

Replacing halogenated solvent by a butyl acetate solution of bisphenol S in the transformations of indoles

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General information

All reagents were purchased from available commercial suppliers and used without purification unless other noted.

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AV-400. Chemical shifts are expressed in ppm relative to Me₄Si in CDCl₃ or DMSO-d6. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on Bruker Compass Data Analysis 4.0. A UV-vis spectrophotometer (UV2600, Shimadzu) is employed to measure the maximum absorption wavelength (λ_{max}).

Experimental Section

Typical procedure for the synthesis of **3a** and **4a** in butyl acetate assisted by BPS

To a V-type flask containing solution of **1a** (0.3 mmol) and **2a** (0.32 mmol) in 1 mL butyl acetate was added Amberlyst 15 (12 mg) and bisphenol S (BPS, 0.4 mmol). The tube reactor equipped with triangular magnetic stirrer was then sealed and heated at 80 °C for 5 hours and the reaction was monitored by TLC. After the completion of the reaction, reaction mixtures were allowed to cool to room temperature, and then subjected to an isolation with preparative TLC (20 cm × 20 cm) by using eluting solution (PE: EA = 5:1 (v: v)). Final compound **3a** and **4a** were obtained in 47% and yield 48% respectively after removing eluent by reduced pressure distillation.

Typical procedure for the synthesis of azepino[4,5-*b*]indole **6a** in butyl acetate assisted by BPS

To a V-type flask containing the starting material **5a** (0.2 mmol) solution in butyl acetate (1 mL) was added Amberlyst 15 (12 mg) and bisphenol S (BPS, 0.4 mmol). The tube reactor equipped with triangular magnetic stirrer was then sealed and heated at 80 °C for 5 hours and reaction monitored by TLC. After the completion of the reaction, reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature, and then subjected to an isolation with preparative TLC (20 cm × 20 cm) by using eluting solution (PE/EA = 5/1(v/v)). Final compound **6a** was obtained in 93% yield after removing eluent by reduced pressure distillation.

Typical procedure for the synthesis of **9a** in butyl acetate assisted by BPS

To a V-type flask containing solution of **7a** (0.3 mmol) and **8a** (0.33 mmol) in 1 mL butyl acetate was added Amberlyst 15 (8 mg) and bisphenol S (BPS, 0.4 mmol). The tube equipped with triangular magnetic stirrer was then sealed and heated at 80 °C for 2 hours and the reaction was monitored by TLC. After the completion of the reaction, reaction mixtures were allowed to cool to room temperature, and then subjected to an isolation with preparative TLC (20 cm × 20 cm) by using eluting solution (PE/EA = 5/1 (v/v)). Final compound **9a** was obtained in 91% after removing eluent by reduced pressure distillation.

Specific procedure for recycle experiment of BPS and Amberlyst 15

To a round flask containing solution of **1a** (10 mmol) and **2a** (11 mmol) in 40 mL butyl acetate was added Amberlyst 15 (400 mg) and bisphenol S (BPS, 15 mmol). The round flask equipped with magnetic stirrer was then sealed and heated at 80 °C and the reaction was monitored by TLC. After the completion of reaction (~ 5 h), magnetic stirrer was taken out and butyl acetate was removed via reduced pressure evaporation and collected for recycle (~ 36 mL, 95%). Then 20 ml *p*-xylene was added to dissolve the precipitated products and unreacted starting materials. Insoluble solid (Amberlyst 15 and BPS) was separated by suction filtration and washed with 30 ml *p*-xylene for recycle. *p*-Xylene was removed and collected via reduced pressure evaporation as well. Thus, the liquid components, butyl acetate and *p*-xylene, BPS and Amberlyst-15, can all be recovered with high efficiency. Finally, crude products were purified by flash column chromatograph using PE/EA (10/1) as eluting solution.

Example for the E-factor Calculation (for the synthesis of **3a and **4a** in a 10 mmol scale)**

$$\text{E-factor} = \{[1.311\text{g}_{[1a]} + 1.277\text{g}_{[2a]} + 35.28\text{g}_{[\text{BuOAc}]} + 3.75\text{g}_{[\text{BPS}]} + 0.4\text{g}_{[\text{Amberlyst}]} + 43.05\text{g}_{[\text{p-xylene}]}] - [31.75\text{g}_{[\text{90\% recovered BuOAc}]} + 43.05\text{g}_{[\text{recovered p-xylene}]} + 0.4\text{g}_{[\text{recovered Amberlyst}]} + 3.75\text{g}_{[\text{recovered BPS}]} + 4.35\text{g}_{[\text{products}]}\} / 4.35\text{g}_{[\text{products}]} = 0.40$$

Example for the PMI Calculation (for the synthesis of **3a and **4a** in a 10 mmol scale)**

$$\text{PMI} = (\text{total input mass} - \text{mass recovered materials}) / \text{product mass}$$

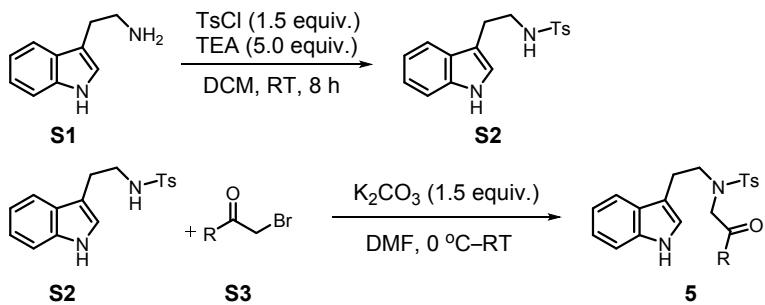
$$\text{PMI} = \{[2.58\text{g}_{[1a+2a]} + 39.03\text{g}_{[\text{BuOAc+BPS}]} + 0.4\text{g}_{[\text{Amberlyst}]} + 43.05\text{g}_{[\text{p-xylene}]}] - 78.95\text{g}_{[\text{total mass of recovered materials}]}\} / 4.35\text{g}_{[\text{product}]} = 1.40$$

***N*-substituted indoles (**1b-1k**) were prepared by following the reported procedure¹**

To a solution of indole (10 mmol, 1 equiv.) in dry THF (15 mL) at 0 °C was added NaH (60% in mineraloil, 15 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) under N₂ atmosphere. After the mixture was stirred 30 min, alkylhalide (12 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and allowed to stir until the reaction was completed (monitored by TLC). Then 10 mL saturated NH₄Cl solution was added to quenched. The product was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 20 mL) and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The organic phase was concentrated in vacuum to obtain the crude mixture which was further purified by column chromatography (EA/PE) giving target products.

Typical procedure for synthesis of starting materials (5a-m**)**

Starting materials **1a** -**1n** were synthesized strictly according to the reported methods.² Triethyl amine (5.0 equiv) was added into tryptamine (**S1**, 5 mmol) solution of DCM (50 mL) followed by tosyl chloride (1.5 equiv) at 0 °C. Then the reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 8 h and reaction monitored by TLC. After reaction completed, reaction mass portioned between water and dichloromethane. The combined organic layer was washed with ammonium chloride solution and dried on sodium sulphate and evaporated under vacuum to obtain crude. The crude products were purified through flash column chromatography (100-200 silica gel; EA/Hexane). Then the obtained compound (**S2**; 2 mmol) in DMF (10 ml) was added to K₂CO₃ (1.5 equiv) at 0 °C and stirred at same temperature for half hour. Then the respective 2-bromoacetophenones (**S3**, 1.2 equiv) were added and slowly heated to RT and stirred till the completion of starting materials (0.5 to 2 h). After reaction completed (monitored by TLC), reaction mass quenched with ice-cold water and extracted into EA. The combined organic layer was washed with ice-cold water and sat. NH₄Cl. Then it was dried and evaporated to give crude residue. The obtained crude material passed through flash column chromatography to give pure starting products in high yields (**5a-5m**).



Scheme S1. Synthesis of starting materials **5a-m**.

Measurements of Kamlet-Taft solvatochromic parameters

Solvent with different concentration of BPS in BuOAc were prepared firstly before measurement. Kamlet-Taft solvatochromic parameters of BPS solution were determined according to reported methods.³ 4-Nitroanisole (4OMe), 4-nitroaniline (4NA), N,N-diethyl-4-nitroaniline (DMNA), N,N-diethyl-4-nitroaniline (DENA) and Rechardt's Dye and Rechardt's Dye were employed as indicators in this work. λ_{\max} of BPS solvent in solvatochromic probes is measured at room temperature. Absorbance readings were collected by spectral scanning of BPS solvent in each indicator at 1 nm interval in triplicate. The concentration of each indicator in the mixed-solvent systems was kept as low as 0.5×10^{-4} mol/L. K-T parameters of the solutions were calculated using equation bellow.⁴⁻⁸

$$\text{Indicator 1: } \pi^* = (28.10 - \nu_{\max 1}) / 3.51$$

$$\text{Indicator 2: } \beta = 0.358 \times (31.10 - \nu_{\max 2}) - 1.125 \times \pi^*$$

$$\text{Indicator 3: } \alpha = (E_T(30) - 14.60\pi^* - 30.31) / 16.50 \quad \text{** MERGEFORMAT (1.1)}$$

$$E_T(30), \text{kcal g mol}^{-1} = 28.591.5 / \lambda_{\max 3}$$

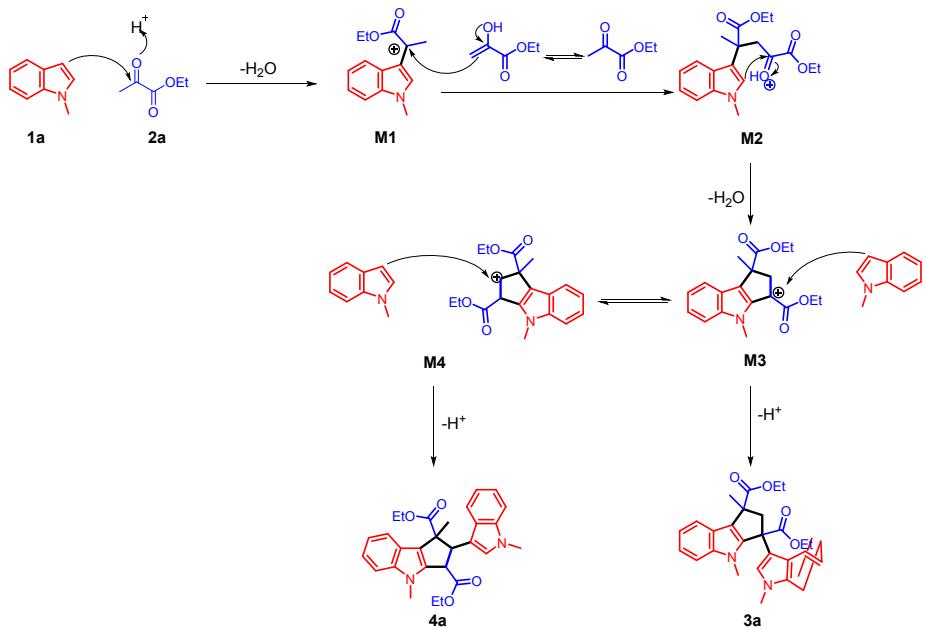
$$E_T^N = (E_T(30) - 30.7) / 32.4$$

The ν_{\max} is the wavenumber in units of kiloKaiser ($1\text{kK}=1000\text{ cm}^{-1}$) obtained from the UV-Vis spectrophotometer.

To determine α , and E_T^N , the high-solubility coumarin 504 dye was used to replace Rechardt's Dye because it almost couldn't dissolve in BuOAc containing BPS. The correlation between the maximum wavelength in kK of Reichardt's dye and coumarin 504 was achieved by the following relationship:⁹

$$\nu_{\max 3} = -7.48\nu_{504} + 188.78, R^2 = 0.91$$

** MERGEFORMAT (1.2)



Scheme S2 Plausible mechanism of **3a** and **4a**. Based on the experiment results and corresponding reference, the plausible mechanism of **3a** and **4a** was proposed. The initial event should be the activation of the ketone carbonyl group of ethyl pyruvate **2a** with the acid catalyst, then *N*-methyl indole as nucleophile attacked the activated carbonyl group, followed by dehydration to form a carbocation intermediate **M1**. A nucleophilic attack of **2a** was then occurred, and **M1** was converted to a carbocation **M2**. Afterward, an intramolecular nucleophilic attack happened and a five-membered ring cationic intermediate **M3** was generated. Target product **3a** was formed finally after attacking of **1a** to **M3** and deprotonation. However, at the same time, **M4** might also be generated via a rearrangement of **M3**. It allowed concomitant formation of the target product **4a**.

Characterization data of the obtained compounds

Spectral Characterization Data for 3a–3m

Diethyl

1,4-dimethyl-3-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (3a): yield = 47%, yellow solid, mp: 130–132 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.72 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.14 (m, 5H), 7.05 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.93 – 6.82 (m, 2H), 4.32 (dq, J = 10.9, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.25 – 4.10 (m, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.54 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (s, 3H), 3.38 (d, J = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.19 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 176.4, 173.5, 142.4, 142.1, 137.7, 126.4, 125.9, 122.7, 122.4, 122.0, 121.3, 120.2, 119.8, 119.6, 119.6, 115.2, 110.0, 109.3, 61.9, 61.0, 55.4, 53.6, 48.5, 32.9, 30.8, 25.5, 14.4, 14.3 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₈H₃₀N₂O₄Na, [M+Na]⁺ = 481.2100, found 481.2103.

Diethyl

4-ethyl-3-(1-ethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (3b): yield = 46%, brown gum-like, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.72 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.23 – 7.10 (m, 4H), 6.89 (dd, J = 13.7, 6.0 Hz, 2H), 4.36 (dq, J = 11.0, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.30 – 4.21 (m, 1H), 4.20 – 4.08 (m, 4H), 4.02 – 3.88 (m, 2H), 3.66 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 1.69 (s, 3H), 1.44 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.30 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.21 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 176.5, 173.6, 142.3, 140.9, 136.7, 126.2, 124.7, 123.0, 122.1, 121.8, 121.1, 120.6, 119.8, 119.4, 119.4, 115.2, 110.7, 109.4, 61.8,

61.0, 55.4, 53.8, 48.5, 41.1, 39.3, 25.4, 15.6, 14.4 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{30}H_{34}N_2O_4Na$, $[M+Na]^+$ = 509.2412, found 509.2416.

Diethyl 4-benzyl-3-(1-benzyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta-[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (3c): yield = 78%, purple solid, mp: 63–65 °C, 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.75 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.08 (m, 7H), 7.05 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 4H), 6.99 – 6.85 (m, 5H), 6.73 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 5.26 – 5.02 (m, 4H), 4.25 – 4.09 (m, 2H), 4.03 (dq, J = 14.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.89 – 3.78 (m, 1H), 3.74 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 1.76 (s, 3H), 1.22 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 25 °C) δ = 176.3, 173.3, 142.6, 141.9, 137.6, 137.4, 137.3, 128.8, 128.2, 127.6, 126.8, 126.6, 126.2, 126.1, 125.9, 123.1, 122.9, 122.2, 121.5, 120.5, 119.8, 119.8, 119.7, 115.8, 111.5, 109.9, 61.7, 61.0, 55.1, 53.8, 50.0, 48.6, 48.2, 25.7, 14.4, 14.0 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{40}H_{38}N_2O_4Na$, $[M+Na]^+$ = 633.2733, found 633.2729.

Diethyl 8-methoxy-3-(4-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (3e): yield = 45%, yellow solid, mp: 111–113 °C, 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.15 (q, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (s, 1H), 4.25 – 4.09 (m, 2H), 3.93 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 2.99 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (s, 3H), 1.19 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 25 °C) δ = 177.7, 173.9, 153.9, 153.7, 143.7, 141.5, 139.2, 125.5, 123.8, 122.8, 122.5, 118.3, 116.3, 114.0, 103.1, 102.8, 100.0, 99.2, 61.4, 60.3, 58.7, 55.2, 54.7, 54.5, 48.4, 33.0, 31.5, 26.1, 14.3, 14.0 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{30}H_{34}N_2O_6Na$, $[M+Na]^+$ = 541.2310, found 541.2315.

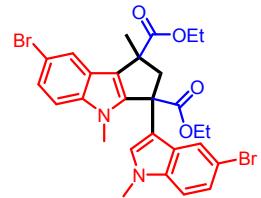
Diethyl 8-chloro-3-(4-chloro-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (3f): yield = 39%, yellow solid, mp: 181–183 °C, 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.20 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 7.06 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (ddd, J = 18.8, 10.5, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 4.25 (qd, J = 7.1, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 3.96 – 3.82 (m, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.67 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.26 (dd, J = 13.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 1.82 (s, 3H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 25 °C) δ = 176.7, 173.4, 157.9, 157.5, 155.4, 155.0, 144.9, 144.8, 142.9, 140.6, 140.4, 126.8, 122.8, 122.7, 122.3, 122.2, 121.5, 115.9, 115.0, 114.7, 112.6, 112.4, 106.0, 106.0, 105.8, 105.7, 105.4, 105.2, 104.9, 104.7, 62.0, 60.6, 57.3, 53.9, 48.7, 33.1, 31.4, 25.9, 14.2, 13.8 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{28}H_{28}Cl_2N_2O_4Na$, $[M+Na]^+$ = 549.1319, found 549.1324.

Diethyl 7-methoxy-3-(5-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (3g): yield = 47%, brown solid, mp: 109–111 °C, 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.23 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 6.92 – 6.75 (m, 3H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 4.32 (dt, J = 14.2, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.27 – 4.20 (m, 1H), 4.18 – 4.06 (m, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.52 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.42 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 7H), 1.69 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm.

^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 25 °C) δ = 176.4, 173.5, 154.1, 153.9, 143.0, 137.4, 132.9, 126.7, 126.2, 122.8, 121.9, 114.7, 112.4, 111.3, 110.5, 110.1, 101.9, 101.6, 61.8, 60.9, 56.1, 55.5, 53.4, 48.5, 33.1, 30.9, 25.7, 14.4, 14.3 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{30}H_{34}N_2O_6Na$, $[M+Na]^+$ = 541.2312, found 541.2315.

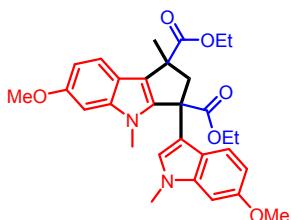
Diethyl 7-bromo-3-(5-bromo-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (3h): yield = 76%, pale yellow solid, mp: 154–156 °C, 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.23 – 7.09 (m, 3H), 6.92 – 6.75 (m, 3H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 4.32 (dt, J = 14.2, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.27 – 4.20 (m, 1H), 4.18 – 4.06 (m, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.52 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.42 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 7H), 1.69 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm.

^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 25 °C) δ = 176.4, 173.5, 154.1, 153.9, 143.0, 137.4, 132.9, 126.7, 126.2, 122.8, 121.9, 114.7, 112.4, 111.3, 110.5, 110.1, 101.9, 101.6, 61.8, 60.9, 56.1, 55.5, 53.4, 48.5, 33.1, 30.9, 25.7, 14.4, 14.3 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{30}H_{34}N_2O_6Na$, $[M+Na]^+$ = 541.2312, found 541.2315.



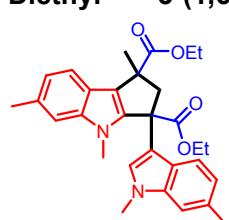
NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 7.15 (dd, J = 8.7, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 4.37 – 4.28 (m, 1H), 4.27 – 4.20 (m, 1H), 4.15 (dtd, J = 14.7, 7.1, 3.7 Hz, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.50 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (s, 3H), 3.39 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 175.9, 173.0, 143.2, 140.9, 136.3, 127.6, 127.3, 125.1, 124.3, 124.1, 122.5, 122.4, 122.0, 114.7, 113.1, 111.5, 111.1, 62.1, 61.2, 55.2, 53.4, 48.5, 33.1, 31.1, 25.5, 14.3, 14.3 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₈H₂₈Br₂N₂O₄Na, [M+Na]⁺ = 637.0310, found 637.0314.

Diethyl 6-methoxy-3-(6-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclo-



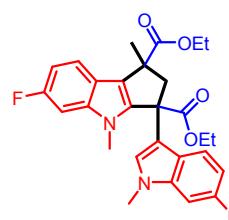
penta[b]-indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (3i): yield = 48%, brown solid, mp: 75–77 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.59 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.85 – 6.81 (m, 1H), 6.78 – 6.70 (m, 3H), 6.57 (dd, J = 8.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (dd, J = 10.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.23 – 4.08 (m, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.49 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 3.35 (d, J = 11.1 Hz, 1H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.21 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 176.4, 173.6, 156.5, 156.1, 142.8, 141.1, 138.4, 125.2, 122.3, 120.9, 120.3, 120.0, 117.1, 115.4, 109.4, 109.1, 94.1, 92.8, 61.8, 60.9, 55.9, 55.7, 55.4, 53.5, 48.5, 32.9, 30.8, 25.5, 14.4, 14.3 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₃₀H₃₄N₂O₆Na, [M+Na]⁺ = 541.2305, found 541.2315.

Diethyl 3-(1,6-dimethyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4,6-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-



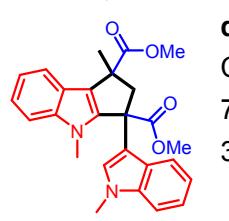
dicarboxylate (3j): yield = 46%, brown gum-like, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.60 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.73 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (dq, J = 10.9, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.25 – 4.09 (m, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.45 (q, J = 21.8 Hz, 2H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 3.38 (s, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.22 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 176.5, 173.6, 142.5, 141.8, 138.1, 131.8, 131.1, 125.7, 123.8, 122.2, 121.3, 121.2, 120.4, 119.9, 119.3, 115.1, 110.1, 109.3, 61.8, 60.9, 55.3, 53.6, 48.5, 32.8, 30.7, 25.4, 22.1, 21.9, 14.4, 14.3 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₃₀H₃₄N₂O₄Na, [M+Na]⁺ = 509.2412, found 509.2416.

Diethyl 6-fluoro-3-(6-fluoro-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta-[b]indole-1,3-



dicarboxylate (3k): yield = 47%, brown solid, mp: 150–152 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.62 (dd, J = 8.5, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 6.99 – 6.87 (m, 4H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 6.66 (td, J = 9.3, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (dq, J = 10.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.28 – 4.20 (m, 1H), 4.19 – 4.11 (m, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.44 (q, J = 16 Hz, 2H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 176.2, 173.3, 161.1 (d, J = 29.3 Hz), 158.7 (d, J = 28.3 Hz), 142.4 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 142.2 (d, J = 11.6 Hz), 137.8 (d, J = 11.8 Hz), 126.7 (d, J = 3.5 Hz), 122.5, 122.3, 121.0 (d, J = 10.0 Hz), 120.4 (d, J = 10.0 Hz), 119.1, 115.3, 108.4 (d, J = 19.1 Hz), 108.2 (d, J = 19.0 Hz), 96.6 (d, J = 26.1 Hz), 95.8 (d, J = 26.1 Hz), 62.0, 61.1, 55.3, 53.5, 48.5, 33.0, 30.9, 25.5, 14.3, 14.3 ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -120.30 (td, J = 9.6, 5.4 Hz), -120.79 (td, J = 9.7, 5.6 Hz) ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₈H₂₈F₂N₂O₄Na, [M+Na]⁺ = 517.1904, found 517.1915.

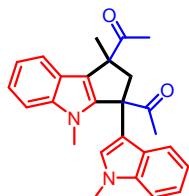
Dimethyl 1,4-dimethyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,2,3,4-tetra-hydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-



dicarboxylate (3l): yield = 43%, yellow solid, mp: 110–112 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.70 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.17 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.48 (q, J = 16 Hz, 2H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 1.67 (s, 3H)

ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 176.9, 174.1, 142.2, 142.1, 137.7, 126.4, 125.8, 122.6, 122.3, 122.1, 121.5, 120.0, 119.7, 119.7, 115.0, 110.0, 109.4, 55.5, 53.4, 52.9, 52.1, 48.5, 32.9, 30.7, 25.5 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{Na}$, $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ = 453.1785, found 453.1790.

1,1'-(1,4-dimethyl-3-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-diyl)bis-(ethan-1-one) (3m)



yield = 28%, yellow solid, mp: 191–193 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.38 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.22 (dt, J = 15.0, 4.2 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (dt, J = 14.6, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 3.23 (q, J = 13.5 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 211.9, 207.1, 144.1, 142.4, 137.9, 127.0, 126.0, 123.9, 122.9, 122.3, 121.9, 120.4, 119.9, 119.9, 119.1, 114.0, 110.4, 109.9, 60.6, 54.9, 54.6, 33.0, 31.3, 27.9, 26.3, 23.3 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na}$, $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ = 421.1890, found 421.1892.

Spectral Characterization Data for 4a–4m

Diethyl

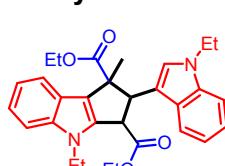
1,4-dimethyl-2-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (4a)



yield = 48%, brown solid, mp: 49–51 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.73 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, J = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 6.86 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.35 (dd, J = 10.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (dd, J = 10.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (td, J = 10.1, 4.8 Hz, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 2.77 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 1.74 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 1H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.22 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 176.1, 173.0, 143.4, 142.0, 137.8, 126.6, 125.7, 122.9, 122.0, 121.6, 121.2, 119.7, 119.5, 119.4, 115.2, 110.1, 109.5, 61.6, 60.9, 56.9, 54.0, 48.5, 33.0, 30.6, 25.2, 14.3 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{Na}$, $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ = 481.2100, found 481.2103.

Diethyl

4-ethyl-2-(1-ethyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (4b)



yield = 46%, brown solid, mp: 99–101 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.76 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.23 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 2H), 4.36 (dd, J = 10.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (dd, J = 10.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.19 – 4.06 (m, 5H), 3.86 (dt, J = 11.6, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.88 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 1.76 (s, 3H), 1.45 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.30 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 176.1, 173.1, 143.2, 140.9, 136.7, 126.1, 124.9, 123.3, 121.8, 121.2, 121.0, 120.1, 119.6, 119.5, 119.4, 115.2, 110.8, 109.6, 61.6, 60.9, 56.7, 54.1, 48.5, 41.1, 39.3, 25.2, 15.6, 14.4, 14.4, 14.2 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{Na}$, $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ = 509.2412, found 509.2416.

Diethyl

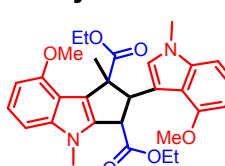
4-benzyl-2-(1-benzyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (4c)



yield = 18%, brown solid, mp: 56–58 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.77 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (ddd, J = 24.0, 11.2, 4.4 Hz, 6H), 7.09 – 6.99 (m, 5H), 6.99 – 6.88 (m, 5H), 6.74 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 5.21 (q, J = 16.1 Hz, 2H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 4.19 – 4.09 (m, 3H), 4.04 (ddd, J = 14.3, 9.0, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (dq, J = 10.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (d, J = 13.8 Hz, 1H), 1.81 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.00 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 1176.1, 172.9, 143.6, 141.8, 137.5, 137.4, 128.9, 128.2, 127.7, 126.8, 126.7, 126.4, 126.2, 126.1, 123.4, 122.2, 122.2, 121.4, 120.1, 119.9, 119.8, 119.6, 115.9, 111.7, 110.2, 61.5, 60.9, 56.3, 54.1, 50.1, 48.7, 48.3, 25.2, 14.4, 14.1 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{38}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{Na}$, $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ = 633.2733, found 633.2729.

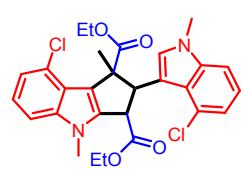
Diethyl

8-methoxy-2-(4-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclo-



penta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (4e): yield = 46%, yellow solid, mp: 62–64 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.15 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 4.35 – 4.26 (m, 1H), 4.23 – 4.07 (m, 4H), 3.86 (s, 6H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.64 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.20 (dt, J = 14.1, 7.1 Hz, 6H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 177.6, 173.6, 154.0, 153.7, 143.5, 141.4, 139.4, 125.2, 123.0, 122.5, 122.5, 116.3, 114.2, 113.9, 103.3, 102.8, 99.8, 99.4, 61.4, 60.6, 60.6, 58.1, 55.2, 54.8, 48.4, 33.0, 31.4, 26.8, 14.5, 14.3 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₃₀H₃₄N₂O₆Na, [M+Na]⁺= 541.2310, found 541.2315.

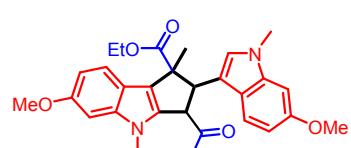
Diethyl 8-chloro-2-(4-chloro-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]-indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (4f): yield = 33%, yellow solid, mp: 149–151 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.21 – 7.03 (m, 4H), 6.82 (dd, J = 9.9, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (dd, J = 10.8, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (s, 1H), 4.30 – 4.04 (m, 5H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.71 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 1.62 (s, 3H), 1.23 (td, J = 7.1, 2.2 Hz, 6H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 176.57, 173.0, 157.7, 157.5, 155.3, 155.0, 144.9, 144.8, 140.6, 140.5, 126.6, 122.97, 122.9, 122.1, 122.0, 114.7, 112.6, 112.4, 106.0, 105.8, 105.2, 105.1, 105.0, 104.9, 61.9, 60.9, 57.7, 54.0, 48.7, 33.3, 31.3, 26.6, 14.3, 14.2 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₈H₂₈Cl₂N₂O₄Na, [M+Na]⁺= 549.1319, found 549.1324.



Diethyl 7-methoxy-2-(5-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (4g): yield = 43%, brown solid, mp: 122–124 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.15 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.2 Hz, 3H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.86 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 4.36 (dq, J = 10.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.17 – 4.04 (m, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 2.73 (d, J = 13.8 Hz, 1H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.30 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 176.2, 173.0, 154.1, 153.9, 144.0, 137.3, 133.0, 126.8, 126.0, 122.9, 121.2, 114.9, 112.5, 111.2, 110.6, 110.2, 101.6, 100.7, 61.6, 60.9, 57.0, 56.1, 55.3, 53.7, 48.3, 33.1, 30.7, 24.95, 14.4 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₃₀H₃₄N₂O₆Na, [M+Na]⁺= 541.2312, found 541.2315.

Diethyl 7-bromo-2-(5-bromo-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (4h): yield = 13%, yellow solid, mp: 168–170 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.34 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 4.32 (dq, J = 10.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.25 – 4.17 (m, 1H), 4.17 – 4.05 (m, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.42 (s, 3H), 2.72 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 1.68 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 3H), 1.25 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 175.7, 172.5, 171.3, 143.9, 140.8, 136.5, 127.8, 127.2, 125.1, 124.3, 122.3, 122.2, 121.4, 114.9, 113.2, 113.1, 111.6, 111.2, 61.9, 61.2, 56.3, 53.7, 48.6, 33.2, 31.0, 25.5, 14.3, 14.3 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₈H₂₈Br₂N₂O₄Na, [M+Na]⁺= 637.0310, found 637.0314.

Diethyl 6-methoxy-2-(6-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (4i): yield = 44%, yellow solid, mp: 111–113 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.58 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.88 – 6.80 (m, 2H), 6.74 (dd, J = 12.0, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (dq, J = 10.9, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.24 – 4.15 (m, 1H), 4.08 (dt, J = 21.3, 10.5 Hz, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 2.71 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.22 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 176.2, 173.1, 156.5, 156.0, 142.7, 142.1, 138.6, 125.4, 121.5, 120.5, 120.1, 120.0,



117.3, 115.5, 109.4, 109.0, 94.2, 93.0, 61.5, 60.9, 56.9, 55.9, 55.7, 53.9, 48.5, 32.9, 30.7, 25.3, 14.3 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{30}H_{34}N_2O_6Na$, [M+Na]⁺ = 541.2305, found 541.2315.

Diethyl 2-(1,6-dimethyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4,6-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (4j): yield = 41%, yellow solid, mp: 60–62 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.61 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (s, 2H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.68 (dd, J = 19.4, 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.34 (dq, J = 10.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.23 – 4.15 (m, 1H), 4.13 – 4.02 (m, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 2.74 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.22 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 176.2, 173.1, 142.8, 142.4, 138.2, 131.9, 131.0, 126.0, 123.6, 121.4, 121.1, 120.7, 119.4, 119.0, 115.2, 110.2, 109.4, 61.5, 60.8, 56.9, 54.0, 48.4, 32.8, 30.6, 25.2, 22.1, 21.9, 14.3 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{30}H_{34}N_2O_4Na$, [M+Na]⁺ = 509.2412, found 509.2416.

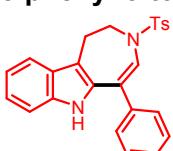
Diethyl 6-fluoro-2-(6-fluoro-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,4-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta-[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (4k): yield = 43%, yellow solid, mp: 146–148 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.61 (dd, J = 8.5, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 6.99 – 6.87 (m, 4H), 6.63 (dd, J = 6.3, 4.0 Hz, 2H), 4.35 (dq, J = 10.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.27 – 4.17 (m, 1H), 4.11 (dd, J = 13.8, 6.8 Hz, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 2.71 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.21 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 175.7, 172.6, 160.9 (d, J = 31.2 Hz), 158.6 (d, J = 29.5 Hz), 143.2, 141.9 (d, J = 11.5 Hz), 137.8 (d, J = 11.8 Hz), 126.8 (d, J = 3.5 Hz), 122.1, 121.7, 120.3 (d, J = 10.0 Hz), 120.0 (d, J = 10.0 Hz), 119.2, 115.3, 108.4 (d, J = 24.4 Hz), 108.1 (d, J = 24.3 Hz), 96.6 (d, J = 26.2 Hz), 95.9 (d, J = 26.0 Hz), 61.6, 60.9, 56.7, 53.8, 48.4, 33.0, 30.7, 25.1, 14.2 ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -120.2 (dd, J = 15.6, 8.9 Hz), -120.9 (td, J = 9.8, 5.5 Hz) ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{28}H_{28}F_2N_2O_4Na$, [M+Na]⁺ = 517.1904, found 517.1915.

Dimethyl 1,4-dimethyl-2-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (4l): yield = 39%, yellow solid, mp: 181–183 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.70 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, 2H), 7.24 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 6.87 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 2.82 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 1.75 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 176.7, 173.5, 143.4, 141.9, 137.8, 126.7, 125.7, 122.8, 122.1, 121.5, 121.3, 119.8, 119.6, 119.6, 119.3, 114.7, 110.2, 109.5, 57.3, 54.0, 52.7, 52.2, 48.3, 33.0, 30.5, 24.8 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{26}H_{26}N_2O_4Na$, [M+Na]⁺ = 453.1785, found 453.1790.

Diethyl 4-benzyl-2-(1-benzyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocyclopenta[b]indole-1,3-dicarboxylate (4m): yield = 38%, brown gum-like, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.66 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (dt, J = 13.7, 7.2 Hz, 3H), 6.89 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.86 – 6.78 (m, 2H), 3.90 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 2.84 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.72 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 210.9, 207.8, 145.0, 142.1, 137.7, 126.6, 126.0, 123.0, 122.2, 121.3, 121.0, 120.0, 119.8, 119.8, 118.8, 114.23, 110.5, 109.7, 60.1, 55.2, 54.9, 33.0, 30.6, 28.5, 26.8, 24.2 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{26}H_{26}N_2O_2Na$, [M+Na]⁺ = 421.1890, found 421.1892.

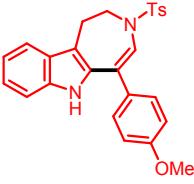
Spectral Characterization Data for 6a–6m

5-phenyl-3-tosyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroazepino[4,5-b]indole (6a): yield = 93%, yellow solid, mp: 190–192 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.77 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.53



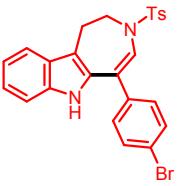
– 7.44 (m, 6H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.20 – 7.06 (m, 3H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 3.95 – 3.88 (m, 2H), 4.02 – 3.76 (m, 2H), 3.11 – 3.04 (m, 2H), 3.26 – 2.90 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 144.2, 138.7, 136.3, 134.8, 130.8, 130.1, 129.9, 129.1, 128.5, 128.1, 127.1, 126.7, 122.5, 119.8, 118.3, 118.1, 113.8, 110.8, 46.5, 26.6, 21.7 ppm.

5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-tosyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroazepino[4,5-b] indole (6b)²: yield = 91%, yellow solid,



mp: 184–186 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.76 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.16 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 7.01 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 3.90 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 5H), 3.11 – 3.02 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 159.5, 144.1, 136.3, 134.8, 131.1, 131.0, 130.9, 130.1, 128.6, 127.1, 126.4, 122.4, 119.7, 118.1, 118.0, 114.4, 113.6, 110.8, 55.5, 46.5, 26.6, 21.6 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{SNa}$, [M+Na]⁺ = 467.1402, found 467.1405.

5-(4-bromophenyl)-3-tosyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroazepino[4,5-b]indole (6c): yield = 82%, yellow solid, mp:



172–174 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.73 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (s, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.18 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dt, J = 20.5, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 3.90 – 3.83 (m, 2H), 3.07 – 3.00 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 144.3, 137.7, 136.2, 134.9, 132.3, 131.6, 130.3, 130.2, 128.5, 127.1, 126.8, 122.8, 122.3, 120.0, 118.1, 116.9, 114.2, 110.8, 46.5, 26.6, 21.7 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{21}\text{BrN}_2\text{O}_2\text{SNa}$, [M+Na]⁺ = 515.0400, found 515.0405.

4-(3-tosyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroazepino[4,5-b]indol-5-yl)benzonitrile (6d): yield = 86%, yellow solid, mp:



212–214 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.75 (dd, J = 12.5, 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (s, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.17 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 3.91 – 3.85 (m, 2H), 3.07 – 3.01 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 144.9, 144.2, 136.2, 135.4, 133.3, 130.8, 130.6, 129.9, 128.7, 128.0, 127.5, 123.3, 120.5, 119.0, 118.5, 116.5, 115.2, 112.3, 111.2, 47.0, 26.8, 22.1 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}$, [M+H]⁺ = 440.1430, found 440.1432.

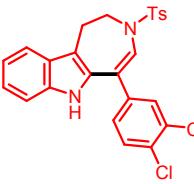
3-tosyl-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl) -1,2,3,6 -tetrahy-droazepino-[4,5-b]indole (6e):

yield = 76%, yellow solid, mp: 184–186 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.75 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.16 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 3.93 – 3.85 (m, 2H), 3.09 – 3.02 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 144.4, 142.6, 136.0, 135.0, 130.5, 130.2, 130.0, 128.5, 127.3, 127.2, 126.17 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 125.6, 122.9, 120.0, 118.1, 116.7, 114.5, 110.9, 46.6, 26.5, 21.7 ppm. ^{19}F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = -62.5 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{21}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{SNa}$, [M+Na]⁺ = 505.1165, found 505.1174.

5- (3-chlorophenyl) -3-tosyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroazepino [4,5-b] indole (6f): yield =

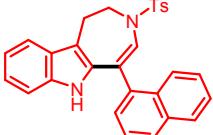
95%, yellow solid, mp: 176–178 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.75 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.47 – 7.39 (m, 4H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 3H), 7.20 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (ddd, J = 14.8, 13.9, 6.9 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 3.91 – 3.84 (m, 2H), 3.08 – 3.01 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 144.3, 140.6, 136.1, 134.9, 130.4, 130.2, 130.0, 128.5, 128.4, 128.1, 127.1, 127.1, 122.7, 119.9, 118.1, 116.8, 114.2, 110.9, 46.5, 26.5, 21.7 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{22}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}$, [M+H]⁺ = 449.1088, found 449.1090.

5-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-3-tosyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroazepino[4,5-b]indole (6g)²: yield = 87%, yellow solid,

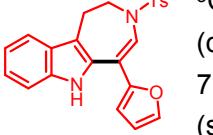


mp: 210–212 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.75 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.58 – 7.51 (m, 3H), 7.46 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.17 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 3.90 – 3.83 (m, 2H), 3.07 – 3.00 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 144.4, 138.7, 135.9, 134.9, 133.1, 132.4, 131.6, 131.0, 130.1, 129.8, 129.2, 128.4, 127.1, 122.8, 119.9, 118.0, 115.6, 114.4, 110.8, 46.5, 26.4, 21.6 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₅H₂₁Cl₂N₂O₂S, [M+H]⁺= 483.0698, found 483.0701.

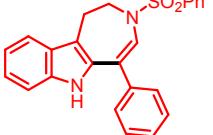
5-(naphthalen-1-yl)-3-tosyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroazepino[4,5-b]indole (6h)²: yield = 78%, yellow solid,

 mp: 203–205 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.93 (dt, J = 9.3, 7.1 Hz, 4H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.61 – 7.52 (m, 4H), 7.48 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.16 – 7.06 (m, 3H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 3.93 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 2H), 3.13 – 3.06 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 144.2, 136.3, 136.1, 134.9, 133.7, 133.0, 130.9, 130.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.9, 127.8, 127.2, 127.0, 126.8, 126.6, 122.6, 119.8, 118.3, 118.1, 114.0, 110.8, 46.6, 26.7, 21.7 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₉H₂₅N₂O₂S, [M+H]⁺= 465.1634, found 465.1636.

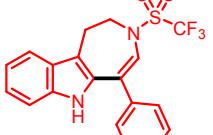
5-(furan-2-yl)-3-tosyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroazepino[4,5-b]indole (6i): yield = 86%, black solid, mp: 66–68

 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 8.53 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, J = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.16 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.55 – 6.48 (m, 2H), 3.90 – 3.84 (m, 2H), 3.02 – 2.95 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 153.0, 144.4, 142.4, 136.0, 135.0, 130.2, 129.3, 128.2, 127.4, 127.2, 122.6, 119.8, 118.0, 114.0, 111.5, 110.9, 108.3, 107.3, 46.6, 26.3, 21.7 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₃H₁₉N₂O₃S, [M-H]⁻= 403.1122, found 403.1117.

5-phenyl-3-(phenylsulfonyl)-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroazepino[4,5-b]indole (6j)²: yield = 85%, yellow solid,

 mp: 205–207 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.85 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.52 – 7.40 (m, 8H), 7.15 – 7.02 (m, 3H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 3.92 – 3.84 (m, 2H), 3.09 – 3.00 (m, 2H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 139.2, 138.6, 134.8, 133.2, 130.6, 129.8, 129.5, 129.1, 128.5, 128.2, 127.0, 126.5, 122.6, 119.8, 118.6, 118.1, 113.8, 110.8, 46.6, 26.6 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₄H₂₁N₂O₂S, [M+H]⁺= 401.1322, found 401.1323.

5-phenyl-3-((trifluoromethyl)sulfonyl)-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroaze-pino[4,5-b]indole

 (**6k**): yield = 71%, yellow solid, mp: 180–182 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.62 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.44 (dd, J = 7.1, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 7.23 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.16 – 7.10 (m, 1H), 6.54 (s, 1H), 4.15 – 4.08 (m, 2H), 3.41 – 3.34 (m, 2H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 136.19 (d, J = 224.8 Hz), 129.7, 129.4, 128.9, 128.6, 124.3, 124.2, 123.6, 120.2, 118.7, 114.7, 111.1, 48.4, 27.6 ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -75.1 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₉H₁₄F₃N₂O₂S, [M-H]⁻= 391.0735, found 391.0728.

9-methoxy-5-phenyl-3-tosyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroazepino[4,5-b]indole (6l): yield = 92%, yellow solid, mp:

 170–172 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.77 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.54 – 7.42 (m, 6H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (s, 2H), 6.80 (dd, J = 8.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (d, J = 3.8 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.05 (s, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 154.2, 144.1, 138.7, 136.2, 131.5, 130.1, 130.0, 129.8, 129.1, 128.8, 128.1, 127.0, 126.4, 118.4, 113.5, 112.8, 111.6, 99.6, 55.9, 46.5, 26.7, 21.6 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₆H₂₃N₂O₃S, [M-H]⁻= 443.1436, found 443.1430.

5-Phenyl-3-tosyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydroazepino[4,5-b]indole-2-carboxylate (6m)²: yield = 76%, yellow solid, mp: 88–90 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.77 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.51 – 7.42 (m, 6H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (ddt, J = 12.1, 6.7, 6.1 Hz, 3H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 5.60 (t, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (dd, J = 15.9, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 2.81 (dd, J = 15.9, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 168.1, 144.5, 138.8, 135.6, 135.2, 131.3, 130.0, 129.8, 129.0, 128.5, 128.1, 127.4, 124.5, 122.4, 119.8, 117.8, 116.6, 110.8, 110.7, 57.7, 52.2, 28.3, 21.7 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₇H₂₃N₂O₄S, [M-H]⁻ = 471.1385, found 471.1379.

Spectral Characterization Data for 9a–9g

3-(1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-2-methyl-1H-indole (9a)¹⁰: yield = 91%, yellow solid, mp: 27–29 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 7.06 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.37 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.74 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 157.5, 138.4, 135.3, 130.5, 128.3, 127.8, 120.7, 119.4, 119.0, 116.3, 113.5, 110.2, 55.4, 34.6, 20.8, 12.3 ppm.

5-Fluoro-3-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-2-methyl-1H-indole (9b): yield = 87%, yellow solid, mp: 26–28 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (dd, J = 8.7, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (dd, J = 10.3, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (dd, J = 8.1, 5.5 Hz, 3H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.70 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 158.6, 157.6, 156.3, 137.9, 132.2 (d, J = 72.9 Hz), 128.2, 128.1 (d, J = 9.7 Hz), 116.7 (d, J = 4.5 Hz), 113.6, 110.6 (d, J = 9.8 Hz), 108.7 (d, J = 26.1 Hz), 104.4 (d, J = 23.8 Hz), 55.3, 34.6, 20.6, 12.3 ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -125.1 (td, J = 9.8, 4.5 Hz) ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₈H₁₇FNO, [M-H]⁻ = 282.1299, found 282.1294.

3-(1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-1H-indole (9c)¹⁰: yield = 88%, yellow solid, mp: 136–138 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.40 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.36 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 1.70 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 157.8, 139.2, 136.8, 128.4, 127.0, 122.0, 121.9, 121.1, 119.9, 119.3, 113.8, 111.1, 55.3, 36.2, 22.7 ppm.

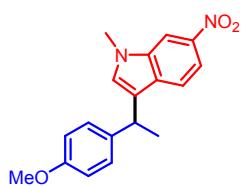
3-(1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-6-nitro-1H-indole (9d): yield = 95%, yellow solid, mp: 98–100 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 8.87 (s, 1H), 8.32 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (dd, J = 8.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, J = 5.3, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.33 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 1.69 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 158.0, 143.1, 138.3, 135.2, 131.7, 128.3, 127.3, 122.7, 119.6, 114.7, 114.0, 108.3, 55.3, 36.0, 22.5 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₇H₁₅N₂O₃, [M-H]⁻ = 295.1087, found 295.1083.

3-(1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-1-methyl-1H-indole (9e)¹⁰: yield = 89%, yellow gum-like, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.36 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.12 (m, 4H), 6.98 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.83 – 6.77 (m, 3H), 4.31 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 1.65 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 157.8, 139.3, 137.5, 128.4, 127.3, 126.0, 121.6, 120.5, 119.9, 118.7, 113.8, 109.2, 55.3, 36.2, 32.8, 22.8 ppm.

6-Fluoro-3-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-1-methyl-1H-indole (9f): yield = 83%, brown gum-like, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ= 7.19 (ddd, J = 9.7, 7.1, 1.5 Hz, 3H), 6.90 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 1H), 6.83 – 6.77 (m, 3H), 4.31 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 1.65 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 157.8, 139.3, 137.5, 128.4, 127.3, 126.0, 121.6, 120.5, 119.9, 118.7, 113.8, 109.2, 55.3, 36.2, 32.8, 22.8 ppm.

1H), 6.79 (dd, J = 6.0, 4.2 Hz, 3H), 6.73 (t, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (q, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 1.63 (dd, J = 7.1, 1.5 Hz, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 161.1, 158.8, 157.9, 139.0, 137.5 (d, J = 12.0 Hz), 128.4, 126.2 (d, J = 3.6 Hz), 123.9, 120.7 (d, J = 10.1 Hz), 120.6, 113.6, 107.4 (d, J = 24.4 Hz), 95.5 (d, J = 26.0 Hz), 55.3, 36.1, 32.8, 22.7 ppm. ^{19}F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = -121.1 -- 121.2 (m) ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{FNO}$, $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ = 284.1448, found 284.1450.

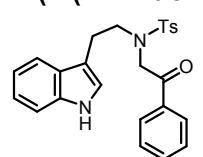
3-(1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-1-methyl-1*H*-indole (9g**):** yield = 96%, yellow solid, mp: 137–139 °C, ^1H



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 8.23 (s, 1H), 7.85 (dd, J = 8.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.32 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 1.68 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 158.0, 142.8, 138.2, 135.9, 131.8, 131.8, 128.2, 121.6, 119.7, 114.1, 113.9, 106.3, 55.3, 35.9, 33.1, 22.5 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$, $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ = 311.1392, found 311.1393.

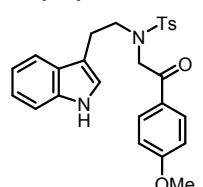
Spectral Characterization Data for **5a–5m**

N-(2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)ethyl)-4-methyl-N-(2-oxo-2-phenylethyl)benzenesulfonamide (5a**):** yield = 89%,

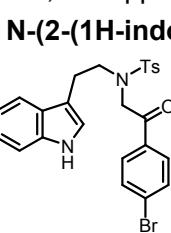


white solid, mp: 138–140 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.15 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.71 (s, 2H), 3.61 – 3.51 (m, 2H), 3.05 – 2.95 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 194.4, 143.5, 136.9, 136.3, 135.0, 133.8, 129.7, 128.9, 128.1, 127.7, 127.3, 122.3, 122.2, 119.6, 118.8, 112.6, 111.3, 53.7, 48.9, 24.9, 21.7 ppm.

N-(2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)ethyl)-N-(2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (5b**):** yield = 91%, yellow solid, mp: 175–177 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ =

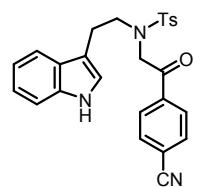


7.96 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (dd, J = 18.5, 8.6 Hz, 4H), 7.16 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.65 (s, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.60 – 3.50 (m, 2H), 3.04 – 2.95 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 192.8, 164.4, 143.7, 136.8, 136.3, 130.6, 129.7, 128.1, 127.7, 127.3, 122.2, 119.6, 118.8, 114.1, 112.7, 111.2, 55.7, 53.5, 49.0, 24.9, 21.7 ppm.



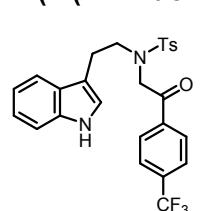
N-(2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)ethyl)-N-(2-(4-bromophenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (5c**):** white solid, mp: 205–207 °C, The crude was taken into next without any purification and the product was confirmed by HRMS. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{24}\text{BrN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$, $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ = 511.0687, found 511.0691.

N-(2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)ethyl)-N-(2-(4-cyanophenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (5d**):** The



crude was taken into next without any purification and the product was confirmed by HRMS. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{S}$, $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ = 458.1536, found 458.1538.

N-(2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)ethyl)-4-methyl-N-(2-oxo-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide (5e**):** yield = 76%, white solid, mp: 217–219 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6 , 25 °C) δ = 10.84 (s, 1H), 8.17 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.92 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d, J =



8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.01 (s, 2H), 3.41 (dd, J = 9.5, 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 2.90 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 194.3, 161.3, 143.1, 136.9, 136.2, 129.7, 128.9, 127.0, 126.9, 125.7, 122.9, 121.0, 118.3, 118.0, 111.4, 110.6, 54.2, 49.3, 24.2, 21.0 ppm. ^{19}F NMR (377 MHz, DMSO) δ = -61.6 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S Na}$, [M+Na] $^+$ = 523.1273, found 523.1279.

N-(2-(1H-indol-3-yl)ethyl)-N-(2-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (5f):

yield = 95%, white solid, mp: 177–179 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 7.66 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.27 (m, 4H), 7.16 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (s, 2H), 3.61 – 3.53 (m, 2H), 3.01 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 193.3, 143.7, 136.7, 136.4, 136.3, 135.2, 133.7, 130.2, 129.7, 128.2, 127.7, 127.2, 126.2, 122.4, 122.3, 119.7, 118.7, 112.6, 111.3, 53.8, 48.8, 25.0, 21.7 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{23}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S Na}$, [M+Na] $^+$ = 489.1013, found 489.1016.

N-(2-(1H-indol-3-yl)ethyl)-N-(2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (5g):

yield = 87%, yellow solid, mp: 202–204 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.16 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (s, 2H), 3.55 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 3.00 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 192.58, 143.79, 138.39, 136.40, 136.27, 133.54, 130.88, 130.09, 129.80, 127.67, 127.23, 127.13, 126.04, 122.87, 122.40, 119.77, 118.70, 112.49, 111.30, 54.0, 48.9, 25.0, 21.7 ppm.

N-(2-(1H-indol-3-yl)ethyl)-4-methyl-N-(2-(naphthalen-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (5h):

The crude was taken into next without any purification and the product was confirmed by HRMS. HRMS-ESI (m/z): calcd for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$, [M+H] $^+$ = 483.1740, found 483.1742.

N-(2-(1H-indol-3-yl)ethyl)-N-(2-(furan-2-yl)-2-oxoethyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (5i): yield = 86%, white solid, mp: 106–108 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 7.21 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (dd, J = 3.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 3.59 – 3.52 (m, 2H), 3.06 – 2.99 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 183.6, 151.0, 147.0, 143.5, 136.8, 136.3, 129.7, 127.6, 127.3, 122.3, 122.2, 119.6, 118.8, 118.4, 112.7, 112.6, 112.5, 111.3, 53.1, 49.2, 24.9, 21.7 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$, [M+H] $^+$ = 423.1375, found 423.1378.

N-(2-(1H-indol-3-yl)ethyl)-N-(2-oxo-2-phenylethyl)benzene-sulfonamide (5j): yield = 85%, yellow

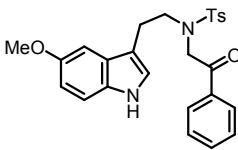
solid, mp: 142–144 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, TMS, 25 °C) δ = 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.87 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (dd, J = 8.1, 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (dd, J = 12.7, 4.9 Hz, 3H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.72 (s, 2H), 3.64 – 3.53 (m, 2H), 3.06 – 2.95 (m, 2H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, 25 °C) δ = 194.2, 139.9, 136.3, 134.9, 133.9, 132.8, 129.1, 128.9, 128.1, 127.5, 127.2, 122.3, 122.2, 119.6, 118.7, 112.4, 111.3, 53.6, 48.9, 24.9 ppm.

N-(2-(1H-indol-3-yl)ethyl)-1,1,1-trifluoro-N-(2-oxo-2-phenyl-ethyl)methanesulfonamide (5k): yield =

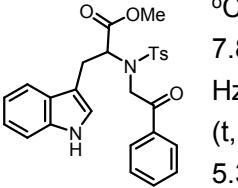
14

71%, yellow solid, mp: 117–119 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (s, 2H), 3.86 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 2H), 3.12 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 192.0, 134.3, 131.7 (d, J = 939 Hz), 129.1, 127.9, 122.6, 122.4, 112.0, 118.5, 111.6, 111.5, 53.9, 50.1, 25.2 ppm. ^{19}F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = -75.84 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{17}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{SNa}$, $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ = 433.0808, found 433.0808.

N-(2-(5-methoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl)ethyl)-4-methyl-N-(2-oxo-2-phenylethyl)benzenesulfonamide (5l):

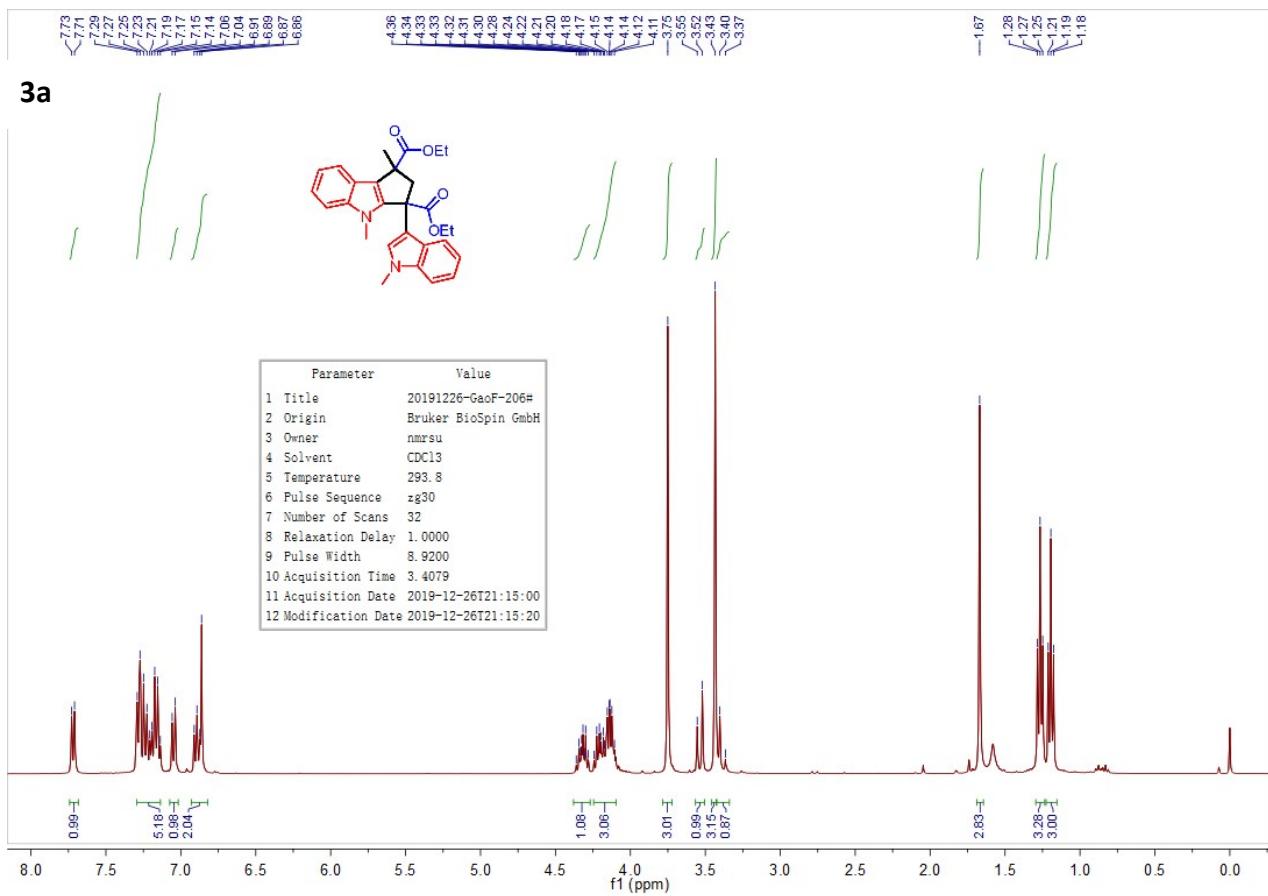
 yield = 92%, yellow solid, mp: 127–129 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.81 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.70 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.59 – 3.51 (m, 2H), 3.04 – 2.92 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 194.4, 154.2, 143.5, 136.8, 135.0, 133.9, 131.4, 129.7, 128.9, 128.1, 127.6, 127.6, 123.0, 112.6, 112.3, 112.1, 100.4, 55.9, 53.7, 48.8, 25.1, 21.7 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{SNa}$, $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ = 485.1509, found 485.1511.

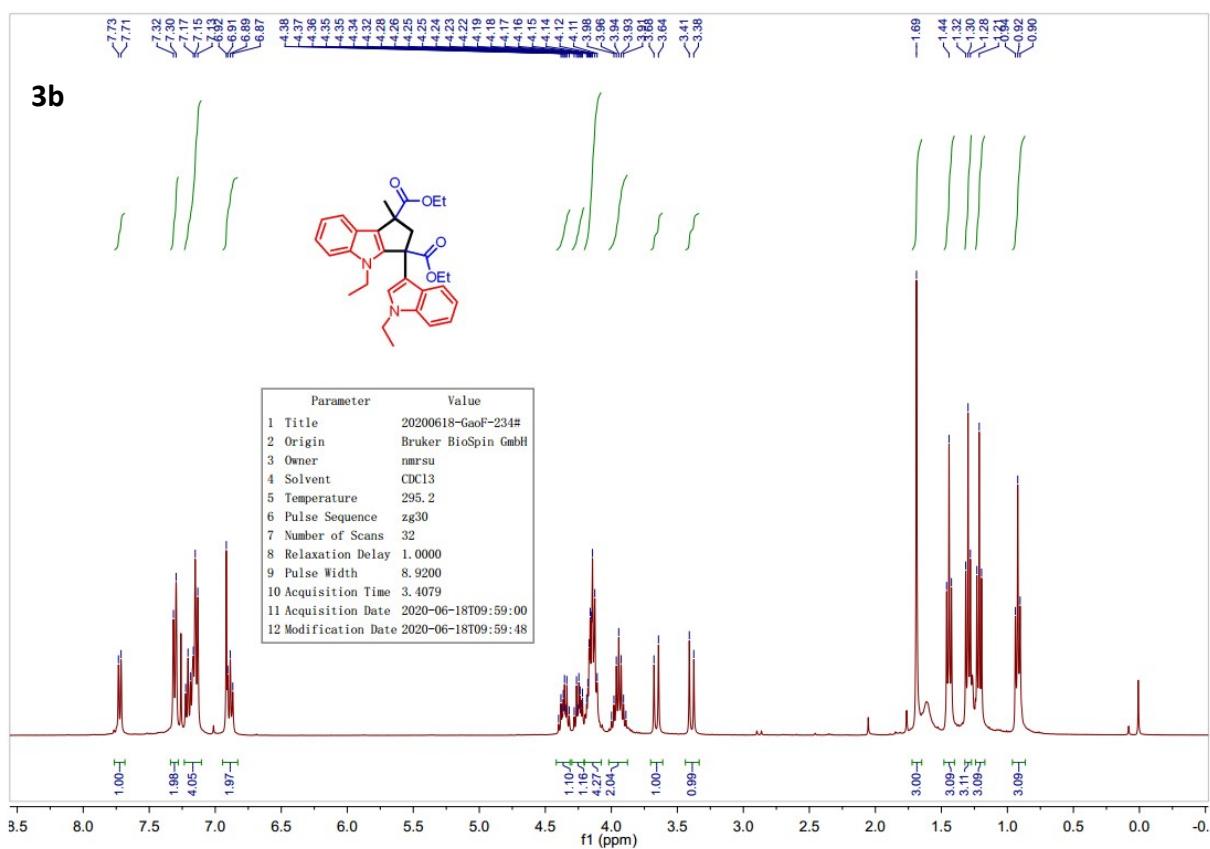
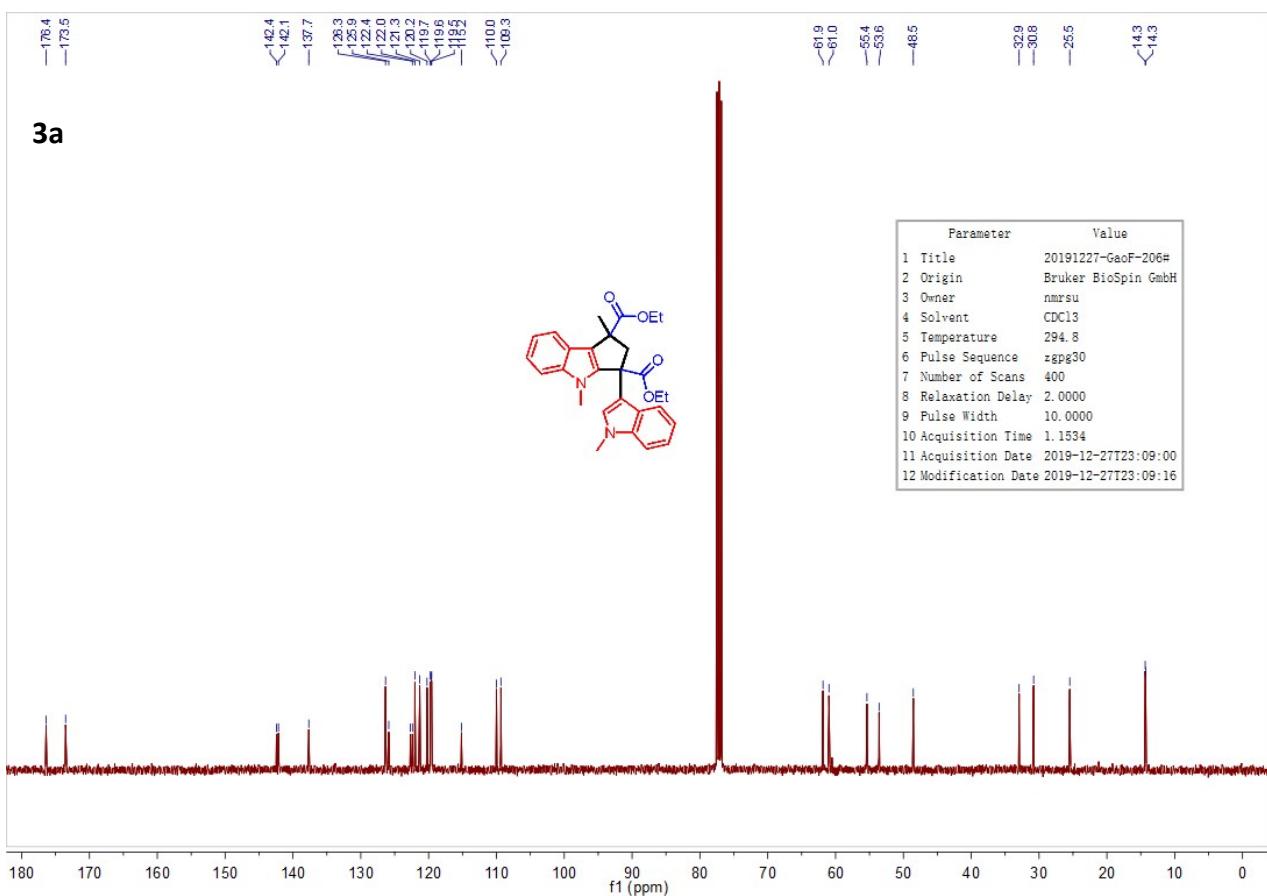
Methyl N^α -(2-oxo-2-phenylethyl)- N^α -tosyltryptophanate (5m): yield = 76%, brown solid, mp: 64–66

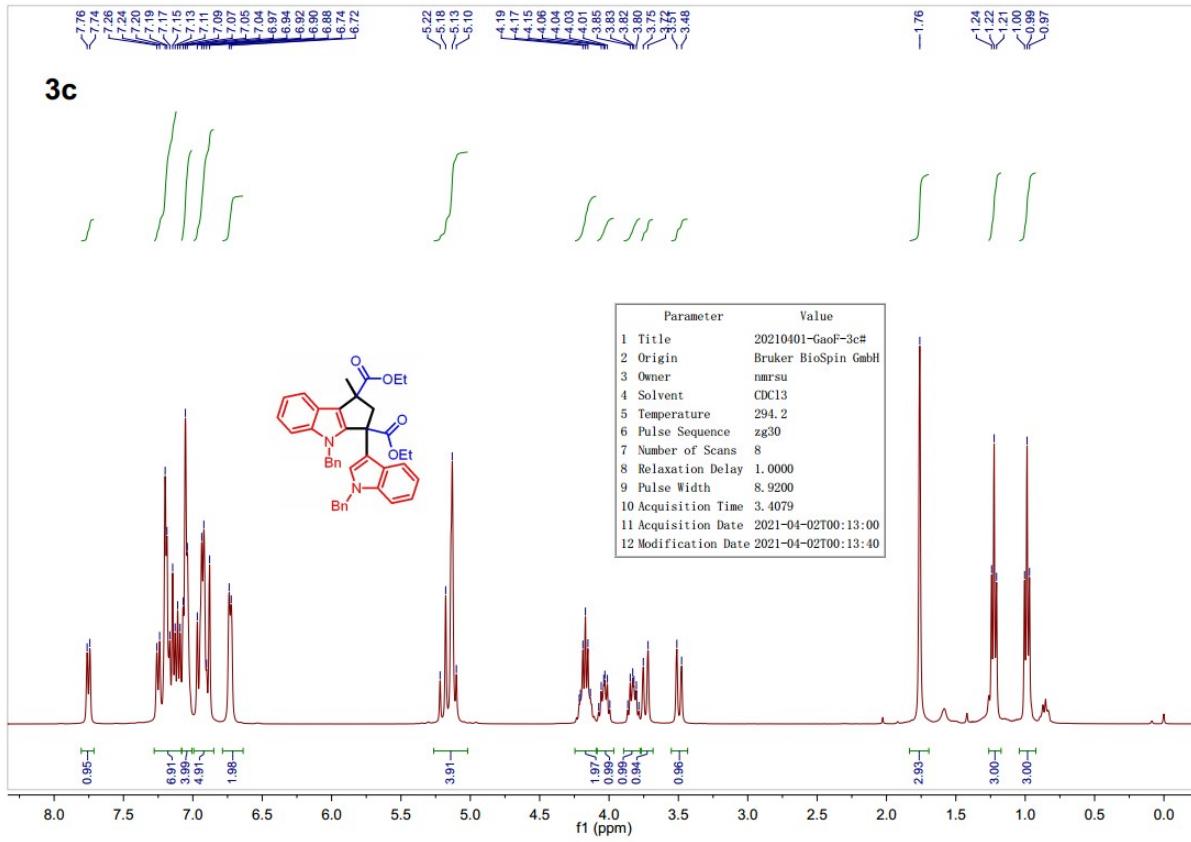
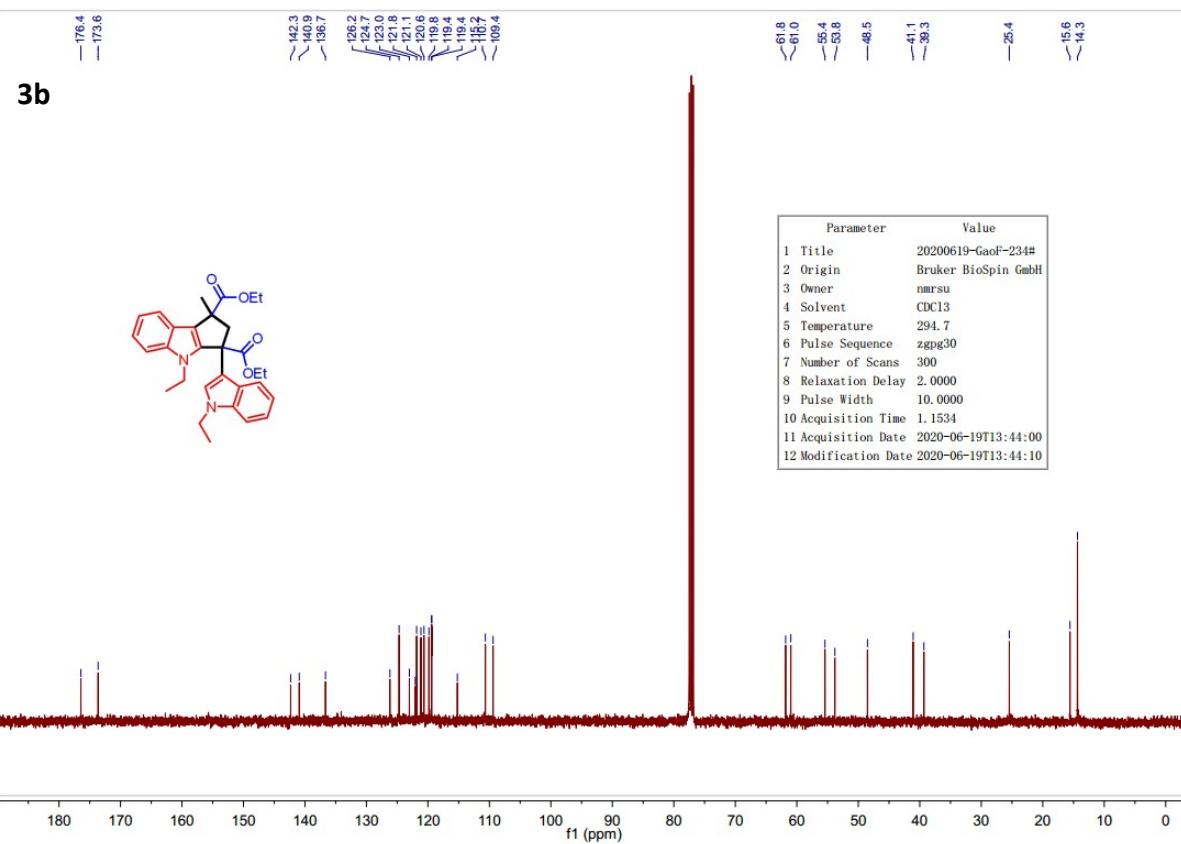
 °C, ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , TMS, 25 °C) δ = 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 2H), 4.65 (dd, J = 9.6, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 3.18 (dt, J = 14.0, 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , 25 °C) δ = 194.4, 171.4, 143.7, 136.6, 136.2, 135.2, 133.7, 129.6, 129.4, 128.9, 128.2, 128.1, 127.1, 123.4, 122.1, 119.6, 118.5, 111.3, 109.7, 59.3, 52.1, 50.1, 26.9, 21.7 ppm. HRMS (TOF, ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5\text{SNa}$, $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ = 513.1456, found 513.1460.

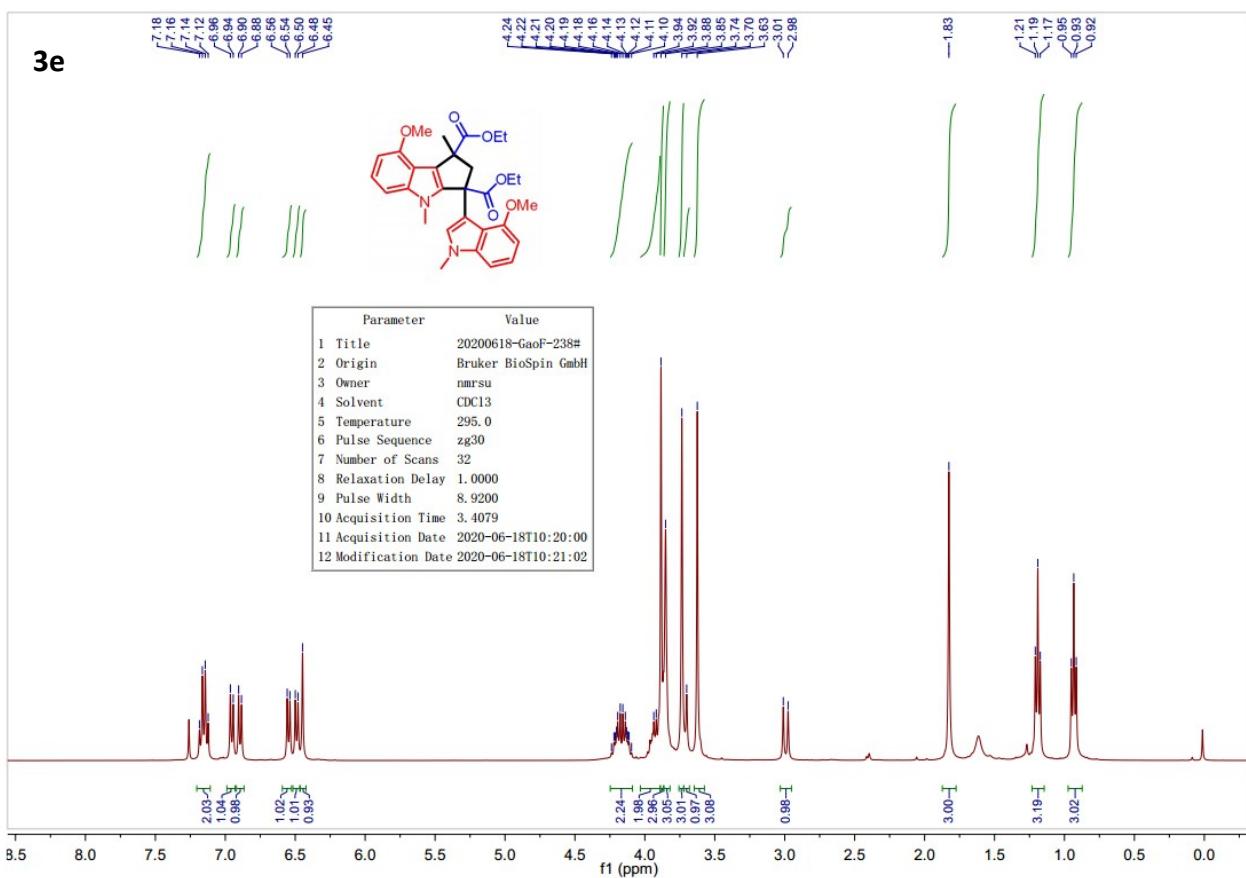
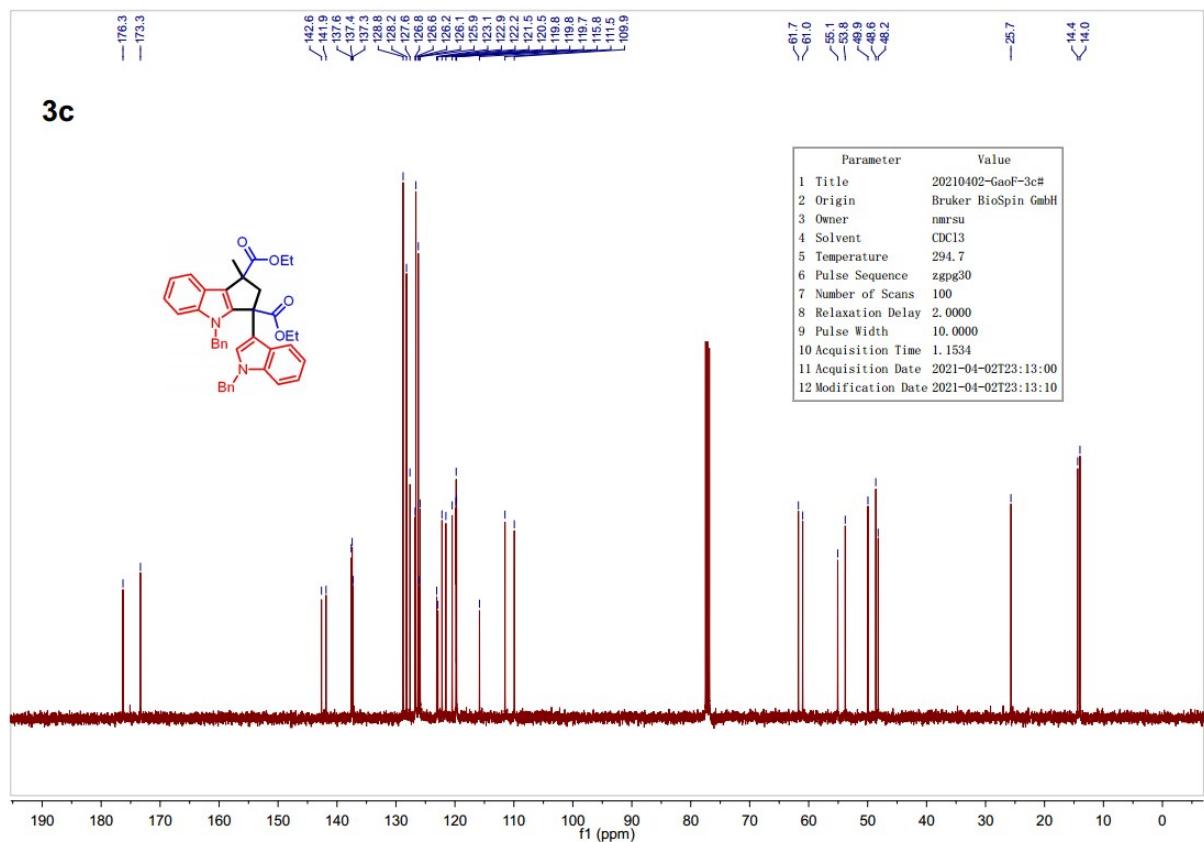
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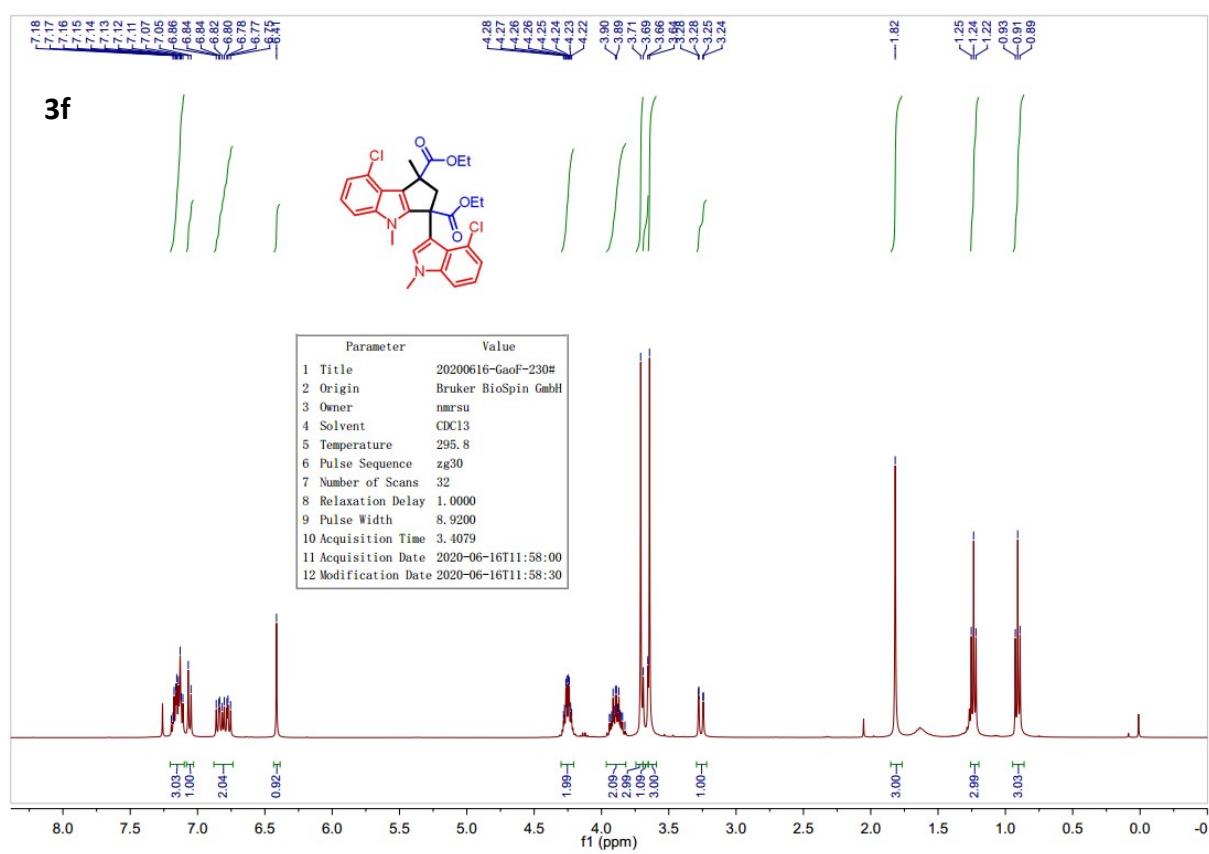
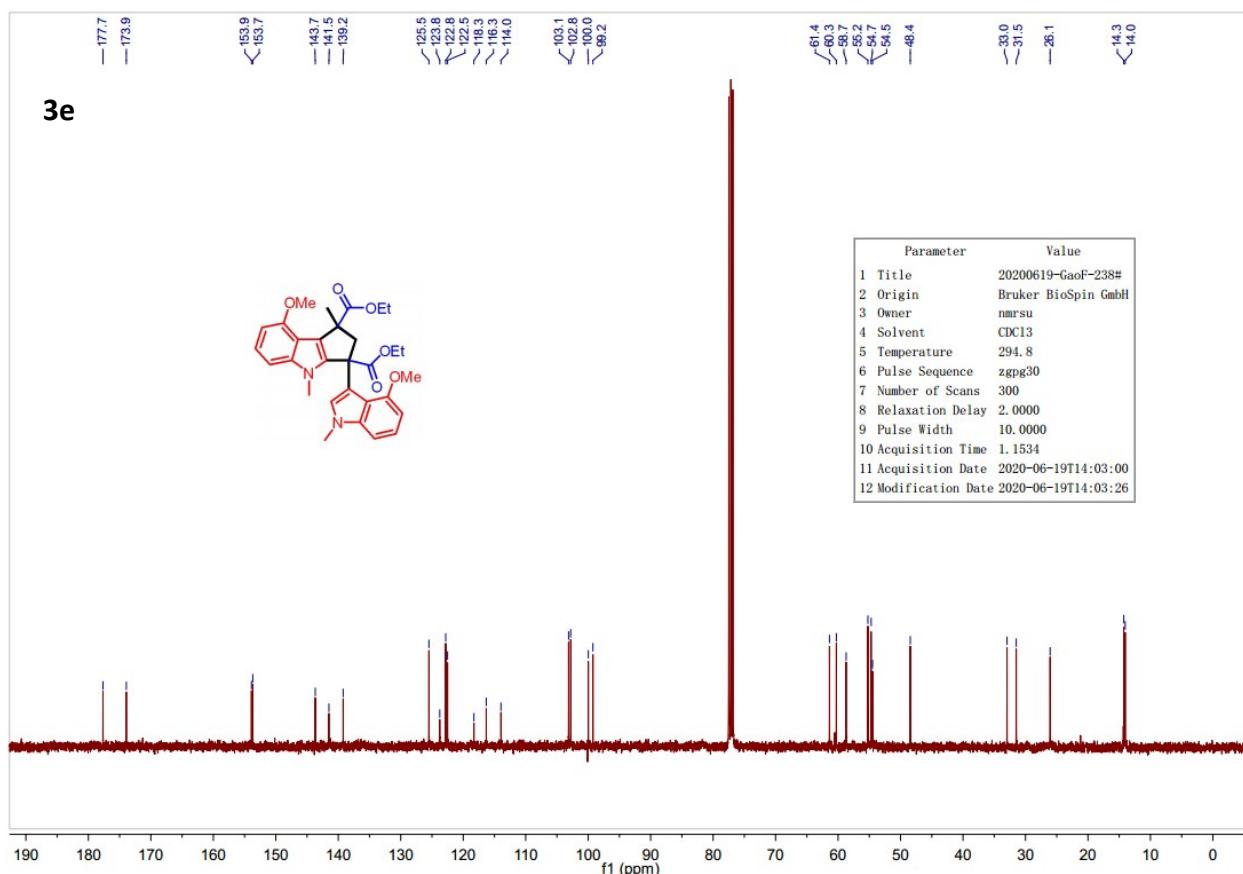
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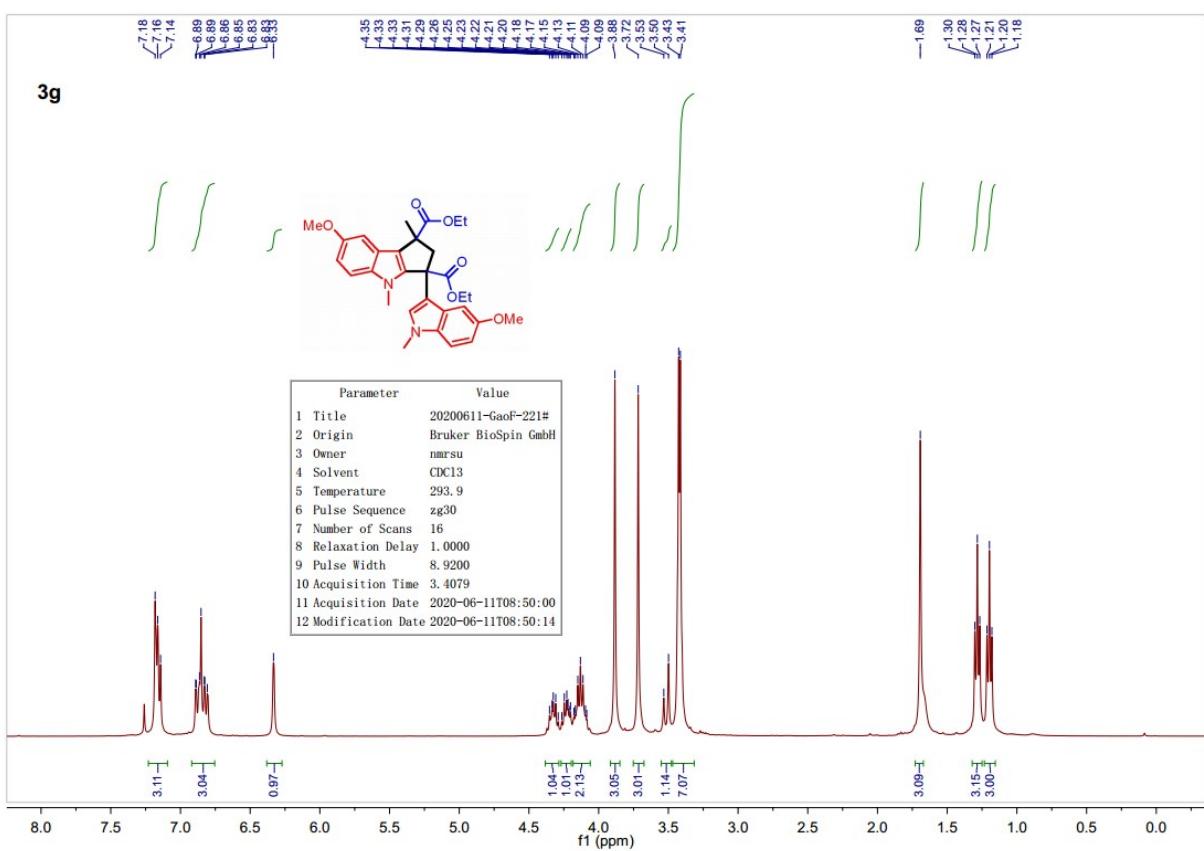
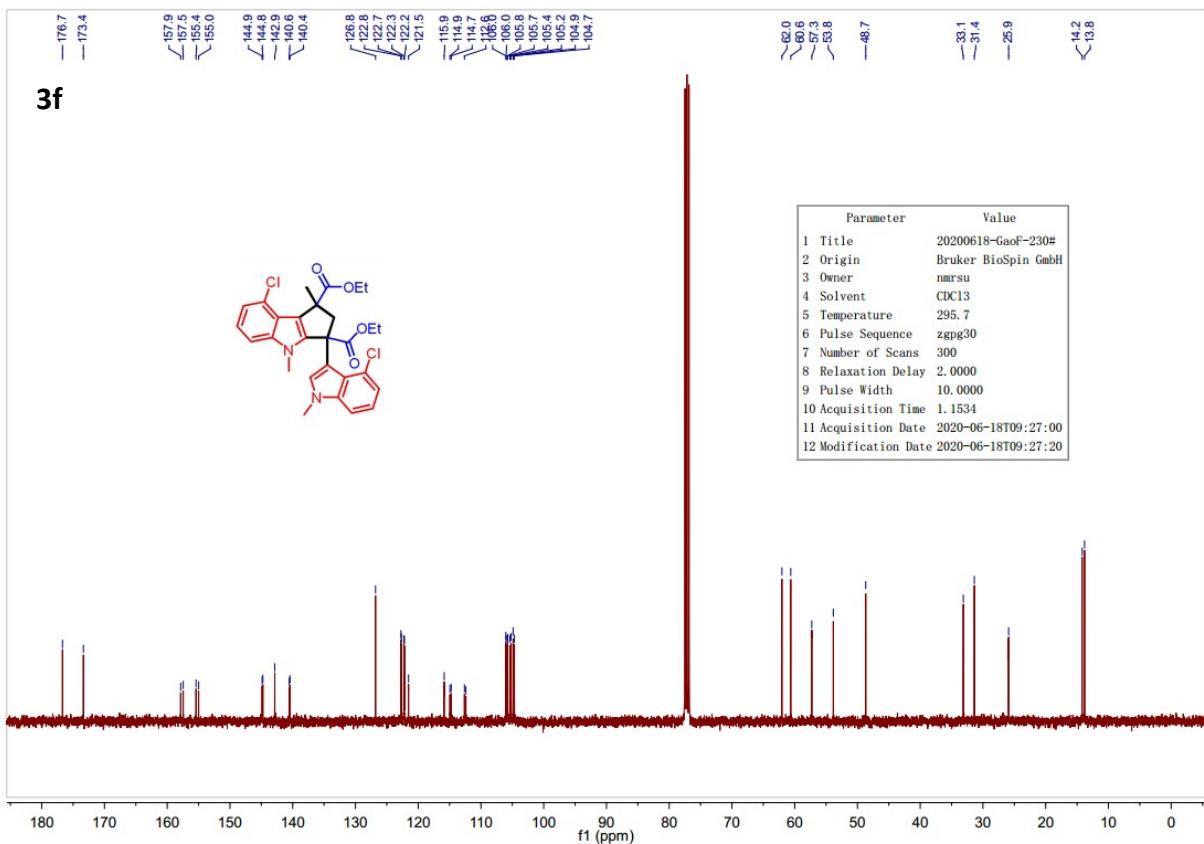


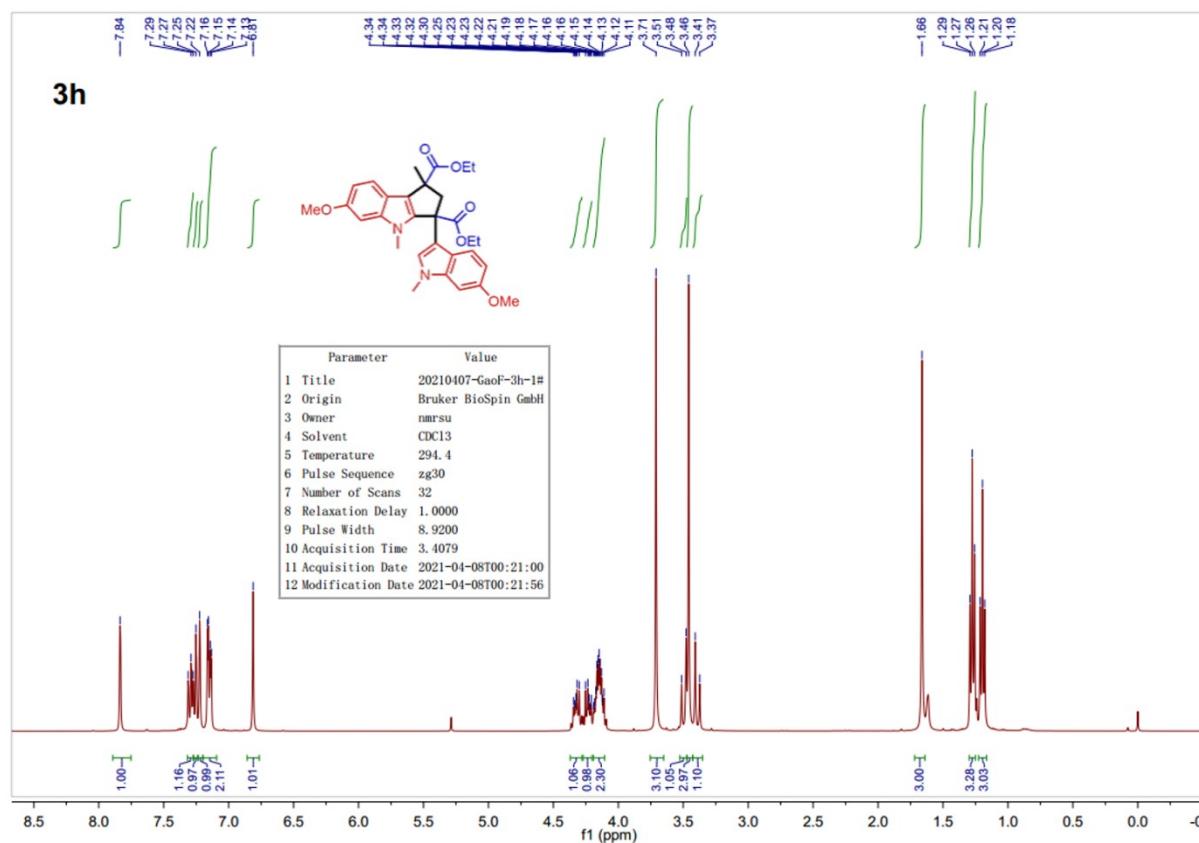
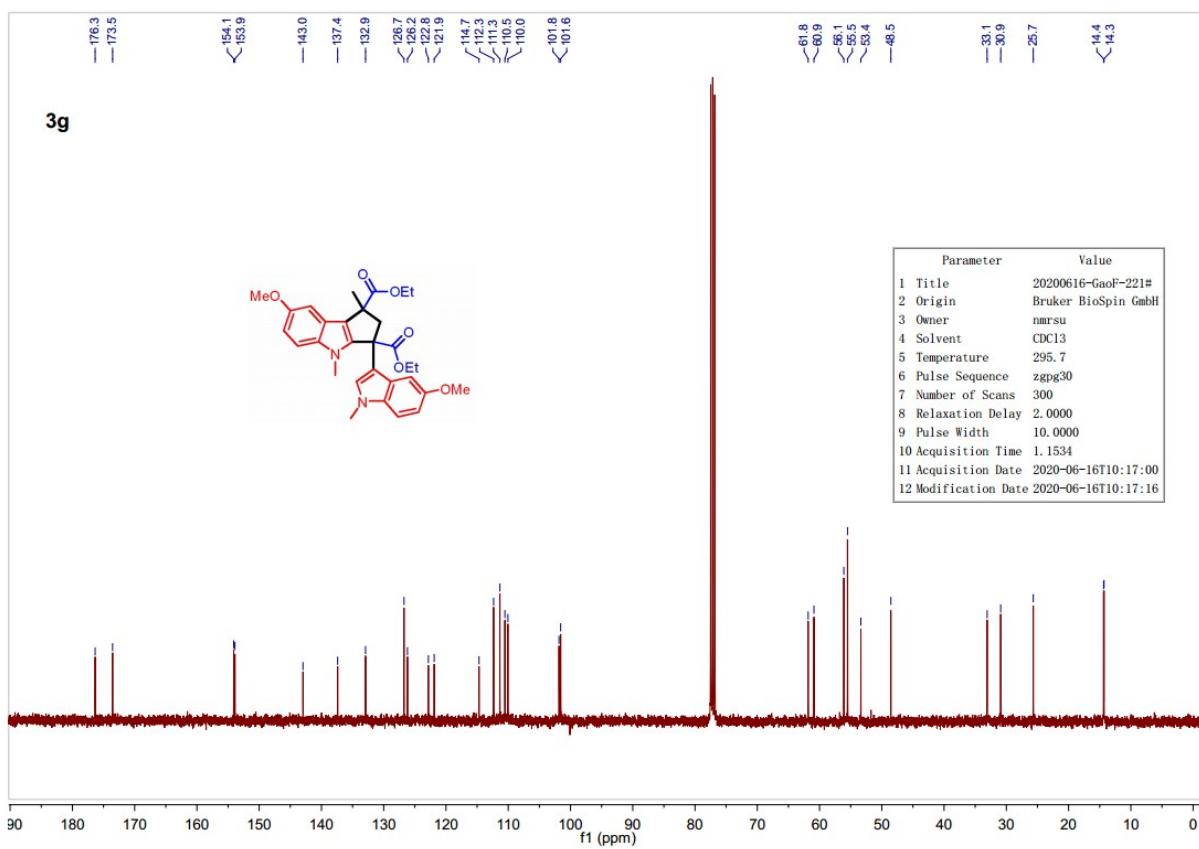








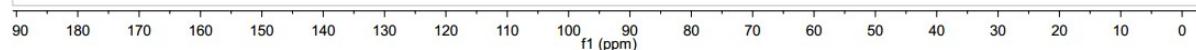






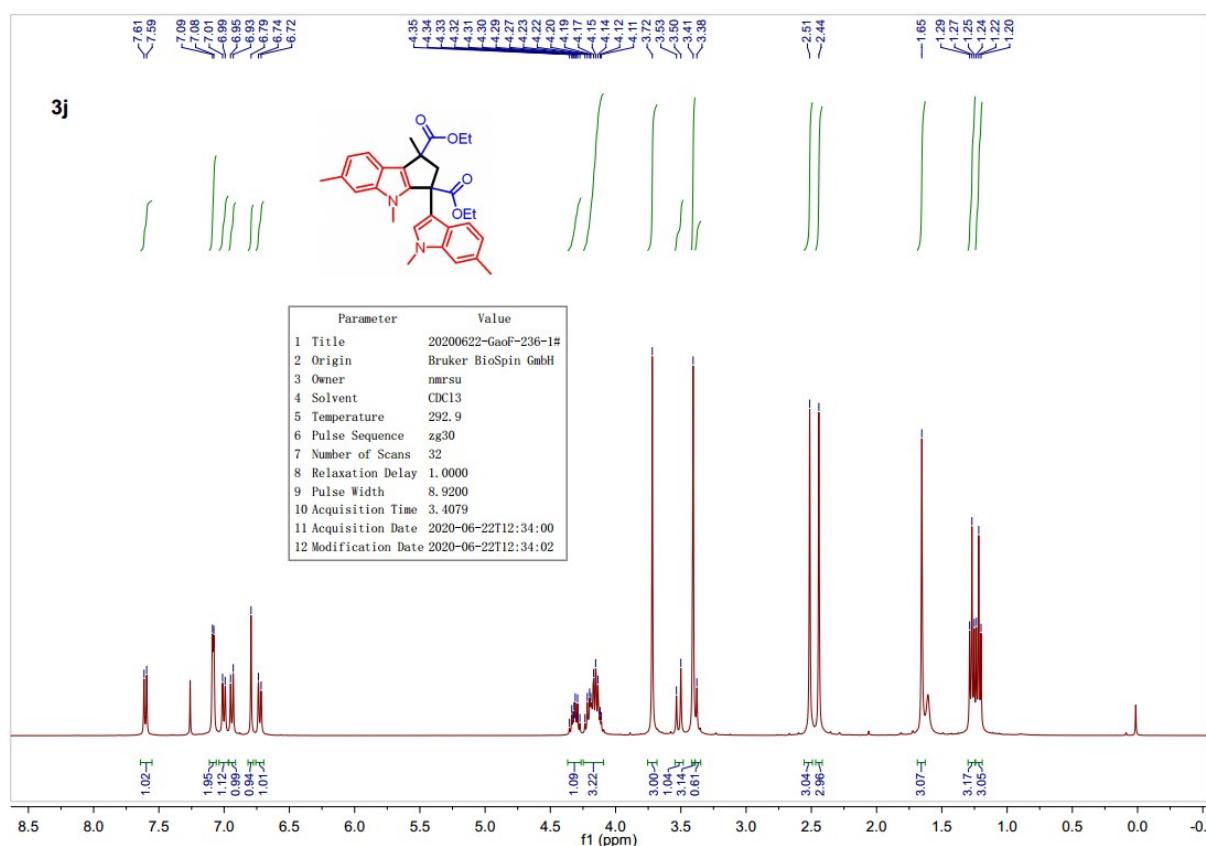
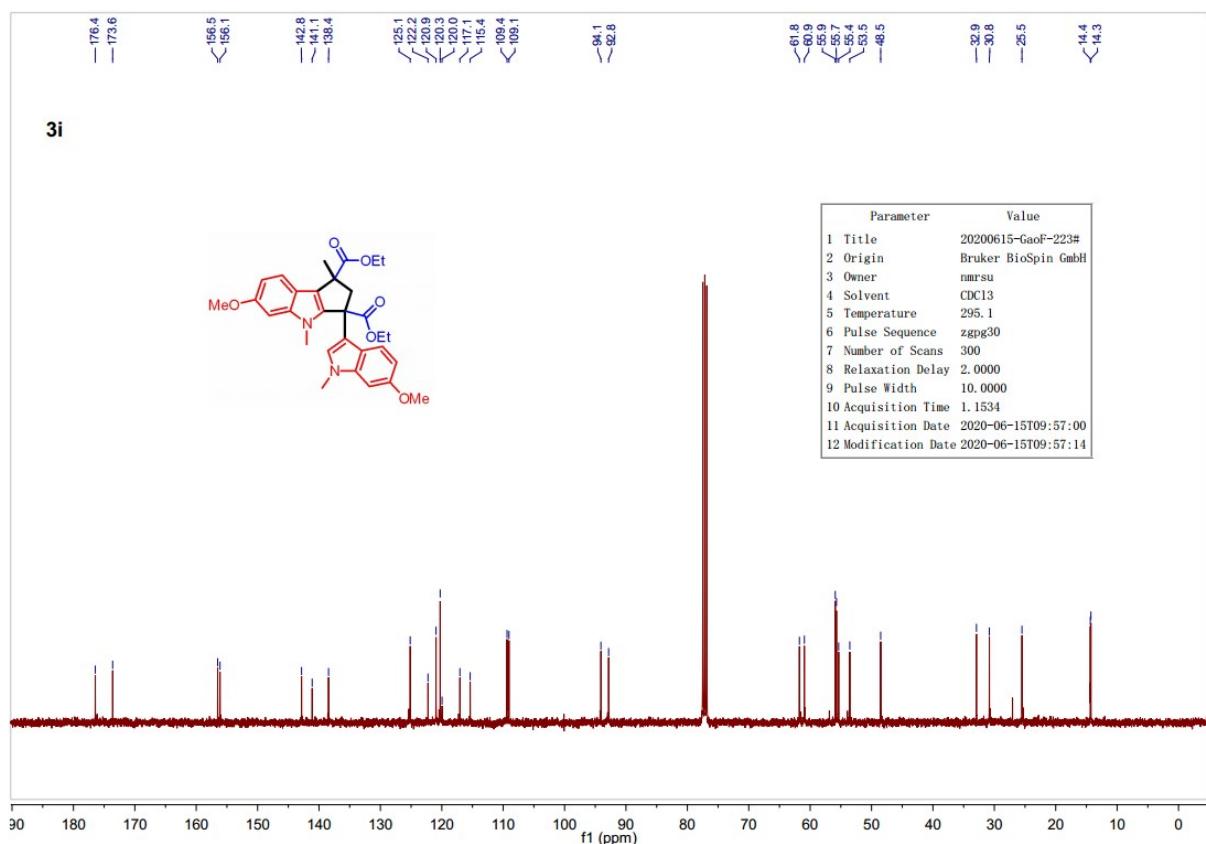
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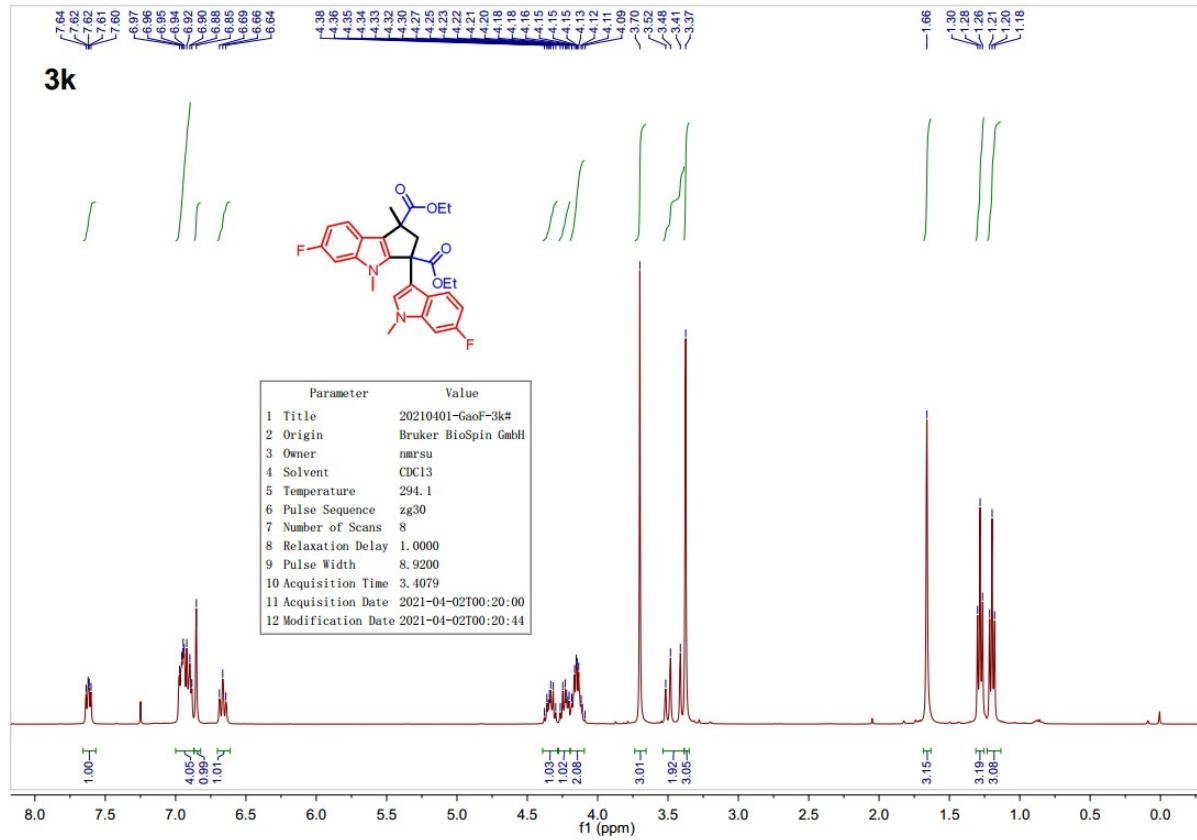
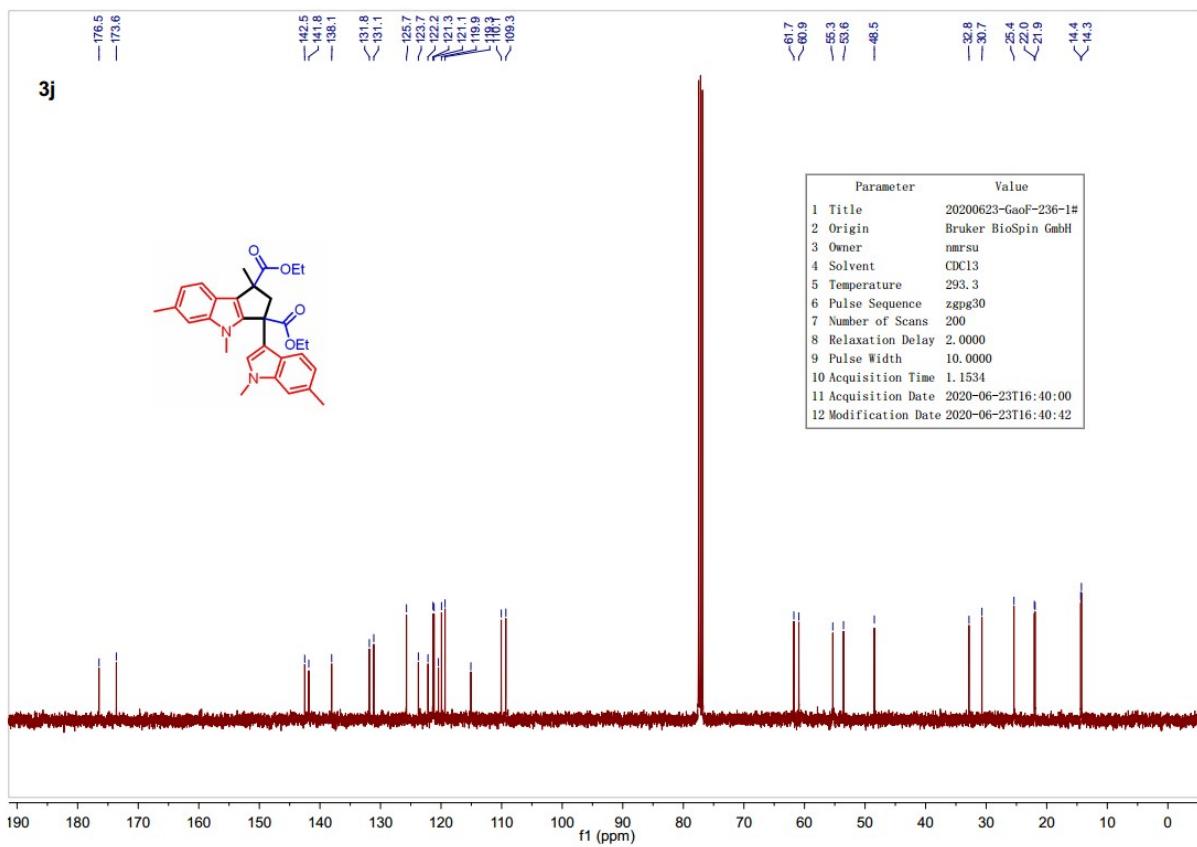
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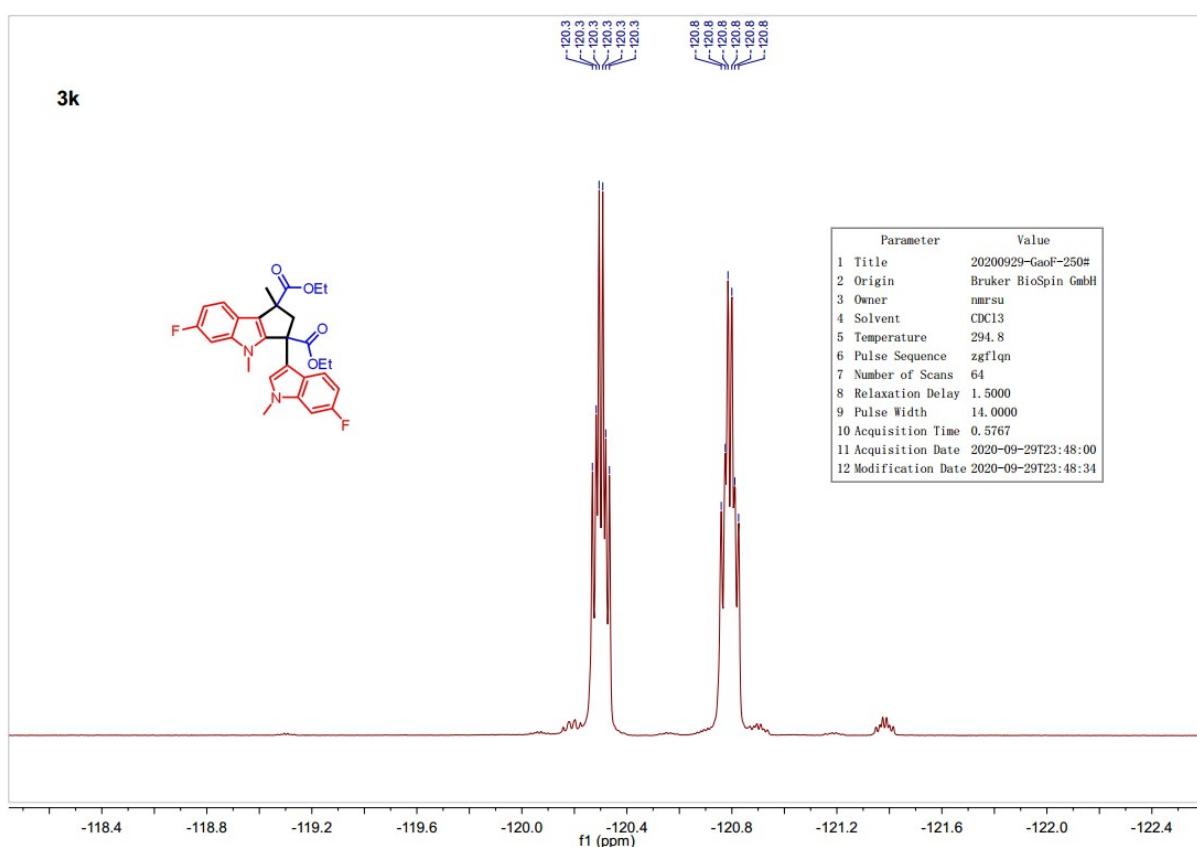
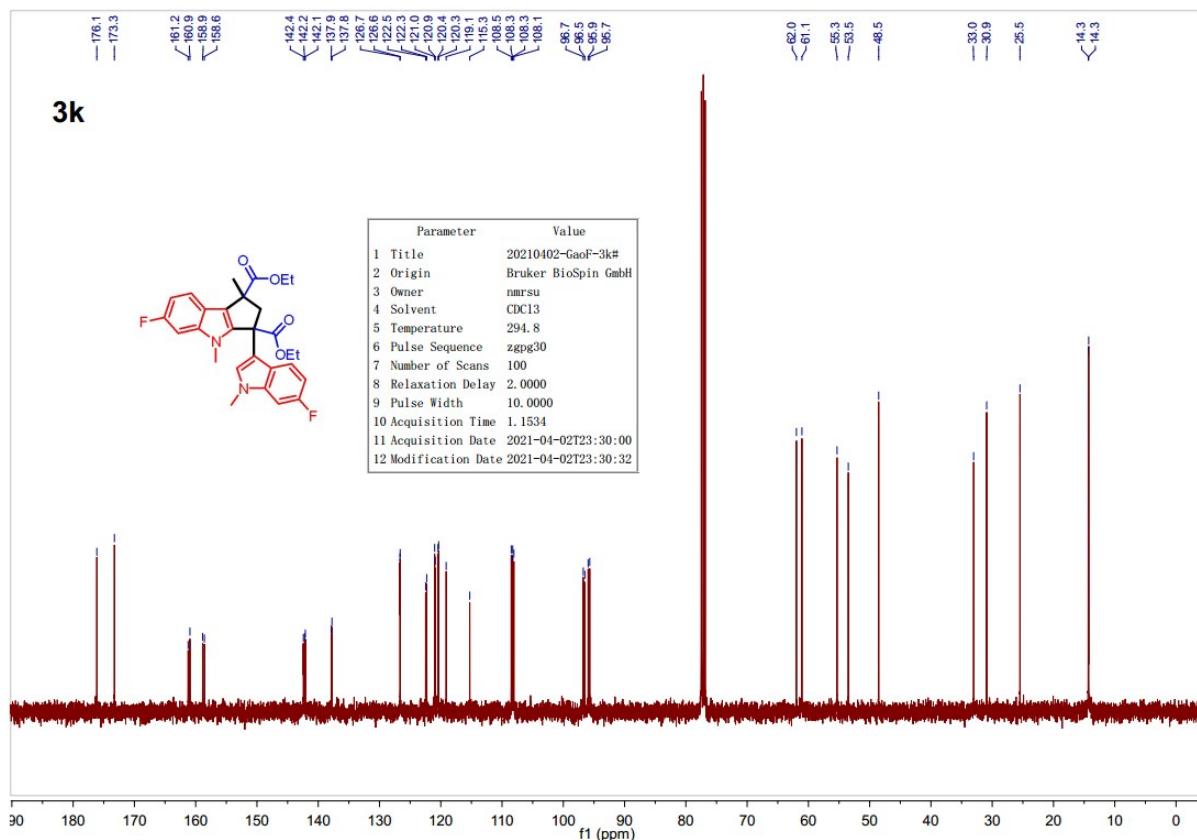


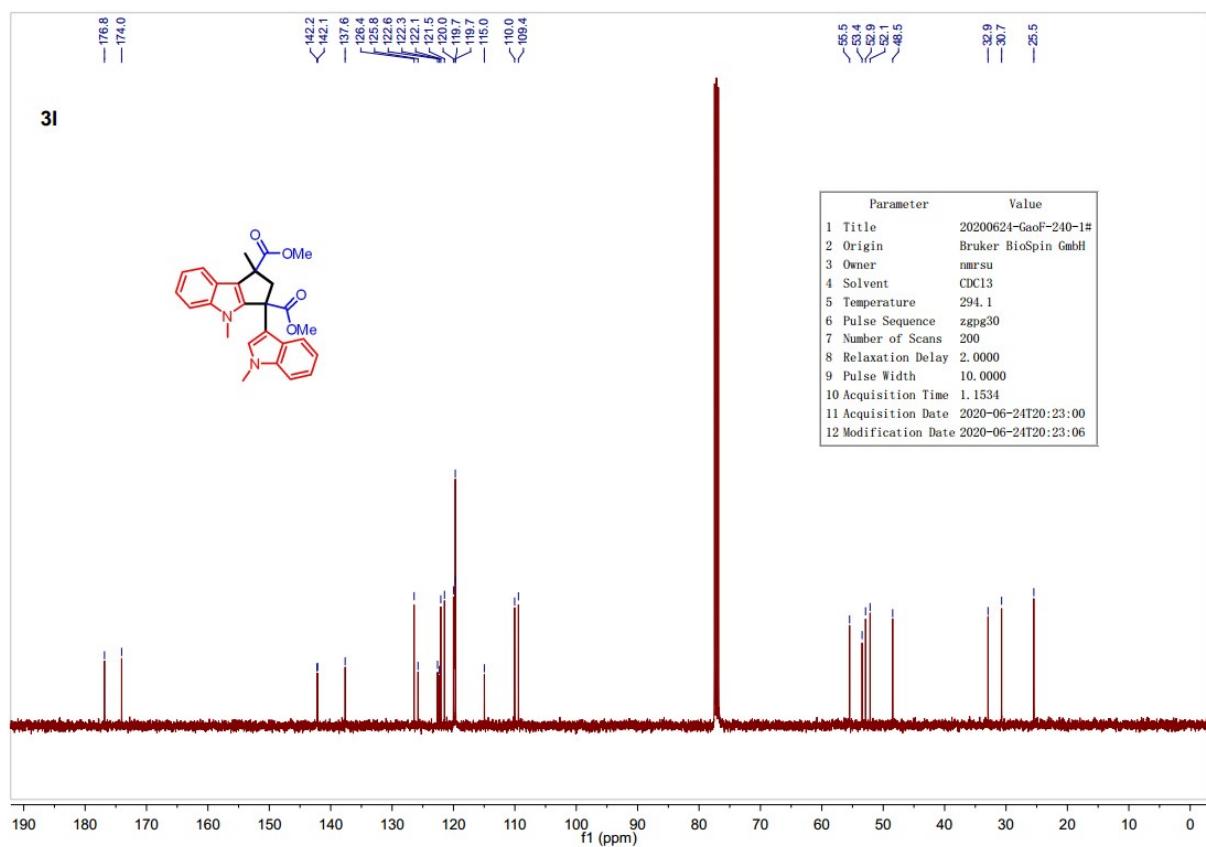
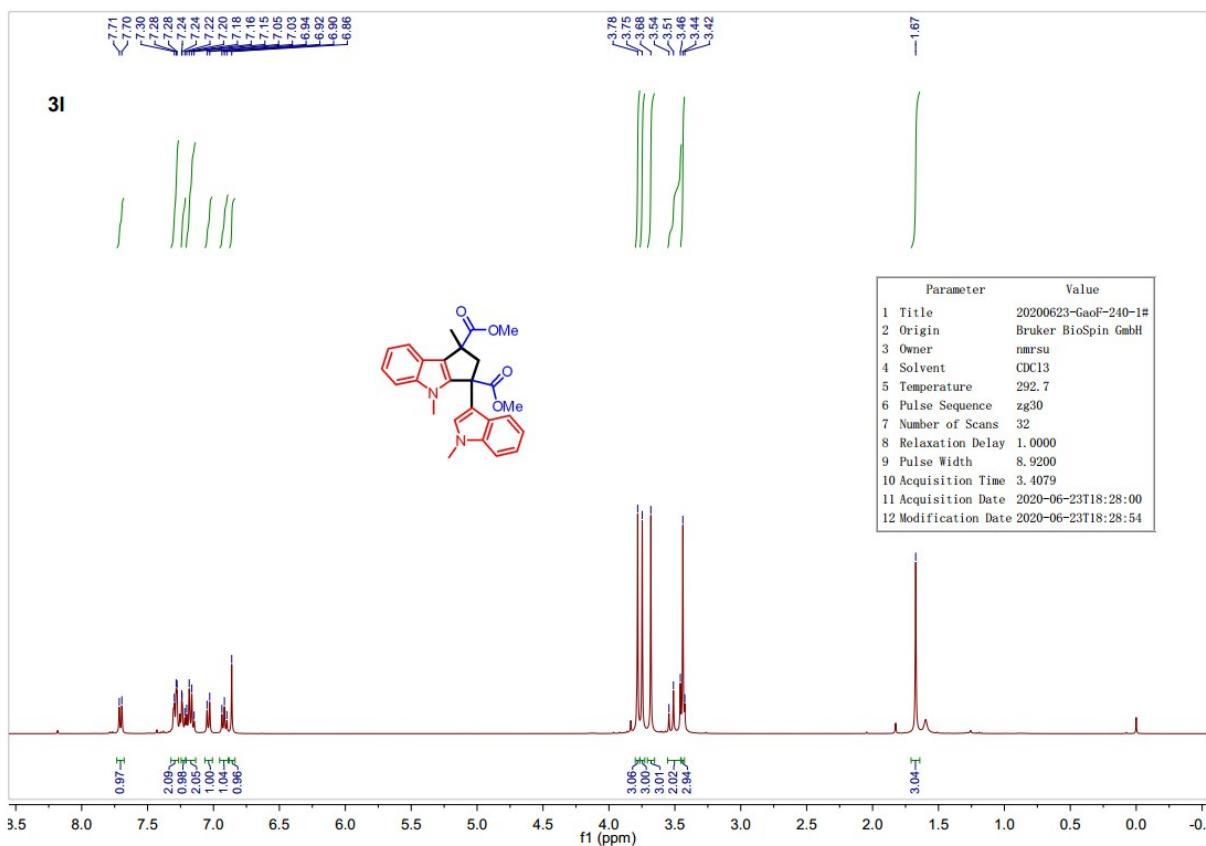
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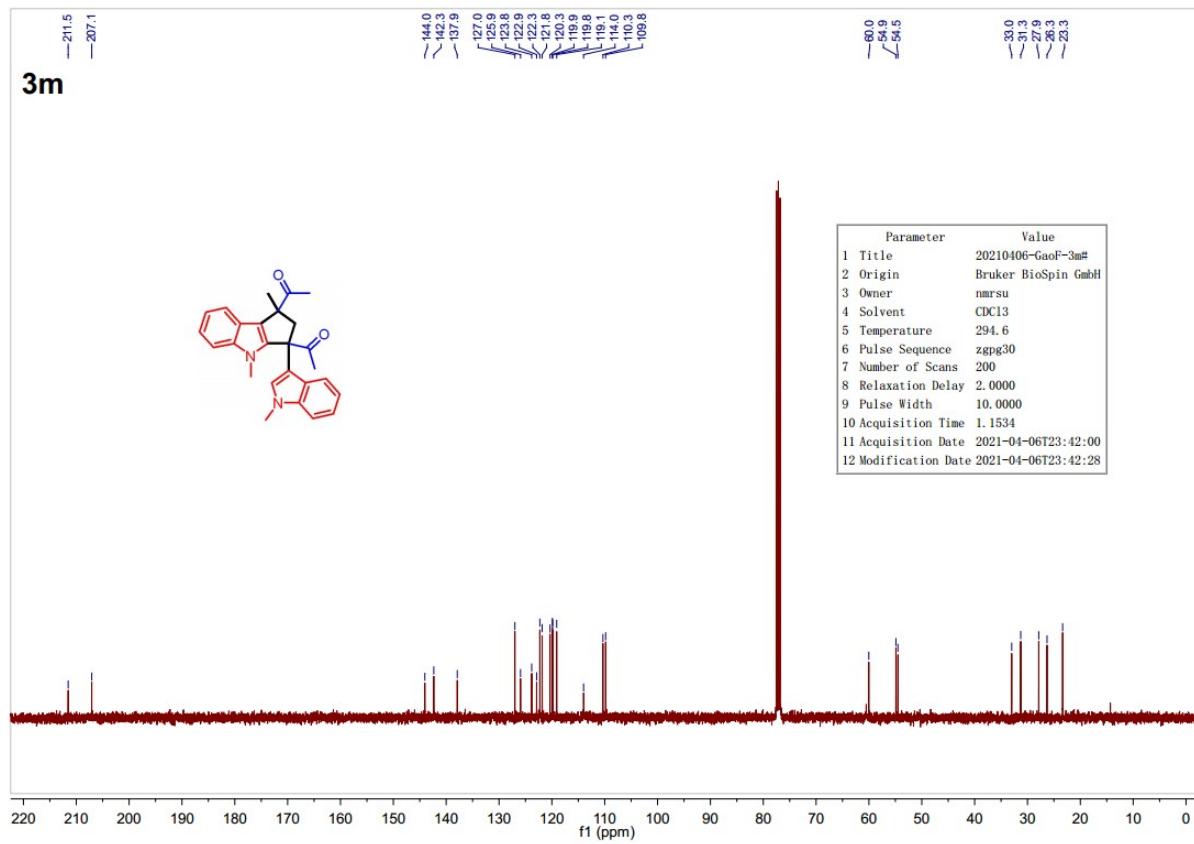
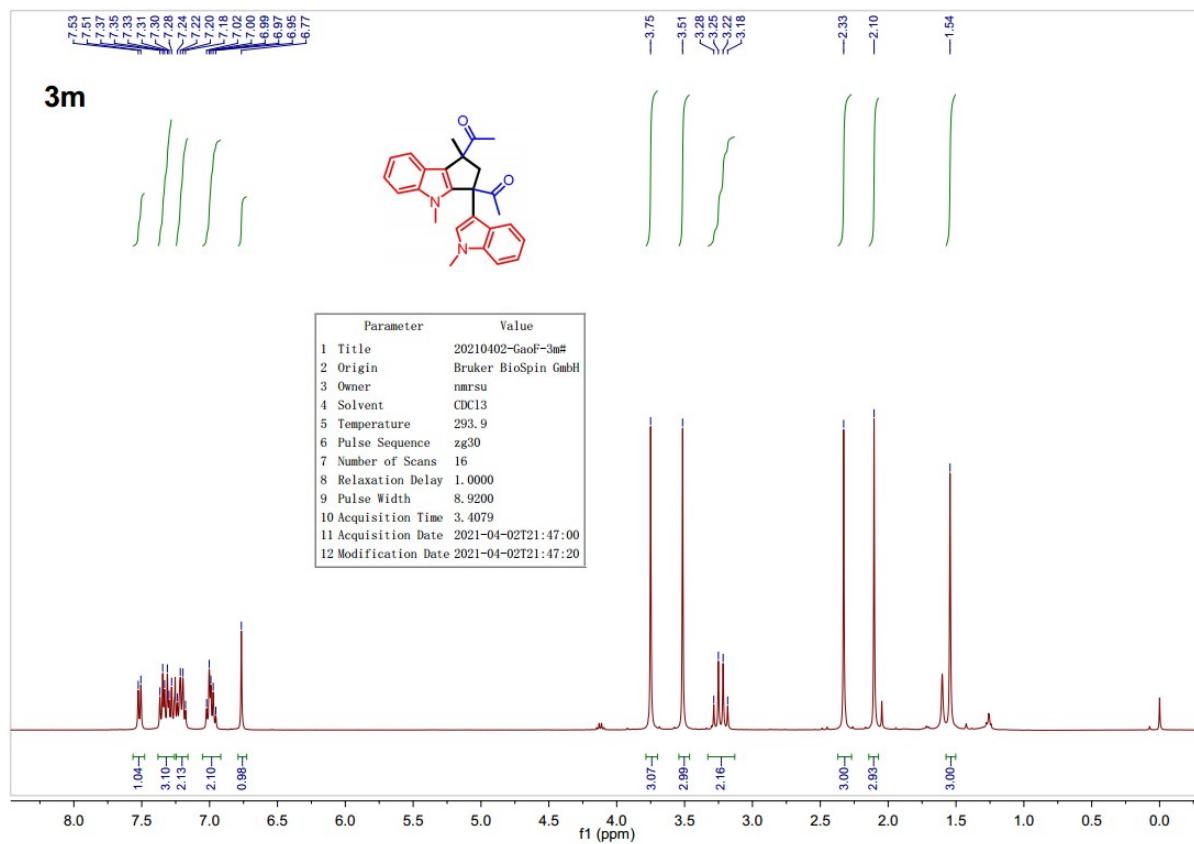
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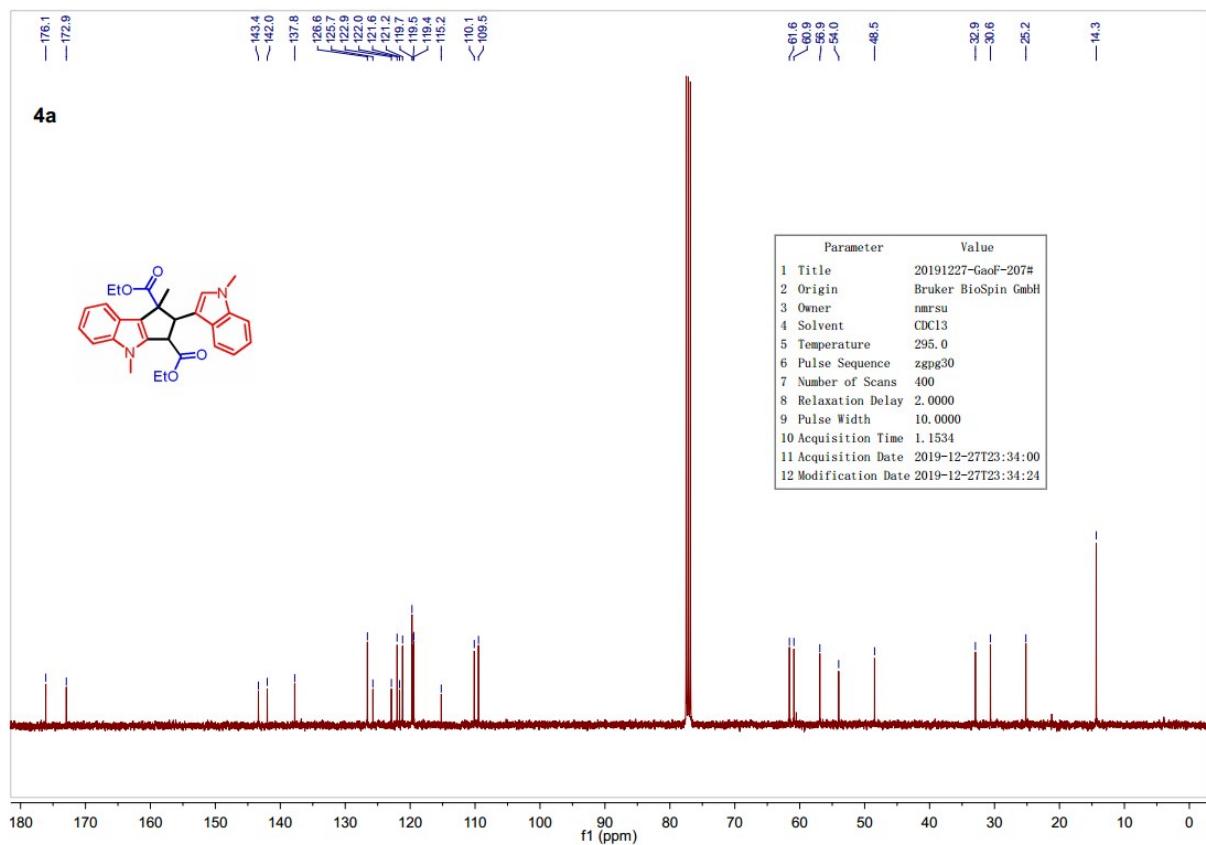
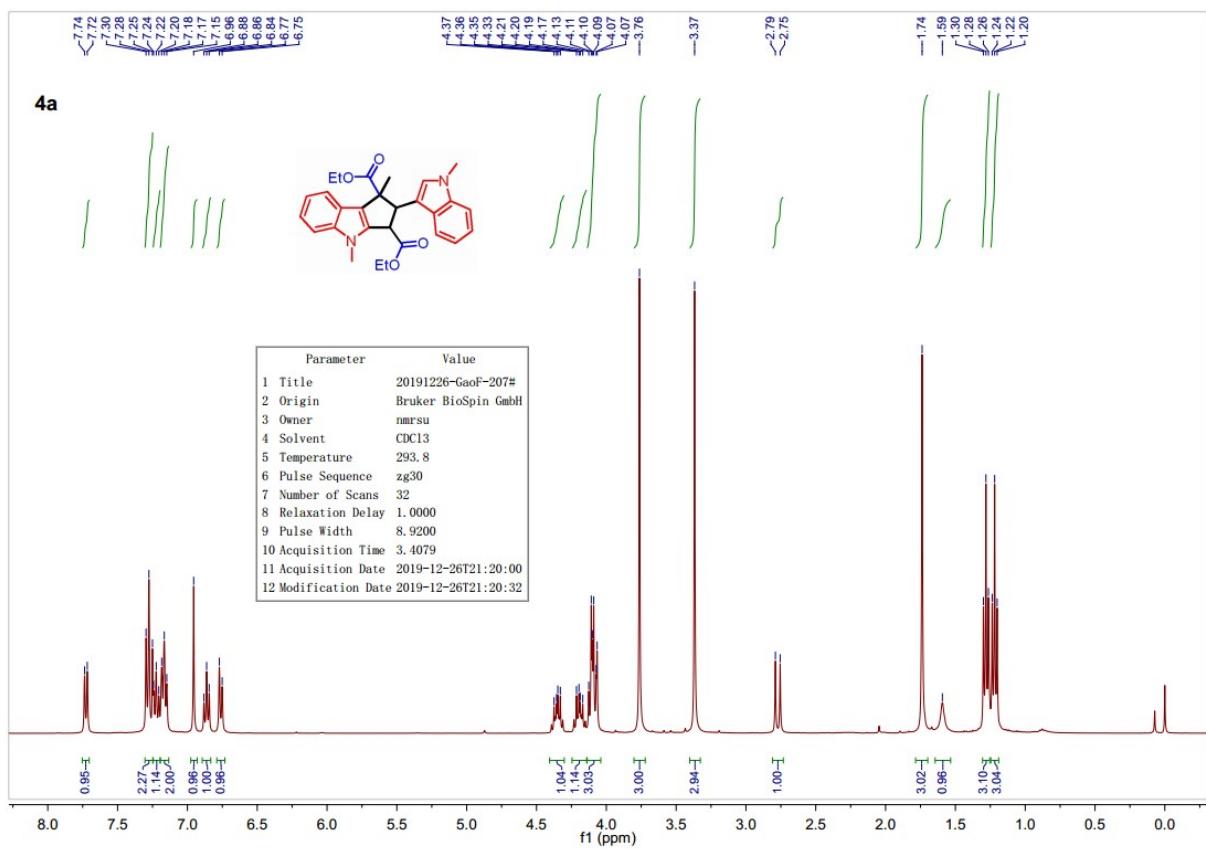


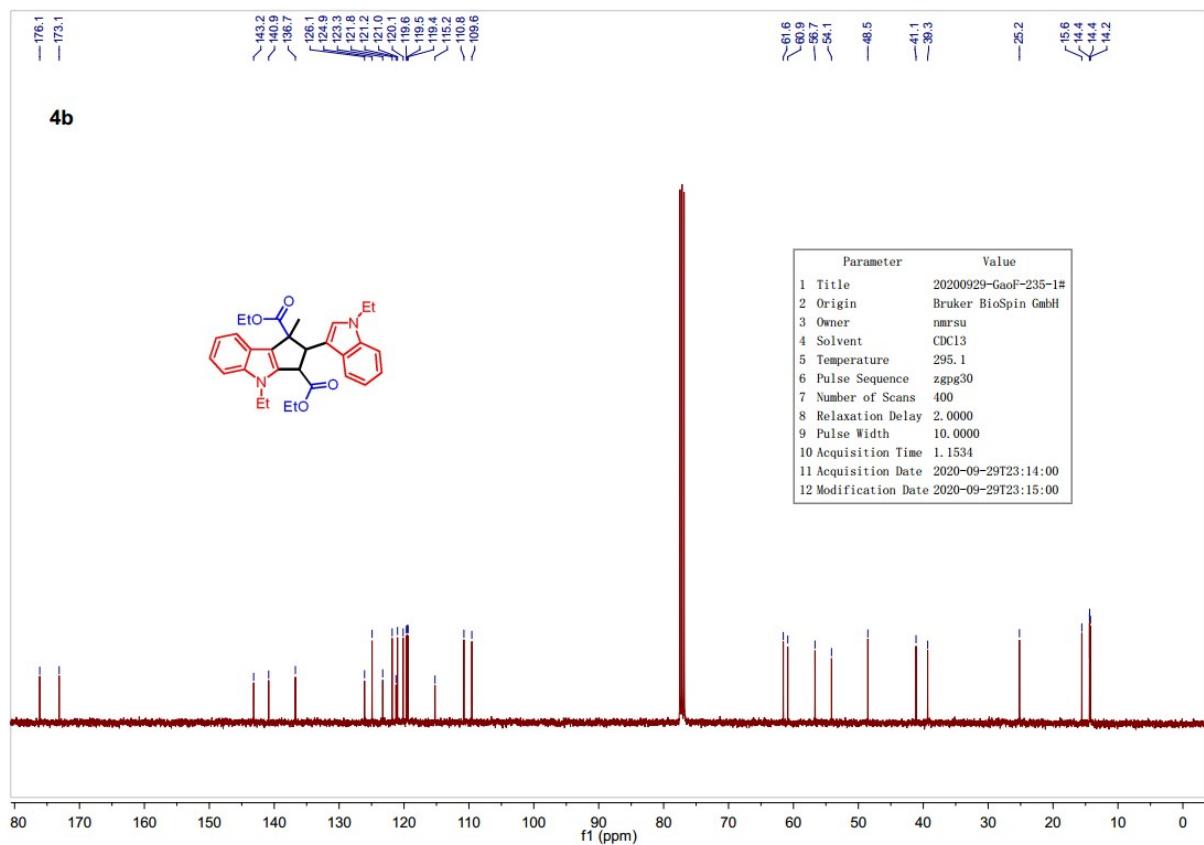
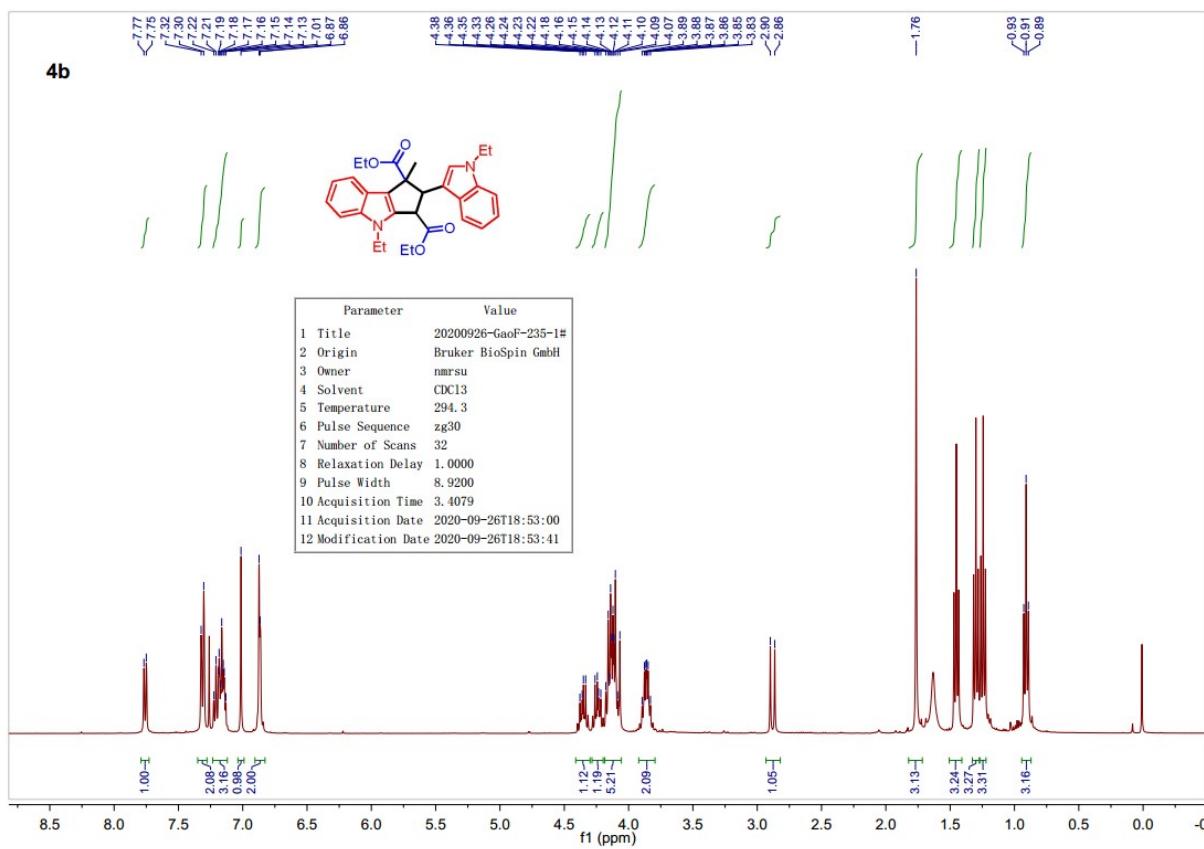


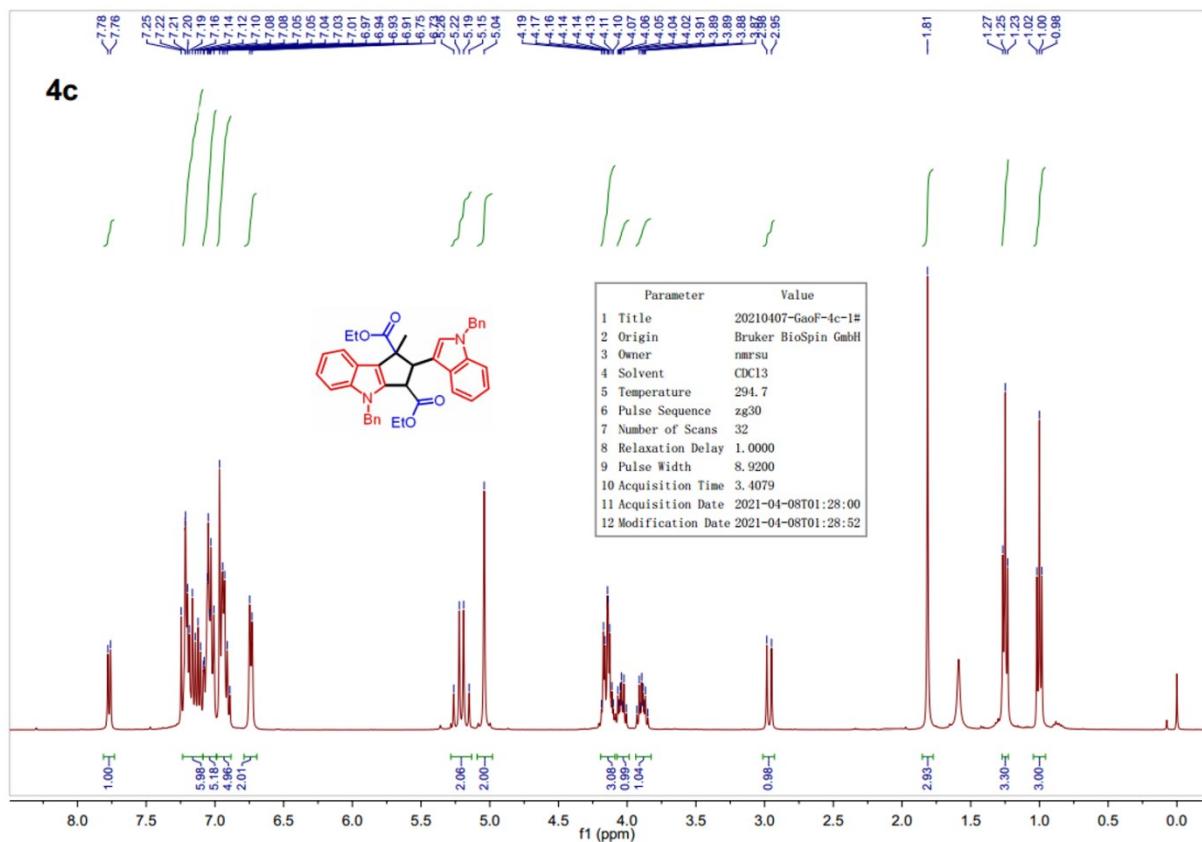


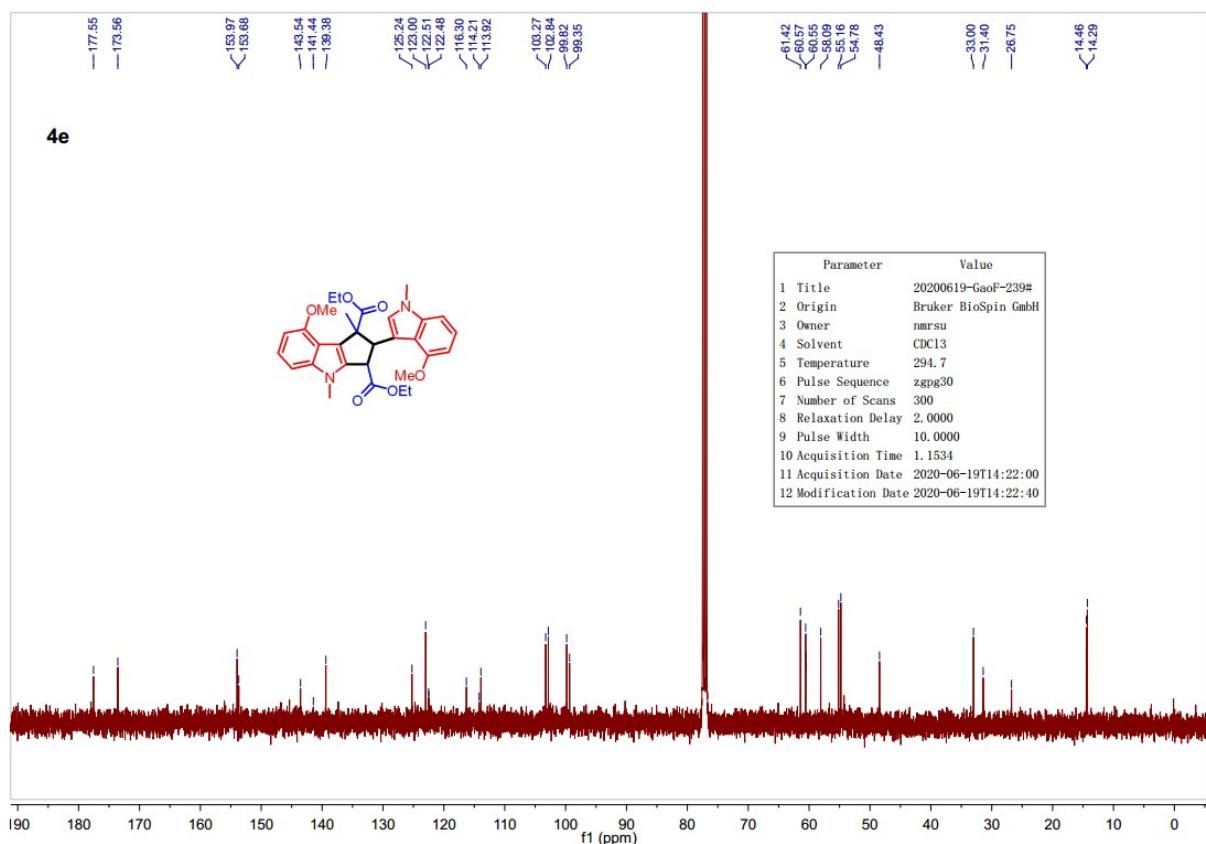
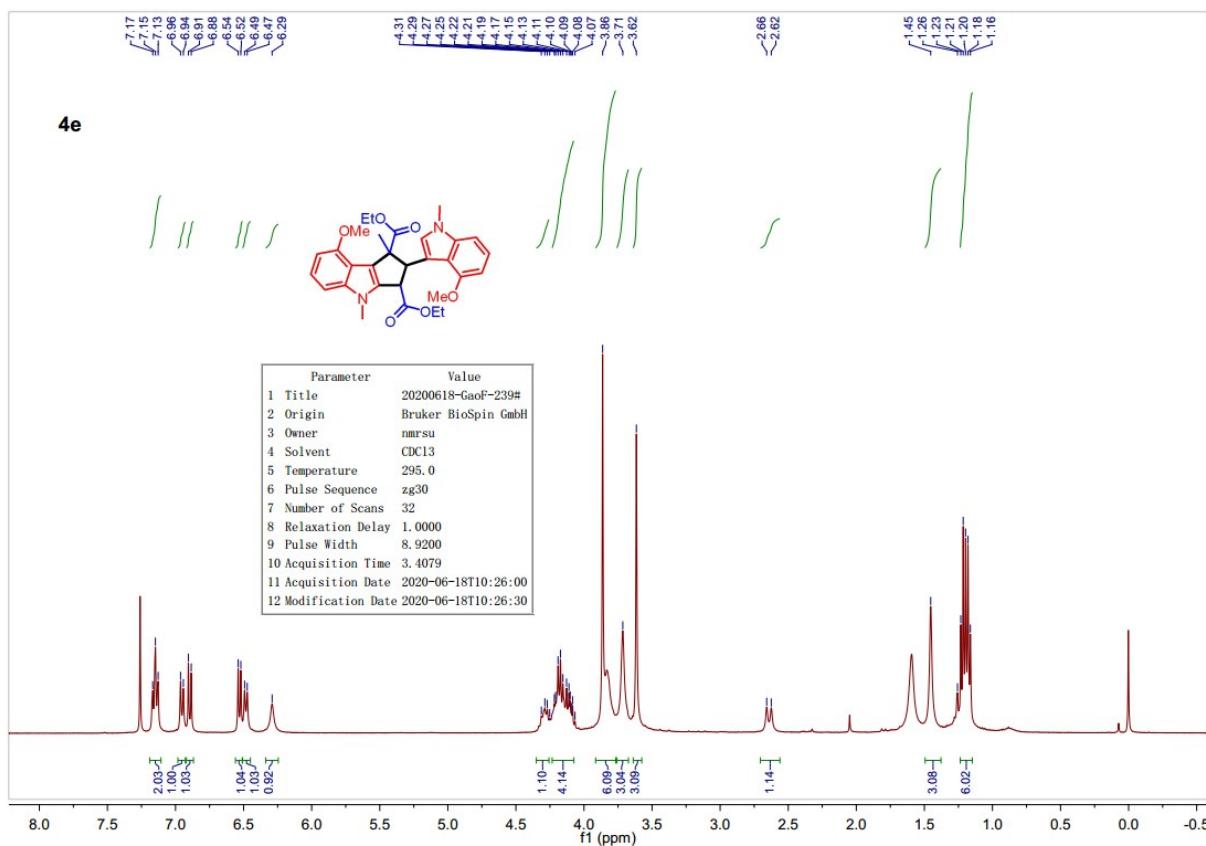


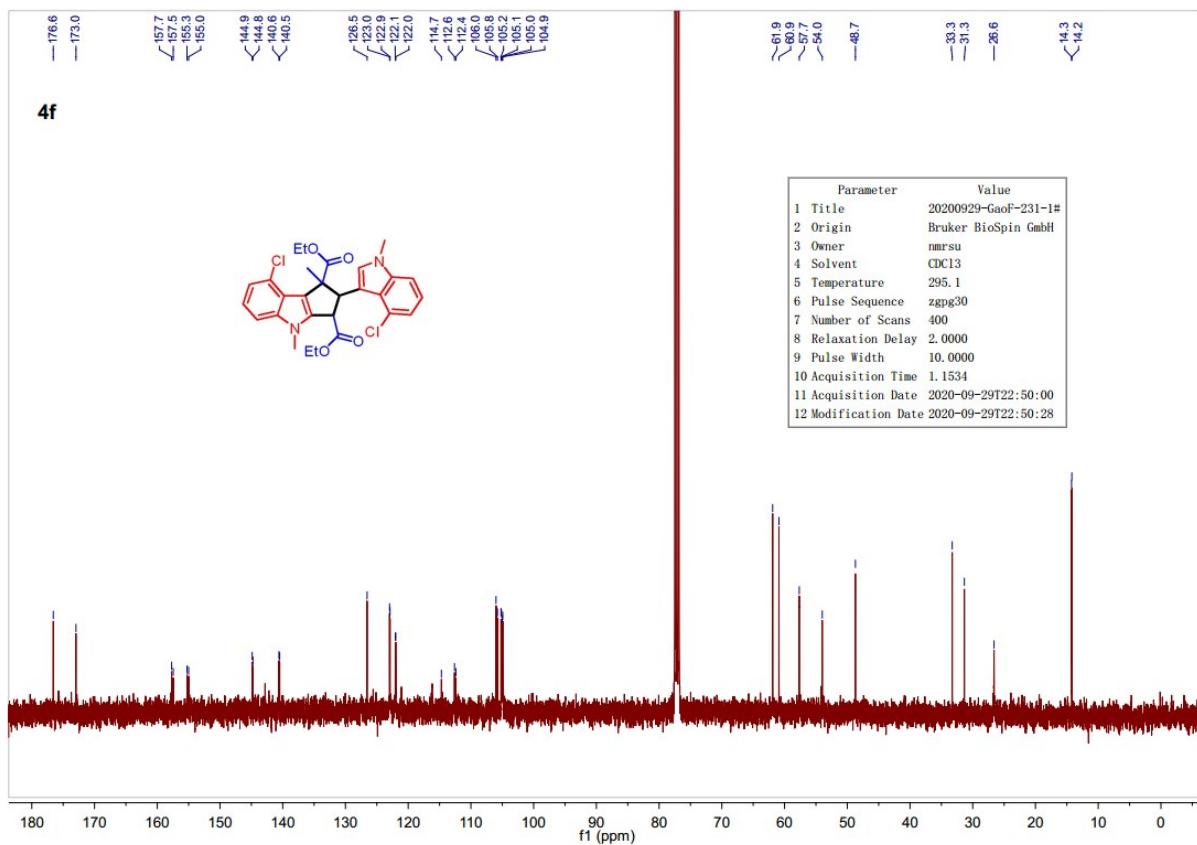
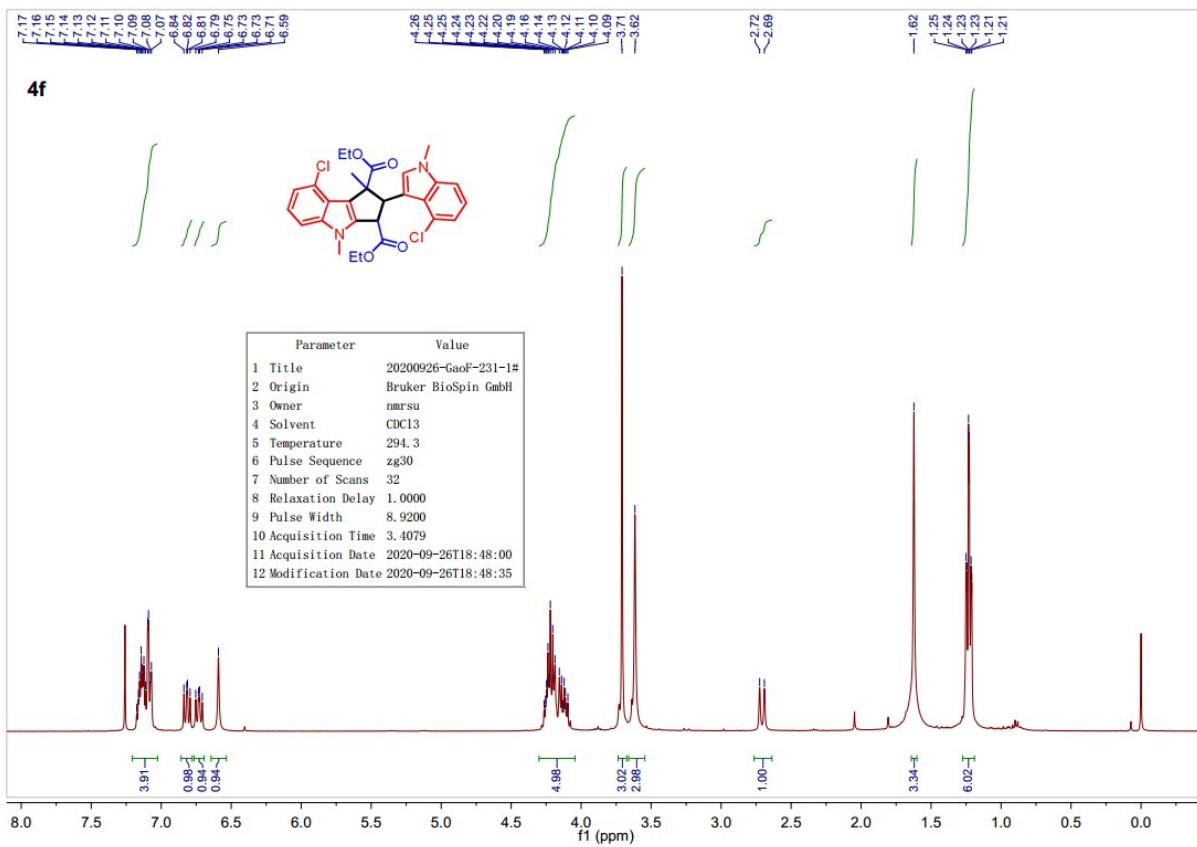


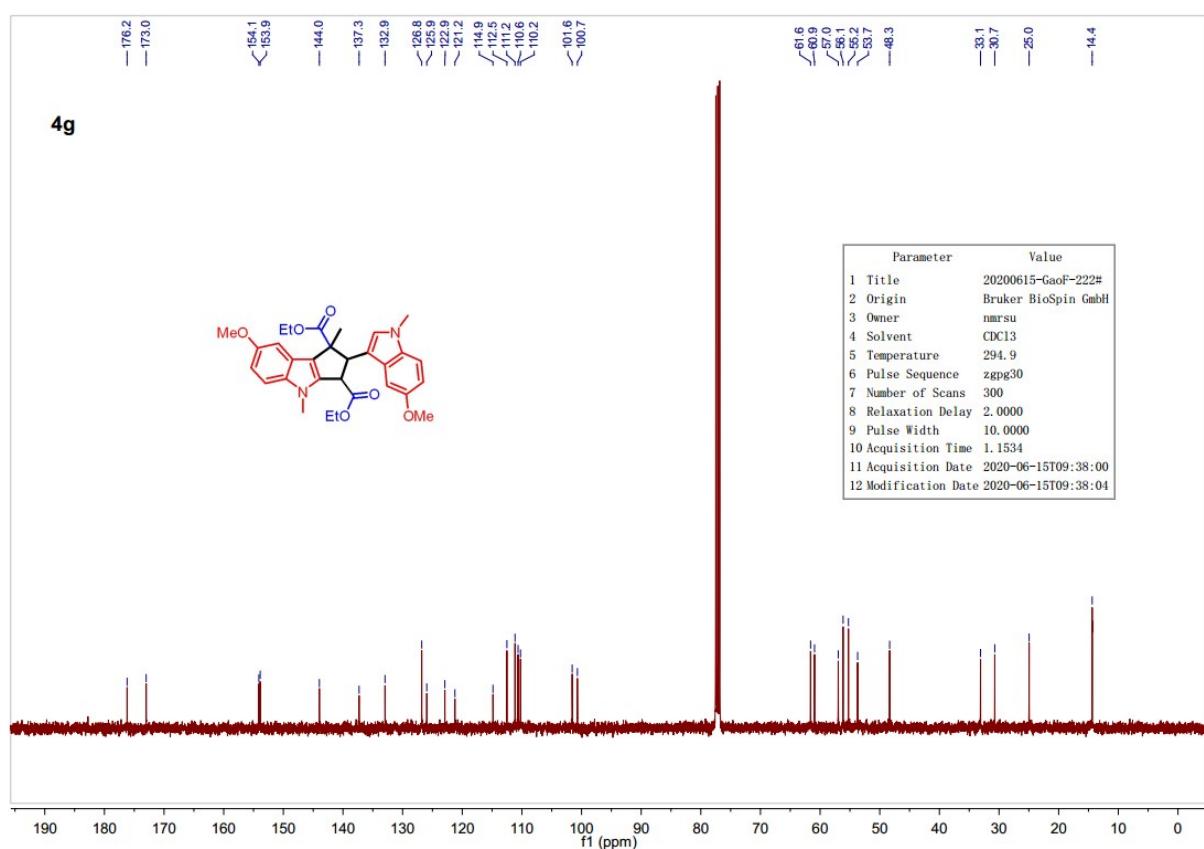
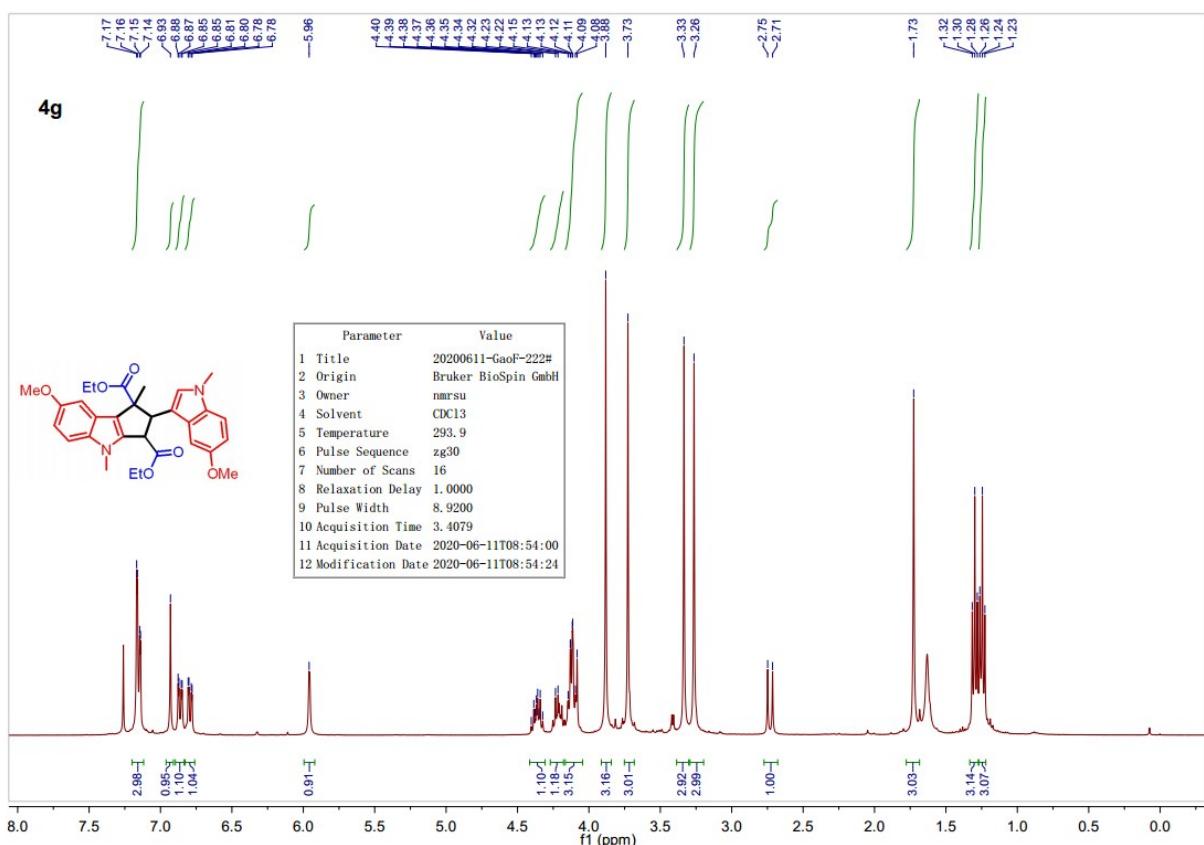


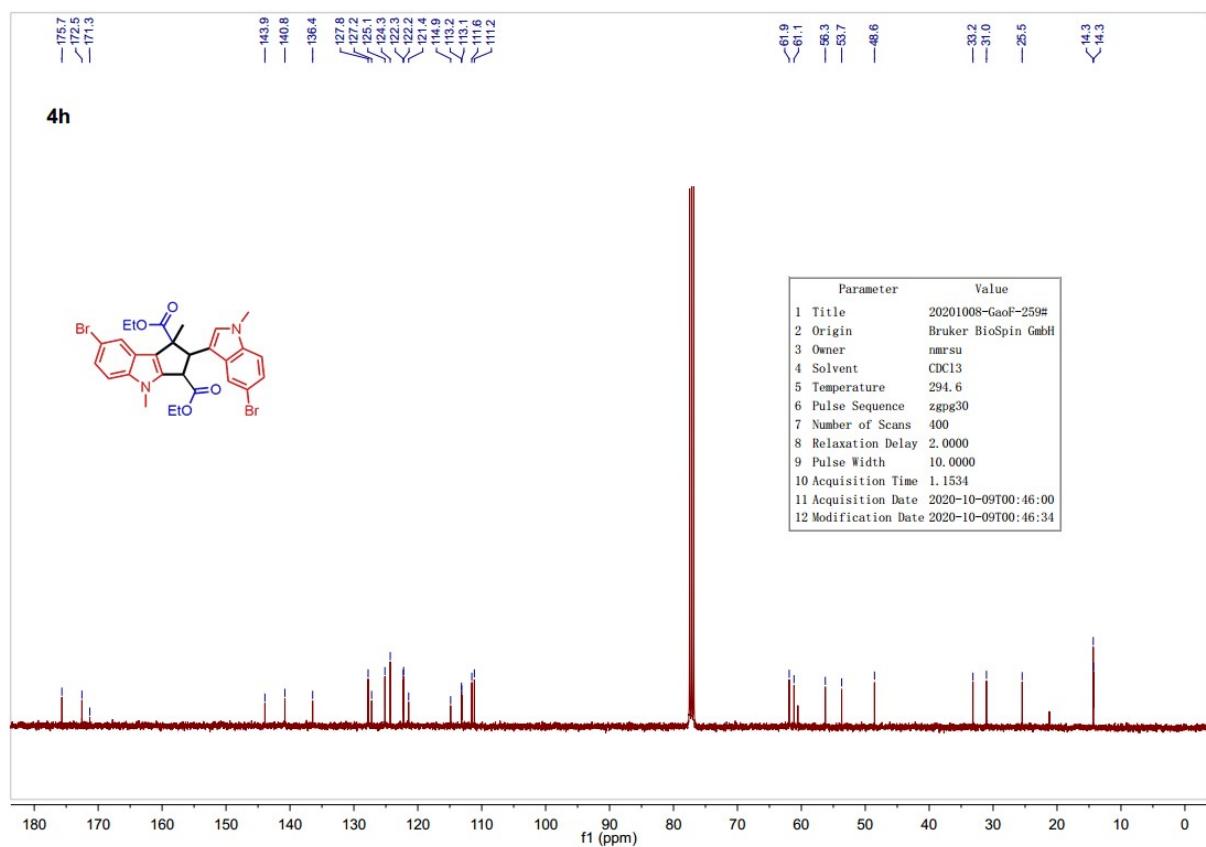
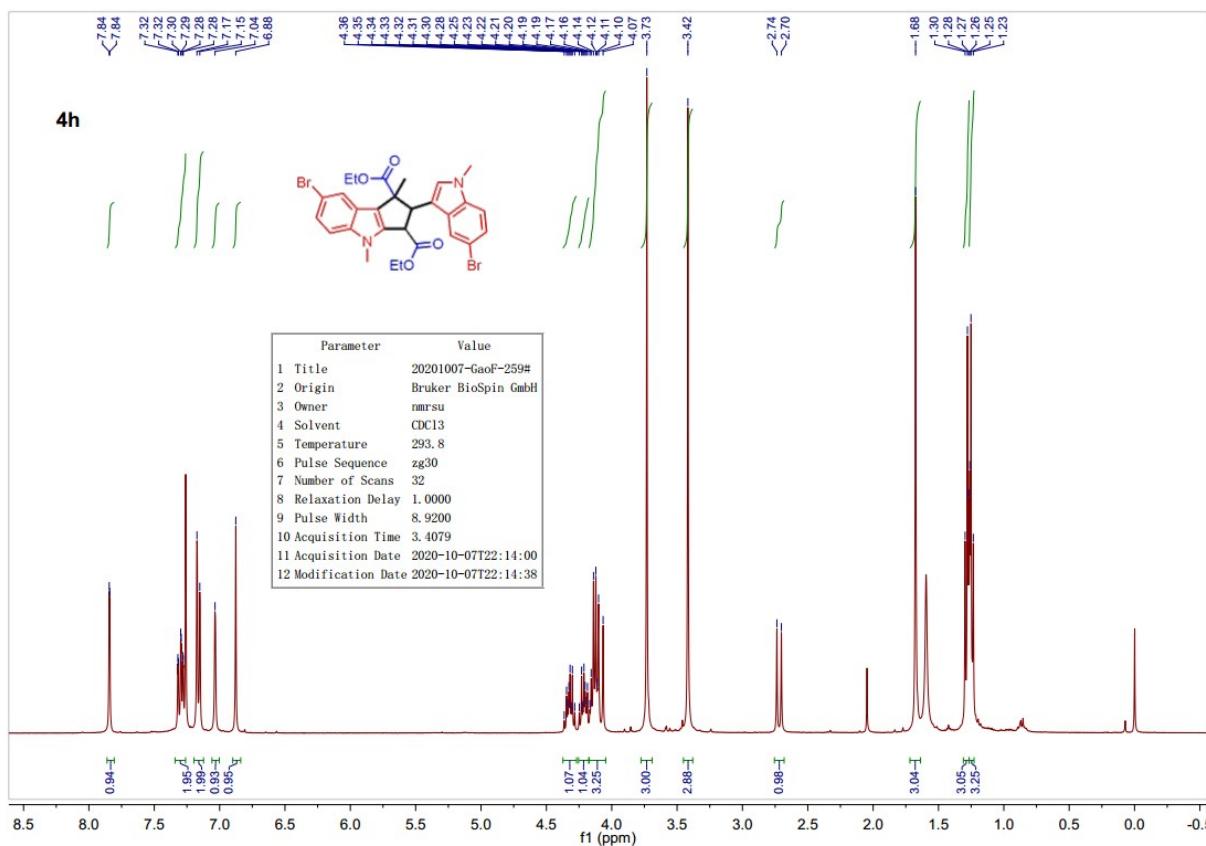


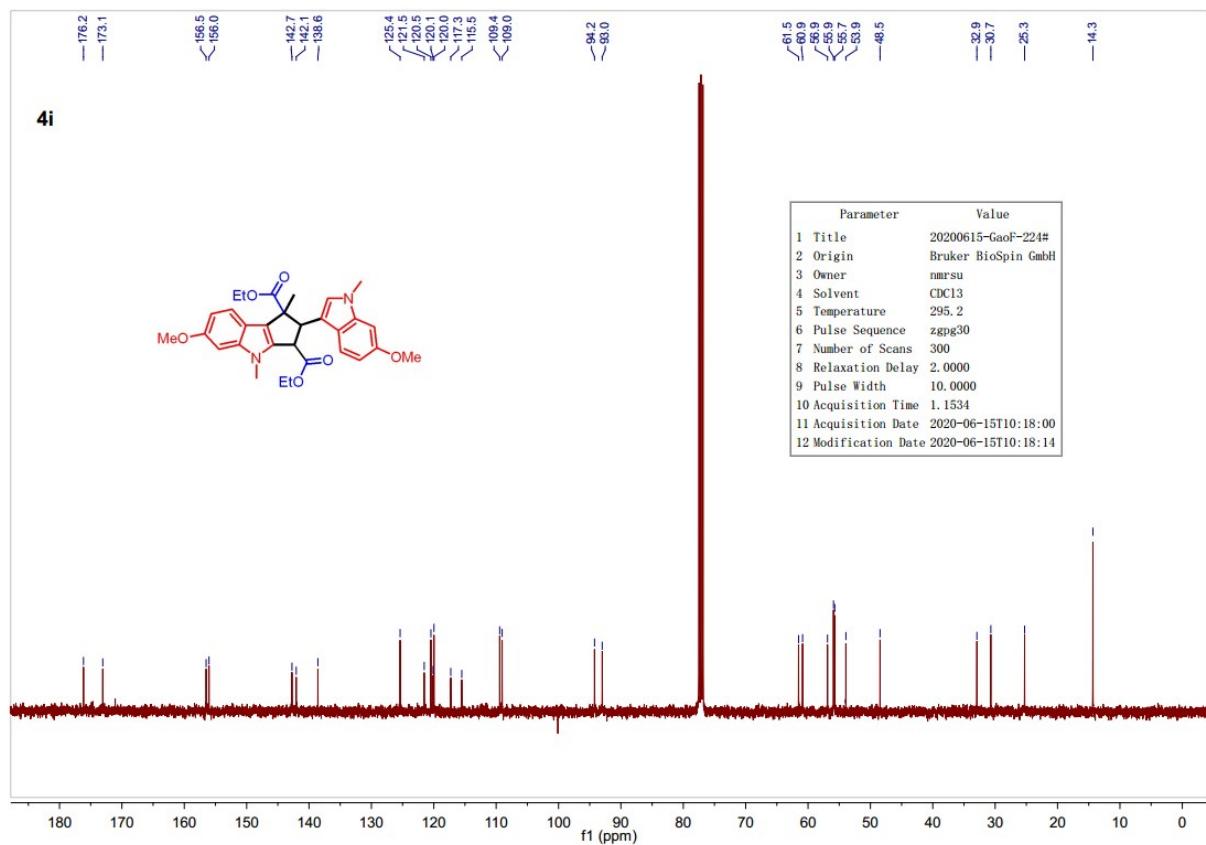
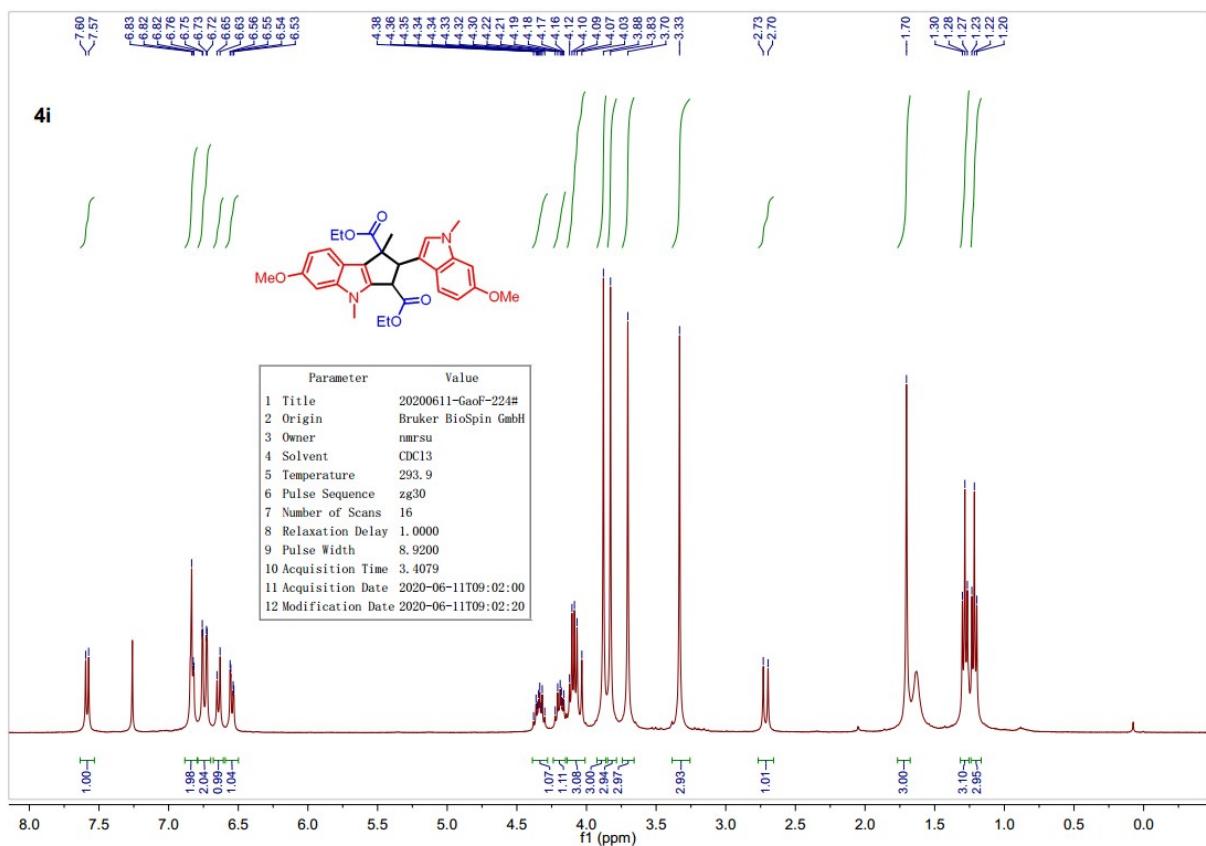


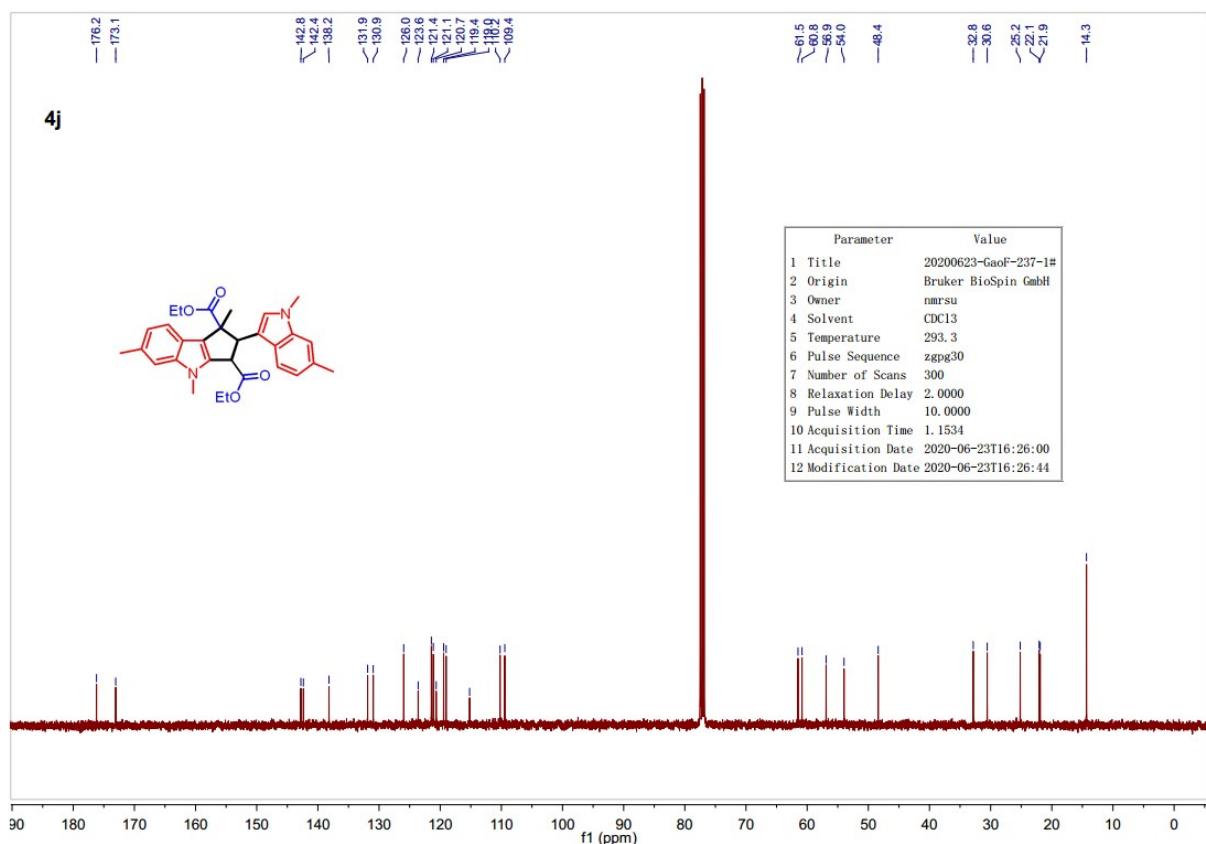
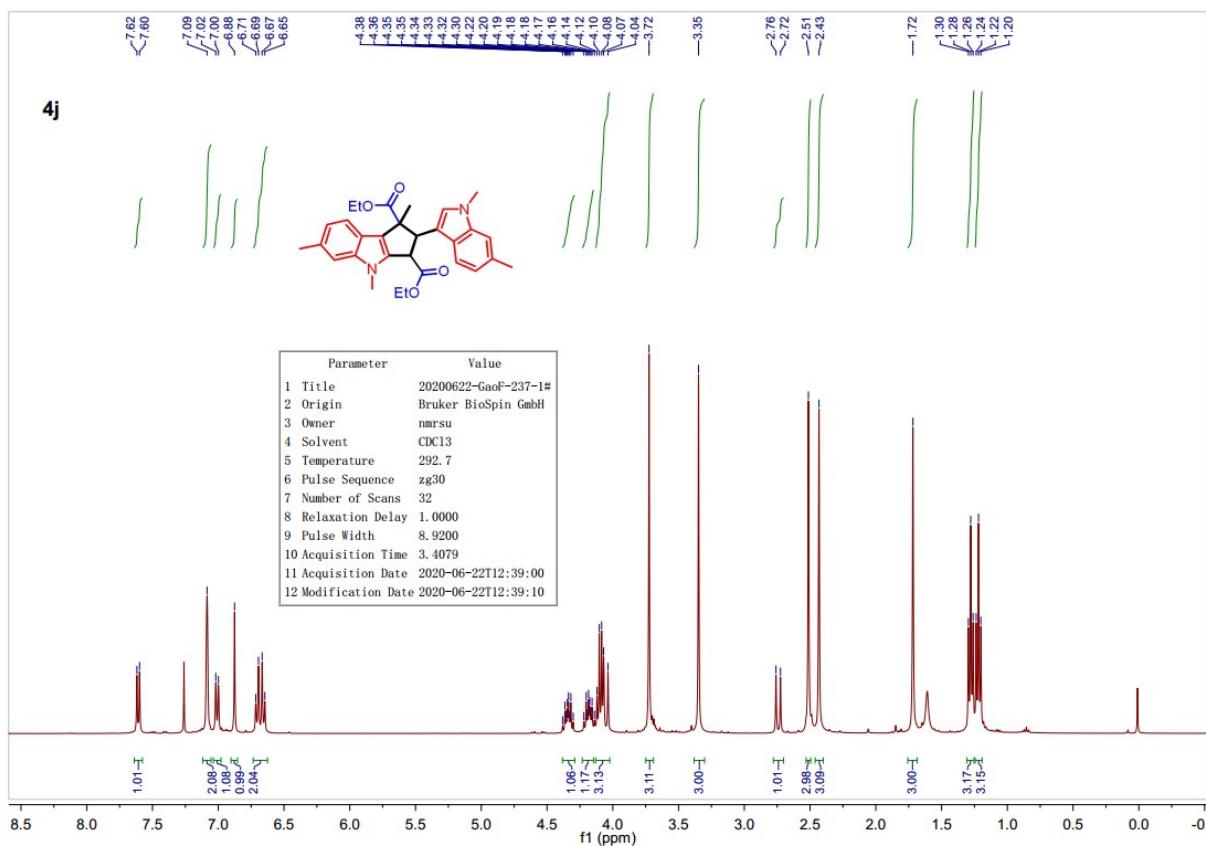


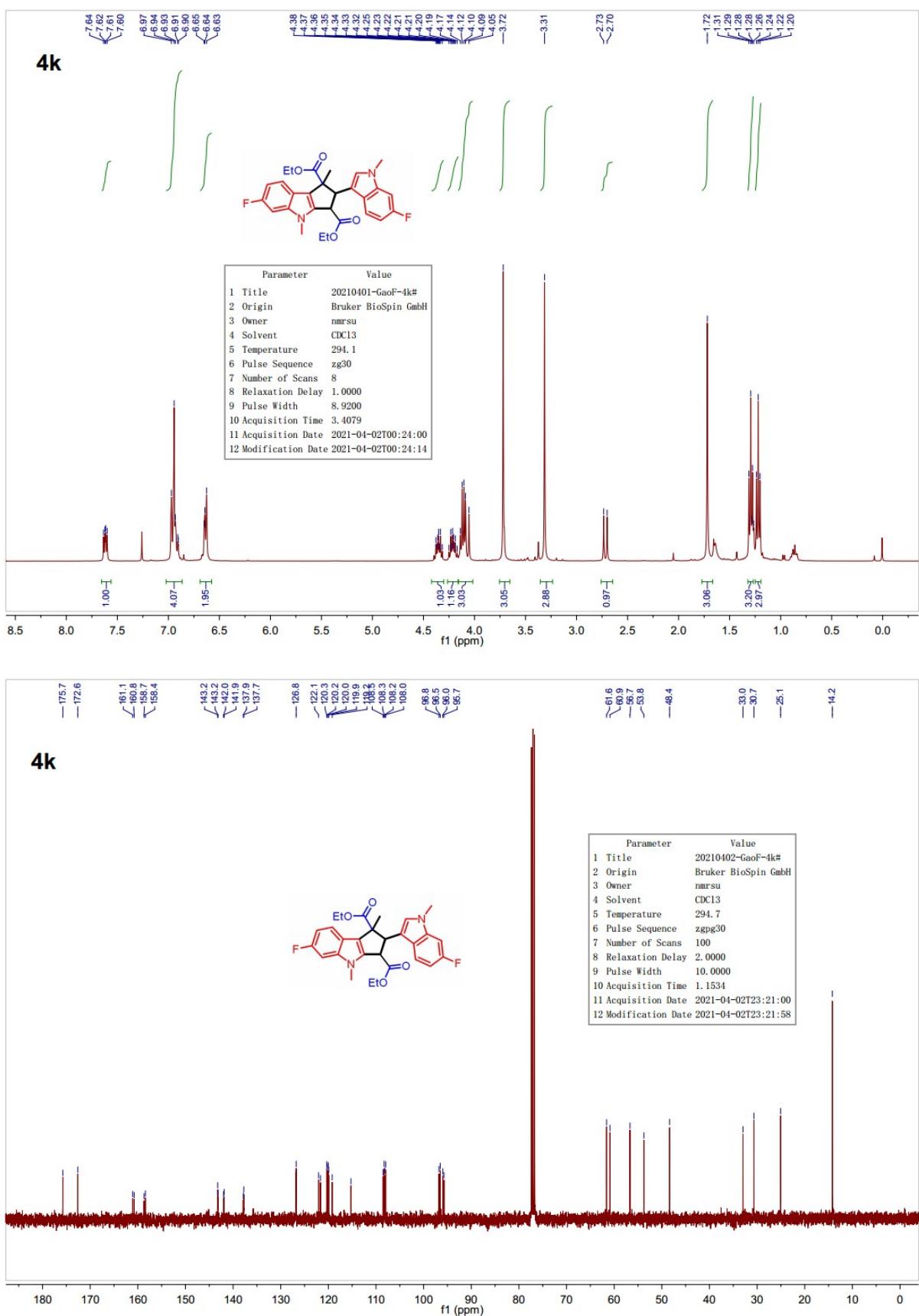


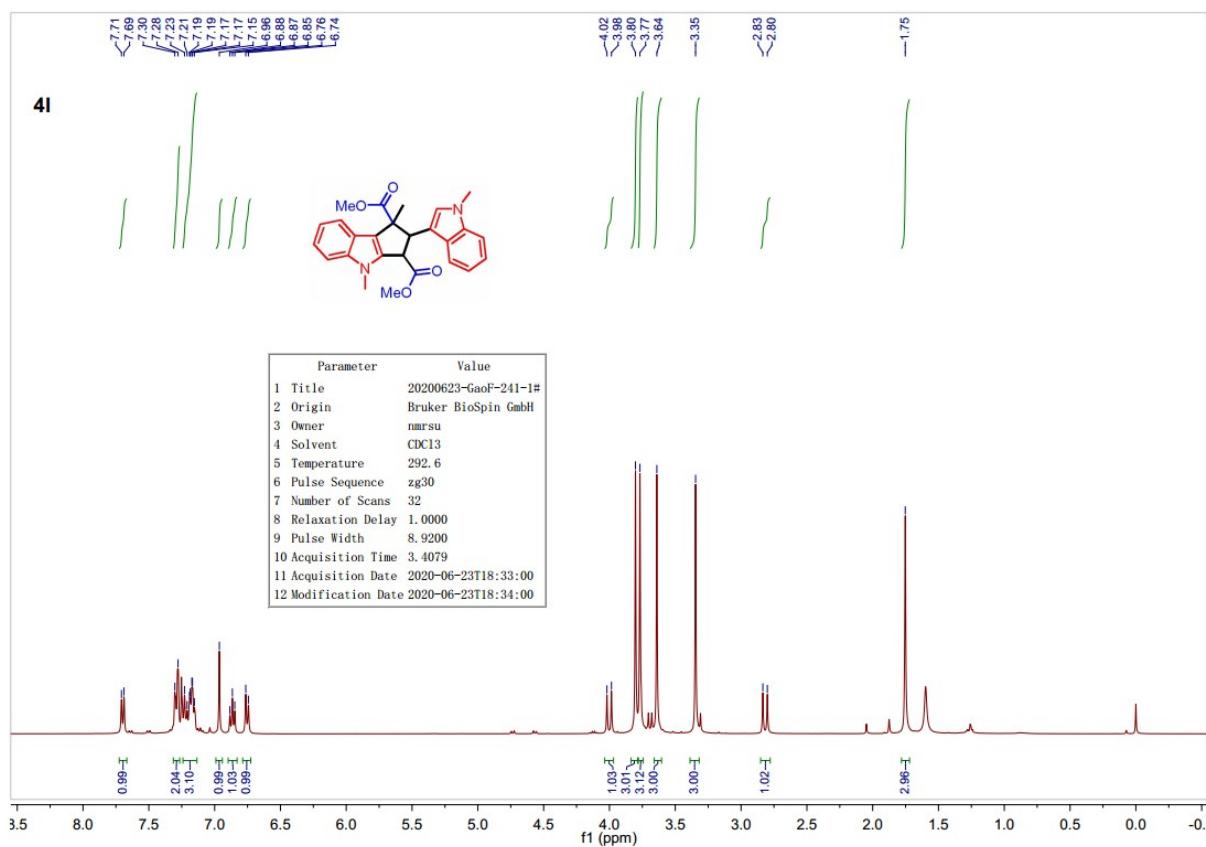
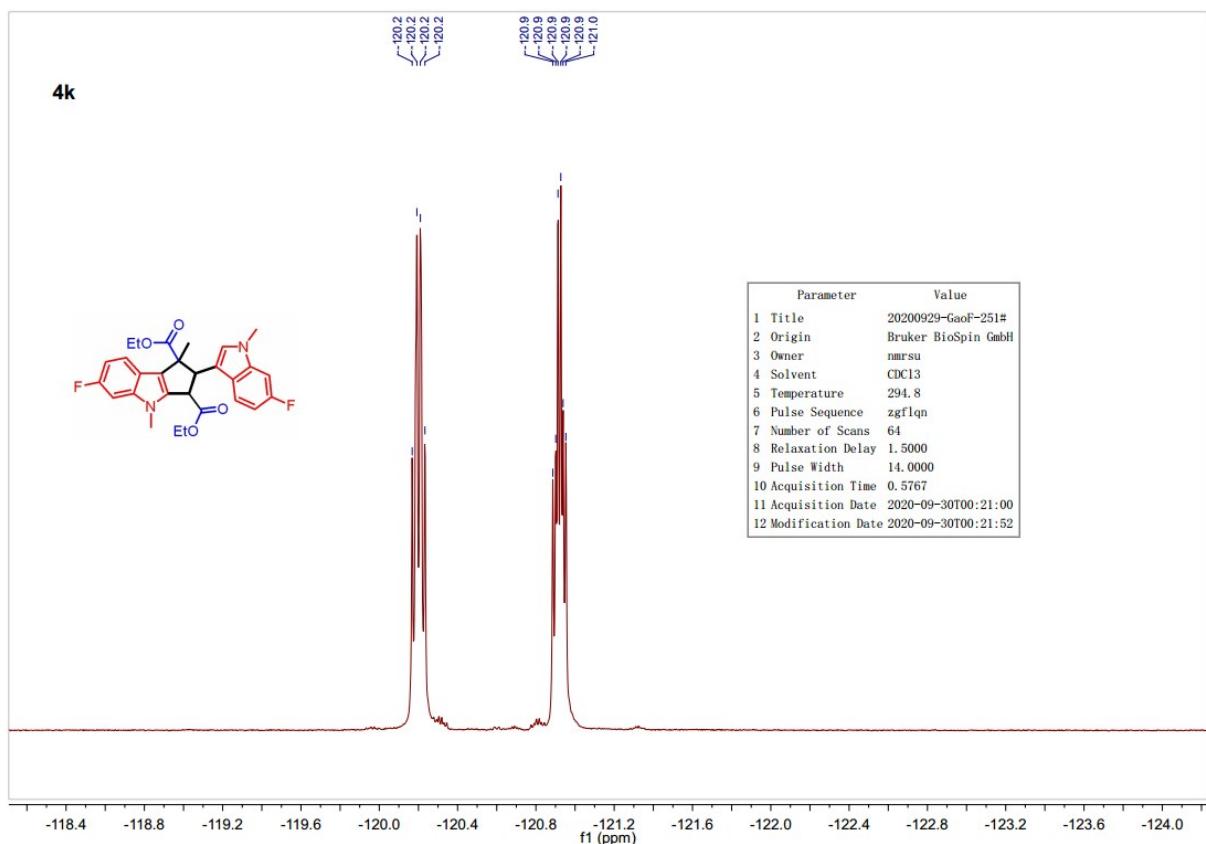


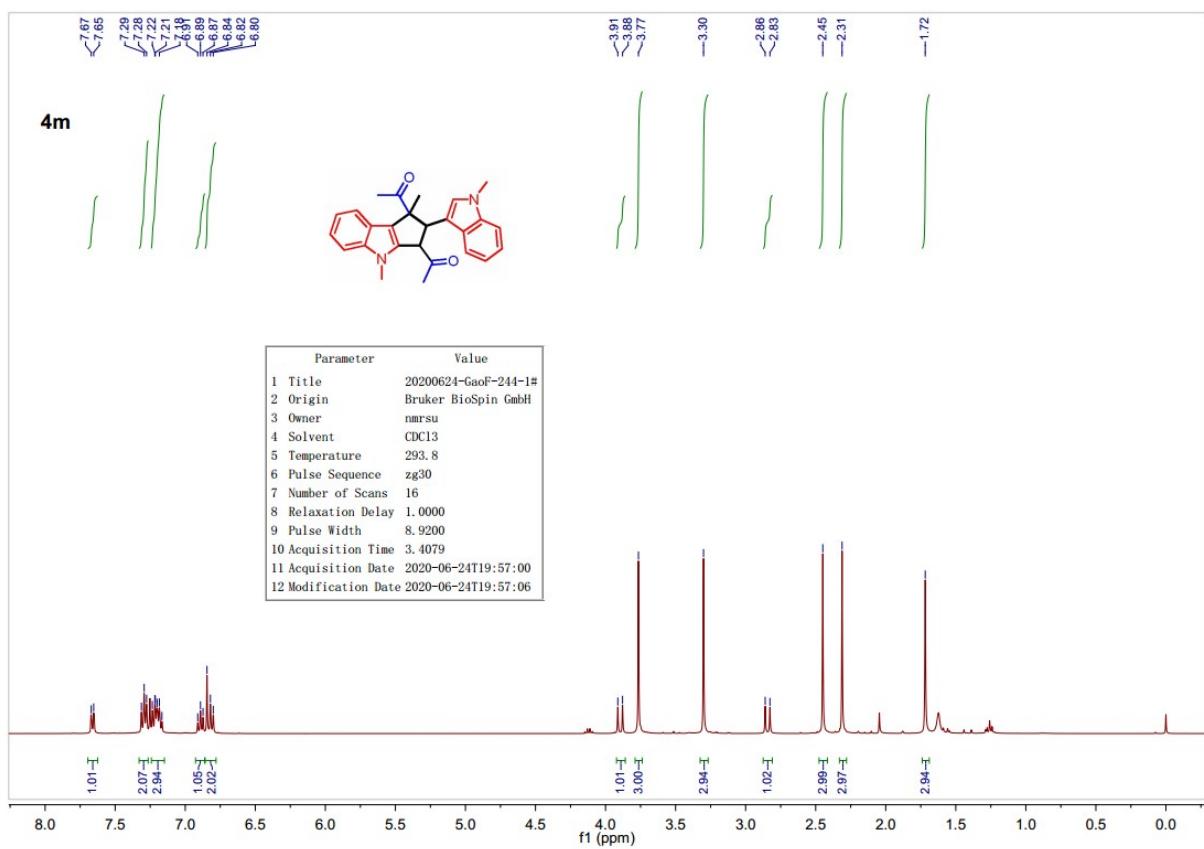
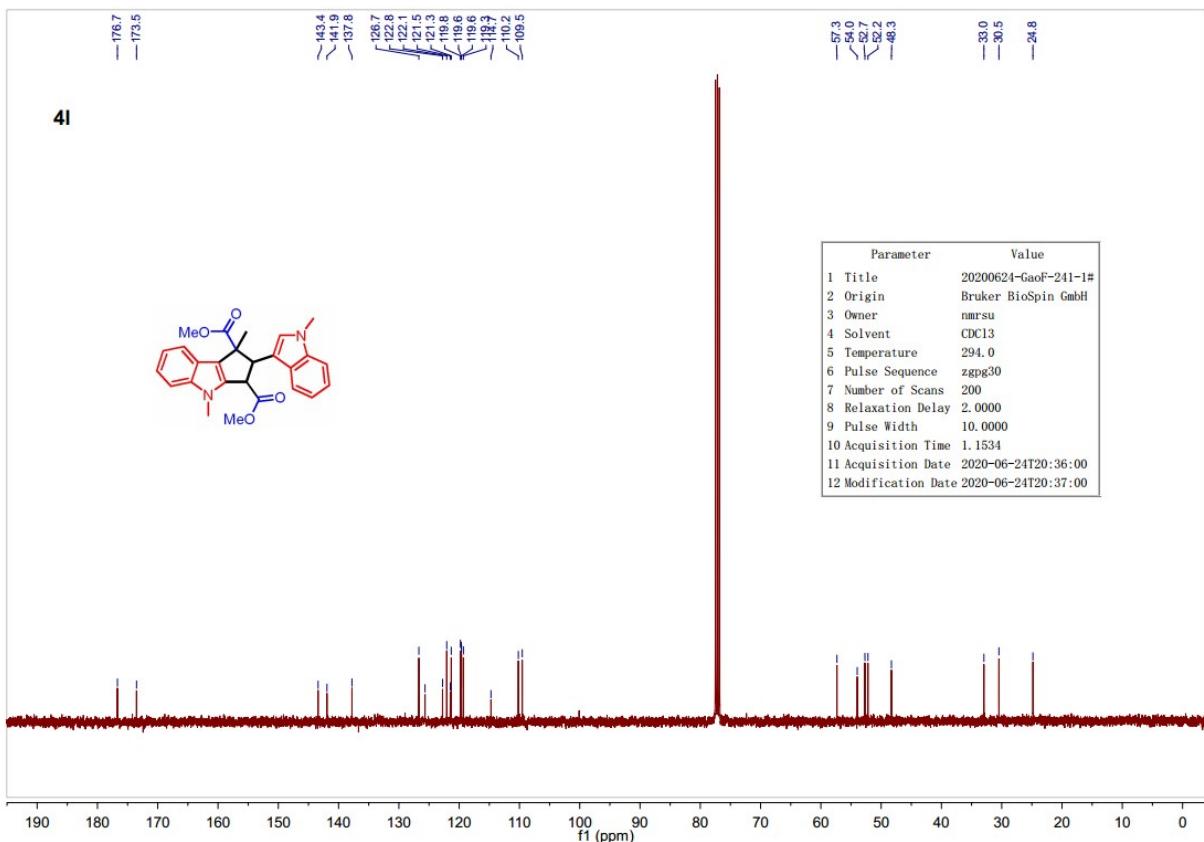


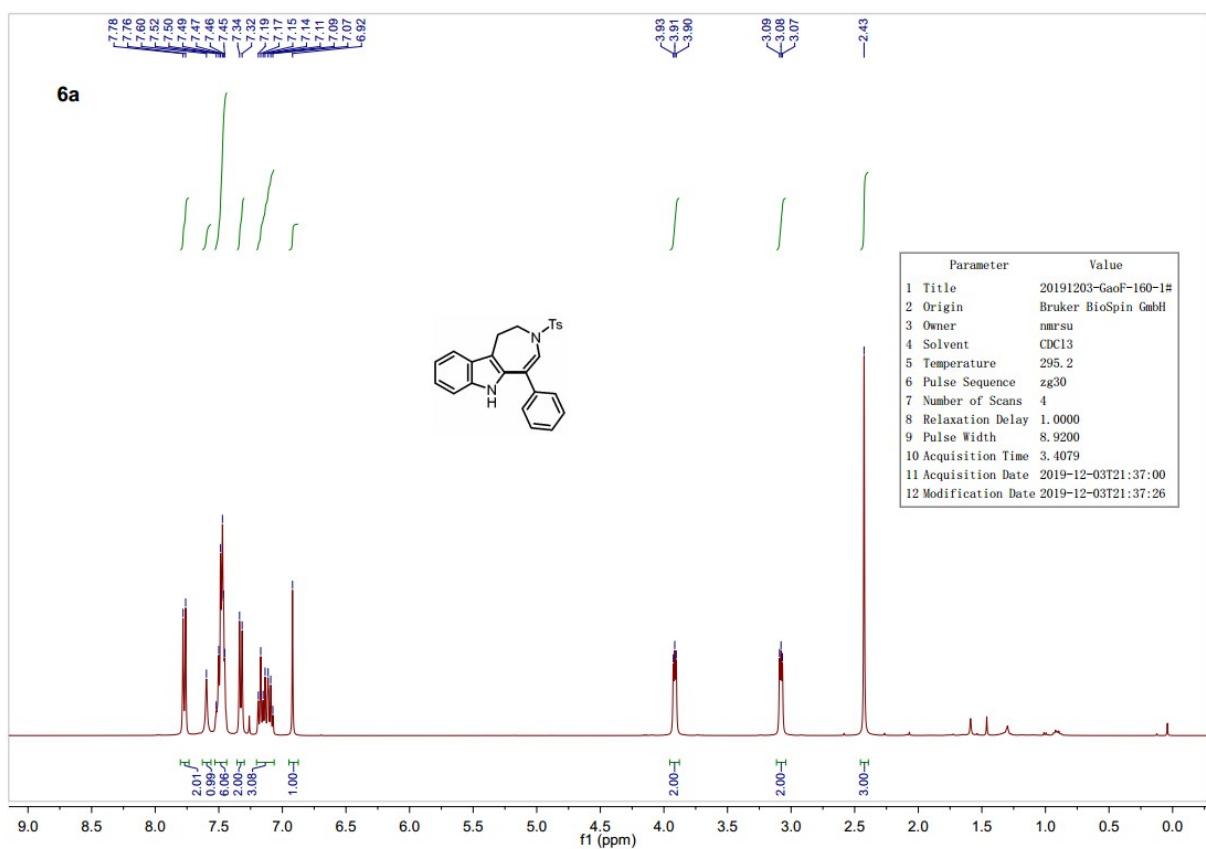
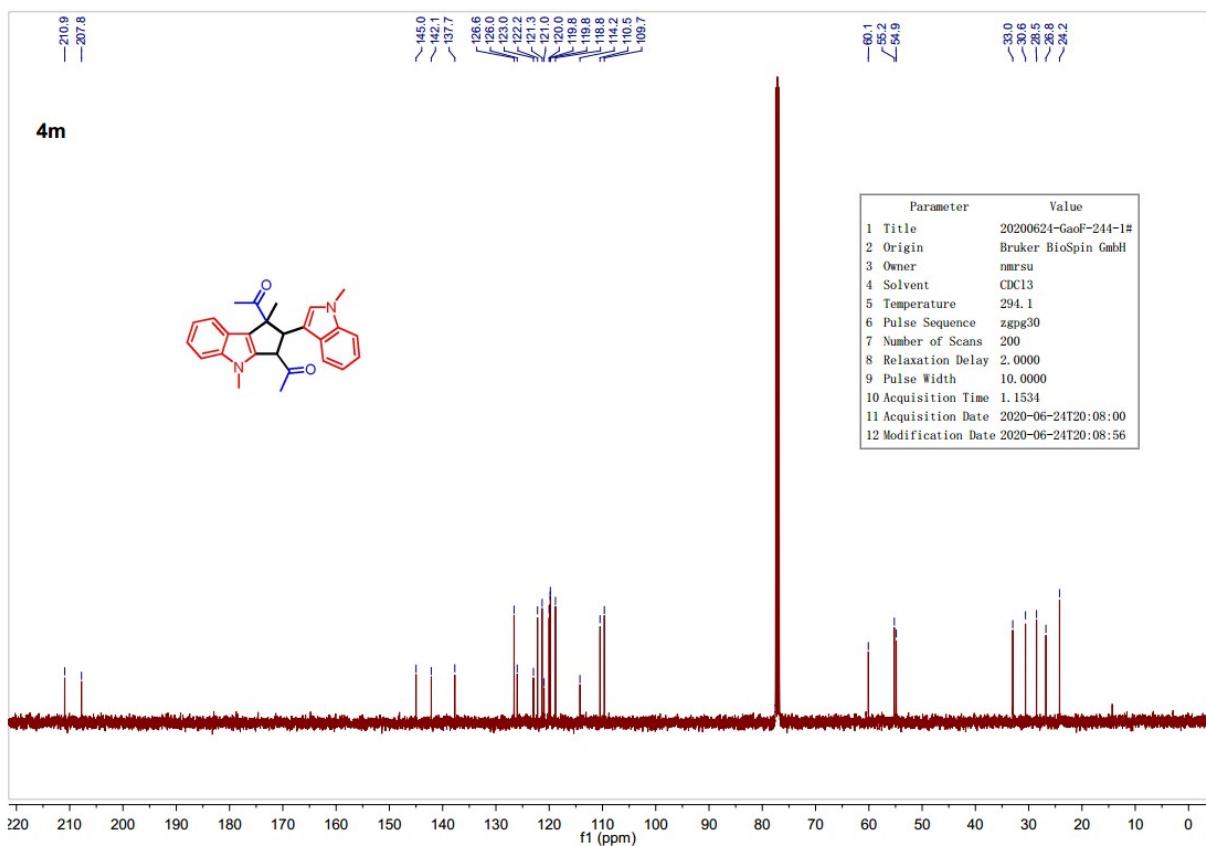


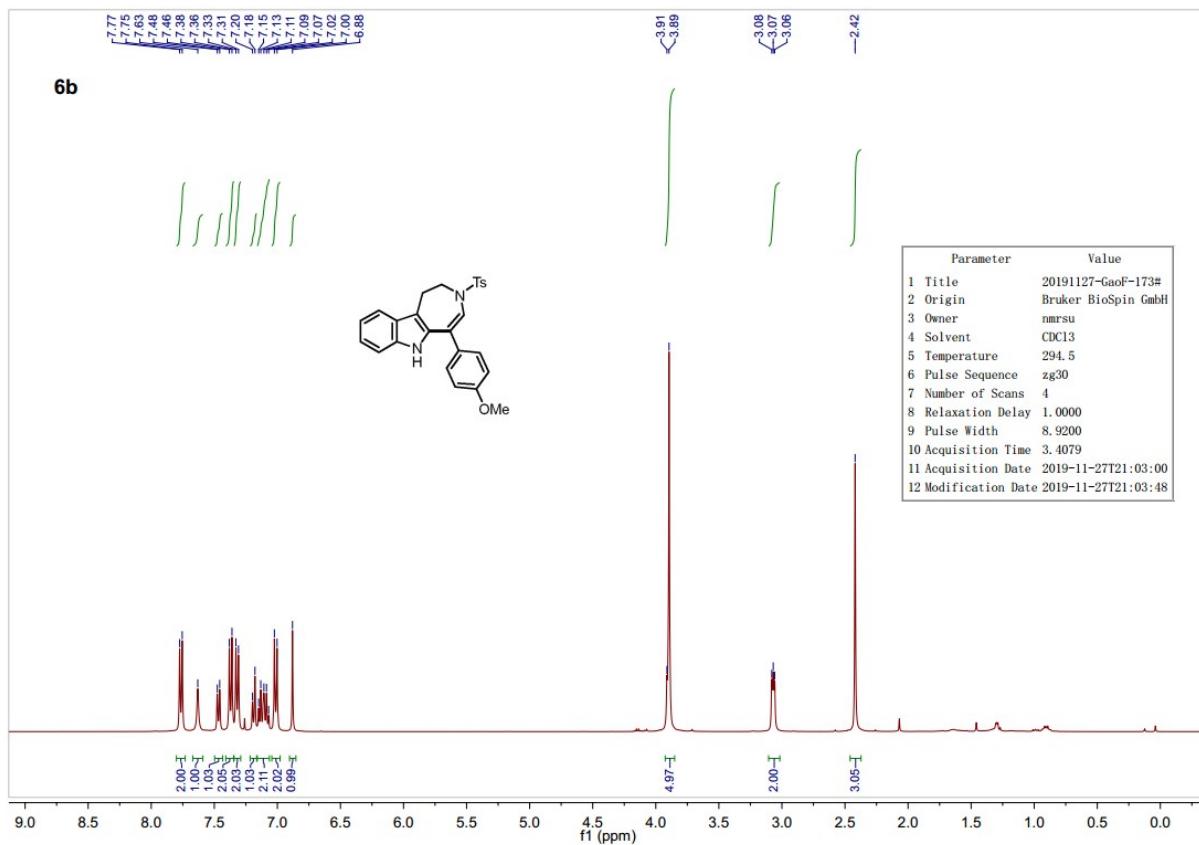
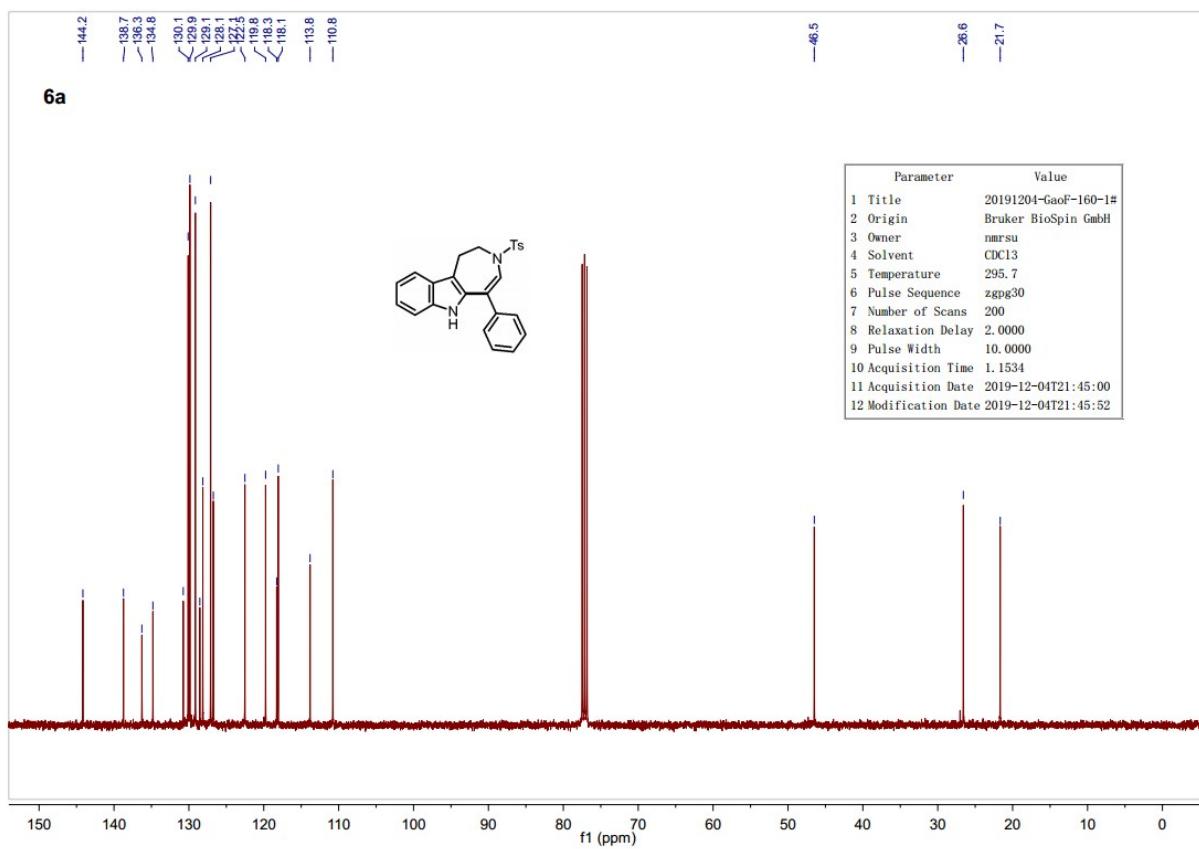


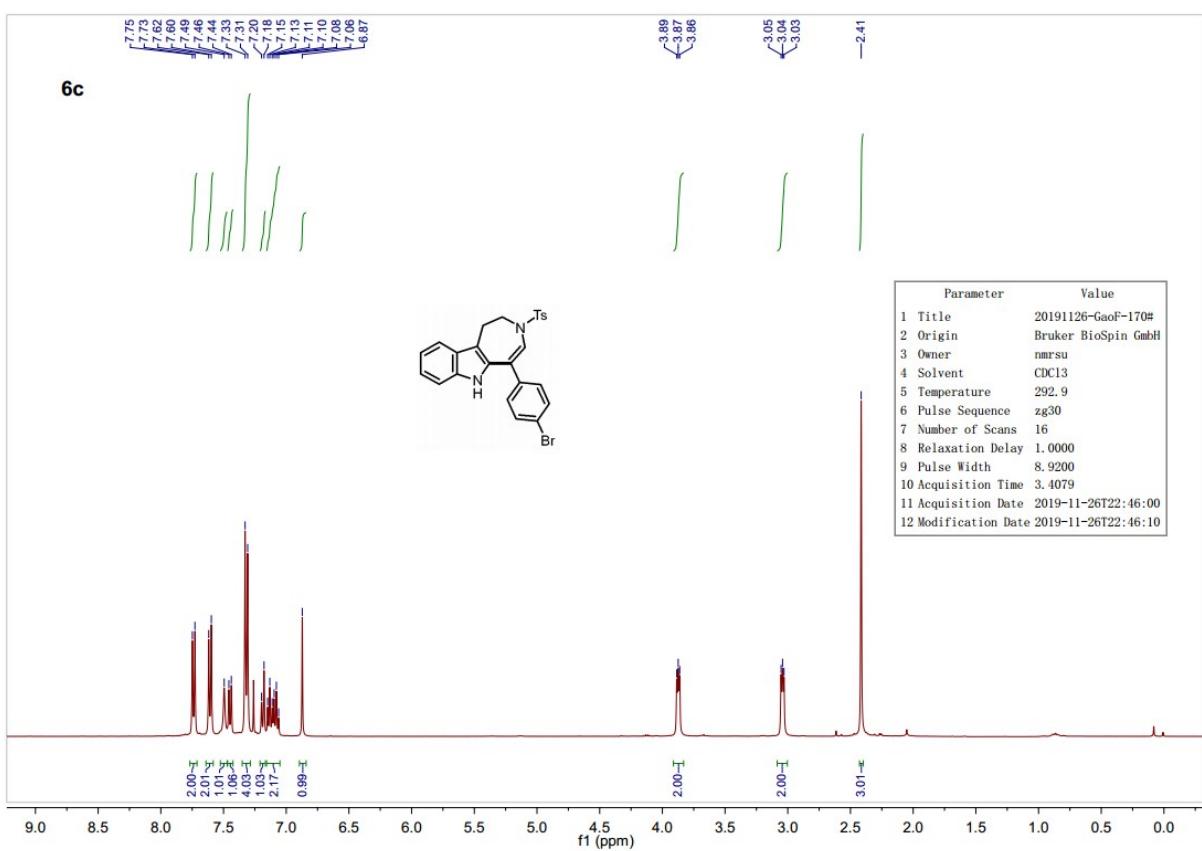
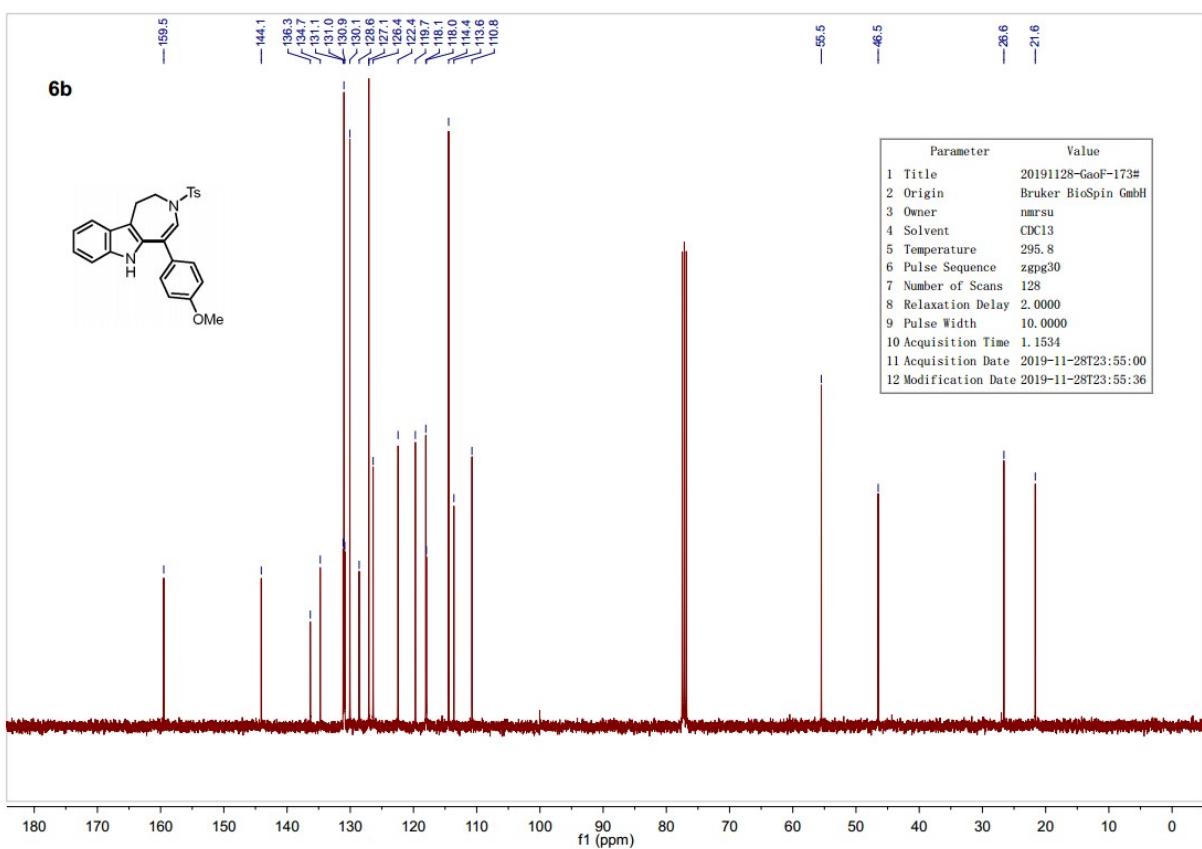


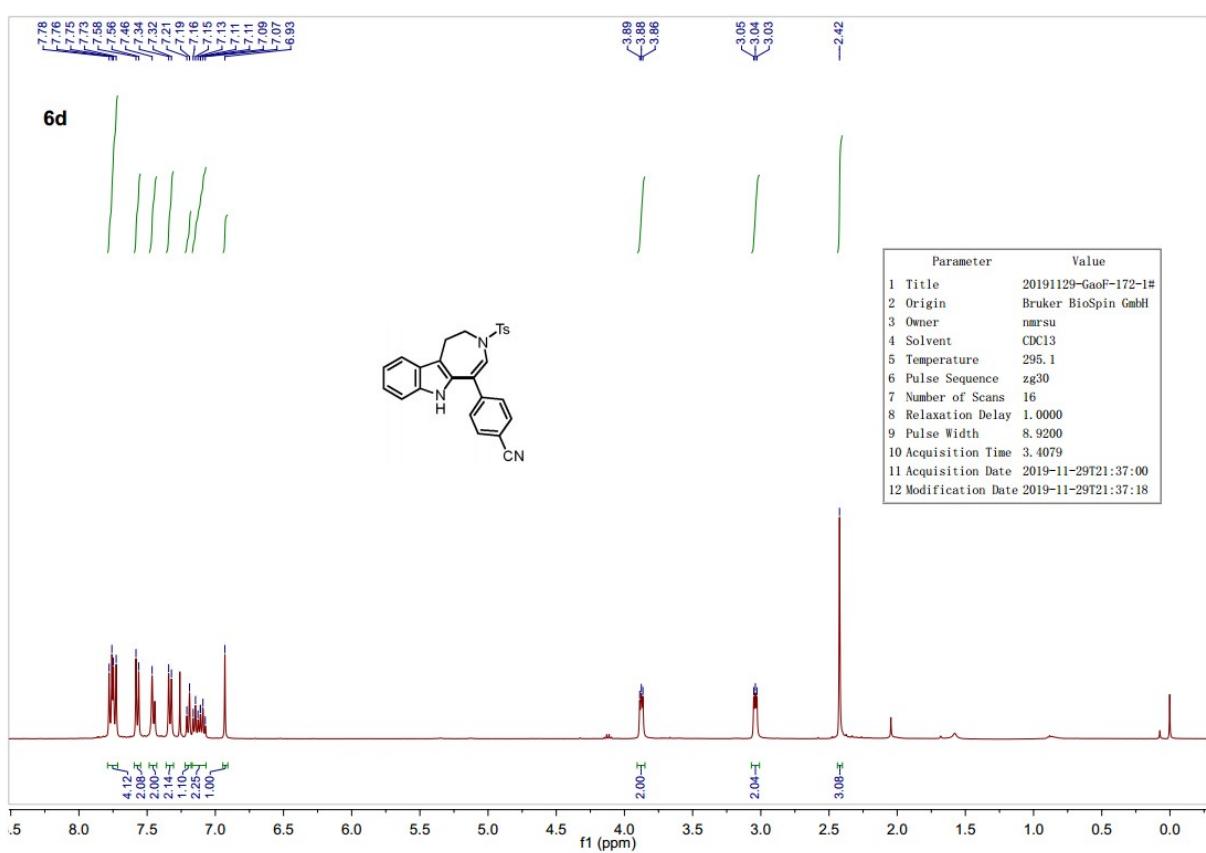
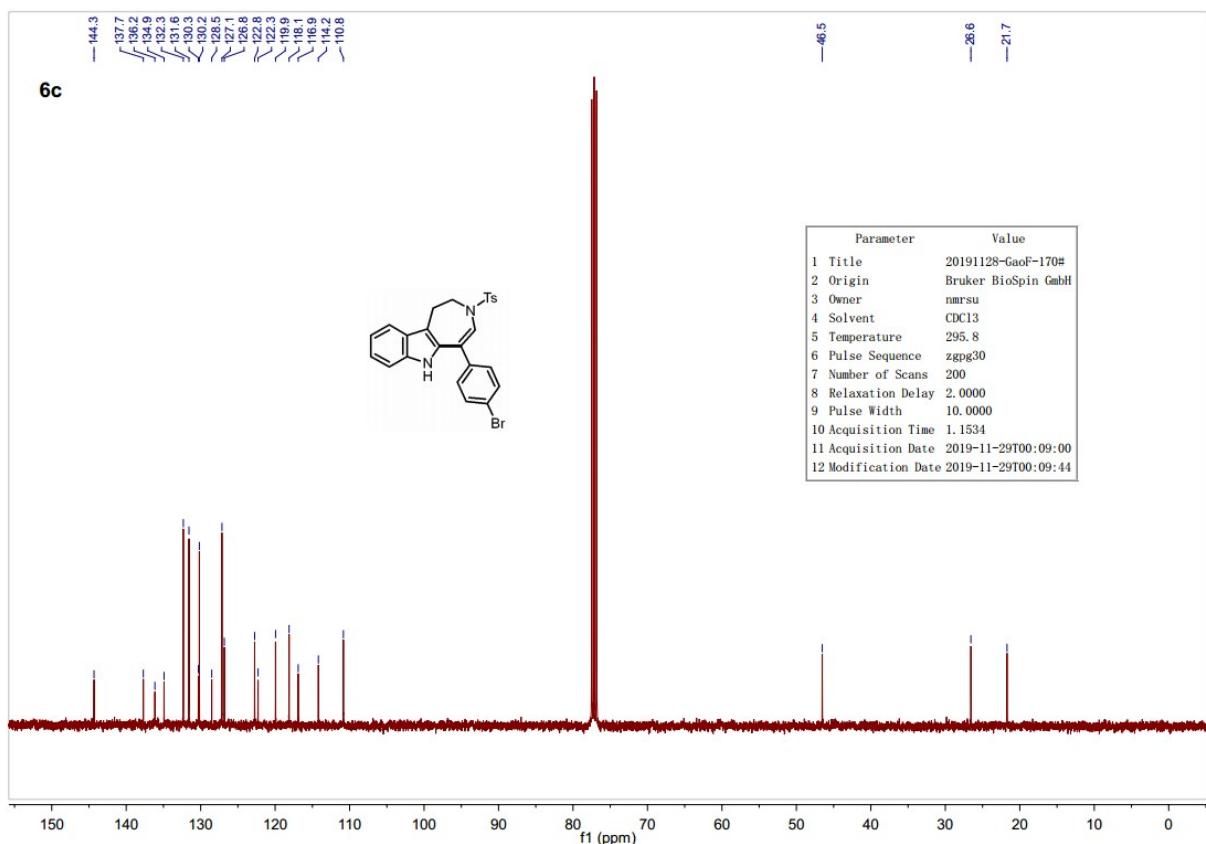


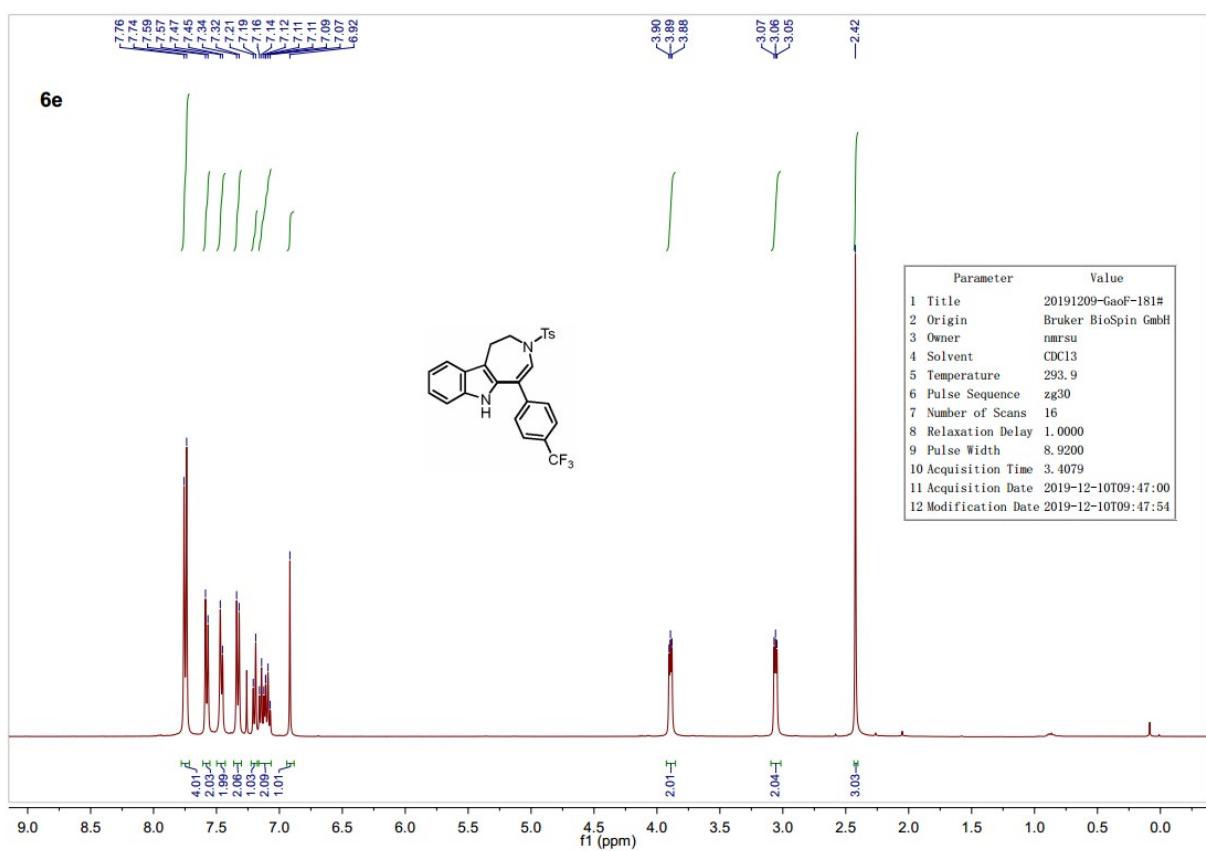
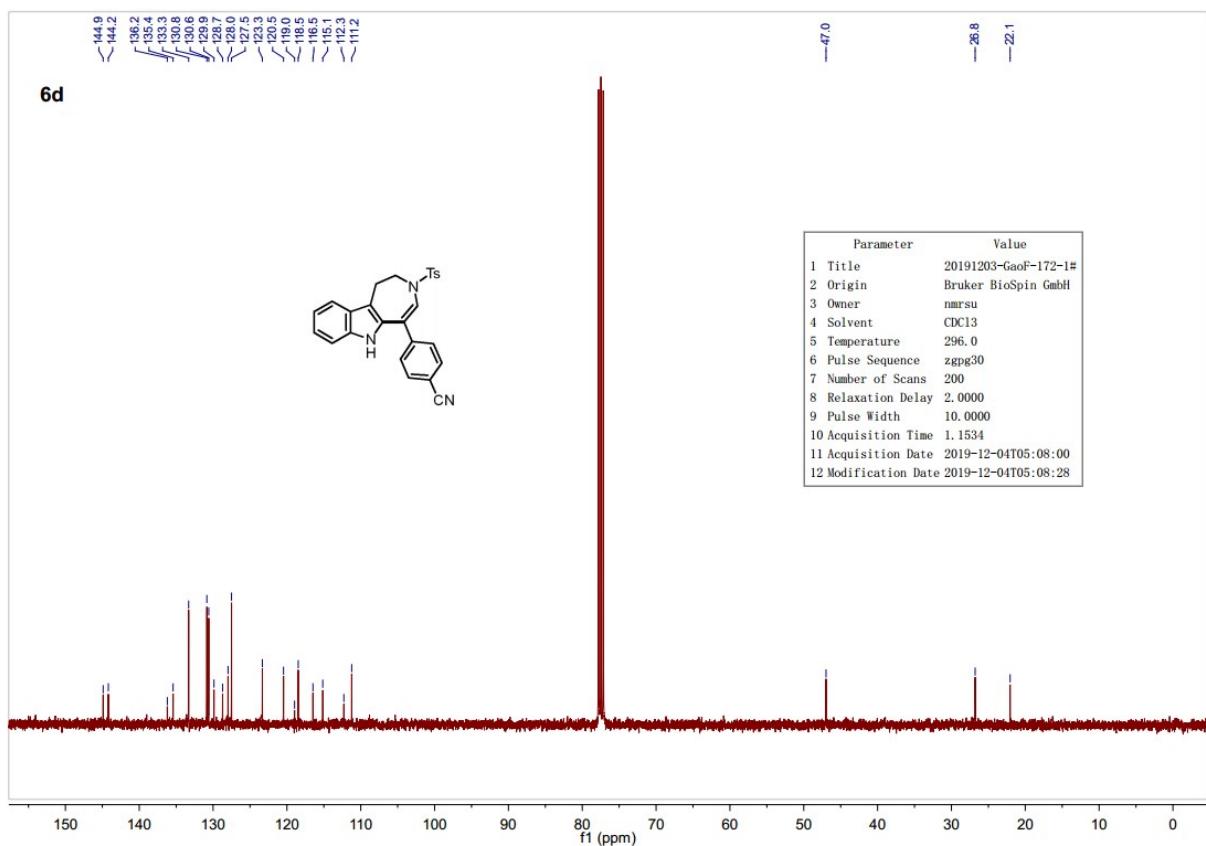


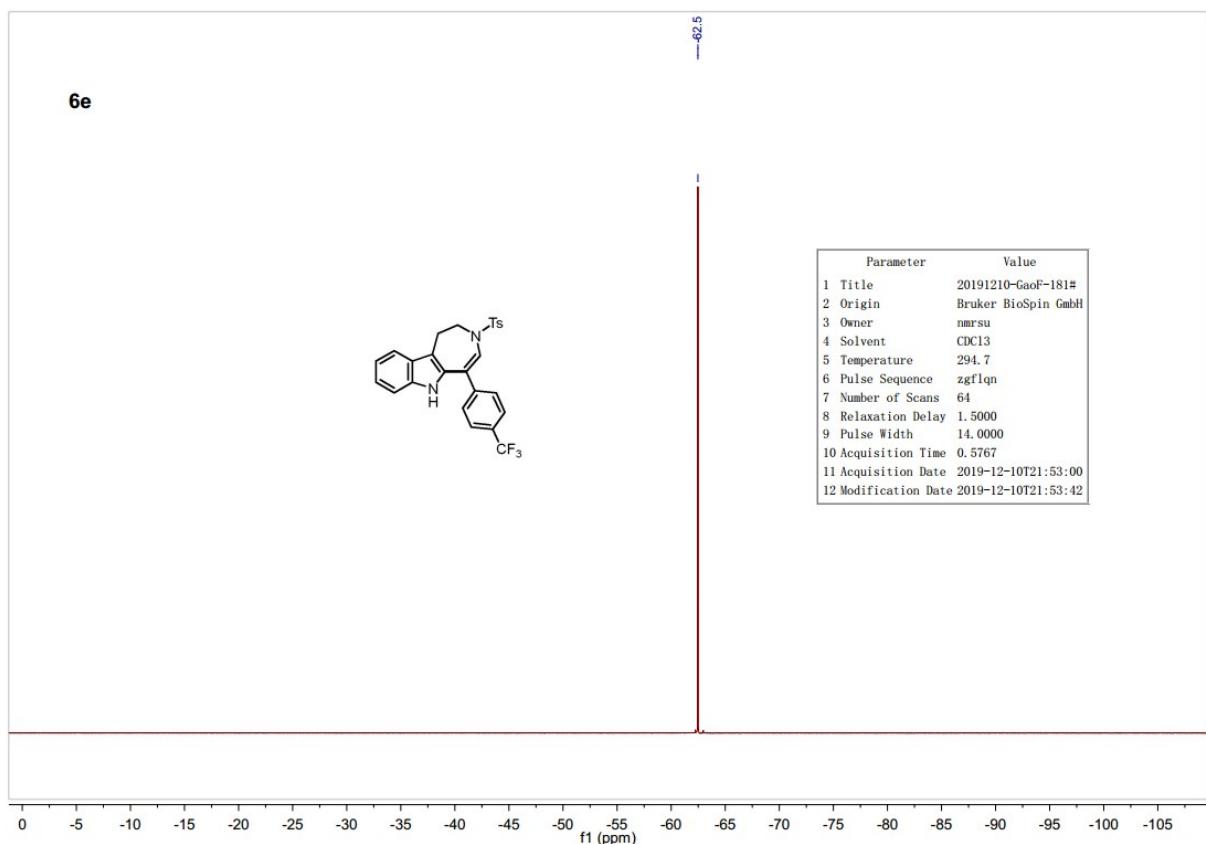
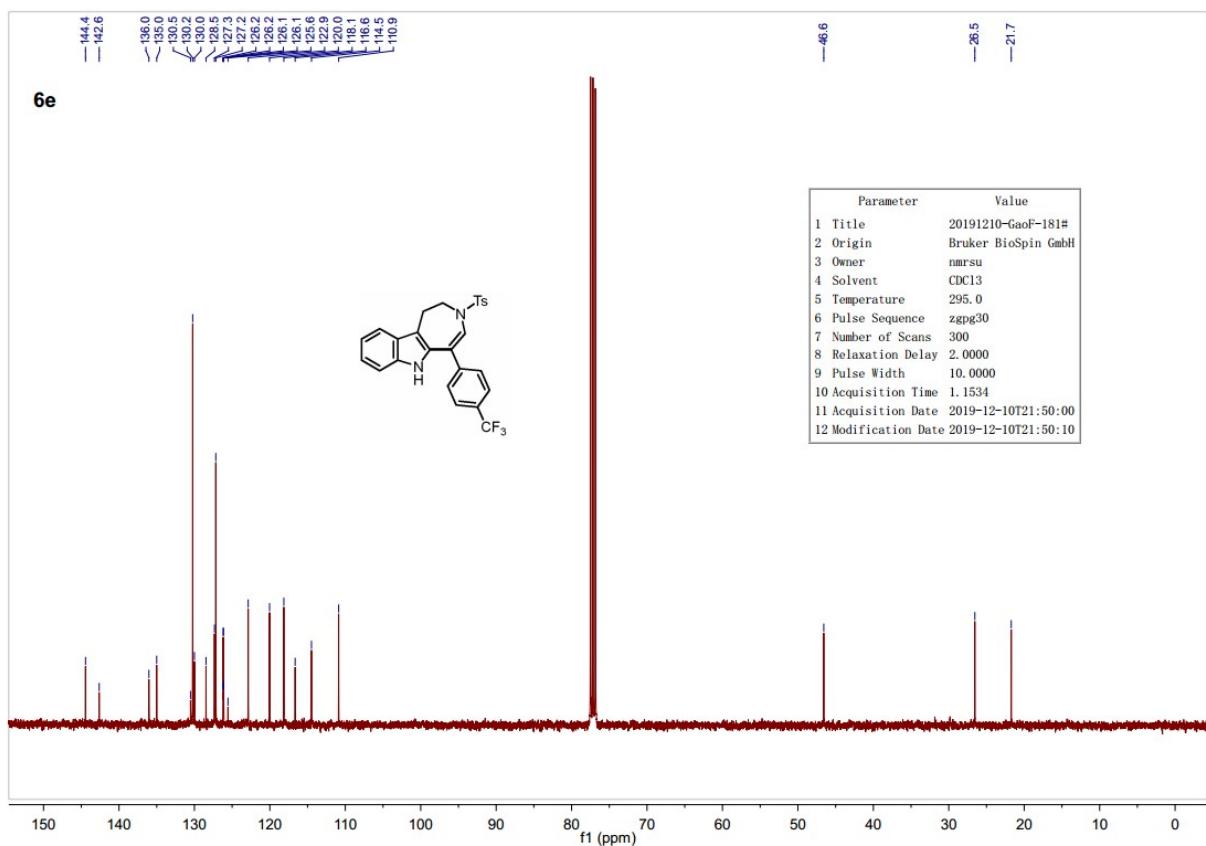


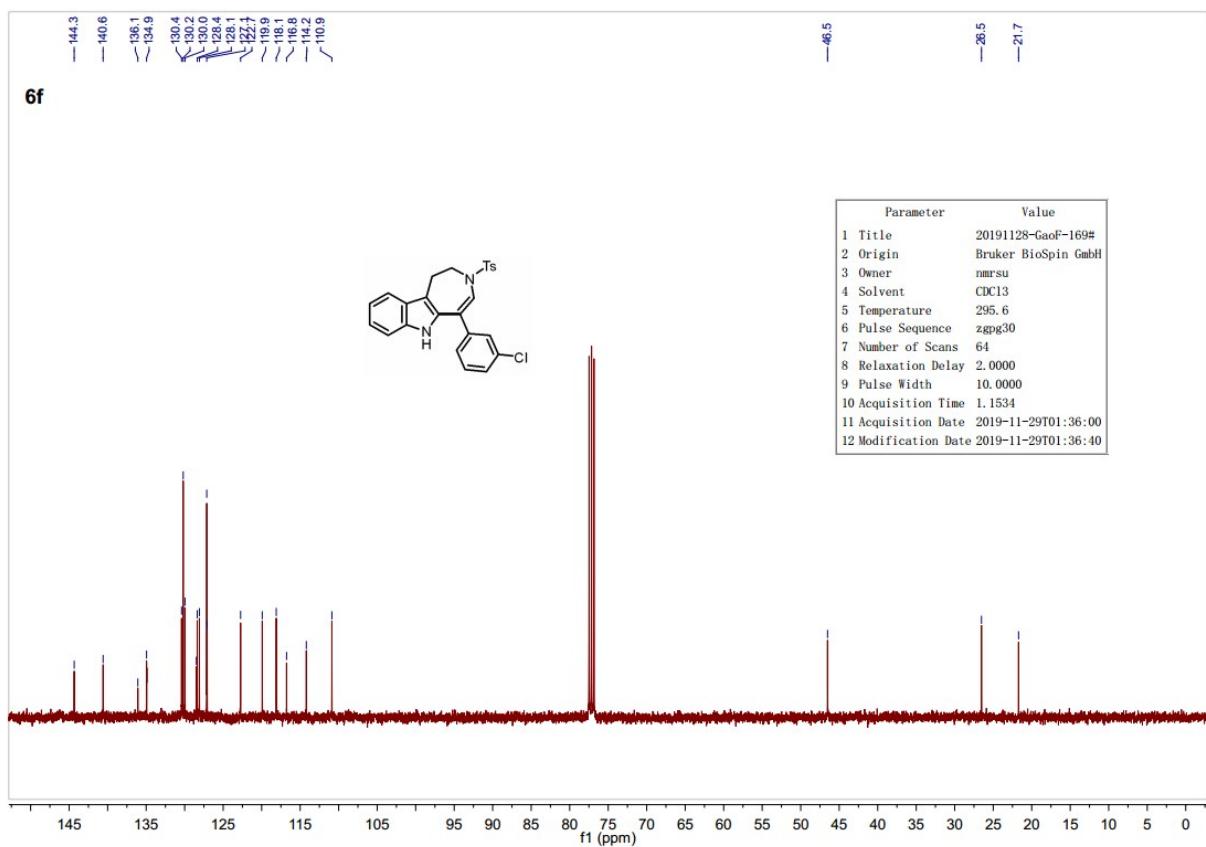
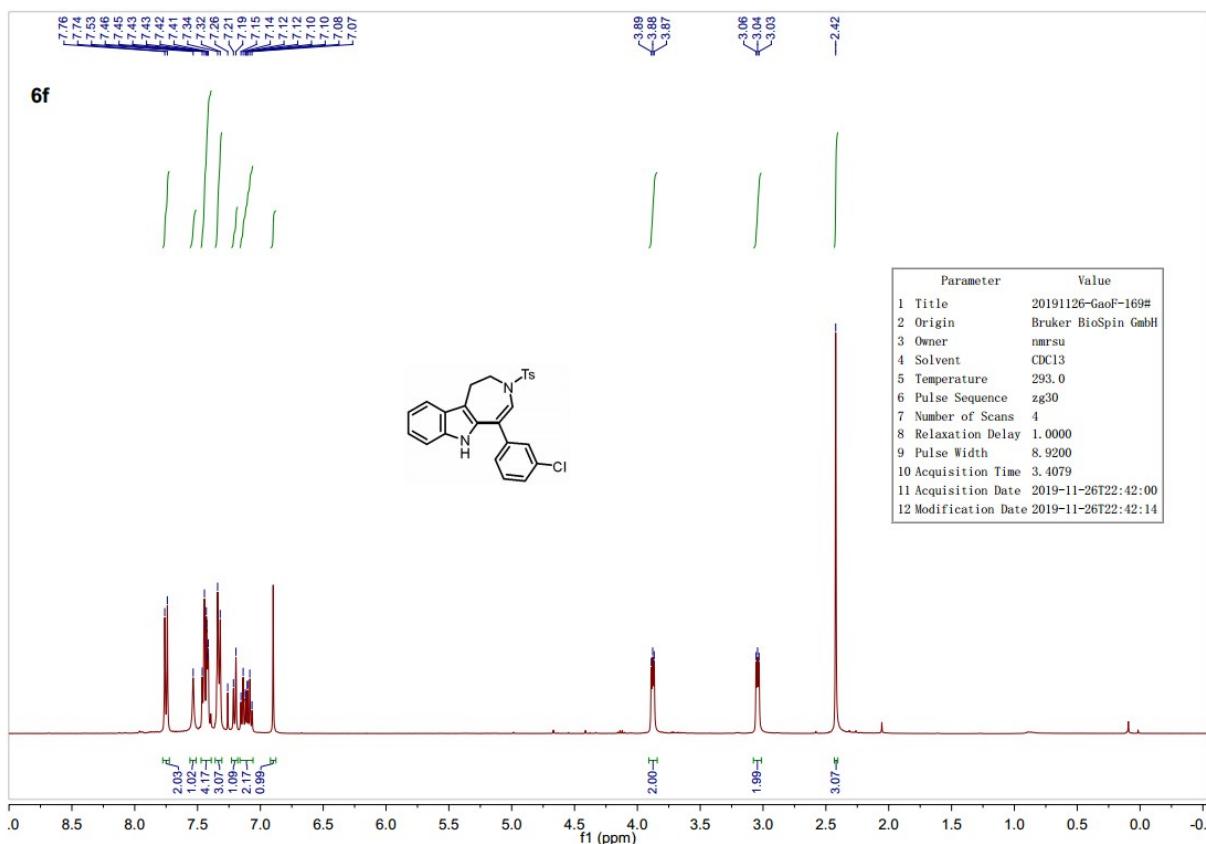


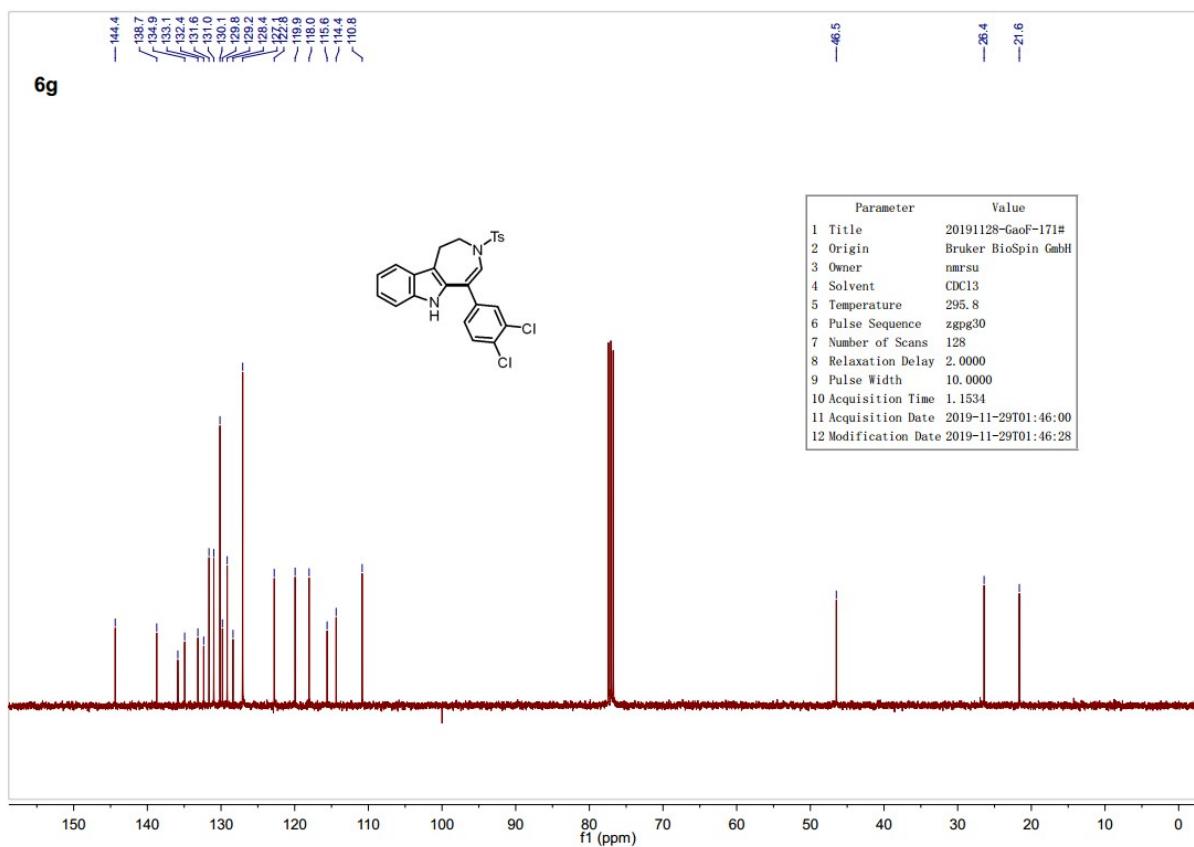
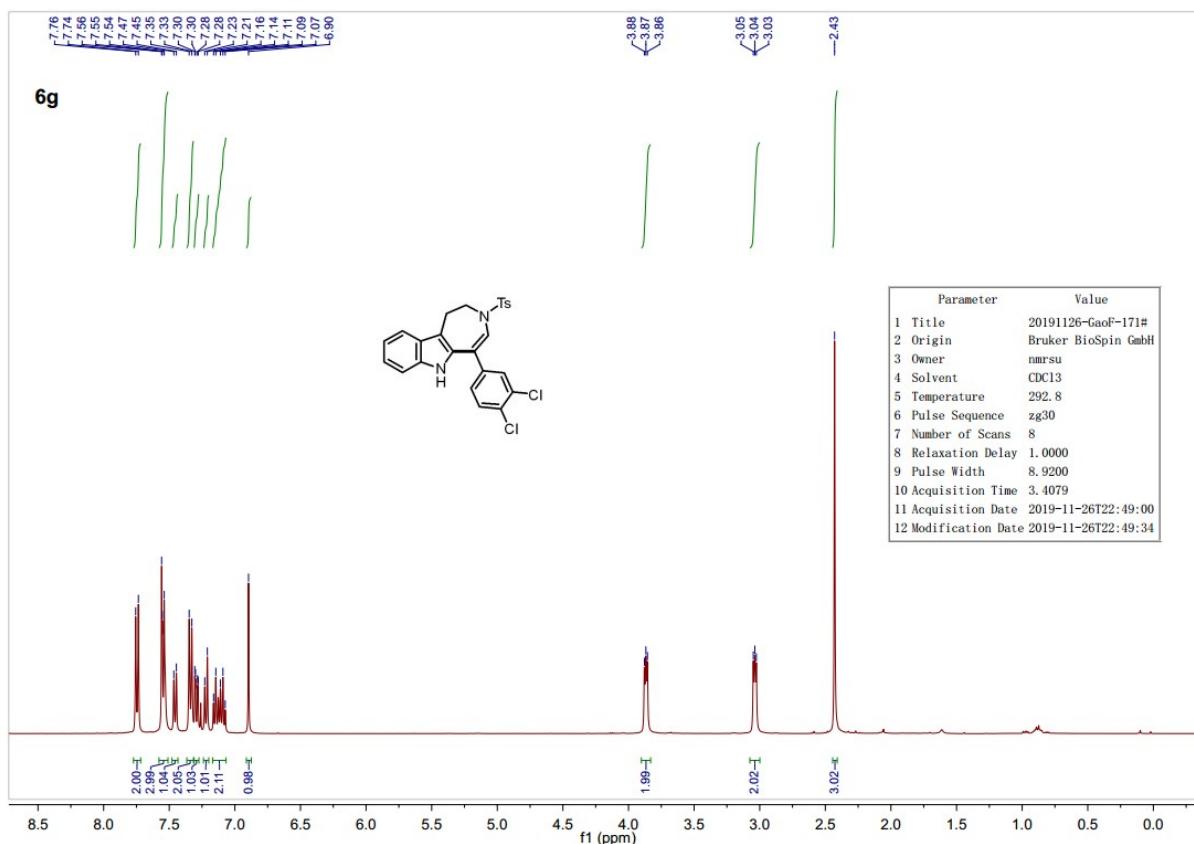


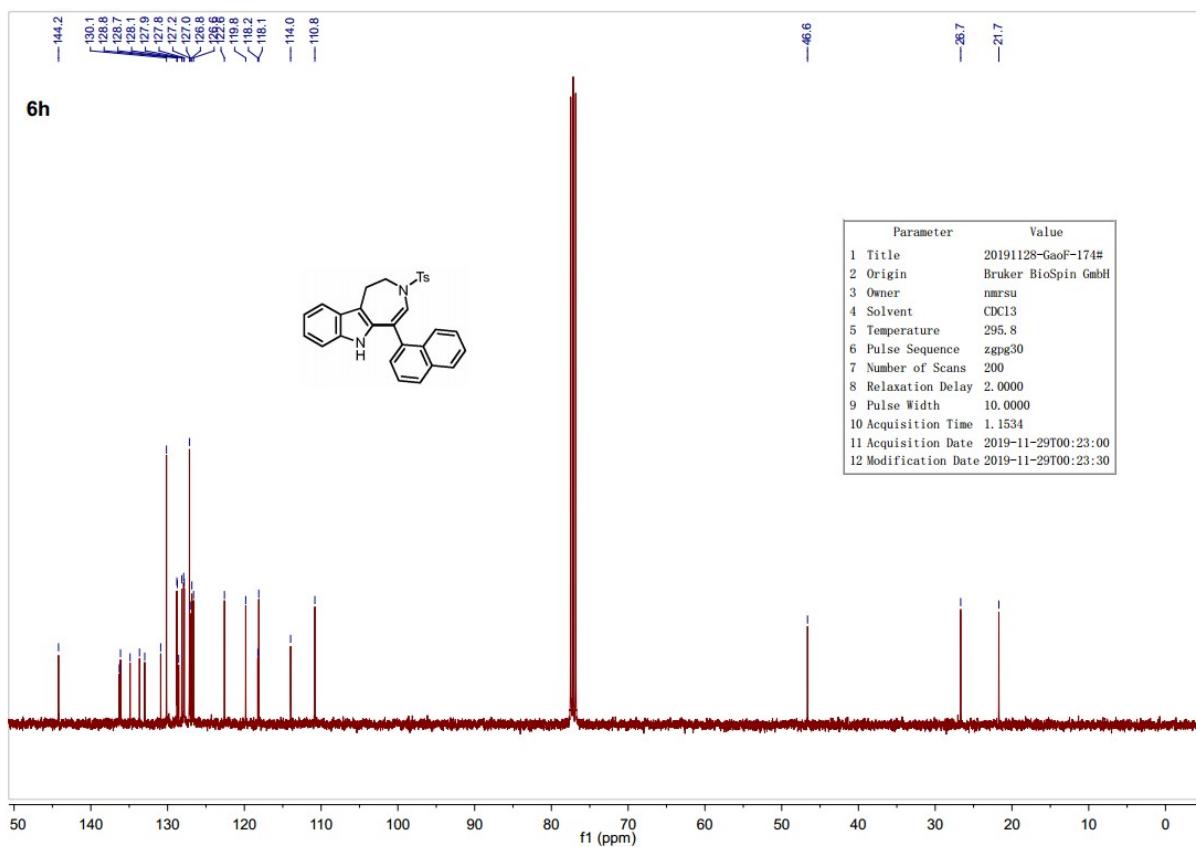
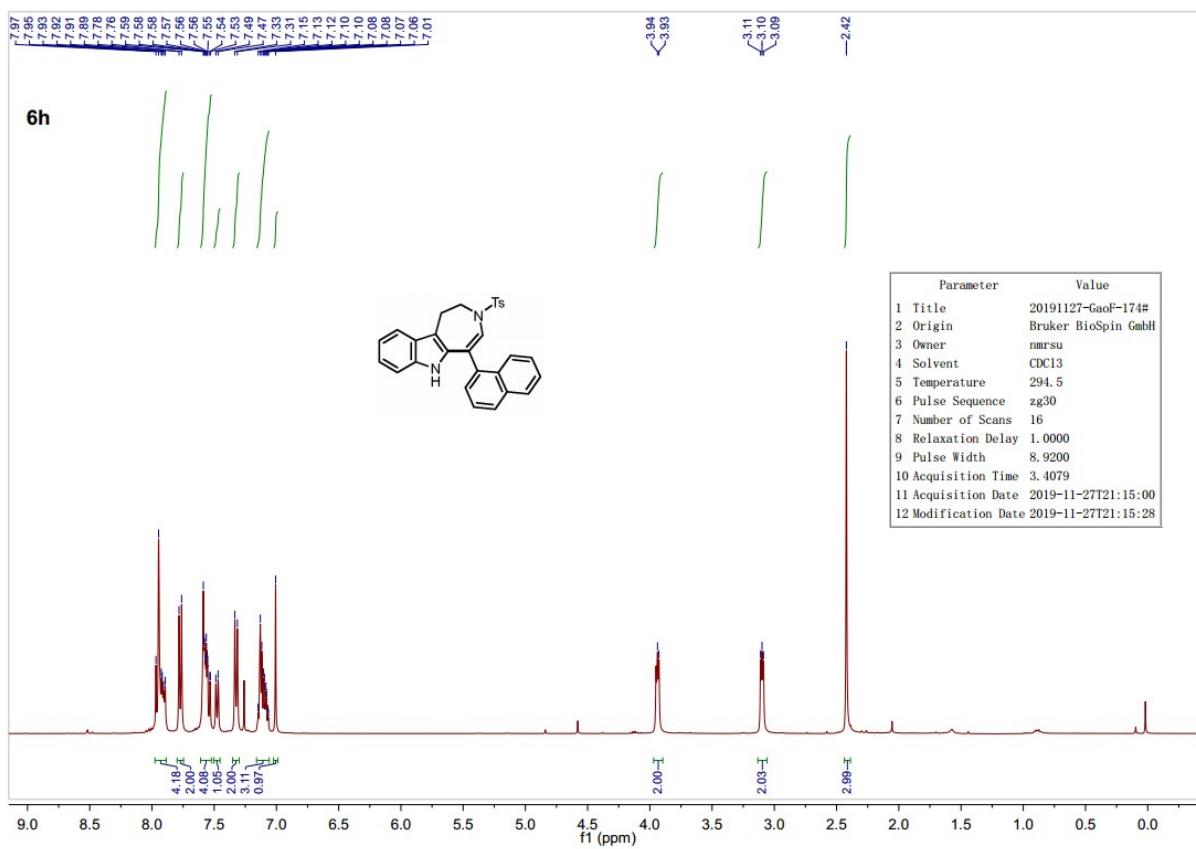


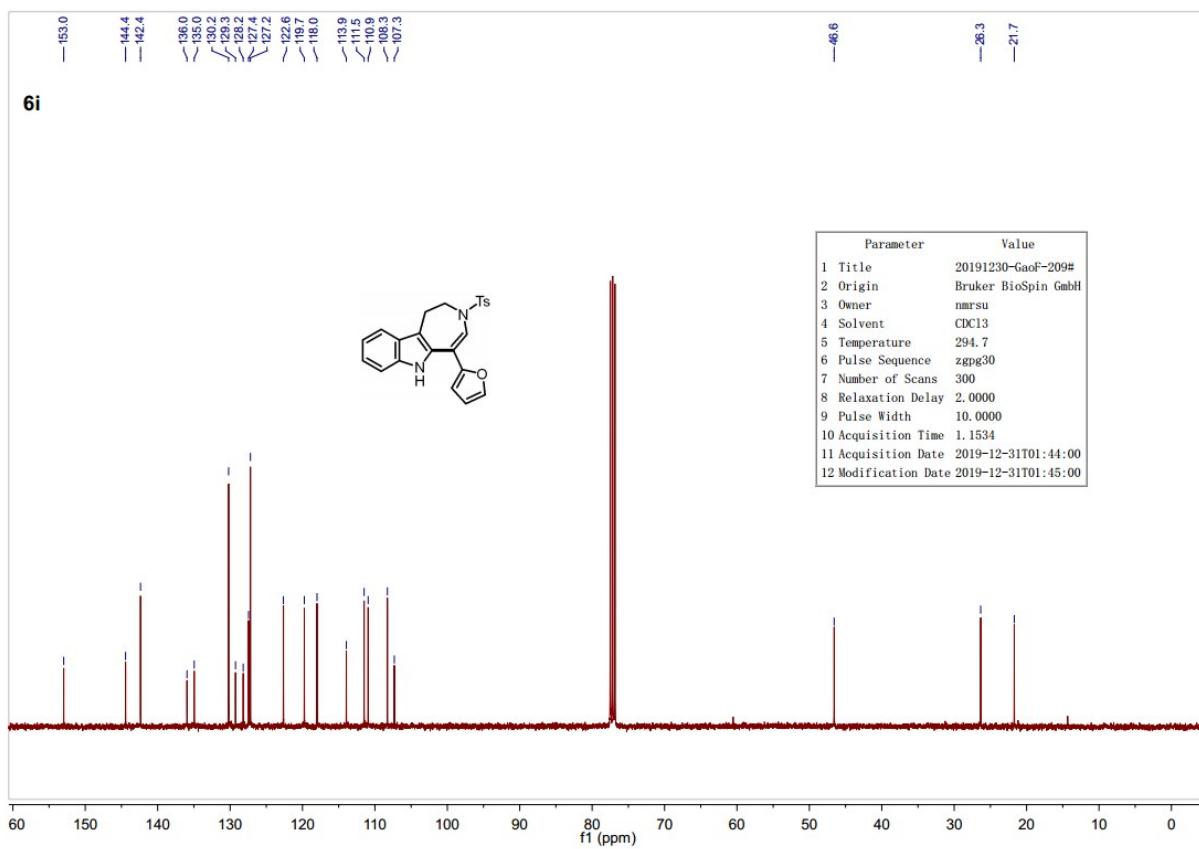
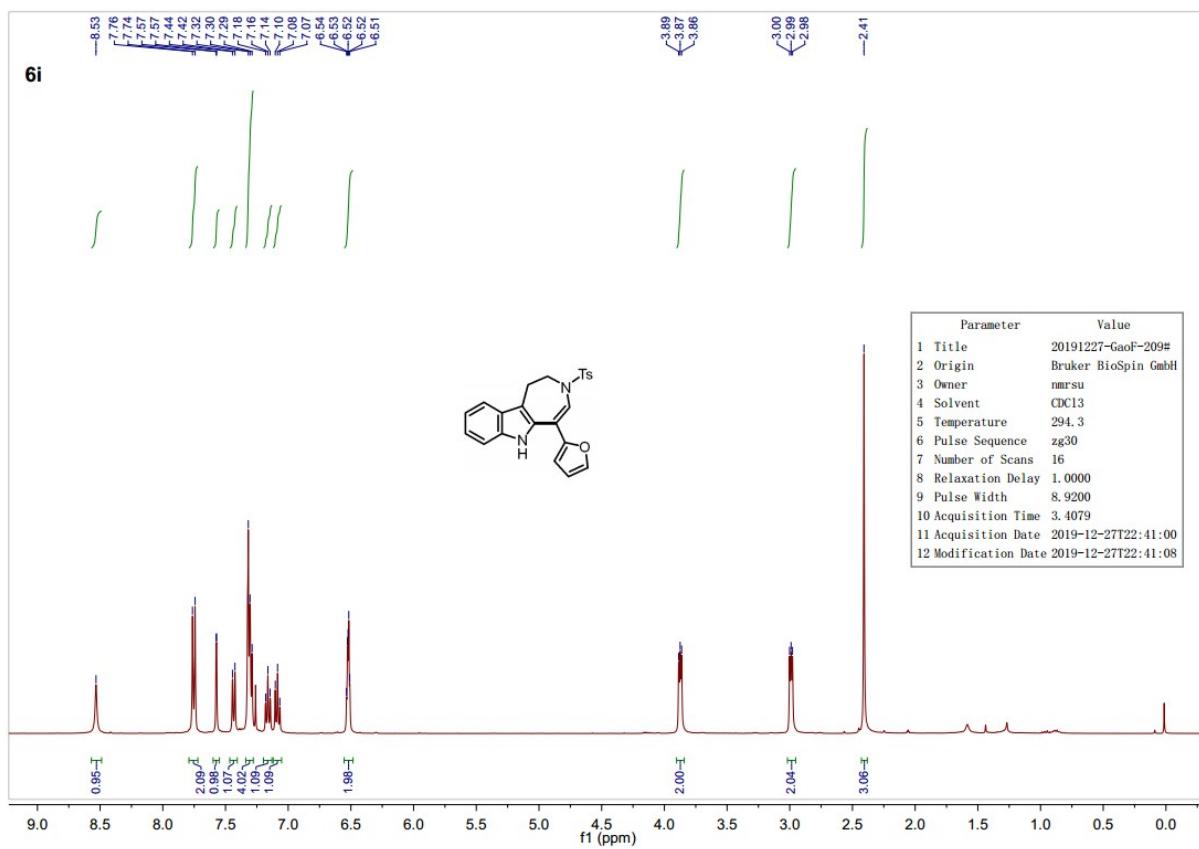


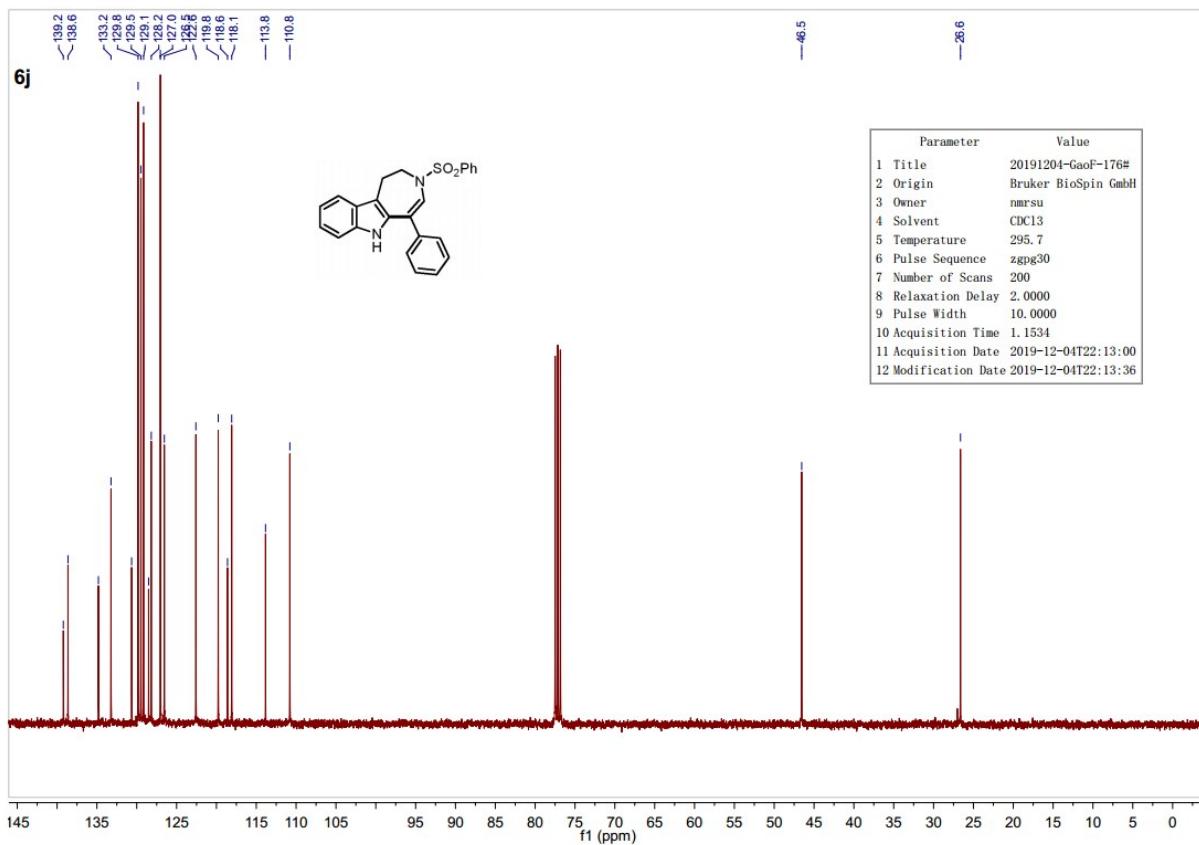
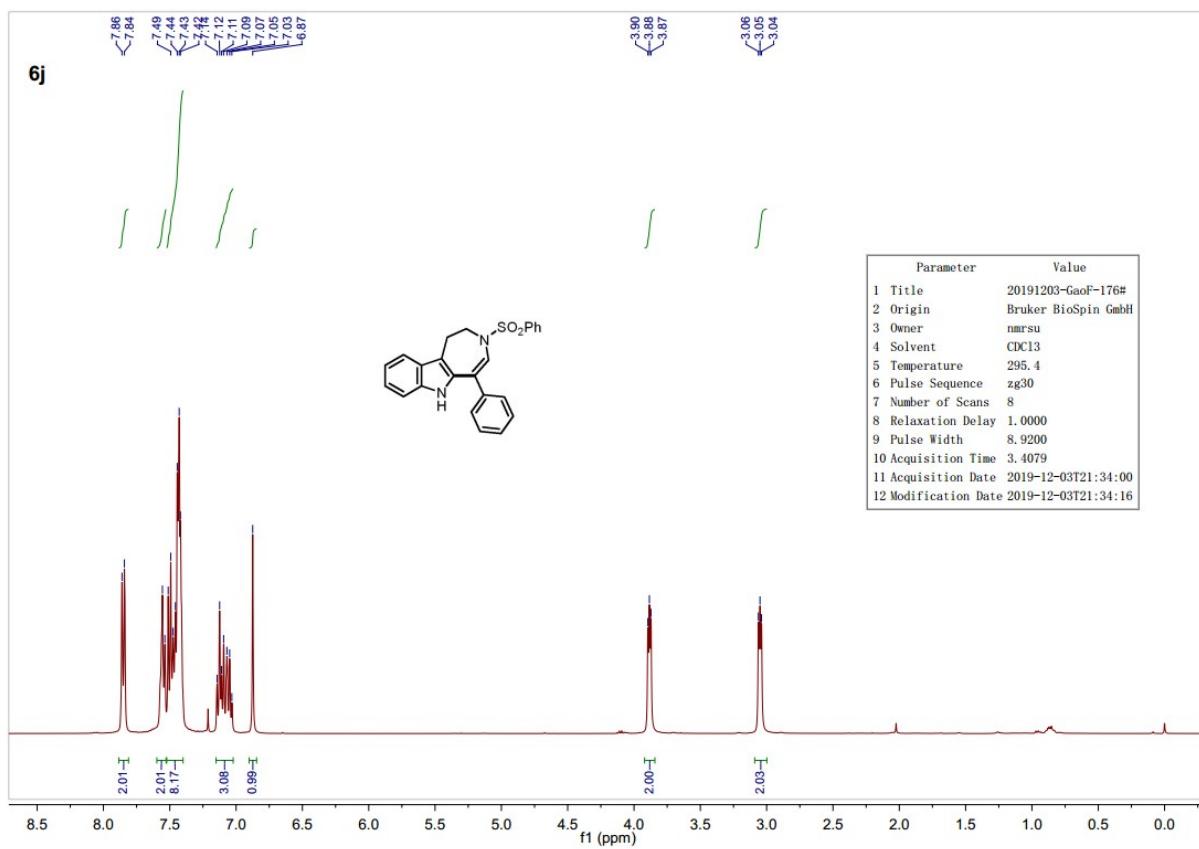


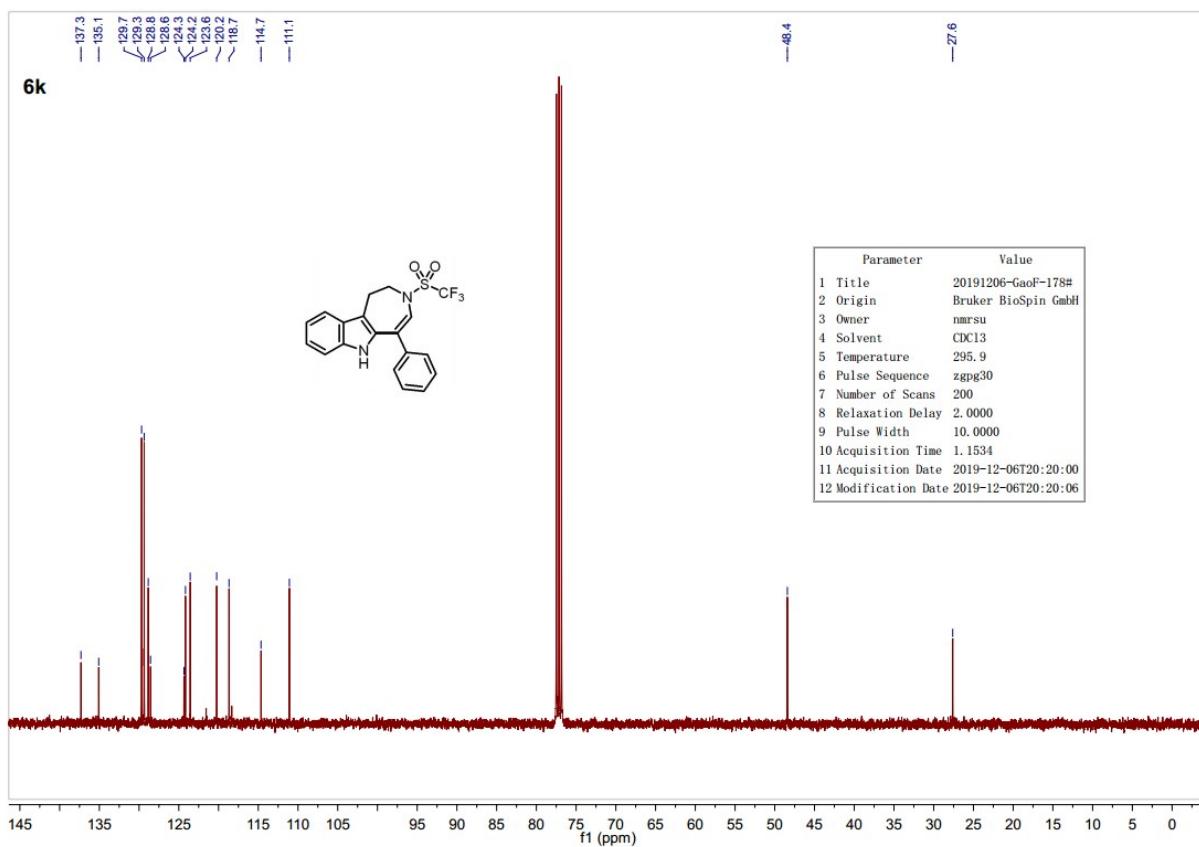
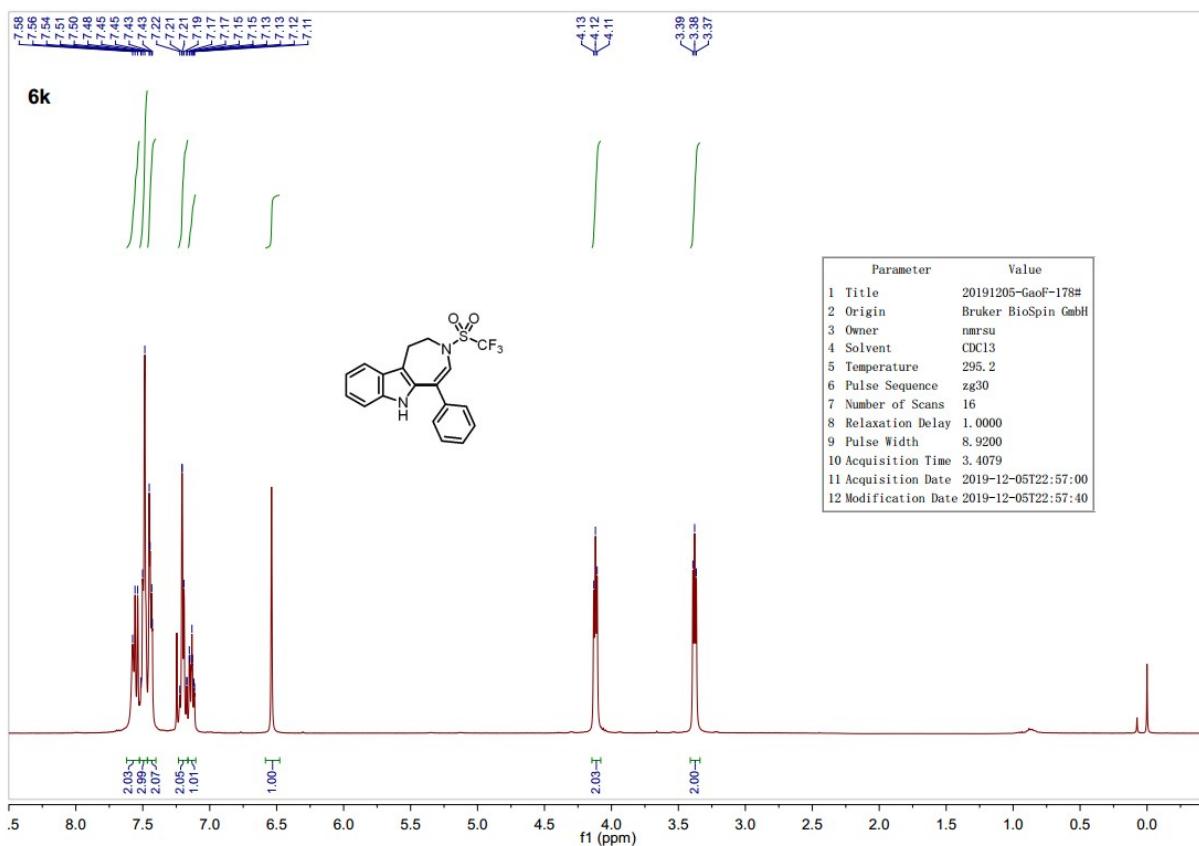




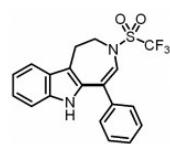




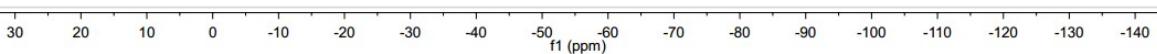




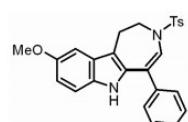
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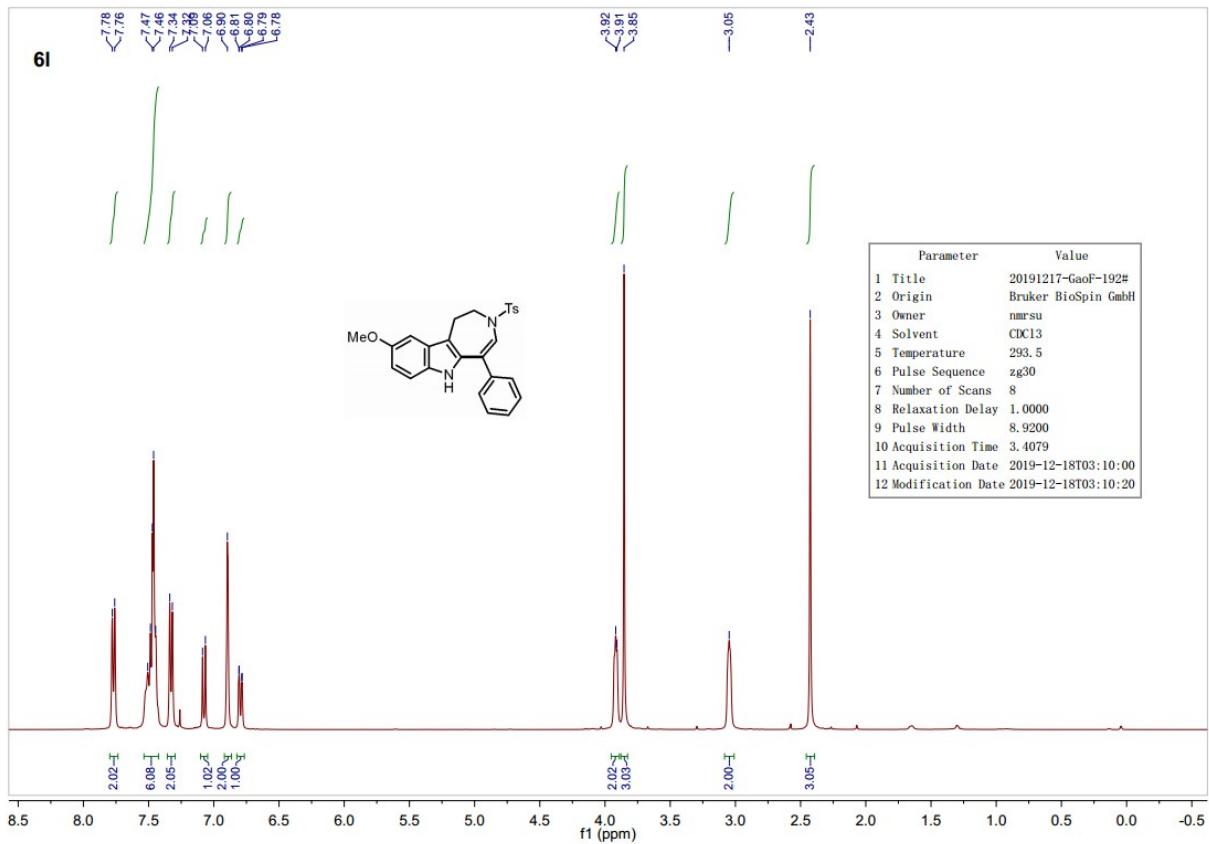
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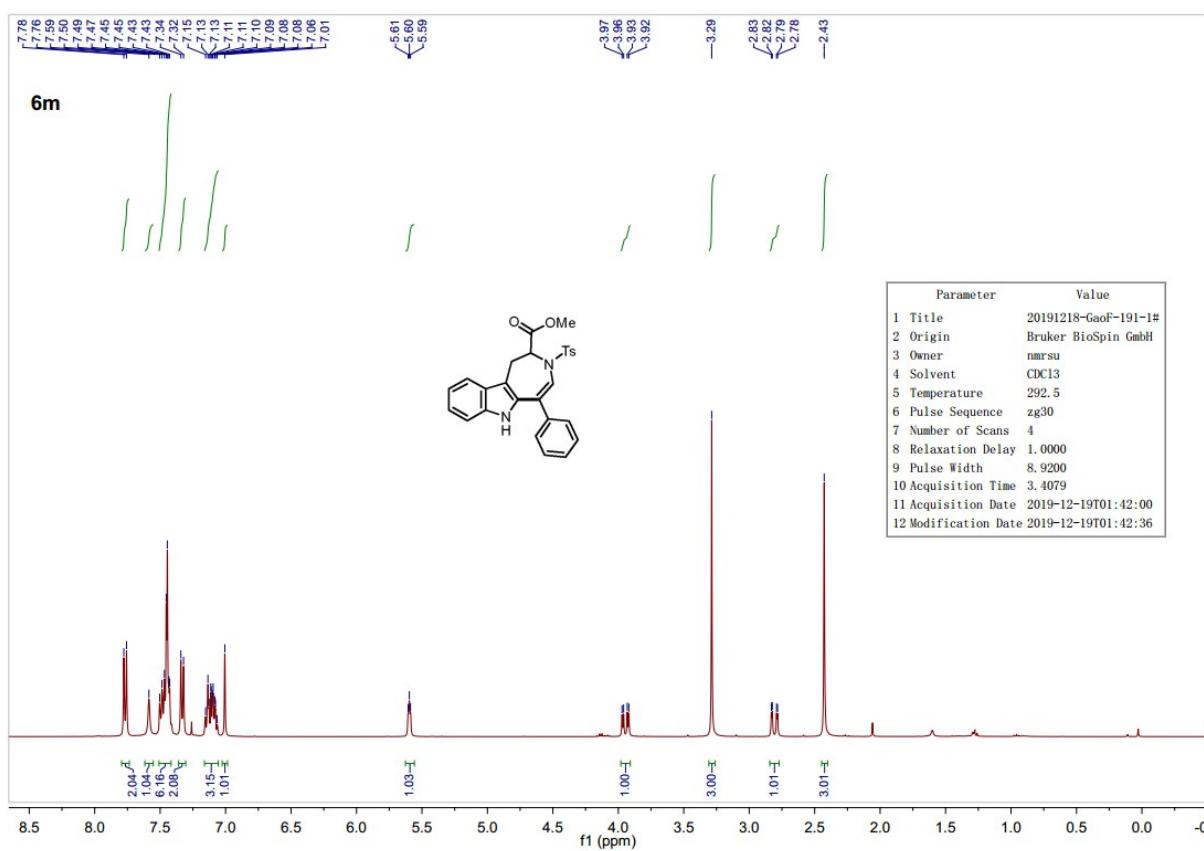
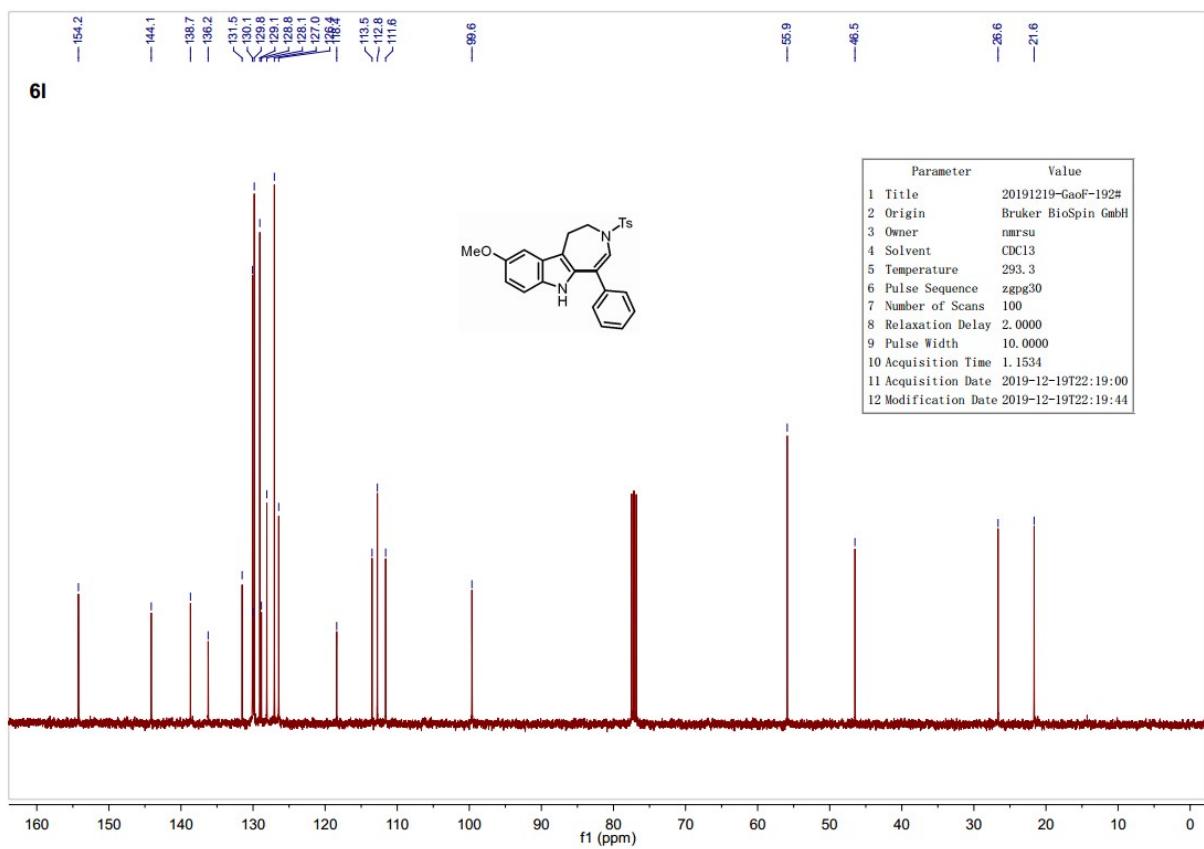


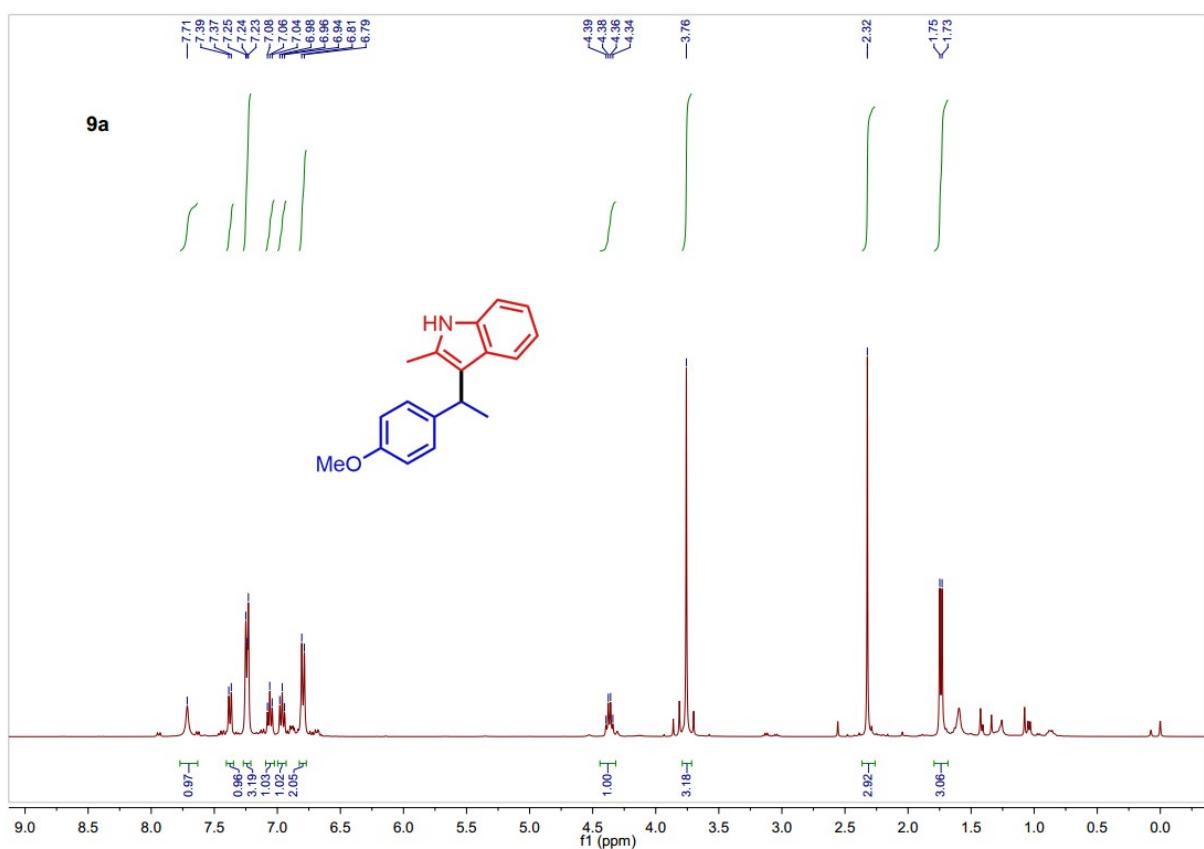
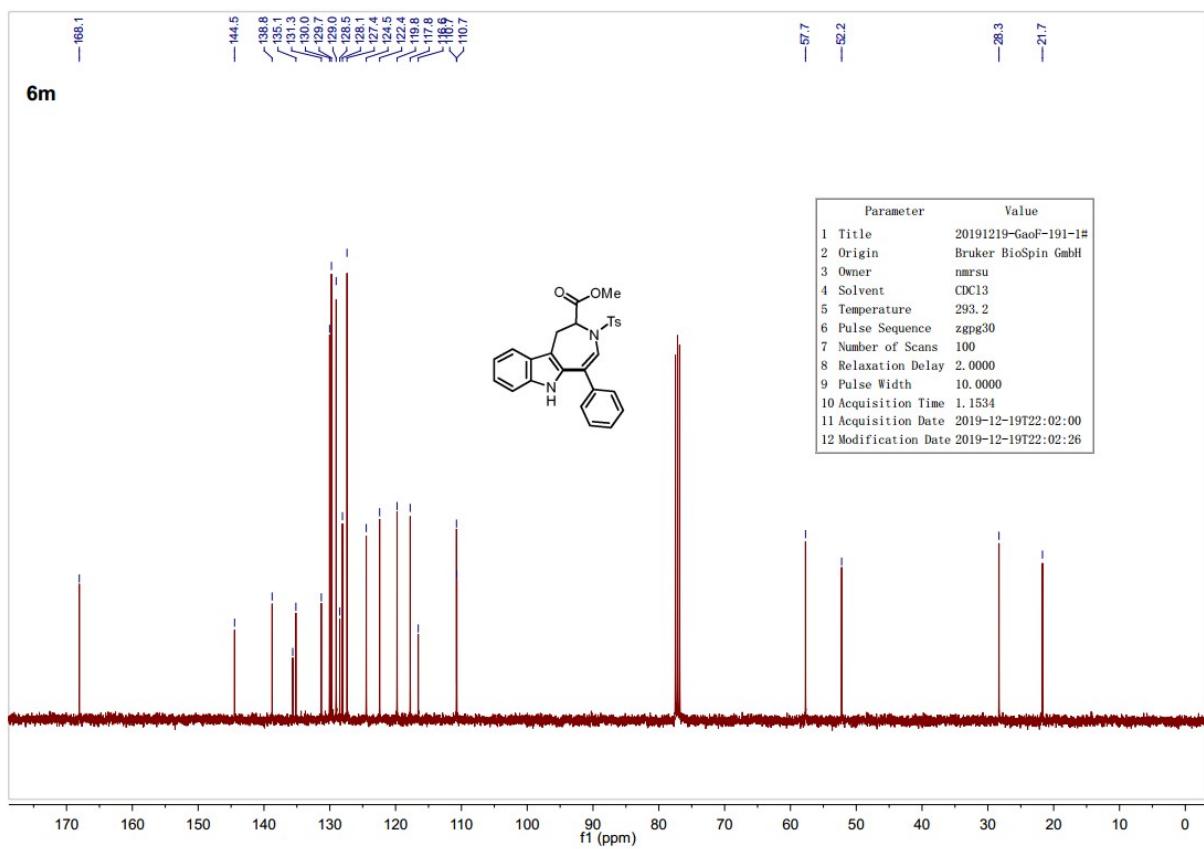
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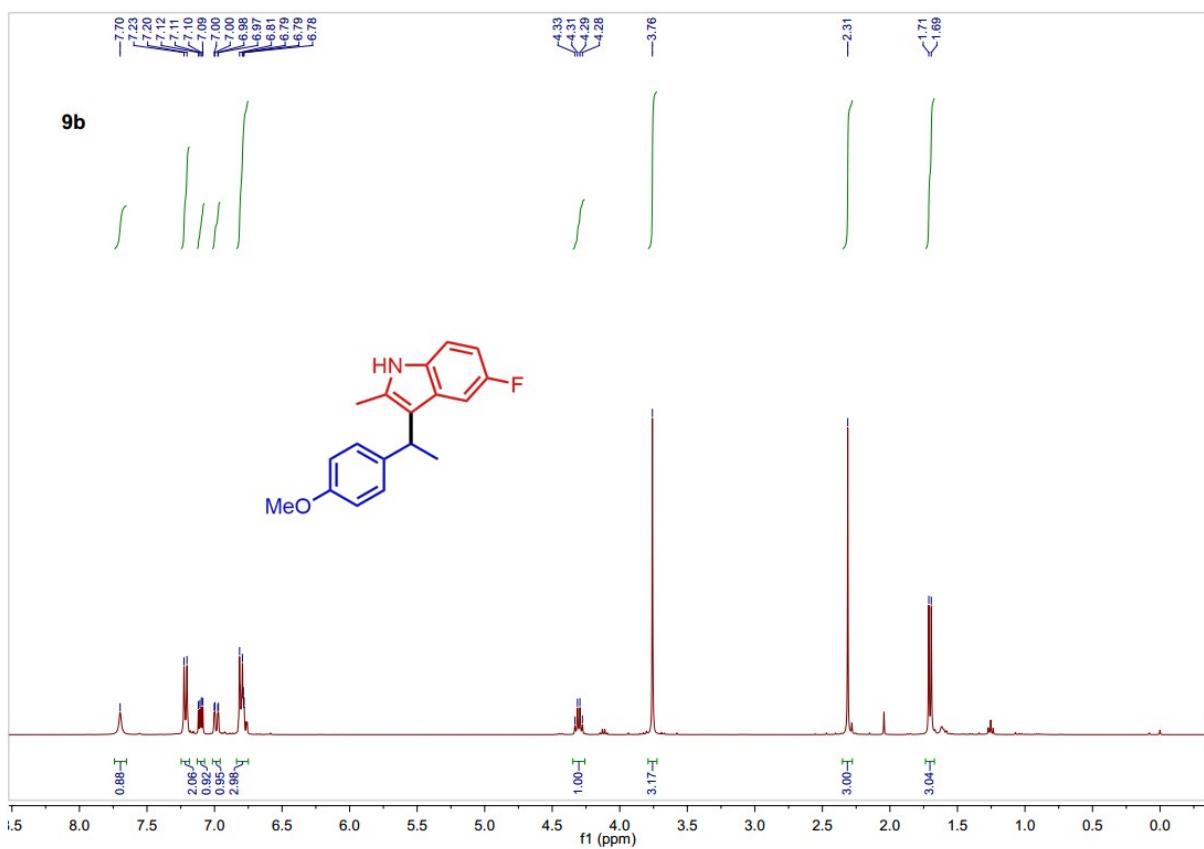
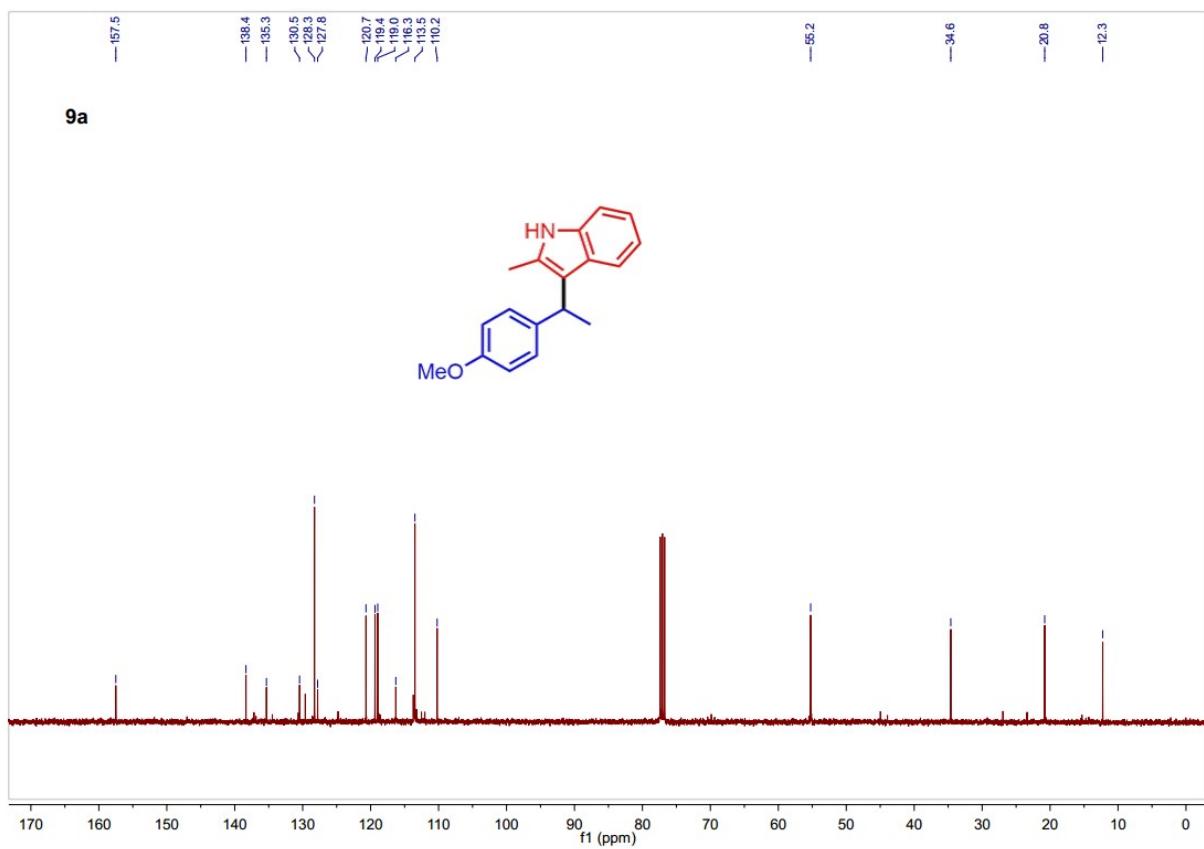


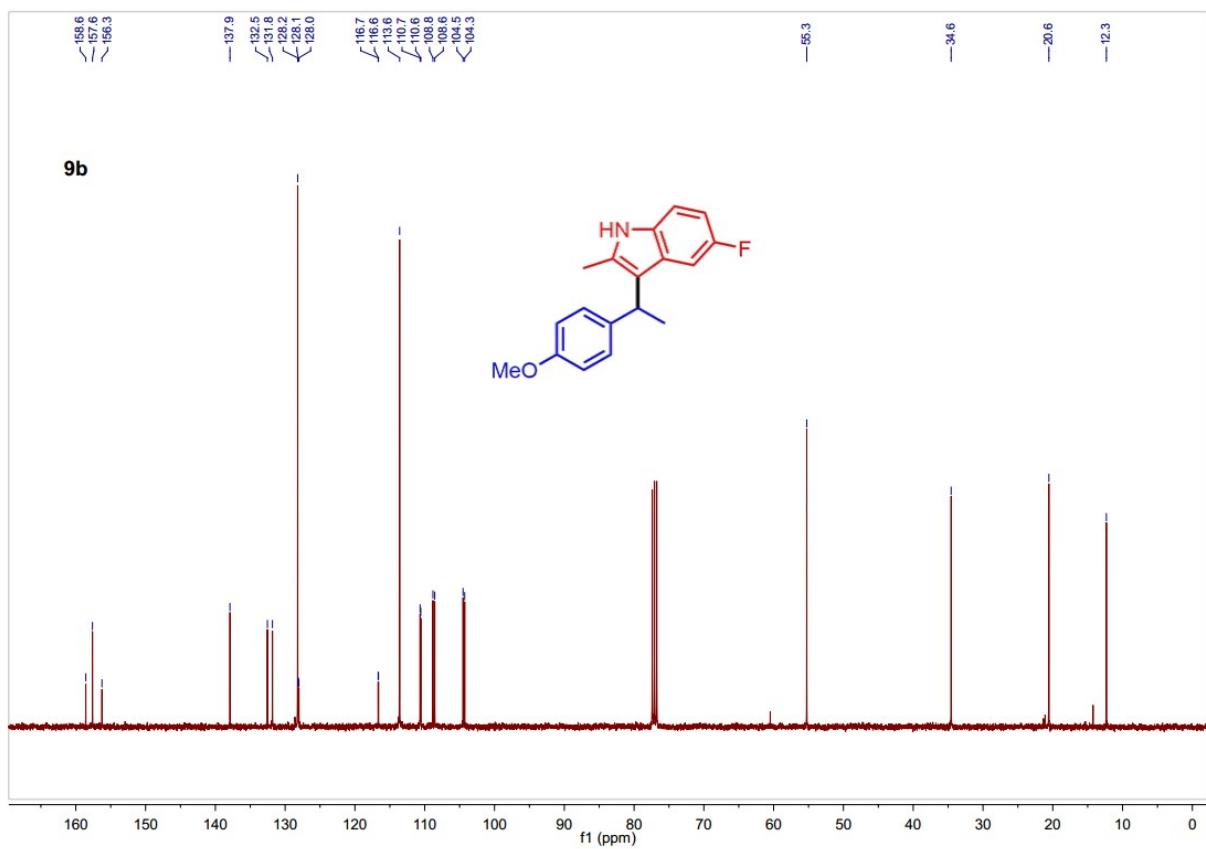
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9b

