

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Nickel(II)-Catalyzed Formal [3+2] Cycloadditions Between Indoles and Donor-Acceptor Cyclopropanes

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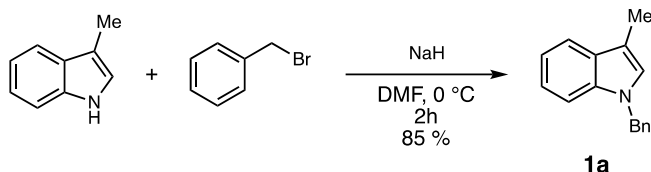
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1. General Procedures

All the reactions were conducted in dry solvents under N₂ atmosphere unless otherwise stated. All reagents used were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. The abbreviation “rt” refers to reactions carried out approximately at 25 °C. Reaction mixtures were stirred using Teflon-coated magnetic stirring bars. Reaction temperatures were maintained using Thermowatch-controlled silicone oil baths. The reactions were monitored by Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica gel Merck 60 F₂₅₄ and components were visualized by observation under UV light (254 and 365 nm), and/or by treating the plates with *p*-anisaldehyde, oleum, phosphomolybdic acid or cerium nitrate solutions, followed by heating. Flash chromatography was carried out on silica gel (63-200 μm) unless otherwise stated. Drying was performed with anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Concentration refers to the removal of volatile solvents via distillation using a Büchi rotary evaporator R-300 followed by residual solvent removal under high vacuum. Melting points were determined using a Stuart SMP3 apparatus and were uncorrected. Infrared spectra were measured using a Perkin-Elmer FT-IR Spectrometer Spectrum Two with KBr pellets. NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃, at 300, 400, 500 or 700 MHz (Bruker Advance III). Chemical shifts were reported in parts per million (δ) using the residual solvent signals (CDCl₃: δ_H 7.26, δ_C 77.16) as the internal standards for the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra and coupling constants (*J*) in Hz. Carbon types and structure assignments were determined from DEPT-NMR and two-dimensional experiments (HSQC and HMBC, COSY and NOESY). The following abbreviations are used to indicate signal multiplicity: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; p, pentet; dd, double doublet; td, triple doublet; ddd, doublet of doublet of doublets; m, multiplet; br, broad. Mass spectra (ESI-MS) were acquired using an Agilent 1200 ESI/APCI QToF tandem Agilent Mass QToF 6520. For the crystal structure determination, data were collected by applying the omega and phi scans method on a Bruker D8 VENTURE PHOTON III-14 diffractometer using Incoatec multilayer mirror monochromated with Mo-Kα radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å) from a microfocus sealed tube source at 100 K with detector resolution of 7.3910 pixels mm⁻¹. Enantioselectivities were determined in an Agilent HPLC-DAD 1260 Infinity with Chiralpak IF3 analytical columns using Hexane:*i*PrOH (99:1), 0.5 mL/min.

1-Synthesis of indole derivative

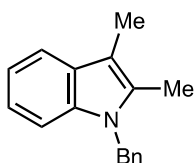
Synthesis of -benzyl-3-methyl-1*H*-indole (**1a**).¹



NaH (60% dispersion in mineral oil, 1.10 g, 27.44 mmol, 1.2 eq) was added portion wise over 5 min to a solution of 3-methyl-1*H*-indole (3.00 g, 22.87 mmol, 1.00 eq) in DMF (33 mL) at 0 °C, and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature. The reaction mixture was then cooled to 0 °C and benzyl bromide (3.26 mL, 27.44 mmol, 1.2 eq) was added dropwise. The resulting white precipitate was further allowed to stir at room temperature for 2 h. After completion of the reaction (as indicated by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride solution (100 mL) and the aqueous phase was extracted with diethyl ether (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford indole **1a** as a white solid (4.3 g, 85%). **IR (KBr, cm⁻¹)** ν : 3029, 2912, 2853, 1583, 1452, 1330. **¹H-NMR:** (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.73 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.28 (dd, J = 6.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (m, 3H), 6.96 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.31 (s, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H). **¹³C-NMR:** (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.03, 128.81, 127.59, 126.93, 125.94, 121.74, 119.15, 118.92, 110.97, 109.57, 49.87, 9.75. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.¹

A similar procedure was followed as applied for the synthesis of **1h**, **1i** and **1j**.

1-benzyl-2,3-dimethyl-1*H*-indole (**1h**).



Orange solid (70%) **mp**: 62-67 °C. **IR (KBr, cm⁻¹)** ν : 3056, 3023, 2920, 2856, 1605, 1470, 737. **¹H-NMR:** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.62 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.19 (m, 4H), 7.20 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 7.03 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 5.31 (s, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H). **¹³C-NMR:** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.41, 136.52, 132.54, 128.82, 128.78, 127.27, 126.13, 120.89, 118.96, 118.12, 108.92, 107.13,

¹ T. R. Pradhan, H. W. Kim, J. K. Park, *Org. Lett.* **2018**, 20, 5286–5290

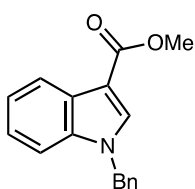
46.62, 10.28, 9.01. **HRMS-ESI:** Calculated for $C_{17}H_{17}N$ $[M+H]^+ = 235.1356$, Found: 235.1349. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.²

9-benzyl-2,3,4,9-tetrahydro-1*H*-carbazole (1i).



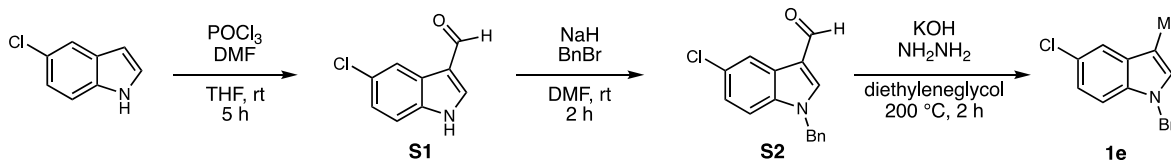
White solid (50%) **IR** (cm^{-1}) ν : 3028, 2917, 2839, 1603, 1467, 741. **¹H-NMR:** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.68 (ddd, $J = 6.7, 4.1, 2.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.31 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 5.40 (s, 2H), 2.94 (tt, $J = 5.8, 1.7$ Hz, 2H), 2.80 (tt, $J = 6.1, 1.7$ Hz, 2H), 2.06 (dtddd, $J = 16.1, 8.4, 5.9, 4.2, 1.9$ Hz, 4H). **¹³C-NMR:** (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 138.43, 136.70, 135.69, 128.80, 127.60, 127.27, 126.29, 120.88, 118.98, 117.90, 110.00, 109.08, 46.32, 23.38, 23.33, 22.27, 21.24. **HRMS-ESI:** Calculated for $C_{19}H_{20}N$ $[M+H]^+ = 262.1587$, Found: 262.15903. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.³

Methyl 1-benzyl-1*H*-indole-3-carboxylate (1j).



Pale yellow solid (96%) **mp:** 101-103 °C. **IR** (cm^{-1}) ν : 3116, 3056, 2950, 2858, 1697, 1536. **¹H-NMR:** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 8.17 (dt, $J = 7.8, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.31 – 7.17 (m, 6H), 7.14 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 5.27 (s, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H). **¹³C-NMR:** (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 165.55, 136.87, 136.01, 134.67, 129.10, 128.25, 127.19, 126.92, 123.07, 122.15, 121.89, 110.42, 107.66, 51.13, 50.81. **HRMS-ESI:** Calculated for $C_{17}H_{15}NO_2Na$ $[M+Na]^+ = 288.0995$, Found: 288.0988. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁴

Synthesis of substituted skatoles 1b to 1f (exemplified for the synthesis of 1-benzyl-5-chloro-3-methyl-1*H*-indole (1e)).



$POCl_3$ (463 mL, 4.95 mmol, 1.50 eq) were added to 3.1 mL of DMF (39.58 mmol, 1.00 eq) at 0 °C and stirred for 45 minutes. After this time, a solution of 5-chloroindole (500

² A. Saito, A. Kanno, Y. Hanzawa, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2007**, 46, 3931–3933.

³ J. Bergès, B. García, K. Muñiz, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2018**, 57, 15891–15895.

⁴ T. Varlet, D. Bouchet, E. Van Elslande, G. Masson, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2022**, 28, 3–8.

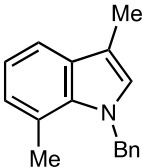
mg, 3.30 mmol, 1.00 eq) dissolved in 19.5 mL of THF was added and a precipitate was formed. The reaction was brought to room temperature and stirred for 4 hours. Finally, water was added to dissolve the precipitate, and the mixture was stirred overnight. It was diluted with EtOAc and washed with water (3 x 10 mL), 1% NaHCO₃ solution, and brine solution. Crude residue was purified by column chromatographic (50% EtOAc/hexane) to give product **S1** as a pale yellow solid (392.2 mg, 66%). **mp**: 216-218 °C; **IR** (cm⁻¹) ν : 3211, 3104, 3044, 1642. **¹H-NMR**: (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.05 (s, 1H), 8.70 (s, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.0 Hz, 1H). **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for C₉H₇ClNO [M+H]⁺ = 180.0211, Found: 180.0208.

Next, a protection step was carried out through an *N*-benzylation, as described in the literature:¹. To a solution of 3-formylindole **S1** (300 mg, 1.67 mmol, 1.00 eq) in 2.4 mL of DMF at 0 °C, NaH (60% in mineral oil, 80.17 mg, 2 mmol, 1.20 eq) was carefully added, and the mixture was stirred for 35 minutes at 0 °C. After this time, benzyl bromide (328 mL, 2 mmol, 1.20 eq) was added, resulting in the formation of a pale yellow precipitate. The reaction was allowed to continue stirring for 2 hours until completion (as indicated by TLC), and it was quenched by adding a saturated solution of NH₄Cl. The aqueous phase was extracted with diethyl ether (3x 20 mL) and the combined organic phases were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (50% EtOAc/hexane) yielding product **S2** as a yellow solid (289 mg, 64%). **mp**: 144-149 °C; **IR** (cm⁻¹) ν : 3102, 3025, 2819, 1654. **¹H-NMR**: (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.98 (s, 1H), 8.36 (dd, *J* = 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.44 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.31 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 5.37 (s, 2H). **¹³C-NMR**: (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.44, 184.41, 139.26, 135.89, 135.01, 129.32, 129.19, 128.69, 127.29, 126.56, 124.67, 121.88, 118.03, 111.57, 51.29. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for C₁₆H₁₂ClNa [M+Na]⁺ = 292.0493, Found: 292.0499.

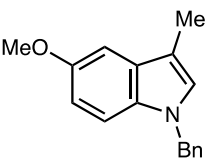
Finally, product **S2** was reduced through a Wolff/Kishner reaction by sequentially adding KOH (374 mg, 6.67 mmol, 9.00 eq) and hydrazine monohydrate (540 mL, 11.12 mmol, 15.0 eq) to a previously prepared solution of product **S2** (200 mg, 741 mmol, 1.00 equiv.) in diethylene glycol (7.4 mL) under a nitrogen atmosphere at room temperature. The mixture was then stirred for 2 hours at 200 °C and monitored by chromatography (TLC). Once the reaction was complete, it was cooled to room temperature, diluted with Et₂O, and

washed with saturated solution of NH_4Cl , water, and brine. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (10% EtOAc/hexane) to obtain product **1e** (147 mg, 78%) as a white solid. **mp**: 60-61 °C; **IR** (cm^{-1}) ν : 3060, 3025, 2916, 2854, 1604, 1577, 1450. **^1H -NMR**: (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.53 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (dddd, J = 11.1, 8.9, 5.8, 2.4 Hz, 3H), 7.15 – 7.03 (m, 4H), 6.89 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (s, 2H), 2.28 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 3H). **^{13}C -NMR**: (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 137.57, 135.14, 130.13, 128.92, 127.81, 127.36, 126.84, 124.80, 121.99, 118.73, 110.72, 110.66, 50.13. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 256.0888$, Found: 256.0890. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁵

1-benzyl-3,7-dimethyl-1H-indole (1b).

 Brown solid (55%) **mp**: 48-50 °C. **IR** (cm^{-1}) ν : 3033, 2969, 2927, 2853, 1603, 1450, 742. **^1H -NMR**: (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.45 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.06 – 6.96 (m, 1H), 6.95 – 6.85 (m, 3H), 6.82 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.50 (s, 2H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H). **^{13}C -NMR**: (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 140.12, 135.46, 130.05, 128.88, 127.89, 127.30, 125.61, 124.64, 121.01, 119.24, 117.19, 110.99, 51.96, 19.62, 9.76. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 235.1356$, Found: 235.1349. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁵

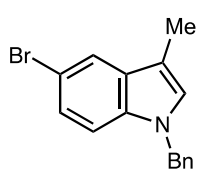
1-benzyl-5-methoxy-3-methyl-1H-indole (1c).

 White solid (75%) **mp**: 75-77 °C. **IR** (cm^{-1}) ν : 3029, 2915, 1581, 1493, 1231, 1041. **^1H -NMR**: (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.47 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.37 (s, 2H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H). **^{13}C -NMR**: (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 153.87, 138.12, 132.09, 129.30, 128.82, 127.60, 126.86, 126.70, 111.91, 110.41, 101.02, 50.11, 9.83. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 251.1305$, Found: 251.1293. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁶

1-benzyl-5-bromo-3-methyl-1H-indole (1d).

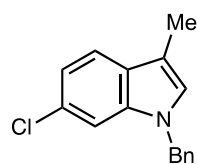
⁵ H. Xiong, H. Xu, S. Liao, Z. Xie, Y. Tang, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2013**, *135*, 7851–7854.

⁶ T. Mandal, G. Chakraborti, J. Dash, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2020**, *61*, 152109.



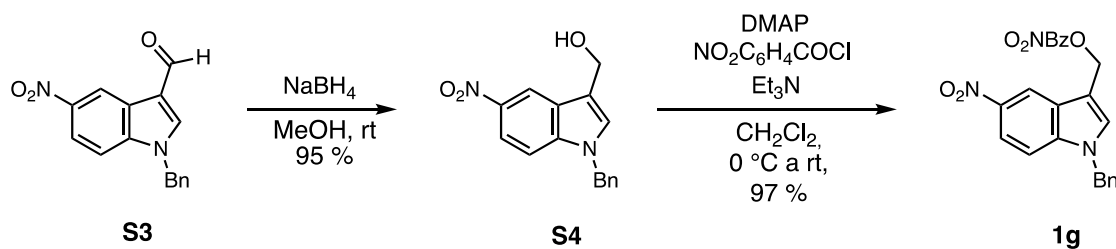
Pale brown solid (70%) **mp**: 55-57 °C. **IR** (cm⁻¹) ν : 3060, 3023, 2922, 2857, 1578, 1471, 1451, 1356, 1287, 790. **¹H-NMR**: (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dddd, J = 9.6, 7.7, 5.1, 2.0 Hz, 3H), 7.41 (dd, J = 8.6, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.07 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (s, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H). **¹³C-NMR**: (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.52, 135.40, 130.79, 128.93, 127.82, 127.21, 126.83, 124.53, 121.85, 112.32, 111.12, 110.68, 50.12, 9.63. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for C₁₆H₁₅NBr [M+H]⁺ = 300.03824, Found: 300.0385. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁵

1-benzyl-6-chloro-3-methyl-1H-indole (1f).



Yellow solid (82%) **mp**: 77-79 °C. **IR** (cm⁻¹) ν : 3083, 3060, 3028, 2918, 2858, 1605, 1469, 1327, 813. **¹H-NMR**: (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.39 (m, 4H), 7.26 (ddd, J = 10.2, 7.9, 1.9 Hz, 3H), 7.05 (q, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.38 (s, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H). **¹³C-NMR**: (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.45, 137.14, 128.95, 127.88, 127.83, 127.65, 126.87, 126.63, 120.09, 119.63, 111.29, 109.56, 49.97, 9.67. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for C₁₆H₁₅NCl [M+H]⁺ = 259.09, Found: 256.09. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁷

Synthesis of (1-benzyl-5-nitro-1H-indol-3-yl)methyl 4-nitrobenzoate (1g).



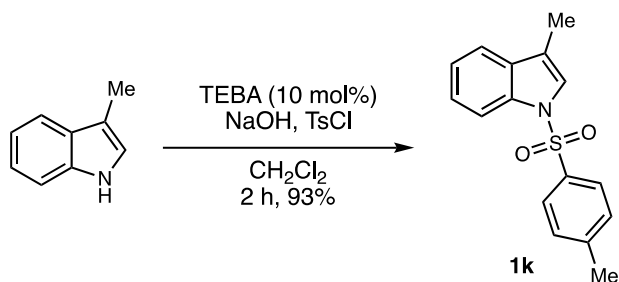
To a solution of aldehyde **S3** (100 mg, 0.357 mmol, 1.00 eq) in methanol (446 mL), NaBH₄ (20.25 mg, 0.535 mmol, 1.5 eq) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 1 hour of reaction, the starting material was completely consumed (monitored by TLC). Subsequently, 2 mL of cold water was added, and the yellow precipitate was filtered and dried under vacuum, to afford alcohol **S4** (96.2 mg, 95% yield). **¹H-NMR**: (700 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.72 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (dd, J = 9.1, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.25 (m,

⁷ L. Yu, Y. Zhong, J. Yu, L. Gan, Z. Cai, R. Wang, X. Jiang, *Chem. Commun.* **2018**, 54, 2353–2356.

5H), 7.16 (dd, $J = 8.1, 1.5$ Hz, 2H), 5.36 (s, 2H), 4.94 (d, 2H). **^{13}C -NMR:** (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 141.84, 139.77, 136.10, 129.92, 129.19, 128.39, 127.05, 126.74, 118.17, 118.02, 116.99, 109.93, 56.89, 50.70.

Finally, a solution of alcohol **S4** (50.0 mg, 0.177 mmol, 1.00 eq) in DCM (3.54 mL) was treated with 4-nitrobenzoyl chloride (39.44 mg, 0.212 mmol, 1.2 eq) and Et_3N (29.62 μL , 0.212 mmol 1.2 eq). The mixture was cooled in an ice bath, and then DMAP (2.16 mg, 0.0177 mmol, 0.10 eq) was added. After 10 minutes, the ice bath was removed, and the reaction was allowed to proceed at room temperature until completion (monitored by TLC). After 8 hours of reaction, water (10 mL) was added, and the mixture was extracted with DCM (3x 20 mL). The organic phase was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated under vacuum. Crude product was purified by column chromatography (50% EtOAc/hexane) to give product **1g** as a white solid (74.1 mg, 97%) **mp:** 164-166 °C. **IR** (**KBr**, cm^{-1}) ν : 3088, 2943, 1721, 1530, 1330, 1271.

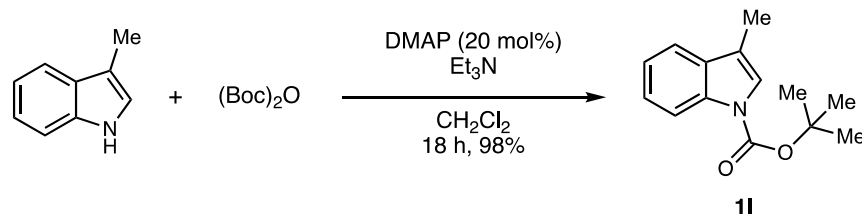
Synthesis of 3-methyl-1-tosyl-1H-indole (**1k**).



p-toluenesulfonyl chloride (3.20 g, 16.77 mmol, 1.10 eq), 3-methyl-1H-indole (2.00 g, 15.25 mmol, 1.00 eq), NaOH (1.07 g, 26.68 mmol, 1.75 eq), and TEBA (347.28 mg, 0.381 mmol, 0.10 eq) were mixed in DCM (60 mL) in a 100 mL round-bottom flask and allowed to react at room temperature for 2 hours (monitored by TLC). Once the reaction was complete, the mixture was filtered and concentrated under vacuum, and then purified by column chromatography, resulting in the isolation of indole derivative **1k** (93%). **IR** (**KBr**, cm^{-1}) ν : 3110, 3054, 2918, 2856, 1914, 1594, 1444, 1362, 1170. **^1H -NMR:** (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.00 (dt, $J = 8.2, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.46 (ddd, $J = 7.7, 1.5, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.26 (dd, $J = 7.5, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.23 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 3H). **^{13}C -NMR:** (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 144.74, 135.63, 135.43, 131.93, 129.88, 126.86, 124.68,

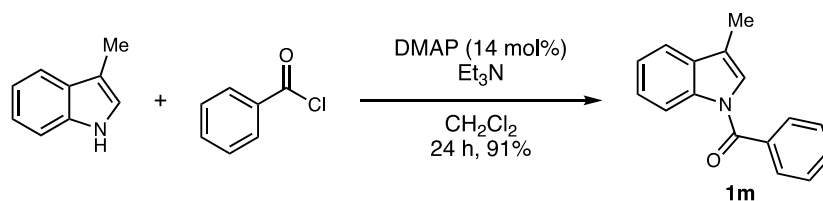
123.20, 123.10, 119.50, 118.69, 113.81, 21.63, 9.77. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁸

Synthesis of *tert*-butyl 3-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate (**1l**).



3-methyl-1*H*-indole (1.00 g, 7.22 mmol, 1.00 eq), Et₃N (2.31 g, 22.87 mmol, 3.00 eq), and DMAP (186.3 mg, 1.52 mmol, 0.20 eq) were dissolved in 20.0 mL of dichloromethane, and subsequently, (Boc)₂O (1.83 g, 8.39 mmol, 1.10 eq) was dissolved in dichloromethane and added dropwise to the mixture. After 18 hours of reaction, water was added, and the mixture was extracted with DCM (3x 30 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated. Finally, it was purified by column chromatography (20% EtOAc/hexane) to obtain product **1l** (98%). **IR (KBr, cm⁻¹)** ν : 2976, 2924, 1730, 1454, 1370, 1252, 1160, 744. **¹H-NMR**: (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (dt, J = 7.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.34 (ddd, J = 8.4, 7.2, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (td, J = 7.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 2.29 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 3H), 1.68 (s, 9H), 1.50 (s, 1H). **¹³C-NMR**: (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.92, 135.57, 131.55, 124.29, 122.87, 122.38, 118.97, 116.42, 115.22, 83.22, 81.08, 28.32, 27.99, 9.69, 9.67.

Synthesis of 3-methyl-1-benzoyl-1*H*-indole (**1m**).



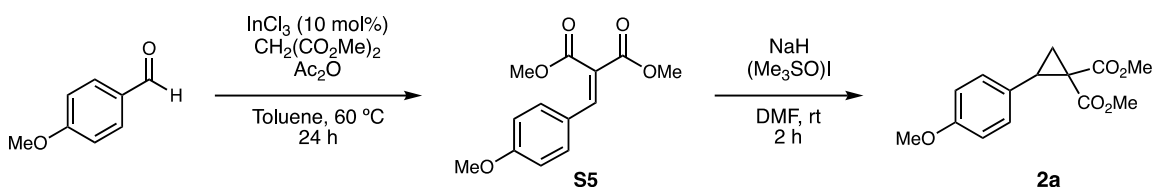
Compound **1m** was obtained using the methodology described previously, by adding indole (1.00 g, 7.62 mmol, 1.00 eq), Et₃N (1.16 mg, 11.43 mmol, 1.50 eq), DMAP (130.4 mg, 1.07 mmol, 0.14 eq), and benzoyl chloride (1.29 mg, 9.15 mmol, 1.20 eq) in DCM (15.25 mL). After 24 hours of reaction, product **1m** was obtained (91%). **IR (KBr, cm⁻¹)** ν : 3052,

⁸ S. W. Youn, T. Y. Ko, M. J. Jang, S. S. Jang, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2015**, 357, 227–234.

2914, 2860, 1786, 1668, 1446. **¹H-NMR:** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.61 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.96 – 7.88 (m, 2H), 7.83 – 7.68 (m, 4H), 7.63 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.26 (q, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 3H). **¹³C-NMR:** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.47, 136.41, 135.08, 131.93, 131.70, 129.09, 128.63, 125.09, 124.48, 123.80, 118.98, 117.96, 116.59, 9.76, 9.74. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁹

⁹ S. Pan, N. Ryu, T. Shibata, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 17474–17477

2. Synthesis of donor-acceptor cyclopropanes (exemplified for the synthesis of dimethyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (**2a**).

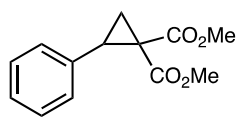


In a 25 mL round-bottom flask, InCl_3 (325 mg, 1.47 mmol, 0.10 eq), toluene (14.7 mL), anisaldehyde (2.0 g, 14.7 mmol, 1.00 eq), methyl malonate (2.13 g, 16.16 mmol, 1.10 eq), and acetic anhydride (1.65 g, 16.16 mmol, 1.10 eq) were added. The mixture was heated to $60\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ and stirred until the reaction was complete (monitored by TLC). Once the reaction was finished, a saturated solution of NaHCO_3 (20 mL) was added, and the mixture was then extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 20 mL). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and concentrated using a rotary evaporator. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (10% EtOAc/hexane) to yield product **S5** (1.86 g, 90%).

A suspension of NaH (60% in mineral oil, 256.7 mg, 6.29 mmol, 1.20 eq) in DMF (10 mL) was prepared, and trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (TMSOI) (1.58 g, 7.19 mmol, 1.20 eq) was added. Gas evolution was observed for approximately 5 minutes. After 15 minutes, a solution of product **S5** (1.5 g, 5.99 mmol, 1.00 eq) in DMF (5 mL) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 2 hours. Then, a cold HCl solution (10 mL, 10%) was added and the resulting acidic solution ($\text{pH} = 1\text{--}2$) was extracted with diethyl ether (4 x 5 mL). The extract was washed with H_2O (4 x 5 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated to yield product **2a** as a colorless oil (872 mg, 55%). **IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν :** 2997, 2953, 2837, 1724, 1612, 1517, 836. **^1H -NMR:** (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.16 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 6.83 – 6.74 (m, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.22 – 3.12 (m, 1H), 2.14 (dd, $J = 8.0, 5.1\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 1.70 (dd, $J = 9.3, 5.1\text{ Hz}$, 1H). **^{13}C -NMR:** (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.33, 167.17, 158.99, 129.66, 126.53, 113.65, 55.22, 52.73, 52.23, 37.13, 32.22, 19.28. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.¹⁰

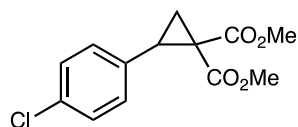
¹⁰ R. Goudreau, D. Marcoux, B. Charette, *J. Org. Chem.* **2009**, 74, 470–473.

Dimethyl 2-phenylcyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (2b).



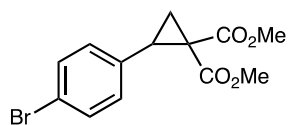
Yellow oil (70%) **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 3001, 2951, 2842, 1727, 1436, 1276, 1128, 697. **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.32 – 7.16 (m, 5H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.24 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (dd, J = 8.0, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 1.75 (dd, J = 9.2, 5.2 Hz, 1H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.34, 167.14, 134.67, 128.53, 128.26, 127.50, 52.91, 52.30, 37.33, 32.66, 19.20. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_4\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ = 257.07843$, Found: 257.0781. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.¹⁰

Dimethyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (2c).



Pale yellow oil (97%) **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 2997, 2953, 2843, 1725, 1437, 1279, 836. **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.17 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 3.11 (dd, J = 9.2, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.08 (dd, J = 8.0, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 1.67 (dd, J = 9.3, 5.3 Hz, 1H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.11, 166.97, 133.44, 133.29, 129.96, 128.49, 53.01, 52.50, 37.31, 31.86, 19.25. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClO}_4\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ = 291.03946$, Found: 291.0388. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.¹¹

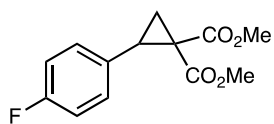
Dimethyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (2d).



Colorless oil (48%) **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 2992, 2952, 2844, 1725, 1436, 1278, 833. **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.42 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.09 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 3.15 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.14 (dd, J = 8.0, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 1.73 (dd, J = 9.2, 5.3 Hz, 1H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.08, 166.94, 133.82, 131.43, 130.30, 121.56, 53.01, 52.52, 37.27, 31.89, 19.20. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrO}_4\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ = 332.98894$, Found: 332.9881. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.¹¹

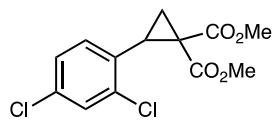
¹¹ R. A. Novikov, A. V. Tarasova, V. A. Korolev, V. P. Timofeev, Y. V. Tomilov, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, 53, 3187–3191.

Dimethyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (2e).



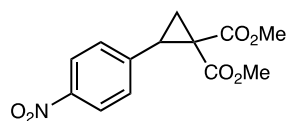
Pale yellow oil (59%) **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 2997, 2954, 2844, 1726, 1515, 1278, 1218, 843. **^1H -NMR**: (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.26 (dd, J = 8.6, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.49 (s, 3H), 3.29 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (dd, J = 8.0, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 1.84 (dd, J = 9.3, 5.3 Hz, 1H). **^{13}C -NMR**: (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.20, 167.05, 162.25 (d, J = 246.19 Hz), 130.27 (d, J = 8.19 Hz), 115.22 (d, J = 21.56 Hz), 52.96, 52.41, 37.19, 31.85, 19.33. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{FO}_4\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ = 275.06901, Found: 275.0682. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.¹⁰

Dimethyl 2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (2f).



White solid (64%). **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 3040, 3007, 2955, 2921, 2851, 1723, 1587, 1435, 1281, 817. **^1H -NMR**: (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.38 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.42 (s, 3H), 3.29 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (dd, J = 8.2, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 1.79 (dd, J = 9.1, 5.3 Hz, 1H). **^{13}C -NMR**: (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.79, 167.02, 137.27, 134.10, 131.61, 129.96, 129.26, 126.83, 36.48. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_4\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ = 325.00049, Found: 325.0005.

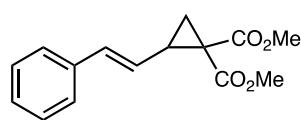
Dimethyl 2-(4-nitrophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (2g).



Pale yellow solid (57%) **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 3091, 3085, 3005, 2956, 2845, 1731, 1599, 1516, 1344, 857. **^1H -NMR**: (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.16 – 8.10 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 3.27 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (dd, J = 8.0, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (dd, J = 9.1, 5.5 Hz, 1H). **^{13}C -NMR**: (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.65, 166.63, 147.36, 142.58, 129.47, 123.53, 53.23, 52.71, 37.83, 31.68, 19.46. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_6\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ = 302.059, Found: 302.0636. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.¹²

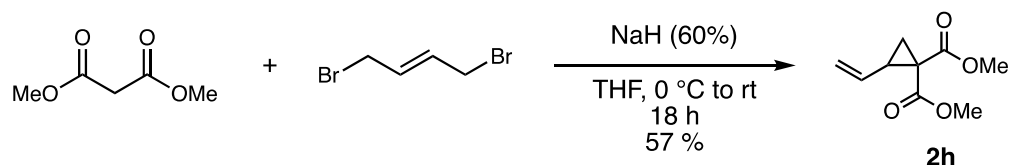
¹² C. Perreault, S. R. Goudreau, L. E. Zimmer, A. B. Charette, *Org. Lett.* **2008**, 10, 689–692.

Dimethyl (E)-2-styrylcyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (**2i**).



Orange oil (81%). **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 3024, 2952, 2844, 1725, 1436, 1281, 962, 693. **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.28 – 7.15 (m, 5H), 6.60 (d, $J = 15.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.77 (dd, $J = 15.8, 8.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.71 (q, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 1.81 (dd, $J = 7.6, 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.66 (dd, $J = 9.0, 4.9$ Hz, 1H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.09, 168.08, 136.80, 134.00, 128.71, 127.76, 126.29, 124.67, 52.91, 52.82, 36.17, 31.79, 21.45. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_4\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ = 283.0941$, Found: 283.0938. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.¹³

Synthesis of dimethyl 2-vinylcyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (**2h**).



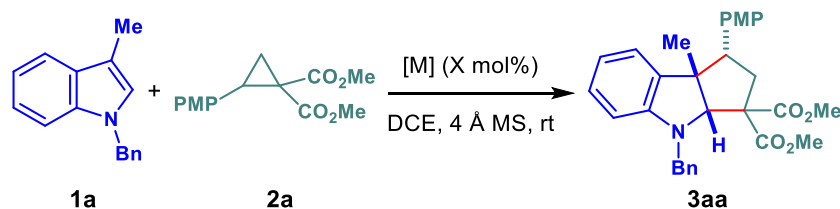
In a dry 50 mL round-bottom flask, NaH (60% in mineral oil, 666 mg, 16.65 mmol, 2.20 eq) and THF (17 mL) were added. The suspension was cooled to 0 °C, and then dimethyl malonate (1.0 g, 7.57 mmol, 1.00 eq) was carefully added. The suspension was stirred at room temperature for 45 minutes, and 1,4-dibromo-2-butene was added in one portion (1.78 g, 8.83 mmol, 1.10 eq), and the mixture was stirred for 24 hours. Upon completion of the reaction (confirmed by TLC), Et_2O (20 mL) and H_2O (20 mL) were added in equal portions, and the mixture was extracted with Et_2O (2 x 20 mL). The organic phase was washed with H_2O (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated using a rotary evaporator. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (20% EtOAc /hexane) to obtain product **2h** as a colorless oil (793 mg, 57%). **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 2939, 2923, 2852, 1731, 1442, 1438, 1274, 1129. **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 5.43 (ddd, $J = 17.0, 10.1, 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 5.34 – 5.25 (m, 1H), 5.18 – 5.11 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 6H), 2.63 – 2.54 (m, 1H), 1.72 (dd, $J = 7.6, 4.9$ Hz, 1H), 1.59 (dd, $J = 9.0, 4.9$ Hz, 1H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.17, 167.93, 133.11, 130.94, 118.85, 35.88, 31.63, 29.84, 20.75. **HRMS-**

¹³ R. Talukdar, D. P. Tiwari, A. Saha, M. K. Ghorai, *Org. Lett.* **2014**, 16, 3954–3957.

ESI: Calculated for C₉H₁₂O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ = 207.06278, Found: 207.06224. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.¹⁴

3. Optimization studies.

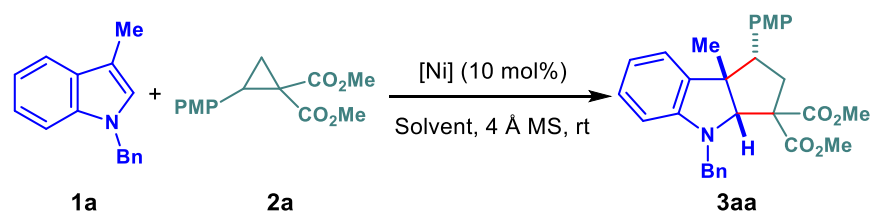
Table S1: Screening of metal salt.^a



Entry	[M]	X mol%	t(h)	yield (%) ^b	Conv. (%) ^c	<i>dr</i> ^d
1	Cu(OTf) ₂	20	24	79	>99	5:1
2	Co(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	20	24	42	-	6:1
3 ^e	Zn(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	20	48	28	63	6.4:1
4	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	20	24	95	>99	6:1
5	Cu(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	20	24	70	>99	7.8:1
6	MnCl ₂	20	24	8	25	-
7	FeCl ₂	20	24	27	33	4:1
8	FeCl ₃	20	24	3.7	51	-
9	AlCl ₃	20	24	41	74	4:1
10	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	10	24	48	47	6:1
11	Ni(OAc) ₂ ·4H ₂ O	10	24	9.3	15	5:1
12	Ni(OTf) ₂	10	24	78	>99	5:1
13	NiSO ₄ ·6H ₂ O	10	24	56	-	4:1
14	Ni(NO ₃) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	10	24	48	-	9:1
15	NiCl ₂	10	24	55	57	3.6:1
16	Ni(acac) ₂	10	24	-	<5	-

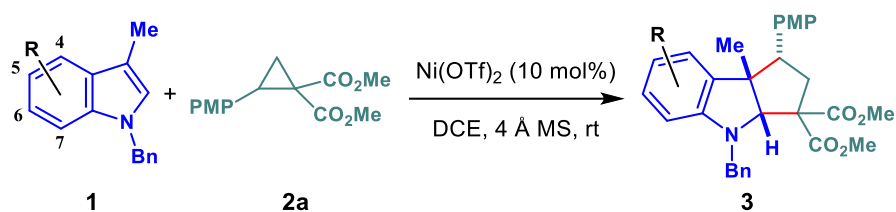
^a Reaction conditions: Indole **1a** (1.0 eq.) and cyclopropane **2a** (1.2 eq.), was treated with [M] (X mol%) in DCE (0.1 M) at rt and time (h). ^b Isolated yield. ^c Based on recovery of starting material. ^d Calculated from the ¹H NMR. ^e 24 h rt, then 24 h at 50 °C.

¹⁴ A. T. Parsons, M. J. Campbell, J. S. Johnson, *Org. Lett.* **2008**, *10*, 2541–2544

Table S2: Screening of solvents.^a

Entry	[Ni]	Solvent	t(h)	yield (%) ^b	Conv. (%) ^c	<i>dr</i> ^d
1	Ni(OTf) ₂	DCE	24	78	>99	5:1
2	Ni(OTf) ₂	CH ₃ CN	48	-	<5	-
3	Ni(OTf) ₂	Toluene	24	29	76	1:1
4	Ni(OTf) ₂	DCM	24	47	73	7.7:1
5	Ni(OTf) ₂	CHCl ₃	24	25	85	1:1
6	Ni(OTf) ₂	AcOEt	48	-	<5	-
7	Ni(OTf) ₂	THF	48	-	<5	-
8	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	AcOEt	48	33	60	7.5:1
9	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	CH ₃ CN	48	-	<5	-
10	-	DCE	48	-	0	-
11 ^e	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	DCE		-	-	-

^a Reaction conditions: Indole **1a** (1.0 eq.) and cyclopropane **2a** (1.2 eq.), was treated with [Ni] (10 mol%) in the indicated solvent (0.1 M) at rt and time (h). ^b Isolated yield. ^c Based on recovery of starting material. ^d Calculated from the ¹H-NMR. ^e Reaction with addition of water (1 ppm).

Table S3: Screening of indoles with Ni(OTf)₂ (10 mol%).^a

Entry	R (1)	t(h)	3 yield (%) ^b	Conv. (%) ^c	<i>dr</i> ^d
1	H (1a)	24	78 (3aa)	>99	5:1
2	7-Me (1b)	192	- (3ba)	<5	-
3	5-OMe (1c)	144	44 (3ca)	90	4:1
4	5-Br (1d)	144	28 (3da)	73	2:1
5	5-Cl (1e)	120	30 (3ea)	>99	3:1
6	6-Cl (1f)	168	42 (3fa)	>99	5:1
7	1h	192	- (3ha)	<5	-
8	1i	192	- (3ia)	<5	-
9	1j	192	- (3ja)	<5	-

^a Reaction conditions: Indole **1** (1.0 eq.) and cyclopropane **2a** (1.2 eq.), was treated with Ni(OTf)₂ (10 mol%) in DCE (0.1 M) at rt and time (h). ^b Isolated yield. ^c Based on recovery of starting material. ^d Calculated from the ¹H NMR. ^e 24 h rt, then 24 h at 50 °C.

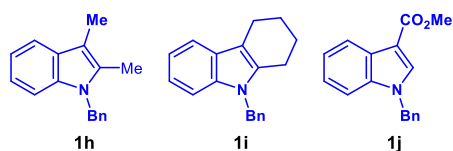
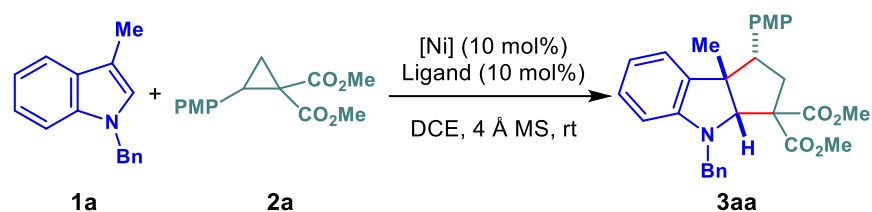


Table S4: Screening of ligands.^a



Entry	[Ni]	Ligand	T (°C)	t (h)	Yield (%) ^b	Conv.(%) ^c	dr ^d
1	Ni(OTf) ₂	Bipy	rt	144	-	<5	-
2	Ni(OTf) ₂	Phen	85	72	12	26	1:1
3	Ni(OTf) ₂	dppe	rt	144	- ^e	7.5	-
4	Ni(OTf) ₂	d ^F ppe	rt	144	13	24	4:1
5	Ni(OTf) ₂	L ₂ -PrPr ₂	50	72	- ^e	<5	-
6	Ni(OTf) ₂	L ₃ -PrPr ₂	50	72	- ^e	<5	-
7	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	Phen	rt	96	16	63	4.4:1
8	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	dppe	rt	96	19	-	5.7:1
9	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	d ^F ppe	rt	168	43	-	5.5:1
10	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	(C ₆ F ₅) ₃ P	rt	168	-	<5	-
11	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	dppBz	rt	120	53	70	5.5:1
12	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	dppf	rt	144	-	<5	-
13	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	rac-BINAP	rt	5	73	>99	6:1
14	Ni(OTf) ₂	rac-BINAP	rt	96	-	<5	-
15	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	rac-BINAP	50	5	52	>99	
16	Ni(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	rac-BINAP	80	5	28	>99	

^a Reaction conditions: Indole **1a** (1.0 eq.) and cyclopropane **2a** (1.2 eq.), was treated with [Ni] (10 mol%) and ligand (10 mol%) in DCE (0.1 M) at rt and time (h). ^b Isolated yield. ^c Based on recovery of starting material. ^d Calculated from the ¹H NMR. ^e complex mixture.

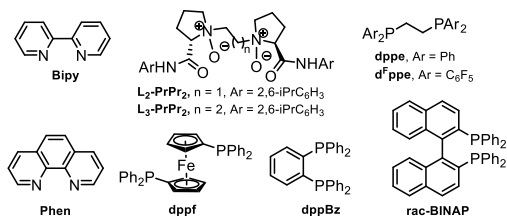
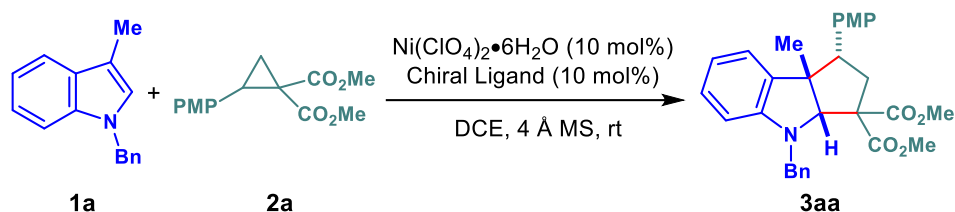
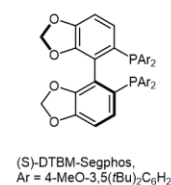
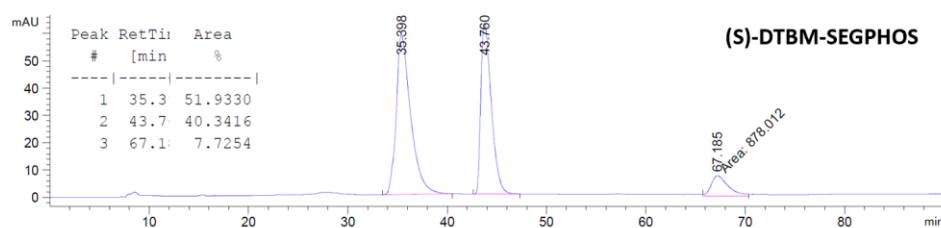
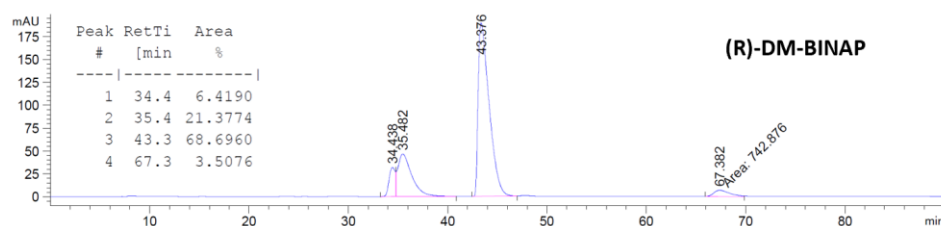
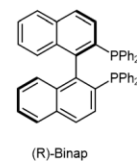
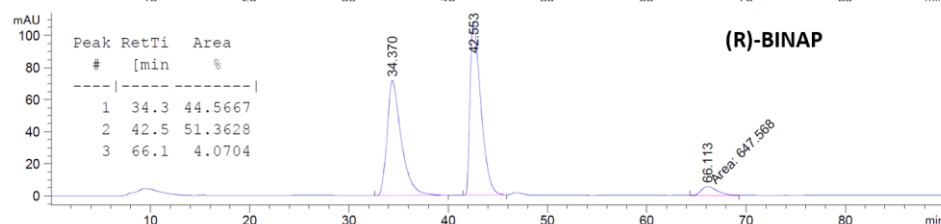
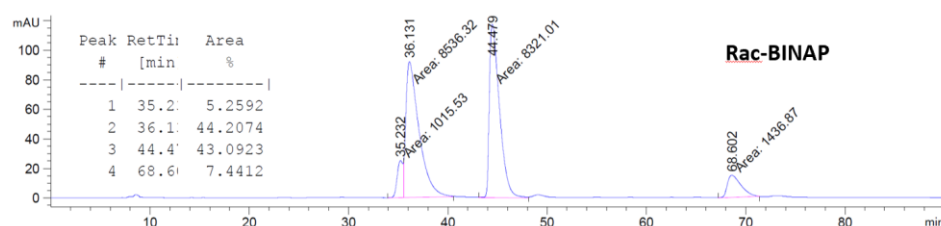


Table S5: Screening of chiral ligands.^a

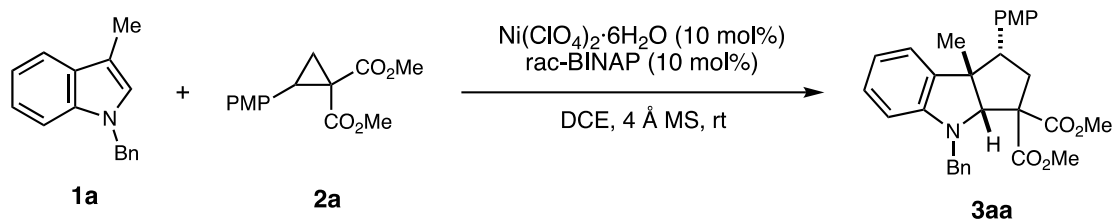


Entry	Chiral Ligand	t (h)	Yield (%) ^b	Conv.(%) ^c	<i>dr</i> ^d	<i>ee</i> (%) ^e
1	(R)-BINAP	20	76	>99	5.7:1	7.1
2	(R)-DM-BINAP	20	81	>99	6.2:1	39.1
3	(S)-DTBM-SEGPHOS	24	36	59	5.2:1	12.5

^a Reaction conditions: Indole **1a** (1.0 eq.) and cyclopropane **2a** (1.2 eq.), was treated with $\text{Ni}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (10 mol%) and chiral ligand (10 mol%) in DCE (0.1 M) at rt and time (h). ^b Isolated yield. ^c Based on recovery of starting material. ^d Calculated from the ^1H NMR. ^e complex mixture.



4. General procedure for [3+2] cycloaddition (exemplified for the synthesis of dimethyl (1*S,3*aR**,8*bS**)-4-benzyl-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8*b*-methyl-1,3*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclopenta[*b*]indole-3,3(2*H*)-dicarboxylate (**3aa**)):**



A solution of *N*-benzylskatole **1a** (20 mg, 90.37 μmol , 1.0 eq), cyclopropane **2a** (28.7 mg, 108.45 μmol , 1.2 eq), $\text{Ni}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1.65 mg, 4.52 μmol , 10 mol%), *rac*-BINAP (2.81 mg, 4.52 μmol , 10 mol%) and 400 mg of 4 Å molecular sieves in dry DCE (903 μL , 0.1 M), were stirred under a nitrogen atmosphere at room temperature for 5 h. After completing the reaction, as indicated by TLC, the mixture was filtered through celite® and washed AcOEt (50 mL). The filtrate was concentrated and purified by flash chromatography (SiO_2 , 63-200 μm , 10% AcOEt/hexane) to afford cyclopenta[*b*]indole **3aa** (32 mg, 73% yield) as a colorless oil (*dr*=6:1). **IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν :** 2994, 2950, 2834, 1731, 1599, 1514, 1275. **^1H -NMR:** (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.24 – 7.17 (m, 2.43H), 7.17 – 7.10 (m, 2.76H), 7.05 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 0.57H), 6.95 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 0.20H), 6.90 – 6.78 (m, 2H), 6.73 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1.84H), 6.63 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 0.14H), 6.59 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 0.14H), 6.36 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 0.14H), 6.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 0.86H), 6.28 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 0.86H), 5.47 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 0.86H), 4.58 (d, J = 16.5 Hz, 0.18H), 4.55 – 4.49 (m, 1.78H), 4.25 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 0.16H), 4.08 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 0.89H), 3.75 (s, 0.5H), 3.73 (s, 2.79H), 3.71 (s, 0.36H), 3.69 (s, 2.52H), 3.39 (s, 2.56H), 3.34 (s, 0.44H), 2.90 (dd, J = 14.8, 4.6 Hz, 0.82H), 2.68 (dd, J = 14.8, 12.7 Hz, 0.90H), 2.60 (dd, J = 13.1, 5.7 Hz, 0.16H), 2.30 (t, J = 13.3 Hz, 0.21H), 2.26 – 2.21 (m, 0.94H), 1.26 (s, 2.82H), 1.18 (s, 1.53H). **^{13}C -NMR:** (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.84, 171.97, 169.21, 158.79, 153.45, 150.88, 138.77, 138.62, 137.21, 133.00, 130.82, 130.44, 130.08, 129.75, 128.45, 128.37, 127.86, 127.85, 127.76, 127.59, 127.05, 126.89, 125.95, 118.39, 118.21, 114.14, 113.99, 113.73, 113.50, 113.25, 109.67, 109.54, 82.33, 80.19, 65.30, 64.12, 57.57, 56.66, 55.39, 55.37, 55.13, 53.74, 53.41, 52.90, 52.55, 52.44, 39.36, 36.87, 29.83, 28.15. **HRMS-ESI:** Calculated for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{32}\text{NO}_5$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 486.2275$, Found: 486.2286.

NMR data of the major isomer deduced from the 6:1 mixture: **¹H-NMR:** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.24 – 7.09 (m, 6H), 6.89 – 6.78 (m, 2H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.34 – 6.25 (m, 2H), 5.47 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (d, 2H), 4.08 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 2.90 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.73 – 2.63 (m, 1H), 2.23 (dd, *J* = 13.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 1.26 (s, 3H). **¹³C-NMR:** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.97, 169.21, 158.79, 153.45, 138.77, 133.00, 130.44, 130.08, 128.45, 128.37, 127.86, 127.83, 127.76, 127.59, 127.05, 125.95, 118.21, 113.73, 113.50, 113.25, 109.67, 80.19, 65.30, 57.57, 56.66, 55.39, 55.37, 52.90, 52.55, 52.44, 36.87, 29.83, 28.15. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁵

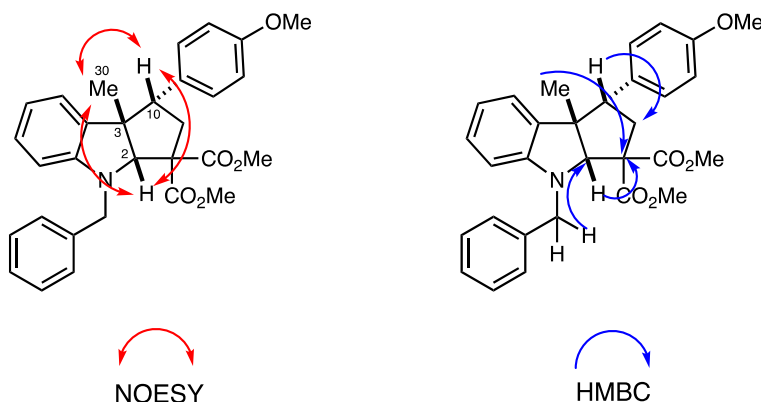
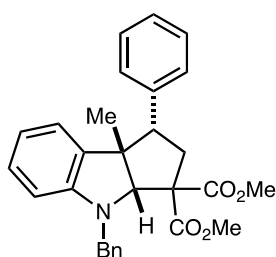


Figure 1: NOESY and HMBC observed for (3aa).

Dimethyl (1*S,3*aR**,8*bS**)-4-benzyl-8*b*-methyl-1-phenyl-1,3*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclopenta[*b*]indole-3,3(2*H*)-dicarboxylate (3ab):**

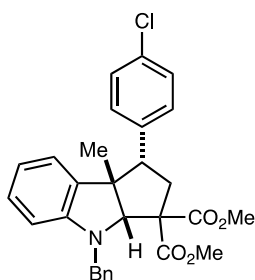


Colorless oil (90%, *dr* = 4.8:1). **IR (KBr, cm⁻¹)** *v*: 3026, 2949, 2849, 1731, 1599, 1484, 1452, 1264, 698. **¹H-NMR:** (700 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 0.74H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 3.26H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 1.38H), 7.21 – 7.18 (m, 1.69H), 7.08 – 7.01 (m, 1.67H), 7.02 (s, 0.21H), 6.91 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 0.95H), 6.72 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 1.4 Hz, 0.30H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 0.32H), 6.45 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 0.33H), 6.40 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.81H), 6.35 – 6.30 (m, 0.85H), 5.49 – 5.44 (m, 0.74H), 4.71 (s, 0.26H), 4.66 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 0.43H), 4.63 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 0.71H), 4.60 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 0.79H), 4.34 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 0.35H), 4.16 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 0.80H), 3.81 (s, 0.81H), 3.78 (s, 2.22H), 3.47 (s, 2.22H), 3.42 (s, 0.72H), 3.02 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 4.7 Hz, 0.79H), 2.82 (dd, *J* = 14.9, 12.8 Hz, 0.88H), 2.71 (dd, *J* = 13.1, 5.8 Hz, 0.37H), 2.44 (t, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 0.42H), 2.37 – 2.32 (m, 1H), 1.37 (s, 2.15H), 0.94 (s,

0.87H). **¹³C-NMR:** (176 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.70, 171.84, 170.28, 170.22, 169.04, 167.07, 153.34, 150.77, 138.73, 138.65, 138.49, 138.27, 136.95, 134.61, 132.77, 129.10, 129.07, 128.64, 128.61, 128.46, 128.43, 128.35, 128.28, 128.27, 128.25, 128.20, 127.99, 127.80, 127.76, 127.64, 127.58, 127.46, 127.43, 127.34, 127.01, 126.94, 126.91, 126.78, 125.79, 125.68, 124.85, 122.79, 118.30, 118.07, 109.60, 109.45, 82.28, 80.18, 65.20, 64.06, 57.55, 56.60, 55.08, 53.97, 53.61, 53.14, 52.83, 52.81, 52.58, 52.46, 52.36, 52.23, 38.99, 36.44, 32.59, 29.72, 28.06, 22.92, 19.14. **HRMS-ESI:** Calculated for C₂₉H₃₀NO₄ [M+H]⁺ = 456.2169, Found: 456.2181.

NMR data of the major isomer deduced from the 4.8:1 mixture: **¹H-NMR:** (700 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 4H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.08 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 6.91 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.35 – 6.30 (m, 1H), 5.49 – 5.44 (m, 1H), 4.63 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 3.02 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (dd, *J* = 14.9, 12.8 Hz, 1H), 2.37 – 2.32 (m, 1H), 1.37 (s, 3H). **¹³C-NMR:** (176 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.84, 169.04, 153.34, 138.65, 138.27, 132.77, 129.10, 129.07, 128.46, 128.35, 128.27, 128.20, 127.99, 127.80, 127.76, 127.64, 127.46, 127.01, 126.94, 126.78, 125.68, 122.79, 118.30, 118.07, 109.60, 109.45, 80.18, 65.20, 57.55, 56.60, 53.14, 52.83, 52.81, 52.36, 36.44, 28.06. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁵

Dimethyl (1*S,3*aR**,8*bS**)-4-benzyl-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-8*b*-methyl-1,3*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclopenta[*b*]indole-3,3(2*H*)-dicarboxylate (3*ac*):**

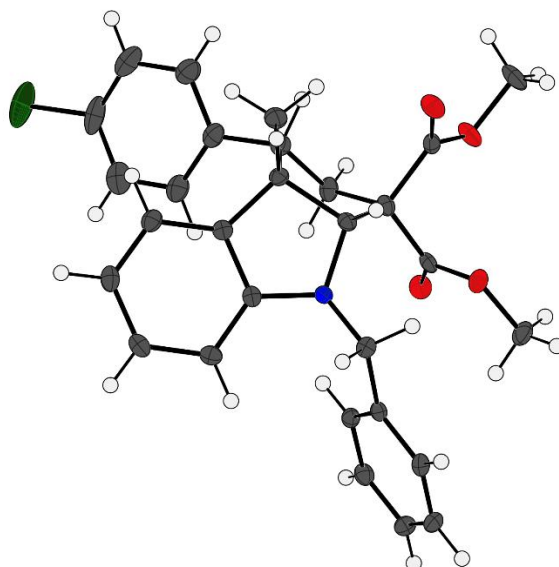


White solid (86%, *dr* = 4:1). **mp:** 117–120 °C. **IR (KBr, cm⁻¹)** *ν*: 3026, 2949, 2849, 1731, 1599, 1484, 1452, 1264, 698. **¹H-NMR:** (700 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1.39H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 0.41H), 7.00 – 6.91 (m, 1.42H), 6.45 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 0.24H), 6.41 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 0.70H), 6.38 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 0.69H), 5.53 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 0.76H), 4.71 (s, 0.19H), 4.65 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 0.30H), 4.62 (s, 0.68H), 4.59 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 0.71H), 4.32 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 0.22H), 4.15 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 0.76H), 3.81 (s, 0.57H), 3.78 (s, 2.08H), 3.47 (s, 2.11H), 3.42 (s, 0.58H), 2.98 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 4.7 Hz, 0.75H), 2.76 (dd, *J* = 14.7, 12.8 Hz, 0.82H), 2.69 (dd, *J* = 13.1, 5.7 Hz, 0.22H), 2.39 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 0.27H), 2.31 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 4.7 Hz, 0.75H), 1.34 (s,

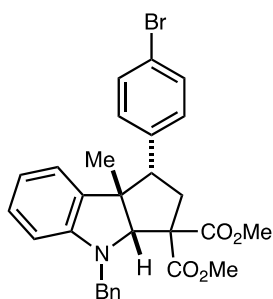
2.18H), 0.93 (s, 0.58H). **¹³C-NMR:** (176 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.65, 171.84, 170.25, 169.03, 153.50, 150.95, 138.65, 138.51, 137.31, 136.97, 136.68, 132.94, 132.90, 132.51, 130.52, 130.45, 129.04, 128.79, 128.56, 128.50, 128.41, 128.28, 128.12, 128.07, 128.02, 127.93, 127.74, 127.58, 127.16, 127.12, 126.95, 125.87, 125.73, 124.98, 122.73, 122.19, 119.44, 118.63, 118.54, 118.37, 109.91, 109.81, 109.60, 82.38, 80.20, 65.27, 64.09, 57.63, 56.75, 55.18, 53.90, 53.56, 53.00, 52.82, 52.79, 52.69, 52.65, 52.53, 49.71, 47.05, 39.13, 36.74, 32.08, 29.85, 29.81, 28.07, 22.84, 22.72. **HRMS-ESI:** Calculated for C₂₉H₂₉ClNO₄ [M+H]⁺ = 490.1780, Found: 490.1796.

NMR data of the major isomer deduced from the 4:1 mixture: **¹H-NMR:** (700 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 – 7.25 (m, 4H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 3H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.00 – 6.91 (m, 1H), 6.41 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.53 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (s, 1H), 4.59 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.98 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.76 (dd, *J* = 14.7, 12.8 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H). **¹³C-NMR:** (176 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.72, 168.90, 153.37, 138.52, 136.85, 132.81, 132.38, 130.39, 130.32, 128.67, 128.37, 128.28, 128.15, 127.99, 127.89, 127.62, 127.46, 126.99, 125.60, 118.24, 109.79, 80.07, 65.14, 57.50, 56.62, 52.87, 52.69, 52.41, 36.61, 27.94.

Further confirmation of the structure of **3ac** was obtained by X-ray crystallography (CCDC: 2302398) of single crystals obtained from hexane/EtOAc (9:1) mixture.



Dimethyl (1*S,3*aR**,8*bS**)-4-benzyl-1-(4-bromophenyl)-8*b*-methyl-1,3*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclopenta[*b*]indole-3,3(2*H*)-dicarboxylate (3*ad*):**

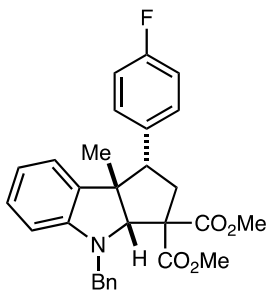


Yellow solid (83%., *dr* = 3:1). **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 2945, 2913, 2863, 1731, 1594, 1487, 1271, 756. **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.48 – 7.45 (m, 0.32H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1.59H), 7.31 – 7.25 (m, 1.76H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 0.85H), 7.18 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1.45H), 7.09 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 0.30H), 7.08 – 7.06 (m, 0.17H), 7.04 (dd, J = 8.3, 5.2 Hz, 0.23H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 0.11H), 6.94 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 0.68H), 6.90 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1.09H), 6.80 (s, 0.16H), 6.68 – 6.67 (m, 0.28H), 6.45 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 0.17H), 6.41 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 0.58H), 6.38 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 0.60H), 5.54 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 0.54H), 4.71 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 0.16H), 4.65 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 0.18H), 4.62 (s, 0.58H), 4.59 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 0.64H), 4.32 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 0.17H), 4.15 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 0.62H), 3.81 (s, 0.51H), 3.78 (s, 2.05H), 3.47 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1.84H), 3.42 (s, 0.64H), 2.97 (dd, J = 14.7, 4.6 Hz, 0.68H), 2.75 (t, J = 12.9 Hz, 0.70H), 2.69 (dd, J = 13.1, 5.5 Hz, 0.17H), 2.39 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 0.15H), 2.31 (dd, J = 12.8, 4.6 Hz, 0.64H), 1.34 (s, 1.87H), 0.93 (s, 0.45H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.63, 171.83, 170.23, 169.01, 153.49, 150.95, 138.63, 138.50, 137.83, 137.49, 136.65, 132.47, 131.74, 131.47, 131.23, 130.96, 130.91, 130.84, 130.33, 129.41, 128.80, 128.55, 128.50, 128.47, 128.41, 128.13, 128.08, 127.93, 127.74, 127.58, 127.50, 127.12, 126.95, 125.87, 125.73, 122.73, 121.06, 121.02, 118.55, 118.39, 109.92, 109.82, 82.38, 80.18, 65.27, 64.08, 57.59, 56.74, 55.14, 53.90, 53.62, 53.04, 53.00, 52.89, 52.69, 52.66, 52.56, 52.53, 49.70, 39.05, 36.69, 31.95, 29.85, 28.06, 22.71. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{29}\text{BrNO}_4$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 534.1274$, Found: 534.1257.

NMR data of the major isomer deduced from the 3:1 mixture: **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.38 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (s, 1H), 4.59 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.97 (dd, J = 14.7, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (t, J = 12.9 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (dd, J = 12.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.83, 169.01, 153.49, 138.63, 137.49, 132.47, 131.23, 130.96, 130.91, 130.84, 128.50,

128.41, 128.13, 127.74, 127.58, 127.12, 125.73, 121.06, 118.39, 109.92, 80.18, 65.27, 57.59, 56.74, 53.00, 52.89, 52.53, 36.69, 28.06.

Dimethyl (1*S,3*aR**,8*bS**)-4-benzyl-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-8*b*-methyl-1,3*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclopenta[*b*]indole-3,3(2*H*)-dicarboxylate (3*ae*):**

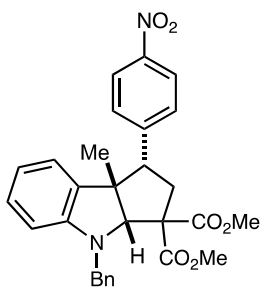


White solid (59%, *dr* = 3.7:1). **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 2995, 2995, 2920, 2848, 1731, 1600, 1513, 1273, 1222. **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 1.70H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 0.91H), 7.20 – 7.15 (m, 3.11H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 0.43H), 7.03 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 0.68H), 6.96 (dd, J = 9.8, 7.5 Hz, 3.59H), 6.94 – 6.89 (m, 1.25H), 6.69 – 6.65 (m, 0.34H), 6.45 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 0.31H), 6.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 0.68H), 6.36 (td, J = 7.2, 2.9 Hz, 0.70H), 5.49 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 0.64H), 4.71 (s, 0.23H), 4.65 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 0.38H), 4.62 (s, 0.56H), 4.59 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 0.68H), 4.32 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 0.36H), 4.15 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 0.74H), 3.81 (s, 0.49H), 3.79 (s, 2.26H), 3.42 (s, 0.49H), 3.39 (s, 2.26H), 2.99 (dd, J = 14.8, 4.6 Hz, 0.73H), 2.75 (dd, J = 14.8, 12.8 Hz, 0.78H), 2.69 (dd, J = 13.1, 5.6 Hz, 0.35H), 2.37 (t, J = 13.5 Hz, 0.39H), 2.35 – 2.29 (m, 0.79H), 1.34 (s, 1.58H), 0.92 (s, 0.53H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.88, 170.26, 169.08, 167.11, 162.29 (d, J = 246.13 Hz), 162.18 (d, J = 245.07 Hz), 153.53, 138.69, 134.15, 132.65, 130.30 (d, J = 8.17 Hz), 128.50, 128.41, 128.06, 128.02, 127.75, 127.58, 127.11, 126.94, 125.74, 118.51, 118.31, 115.27 (d, J = 21.59 Hz), 114.70 (d, J = 21.00 Hz), 109.87, 109.77, 82.37, 80.21, 65.26, 64.08, 57.61, 56.76, 53.88, 53.42, 53.00, 52.99, 52.66, 52.64, 52.52, 52.46, 37.23, 36.87, 31.91, 29.86, 28.07, 19.39. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{29}\text{FNO}_4$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 474.2075$, Found: 474.2052.

NMR data of the major isomer deduced from the 3.7:1 mixture: **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.30 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.14 (m, 4H), 6.96 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 4H), 6.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.51 – 5.48 (m, 1H), 4.62 (s, 1H), 4.59 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 2.99 (dd, J = 14.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (dd, J = 14.8, 12.8 Hz, 1H), 2.35 – 2.28 (m, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.88, 170.26, 169.08, 167.11, 162.29 (d, J = 246.1 Hz), 153.53, 138.69, 132.65, 130.47, 130.45, 130.30 (d, J = 8.2 Hz), 128.50, 128.06, 127.75, 127.58, 127.11, 125.74,

118.31, 115.27 (d, $J = 21.6$ Hz), 114.76, 114.64, 109.87, 80.21, 65.26, 57.61, 56.76, 53.00, 52.99, 52.66, 52.52, 52.46, 37.23, 36.87, 31.91, 28.07, 19.39.

Dimethyl (1*S,3*aR**,8*bS**)-4-benzyl-1-(4-nitrophenyl)-8*b*-methyl-1,3*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclopenta[*b*]indole-3,3(2*H*)-dicarboxylate (3*ag*):**

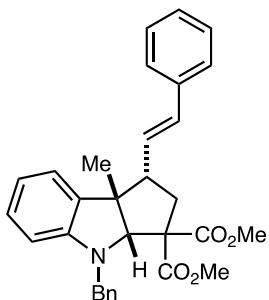


Yellow solid (51%, $dr = 3.5:1$) **mp**: 134-140 °C.. **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 3077, 3022, 2948, 1728, 1599, 1515, 1346. **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.15 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1.61H), 8.12 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1.15H), 7.36 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1.77H), 7.29 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1.81H), 7.23 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1.22H), 7.18 (t, $J = 5.9$ Hz, 2.85H), 6.97 – 6.92 (m, 0.79H), 6.70 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 0.22H), 6.63 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 0.18H), 6.48 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 0.20H), 6.44 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 0.73H), 6.34 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 0.71H), 5.44 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 0.59H), 4.73 (s, 0.17H), 4.66 (d, $J = 16.6$ Hz, 0.30H), 4.64 (s, 0.62H), 4.60 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 0.76H), 4.32 (d, $J = 16.3$ Hz, 0.23H), 4.15 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 0.78H), 3.83 (s, 0.71H), 3.81 (s, 2.34H), 3.53 (s, 0.34H), 3.42 (s, 2.69H), 3.12 (dd, $J = 14.7, 4.8$ Hz, 0.71H), 2.83 (dd, $J = 14.7, 12.8$ Hz, 0.85H), 2.74 (dd, $J = 13.0, 5.5$ Hz, 0.26H), 2.45 (t, $J = 13.4$ Hz, 0.28H), 2.39 – 2.34 (m, 0.78H), 1.38 (s, 2.16H), 0.94 (s, 0.49H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.63, 170.09, 169.68, 168.78, 166.65, 153.55, 147.39, 147.26, 147.23, 146.51, 142.60, 138.44, 131.89, 130.06, 129.92, 129.49, 128.78, 128.55, 128.53, 128.48, 128.45, 128.41, 127.73, 127.57, 127.31, 127.22, 127.04, 125.87, 125.28, 124.97, 123.80, 123.56, 123.33, 123.04, 122.59, 119.69, 118.78, 118.73, 118.51, 110.28, 110.16, 82.37, 80.21, 65.28, 64.14, 58.07, 56.82, 55.60, 54.04, 54.00, 53.44, 53.25, 53.11, 52.91, 52.80, 52.78, 52.74, 52.70, 52.64, 49.57, 47.11, 38.97, 37.86, 36.70, 31.71, 29.84, 29.81, 28.03, 22.55, 19.49, 9.79, 1.16. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 501.2020$, Found: 501.1997.

NMR data of the major isomer deduced from the 3.5:1 mixture: **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.15 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, $J = 5.9$ Hz, 3H), 6.97 – 6.92 (m, 1H), 6.44 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.34 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.44 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.64 (s, 1H), 4.60 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.15 (d, $J = 16.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.49 (s, 3H), 3.12 (dd, $J = 14.7, 4.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.83 (dd, $J = 14.7, 12.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.39 – 2.34 (m, 1H), 1.38 (s, 3H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.63, 169.68, 168.78, 166.65, 153.55, 146.51, 142.60, 138.44, 131.89, 130.06, 129.49, 128.55, 128.48, 128.45, 127.57,

127.22, 125.28, 123.56, 123.04, 118.51, 110.28, 80.21, 65.28, 58.07, 56.82, 53.44, 53.25, 53.11, 52.74, 52.64, 37.86, 36.70, 31.71, 29.84, 28.03, 19.49, 1.16.

Dimethyl (1*S,3*aR**,8*bS**)-4-benzyl-8*b*-methyl-1-((*E*)-styryl)-1,3*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclopenta[*b*]indole-3,3(2*H*)-dicarboxylate (3*ai*):**

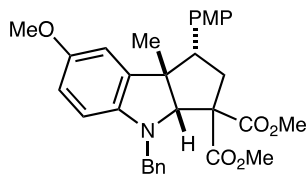


White solid (93%, *dr* = 1.7:1). **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 3023, 2949, 2916, 2847, 1731, 1598, 1483, 1259. **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.41 – 7.39 (m, 0.65H), 7.36 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1.48H), 7.34 – 7.32 (m, 1.76H), 7.29 – 7.27 (m, 2.58H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 2.25H), 7.19 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1.59H), 7.17 – 7.14 (m, 0.45H), 7.11 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 0.69H), 7.08 – 7.05 (m, 0.30H), 7.05 – 7.01 (m, 0.89H), 6.99 (dd, J = 7.3, 1.3 Hz, 0.32H), 6.87 – 6.86 (m, 0.65H), 6.69 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 0.92H), 6.50 – 6.43 (m, 1.84H), 6.25 (dd, J = 15.8, 8.6 Hz, 0.34H), 6.02 (dd, J = 15.8, 8.8 Hz, 0.65H), 4.63 (s, 0.40H), 4.59 (s, 0.60H), 4.58 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 0.59H), 4.32 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 0.31H), 4.17 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 0.65H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.46 (s, 0.78H), 3.45 (s, 1.69H), 2.64 (dd, J = 13.23, 6.08 Hz, 0.31H), 2.51 (ddd, J = 13.8, 8.8, 4.9 Hz, 0.67H), 2.42 (t, J = 13.3 Hz, 0.76H), 2.27 (ddd, J = 12.7, 4.9, 1.5 Hz, 0.68H), 2.04 (t, J = 12.6 Hz, 0.36H), 1.33 (s, 1.96H), 1.26 (s, 0.81H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.73, 171.89, 170.24, 169.06, 153.43, 150.58, 138.70, 138.48, 137.54, 137.52, 137.38, 133.20, 132.21, 131.31, 129.87, 128.79, 128.74, 128.49, 128.41, 128.24, 128.20, 128.18, 128.15, 127.89, 127.53, 127.46, 127.06, 127.00, 126.37, 126.35, 125.55, 122.13, 121.74, 118.67, 118.60, 110.16, 109.35, 81.71, 80.16, 77.34, 77.16, 76.98, 72.26, 65.81, 65.36, 57.61, 56.59, 55.91, 53.25, 52.94, 52.92, 52.81, 52.53, 52.45, 52.03, 40.02, 38.35, 29.85, 27.74, 22.88. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{32}\text{NO}_4$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ = 482.2326, Found: 482.2298.

NMR data of the major isomer deduced from the 1.7:1 mixture: **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.41 – 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.87 – 6.86 (m, 1H), 6.69 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.50 – 6.43 (m, 2H), 6.02 (dd, J = 15.8, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 2.51 (ddd, J = 13.8, 8.8, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (t, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (ddd, J = 12.7, 4.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 1.33 (s, 3H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.89, 169.06, 153.43, 138.70, 137.38, 133.20, 132.21, 131.31, 129.87, 128.79,

128.49, 127.53, 126.35, 125.55, 122.13, 118.67, 110.16, 80.16, 65.81, 57.61, 56.59, 52.94, 52.45, 52.03, 38.35, 27.74.

Dimethyl (1*S,3*aR**,8*bS**)-4-benzyl-7-methoxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8*b*-methyl-1,3*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclopenta[*b*]indole-3,3(2*H*)-dicarboxylate (3*ca*):**

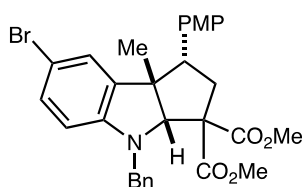


Colorless oil (83%, *dr* = 4:1). **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 2951, 2916, 2833, 1731, 1610, 1514, 1261, 1013. **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.30 – 7.27 (m, 4H), 7.24 – 7.18 (m, 4H), 7.13 (dd, J = 9.6, 2.9 Hz, 0.61H), 6.96 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1.33H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 0.46H), 6.81 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1.45H), 6.58 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.7 Hz, 0.22H), 6.49 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.7 Hz, 0.72H), 6.32 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 0.22H), 6.30 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 0.68H), 6.28 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 0.18H), 5.12 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 0.70H), 4.69 (s, 0.22H), 4.60 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 0.25H), 4.57 (s, 0.70H), 4.52 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 0.80H), 4.23 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 0.27H), 4.09 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 0.81H), 3.82 (s, 0.67H), 3.79 (s, 2.25H), 3.77 (s, 1.94H), 3.68 (s, 0.56H), 3.48 (s, 1.97H), 3.40 (s, 0.57H), 3.34 (s, 2.22H), 2.97 (dd, J = 14.8, 4.6 Hz, 0.75H), 2.76 (dd, J = 14.8, 12.8 Hz, 0.82H), 2.71 (dd, J = 13.1, 5.7 Hz, 0.25H), 2.41 – 2.36 (m, 0.38H), 2.34 – 2.25 (m, 0.95H), 1.31 (s, 2.48H), 0.93 (s, 0.56H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.91, 172.07, 170.36, 169.20, 158.89, 158.77, 153.28, 152.76, 147.62, 145.34, 139.03, 138.91, 138.39, 134.37, 130.62, 130.49, 130.09, 130.02, 129.90, 129.76, 129.49, 129.15, 128.84, 128.44, 128.34, 127.81, 127.79, 127.54, 127.34, 127.04, 126.83, 124.98, 114.57, 114.15, 113.74, 113.48, 113.36, 113.30, 112.67, 111.34, 110.81, 110.41, 109.92, 83.14, 80.82, 65.43, 64.01, 58.30, 57.67, 56.02, 55.69, 55.47, 55.45, 55.42, 55.40, 53.41, 52.92, 52.91, 52.72, 52.58, 52.53, 52.44, 39.46, 36.67, 29.85, 27.92, 22.38, 14.27. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{34}\text{NO}_6$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 516.2381$, Found: 516.2376.

NMR data of the major isomer deduced from the 4:1 mixture: **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** : (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.30 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.18 (m, 3H), 6.96 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.49 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.30 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.48 (s, 3H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 2.97 (dd, J = 14.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.76 (dd, J = 14.8, 12.7 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (ddt, J = 15.5, 4.3, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 1.31 (s, 3H). **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** : (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.07, 169.20, 158.89, 152.76, 147.62, 139.03, 134.37, 130.49, 130.09, 128.44, 128.34, 127.81,

127.79, 127.04, 114.57, 113.48, 113.36, 111.34, 110.81, 80.82, 65.43, 58.30, 57.67, 55.69, 55.47, 55.40, 52.91, 52.53, 52.44, 36.67, 29.85, 27.92. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁵

Dimethyl (1*S,3*aR**,8*bS**)-4-benzyl-7-bromo-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8*b*-methyl-1,3*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclopenta[*b*]indole-3,3(2*H*)-dicarboxylate (3*da*):**

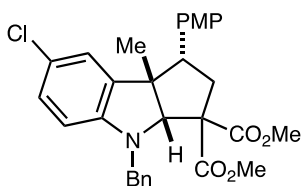


Colorless oil (57%, *dr* = 4:1). **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 2927, 2917, 2848, 1731, 1610, 1514, 1260. **¹H-NMR**: (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 1.78H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 1.37H), 7.17 – 7.14 (m, 1.37H), 7.14 – 7.12 (m, 0.48H), 7.12 – 7.10 (m, 0.28H), 7.00 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 0.70H), 6.96 – 6.92 (m, 1.13H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 0.57H), 6.87 – 6.83 (m, 1.33H), 6.79 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 0.28H), 6.76 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 0.14H), 6.31 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 0.21H), 6.26 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 0.70H), 5.49 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 0.74H), 4.68 (s, 0.20H), 4.62 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 0.78H), 4.55 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 0.77H), 4.32 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 0.38H), 4.11 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 0.76H), 3.84 (s, 0.72H), 3.83 (s, 1.93H), 3.81 (s, 0.71H), 3.77 (s, 1.93H), 3.52 (s, 1.87H), 3.47 (s, 0.55H), 2.95 (dd, J = 14.8, 4.7 Hz, 0.75H), 2.71 (dd, J = 14.8, 12.9 Hz, 0.79H), 2.65 (dd, J = 13.1, 5.8 Hz, 0.28H), 2.34 – 2.30 (m, 0.81H), 2.31 – 2.26 (m, 0.57H), 1.29 (s, 2.25H), 0.88 (s, 0.72H). **¹³C-NMR**: (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.63, 171.81, 170.26, 169.07, 159.17, 158.89, 152.21, 149.66, 139.62, 138.09, 137.96, 135.39, 130.55, 130.51, 130.38, 130.03, 130.00, 129.78, 129.49, 129.06, 128.93, 128.84, 128.64, 128.60, 128.51, 127.79, 127.63, 127.54, 127.33, 127.17, 126.84, 125.90, 125.81, 124.98, 114.15, 113.71, 113.50, 110.98, 110.69, 110.04, 109.95, 82.01, 80.00, 65.25, 64.21, 57.73, 56.13, 55.61, 55.42, 54.89, 53.33, 53.04, 53.02, 53.00, 52.73, 52.71, 52.67, 52.65, 52.55, 52.51, 41.29, 39.16, 36.69, 32.08, 29.85, 29.81, 29.51, 27.71, 23.32, 22.84, 14.27, 1.17. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{31}\text{BrNO}_5$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 564.1380$, Found: 564.1361.

NMR data of the major isomer deduced from the 4:1 mixture: **¹H-NMR**: (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.00 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.96 – 6.92 (m, 1H), 6.87 – 6.83 (m, 2H), 6.26 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 5.49 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 2.95 (dd, J = 14.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (dd, J = 14.8, 12.9 Hz, 1H), 2.34 – 2.30 (m, 1H), 1.29 (s, 3H). **¹³C-NMR**: (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.81, 169.07,

159.17, 152.21, 138.09, 135.39, 130.51, 130.03, 130.00, 129.78, 129.06, 128.60, 128.51, 127.79, 127.63, 127.33, 113.71, 113.50, 110.98, 109.95, 80.00, 65.25, 57.73, 56.12, 55.61, 53.00, 52.55, 52.51, 36.69, 29.85, 27.71. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁵

Dimethyl (1*S,3*aR**,8*bS**)-4-benzyl-7-chloro-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8*b*-methyl-1,3*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclopenta[*b*]indole-3,3(2*H*)-dicarboxylate (3ea):**

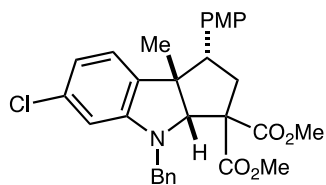


Colorless oil (58%, *dr* = 5:1). **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 3024, 2950, 2834, 1731, 1599, 1514, 1246. **¹H-NMR**: (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.32 – 7.24 (m, 4H), 7.24 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.04 – 7.01 (m, 0.29H), 6.92 (td, J = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 0.40H), 6.82 – 6.79 (m, 1.52H), 6.44 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 0.19H), 6.40 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 0.78H), 6.36 (td, J = 7.4, 1.0 Hz, 0.80H), 5.54 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 0.81H), 4.70 (s, 0.21H), 4.65 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 0.25H), 4.61 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 0.65H), 4.59 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 0.88H), 4.33 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 0.25H), 4.16 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 0.78H), 3.83 (s, 0.71H), 3.81 (s, 1.90H), 3.81 (s, 0.66H), 3.77 (s, 2.05H), 3.47 (s, 2.1H), 3.42 (s, 0.47H), 2.97 (dd, J = 14.8, 4.7 Hz, 0.80H), 2.75 (dd, J = 14.8, 12.8 Hz, 0.83H), 2.68 (dd, J = 13.1, 5.7 Hz, 0.24H), 2.31 (ddd, J = 12.6, 4.7, 1.5 Hz, 0.85H), 2.22 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 0.14H), 1.34 (s, 2H), 0.93 (s, 0.60H). **¹³C-NMR**: (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.86, 172.00, 170.38, 169.22, 158.79, 158.74, 153.48, 150.91, 138.80, 138.64, 137.20, 133.02, 130.83, 130.45, 130.10, 129.19, 128.47, 128.38, 127.87, 127.85, 127.77, 127.60, 127.06, 126.90, 125.97, 125.45, 124.98, 122.84, 118.41, 118.22, 113.50, 113.26, 109.69, 109.57, 82.37, 80.22, 65.31, 64.12, 57.59, 56.70, 55.41, 55.40, 55.15, 53.79, 53.41, 52.95, 52.92, 52.57, 52.56, 52.47, 39.37, 36.87, 29.85, 28.16, 22.97, 21.61. **HRMS-ESI**: Calculated for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{31}\text{ClNO}_5$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 520.1885$, Found: 520.1854.

NMR data of the major isomer deduced from the 5:1 mixture: **¹H-NMR**: (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.32 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 6.99 – 6.86 (m, 1H), 6.82 – 6.79 (m, 2H), 6.40 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (td, J = 7.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.97 (dd, J = 14.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (dd, J = 14.8, 12.8 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (ddd, J = 12.6, 4.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H). **¹³C-NMR**: (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.99, 169.22, 158.79, 153.48, 138.80, 133.02, 130.45, 130.10, 129.19, 128.47, 128.38, 127.87, 127.77, 127.60, 127.06, 125.97, 118.22, 113.50, 113.26, 109.69, 80.22,

65.31, 57.59, 56.70, 55.41, 52.92, 52.56, 52.47, 36.87, 28.16. The spectroscopic data agree with the literature.⁵

Dimethyl (1*S,3*aR**,8*bS**)-4-benzyl-6-chloro-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8*b*-methyl-1,3*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclopenta[*b*]indole-3,3(2*H*)-dicarboxylate (3*fa*):**



Pale yellow oil (73%, *dr* = 8.6:1). **IR** (KBr, cm^{-1}) ν : 3000, 2978, 2952, 2919, 2847, 1731, 1594, 1514, 1247. **¹H-NMR**: (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.32 – 7.22 (m, 1.80H), 7.24 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.18 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.12 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.6 Hz, 0.82H), 7.08 – 7.04 (m,

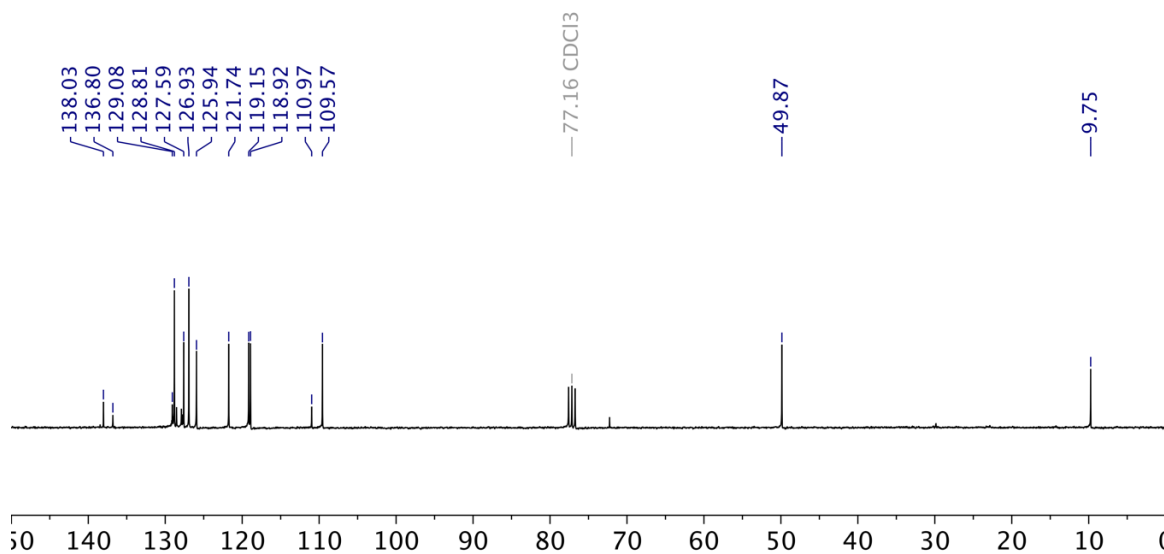
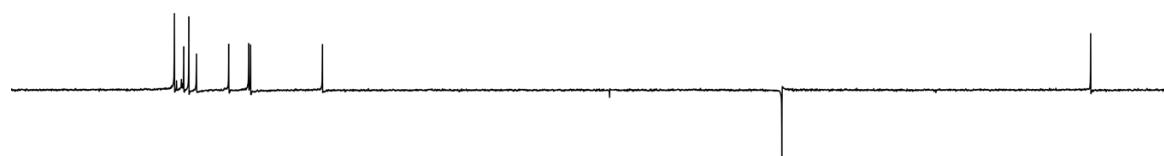
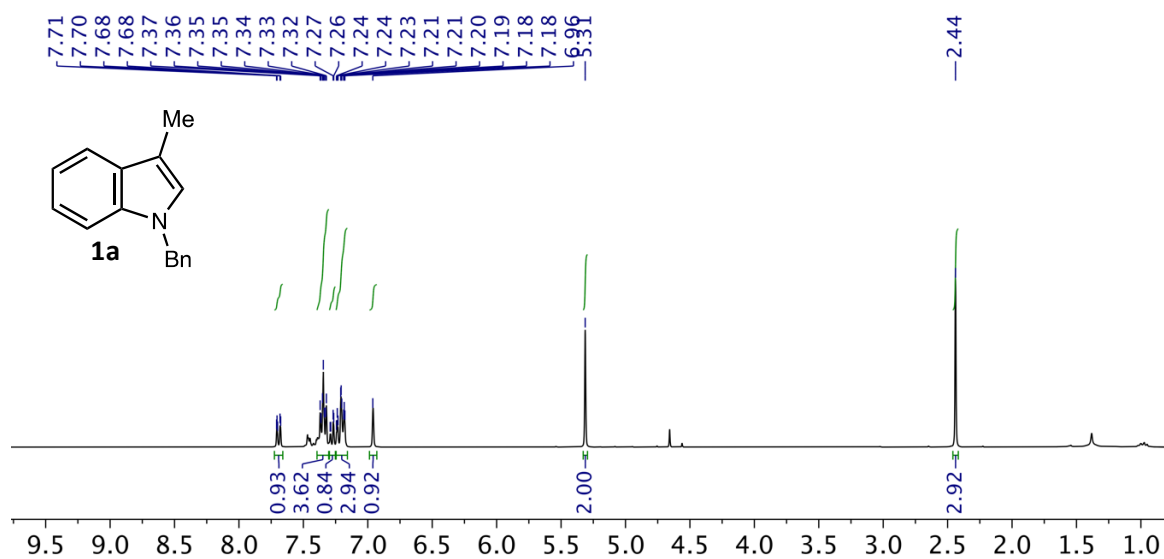
0.30H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1.34H), 6.89 – 6.87 (m, 0.28H), 6.83 – 6.78 (m, 1.87H), 6.62 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 0.20H), 6.43 (s, 0.14H), 6.38 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 0.82H), 6.31 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.9 Hz, 0.85H), 5.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 0.82H), 4.69 (s, 0.14H), 4.64 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 0.85H), 4.61 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 0.21H), 4.56 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 0.89H), 4.35 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 0.20H), 4.13 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 0.89H), 3.82 (s, 0.32H), 3.81 (s, 2.34H), 3.80 (s, 0.34H), 3.77 (s, 2.28H), 3.50 (s, 2.44H), 3.48 (s, 0.30H), 2.94 (dd, J = 14.8, 4.6 Hz, 0.88H), 2.72 (dd, J = 14.8, 12.8 Hz, 0.96H), 2.64 (dd, J = 13.1, 5.8 Hz, 0.20H), 2.31 (ddd, J = 12.8, 4.7, 1.5 Hz, 0.92H), 1.29 (s, 2.49H), 0.87 (s, 0.52H). **¹³C-NMR**: (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.62, 171.80, 170.49, 170.24, 169.06, 167.32, 167.08, 159.06, 158.90, 154.43, 137.90, 137.77, 136.02, 133.74, 131.61, 130.55, 130.04, 130.02, 129.76, 129.49, 129.19, 129.04, 128.84, 128.64, 128.56, 128.38, 128.04, 127.79, 127.58, 127.54, 127.36, 127.22, 126.66, 126.61, 125.45, 124.98, 123.51, 118.12, 118.09, 114.15, 113.74, 113.62, 113.37, 109.57, 109.28, 82.02, 80.10, 65.12, 64.19, 57.65, 57.15, 55.70, 55.42, 55.41, 55.36, 54.53, 53.43, 53.02, 53.00, 52.90, 52.71, 52.66, 52.56, 52.40, 52.32, 50.12, 41.29, 39.17, 37.23, 36.82, 32.37, 29.85, 29.81, 27.92, 23.32, 19.43, 1.17.

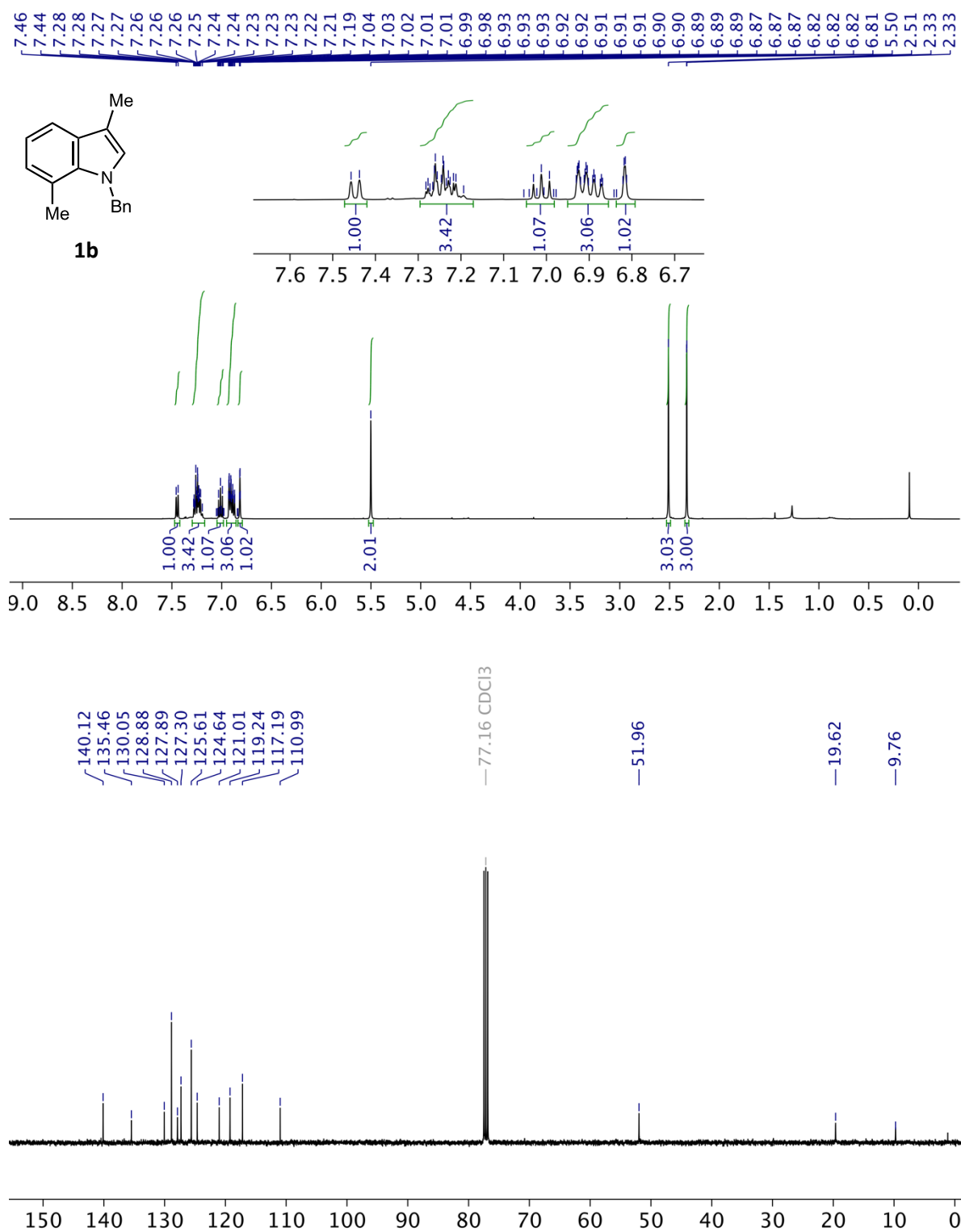
HRMS-ESI: Calculated for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{31}\text{ClNO}_5$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 520.1885$, Found: 520.1854.

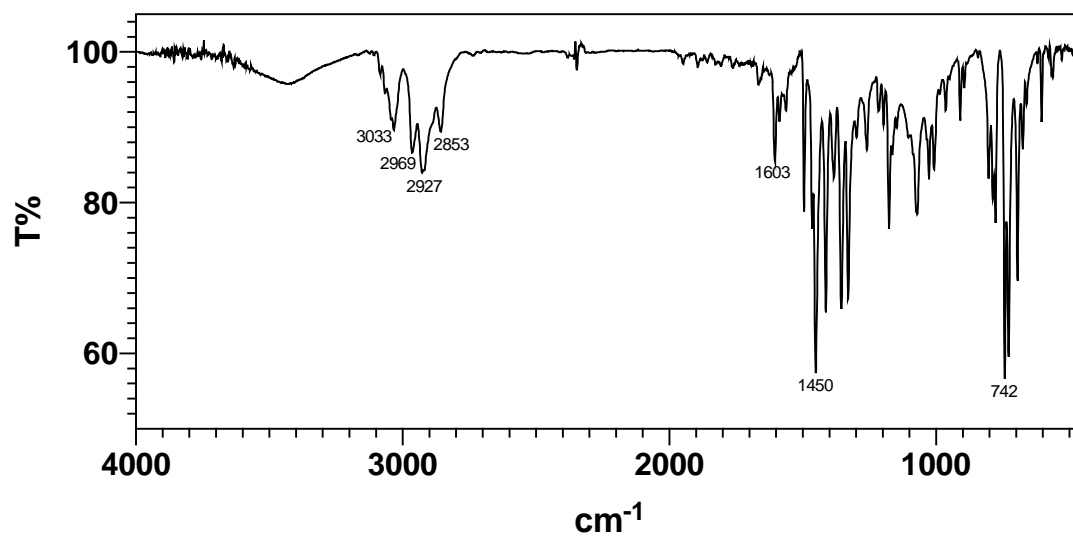
NMR data of the major isomer deduced from the 8.6:1 mixture: **¹H-NMR**: (700 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.32 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.12 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.83 – 6.78 (m, 1H), 6.38 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 2H), 6.31 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 2.94 (dd, J = 14.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (dd, J = 14.8, 12.8 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (ddd, J = 12.8, 4.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 1.29 (s, 3H). **¹³C-NMR**: (176 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 171.80, 169.06, 158.90, 154.43, 137.90, 133.74, 131.61, 130.04, 130.02,

129.76, 128.64, 127.58, 127.36, 126.66, 118.09, 113.74, 113.37, 109.57, 80.10, 65.12, 57.15,
55.70, 55.42, 55.41, 55.36, 53.00, 52.90, 52.71, 52.56, 52.40, 52.32, 37.23, 36.82, 32.37,
29.85, 27.92, 19.43.

5. ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR, FT-IR and Mass spectra.

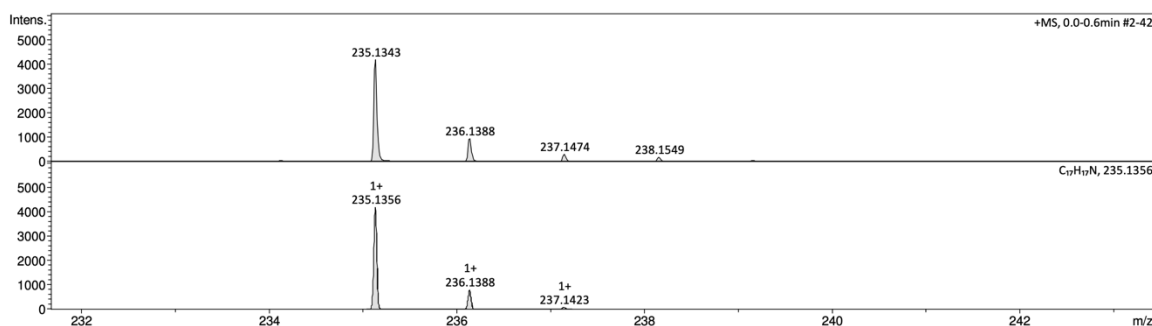




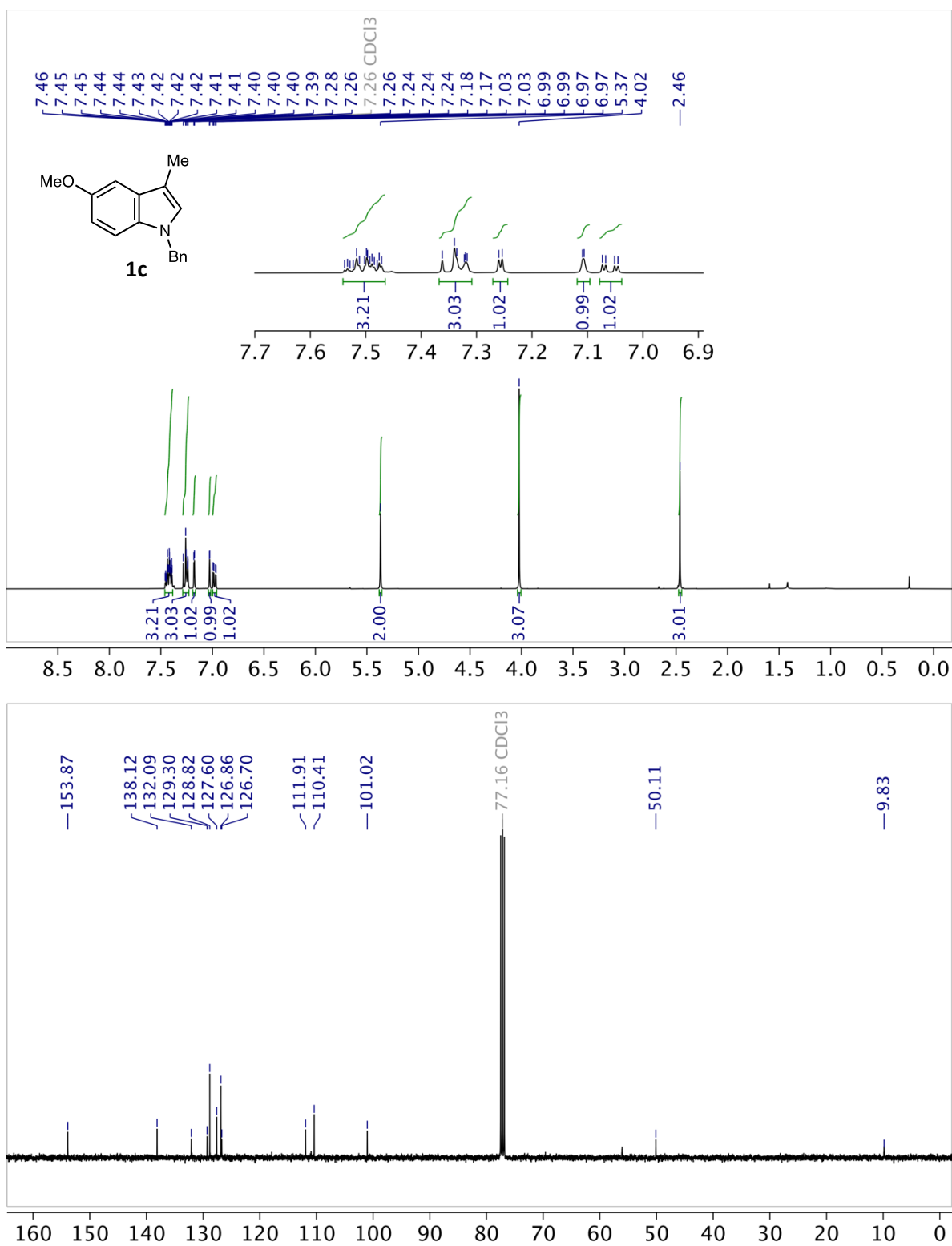


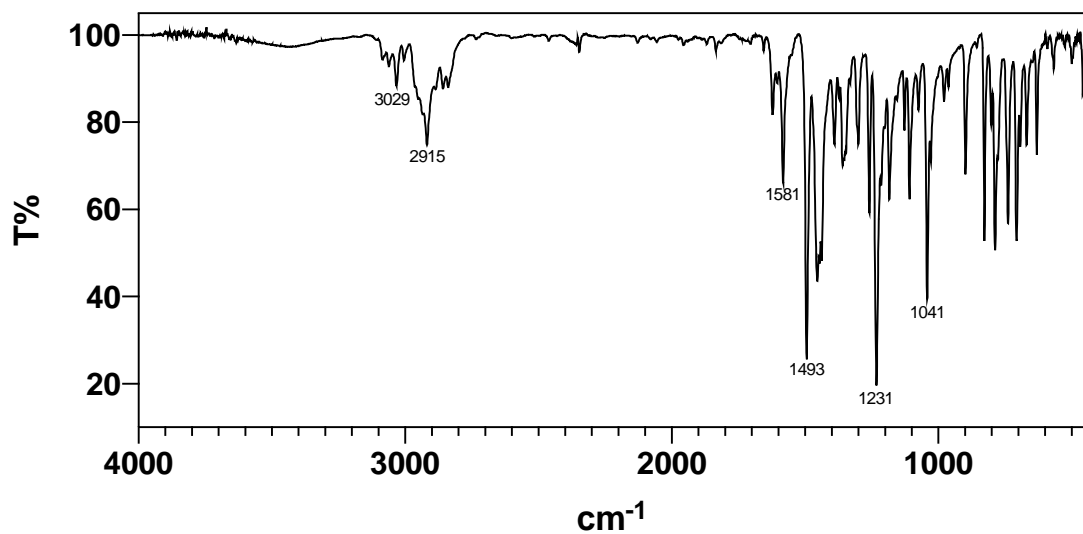
Acquisition Parameter

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Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V



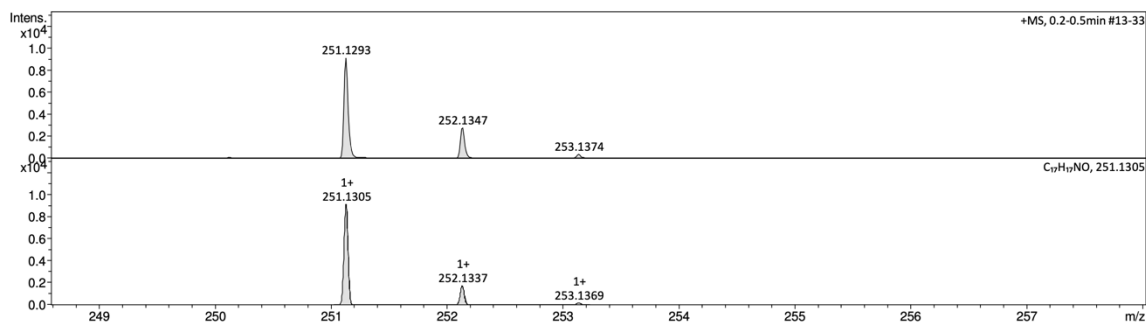
Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdB	e ⁻	Conf	N-Rule
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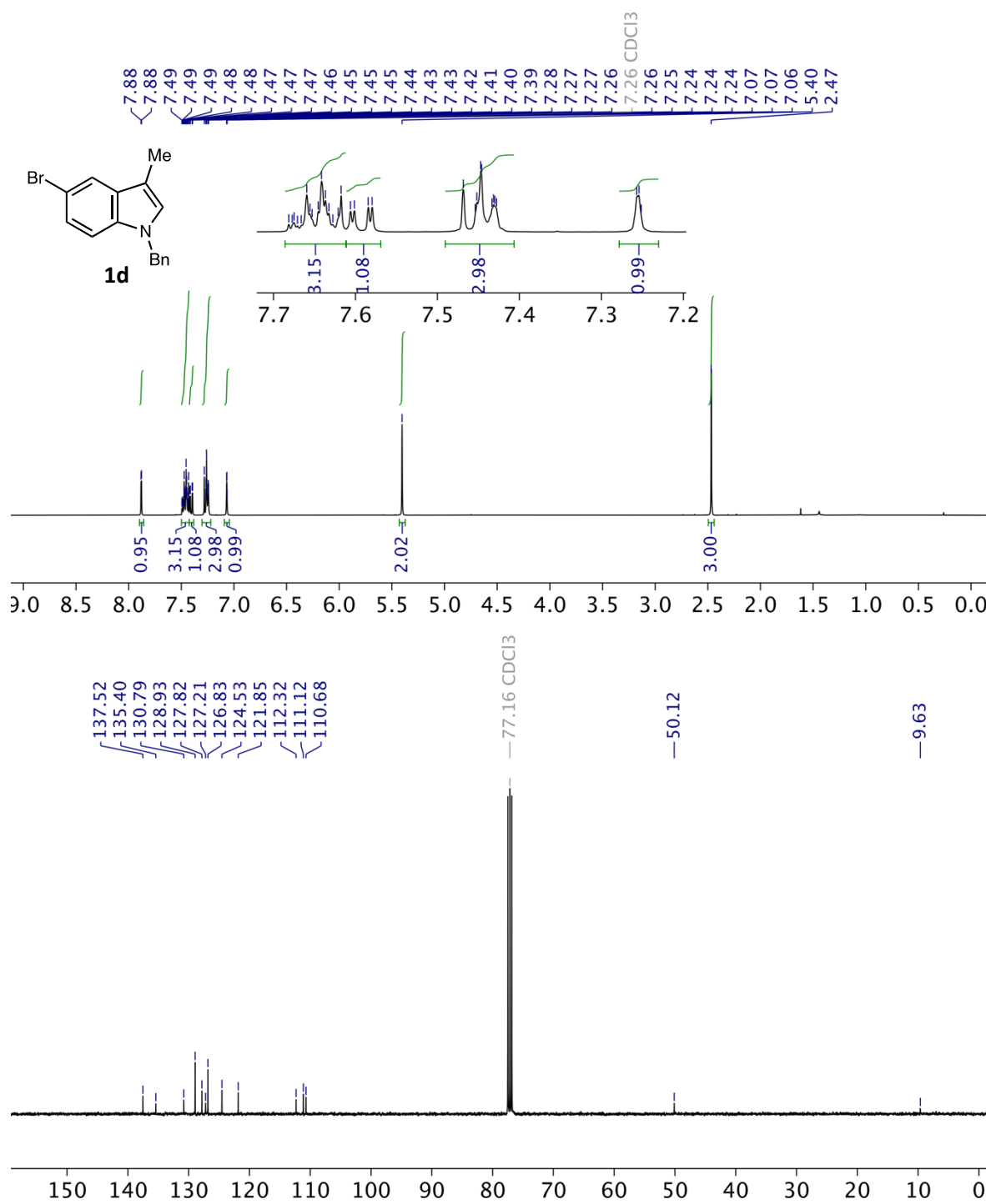


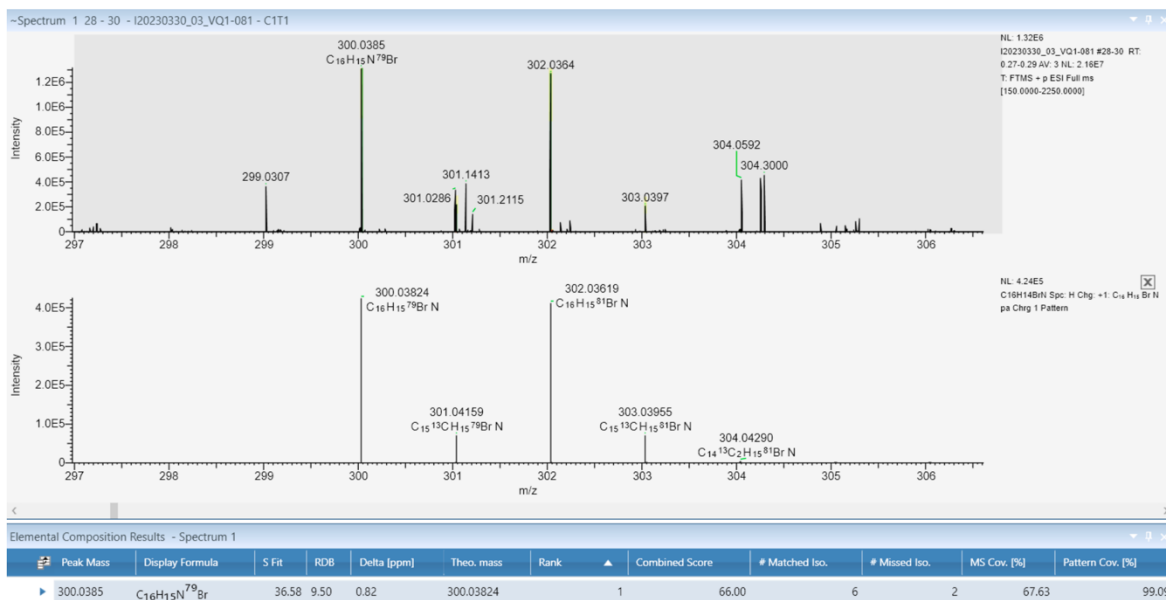
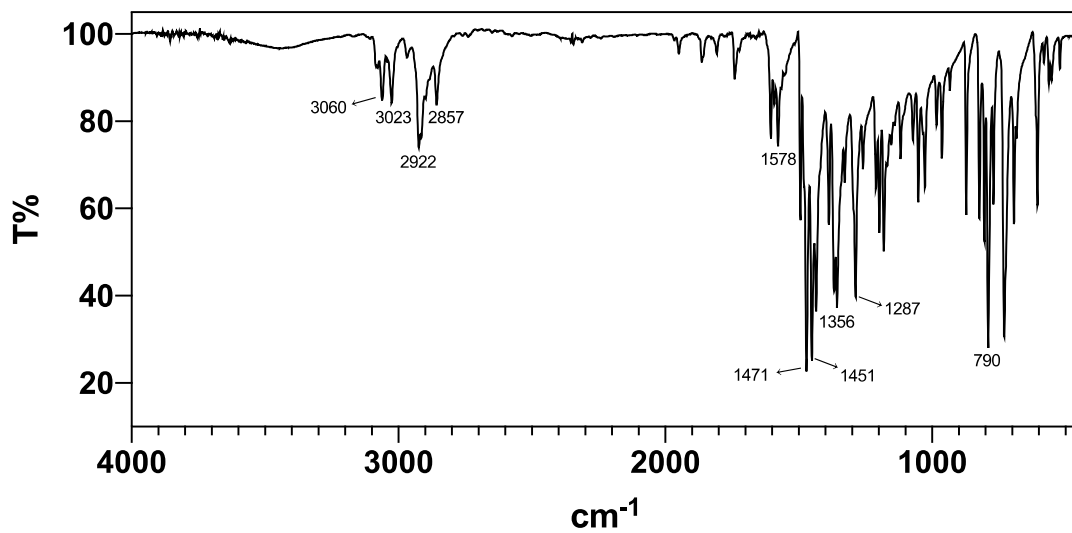
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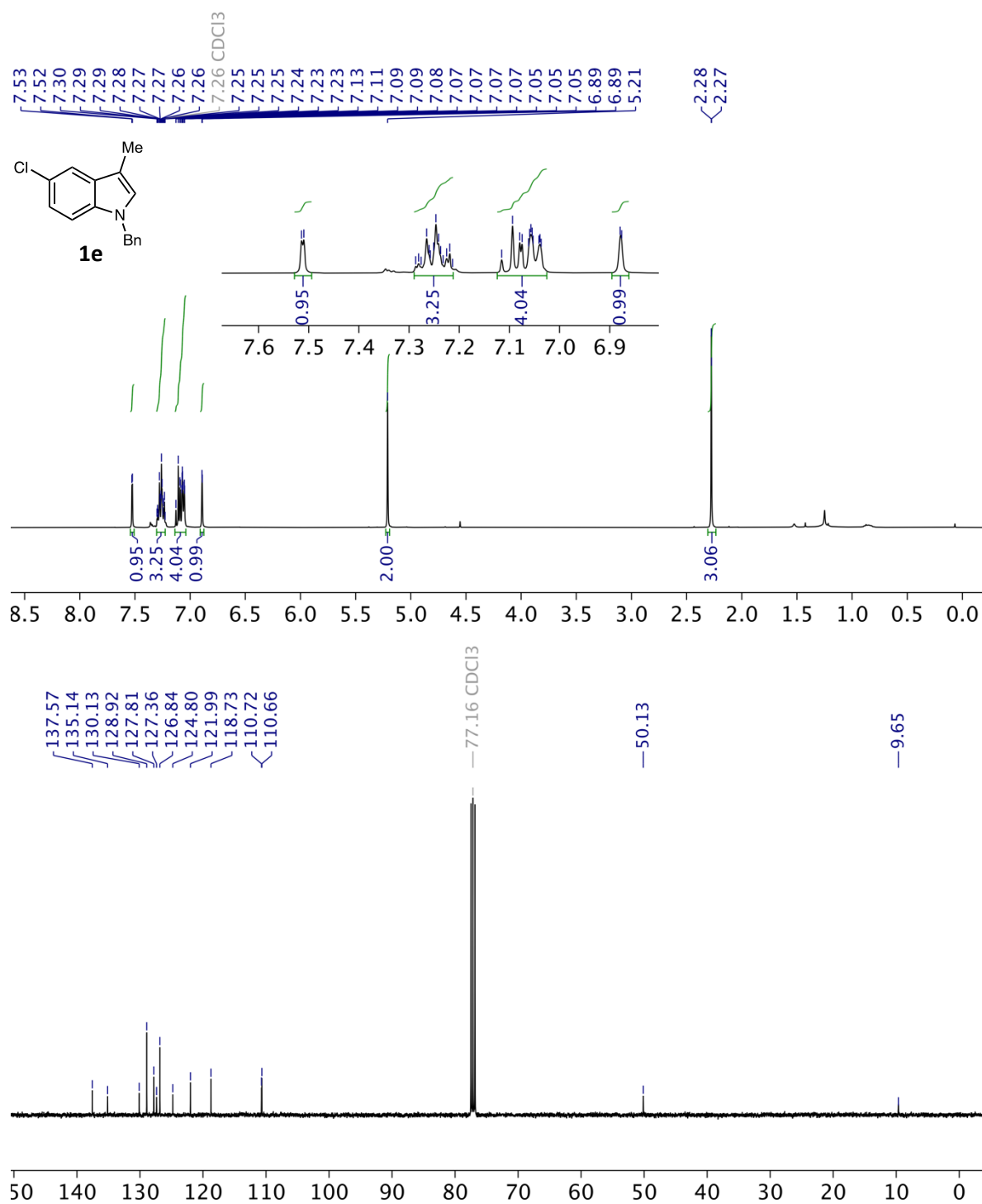
Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	74 V
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Scan Begin	50 m/z	Set Hexapole RF	60.0 V	Set Pulsar Push	799 V
Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V

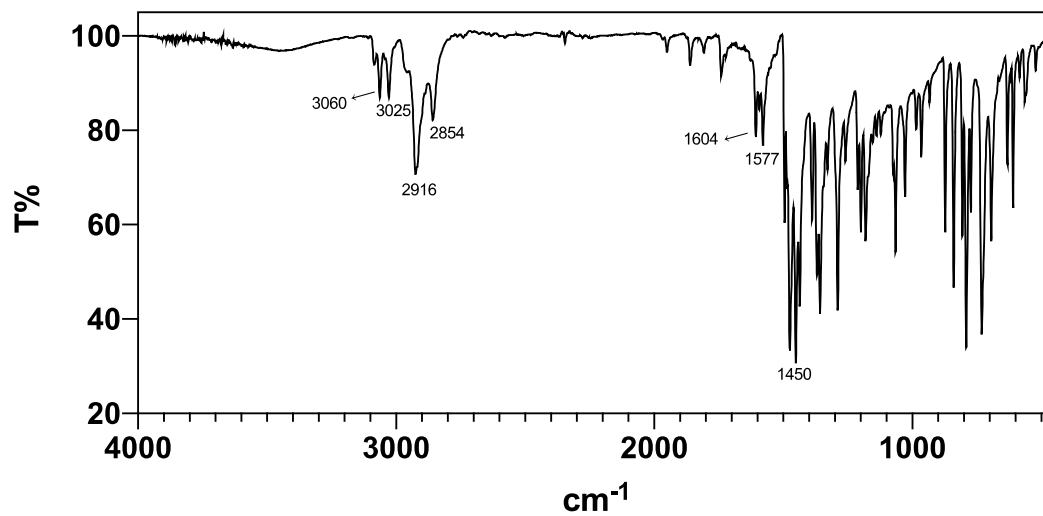


Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdb	e ⁻	Conf	N-Rule
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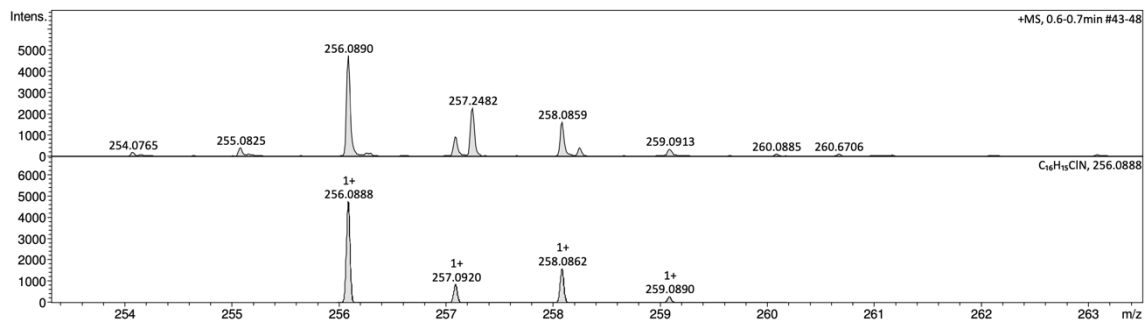




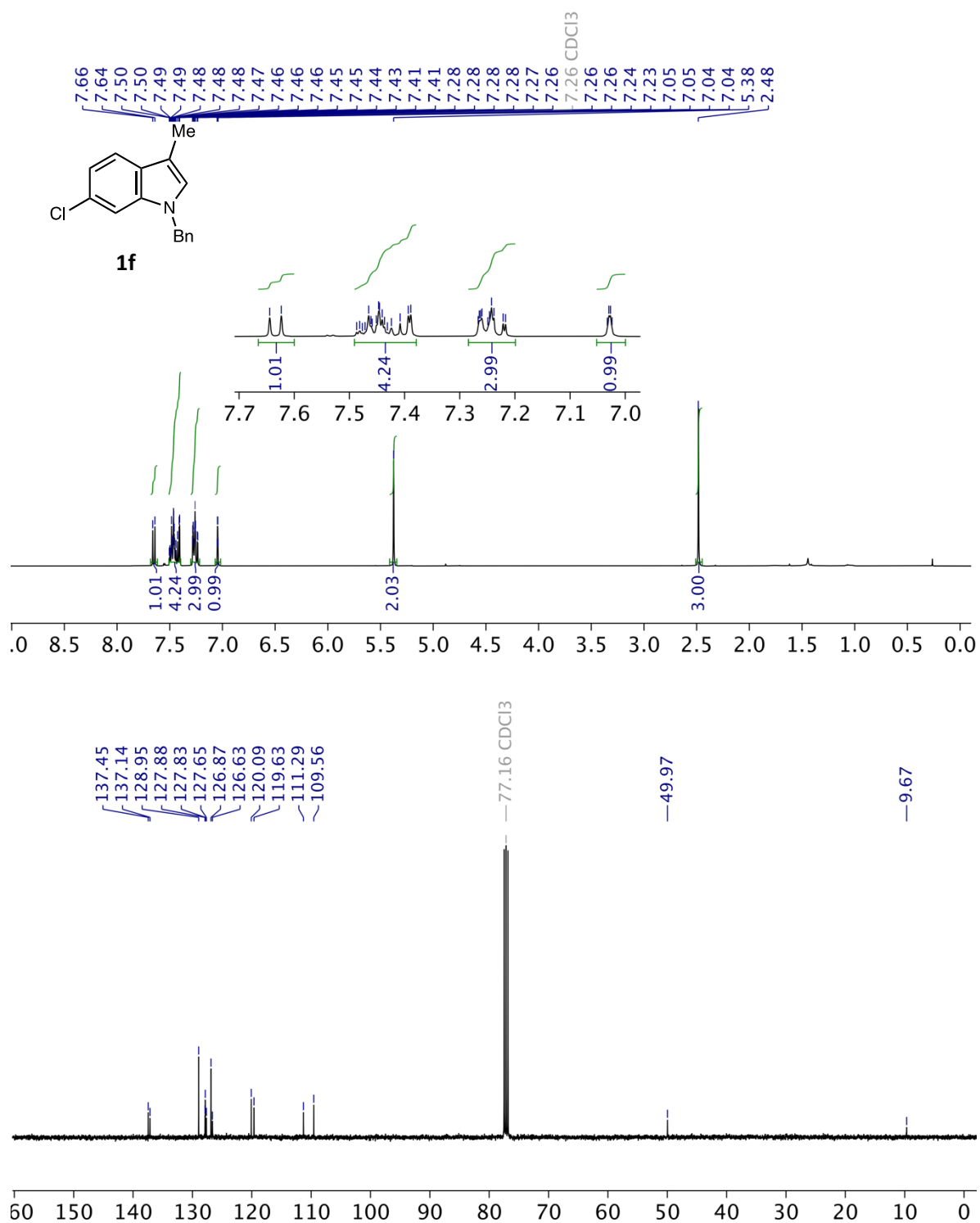


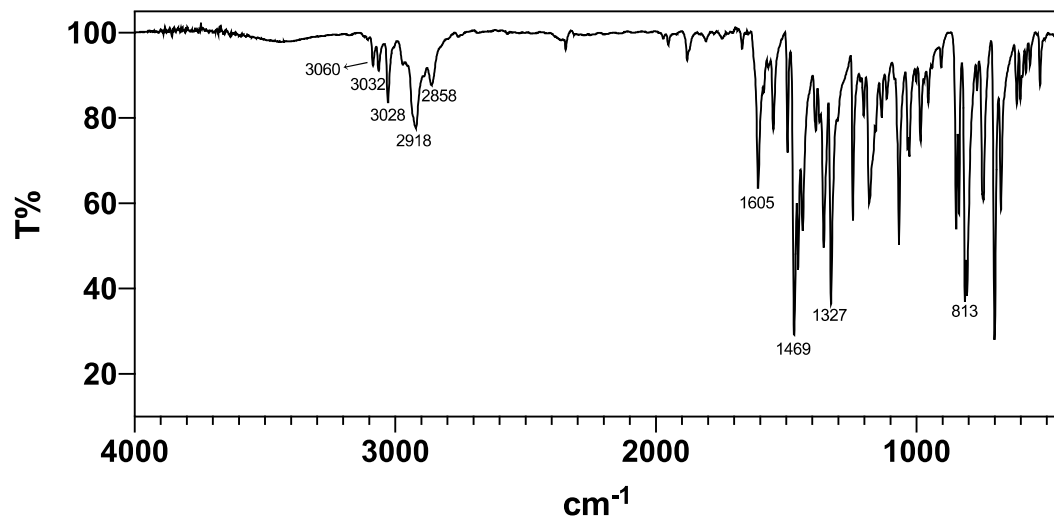
Acquisition Parameter

Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	74 V
n/a	n/a	Set Capillary Exit	80.0 V	Set Pulsar Pull	799 V
Scan Begin	50 m/z	Set Hexapole RF	60.0 V	Set Pulsar Push	799 V
Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V



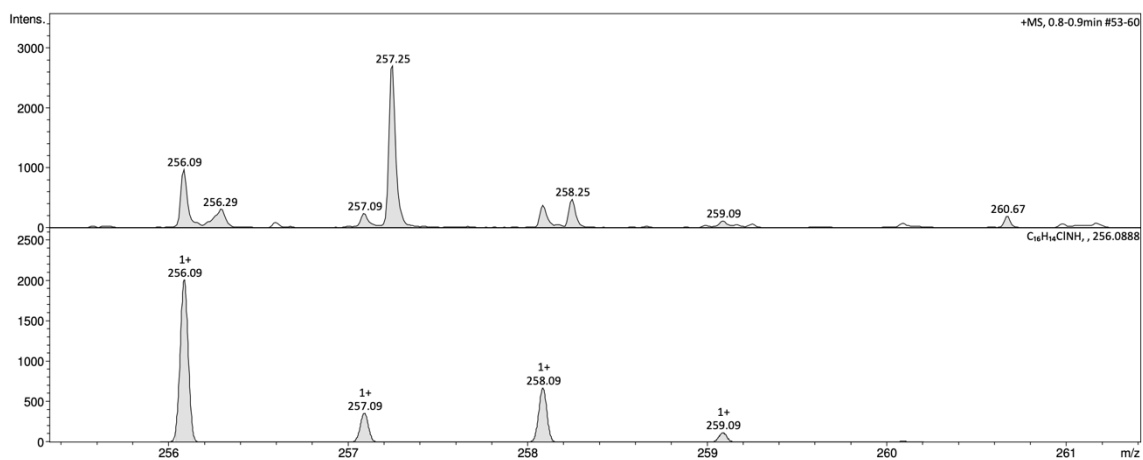
Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdB	e ⁻ Conf	N-Rule
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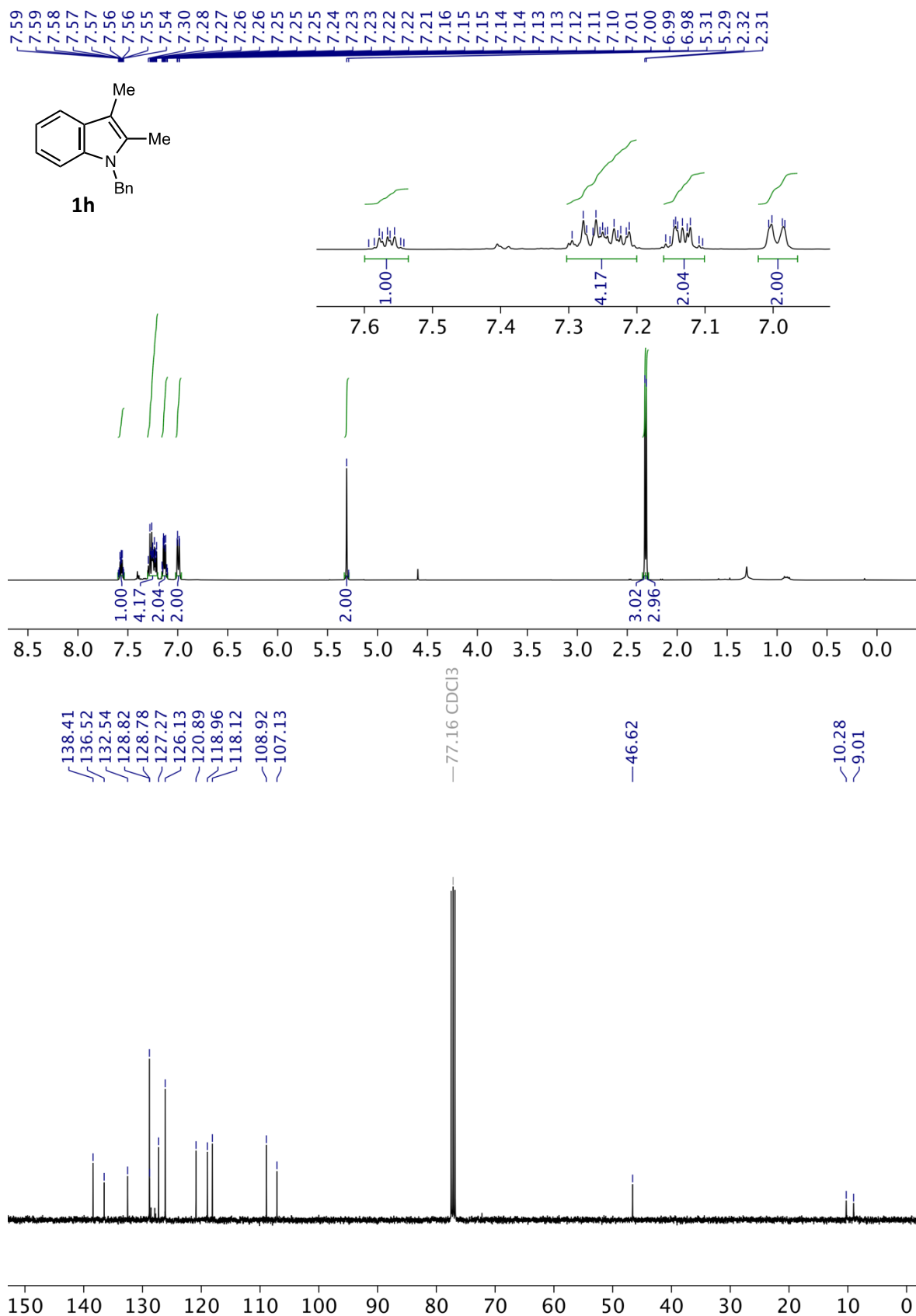


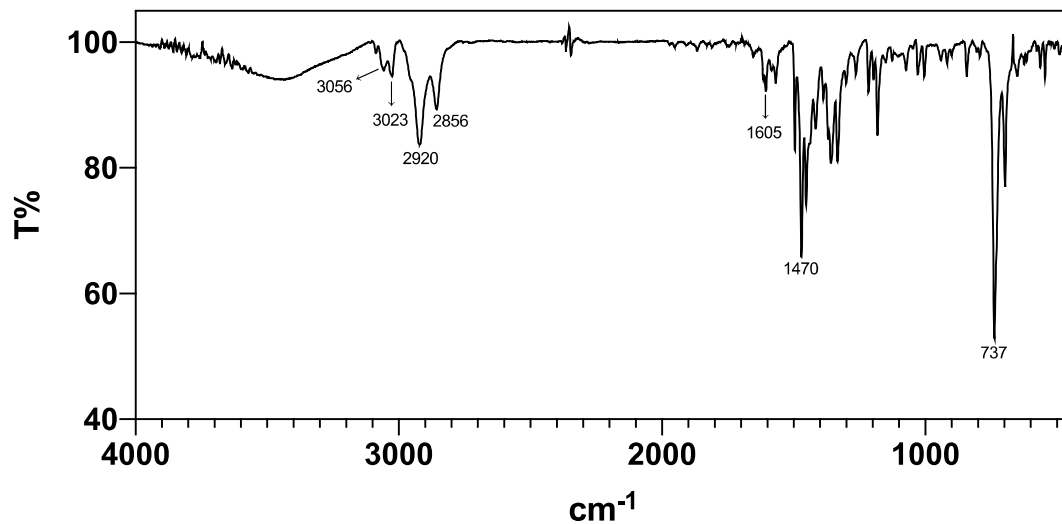


Acquisition Parameter

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Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Capillary Exit	80.0 V	Dry Gas	4.0 l/min	Set Hexapole RF	60.0 V
n/a	n/a	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Dry Heater	180 °C	APCI Heater	514 °C

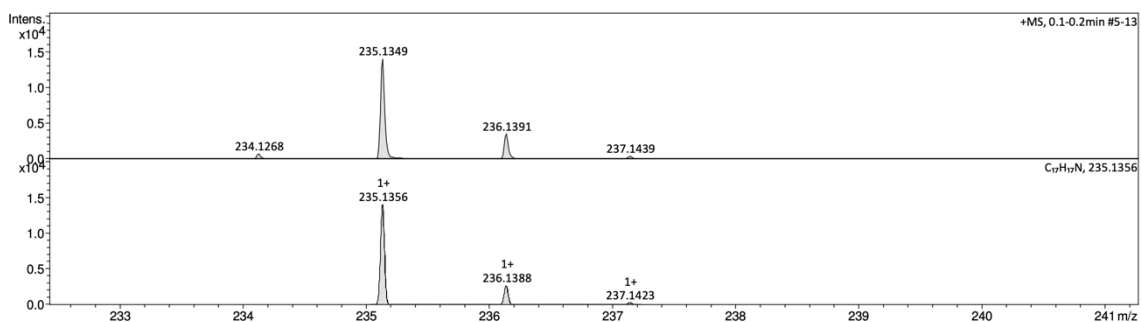




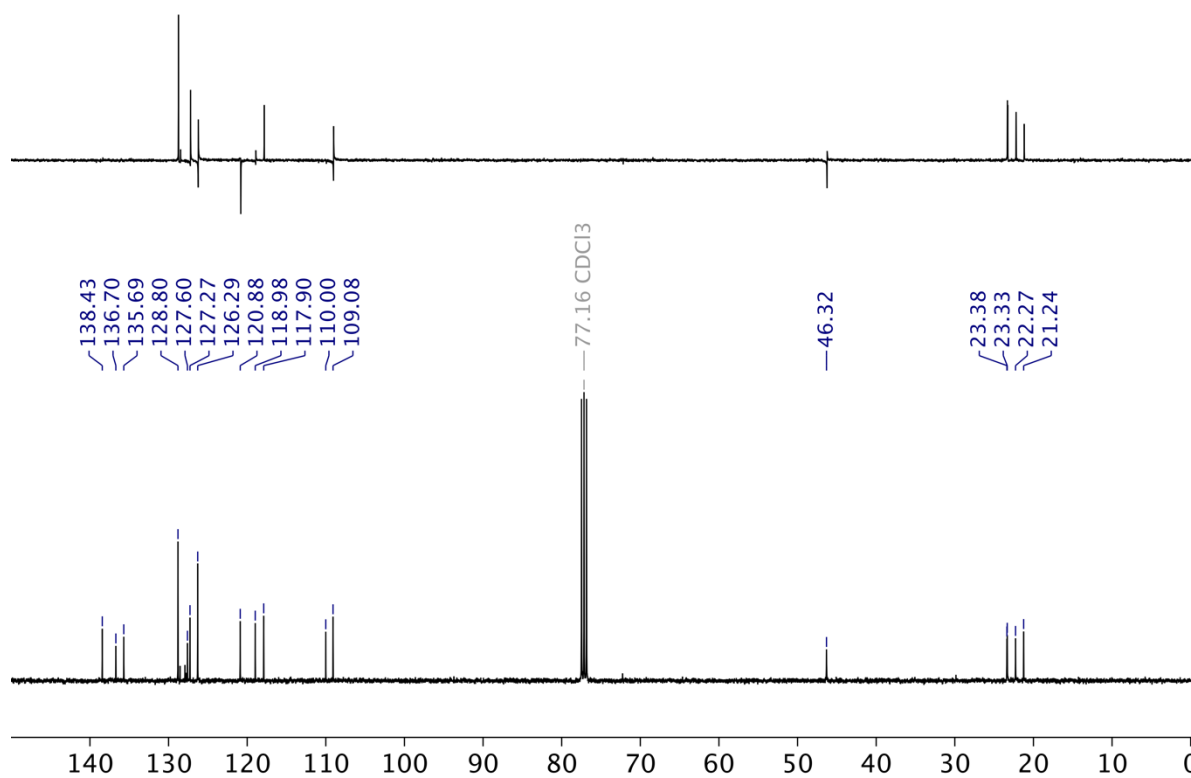
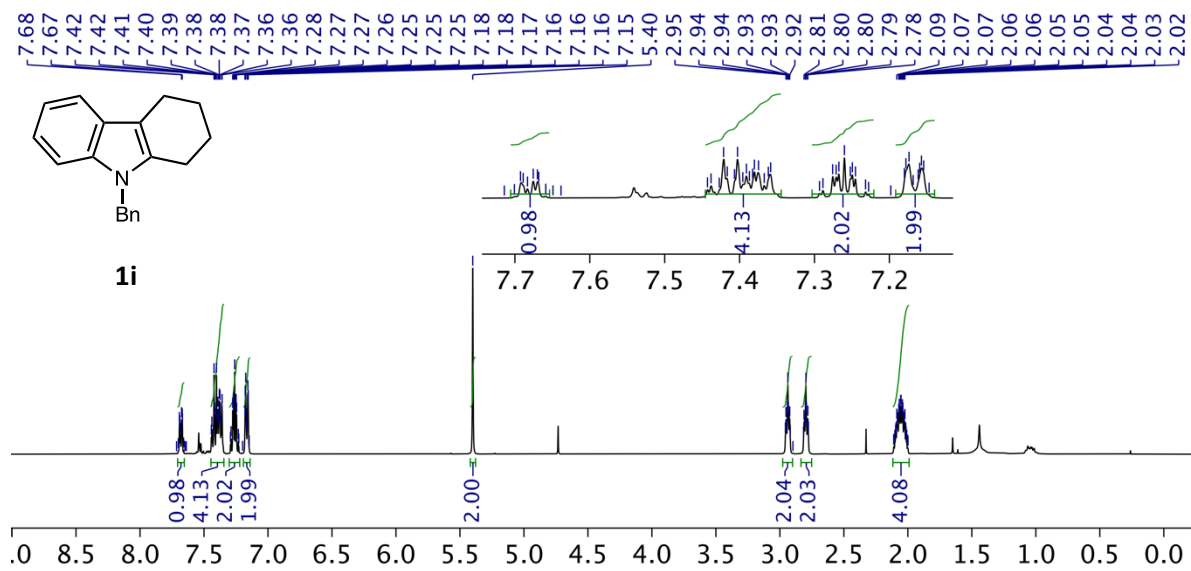


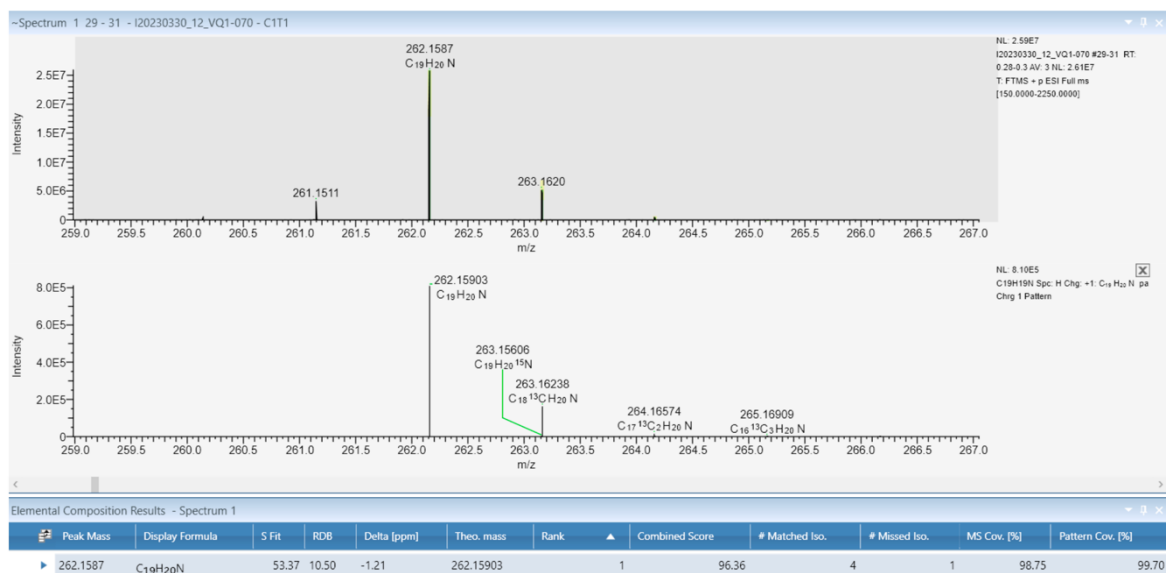
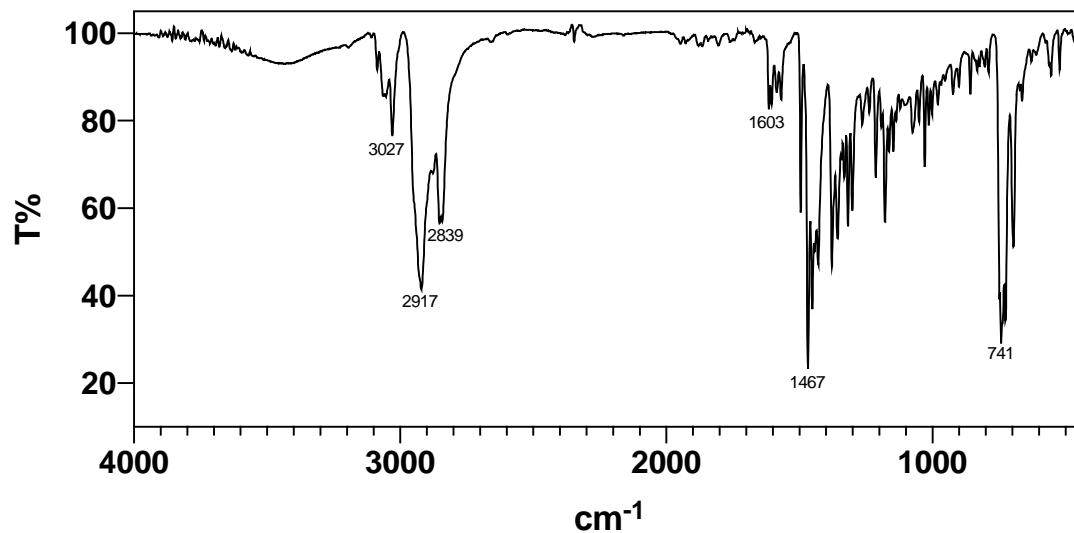
Acquisition Parameter

Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	74 V
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Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V

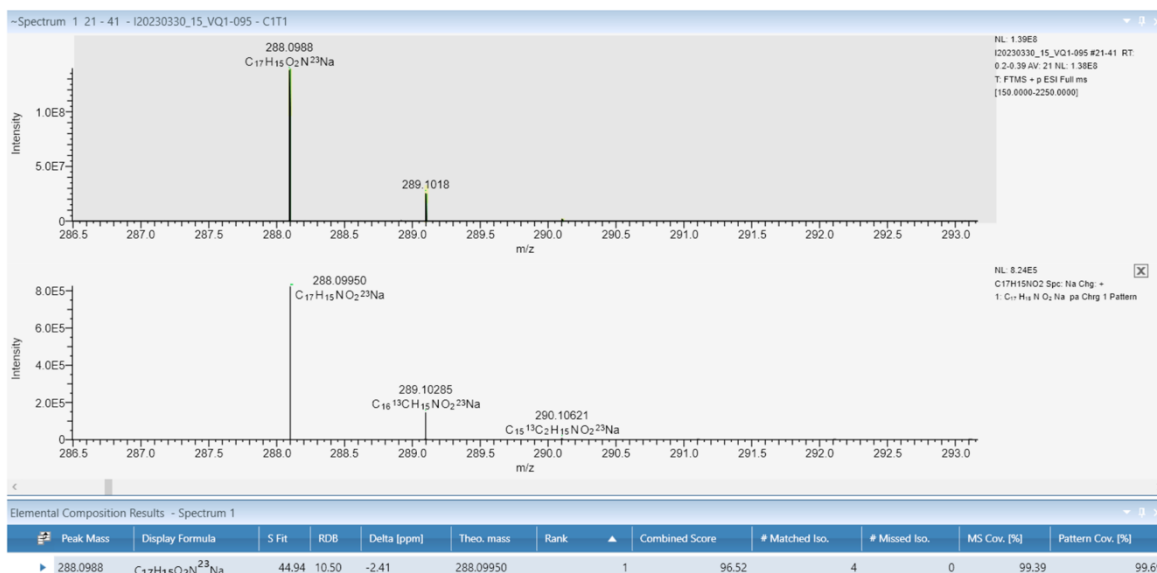
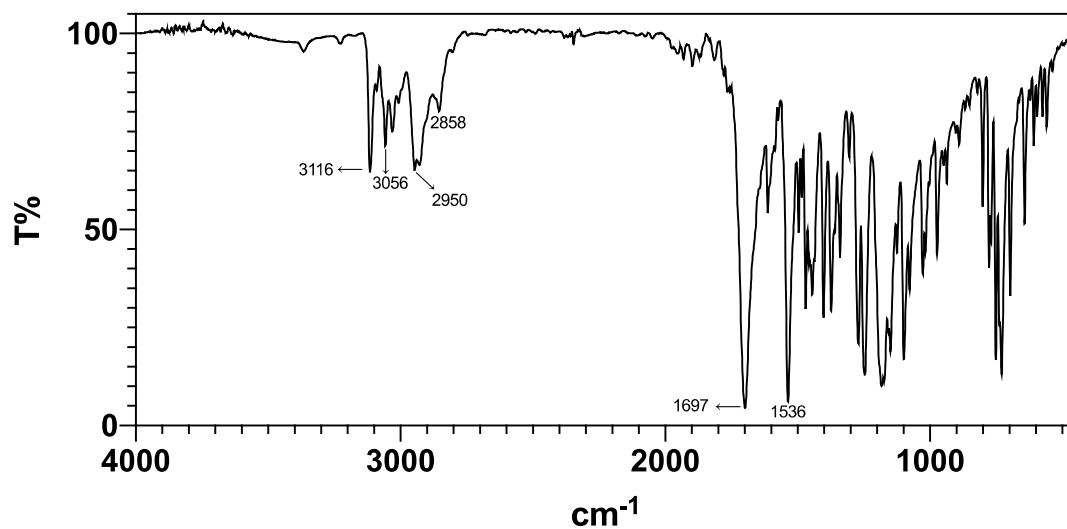


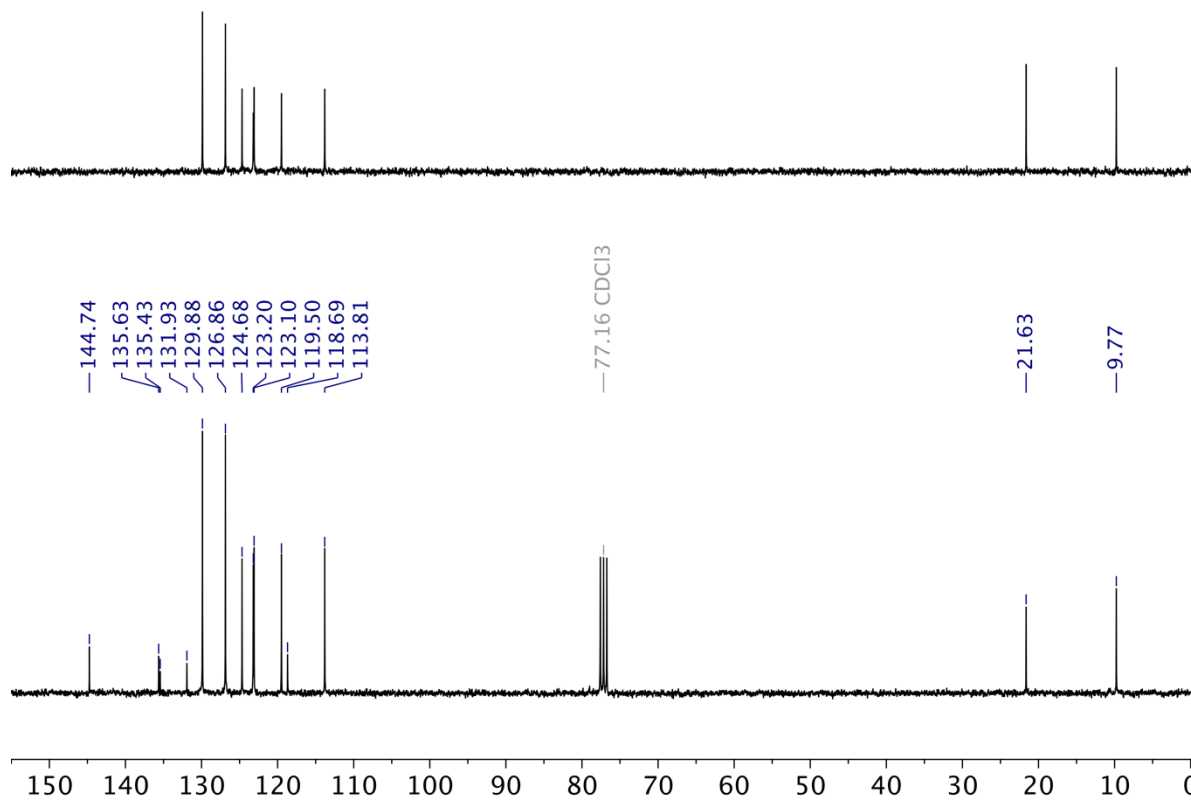
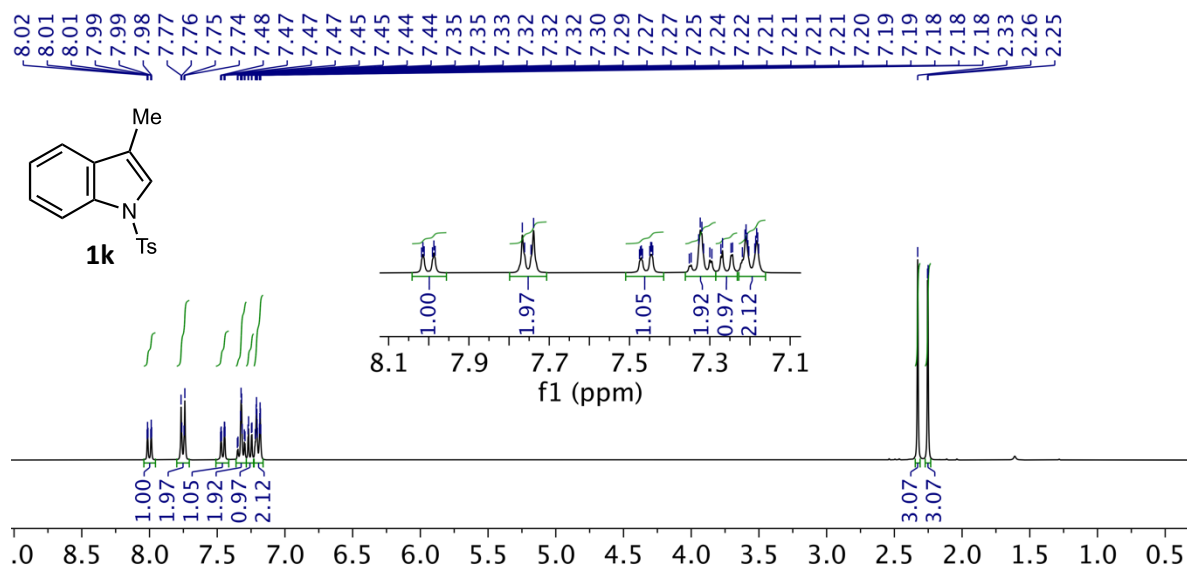
Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdb	e ⁻	Conf	N-Rule
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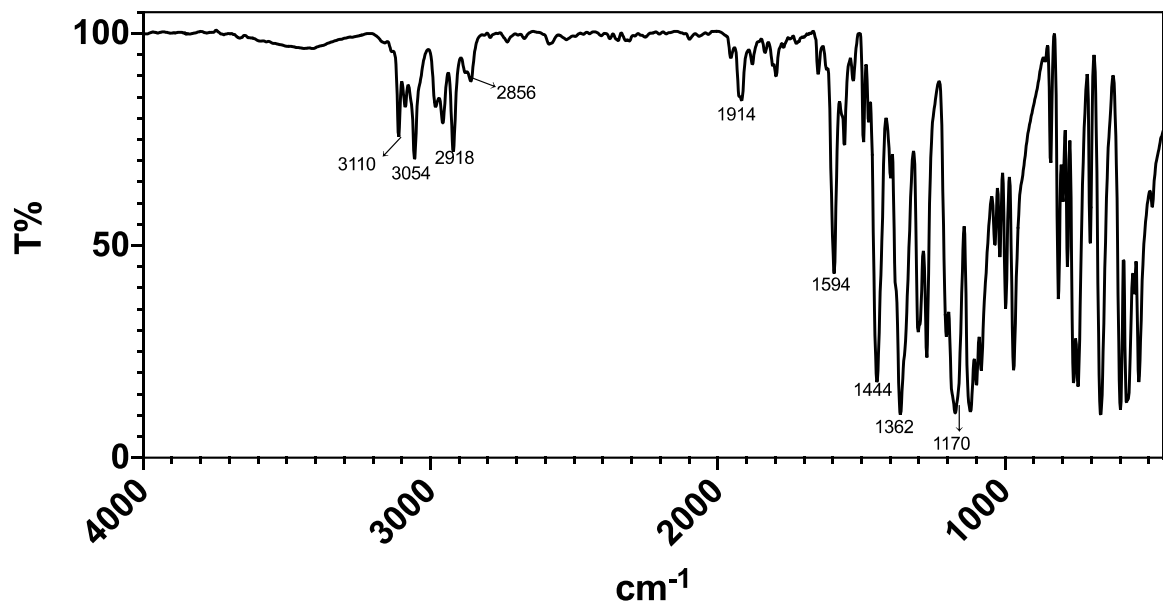


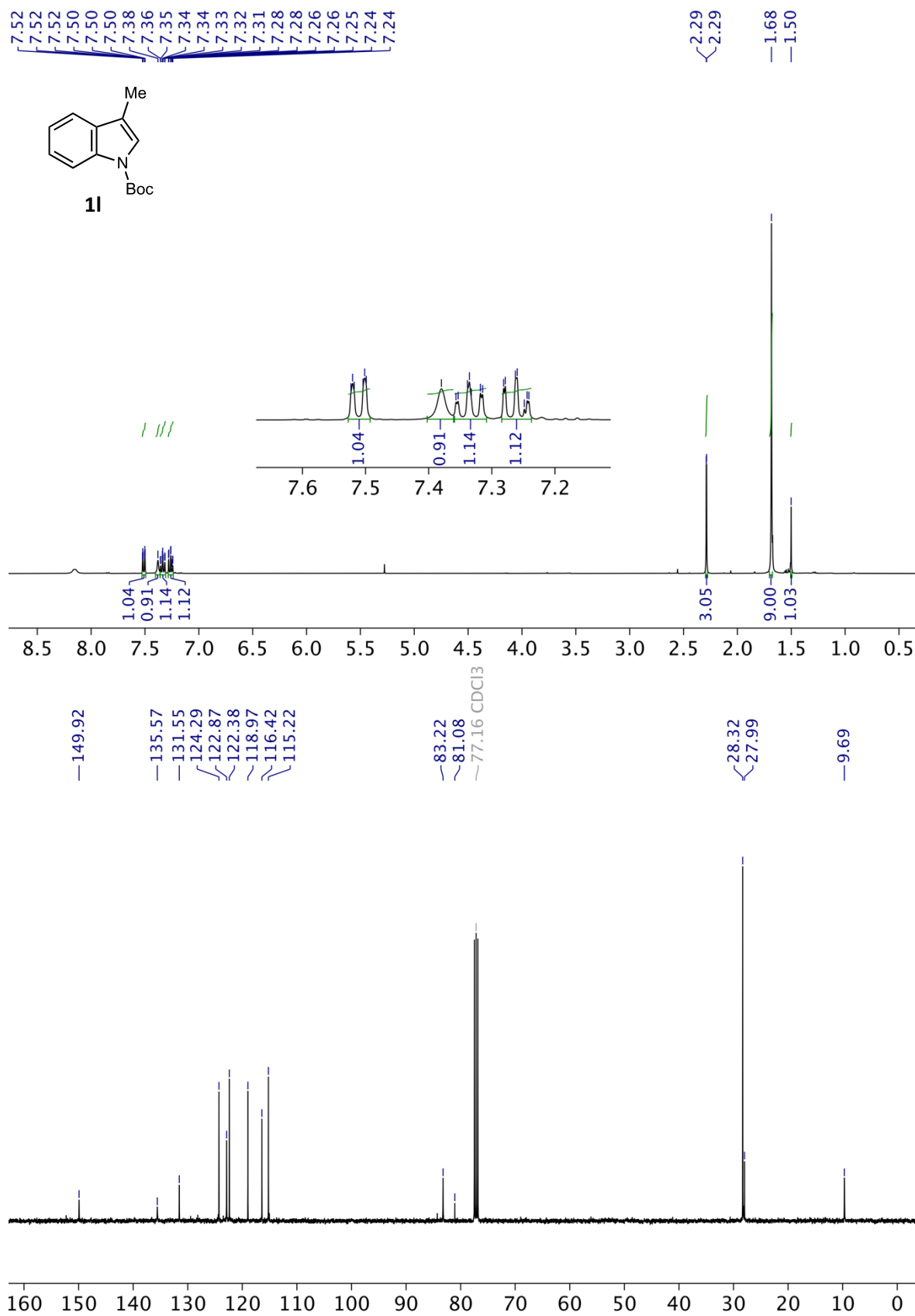


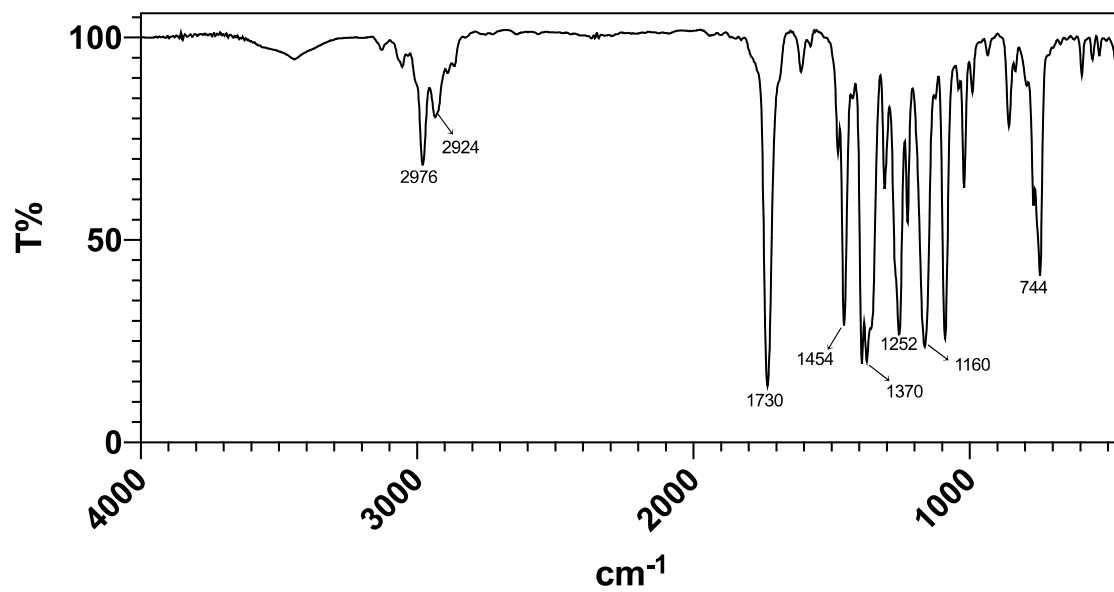


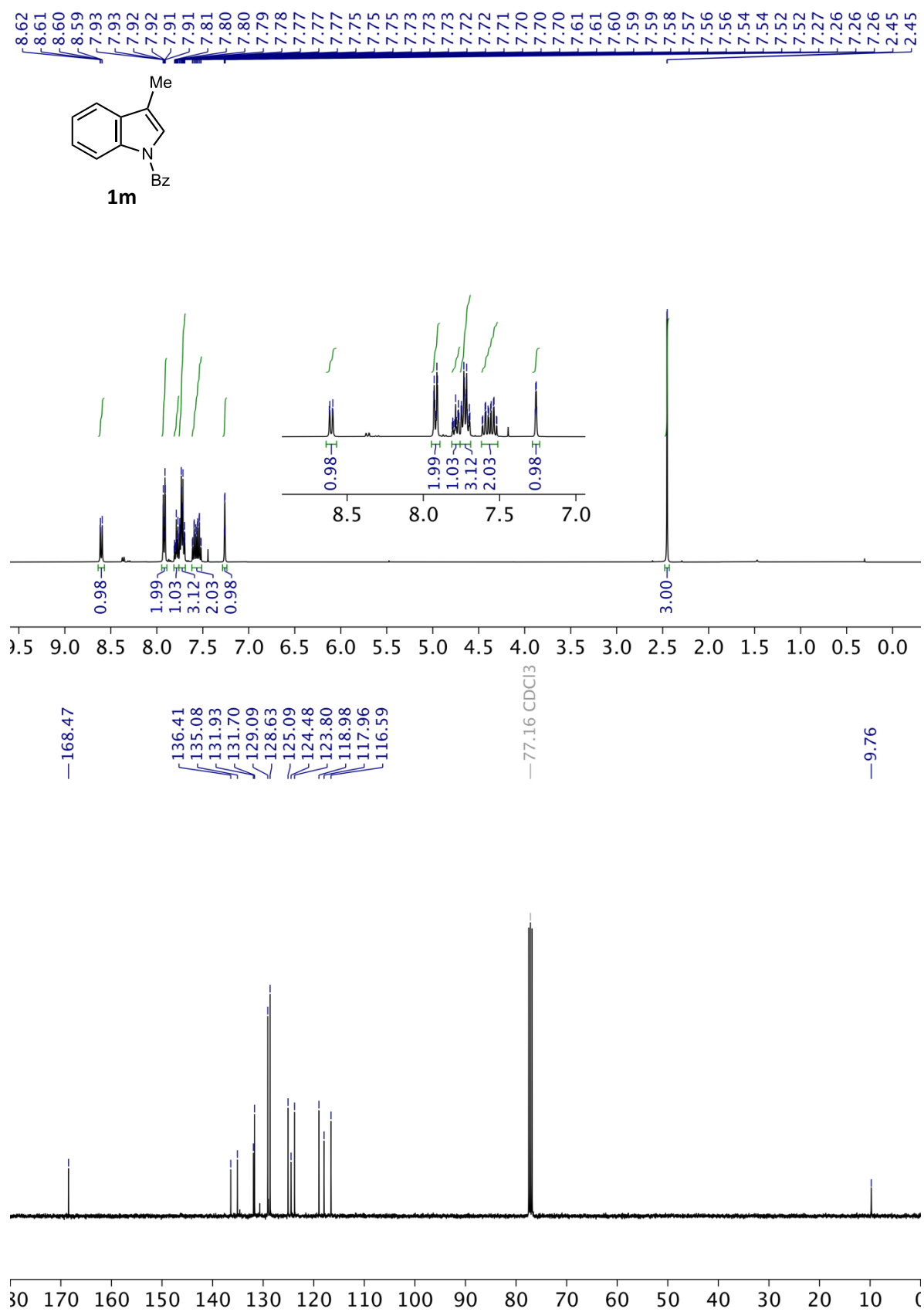


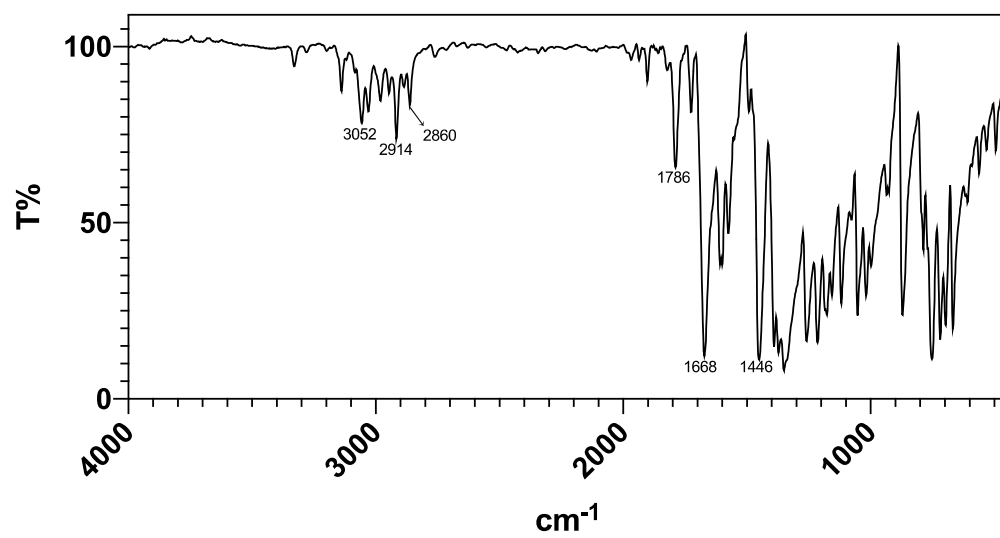


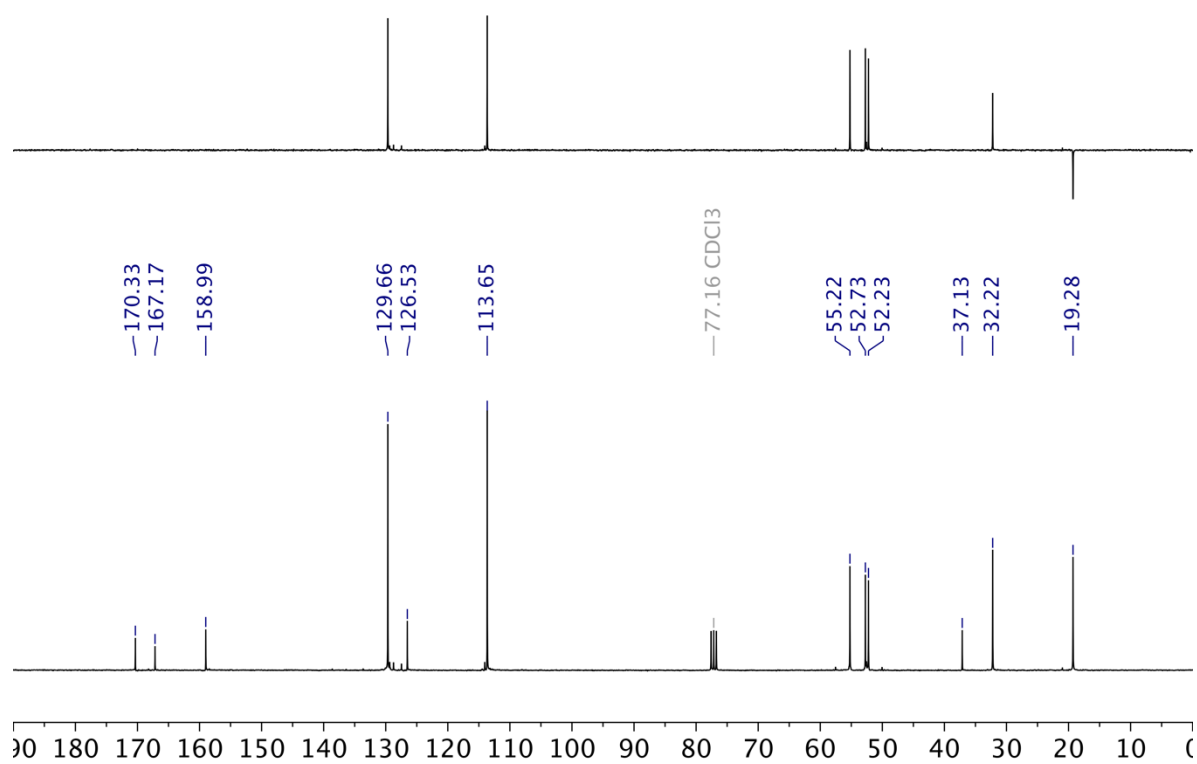
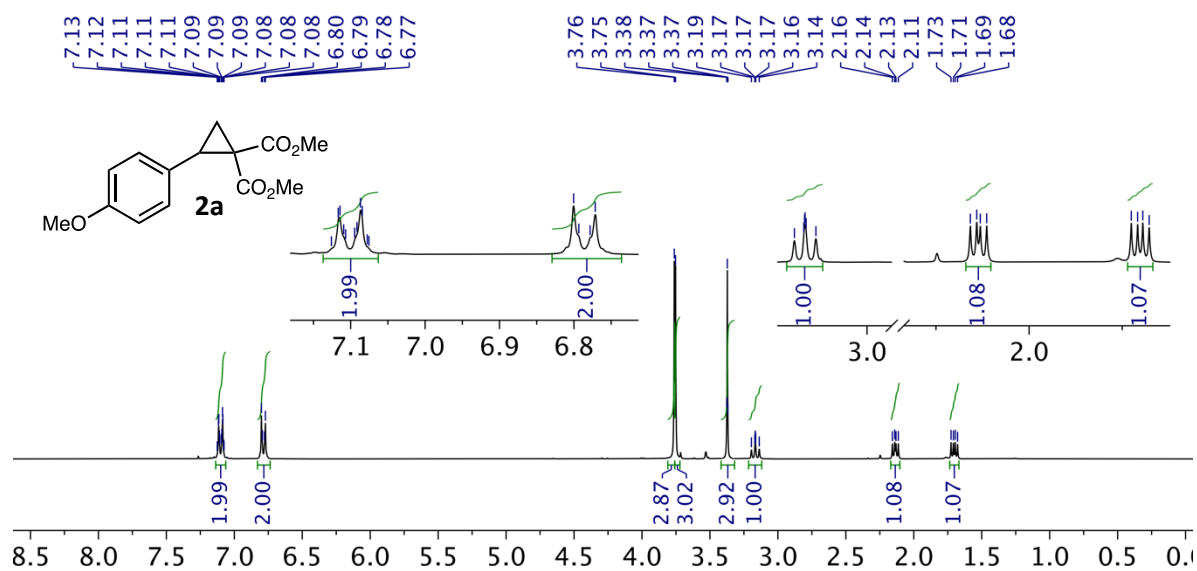


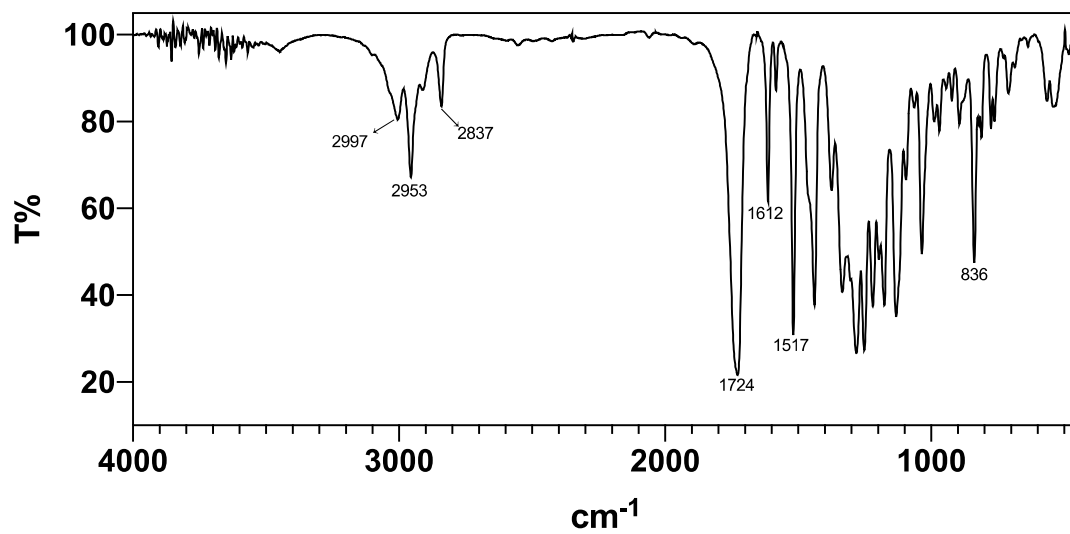


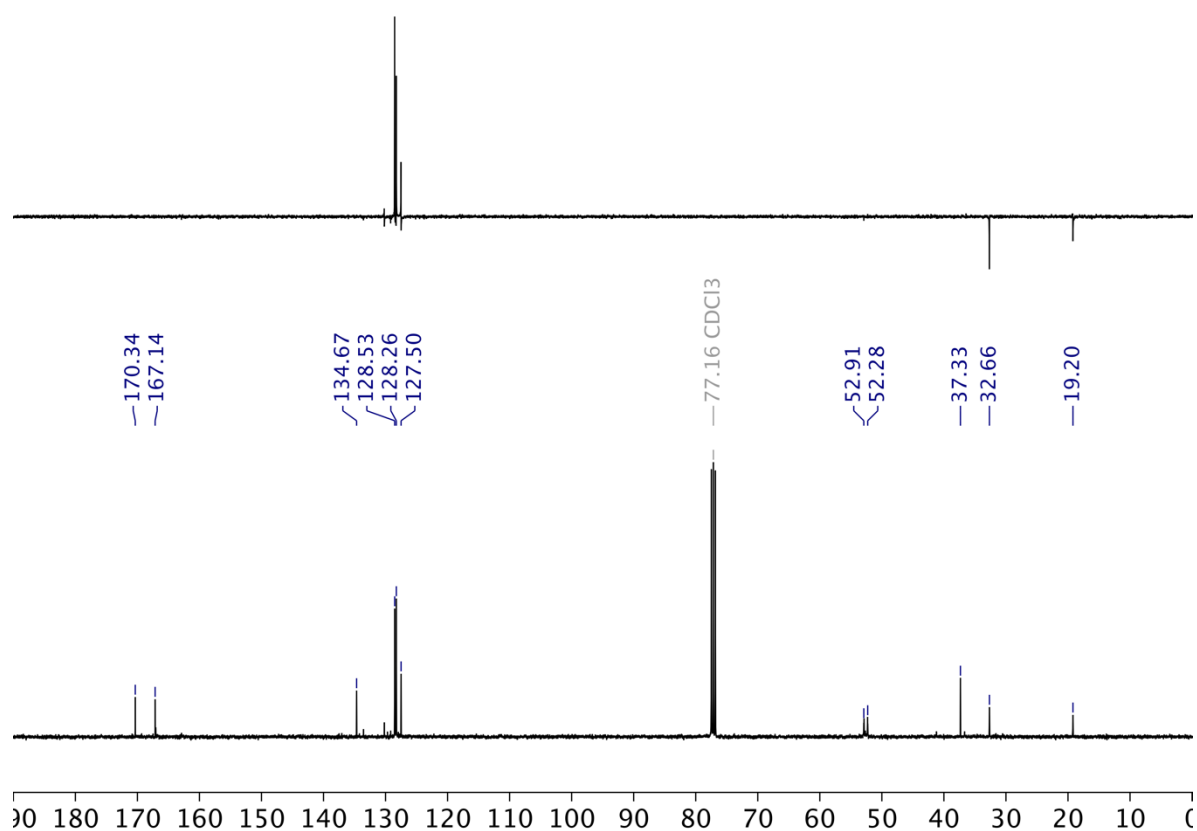
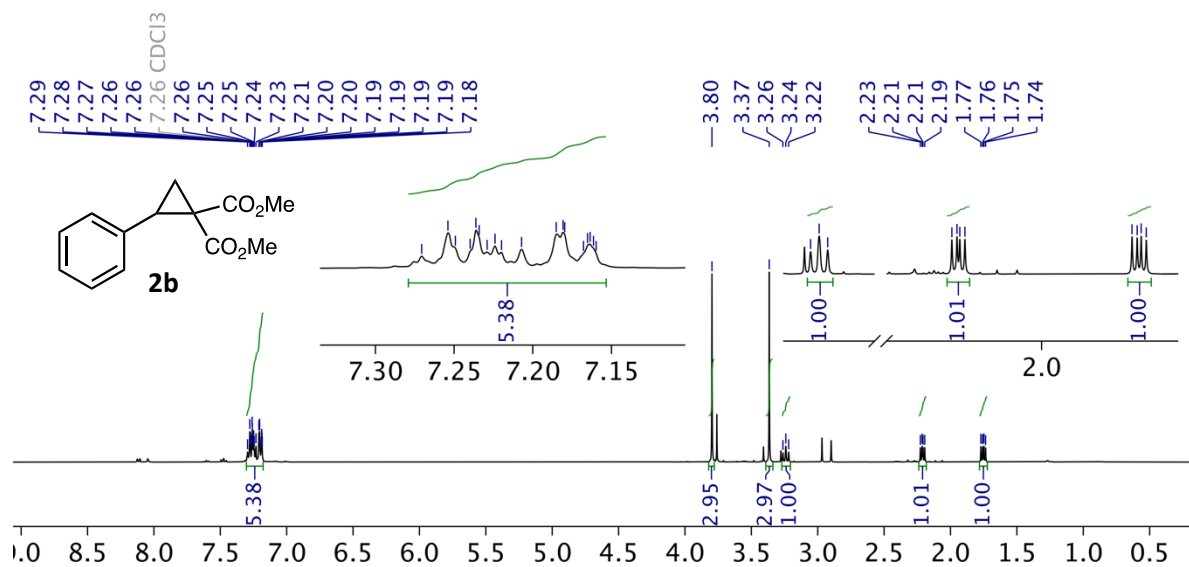


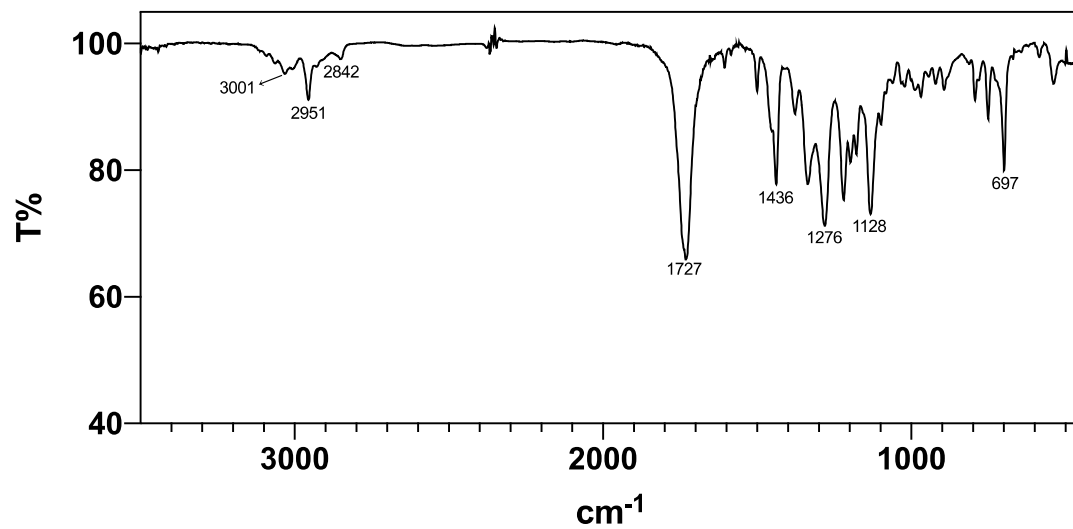


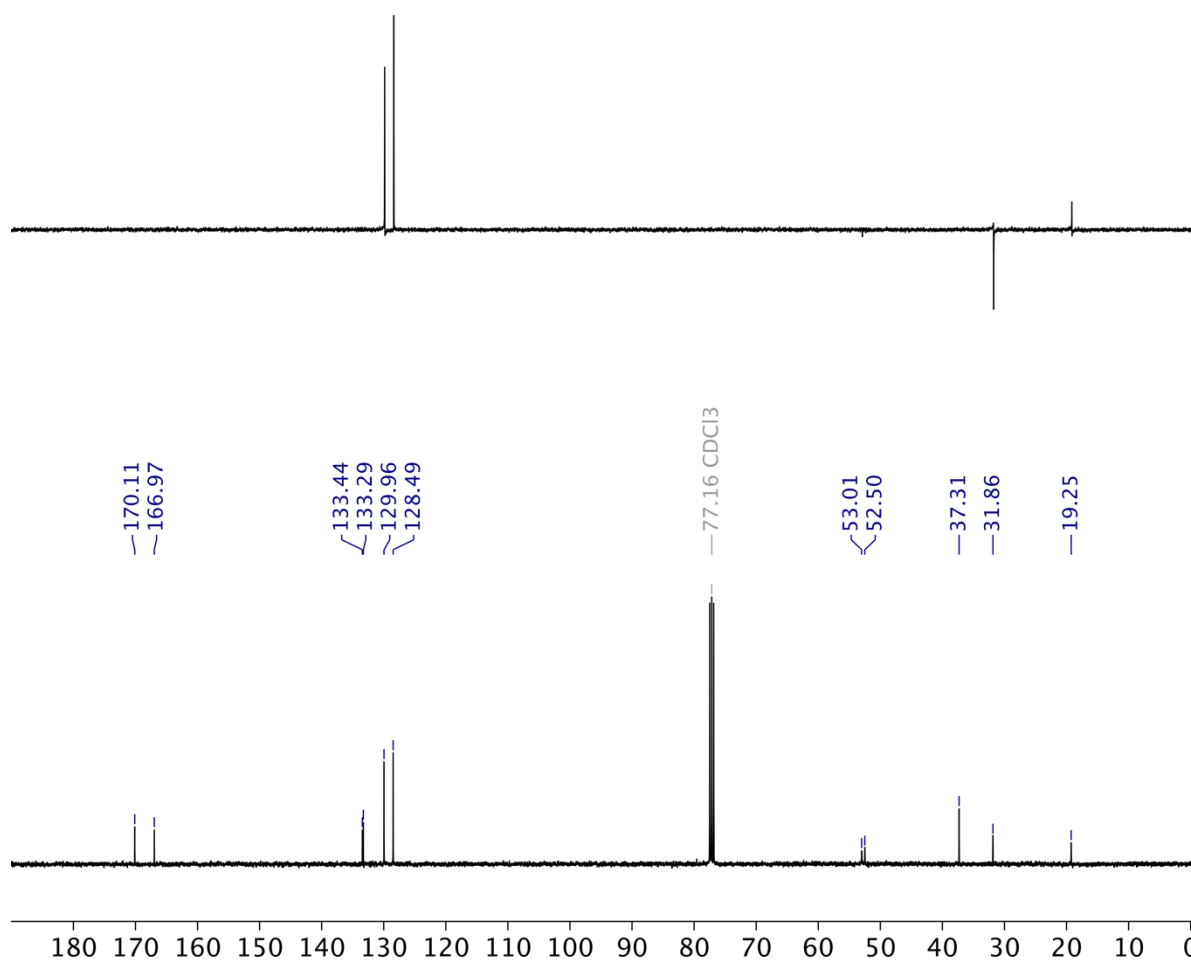
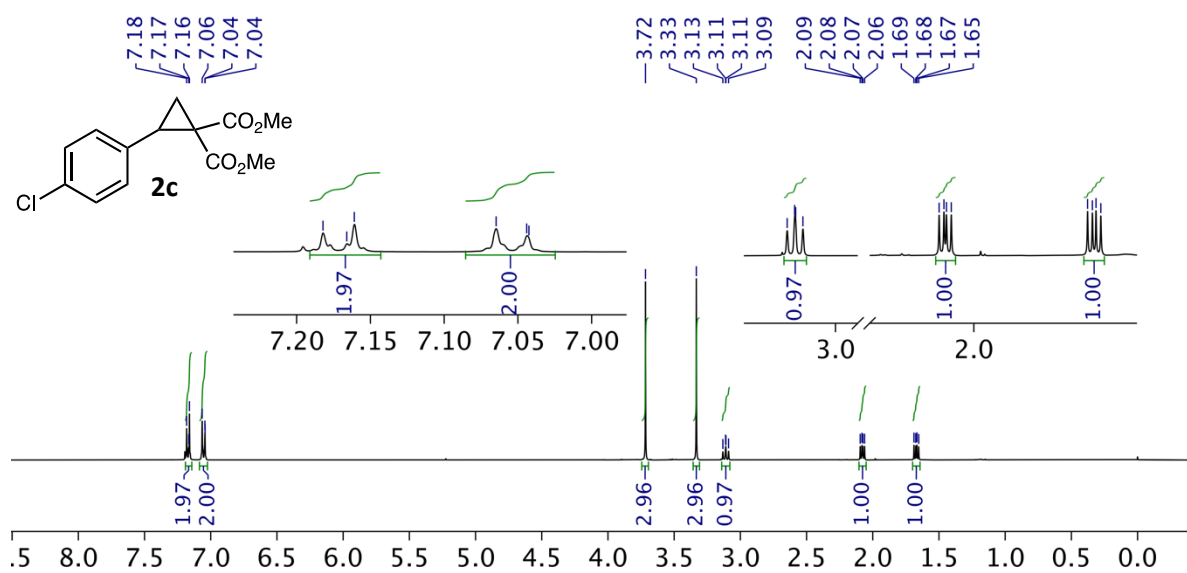


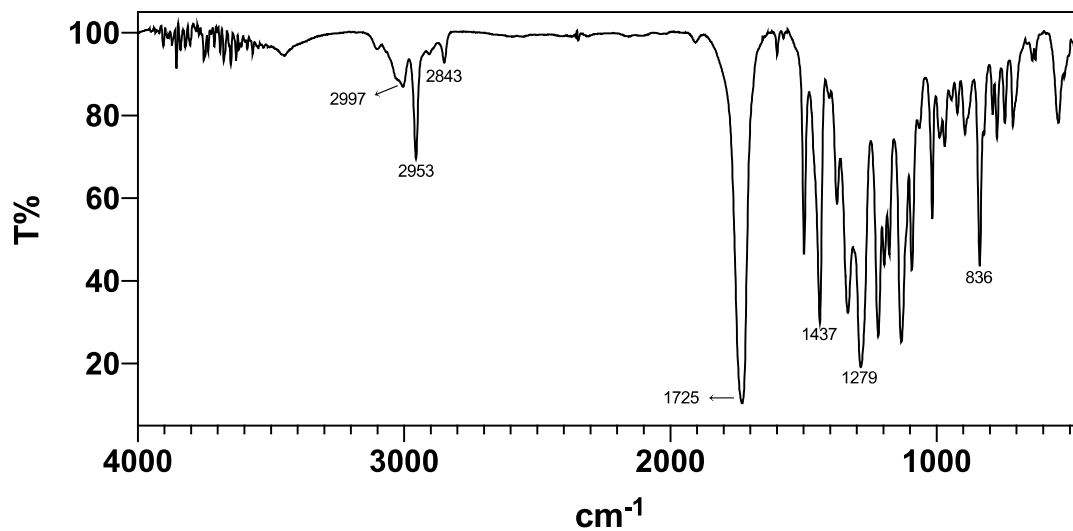


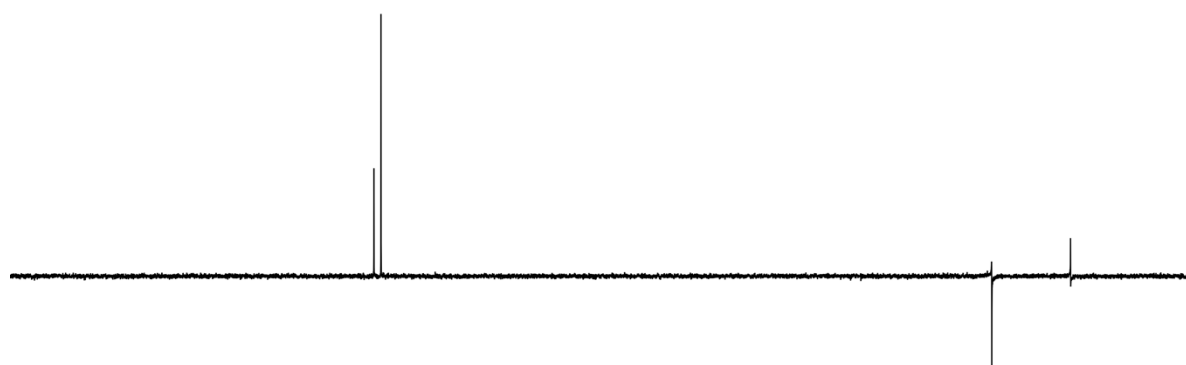
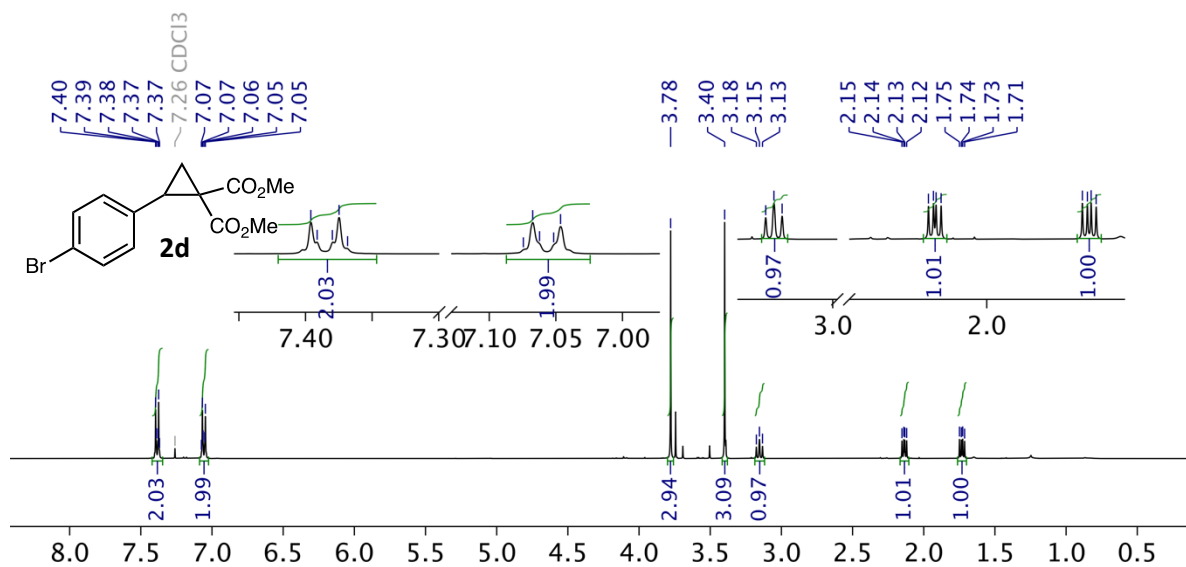


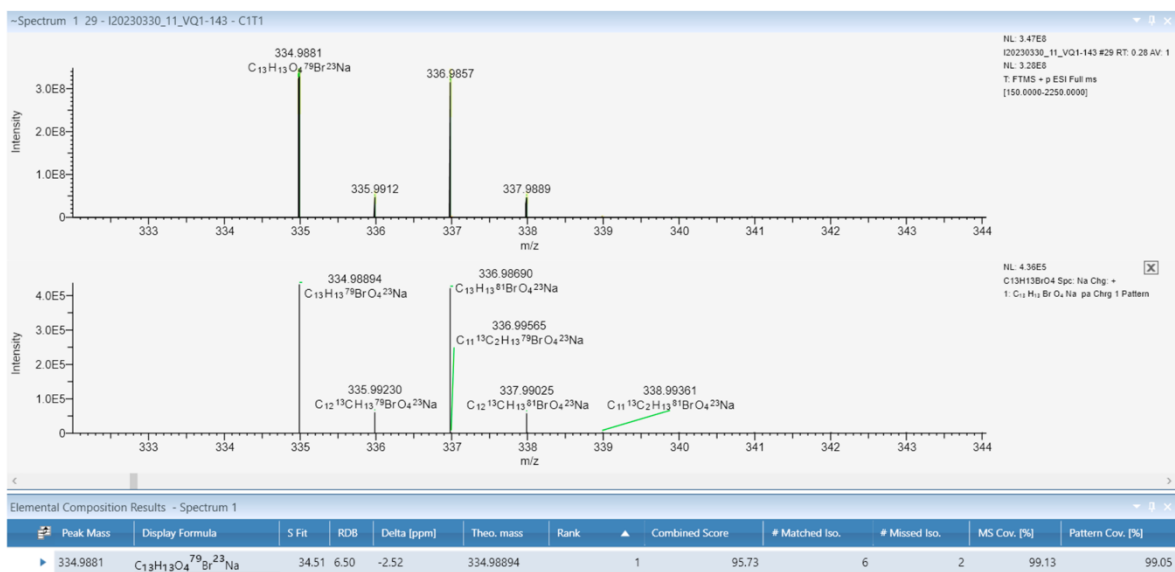
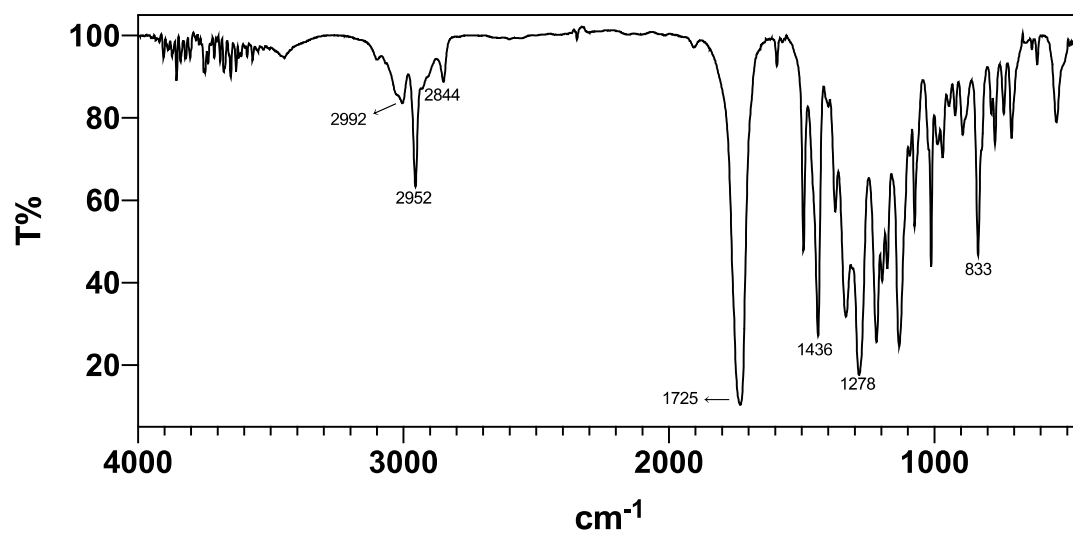


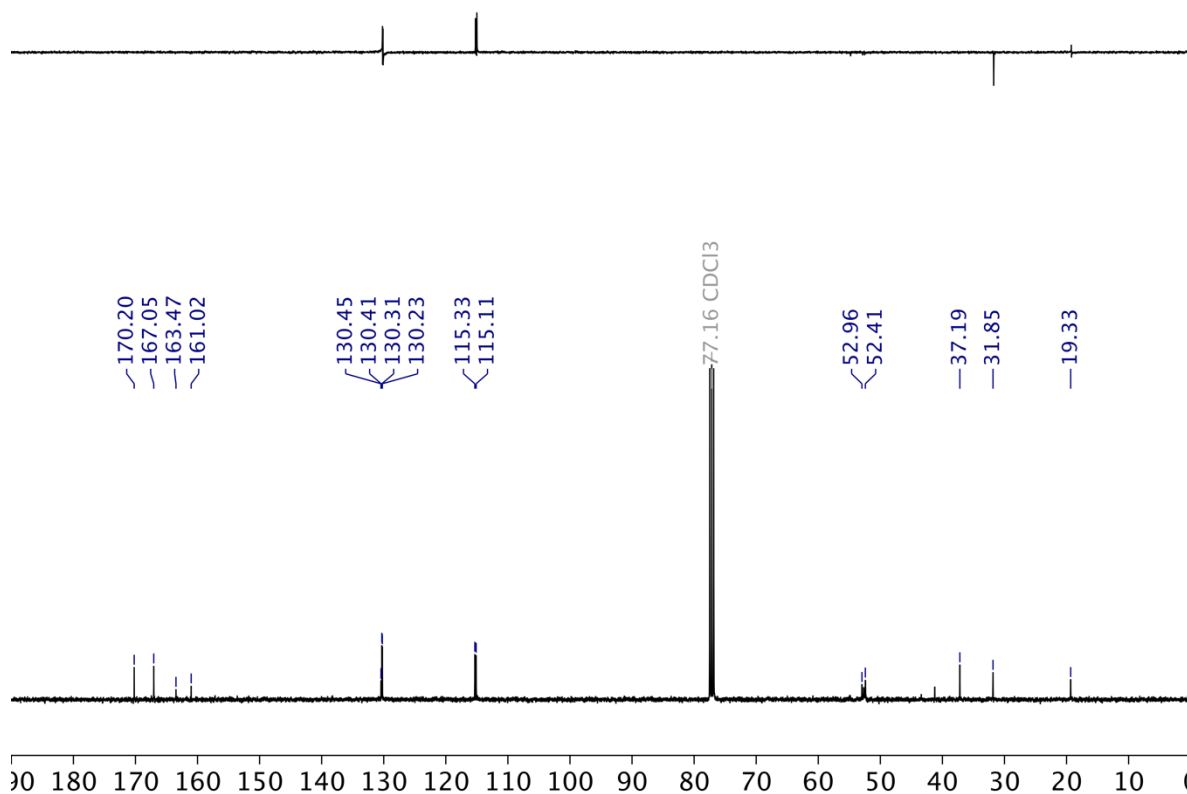
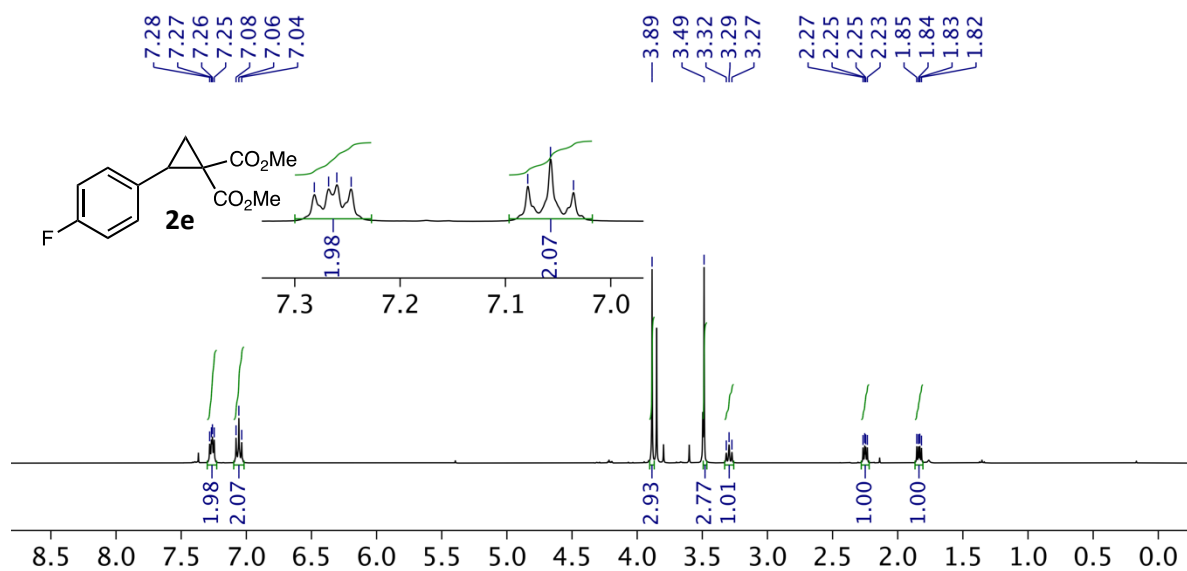


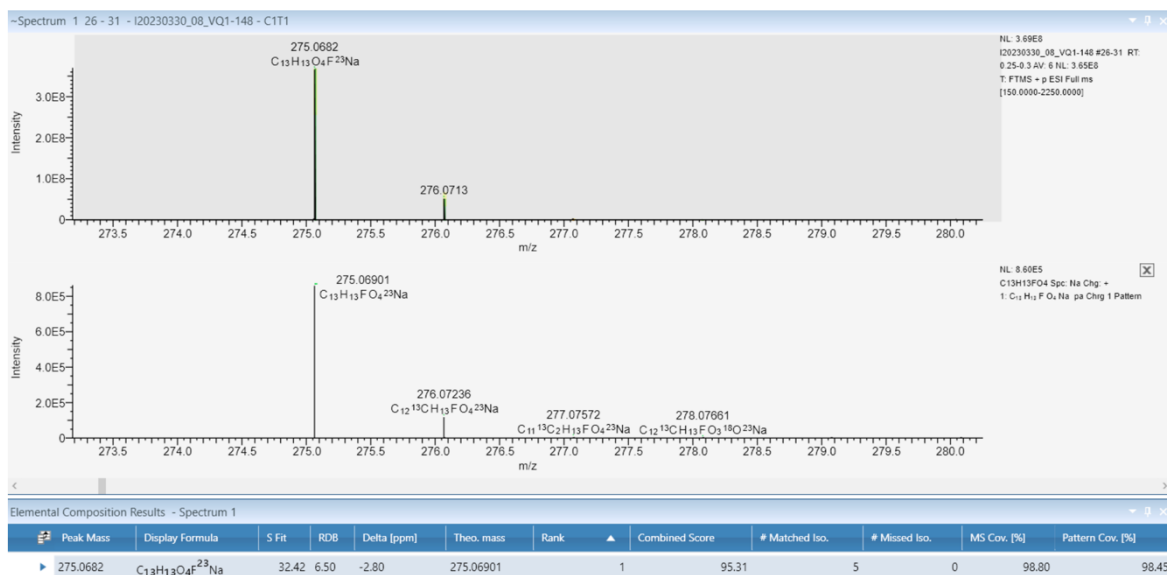
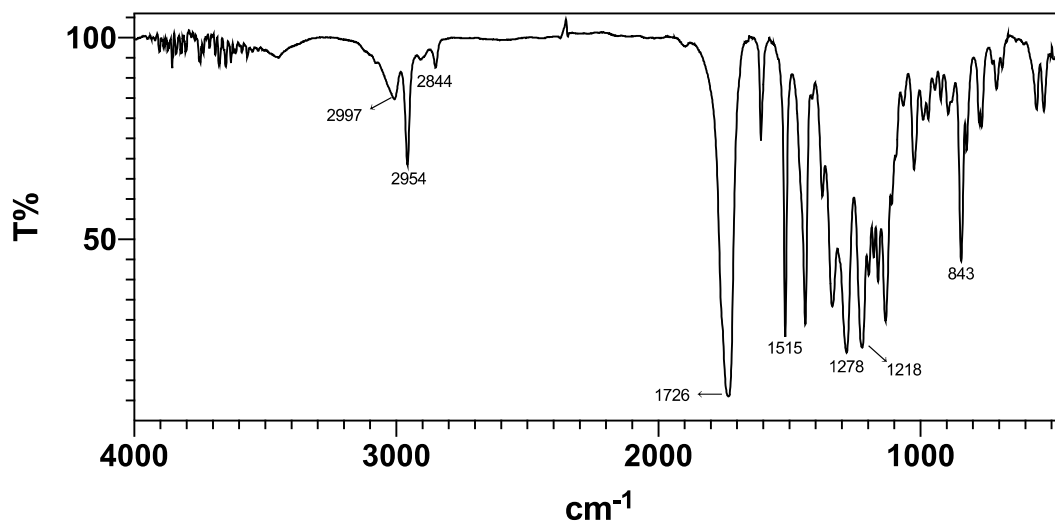


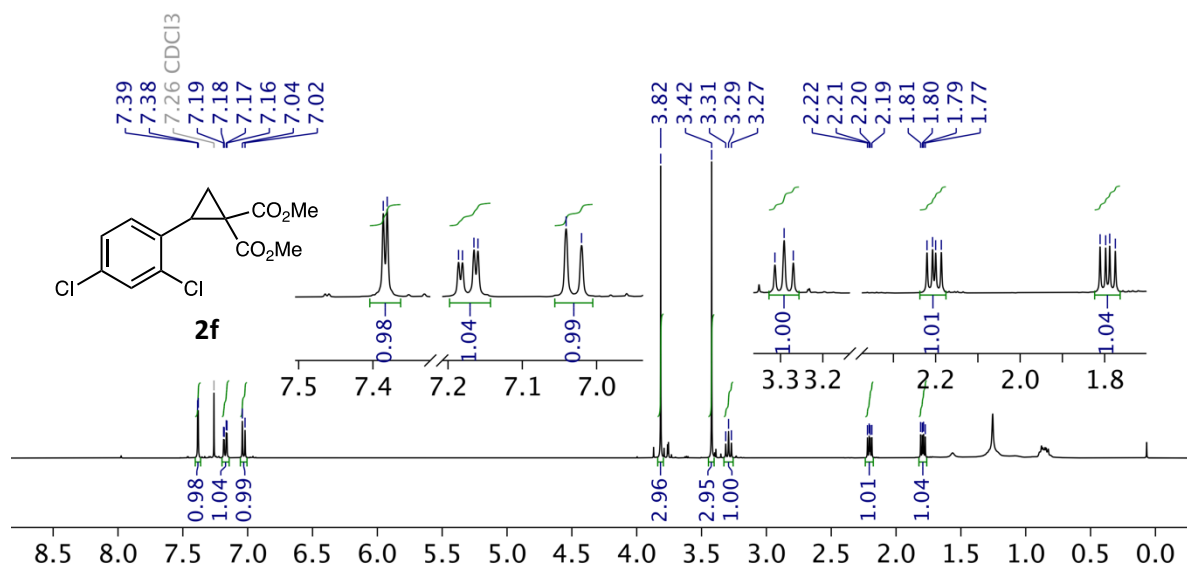


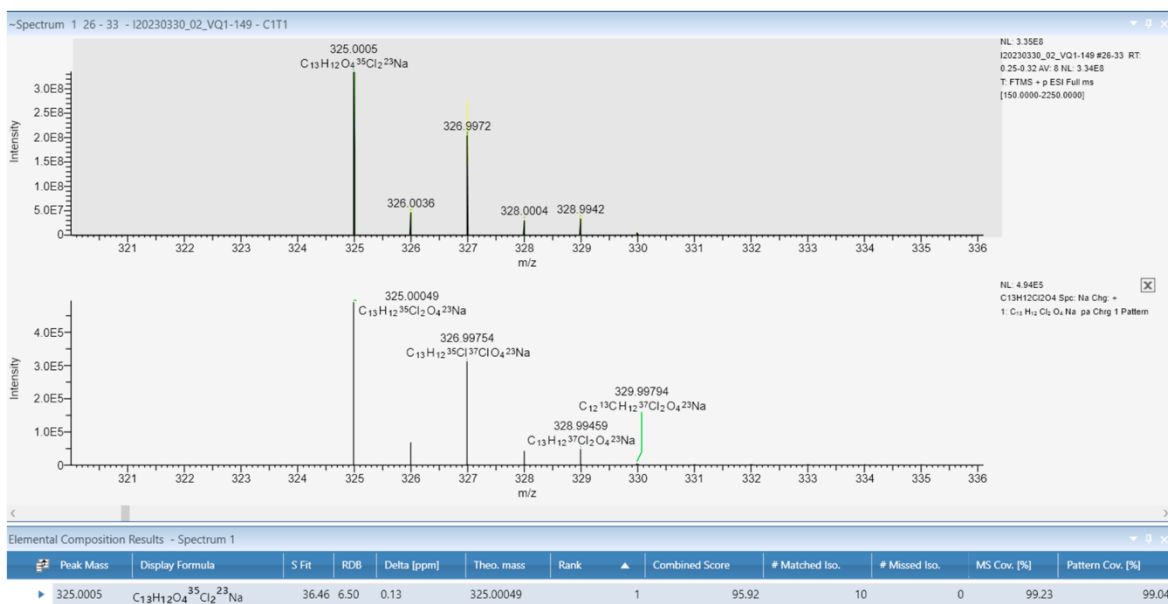
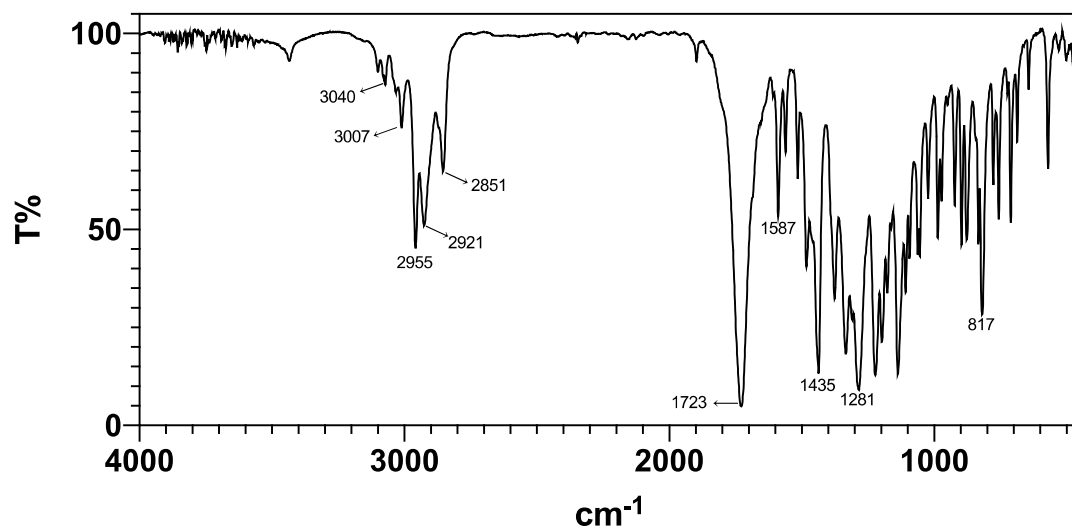


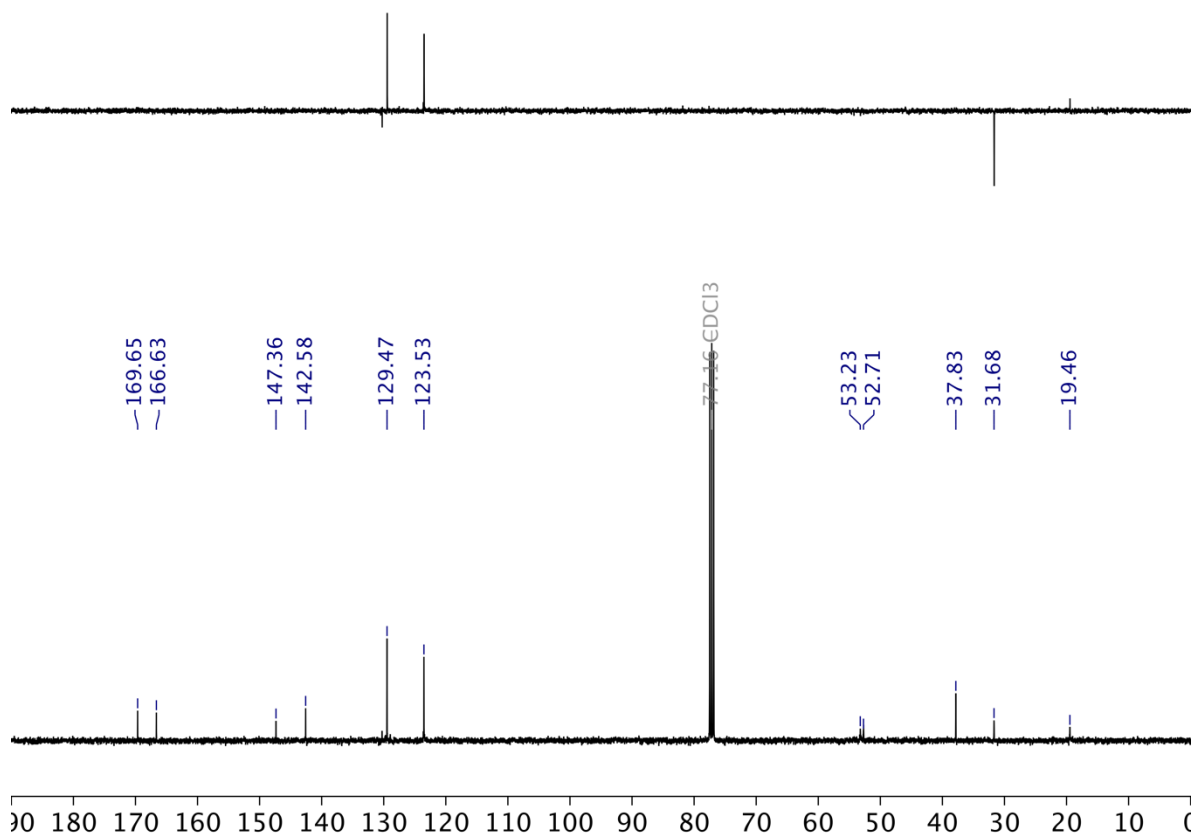
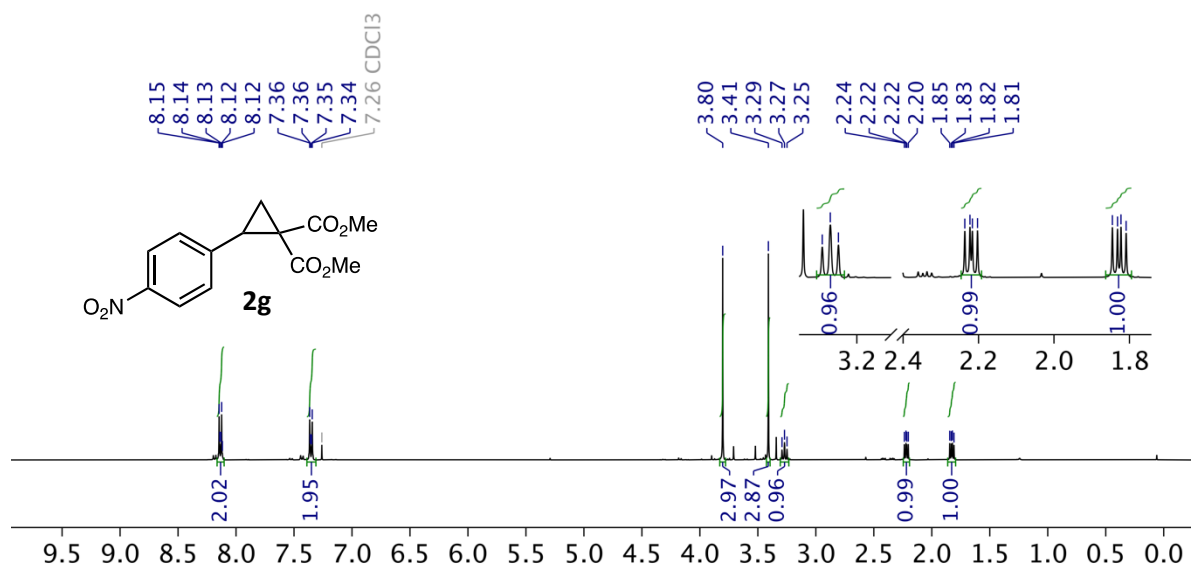


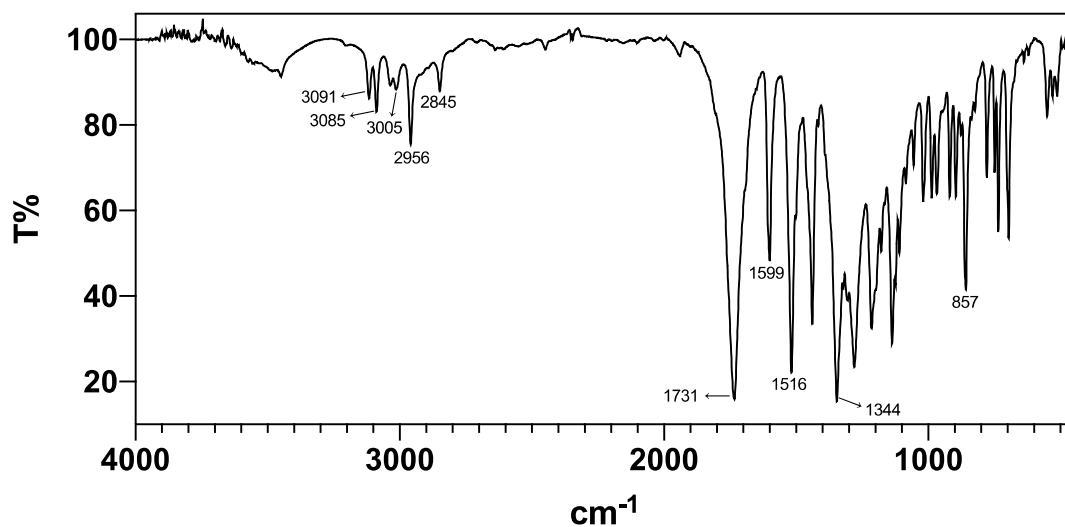






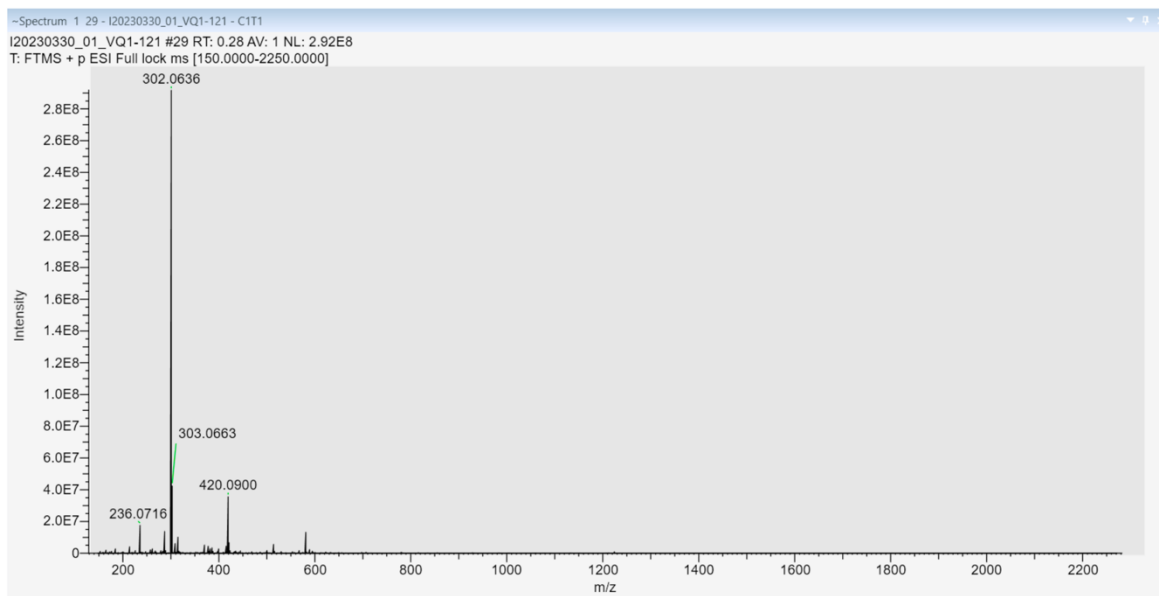


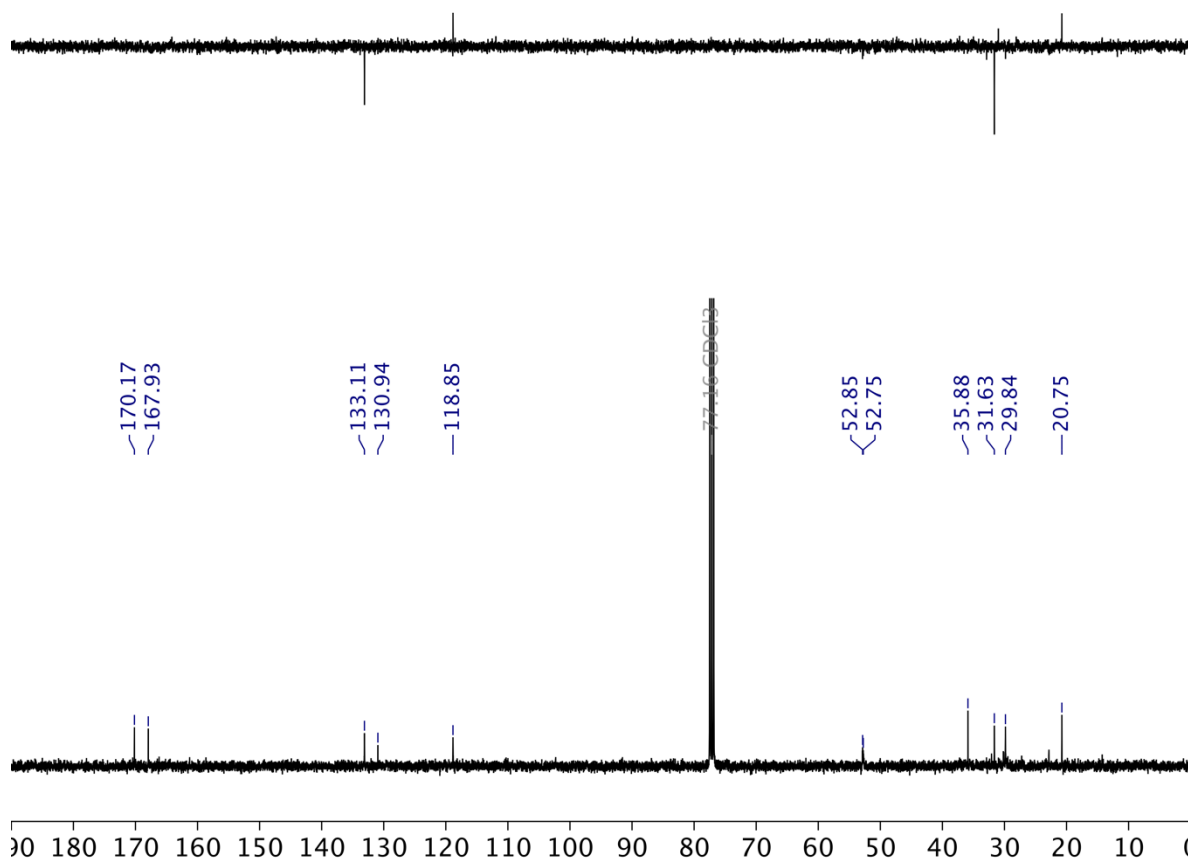
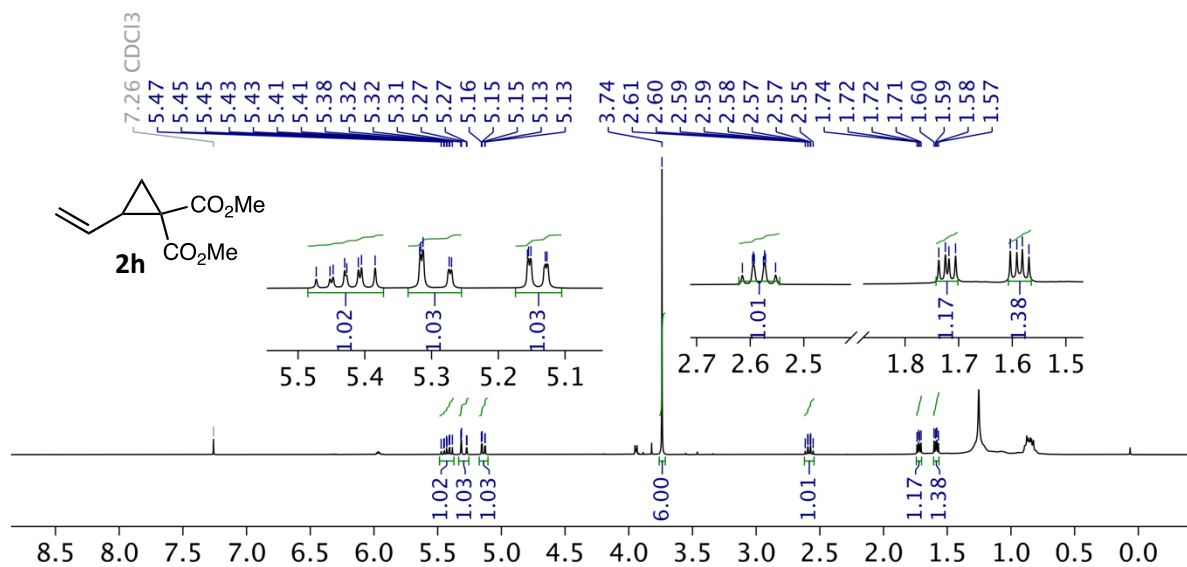


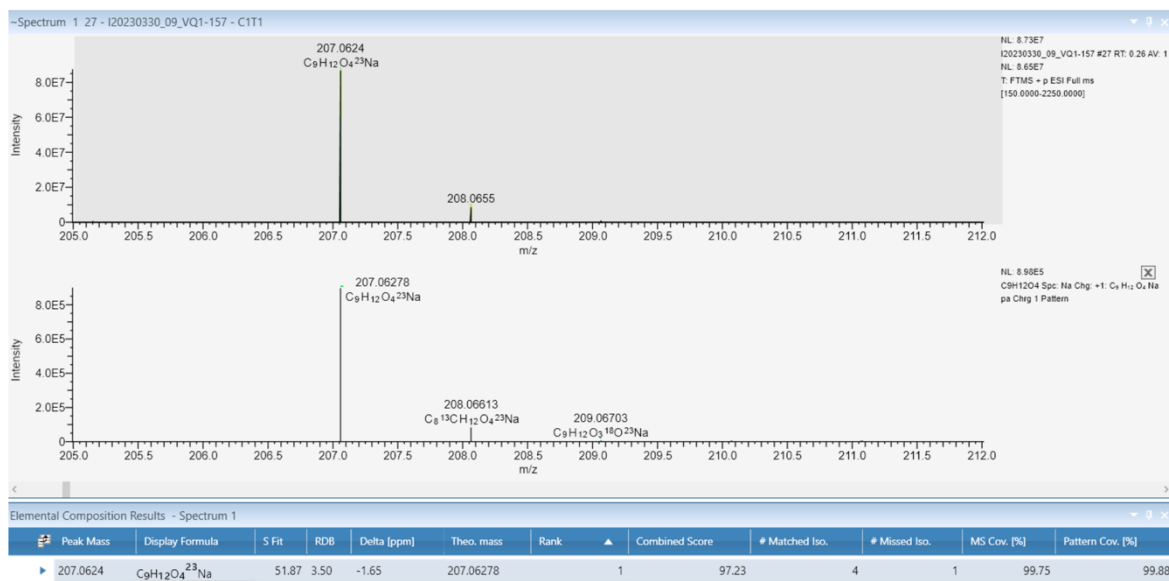
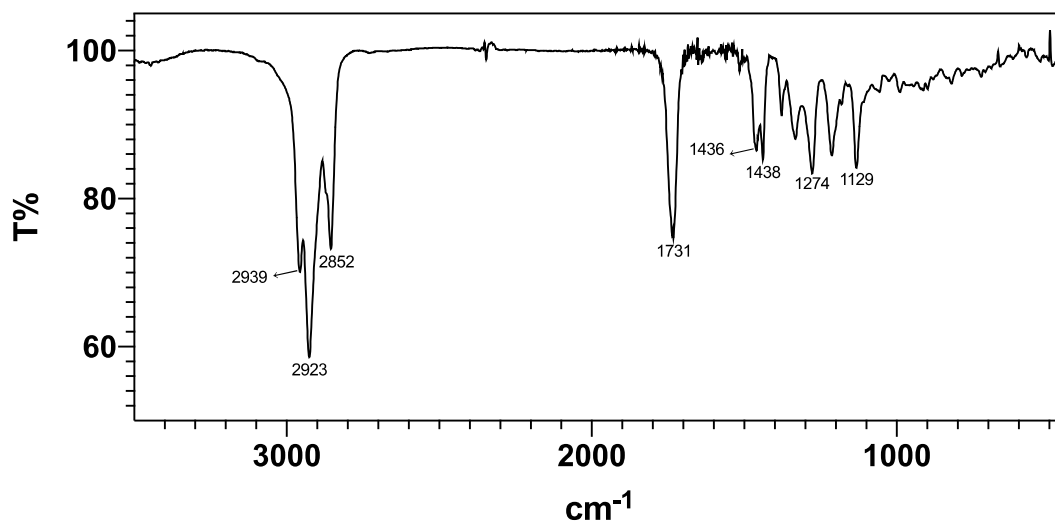


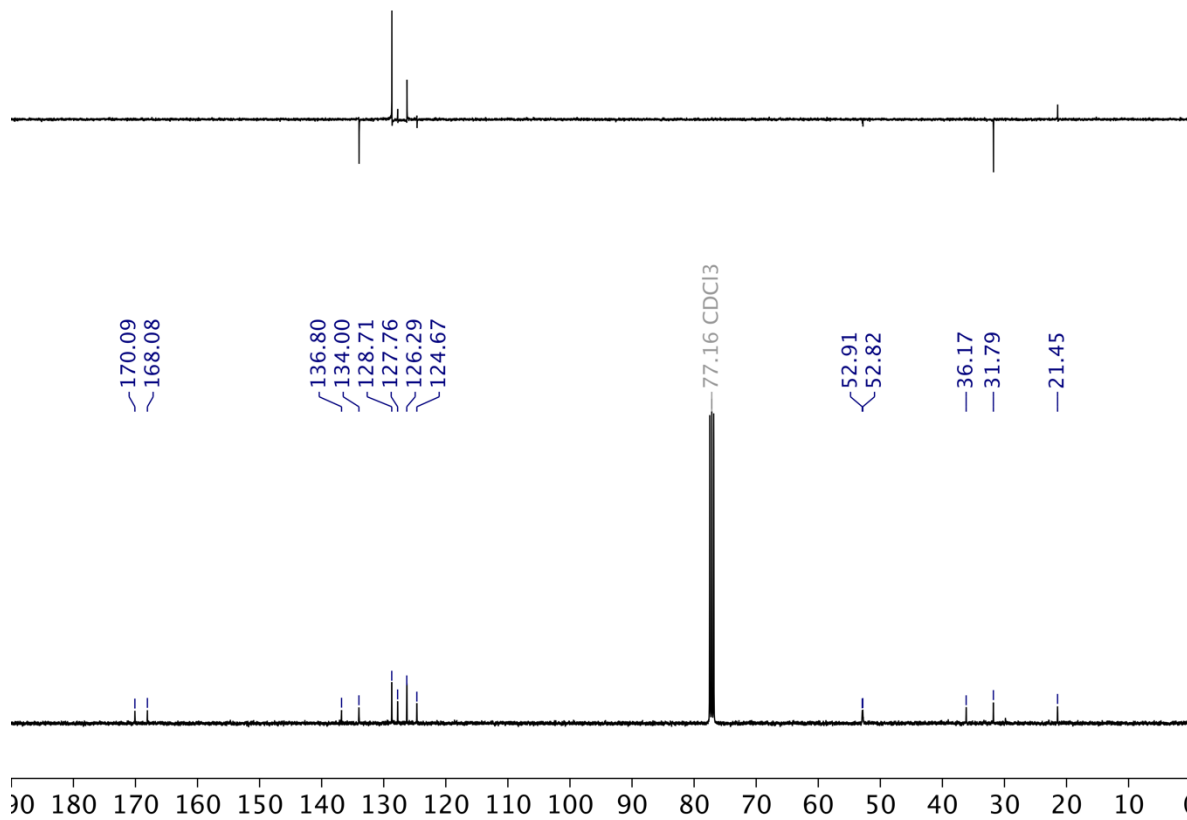
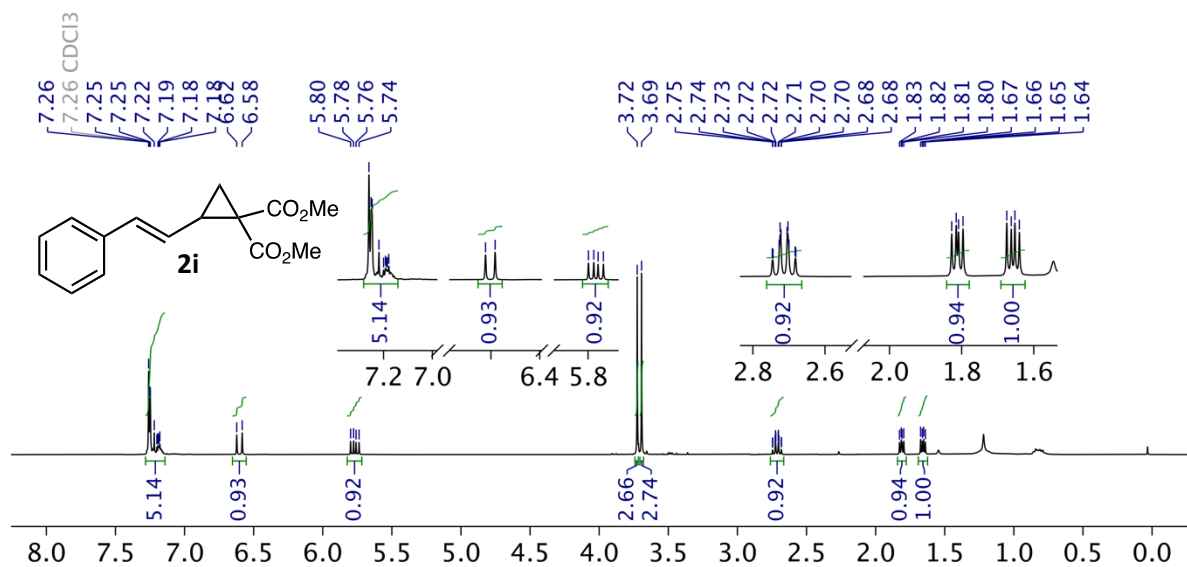
ThermoFisher Orbitrap: Exactive Plus with Extend Mass Range: Source HESI II

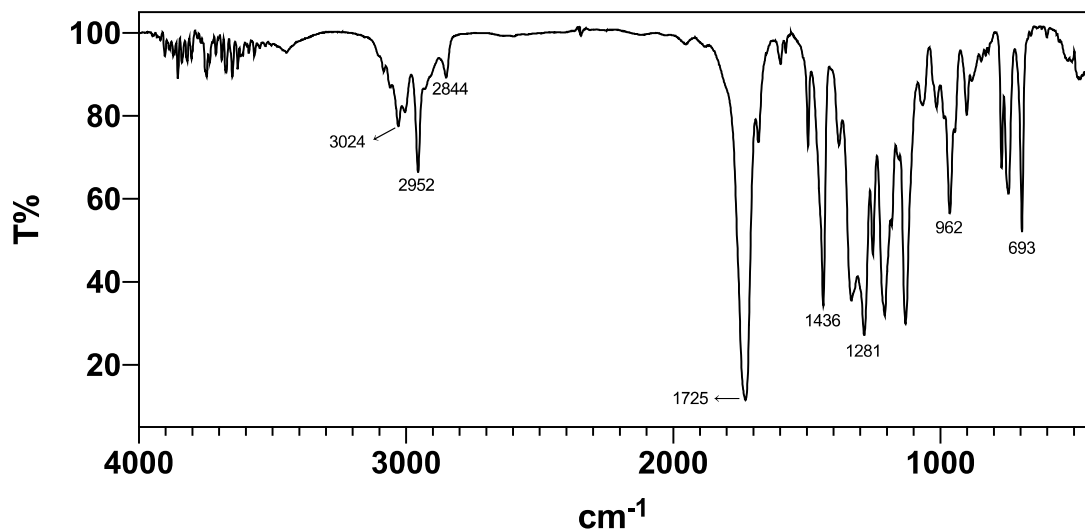
Ion Polarity: Positive





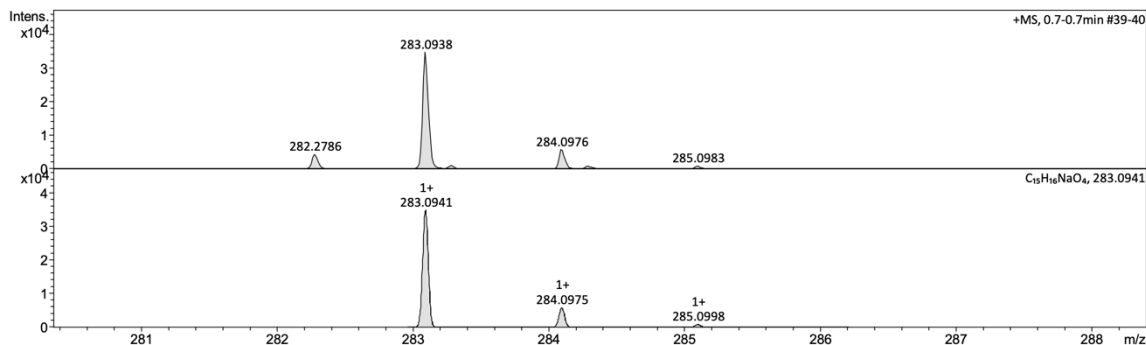




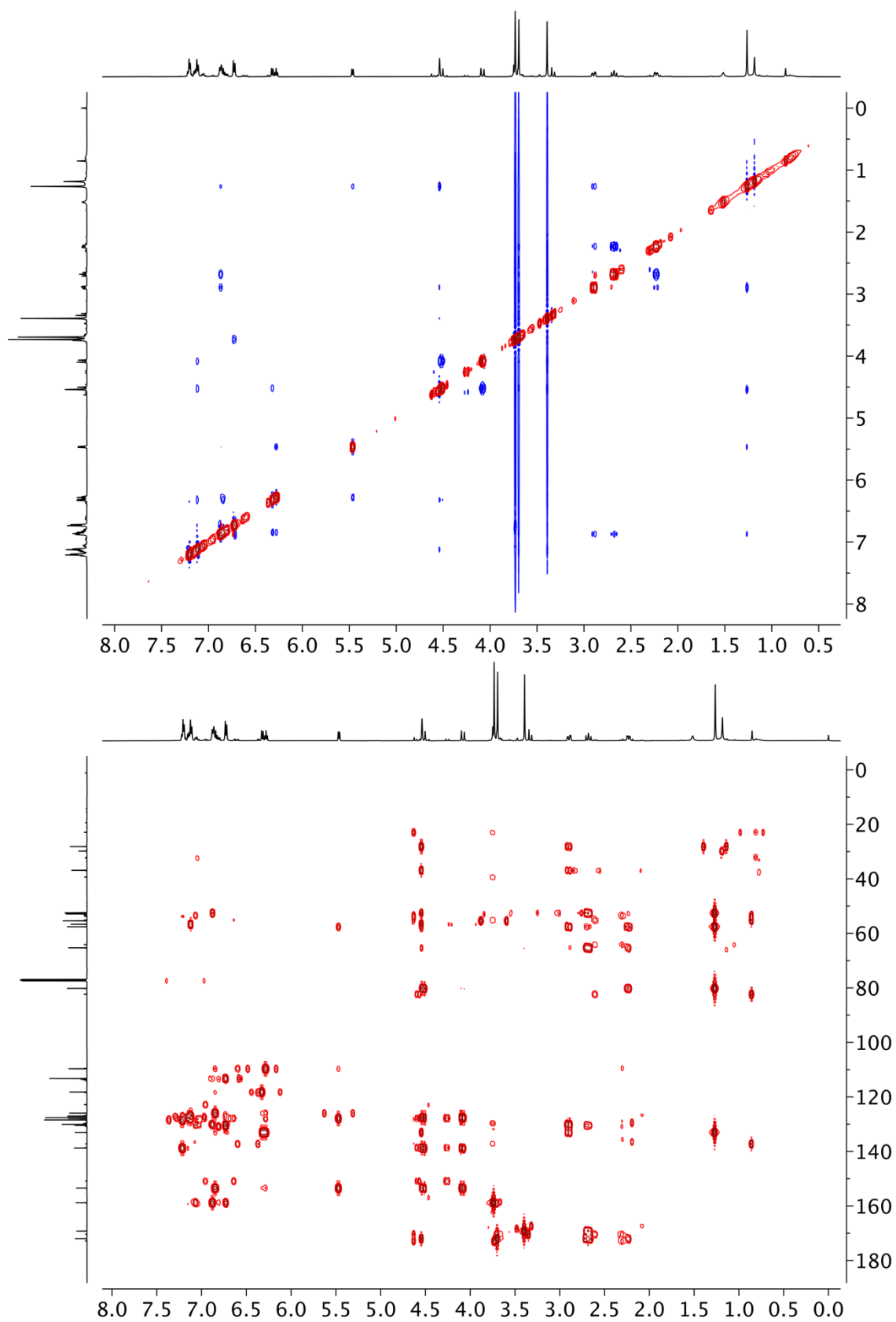


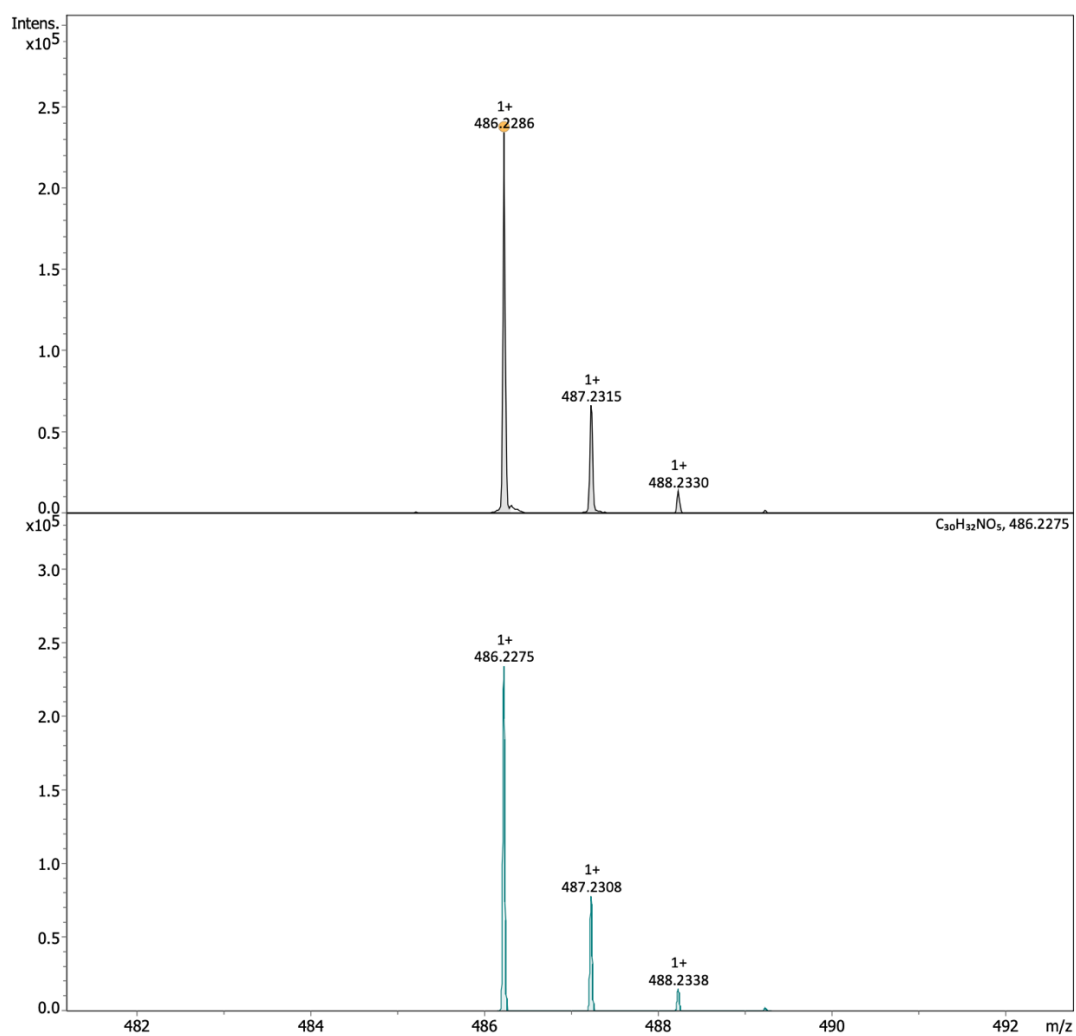
Acquisition Parameter

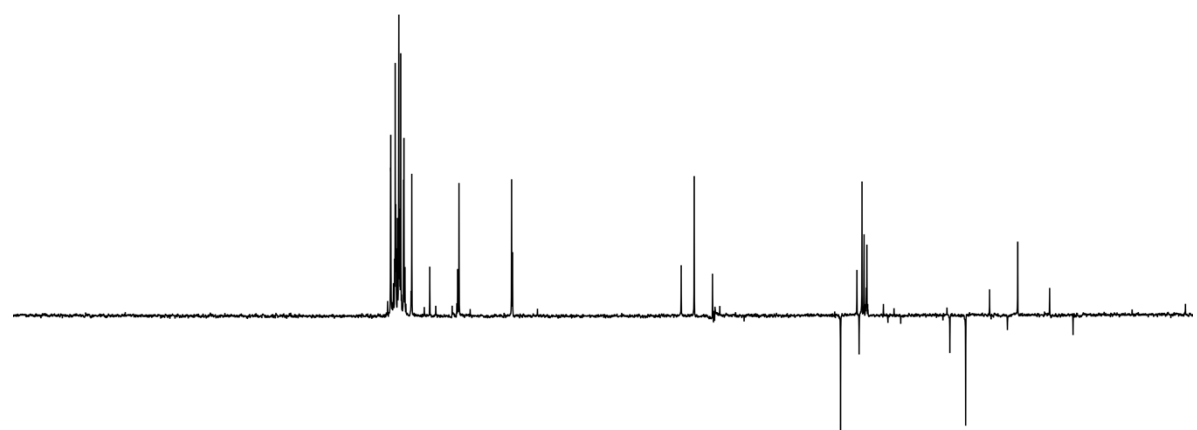
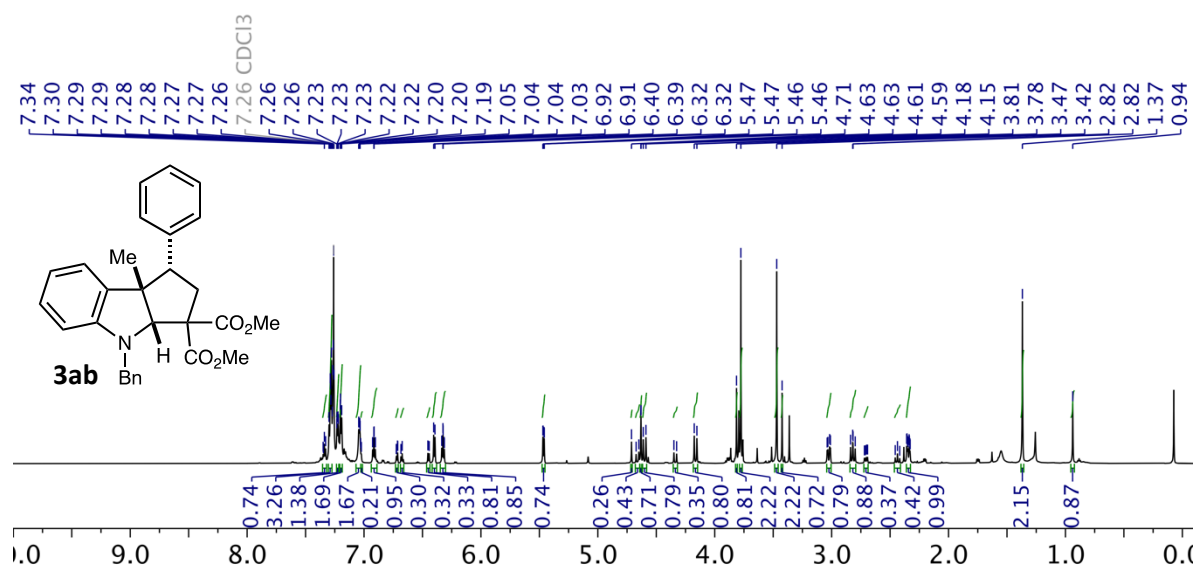
Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	48.2 V
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Scan Begin	50 m/z	n/a	n/a	Set Reflector	1800.0 V
Scan End	3000 m/z	n/a	n/a	Set Flight Tube	8600.0 V
				Set Detector TOF	2021.6 V

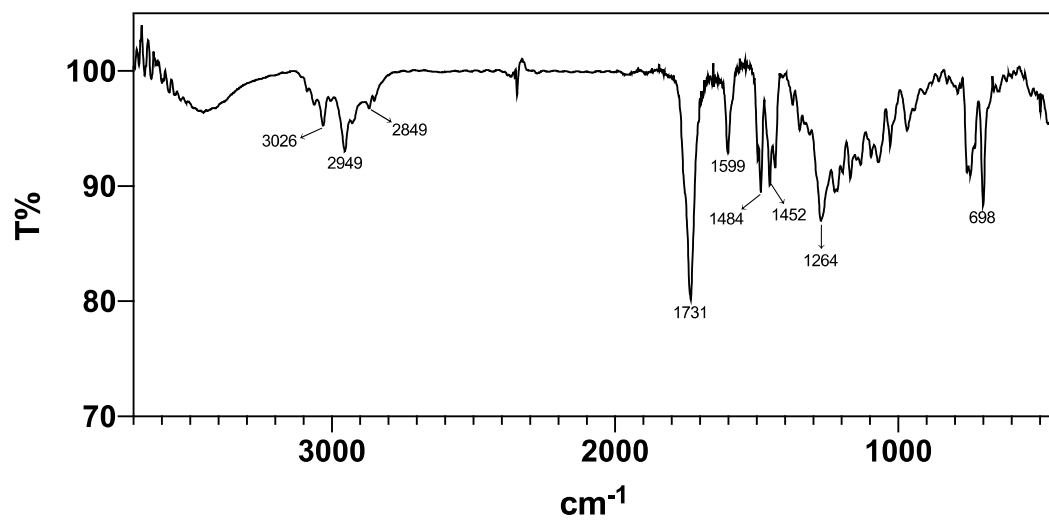
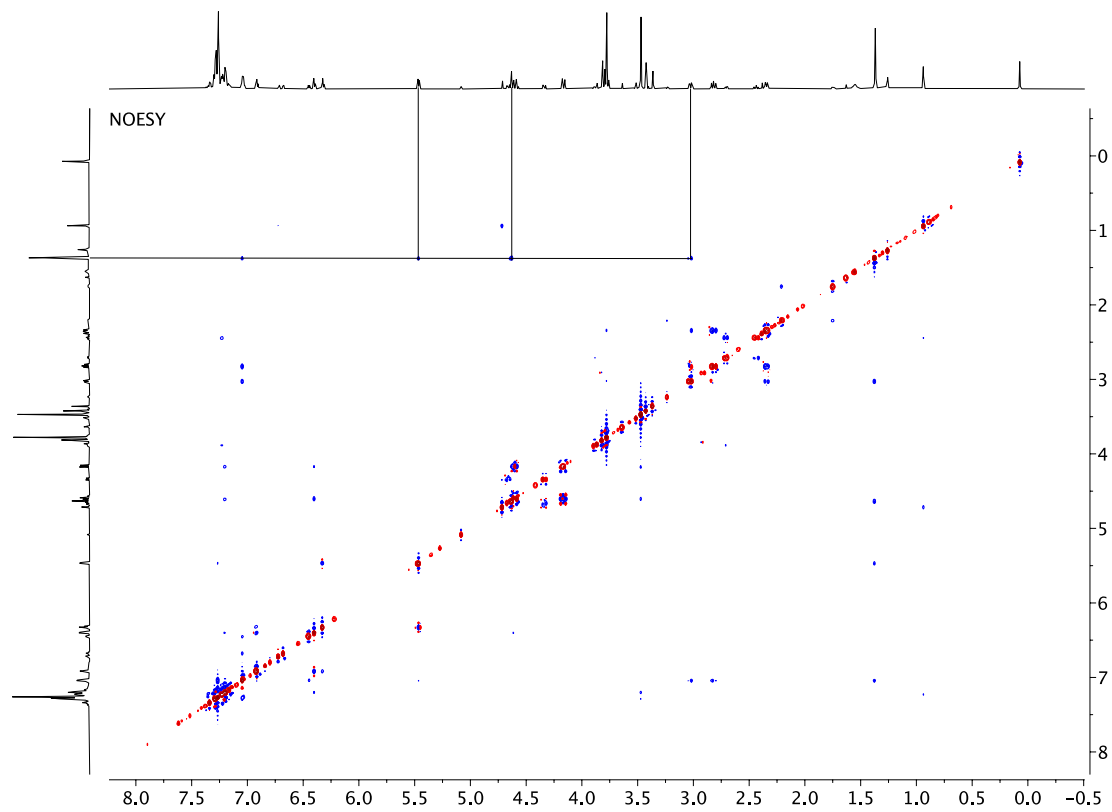


Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z err [ppm]	Mean err [ppm]	rdB	N-Rule	e ⁻	Conf	mSigma	Std I	Std Mean	m/z	Std I	VarNorm	Std m/z	Diff	Std Comb	Dev
283.093844	1	C ₁₅ H ₁₆ NaO ₄	283.094080	0.8	-8.4	7.5	ok	even	2.8	4.1	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.



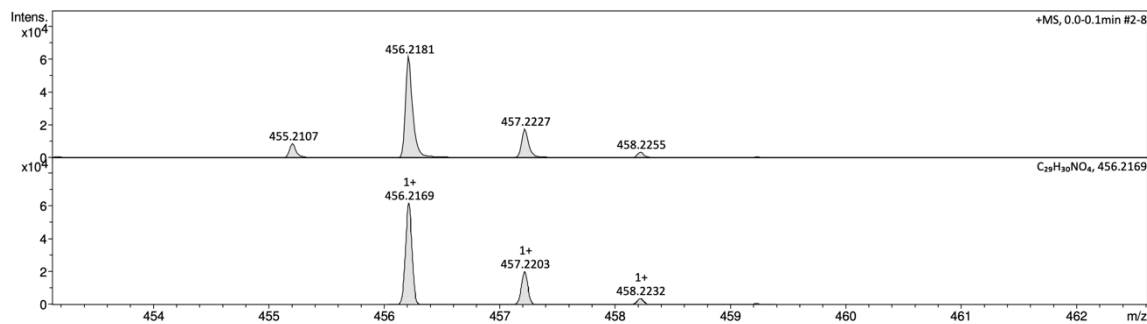




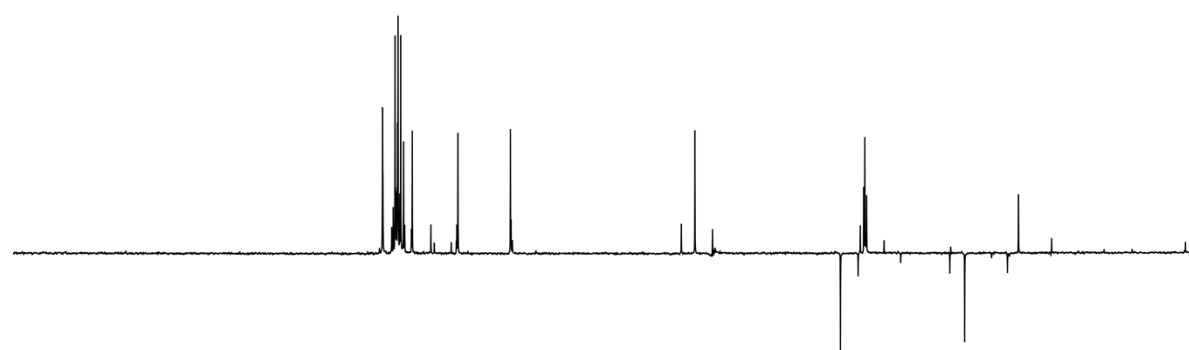
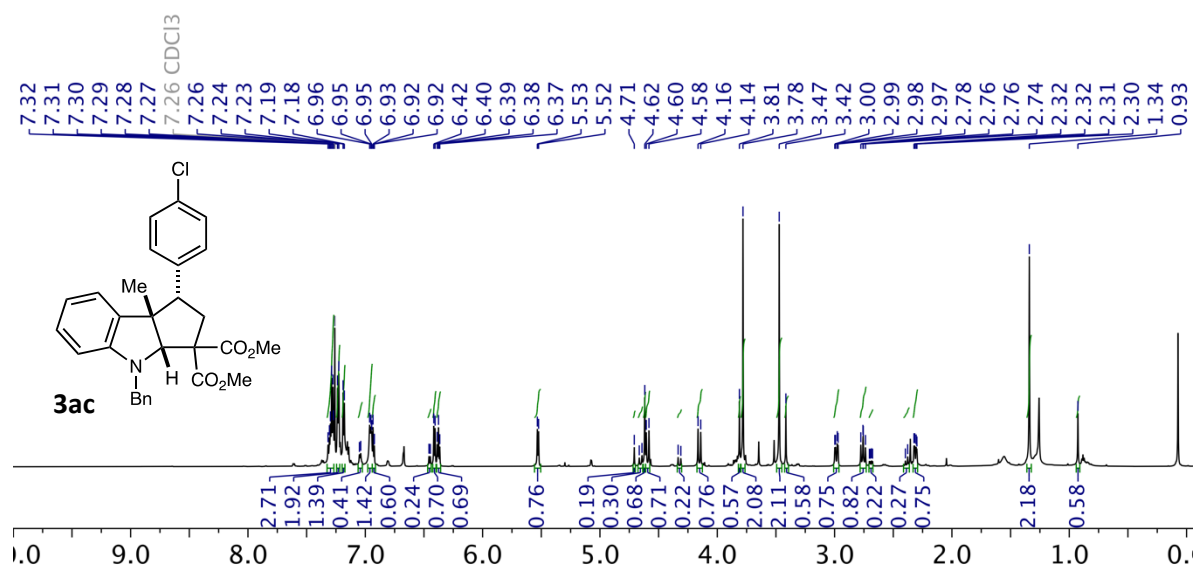


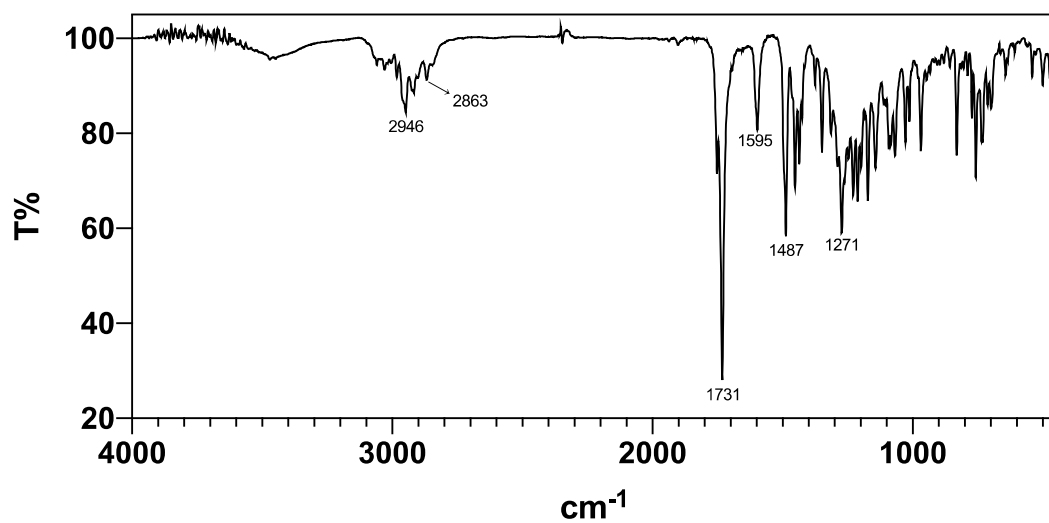
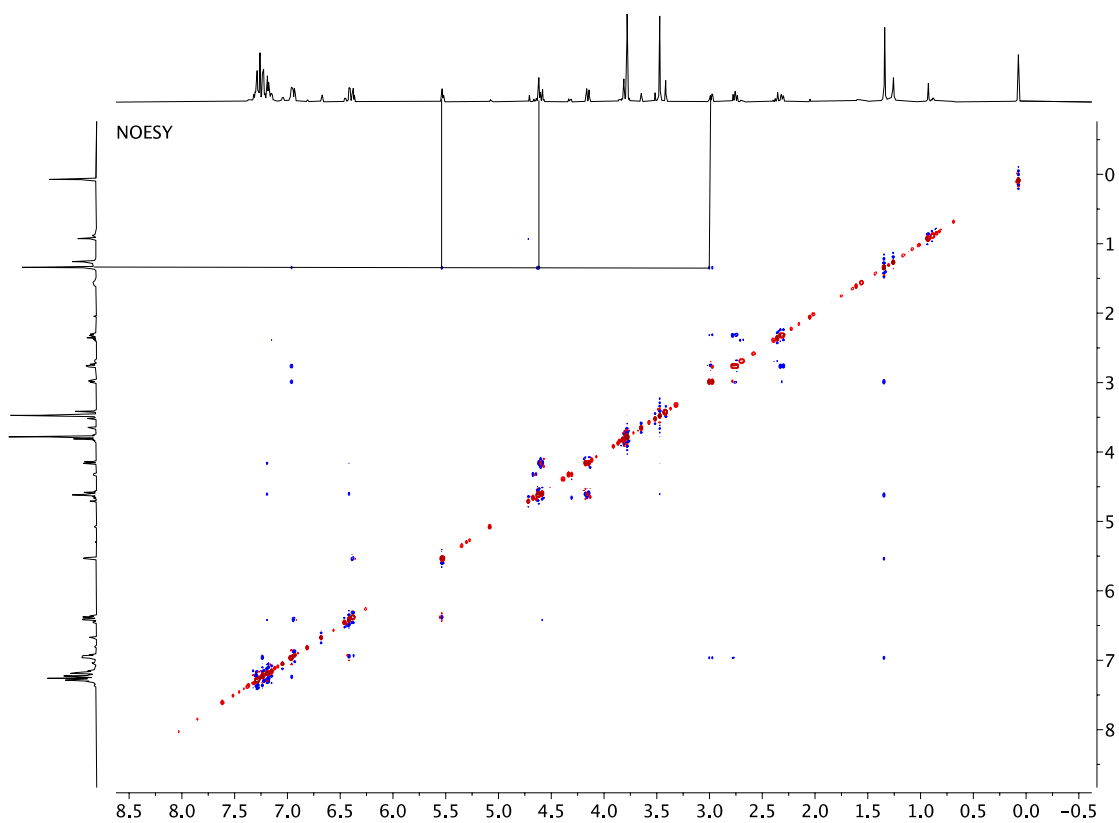
Acquisition Parameter

Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	74 V
n/a	n/a	Set Capillary Exit	80.0 V	Set Pulsar Pull	799 V
Scan Begin	50 m/z	Set Hexapole RF	60.0 V	Set Pulsar Push	799 V
Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V

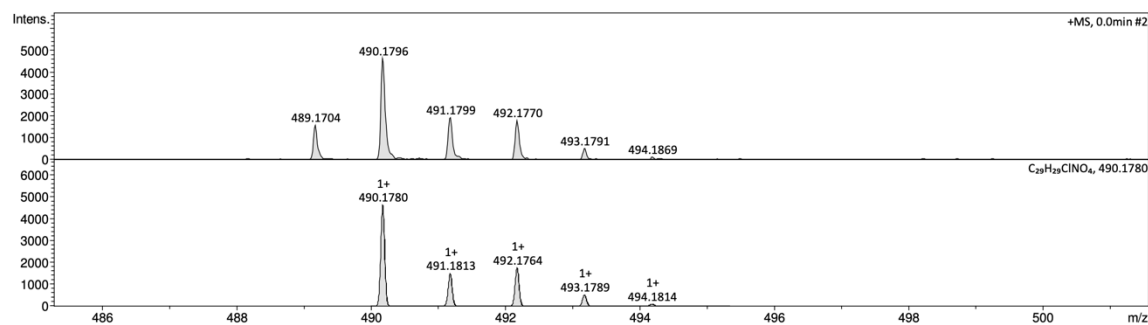


Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdb	e ⁻	Conf	N-Rule
456.2181	1	C ₂₉ H ₃₀ NO ₄	456.2169	-2.5	19.8	1	100.00	15.5	even		ok

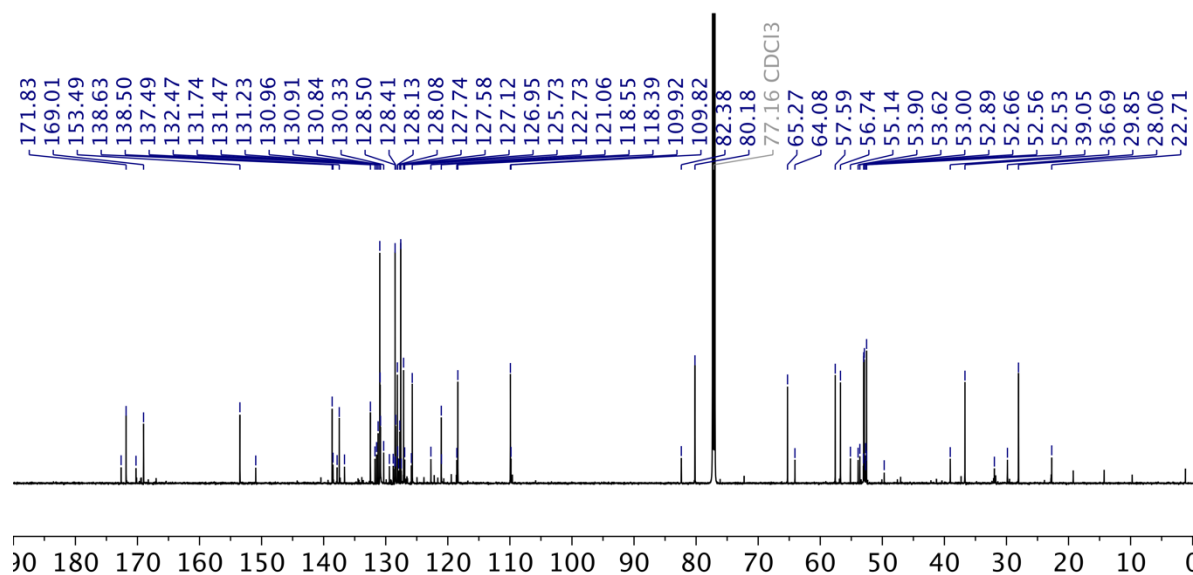
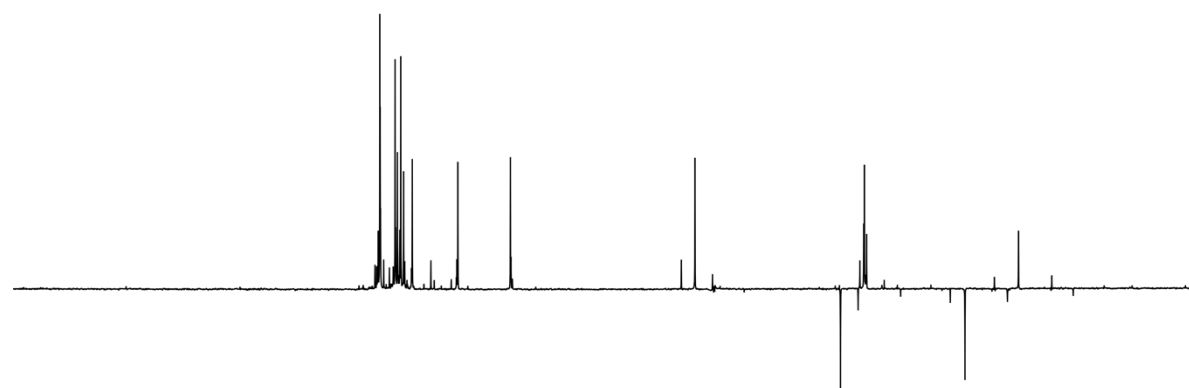
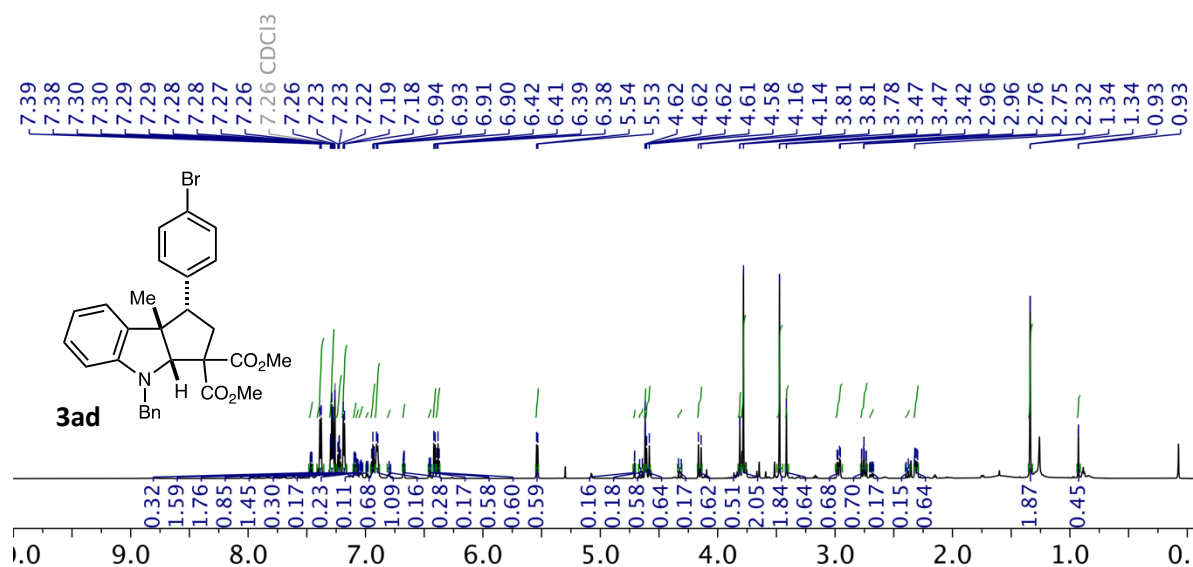


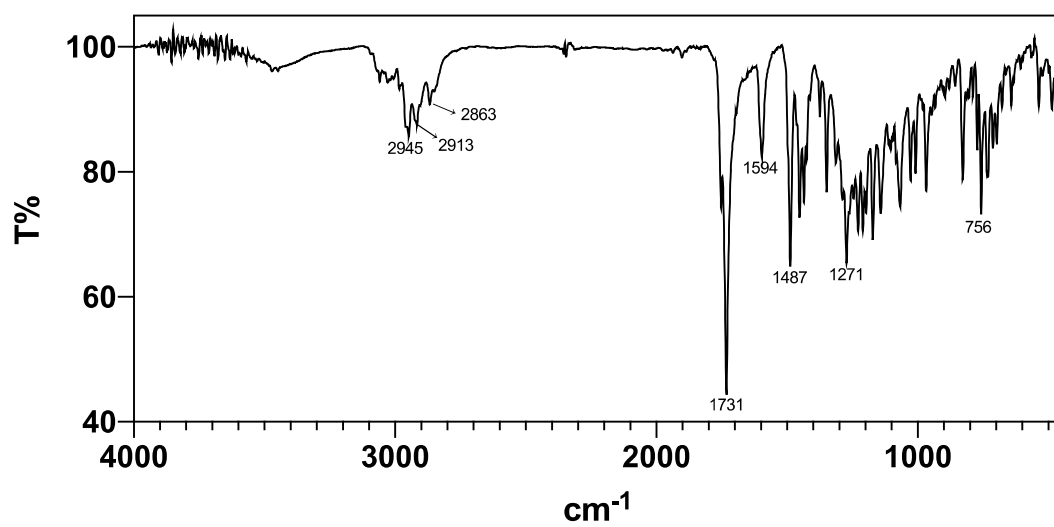
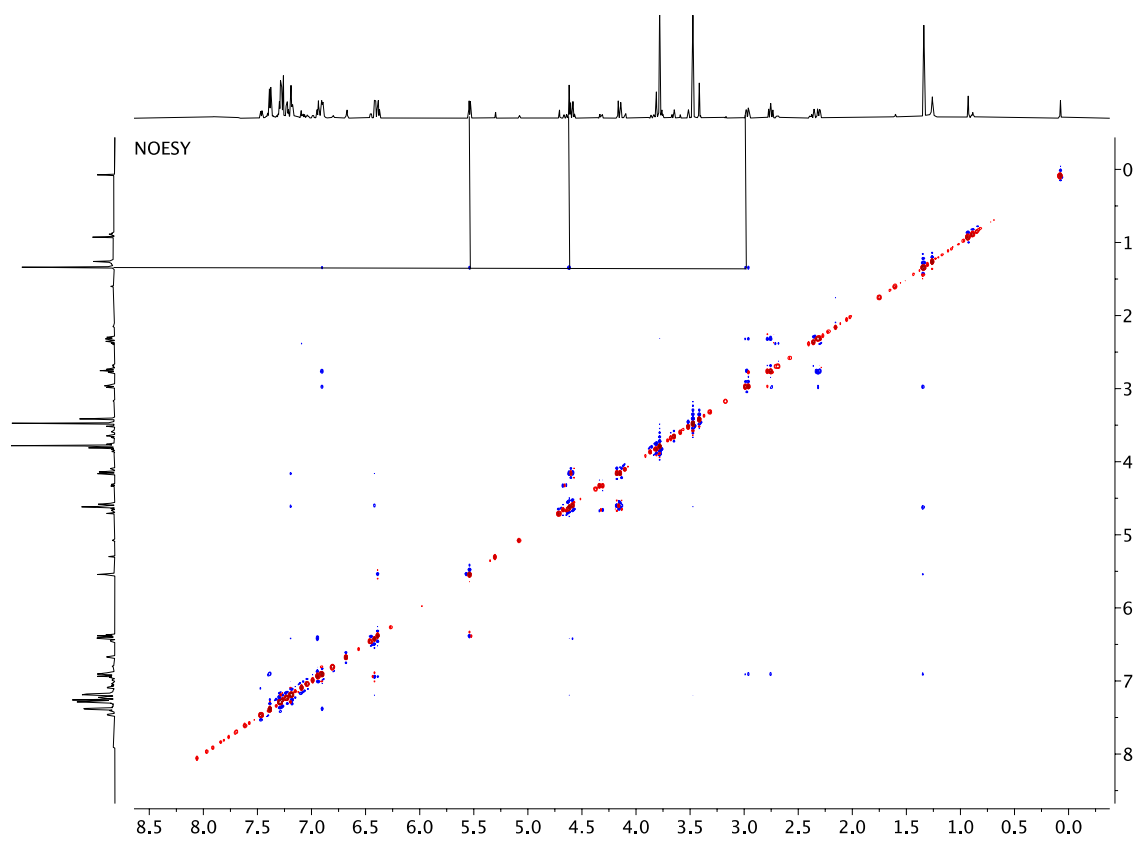


Acquisition Parameter					
Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	74 V
n/a	n/a	Set Capillary Exit	80.0 V	Set Pulsar Pull	799 V
Scan Begin	50 m/z	Set Hexapole RF	60.0 V	Set Pulsar Push	799 V
Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V



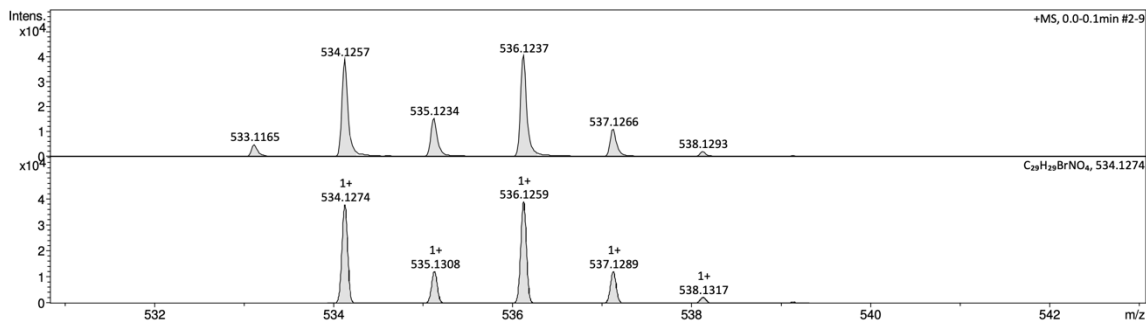
Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdb	e ⁻ Conf	N-Rule
490.1796	1	C ₂₉ H ₂₉ ClNO ₄	490.1780	-3.4	42.3	1	100.00	15.5	even	ok



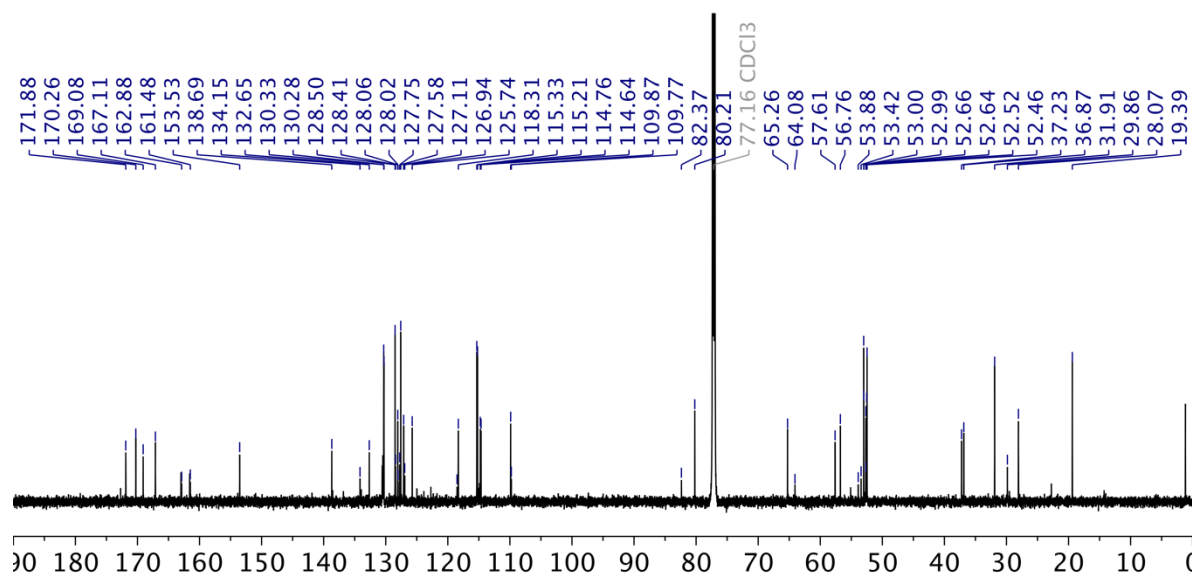
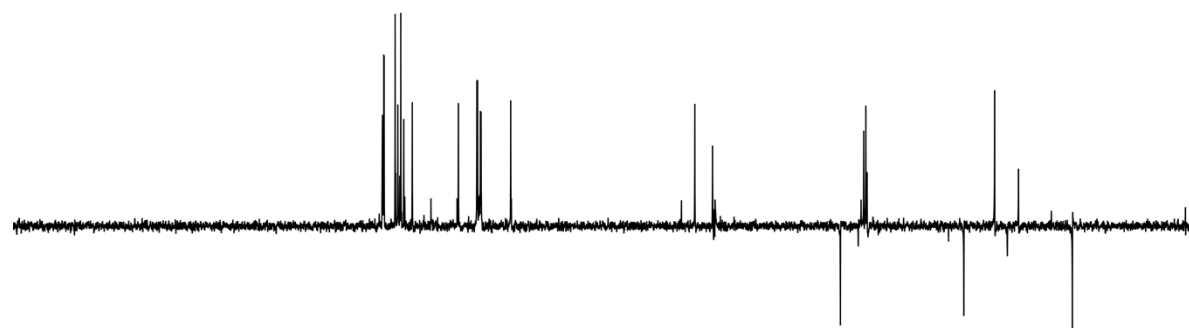
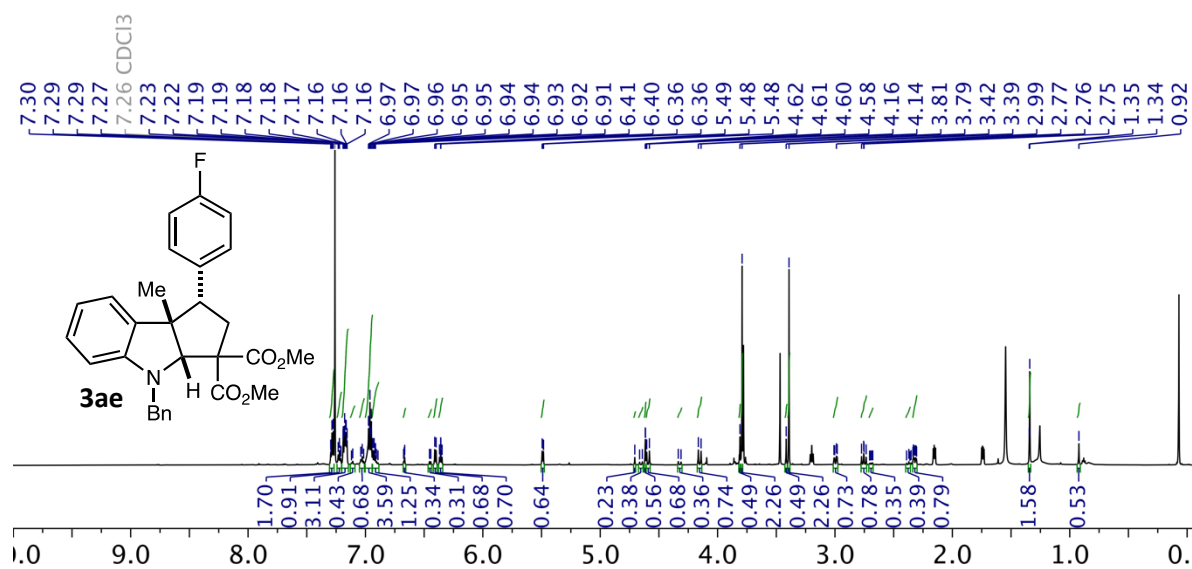


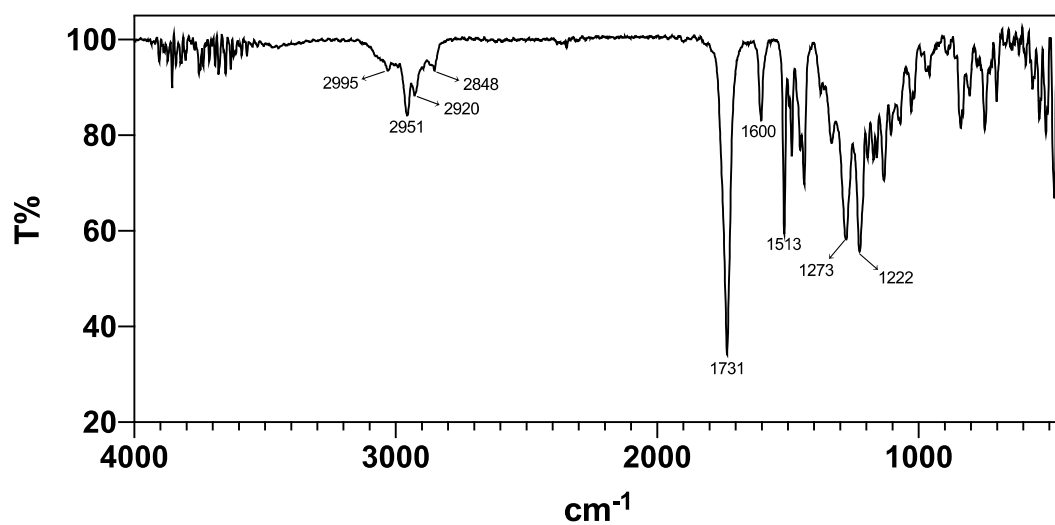
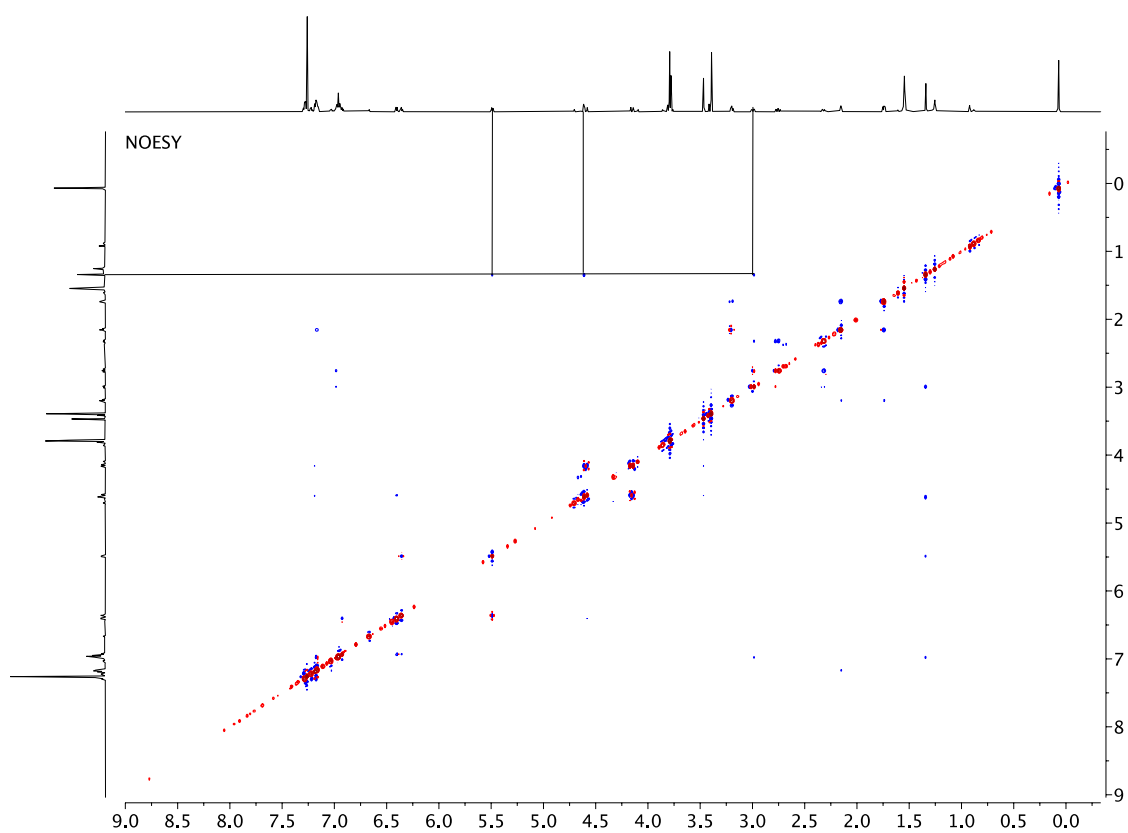
Acquisition Parameter

Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	74 V
n/a	n/a	Set Capillary Exit	80.0 V	Set Pulsar Pull	799 V
Scan Begin	50 m/z	Set Hexapole RF	60.0 V	Set Pulsar Push	799 V
Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V

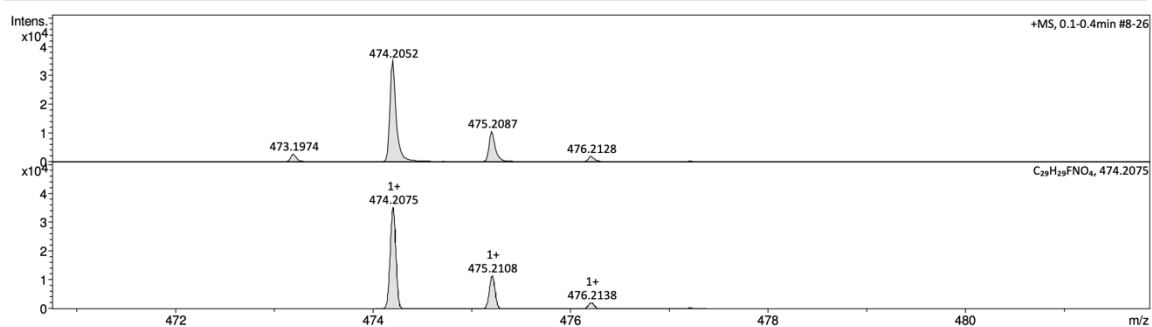


Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdb	e ⁻ Conf	N-Rule
534.1257	1	C ₂₉ H ₂₉ BrNO ₄	534.1274	3.2	35.3	1	100.00	15.5	even	ok

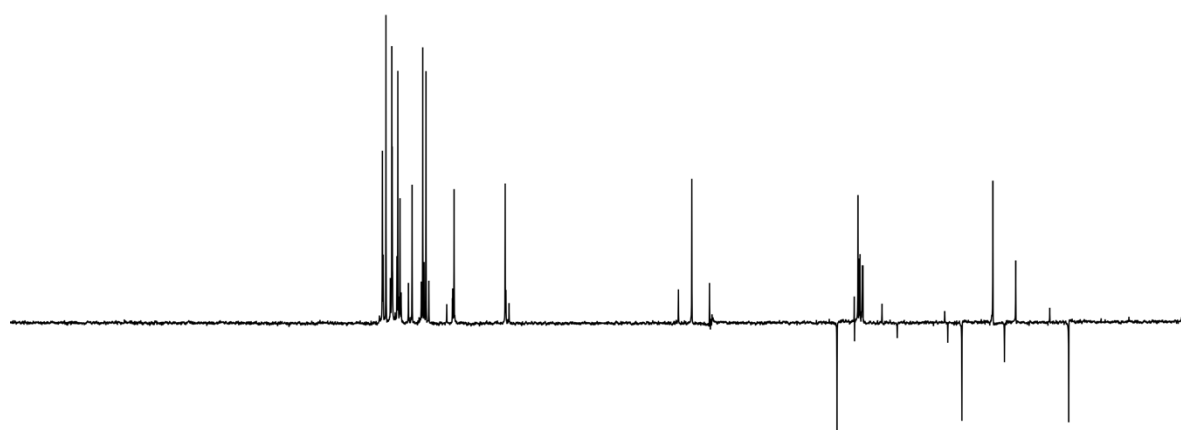
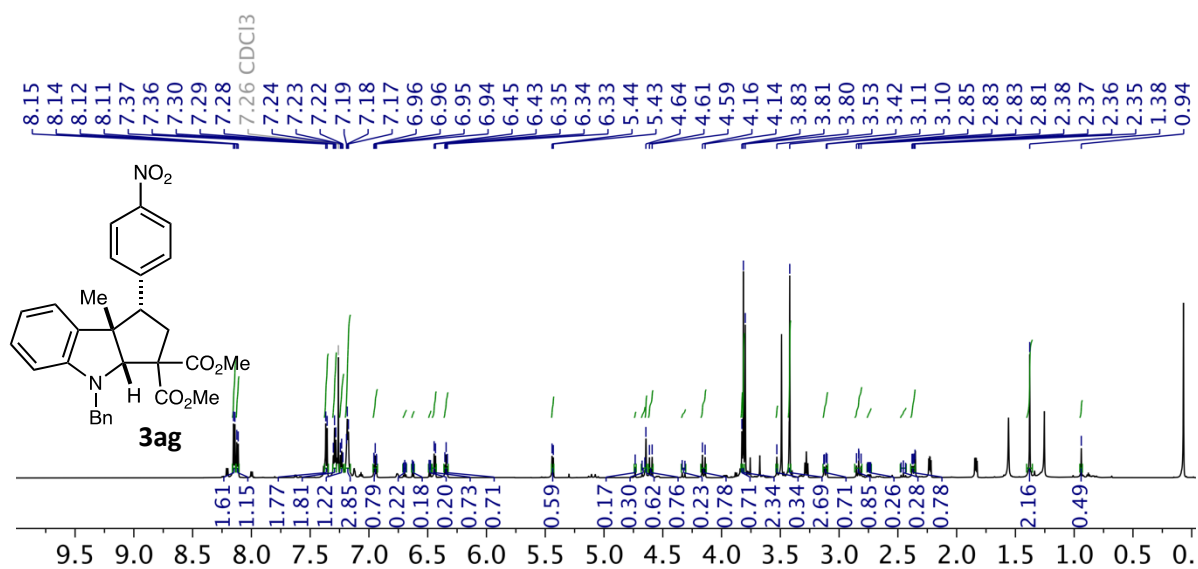


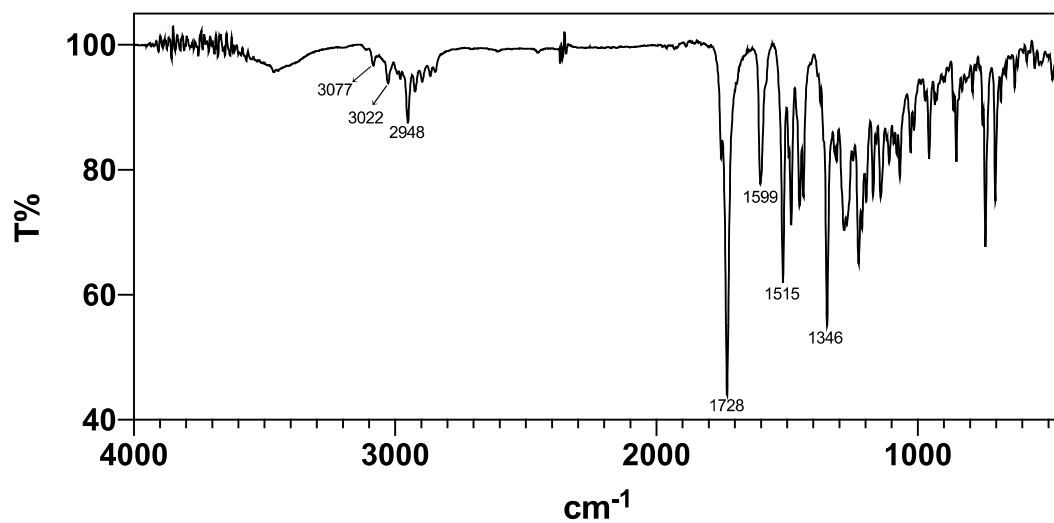
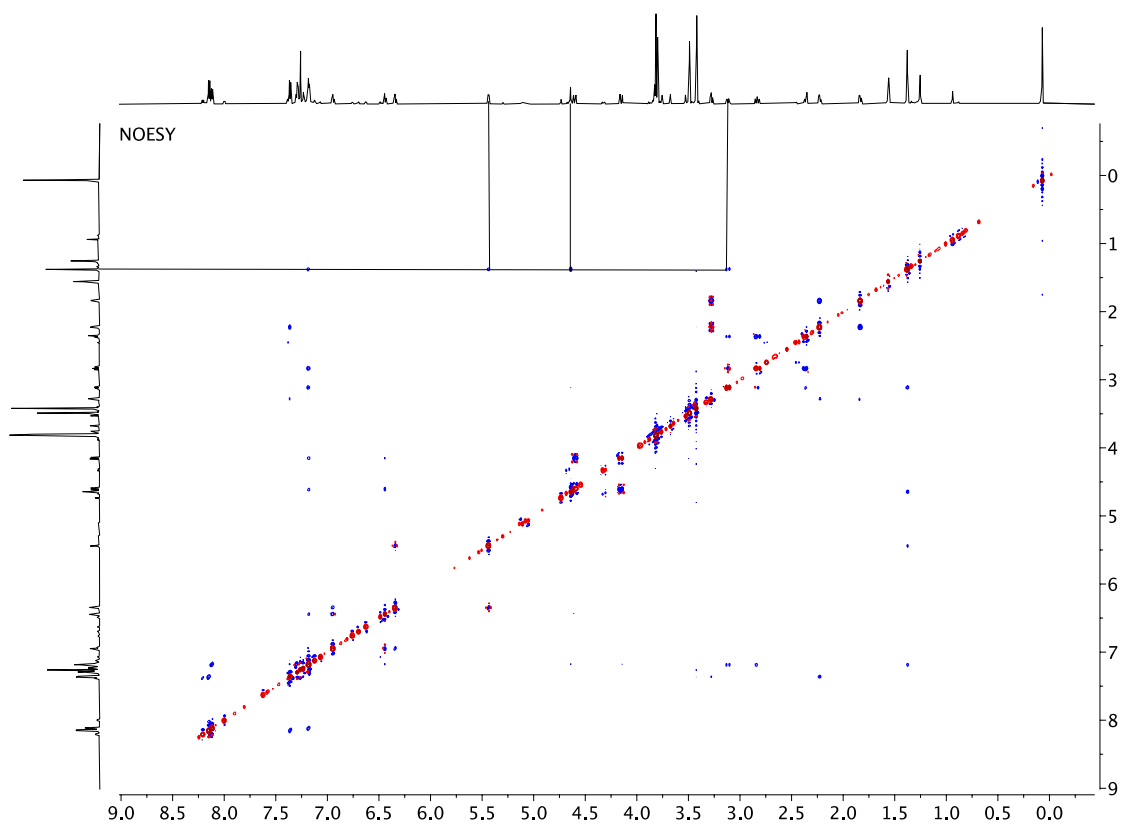


Acquisition Parameter					
Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	74 V
n/a	n/a	Set Capillary Exit	80.0 V	Set Pulsar Pull	799 V
Scan Begin	50 m/z	Set Hexapole RF	60.0 V	Set Pulsar Push	799 V
Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V



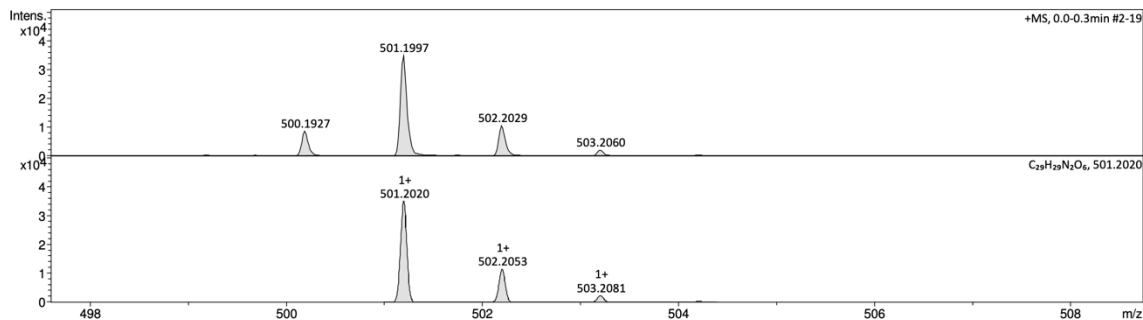
Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdb	e ⁻	Conf	N-Rule
474.2052	1	C ₂₉ H ₂₉ FNO ₄	474.2075	5.0	9.3	1	100.00	15.5	even		ok



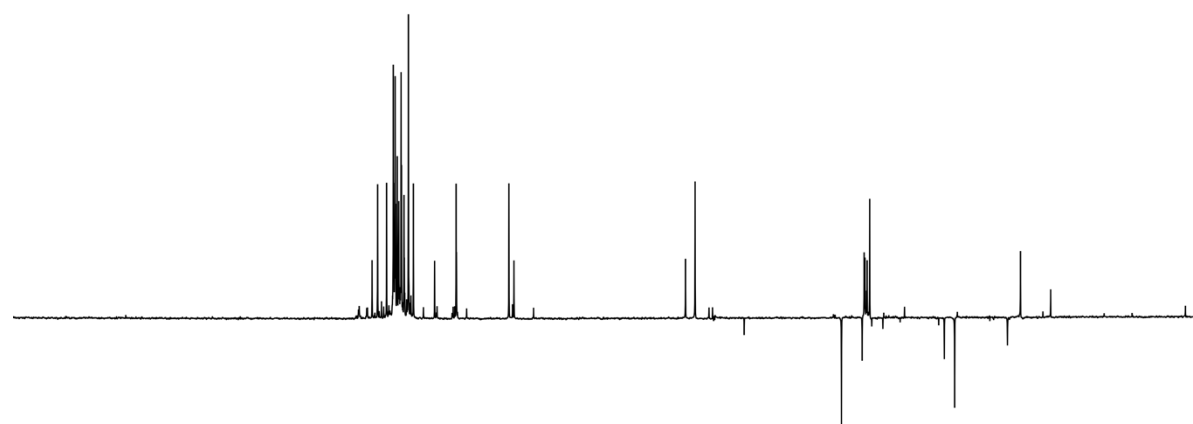
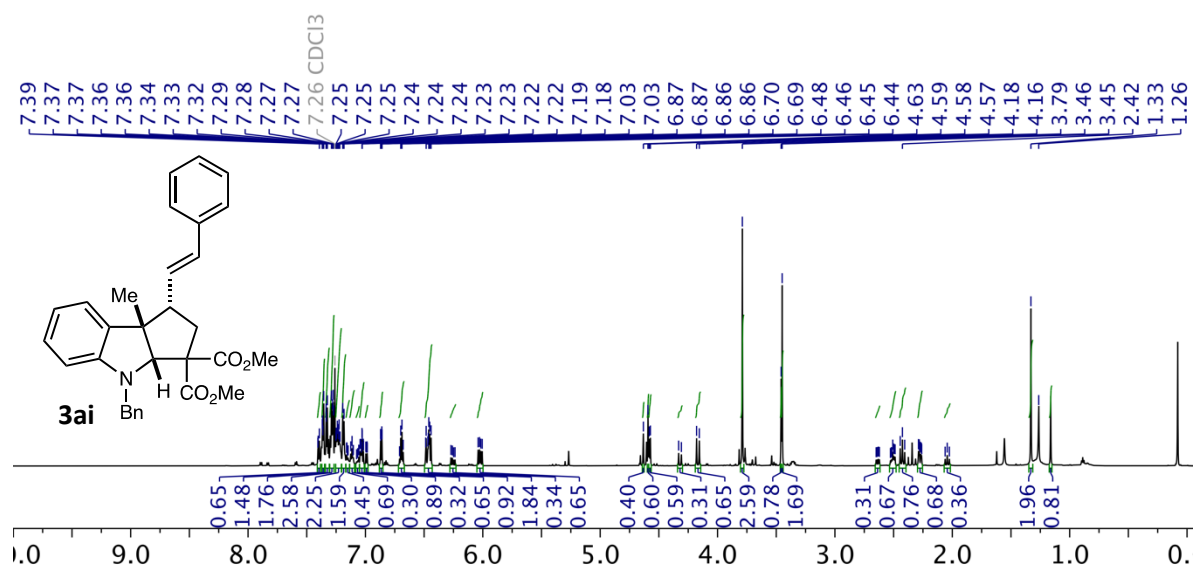


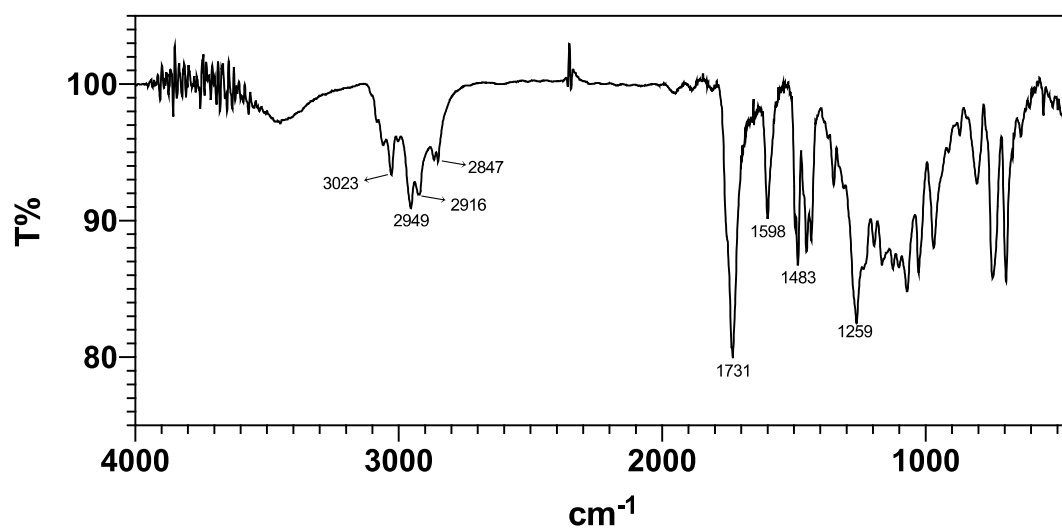
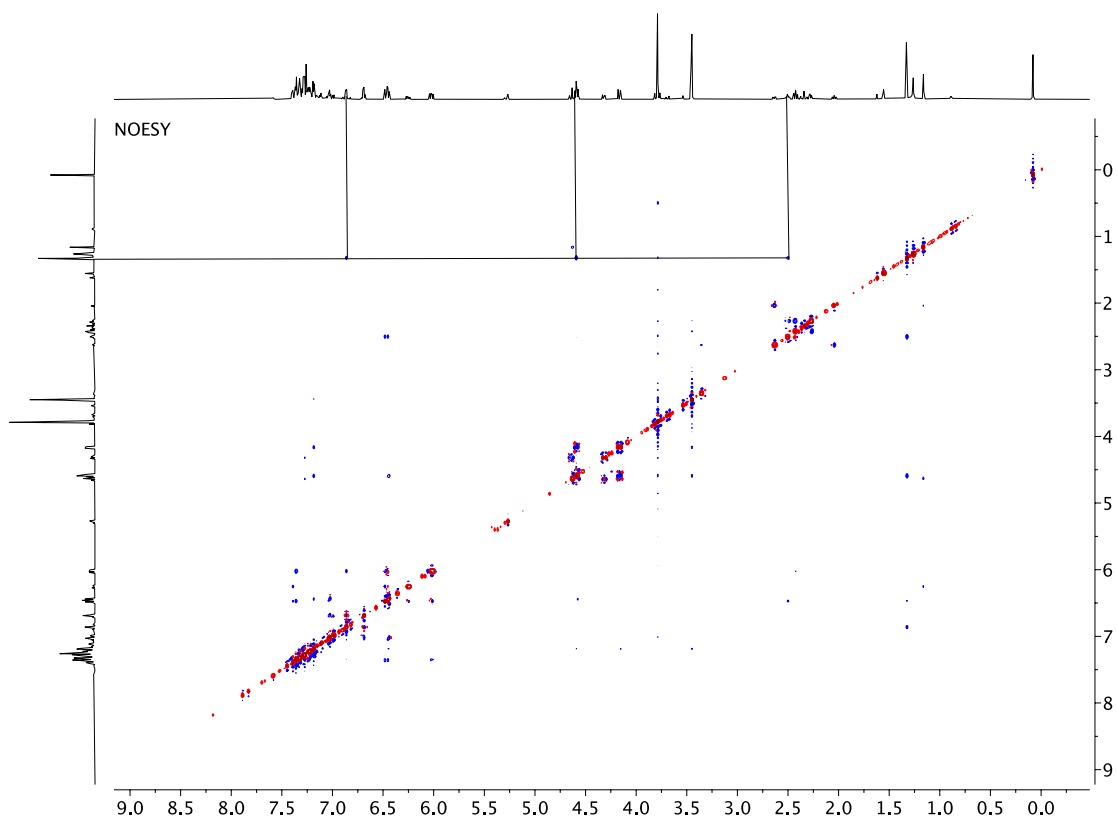
Acquisition Parameter

Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	74 V
n/a	n/a	Set Capillary Exit	80.0 V	Set Pulsar Pull	799 V
Scan Begin	50 m/z	Set Hexapole RF	60.0 V	Set Pulsar Push	799 V
Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V



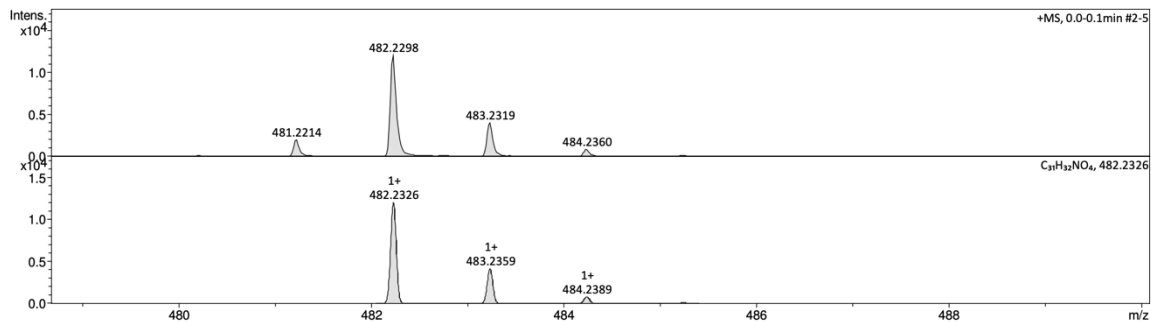
Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdb	e ⁻	Conf	N-Rule
501.1997	1	C ₂₉ H ₂₉ N ₂ O ₆	501.2020	4.5	12.1	1	100.00	16.5	even		ok



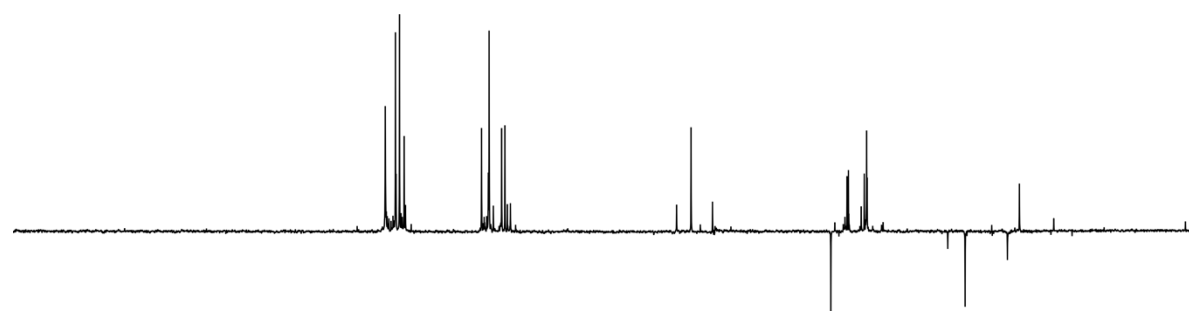
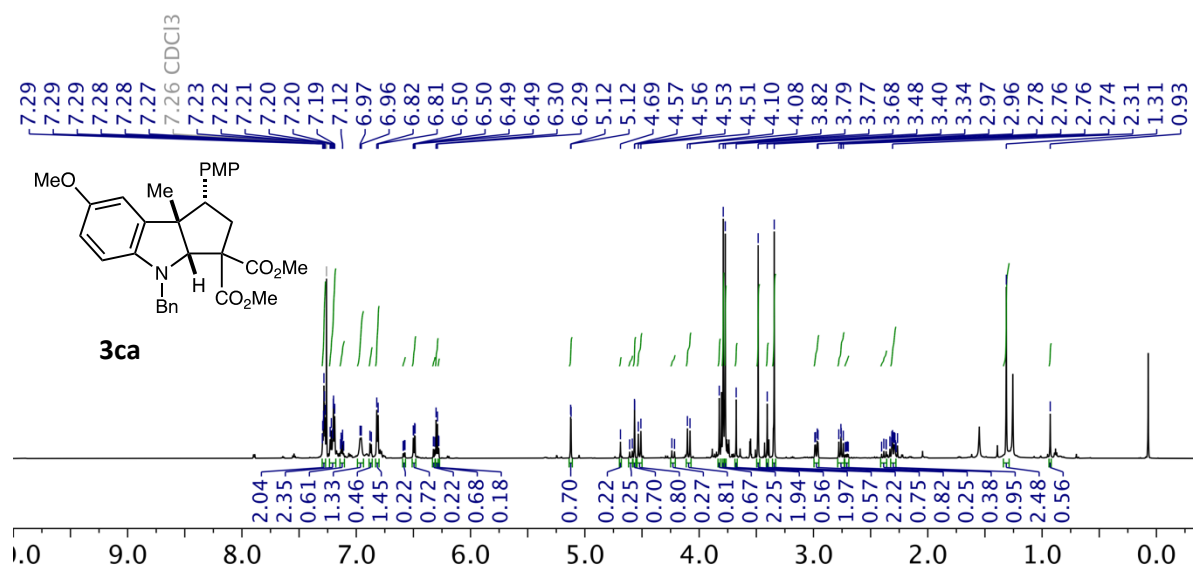


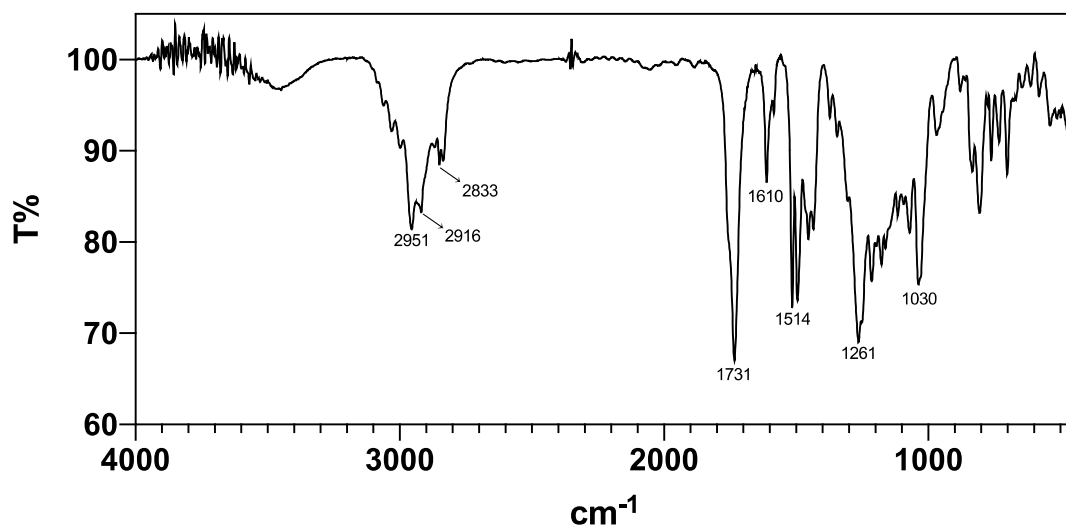
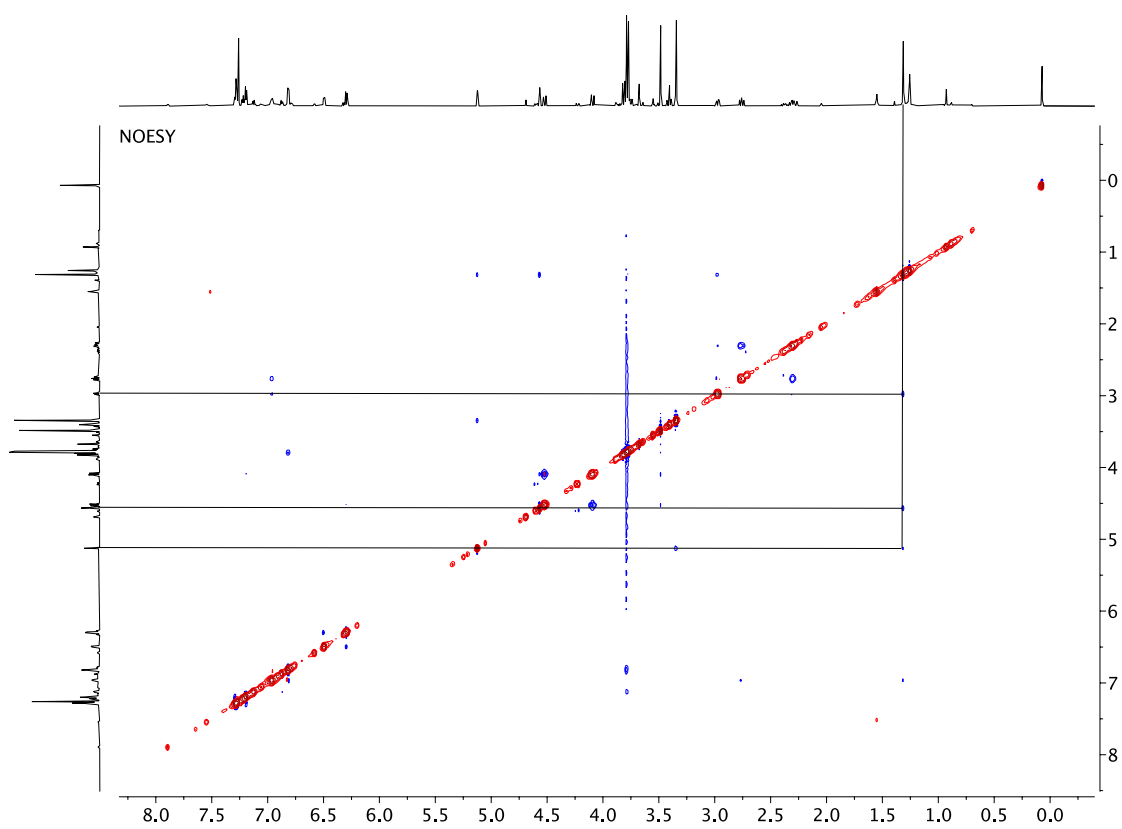
Acquisition Parameter

Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	74 V
n/a	n/a	Set Capillary Exit	80.0 V	Set Pulsar Pull	799 V
Scan Begin	50 m/z	Set Hexapole RF	60.0 V	Set Pulsar Push	799 V
Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V

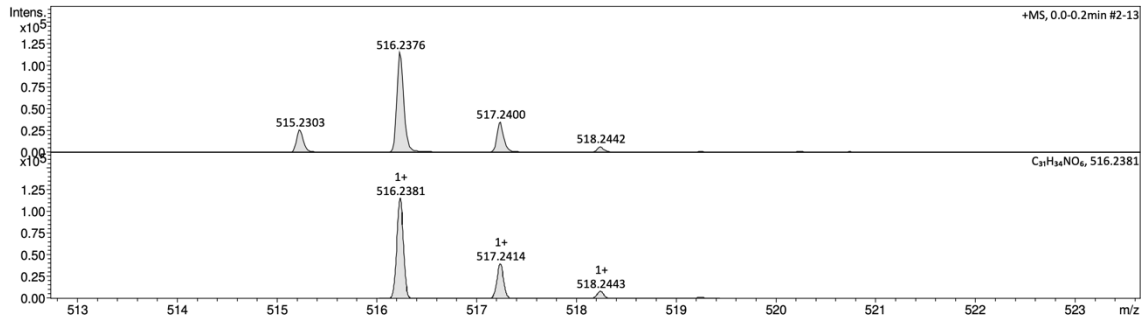


Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdB	e ⁻	Conf	N-Rule
482.2298	1	C ₃₁ H ₃₂ NO ₄	482.2326	5.7	6.4	1	100.00	16.5	even		ok

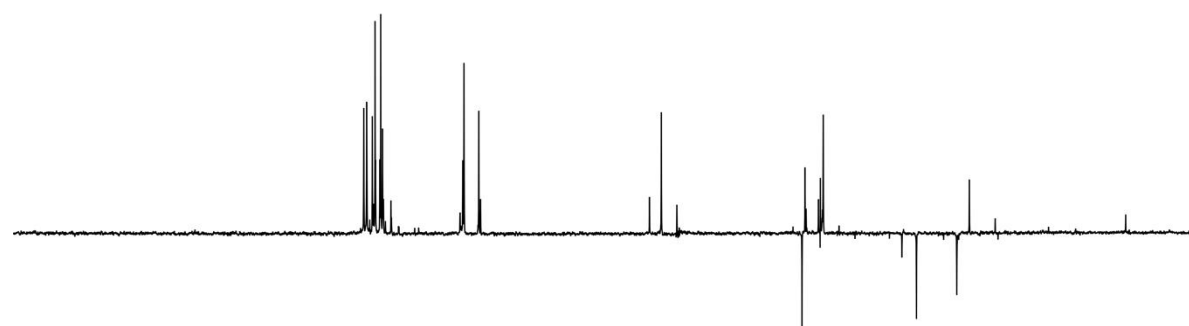
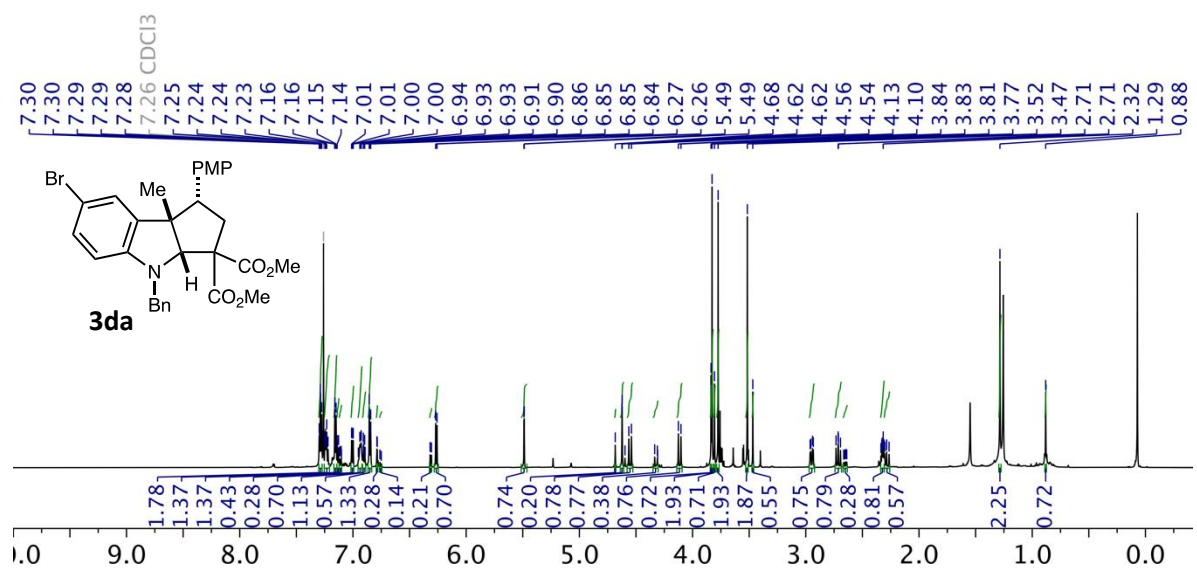


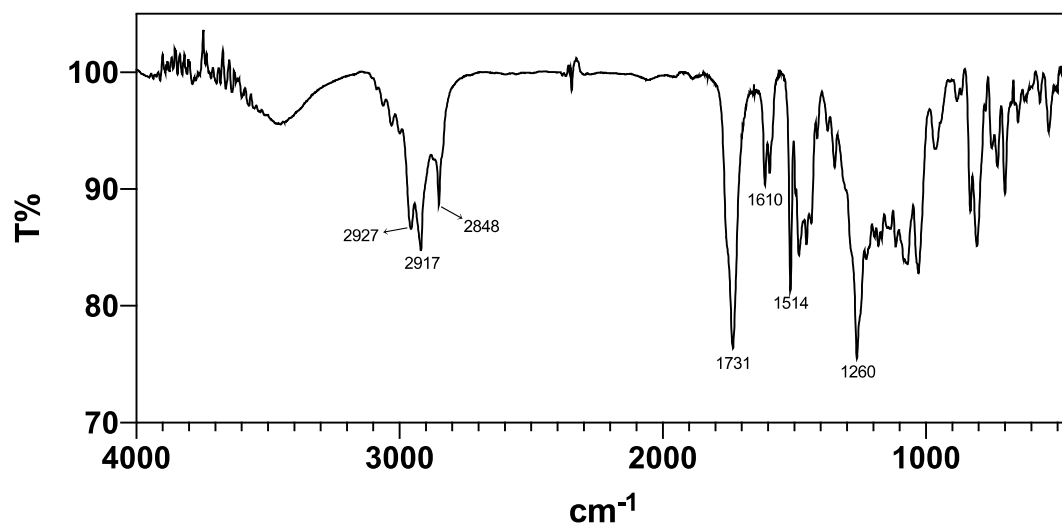
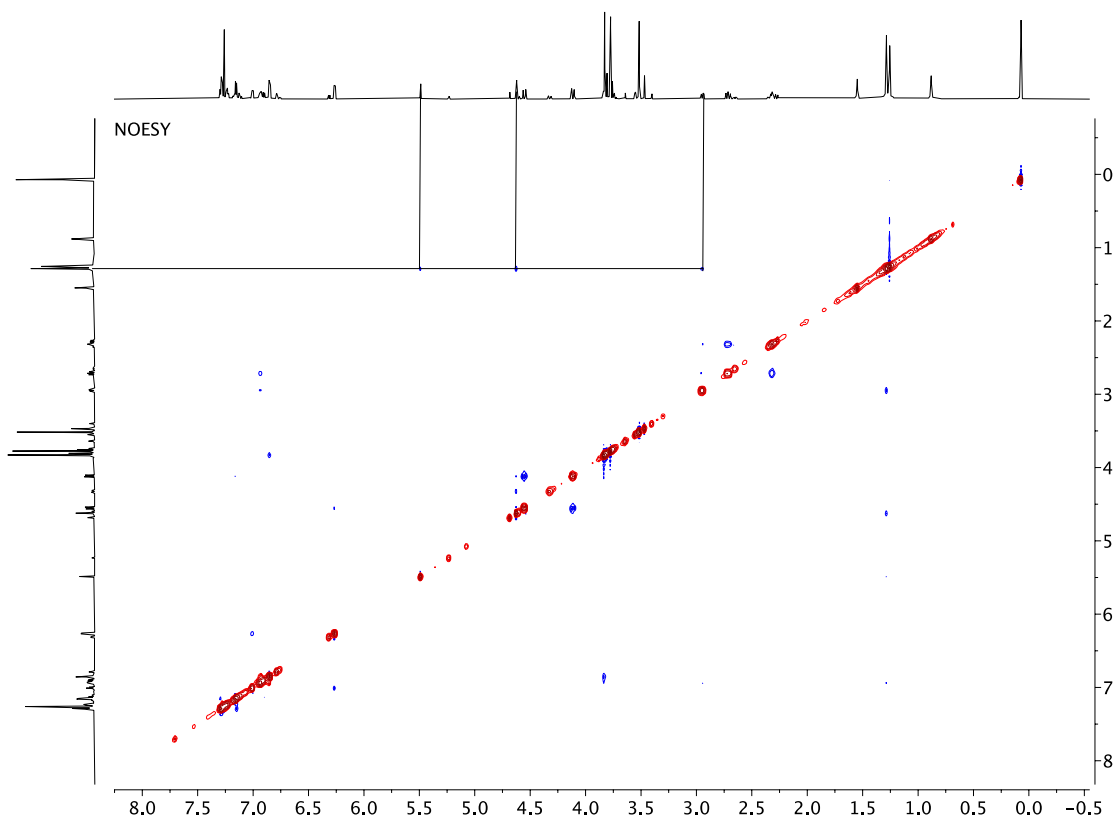


Acquisition Parameter					
Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	74 V
n/a	n/a	Set Capillary Exit	80.0 V	Set Pulsar Pull	799 V
Scan Begin	50 m/z	Set Hexapole RF	60.0 V	Set Pulsar Push	799 V
Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V



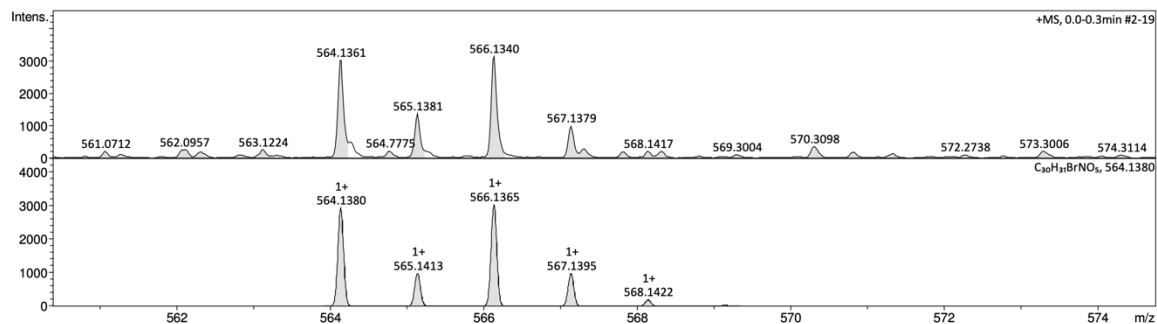
Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdb	e ⁻	Conf	N-Rule
516.2376	1	C31H34NO6	516.2381	0.8	21.9	1	100.00	15.5	even		ok



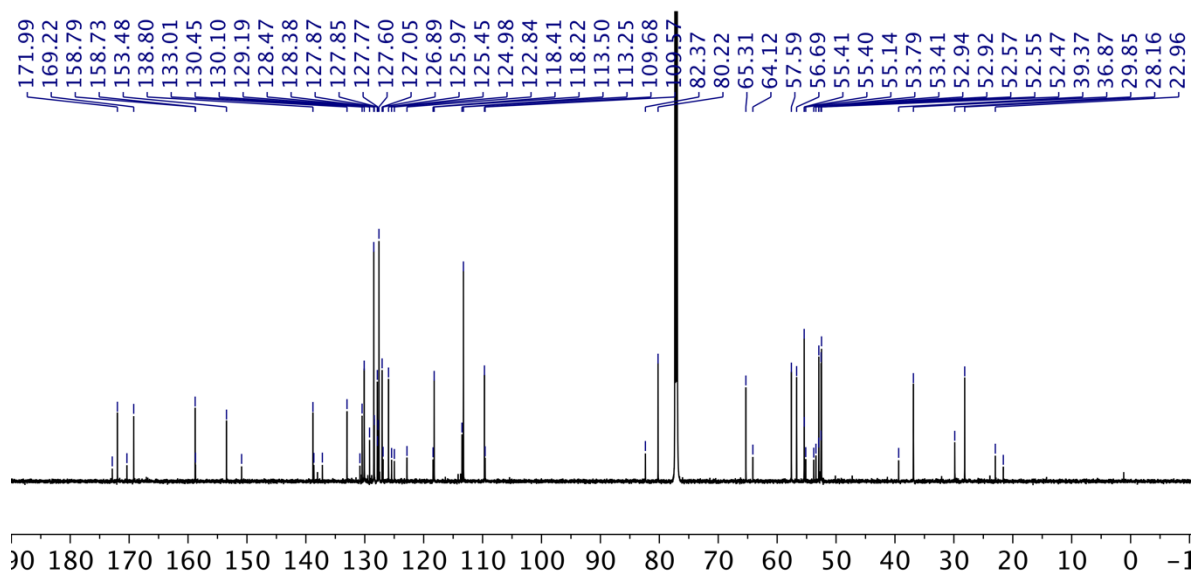
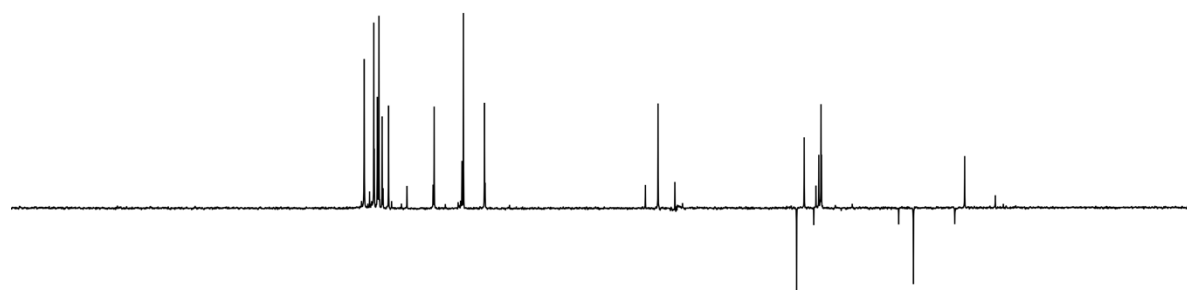
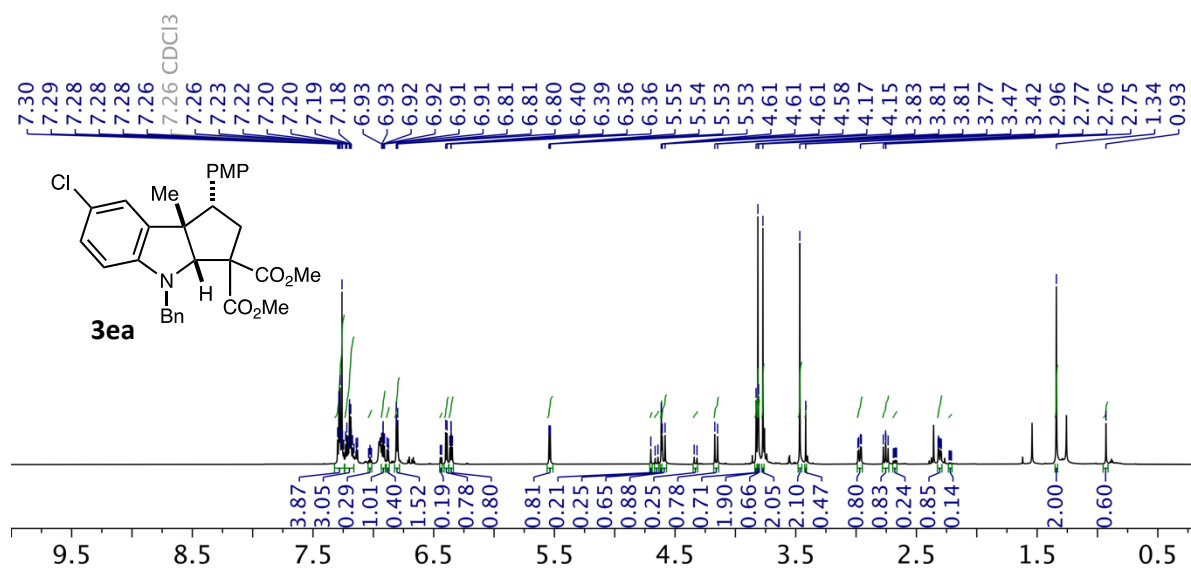


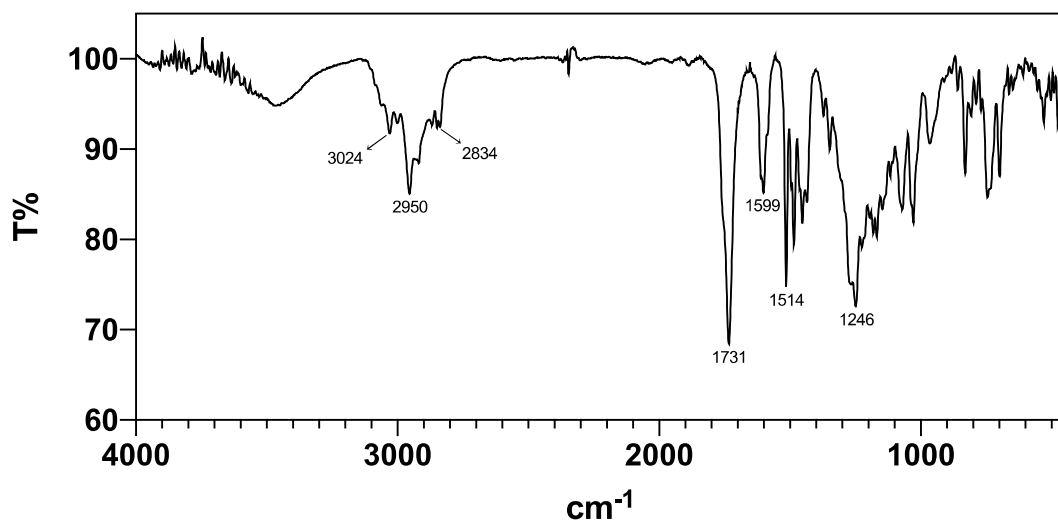
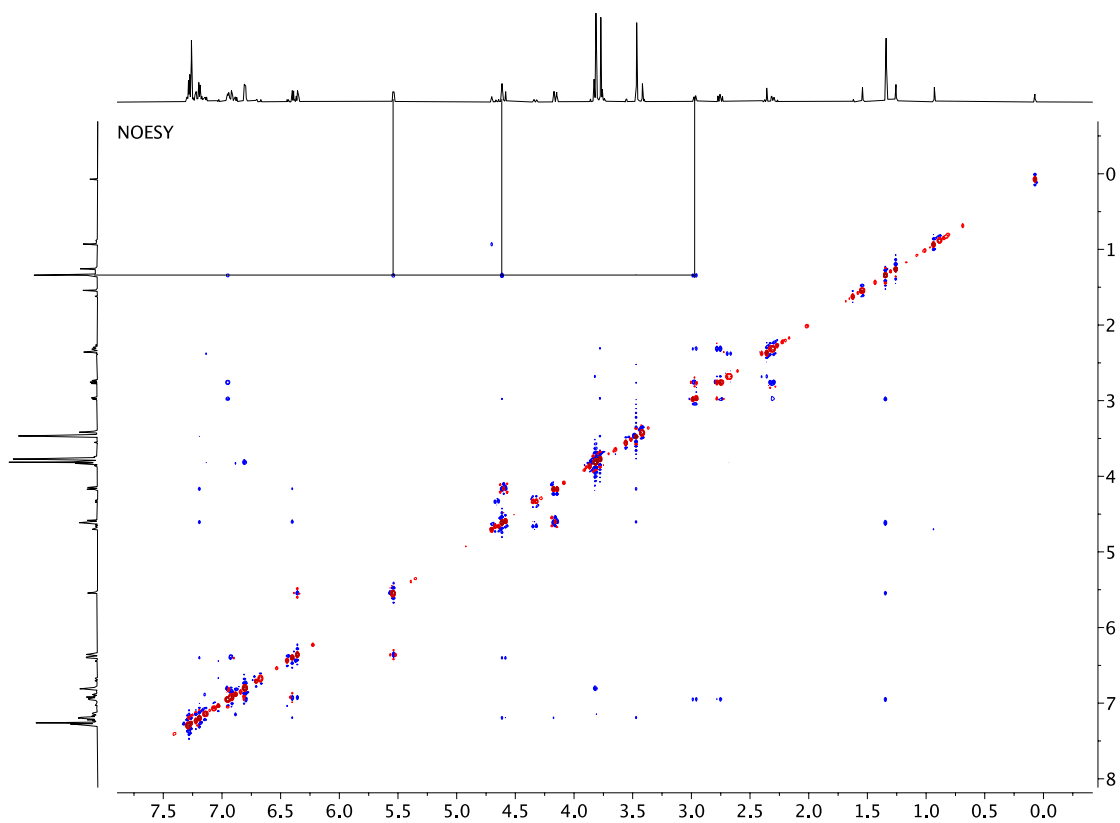
Acquisition Parameter

Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	74 V
n/a	n/a	Set Capillary Exit	80.0 V	Set Pulsar Pull	799 V
Scan Begin	50 m/z	Set Hexapole RF	60.0 V	Set Pulsar Push	799 V
Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V

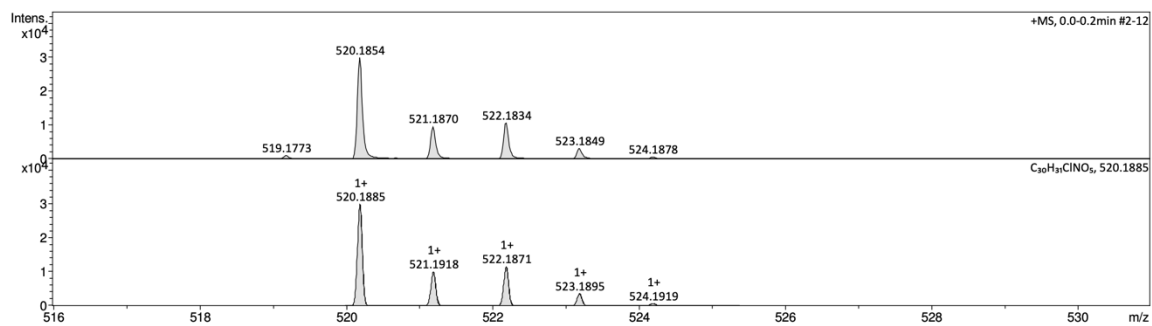


Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdb	e ⁻	Conf	N-Rule
564.1361	1	C30H31BrNO5	564.1380	3.3	51.6	1	100.00	15.5	even		ok

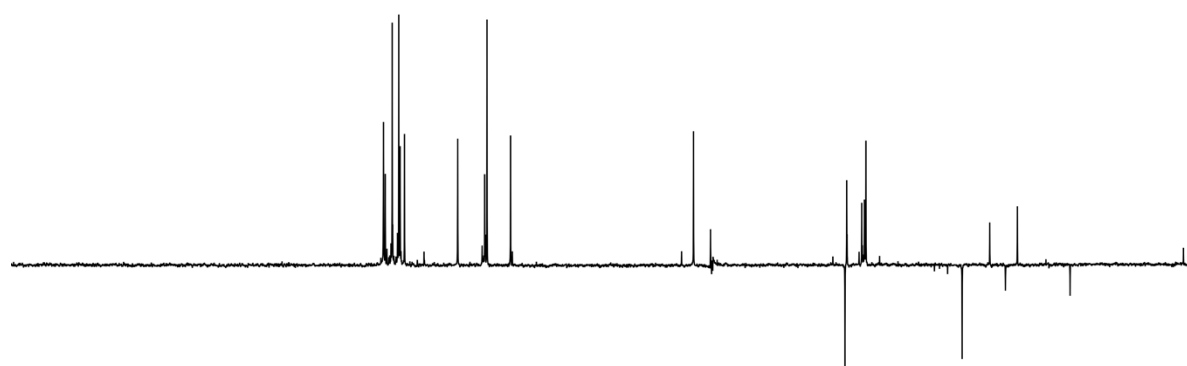
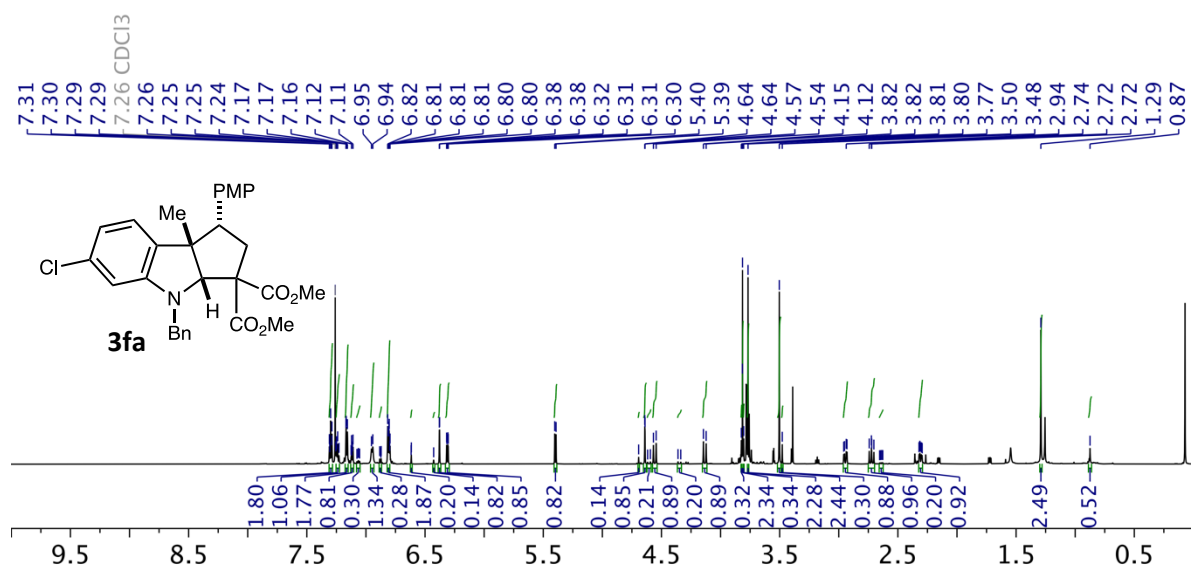


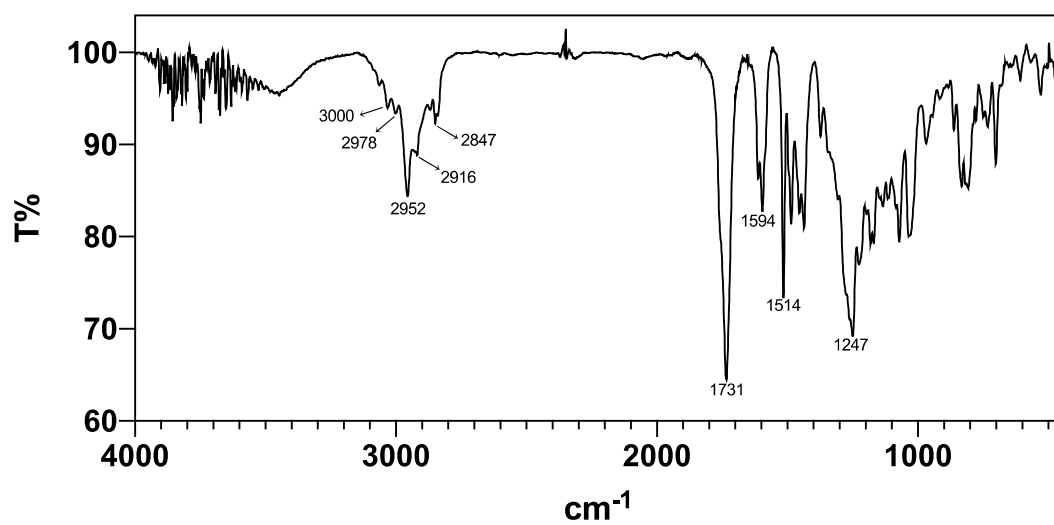
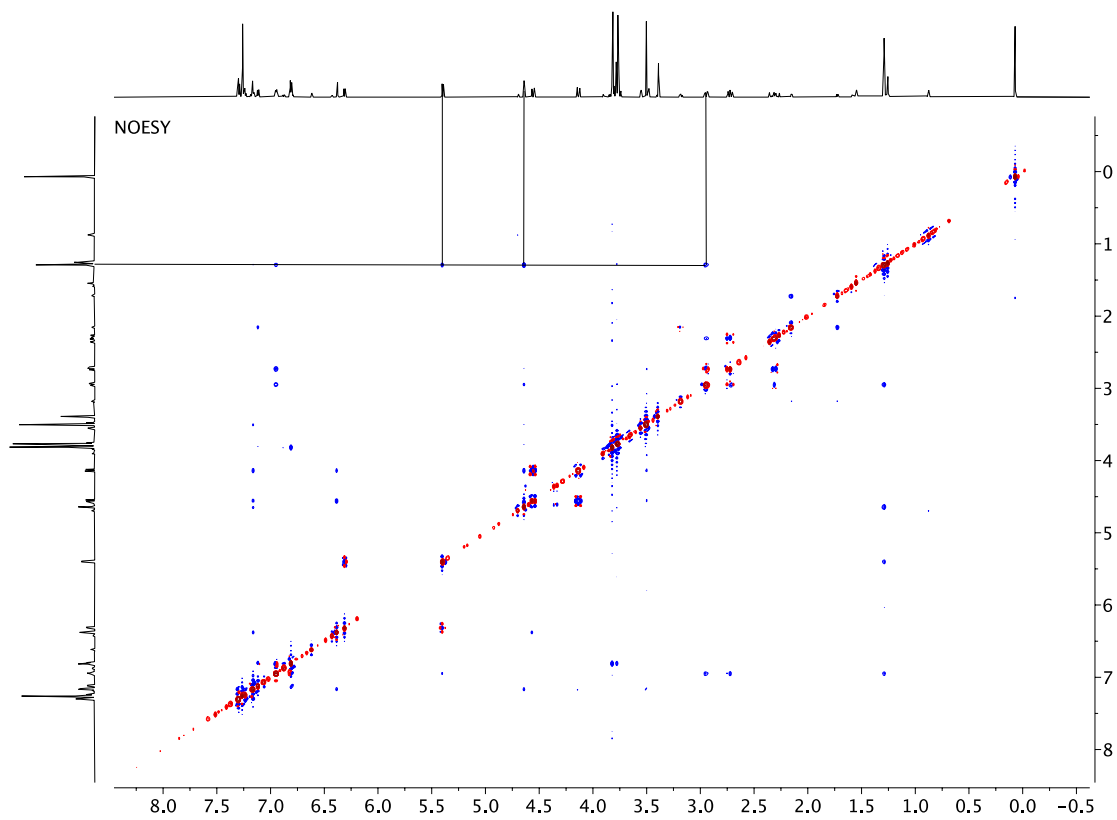


Acquisition Parameter					
Source Type	ESI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Corrector Fill	74 V
n/a	n/a	Set Capillary Exit	80.0 V	Set Pulsar Pull	799 V
Scan Begin	50 m/z	Set Hexapole RF	60.0 V	Set Pulsar Push	799 V
Scan End	3000 m/z	Set Skimmer 1	50.0 V	Set Reflector	1700 V
		Set Hexapole 1	24.3 V	Set Flight Tube	8600 V
				Set Detector TOF	2311 V

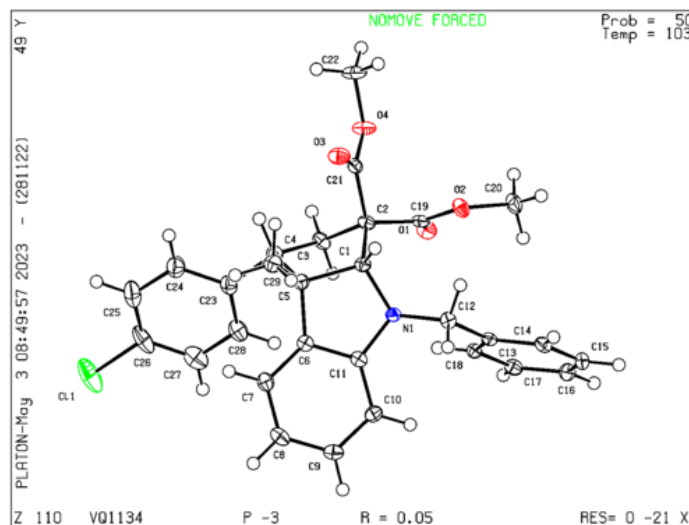


Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdb	e ⁻ Conf	N-Rule
520.1854	1	C ₃₀ H ₃₁ ClNO ₅	520.1885	5.9	16.8	1	100.00	15.5	even	ok





6. Crystal data and structure refinement for 3ac.



Crystal data

$C_{29}H_{28}ClNO_4$
 $M_r = 489.97$
 Trigonal, $P\bar{3}$
 Hall symbol: $-P\ 3$
 $a = 24.3118\ (8)\ \text{\AA}$
 $c = 7.4297\ (4)\ \text{\AA}$
 $V = 3803.1\ (3)\ \text{\AA}^3$
 $Z = 6$
 $F(000) = 1548$

$D_x = 1.284\ \text{Mg m}^{-3}$
 Mo $K\alpha$ radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073\ \text{\AA}$
 Cell parameters from 9907 reflections
 $\theta = 2.6\text{--}28.1^\circ$
 $\mu = 0.19\ \text{mm}^{-1}$
 $T = 103\ \text{K}$
 Plate, yellow
 $0.13 \times 0.07 \times 0.05\ \text{mm}$

Data collection

Bruker D8 VENTURE PHOTON III-14
 diffractometer
 Radiation source: INCOATEC microfocus sealed
 tube, Incoatec $I\mu S\ 3.0$
 Incoatec multilayer mirror monochromator
 Detector resolution: $7.3910\ \text{pixels mm}^{-1}$
 ω and ϕ scans
 Absorption correction: multi-scan
 BRUKER SADABS2016/2

$T_{\min} = 0.887$, $T_{\max} = 0.938$
 98238 measured reflections
 4794 independent reflections
 3829 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.101$
 $\theta_{\max} = 25.7^\circ$, $\theta_{\min} = 1.9^\circ$
 $h = -29 \rightarrow 29$
 $k = -29 \rightarrow 29$
 $l = -9 \rightarrow 9$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 Least-squares matrix: full
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.047$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.123$
 $S = 1.05$
 4794 reflections
 319 parameters
 0 restraints
 0 constraints
 Primary atom site location: dual

Secondary atom site location: dual
 Hydrogen site location: inferred from neighbouring
 sites
 H-atom parameters constrained
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0479P)^2 + 4.2209P]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} < 0.001$
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 1.05\ \text{e \AA}^{-3}$
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.65\ \text{e \AA}^{-3}$