

Electronic Supplementary Information for:

A Dynamic Picture of the Halolactonization Reaction through a Combination of ab-initio Metadynamics and Experimental Investigations

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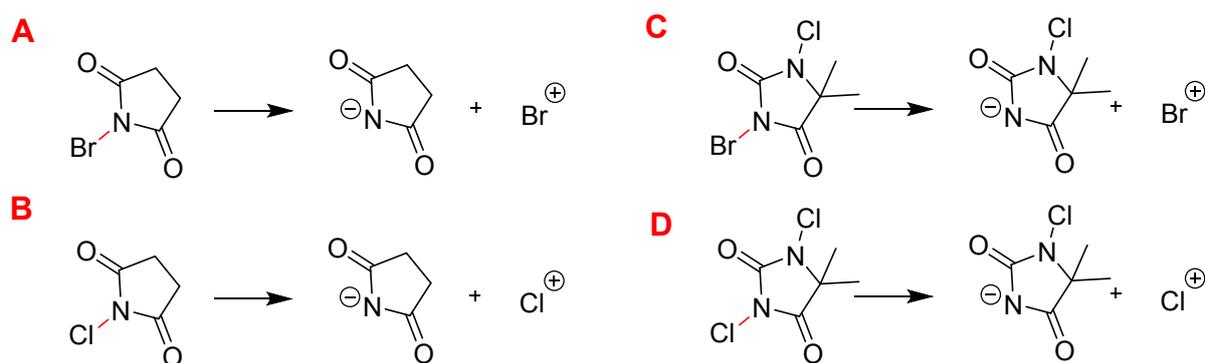
Electronic Supporting Information
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1. Computational studies

1.1. Ionic stabilities of the halogen sources

Metadynamics simulations revealed that the ionic intermediate phase formed during the halolactonization reaction had an increased lifetime when DCDMH was used as a halogen source instead of NBS. To investigate the inherent ionic stability of these halogen sources, heterolytic bond dissociation energies were computed for the following reactions:



All structures were optimized at the DFT-level of theory, with vibrational analysis to confirm they represent actual minima on the potential energy surface, *i.e.* no imaginary frequencies were observed. Optimization and frequency calculations were performed with the 6-31+G(d) basis set and the B3LYP¹, M06-2X² or ω B97X-D³ hybrid exchange-correlation functionals. Subsequently, to obtain more accurate electronic energies, single point calculations were performed on the structures with the 6-311++G(d,p) basis set and the B3LYP, M06-2X or ω B97X-D functional, respectively. For every calculation CH_2Cl_2 was taken into consideration by the SMD implicit solvent model.⁴ All calculations were performed with the Gaussian software version 16 revision B.01.⁵

Table S1: Computed heterolytic bond dissociation energies (BDE) in kcal/mol at the DFT level of theory using different exchange-correlation functionals and the 6-31+G(d) basis set for geometry optimizations and frequency analysis and the 6-311++G(d,p) basis set to obtain more accurate electronic energies. CH_2Cl_2 was implicitly taken into consideration by the SMD solvent model.

reaction	BDE (kcal/mol)		
	[B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) //B3LYP/6-31+G(d)]	[M06-2X/6-311++G(d,p) //M06-2X/6-31+G(d)]	[ω B97X-D /6-311++G(d,p) // ω B97X-D /6-31+G(d)]
A	209	210	213
B	218	220	222
C	185	180	187
D	194	195	195

From Table S1 it can be observed that the computed BDE associated with hydantoin **C** and **D** are smaller than their respective succinimide derivative **A** and **B**. This indicates the anion MCDMH⁻ to be inherently more stable relative to its neutral brominated or chlorinated species compared to the succinimide anion. As such, the increased ionic stability of MCDMH⁻ compared to succ⁻, might be a possible explanation for the halonium intermediate phase observed during MtD simulations of the NBS and DCDMH halolactonization reactions.

1.2. Metadynamics simulations

Table S2: Summary of results of the MtD simulations including the average free Helmholtz energy of activation ΔF^\ddagger (in kcal/mol) and the average lifetime of the halonium intermediate phase (in ps). [a] As the standard deviation over the different simulations is below the chemical accuracy of 1 kcal/mol, it is not physically relevant to mention.

Entry	Substrate	Halogen source	additives	medium	ΔF^\ddagger (kcal/mol)	Lifetime intermediate phase (ps)	Type of reaction
1	2	NBS	None	CH ₂ Cl ₂	38 ± 5	0.8 ± 0.2	syn-addition
2	2	DCDMH	none	CH ₂ Cl ₂	34 ^[a]	7.4 ± 1.3	syn-addition
3	1a	NBS	None	CH ₂ Cl ₂	30 ± 8	0.9 ± 0.3	syn-addition
4	1a	DCDMH	None	CH ₂ Cl ₂	26 ± 5	1.0 ± 0.5	syn-addition
5	2	DCDMH	Quinuclidine	CH ₂ Cl ₂	9 ± 3	10 ± 7	anti-addition
6	2	NBS	Succinimide ⁻	CH ₂ Cl ₂	13 ± 1	0	anti-addition
7	1a	DCDMH	None	MeOH	N.A.	> 10	Halonium formation

Below technical details and results of the separate runs can be found of the metadynamics simulations that were performed in this study.

Entry 1: NBS syn-halolactonization in CH₂Cl₂

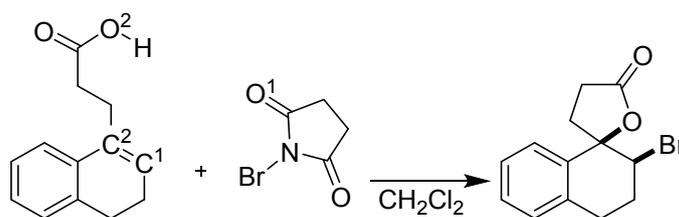


Table S3: Settings for the metadynamics simulation for the abovementioned reaction. [a] A half harmonic bias potential was added to CN1 at a value of 0.015 and force constant $K = 300$ a.u. to reduce the sampling region to a meaningful chemical space.

reactants	Box edge (Å)	CN1 / r0 [a]	CN2 / r0
1 x alkenoic acid	15.0	C ¹ -Br / 2.5 Å	C ² -O ² / 1.9 Å
1 x NBS			
29 x CH ₂ Cl ₂			

Input example

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C	3.806597	2.394495	1.204535
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Topology of transition state excluding solvent molecules

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C	10.715115	20.136637	16.480591
N	10.482812	21.489279	16.325882
O	11.612569	23.489079	16.548344
O	9.828062	19.277048	16.253330
C	12.771374	21.242630	16.913122
H	13.587726	21.246223	16.180212
H	13.268368	21.637072	17.817030
C	12.138899	19.859222	16.875696
H	12.618002	19.159197	16.177937
H	11.999473	19.396502	17.927929
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C	5.331314	19.312786	12.610317
C	5.958196	20.588655	12.857016
C	6.674187	21.102703	11.706112
C	6.684909	20.338453	10.538164
C	6.076901	19.079502	10.405871
H	4.744869	17.668264	11.424134
H	4.719610	18.984484	13.428138
C	5.758946	21.291422	14.080765
H	7.396240	20.754776	9.804934
H	6.090851	18.496634	9.568016
C	6.347799	22.612534	14.241278
H	5.875778	23.236412	14.970949
Br	8.232181	22.155119	15.272311
C	7.340229	22.487490	11.869251
H	8.369924	22.248842	12.217394
H	7.510005	22.906181	10.859870
C	6.644282	23.349491	12.892442
H	5.787216	23.867884	12.572070
H	7.291136	24.181192	13.077649
C	4.774813	20.820019	15.102249
H	4.018838	21.570530	15.211550

H	4.239591	19.862921	14.952074
C	5.375153	20.550293	16.549868
H	5.861098	21.356447	17.006855
H	4.585859	20.242493	17.223026
C	6.471231	19.494291	16.537340
O	6.809676	18.790415	17.479797
O	7.005839	19.359051	15.335077
H	7.812448	18.820229	15.473013

Table S4: Helmholtz free energy of activation (in kcal/mol) and the lifetime of the halonium intermediate determined based on bond length analysis for the separate runs.

Run	ΔF^\ddagger (kcal/mol)	Lifetime halonium intermediate (fs)	Total simulation time before TS (fs)
1	44	994	114406
2	35	568	99920
3	35	844	95487

Entry 2: DCDMH *syn*-halolactonization in CH_2Cl_2

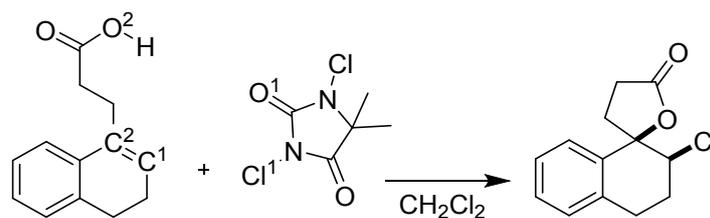


Table S5: Settings for the metadynamics simulation for the abovementioned reaction. [a] A half harmonic bias potential was added to CN1 at a value of 0.015 and force constant $K = 300$ a.u. to reduce the sampling region to a meaningful chemical space.

reactants	Box edge (Å)	CN1 / r0 [a]	CN2 / r0
1 x alkenoic acid	15.0	$\text{C}^1\text{-Cl}^1 / 2.5 \text{ \AA}$	$\text{C}^2\text{-O}^2 / 1.9 \text{ \AA}$
1 x DCDMH			
28 x CH_2Cl_2			

Topology of transition state excluding solvent molecules

N	15.63643	-2.70016	2.014617
C	16.420616	-3.472024	0.980034
C	17.144089	-2.223583	0.304982
C	15.500712	-1.378983	1.687194
N	16.394455	-1.12887	0.593928
Cl	17.7018180	.690777	0.658275
O	18.175911	-2.231641	-0.307999
O	14.898301	-0.498946	2.320794

C 17.564882 -4.405681 1.541097
 H 17.132242 -5.341853 1.885089
 H 18.05715 -3.876095 2.351033
 H 18.270123 -4.544726 0.774944
 C 15.486877 -4.18997 -0.005428
 H 14.840153 -4.910665 0.521704
 H 16.127729 -4.736235 -0.708965
 H 14.903968 -3.459964 -0.532992
 Cl 14.199246 -3.496349 2.681452
 C 19.231838 2.490539 0.475697
 C 18.529745 3.725775 0.433157
 C 18.627003 4.592516 1.601098
 C 19.173119 4.047956 2.835701
 H 17.818546 6.387729 0.744773
 H 19.443138 2.033416 -0.48179
 C 18.192038 5.893891 1.62289
 C 19.263531 4.948932 3.885437
 C 18.796631 6.227782 3.884819
 C 18.259729 6.749667 2.696484
 H 19.647806 4.581854 4.818094
 H 19.007292 6.902314 4.732405
 H 17.919672 7.806559 2.629148
 C 19.596798 2.633606 2.939218
 H 20.223553 2.41475 3.85761
 H 18.597301 2.061966 3.035008
 C 20.190664 2.210868 1.600905
 H 20.262415 1.118374 1.716282
 H 21.139757 2.763832 1.471517
 C 17.826956 4.18186 -0.870287
 H 17.600248 5.237702 -0.892438
 H 18.598969 3.930634 -1.637529
 C 16.643036 3.250111 -1.207189
 H 16.791246 2.214848 -1.279496
 H 16.182789 3.713537 -2.123136
 C 15.53686 3.398358 -0.170173
 O 14.327329 3.393518 -0.340212
 O 16.065516 3.640478 1.079792
 H 15.400348 3.737115 1.807679

Table S6: Helmholtz free energy of activation (in kcal/mol) and the lifetime of the halonium intermediate determined based on bond length analysis for the separate runs.

Run	ΔF^\ddagger (kcal/mol)	Lifetime halonium intermediate (fs)	Total simulation time before TS (fs)
1	34	6486	74422
2	34	8294	78348

Entry 3: NBS *syn*-halolactonization in CH₂Cl₂

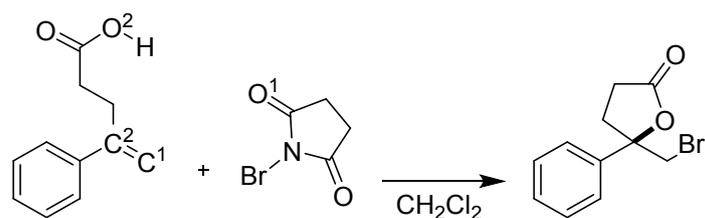


Table S7: Settings for the metadynamics simulation for the abovementioned reaction. [a] A half harmonic bias potential was added to CN1 at a value of 0.015 and force constant $K = 300$ a.u. to reduce the sampling region to a meaningful chemical space.

reactants	Box edge (Å)	CN1 / r0 [a]	CN2 / r0
1 x alkenoic acid	15.0	C ¹ -Br / 2.5 Å	C ² -O ² / 1.9 Å
1 x NBS			
29 x CH ₂ Cl ₂			

Topology of transition state excluding solvent molecules

C	10.010629	0.921513	14.076972
C	9.945552	2.923174	12.903248
N	10.382158	1.614217	12.946031
O	10.419157	-0.252956	14.309949
O	10.208119	3.747956	12.053883
H	14.377793	1.424997	11.568297
C	15.347843	0.935595	11.516869
C	17.819338	-0.454203	11.104383
C	15.407129	-0.423391	11.191663
C	16.576902	1.579417	11.607794
C	17.747114	0.841880	11.569094
C	16.626783	-1.100964	10.967141
H	16.540201	2.656729	11.611234
H	18.599678	1.425102	11.864114
H	16.558746	-2.109410	10.614239
H	18.699375	-1.080817	11.050633
C	14.104692	-1.331213	11.054960
C	13.124727	-0.821502	10.286318
H	12.251283	-1.416406	10.212560
C	14.153594	-2.656552	11.770816
H	13.243818	-3.145060	11.578763
H	14.938771	-3.272741	11.294820
C	14.424327	-2.634080	13.263906
H	15.245993	-2.008772	13.611380
H	14.658270	-3.676096	13.683686
C	13.247099	-2.069678	13.992228
O	13.253254	-1.726053	15.143333

O	12.231215	-1.823319	13.160327
H	11.484710	-1.220579	13.572032
H	13.469724	-0.130740	9.486257
Br	11.659394	0.733200	11.587771
C	9.056952	1.780074	14.844459
H	8.136647	1.255845	14.803576
H	9.387035	1.795273	15.887655
C	8.996372	3.113264	14.105320
H	7.992686	3.353096	13.727674
H	9.289962	4.037139	14.707422

Table S8: Helmholtz free energy of activation (in kcal/mol) and the lifetime of the halonium intermediate determined based on bond length analysis for the separate runs.

Run	ΔF^\ddagger (kcal/mol)	Lifetime halonium intermediate (fs)	Total simulation time before TS (fs)
1	39	922	174905
2	26	688	52390
3	25	1219	73460

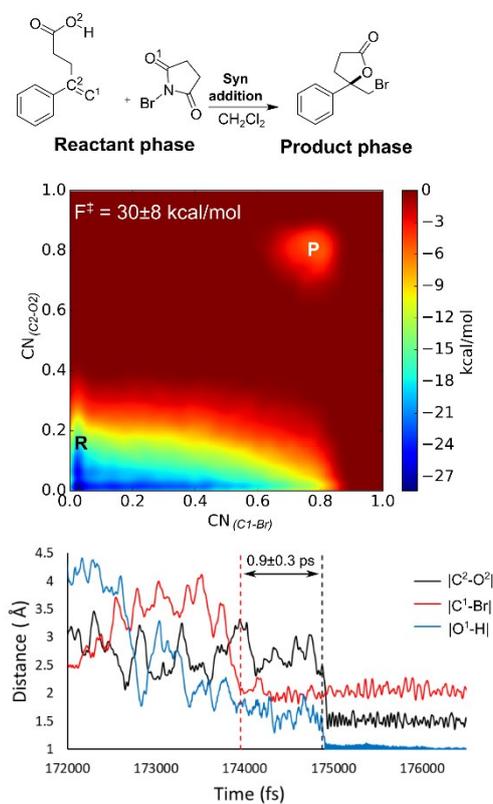


Figure S1. Analysis of the MtD simulations for the syn-mechanism of the NBS bromolactonization mentioned above. At the top a schematic representation of the reaction is provided. The free energy surface of the corresponding reaction is given as an average over three independent MtD simulations, together with the average Helmholtz free energy of activation ΔF^\ddagger , reactant phase (R) and product phase (P). Bond length analysis of a single simulation is provided below.

Entry 4: DCDMH *syn*-halolactonization in CH₂Cl₂

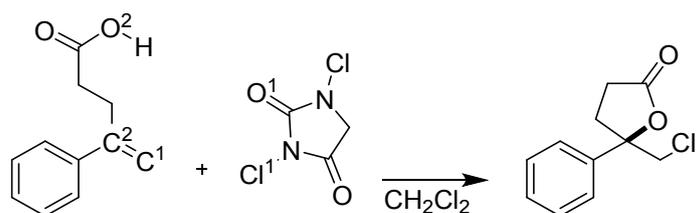


Table S9: Settings for the metadynamics simulation for the abovementioned reaction. [a] A half harmonic bias potential was added to CN1 at a value of 0.015 and force constant $K = 300$ a.u. to reduce the sampling region to a meaningful chemical space.

reactants	Box edge (Å)	CN1 / r0 [a]	CN2 / r0
1 x alkenoic acid	15.0	C ¹ -Cl ¹ / 2.5 Å	C ² -O ² / 1.9 Å
1 x DCDMH			
29 x CH ₂ Cl ₂			

Table S10: Helmholtz free energy of activation (in kcal/mol) and the lifetime of the halonium intermediate determined based on bond length analysis for the separate runs.

Run	ΔF^\ddagger (kcal/mol)	Lifetime halonium intermediate (fs)	Total simulation time before TS (fs)
1	20	604	28592
2	29	1618	35840
3	29	186	44335

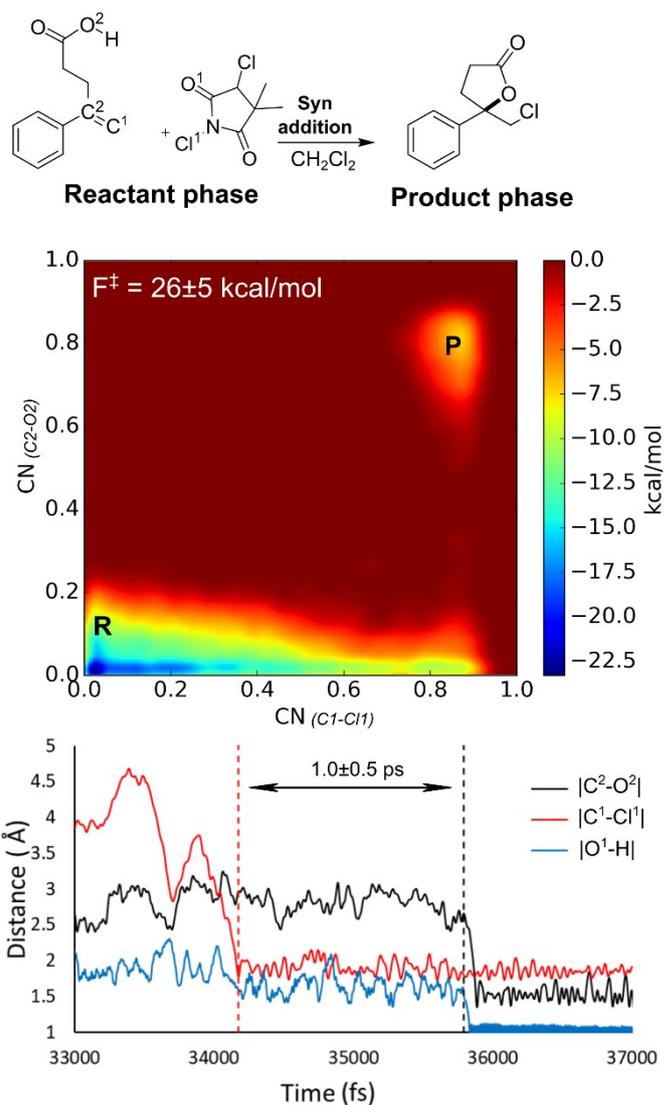


Figure S2. Analysis of the MtD simulations for the syn-mechanism of the DCDMH chlorolactonization mentioned above. At the top a schematic representation the reaction is provided. The free energy surface of the corresponding reaction is given as an average over three independent MtD simulations, together with the average Helmholtz free energy of activation ΔF^\ddagger , reactant phase (R) and product phase (P). Bond length analysis of a single simulation is provided below.

Entry 5: DCDMH *anti*-halolactonization in CH_2Cl_2 with quinuclidine as a base

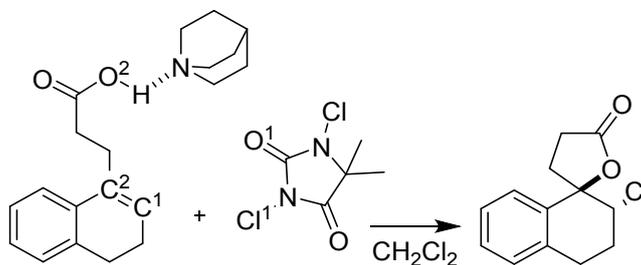


Table S11: Settings for the metadynamics simulation for the abovementioned reaction. [a] A half harmonic bias potential was added to CN1 and CN2 both at a value of 0.015 and force constant $K = 300$ a.u. to reduce the sampling region to a meaningful chemical space.

reactants	Box edge (Å)	CN1 / r0 [a]	CN2 / r0 [a]
1 x alkenoic acid	15.0	C ¹ -Cl ¹ / 2.5 Å	N-H / 1.3 Å
1 x DCDMH			
1 x quinuclidine			
27 x CH ₂ Cl ₂			

Topology of transition state excluding solvent molecules

C	3.654769	-4.206612	-2.977678
C	3.471807	-2.948360	-2.298817
C	2.347045	-2.077580	-2.608652
C	1.615221	-2.369763	-3.747221
C	2.061376	-3.457607	-4.548721
C	2.991861	-4.424707	-4.170815
H	4.311522	-4.988236	-2.568965
H	3.987900	-2.987180	-1.367916
C	1.931058	-1.031251	-1.683252
H	1.519380	-3.678937	-5.522803
H	2.938917	-5.416522	-4.655275
C	0.697906	-0.322316	-1.878165
H	0.276311	0.134340	-1.024847
C	0.532927	-1.406319	-4.214441
H	1.043070	-0.605537	-4.793241
H	-0.243632	-1.899924	-4.801260
C	-0.213294	-0.794340	-2.955753
H	-0.807232	-1.589746	-2.513313
H	-0.906551	0.020541	-3.098688
C	2.829310	-0.725930	-0.489513
H	2.740986	-1.688598	0.116014
H	3.874882	-0.745349	-0.760940
C	2.476933	0.491990	0.384894
H	3.434990	0.903511	0.685732
H	2.010994	1.256034	-0.177815
C	1.683717	0.048282	1.639848
O	0.847592	0.892232	2.127681
O	1.867891	-1.190881	2.027394
H	0.782801	-1.730714	3.035926
C	0.877464	-2.002233	5.092211
C	-1.504911	-2.633909	5.762494
C	-0.114639	-2.174356	6.340036
H	1.634816	-2.789321	5.073552
H	1.540989	-1.121802	5.040223
H	0.197915	-3.087153	6.877389

H	-0.147660	-1.342929	7.017748
C	-0.394062	-3.417294	3.563013
H	-1.043807	-3.409367	2.655339
H	0.556487	-3.983328	3.412774
C	-1.303228	-3.885814	4.758528
H	-2.356232	-4.147245	4.392168
H	-0.820264	-4.638427	5.367035
H	-2.094750	-3.022116	6.539454
C	-2.137386	-1.453118	5.005647
H	-3.052038	-1.719379	4.537249
H	-2.253719	-0.559002	5.709911
C	-1.075268	-0.940522	3.892537
H	-1.505738	-0.921460	2.878400
H	-0.754579	0.055564	4.137429
N	0.083137	-1.967505	3.849924
N	2.245697	5.603293	-3.205774
C	2.104701	5.592777	-4.711610
C	2.212537	4.056863	-4.823082
C	2.698647	4.387703	-2.720113
N	2.483137	3.425868	-3.630496
Cl	1.911100	1.381754	-2.599787
O	1.863478	3.492133	-5.834777
O	3.230954	4.153215	-1.621429
C	0.644502	5.916056	-5.098836
H	-0.120107	5.379818	-4.471786
H	0.517780	5.571593	-6.170966
H	0.303053	6.997401	-4.963525
C	3.229442	6.470603	-5.451049
H	3.061090	6.333365	-6.493556
H	4.192118	6.019900	-5.189322
H	3.102924	7.514843	-5.168199
Cl	2.516484	7.140370	-2.346156

Table S12: Helmholtz free energy of activation (in kcal/mol) and the lifetime of the halonium intermediate determined based on bond length analysis for the separate runs.

Run	ΔF^\ddagger (kcal/mol)	Lifetime halonium intermediate (fs)	Total simulation time before TS (fs)
1	9	3560	26950
2	6	10074	2800
3	11	17740	28308

Entry 6: NBS *anti*-halolactonization in CH₂Cl₂

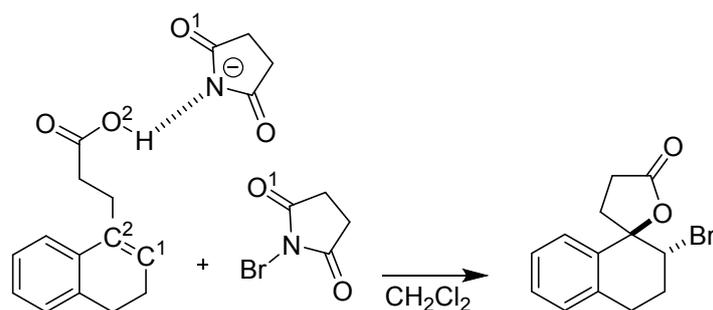


Table S13: Settings for the metadynamics simulation for the abovementioned reaction. [a] A half harmonic bias potential was added to CN1 and CN2 both at a value of 0.015 and force constant $K = 300$ a.u. to reduce the sampling region to a meaningful chemical space.

reactants	Box edge (Å)	CN1 / r0 [a]	CN2 / r0 [a]
1 x alkenoic acid	15.0	C ¹ -Br / 2.5 Å	N-H / 1.3 Å
1 x NBS			
1 x succ ⁻			
28 x CH ₂ Cl ₂			

Topology of transition state excluding solvent molecules

C	-5.673811	2.964004	2.662465
C	-5.664358	1.373987	4.368021
N	-5.41294	2.677505	4.041007
O	-5.547505	4.104407	2.172837
O	-5.580177	0.855704	5.480292
C	-6.227406	1.628083	1.978458
H	-7.248556	1.781327	1.644698
H	-5.636866	1.481375	1.061062
C	-6.203501	0.599522	3.082952
H	-7.20508	0.26891	3.405696
H	-5.464505	-0.228425	2.964341
C	1.730032	3.68297	8.40674
C	0.588914	4.329679	7.905181
C	0.171073	4.174509	6.542701
C	0.906038	3.29967	5.640495
C	1.951714	2.641148	6.223519
C	2.421039	2.887055	7.52564
H	1.987324	3.69875	9.424129
H	-0.099584	4.875386	8.554328
C	-0.844724	5.128875	5.972532
H	2.433746	1.897007	5.635263
H	3.204561	2.171056	7.883925
C	-0.953277	5.166577	4.575128
H	-1.414188	6.033881	4.078849

Br	-3.070658	3.851625	4.363538
C	0.335535	3.057533	4.27943
H	1.003463	2.443584	3.626791
H	-0.515693	2.31423	4.373672
C	-0.052175	4.397228	3.645909
H	-0.398852	4.393626	2.646242
H	0.858697	5.068982	3.53406
C	-1.759242	5.989871	6.900066
H	-2.679024	5.366989	7.035144
H	-1.427644	6.054601	7.964224
C	-1.965218	7.412976	6.46552
H	-2.747698	7.504699	5.684209
H	-2.391549	8.025912	7.270466
C	-0.716224	8.175595	5.910124
O	0.347561	7.527646	5.893062
O	-0.741859	9.369723	5.514297
N	1.829252	10.981244	6.771888
C	2.234643	10.650183	8.080121
C	2.759377	11.734329	6.193703
O	1.808831	9.665268	8.707493
C	3.299368	11.689102	8.523812
O	2.85783	11.752344	4.968824
C	3.656462	12.337101	7.137987
H	2.744286	12.420192	9.243505
H	4.074053	11.237782	9.028433
H	3.357847	13.338786	7.216801
H	4.773241	12.300814	6.947462
H	1.014421	10.411419	6.286237

Table S14: Helmholtz free energy of activation (in kcal/mol) and the lifetime of the halonium intermediate determined based on bond length analysis for the separate runs.

Run	ΔF^\ddagger (kcal/mol)	Lifetime halonium intermediate (fs)	Total simulation time before TS (fs)
1	12	0	16780
2	14	0	40536
3	14	0	41340

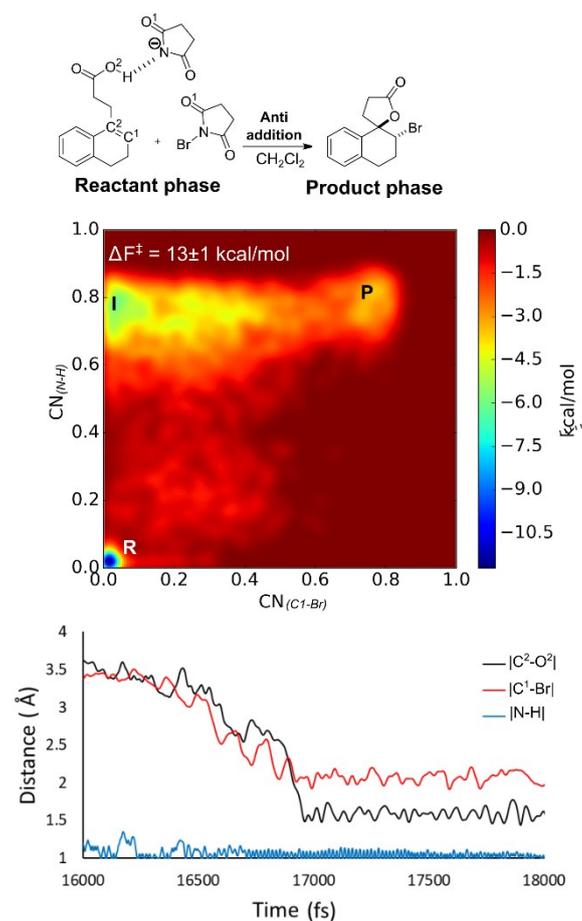


Figure S3: Analysis of the MtD simulations for the anti-mechanism of the NBS bromolactonization mentioned above. At the top a schematic representation of the reaction is provided. The free energy surface of the corresponding reaction is given as an average over three independent MtD simulations, together with the average Helmholtz free energy of activation ΔF^\ddagger , reactant phase (R), intermediate phase (I) and product phase (P). Bond length analysis of a single simulation is provided below. Note that the intermediate phase here corresponds to the deprotonation of the alkenoic acid by the succinimide anion.

Entry 7: β -halocarbenium formation during the DCDMH halolactonization in MeOH

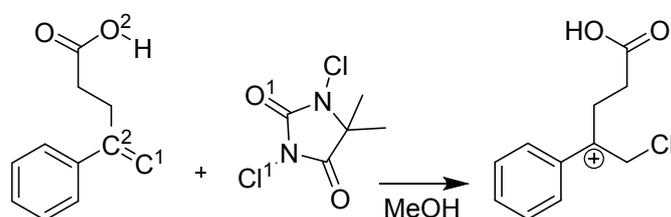


Table S15: Settings for the metadynamics simulation for the abovementioned reaction. [a] A half harmonic bias potential was added to CN1 at a value of 0.015 and force constant $K = 300$ a.u. to reduce the sampling region to a meaningful chemical space.

reactants	Box edge (Å)	CN1 / r0 [a]	CN2 / r0
1 x alkenoic acid	15.0	C ¹ -Cl ¹ / 2.5 Å	C ² -O ² / 1.9 Å
1 x DCDMH			
45 x MeOH			

1.3. Comparing the NBS *syn*-halolactonization of **1a** and **2**

Having established the *syn*-halolactonization pathways for **1a** and **2** in CH₂Cl₂, NCI analyses were performed on the transition state of the NBS bromolactonization reactions to further elucidate the similarities and differences in the mechanism caused by the substrate (Figure S4). As mentioned in the main article, an intermolecular hydrogen bond between NBS and the alkenoic acid directs the *syn*-addition in both cases. This hydrogen bond is visualized as a blue (attractive) isosurface between both reactants and marked by a purple arrow "a". Moreover, the nucleophilic oxygen of the carboxyl group (O²) displays a noncovalent interaction with both the electrophilic bromine (attractive) and the carbons involved in the double bond (repulsive) for both reaction of **1a** and **2**. For this reason, it can again be concluded that the nucleophile forms a pre-polarized complex with the double bond. Although the mechanism of the *syn*-bromolactonization of **1a** and **2** in CH₂Cl₂ show significant similarities, there are some differences that need to be acknowledged. The 2D-plots of the reduced density gradient (*s*) show clear disparities between the number of peaks and their position. This indicates the transition states to contain different noncovalent interactions with different strengths depending on the substrate. As a particular example, the transition state for the NBS bromolactonization of **2** contains a 1,3-diaxial steric repulsion between the axial positioned hydrogen and the electrophilic bromine which is indicated by the purple arrow "b". For the open-chain substrate **1a**, this interaction is absent.

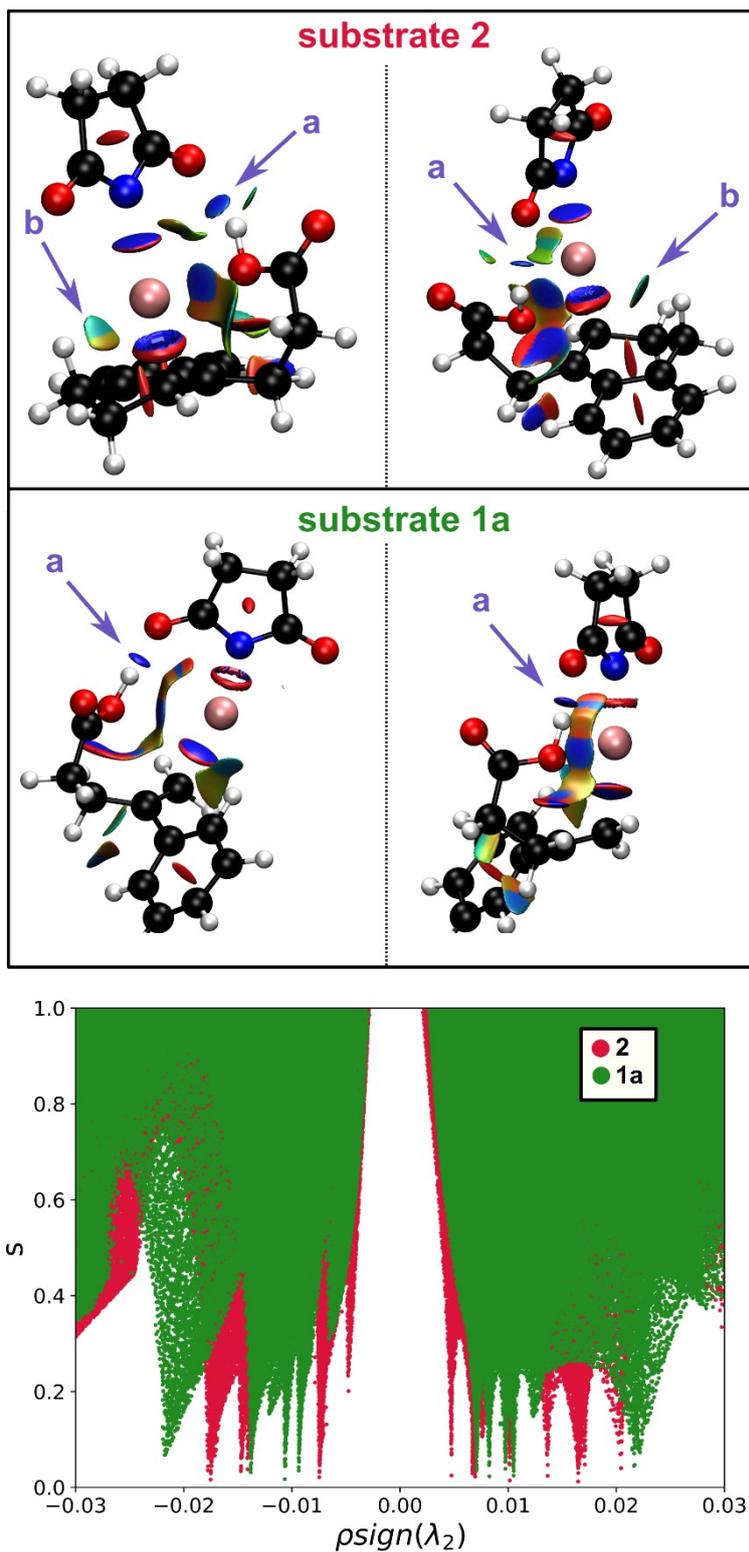


Figure S4. 3D-NCI isosurfaces of the reduced density gradient ($s = 0.5$), indicating the noncovalent interactions present in the transition state of the NBS syn-halolactonization reaction of **1a** (green) and **2** (red) in CH_2Cl_2 . The solvent is left out in the analysis for clarity. Isosurfaces are coloured with an RGB scale according to $\rho\text{sign}(\lambda_2)$ ranging from -0.015 a.u. to 0.015 a.u.

1.4. Static transition states for the *anti*-halolactonization of **2**

By including a second halogen source (DCDMH or NBS) to the structure, a plausible transition state for the *anti*-halolactonization of **2** is proposed. Frequency calculations using the 6-31G(d) basis set and the B3LYP¹ functional including Grimme's D3 dispersion correction⁶ and the SMD implicit solvation model⁴ to include dichloromethane as a solvent, validated the plausibility of the transition states as a single imaginary frequency was observed in both cases. Furthermore, IRC analysis showed that these transition states adequately connected the reactant to the product phase. Below, structures of these transition states are provided together with the value of their imaginary frequency and coordinates.

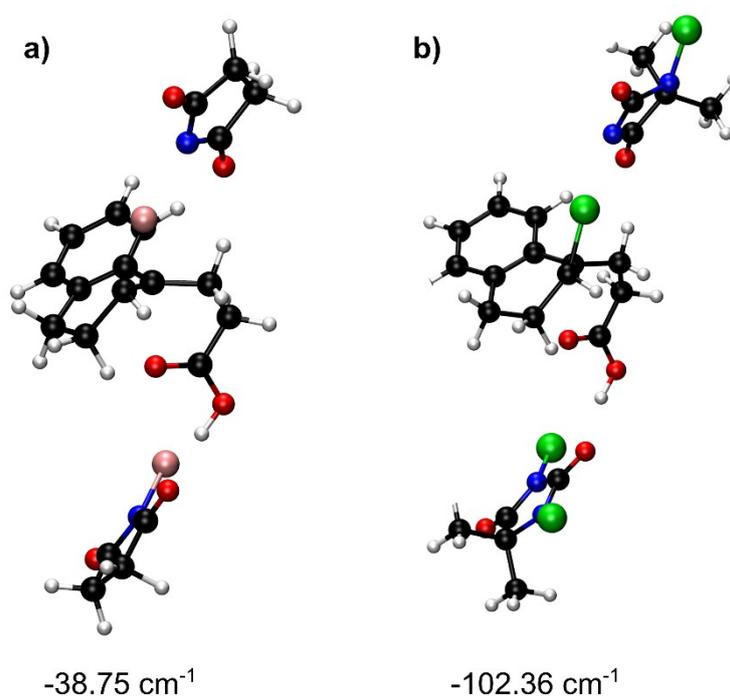


Figure S5 Static DFT calculations were performed to suggest plausible transition states for the NBS (left) and DCDMH (right) *anti*-halolactonization of **2**. Both structures are characterized by a single imaginary frequency (provided at the bottom) connecting the reactant and product phase.

Coordinates for the transition state for the NBS *anti*-halolactonization of **2**

C	7.009000	-0.702000	-0.214000
C	5.399000	0.551000	-1.166000
N	5.648000	-0.364000	-0.201000
O	7.578000	-1.560000	0.488000
O	4.310000	1.067000	-1.449000
C	0.314000	1.015000	1.978000
C	1.517000	3.327000	0.919000
C	1.122000	0.925000	0.833000
C	0.049000	2.278000	2.557000
C	0.668000	3.417000	2.042000
C	1.744000	2.111000	0.337000

H	-0.606000	2.364000	3.425000
H	0.500000	4.402000	2.508000
H	2.466000	1.994000	-0.486000
H	2.022000	4.223000	0.534000
C	1.376000	-0.386000	0.225000
C	1.640000	-1.532000	1.090000
H	1.517000	-2.526000	0.618000
C	1.522000	-0.503000	-1.296000
H	2.439000	0.038000	-1.599000
H	1.664000	-1.557000	-1.528000
C	0.292000	0.075000	-2.019000
H	0.303000	-0.196000	-3.080000
H	0.253000	1.175000	-1.950000
C	-0.957000	-0.445000	-1.347000
O	-0.949000	-0.767000	-0.126000
O	-2.057000	-0.490000	-2.117000
H	-2.808000	-0.883000	-1.592000
C	-7.379000	-1.590000	0.827000
C	-5.235000	-1.527000	-0.330000
C	-7.040000	-0.155000	0.342000
N	-5.781000	-0.220000	-0.318000
O	-4.125000	-1.822000	-0.778000
O	-7.695000	0.860000	0.540000
C	0.222000	-1.603000	1.961000
H	-0.693000	-1.881000	1.283000
H	0.254000	-2.387000	2.865000
C	-0.256000	-0.242000	2.688000
H	0.299000	-0.319000	3.691000
H	-1.379000	-0.165000	2.904000
Br	3.588000	-1.065000	0.765000
Br	-4.867000	1.258000	-1.023000
C	7.737000	0.107000	-1.273000
H	7.879000	-0.783000	-2.004000
C	6.684000	0.918000	-1.996000
H	8.767000	0.581000	-1.023000
H	6.811000	2.033000	-1.979000
H	6.540000	0.556000	-3.033000
C	-6.224000	-2.423000	0.246000
H	-6.719000	-2.498000	-0.885000
H	-5.805000	-3.371000	0.772000
H	-7.391000	-1.566000	1.939000
H	-8.352000	-1.921000	0.423000

Coordinates for the transition state for the DCDMH anti-halolactonization of 2

C	6.737000	0.341000	-1.205000
N	7.374000	-0.864000	-0.647000
C	6.707000	-1.277000	0.557000
C	5.369000	0.236000	-0.455000
N	5.452000	-0.650000	0.566000
Cl	3.147000	-1.309000	1.085000
O	7.160000	-2.062000	1.370000
O	4.395000	0.918000	-0.790000
C	0.022000	1.053000	2.220000
C	1.632000	3.293000	1.661000
C	0.980000	0.995000	1.192000
C	-0.163000	2.249000	2.934000
C	0.638000	3.364000	2.649000
C	1.795000	2.131000	0.928000
H	-0.917000	2.317000	3.715000
H	0.522000	4.283000	3.227000
H	2.598000	2.032000	0.194000
H	2.276000	4.150000	1.473000

C	1.129000	-0.217000	0.428000
C	1.144000	-1.523000	1.113000
H	0.967000	-2.396000	0.482000
C	1.422000	-0.161000	-1.069000
H	2.413000	0.292000	-1.222000
H	1.449000	-1.173000	-1.454000
C	0.337000	0.666000	-1.800000
H	0.424000	0.535000	-2.889000
H	0.441000	1.740000	-1.592000
C	-1.042000	0.264000	-1.320000
O	-1.215000	-0.160000	-0.154000
C	7.399000	1.679000	-0.792000
H	6.757000	2.509000	-1.101000
H	8.382000	1.785000	-1.285000
H	7.538000	1.732000	0.299000
C	6.558000	0.239000	-2.729000
H	6.107000	-0.711000	-3.001000
H	7.530000	0.309000	-3.236000
H	5.908000	1.057000	-3.072000
Cl	9.115000	-0.950000	-0.670000
O	-2.027000	0.404000	-2.227000
H	-2.872000	0.055000	-1.842000
C	-7.566000	-0.569000	0.186000
N	-6.428000	-1.329000	-0.403000
C	-5.454000	-0.543000	-0.946000
C	-7.258000	0.860000	-0.329000
N	-5.984000	0.779000	-0.922000
O	-4.367000	-0.871000	-1.393000
O	-7.946000	1.854000	-0.231000
C	-8.927000	-1.077000	-0.375000
H	-9.713000	-0.375000	-0.075000
H	-9.156000	-2.059000	0.042000
H	-8.899000	-1.134000	-1.479000
C	-7.535000	-0.566000	1.737000
H	-6.567000	-0.174000	2.112000
H	-7.667000	-1.564000	2.109000
H	-8.347000	0.070000	2.104000
Cl	-6.064000	-2.963000	0.051000
Cl	-5.182000	2.086000	-1.683000
C	-0.372000	-1.519000	1.820000
H	-1.218000	-1.615000	0.997000
H	-0.532000	-2.386000	2.612000
C	-0.774000	-0.205000	2.653000
H	-0.371000	-0.468000	3.699000
H	-1.897000	-0.003000	2.748000

2. Synthetic procedures and characterization

2.1. General information

All reactions involving air- or moisture-sensitive reagents or intermediates were carried out in dried glassware under an argon or nitrogen atmosphere using standard *Schlenk* techniques. Diethyl ether and petroleum ether for flash chromatography were distilled before use. Dichloromethane and methanol for reactions were degassed, dried using activated alumina and stored over molecular sieves (3 Å) under argon. Toluene (99.85%, Extra Dry over Molecular Sieve, *AcroSeal™*) was purchased from *Acros Organics* and used as received. Unless otherwise stated, all commercially available chemicals were used without further purification. NBS was purified by crystallization from hot water, filtered and dried in a desiccator. Flash chromatography was carried out using *Acros* silica gel (0.035 - 0.070 mm; 60 Å) with pressure of about 1.1-1.5 bar. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on *Merck* silica gel 60 F254 plates; compounds were visualized with UV light or by staining with a solution of KMnO_4 (13.1 g K_2CO_3 , 0.20 g KOH, 2.00 g KMnO_4 , 200 mL H_2O) followed by heating. Melting points were determined by using a *Büchi B-540* melting point apparatus. IR spectra were recorded on a *Thermo Scientific Nicolet 6700 FTIR*. IR signals are reported as *w* (weak), *m* (middle), *s* (strong) or *br* (broad) in cm^{-1} . NMR spectra were recorded on a *Bruker Avance 250* (250 MHz) or *Bruker Avance II 500* (500 MHz). ^1H -NMR and ^{13}C -NMR chemical shifts (δ) are reported in *ppm* relative to TMS and referenced to the residual solvent signal (CDCl_3 : 7.26 ppm/77.0 ppm).⁷ Mass spectrometry data of volatile compounds were recorded on a *Shimadzu GCMS-QP5050A* with electron ionization (EI). High-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) data were recorded on a *Micromass QTOF-micro* with electrospray ionization (ESI) and calibrated with Reserpin (2.10 – 3.00 mg/mL in 1:1 water/acetonitrile). Diastereomeric ratios of **6a** were determined with an *Agilent 1100 series* HPLC with UV detector ($\lambda = 214$ nm) using a chiral stationary phase (*Daicel CHIRALPAK IA* column, 0.46 cm \times 25 cm). Heptane and EtOH (HPLC grade) were used as eluents with a flowrate of 1 mL/min.

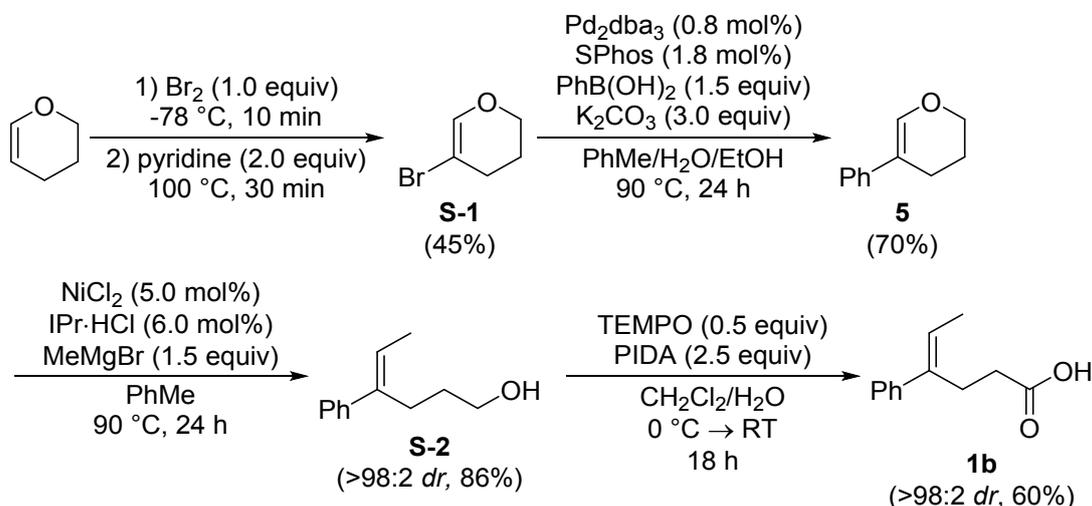
2.2. Synthesis of starting materials

3-(3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1-yl) propanoic acid (**2**)⁸ and 3-(1H-inden-3-yl) propanoic acid (**3**)⁹ were prepared according to literature procedures.

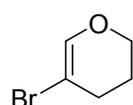
Analytical data for 3-(3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1-yl) propanoic acid (2**)⁸:** ¹H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ (ppm) = 11.09 (*br s*, 1H), 7.28 – 7.09 (m, 4H, ArH), 5.91 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 4.6 Hz, 1H, C=CH), 2.86 – 2.69 (m, 4H), 2.61 (dd, ³J_{H,H} = 9.0 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 2.32 – 2.17 (m, 2H). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ (ppm) = 180.0 (COOH), 136.9 (C_q), 134.8 (C_q), 134.3 (C_q), 127.9 (CH), 127.0 (CH), 126.6 (CH), 125.7 (CH), 122.4 (CH), 33.3 (CH₂), 28.4 (CH₂), 27.6 (CH₂), 23.2 (CH₂).

Analytical data for 3-(1H-inden-3-yl)propanoic acid (3**)⁹:** ¹H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, 299 K): δ (ppm) = 11.14 (*br s*, 1H, COOH), 7.44 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.38 – 7.25 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.24 – 7.16 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.22 (s, 1H, C=CH), 3.31 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.95 – 2.82 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.81 – 2.71 (m, 2H, CH₂). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, 299 K): δ (ppm) = 179.8 (COOH), 144.9 (C_q), 144.5 (C_q), 142.6 (C_q), 128.3 (CH), 126.3 (CH), 125.0 (CH), 124.0 (CH), 118.9 (CH), 37.9 (CH₂), 32.6 (CH₂), 22.8 (CH₂).

Synthesis of (*E*)-4-phenylhex-4-enoic acid (**1b**)



5-bromo-3,4-dihydro-2H-pyran (**S-1**):

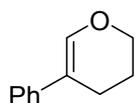


Based on a literature procedure¹⁰, an oven dried 100 mL *Schlenk* round bottom flask with magnetic stir bar was charged with 3,4-dihydropyran (4.6 mL, 51 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Bromine (2.6 mL, 51 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added dropwise at -78 °C. Pyridine (8.2 mL, 102 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added carefully and the reaction mixture was gradually heated to 100 °C over 30 minutes. After cooling to RT, aqueous hydrochloric acid (1 M, 125 mL) was added and the resulting mixture was extracted with pentane (3 x 100 mL). The combined organic phases were washed

with saturated, aqueous NaCl solution, dried with MgSO₄ and filtered. The solvents were removed *in vacuo* and the resulting crude was distilled (15 mbar, 60 °C). Product **S-1** was isolated as colourless liquid (3.7 g, 23 mmol, 45%).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 300 K): δ (ppm) = 6.65 – 6.63 (m, 1H, C=CH), 3.98 – 3.93 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.42 – 2.37 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.03 – 1.95 (m, 2H, CH₂). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃, 300 K): δ (ppm) = 142.9 (CH), 98.6 (CBr), 64.6 (CH₂), 29.0 (CH₂), 23.5 (CH₂). **GC-MS**: *m/z* = 162.0 calcd. for C₅H₇BrO [M⁺]; found: 161.9. Consistent with published data.¹⁰

5-phenyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-pyran (**5**):

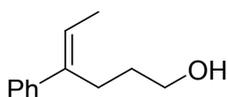


A 100 mL *Schlenk* tube with magnetic stir bar was charged with **S-1** (1.4 mL, 13 mmol, 1.0 equiv), phenyl boronic acid (2.4 g, 20 mmol, 1.5 equiv), K₂CO₃ (5.4 g, 40 mmol, 3.0 equiv), Pd₂dba-CHCl₃ (103 mg, 0.10 mmol, 0.8 mol%) and SPhos (98 mg, 0.24 mmol, 1.8 mol%), evacuated and backfilled with argon. Toluene (18 mL), water (4 mL) and EtOH (4 mL) were added via a septum, which was then replaced by a screw cap with PTFE liner. The reddish reaction mixture was heated to 90 °C for 24 h and cooled to RT. Solids were removed by filtering through a sintered glass funnel containing silica gel which was washed thoroughly with EtOAc. The solvents were removed *in vacuo* and the resulting crude was purified by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, Et₂O in pentane: 0% → 2%). Product **5** was isolated as colourless oil (1.47 g, 9.19 mmol, 70%).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 300 K): δ (ppm) = 7.34 – 7.26 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.22 – 7.14 (m, 1H, ArH), 6.96 – 6.92 (m, 1H, C=CH), 4.07 – 4.01 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.46 – 2.40 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.05 – 2.00 (m, 2H, CH₂). ¹³C{¹H}-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃, 300 K): δ (ppm) = 142.3 (C=CH), 139.8 (C_q), 128.5 (ArH), 125.9 (ArH), 124.2 (ArH), 113.1 (C_q), 65.7 (CH₂), 22.6 (CH₂), 22.5 (CH₂). **GC-MS**: *m/z* = 160.1 calcd. for C₁₁H₁₂O [M⁺]; found: 160.1.

Consistent with published data.¹¹

(*E*)-4-phenylhex-4-en-1-ol (**S-2**):



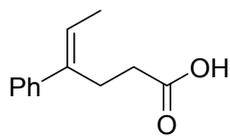
Based on a literature procedure¹², an oven dried 100 mL *Schlenk* tube was charged with NiCl₂ (59 mg, 0.49 mmol, 5.0 mol%) and 1,3-bis-(2,6-diisopropylphenyl) imidazolium chloride (IPr-HCl; 234 mg, 0.55 mmol, 6.0 mol%), evacuated and backfilled with argon. Dry Toluene (2 mL) and methylmagnesium bromide (3 M in Et₂O; 1.53 mL, 4.59 mmol, 0.5 equiv) were added through a septum and the resulting mixture was stirred at RT for 30 min. Additional toluene (26 mL), methylmagnesium bromide (3.06 mL, 9.19 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and **1b''** (1.47 g, 9.19 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were added. The septum was replaced by a screw cap with PTFE liner and the reaction mixture was heated to 90 °C for 24 h. After cooling to RT, saturated, aqueous ammonium chloride solution (30 mL) was added and extracted with Et₂O (3 x 50 mL). The combined

organic phases were washed with saturated, aqueous NaCl solution, dried with MgSO₄ and filtered. The solvents were removed *in vacuo* and the resulting crude was purified by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, 10% EtOAc in PE). Product **S-2** was isolated as colourless oil (1.38 g, 7.87 mmol, 86%, brsm: 94%).

IR (neat): 3323br, 2932br, 1597w, 1441m, 1057s, 987m, 831m, 753s, 695s. **¹H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 300 K): δ (ppm) = 7.36 – 7.33 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.30 (dd, ³J_{H,H} = 8.4 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 6.8 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 1H, ArH), 5.79 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 6.9 Hz, 1H, C=CH), 3.61 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 2.61 (dd, ³J_{H,H} = 8.5 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 6.7 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.82 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 6.9 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.66 – 1.60 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.40 (br s, 1H, OH). **¹³C{¹H}-NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃, 300 K): δ (ppm) = 143.2 (C_q), 140.3 (C_q), 128.4 (CH), 126.7 (CH), 126.4 (CH), 123.5 (C=CH), 62.7 (CH₂), 31.4 (CH₂), 25.6 (CH₂), 13.8 (CH₃). **GC-MS**: *m/z* = 176.1 calcd. for C₁₂H₁₆O [M[•]]; found: 176.2.

Consistent with published data.¹³

(*E*)-4-phenylhex-4-enoic acid (**1b**):



Based on a literature procedure¹⁴, to a solution of **S-2** (1.00 g, 5.68 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (12 mL) and water (6 mL), TEMPO (443 mg, 2.84 mmol, 0.5 equiv) and PIDA (4.57 g, 14.2 mmol, 2.5 equiv) were added at 0 °C. The reaction mixture

was allowed to reach RT and stirred for 18 h. The reaction was stopped by adding saturated, aqueous Na₂S₂O₃ (10 mL) solution and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic phases were dried with MgSO₄ and filtered. The solvents were removed *in vacuo* and the resulting crude was purified by flash column chromatography (SiO₂, CH₂Cl₂) followed by recrystallization from hot petroleum ether. Product **1b** was isolated as colourless solid (649 mg, 3.42 mmol, 60%).

MP: 65 °C. **IR** (neat): 3053br, 1703s, 1410m, 1284m, 1211m, 757m, 697m. **¹H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ (ppm) = 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.25 – 7.22 (m, 1H, ArH), 5.81 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 6.9 Hz, 1H, C=CH), 2.90 – 2.85 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.41 – 2.36 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.84 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 6.9 Hz, 3H, CH₃). **¹³C{¹H}-NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃, 299 K): δ (ppm) = 179.9 (COOH), 142.2 (C_q), 138.8 (C_q), 128.5 (ArH), 127.0 (ArH), 126.4 (ArH), 124.5 (C=CH), 33.0 (CH₂), 24.7 (CH₂), 14.2 (CH₃). **HRMS**: *m/z* = 213.0886 calcd. for C₁₂H₁₄NaO₂⁺ [M+Na⁺]; found: 213.0892.

Consistent with published data.¹³

2.3. Synthesis and characterization of halolactonization products

General procedure: An oven dried 15 mL *Schlenk* tube with a magnetic stir bar was charged with the respective starting material (0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and additive (0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv), evacuated and backfilled with argon. Dry solvent (2 mL, 0.05 M) was added and the solution was cooled to 0 °C with an immersion cooler using a *i*-PrOH bath. The respective halogenating agent (0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the tube was sealed with a screw cap with PTFE liner. After 24 h the reaction was stopped by adding saturated, aqueous Na₂S₂O₃ solution (2 mL) and the mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic phases were dried with MgSO₄ and filtered. The solvents were removed *in vacuo* and to the resulting crude mesitylene (15 μL, 0.11 mmol, 0.91 equiv) was added, redissolved in CDCl₃ (600 μL) and measured via ¹H-NMR. Products were subsequently purified by column chromatography.

Effects of substrates and reaction conditions on diastereoselectivity. All reactions were carried out following the general procedure using solvents and halogen sources given in the table.

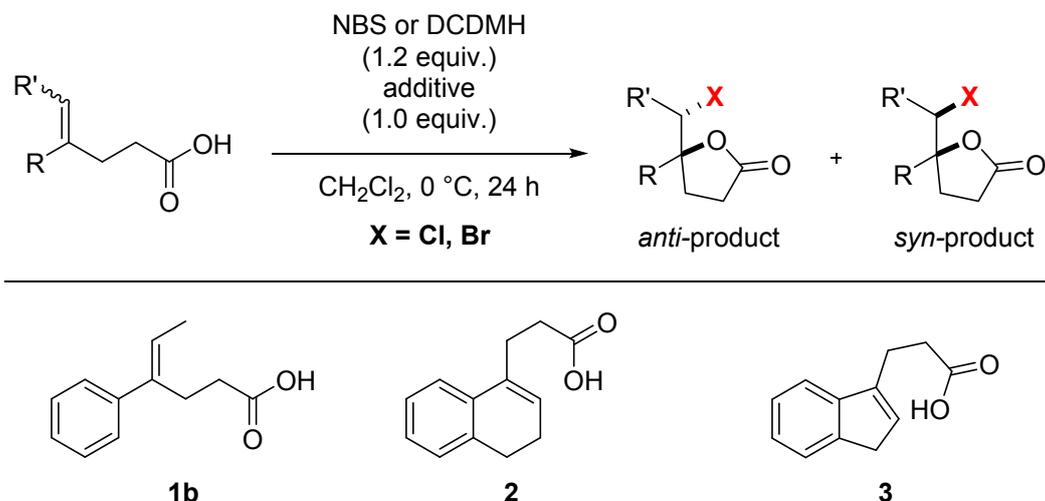


Table S16: Experimental results relating to the influence of substrates. [a] determined from crude mixture using NMR; [b] determined by NMR using mesitylene as internal standard; [c] determined by HPLC.

Entry	Substrate	Solvent	Halogen source	Additive (1.0 equiv)	<i>d.r.</i> ^[a] (<i>anti:syn</i>)	Yield ^[b]
1	3	CH ₂ Cl ₂	NBS	-	71:29	6b , 49%
2	3	MeOH	NBS	-	99:1	6b , 99%
3	3	CH ₂ Cl ₂	DCDMH	-	60:40	6a , 69%
4	3	MeOH	DCDMH	-	99:1	6a , 99%
5	2	CH ₂ Cl ₂	NBS	-	80:20	7b , 44%
6	2	MeOH	NBS	-	99:1	7b , 99%
7	2	CH ₂ Cl ₂	DCDMH	-	76:24	7a , 90%
8	2	MeOH	DCDMH	-	99:1	7a , 99%
9	1b	CH ₂ Cl ₂	NBS	-	99:1	8b , 10%
10	1b	MeOH	NBS	-	99:1	8b , 99%
11	1b	CH ₂ Cl ₂	DCDMH	-	57:43 ^[c]	8a , 13%
12	1b	MeOH	DCDMH	-	99:1	8a , 60%
13	3	CH ₂ Cl ₂	NBS	Quinuclidine	99:1	6b , 99%
14	3	CH ₂ Cl ₂	DCDMH	Quinuclidine	93:7	6a , 92%
15	2	CH ₂ Cl ₂	NBS	Quinuclidine	99:1	7b , 99%
16	2	CH ₂ Cl ₂	DCDMH	Quinuclidine	99:1	7a , 99%
17	1b	CH ₂ Cl ₂	NBS	Quinuclidine	99:1	8b , 99%
18	1b	CH ₂ Cl ₂	DCDMH	Quinuclidine	99:1	8a , 99%

Effects of substrates and reaction conditions on diastereoselectivity. All reactions were carried out following the general procedure using solvents and halogen sources given in the table.

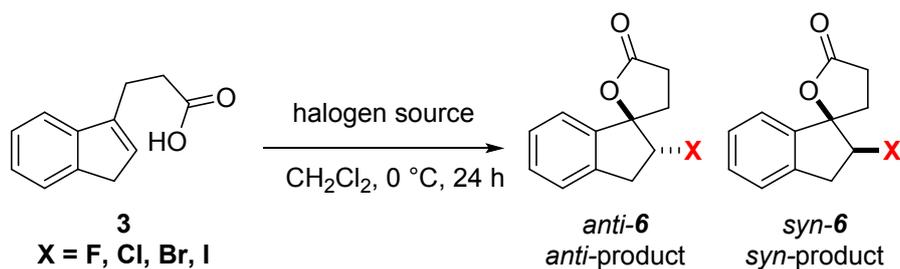
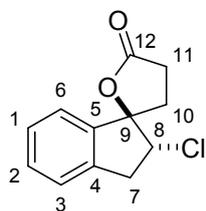


Table S17: Experimental results relating to the influence of quantity and type of halogen source. [a] determined from crude mixture using NMR; [b] determined by NMR using mesitylene as internal standard.

Entry	Halogen source	Equivalents	<i>d.r.</i> ^[a] (<i>anti:syn</i>)	Yield ^[b]
1	NBS	10	78:22	6b , 93%
2	NBS	5.0	75:25	6b , 89%
3	NBS	2.0	75:25	6b , 75%
4	NBS	1.2	71:29	6b , 49%
5	NBS	1.0	67:33	6b , 36%
6	NBS	0.75	65:35	6b , 31%
7	NBS	0.50	66:34	6b , 40%
8	DCDMH	10	63:37	6a , 83%
9	DCDMH	5.0	62:38	6a , 69%
10	DCDMH	2.0	61:39	6a , 77%
11	DCDMH	1.2	60:40	6a , 69%
12	DCDMH	1.0	60:40	6a , 57%
13	DCDMH	0.75	61:39	6a , 67%
14	DCDMH	0.50	59:41	6a , 60%
15	NIS	1.2	97:3	6c , 96%
16	DBDMH	1.2	69:31	6b , 99%
17	TBCO	1.2	97:3	6b , 98%
18	NCS	1.2	60:40	6a , <10%
19	<i>t</i> -BuOCl	1.2	76:24	6a , 61%
20	Selectfluor	1.2	-	0%
21	NFSI	1.2	-	0%

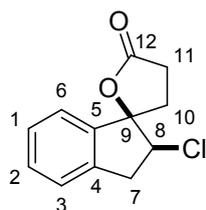
Analytical data for isolated reaction products of the halolactonisations of **1b**, **2** and **3** using DCDMH, NBS or NIS, respectively.

rac-anti-6a:



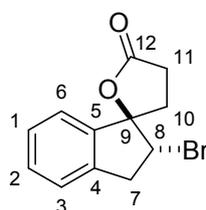
MP: 108 °C. **IR** (neat): 2952 br , 1771 s , 1462 w , 1238 m , 1145 m , 1050 m , 900 m , 839 m , 758 m . **¹H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 299 K): δ (ppm) = 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 3H, H-1/H-2/H-6), 7.23 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H, H-3), 4.65 (dd, ³J_{H,H} = 8.3 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.48 (dd, ²J_{H,H} = 15.5 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 7.3 Hz, 1H, H-7a), 3.09 (dd, ²J_{H,H} = 15.7 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 8.3 Hz, 1H, H-7b), 2.99 – 2.91 (m, 1H, H-11a), 2.91 – 2.84 (m, 1H, H-10a), 2.76 – 2.69 (m, 1H, H-11b), 2.24 (ddd, ²J_{H,H} = 13.2 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 10.0 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 8.3 Hz, 1H, H-10b). **¹³C{¹H}-NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃, 300 K): δ (ppm) = 176.2 (C-12), 141.6 (C-5), 138.1 (C-4), 129.9 (C-2), 128.3 (C-1), 124.9 (C-3), 123.0 (C-6), 94.5 (C-9), 65.2 (C-8), 39.2 (C-7), 29.6 (C-10), 29.2 (C-11). **HRMS (ESI):** m/z = 245.0340 calcd. for C₁₂H₁₁ClNaO₂⁺ [M+Na⁺]; found: 245.0431. **Crystal structure:** see page S41.

rac-syn-6a:



MP: 136 °C. **IR** (neat): 2955 br , 1774 s , 1462 w , 1265 m , 1159 m , 959 m , 842 m . **¹H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 299 K): δ (ppm) = 7.41 – 7.37 (m, 1H, H-2), 7.36 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H-6), 7.35 – 7.31 (m, 1H, H-1), 7.28 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 7.4 Hz, 1H, H-3), 4.34 (dd, ³J_{H,H} = 8.9 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 7.6 Hz, 1H, H-8), 3.37 – 3.28 (m, 2H, H-7), 3.02 – 2.91 (m, 1H, H-11a), 2.84 – 2.79 (m, 1H, H-11b), 2.78 – 2.74 (m, 1H, H-10a), 2.53 – 2.45 (m, 1H, H-10b). **¹³C{¹H}-NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃, 300 K): δ (ppm) = 175.8 (C-12), 141.1 (C-4), 139.6 (C-5), 130.7 (C-2), 128.1 (C-1), 125.1 (C-3), 123.5 (C-6), 91.4 (C-9), 64.6 (C-8), 39.4 (C-7), 29.7 (C-11), 29.1 (C-10). **HRMS (ESI):** m/z = 245.0340 calcd. for C₁₂H₁₁ClNaO₂⁺ [M+Na⁺]; found: 245.0383. **Crystal structure:** see page S42.

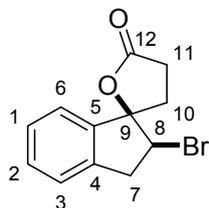
rac-anti-6b:



MP: 97 °C. **IR** (neat): 2952 br , 1770 s , 1460 w , 1232 m , 1142 m , 1046 m , 897 m , 754 m , 639 w . **¹H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 299 K): δ (ppm) = 7.36 – 7.29 (m, 3H, H-1/H-2/H-6), 7.25 – 7.22 (m, 1H, H-3), 4.68 (dd, ³J_{H,H} = 8.2 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 1H, H-8), 3.54 (ddd, ²J_{H,H} = 15.9 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, ⁴J_{H,H} = 0.8 Hz, 1H, H-7a), 3.20 (dd, ²J_{H,H} = 15.8 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H-7b), 2.99 (ddd, ²J_{H,H} = 17.7 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 10.1 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 8.7 Hz, 1H, H-11a), 2.88 (ddd, ²J_{H,H} = 13.5 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 10.1 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 4.2 Hz, 1H, H-10a), 2.73 (ddd, ²J_{H,H} = 17.7 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 10.1 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 4.2 Hz, 1H, H-10b), 2.32 (ddd, ²J_{H,H} = 13.5 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 10.1 Hz, ³J_{H,H} = 8.7 Hz, 1H, H-11b). **¹³C{¹H}-NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃, 300 K): δ (ppm) = 176.2 (C-12), 141.7 (C-5), 139.1 (C-4), 129.9 (C-2/6), 128.3 (C-1), 124.8 (C-3), 123.0 (C-2/6), 94.3 (C-9), 56.0 (C-8), 40.1 (C-7), 31.2 (C-10), 29.3

(C-11). **HRMS (ESI):** $m/z = 288.9835$ calcd. for $C_{12}H_{11}BrNaO_2^+$ [$M+Na^+$]; found: 288.9840. **Crystal structure:** see page S43. Consistent with published data.¹⁵

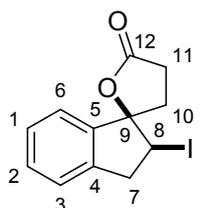
rac-syn-6b:



MP: 116 °C. **IR (neat):** 2954br, 1771s, 1461w, 1255m, 1168m, 1147m, 1055w, 955m, 729w. **¹H-NMR** (50 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 299 K): δ (ppm) = 7.41 – 7.35 (m, 2H, H-2/H-6), 7.36 – 7.29 (m, 1H, H-1), 7.28 (d, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.37 (dd, $^3J_{H,H} = 9.1$ Hz, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.6$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 3.44 – 3.34 (m, 2H, H-7), 3.03 – 2.92 (m, 1H, H-11a), 2.88 – 2.80 (m, 1H, H-11b), 2.80 – 2.74 (m, 1H, H-10a), 2.52 – 2.43 (m, 1H, H-10b).

¹³C{¹H}-NMR (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 300 K): δ (ppm) = 175.6 (C-12), 142.0 (C-4), 139.8 (C-5), 130.7 (C-2), 128.1 (C-1), 124.9 (C-3), 123.4 (C-6), 91.4 (C-9), 55.3 (C-8), 40.2 (C-7), 29.9 (C-11), 29.2 (C-10). **HRMS (ESI):** $m/z = 288.9835$ calcd. for $C_{12}H_{11}BrNaO_2^+$ [$M+Na^+$]; found: 288.9840. **Crystal structure:** see page S44.

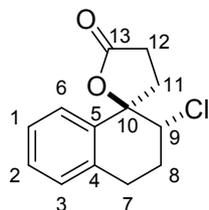
rac-anti-6c:



IR (neat): 2948br, 1770s, 1450m, 1228s, 1260s, 1042m, 1025m, 898m, 754m. **¹H-NMR** (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 298 K): δ (ppm) = 7.35 – 7.31 (m, 2H, H-6; H-2), 7.31 – 7.28 (m, 1H, H-1), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 1H, H-3), 4.71 (dd, $^3J_{H,H} = 8.3$ Hz, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 3.58 (dd, $^2J_{H,H} = 16.0$ Hz, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 1H, H-7a), 3.28 (dd, $^2J_{H,H} = 16.0$ Hz, $^3J_{H,H} = 8.3$ Hz, 1H, H-7b), 3.10 – 3.00 (m, 1H, H-11a), 2.83 – 2.77 (m, 1H, H-10a), 2.77 – 2.70 (m,

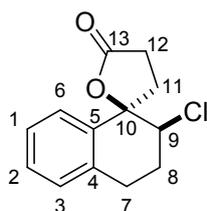
1H, H-11b), 2.45 – 2.36 (m, 1H, H-10b). **¹³C{¹H}-NMR** (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 298 K): δ (ppm) = 176.1 (C-12), 141.4 (C-5), 140.7 (C-4), 129.8 (C-2), 128.2 (C-1), 124.7 (C-3), 122.8 (C-6), 94.5 (C-9), 42.2 (C-7), 34.0 (C-10), 33.0 (C-8), 29.4 (C-11). **HRMS (ESI):** $m/z = 336.9696$ calcd. for $C_{12}H_{11}INaO_2^+$ [$M+Na^+$]; found: 337.0950.

rac-anti-7a:

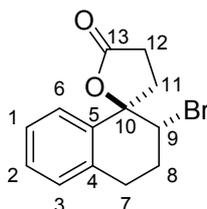


MP: 150 °C. **IR (neat):** 2947br, 1774s, 1455w, 1237m, 1197m, 1159m, 997w, 911w, 760w. **¹H-NMR** (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 299 K): δ (ppm) = 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 1H, H-6), 7.28 – 7.26 (m, 1H, H-1), 7.26 – 7.23 (m, 1H, H-2), 7.13 – 7.09 (m, 1H, H-3), 4.50 (dd, $^3J_{H,H} = 12.2$ Hz, $^3J_{H,H} = 3.5$ Hz, 1H, H-9), 3.07 – 2.94 (m, 2H, H-7), 2.93 – 2.84 (m, 1H, H-12a), 2.83 – 2.75 (m, 2H, H-11a/H-12b), 2.49 – 2.42 (m, 1H, H-8a), 2.29 – 2.19 (m, 2H, H-8b/H-11b).

¹³C{¹H}-NMR (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 300 K): δ (ppm) = 176.8 (C-13), 138.6 (C-5), 134.3 (C-4), 128.8 (C-3), 128.5 (C-2), 127.3 (C-1), 126.0 (C-6), 87.5 (C-10), 64.4 (C-9), 32.2 (C-11), 29.9 (C-12), 29.9 (C-8), 28.4 (C-7). **HRMS (ESI):** $m/z = 259.0496$ calcd. for $C_{13}H_{13}ClNaO_2^+$ [$M+Na^+$]; found: 259.0533. **Crystal structure:** see page S45.

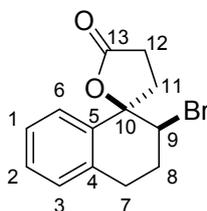
rac-syn-7a:

IR (neat): 2941 br , 1770 s , 1454 w , 1189 s , 1051 m , 997 w , 960 w , 907 w , 762 m .
 $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , 299 K): δ (ppm) = 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 1H, H-6), 7.30 – 7.24 (m, 2H, H-1/H-2), 7.17 – 7.12 (m, 1H, H-3), 4.31 (dd, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 9.8$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, H-9), 3.09 (dt, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 17.3$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 5.6$ Hz, 1H, H-7a), 2.93 (ddd, $^2J_{\text{H,H}} = 17.4$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.9$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.6$ Hz, 1H, H-7a), 2.90 – 2.79 (m, 2H, H-12), 2.65 (ddd, $^2J_{\text{H,H}} = 13.8$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 9.7$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.8$ Hz, 1H, H-11a), 2.56 (ddd, $^2J_{\text{H,H}} = 13.8$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 10.3$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.6$ Hz, 1H, H-11b), 2.46 – 2.37 (m, 1H, H-8a), 2.32 (dtd, $^2J_{\text{H,H}} = 14.0$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 5.8$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, H-8b).
 $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}\text{-NMR}$ (126 MHz, CDCl_3 , 300 K): δ (ppm) = 176.1 (C-13), 136.5 (C-5), 135.4 (C-4), 129.2 (C-3), 128.9 (C-2), 127.2 (C-1), 126.9 (C-6), 85.3 (C-10), 65.2 (C-9), 33.7 (C-11), 29.6 (C-12), 28.8 (C-8), 27.7 (C-7). **HRMS (ESI)**: $m/z = 259.0496$ calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClNaO}_2^+$ [$\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$]; found: 259.0528.

rac-anti-7b:

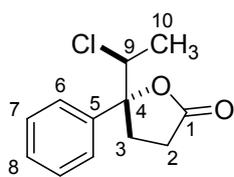
MP: 111 °C. **IR** (neat): 2955 br , 1771 s , 1454 m , 1231 m , 1182 s , 1156 m , 1040 m , 910 m , 763 m . **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , 299 K): δ (ppm) = 7.29 – 7.26 (m, 1H, H-6), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 2H, H-1/H-2), 7.13 – 7.09 (m, 1H, H-3), 4.60 (dd, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 12.1$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 3.5$ Hz, 1H, H-9), 3.06 – 2.91 (m, 2H, H-7), 2.90 – 2.83 (m, 1H, H-12a), 2.83 – 2.74 (m, 2H, H-11a/H-12b), 2.59 – 2.53 (m, 1H, H-8a), 2.40 – 2.32 (m, 1H, H-8b), 2.32 – 2.25 (m, 1H, H-11b). **$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}\text{-NMR}$** (126 MHz, CDCl_3 , 300 K): δ (ppm) = 176.5 (C-13), 138.3 (C-5), 134.1 (C-4), 128.8 (C-3), 128.5 (C-2), 127.2 (C-1), 125.7 (C-6), 86.8 (C-10), 57.6 (C-9), 33.2 (C-11), 30.4 (C-8), 29.8 (C-12), 29.1 (C-7). **HRMS (ESI)**: $m/z = 302.9991$ calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrNaO}_2^+$ [$\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$]; found: 302.9980.

Crystal structure: see page S46.

rac-syn-7b:

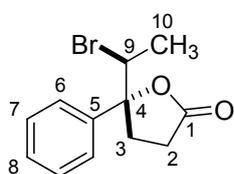
IR (neat): 2934 br , 1774 s , 1453 w , 1182 m , 1043 m , 763 m . **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , 299 K): δ (ppm) = 7.31 – 7.25 (m, 3H, H-1/H-2/H-6), 7.16 – 7.13 (m, 1H, H-3), 4.45 (dd, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 9.3$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, H-9), 3.09 (dt, $^2J_{\text{H,H}} = 17.3$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 5.9$ Hz, 1H, H-7a), 2.94 (ddd, $^2J_{\text{H,H}} = 17.3$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.0$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.2$ Hz, 1H, H-7b), 2.87 (ddd, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 9.7$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.3$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 5.1$ Hz, 2H, H-12), 2.65 (ddd, $^2J_{\text{H,H}} = 13.7$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 9.8$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2$ Hz, 1H, H-11a), 2.59 – 2.52 (m, 1H, H-11b), 2.52 – 2.48 (m, 1H, H-8a), 2.47 – 2.40 (m, 1H, H-8b).
 $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}\text{-NMR}$ (126 MHz, CDCl_3 , 300 K): δ (ppm) = 175.9 (C-13), 136.6 (C-5), 135.1 (C-4), 129.2 (C-3), 128.9 (C-2/C-6), 127.2 (C-1), 126.8 (C-2/C-6), 85.2 (C-10), 58.1 (C-9), 34.8 (C-11), 29.7 (C-8/C-12), 29.6 (C-8/C-12), 28.4 (C-7). **HRMS (ESI)**: $m/z = 302.9991$ calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrNaO}_2^+$ [$\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$]; found: 303.0004.

rac-anti-8a:



IR (neat): 2986br, 1775s, 1448w, 1194m, 1114m, 1022w, 968w, 767w, 704m. **¹H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ (ppm) = 7.41 – 7.38 (m, 2H, H-7), 7.37 – 7.35 (m, 2H, H-6), 7.35 – 7.31 (m, 1H, H-8), 4.35 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 6.8 Hz, 1H, H-9), 2.98 – 2.92 (m, 1H, H-3a), 2.86 – 2.79 (m, 1H, H-2a), 2.56 – 2.48 (m, 1H, H-2b), 2.48 – 2.42 (m, 1H, H-3b), 1.33 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 6.7 Hz, 3H, H-10). **¹³C{¹H}-NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ (ppm) = 176.3 (C-1), 141.6 (C-5), 128.9 (C-7), 128.4 (C-8), 124.9 (C-6), 89.6 (C-4), 65.0 (C-9), 33.7 (C-3), 28.9 (C-2), 19.7 (C-10). **HRMS (ESI)**: m/z = 247.0496 calcd. for C₁₂H₁₃ClNaO₂⁺ [M+Na⁺]; found: 247.0511.

rac-anti-8b:



IR (neat): 2980br, 1780s, 1448w, 1217m, 1175m, 1110m, 1016w, 963w, 765w, 703w. **¹H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ (ppm) = 7.41 – 7.37 (m, 2H, H-7), 7.37 – 7.35 (m, 2H, H-6), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 1H, H-8), 4.46 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.98 – 2.87 (m, 1H, H-3a), 2.87 – 2.79 (m, 1H, H-2a), 2.55 – 2.45 (m, 2H, H-3b; H-2b), 1.50 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 6.9 Hz, 3H, H-10). **¹³C{¹H}-NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K): δ (ppm) = 176.1 (C-1), 141.1 (C-5), 128.9 (C-7), 128.4 (C-8), 125.0 (C-6), 89.4 (C-4), 57.8 (C-9), 34.9 (C-3), 28.9 (C-2), 21.1 (C-10). **HRMS (ESI)**: m/z = 290.9991 calcd. for C₁₂H₁₃BrNaO₂⁺ [M+Na⁺]; found: 291.0020.

2.4. Crystallographic data

X-Ray diffraction: Data sets for compounds *anti-6a*, *syn-6a*, *anti-6b*, *anti-7a* and *anti-7b* were collected with a Bruker D8 Venture CMOS diffractometer. For compound *syn-6b* data sets were collected with a Bruker APEX II CCD diffractometer. Programs used: data collection: APEX3 V2016.1-0¹⁶ (Bruker AXS Inc., **2016**); cell refinement: SAINT V8.37A (Bruker AXS Inc., **2015**); data reduction: SAINT V8.37A (Bruker AXS Inc., **2015**); absorption correction, SADABS V2014/7 (Bruker AXS Inc., **2014**); structure solution *SHELXT-2015*¹⁷ (Sheldrick, G. M. *Acta Cryst.*, **2015**, *A71*, 3-8); structure refinement *SHELXL-2015*¹⁸ (Sheldrick, G. M. *Acta Cryst.*, **2015**, *C71* (1), 3-8) and graphics, *XP*¹⁹ (Version 5.1, Bruker AXS Inc., Madison, Wisconsin, USA, **1998**). *R*-values are given for observed reflections, and *wR*² values are given for all reflections.

X-ray crystal structure analysis of *anti-6a*: A colourless prism-like specimen of $C_{12}H_{11}ClO_2$, approximate dimensions 0.043 mm x 0.081 mm x 0.109 mm, was used for the X-ray crystallographic analysis. The X-ray intensity data were measured. A total of 1032 frames were collected. The total exposure time was 8.60 hours. The frames were integrated with the Bruker SAINT software package using a narrow-frame algorithm. The integration of the data using a triclinic unit cell yielded a total of 9720 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 26.73° (0.79 \AA resolution), of which 2161 were independent (average redundancy 4.498, completeness = 98.0%, $R_{\text{int}} = 3.50\%$, $R_{\text{sig}} = 2.71\%$) and 1950 (90.24%) were greater than $2\sigma(F^2)$. The final cell constants of $a = 8.1989(4) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 8.4173(4) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 8.8635(4) \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 68.933(2)^\circ$, $\beta = 76.834(2)^\circ$, $\gamma = 65.982(2)^\circ$, volume = $519.00(4) \text{ \AA}^3$, are based upon the refinement of the XYZ-centroids of 4281 reflections above $20 \sigma(I)$ with $5.464^\circ < 2\theta < 55.71^\circ$. Data were corrected for absorption effects using the multi-scan method (SADABS). The ratio of minimum to maximum apparent transmission was 0.932. The calculated minimum and maximum transmission coefficients (based on crystal size) are 0.9640 and 0.9850. The structure was solved and refined using the Bruker SHELXTL Software Package, using the space group $P-1$, with $Z = 2$ for the formula unit, $C_{12}H_{11}ClO_2$. The final anisotropic full-matrix least-squares refinement on F^2 with 136 variables converged at $R1 = 3.90\%$, for the observed data and $wR2 = 8.38\%$ for all data. The goodness-of-fit was 1.140. The largest peak in the final difference electron density synthesis was $0.348 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$ and the largest hole was $-0.209 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$ with an RMS deviation of $0.052 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$. On the basis of the final model, the calculated density was 1.425 g/cm^3 and $F(000)$, 232 e. CCDC Nr.: 2056209.

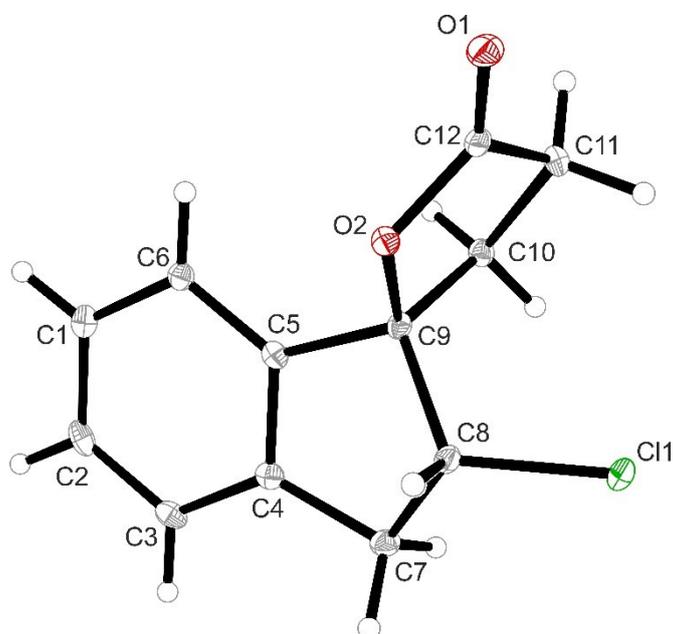


Figure S3: Crystal structure of compound *anti-6a*. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at 30% probability.

X-ray crystal structure analysis of *syn-6a*: A colourless prism-like specimen of $C_{12}H_{11}ClO_2$, approximate dimensions 0.098 mm x 0.188 mm x 0.194 mm, was used for the X-ray crystallographic analysis. The X-ray intensity data were measured. A total of 1149 frames were collected. The total exposure time was 7.98 hours. The frames were integrated with the Bruker SAINT software package using a narrow-frame algorithm. The integration of the data using a monoclinic unit cell yielded a total of 23308 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 27.49° (0.77 \AA resolution), of which 2335 were independent (average redundancy 9.982, completeness = 98.8%, $R_{\text{int}} = 2.44\%$, $R_{\text{sig}} = 1.10\%$) and 2257 (96.66%) were greater than $2\sigma(F^2)$. The final cell constants of $a = 5.75830(10) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 9.7431(2) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 18.3135(5) \text{ \AA}$, $\beta = 94.0580(10)^\circ$, volume = $1024.88(4) \text{ \AA}^3$, are based upon the refinement of the XYZ-centroids of 9930 reflections above $20 \sigma(I)$ with $8.237^\circ < 2\theta < 54.94^\circ$. Data were corrected for absorption effects using the multi-scan method (SADABS). The ratio of minimum to maximum apparent transmission was 0.952. The calculated minimum and maximum transmission coefficients (based on crystal size) are 0.9360 and 0.9670. The structure was solved and refined using the Bruker SHELXTL Software Package, using the space group $P2_1/n$, with $Z = 4$ for the formula unit, $C_{12}H_{11}ClO_2$. The final anisotropic full-matrix least-squares refinement on F^2 with 136 variables converged at $R1 = 2.76\%$, for the observed data and $wR2 = 6.80\%$ for all data. The goodness-of-fit was 1.043. The largest peak in the final difference electron density synthesis was $0.383 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$ and the largest hole was $-0.188 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$ with an RMS deviation of $0.042 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$. On the basis of the final model, the calculated density was $1.443 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3$ and $F(000)$, 464 e⁻. CCDC Nr.: 2056208.

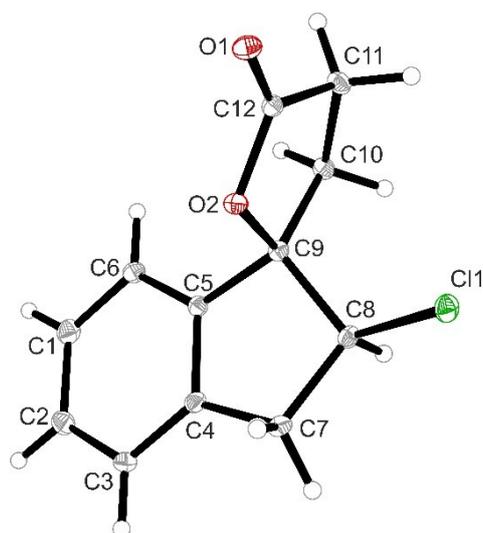


Figure S2: Crystal structure of compound *syn-6a*. Thermal ellipsoids are set at 30% probability.

X-ray crystal structure analysis of *anti-6b*: A colourless prism-like specimen of $C_{12}H_{11}BrO_2$, approximate dimensions 0.165 mm x 0.180 mm x 0.278 mm, was used for the X-ray crystallographic analysis. The X-ray intensity data were measured. A total of 588 frames were collected. The total exposure time was 3.27 hours. The frames were integrated with the Bruker SAINT software package using a narrow-frame algorithm. The integration of the data using a triclinic unit cell yielded a total of 9320 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 27.51° (0.77 \AA resolution), of which 2413 were independent (average redundancy 3.862, completeness = 98.8%, $R_{\text{int}} = 1.58\%$, $R_{\text{sig}} = 1.40\%$) and 2333 (96.68%) were greater than $2\sigma(F^2)$. The final cell constants of $a = 8.3537(2) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 8.5198(2) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 8.8355(3) \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 69.1250(10)^\circ$, $\beta = 76.7640(10)^\circ$, $\gamma = 65.2120(10)^\circ$, volume = $531.08(3) \text{ \AA}^3$, are based upon the refinement of the XYZ-centroids of 7218 reflections above $20 \sigma(I)$ with $4.956^\circ < 2\theta < 55.02^\circ$. Data were corrected for absorption effects using the multi-scan method (SADABS). The ratio of minimum to maximum apparent transmission was 0.922. The calculated minimum and maximum transmission coefficients (based on crystal size) are 0.4150 and 0.5700. The structure was solved and refined using the Bruker SHELXTL Software Package, using the space group $P-1$, with $Z = 2$ for the formula unit, $C_{12}H_{11}BrO_2$. The final anisotropic full-matrix least-squares refinement on F^2 with 136 variables converged at $R1 = 1.56\%$, for the observed data and $wR2 = 3.76\%$ for all data. The goodness-of-fit was 1.050. The largest peak in the final difference electron density synthesis was 0.360 e/\AA^3 and the largest hole was -0.223 e/\AA^3 with an RMS deviation of 0.046 e/\AA^3 . On the basis of the final model, the calculated density was 1.670 g/cm^3 and $F(000)$, 268 e. CCDC Nr.: 2056211.

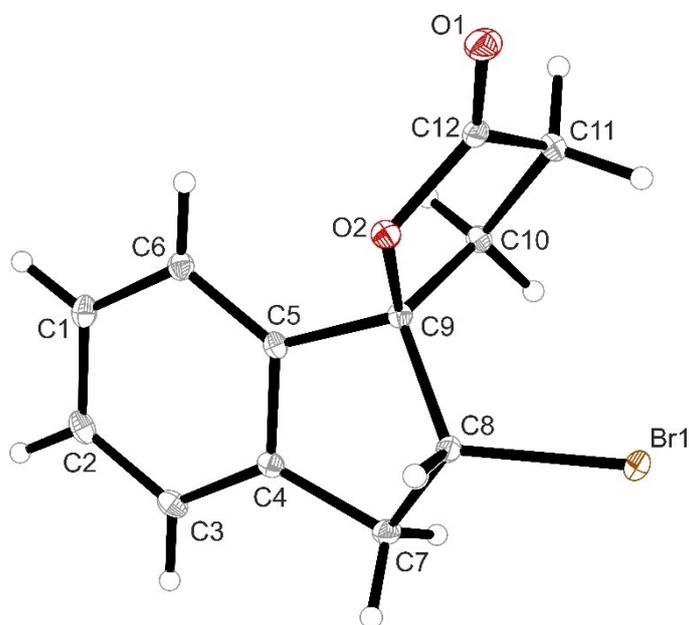


Figure S5: Crystal structure of compound *anti-6b*. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at 30% probability.

X-ray crystal structure analysis of *syn-6b*: A colourless prism-like specimen of $C_{12}H_{11}BrO_2$, approximate dimensions 0.120 mm x 0.200 mm x 0.280 mm, was used for the X-ray crystallographic analysis. The X-ray intensity data were measured. A total of 958 frames were collected. The total exposure time was 8.19 hours. The frames were integrated with the Bruker SAINT software package using a wide-frame algorithm. The integration of the data using a monoclinic unit cell yielded a total of 8488 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 66.66° (0.84 Å resolution), of which 1813 were independent (average redundancy 4.682, completeness = 99.3%, $R_{int} = 3.23\%$, $R_{sig} = 2.53\%$) and 1746 (96.30%) were greater than $2\sigma(F^2)$. The final cell constants of $a = 5.83760(10)$ Å, $b = 9.7639(2)$ Å, $c = 18.2223(4)$ Å, $\beta = 94.1490(10)^\circ$, volume = $1035.91(4)$ Å³, are based upon the refinement of the XYZ-centroids of 5606 reflections above $20\sigma(I)$ with $9.733^\circ < 2\theta < 133.2^\circ$. Data were corrected for absorption effects using the multi-scan method (SADABS). The ratio of minimum to maximum apparent transmission was 0.732. The calculated minimum and maximum transmission coefficients (based on crystal size) are 0.3230 and 0.5740. The structure was solved and refined using the Bruker SHELXTL Software Package, using the space group $P2_1/n$, with $Z = 4$ for the formula unit, $C_{12}H_{11}BrO_2$. The final anisotropic full-matrix least-squares refinement on F^2 with 136 variables converged at $R1 = 2.42\%$, for the observed data and $wR2 = 5.89\%$ for all data. The goodness-of-fit was 1.126. The largest peak in the final difference electron density synthesis was $0.365 e/\text{Å}^3$ and the largest hole was $-0.421 e/\text{Å}^3$ with an RMS deviation of $0.076 e/\text{Å}^3$. On the basis of the final model, the calculated density was 1.713 g/cm^3 and $F(000)$, 536 e⁻. CCDC Nr.: 2056210.

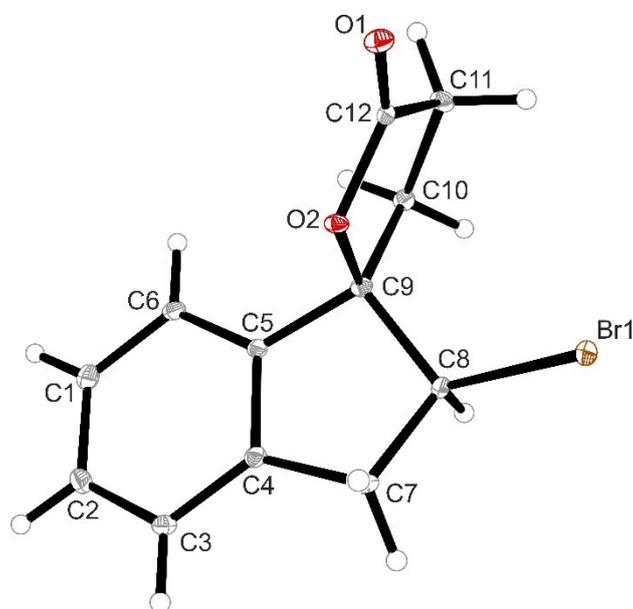


Figure S4: Crystal structure of compound *syn-6b*. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at 30% probability.

X-ray crystal structure analysis of *anti-7a*: A colourless plate-like specimen of $C_{13}H_{13}ClO_2$, approximate dimensions 0.057 mm x 0.121 mm x 0.143 mm, was used for the X-ray crystallographic analysis. The X-ray intensity data were measured on a Bruker D8 Venture PHOTON III Diffractometer system equipped with a micro focus tube Cu K α ($\lambda = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$) and a MX mirror monochromator. A total of 1158 frames were collected. The total exposure time was 13.88 hours. The frames were integrated with the Bruker SAINT software package using a wide-frame algorithm. The integration of the data using a triclinic unit cell yielded a total of 7594 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 66.92° (0.84 \AA resolution), of which 1910 were independent (average redundancy 3.976, completeness = 98.5%, $R_{\text{int}} = 2.76\%$, $R_{\text{sig}} = 2.70\%$) and 1828 (95.71%) were greater than $2\sigma(F^2)$. The final cell constants of $a = 8.5302(3) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 8.5648(3) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 8.8272(3) \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 76.7530(10)^\circ$, $\beta = 69.1750(10)^\circ$, $\gamma = 65.8030(10)^\circ$, volume = $547.18(3) \text{ \AA}^3$, are based upon the refinement of the XYZ-centroids of 5764 reflections above $20 \sigma(I)$ with $11.90^\circ < 2\theta < 133.8^\circ$. Data were corrected for absorption effects using the Multi-Scan method (SADABS). The ratio of minimum to maximum apparent transmission was 0.885. The calculated minimum and maximum transmission coefficients (based on crystal size) are 0.6790 and 0.8510. The structure was solved and refined using the Bruker SHELXTL Software Package, using the space group $P-1$, with $Z = 2$ for the formula unit, $C_{13}H_{13}ClO_2$. The final anisotropic full-matrix least-squares refinement on F^2 with 145 variables converged at $R1 = 2.71\%$, for the observed data and $wR2 = 7.11\%$ for all data. The goodness-of-fit was 1.070. The largest peak in the final difference electron density synthesis was $0.294 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$ and the largest hole was $-0.224 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$ with an RMS deviation of $0.042 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$. On the basis of the final model, the calculated density was $1.437 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3$ and $F(000)$, 248 e. CCDC Nr.: 2056212.

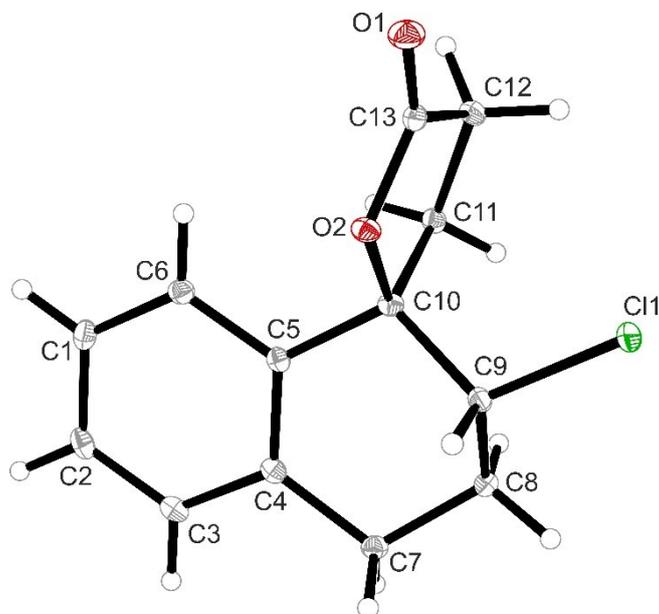


Figure S6: Crystal structure of compound *anti-7a*. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at 30% probability.

X-ray crystal structure analysis of *anti-7b*: A colourless prism-like specimen of $C_{13}H_{13}BrO_2$, approximate dimensions 0.057 mm x 0.090 mm x 0.168 mm, was used for the X-ray crystallographic analysis. The X-ray intensity data were measured on a Bruker D8 Venture PHOTON III Diffractometer system equipped with a micro focus tube Mo Ims (MoK α , $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$) and a MX mirror monochromator. A total of 408 frames were collected. The total exposure time was 1.13 hours. The frames were integrated with the Bruker SAINT software package using a narrow-frame algorithm. The integration of the data using a triclinic unit cell yielded a total of 9047 reflections to a maximum θ angle of 26.77° (0.79 \AA resolution), of which 2386 were independent (average redundancy 3.792, completeness = 99.6%, $R_{\text{int}} = 3.71\%$, $R_{\text{sig}} = 3.12\%$) and 2207 (92.50%) were greater than $2\sigma(F^2)$. The final cell constants of $a = 8.5352(2) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 8.6441(2) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 8.8394(2) \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 77.5970(10)^\circ$, $\beta = 69.8180(10)^\circ$, $\gamma = 67.0810(10)^\circ$, volume = $561.35(2) \text{ \AA}^3$, are based upon the refinement of the XYZ-centroids of 4344 reflections above $20 \sigma(I)$ with $4.931^\circ < 2\theta < 53.51^\circ$. Data were corrected for absorption effects using the Multi-Scan method (SADABS). The ratio of minimum to maximum apparent transmission was 0.931. The calculated minimum and maximum transmission coefficients (based on crystal size) are 0.5800 and 0.8190. The structure was solved and refined using the Bruker SHELXTL Software Package, using the space group $P-1$, with $Z = 2$ for the formula unit, $C_{13}H_{13}BrO_2$. The final anisotropic full-matrix least-squares refinement on F^2 with 145 variables converged at $R1 = 2.22\%$, for the observed data and $wR2 = 5.03\%$ for all data. The goodness-of-fit was 1.046. The largest peak in the final difference electron density synthesis was $0.466 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$ and the largest hole was $-0.228 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$ with an RMS deviation of $0.065 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$. On the basis of the final model, the calculated density was $1.663 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3$ and $F(000)$, 284 e $^-$. CCDC Nr.: 2056213.

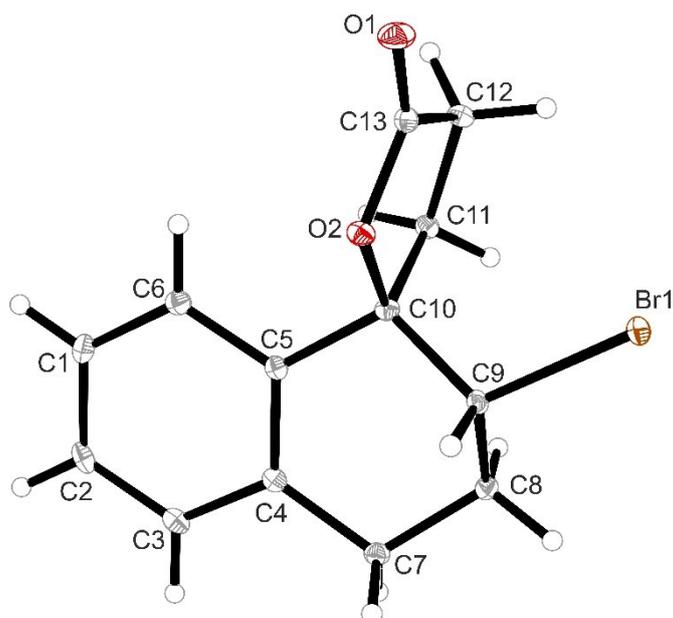
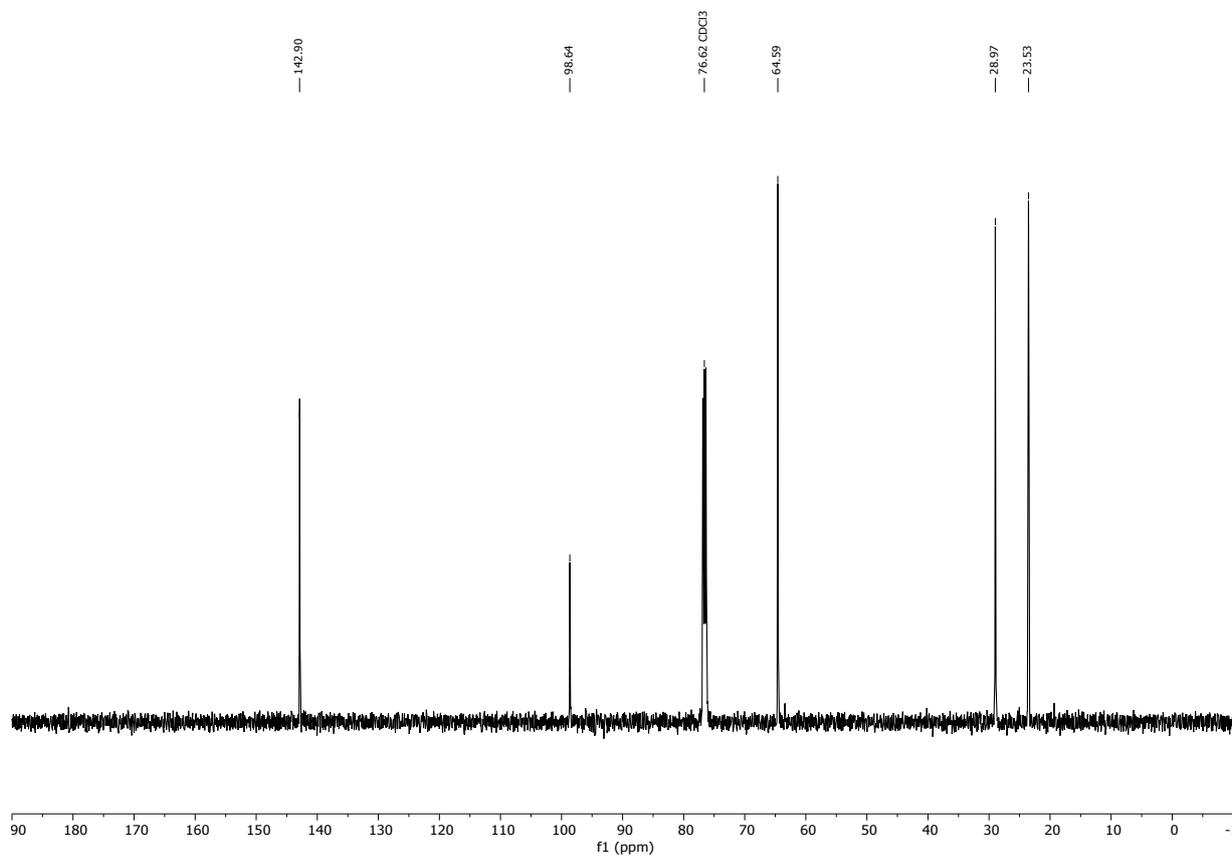
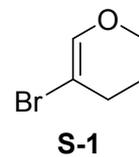
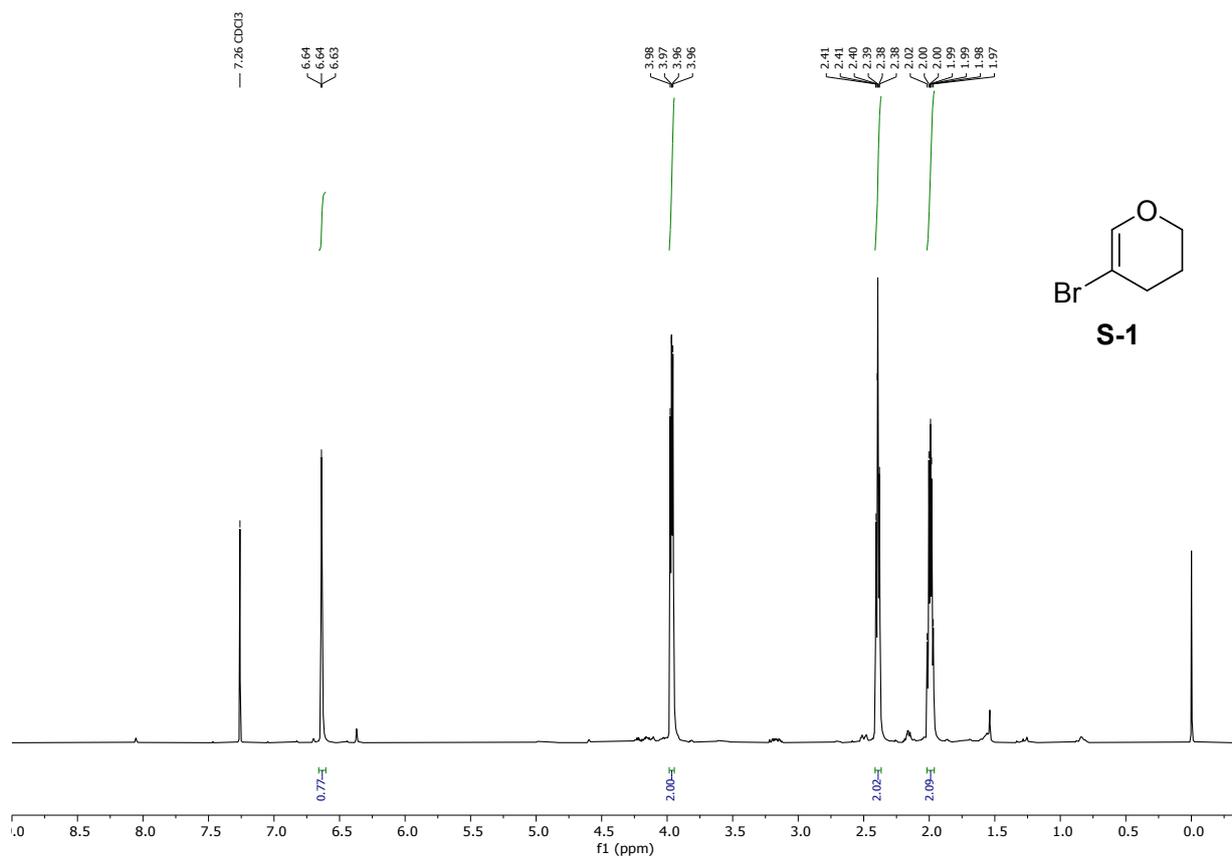
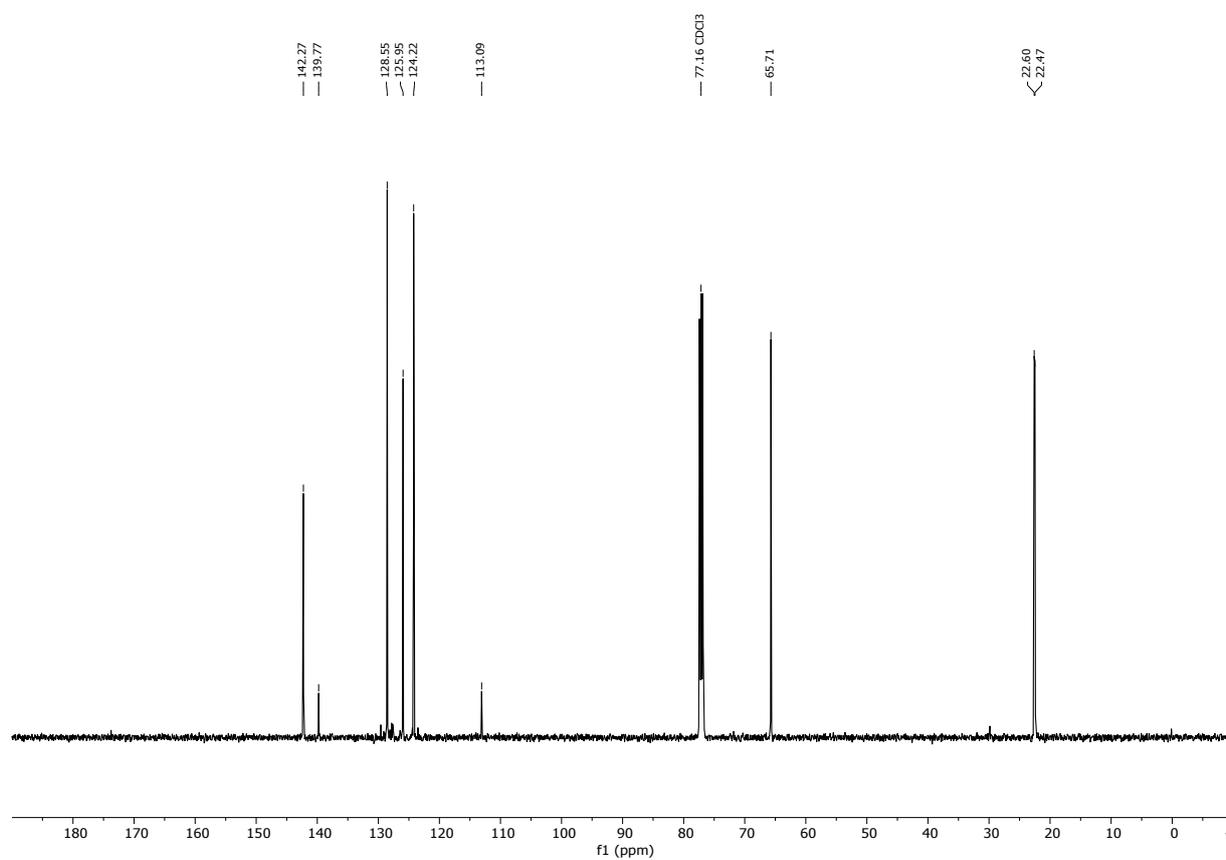
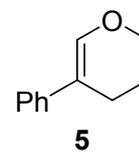
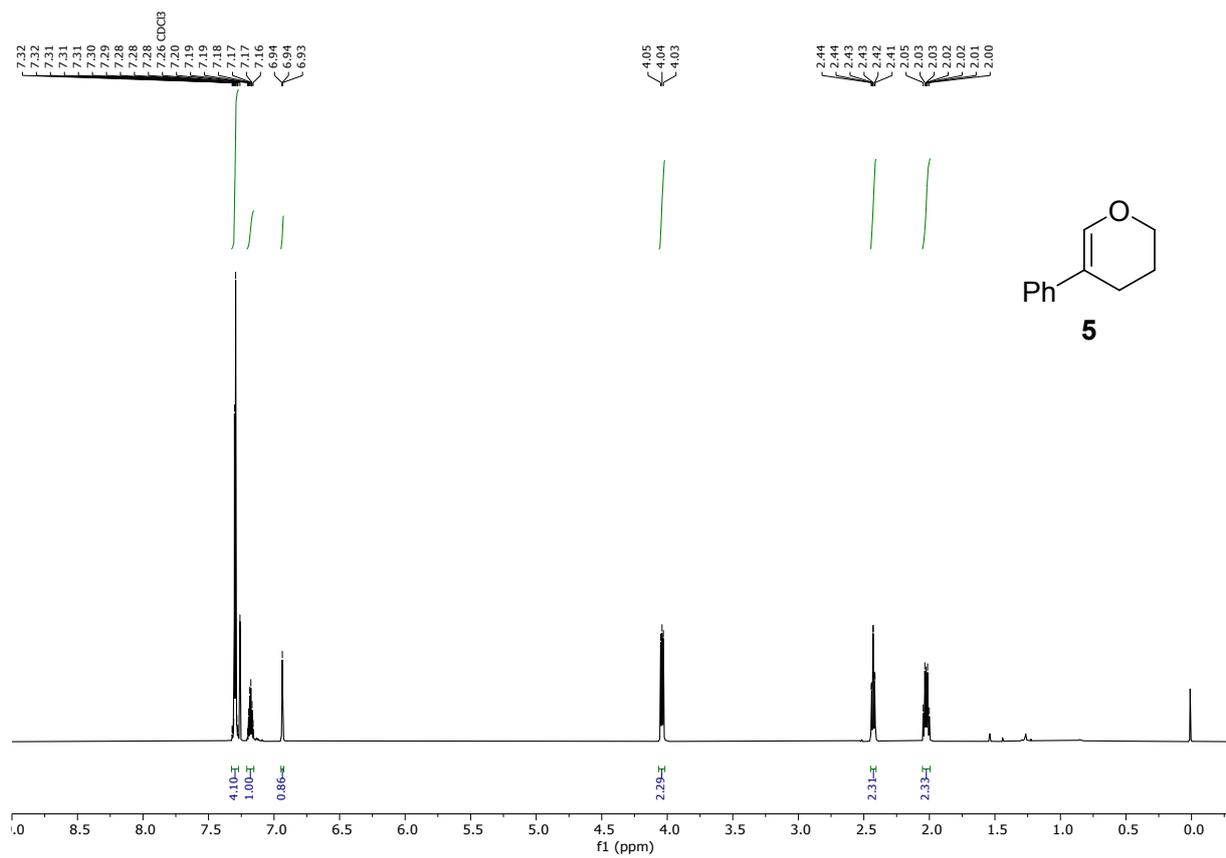
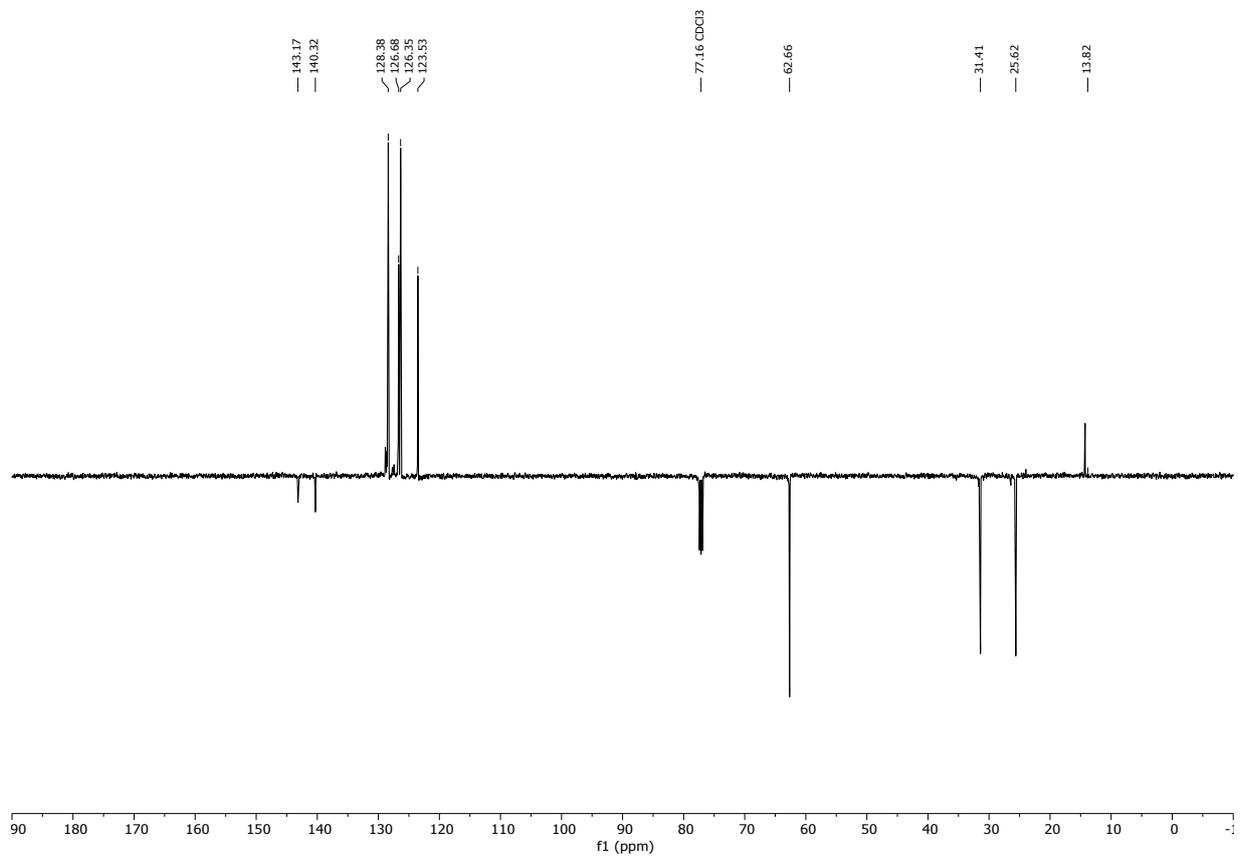
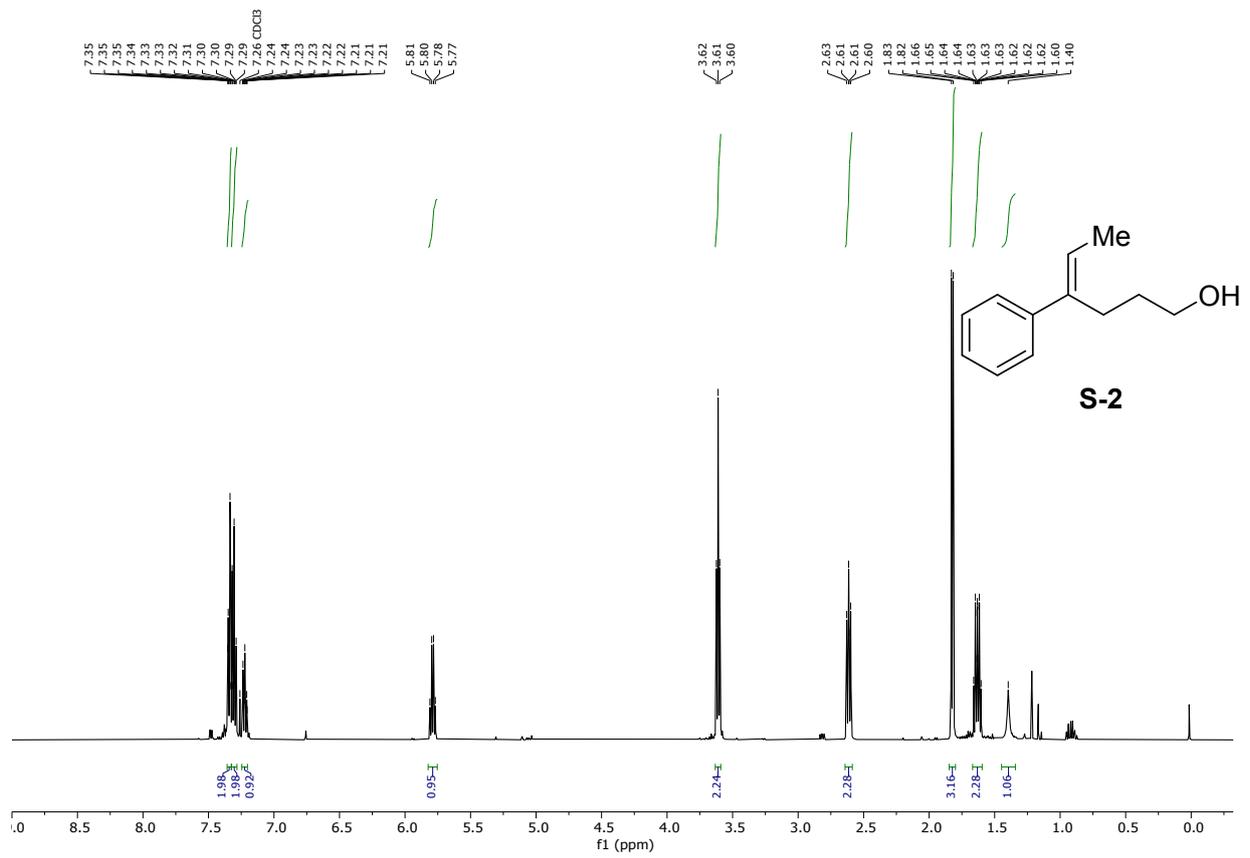


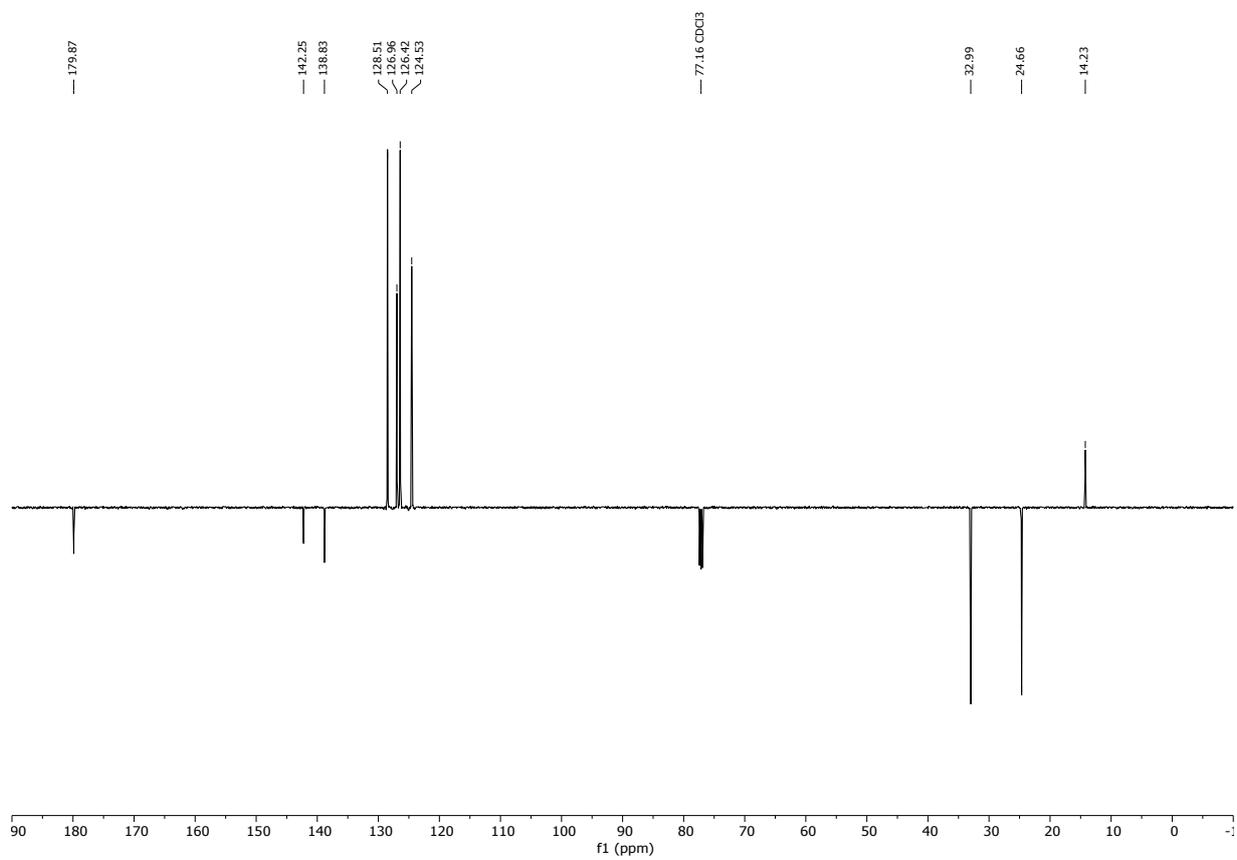
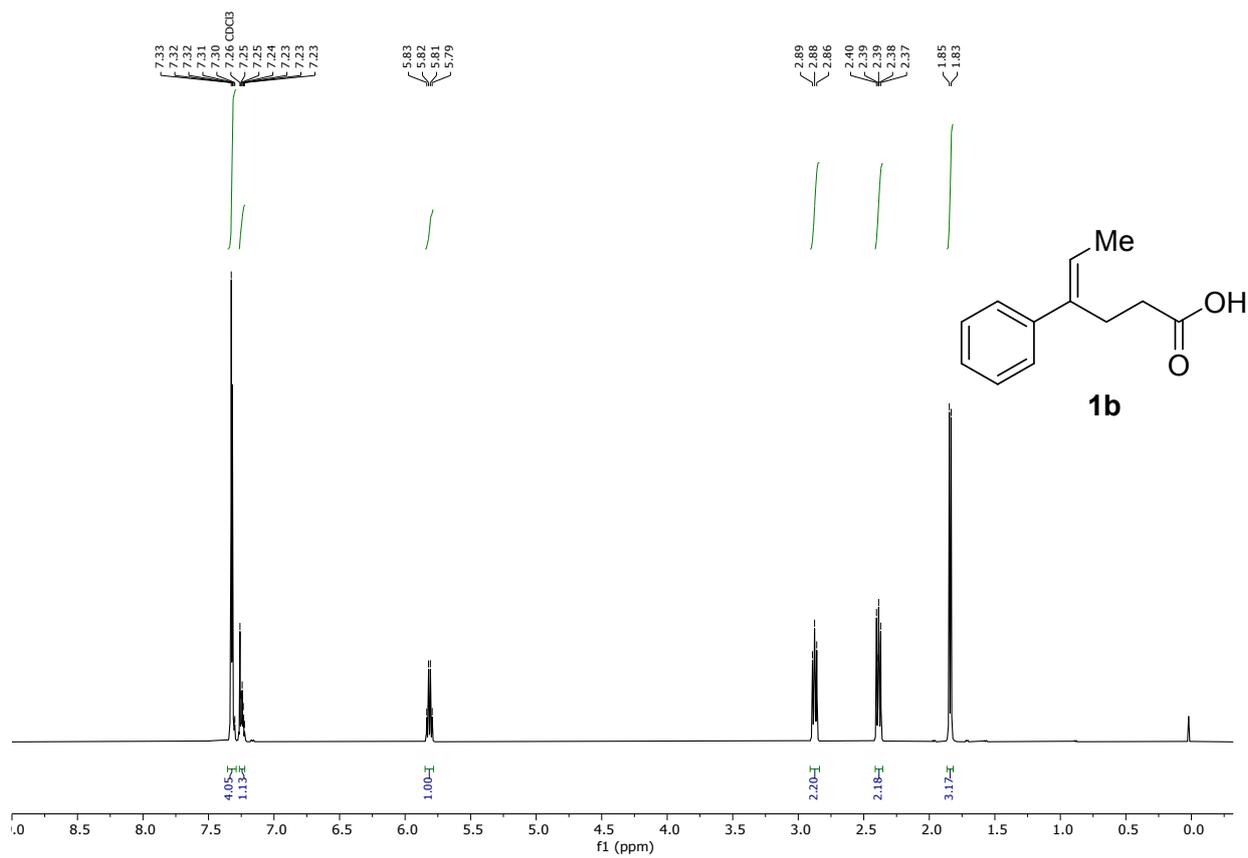
Figure S7: Crystal structure of compound *anti-7b*. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at 30% probability.

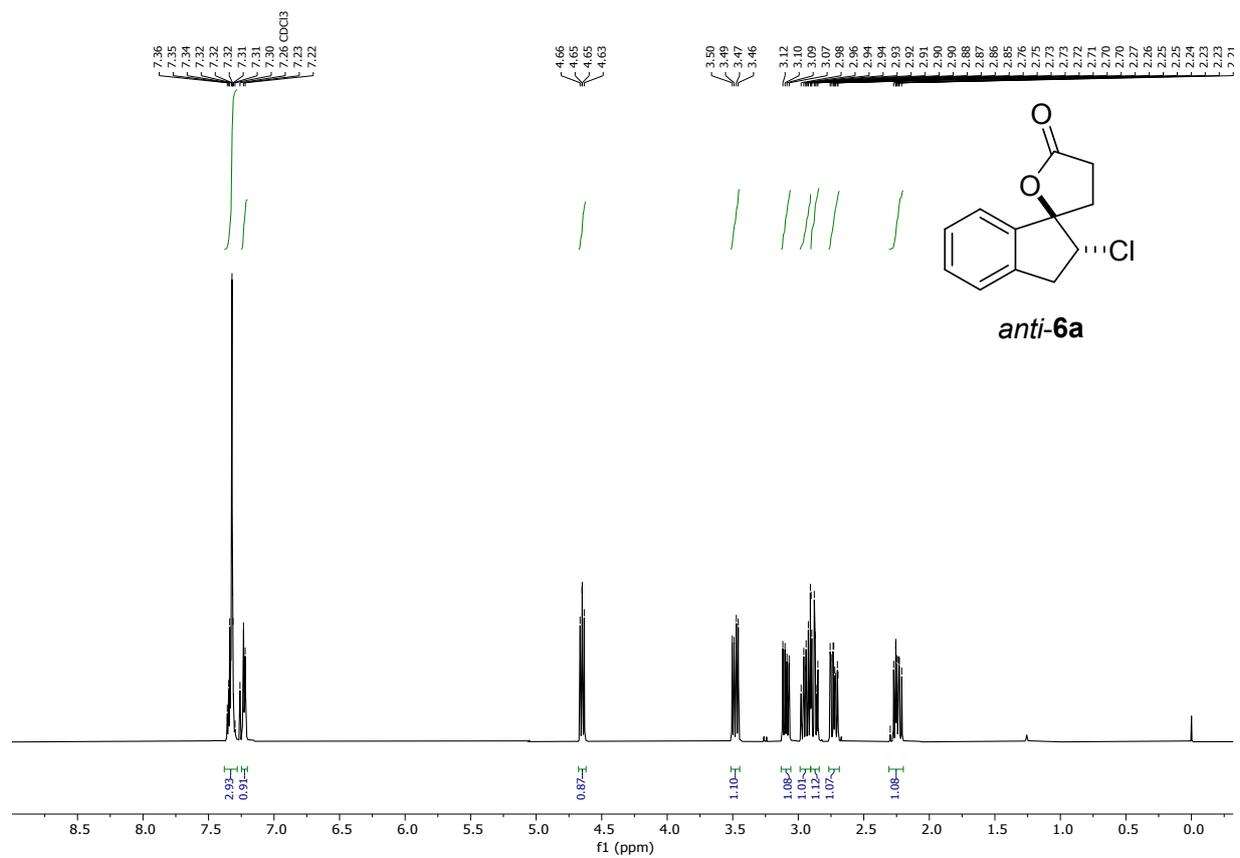
2.5. ^1H - and $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR-spectra

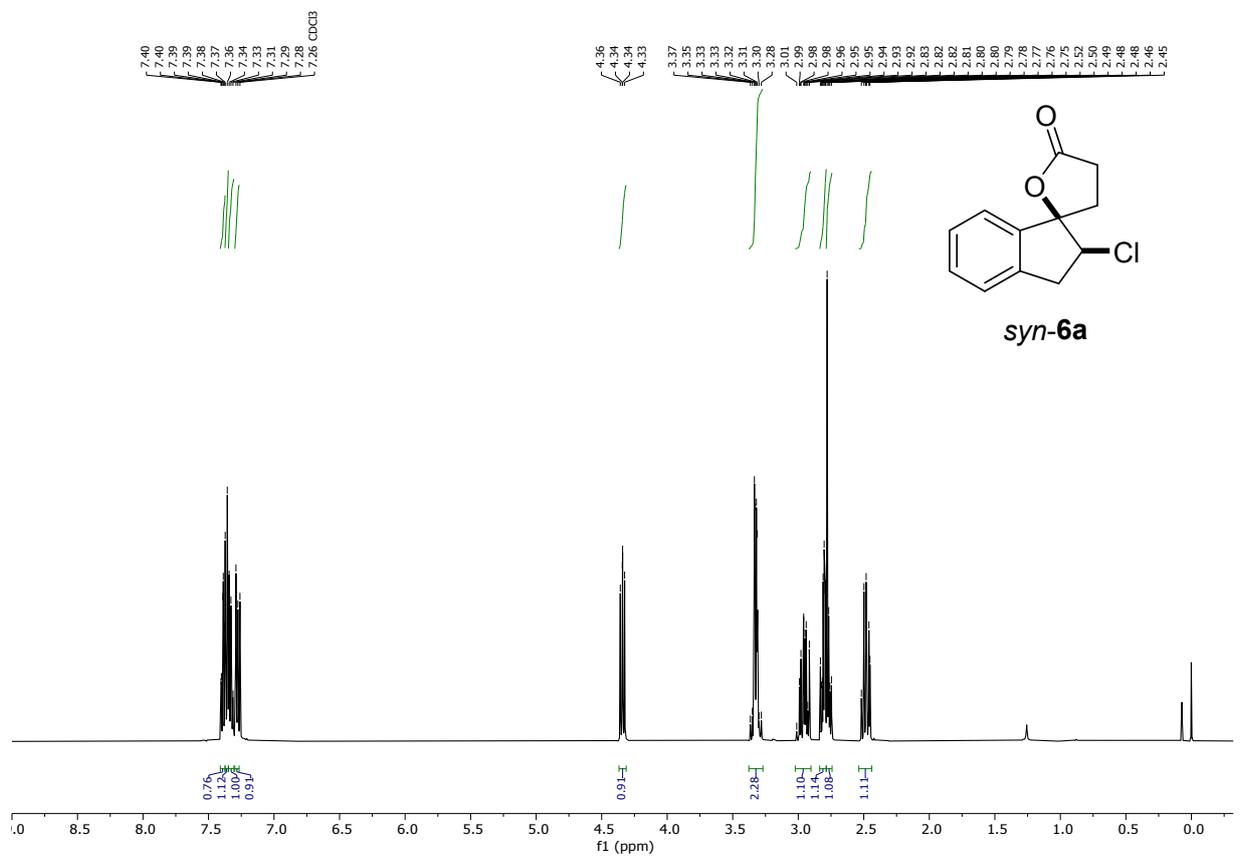
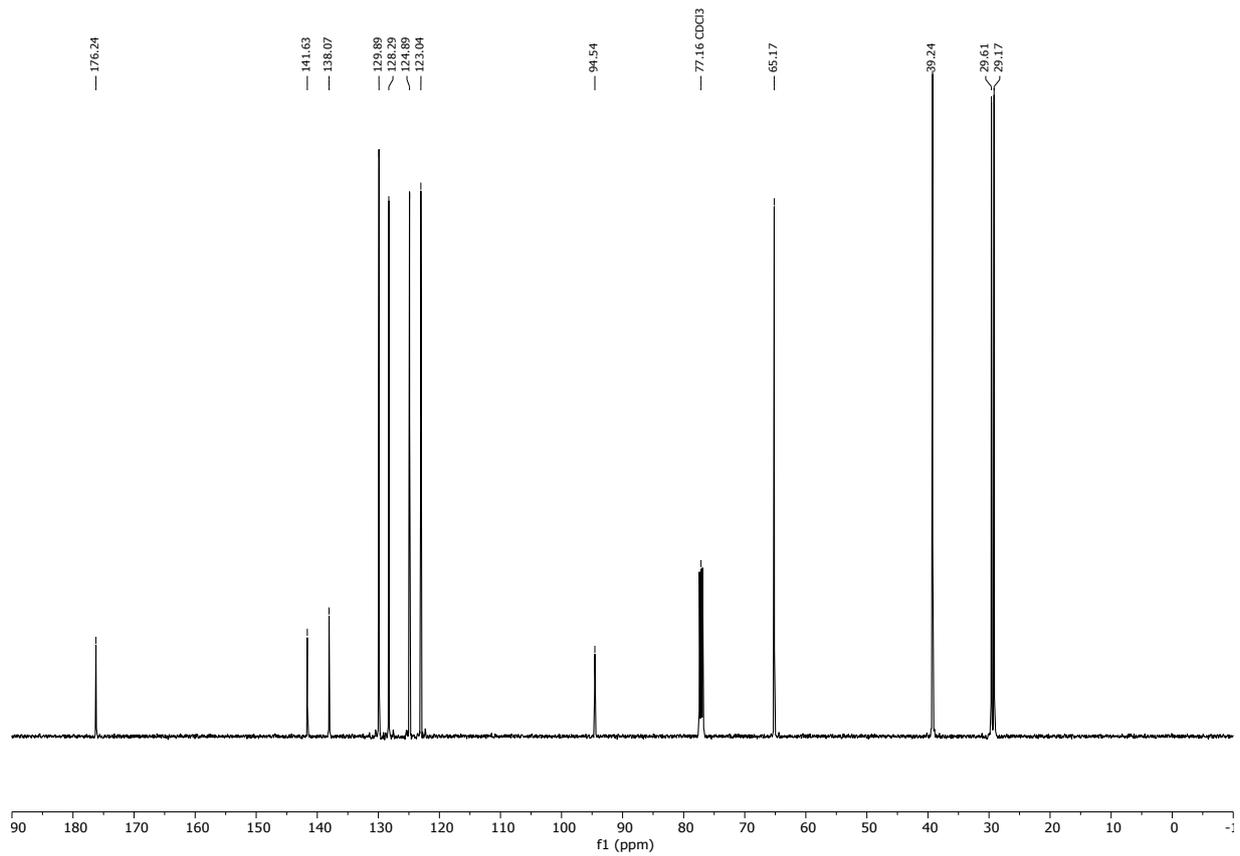


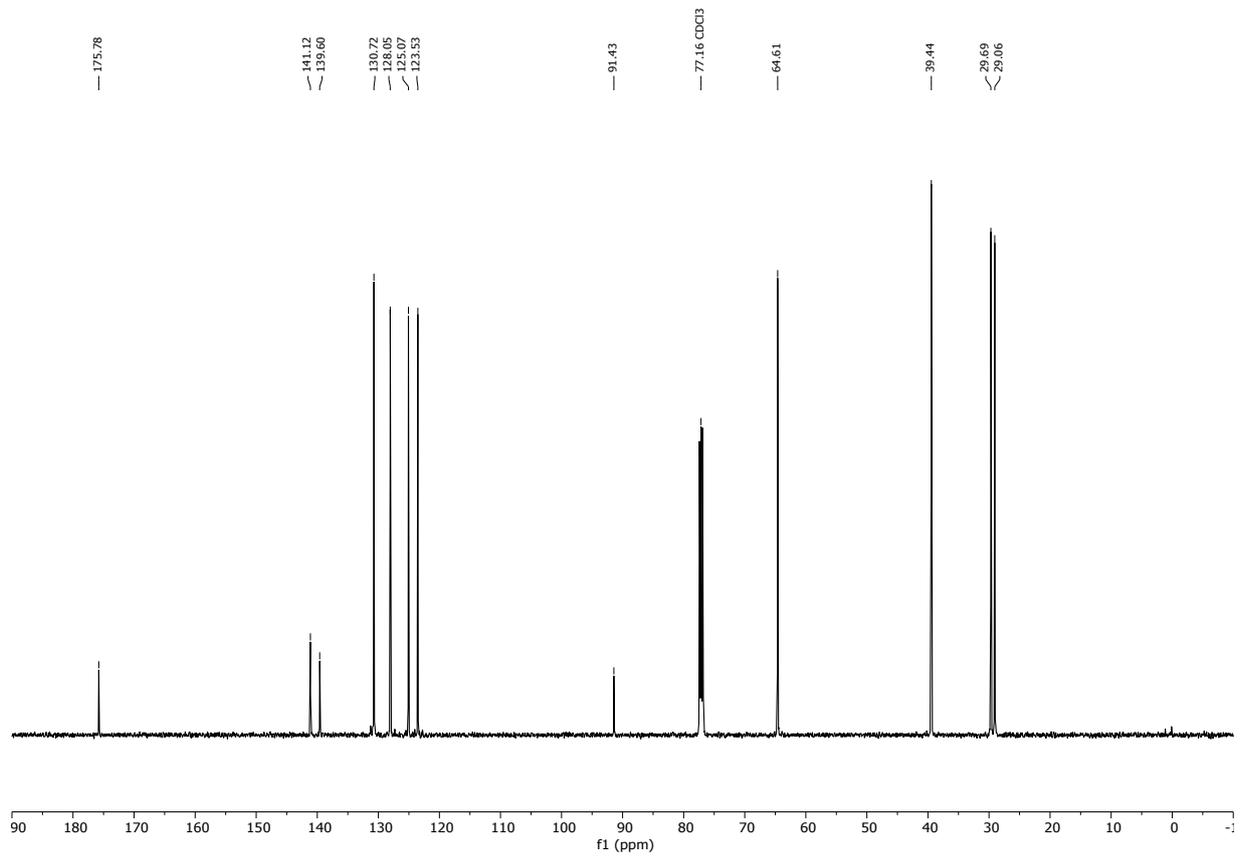


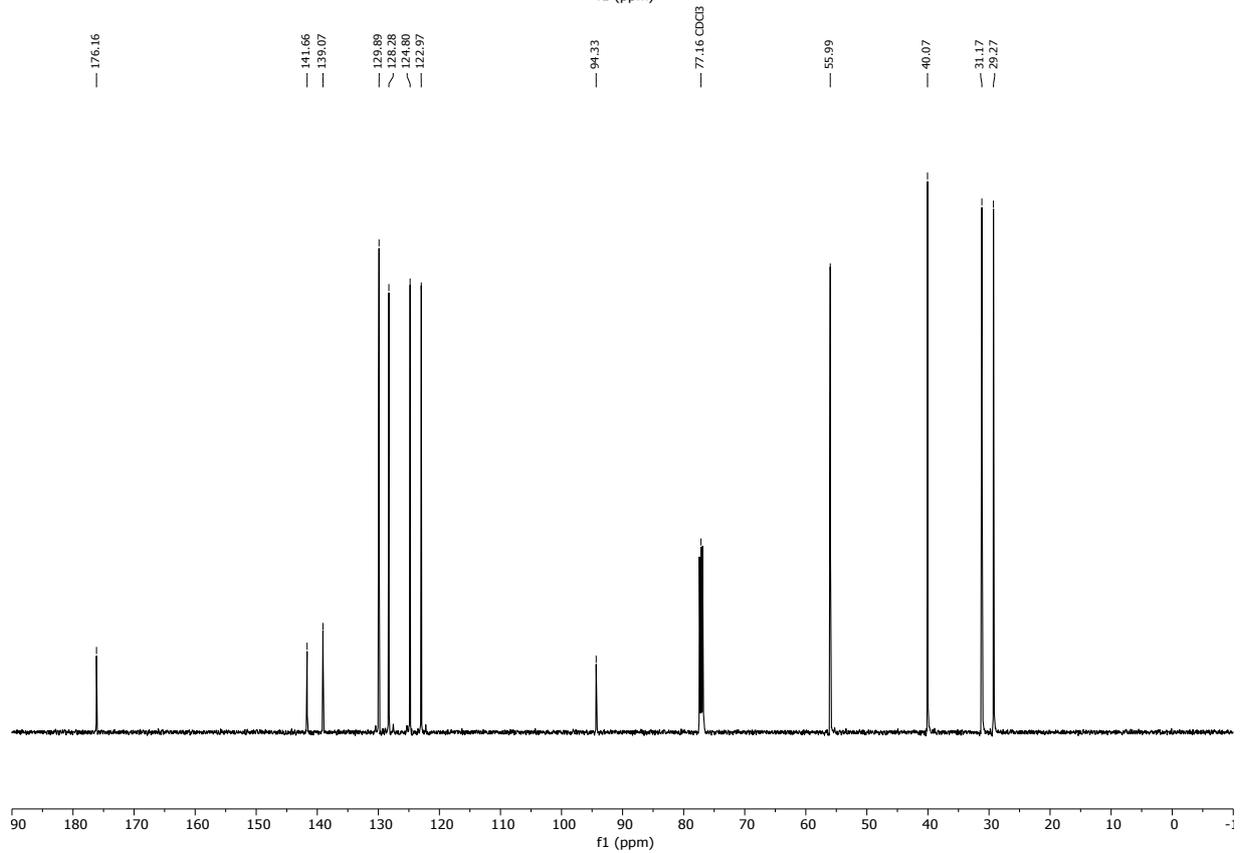
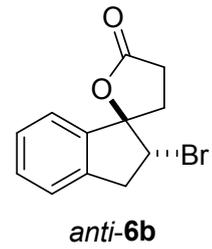
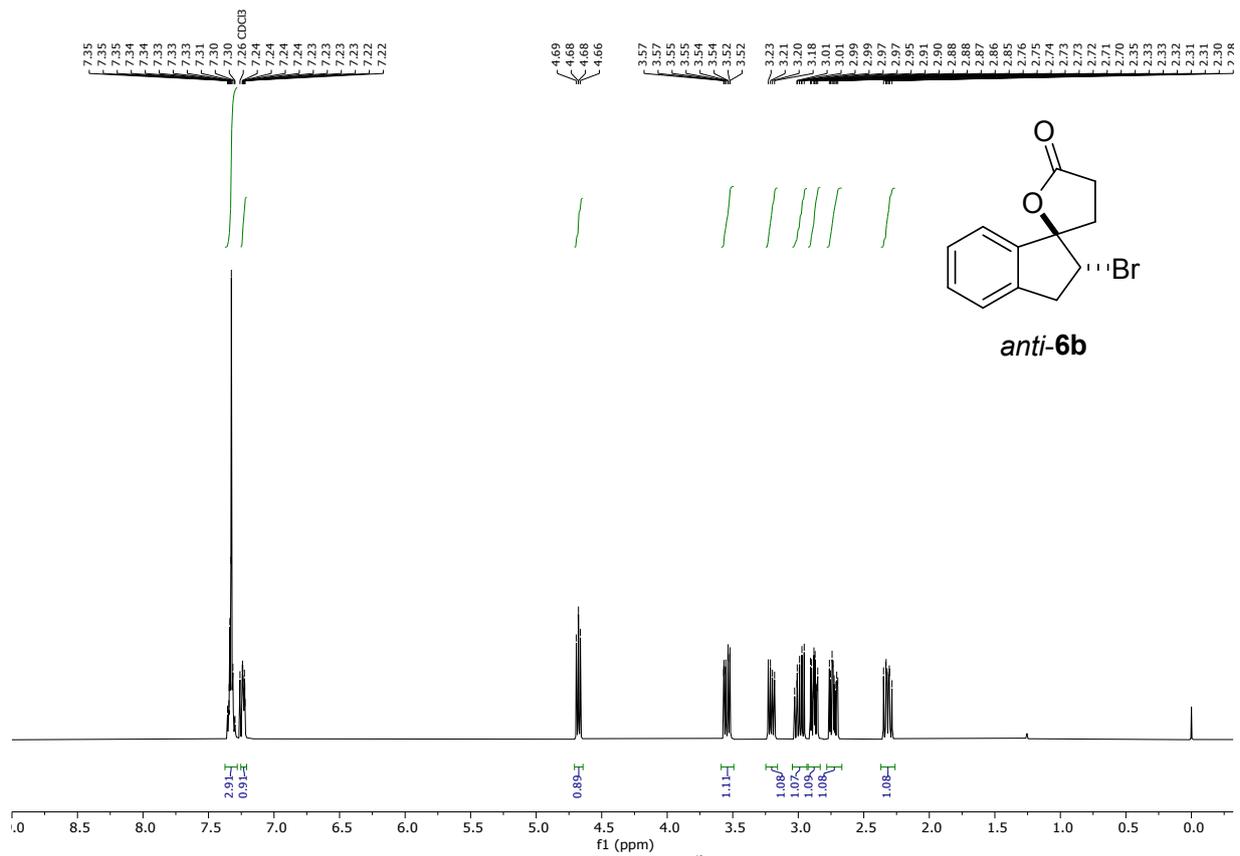


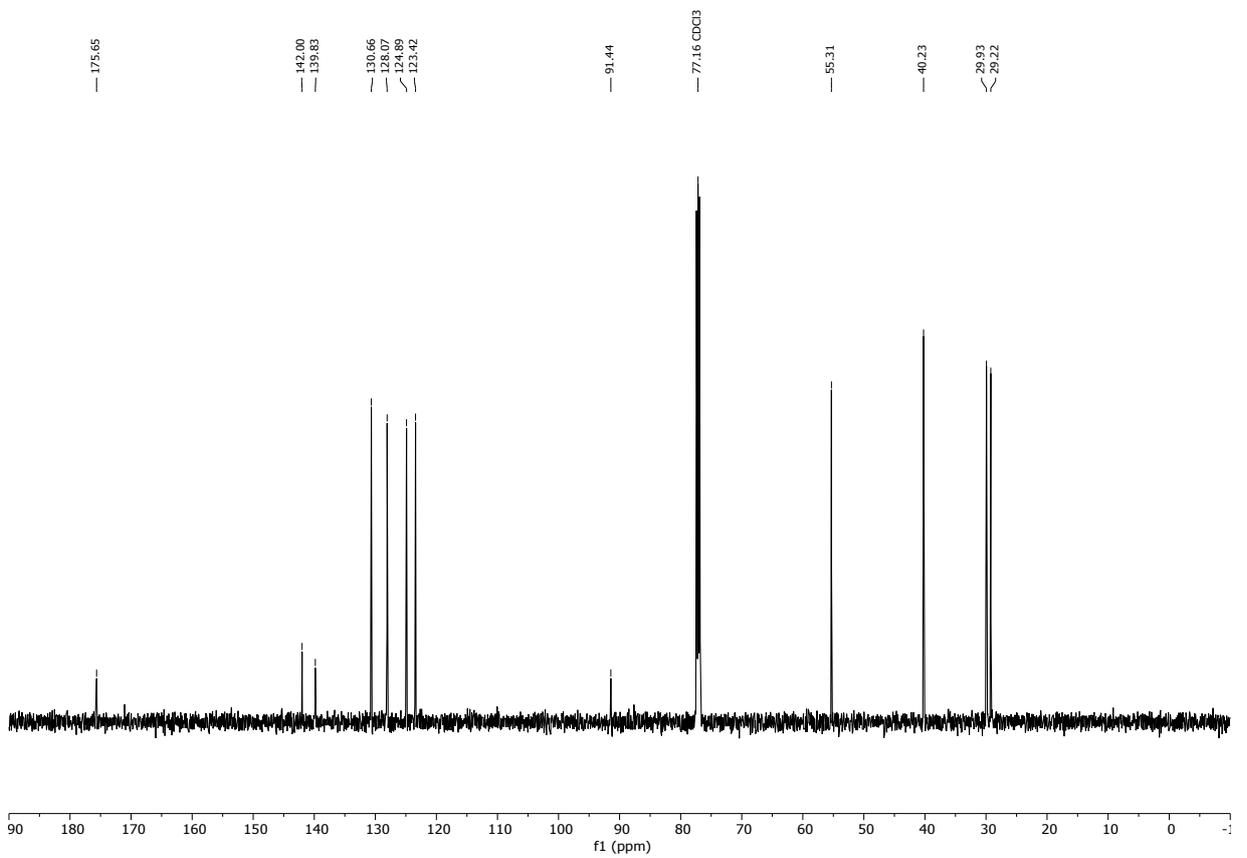
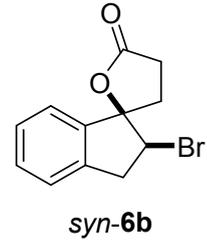
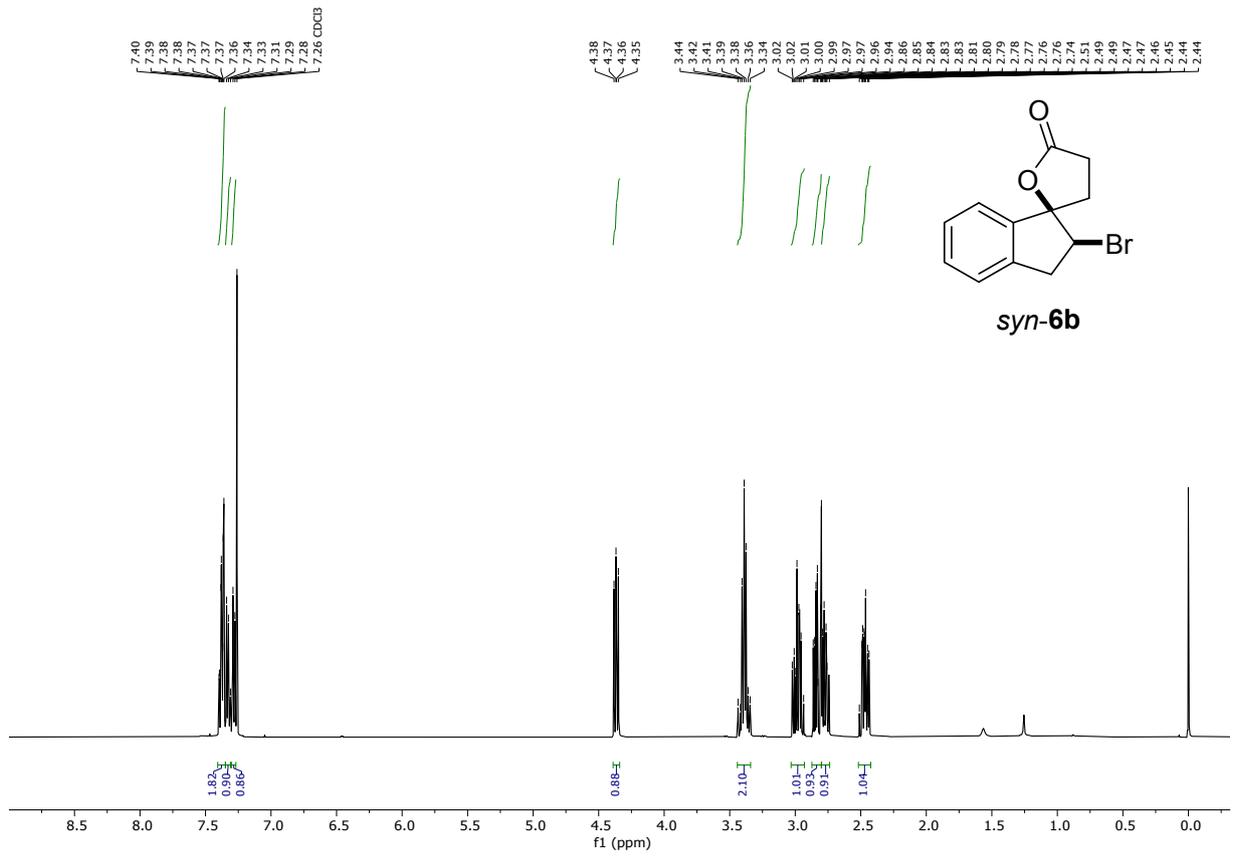


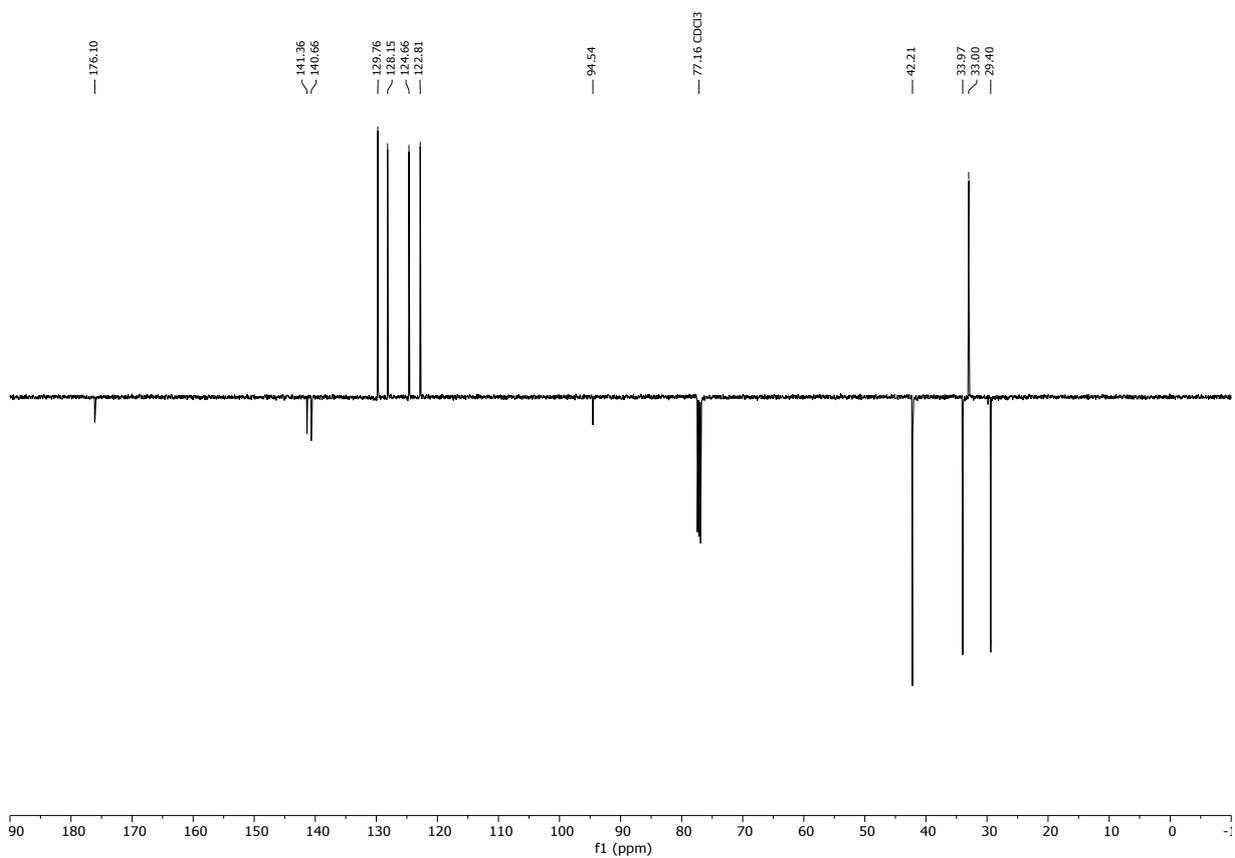
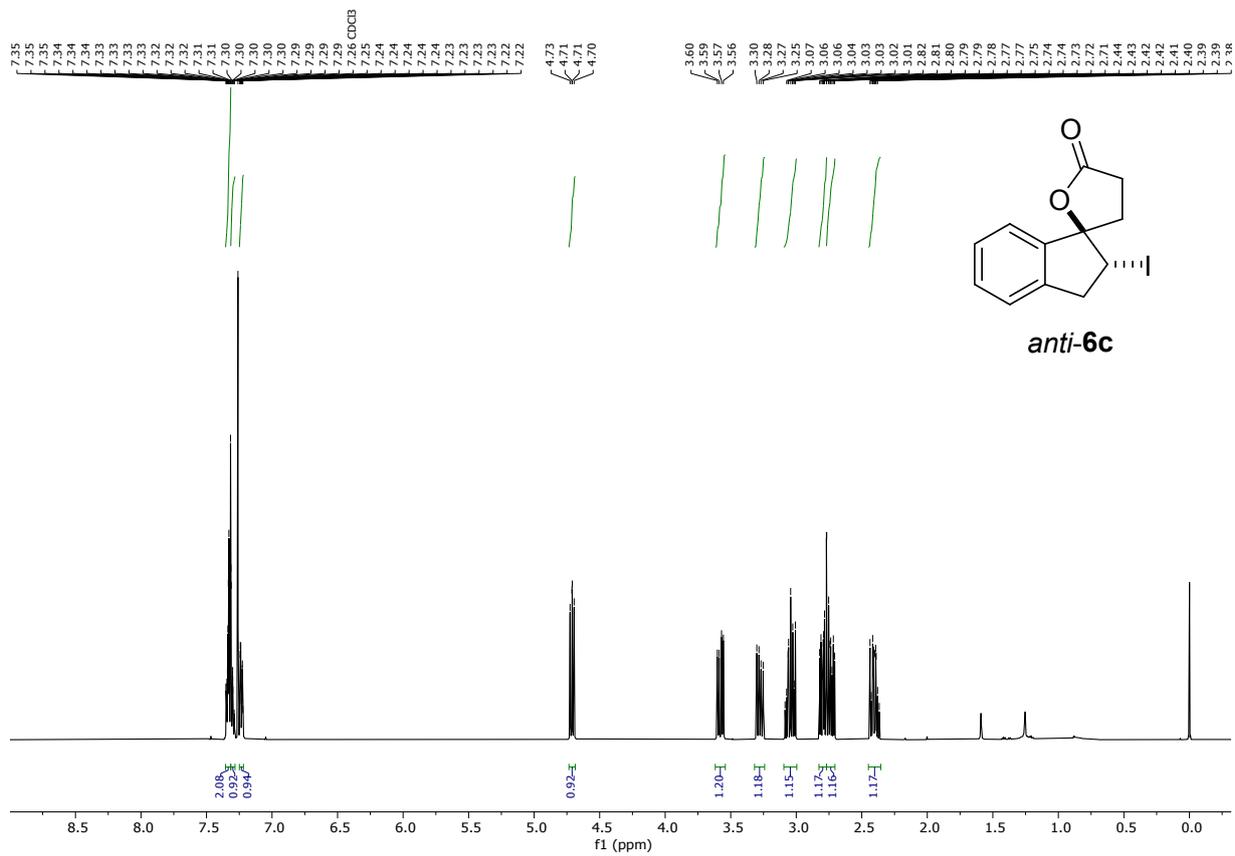


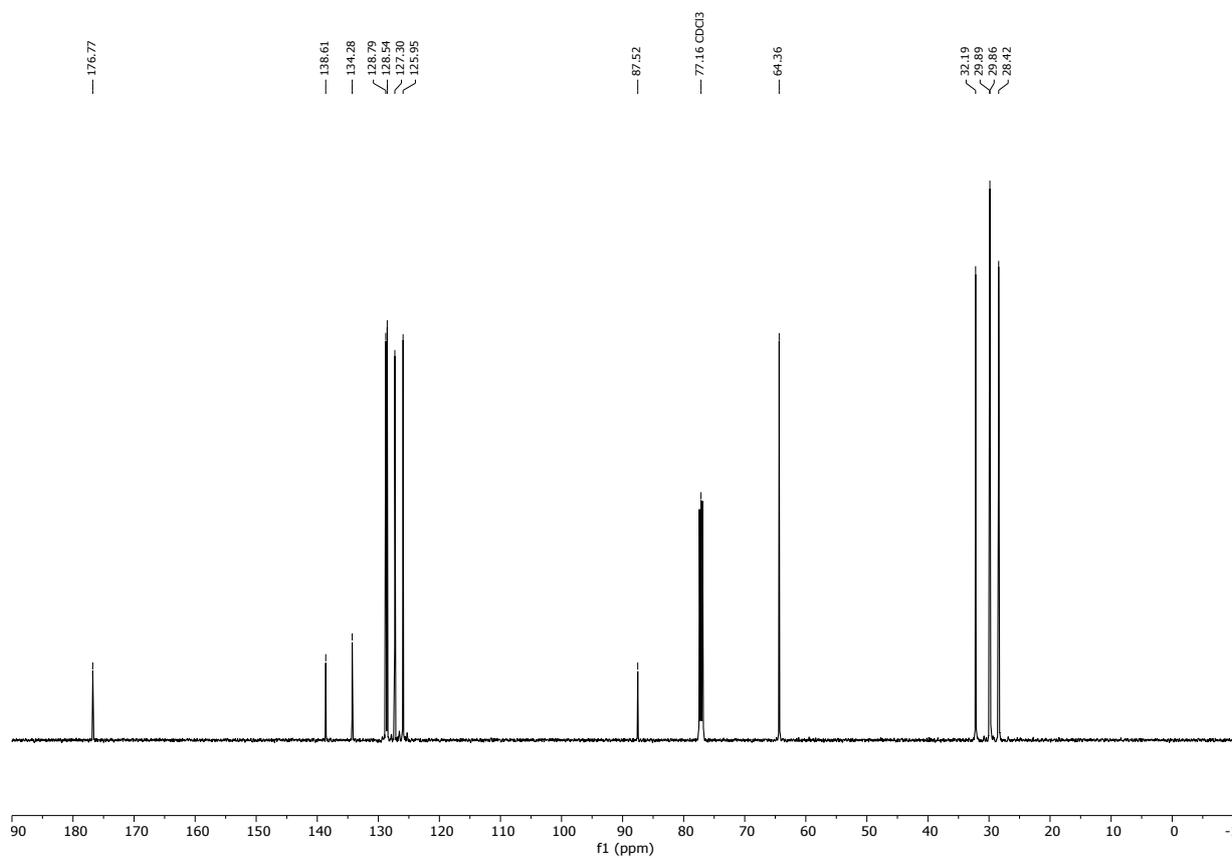
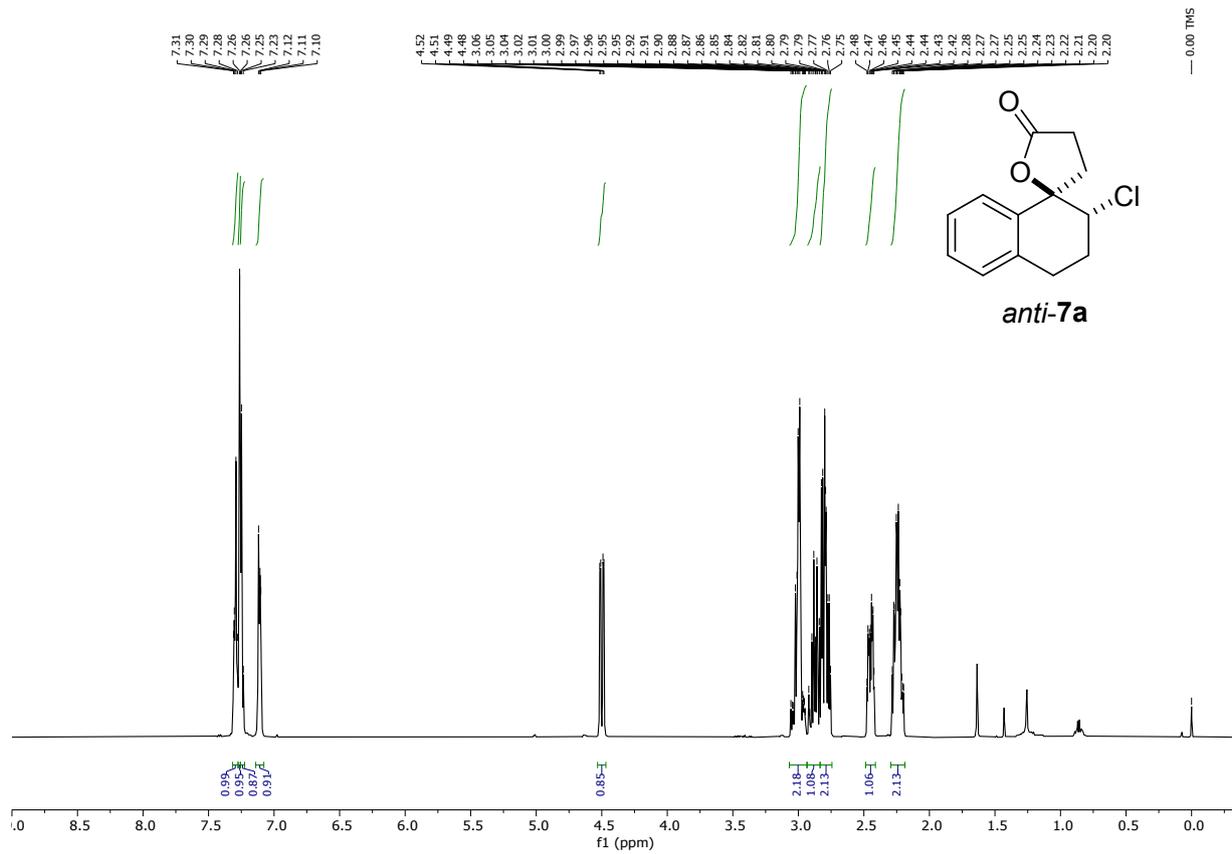


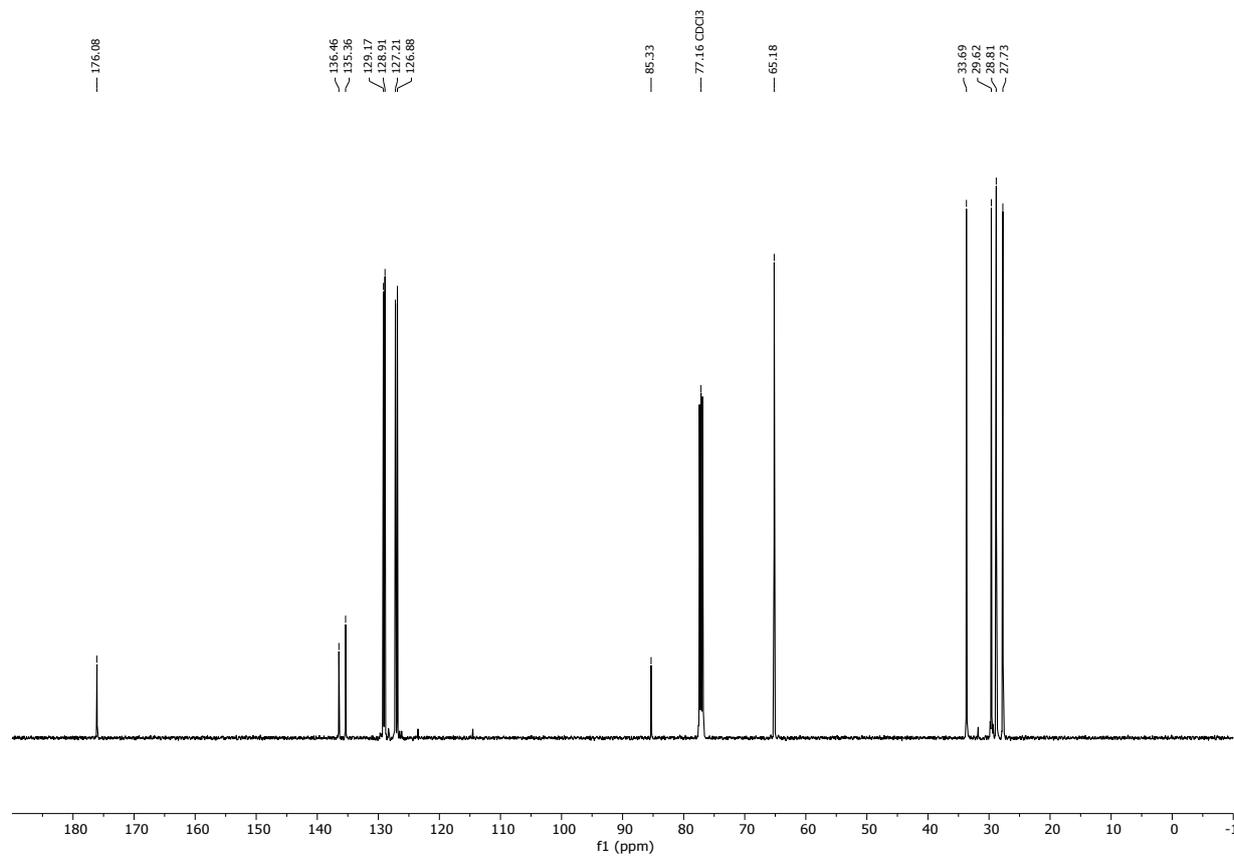
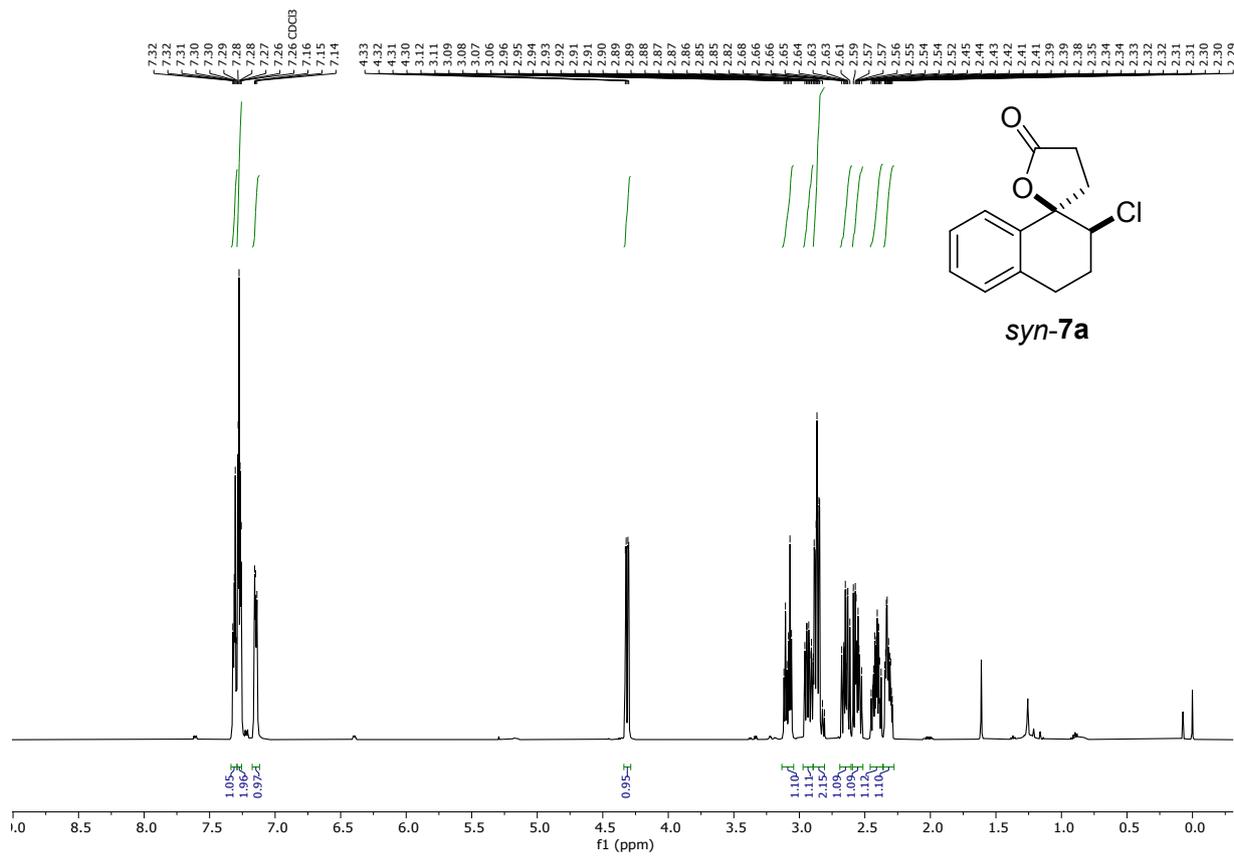


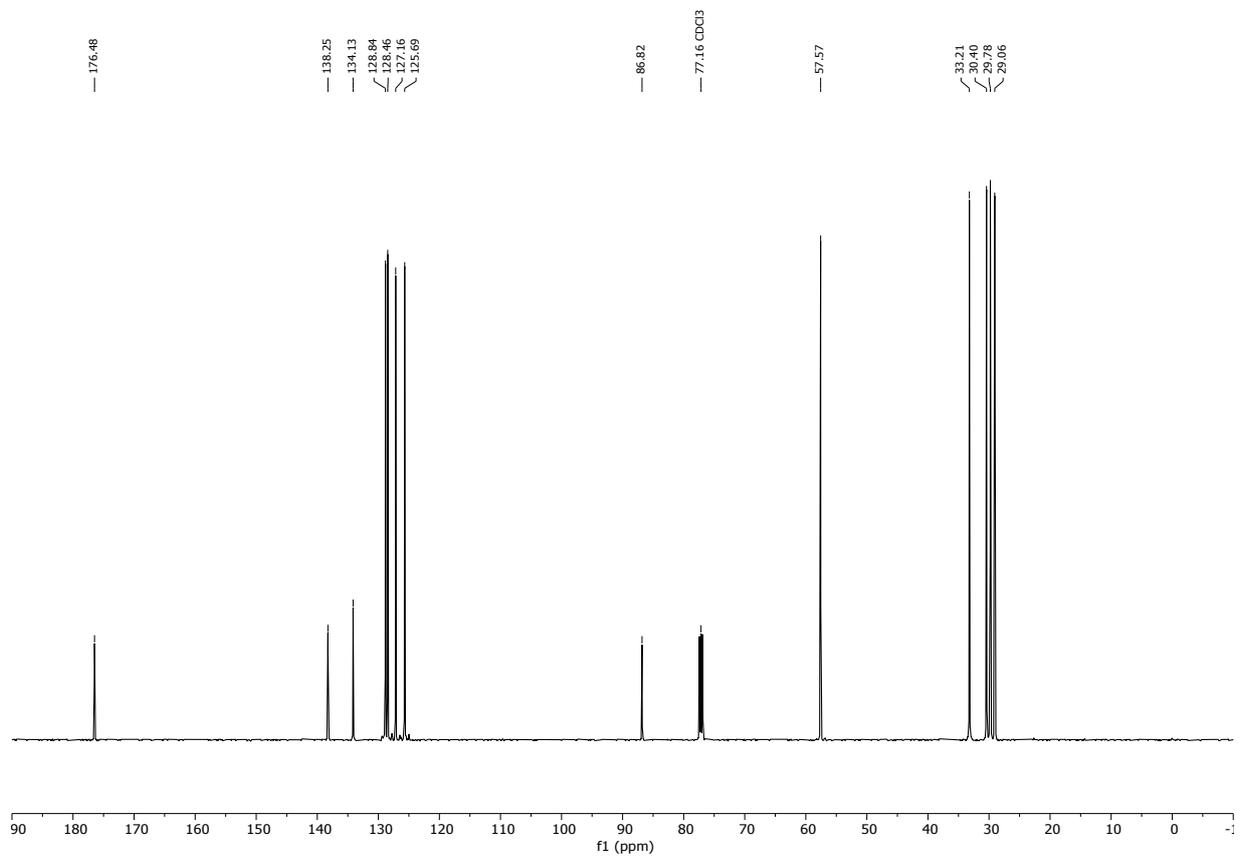
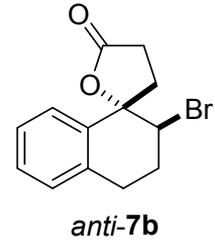
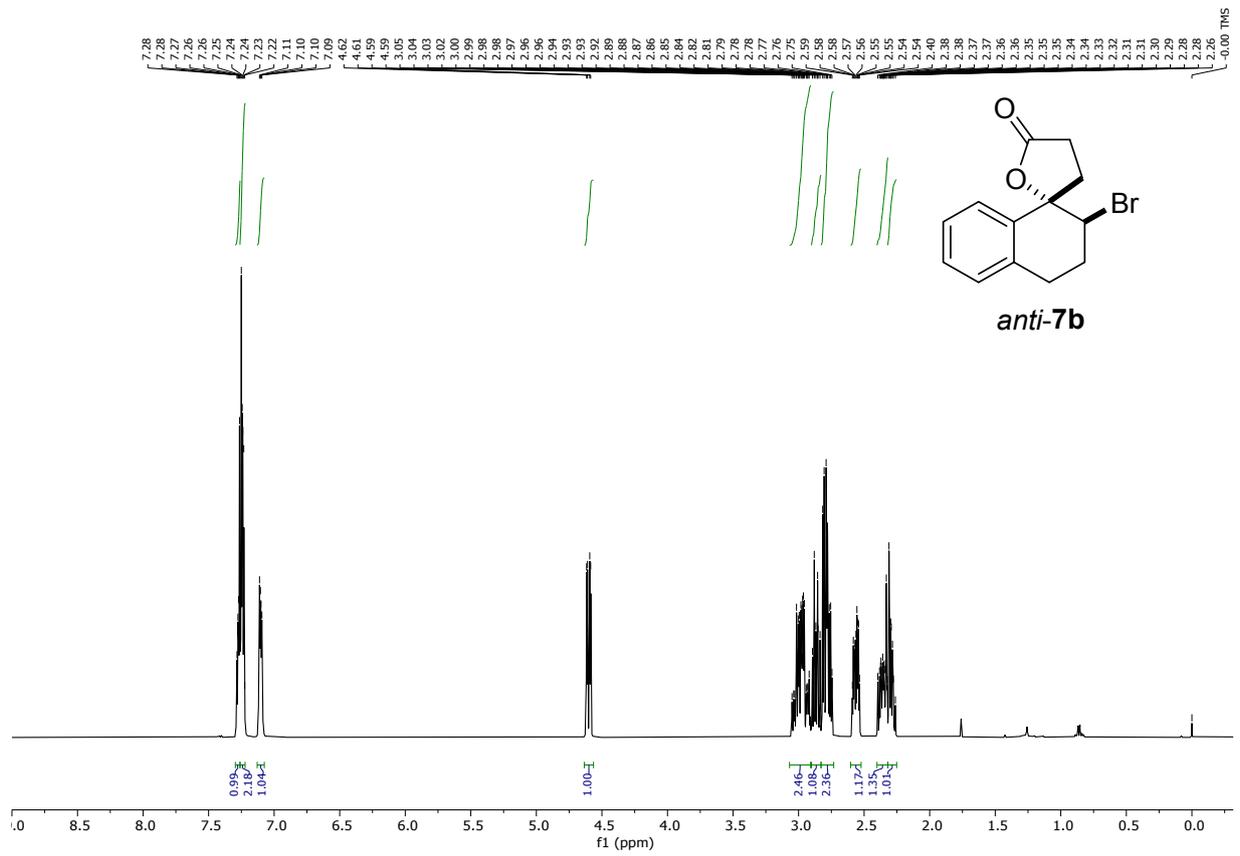


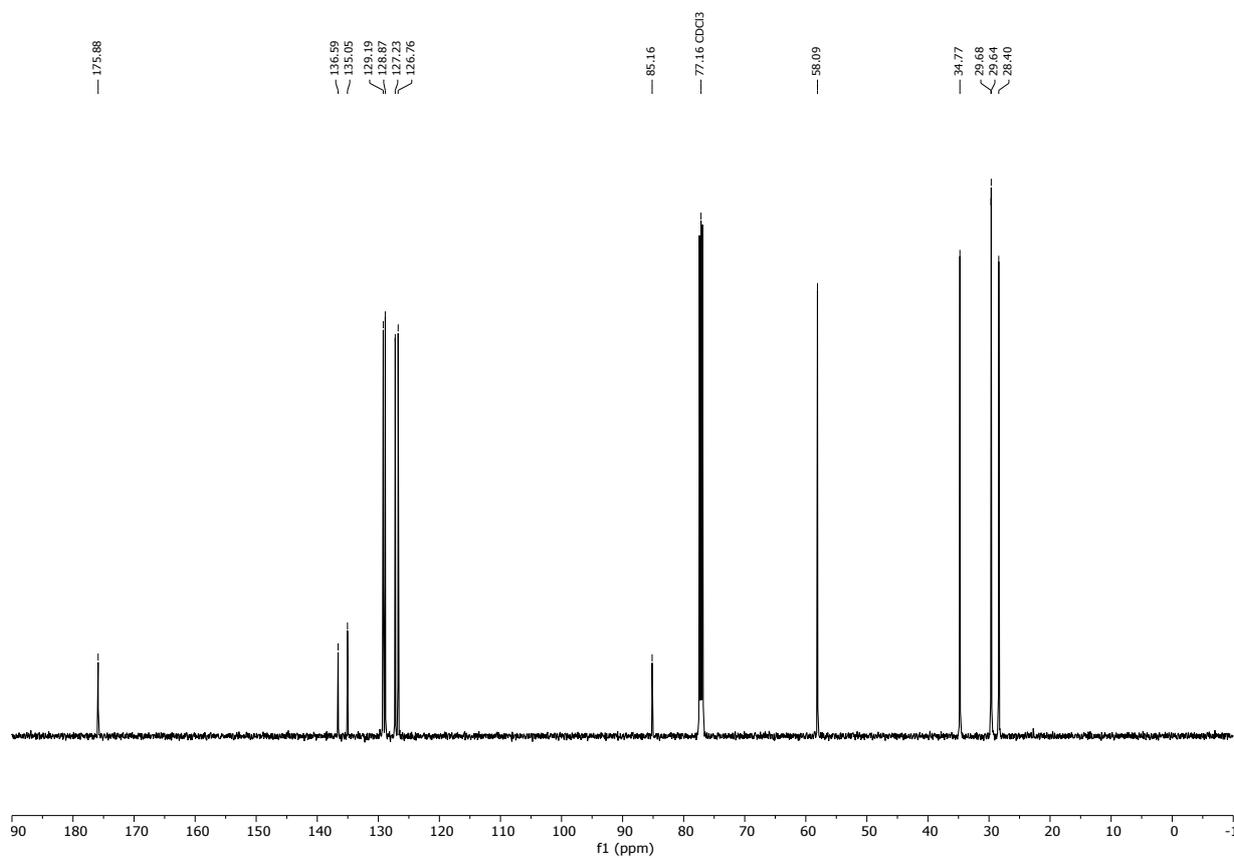
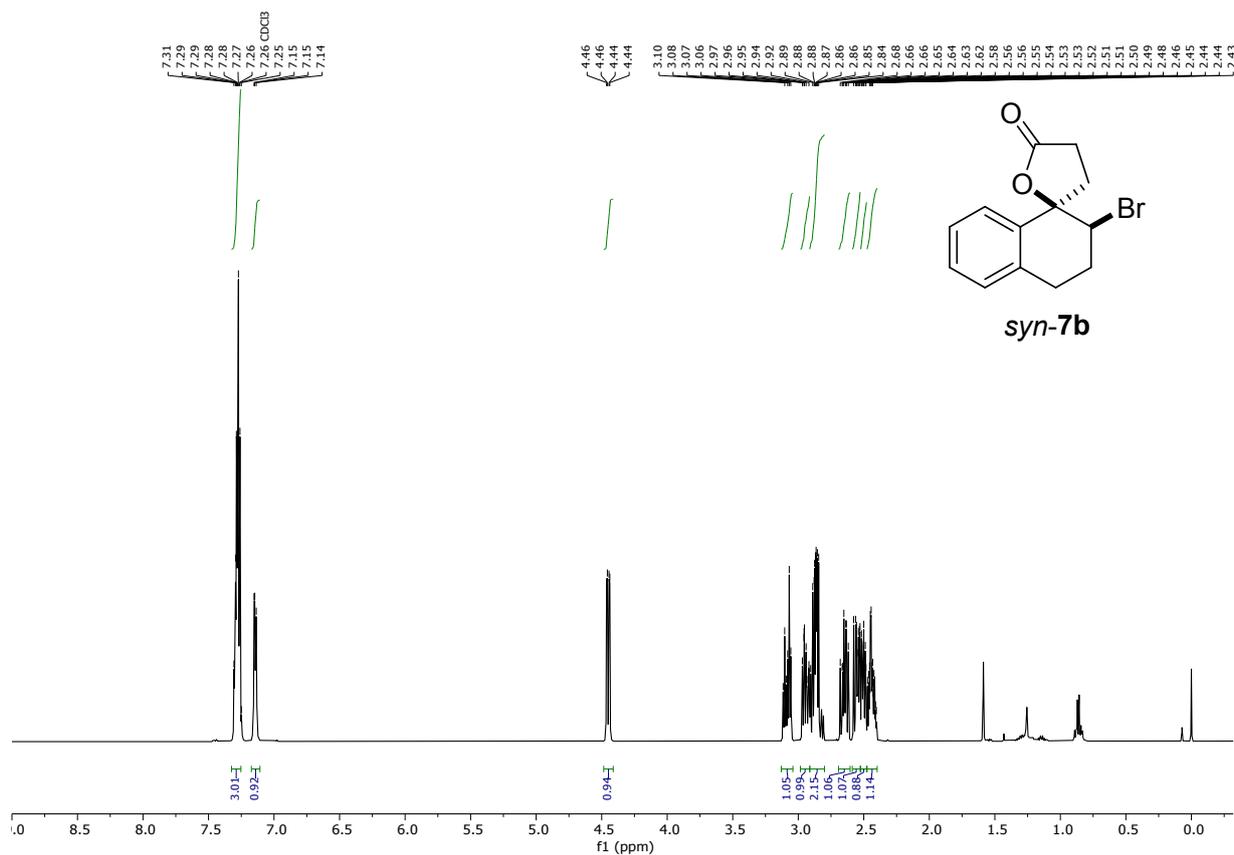


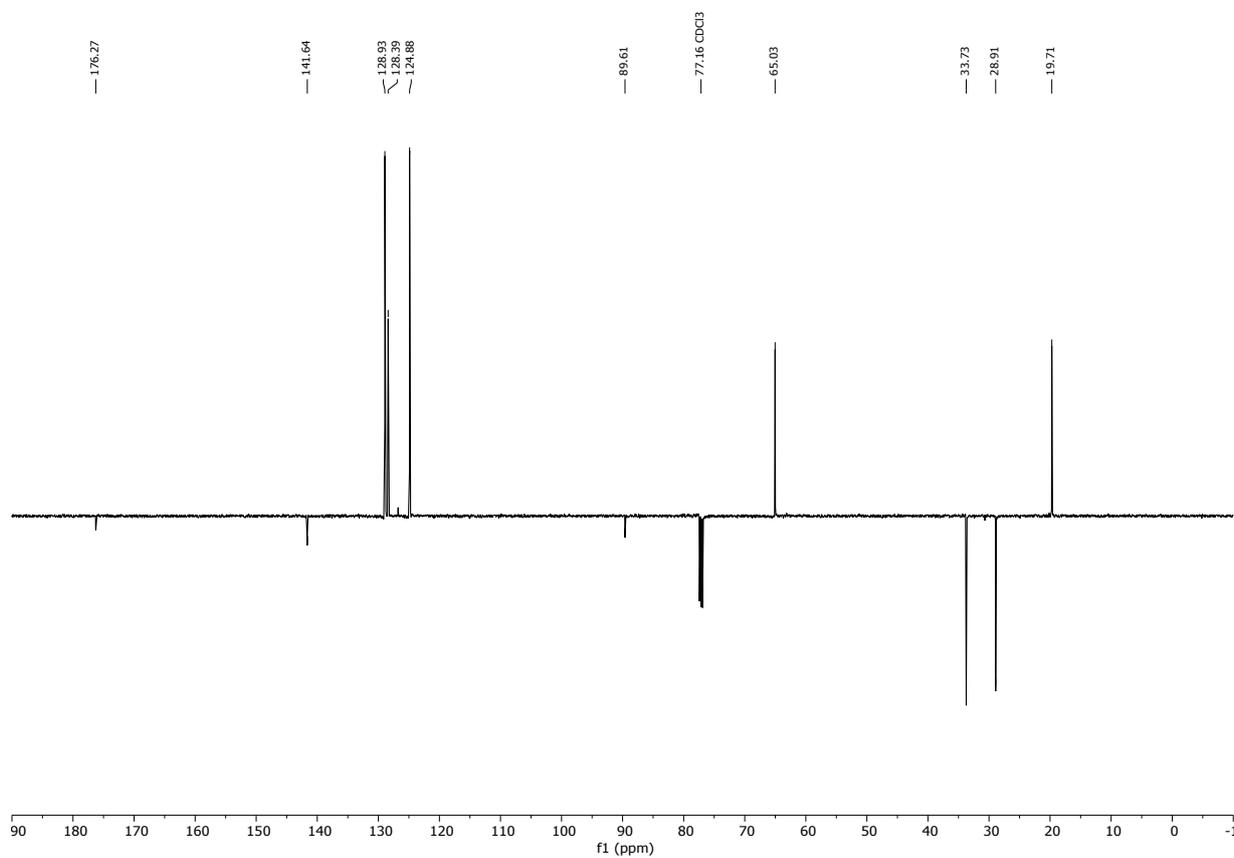
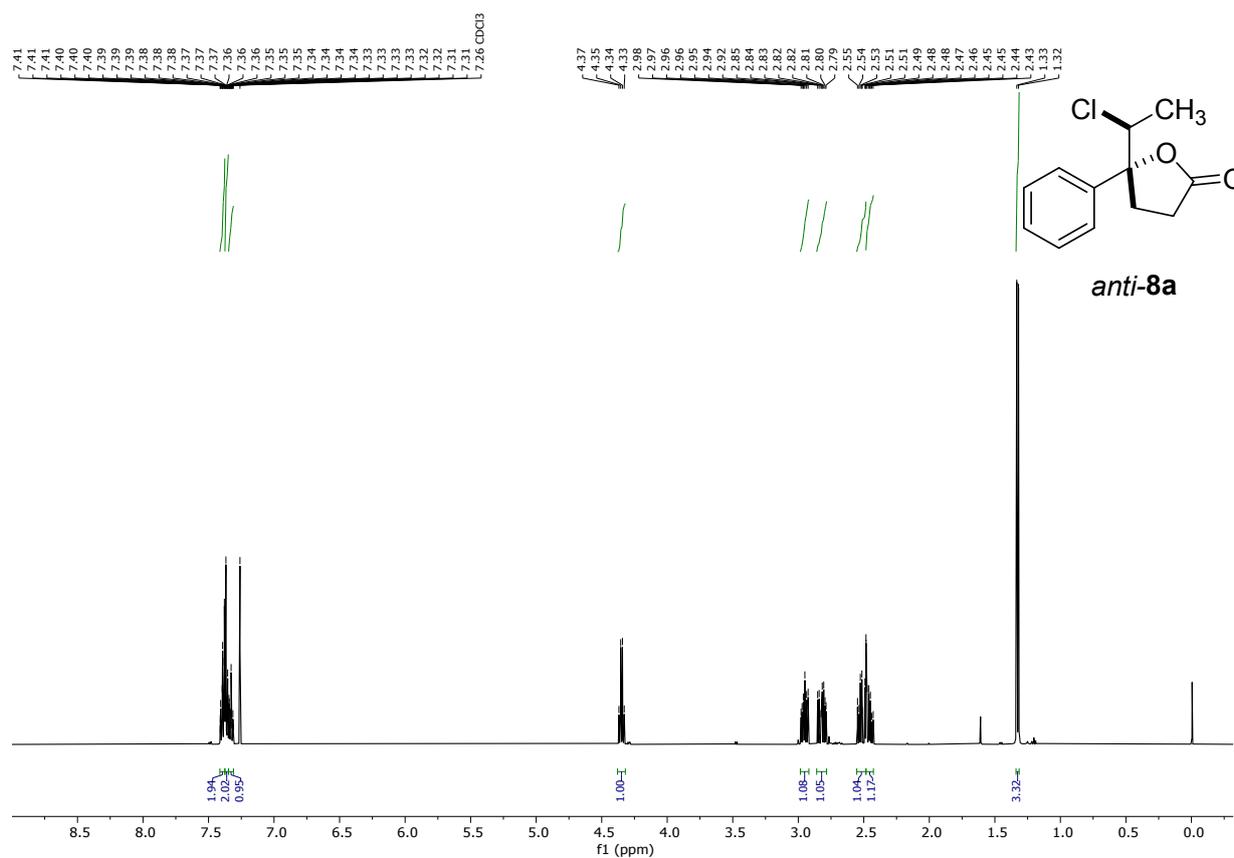


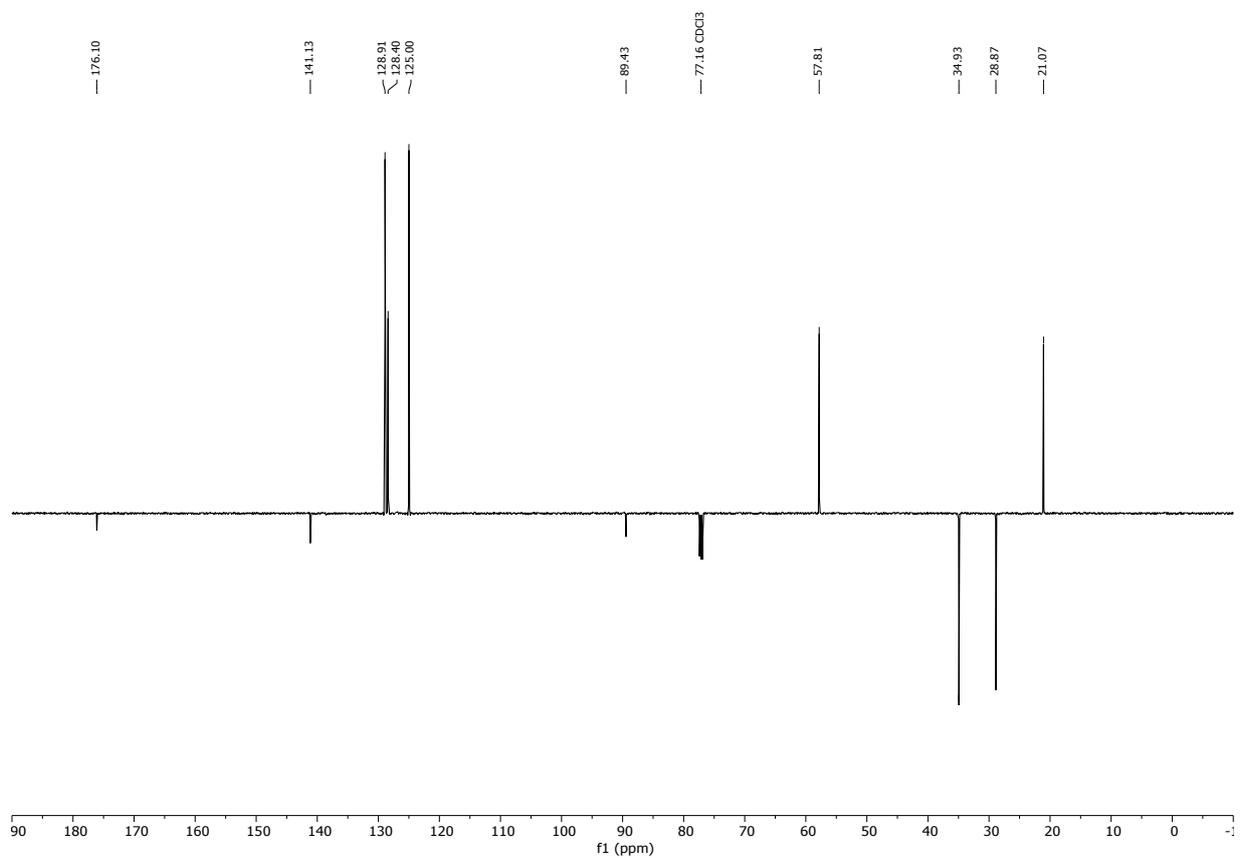
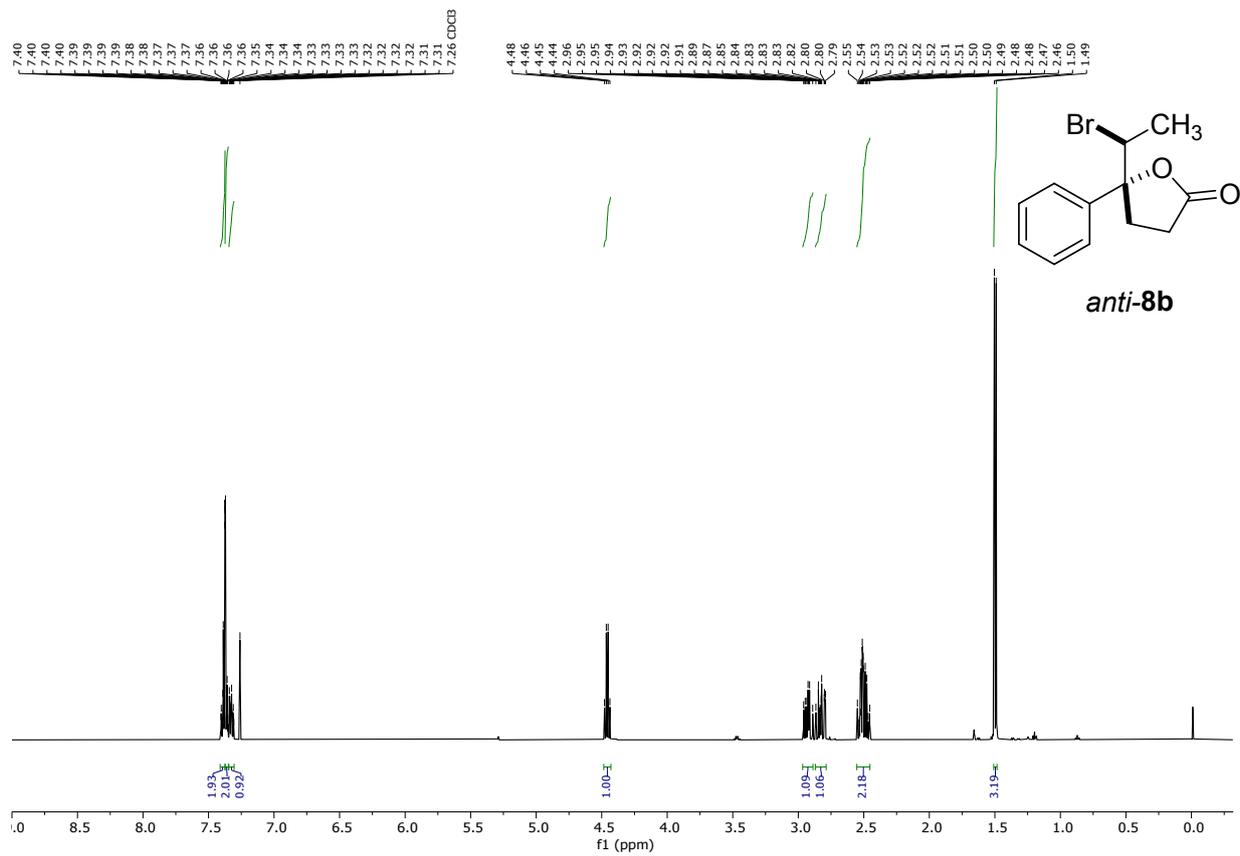












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