

## Supplementary Information

### Asymmetric Synthesis of $\gamma$ -Lactams under Low-loading *N*-Heterocyclic Carbenes Catalysis

Yuxia Zhang,<sup>†,§</sup> Ye Zhang,<sup>†,§</sup> Jingcheng Guo,<sup>†,§</sup> Jinna Han,<sup>†</sup> Xiangui Zhou,<sup>†</sup> Zhenqian  
Fu,<sup>\*,†</sup>

<sup>†</sup> Key Laboratory of Flexible Electronics & Institute of Advanced Materials, Nanjing  
Tech University, 30 South Puzhu Road, Nanjing 211816, China.

E-mail: [iamzqfu@njtech.edu.cn](mailto:iamzqfu@njtech.edu.cn)

<b>I</b>	General information
<b>II</b>	a) General procedure for the synthesis of enals <b>1</b> b) General procedure for the synthesis of <i>N</i> -Ts diethyl aminomalonate <b>2</b> c) Experimental data of other Lewis acids d) Experimental data of other acyazolium precursors e) General procedure for the reactions of <b>1</b> with <b>2</b> to synthesize product <b>3</b> ( <b>3a</b> as an example) f) General procedure for the reactions of <b>3ab</b> to synthesize product <b>4</b> and <b>5</b> g) Stereochemistry determination <b>3a</b> via X-ray crystallographic analysis
<b>III</b>	a) Characterizations of products b) References
<b>IV</b>	<sup>1</sup> H, <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra and HPLC data of products

## I: General Information

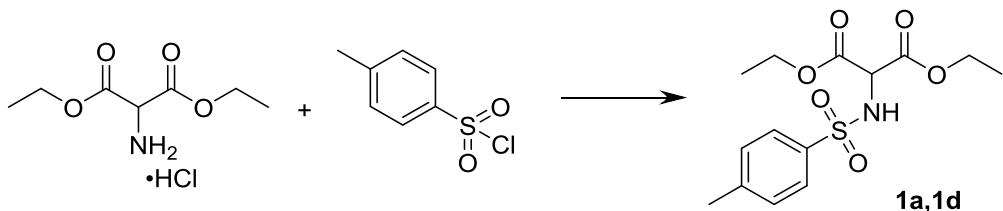
Commercially available materials were purchased from Alfa Aesar and Sigma-Aldrich. Toluene and DCM was dried over Pure Solv solvent purification system. THF was distilled over sodium. Other solvents were dried over 4 $\text{\AA}$  molecular sieve prior use. Proton nuclear magnetic resonance ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker (400 MHz) spectrometer. Chemical shifts were recorded in parts per million (ppm,  $\delta$ ) relative to tetramethylsilane ( $\delta$  0.00) or chloroform ( $\delta$  = 7.26, singlet).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR splitting patterns are designated as singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), quartet (q), dd (doublet of doublets), m (multiplets), and etc. All first-order splitting patterns were assigned on the basis of the appearance of the multiplet. Splitting patterns that could not be easily interpreted are designated as multiplet (m) or broad (br). Carbon nuclear magnetic resonance ( $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker (400 MHz) (100 MHz) spectrometer. High resolution mass spectral analysis (HRMS) was performed on a Waters Q-TOF Premier Spectrometer. The determination of enantiomeric excess was performed *via* chiral HPLC analysis using Shimadzu LC-20AD HPLC workstation. X-ray crystallography analysis was performed on Bruker X8 APEX X-ray diffractionmeter. Optical rotations were measured using a 1 mL cell with a 1 dm path length on a Jasco P-1030 polarimeter and are reported as follows:  $[\alpha]_D^{rt}$  ( $c$  is in gm per 100 mL solvent). Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on Merck 60 F254 pre-coated silica gel plate (0.2 mm thickness).

## II. General procedure

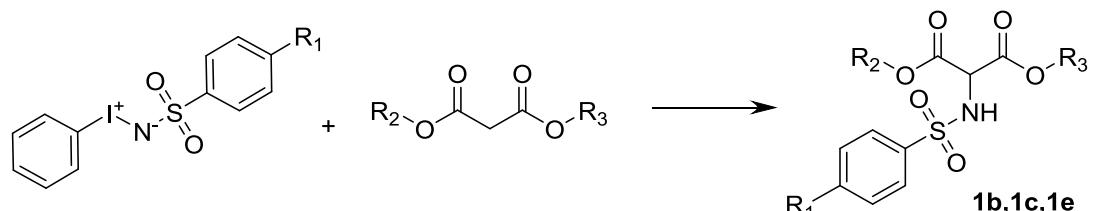
### a) General procedure for the synthesis of enals **1**

**1a-1h, 1l, 1n, 1o, 1q, 1s** and **1t** were purchased. Enals **1i-1k, 1m, 1p, 1r, 1u-1x** were synthesized according to the literature.<sup>[1-5]</sup> To a dried 50 mL flask was added formylmethylene)triphenylphosphorane (1.521 g, 5 mmol), aldehydes (7 mmol) and 25 mL toluene. The mixture was refluxed overnight (detected by TLC), and then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica column chromatography to afford the product **1**.

### b) General procedure for the synthesis of *N*-Ts diethyl aminomalonate **2**



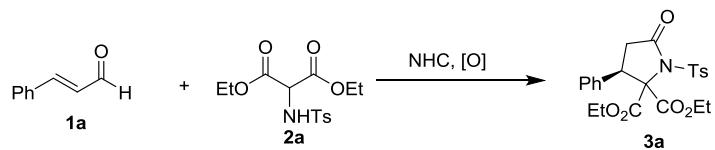
**2a** and **2d** were synthesized according to the literature.<sup>[6]</sup> p-Toluenesulfonyl chloride (3.8 g, 20 mmol) was added to a suspension of diethyl aminomalonate hydrochloride (4.22 g, 20 mmol) in 10 mL pyridine at 0 °C. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 12h (detected by TLC). Upon completion of the reaction, to the mixture was poured into 50 mL ice water with stirring. The precipitated solid was filtered off and washed with water, and then recrystallization from EA/PE afforded the product **2a** (5.3g, 80% yield).



**2b, 2c** and **2e** were synthesized according to the literature.<sup>[7,8]</sup> Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (0.1 mmol), 1,10-phen (0.1 mmol), and powdered 4Å MS (600 mg) were added to a solution of dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL) at 0°C. After stirring for 1 h at the same temperature, 1,3-dicarbonyl compound (1.0 mmol) and PhI=NTs or PhI=NNs<sup>[9]</sup> (2 mmol) was added to the mixture and then the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature until the reaction completed (detected by TLC). The crude product was filtered through Celite, washed with EtOAc (30 mL), evaporated to dryness, and purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: n-hexane/EtOAc 4:1) to give the products **2**.

### c) Experimental data of other Lewis acids

Table S1. Experimental data of other Lewis acids

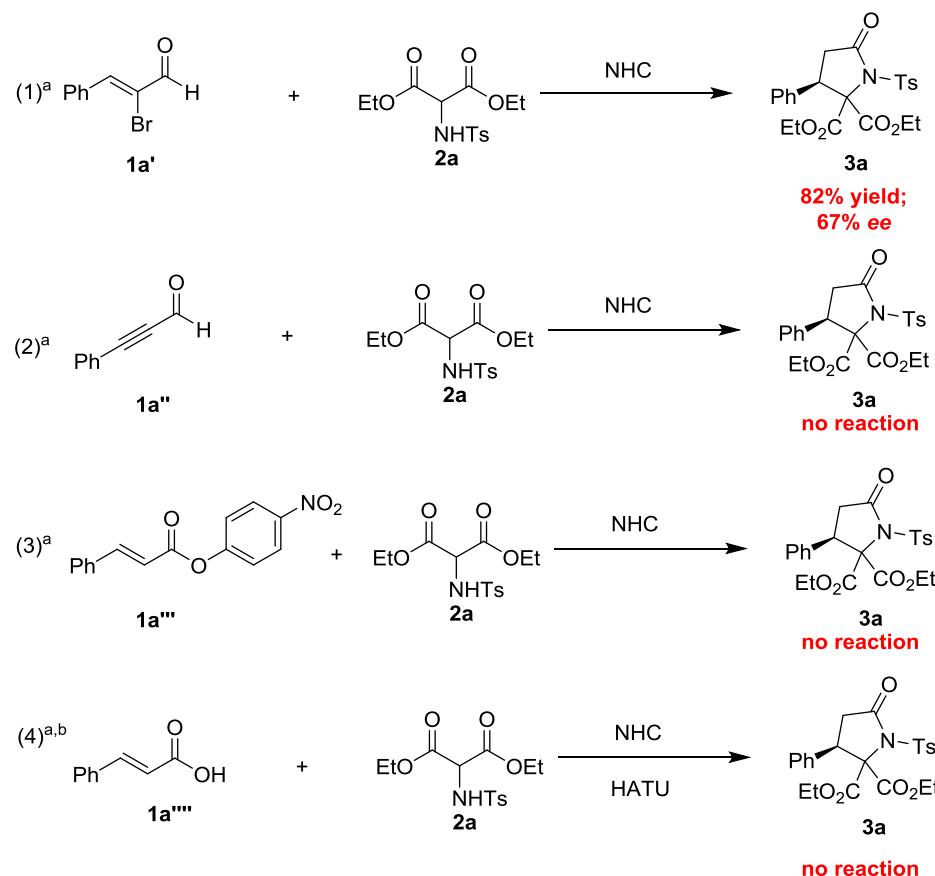


Entry <sup>a</sup>	Lewis acid	Yield[%] <sup>b</sup>	ee[%] <sup>c</sup>
1	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>	-	-
2	Zn(OTf) <sub>2</sub>	15	49
3	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	68	49
4	Ti(O <sup>t</sup> Pr) <sub>4</sub>	45	99
5	Mg(OTf) <sub>2</sub>	62	99
6	/	88	48

<sup>a</sup> Standard condition: **1a** (0.3 mmol), **2a** (0.2 mmol), **NHC D** (2 mol%), NaO<sup>t</sup>-Bu (0.047 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.093 mmol), [O] (0.24 mmol), Lewis acid (0.04 mmol), 4Å MS (100 mg), DCM (1 mL), 0 °C to rt (ice water mixture). <sup>b</sup> Isolated yields after column chromatography.

<sup>c</sup> Determined by chiral HPLC.

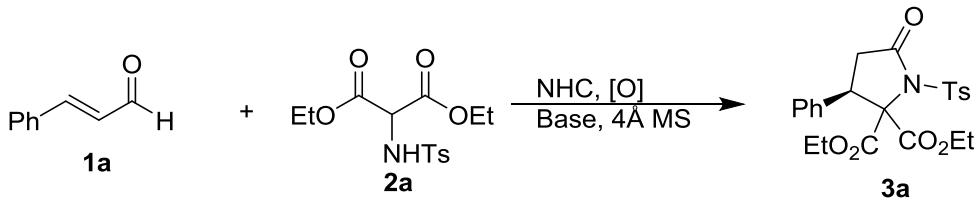
#### d) Experimental data of other acyazolium precursors



<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: **1** (0.3 mmol), **2a** (0.2 mmol), **NHC D** (2 mol%), NaO<sup>t</sup>-Bu (0.047 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.093 mmol), LiCl (0.2 mmol), 4Å MS (100 mg), DCM (1 mL), 0 °C to rt (ice water mixture).; yields (after SiO<sub>2</sub> chromatography purification) were based on 1; Determined by chiral HPLC. <sup>b</sup> HATU (0.04 mmol) was used.

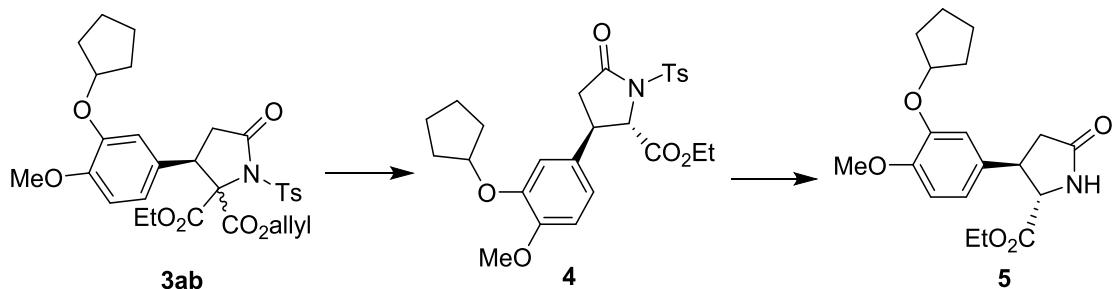
Scheme S1. Experimental data of other acyazolium precursors

e) General procedure for the reactions of **1a** with **2a** to synthesize product **3** (**3a** as an example)



To a dried 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was added **2a** (0.2 mmol, 65.8 mg), NHC **D** pre-catalyst (0.004 mmol, 1.7 mg), 3,3',5,5'-tetra-tert-butylidiphenoxquinone (0.24 mmol, 98.0 mg), LiCl (0.2 mmol, 8.4 mg), NaO<sup>t</sup>Bu (0.047 mmol, 4.5 mg), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.093 mmol, 13.0 mg) and MS 4 Å (100.0 mg). To this mixture was added dry DCM (1.0 mL), and **1a** (0.3 mmol, 38 uL) via a micro syringe, then the reaction mixture was stirred for 12h at ice-water (detected by TLC). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and then the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, Petroleum ether/EtOAc, 5:1, v/v) to afford the product **3a**.

f) General procedure for the reactions of **3ab** to synthesize product **4** and **5**<sup>[3]</sup>



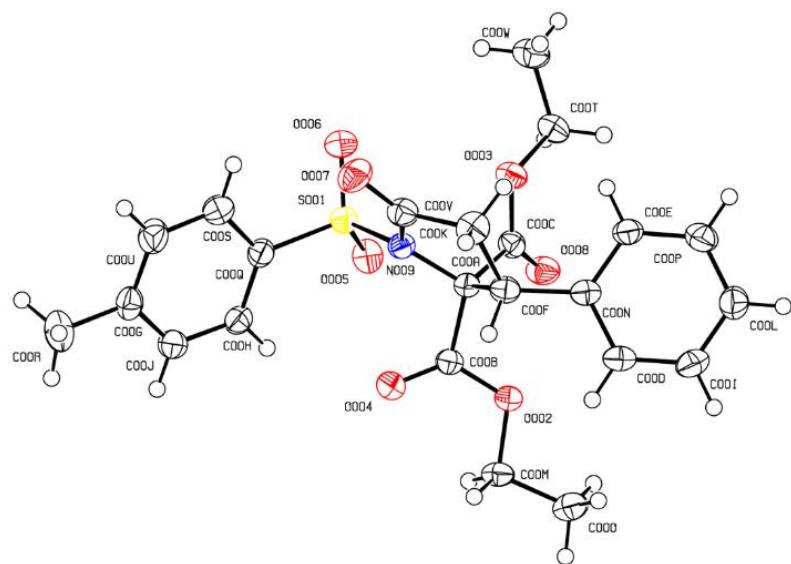
To an oven-dried, 10-mL round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar were added Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>·CHCl<sub>3</sub> (16.8 mg, 0.016 mmol, 10 mol%), PPh<sub>3</sub> (2.2 mg, 0.008 mmol, 5 mol%), HCO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>4</sub> (20.4 mg, 0.32 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and CH<sub>3</sub>CN (2.0 mL) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 min. Compound **3ab** (93.6 mg, 0.16 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (2 mL) was added to the mixture, and then the reaction was heated to 90 °C with vigorous stirring for 2 h (detected by TLC). After the reaction was completed, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, and then purified by column chromatography (silica gel, Petroleum ether/EtOAc, 3:1, v/v) to afford the product **4**. The relative stereochemistry of compound **4** was assigned based on the work of Romo's group.<sup>[3]</sup>

Under Ar atmosphere, to an 25-mL round-bottomed flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar were added SmI<sub>2</sub> (5.77 mL of 0.1M in THF, 0.577 mmol, 6.0 equiv), and **4** (48.2 mg, 0.096 mmol, 1.0 equiv) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 30 min (detected by TLC). After the reaction was completed, the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted

with EtOAc ( $3 \times 20$  mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. And then the crude residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, Petroleum ether/EtOAc, 1:1, v/v) to afford the product **5**.

**g) Stereochemistry determination **3a** via X-ray crystallographic analysis**

Product **3a** was crystallized as a colorless crystal *via* vaporization of a hexane/ethyl acetate solution, and its absolute configuration was determined by x-ray structure analysis. CCDC 2061718 contains the supplementary crystallographic data that can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via [www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\\_request/cif](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif).



**Figure S1** Crystal structure of compound **3a** (displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability) (grey atom, C; red atom, O; blue atom, N; yellow atom, S)

**Flack parameter**

Flack x determined using 1844 quotients  $[(I+)-(I-)]/[(I+)+(I-)]$   
(Parsons, Flack and Wagner, *Acta Cryst. B* 69 (2013) 249-259).

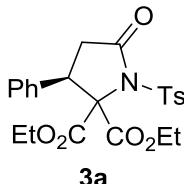
```
;;
_refine_ls_abs_structure_Flack      0.02(7)
_refine_ls_extinction_coeff       .
_refine_ls_extinction_method     none
_refine_ls_goodness_of_fit_ref    1.031
_refine_ls_hydrogen_treatment     constr
_refine_ls_matrix_type           full
_refine_ls_number_parameters     292
_refine_ls_number_reflns          5040
_refine_ls_number_restraints      1
_refine_ls_R_factor_all           0.0561
```

\_refine\_ls\_R\_factor\_gt 0.0491  
\_refine\_ls\_restrained\_S\_all 1.031  
\_refine\_ls\_shift/su\_max 0.000  
\_refine\_ls\_shift/su\_mean 0.000  
\_refine\_ls\_structure\_factor\_coef Fsqd  
\_refine\_ls\_weighting\_details  
'w=1/[\\$^2^(Fo^2^)+(0.0485P)^2^+0.1456P] where P=(Fo^2^+2Fc^2^)/3'  
\_refine\_ls\_weighting\_scheme calc  
\_refine\_ls\_wR\_factor\_gt 0.1202  
\_refine\_ls\_wR\_factor\_ref 0.1275  
\_refine\_special\_details ?  
\_olex2\_refinement\_description

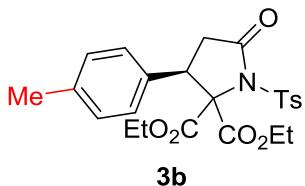
### III. Characterizations of products, reference

Structure of known compounds **1i**,<sup>[1]</sup> **1j**,<sup>[2]</sup> **1k**,<sup>[2]</sup> **1m**,<sup>[2]</sup> **1p**,<sup>[3]</sup> **1r**,<sup>[4]</sup> **1u**- **1w**,<sup>[6]</sup> **1x**,<sup>[10]</sup> **2a**,<sup>[6]</sup> **2b**,<sup>[7]</sup> **2c**,<sup>[8]</sup> **2d**,<sup>[6]</sup> **2e**,<sup>[8]</sup> **3a**,<sup>[11]</sup> **3b**,<sup>[11]</sup> **3f**,<sup>[11]</sup> **3z**<sup>[8]</sup> and **5**<sup>[12]</sup> were confirmed by NMR spectral comparison with literature data. The compounds not reported before, <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR characterization and the corresponding spectra are provided.

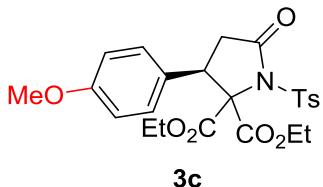
#### a) Characterizations of Products



**Diethyl (R)-5-oxo-3-phenyl-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3a):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (81.7 mg, 89% yield) as a white solid: mp 123.0-125.2 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.561, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) = -66.8; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35-7.29 (m, 5H), 7.13-7.10 (m, 2H), 4.46-4.40 (m, 2H), 4.07 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.97-3.89 (m, 1H), 3.84-3.76 (m, 1H), 2.94-2.83 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); HRMS(ESI) calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>S (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 460.1424, Found: 460.1411; 94% ee as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ASH, 90:10 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 0.8 mL/min), tr (major) = 37.0 min, tr (minor) = 41.7 min.

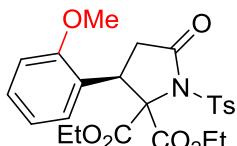


**Diethyl (R)-5-oxo-3-(p-tolyl)-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3b):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (87.1 mg, 92% yield) as a white solid: mp 158.4-161.8 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.726, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) = -41.3; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.45-4.40 (m, 2H), 4.03 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.98-3.92 (m, 1H), 3.88-3.80 (m, 1H), 2.92-2.80 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); HRMS(ESI) calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>S (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 474.1581, Found: 474.1570; 92% ee as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ASH, 90:10 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 42.6 min, tr (minor) = 51.4 min.



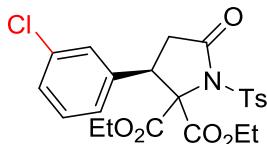
**Diethyl (R)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3c):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (84.1 mg, 86% yield) as a white solid: mp 125.6-128.4 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.583,

$\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -64.3;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.07 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.46-4.38 (m, 2H), 4.03-3.94 (m, 2H), 3.90-3.82 (m, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.91 - 2.80 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 1.39 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.4, 167.3, 165.2, 159.8, 145.4, 135.4, 130.1, 129.6, 129.1, 127.2, 113.9, 77.5, 63.2, 62.7, 55.4, 46.4, 36.6, 21.8, 14.1, 13.7; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{28}\text{NO}_8\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 490.1530, Found: 490.1521; 89% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ASH, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 32.8 min, tr (minor) = 45.8 min.



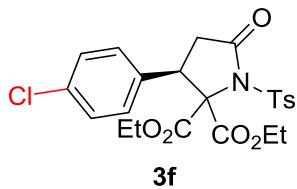
**3d**

**Diethyl (R)-3-(2-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3d):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (96.9 mg, 99% yield) as a white solid: mp 153.1-154.2 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.549,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -31.9;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.09 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.00 (dd,  $J$  = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.45-4.34 (m, 3H), 3.98-3.90 (m, 1H), 3.73-3.65 (m, 1H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 2.89-2.76 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.39 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.9, 167.3, 165.3, 158.1, 145.1, 135.7, 130.2, 129.9, 129.1, 128.9, 124.5, 120.4, 110.8, 77.1, 63.0, 62.4, 54.9, 42.6, 35.8, 21.8, 14.0, 13.6; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{28}\text{NO}_8\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 490.1530, Found: 490.1522; 90% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel AD, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 18.4 min, tr (minor) = 25.3 min.



**3e**

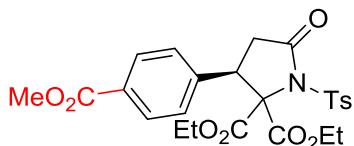
**Diethyl (R)-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3e):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (64.1 mg, 65% yield) as a white solid: mp 157.1-158.4 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.423,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -47.2;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.07 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.47-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.35 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.27-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.18 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.44 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.06-3.97 (m, 2H), 3.95-3.87 (m, 1H), 2.85 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 1.40 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.04 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 171.7, 167.1, 165.0, 145.5, 137.8, 135.3, 131.8, 131.6, 130.2, 130.0, 129.1, 127.2, 122.6, 77.3, 63.5, 62.9, 46.3, 36.2, 21.9, 14.1, 13.6; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{25}\text{ClNO}_7\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 494.1035, Found: 494.1027; 90% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ODH, 85:Q5 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 40.8 min, tr (minor) = 31.5 min.



**3f**

**Diethyl (R)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3f):**

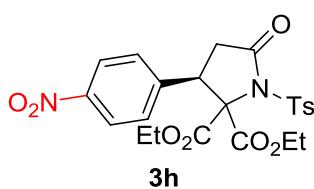
Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (54.3 mg, 55% yield) as a white solid: mp 160.0-161.9 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.290,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -60.3;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.06 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.43 (q,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 4.05 (t,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.01-3.95 (m, 1H), 3.91-3.83 (m, 1H), 2.91-2.79 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 1.40 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.03 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H); HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{25}\text{ClNO}_7\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 494.1035, Found: 494.1027; 93% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel AD, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 24.2 min, tr (minor) = 22.6 min.



**3g**

**Diethyl**

**(R)-3-(4-(methoxycarbonyl)phenyl)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3g):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (88.0 mg, 85% yield) as a white solid: mp 140.9-143.5 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.568,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -35.2;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.07 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.97 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.44 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.14 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.00-3.91 (m, 4H), 3.86-3.78 (m, 1H), 2.89 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 1.40 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.98 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 171.8, 167.1, 166.5, 165.0, 145.5, 140.8, 135.3, 130.4, 130.0, 129.8, 129.1, 128.6, 77.3, 63.5, 62.8, 52.4, 46.6, 36.3, 21.9, 14.1, 13.6; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{28}\text{NO}_9\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 518.1479, Found: 532.1471; 95% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel IA, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 47.3 min, tr (minor) = 33.1 min.

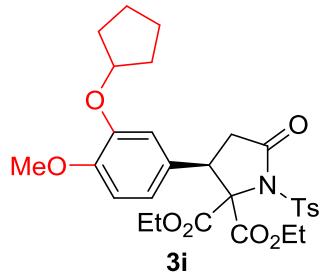


**3h**

**Diethyl (R)-3-(4-nitrophenyl)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3h):**

Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:3) gave the product (69.6 mg, 69% yield) as a white solid: mp 53.1-55.2 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.915,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = 30.1;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.16 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.06 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.45 (q,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 4.20 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.06-3.98 (m, 1H), 3.93-3.85 (m, 1H), 2.97-2.83 (m,

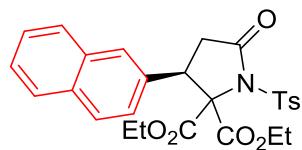
2H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 1.41 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.03 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 171.3, 167.0, 164.9, 145.7, 143.1, 135.1, 130.0, 129.6, 129.2, 123.7, 77.1, 63.8, 63.1, 46.2, 36.3, 21.9, 14.0, 13.7; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{O}_9\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 505.1275, Found: 505.1266; 89% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel AD, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 58.9 min, tr (minor) = 42.6 min.



### Diethyl

#### (*R*)-3-(3-(cyclopentyloxy)-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3i):

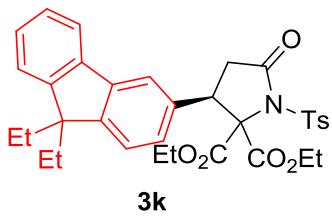
Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (91.7 mg, 77% yield) as a colorless oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.448,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -83.8;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.08 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (dd,  $J$  = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.52-4.48 (m, 1H), 4.46-4.38 (m, 2H), 4.01-3.93 (m, 2H), 3.85-3.77 (m, 4H), 2.93 (dd,  $J$  = 17.2, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.78 (dd,  $J$  = 17.2, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.79-1.76 (m, 6H), 1.54 (d,  $J$  = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 1.40 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.5, 167.5, 165.0, 150.4, 150.1, 145.3, 142.2, 140.7, 135.6, 134.2, 130.0, 129.1, 127.6, 127.0, 126.9, 123.1, 123.0, 120.0, 119.5, 77.8, 63.3, 62.5, 56.2, 47.3, 36.8, 32.7, 32.6, 21.9, 14.1, 13.7, 8.5, 8.4; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{35}\text{NNaO}_9\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ : 596.1925, Found: 596.1933; 89% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ODH, 90:10 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 26.2 min, tr (minor) = 32.7 min.



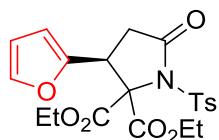
**3j**

#### Diethyl (*R*)-3-(naphthalen-2-yl)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3j):

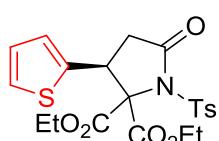
Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (85.6 mg, 84% yield) as a white solid: mp 128.9-130.6 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.713,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -38.6;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.09 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.82-7.72 (m, 3H), 7.58 (s, 1H), 7.51-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.36 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 1H), 4.47 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.26 (t,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.89-3.81 (m, 1H), 3.75-3.67 (m, 1H), 3.06-2.92 (m, 2H), 2.47 (s, 1H), 1.42 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.78 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.3, 167.3, 165.2, 145.4, 135.4, 133.2, 133.1, 133.0, 130.1, 129.1, 128.4, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 126.8, 126.7, 125.9, 77.6, 63.4, 62.7, 47.1, 36.5, 21.9, 14.1, 13.4; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{28}\text{NO}_7\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 510.1581, Found: 510.1574; 92% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel AsH, 90:10 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 42.6 min, tr (minor) = 51.4 min.



**Diethyl (R)-3-(9,9-diethyl-9H-fluoren-3-yl)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3k):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (112.2 mg, 93% yield) as a white solid: mp 143.5-145.9 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.768,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -48.9;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.10 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.69-7.66 (m, 1H), 7.61 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36 - 7.31 (m, 5H), 7.07 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 4.50-4.40 (m, 2H), 4.16 (t,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.03-3.95 (m, 1H), 3.82-3.74 (m, 1H), 2.95 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.00-1.86 (m, 4H), 1.41 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.27 (q,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.5, 167.5, 165.0, 150.4, 150.1, 145.3, 142.2, 140.7, 135.6, 134.2, 130.0, 129.1, 127.6, 127.0, 126.9, 123.1, 123.0, 120.0, 119.5, 77.8, 63.3, 62.5, 56.2, 47.3, 36.8, 32.7, 32.6, 21.9, 14.1, 13.7, 8.6, 8.5; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{38}\text{NO}_7\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 604.2363, Found: 604.2360; 89% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel AD, 90:10 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 0.8 mL/min), tr (major) = 23.0 min, tr (minor) = 25.3 min.

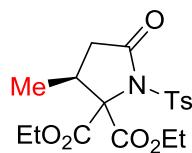


**Diethyl (S)-3-(furan-2-yl)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3l):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (81.8 mg, 91% yield) as a white solid: mp 108.3-109.4 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.414,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -96.6;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.05 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.33 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.33 (dd,  $J$  = 3.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.19 (d,  $J$  = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.19 (t,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 4.22-4.10 (m, 1H), 4.06-3.98 (m, 1H), 2.92 (dd,  $J$  = 17.2, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 2.76 (dd,  $J$  = 16.8, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.40 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.14 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 171.2, 166.8, 165.1, 148.6, 145.4, 143.0, 135.3, 130.0, 129.1, 110.8, 109.2, 76.2, 63.4, 63.0, 41.3, 34.3, 21.8, 14.0, 13.7; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_8\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 450.1217, Found: 450.1210; 87% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ASH, 90:10 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 36.6 min, tr (minor) = 42.5 min.



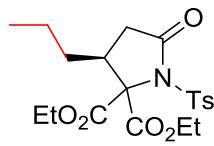
**Diethyl (S)-5-oxo-3-(thiophen-2-yl)-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3m):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave

the product (77.2 mg, 83% yield) as a white solid: mp 113.6-115.9 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.493,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -81.2;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.05 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.27 (m, 1H), 6.92-6.98 (m, 2H), 4.41-4.48 (m, 2H), 4.30 (t,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.94-4.11 (m, 2H), 2.98 (dd,  $J$  = 16.8, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (dd,  $J$  = 16.8, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.41 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.07 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 171.2, 167.0, 165.1, 145.5, 137.4, 135.2, 130.0, 129.0, 127.3, 127.1, 126.0, 77.0, 63.4, 62.9, 42.5, 37.6, 21.9, 14.1, 13.7; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_7\text{S}_2(\text{M}+\text{H})^+$ : 466.0989, Found: 466.0979; 88% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ASH, 90:10 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 36.2 min, tr (minor) = 41.9 min.



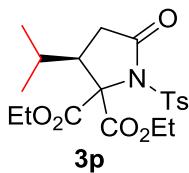
**3n**

**Diethyl (S)-3-methyl-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3n):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:10) gave the product (56.4 mg, 71% yield) as a white solid: mp 95.5-97.3 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.379,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -343.0;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.04 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.40-4.30 (m, 4H), 2.78-2.69 (m, 1H), 2.55 (dd,  $J$  = 16.8, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.32 (dd,  $J$  = 16.8, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 1.37-1.32 (m, 6H), 1.19 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.5, 167.4, 165.8, 145.3, 135.4, 129.9, 129.0, 76.2, 62.9, 62.8, 38.2, 36.9, 21.8, 15.7, 14.2; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_7\text{S}(\text{M}+\text{H})^+$ : 398.1268, Found: 398.1259; 98% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel AD, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 12.1 min, tr (minor) = 14.6 min.

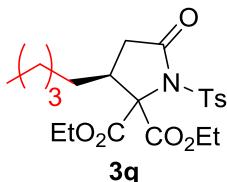


**3o**

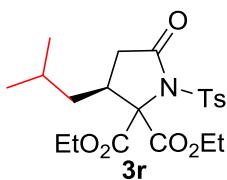
**Diethyl (S)-5-oxo-3-propyl-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3o):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:10) gave the product (62.9 mg, 74% yield) as a white solid: mp 136.0-137.5 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.390,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -89.7;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.04 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.41-4.33 (m, 4H), 2.63-2.52 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.33 (td,  $J$  = 14.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 1.85-1.80 (m, 1H), 1.36 (td,  $J$  = 7.2, 2.8 Hz, 7H), 1.29-1.20 (m, 2H), 0.90 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.4, 167.4, 165.9, 145.3, 135.4, 129.9, 129.0, 75.8, 62.9, 62.8, 42.0, 36.5, 32.5, 21.8, 20.8, 14.1, 14.0, 13.9; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{27}\text{NNaO}_7\text{S}(\text{M}+\text{Na})^+$ : 448.1400, Found: 448.1454; 99% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ASH, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 16.7 min, tr (minor) = 19.5 min.



**Diethyl (R)-3-isopropyl-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3p):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:10) gave the product (49.3 mg, 58% yield) as a white solid: mp 79.2-80.4 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.346,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -28.9;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 7.96 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.43-4.27 (m, 4H), 2.61-2.54 (m, 1H), 2.48 (dd,  $J$  = 16.8, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.23 (dd,  $J$  = 16.8, 12.4 Hz, 1H), 1.77-1.70 (m, 1H), 1.34 (td,  $J$  = 11.2, 7.2 Hz, 6H), 1.02 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 0.83 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.1, 167.8, 165.6, 145.3, 135.4, 129.6, 129.1, 75.9, 63.2, 62.9, 50.8, 35.3, 29.5, 21.8, 21.3, 21.1, 14.0, 13.9; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{28}\text{NO}_7\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 426.1581, Found: 426.1589; 98% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel AD, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 12.7 min, tr (minor) = 11.5 min.

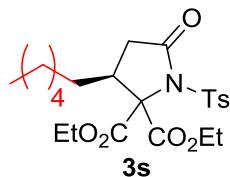


**Diethyl (S)-5-oxo-3-pentyl-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3q):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:10) gave the product (77.0 mg, 85% yield) as a white solid: mp 71.6-74.6 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.142,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -228.9;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.04 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.41-4.32 (m, 4H), 2.59-2.52 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.33 (dd,  $J$  = 19.2, 13.6 Hz, 1H), 1.85 (s, 1H), 1.35 (td,  $J$  = 7.2, 1.6 Hz, 6H), 1.28-1.23 (m, 7H), 0.86 (t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.4, 167.5, 165.9, 145.3, 135.4, 129.9, 129.0, 75.8, 62.9, 62.8, 42.2, 36.5, 31.5, 30.3, 27.2, 22.4, 21.8, 14.2, 14.1, 14.0; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{31}\text{NNaO}_7\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ : 476.1713, Found: 476.1702; 96% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel AD, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 11.1 min, tr (minor) = 12.5 min.

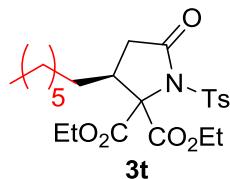


**Diethyl (S)-3-isobutyl-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3r):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:10) gave the product (61.5 mg, 70% yield) as a white solid: mp 79.2-80.4 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.457,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -60.2;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.03 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.35 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 2.68-2.59 (m, 1H), 2.53 (dd,  $J$  = 16.8, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.32 (dd,  $J$  = 16.8, 11.6 Hz, 1H), 1.67-1.60 (m, 1H), 1.54-1.45 (m, 1H), 1.34 (td,  $J$  = 7.2, 4.0 Hz, 6H), 1.24-1.17 (m, 1H), 0.89 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 0.81 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.5, 167.4,

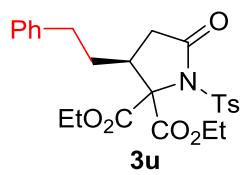
165.9, 145.3, 135.4, 129.9, 129.0, 75.7, 62.8, 40.1, 39.3, 36.6, 26.0, 23.6, 21.8, 21.3, 14.1, 14.0; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $C_{21}H_{30}NO_7S$  ( $M+H$ )<sup>+</sup>: 440.1737, Found: 440.1729; 95% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ODH, 90:10 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 0.8 mL/min), tr (major) = 14.8 min, tr (minor) = 18.0 min.



**Diethyl (S)-3-hexyl-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3s):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:10) gave the product (78.5 mg, 84% yield) as a colorless oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.579,  $CHCl_3$ ) = -64.8; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.00 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.37-4.29 (m, 4H), 2.56-2.49 (m, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.34-2.25 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.82 (m, 1H), 1.32 (td,  $J$  = 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 6H), 1.25-1.20 (m, 9H), 0.83 (td,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.5, 167.4, 165.9, 145.3, 135.4, 129.9, 129.0, 75.8, 62.9, 62.8, 42.1, 36.5, 31.6, 30.4, 29.0, 27.5, 22.6, 21.8, 14.2, 14.1, 14.0; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $C_{23}H_{34}NO_7S$  ( $M+H$ )<sup>+</sup>: 468.2050, Found: 468.2055; 93% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel IA, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 9.9 min, tr (minor) = 10.8 min.

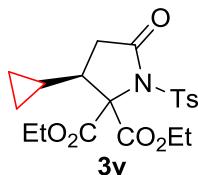


**Diethyl (S)-3-heptyl-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3t):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:10) gave the product (78.9 mg, 82% yield) as a colorless oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.628,  $CHCl_3$ ) = -63.7; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.02 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.41-4.27 (m, 4H), 2.57-5.51 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.31 (dd,  $J$  = 19.6, 14.0 Hz, 1H), 1.86-1.73 (m, 1H), 1.35-1.31 (m, 6H), 1.27-1.22 (m, 11H), 0.85 (t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.4, 167.4, 165.8, 145.3, 135.4, 129.9, 129.0, 75.8, 62.9, 62.8, 42.2, 36.5, 31.9, 31.8, 31.7, 30.4, 29.2, 29.1, 27.5, 22.6, 21.8, 14.1, 14.0; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $C_{24}H_{36}NO_7S$  ( $M+H$ )<sup>+</sup>: 482.2207, Found: 482.2210; 95% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel IB, 90:10 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 11.0 min, tr (minor) = 12.6 min.

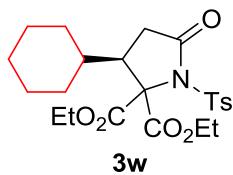


**Diethyl (S)-5-oxo-3-phenethyl-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3u):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:10) gave the product (76.0 mg, 78% yield) as a colorless oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.542,  $CHCl_3$ ) = -83.0; <sup>1</sup>H

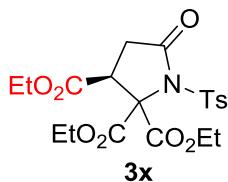
NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.03 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.27-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.16 (m, 1H), 7.11-7.09 (m, 2H), 4.40-4.18 (m, 4H), 2.76-2.69 (m, 1H), 2.58-2.48 (m, 3H), 2.44-2.34 (m, 4H), 2.29-2.20 (m, 1H), 1.64-1.55 (m, 1H), 1.35 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.25 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.2, 167.2, 165.9, 145.3, 140.0, 135.4, 129.9, 129.0, 128.7, 128.3, 126.6, 75.6, 63.0, 62.9, 40.9, 36.3, 33.4, 31.8, 21.8, 14.2, 14.0; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{30}\text{NO}_7\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 488.1737, Found: 488.1746; 99% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ID, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 48.2 min, tr (minor) = 36.3 min.



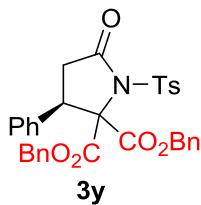
**Diethyl (R)-3-cyclopropyl-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3v):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:10) gave the product (66.9 mg, 79% yield) as a white solid: mp 132.1-134.6 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.503,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -84.5;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.05 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.43-4.27 (m, 4H), 2.57 (dd,  $J$  = 17.2, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.41-2.35 (m, 4H), 2.18 (dd,  $J$  = 17.6, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (td,  $J$  = 7.2, 1.6 Hz, 6H), 0.92-0.84 (m, 1H), 0.59-0.49 (m, 2H), 0.32-0.26 (m, 1H), 0.14-0.08 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.2, 167.6, 165.6, 145.3, 135.6, 130.0, 129.0, 76.4, 63.1, 62.9, 46.9, 36.4, 21.8, 14.1, 14.0, 12.2, 4.8, 3.4; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_7\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 424.1424, Found: 424.1416; 96% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel IB, 90:10 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 16.6 min, tr (minor) = 19.9 min.



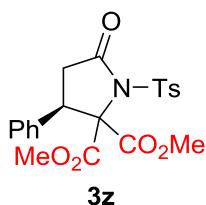
**Diethyl (R)-3-cyclohexyl-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3w):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:10) gave the product (67.9 mg, 73% yield) as a white solid: mp 99.8-103.6 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.523,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -52.6;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 7.94 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.40-4.30 (m, 4H), 2.68-2.60 (m, 1H), 2.46 (dd,  $J$  = 16.8, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.21 (dd,  $J$  = 16.8, 12.8 Hz, 1H), 2.08 (d,  $J$  = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 1.68-1.41 (m, 5H), 1.34 (q,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 1.20-1.06 (m, 3H), 0.84 (qd,  $J$  = 12.0, 2.8 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.1, 167.8, 165.7, 145.3, 135.4, 129.6, 129.1, 75.8, 63.2, 62.8, 49.7, 38.7, 34.9, 31.3, 31.0, 26.0, 25.9, 25.7, 21.8, 14.1, 13.9; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{32}\text{NO}_7\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 466.1894, Found: 466.1985; 99% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel IA, 90:10 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 0.8 mL/min), tr (major) = 22.5 min, tr (minor) = 21.5 min.



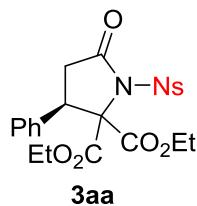
**Triethyl (S)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2,3-tricarboxylate (3x):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:10) gave the product (57.4 mg, 63% yield) as a white solid: mp 177.2-179.3 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.243,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -123.5;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.00 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.47-4.29 (m, 4H), 4.17 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.69 (dd,  $J$  = 11.2, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (dd,  $J$  = 17.2, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 2.53 (dd,  $J$  = 17.6, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.38 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.33 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.23 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 170.2, 167.8, 166.6, 165.5, 145.5, 135.3, 129.8, 129.3, 74.9, 63.8, 63.6, 62.0, 47.1, 32.6, 21.8, 14.0, 13.9, 13.9; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{25}\text{NNaO}_9\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ : 478.1142, Found: 478.1134; 99% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ODH, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 14.3 min, tr (minor) = 17.9 min.



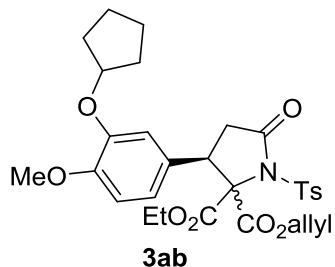
**Dibenzyl (R)-5-oxo-3-phenyl-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3y):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:3) gave the product (72.3 mg, 62% yield) as a white solid: mp 104.8-106.6 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.258,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -94.2;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 7.98 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.35-7.19 (m, 11H), 7.12 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 5.36 (dd,  $J$  = 28.8, 12.0 Hz, 2H), 4.93 (d,  $J$  = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 4.71 (d,  $J$  = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (t,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd,  $J$  = 17.2, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (dd,  $J$  = 17.2, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.1, 167.1, 165.2, 145.5, 135.1, 134.7, 134.6, 134.4, 130.1, 129.9, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 127.4, 68.9, 68.4, 58.8, 47.2, 36.2, 21.9; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{29}\text{NNaO}_7\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ) $^+$ : 606.1557, Found: 606.1548; 91% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ASH, 85:15 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 32.4 min, tr (minor) = 45.8 min.



**Dimethyl (R)-5-oxo-3-phenyl-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3z):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:3) gave the product (73.3 mg, 85% yield) as a white solid: mp 185.4-186.9 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.183,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -73.2;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.04 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.09-7.07 (m, 2H), 4.03 (t,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 2.95-2.84 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H); HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_7\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 432.1111, Found: 432.1097; 90% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel AD, 70:30 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 0.5 mL/min), tr (major) = 14.4 min, tr (minor) = 34.0 min.

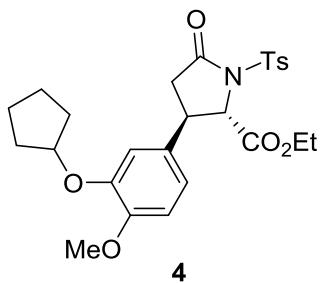


**Diethyl (R)-1-((4-nitrophenyl)sulfonyl)-5-oxo-3-phenylpyrrolidine-2,2-dicarboxylate (3aa):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (87.3 mg, 89% yield) as a white solid: mp 166.7-169.8 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.284,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -114.4;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.43-8.36 (m, 4H), 7.33-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.10-7.07 (m, 2H), 4.44 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.08 (t,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.98-3.90 (m, 1H), 3.83-3.75 (m, 1H), 2.97-2.85 (m, 2H), 1.40 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.963 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.4, 167.2, 165.1, 150.9, 143.7, 135.4, 131.6, 129.0, 128.8, 128.4, 123.6, 78.0, 63.7, 63.1, 46.8, 36.5, 14.1, 13.6; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_9\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 491.1124, Found: 491.1131; 94% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ADH, 90:10 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 57.5 min, tr (minor) = 45.9 min.

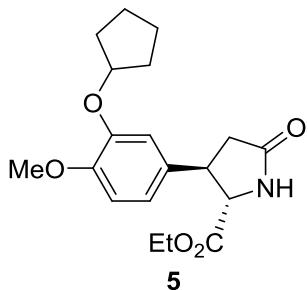


**Ethyl (3*R*)-2-(but-3-enoyl)-3-(3-(cyclopentyloxy)-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (3ab):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) gave the product (93.6 mg, 80% yield) as a colorless oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.167,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) = -22.1;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 8.05 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 6.71 (d,  $J$  = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.63-6.59 (m, 1H), 6.51 (d,  $J$  = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.62-5.52 (m, 1H), 5.33-5.29 (m, 1H), 5.19-5.11 (m, 1H), 4.86-4.82 (m, 1H), 4.46-4.40 (m, 2H), 4.01-3.97 (m, 2H), 3.86-3.81 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.97-2.87 (m, 1H), 2.82-2.74 (m, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.79-1.74 (m, 6H), 1.55-1.51 (m, 2H), 1.39 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 172.6, 167.2, 165.0, 150.2, 147.7, 145.3, 135.5, 130.9, 130.1, 129.1, 128.0, 120.7, 118.9, 114.5, 111.4, 80.5, 77.7, 67.6, 67.1, 63.4, 62.7, 56.1, 46.6, 37.0, 32.9, 24.3, 24.2, 21.8, 14.1, 13.7; HRMS(ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{36}\text{NO}_9\text{S}$  ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ : 586.2105, Found: 586.2115; 89% *ee* as determined by HPLC.

HPLC (Chiralcel ASH, 98:2 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 62.2 min, tr (minor) = 5.8 min.



**Ethyl (2S, 3R)-3-(3-(cyclopentyloxy)-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxo-1-tosylpyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (4):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:3) gave the product (48.2 mg, 60% yield) as a colorless oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.173, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) = +63.4; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 7.95-7.91 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 2H), 6.78-6.74 (m, 1H), 6.65-6.62 (m, 2H), 4.77 (q, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.66-4.62 (m, 1H), 4.35-4.21 (m, 2H), 3.82 (t, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 3H), 3.45 (dt, *J* = 8.8, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.01-2.93 (m, 1H), 2.56-2.49 (m, 1H), 2.44 (t, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 3H), 1.89-1.80 (m, 6H), 1.60-1.56 (m, 2H), 1.51 (dt, *J* = 6.8, 3.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 172.2, 170.3, 149.7, 148.3, 145.5, 134.9, 133.3, 129.5, 129.1, 118.4, 112.3, 112.2, 80.5, 67.2, 62.4, 56.2, 41.2, 38.6, 32.9, 32.8, 24.2, 21.9, 14.2; HRMS(ESI) calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>32</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>S (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 502.1894, Found: 502.1895; 90% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ODH, 80:20 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 12.5 min, tr (minor) = 15.9 min.

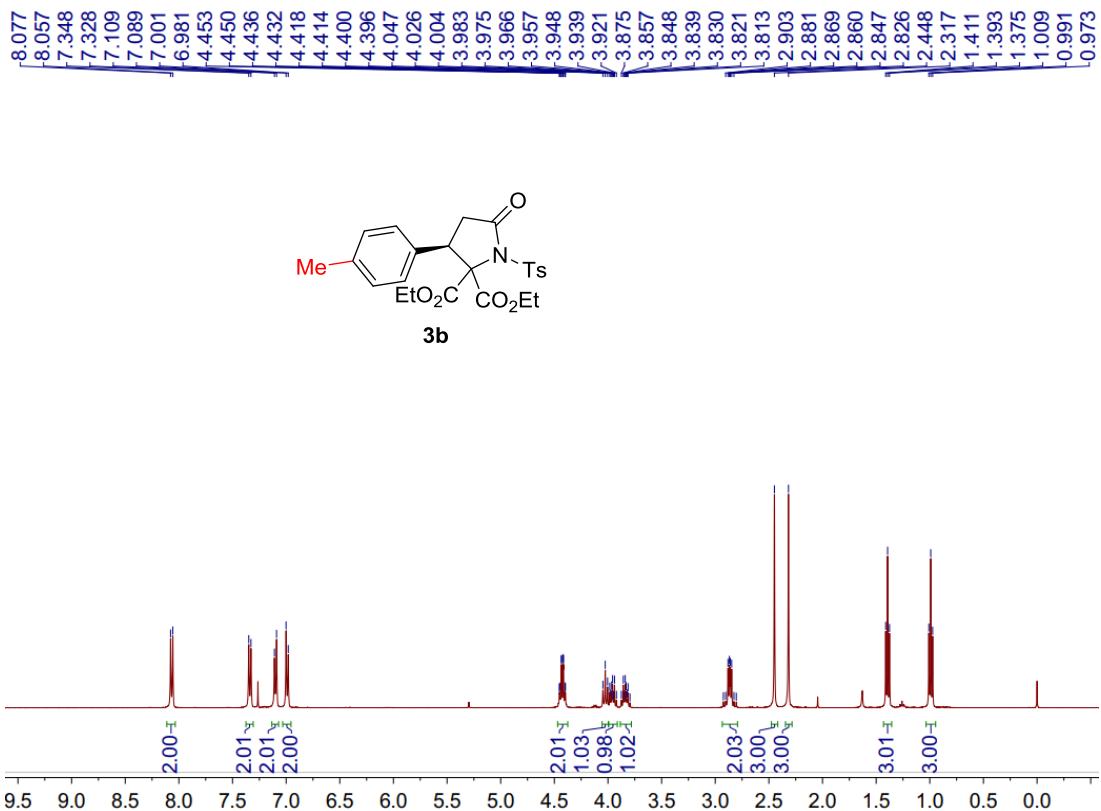
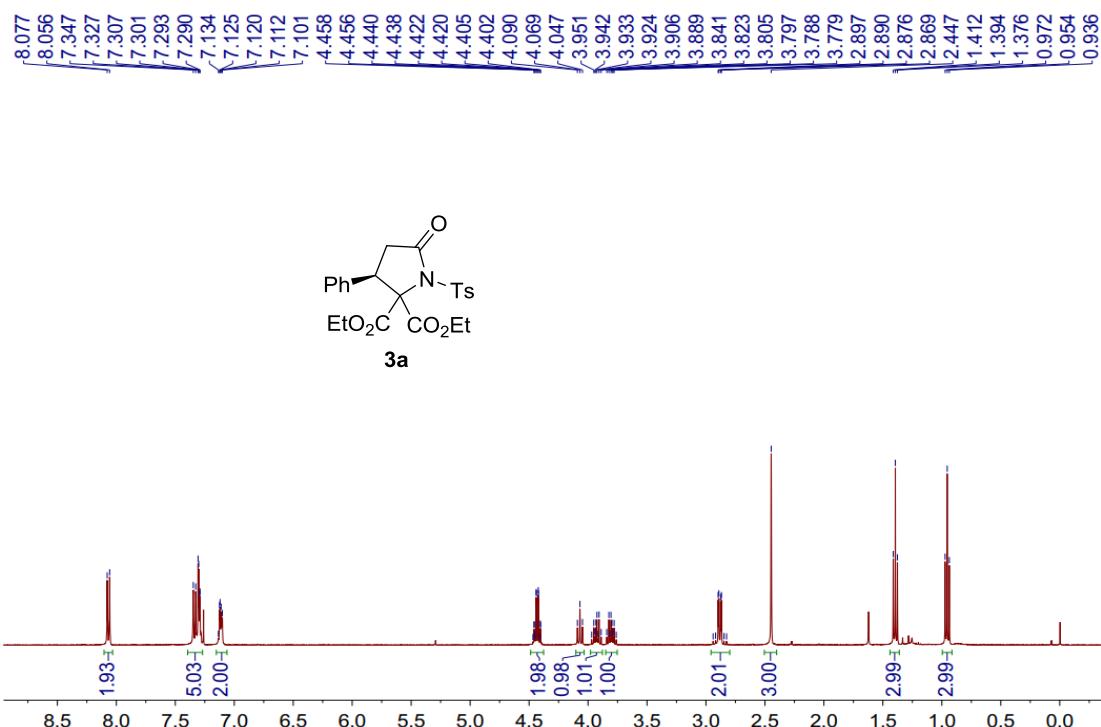


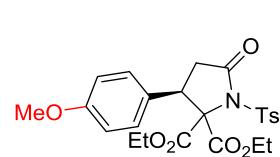
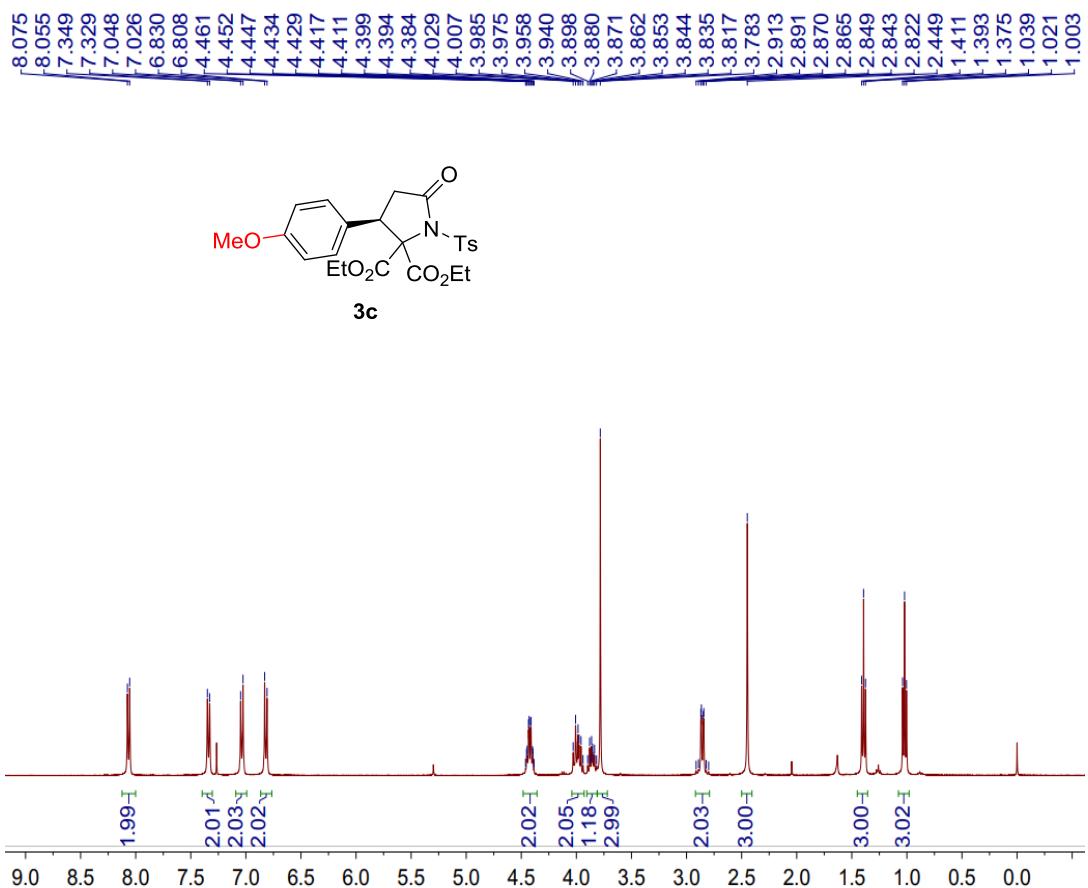
**Ethyl (2S, 3R)-3-(3-(cyclopentyloxy)-4-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxopyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (5):** Flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:1) gave the product (25.0 mg, 75% yield) as a colorless oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  (c 0.150, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) = +74.0; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 6.83-6.77 (m, 3H), 6.51 (br, 1H), 4.77-4.73 (m, 1H), 4.24-4.14 (m, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.65-3.59 (m, 1H), 2.83 (dd, *J* = 17.6, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (dd, *J* = 17.6, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.93-1.79 (m, 6H), 1.63-1.55 (m, 2H), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); HRMS(ESI) calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 348.1805, Found: 348.1813; 89% *ee* as determined by HPLC (Chiralcel ODH, 80:20 hexanes/*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min), tr (major) = 9.2 min, tr (minor) = 11.0 min.

## b) References

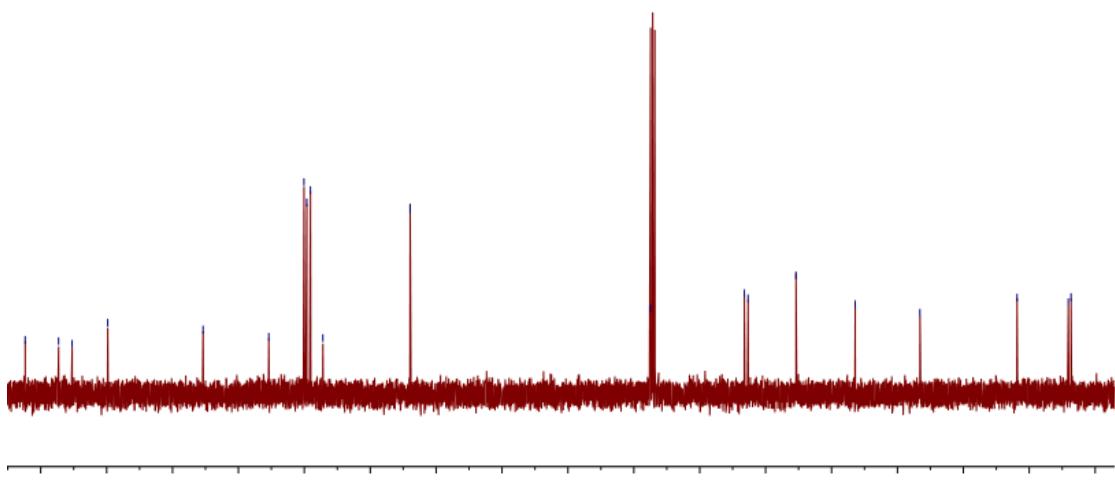
- (1) L. D. Hawkins, Preparation of Trisubstituted Benzene Compounds for Treating Congestive Heart Failure, US 4971959 [A] 1990.
- (2) D. H. Liu, Z. L. Hu, Y. X. Zhang, Z. Q. Fu and Huang, W, Access to Enantioenriched Spiro- $\epsilon$ -Lactam Oxindoles by an N-Heterocyclic Carbene-Catalyzed [4+3] Annulation of Flexible Oxotryptamines with Enals, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2019, **25**, 11223.
- (3) J. Sabbatani and N. Maulide, Temporary Generation of a Cyclopropyl Oxocarbenium Ion Enables Highly Diastereoselective Donor-Acceptor Cyclopropane Cycloaddition, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2016, **55**, 6780.
- (4) C. Guo, M. Saifuddin, T. Saravanan, M. Sharifi and G. J. Poelarends, Biocatalytic Asymmetric Michael Additions of Nitromethane to  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -Unsaturated Aldehydes via Enzyme-bound Iminium Ion Intermediates, *ACS Catal.*, 2019, **9**, 4369.
- (5) A. Bouisseau, M. Gao and M. C. Willis, Traceless Rhodium-Catalyzed Hydroacylation using Alkyl Aldehydes: the Enantioselective Synthesis of  $\beta$ -aryl Ketones, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2016, **22**, 15624.
- (6) C. B. Miao, A. Q. Zheng, L. J. Zhou, X. Lyu and H. T. Yang, Copper-catalyzed Annulation of Oxime Acetates with  $\alpha$ -amino Acid Ester Derivatives: Synthesis of 3-sulfonamido/imino 4-pyrrolin-2-ones, *Org. Lett.*, 2020, **22**, 3381.
- (7) T. M. U. Ton, F. Himawan, J. W. W. Chang and P. W. H. Chan, Copper (II) Triflate Catalyzed Amination of 1,3-dicarbonyl Compounds, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2012, **18**, 12020.
- (8) S. Vellalath, K. N. Van and D. Romo, Direct Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis of n-Heterocycles from Commodity Acid Chlorides by Employing  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -unsaturated Acylammonium Salts, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2013, **52**, 13688.
- (9) T. N. Nguyen and J. A. May, Branched Amine Synthesis via Aziridine or Azetidine Opening with Organotrifluoroborates by Cooperative Brønsted/Lewis Acid Catalysis: an Acid-dependent Divergent Mechanism, *Org. Lett.*, 2018, **20**, 3618.
- (10) F. Yin, A. Garifullina and F. Tanaka, Synthesis of Pyrrolidine-3-carboxylic Acid Derivatives via Asymmetric Michael Addition Reactions of Carboxylate-Substituted Enones, *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2017, **15**, 6089.
- (11) J. J. Cheng, P. Chen, J. H. Zheng, C. J. Pan and Y. F. Yuan, Method for N-heterocyclic Carbene-Catalyzed Synthesis of Polysubstituted Pyrrolidone Compounds, CN 106916093[A], 2017.
- (12) Z. Q. Fu, J. F. Xu, T. S. Zhu, W. W. Yi Leong and Y. R. Chi,  $\beta$ -Carbon Activation of Saturated Carboxylic Esters through N-heterocyclic Carbene Organocatalysis, *Nature Chem.*, 2013, **5**, 835.

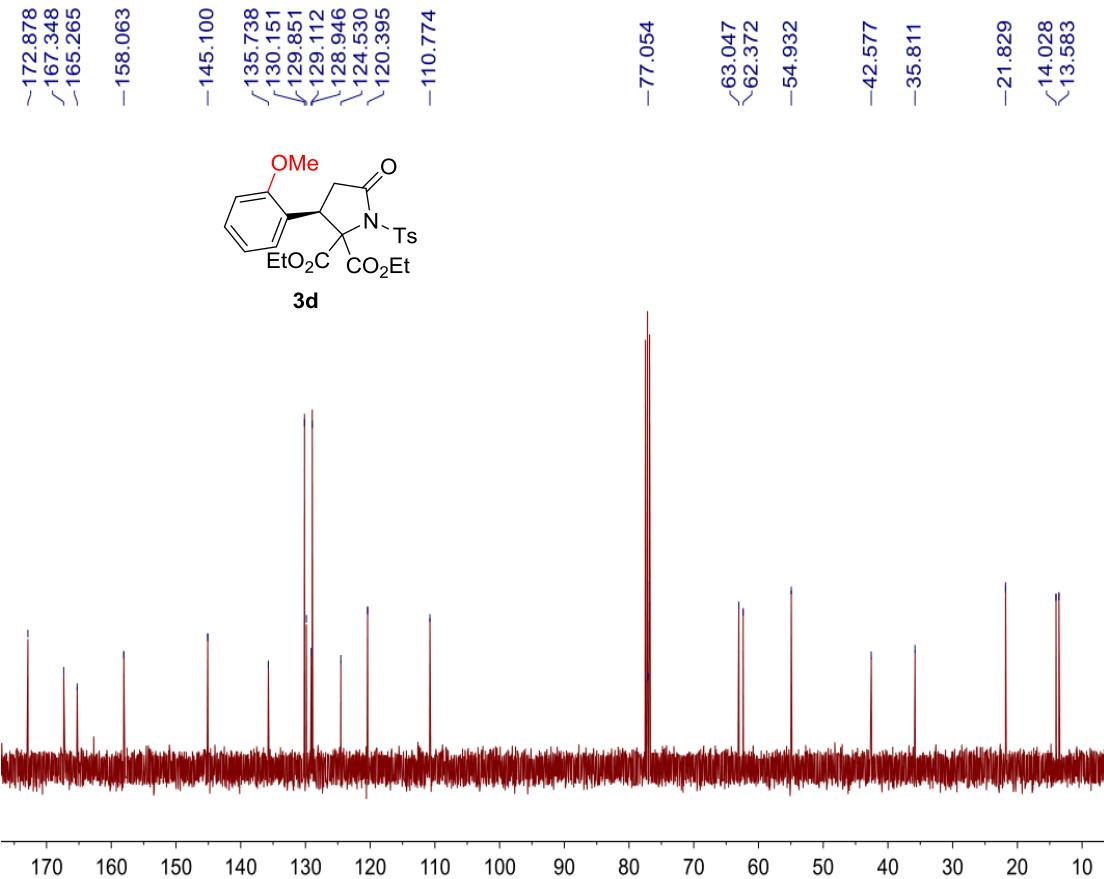
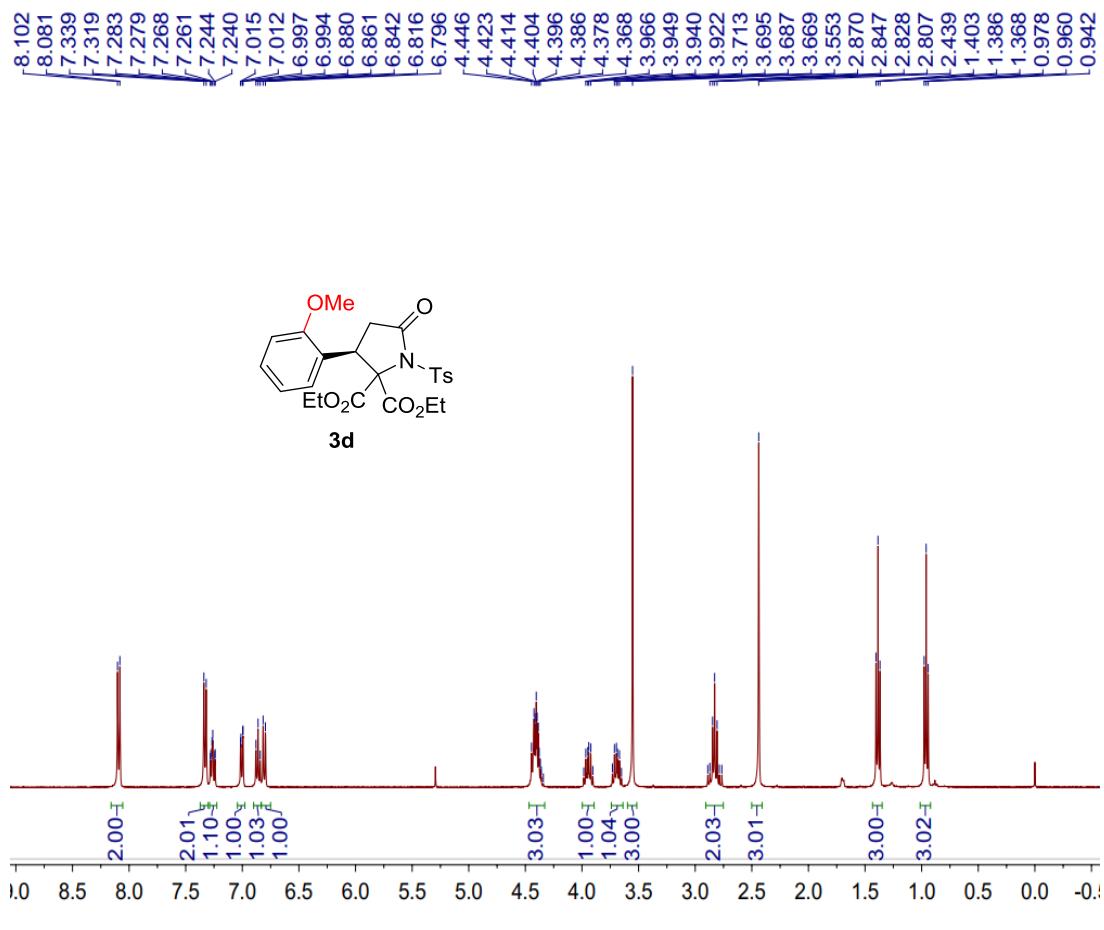
(5) IV:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and HPLC dates of products

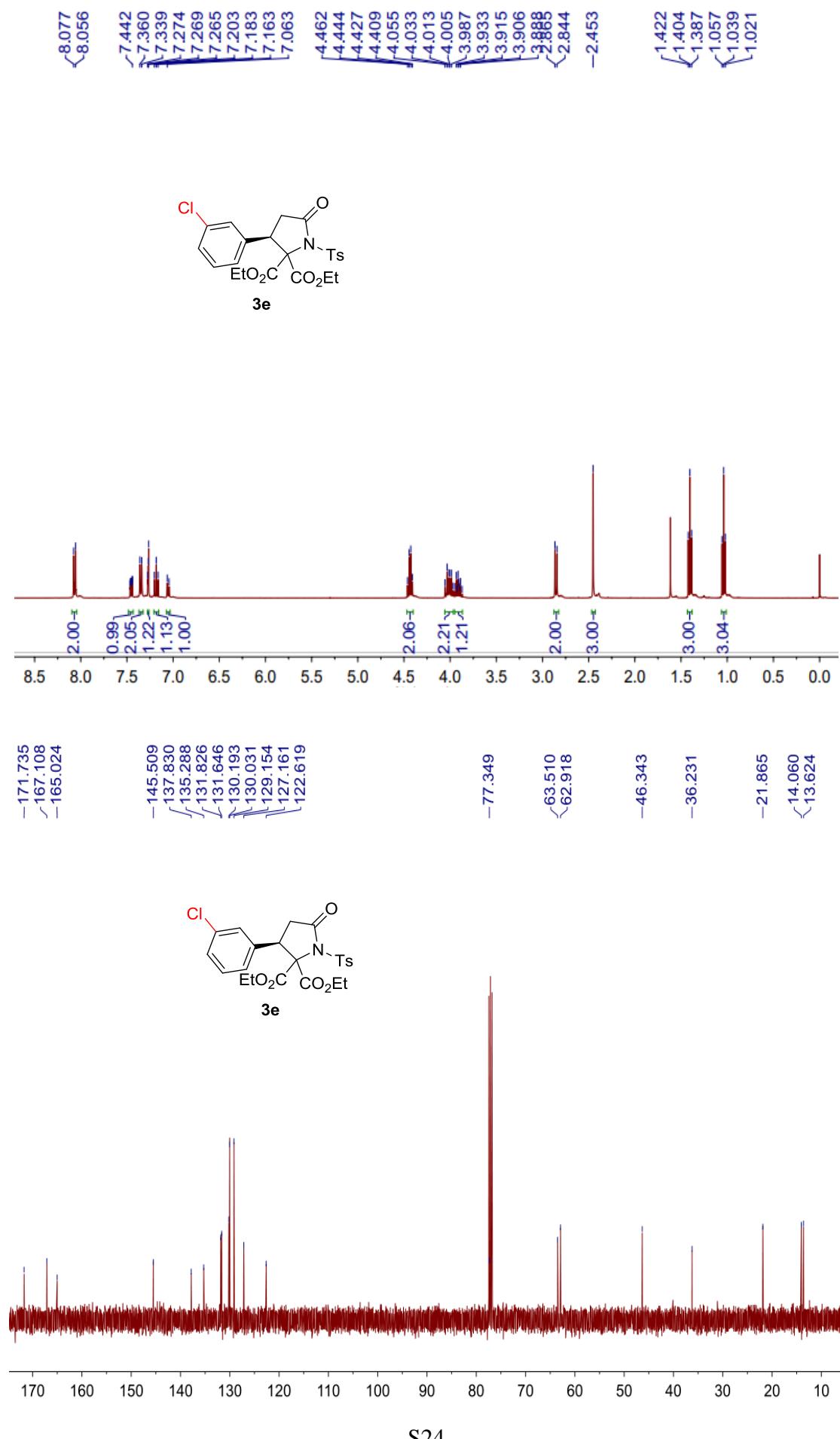


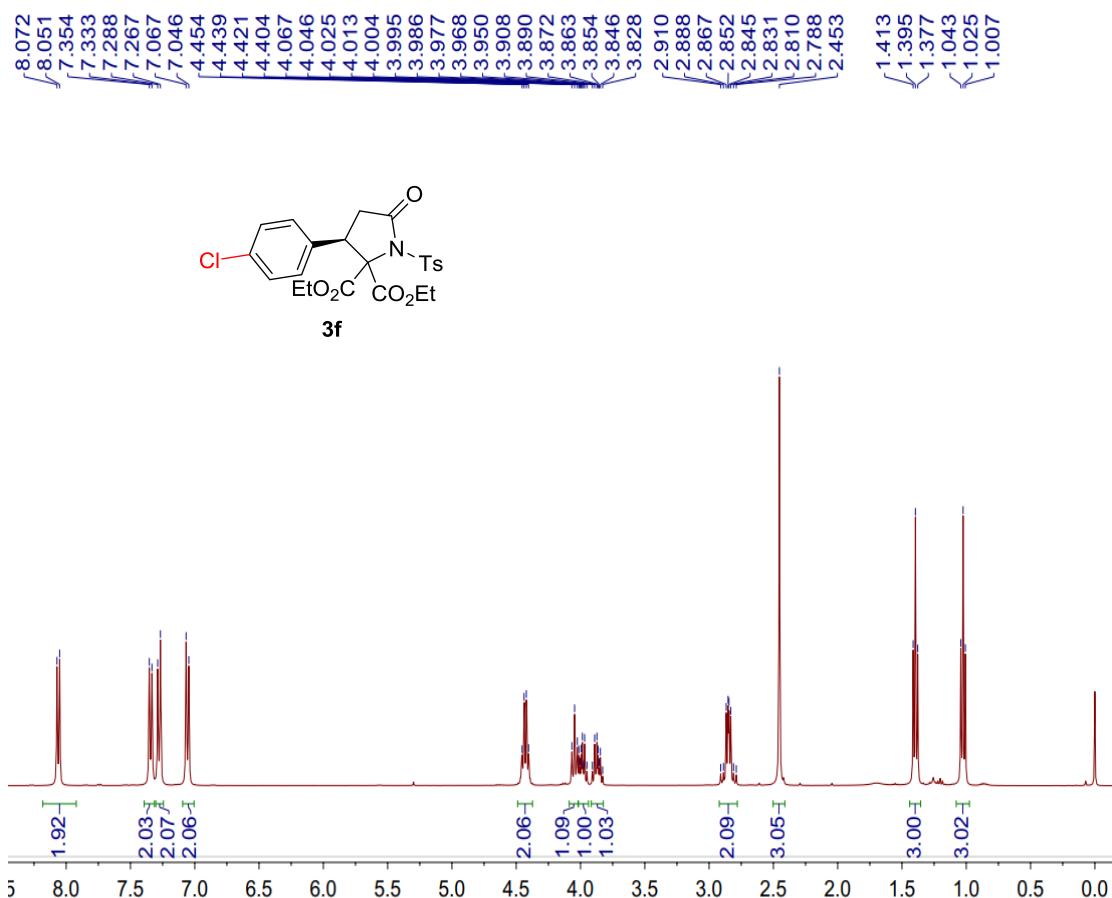


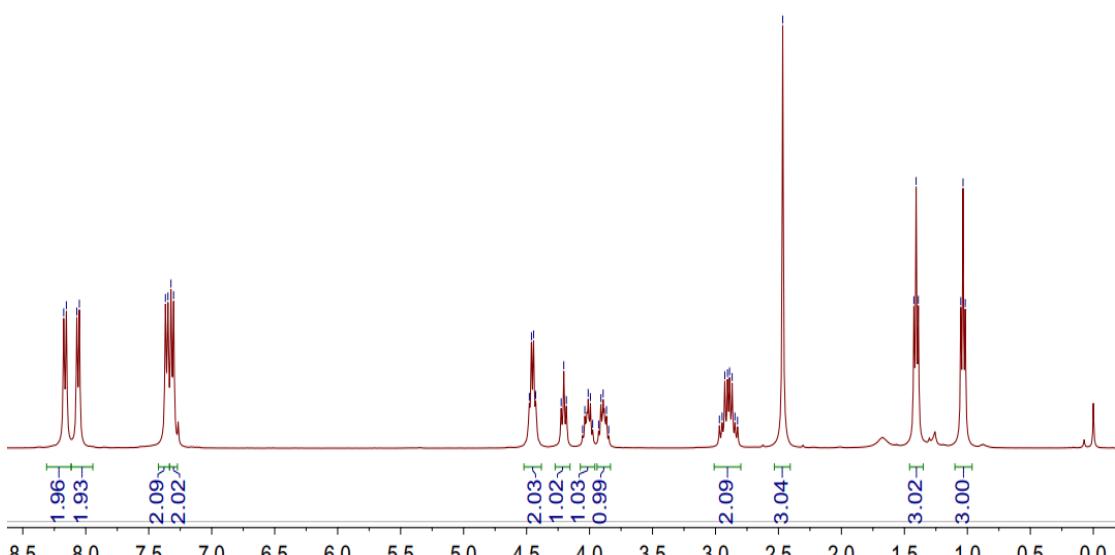
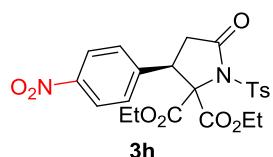
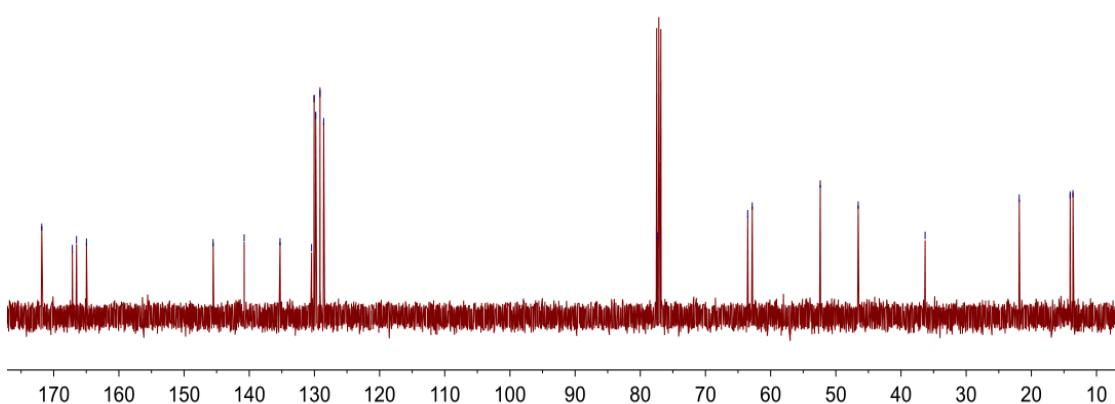
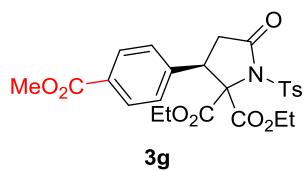
3c



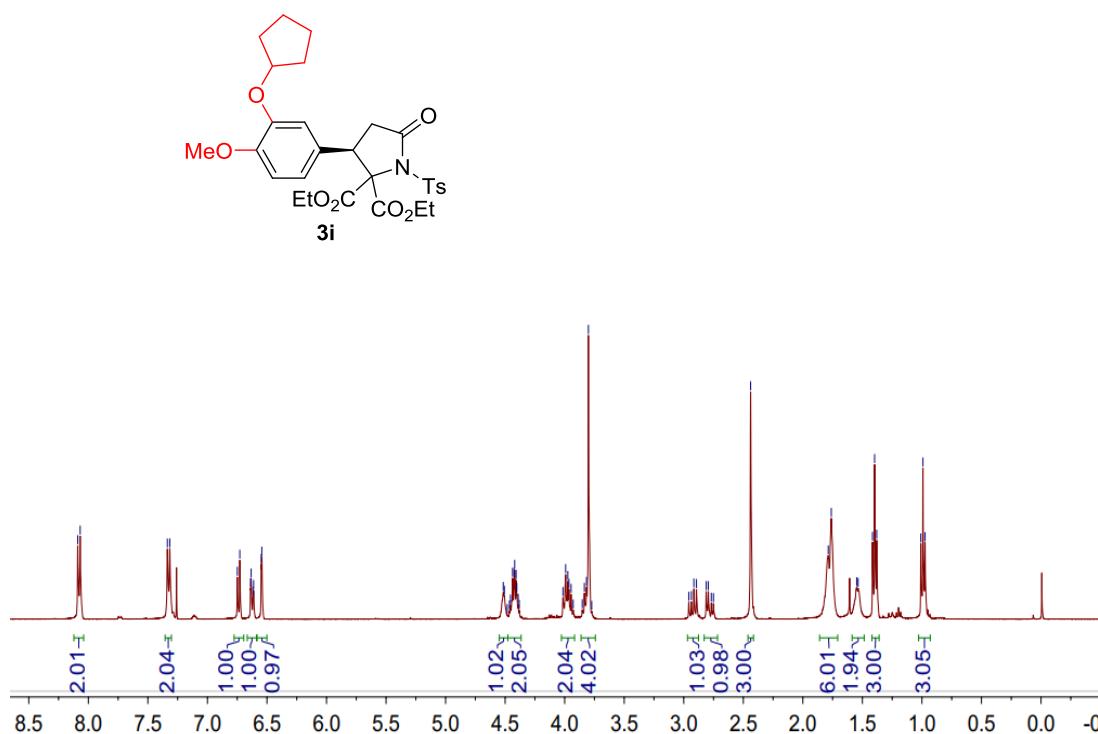
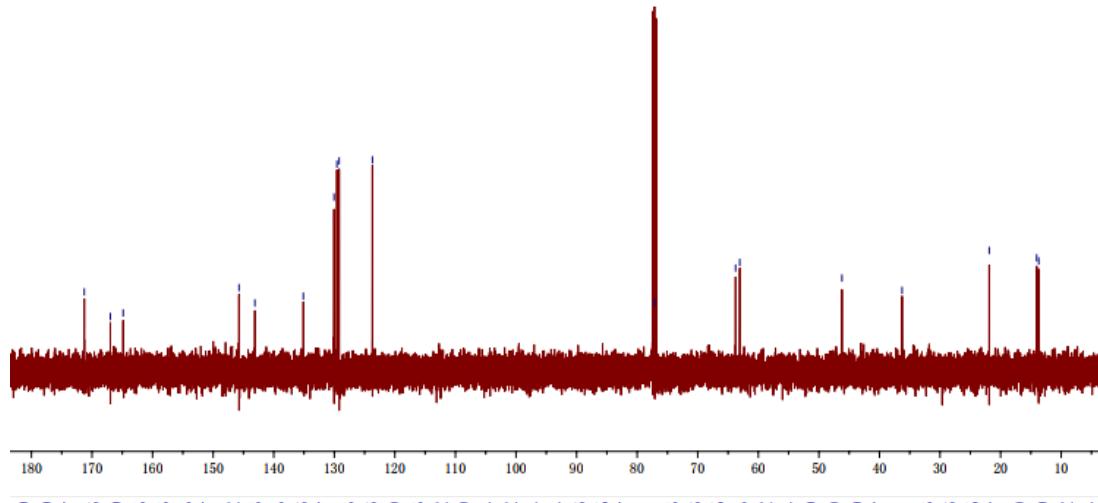
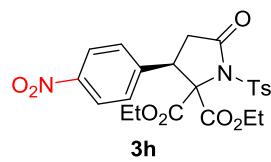




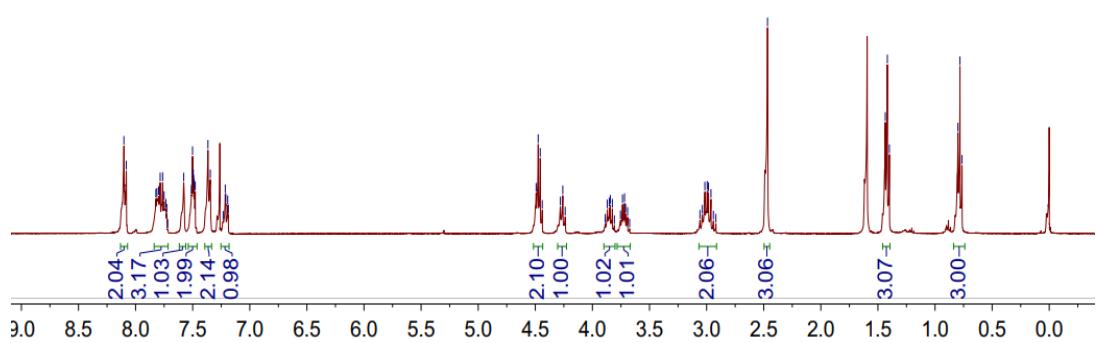
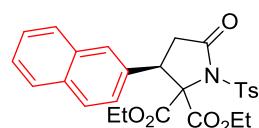
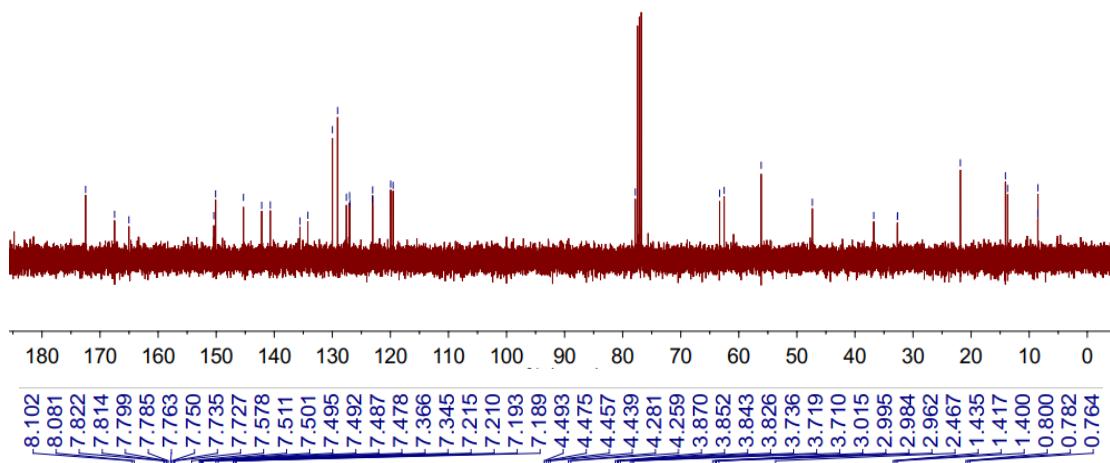
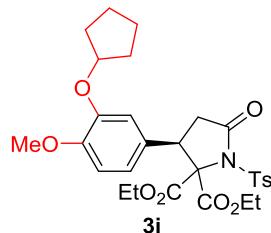


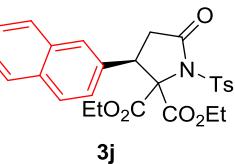
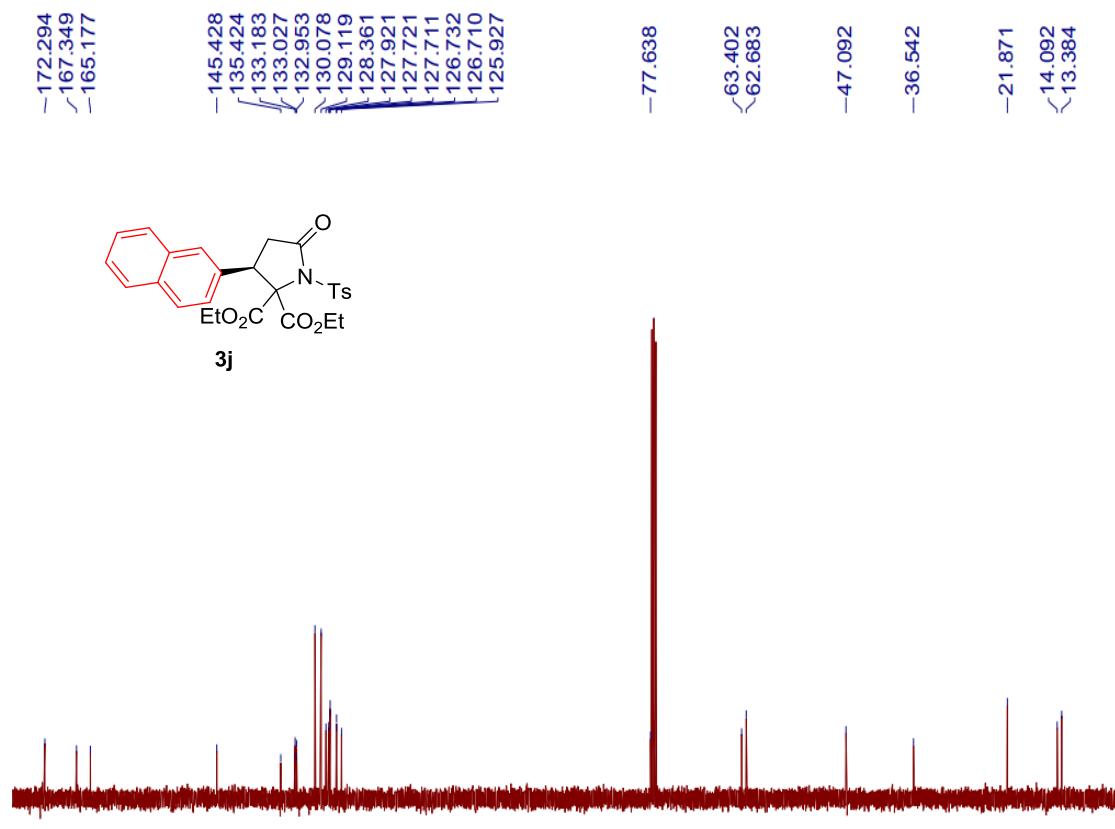


$\sim 171.277$   
 $\sim 166.973$   
 $\sim 164.862$   
 $\sim 145.728$   
 $\sim 143.109$   
 $\sim 135.111$   
 $\sim 130.045$   
 $\sim 129.568$   
 $\sim 129.204$   
 $\sim 123.703$

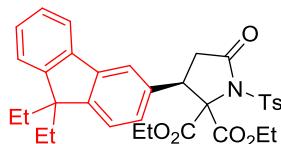
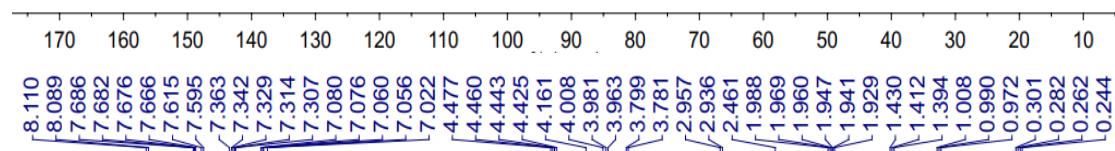


-172.479  
 -167.495  
 -165.027  
 -165.027  
 -150.397  
 -150.094  
 -145.299  
 -142.155  
 -140.679  
 -135.571  
 -134.216  
 -129.983  
 -129.089  
 -127.580  
 -127.027  
 -126.971  
 -123.098  
 -123.051  
 -119.951  
 -119.534

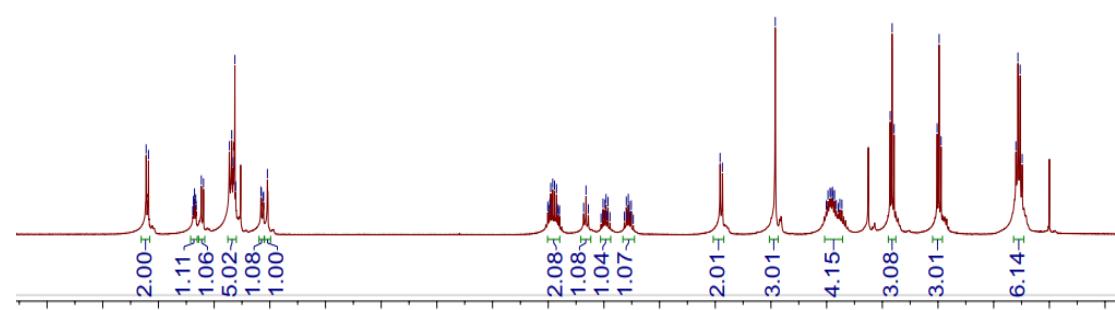




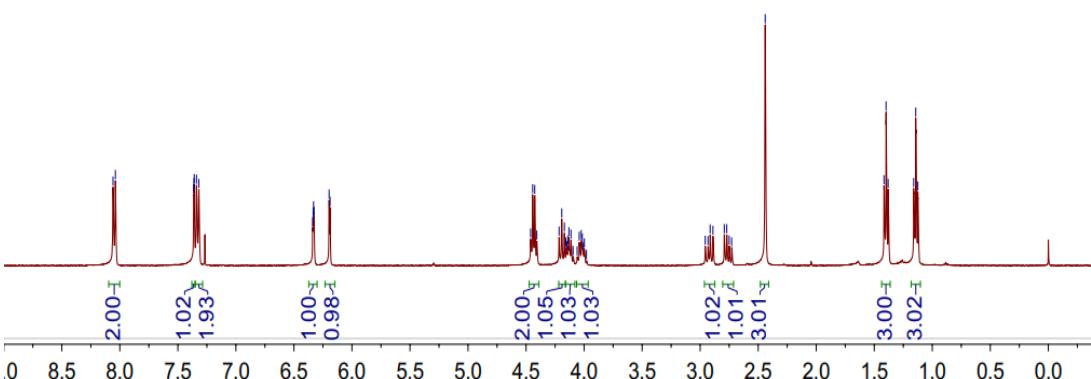
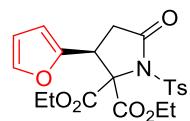
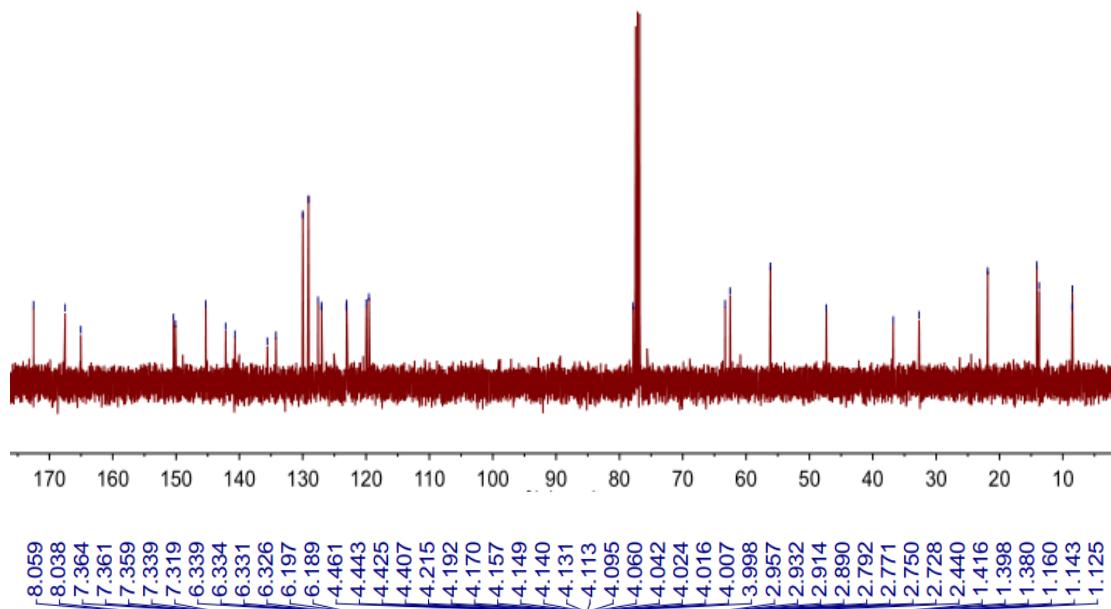
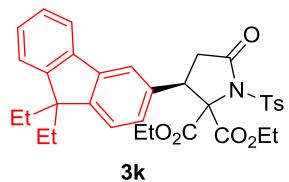
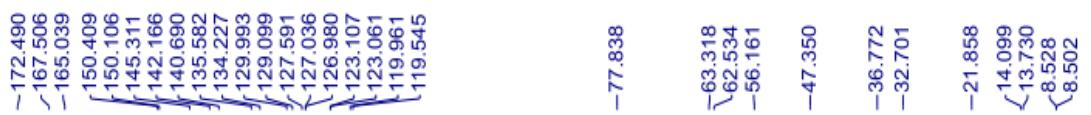
3j

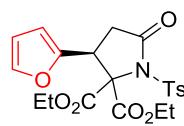


3k

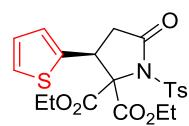
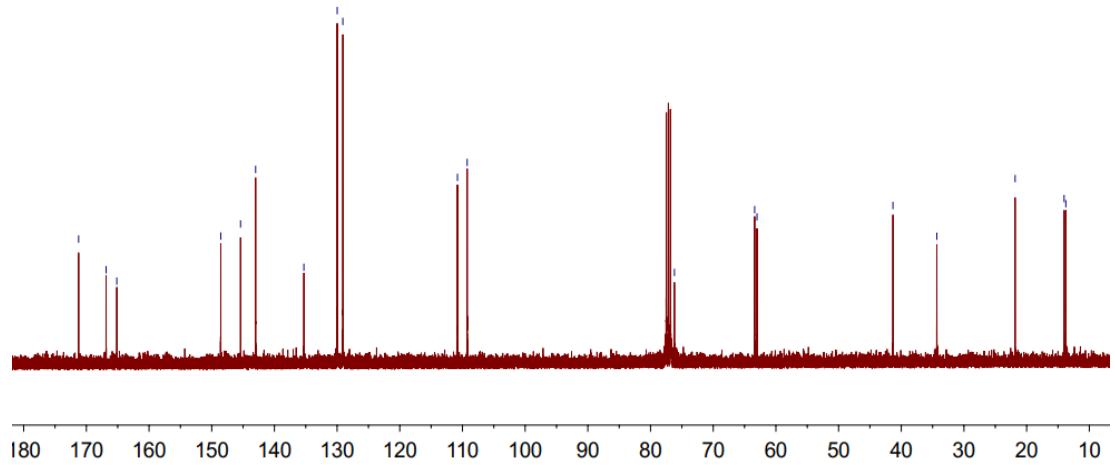


S29

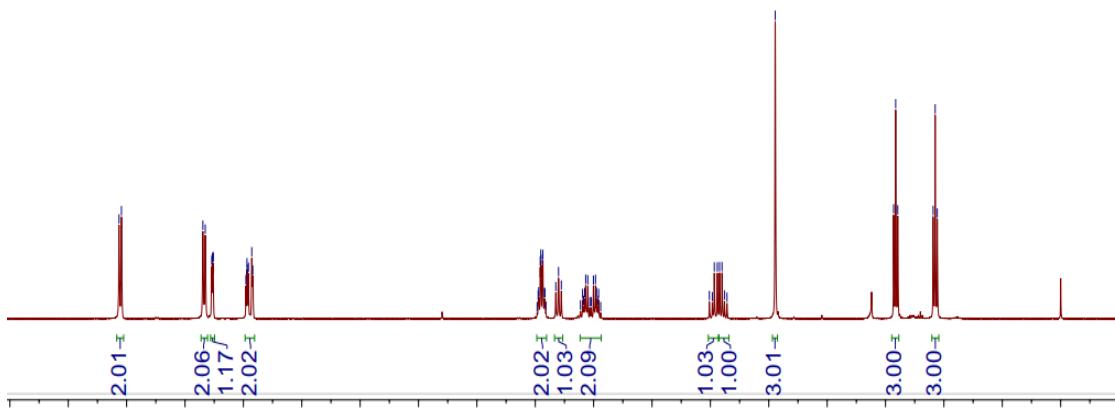




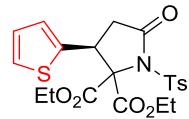
31



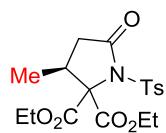
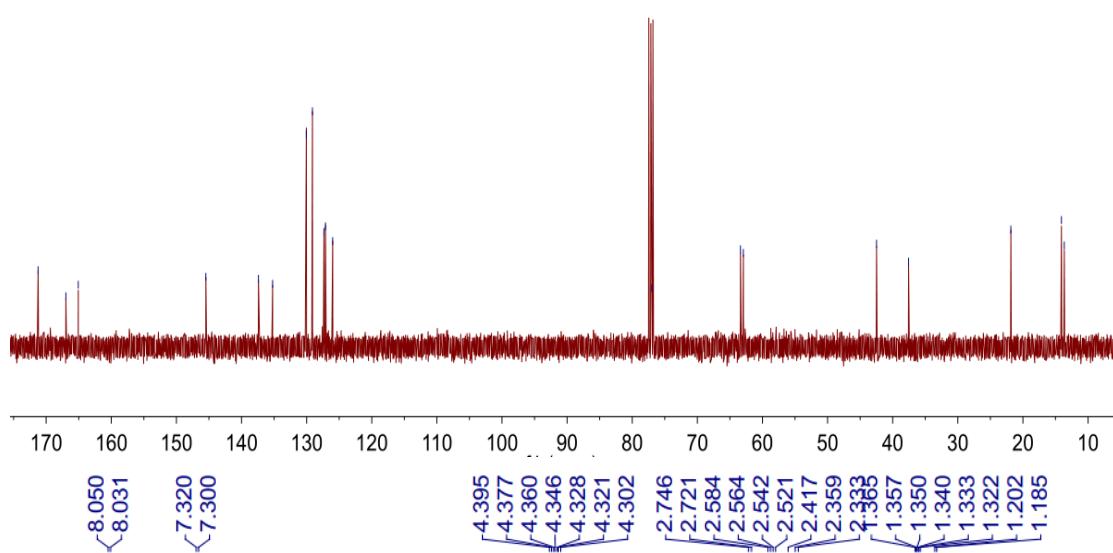
3m



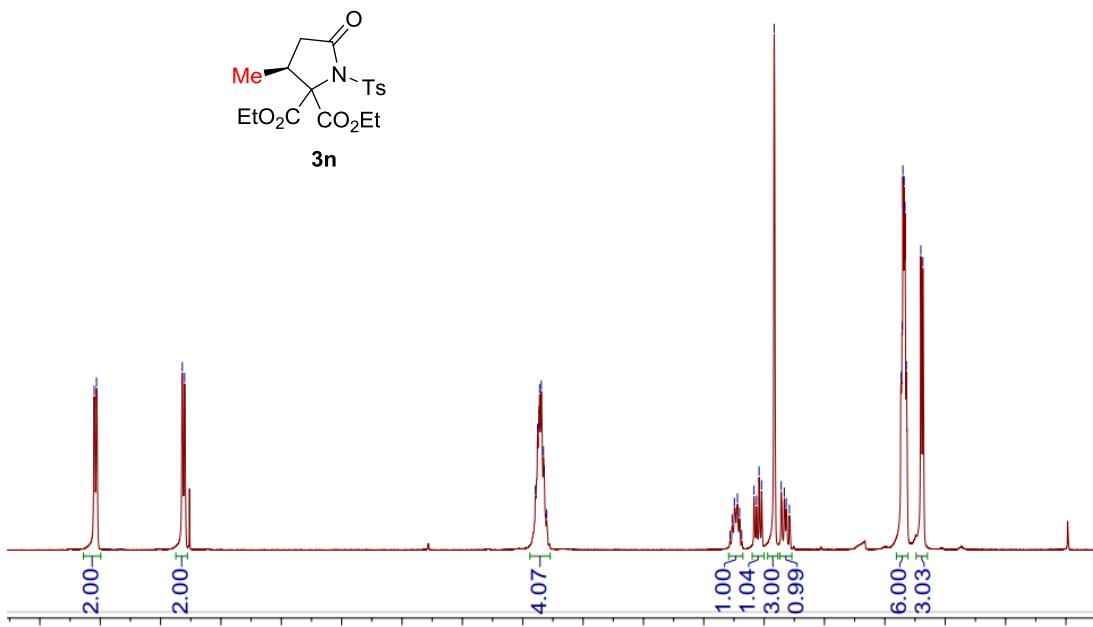
S31

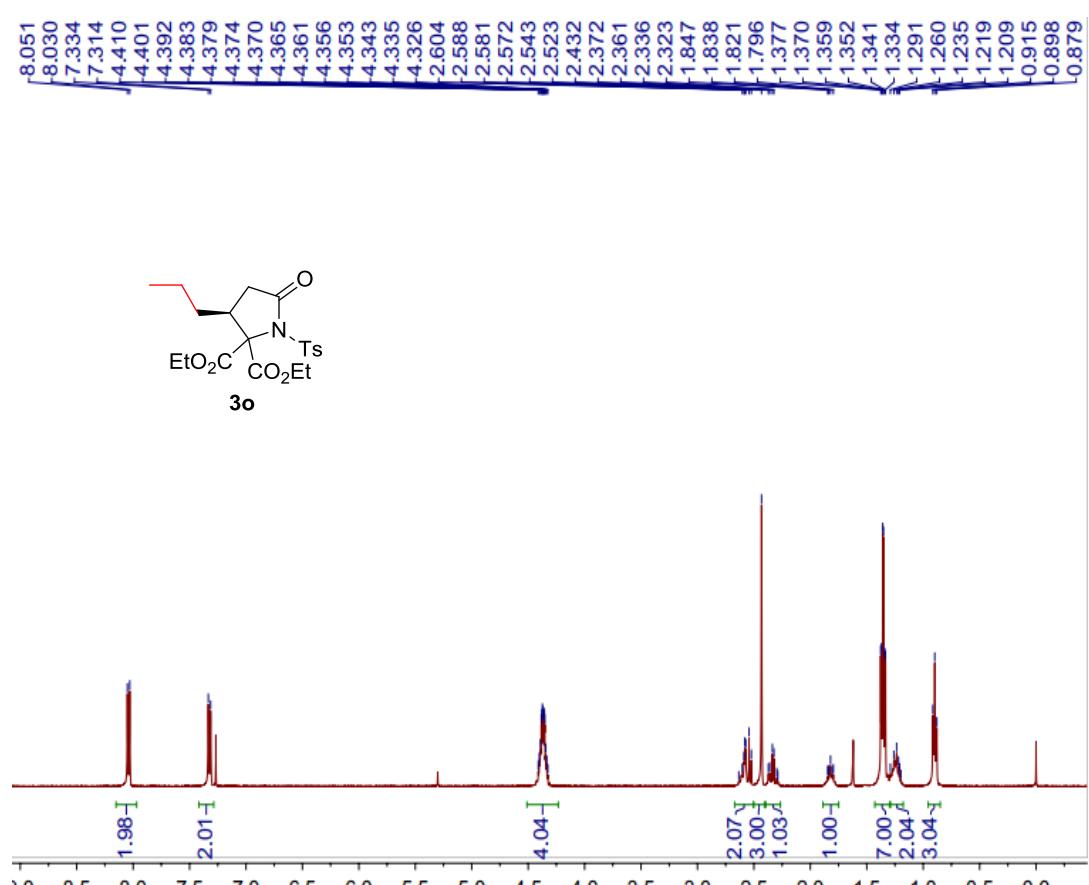
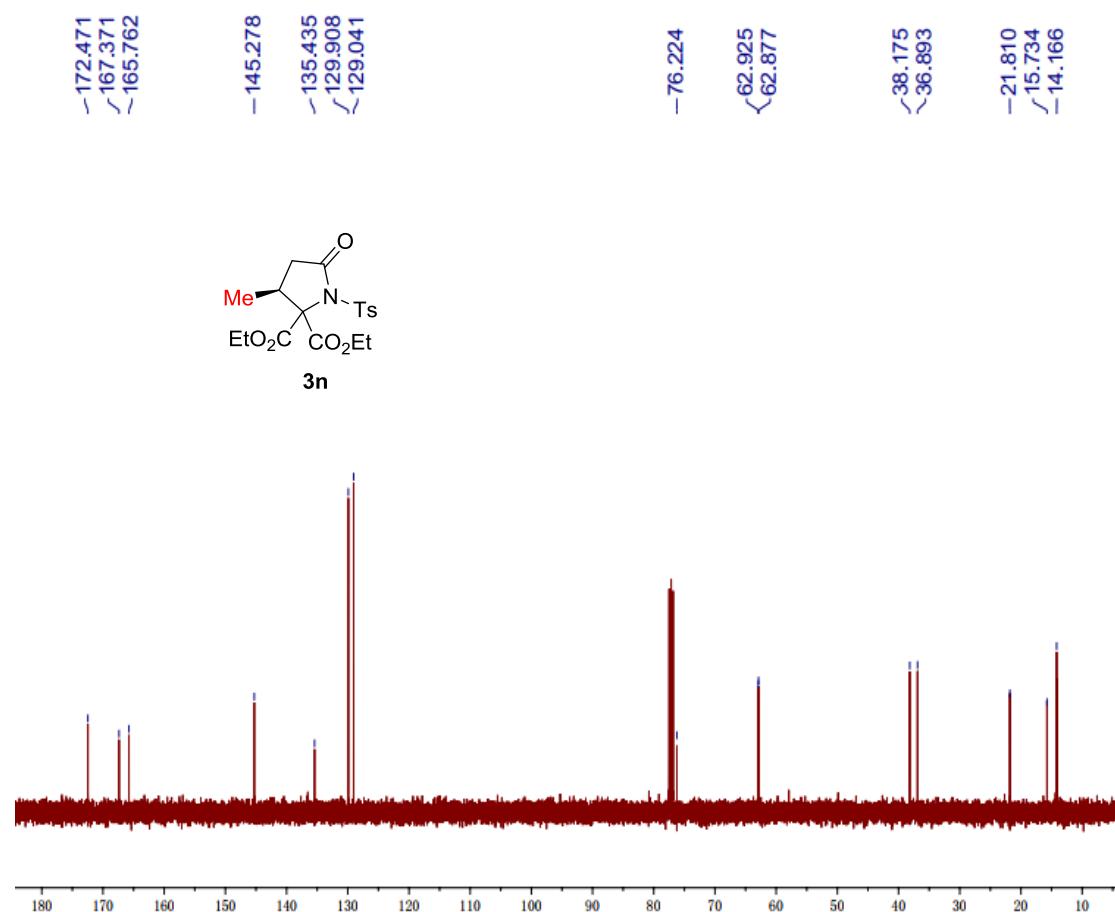


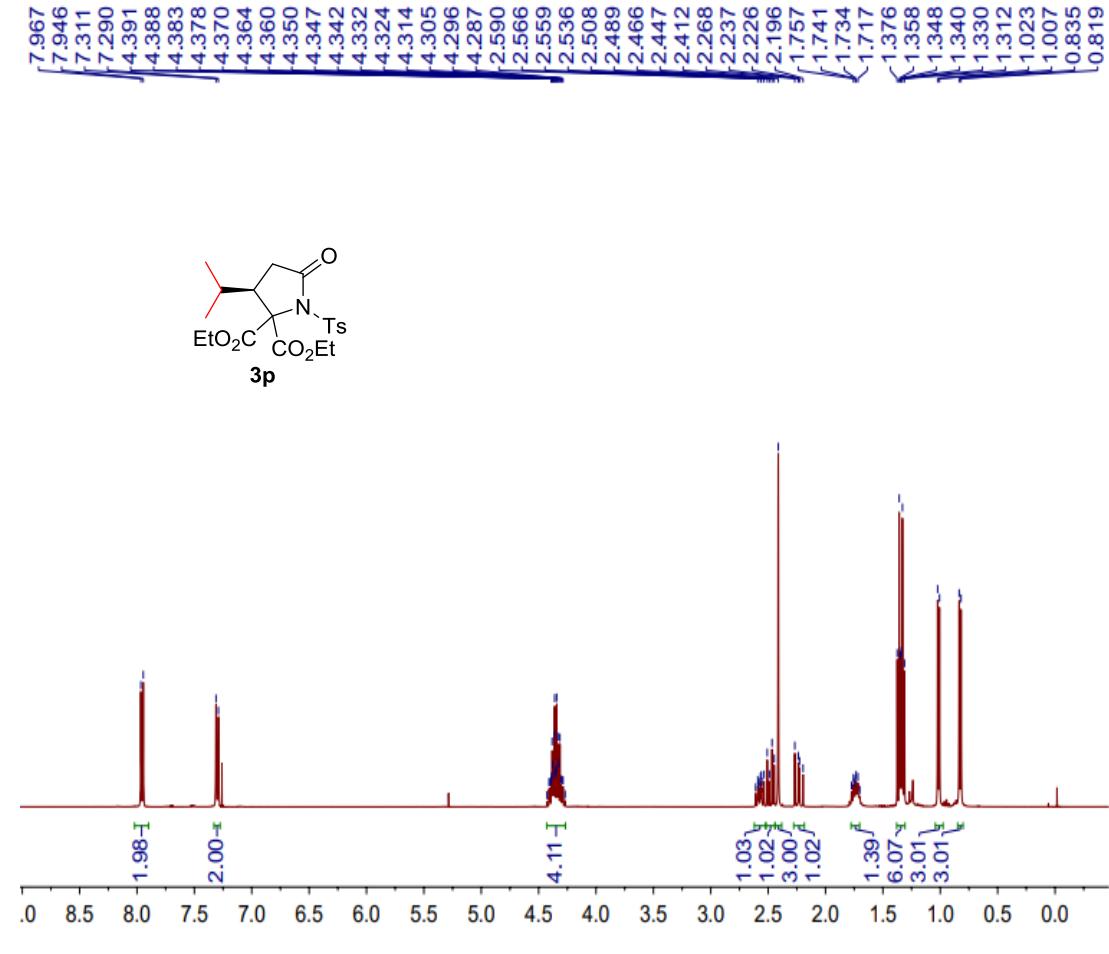
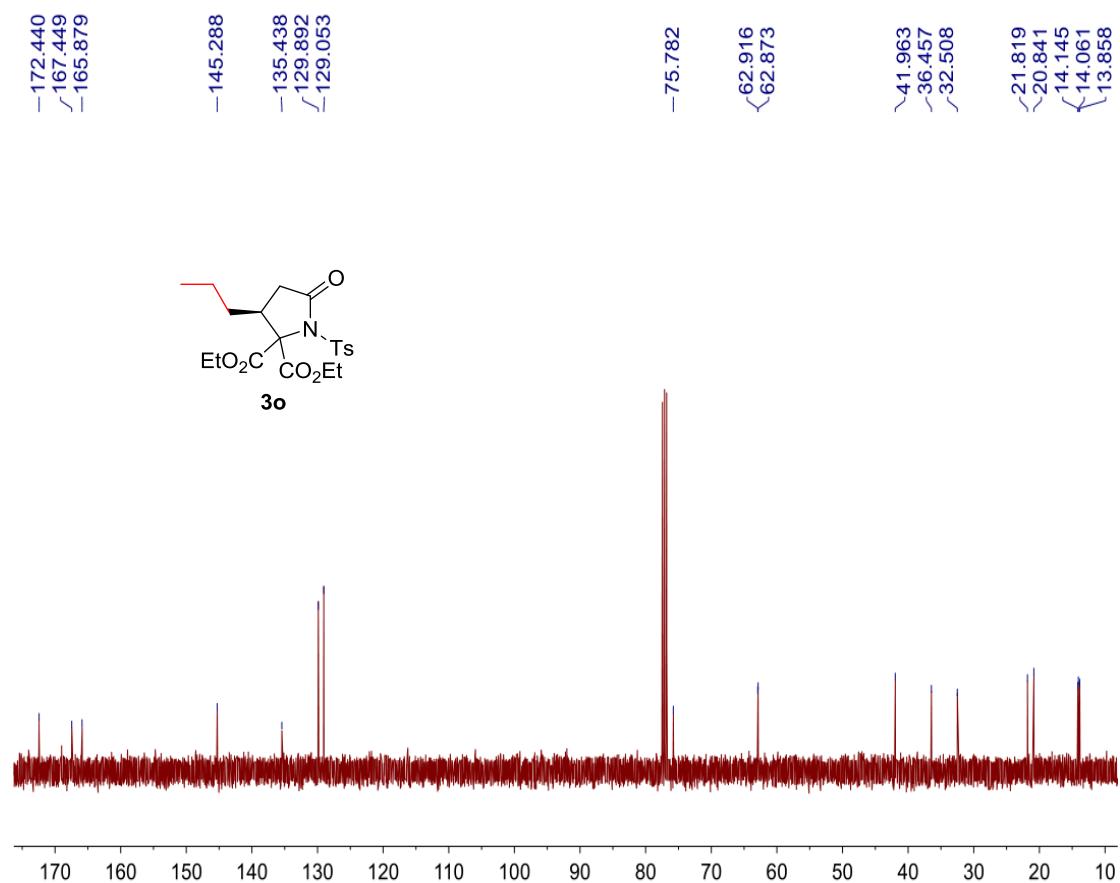
3m



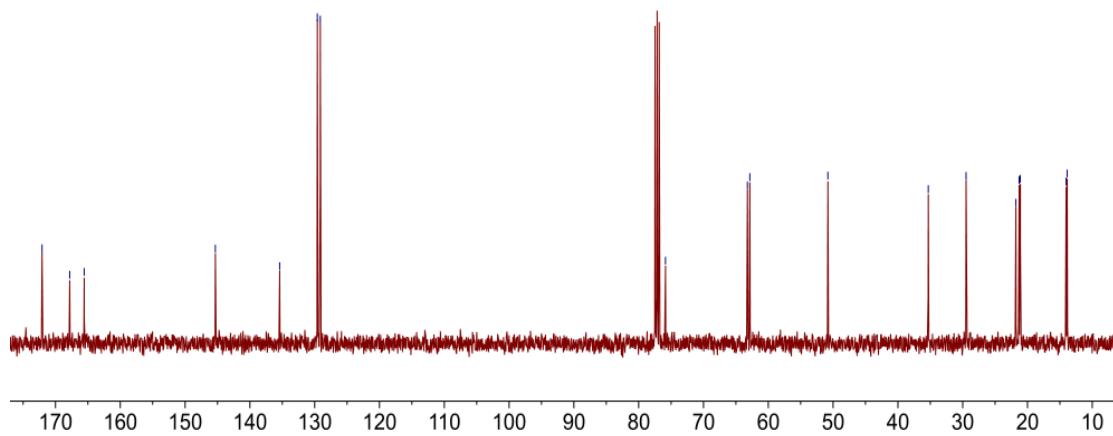
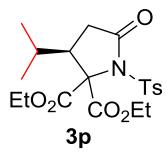
3n



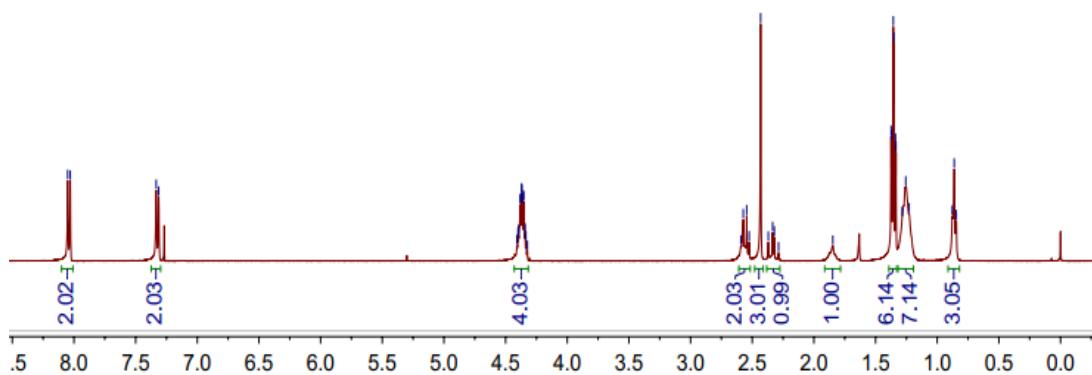
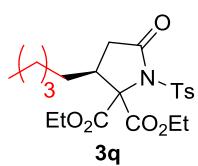


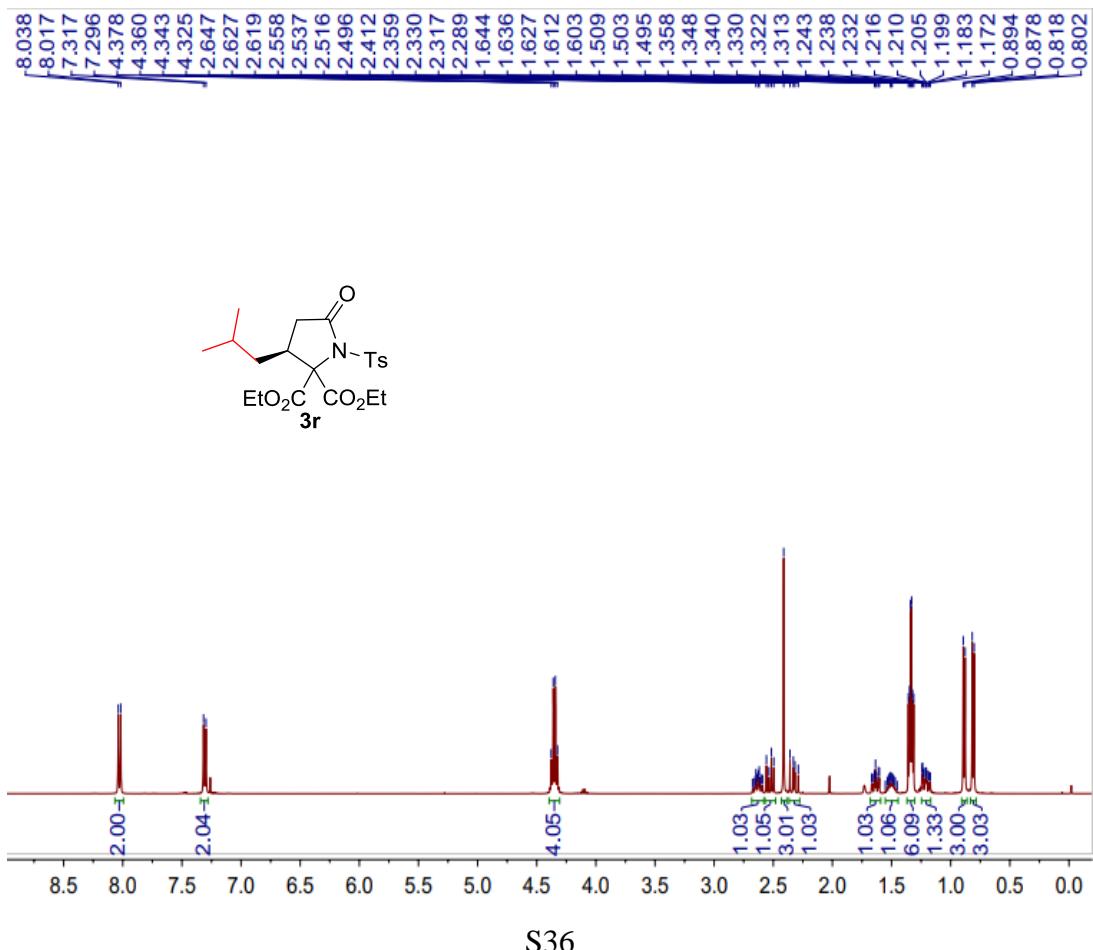
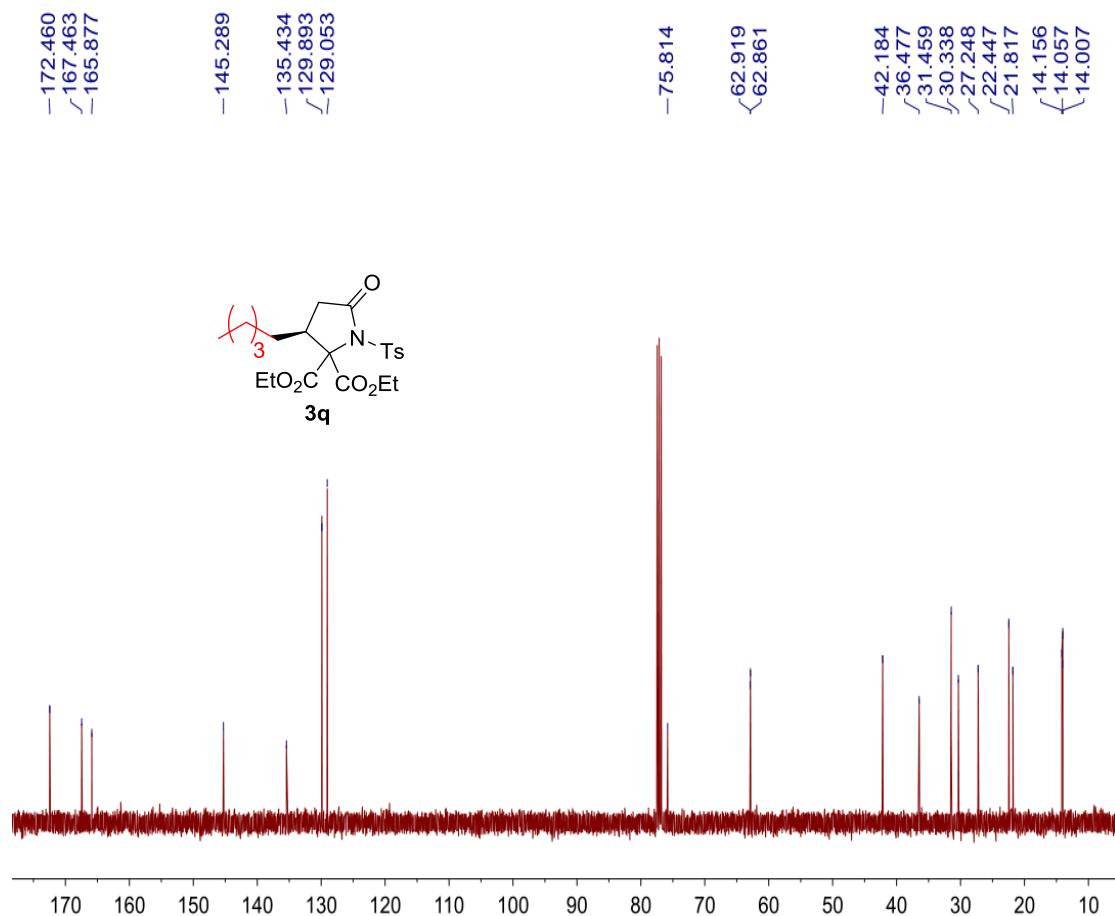


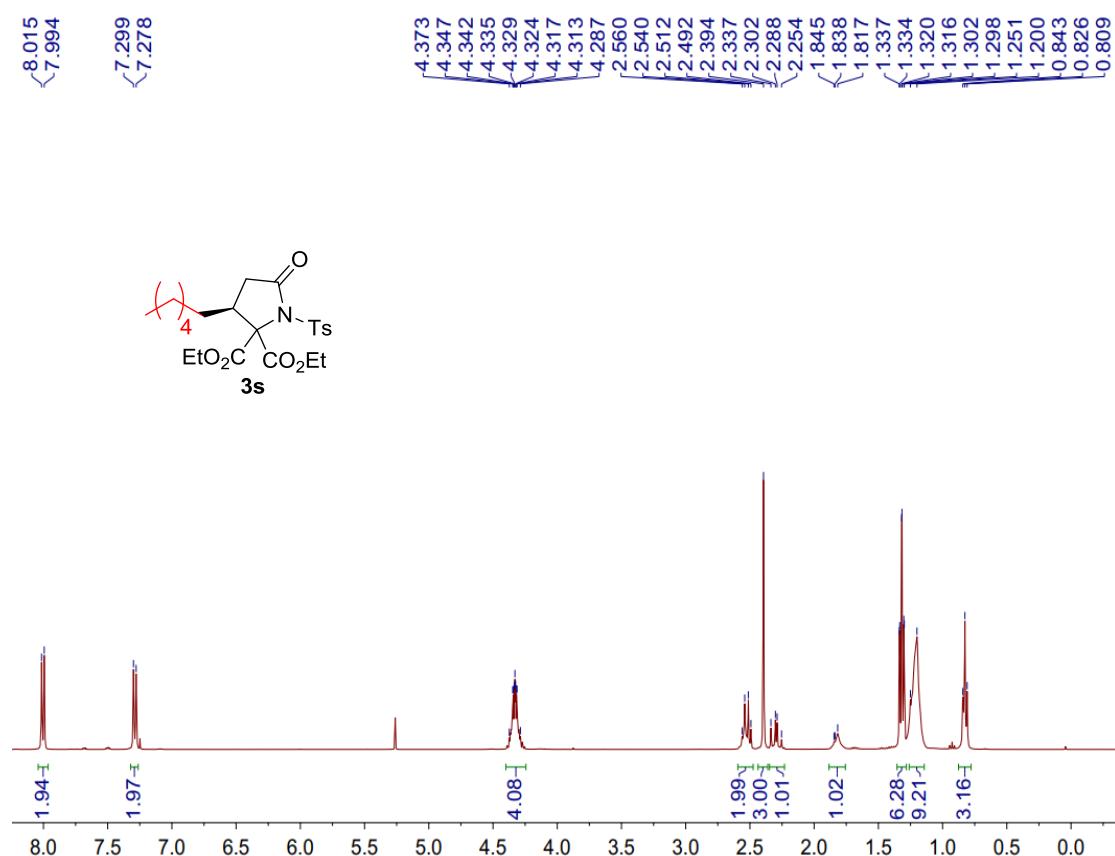
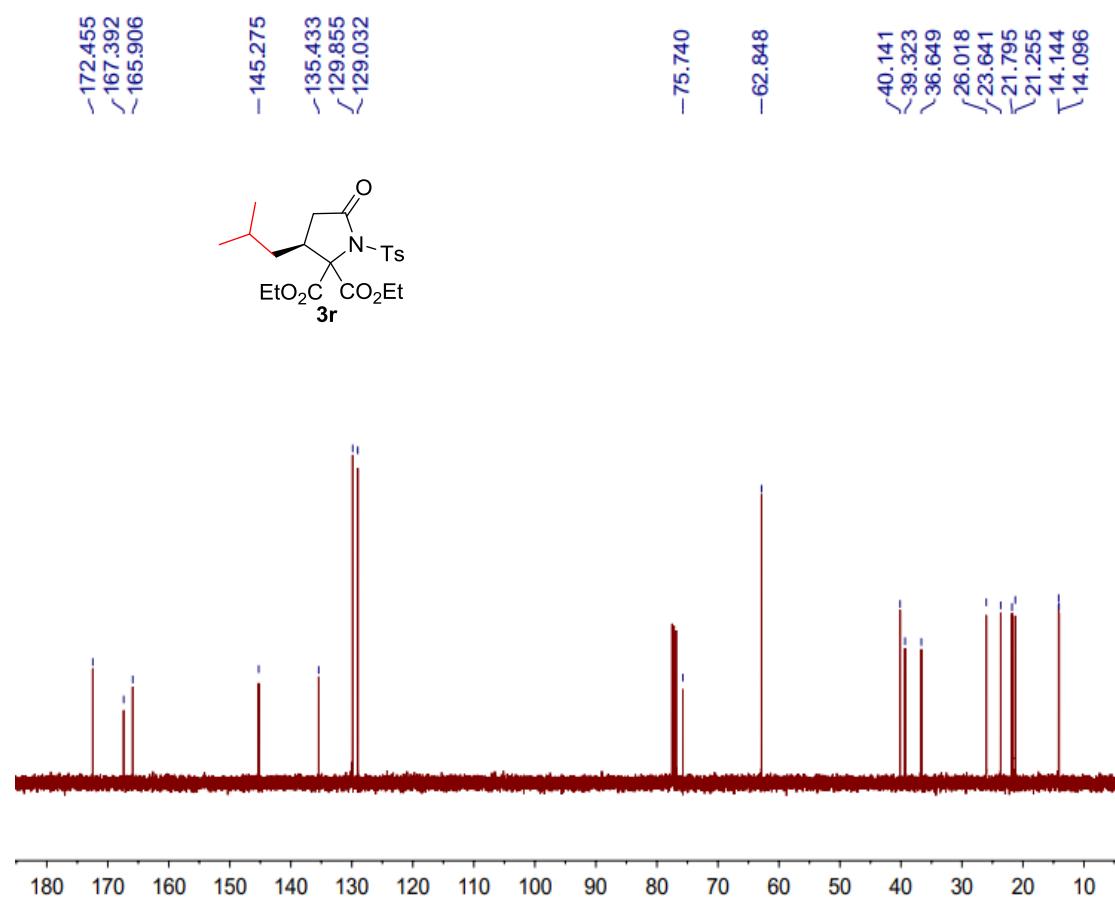
-172.082  
 -167.812  
 -165.569  
 -145.329  
 -135.408  
 -129.597  
 -129.143

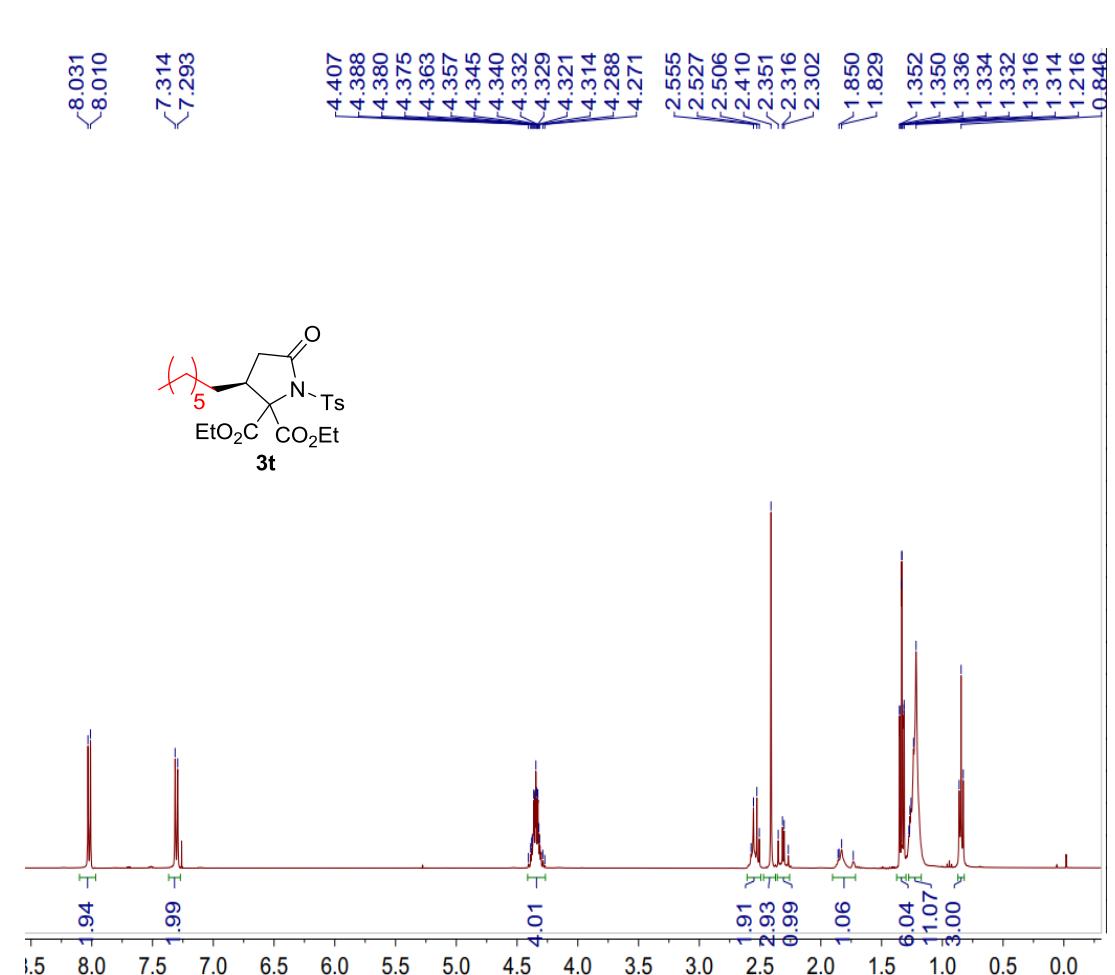
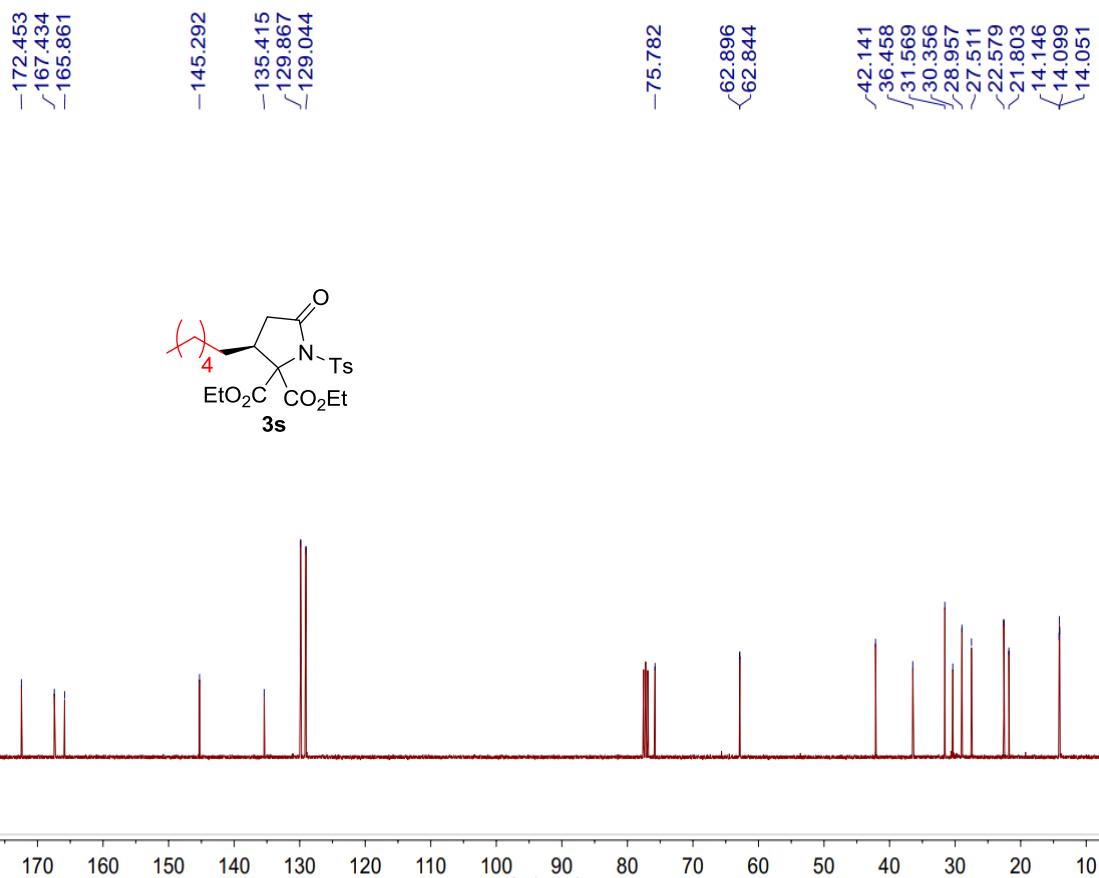


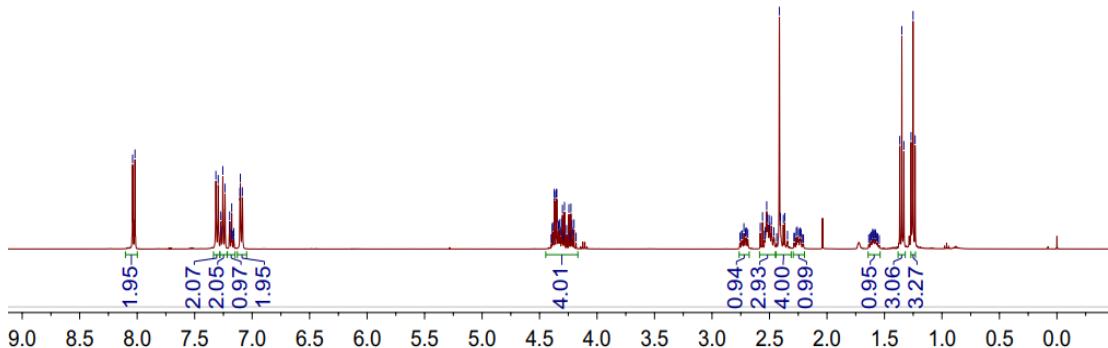
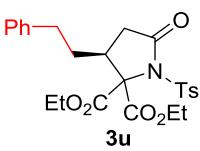
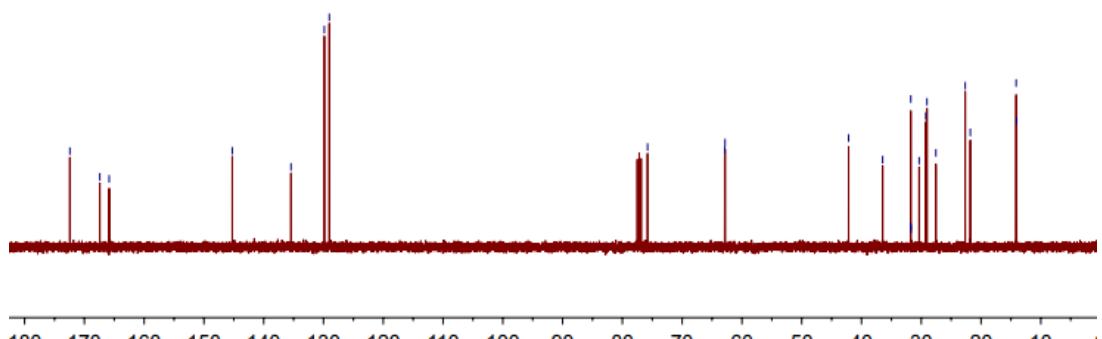
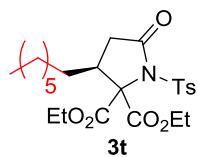
8.051  
 8.030  
 7.333  
 7.313  
 4.408  
 4.400  
 4.395  
 4.382  
 4.377  
 4.370  
 4.368  
 4.364  
 4.359  
 4.353  
 4.341  
 4.335  
 4.323  
 2.573  
 2.545  
 2.524  
 2.432  
 2.369  
 2.335  
 2.321  
 1.374  
 1.370  
 1.356  
 1.352  
 1.338  
 1.334  
 1.255  
 1.228  
 0.878  
 0.862

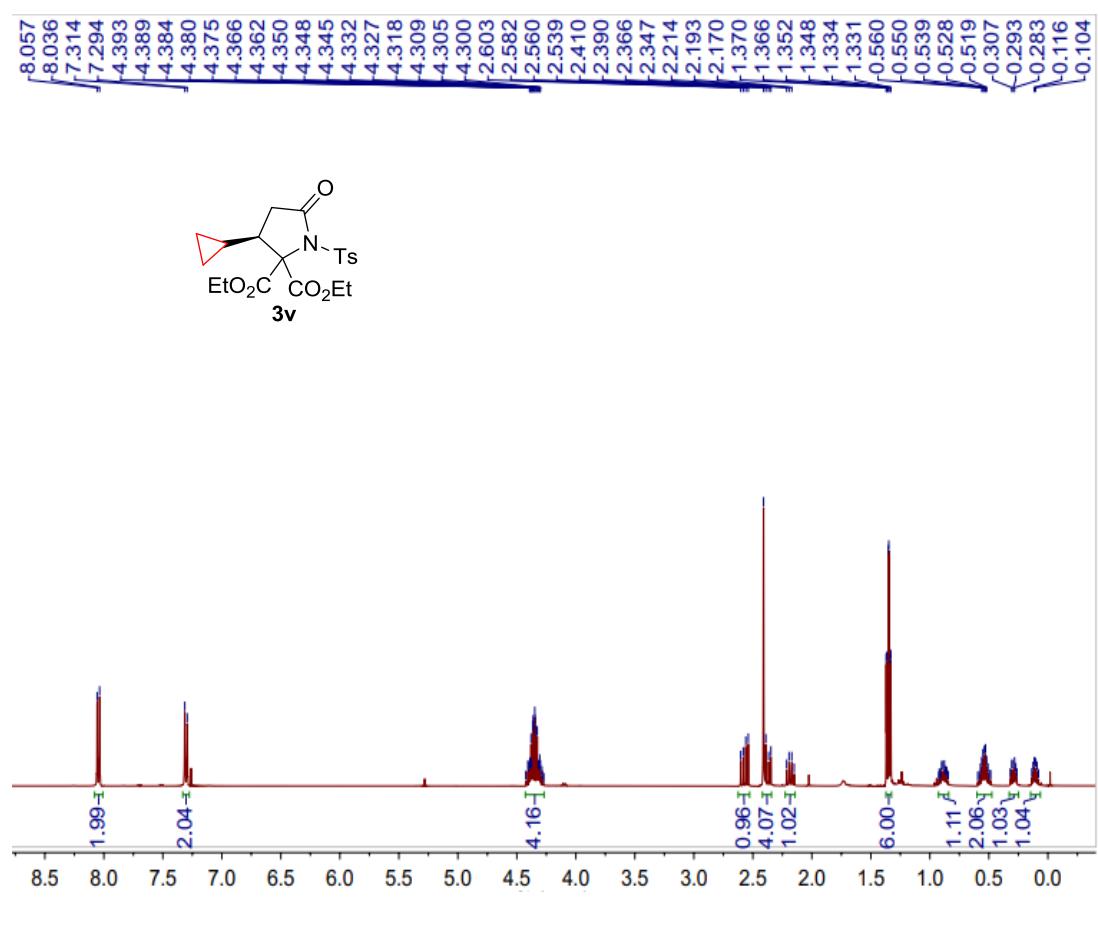
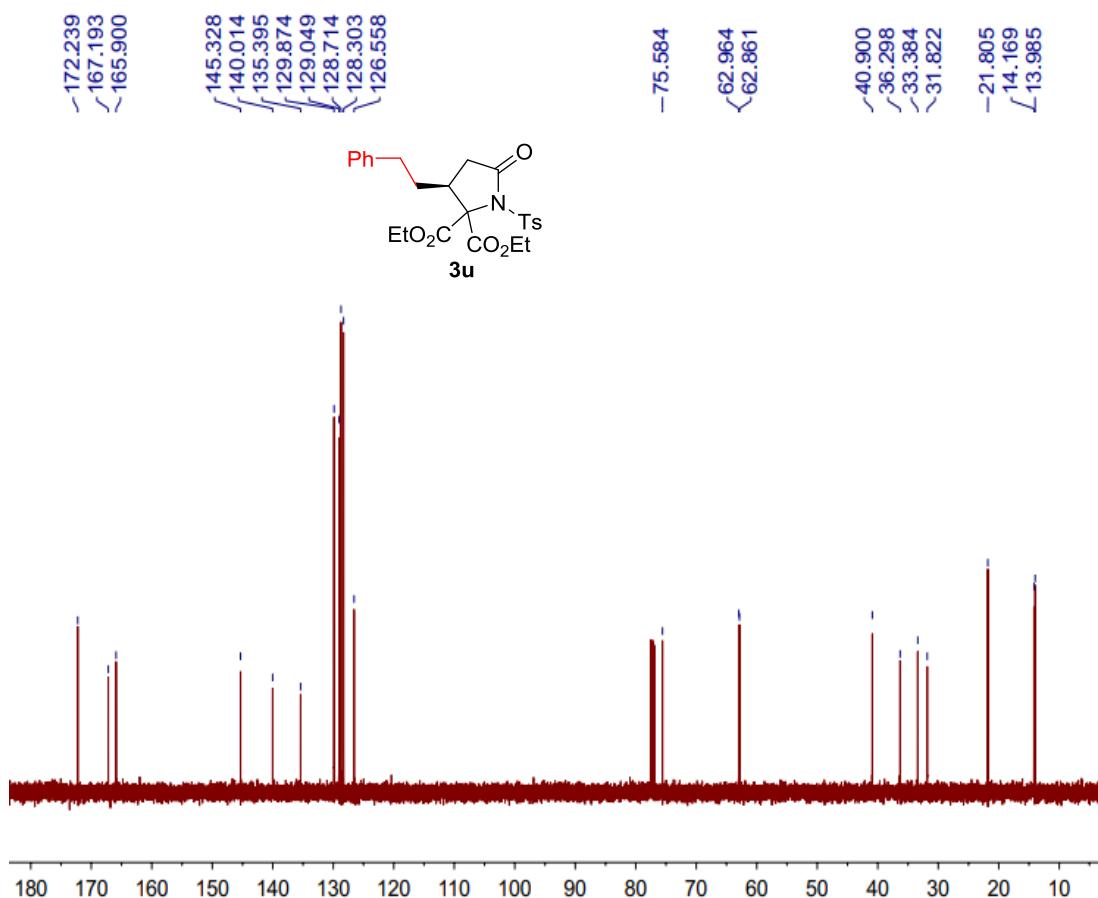


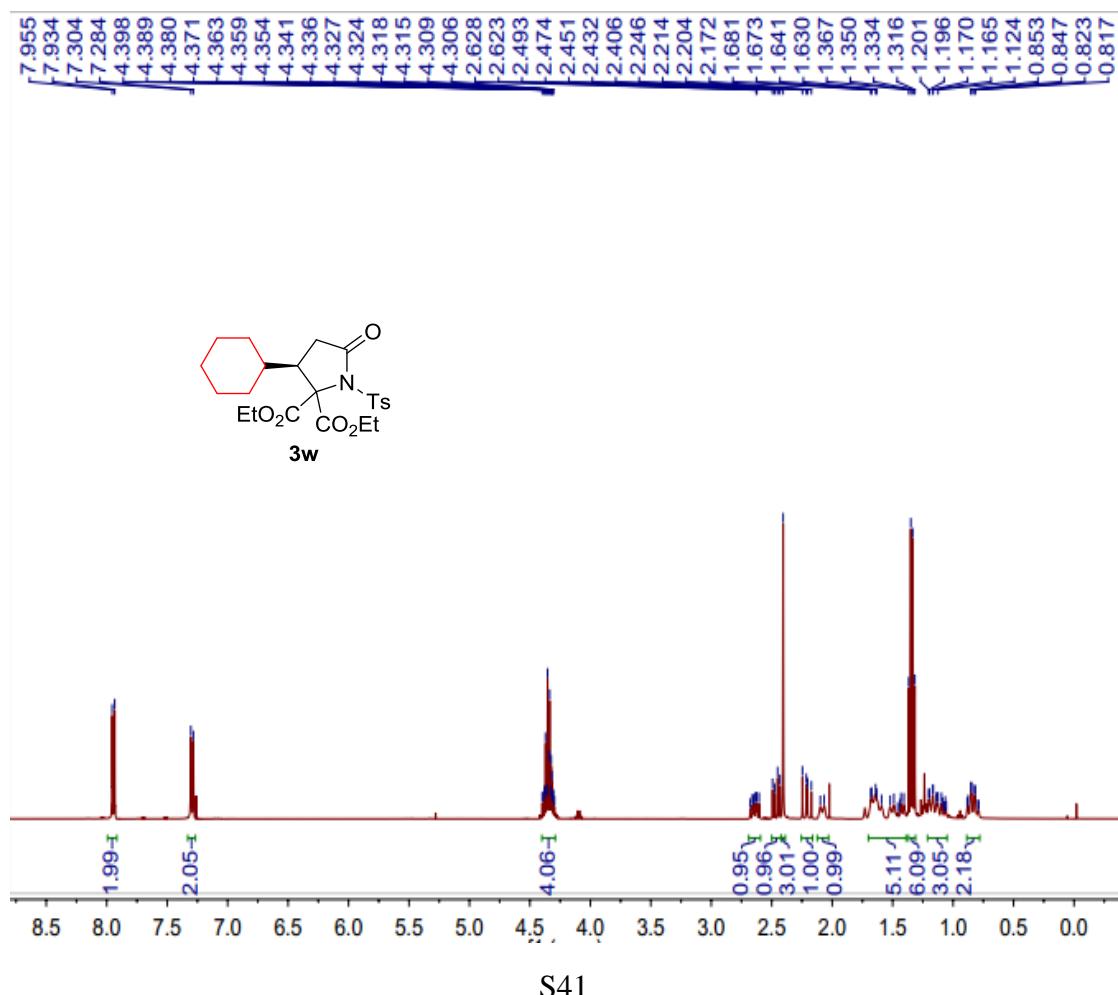
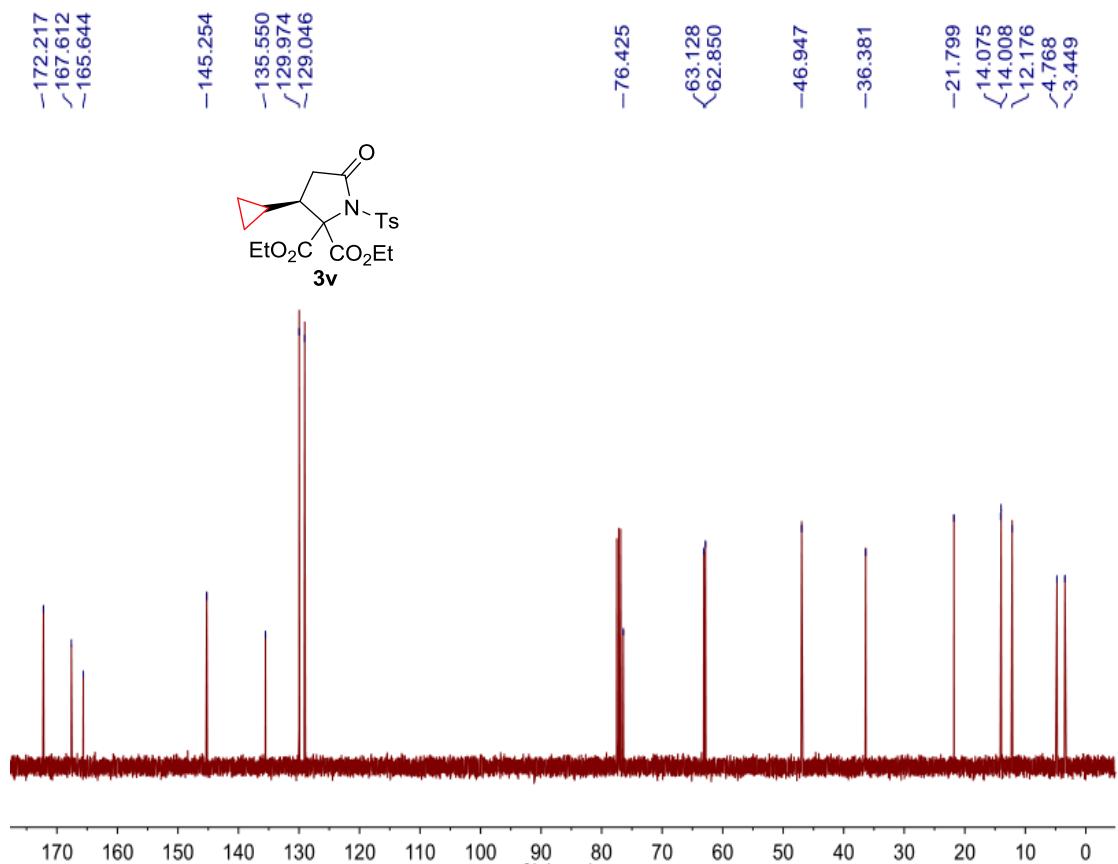




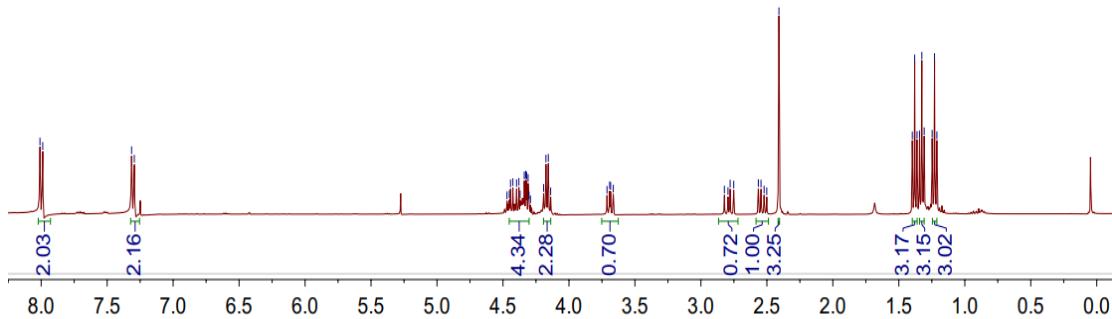
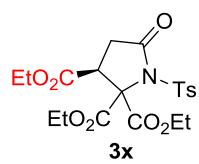
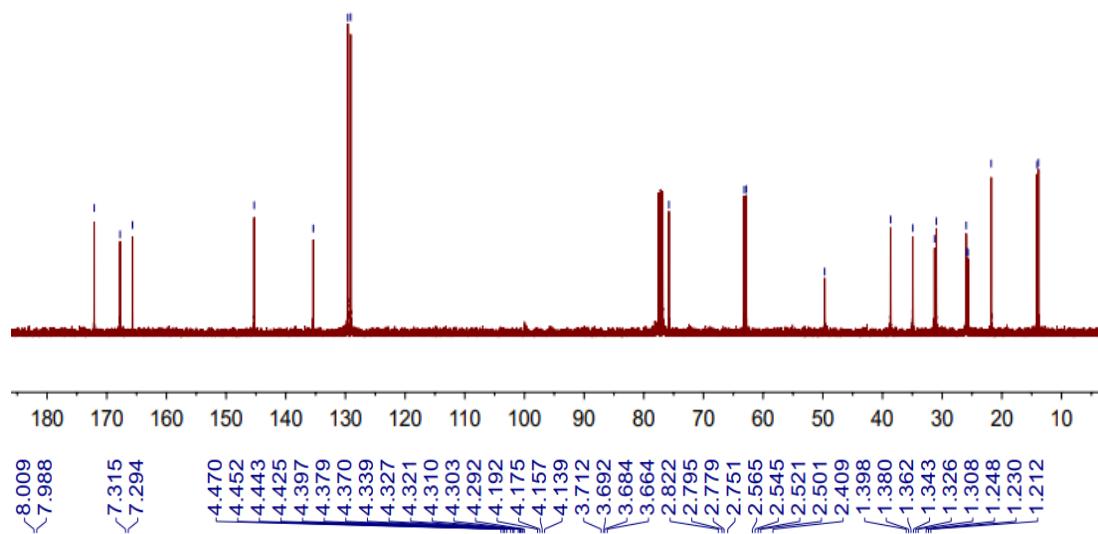
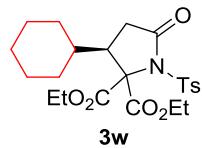


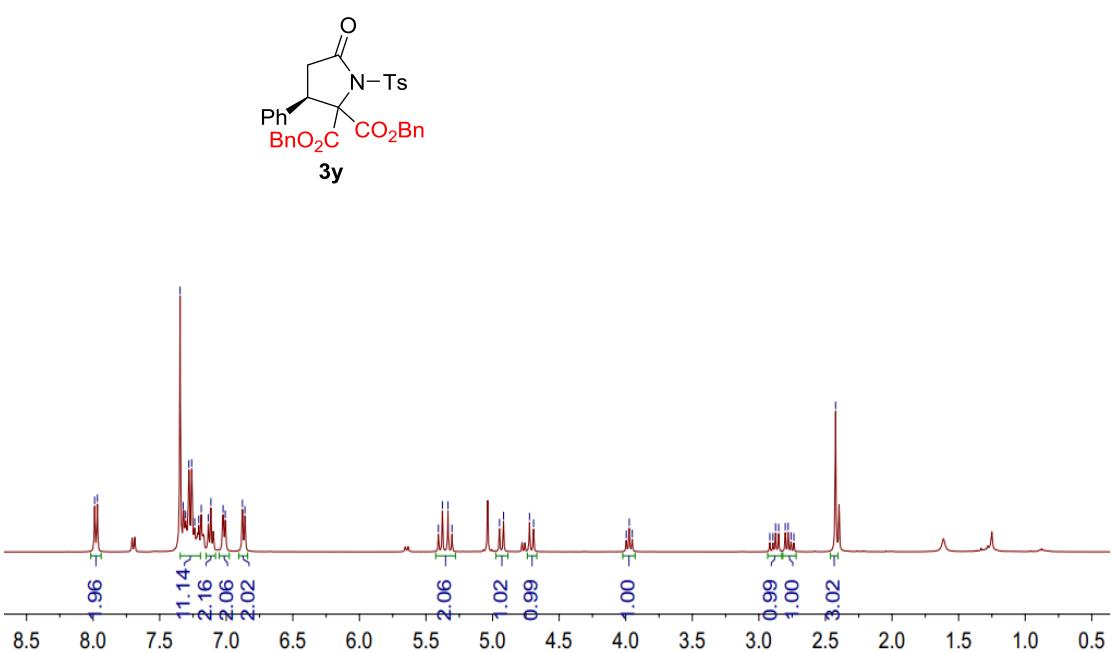
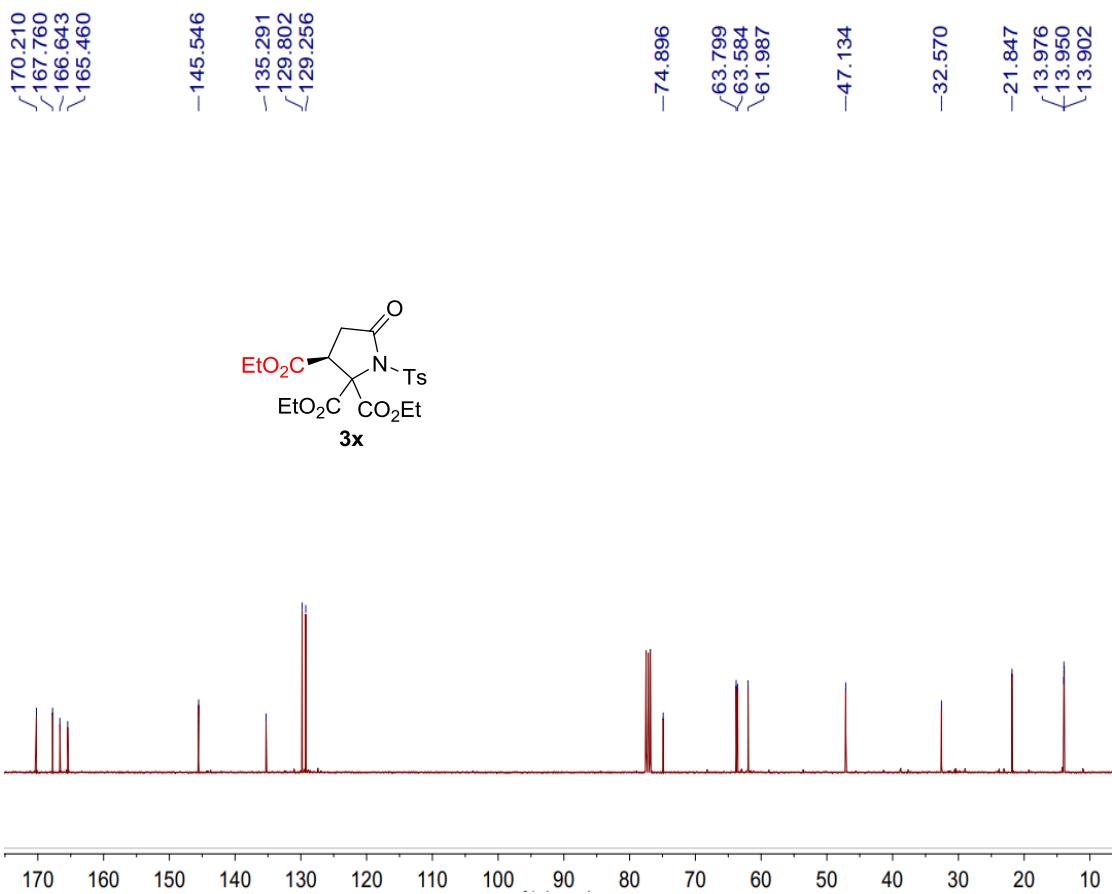


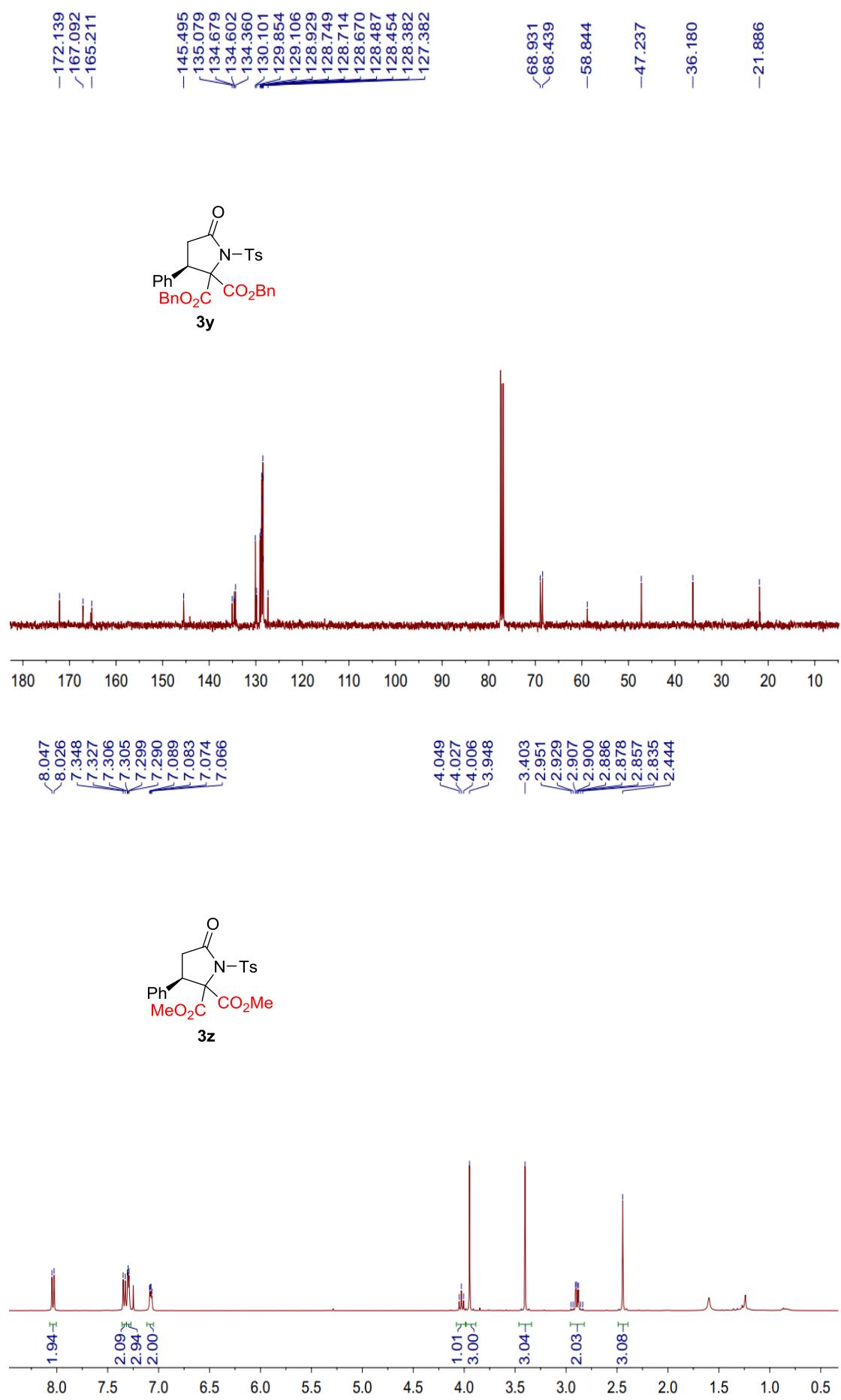


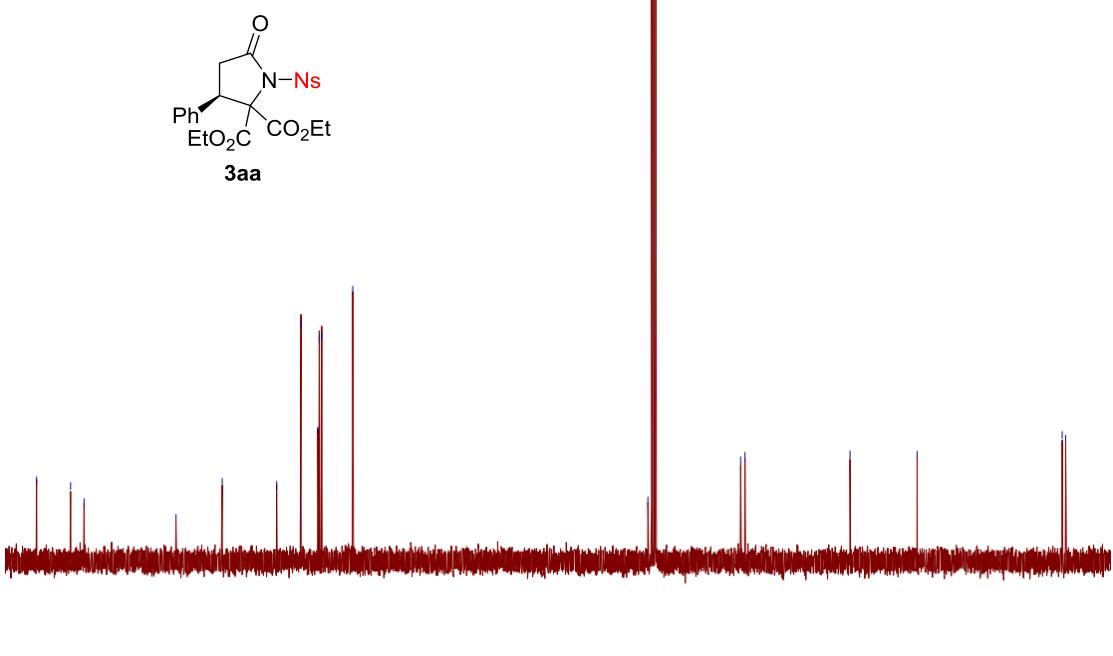
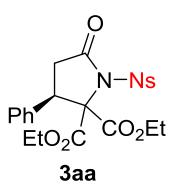
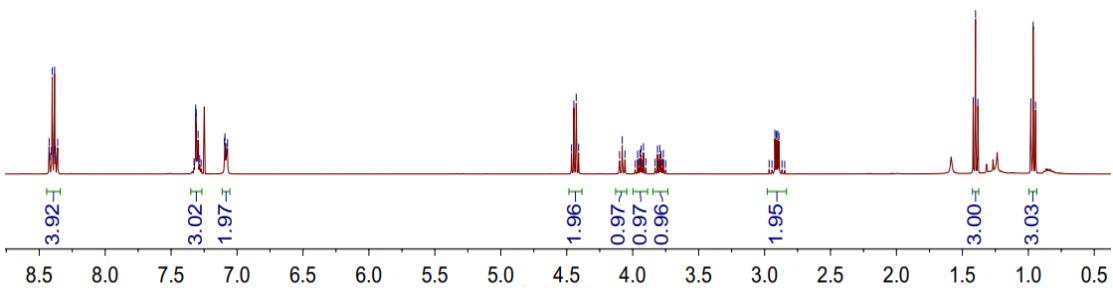
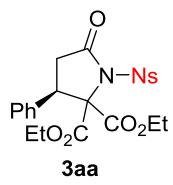


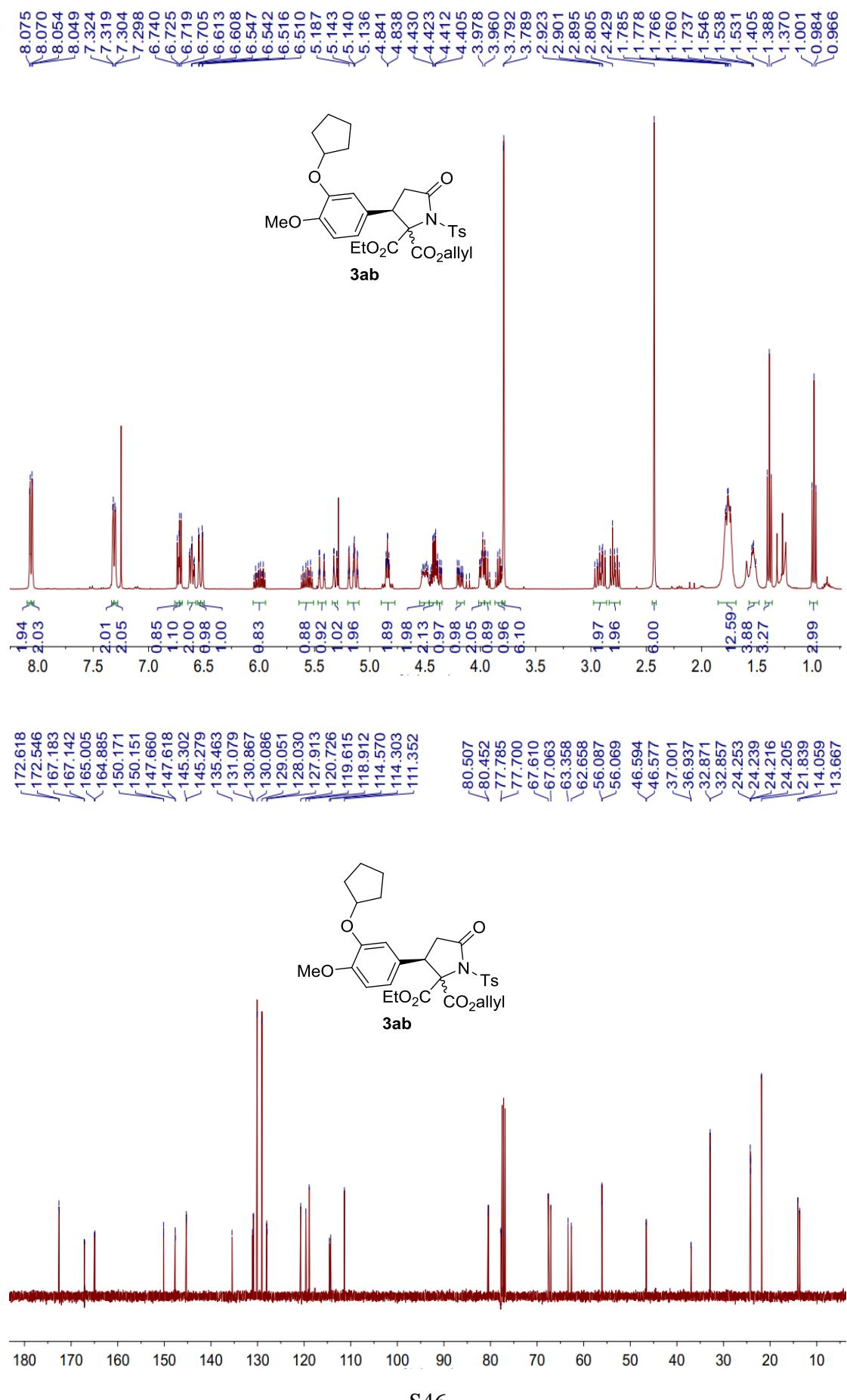
$\sim 172.098$   
 $\sim 167.770$   
 $\sim 165.683$   
 $-145.296$   
 $-135.391$   
 $\angle 129.597$   
 $\angle 129.114$   
 $-75.785$

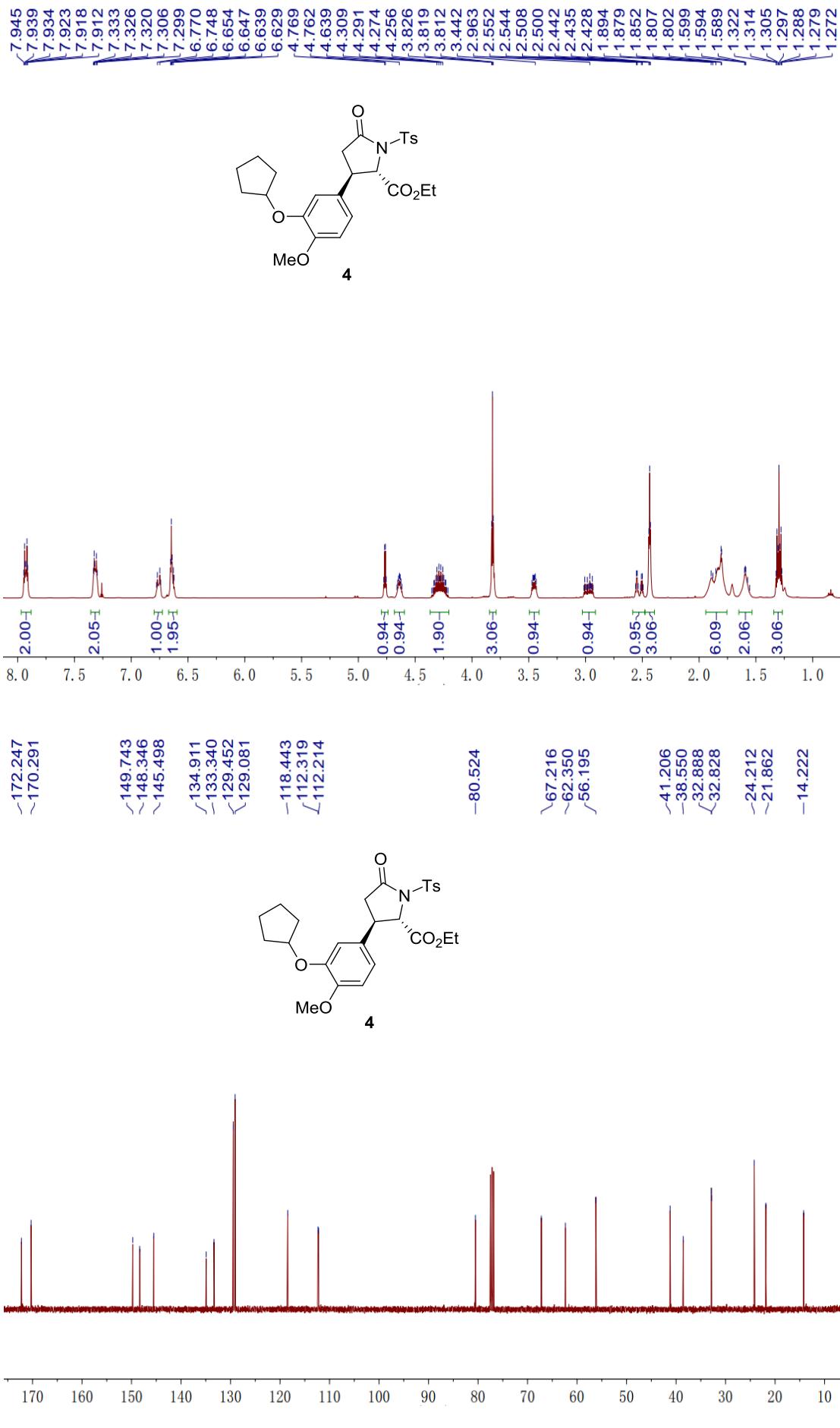


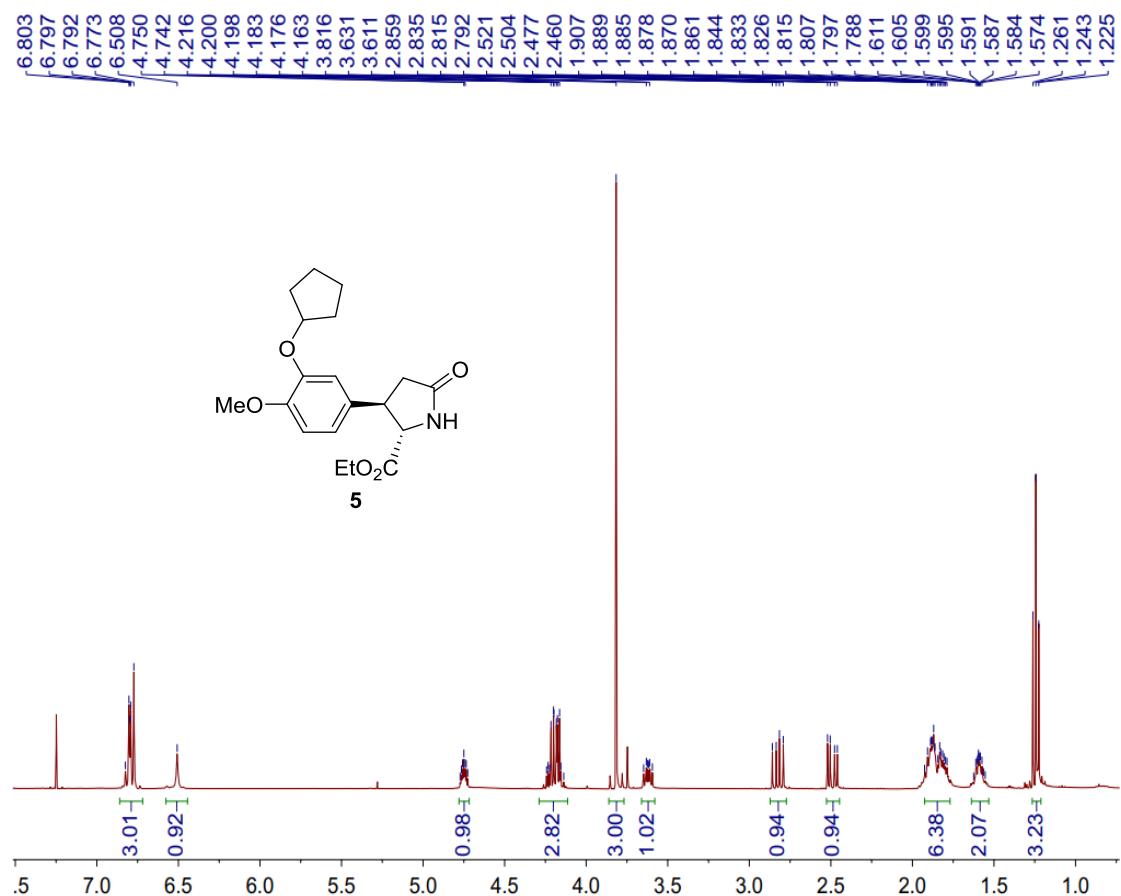


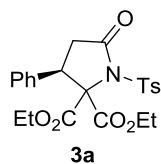






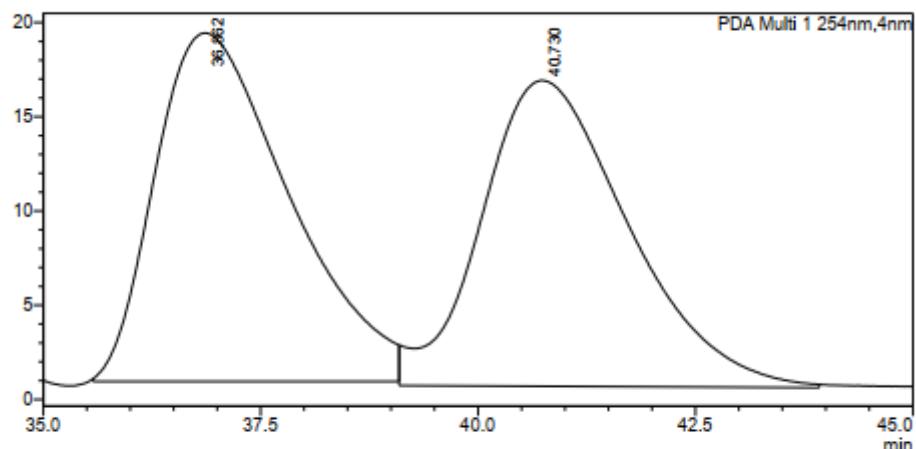






**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



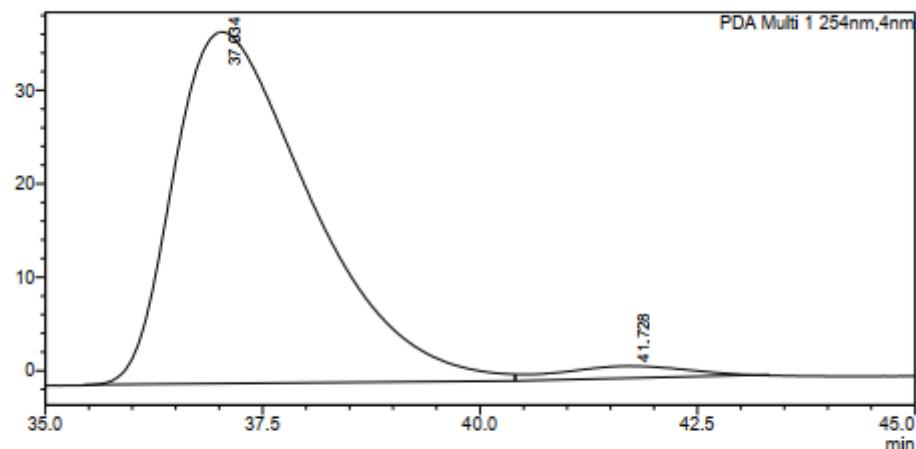
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	36.862	1975895	18481	50.859
2	40.730	1909170	16226	49.141
Total		3885064	34707	100.000

**<Chromatogram>**

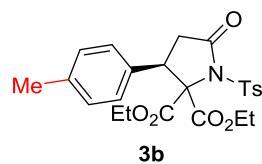
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

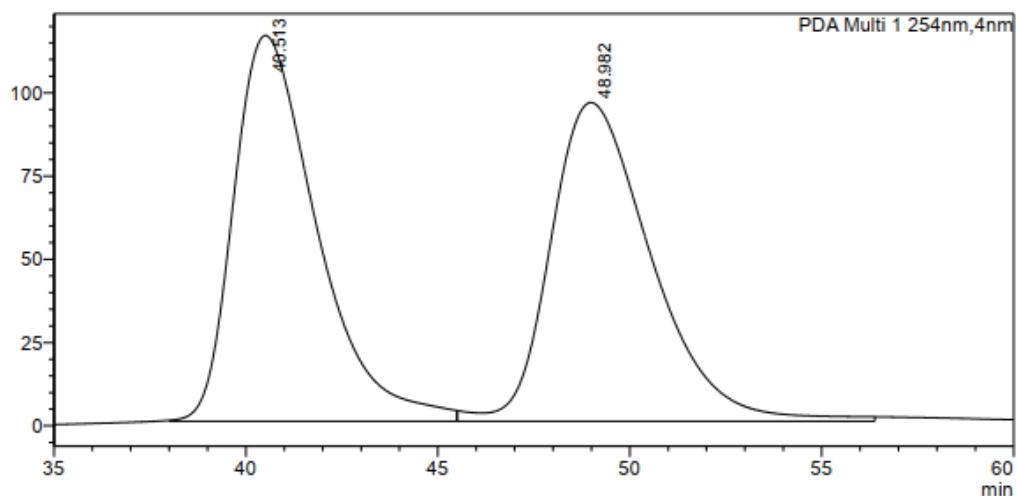
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	37.034	4122589	37592	96.935
2	41.728	130336	1285	3.065
Total		4252925	38876	100.000



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



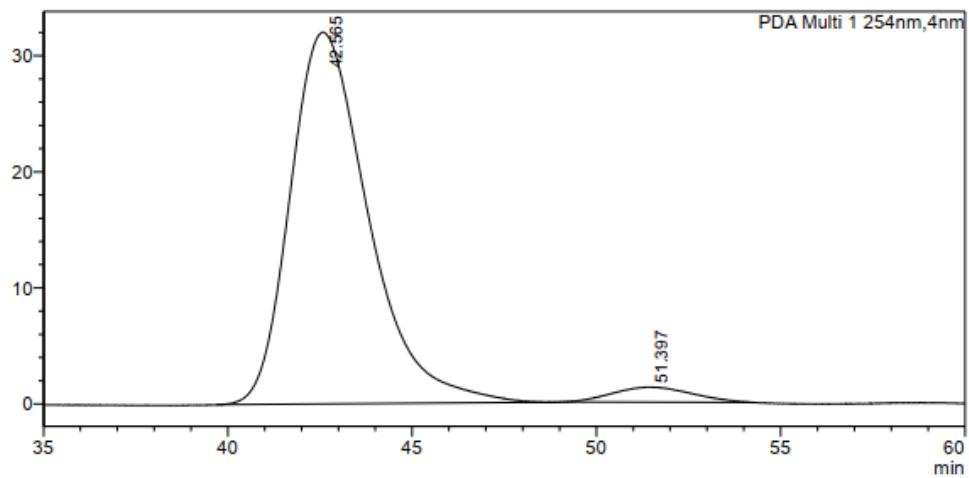
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	40.513	17495276	49.981	115880
2	48.982	17508852	50.019	95729
Total		35004127	100.000	211608

**<Chromatogram>**

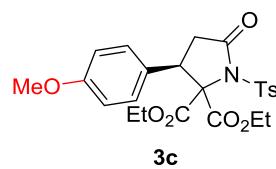
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

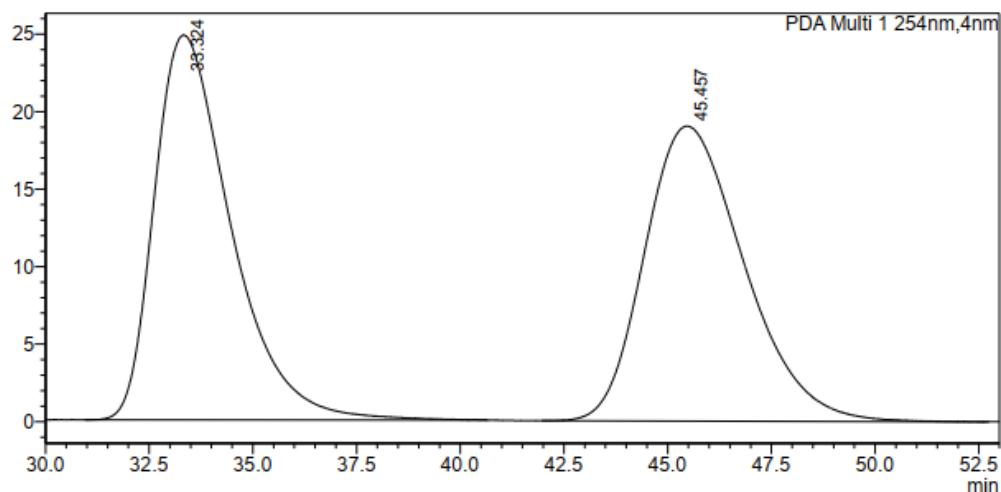
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	42.565	4724860	96.073	32007
2	51.397	193105	3.927	1295
Total		4917965	100.000	33301



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



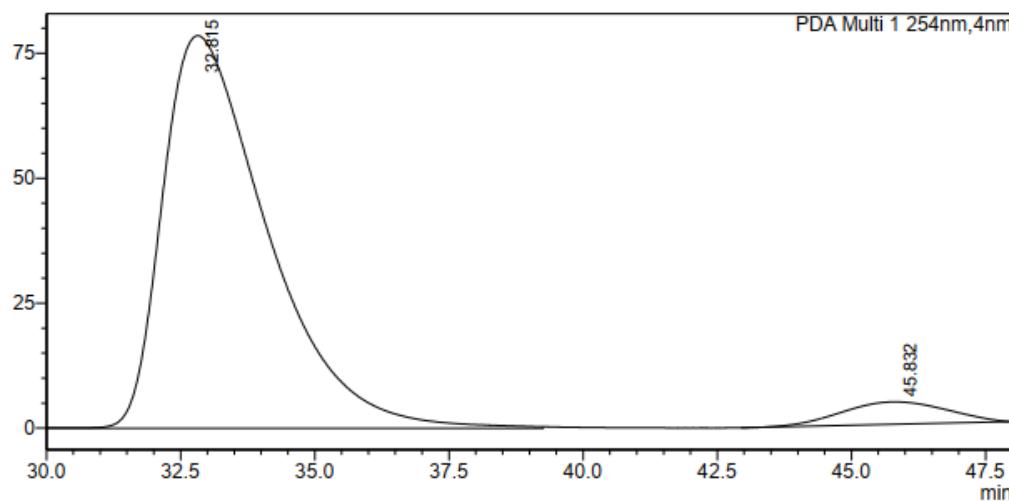
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	33.324	3190919	50.093	24831
2	45.457	3179040	49.907	19028
Total		6369960	100.000	43858

**<Chromatogram>**

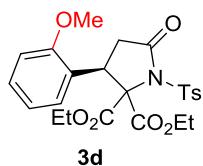
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

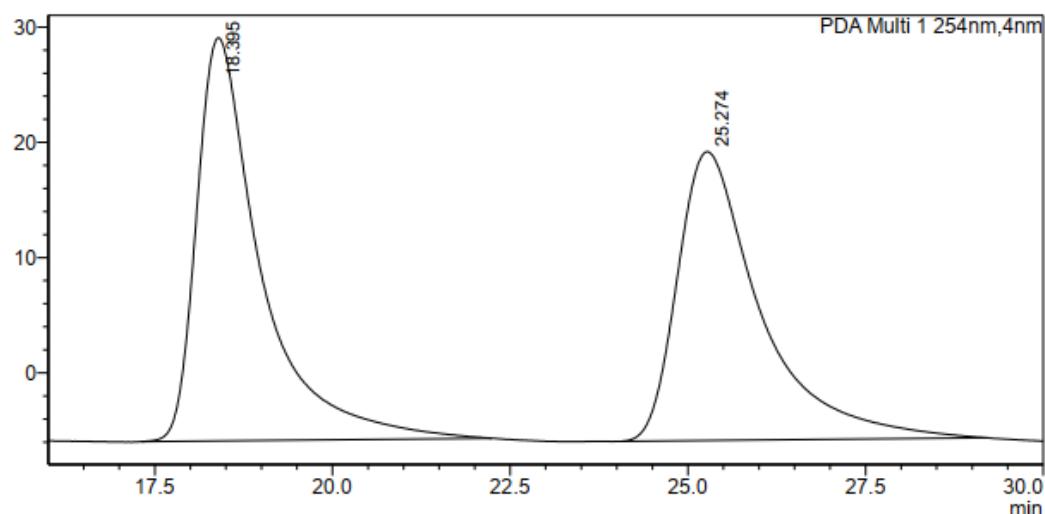
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	32.815	10668798	94.614	78581
2	45.832	607342	5.386	4476
Total		11276140	100.000	83058



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



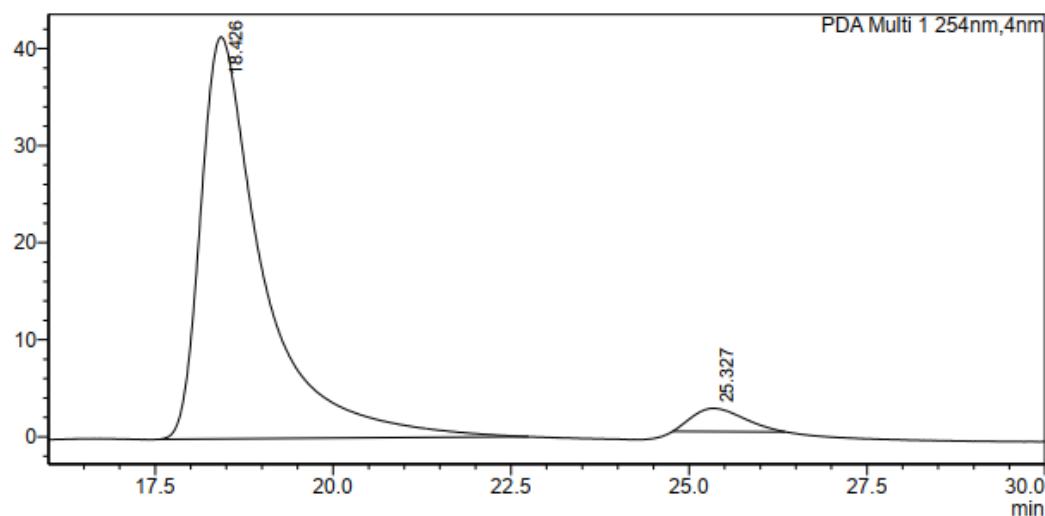
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	18.395	2200911	34963	51.908
2	25.274	2039111	25051	48.092
Total		4240021	60013	100.000

**<Chromatogram>**

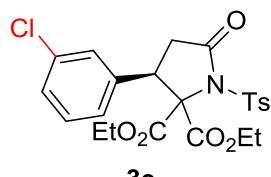
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

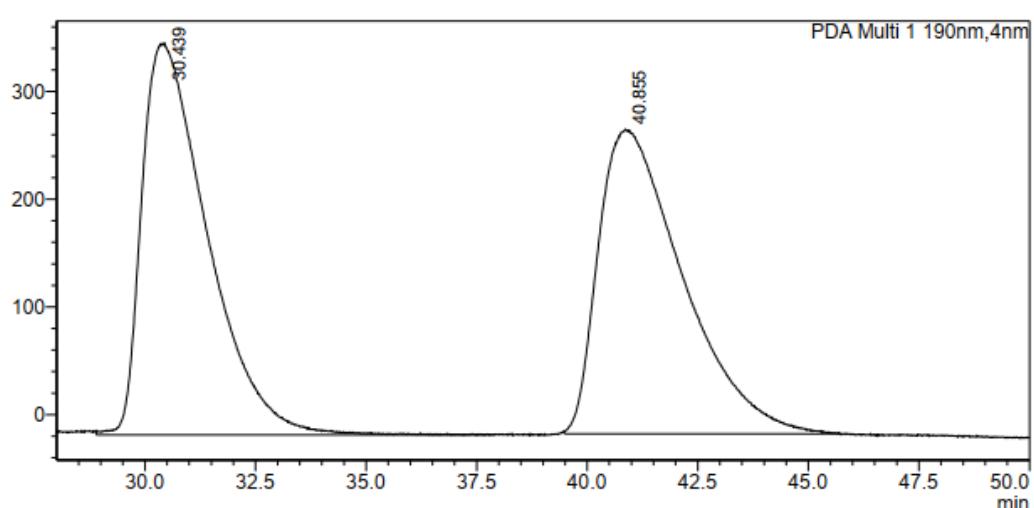
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	18.426	2525357	41420	95.440
2	25.327	120668	2391	4.560
Total		2646025	43811	100.000



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



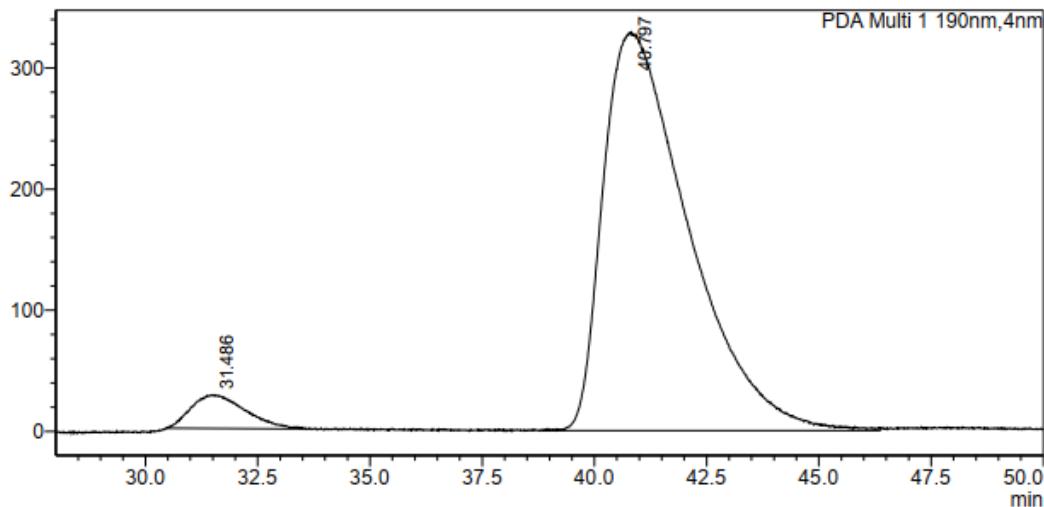
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 190nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	30.439	37610210	50.094	363829
2	40.855	37469676	49.906	282481
Total		75079887	100.000	646310

**<Chromatogram>**

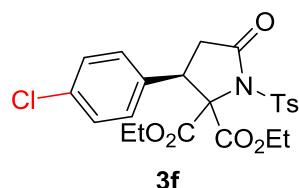
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

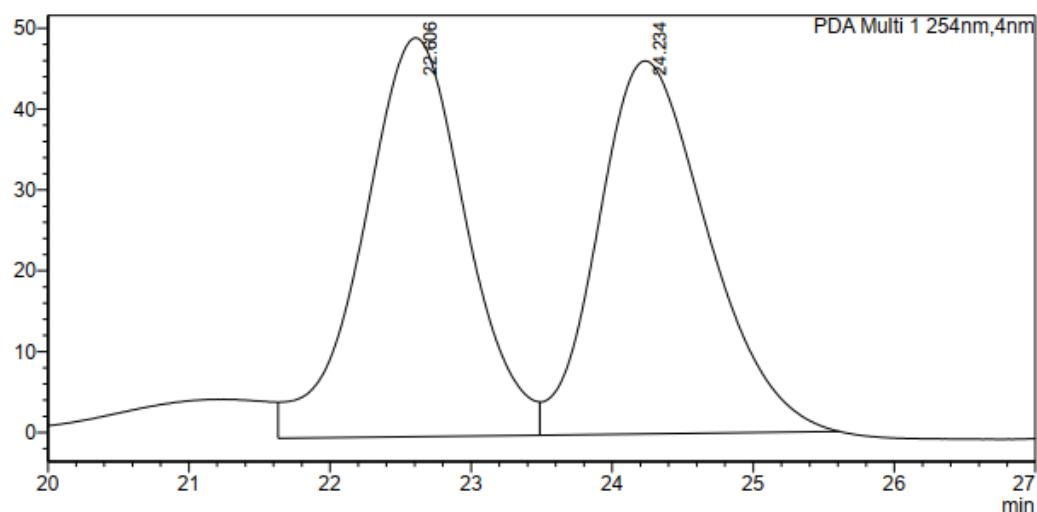
PDA Ch1 190nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	31.486	2326632	5.081	27686
2	40.797	43462886	94.919	328492
Total		45789517	100.000	356178



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



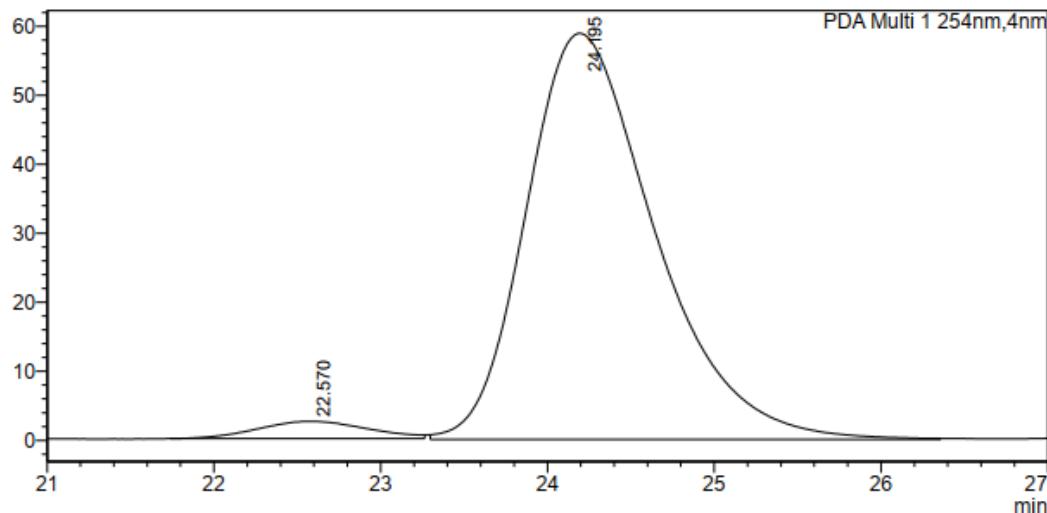
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	22.606	2499057	50.093	49334
2	24.234	2489790	49.907	46142
Total		4988847	100.000	95476

**<Chromatogram>**

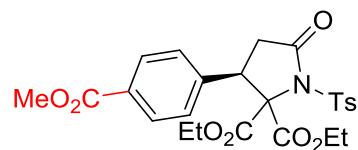
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

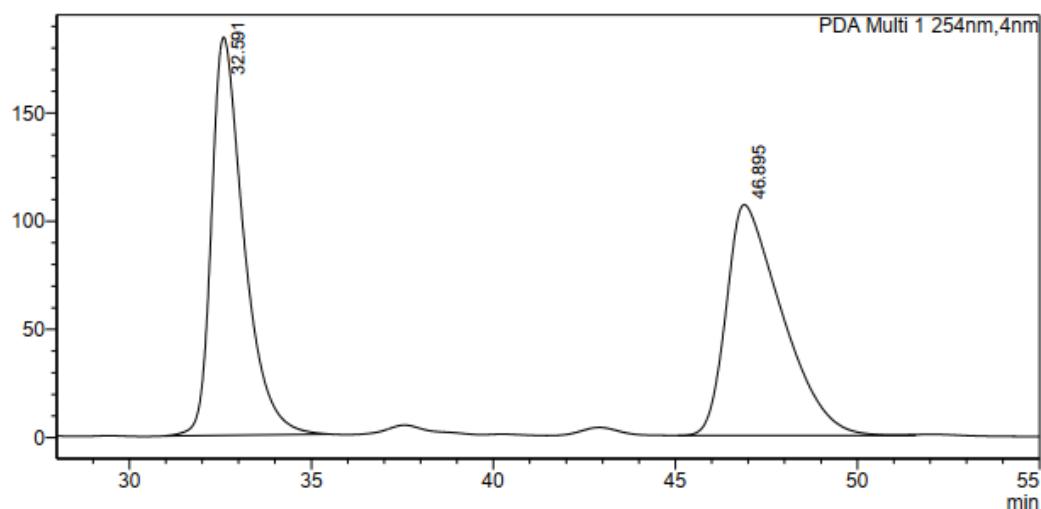
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	22.570	114887	3.511	2497
2	24.195	3157466	96.489	58859
Total		3272353	100.000	61356



**3g**

**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



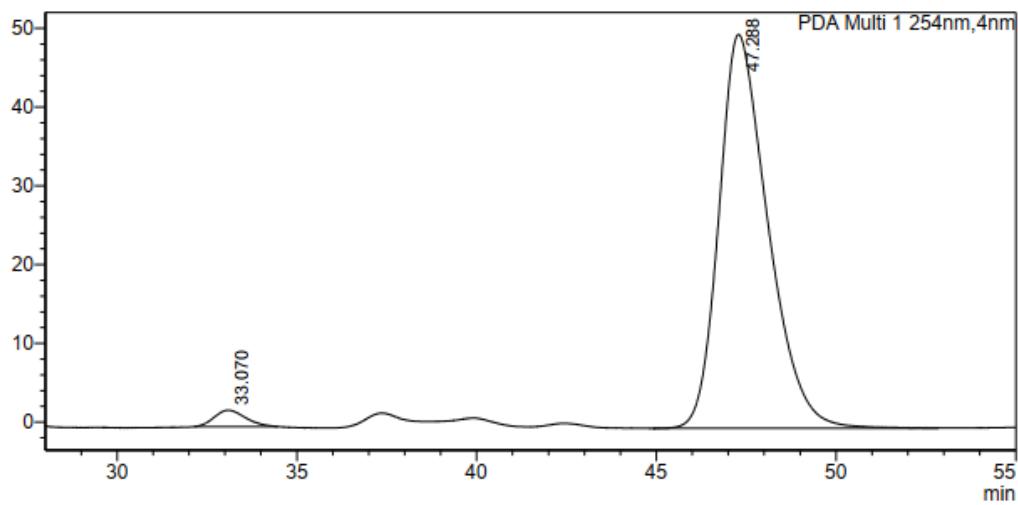
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	32.591	11405105	50.058	183846
2	46.895	11378724	49.942	106568
Total		22783830	100.000	290414

**<Chromatogram>**

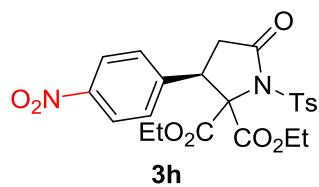
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

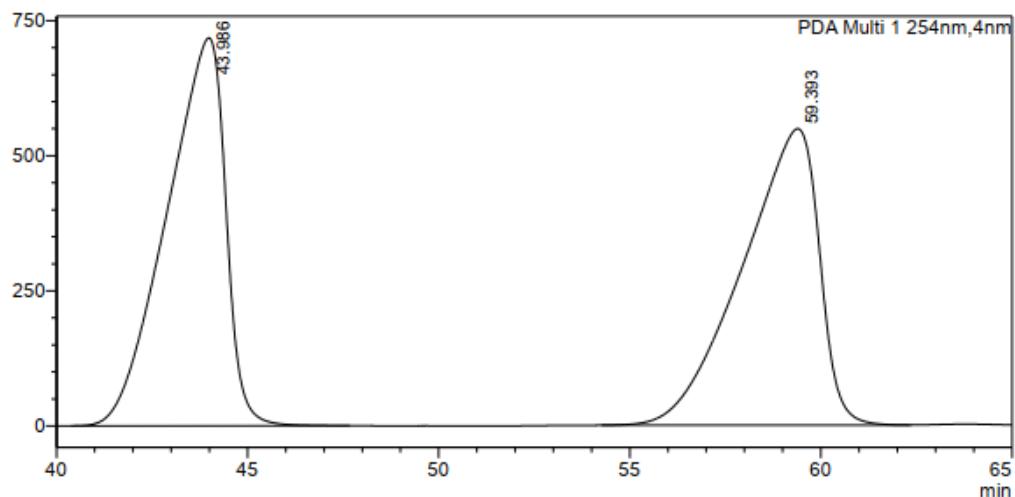
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	33.070	126245	2.593	2084
2	47.288	4742940	97.407	49996
Total		4869185	100.000	52080



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



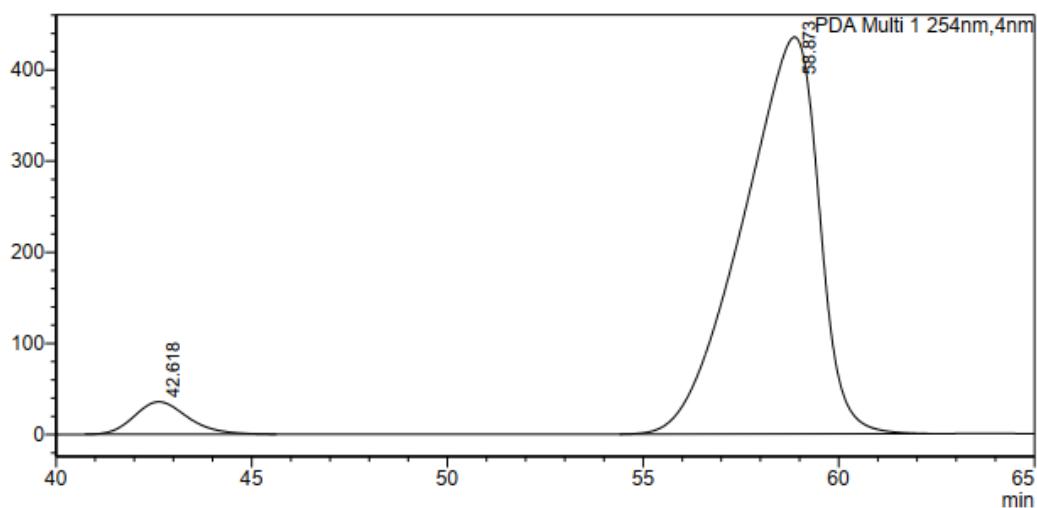
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	43.986	77022294	50.074	717790
2	59.393	76793221	49.926	548430
Total		153815515	100.000	1266220

**<Chromatogram>**

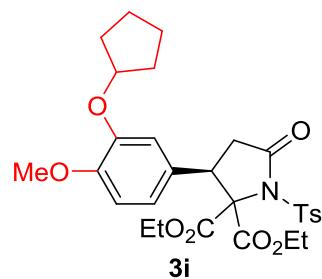
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

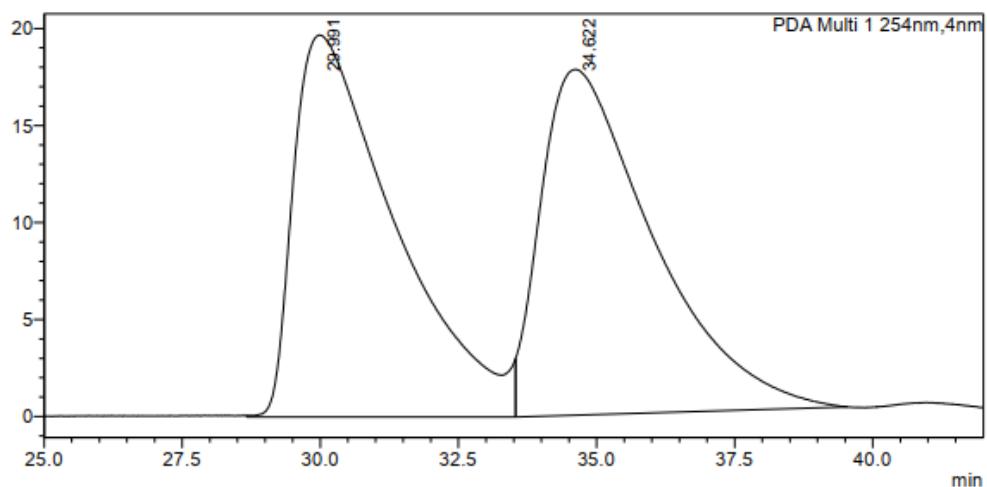
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	42.618	3398493	5.448	35608
2	58.873	58976695	94.552	435225
Total		62375188	100.000	470834



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



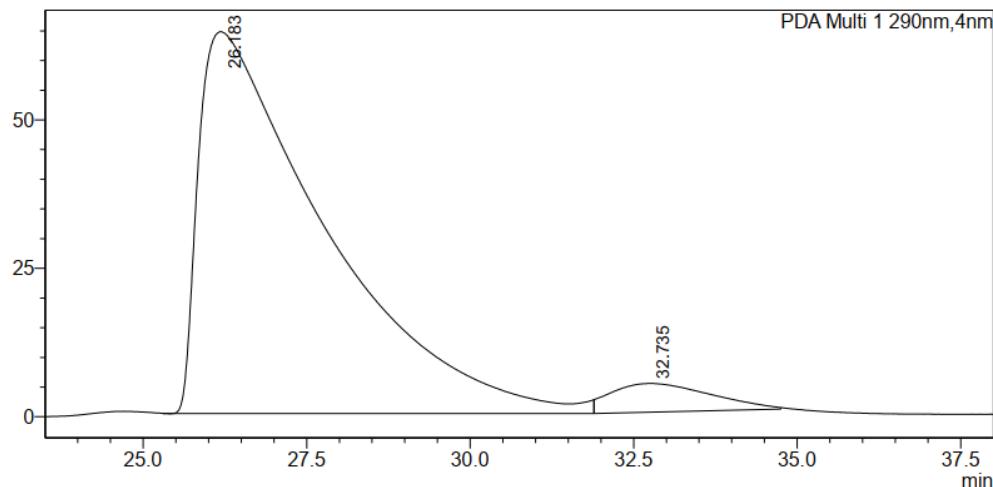
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	29.991	2516362	49.942	19689
2	34.622	2522225	50.058	17828
Total		5038587	100.000	37517

**<Chromatogram>**

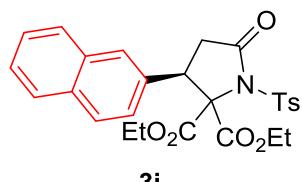
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

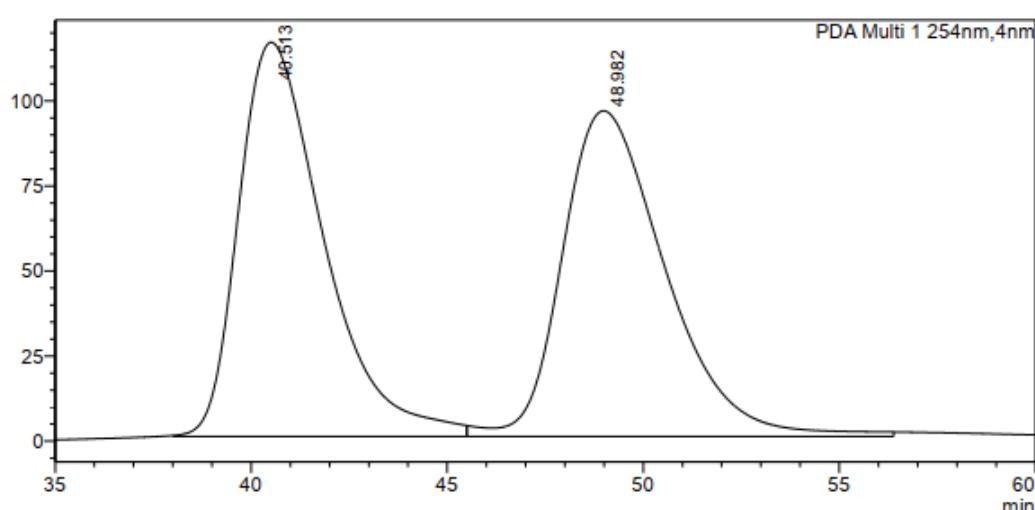
PDA Ch1 290nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %
1	26.183	8627803	64273	94.435
2	32.735	508426	4830	5.565
Total		9136229	69104	100.000



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



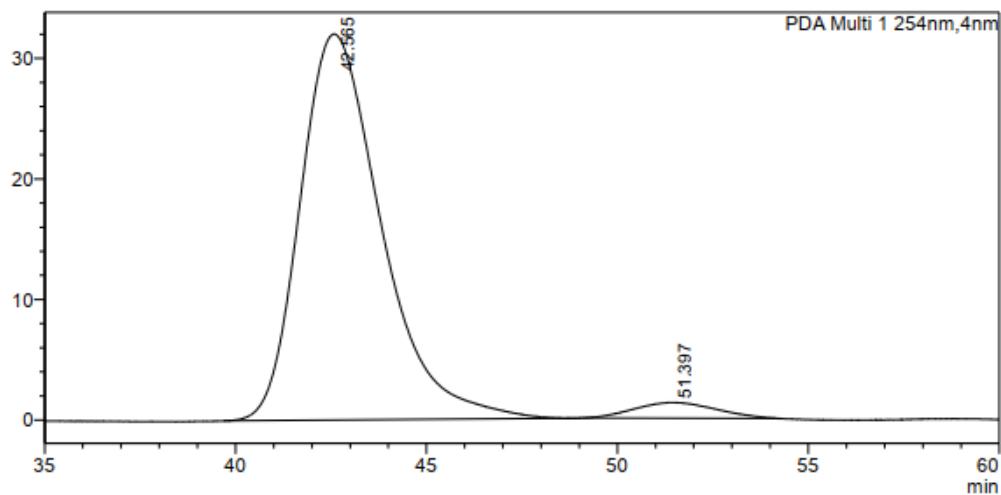
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	40.513	17495276	49.981	115880
2	48.982	17508852	50.019	95729
Total		35004127	100.000	211608

**<Chromatogram>**

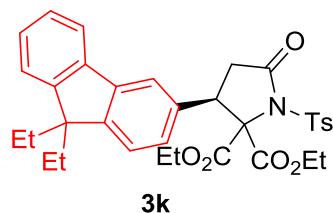
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

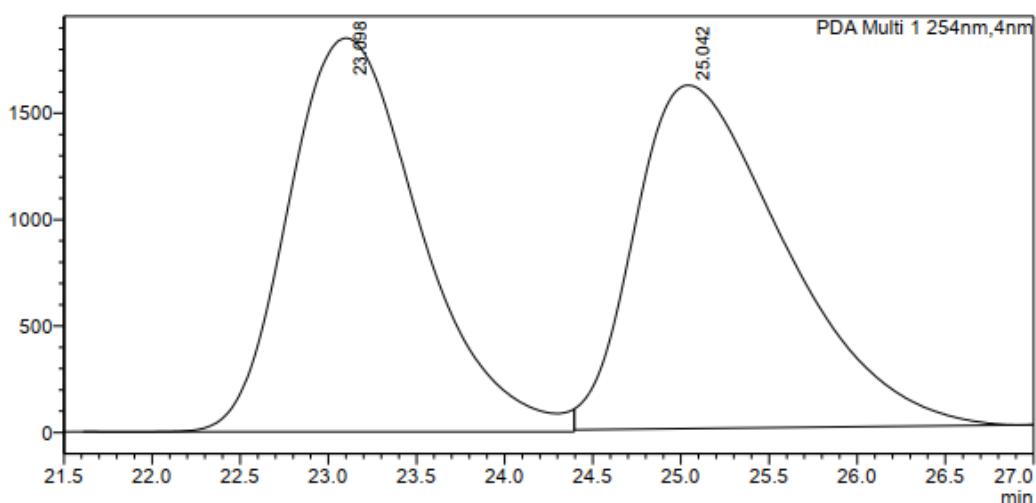
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	42.565	4724860	96.073	32007
2	51.397	193105	3.927	1295
Total		4917965	100.000	33301



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



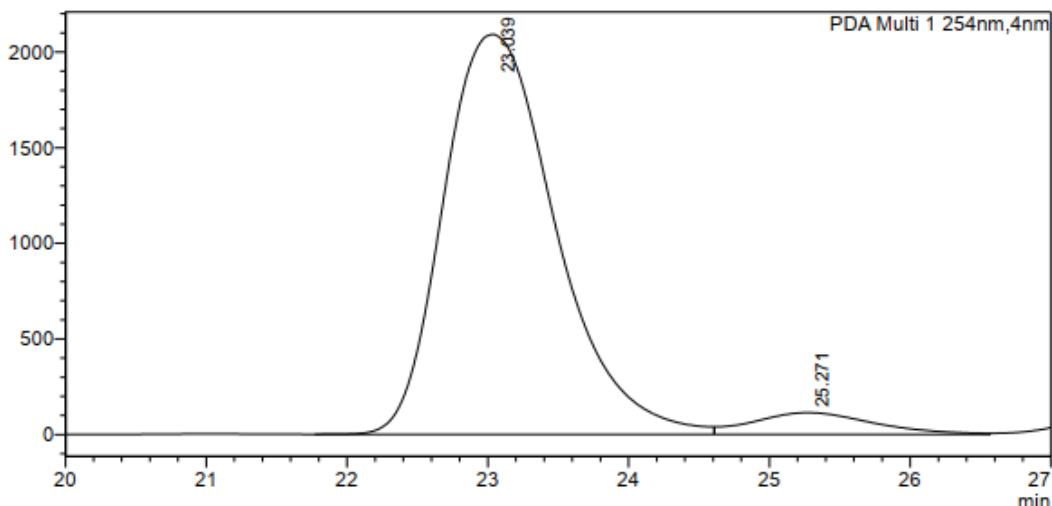
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	23.098	96205862	50.093	1849295
2	25.042	95847496	49.907	1613493
Total		192053359	100.000	3462787

**<Chromatogram>**

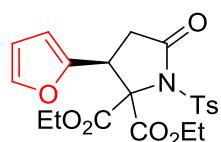
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

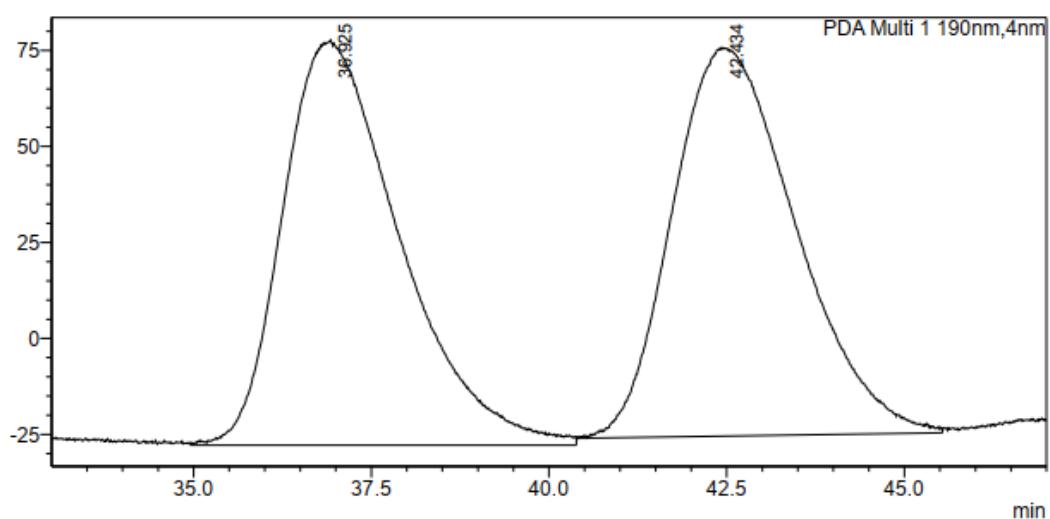
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	23.039	115754687	94.497	2091005
2	25.271	6741482	5.503	113492
Total		122496170	100.000	2204498



3I

**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



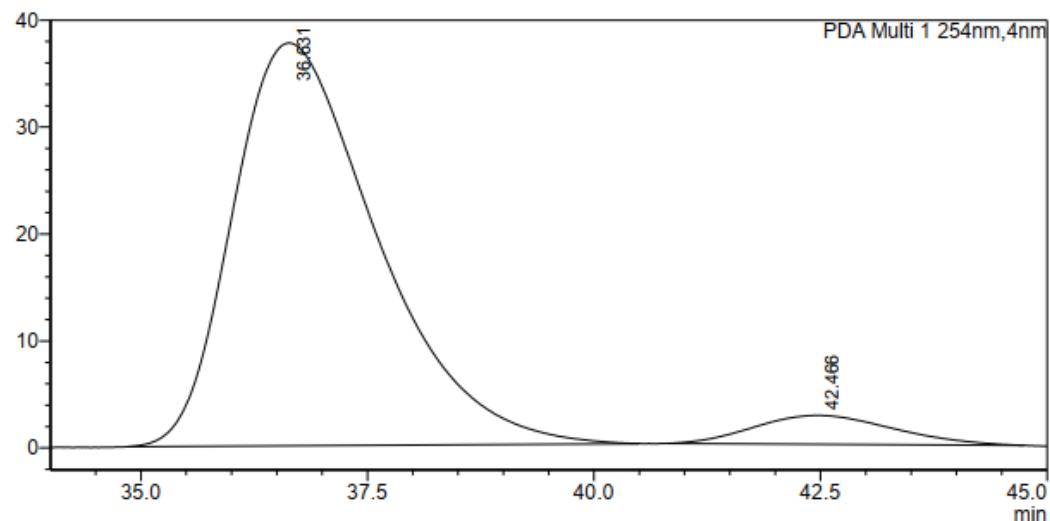
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 190nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	36.925	12029489	105441	49.661
2	42.434	12193820	101103	50.339
Total		24223309	206544	100.000

**<Chromatogram>**

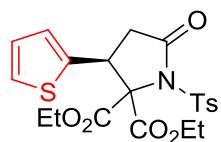
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

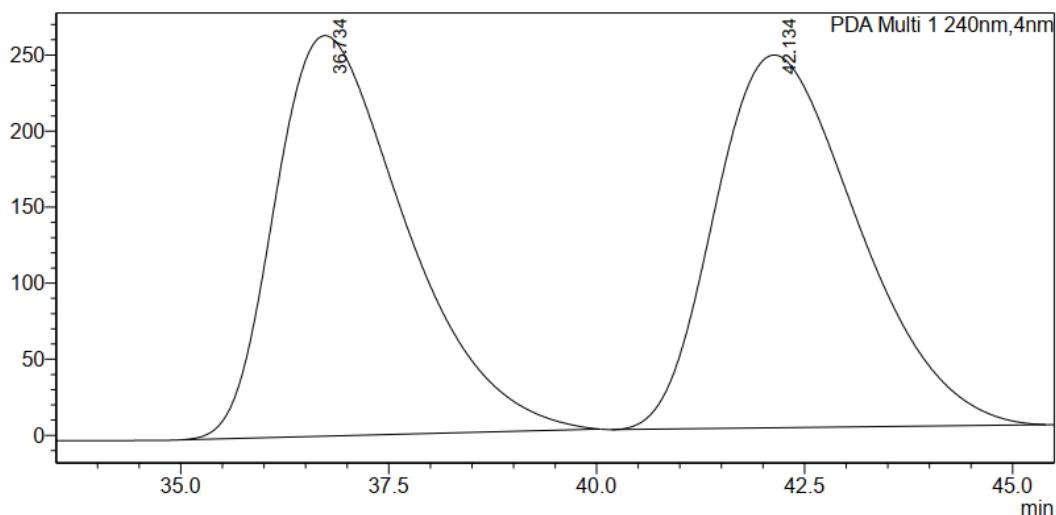
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	36.631	4170603	37665	93.546
2	42.466	287721	2695	6.454
Total		4458325	40360	100.000



**3m**

**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



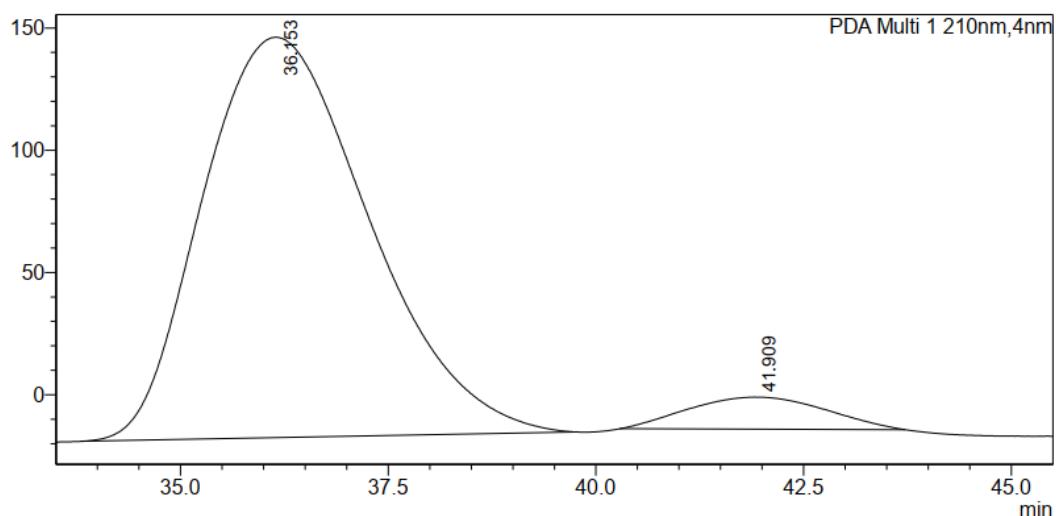
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 240nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	36.734	28772579	263220	49.538
2	42.134	29309605	244974	50.462
Total		58082184	508193	100.000

**<Chromatogram>**

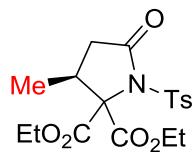
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

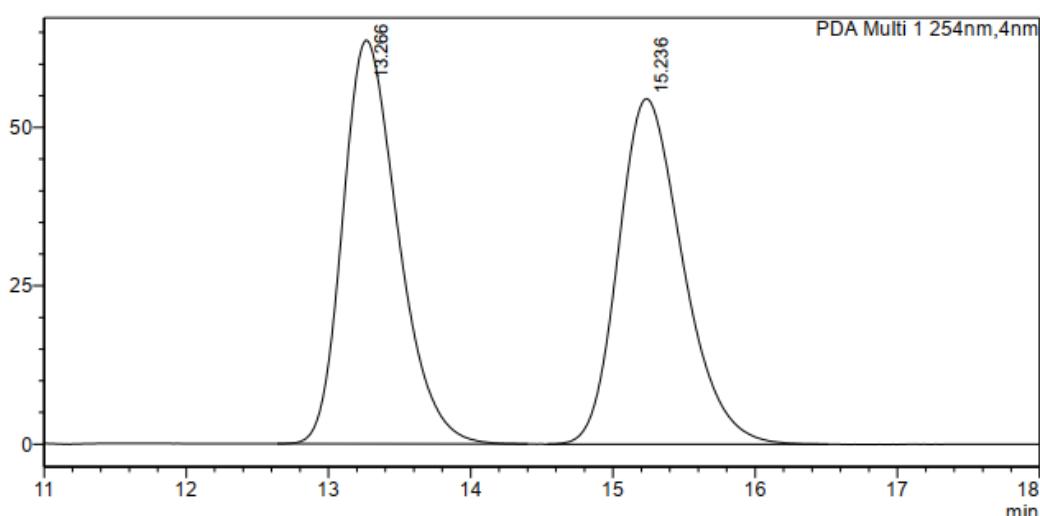
PDA Ch1 210nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	36.153	22816748	163775	93.774
2	41.909	1514992	13118	6.226
Total		24331741	176893	100.000



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



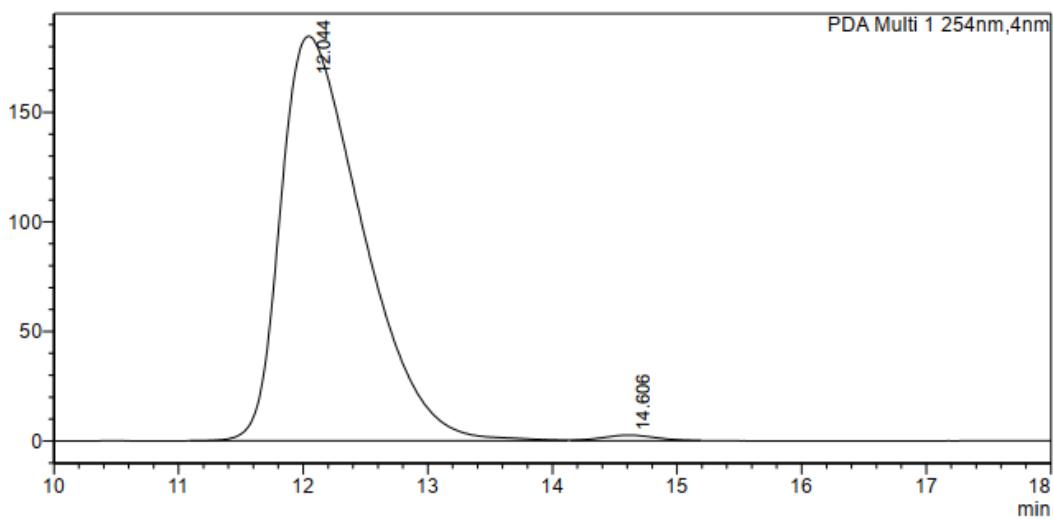
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	13.266	1724883	63700	50.022
2	15.236	1723376	54520	49.978
Total		3448259	118220	100.000

**<Chromatogram>**

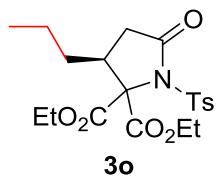
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

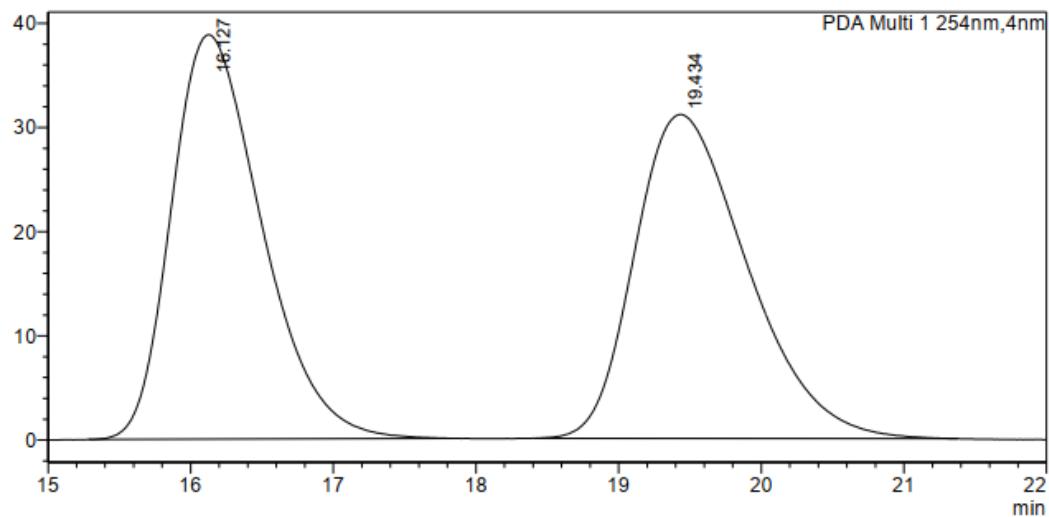
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	12.044	8413464	184687	99.081
2	14.606	78079	2600	0.919
Total		8491543	187286	100.000



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



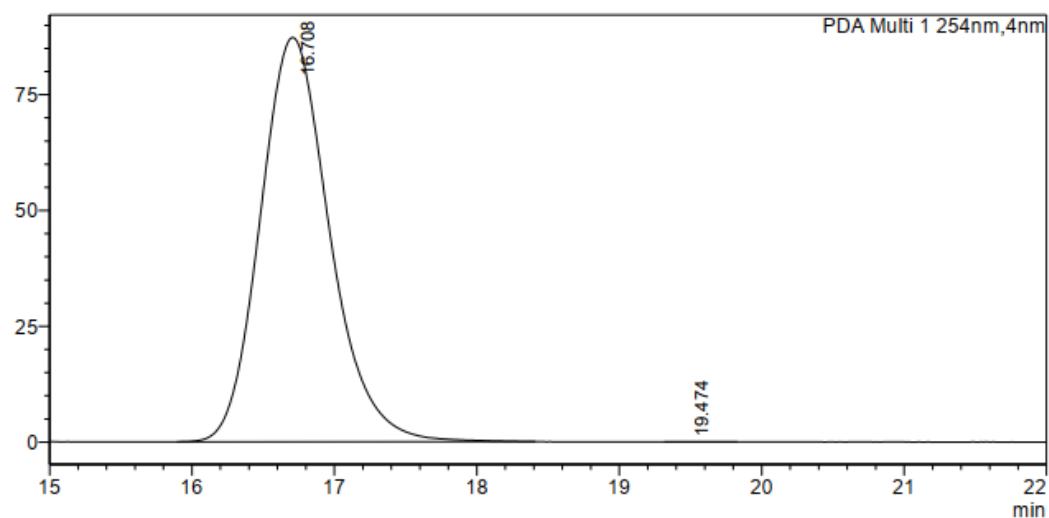
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	16.127	1712095	38832	50.042
2	19.434	1709223	31104	49.958
Total		3421318	69936	100.000

**<Chromatogram>**

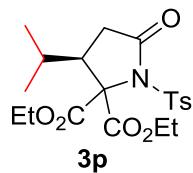
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

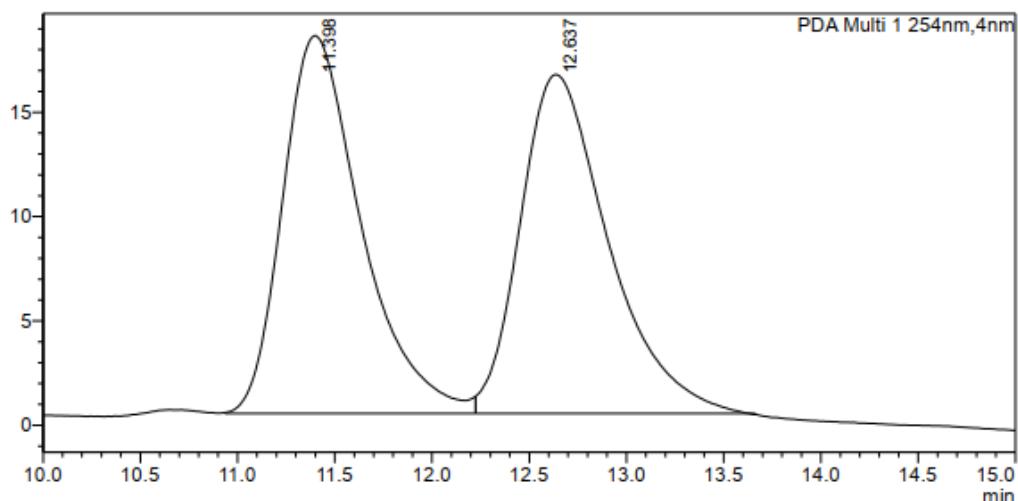
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	16.708	2964119	87282	99.997
2	19.474	87	16	0.003
Total		2964206	87298	100.000



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



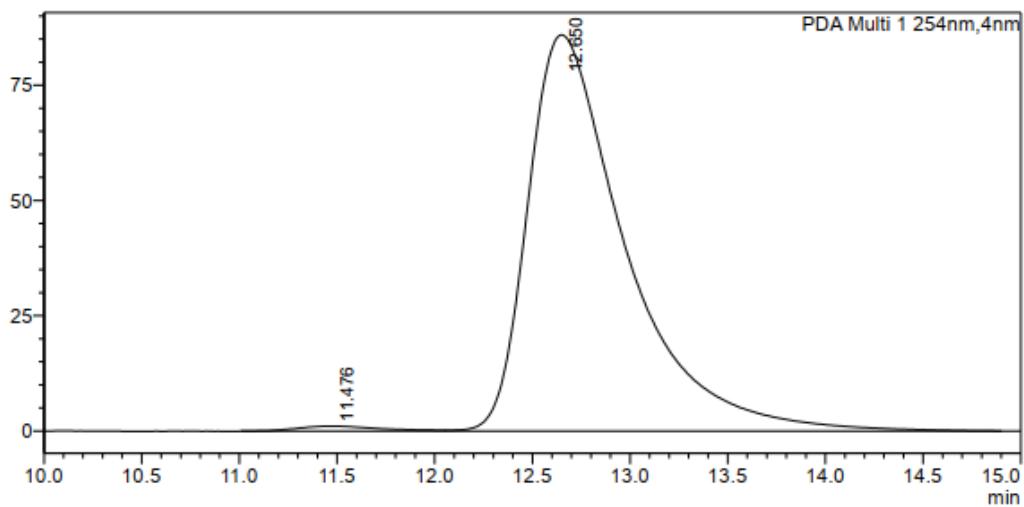
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	11.398	510330	49.982	18099
2	12.637	510705	50.018	16240
Total		1021035	100.000	34339

**<Chromatogram>**

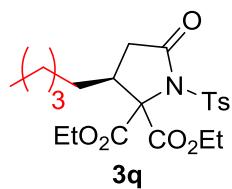
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

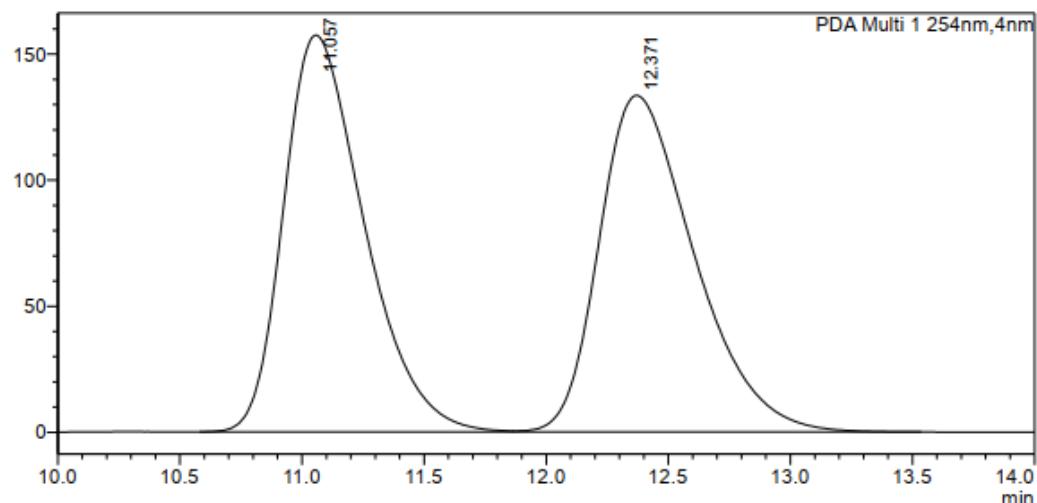
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	11.476	32270	1.069	1100
2	12.650	2986817	98.931	85943
Total		3019088	100.000	87042



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



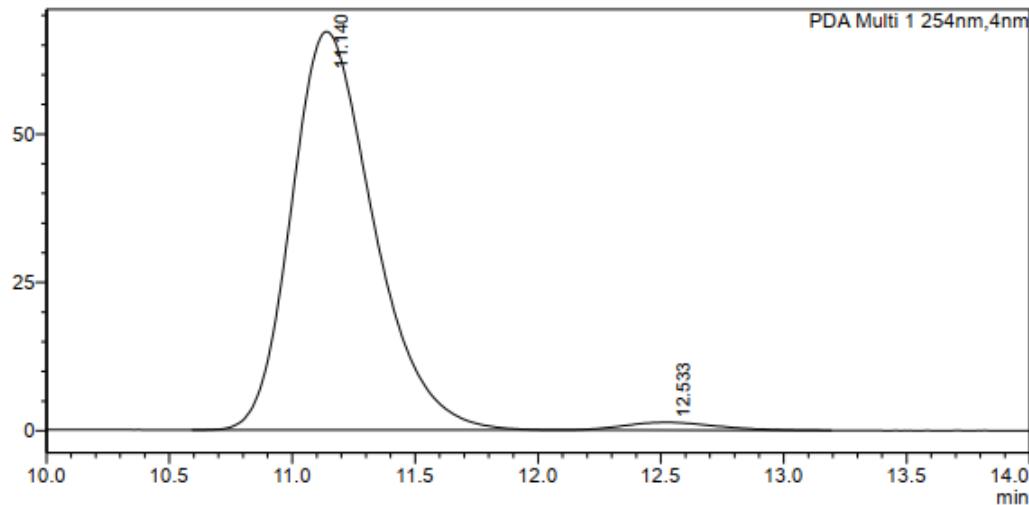
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	11.057	3619109	49.992	157343
2	12.371	3620195	50.008	133485
Total		7239303	100.000	290828

**<Chromatogram>**

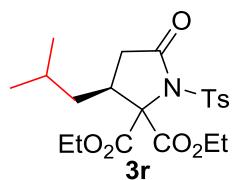
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

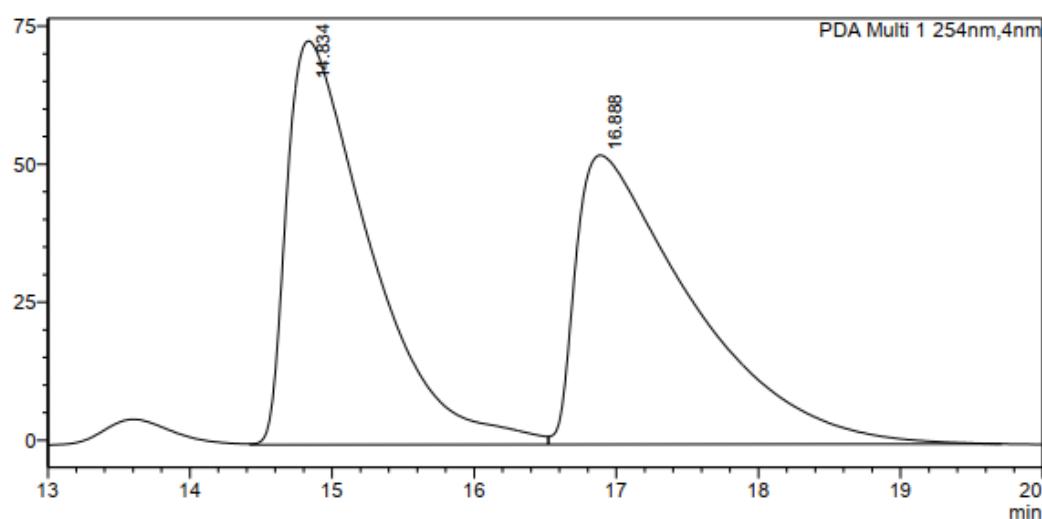
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	11.140	1564904	97.855	67142
2	12.533	34306	2.145	1321
Total		1599209	100.000	68462



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



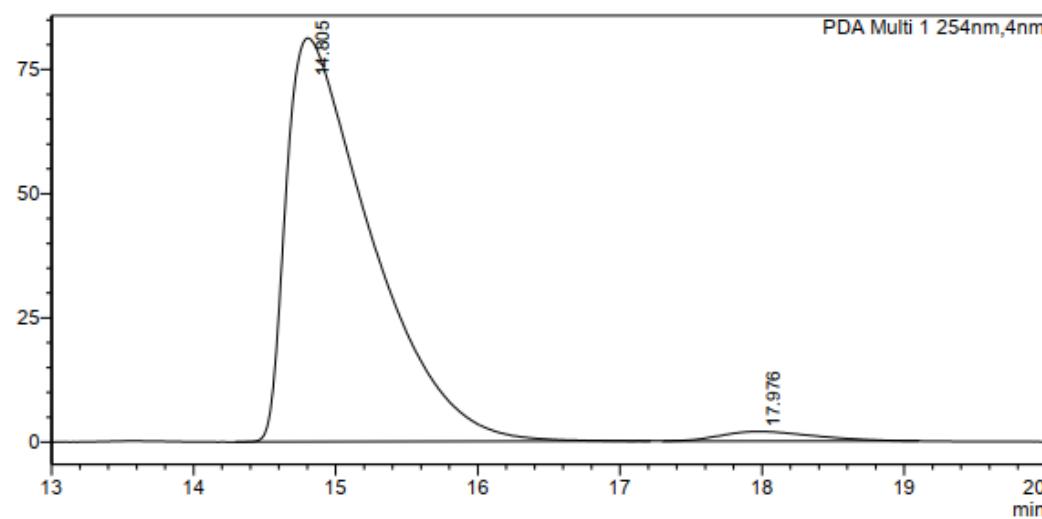
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	14.834	2971070	50.015	73117
2	16.888	2969251	49.985	52365
Total		5940322	100.000	125482

**<Chromatogram>**

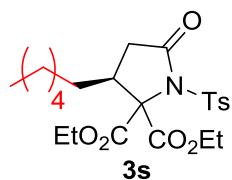
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

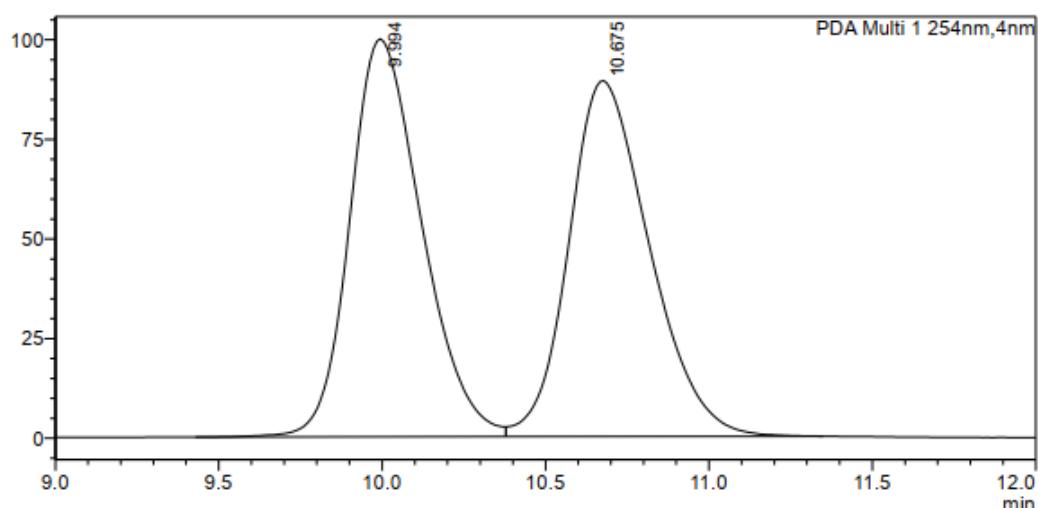
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	14.805	3376036	97.435	81247
2	17.976	88893	2.565	1929
Total		3464929	100.000	83176



## <Chromatogram>

mAU



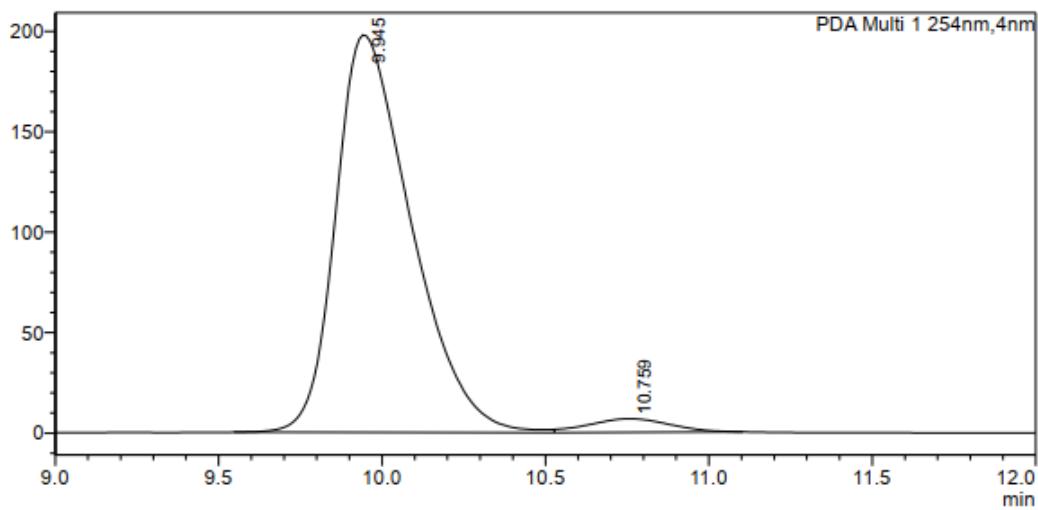
## <Peak Table>

PDA Ch1 254nm

PDR CM 294 min				
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	9.994	1529283	49.917	99876
2	10.675	1534348	50.083	89296
Total		3063631	100.000	189171

## <Chromatogram>

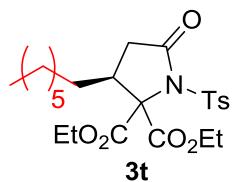
mAU



## <Peak Table>

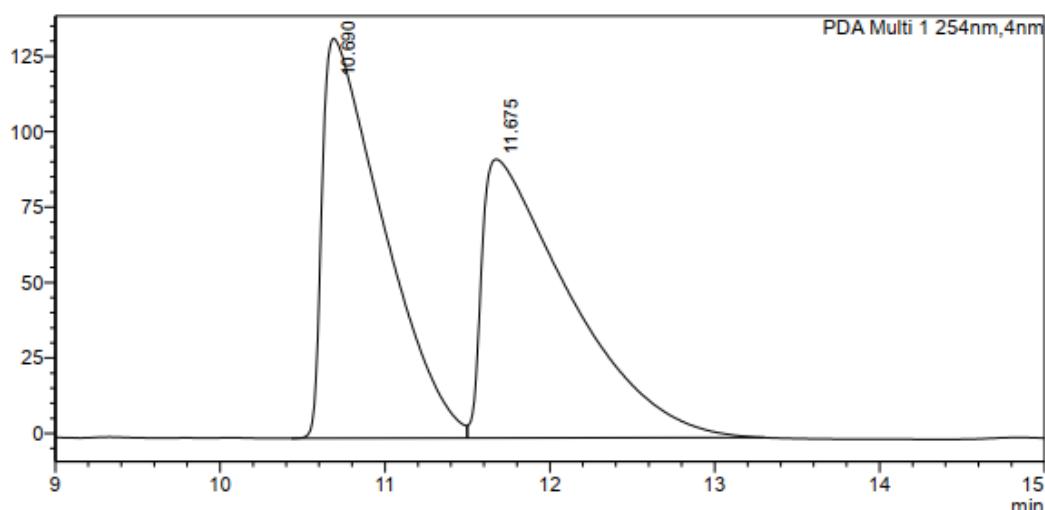
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	9.945	3190944	96.470	197852
2	10.759	116771	3.530	6784
Total		3307715	100.000	204636



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



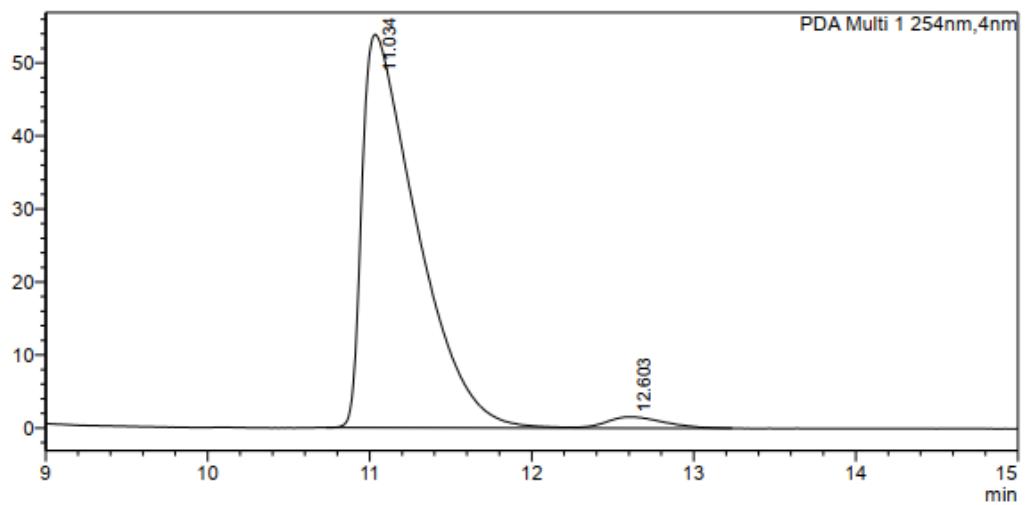
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	10.690	3413291	49.951	132536
2	11.675	3419998	50.049	92316
Total		6833289	100.000	224851

**<Chromatogram>**

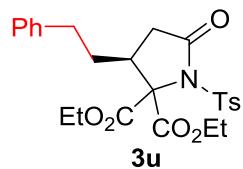
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

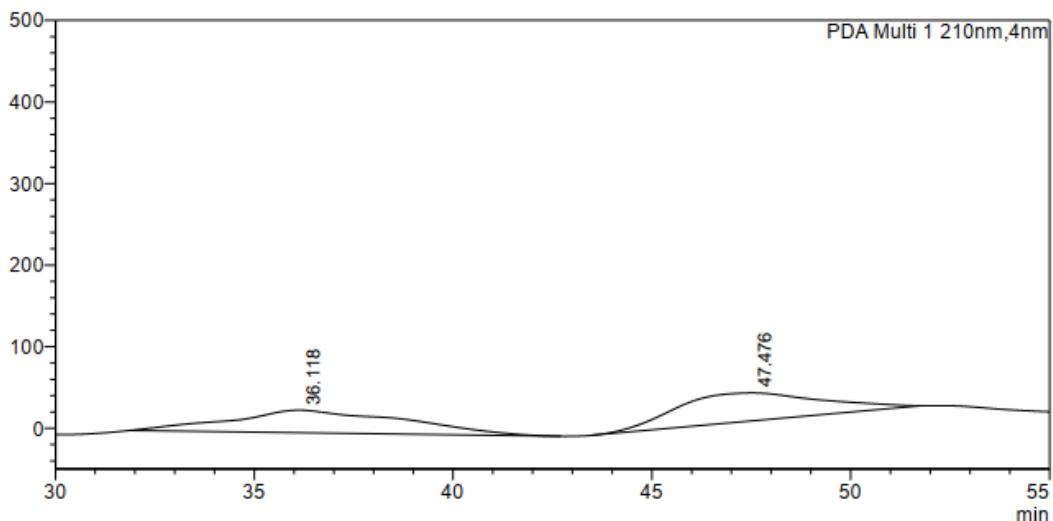
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	11.034	1267261	97.136	53859
2	12.603	37365	2.864	1519
Total		1304626	100.000	55378



## <Chromatogram>

mAU



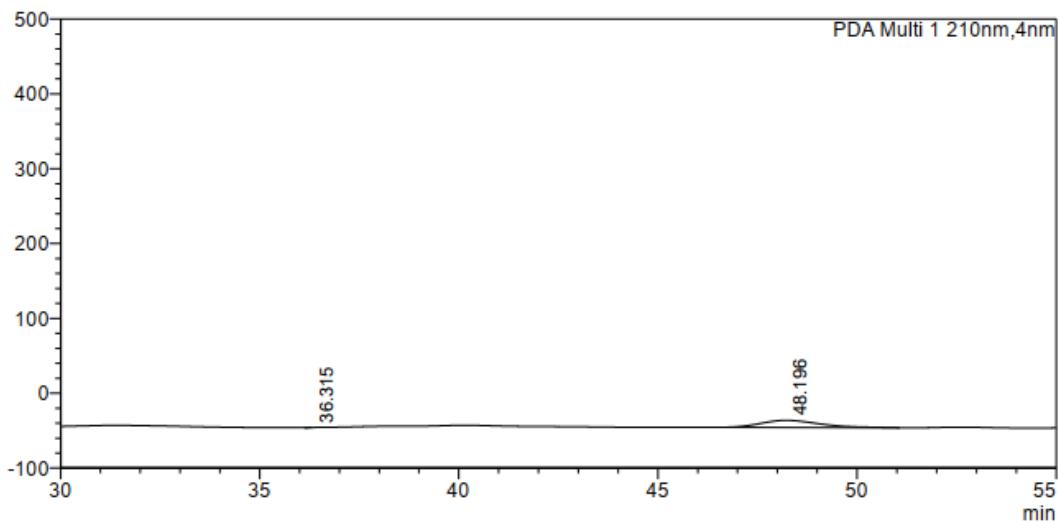
## <Peak Table>

## PDA Ch1 210nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	36.118	8542457	27671	48.910
2	47.476	8923279	34567	51.090
Total		17465736	62239	100.000

## <Chromatogram>

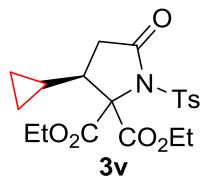
mAU



## <Peak Table>

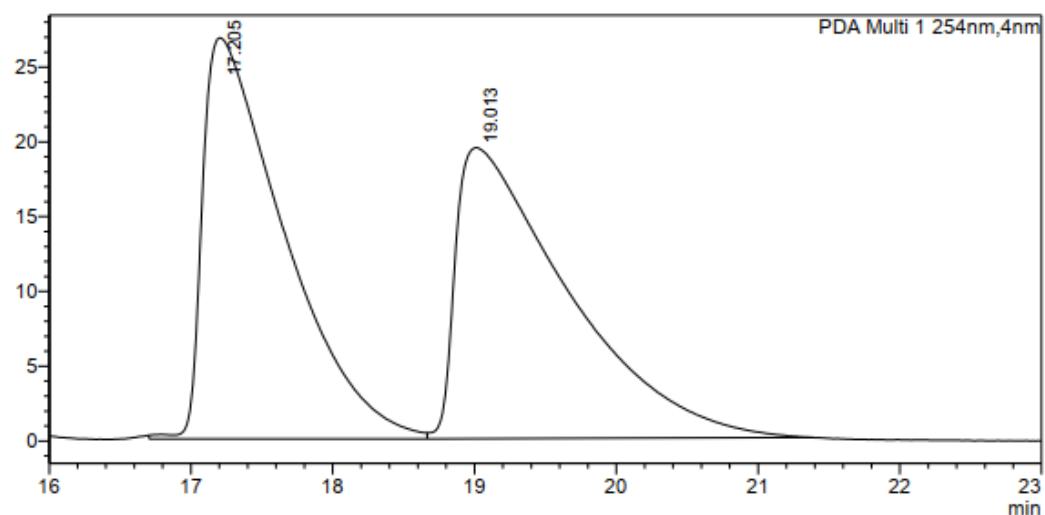
## PDA Ch1 210nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	36.315	3251	-153	0.338
2	48.196	957486	9407	99.662
Total		960737	9254	100.000



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



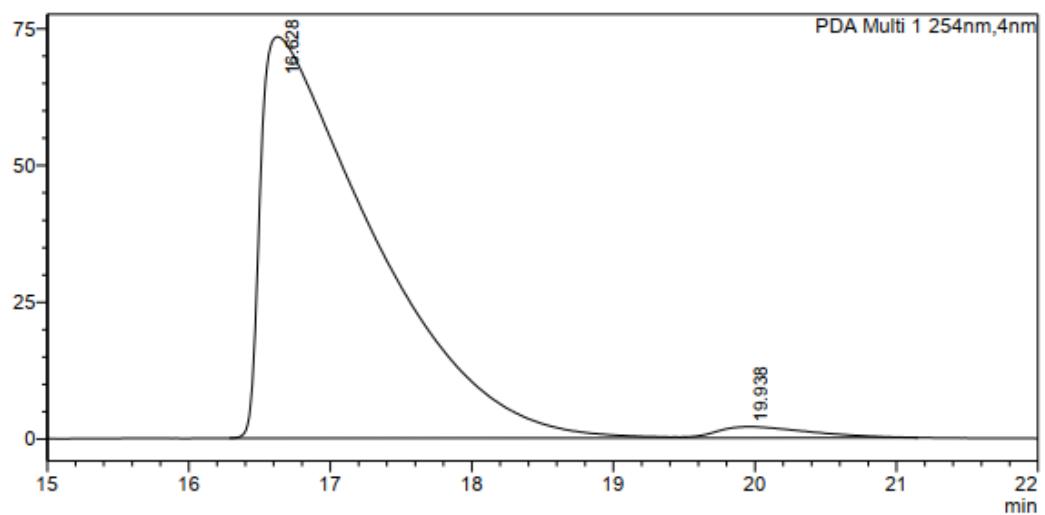
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	17.205	1070897	49.995	26811
2	19.013	1071097	50.005	19450
Total		2141994	100.000	46261

**<Chromatogram>**

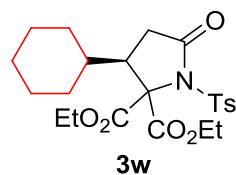
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

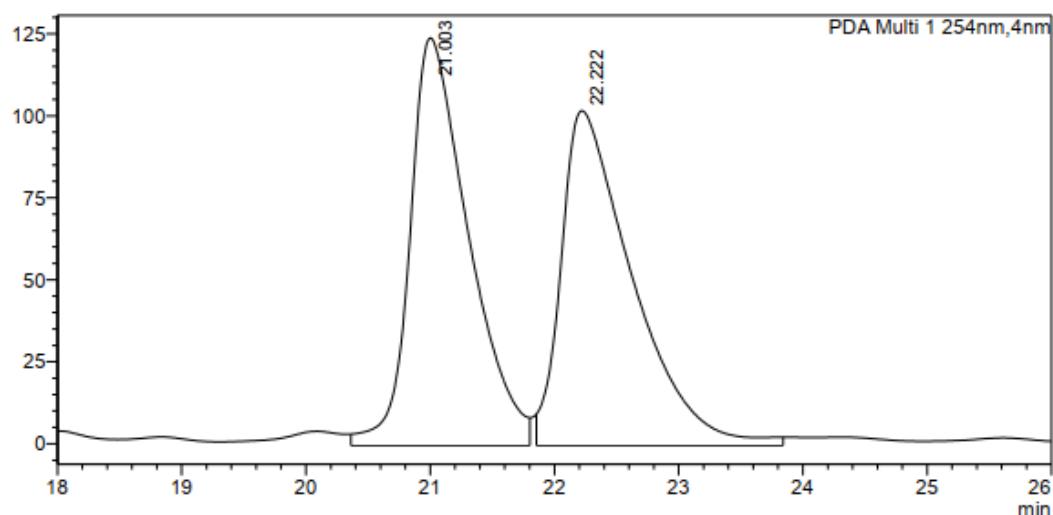
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	16.628	4036240	97.798	73353
2	19.938	90899	2.202	2018
Total		4127138	100.000	75371



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



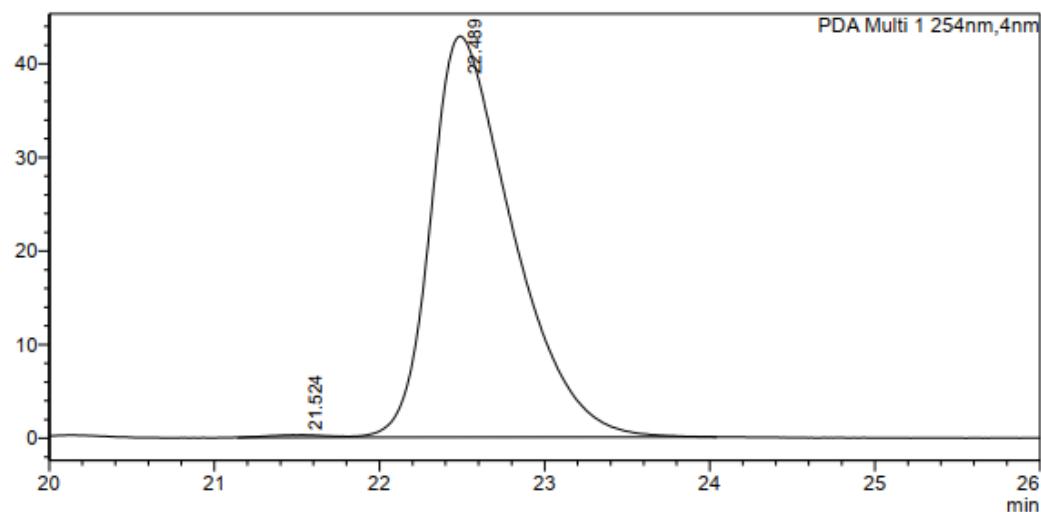
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	21.003	4062336	50.018	124205
2	22.222	4059441	49.982	102054
Total		8121777	100.000	226259

**<Chromatogram>**

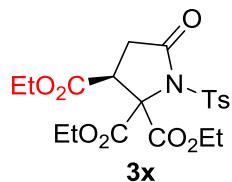
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

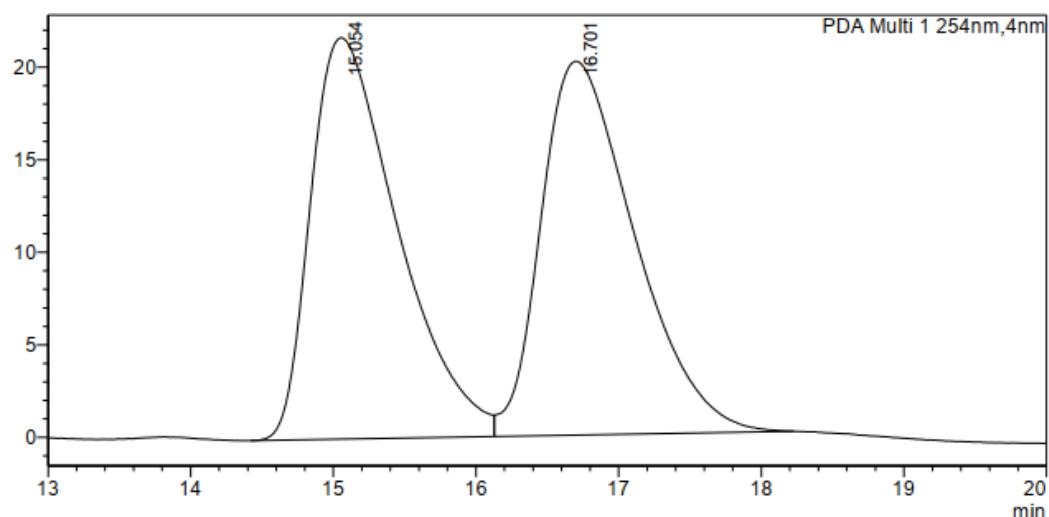
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	21.524	6512	0.438	269
2	22.489	1480926	99.562	42839
Total		1487438	100.000	43108



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



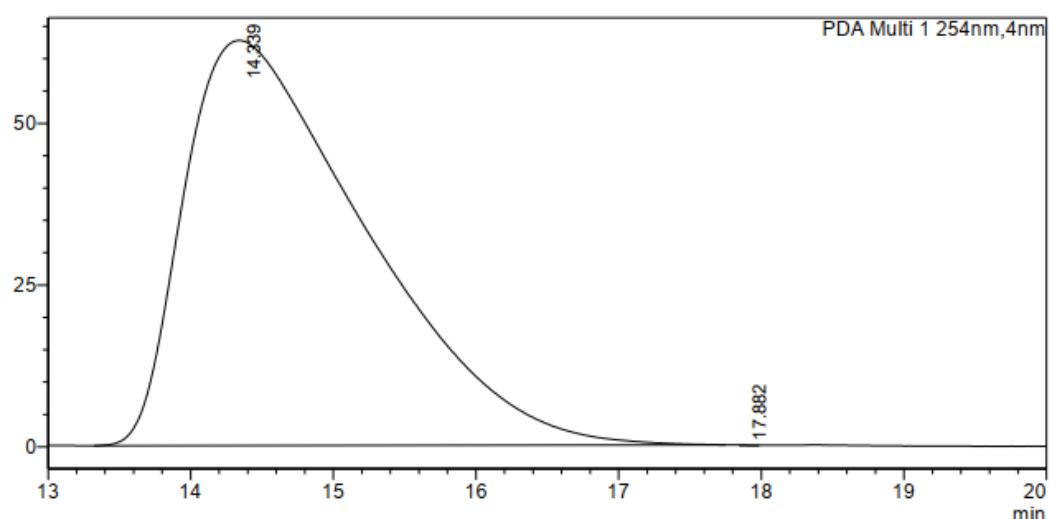
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	15.054	920148	21689	49.937
2	16.701	922485	20198	50.063
Total		1842634	41887	100.000

**<Chromatogram>**

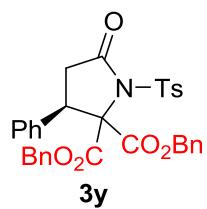
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

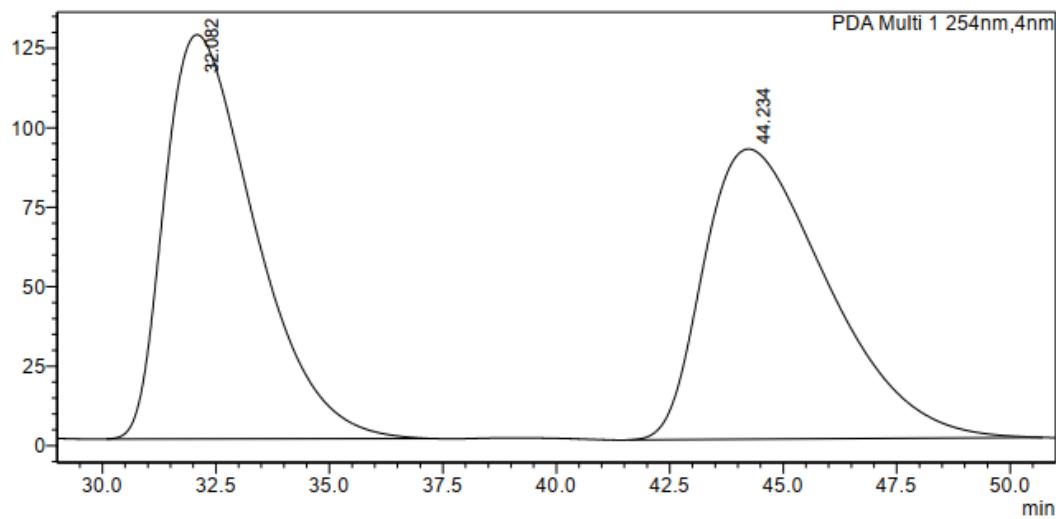
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	14.339	5561406	62609	99.990
2	17.882	581	69	0.010
Total		5561987	62678	100.000



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



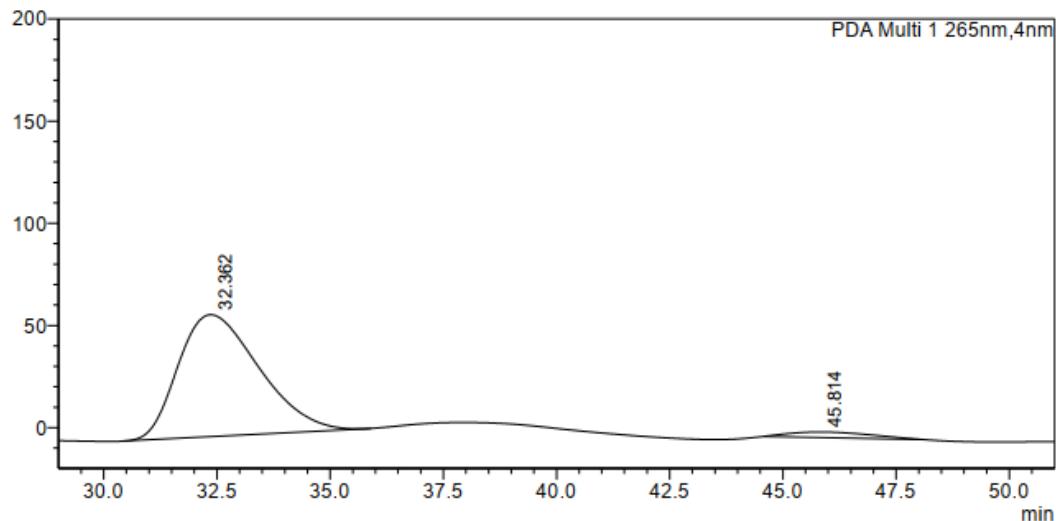
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	32.082	17627412	127117	50.380
2	44.234	17361651	91275	49.620
Total		34989063	218392	100.000

**<Chromatogram>**

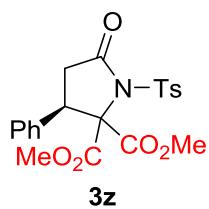
mAU



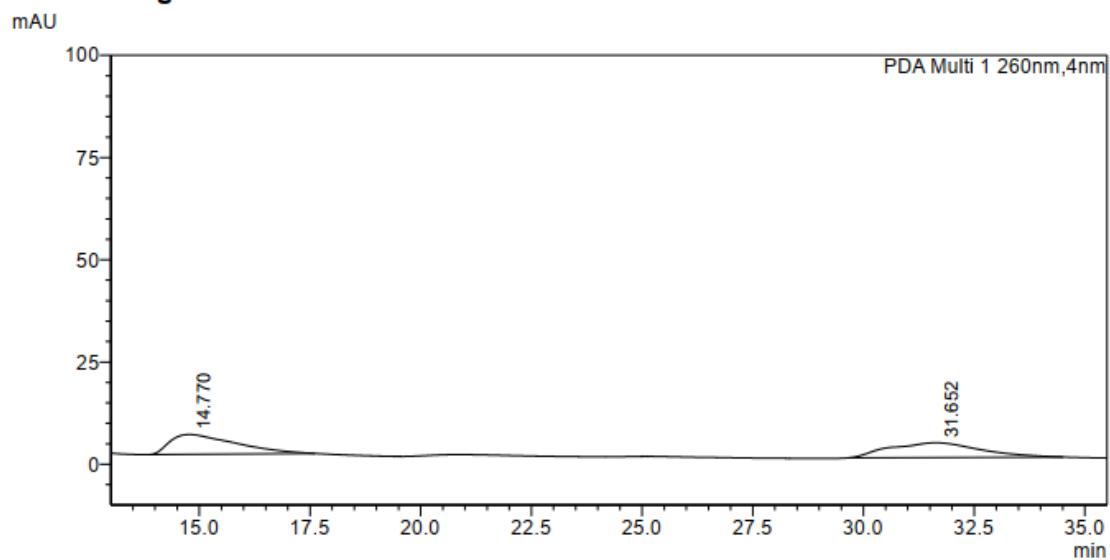
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 265nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	32.362	7398614	59673	95.609
2	45.814	339828	2683	4.391
Total		7738442	62356	100.000



**<Chromatogram>**

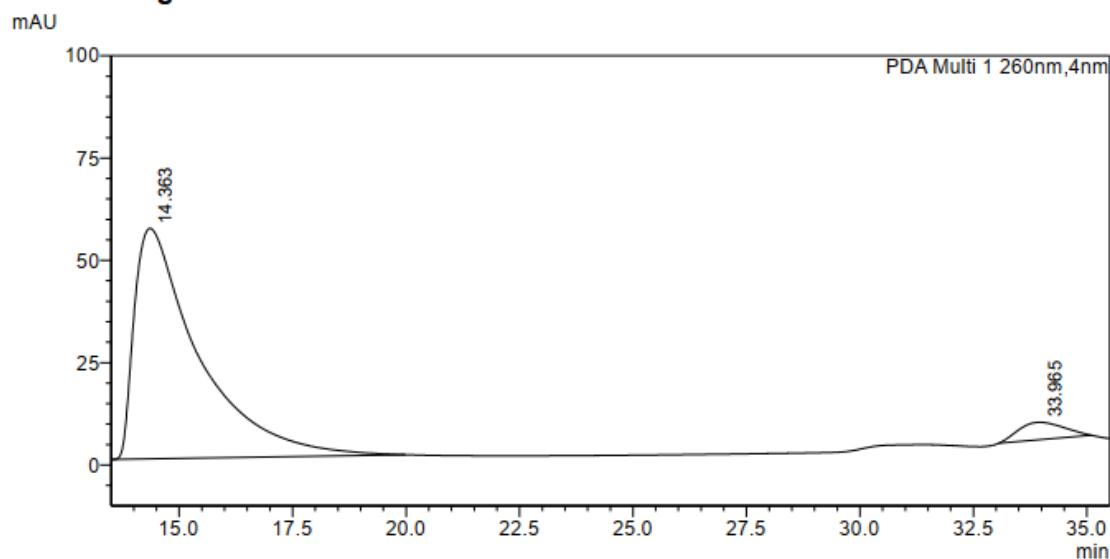


**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 260nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	14.770	500560	4844	49.260
2	31.652	515594	3630	50.740
Total		1016154	8474	100.000

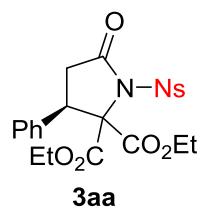
**<Chromatogram>**



**<Peak Table>**

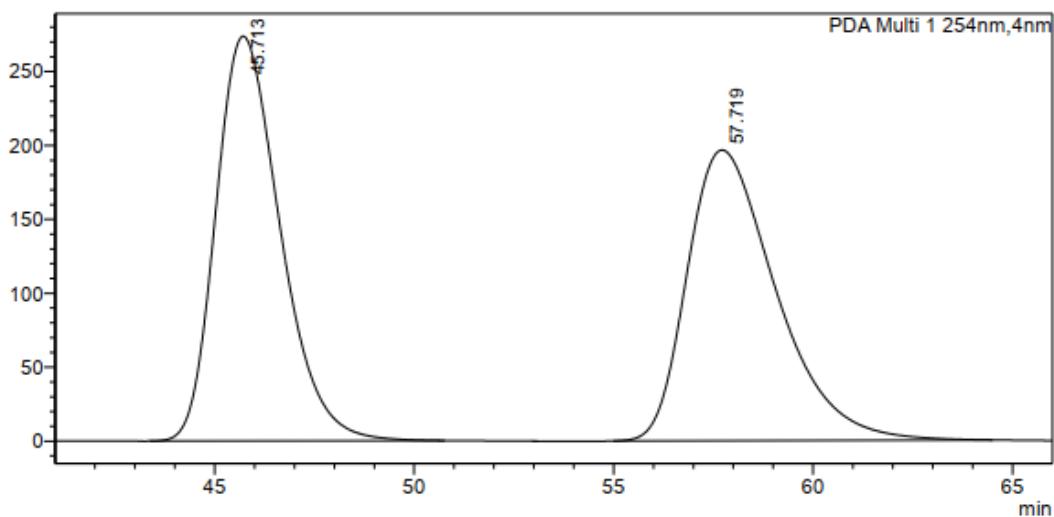
PDA Ch1 260nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area%
1	14.363	5562108	56344	94.897
2	33.965	299074	4269	5.103
Total		5861182	60613	100.000



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



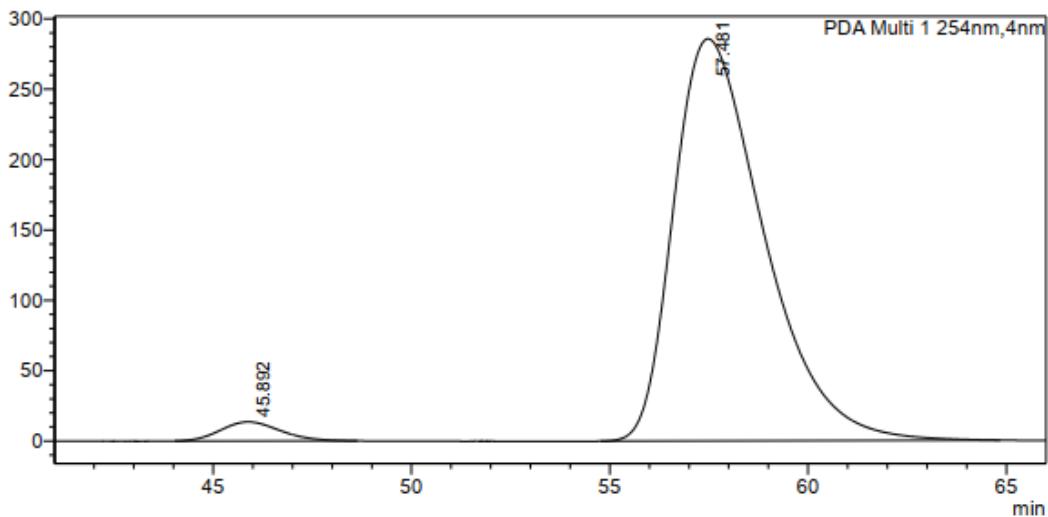
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	45.713	30741470	50.203	273749
2	57.719	30493008	49.797	196632
Total		61234478	100.000	470381

**<Chromatogram>**

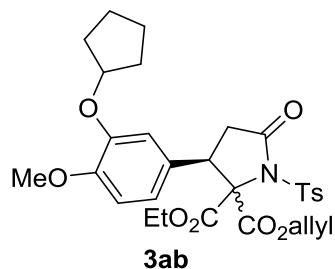
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

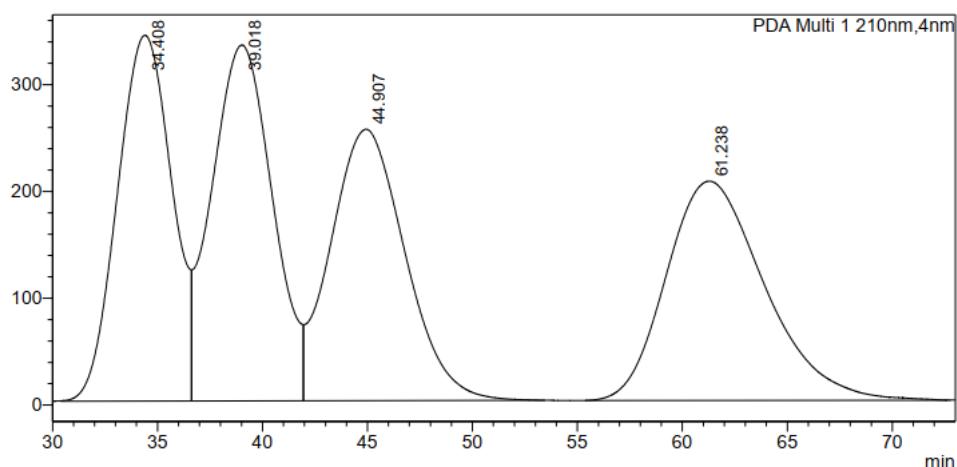
PDA Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	45.892	1412842	3.028	13497
2	57.481	45242511	96.972	285742
Total		46655354	100.000	299239



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



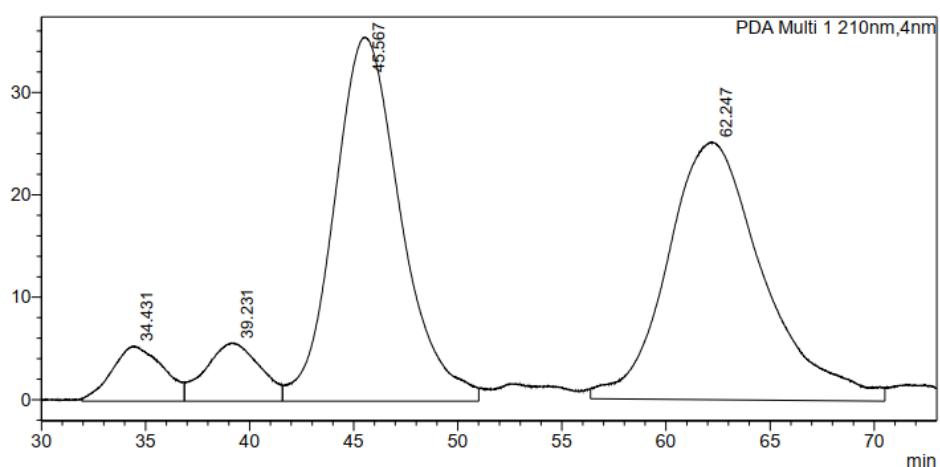
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 210nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	34.408	61749243	23.860	342565
2	39.018	67429389	26.055	333273
3	44.907	62764766	24.252	254098
4	61.238	66854968	25.833	205362
Total		258798366	100.000	1135298

**<Chromatogram>**

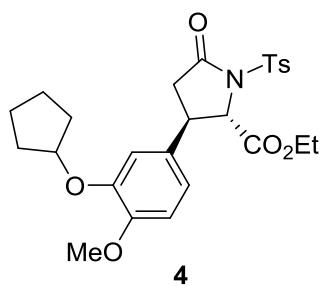
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

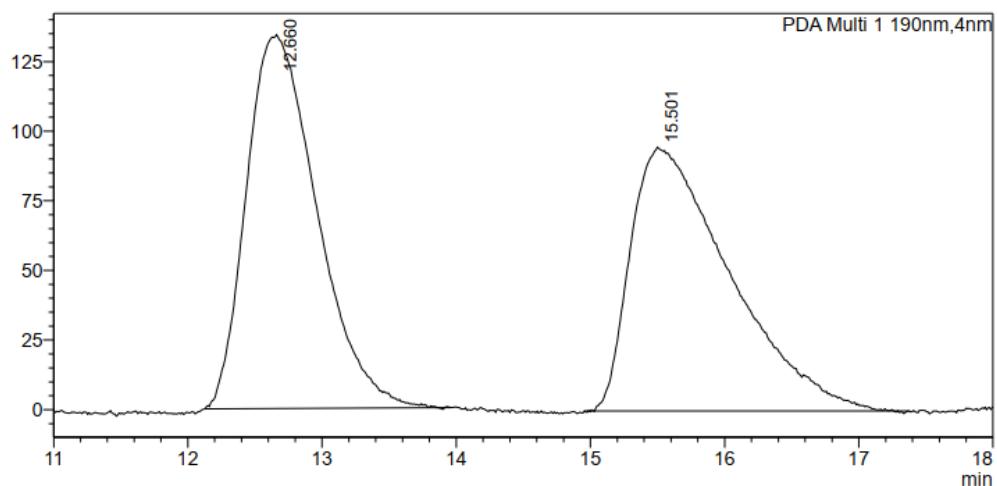
PDA Ch1 210nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	34.431	923894	5.165	5378
2	39.231	1032174	5.770	5702
3	45.567	7872224	44.007	35548
4	62.247	8060272	45.058	25150
Total		17888564	100.000	71778



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



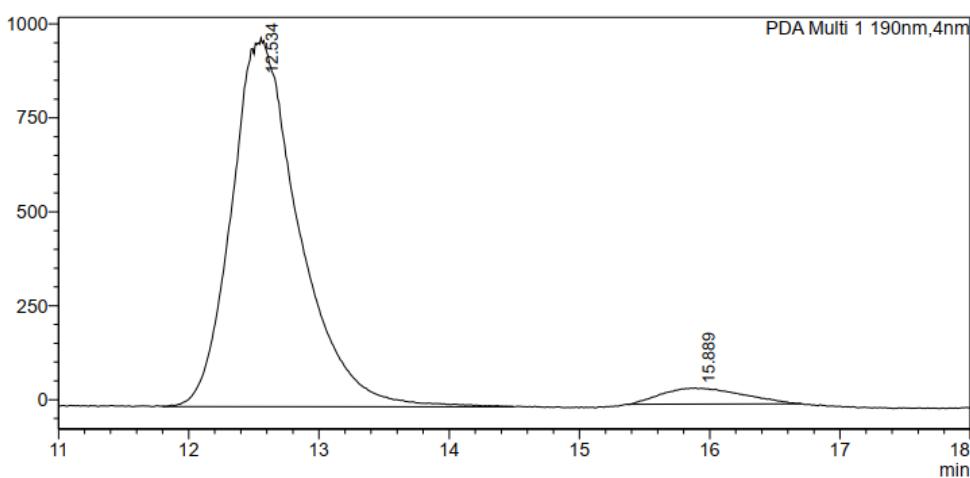
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 190nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	12.660	4915040	50.257	134219
2	15.501	4864767	49.743	94678
Total		9779807	100.000	228897

**<Chromatogram>**

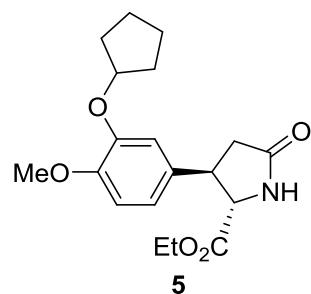
mAU



**<Peak Table>**

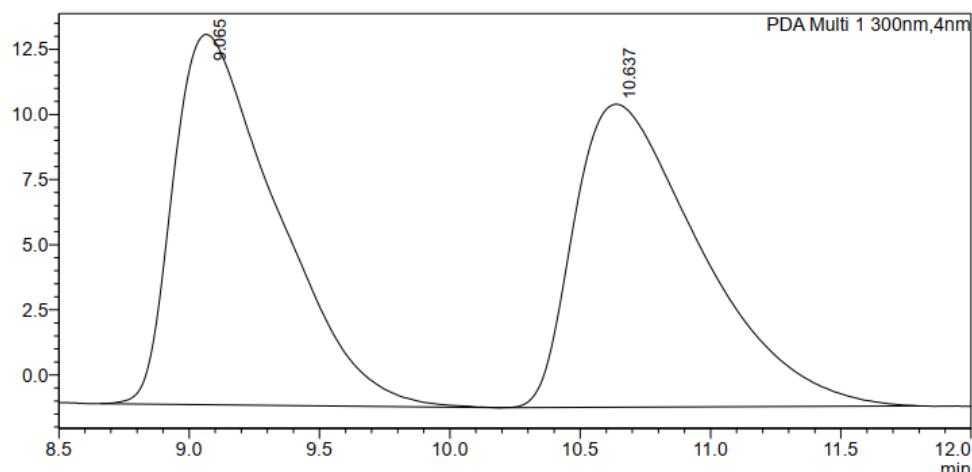
PDA Ch1 190nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	12.534	35339761	95.076	968628
2	15.889	1830430	4.924	42672
Total		37170191	100.000	1011300



**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



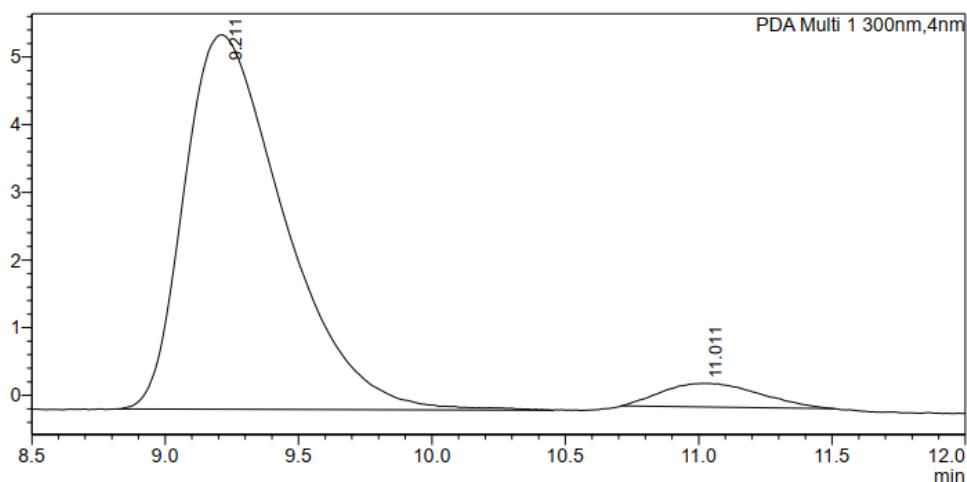
**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 300nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	9.065	394691	50.059	14215
2	10.637	393768	49.941	11635
Total		788459	100.000	25850

**<Chromatogram>**

mAU



**<Peak Table>**

PDA Ch1 300nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Area%	Height
1	9.211	144009	94.150	5532
2	11.011	8947	5.850	349
Total		152956	100.000	5881