

Asymmetric Normal-Electron-Demand Aza-Diels–Alder Reaction via Trienamine Catalysis

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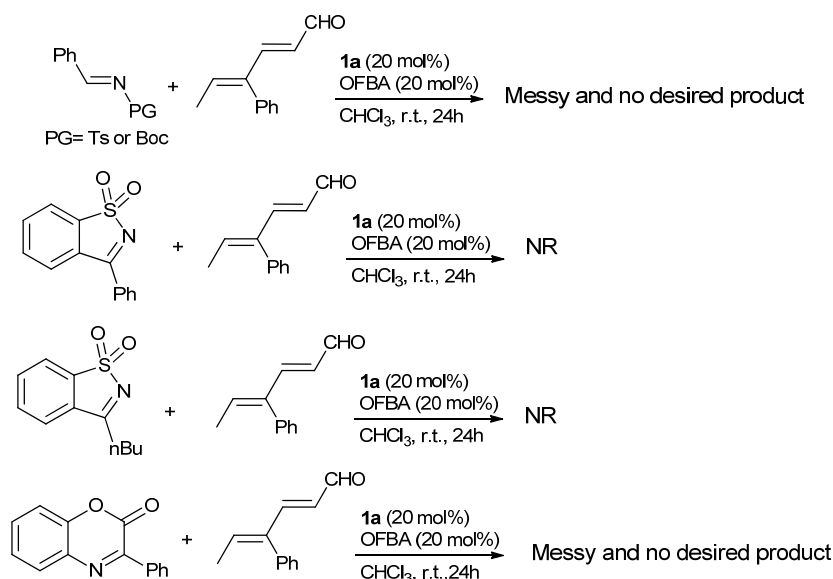
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1. General Methods

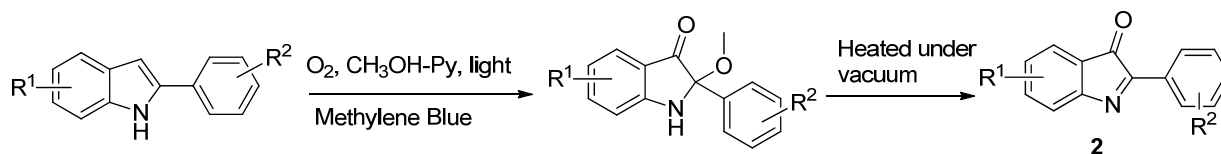
TLC was performed on glass-backed silica plates. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel (200-300 mesh) eluting with EtOAc/petroleum ether or acetone/petroleum ether). NMR spectra were recorded with tetramethylsilane as the internal standard. ^1H NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz (Varian) and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded at 100 MHz (Varian). Chemical shifts are reported in ppm downfield from CDCl_3 ($\delta = 7.26$ ppm) for ^1H NMR and relative to the central CDCl_3 resonance ($\delta = 77.0$ ppm) for ^{13}C NMR spectroscopy. Coupling constants are given in Hz. Optical rotations were measured at 589 nm at 20 °C. Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis on Chiralpak IA, IB, IC, AD and Chiralcel OD columns. THF was distilled from sodium. All other chemicals were used without purification as commercially available. Toluene, THF, ethyl acetate (EA), petroleum ether (PE), methylene chloride (DCM) and MeCN were freshly distilled before use. 2,4-Dienals¹ and secondary amine catalysts² **1** were synthesized according to the literature procedures.

1. Z.-J. Jia, Q. Zhou, Q.-Q. Zhou, P.-Q. Chen and Y.-C. Chen, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2011, **123**, 8797.
2. (a) M. Marigo, T. C. Wabnitz, D. Fielenbach and K. A. Jørgensen, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2005, **44**, 794; (b) Y. Hayashi, H. Gotoh, T. Hayashi and M. Shoji, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2005, **44**, 4212; (c) Y.-K. Liu, C. Ma, K. Jiang, T.-Y. Liu and Y.-C. Chen, *Org. Lett.*, 2009, **11**, 2848; (d) J.-L. Li, S.-L. Zhou, P.-Q. Chen, L. Dong, T.-Y. Liu and Y.-C. Chen, *Chem. Sci.*, 2012, **3**, 1879.

2. Exploration of more imine substrates in aza-Diels–Alder reaction



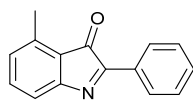
3. Preparation of 2-aryl-3H-indol-3-ones



2-Aryl-3H-indol-3-ones could be conveniently prepared according to the literature procedure.³

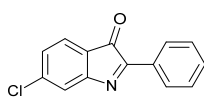
3. K.-Q. Ling, *Synth. Commun.* 1995, **23**, 3831.

For some selected ¹H NMR data:



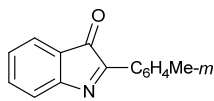
2b

Red solid (m.p. = 159.9-161.2 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.38-8.36 (m, 1H), 7.53-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.41-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.06-7.02 (m, 1H), 2.66 (s, 3H) ppm.



2e

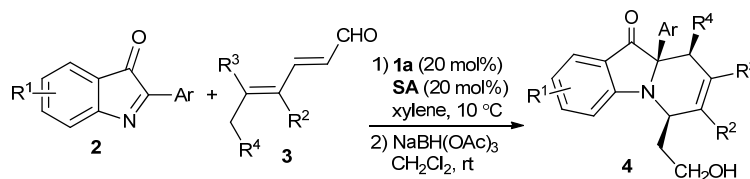
Red solid (m.p. = 128.0-131.1 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.38 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.59-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.49 (m, 3H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.26-7.25 (m, 1H) ppm.



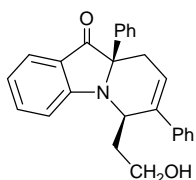
2h

Red solid (m.p. = 172.6-172.9 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.21-8.19 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H) ppm.

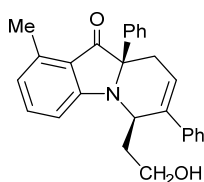
4. General procedure for asymmetric aza-Diels–Alder and reduction reactions



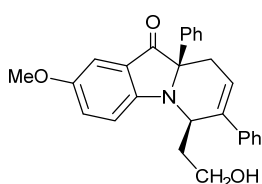
The reaction was performed with 2-aryl-3H-indol-3-one **2** (0.1 mmol), 2,4-dienal **3** (0.12 mmol), catalyst **1a** (0.02 mmol) and salicylic acid (0.02 mmol) in xylene (0.5 mL) at 10 °C for a specified reaction time. After completion, the DA adduct was isolated by flash chromatography, and dissolved in dichloromethane (0.5 mL). Sodium triacetoxyborohydride (0.3 mmol) were added sequentially and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours. The mixture was concentrated and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate) to afford the alcohol product **4**.



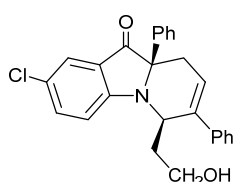
4a yellow oil; 94% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -135.0$ ($c = 5.5$ in CHCl_3); 92% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 70/30, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 5.84 min, t (minor) = 7.22 min]; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.69$ (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.21 (m, 11H), 6.82 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.18-6.16 (m, 1H), 5.07 (d, $J = 11.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.54 (dt, $J = 14.0, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.42-3.38 (m, 1H), 3.23 (dd, $J = 18.4, 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.59-2.53 (m, 1H), 1.46-1.39 (m, 1H), 0.78-0.70 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 203.7, 162.1, 141.6, 139.5, 138.8, 137.9, 128.5, 128.0, 127.5, 127.3, 126.4, 125.6, 121.5, 117.9, 121.6, 117.7, 109.8, 67.7, 58.8, 51.7, 35.0, 28.0$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_2 + \text{Na}^+$ 404.1621, found 404.1627.



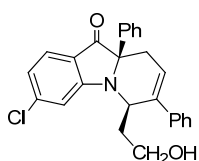
4b yellow oil; 77% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -135.0$ ($c = 5.5$ in CHCl_3); 83% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 70/30, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 5.14 min, t (minor) = 6.31 min]; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.42$ (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.23 (m, 10H), 7.08 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.58 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.17 (t, $J = 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.05 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.60-3.55 (m, 1H), 3.46-3.41 (m, 1H), 3.22 (dd, $J = 18.0, 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.63-2.58 (m, 4H), 1.48-1.40 (m, 1H), 0.90-0.77 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 204.1, 162.7, 141.6, 141.2, 139.6, 139.4, 137.1, 131.3, 128.6, 128.5, 127.9, 127.5, 127.3, 126.4, 121.6, 119.6, 116.0, 106.9, 67.6, 59.1, 51.8, 35.2, 28.3, 18.5$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2 + \text{Na}^+$ 418.1778, found 418.1779.



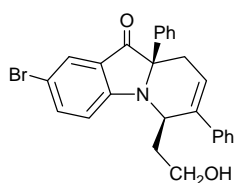
4c yellow oil; 97% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -216.9$ ($c = 12.2$ in CHCl_3); 90% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80/20, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 20.40 min, t (minor) = 11.80 min]; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.35-7.23$ (m, 12H), 7.12 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.19-6.17 (m, 1H), 5.02 (d, $J = 10.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.62-3.56 (m, 1H), 3.48-3.43 (m, 1H), 3.21 (dd, $J = 18.4, 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.54 (dt, $J = 18.0, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 1.50-1.44 (m, 1H), 0.90-0.83 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 203.8, 158.5, 152.6, 141.8, 139.5, 139.2, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 127.9, 127.5, 127.1, 126.3, 121.3, 117.6, 111.5, 105.1, 68.5, 58.9, 55.8, 52.3, 34.9, 28.5$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_3 + \text{Na}^+$ 434.1732, found 434.1730.



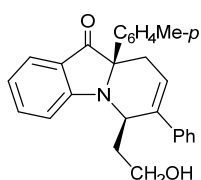
4d yellow oil; 74% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -170.6$ ($c = 10.5$ in CHCl_3); 85% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 18.09 min, t (minor) = 21.40 min]; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.64$ (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, $J = 8.8, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.23 (m, 11H), 6.19-6.18 (m, 1H), 5.05 (d, $J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.54 (dt, $J = 10.4, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.46-3.41 (m, 1H), 3.24 (dd, $J = 19.2, 5.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.54 (dt, $J = 18.0, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.47-1.40 (m, 1H), 0.78-0.72 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 202.5, 160.4, 141.5, 139.3, 138.4, 137.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.6, 127.1, 126.4, 124.6, 123.0, 121.3, 118.6, 111.2, 68.2, 58.6, 51.8, 34.7, 28.0$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{ClNO}_2 + \text{Na}^+$ 438.1231, found 438.1233.



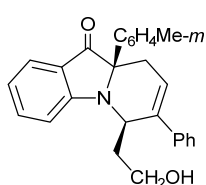
4e yellow oil; 76% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -40.3$ ($c = 3.3$ in CHCl_3); 84% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 5.44 min, t (minor) = 7.43 min]; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.61$ (d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.23 (m, 11H), 6.79 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.19-6.18 (m, 1H), 5.02 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.52 (dt, $J = 10.4, 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.44-3.40 (m, 1H), 3.25 (dd, $J = 18.0, 5.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.54 (dd, $J = 13.2, 3.2$ Hz, 1H), 1.47-1.40 (m, 1H), 0.73-0.67 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 202.2, 162.2, 144.6, 141.4, 139.3, 138.4, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.7, 127.2, 126.5, 126.4, 121.4, 118.7, 116.2, 109.8, 68.2, 58.6, 51.8, 34.7, 28.0$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{ClNO}_2 + \text{Na}^+$ 438.1231, found 438.1235.



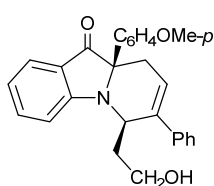
4f yellow oil; 82% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -225.0$ ($c = 9.5$ in CHCl_3); 85% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak IA, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80/20, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 20.40 min, t (minor) = 11.79 min]; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.78$ (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, $J = 8.8, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.20 (m, 11H), 6.19-6.18 (m, 1H), 5.04 (d, $J = 11.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.52-3.47 (m, 1H), 3.43-3.40 (m, 1H), 3.23 (dd, $J = 19.2, 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.54 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.48-1.39 (m, 1H), 0.76-0.69 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 202.2, 160.6, 141.5, 140.3, 139.3, 138.4, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.8, 127.7, 127.2, 126.4, 121.4, 119.3, 111.6, 109.8, 68.2, 58.7, 51.8, 34.9, 28.0$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{BrNO}_2 + \text{Na}^+$ 482.0727, found 482.0733.



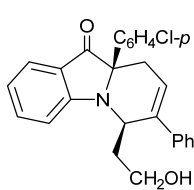
4g yellow oil; 69% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -32.9$ ($c = 1.6$ in CHCl_3); 89% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 70/30, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 5.08 min, t (minor) = 6.90 min]; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.69$ (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.57-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.22 (m, 6H), 7.14-7.05 (m, 4H), 6.83-6.79 (m, 1H), 6.17-6.16 (m, 1H), 5.07 (d, $J = 10.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.57-3.51 (m, 1H), 3.43-3.38 (m, 1H), 3.20 (dd, $J = 18.0, 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.54 (dt, $J = 18.0, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.46-1.39 (m, 1H), 0.83-0.76 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 203.8, 162.0, 141.5, 139.5, 137.8, 137.7, 135.6, 129.2, 128.5, 127.4, 127.1, 126.4, 125.5, 121.5, 117.7, 117.6, 119.7, 67.5, 58.8, 51.6, 35.0, 28.1, 21.0$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2 + \text{Na}^+$ 418.1778, found 418.1784.



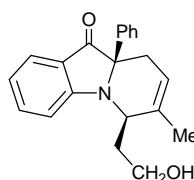
4h 72% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -236.4$ ($c = 9.4$ in CHCl_3); 87% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80/20, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 5.85 min, t (minor) = 7.92 min]; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.69$ (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.25 (m, 6H), 7.16 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.08-7.03 (m, 3H), 6.84-6.80 (m, 1H), 6.18-6.16 (m, 1H), 5.07 (d, $J = 10.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.59-3.54 (m, 1H), 3.46-3.41 (m, 1H), 3.23 (dd, $J = 18.4, 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.56 (d, $J = 18.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.47-1.40 (m, 1H), 0.84-0.77 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 203.8, 162.1, 141.5, 139.5, 138.6, 138.2, 137.9, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 127.8, 127.5, 126.4, 125.6, 124.3, 121.6, 117.8, 117.7, 109.7, 67.7, 58.9, 51.7, 35.0, 28.1, 21.5$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2 + \text{Na}^+$ 418.1778, found 418.1784.



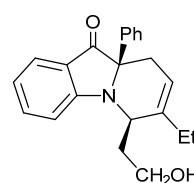
4i yellow oil; 84% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -151$ ($c = 5.4$ in CHCl_3); 91% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80/20, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 15.56 min, t (minor) = 13.48 min]; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.69$ (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.24 (m, 6H), 7.16 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 6.83-6.75 (m, 3H), 6.17-6.16 (m, 1H), 5.06 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 1H), 3.57-3.52 (m, 1H), 3.45-3.43 (m, 1H), 3.18 (dd, $J = 18.0, 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.54 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.47-1.41 (m, 1H), 0.85-0.78 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 203.9, 161.9, 159.2, 141.6, 140.0, 137.9, 130.7, 128.6, 128.5, 127.5, 126.5, 125.6, 121.5, 117.8, 117.6, 113.9, 109.7, 67.3, 58.9, 55.2, 51.6, 35.0, 28.3$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_3 + \text{H}^+$ 412.1907, found 412.1913.



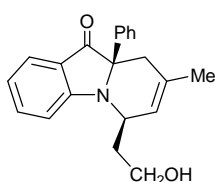
4j yellow oil; 82% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -170.6$ ($c = 10.5$ in CHCl_3); 84% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80/20, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 6.90 min, t (minor) = 10/15 min]; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.68$ (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.61-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.36-7.19 (m, 10H), 6.85 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.16-6.15 (m, 1H), 5.08 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.57-3.53 (m, 1H), 3.48-3.43 (m, 1H), 3.17 (dd, $J = 15.6, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.60-2.55 (m, 1H), 1.51-1.43 (m, 1H), 0.87-0.77 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 203.1, 162.2, 141.9, 139.4, 138.1, 137.6, 133.9, 128.8, 128.6, 127.7, 126.4, 125.7, 121.1, 118.3, 117.6, 110.0, 67.2, 58.8, 51.8, 35.2, 28.2$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{ClNO}_2 + \text{H}^+$ 416.1412, found 416.1411.



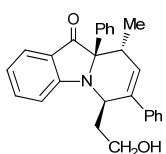
4k yellow oil; 72% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -394$ ($c = 13$ in CHCl_3); 90% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak AD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80/20, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 8.83 min, t (minor) = 13.47 min] ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.66$ (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.19-7.17 (m, 2H), 7.09 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.78 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 5.75 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.30 (d, $J = 11.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.60-3.52 (m, 2H), 3.03 (dd, $J = 17.6, 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.34 (dd, $J = 17.6, 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.75-1.69 (m, 4H), 0.81-0.73 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 203.9, 161.8, 138.8, 137.7, 135.9, 128.5, 127.9, 127.5, 125.6, 118.6, 117.6, 117.5, 109.5, 67.9, 59.0, 53.9, 34.4, 27.6, 21.1$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_2 + \text{Na}^+$ 342.1465, found 342.1471.



4l yellow oil; 81% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -102$ ($c = 3$ in CHCl_3); 92% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 70/30, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 4.31 min, t (minor) = 4.63 min] ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.66$ (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.17 (m, 5H), 7.10 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.78 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 5.76-5.74 (m, 1H), 4.38 (d, $J = 11.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.61-4.00 (m, 2H), 3.05 (dd, $J = 17.2, 4.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.40-2.35 (m, 1H), 2.14-1.98 (m, 2H), 1.73-1.66 (m, 1H), 1.26 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 3H), 0.80-0.73 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 204.0, 161.9, 141.6, 139.0, 137.7, 128.5, 127.9, 127.4, 125.6, 117.6, 117.6, 116.7, 109.6, 68.2, 59.1, 52.6, 34.3, 27.6, 26.9, 12.2$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_2 + \text{Na}^+$ 356.1621, found 356.1625.

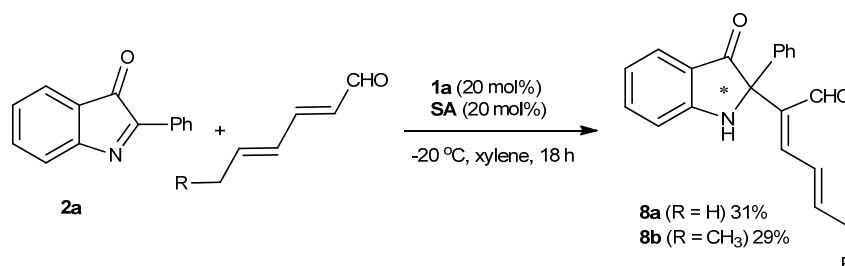


4m yellow oil; 69% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -70$ ($c = 4.5$ in CHCl_3); 80% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak AD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80/20, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 10.28 min, t (minor) = 13.25 min]; $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.65$ (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.14-7.08 (m, 2H), 6.79 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 5.46 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.44-4.43 (m, 1H), 3.65-3.60 (m, 2H), 2.90 (d, $J = 17.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.23 (d, $J = 16.8$ Hz, 1H), 1.9 (s, 3H), 1.51-1.44 (m, 1H), 1.20-1.14 (m, 1H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 203.2, 161.7, 138.7, 137.8, 130.4, 128.5, 127.8, 126.9, 125.6, 123.6, 117.8, 117.5, 109.5, 68.9, 59.0, 50.8, 37.6, 32.2, 23.3$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_2 + \text{Na}^+$ 342.1465, found 342.1470.



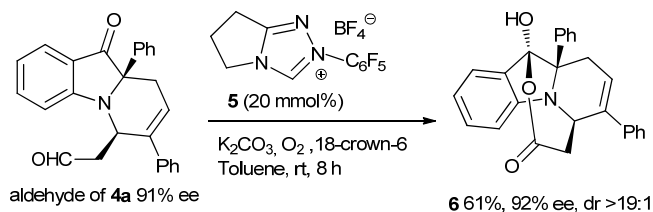
4n yellow oil; 77% yield; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -150.5$ ($c = 6.5$ in CHCl_3); 71% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak OD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 70/30, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 4.73 min, t (minor) = 5.53 min]; $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 7.54$ -7.48 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.14 (m, 9H), 6.74 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 5.91 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.15 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.56-3.48 (m, 2H), 3.35-3.29 (m, 1H), 2.66-2.58 (m, 1H), 2.01-2.00 (m, 1H), 1.14 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H) ppm; $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 200.4, 158.9, 141.8, 140.2, 139.9, 137.1, 128.6, 128.6, 127.9, 127.7, 127.4, 126.5, 125.6, 125.5, 121.3, 117.5, 110.3, 59.7, 52.9, 36.2, 36.1, 29.7, 15.8$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2 + \text{Na}^+$ 418.1778, found 418.1781.

5. Aza-Baylis-Hillman-type pathway of simple 2,4-hexadienal or 2,4-heptadienal

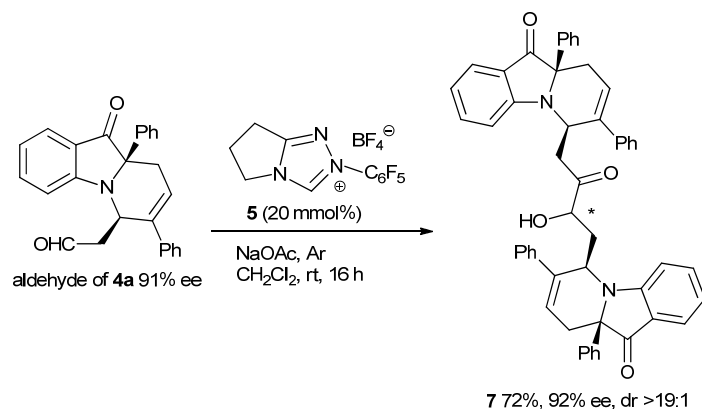


2-Phenyl-3*H*-indol-3-ones **2a** was tested in the reactions of simple 2,4-hexadienal or 2,4-heptadienal in xylene. The desired aza-Diels–Alder cycloadducts were not obtained, but the aza-Baylis–Hillman-type products **8** were observed at lower -20 °C but with yield. The isolated products are not very stable.

6. Synthetic transformations of cycloadduct



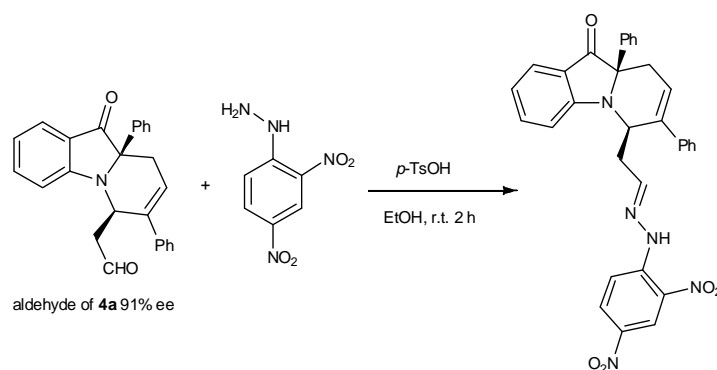
Salt **5** (0.04 mmol, 16 mg), K_2CO_3 (0.04 mmol, 5.5 mg), 18-crown-6 (0.04 mmol, 10 mg) were added to a solution of aldehyde of **4a** (0.2 mmol, 76 mg) in toluene (0.5 mL), and the mixture was stirred at room temperature under O_2 atmosphere. After 8 hours, the solvent was concentrated and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate) to afford hemiacetal **6** as a yellow oil; (48.3 mg, 61% yield); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -135.0$ ($c = 3.2$ in $CHCl_3$); 92% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak IC, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 70/30, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 6.26 min, t (minor) = 10.89 min]; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): $\delta = 7.68$ (t, $J = 3.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.26 (m, 11H), 6.86 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.22-6.20 (m, 1H), 5.33 (d, $J = 10.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.24 (dd, $J = 18.8, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.61 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.16 (dd, $J = 16.8, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 1.83 (dd, $J = 16.4, 10.8$ Hz, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): $\delta = 203.0, 176.1, 160.1, 140.0, 138.5, 138.2, 137.6, 128.8, 128.3, 128.0, 127.4, 127.3, 126.4, 125.6, 122.6, 118.6, 118.0, 110.7, 67.9, 52.5, 37.4, 28.1$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $C_{26}H_{21}NO_3 + Na^+$ 418.1414, found 418.1418.



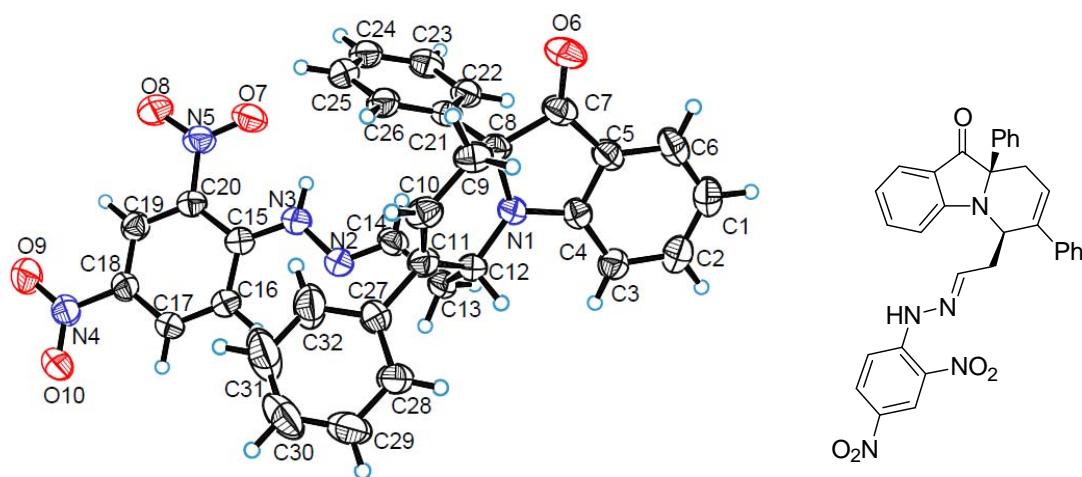
Salt **5** (0.04 mmol, 16 mg), NaOAc (0.04 mmol, 3.3 mg) were added to a solution of aldehyde of **4a** (0.2 mmol, 76 mg) in DCM (0.5 mL), and the mixture was stirred at room temperature under Ar atmosphere. After 8 hours, the solvent was concentrated and the residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate) to afford **7** as a yellow oil; (55 mg, 72% yield); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -155.0$ ($c = 3.5$ in $CHCl_3$); 92% *ee*, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak AD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 60/40, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, t (major) = 7.50 min, t (minor) = 11.07 min]; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): $\delta = 7.63-7.55$ (m, 3H), 7.55-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.24 (m, 11H), 6.95-6.78

(m, 8H), 6.63-6.54 (m, 4H), 6.30-6.25 (m, 2H), 5.19 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.06 (d, $J = 10.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.57-3.55 (m, 2H), 3.12 (td, $J = 17.6, 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.59-2.49 (m, 2H), 1.59-1.51 (m, 1H), 1.29-1.22 (m, 1H), 0.78 (t, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 0.11-0.05 (m, 1H) ppm; ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 209.5, 203.6, 203.0, 161.8, 161.1, 140.2, 139.6, 139.1, 138.6, 138.2, 138.0, 137.8, 137.2, 129.0, 128.8, 128.3, 128.0, 127.9, 127.9, 126.9, 126.6, 126.0, 125.7, 125.4, 122.3, 121.5, 118.5, 118.3, 117.9, 117.6, 111.6, 110.5, 73.0, 67.5, 67.0, 51.6, 49.7, 39.9, 28.0, 27.9$ ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{52}\text{H}_{42}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4 + \text{Na}^+$ 781.3038, found 781.3043. *We tried to conduct esterification of the newly generated OH group with Mosher's acid in order to determine its absolute configuration. Unfortunately, the corresponding ester could not be produced under diverse reaction conditions, probably due to the crowded structure and the effect of the adjacent carbonyl group.*

7. Crystal data and structure refinement for enantiopure 2,4-dinitrobenzenehydrazone of aldehyde of product 4a

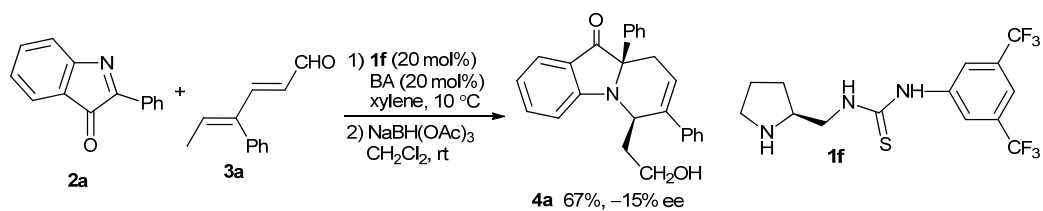


Aldehyde of **4a** (0.1 mmol, 91% ee), 2,4-dinitrobenzenehydrazine (0.11 mmol) and 4-toluene sulfonic acid (0.01 mmol) were stirred in EtOH (2 mL) at room temperature for 2 hour. After completion, the product was isolated by flash chromatography as a yellow solid (45.2 mg, 82% yield). The obtained 2,4-dinitrobenzenehydrazone was slowly crystallized from a solution of $\text{Et}_2\text{O}/n$ -hexane (1:2) at room temperature to give the optically pure crystals suitable X-ray analysis. (m.p. = 194.5-196.2 °C); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -45.0$ ($c = 1.5$ in CHCl_3); $\geq 99.5\%$ ee, determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralpak AD, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 70/30, 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 254$ nm, $t = 15.89$ min]; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 10.55$ (s, 1H), 9.09 (s, 1H), 8.23 (dd, $J = 9.6, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.62-7.58 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.26 (m, 9H), 6.90 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.90 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.65 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.27-6.25 (m, 1H), 5.06-5.04 (m, 1H), 4.12 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.30 (dd, $J = 19.6, 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.60-2.56 (m, 1H), 2.43-2.37 (m, 1H), 2.21-2.14 (m, 1H) ppm; ESI-HRMS: calcd. for $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_5\text{O}_5 + \text{Na}^+$ 582.1748, found 582.1755.



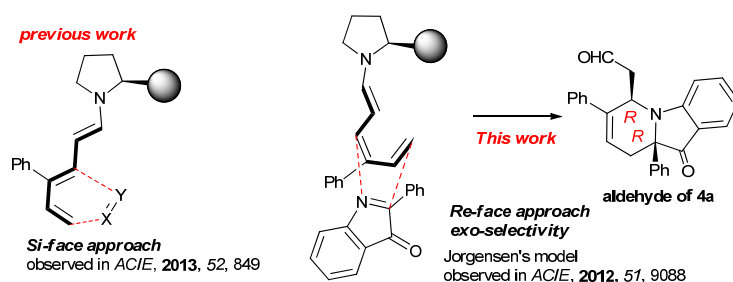
Identification code	4a
Formula sum	C32 H25 N5 O5
Formula weight	559.57 g/mol
Crystal system	triclinic
Space-group	P 1 (1)
Cell parameters	a=7.9810(2) Å b=8.9970(2) Å c=19.1833(5) Å $\alpha=78.855(2)^\circ$ $\beta=84.930(2)^\circ$ $\gamma=88.715(2)^\circ$
Cell ratio	a/b=0.8871 b/c=0.4690 c/a=2.4036
Cell volume	1346.17(6) Å ³
Z	2
Calc. density	1.38041 g/cm ³
RAll	0.0361
Pearson code	aP134
Formula type	N5O5P25Q32
Wyckoff sequence	a134

Based on the absolute configuration of the cycloadduct, it was found that inversed enantioselectivity was observed in comparison with our previous work (*Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2013, **52**, 948). We further checked the trienamine catalysis in literatures. In fact, the Jørgensen group reported a similar enantioselectivity in amine **1a**-catalysed DA reaction of 2,4-dienals and 3-cyanochromones, though the ee values was only fair (*Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2012, **51**, 9088). We further tested our reaction with a bifunctional catalyst **1f**. As outlined in the following scheme, the enantioselectivity was low but inversed in comparison with that of amine **1a**, also in accordance to that observed in Jørgensen's paper.

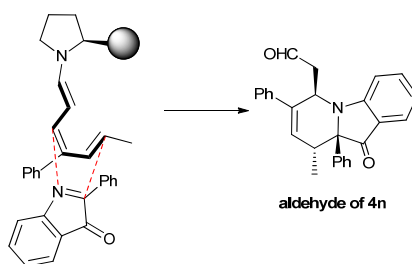


Therefore, as stated in Jørgensen's paper, "the obtained results suggest that the mechanism(s) of trienamine-mediated reactions can be a rather complex issue and might be highly dependent on the structure of the starting dienal", **and the dienophiles used.**

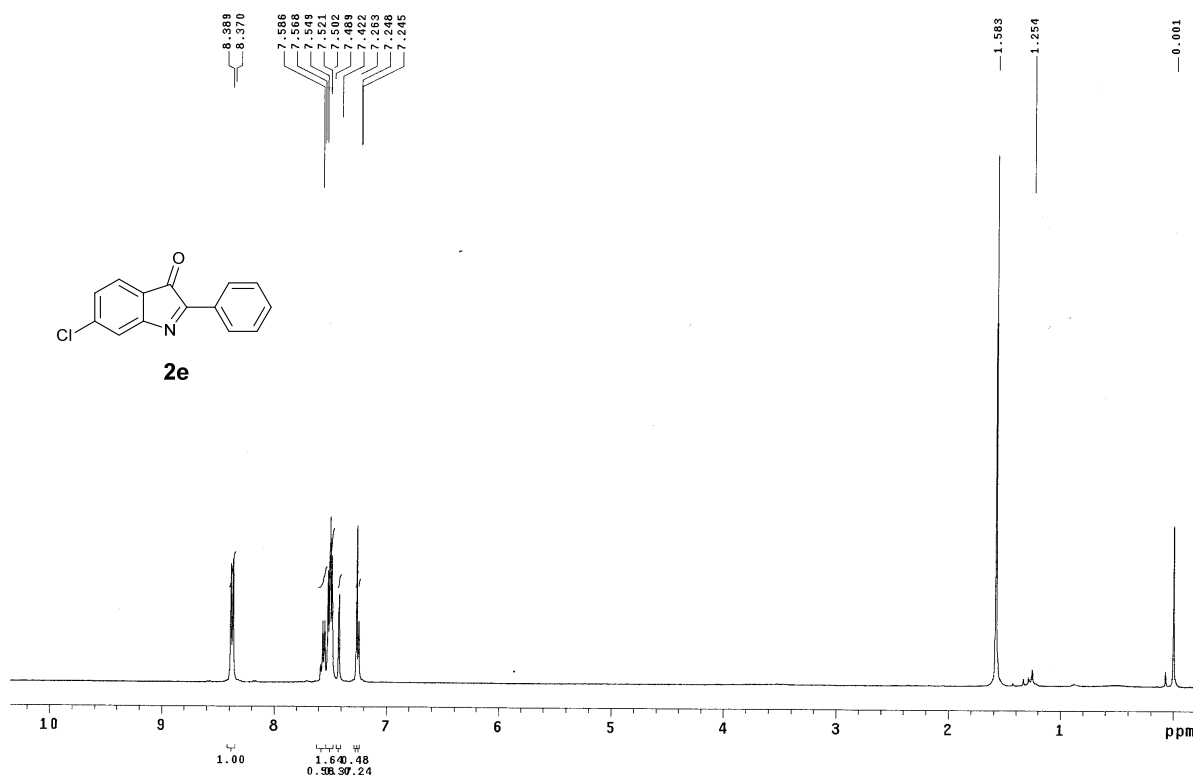
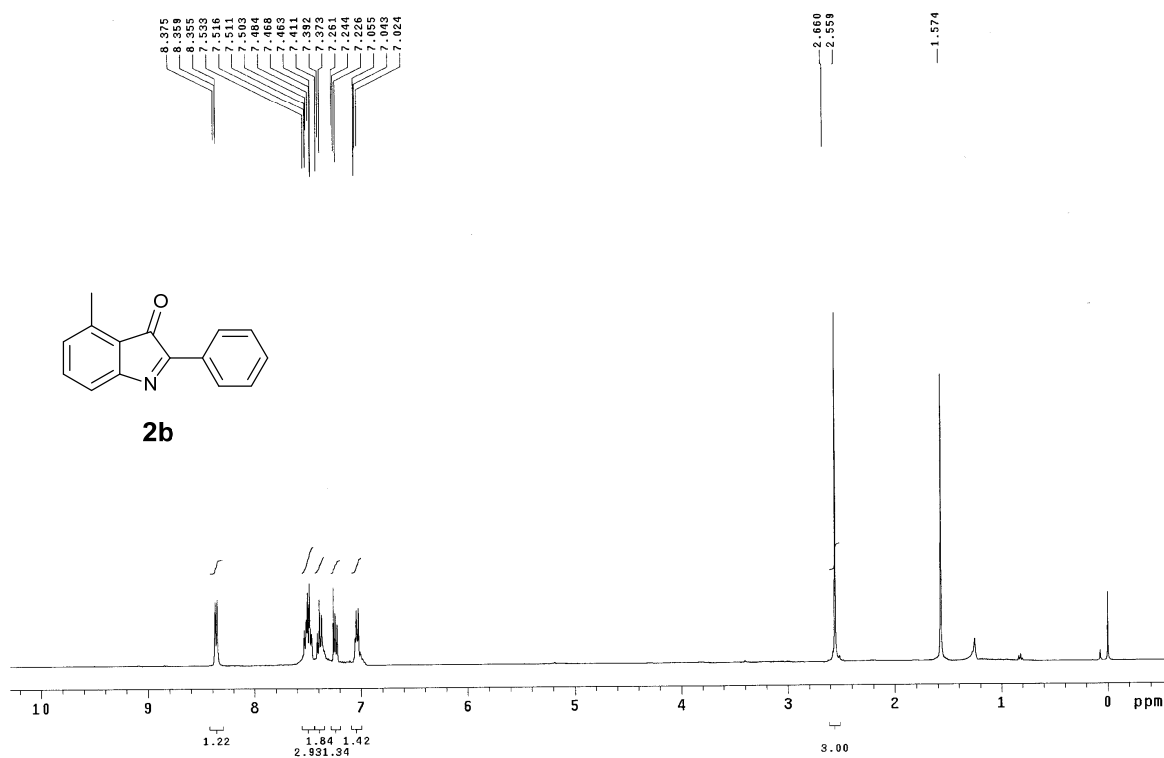
A proposed catalytic transition state was outlined in the following scheme based on the absolute configuration of cycloadduct **4a** and Jørgensen's model.

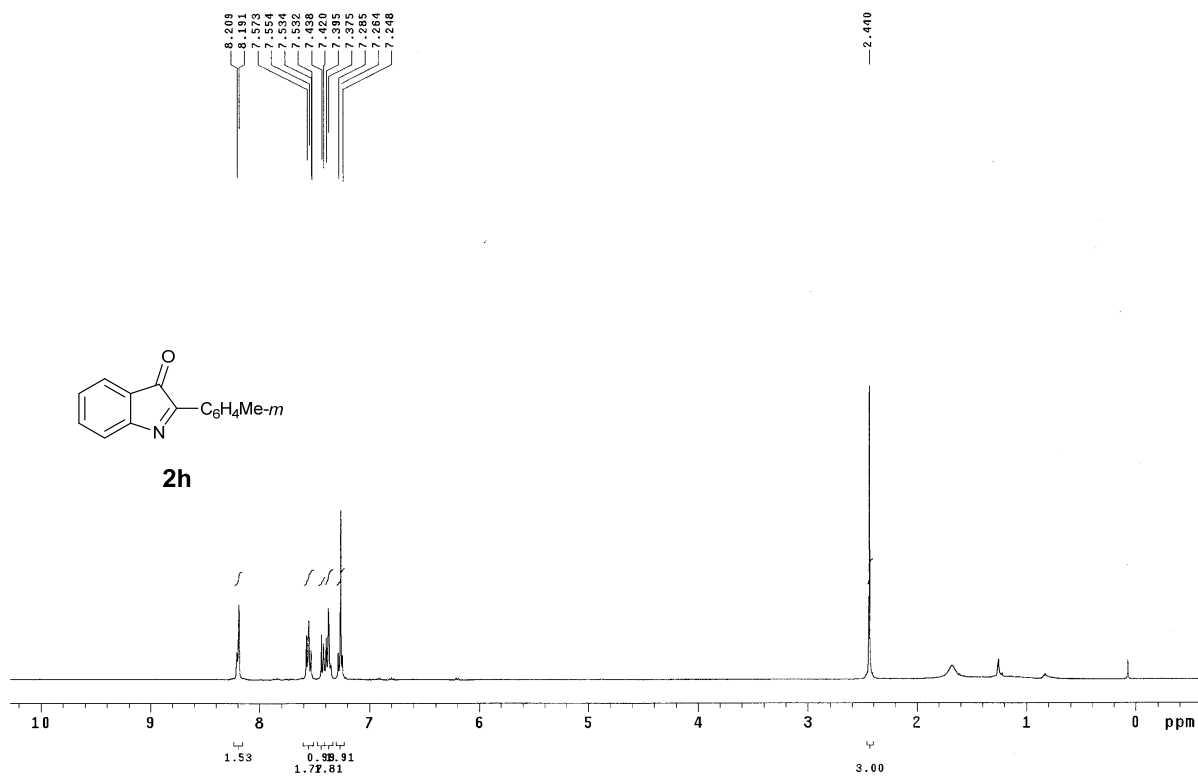


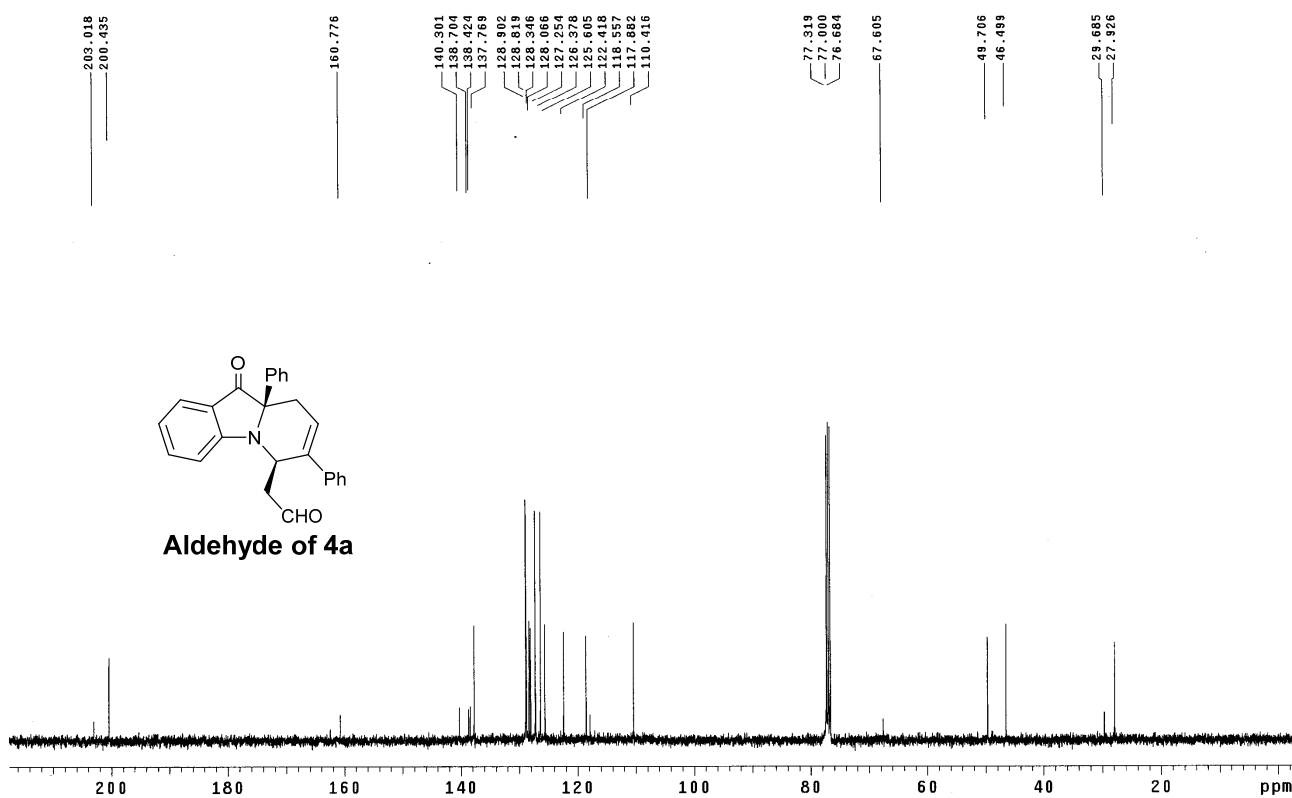
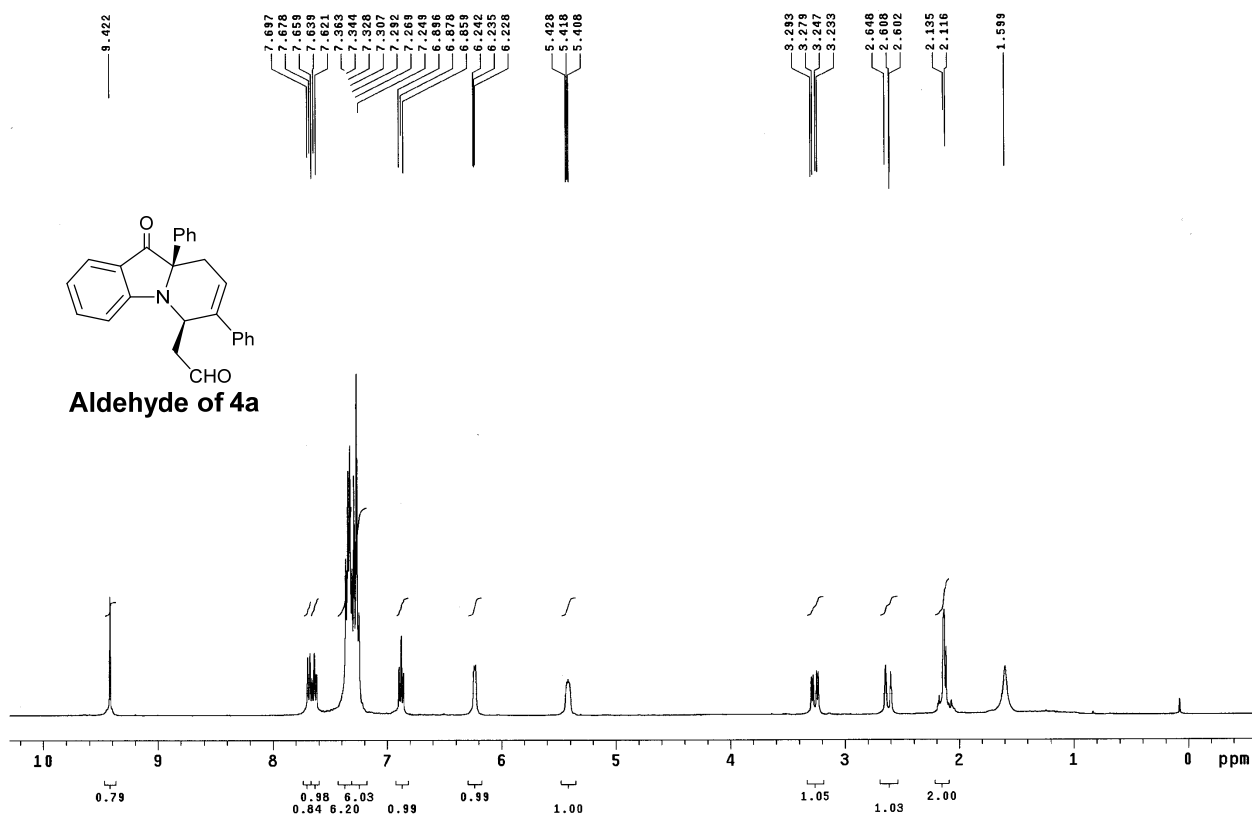
In addition, we further analyzed the structure of cycloadduct **4n**. The chiral center adjacent to methyl group was established by NOE study. It was also in fine accordance to that observed in Jørgensen's paper. The proposed transition state for the generation of aldehyde of **4n** was outlined in the following scheme.

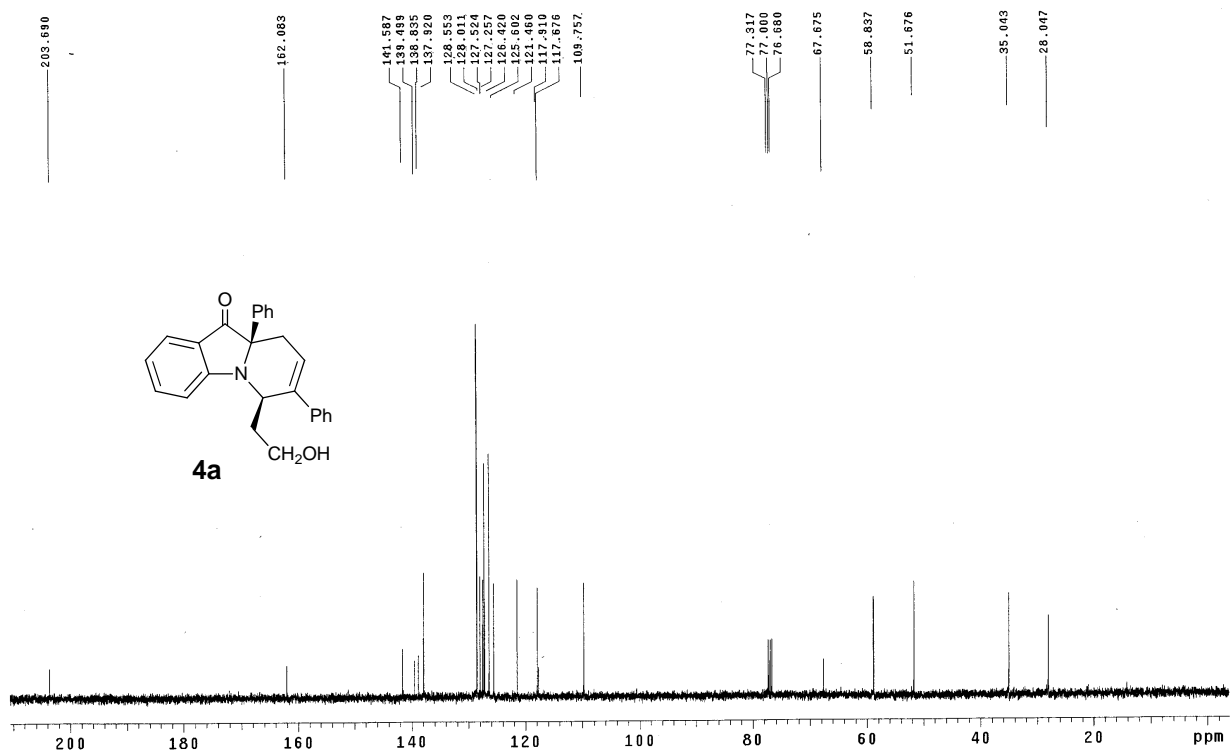
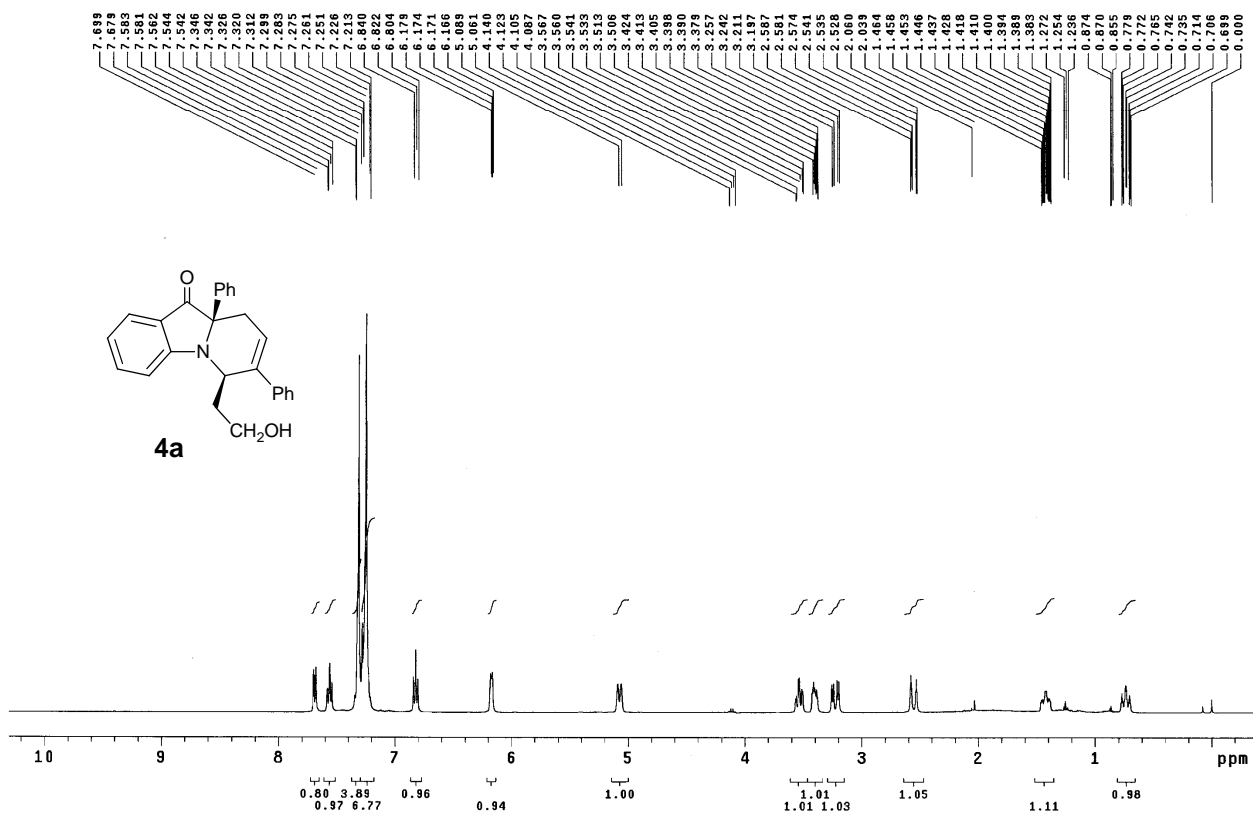


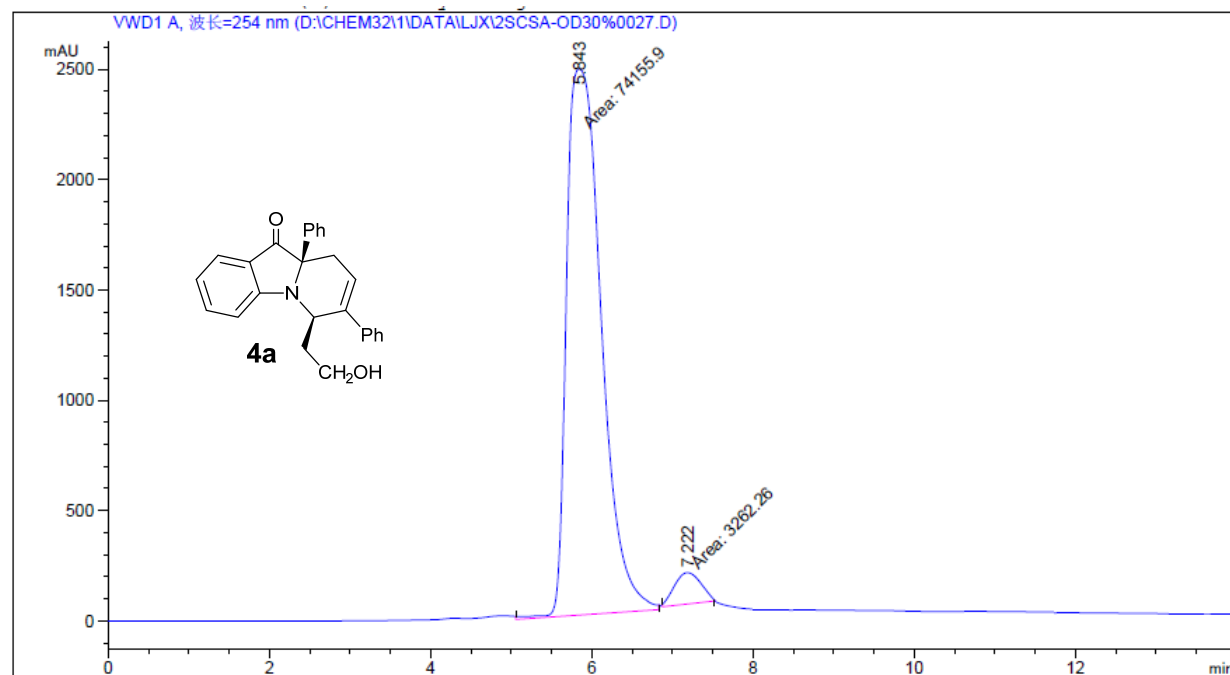
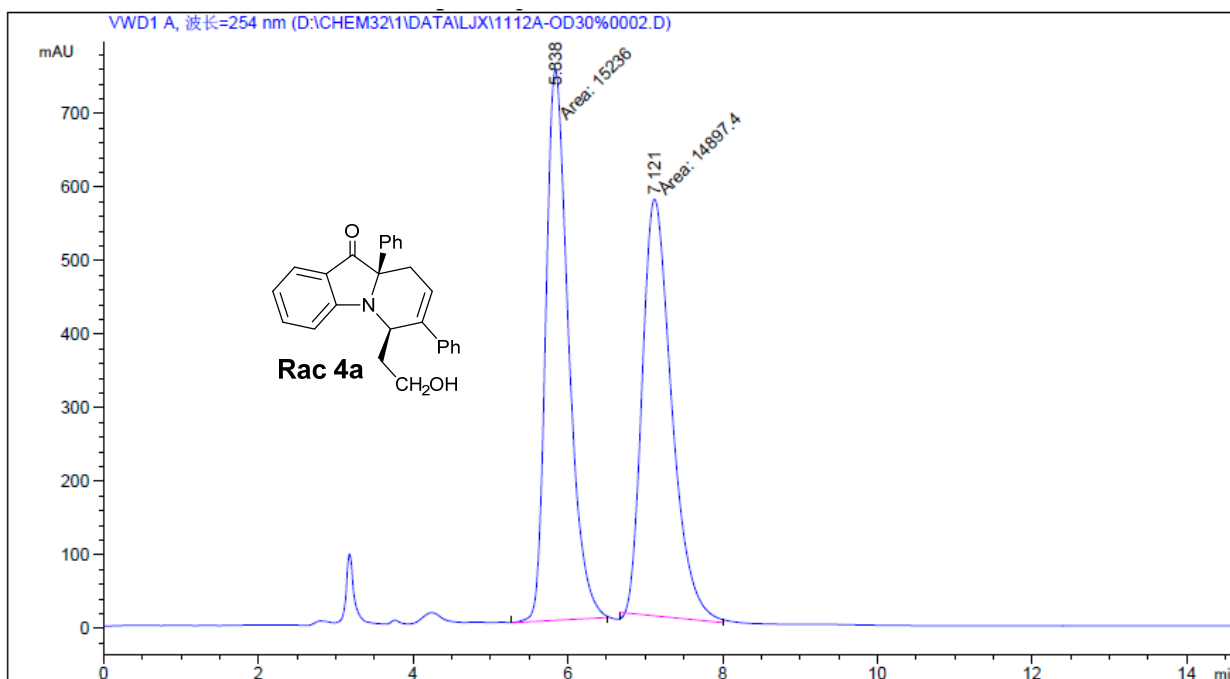
8. NMR spectra and HPLC chromatograms

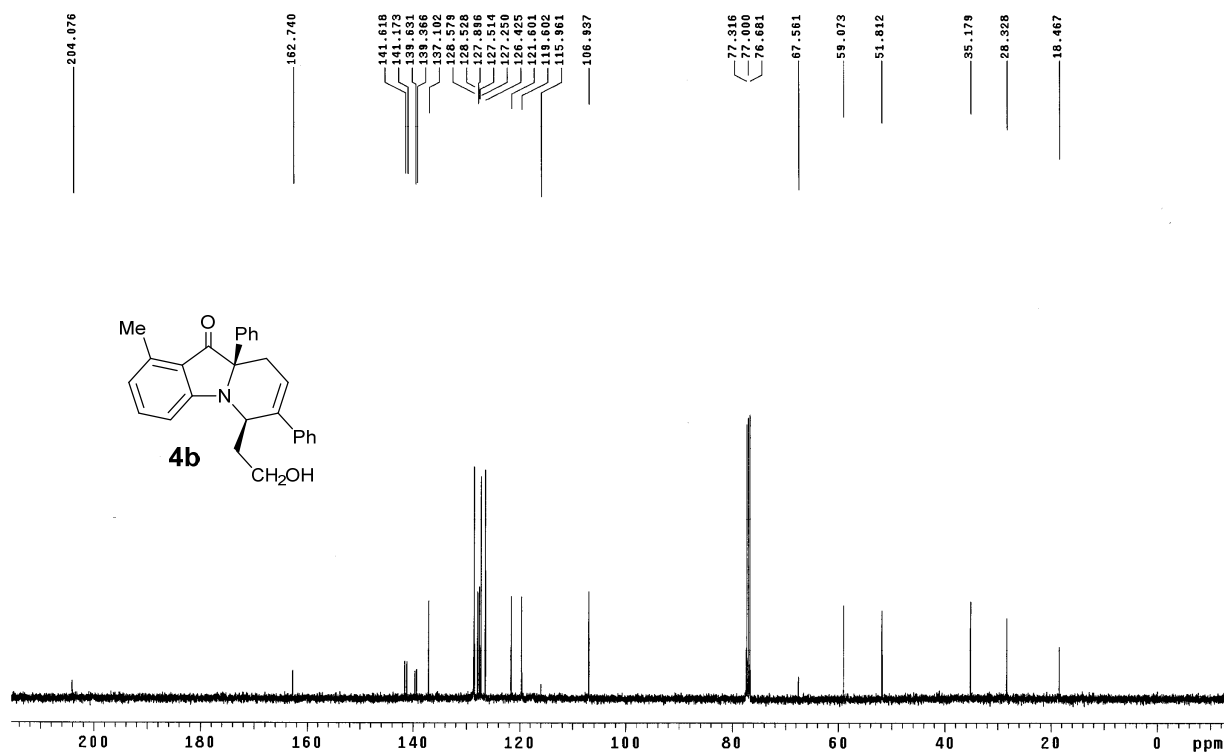
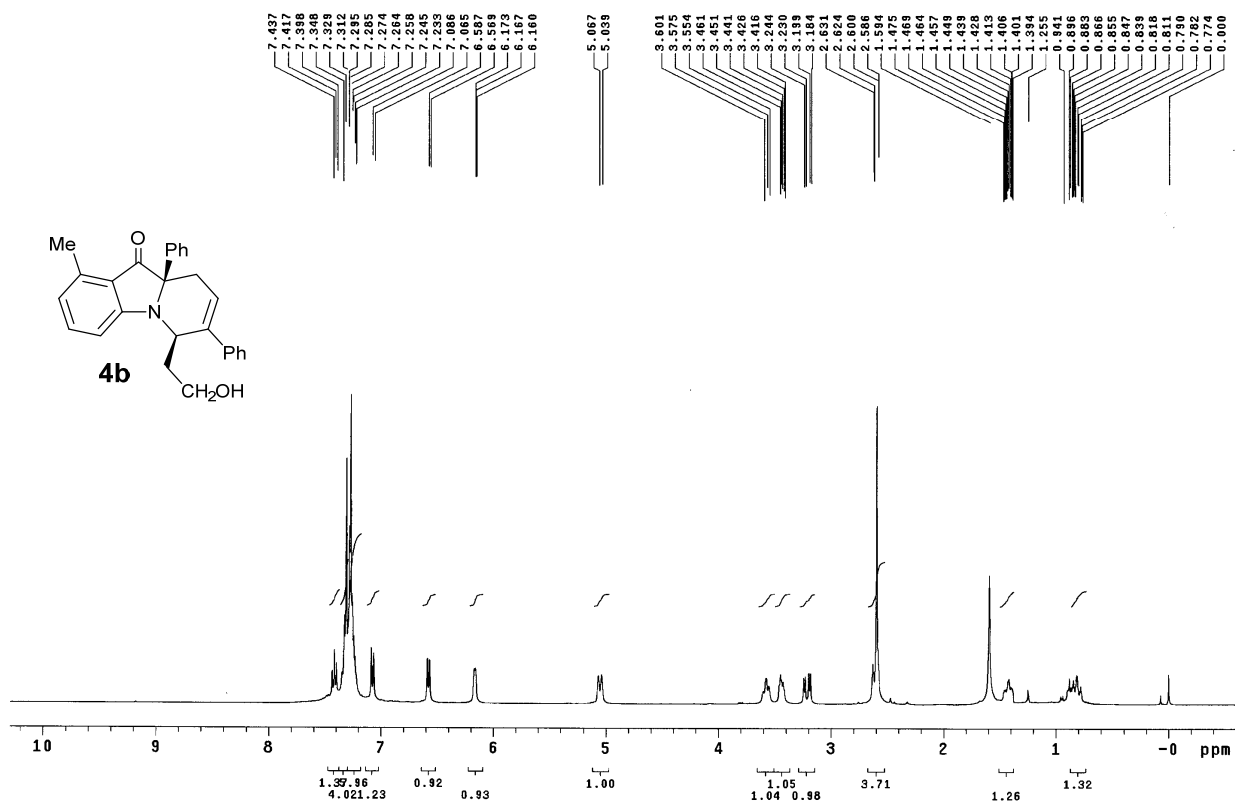


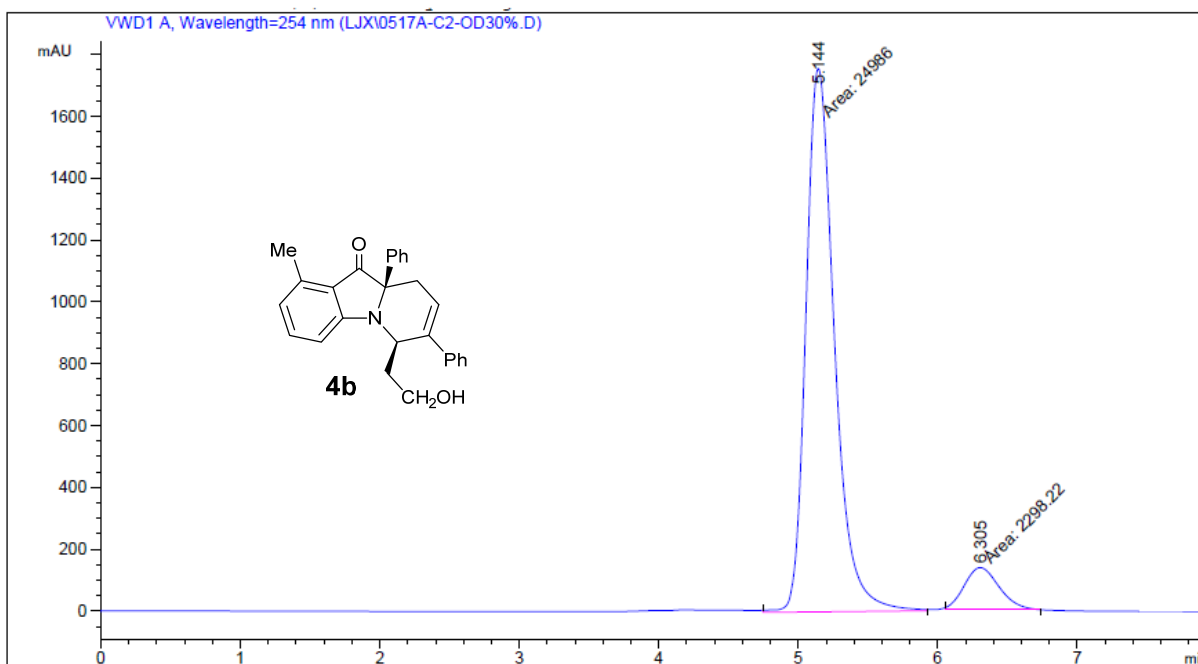
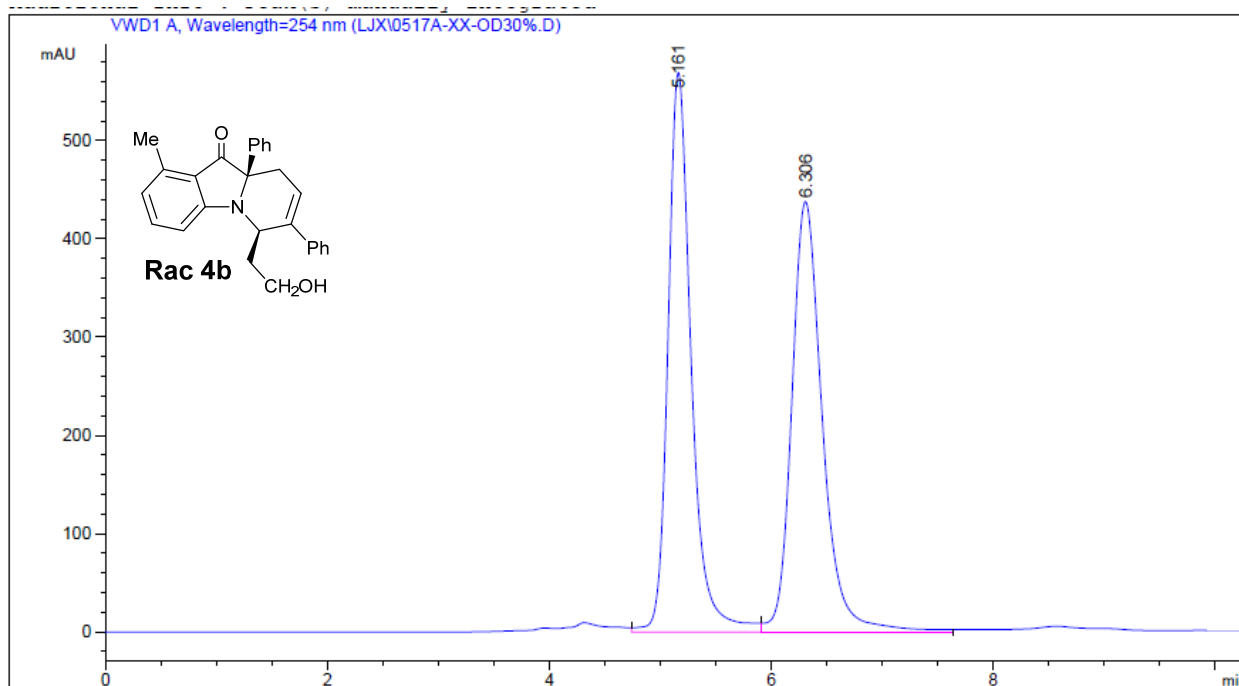


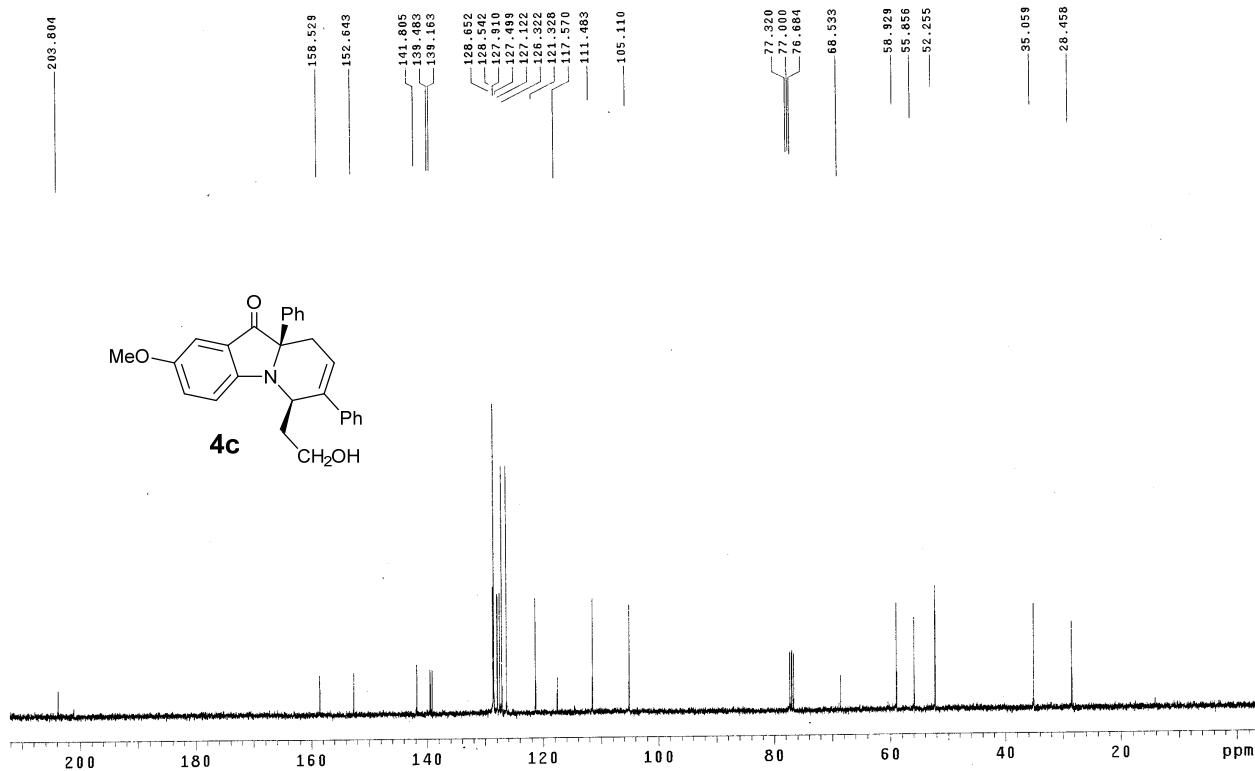
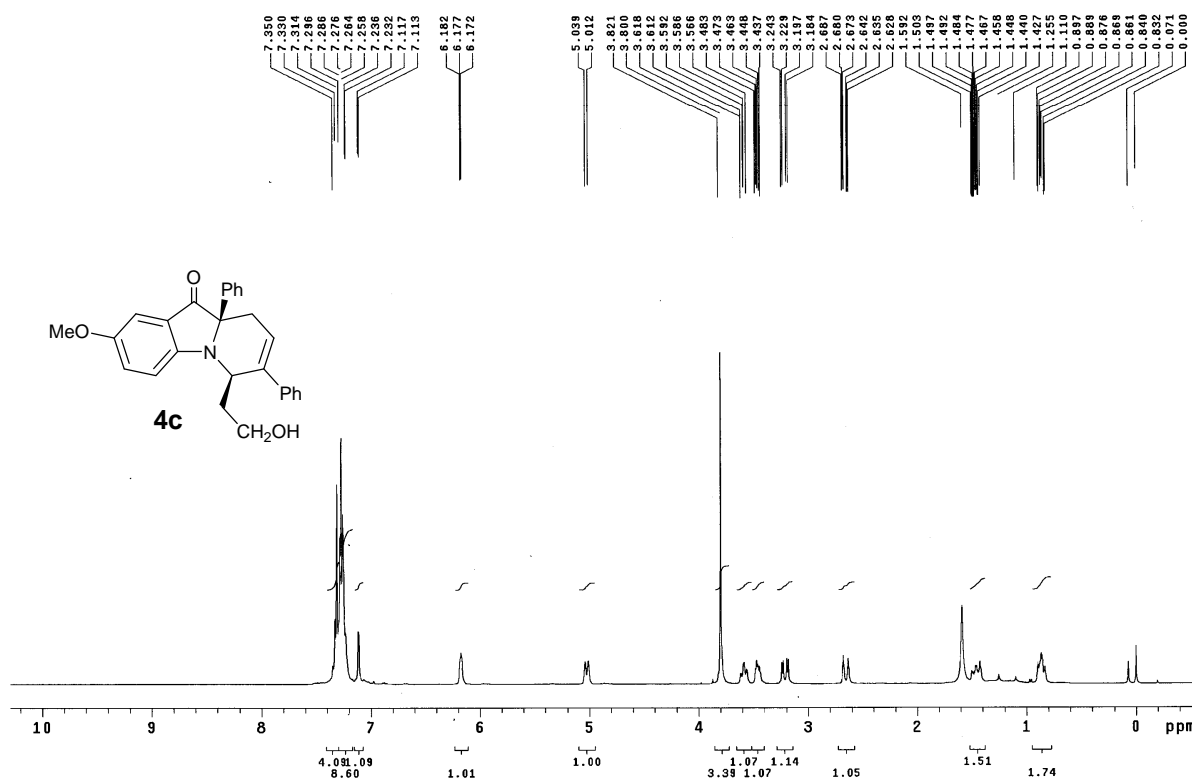


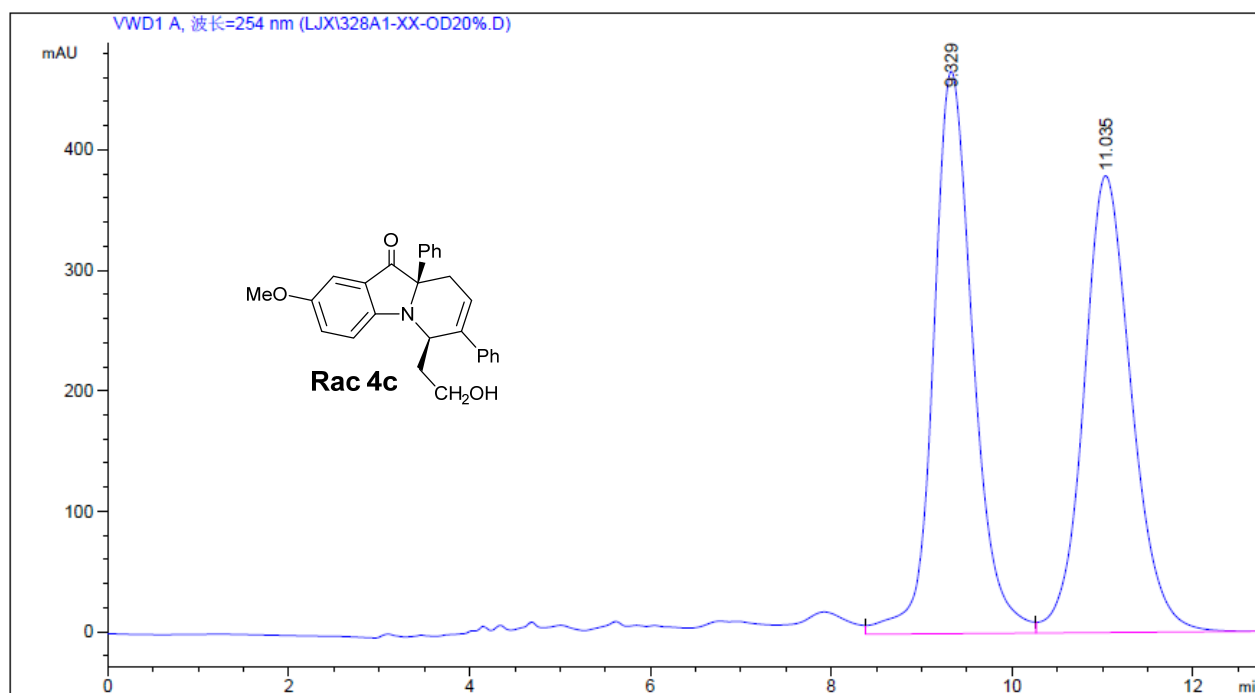




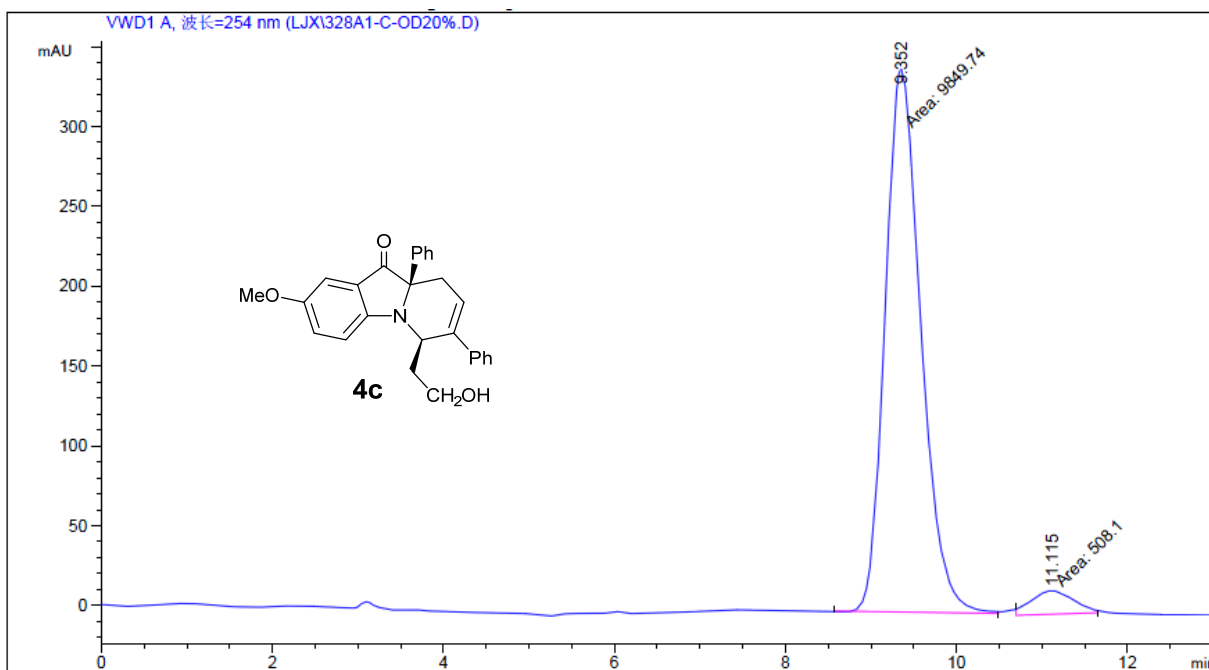




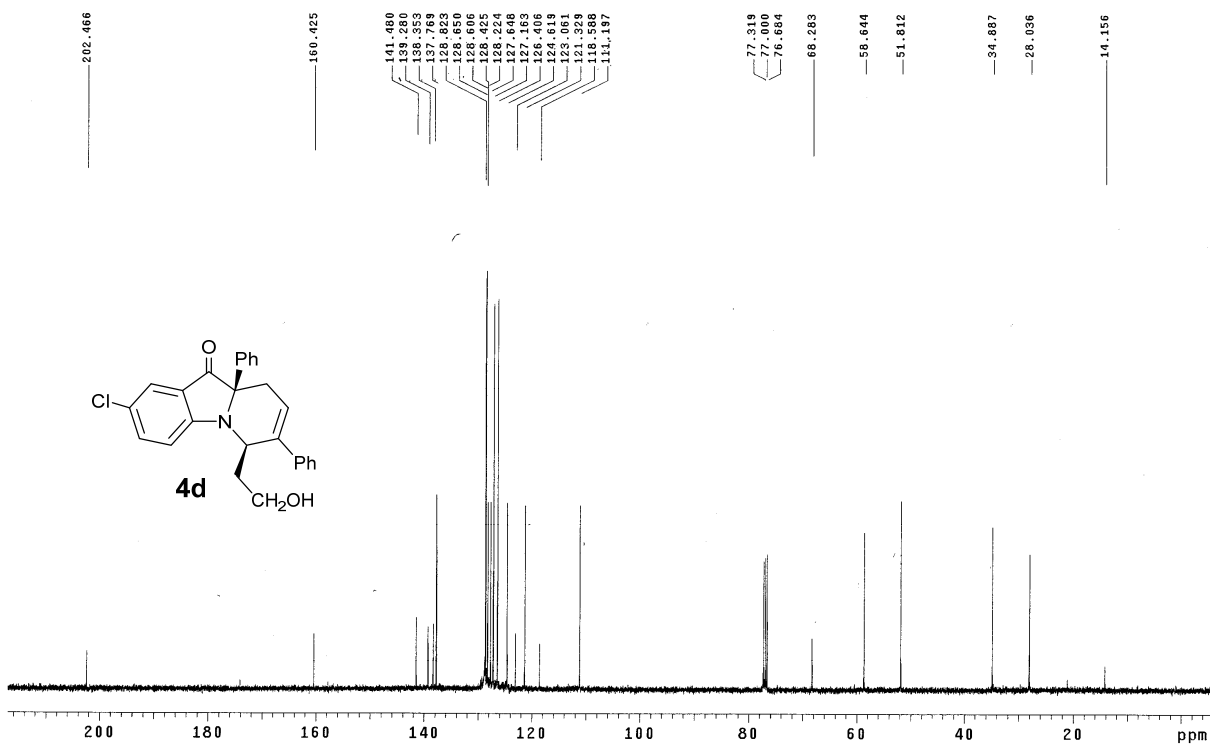
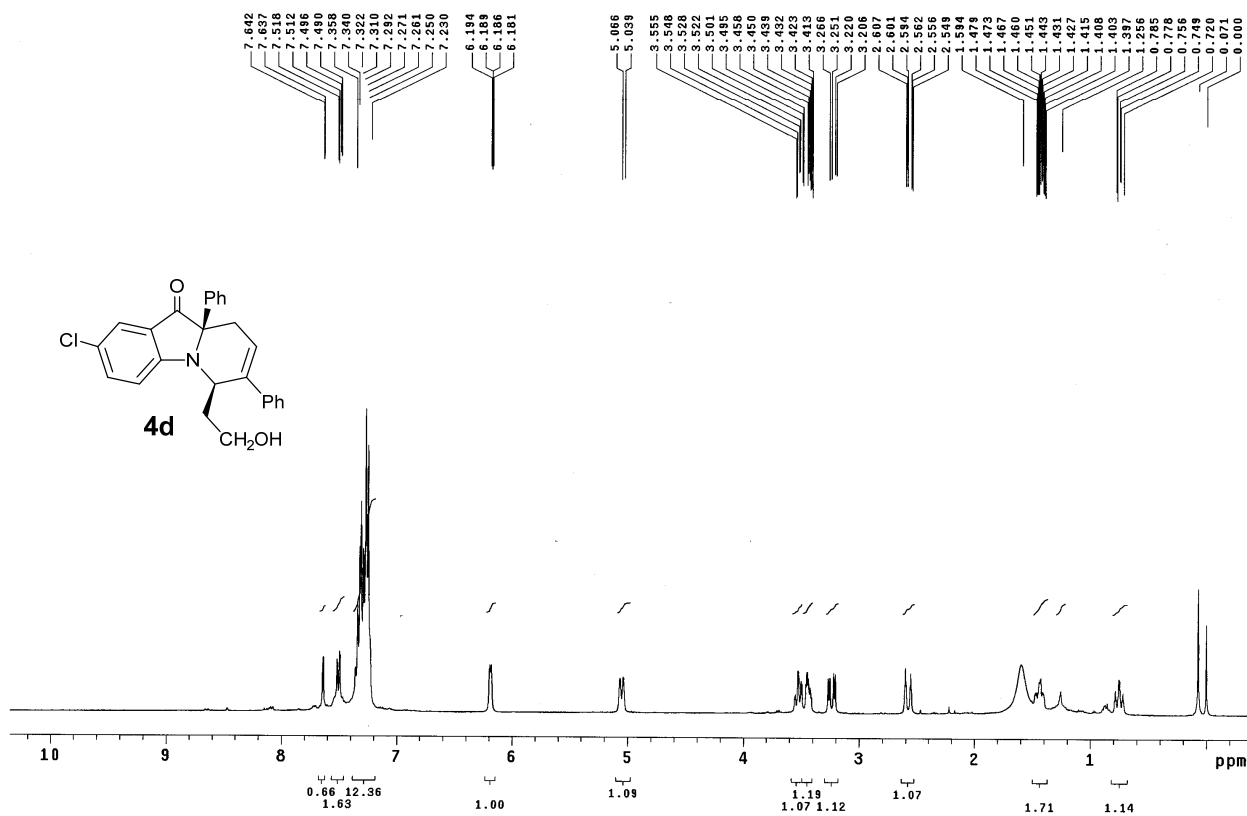


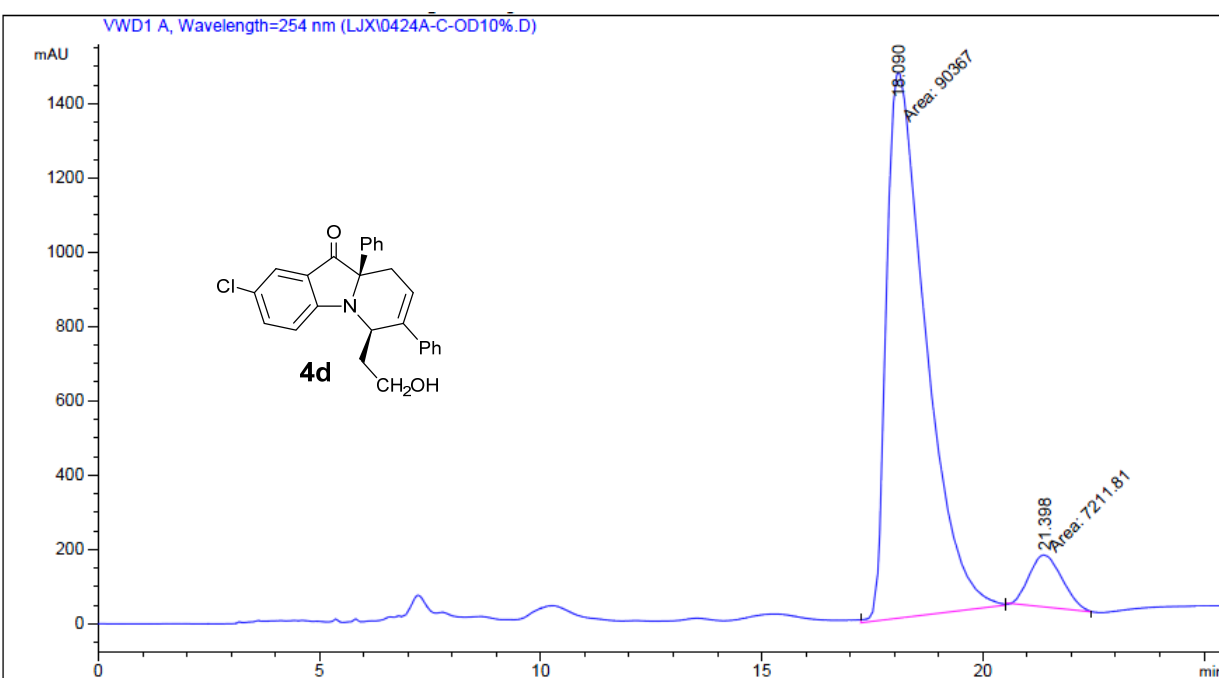
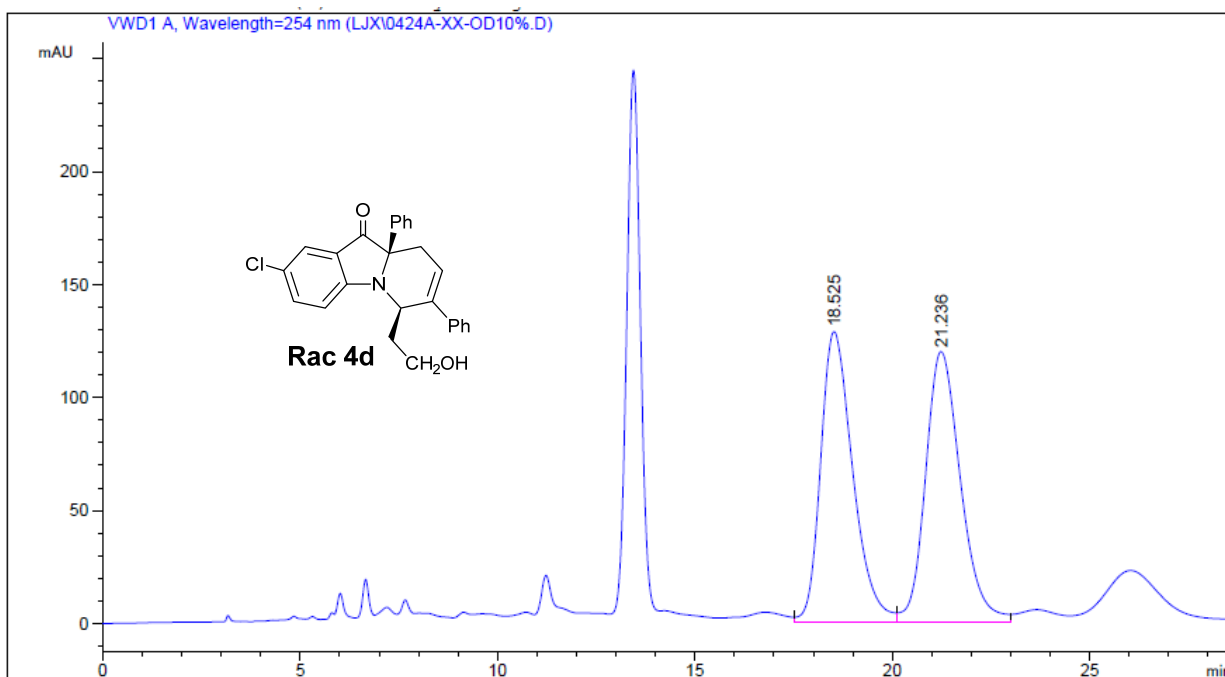


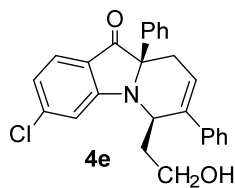
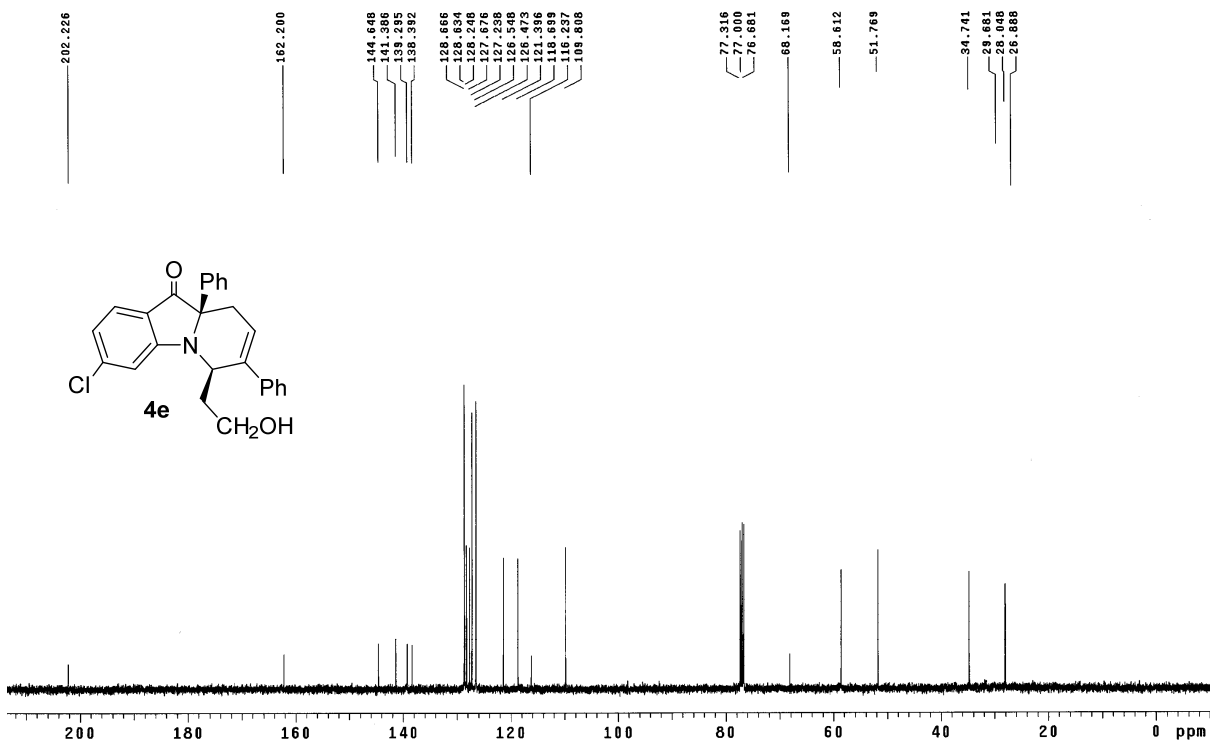
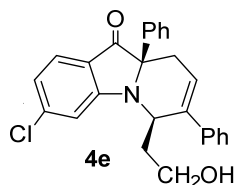
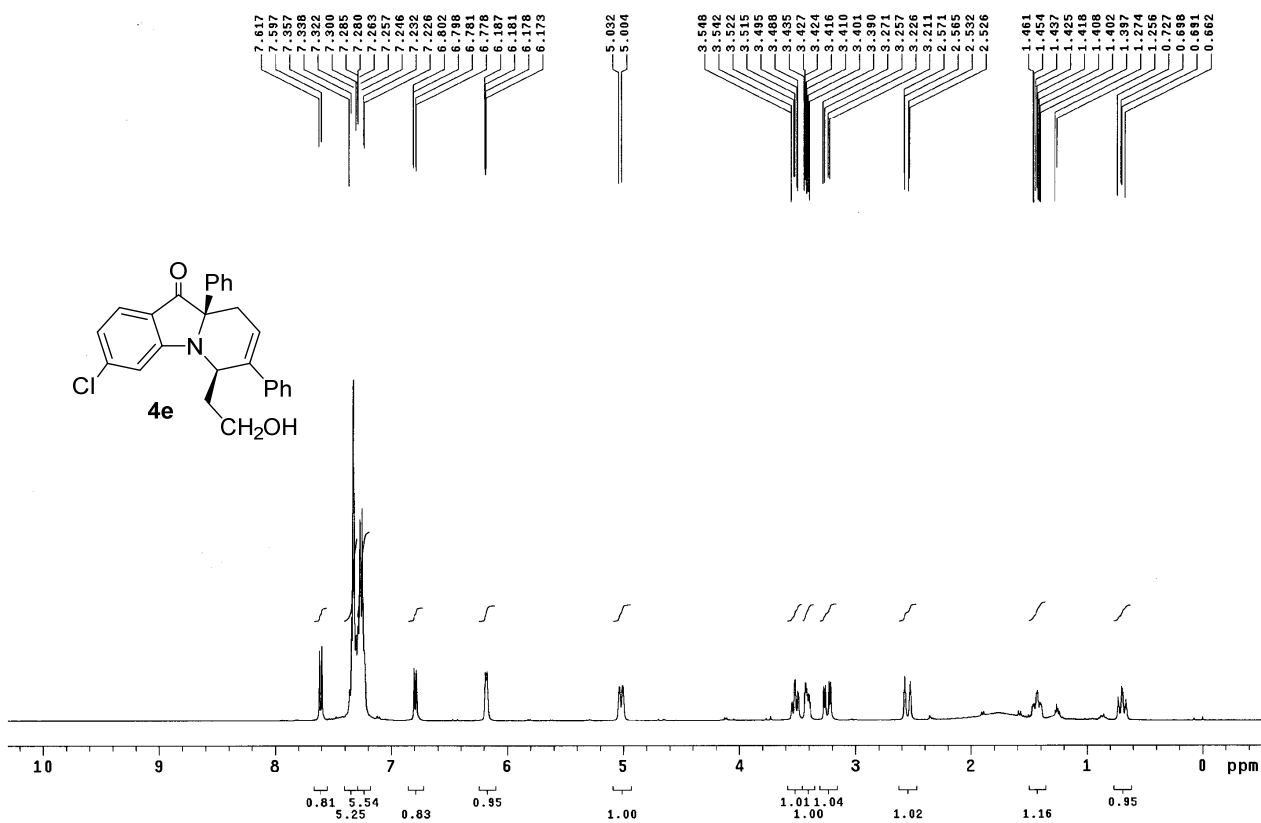
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area mAU	Area %	Height [mAU]
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2	11.035	VBA	0.5564	1.39068e4	49.4095	378.88132

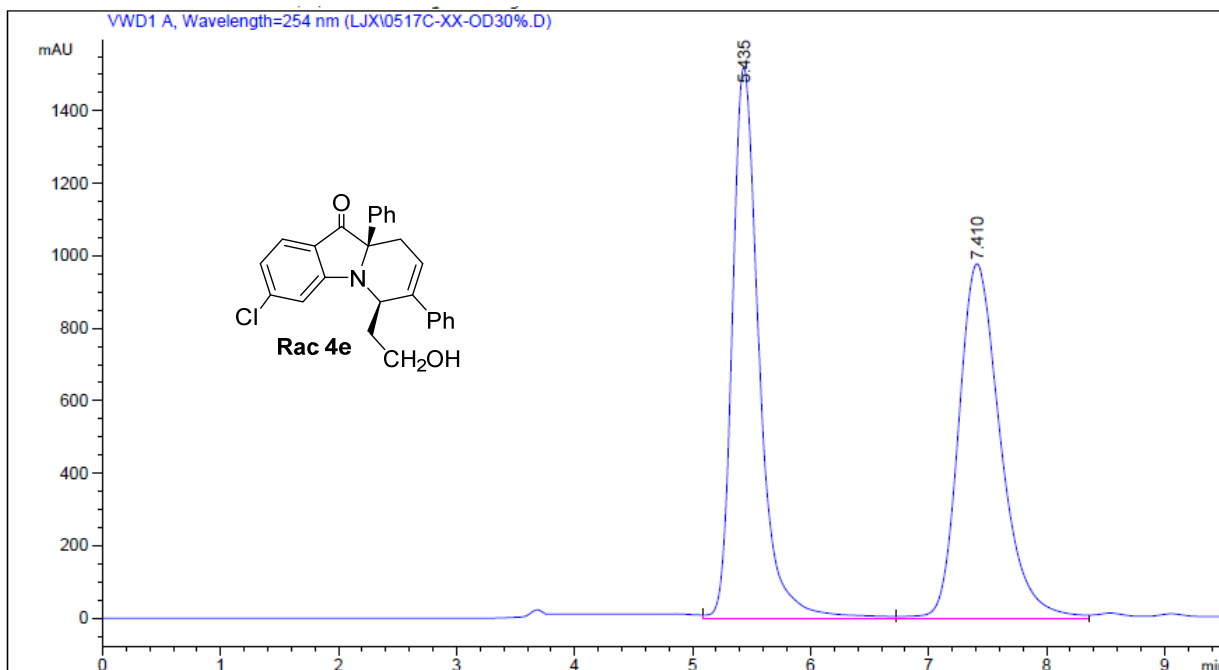


Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area mAU	Area %	Height [mAU]
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2	11.115	MM	0.5715	508.09952	4.9055	14.81728

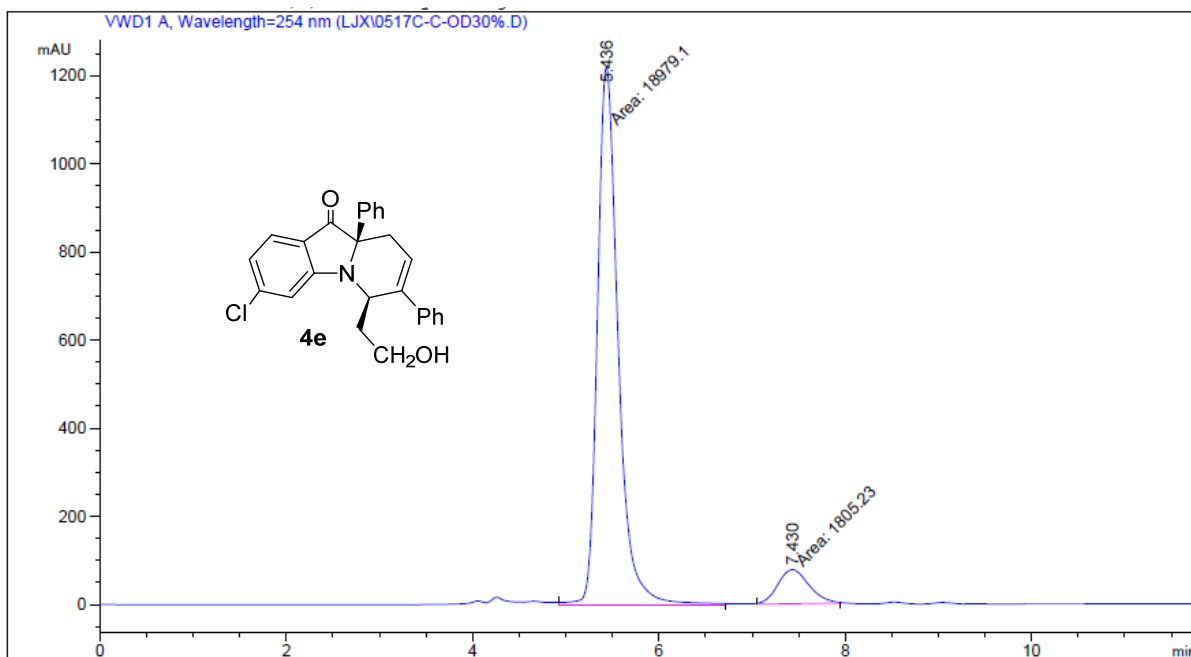




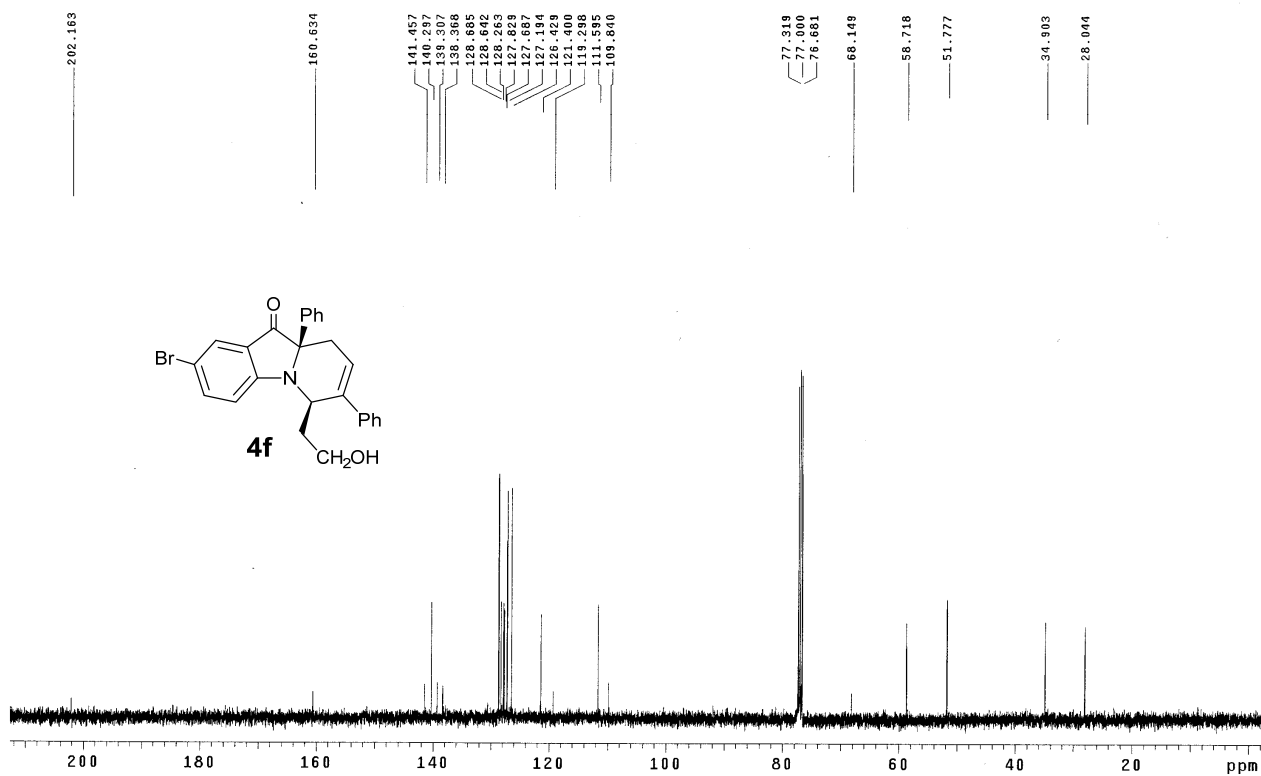
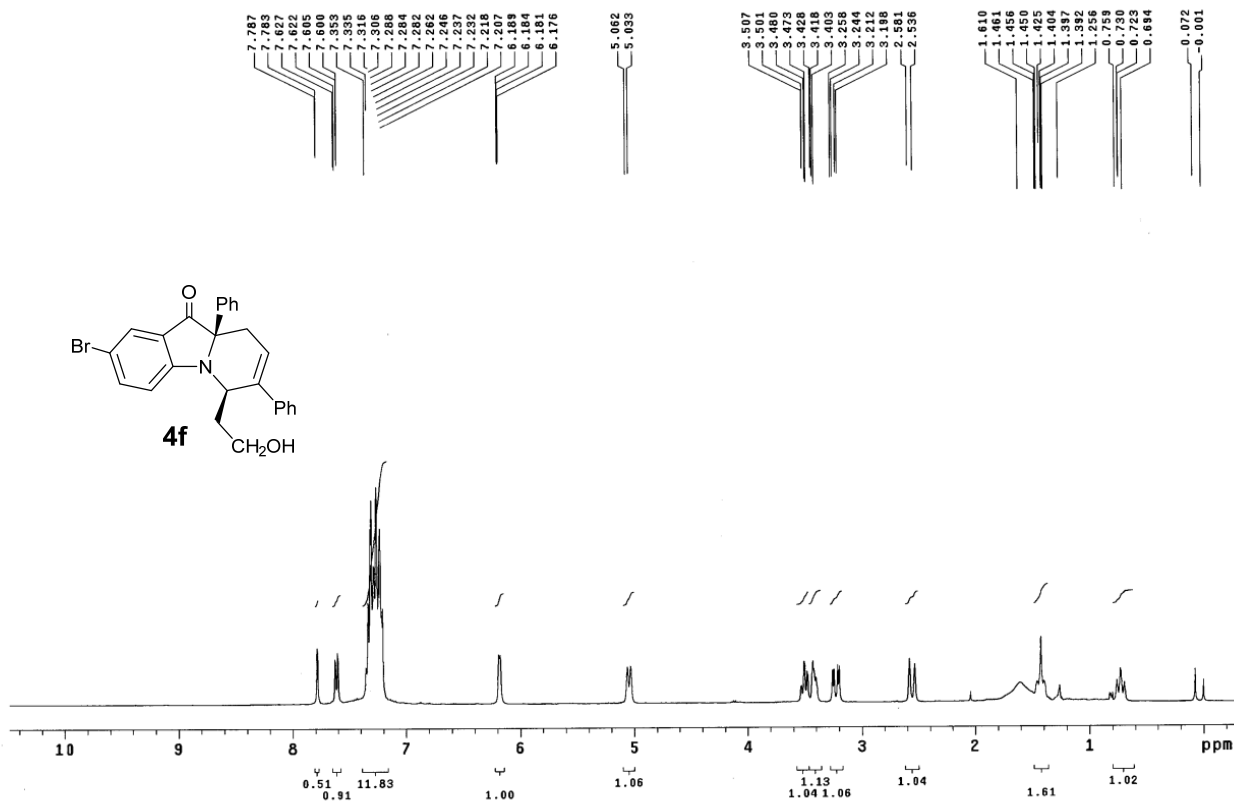


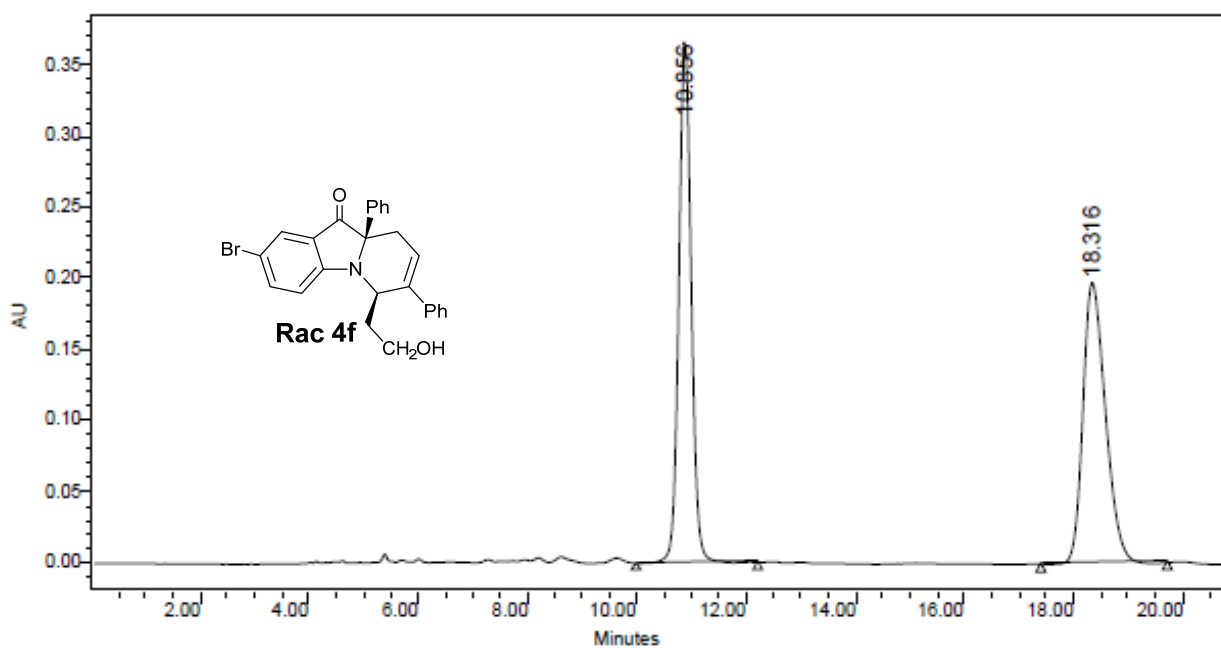


Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area mAU *s	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	5.435	VV	0.2432	2.40536e4	1516.95422	50.0204
2	7.410	VV	0.3799	2.40340e4	978.01581	49.9796

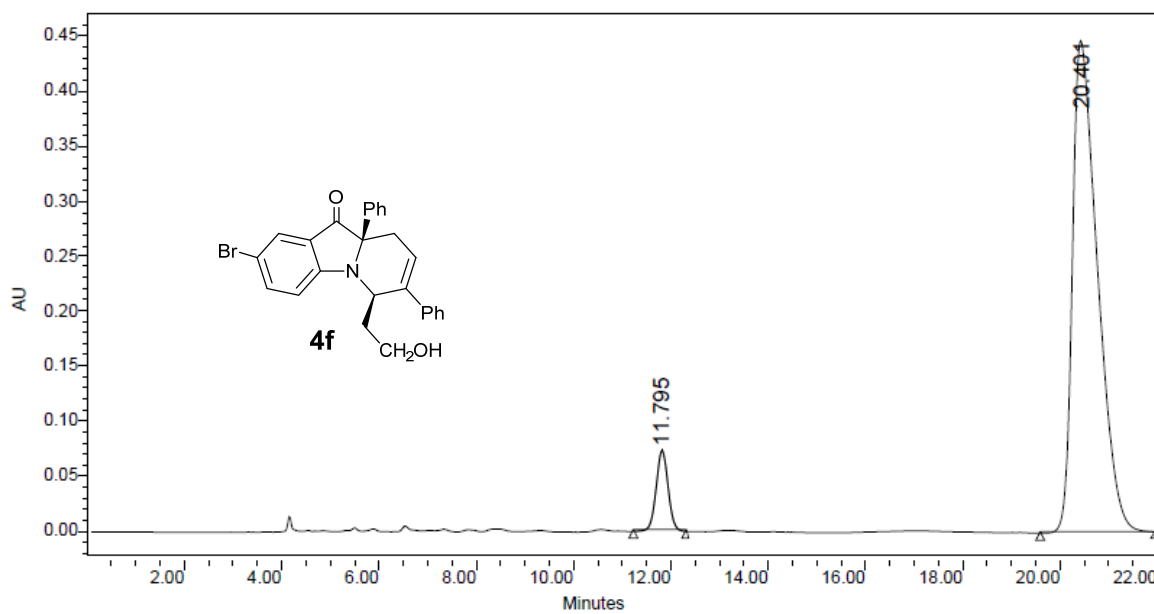


Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area mAU *s	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	5.436	MM	0.2585	1.89791e4	1223.78418	91.3145
2	7.430	MM	0.3871	1805.22900	77.72024	8.6855

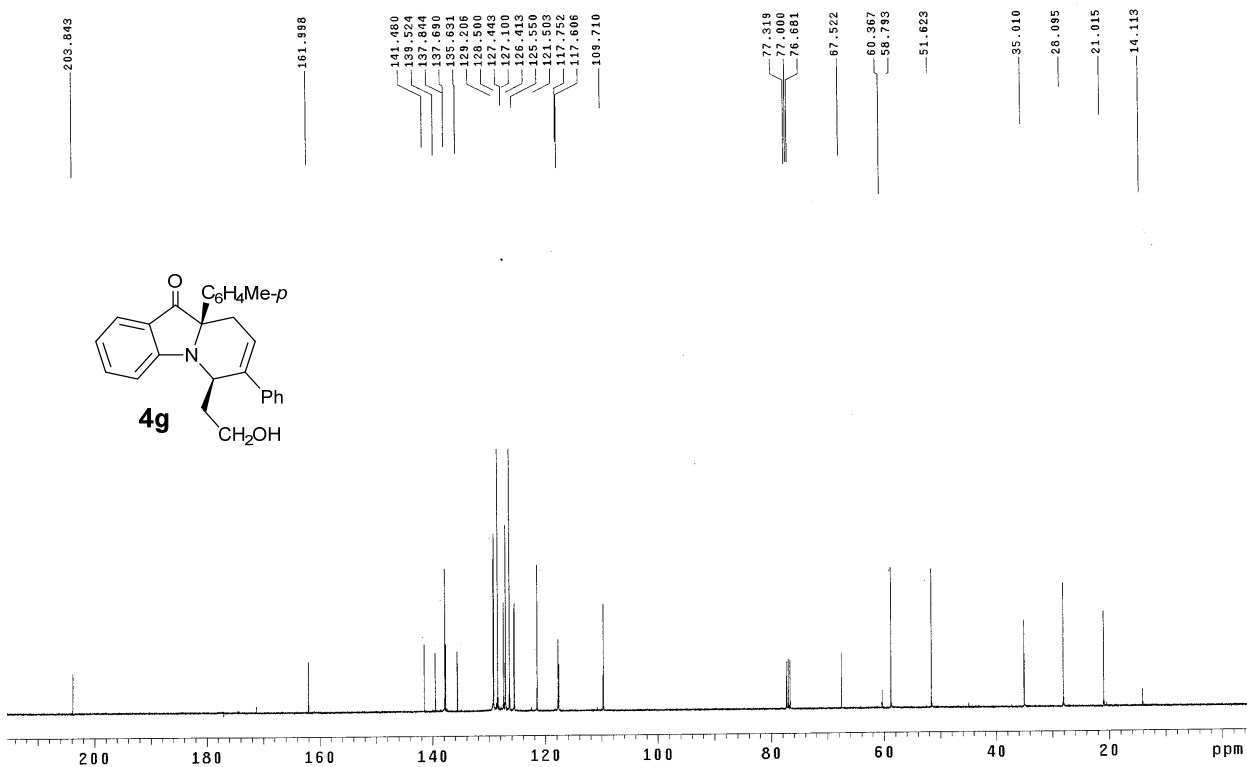
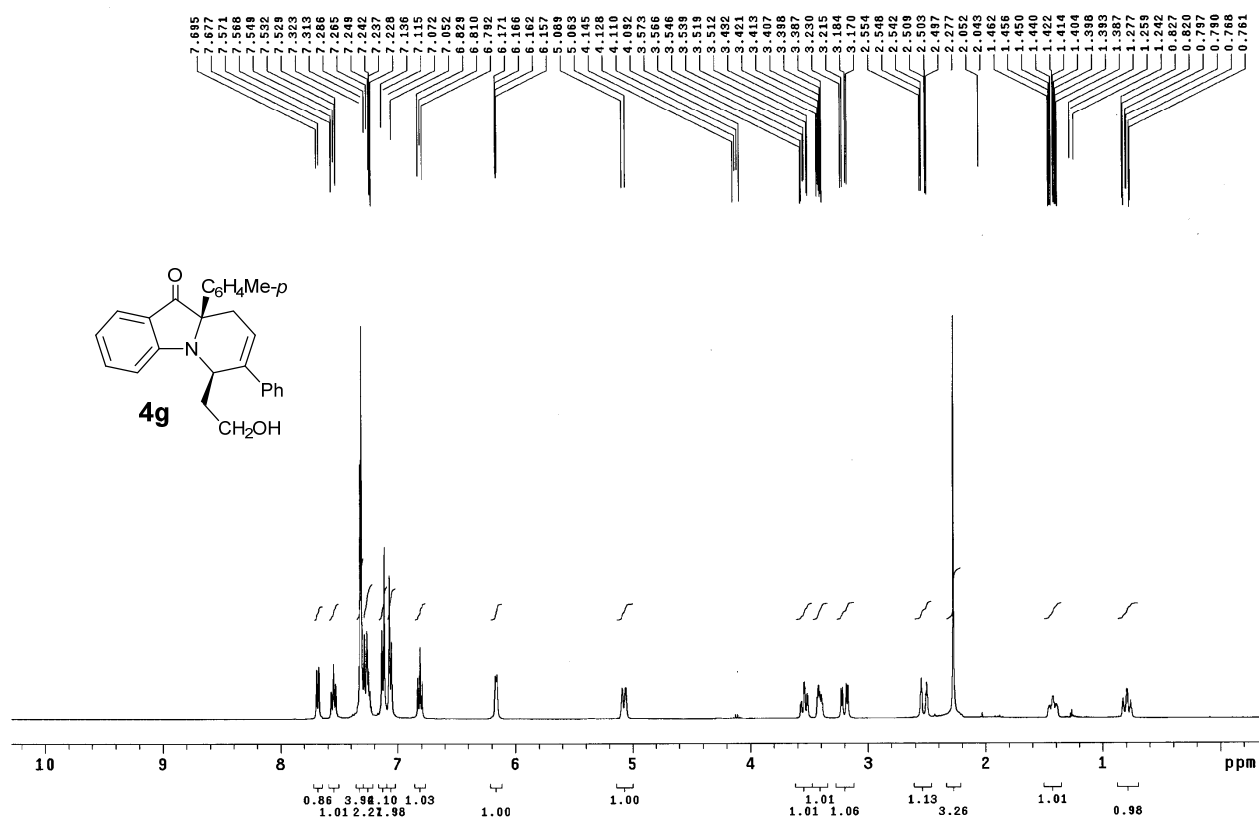


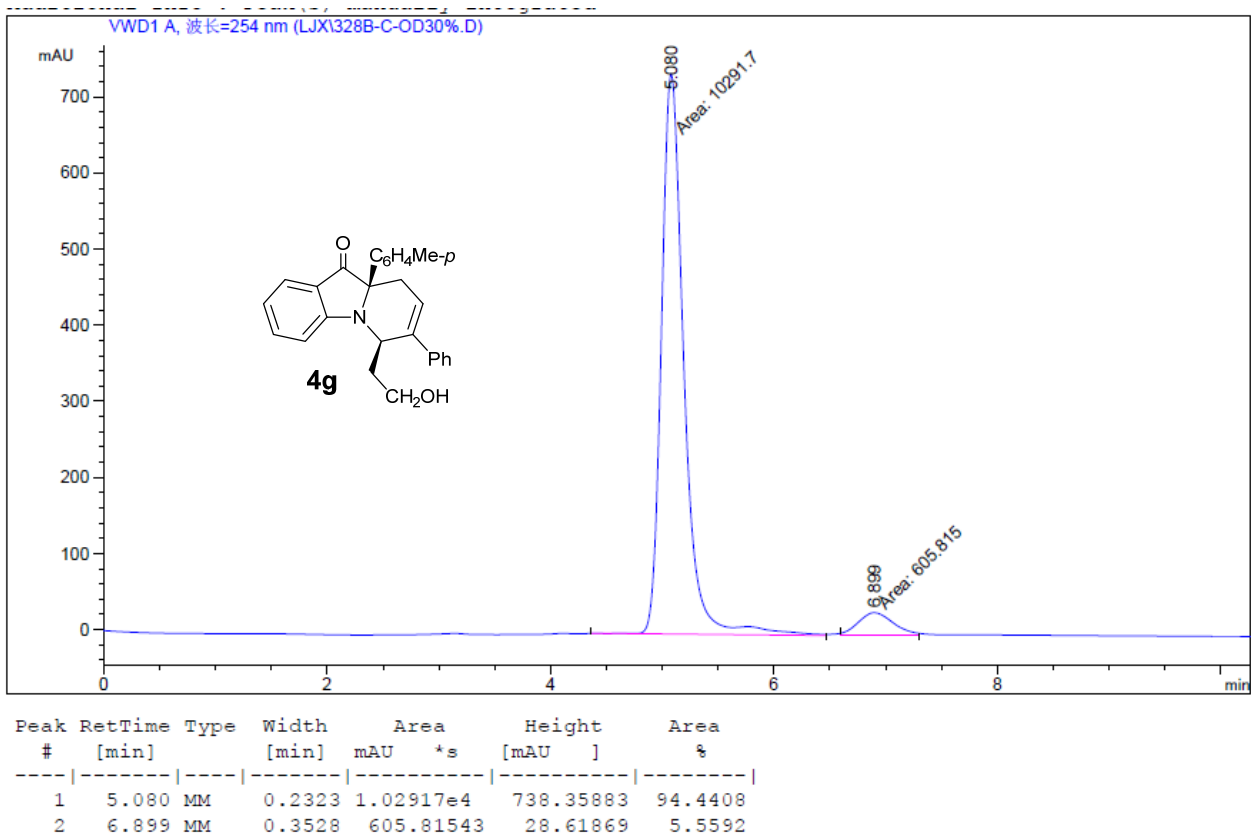
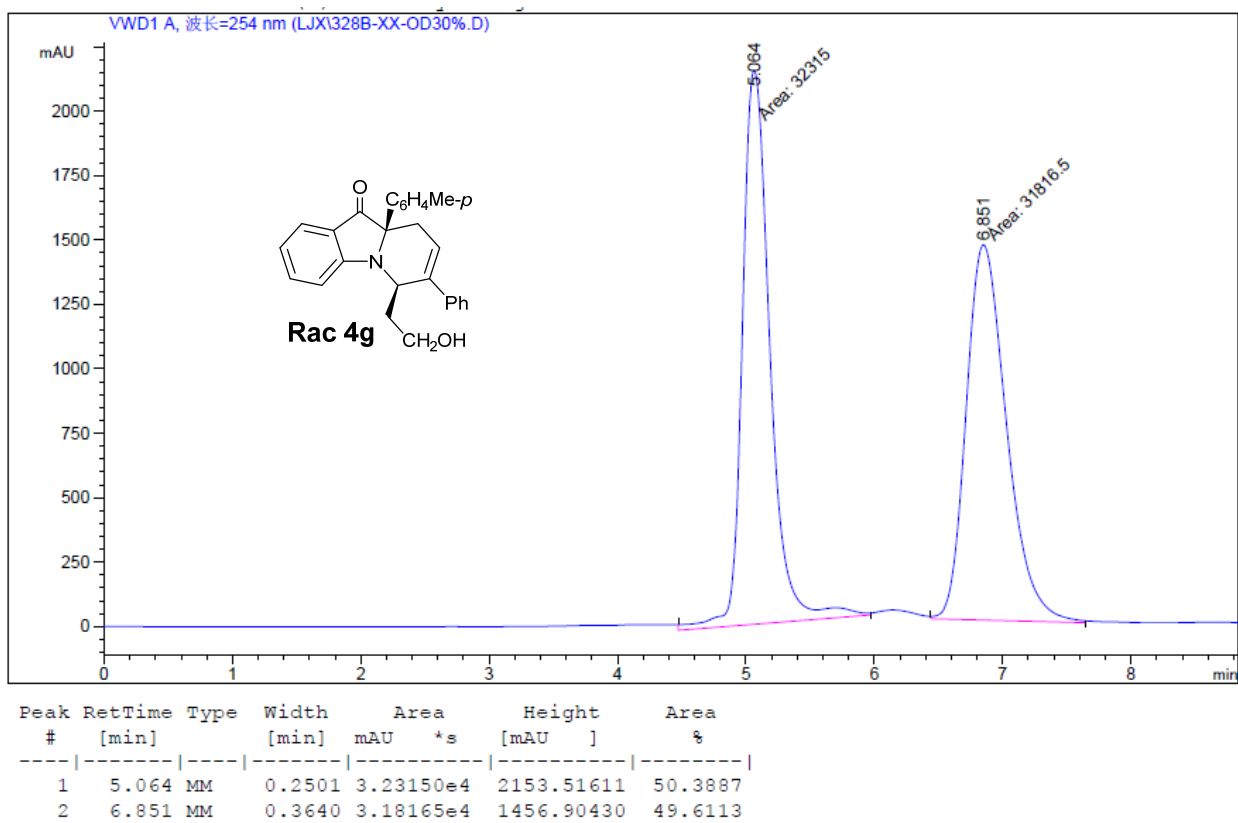


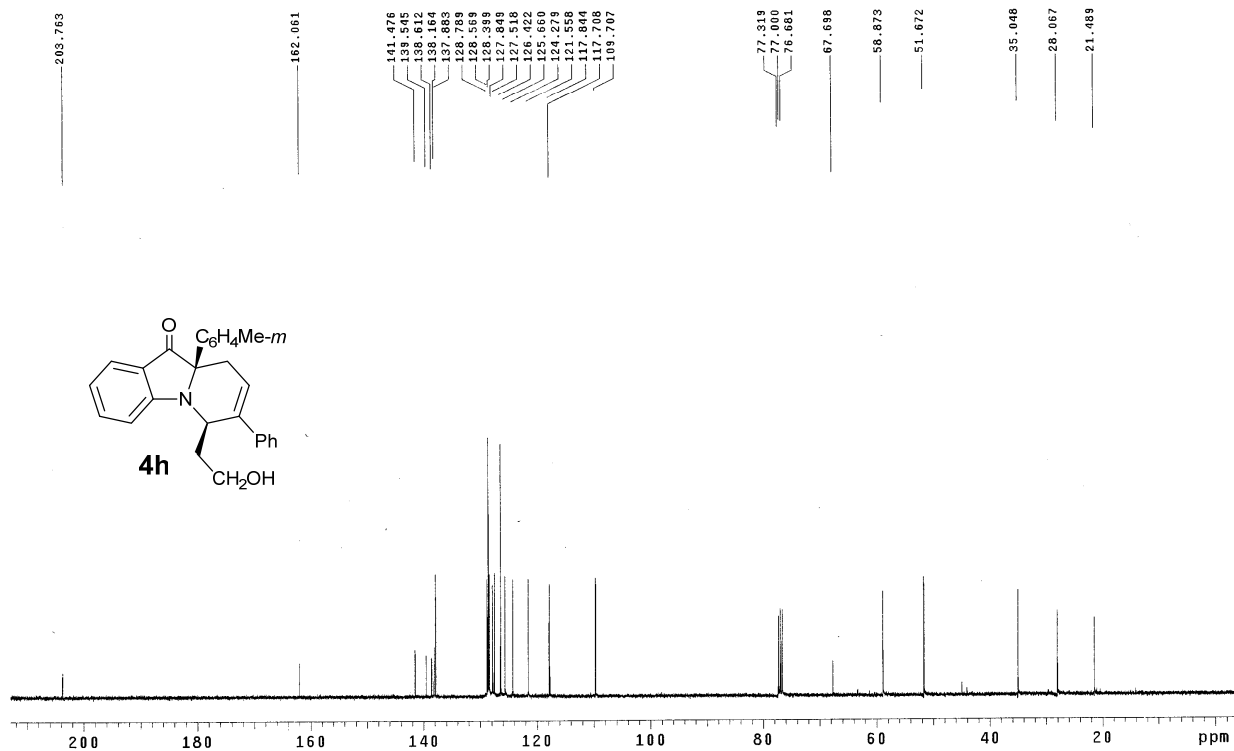
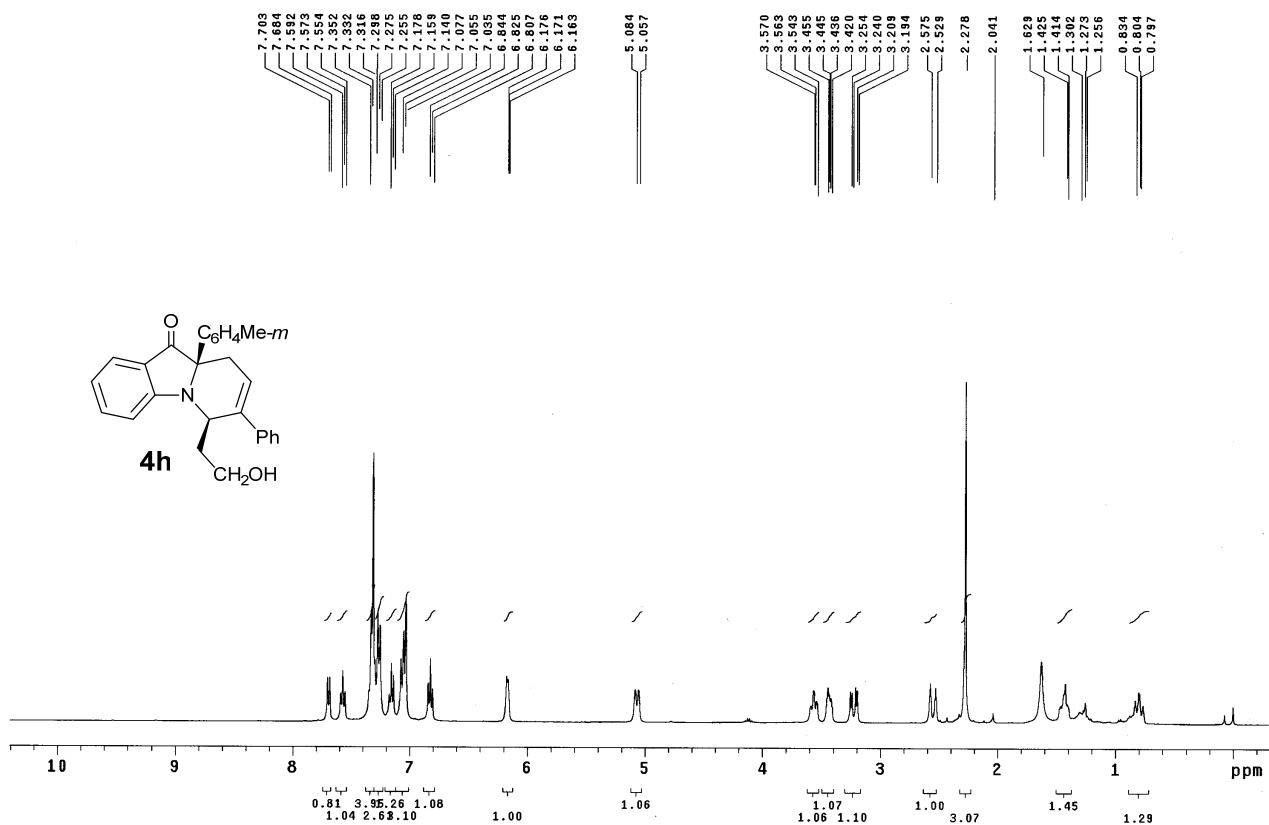
	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	10.856	5825590	50.70	366221	64.96
2	18.316	5663931	49.30	197578	35.04

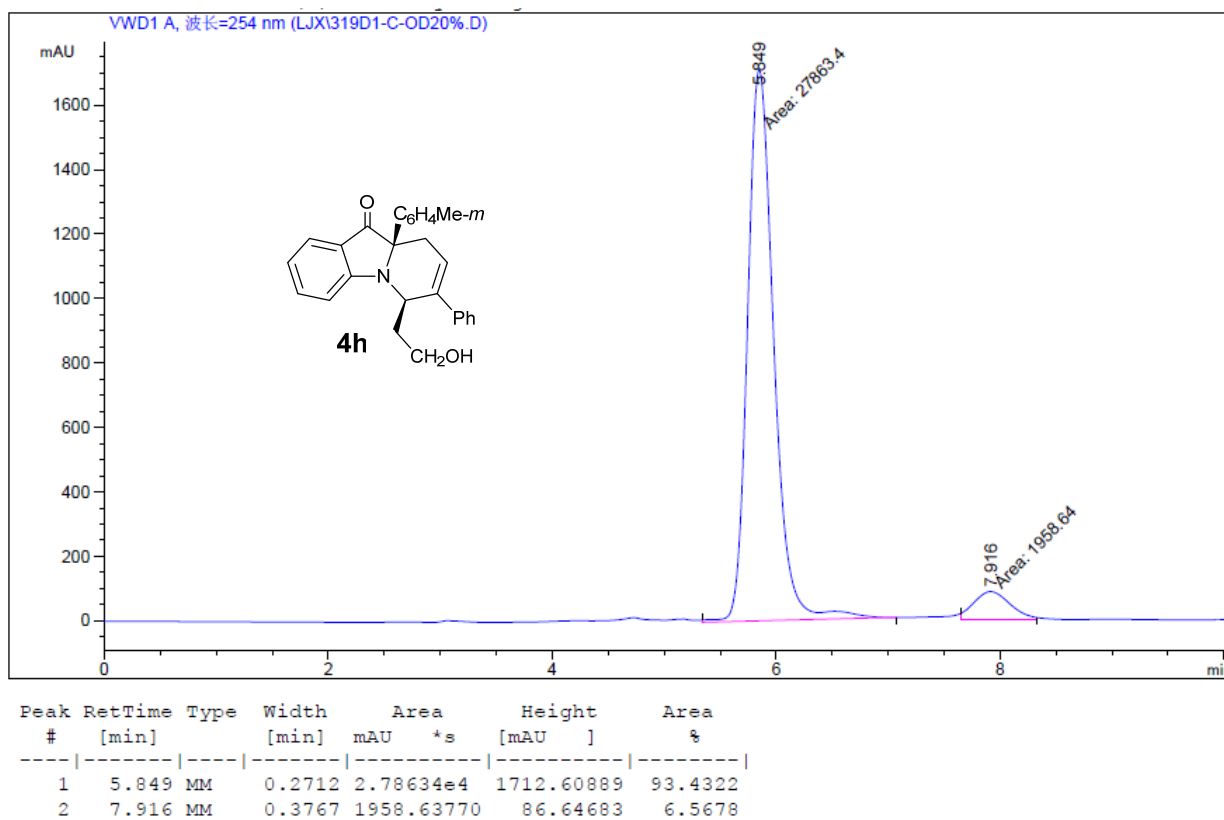
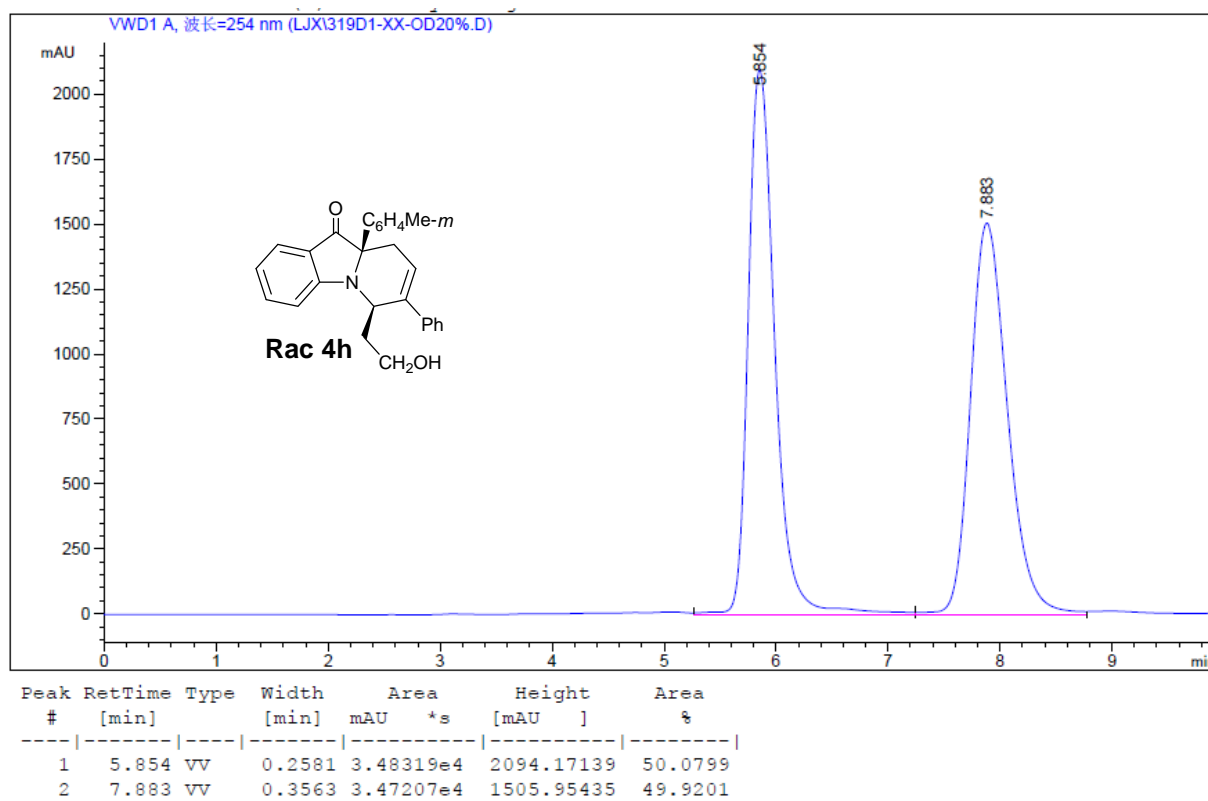


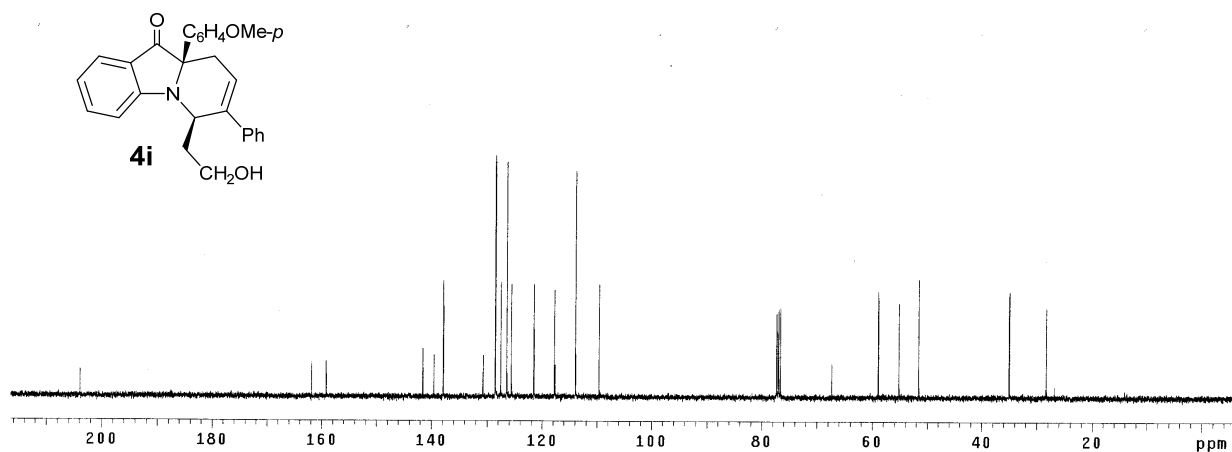
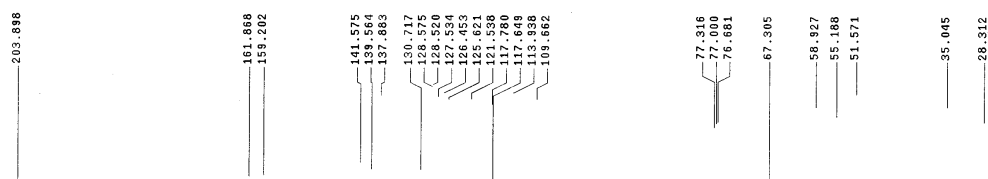
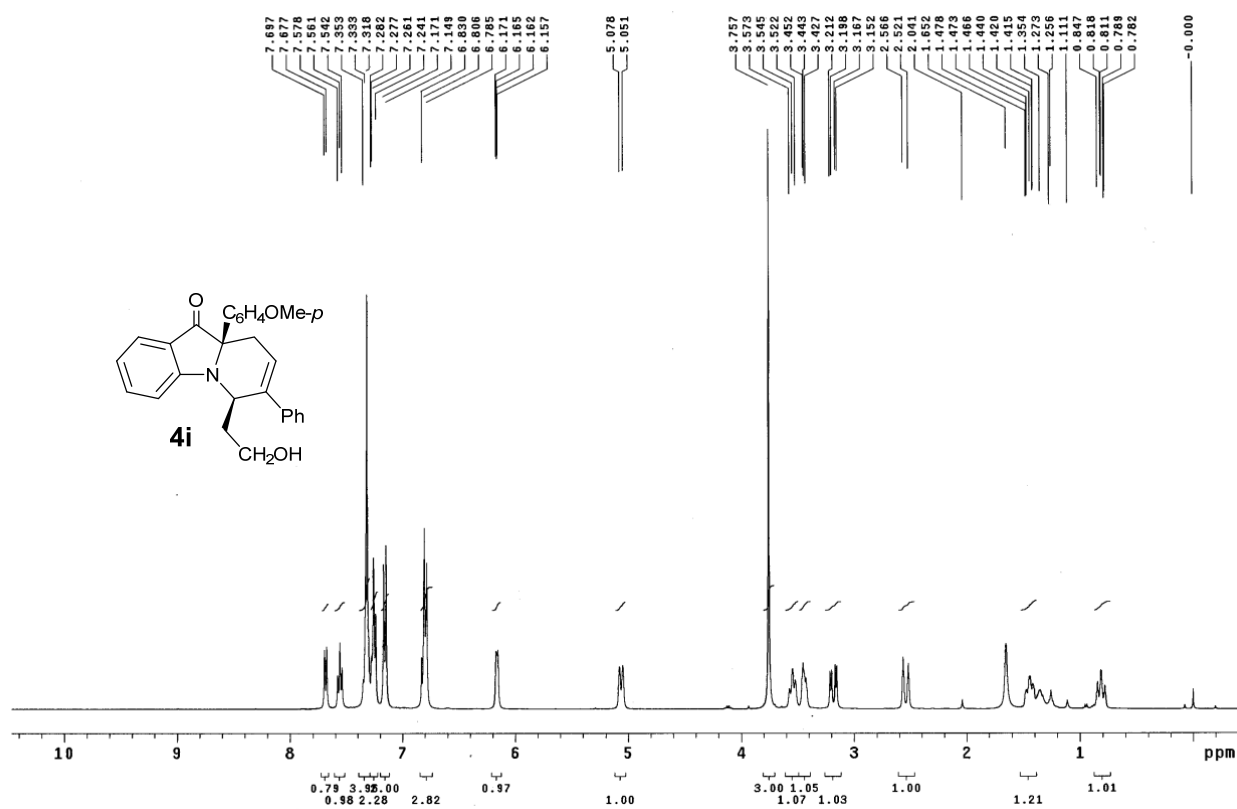
	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	11.795	1266658	7.33	73556	14.10
2	20.401	16015380	92.67	448027	85.90

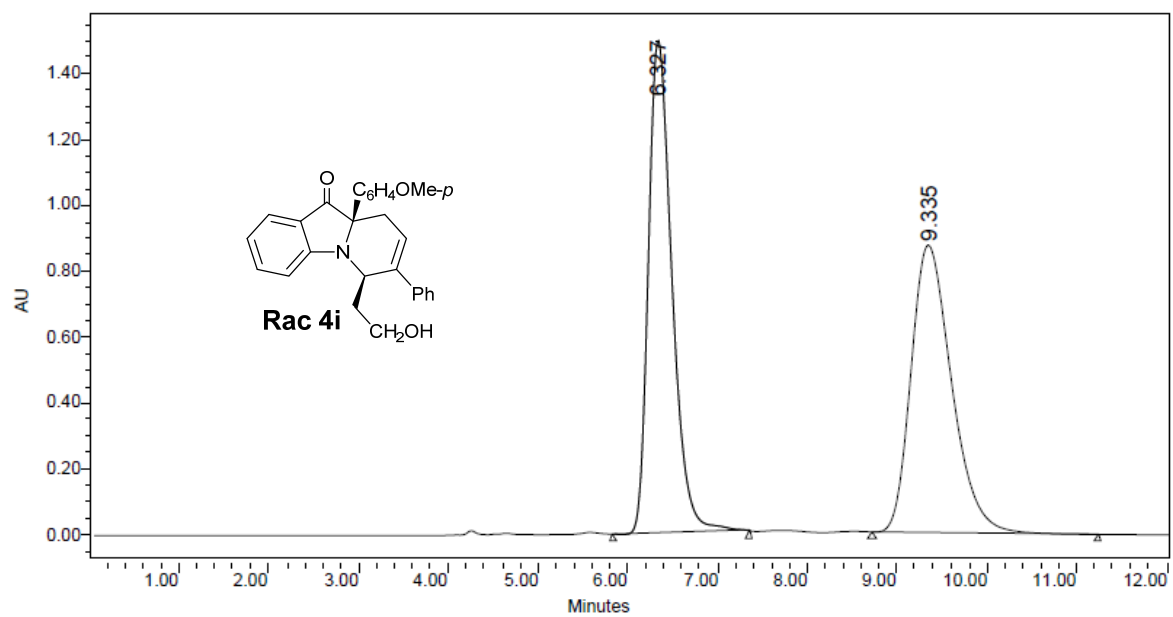




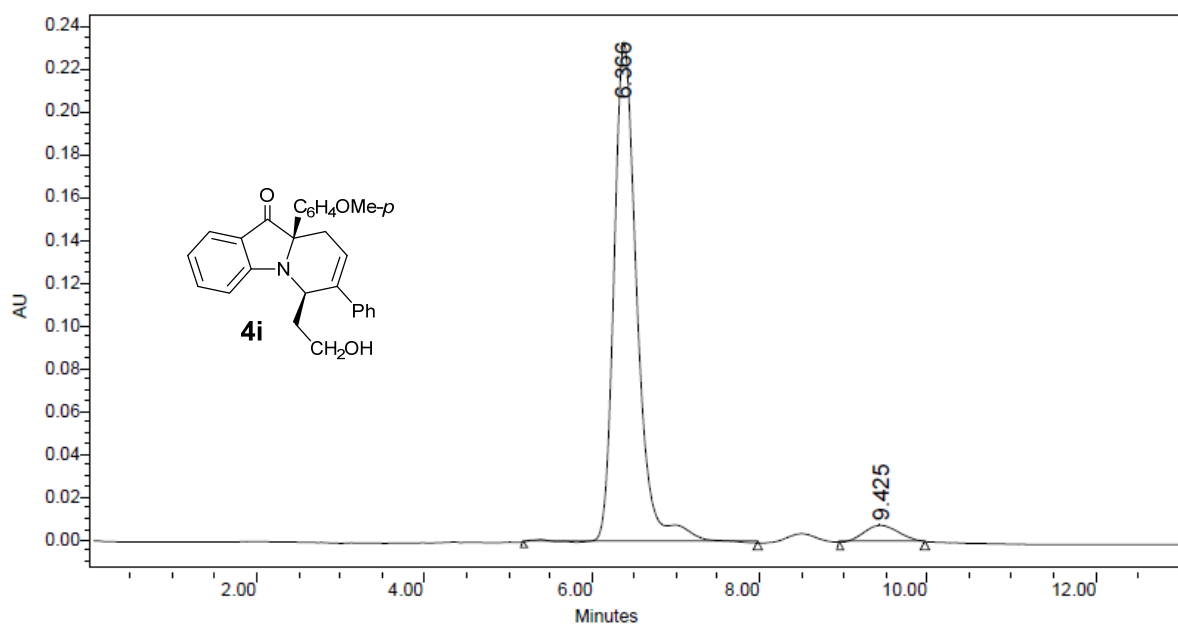




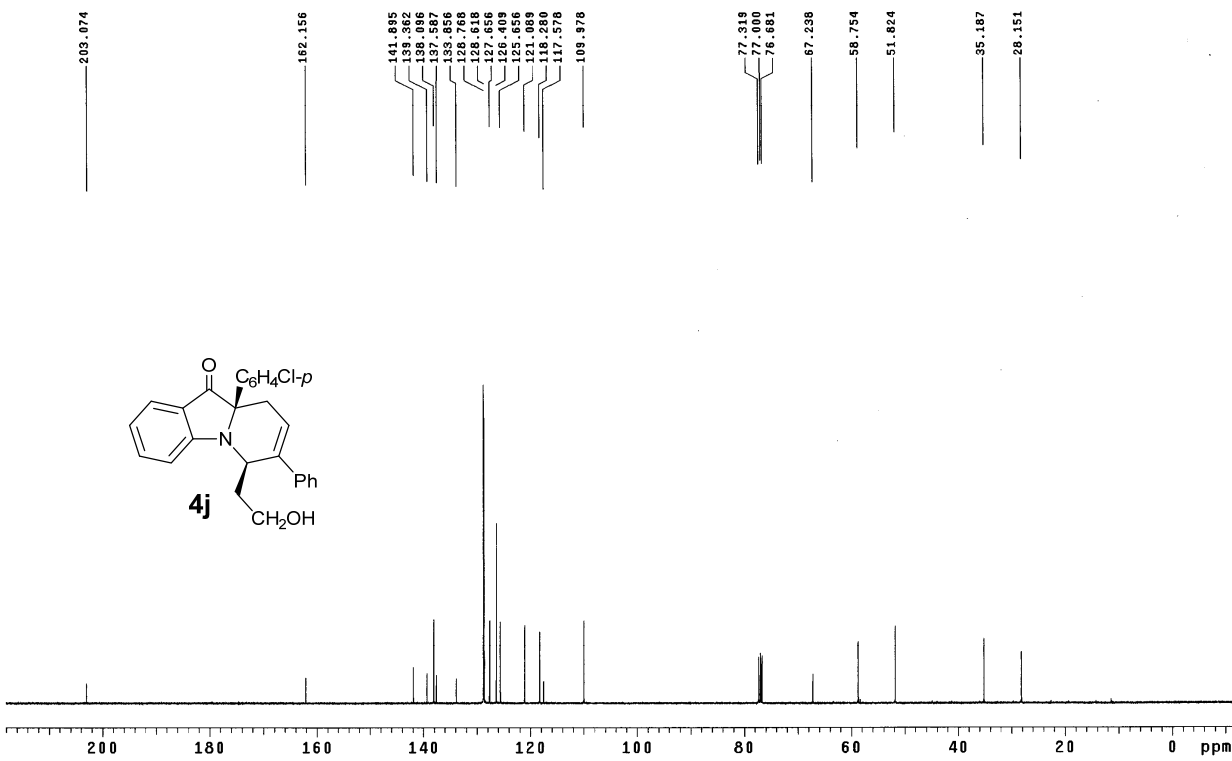
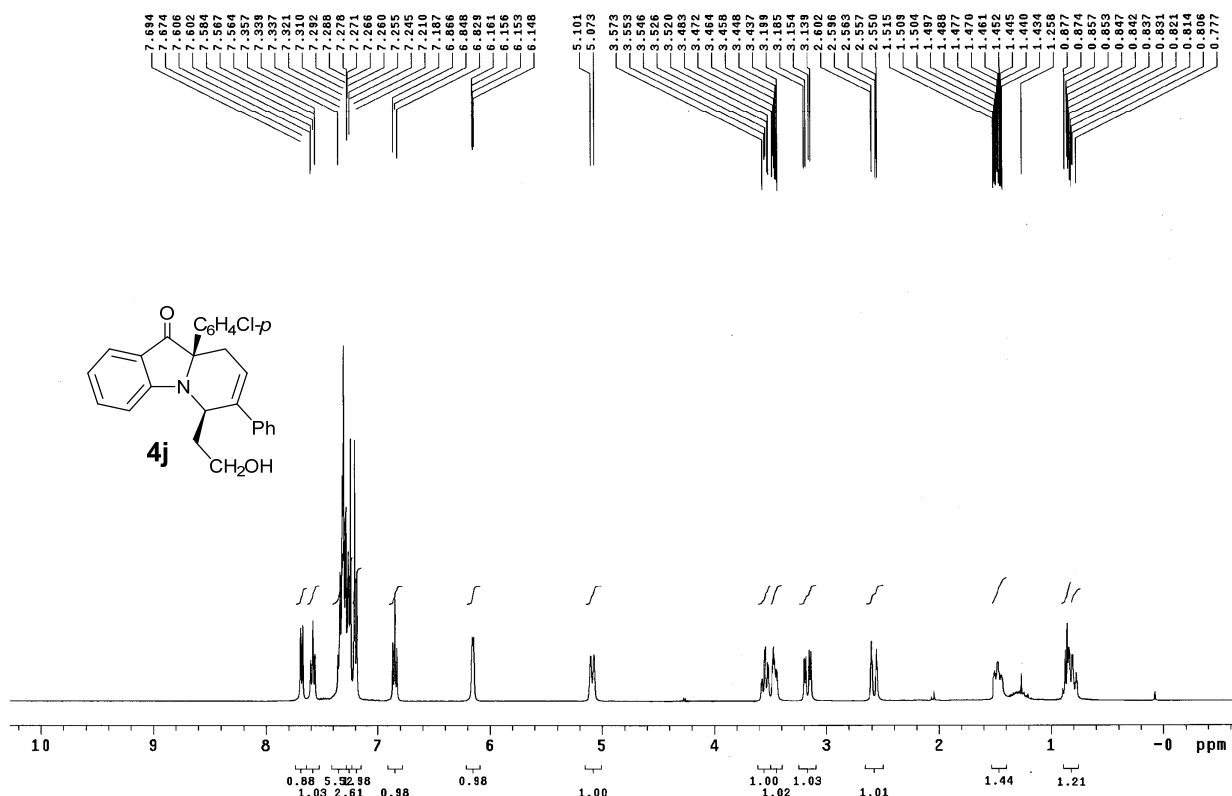


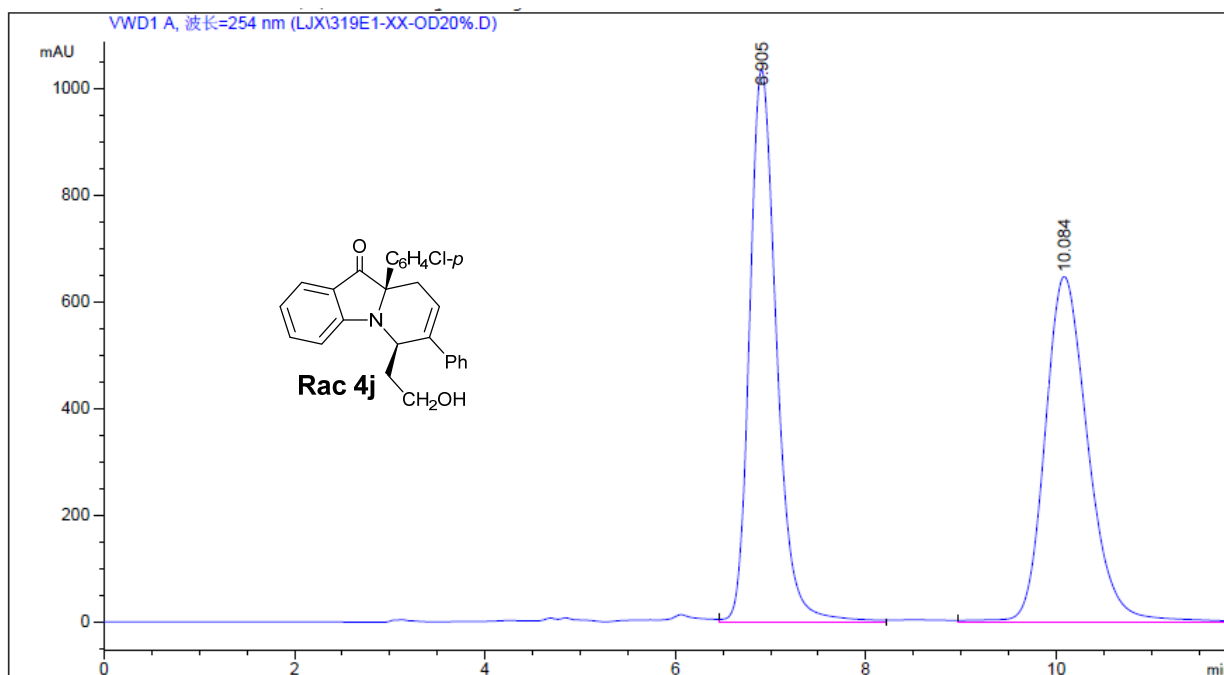


	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	6.327	27347437	49.96	1498022	63.17
2	9.335	27395366	50.04	873386	36.83

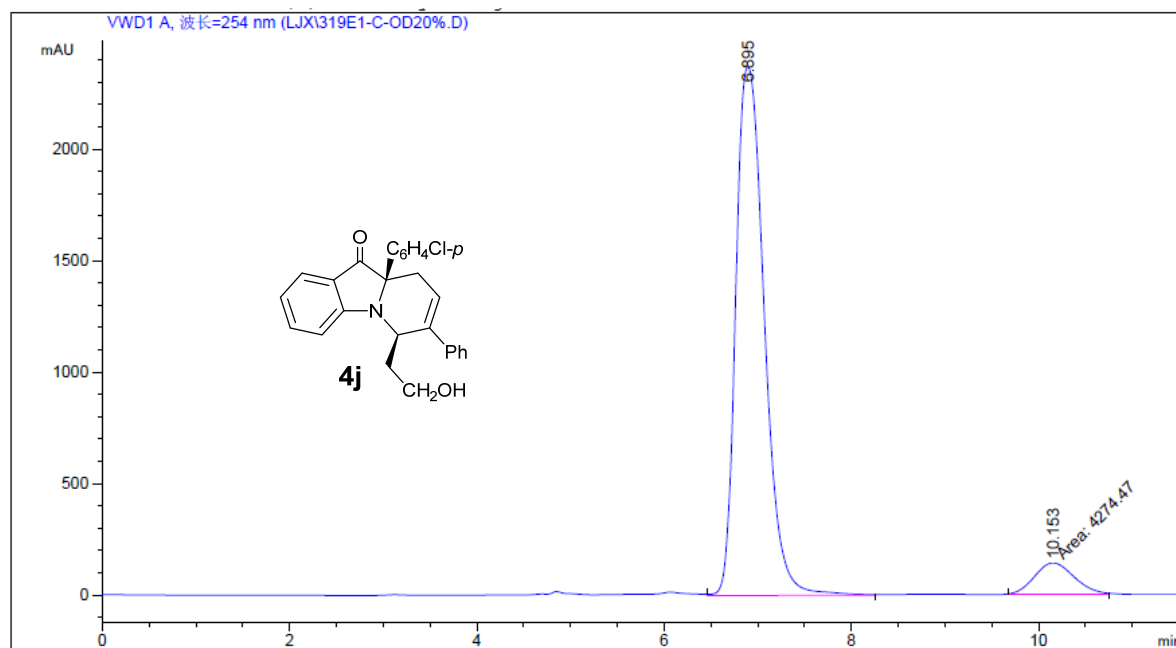


	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	6.366	4483729	95.25	233415	96.80
2	9.425	223645	4.75	7722	3.20

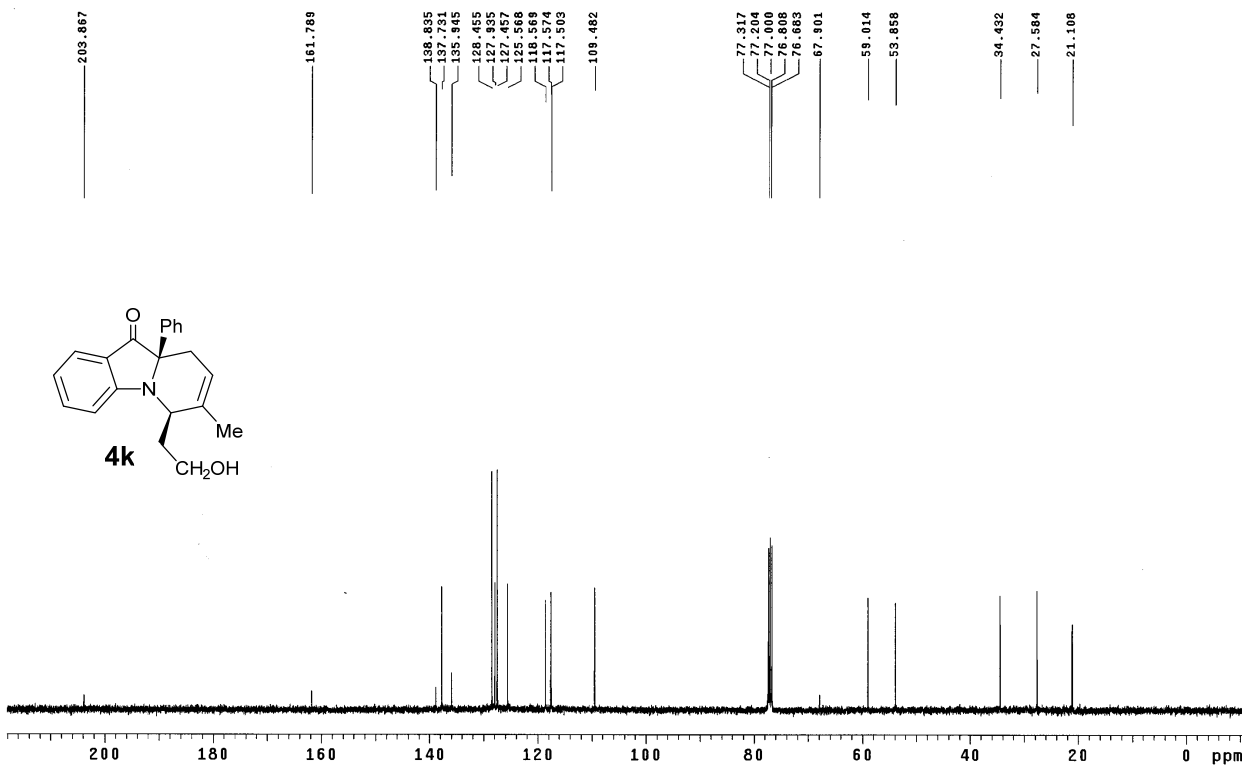
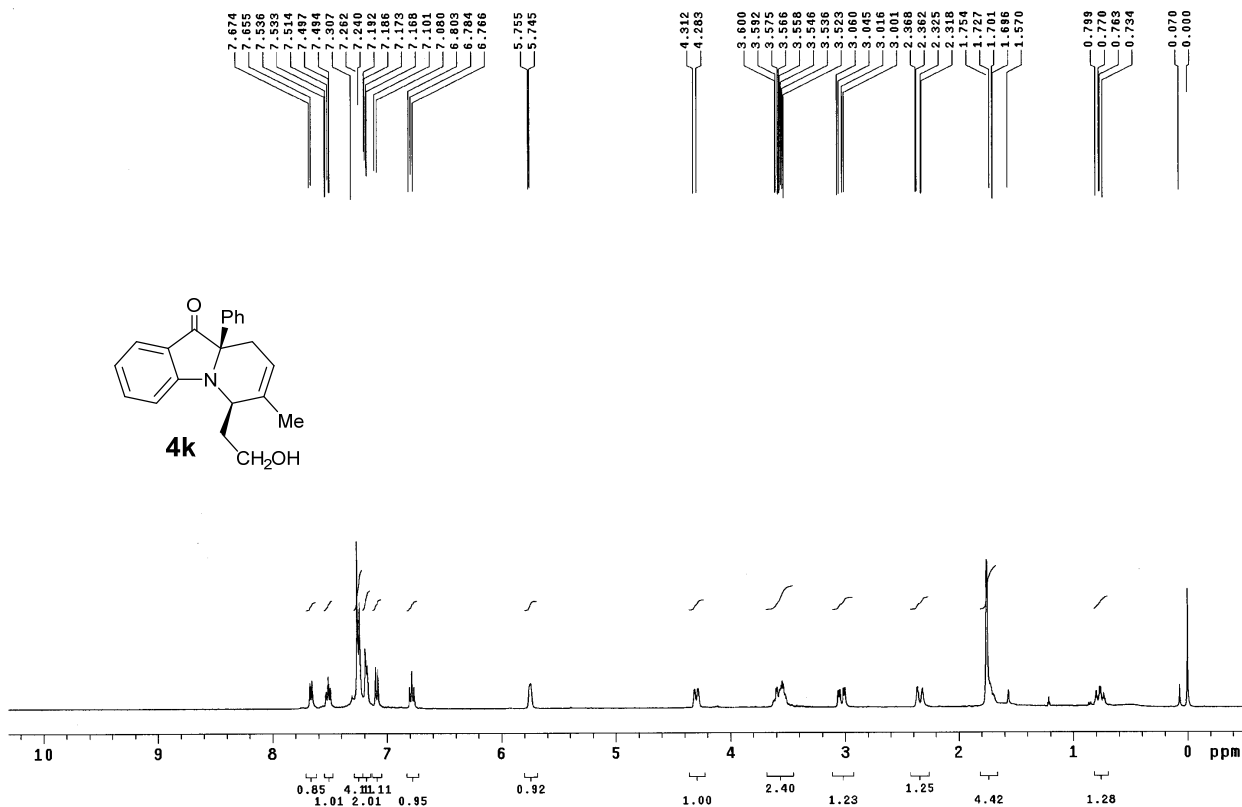


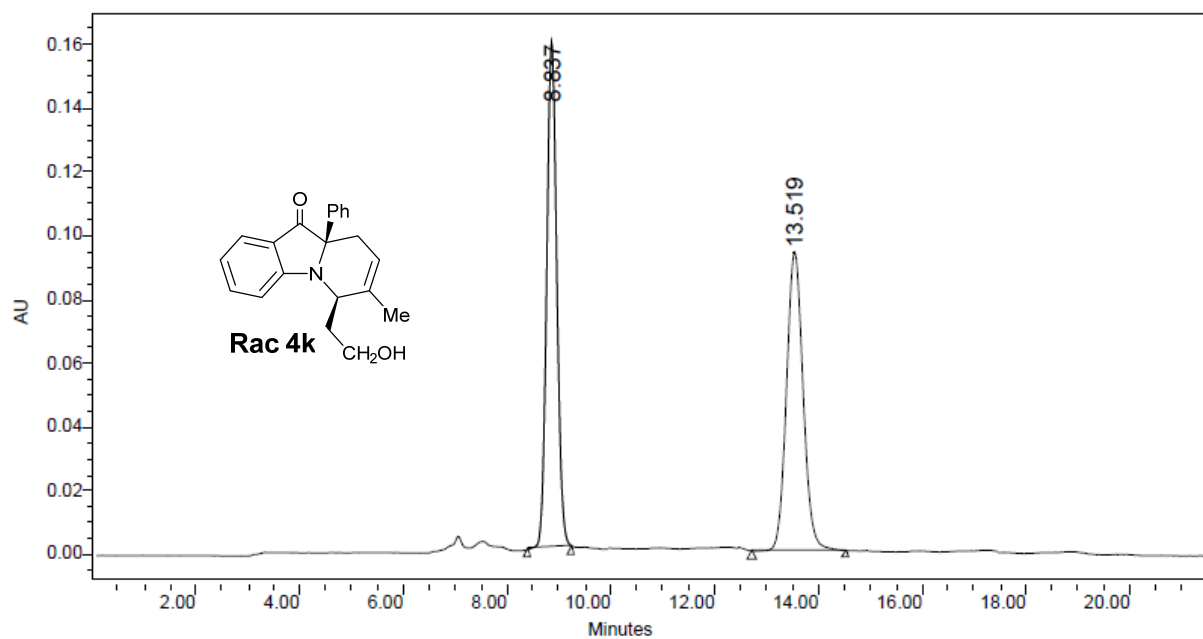


Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area mAU	Area *s	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	6.905	VV	0.2997	2.03781e4		1034.72144	50.0381
2	10.084	VBA	0.4832	2.03470e4		647.36127	49.9619

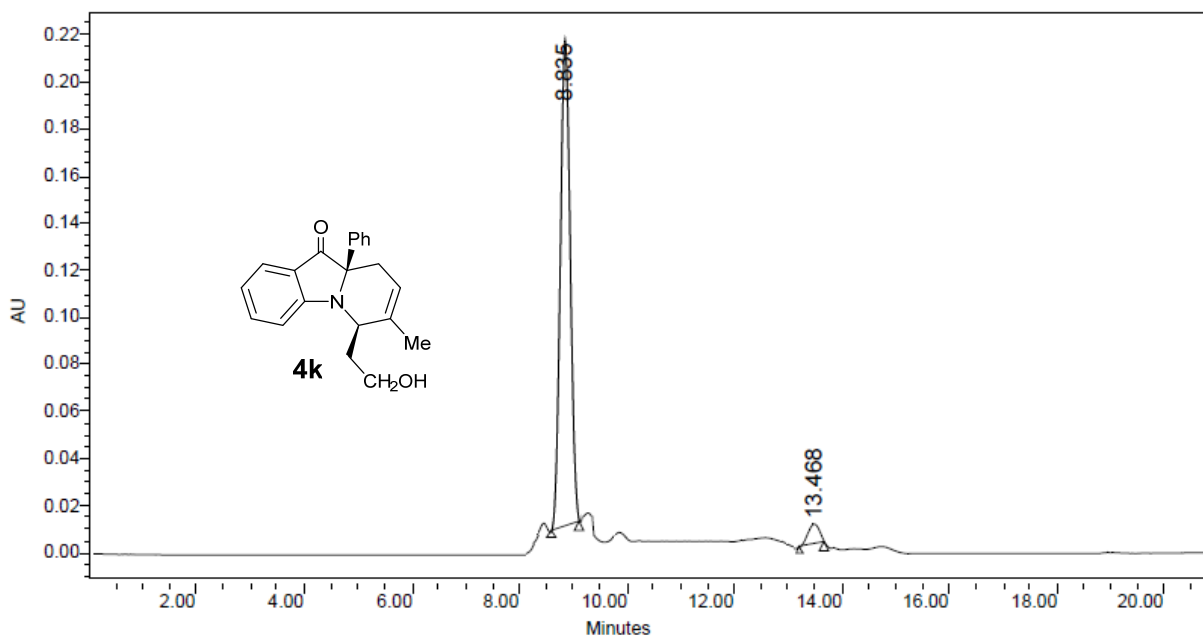


Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area mAU	Area *s	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	6.895	VV	0.3337	5.00457e4		2369.77637	92.1310
2	10.153	MM	0.4991	4274.47412		142.74429	7.8690

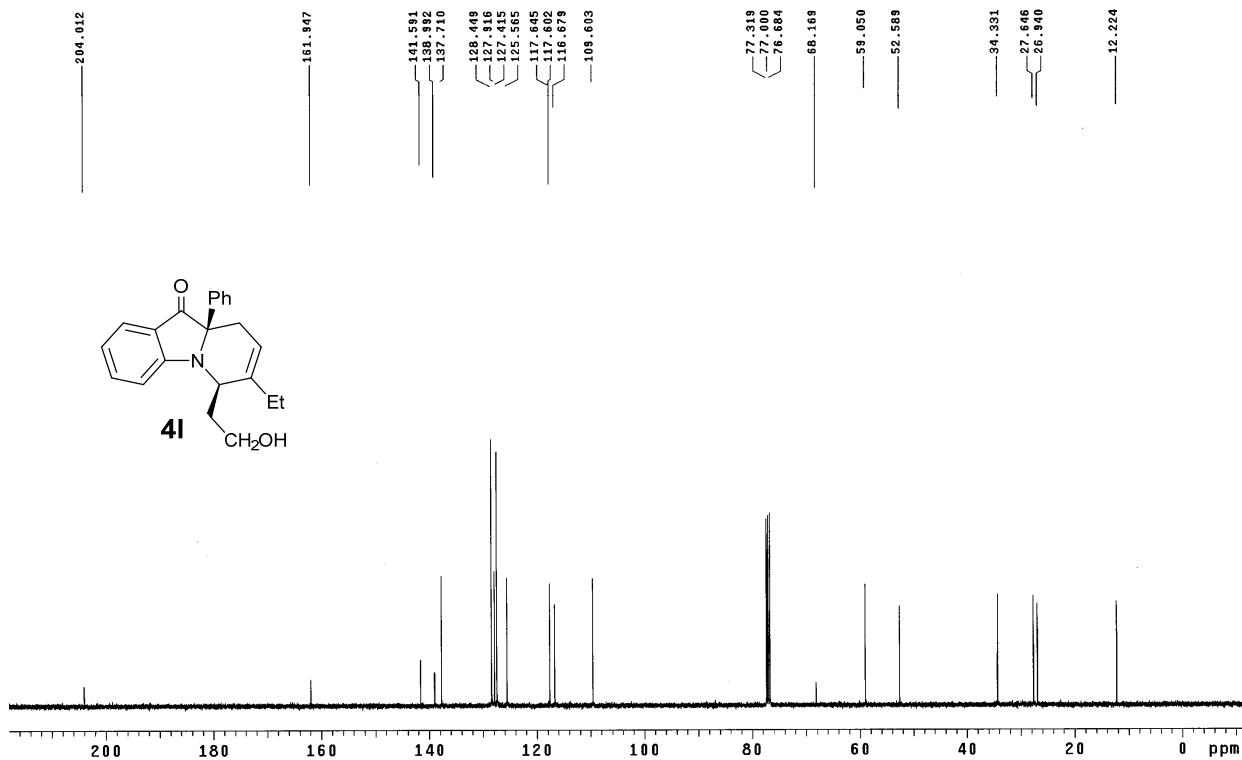
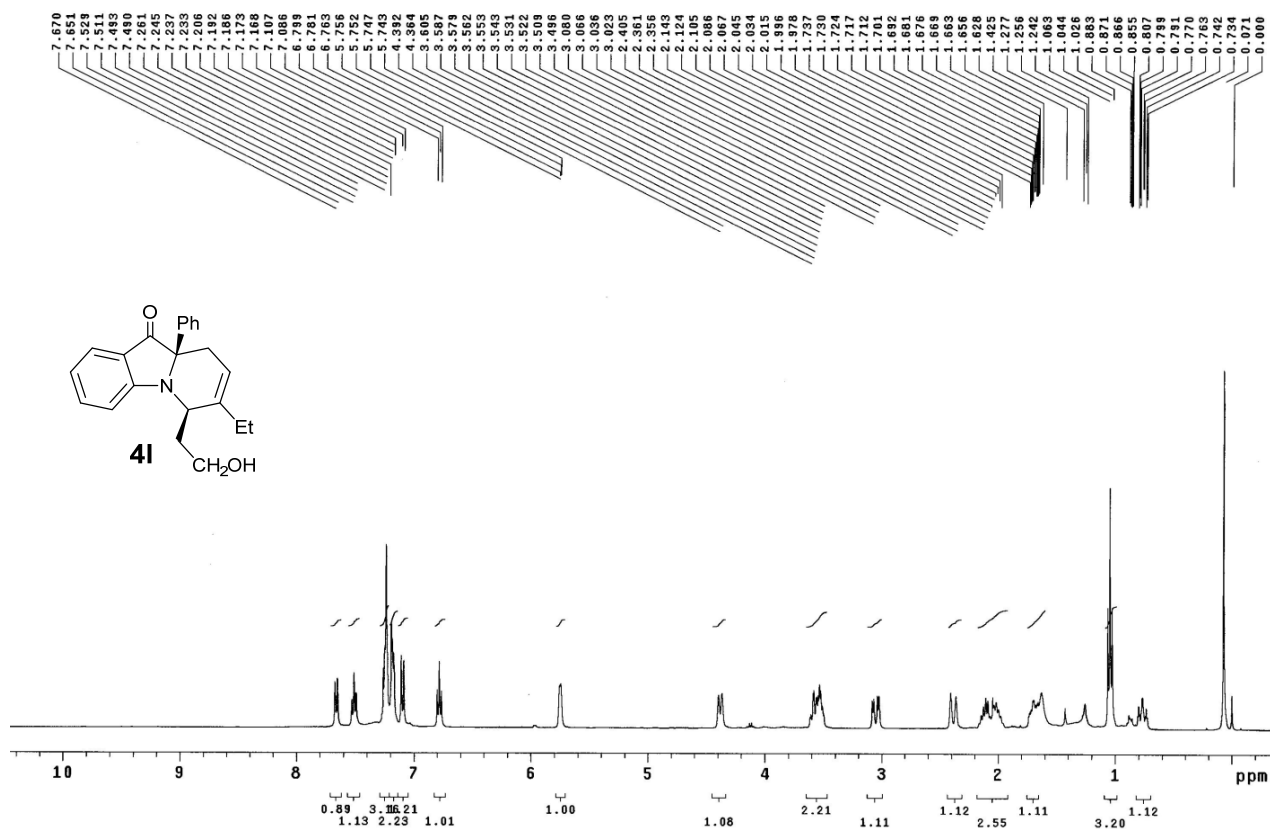


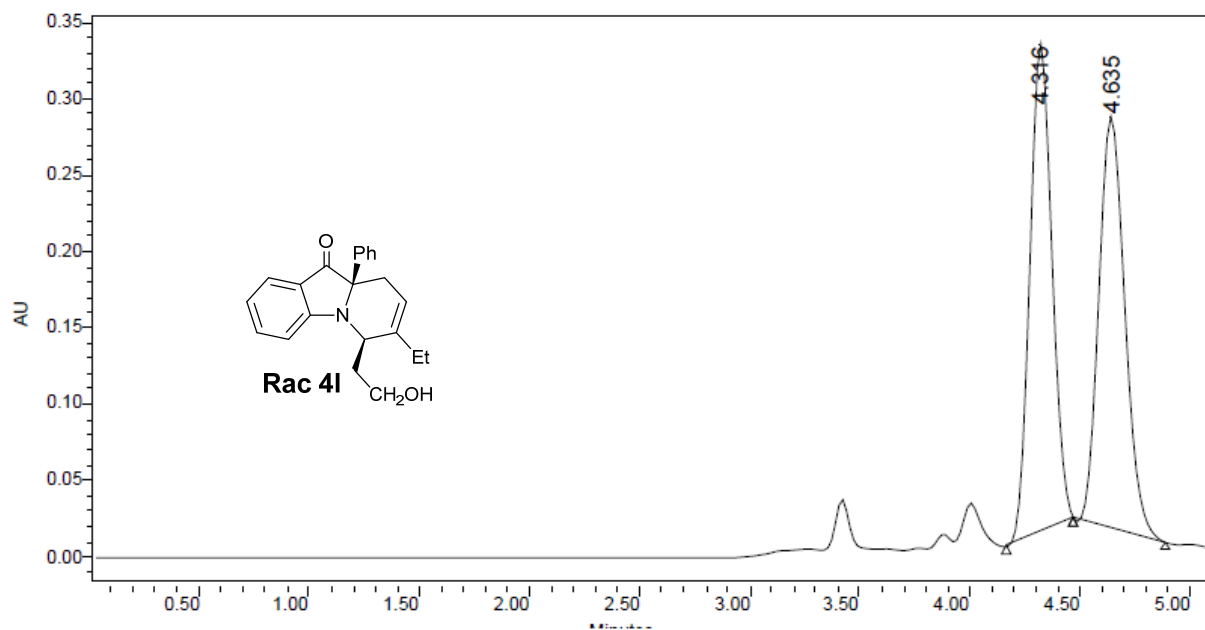


	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	8.837	2145527	50.64	158793	62.88
2	13.519	2091497	49.36	93746	37.12

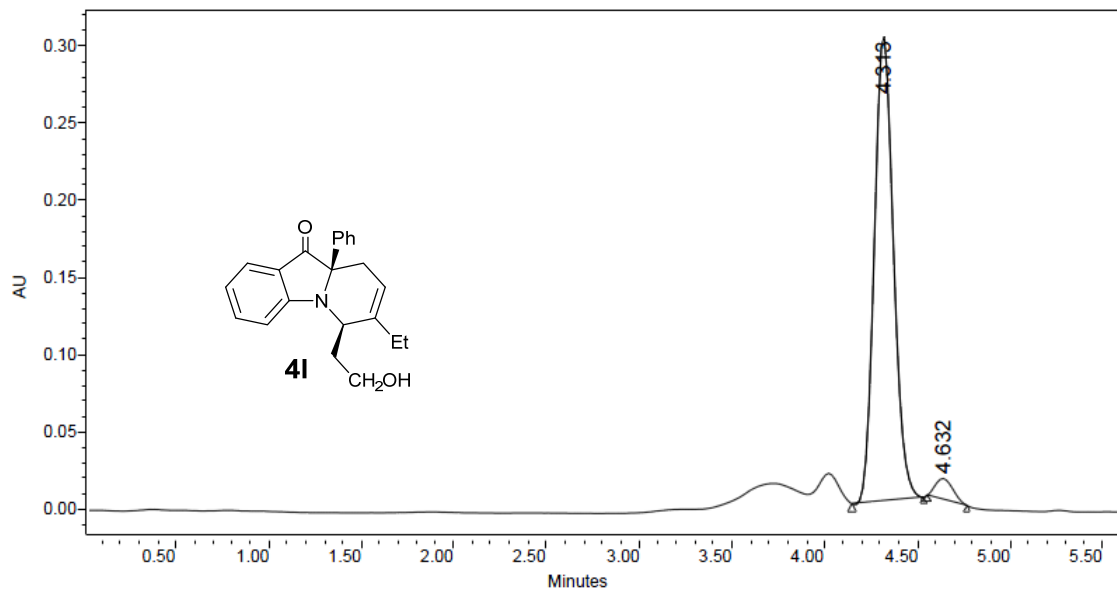


	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	8.835	2635873	95.27	206306	95.97
2	13.468	130766	4.73	8654	4.03

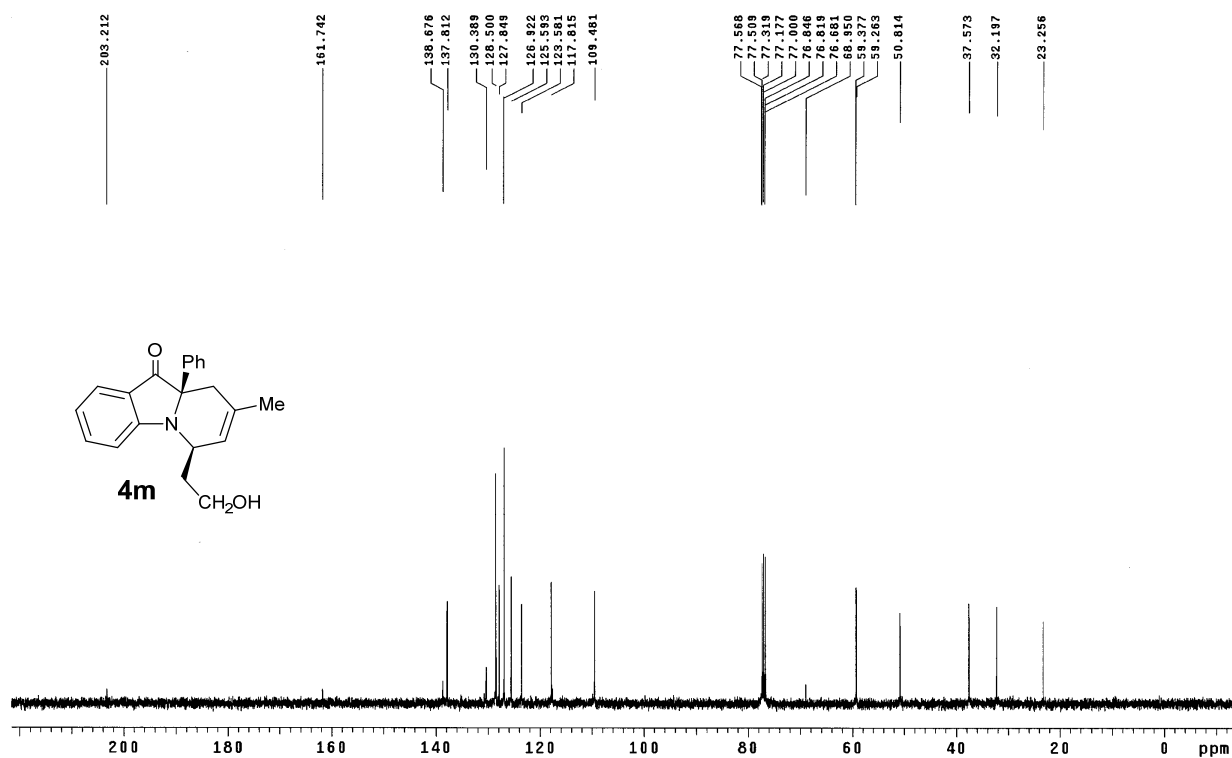
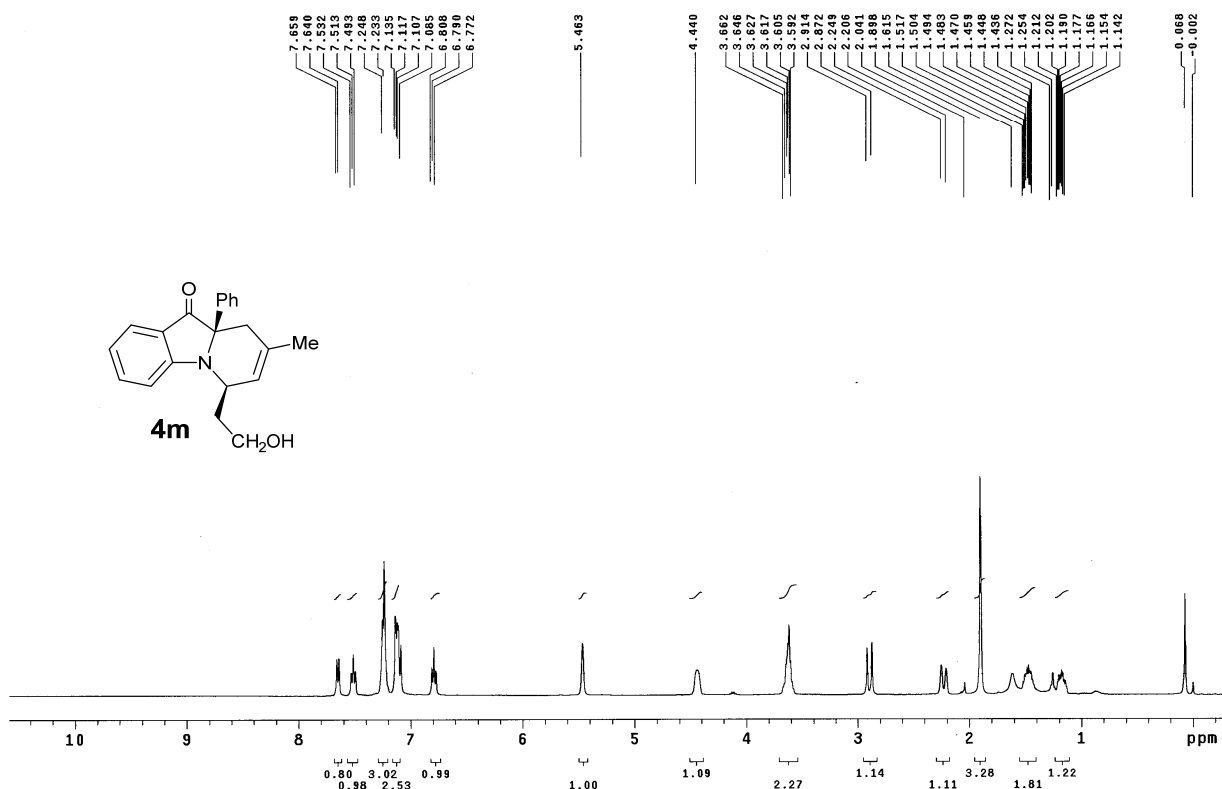


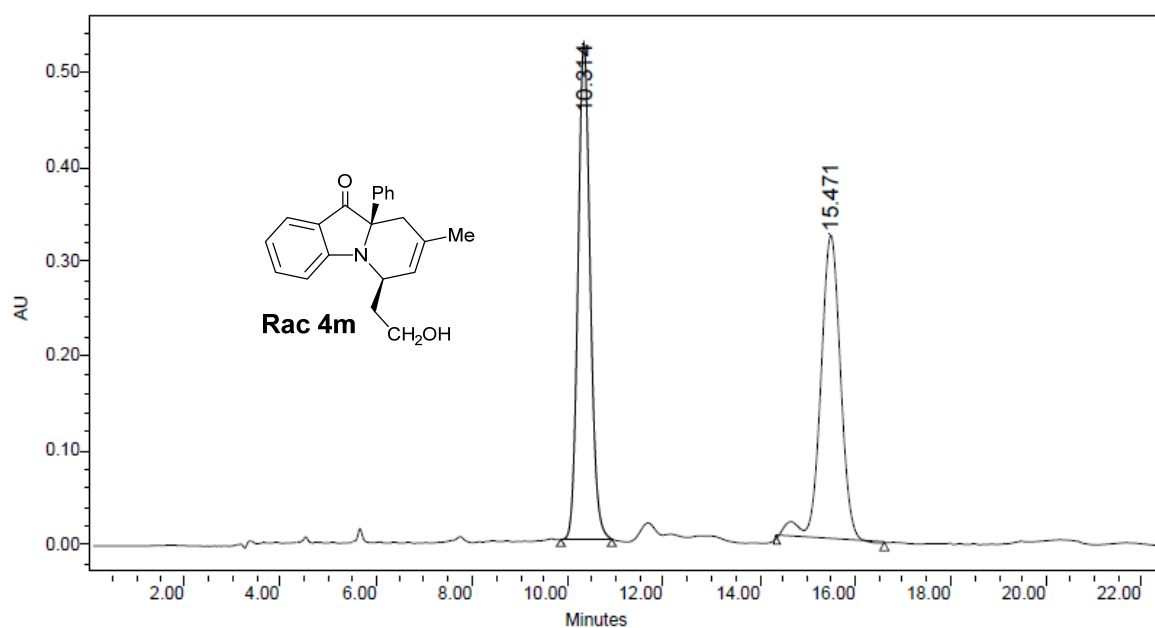


	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	4.316	2239871	50.32	319116	54.21
2	4.635	2211620	49.68	269556	45.79

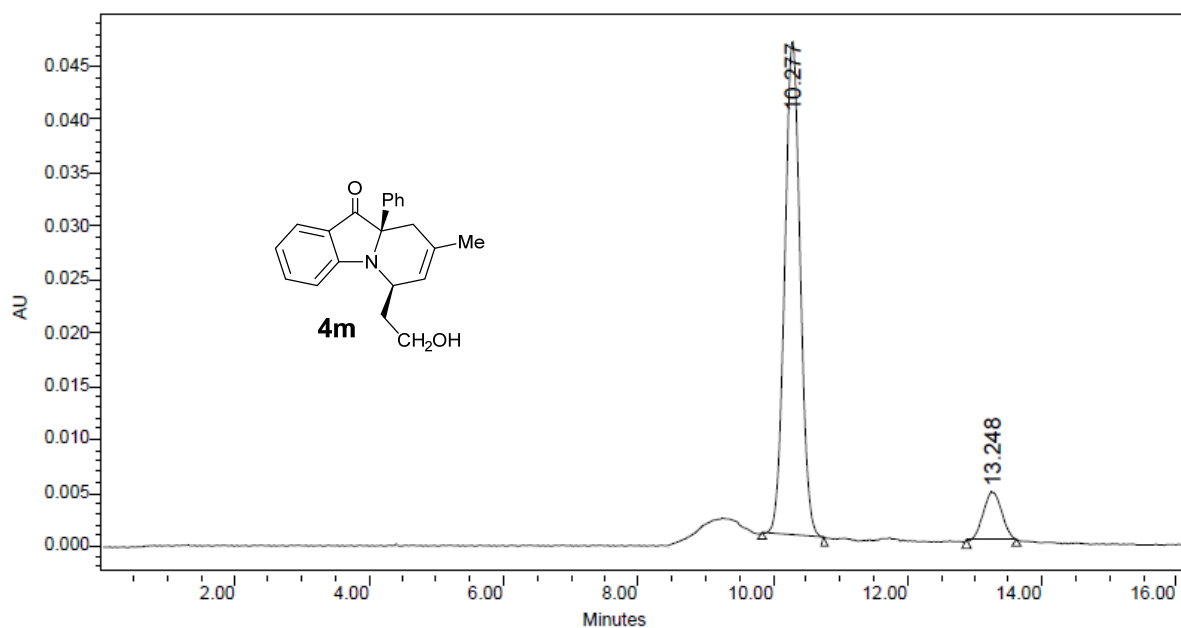


	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	4.313	2163495	95.99	300624	95.71
2	4.632	90312	4.01	13467	4.29

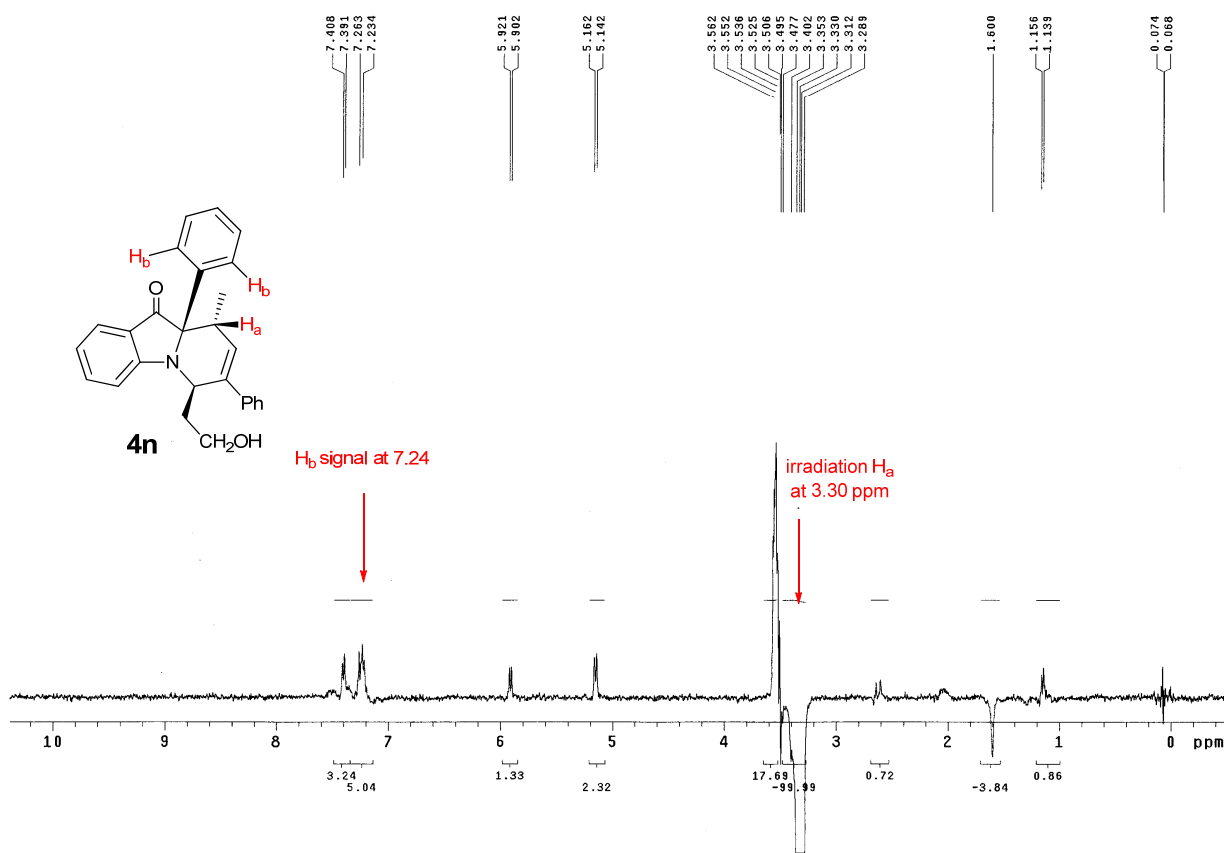
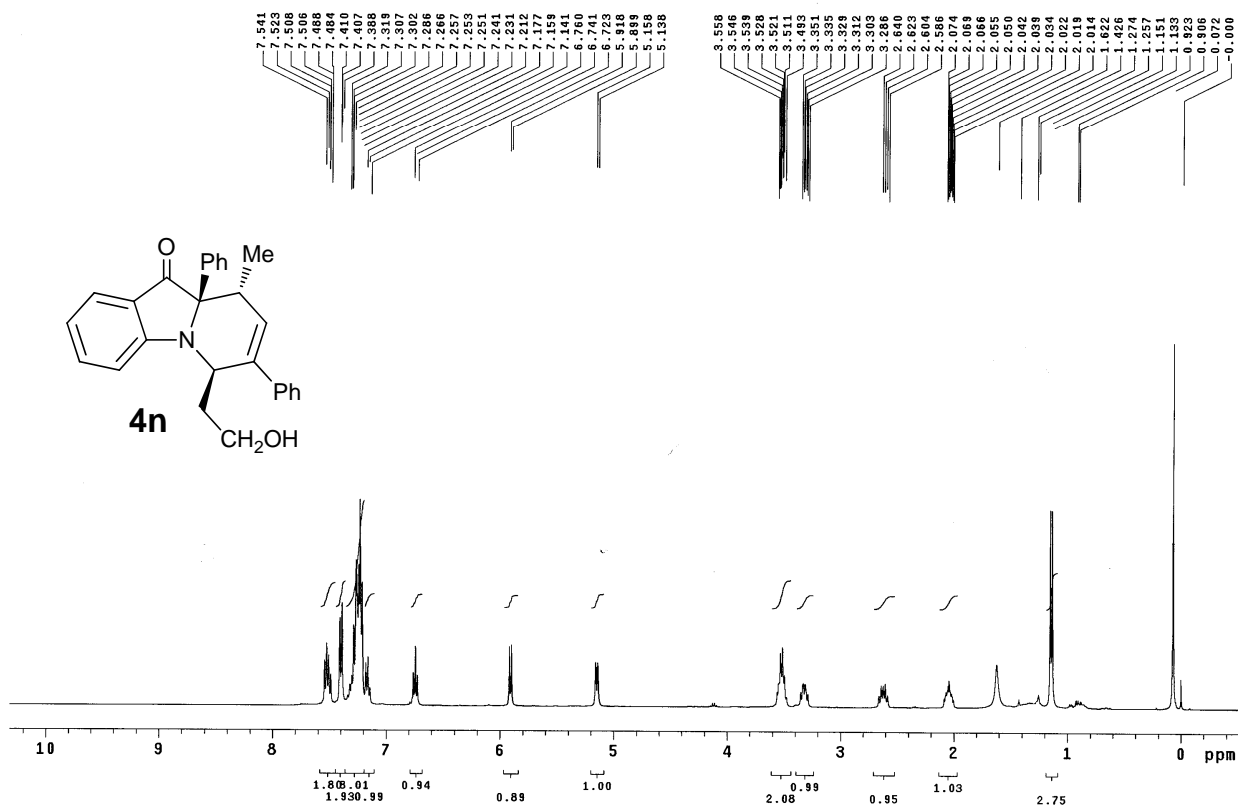


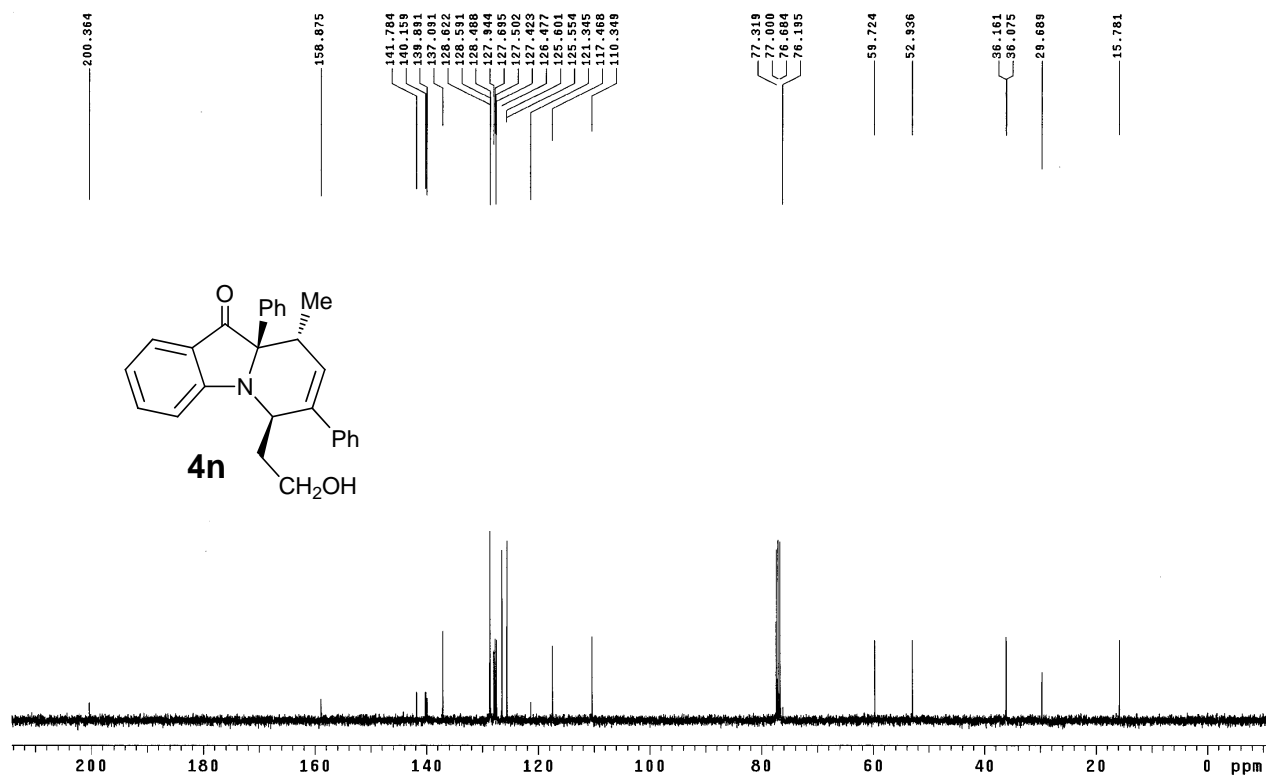


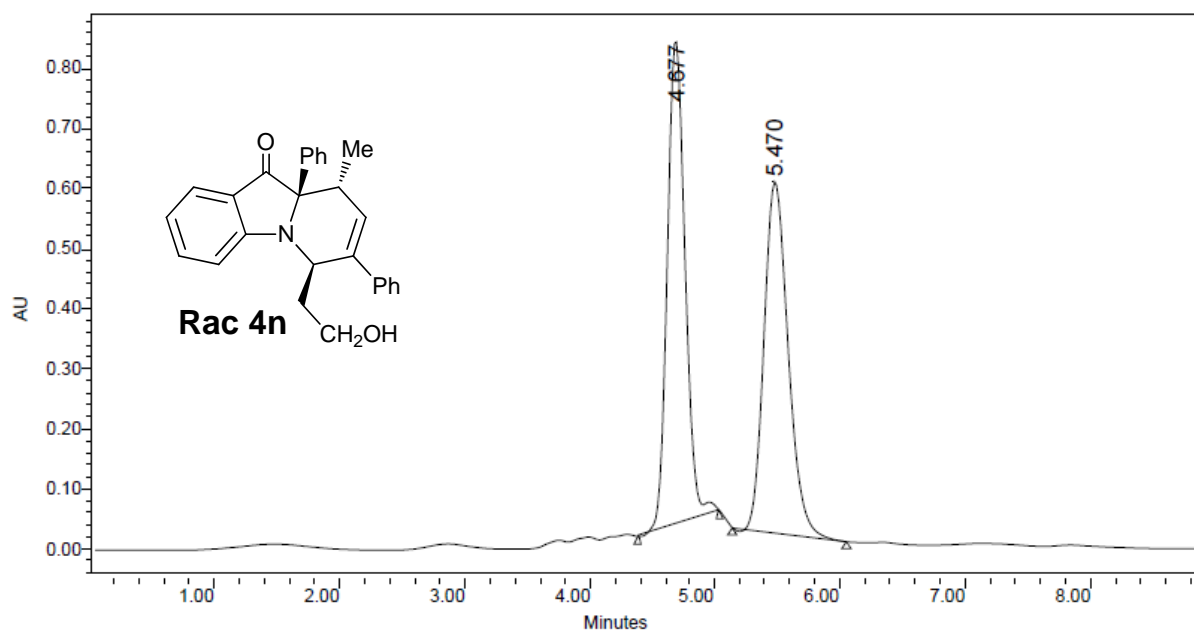
Peak	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	10.314	9338787	49.84	525338	61.97
2	15.471	9396908	50.16	322382	38.03



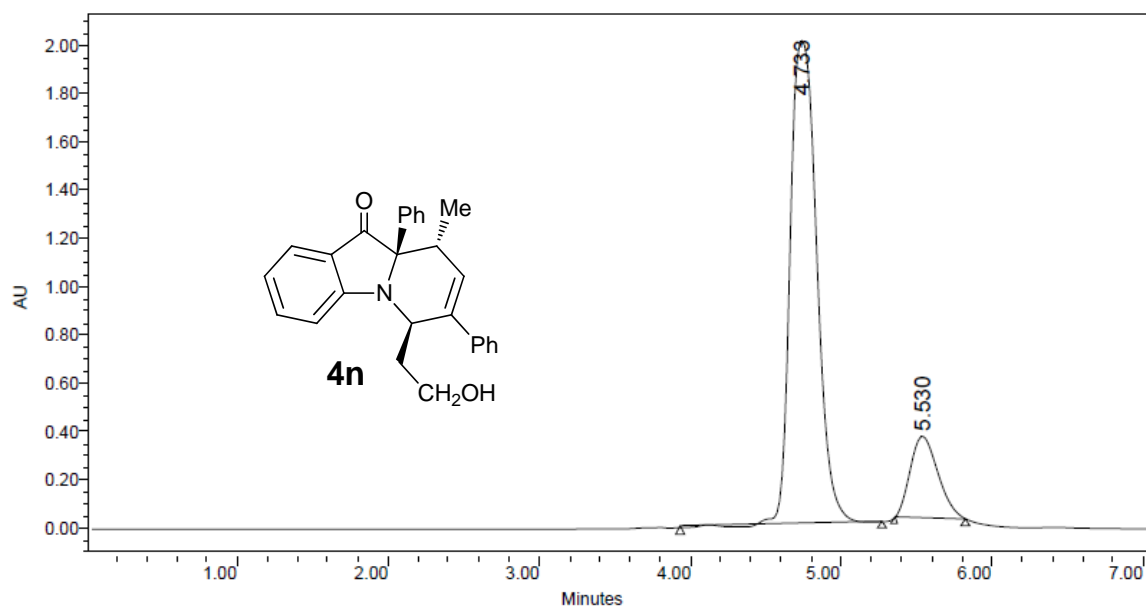
Peak	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	10.277	744804	89.40	46391	91.09
2	13.248	88344	10.60	4540	8.91



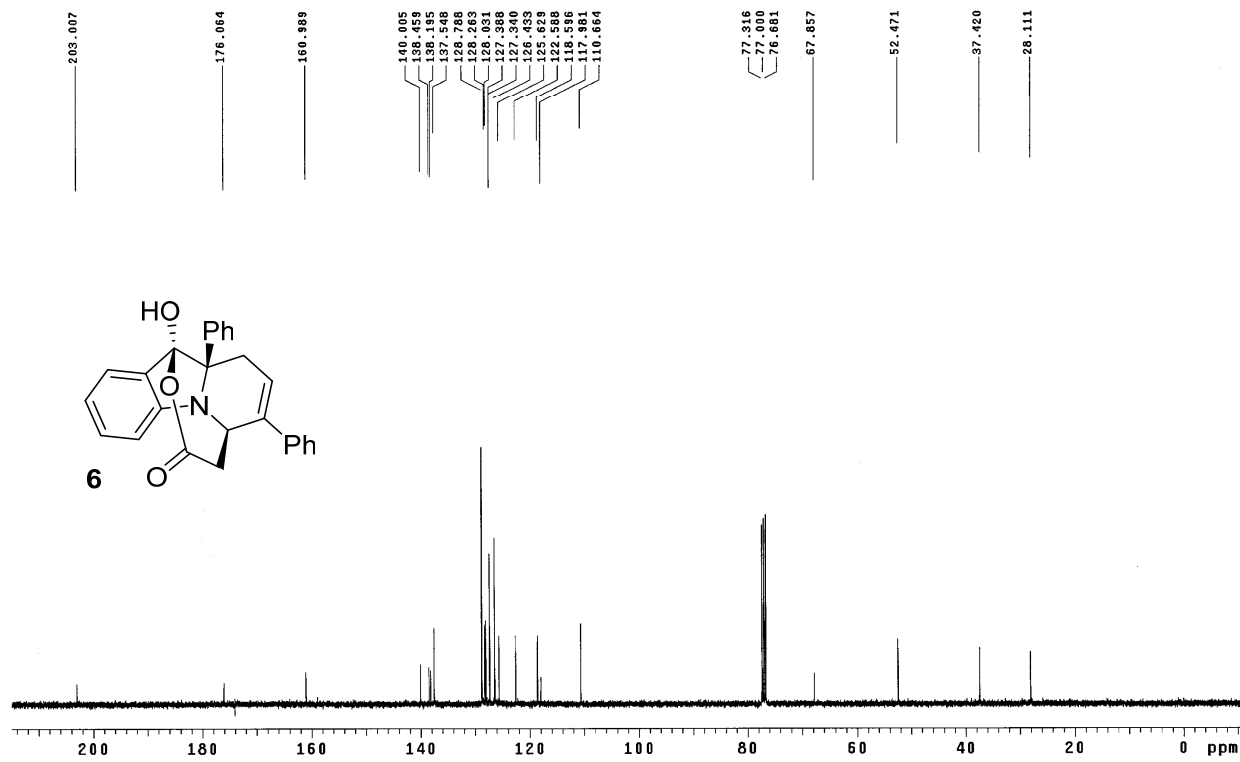
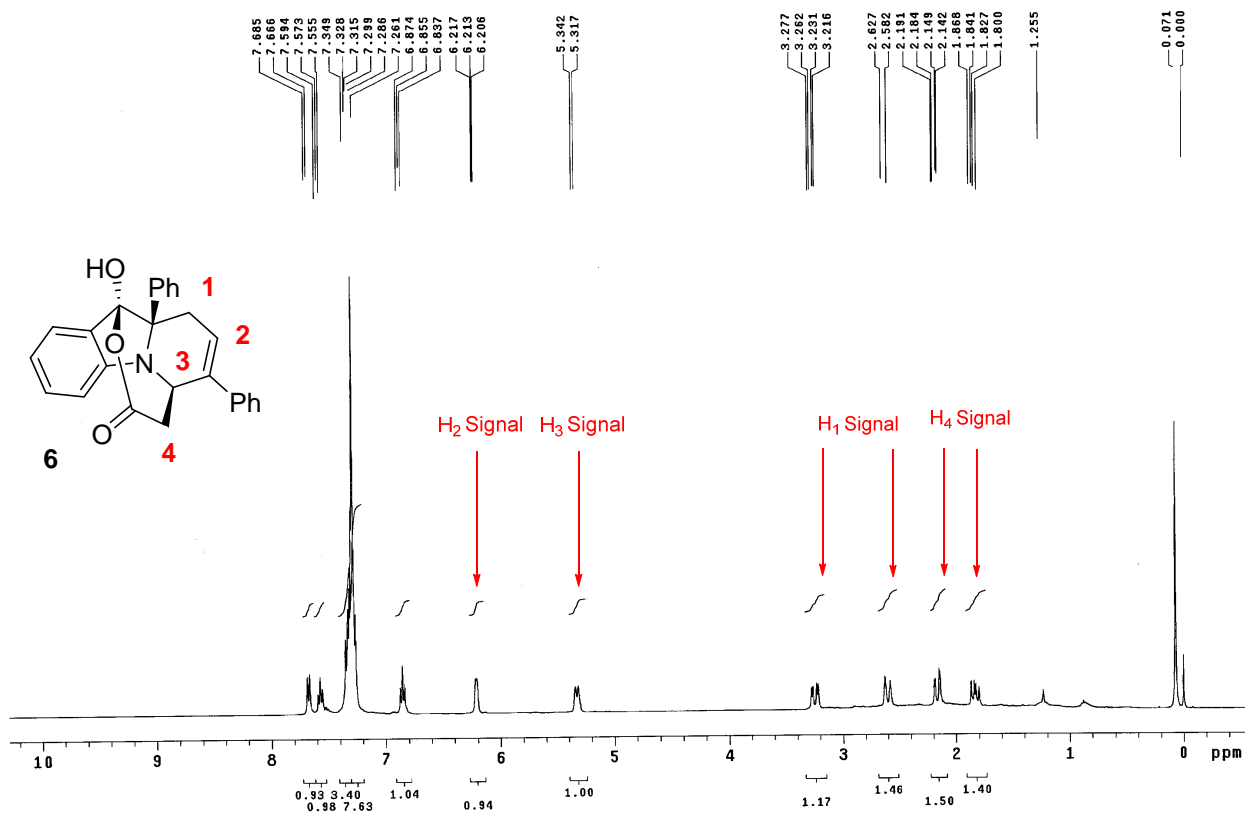


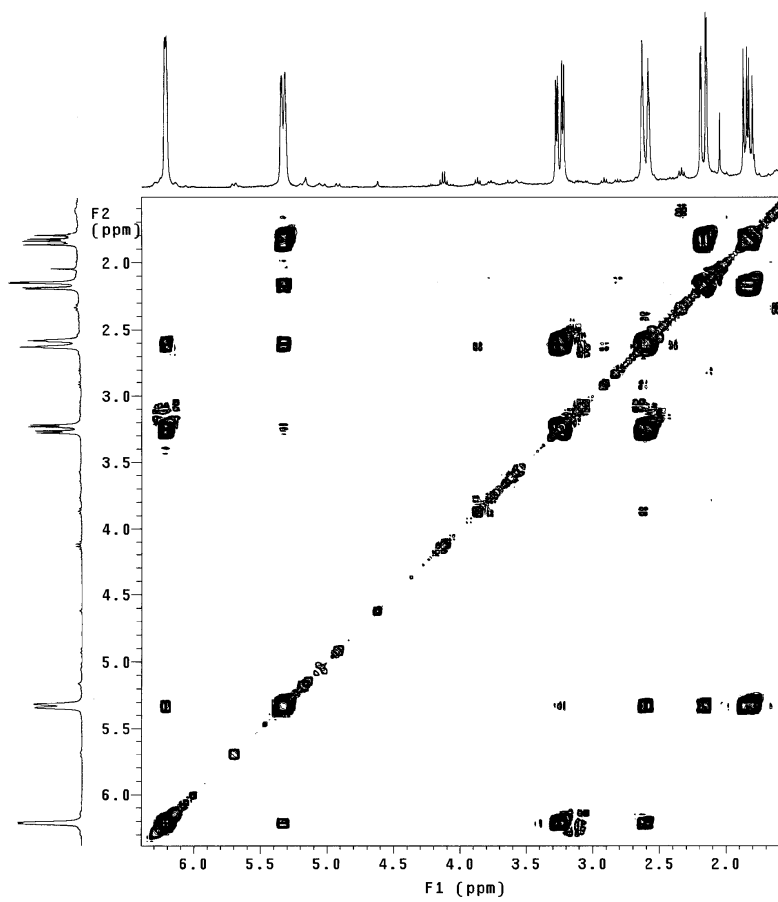
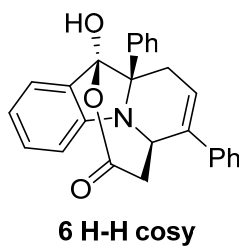
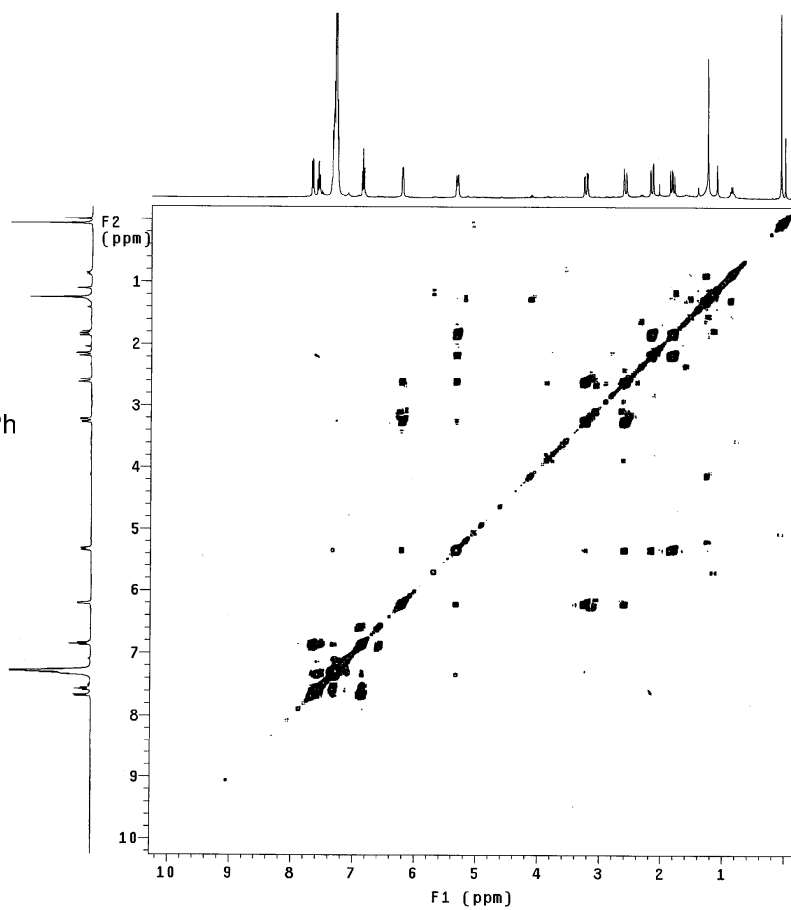
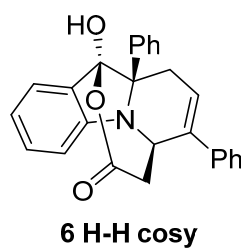


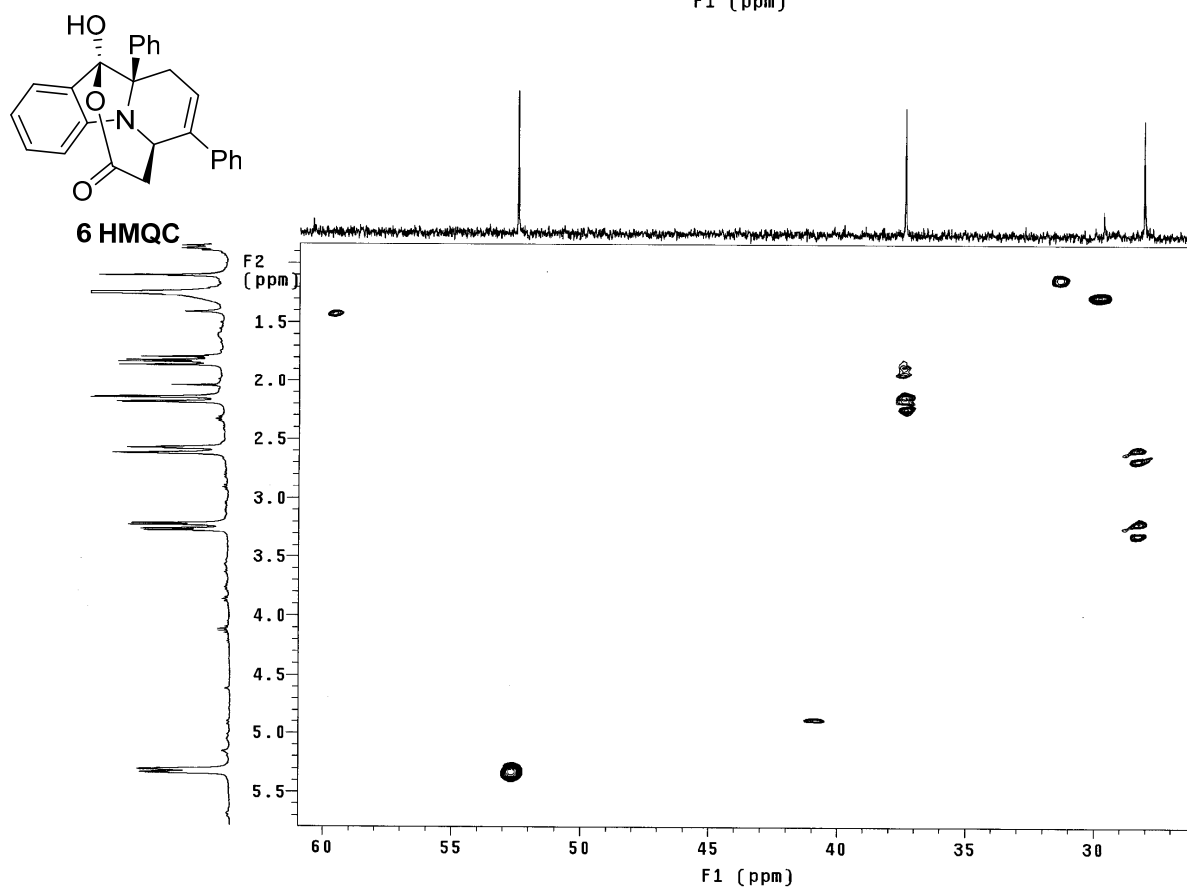
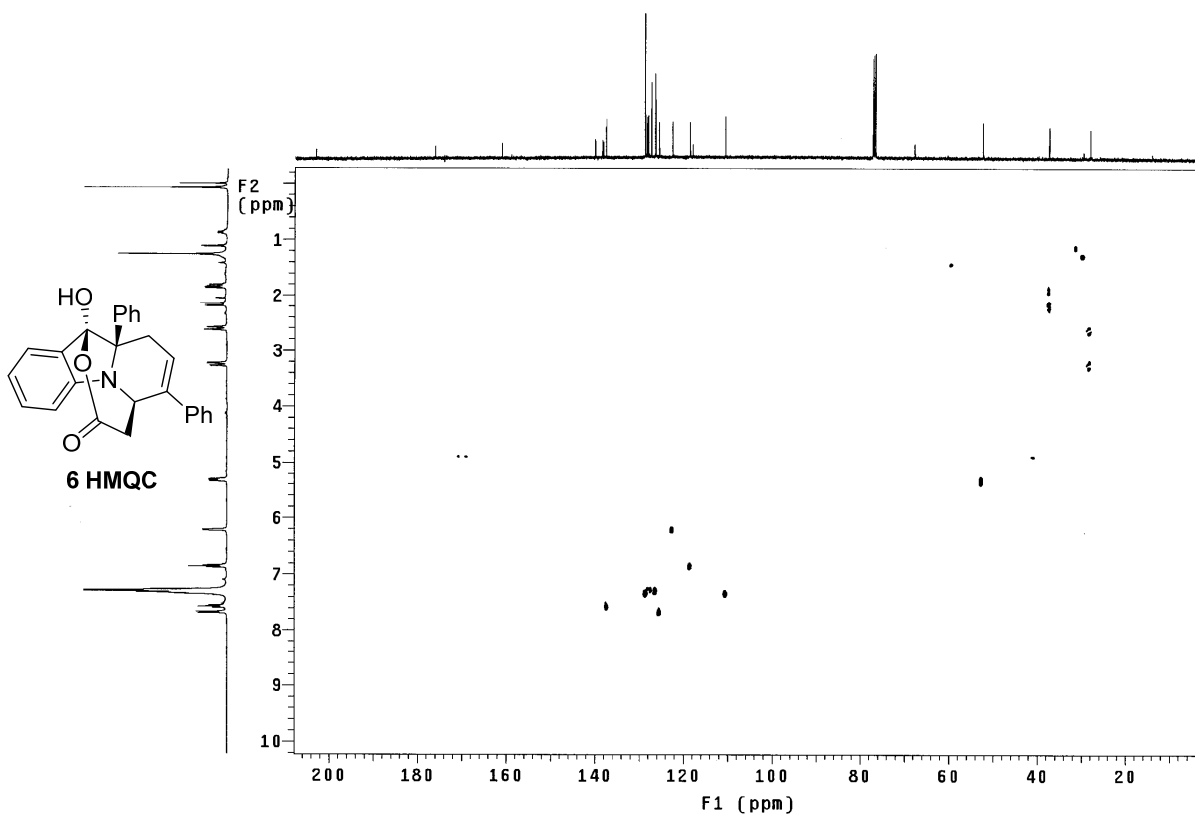
	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	4.677	8031162	50.56	807404	57.98
2	5.470	7852380	49.44	585228	42.02

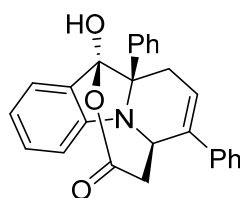


	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	4.733	24589540	85.05	2005893	85.58
2	5.530	4321534	14.95	337946	14.42

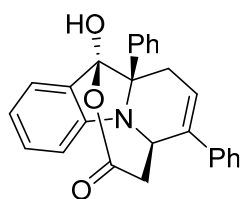
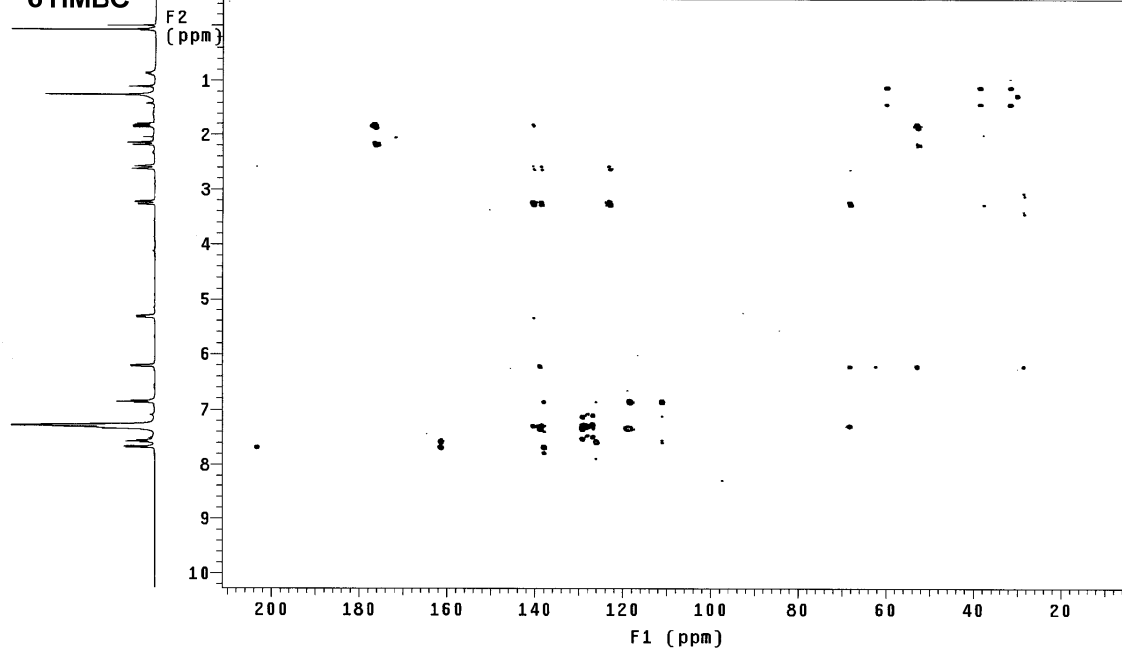




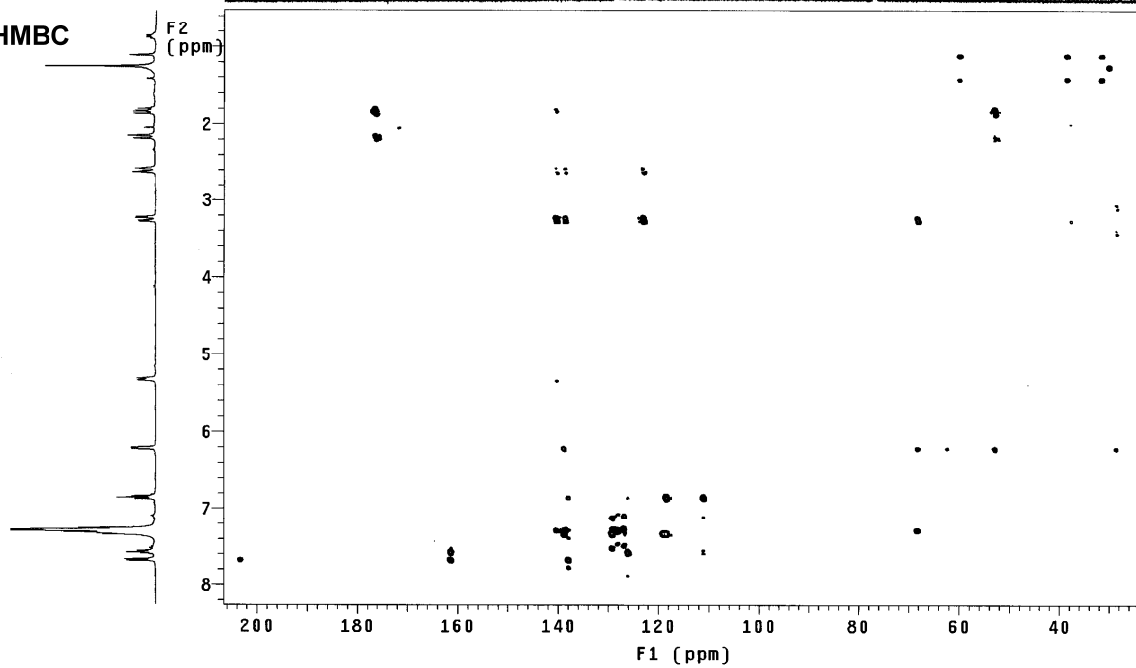


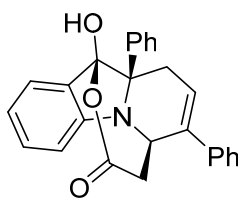


6 HMBC

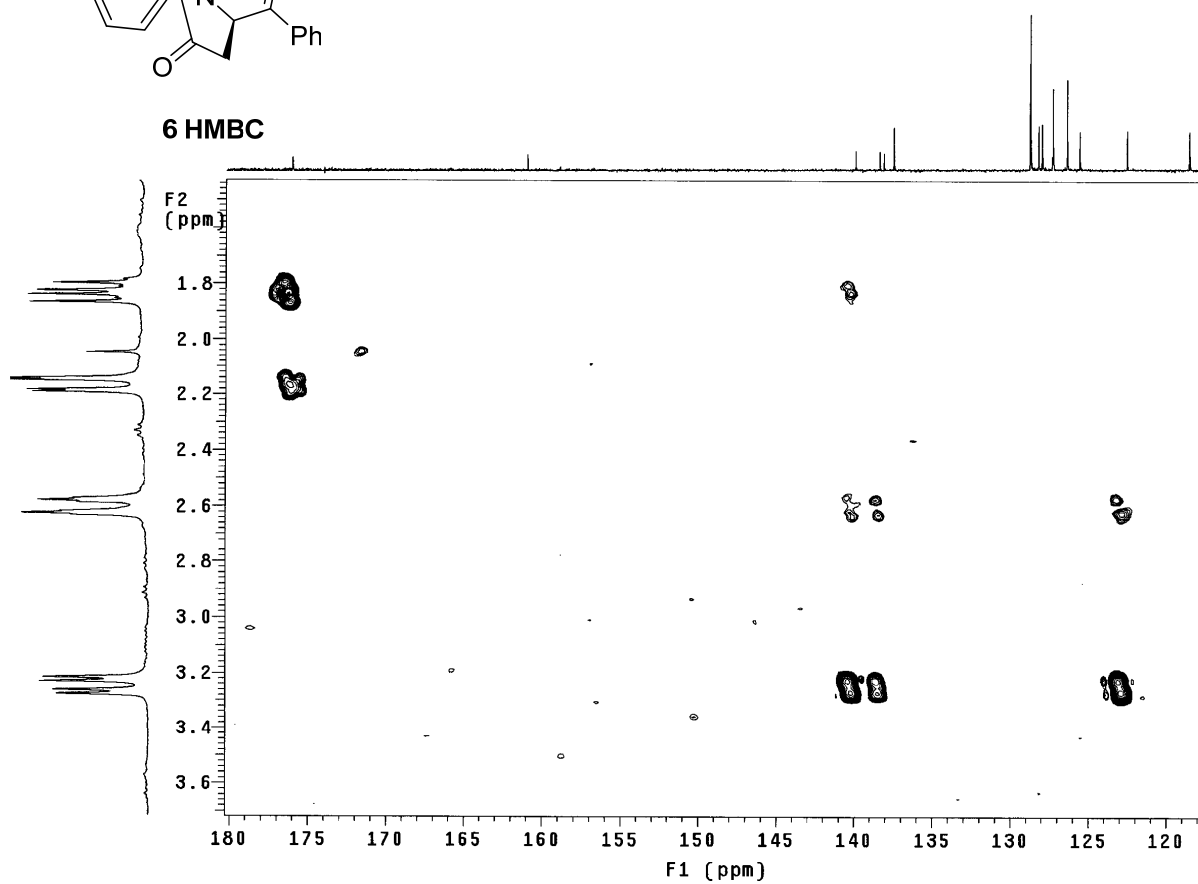


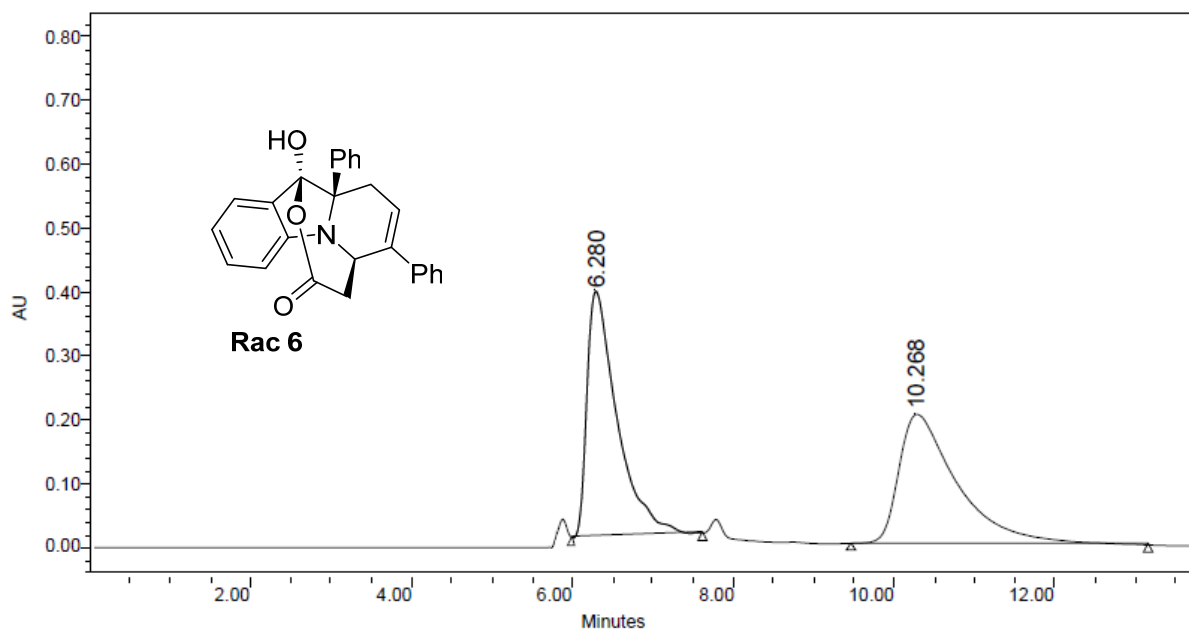
6 HMBC



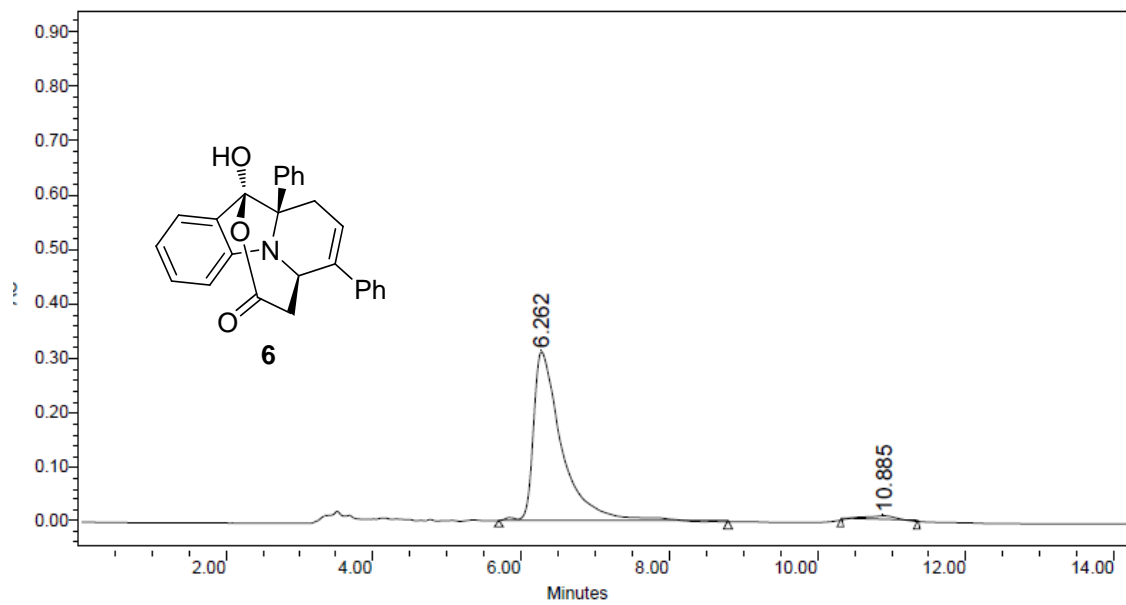


6 HMBC

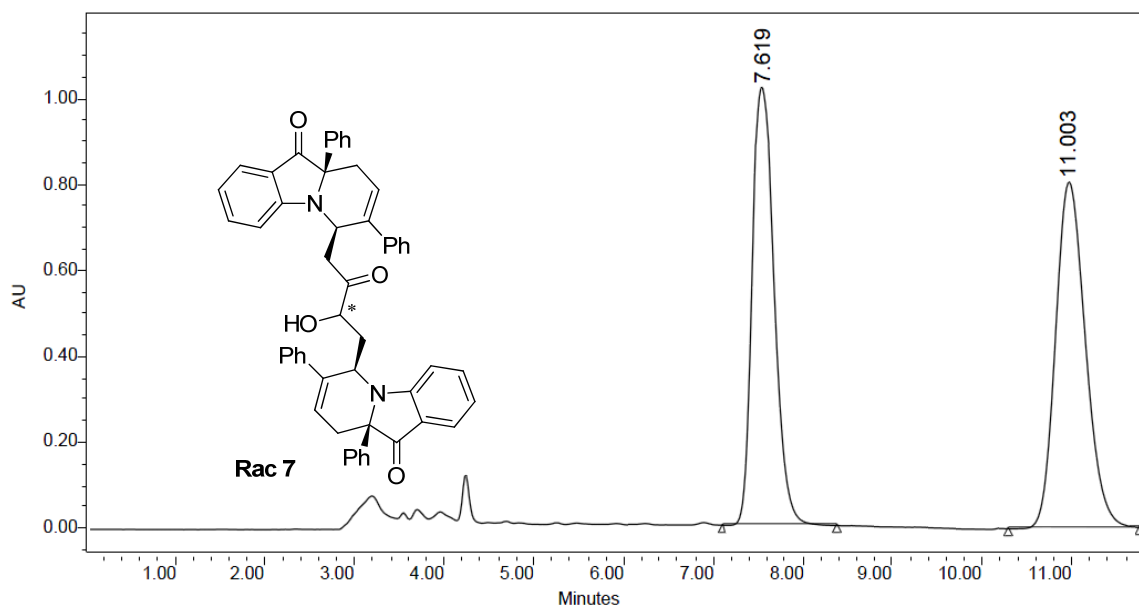




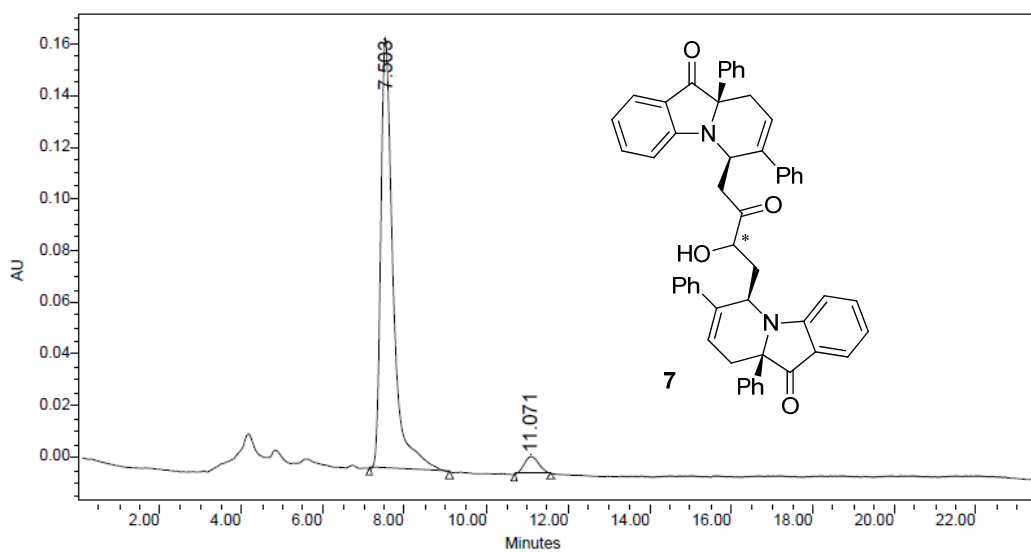
RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height	
1	6.280	10050952	49.37	385070	65.52
2	10.268	10306502	50.63	202680	34.48



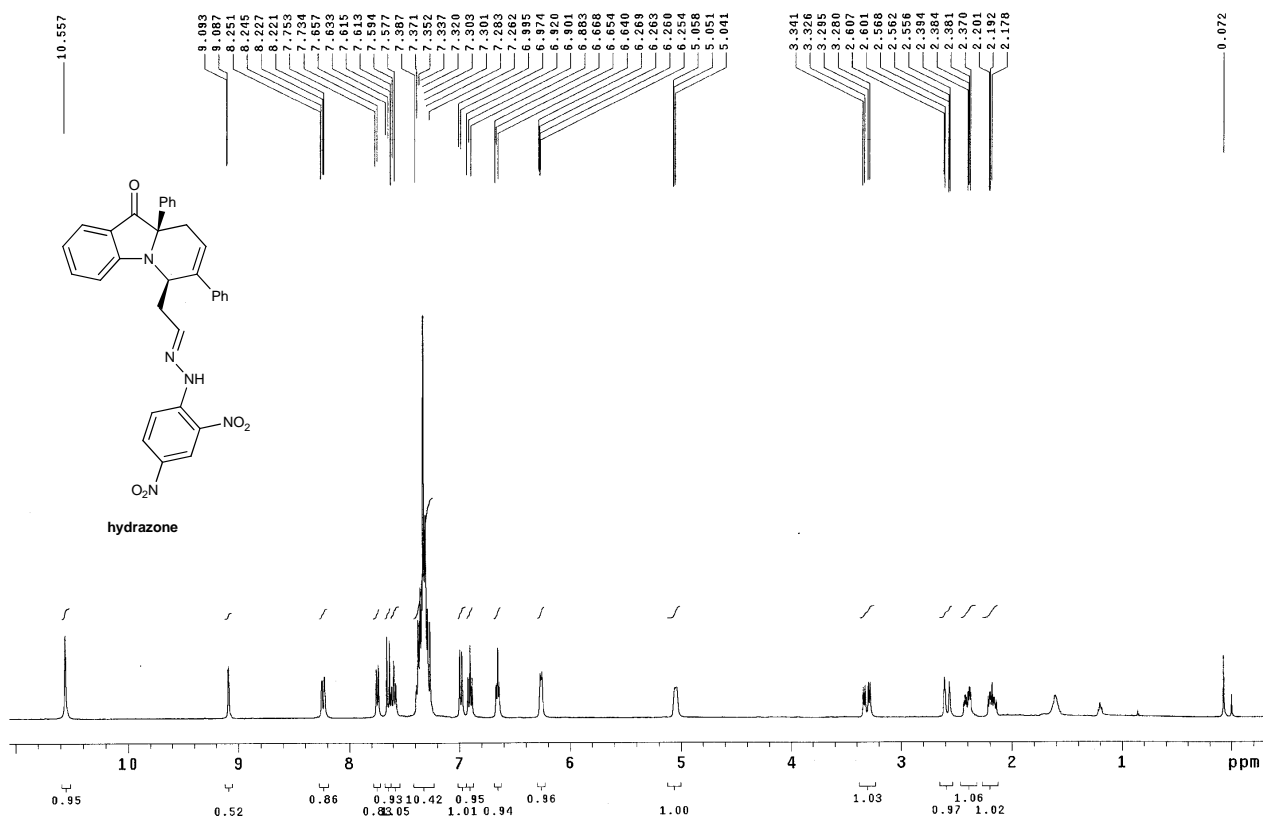
RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height	
1	6.262	8373584	96.45	311004	97.12
2	10.885	307769	3.55	9224	2.88

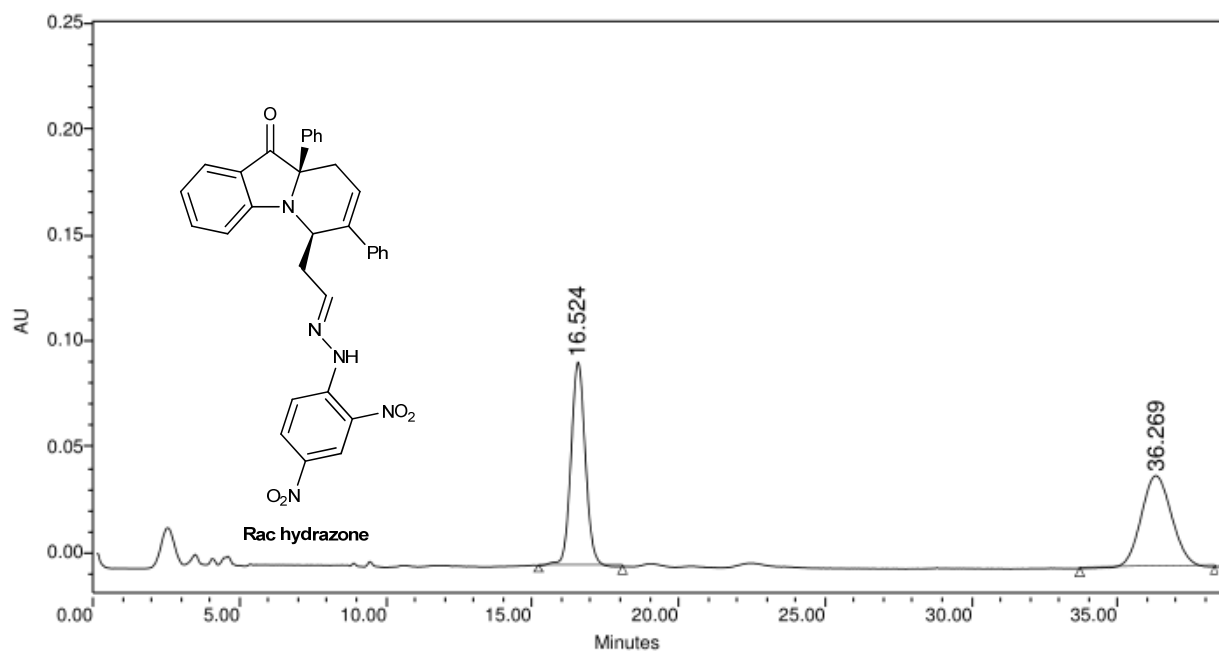


	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	7.619	18078874	49.04	1038811	56.30
2	11.003	18788824	50.96	806345	43.70

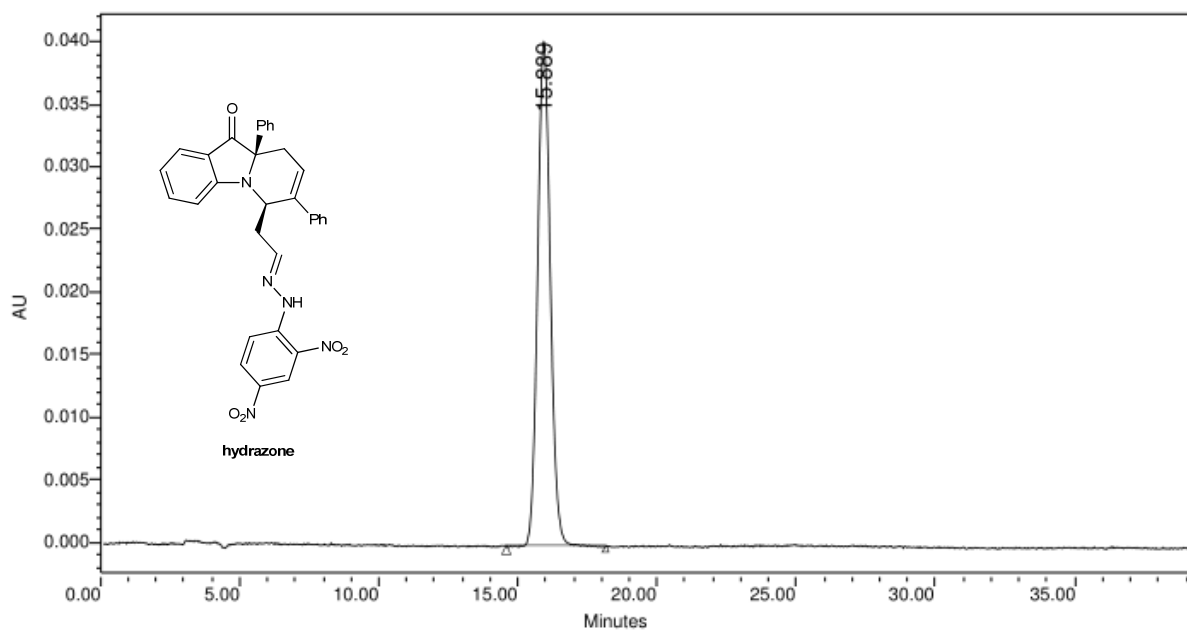


	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	7.503	3542566	95.98	166901	96.40
2	11.071	148353	4.02	6229	3.60

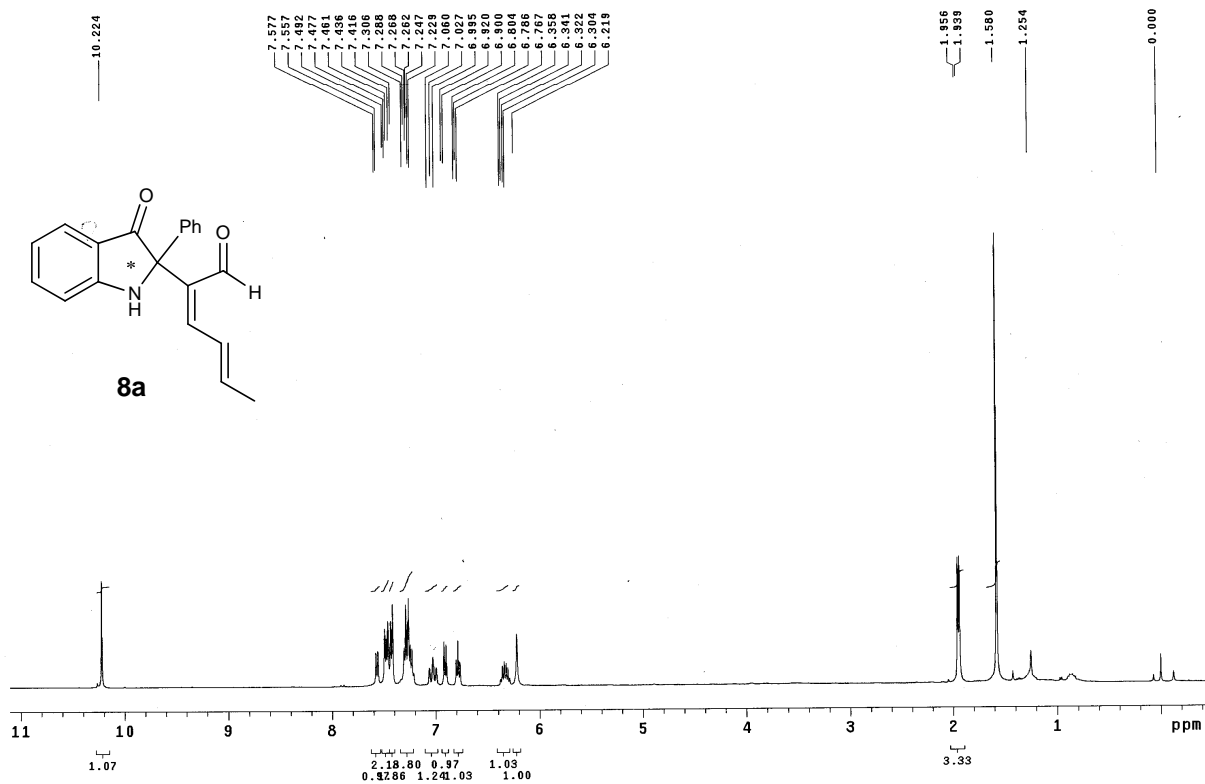


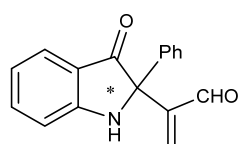


	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	16.524	3305448	50.95	96197	68.95
2	36.269	3182010	49.05	43327	31.05



	RT (min)	Area (*sec)	% Area	Height ()	% Height
1	15.889	1278774	100.00	40282	100.00





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