

**Supporting Information**

**Microwave-assisted palladium mediated efficient synthesis of pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridines, pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]quinolines, pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyrimidines and pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]quinazolines**

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## General Information

Melting points were measured with a Buchi B-540 melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on Elmer FT-IR-2000 spectrometer on a thin film using chloroform. NMR spectra were recorded on Avance DPX 300 MHz FT-NMR spectrometer or Bruker Avance III 500 MHz FT-NMR spectrometer using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. Mass spectra were recorded on Trace DSQ GCMS instrument. All the commercially available reagents were used as received. All experiments were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC). TLC was performed on pre-coated silica gel plates (Merck). Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (100-200 mesh, Merck). All MW reactions were carried out in a Synthos 3000 (Anton Paar) microwave reactor.

## Microwave Instrumentation

All microwave reactions were carried out in a Synthos 3000 (Anton Paar) microwave reactor. The multitude microwave has a twin magnetron (2.45 GHz) with maximum output power of 1400 W. The output power can be controlled in unpulsed control mode over whole power which is adjustable in 1 W increment. A Motorola 68xxx series microprocessor system control is used to measure power, pressure, time and temperature during the reaction. The temperature and pressure were monitored throughout the reaction by an infrared detector. The temperature can be measured from 0 to 280 °C with uncertainty ± 1%. The temperature during the MW reaction was monitored by an externally calibrated IR sensor. The pressure can be measured from 0 to 86 bar with uncertainty ± 0.2 bar. The MW power is initially set at 700 W and the reaction is run. However, during the course of the reaction, once the set temperature and pressure limit is reached, the reactor automatically adjusts the power by lowering it.

**General procedure for the synthesis of compounds 3a-p:** A mixture of halo aldehyde (**1**, 1.0 mmol), 5-aminopyrazole (**2**, 1.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (2.5 mol%), PPh<sub>3</sub> (5 mol%) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2.1 mmol) was irradiated in a closed vessel in a Synthos 3000 microwave reactor at 700 Watt (120 °C and 14 bar) for 15 minutes. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was treated with water (40 mL) and then extracted with ethylacetate (30 x 3 mL). The organic portion was washed with water, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed in vacuo to obtain a crude product which on silica gel column chromatographic purification using EtOAc/hexane as the eluent afforded compounds **3a-p**.

*3-Methoxy-8-methyl-10-phenyl-6,10-dihydro-5H-benzo[h]pyrazolo[3,4-b]quinoline (3a):*

Yellow solid, mp: 162-163 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.43 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 8.38

(d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.52 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.23 (t,  $J = 5.1$  Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd,  $J = 8.6$  Hz & 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.02-2.98 (m, 2H), 2.95-2.89 (m, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  160.8, 152.5, 150.5, 142.2, 141.1, 140.1, 128.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 125.1, 124.8, 120.2, 120.1, 115.5, 112.9, 112.8, 55.3, 29.0, 28.8, 12.5. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2932, 1599, 1505, 1381, 1242, 754. MS (EI,  $m/z$ ): 341.2 [ $\text{M}^+$ ]. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_3\text{O}$ : C, 77.40; H, 5.61; N, 12.31. Found: C, 77.27; H, 5.76; N, 12.40.

*10-Ethyl-3-methoxy-6,10-dihydro-5H-benzo[h]pyrazolo[3,4-b]quinoline (3b)*: Yellow solid, mp: 59-60 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  8.43 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 6.93 (dd,  $J = 8.6$  Hz & 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 4.62 (q,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.04-2.97 (m, 4H), 2.94-2.89 (m, 2H), 1.57 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  160.8, 152.1, 149.7, 141.3, 131.1, 127.9, 127.8, 127.5, 125.1, 114.1, 112.9, 112.8, 55.3, 41.9, 29.1, 28.9, 15.0. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2933, 1601, 1416, 1266, 780. MS (EI,  $m/z$ ): 279.1 [ $\text{M}^+$ ]. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_3\text{O}$ : C, 73.10; H, 6.13; N, 15.04. Found: C, 73.12; H, 6.13; N, 15.08.

*3-Methoxy-8,10-diphenyl-6,10-dihydro-5H-benzo[h]pyrazolo[3,4-b]quinoline (3c)*: Yellow solid, mp: 192-193 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  8.54 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 8.42 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 8.05 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.23 (m, 7H), 6.96 (dd,  $J = 8.6$  Hz & 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d,  $J = 2.3$  Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.11-3.05 (m, 2H), 2.99-2.81 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  160.9, 152.6, 151.1, 143.7, 141.3, 140.1, 133.2, 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 127.8, 127.6, 127.2, 126.3, 125.4, 120.8, 113.8, 113.1, 112.9, 55.4, 28.97, 28.9. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1598, 1497, 1380, 1245, 755. MS (EI,  $m/z$ ): 403.1 [ $\text{M}^+$ ]. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_3\text{O}$ : C, 80.37; H, 5.25; N, 10.41. Found: C, 80.45; H, 5.29; N, 10.72.

*10-Ethyl-6,10-dihydro-5H-benzo[h]pyrazolo[3,4-b]quinoline (3d)*: Red solid, mp: 68 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  8.35 (s, 1H), 8.29 (s, 1H), 8.01 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.17 (m, 3H), 4.54 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.92-2.79 (m, 4H), 1.48 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  150.4, 148.6, 139.3, 136.3, 132.4, 130.9, 129.6, 128.5, 127.3, 127.2, 125.0, 111.6, 53.5, 28.8, 25.4, 15.0. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2930, 1561, 1260, 1023, 772. MS (EI,  $m/z$ ): 249.1 [ $\text{M}^+$ ]. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3$ : C, 77.08; H, 6.06; N, 16.85. Found: C, 77.19; H, 5.85; N, 16.70.

*8-Methyl-10-phenyl-6,10-dihydro-5H-benzo[h]pyrazolo[3,4-b]quinoline (3e)*: Yellow solid, mp: 152 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  8.44 (dd,  $J = 7.9$  Hz & 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.54-7.21 (m, 7H), 3.05-2.91 (m, 4H), 2.59 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  152.4, 150.5, 142.2, 140.1, 139.3, 134.8, 129.6, 128.9, 127.9, 127.2, 126.8, 126.3, 125.9, 124.9, 120.2, 116.1, 28.7, 28.6, 12.6. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2925, 1599, 1504, 1411, 1381, 1126, 761.

MS (EI, *m/z*): 311.1 [M<sup>+</sup>]. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: C, 81.00; H, 5.50; N, 13.49. Found: C, 81.35; H, 5.58; N, 13.71.

*10-Ethylchromeno[4,3-*b*]pyrazolo[4,3-*e*]pyridin-6(10H)-one (3f)*: White solid, mp: 178 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 9.01 (s, 1H), 8.16 (s, 1H), 7.19- 8.63 (m, 4H), 4.63 (q, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.55 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 161.8, 152.7, 151.2, 150.4, 134.9, 134.2, 132.4, 125.1, 124.7, 119.6, 117.3, 116.2, 111.9, 42.4, 29.7. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1728, 1612, 1424, 1170, 750. MS (EI, *m/z*): 265.0 [M<sup>+</sup>]. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 67.92; H, 4.18; N, 15.84. Found: C, 67.82; H, 4.37; N, 15.68.

*1-Ethyl-6-phenyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine (3g)*: Red solid, mp: 62 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.06 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.33 (m, 3H), 4.58 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.51 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 156.3, 150.1, 139.5, 131.6, 130.3, 129.2, 128.8, 128.5, 127.5, 114.4, 114.3, 41.9, 15.0. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2930, 1597, 1455, 1440, 927, 758. MS (EI, *m/z*): 223.1 [M<sup>+</sup>]. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: C, 75.31; H, 5.87; N, 18.82. Found: C, 75.32; H, 5.81; N, 18.94.

*3-Methyl-1,6-diphenyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine (3h)*: Red solid, mp: 131 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.35 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 8.14-8.08 (m, 3H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.61-6.91 (m, 6H), 2.63 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 156.8, 151.1, 146.1, 142.6, 139.8, 139.2, 129.9, 128.8, 128.6, 127.6, 126.1, 125.6, 121.1, 120.6, 15.4. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1596, 1506, 1261, 799. MS (EI, *m/z*): 285.1 [M<sup>+</sup>]. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: C, 79.98; H, 5.30; N, 14.73. Found: C, 80.26; H, 5.35; N, 14.54.

*3β-Acetoxy-1'-ethyl-androst[16,17-*f*]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine (3i)*: Yellow solid, mp: 167 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.43 (s, 1H), 5.44-5.42 (m, 1H), 4.64-4.53 (m, 1H), 4.29 (q, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 2H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.12 (s, 3H), 1.05 (s, 3H), 2.82-0.84 (m, 20H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 170.6, 157.7, 155.6, 139.9, 138.5, 131.4, 122.3, 73.8, 55.4, 50.5, 46.9, 42.6, 38.1, 36.9, 35.1, 31.6, 30.5, 29.7, 27.7, 21.5, 20.7, 19.3, 16.4, 15.4. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1731, 1247, 1030. MS (EI, *m/z*): 373.2 [M-60<sup>+</sup>]. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>35</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 74.79; H, 8.14; N, 9.69. Found: C, 74.88; H, 8.21; N, 9.54.

*3β-Acetoxy-1',3'-dimethyl-androst[16,17-*f*]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine (3j)*: Yellow solid, mp: 185 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 7.69 (s, 1H), 5.43-5.45 (m, 1H), 4.57- 4.66 (m, 1H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 1.18 (s, 3H), 1.03 (s, 3H), 2.82-0.83 (m, 17H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 173.9, 170.5, 155.6, 140.1, 139.7, 128.9, 124.5, 122.1, 113.3, 73.8, 56.2, 53.4, 50.5, 45.4, 38.1, 36.9, 33.7, 33.6, 31.9, 31.3, 31.0, 29.7, 29.4, 27.7. IR

(CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1733, 1243, 1032. MS (EI, *m/z*): 373.2 [M-60<sup>+</sup>]. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>35</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 74.79; H, 8.14; N, 9.69. Found: C, 74.49; H, 8.11; N, 9.82.

*3β-Acetoxy-1'-methyl-3'-tert-butyl-androst[16,17-f]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine* (**3k**): Yellow solid, 149 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 7.82 (s, 1H), 5.32-5.35 (m, 1H), 4.48-4.60 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 1.97 (s, 3H), 1.22 (s, 9H), 1.00 (s, 3H), 0.86 (s, 3H), 2.78-0.80 (m, 17H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 185.2, 170.6, 160.2, 146.6, 140.0, 122.0, 114.1, 92.2, 73.8, 52.7, 50.4, 46.7, 38.1, 37.0, 36.8, 34.4, 33.9, 32.1, 31.6, 31.3, 31.1, 27.7, 23.7, 21.4, 20.7, 19.4, 16.2. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1733, 1245, 1032. MS (EI, *m/z*): 415.3 [M-60<sup>+</sup>]. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>41</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 75.75; H, 8.69; N, 8.83. Found: C, 75.59; H, 8.64; N, 8.78.

*3β-Acetoxy-1'-phenyl-3'-methyl-androst[16,17-f]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine* (**3l**): Yellow solid, mp: 242 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.38 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.46-5.43 (m, 1H), 4.69-4.55 (m, 1H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 1.12 (s, 3H), 1.05 (s, 3H), 2.81-0.86 (m, 17H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 174.2, 170.6, 150.7, 142.2, 140.2, 130.2, 128.8, 124.8, 124.7, 122.1, 120.3, 115.5, 73.8, 56.2, 50.6, 45.5, 38.2, 36.9, 33.7, 31.4, 31.1, 30.1, 27.8, 21.5, 20.6, 19.4, 17.5, 12.4. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2931, 1733, 1596, 1508, 1386, 1246, 1028, 773. MS (EI, *m/z*): 435.2 [M-60<sup>+</sup>]. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>37</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 77.54; H, 7.52; N, 8.48. Found: C, 77.76; H, 7.68; N, 8.24.

*3β-Acetoxy-1'-phenyl-3'-phenyl-androst[16,17-f]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine* (**3m**): White solid, mp: 239 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.50 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.10 (s, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.55-7.17 (m, 6H), 5.45-5.42 (m, 1H), 4.68-4.56 (m, 1H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 1.05 (s, 3H), 2.84-0.67 (m, 17H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 174.2, 170.6, 151.2, 143.9, 140.2, 140.1, 133.3, 131.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.4, 128.2, 127.4, 125.7, 125.4, 122.1, 120.9, 113.9, 73.8, 56.2, 50.5, 45.6, 38.2, 36.9, 33.6, 31.9, 31.3, 31.1, 30.1, 29.7, 27.8, 22.7, 21.4, 20.6, 19.4, 17.5, 14.2. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2929, 1733, 1596, 1504, 1244, 1031, 769. MS (EI, *m/z*): 497.3 [M-60<sup>+</sup>]. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>39</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 79.68; H, 7.05; N, 7.53. Found: C, 79.73; H, 7.01; N, 7.79.

*1-Ethyl-6-fluoro-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]quinoline* (**3n**): White solid, mp: 97-98 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.90 (s, 1H), 8.26 (s, 1H), 8.13-8.07 (m, 1H), 7.66-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.56-7.46 (m, 1H), 4.61 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.52 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 151.4, 146.6, 130.2, 127.3, 125.6, 124.8, 121.3, 113.1, 112.7, 109.5, 42.6, 15.3. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2925, 1588, 1570, 1450, 1239, 955, 772. MS (EI, *m/z*): 215.1 [M<sup>+</sup>]. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>10</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>: C, 66.97; H, 4.68; N, 19.52. Found: C, 67.16; H, 4.71; N, 19.61.

*1-Ethyl-7-methyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]quinoline* (**3o**): Yellow gum. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.98-7.92 (m, 2H), 7.38 (dd, *J* = 8.3 & 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.68

(q,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 1.59 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  152.4, 146.9, 142.4, 130.9, 130.6, 129.1, 127.1, 123.2, 121.9, 42.5, 22.3, 15.3. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2924, 1634, 1460, 775. MS (EI,  $m/z$ ): 211 [ $\text{M}^+$ ]. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3$ : C, 73.91; H, 6.20; N, 19.89. Found: C, 73.82; H, 6.35; N, 19.70.

*1-Ethyl-1*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*g*]pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]quinoline (3p):* Yellow gum.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  8.82 (s, 1H), 8.26 (s, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 7.32 (s, 1H), 6.15 (s, 2H), 4.66 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.57 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  151.8, 150.5, 146.6, 130.1, 128.6, 121.1, 110.5, 105.6, 101.7, 100.1, 42.4, 15.2. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2921, 1598, 1457, 1247, 1037, 774. MS (EI,  $m/z$ ): 241 [ $\text{M}^+$ ]. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$ : C, 64.72; H, 4.60; N, 17.42. Found: C, 64.79; H, 4.66; N, 17.53.

*N-((1-Bromo-6-methoxy-3,4-dihydroronaphthalen-2-yl)methylene)-3-methyl-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazol-5-amine (4a):* Yellow solid, mp: 142 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  8.96 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.54-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.09 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.83 (dd,  $J = 8.2$  Hz & 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.84-2.72 (m, 4H), 2.37 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  160.7, 158.5, 150.5, 149.4, 139.4, 136.0, 134.8, 132.9, 130.7, 128.5, 128.2, 126.5, 124.1, 115.4, 114.0, 93.7, 55.5, 26.6, 25.1, 14.2. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2932, 1594, 1243, 752. MS (EI,  $m/z$ ): 421 [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 423 [ $\text{M} + 2$ ]. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{20}\text{BrN}_3\text{O}$ : C, 62.57; H, 4.77; N, 9.95. Found: C, 62.68; H, 4.79; N, 9.81.

**General procedure for the synthesis of compounds 6a-k:** A mixture of halo aldehyde (**1**, 1.0 mmol), 3-aminopyrazole/5-aminopyrazole (**5**, 1.0 mmol),  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (2.5 mol%),  $\text{PPh}_3$  (5 mol%) and  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (2.1 mmol) was irradiated in a closed vessel in a Synthos 3000 microwave reactor at 700 Watt (120 °C and 14 bar) for 15 minutes. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was treated with water (40 mL) and then extracted with ethylacetate (30 mL x 3). The organic portion was washed with water, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed in vacuo to obtain a crude product which on silica gel column chromatographic purification using EtOAc/hexane as the eluent afforded compounds **6a-k**.

*9-Methoxy-5*a*,6,7,11*b*-tetrahydrobenzo[*h*]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]quinazoline (6a):* Red solid, mp: 126 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  9.41 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.39 (s, 1H), 8.18 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd,  $J = 9.0$  Hz & 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.97 (s, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  161.6, 148.8, 143.9, 142.5, 140.0, 131.4, 119.4, 114.1, 111.5, 96.3, 55.4, 29.0, 24.1. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2927, 1606, 1412, 1266, 1190, 944, 772. MS (EI,  $m/z$ ): 251. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3\text{O}$ : C, 71.70; H, 5.21; N, 16.72; Found: C, 71.99; H, 5.43; N, 16.64.

**9-Methoxy-2-methyl-6,7-dihydrobenzo[*h*]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]quinazoline (6b):** Gum.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  9.45 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 8.29 (s, 1H), 6.91 (dd,  $J = 8.7$  Hz & 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.48 (s, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.89-2.96 (m, 4H), 2.57 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  161.4, 154.1, 150.8, 148.5, 142.4, 139.2, 131.4, 119.6, 114.7, 114.1, 111.4, 95.4, 55.4, 31.9, 29.7, 24.1. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2924, 1602, 1493, 1244, 1188, 1038, 774. MS (EI, m/z): 265.1. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3\text{O}$ : C, 72.43; H, 5.70; N, 15.84; Found: C, 72.47; H, 5.75; N, 15.95.

**6,7-Dihydrobenzo[*h*]pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]quinazoline (6c):** Yellow solid, mp: 65 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  9.41 (dd,  $J = 6.9$  & 4.8 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (s, 1H), 8.19 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.53 (m, 3H), 6.75 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.99-2.91 (m, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  150.1, 149.3, 143.8, 139.8, 131.1, 129.1, 128.8, 128.1, 126.9, 126.7, 124.1, 116.9, 96.7, 28.6. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2930, 1607, 1509, 1451, 1233, 1131, 765. MS (EI, m/z): 221. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3$ : C, 76.00; H, 5.01; N, 18.99; Found: C, 76.08; H, 5.31; N, 19.15.

**7-(*p*-Tolyl)pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyrimidine (6d):** Gum.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  8.52 (d,  $J = 4.5$  Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d,  $J = 4.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  149.9, 149.1, 146.9, 144.6, 141.6, 129.4, 129.1, 128.2, 106.9, 96.9, 29.7. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2922, 1604, 1538, 1507, 1251, 1219, 1130, 808, 772. MS (EI, m/z): 209. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3$ : C, 74.62; H, 5.30; N, 20.08; Found: C, 74.74; H, 5.46; N, 19.87.

**2-Methyl-7-(naphthalen-2-yl)pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyrimidine (6e):** White solid, mp: 122 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  8.58 (s, 1H), 8.46 (d,  $J = 4.5$  Hz, 1H), 8.07 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.05-7.52 (m, 5H), 6.88 (d,  $J = 4.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.59 (s, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  155.1, 150.7, 148.6, 146.2, 134.4, 132.9, 129.8, 128.9, 128.6, 128.3, 127.8, 127.7, 126.7, 125.6, 106.9, 96.4, 14.9. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2925, 1601, 1532, 1505, 1352, 1259, 1208, 1067, 861, 810, 774. MS (EI, m/z): 259.1. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3$ : C, 78.74; H, 5.05; N, 16.20; Found: C, 78.82; H, 5.08; N, 16.21.

**2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-7-(naphthalen-2-yl)pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyrimidine (6f):** Yellow solid, mp: 175 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  8.73 (s, 1H), 8.48 (d,  $J = 4.3$  Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 8.01-7.89 (m, 4H), 7.61-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 6.99-6.94 (m, 4H), 3.84 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  160.4, 155.9, 151.1, 148.6, 146.3, 134.4, 132.9, 130.2, 129.1, 128.4, 128.1, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 126.7, 125.8, 125.6, 114.2, 107.1, 92.9, 55.3. IR ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2924, 1607, 1524, 1249, 1031, 773. MS (EI, m/z): 351.1. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_3\text{O}$ : C, 78.61; H, 4.88; N, 11.96; Found: C, 78.68; H, 4.79; N, 11.94.

**2-Methyl-7-(thiophen-3-yl)pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidine (6g):** Yellow solid, mp: 112 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.64 (d, J = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.13 (m, 3H), 6.59 (s, 1H), 2.61 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 155.1, 132.5, 131.6, 131.56, 127.7, 96.1, 14.9. MS (EI, m/z): 215. Anal. calcd. For C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>3</sub>S: C, 61.37; H, 4.21; N, 19.52; Found: C, 61.42; H, 4.28; N, 19.39.

**7-(3-Nitrophenyl)pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidine-3-carbonitrile (6h):** Brown solid, mp 215 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.93 (s, 1H), 8.86 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 8.50 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.48 (s, 1H), 8.41 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) δ 152.6, 147.3, 135.1, 130.9, 130.1, 126.4, 124.6, 110.0. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): MS (EI, m/z): 265.0. Anal. calcd. For C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 58.87; H, 2.66; N, 26.41; Found: C, 58.94; H, 2.57; N, 26.47.

**8-Methylpyrazolo[1,5-a]quinazoline (6i):** Yellow solid, mp: 127 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.83 (s, 1H), 8.28 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.84-7.79 (m, 1H), 7.37-7.35 (m, 1H), 6.79 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 151.5, 145.9, 145.8, 142.6, 136.3, 128.3, 126.9, 116.5, 114.4, 99.5, 29.7. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2920, 1624, 1599, 1286, 868, 773. MS (EI, m/z): 183. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: C, 72.11; H, 4.95; N, 22.94; Found: C, 72.18; H, 4.90; N, 22.81.

**7-Fluoropyrazolo[1,5-a]quinazoline (6j):** Gum. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.84 (s, 1H), 8.52 -8.11 (m, 1H), 8.11 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.68-7.59 (m, 2H), 6.84 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 157.9, 150.7, 142.7, 122.9, 122.6, 117.2, 117.1, 113.1, 112.8, 100.2. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2923, 1560, 1244, 772. MS (EI, m/z): 187.0. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>6</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>: C, 64.17; H, 3.23; N, 22.45; Found: C, 64.34; H, 3.20; N, 22.47.

**7-Fluoro-2-methylpyrazolo[1,5-a]quinazoline (6k):** White solid, mp: 130 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 8.75 (s, 1H), 8.39 (m, 1H), 7.61- 7.51 (m, 2H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 159.1 (*J*<sub>C-F</sub>= 244.7 Hz), 152.7, 150.3, 146.1, 132.8, 122.6 (*J*<sub>C-F</sub>= 24.6 Hz), 118.9 (*J*<sub>C-F</sub>= 7.8 Hz), 116.8 (*J*<sub>C-F</sub>= 8.1 Hz), 112.6 (*J*<sub>C-F</sub>= 22.6 Hz), 99.5, 29.5. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3054, 2923, 1607, 1558, 1253, 1244, 1152, 1132, 949, 826. MS (EI, m/z): 201. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>: C, 65.66; H, 4.01; N, 20.88; Found: C, 65.74; H, 3.87; N, 20.79.

**7-(3-Aminophenyl)pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidine-3-carbonitrile (6l):** To a stirring solution of compound **6h** (0.5 mmol) in ethanol catalytic amount of Pd/C was added. The reaction mixture was stirred under H<sub>2</sub> gas for 2 hours. After completion of the reaction, the catalyst was filtered off and the solvent was removed under vacuo. The crude product thus obtained on silica gel column chromatographic purification using EtOAc/hexane (2:3) as the eluent

afforded compound **6l**. Yellow crystals, mp: 227 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 500 MHz) δ 8.86 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.85 (s, 1H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 4.5 Hz & 2 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (bs, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) δ 154.0, 151.5, 149.0, 148.9, 147.5, 130.4, 129.6, 117.4, 117.4, 114.8, 113.9, 110.7, 81.5. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2917, 1446, 845, 781. MS (EI, m/z): 235. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>5</sub>: C, 66.37; H, 3.86; N, 29.77; Found: C, 66.47; H, 3.89; N, 29.61.

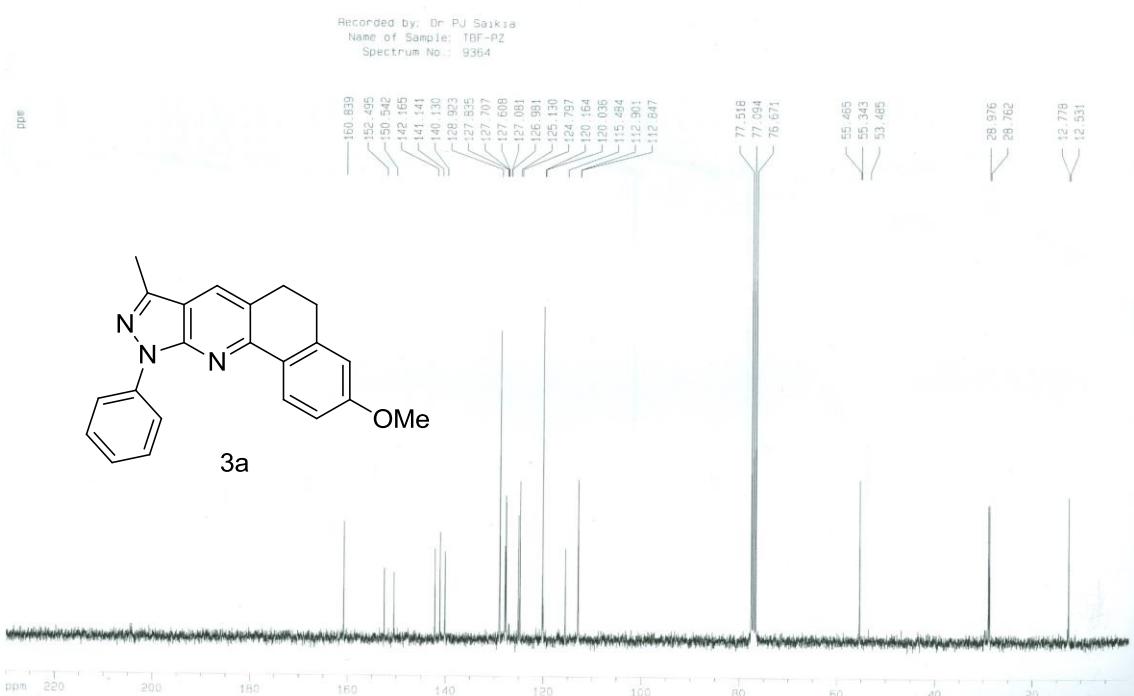
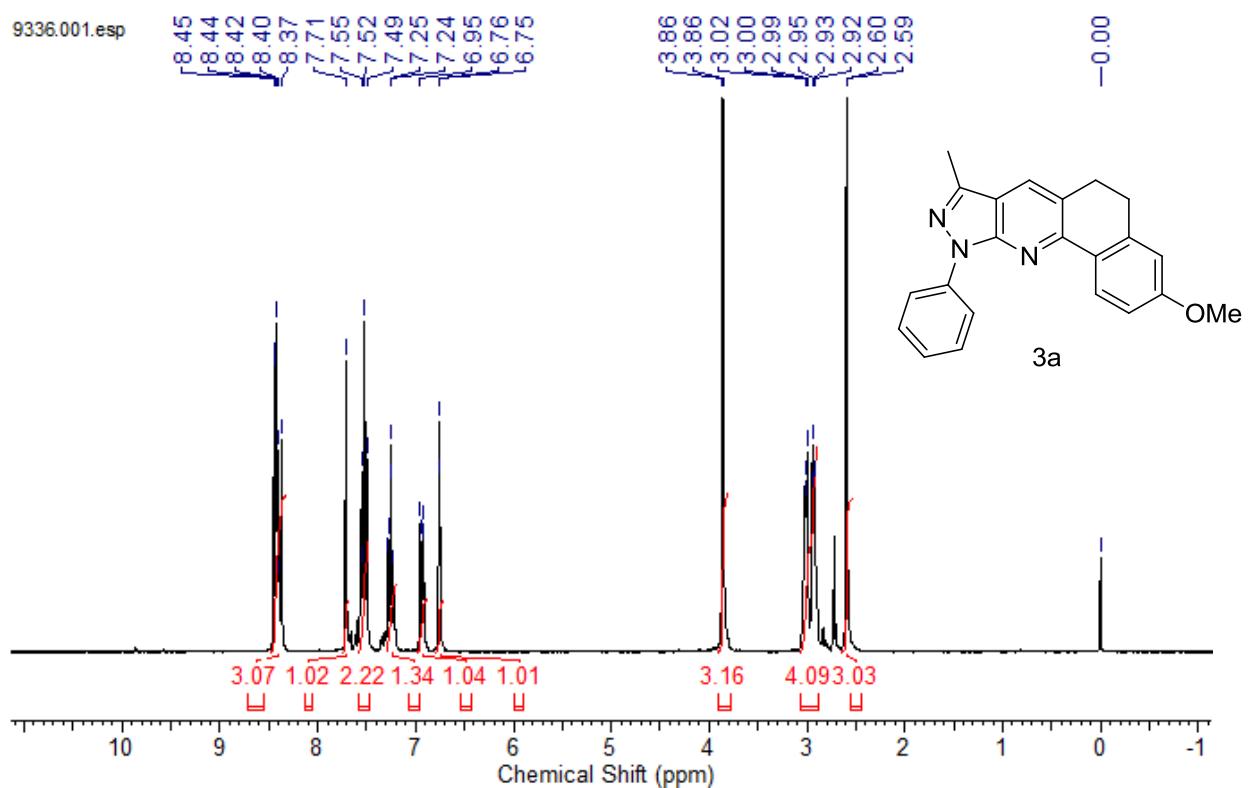
### **MTT ASSAY PROTOCOL**

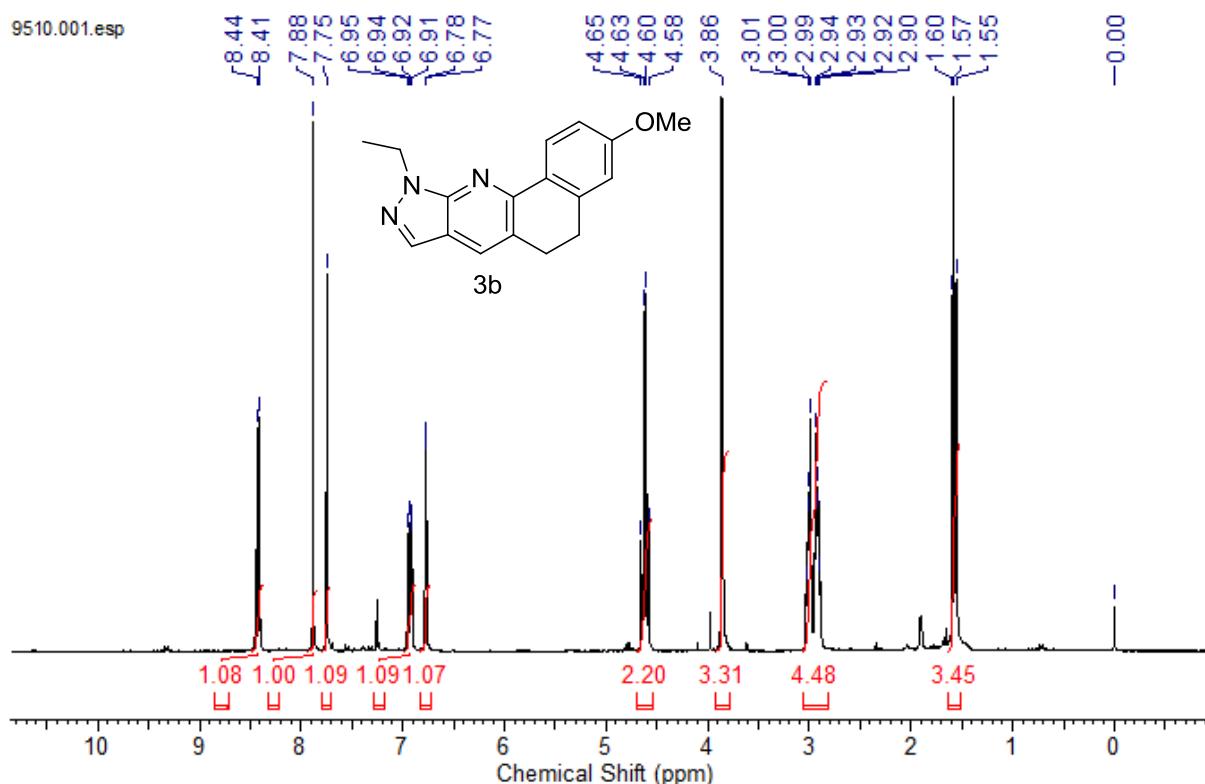
Cellular viability in the presence of test compounds was determined by MTT-micro cultured tetrazolium assay. The cells seeded to flat bottomed 96 (1000 cells/100 µl) well plates & cultured in the medium containing 10% serum and allowed to attach and recover for 24 hours in a hid chamber containing 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. MTT (3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide; Sigma catalog No M2128) was dissolved in PBS at 5 mg/mL and filtered to sterilize. Different concentrations of compounds were added to the cells. After 48 hours, stock MTT solution (10 µl) was added to the culture plate. Cells were again kept in CO<sub>2</sub> incubator for 2 hours. After incubation 100 µL of DMSO was added and mixed. The absorbance was read at 562 nm in a plate reader. The results were represented as percentage of cytotoxicity/viability. All the experiments were carried out in triplicates. From the percentage of cytotoxicity the IC<sub>50</sub> values were calculated.

Media used was MEM (Catalog No M0643), DPBS (Catalog No D5652), 1X antibiotic solution of 100X, (Catalog No A5955), 1% Sodium pyruvate (Catalog No.S8636), 1% Non essential amino acids (Catalog No M7145), 10% fetal bovine ser (Catalog No F2442), DMSO (Catalog No D5879), Trypsin-EDTA solution (0.25%, 2.5 g porcine trypsin and 0.2 g EDTA) (Catalog No T4049).

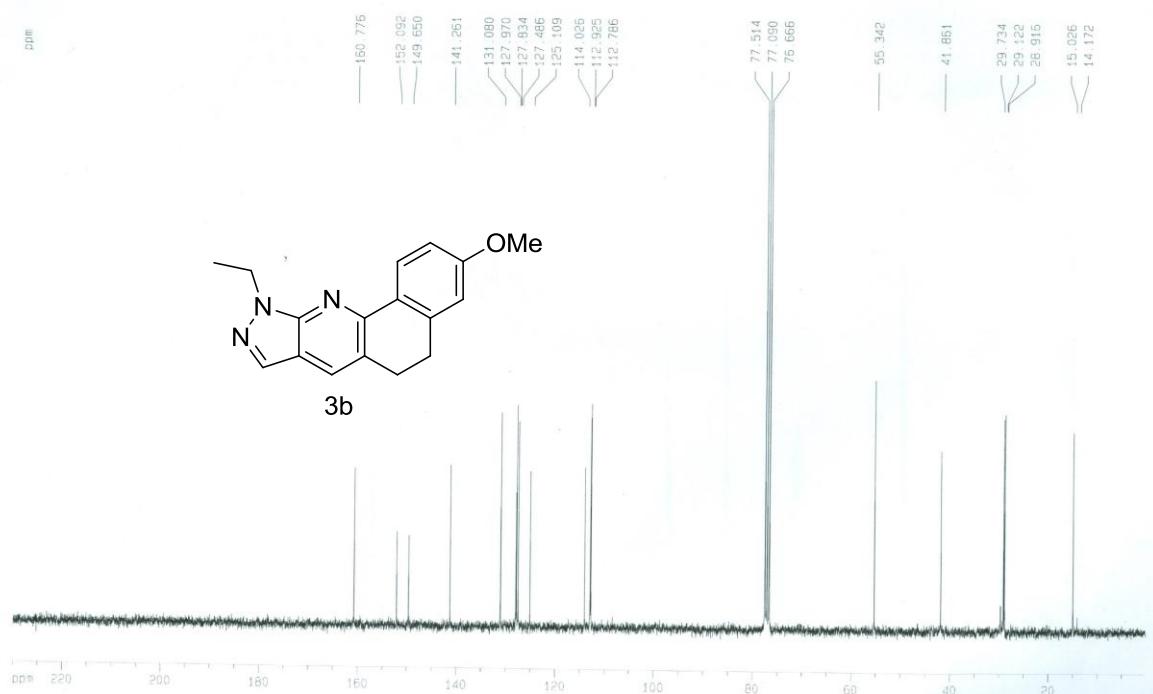
### **Reference**

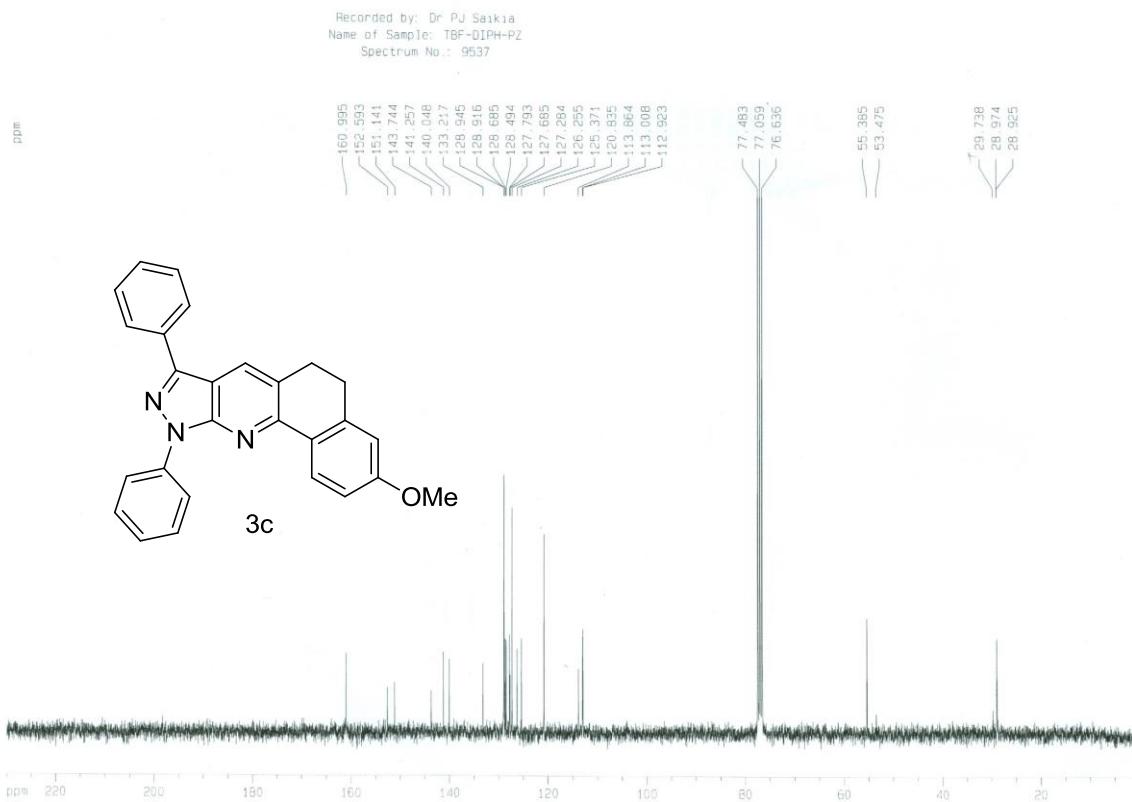
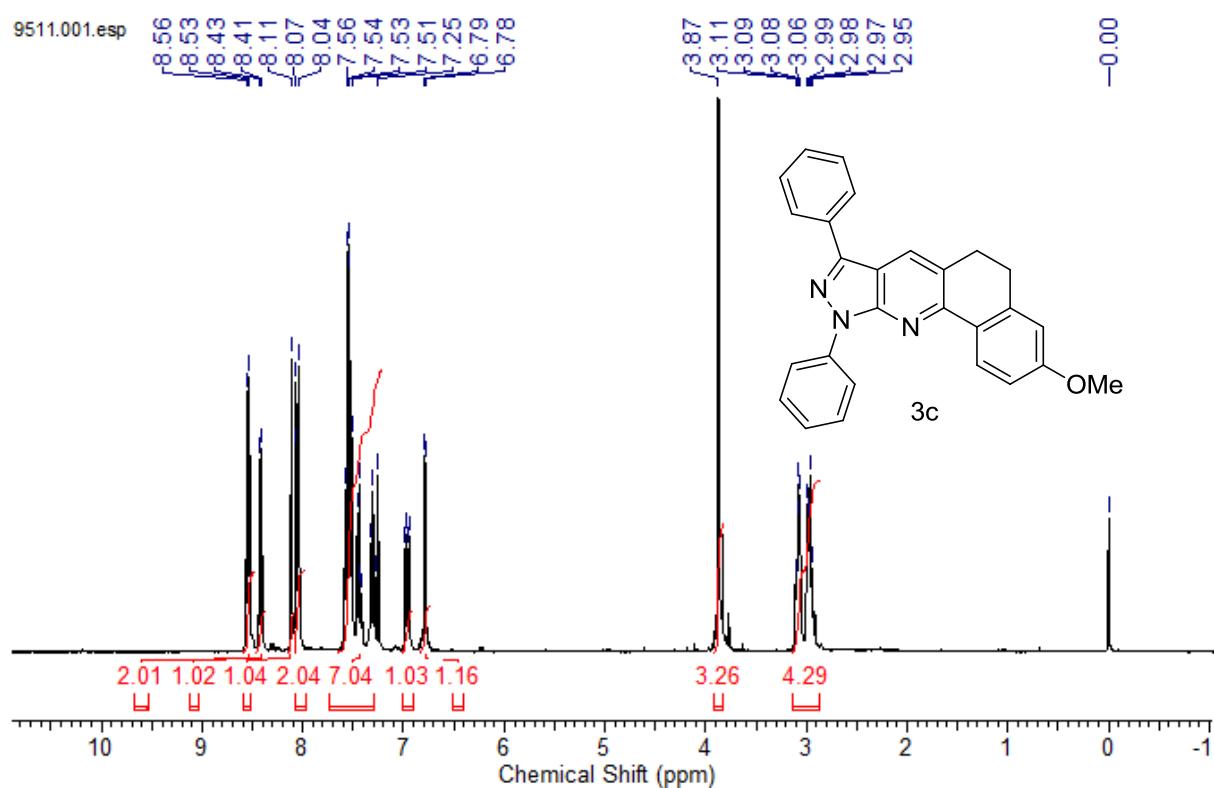
- (1) S. Myadaraboina, M. Alla, V. Saddanapu, V. R. Bommena and A. Addlagatta, *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 2010, 45, 5208.

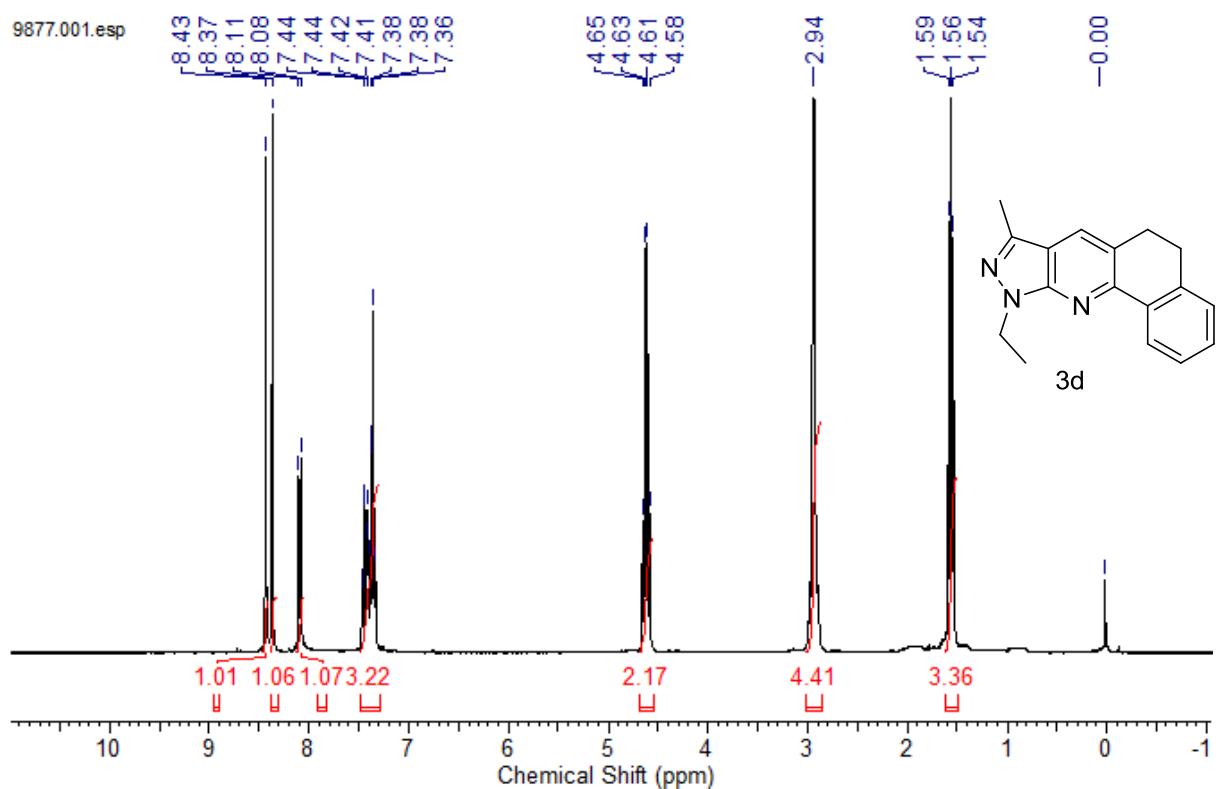




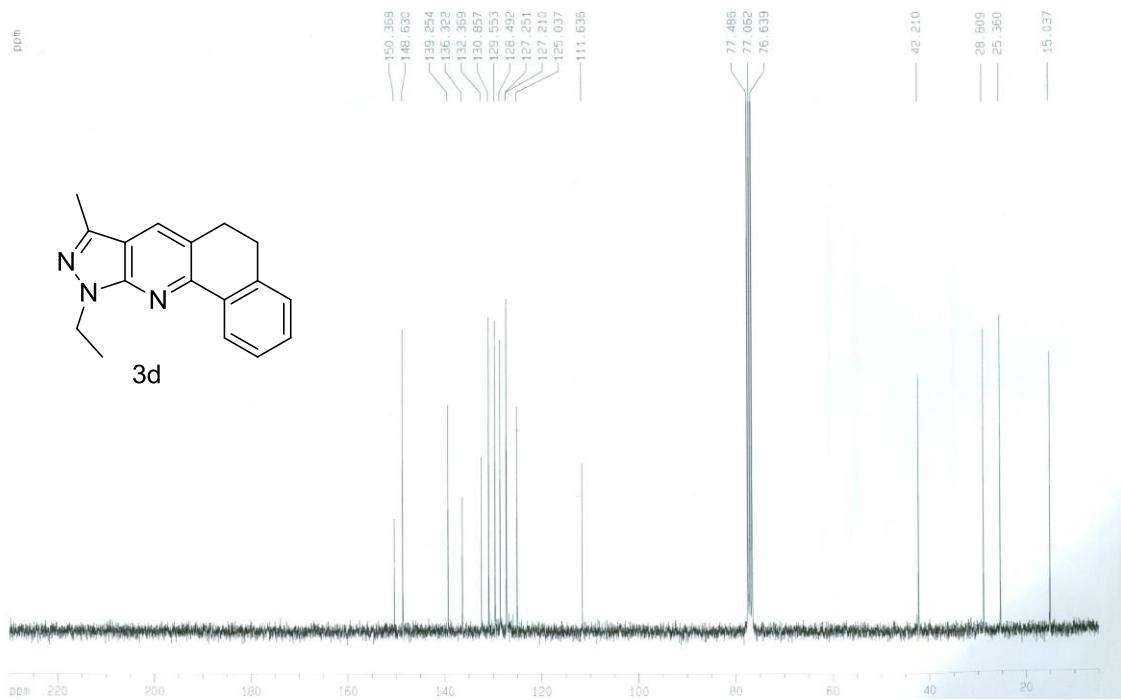
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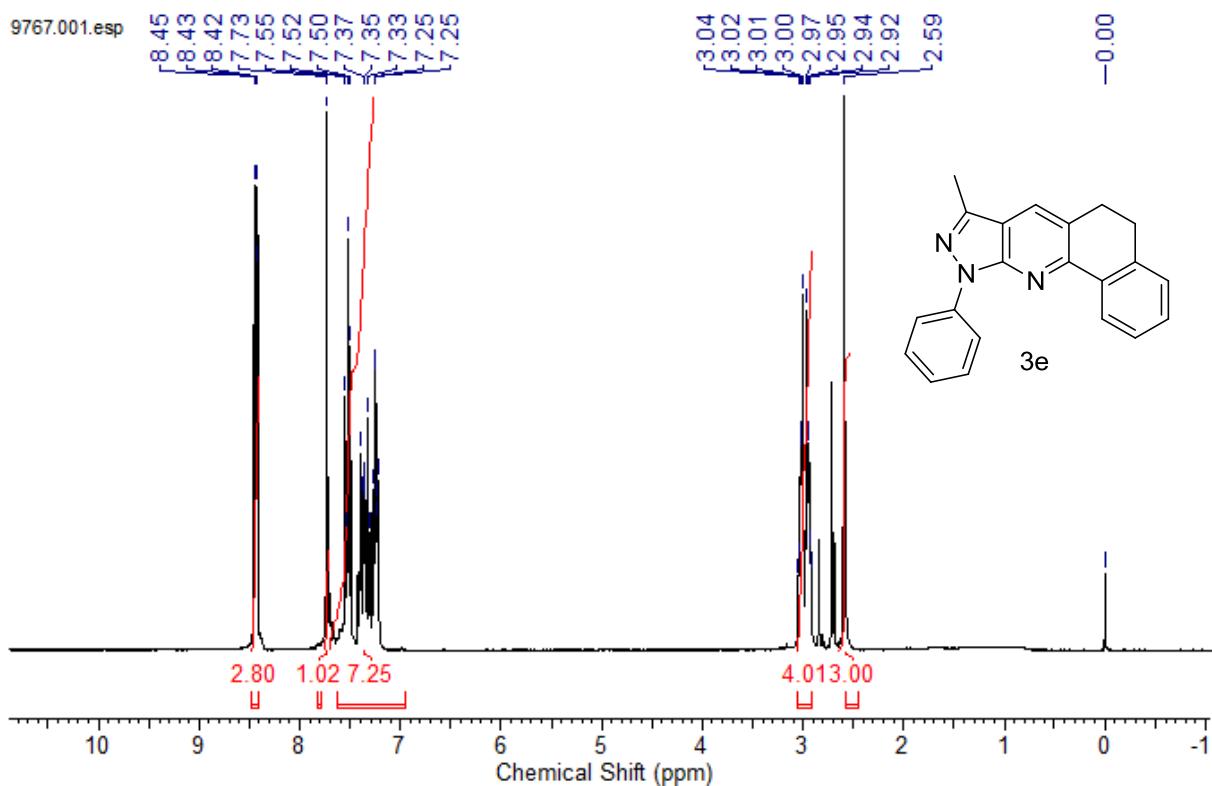




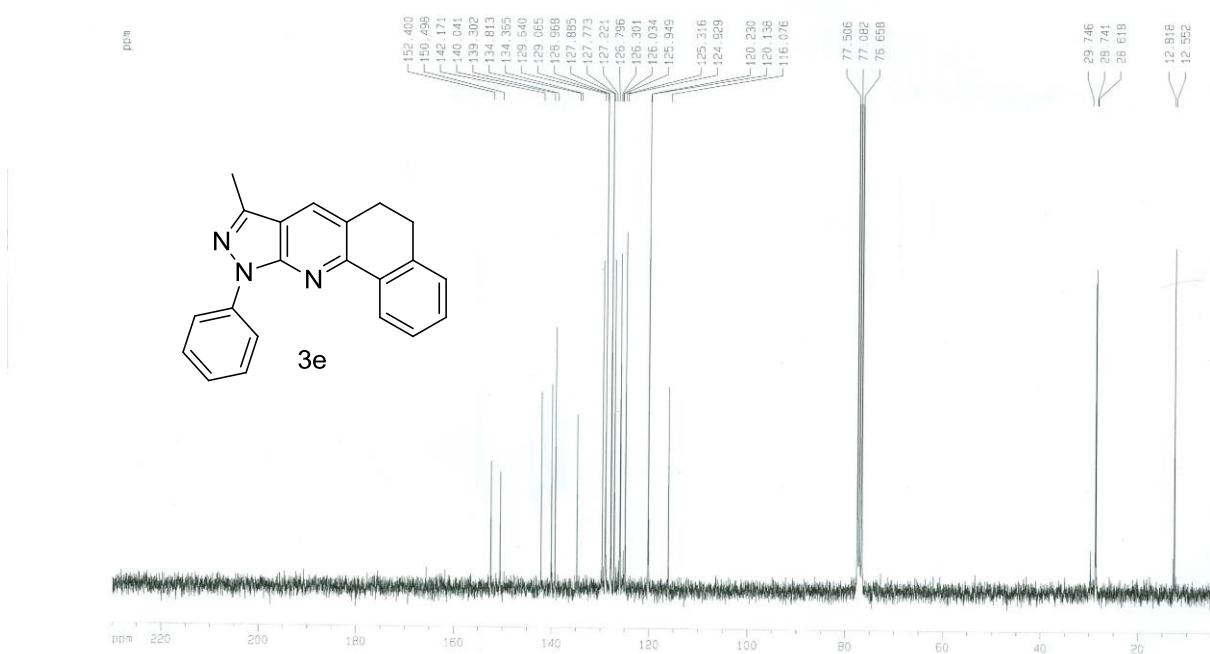


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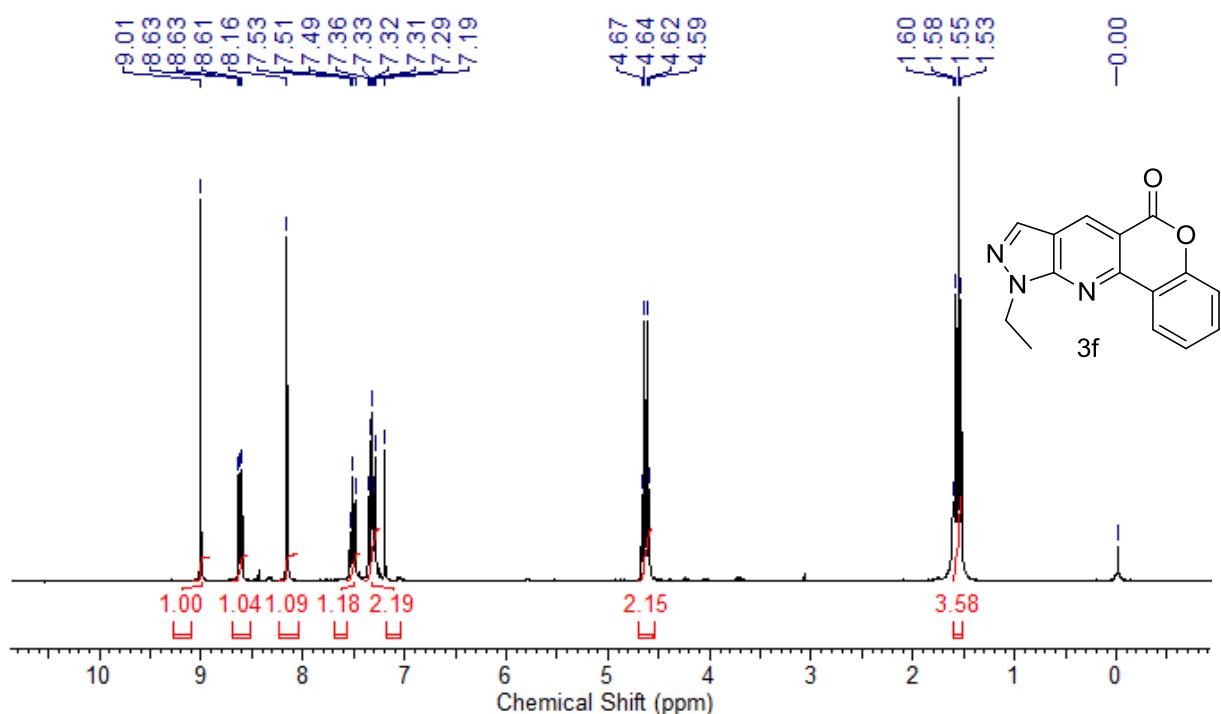




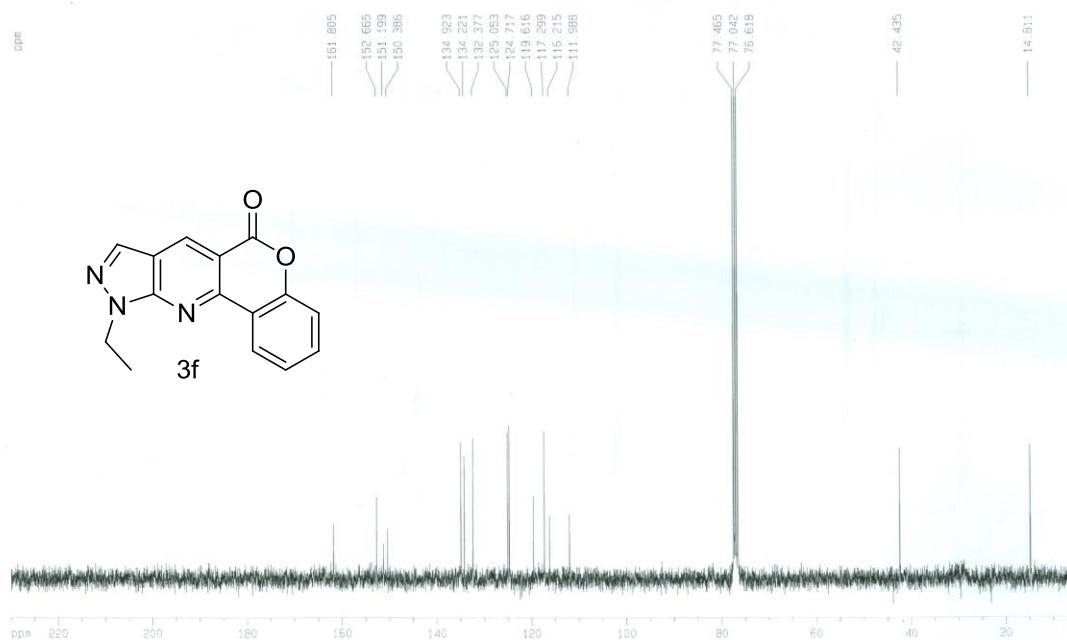
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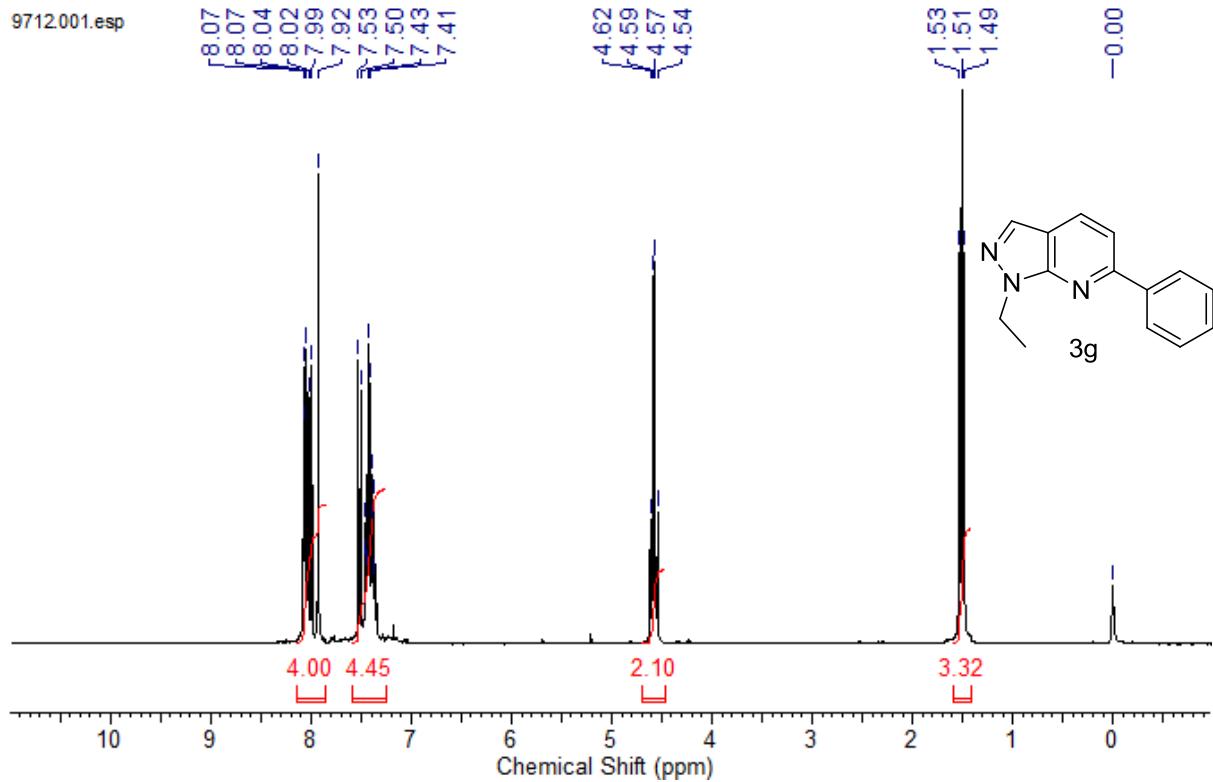


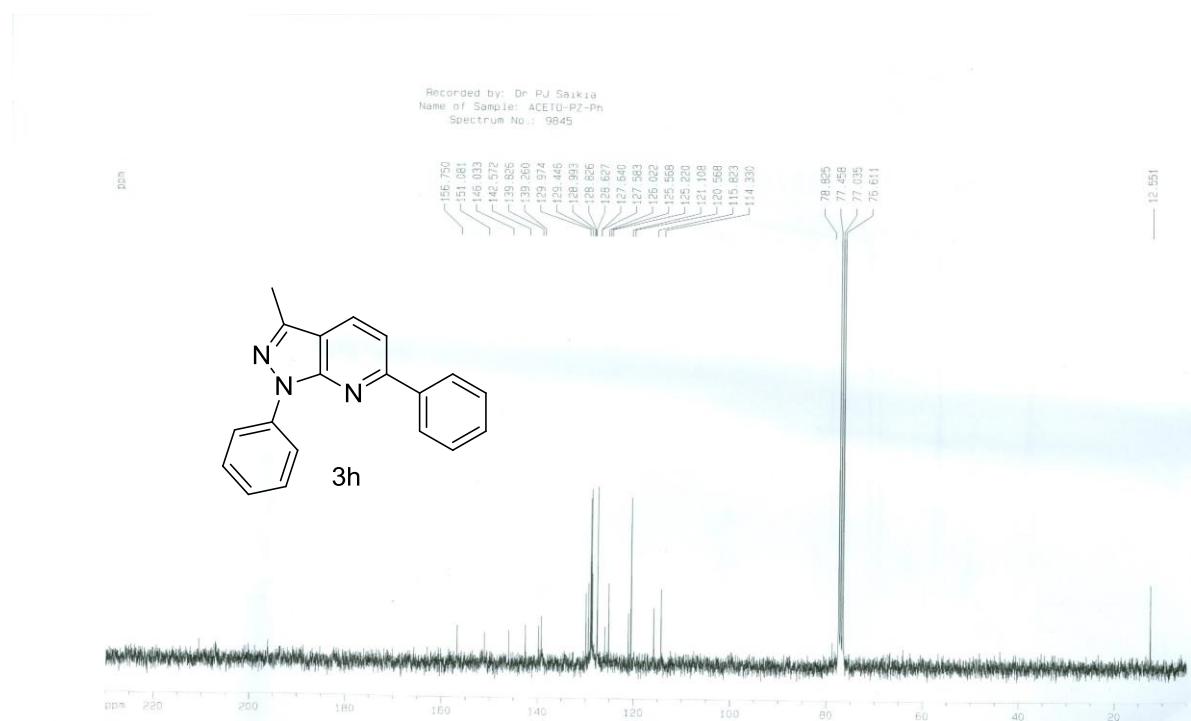
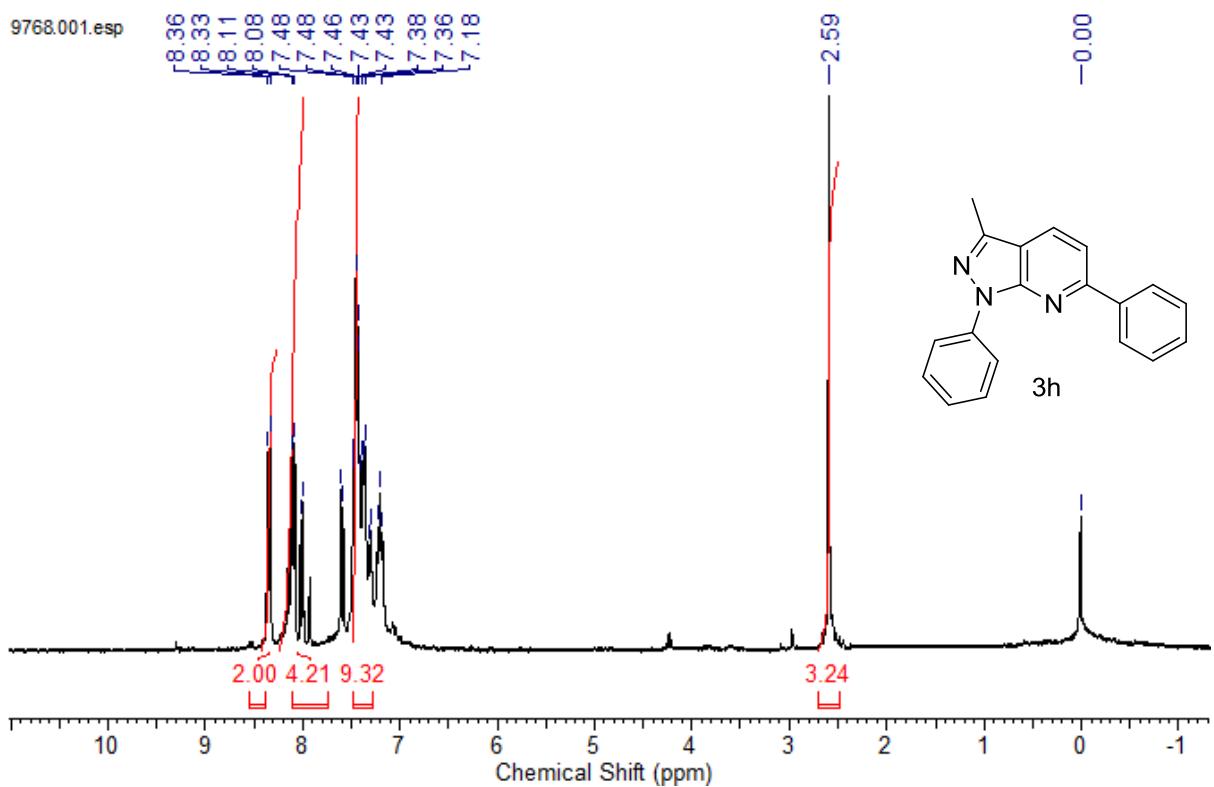
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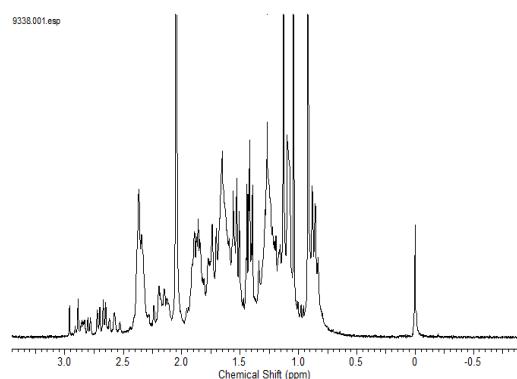
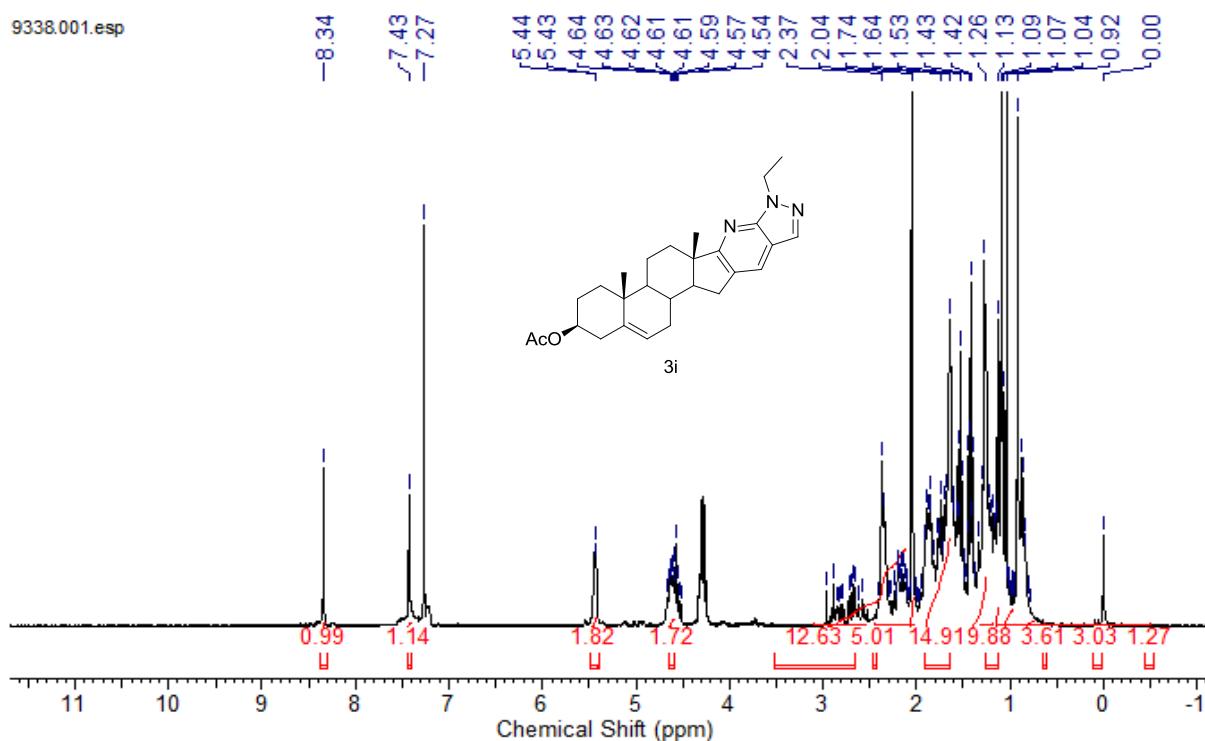
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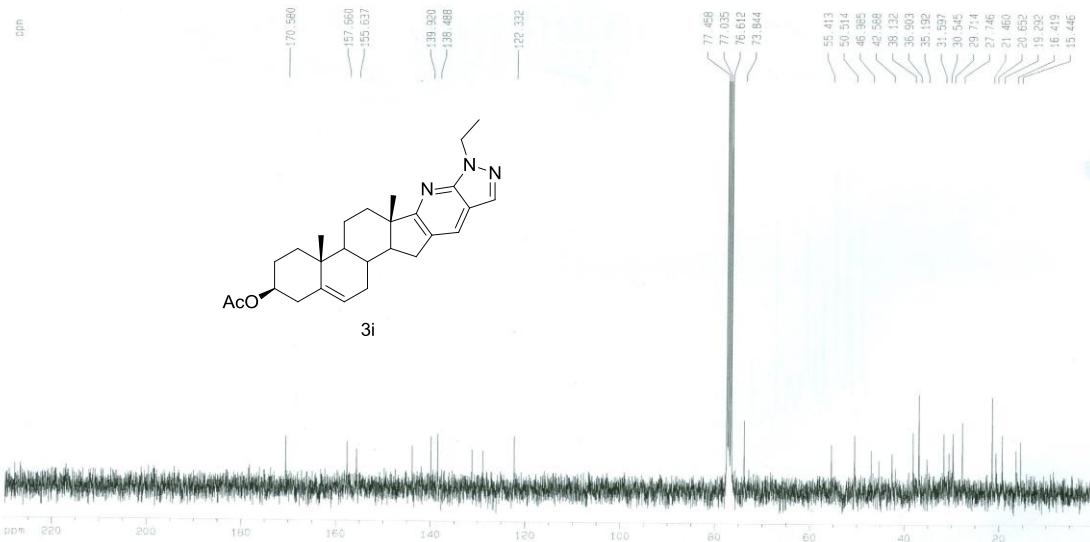


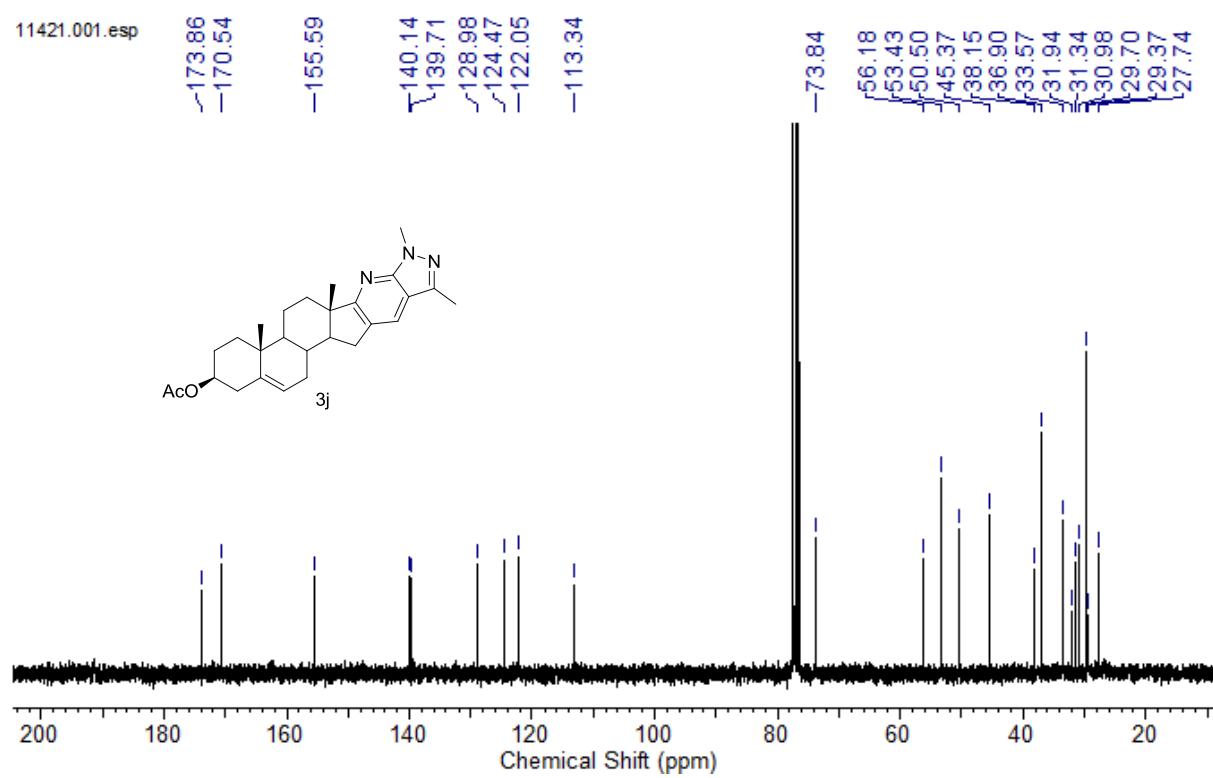
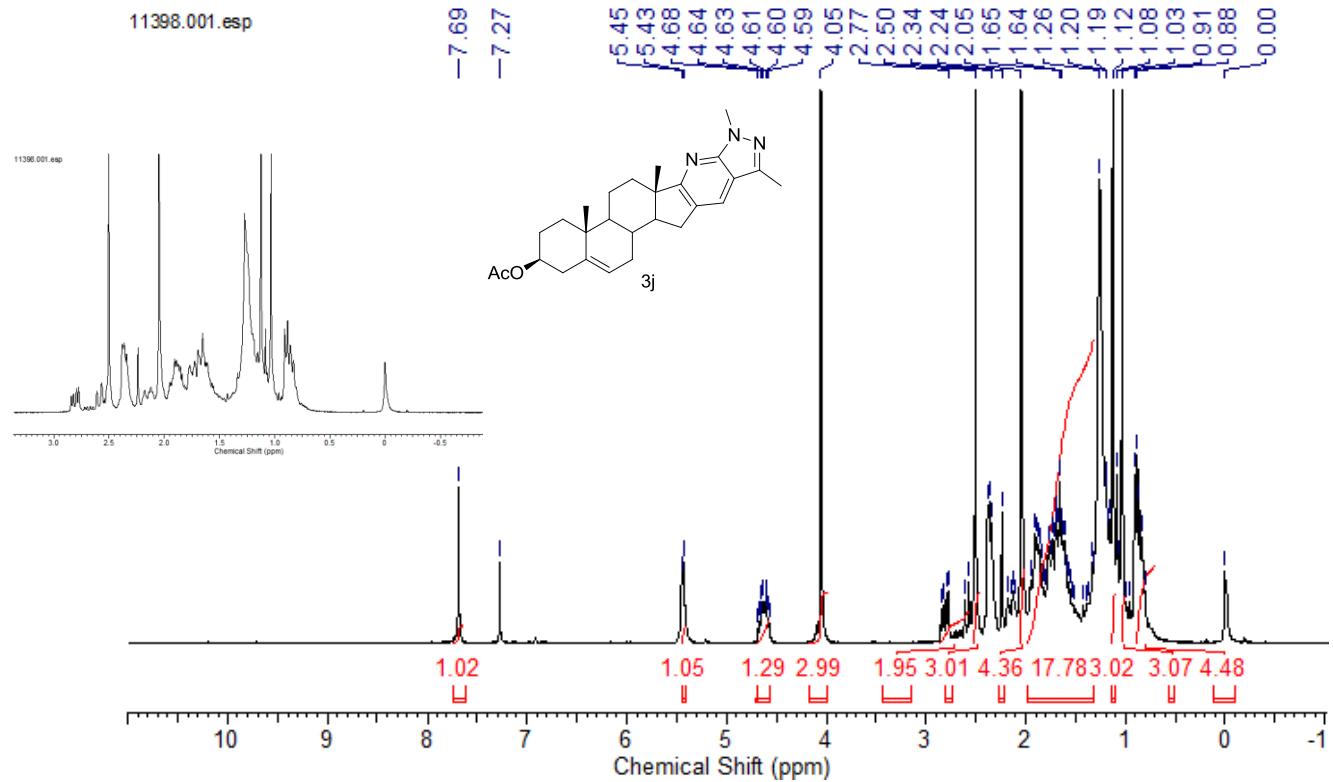


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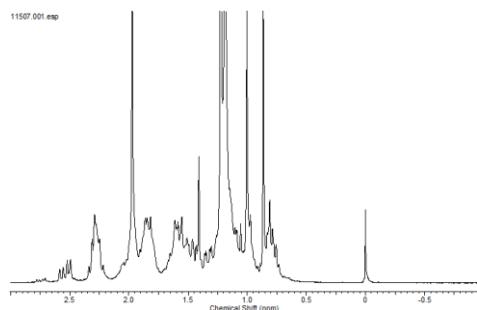
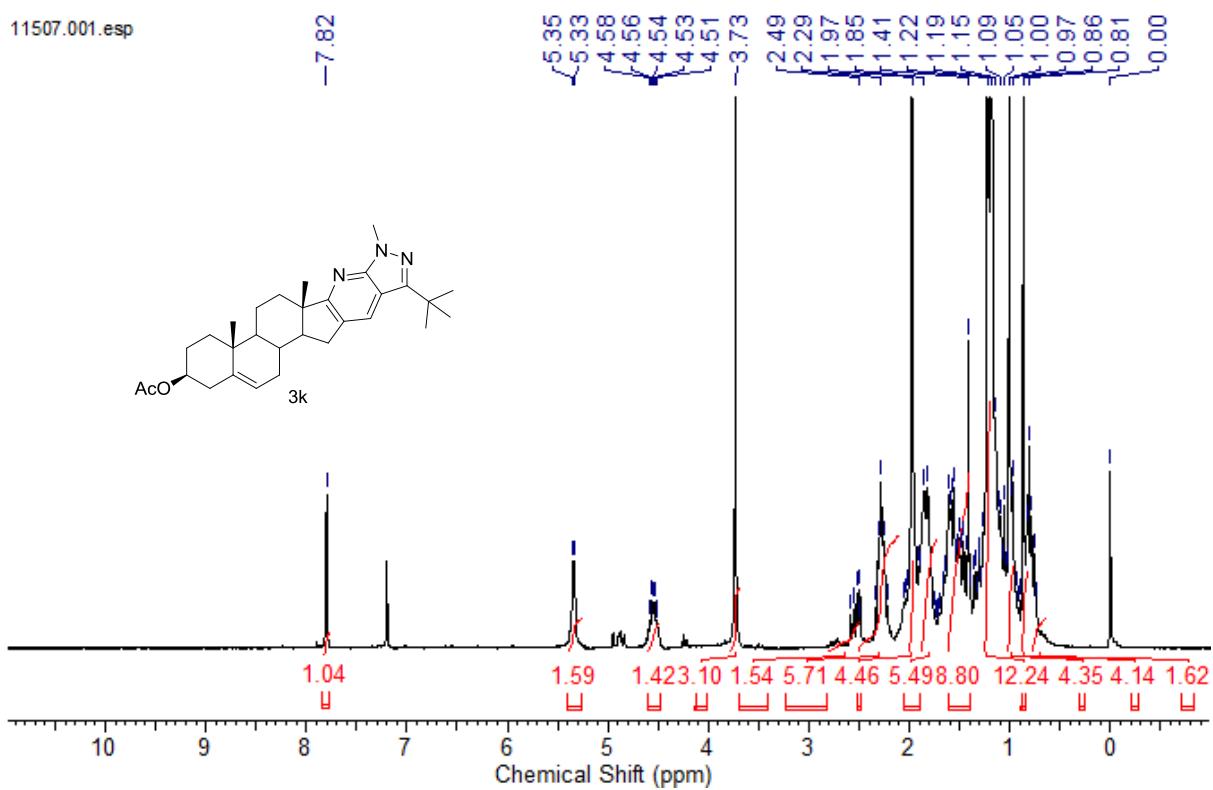


Recorded by: Dr PJ Sankha  
Name of Sample: K5-DET-PZ  
Spectrum No.: 9365

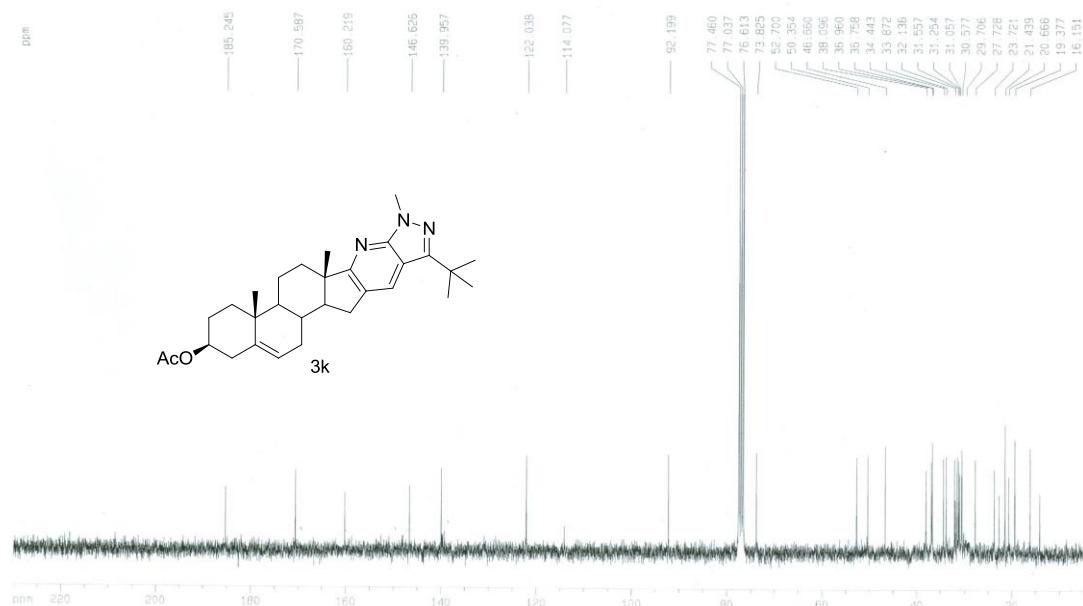


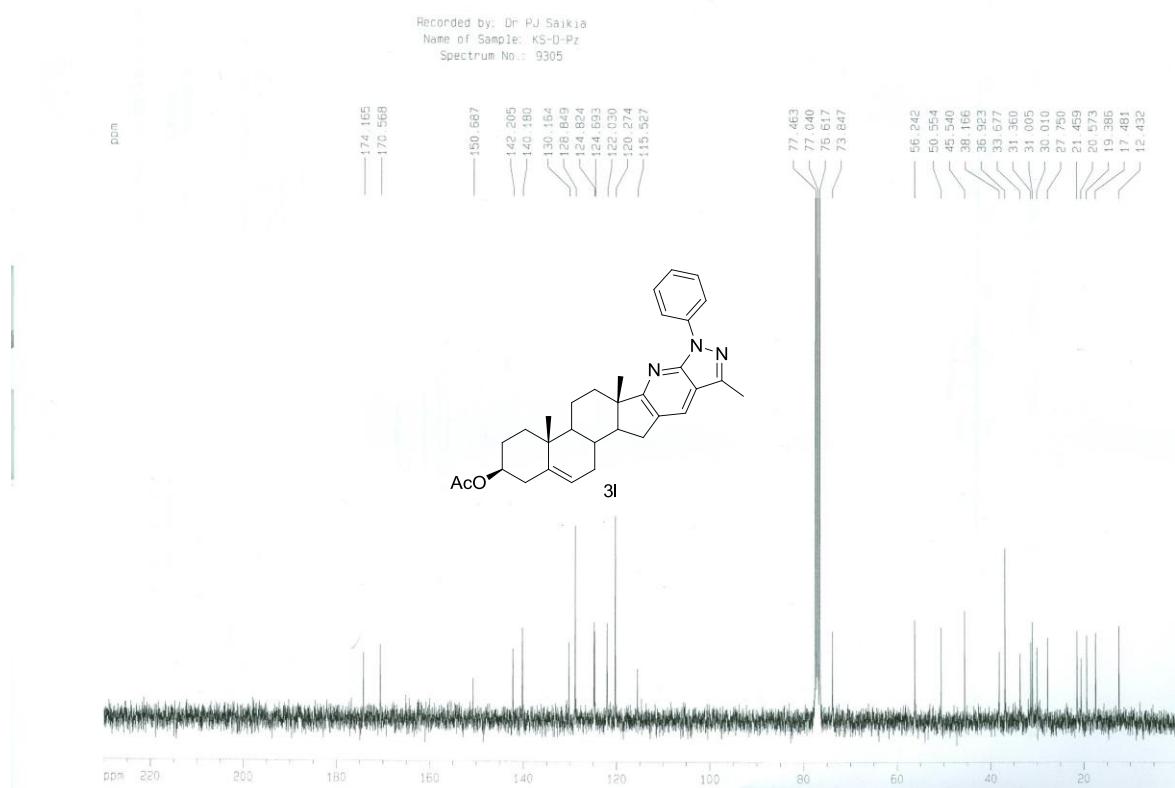
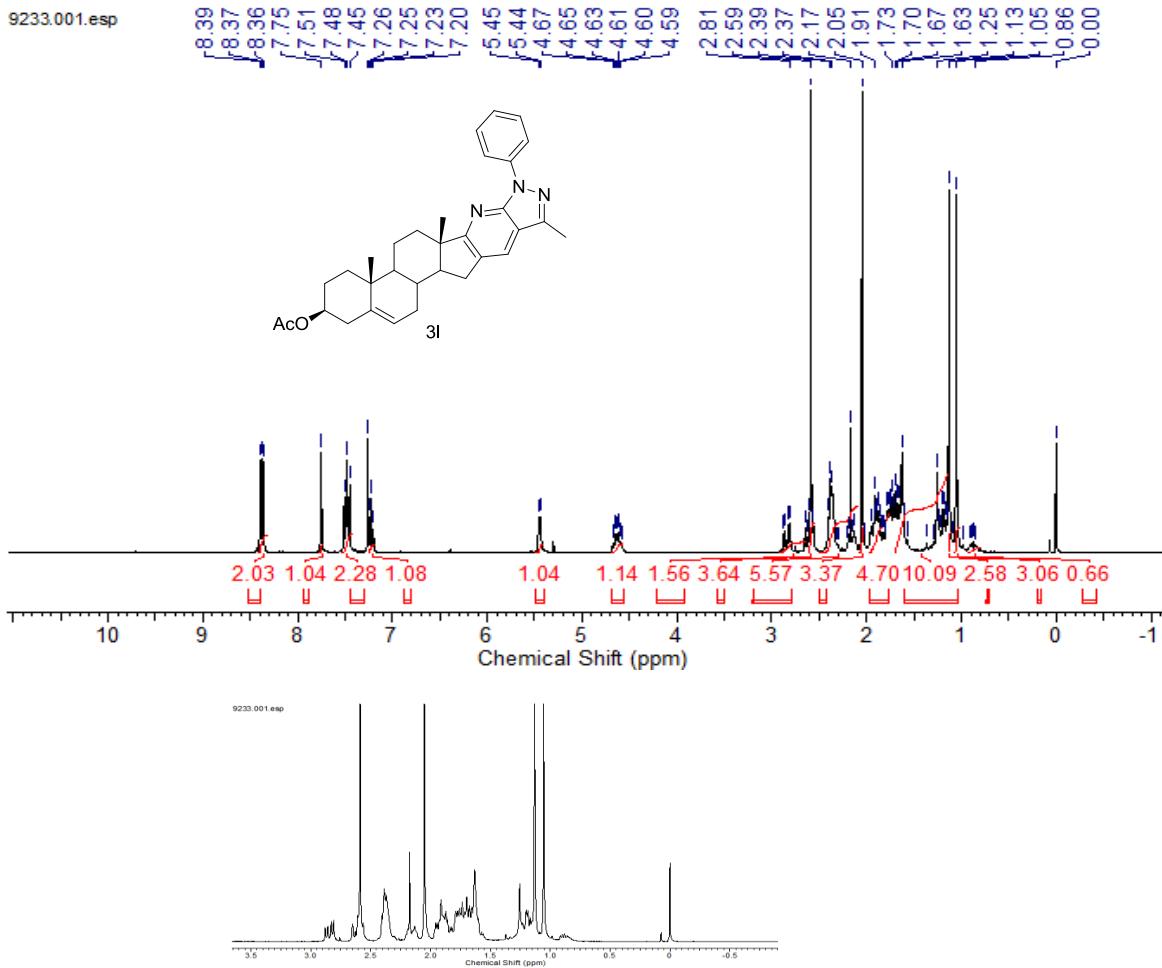


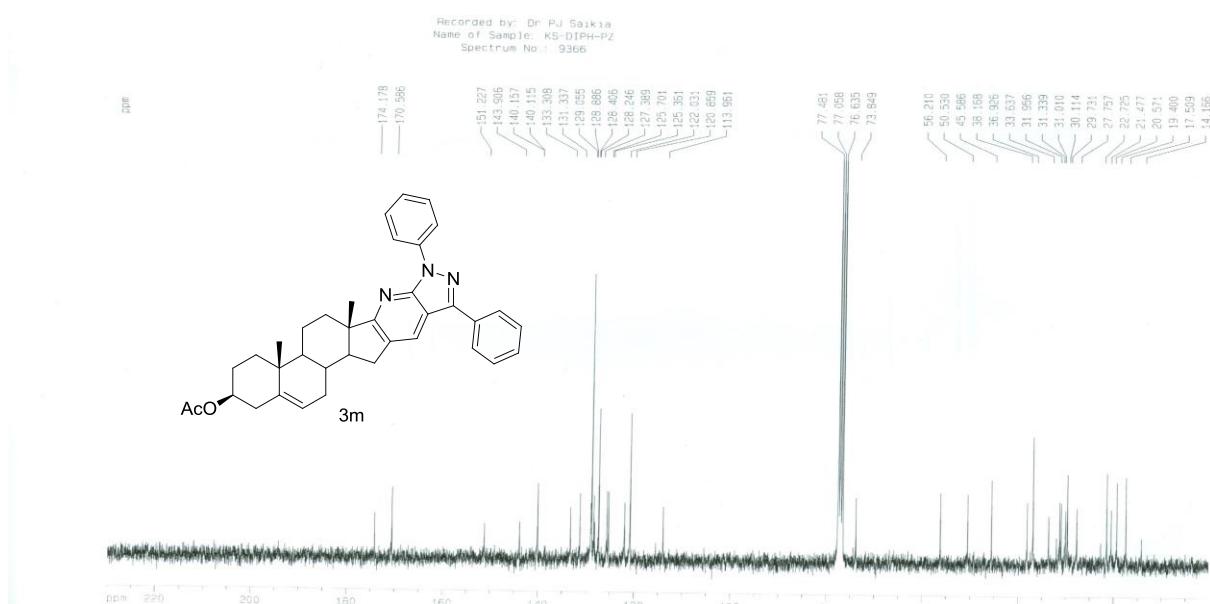
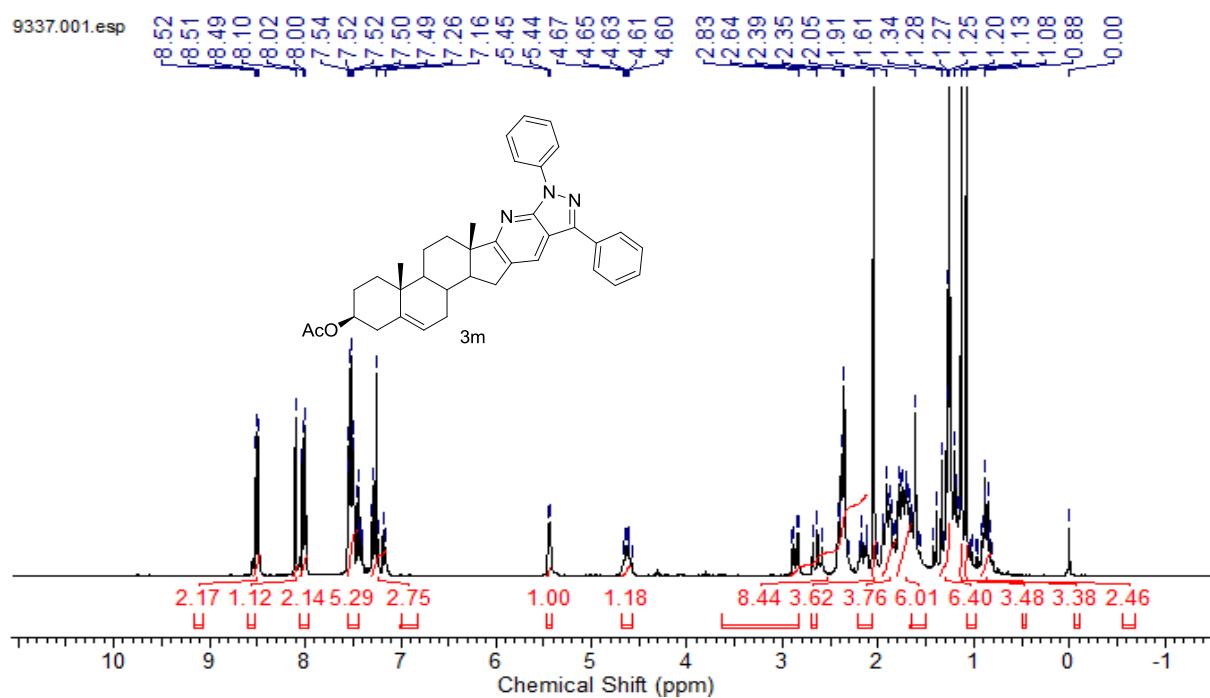
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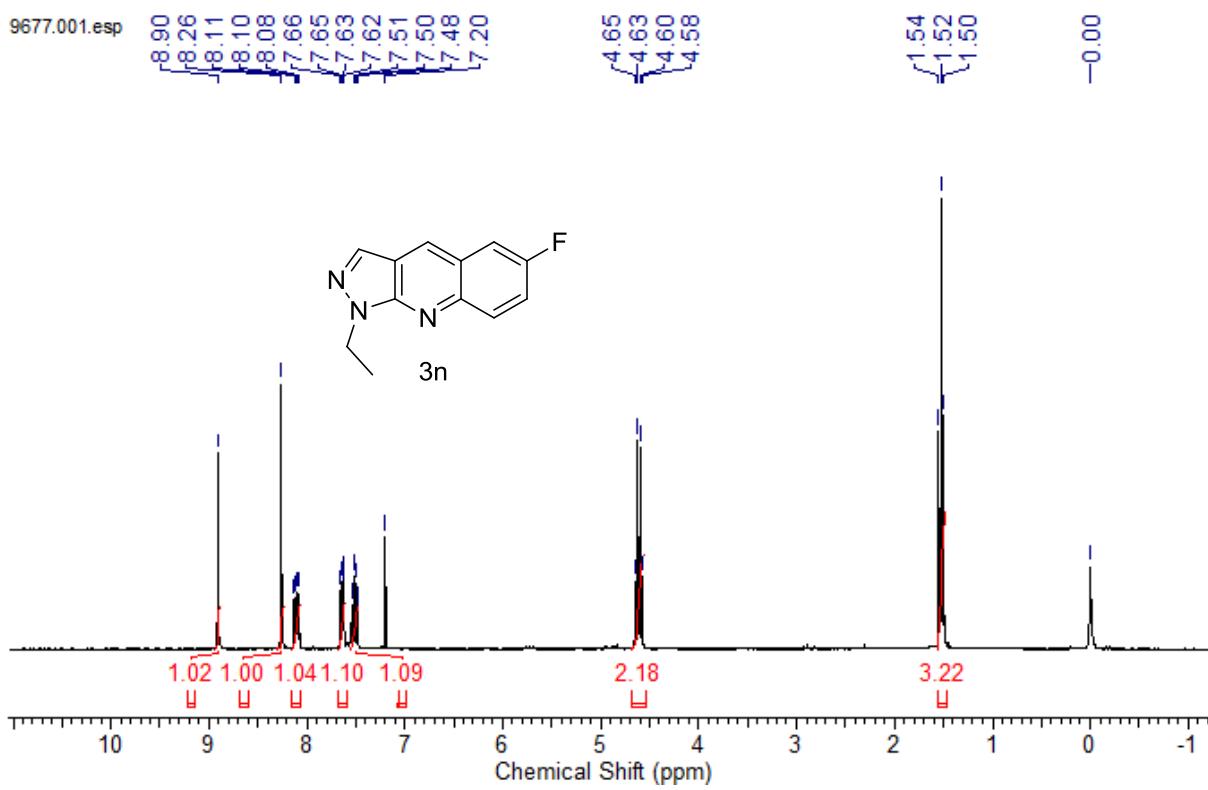


Name of Sample : PP-40 (A)  
Spectrum No : 11553

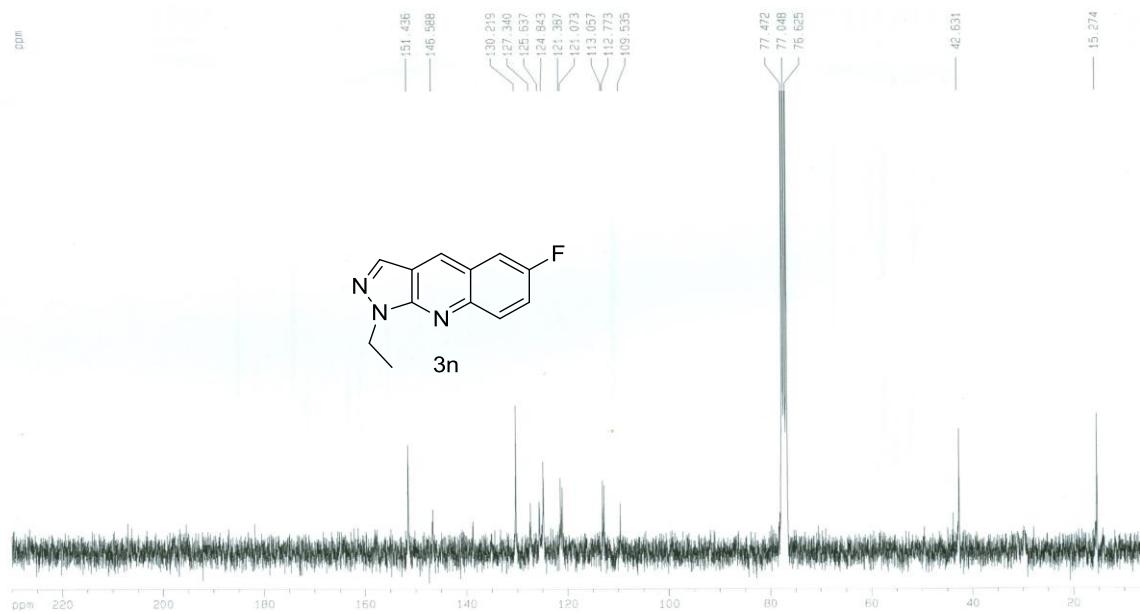


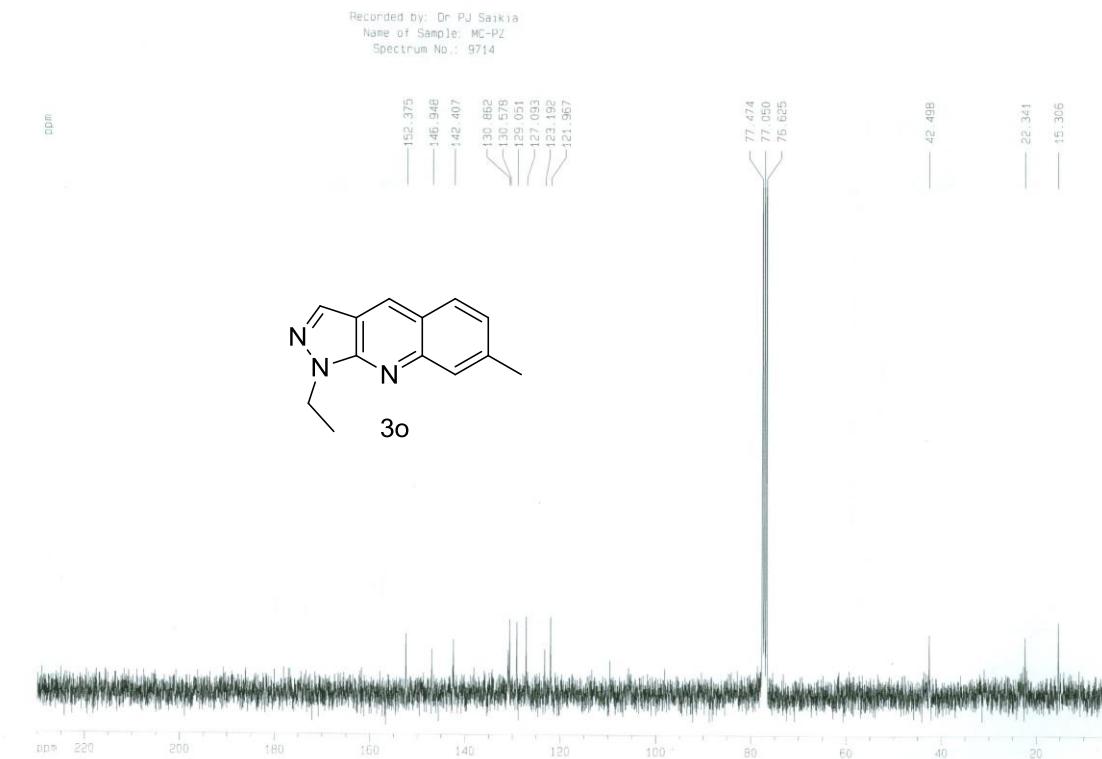
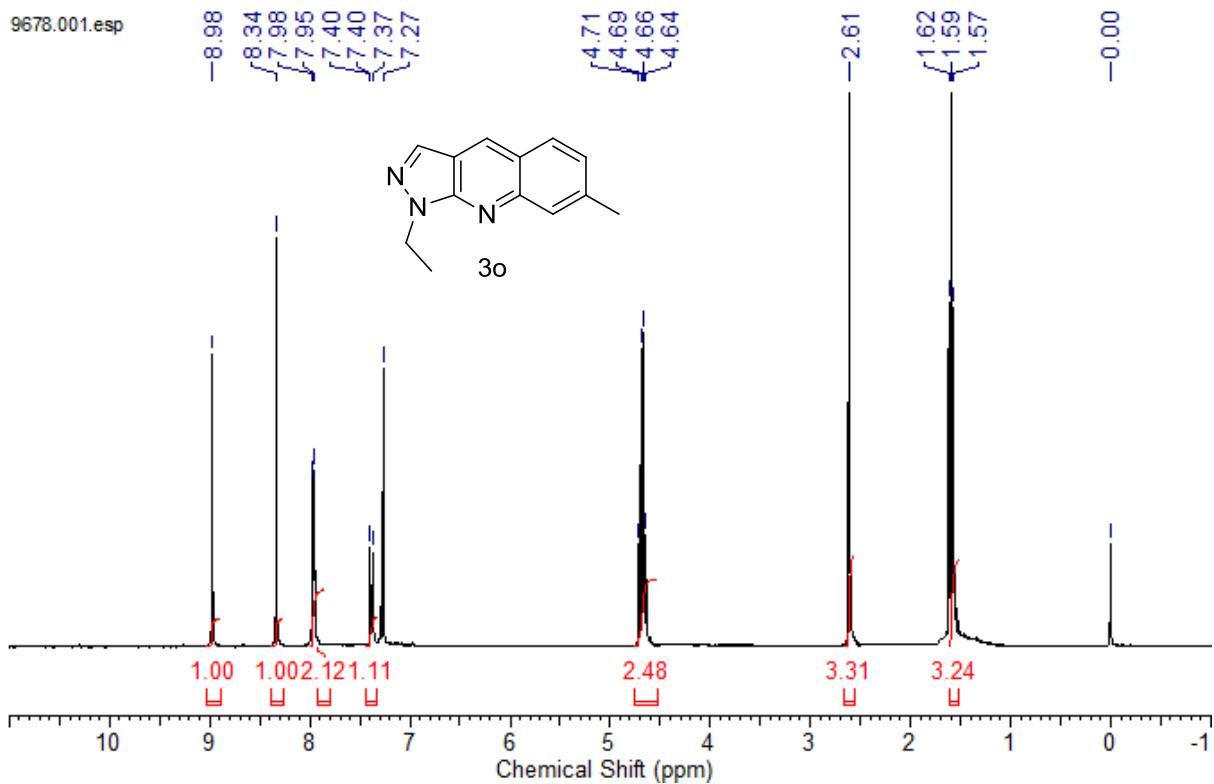


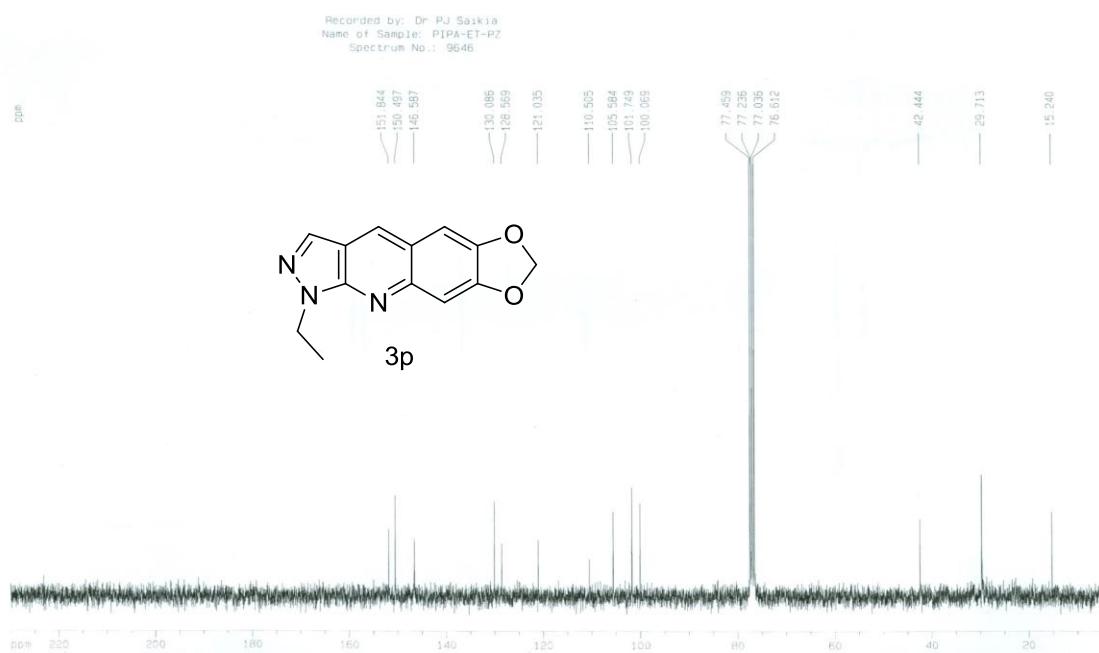
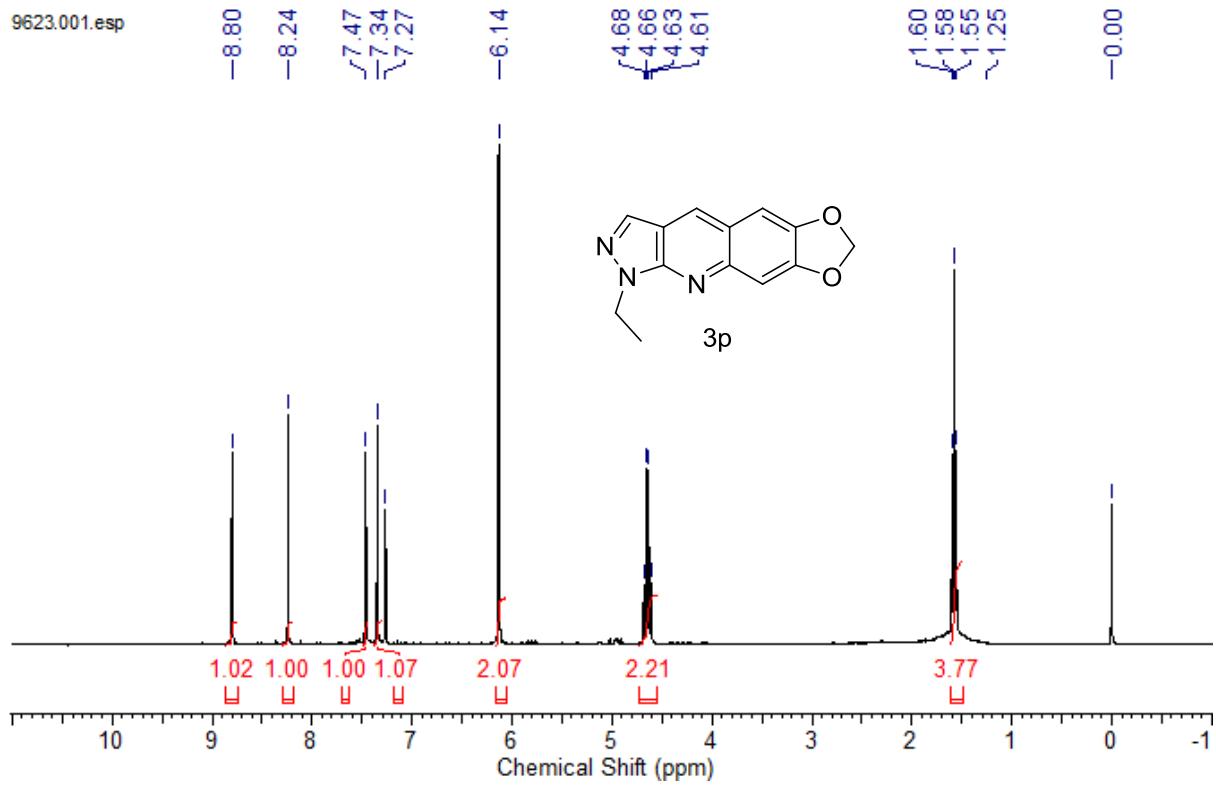


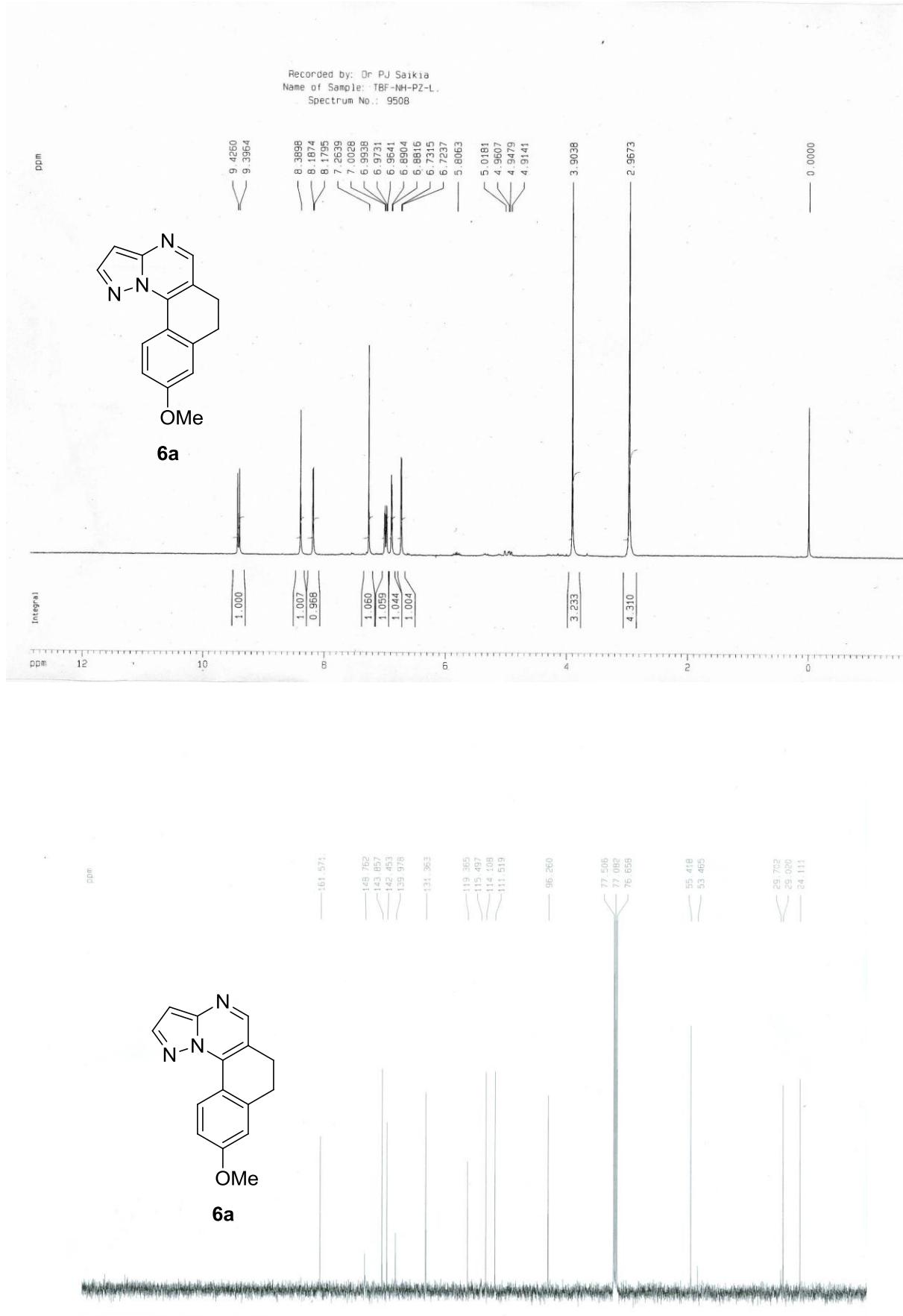


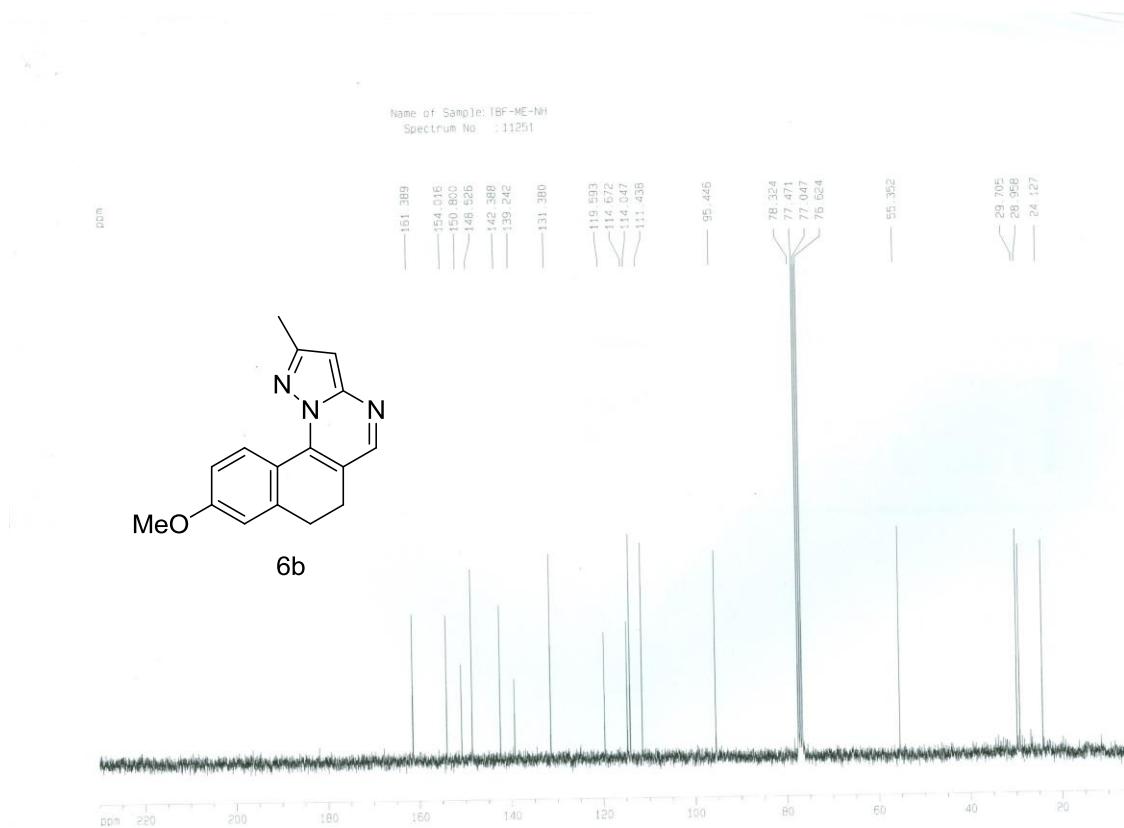
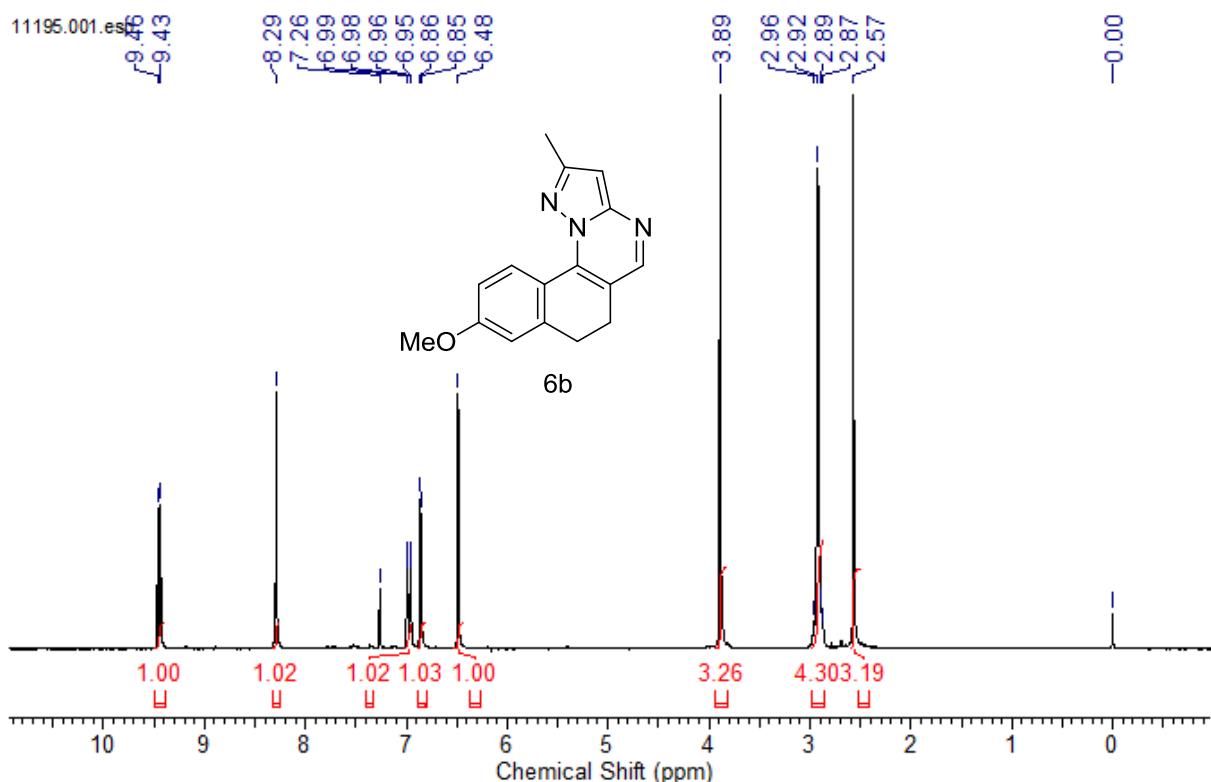
Recorded by: Dr PJ Saikia  
Name of Sample: F-PZ  
Spectrum No.: 9715

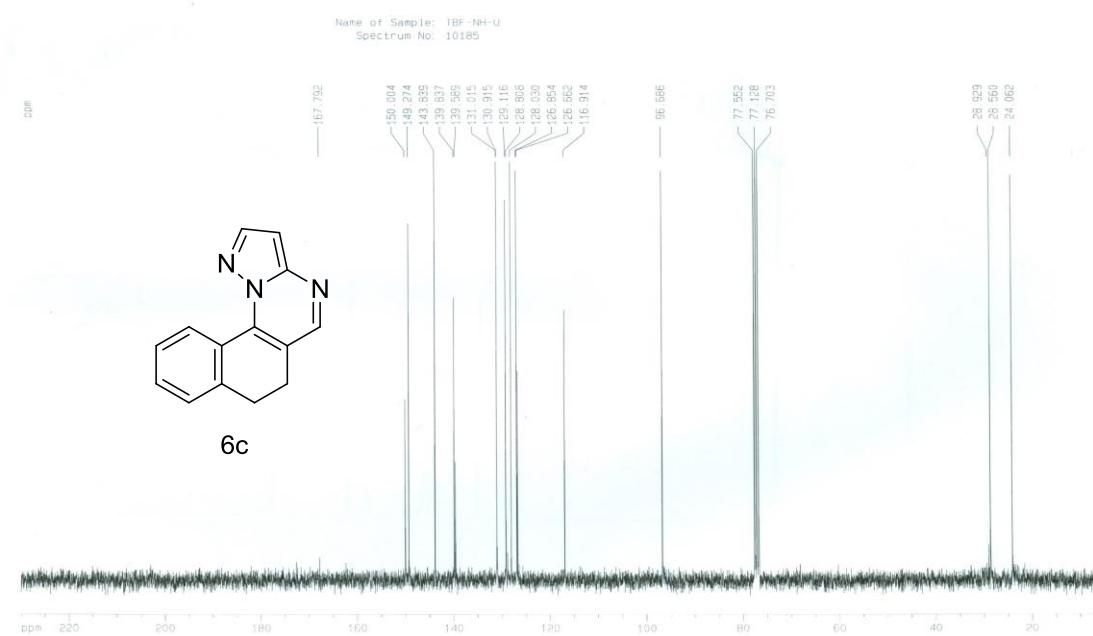
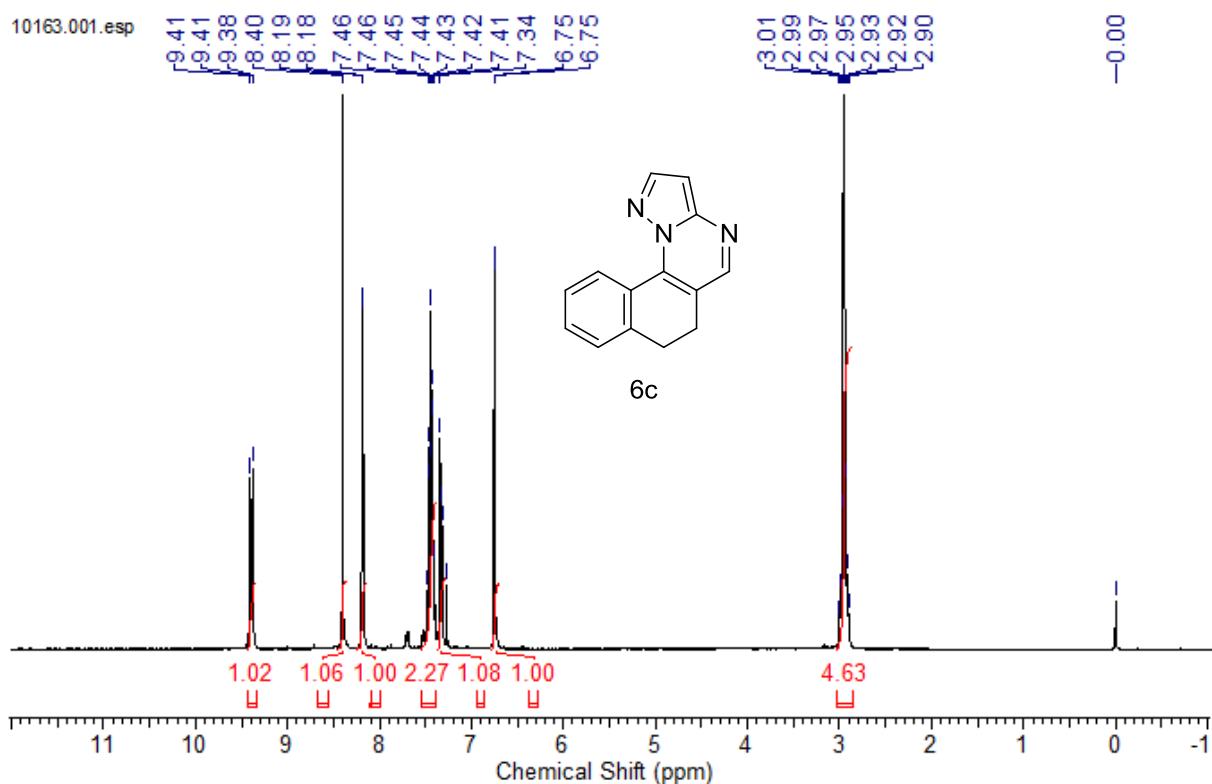


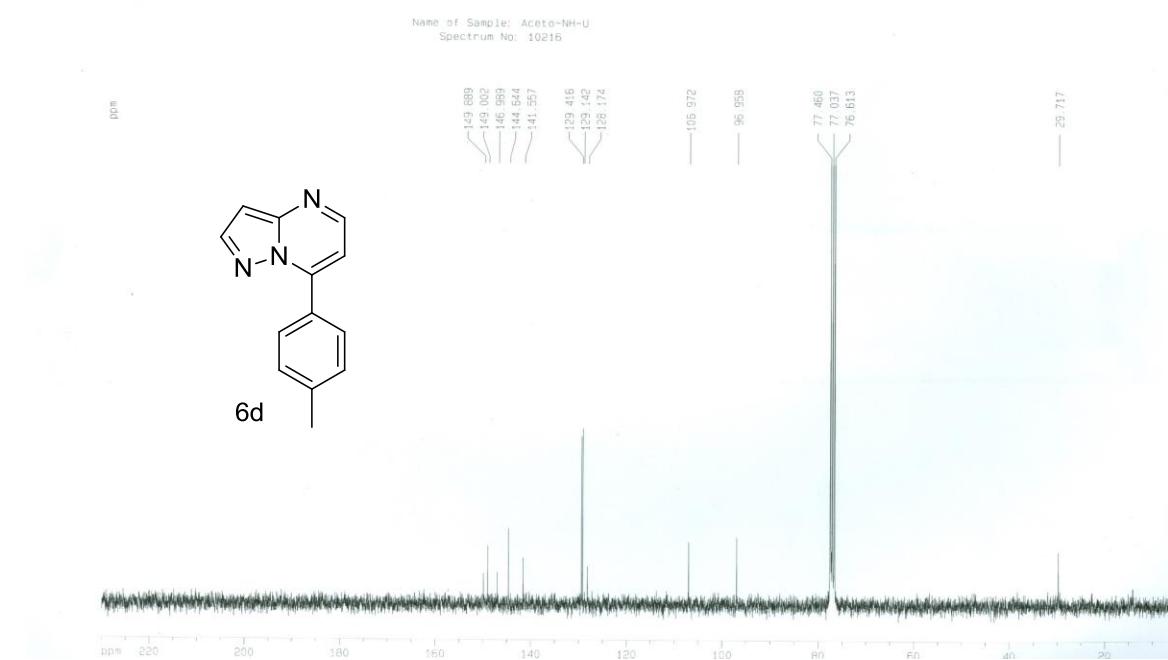
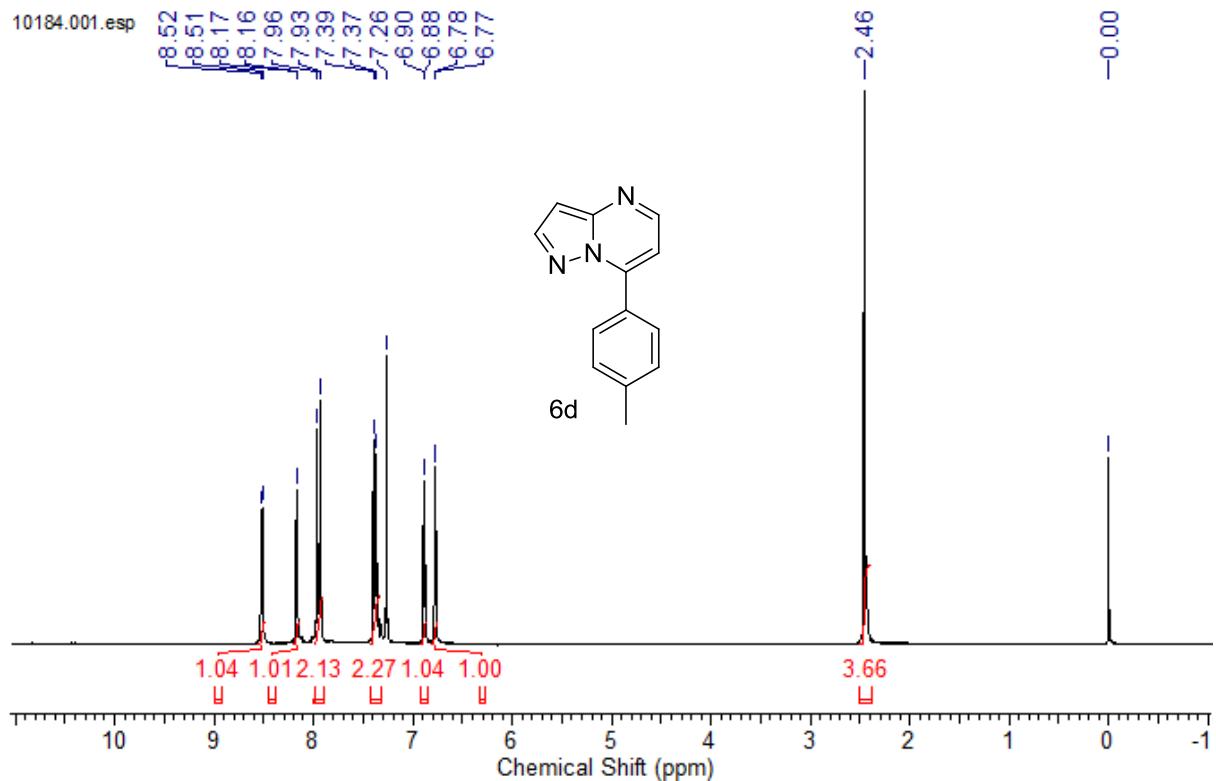




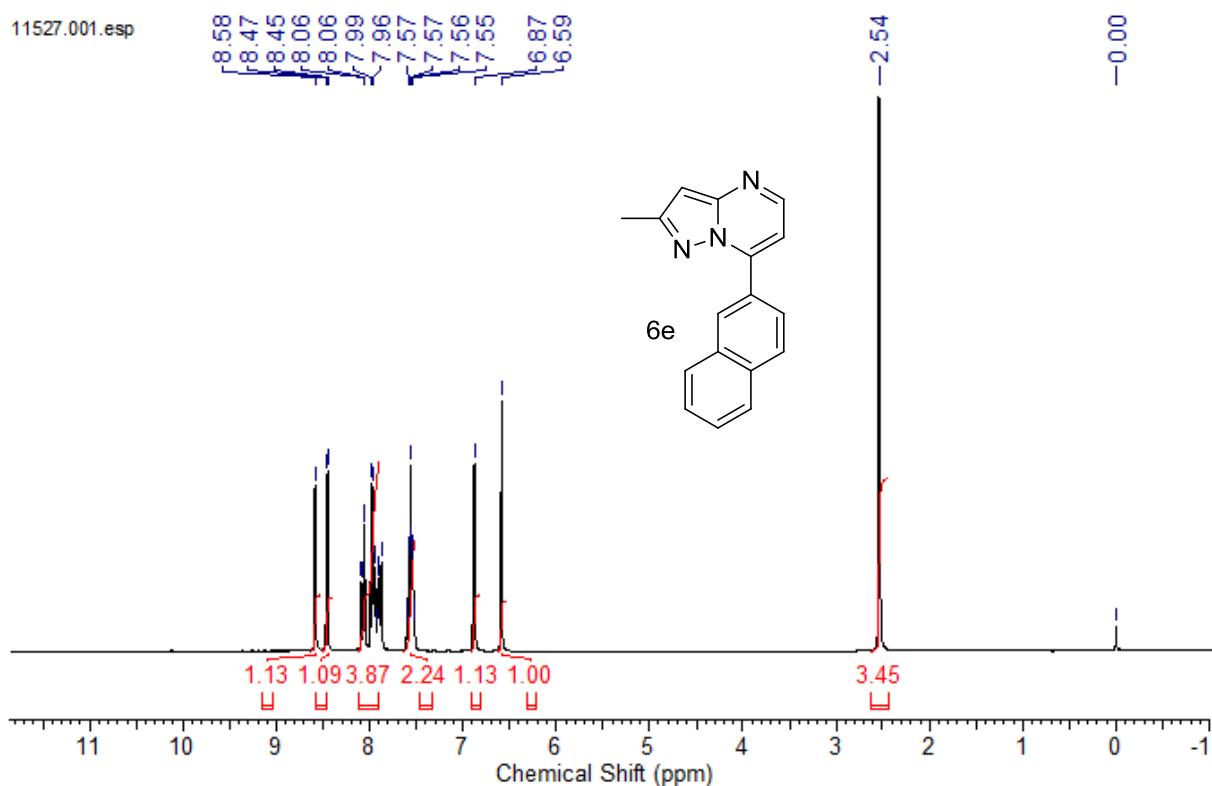




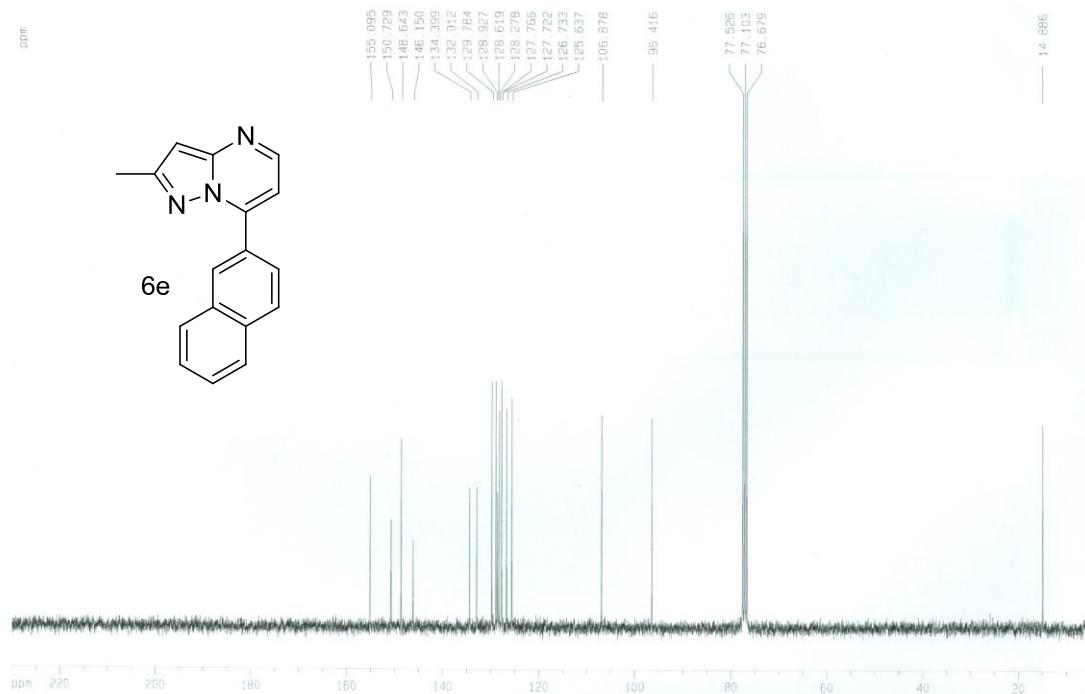


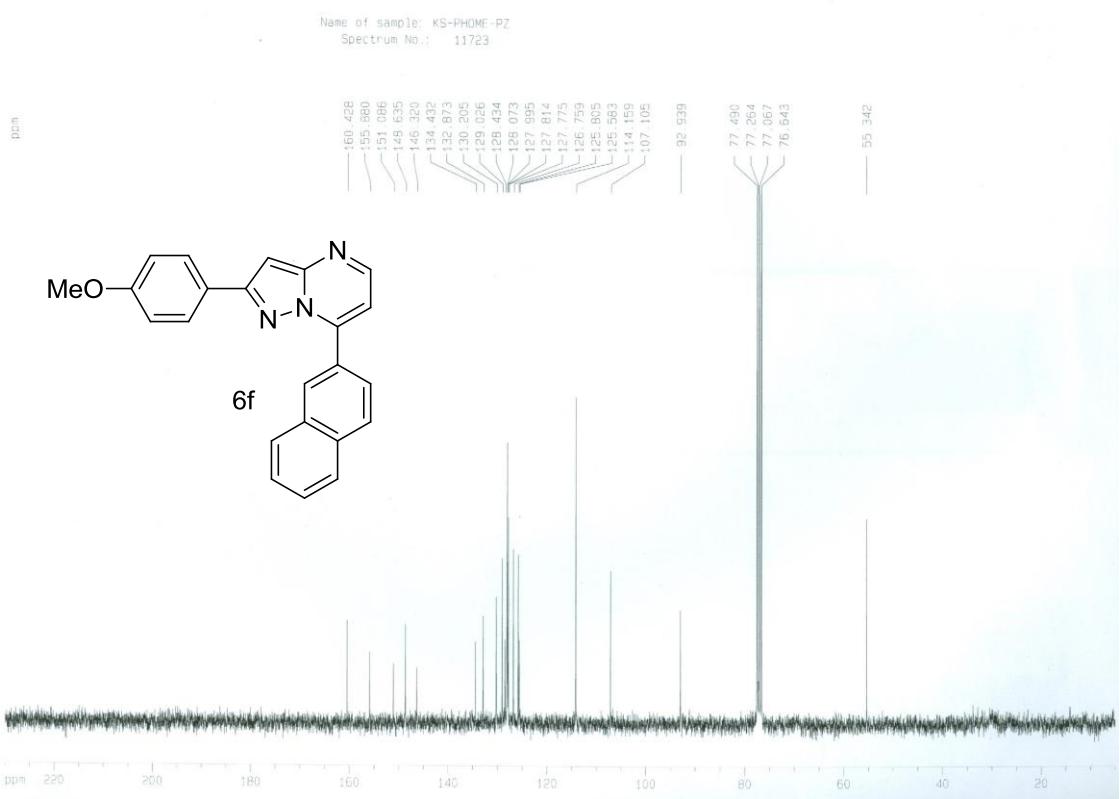
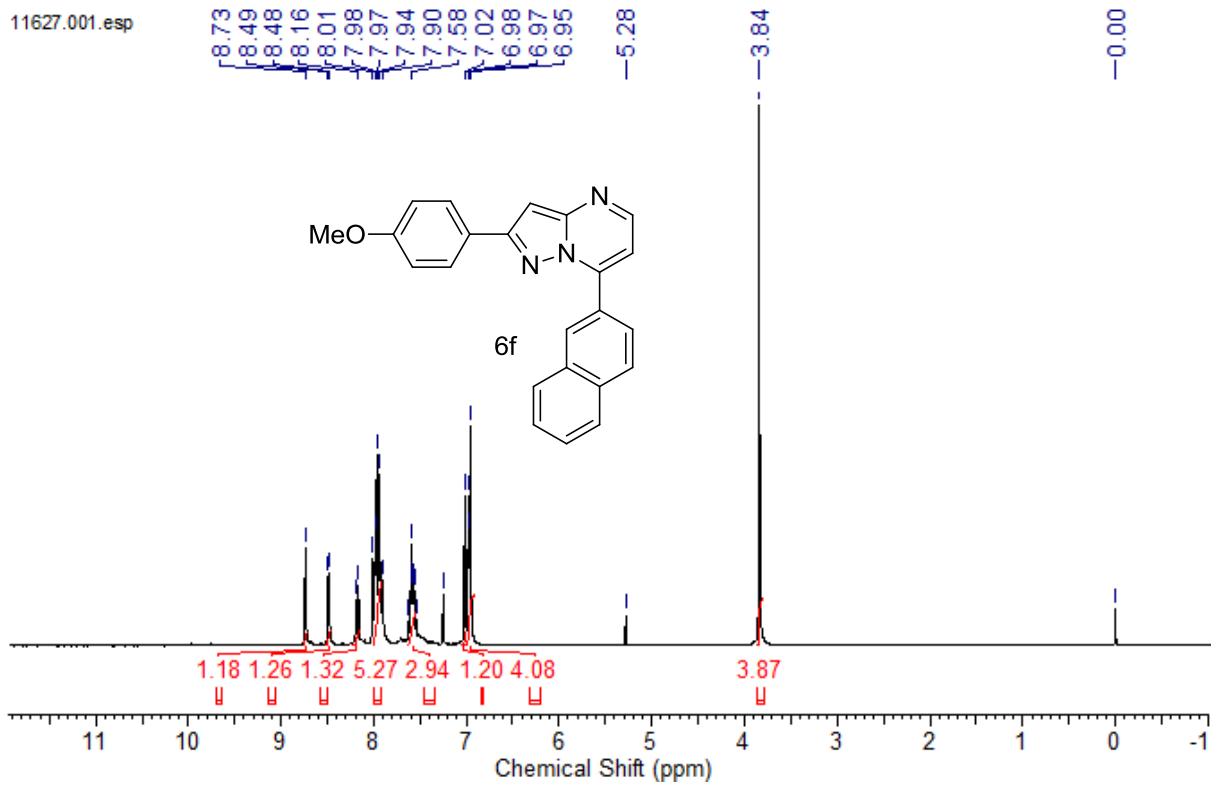


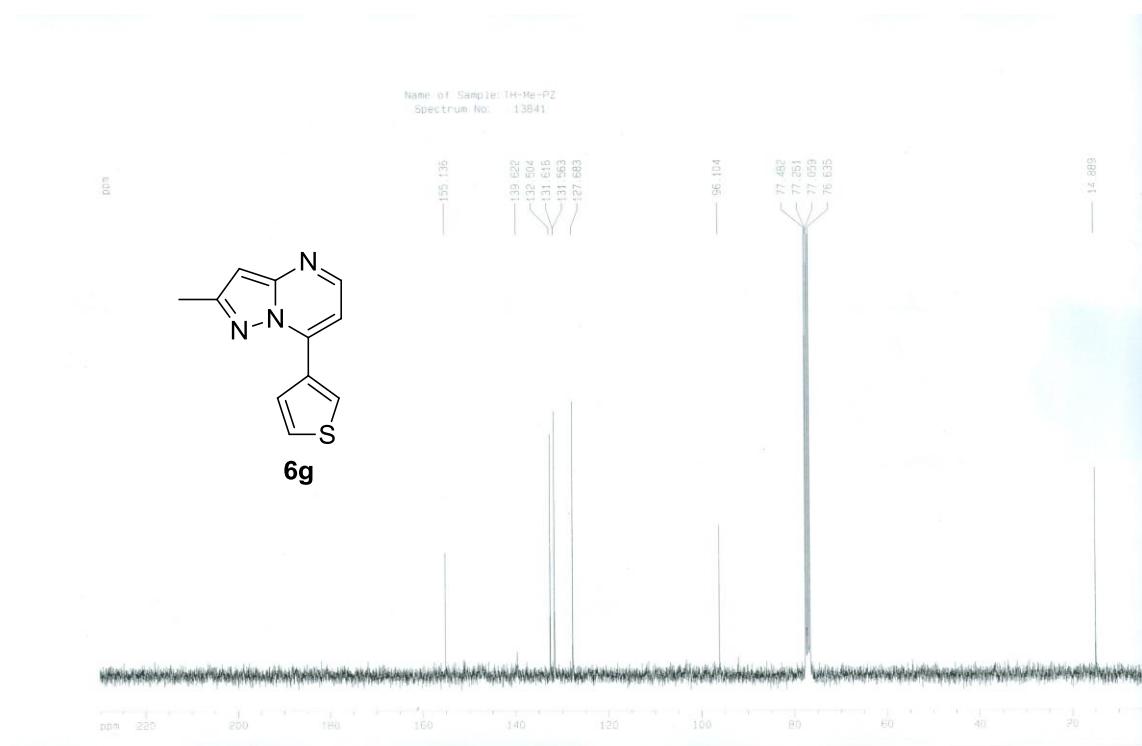
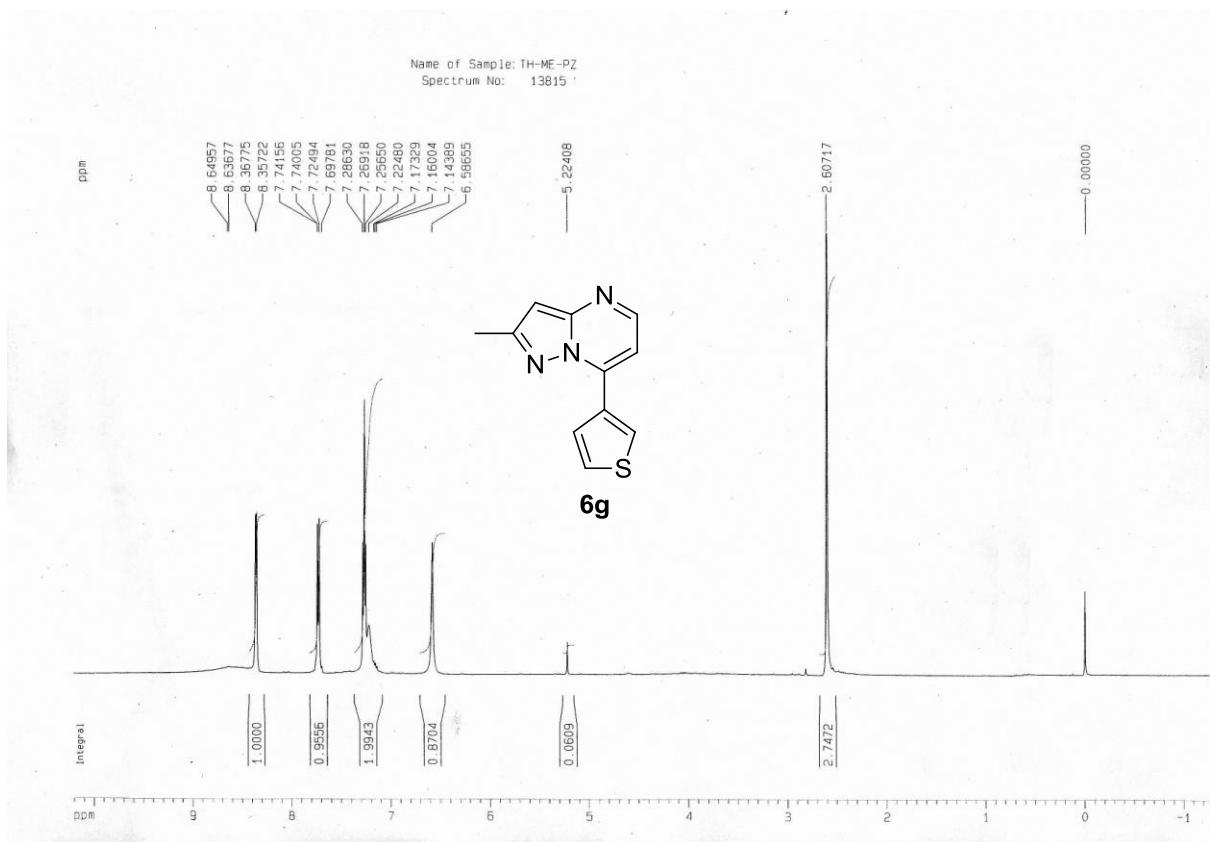
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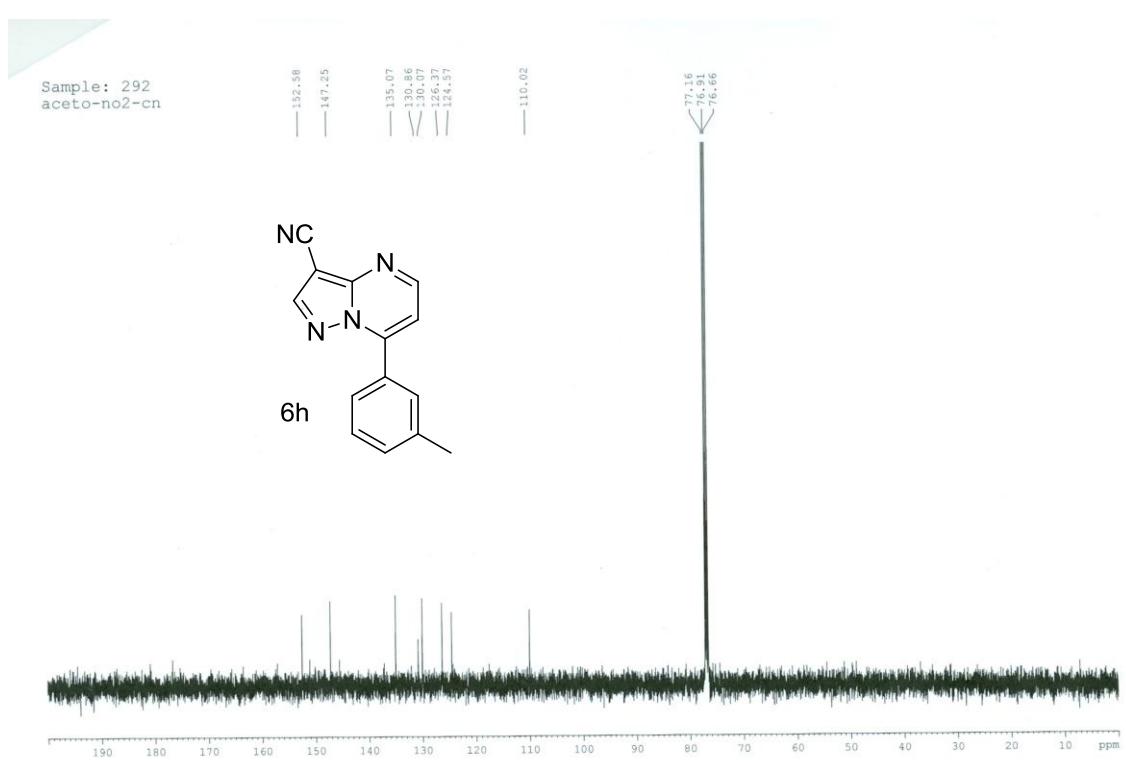
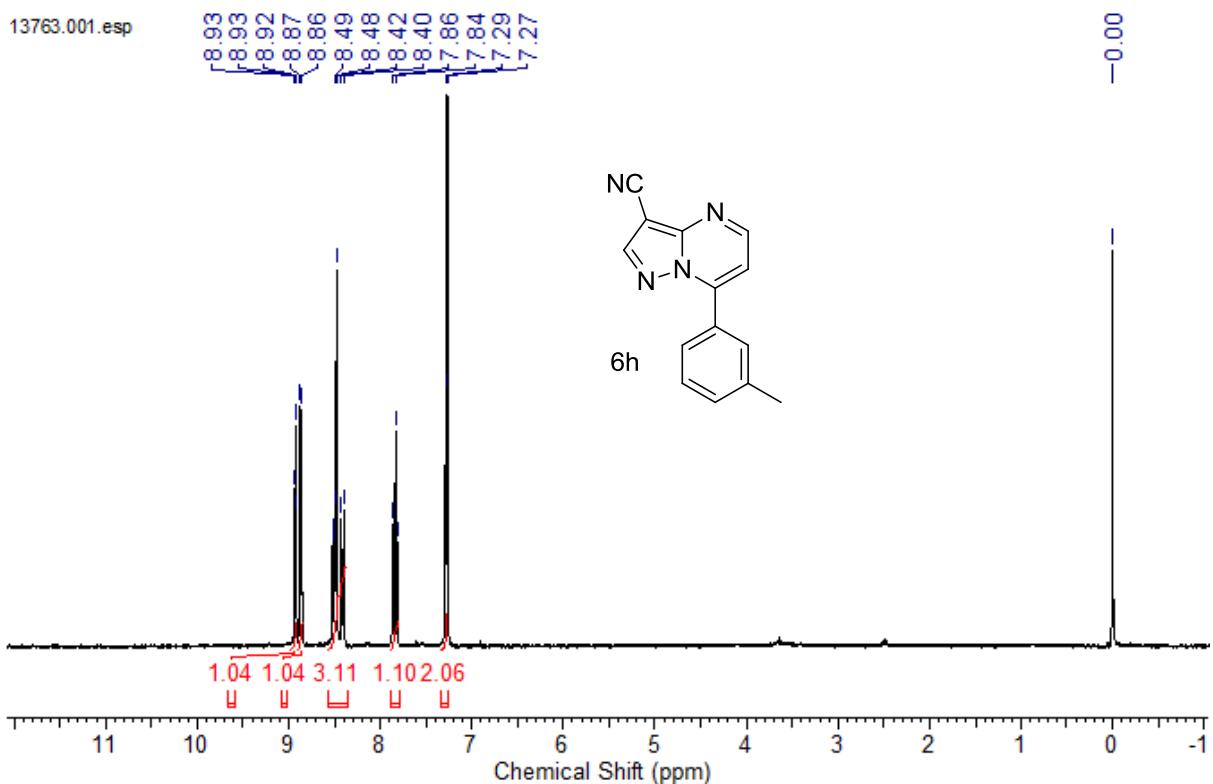


Name of Sample : NAPH-PZ-CHO  
Spectrum No : 11575







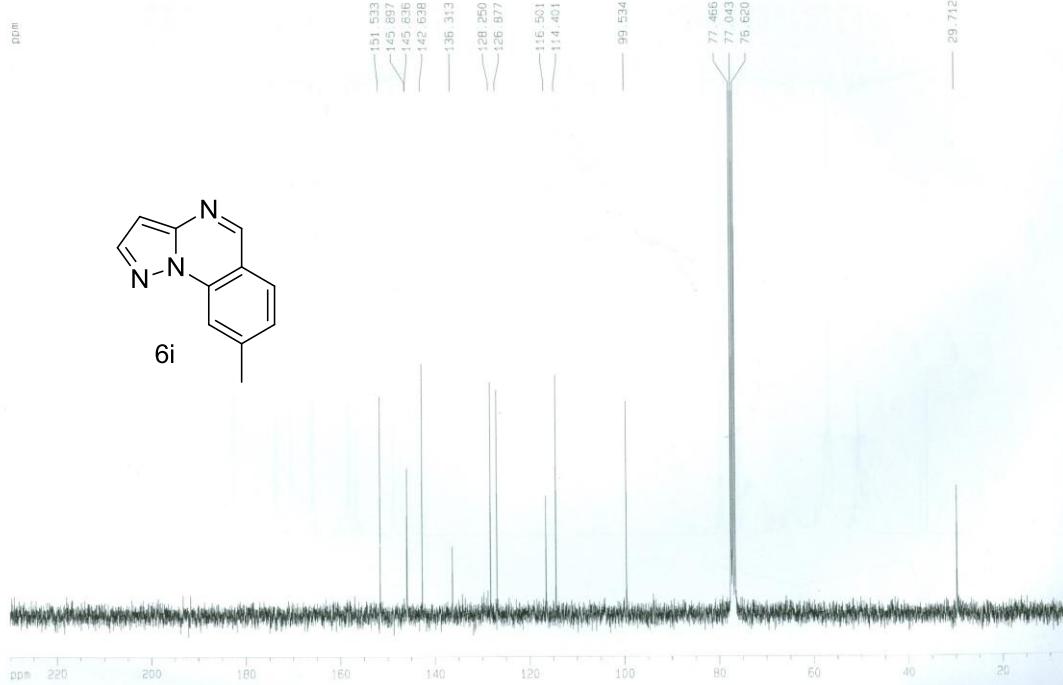
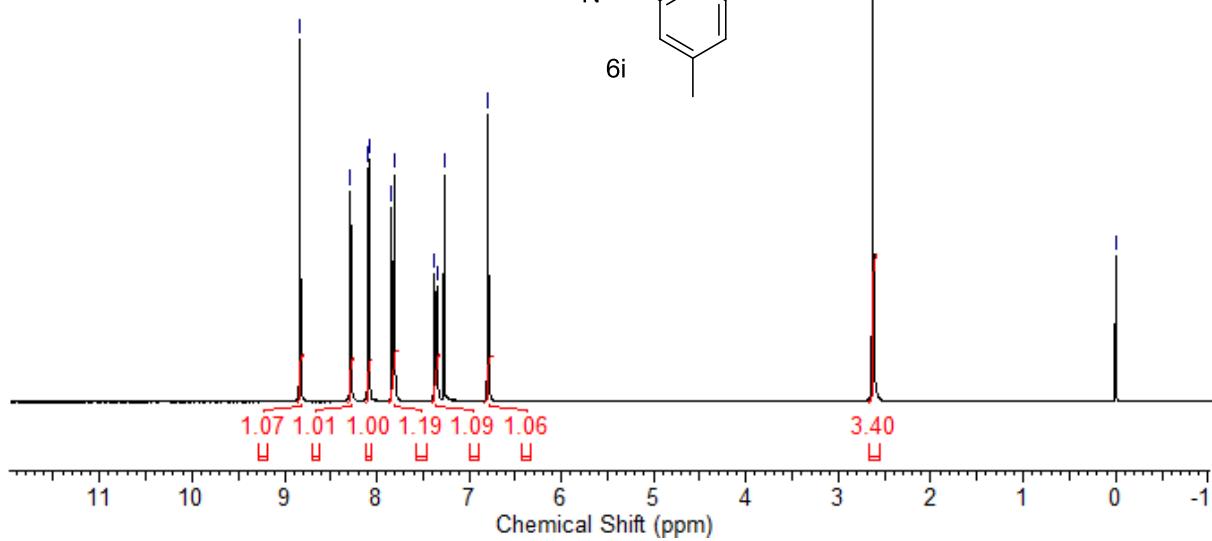
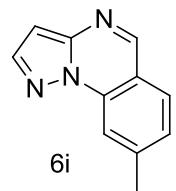


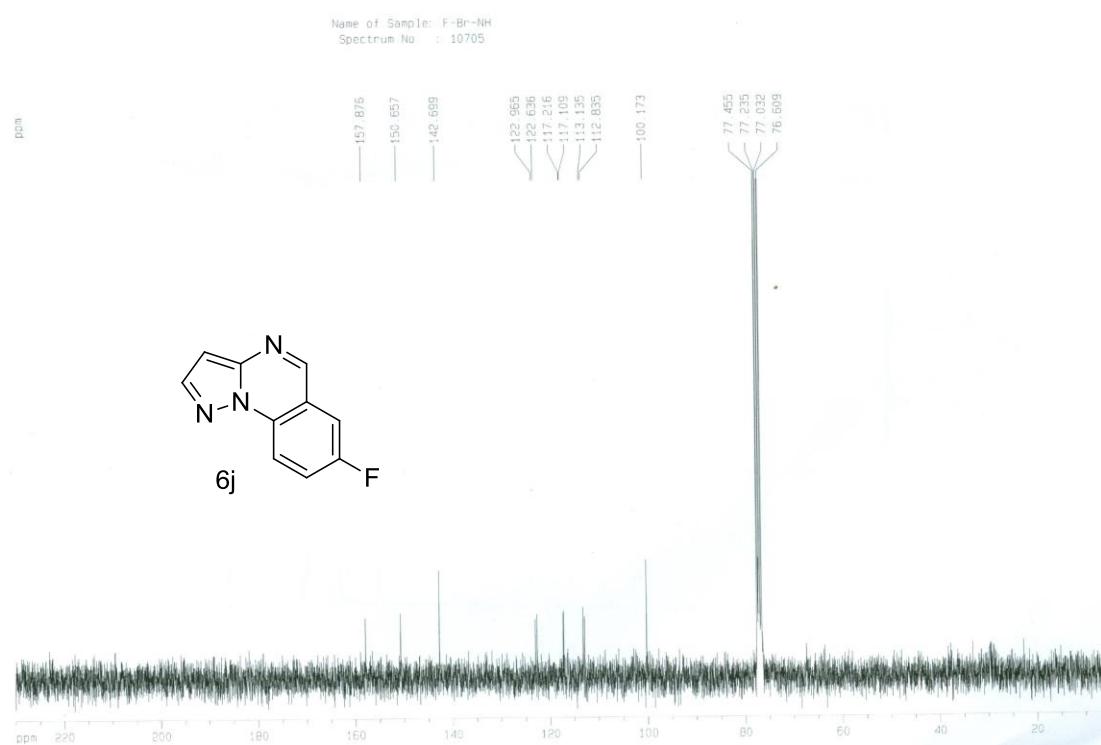
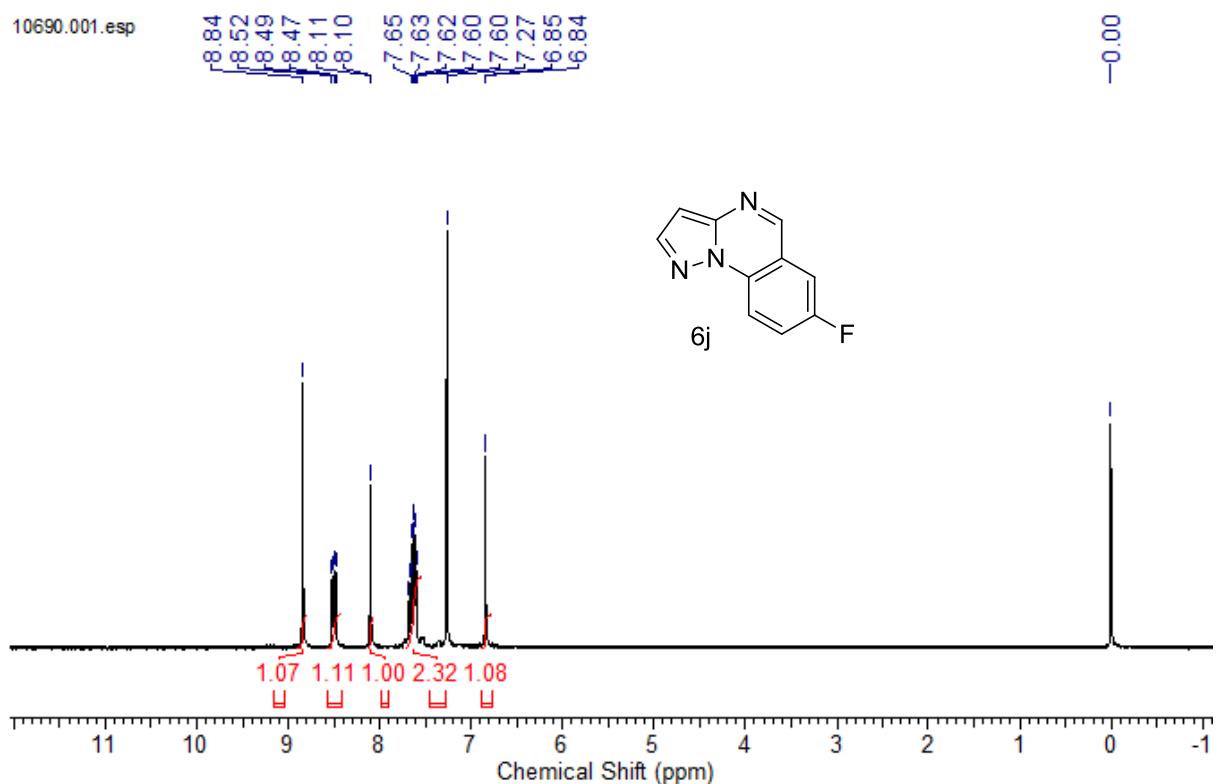
10277.001.esp

8.83  
8.28  
8.10  
8.09  
7.84  
7.81  
7.37  
7.35  
7.27  
6.79

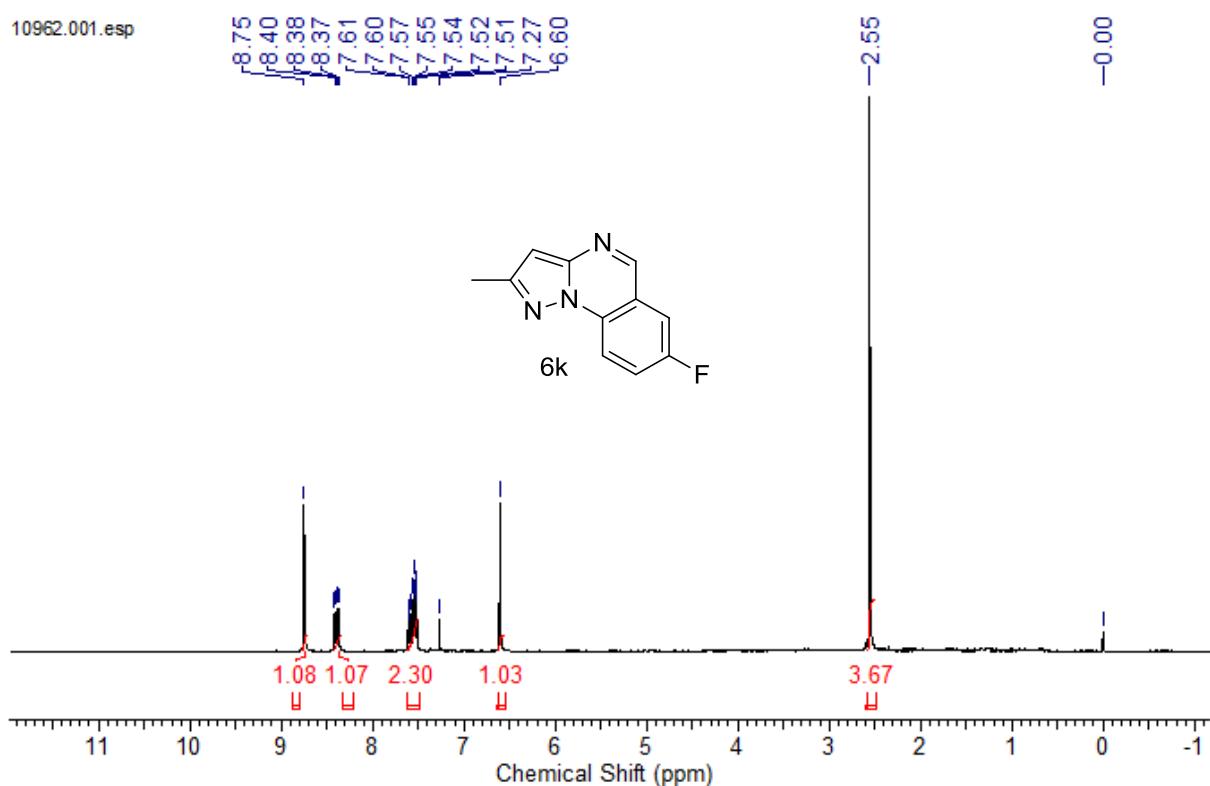
-2.63

-0.00

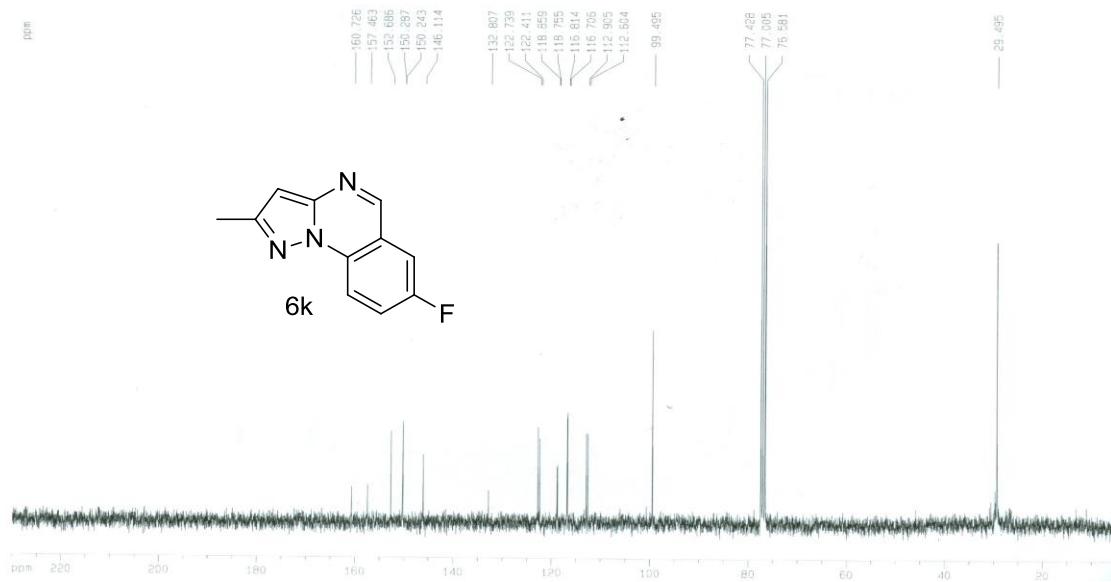




10962.001.esp



Name of Sample: F-CHO-HH  
Spectrum No.: 11191



Sample Name: Aceto-NH2-PzCN  
Spectrum No.:203

