

## Supporting Information

### Divergent Construction of 3-(Indol-2-yl)succinimide/maleimide and Fused Benzodiazepine Skeletons from 2-(1*H*-Indol-1-yl)anilines and Maleimides

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## I. General experimental information

Unless otherwise noted, all reagents including catalyst  $[\text{Ru}(p\text{-cymene})\text{Cl}_2]_2$  were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification. 2-(1*H*-Indol-1-yl)anilines (**1**) were prepared based on literature procedures.<sup>1</sup> Melting points were recorded with a micro melting point apparatus and uncorrected. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz or 600 MHz. The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded at 100 MHz or 150 MHz. The <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded at 376 MHz or 565 MHz. Chemical shifts were expressed in parts per million ( $\delta$ ), and were reported as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), dd (doublet of doublets), m (multiplet), br s (broad singlet), etc. The coupling constants  $J$  were given in Hz. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained *via* ESI mode by using a MicrOTOF mass spectrometer. All reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) using silica gel plates (silica gel 60 F254 0.25 mm), and components were visualized by observation under UV light (254 and 365 nm).

## II. Experimental procedures and spectroscopic data

### 1. Typical procedure for the synthesis of **3a** and spectroscopic data of **3a-3v**

To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 2-(1*H*-indol-1-yl)aniline (**1a**, 41.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), EA (2 mL), *N*-methylmaleimide (**2a**, 33.3 mg, 0.3 mmol), [Ru(*p*-cymene)Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (6.12 mg, 0.01 mmol), AgSbF<sub>6</sub> (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol) and AcOH (57 μL, 1.0 mmol) with stirring. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C under air for 12 h. Upon completion, it was cooled to room temperature, quenched with saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (1 mL), filtered through a pad of celite, and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL × 3). The combined organic phases were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1) as eluent to afford **3a**. **3b-3v** were obtained in a similar manner except for that the reaction for the synthesis of **3v** was carried out at 60 °C.

#### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3a)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). Yellow solid (43.4 mg, 68%, dr = 0.6:0.4), mp 90.2-92.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.62-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.27 (m, 1.4H), 7.15-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.6H), 6.96-6.94 (m, 1H), 6.88-6.80 (m, 2H), 6.57 (s, 0.6H), 6.56 (s, 0.4H), 4.13-4.08 (m, 1H), 3.54 (br s, 2H), 2.96-2.83 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.8, 176.0, 175.7, 175.6, 144.8, 144.5, 138.0, 137.6, 136.0, 135.9, 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 130.3, 127.7, 127.6, 122.7, 121.8, 121.7, 120.9, 120.8, 120.7, 120.6, 119.0, 118.7, 116.7, 116.3, 110.5, 110.4, 102.4, 101.7, 39.2, 39.0, 36.4, 35.9, 25.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 342.1213; Found 342.1207.

#### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-6-methyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3b)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (40.0 mg, 60%, dr = 0.55:0.45), mp 180.8-181.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 1.55H), 7.02 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 7.8 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 1.2 Hz, 0.45H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.89-6.81 (m, 2H), 6.74 (s, 0.55H), 6.73 (s, 0.45H), 6.52 (s, 0.45H), 6.51 (s, 0.55H), 4.11-4.06 (m, 1H), 3.70 (s, 0.9H), 3.41 (s, 1.1H), 2.95-2.83 (m, 5H), 2.38 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.9, 176.0, 175.8, 175.7, 144.9, 144.6, 138.4, 138.0, 135.2, 135.1, 132.7, 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 130.3, 125.5, 125.4, 122.6, 122.5, 122.0, 121.9, 120.4, 120.3, 118.9, 118.6, 116.6, 116.2, 110.3, 110.2, 102.2, 101.6, 39.2, 39.0, 36.4, 35.9, 25.1, 21.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 334.1550; Found 334.1543.

**3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-6-methoxy-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3c)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (39.8 mg, 57%, dr = 0.6:0.4), mp 200.1-202.0 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.47 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.27 (m, 1.6H), 7.03 (dd, J<sub>1</sub> = 7.8 Hz, J<sub>2</sub> = 1.2 Hz, 0.4H), 6.89-6.80 (m, 3H), 6.50 (s, 0.4H), 6.49 (s, 0.6H), 6.40 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 0.6H), 6.39 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 0.4H), 4.10-4.05 (m, 1H), 3.733 (s, 1.8H), 3.729 (s, 1.2H), 3.71 (s, 0.8H), 3.43 (s, 1.2H), 2.95-2.82 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.9, 176.1, 175.8, 175.7, 157.1, 144.8, 144.5, 138.8, 138.4, 134.6, 134.5, 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 130.3, 121.8, 121.7, 121.4, 121.3, 119.0, 118.7, 116.7, 116.3, 110.8, 110.7, 102.3, 101.7, 93.8, 93.7, 55.7, 39.3, 39.0, 36.4, 35.9, 25.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 372.1319; Found 372.1309.

**3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-6-fluoro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3d)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (43.8 mg, 65%, dr = 0.5:0.5), mp 215.0-216.2 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.52-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.27 (m, 1.5H), 7.02-7.01 (m, 0.5H), 6.92-6.81 (m, 3H), 6.65-6.62 (m, 1H), 6.55 (s, 0.5H), 6.54 (s, 0.5H), 4.12-4.07 (m, 1H), 3.71 (s, 1H), 3.41 (s, 1H), 2.97-2.83 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.7, 175.9, 175.6, 175.5, 160.3 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 237.0 Hz), 144.7, 144.4, 138.1 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 11.9 Hz), 137.7 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 12.0 Hz), 136.4 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 2.3 Hz), 136.3 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 2.7 Hz), 130.8, 130.7, 130.4, 130.1, 124.1, 124.0, 121.6 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 9.9 Hz), 121.5, 121.48 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 9.9 Hz), 121.4, 119.1, 118.8, 116.8, 116.4, 109.6 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 25.8 Hz), 109.5 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 23.4 Hz), 102.4, 101.8, 97.0 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 27.2 Hz), 96.9 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 26.1 Hz), 39.2, 39.0, 36.3, 35.8, 25.1. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -119.39 – -119.43 (m). HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 360.1119; Found 360.1119.

**3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-6-chloro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3e)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (45.2 mg, 64%, dr = 0.55:0.45), mp 220.0-221.7 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.50 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.27 (m, 1.55H), 7.11-7.10 (m, 1H), 7.00 (d,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 0.45H), 6.94 (s, 0.55H), 6.93 (s, 0.45H), 6.88-6.81 (m, 2H), 6.55 (s, 0.45H), 6.54 (s, 0.55H), 4.11-4.06 (m, 1H), 3.70 (s, 0.9H), 3.41 (s, 1.1H), 2.96-2.82 (m, 5H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  176.6, 175.7, 175.5, 175.4, 144.7, 144.4, 138.4, 138.0, 136.8, 136.7, 130.9, 130.8, 130.4, 130.2, 128.7, 126.2, 126.1, 121.6, 121.59, 121.56, 121.1, 119.1, 118.8, 116.9, 116.4, 110.45, 110.41, 102.4, 101.7, 39.2, 38.9, 36.2, 35.7, 25.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na] $^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{16}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}_2\text{Na}$  376.0823; Found 376.0814.

**3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-6-bromo-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3f)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (48.4 mg, 61%, dr = 0.6:0.4), mp 236.1-236.7 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.56-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.16 (m, 2.6H), 6.93-6.89 (m, 1.4H), 6.83-6.81 (m, 1H), 6.72-6.63 (m, 2H), 4.93 (s, 1.2H), 4.77 (s, 0.8H), 4.28 (dd,  $J_1$  = 9.6 Hz,  $J_2$  = 5.2 Hz, 0.6H), 4.08-4.04 (m, 0.4H), 2.95-2.84 (m, 2H), 2.81 (s, 1.2H), 2.70 (s, 1.8H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO):  $\delta$  177.3, 176.6, 176.4, 176.0, 146.3, 139.2, 139.0, 138.4, 138.3, 130.8, 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 127.1, 126.9, 123.4, 122.5, 120.0, 119.9, 117.0, 116.9, 116.6, 116.4, 115.0, 114.8, 113.1, 112.9, 103.8, 101.2, 38.9, 36.5, 35.0, 25.2, 25.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na] $^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{16}\text{BrN}_3\text{O}_2\text{Na}$  420.0318; Found 420.0295.

**3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3g)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (57.3 mg, 74%, dr = 0.7:0.3), mp 82.7-84.6 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.68 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.28 (m, 1.7H), 7.22 (s, 0.7H), 7.21 (s, 0.3H), 7.02-7.01 (m, 0.3H), 6.90-6.82 (m, 2H), 6.63 (s, 0.3H), 6.62 (s, 0.7H), 4.14 (dd,  $J_1$  = 9.6 Hz,  $J_2$  = 5.4 Hz, 0.3H), 4.10 (dd,  $J_1$  = 9.6 Hz,  $J_2$  = 5.4 Hz, 0.7H), 3.72 (br s, 0.6H), 3.42 (br s, 1.4H), 2.97-2.83 (m, 5H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  176.4, 175.6, 175.4, 175.3, 144.7, 144.4, 139.0, 138.9, 136.9, 136.5, 131.1, 131.0, 130.4, 130.2, 130.1, 130.0, 125.0 (q,  $^1J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 270.3 Hz), 124.8 (q,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 31.8 Hz), 121.2, 121.1, 120.8,

120.7, 119.2, 118.9, 117.5 (q,  $^3J_{C-F} = 3.6$  Hz), 117.0, 116.5, 108.0 (q,  $^3J_{C-F} = 4.4$  Hz), 102.5, 101.8, 39.2, 38.9, 36.2, 35.7, 25.18, 25.16.  $^{19}F$  NMR (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -60.51 (s), -60.52 (s). HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 410.1087; Found 410.1074.

**3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-5-methyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3h)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (44.0 mg, 66%, dr = 0.5:0.5), mp 91.2-93.0 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.28-7.23 (m, 1.5H), 7.00 (dd,  $J_1 = 7.2$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 0.5H), 6.96 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.85-6.78 (m, 3H), 6.47 (s, 0.5H), 6.46 (s, 0.5H), 4.08-4.04 (m, 1H), 3.69 (br s, 1H), 3.41 (br s, 1H), 2.93-2.81 (m, 5H), 2.42 (s, 3H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.8, 176.0, 175.8, 175.7, 144.9, 144.6, 136.4, 136.0, 135.9, 130.5, 130.4, 130.3, 130.2, 130.14, 130.11, 128.0, 127.9, 124.3, 122.0, 121.9, 120.4, 120.3, 118.9, 118.6, 116.6, 116.2, 110.14, 110.12, 101.9, 101.2, 39.2, 39.0, 36.4, 35.9, 25.1, 21.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 356.1369; Found 356.1363.

**3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-5-methoxy-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3i)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (38.4 mg, 55%, dr = 0.5:0.5), mp 90.3-92.0 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.30-7.25 (m, 1.5H), 7.06 (d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.01 (dd,  $J_1 = 7.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 0.5H), 6.87-6.79 (m, 4H), 6.49 (s, 0.5H), 6.48 (s, 0.5H), 4.10-4.05 (m, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 1H), 3.40 (s, 1H), 2.96-2.83 (m, 5H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.8, 176.0, 175.8, 175.6, 155.0, 154.9, 144.9, 144.6, 136.4, 136.3, 133.2, 132.8, 130.5, 130.4, 130.4, 130.3, 128.1, 128.0, 122.0, 121.9, 118.9, 118.6, 116.7, 116.2, 112.8, 111.24, 111.21, 102.5, 102.4, 101.9, 101.4, 55.94, 55.93, 39.3, 39.0, 36.4, 35.9, 25.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 372.1319; Found 372.1306.

**3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-5-fluoro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3j)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (48.5 mg, 72%, dr = 0.5:0.5), mp 73.2-74.0 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.30-7.24 (m, 2.5H), 7.01 (dd,  $J_1 = 7.2$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 0.5H), 6.91-6.81 (m, 4H), 6.531 (s, 0.5H), 6.526 (s, 0.5H), 4.11-4.07 (m, 1H), 3.70 (s, 1H), 3.39 (s, 1H), 2.98-2.83 (m, 5H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$

NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.6, 175.8, 175.6, 175.5, 158.6 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 234.3 Hz), 158.5 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 234.3 Hz), 144.8, 144.5, 137.6, 137.5, 134.5, 134.1, 130.7, 130.6, 130.5, 130.2, 128.0 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 127.9 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 7.5 Hz), 121.5, 119.1, 118.7, 116.8, 116.4, 111.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 6.3 Hz), 111.18 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 6.5 Hz), 111.16, 111.0, 105.6 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 23.0 Hz), 105.5 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 22.8 Hz), 102.2 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 4.4 Hz), 101.7 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 4.2 Hz), 39.2, 39.0, 36.3, 35.8, 25.2. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -123.45 – -123.49 (m), -123.51 – -123.55 (m). HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 360.1119; Found 360.1106.

### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-5-chloro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3k)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (47.3 mg, 67%, dr = 0.6:0.4), mp 83.9-85.6 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.57 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.27 (m, 1.6H), 7.11-7.09 (m, 1H), 7.00 (dd, J<sub>1</sub> = 7.8 Hz, J<sub>2</sub> = 1.2 Hz, 0.4H), 6.88-6.81 (m, 3H), 6.52 (s, 0.4H), 6.51 (s, 0.6H), 4.11-4.07 (m, 1H), 3.69 (s, 0.8H), 3.39 (s, 1.2H), 2.98-2.82 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.5, 175.7, 175.5, 175.4, 144.7, 144.4, 137.4, 137.3, 136.3, 135.9, 130.8, 130.7, 130.4, 130.1, 128.7, 128.6, 126.53, 126.50, 123.0, 121.3, 120.1, 120.0, 119.1, 118.8, 116.8, 116.4, 111.6, 111.5, 101.9, 101.3, 39.2, 38.9, 36.2, 35.7, 25.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 376.0823; Found 376.0820.

### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-5-bromo-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3l)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (51.6 mg, 65%, dr = 0.6:0.4), mp 80.0-81.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.73 (d, J = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.28 (m, 1.6H), 7.23 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 0.4H), 6.88-6.81 (m, 3H), 6.514 (s, 0.4H), 6.510 (s, 0.6H), 4.12-4.07 (m, 1H), 3.68 (s, 0.8H), 3.38 (s, 1.2H), 2.97-2.82 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.5, 175.7, 175.5, 175.4, 144.7, 144.4, 137.2, 137.1, 136.6, 136.2, 130.8, 130.7, 130.4, 130.1, 129.3, 129.2, 125.6, 123.2, 123.1, 121.3, 119.1, 118.8, 116.8, 116.4, 114.1, 114.0, 112.0, 111.9, 101.8, 101.2, 39.1, 38.9, 36.2, 35.7, 25.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 420.0318; Found 420.0303.

### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-4-methyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3m)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (37.3 mg, 56%, dr = 0.6:0.4), mp 209.0-209.5 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.30-7.26 (m, 1.4H), 7.07-7.01 (m, 1.6H), 6.94 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.87-6.77 (m, 3H), 6.59 (s, 0.6H), 6.58 (s, 0.4H), 4.14-4.10 (m, 1H), 3.68 (s, 1.2H), 3.40 (s, 0.8H), 2.93-2.87 (m, 5H), 2.55 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  176.9, 176.1, 175.8, 175.7, 144.8, 144.5, 137.7, 137.3, 135.4, 135.3, 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 130.3, 130.2, 127.6, 127.5, 122.9, 122.1, 122.0, 121.0, 120.9, 118.9, 118.6, 116.7, 116.3, 108.04, 108.01, 100.9, 100.2, 39.3, 39.0, 36.5, 36.0, 25.1, 18.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{Na}$  356.1369; Found 356.1354.

### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-4-fluoro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3n)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (41.8 mg, 62%, dr = 0.6:0.4), mp 155.0-156.2 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.30-7.26 (m, 1.6H), 7.07-7.03 (m, 1H), 7.01 (dd,  $J_1 = 7.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 0.4H), 6.88-6.79 (m, 3H), 6.74-6.71 (m, 1H), 6.66 (s, 0.4H), 6.65 (s, 0.6H), 4.12-4.06 (m, 1H), 3.71(br s, 0.8H), 3.42 (br s, 1.2H), 2.97-2.84 (m, 5H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  176.5, 175.7, 175.5, 175.4, 156.2 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 247.7$  Hz), 156.1 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 248.1$  Hz), 144.7, 144.4, 140.4 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 11.7$  Hz), 140.0 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 10.4$  Hz), 136.1, 136.0, 130.8, 130.7, 130.4, 130.1, 123.3, 123.2, 121.5, 121.4, 119.0, 118.7, 116.84 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.3$  Hz), 116.83, 116.8 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 22.2$  Hz), 116.4, 106.6 (d,  $^4J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.0$  Hz), 106.5 (d,  $^4J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.3$  Hz), 105.7 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 18.6$  Hz), 105.6 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 18.9$  Hz), 98.4, 97.7, 39.2, 38.9, 36.3, 35.7, 25.2.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (565 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -122.12 (dd,  $J_1 = 10.2$  Hz,  $J_2 = 5.7$  Hz), -122.16 ((dd,  $J_1 = 9.6$  Hz,  $J_2 = 5.1$  Hz)). HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{16}\text{FN}_3\text{O}_2\text{Na}$  360.1119; Found 360.1100.

### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-7-fluoro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3o)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). Yellow solid (39.8 mg, 59%, dr = 0.55:0.45), mp 137.8-138.7 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.35-7.30 (m, 1.45H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.06-6.99 (m, 1.55H), 6.83-6.75 (m, 3H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 4.07-4.01 (m, 1H), 3.57 (br s, 2H), 2.90-2.81 (m, 5H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  176.6, 175.8, 175.6, 175.4, 149.7 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 246.2$  Hz), 149.6 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 246.3$  Hz), 144.7, 144.6, 137.5, 137.4,

131.6 (d,  $^3J_{C-F} = 8.7$  Hz), 131.5 (d,  $^3J_{C-F} = 8.6$  Hz), 130.6, 130.5, 130.0, 129.9, 125.6 (d,  $^2J_{C-F} = 35.7$  Hz), 125.5 (d,  $^2J_{C-F} = 35.4$  Hz), 123.4, 123.3, 121.0 (d,  $^4J_{C-F} = 2.4$  Hz), 120.9 (d,  $^4J_{C-F} = 3.9$  Hz), 118.6, 118.3, 116.6 (d,  $^3J_{C-F} = 6.4$  Hz), 116.5 (d,  $^3J_{C-F} = 7.3$  Hz), 116.4, 116.0, 108.5 (d,  $^2J_{C-F} = 16.9$  Hz), 108.4 (d,  $^2J_{C-F} = 17.0$  Hz), 103.2, 102.5, 39.0, 38.7, 36.3, 35.9, 25.2, 25.1.  $^{19}F$  NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -135.64 (d,  $J = 10.5$  Hz), -135.83 (d,  $J = 11.3$  Hz). HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 360.1119; Found 360.1108.

### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-7-chloro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3p)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (46.6 mg, 66%, dr = 0.5:0.5), mp 134.6-136.0 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.51-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.30 (td,  $J_1 = 7.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 0.5H), 7.27-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.13-7.12 (m, 1H), 7.06-7.02 (m, 1.5H), 6.85-6.76 (m, 2H), 6.59 (s, 0.5H), 6.58 (s, 0.5H), 4.05-4.01 (m, 1H), 3.47 (br s, 2H), 2.97-2.86 (m, 5H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  176.6, 175.8, 175.6, 175.5, 145.6, 145.5, 138.0, 137.9, 133.0, 132.6, 131.1, 131.0, 130.8, 130.7, 130.6, 130.4, 124.3, 124.2, 123.2, 122.9, 121.43, 121.40, 119.6, 119.5, 118.5, 118.1, 117.1, 117.0, 116.1, 115.7, 103.3, 102.5, 39.2, 38.9, 36.4, 35.9, 25.2, 25.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 376.0823; Found 376.0813.

### **3-(1-(2-Amino-5-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3q)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (40.9 mg, 58%, dr = 0.6:0.4), mp 82.1-83.6 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.62-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.36 (d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz, 0.6H), 7.27 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 0.6H), 7.25 (d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz, 0.4H), 7.19-7.15 (m, 2H), 7.04 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 0.4H), 6.97-6.94 (m, 1H), 6.83 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 0.4H), 6.80 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 0.6H), 6.59 (s, 0.4H), 6.57 (s, 0.6H), 4.11 (dd,  $J_1 = 9.6$  Hz,  $J_2 = 5.4$  Hz, 0.4H), 4.07 (dd,  $J_1 = 9.6$  Hz,  $J_2 = 4.8$  Hz, 0.6H), 3.76 (s, 0.8H), 3.43 (s, 1.2H), 3.05-2.83 (m, 5H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  176.6, 175.8, 175.5, 175.4, 143.7, 143.2, 137.8, 137.3, 135.9, 135.5, 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 129.9, 127.8, 123.03, 123.01, 123.0, 122.7, 122.6, 121.14, 121.11, 120.9, 120.8, 117.6, 117.1, 110.4, 110.3, 102.9, 101.8, 39.1, 38.7, 36.3, 35.7, 25.23, 25.21. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 376.0823; Found 376.0816.

**3-(1-(2-Amino-5-bromophenyl)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3r)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (47.7 mg, 60%, dr = 0.5:0.5), mp 102.3-103.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.62-7.59 (m, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 0.5H), 7.40-7.36 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.14 (m, 2.5H), 6.97-6.93 (m, 1H), 6.79-6.73 (m, 1H), 6.58 (s, 0.5H), 6.56 (s, 0.5H), 4.12-4.05 (m, 1H), 3.78 (br s, 1H), 3.46 (br s, 1H), 3.09-2.80 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.6, 175.8, 175.5, 175.4, 144.2, 143.7, 137.8, 137.3, 135.9, 135.5, 133.4, 133.3, 133.2, 132.8, 127.4, 123.0, 123.0, 122.9, 121.2, 121.1, 120.9, 120.8, 118.0, 117.5, 110.4, 110.3, 109.6, 109.2, 102.9, 101.8, 39.1, 38.7, 36.3, 35.7, 25.3, 25.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BrN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 398.0499; Found 398.0491.

**3-(1-(2-Amino-4-methoxyphenyl)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3s)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (39.1 mg, 56%, dr = 0.55:0.45), mp 82.4-84.0 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.61-7.59 (m, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 0.45H), 7.16-7.12 (m, 2H), 6.98-6.95 (m, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 0.55H), 6.55 (s, 0.55H), 6.54 (s, 0.45H), 6.42 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 8.4 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 2.4 Hz, 0.45H), 6.39-6.36 (m, 1.55H), 4.13-4.08 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 1.35H), 3.81 (s, 1.65H), 3.68 (s, 1.1H), 3.38 (s, 0.9H), 2.99-2.84 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.8, 176.0, 175.8, 175.6, 161.2, 145.9, 145.6, 138.3, 137.9, 136.3, 136.2, 131.4, 131.1, 127.7, 127.6, 122.6, 120.73, 120.70, 120.67, 120.6, 115.0, 114.9, 110.43, 110.40, 104.7, 104.5, 102.0, 101.4, 101.3, 101.2, 55.4, 39.2, 38.9, 36.4, 36.0, 25.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na 372.1319; Found 372.1317.

**3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-ethylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3t)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (40.0 mg, 60%, dr = 0.7:0.3), mp 201.0-202.2 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.63-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.26 (m, 1.3H), 7.17-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.04 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 7.6 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 1.2 Hz, 0.7H), 6.97-6.95 (m, 1H), 6.89-6.80 (m, 2H), 6.55 (s, 1H), 4.11-4.06 (m, 1H), 3.57-3.48 (m, 2H), 3.13 (br s, 2H), 2.98-2.81 (m, 2H), 1.17-1.12 (m, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.5, 175.8, 175.5, 175.4, 144.9, 144.5, 137.9, 137.5, 136.3, 136.2, 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 130.2, 127.8, 127.7, 122.7, 121.9, 120.8,

120.79, 120.7, 120.6, 119.0, 118.8, 116.7, 116.3, 110.5, 110.4, 101.8, 101.4, 39.0, 38.8, 36.4, 36.2, 34.14, 34.10, 13.00, 12.97. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 356.1369; Found 356.1352.

**3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-benzylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3u)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). White solid (41.1 mg, 52%, dr = 0.5:0.5), mp 94.0-95.0 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.58-7.57 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.23 (m, 4.5H), 7.14-7.11 (m, 2H), 7.00 (dd, J<sub>1</sub> = 7.8 Hz, J<sub>2</sub> = 1.2 Hz, 0.5H), 6.95-6.93 (m, 1H), 6.86-6.83 (m, 1H), 6.79-6.73 (m, 1H), 6.47 (s, 0.5H), 6.46 (s, 0.5H), 4.62-4.56 (m, 2H), 4.06-4.03 (m, 1H), 3.67 (s, 1H), 3.36 (s, 1H), 2.92-2.79 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.3, 175.7, 175.4, 175.2, 144.9, 144.5, 137.9, 137.5, 136.3, 136.2, 135.7, 135.6, 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 130.2, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 122.7, 121.8, 121.7, 120.83, 120.81, 120.8, 120.7, 119.0, 118.7, 116.7, 116.3, 110.6, 110.4, 101.8, 101.3, 42.8, 42.7, 39.0, 38.8, 36.4, 36.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na 418.1526; Found 418.1503.

**3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)-1-methylpyrrolidine-2,5-dione (3v)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1). Yellow syrup (33.9 mg, 63%, dr = 0.45:0.55). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.20 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 0.45H), 7.11 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 0.55H), 6.71-6.59 (m, 3H), 6.20-6.19 (m, 1H), 6.08-6.07 (m, 1H), 3.85-3.80 (m, 1H), 3.76 (br s, 1.1H), 3.44 (br s, 0.9H), 2.85-2.66 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 176.5, 175.6, 175.0, 174.9, 143.2, 143.0, 129.0, 128.9, 128.4, 128.1, 127.8, 127.7, 123.6, 123.5, 122.2, 121.9, 117.3, 117.0, 115.3, 114.8, 108.2, 106.8, 106.6, 37.5, 37.3, 35.5, 35.3, 24.0, 23.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 270.1237; Found 270.1238.

## 2. Typical procedure for the synthesis of **4a** and spectroscopic data of **4a-4y**

To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 2-(1*H*-indol-1-yl)aniline (**1a**, 41.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), EA (2 mL), *N*-methylmaleimide (**2a**, 33.3 mg, 0.3 mmol), [Ru(*p*-cymene)Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (6.12 mg, 0.01 mmol), AgSbF<sub>6</sub> (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol) and AcOH (57  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) with stirring. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C under air for 12 h. After being cooled to room temperature, it was added with BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (49  $\mu$ L, 0.4 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at 100 °C under air for 10 h. Upon completion, it was cooled to ambient temperature, quenched with saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (1 mL), filtered through a pad of celite, and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL  $\times$  3). The combined organic phases were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1) as eluent to afford **4a**. **4b-4y** were obtained in a similar manner except for that the reaction for the synthesis of **4y** was carried out at 60 °C and 80 °C for the two steps, respectively.

### **11-Methyl-13,13a-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4a)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (33.1 mg, 55%), mp 178.1-178.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.77 (dd,  $J_1$  = 8.0 Hz,  $J_2$  = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (dd,  $J_1$  = 8.0 Hz,  $J_2$  = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.15 (m, 2H), 6.37 (s, 1H), 4.02-4.00 (m, 1H), 3.21-3.04 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  175.2, 161.6, 140.2, 139.9, 136.6, 129.9, 128.9, 127.7, 126.8, 125.0, 124.8, 122.7, 121.2, 120.9, 111.1, 98.0, 34.8, 31.9, 26.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O 302.1288; Found 302.1278.

### **3,11-Dimethyl-13,13a-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4b)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (32.1 mg, 51%), mp 172.0-173.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.77 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.35 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 3.99 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.18-3.04 (m, 5H), 2.45 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  175.3, 161.7, 140.2, 139.4, 137.0, 132.6, 130.0, 127.7, 126.7,

125.1, 124.7, 122.9, 120.5, 111.0, 97.8, 34.8, 31.9, 26.3, 22.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O 316.1444; Found 316.1438.

**3-Methoxy-11-methyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4c)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (28.5 mg, 43%), mp 185.4-186.6 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 6.84 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 8.4 Hz, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 3.99 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.16-3.04 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 175.3, 161.9, 156.8, 140.3, 139.1, 137.4, 129.9, 127.7, 126.8, 124.8, 124.7, 123.0, 121.4, 110.8, 97.8, 95.1, 55.8, 34.7, 31.9, 26.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 332.1394; Found 332.1382.

**3-Fluoro-11-methyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4d)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (35.1 mg, 55%), mp 188.5-189.8 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 8.4 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 7.8 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.27 (m, 2H), 6.94 (td, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 9.0 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (s, 1H), 4.02 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.18-3.06 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 175.1, 161.7, 160.1 (d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 237.5 Hz), 140.4 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 4.2 Hz), 140.2, 136.6 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 12.0 Hz), 129.6, 127.8, 127.1, 125.3, 125.0, 124.5, 121.6 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 9.8 Hz), 109.8 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 24.9 Hz), 97.9, 97.8 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-F</sub> = 27.2 Hz), 34.8, 31.8, 26.4. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -119.18 (td, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 9.8 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 6.0 Hz, ). HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O 320.1194; Found 320.1187.

**3-Chloro-11-methyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4e)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (37.5 mg, 56%), mp 236.1-236.6 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.70 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.12 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.34 (s, 1H), 3.98 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.17-3.03 (m, 5H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.0, 161.6, 140.7, 140.2, 136.9, 129.4, 128.6, 127.8, 127.4, 127.2, 125.0, 124.8, 121.8, 121.7, 111.1, 98.0, 34.8, 31.8, 26.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}$  336.0898; Found 336.0879.

**3-Bromo-11-methyl-13,13a-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-a]indol-12(11H)-one (4f)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (37.1 mg, 49%), mp 232.8-233.0 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.76 (s, 1H), 7.72 (dd,  $J_1 = 7.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd,  $J_1 = 7.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.37 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.27 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.35 (s, 1H), 4.00-3.98 (m, 1H), 3.16 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 3.08 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.6$  Hz,  $J_2 = 9.0$  Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.0, 161.5, 140.5, 140.2, 137.3, 129.3, 127.8, 127.7, 127.3, 125.0, 124.8, 124.4, 122.1, 116.2, 114.0, 98.0, 34.7, 31.8, 26.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrN}_3\text{O}$  380.0393; Found 380.0373.

**11-Methyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)-13,13a-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-a]indol-12(1H)-one (4g)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (45.0 mg, 61%), mp 211.0-213.0 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.89 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.35-7.33 (m, 1H), 6.45 (s, 1H), 4.05 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.22-3.10 (m, 5H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$ . 174.9, 161.4, 142.4, 140.3, 135.6, 131.3, 129.2, 127.9, 127.5, 125.2, 125.0 (q,  $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 269.8$  Hz), 124.79, 124.77 (q,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 31.8$  Hz), 121.3, 117.8 (q,  $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.9$  Hz), 108.6 (q,  $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.9$  Hz), 98.1, 34.9, 31.8, 26.4.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (565 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -60.60 (s). HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{N}_3\text{O}$  370.1162; Found 370.1151.

**2,11-Dimethyl-13,13a-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-a]indol-12(11H)-one (4h)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (33.4 mg, 53%), mp 239.4-240.5 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.74 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.33 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.25 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.27 (s, 1H), 3.95 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.15 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 3.03 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 8.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.3, 161.6, 140.1, 139.9, 134.9, 130.6, 130.0, 129.2, 127.7, 126.6, 124.9, 124.8, 124.2, 120.6, 110.8, 97.6, 34.8, 31.9, 26.3, 21.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}$  316.1444; Found 316.1434.

**2-Methoxy-11-methyl-13,13a-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-a]indol-12(11H)-one (4i)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (27.8 mg, 42%), mp 229.7-230.8 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.72 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.06 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.85 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.27 (s, 1H), 3.93 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.14 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 3.04 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 9.2$  Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.2, 161.5, 155.0, 140.2, 140.0, 131.7, 130.0, 129.6, 127.7, 126.6, 124.81, 124.77, 112.5, 112.0, 102.6, 97.7, 55.9, 34.8, 31.9, 26.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$  332.1394; Found 332.1391.

**2-Fluoro-11-methyl-13,13a-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-a]indol-12(11H)-one (4j)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 6:1). White solid (38.3 mg, 60%), mp 214.8-215.8 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.72-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.53 (dd,  $J_1 = 9.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 4.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd,  $J_1 = 7.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 0.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.24 (m, 2H), 6.94 (td,  $J_1 = 9.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 3.98 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.16 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 3.07 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.6$  Hz,  $J_2 = 9.0$  Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.1, 161.5, 158.4 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 235.8$  Hz), 141.3, 140.1, 133.1, 129.7, 129.4 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C-F}}$

= 9.0 Hz), 127.8, 127.0, 124.9, 124.7, 112.0 (d,  $^3J_{C-F}$  = 9.0 Hz), 110.8 (d,  $^2J_{C-F}$  = 25.2 Hz), 105.8 (d,  $^2J_{C-F}$  = 23.1 Hz), 97.9 (d,  $^4J_{C-F}$  = 4.1 Hz), 34.8, 31.8, 26.4.  $^{19}F$  NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -122.65 (td,  $J_1$  = 9.0 Hz,  $J_2$  = 4.1 Hz). HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O 320.1194; Found 320.1178.

**2-Chloro-11-methyl-13,13a-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-a]indol-12(11H)-one (4k)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). Yellow solid (34.2 mg, 51%), mp 209.2-210.4 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.69 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d,  $J$  = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd,  $J_1$  = 8.4 Hz,  $J_2$  = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.36 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.14 (dd,  $J_1$  = 9.0 Hz,  $J_2$  = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.30 (s, 1H), 3.98 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (dd,  $J_1$  = 18.0 Hz,  $J_2$  = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (s, 3H), 3.07 (dd,  $J_1$  = 18.0 Hz,  $J_2$  = 9.0 Hz, 1H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 175.0, 161.5, 141.1, 140.2, 134.9, 130.0, 129.5, 127.8, 127.1, 126.7, 124.9, 124.8, 122.9, 120.3, 112.2, 97.5, 34.8, 31.8, 26.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O 336.0898; Found 336.0883.

**2-Bromo-11-methyl-13,13a-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-a]indol-12(11H)-one (4l)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). Yellow solid (41.7 mg, 55%), mp 203.7-204.7 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.73 (d,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd,  $J_1$  = 7.8 Hz,  $J_2$  = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d,  $J$  = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd,  $J_1$  = 7.8 Hz,  $J_2$  = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.36 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.26 (m, 2H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 3.99 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (dd,  $J_1$  = 18.6 Hz,  $J_2$  = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 3.08 (dd,  $J_1$  = 18.0 Hz,  $J_2$  = 9.0 Hz, 1H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 175.0, 161.5, 141.0, 140.2, 135.2, 130.6, 129.5, 127.8, 127.2, 125.5, 124.9, 124.8, 123.4, 114.2, 112.6, 97.4, 34.8, 31.8, 26.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrN<sub>3</sub>O 380.0393; Found 380.0381.

**1,11-Dimethyl-13,13a-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-a]indol-12(11H)-one (4m)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (25.8 mg, 41%), mp 218.5-218.9 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.77 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.13 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.39 (s, 1H), 4.03 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 1H) 3.25-3.06 (m, 5H), 2.55 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.3, 161.7, 140.2, 139.3, 136.4, 130.4, 130.0, 128.7, 127.6, 126.8, 125.1, 124.8, 122.8, 121.4, 108.7, 96.4, 34.8, 31.9, 26.3, 18.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}$  316.1444; Found 316.1444.

**1-Fluoro-11-methyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4n)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (32.5 mg, 51%), mp 182.7-183.7 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.74 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.28 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.86-6.83 (m, 1H), 6.48 (s, 1H), 4.01 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.20 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.6$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.13-3.08 (m, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.0, 161.7, 156.1 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 246.0$  Hz), 140.2, 139.9, 138.9 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 10.5$  Hz), 129.6, 127.8, 127.2, 125.0, 124.9, 123.2 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 7.5$  Hz), 118.0 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 21.9$  Hz), 107.2 (d,  $^4J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 3.9$  Hz), 106.0 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 17.4$  Hz), 93.9, 34.7, 31.8, 26.4.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -121.94 – -121.98 (m). HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{FN}_3\text{O}$  320.1194; Found 320.1194.

**1-Chloro-11-methyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4o)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (34.8 mg, 52%), mp 191.1-191.8 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.72 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.28 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 4.03 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H) 3.23 (d,  $J = 18.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.13-3.09 (m, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.0, 161.6, 140.5, 140.3, 137.2, 129.5, 127.8, 127.7, 127.3, 126.1, 125.0, 124.9, 123.2, 120.9, 109.8, 96.6, 34.8, 31.8, 26.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}$  336.0898; Found 336.0890.

**4-Fluoro-11-methyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one  
(4p)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (33.8 mg, 53%), mp 172.6-173.0 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.47 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.11-7.08 (m, 1H), 6.95-6.92 (m, 1H), 6.45 (s, 1H), 3.95 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.17-3.14 (m, 4H), 3.08 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 9.0$  Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.0, 161.9, 149.3 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 247.3$  Hz), 142.4, 140.2, 132.7 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 3.8$  Hz), 130.1 (d,  $^4J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 2.1$  Hz), 127.0, 126.8 (d,  $^5J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 7.1$  Hz), 126.2, 124.3 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 8.4$  Hz), 124.2, 121.5 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 7.2$  Hz), 116.6 (d,  $^4J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 3.3$  Hz), 109.1 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 19.2$  Hz), 99.5 (d,  $^4J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 2.1$  Hz), 34.6, 32.0, 26.4.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (565 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -121.97 – -122.01 (m). HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{FN}_3\text{O}$  320.1194; Found 320.1189.

**4-Chloro-11-methyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one  
(4q)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (33.5 mg, 50%), mp 173.0-174.0 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.54 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.16 (m, 3H), 7.11 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d,  $J = 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.96-3.93 (m, 1H), 3.18-3.12 (m, 4H), 3.07 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 8.8$  Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.0, 162.5, 144.1, 141.0, 132.8, 131.9, 129.5, 129.0, 127.1, 125.6, 125.0, 123.3, 121.9, 119.4, 117.7, 99.9, 34.7, 32.0, 26.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}$  336.0898; Found 336.0890.

**8-Methoxy-11-methyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one  
(4r)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (27.2 mg, 41%), mp 201.0-202.8 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.66 (d,  $J = 9.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.13 (m, 2H), 6.93 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.84 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.8$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.35 (s, 1H), 4.00 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s,

3H), 3.18 (dd,  $J_1$  = 18.4 Hz,  $J_2$  = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.10-3.03 (m, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.6, 162.3, 158.5, 141.7, 139.9, 137.0, 129.1, 126.2, 123.5, 122.9, 121.32, 121.26, 112.2, 111.5, 111.3, 97.8, 56.1, 35.3, 32.2, 26.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$  332.1394; Found 332.1385.

**7-Fluoro-11-methyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4s)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). Red solid (30.6 mg, 48%), mp 117.0-118.0 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.64-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.51 (dd,  $J_1$  = 9.0 Hz,  $J_2$  = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd,  $J_1$  = 8.4 Hz,  $J_2$  = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.07 (m, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 4.01 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (d,  $J$  = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 3.10-3.07 (m, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.0, 161.5, 159.1 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 243.0$  Hz), 139.6, 136.6 (d,  $^4J_{\text{C-F}} = 2.7$  Hz), 136.4, 130.5 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 10.5$  Hz), 129.1 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 8.1$  Hz), 129.0, 123.0, 121.6, 121.1, 114.0 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.6$  Hz), 111.6 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 24.9$  Hz), 110.9, 98.6, 34.7, 31.9, 26.3.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (565 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -116.62 -- -116.66 (m). HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{FN}_3\text{O}$  320.1194; Found 320.1186.

**7-Chloro-11-methyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4t)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (30.1 mg, 45%), mp 234.9-235.3 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.78 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.36-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.20 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (s, 1H), 4.01 (dd,  $J_1$  = 8.8 Hz,  $J_2$  = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (dd,  $J_1$  = 18.4 Hz,  $J_2$  = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.13-3.06 (m, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.0, 161.9, 139.6, 138.8, 136.4, 130.7, 129.7, 129.0, 128.9, 126.9, 124.7, 123.1, 121.6, 121.1, 110.9, 98.7, 34.8, 31.9, 26.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}$  336.0898; Found 336.0891.

**7-Bromo-11-methyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4u)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). Red solid (34.9 mg, 46%), mp 243.8-244.7 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.91 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.19 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 3.98 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.17 (d,  $J = 18.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.10-3.06 (m, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.0, 161.9, 139.6, 139.3, 136.4, 131.0, 129.8, 129.2, 129.0, 127.6, 123.1, 121.6, 121.1, 117.1, 110.8, 98.7, 34.8, 31.9, 26.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrN}_3\text{O}$  380.0393; Found 380.0390.

#### **11-Ethyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4v)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (31.5 mg, 50%), mp 179.5-180.5 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.78 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.65-7.63 (m, 2H), 7.41 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 4.00 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.78-3.73 (m, 1H), 3.69-3.64 (m, 1H), 3.17 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.07 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.6$  Hz,  $J_2 = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.19 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.0, 161.0, 140.2, 140.0, 136.6, 129.9, 129.0, 127.7, 126.7, 124.9, 124.7, 122.6, 121.1, 120.9, 111.1, 97.9, 35.0, 34.7, 31.9, 12.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}$  316.1444; Found 316.1433.

#### **11-Benzyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4w)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). Gray solid (31.7 mg, 42%), mp 249.5-250.1 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.77 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.35-7.33 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.20 (m, 5H), 7.17 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 4.86 (d,  $J = 13.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.74 (d,  $J = 14.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.01 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.19 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.6$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.08 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 9.0$  Hz, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.0, 160.8, 140.1, 139.9, 136.6, 136.0, 129.9, 129.0, 128.8, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 126.7, 124.9, 124.8, 122.6, 121.1, 120.9, 111.1, 98.1, 43.5, 34.8, 31.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3\text{O}$  378.1601; Found 378.1599.

#### **11-Isobutyl-13,13*a*-dihydrobenzo[2,3]pyrrolo[2',3':5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,7-*a*]indol-12(11*H*)-one (4x)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). White solid (30.8 mg, 45%), mp 240.4-241.5 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.78 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.65-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.39 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.0$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.33 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.16 (m, 2H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 4.00 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.53 (dd,  $J_1 = 13.2$  Hz,  $J_2 = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.44 (dd,  $J_1 = 13.2$  Hz,  $J_2 = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.19 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.08 (dd,  $J_1 = 18.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 9.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.19-2.09 (m, 1H), 0.84-0.80 (m, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.5, 161.6, 140.3, 140.1, 136.5, 129.8, 129.0, 127.7, 126.7, 124.9, 124.6, 122.5, 121.1, 120.9, 111.1, 97.7, 47.1, 34.6, 31.7, 26.5, 20.1, 20.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_3\text{O}$  344.1757; Found 344.1757.

**10-Methyl-12,12a-dihydrobenzo[*b*]dipyrrolo[1,2-*d*:3',2'-*f*][1,4]diazepin-11(10*H*)-one (4y)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). Yellow solid (26.1 mg, 52%), mp 127.2-128.0 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.46 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.30 (td,  $J_1 = 7.2$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.23-7.20 (m, 1H), 7.08-7.07 (m, 1H), 6.36-6.35 (m, 1H), 6.02-6.01 (m, 1H), 3.83 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 3.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.14 (s, 3H), 3.11-3.02 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  175.5, 161.6, 138.6, 131.9, 131.6, 128.0, 126.6, 125.3, 123.8, 121.5, 110.4, 104.2, 34.3, 32.2, 26.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_3\text{O}$  252.1131; Found 252.1134.

### **3. Typical procedure for the synthesis of **5a** and spectroscopic data of **5a-5f****

To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added **3a** (63.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), DMF (2 mL), DEAD (31.5  $\mu$ L, 0.2 mmol) and  $K_2CO_3$  (138.2 mg, 1 mmol) with stirring. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. Afterwards, it was quenched with water, filtered through a pad of celite, and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL  $\times$  3). The combined organic phases were dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ , and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1) as eluent to afford **5a**. **5b-5f** were obtained in a similar manner.

#### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrrole-2,5-dione (**5a**)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). Yellow solid (39.9 mg, 63%), mp 197.5-198.4 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.93 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.18 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.90-6.85 (m, 2H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 3.50 (br s, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  171.3, 170.5, 144.2, 140.5, 134.4, 131.0, 129.7, 128.2, 127.9, 126.0, 122.7, 122.5, 121.6, 119.3, 118.7, 116.6, 112.7, 110.7, 23.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{16}N_3O_2$  318.1237; Found 318.1228.

#### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-6-methyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrrole-2,5-dione (**5b**)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). Yellow solid (46.5 mg, 70%), mp 195.4-195.8 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.89 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.32 (m, 1H), 7.07 (dd,  $J_1$  = 7.2 Hz,  $J_2$  = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.90-6.86 (m, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 5.47 (s, 1H), 3.52 (s, 2H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  171.4, 170.6, 144.3, 141.0, 136.7, 134.5, 130.9, 129.7, 127.8, 125.9, 123.7, 122.7, 122.3, 119.3, 117.7, 116.6, 112.8, 110.4, 23.8, 22.1. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for  $C_{20}H_{18}N_3O_2$  332.1394; Found 332.1381.

#### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-5-methyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrrole-2,5-dione (**5c**)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). Yellow solid (40.5 mg, 61%), mp 198.7-199.7 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.85 (s, 1H), 7.51 (s, 1H), 7.34-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.09 (dd,  $J_1 = 8.4$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd,  $J_1 = 7.2$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.89-6.85 (m, 3H), 5.51 (s, 1H), 3.50 (s, 2H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  171.4, 170.5, 144.2, 139.1, 134.5, 131.0, 130.9, 129.6, 128.2, 128.1, 127.9, 122.7, 122.0, 119.3, 118.3, 116.6, 112.2, 110.4, 23.8, 21.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$  332.1394; Found 332.1385.

### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-4-fluoro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrrole-2,5-dione (5d)**

Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). Yellow solid (38.2 mg, 57%), mp 218.3-220.5 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.00 (s, 1H), 7.37-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.20-7.17 (m, 1H), 7.09 (dd,  $J_1 = 7.2$  Hz,  $J_2 = 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.92-6.88 (m, 2H), 6.86-6.83 (m, 1H), 6.78 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.57 (s, 1H), 3.51 (s, 2H), 3.01 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  171.1, 170.2, 157.2 (d,  $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 250.8$  Hz), 144.0, 142.5 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 10.4$  Hz), 134.0, 131.2, 129.5, 128.1, 126.5 (d,  $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 7.7$  Hz), 122.2, 119.6, 119.4, 117.6 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 23.0$  Hz), 116.7, 108.3, 106.8 (d,  $^4J_{\text{C-F}} = 2.6$  Hz), 106.1 (d,  $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 18.5$  Hz), 23.9.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (565 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -119.46 – -119.48 (m). HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{14}\text{FN}_3\text{O}_2\text{Na}$  358.0962; Found 358.0954.

### **3-(1-(2-Aminophenyl)-7-chloro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrrole-2,5-dione (5e)**

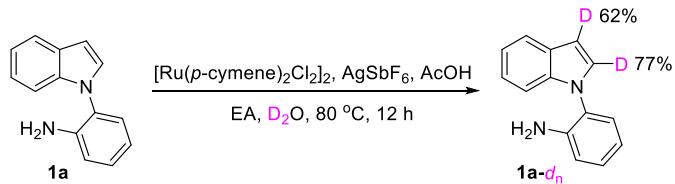
Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). Yellow solid (46.6 mg, 66%), mp 191.1-193.0 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.97 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.85-6.82 (m, 2H), 5.48 (s, 1H), 3.56 (s, 2H), 3.02 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  171.1, 170.4, 145.2, 135.2, 133.8, 131.3, 130.6, 130.4, 129.8, 127.3, 123.9, 122.0, 121.5, 120.3, 118.8, 117.5, 116.0, 113.0, 23.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}_2$  352.0847; Found 352.0844.

### **3-(1-(2-Amino-5-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrrole-2,5-dione (5f)**

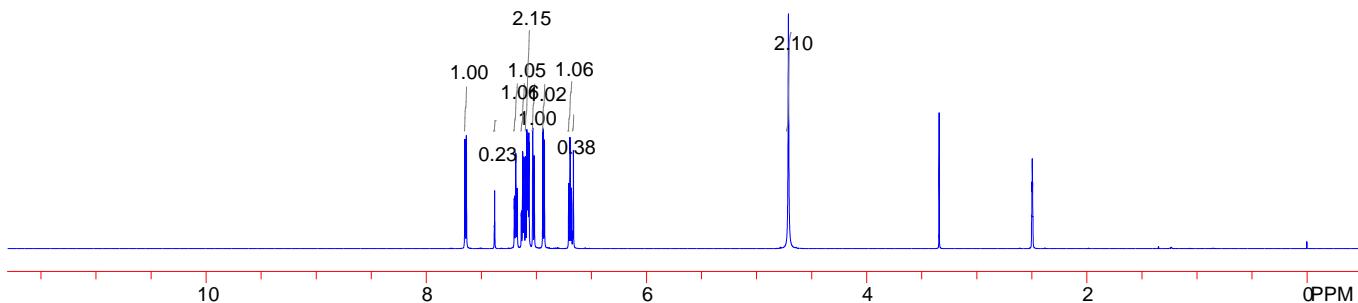
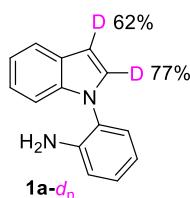
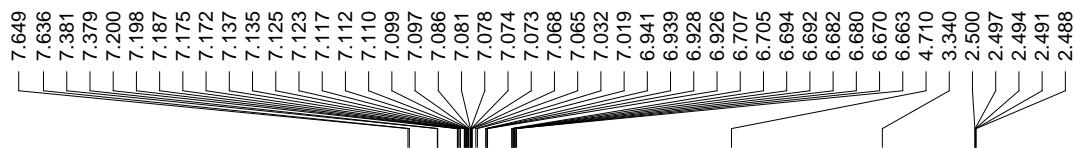
Eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (6:1). Yellow solid (41.8 mg, 60%), mp 191.3-191.6 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.93 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.20 (t,  $J$  = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d,  $J$  = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d,  $J$  = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 5.63 (s, 1H), 3.57 (s, 2H), 3.00 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  171.1, 170.3, 143.0, 140.4, 134.2, 131.0, 129.4, 128.0, 127.9, 126.3, 123.3, 123.2, 122.8, 121.9, 118.8, 117.4, 113.2, 110.6, 23.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z:  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{14}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}_2\text{Na}$  374.0667; Found 374.0657.

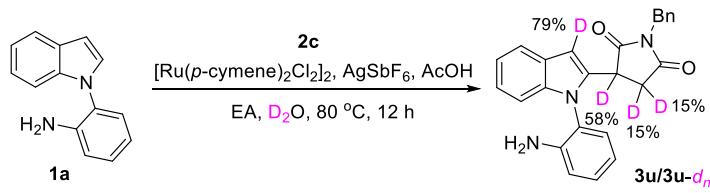
### III. Mechanism studies

#### 1. Studies on the reversibility of C–H bond cleavage

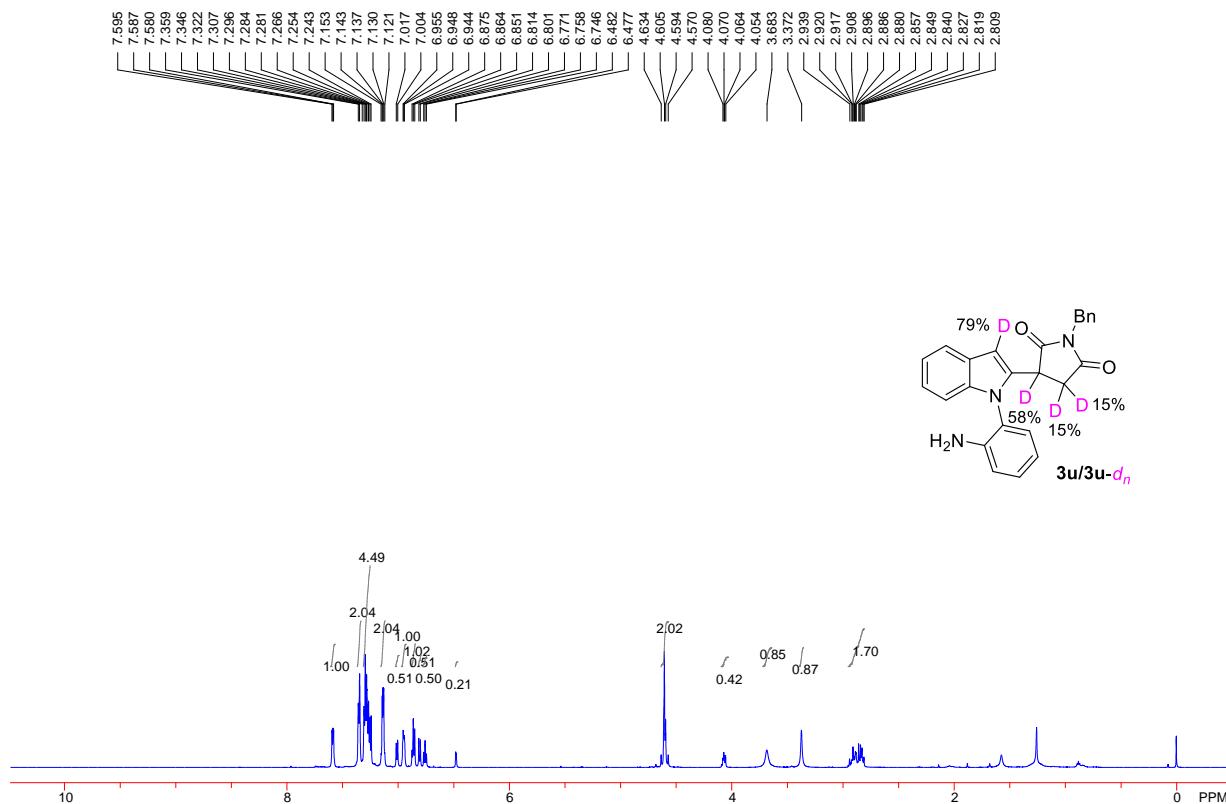


To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were charged with 2-(1*H*-indol-1-yl)aniline (**1a**, 41.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), [Ru(*p*-cymene)Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (6.12 mg, 0.01 mmol), AgSbF<sub>6</sub> (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol), AcOH (57  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol), EA (2 mL) and D<sub>2</sub>O (72  $\mu$ L, 4 mmol). The tube was sealed, and the resulting mixture was stirred at 80 °C under air for 12 h. Upon analyzing the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the resulting mixture, the deuteration percentages at the  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta$ -position of the indole moiety of **1a** were calculated as 77% and 62%.

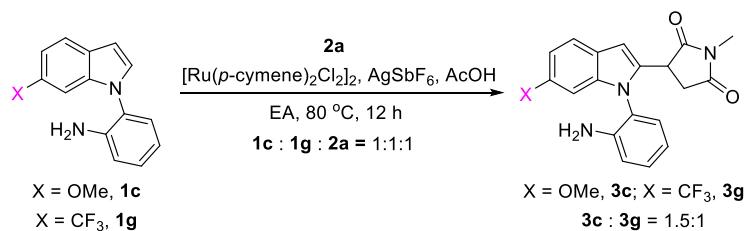




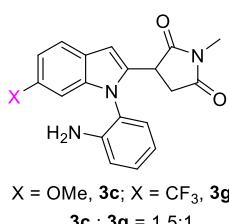
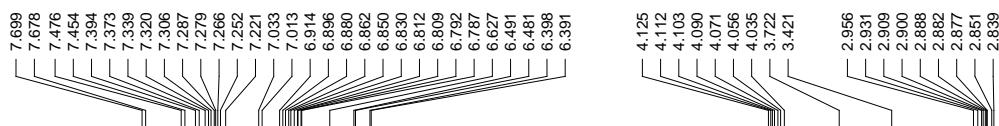
To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 2-(1*H*-indol-1-yl)aniline (**1a**, 41.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), EA (2 mL), D<sub>2</sub>O (72  $\mu$ L, 4 mmol), *N*-benzyl maleimide (**2c**, 56.2 mg, 0.3 mmol), [Ru(*p*-cymene)Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (6.12 mg, 0.01 mmol), AgSbF<sub>6</sub> (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol) and AcOH (57  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol) with stirring. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C under air for 12 h. Afterwards, it was cooled to room temperature, quenched with saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (1 mL), filtered through a pad of celite, and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL  $\times$  3). The combined organic phases were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1) as eluent to afford a mixture of **3u** and **3u-d<sub>n</sub>**. Upon analyzing the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the mixture, the deuteration percentages on the secondary and tertiary carbon center of the succinimide unit of **3u** were calculated to be 15% and 58%. Meanwhile, 79% deuteration on the  $\beta$ -position of the indole scaffold was also observed.



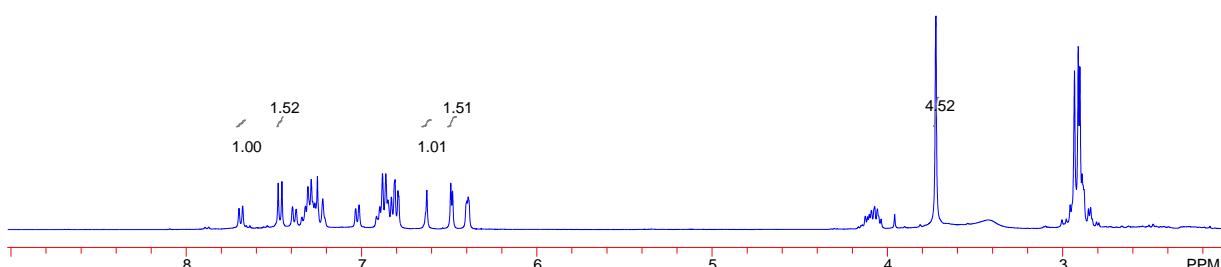
## 2. Electronic competition experiment



To a reaction tube equipped with a stir bar were added 2-(6-methoxy-1*H*-indol-1-yl)aniline (**1c**, 47.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), 2-(6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-indol-1-yl)aniline (**1g**, 55.3 mg, 0.2 mmol), [Ru(*p*-cymene)Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (6.12 mg, 0.01 mmol), AgSbF<sub>6</sub> (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol), AcOH (57  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.0 mmol), EA (2 mL) and *N*-methylmaleimide (**2a**, 22.2 mg, 0.2 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 80 °C under air for 12 h. Afterwards, it was cooled to room temperature, quenched with saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (1 mL), filtered through a pad of celite, and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL  $\times$  3). The combined organic phases were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1) as eluent to afford a mixture of **3c** and **3g**. Upon analyzing the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the mixture, the ratio of **3c** to **3g** was determined to be about 1.5:1.



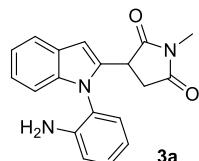
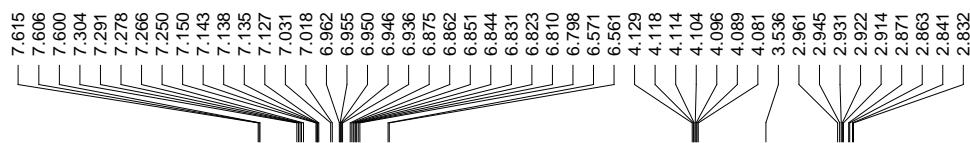
$X = \text{OMe}, \mathbf{3c}; X = \text{CF}_3, \mathbf{3g}$   
 $\mathbf{3c} : \mathbf{3g} = 1.5:1$



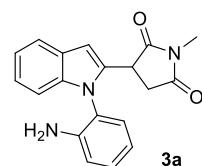
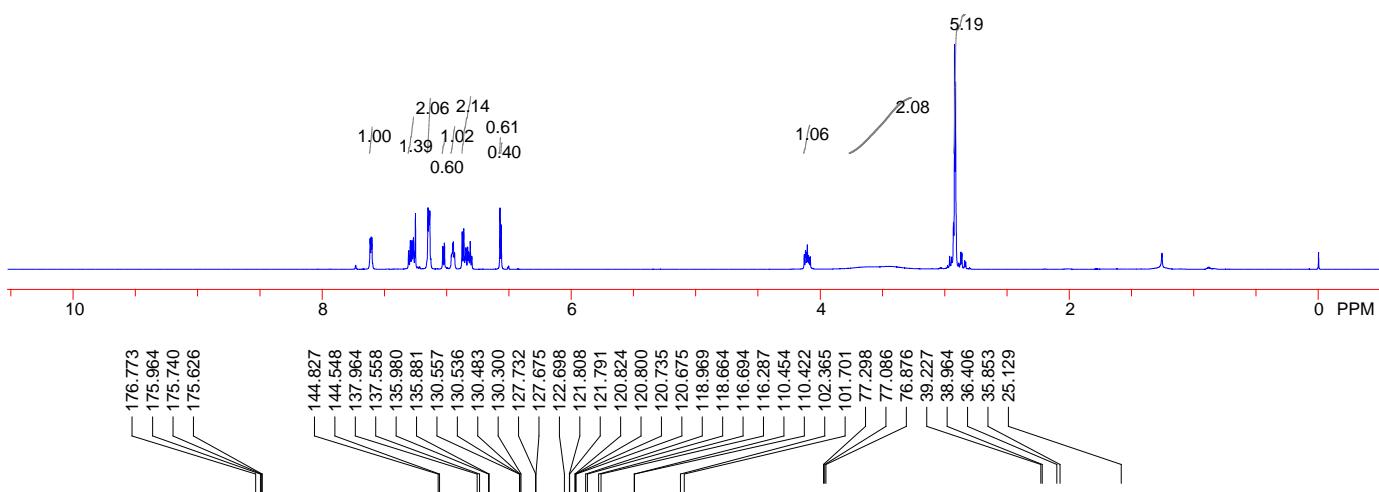
#### **IV. Cell antiproliferative activity assay**

Cell antiproliferative activity was evaluated by the CellTiter-Glo (Promega, USA) assay. Make 1000× compounds solution in DMSO, Add 1  $\mu$ L 1000  $\times$  compounds to 49  $\mu$ L growth medium to make 20  $\times$  compounds. Dilute cell suspensions in growth medium to desired density and 95  $\mu$ L were taken to 96-well plate. Add 5  $\mu$ L 20  $\times$  compounds into 96-well plate according to the plate map. Final DMSO concentration in each well was 0.1%. Then the cell was incubated at 37 °C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub> for 72 h. Equilibrate the assay plate to room temperature before measurement. Add 20  $\mu$ L of CellTiter-Glo® Reagent into each well. Mix contents for 2 minutes on an orbital shaker to induce cell lysis. Incubate at room temperature for 10 minutes to stabilize luminescent signal. Record luminescence using EnVision Multilabel Reader (PerkinElmer). Cell viability (CV%) was calculated relative to vehicle (DMSO) treated control wells using following formula: Cell viability(%) = (RLU compound - RLU blank)/(RLU control-RLU blank)\*100%. The IC<sub>50</sub> values were calculated using GraphPad Prism 6.0 software, fitting to a 4-parameter equation to generate concentration response curves. All assays were conducted with two parallel samples and two repetitions, and 5-fluorouracil was used as the positive control.

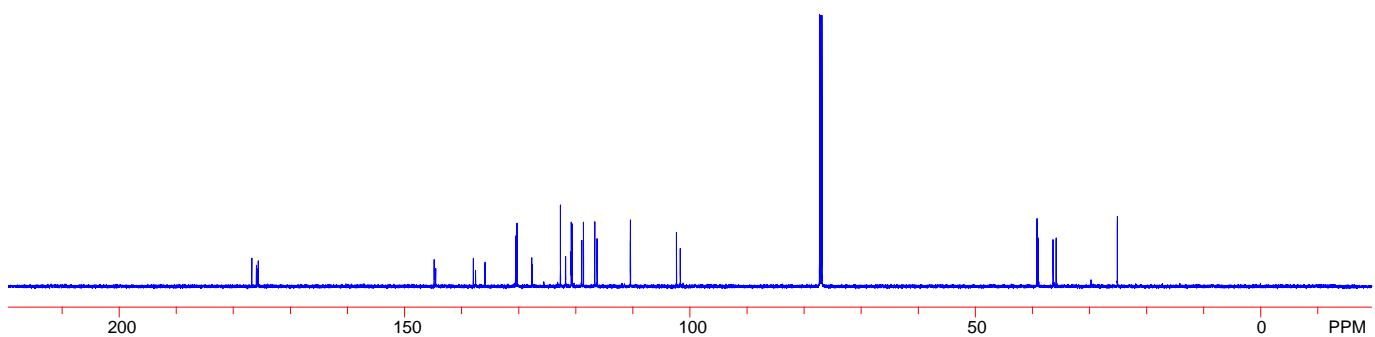
## V. NMR spectra of 3a-3v

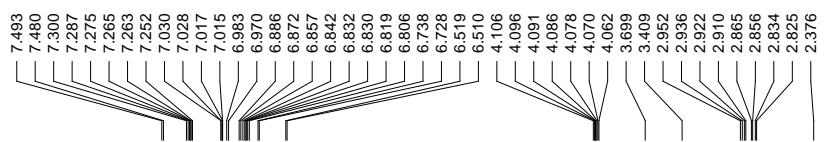


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

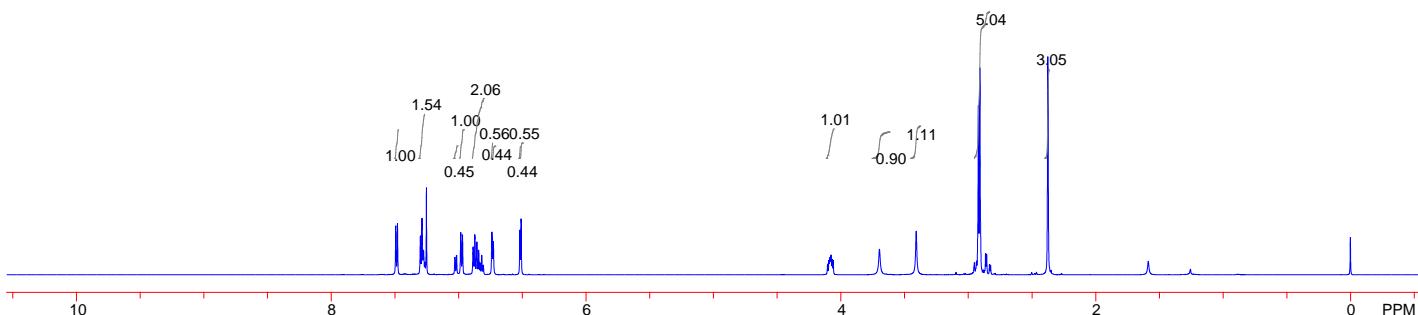


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

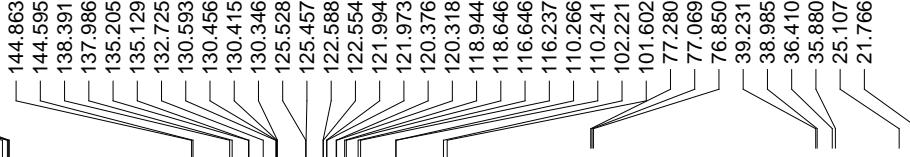




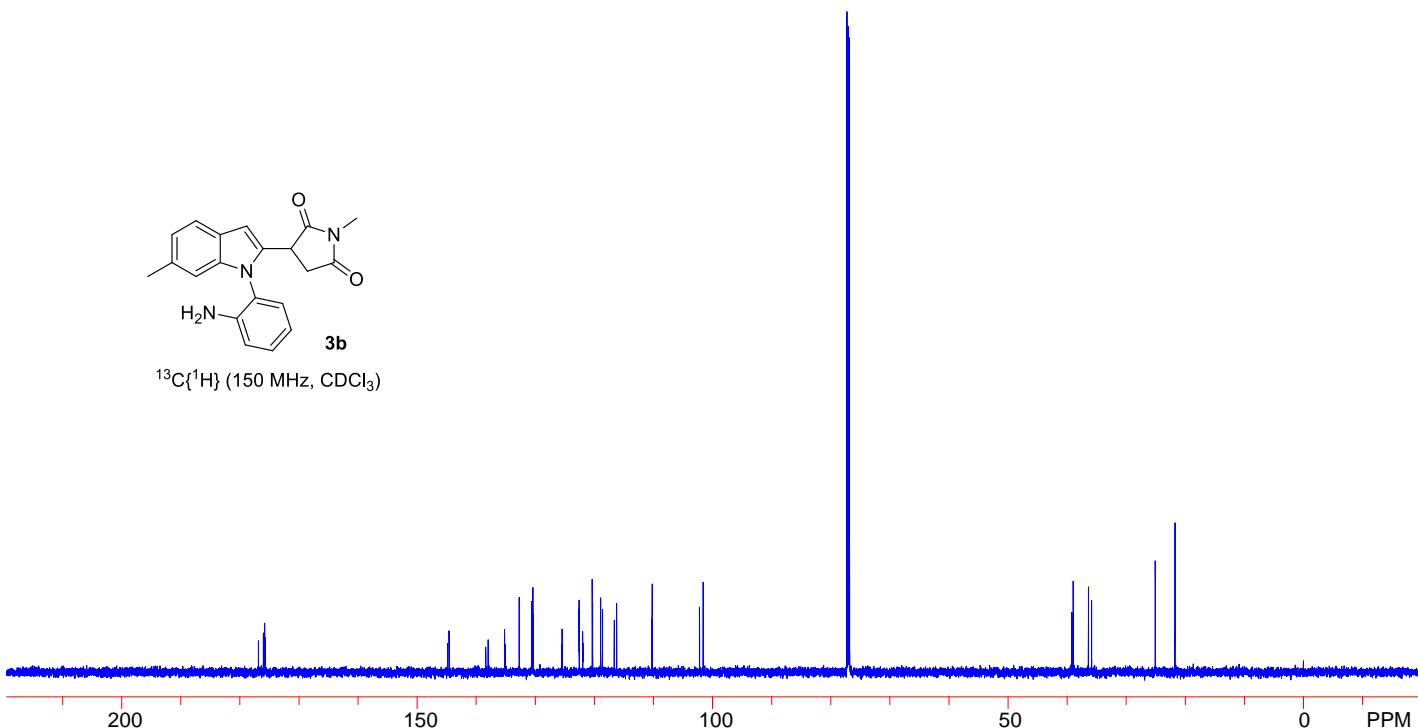
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

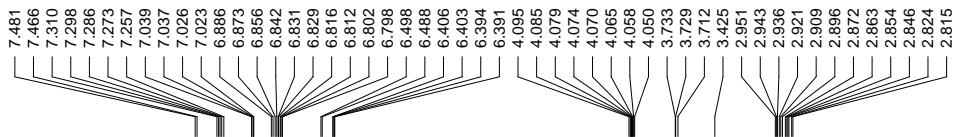


176.854  
176.028  
175.796  
175.692

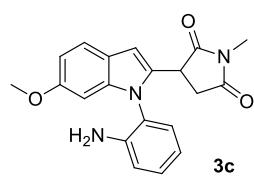
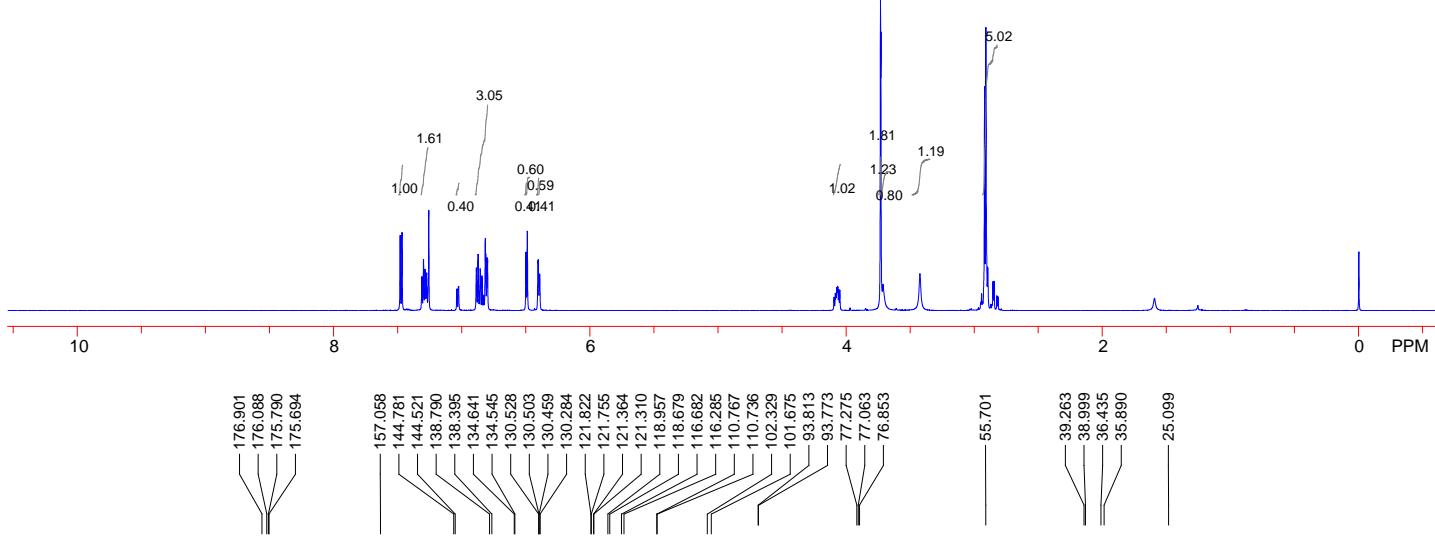


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

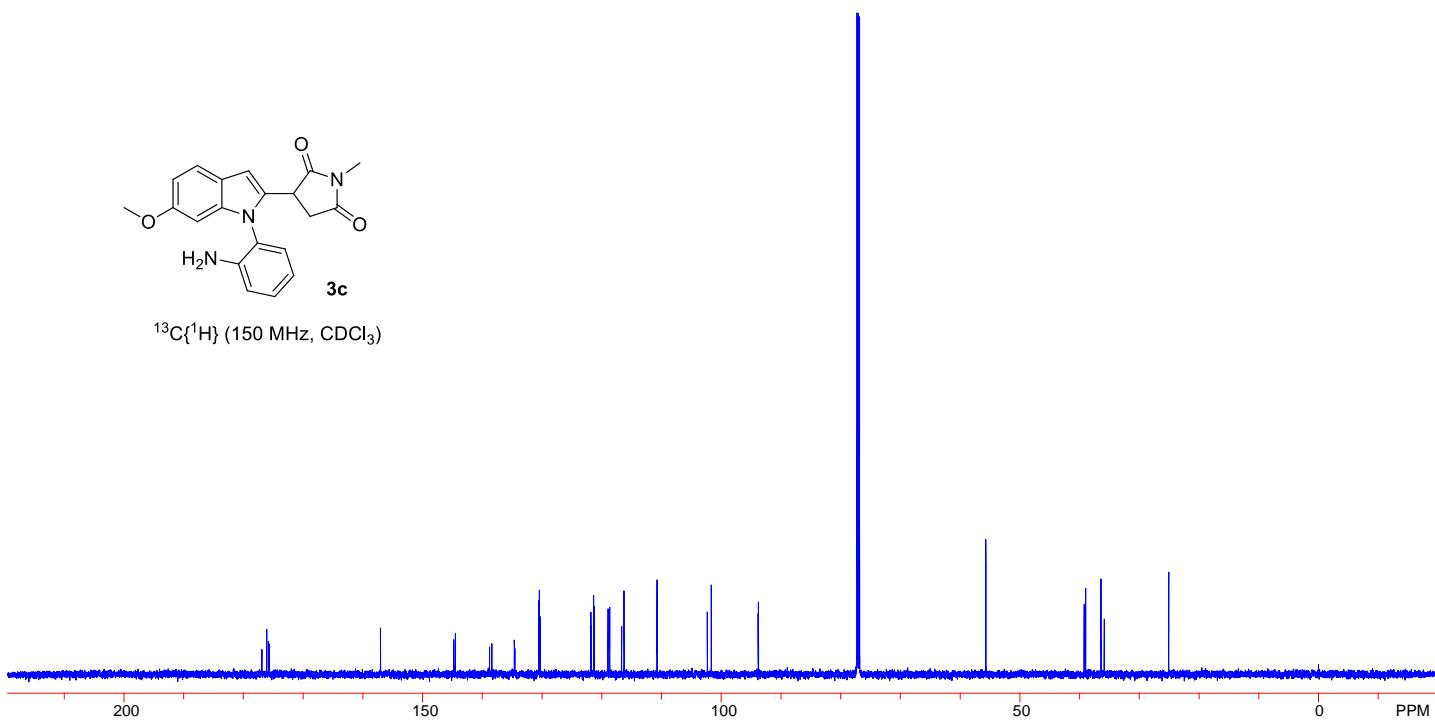


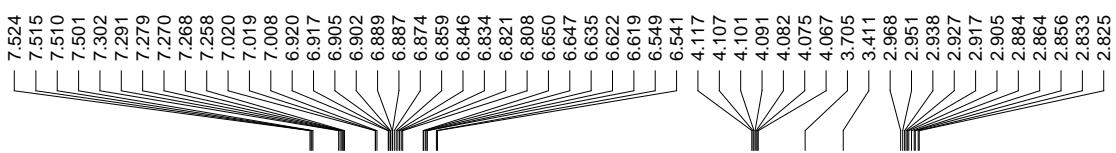


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

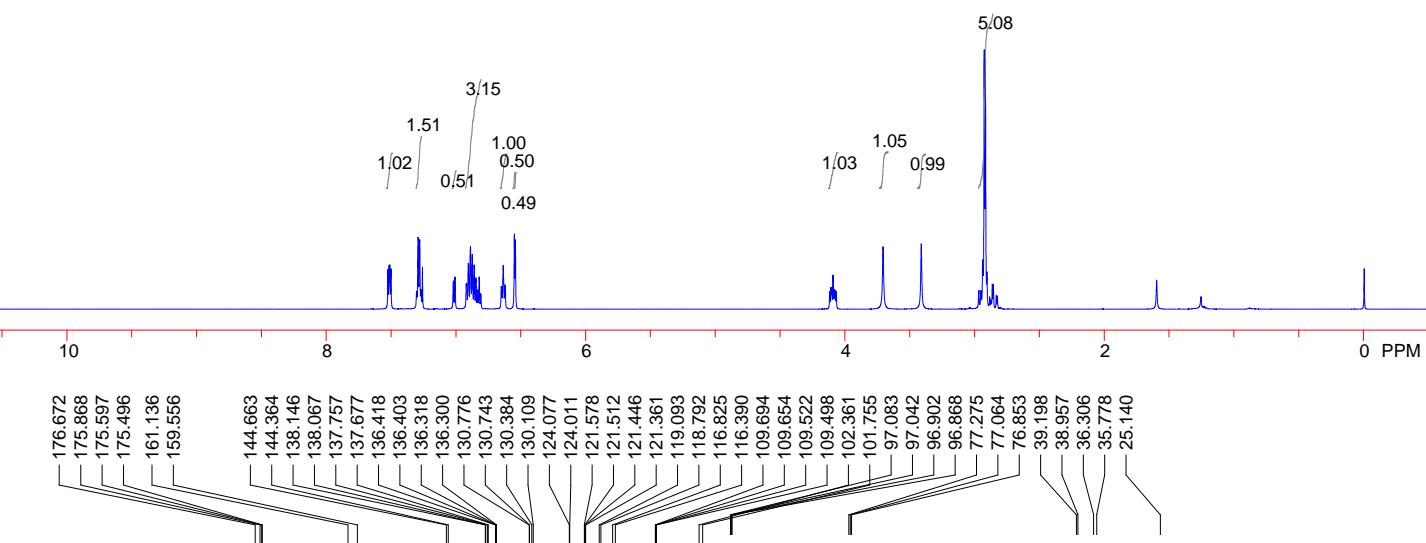


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

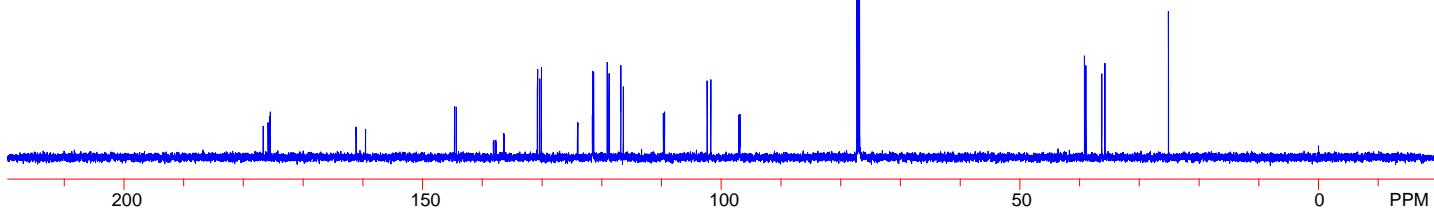


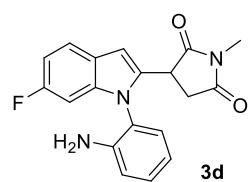
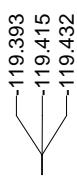


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

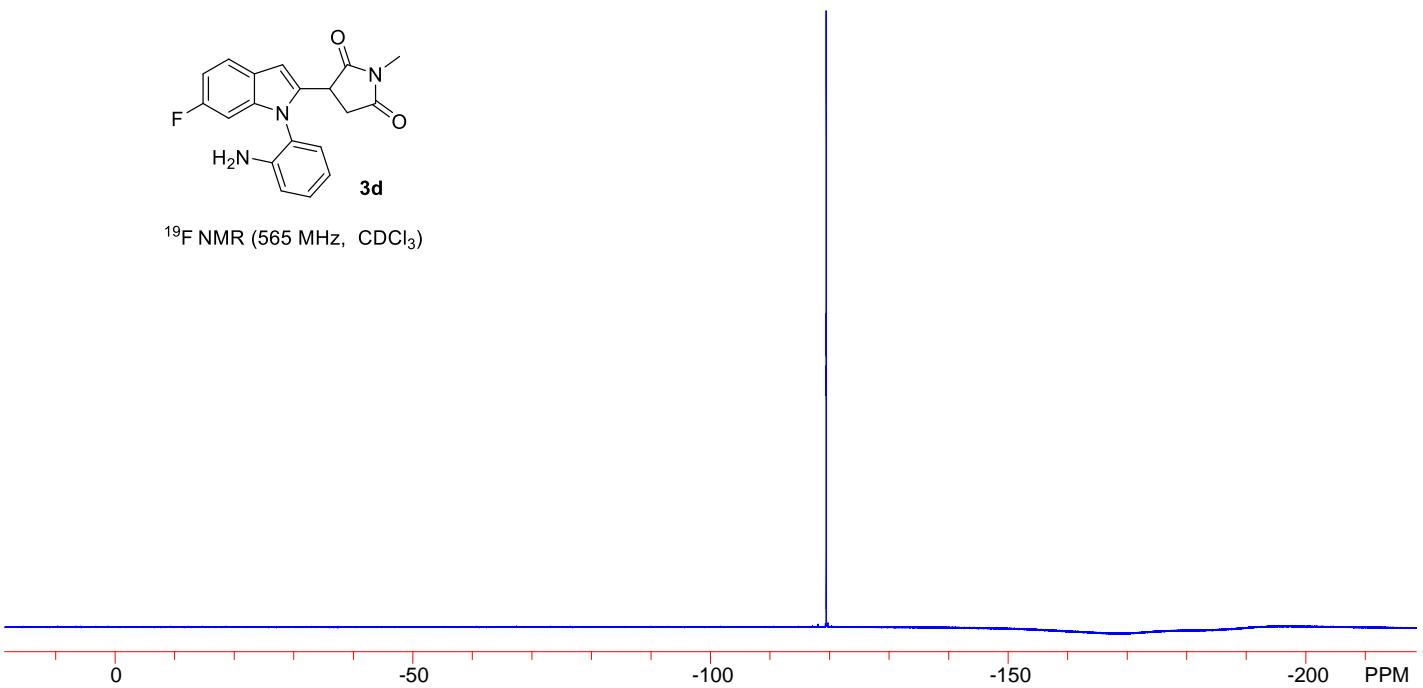


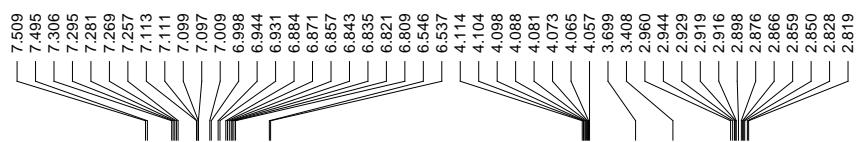
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



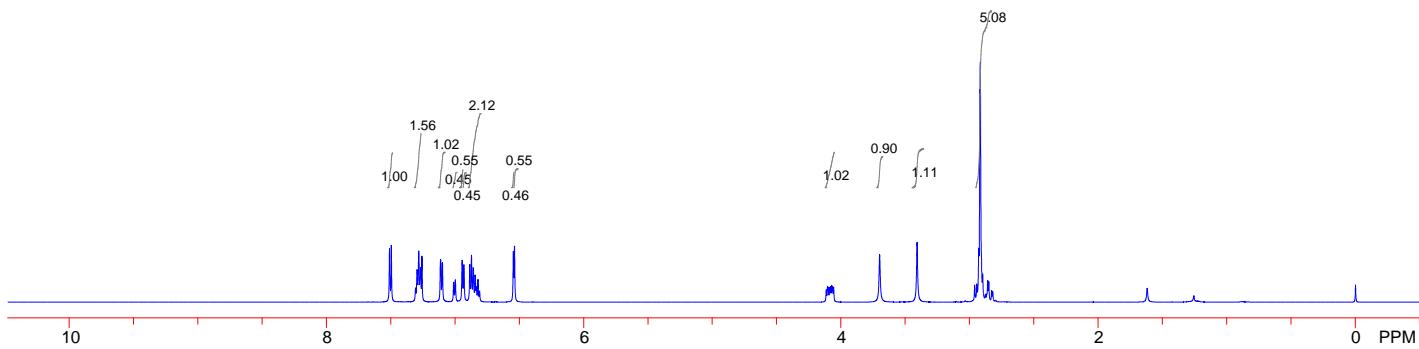


<sup>19</sup>F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

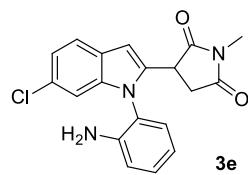




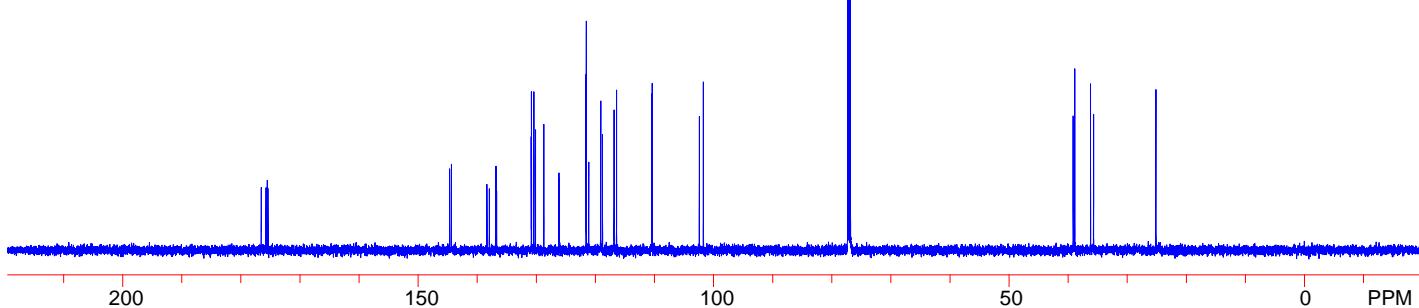
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

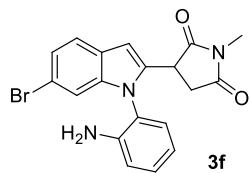
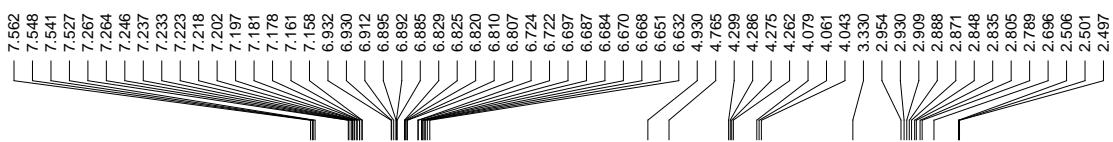


144.679  
144.377  
138.365  
137.952  
136.840  
136.720  
130.864  
130.825  
130.423  
130.151  
128.729  
126.224  
126.164  
121.628  
121.593  
121.560  
121.140  
119.106  
118.805  
116.862  
116.431  
110.454  
110.408  
102.417  
101.748  
77.301  
77.089  
39.166  
38.899  
36.222  
35.710  
25.164

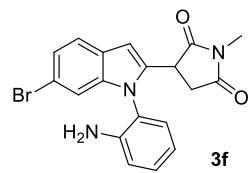
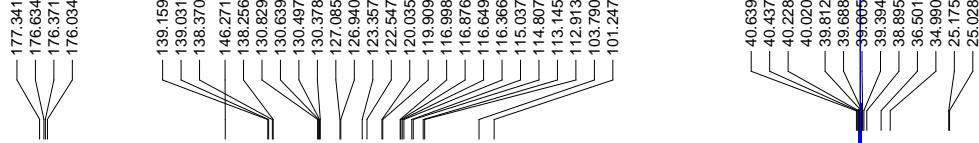
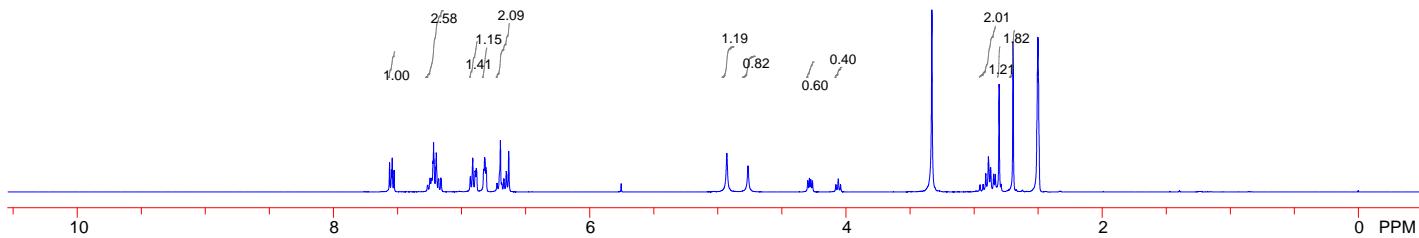


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

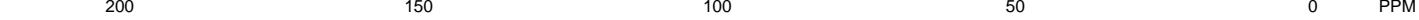


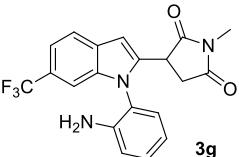
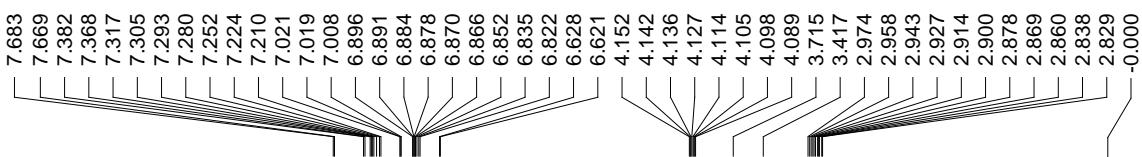


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO)

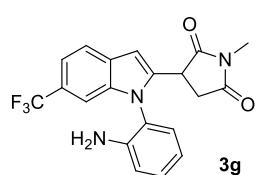
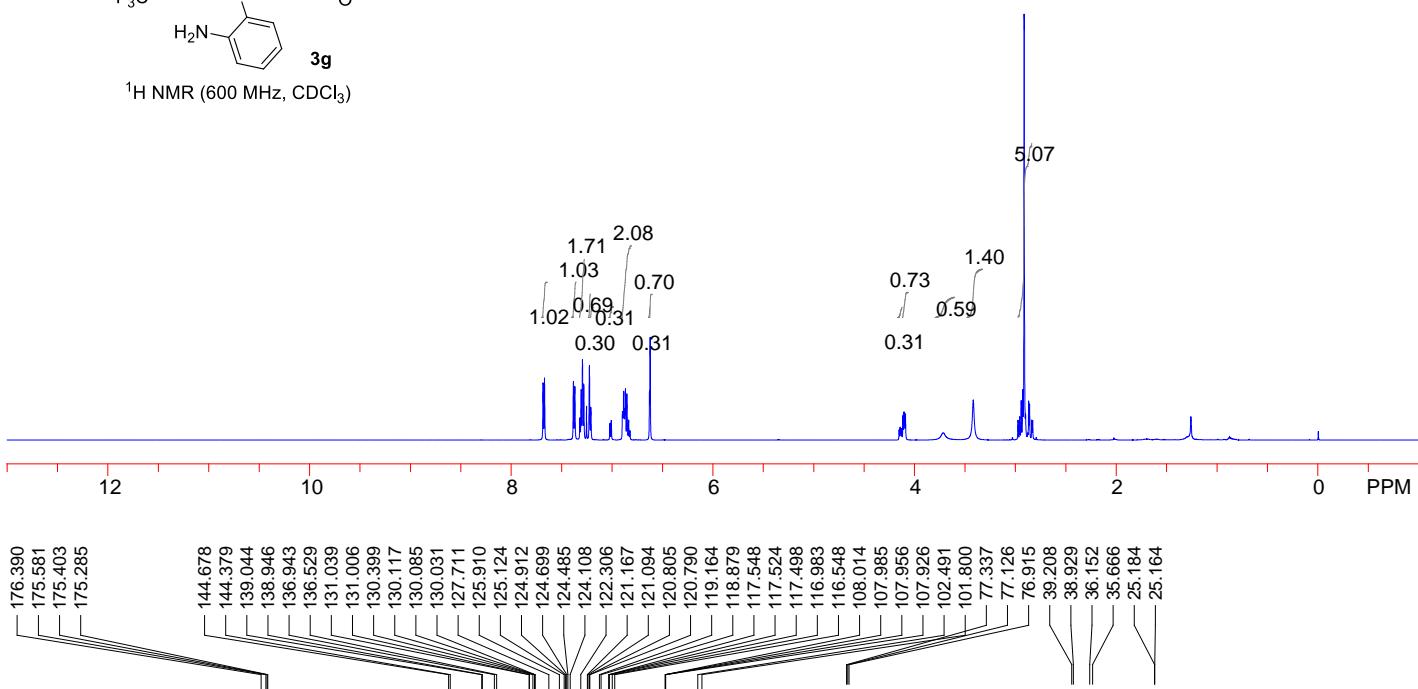


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (100 MHz, DMSO)

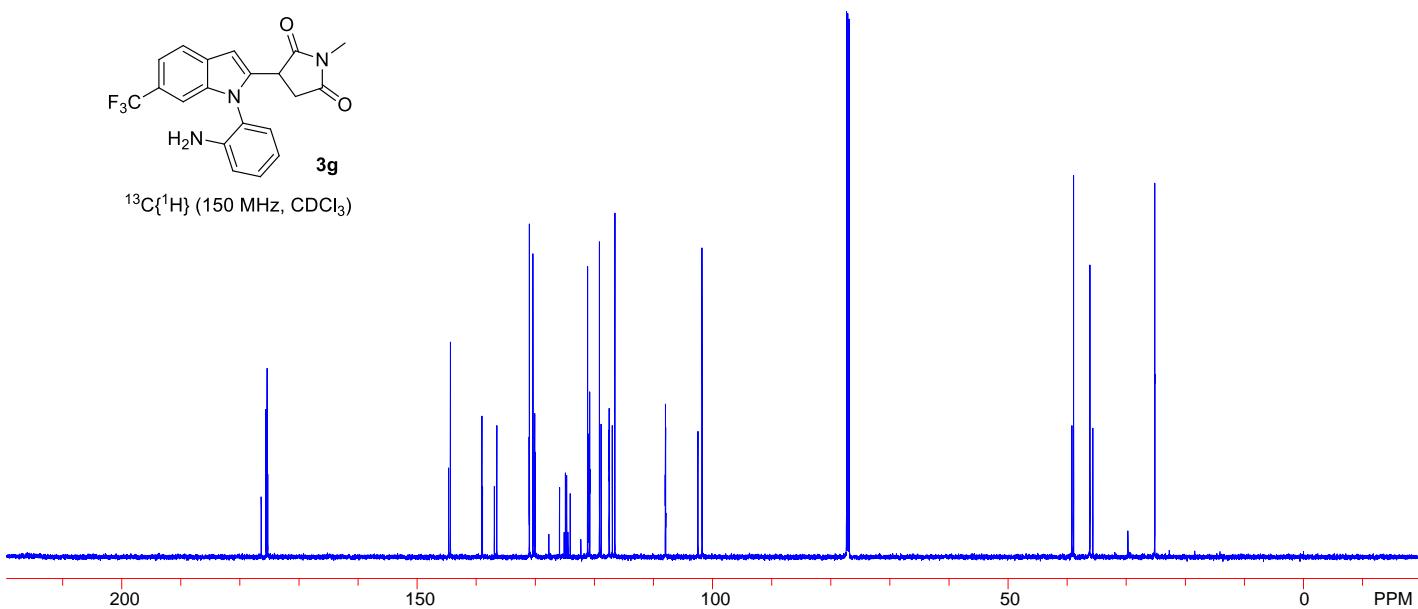


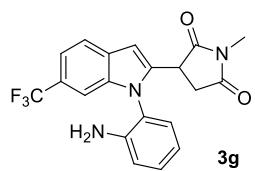


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

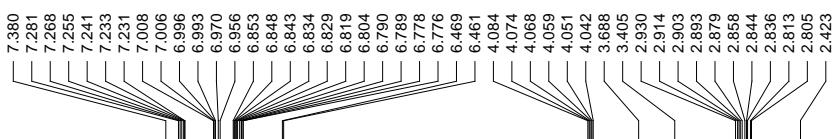




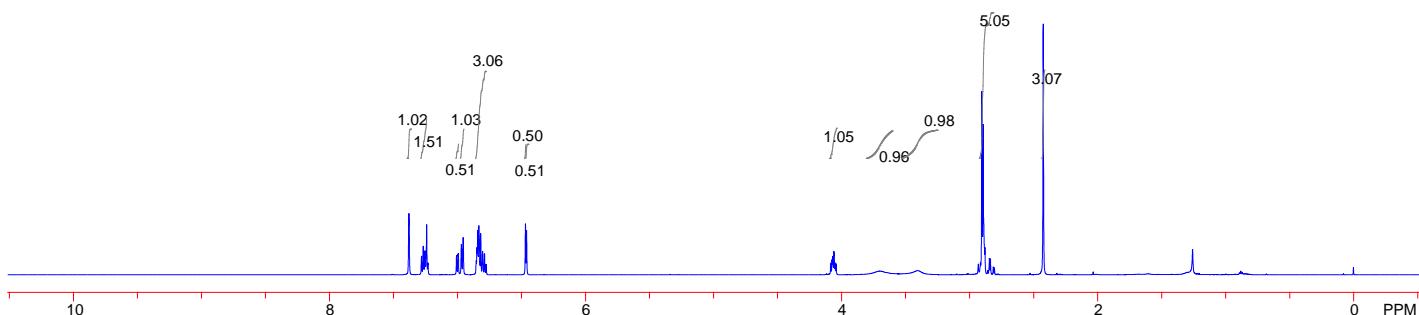
$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (565 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

0 -50 -100 -150 -200 PPM

60.513  
60.525

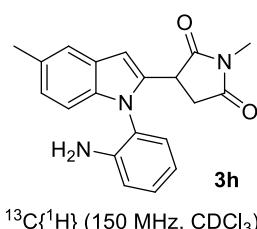


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

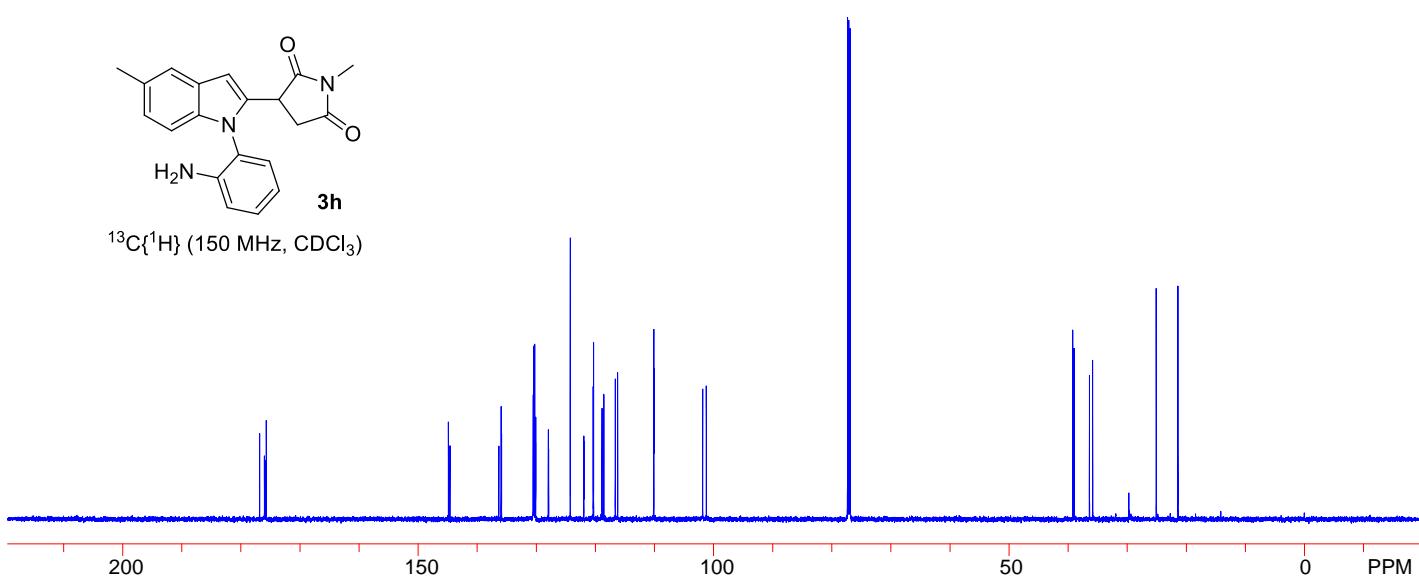


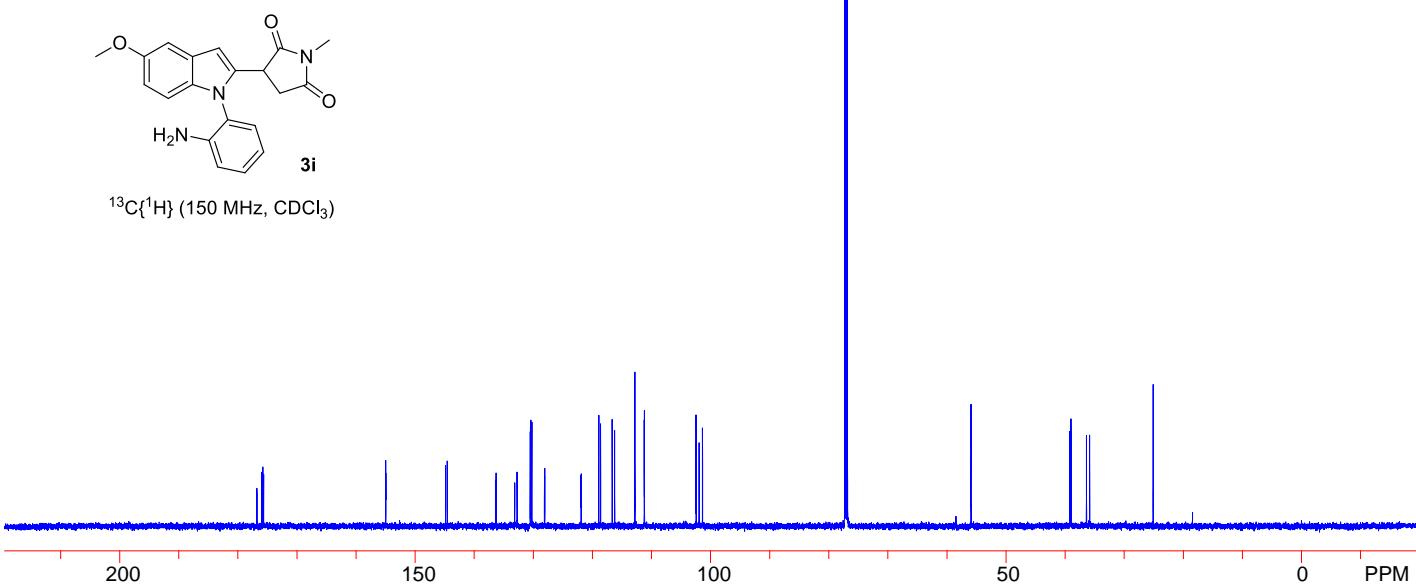
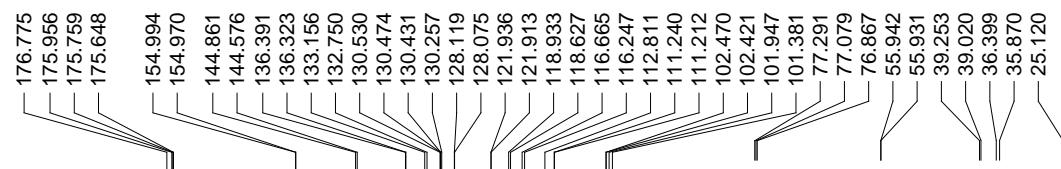
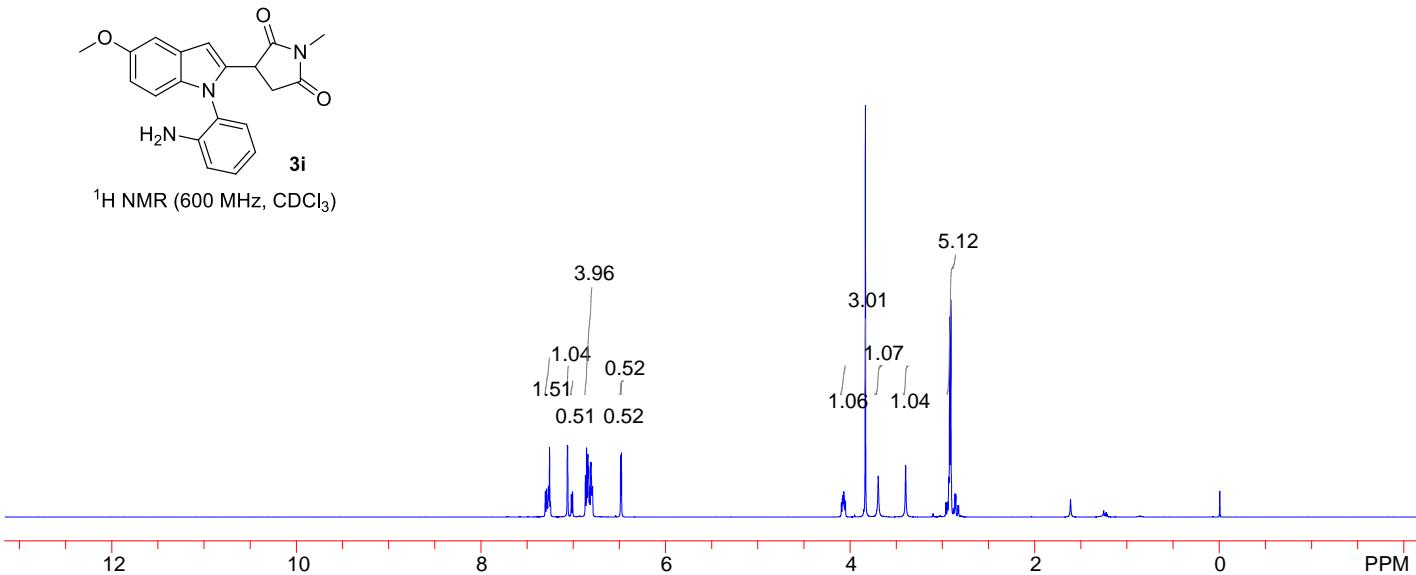
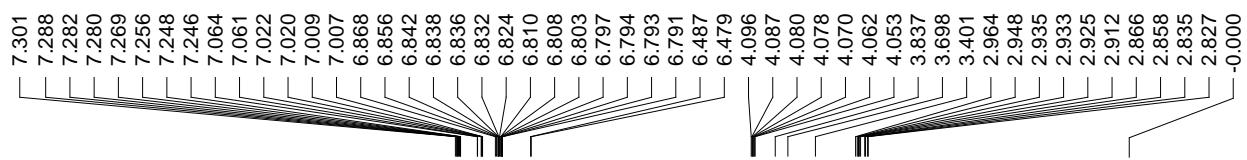
176.824  
176.011  
175.797  
175.694

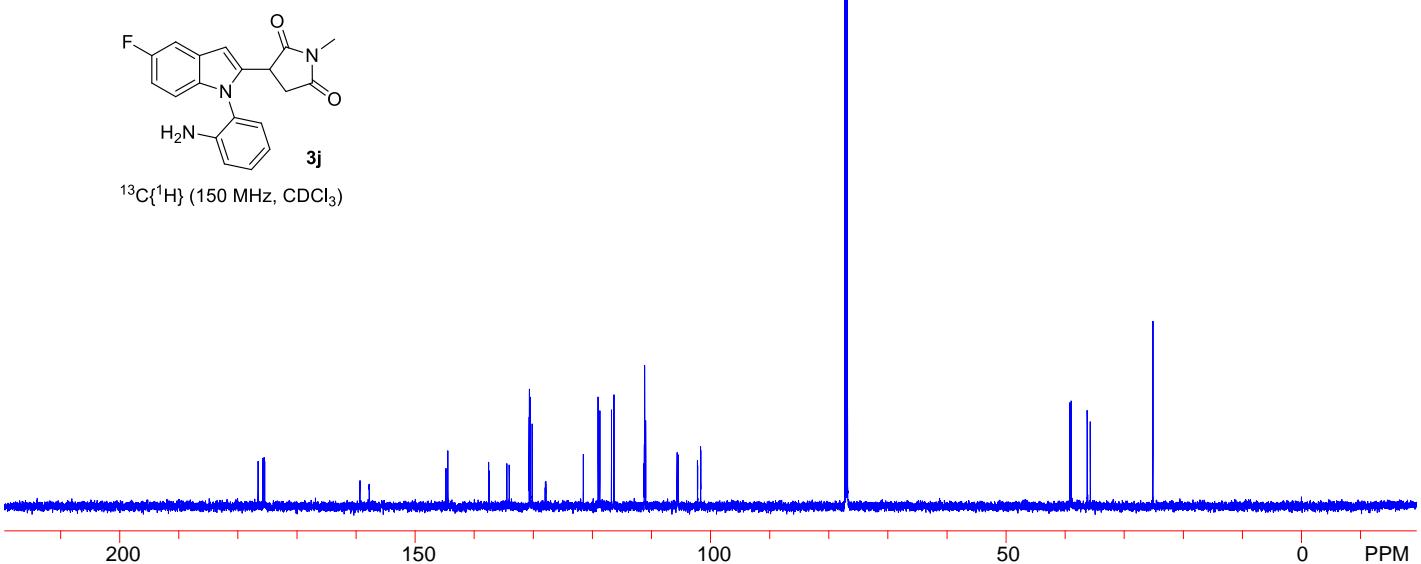
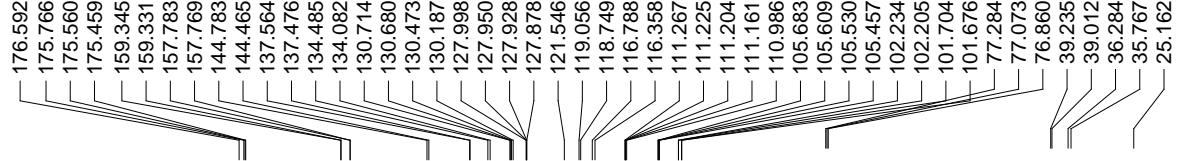
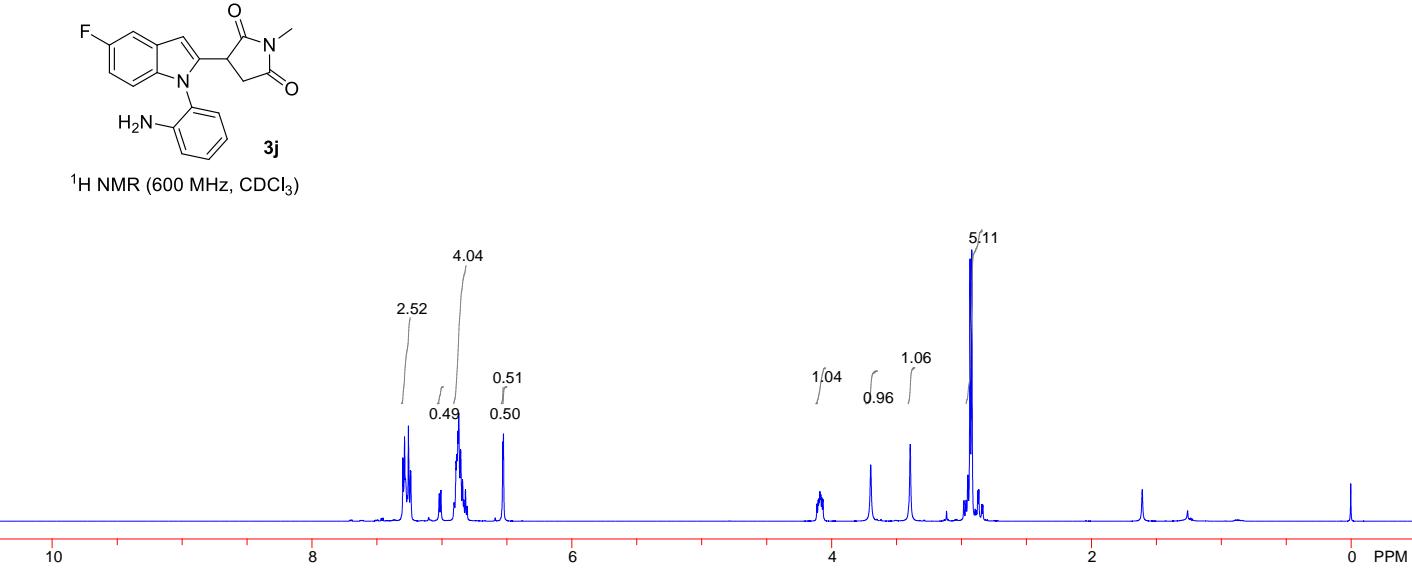
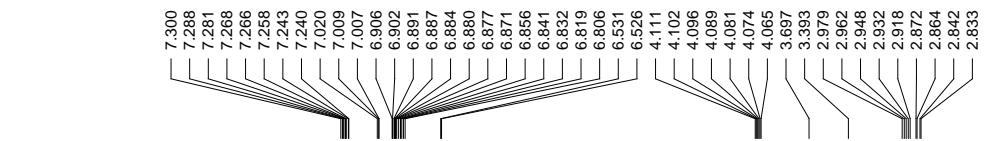
144.881  
144.616  
136.357  
135.952  
135.883  
130.536  
130.432  
130.387  
130.278  
130.137  
130.111  
127.981  
127.921  
124.261  
121.995  
121.964  
120.325  
118.883  
118.584  
116.646  
116.241  
110.140  
110.117  
101.859  
101.235  
77.337  
77.126  
76.913  
39.242  
38.994  
36.410  
35.870  
25.106  
21.431

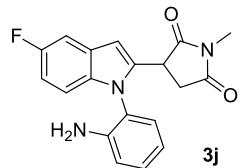
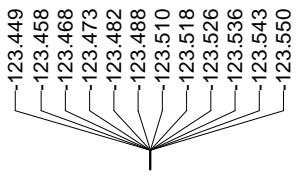


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)









$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (565 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

0

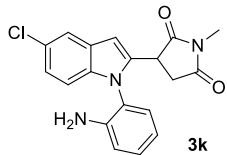
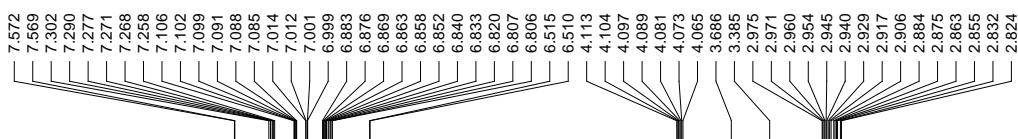
-50

-100

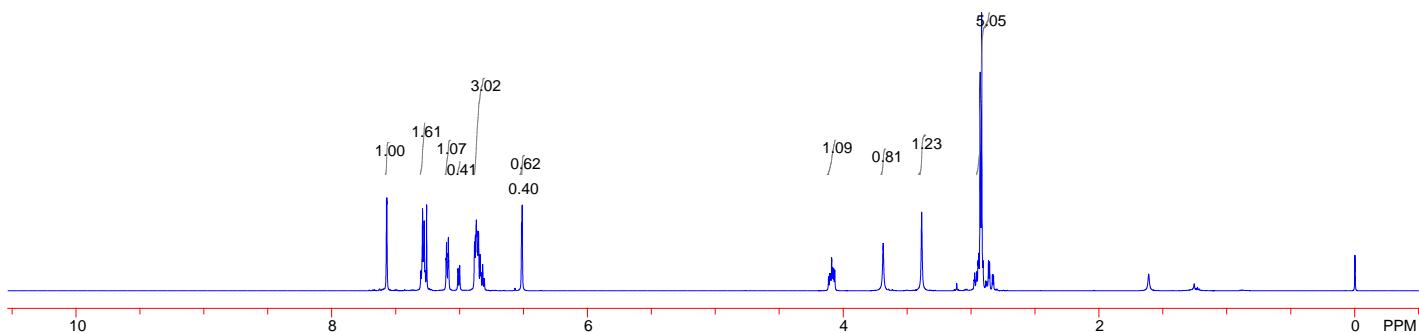
-150

-200

PPM

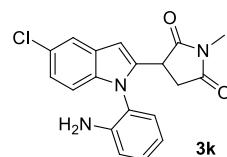


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

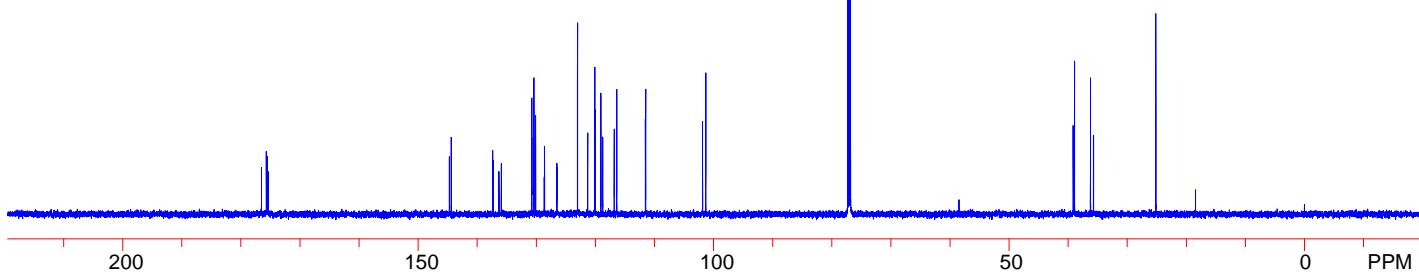


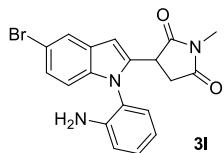
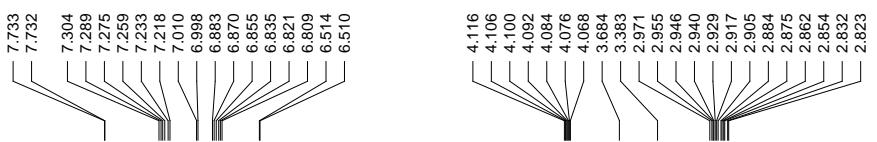
176.510  
175.693  
175.494  
175.391

144.722  
144.400  
137.377  
137.293  
136.329  
135.925  
130.791  
130.763  
130.402  
130.125  
128.662  
128.615  
126.525  
126.499  
123.036  
121.316  
120.121  
120.048  
119.076  
118.775  
116.830  
116.393  
111.545  
111.500  
101.878  
101.332  
77.281  
77.069  
76.858  
39.165  
38.942  
36.236  
35.714  
25.177

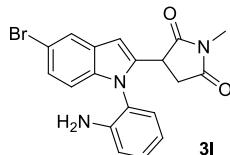
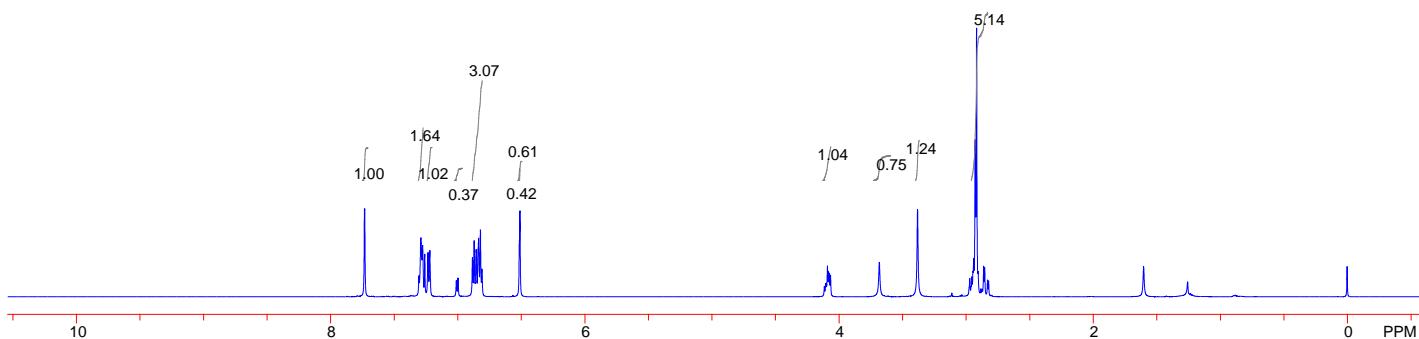


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

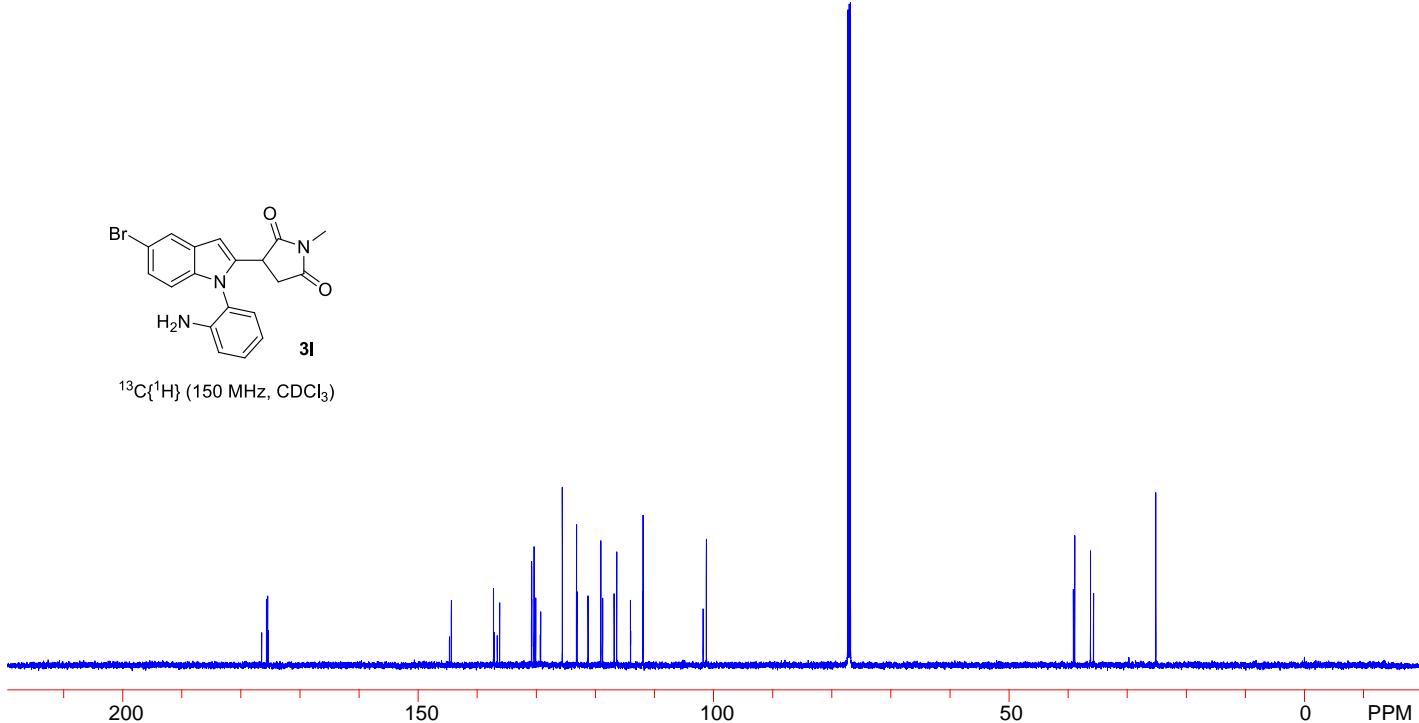


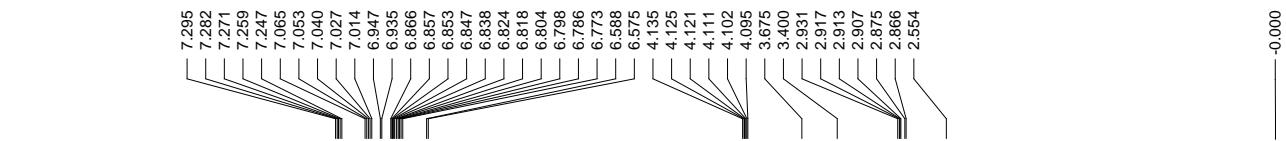


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

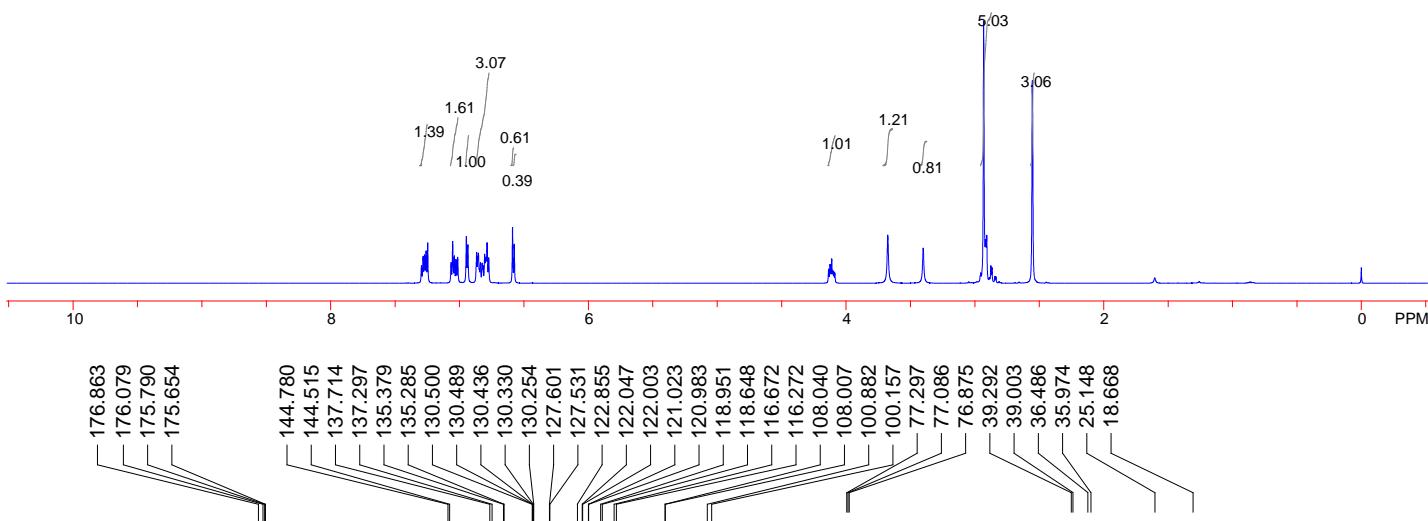


$^{13}\text{C}\{{}^1\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

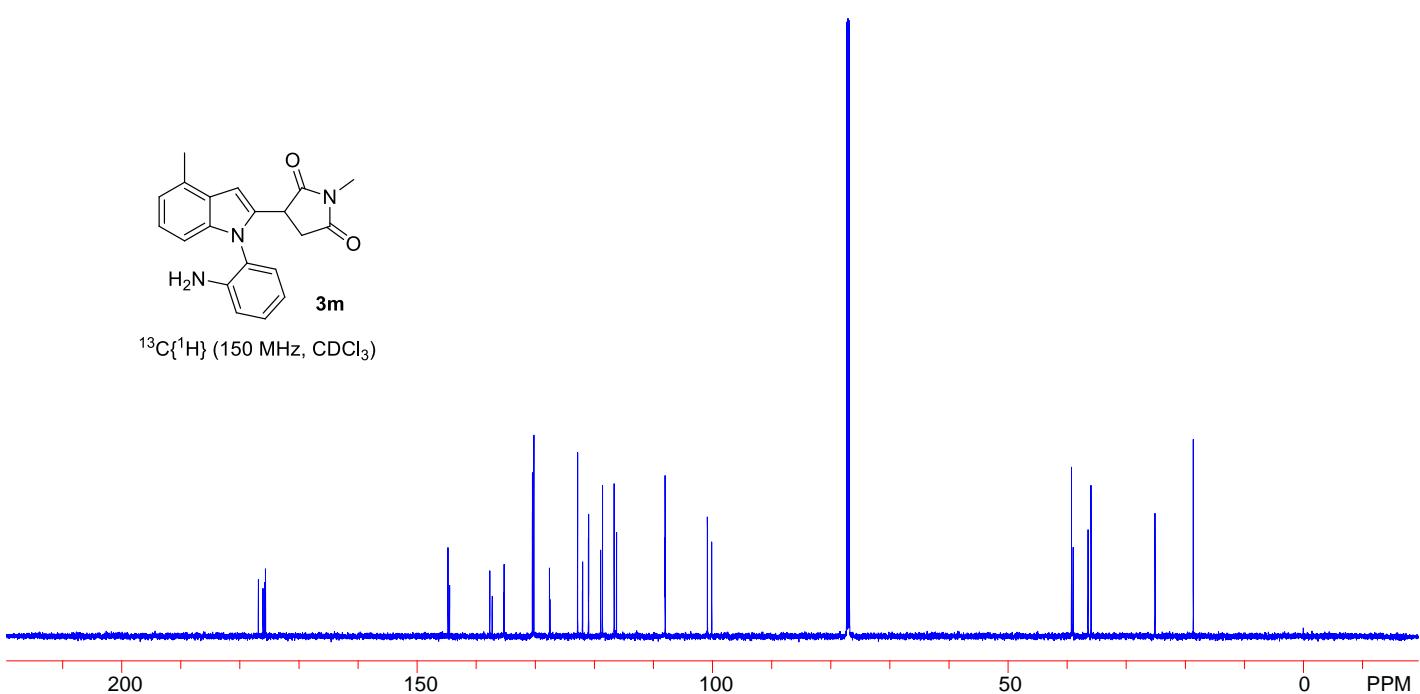


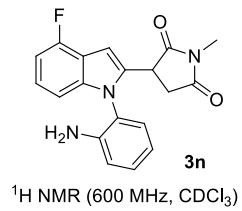
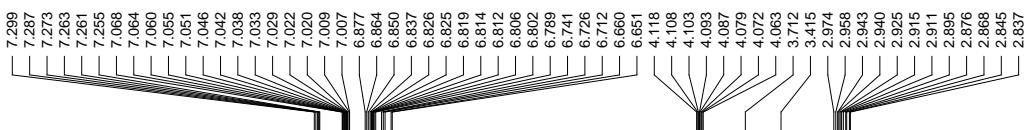


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

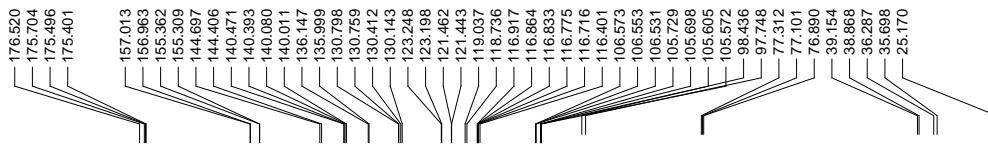
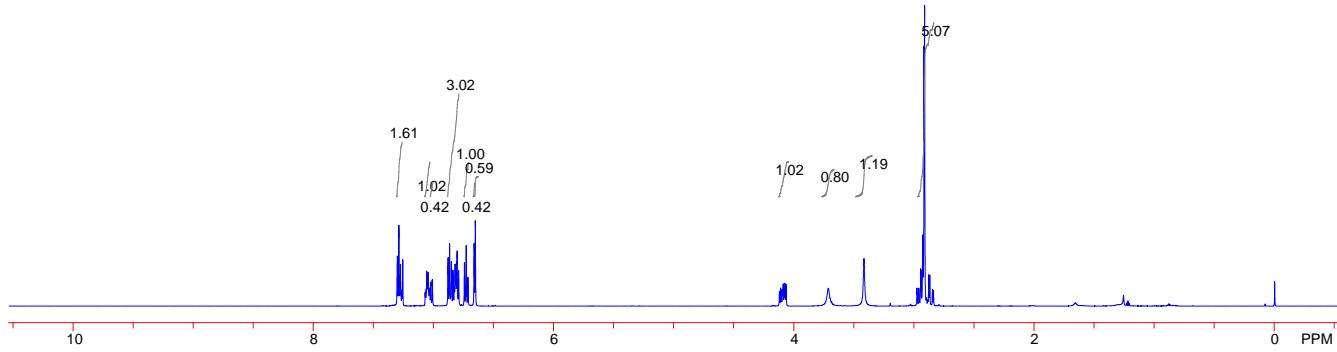


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

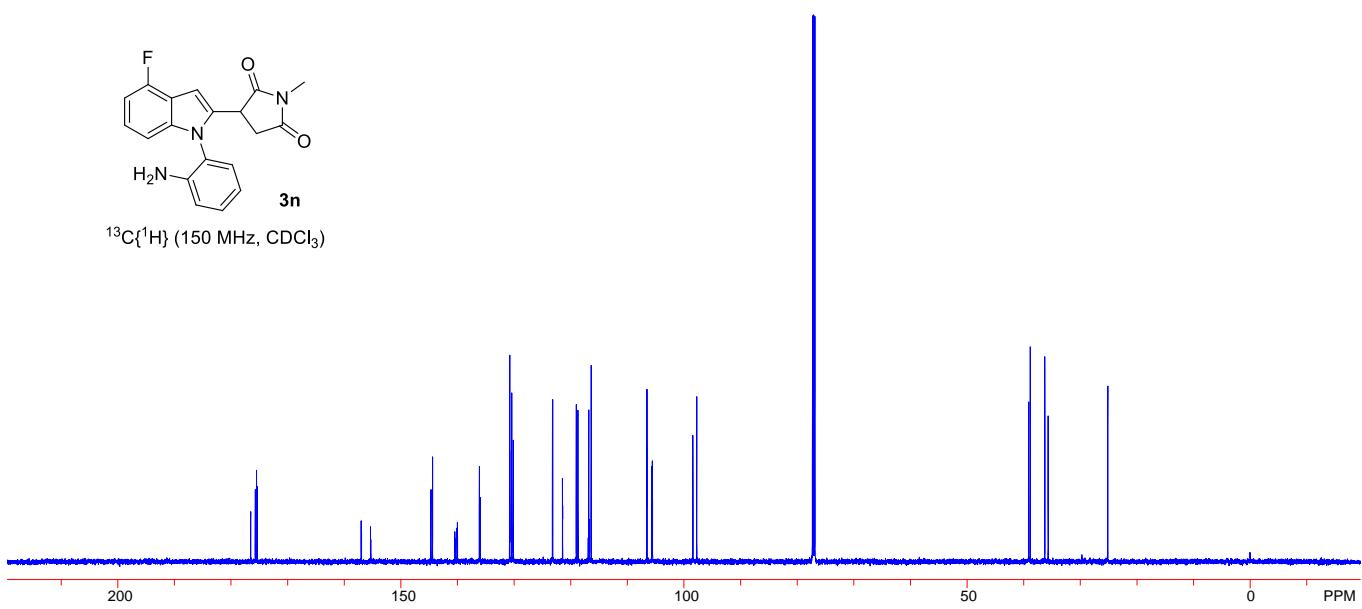




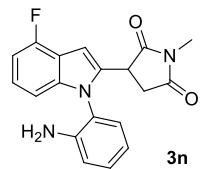
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



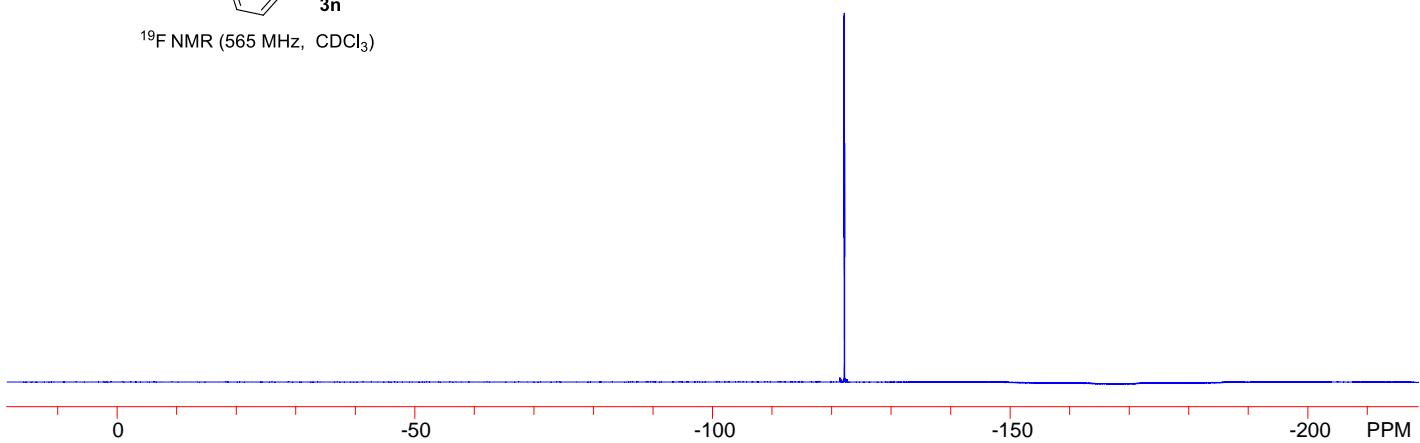
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

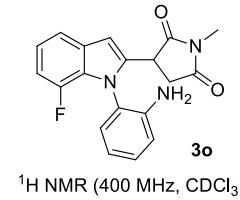
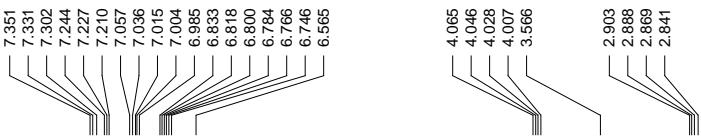


-122.106  
-122.116  
-122.124  
-122.135  
-122.150  
-122.159  
-122.167  
-122.179

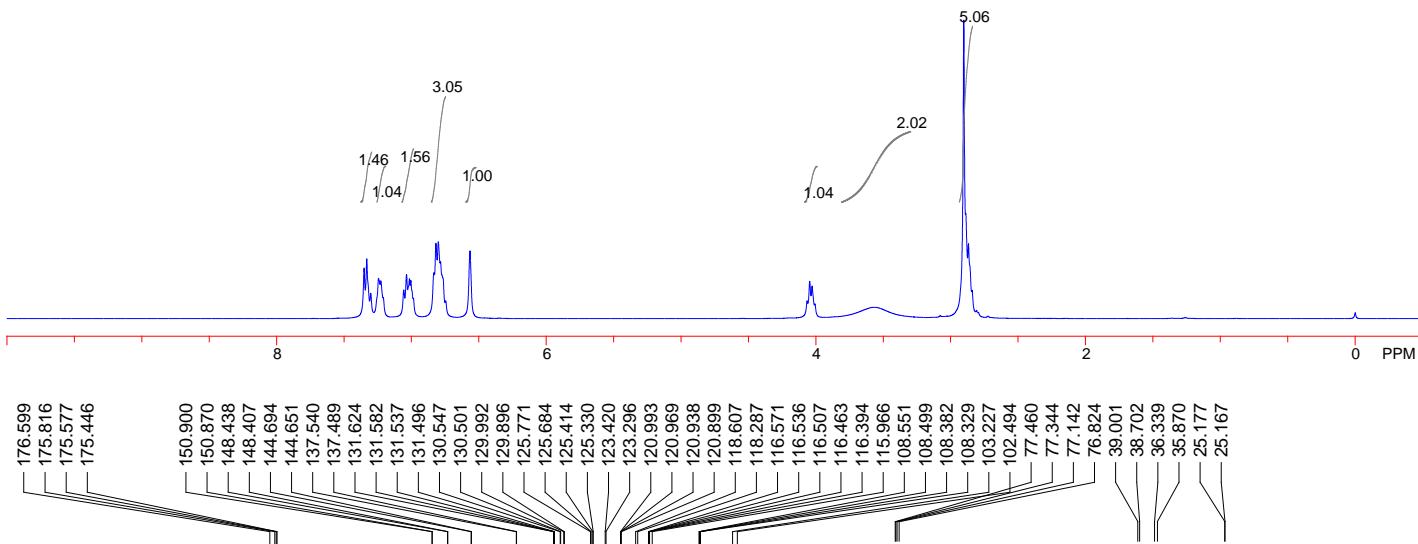


<sup>19</sup>F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



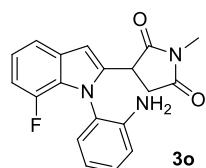


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

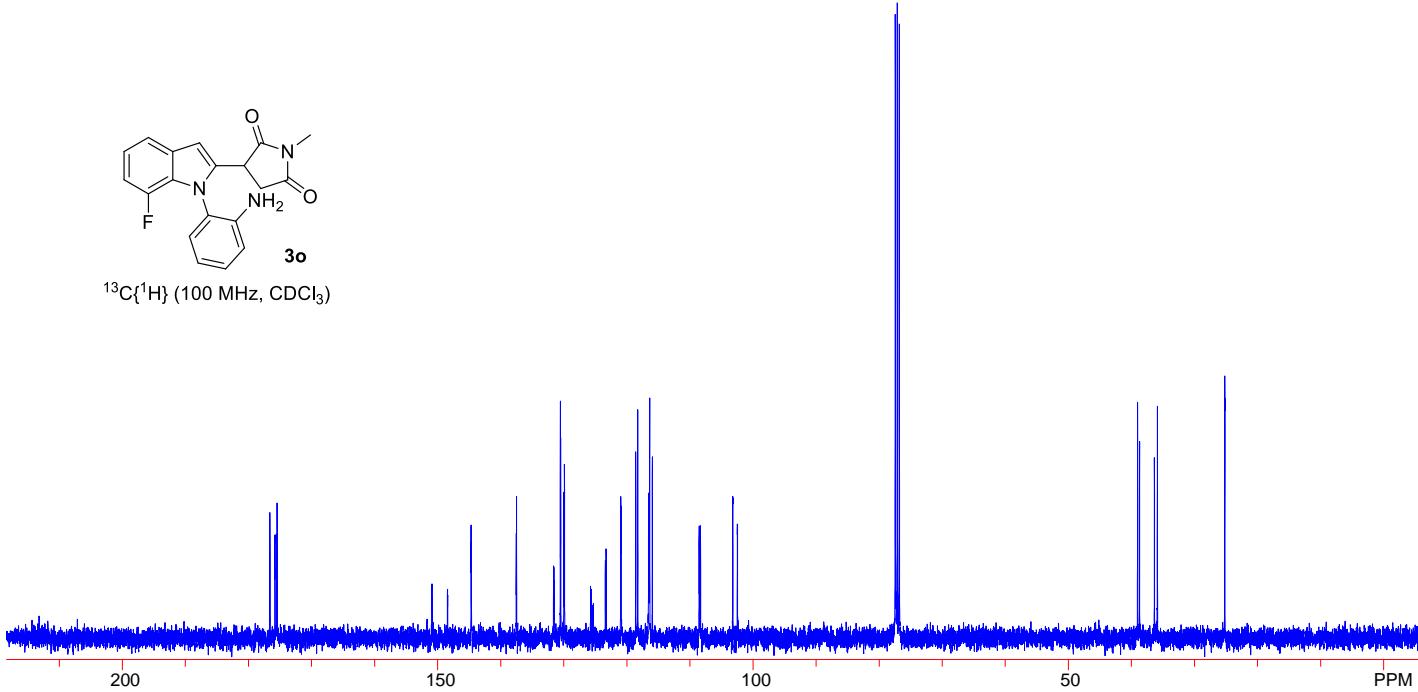


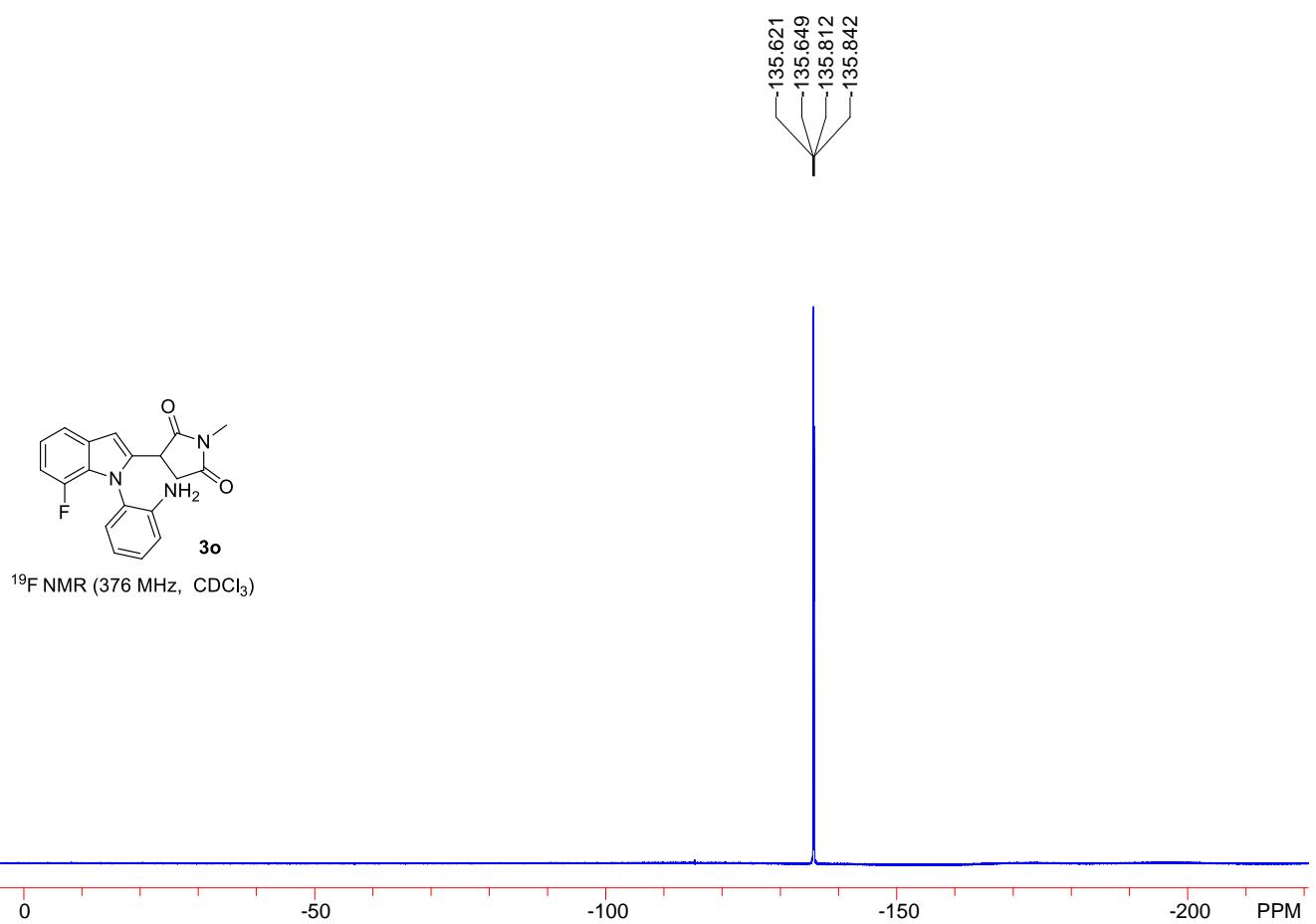
176.599  
175.816  
175.577  
175.446

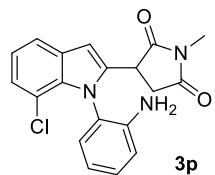
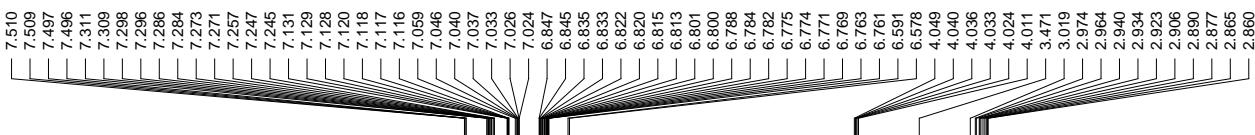
150.900  
150.870  
148.458  
148.407  
144.694  
144.651  
137.540  
137.489  
131.624  
131.582  
131.537  
131.496  
130.547  
130.501  
129.992  
129.896  
125.771  
125.684  
125.414  
125.330  
123.420  
123.296  
120.993  
120.969  
120.938  
120.899  
118.607  
118.287  
116.571  
116.536  
116.507  
116.463  
116.394  
115.966  
108.499  
108.392  
108.329  
103.227  
102.494  
77.460  
77.344  
77.142  
76.824  
39.001  
38.702  
36.339  
35.870  
25.177  
25.167



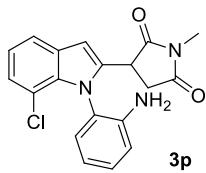
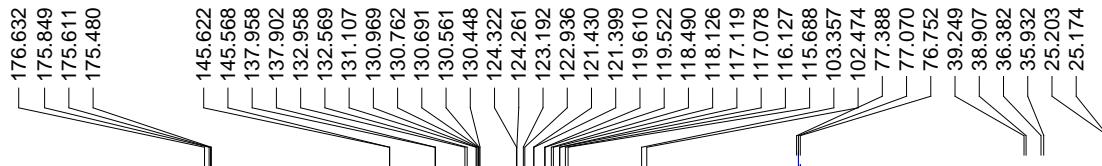
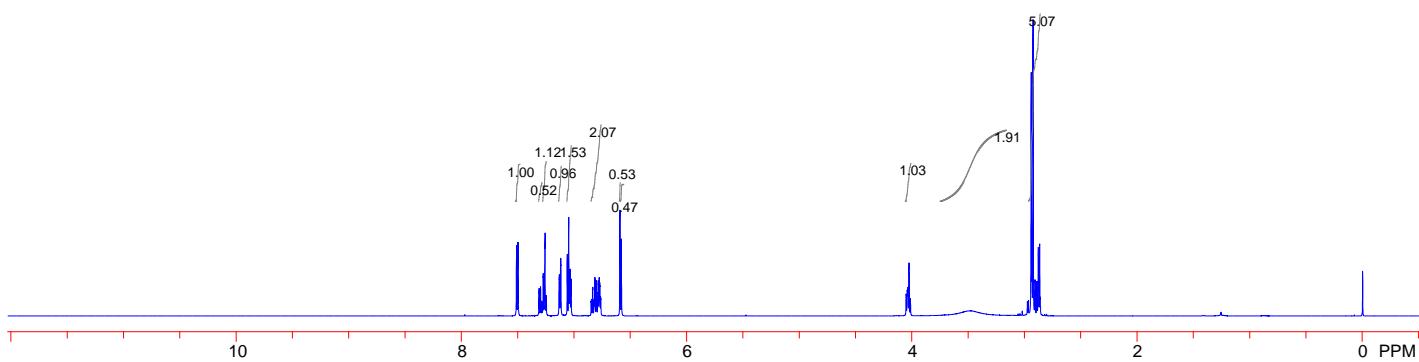
$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



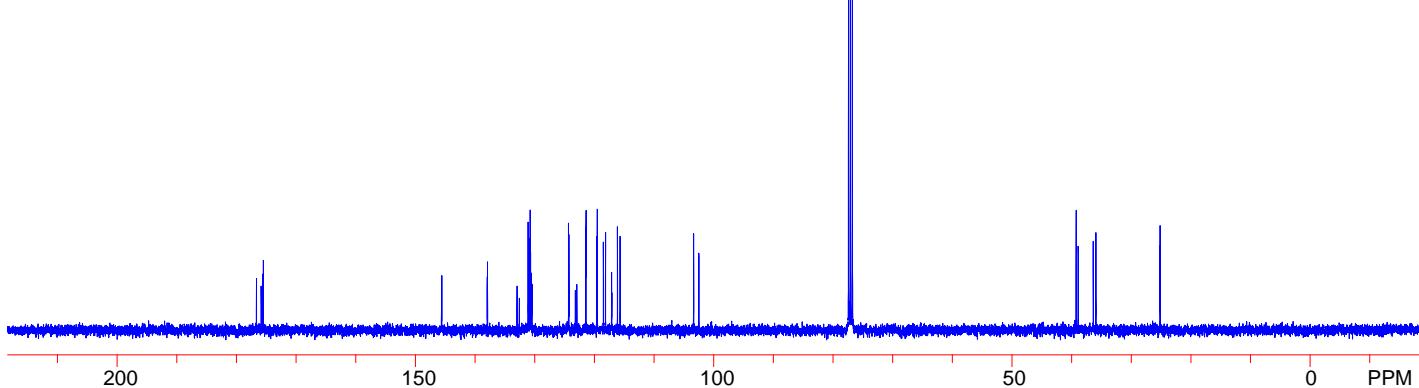


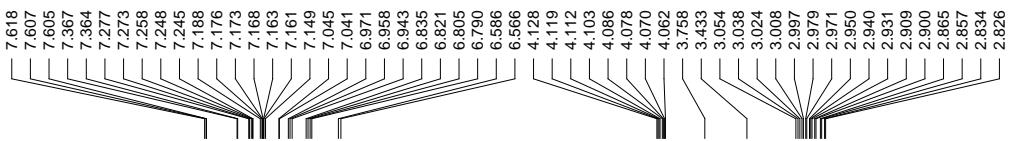


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

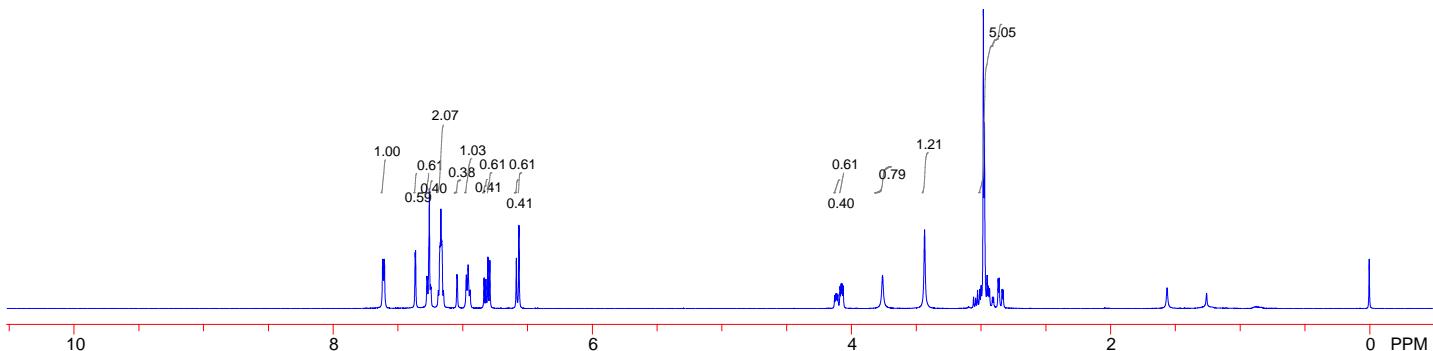


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

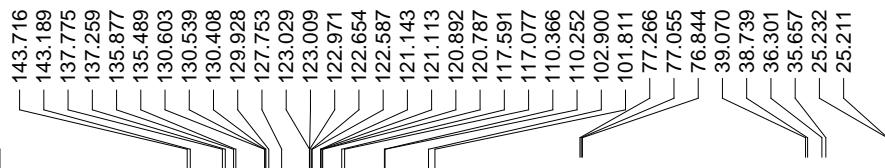




<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

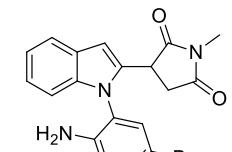
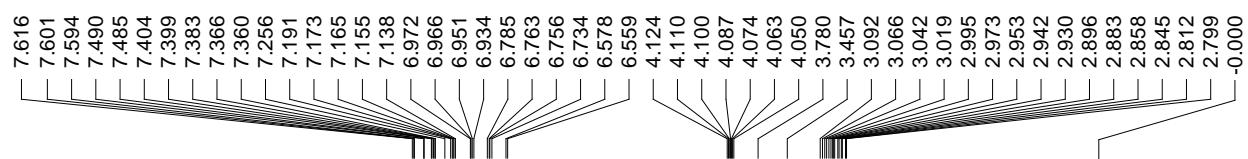


176.605  
175.73  
175.513  
175.423



<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

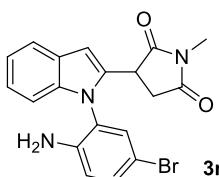
200 150 100 50 0 PPM



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

176.610  
175.779  
175.511  
175.429

144.190  
143.671  
135.888  
135.485  
133.422  
133.362  
133.198  
132.763  
127.744  
123.014  
122.976  
122.947  
121.152  
121.122  
120.895  
120.793  
117.969  
117.467  
110.379  
110.271  
109.556  
109.184  
102.920  
101.847  
77.275  
77.064  
76.853  
39.082  
38.744  
36.312  
35.655  
25.278  
25.243



<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

200

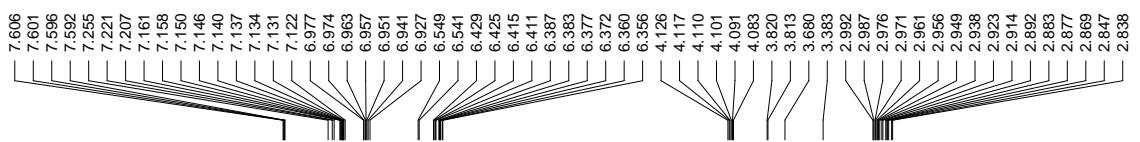
150

100

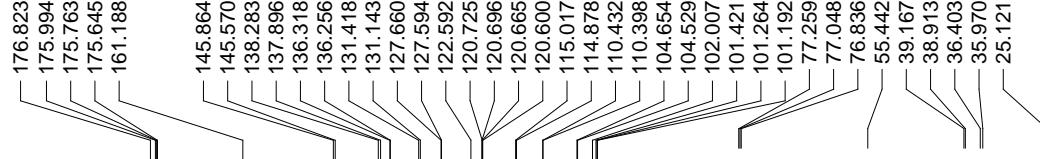
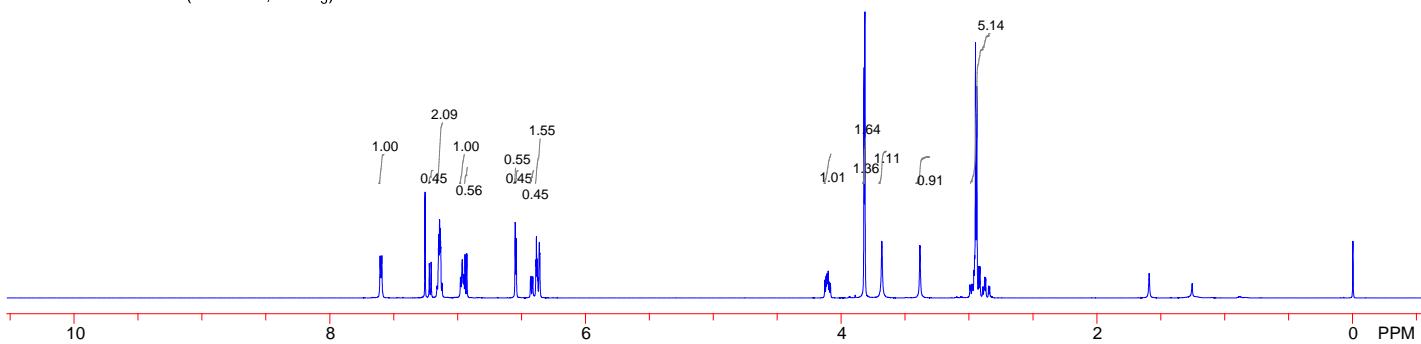
50

0

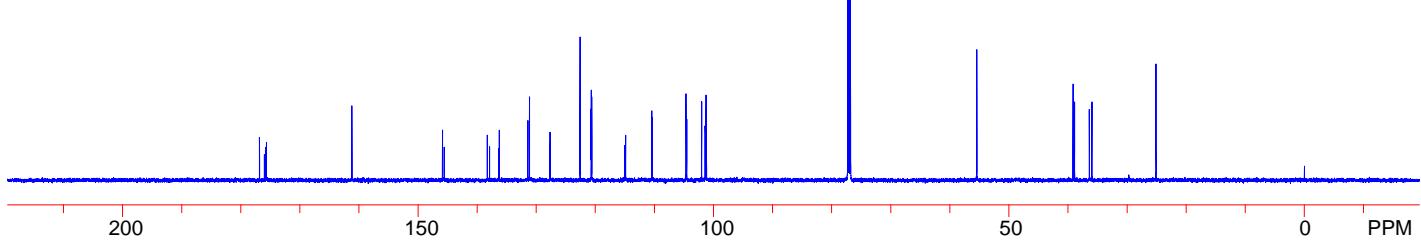
PPM



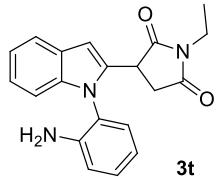
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



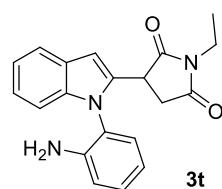
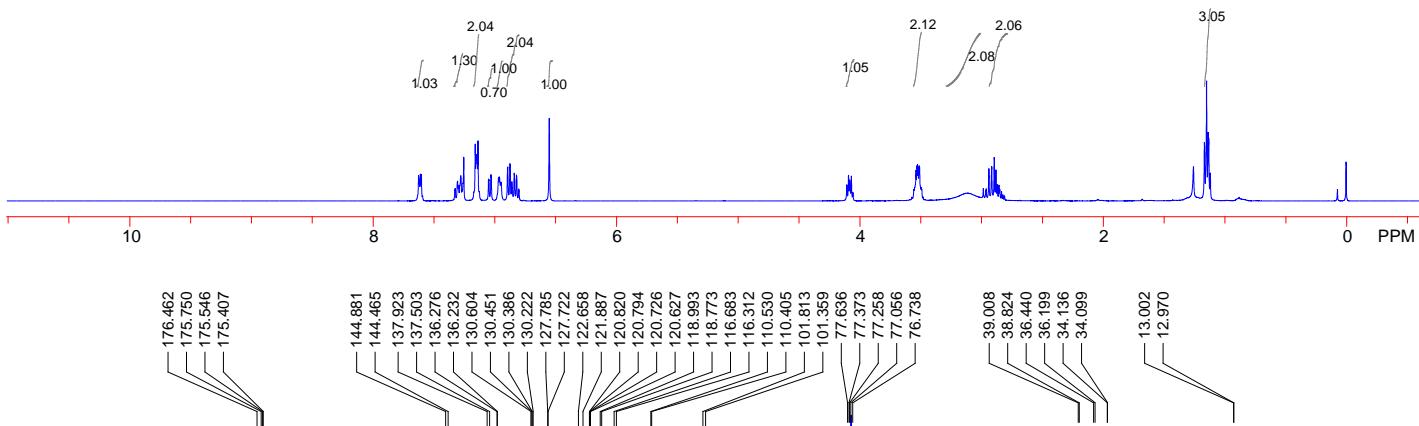
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



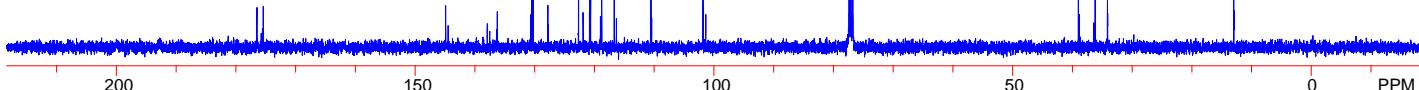
7.627
7.622
7.612
7.604
7.594
7.326
7.306
7.301
7.297
7.289
7.279
7.270
7.261
7.255
7.172
7.161
7.155
7.151
7.148
7.144
7.138
7.127
7.051
7.048
7.029
7.029
6.969
6.962
6.950
6.894
6.875
6.860
6.841
6.822
6.803
6.801
6.552
6.408
4.094
4.084
4.071
4.057
3.572
3.556
3.538
3.531
3.527
3.520
3.513
3.509
3.496
3.491
3.480
3.134
2.984
2.961
2.938
2.915
2.895
2.881
2.869
2.856
2.849
2.835
2.823
2.810
1.165
1.148
1.135
1.130
1.117

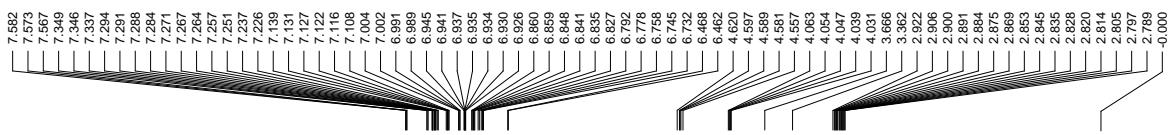


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

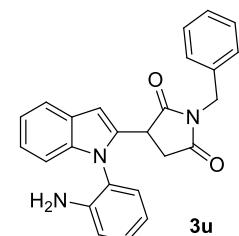
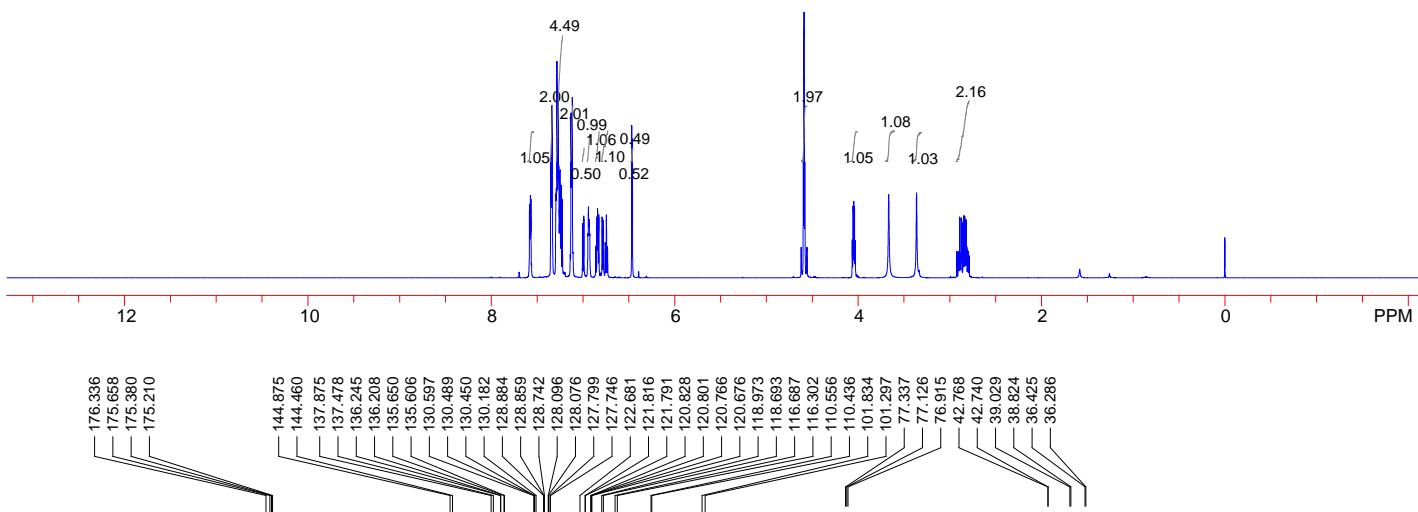


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

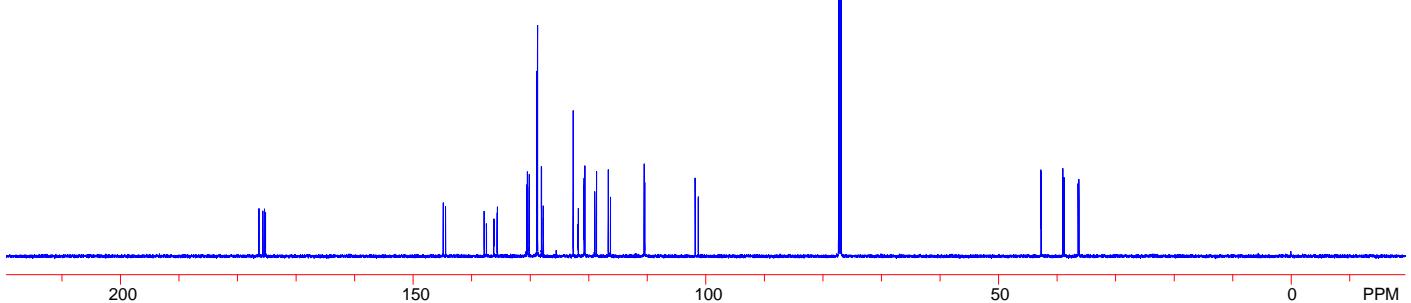


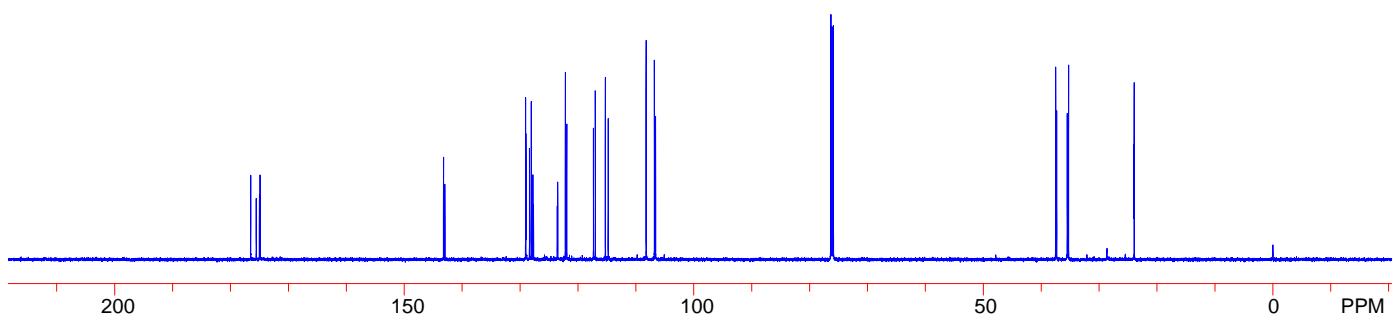
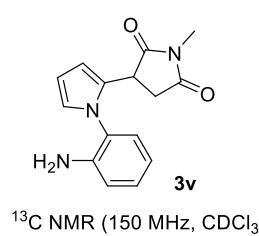
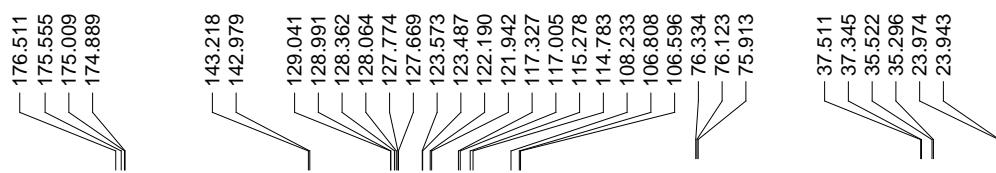
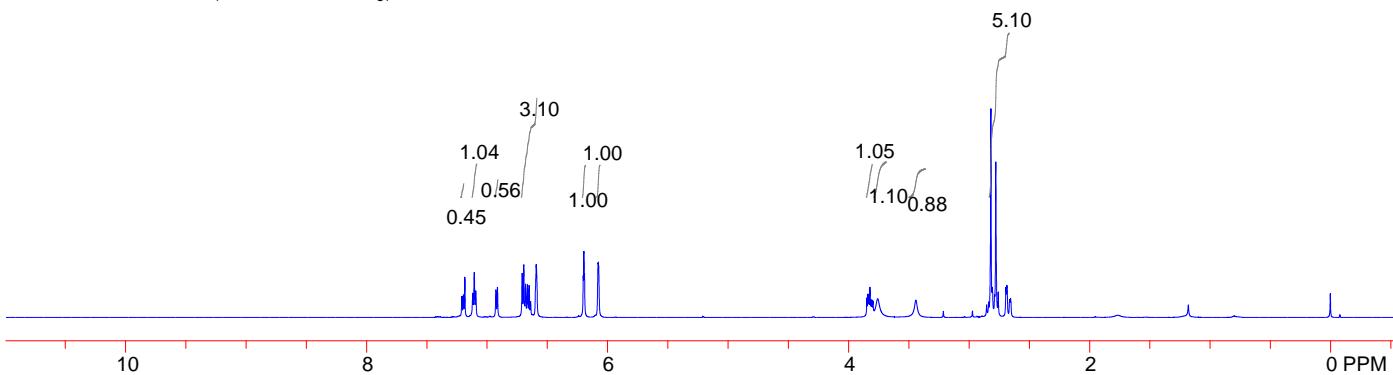
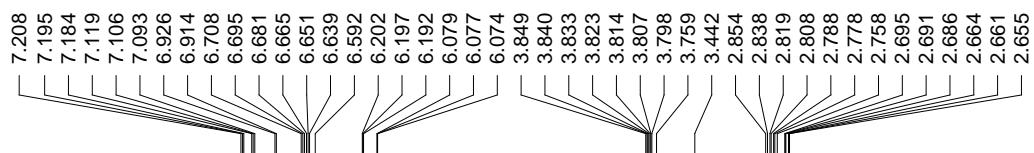


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

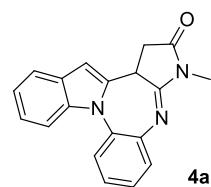
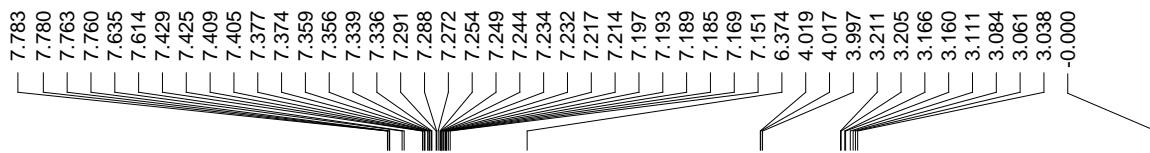


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

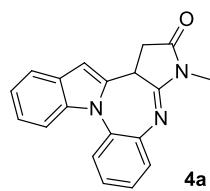
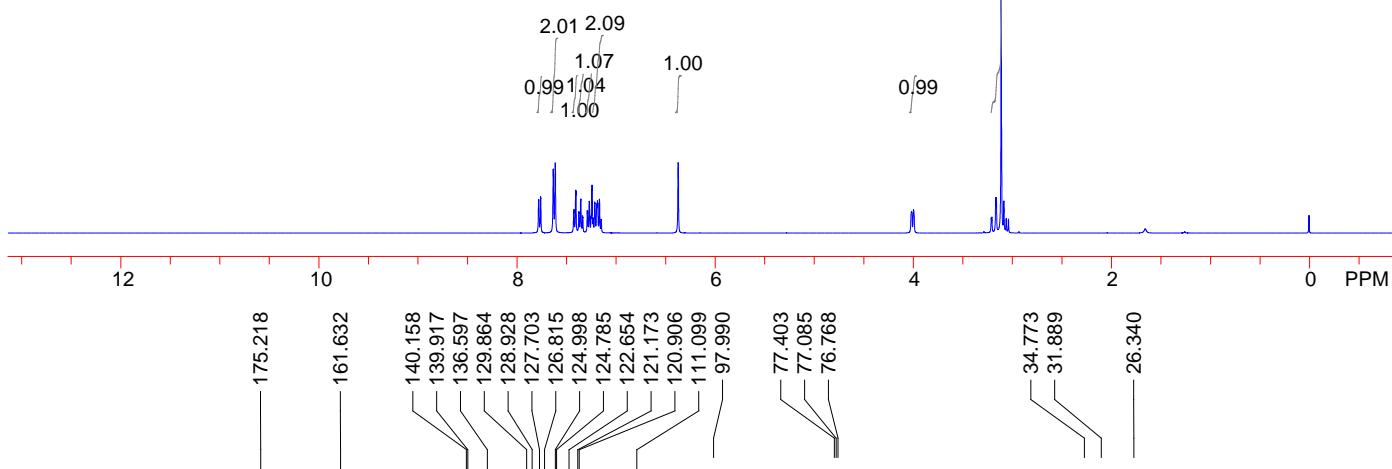




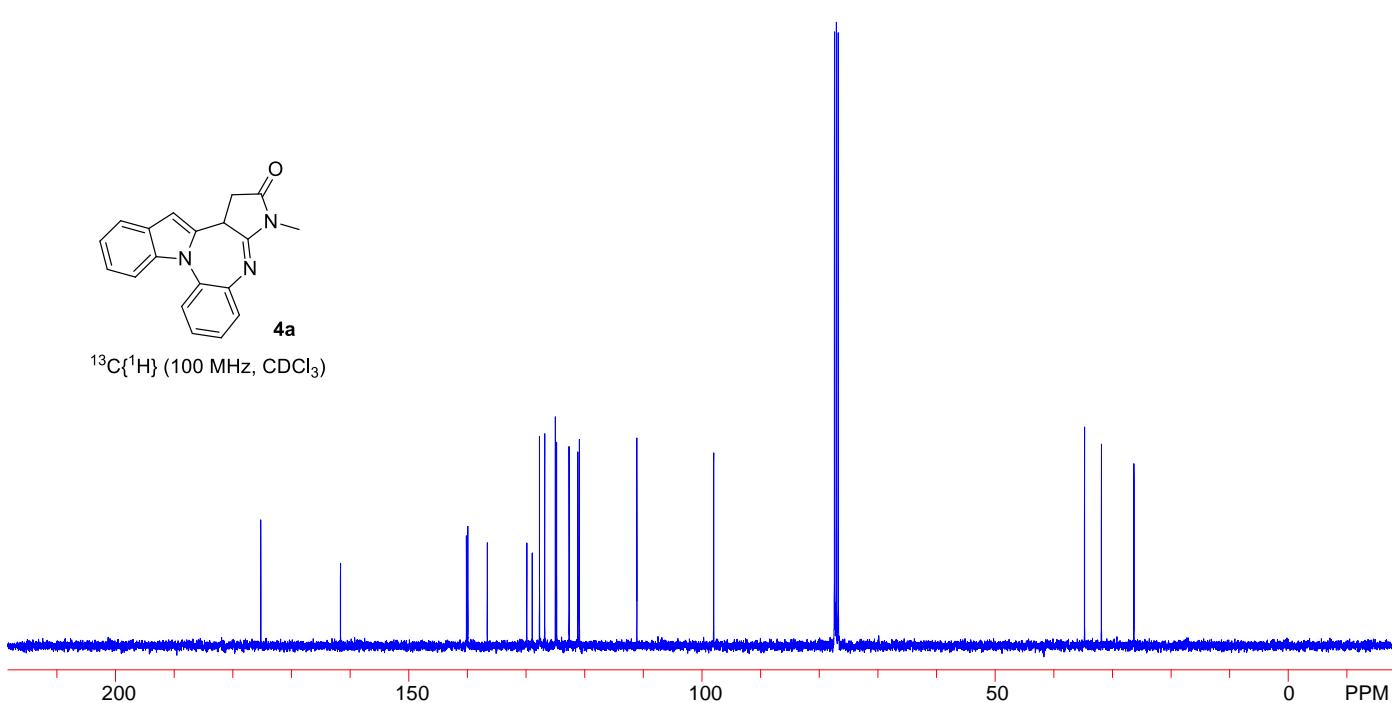
## VI. NMR spectra of 4a-4y

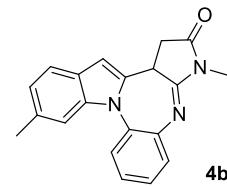
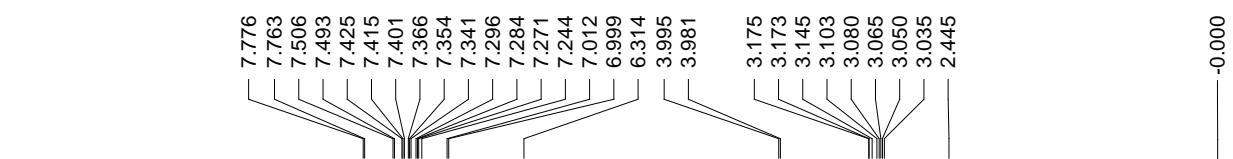


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

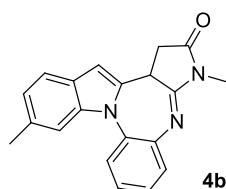
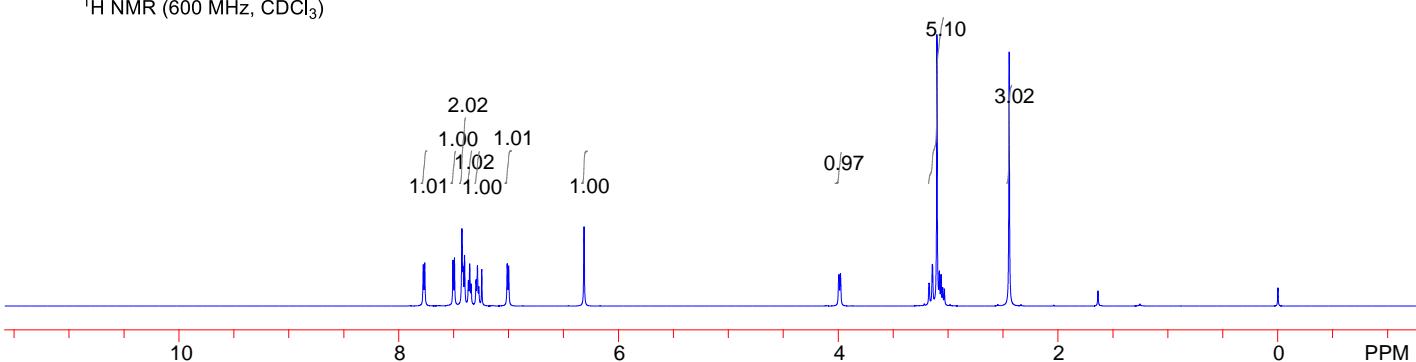


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

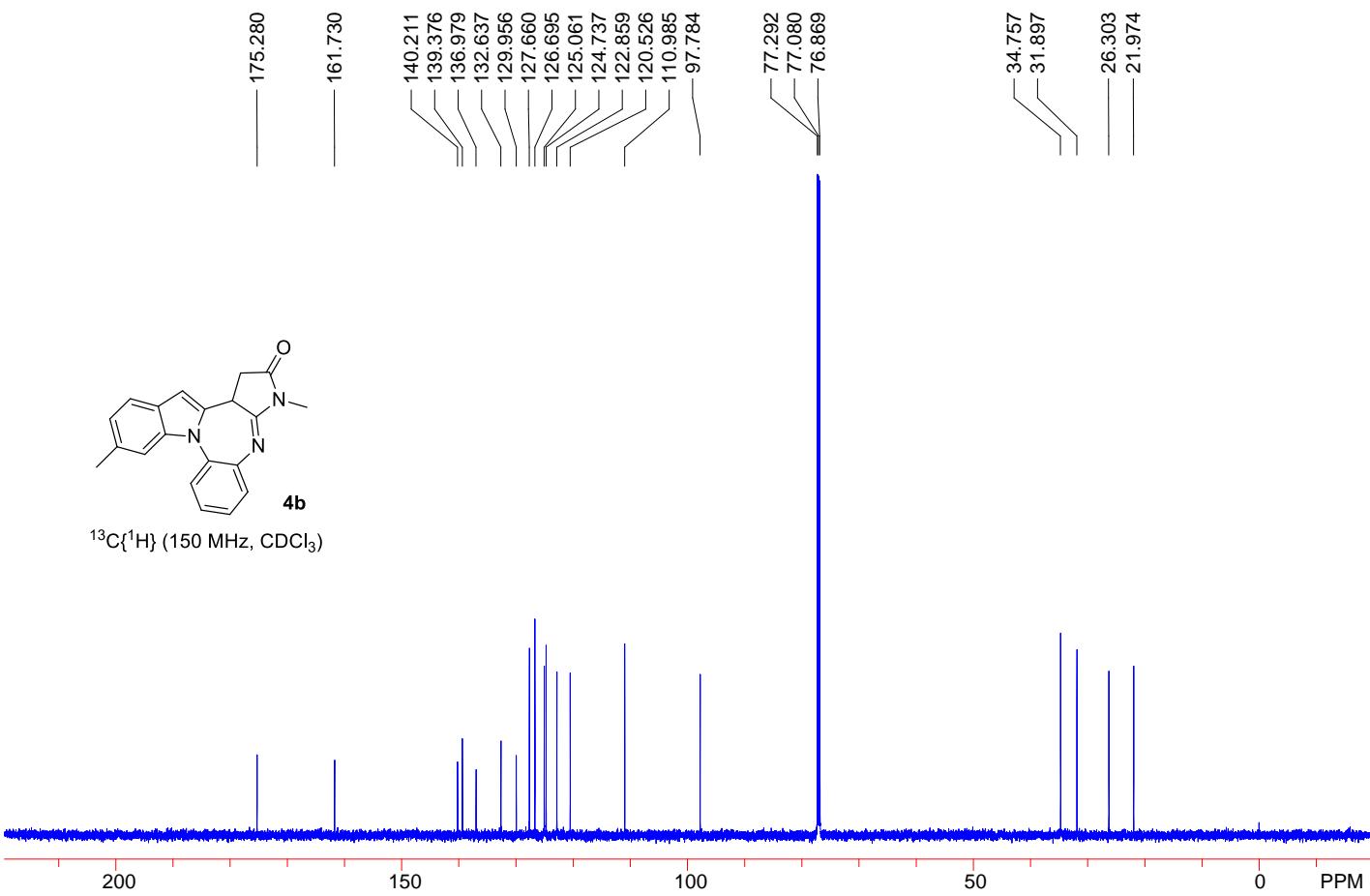


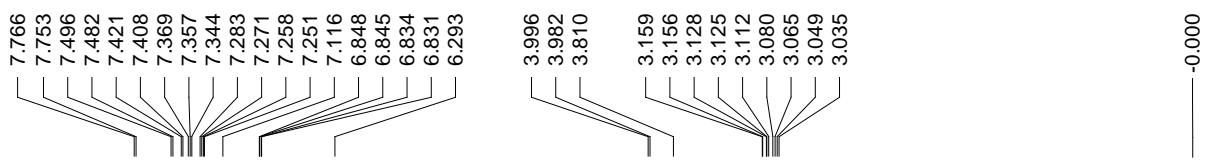


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

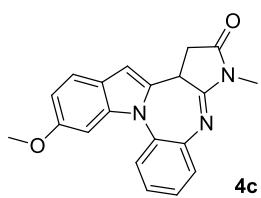
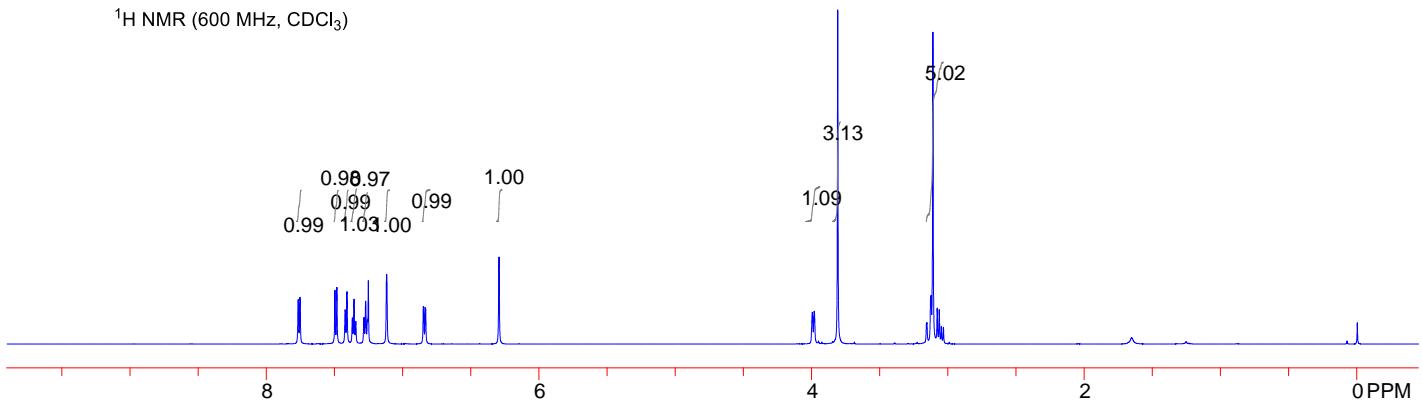


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

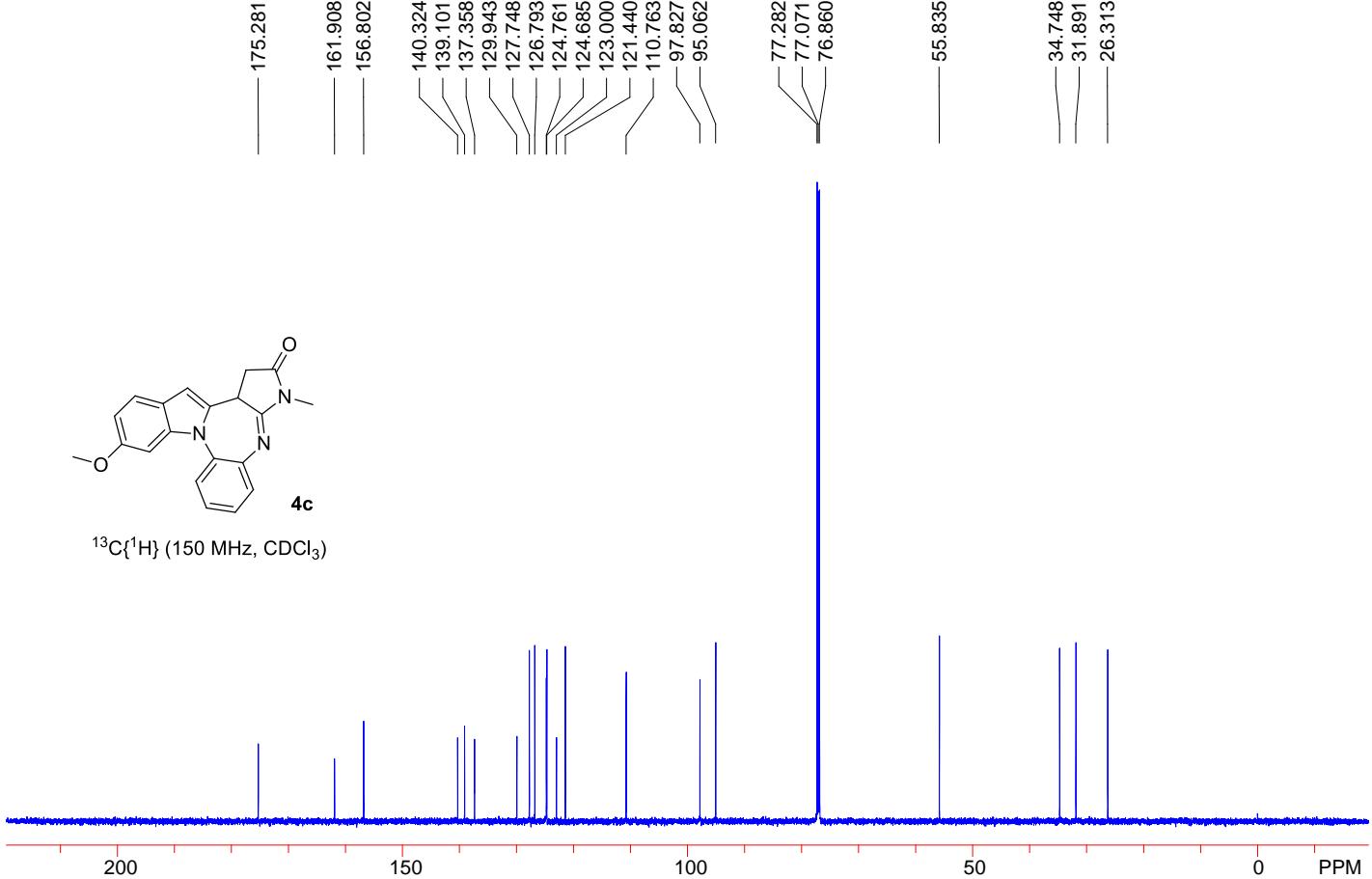


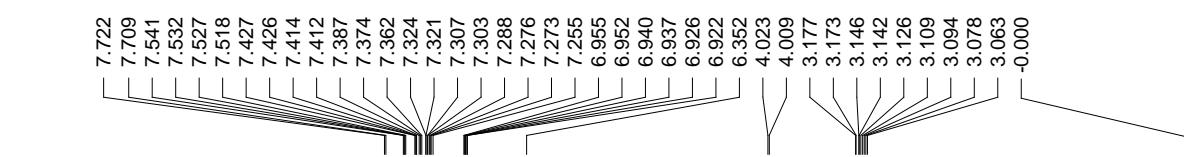


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

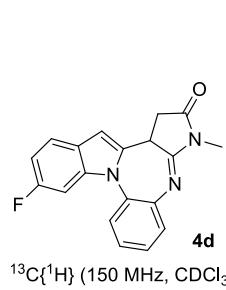
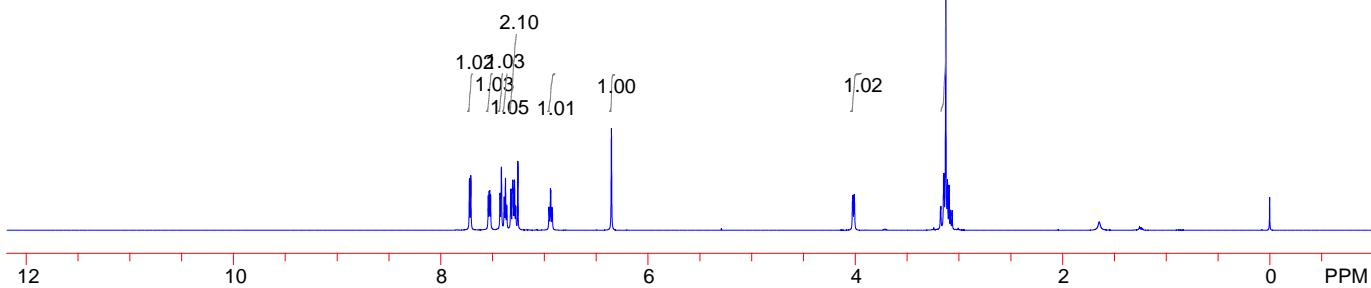


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

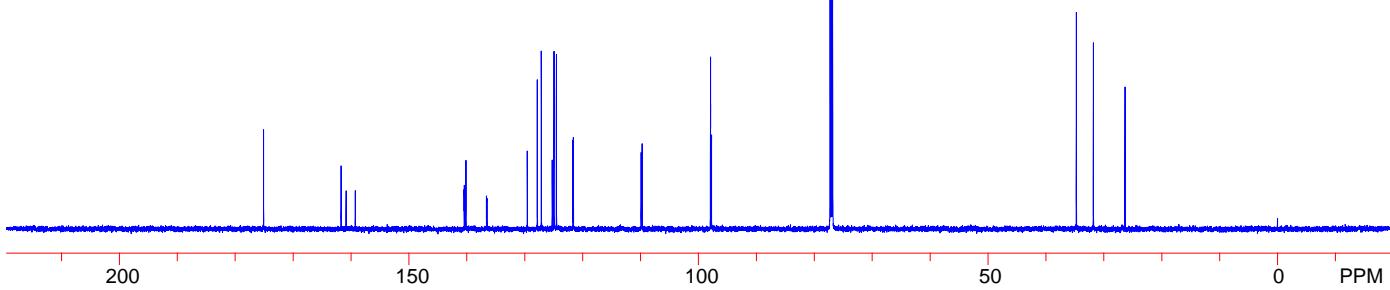


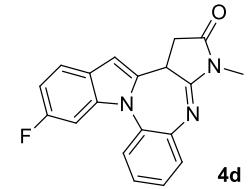


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

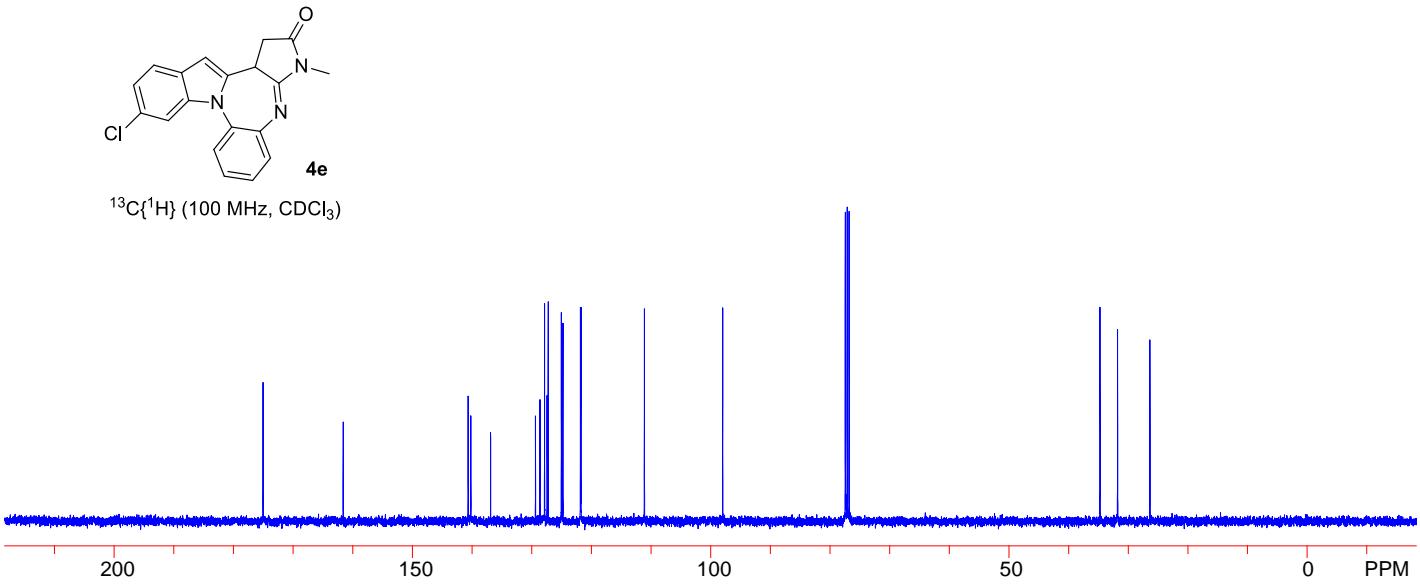
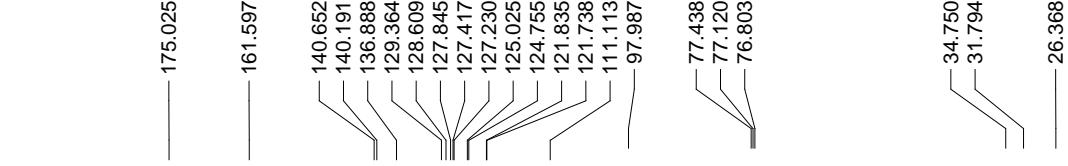
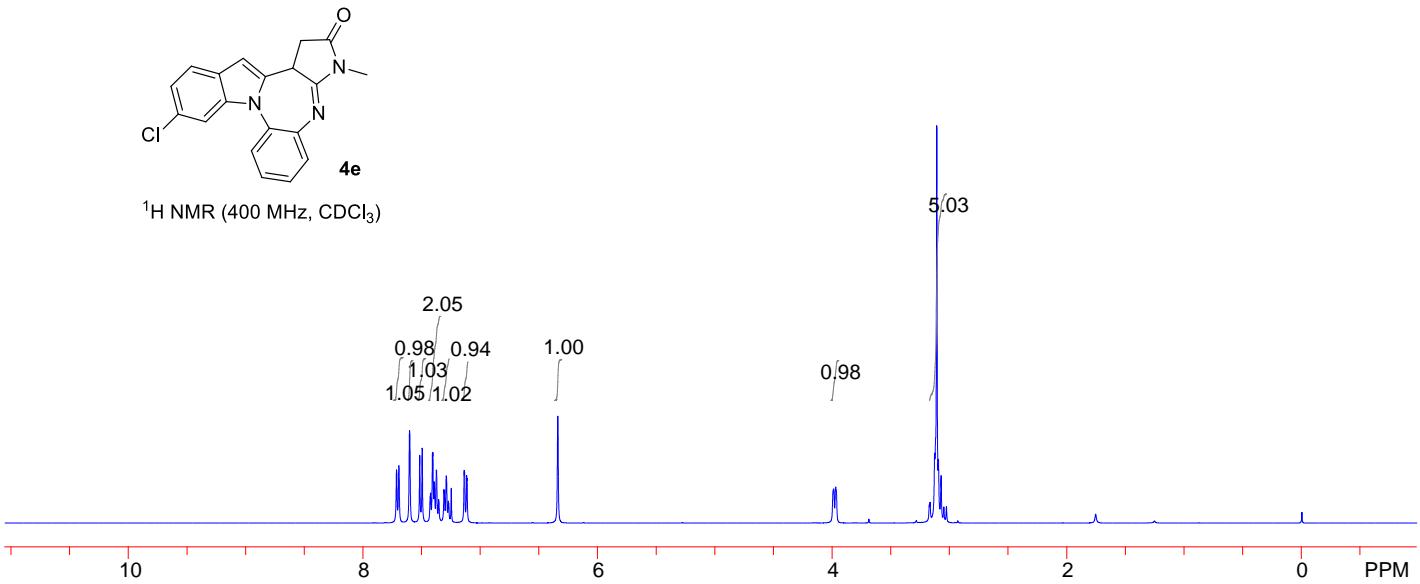
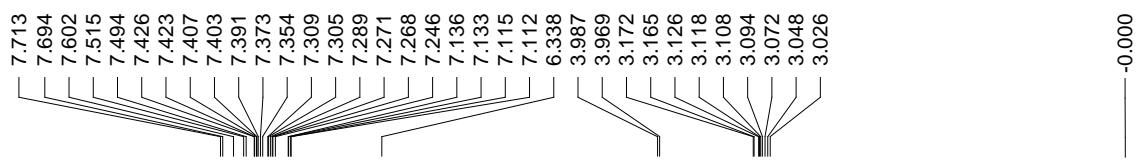


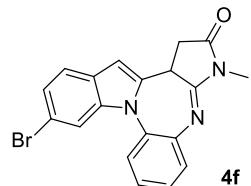
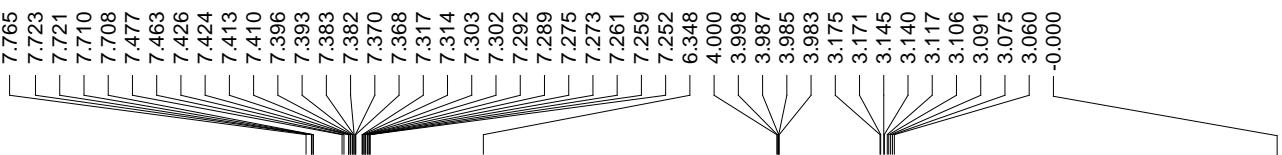


<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

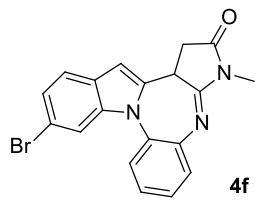
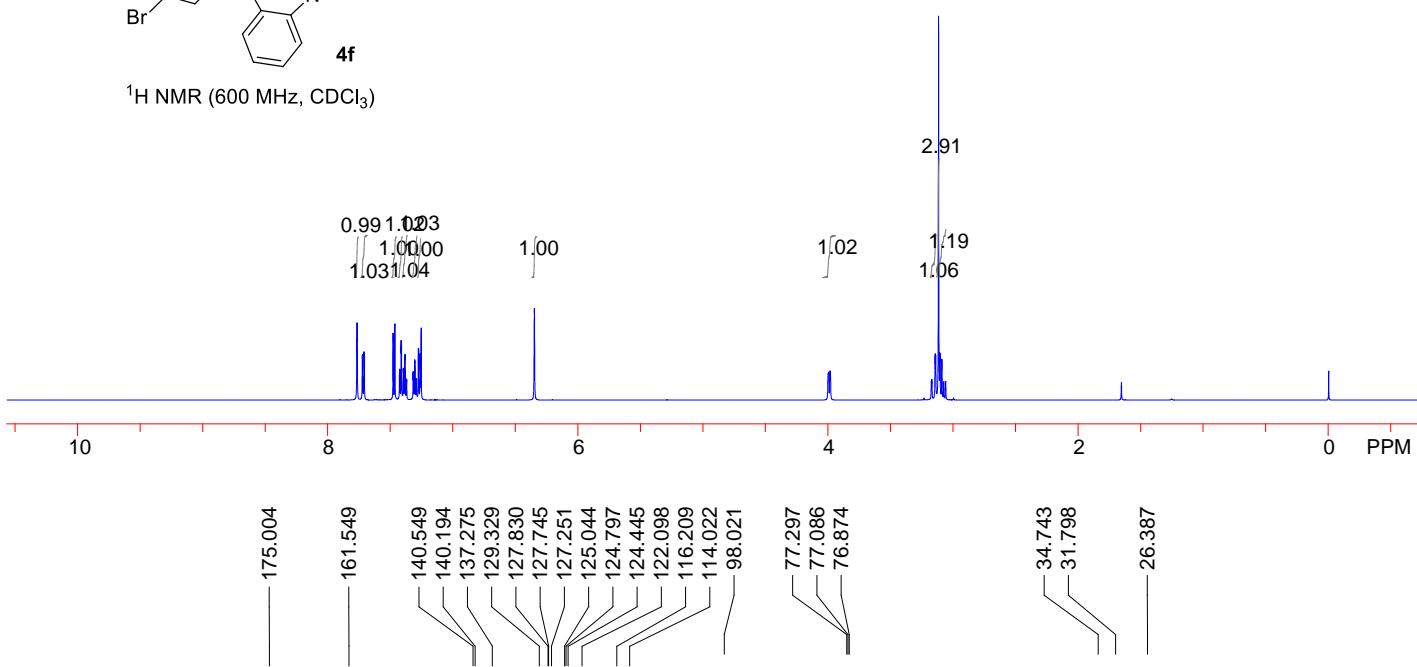
-119.143  
-119.158  
-119.169  
-119.185  
-119.195  
-119.211

0 -50 -100 -150 -200 PPM

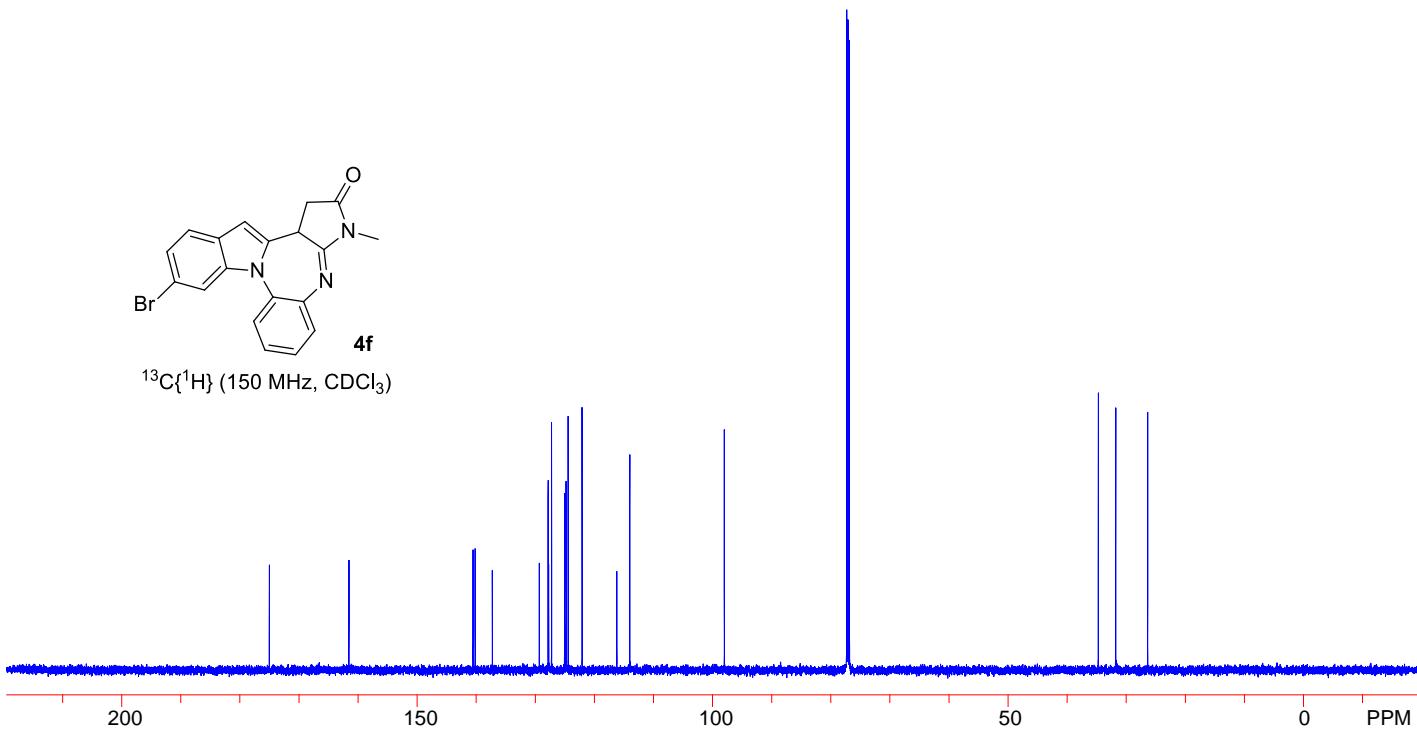


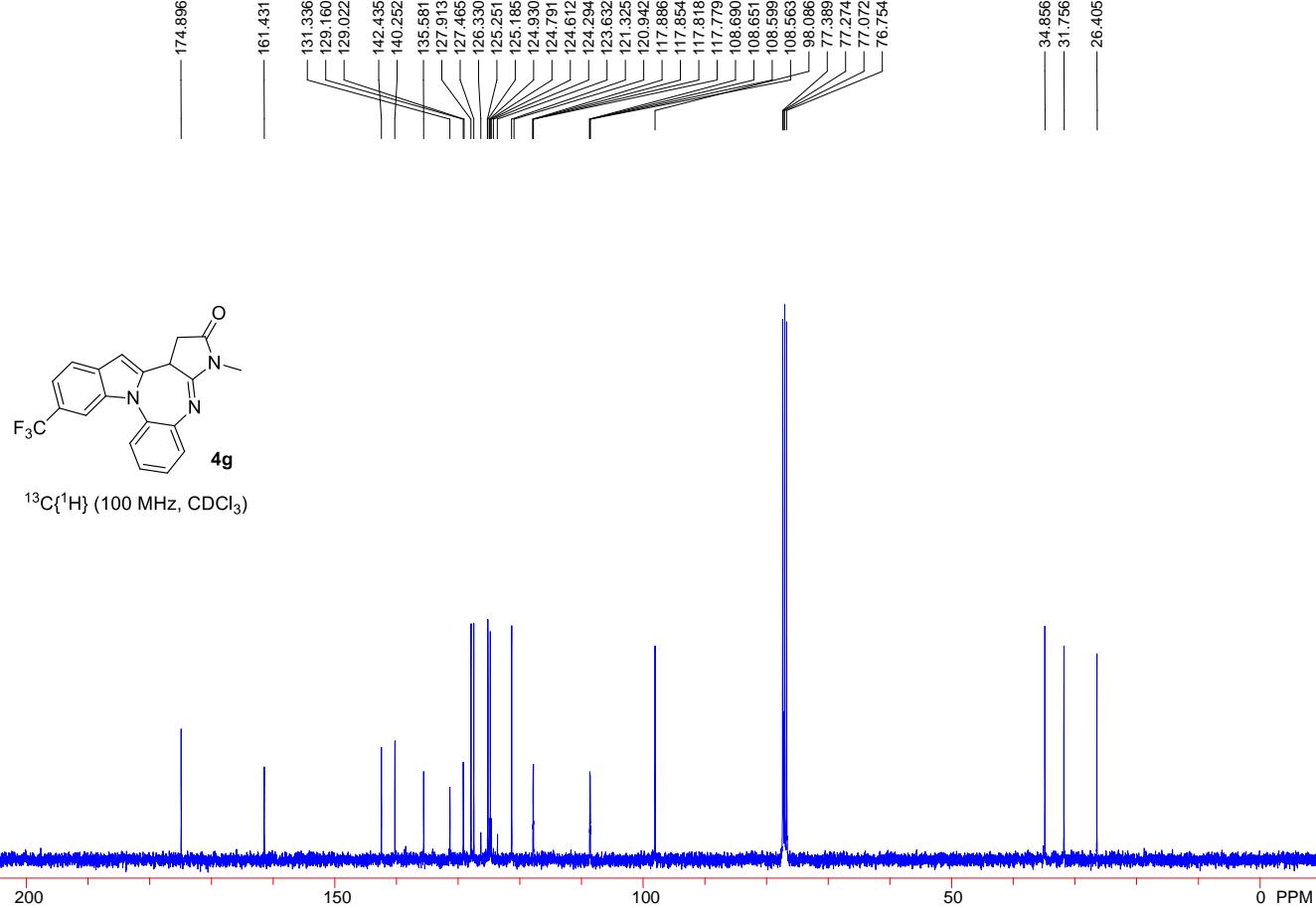
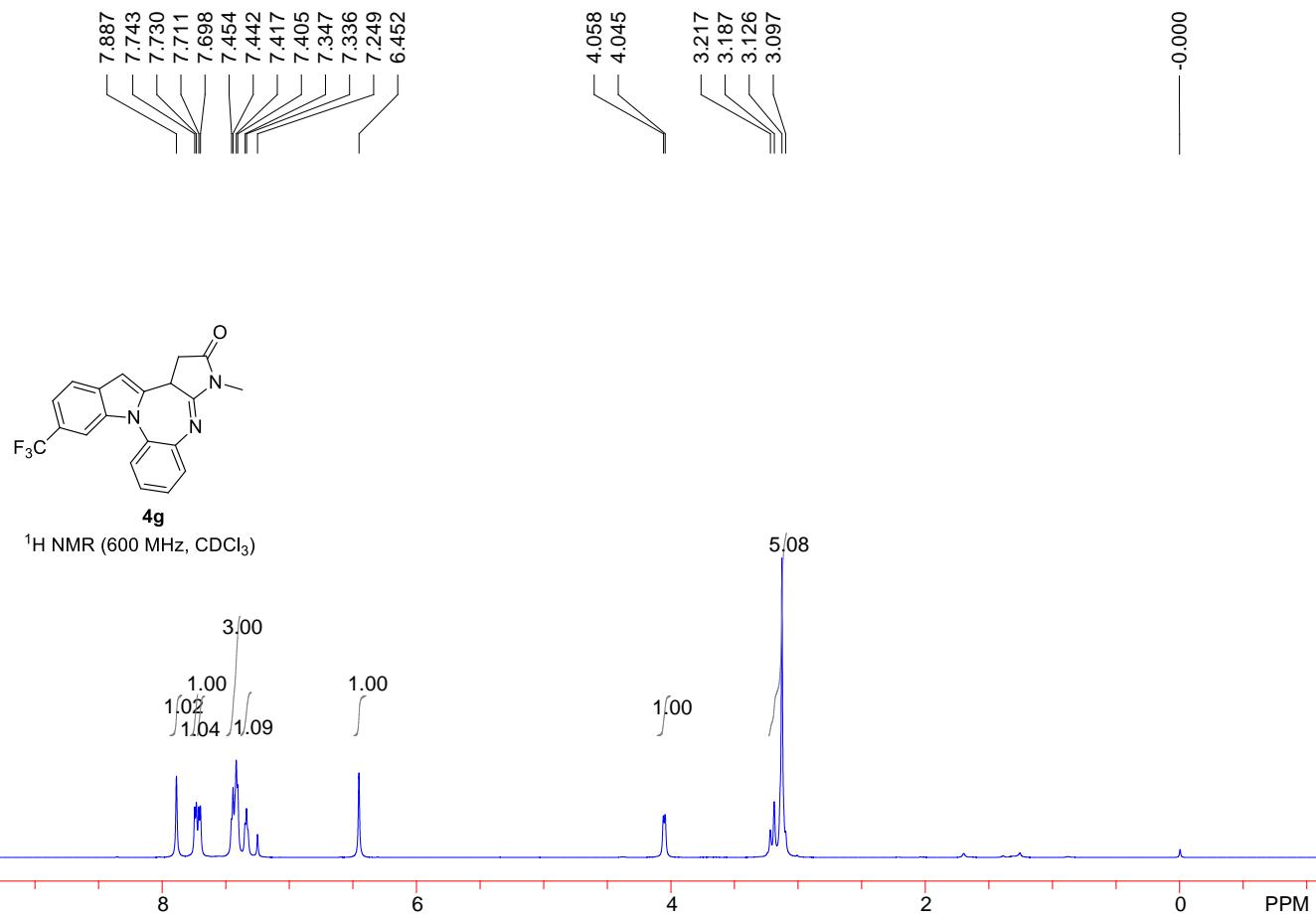


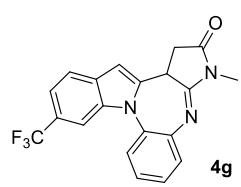
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



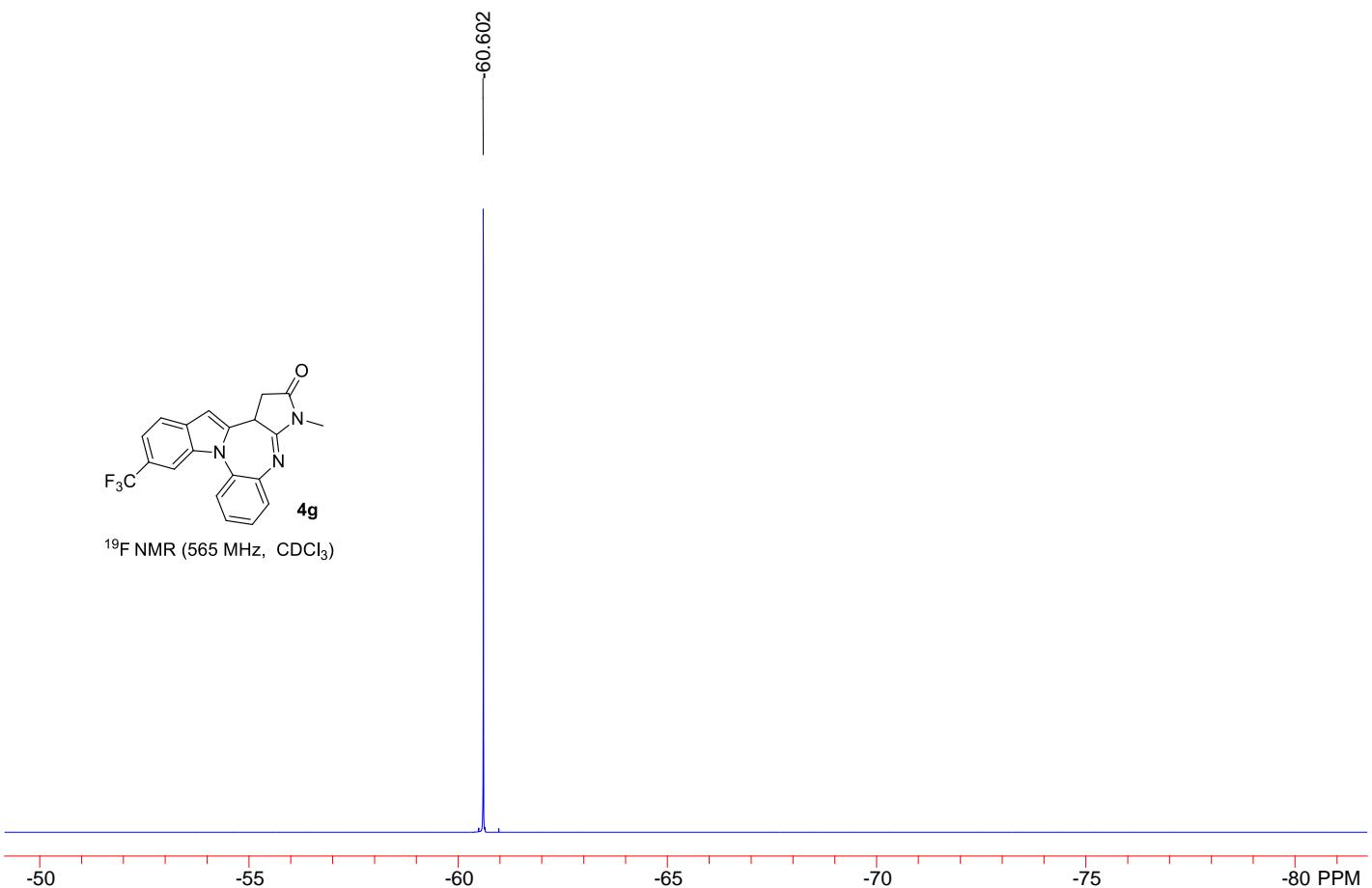
$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

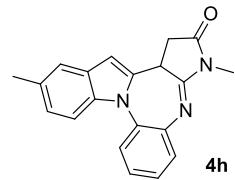
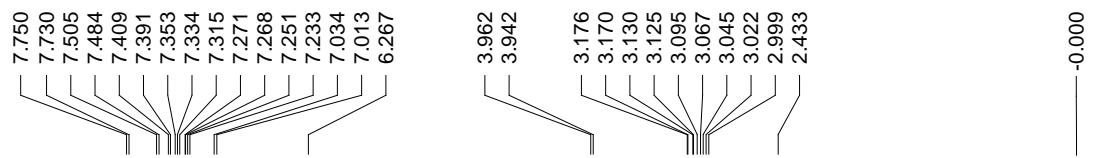




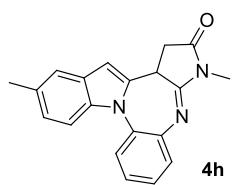
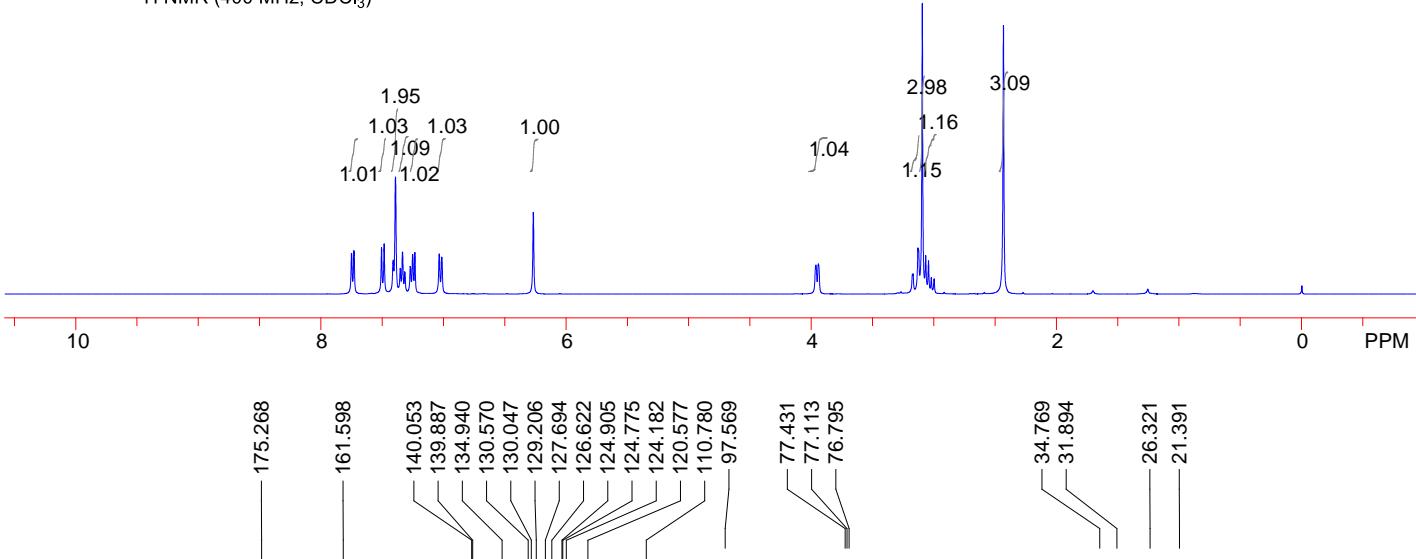


<sup>19</sup>F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

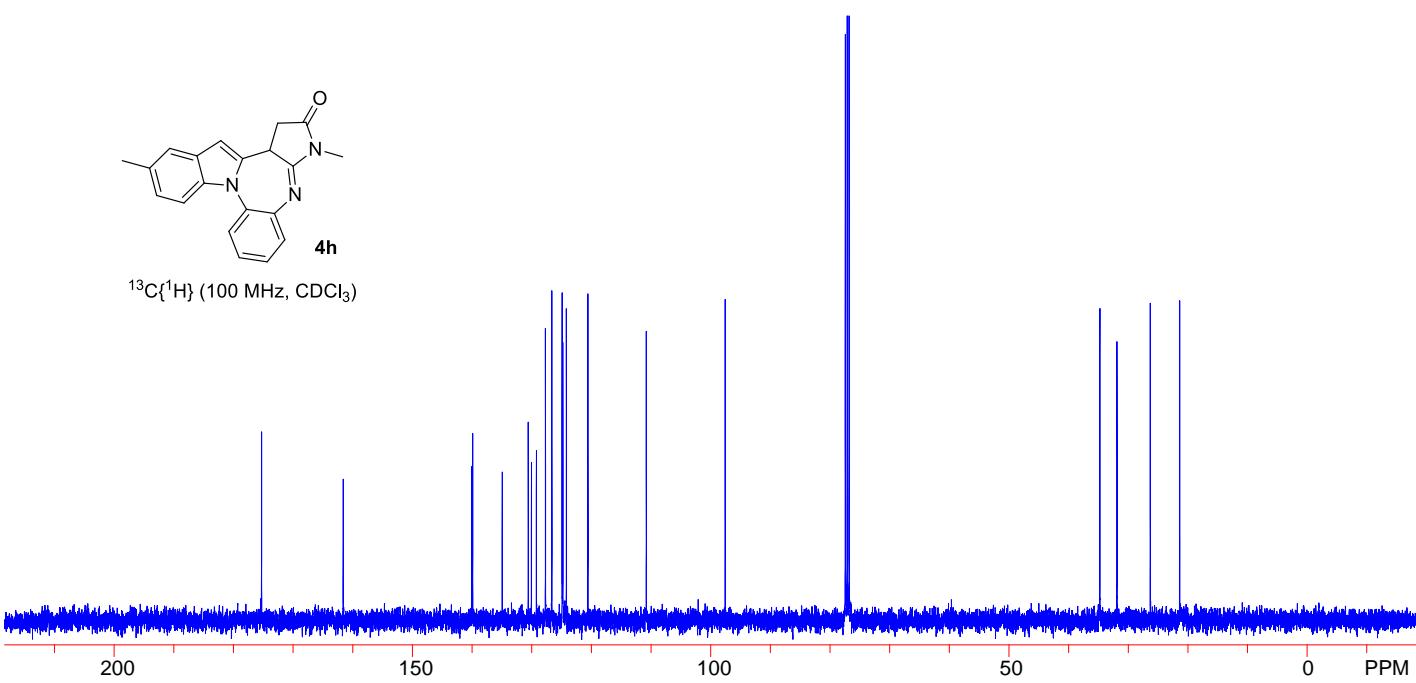


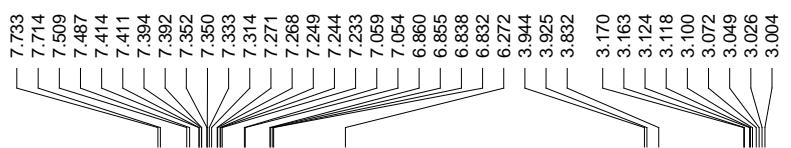


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

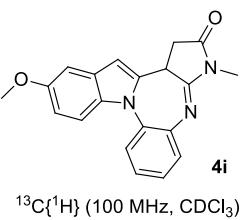
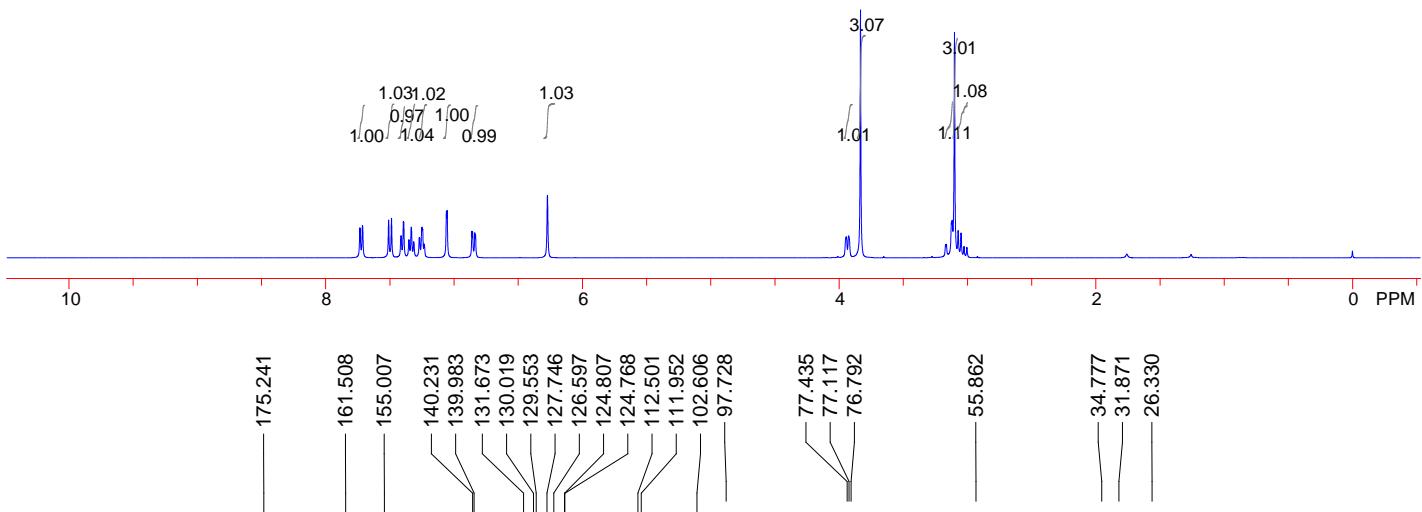


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

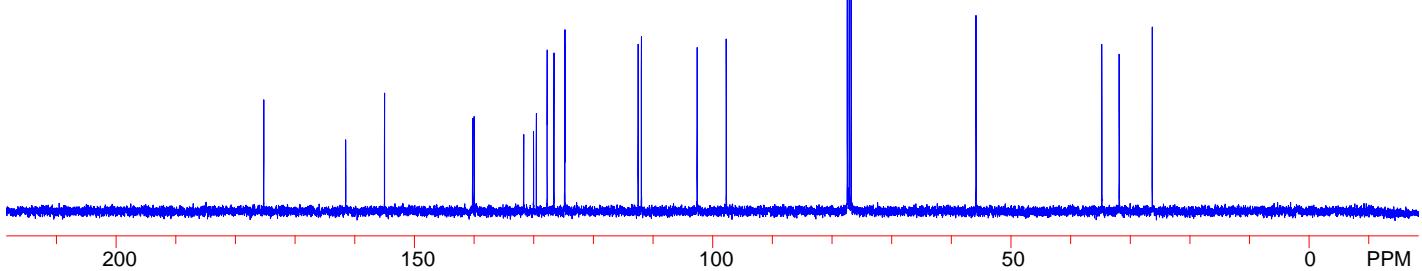


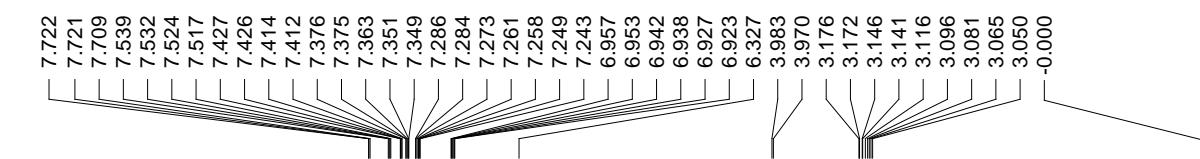


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

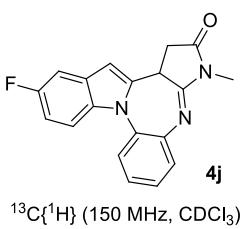
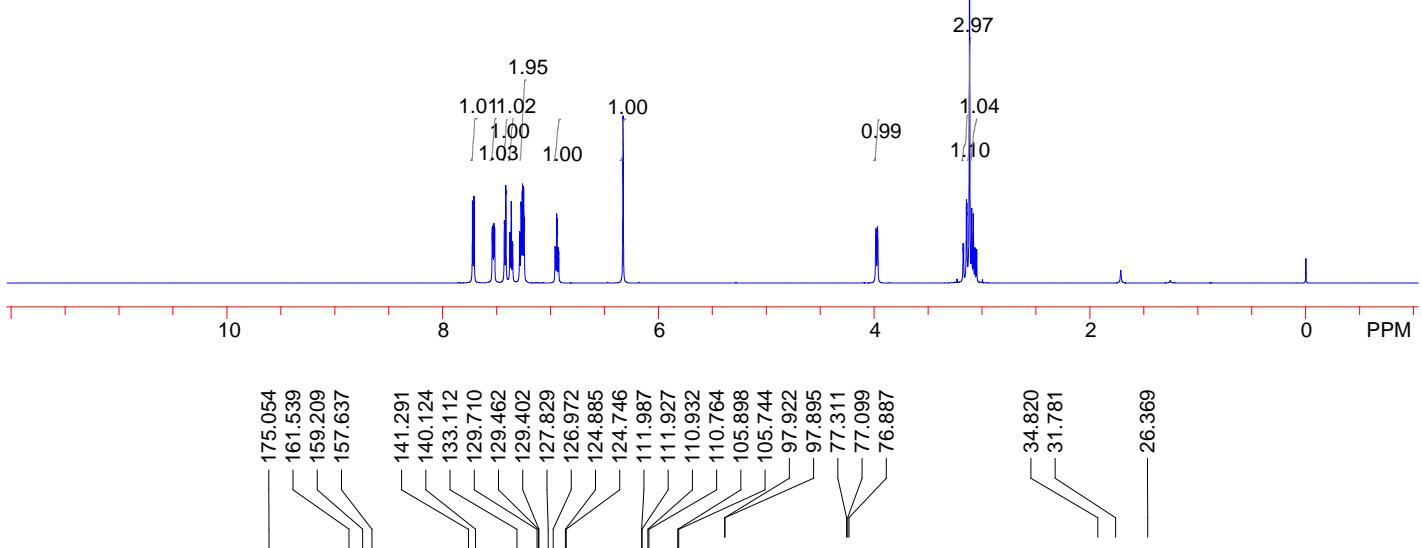


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

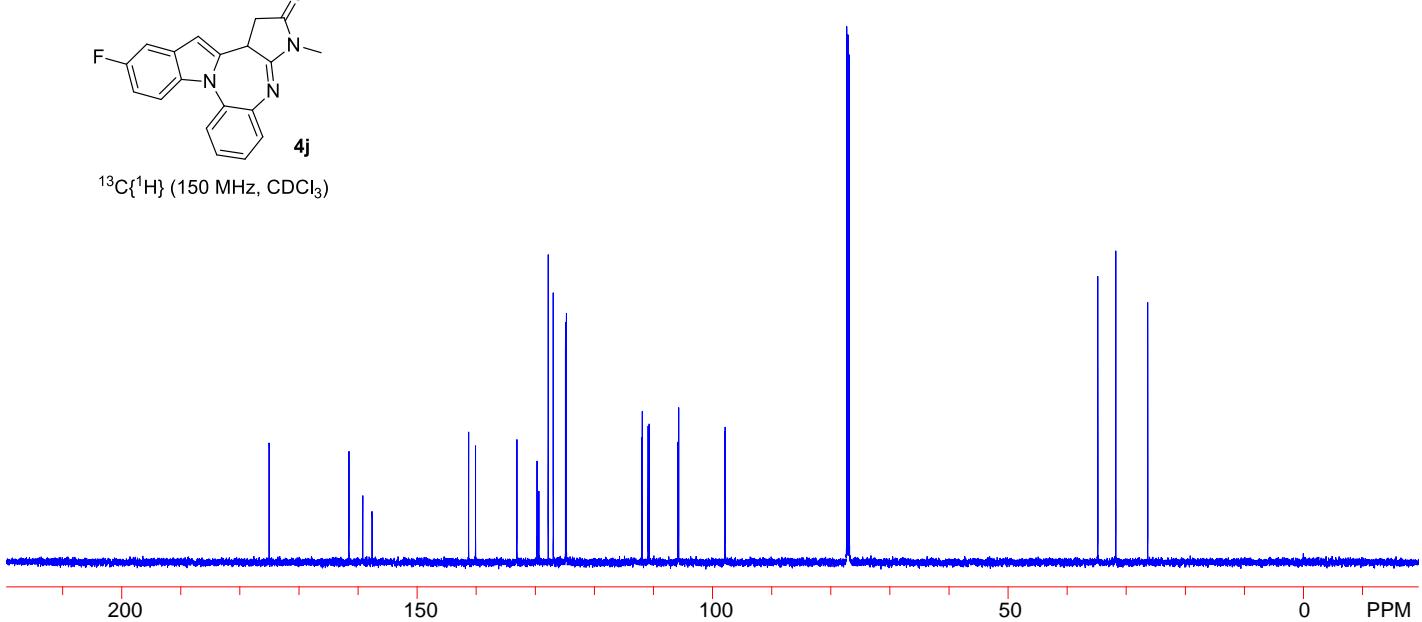


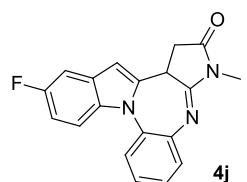
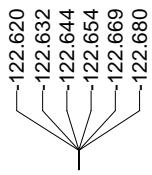


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

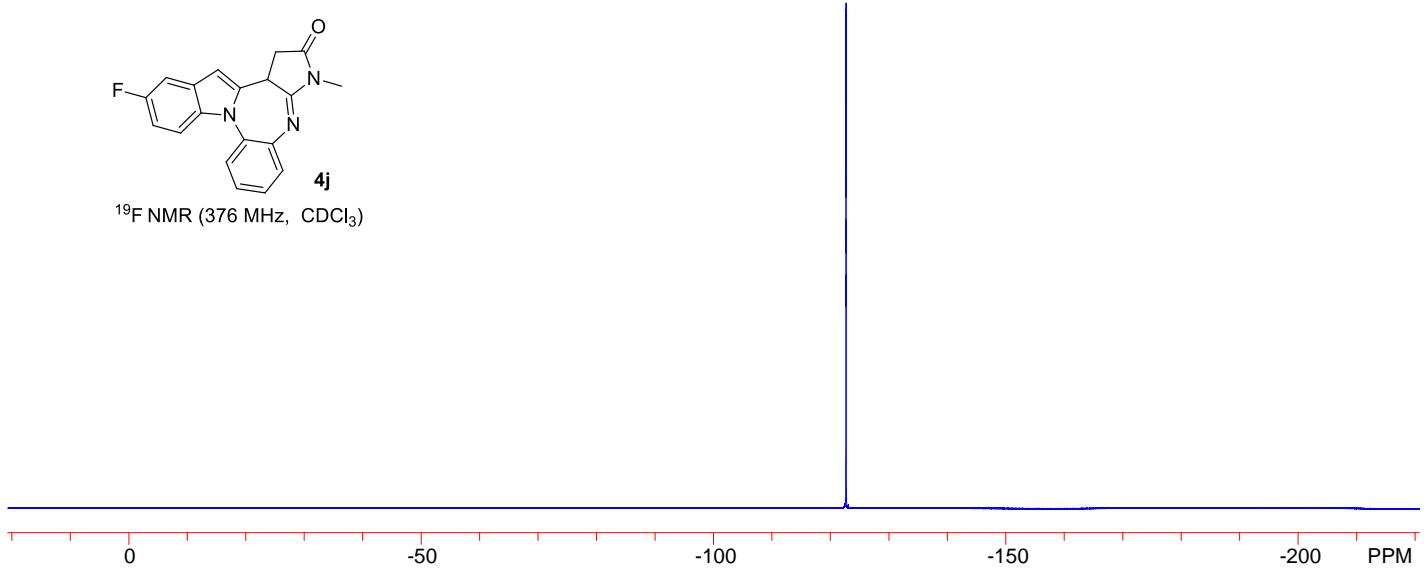


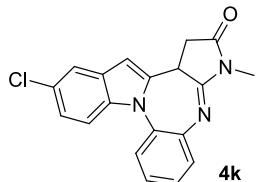
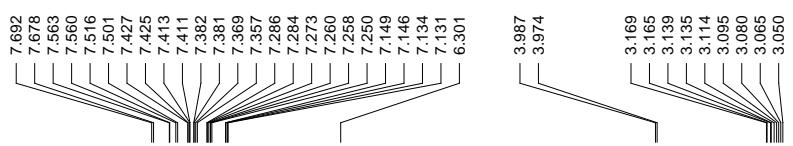
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



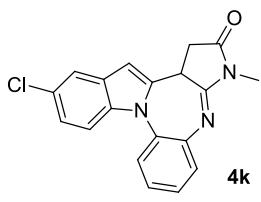
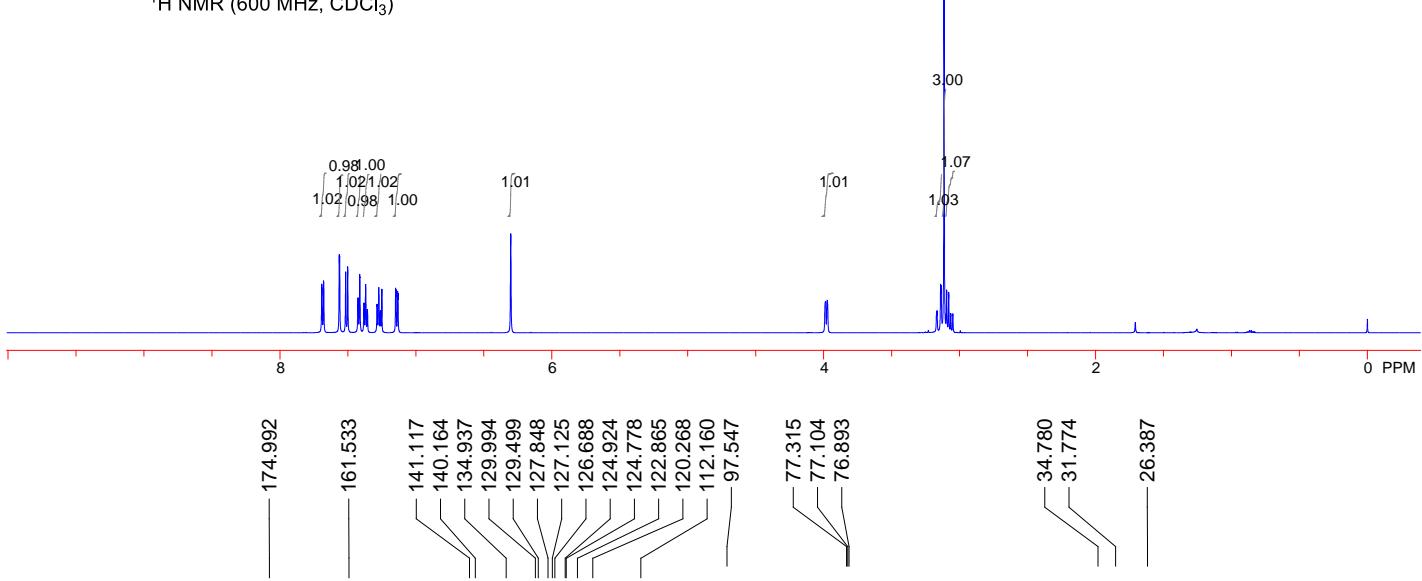


$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

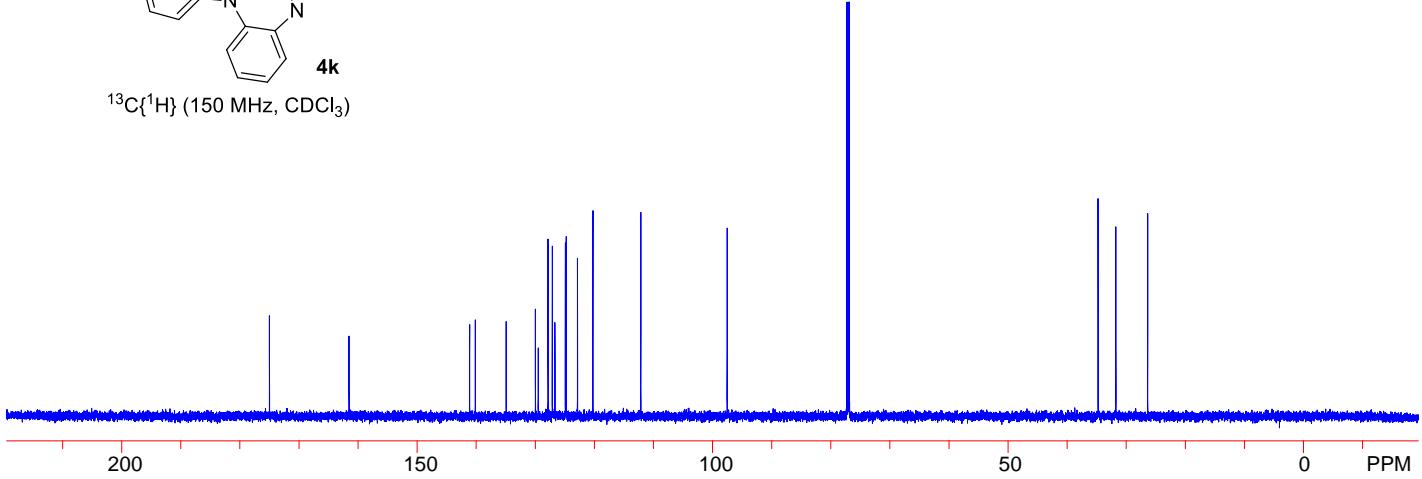


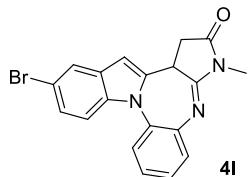
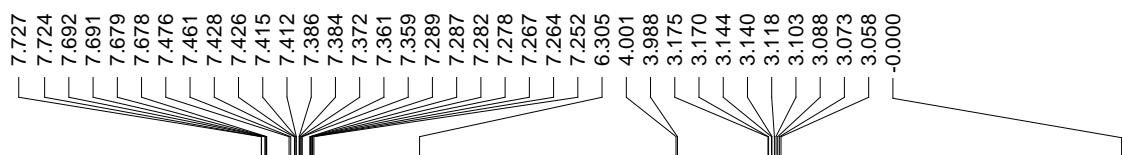


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

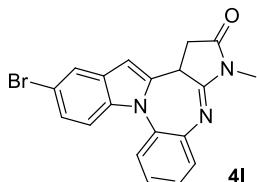
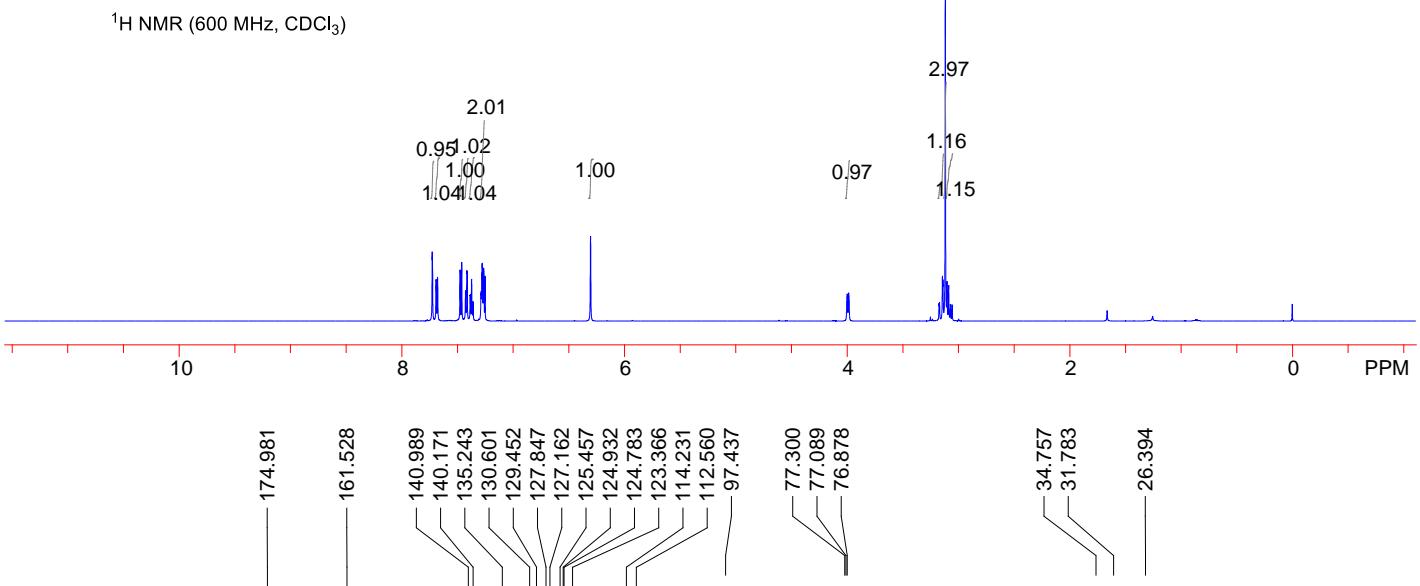


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

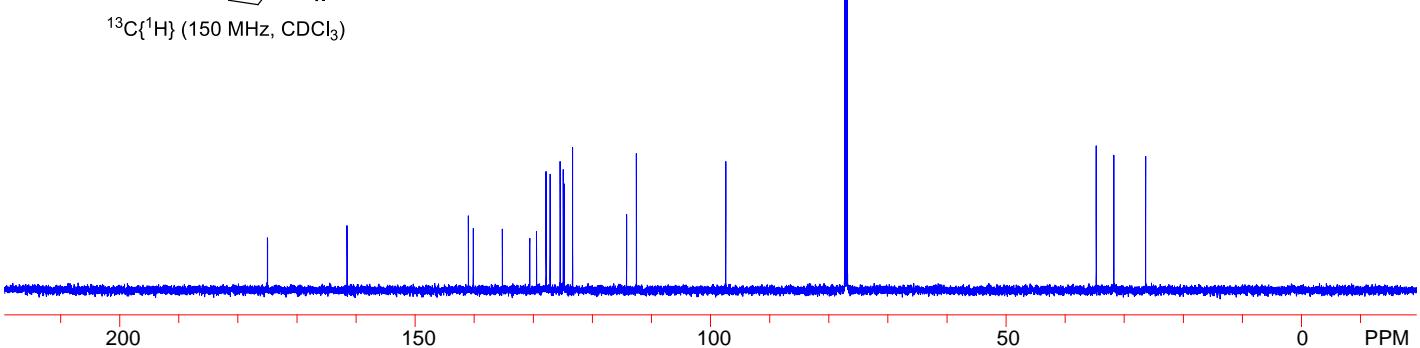


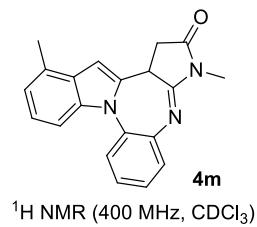
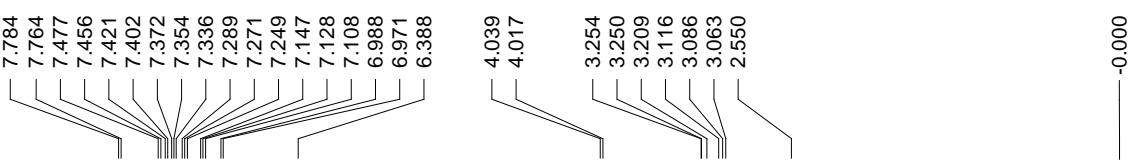


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

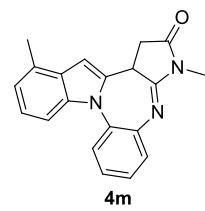
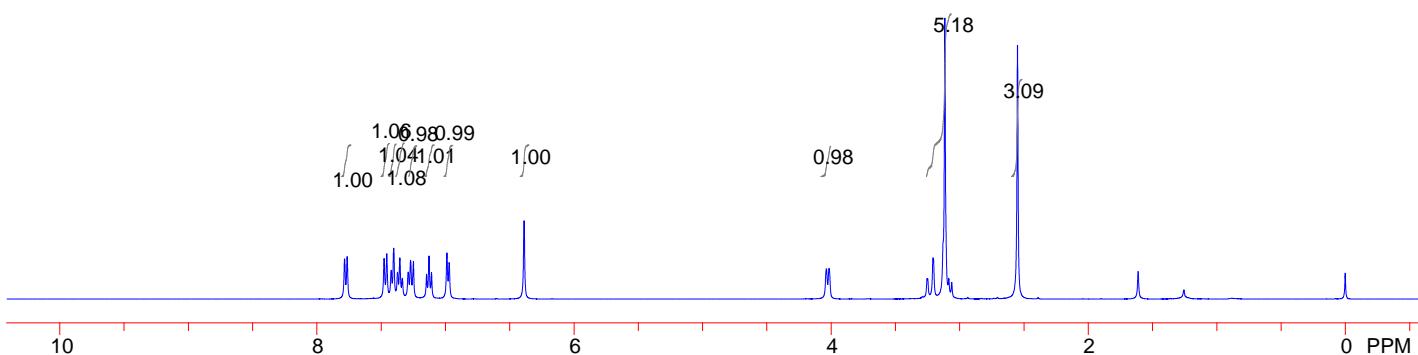


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

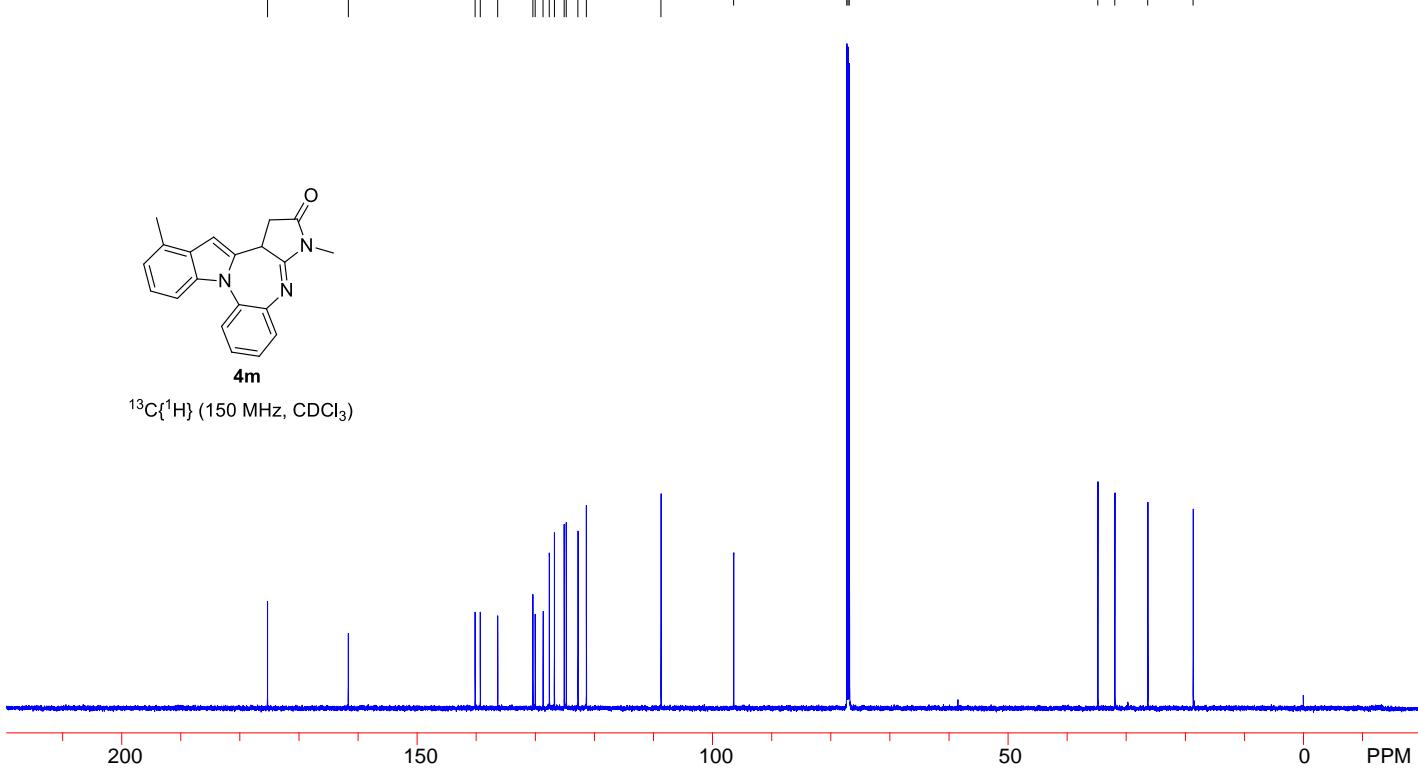


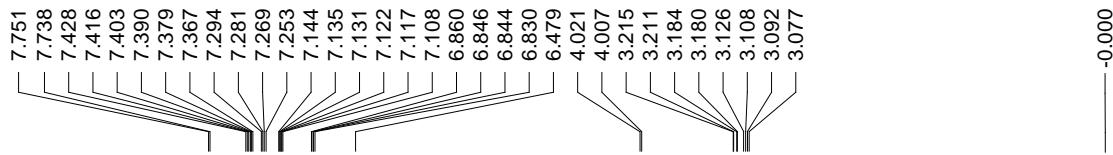


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

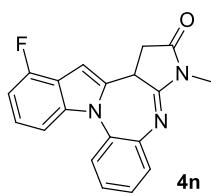
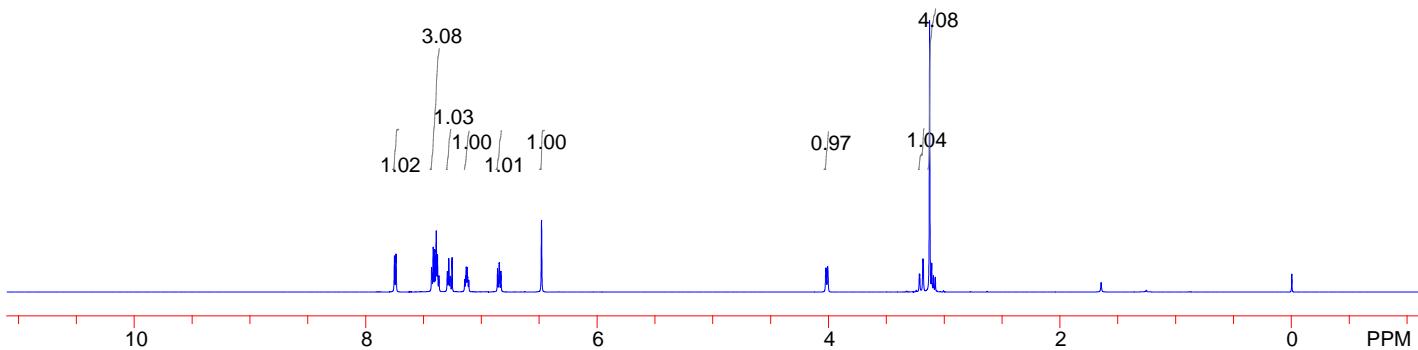


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

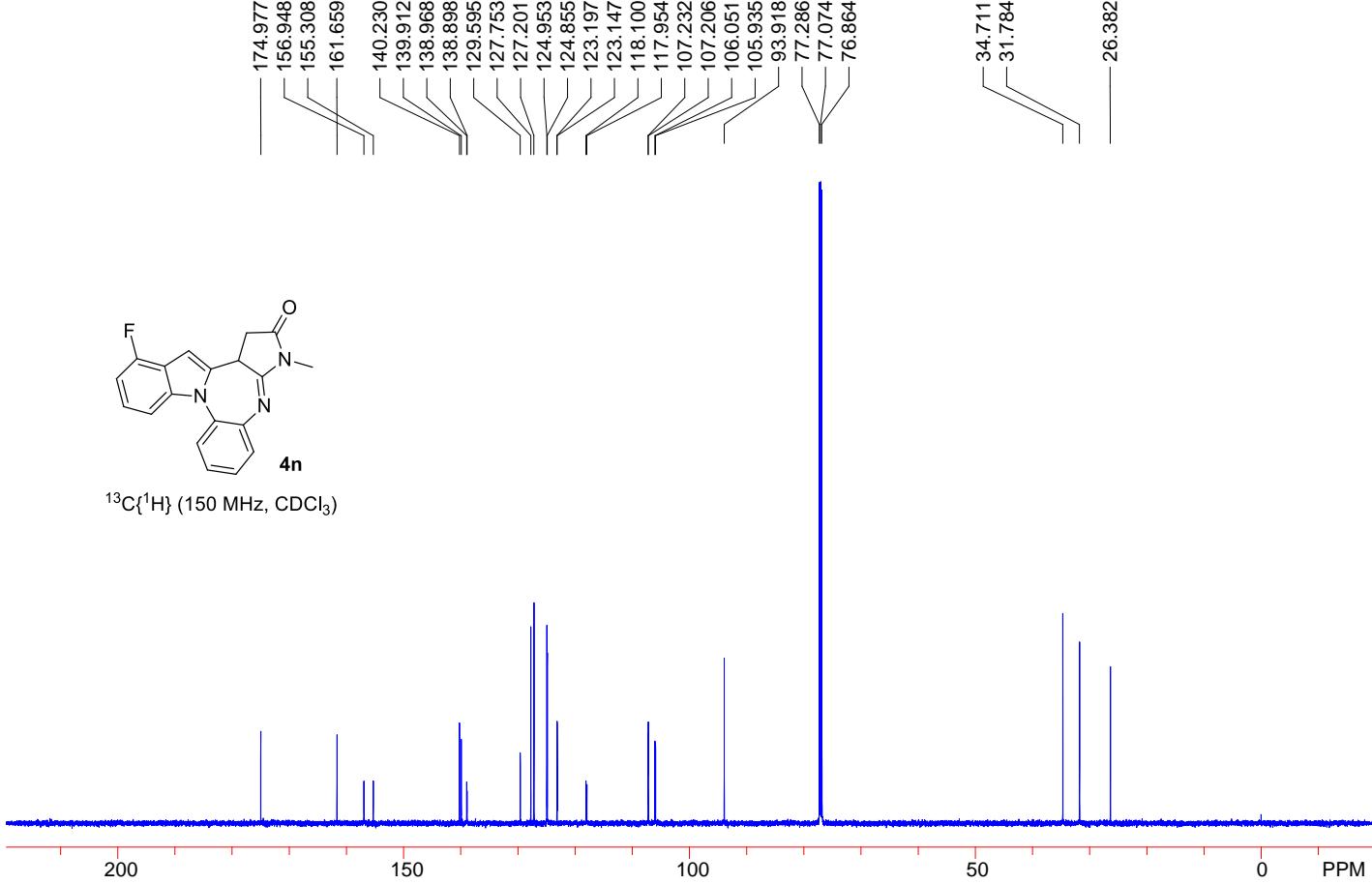


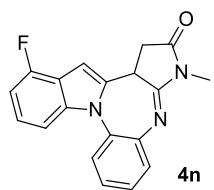
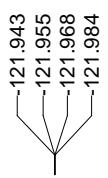


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

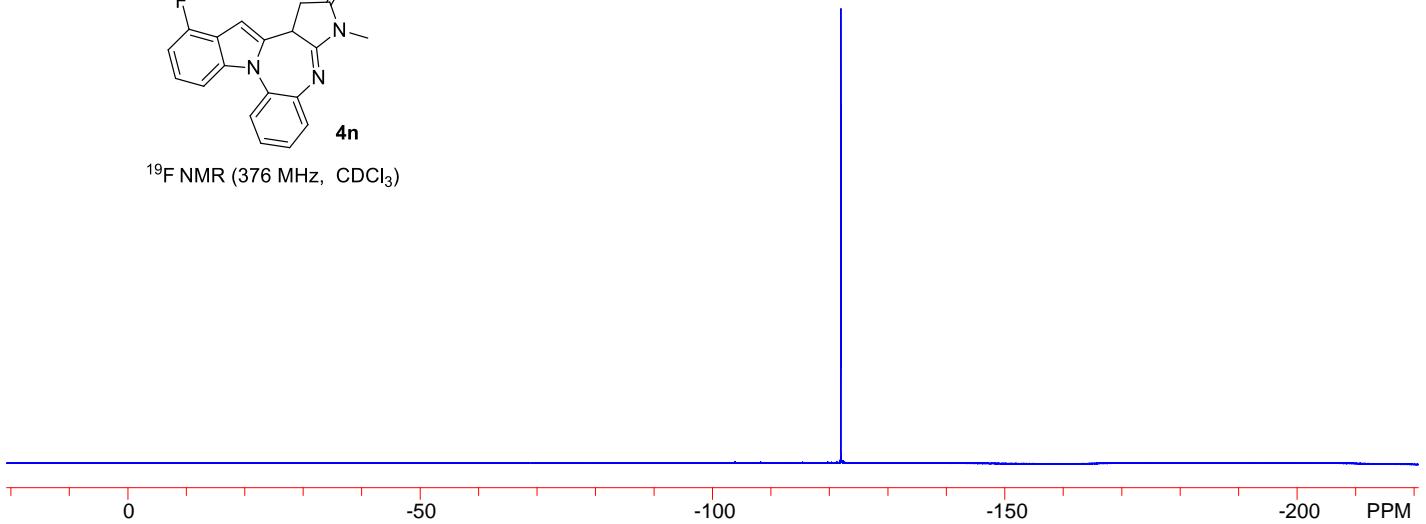


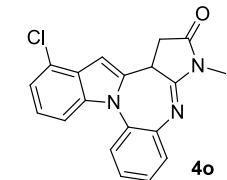
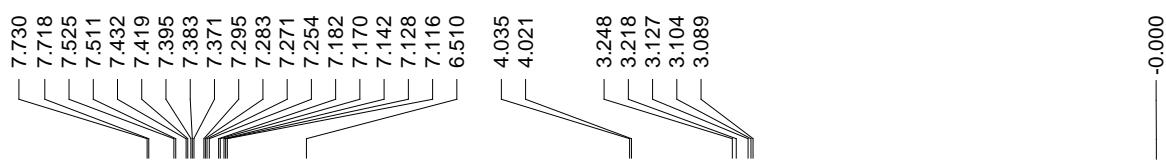
$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



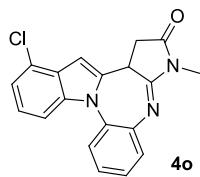
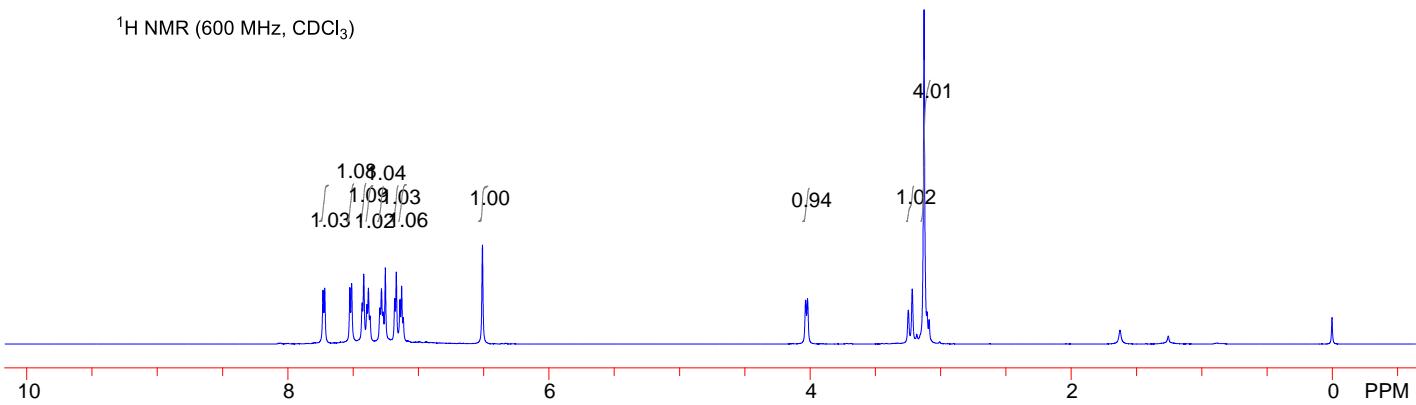


$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

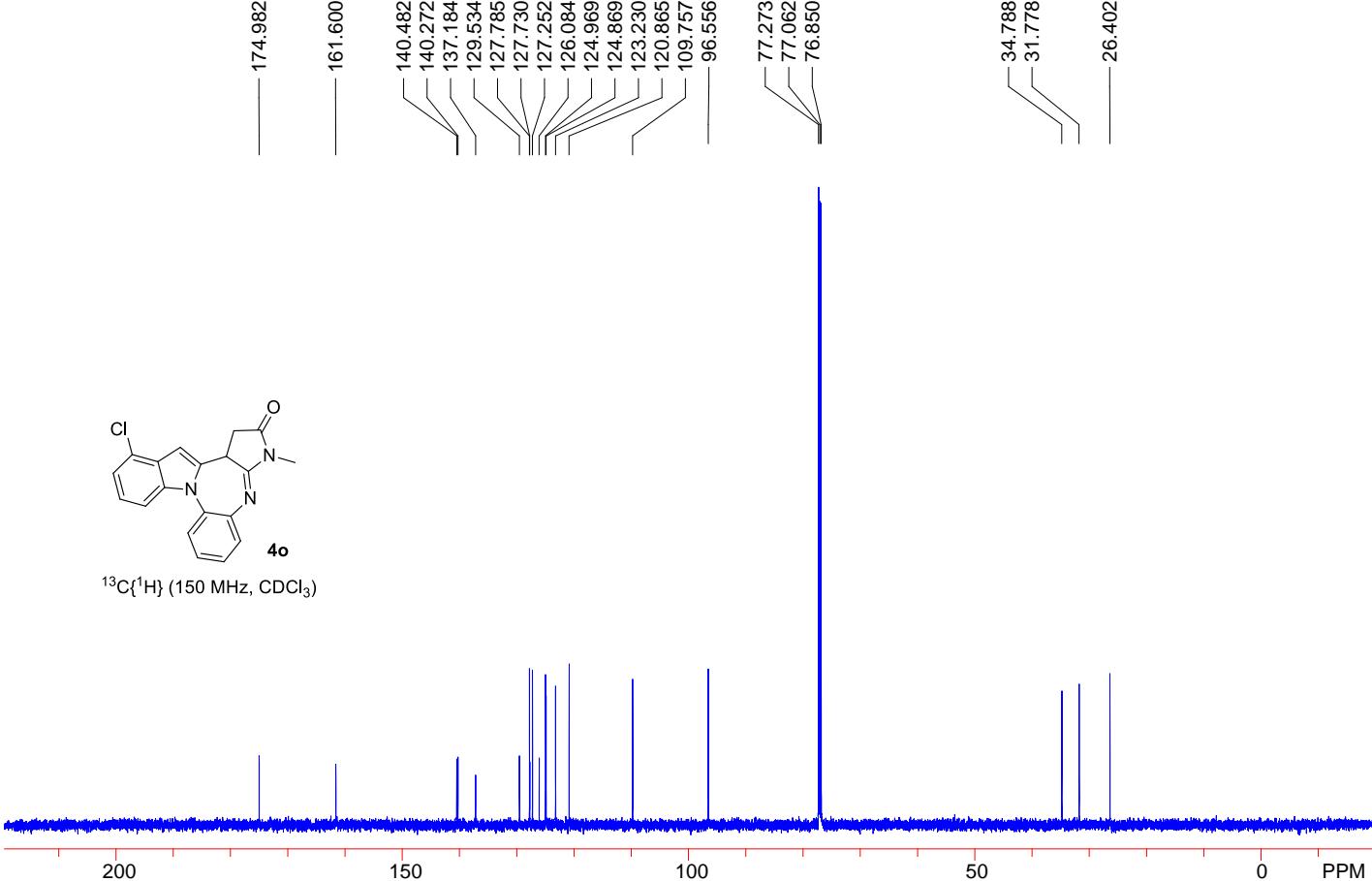


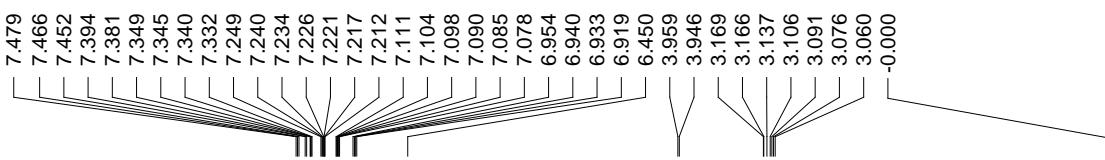


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

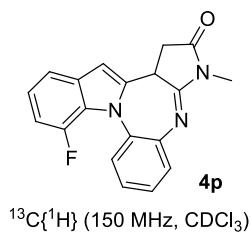
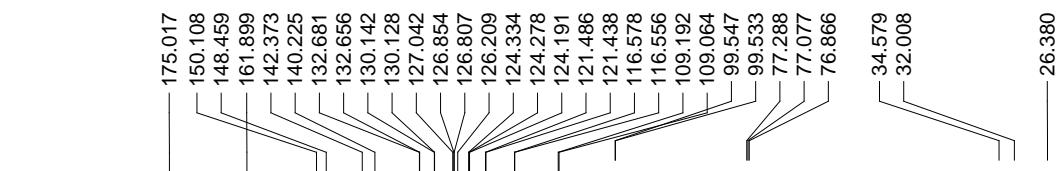
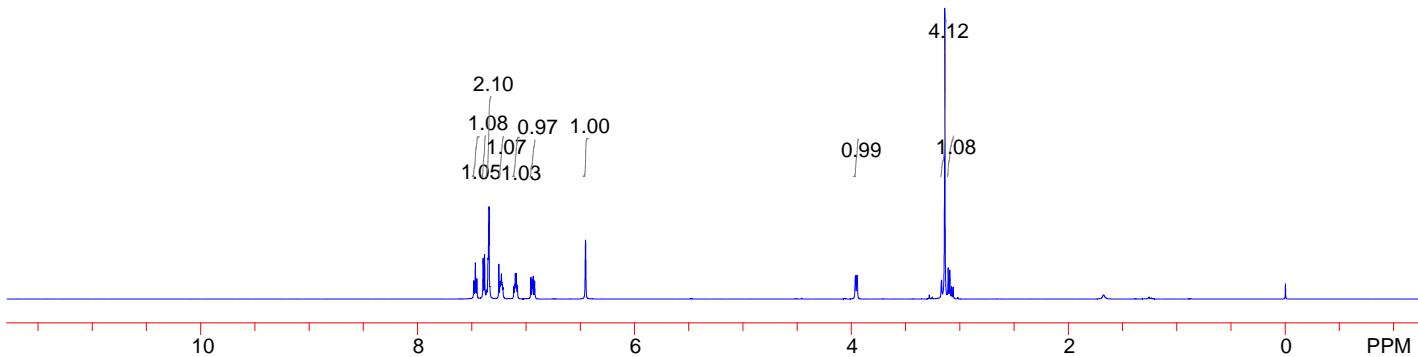


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

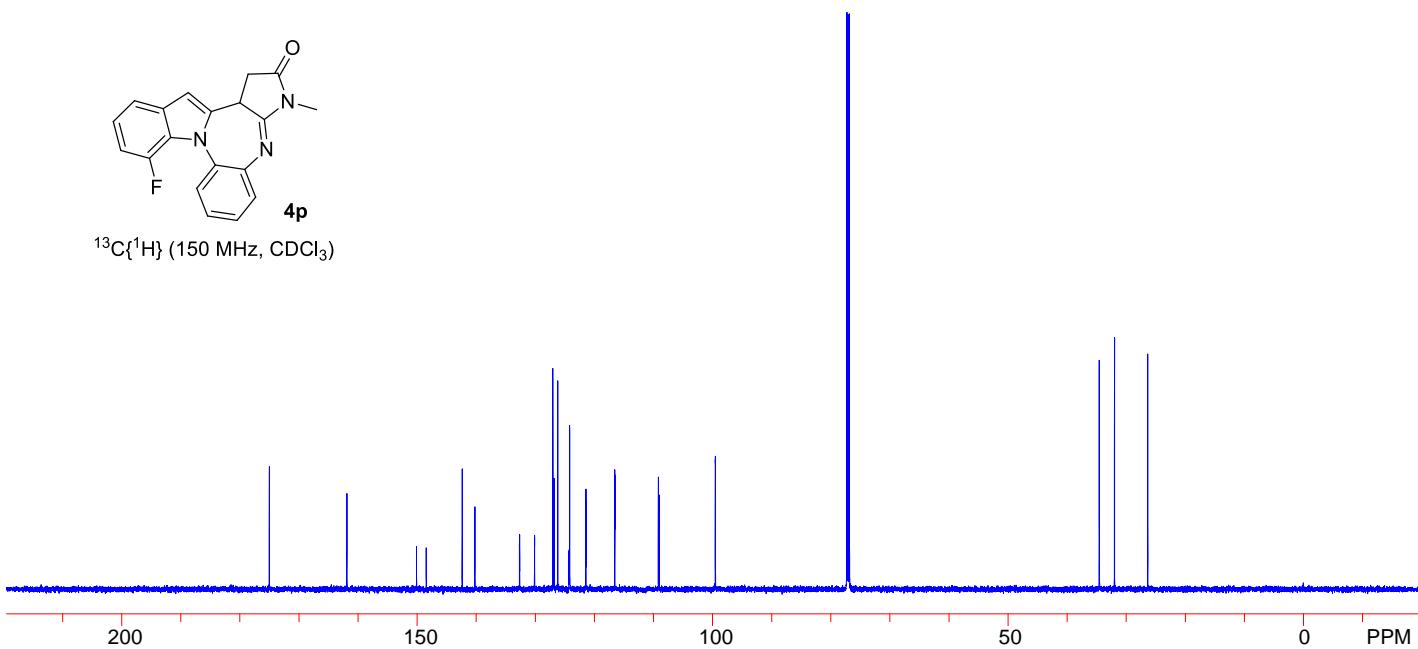


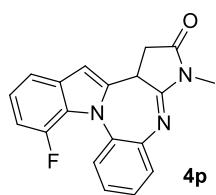
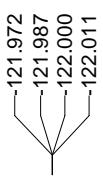


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

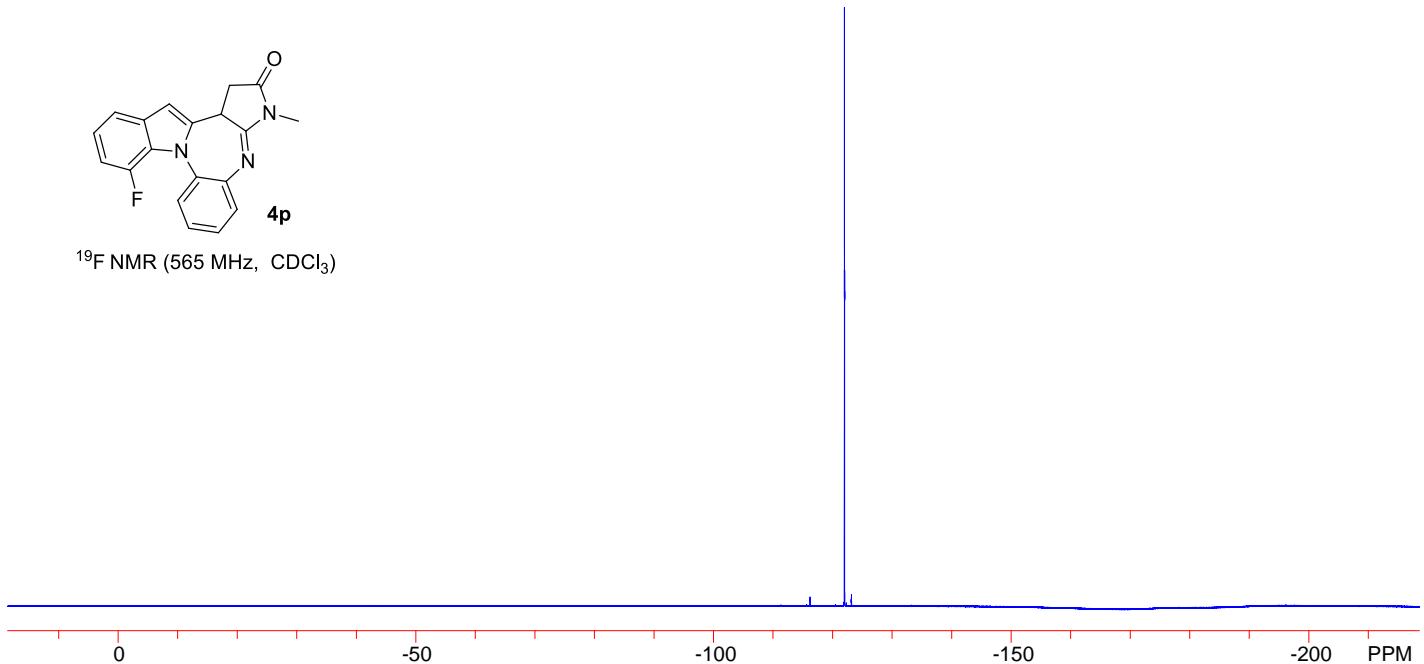


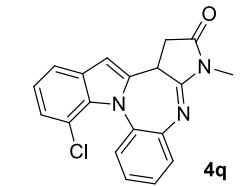
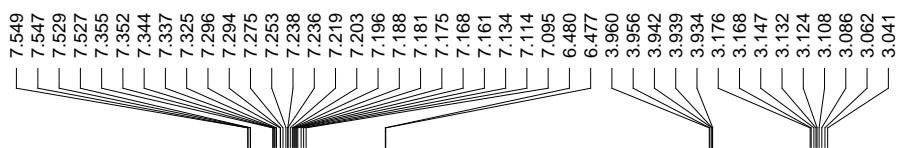
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



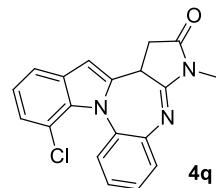
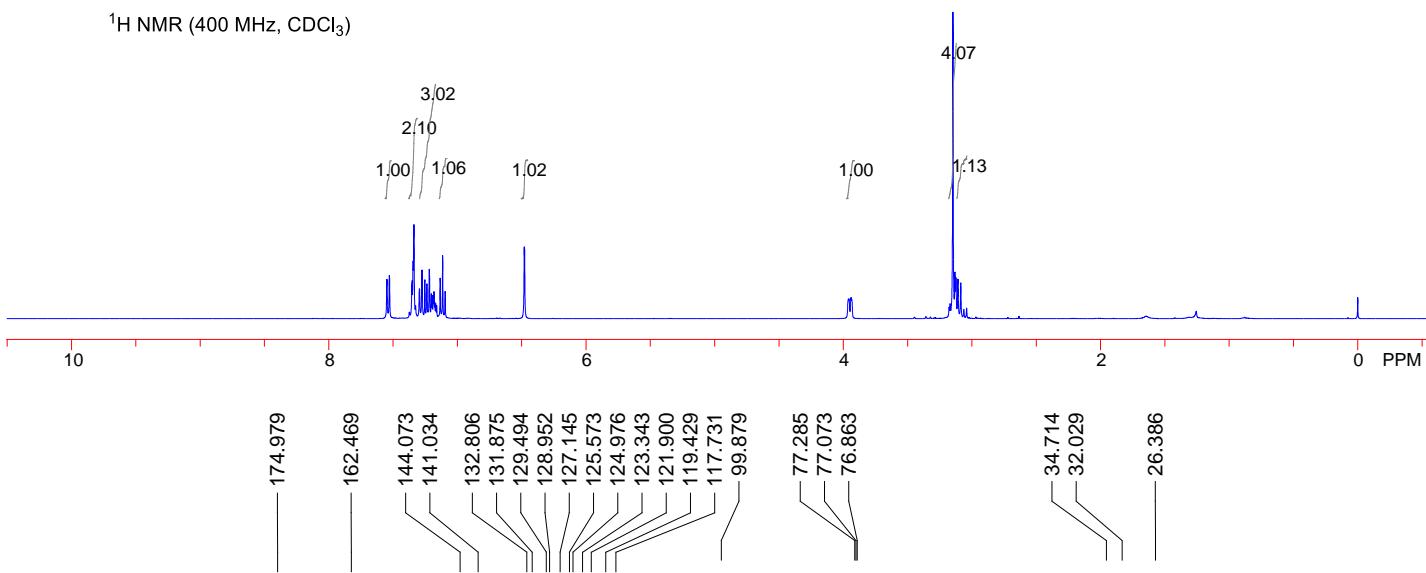


$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (565 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

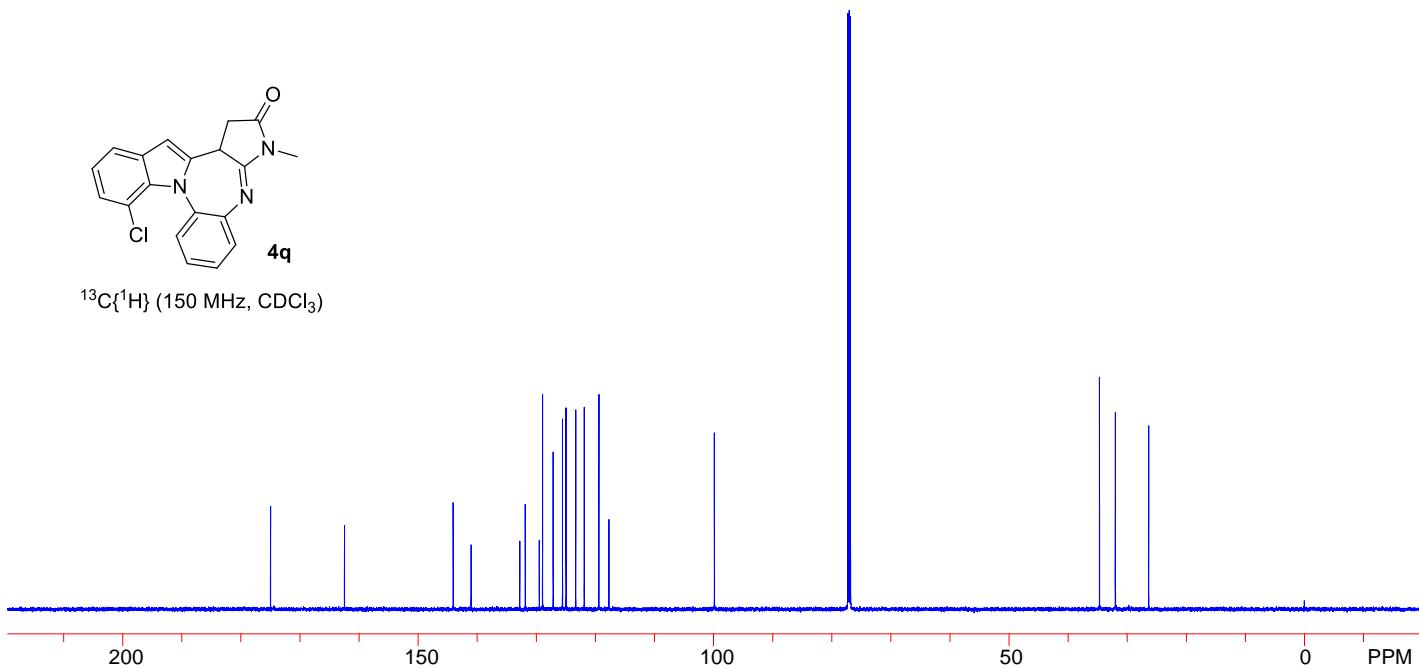


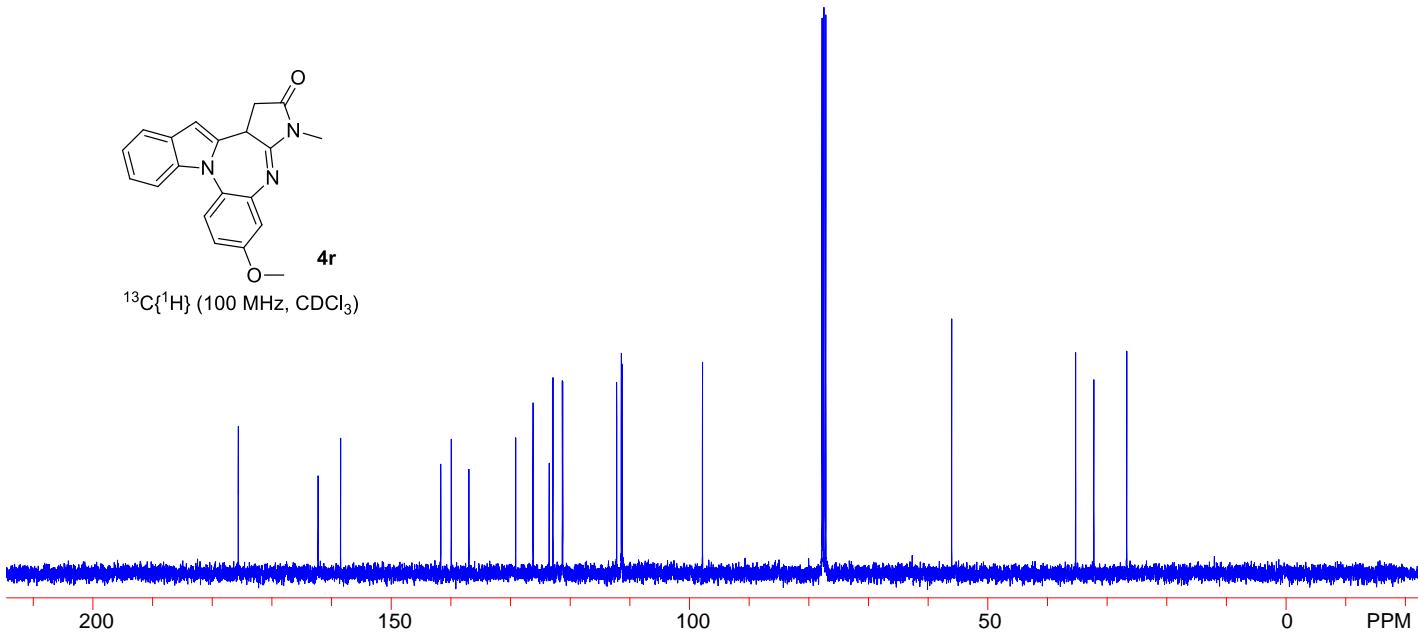
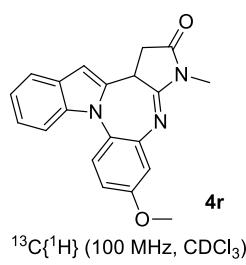
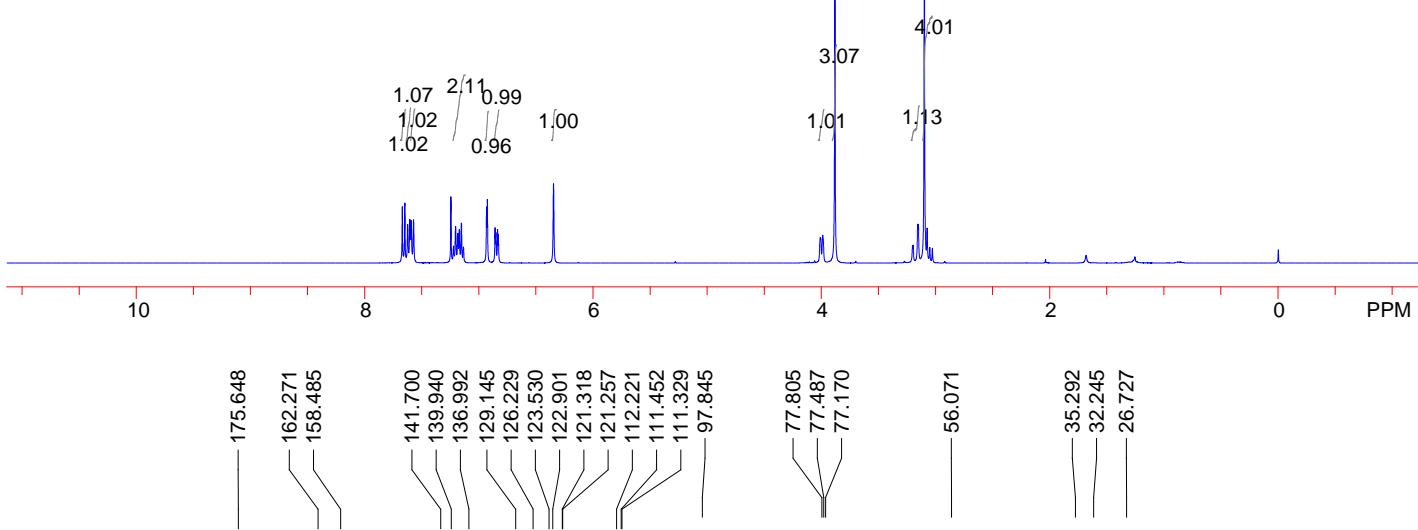
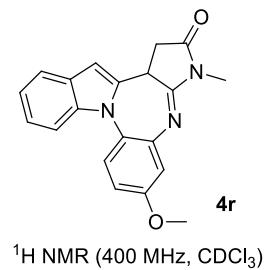
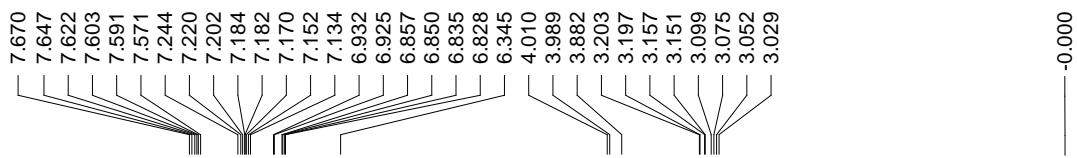


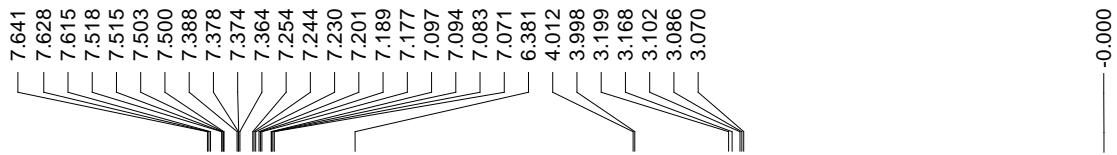
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



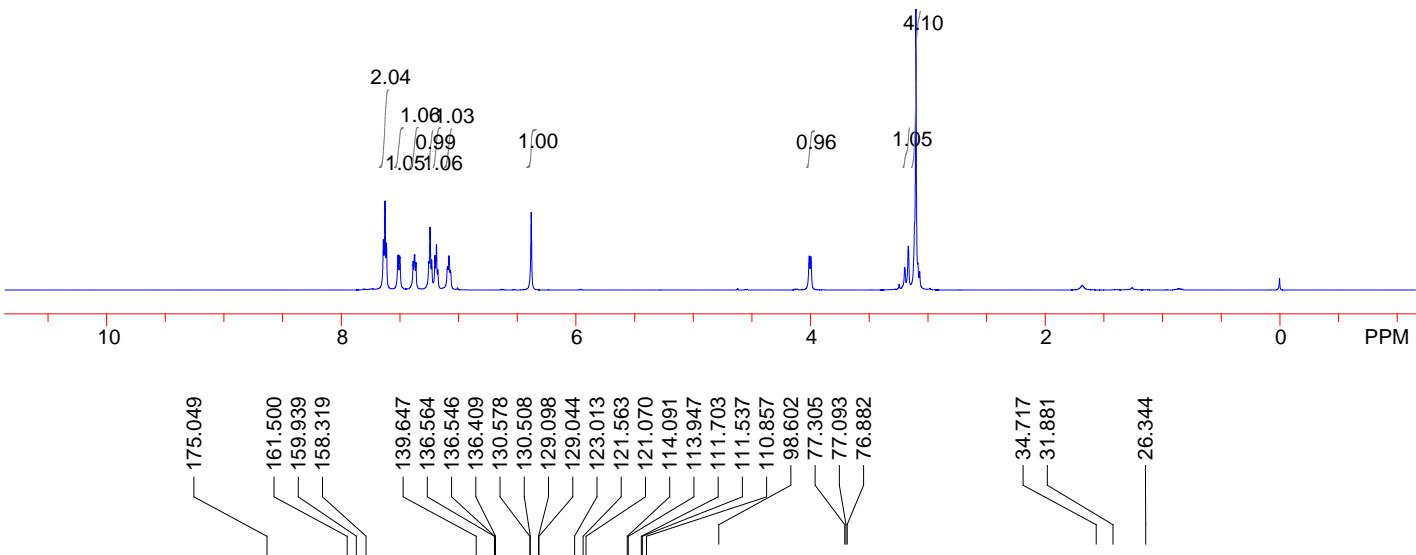
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



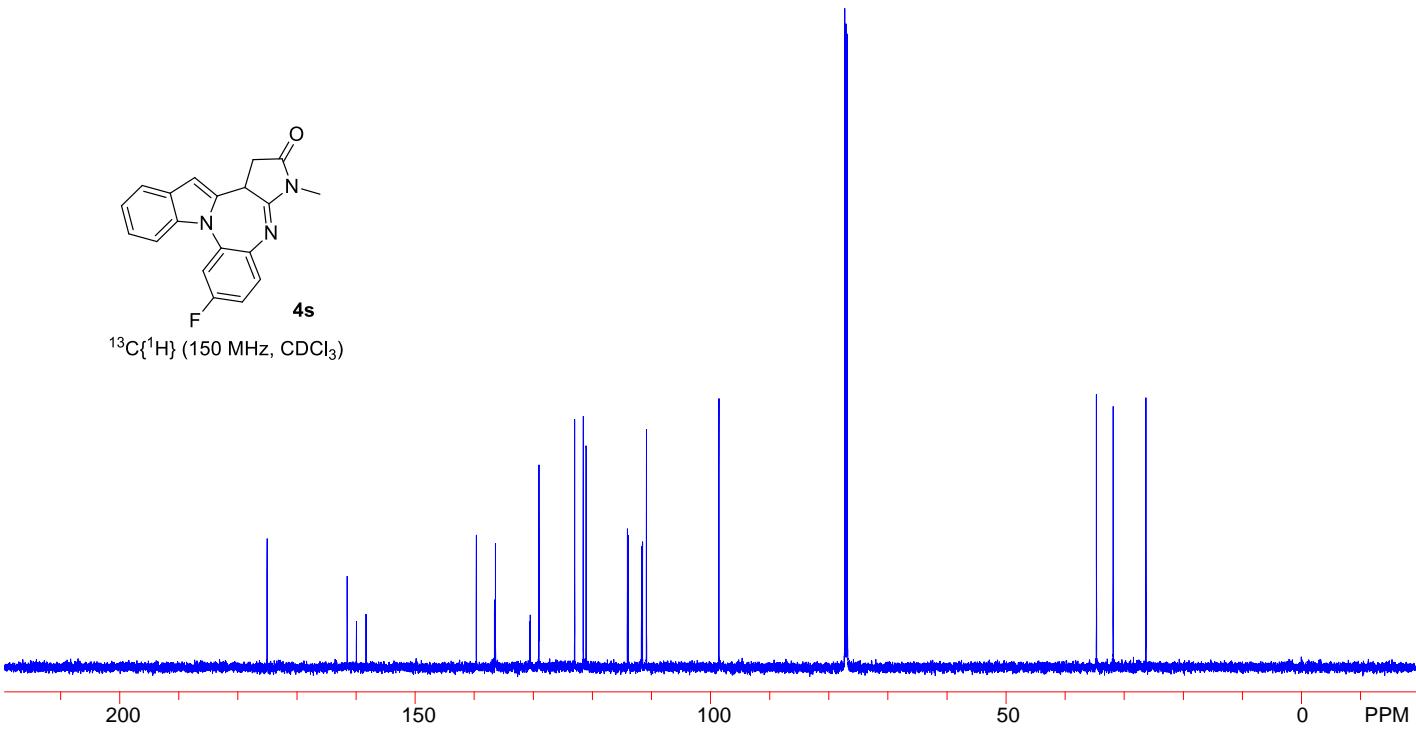




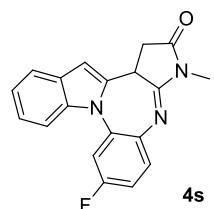
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



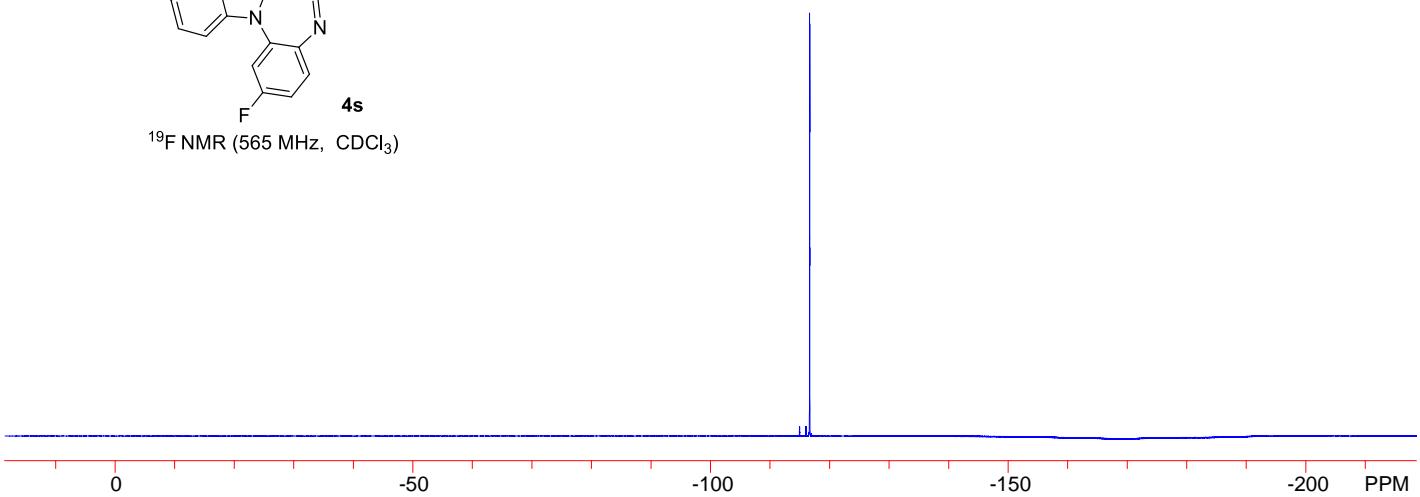
$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

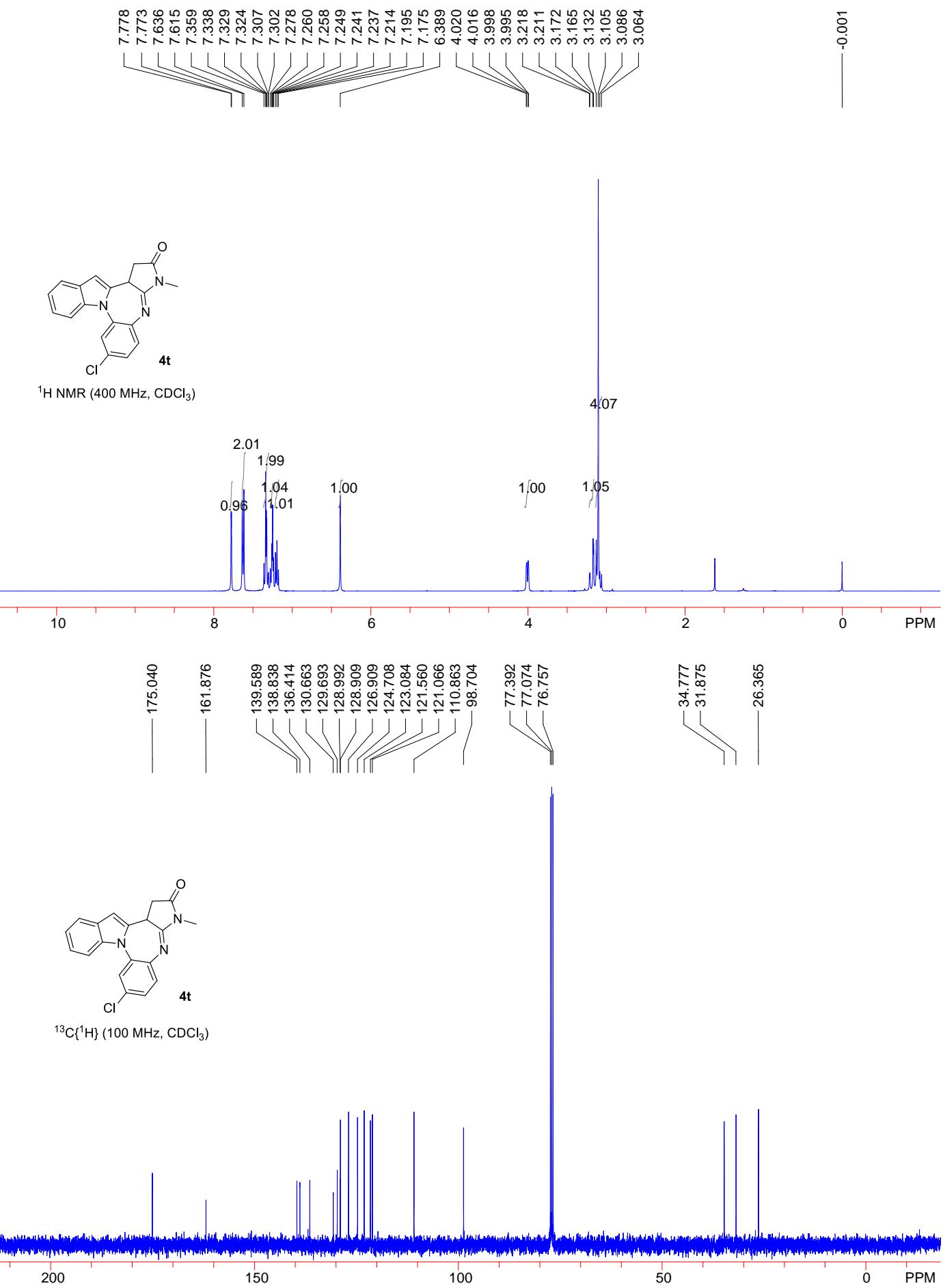


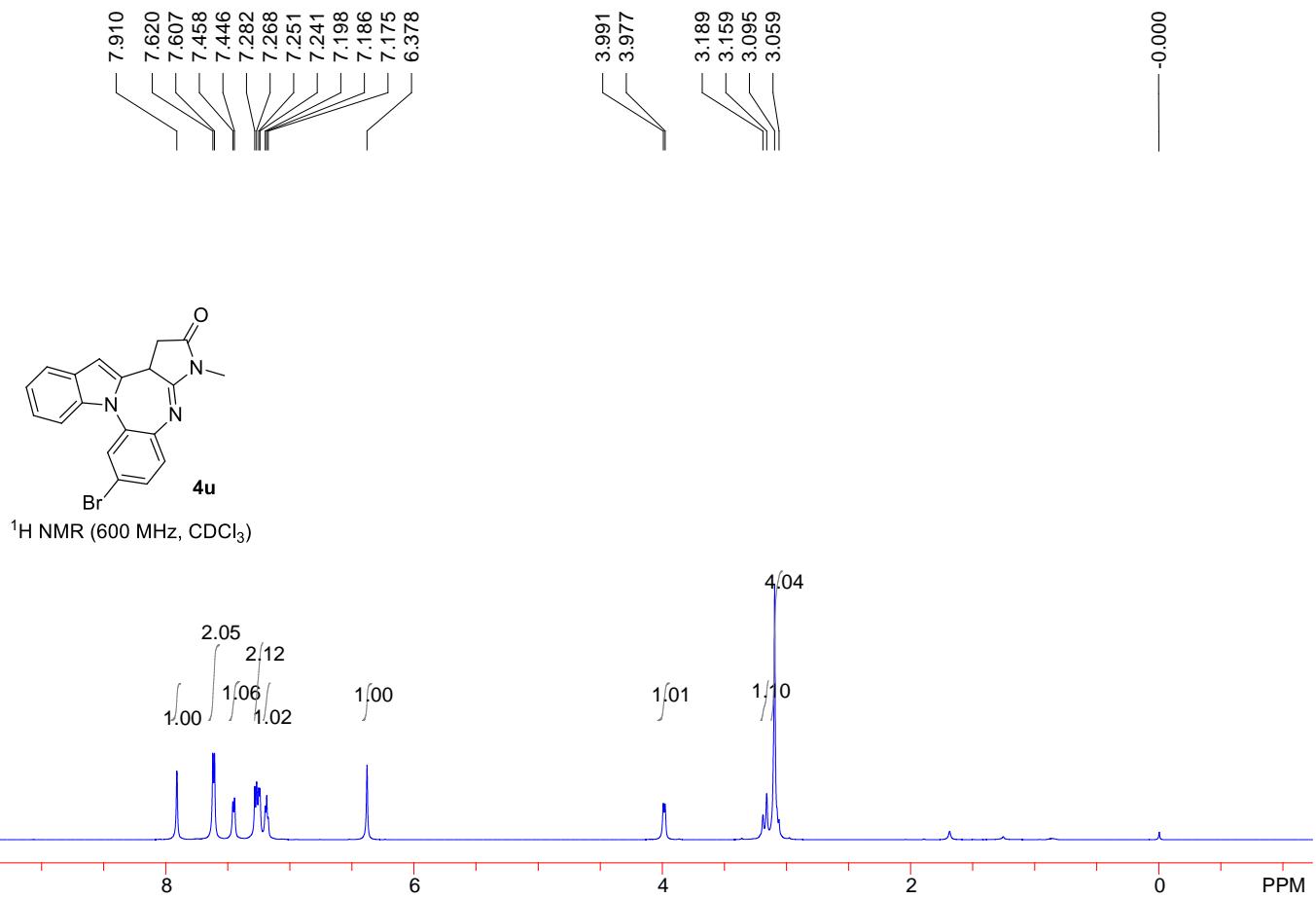
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-116.663

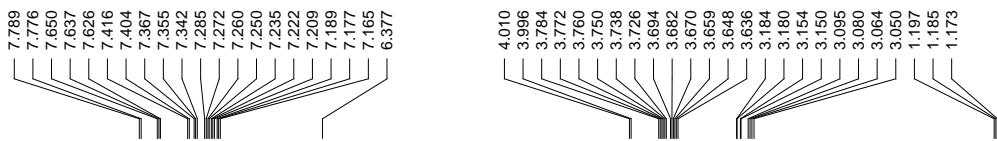


$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (565 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

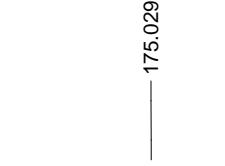
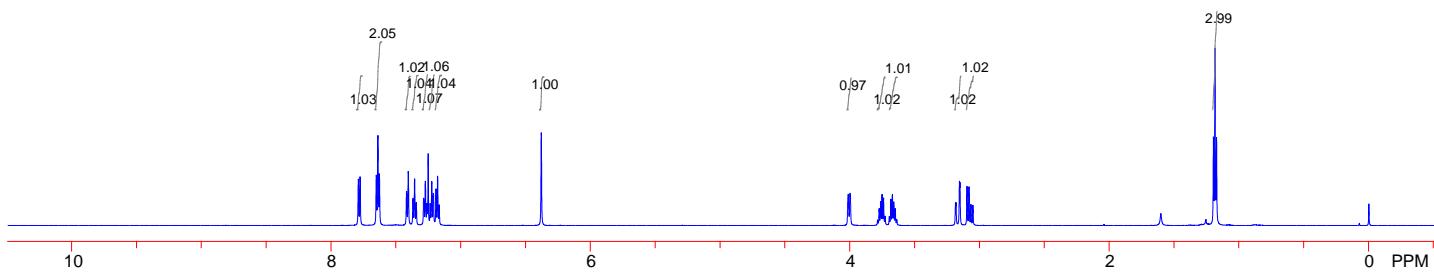




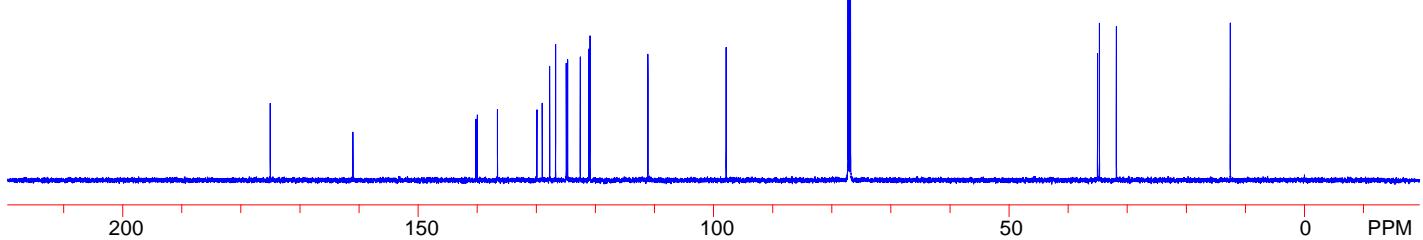


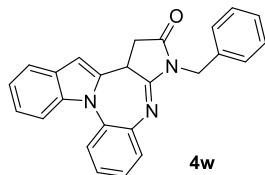
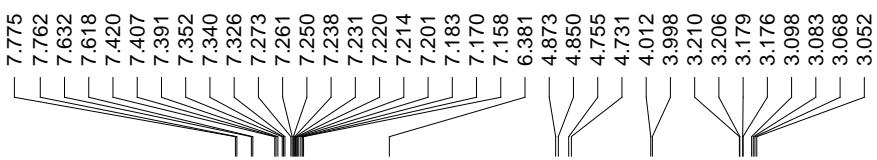


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

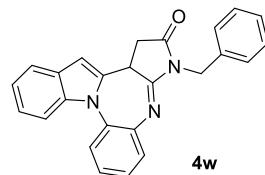
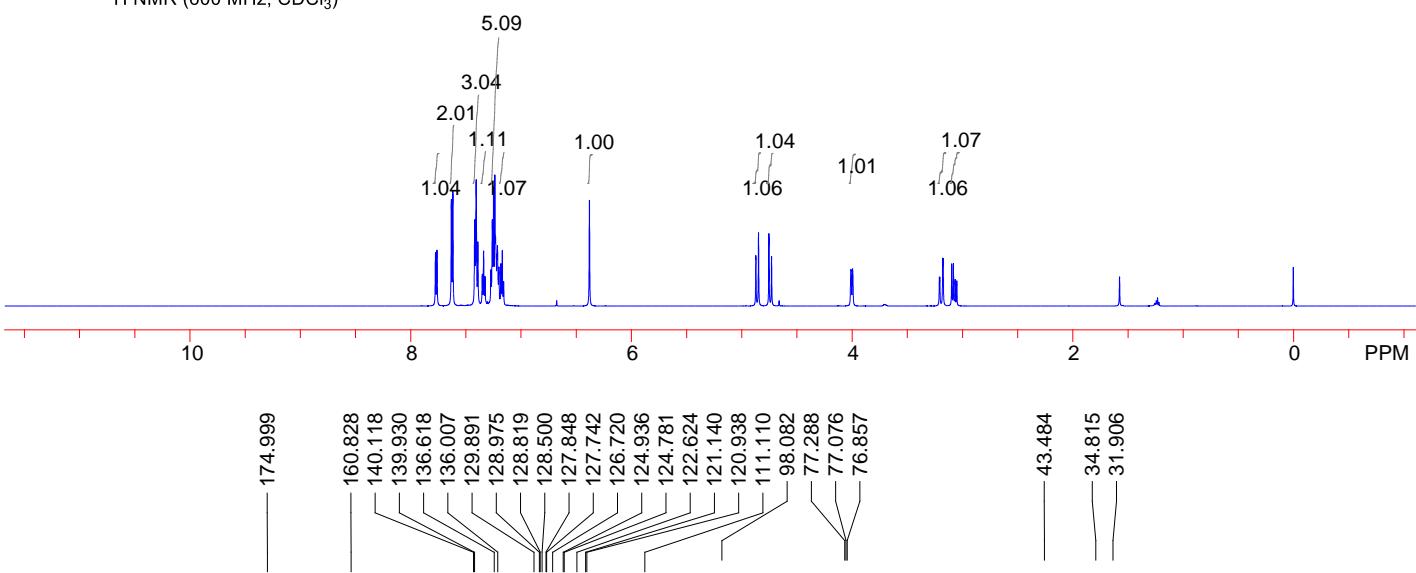


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

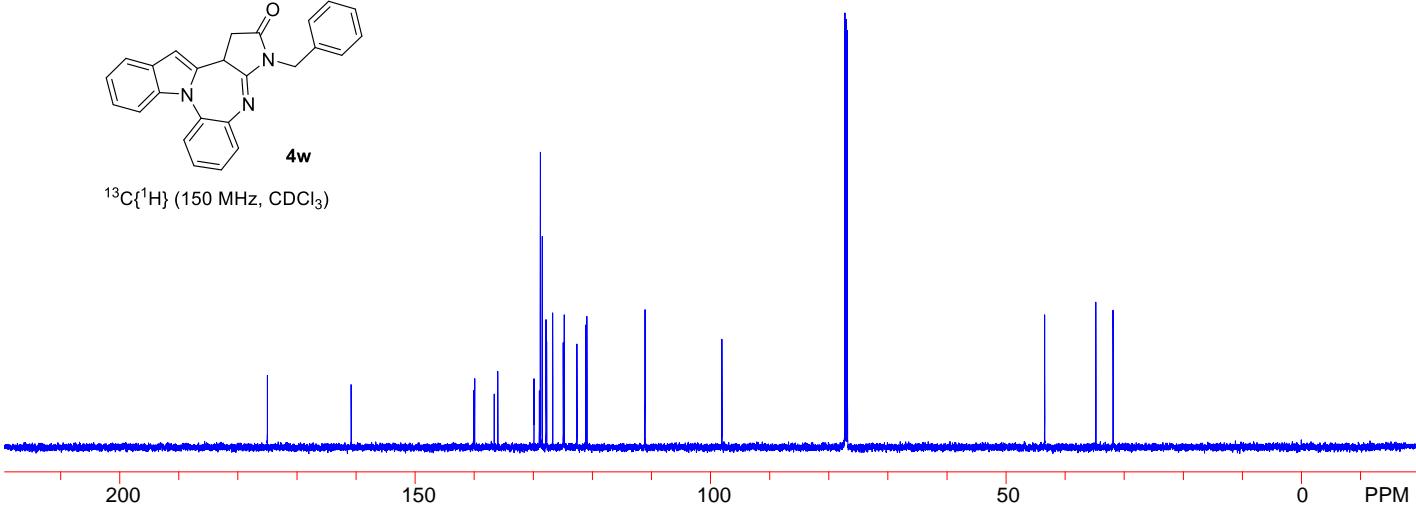


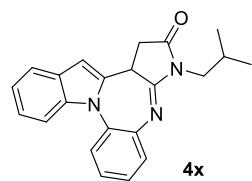
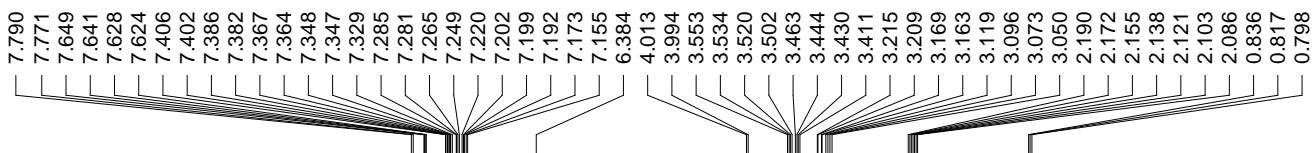


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

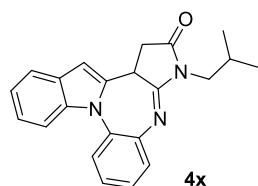
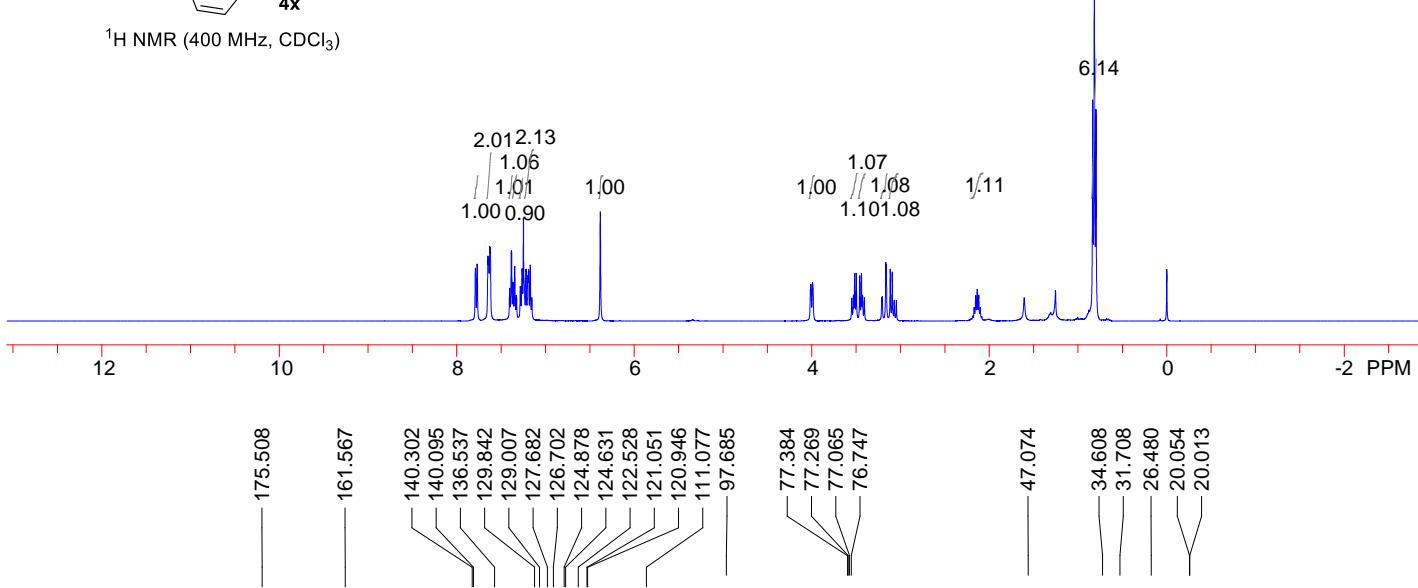


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

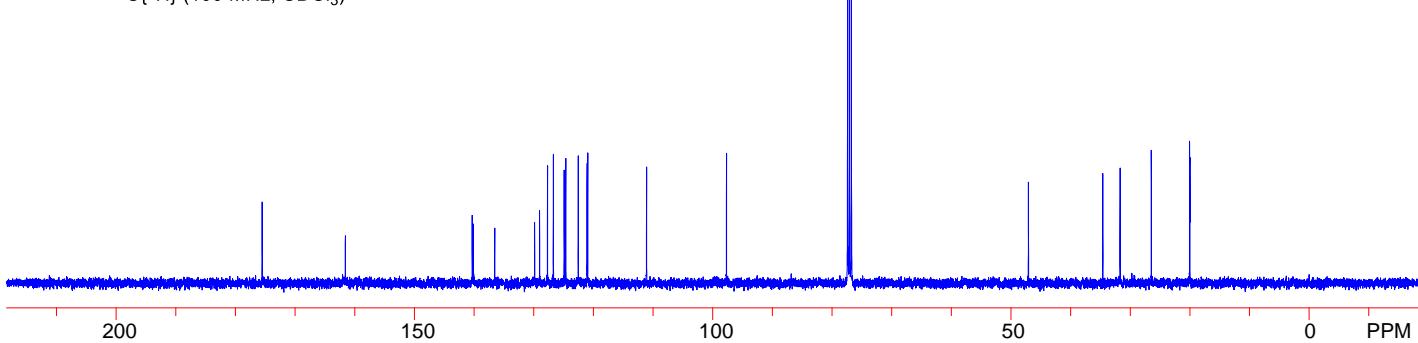


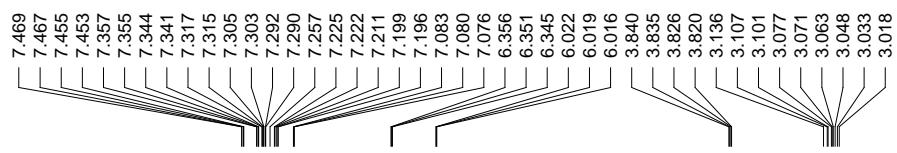


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

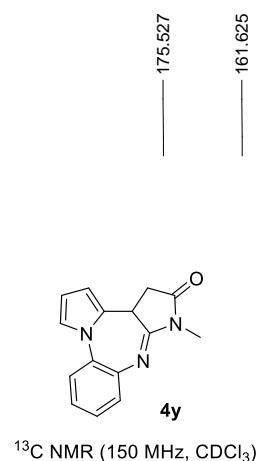
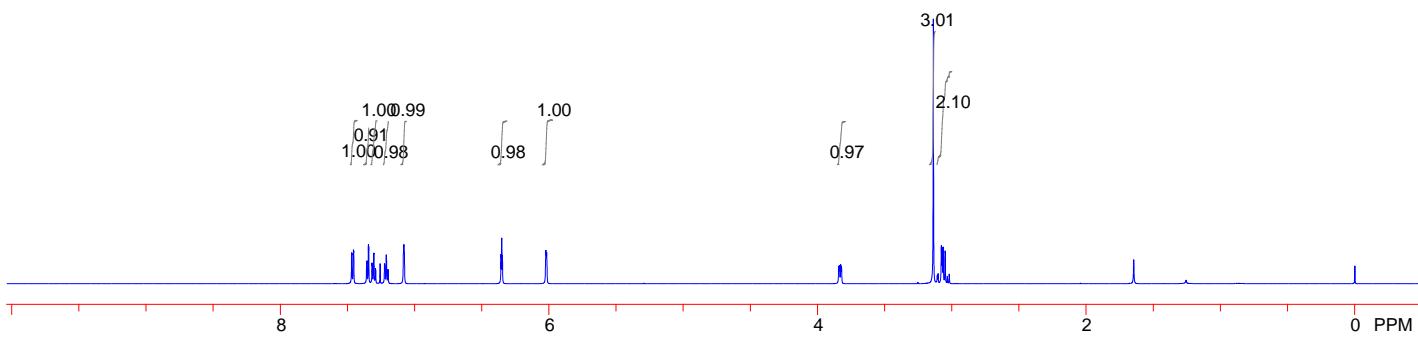


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

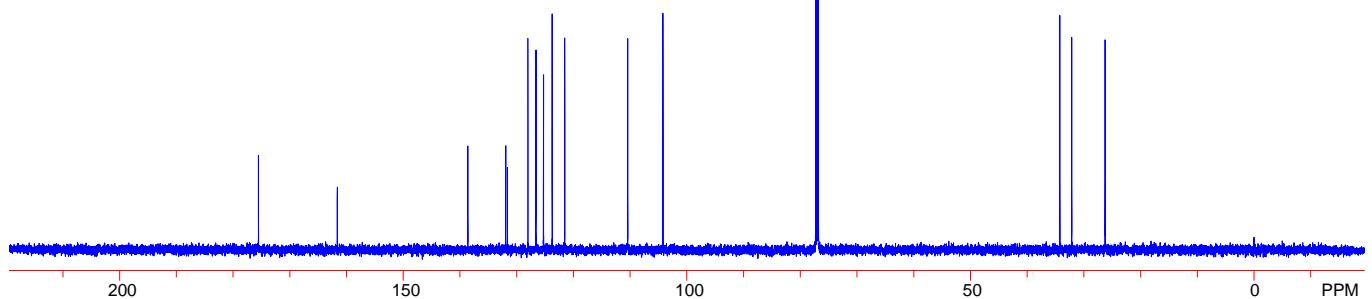




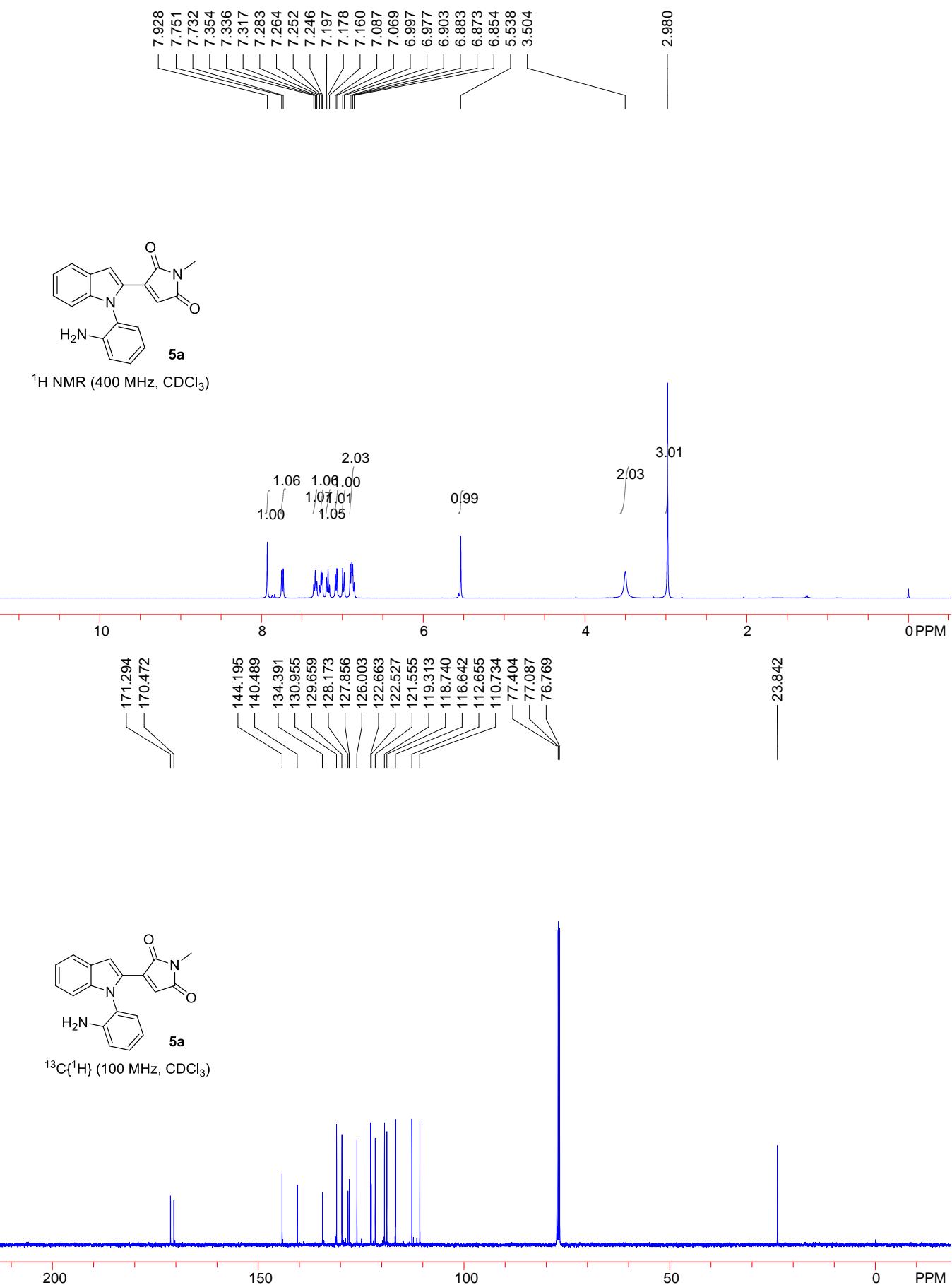
$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $600 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3$ )

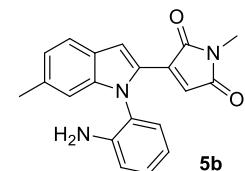
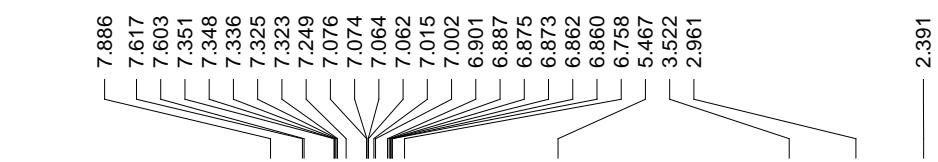


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $150 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3$ )

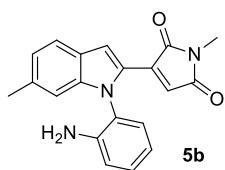
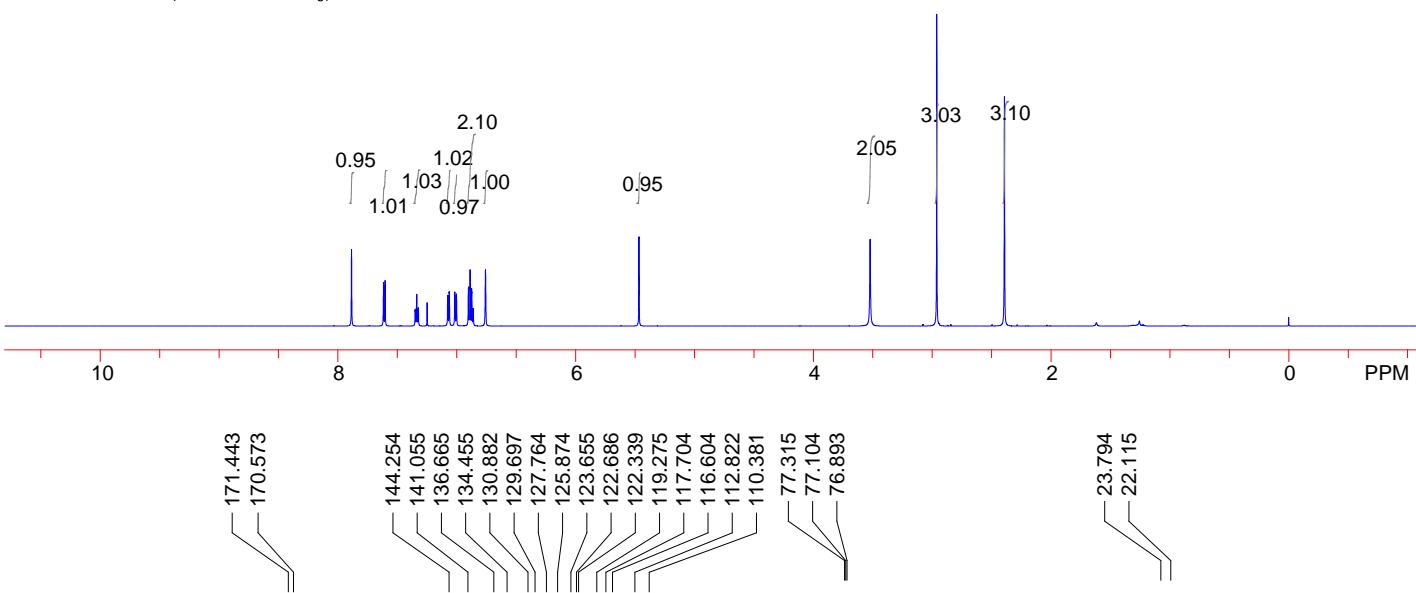


## VII. NMR spectra of 5a-5f

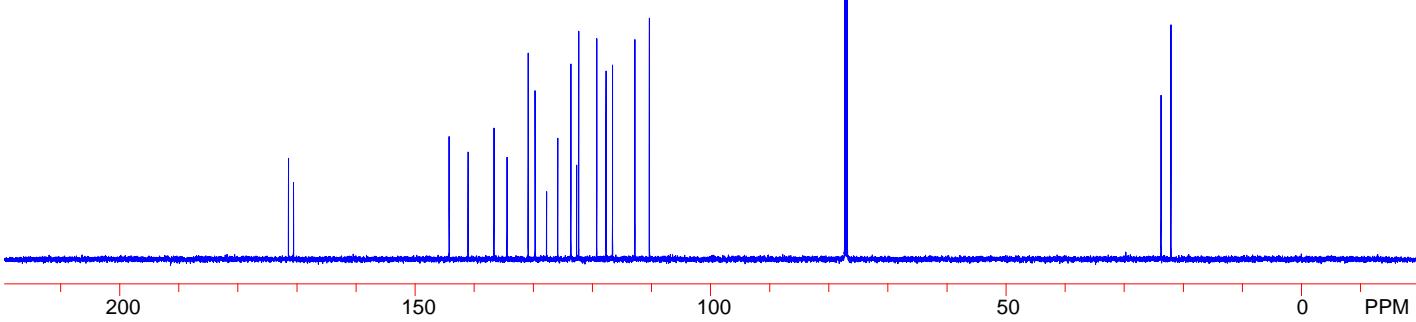


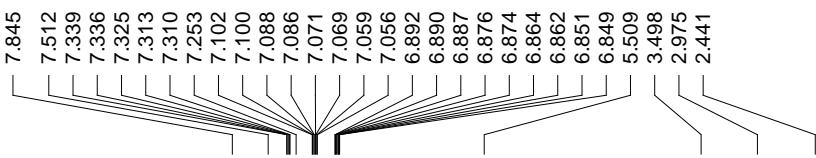


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

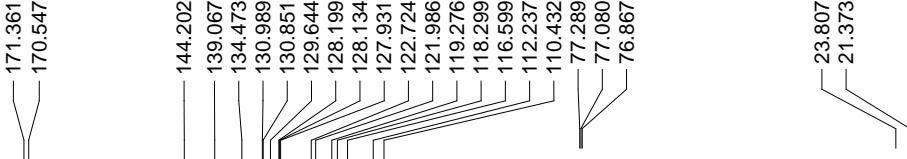
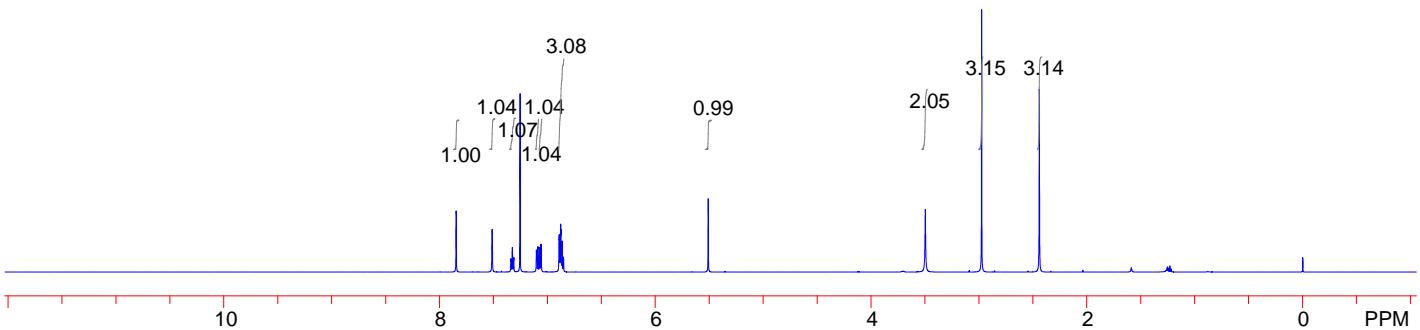


$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

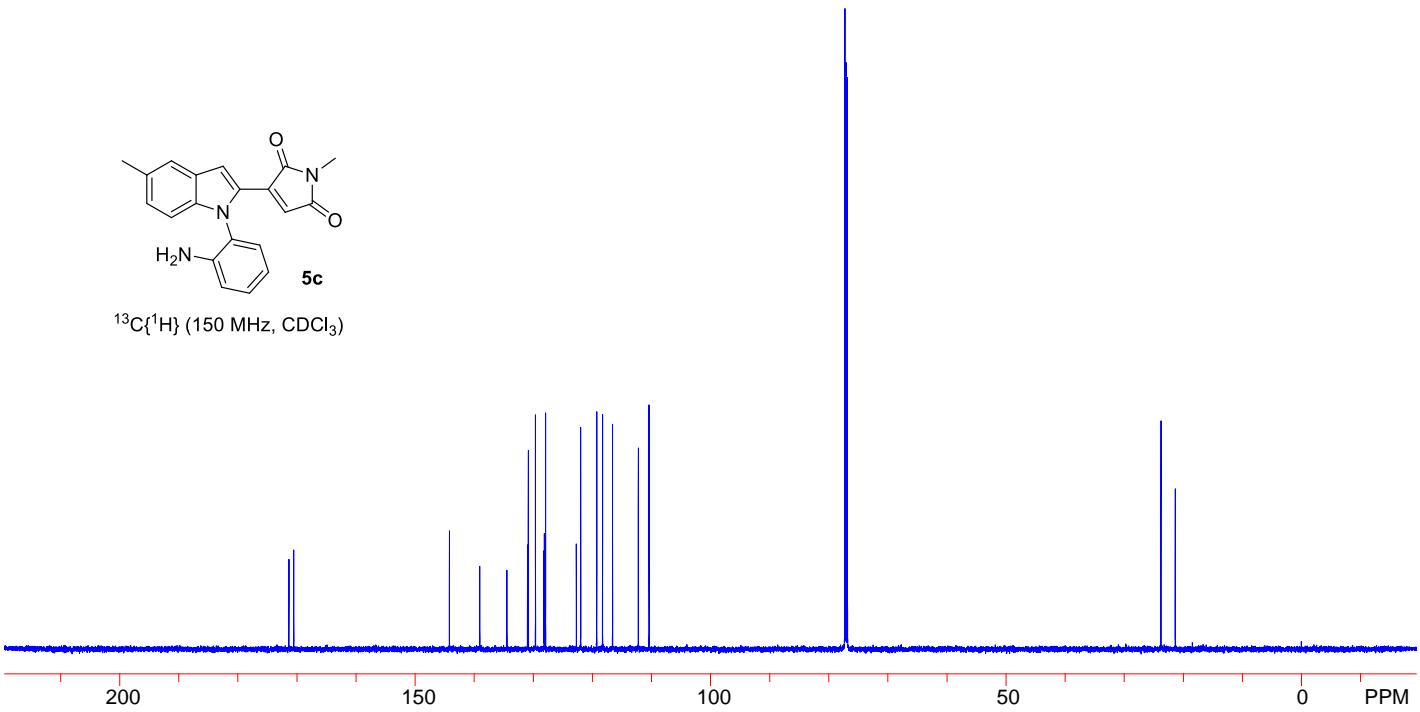


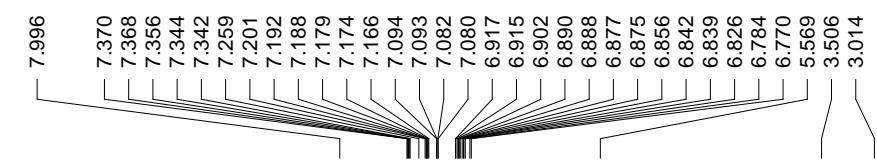


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

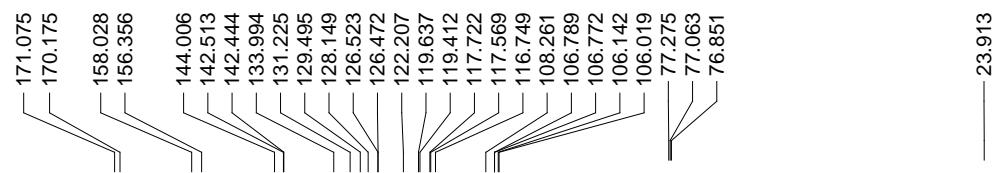
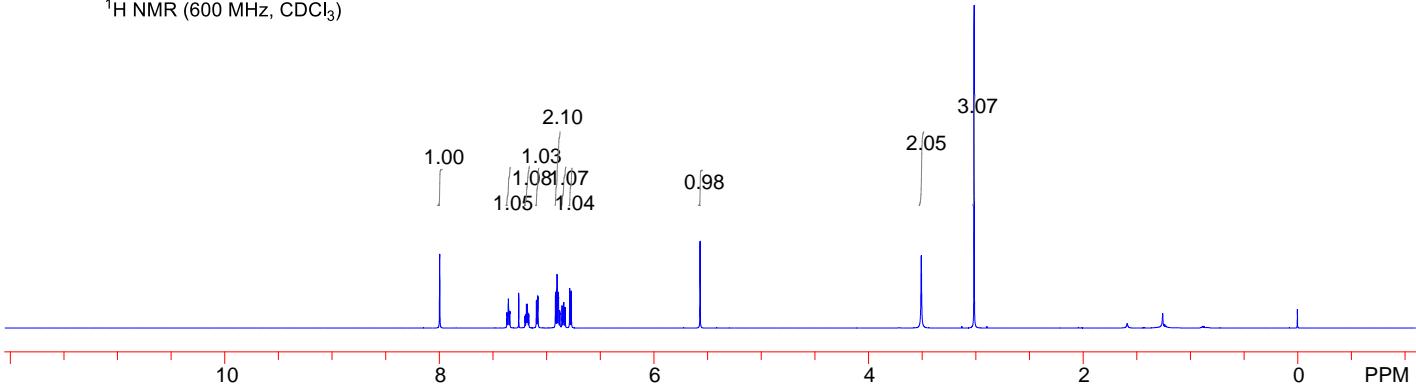


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

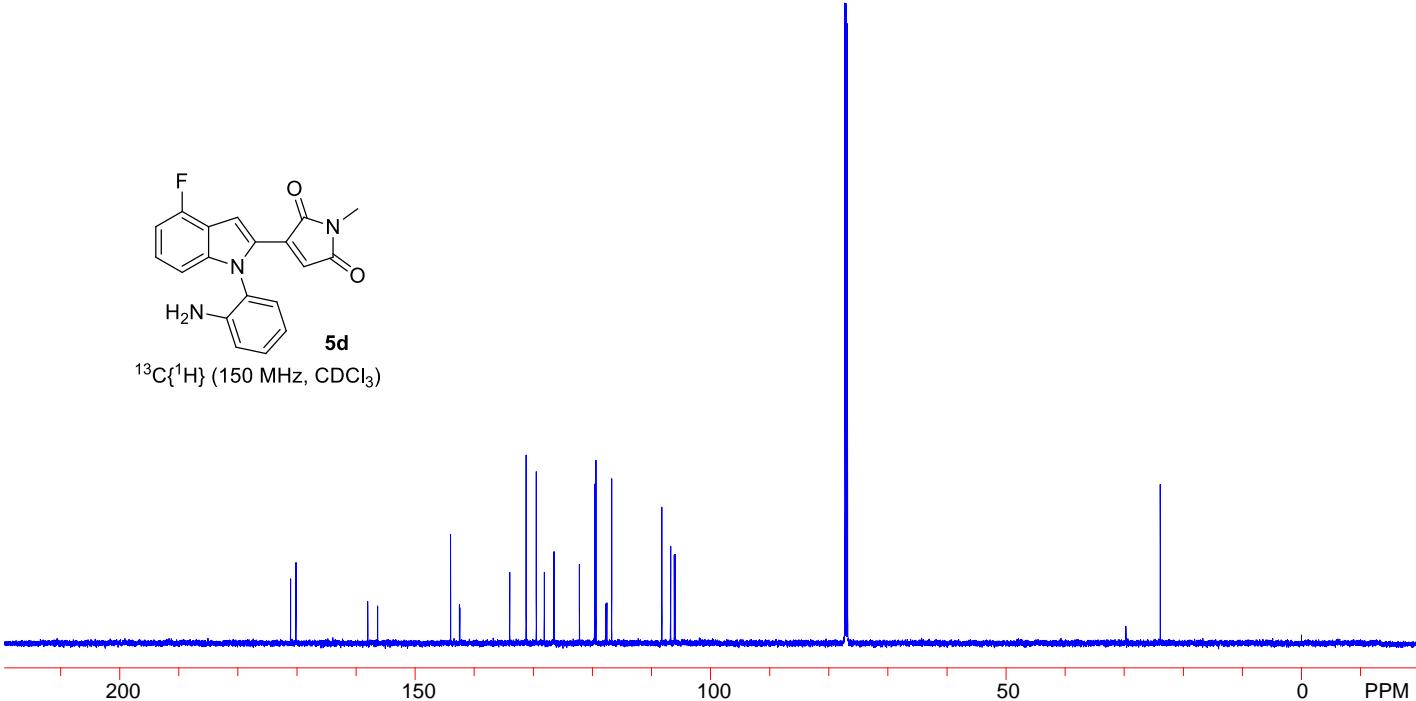




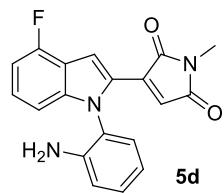
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

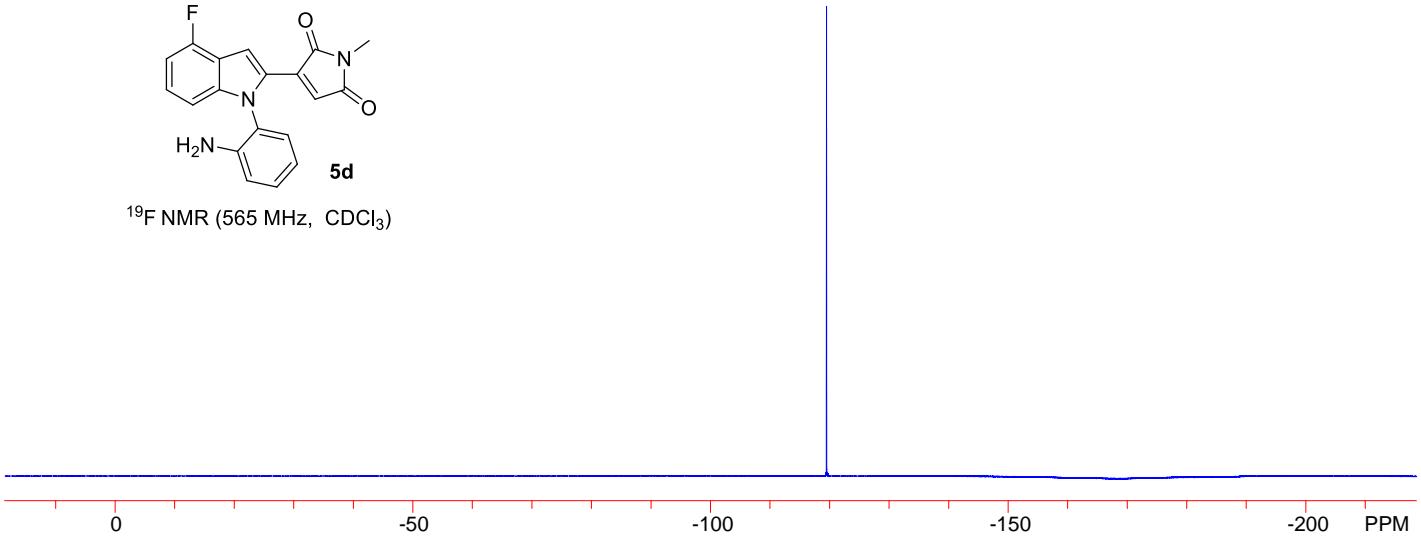


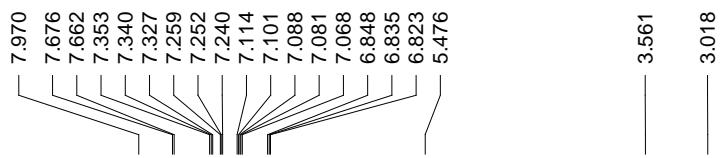
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-119.483



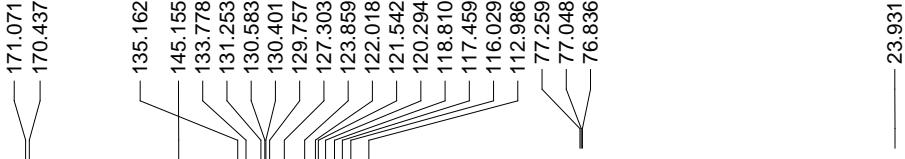
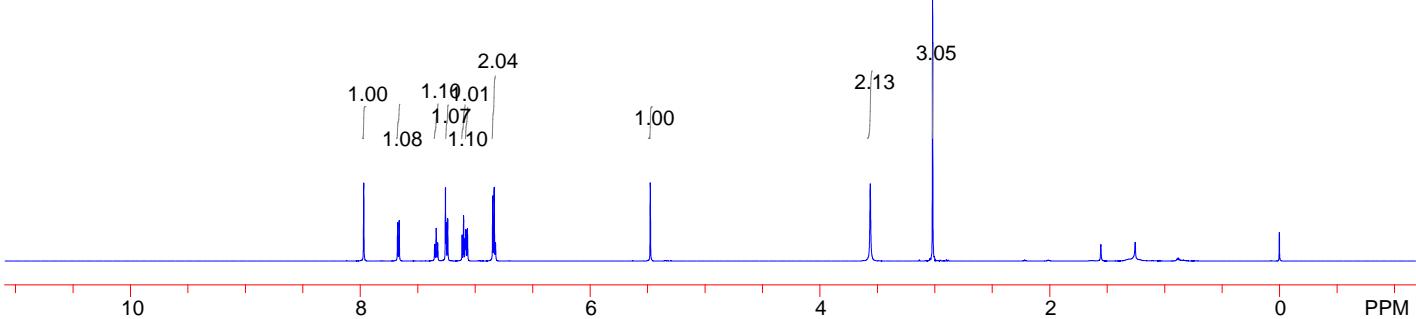
**5d**

$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (565 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

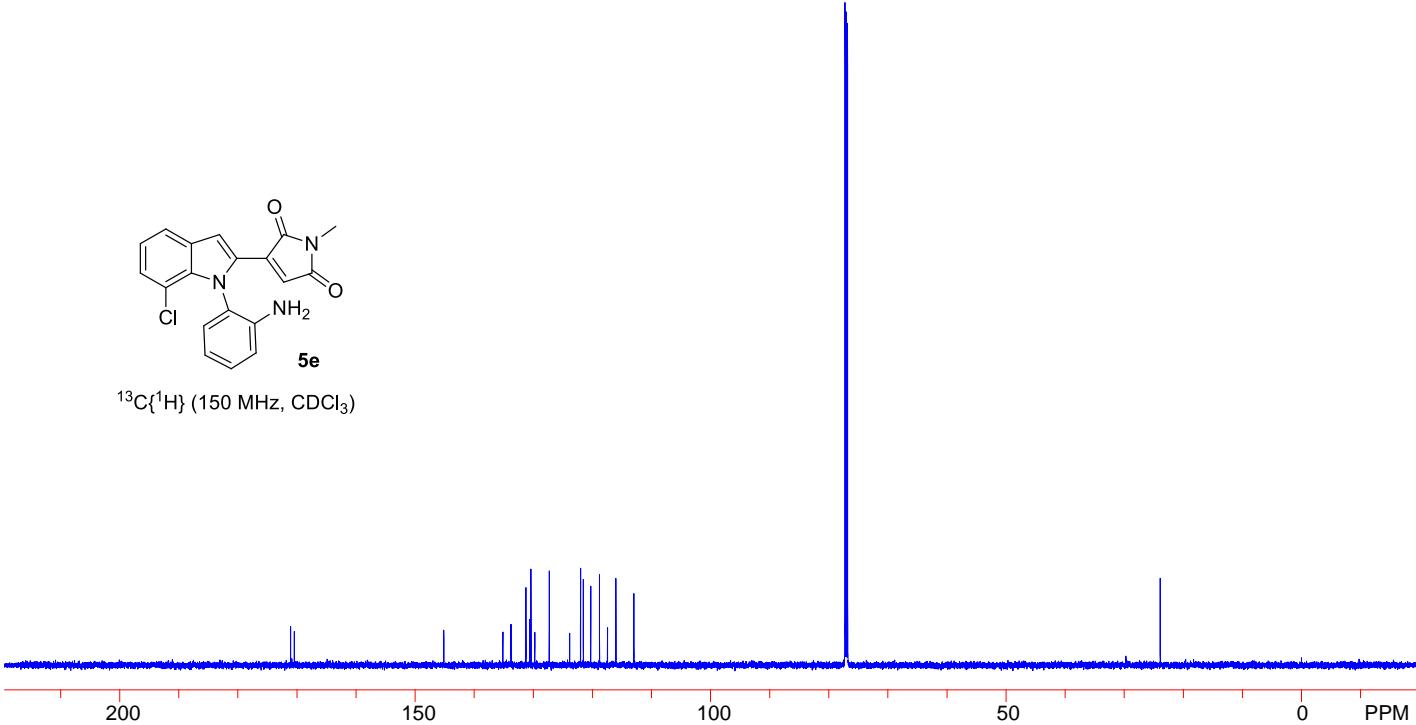


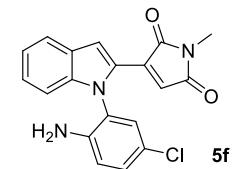
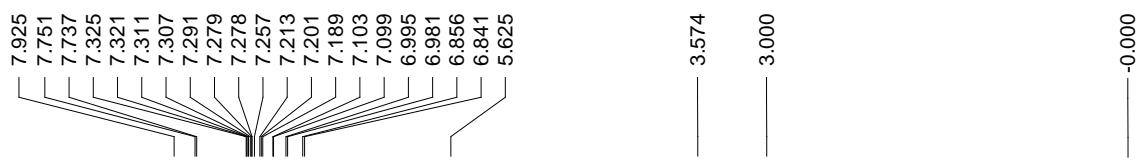


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

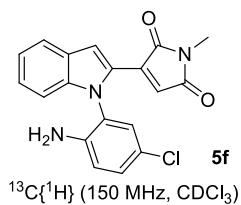
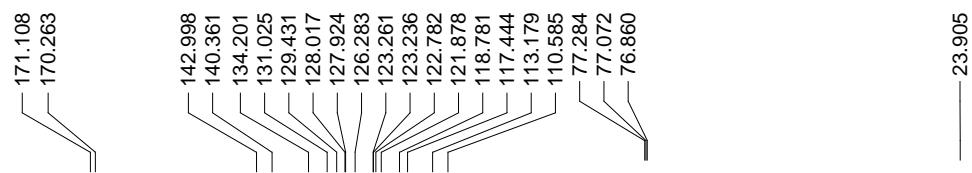
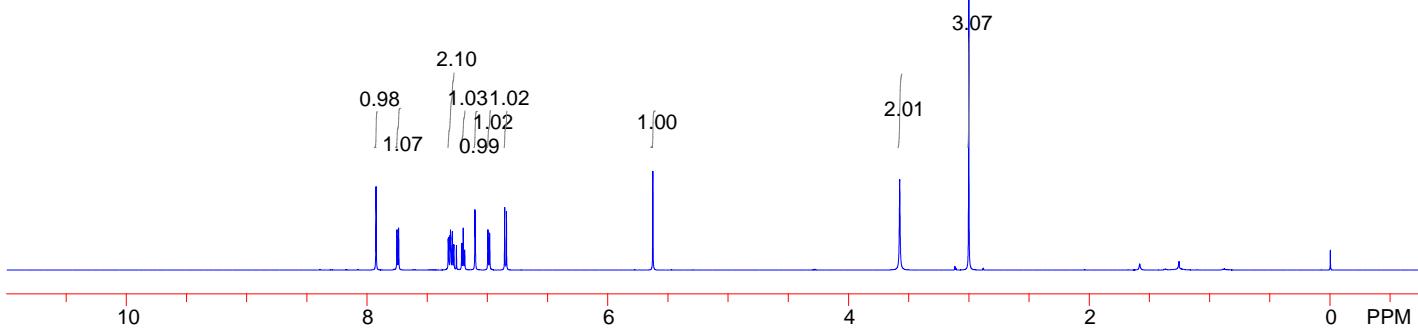


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

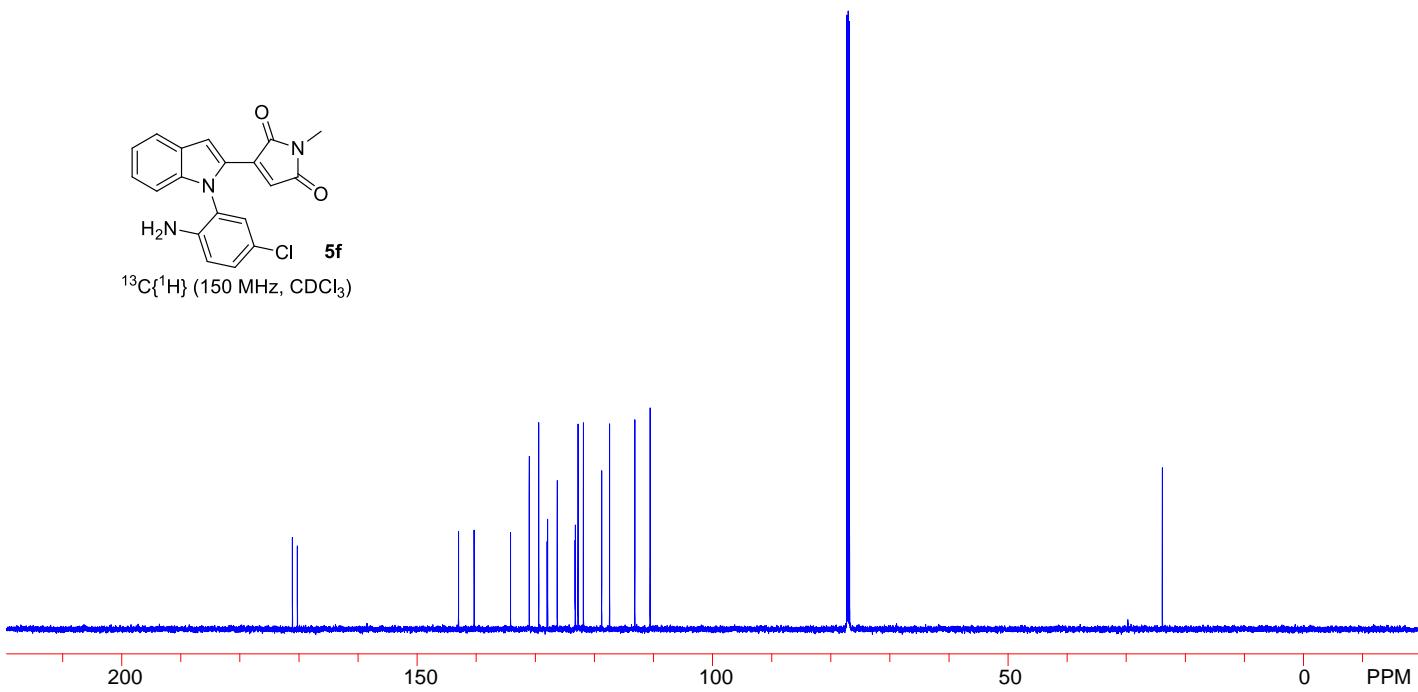




<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



## VIII. X-ray crystal structure and data of **3a**

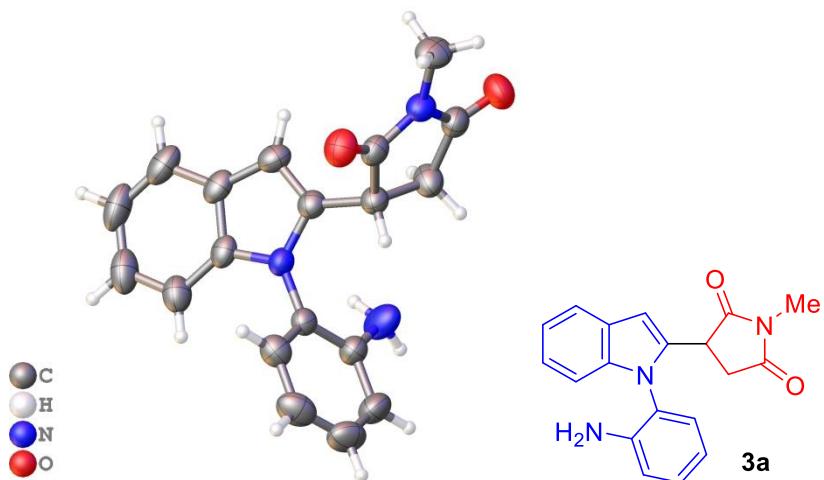


Fig. S1 X-ray crystal structure of **3a** with 50% ellipsoid probability

**X-ray structure determination.** Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained by slow evaporation of the solvent from a petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1) solution of **3a**. Crystal data collection and refinement parameters of **3a** are summarized in Table S1. Intensity data were collected at 293 K on a SuperNova Dual diffractometer using mirror-monochromated Cu K $\alpha$  radiation,  $\lambda = 1.54184 \text{ \AA}$ . The data were corrected for decay, Lorentz, and polarization effects as well as absorption and beam corrections based on the multi-scan technique. Using Olex2, the structure was solved with the SHELXS structure solution program using Direct Methods and refined with the SHELXL refinement package using Least Squares minimisation. Nonhydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. The H-atoms were either located or calculated and subsequently treated with a riding model.

**Table S1** Crystallographic data and structure refinement results of **3a**

Empirical formula	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>17</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	319.35
Temp, K	293(2)
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n
<i>a</i> , Å	11.5596(3)
<i>b</i> , Å	10.6483(2)
<i>c</i> , Å	14.4503(3)

$\alpha$ (°)	90
$\beta$ (°)	112.178(3)
$\gamma$ (°)	90
Volume, Å <sup>3</sup>	1647.09(7)
Z	4
$d_{\text{calc}}$ , g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.288
$\lambda$ , Å	1.54184
$\mu$ , mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.691
No. of data collected	7714
No. of unique data	3141
$R_{\text{int}}$	0.0223
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.147
$R_1$ , wR <sub>2</sub> ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ )	0.0551, 0.1639
$R_1$ , wR <sub>2</sub> (all data)	0.0647, 0.1691

## IX. X-ray crystal structure and data of **4a**

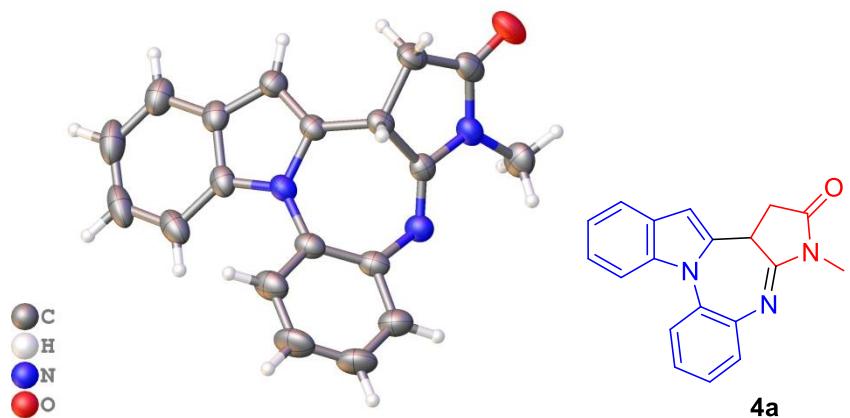


Fig. S2 X-ray crystal structure of **4a** with 50% ellipsoid probability

**X-ray structure determination.** Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained by slow evaporation of the solvent from a petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (4:1) solution of **4a**. Crystal data collection and refinement parameters of **4a** are summarized in Table S2. Intensity data were collected at 293 K on a SuperNova Dual diffractometer using mirror-monochromated Cu K $\alpha$  radiation,  $\lambda = 1.54184 \text{ \AA}$ . The data were corrected for decay, Lorentz, and polarization effects as well as absorption and beam corrections based on the multi-scan technique. Using Olex2, the structure was solved with the SHELXS structure solution program using Direct Methods and refined with the SHELXL refinement package using Least Squares minimisation. Nonhydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. The H-atoms were either located or calculated and subsequently treated with a riding model.

**Table S2** Crystallographic data and structure refinement results of **4a**

Empirical formula	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>15</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O
Formula weight	301.34
Temp, K	293(2)
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n
<i>a</i> , Å	8.6573(2)
<i>b</i> , Å	8.6388(2)
<i>c</i> , Å	19.5245(4)
$\alpha$ (°)	90

$\beta$ (°)	96.868(2)
$\gamma$ (°)	90
Volume, Å <sup>3</sup>	1449.73(6)
Z	4
$d_{\text{calc}}$ , g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.381
$\lambda$ , Å	1.54184
$\mu$ , mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.701
No. of data collected	6282
No. of unique data	2751
$R_{\text{int}}$	0.0200
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.257
$R_1$ , wR <sub>2</sub> ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ )	0.0529, 0.1427
$R_1$ , wR <sub>2</sub> (all data)	0.0668, 0.1474

## X. References

1. T. U. Thikekar and C.-M. Sun, Palladium-Catalyzed Regioselective Synthesis of 1,2-Fused-Indole Diazepines via [5+2] Annulation of *o*-Indoloanilines with Alkynes, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, **2017**, *359*, 3388-3396.
2. A. Mandal, H. Sahoo, S. Dana and M. Baidya, Ruthenium(II)-Catalyzed Hydroarylation of Maleimides Using Carboxylic Acids as a Traceless Directing Group, *Org. Lett.*, **2017**, *19*, 4138-4141.