Supporting Information

Automated Multistep Synthesis of 2-Pyrazolines in Continuous Flow

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General experimental section	S2
-	
General procedure for the activation of the	S3
MnO ₂ column	55
Pumping a solution of hydrazine in THF	S3
Reservoir implementation	S4
Webcam colorimeter	S5
General procedure for the synthesis of 2-	96
pyrazolines	S6
Characterization of the isolated compounds	S6
NMR Spectra for isolated compounds	S13
References	S53

General experimental details

General methods: Reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without purification. Solvents used in this work were HPLC grade and used without purification. Triethylamine was dried with calcium hydride, distilled, and stored under argon with molecular sieves (4 A). The removal of solvent under reduced pressure was carried out on a standard rotary evaporator. All the olefins are commercially available and were used as without further purification. Activated MnO₂ was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (prod. number 217646). Hydrazones were synthesized following methods previously reported.^[1] 2-furoyl hydrazone readily dimerized. To avoid dimers formation the hydrazone was prepared and its solvent evaporated with the rotatory evaporator's bath at room temperature. Excess solvent and hydrazine were removed on a high vacuum pump for 6 hours. The crude was stored overnight in a freezer and diluted with THF:MeOH 90:10 to 0.5 mol L–1 before being used. Unless otherwise stated, all the flow reactions were performed using a Vapourtec R-series platform. In-line IR spectroscopy was performed using the Mettler Toledo FlowIR® device.

Chromatography: Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on pre-coated glass plates (silica gel 60 F_{254}) from Merck. Compound spots were visualised under ultraviolet (UV) light (254 nm) and using ninhydrin or KMnO₄ stain solutions. Purification of the products were performed on SiliCycle SiliaSepTM 40–63mm 60 Å flash cartridges using an automated BiotageTM flash chromatography coupled with UV detector at 254 nm.

NMR spectroscopy: ¹H-NMR and ¹³C-NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DPX-250 spectrometer or Bruker Avance III 500 MHz spectrometer with the residual solvent peak as the internal reference $(CDCl_3 = 7.26 \text{ ppm}, d_6\text{-DMSO} = 2.50 \text{ ppm}, CD_3OD = 3.31 \text{ ppm})$. ¹H resonances are reported to the nearest 0.01 ppm. ¹³C-NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DPX-250 spectrometer or Bruker Avance III 500 MHz spectrometer with the central resonance of the solvent peak as the internal reference $(CDCl_3 = 77.16 \text{ ppm}, d_6\text{- DMSO} = 39.52 \text{ ppm}, CD_3OD = 49.00 \text{ ppm})$. All ¹³C resonances are reported to the nearest 0.1 ppm. The multiplicity of ¹H signals are indicated as: s = singlet, d = doublet, dd = doublet of doublet, ddd = doublet of doublet of doublet, t = triplet, q = quadruplet, quint = quintet, sext = sextet, m = multiplet, br = broad, or combinations of thereof. Coupling constants (*J*) are quoted in Hz and reported to the nearest 0.1 Hz. Where appropriate, averages of the signals from peaks displaying multiplicity were used to calculate the value of the coupling constant. It was noted that some of the compounds were not completely stable when in CDCl₃ solution. That was observed when storing at 4°C overnight even after prior base washing of the CDCl₃.

High-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) High-resolution mass spectra were recorded on a Synapt mass spectrometer. The injection was performed by direct infusion using 15-30 V sampling cone, 3.5 kV capillarity, 4.0 V extraction cone, 120 °C source temperature, 175 °C desolvation temperature, with 1.0 min acquisition time with scans of 1.0 second and interscan time of 0.02 s.

Unless otherwise stated, reported mass correspond to the parent molecular ion associated with a proton $[M+H]^+$ or a sodium cation $[M+Na]^+$ (²³Na isotope). All *m/z* values are reported to four decimal places.

General procedure for the activation of the MnO² column

A glass column (Omnifit[®] column, 6.6 mm i.d. \times 100 mm length) was packed with 3 g of activated MnO₂ (Sigma-Aldrich 217646) between pads of celite (~10 mm each). A solution of THF/Et₃N/MeOH 70:20:10 (v/v/v), 32 mL was passed through the column at a flow rate of 0.5 mL/min followed by a mixture of THF/MeOH 9:1 (3 mL).

Pumping a solution of hydrazine in THF

An initial problem was identified when the hydrazine solution was pumped continuously through the double reciprocating piston pumps (Vapourtec R-series). After a short period of operation, the performance of the pump was compromised owing to hydrazine reacting with the polymeric secondary seals of the pump, which produces particulates that sequentially caused the check valves to malfunction. Figure S1 shows secondary seals that have been exposed overnight to a hydrazine solution in THF (2 mol/L). Removal of these secondary seals from the hydrazine pump and inclusion of 10% methanol in the stock solution however prevented such blockages. This modification did not affect the operation of the pumps. Furthermore, in order to keep the primary seal clean, the back of the pump was flushed with solvent periodically using the flushing ports.



Figure S1: Left: Pump secondary seal exposed overnight to a solution of hydrazine in THF (1 mol/L). Right: Pump secondary seal exposed overnight to THF.

General procedure for the synthesis of 2-pyrazolines

A 1 mL sample loop was loaded with a solution containing a 0.5 M solution of the hydrazone in THF/MeOH 90:10 (v/v). The reaction mixture was pumped with THF/MeOH 90:10 (v/v) at a flow rate of 0.5 mL/min, through an activated column containing MnO_2 (see above) at room temperature. Formation of the diazo was observed as the appearance of an intense reddish solution. The diazo was collected in a vial under inert atmosphere and at 0 °C. To this diazo mixture was added a solution containing the olefin (1.2 eq., 0.6 mmol) and the reaction was stirred for 2 hours at room temperature. Up to 5 injections were done using the same column.

The crude reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, and it was purified by column chromatography (hexanes/EtOAc 5-100%).

Reservoir implementation

The reservoir utilised in this work was custom built in double jacketed glass, with connections compatible with the Vapourtec R-series module, where the temperature could be controlled to -5 °C and kept under nitrogen atmosphere (Figure S2).



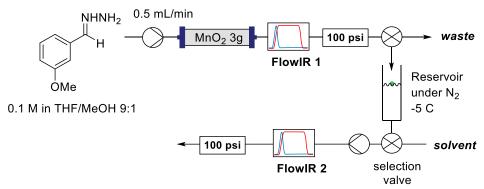


Figure S2: Left) MnO_2 column and custom-built reservoir. Right) Equipment setup for the evaluation of the reservoir storing the diazo compound solution.

To evaluate the stability of the solution containing the diazo compound a system was setup with 2 FlowIR units (Figure S2). In this setup a solution of a hydrazone was pumped through a column containing MnO2 to generate the respective diazo compounds, which was directed to the reservoir at -5°C and under nitrogen atmosphere. Once a reasonable volume of the solution was collected, it was pumped from the reservoir through a second FlowIR unit, while switching between solvent and solution. This aimed to evaluate if the solution could be split between different coupling partners. Both FlowIR units were following the IR signal at 2070 cm⁻¹, which corresponds to the diazo functional group (Figure S3).

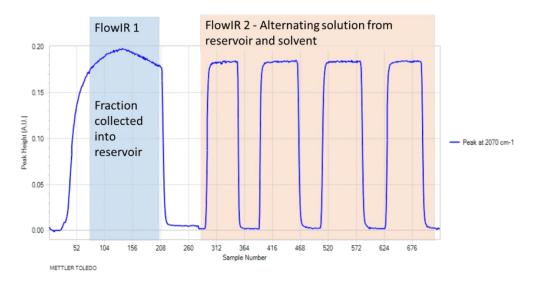


Figure S3: IR signal at 2070 cm⁻¹ during production of diazo solution and pumping it from the reservoir.

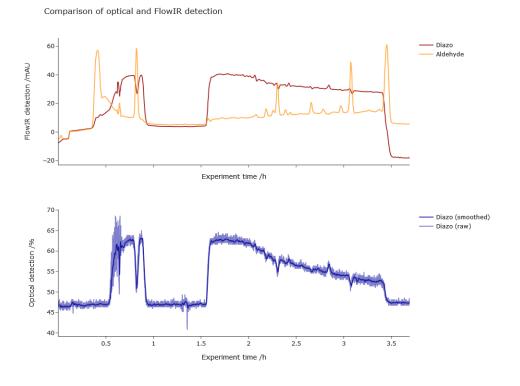
Webcam colorimeter

A colorimeter was therefore constructed by wrapping a clear PFA tubing around a white cylinder. A 3D printed part led to a small improvement, having walls to allow two layers of tubing in the coil which intensified the colour. A USB webcam was focused on the coiled tubing, and image processing functionality within the Octopus software was used to generate a measurement of the amount of diazo present. Two separate tubing-colorimeters were monitored using a single camera image. The tubing coils were clamped in position so that their positions within the image did not change during the process. To generate a numerical value, the following computation was carried out: First the area of interest for a particular coil was selected from the image using a crop function. Then the Euclidian colour distance of each pixel from yellow was calculated to give a grayscale image. After passing through an invert function, this produces a grayscale image which is brighter when more diazo species is present.

A numerical value was then generated by taking the mean intensity of each pixel in this processed image. This calculated data had a reasonably high degree of noise from the camera; after some optimisation it was found that taking the average value of a 45 second rolling window, the signal was

smoothed to a satisfactory level. Finally, the rate at which the 'diazo intensity' variable was updated was limited to once every 5 seconds. This was useful to reduce the frequency at which the flow rate was changed for any pumps that were controlled based on this signal.

When compared to an IR measurement taken at the same point in the system, we were pleased to find that although the colorimeter had a much lower sensitivity than the IR spectrometer, it produced the same signal profile, so we were confident that this could be used to trigger actions within the control protocol.



Iterative development of the two-step automated reaction system

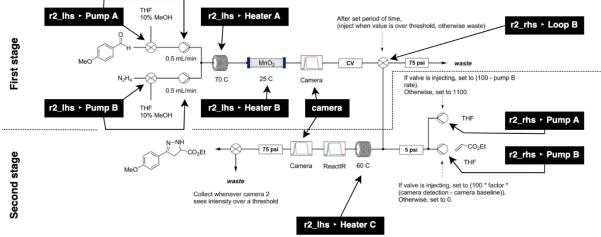
In this section, three iterations of process development for the automated two-step reaction are described, to illustrate the application of the Blocktopus GUI for implementing the control system.

Control of a two-stage experiment

Instruments

- First Vapourtec R2+/R4 system (**r2_lhs**) providing:
 - Pump for aldehyde, with low-pressure reagent/solvent selector valve (r2_lhs Pump A)
 - Pump for hydrazine, with low-pressure reagent/solvent selector valve (r2_lhs > Pump B)
 - Reactor coil for aldehyde/hydrazine incubation (r2_lhs Heater A)
 - Reactor column with MnO_2 (**r2_lhs** Heater B)
 - Reactor coil for diazo/olefin incubation (r2_lhs Heater C)

- High-pressure valve for hydrazine direction to waste/second stage (r2_lhs > Loop B)
- Low-pressure collection/waste valve (**r2_lhs → Output**)
- Second Vapourtec R2+/R4 system (**r2_rhs**) providing:
 - Pump for solvent (**r2_rhs Pump A**)
 - Pump for olefin ($r2_rhs \cdot Pump B$)
- Microsoft LifeCam Cinema webcam (camera) observing both colorimetry coils.
- Mettler-Toledo FlowIR detector (ir), initially not used in the control protocol.



Protocol

Setup

- 1. Configure the instruments (the FlowIR is not used in the control protocol for this experiment).
- 2. Split the image from the single camera into two separate variables:
 - a. Separately crop the image into two regions of interest;
 - b. Extract the "yellowness" of each;
 - c. Calculate their mean intensities (the image is 8-bit, so this is a value from 0-255);
 - d. Take the mean value over a 45 second rolling window, so smooth out noise;
 - e. Store the result in numeric variables (colour intensity lhs, colour intensity rhs). A new image is read from the camera every 1 second, and the variables are updated with each new image.

First stage

- 3. Set the reactor flow rates and heater temperatures.
- 4. Wait at least 5 minutes, and then until the heater at 70C (Heater A) is at the desired temperature.
- 5. Inject the reagents for 64 min;
- 6. Then flush the first half of the system with solvent for 20 min;
- 7. Then turn off heater A and heater B.

Second stage

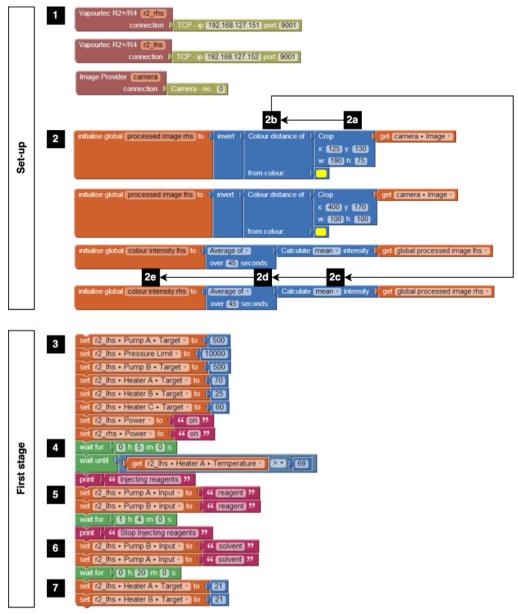
- 8. Allows 15 min for the reagents to pass through the heater and the MnO2 column.
- 9. Wait for the detection of the first colorimeter to reach a set threshold (95 units; empirically determined),
- **10**. Direct the intermediate through to the second half of the system whenever the first colorimeter reading is above a threshold of 90 units (empirically determined)
- 11. Until this reading drops below another threshold (88 units; empirically determined) consistently for 10 min,

- at which point the second half of the system is flushed with solvent (r2_rhs > Pump A) for 15 min,
- **13**. and then the reactors are turned off.

During the second stage

- 14. The second set of reagents are injected whenever the intermediate is being collected.
- **15**. The flow rate of the pump injecting the second reagent is varied to match the amount of intermediate present (by an empirically determined factor)
- 16. The flow rate of make-up solvent is adjusted as well, to keep the total flow rate constant.
- 17. The output is directed to collection as long as the second colorimeter is detecting over a threshold value of 35 units (empirically determined).

Blocktopus control script



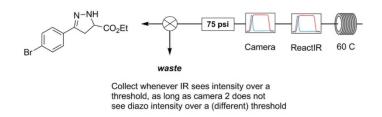
	8 wat until 1 (get (72_hs + Pump B + Input = 21) 44 (reagent) 22 wat for 1 (0 h f15) m 0 s 9 wat until 1 (get global colour intensity rhs = 2 (95) a run with controls
	wait until 1/1 (Maximum of a get global colour intensity rhs) < 1/88 11
	over (600) seconds
	with 1 bind (12_hs • Loop B • to 1 test 1 (get global colour intensity rhs •) > • (go) 10
	if false), 44 (020) ??
ge	with bind f2_rhs + Pump B + Target • to / test / (get f2_lhs + Loop B • E •), 44 (inject) 22
Second stage	if true () (get global colour intensity rhs = co (60) co (22) co (100) 15 If false (0)
eco	with bind (r2_rhs + Pump A + Target + to / test / get (r2_hs + Loop B + = -), (* (nject) >> 14
s	f true 1 (100) == 1 get (2_rhs + Pump B + Target -) 16
	12 Set [72 lins + Loop B in to], 44 (load) >>
	set r2_ms + Pump A + Target = to 1, 1100
	wait for (10) h [15] m (0) s
	with bind [2_lhs • Output • to be test by get global colour intensity lhs • 2 • 135
	if true (2 <mark>44 (collect) 22</mark>
	if faise (14 waste 27
	13 set [2] Ihs Power to [] ** (off) ** set [2] rhs Power to [] ** (off) **

After testing, this protocol was adjusted to constrain $r2_rhs
ightarrow Pump B
ightarrow Target$ to have values only between 0 and 100 uL/min.

	with (bind (r2_rhs + Pump B + Target •) to (test	st ([get [7_lhs + Loop B ▼] = ▼ [44 (inject)?]
		iftn	rue (constrain (1 get global colour intensity rhs • = 1 (65 • • 1 50 • • 1 100
				low (
				high (100
		if fal	alse (

Inclusion of FlowIR data

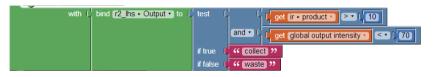
With this observation of the FlowIR data under the conditions in hand, the protocol was adjusted to include the IR data.



Add a connection to the FlowIR (**ir**) in the setup section (**1**). This required a separate script to be running on the PC alongside the Mettler Toledo software, providing access to data from a CSV file exported by the MT software at this IP address and port.



The product valve logic (17) was updated with the aim of increasing the purity of the product collected. The pyrazoline was collected whenever a certain threshold was met in the IR detection (indicating the presence of the pyrazoline C=O) but where the colorimetry detection was under another threshold (indicating a lack of unreacted diazo intermediate)



The colorimetry processing logic (2) was also modified. Since the intensity value was being used to set the flow rate of the pumps $r2_rhs \cdot Pump A$ and $r2_rhs \cdot Pump B$, the fact the value of the variable was changing every second meant that there were frequent pump speed changes, which reduced the performance of the pump. By limiting the frequency at which the variable was updated, this was avoided.

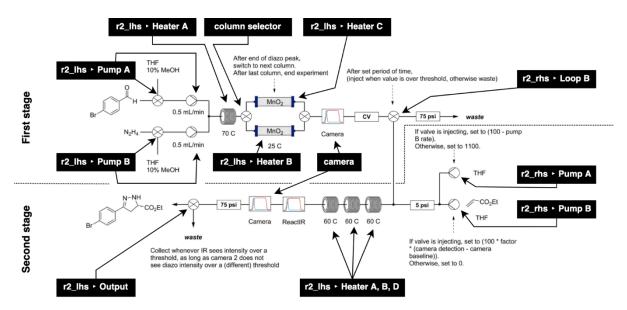


Disappointingly the use of IR data did not lead to improved reliability of the reagent collection, so control was reverted to the colorimetry data in the next iteration.

Addition of a column switcher

In a further modification with the intention of prolonging the duration of the experiment, a Vici Valco column switching valve (**column selector**) was added, such that multiple columns of the MnO_2 reagent could be used in sequence.

Residence in the second stage was extended by the addition of two extra reactor coils, and these were moved to the second R2+/R4 so that heater slots on the first R2+/R4 instrument were available for extra column reactors.



When the colorimeter detected a fall in the concentration of diazo intermediate, it triggered a column switch so that fresh MnO_2 could be used. The remainder of the control protocol could remain the same,

since the controlled diazo selection valve $(r2_lhs \leftarrow Loop B)$ ensured that the intermediate was only directed towards the second stage of the reactor whenever its concentration was sufficient for the detection to be over the threshold.

Protocol

Setup

- 1. Configure the instruments (the FlowIR is not used in the control protocol for this experiment).
- 2. Split the image from the single camera into two separate variables:
 - a. Separately crop the image into two regions of interest;
 - b. Extract the "yellowness" of each;
 - c. Calculate their mean intensities (the image is 8-bit, so this is a value from 0-255);
 - d. Take the mean value over a 45 second rolling window, so smooth out noise;
 - e. Set the maximum refresh frequency to once per 5 seconds.
 - f. Store the result in numeric variables (colour intensity lhs, colour intensity rhs). A new image is read from the camera every 1 second, and the variables are updated with each new image.

First stage

- 3. Set the reactor flow rates and heater temperatures.
- 4. Wait at least 10 minutes, and then until the heater at 70C (Heater A) is at the desired temperature.
- 5. Inject the reagents. Reagent injection is now stopped by the column-switching logic.

Second set-up

- 6. Create a variable (**diazo trigger intensity**) to contain the threshold intensity (empirically determined), which is used to determine if the diazo intermediate is collected. The variable is never modified, but this allows the same value to be used in many formulae without having to enter it each time.
- 7. Create a variable to hold the current column number.
- 8. Only start the second stage once diazo begins to be injected.
- 9. Set the required temperatures and flow rates for r2_rhs.

Column switching

- 10. Allows 15 min for the reagents to pass through the heaters and the MnO2 column.
- 11. Wait for the detection of the first colorimeter to reach a set threshold (20 units below the defined threshold frequency);
- **12**. For each of the two columns:
 - a. Select the column using the valve.
 - b. Wait until the detection level rises above the threshold.
 - c. Wait at least 40 minutes, and then until the detection level falls below the threshold level, consistently for 10 minutes.

Second stage (runs until the last column is exhausted)

- **13.** Direct the intermediate through to the second half of the system whenever the first colorimeter reading is above the threshold.
- 14. The second set of reagents are injected whenever the intermediate is being collected.
- 15. The flow rate of the pump injecting the second reagent is varied to match the amount of intermediate present (by an empirically determined factor)

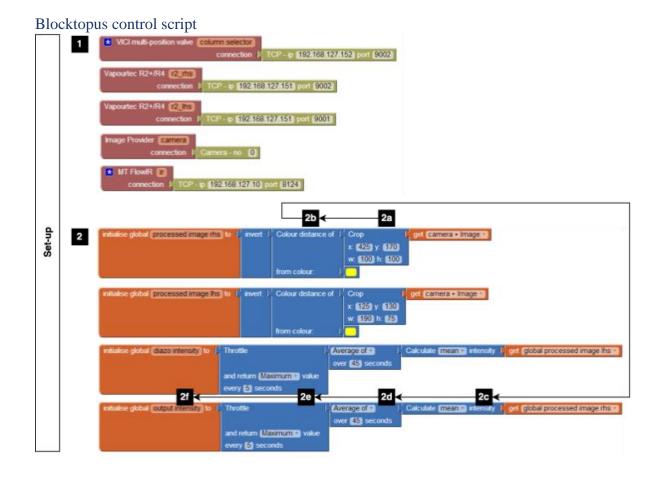
16. The flow rate of make-up solvent is adjusted as well, to keep the total flow rate constant.

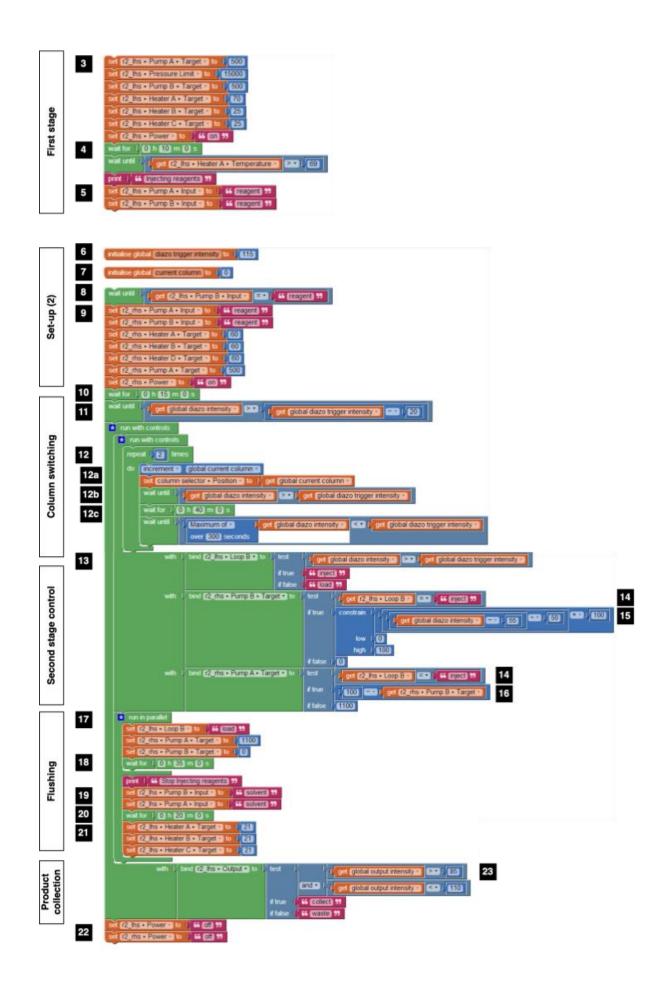
Flushing

- 17. Once the last column is exhausted, stop collecting the intermediate and switch the second-stage pumps to inject solvent only.
- 18. Flush the second-stage part of the system for 35 min.
- 19. At the same time, stop injecting the aldehyde and hydrazine reagents.
- 20. Flush the first-stage part of the system for 20 min,
- 21. Turn off the heaters in the first-stage part of the system.
- 22. Once the flushing stages are complete, turn off the reactors.

Product collection

23. The output is directed to collection as long as the second colorimeter is detecting between 85 and 110 units (empirically determined). This had proved to be more effective than using the reading from the inline IR spectrometer.





Characterization of the isolated compounds

Ethyl 5-(4-bromophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate (1)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 81% yield.

¹**H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3, ppm)** δ 7.47 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 4.97 (t, J = 10.9 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.37 (dd, J = 17.2, 11.1 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (dd, J = 17.3, 10.1 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H)

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 162.5 (C₀), 141.6 (C₀), 140.5 (C₀), 132.1 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 122.0 (C₀), 65.0 (CH), 61.3 (CH₂), 40.0 (CH₂), 14.3 (CH₃)

HRMS expected: 319.0058 [M+Na]⁺ found: 319.0027 [M+Na]⁺

5-(4-bromophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carbonitrile (6)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 73% yield.

¹**H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 7.52 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.71 (br s, 1H), 5.02 (t, J = 11.1 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (dd, J = 16.9, 12.0 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (dd, J = 16.8, 10.0 Hz, 1H)

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 139.1 (C₀), 132.3 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 122.5 (C₀), 122.3 (C₀), 114.5 (C₀), 64.5 (CH), 41.8 (CH₂)

HRMS expected: 249.9980 [M+H]⁺ found: 249.9991 [M+H]⁺

Ethyl 5-(4-bromophenyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate (11)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 89% yield.

¹**H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.14 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 4.32-4.24 (m, 2H), 3.88 (qd, *J* = 8.5, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H)

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 161.5 (C₀), 138.3 (C₀), 132.6 (CH), 132.3 (C₀), 127.4 (CH), 124.7 (C₀, q, *J* = 280.3 Hz), 123.0 (C₀), 65.9 (CH), 61.6 (CH₂), 56.6 (CH, q, *J* = 29.5 Hz), 14.1 (CH₃)

¹⁹F NMR (235 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -69.45 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, major isomer, 90%) -76.73, (d, J = 7.1 Hz, minor isomer, 10%)

HRMS expected: 365.0113 [M+H]⁺ found: 365.0096 [M+H]⁺

5-(4-bromophenyl)-3-(phenylsulfonyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole (16)

Isolated as a pale-orange solid in 58% yield.

¹**H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 7.99-7.97 (m, 2H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.03 (t, *J* = 10.9 Hz, 1H), 3.42 (dd, *J* = 16.9, 11.6 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 10.3 Hz, 1H)

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 149.8 (C₀), 139.1 (C₀), 138.5 (C₀), 134.0 (CH), 132.1 (CH), 129.3 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 122.4 (C₀), 66.0 (CH), 39.1 (CH)

HRMS expected: 364.9959 [M+H]⁺ found: 364.9952 [M+H]⁺

Ethyl 5-(3-nitrophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate (2)

Isolated as a white solid in 30% yield.

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 8.21-8.15 (m, 2H), 7.70 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (br s, 1H), 5.16 (t, J = 11.1 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.49 (dd, J = 17.4, 11.9 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (dd, J = 17.3, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 162.3 (C₀), 148.6 (C₀), 143.5 (C₀), 141.9 (C₀), 132.5 (CH), 130.1 (CH), 123.1 (CH), 121.5 (CH), 64.7 (CH), 61.4 (CH₂), 40.3 (CH₂), 14.3 (CH₃)

HRMS expected: 264.0984 [M+H]⁺ found: 264.0985 [M+H]⁺

5-(3-nitrophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carbonitrile (7)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 77% yield

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 8.25-8.12 (m, 2H), 7.72-7.50 (m, 2H), 6.70 (br s, 1H), 5.18 (td, J = 11.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (dd, J = 16.9, 12.0 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd, J = 16.8, 10.7 Hz, 1H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, DMSO-d₆, ppm) δ 148.4 (C₀), 143.9 (C₀), 133.8 (CH), 130.8 (CH), 123.2 (CH), 121.8 (CH), 119.8 (C₀), 116.2 (C₀), 63.6 (CH), 40.8 (CH₂)

HRMS expected: 217.0926 [M+H]⁺ found: 217.0716 [M+H]⁺

Ethyl 5-(3-nitrophenyl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate (12)

Isolated as a white solid in 45% yield.

¹**H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 8.25-8.19 (m, 1H), 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.63-7.60 (m, 2H), 7.31 (br s, 1H), 5.33 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 4.40-4.21 (m, 2H), 3.94 (qd, J = 8.3, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 134 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H)

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 161.2 (C₀), 148.7 (C₀), 141.3 (C₀), 132.5 (C₀), 131.9 (CH), 124.4 (C₀, q, *J* = 280 Hz), 123.6 (CH), 121.0 (CH), 65.2 (CH₂, q, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 61.6 (CH), 56.9 (CH₂, q, *J* = 30 Hz), 14.0 (CH₃)

¹⁹F NMR (235 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ –69.22 (d, J = 4.7 Hz)

HRMS expected: 354.0677 [M+Na]⁺ found: 354.0648 [M+Na]⁺

5-(3-nitrophenyl)-3-(phenylsulfonyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole (17)

Isolated as a colourless oil in 79% yield.

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm**) δ 8.17-8.12 (m, 2H), 7.99-7.96 (m, 2H), 7.72-7.50 (m, 5H), 5.20 (t, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (dd, *J* = 16.7, 11.2 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 10.6 Hz, 1H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 149.5 (C₀), 148.3 (C₀), 142.2 (C₀), 138.2 (C₀), 134.1 (CH), 132.5 (CH), 130.0 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 128.1 (CH), 123.2 (CH), 121.3 (CH), 65.6 (CH), 39.3 (CH₂)

HRMS expected: 354.0525 [M+Na]⁺ found: 354.0520 [M+Na]⁺

Ethyl 5-(pyridin-3-yl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate (3)

Isolated as a pale-yellow solid in 70% yield.

¹**H** NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.48-8.45 (m, 2H), 7.63 (dt, *J* = 7.9, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (br s, 1H), 4.99 (t, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 4.24 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.36 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 11.9 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (dd, *J* = 17.2, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 162.2 (C₀), 149.1 (CH), 147.8 (CH), 141.1 (C₀), 136.8 (C₀), 133.8 (CH), 123.6 (CH), 62.8 (CH), 61.0 (CH₂), 39.6 (CH₂), 14.0 (CH₃)

HRMS expected: 220.1086 [M+H]⁺ found: 220.1074 [M+H]⁺

5-(pyridin-3-yl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carbonitrile (8)

Isolated as a pale-yellow solid in 41% yield.

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 8.60 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.54 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dt, J = 8.0, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, J = 7.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (br s, 1H), 5.10 (dd, J = 11.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (dd, J = 16.8, 12.0 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (dd, J = 16.9, 10.3 Hz, 1H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 150.1 (CH), 148.1 (CH), 135.6 (C₀), 133.9 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 122.5 (C₀), 114.2 (C₀), 62.8 (CH), 41.8 (CH₂)

HRMS expected: 173.0827 [M+H]⁺ found: 173.0810 [M+H]⁺

Ethyl 5-(pyridin-3-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate (13)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 56% yield.

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 8.53-8.51 (m, 1H), 8.43 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.0, 1H), 7.33-7.27 (m, 1H), 5.19 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.34-4.20 (m, 2H), 3.95-3.82 (m, 1H), 1.31 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 161.3 (C₀), 150.1 (CH), 147.3 (CH), 135.0 (C₀), 133.6 (CH), 131.8 (C₀), 124.5 (C₀, q, *J* = 280.0 Hz), 124.1 (CH), 64.0 (q, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 61.4 (CH₂), 56.4 (CH, q, *J* = 29.7 Hz), 14.0 (CH₃)

¹⁹F NMR (235 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ –69.45 (d, J = 8.4 Hz)

HRMS expected: 288.0960 [M+H]⁺ found: 288.0973 [M+H]⁺

Ethyl 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate (4)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 74% yield.

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 7.39-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.06-6.99 (m, 2H), 4.30 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.12 (d, *J* = 17.1 Hz, 1H), 3.02 (d, *J* = 17.1 Hz, 1H), 1.60 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 162.7 (C₀), 161.9 (C₀, d, *J* = 246.1 Hz), 141.2 (C₀, d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 140.7 (C₀), 127.0 (CH, d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 115.4 (CH, d, *J* = 21.4 Hz), 69.4 (C₀), 61.1 (CH₂), 46.5 (CH₂), 27.4 (CH₃), 14.3 (CH₃)

¹⁹F NMR (235 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ –115.53 (tt, *J* = 8.8, 5.2 Hz)

HRMS expected: 273.1015 [M+Na]⁺ found: 273.0987 [M+Na]⁺

5-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carbonitrile (9)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 82% yield.

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 7.39-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.11-7.02 (m, 2H), 3.03 (s, 2H), 1.64 (s, 3H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 162.0 (C₀, d, *J* = 246.9 Hz), 139.9 (C₀, d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 126.8 (CH, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 121.3 (C₀), 115.7 (CH, d, *J* = 21.4 Hz), 114.8 (C₀), 69.5 (C₀), 48.4 (CH₂), 27.0 (CH₃)

¹⁹F NMR (235 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ –114.64 (tt, *J* = 8.6, 5.1 Hz)

HRMS expected: 204.0937 [M+H]⁺ found: 204.0904 [M+H]⁺

5-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-3-(phenylsulfonyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole (19)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 38% yield.

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm**) δ 8.07-7.94 (m, 2H), 7.70-7.54 (m, 3H), 7.32-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.04-6.97 (m, 2H), 3.16 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 3.02 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 1.58 (s, 3H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 162.0 (C₀, d, *J* = 246.8 Hz), 148.6 (C₀), 140.1 (C₀, d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 138.8 (C₀), 134.0 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 127.0 (CH, d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 115.5 (CH, d, *J* = 21.4 Hz), 71.1 (C₀), 45.5 (CH₂), 27.0 (CH₃)

¹⁹F NMR (235 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ –114.88 (tt, *J* = 8.7, 5.2 Hz)

HRMS expected: 319.0916 [M+H]⁺ found: 319.0905 [M+H]⁺

Ethyl 5-methyl-5-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate (14)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 86% yield.

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm**) δ 7.42-7.25 (m, 5H), 4.29 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.09 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 2H), 1.60 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 162.8 (C₀), 145.4 (C₀), 140.8 (C₀), 128.7 (CH), 127.3 (CH), 125.1 (CH), 69.9 (C₀), 61.1 (CH₂), 46.3 (CH₂), 27.5 (CH₃), 14.3 (CH₃)

HRMS expected: 255.1109 [M+Na]⁺ found: 255.1095 [M+Na]⁺

5-methyl-5-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carbonitrile (18)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 68% yield.

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.42-7.32 (m, 5H), 3.05 (s, 2H), 1.65 (s, 3H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 144.0 (C₀), 128.9 (CH), 127.8 (CH), 125.0 (CH), 121.5 (C₀), 114.8 (C₀), 69.9 (C₀), 48.4 (CH₂), 27.0 (CH₃)

HRMS expected: 186.1031 [M+H]⁺ found: 186.1026 [M+H]⁺

Ethyl 5-(furan-2-yl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate (5)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 61% yield.

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 7.39-7.37 (m, 1H), 6.33 (dd, J = 3.2, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (dd, J = 11.0, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.26 (dd, J = 17.0, 11.1 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (dd, J = 17.2, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.37 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 162.4 (C₀), 153.3 (C₀), 142.7 (CH), 142.6 (C₀), 110.4 (CH), 106.5 (CH), 61.3 (CH₂), 58.3 (CH), 36.1 (CH₂), 14.3 (CH₃)

HRMS expected: 209.0926 [M+H]⁺ found: 209.0918 [M+H]⁺

5-(furan-2-yl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carbonitrile (16)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 65% yield.

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 7.40 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (dd, *J* = 3.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 11.5 Hz, 1H), 3.09 (dd, J 16.7, 8.2 Hz, 1H)

¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 151.9 (C₀), 143.0 (CH), 123.1 (C₀), 114.3 (C₀), 110.5 (CH), 107.3 (CH), 57.9 (CH), 38.0 (CH₂)

HRMS expected: 162.0656 [M+H]⁺ found: 162.0667 [M+H]⁺

Ethyl 5-(furan-2-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate (15)

Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 51% yield.

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 7.41-7.40 (m, 1H), 6.65 (br s, 1H), 6.38-6.35 (m, 1H), 6.33-6.31 (m, 1H), 5.22 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 4.41-4.29 (m, 3H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H)

¹³C NMR of the major isomer (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 161.3 (C₀), 150.8 (C₀), 146.0 (C₀), 143.6 (CH), 124.6 (C₀, q, *J* = 280.5 Hz), 110.7 (CH), 107.7 (CH), 61.6 (CH₂), 60.1 (CH, q, *J* = 2.7 Hz), 53.3 (CH, q, *J* = 30.0 Hz), 14.1 (CH₃)

¹⁹F NMR (235 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -69.41 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 77%), -76.27 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 23%)

HRMS expected: 299.0620 [M+Na]⁺ found: 299.0634 [M+Na]⁺

5-(furan-2-yl)-3-(phenylsulfonyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole (20)

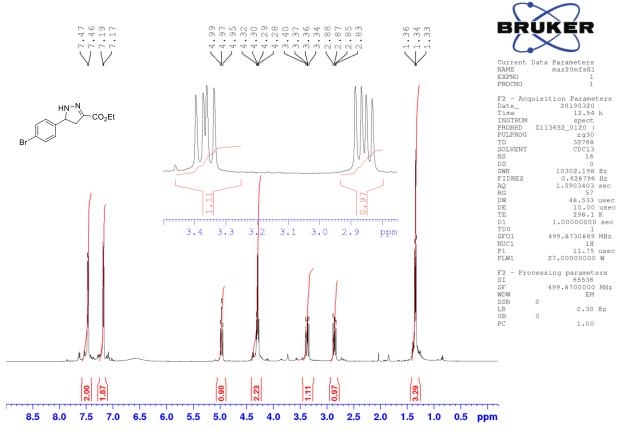
Isolated as a pale-yellow oil in 75% yield.

¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm)** δ 8.03-7.97 (m, 2H), 7.72-7.55 (m, 3H), 7.34-7.32 (m, 1H), 6.30 (dd, *J* = 3.1, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.18 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (dd, *J* = 16.7, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (dd, *J* = 16.7, 8.3 Hz, 1H)

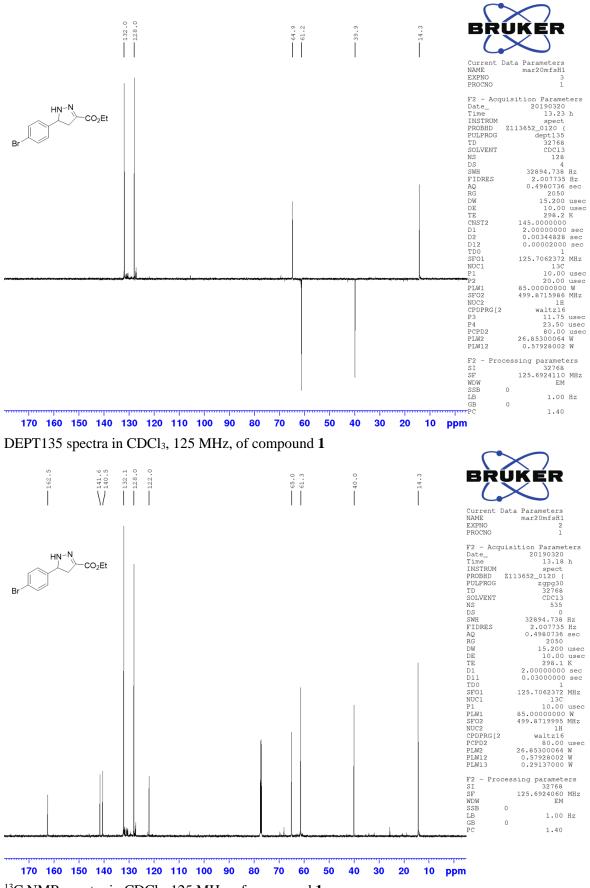
¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 152.1 (C₀), 150.6 (C₀), 143.0 (CH), 138.7 (C₀), 134.1 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 110.5 (CH), 107.3 (CH), 59.5 (CH), 35.6 (CH₂)

HRMS expected: 277.0647 [M+H]⁺ found: 277.0663 [M+H]⁺

NMR Spectra for isolated compounds Ethyl 5-(4-bromophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate

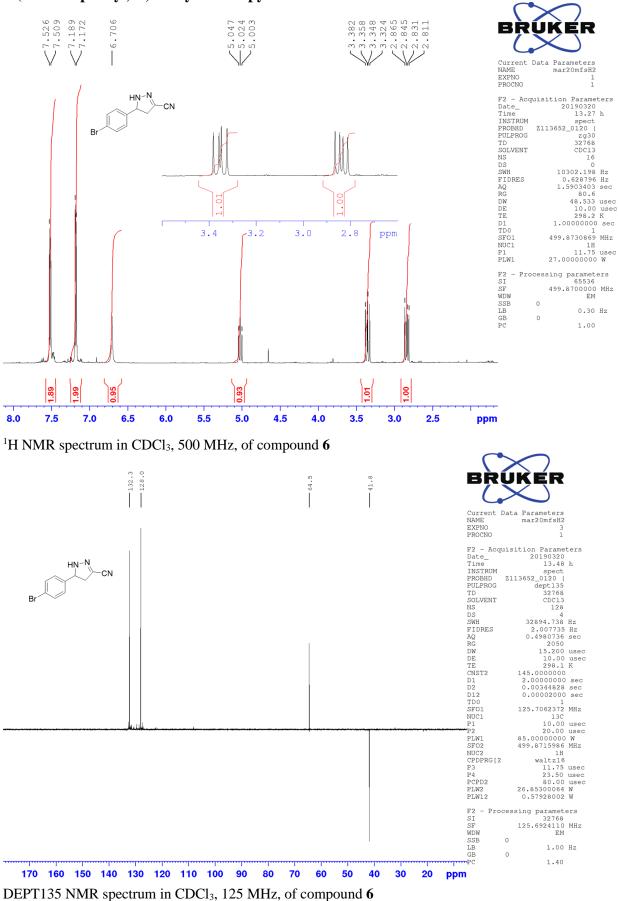


¹H NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 500 MHz, of compound **1**

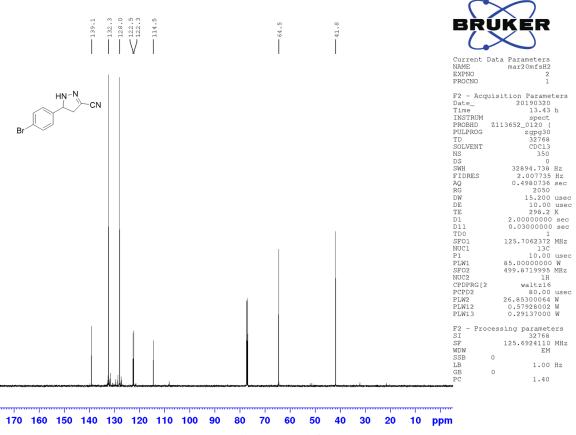


¹³C NMR spectra in CDCl₃, 125 MHz, of compound **1**

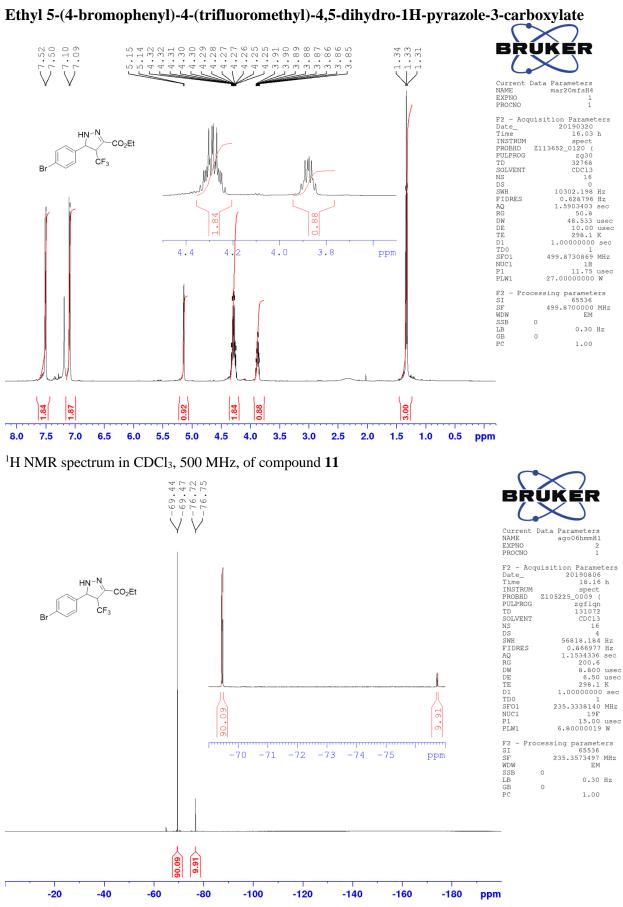
5-(4-bromophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carbonitrile



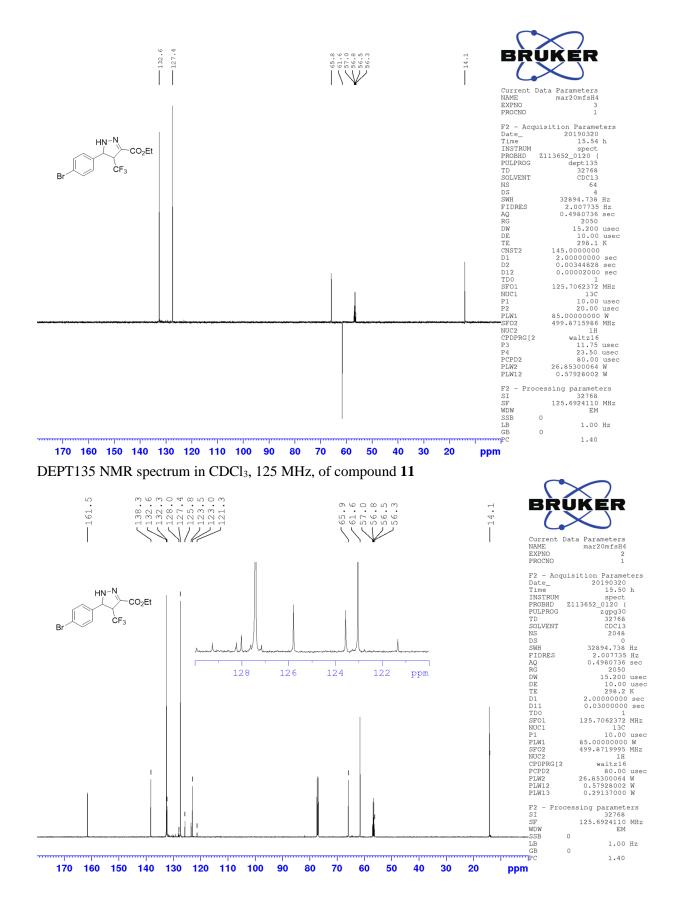
S22



¹³C NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 125 MHz, of compound 6

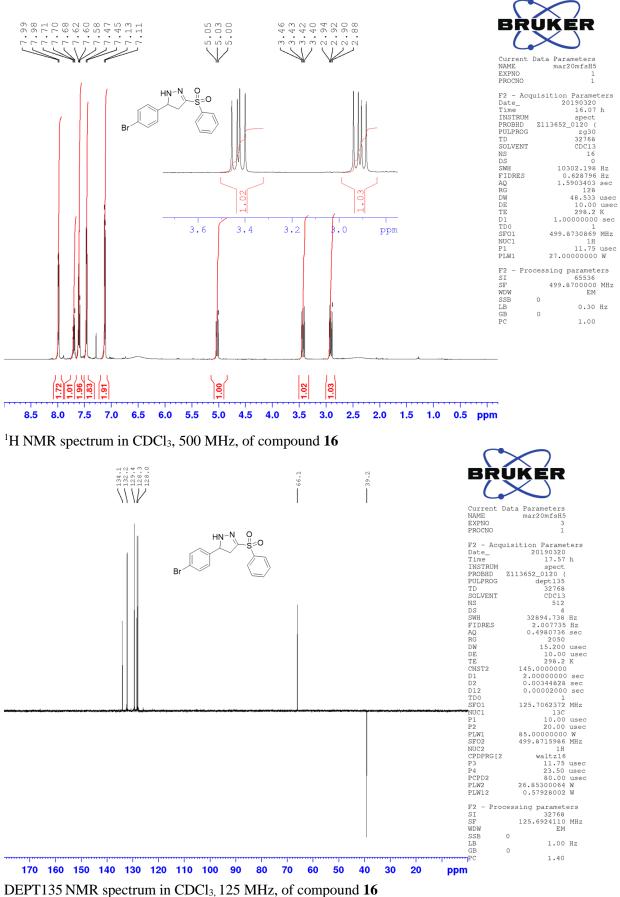


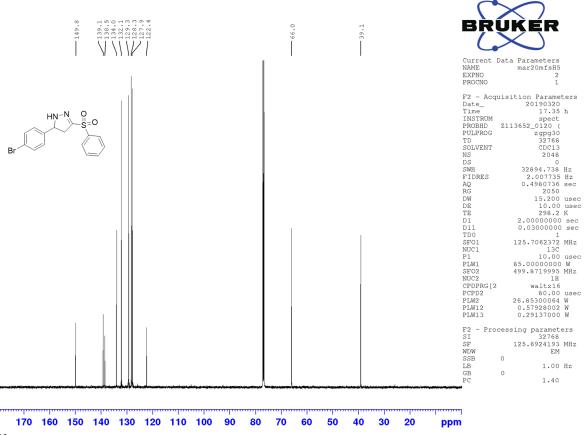
¹⁹F NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 235 MHz, of compound **11**



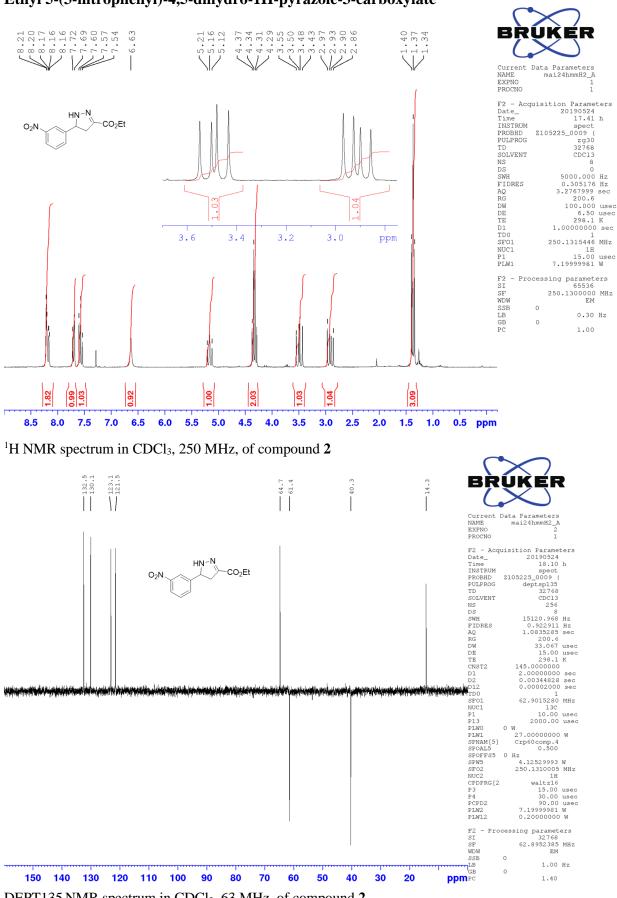
¹³C NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 125 MHz, of compound 11

5-(4-bromophenyl)-3-(phenylsulfonyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole



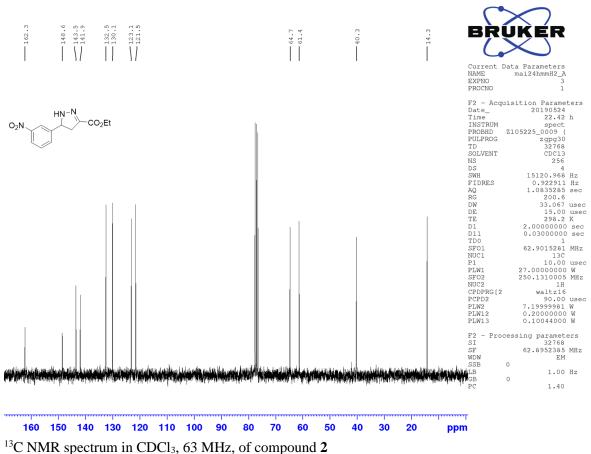


¹³C NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 125 MHz, of compound 16



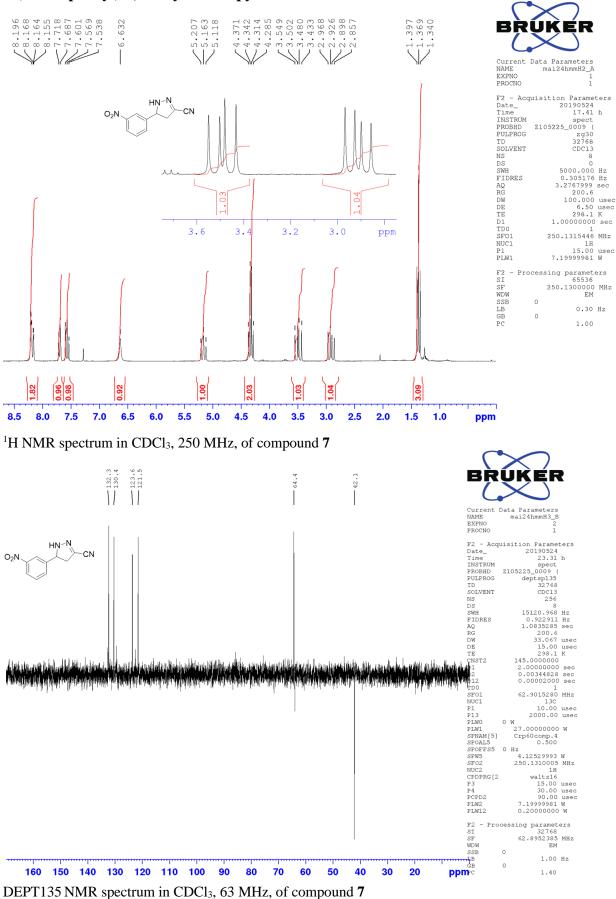
Ethyl 5-(3-nitrophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate

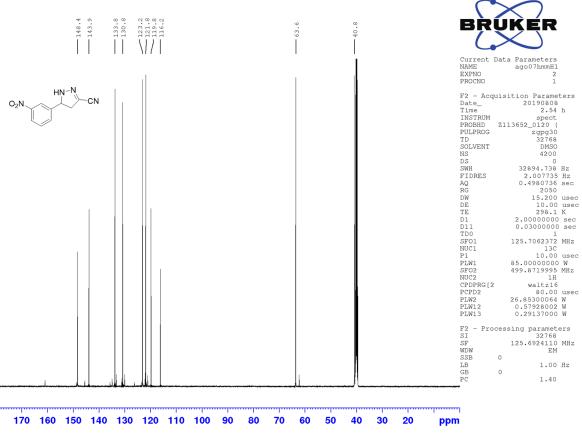
DEPT135 NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 63 MHz, of compound 2



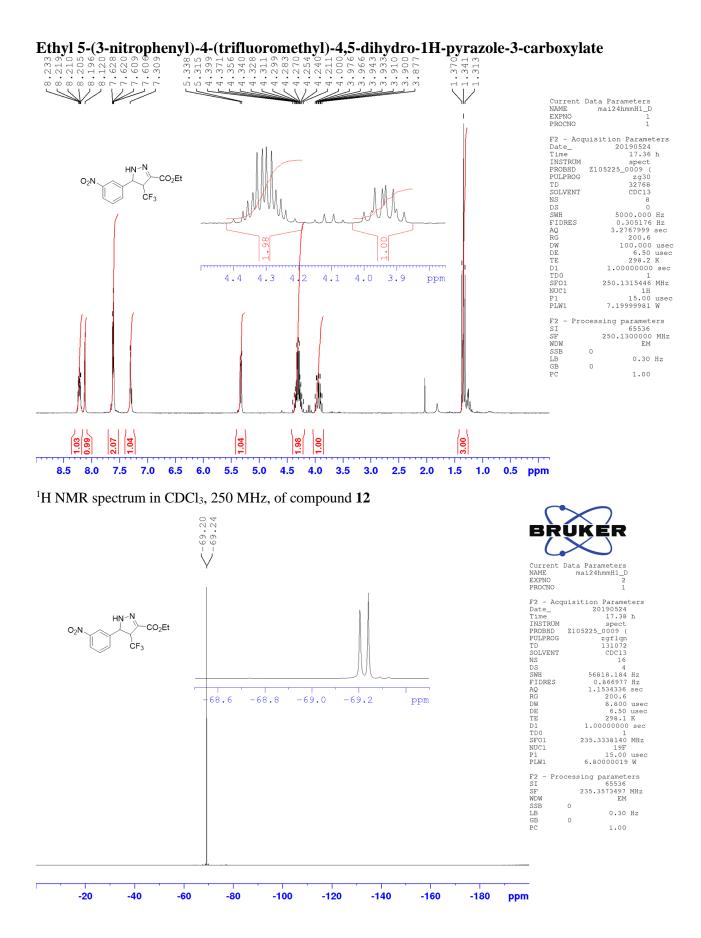
e runt spectrum in edens, 65 with, 61 compound

5-(3-nitrophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carbonitrile

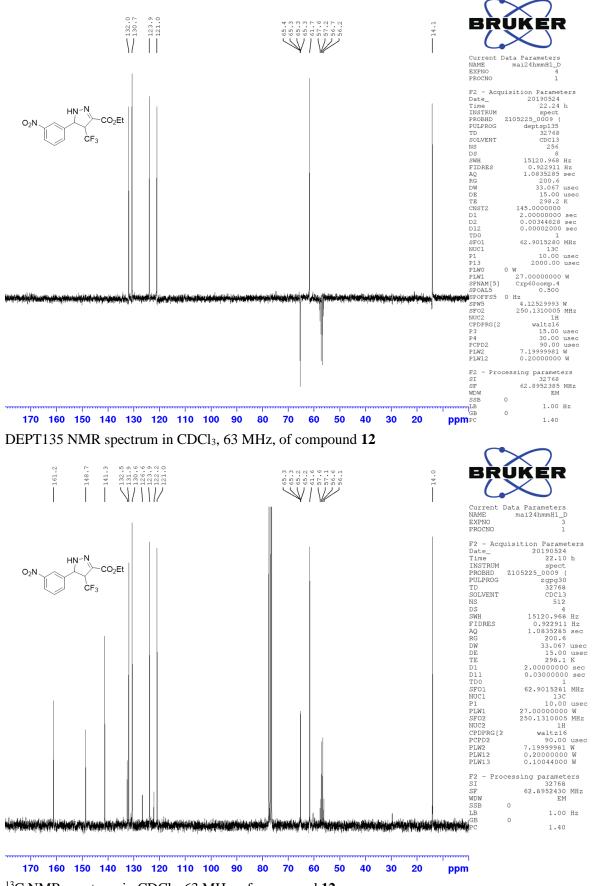




¹³C NMR spectrum in DMSO-d₆, 125 MHz, of compound 7

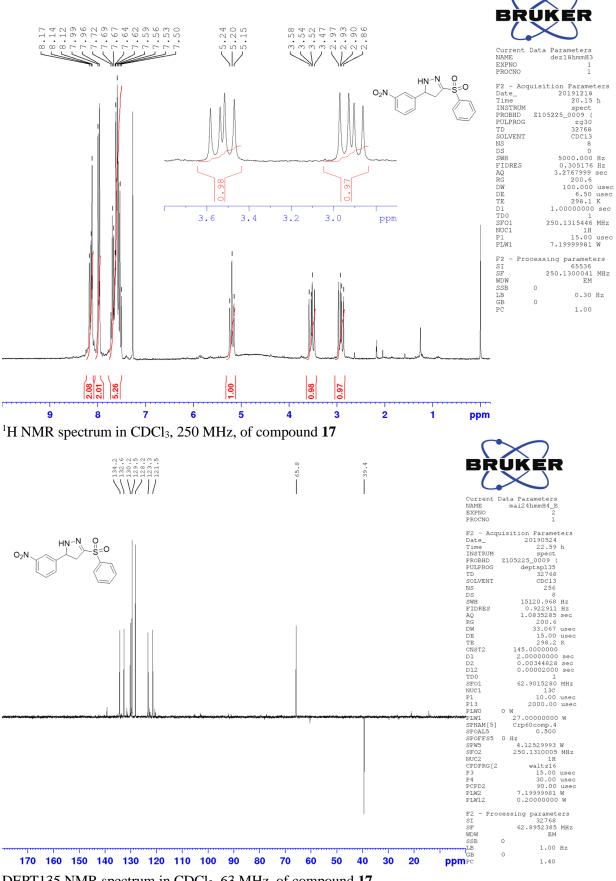


¹⁹F NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 235 MHz, of compound **12**

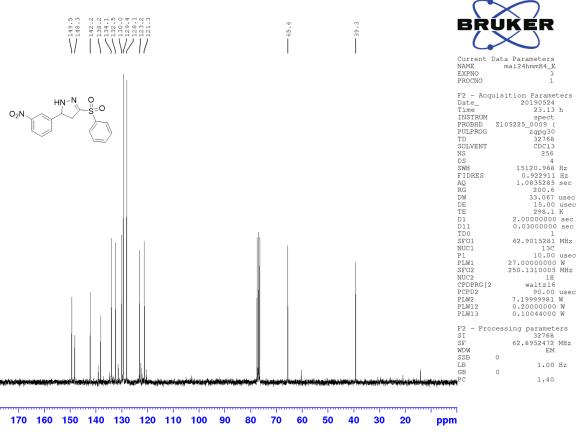


¹³C NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 63 MHz, of compound **12**

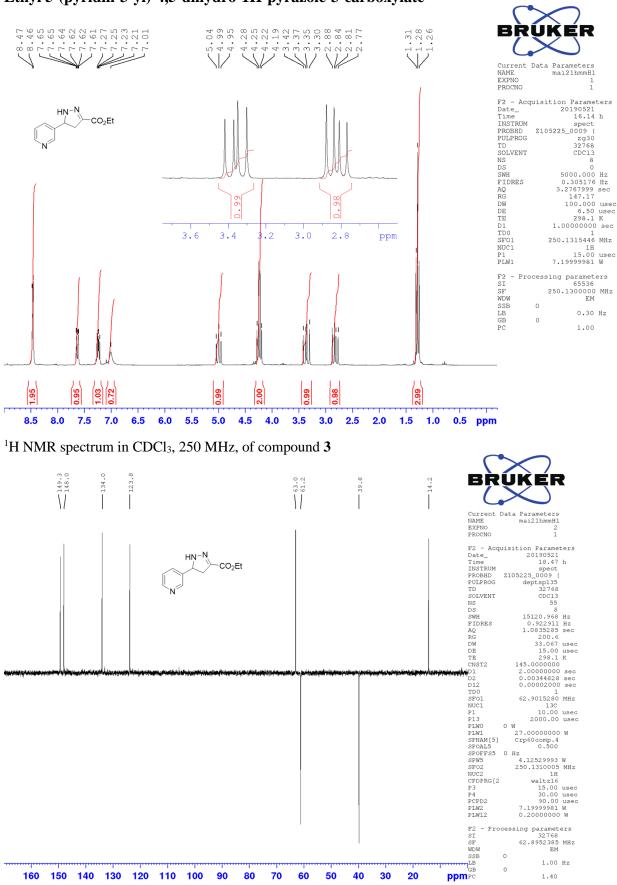
5-(3-nitrophenyl)-3-(phenylsulfonyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole



DEPT135 NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 63 MHz, of compound **17**



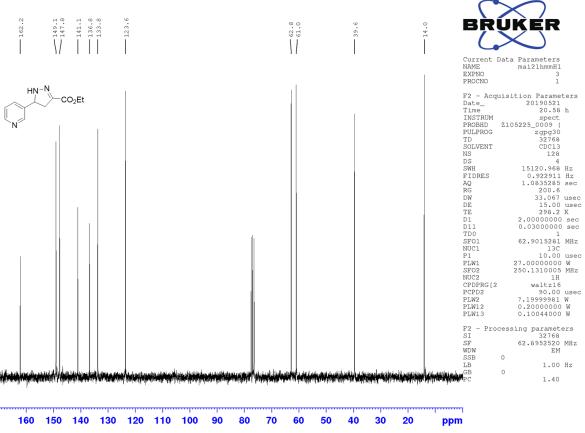
¹³C NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 63 MHz, of compound 17



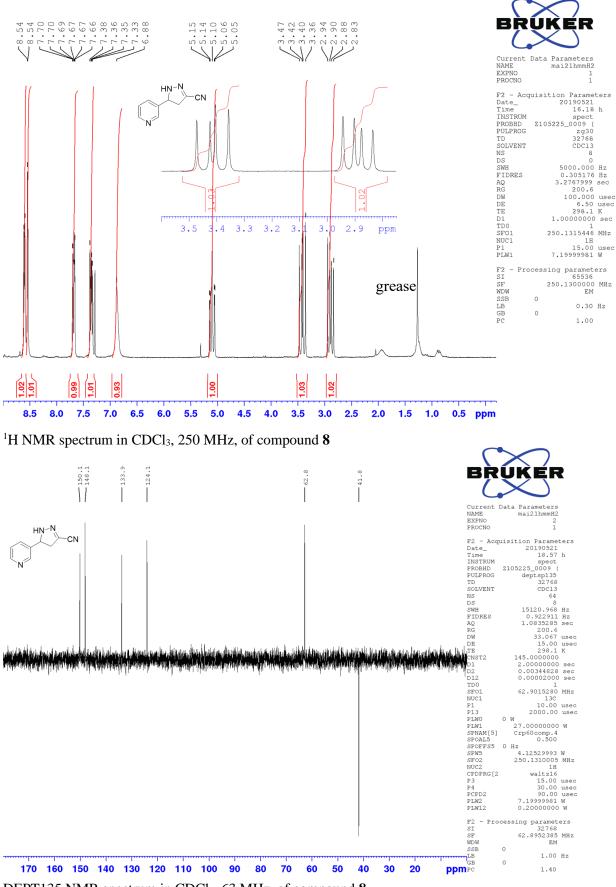
Ethyl 5-(pyridin-3-yl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate

DEPT135 NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 63 MHz, of compound 3

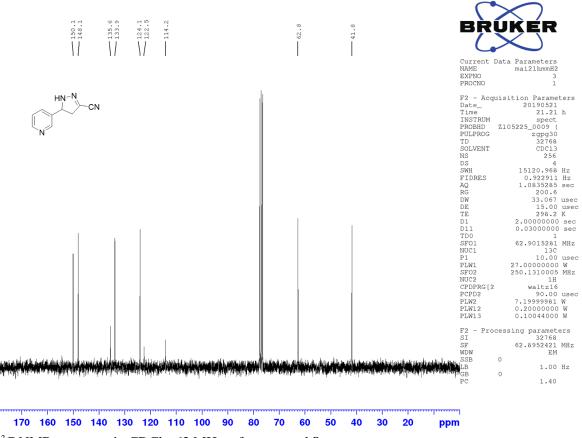
S36

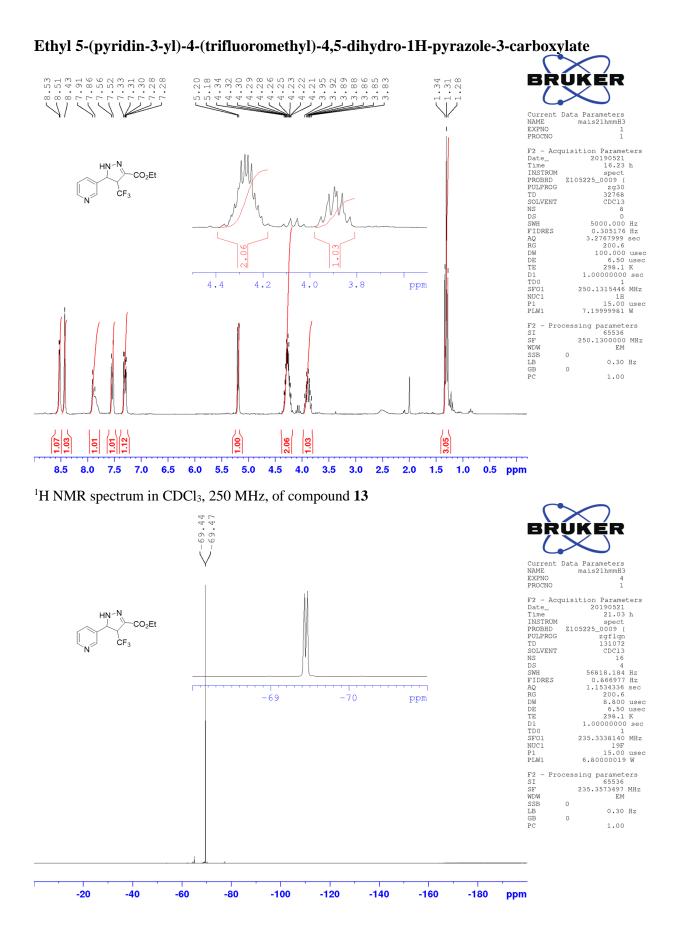


5-(pyridin-3-yl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carbonitrile

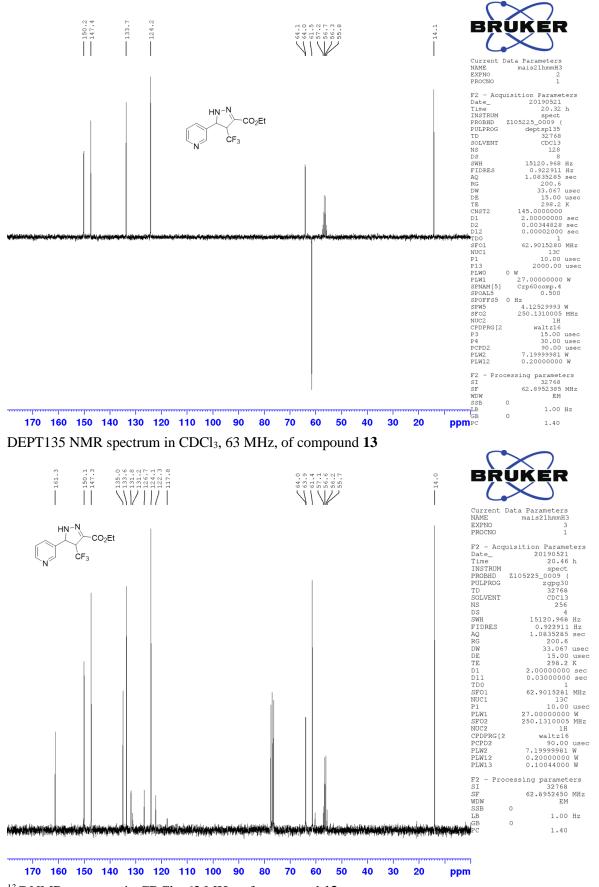


DEPT135 NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 63 MHz, of compound 8

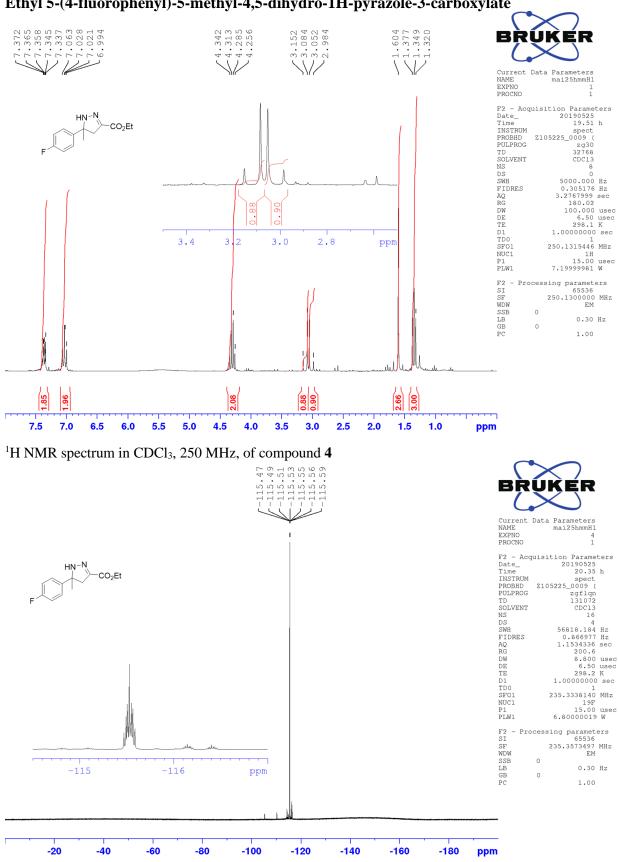




¹⁹F NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 235 MHz, of compound **13**

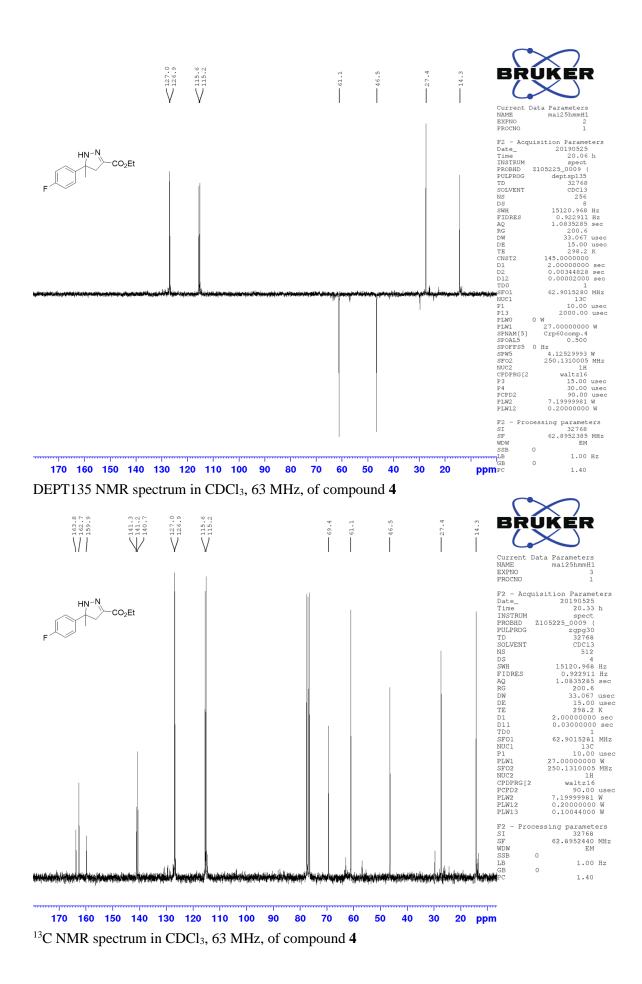


¹³C NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 63 MHz, of compound **13**



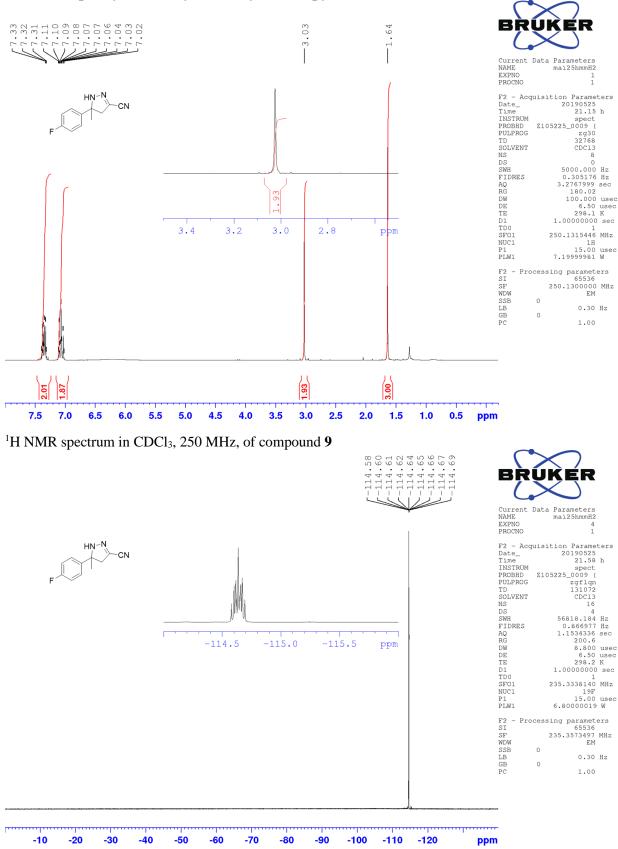
Ethyl 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate

¹⁹F NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 235 MHz, of compound 4

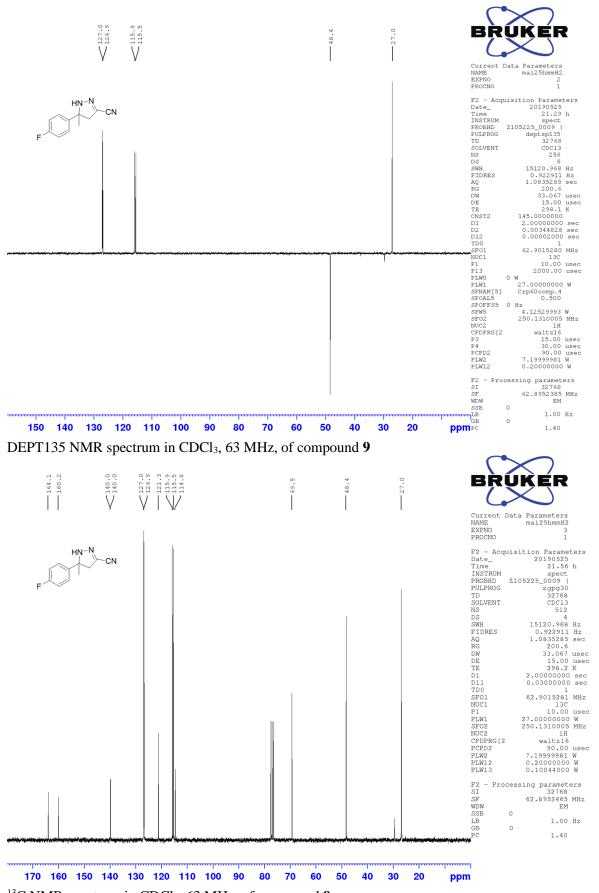


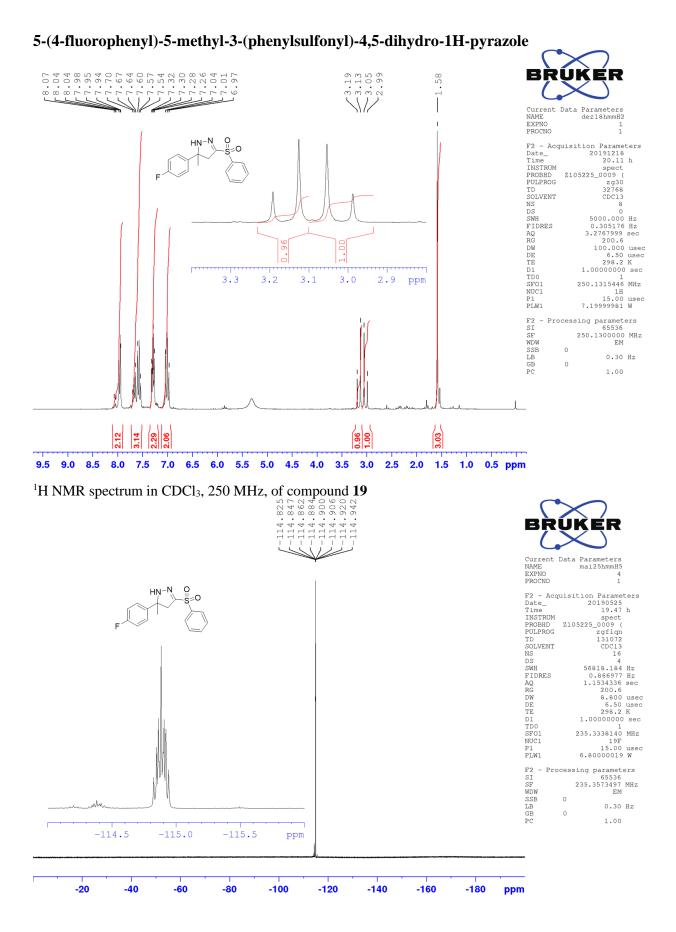
S43

5-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carbonitrile

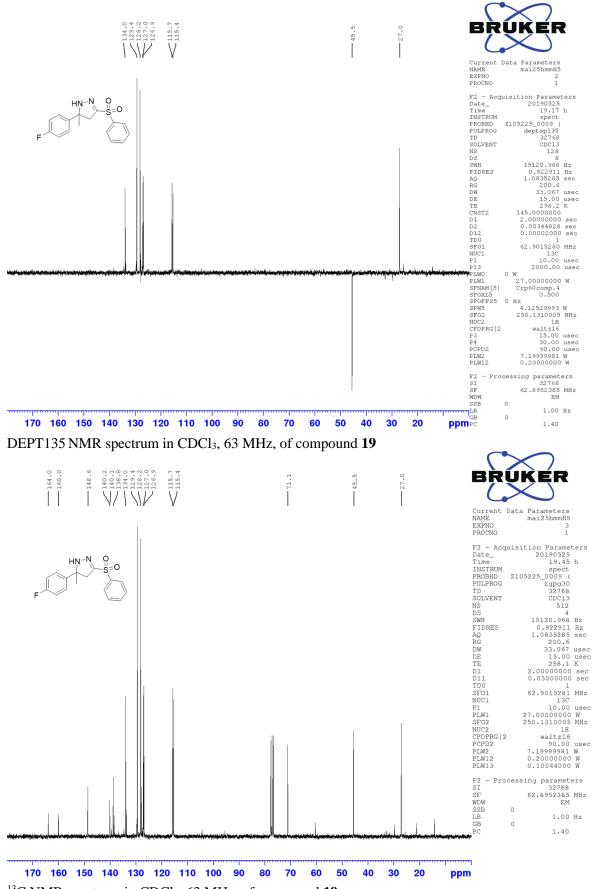


¹⁹F NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 235 MHz, of compound 9



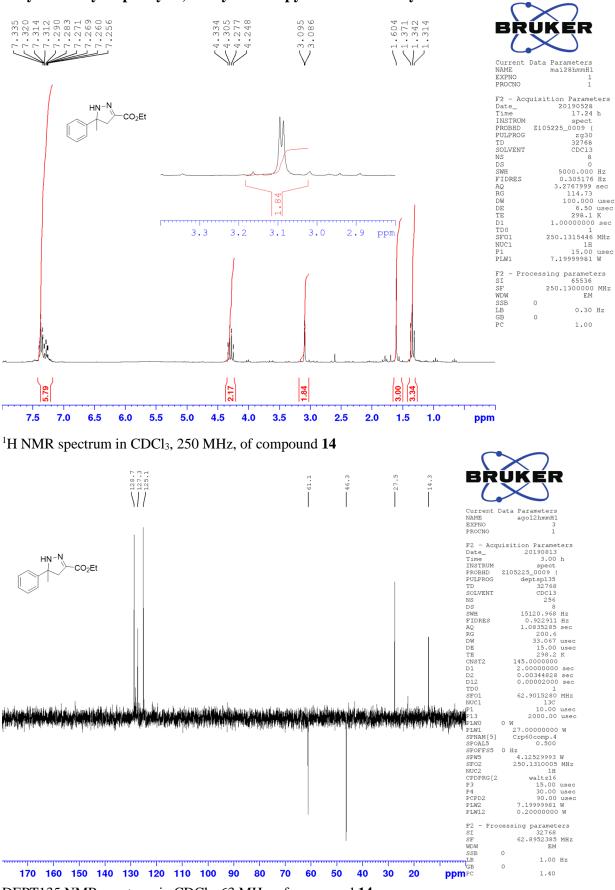


¹⁹F NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 235 MHz, of compound **19**

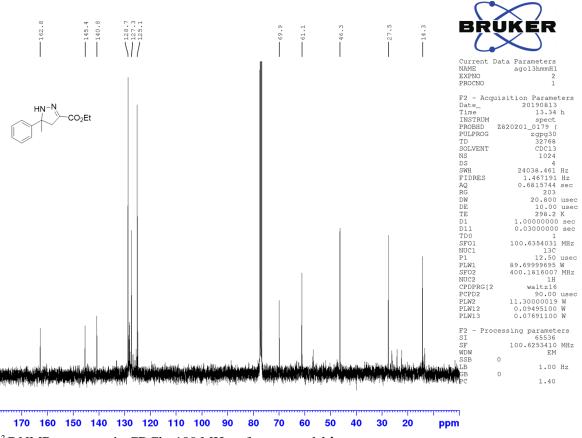


¹³C NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 63 MHz, of compound **19**

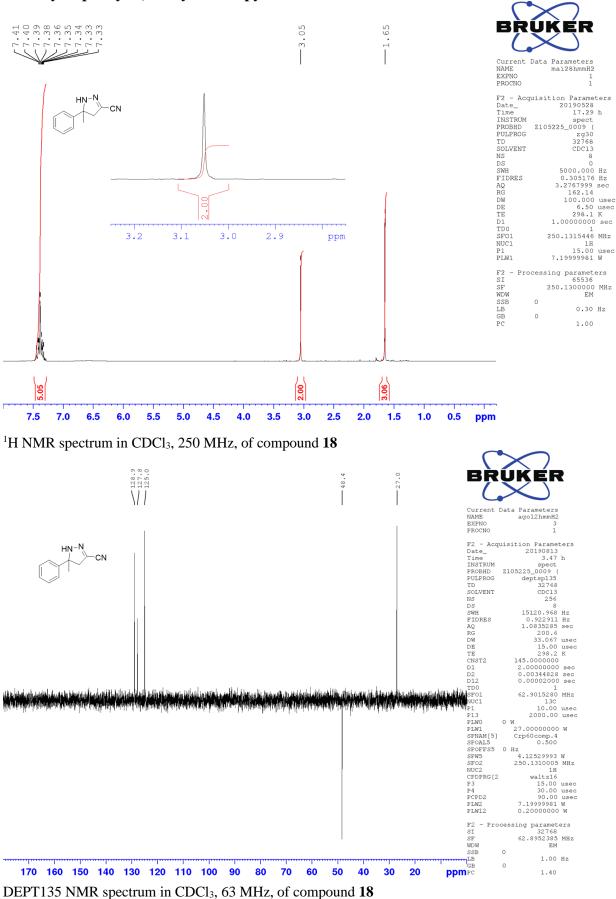
Ethyl 5-methyl-5-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate

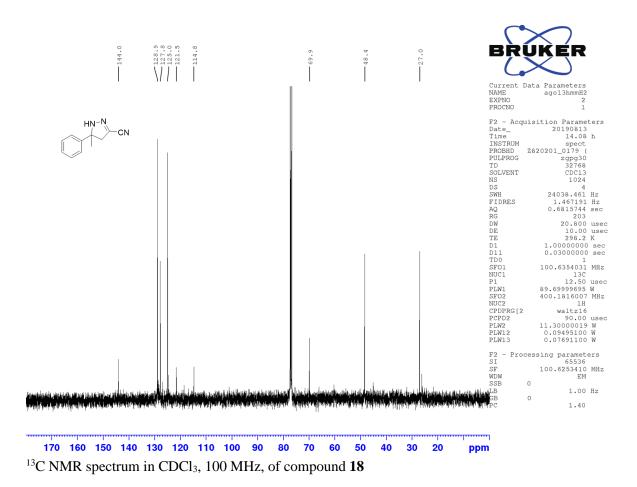


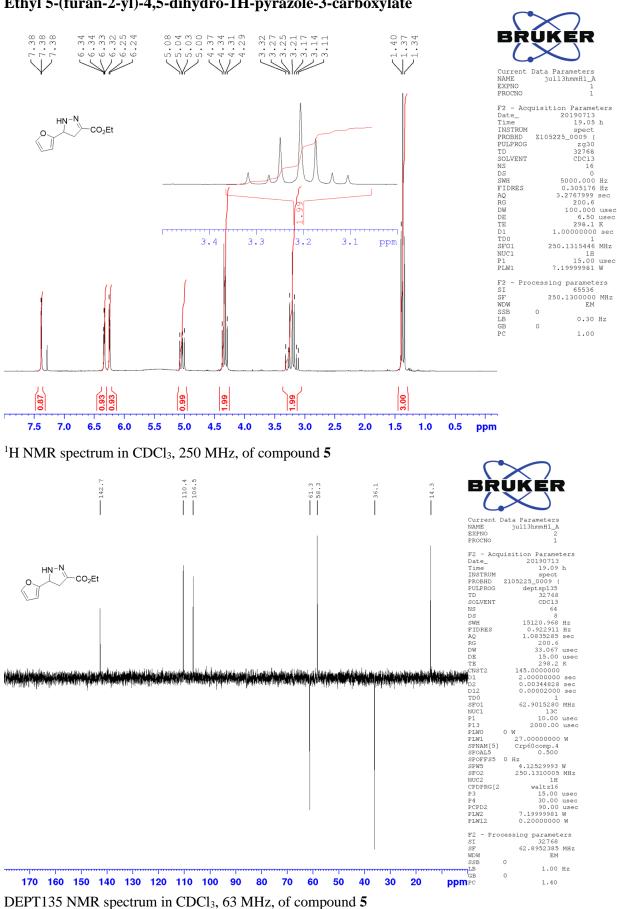
DEPT135 NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 63 MHz, of compound 14



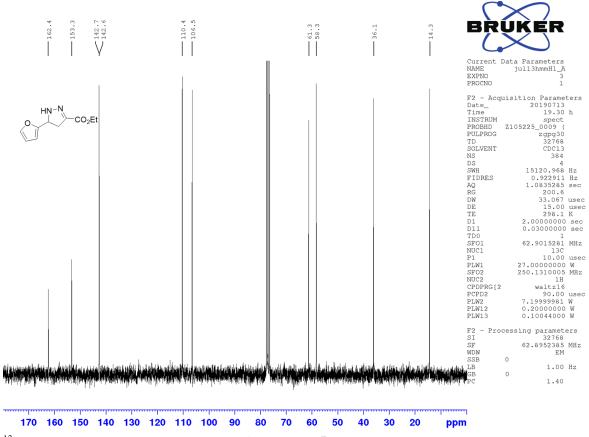
5-methyl-5-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carbonitrile

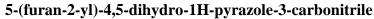


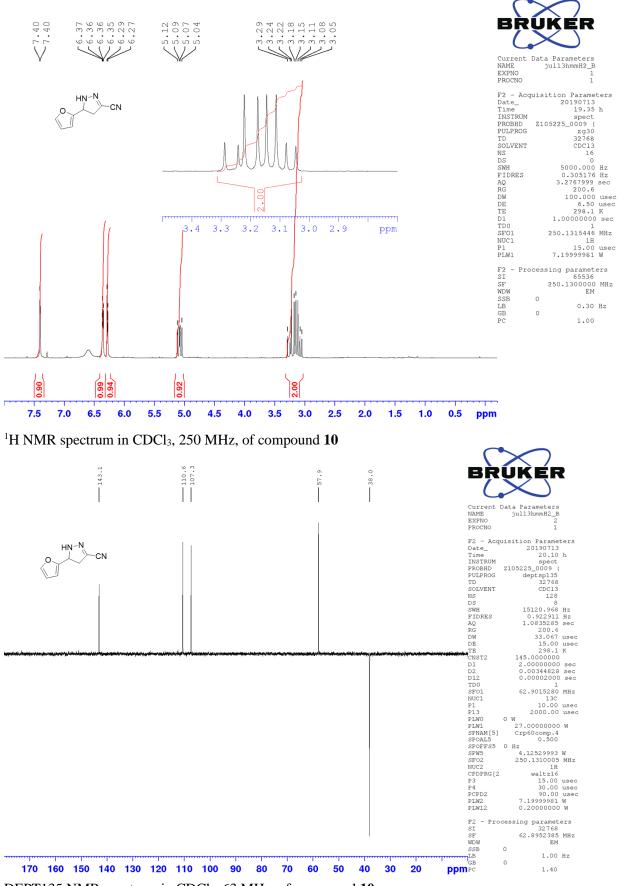




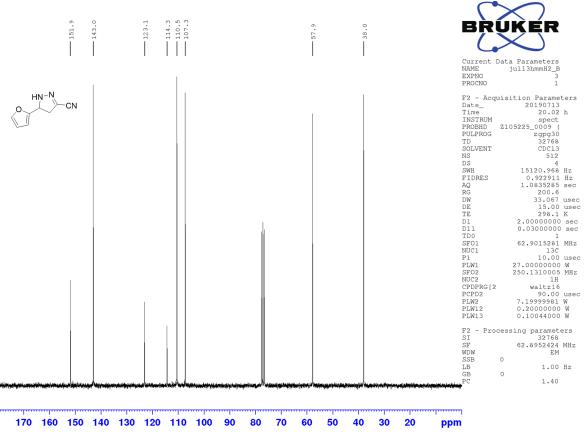
Ethyl 5-(furan-2-yl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxylate

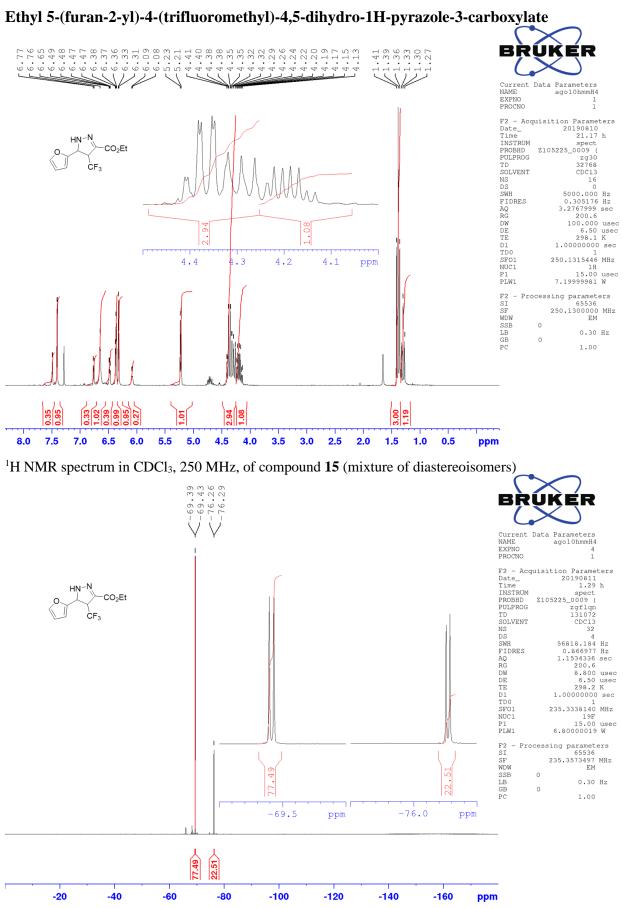




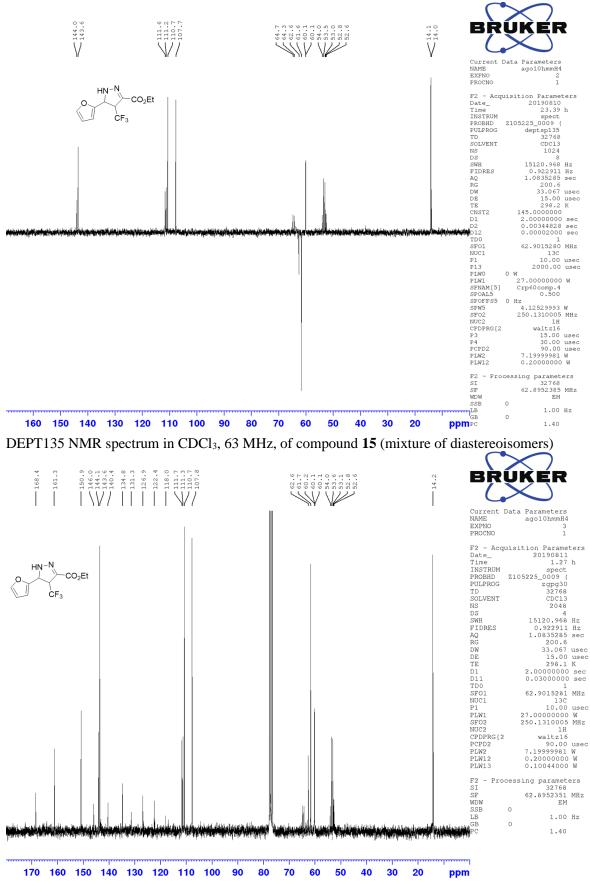


DEPT135 NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 63 MHz, of compound **10**



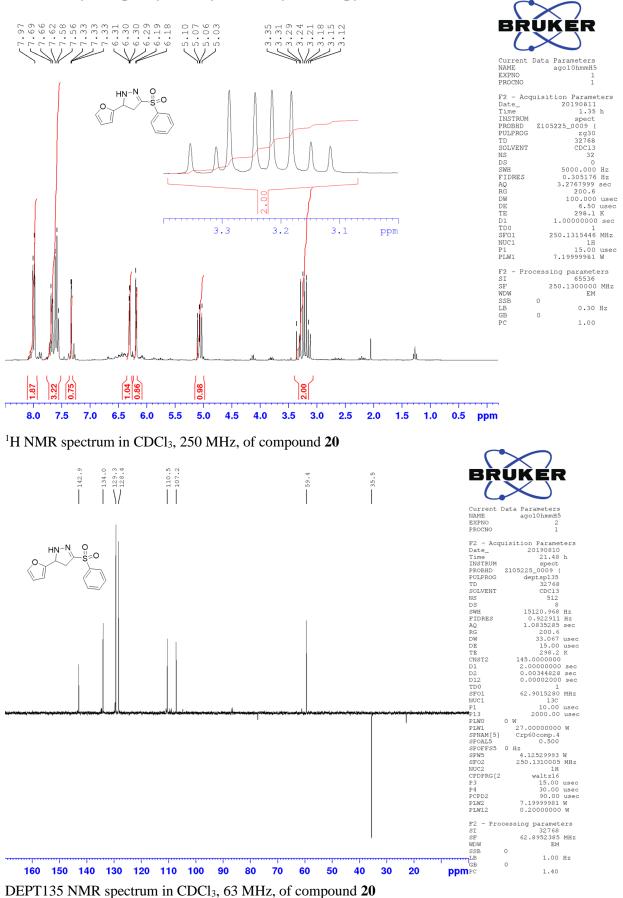


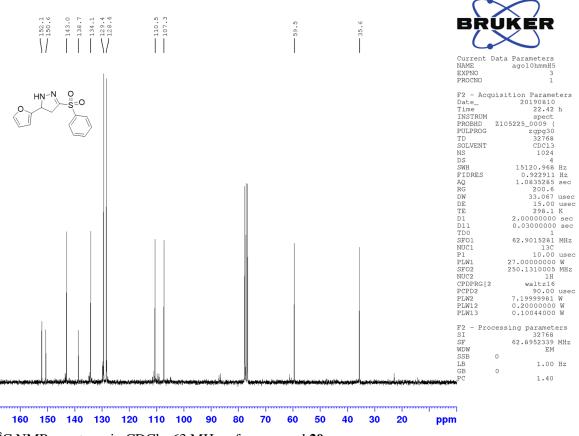
¹⁹F NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 235 MHz, of compound **15** (mixture of diastereoisomers)



¹³C NMR spectrum in CDCl₃, 63 MHz, of compound **15** (mixture of diastereoisomers)

5-(furan-2-yl)-3-(phenylsulfonyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole





References

[1] N. M. Roda, D. N. Tran, C. Battilocchio, R. Labes, R. J. Ingham, J. M. Hawkins, S. V. Ley, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2015**, *13*, 2550–2554.