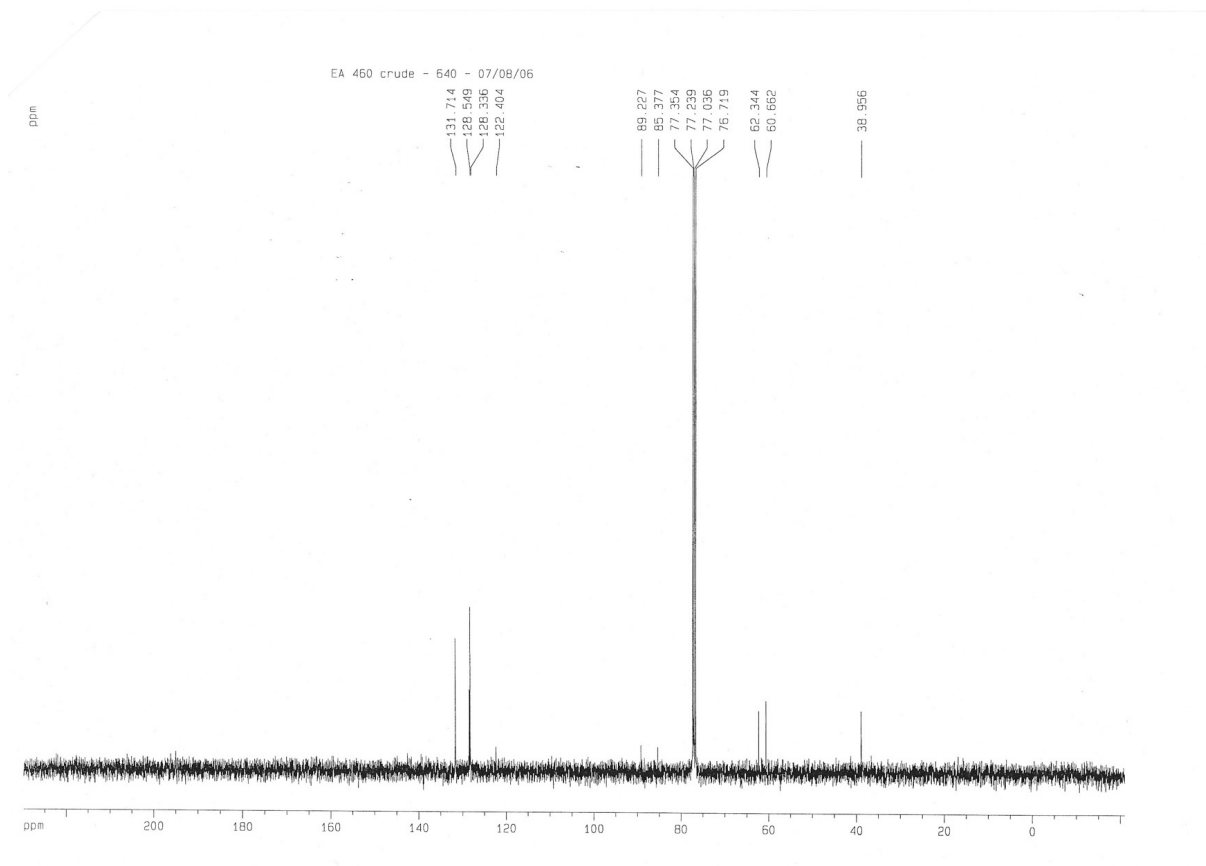
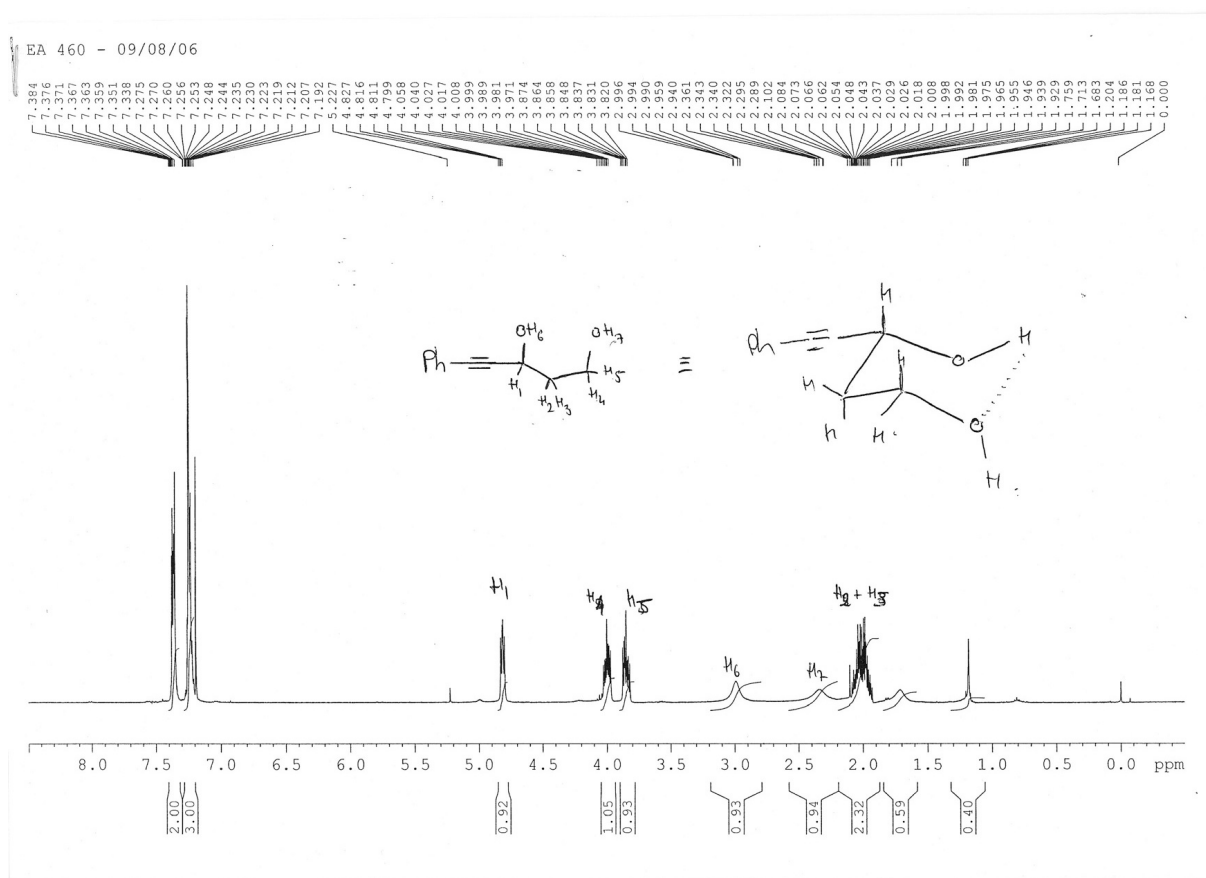
Compound 2



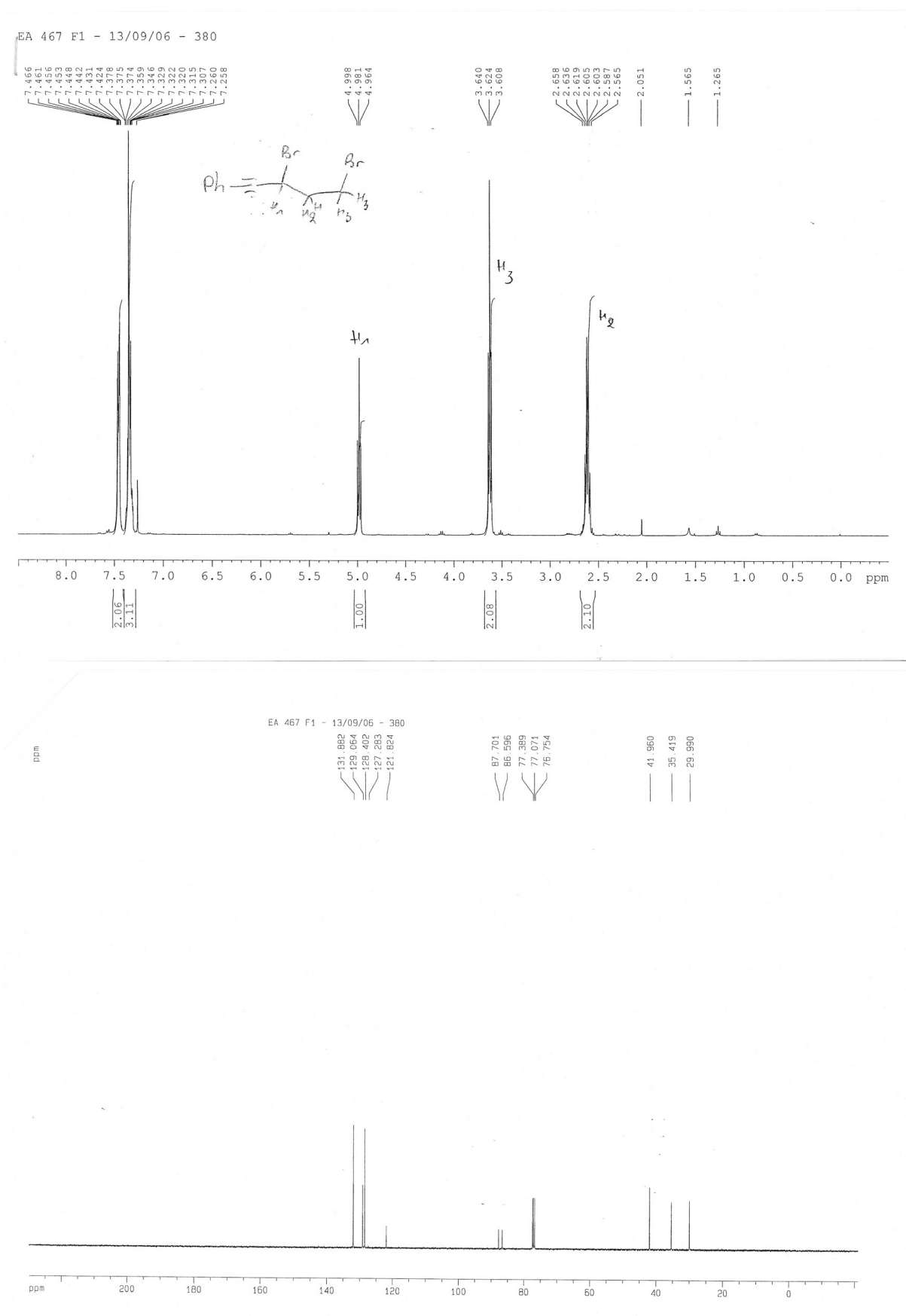
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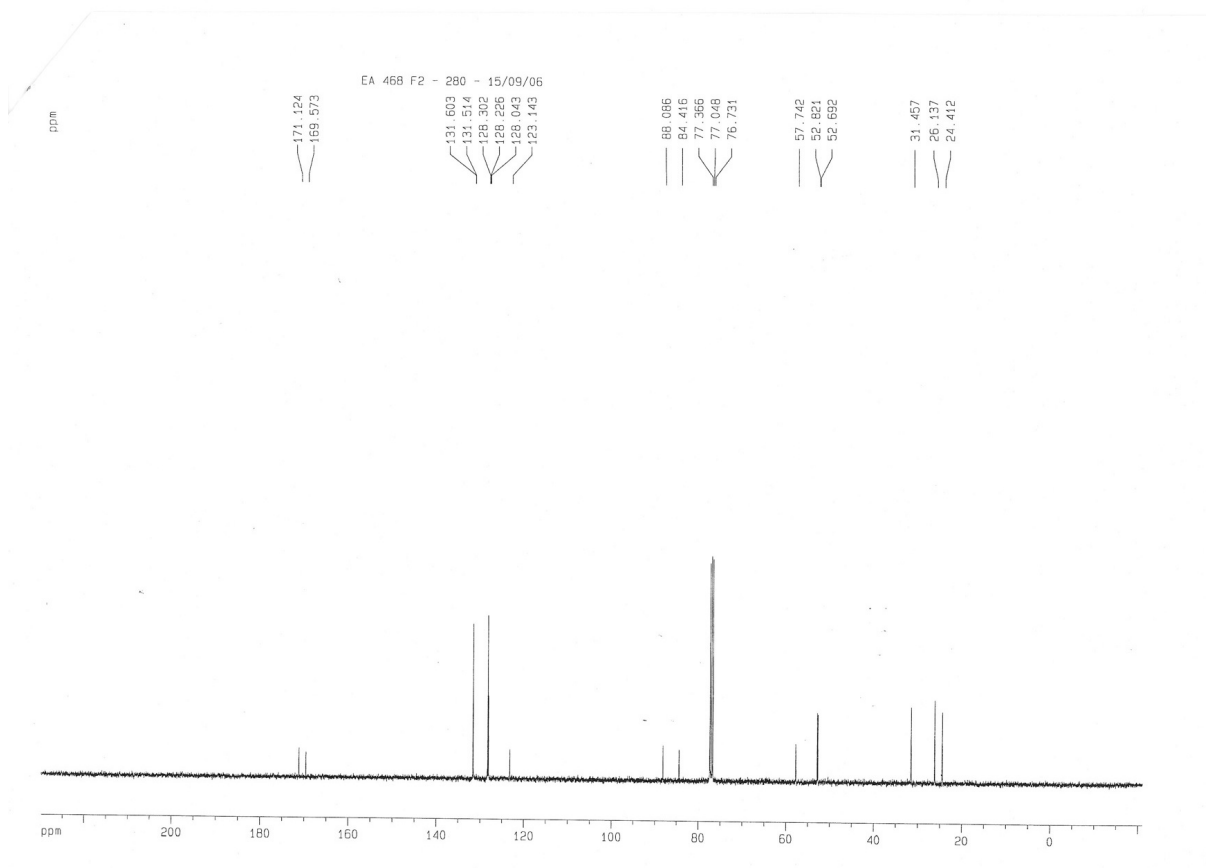
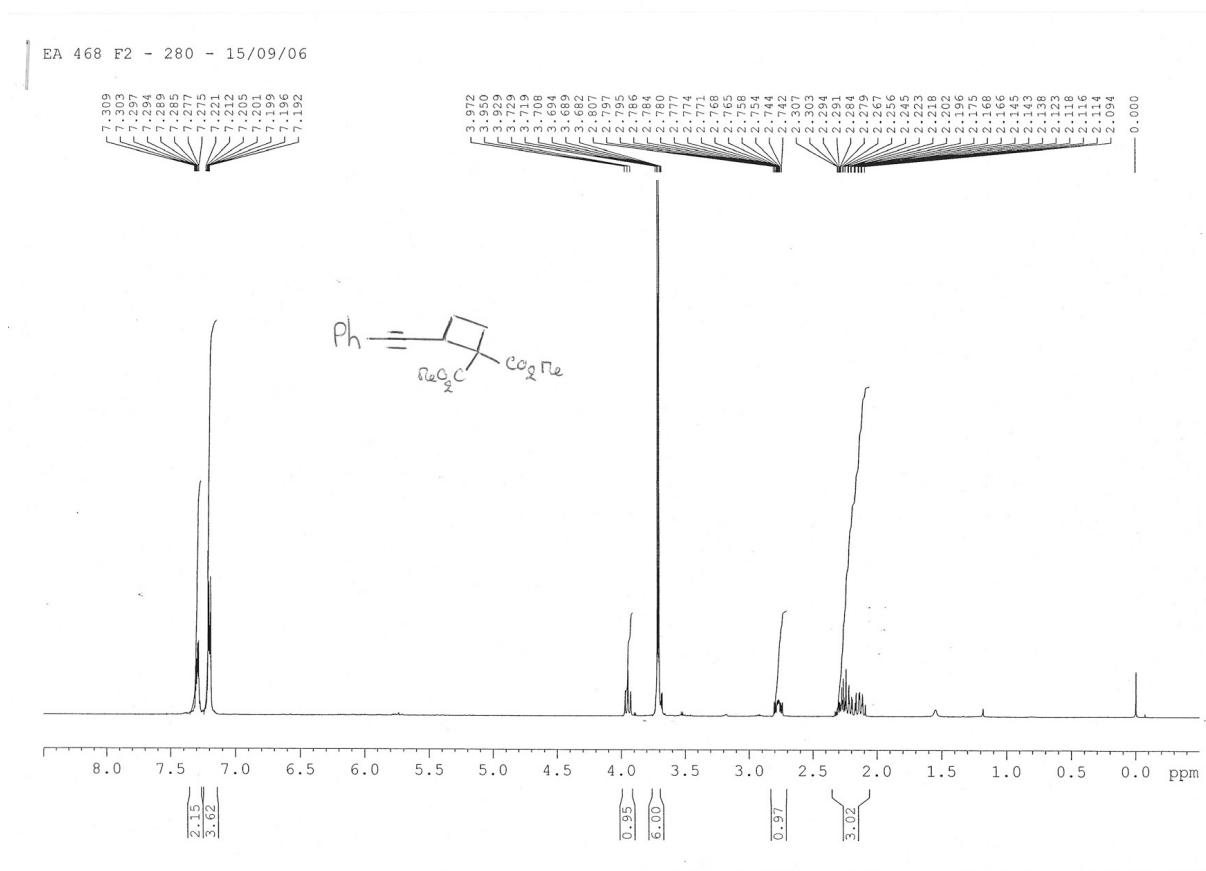
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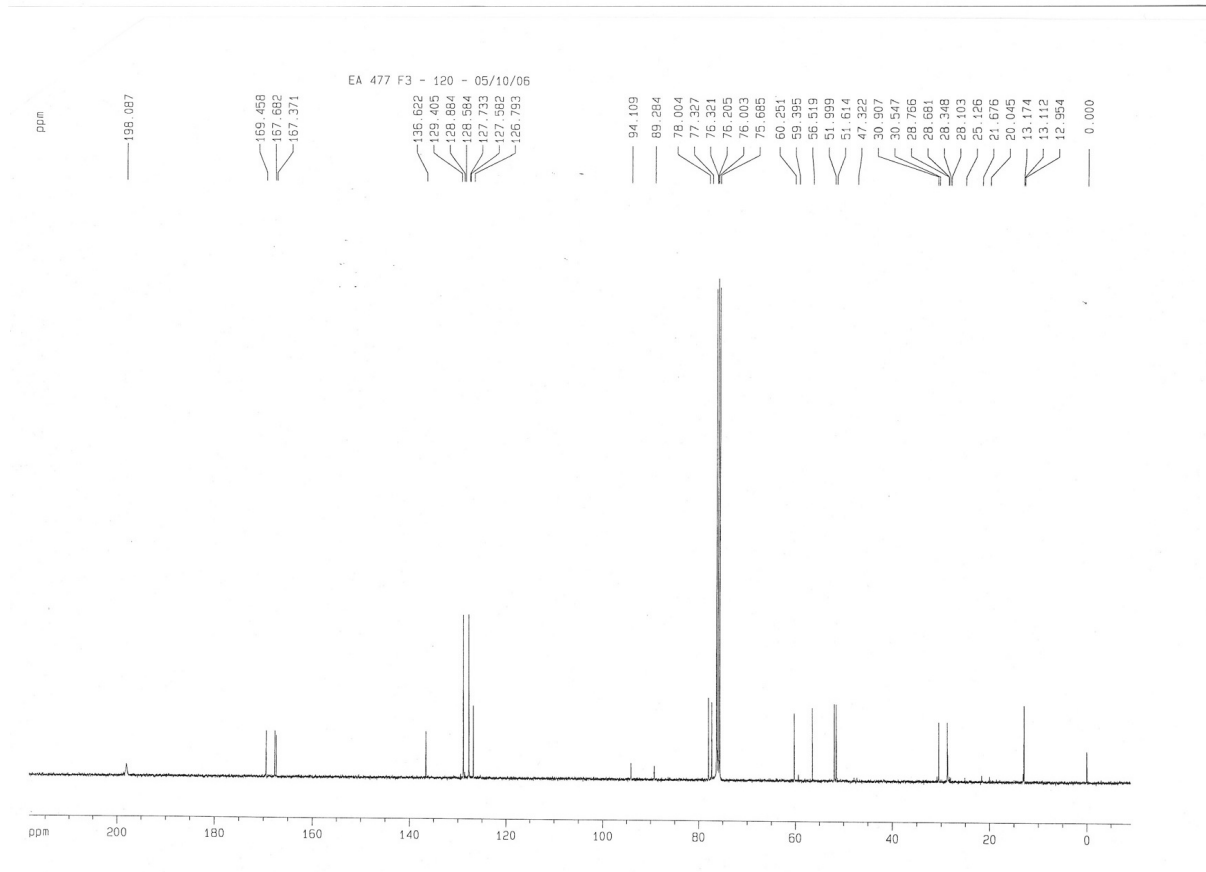
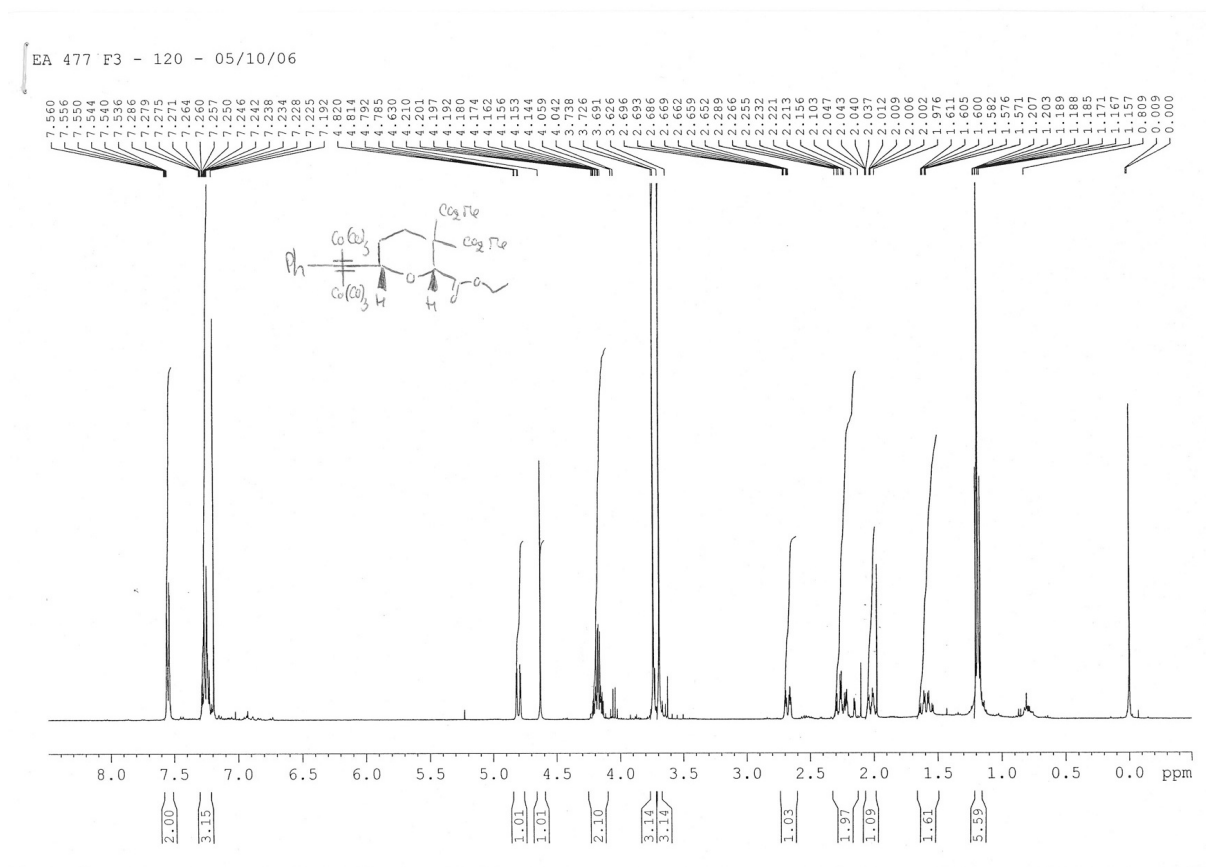
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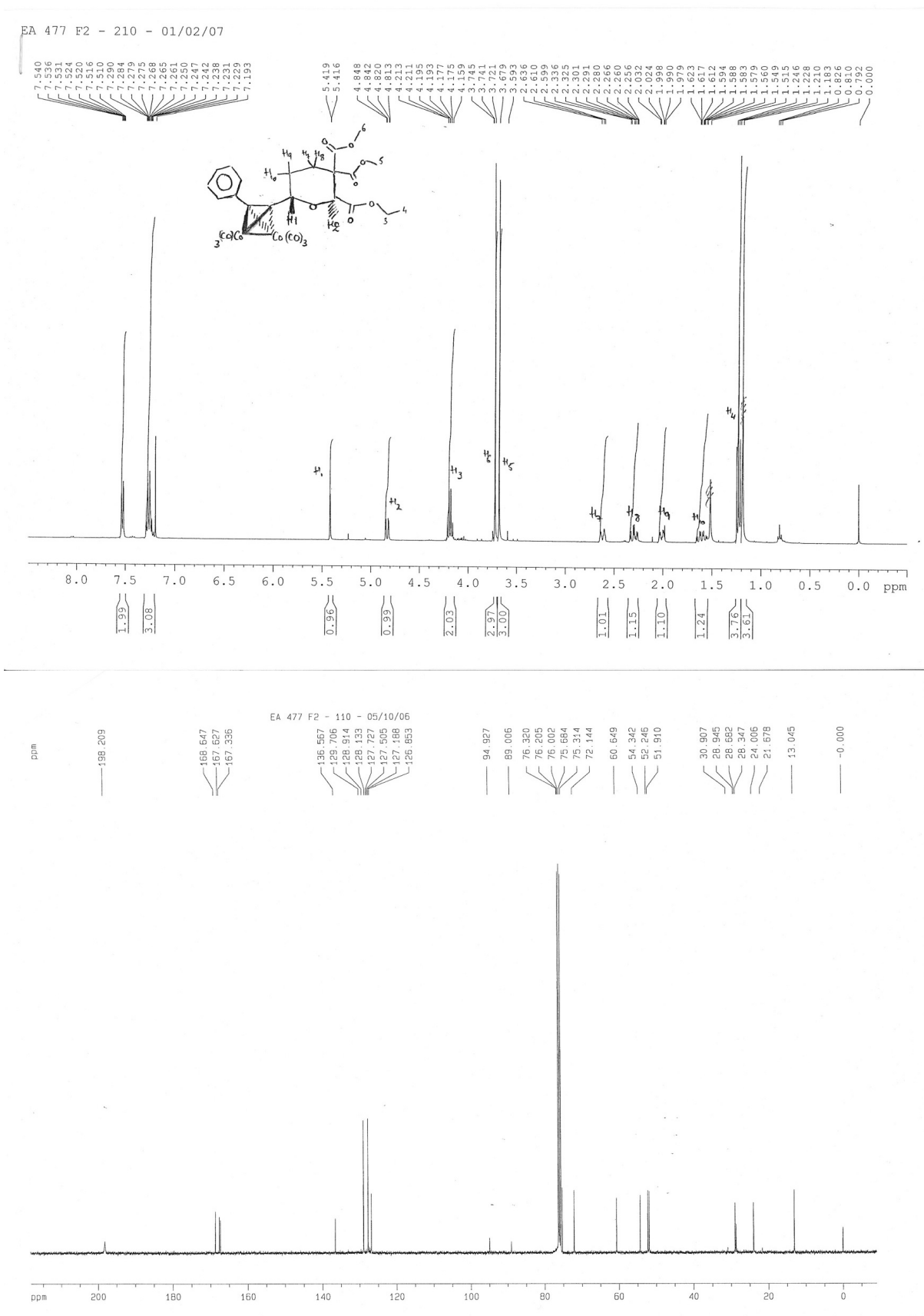
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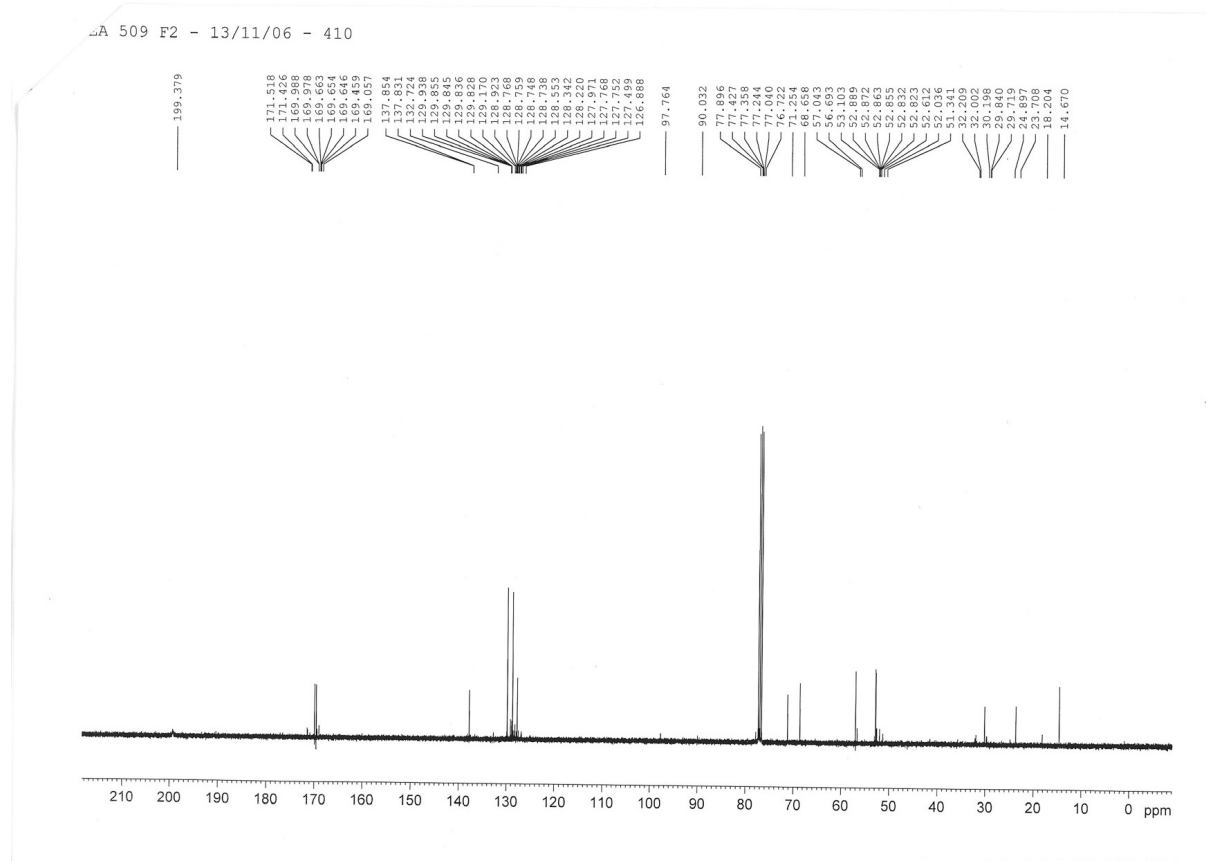
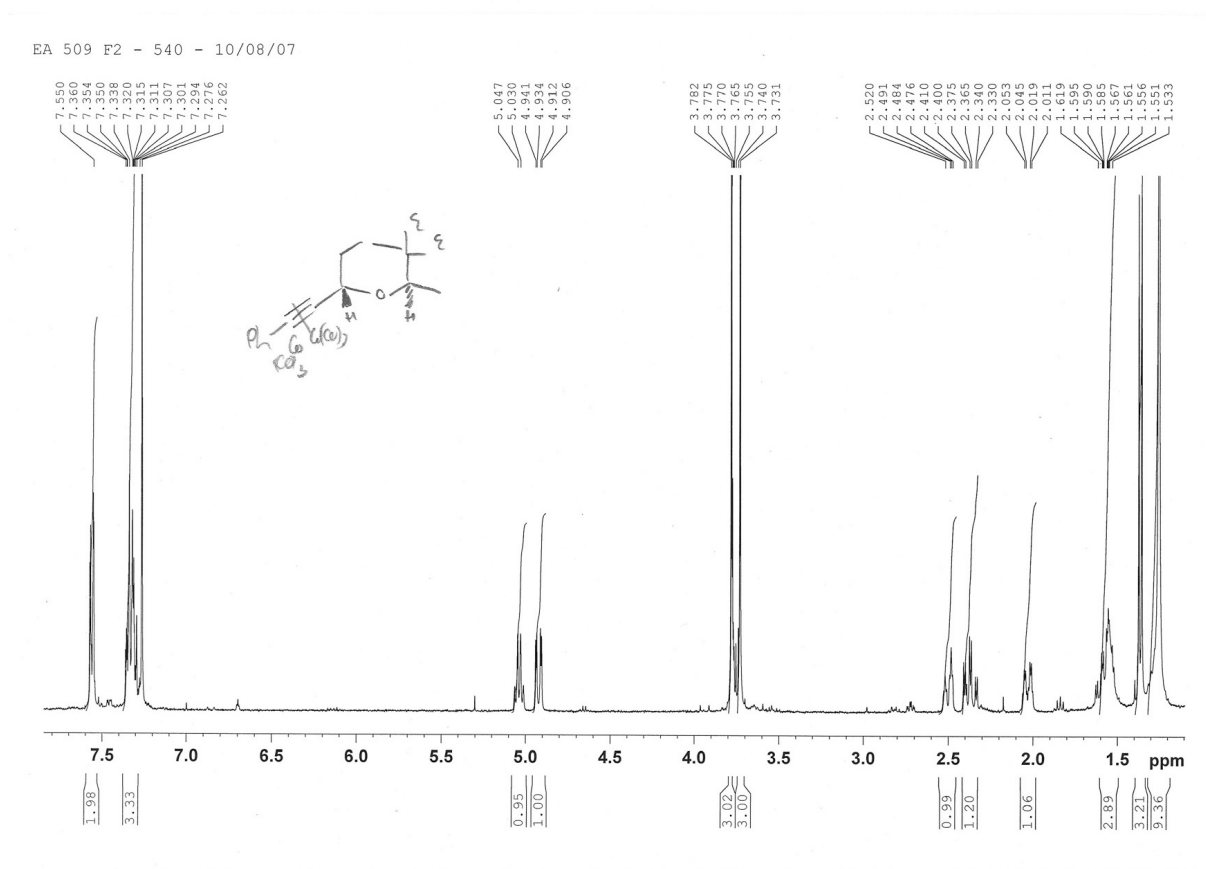
Compound 7a



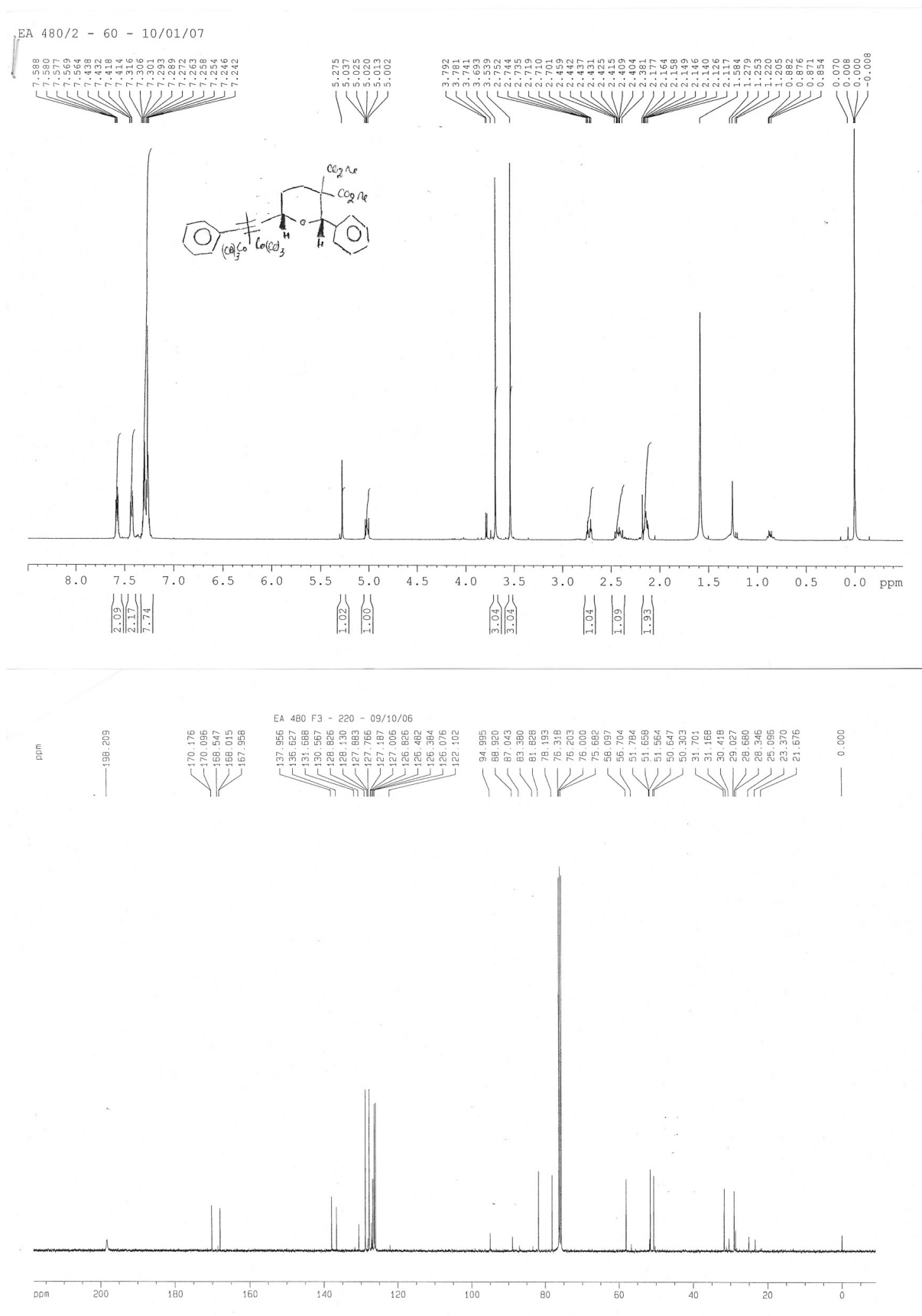
Compound 7b



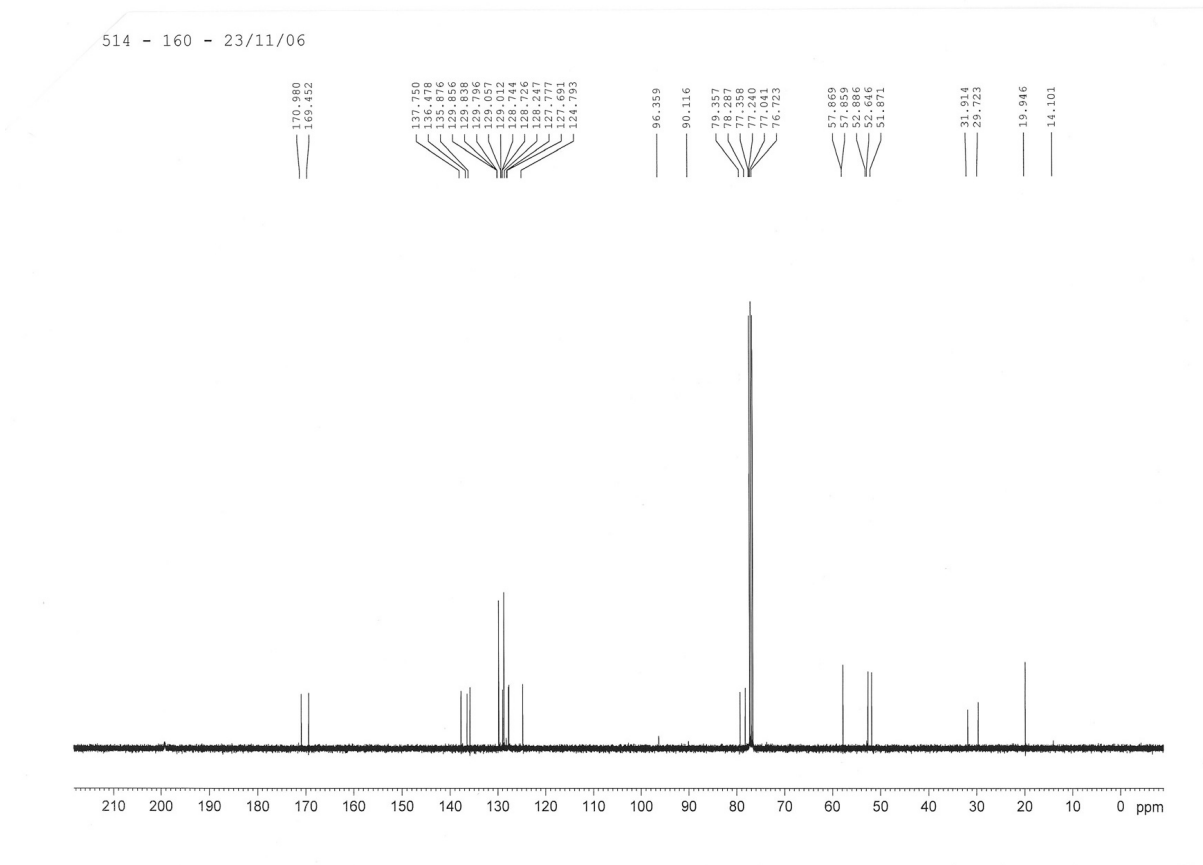
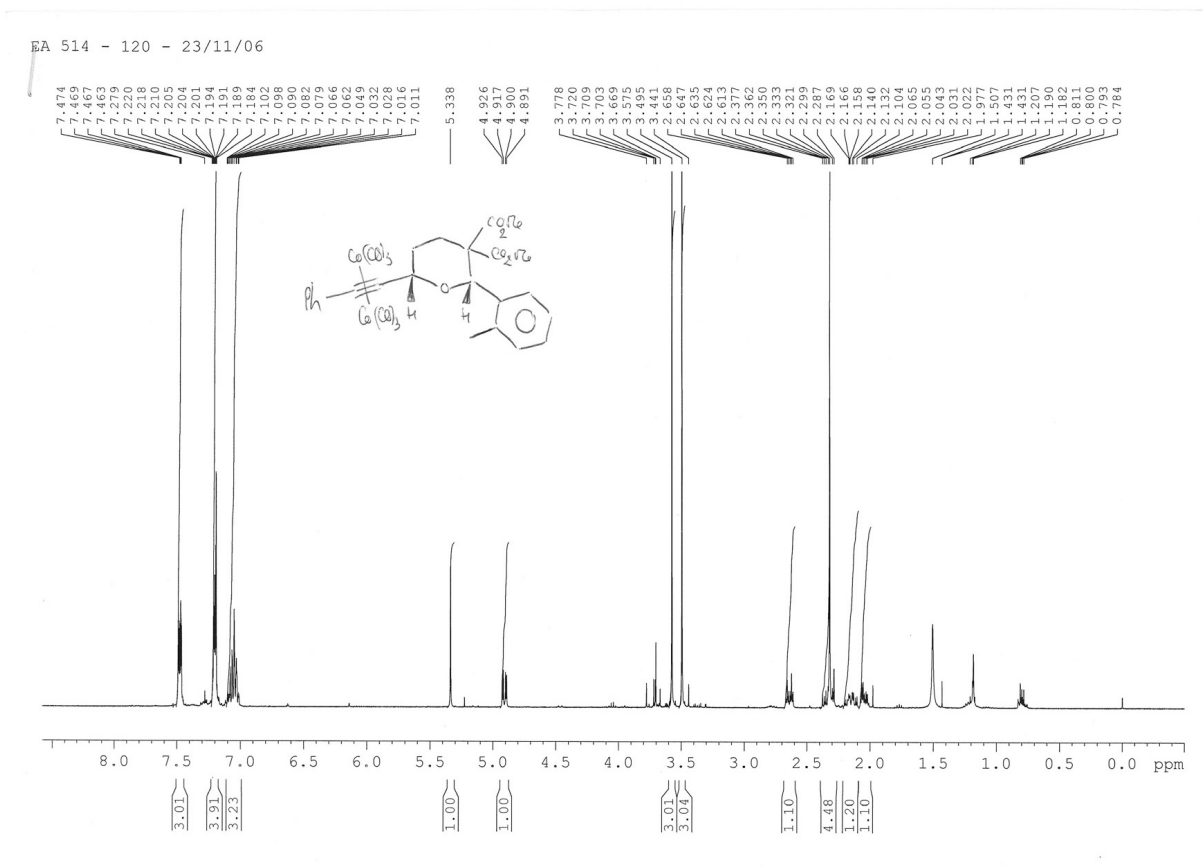
Compound 8b



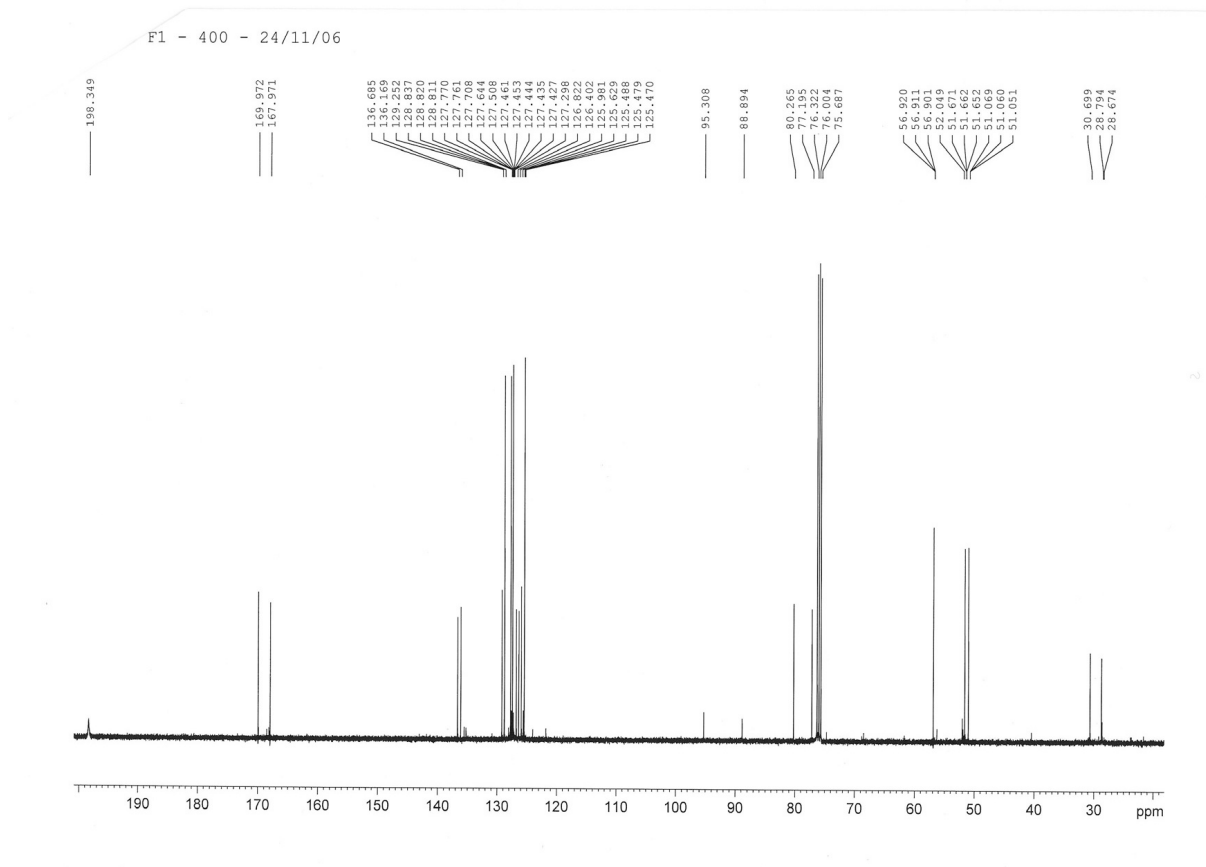
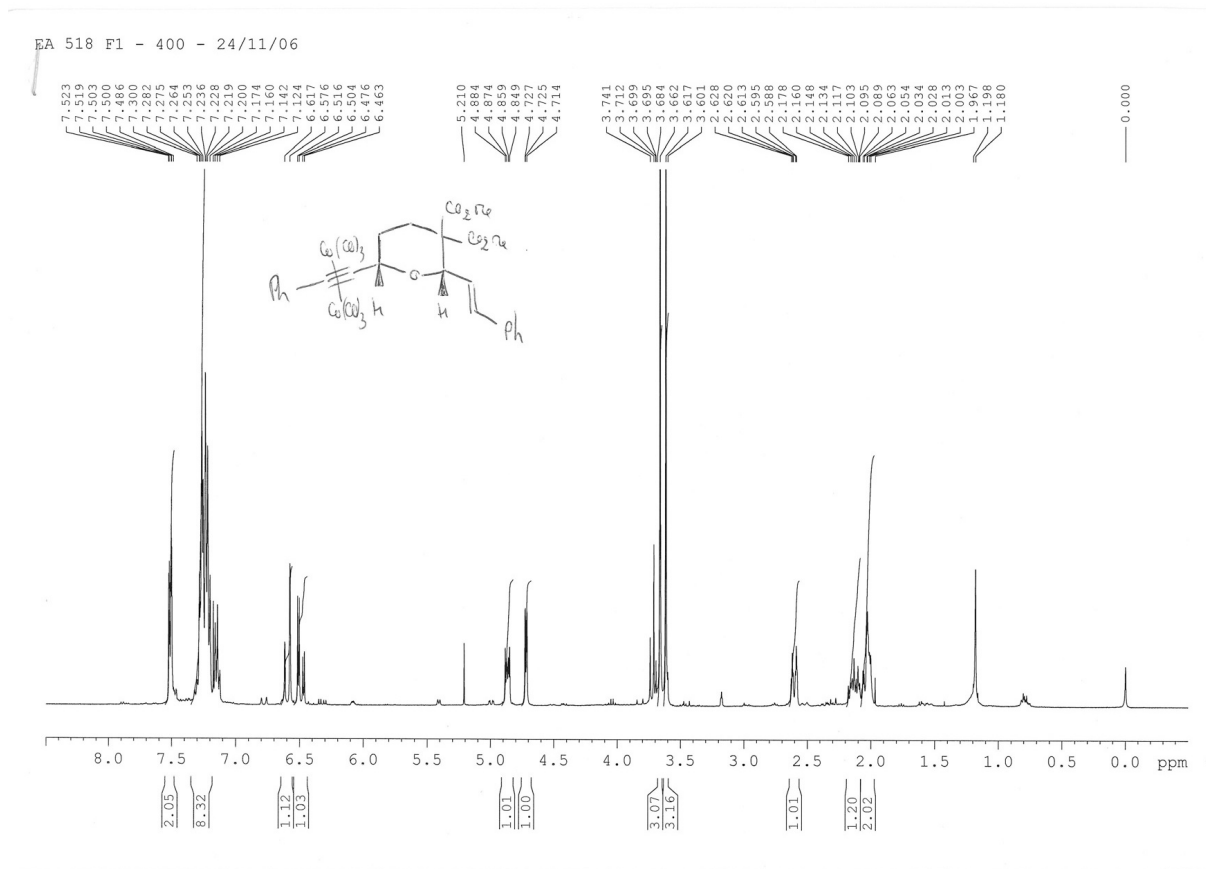
Compound 9



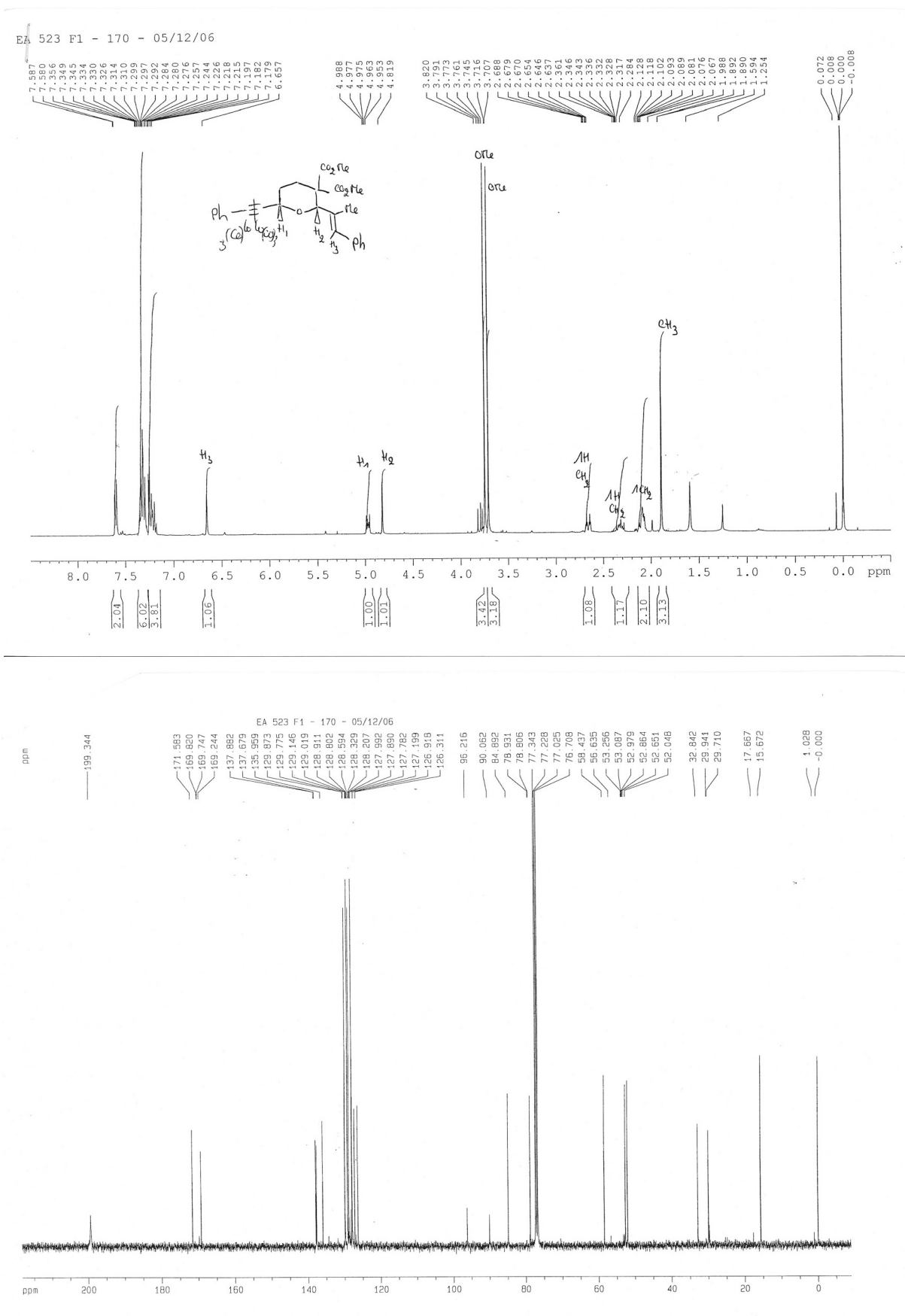
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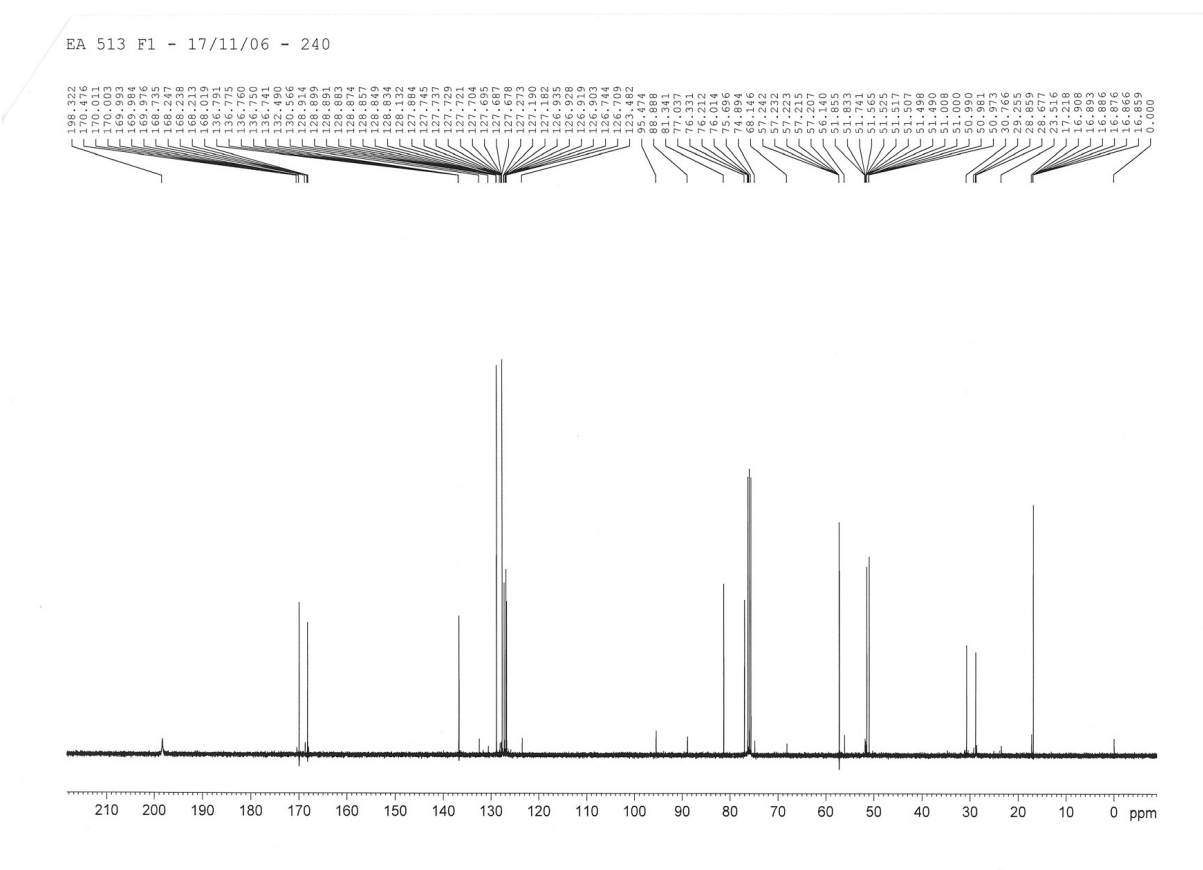
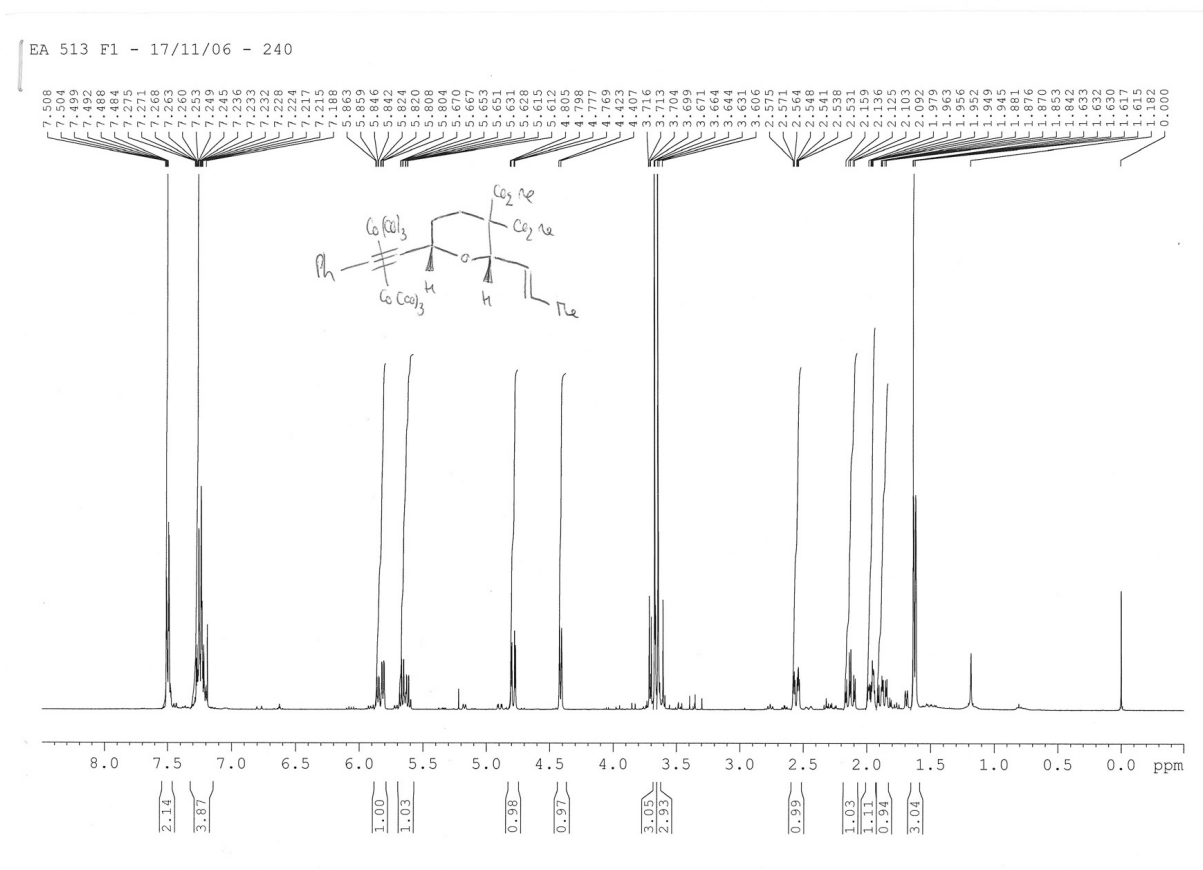
Compound 12



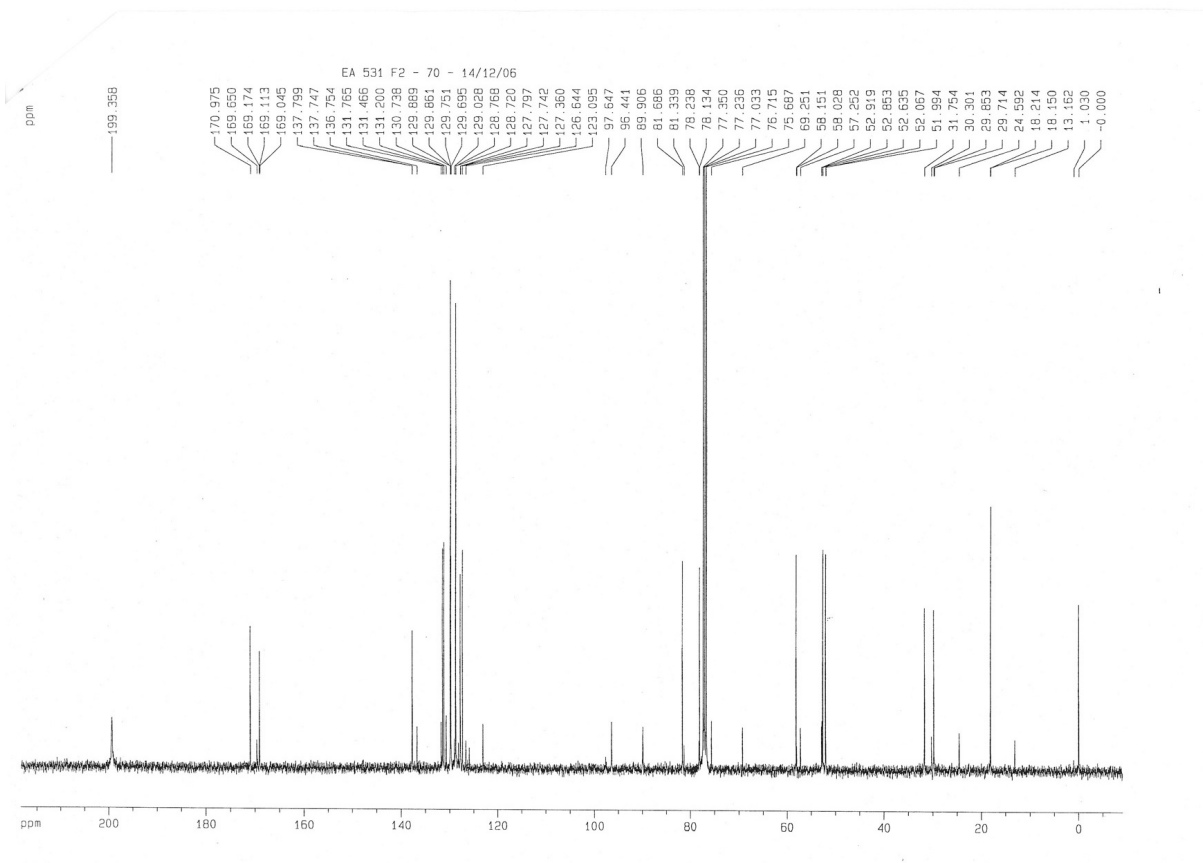
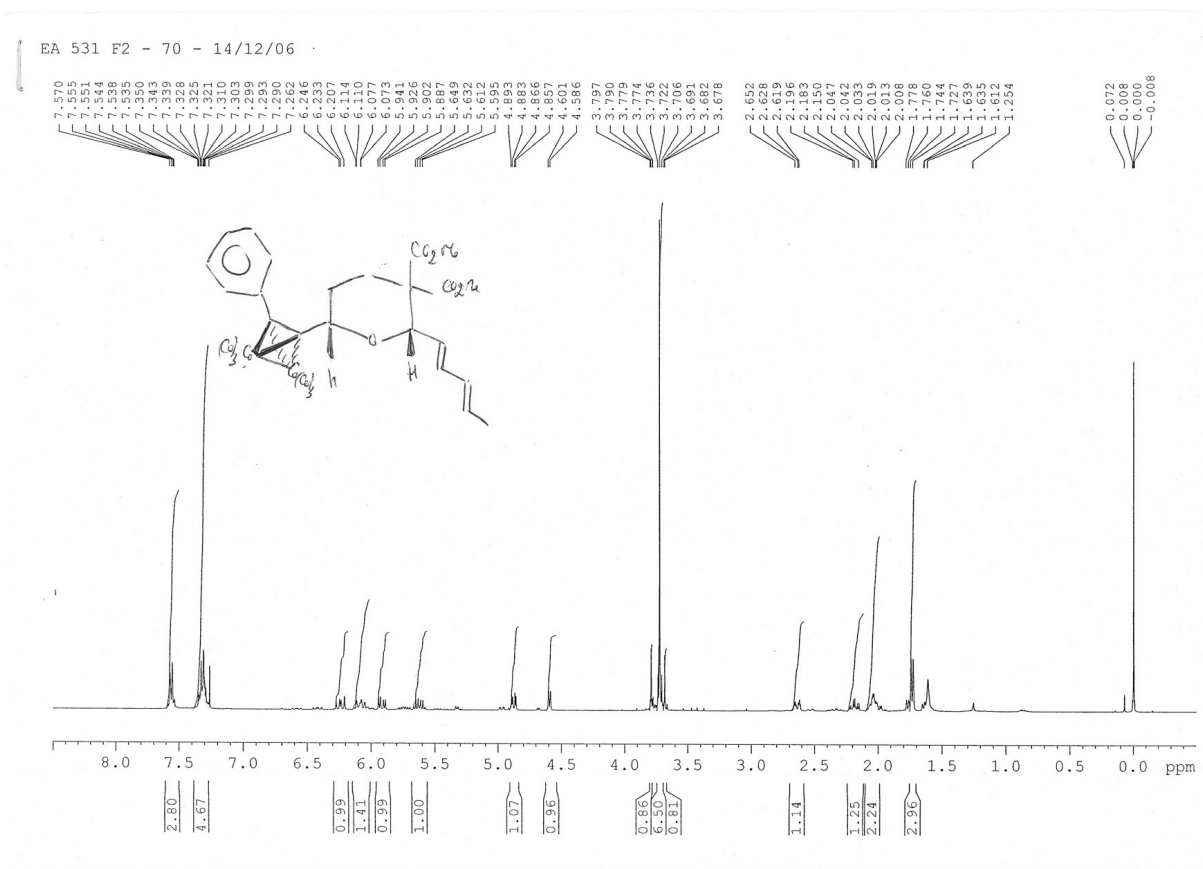
Compound 13



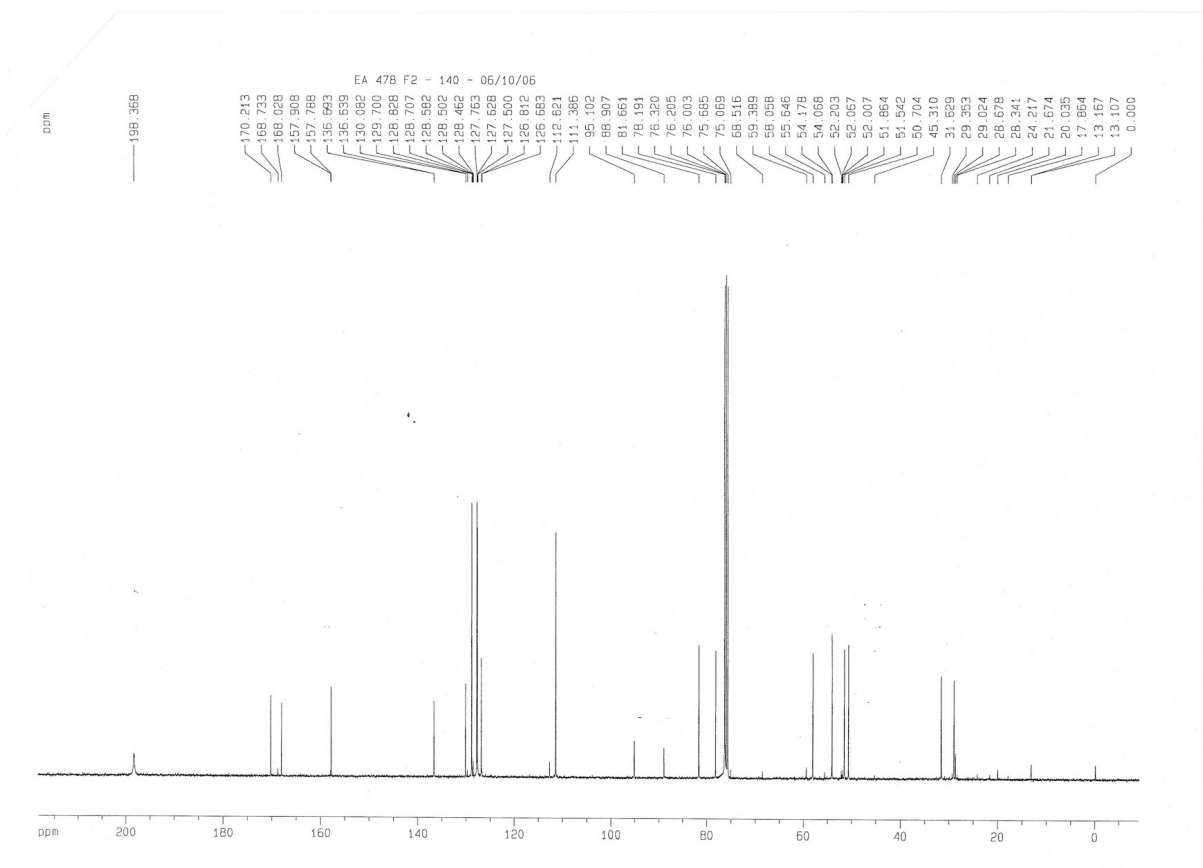
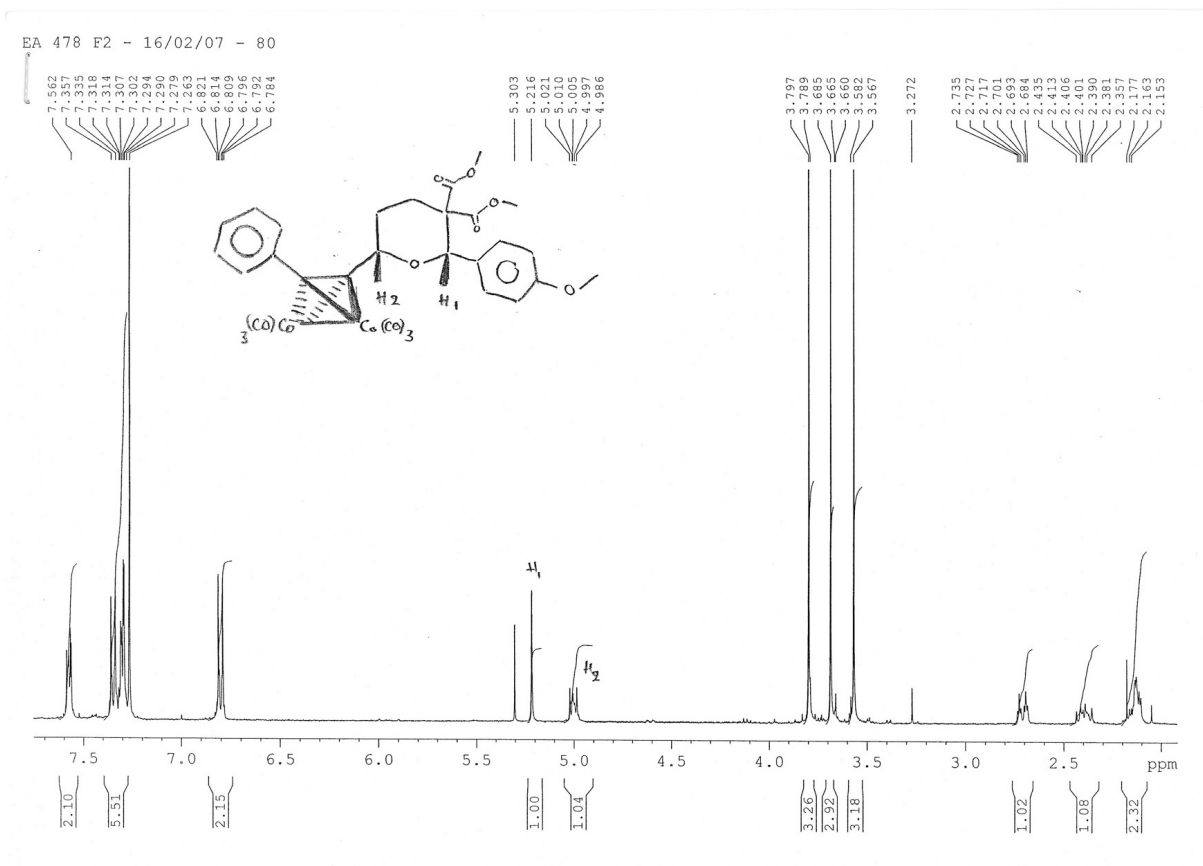
Compound 14



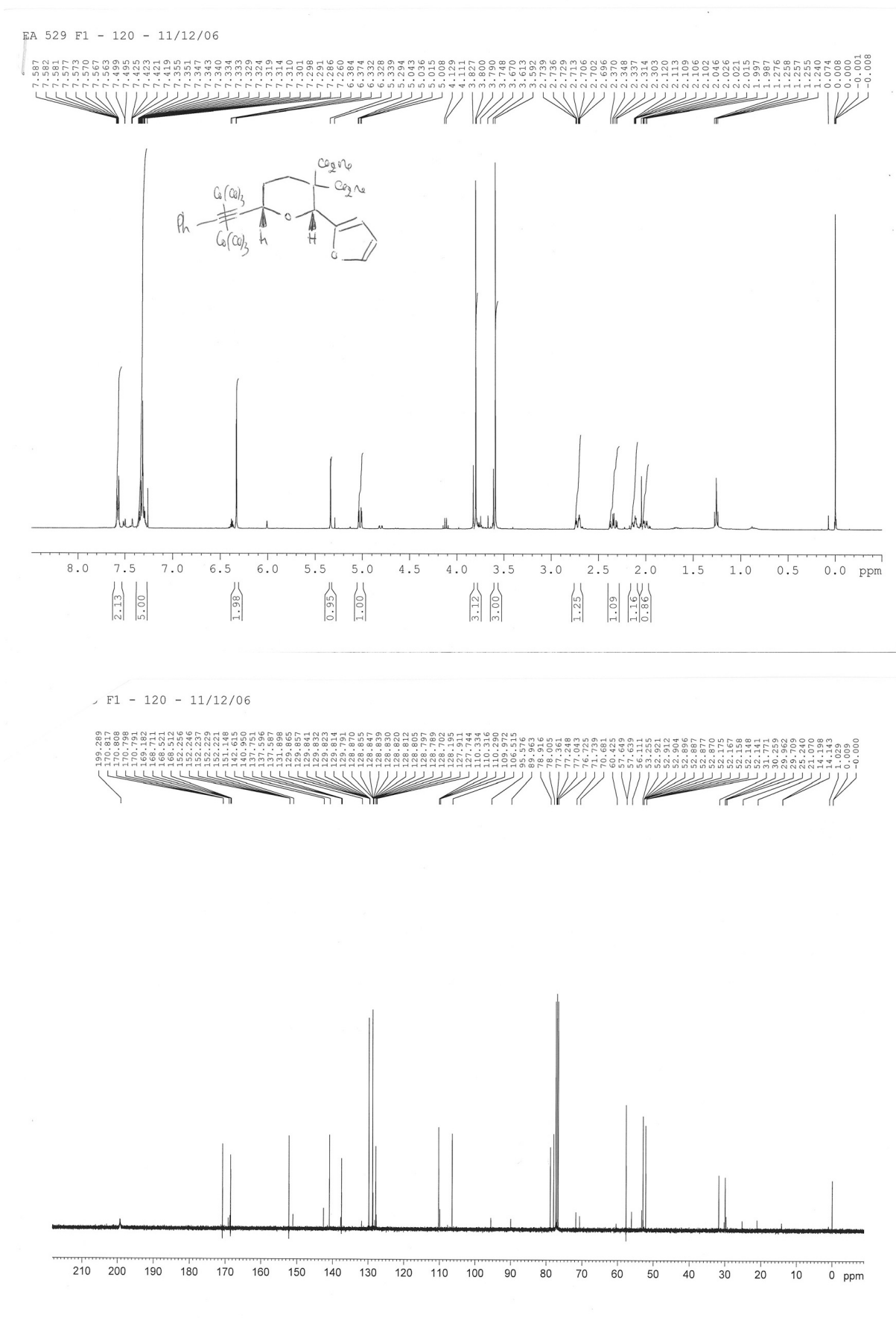
Compound 15



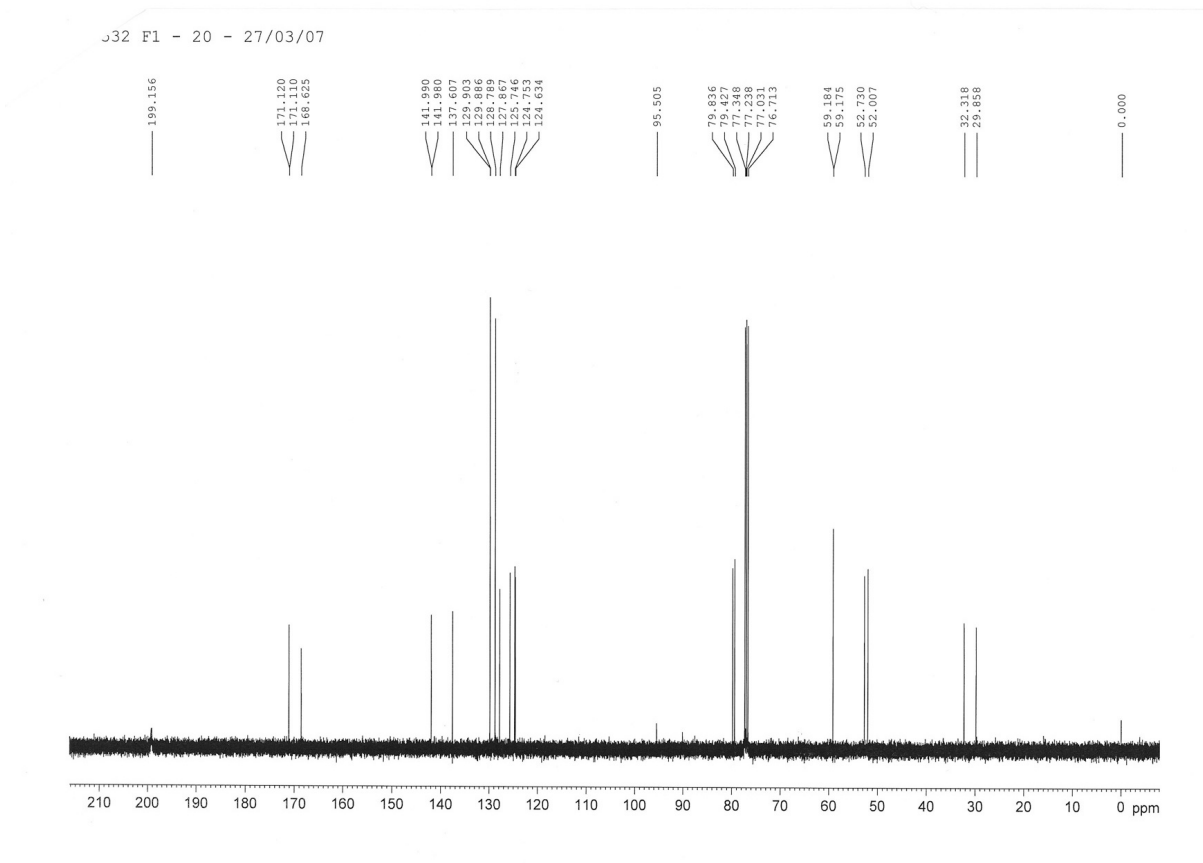
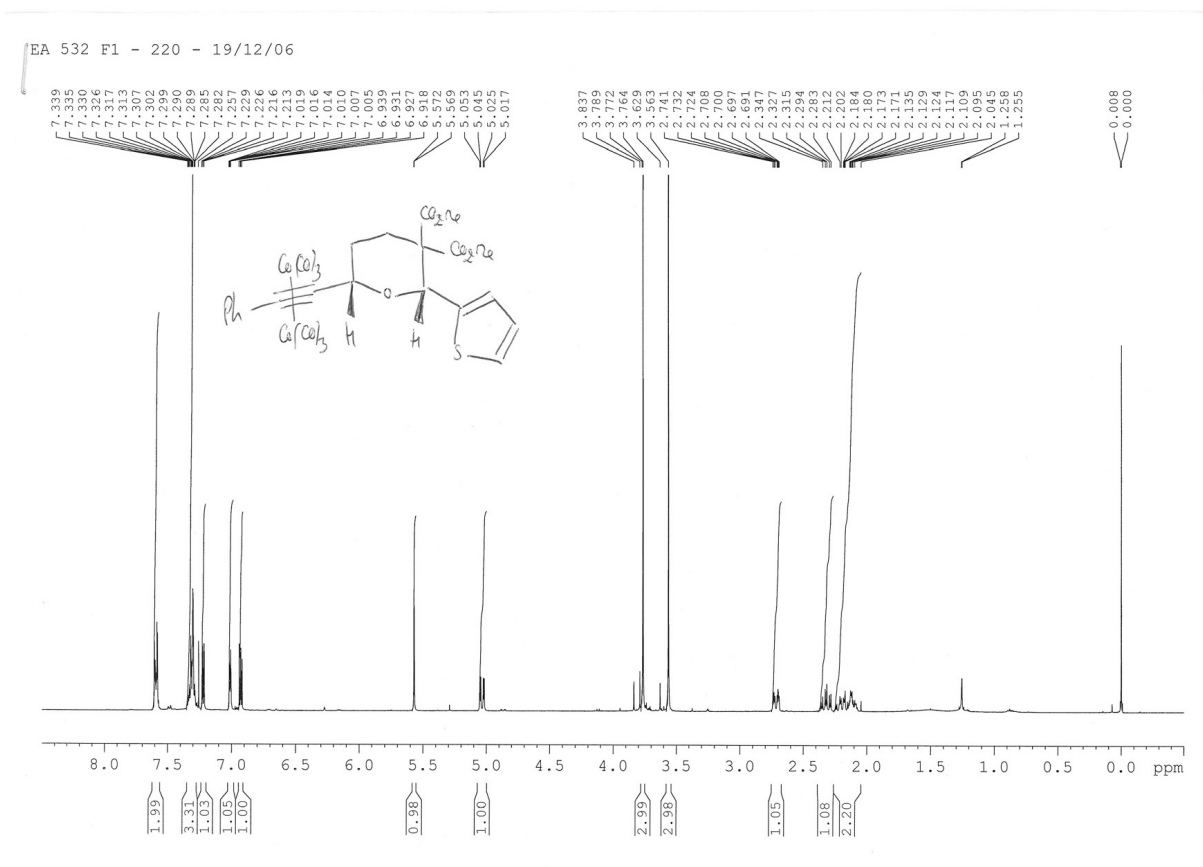
Compound 16



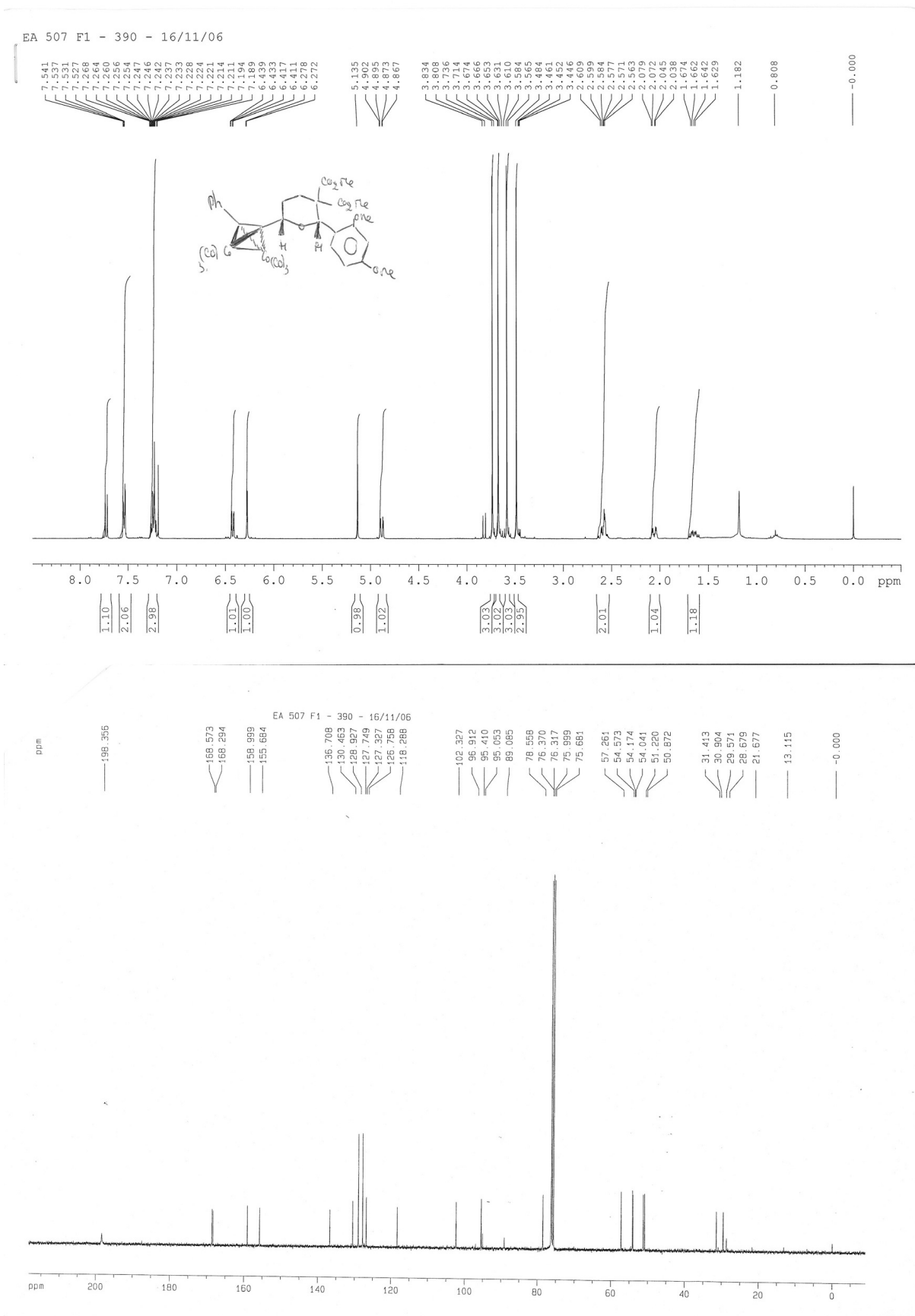
Compound 18



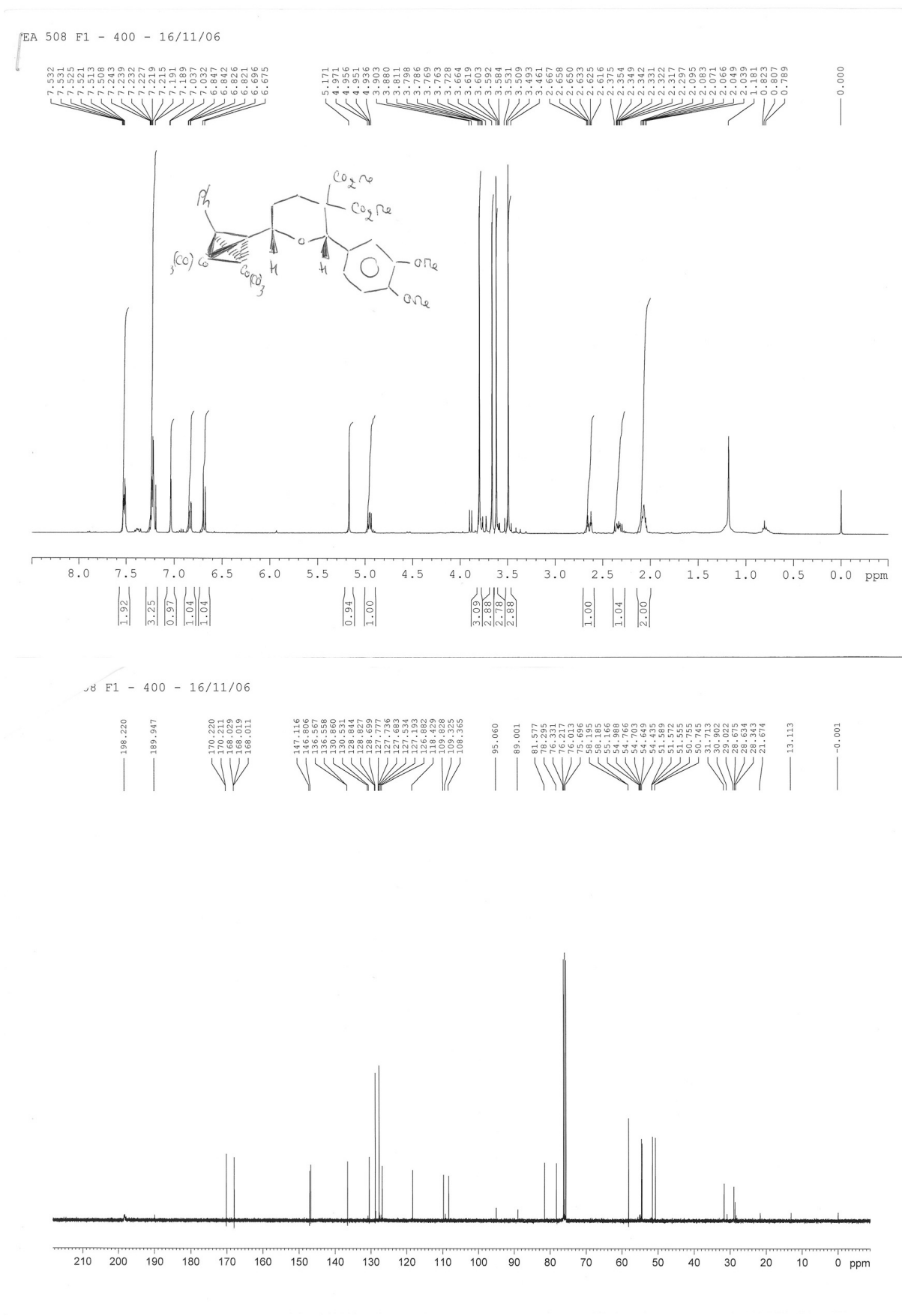
Compound 19



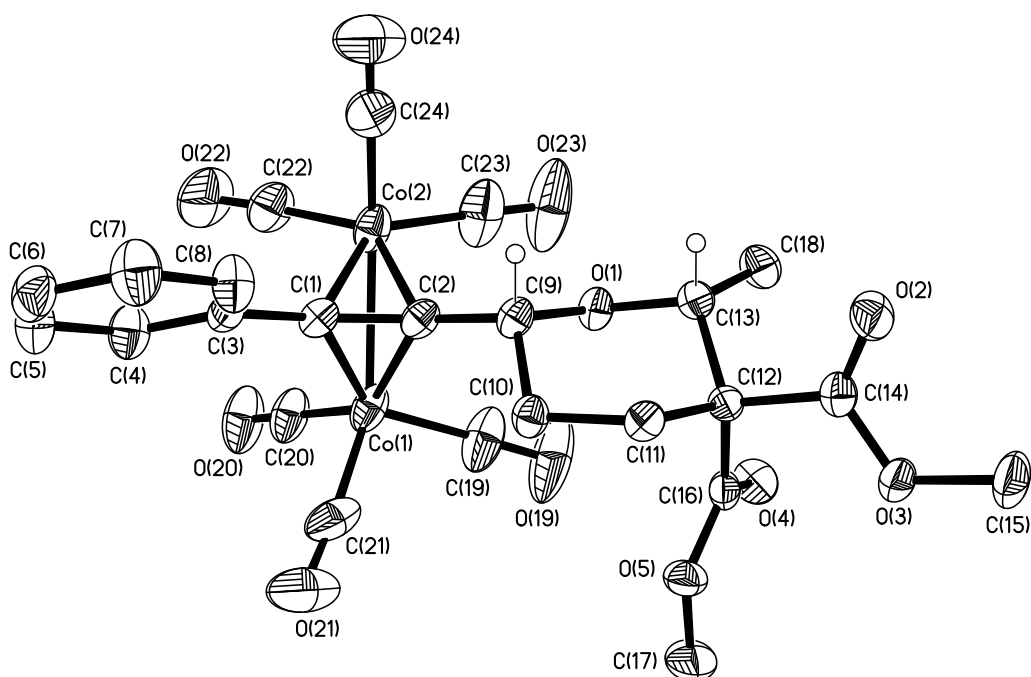
Compound 20



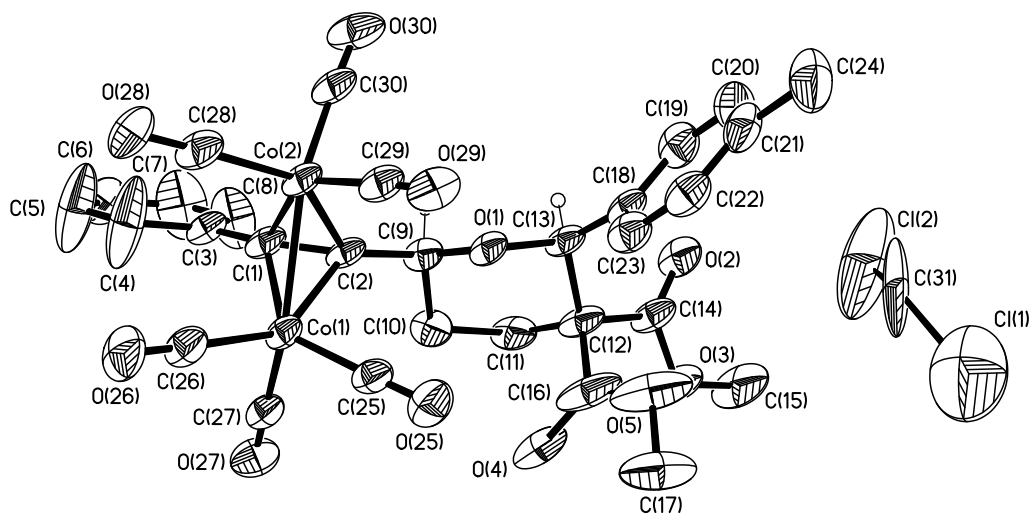
Compound 21



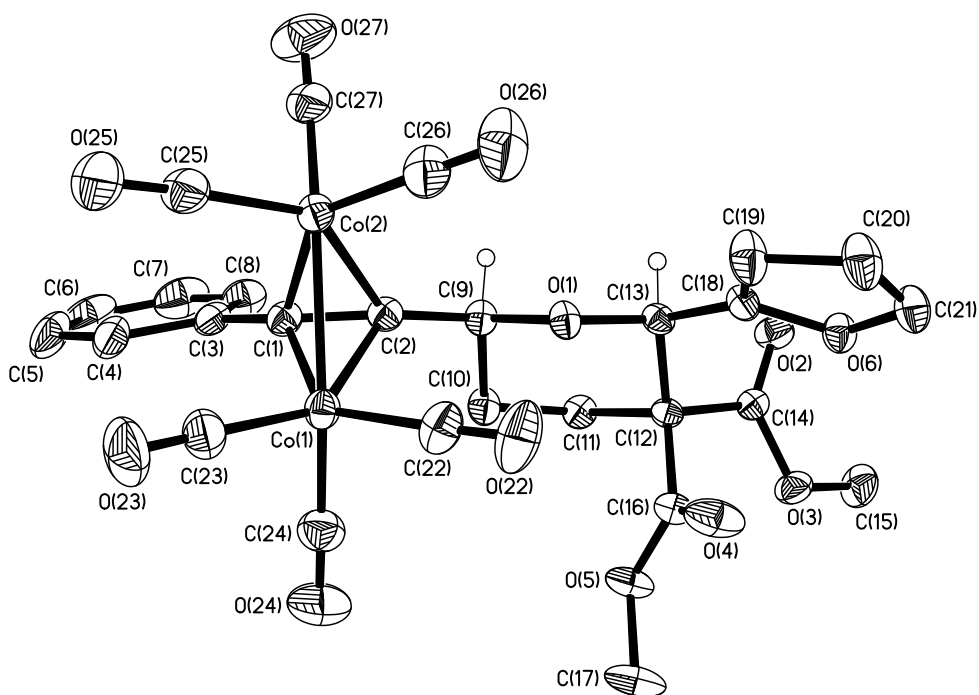
X-ray Crystallography ESI.



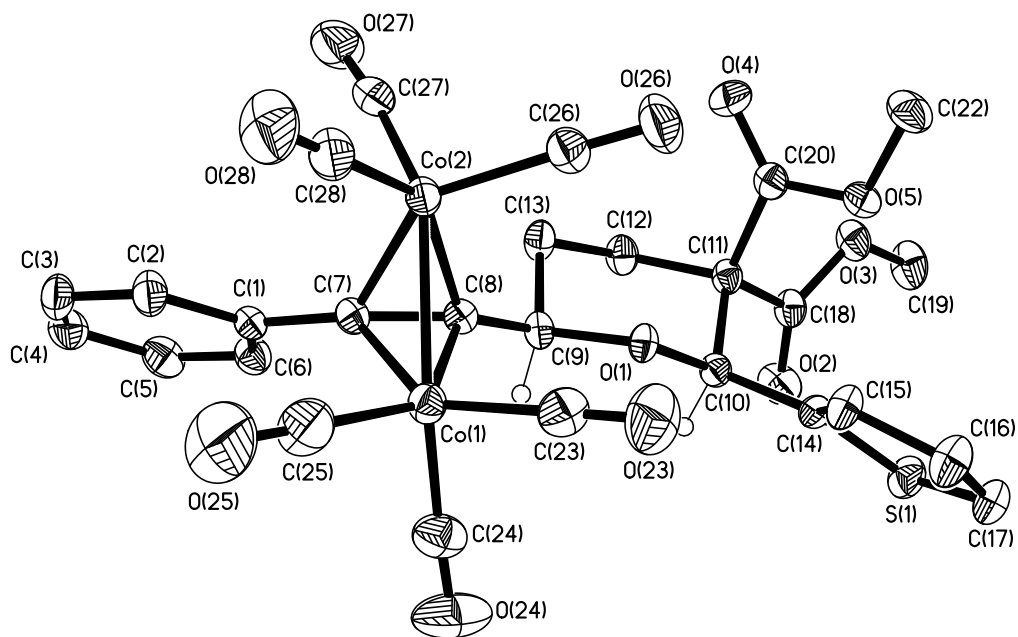
ESIFIG1. Ellipsoid plot at 50% probability level for compound **8**. Most H atoms omitted for clarity



ESIFIG2. Ellipsoid plot at 50% probability level for compound **10**·CH₂Cl₂. Minor disorder components and most H atoms omitted for clarity.



ESIFIG3. Ellipsoid plot at 50% probability level for compound **18**. Most H atoms omitted for clarity.



ESIFIG4. Ellipsoid plot at 50% probability level for compound **19**. Most H atoms omitted for clarity.