

## Supporting Information

### **Structure-guided Evolution of a Ketoreductase for Efficient and Stereoselective Bioreduction of Bulky $\alpha$ -Amino $\beta$ -Keto Esters**

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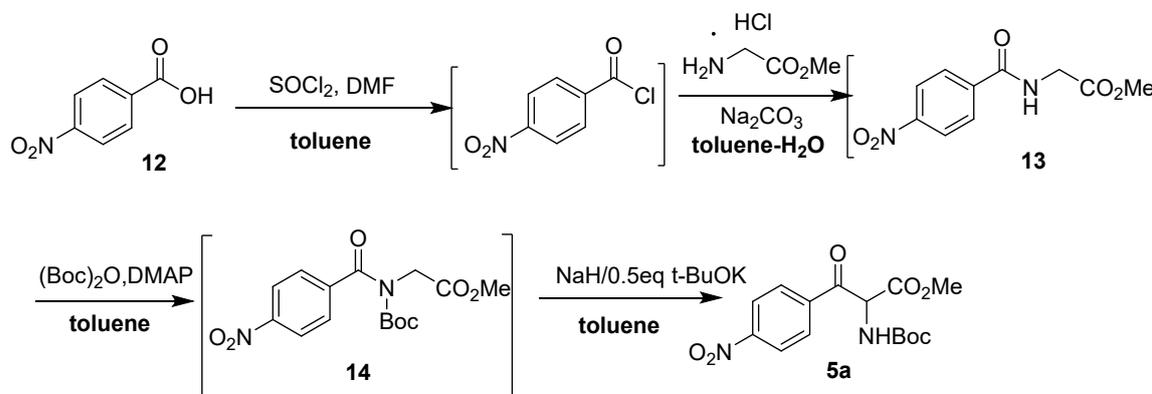
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## 1. Compounds preparation and characterization

### 1.1 Synthesis of methyl 2-[(tert-butoxycarbonyl) amino]-3-[4-(nitro)-phenyl]-3-oxopropanoate (**5a**)



To a stirred solution of 4-nitrobenzoic acid (100 g, 0.60 mol) in dimethylformamide (DMF) (10 mL) and toluene (500 mL) was added  $\text{SOCl}_2$  (90 g) over 1 h, maintaining the internal temperature below  $10^\circ\text{C}$ . The reaction temperature was then warmed to  $60^\circ\text{C}$ , and the reaction was stirred for 5 h. When the reaction was completed, the stirred solution was distilled under vacuum to afford 4-nitrobenzoyl chloride for the next step directly.

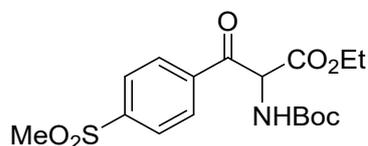
To a stirred solution of glycine methyl ester hydrochloride (90 g, 0.72 mol) in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (500 mL) and toluene (500 mL), an aqueous solution of  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  (82 g, 0.77 mol) was added dropwise below  $10^\circ\text{C}$ . The mixture was kept for 0.5 h at room temperature. Then the solution of 4-nitrobenzoyl chloride in toluene (500 mL) was added and stirred for 4 h. The reaction was monitored by LC-MS and terminated when the conversion reached 98%. Then, the reaction was filtrated for partial solid and extracted with toluene (200 mL $\times$ 2). The layers were separated, and the organic layer was washed with an aqueous saturated NaCl solution. The solution was distilled under vacuum to yield the off-white solid. The product was dried for the next step.

To a stirred solution of the above solid in toluene (1000 mL), 4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP) (6 g, 0.049 mol) was charged in one potion.  $(\text{Boc})_2\text{O}$  (156.8 g, 0.72 mmol) was added slowly below  $10^\circ\text{C}$ . The reaction was stirred for 5 h at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ . Then the solvent was evaporated under vacuum to afford white solid **14**, which was used for the next step directly.

To a stirred solution of sodium hydride (35.9 g, 60% content, 0.90 mol) and *t*-BuOK (33.5 g, 0.30 mol) in toluene (500 mL) under  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere was added dropwise. The solution of the above step product in toluene (500 mL) was added dropwise at  $-5\sim 0^\circ\text{C}$ . The mixture was stirred for 5 h. Then, the precooling solution of acetic acid (50%) in toluene was added to adjust the pH to 7.0-7.5. The reaction was quenched by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1000 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (300 mL $\times$ 2). Then, the combined organic phase was dried with  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The filtrate was concentrated under vacuum to yield the target compound **5a** (156.6 g) as a light-yellow solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.35 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 8.27 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 5.96 (d,  $J = 7.9$

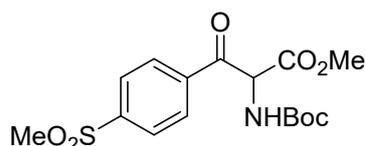
Hz, 1H), 5.86 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 1.45 (s, 9H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  191.30, 166.85, 154.89, 150.83, 138.92, 130.44, 123.91, 81.19, 59.45, 53.46, 28.19.

## 1.2 Synthesis of ethyl 2-[(tert-butoxycarbonyl) amino]-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)-phenyl]-3-oxopropanoate (7a)



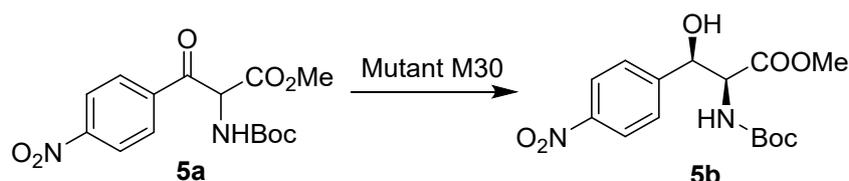
Compound (7a) was prepared by an analogous manner<sup>1</sup>.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.26(d,  $J=8$  Hz, 2H), 8.07(d,  $J=8$  Hz, 2H), 5.93-5.86 (m, 2H), 4.21-4.15(m, 2H), 3.08(s, 3H), 1.43(s, 9H), 1.16(t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta$  191.8, 166.4, 155.1, 145.1, 138.7, 130.3, 127.9, 81.1, 62.9, 59.8, 44.3, 28.3, 14.0.

## 1.3 Synthesis of methyl 2-[(tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino]-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)-phenyl]-3-oxopropanoate (8a)



The compound (8a) was prepared by the same procedure<sup>1</sup>.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 8.28 (d,  $J = 8.22$  Hz, 2 H), 8.09 (d,  $J = 8.34$  Hz, 2 H), 5.96 (d,  $J = 7.92$  Hz, 1 H), 5.87 (d,  $J = 7.62$  Hz, 1 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.10 (s, 3 H), 3.27 (s, 1 H), 1.45 (s, 9H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 191.53, 166.90, 154.92, 145.04, 138.44, 130.23, 127.89, 81.15, 59.37, 53.46, 44.27, 28.21.

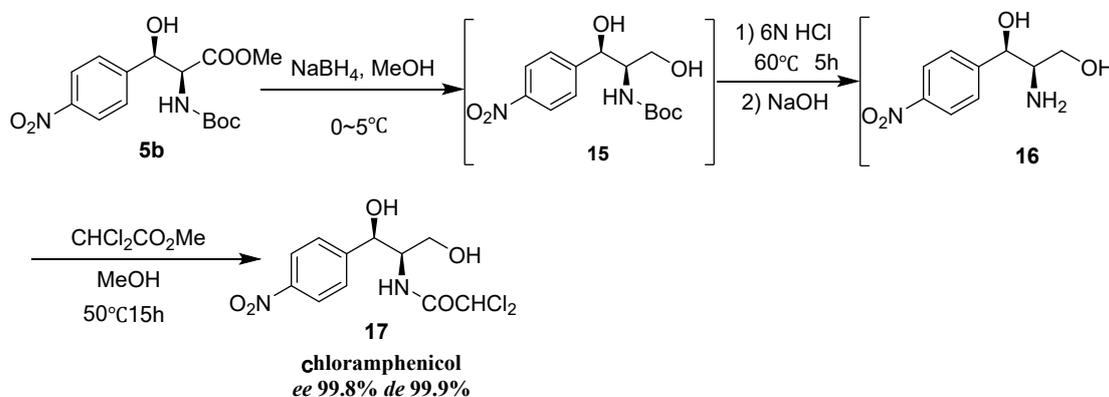
## 1.4 Synthesis of (2S,3R)-5b



Glucose (32 g), mutant M30 wet cells (40 g), GDH (10 g), and  $\text{NADP}^+$  (0.1 g) were added to a stirred solution of phosphate buffer (pH 7.0, 100 mL). Then the compound 5a (20 g) and DMSO (100 mL) were added to the above mixture. The reaction was carried out at 30°C and stirred mechanically for 24 h. During the reaction, the pH value was kept at 7.0 by titrating the 5%  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  solution. After the reaction was completed, the mixture was extracted with methyl tert-butyl ether three times (250 mL $\times$ 3). The organic phase was combined, dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and evaporated under vacuum. Finally, the product (2S, 3R)-5b was dried at 50°C, yielding 17.1 g of light-yellow solid (chemical purity 97.1%, chiral purity  $ee > 99.9\%$ ,  $de > 99.9\%$ ). Chiral HPLC is shown in Table S4. The identity of the product was confirmed using  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.17 (t,  $J = 12.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.54 (t,  $J = 12.8$

Hz, 2H), 5.36 (t,  $J = 12.7$  Hz, 2H), 4.57 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 1H), 1.26 (d,  $J = 17.0$  Hz, 9H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  170.82, 147.54, 147.31, 127.05, 123.45, 80.56, 77.28, 77.07, 76.85, 73.06, 59.16, 52.87, 28.26, 28.08.

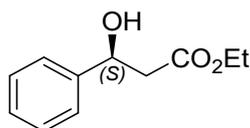
### 1.5 Synthesis of chloramphenicol



(**2S**, **3R**)-**5b** (15 g) was dissolved in methanol (30 mL) and stirred at 0~5 °C.  $\text{NaBH}_4$  was added in portions (3 g), and then the mixture was stirred for 2 h. The reaction was monitored by LC-MS. Subsequently, the aqueous HCl (6 N, 15 mL) was added to the resulting solution, and the mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 5 h. After the reaction was completed, the pH was adjusted to 7-8 by 30% NaOH and then concentrated to afford the off-white solid with MeOH (the water content was controlled below <0.5%). The solid was dissolved in MeOH (100 mL). After filtration, dichloroacetic acid methyl ester (7.7 g) was added to the filtrate, and the mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 15 h. When the reaction was completed, the solvent MeOH was removed under reduced pressure. The reaction was quenched by adding  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (100 mL) and EtOAc (100 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (100 mL $\times$ 2). The combined organic phase was washed with brine (30 mL $\times$ 2) and dried with  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The organic phase was filtrated and concentrated to afford the white solid. The crude product was recrystallized with MeOH/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (v/v 1/3). Finally, 12.1 g of product **17** was obtained as white crystals, chemical purity 99.3%, chiral purity *ee* 99.8%, *de* 99.9%. m.p.148.8~149.2°C  $^1\text{H}$ NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  8.21 – 8.18 (m, 2H), 7.66 (d,  $J = 8.5\text{Hz}$ , 2H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 5.18 (d,  $J = 2.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.16 (td,  $J = 7.1, 2.7\text{Hz}$ , 1H), 3.83 (dd,  $J = 10.9, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.63 (dd,  $J = 10.9, 6.1$  Hz, 1H), 3.33 (dt,  $J = 3.2, 1.6$  Hz, 1H),  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  166.57, 151.65, 148.59, 128.33, 124.16, 71.26, 67.36, 62.21, 58.50, 49.42, 49.28, 49.14, 49.00, 48.86, 48.72, 48.58. HRMS: calcd. for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$  [M+H] 323.0194 found 323.0196. Chiral chromatographic condition: Chiralpak OD-3(4.6 $\times$ 250 mm, 3  $\mu\text{m}$ , DACEL, shanghai), mobile phase: 90% n-hexane (0.1%TFA)/10% i-PrOH, 254 nm, 0.8 mL/min, 30°C,  $t_{\text{R}}$ =12.3 min for the chloramphenicol.

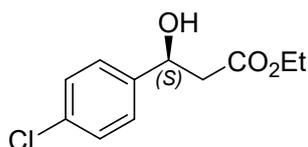
### 1.6 Synthesis of 1b-4b and 6b-11b

**1b-4b** and **6b-11b** was respectively prepared from **1a-4a** and **6a -11a**, according to the synthesis method of **5b**.



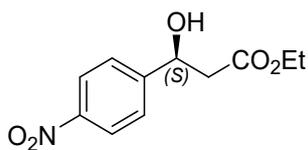
**1b**

Chiral HPLC method is show in Table S4.  $[\alpha]_D^{28} = -50.4^\circ$  (*c* 0.25, Chloroform).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.40 – 7.33 (m, 4H), 7.29 (ddd,  $J = 6.2, 3.1, 1.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.13 (dd,  $J = 9.2, 3.7$  Hz, 1H), 4.17 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 3.54 (s, 1H), 2.73 (ddd,  $J = 20.0, 16.2, 6.5$  Hz, 2H), 1.26 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  172.33, 142.72, 128.51, 127.75, 125.72, 70.33, 60.85, 43.49, 14.14.



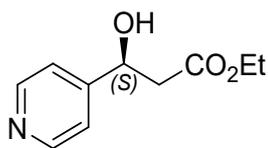
**2b**

Chiral HPLC method is show in Table S4.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -40^\circ$  (*c* 0.25, Chloroform).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.26-7.23 (m, 4H), 5.03 (dd,  $J_1 = 4.2$  Hz,  $J_2 = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.09 (q,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 1H), 2.61-2.57 (m, 2H), 1.18 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  171.9, 141.1, 133.3, 128.5, 127.1, 69.6, 60.9, 43.4, 20.9, 14.1.



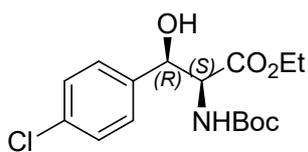
**3b**

Chiral HPLC method is show in Table S4.  $[\alpha]_D^{28} = -38.2^\circ$  (*c* 1.00, Chloroform).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.17 – 8.13 (m, 2H), 7.54 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 5.21 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.15 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 3.91 (s, 1H), 2.71 (dd,  $J = 6.4, 3.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.23 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  171.85, 150.00, 147.32, 126.55, 123.69, 69.36, 61.18, 43.07, 14.07.



**4b**

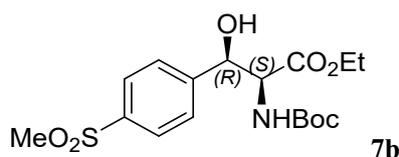
Chiral HPLC method is show in Table S4.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -30.3^\circ$  (*c* 1.00, MeOH).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.55 – 8.49 (m, 2H), 7.42 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 5.80 (d,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.00 (dt,  $J = 9.1, 4.6$  Hz, 1H), 2.76 – 2.54 (m, 2H), 1.17 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ )  $\delta$  170.28, 153.23, 149.40, 120.96, 68.18, 59.93, 43.50, 14.02.



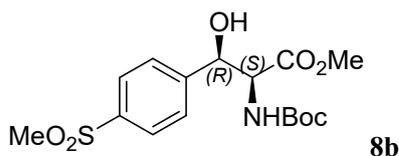
**6b**

Chiral HPLC method is show in Table S4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.30 (s, 4H), 5.40 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.18 (s, 1H), 4.63 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.19 (q,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 2H), 3.55 (s, 1H), 1.33 (s, 9H), 1.25 (t, 6.6 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$

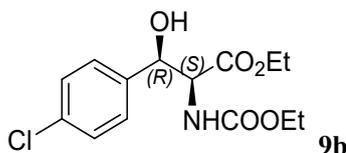
170.8, 155.7, 138.6, 133.6, 128.4, 127.5, 80.2, 73.3, 61.8, 59.5, 28.1, 14.1.



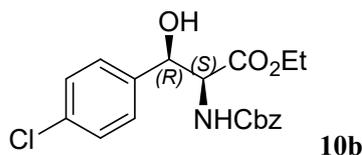
Chiral HPLC method is show in Table S4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.39 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 5.44 (d,  $J = 9.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.29 (s, 1H), 4.43 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.29 (s, 1H), 4.15 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.92 (s, 1H), 1.19 (s, 1H), 1.16 (t, 7.2 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  171.2, 155.6, 147.1, 139.3, 127.1, 127.0, 79.8, 72.8, 61.8, 60.3, 44.3, 28.0, 14.1.



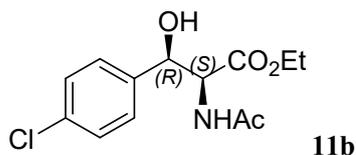
Chiral HPLC method is show in Table S4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 7.85$  (d,  $J = 8.16$  Hz, 2 H), 7.57 (d,  $J = 8.28$  Hz, 2 H), 5.37(s, 1 H), 5.34 (d,  $J = 9.06$  Hz, 1 H), 4.55 (d,  $J = 8.52$  Hz, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 3.27 (s, 1 H), 3.00 (s, 3 H), 1.29 (s, 9 H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 170.75, 155.53, 146.39, 139.74, 127.28, 127.16, 80.33, 73.19, 59.09, 52.83, 44.49, 28.08$  ppm. HRMS: calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}_7\text{S}$  [ $\text{M} + \text{NH}_4$ ] $^+$  391.1533; found 391.1532.



Chiral HPLC method is show in Table S4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.30-7.27 (m, 4H), 5.66 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 4.95 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 4.17 (q,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 3.96(q,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 1.24 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H), 1.14 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  170.1, 155.7, 138.5, 133.7, 128.4, 127.5, 73.0, 61.9, 61.4, 59.8, 14.4, 14.1.



Chiral HPLC method is show in Table S4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.35-7.22 (m, 9H), 5.77 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.24 (s, 1H), 4.98 (q,  $J = 12.6$  Hz, 2H), 4.75 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.21-4.19 (m, 2H), 3.5 (s, 1H), 1.26 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  170.6, 156.4, 138.3, 136.1, 133.7, 128.5, 128.2, 127.9, 127.4, 73.0, 67.1, 62.0, 59.8, 14.1.

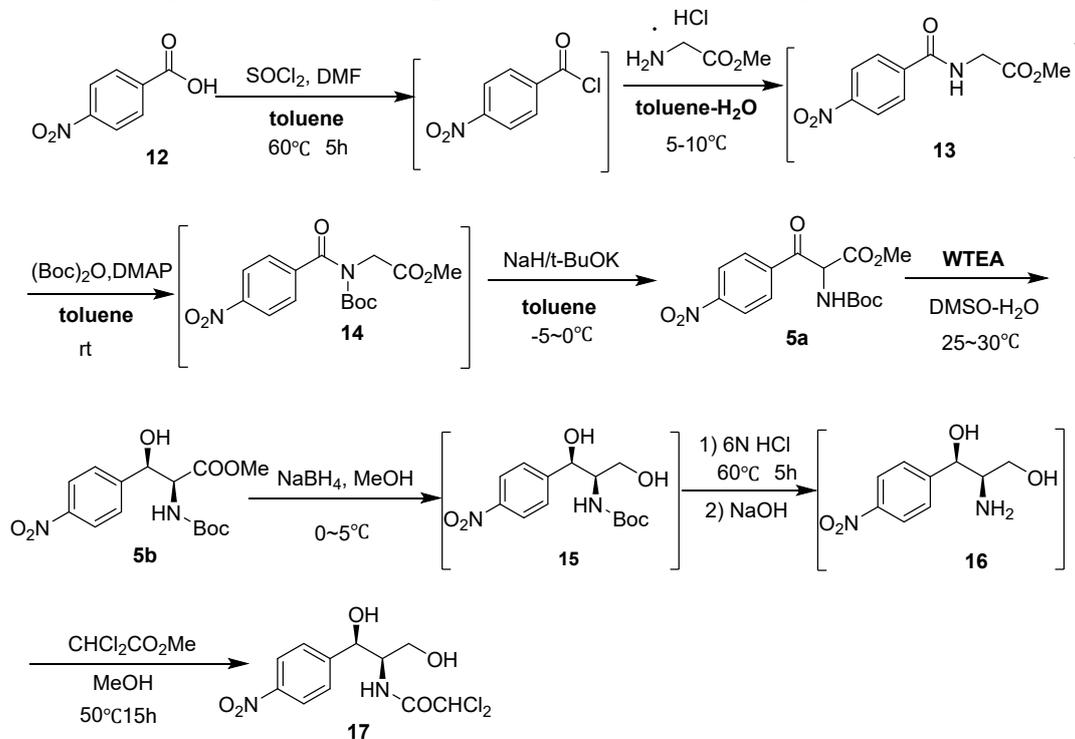


Chiral HPLC method is show in Table S4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.18 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 5.95 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz,

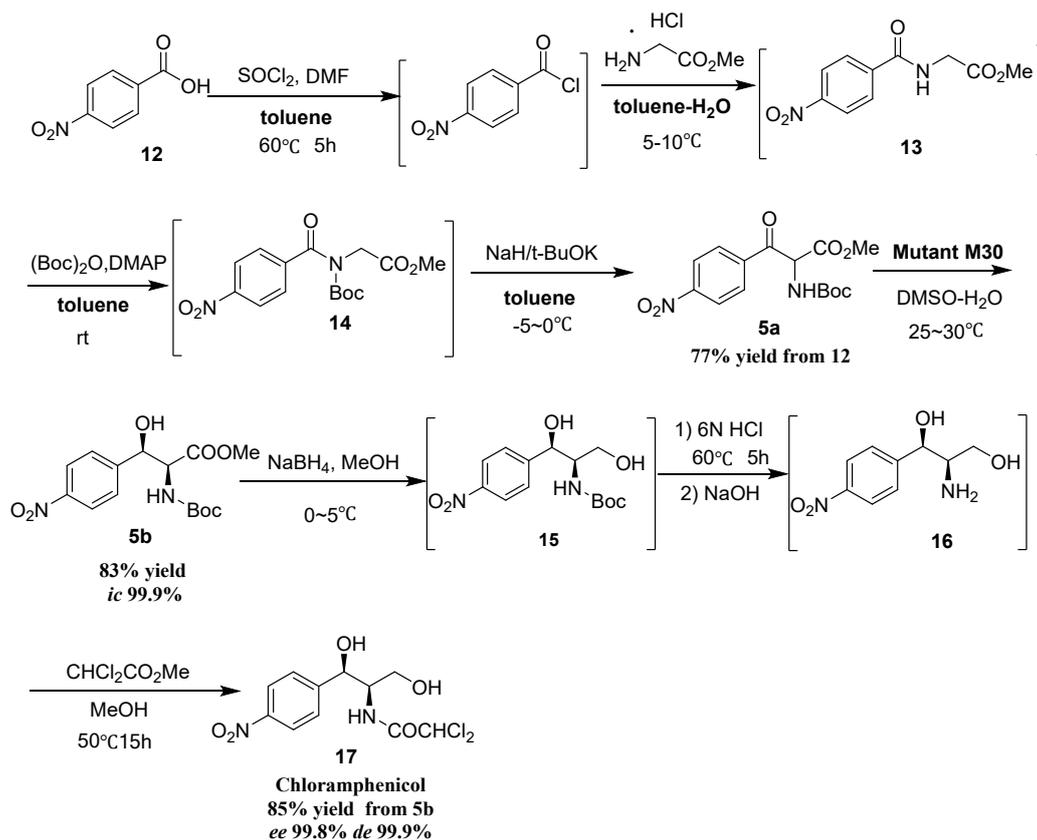
1H), 5.10 (t,  $J = 4.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.56 (dd,  $J_1 = 3.6$  Hz,  $J_2 = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.10-4.06 (m, 1H), 1.79 (s, 3H), 1.15 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  170.6, 170.1, 141.3, 132.2, 128.7, 128.1, 72.2, 61.0, 58.7, 22.6, 14.4.

## 2. Supporting Schemes, Tables and Figures

**Scheme S1.** Synthesis of Chloramphenicol via WTEA biocatalysis.



**Scheme S2.** Synthesis of Chloramphenicol via Mutant M30 biocatalysis.



**Table S1.** Crystallographic Data Collection and Refinement Statistics

	WTEA	M20	M30
<b>Data collection</b>			
Space group	C2221	P21221	P1211
Cell dimensions			
a, b, c (Å)	86.98, 134.94, 81.41	68.46, 71.16, 115.16	71.33, 68.66, 114.68
$\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ (degree)	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90
Resolution (Å)	43.49-2.25 (2.29-2.25)	50.00-2.60 (2.64-2.60)	34.08-2.72 (2.79-2.72)
Completeness (%)	99.9 (99.4)	97.7 (95)	99.9 (95.9)
Mean $I/\sigma(I)$	11.8 (2.8)	1.6 (1.4)	6.7 (1.9)
Rmerge	0.101 (0.469)	0.268 (0.992)	0.211 (0.598)
CC1/2	0.996 (0.883)	0.948 (0.570)	0.949 (0.712)
Redundancy	6.2 (5.5)	4.8 (3.9)	3.4 (3.5)

<b>Refinement</b>			
$R_{\text{work}}/R_{\text{free}}$	0.21/0.25	0.21/0.26	0.21/0.25
B-factors ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )			
Protein	39.28	28.07	30.11
Ligand	110.72	28.67	28.41
Water	33.14	29.14	18.33
No. atom			
Protein	3496	3830	7638
Ligand/ion	48	96	192
Water	87	48	82
r.m.s.d. Bond lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ )	0.0180	0.0145	0.0065
r.m.s.d. Bond angles ( $^\circ$ )	1.985	1.749	1.495
Most favored (%)	96.17	95.33	95.24
Allowed (%)	2.83	3.86	4.15
Disallowed (%)	0.90	0.81	0.61
PDB entry	7E28	7E3X	7E24

Values in parentheses are for the outermost resolution shells.

**Table S2.** Sequences of Mutagenesis Primers Used for Construction of WTEA Variants.

Primers	Template	Sequence (5' to 3')
WTEA F	WTEA	taagaaggagatatacatatgaaatacaccgttatcaccg
WTEA R		tggtgtcggccgcaaagctttaaccagcgtagttgaac
Y15R1		ggtttcYNBaccgatacagaagaagcaccgggtgataacgg
Y15F2		ctggtatcggTVNRgaaaccgctaaactgcttgctggtaaa
V67 R1		tacagtcgtgRVNgttctggtgtcagccaggtaacaga
V67 F2		cagaacNBYcacgacctgtacgaaggtctgaaagaactgga
F88 R1		tcaagtcaccRMYaccagcgttggtgatccaggttcgat
F88 F2		gctggtRKYggtgacttcgacctggttcaggacatcgaact
K101R1		ttcgatBYSaccagttcgatgtcctgaaccaggtcgaagt
K101F2		tcgaactgggtSRVatcgaaaaaatgctgctctgaacatc
K104R1		cagcatBBBttcgattttaccagttcgatgtcctgaacca
K104F2		gtaaaatcgaaVVVatgctgctctgaacatcgaagctctg
A138 R1		cggttaaccaccTRHagaagagatgtaaccaggggtggtacc
A138 F2		tcttctDYAggtggttaccgtatcgttccgaacgctgttac
R142 R1		aacgatSWDgtaaccaccgcagaagagatgtaaccaggg

R142 F2		gggtggttacHWSatcgttccgaacgctgttacactgc
V144 R1		gttcggRMSgatacggtaaccaccgcagaagatgtaa
V144 F2		gttacgtatcSKYccgaacgctgttacactgcgctacc
A183G R1		ggtagcAccggagccagaactttagcacgcagtttagcac
A183G F2		ttctggctccgGGTgctaccgaaaccgaattcgctgaccgt
A190 R1		cggctacggcRDHgaattcggtttcggtagcagccggagc
A190 F2		gaattcDHYgaccgtagccgtgggaagctggttcgacta
R192 R1		acggctDYBgtcagcgaattcggtttcggtagcagccggag
R192 F2		aattcgctgacVRHagccgtgggaagctggttcgactac
S193 R1		accacgRSGacggtcagcgaattcggtttcggtagcagccg
S193 F2		tcgctgaccgtGSYcgtgggaagctggttcgactactct
Y201 R1		tttagaMNNgtcgaaccagcttcaccacggctacggta
Y201 F2		ctggttcgacNNKtctaaaaacgftaaaaataccacacc
L28V R1		cagaacaacagatttacctttaccagccagcagtttagcgg
L28V F2		aaggtaaatctgttctgtgctcgtcgtacctctgaa
E80D R1		ccagggtcgtatgccagttcttcagacctcgtacaggt
E80D F2		aactggacatcgacacctggatcaacaacgctggttcggt
W82L R1		gttgatcagggtttcgatgccagttcttcagacctcgt
W82L F2		acatcgaaacctgatcaacaacgctggttcggtgacttc
H124M R1		gtcgtgcatgtcacgaacgaacagagaagacaggtatggtca
H124M F2		tcgttcgtgacatgcacgacatcgaaggtaccacctggtt
L132I R1		gttaacgatgggtgaccttcgatgctggtggtcagcga
L132I F2		aaggtaccaccatcgttaacatctcttcgctgggtggttac
L175I R1		agcacggatttagcaccaccttctgcagttcctgagcca
L175I F2		gtggtgctaaaatccgtgctaaagttctggctccggctgct
A177V R1		aactttaacacgcagtttagcaccaccttctgcagttcct
A177V F2		ctaaactgctgttaaagttctggctccggctgctaccgaa
AS190-193VA R1		cgagcacggcaacgaattcggtttcggtagcagccggagc
AS190-193VA F2		gaattcgtgaccgtgctcgtgggaagctggttcgacta
V67LP R1	M1	tacaggtcgtgRRGgttctggtgtcagccaggtcaacaga
V67LP F2		cagaacCYYcacgacctgtacgaaggtctgaaagaactgga
F88 R1		tcgaagtcaccRMYaccagcgttggatccaggttcgat
F88 F2		gctggtRKYggtgacttcgacctggttcaggacatcgaact
AR138-142 R1		aacgatSWDgtaaccaccTRHagaagagatgtaaccaggg
AR138-142 F2		gggtggttacHWSatcgttccgaacgctgttacactgc
W82L R1	M20	gttgatcagggtttcgatgccagttcttcagacctcgt
W82L F2		acatcgaaacctgatcaacaacgctggtggtggtgacttc
LL175-168 R1		agcacgARYtttagcaccaccttctgARCTtctgagcca
LL175-168 F2		gtggtgctaaaRYTcgtgctaaagttctggctccggctgct
V121A R1		tggtggtcagcagcgaacagagaagacaggtggtcagagc
V121A F2		ctgttcgctcgtgaccaccagacatcgaaggtaccacct
N204AG R1		tatttttaacASCtttagtagtgcgaaaccagctcacc
N204AG F2		tctaaaGSTgttaaaaaataccacaccgctgctgaaatggc
Y201F R1		tttagagaagtcgaaccagcttcaccacgagcacggtca

M:(A/C); V:(A/C/G); R:(A/G); H:(A/C/T); W:(A/T); D:(A/G/T); S:(C/G); B:(C/G/T); Y:(C/T);  
N:(A/G/C/T); K:(G/T)

M1: A190V/S193A; M20: F88V/A138L/R142M/A190V/S193A

**Table S3.** WTEA Variants

	<b>Mutated residues</b>
<b>M1</b>	A190V、S193A
<b>M2</b>	R142F、A190V、S193A
<b>M3</b>	R142M、A190V、S193A
<b>M4</b>	A138V、R142F、A190V、S193A
<b>M5</b>	R142L、A190V、S193A
<b>M6</b>	A138V、R142L、A190V、S193A
<b>M7</b>	A138L、R142L、A190V、S193A
<b>M8</b>	F88V、R142M、A190V、S193A
<b>M9</b>	F88I、R142L、A190V、S193A
<b>M10</b>	F88I、R142M、A190V、S193A
<b>M11</b>	F88I、R142F、A190V、S193A
<b>M12</b>	F88V、R142L、A190V、S193A
<b>M13</b>	F88S、R142H、A190V、S193A
<b>M14</b>	F88V、A138V、R142L、A190V、S193A
<b>M15</b>	F88I、A138L、R142I、A190V、S193A
<b>M16</b>	F88I、A138L、R142F、A190V、S193A
<b>M17</b>	F88I、A138L、R142L、A190V、S193A
<b>M18</b>	F88V、A138L、R142L、A190V、S193A
<b>M19</b>	F88I、A138L、R142M、A190V、S193A
<b>M20</b>	F88V、A138L、R142M、A190V、S193A

**Table S4.** HPLC Conditions and Retention Times for Target Compounds <sup>a</sup>.

Compounds	Column	Mobile phase	Detection (nm)	Retention time (min)
1b	IC-3 <sup>b</sup>	hexane: ethanol=95:5	210	11.4 min (R), <b>11.9 min (S)</b>
2b	IC-3	hexane: ethanol=95:5	210	8.8 min (R), <b>9.3 min (S)</b>
3b	IC-3	hexane: ethanol=95:5	210	20.6 min (R), <b>21.5 min (S)</b>
4b	IC-3	hexane: ethanol=95:5	254	<b>11.9 min (S)</b> , 14.3 min (R)
5b	IB-3 <sup>c</sup>	hexane: isopropanol=95:5	254	22.0 min, 26.8 min, <b>38.7 min</b> , 46.8 min
6b	OJ-H <sup>d</sup>	hexane: isopropanol=95:5	210	8.3 min, <b>10.3 min</b> , 11.6 min, 15.8 min
7b	IB-3	hexane: ethanol=95:5,	220	32.2 min, 34.3 min,

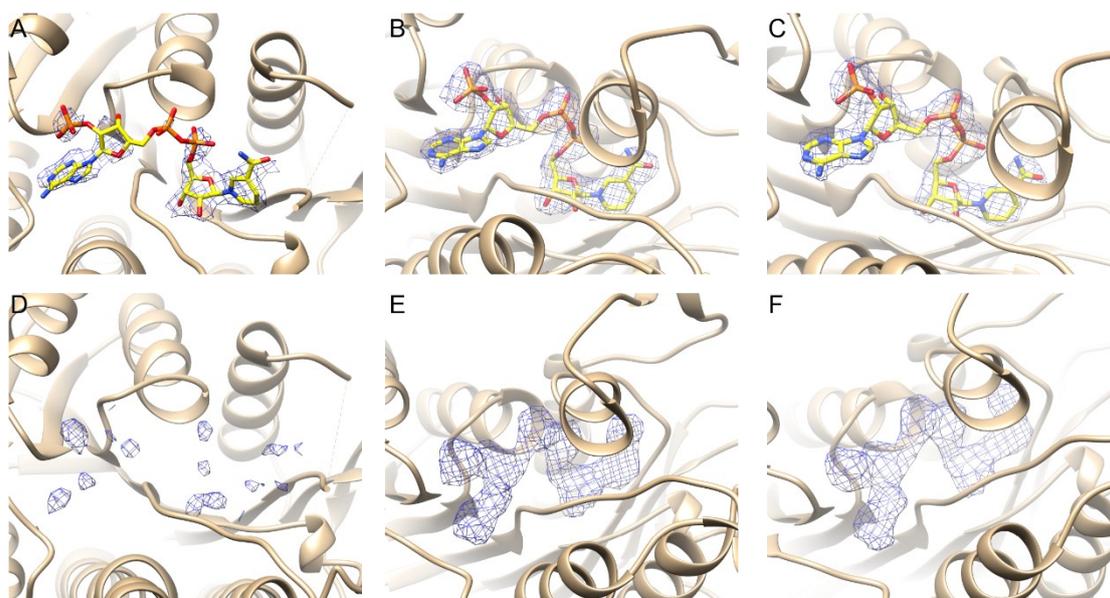
		(0.1% Diethylamine, 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid)		<b>37.9 min</b> , 39.1 min
8b	IB-3	hexane: ethanol=95:5, (0.1% Diethylamine,0.1% trifluoroacetic acid)	220	38.7 min, 41.1 min, <b>44.9 min</b> , 59.9 min
9b	OJ-H	hexane: isopropanol =93:7	210	12.3 min, <b>14.7 min</b> , 17.3 min, 30.9 min
10b	OJ-H	hexane: isopropanol =32:68	210	<b>5.4 min</b> , 5.7 min, 6.3 min, 7.2 min
11b	OJ-H	hexane: isopropanol =93:7	210	16.1 min, 19.4 min, <b>21.9 min</b> , 23.6 min

<sup>a</sup>General HPLC condition: temperature: 30 °C; flow rate: 1 mL/min

<sup>b</sup>IC-3: CHIRALPAK IC-3 column (3 μm, 4.6 mm× 250 mm, DAICEL, Shanghai)

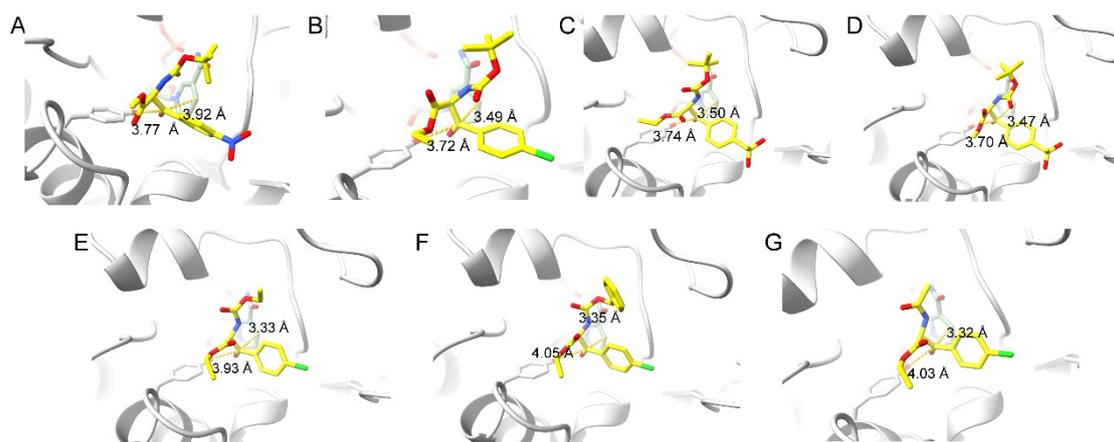
<sup>c</sup>IB-3: CHIRALPAK IB-3 column (3 μm, 4.6 mm× 250 mm, DAICEL, Shanghai)

<sup>d</sup>OJ-H: CHIRALPAK IB-3 column (5 μm, 4.6 mm× 250 mm, DAICEL, Shanghai)

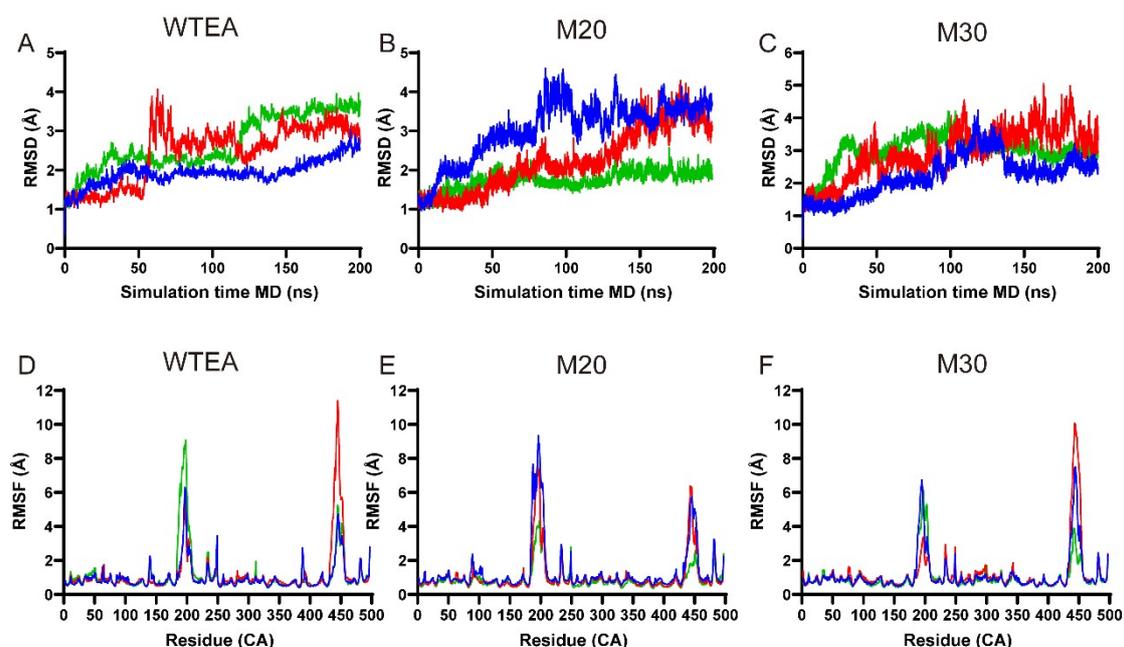


**Figure S1.** Electron density in the NADP<sup>+</sup> binding site. Final 2Fo-Fc electron density map (blue mesh), in WTEA (A), M20 (B), and M30 (C) NADP<sup>+</sup> binding site, contoured at 1.3 RMSD. The 2Fo-Fc omit density map (blue mesh) is contoured at 1.3 RMSD for WTEA (D), M20 (E), and M30 (F).

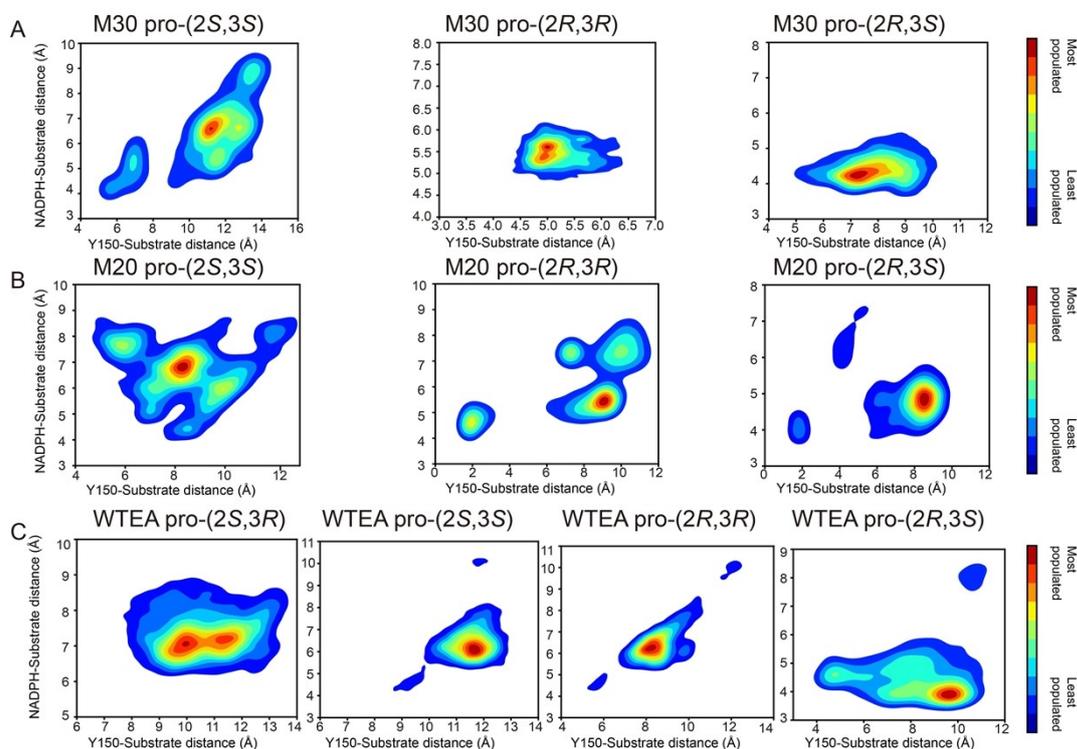




**Figure S5.** Molecular dock analysis of substrates **5a-11a** (A-G) into the binding pocket of M30. Dashed lines dictate distances between ketone carbon of substrate with oxygen atom of Y150 side chain and C4 atom of cofactor NADP<sup>+</sup>, respectively. The best substrate bind orientation (judged by the distance of Y150-substrate and NADPH-substrate) was selected in each run.



**Figure S6.** MD simulations analysis of the overall conformation of WTEA and mutants. RMSD analysis of WTEA (A), M20 (B), and M30 (C) was computed from 3 replicas of 200 ns of MD simulations. RMSF analysis of alpha carbons of WTEA (D), M20 (E), and M30 (F) was calculated from 3 replicas of 200 ns of MD simulations, residue 298-497 represent another protein chain.



**Figure S7.** Analysis of prereaction states. Conformational distribution of (A) M30 and (B) M20 and (C) WTEA with docked substrate-**9a**. The conformation satisfying both Y150-Substrate distance  $\leq 3.4$  Å and NDPH-Substrate  $\leq 4.5$  Å was used for calculating the population of prereaction states. The starting conformations of pro-(2S, 3R), pro-(2S, 3S), pro-(2R, 3R) and pro-(2R, 3S) orientations were obtained from in silico dock.

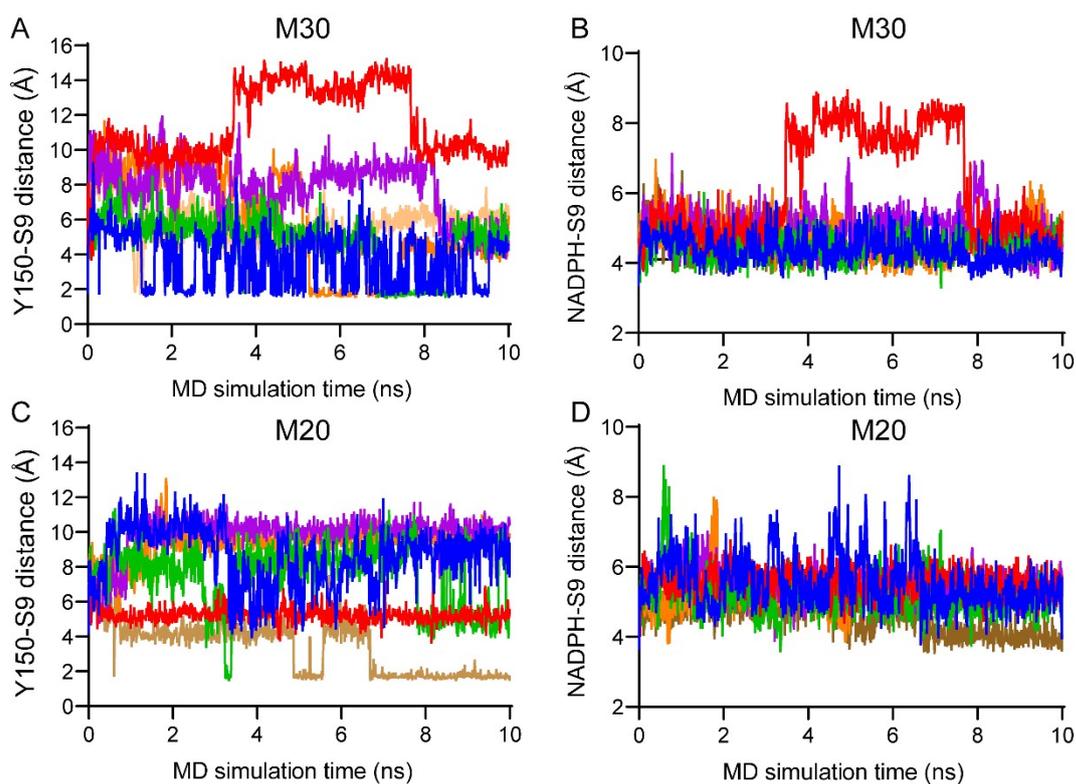


Figure S8. MD simulations analysis of the prereaction state of WTEA and mutants. (A) Plot of the distance between the residue Y150 of M30 and docked substrate **9a**. (B) Plot of the distance between the cofactor NADPH of M30 and docked substrate **9a**. (C) Plot of the distance between the residue Y150 of M20 and docked substrate **9a**. (D) Plot of the distance between the cofactor NADPH of M20 and docked substrate **9a**.

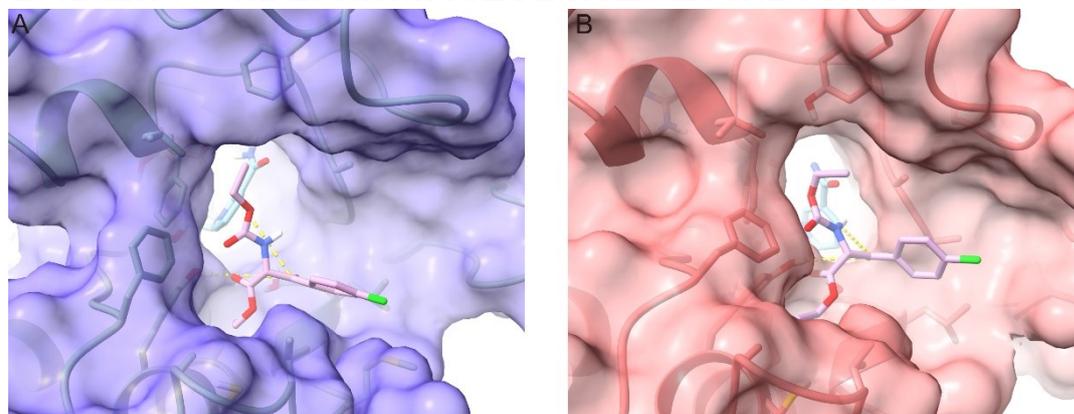
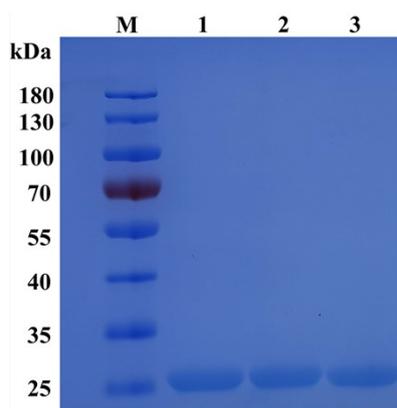
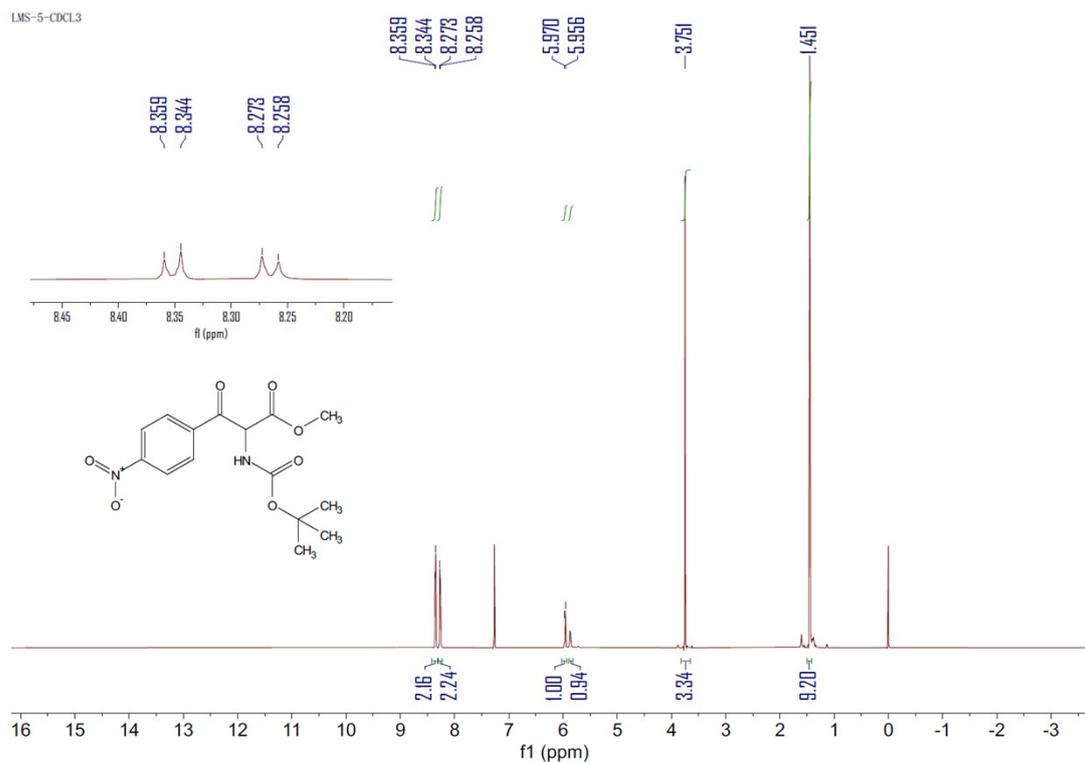


Figure S9. (A) Representative pro-(2*R*, 3*R*) substrate **9a** orientation in M30. (B) Possible catalytic compatible representative pro-(2*R*, 3*R*) substrate **9a** orientation in M20.



**Figure S10.** SDS-PAGE analysis of WTEA, mutant M20, and mutant M30. M: protein markers; 1: WTEA; 2: mutant M20; 3: mutant M30

### 3. NMR spectra



**Figure S11.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **5a**

LMS-5-CDCl3

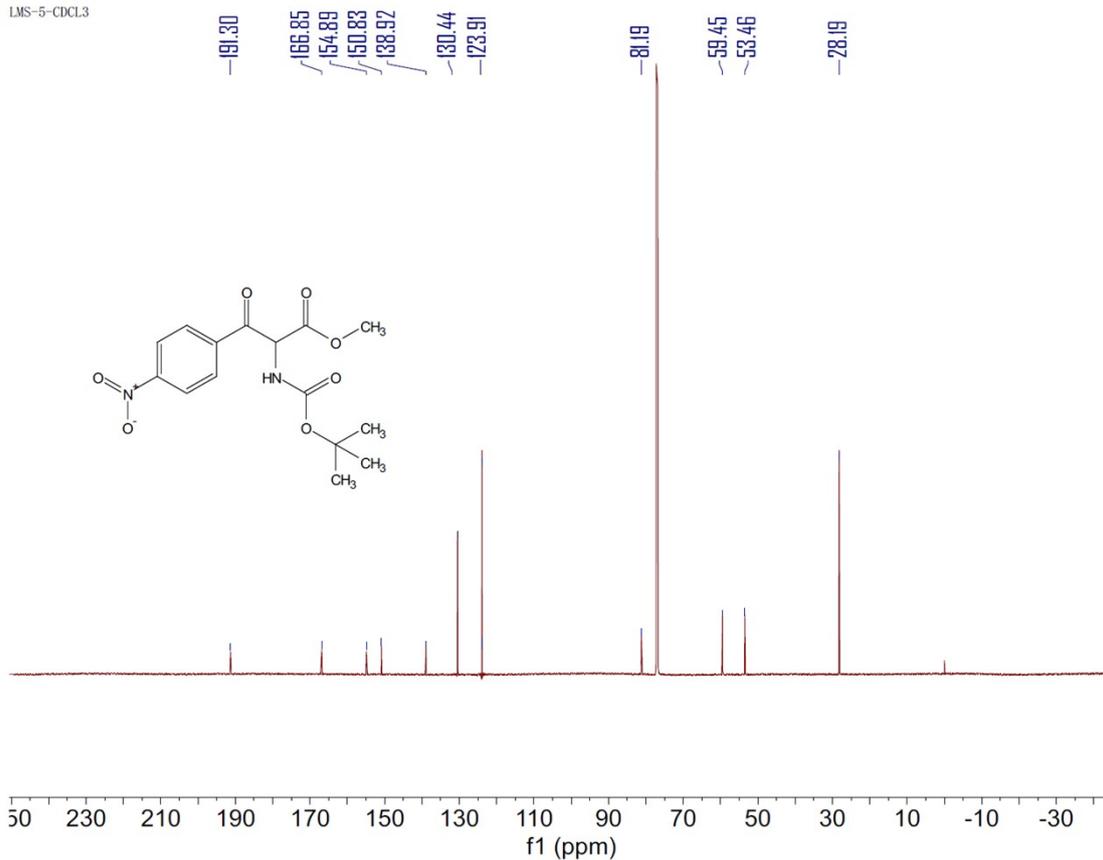


Figure S12. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound 5a

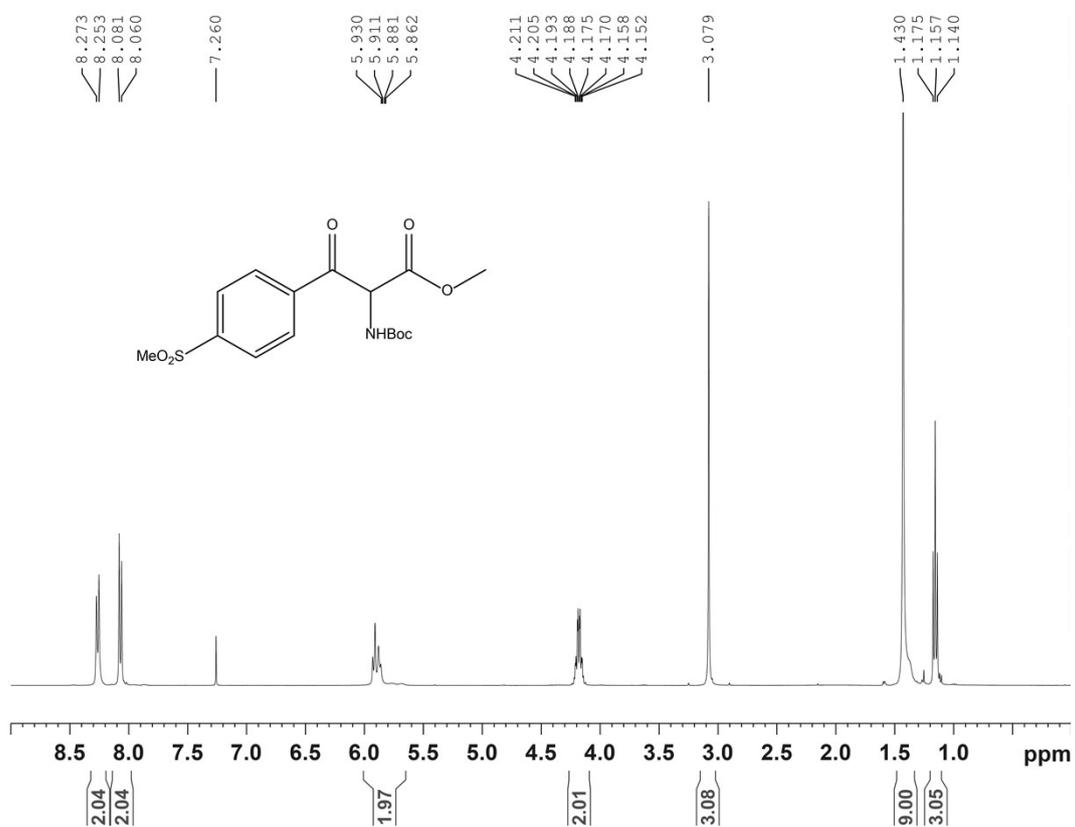


Figure S13. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 7a

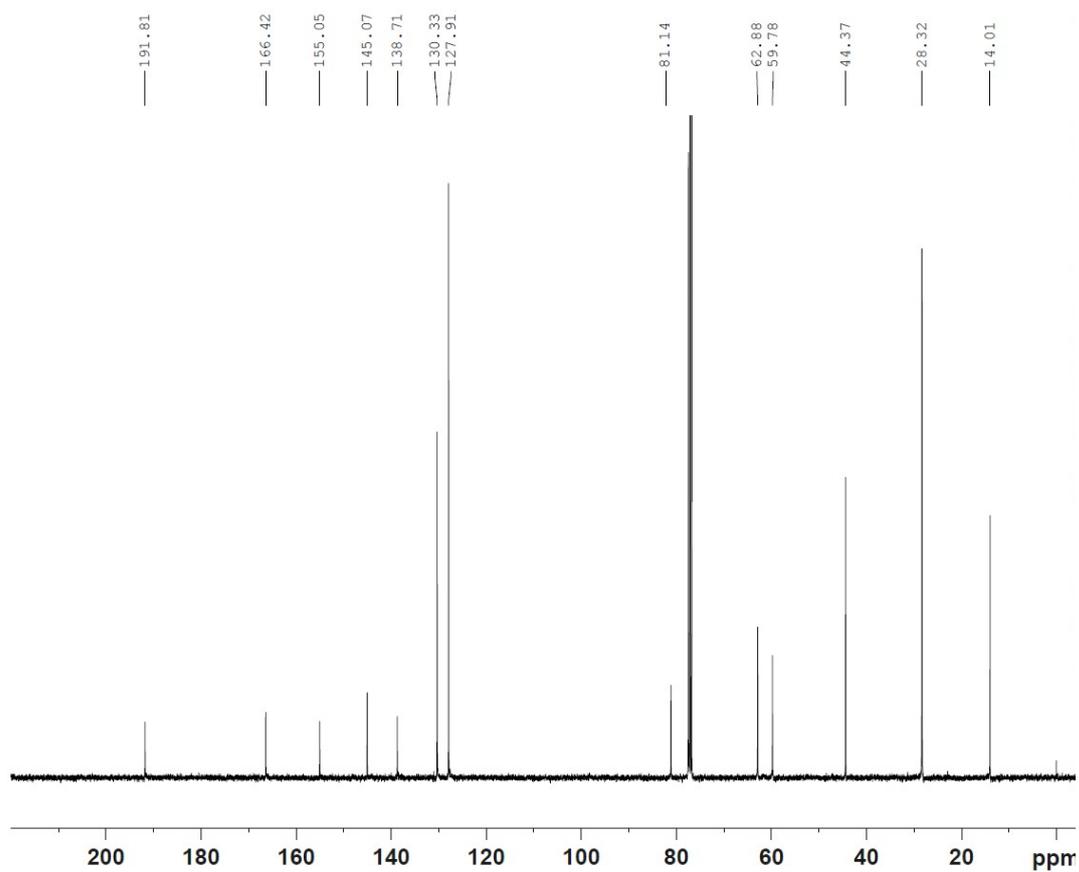


Figure S14. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound 7a

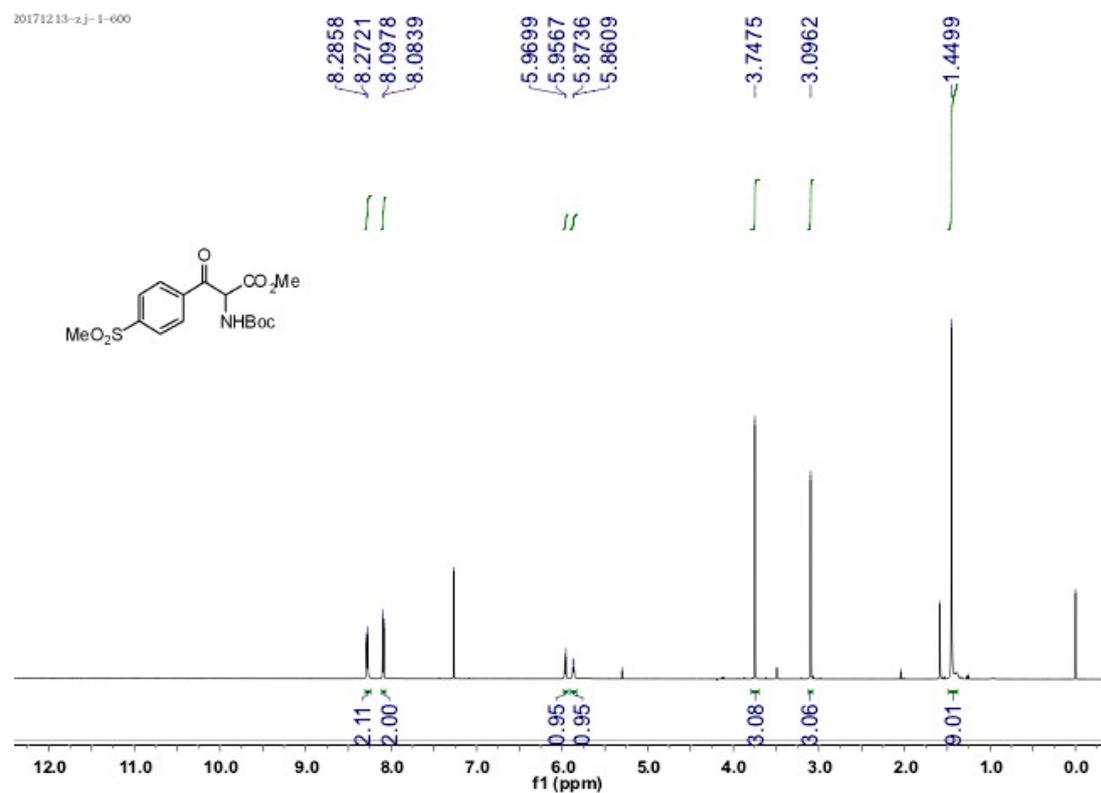


Figure S15. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 8a

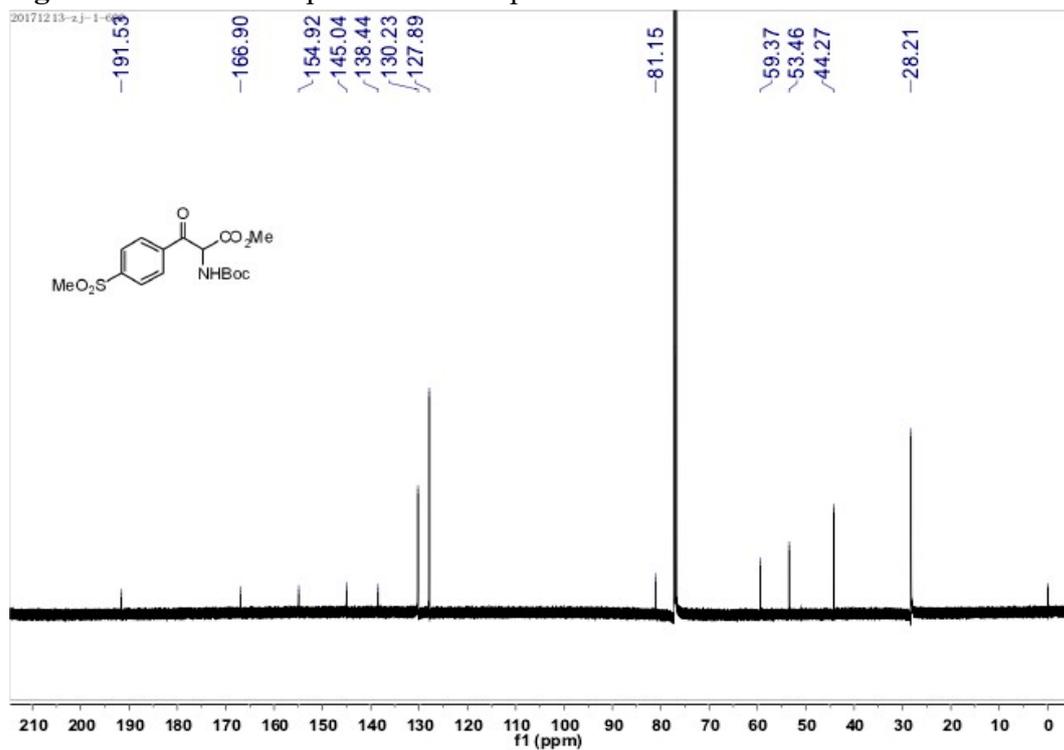


Figure S16. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound 8a

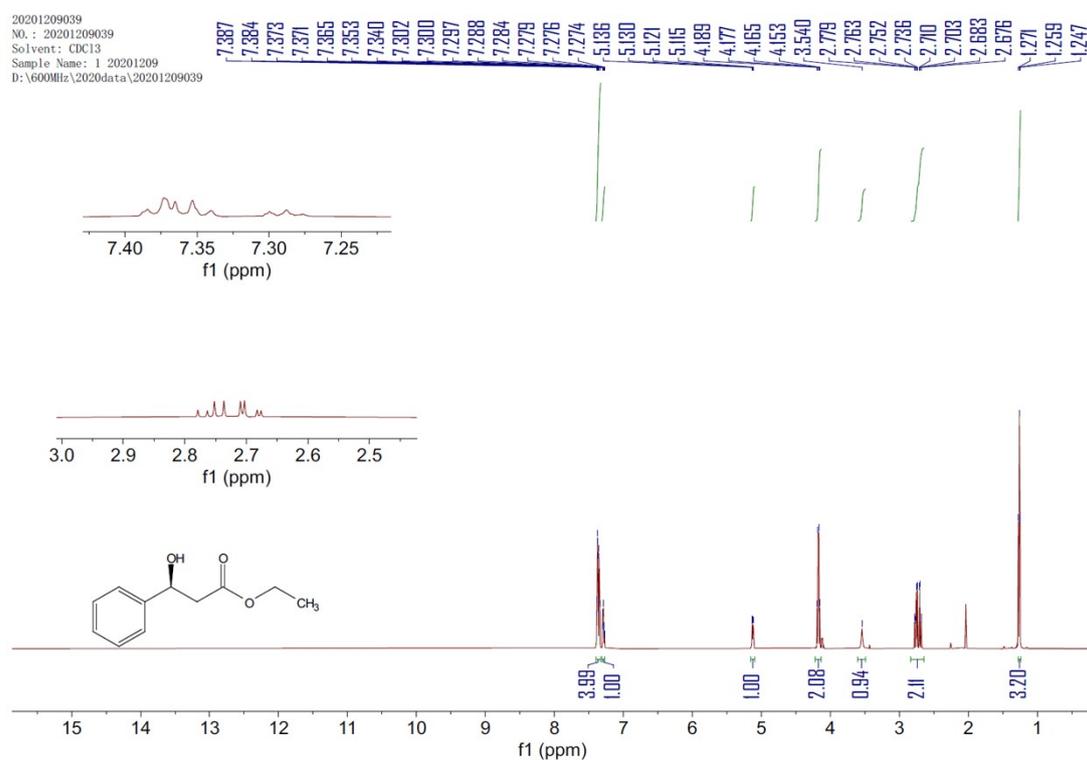


Figure S17. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 1b

20201209039  
NO.: 20201209039  
Solvent: CDCl3  
Sample Name: 1 20201209  
D:\600MHz\2020data\20201209039

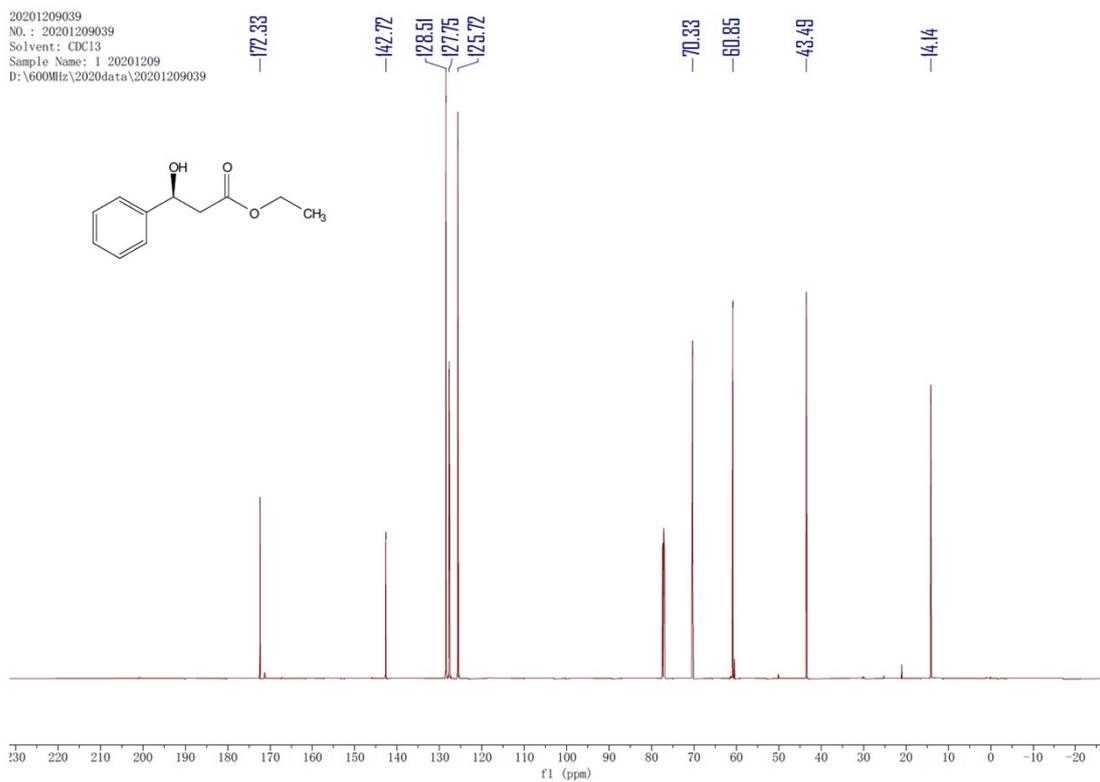


Figure S18. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound 1b

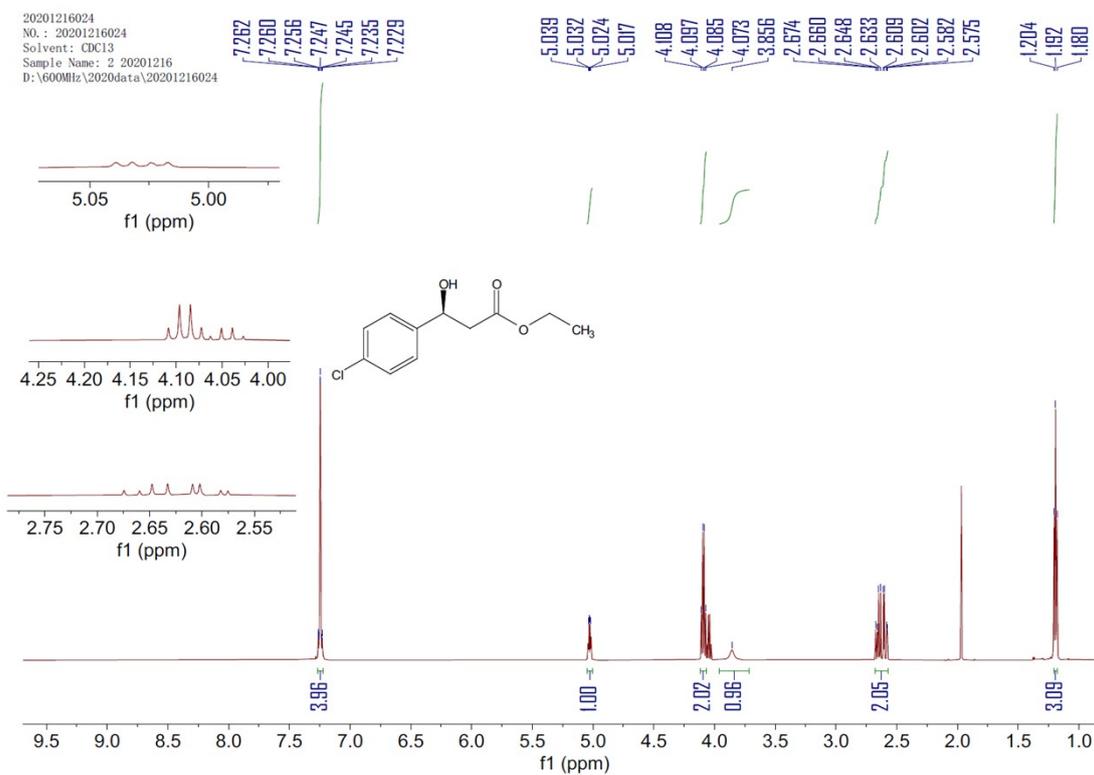


Figure S19. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 2b

20201216024  
NO.: 20201216024  
Solvent: CDCl3  
Sample Name: 2 20201216  
D:\600MHz\2020data\20201216024

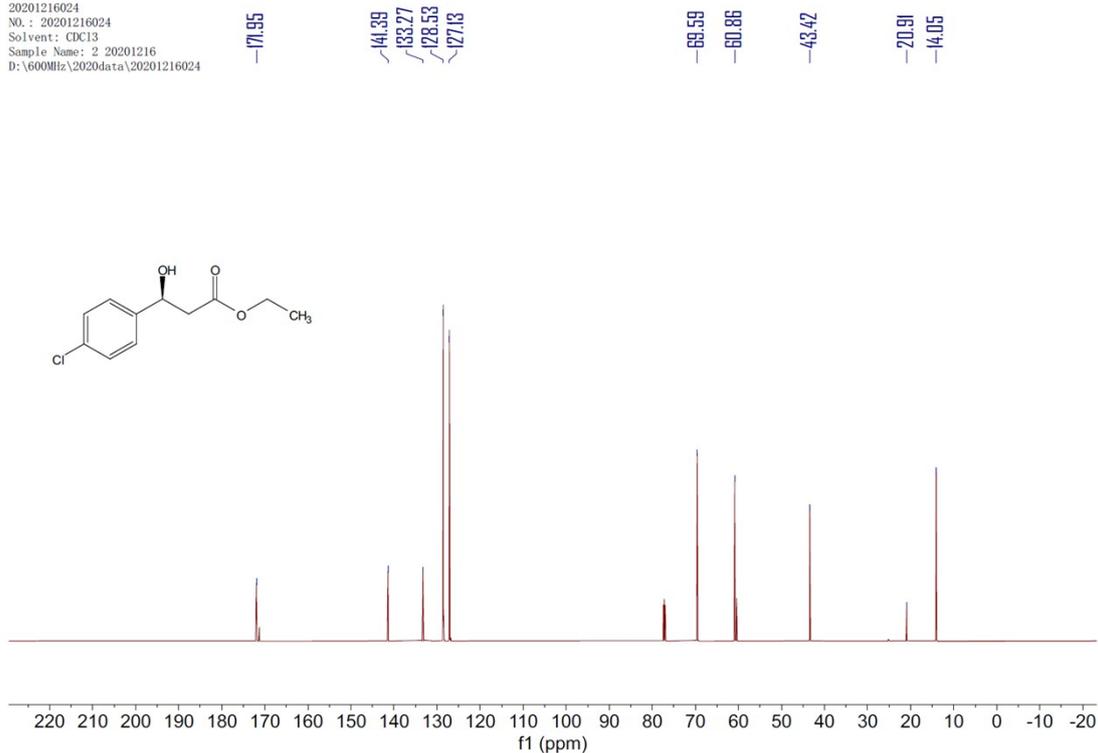


Figure S20. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound 2b

20201209040  
NO.: 20201209040  
Solvent: CDCl3  
Sample Name: 3 20201209  
D:\600MHz\2020data\20201209040

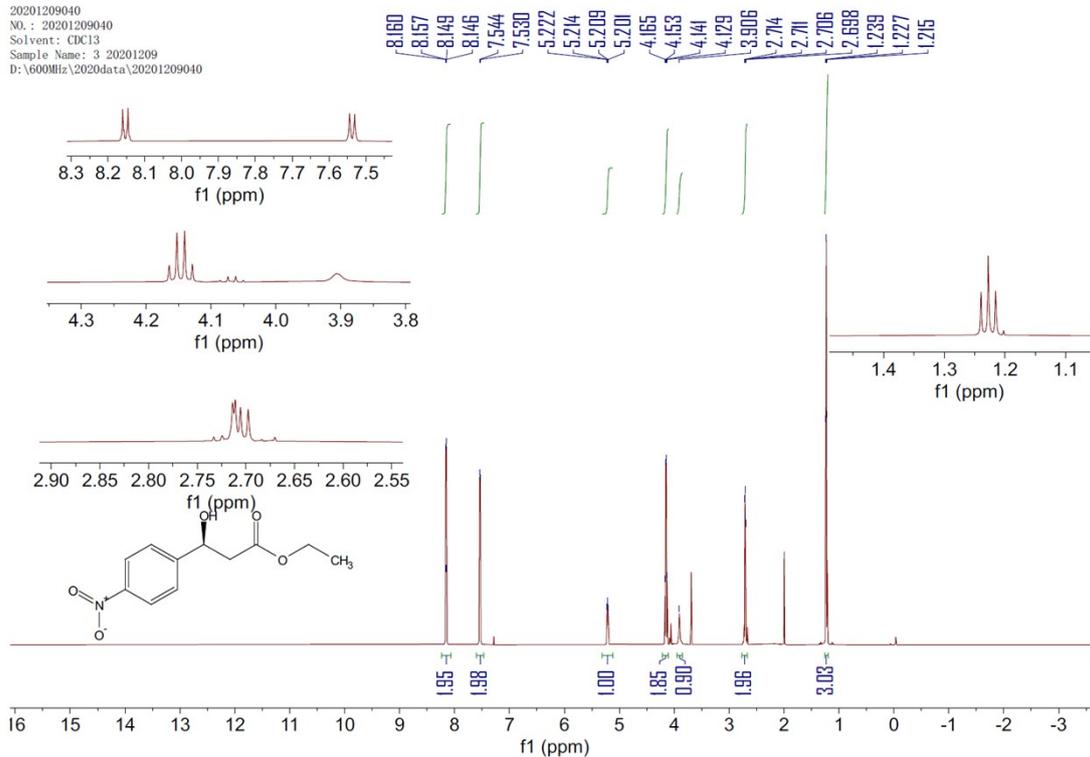
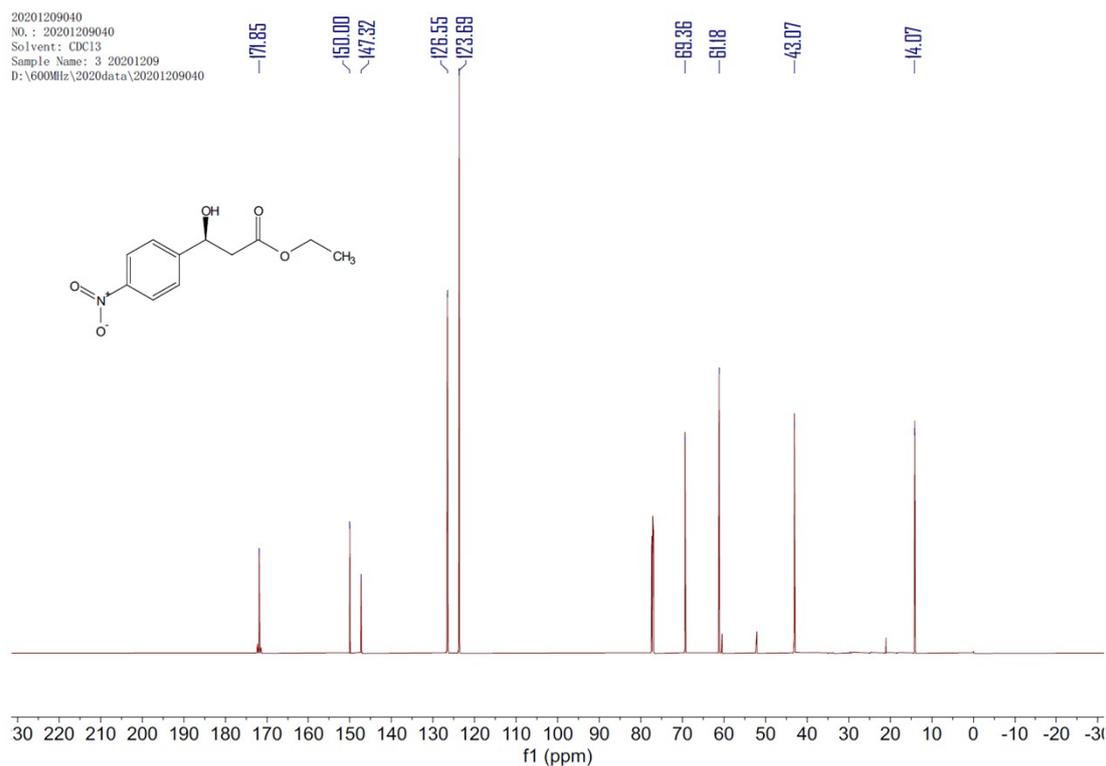
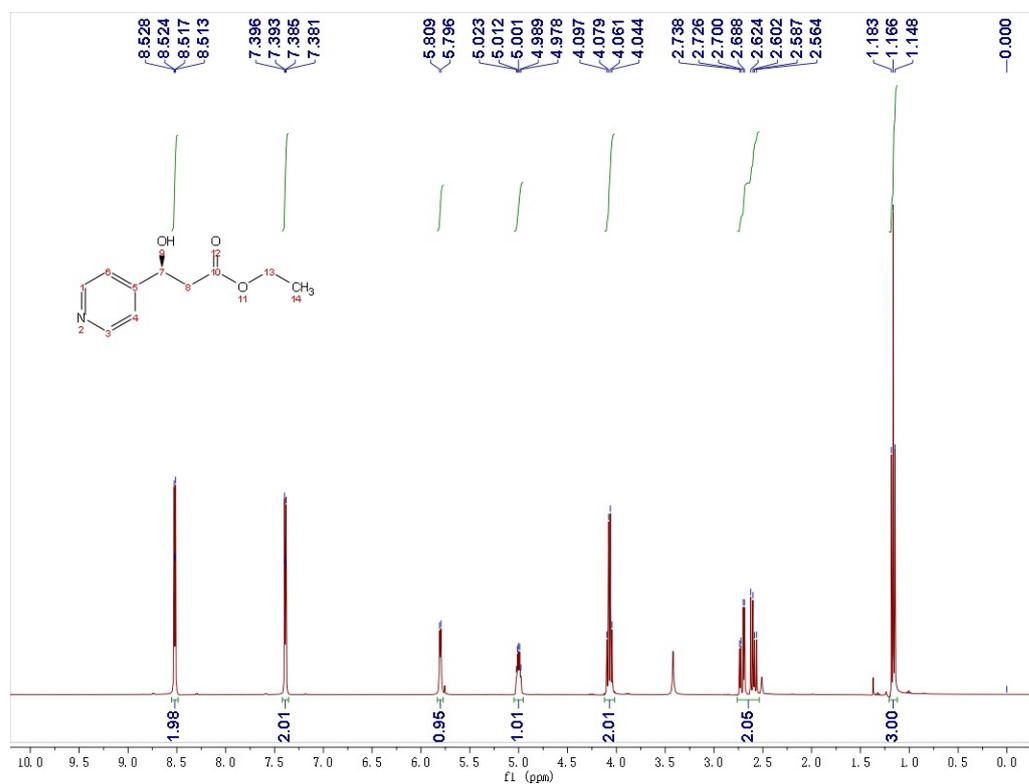


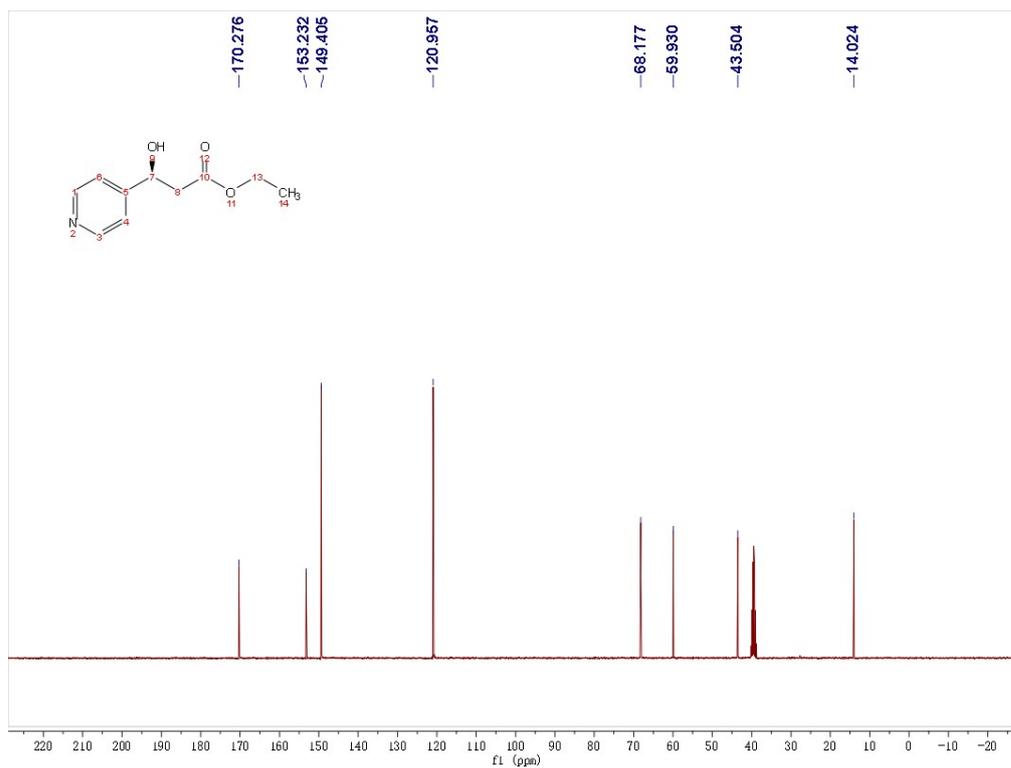
Figure S21. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 3b



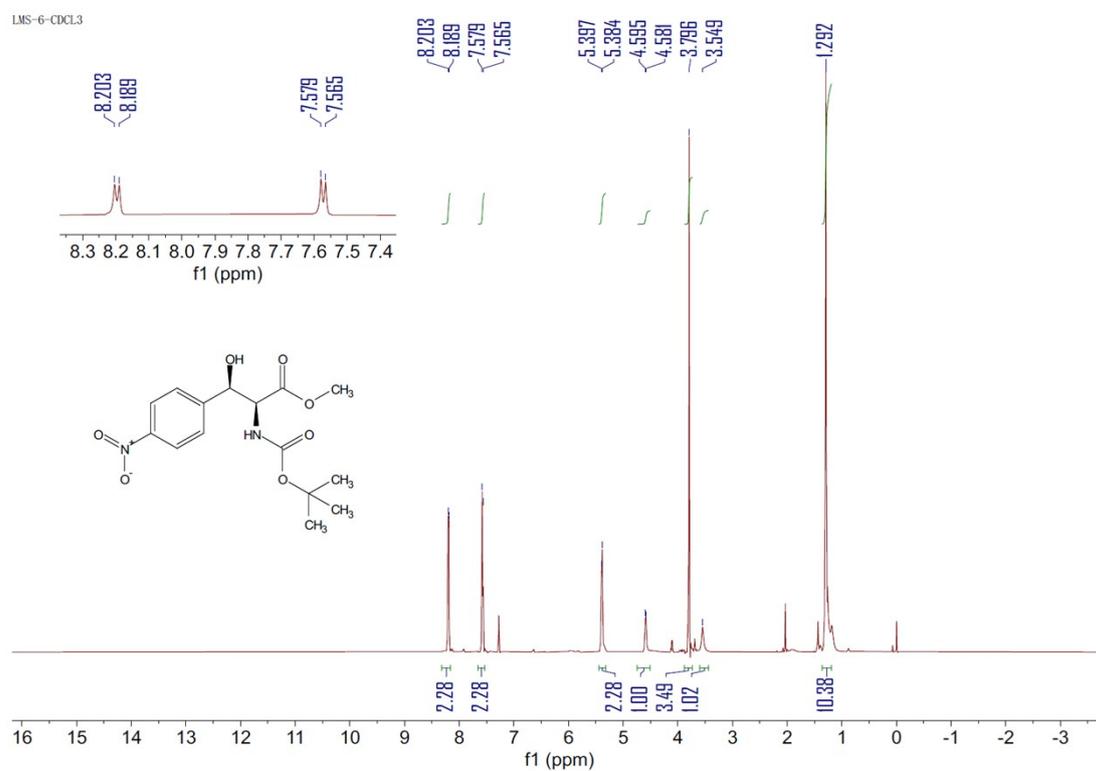
**Figure S22.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **3b**



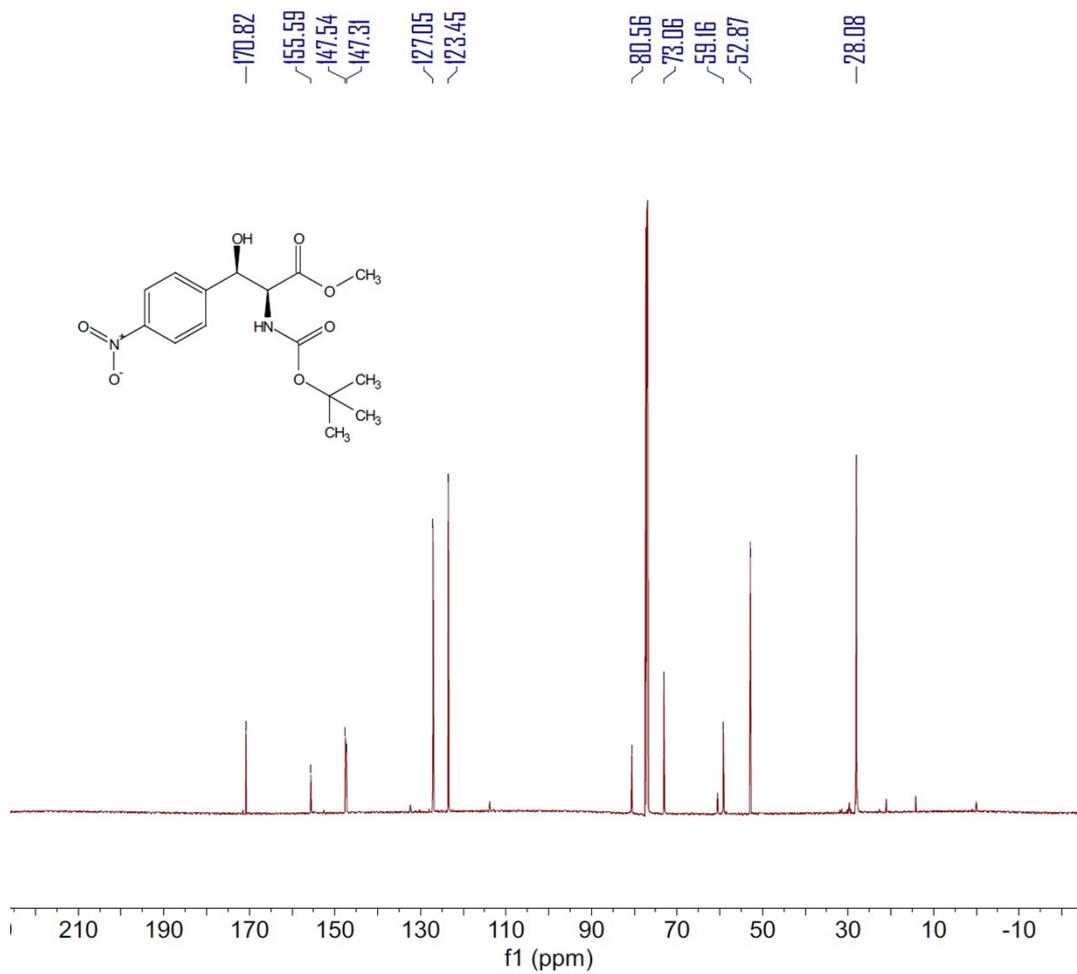
**Figure S23.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **4b**



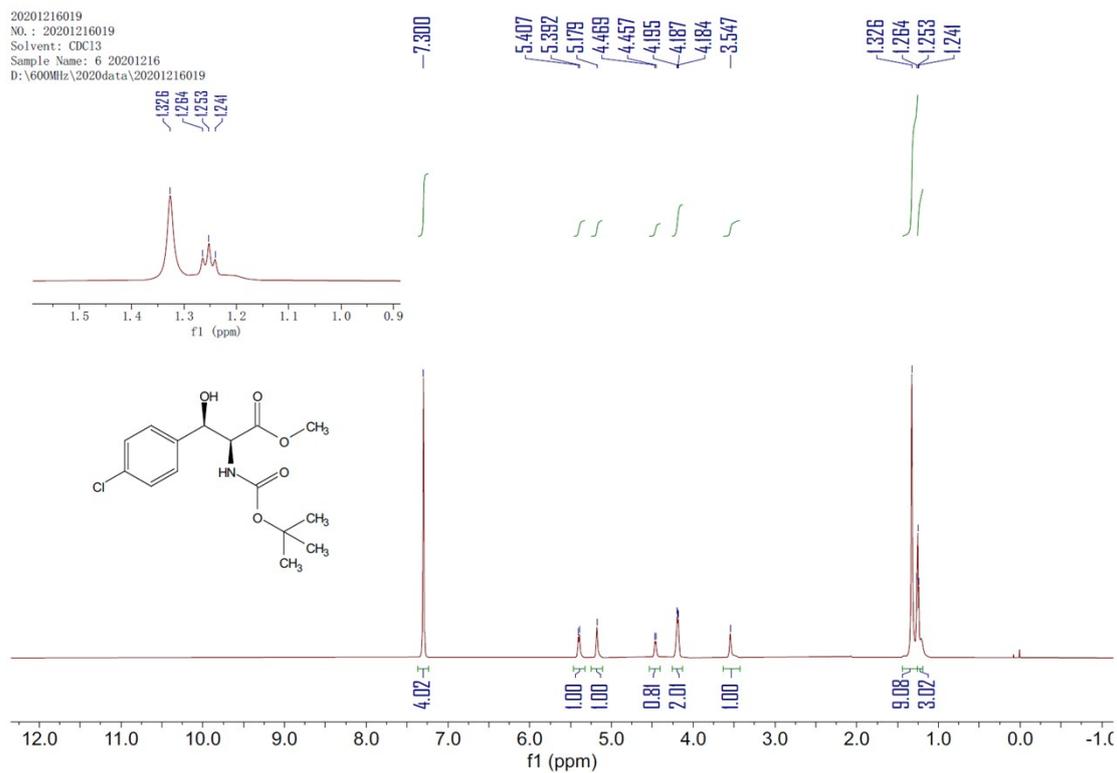
**Figure S24.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound 4b



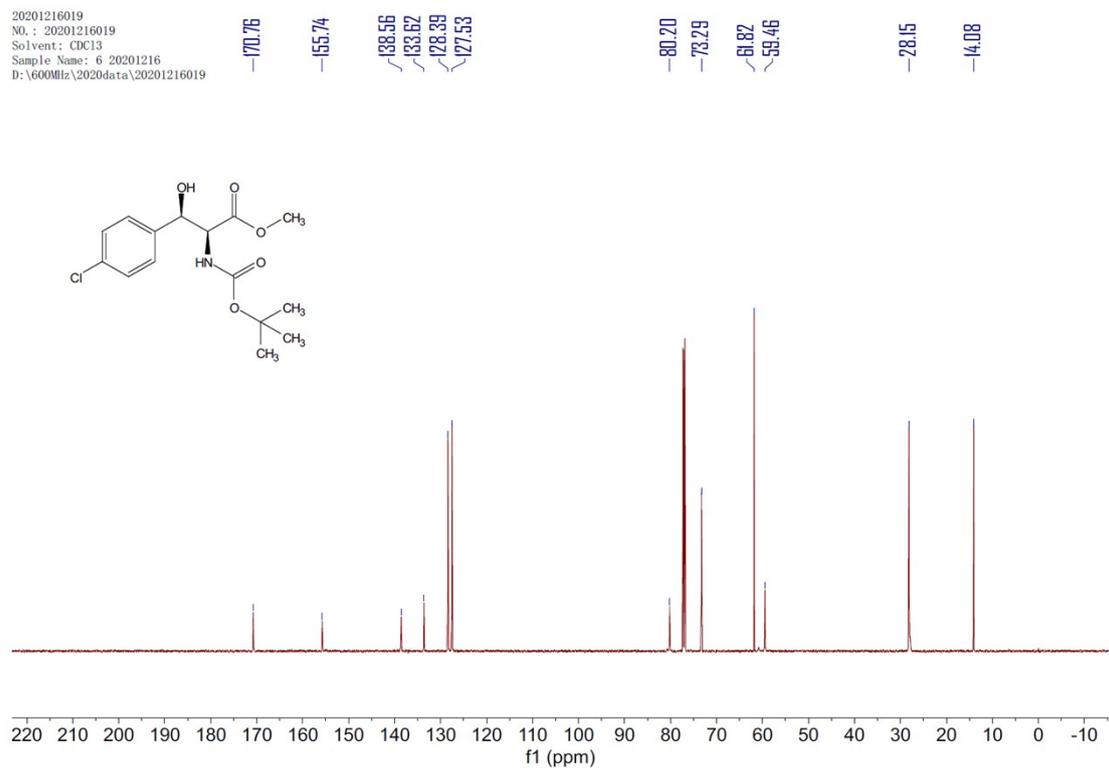
**Figure S25.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 5b



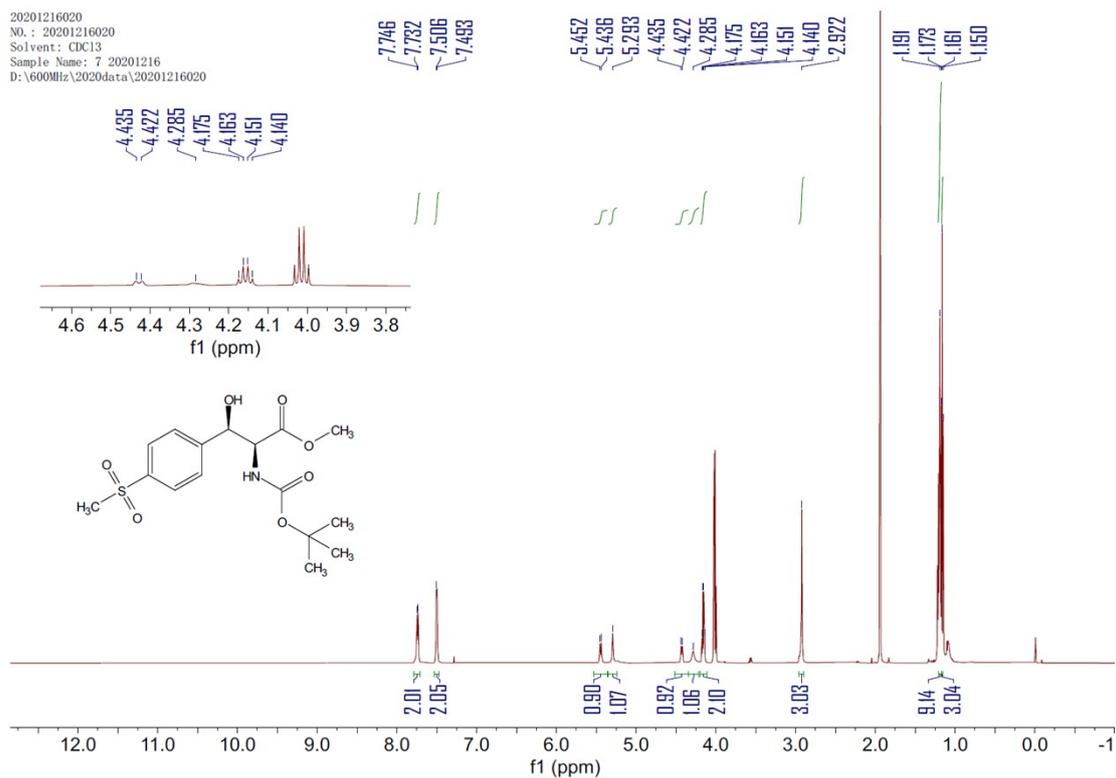
**Figure S26.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound **5b**



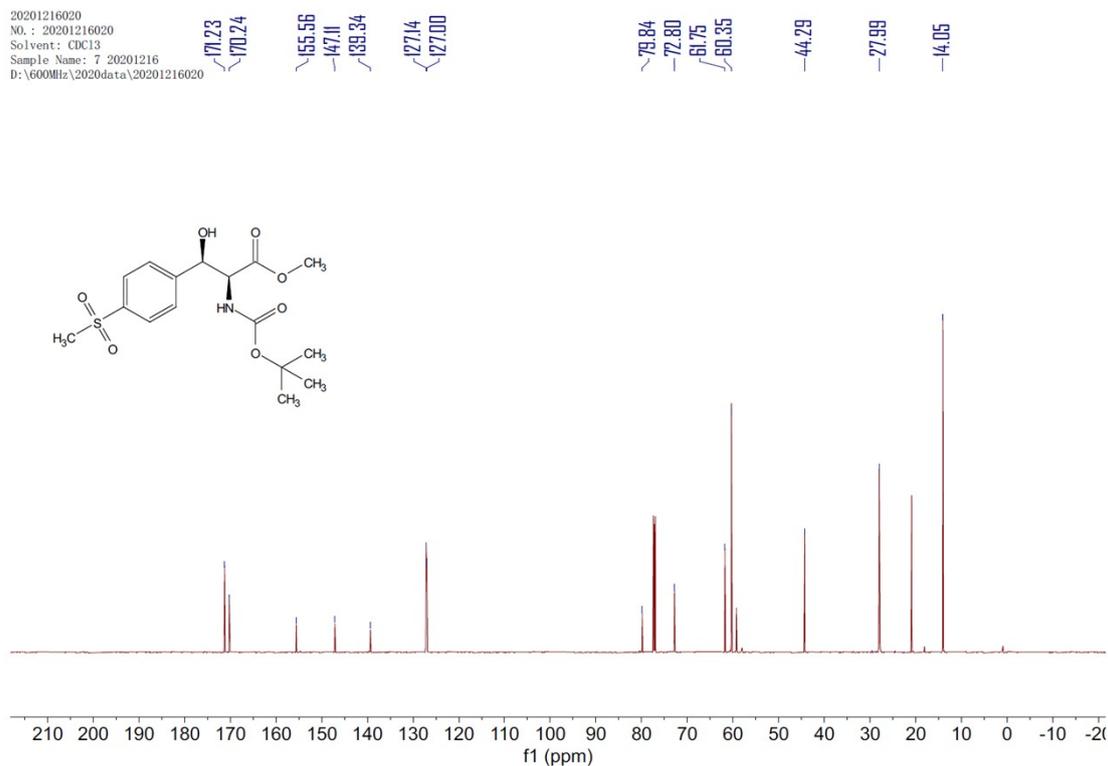
**Figure S27.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **6b**



**Figure S28.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **6b**



**Figure S29.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **7b**



**Figure S30.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **7b**

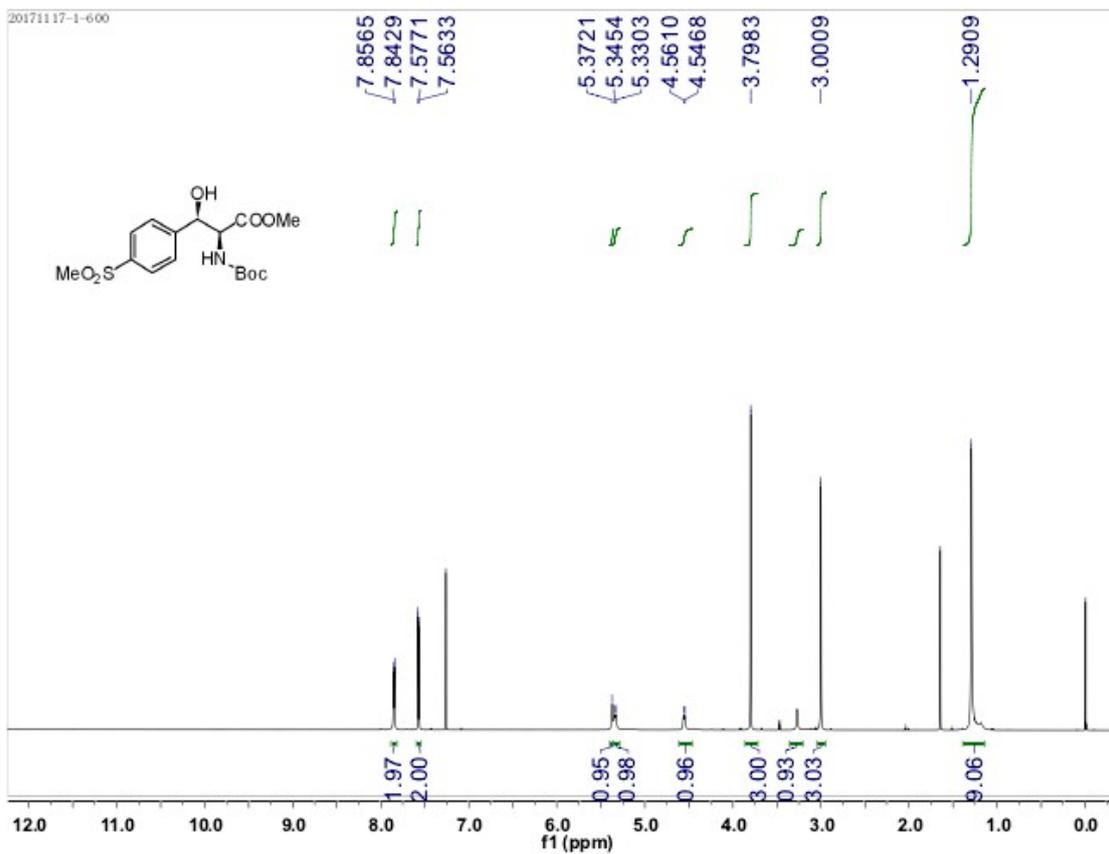


Figure S31. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 8b

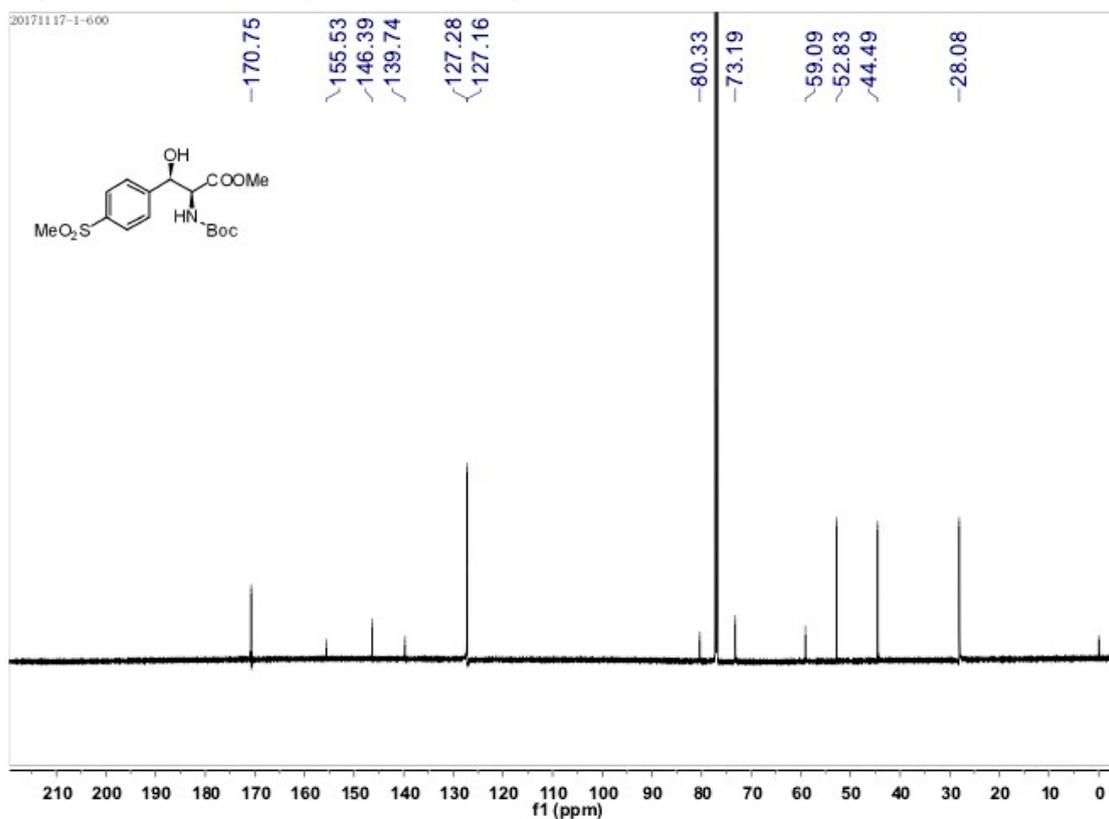
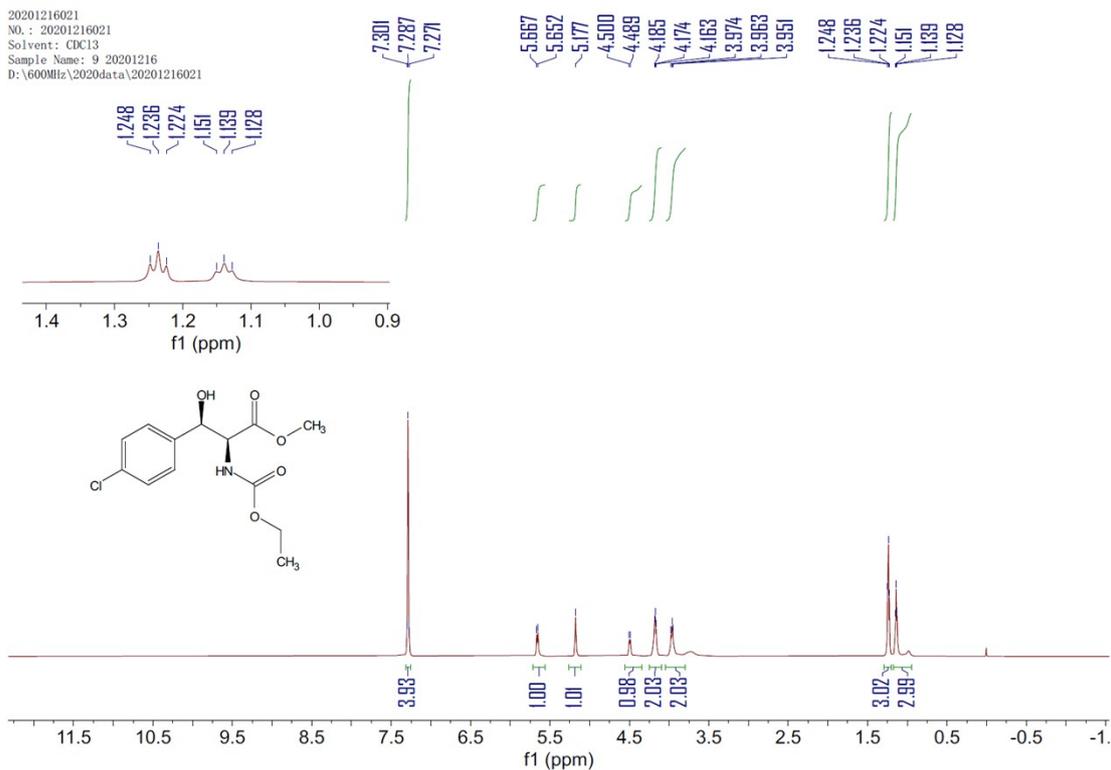
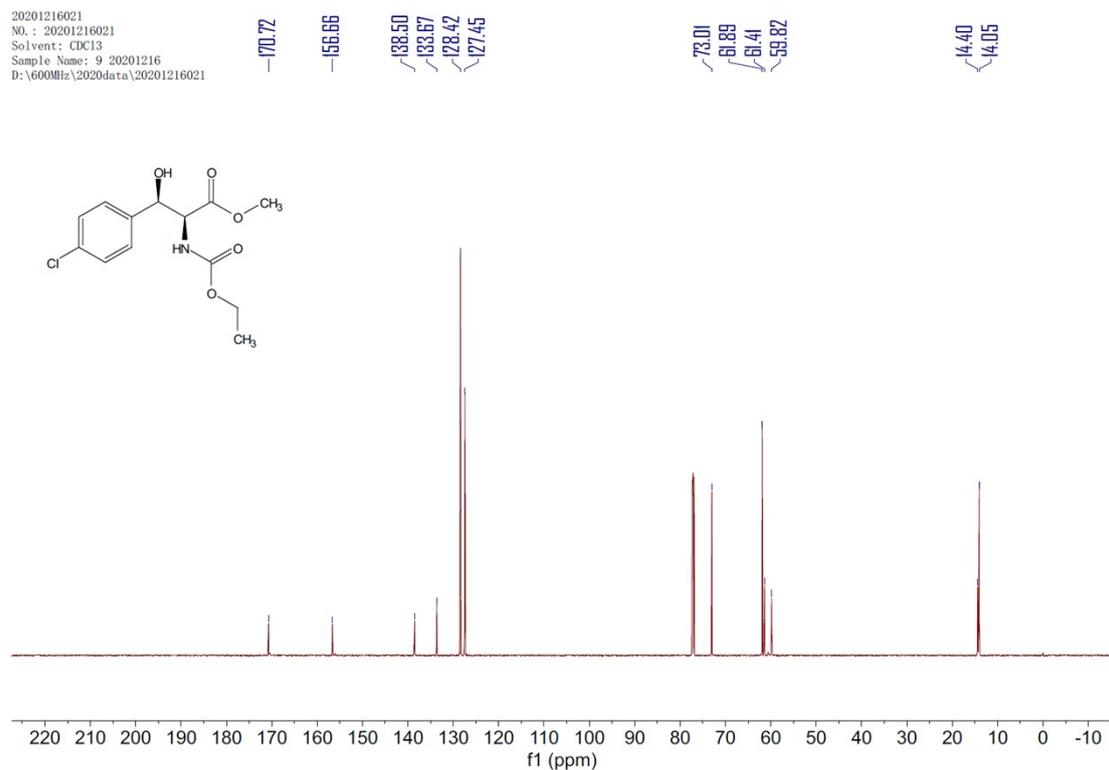


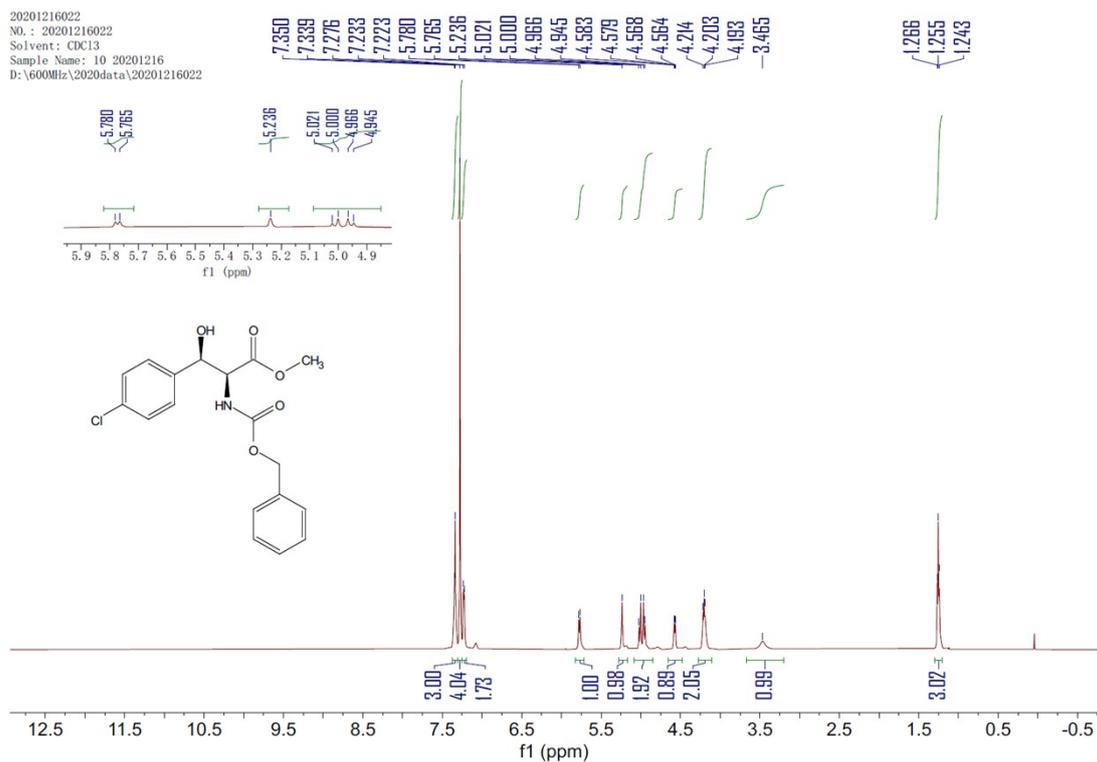
Figure S32. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound 8b



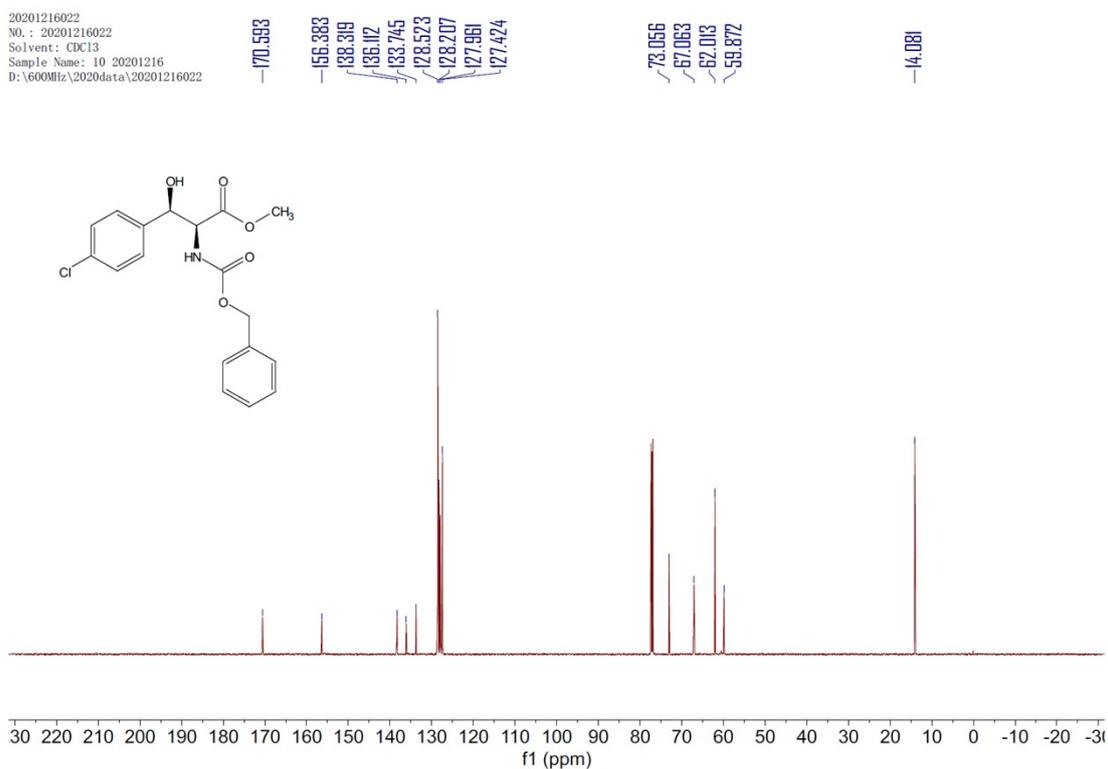
**Figure S33.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **9b**



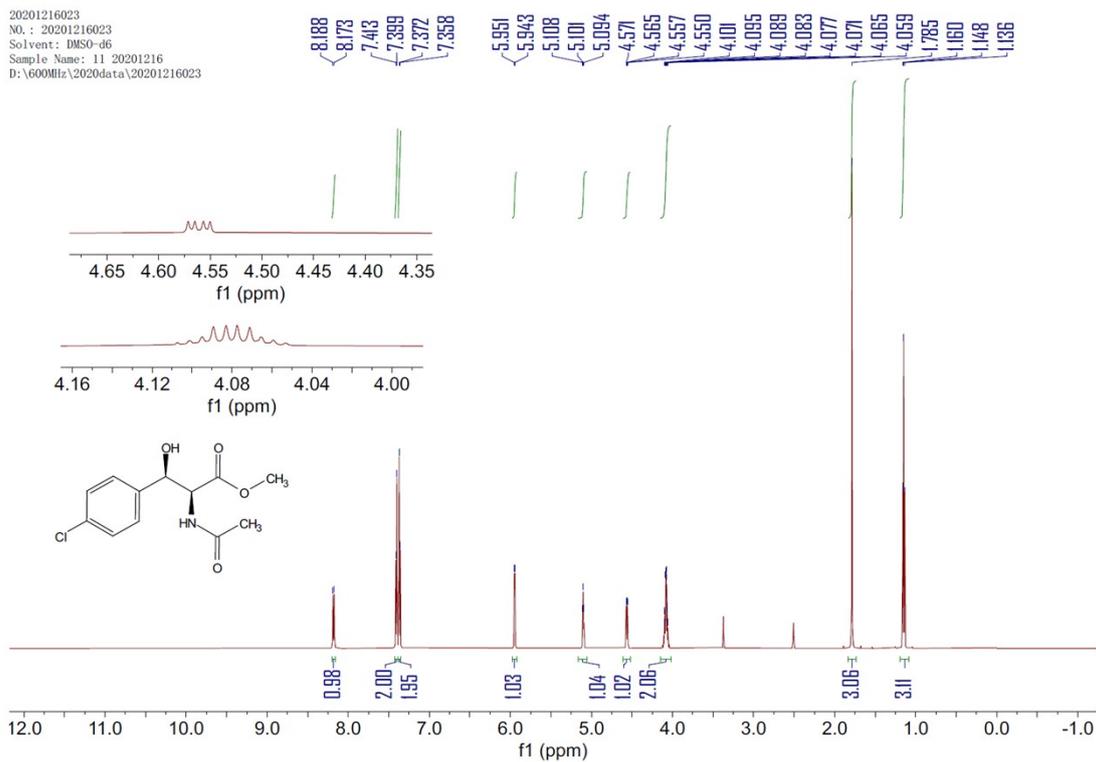
**Figure S34.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **9b**



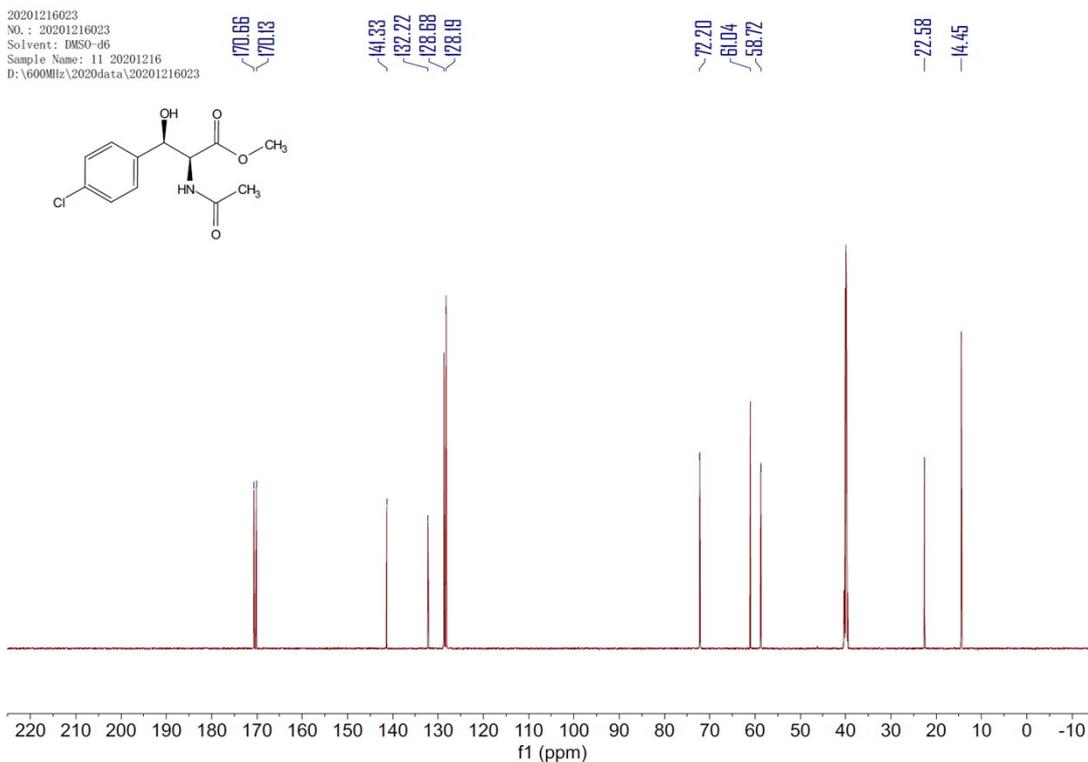
**Figure S35.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **10b**



**Figure S36.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound **10b**



**Figure S37.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound 11b



**Figure S38.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound 11b

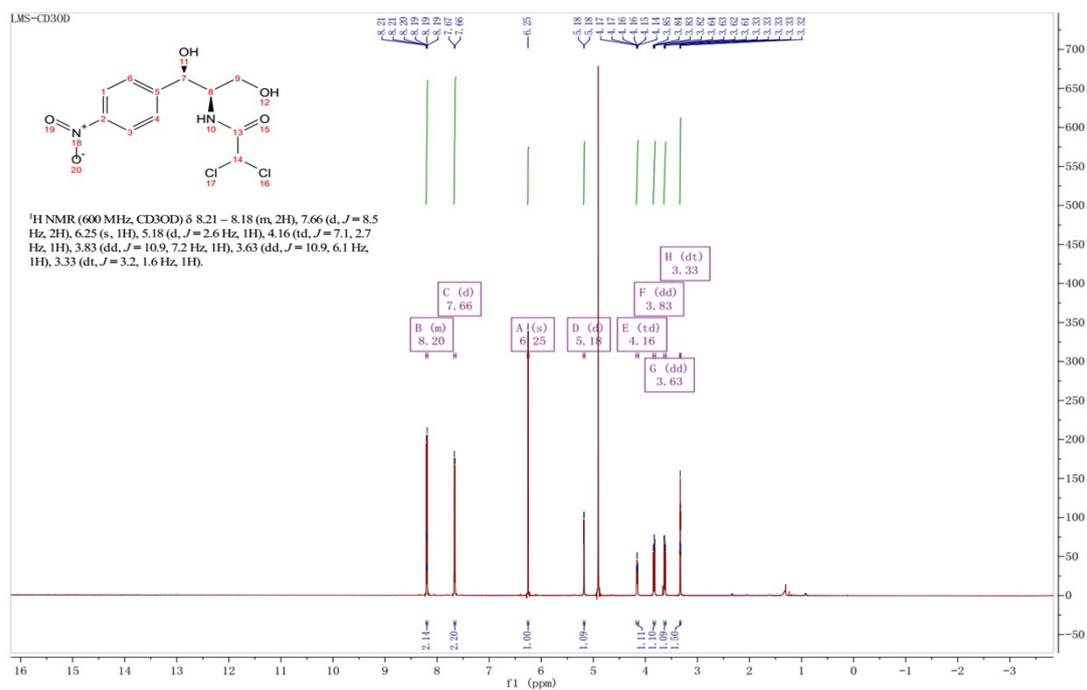


Figure S39. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of chloramphenicol 17

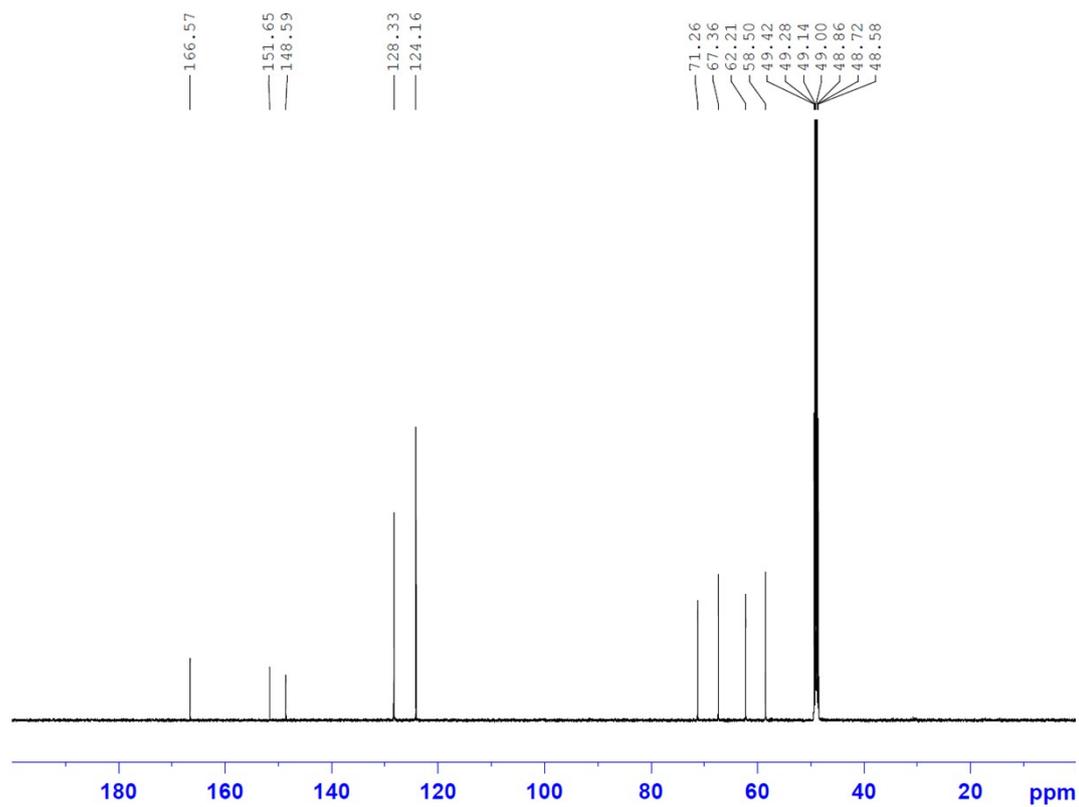
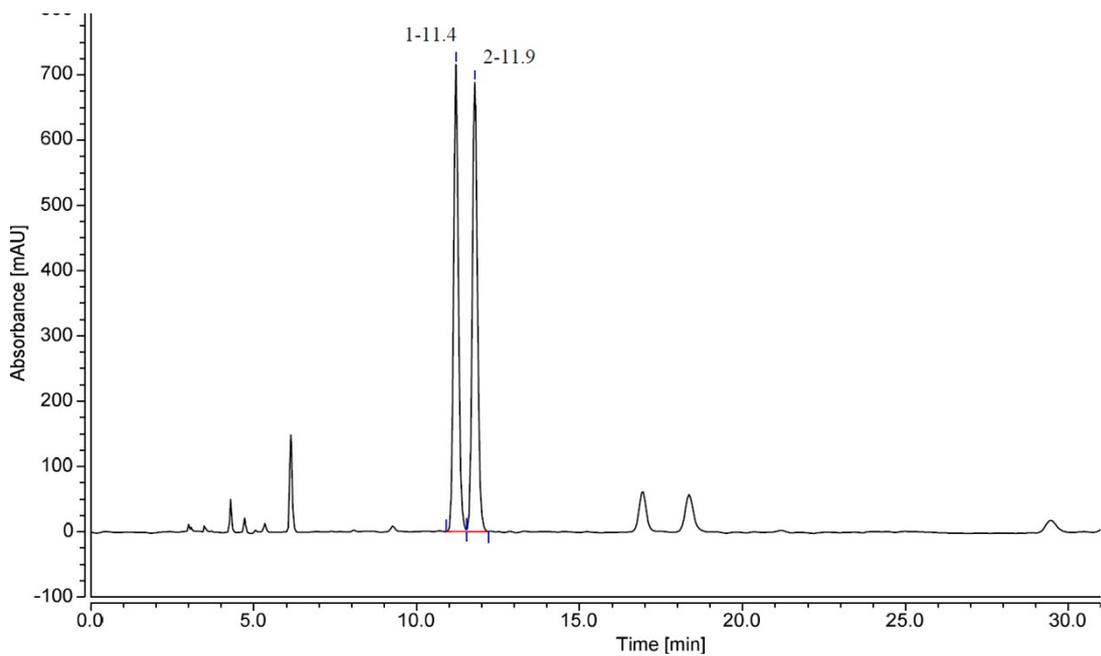
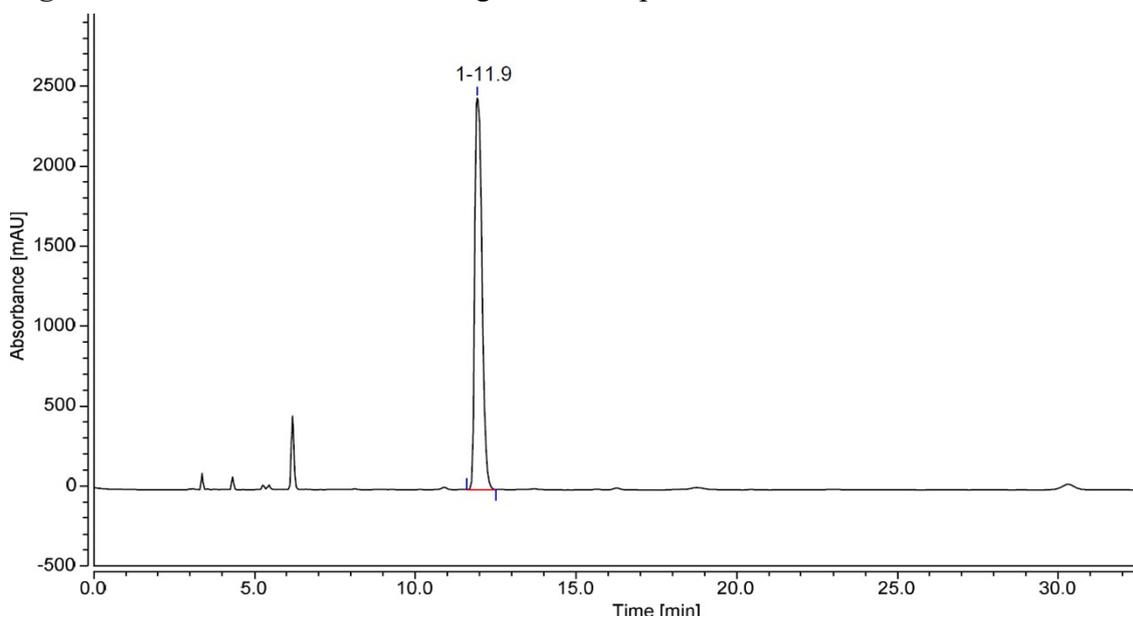


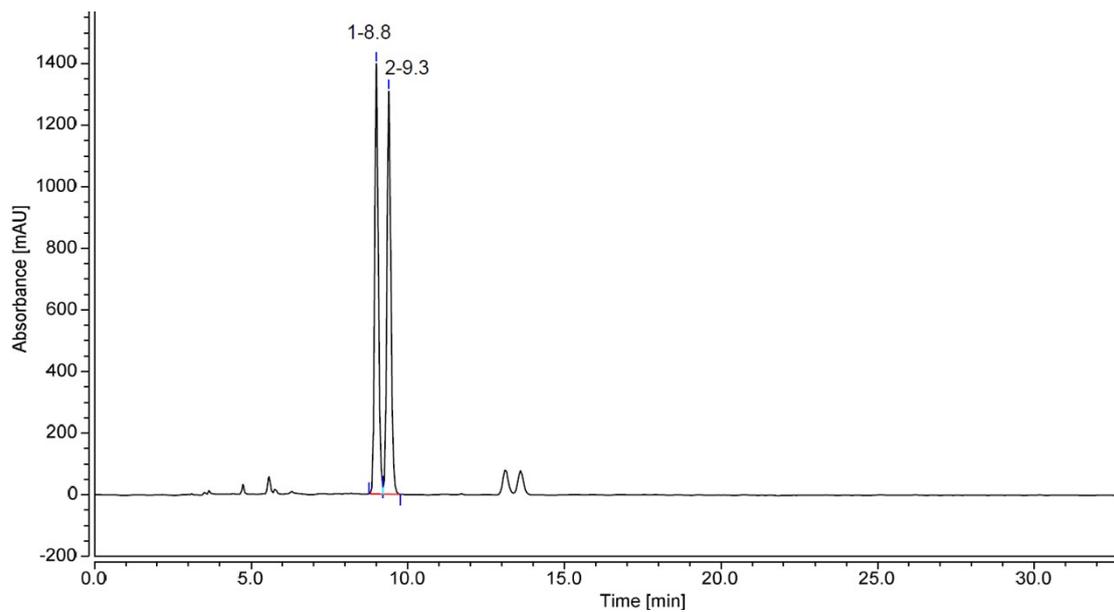
Figure S40. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of chloramphenicol 17



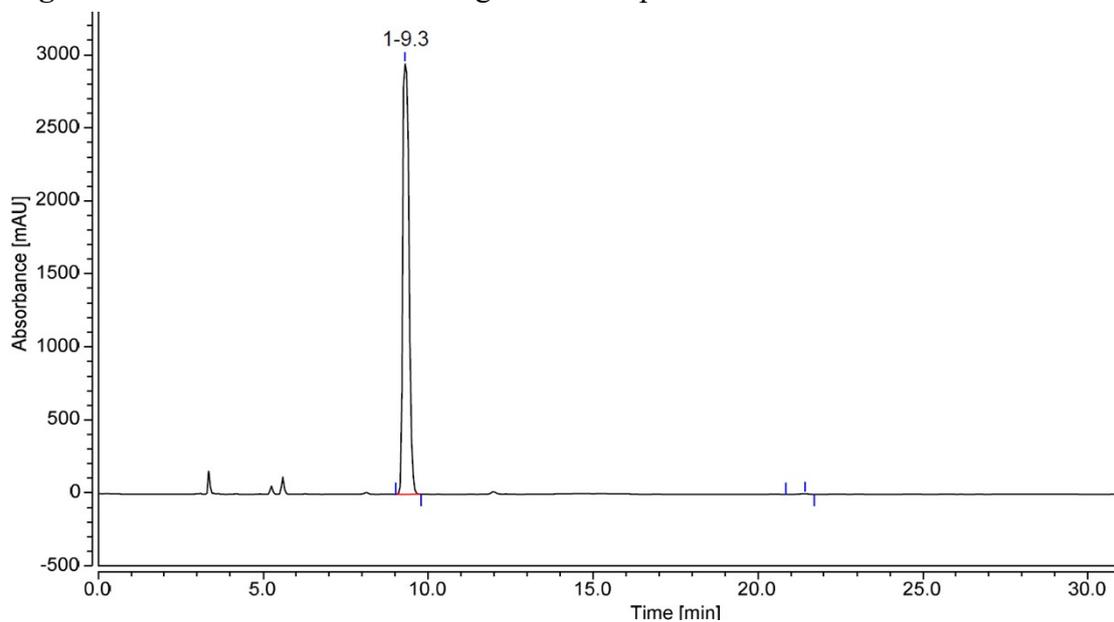
**Figure S41.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound rac-1



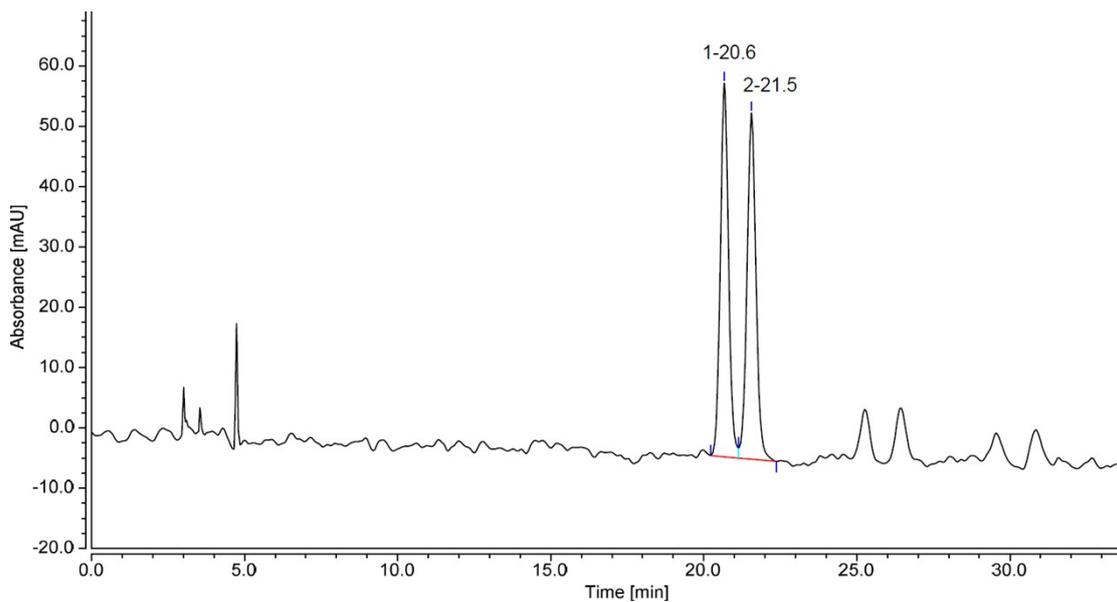
**Figure S42.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound **1b**



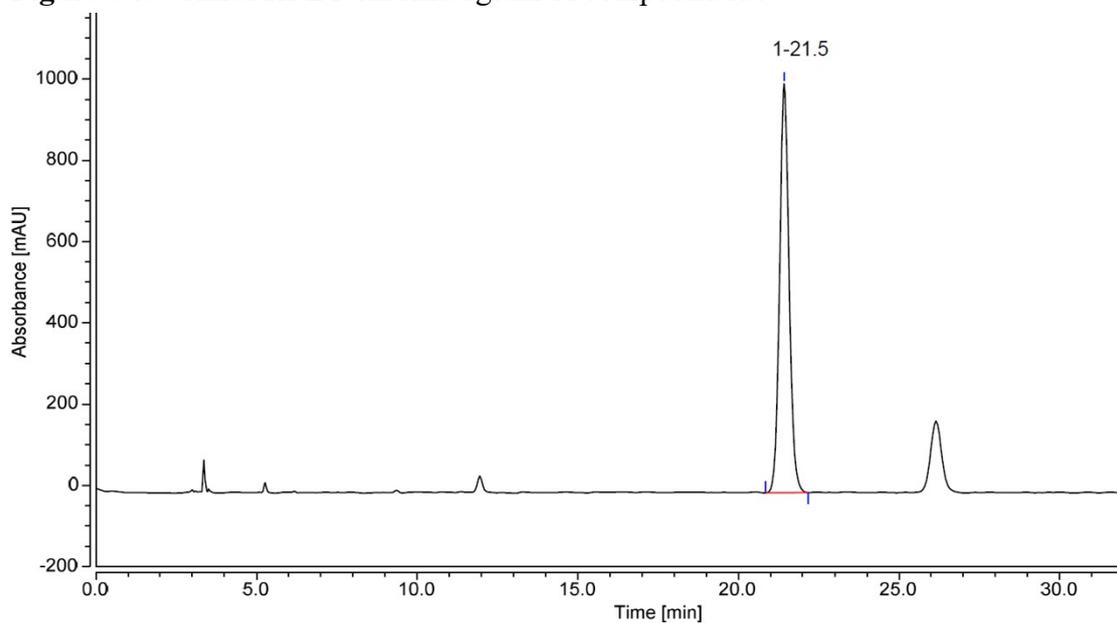
**Figure S43.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound rac-2



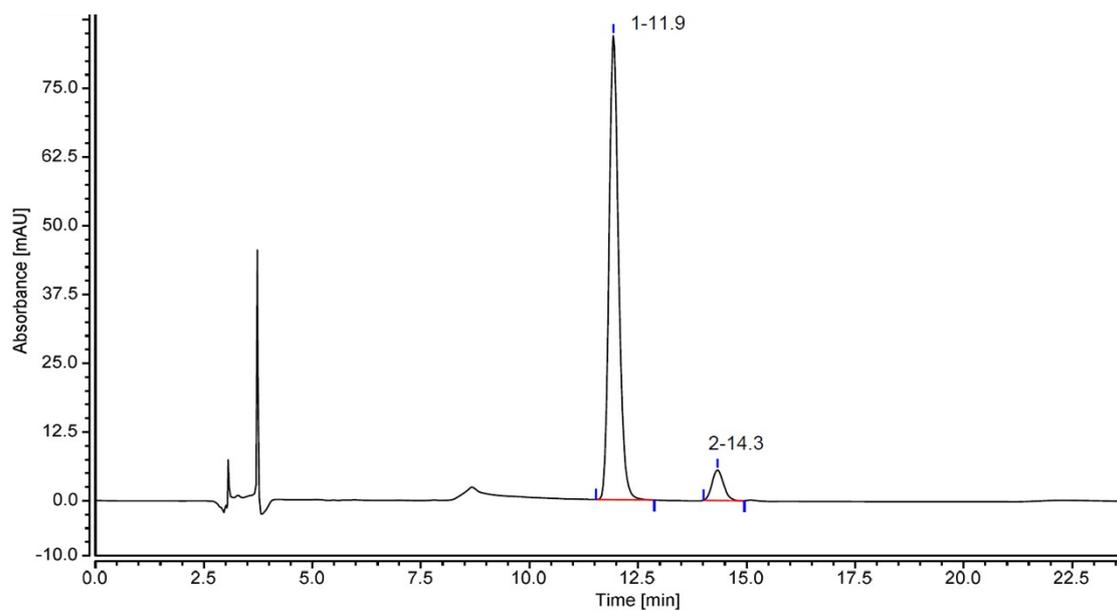
**Figure S44.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound 2b



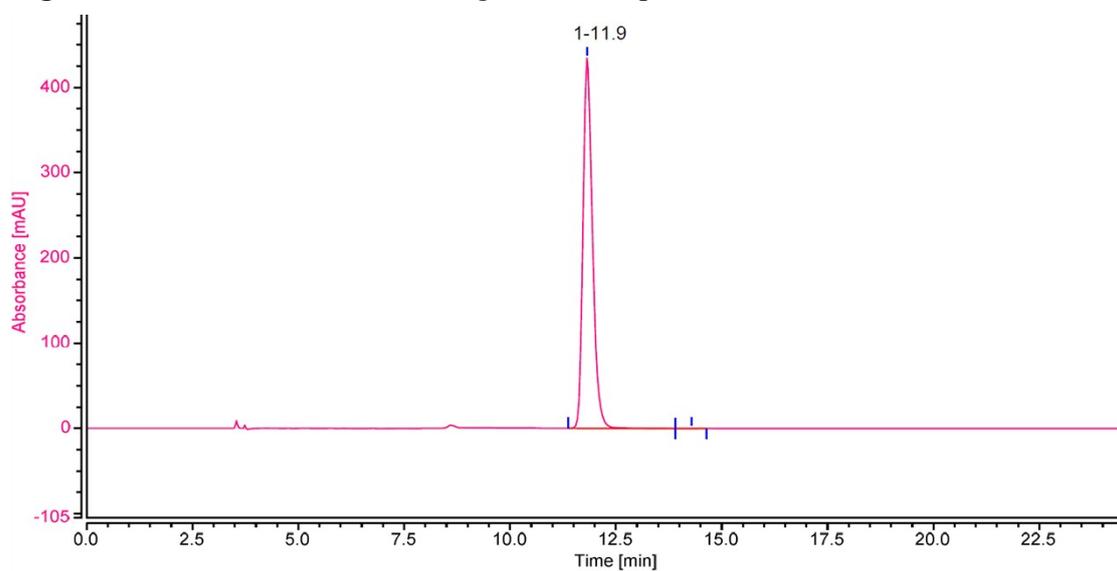
**Figure S45.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound rac-3



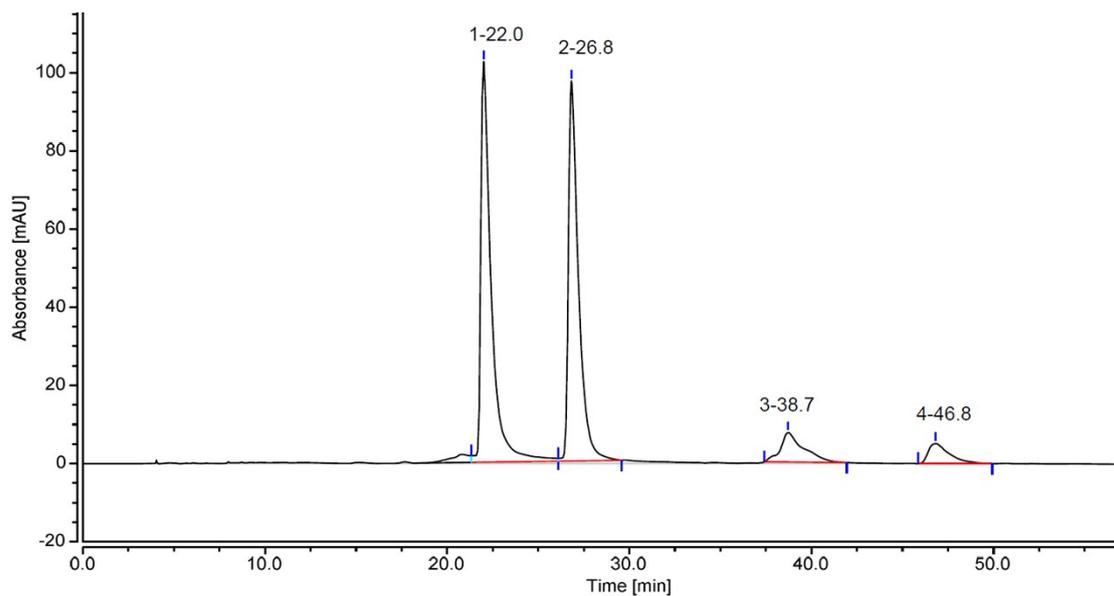
**Figure S46.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound 3b



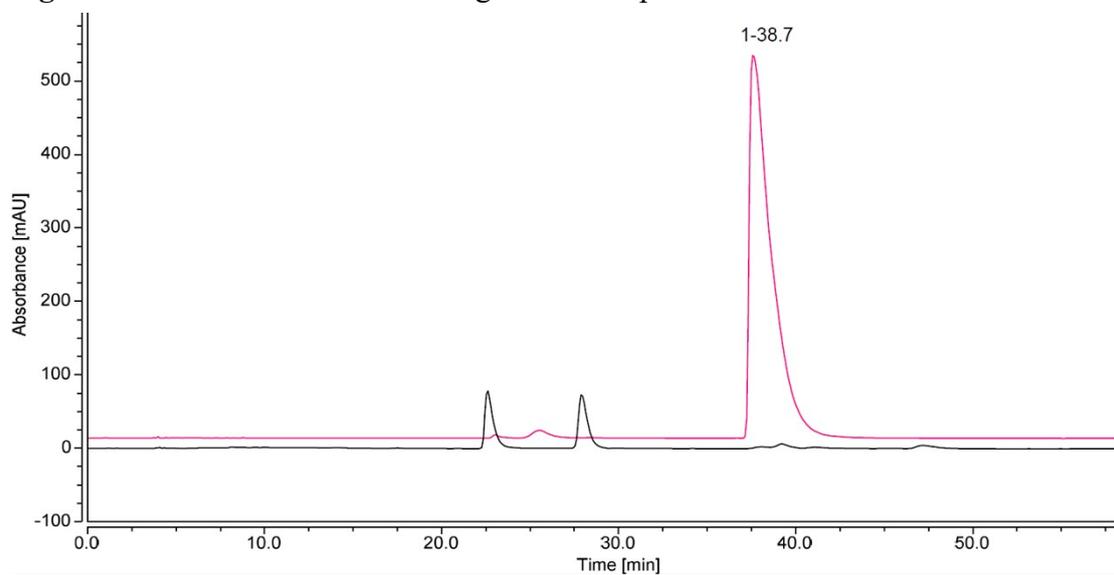
**Figure S47.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound rac-4



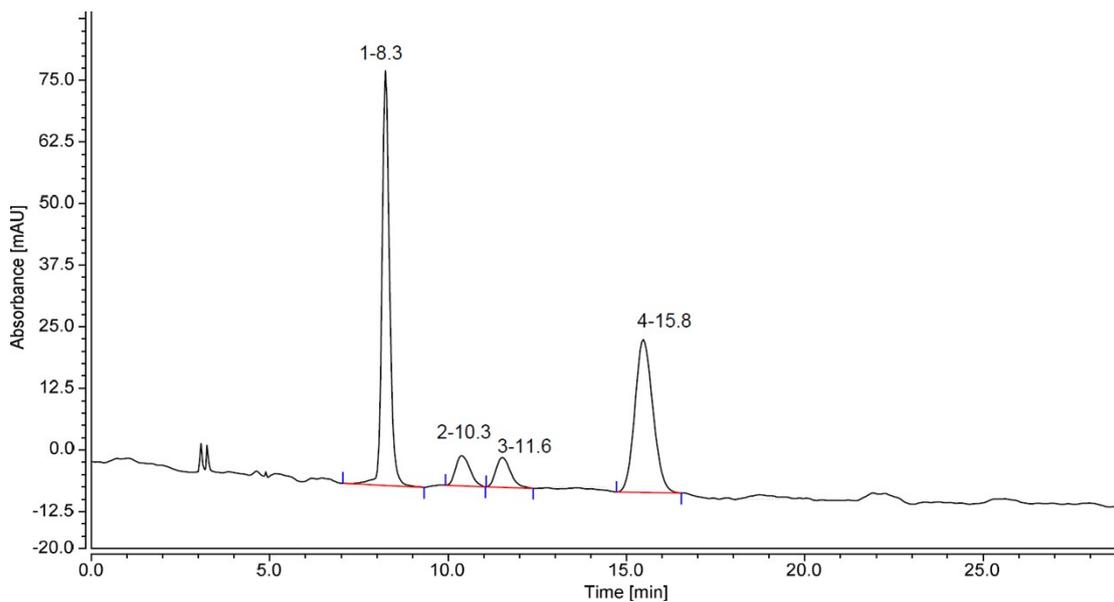
**Figure S48.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound 4b



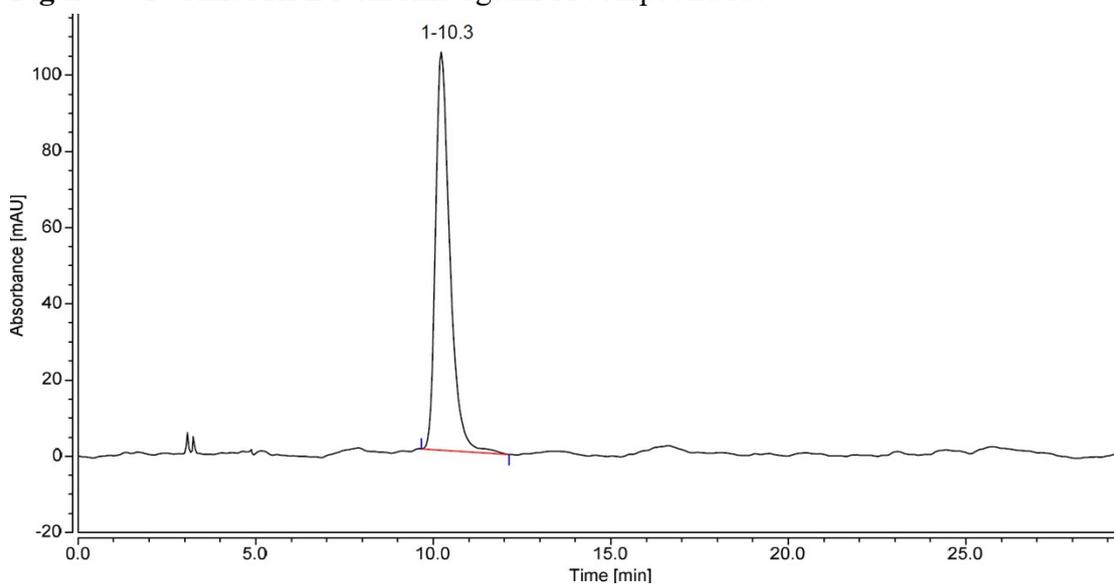
**Figure S49.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound rac-5



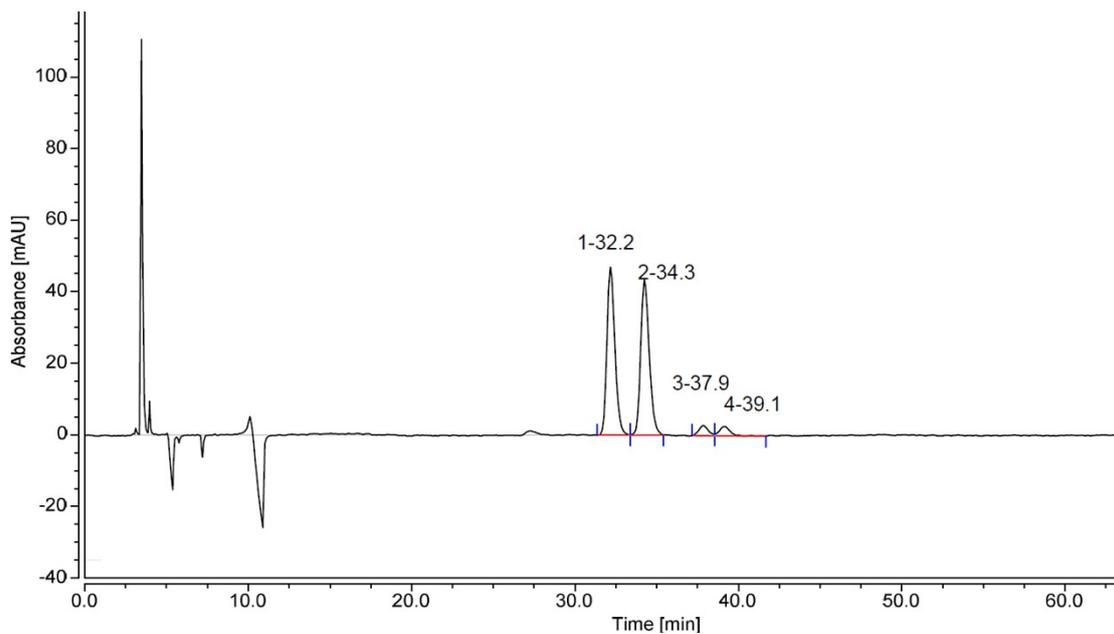
**Figure S50.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound 5b



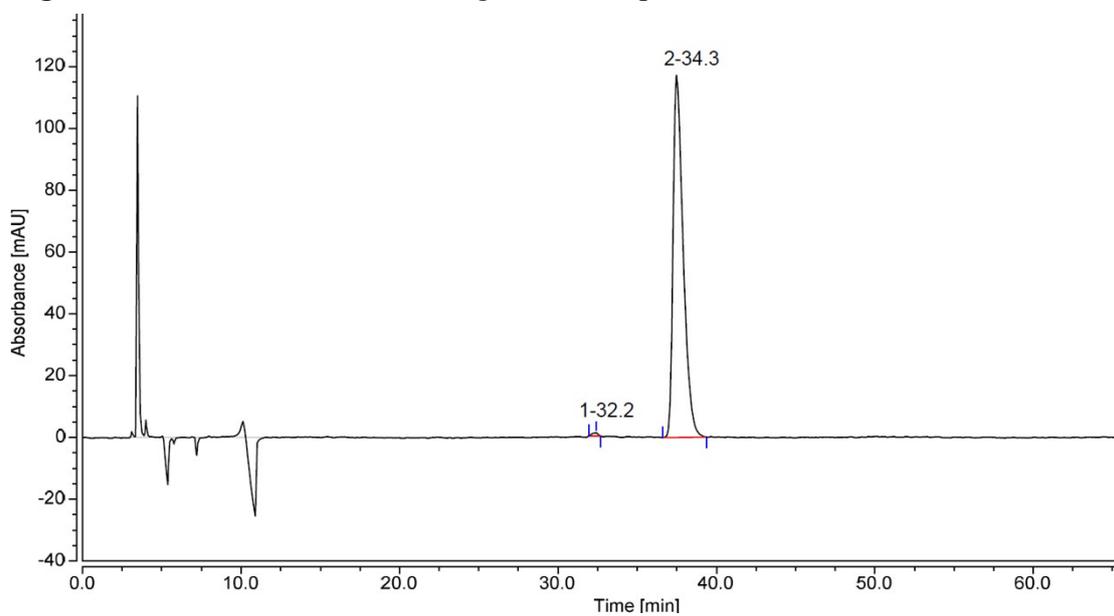
**Figure S51.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound rac-6



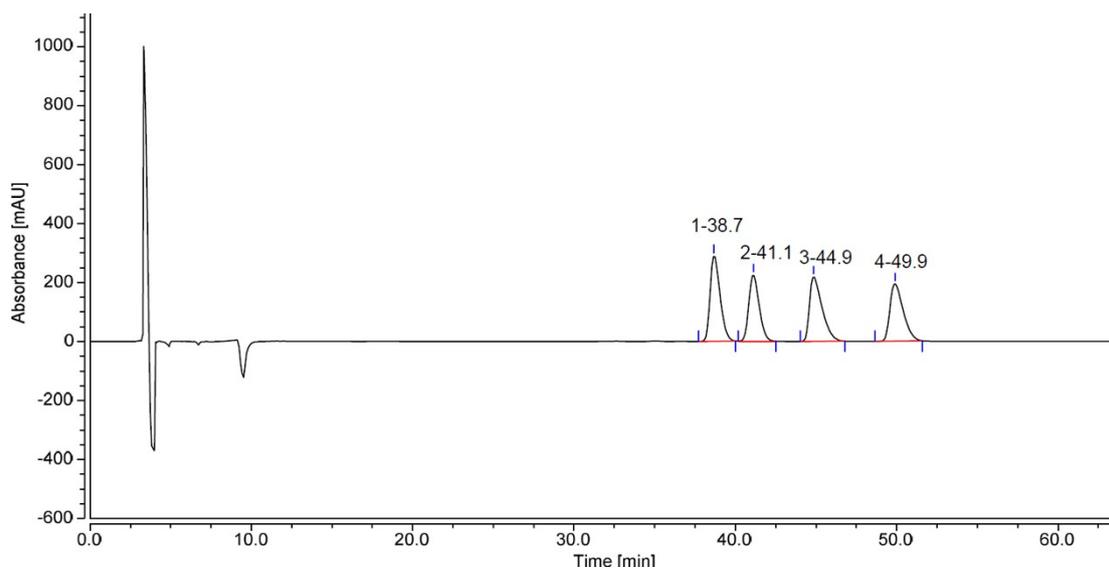
**Figure S52.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound 6b



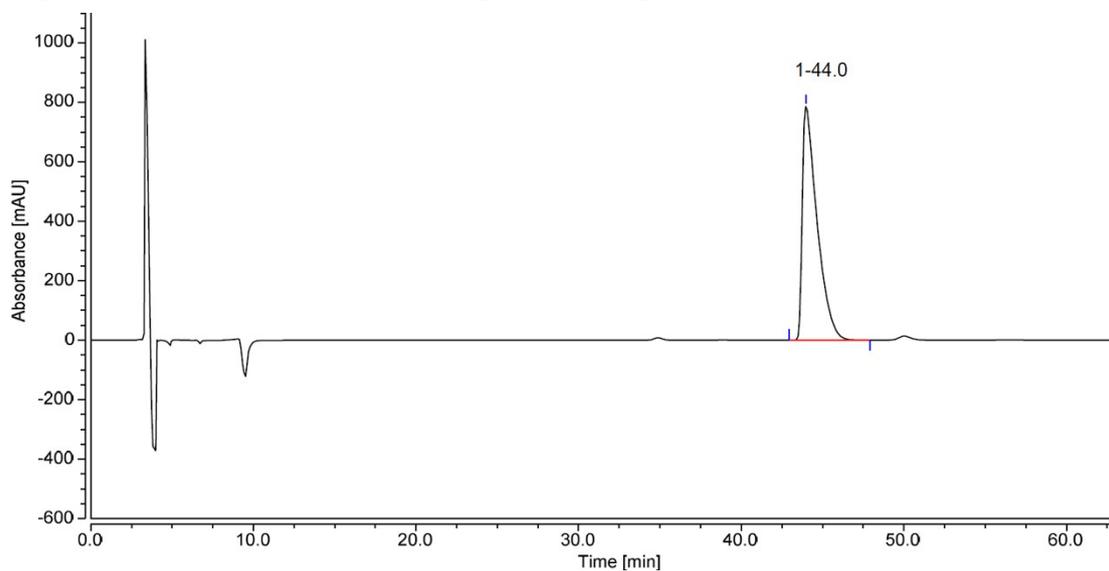
**Figure S53.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound rac-7



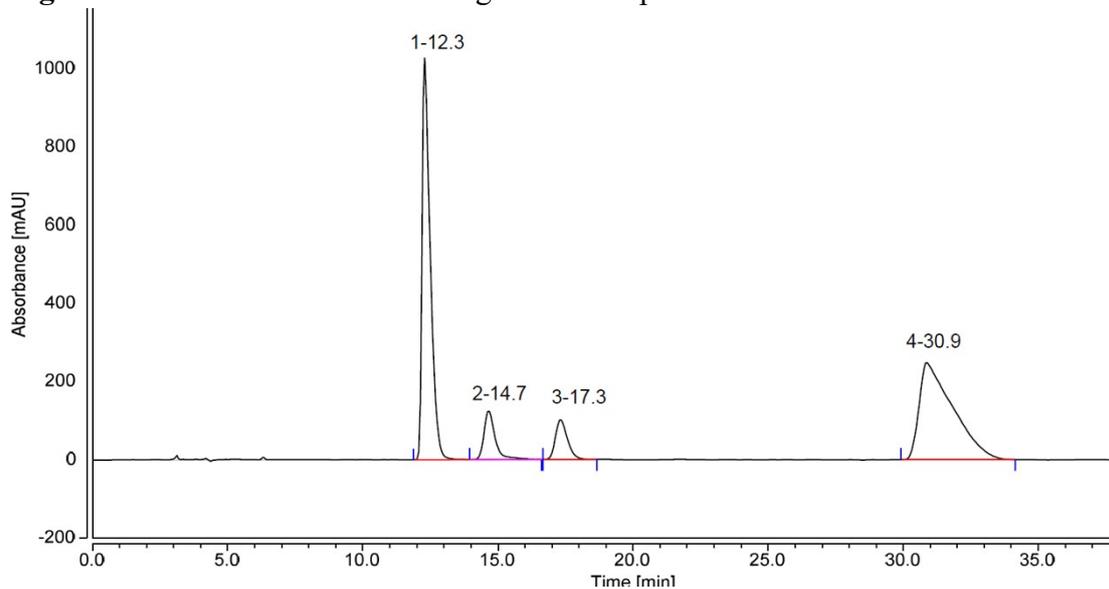
**Figure S54.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound 7b



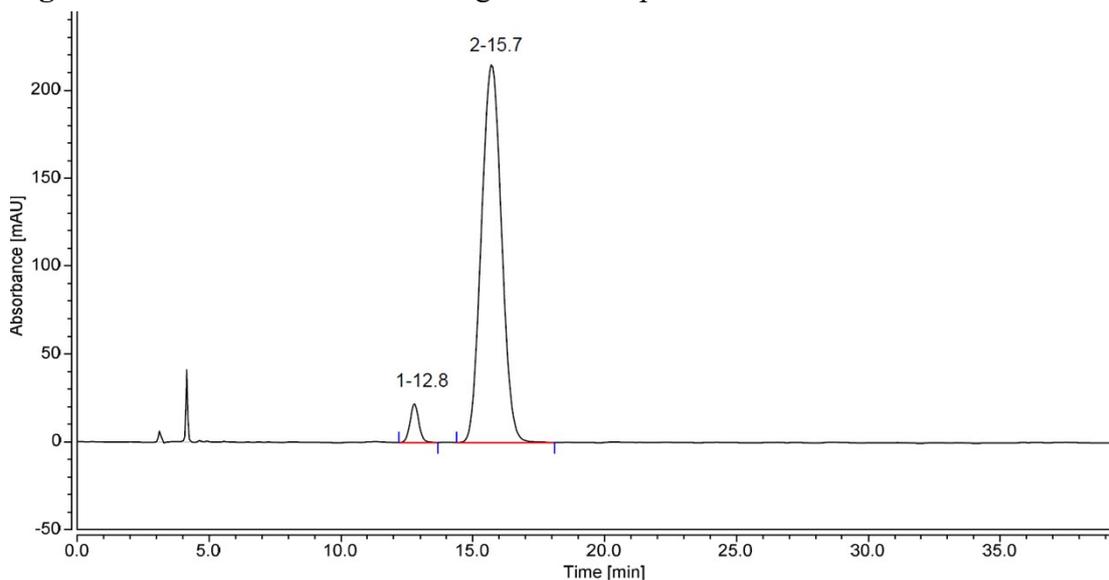
**Figure S55.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound rac-8



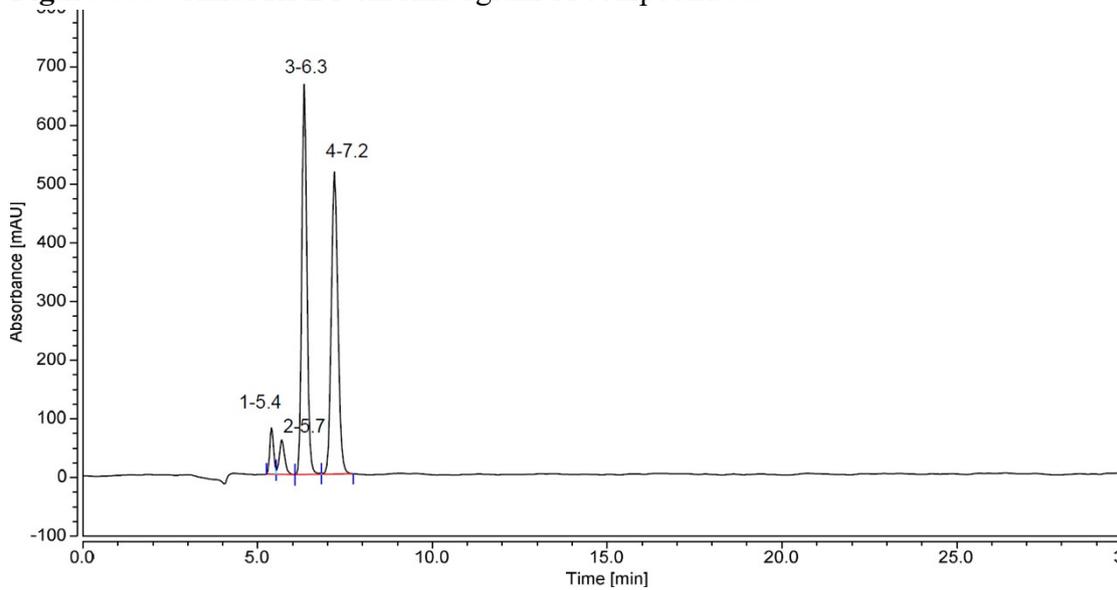
**Figure S56.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound 8b



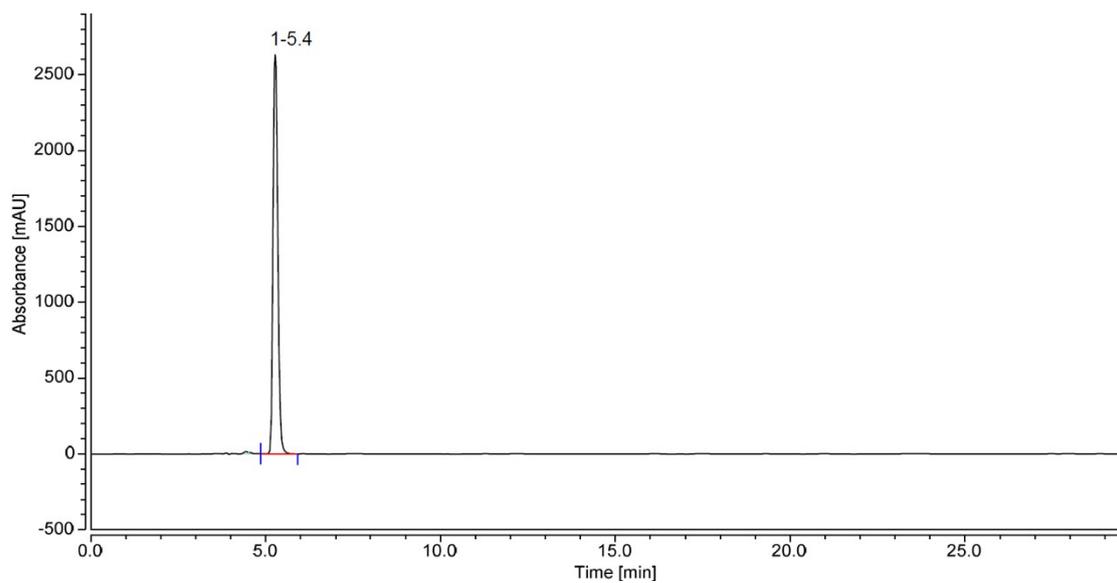
**Figure S57.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound rac-9



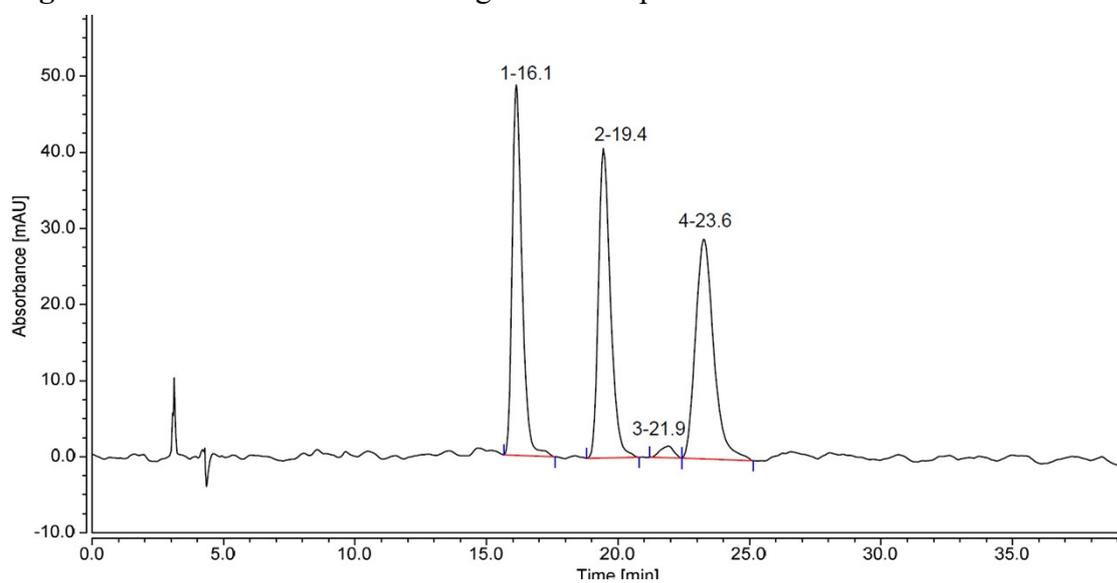
**Figure S58.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound 9b



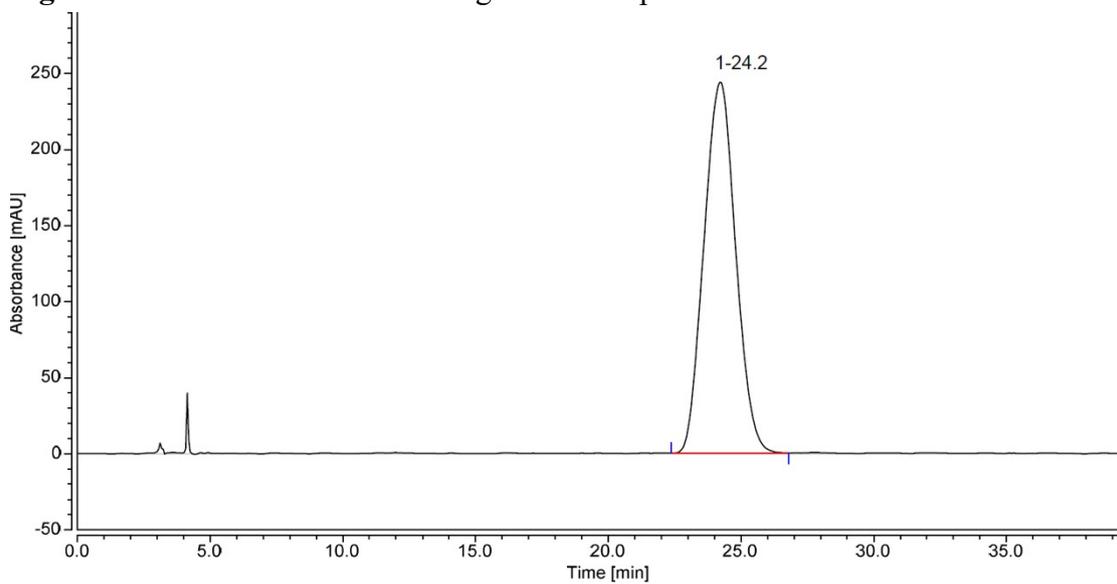
**Figure S59.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound rac-10



**Figure S60.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound **10b**



**Figure S61.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound **rac-11**



**Figure S62.** Chiral HPLC chromatogram of compound **11b**

1. Zou, J.; Ni, G.; Tang, J.; Yu, J.; Jiang, L.; Ju, D.; Zhang, F.; Chen, S., Asymmetric Synthesis of Florfenicol by Dynamic Reductive Kinetic Resolution with Ketoreductases. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2018**, *2018* (36), 5044-5053.