Electronic Supporting Information for

Facile oxidation of electron-poor benzo[b]thiophenes to the corresponding sulfones with an aqueous solution of H₂O₂ and P₂O₅

Dyeison Antonow, a Teresa Marrafa, a Irfaan Dawood, a Tauheed Ahmed, a Mohammad R. Haque, a David E. Thurston a and Giovanna Zinzalla* a

Table of Contents

Synthesis of the benzo[b]thiophenecarboxamides	2
Synthesis of sulfur-containing substrates	
Syntheses of benzo[b]thiophene 1,1-dioxides	
Analytical data for the oxidized products	
References	
NMR spectra for all novel compounds	
IR spectra for all novel compounds	

^a Cancer Research UK Protein-Protein Interactions Drug Discovery Research Group, The School of Pharmacy, University of London, 29/39 Brunswick Square, London, United Kingdom. Fax: +44 (0)207753 5964; Tel: +44(0)2077753 5932; E-mail: giovanna.zinzalla@pharmacy.ac.uk

General Synthetic Methods

Melting points were measured using a digital melting point apparatus (Electrothermal). IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Spectrum 1000 FT IR Spectrometer. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra were acquired at 300 K using a Bruker Avance NMR spectrometer at 400 and 100 MHz, respectively. Chemical shifts are reported relative to TMS ($\delta = 0.0$ ppm), and signals are designated as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), dt (double triplet), dd (doublet of doublets), ddd (double doublet of doublets) or m (multiplet), with coupling constants given in Hertz (Hz). Mass spectral data were collected using a Waters Micromass ZQ instrument coupled to a Waters 2695 HPLC with a Waters 2996 PDA. Waters Micromass ZQ parameters used were: Capillary (kV): 3.38, Cone (V): 35, Extractor (V): 3.0, Source temperature (°C): 100, Desolvation Temperature (°C): 200, Cone flow rate (L/h): 50, De-solvation flow rate (L/h): 250. High resolution mass spectroscopy data were recorded on a Waters Micromass QTOF Global in positive W-mode using metal-coated borosilicate glass tips to introduce the samples into the instrument. Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica gel aluminium plates (Merck 60, F₂₅₄), and flash chromatography utilised silica gel (Merck 60, 230-400 mesh ASTM). 60% hydrogen peroxide aqueous solution was purchased from Fisher Scientific Inc. and used within one week. All other reagents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Co.

Synthesis of the benzo[b]thiophenecarboxamides

Benzo[b]thiophenecarboxamides used as substrates in the oxidation reactions were synthesised *via* three different routes.

The nitro-substituted starting materials employed in the oxidation reactions for entries 3, 9, and 12 of Table 1 were synthesised according to representative procedure as follows:

Oxalyl chloride (293 µl, 3.36 mmol, 2.2 eq) was added to a magnetically stirred solution of benzo[b]thiophene-5-carboxylic acid (300 mg, 1.68 mmol, 1.1 eq) in anhydrous DCM (20 ml) at room temperature. Triethylamine (1.28 ml, 9.24 mmol, 5.5 eq) was then added to the mixture and the reaction was stirred at room temperature for 15 min under nitrogen atmosphere. A solution of 4-nitroaniline (210 mg, 1.52 mmol, 1.0 eq) in DCM (15 ml) was then cannulated into the flask and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for 18 h. The solution was diluted with DCM (40 ml) and washed with water (2 x 50 ml). The organic phase was dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford N-(4nitrophenyl)benzo[b]thiophene-5-carboxamide as brown solid (360 mg, 80%).

N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxamide

Molecular Weight: 298.32

Yellow crystals, 90% yield. m.p. 279-281 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3386 (sharp NH band), 3049, 2956, 1672, 1607, 1593, 1540, 1496, 1482, 1403, 1326, 1300, 1246, 1176, 1110, 1037, 879, 844, 748, 689, 639, 611. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.287.32 (m, 2 H, H5 and H6), 7.72-7.77 (m, 2 H, H4 and H7), 7.91 (d, 2 H, J = 7.3 Hz, H2' and H6'), 8.07 (d, 2 H, J = 7.4 Hz, H3' and H5'), 8.09 (s, 1 H, H3), 10.28 (s, 1 H, NH). 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 119.8 (C2' and C6'), 122.7 (C7), 124.6 (C3' and C5'), 124.9 (C4), 125.1 (C5), 126.5 (C3), 126.6 (C7), 139.0 (C4a), 141.3 (C4'), 141.5 (C7a), 143.2 (C1'), 144.3 (C2), 162.0 (C=O) Note: d₆-DMSO was added to the NMR tube for dissolving the analyte. MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 298.68 ([M + H_{1}^{+} , 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass $[M + H_{1}^{+}]$, 299.0490; Measured mass $[M + H_{2}^{+}]$ H] $^{+}$, 299.0505 (δ 5 ppm). Elem. Anal. calculated for C₁₅H₁₀N₂O₃S: C, 60.39; H, 3.38; N, 9.39%. Found: C, 60.11; H, 3.50; N, 9.28%.

N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzo[b]thiophene-3-carboxamide

Molecular Weight: 298.32

Brown solid, 40% yield. IR (ATR: $v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$); 3386, 3110, 1560, 1538, 1488, 1300, 1250, 1215, 1175, 1151, 1109, 1055, 956, 842, 763, 744, 718, 686. ¹H NMR (d_6 -DMSO, 400 MHz); rotamers δ 7.43-7.54 (m. 2 H, H5 and H6), 8.07 (d. 2 H, J = 9.2Hz, H2' and H6'), 8.11 (dd, 1 H, J = 1.0, 7.0 Hz, H7), 8.32 (d, 2 H, J = 9.2 Hz, H3' and H5'), 8.43 (d, 1 H, J = 7.6 Hz, H4), 8.71 (s, 1 H, H2), 10.93 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): rotamers δ 119.6 (C2' and 6'), 122.9 (C7), 124.1 (C4), 124.9 (C3' and C5'), 125.2 and 125.3 (C5 and C6), 130.2 (C3), 133.5 (C2), 136.9 (C3a), 139.4 (C7a), 142.3 (C4'), 145.4 (C1'), 162.2 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 299.03 ($[M + H]^+$, 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass $[M + H]^+$, 299.0490; Measured mass $[M + H]^{+}$, 299.0476 (δ 4.7 ppm).

N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzo[b]thiophene-5-carboxamide

Molecular Weight: 298.32

Brown solid, 80% yield. IR (ATR: v_{max}/cm^{-1}); 3282, 3080, 1775, 1654, 1594, 1498, 1405, 1325, 1248, 1150, 1112, 1049, 846, 745, 689. ¹H NMR (*d*₆-DMSO, 400 MHz): rotamers δ 7.63 (d, 1 H, J = 5.4 Hz, H3), 7.92 (d, 1 H, J = 5.4 Hz, H2), 7.95 (dd, 1 H, J = 8.5, 1.6 Hz, H6), 8.10 (d, 2 H, J = 9.1 Hz, H2' and H6'), 8.20 (d, 1 H, J = 8.5 Hz, H7), 8.29 (d, 2 H, J = 9.1 Hz, H3' and H5'), 8.55 (d, 1 H, J = 1.3 Hz, H4), 10.92 (s, 1 H, NH). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): rotamers δ 119.8 (C2' and 6'), 122.7 (C7), 123.4 (C6), 123.6 (C4), 124.5 (C3), 124.8 (C3' and C5'), 129.3 (C2), 130.5 (C5), 139.1 (C3a), 142.4 (C7a), 142.6 (C4'), 145.6 (C1'), 166.4 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 298.50 ($[M + H]^{-+}$, 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass $[M + H]^{-+}$, 299.0478; Measured mass $[M + H]^{-+}$, 299.0490 (δ 4 ppm).

Benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxamides used as starting material in oxidation reactions for entries 2 and 4 of Table 1 were synthesised from benzothiophene-2carbonylchloride according to representative procedure as follows:

Benzo[b]thiophene-2-carbonyl chloride (500 mg, 2.54 mmol, 1.0 eq) was added in portions to a solution of 4-nitroaniline (315 mg, 2.3 mmol, 0.9 eq) and TEA (0.68 ml, 5.0 mmol, 2.0 eq) in anhydrous THF (10 ml) at room temperature under magnetic stirring. The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature. The product precipitated out of solution and was collected by filtration, and washed with small amounts of THF to give N-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxamide as gray solid (548 mg, 76%).

N-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxamide

Molecular Weight: 283.34

Gray solid, 76% yield. m.p. 226-229 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3344, 2977, 2946, 1634, 1597, 1514, 1476, 1397, 1243, 1173, 1031, 820, 808, 754, 734, 634. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.78 (s, 3 H, H-(OCH₃)), 6.86 (d, 2 H, J = 8.8 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.38 (gt. 2 H, J = 6.8 Hz, H5 and H6), 7.68 (d. 2 H, J = 8.8 Hz, H2' and H6'), 7.84 (d, 2 H, J = 7.3 Hz, H4 and H7), 8.18 (s, 1 H, H3), 8.77 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 55.5 (C-(OCH₃)), 114.1 (C3' and C5'), 122.4 (C2' and C6'), 122.6 (C7), 124.8 (C4), 125.2 (C5), 125.9 (C3), 126.3 (C6), 131.2 (C1'), 139.4 (C2), 139.5 (C4a), 141.1 (C7a), 156.5 (C4'), 160.5 (C=O). MS (ESI $^+$) m/z (relative intensity): 283.70 ($[M + H]^+$, 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass $[M + H]^+$, 284.0745; Measured mass $[M + H]^+$, 284.0734 (δ 4 ppm).

N-isopropylbenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxamide

Molecular Weight: 219.3

White solid, 80% yield. m.p. 148–149 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3264, 2972, 1625, 1549, 1455, 1287, 1198, 841, 742. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.19 (m, 6H, H-(CH₃)₂), 4.22 (s, 1H, H-(CH)), 5.88 (s, 1H, NH), 7.30 (m, 2H, H5 and H6), 7.74 (m, 2H, H4 and H7), 7.67 (s, 1H, H3). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 22.8 (C-(CH₃)₂), 42.3 (C-(CH)), 122.7 (C3), 124.8 (C4), 124.9 (C7), 126.2 (C5 and C6), 138.9 (C3a), 139.1 (C7a), 140.7 (C2), 161.5 (C=O).

(S)-Ethyl 2-(benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxamido)-3-phenylpropanoate (stating material forentry **6**) was synthesised according to Yoo and Li¹ as follows:

(S)-Ethyl 2-(benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxamido)-3-phenylpropanoate

Molecular Weight: 353.43

T-Hydro[®] (2.1 ml, 6.5 mmol, 1.1 eq) and thianaphtene-2-carboxaldehyde (1.001 g, 6.17 mmol, 1 eq) were added to a mixture of CuI (11.21 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 % mol). AgIO₃ (17.8 mg, 0.06 mmol, 1 % mol), L-phenylalanine ethyl ester hydrochloric acid (2.770 g, 9.49 mmol, 1.5 eq) and CaCO₃ (0.710 g, 7.10 mmol, 1.1 eq) in MeCN (2 ml). The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for 32 h. The mixture was then purified by flash chromatography EtOAc /hexane gradient to provide (S)-Ethyl 2-(benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxamido)-3-phenylpropanoate as a colorless oil (1.7 g, 69%). IR (ATR, $v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 695, 716, 746, 766, 806, 863, 1042, 1081, 1112, 1180, 1219, 1277, 1366, 1427, 1450, 1538, 1643, 1733, 3266. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.31 (t, 3 H, J = 7.1 Hz, H18), 3.25 – 3.35, (dd, 2 H, J = 5.9 and 8.6 Hz, H10a and H10b), 4.23 - 4.28 (q, 2 H, J = 7.2 Hz, H17a and H17b), 5.07 - 5.12 (q, 1 H, J = 7.3and 5.9 Hz, H9), 6.62 (d, 1 H, J = 7.3 Hz, NH), 7.18 (d, 2 H, J = 7.8, H11 and H15), 7.29 - 7.31 (m, 3 H, H13, H12 and H14), 7.40 - 7.44 (m, 2 H, J = 1.4, 1.7 and 7.1 Hz, H5 and H6), 7.75, (s, 1 H, H3), 7.84 (t, 2 H, J = 9.0, H4 and H7). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 14.2 (CH₃), 38.0 (CH₂), 53.6 (C9), 61.8 (OCH₂), 122.7 (C7), 125.0 (C4), 125.1 (C3), 125.5 (C5), 126.5 (C6), 127.2 (C12 and C14), 128.6 (C13), 129.5 (C11 and C15), 135.7 (C10a), 137.9 (C3a), 139.0 (C7a), 141.0 (C2), 161.6 (NC=O), 171.3 (OC=O). MS (ESI $^{+}$) m/z (relative intensity): 160.97 ($[M - Phe + H]^{+}$ 100 %), $280.08 ([M - COOCH_2CH_3] 10 \%), 376.09 ([M + Na]^+ 20\%).$

All other benzo[b]thiophenecarboxamides used as starting materials in oxidation reactions for entries 1, 5, 7, 8, 10, and 11 of Table 1 were synthesised from the commercially available benzo[b]thiophenecarboxilic acids using standard amide coupling conditions according to representative procedure as follows:

Aniline (105 µg, 1.15 mmol, 1.03 eq) was added to a solution of benzo[b]thiophene-3-carboxilic acid (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 eq), N-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-N-ethyl carbodiimide hydrochloride (257 mg, 1.34 mmol, 1.2 eq), and dimethylaminopyridine (27 mg, 0.22 mmol, 0.2 eq) in dry DCM (5 ml) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was magnetically stirred for 16 h at room temperature when a precipitate crashed out of solution. The solids were collect by filtration and washed with minimum DCM to give N-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[b]thiophene-3-carboxamide as a white solid (281 mg, 98 %).

N-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxamide

Molecular Weight: 253.32

White solid, 72% yield. m.p. 205-207 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3375 (sharp NH band), 3049, 1638, 1595, 1522, 1438, 1315, 1244, 1187, 1080, 941, 869, 840, 752, 735, 685. H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.14 (t, 1 H, J = 7.4 Hz, H4'), 7.41 (t, 2 H, J= 7.5 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.50 (m, 2 H, H5 and H6), 7.79 (d, 2 H, J = 7.6 Hz, H2' and H6'), 8.02 (d, 1 H, J = 8.8 Hz, H6), 8.06 (d, 1 H, J = 9.0 Hz, H5), 8.38 (s, 1 H, H3), 10.50 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 120.3 (C2' and C6'), 122.8 (C7), 123.9 (C4'), 125.0 (C4), 125.8 (C5), 126.5 (C6), 128.7 (C3' and C5'), 138.6 (C1'), 139.1 (C4a), 140.0 (C7a), 140.5 (C2), 160.3 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 253.74 ($[M + H]^{-1}$, 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass $[M + H]^{-1}$, 254.0640; Measured mass $[M + H]^+$, 254.0633 (δ 3 ppm). Elem. Anal. calculated for C₁₅H₁₁NOS: C, 71.12; H, 4.38; N, 5.53%. Found: C, 71.08; H, 4.31; N, 5.49%.

N-cyclohexylbenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxamide

Molecular Weight: 259.37

Off-white solid, 74% yield. m.p. 165.2 - 166.8 °C. IR (ATR, $v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3287, 2930, 1609, 1540, 1448, 1338, 1205, 1156, 1071, 874, 719, 662. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.19 (m, 2H, H2`and H6`), 1.14 (m, 2H, H4`), 1.64 (m, 4H, H3` and H5`), 1.97 (s, 2H, H2` and H6`), 3.91 (m, 1H, H1`), 5.92 (s, 1H, NH), 7.32 (t, 2H, J = 6.0Hz, H5 and H6), 7.75 (m, 2H, H4 and H7), 7.67 (s, 1H, H3). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 24.9 (C3` and C5`), 25.3 (C4`), 33.2 (C2` and C6`), 49.0 (C1`), 122.7 (C3), 124.86 (C7), 124.9 (C5 or C6), 124.93 (C4), 126.2 (C5 or C6), 138.97 (C3a), 139.15 (C7a), 140.7 (C2), 161.3 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 281.06 ([M + Na]⁺, 100%.).

N-phenylbenzo[b]thiophene-3-carboxamide

Molecular Weight: 253.32

White solid, 98 % yield. m.p. 179 - 182 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3281 (sharp NH band), 3090, 3059, 1642, 1596, 1520, 1496, 1440, 1314, 1251, 1217, 1066, 1021, 884, 854, 765, 753, 732, 708, 689. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.17 (t, 1 H, J = 7.4 Hz, H4'), 7.38 (t, 2 H, J = 8.1 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.42 – 7.50 (m, 2 H, H5 and H6), 7.64 (d, 2 H, J = 7.7 Hz, H2') and (d, 1 H, H2'), (d, 1 H, H2'), (d, 1 H, J = 8.1 Hz, H2'), 7.98 (s, 1 H, H2), 8.41 (d, 1 H, J = 7.8 Hz, H4). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) : δ 120.3 (C2' and C6'), 122.6 (C7), 124.3 (C4), 124.7 (C4'), 125.3 (C5 and C6), 129.2 (C3' and C5'), 129.6 (C2), 132.4 (C3), 136.7 (C4a), 137.8 (C1'), 140.3 (C7a), 162.0 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 253.89 ([M + H]⁺, 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass $[M + H]^+$, 254.0640; Measured mass $[M + H]^+$, 254.0625 (δ 5 ppm). N-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[b]thiophene-3-carboxamide

Molecular Weight: 283.34

Red solid, 64% yield. m.p. 225 - 226 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3287, 3085, 2956, 1637, 1509, 1458, 1411, 1300, 1231, 1171, 1034, 822, 813, 766, 703, 685. ¹H NMR $(400 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$: δ 3.77 (s, 3 H, H-(OCH₃)), 6.95 (d, 2 H, J = 9.0 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.46 (q, 2 H, J = 7.1 Hz, H5 and H6), 7.68 (d, 2 H, J = 9.0 Hz, H2' and H6'), 8.05 (d, 1 H, J = 7.0 Hz, H7), 8.42 (d, 1 H, J = 7.1 Hz, H4), 8.52 (s, 1 H, H3), 10.20(s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 55.2 (C-(OCH₃)), 113.8 (C3' and C5'), 121.8 (C2' and C6'), 122.8 (C7), 124.3 (C4), 124.8 (C5), 124.9 (C6), 131.2 (C2), 131.3 (C3), 132.1 (C1'), 137.2 (C4a), 139.4 (C7a), 155.5 (C4'), 161.5 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 283.83 ([M + H]⁺, 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass $[M + H]^+$, 284.0667; Measured mass $[M + H]^+$, 284.0736. Elem. Anal. calculated for C₁₆H₁₃NO₂S: C, 67.82; H, 4.62; N, 4.94%. Found: C, 67.62; H, 4.61; N, 4.94%.

N-phenylbenzo[b]thiophene-5-carboxamide

Molecular Weight: 253.32

Red solid, 77 % yield. m.p. 187-188 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3359 (sharp NH band), 3080, 1770, 1654, 1594, 1522, 1440, 1321, 1238, 1158, 1120, 993, 901, 822, 750, 730, 686, 624. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ 7.12 (t, 1 H, J = 7.3 Hz, H4'), 7.37 (t, 2 H, J = 7.7 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.62 (d, 1 H, J = 5.4 Hz, H3), 7.82 (d, 2 H, J = 7.8Hz, H2' and H6'), 7.90 (d, 1 H, J = 5.4 Hz, H2), 7.94 (dd, 1 H, J = 1.3, 8.4 Hz, H6), 8.16 (d, 1 H, J = 8.4 Hz, H7), 8.53, (s, 1 H, H4), 10.34 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ 120.3 (C2' and C6'), 122.5 (C7), 123.2 (C4), 123.3 (C6), 123.6 (C4'), 124.4 (C3), 128.6 (C3' and C5'), 128.9 (C2), 131.3 (C5), 139.1 (C4a), 139.3 (C1'), 142.0 (C7a), 165.6 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 253.74 ([M + H_1^{-+} , 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass $[M + H_1^{-+}]$, 254.0640; Measured mass $[M + H_1^{-+}]$ H] $^{+}$, 254.0634 (δ 2 ppm). Elem. Anal. calculated for C₁₅H₁₁NOS: C, 71.12; H, 4.38; N, 5.53%. Found: C, 71.18; H, 4.31; N, 5.48%.

N-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[b]thiophene-5-carboxamide

Molecular Weight: 283.34

Colourless solid, 96 % yield. m.p. 211-213 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3349 (sharp NH band), 3075, 1774, 1648, 1599, 1508, 1407, 1321, 1234, 1158, 1120, 1052, 993, 900, 821, 804, 756, 730, 695, 646, 622. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d₆-DMSO): δ 3.76 (s, 3 H, OCH_3), 6.95 (d, 2 H, J = 8.9 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.61 (d, 1 H, J = 5.3 Hz, H3), 7.71 (d, 2 H, J = 8.8 Hz, H2' and H6', 7.89 (d, 1 H, J = 5.4 Hz, H2), 7.93 (d, 1 H, J = 8.4 Hz,H6), 8.15 (d, 1 H, J = 8.4 Hz, H7), 8.51 (s, 1 H, H4), 10.22 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ 55.2 (OCH₃), 113.7 (C3' and C5'), 121.9 (C3' and C5'), 122.5 (C7), 123.1 (C4), 123.2 (C6), 124.4 (C3), 128.8 (C2), 131.4 (C5), 132.3 (C1'), 139.1 (C4a), 141.9 (C7a), 155.5 (C4'), 165.2 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 283.84 ($[M + H]^{+}$, 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass $[M + H]^{+}$, 284.0745; Measured mass $[M + H]^+$, 284.0750 (δ 2 ppm). Elem. Anal. calculated for C₁₆H₁₃NO₂S: C, 67.82; H, 4.62; N, 4.94%. Found: C, 67.67; H, 4.71; N, 4.91%.

Synthesis of sulfur-containing substrates

Sulfur-containing starting materials in oxidation reactions shown in **Table 3** that had not been previously reported in literature² or were not commercially available were synthesized as described below.

2-(3-nitrophenyl)benzo[b]thiophene

Molecular Weight: 255.29

Pd(PPh₃)₄ (129 mg, 0.11 mmol, 0.1 eq) was added to a solution of 3nitrobromobenzene (272 mg, 1.34 mmol, 1.1 eq), thianaphthlene boronic acid (200 mg, 1.12 mmol, 1.0 eq) and CsF² (340 mg, 2.24 mmol, 2.0 eq) in acetonitrile/water (3:1 ratio; 5 ml) under nitrogen atmosphere and magnetic stirring in an EmrysTM Process vial. The vial was sealed with ResealTM septa, and the solution was heated at 110°C under microwave radiation¹ for 20 minutes. The product 013-DA-118-01 crystallised out of the reaction mixture and was collected by filtration (gently washed with diethyl ether) as yellow solid (242 mg, 84%). m.p. 156-158 °C. IR (ATR, $v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3055, 3075, 1511, 1432, 1345, 1251, 1189, 1074, 985, 832, 805, 748, 723, 670. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ 400 MHz) δ 7.37-7.39 (m, 2 H, (H5 and H6), 7.60 (t, 1 H, H5'), 7.67 (s, 1 H, H3), 7.82 (dd, 1 H, J = 1.88, 8.34 Hz, H4), 7.85 (dd, 1 H, J = 1.72, 8.63 Hz, H7), 7.99 (dd, 1 H, J = 0.83, 7.80 Hz, H6'), 8.18 (dd, 1 H, J = 1.30, 7.76 Hz, H4'), 8.55 (t, 1 H, J = 1.81 Hz, H2'). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 149.2 (C3'), 141.2 (C2), 140.3 (C3a), 139.8 (C7a), 136.1 (C1'), 132.1 (C6'), 130.0 (C5'), 125.3 (C6), 125.0 (C5), 124.1 (C4), 122.6 (C4'), 122.4 (C7), 121.4 (C3), 121.1 (C2'). MS (ES⁺) m/z (relative intensity) mass peak not observed by electron spray ionization. HRMS: Theoretical mass $[M + H]^{-1}$, 256.0427; Measured mass $[M + H]^{-1}$, 256.0436

EmrysTM Optimizer microwave station (Personal Chemistry).

² Some drops of TEA were also added.

N-(2-(methylthio)ethyl)benzamide and N-(4-(methylthio)phenyl)acetamide used as starting materials *for entries **5** and **6** of **Table 3** were synthesized as follows:

Acetyl (or benzoyl) chloride (1.01 eq) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of amine (or aniline) (1.0 eq) and TEA (2.0 eq) in THF (25 ml) at room temperature. After total consumption of the starting material (\sim 1 h) the solution was diluted with EtOAc (100 ml) and washed with water (3 × 100 ml), dried with MgSO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the products as colourless solids.

N-(2-(methylthio)ethyl)benzamide

Molecular Weight: 195.28

Colourless oil (96% yield), IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3322, 2918, 1632, 1527, 1487, 1434, 1358, 1295, 1229, 1189, 1156, 1077, 1036, 1002, 944, 852, 802, 765, 721, 692, 660. 1 H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 2.14 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.76 (t, 2 H, J = 6.4 Hz, SCH₂), 3.66 (q, 2 H, J = 6.3 Hz, NHCH₂), 6.64 (br s, 1 H, NH), 7.43 (t, 2 H, J = 7.0 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.50 (t, 1 H, J = 7.4 Hz, H4'), 7.78 (d, 2 H, J = 7.1 Hz, H2' and H6'). 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 15.0 (SCH₃), 33.9 (SCH₂), 38.0 (NHCH₂), 126.9 (C2' and C6'), 128.6 (C3' and C5'), 131.5 (C4'), 134.5 (C1'), 167.5 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 196.44 ([M + H]⁺ 95%).

N-(4-(methylthio)phenyl)acetamide

Molecular Weight: 181.25

Colourless oil, (90% yield) IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3272, 3168, 3096, 2916, 1656, 1644, 1591, 1540, 1491, 1436, 1393, 1366, 1320, 1291, 1256, 1096, 1042, 1012, 952, 844, 820, 760, 608. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 2.15 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.45 (s, 3 H, SCH₃), 7.22 (d, 2 H, J = 8.6 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.37 (br s, 1 H, NH), 7.42 (d, 2 H, J = 8.6 Hz, H2' and H6'). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 16.7 (SCH₃), 24.5 (CH₃), 120.6 (C3 and C5), 128.0 (C2 and C6), 133. 6 (C1), 135.6 (C4), 168.3 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 182.37 ([M + H]⁺ 100%).

Syntheses of benzo[b]thiophene 1,1-dioxides

Method A, H₂O₂-P₂O₅ Reagent (Representative procedure).* The H₂O₂-P₂O₅ reagent (0.78 ml, 0.68 mmol, 2.0 eq) was added dropwise to a magnetically stirring suspension of *N*-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxamide (86 mg, 0.34 mmol, 1.0 eq) in CH₃CN (4 ml) in a test tube. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature until LC-MS showed complete consumption of starting material (9 h). Water (4 x volume of CH₃CN) was then added to the reaction mixture while stirring and the precipitate was collected by vacuum filtration and briefly

Elect. Supp. Info. 9

^{*} The acetyl and benzoyl protecting groups were introduced to facilitate analyses (monitoring reaction time) of the oxidation reactions by LC-MS and TLC.

washed with water and small amounts of diethyl ether. The precipitate was dried over $CaCl_2$ (desiccator, overnight) to give benzo[b]thiophene 1,1-dioxide **4a** as yellow solids (95 mg, 98%).

Recently purchased 60% hydrogen peroxide aqueous solution (cold, ice-bath) was slowly pipetted onto 20.02 g of phosphorous pentoxide in a conical flask while moving the flask in an ice slurry. The formed lumps were smashed with a glass rod and the resulting solution (~ 40 ml) was transferred to a volumetric flask and additional 60% hydrogen peroxide was added to complete a final volume of 50 ml. ¹ The solution was transferred to a glass bottle and stored at 4°C in a refrigerator. ^{2,3}

Note 1: The final volume was completed with 60% hydrogen peroxide solution used to rinse $(2 \times 3 \text{ ml})$ the conical flask.

Note 2: We observed that the concentration of the reactive phosphorous species (peroxymonophosphoric acid) in the P_2O_5 - H_2O_2 reagent may vary depending on the quality of the 60% hydrogen peroxide aqueous solution. A titration can be easily carried out to determine the concentration of peroxymonophosphoric acid using small amounts (100 mg) of thianaphthene (1, MW: 134.20) at room temperature (app. 25 °C). This requires 1.70 ml of the H_2O_2 - P_2O_5 reagent for 100% sulfone conversion (app. 45 min), thus giving the concentration of the reactive species as 0.88 M. This titration was repeated four times (in the same day the reagent was prepared) to check its reproducibility.

Note 3: Titration (see Note 2) indicated a 50% reduction in the oxidizing properties of the reagent after three weeks which demanded larger volumes of the H₂O₂-P₂O₅ reagent for complete conversion to sulfone. It is recommended that the reagent should be used within two weeks of preparation.

Method B, H₂O₂-TFAA (Representative procedure). 60% hydrogen peroxide aqueous solution (189 μl, 3.95 mmol, 10.0 eq) was added dropwise to a magnetically stirring solution of trifluoroacetic anhydride (0.55 ml, 3.95 mmol, 10.0 eq) in CH₃CN (1.0 ml) in a test tube in an ice-bath. The tube was sealed and the mixture was allowed to stir for one hour in the same temperature. *N*-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene-5-carboxamide (83 mg, 0.32 mmol, 1.0 eq) was then added in portion to the previous solution. The ice-bath was removed and the sealed vessel was allowed to reach room temperature while the reaction mixture was monitored by LC-MS. A precipitated was formed and the reaction was monitored for 8 h when LC-MS showed complete consumption of the starting material. The reaction was quenched with water (5 ml) and the precipitated collected by filtration, and washed with water (3 ml), and dried over CaCl₂ (desiccator, overnight) to give 4j as a colourless solid. (88 mg, 98%).

Method C, DMDO (Representative procedure). 0.07-0.09M dimethyldioxirane acetonic solution* (6.85 ml, 0.48 mmol, 2.4 eq, as for 0.07 M) was added to a solution of *N*-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxamide (50 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) in DCM (1.0 ml) under magnetic stirring at room temperature. The excess solvent was removed after 15min to afford **4a** as a yellow solid. (53 mg, 98%)

* Freshly prepared according to *Organic Syntheses, Coll. Vol. 9, p.288 (1998); Vol. 74, p.91 (1997).*

^{*} Preparation of the H_2O_2 - P_2O_5 reagent.

Analytical data for the oxidized products

benzo[b]thiophene 1,1-dioxide ($\mathbf{2}$)²

Colourless solid. m.p. 92–98 °C. IR (ATR: $v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$); 3114, 3062 (Ar C-H), 1551, 1458, 1448, 1280, 1191, 1146, 1121, 1060, 940, 867, 794, 764, 766, 752, 696, 725. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 6.72 (d, 1 H, J = 6.93 Hz, H2); 7.22 (dd, 1 H, J = 6.91, 0.77 Hz, H3); 7.36 (dd, 1 H, J = 6.29, 1.52 Hz, H7); 7.55 (m, 2 H, H5 and H6); 7.73 (dd, 1 H, J = 6.03, 1.10 Hz, H4).

N-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxamide 1,1-dioxide (**4a**)

Molecular Weight: 285.32

Yellow solid. m.p. 257-258 °C. IR (ATR, $v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3270, (sharp NH band), 3111, 2992, 1681, 1606, 1544, 1501, 1440, 1280, 1251, 1070, 1049, 1018, 878, 811, 748, 700, 679. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ 7.16 (t, 1 H, J = 7.4 Hz, H4'), 7.40 (t, 2 H, J = 7.7 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.69 (d, 2 H, J = 7.8 Hz, H2' and H6'), 7.75-7.83 (dm, 3 H, H4, H5, and H6), 7.94 (d, 1 H, J = 6.8 Hz, H7), 8.39 (s, 1 H, H3), 10.47 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ 120.1 (C2' and C6'), 121.4 (C7), 124.4 (C4'), 127.7 (C4), 128.1 (C2), 128.9 (C3' and C5'), 132.7 (C6), 134.3 (C2 and C5), 136.3 (C4a), 137.3 (C7a), 138.0 (C1'), 156.6 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 285.82 ([M + H]⁺, 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass [M + H]⁺, 286.0538; Measured mass [M + H]⁺, 286.0545 (δ 2 ppm). Elem. Anal. calculated for $C_{15}H_{11}NO_3S$: C, 63.14; H, 3.89; N, 4.91%. Found: C, 63.08; H, 3.97; N, 4.87%.

N-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxamide 1,1-dioxide (**4b**)

Molecular Weight: 315.34

Yellow solid. m.p. 234 - 236 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3390, 3058, 2951, 1654, 1616, 1573, 1535, 1507, 1454, 1439, 1411, 1291, 1243, 1148, 1128, 1033, 881, 825, 765, 744, 661. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ 3.77 (t, 3 H, H-(OCH₃)), 6.97 (d, 2 H, J = 9.0 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.60 (d, 2 H, J = 9.0 Hz, H2' and H6'), 7.75 – 7.82 (m, 3 H, H5, H6 and H7), 7.93 (d, 1 H, J = 7.6 Hz, H7), 8.33 (s, 1 H, H3), 10.37 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO) : δ 55.2 (C-(OCH₃)), 114.0 (C3' and C5'), 121.4 (C7), 121.7 (C2' and C6'), 127.6 (C4), 128.1 (C2), 131.0 (C1'), 132.6 (C6), 133.8 (C3), 134.3 (C5), 136.5 (C4a), 137.3 (C7a), 156.0 (C4'), 156.2 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 315.67 ([M + H]⁻⁺, 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass [M + H]⁻⁺,

316.0644; Measured mass $[M + H]^+$, 316.0653 (δ 3 ppm). Elem. Anal. calculated for $C_{16}H_{13}NO_4S$: C, 60.94; H, 4.16; N, 4.44%. Found: C, 60.95; H, 4.25; N, 4.32%.

N-isopropylbenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxamide 1,1-dioxide (**4d**)

Molecular Weight: 251.30

N-cyclohexylbenzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carboxamide 1,1-dioxide (**4e**)

White solid. m.p. 196.4 – 197.8 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3358, 2931, 1639, 1522, 1295, 1146, 918, 763, 708. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.30 (m, 4H, H3` and H5`), 1.54 (m, 2H, H2` and H6`), 1.69 (m, 2H, H4`), 1.94 (d, 2H, J = 12.0 Hz, H2` and H6`), 3.90 (m, 1H, H1`), 6.23 (s, 1H, NH), 7.42 (m, 1H, H4), 7.68 (m, 1H, H7), 7.54 (t, 2H, J = 3.6 Hz, H5 and H6), 7.74 (s, 1H, H3). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 24.6 (C3` and C5`), 25.4 (C4`), 32.6 (C2` and C6`), 49.0 (C1`), 121.9 (C7), 126.9 (C4), 129.40 (C2), 132.1 (C5 or C6), 134.2 (C5 or C6), 136.2 (C3), 137.1 (C3a), 137.5 (C7a), 155.9 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 291.88 ([M + H]⁺, 100%.). HRMS: Theoretical mass [M + H]⁺, 292.1007; Meseaured mass [M + H]+, 292.1002 (δ 2 ppm). Elem. Anal. calculated for C₁₅H₁₇NO₃S: C, 61.83; H, 5.88; N, 4.81%. Found: C, 61.85; H, 5.69; N, 4.81%.

(S)-Ethyl 2-(benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxamido)-3-phenylpropanoate 1,1-dioxide (4f)

Molecular Weight: 385.43

Colourless oil. IR (ATR: ν_{max}/cm^{-1}); 3341, 3070, 1736, 1661, 1530, 1302, 1211, 1174, 1107, 1028, 849, 762, 730, 700. ¹H NMR (400MHz,CDCl₃): δ 1.31 (t, 3 H, J = 6.1

Hz, H18), 3.16 (dd, 1 H, J = 6.3, 14.0 Hz, H10), 3.31 (dd, 1 H, J = 6.3, 14.0 Hz, H10), 4.25 (q, 2 H, J = 7.1 Hz, H17), 5.01 (q, 1 H, J = 7.1 Hz, H9), 6.60 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, NH), 6.73 (s, 1 H, H3), 7.12 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, H11 and H15), 7.26-7.54 (m, 3 H, H12, H13 and H14), 7.54 (m, 2 H, H5 and H6), 7.68-7.71 (m, 2 H, H4 and H7). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)^a : δ 12.6 (C18), 36.1 (C10), 51.8 (C9), 60.6 (C17), 120.0 (C7), 124.0 (C4), 126.0 (C13), 127.3 (C12 and C14), 127.4 (C3), 127.7 (C11 and C15), 129.6 (C6), 132.3 (C5), 133.7 (C10a), 135.4 (C3a), 136.6 (C7a), 159.4 (NC=O), 169.2 (OC=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 386.5 ([M + H] +, 100%). ^a C2 carbon not observed using default relaxation time (1.00 sec.).

N-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene-3-carboxamide 1,1-dioxide (**4g**)

Molecular Weight: 285.32

Light-yellow solid. m.p. 188 - 190 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3356, 3075, 1672, 1597, 1539, 1488, 1440, 1288, 1243, 1205, 1175, 1137, 1109, 877, 834, 758, 694. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.00 (s, 1 H, H2), 7.21 (t, 1 H, J = 7.4 Hz, H4'), 7.41 (d, 2 H, J = 7.4 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.54 – 7.66 (m, 4 H, H2', H6', H5, and H6), 7.72 (d, 1 H, J = 7.4 Hz, H4), 7.93 (d, 1 H, J = 7.4 Hz, H7), 8.26 (s, 1 H, H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 120.4 (C2' and C6'), 121.5 (C4), 125.7 (C4'), 126.0 (C7), 128.4 (C2), 129.2 (C1'), 129.3 (C3' and C5'), 131.2 (C5), 134.1 (C6), 136.7 (C3), 136.8 (C4a), 138.9 (C7a), 159.5 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 285.80 ([M + H]⁻⁺, 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass [M + H]⁻⁺, 286.0538; Measured mass [M + H]⁻⁺, 286.0526 (δ 4 ppm). Elem. Anal. calculated for C₁₅H₁₁NO₃S: C, 63.14; H, 3.89; N, 4.91%. Found: C, 63.10; H, 3.81; N, 5.01%.

N-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[b]thiophene-3-carboxamide 1,1-dioxide (**4h**)

Molecular Weight: 315.34

Light-yellow solid. m.p. 135 - 138 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3245, 1649, 1610, 1566, 1513, 1297, 1242, 1172, 1105, 1030, 831, 760, 729, 682. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.83 (s, 1 H, H-(OCH₃)), 6.93 (d, 2 H, J = 9.0 Hz, H3' and H5'), 6.96 (s, 1 H, H2), 7.54 (d, 2 H, = 9.0 Hz, H2' and H6'), 7.57 – 7.63 (m, 2 H, H5 and H6), 7.73 (d, 1 H, J = 6.6 Hz, H4), 7.94 (d, 1 H, J = 6.8 Hz, H4), 7.97 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 55.5 (C-(OCH₃)), 114.5 (C3' or C5'), 121.5 (C4), 122.1 (C2' and C6'), 125.9 (C7), 128.2 (C2), 129.2 (C3), 129.6 (C1'), 131.2 (C6), 134.0 (C5), 137.0 (C4a), 139.0 (C7a), 157.4 (C4'), 159.3 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 315.83 ([M + H]⁺, 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass [M + H]⁺, 316.0644; Measured mass [M + H]⁺, 316.0633 (δ 3 ppm). Elem. Anal. calculated for $C_{16}H_{13}NO_4S$: C, 60.94; H, 4.16; N, 4.44%. Found: C, 59.91; H, 4.15; N, 4.40%.

N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzo[b]thiophene-3-carboxamide 1,1-dioxide (4i)

Molecular Weight: 330.32

Yellow solid. m.p. 263-264°C. IR (ATR: v_{max}/cm^{-1}); 3343, 3092, 1802, 1686, 1615, 1599, 1550, 1504, 1331, 1286, 1198, 1169, 1135, 1106, 978,882, 828, 764, 751, 686, 662. ¹H NMR (d_6 -DMSO, 400 MHz): rotamers δ 7.70-7.79 (m, 2 H, H5 and H6), 7.87 (d, 1 H, J = 7.3 Hz, H4), 7.95 (s, 1 H, H2), 8.00-8.05 (m, 3 H, H2', H6', and H7), 8.32 (d, 2 H, J = 9.0 Hz, H3' and H5'), 11.4 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (d_6 -DMSO, 100 MHz): rotamers δ 120.0 (C2' and 6'), 121.7 (C7), 125.0 (C3' and C5'), 125.3 (C4), 128.5 (C3), 130.9 (C2), 131.4 (C6), 134.3 (C5), 136.5 (C3a), 136.9 (C7a), 143.1 (C4'), 144.1 (C1'), 160.7 (C=O). MS (ESI') m/z (relative intensity): 329.38 ([M - H]⁻, 331.0375 (δ 4.2 ppm). HRMS (positive mode): Theoretical mass [M + H]⁻⁺, 331.0389; Measured mass [M + H]⁻⁺, 331.0375 (δ 4.2 ppm). HRMS (negative mode): Theoretical mass [M - H]⁻, 329.0232; Measured mass [M - H]⁻, 329.0227 (δ 2 ppm).

N-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene-5-carboxamide 1,1-dioxide (**4j**)

Molecular Weight: 285.32

Colourless solid. m.p. 247 - 249 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3338, 3090, 3049, 1655, 1597, 1530, 1498, 1440, 1337, 1289, 1194, 1151, 1134, 1101, 1069, 904, 800, 750, 714, 682, 626. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ 7.14 (t, 1 H, J = 7.2 Hz, H4'), 7.39 (t, 2 H, J = 7.7 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.49 (d, 1 H, J = 6.8 Hz, H2), 7.74 -7.78 (m, 3 H, H3, H2' and H6'), 8.03 (d, 1 H, J = 7.7 Hz, H7), 8.11 (s, 1 H, H4), 8.16 (d, 1 H, J = 7.7 Hz, H6), 10.5 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ 120.4 (C2' or C6'), 121.1 (C7), 124.1 (C4'), 125.3 (C4), 128.7 (C3' and C5'), 130.2 (C6), 131.6 (C4a), 131.9 (C2), 132.5 (C3), 138.4 (C5), 138.7 (C1'), 140.3 (C7a), 164.0 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 285.8 ($[M+H]^{-+}$, 100%).

N-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[b]thiophene-5-carboxamide 1,1-dioxide (4k)

Molecular Weight: 315.34

Light-yellow solid. m.p. 251 - 253 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3307, 3096, 1652, 1528, 1517, 1290, 1235, 1196, 1152, 1135, 1032, 838, 820, 747, 682. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ 3.76 (s, 1 H, OCH₃), 6.96 (d, 2 H, J = 6.9 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.48 (d, 1

H, J = 6.9 Hz, H2), 7.67 (d, 2 H, J = 9.0 Hz, H2' and H6'), 7.73 (dd, 1 H, J = 0.6, 6.9 Hz, H3), 8.02 (d, 1 H, J = 7.8 Hz, H7), 8.10 (s, 1 H, H4), 8.14 (dd, 1 H, J = 1.2, 7.9 Hz, H6), 10.4 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ 55.2 (OCH₃), 113.8 (C3' or C5'), 121.1 (C7), 122.0 (C2' and C6'), 125.2 (C4), 130.1 (C6), 131.6 (C1'), 131.7 (C4a), 131.9 (C2), 132.5 (C3), 138.3 (C7a), 140.3 (C5), 155.8 (C4'), 163.5 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 315.76 ([M + H] +, 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass [M + H] +, 316.0644; Measured mass [M + H] +, 316.0644 (δ 0 ppm). Elem. Anal. calculated for C₁₆H₁₃NO₄S: C, 60.94; H, 4.16; N, 4.44%. Found: C, 60.94; H, 4.10; N, 4.31%.

N-(4-nitrophenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene-5-carboxamide 1,1-dioxide (**4l**)

Molecular Weight: 330.32

Light-yellow solid. m.p. 269-270°C decomposes and 291-293°C melts. IR (ATR: v_{max}/cm^{-1}); 3328, 3070, 1796, 1677, 1590, 1543, 1497, 1330, 1294, 27, 1148, 1109, 1070, 855, 789, 750, 688. ¹H NMR (d_6 -DMSO, 400 MHz): rotamers δ 7.52 (d, 1 H, J = 6.6 Hz, H2), 7.76 (d, 1 H, J = 6.9 Hz, H3), 8.04 (d, 2 H, J = 9.2 Hz, H2' and H6'), 8.07 (d, 1 H, J = 8.0 Hz, H7), 8.13 (s, 1 H, H4), 8.18 (d, 1 H, J = 7.8 Hz, H6), 8.28 (d, 2 H, J = 9.2 Hz, H3' and H5'), 11.05 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (d_6 -DMSO, 100 MHz): rotamers δ 120.0 (C2' and 6'), 121.3 (C7), 124.8 (C3' and C5'), 125.5 (C4), 130.6 (C6), 131.6 (C2), 132.0 (C3), 132.4 (C3a), 138.8 (C5), 139.5 (C7a), 142.8 (C4'), 144.9 (C1'), 164.7 (C=O). MS (ESI') m/z (relative intensity): 329.53 ([M - H]'', 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass [M + H]'+, 331.0389; Measured mass [M + H]'+, 331.0388 (δ >1 ppm).

5-bromobenzo[b]thiophene 1,1-dioxide³(5)

Molecular Weight: 245.09

White solid. HRMS: Theoretical mass $[M + \text{Na}]^+$, 266.9091; Measured mass $[M + \text{Na}]^+$, 266.9079 (δ 4 ppm). Elem. Anal. calculated for C₈H₅BrO₂S: C, 39.20; H, 2.06. Found: C, 39.21; H, 1.99%.

2-phenylbenzo[b]thiophene 1,1-dioxide²(6)

Molecular Weight: 242.29

Light-yellow solid. 1 H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.55-7.65 (m, 3 H, H3', H4', and H5'), 7.68 (t, 1 H, J = 7.6 Hz, H6), 7.71 (d, 1 H, J = 7.2 Hz, H4), 7.80 (t, 1 H, J = 7.6

Hz, H5), 7.92 (d, 2 H, J = 8.0 Hz, H2' and H6'), 7.99 (d, 1 H, J = 7.2 Hz, H7), 8.05 (s, 1 H, H2). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 243.30 ($[M + H]^+$ 100%).

2-(3-nitrophenyl)benzo[b]thiophene 1,1-dioxide (7)

Molecular Weight: 287.29

Colourless solid. m.p. 240-242 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3092, 1569, 1530, 1453, 1337, 1292, 1247, 1200, 1152, 1125, 1094, 896, 869, 831, 762, 737, 666. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.49 (m, 2 H, (H4 and H3), 7.58 (dt, 1 H, J = 0.89, 7.51 Hz, H6), 7.64 (dt, 1 H, J = 1.05, 7.52 Hz, H5), 7.70 (t, 1 H, J = 8.04 Hz, H5'), 7.81 (d, 1 H, J = 7.45 Hz, H7), 8.23 (dd, 1 H, J = 1.07, 7.87 Hz, H6'), 8.31 (dd, 1 H, J = 1.32, 8.28 Hz, H4'), 8.61 (t, 1 H, J = 1.86 Hz, H2'). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 148.5 (C3'), 140.5 (C2), 137.1 (C7a), 134.1 (C5), 132.1 (C6'), 130.8 (C6), 130.5 (C5'), 129.5 (C3a), 129.0 (C1'), 126.4 (C3), 125.7 (C4), 124.6 (C4'), 121.8 (C7), 121.6 (C2'). MS (ES⁺) m/z (relative intensity) mass peak not observed by electron spray ionization. HRMS: Theoretical mass $[M + H]^{-+}$, 288.0325; Measured mass $[M + H]^{-+}$, 288.0326 (δ 3 ppm).

2,5-dimethylthiophene 1,1-dioxide⁴ (8)

Molecular Weight: 144.19

MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 145.26 ([M + H]⁺ 100%)].

N-(2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl)benzamide (**9**)

Molecular Weight: 227.28

Colourless oil. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3310, 3013, 2920, 1634, 1537, 1488, 1369, 1278, 1185, 1164, 1120, 1076, 1058, 961, 880, 804, 694, 668. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) rotamers: δ 2.99 (s, 3 H, SCH₃), 3.38 (t, 2 H, J = 5.7 Hz, NHCH₂), 3.98 (q, 3 H, J = 5.97 Hz, SO₂CH₂), 7.26-7.30 (br s, 1 H, NH), 7.42 (t, 2 H, J = 7.3 Hz, H3' and H5'), 7.50 (t, 2 H, J = 7.3 Hz, H4'), 7.77 (d, 2 H, J = 7.3 Hz, H2' and H6'). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 33.8 (NHCH₂), 41.6 (SCH₃), 53.7 (SCH₂), 127.1 (C2' and C6'), 128.8 (C3' and C5'), 132.2 (C4'), 133.3 (C1'), 168.2 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 228.43 ([M + H]⁺ 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass [M + H]⁺, 228.0694; Measured mass [M + H]⁺, 228.0699 (δ 2 ppm).

N-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)acetamide (**10**)

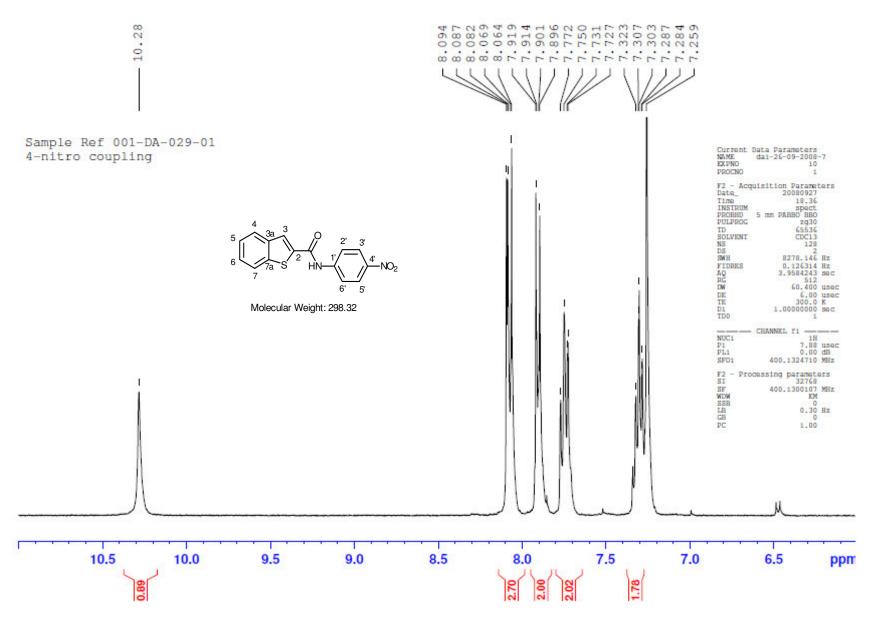
Molecular Weight: 213.25

White crystals. m.p. 202-204 °C. IR (ATR, v_{max}/cm^{-1}): 3351, 3027, 3003, 2925, 1670, 1588, 1532, 1503, 1438, 1388, 1276, 1132, 1086, 965, 836, 821, 777, 660. ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ 2.15 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 3.20 (s, 3 H, SCH₃), 7.86 (d, 2 H, J = 9.0 Hz, H2' and H6'), 7.90 (d, 2 H, J = 8.9 Hz, H3' and H5'), 10.42 (s, 1 H, NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): δ 24.1 (CH₃), 43.8 (SCH₃), 118.6 (C3' and C5'), 128.1 (C2' and C6'), 134.4 (C1'), 143.6 (C4'), 169.1 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) m/z (relative intensity): 214.29 ([M + H]⁺ 100%). HRMS: Theoretical mass [M + H]⁺, 214.0538; Measured mass [M + H]⁺, 214.0529 (δ 4 ppm). Elem. Anal. calculated for $C_9H_{11}NO_3S$: C, 71.63; H, 5.51; N, 6.96%. Found: C, 71.58; H, 5.48; N, 6.93%.

References

- 1. Yoo, W. J.; Li, C. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 13064-13065.
- 2. Geneste, P.; Olive, J. L.; Ung, S. N.; El Faghi, M. E. A.; Easton, J. W.; Beierbeck, H.; Saunders, J. K. *J. Org. Chem.* **1979**, *44*, 2887-2892.
- 3. Chapman, N. B.; Ewing, D. F.; Scrowston, R. M.; Westwood, R. *J. Chem. Soc. C* **1968**, 764-769.
- 4. Rozen, S.; Bareket, Y. J. Org. Chem. 1997, 62, 1457-1462.

NMR spectra for all novel compounds





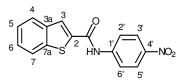
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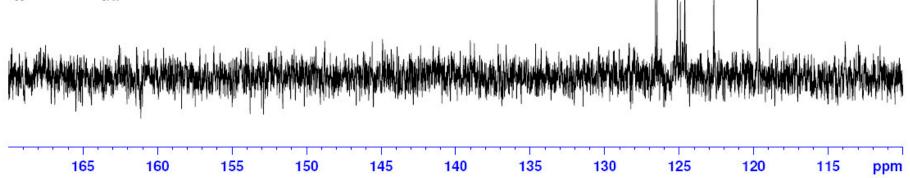
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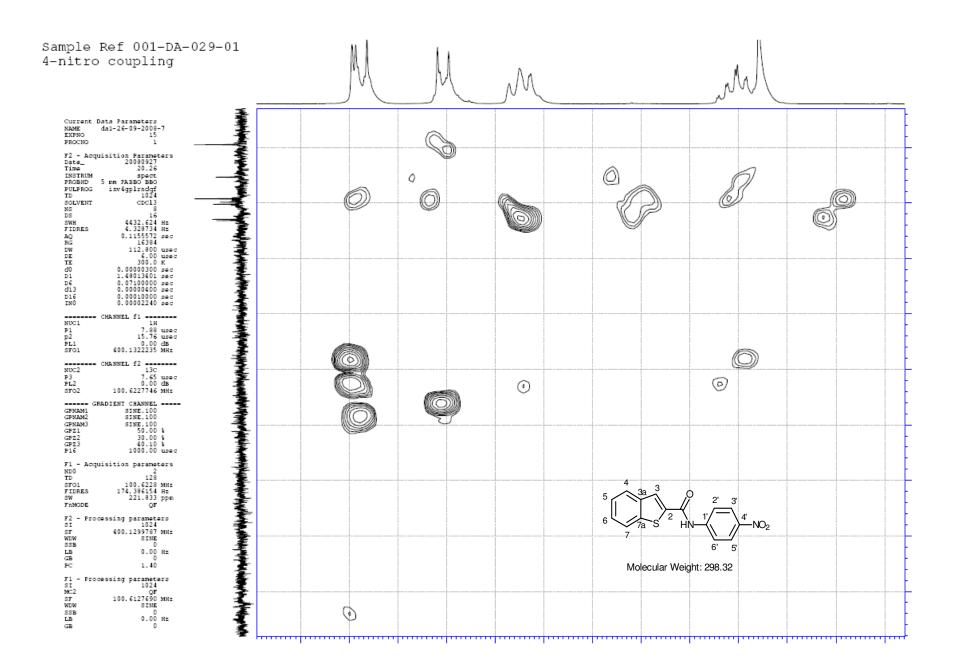
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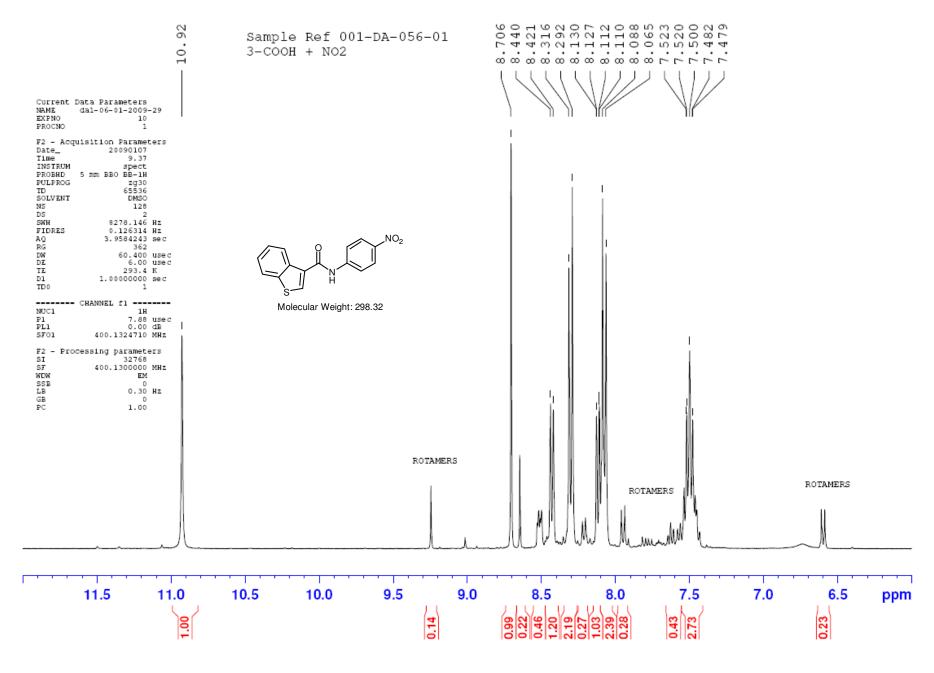
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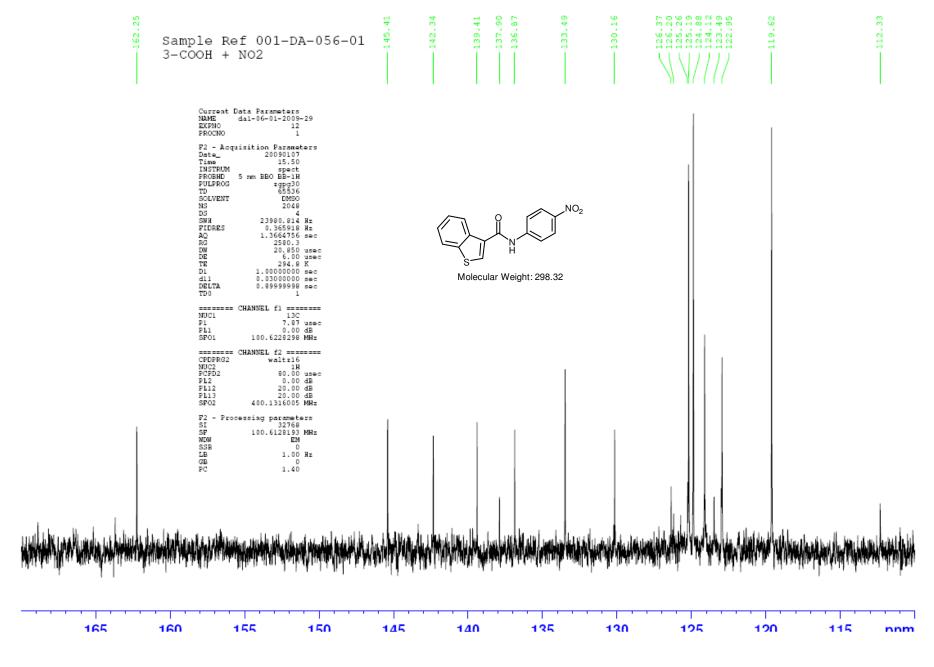


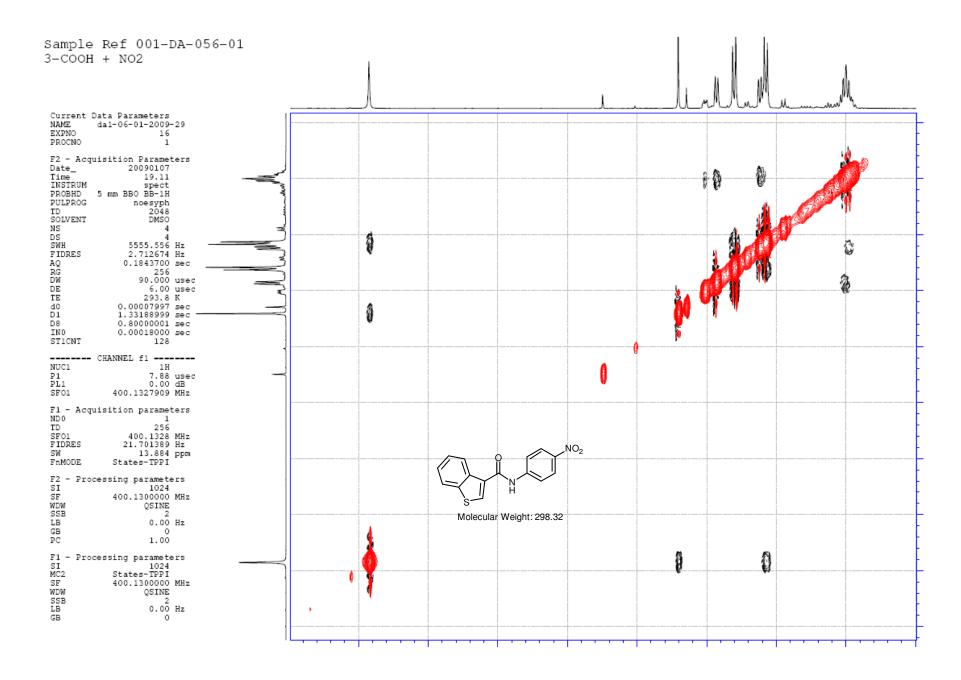
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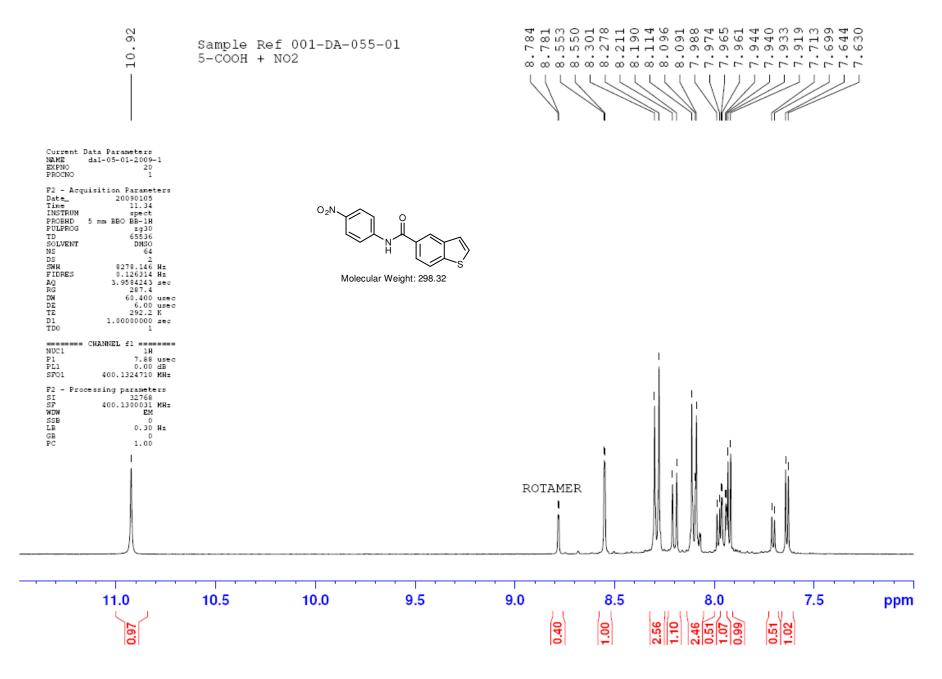


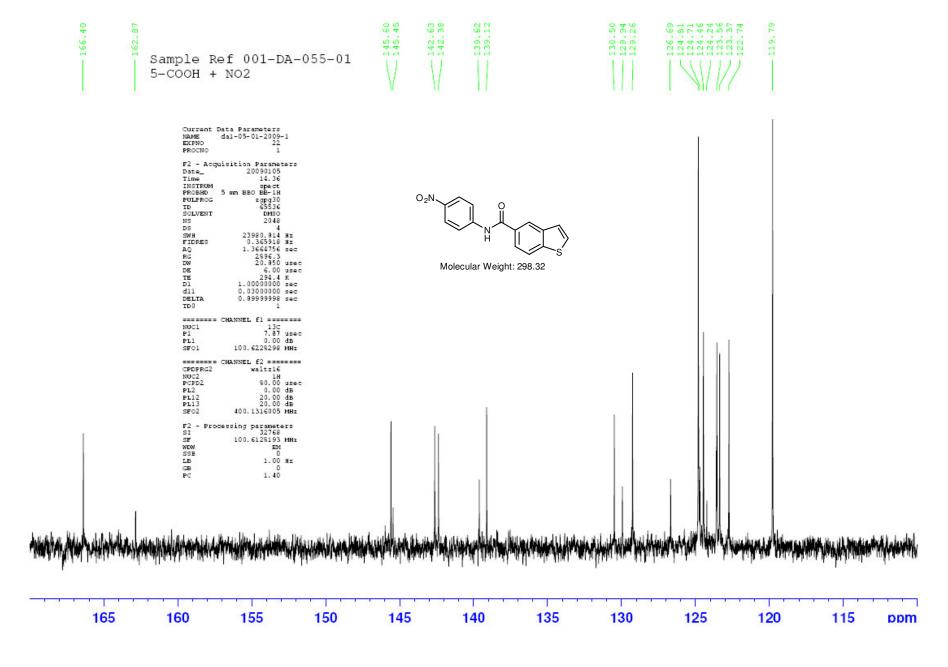


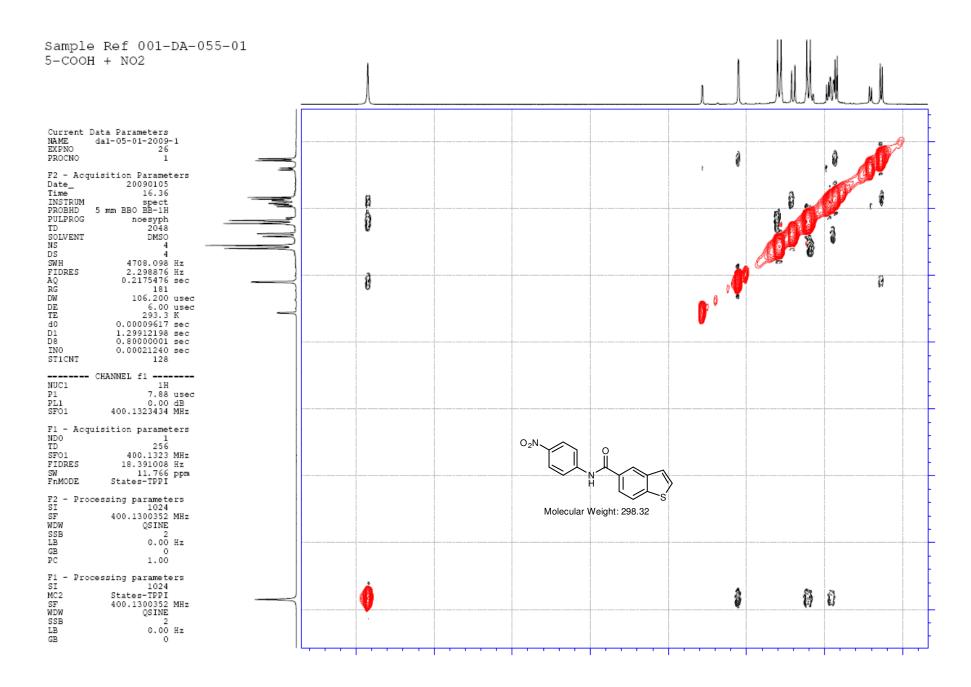


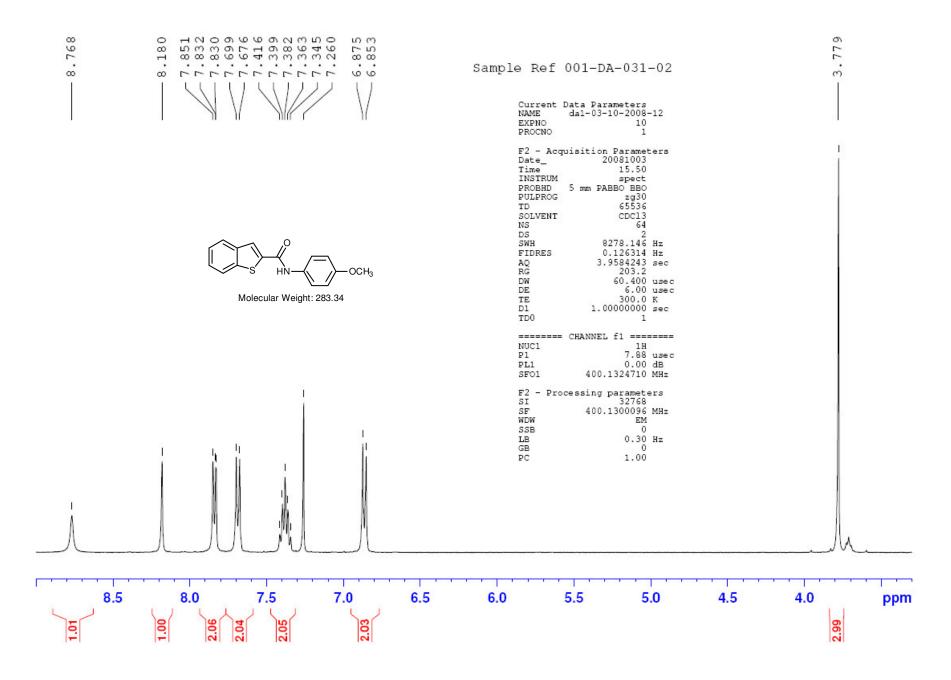


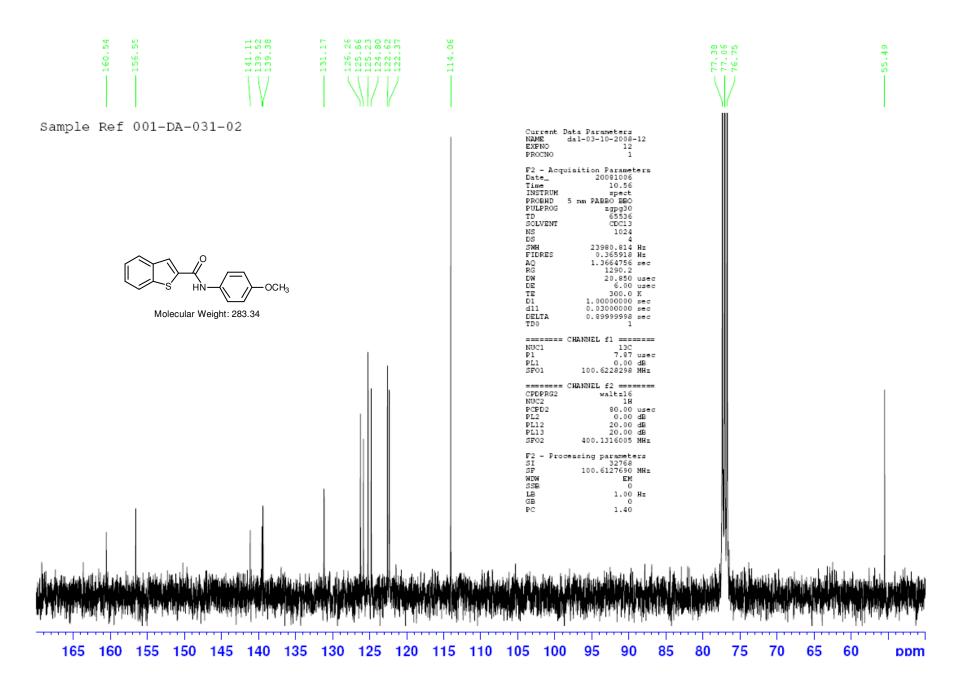


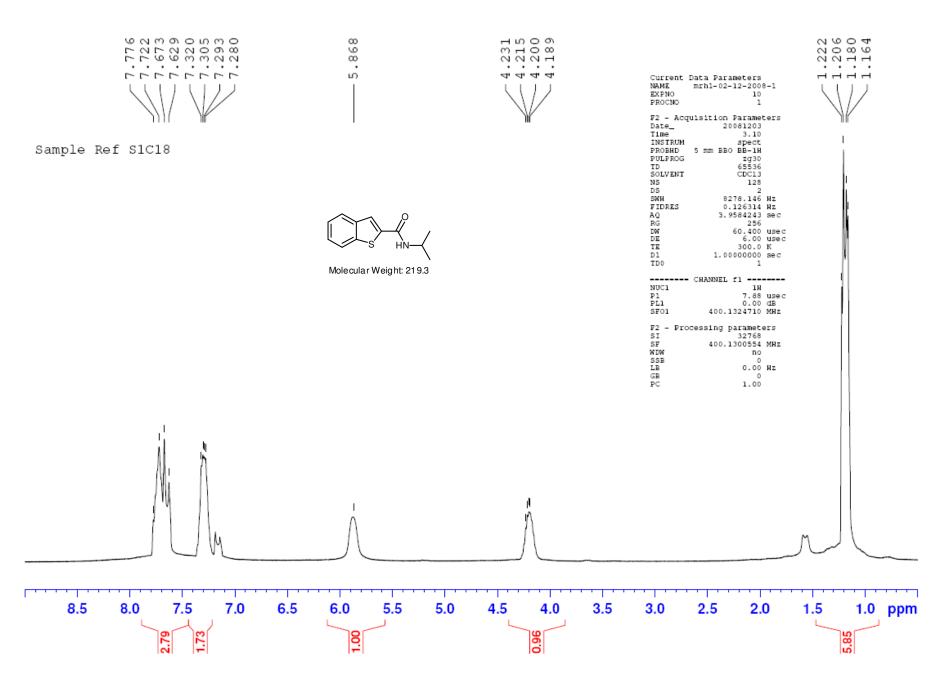




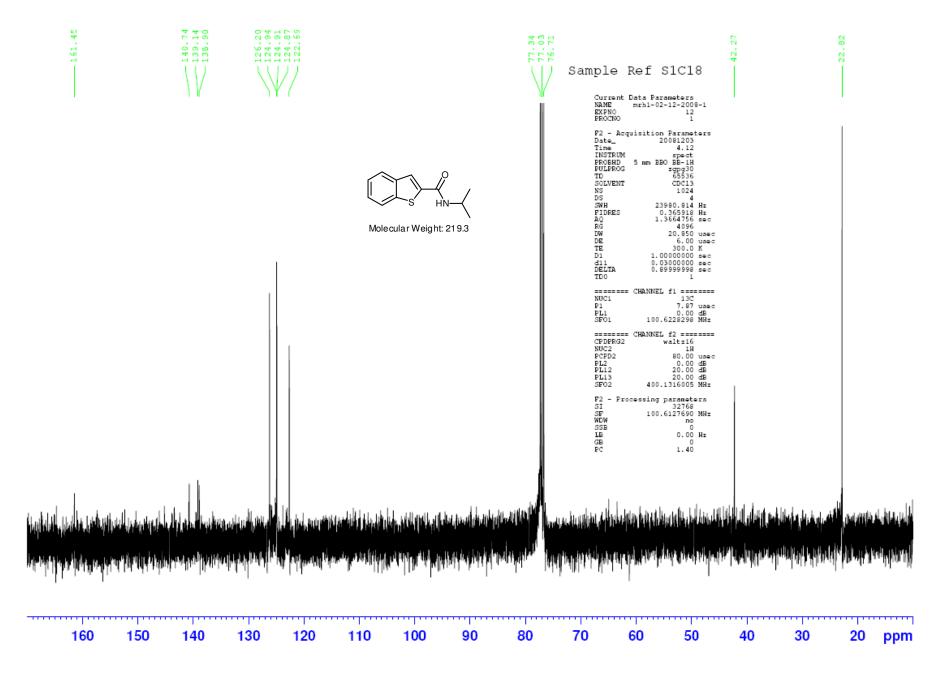


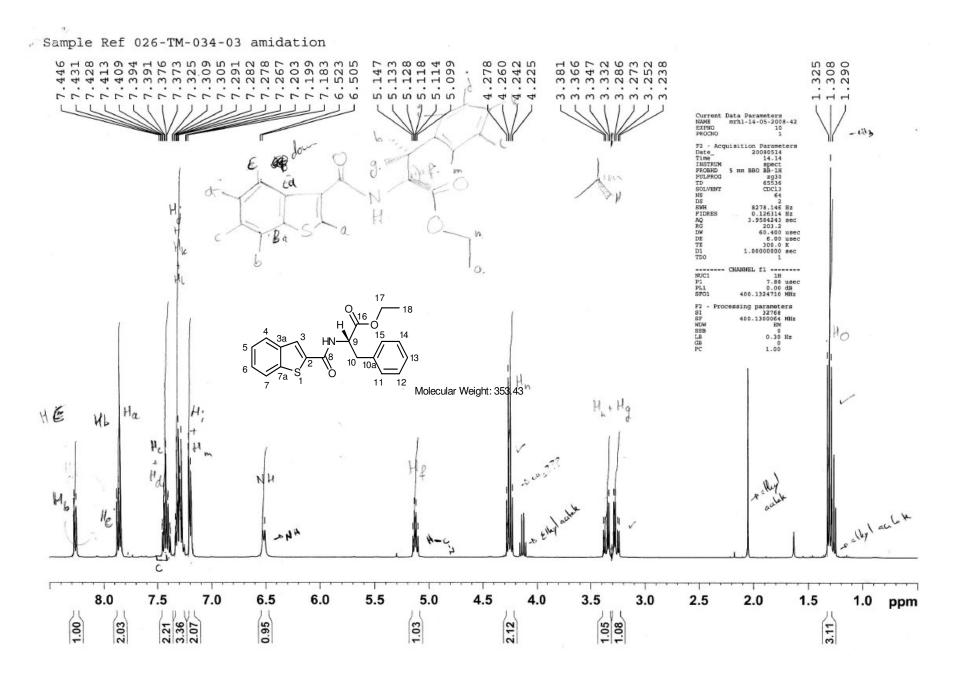




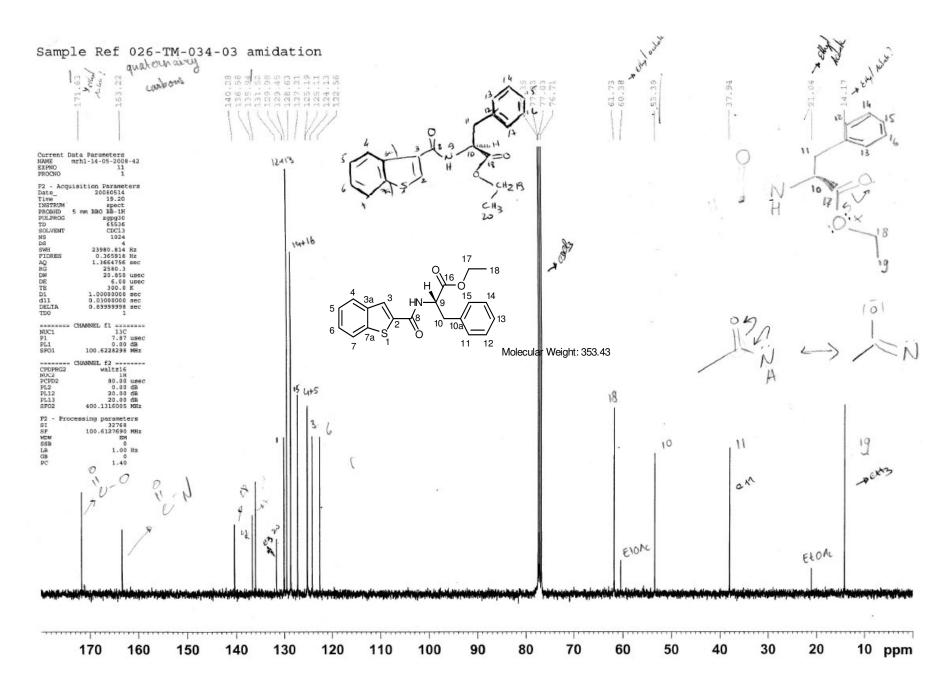


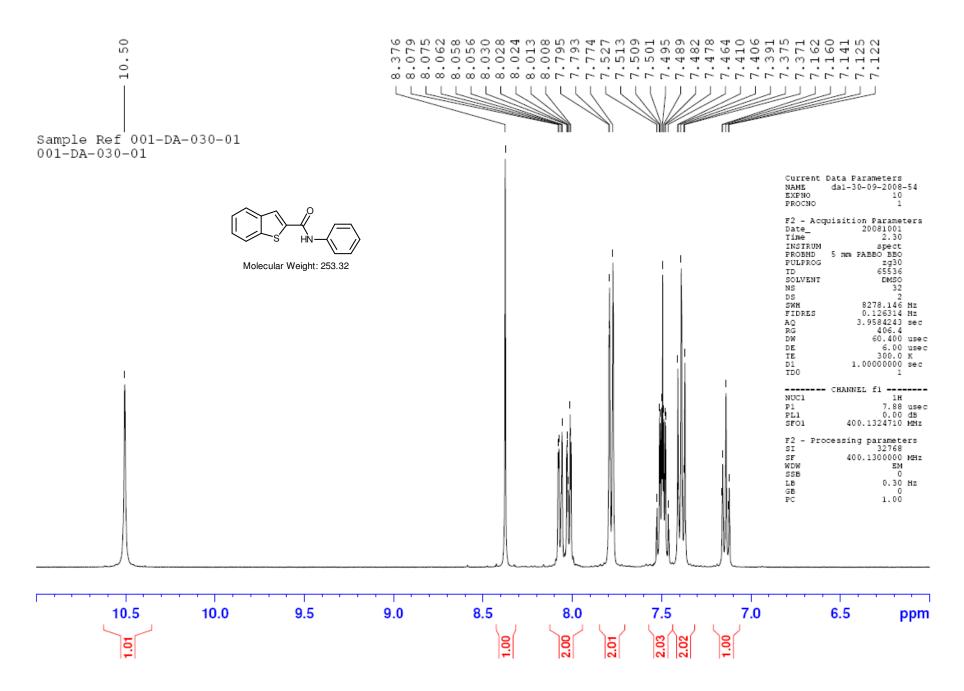
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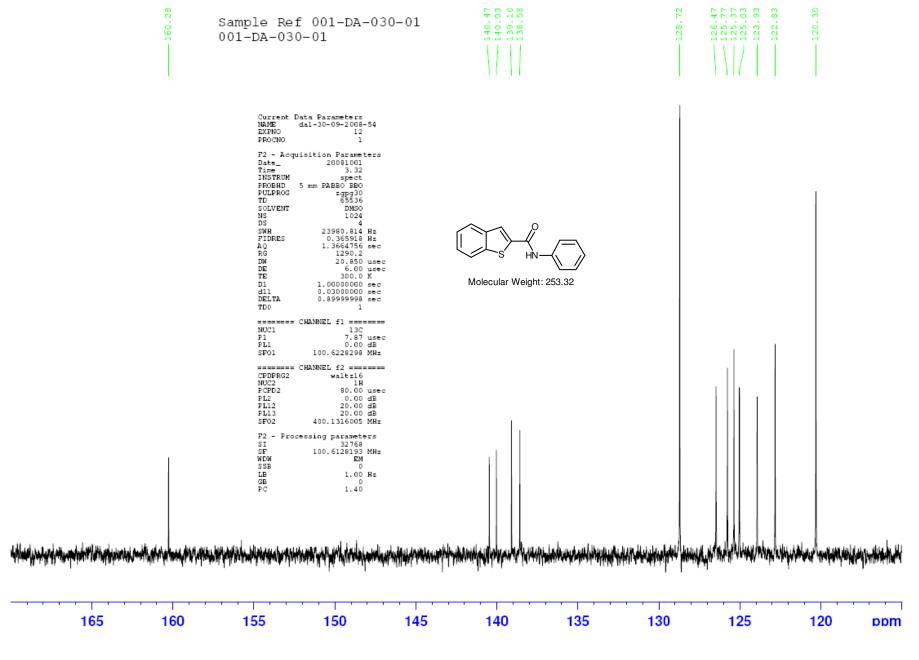


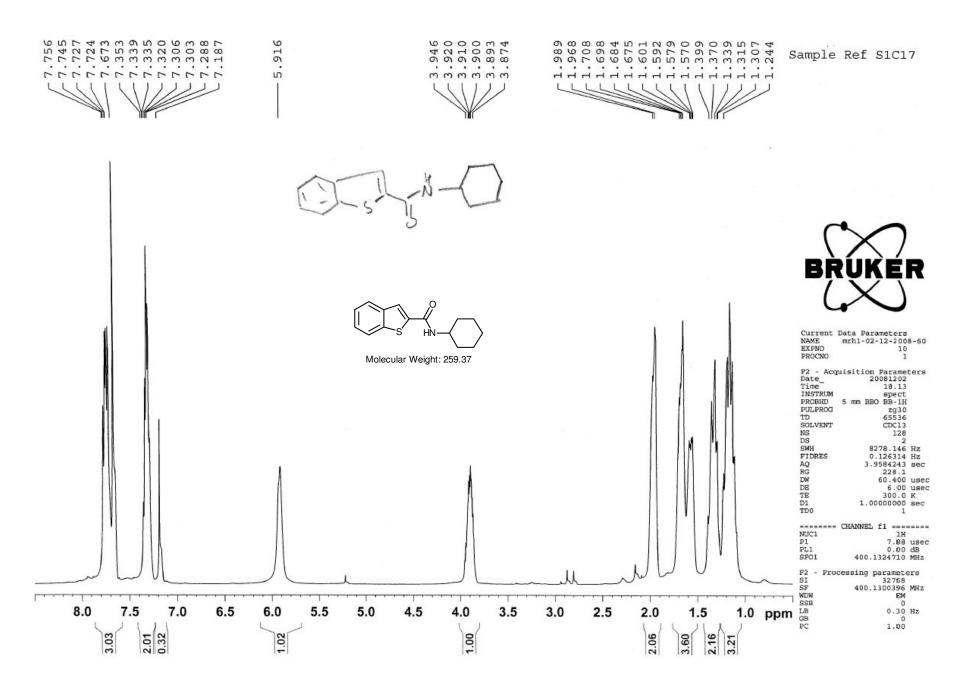


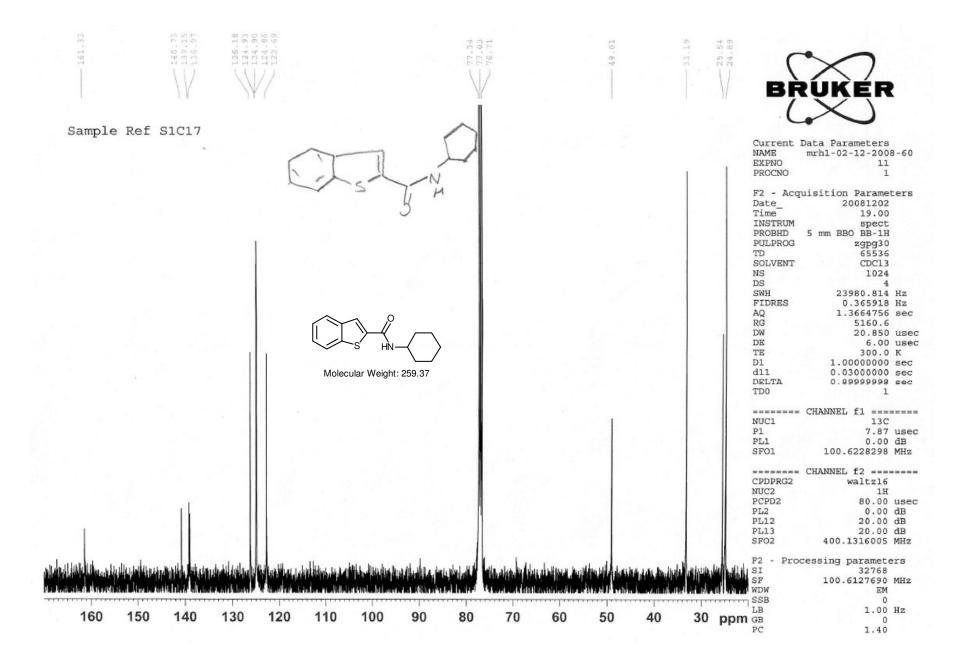
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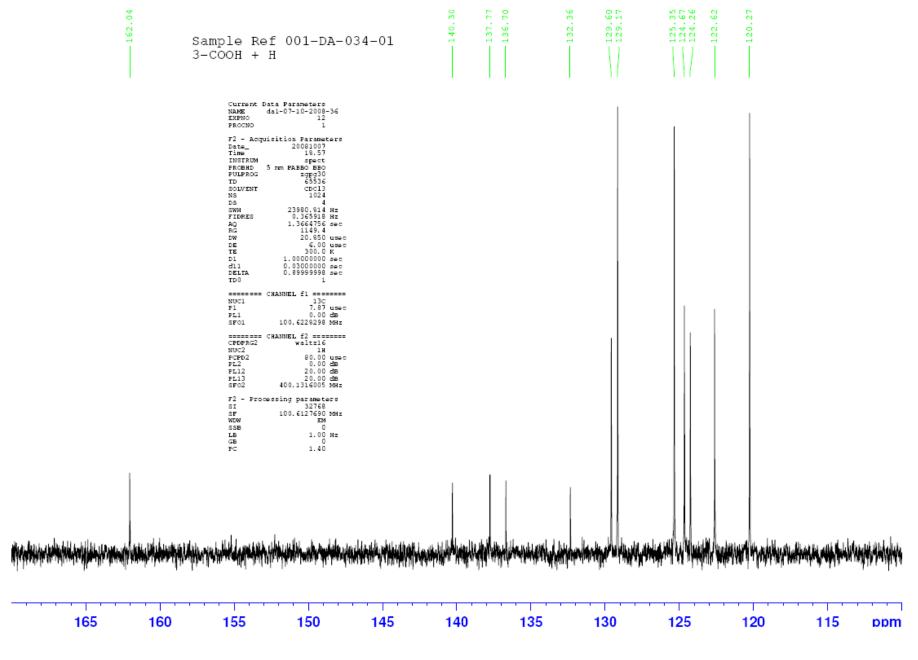


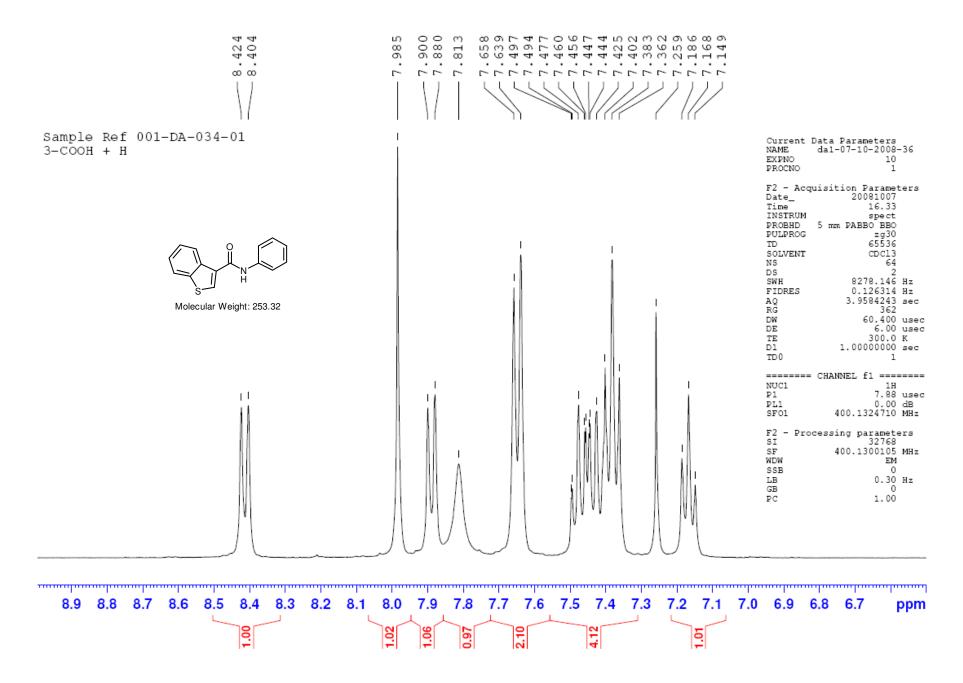


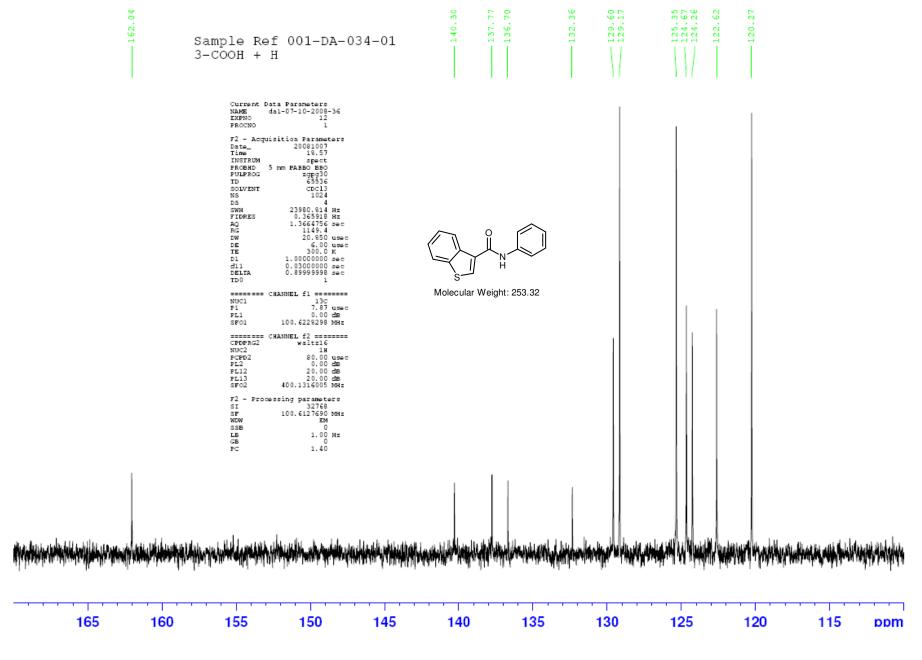


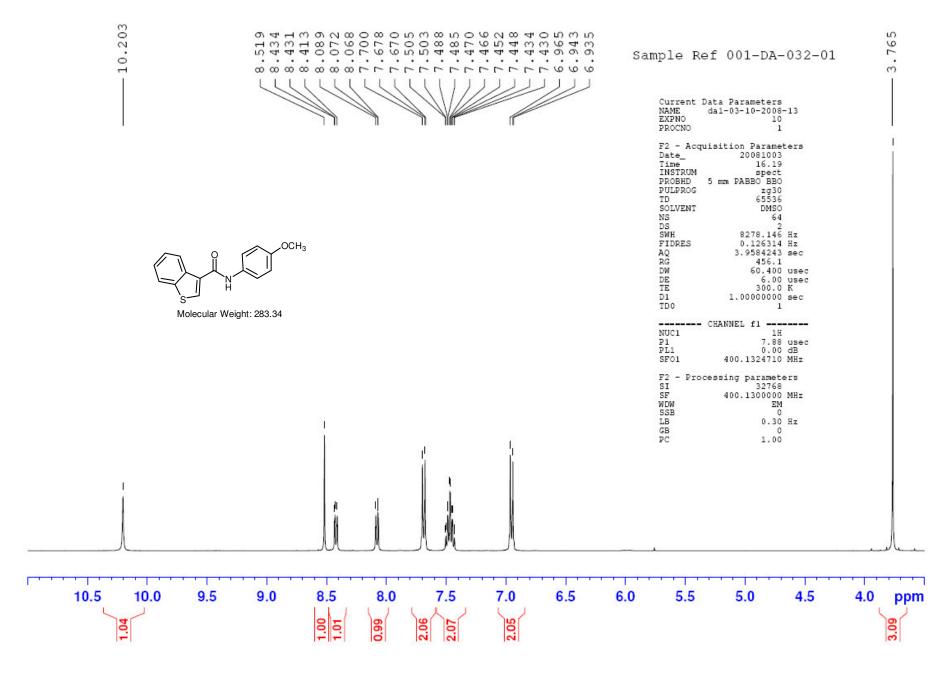


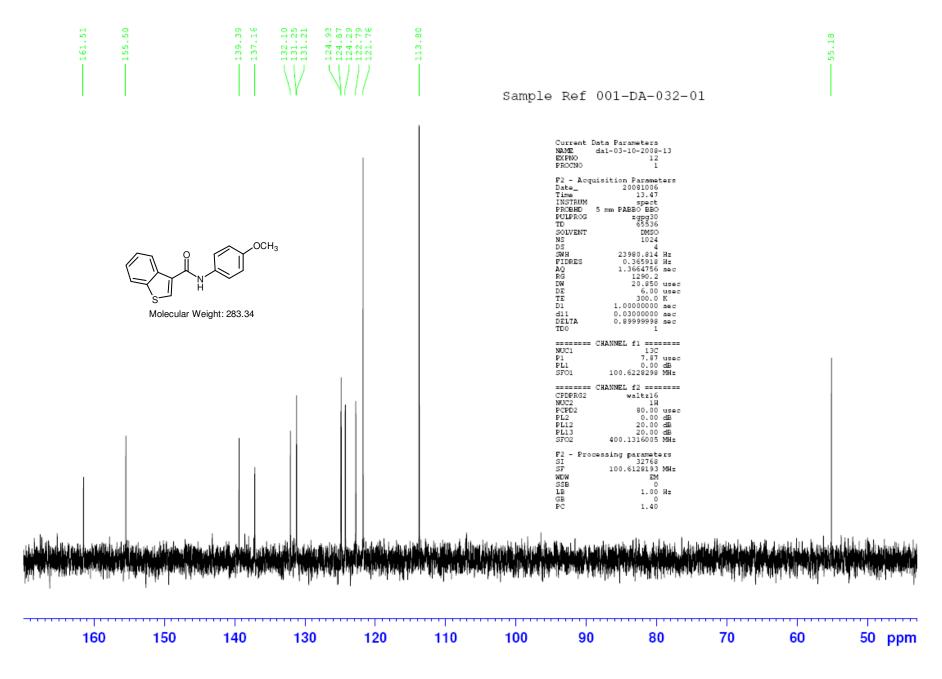


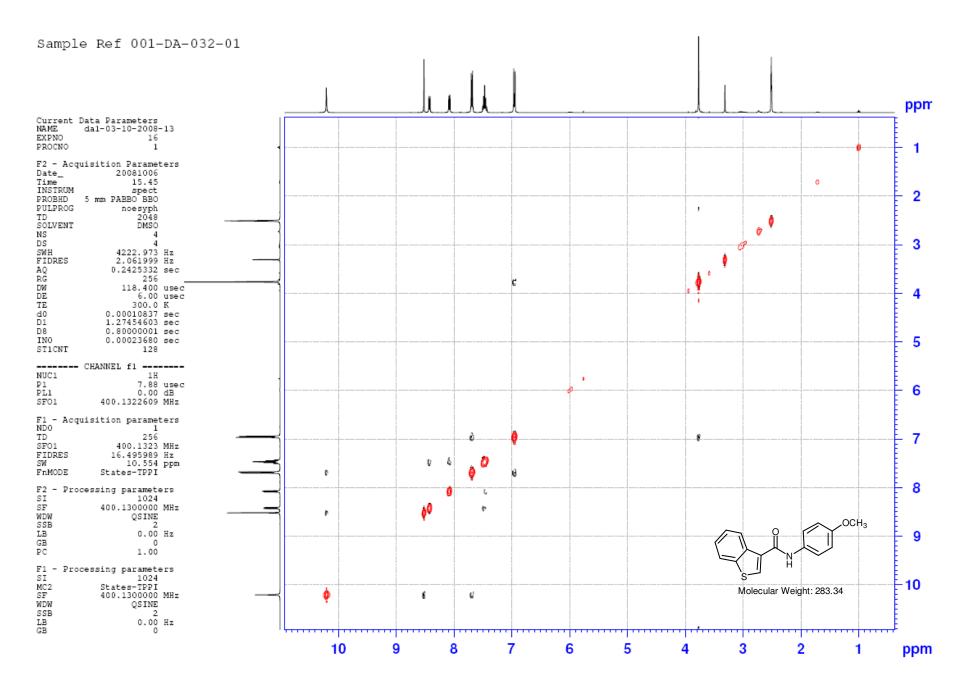




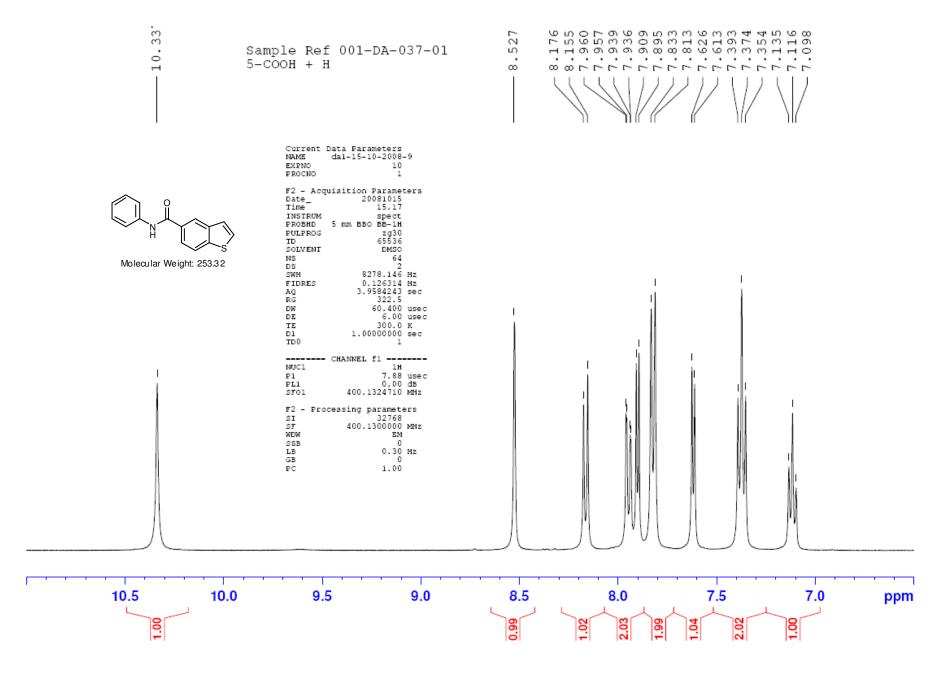




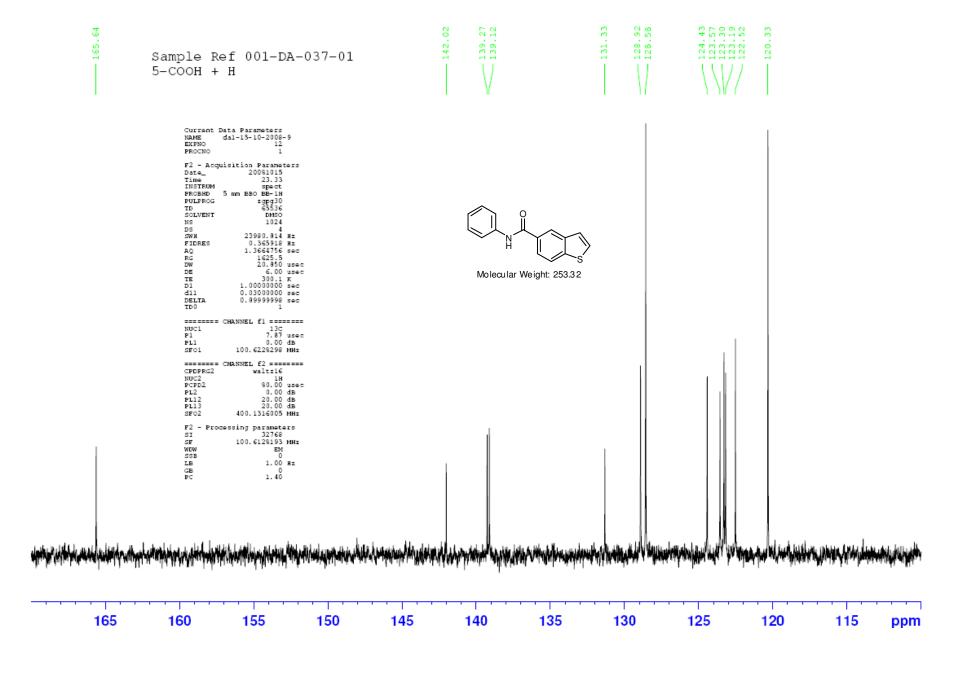


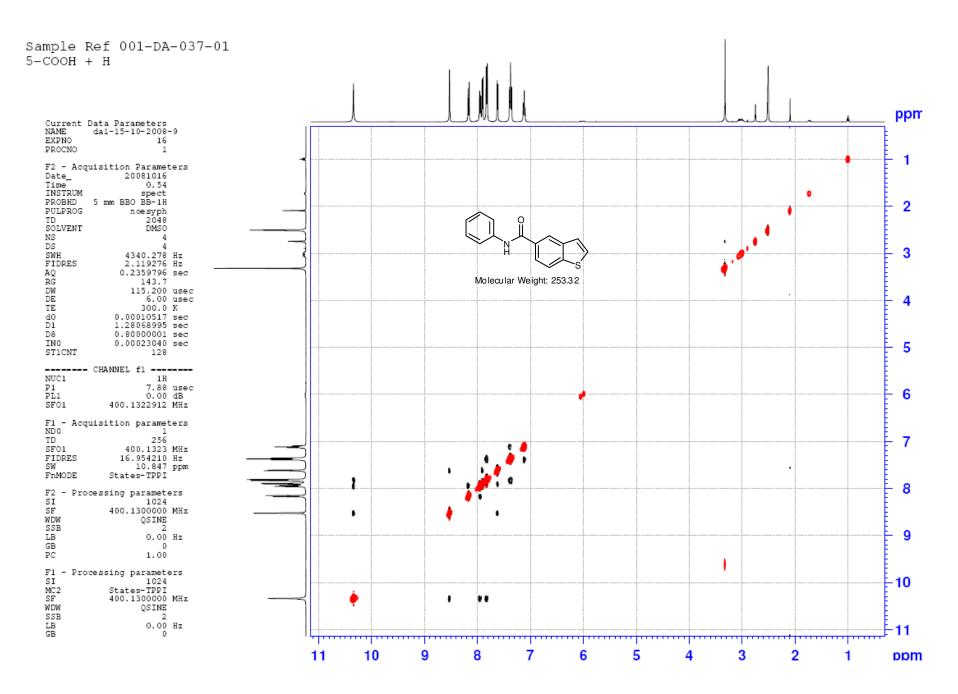


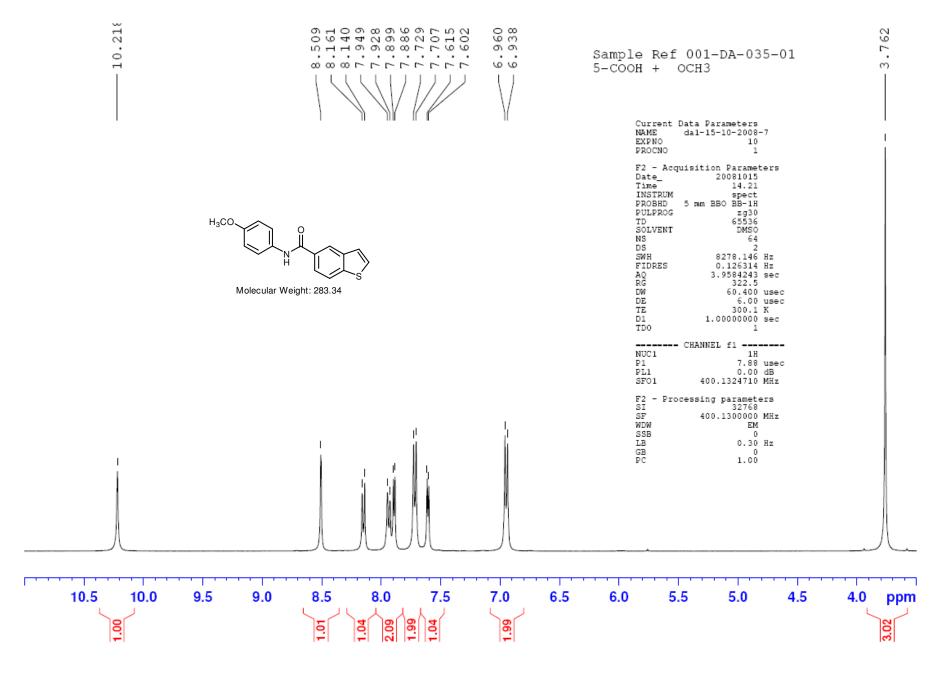
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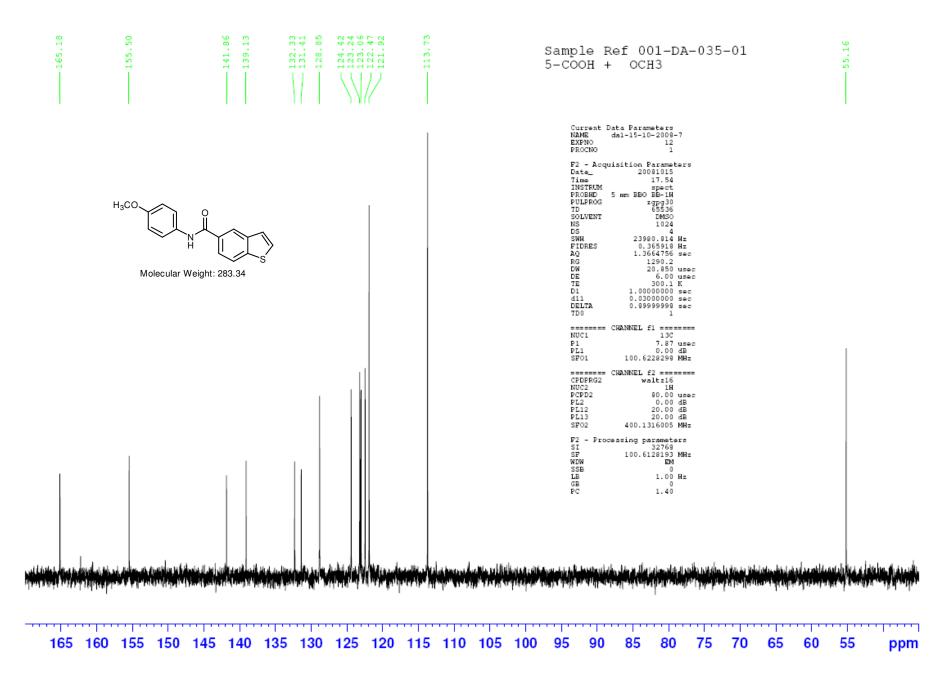


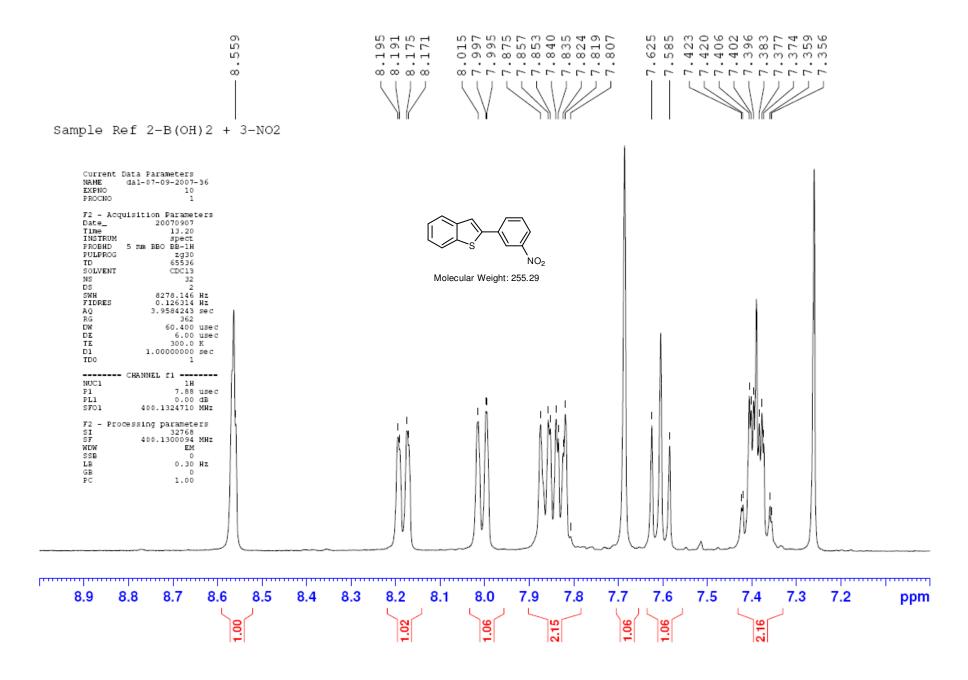
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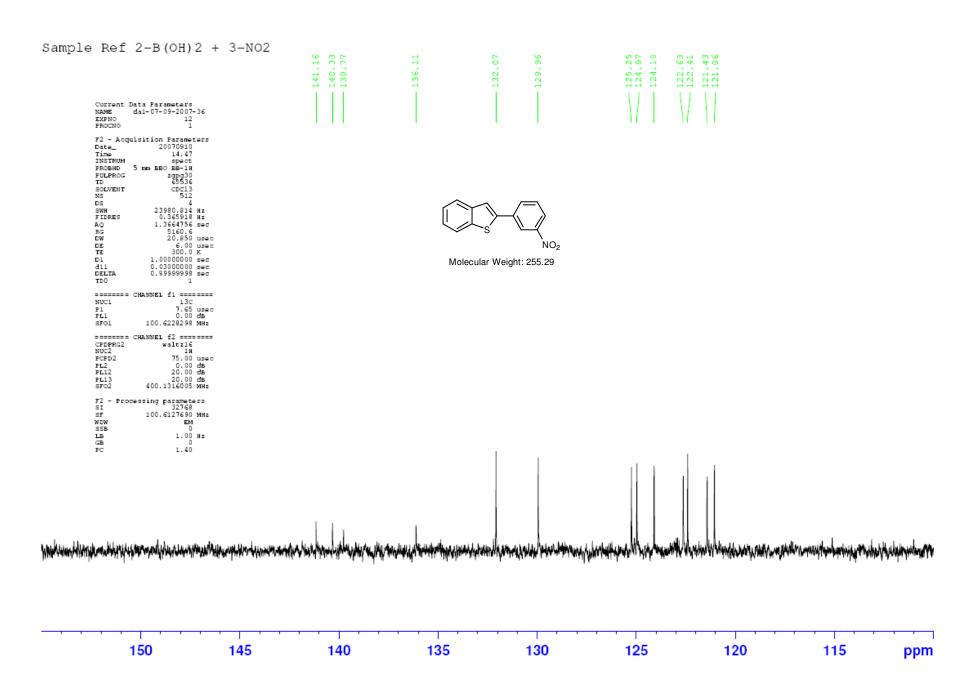


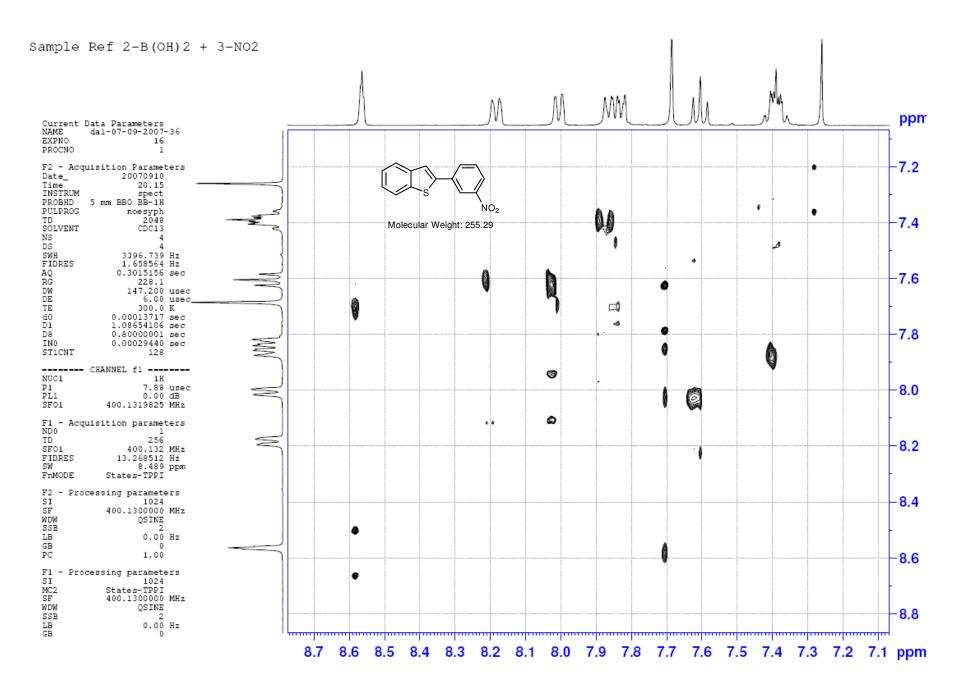


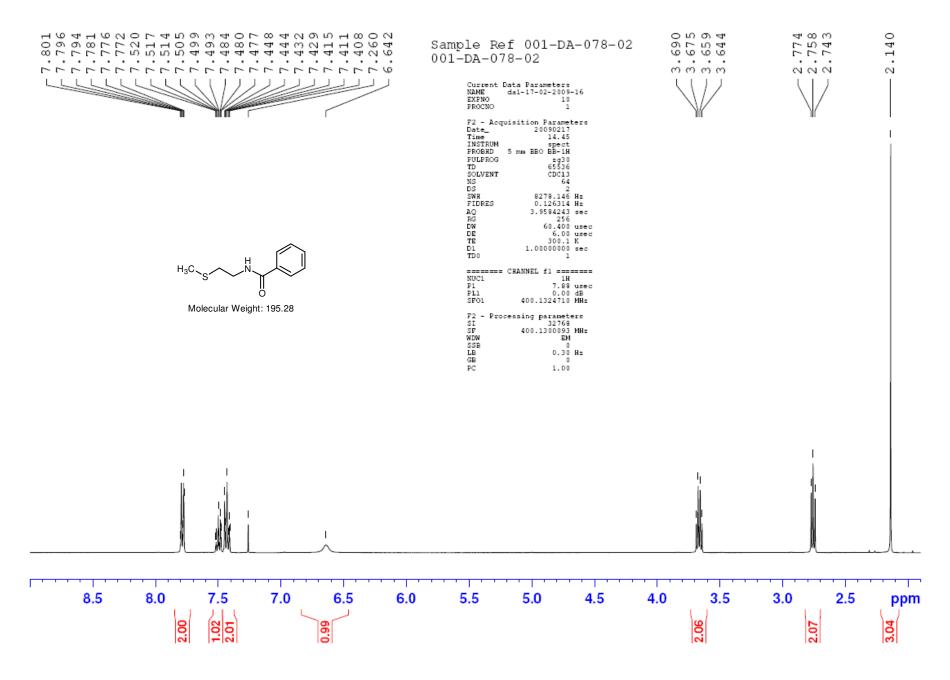


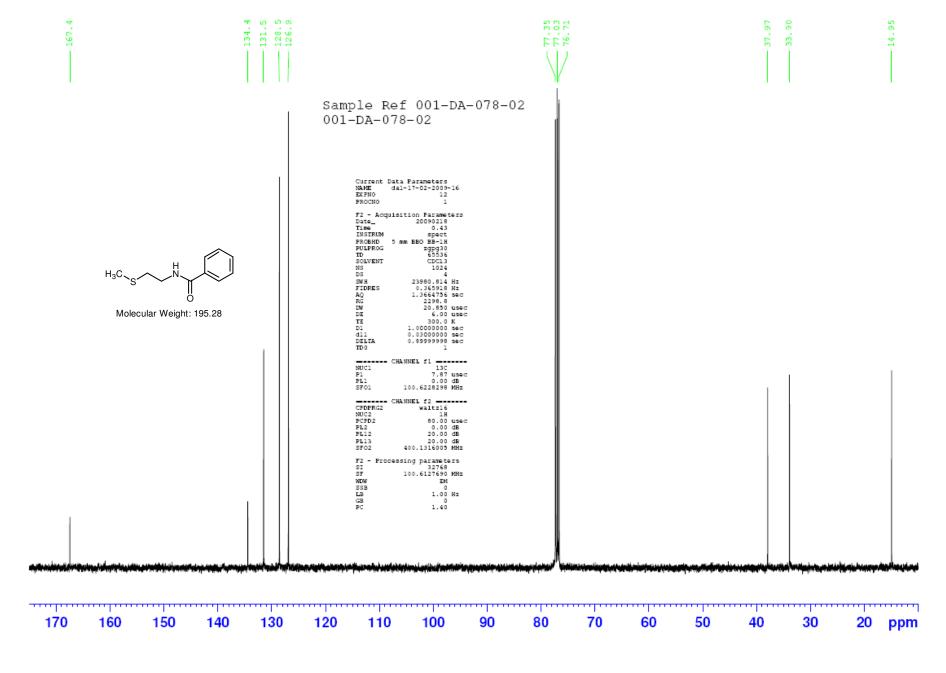


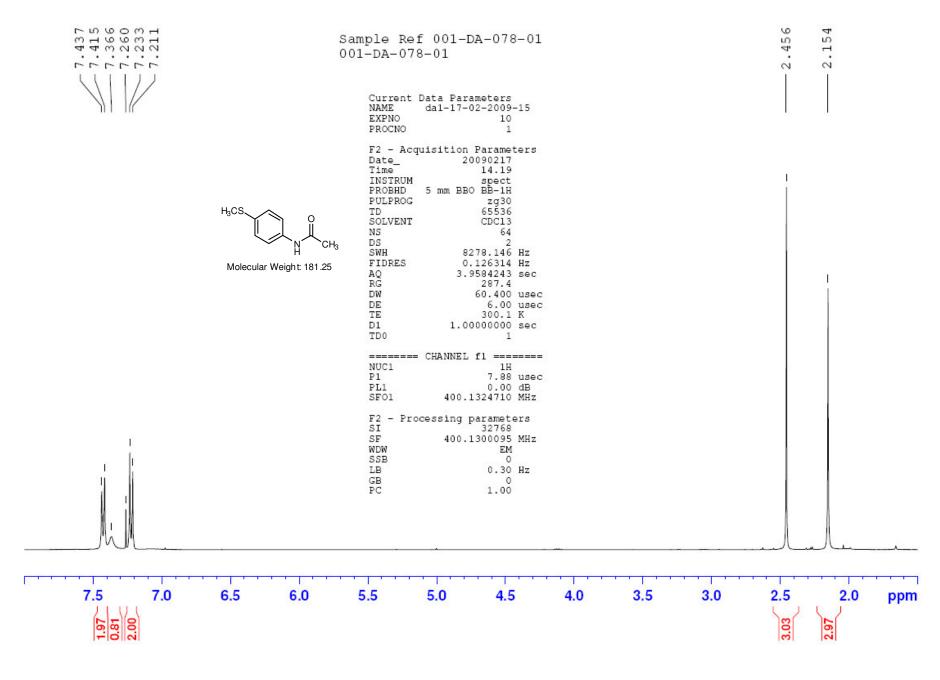


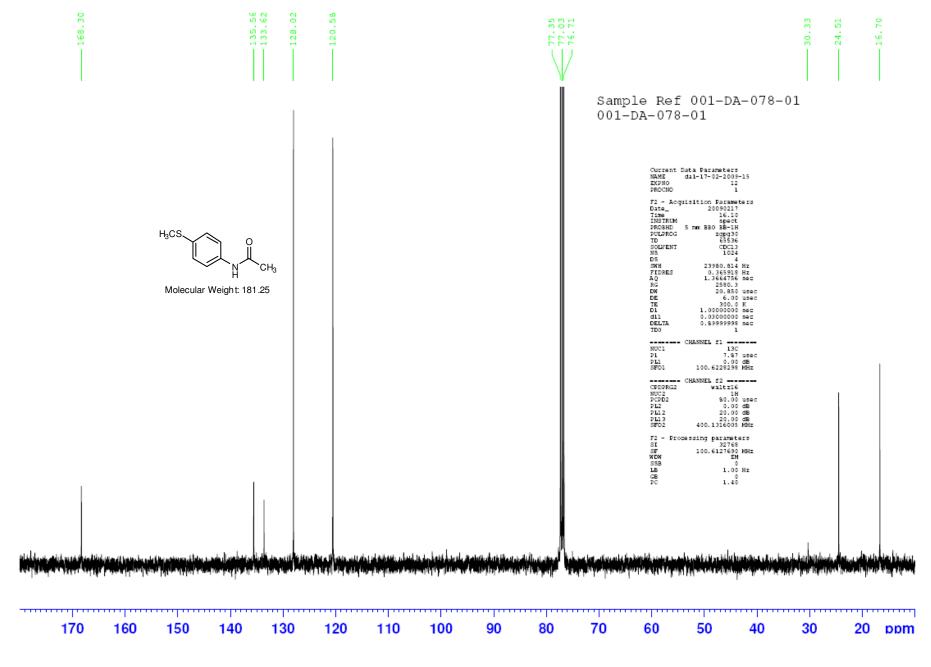


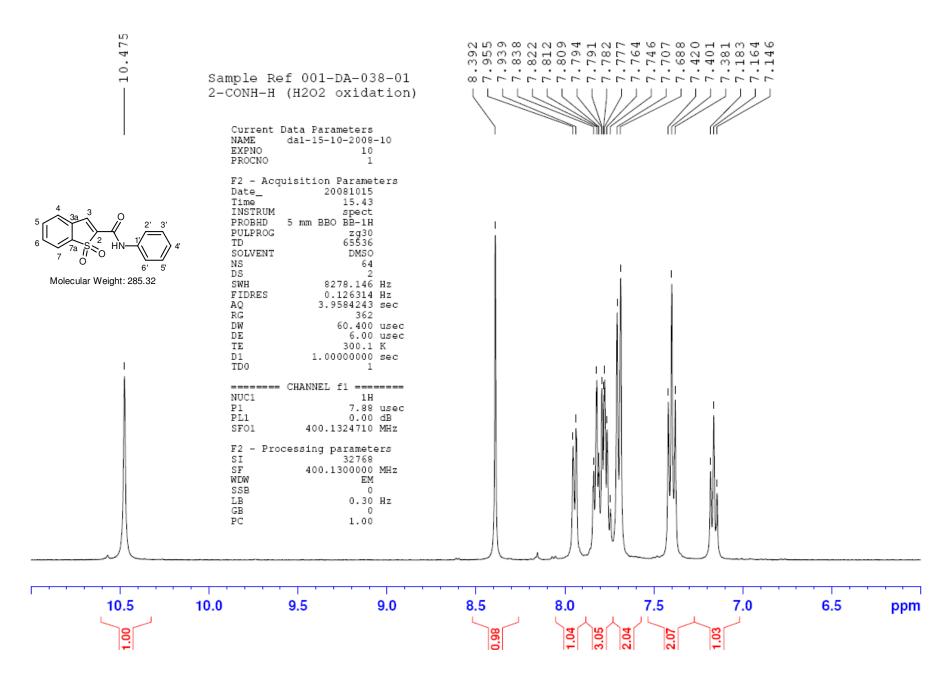


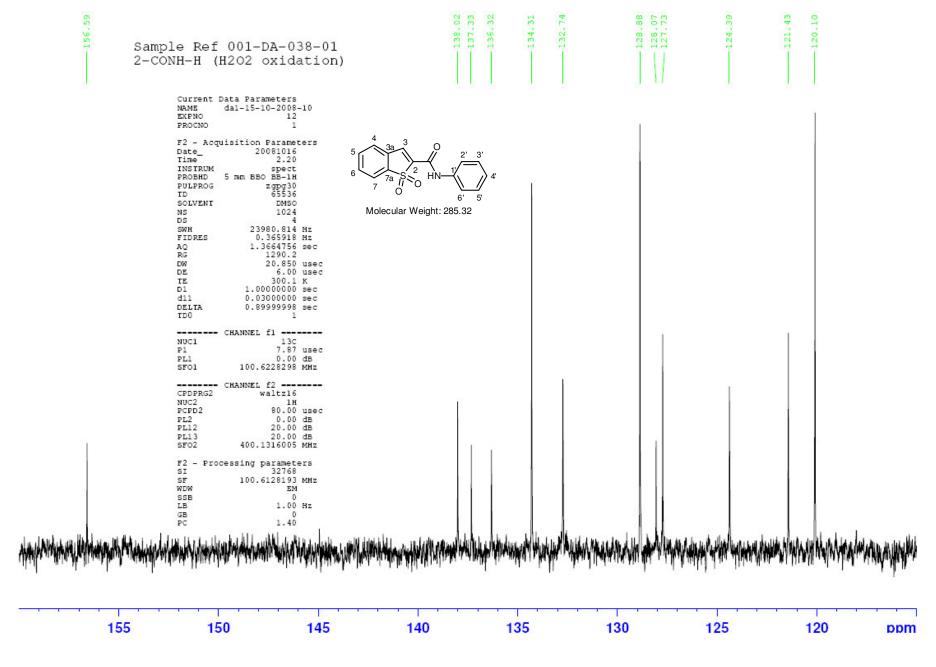


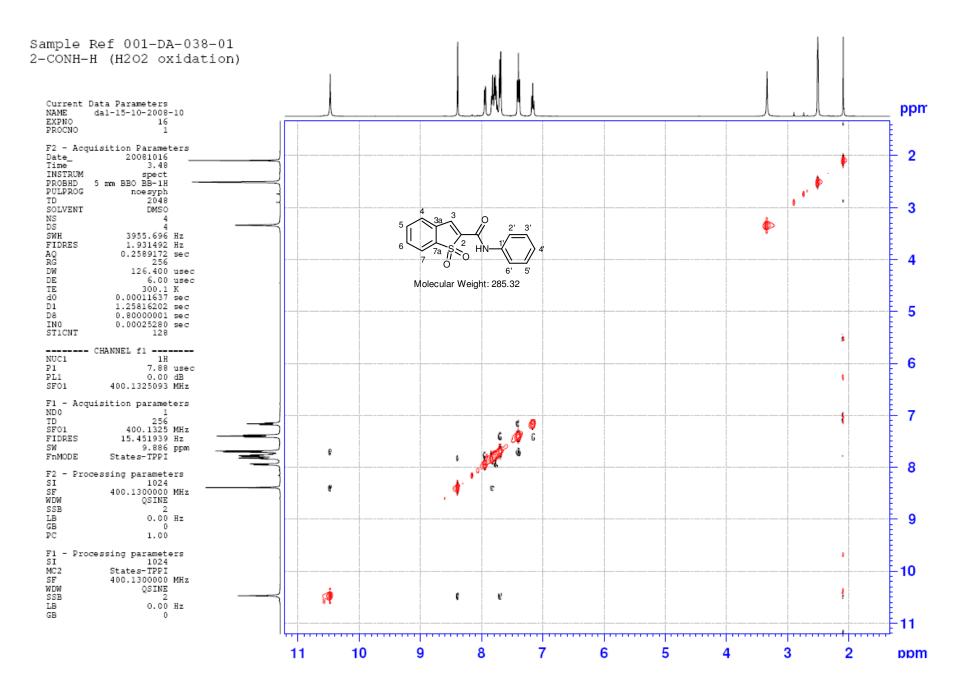


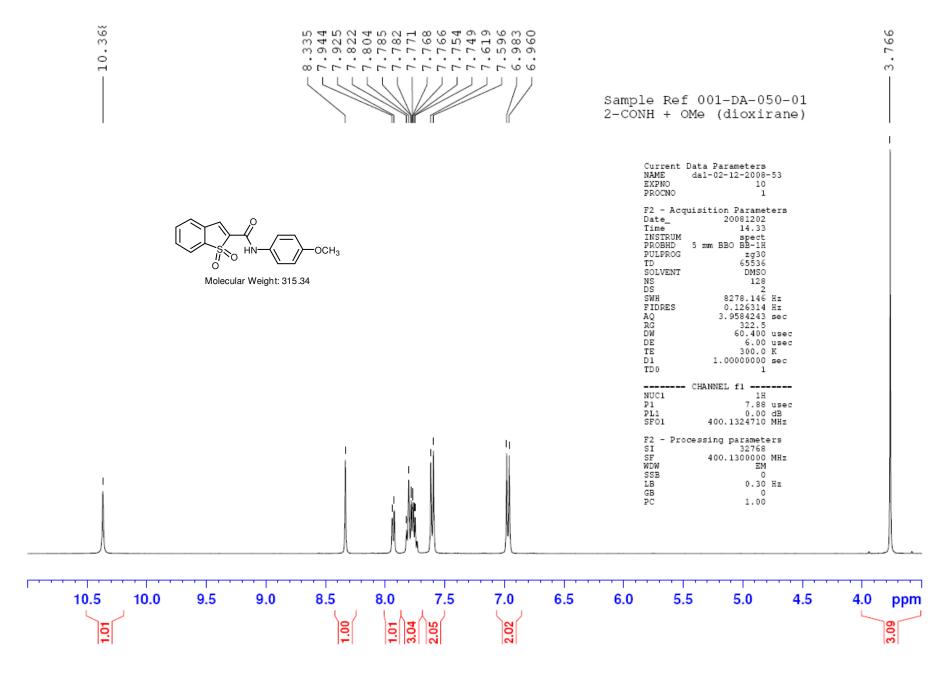


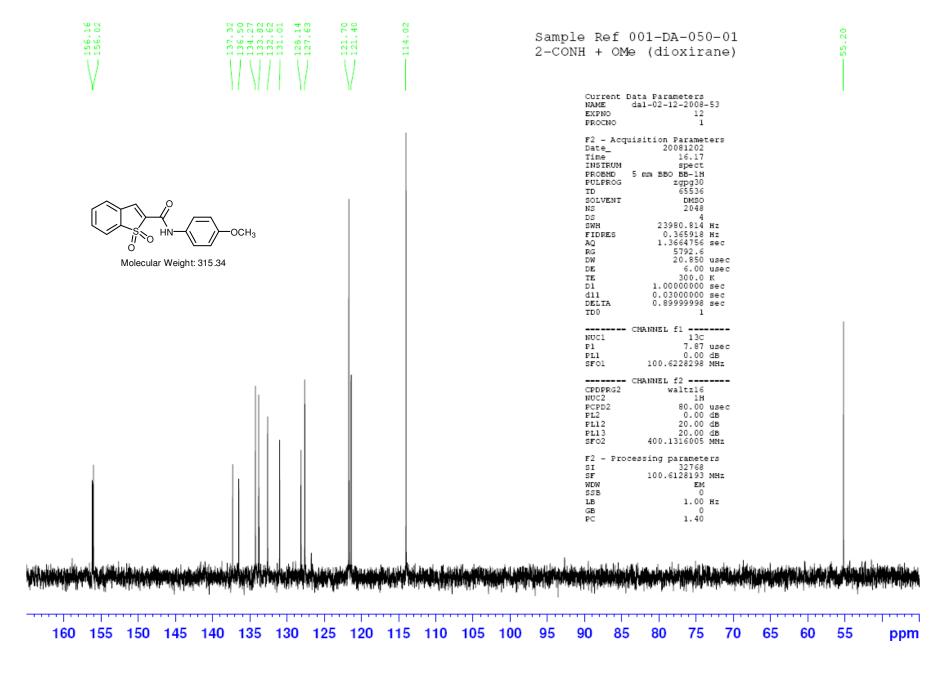


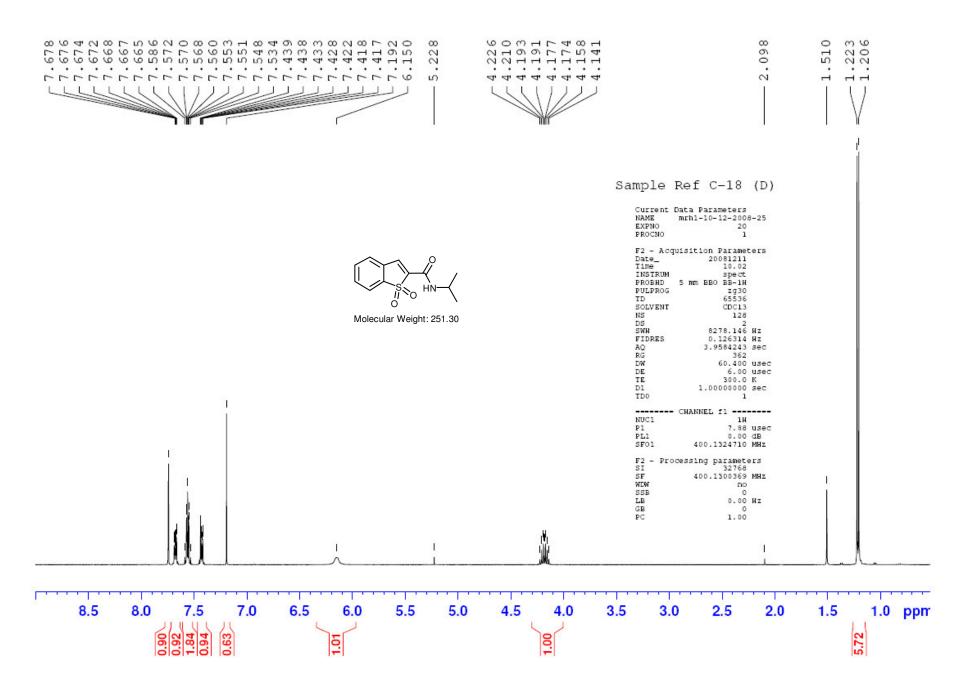


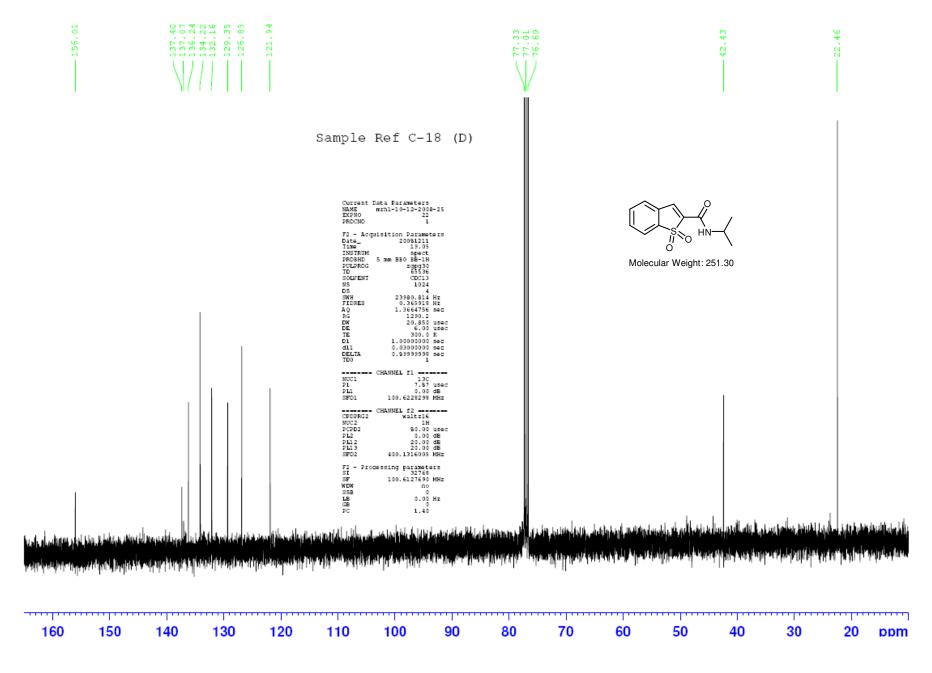


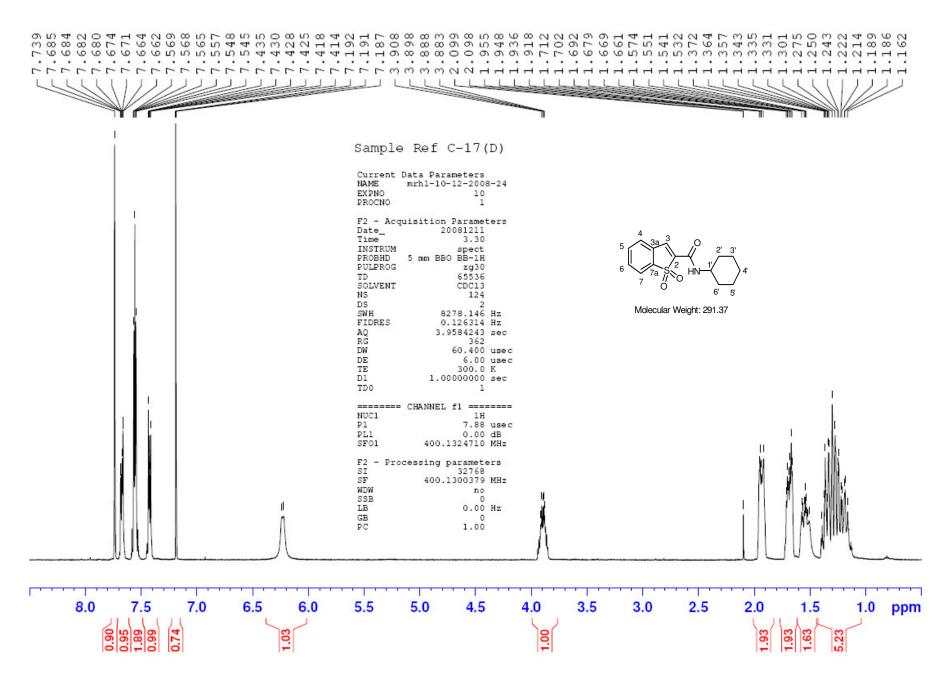


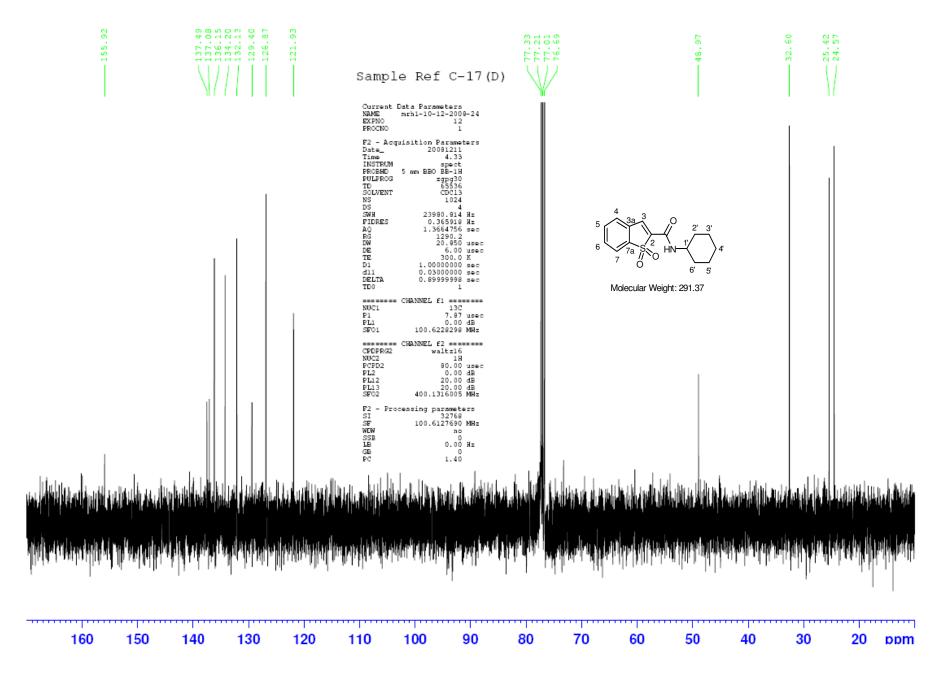


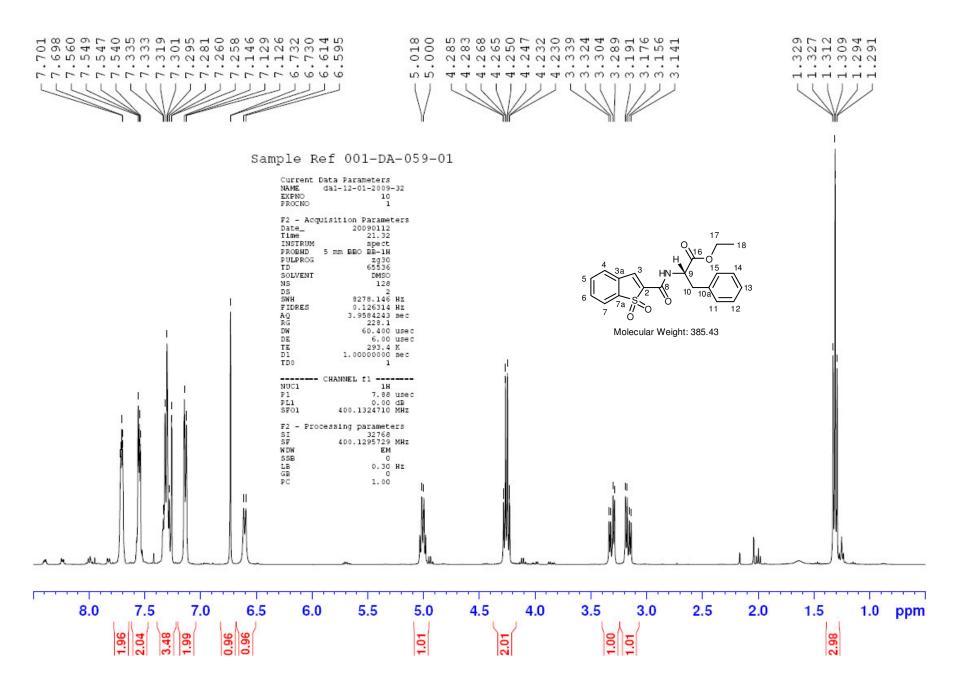


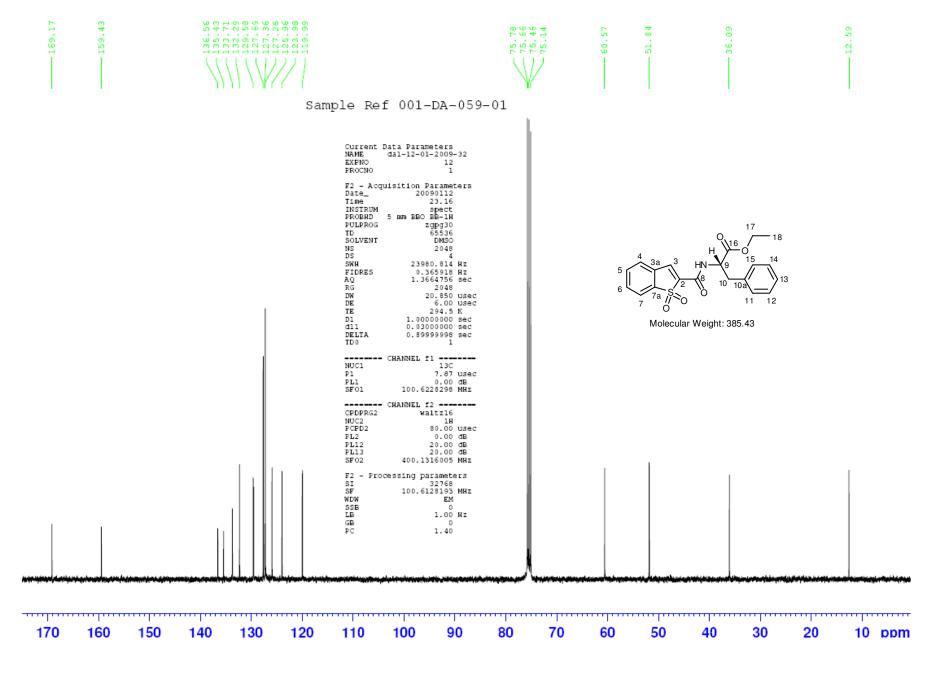


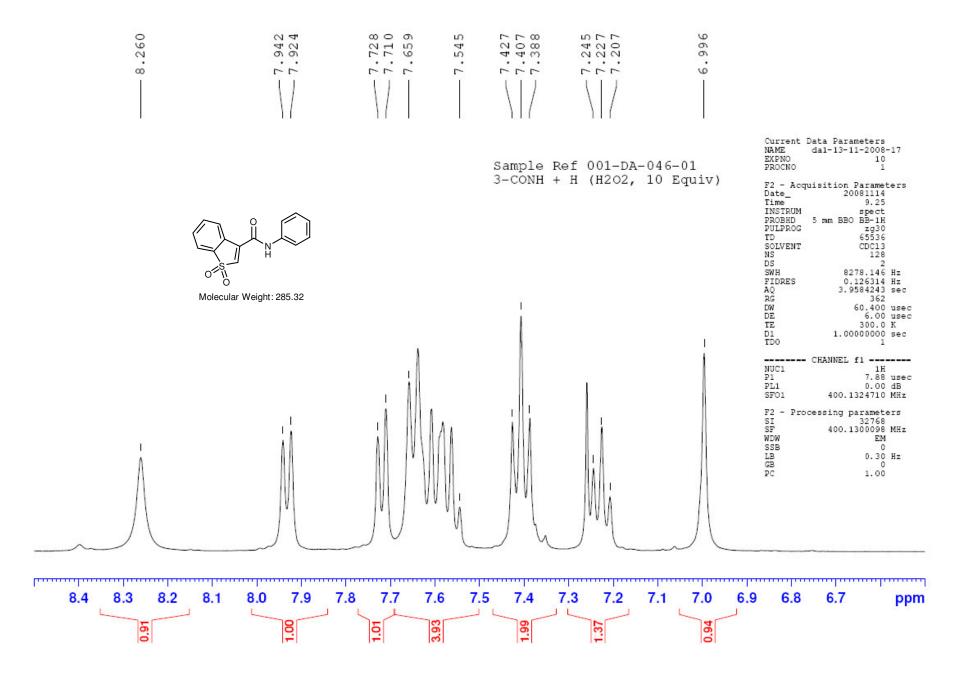


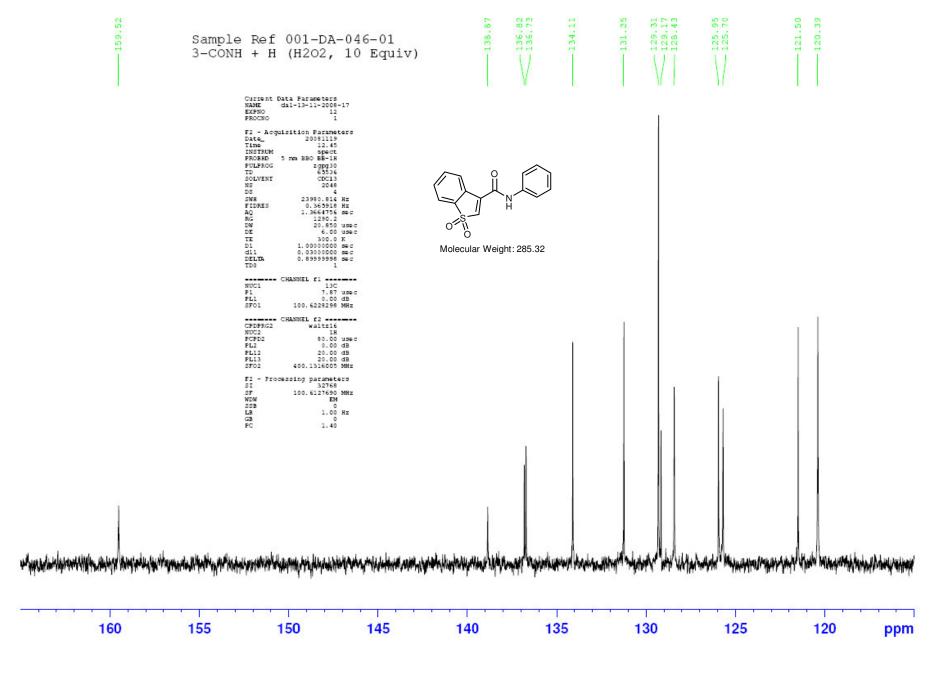


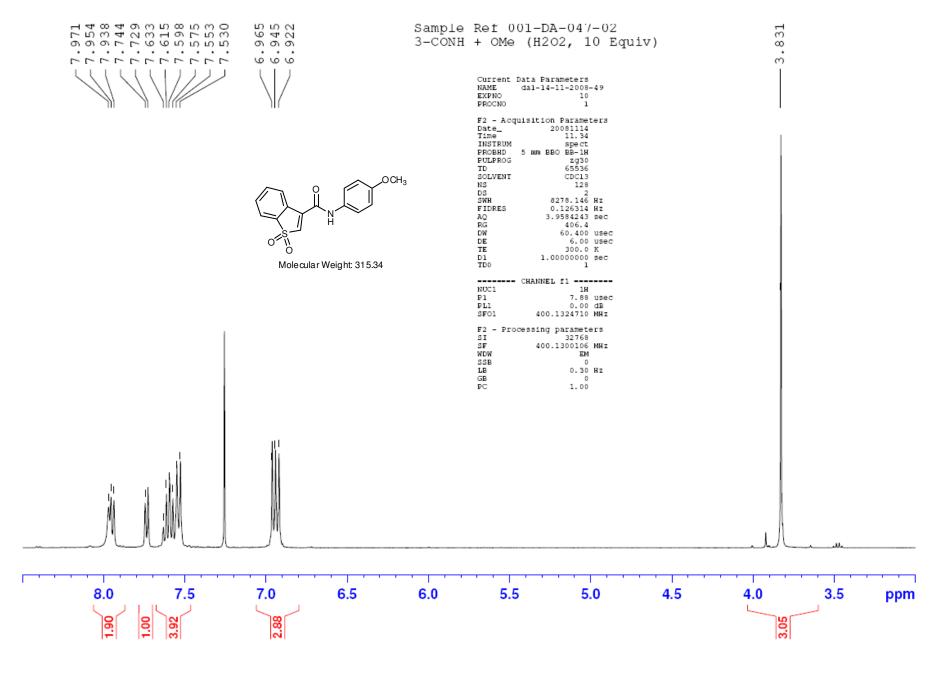


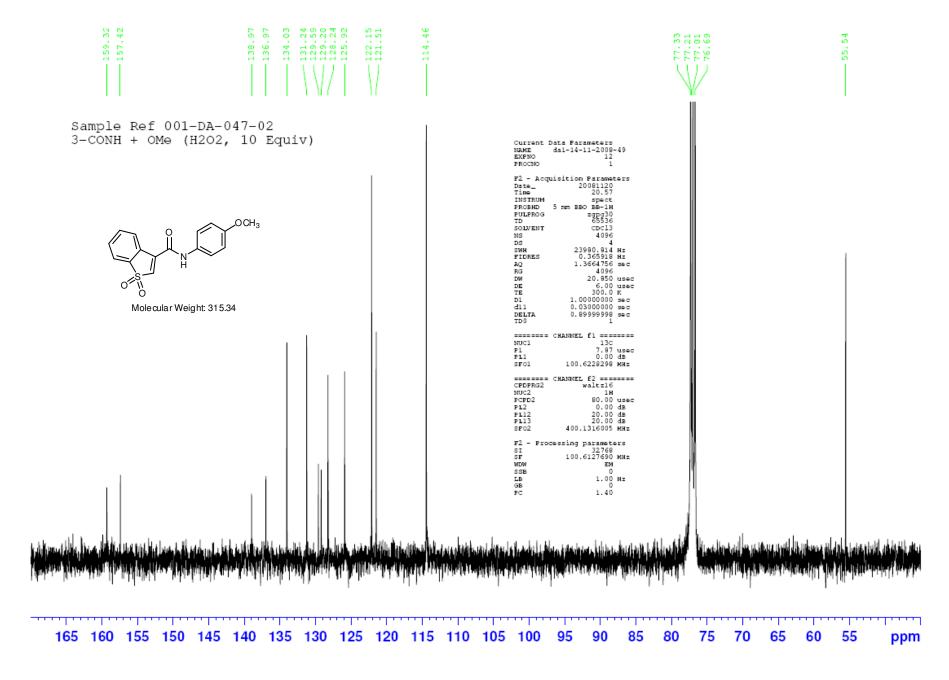


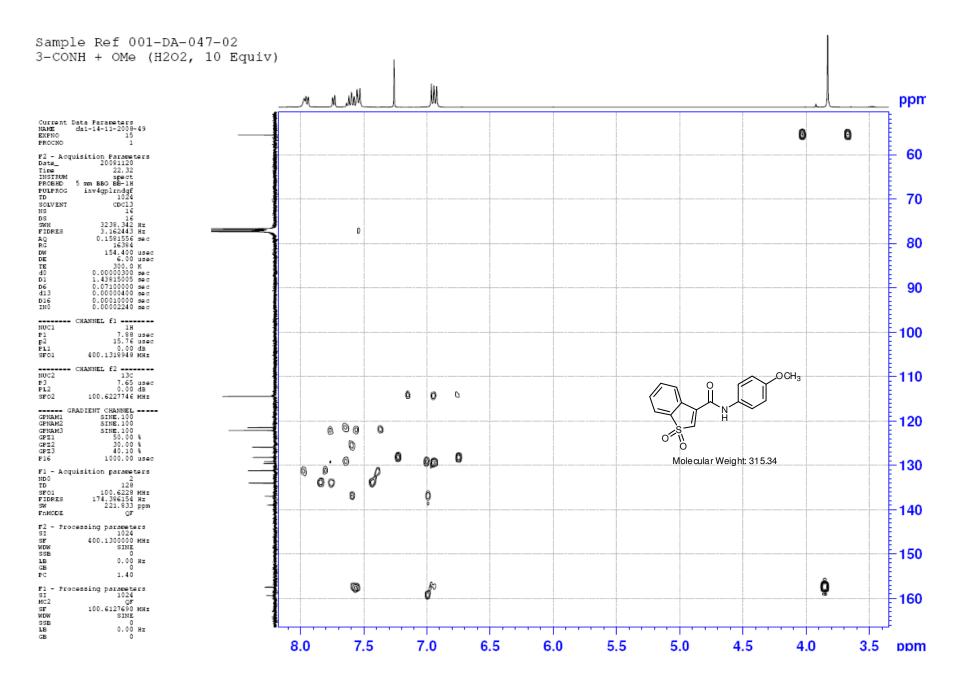


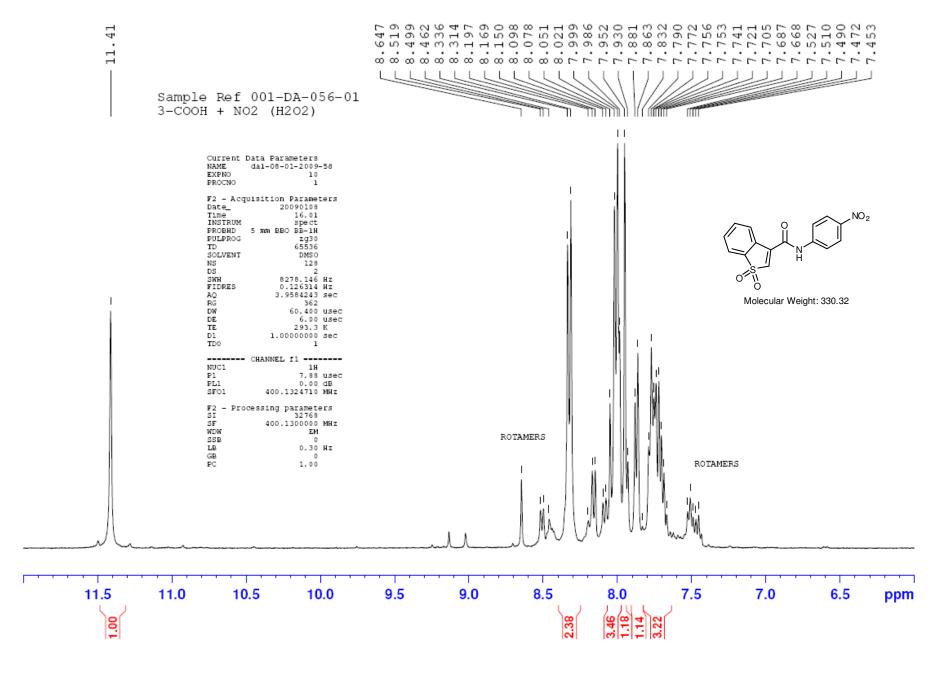


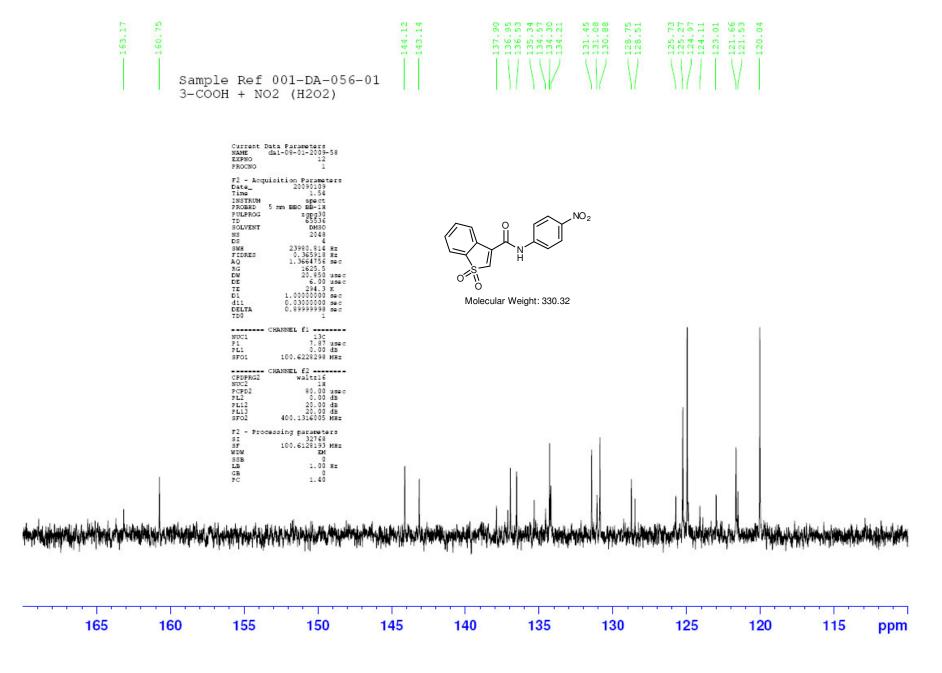


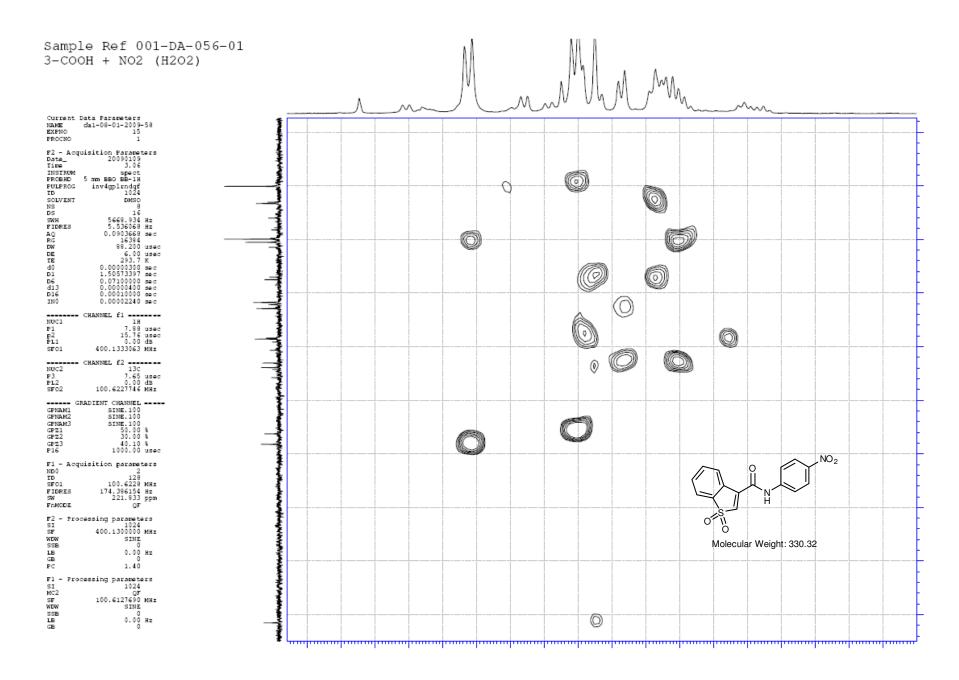


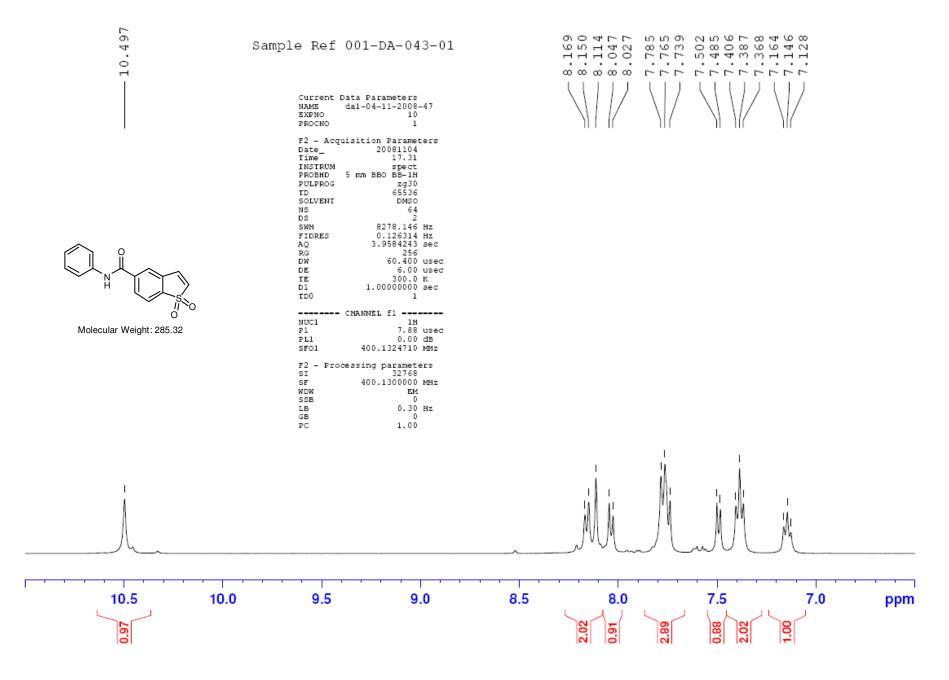


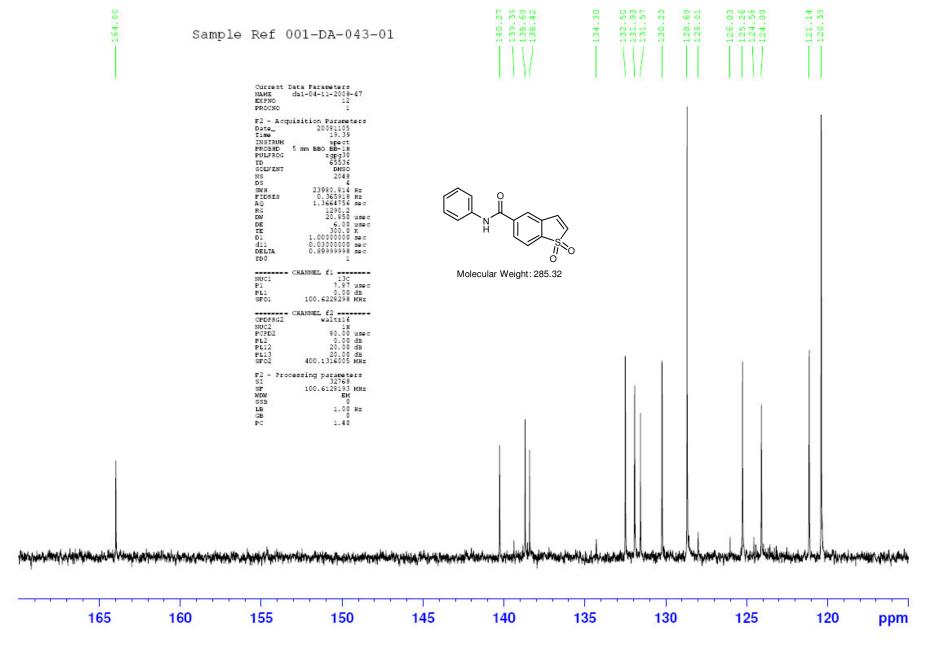


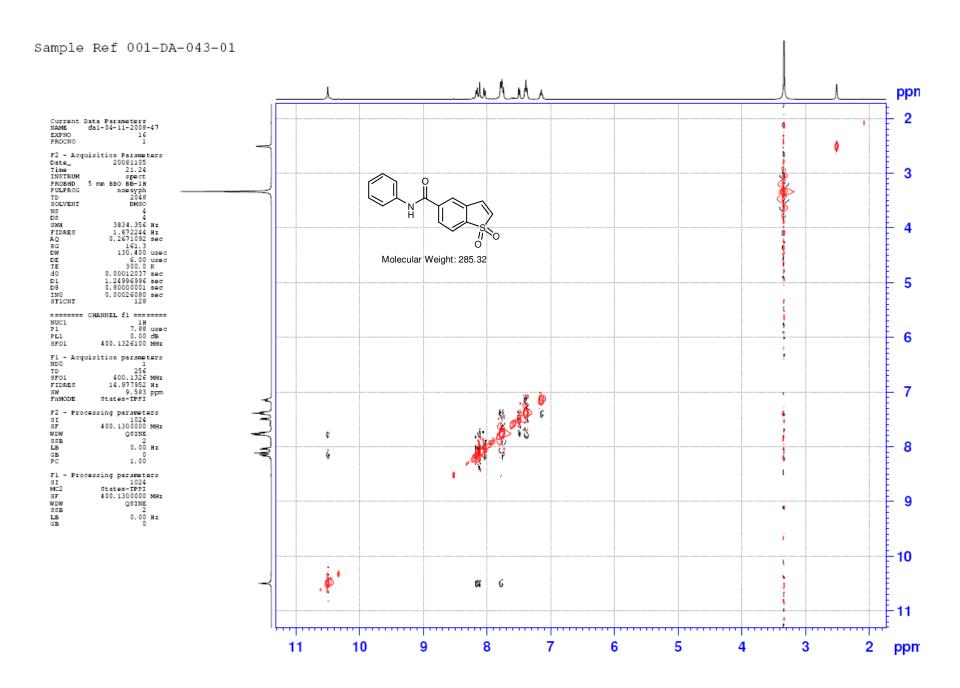


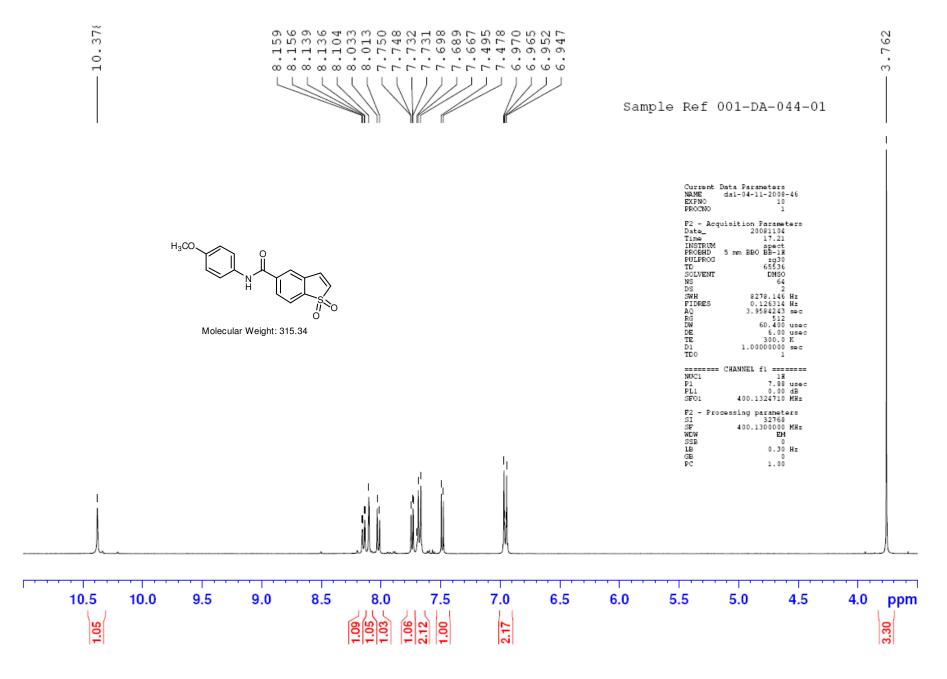


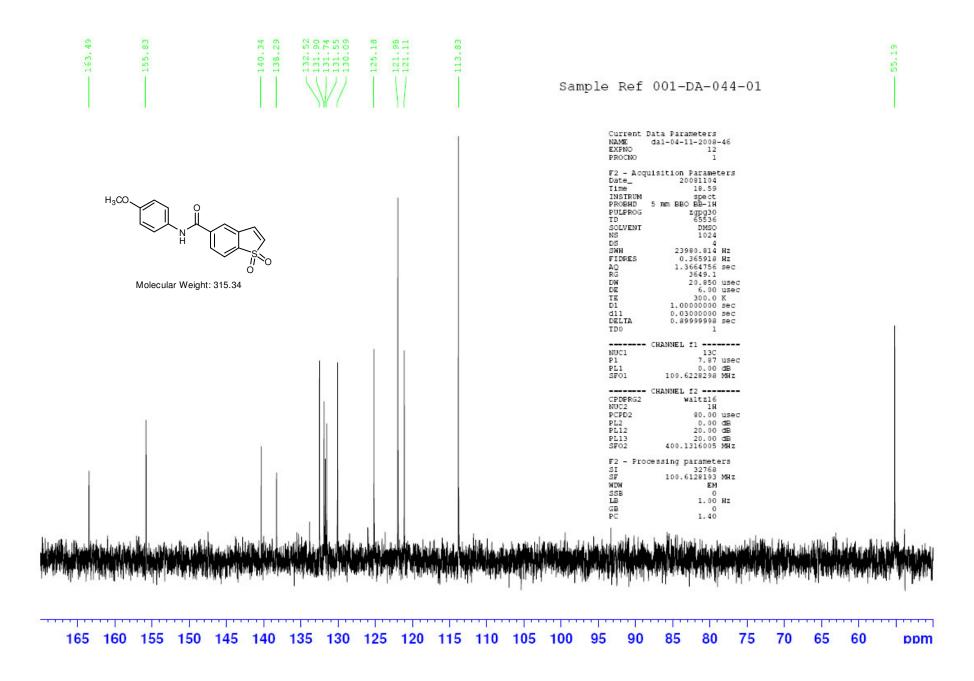


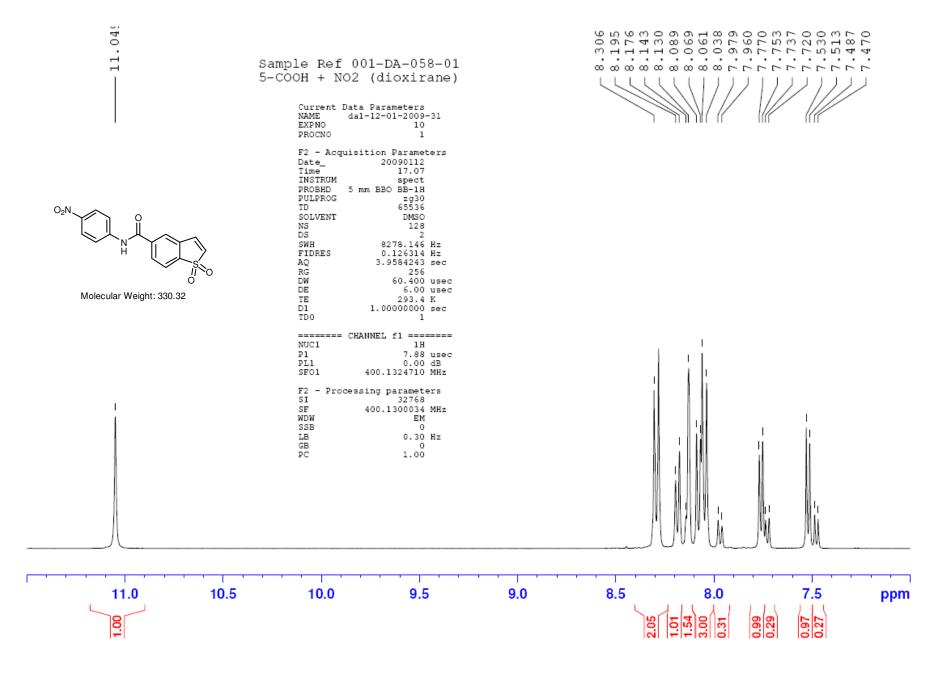


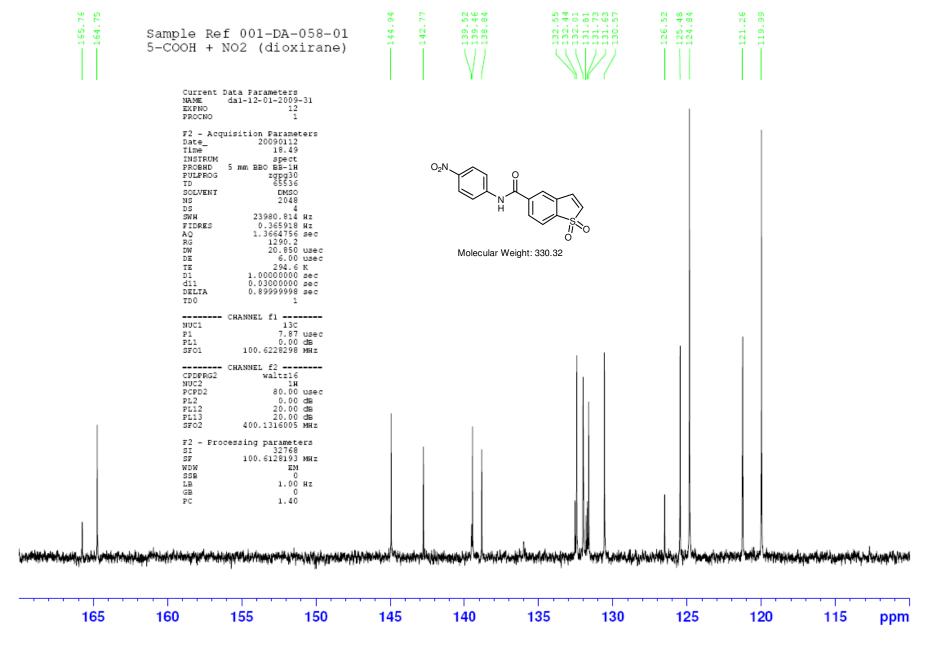


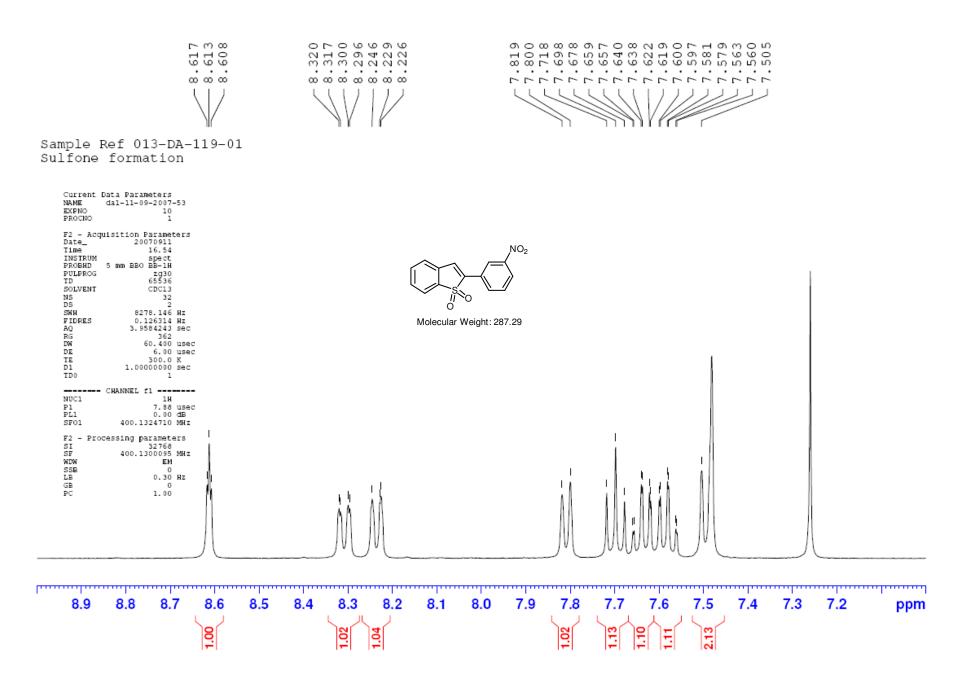


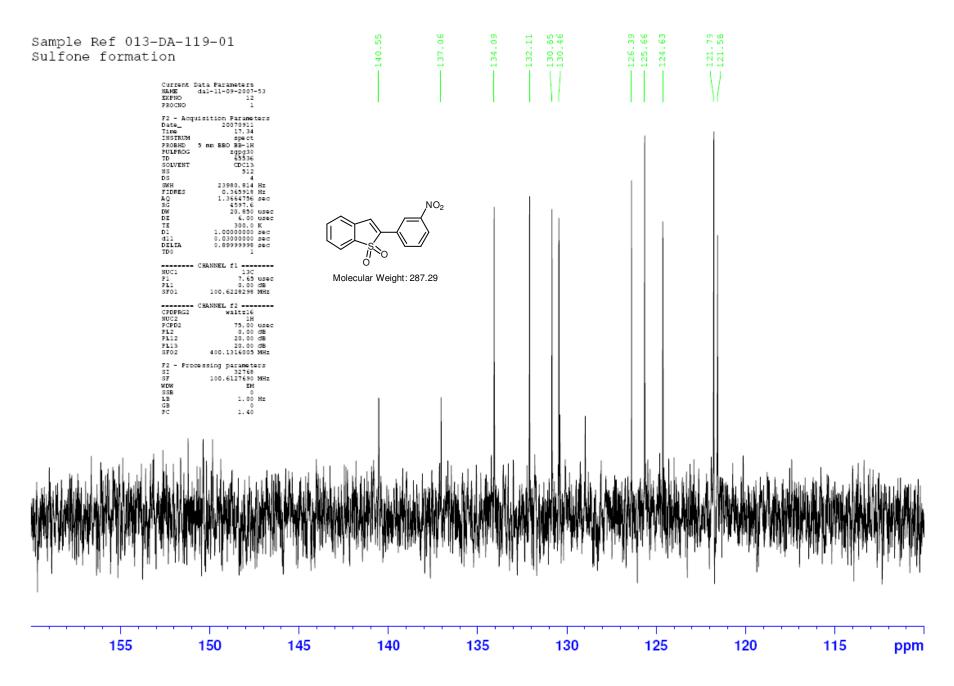


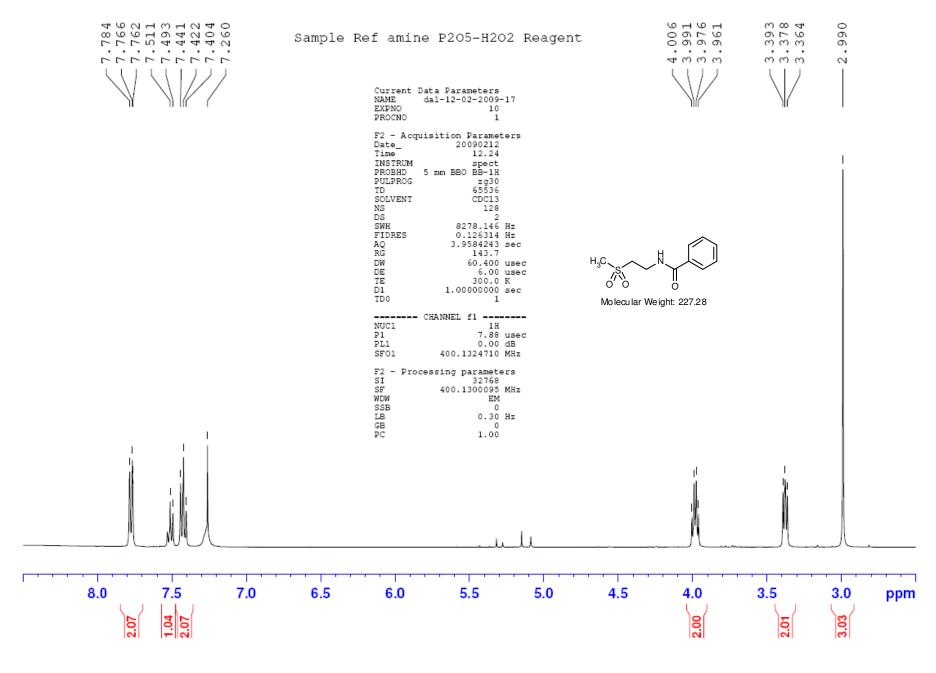


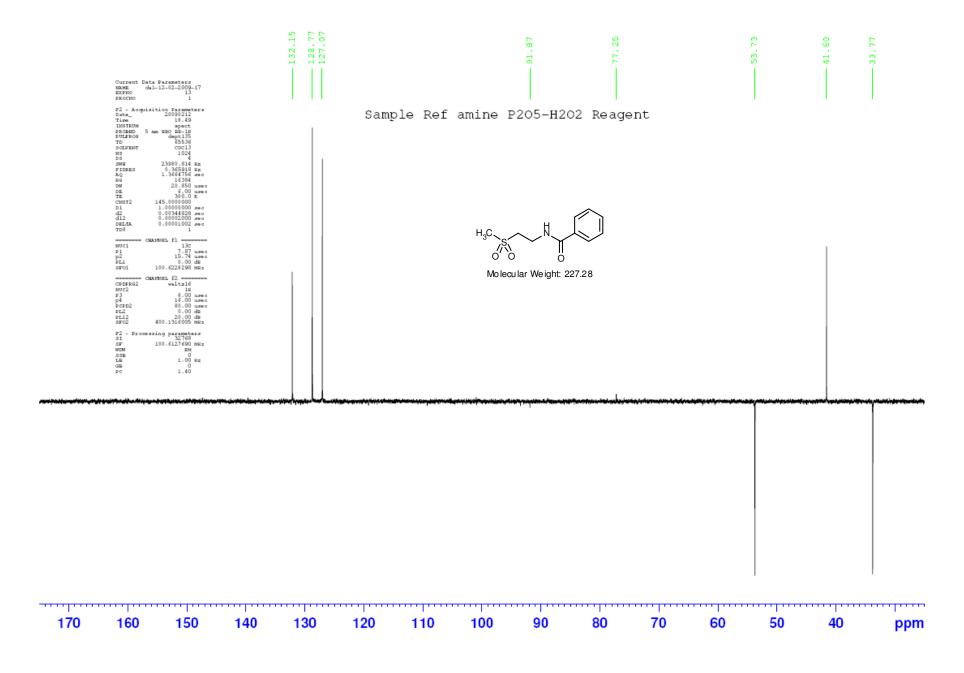


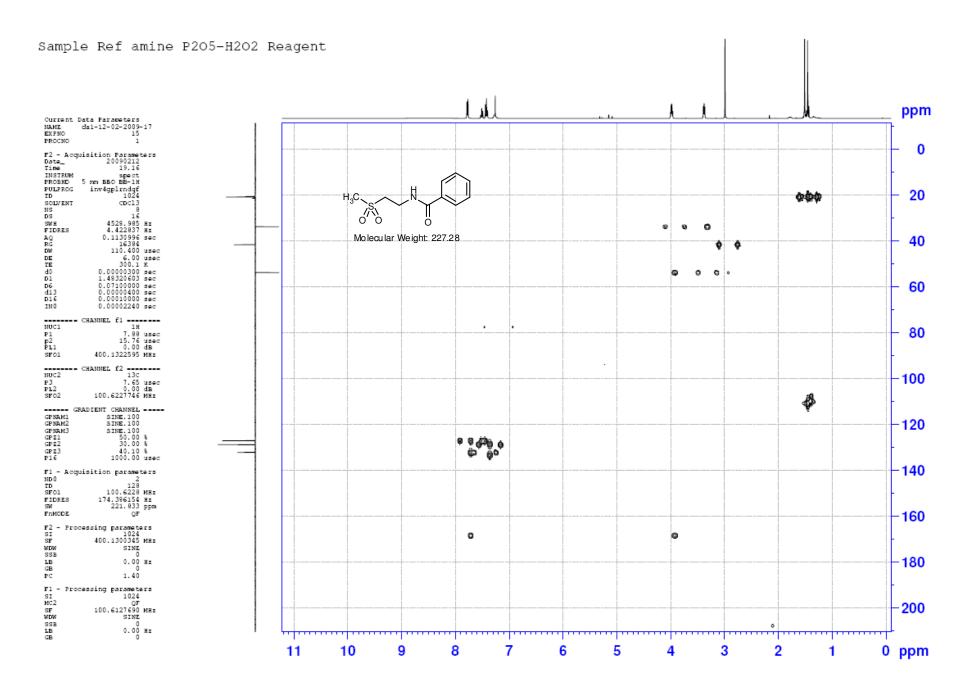


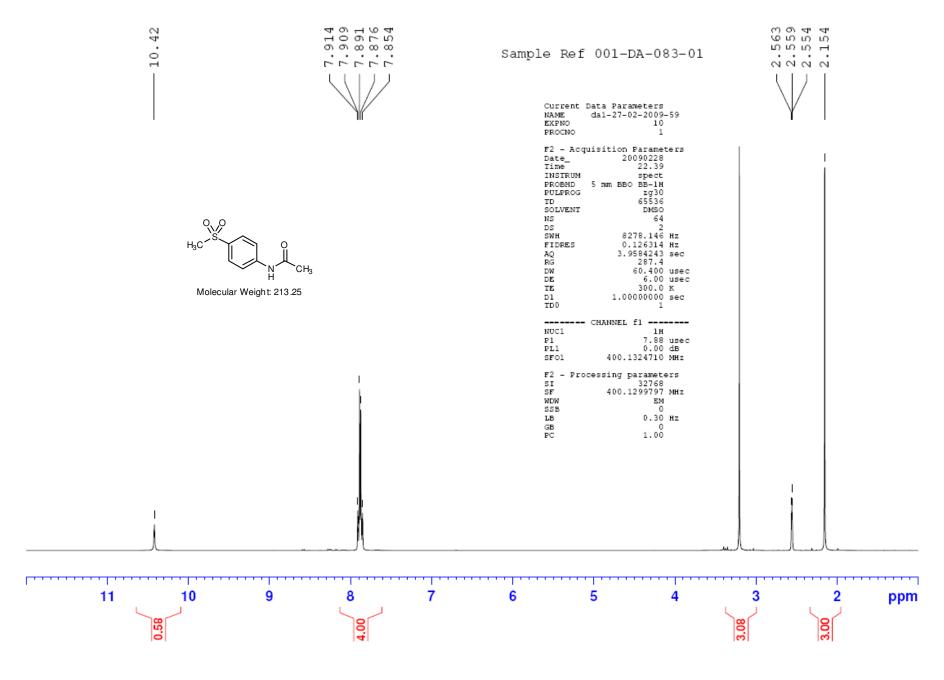


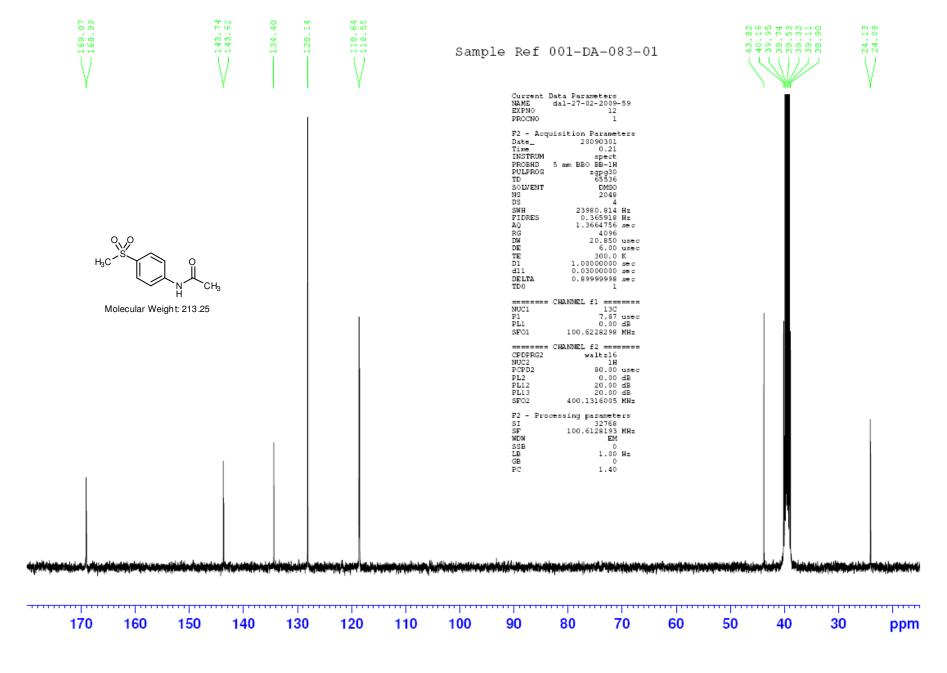




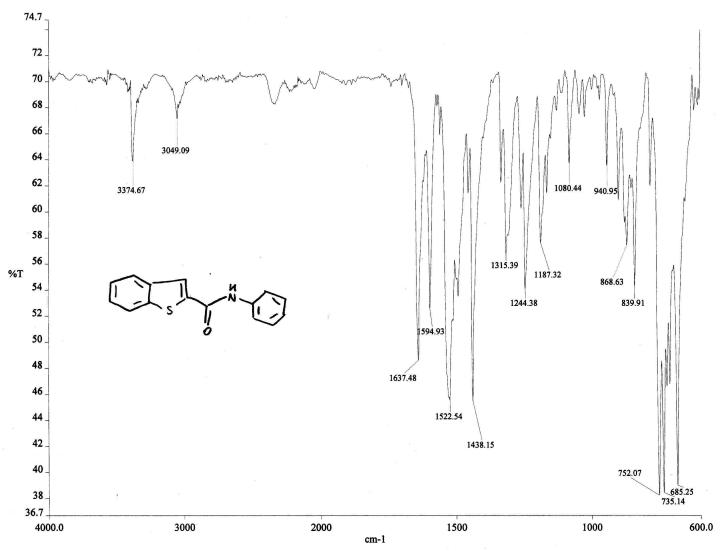






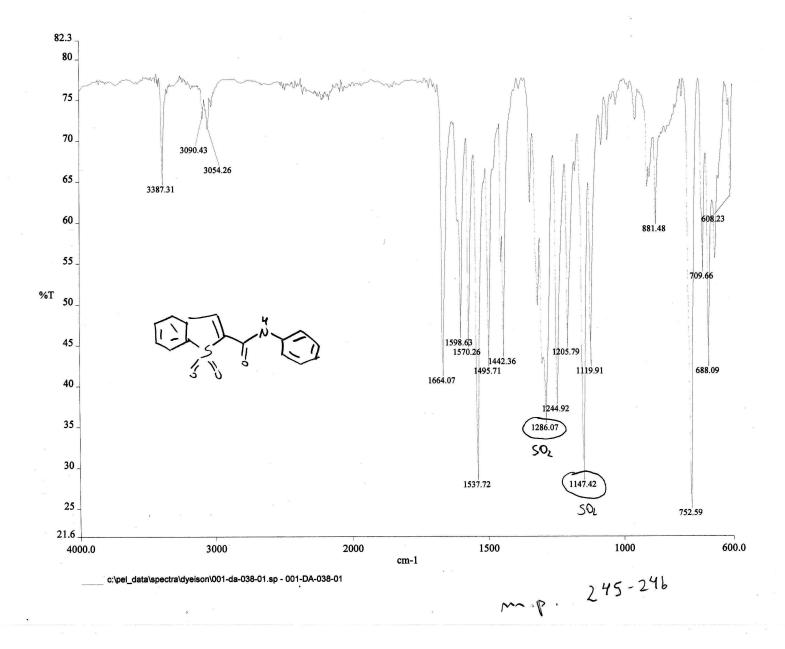


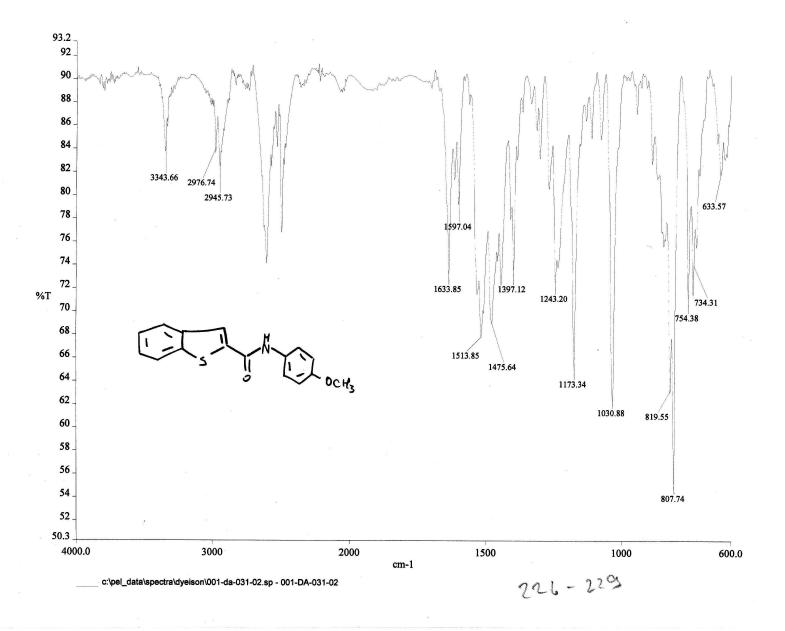
IR spectra for all novel compounds

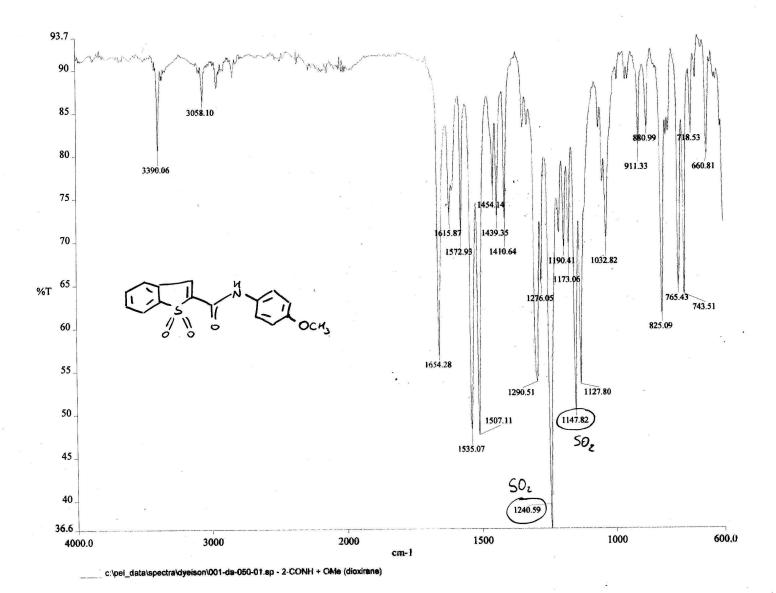


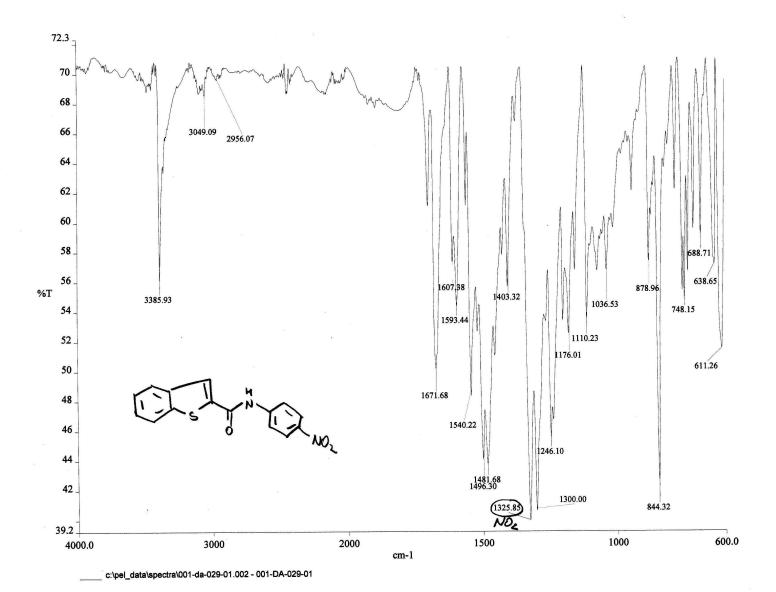
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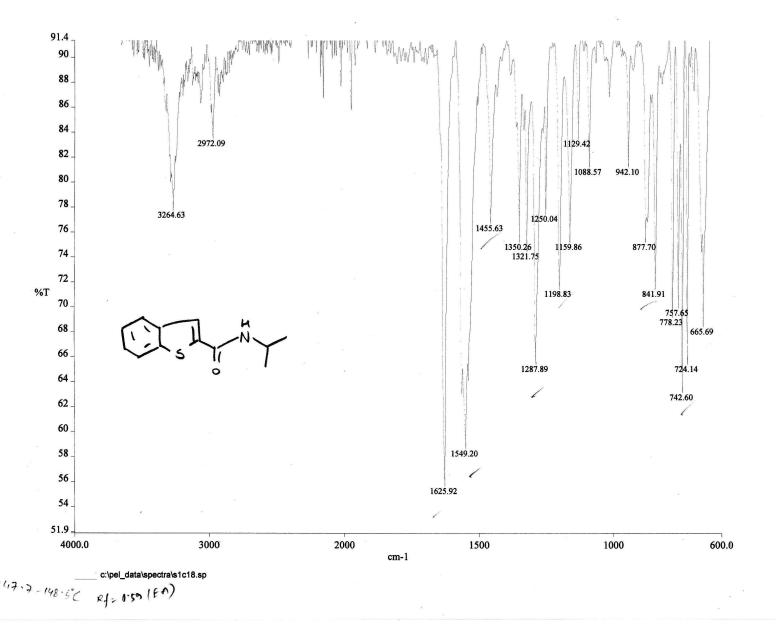
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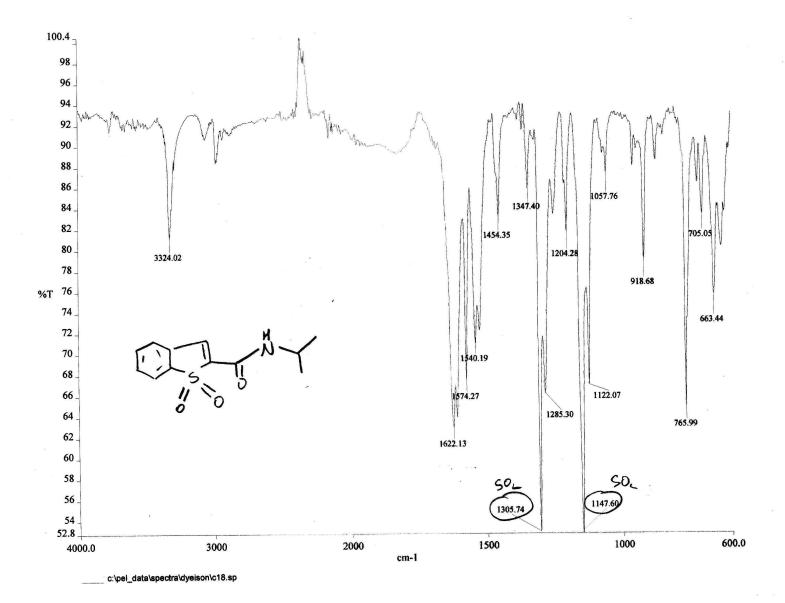


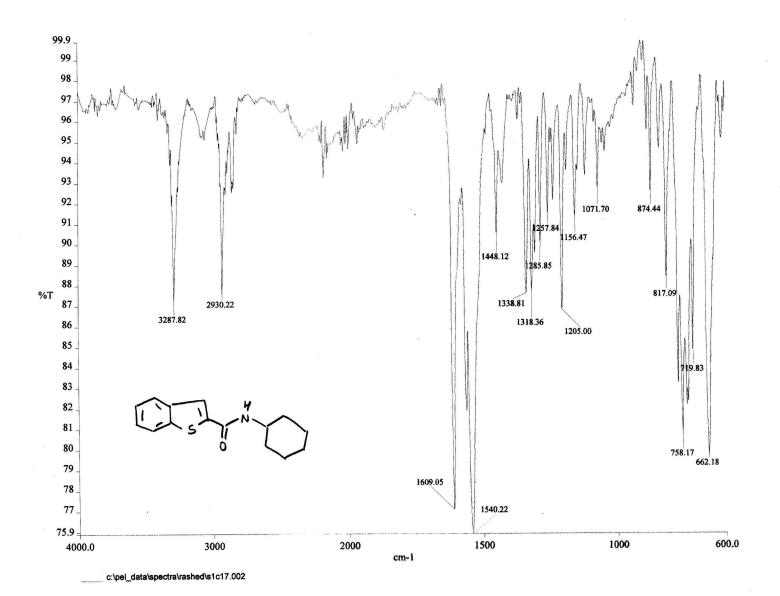


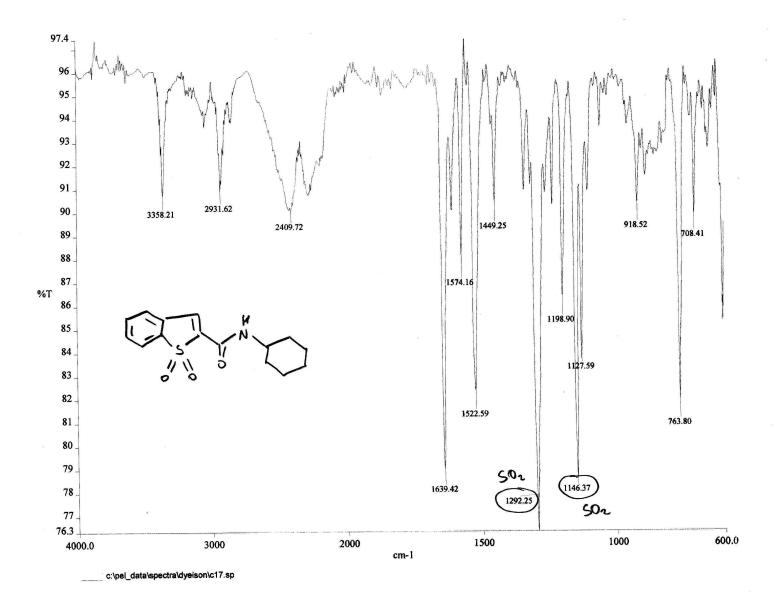


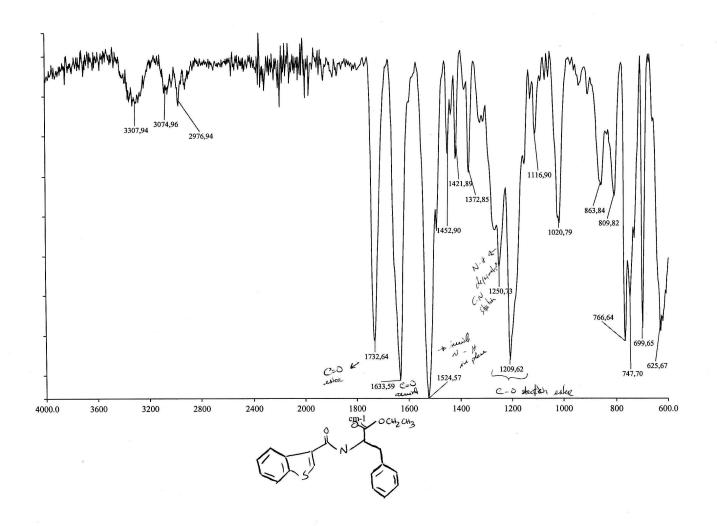


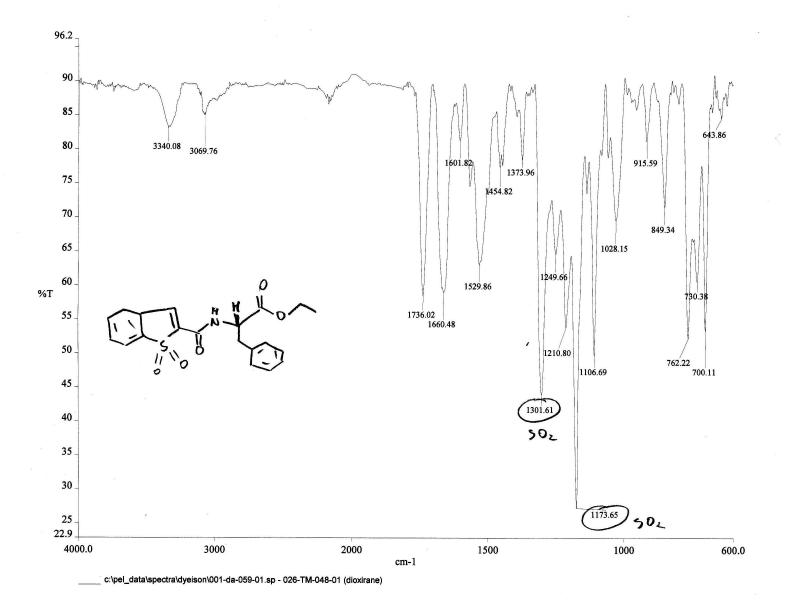




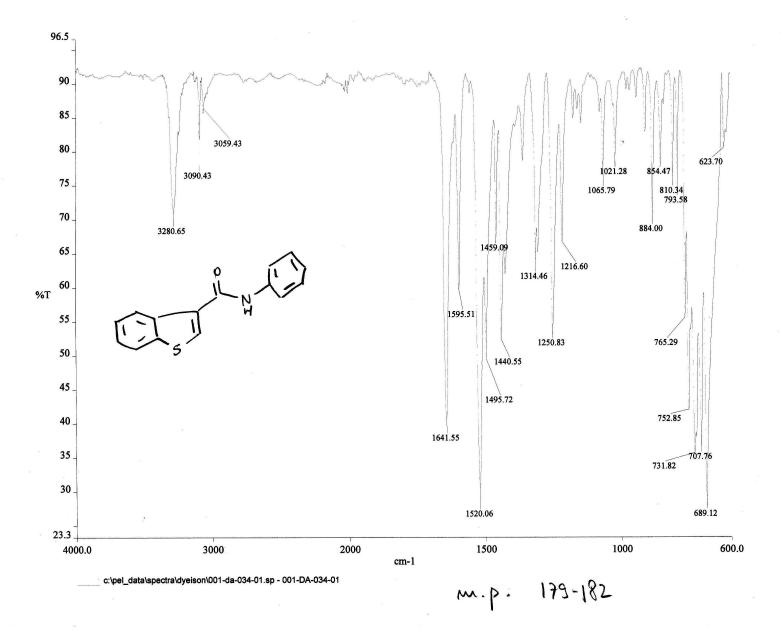


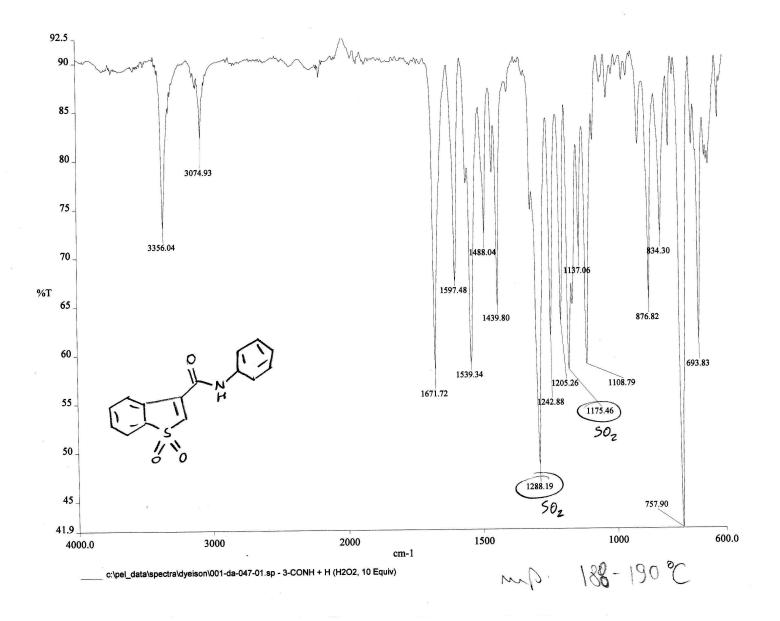


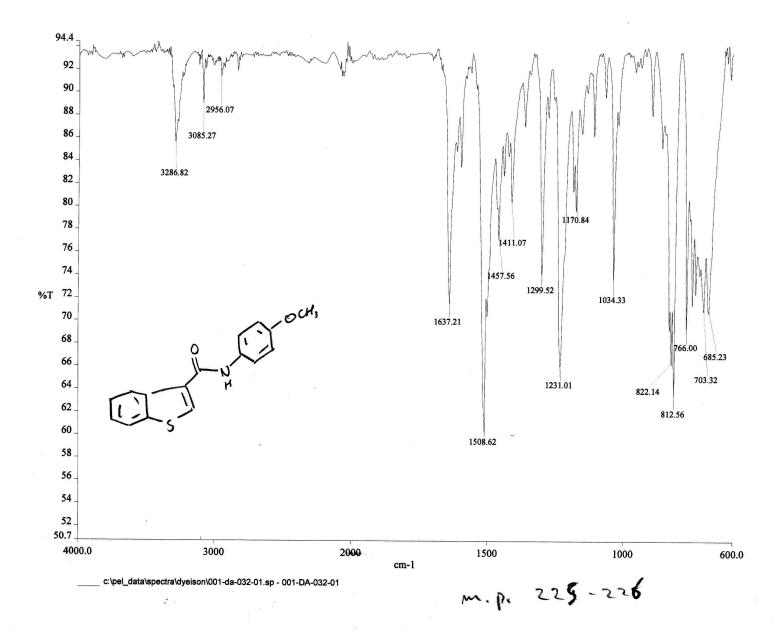


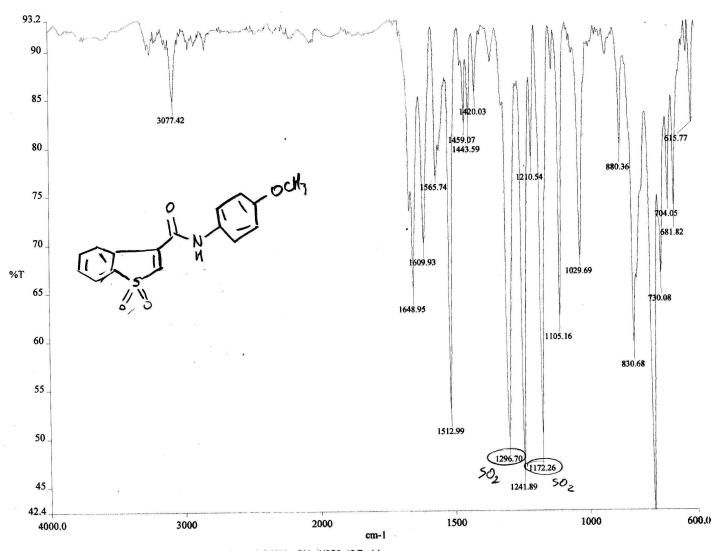


Elect. Supp. Info. 99

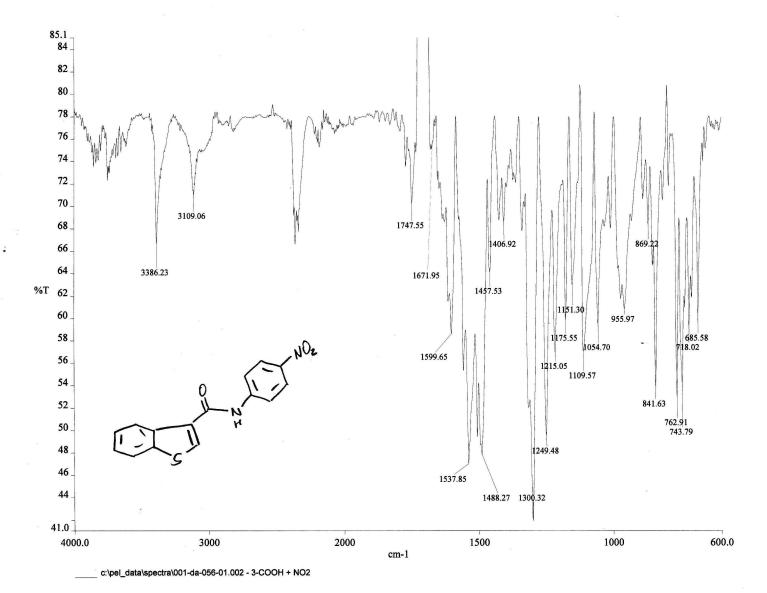


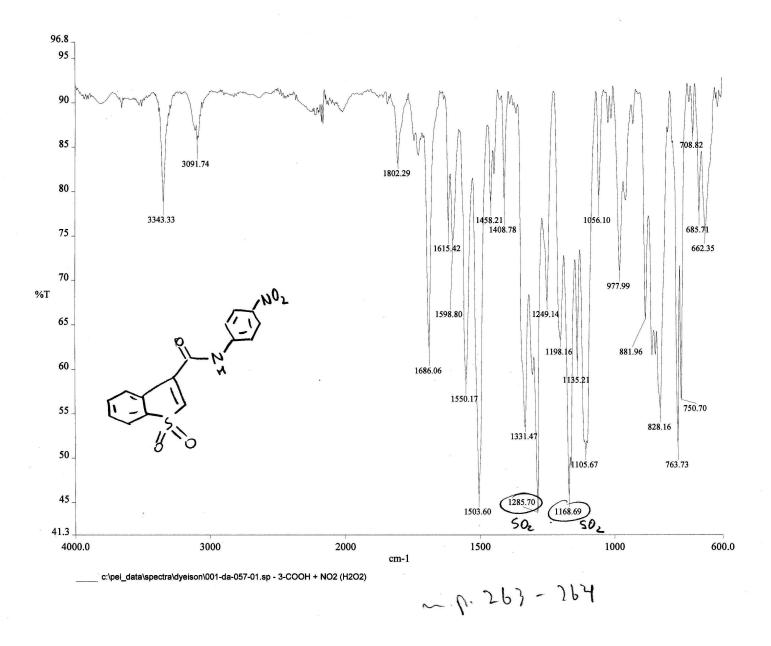


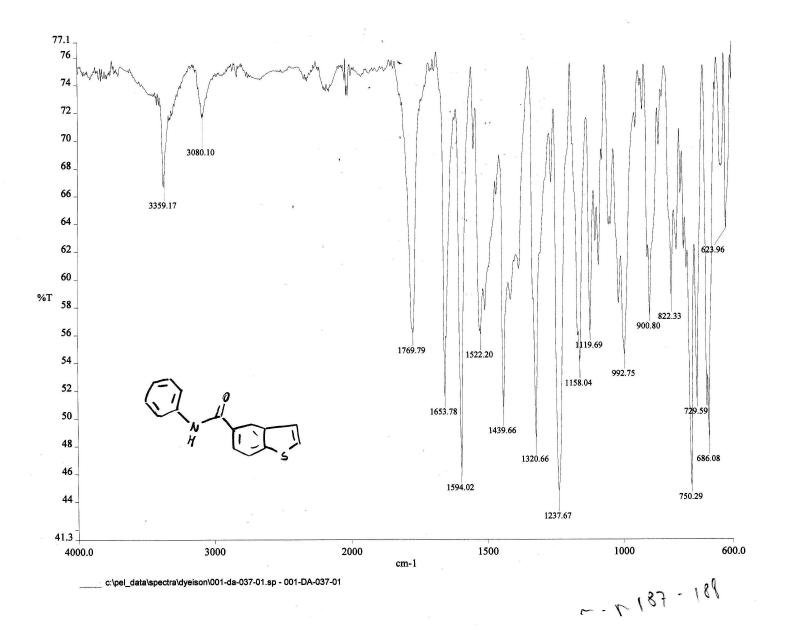


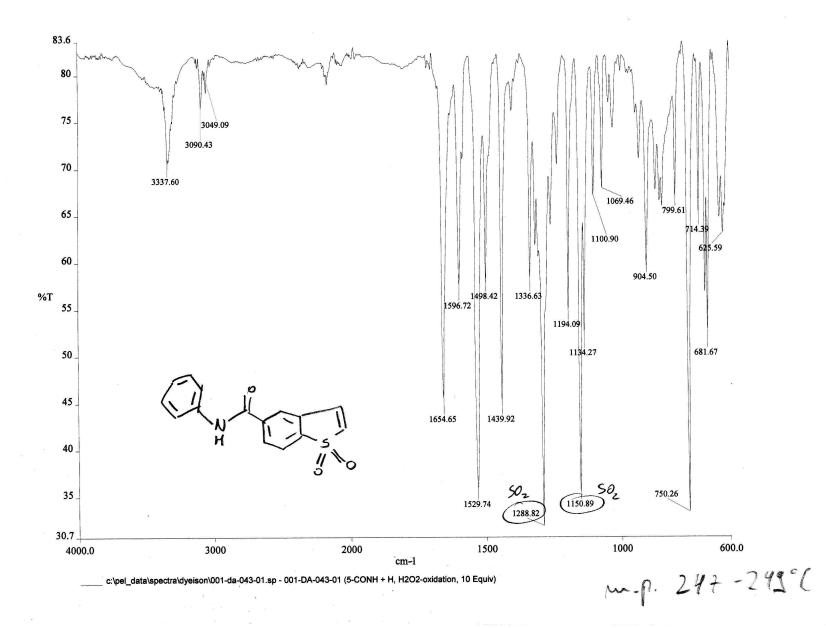


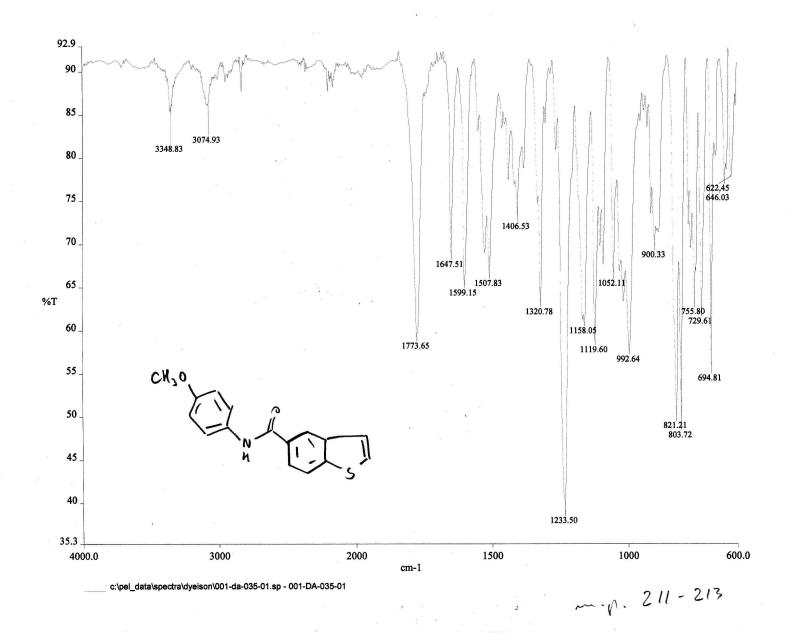
c:\pel_data\spectra\dyeison\001-da-047-02.sp - 3-CONH + OMe (H2O2, 10 Equiv)

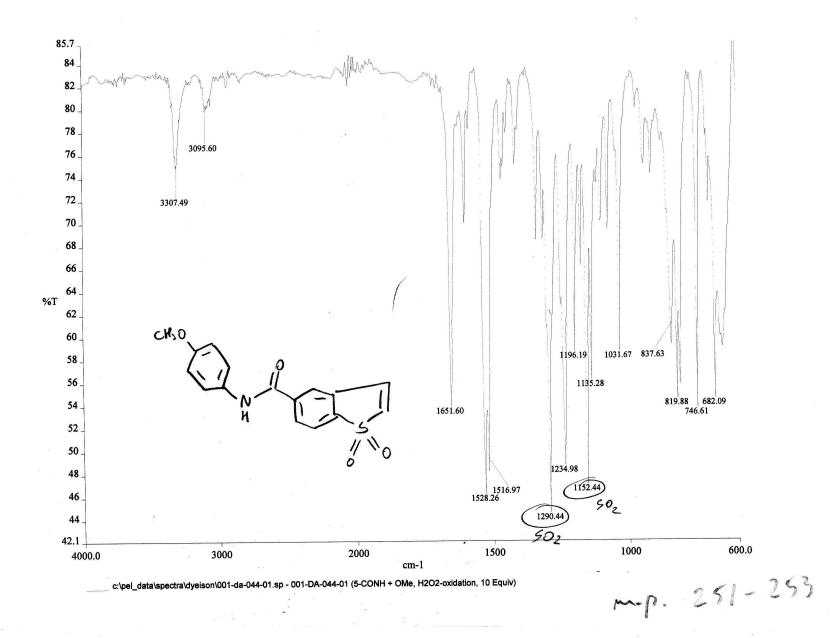


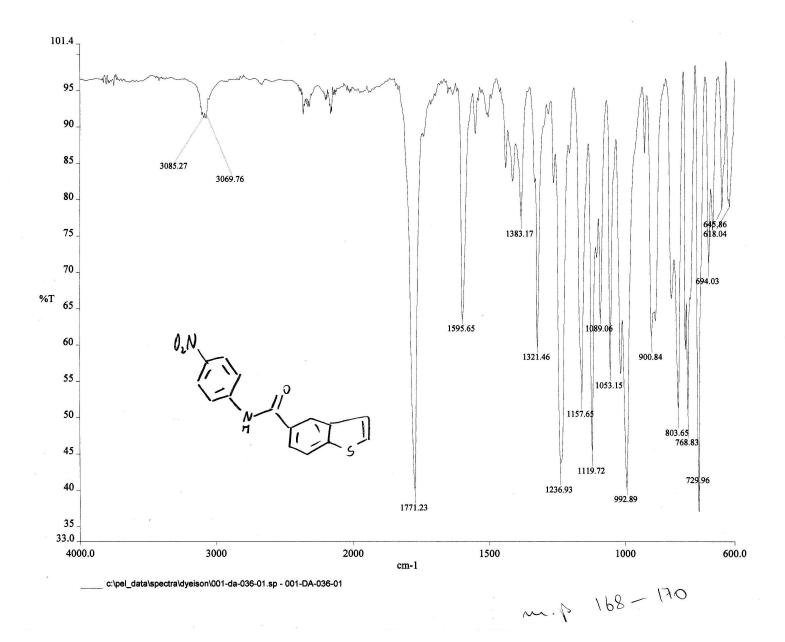


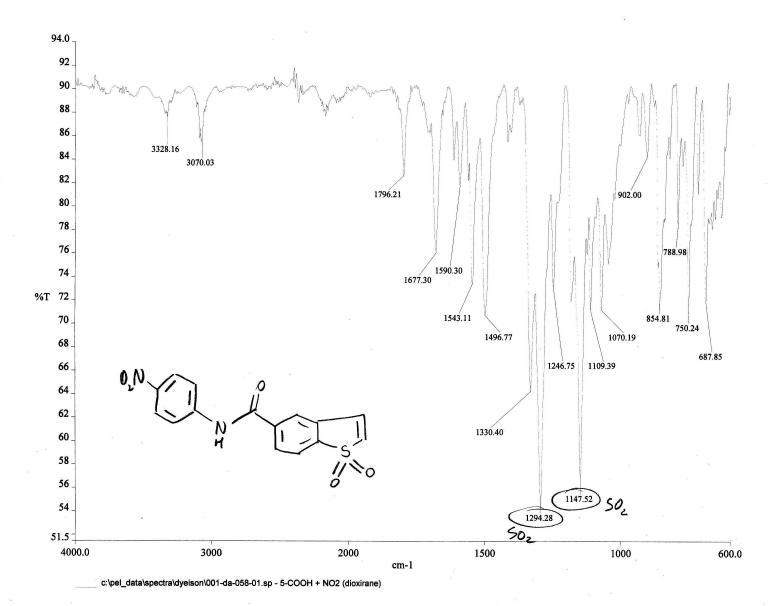




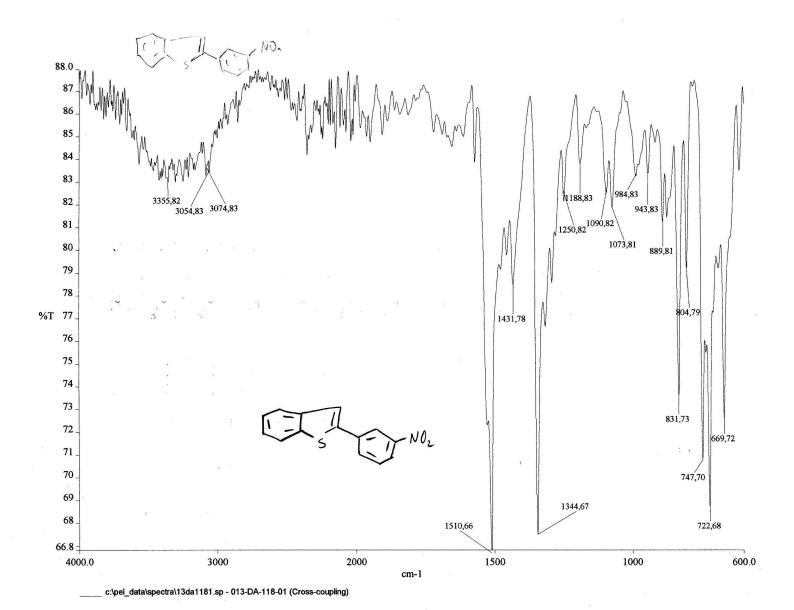


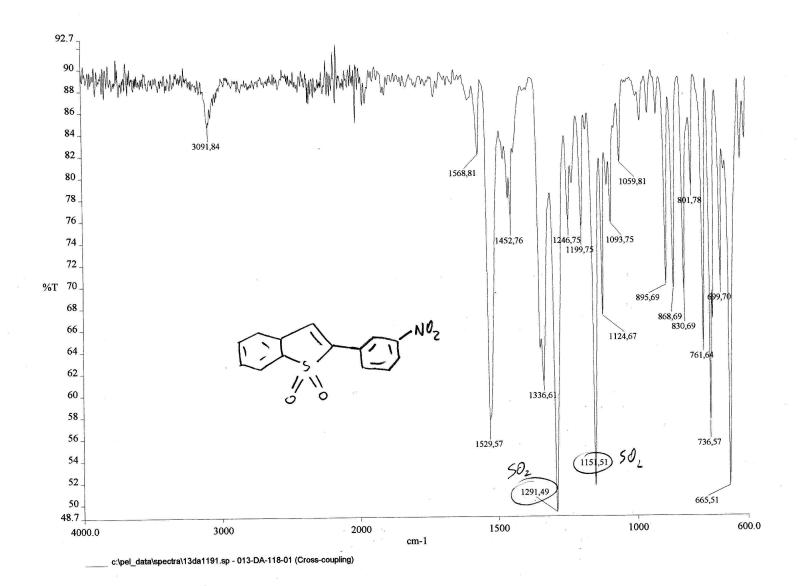


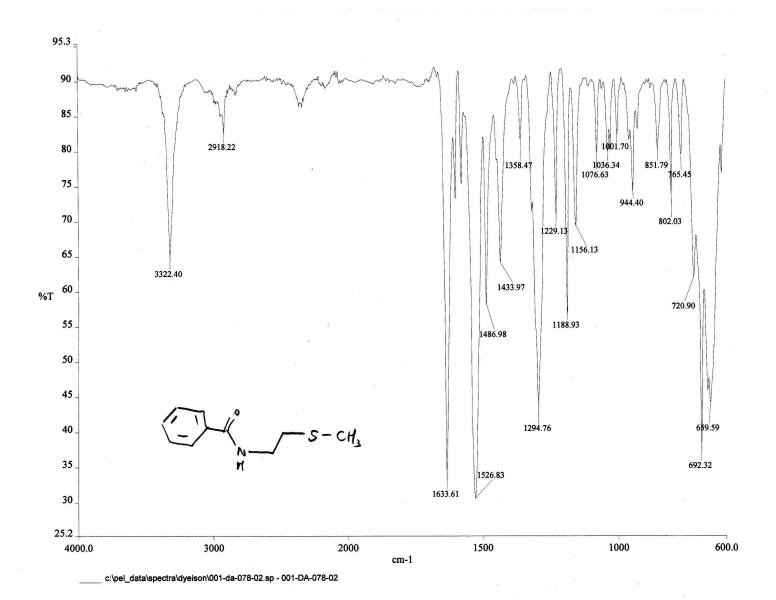


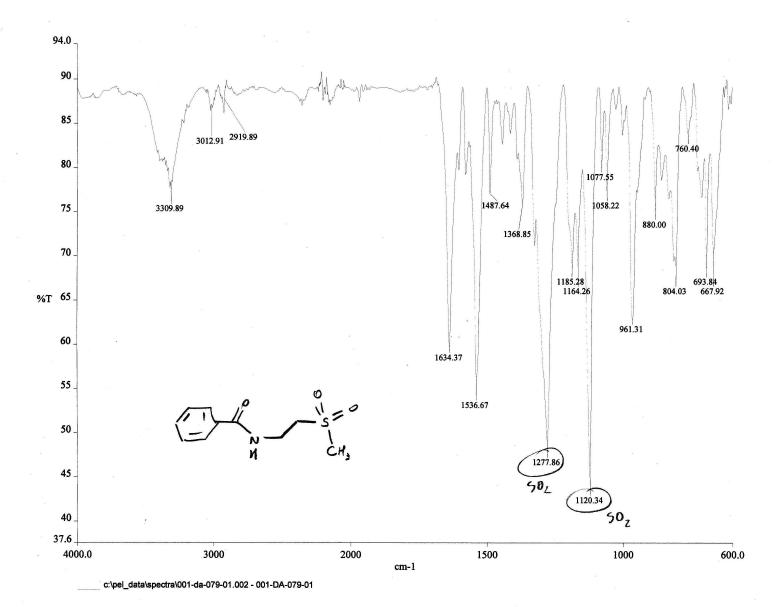


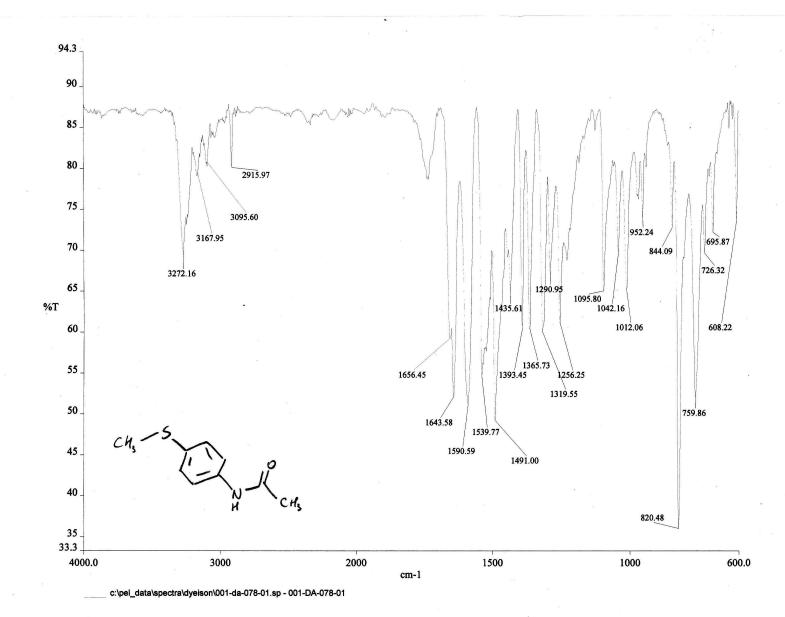
Elect. Supp. Info.111











Elect. Supp. Info.116

