

Supporting Information for

Rhodium/Chiral Urea Relay Catalysis Enables an Enantioselective Semipinacol Rearrangement/Michael Addition Cascade

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General data: NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker-400 MHz spectrometer. ESIMS spectra were recorded on BioTOF Q. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Nicolet MX-1E FT-IR spectrometer. Optical rotations were determined at 589 nm (sodium D line) by using a Perkin-Elmer-343 polarimeter. HPLC analysis was performed on Waters-Breeze (2487 Dual λ Absorbance Detector and 1525 Binary HPLC Pump, UV detection monitored at 254 or 220 nm). All chiral columns were purchased from Daicel Chemical Industries, LTD. Toluene, diethyl ether and tetrahydrofuran were dried over Na and distilled prior to use. Dichloromethane and dichloroethane were dried over CaH₂ and distilled prior to use.

Materials: All starting materials were purchased from Alfa and Aldrich and used directly. nitroalkenes **2** were prepared following the known procedure^[1] and diazoalcohols **1** were synthesized according to the literatures.^[2]

General procedure for semipinacol rearrangement/Michael addition cascade:

To a solution of Rh₂(OAc)₄ (0.5 mg, 0.001 mmol), quinine-based squaramide **4e** (2.6 mg, 0.004 mmol), and (*E*)-nitroalkenes **2** (0.2 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.5 mL) was added a solution of diazoalcohols **1** (0.3 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.5 mL) in one portion under argon. After the resulting mixture was allowed to be stirred at 25 °C for the indicated time, the solution was directly subjected to a flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether) to afford product **3**.

Note: Compounds **3aa**, **3ba**, **3ia**, **3ib**, **3ic**, **3if** and **3ii** have been reported,^[3] the analytical data of which was matched with those reported in the literatures and the absolute configuration of all the products was assigned either by comparison of the retention time of HPLC with the literature data

or by analogy.

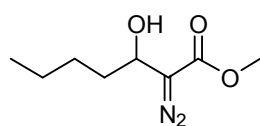
The synthesis of 3,4-disubstituted-lactam 6:

A solution of **3ea** (30.3 mg, 0.10 mmol) and p-TSA•H₂O (8.5 mg, 0.050 mmol) in 2mL toluene was stirred vigorously at 90°C for 12 hours. The mixture was then cooled to room temperature, and washed with 10% NaHCO₃ (5ml × 3), dried (anhydrous Na₂SO₄), concentrated in vacuo to afford crude **5** (yellowish oil, as a 1.5:1 mixture. ¹H-NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 7.34 – 7.22 (m, 4H), 7.16 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 6.24 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 5.97 – 5.95 (m, 1H), 4.97 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 9.7 Hz, 1H), 4.62 – 4.52 (m, 1H), 4.06 (d, *J* = 10.6 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 1H), 2.31 (d, *J* = 0.7 Hz, 1H); **minor**: 7.35 – 7.21 (m, 4H), 7.16 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 5.98 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 5.81 – 5.79 (m, 1H), 4.80 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 4.63 – 4.50 (m, 1H), 4.28 – 4.17 (m, 1H), 4.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (s, 1H), 2.20 (d, *J* = 0.7 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 170.5, 152.9, 146.3, 137.1, 128.9, 128.2, 127.9, 110.2, 106.9, 78.3, 76.71, 52.4, 49.0, 45.6, 45.23, 13.6; **minor**: 169.7, 152.4, 146.4, 136.8, 128.7, 128.0, 127.8, 109.7, 106.40, 78.3, 52.5, 49.0, 45.2, 13.5.)

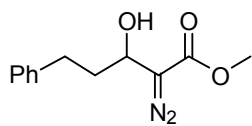
To a stirred solution of crude **5** and NiCl₂•6H₂O (23.8mg, 0.10 mmol) in 1mL EtOH at 0°C, NaBH₄ was added in portions. The reaction was quenched carefully by saturated aqueous NH₄Cl after stirring at 0°C for 2 hours, and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (5ml × 3), dried (anhydrous Na₂SO₄), concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford **6** and the enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis.

Characterization of diazoalcohols:

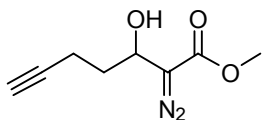
methyl 2-diazo-3-hydroxyheptanoate (1c)



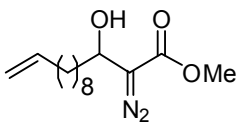
(Yellow oil) ¹H-NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 4.66 (td, *J* = 7.1, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 3.8 (s, 3H), 2.68 (brs, 1H), 1.78 – 1.67 (m, 1H), 1.64 – 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.49 – 1.28 (m, 4H), 0.91 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 167.0, 129.0, 66.7, 52.0, 33.7, 27.7, 22.3, 13.9; IR(KBr): γ 3464, 2957, 2097, 1698, 1438, 1294 cm⁻¹; ESI HRMS exact mass calcd for (C₈H₁₄N₂O₃Na)⁺ requires *m/z* 209.05891, found *m/z* 205.08923.

methyl 2-diazo-3-hydroxy-5-phenylpentanoate (1d)

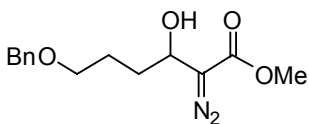
(Yellow oil) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.32 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.37 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 4.67 (m, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.80 – 2.60 (m, 2H), 2.13 – 1.84 (m, 2H), 1.73 (brs, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 166.9, 140.9, 128.5, 128.4, 126.2, 166.0, 52.0, 35.7, 31.9; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3455, 2097, 1694, 1438, 1298, 1118, 747, 700 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na})^+$ requires m/z 257.09021, found m/z 257.08932.

methyl 2-diazo-3-hydroxyhept-6-ynoate (1e)

(Yellow oil) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 4.87 – 4.77 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.82 (brs, 1H), 2.42 – 2.35 (m, 2H), 2.00 (t, $J = 2.6$ Hz, 1H), 1.98 – 1.79 (m, 2H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 166.1, 82.8, 69.4, 65.6, 52.1, 32.9, 15.0; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3455, 3294, 2955, 2099, 1685, 1438, 1298, 1120, 1052, 640 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na})^+$ requires m/z 205.05891, found m/z 205.05812.

methyl 2-diazo-3-hydroxytridec-12-enoate (1f)

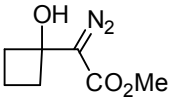
(Yellow oil) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 5.81 (ddt, $J = 16.9, 10.2, 6.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.02 – 4.90 (m, 2H), 4.67 (ddd, $J = 7.6, 6.4, 4.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.47 (brs, 1H), 2.03 (dt, $J = 6.8, 4.0$ Hz, 2H), 1.78 – 1.67 (m, 1H), 1.60 – 1.54 (m, 1H), 1.51 – 1.42 (m, 1H), 1.40 – 1.23 (m, 11H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 167.0, 139.2, 114.1, 77.2, 66.7, 52.0, 34.0, 33.8, 29.4, 29.3, 29.2, 29.1, 28.9, 25.6; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3462, 2926, 2855, 2096, 1697, 1438, 1296, 1115, 909 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na})^+$ requires m/z 291.16846, found m/z 291.16734.

methyl 6-(benzyloxy)-2-diazo-3-hydroxyhexanoate (1g)

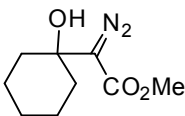
(Yellow oil) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.37 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 4.71 – 4.65 (m, 1H), 4.52 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.55 – 3.48 (m, 2H), 3.14 (brs, 1H), 1.84 – 1.71 (m, 4H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 166.8, 138.0, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7, 73.11, 69.8, 66.3, 51.9, 39.8, 31.9, 26.1; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3434, 2952, 2859, 2097, 1693, 1438, 1297, 1101, 741, 698 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for

(C₁₄H₁₈N₂O₃Na)⁺ requires m/z 301.11643, found m/z 301.11526.

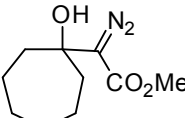
methyl 2-diazo-2-(1-hydroxycyclobutyl)acetate(1i)

 (Yellow oil) ¹H-NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.27 (brs, 1H), 2.40 – 2.24 (m, 4H), 2.01 – 1.89 (m, 1H), 1.75 – 1.63 (m, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 166.9, 77.2, 72.2, 51.9, 35.4, 13.1; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3476, 2954, 2094, 1728, 1427, 1316, 1119 cm⁻¹; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for (C₇H₁₀N₂O₃Na)⁺ requires m/z 193.05891, found m/z 193.05788.

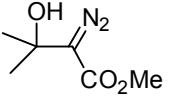
methyl 2-diazo-2-(1-hydroxycyclohexyl)acetate(1k)

 (Yellow oil) ¹H-NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.39 (brs, 1H), 1.90 – 1.83 (m, 2H), 1.75 – 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.58 – 1.50 (m, 1H), 1.48 – 1.38 (m, 2H), 1.38 – 1.28 (m, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 167.6, 70.2, 51.7, 36.4, 25.3, 22.0; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3465, 2935, 2858, 2091, 1694, 1437, 1308, 745 cm⁻¹; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for (C₉H₁₄N₂O₃Na)⁺ requires m/z 221.09021, found m/z 221.08922.

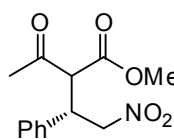
methyl 2-diazo-2-(1-hydroxycycloheptyl)acetate(1l)

 (Yellow oil) ¹H-NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.62 (brs, 1H), 1.97 (ddd, J = 14.4, 9.0, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 1.83 (ddd, J = 14.5, 9.6, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 1.69 – 1.53 (m, 4H), 1.53 – 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.41 – 1.29 (m, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 167.9, 77.0, 74.0, 51.8, 40.2, 29.0, 21.8; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3485, 2927, 2090, 1694, 1437, 1311, 1103, 747 cm⁻¹; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for (C₁₀H₁₆N₂O₃Na)⁺ requires m/z 235.10586, found m/z 235.10507.

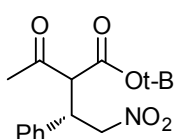
methyl 2-diazo-3-hydroxy-3-methylbutanoate(1m)

 (Yellow oil) ¹H-NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.71 (brs, 1H), 1.53 (s, 6H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 167.5, 77.2, 68.6, 51.8, 28.6; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3454, 2981, 2097, 1697, 1437, 1306, 1084, 969, 845, 746 cm⁻¹; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for (C₆H₁₀N₂O₃Na)⁺ requires m/z 181.05891, found m/z 181.05794.

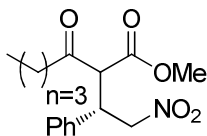
Characterization of the rearrangement/Michael addition Products:

(3S)-methyl 2-acetyl-4-nitro-3-phenylbutanoate (3aa)(White solid, 1:1 mixture of diastereomers) ¹H-NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm)7.34 – 7.25 (m, 6H), 7.23 – 7.18 (m, 4H), 4.88 – 4.80 (m, 2H), 4.77 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 4.27 – 4.17 (m, 2H), 4.14 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s,

3H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 201.2, 200.3, 168.0, 167.4, 136.4, 136.3, 129.2, 129.0, 128.4, 128.3, 127.9, 127.8, 77.8, 77.7, 61.8, 61.4, 53.0, 52.8, 42.6, 42.3, 30.4, 30.3; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-AD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 95/5, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 220 nm): **major**: t_R = 17.34 min (major), t_R = 23.40 min, 99% ee; **minor**: t_R = 22.25 min, t_R = 27.16 min (major), 99% ee.

(3S)-tert-butyl 2-acetyl-4-nitro-3-phenylbutanoate (3ba)(White solid, 3:1 mixture of diastereomers) ¹H-NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm)**major**: 7.34 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.22 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 4.76 – 4.65 (m, 2H), 4.23 – 4.09 (m, 1H), 4.02 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 1.17 (s, 9H).; **minor**: 7.33 – 7.27

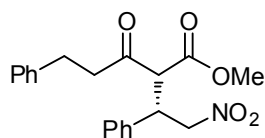
(m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 4.88 – 4.78 (m, 2H), 4.23 – 4.09 (m, 1H), 3.92 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 1.46 (s, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 201.4, 165.9, 136.6, 128.8, 128.3, 128.0, 83.0, 78.4, 63.1, 42.4, 29.7, 27.4; **minor**: 200.7, 166.7, 136.6, 129.1, 128.2, 128.0, 83.5, 77.9, 62.7, 42.5, 30.1, 27.8; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-AD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 95/5, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 220 nm): **major**: t_R = 11.53 min (major), t_R = 17.40 min, 97% ee; **minor**: t_R = 18.74 min, t_R = 24.20 min (major), 99% ee.

methyl 2-((S)-2-nitro-1-phenylethyl)-3-oxoheptanoate (3ca)(Colourless oil, 1.7:1 mixture of diastereomers) ¹H-NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ(ppm) **major**: 7.33 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.19 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 5.80 (m, 1H), 5.02 – 4.95 (m, 1H), 4.95 – 4.90 (m, 1H), 4.88 – 4.82 (m, 1H), 4.81 – 4.76 (m,

1H), 4.23 (ddd, *J* = 12.2, 8.6, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 1H), 2.43 (ddd, *J* = 17.7, 14.7, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (dt, *J* = 17.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.06 – 1.97 (m, 2H), 1.58 – 1.49 (m, 1H), 1.40 – 1.06 (m, 9H), 1.05 – 0.93 (m, 2H).; **minor**: 7.33 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.19 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 5.80 (dq, *J* = 20.2, 6.7, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 5.02 – 4.95 (m, 1H), 4.95 – 4.90 (m, 1H), 4.88 – 4.82 (m, 1H), 4.81 – 4.76 (m, 1H), 4.23 (ddd, *J* = 12.2, 8.6, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (d, *J* = 9.4

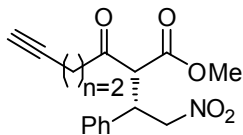
Hz, 1H), 3.52 (s, 1H), 2.60 (dt, $J = 17.7, 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.43 (ddd, $J = 17.7, 14.7, 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 2.04 – 2.00 (m, 2H), 1.40 – 1.06 (m, 12H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 202.6, 168.0, 136.4, 129.1, 128.4, 128.0, 77.8, 60.9, 52.9, 43.4, 42.8, 25.0, 21.7, 13.6; **minor**: 203.6, 167.6, 136.6, 129.0, 128.3, 127.8, 77.6, 61.3, 52.7, 43.0, 42.4, 25.3, 22.0, 13.7; **IR(KBr)**: γ 2958, 1744, 1556, 1435, 1378, 1272, 1170, 700 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_5\text{Na})^+$ requires m/z 330.13174, found m/z 330.13052; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-IC-H, hexane / isopropanol = 80/20, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 220 nm): **major**: $t_R = 8.43$ min (major), $t_R = 9.73$ min, 98% ee; **minor**: $t_R = 7.01$ min (major), $t_R = 9.12$ min, 94% ee.

(S)-methyl 2-((S)-2-nitro-1-phenylethyl)-3-oxo-5-phenylpentanoate (3da)



(White solid, 4.5:1 mixture of diastereomers) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 7.35 – 7.10 (m, 8H), 6.96 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 2H), 4.88 – 4.74 (m, 1H), 4.66 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.27 – 4.15 (m, 1H), 4.01 (d, $J = 10.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.67 (s, 1H), 2.84 – 2.73 (m, 1H), 2.72 – 2.55 (m, 2H), 2.42 (ddd, $J = 17.5, 8.4, 6.0$ Hz, 1H); **minor**: 7.35 – 7.10 (m, 10H), 4.88 – 4.74 (m, 1H), 4.66 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.25 – 4.20 (m, 1H), 4.06 (d, $J = 9.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.44 (s, 1H), 3.02 – 2.87 (m, 3H), 2.84 – 2.70 (m, 1H). $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 201.6, 167.8, 140.2, 136.3, 129.2, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 128.0, 126.2, 77.4, 61.0, 52.9, 45.2, 42.7, 29.0; **minor**: 202.7, 167.2, 140.2, 136.5, 129.0, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 127.8, 126.4, 77.8, 61.5, 52.8, 44.7, 42.4, 29.4; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3063, 3029, 2953, 1739, 1556, 1496, 1455, 1376, 1079, 751, 700, 552 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_5\text{Na})^+$ requires m/z 378.13174, found m/z 378.13052; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-IC-H, hexane / isopropanol = 80/20, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 220 nm): **major**: $t_R = 9.80$ min (major), $t_R = 12.32$ min, 98% ee; **minor**: $t_R = 8.57$ min (major), $t_R = 11.02$ min, 96% ee.

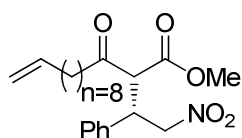
(S)-methyl 2-((S)-2-nitro-1-phenylethyl)-3-oxohex-5-ynoate (3ea)



(Colourless oil, 1.5:1 mixture of diastereomers) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 7.34 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.19 (dd, $J = 6.4, 1.5$ Hz, 2H), 4.90 – 4.76 (m, 2H), 4.29 – 4.21 (m, 1H), 4.07 (d, $J = 9.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 1H), 2.79 – 2.65 (m, 1H), 2.47 (td, $J = 7.0, 2.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.37 (ddd, $J = 18.0, 7.7, 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.31 – 2.14 (m, 1H), 1.86 (t, $J = 2.6$ Hz, 1H); **minor**: 7.35 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.21 (dd, $J = 6.4, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.90 – 4.75 (m, 2H), 4.30 – 4.20 (m, 1H), 4.15 (d, $J = 9.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.54 (s, 1H), 2.90 (dt, $J = 18.1, 7.0$ Hz, 1H),

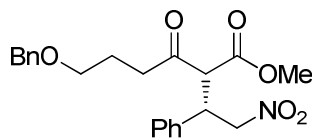
2.75 – 2.65 (m, 1H), 2.47 (td, $J = 7.0, 2.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.33 – 2.15 (m, 1H), 1.96 (t, $J = 2.6$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 200.4, 167.7, 136.4, 129.2, 128.5, 127.9, 82.1, 77.7, 68.9, 60.7, 53.0, 42.6, 42.3, 12.6; **minor**: 201.5, 167.1, 136.2, 129.1, 128.4, 127.8, 82.2, 77.5, 69.2, 61.2, 52.9, 42.4, 41.9, 12.9; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3292, 3034, 2955, 2097, 1716, 1552, 1434, 1376, 1074, 769, 700, 644 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_5\text{Na})^+$ requires m/z 326.10044, found m/z 326.09921; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-IC-H, hexane / isopropanol = 80/20, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 220 nm): **major**: $t_R = 9.41$ min (major), $t_R = 10.79$ min, 98% ee; **minor**: $t_R = 8.48$ min (major), $t_R = 12.02$ min, 98% ee.

(S)-methyl 2-((S)-2-nitro-1-phenylethyl)-3-oxohex-5-enoate (3fa)



(Colourless oil, 2.5:1 mixture of diastereomers) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 7.35 – 7.10 (m, 8H), 6.96 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 2H), 4.88 – 4.74 (m, 1H), 4.66 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.27 – 4.15 (m, 1H), 4.01 (d, $J = 10.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.67 (s, 1H), 2.84 – 2.73 (m, 1H), 2.72 – 2.55 (m, 2H), 2.42 (ddd, $J = 17.5, 8.4, 6.0$ Hz, 1H); **minor**: 7.35 – 7.10 (m, 10H), 4.88 – 4.74 (m, 1H), 4.66 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.25 – 4.20 (m, 1H), 4.06 (d, $J = 9.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.44 (s, 1H), 3.02 – 2.87 (m, 3H), 2.84 – 2.70 (m, 1H). $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 202.6, 168.0, 139.1, 136.4, 129.1, 128.4, 128.0, 114.2, 77.8, 60.9, 52.9, 43.7, 42.8, 33.8, 29.2, 29.1, 29.03, 29.0, 28.9, 28.6, 22.9; **minor**: 203.6, 167.5, 139.1, 136.6, 129.0, 128.3, 127.8, 114.2, 77.6, 61.3, 52.7, 43.3, 42.4, 33.8, 29.2, 29.0, 28.9, 28.8, 28.6, 23.3; **IR(KBr)**: γ 2929, 2855, 1743, 1556, 1433, 1375, 1170, 911, 701 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{31}\text{NO}_5\text{Na})^+$ requires m/z 412.20999, found m/z 412.20862; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-IC-H, hexane / isopropanol = 70/30, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 220 nm): **major**: $t_R = 6.05$ min (major), $t_R = 6.95$ min, 99% ee; **minor**: $t_R = 5.47$ min (major), $t_R = 6.46$ min, 99% ee.

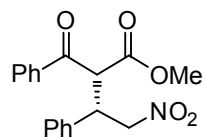
(S)-methyl 6-(benzyloxy)-2-((S)-2-nitro-1-phenylethyl)-3-oxohexanoate (3ga)



(While solid, 1.2:1 mixture of diastereomers) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 7.38 – 7.21 (m, 8H), 7.16 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 4.88 – 4.77 (m, 2H), 4.36 (s, 2H), 4.22 (ddd, $J = 16.4, 8.5, 4.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.03 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.28 (dt, $J = 9.4, 6.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.20 (dt, $J = 9.4, 6.1$ Hz, 1H), 2.59 (m, 1H), 2.27 (dt, $J = 18.2, 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.00 – 1.83 (m, 1H), 1.67 (m, 1H); **minor**: 7.35 –

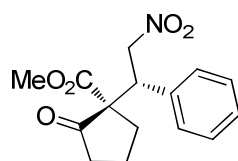
7.23 (m, 8H), 7.16 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 4.68 (dd, $J = 12.8, 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.60 (dd, $J = 12.8, 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.45 (s, 2H), 4.22 (ddd, $J = 16.4, 8.5, 4.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.09 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 3.49 – 3.43 (m, 2H), 2.77 – 2.65 (m, 1H), 2.59 (dtd, $J = 17.8, 6.9, 3.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.98 – 1.85 (m, 1H), 1.67 (p, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 202.3, 168.0, 138.3, 136.4, 129.1, 128.4, 128.3, 128.0, 127.8, 127.6, 77.7, 72.8, 68.7, 60.9, 52.9, 42.7, 40.4, 40.02, 23.3; **minor**: 203.1, 167.5, 138.2, 136.5, 129.0, 128.5, 128.3, 127.9, 127.8, 127.6, 77.5, 73.0, 69.0, 61.30, 52.7, 42.4, 40.0, 23.7; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3031, 2953, 2860, 1744, 1556, 1455, 1377, 1267, 1169, 1097, 740, 701 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_6\text{Na})^+$ requires m/z 422.15796, found m/z 422.15668; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-OD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 90/10, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 220 nm): **major**: $t_R = 30.00$ min, $t_R = 56.57$ min(major), 99% ee; **minor**: $t_R = 26.76$ min (major), $t_R = 33.02$ min, 99% ee.

(2S,3S)-methyl 2-benzoyl-4-nitro-3-phenylbutanoate (3ha)



(White solid, 1.7:1 mixture of diastereomers) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 7.86 – 7.82 (m, 2H), 7.57 – 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 4.98 – 4.92 (m, 2H), 4.86 – 4.75 (m, 1H), 4.43 (ddd, $J = 9.3, 7.9, 5.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H); **minor**: 8.05 – 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.64 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 4.99 – 4.90 (m, 2H), 4.90 – 4.75 (m, 1H), 4.52 – 4.47 (m, 1H), 3.43 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 192.6, 168.2, 136.6, 136.0, 133.9, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.2, 128.1, 78.0, 56.0, 53.1, 43.2; **minor**: 192.8, 167.5, 136.3, 135.8, 134.3, 129.0, 128.9, 128.6, 128.4, 128.0, 77.7, 56.9, 52.8, 43.2; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3060, 3029, 2950, 1739, 1551, 1496, 1455, 1377, 1079, 751, 700, 551 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_5)^+$ requires m/z 328.11850, found m/z 328.11713; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-AS-H, hexane / isopropanol = 97/3, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 254 nm): **major**: $t_R = 28.25$ min(major), $t_R = 49.76$ min, 96% ee; **minor**: $t_R = 34.25$ min (major), $t_R = 42.74$ min, 99% ee.

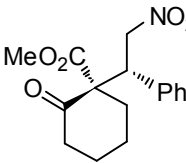
(S)-methyl 1-((R)-2-nitro-1-phenylethyl)-2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate (3ia)



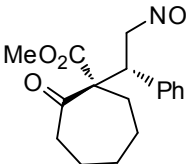
(White solid, 20:1dr) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.34 – 7.21 (m, 5H), 5.17 (dd, $J = 13.6, 3.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.01 (dd, $J = 13.6, 10.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.07

(dd, $J = 10.8, 3.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.43 – 2.30 (m, 2H), 2.08 – 1.76 (m, 4H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 212.2, 169.8, 135.3, 129.3, 128.9, 128.4, 77.7, 62.5, 53.0, 46.2, 37.9, 31.2, 19.3; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-OD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 80/20, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 220 nm): $t_R = 8.61$ min (major), $t_R = 12.77$ min, 91% ee.

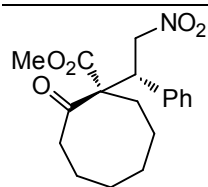
(S)-methyl 1-((R)-2-nitro-1-phenylethyl)-2-oxocyclohexanecarboxylate (3ja)

 (White solid, 50:1dr) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.31 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.16 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 5.05 (dd, $J = 13.5, 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.78 (dd, $J = 13.5, 11.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.01 (dd, $J = 11.2, 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.57 – 2.50 (m, 1H), 2.44 (td, $J = 12.8, 5.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.11 (ddd, $J = 13.3, 6.0, 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 2.05 – 1.98 (m, 1H), 1.76 – 1.57 (m, 3H), 1.53 – 1.44 (m, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 206.9, 170.2, 135.3, 129.4, 128.5, 128.3, 63.1, 52., 47.4, 41.4, 37.0, 27.9, 22.3; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3420, 3050, 2927, 2855, 1706, 1551, 1380, 1216, 703 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_5)^+$ requires m/z 306.13415, found m/z 306.13329; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -76.1$ (c 0.45, EtOAc); Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-IC-H, hexane / isopropanol = 90/10, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 220 nm): **major**: $t_R = 18.06$ min(major), $t_R = 22.12$ min, 98% ee.

(S)-methyl 1-((R)-2-nitro-1-phenylethyl)-2-oxocycloheptanecarboxylate (3ka)

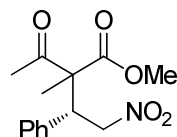
 (Colourless oil, 12:1dr) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.16 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 4.94 (dd, $J = 7.1, 5.7$ Hz, 2H), 4.06 (dd, $J = 9.8, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.61 (ddd, $J = 12.4, 8.3, 4.1$ Hz, 1H), 2.52 (ddd, $J = 12.8, 8.9, 4.2$ Hz, 1H), 1.93 – 1.85 (m, 1H), 1.80 – 1.50 (m, 6H), 1.47 – 1.36 (m, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 208.2, 171.3, 135.6, 129.4, 128.7, 128.3, 77.9, 65.6, 52.5, 48.6, 41.4, 33.0, 29.0, 25.1, 24.6; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3420, 3050, 2923, 2850, 1688, 1591, 1460, 1430, 1260, 1184, 1117, 811, 696 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_5)^+$ requires m/z 320.14980, found m/z 320.15011; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -27.6$ (c 1.03, EtOAc); Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-IC-H, hexane / isopropanol = 90/10, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 210 nm): **major**: $t_R = 9.37$ min(major), $t_R = 18.89$ min, 91% ee.

(S)-methyl 1-((R)-2-nitro-1-phenylethyl)-2-oxocyclooctanecarboxylate (3la)



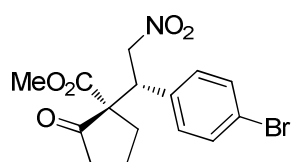
(Colourless oil, 6:1 mixture of diastereomers) **¹H-NMR**(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.10 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 5.07 (dd, J = 13.4, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.72 (dd, J = 13.4, 11.3 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (dd, J = 11.2, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.62 (ddd, J = 13.4, 10.4, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (ddd, J = 13.3, 6.6, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.20 – 2.10 (m, 1H), 1.90 – 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.72 – 1.59 (m, 4H), 1.48 – 1.33 (m, 2H), 1.23 – 1.11 (m, 1H); **¹³C-NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 210.7, 171.1, 135.8, 129.0, 128.7, 128.3, 78.4, 64.6, 52.6, 46.3, 40.0, 27.1, 26.4, 24.8, 22.5; **IR(KBr)**: γ 2927, 2854, 1706, 1552, 1379, 1216, 703 cm⁻¹; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for (C₁₈H₂₄NO₅)⁺ requires m/z 334.16545, found m/z 334.16461; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-OD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 90/10, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 210 nm): **major**: t_R = 7.83 min(major), t_R = 8.36 min, 88% ee; **minor**: t_R = 10.53 min(major), t_R = 14.36 min, 68% ee

(3R)-methyl 2-acetyl-2-methyl-4-nitro-3-phenylbutanoate (3ma)



(White solid, 3:1 mixture of diastereomers) **¹H-NMR**(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm) **major** : δ 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 3H), , 7.13 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 5.00 – 4.92 (m, 1H), 4.88 (dd, J = 13.5, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (dd, J = 10.9, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H); **minor**: δ 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.22 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 5.05 – 4.95 (m, 2H), 4.24 (dd, J = 8.5, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H).; **¹³C-NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 204.2, 171.8, 135.3, 128.9, 128.8, 128.4, 62.6, 52.8, 47.8, 26.5, 20.1; **minor**: 205.2, 171.3, 135.4, 129.2, 128.8, 128.4, 62.0, 52.8, 47.3, 27.3, 18.0; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3425, 3050, 2923, 2847, 1688, 1591, 1459, 1431, 1260, 1184, 1117, 811, 697 cm⁻¹; **EI HRMS** exact mass calcd for (C₁₄H₁₇NO₅)⁺ requires m/z 279.1107, found m/z 279.1113; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-IC-H, hexane / isopropanol = 90/10, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 220 nm): **major**: t_R = 15.69 min(major), t_R = 42.00 min, 99% ee; **minor**: t_R = 16.55 min(major), t_R = 28.30 min, 97% ee.

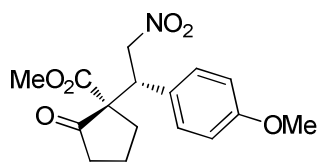
(S)-methyl 1-((R)-1-(4-bromophenyl)-2-nitroethyl)-2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate (3ib)



(White solid, 30:1 dr) **¹H-NMR**(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.46 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.17 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 5.15 (dd, J = 13.7, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 4.97 (dd, J = 13.7, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (dd, J = 11.0, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.44 – 2.28 (m, 2H), 2.15 – 2.00 (m, 1H), 1.99 – 1.80 (m, 3H); **¹³C-NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 212.0, 169.7, 134.4, 132.0, 131.1, 122.6, 77.8, 62.2, 53.1, 45.7, 37.9,

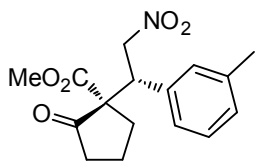
31.4, 19.3; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-OD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 90/10, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 220 nm): t_R = 12.92 min(major), t_R = 20.15 min, 92% ee.

(S)-methyl 1-((R)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-nitroethyl)-2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate (3ic)



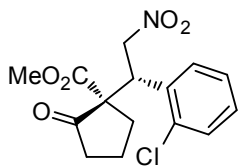
(White solid, 20:1dr) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.16 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.11 (dd, J = 13.4, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.96 (dd, J = 13.4, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (dd, J = 11.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.44 – 2.27 (m, 2H), 2.08 – 1.75 (m, 4H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 212.3, 169.9, 159.4, 130.4, 127.0, 114.2, 77.7, 62.7, 55.2, 53.0, 45.5, 38.0, 31.0, 19.4; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-OD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 90/10, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 220 nm): t_R = 13.69 min(major), t_R = 19.21 min, 90% ee.

(S)-methyl 1-((R)-2-nitro-1-(m-tolyl)ethyl)-2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate (3id)



(Colourless oil, 50:1dr) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.18 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.05 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 5.15 (dd, J = 13.6, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 4.99 (dd, J = 13.6, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (dd, J = 10.8, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.36 (ddt, J = 8.5, 6.6, 4.9 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.09 – 1.77 (m, 4H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 212.2, 169.8, 138.5, 135.2, 130.1, 129.1, 128.7, 126.1, 76.5, 62.5, 53.0, 46.2, 37.9, 31.2, 21.5, 19.3; **IR(KBr)**: γ 2957, 1727, 1553, 1434, 1378, 1231, 1148, 727 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_5\text{Na})^+$ requires m/z 328.11609, found m/z 328.11499; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ = +37.7 (c 1.14, EtOAc); Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-OD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 90/10, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, T = 30 °C, 220 nm): t_R = 9.51 min(major), t_R = 13.26 min, 98% ee.

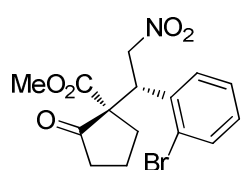
(S)-methyl 1-((S)-1-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-nitroethyl)-2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate (3ie)



(White solid, 25:1dr) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.52 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 5.48 (dd, J = 14.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (dd, J = 13.9, 10.6 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (dd, J = 10.6, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.49 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.35 – 2.21 (m, 2H), 2.18 – 1.83 (m, 4H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 212.5, 169.8, 135.6, 134.7, 130.2, 129.4, 128.9, 127.7, 62.2, 54.6, 52.9, 37.8, 32.9, 27.2, 19.3; **IR(KBr)**: γ 2956, 1729, 1553, 1435, 1377, 1232, 1160, 1037,

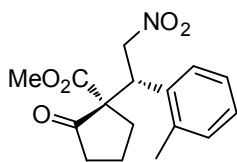
761 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_5\text{ClNa})^+$ requires m/z 348.06147, found m/z 348.06052; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -20.0$ (c 1.07, EtOAc); Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-OD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 99/1, flow rate 0.5 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 220 nm): $t_{\text{R}} = 22.63$ min(major), $t_{\text{R}} = 23.68$ min, 97% ee.

(S)-methyl 1-((S)-1-(2-bromophenyl)-2-nitroethyl)-2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate (3if)



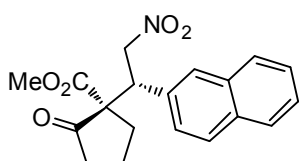
(White solid, 50:1dr) **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.58 (dd, $J = 8.0$, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd, $J = 7.9$, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.14 (ddd, $J = 9.0$, 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.48 (dd, $J = 13.8$, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (dd, $J = 13.8$, 10.6 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (dd, $J = 10.6$, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.50 (m, 2H), 2.28 – 2.17 (m, 1H), 2.16 – 2.05 (m, 1H), 2.02 – 1.87 (m, 2H); **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 212.5, 169.9, 136.5, 133.6, 129.7, 128.9, 128.3, 126.8, 77.7, 62.2, 52.9, 43.9, 37.8, 33.0, 19.34; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-OD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 95/5, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 220 nm): $t_{\text{R}} = 8.69$ min (major), $t_{\text{R}} = 10.49$ min, 99% ee.

(S)-methyl 1-((R)-2-nitro-1-(o-tolyl)ethyl)-2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate (3ig)



(Colourless oil, 25:1dr) **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.19 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 5.26 (dd, $J = 13.5$, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 4.94 (dd, $J = 13.4$, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (dd, $J = 10.8$, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.44 – 2.33 (m, 2H), 2.21 – 2.09 (m, 1H), 2.03 – 1.88 (m, 3H); **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$** (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 212.2, 170.1, 138.0, 134.7, 131.3, 128.0, 126.9, 126.6, 76.7, 62.6, 53.0, 40.6, 37.9, 31.9, 20.1, 19.4; **IR(KBr)**: γ 2957, 1727, 1553, 1434, 1378, 1231, 1145 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_5\text{Na})^+$ requires m/z 328.11609, found m/z 328.11508; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +1.48$ (c 1.02, EtOAc); Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-AD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 95/5, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 254 nm): $t_{\text{R}} = 7.52$ min(major), $t_{\text{R}} = 8.25$ min, 98% ee.

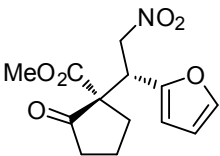
(S)-methyl 1-((R)-1-(naphthalen-2-yl)-2-nitroethyl)-2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate (3ih)



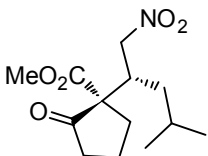
(White solid, 20:1dr) **$^1\text{H-NMR}$** (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.82 – 7.78 (m, 3H), 7.72 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.38 (dd, $J = 8.6$, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.25 (dd, $J = 13.7$, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (dd, $J = 13.7$, 10.7 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (dd, $J = 10.7$, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.44 – 2.31 (m, 2H), 2.10 – 1.99 (m, 2H), 1.98 –

1.77 (m, 2H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 212.2, 169.9, 133.2, 133.0, 132.8, 128.9, 128.7, 128.07, 127.6, 126.6, 126.6, 126.5, 76.5, 62.6, 53.1, 46.4, 37.9, 31.4, 19.4; **IR(KBr)**: γ 3065, 3030, 2953, 1739, 1556, 1500, 1456, 1376, 1079, 751, 700, 550 cm^{-1} ; **EI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_5)^+$ requires m/z 341.1263, found m/z 341.1267; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = +35.2$ (c 1.17, EtOAc); Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-OD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 70/30, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 254 nm): $t_{\text{R}} = 13.26$ min, $t_{\text{R}} = 37.64$ min (major), 93% ee.

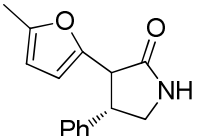
(S)-methyl 1-((R)-1-(furan-2-yl)-2-nitroethyl)-2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate (3ii)

 (Colourless oil, 25:1dr) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.34 (dd, $J = 1.8, 0.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.32 – 6.28 (m, 1H), 6.19 (d, $J = 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.98 – 4.85 (m, 2H), 4.43 (dd, $J = 9.7, 4.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.53 – 2.44 (m, 1H), 2.40 – 2.30 (m, 1H), 2.18 – 2.08 (m, 1H), 2.05 – 1.92 (m, 2H), 1.80 – 1.69 (m, 1H).; $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 211.9, 169.4, 149.1, 142.7, 110.9, 110.1, 77.5, 61.9, 53.2, 40.4, 37.9, 30.3, 19.4; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-OD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 90/10, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 220 nm): $t_{\text{R}} = 8.22$ min(major), $t_{\text{R}} = 12.80$ min, 94% ee.

(S)-methyl 1-((R)-4-methyl-1-nitropentan-2-yl)-2-oxocyclopentanecarboxylate (3ij)

 (Colourless oil, 99:1dr) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) 4.88 (dd, $J = 14.2, 5.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.32 (dd, $J = 14.2, 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.95 – 2.86 (m, 1H), 2.64 – 2.55 (m, 1H), 2.48 – 2.37 (m, 1H), 2.36 – 2.25 (m, 1H), 2.08 – 1.88 (m, 3H), 1.60 – 1.50 (m, 1H), 1.44 (ddd, $J = 14.2, 8.2, 3.7$ Hz, 1H), 1.03 – 0.95 (m, 1H), 0.91 (s, 3H), 0.89 (s, 3H).; $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) 213.2, 169.9, 76.6, 63.0, 52.7, 39.5, 38.4, 38.3, 31.1, 25.7, 23.7, 21.1, 19.4; **IR(KBr)**: γ 2958, 1724, 1553, 1432, 1380, 1231, 1164 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_5\text{Na})^+$ requires m/z 294.13174, found m/z 294.13043; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -59.9$ (c 1.10, EtOAc); Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-OD-H, hexane / isopropanol = 90/10, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 220 nm): $t_{\text{R}} = 5.99$ min(major), $t_{\text{R}} = 8.05$ min, 99% ee.

(4S)-3-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)-4-phenylpyrrolidin-2-one (6)

 (Colourless oil, 3:1 mixture of diastereomers) $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 7.36 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 6.11 (d, $J =$

3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.91 – 5.86 (m, 1H), 4.01 – 3.85 (m, 1H), 3.85 – 3.72 (m, 2H), 3.53 – 3.46 (m, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H); **minor**: 7.30 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.20 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.05 – 7.00 (m, 1H), 6.40 (s, 1H), 5.81 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.71 – 5.68 (m, 1H), 4.01 – 3.85 (m, 2H), 3.82 – 3.72 (m, 2H), 2.11 (s, 3H); **^{13}C -NMR** (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm) **major**: 175.2, 152.1, 148.3, 140.3, 128.9, 127.3, 127.1, 109.3, 106.4, 49.0, 47.3, 46.3, 13.7; **minor**: 175.1, 151.5, 147.1, 138.2, 128.1, 127.9, 127.0, 109.9, 106.1, 47.5, 46.4, 45.7, 13.5 ; **IR(KBr)**: γ 2924, 2853, 1695, 1462, 1376, 1260, 1021, 793, 700 cm^{-1} ; **ESI HRMS** exact mass calcd for $(\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_2\text{Na})^+$ requires m/z 264.10005, found m/z 264.09900; Enantiomeric excess determined by HPLC (Chiracel-IC-H, hexane / isopropanol = 70/30, flow rate 1.0 mL/min, $T = 30^\circ\text{C}$, 220 nm) : **major**: $t_R = 15.31$ min, $t_R = 32.39$ min(major), 99% ee; **minor**: $t_R = 19.57$ min(major), $t_R = 47.56$ min, 99% ee.

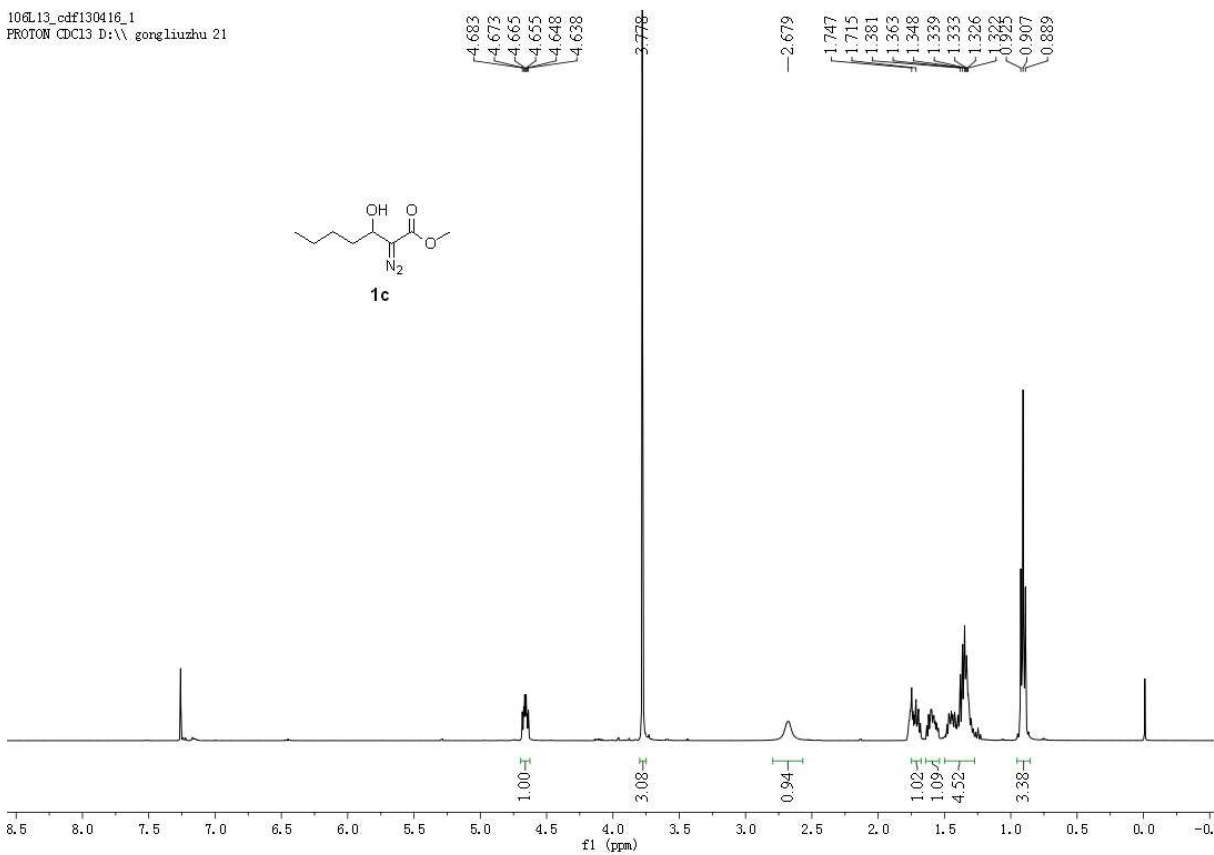
References:

- (1) (a) Denmark, S. E.; Marcin, L. R. *J. Org. Chem.* **1993**, *58*, 3850-3856; (b) Bulbule, V. J.; Jnaneshwara, G. K.; Deshmukh, R. R.; Borate, H. B.; Deshpande, V. H. *Synthetic Commun.* **2001**, *31*, 3623-3626.
- (2) (a) Schwartz, B. D.; Denton, J. R.; Lian, Y.-J.; Davies, H. M. L.; Williams, C. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, *131*, 8329-8332; (b) Xiao, F.-P.; Liu, Y.; Wang, J.-B. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2007**, *48*, 1147-1149; (c) Pallicciari, R.; Natalini, B.; Sadeghpour, B. M.; Marinozzi, M.; Snyder, J. P.; Williamson, B. L.; Kuethe, J. T.; Padwa, A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, *118*, 1-12.
- (3) (a) Han, Y. B.; Surajit, S.; Joong, S. O.; Yong, S. L.; Choong, E. S. *Chem. Commun.* **2011**, *47*, 9621-9623; (b) Furutachi, M.; Chen, Z.-H.; Matsunaga, S.; Shibasaki, M. *Molecules* **2010**, *15*, 532-544.

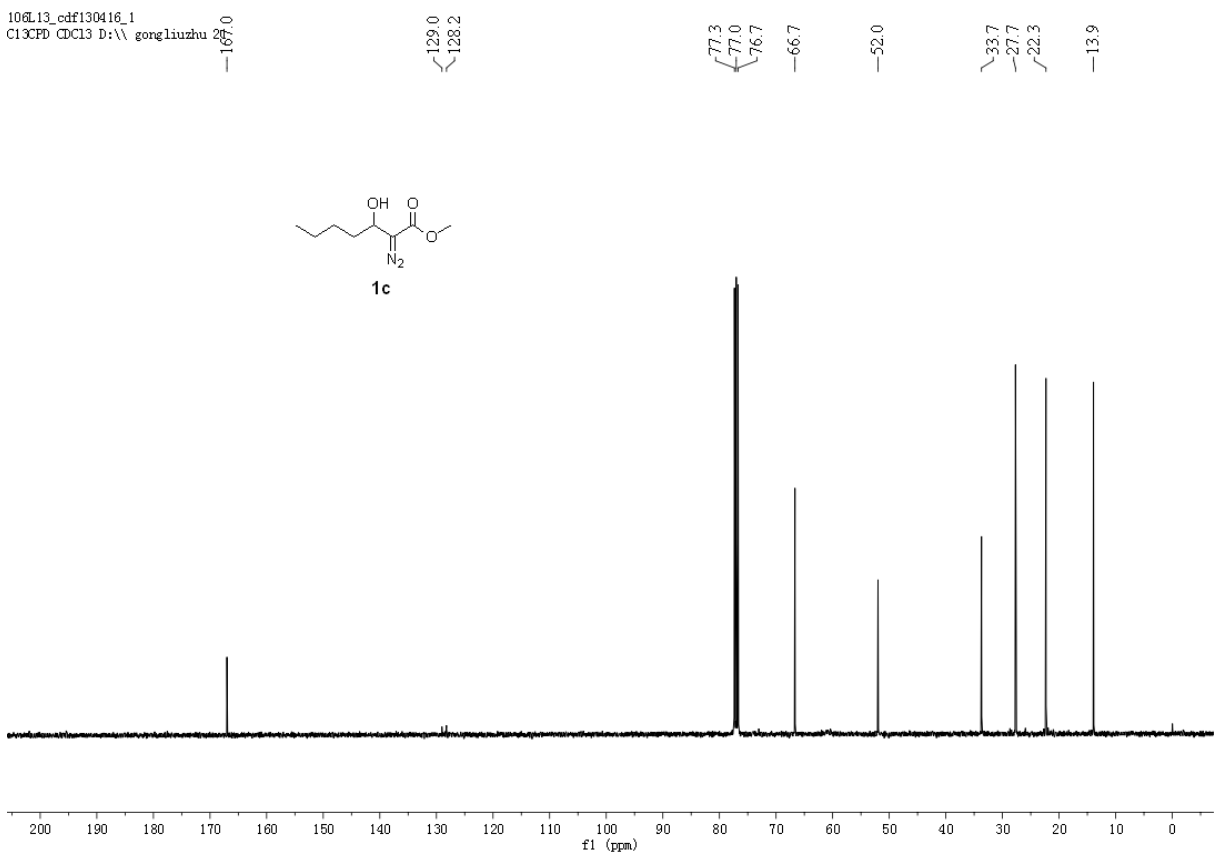
Supporting Information

Selected NMR and HPLC Spectra

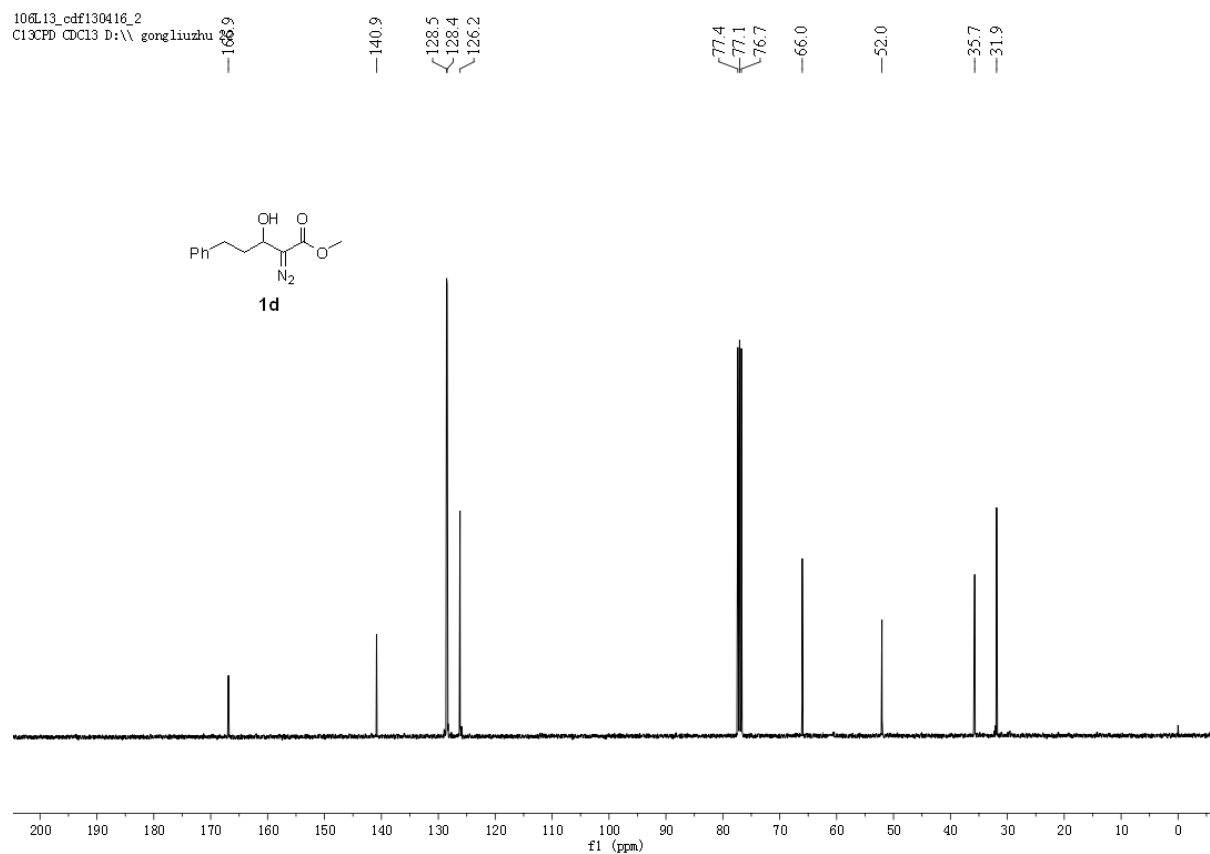
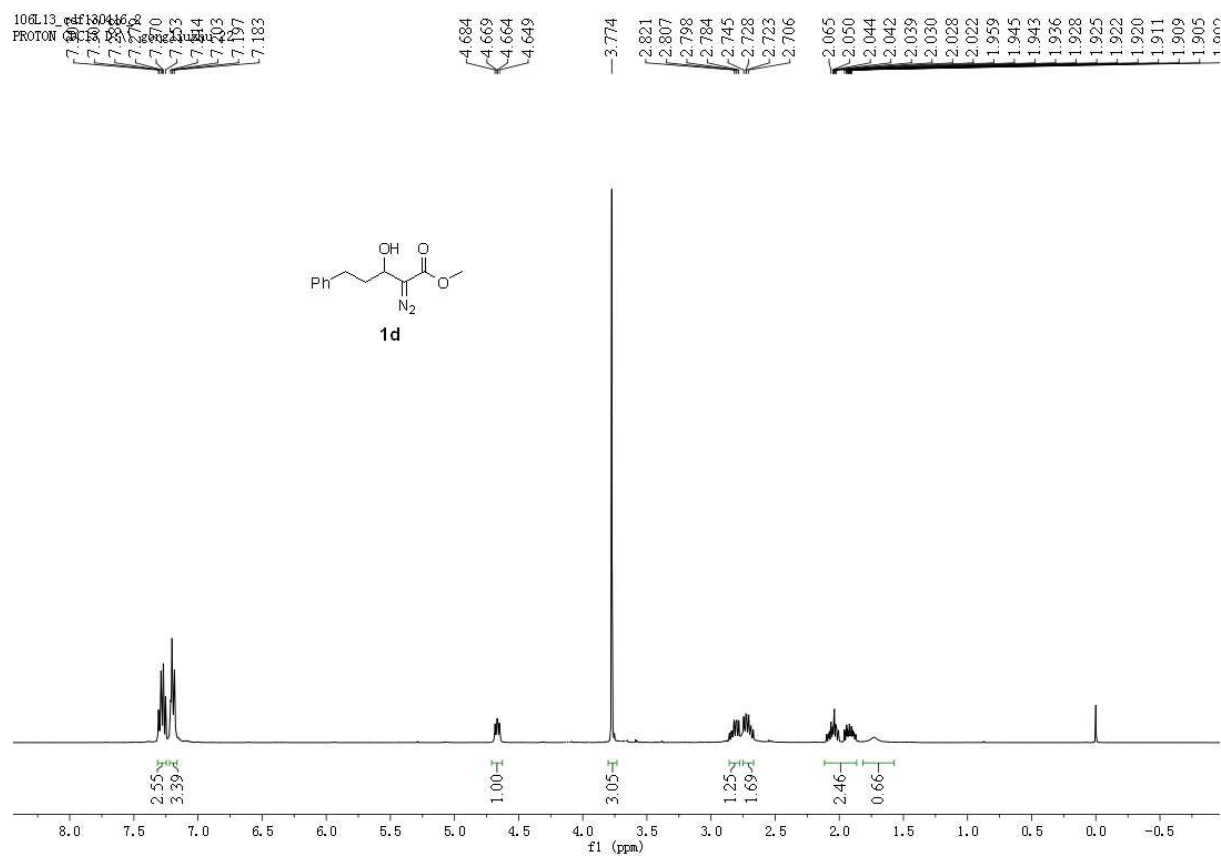
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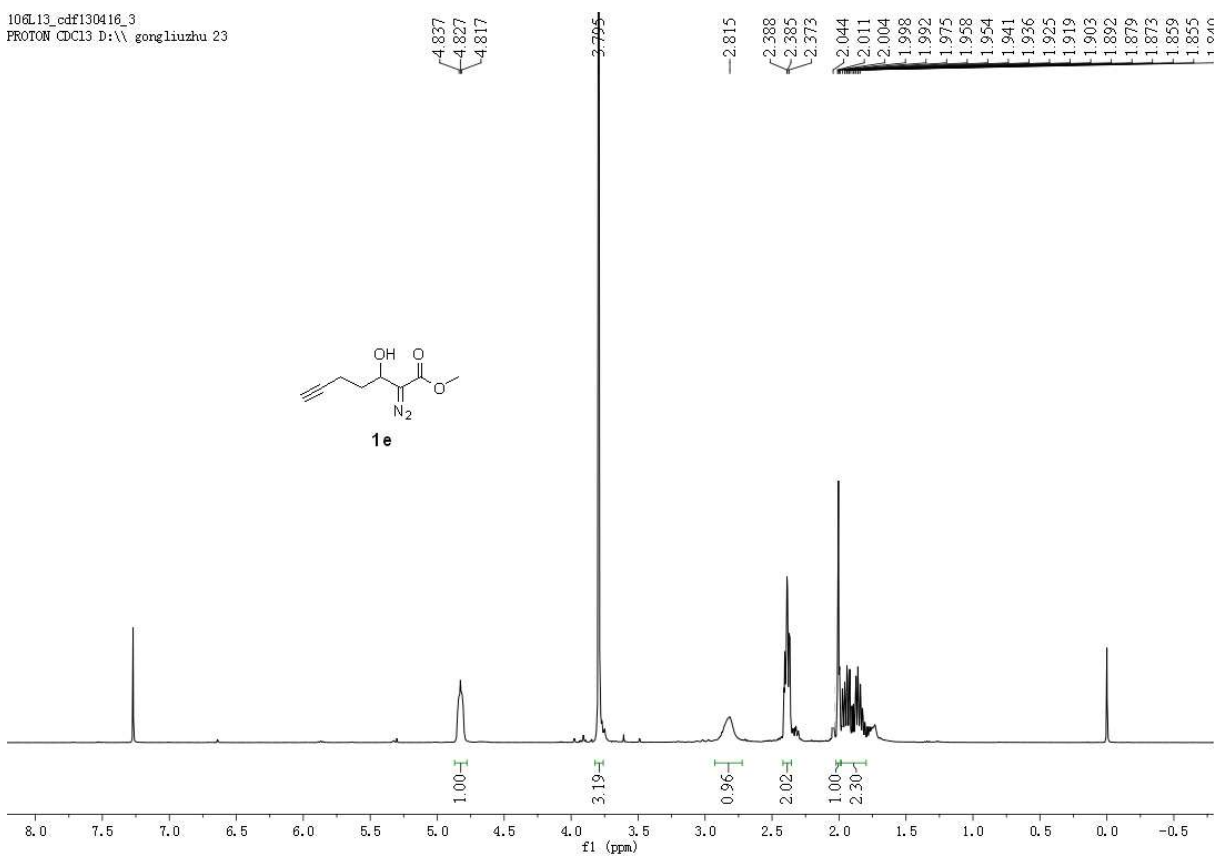


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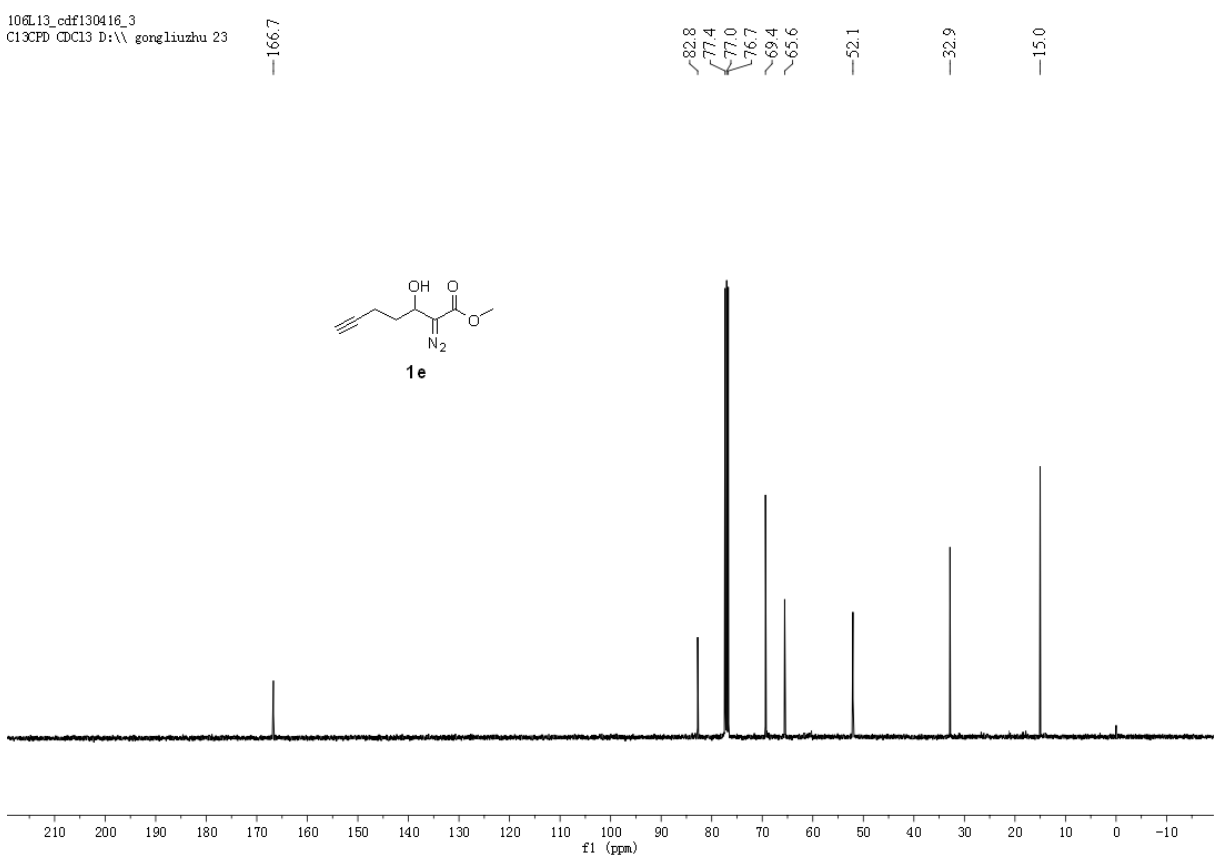


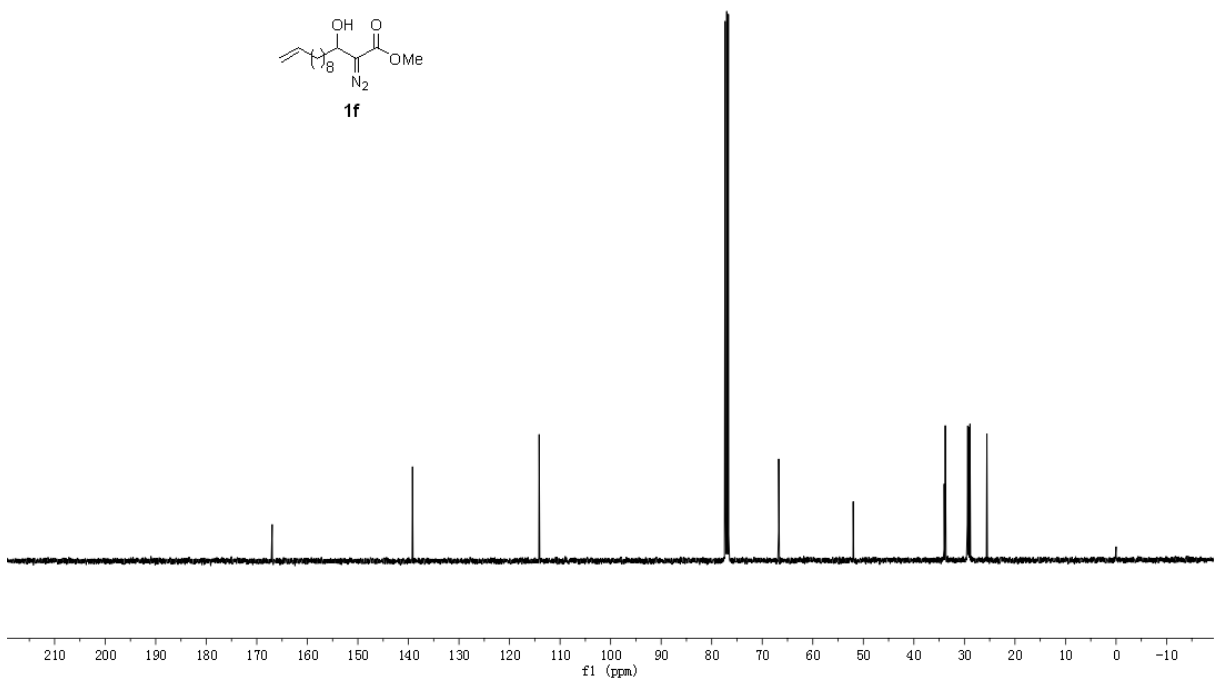
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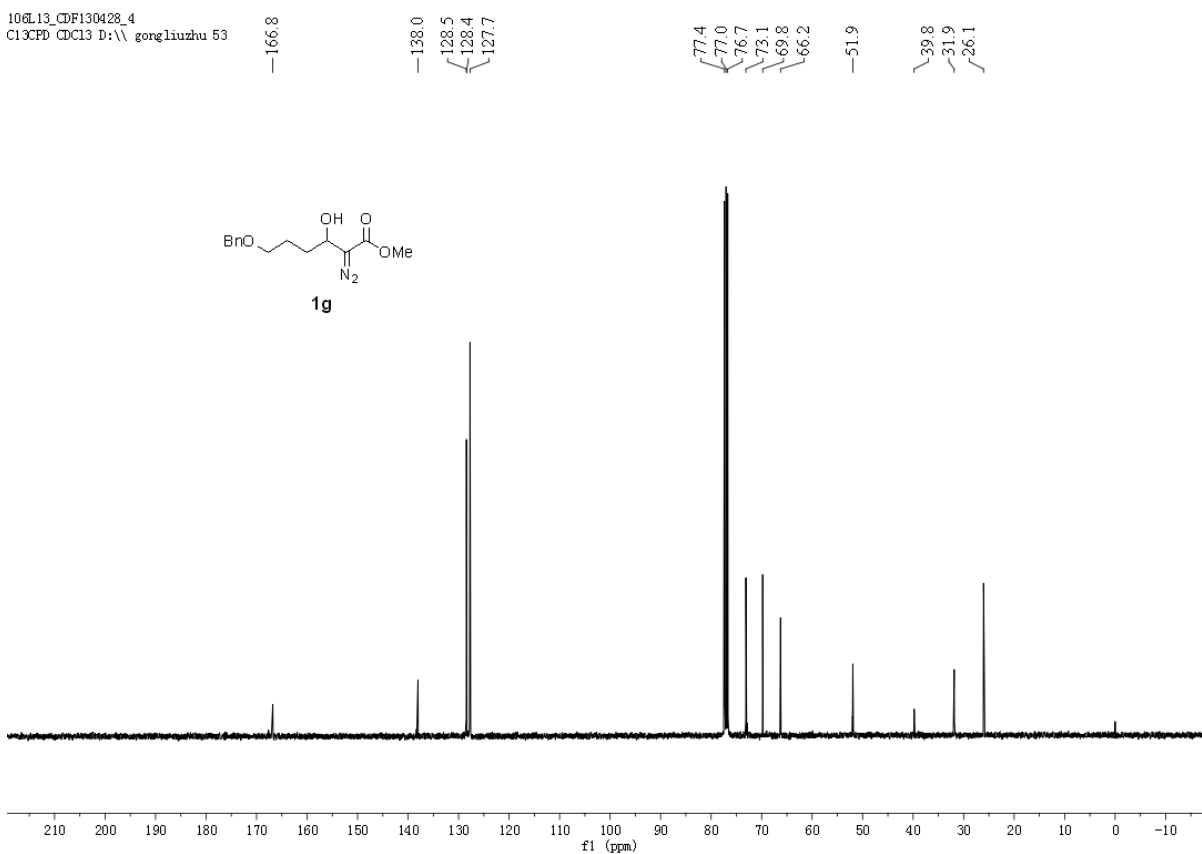
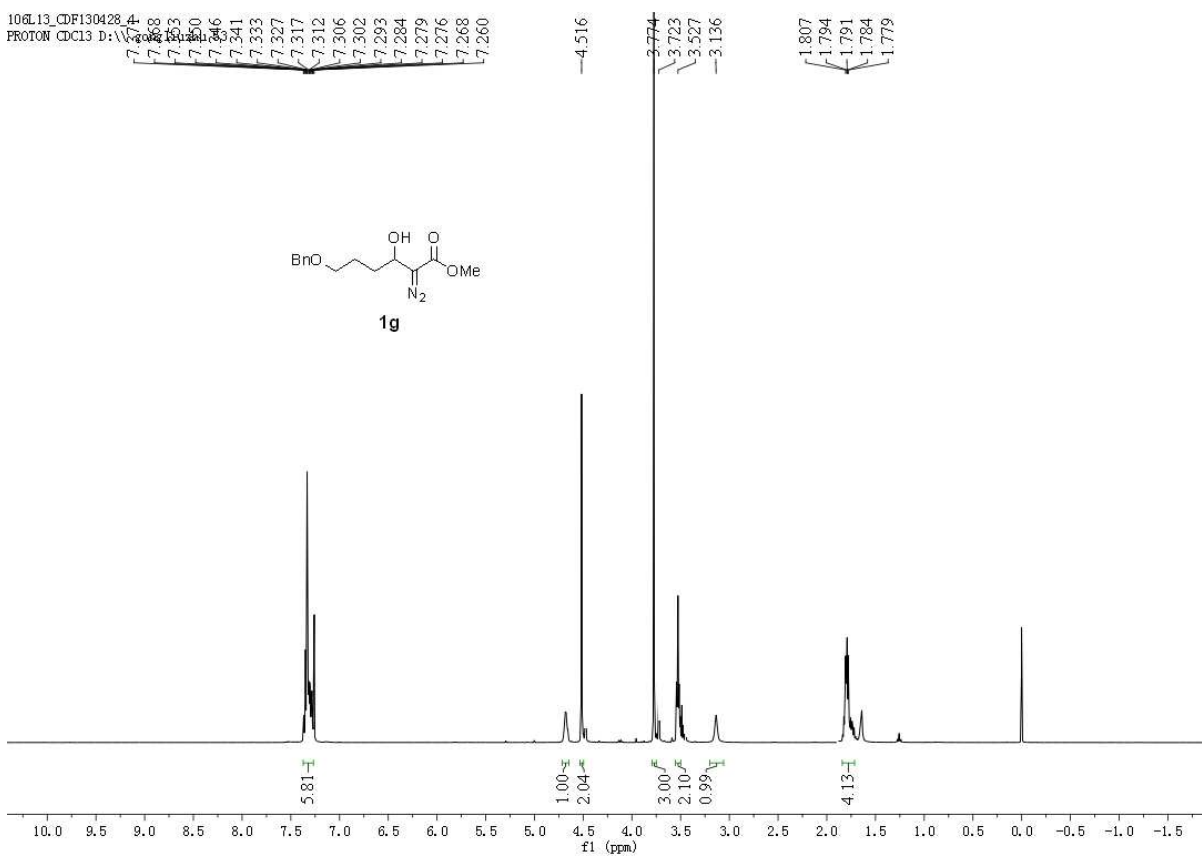
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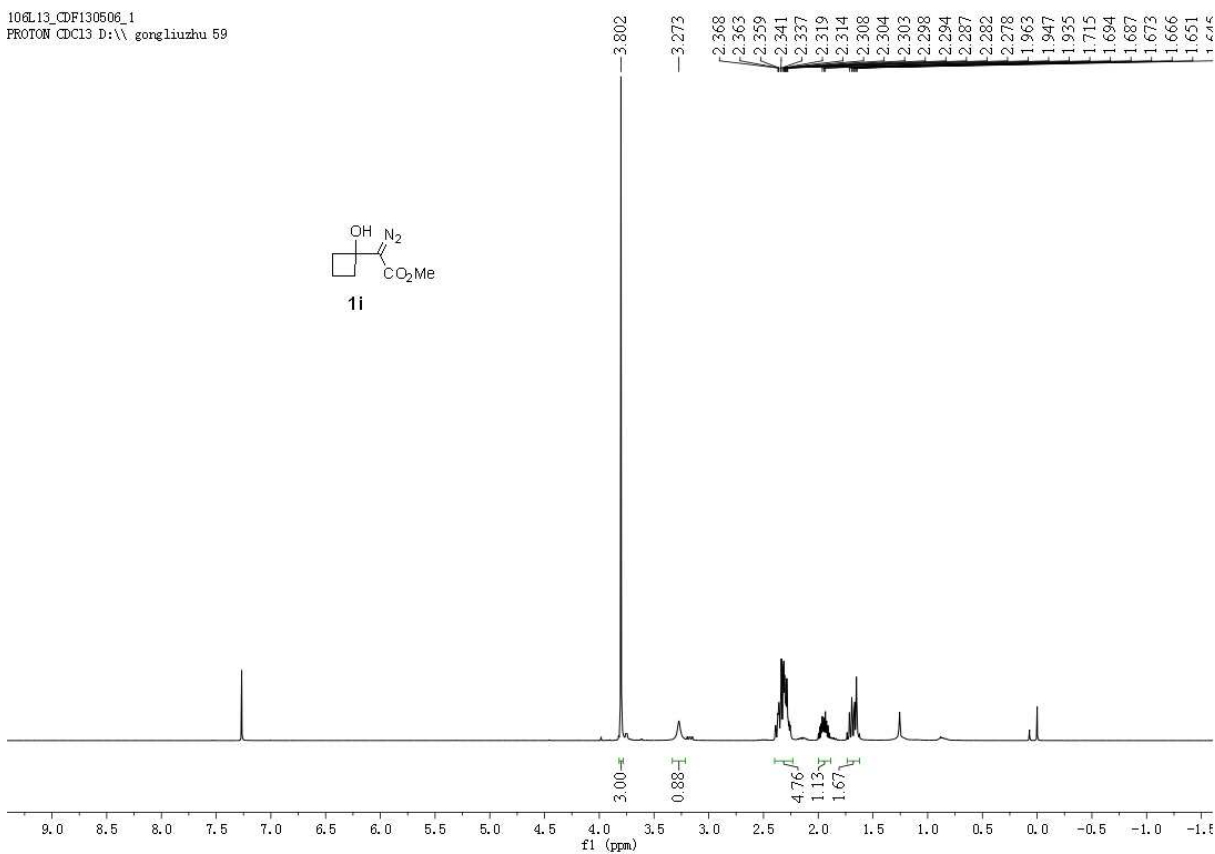




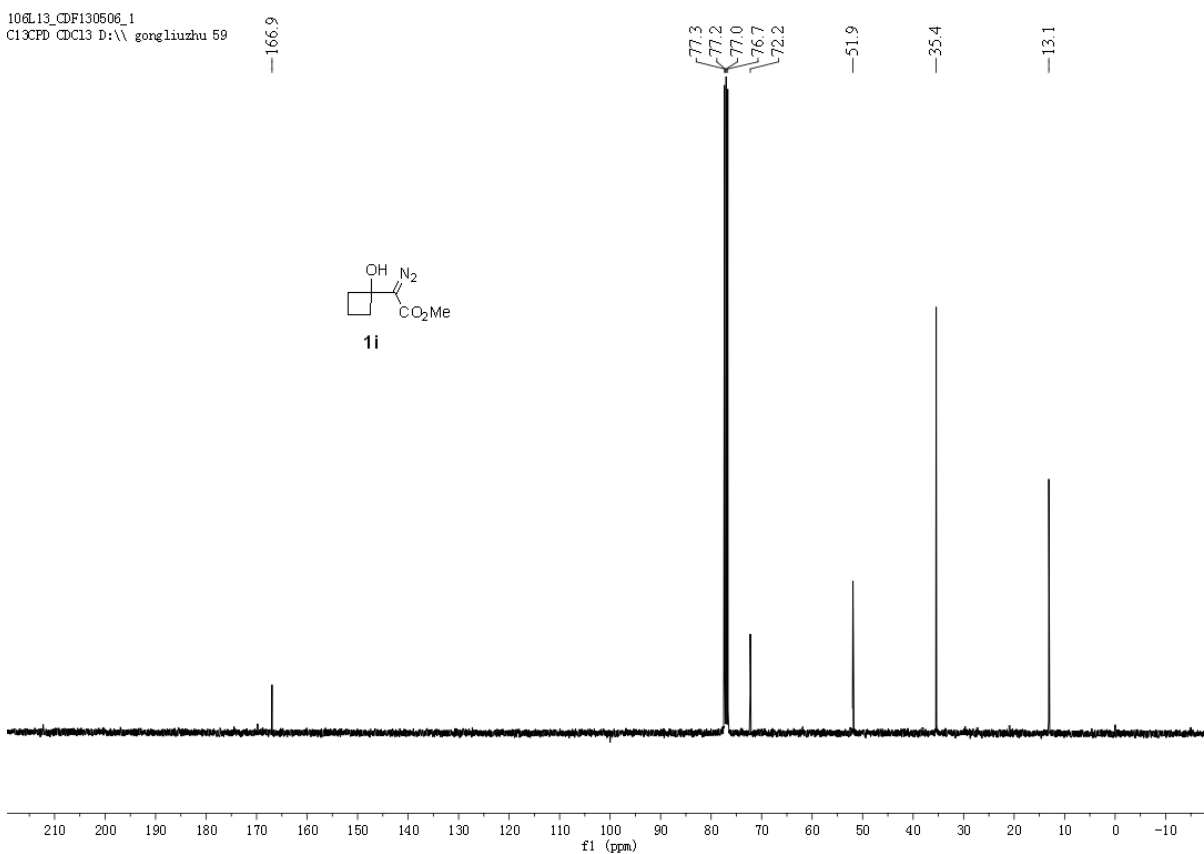


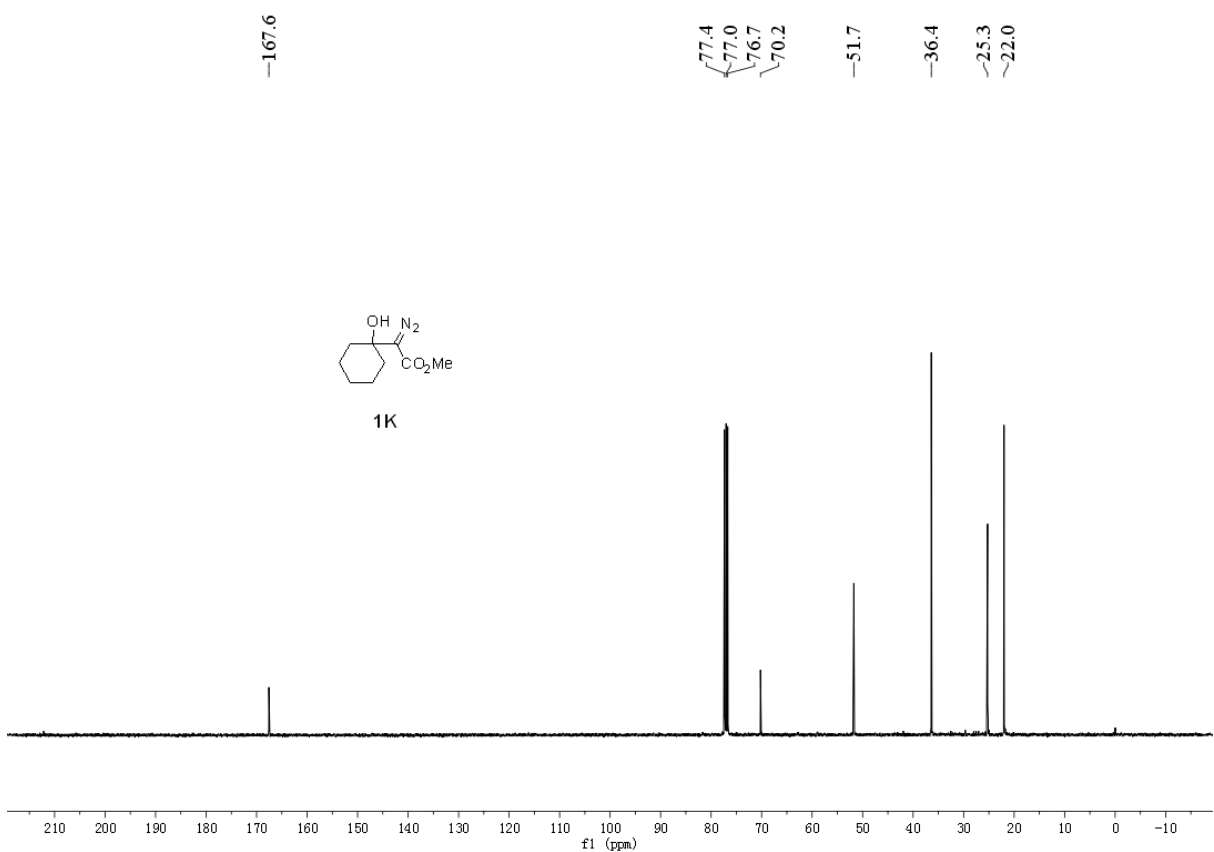
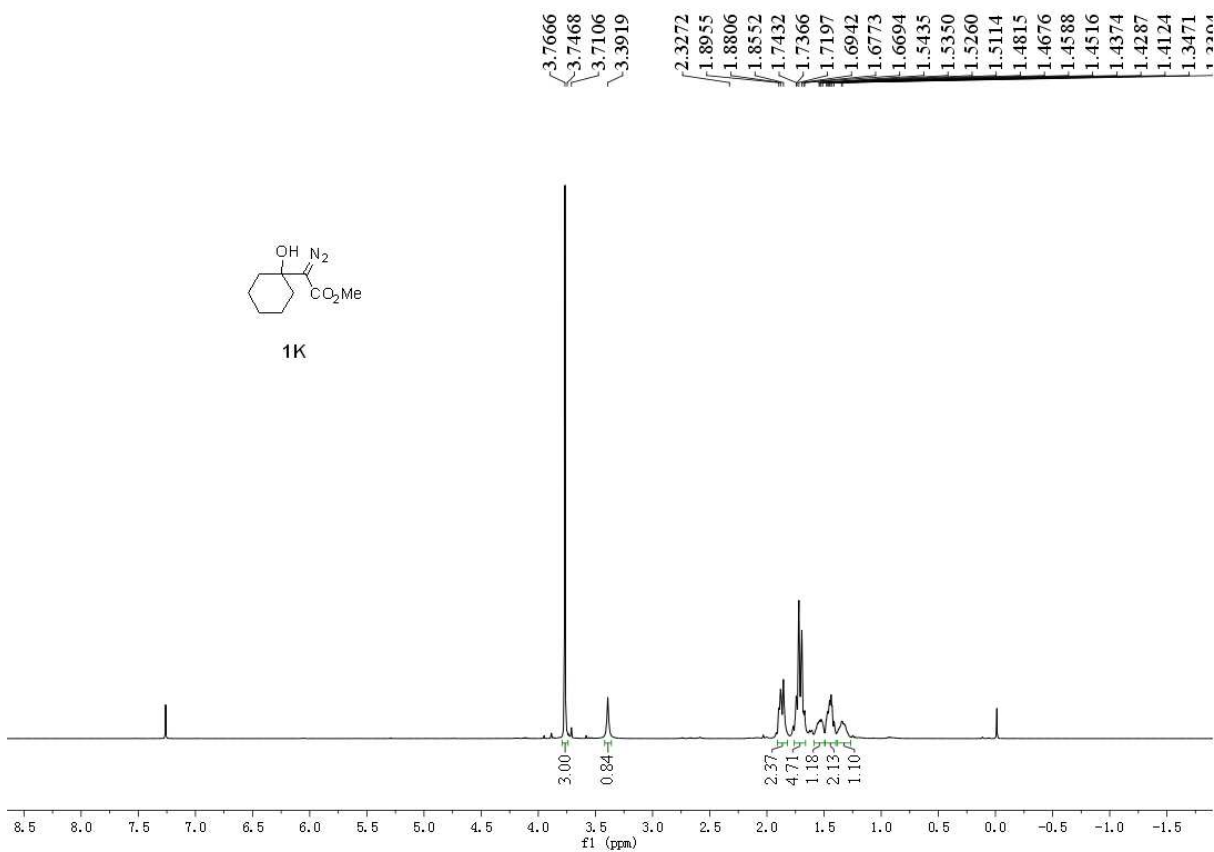
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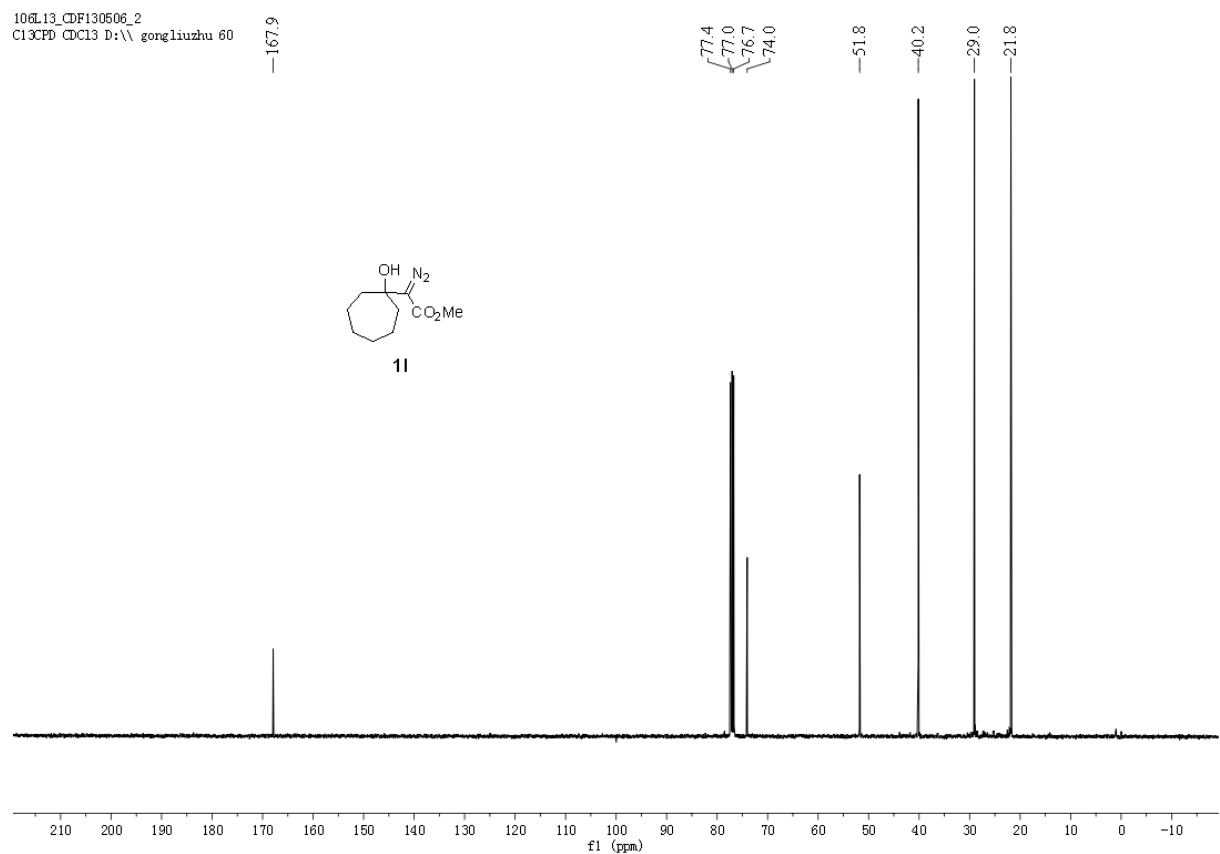
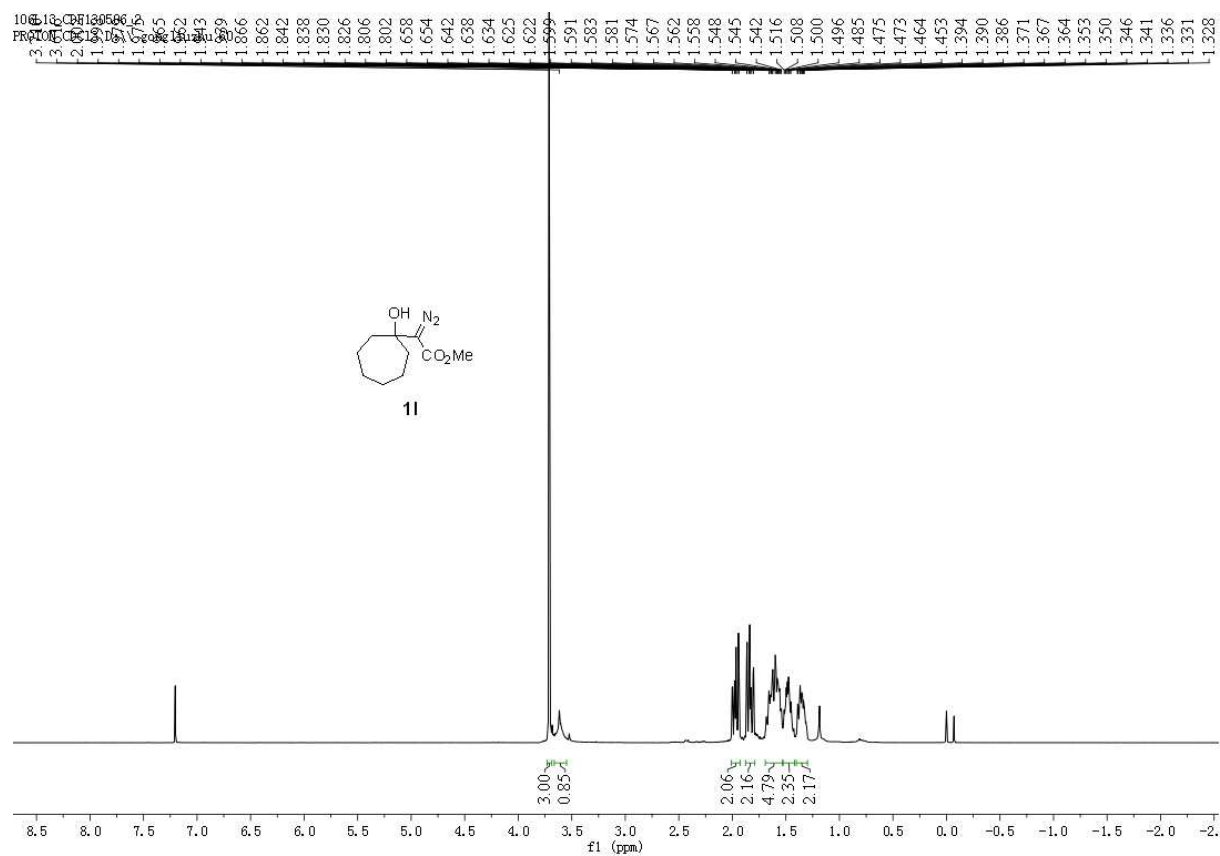
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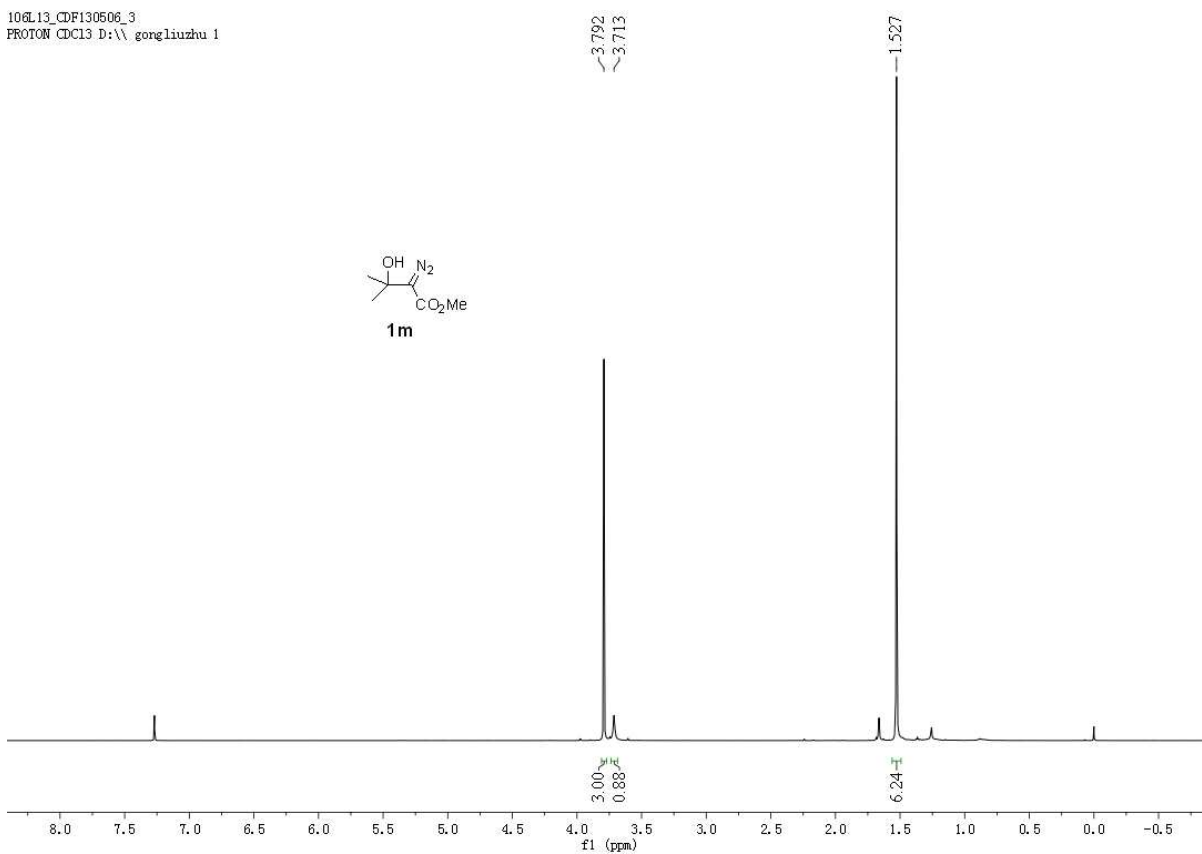




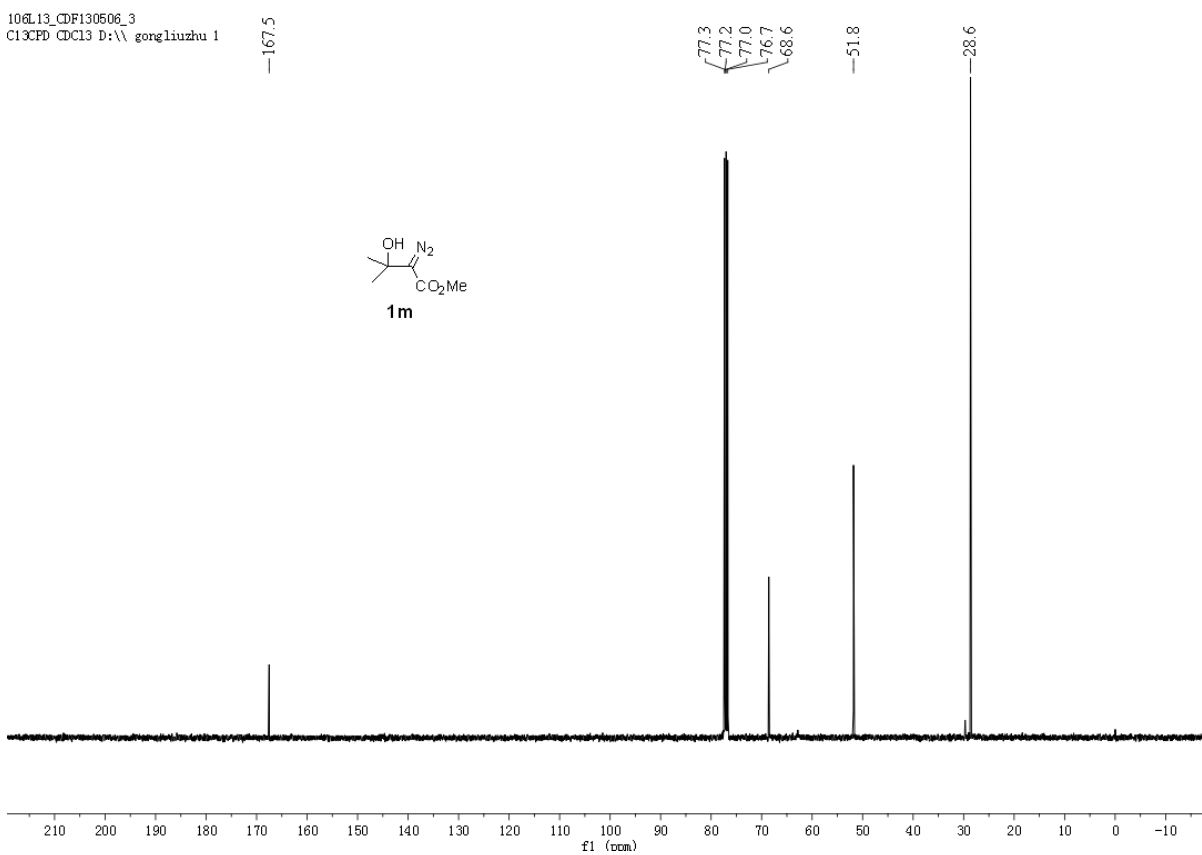


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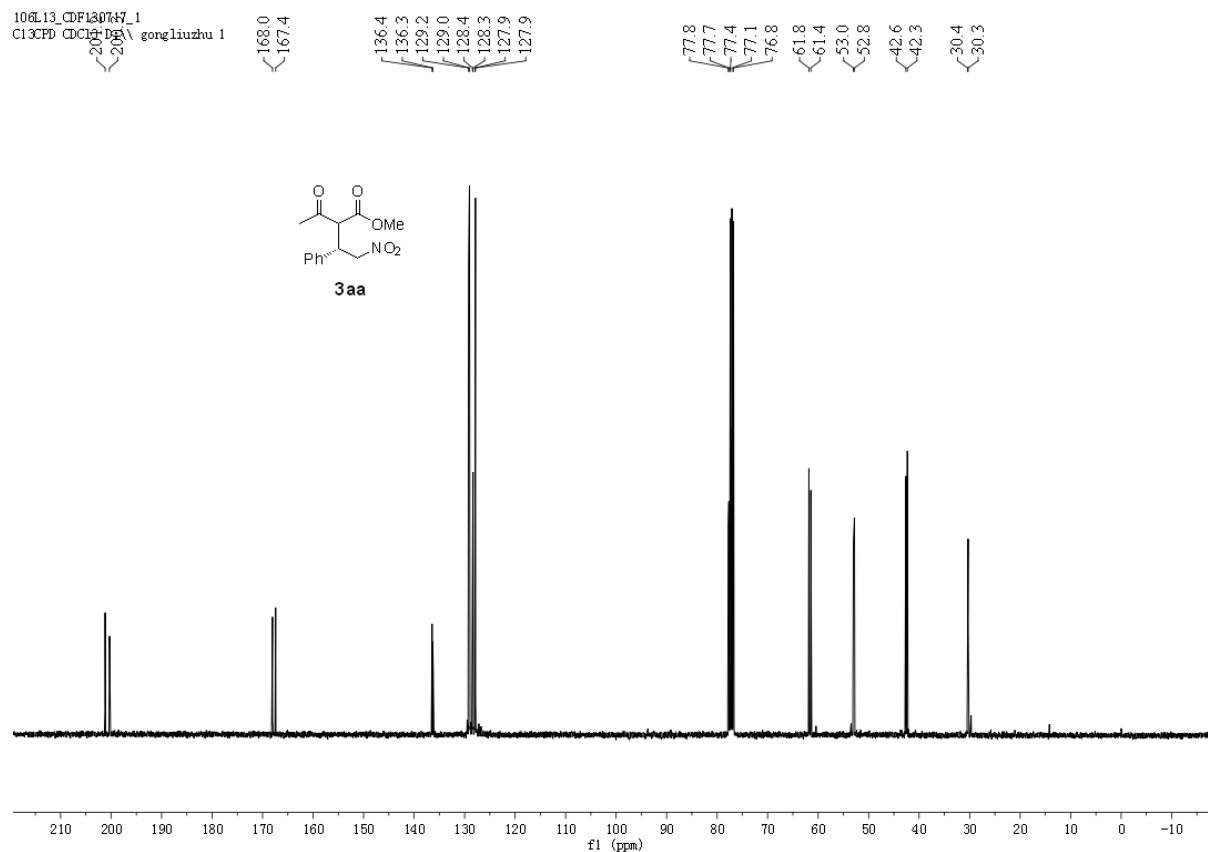
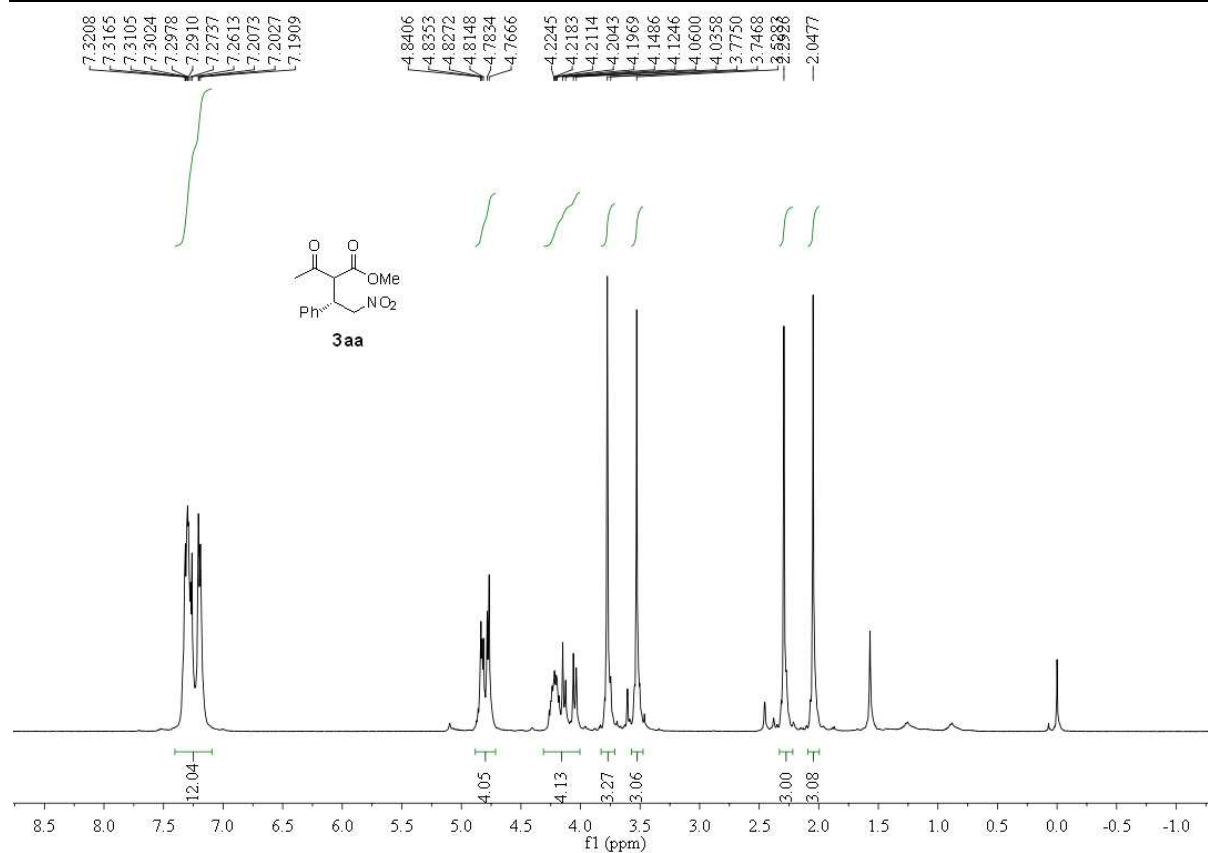
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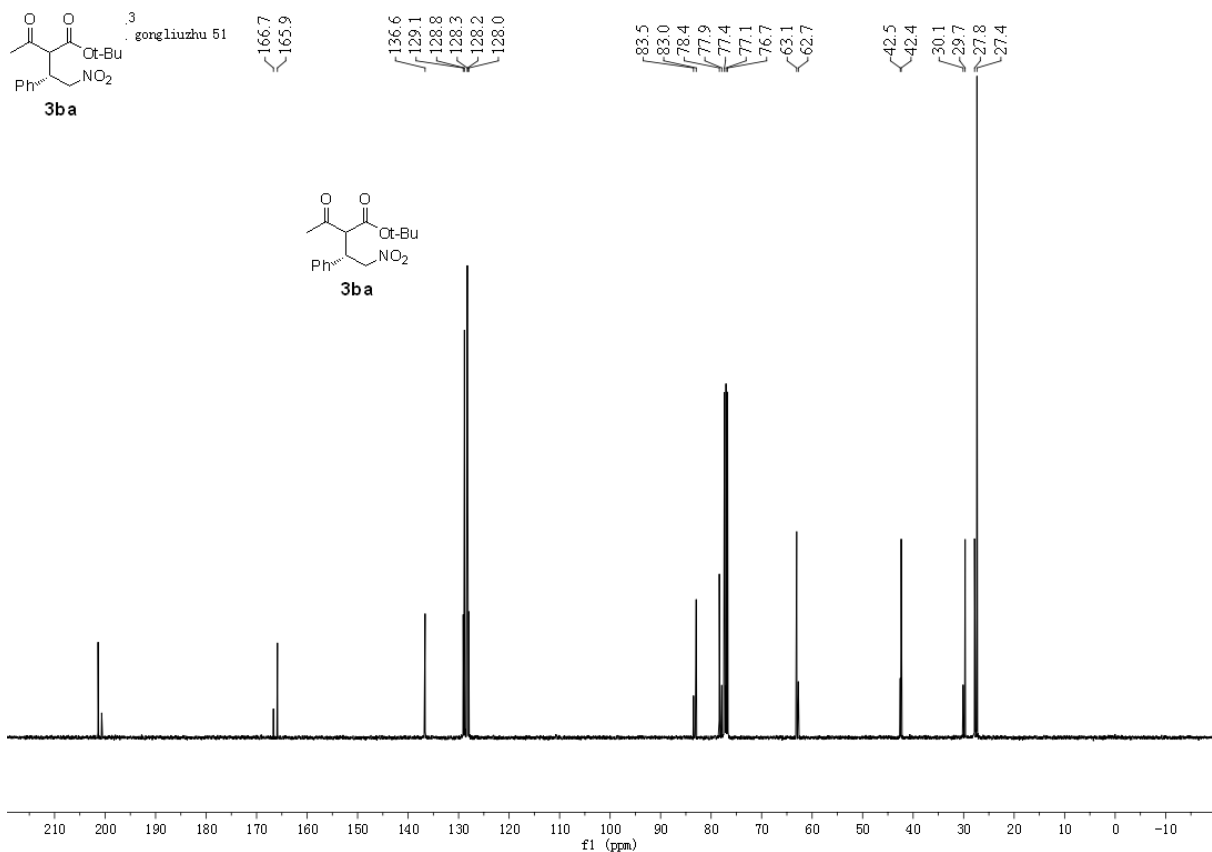
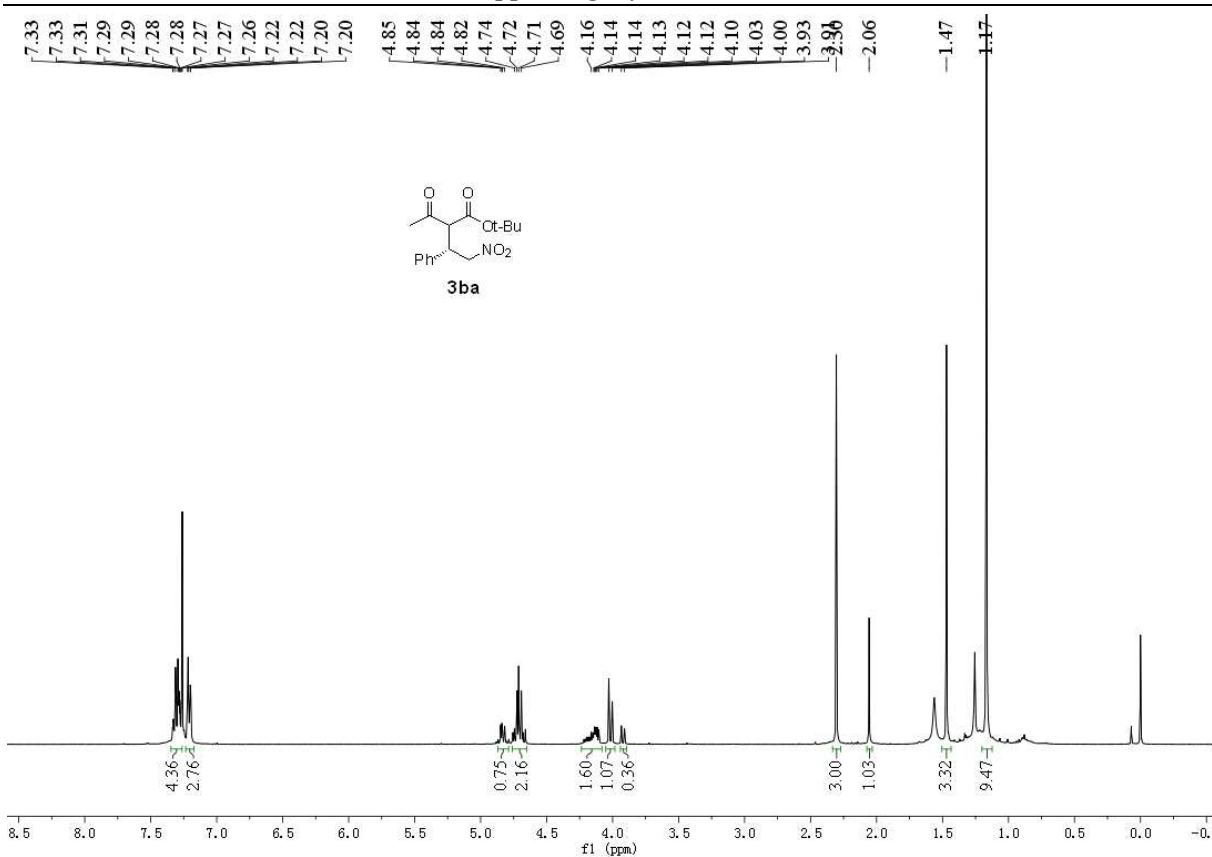
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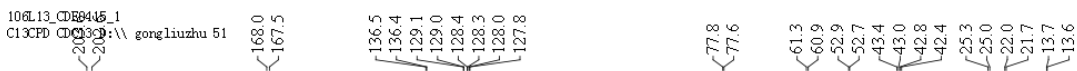


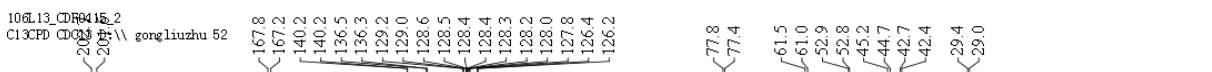
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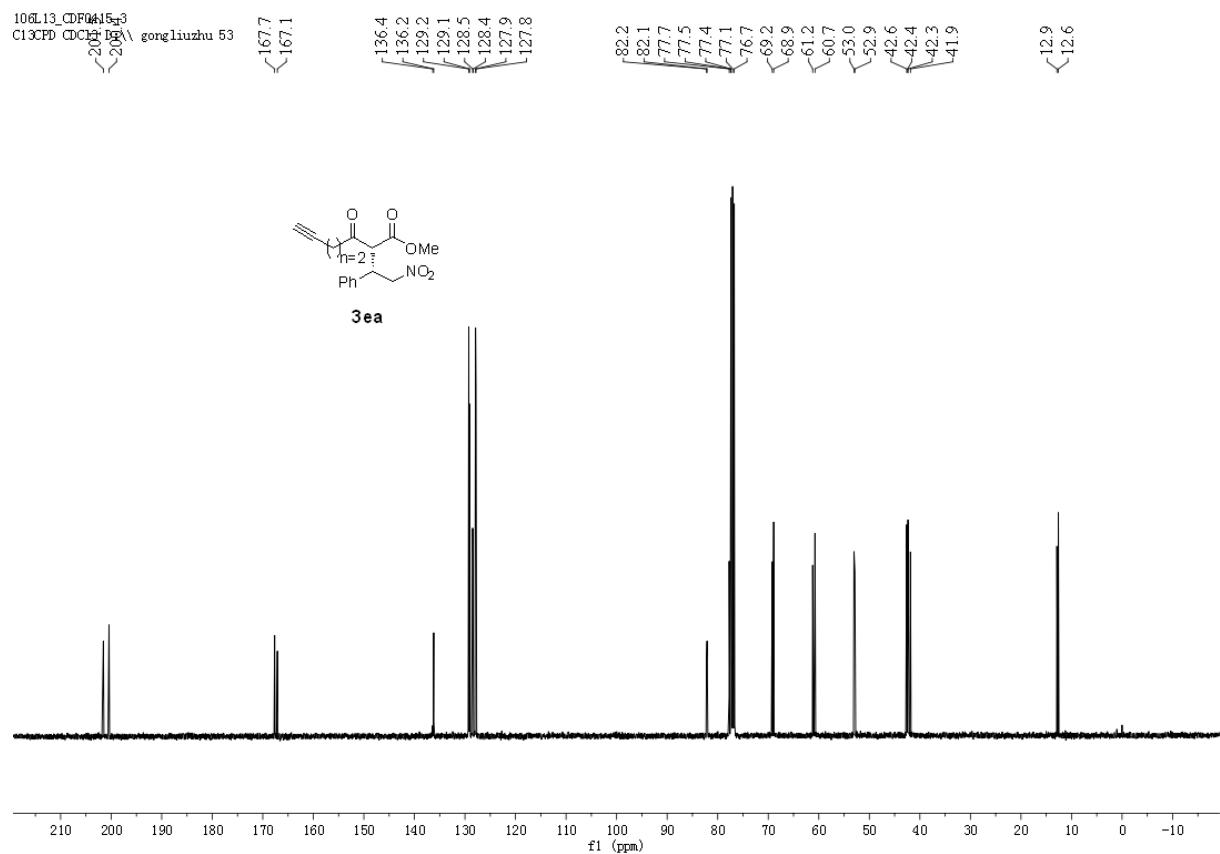
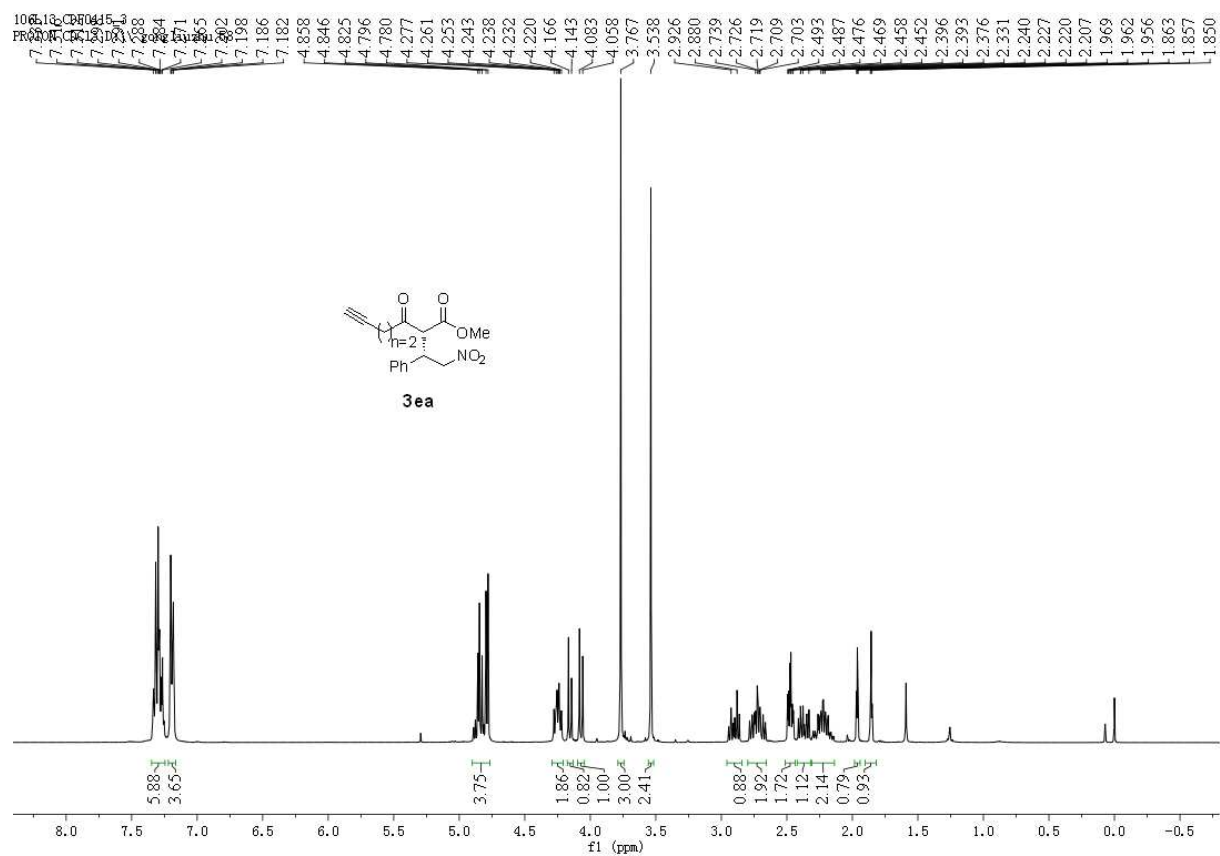


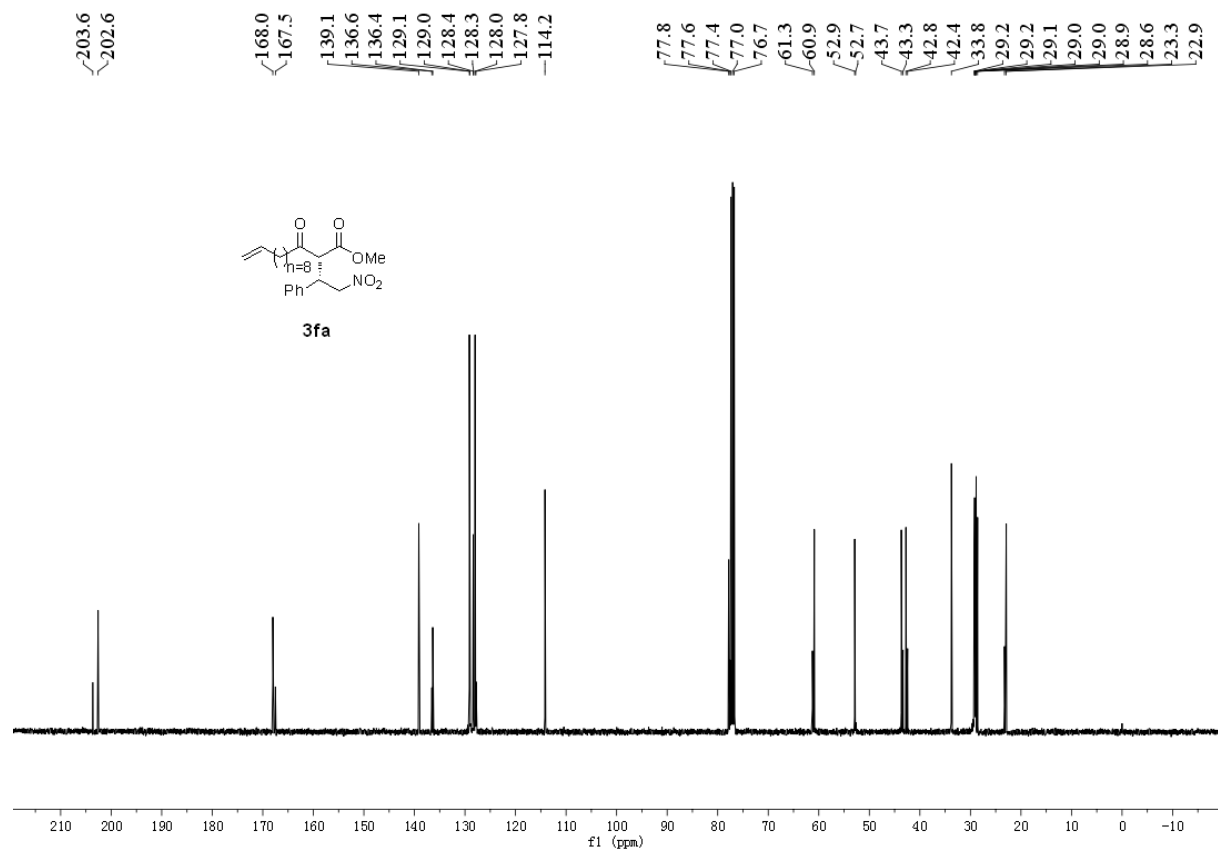
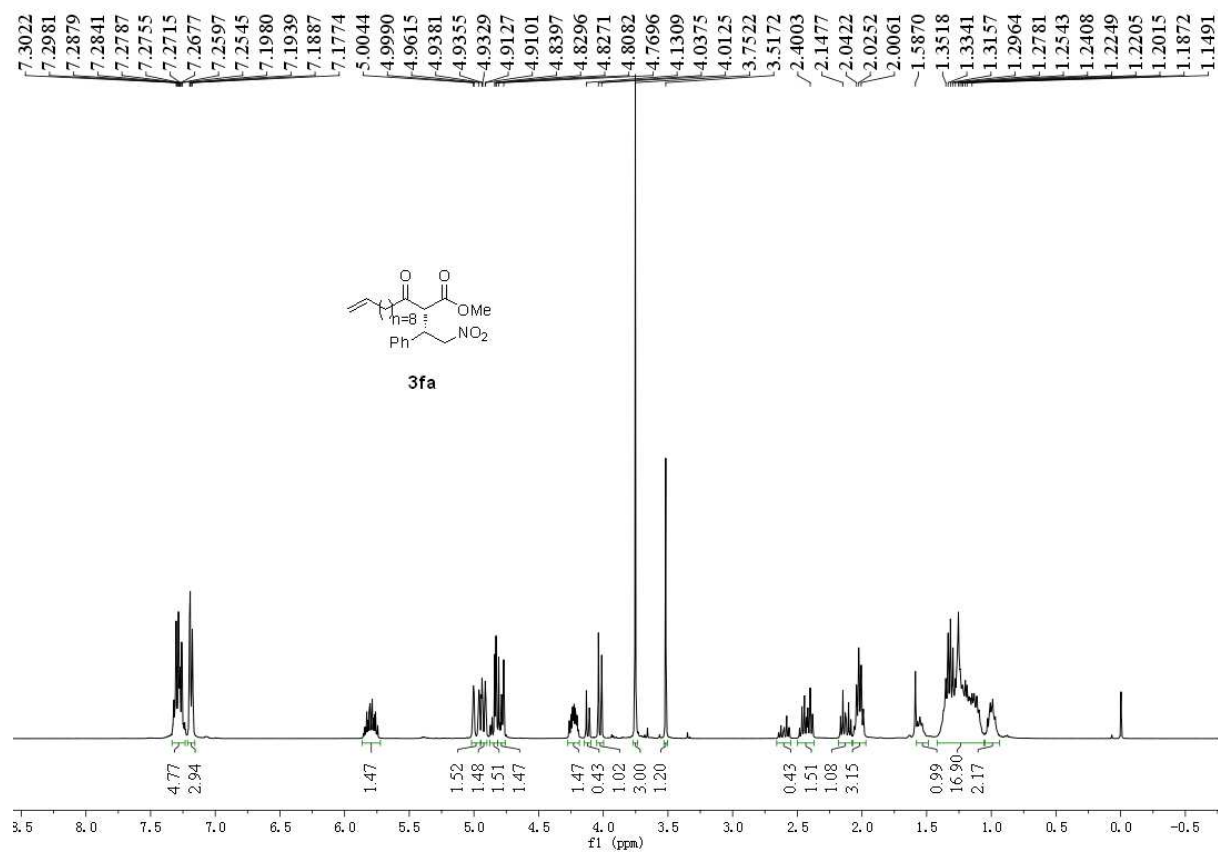
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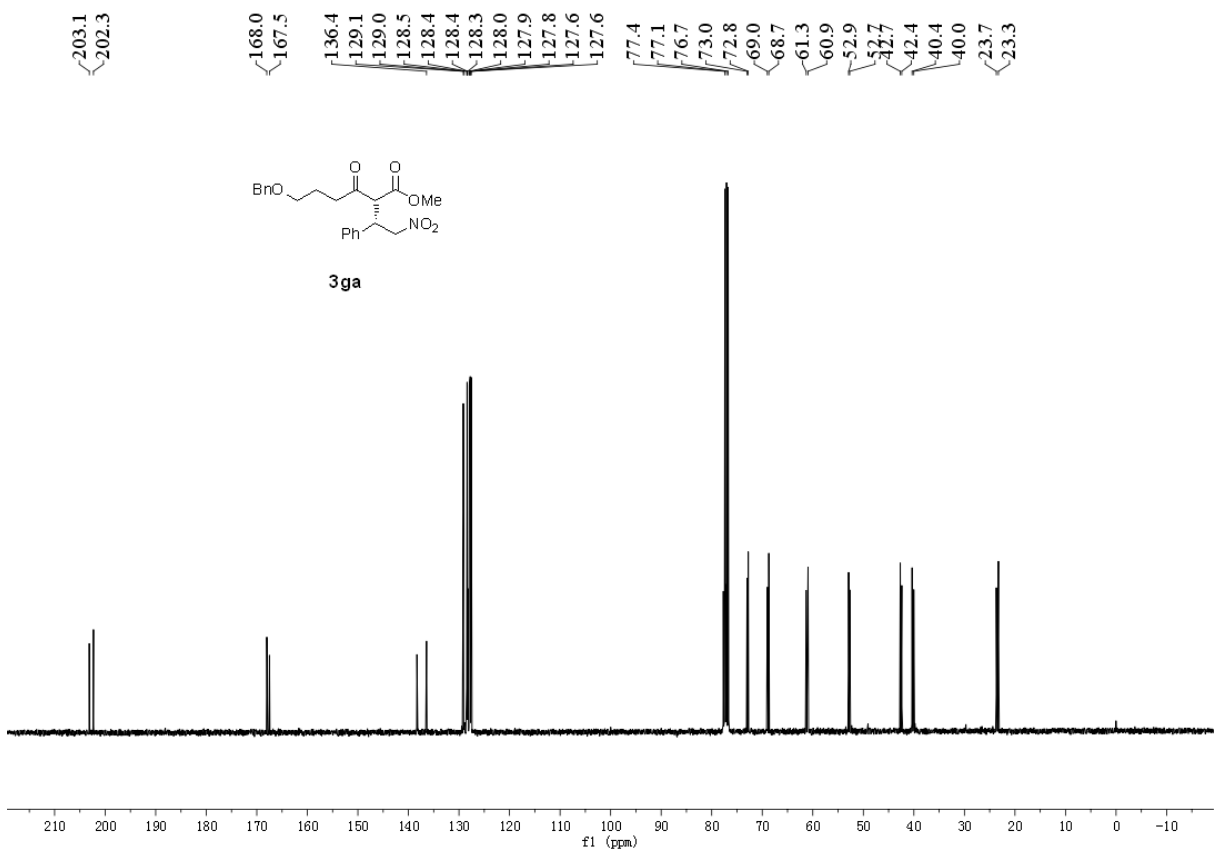
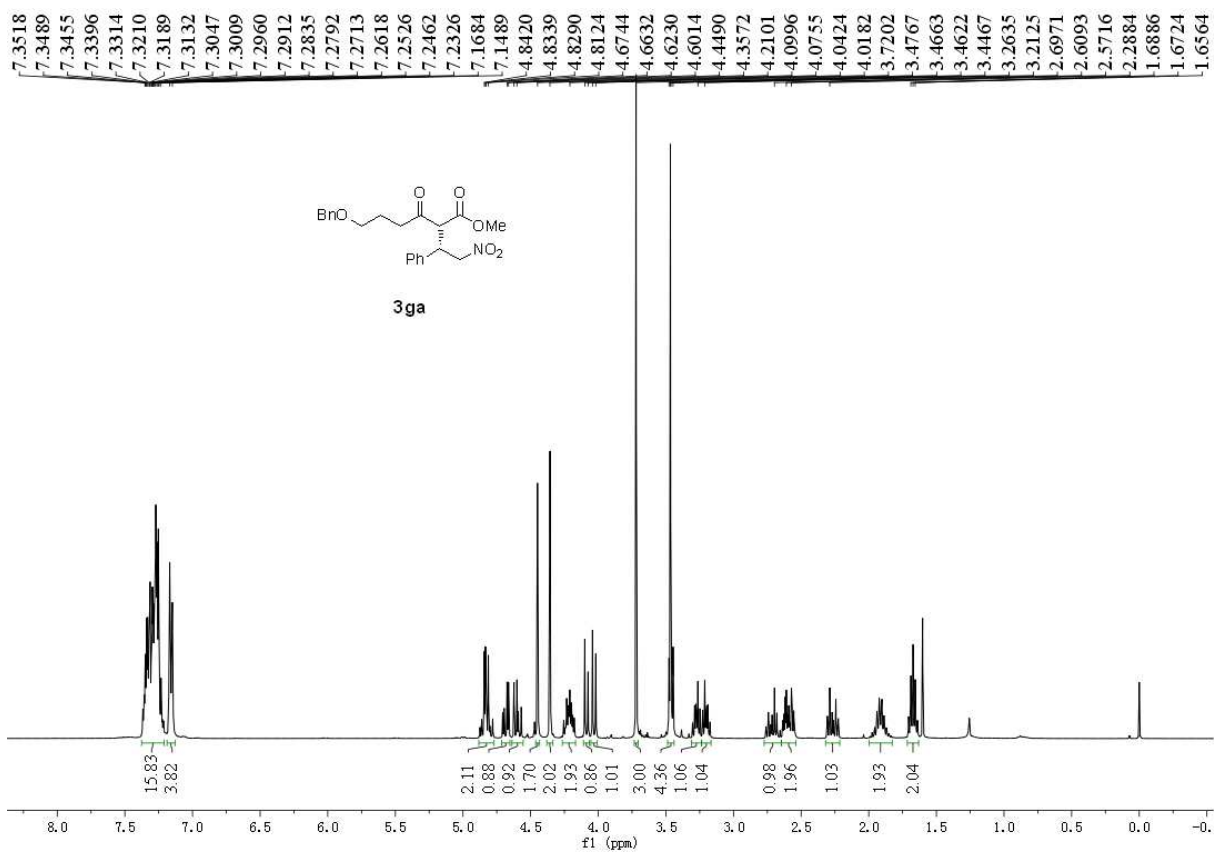


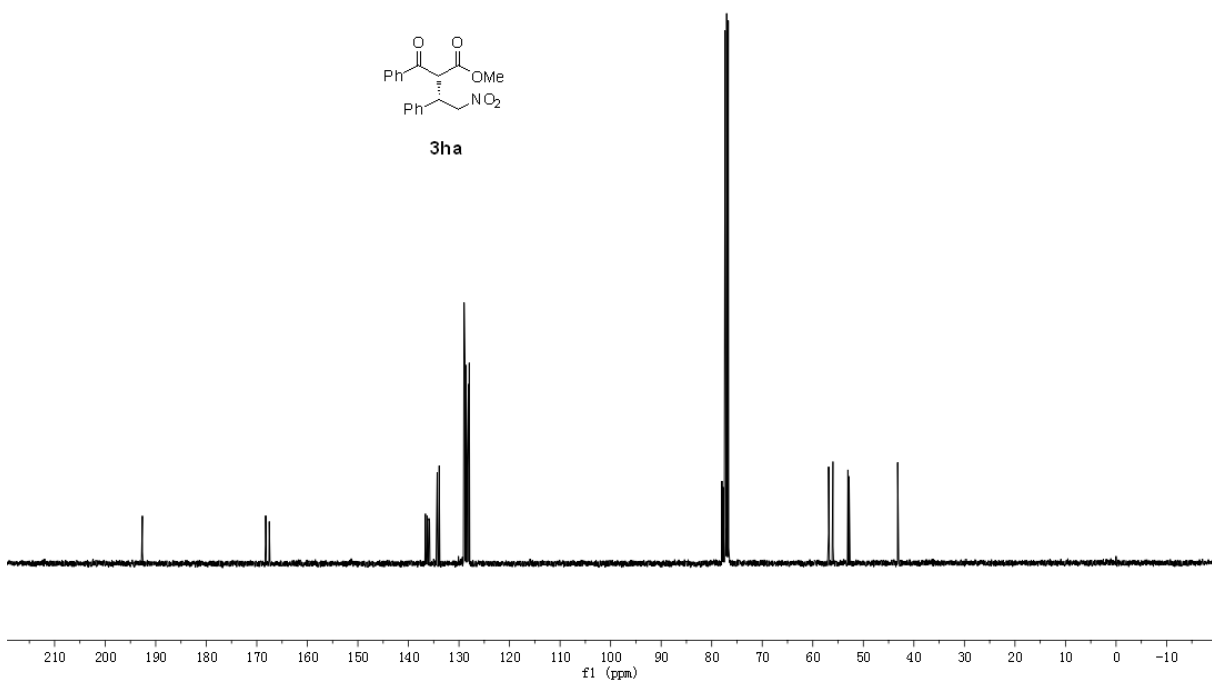




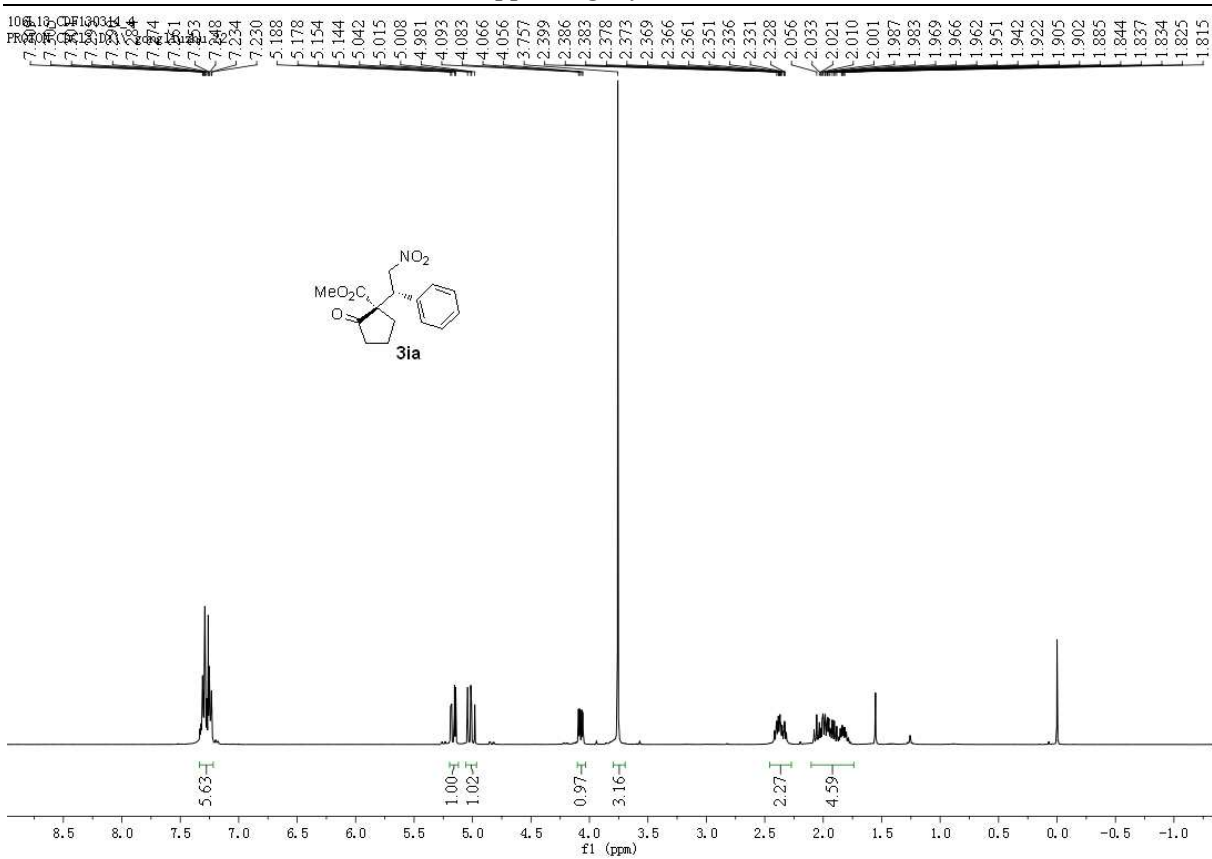


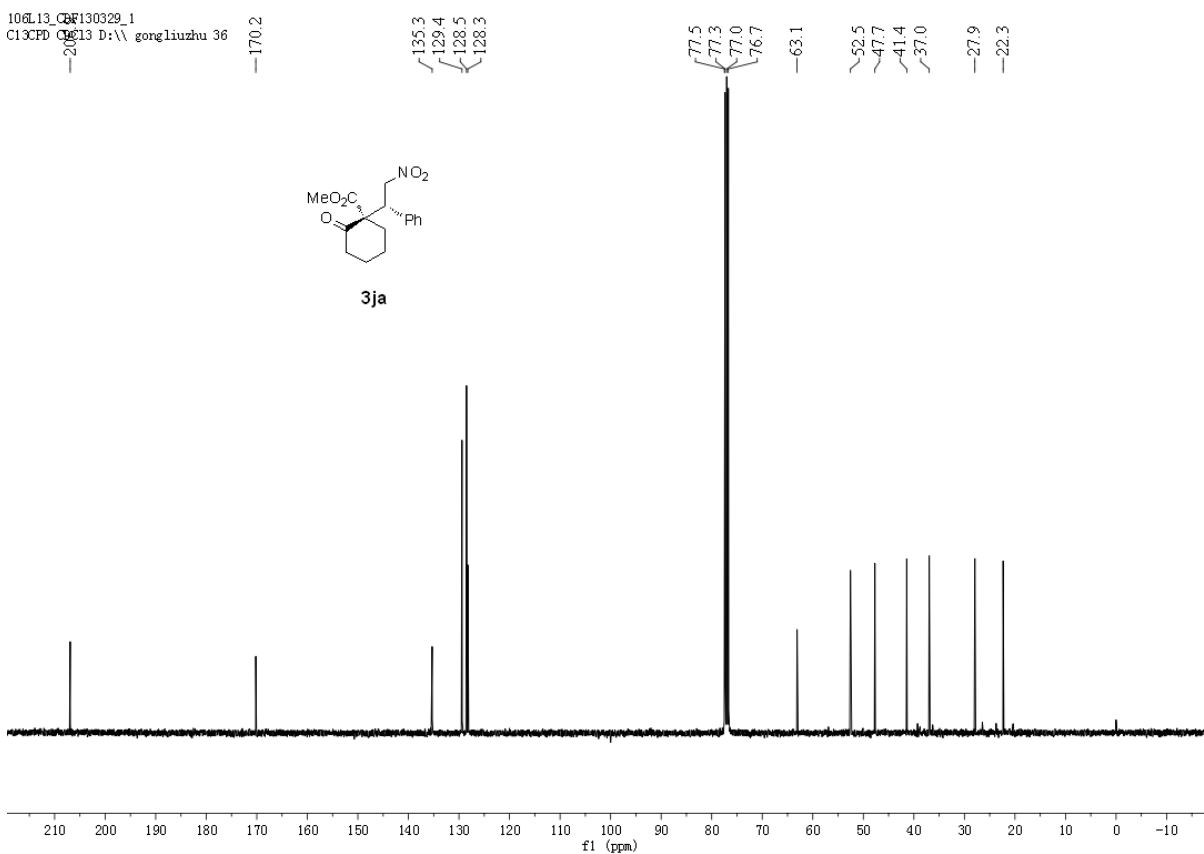
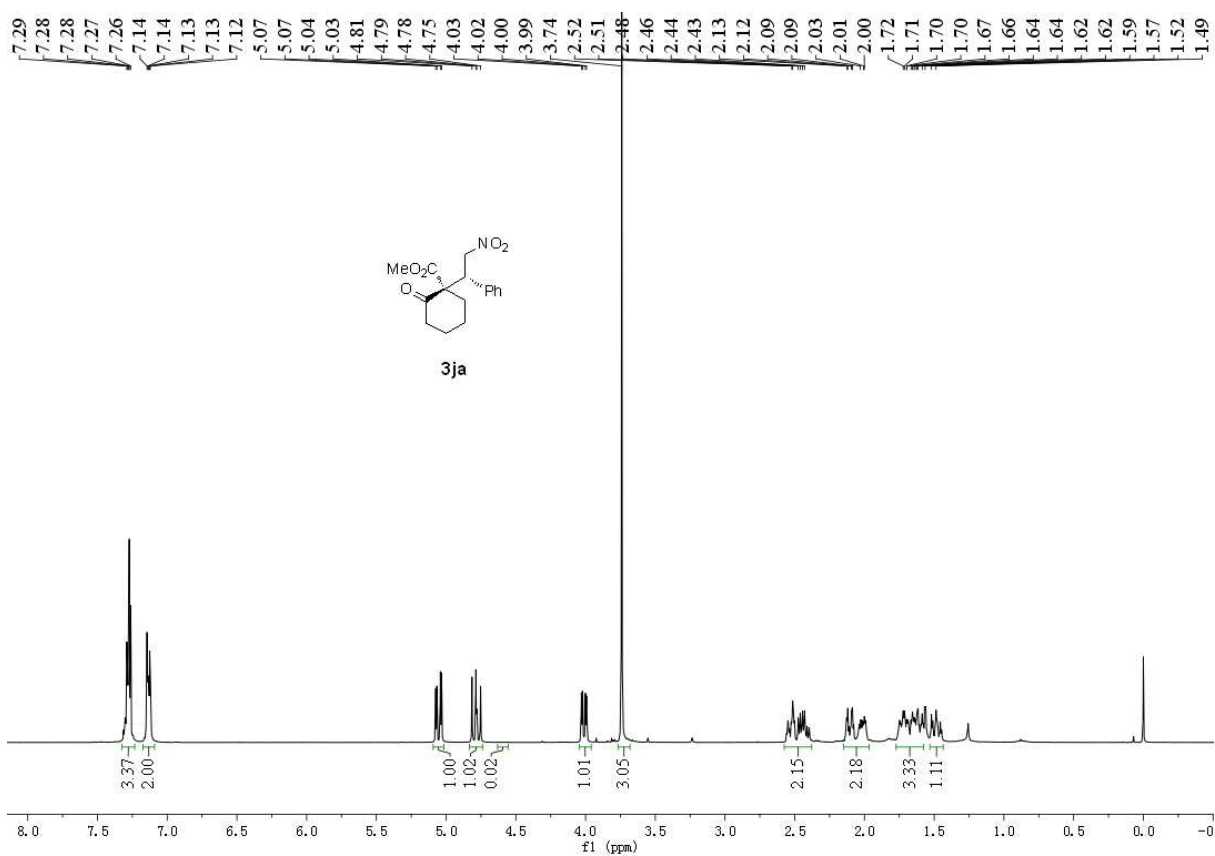


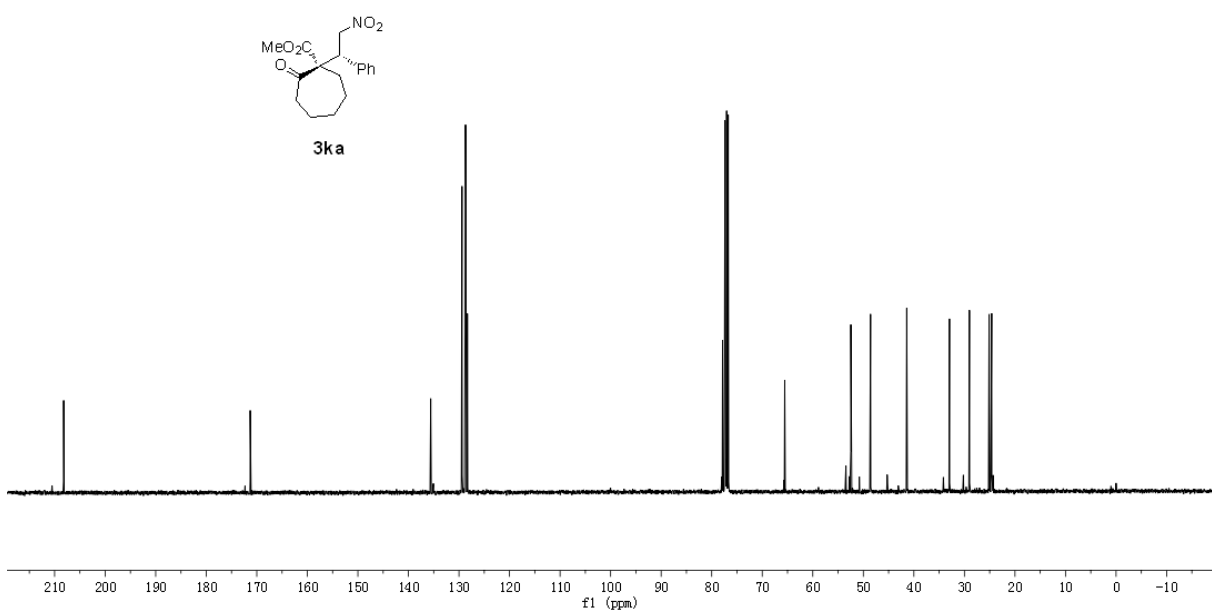
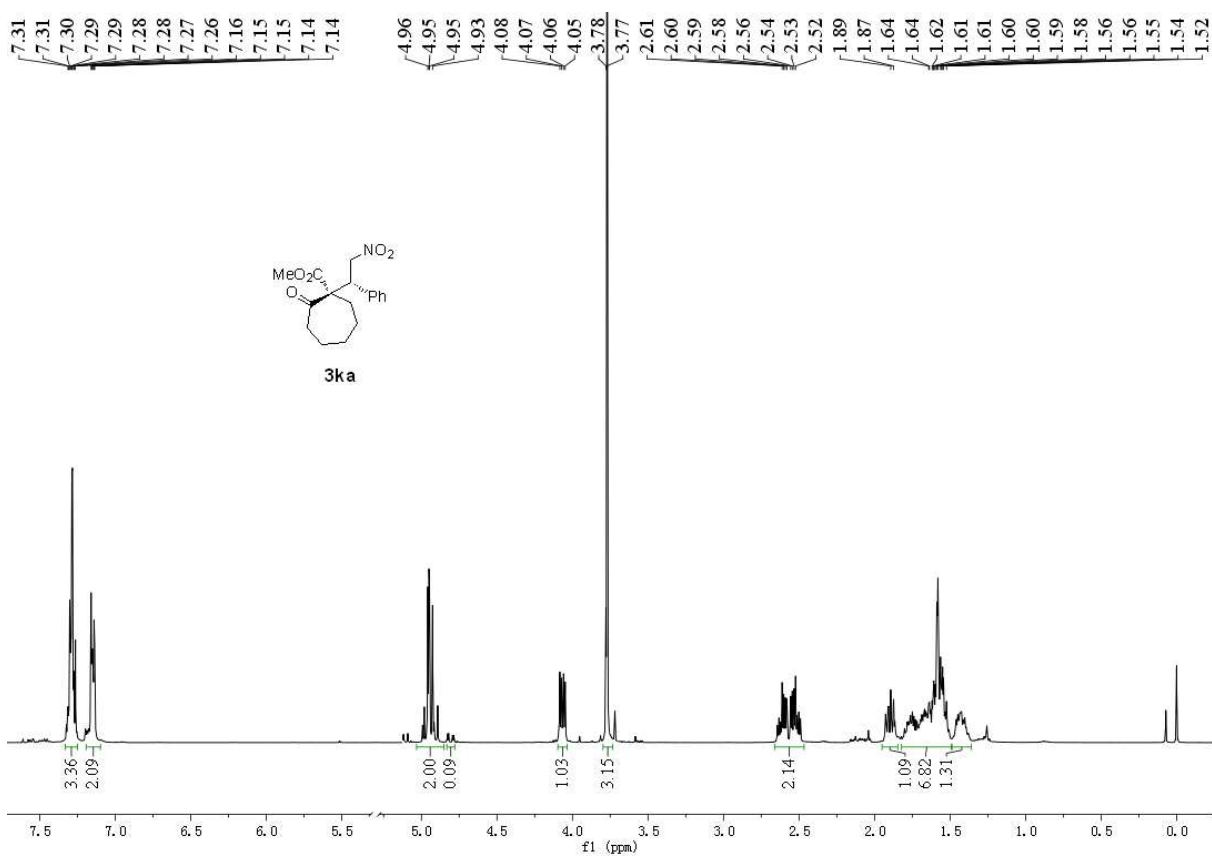


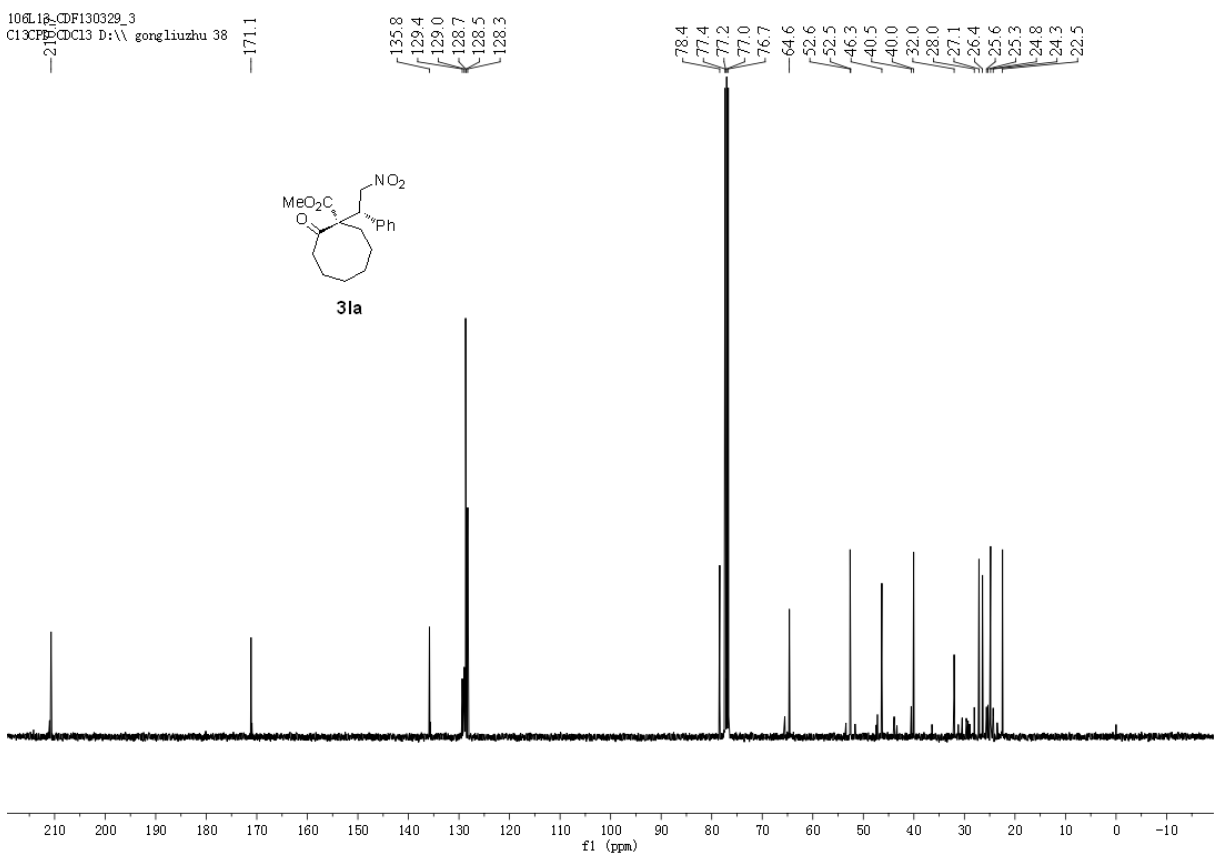
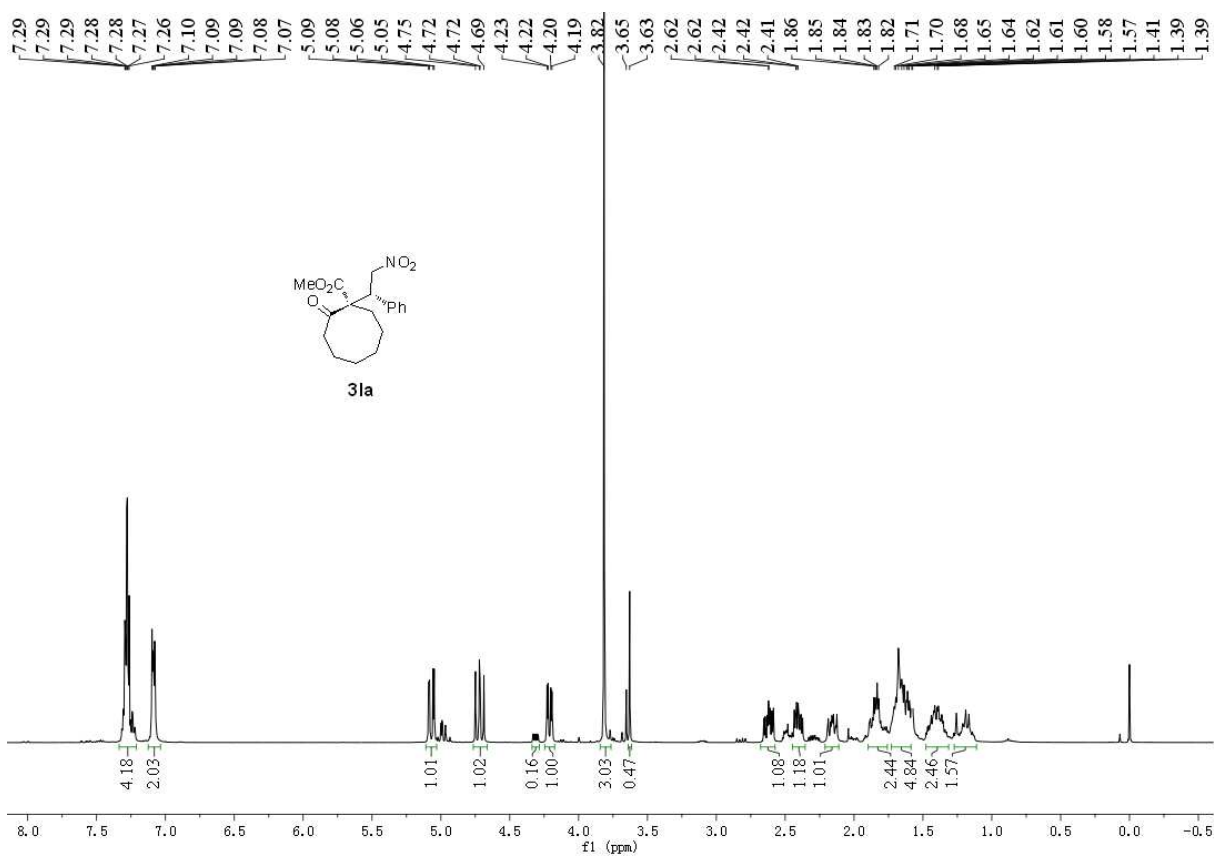


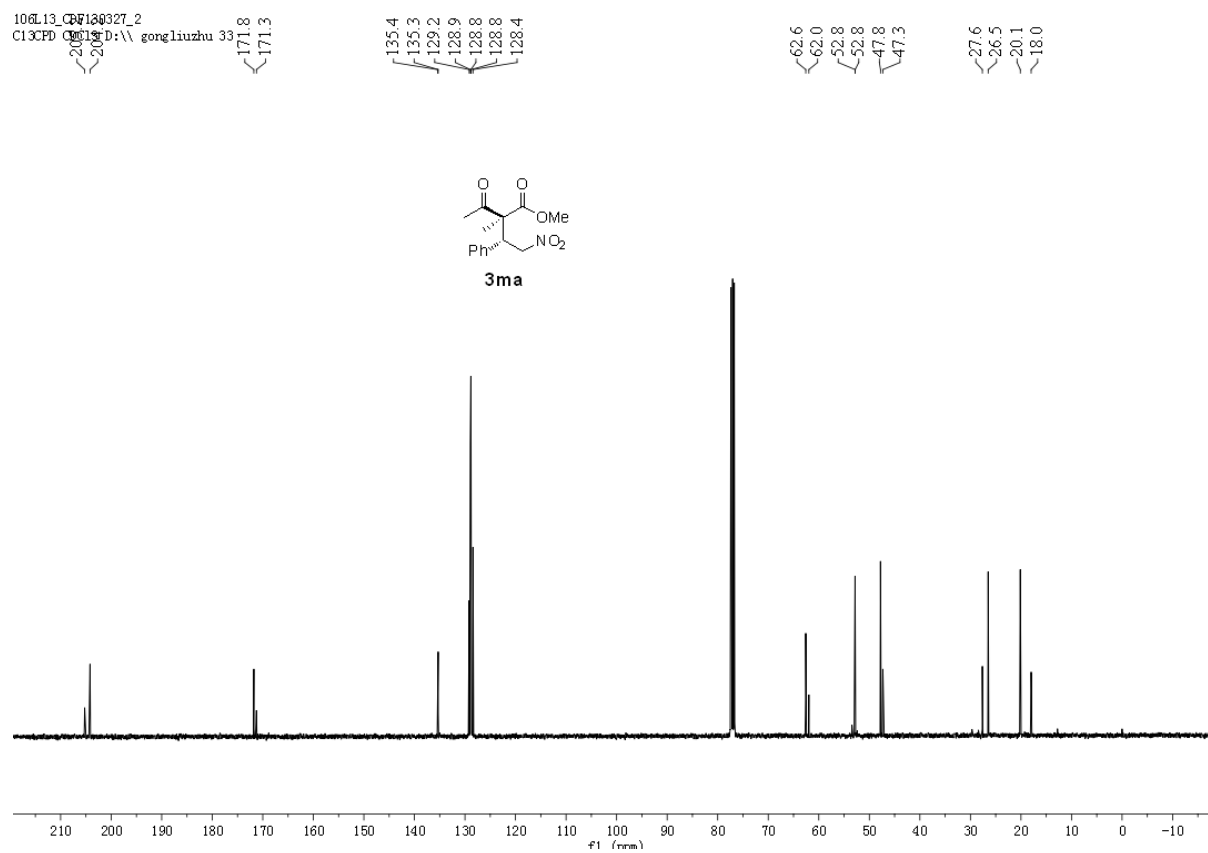
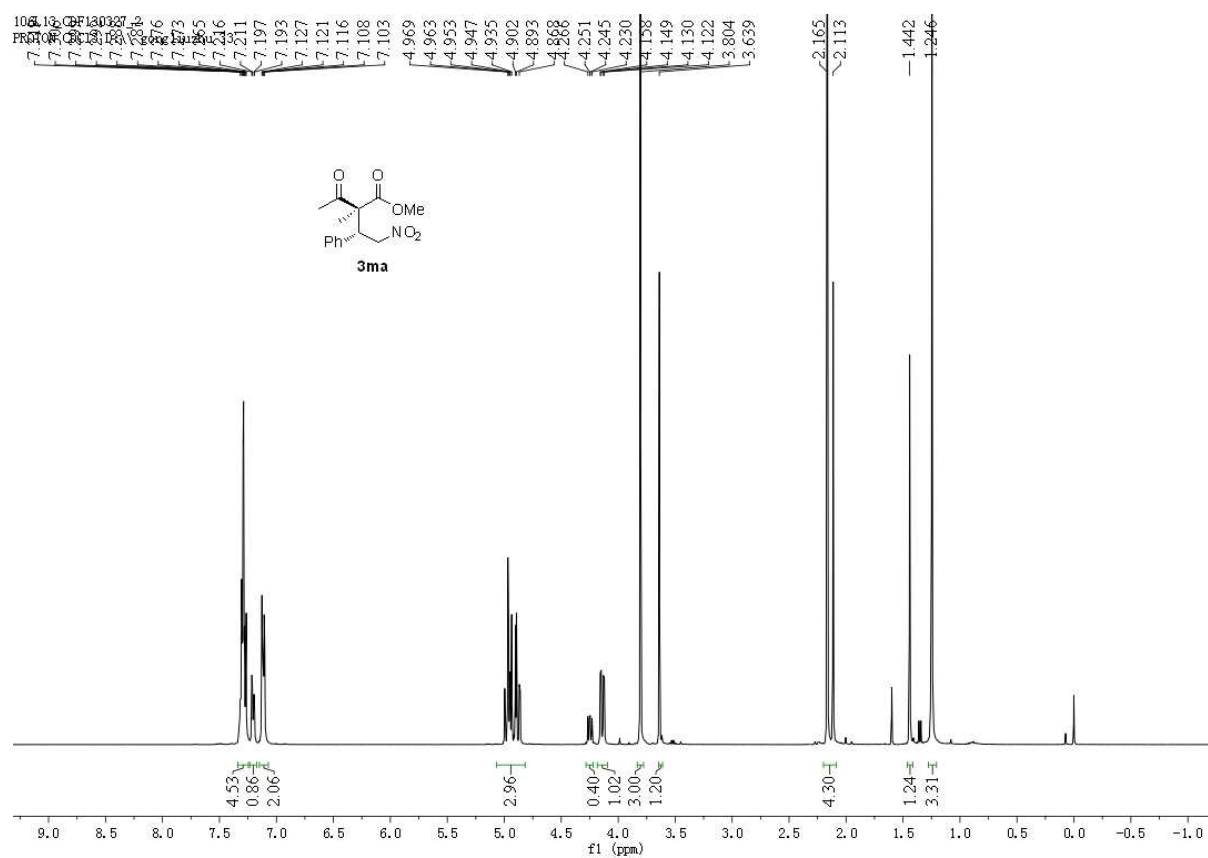
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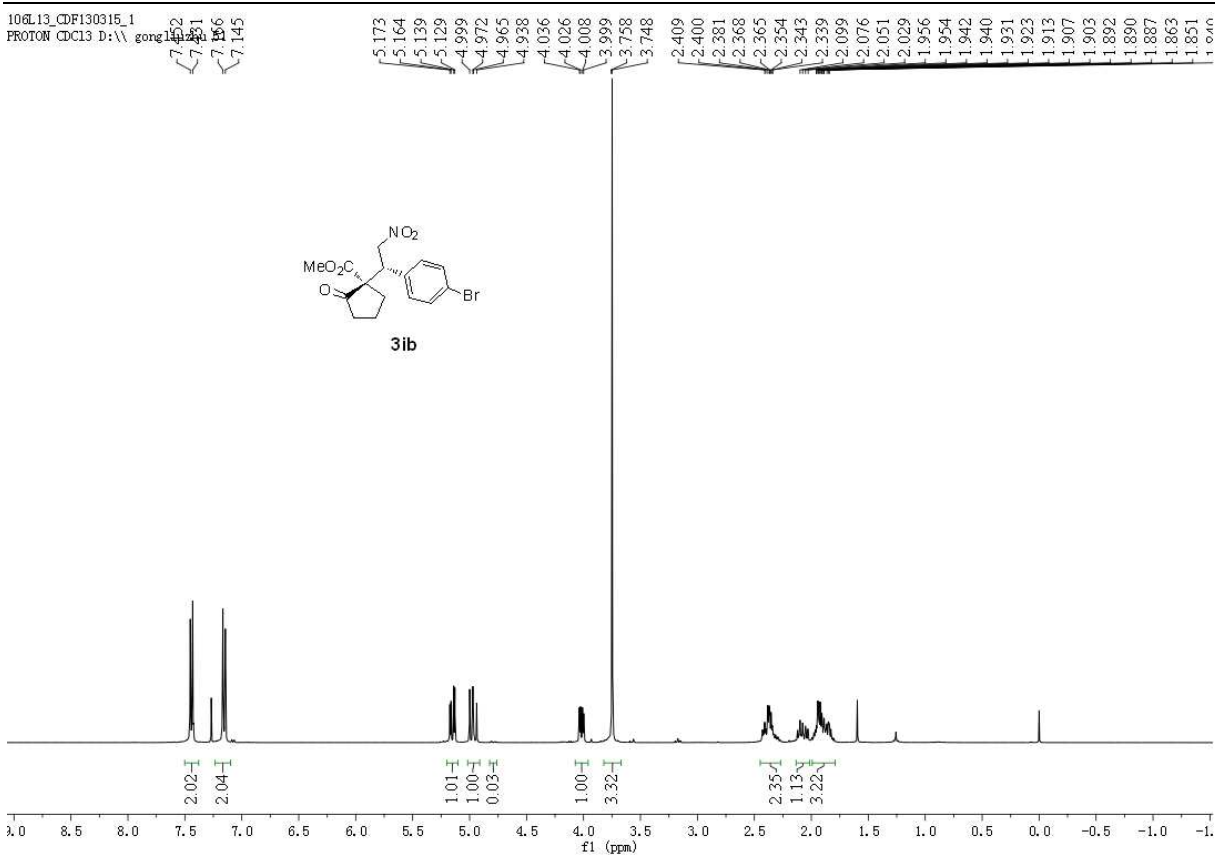




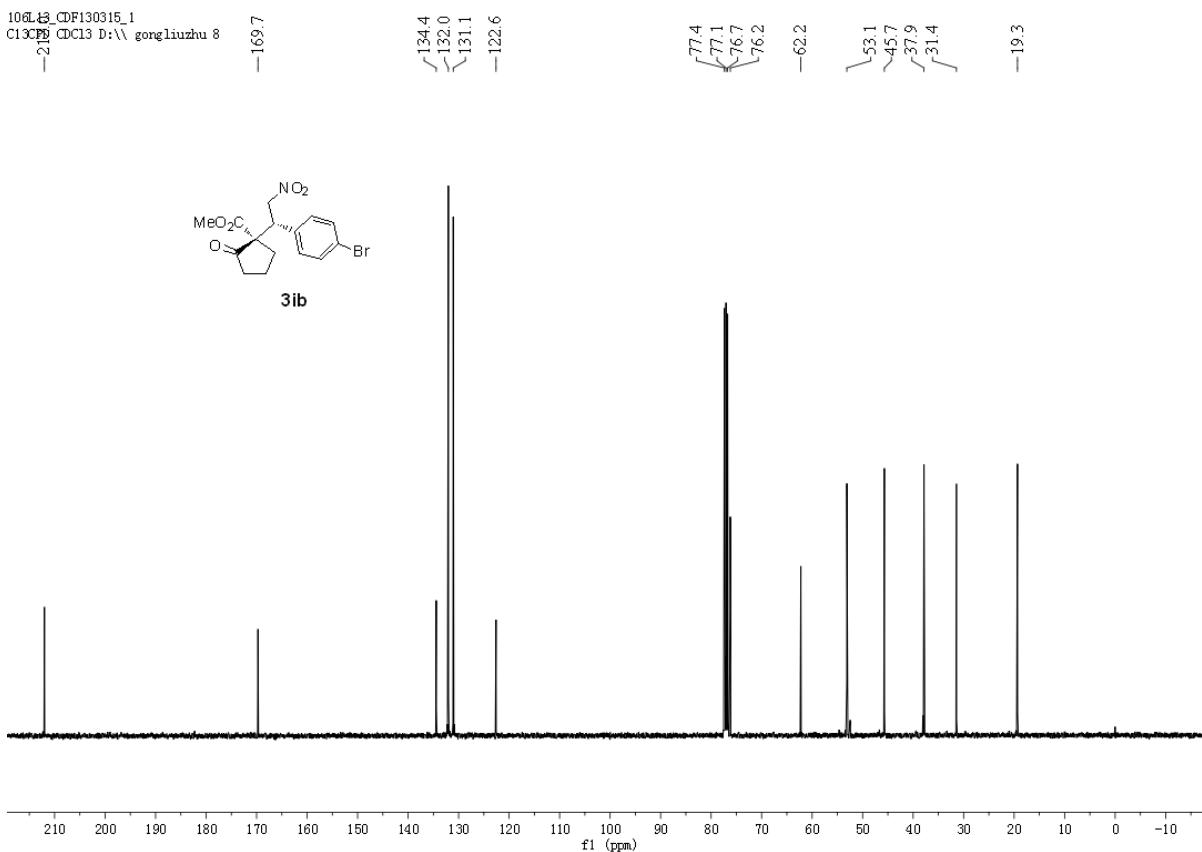


Supporting Information

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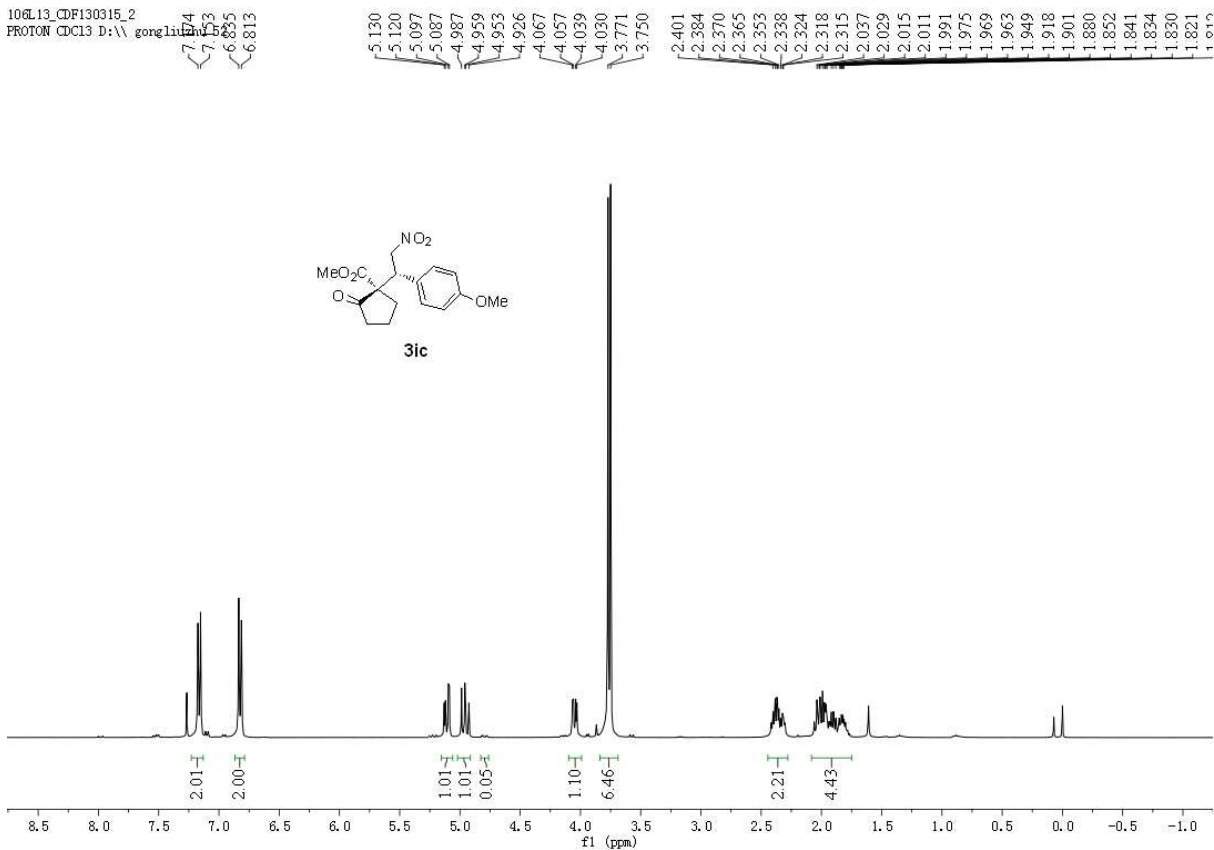
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Supporting Information

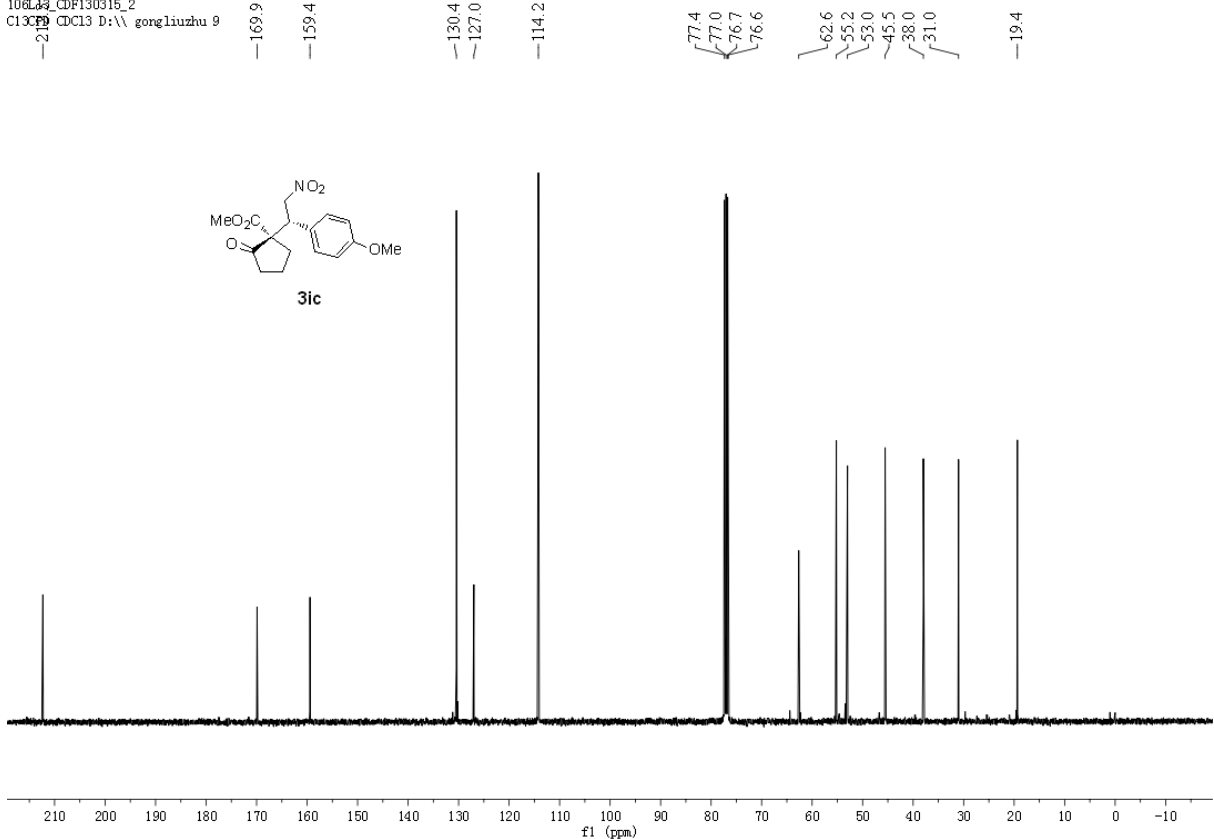
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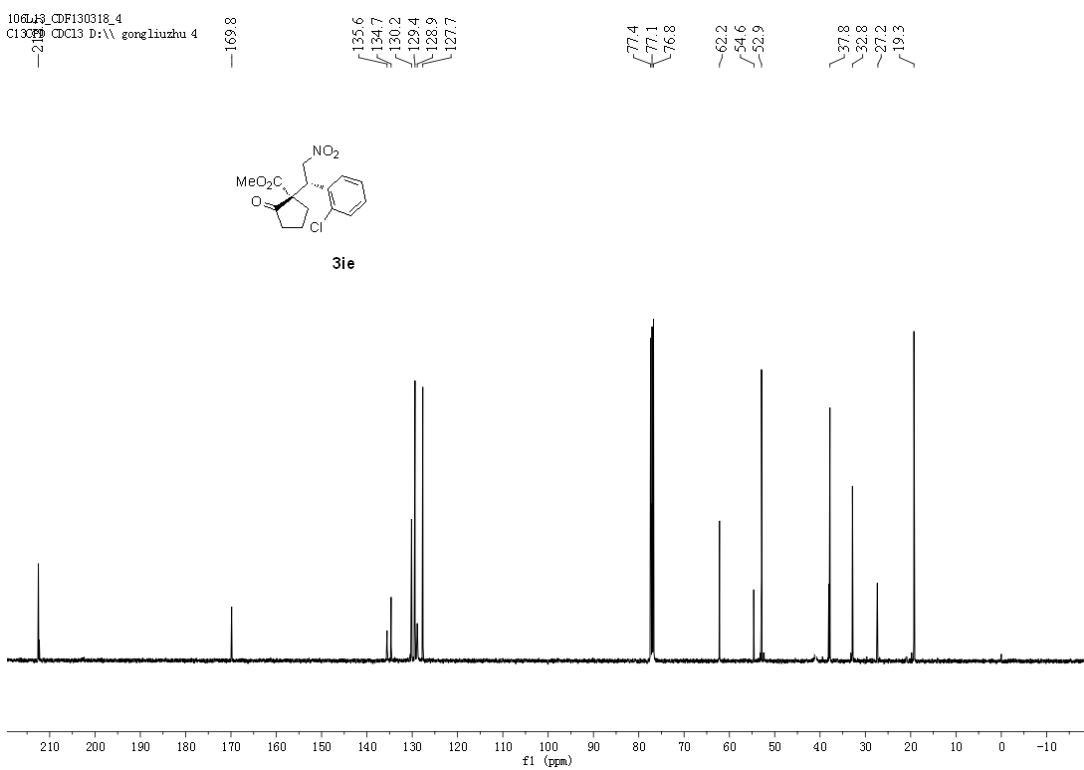
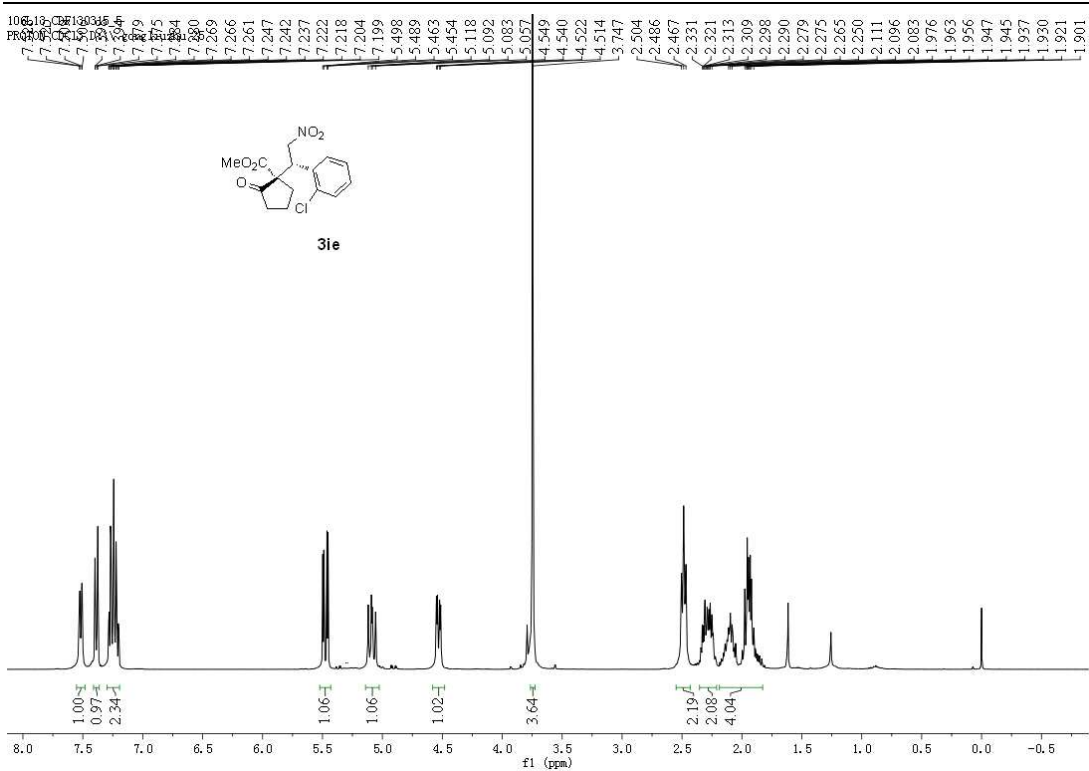
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CDCl3 D:\gongliuzhu 9





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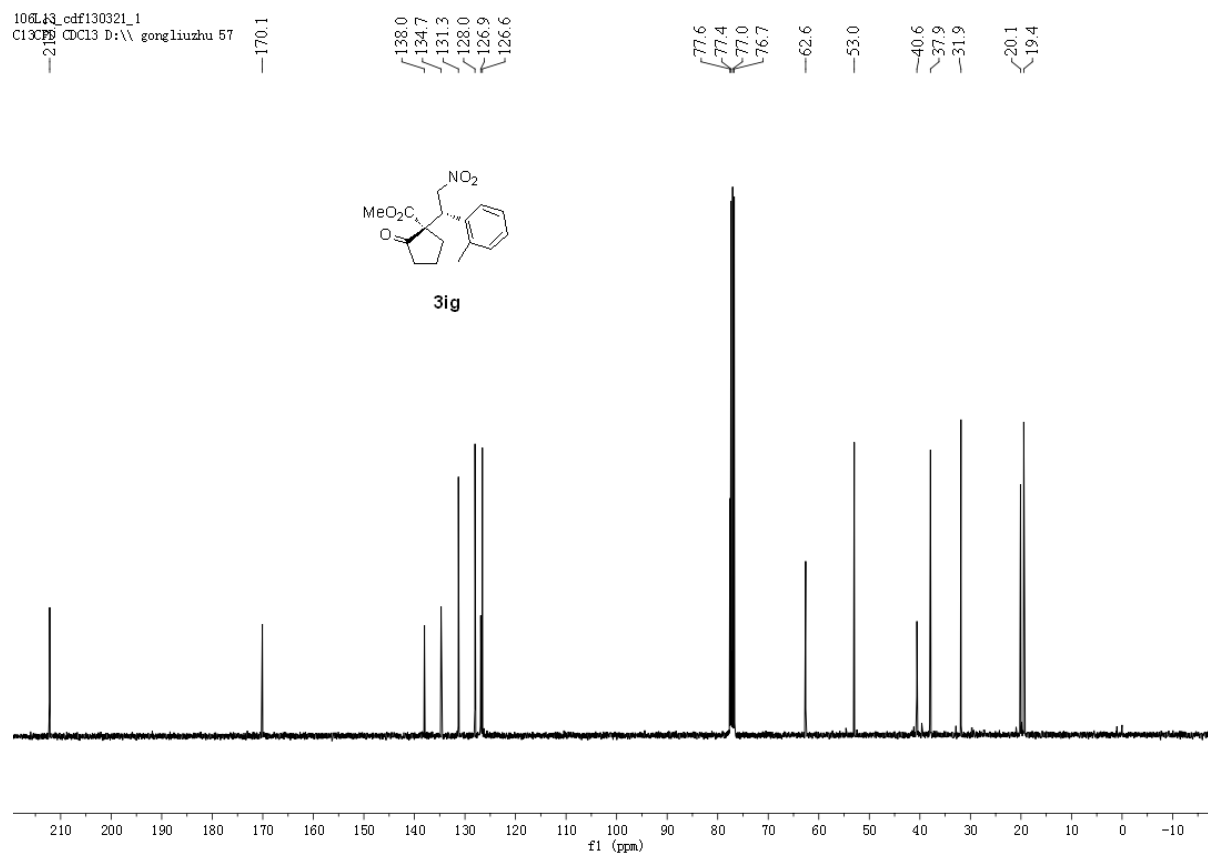
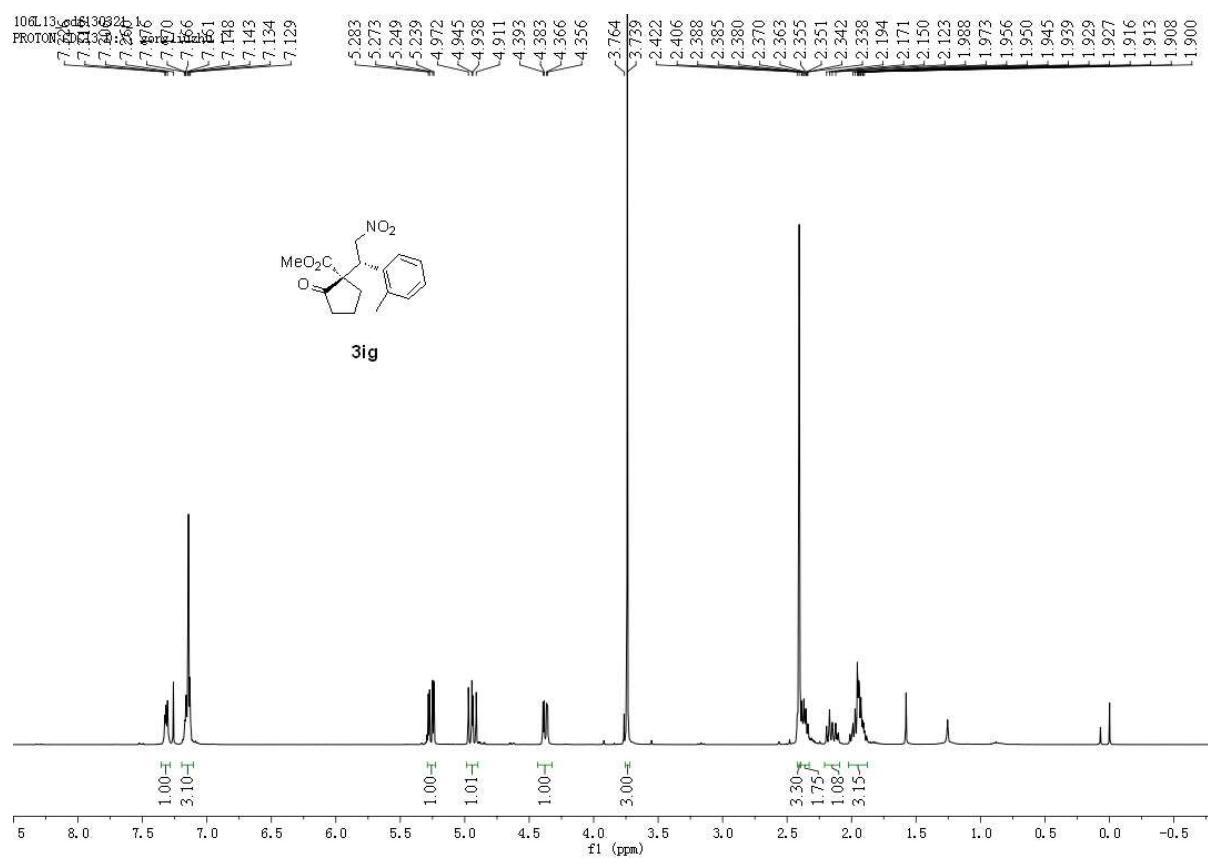


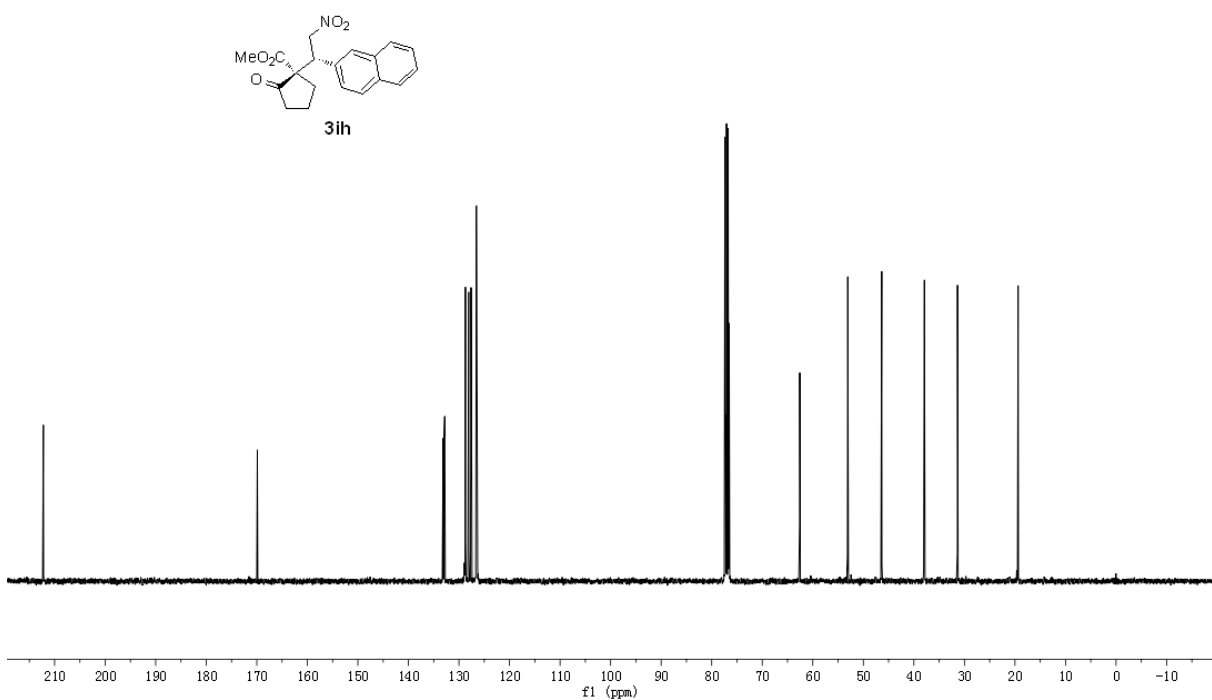
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C130319 CDCl3 D:\gongliuzhu 22

Chemical structure of **3if** is shown above the spectra.

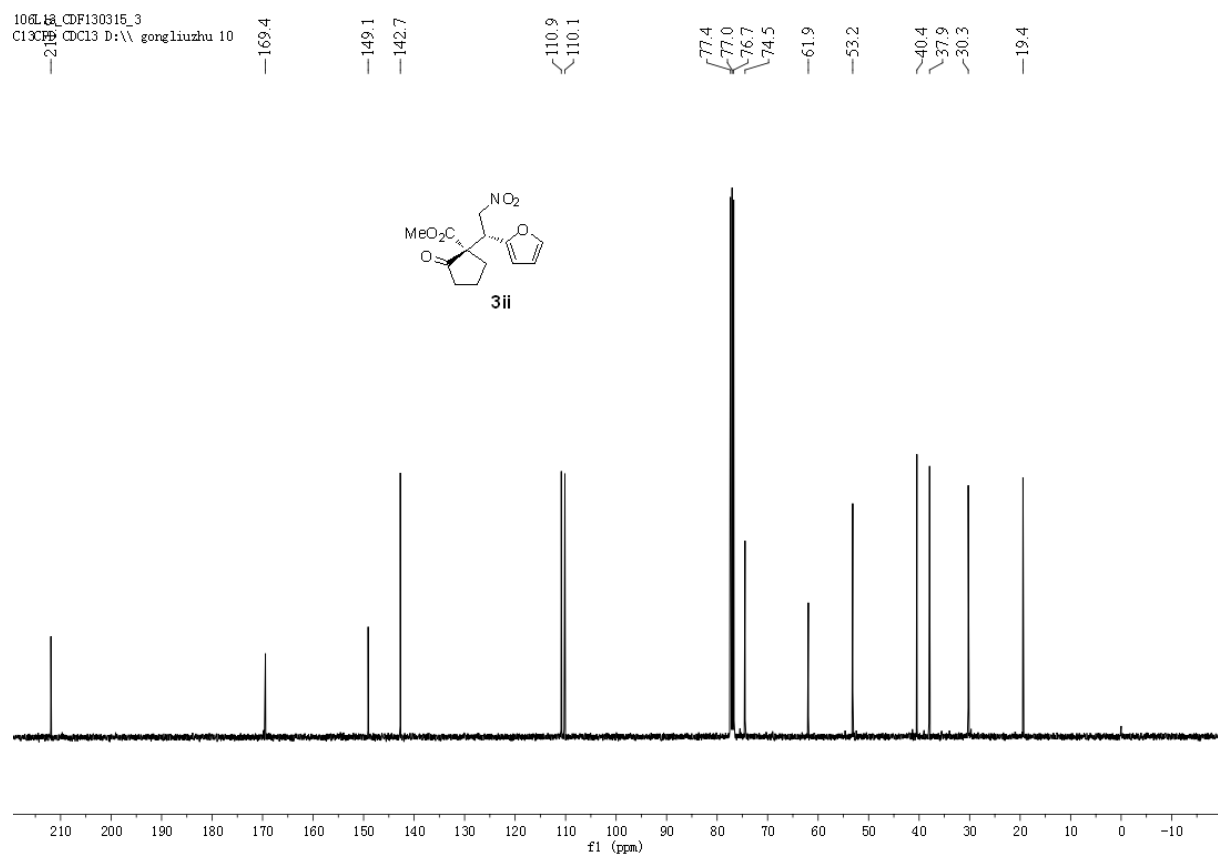
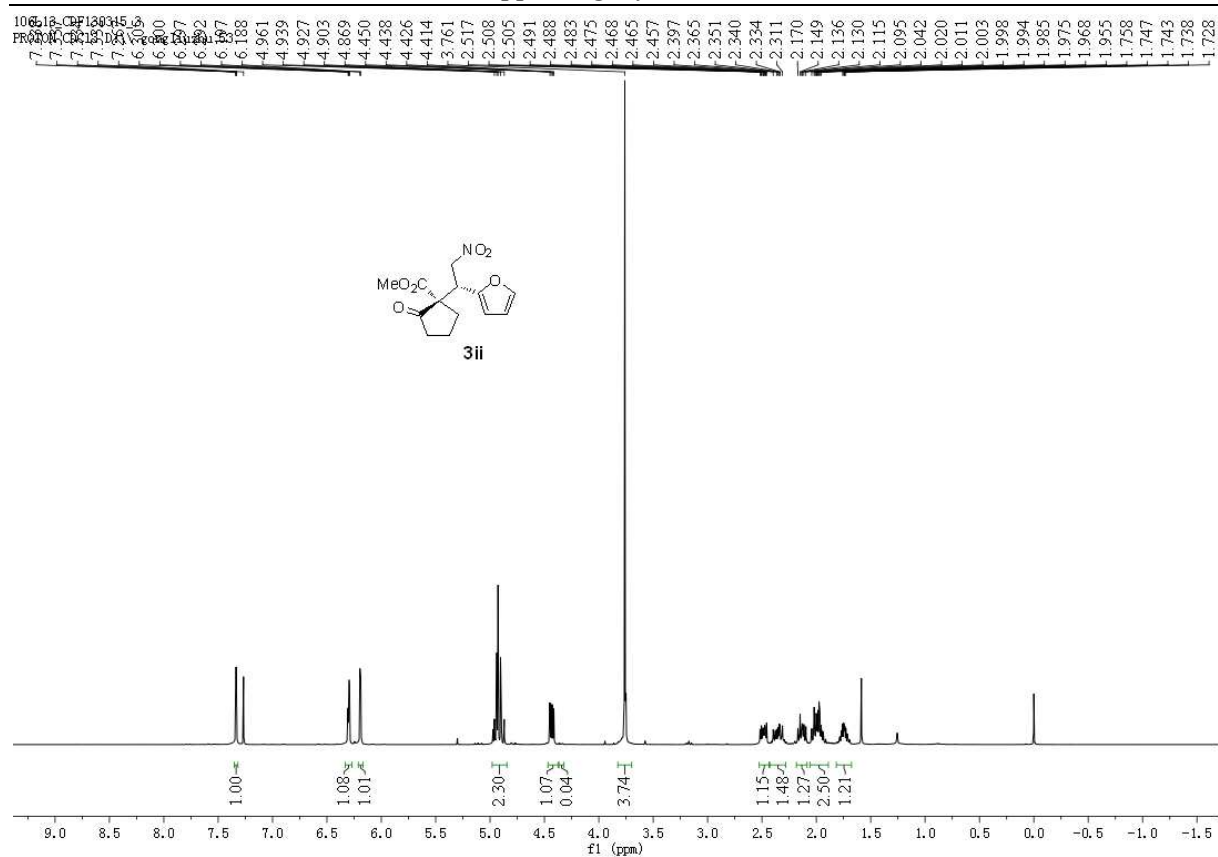
¹H NMR spectrum (top): The x-axis is labeled f1 (ppm) and ranges from 8.5 to -0.5. The spectrum shows several multiplets in the aromatic region (7.1-7.5 ppm) and aliphatic region (4.5-5.5 ppm). Integration values are provided below the peaks: 2.02, 1.00, 1.00, 1.03, 1.02, 0.02, 1.01, 3.16, 2.09, 2.18, and 2.13.

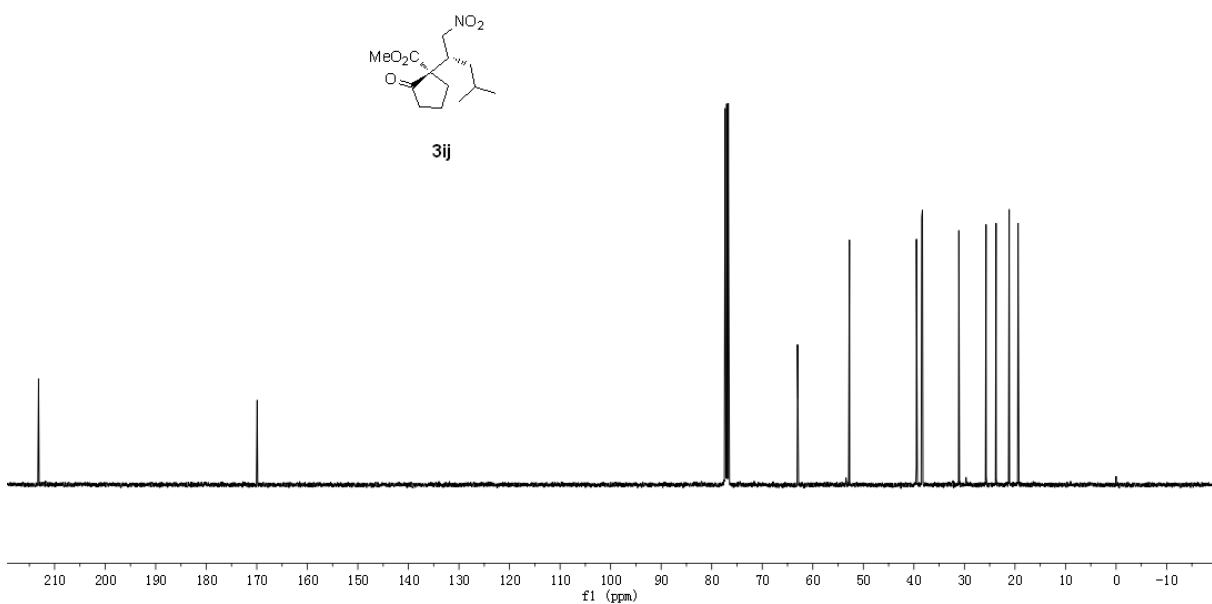
¹³C NMR spectrum (bottom): The x-axis is labeled f1 (ppm) and ranges from 210 to -10. The spectrum shows a large solvent peak at 77.2 ppm and several other peaks in the aliphatic and carbonyl regions. Labeled peaks are: 169.9, 136.5, 133.6, 129.7, 128.9, 128.3, 126.8, 77.4, 77.2, 77.0, 76.7, 62.2, 52.9, 43.9, 37.8, 33.0, and 19.4.

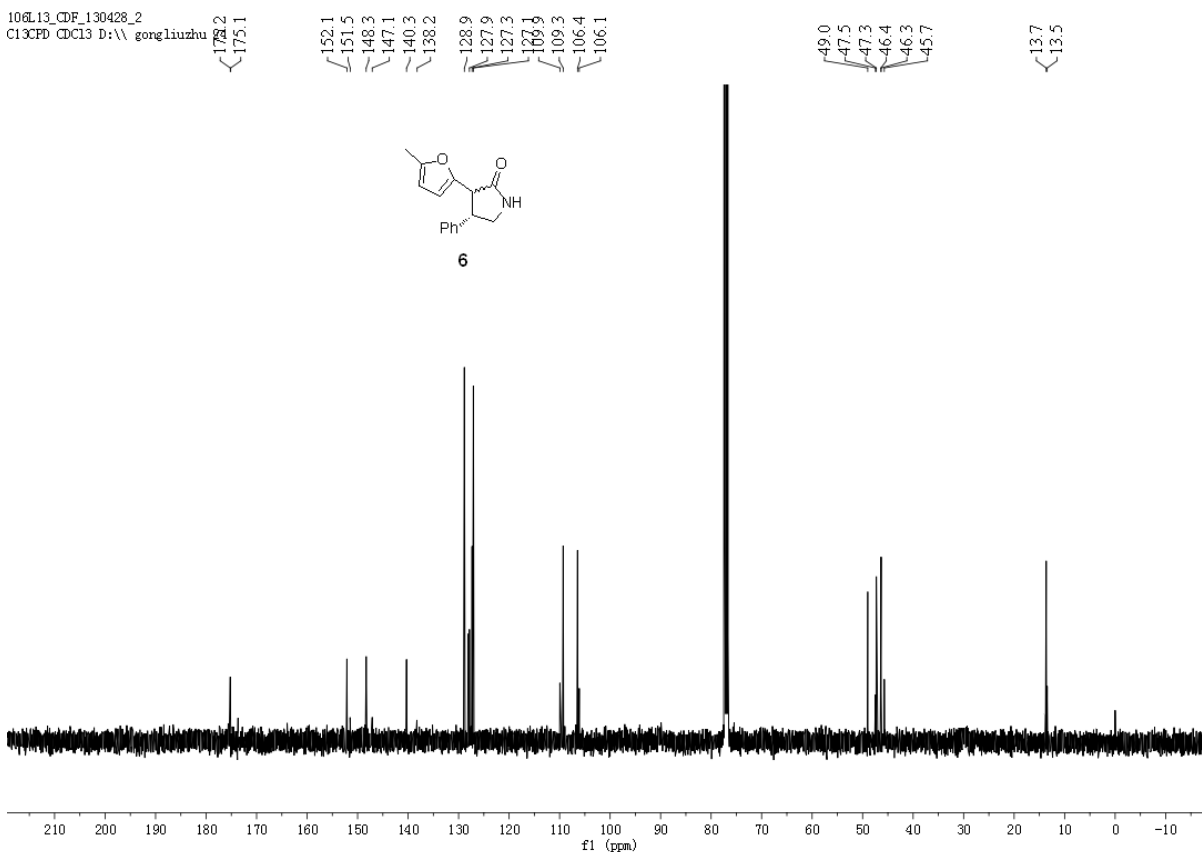


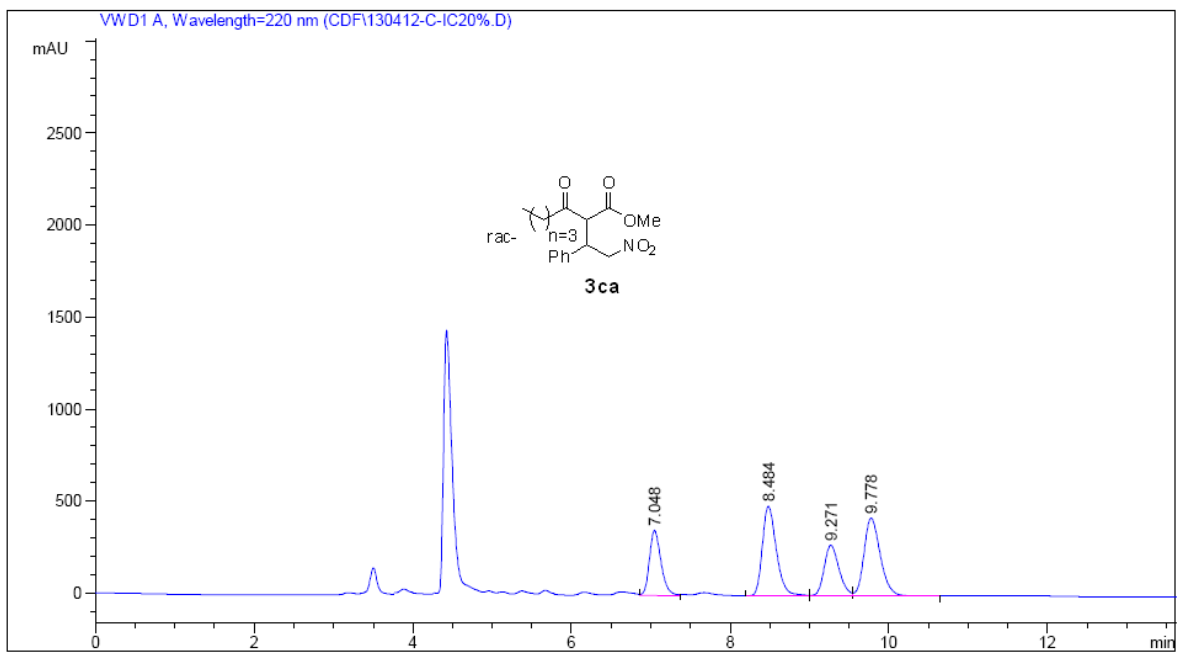


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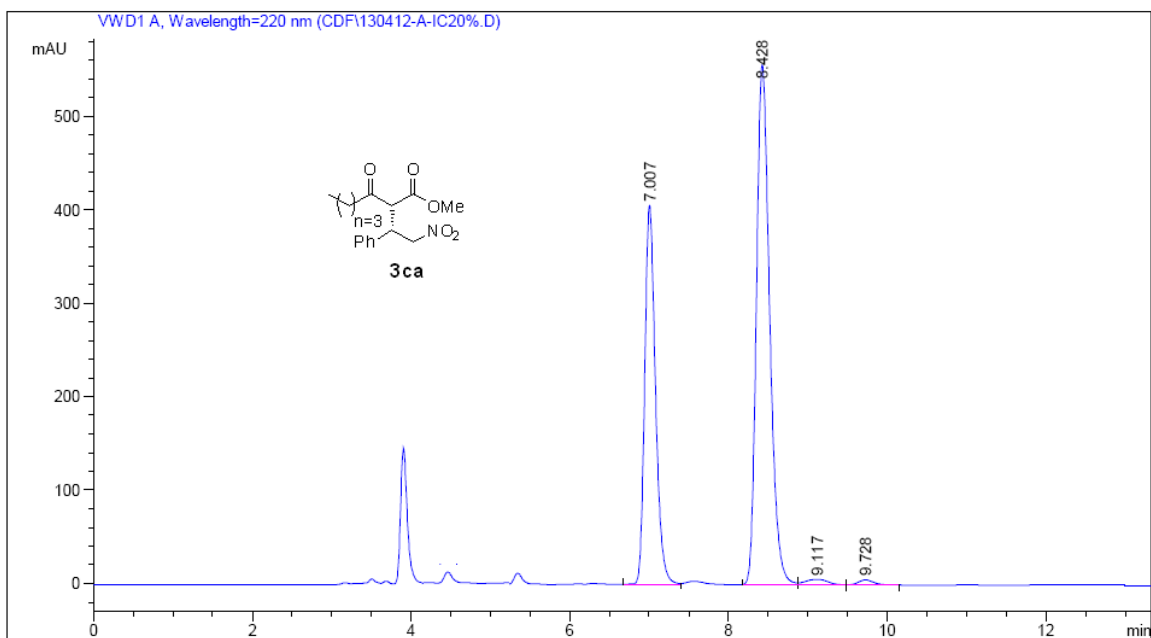






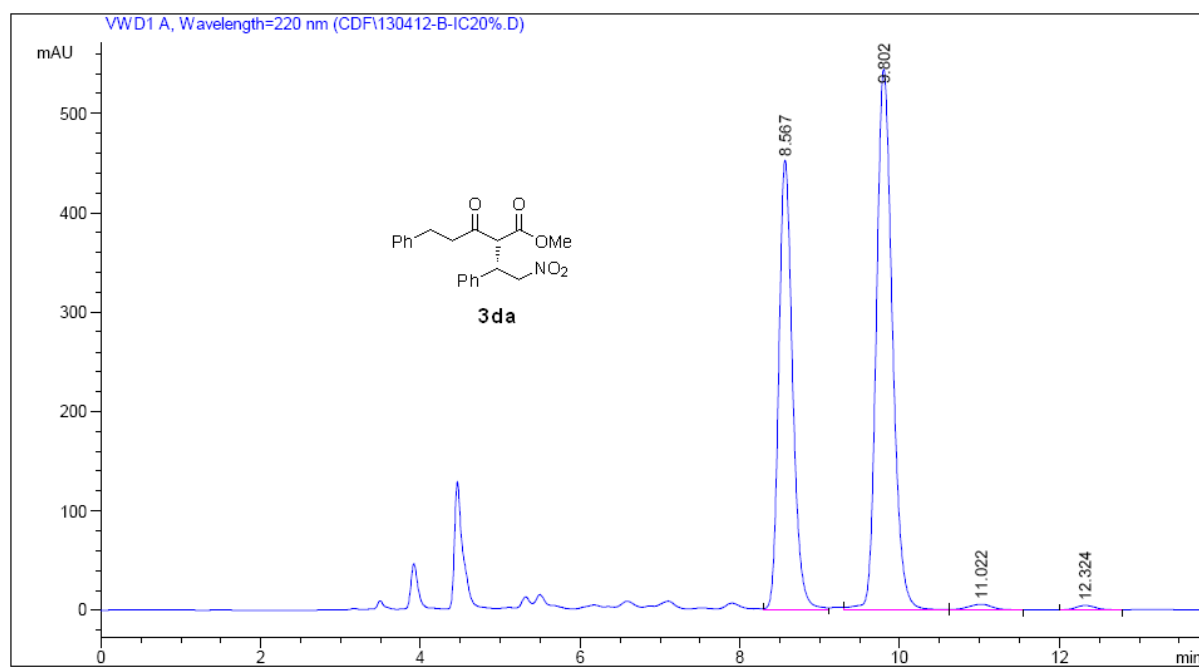
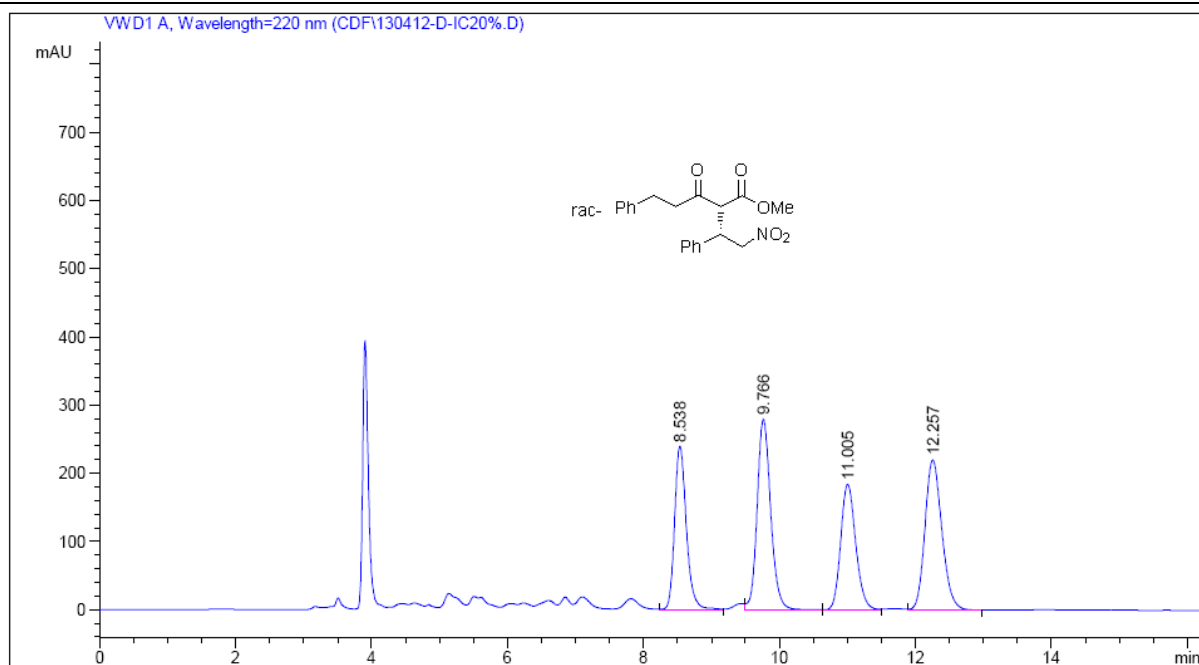


Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area mAU *s	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	7.048	VV	0.1551	3606.75122	354.38651	18.7784
2	8.484	VV	0.1885	5980.94141	486.73535	31.1395
3	9.271	VV	0.2015	3589.26245	275.51825	18.6873
4	9.778	VB	0.2183	6029.96436	424.06894	31.3948

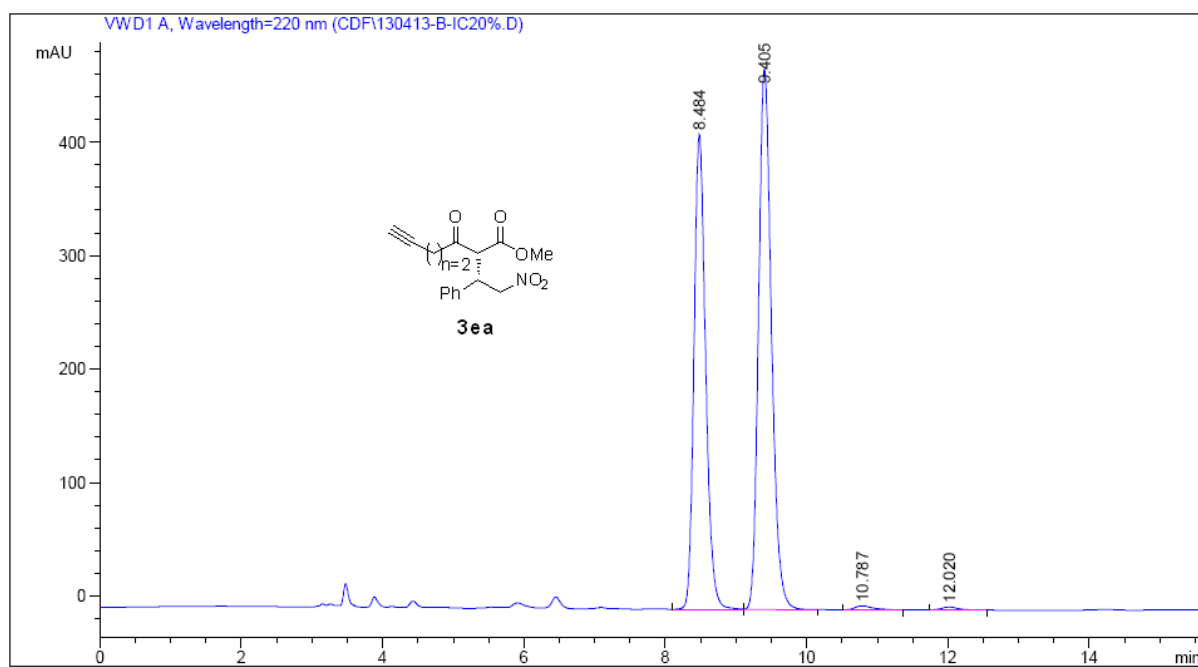
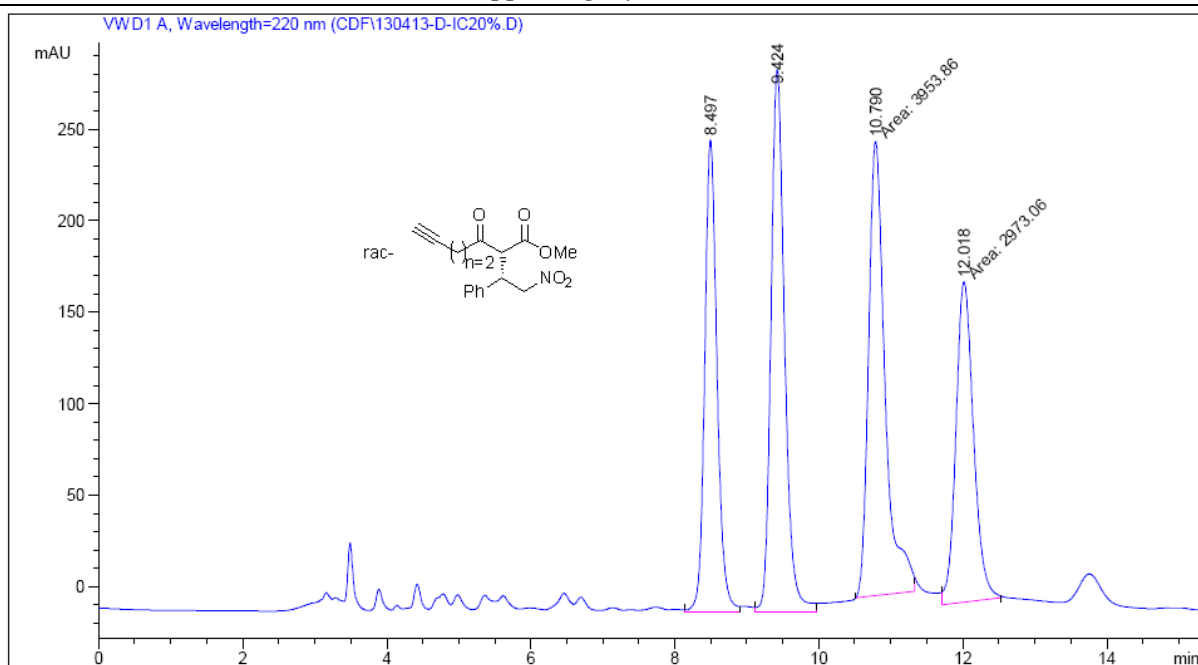


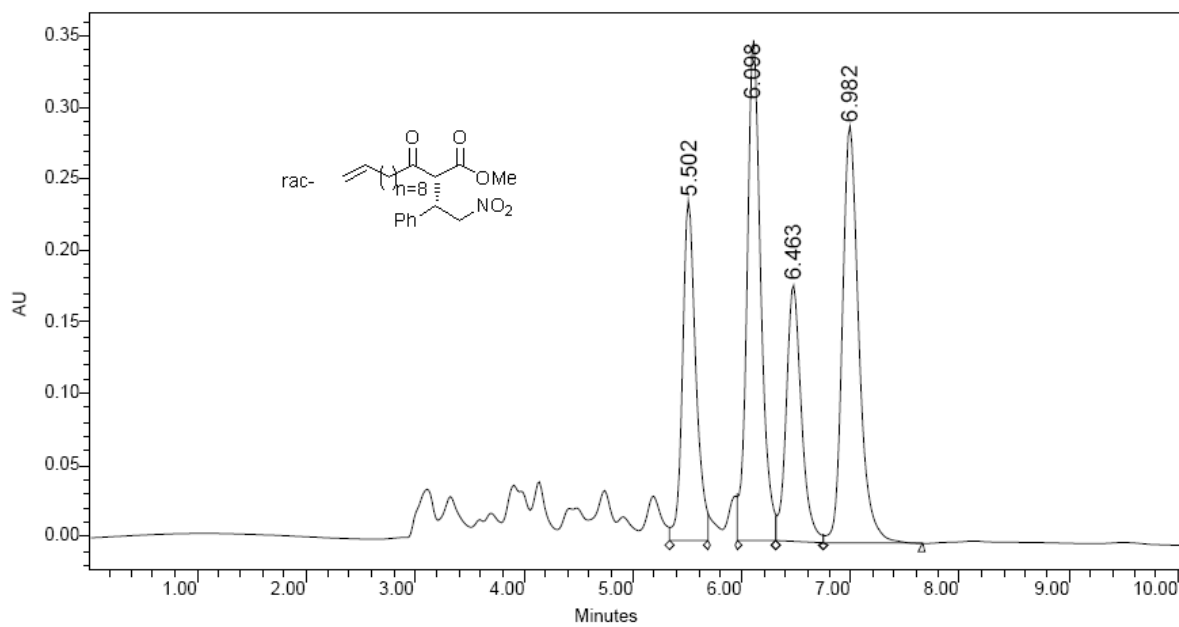
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area mAU *s	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	7.007	BV	0.1450	3835.78857	406.43787	36.6204
2	8.428	BV	0.1787	6441.97607	556.81561	61.5018
3	9.117	VV	0.3206	121.30968	5.95600	1.1581
4	9.728	VB	0.2103	75.38403	5.46998	0.7197

Supporting Information

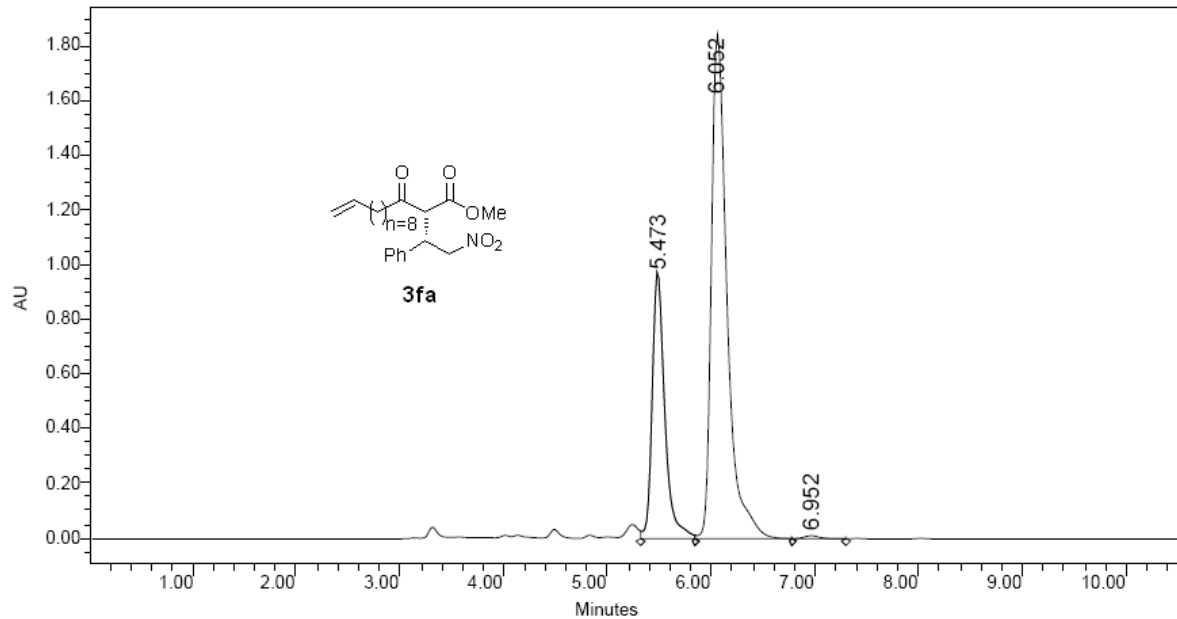


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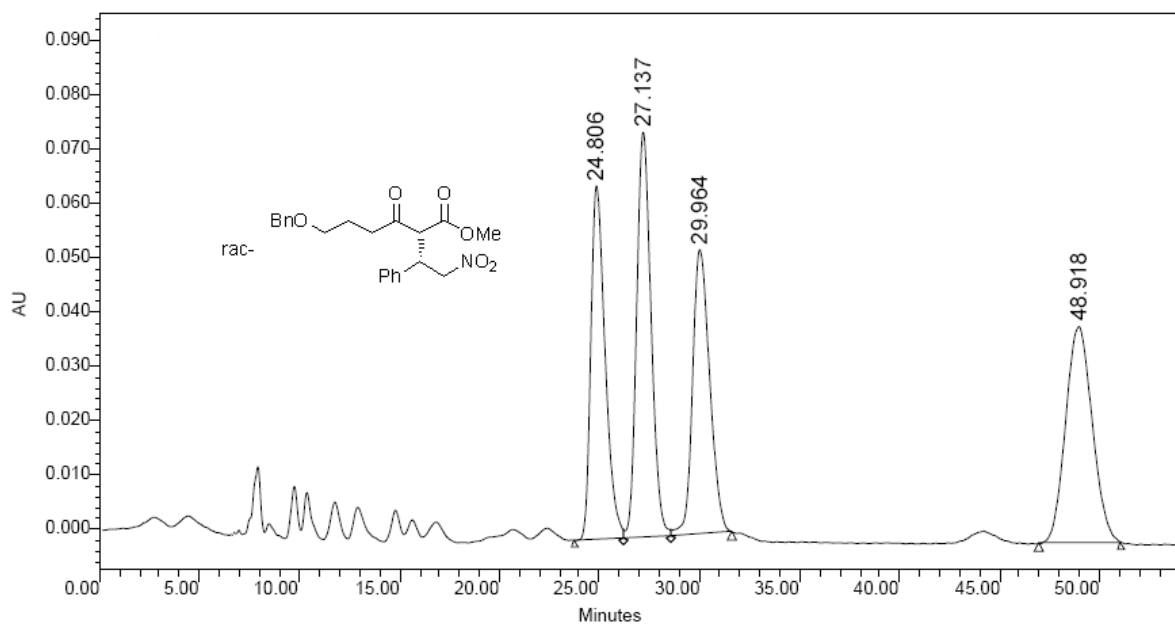




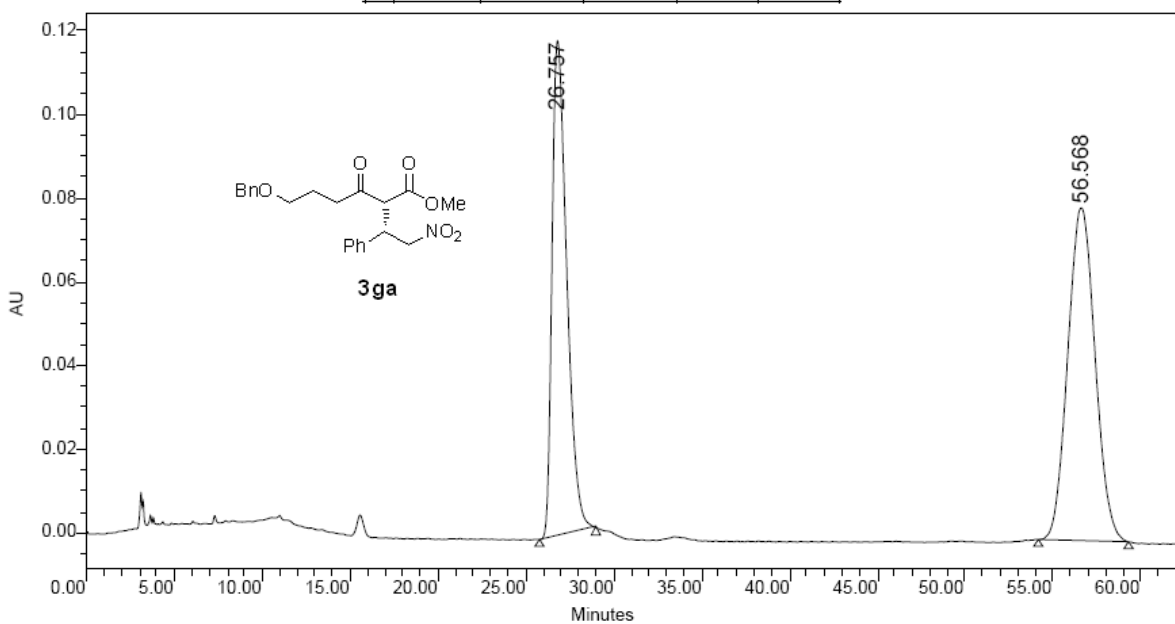
	RT (min)	Area (V*sec)	% Area	Height (V)	% Height
1	5.502	2027535	20.38	238027	22.46
2	6.098	3097266	31.13	350607	33.08
3	6.463	1744940	17.54	179969	16.98
4	6.982	3079104	30.95	291244	27.48



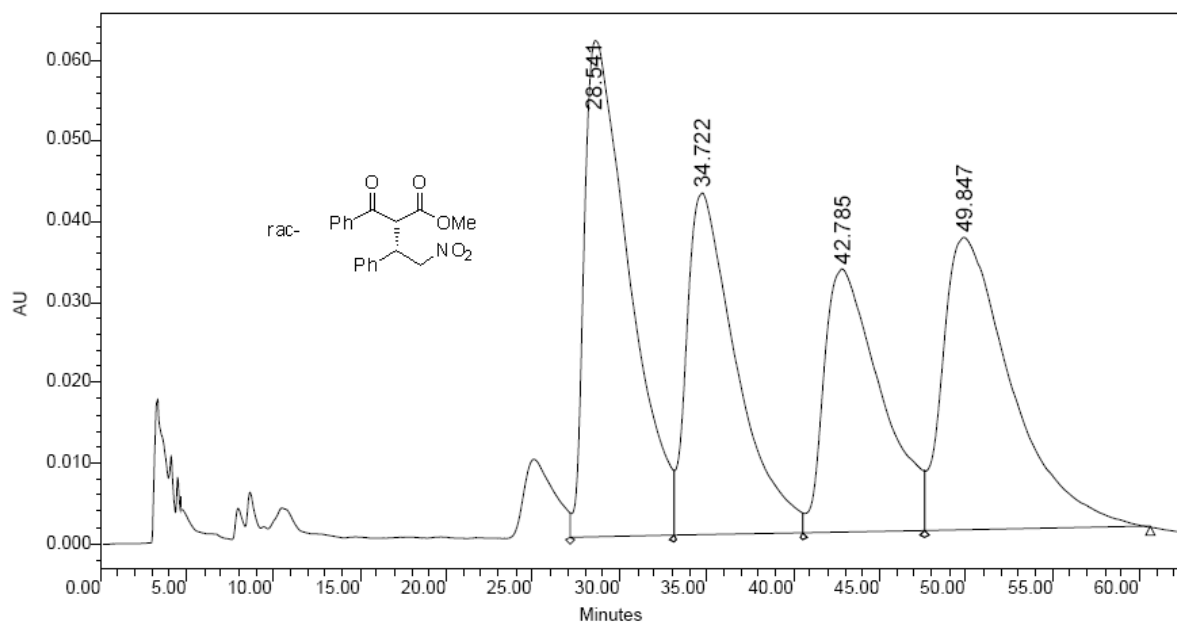
	RT (min)	Area (V*sec)	% Area	Height (V)	% Height
1	5.473	8287067	29.65	979085	34.50
2	6.052	19509004	69.80	1846354	65.06
3	6.952	154641	0.55	12609	0.44



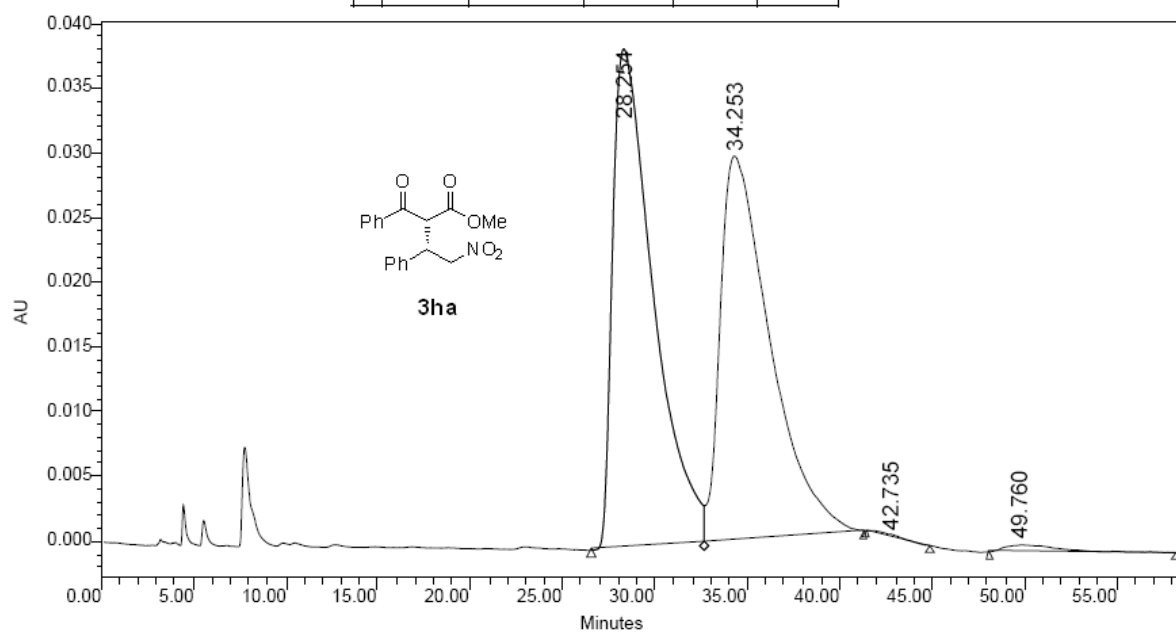
	RT (min)	Area (V*sec)	% Area	Height (V)	% Height
1	24.806	3237939	23.40	65184	28.08
2	27.137	3752765	27.13	74569	32.12
3	29.964	3136007	22.67	52472	22.60
4	48.918	3707900	26.80	39908	17.19



	RT (min)	Area (V*sec)	% Area	Height (V)	% Height
1	26.757	6905375	44.49	118462	59.81
2	56.568	8614149	55.51	79591	40.19

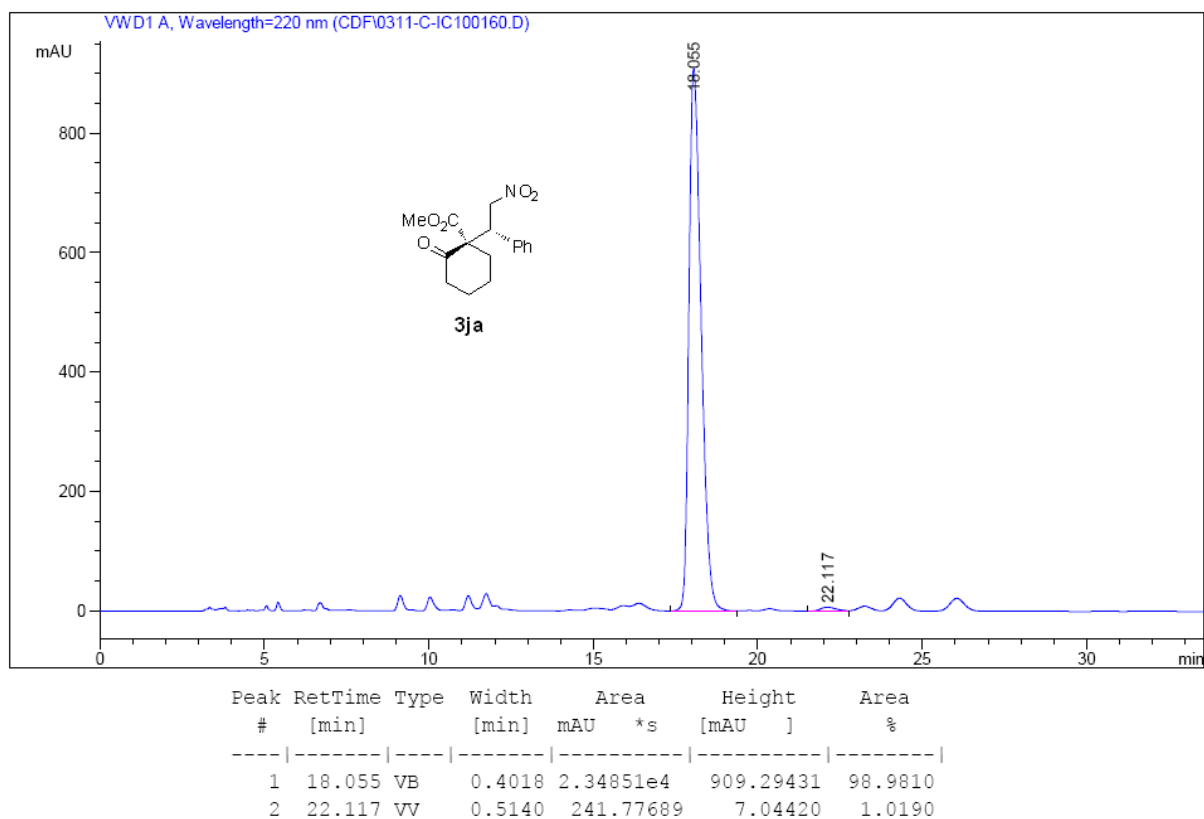
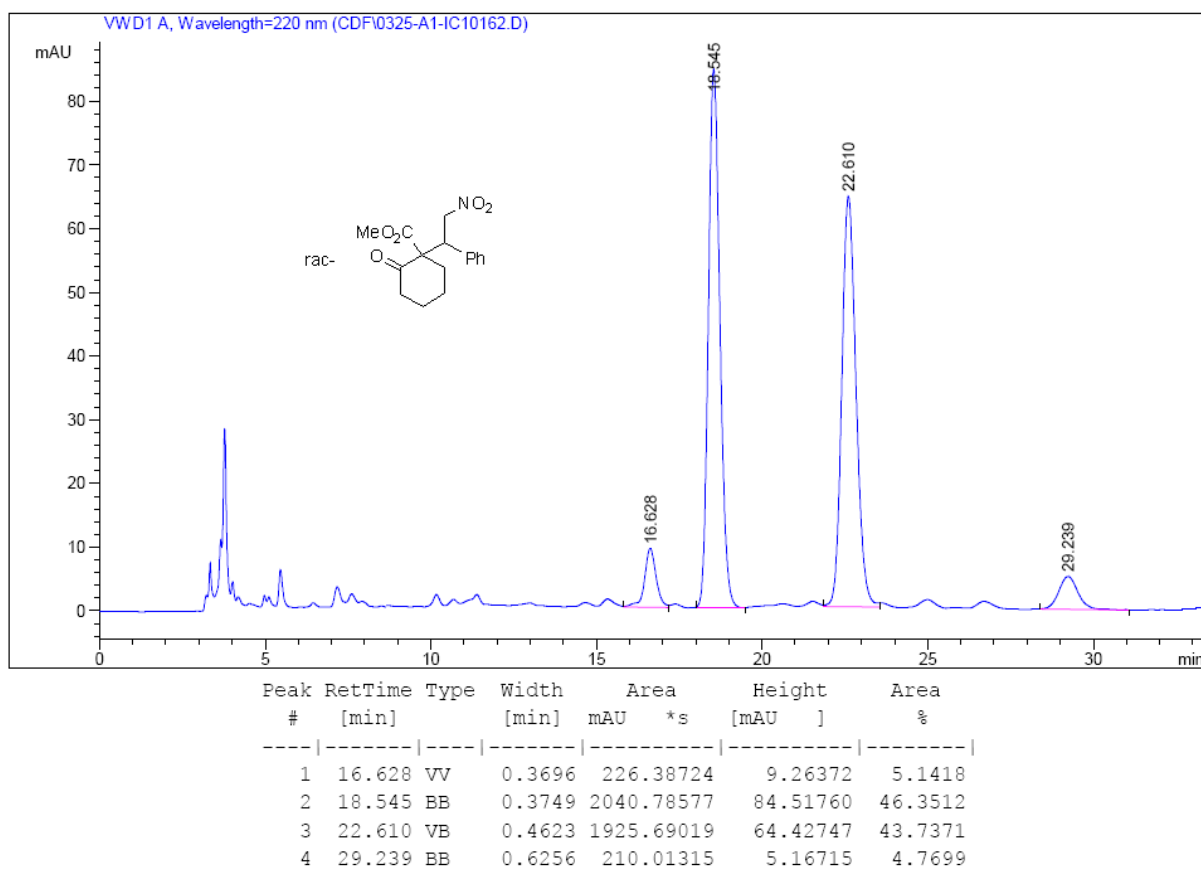


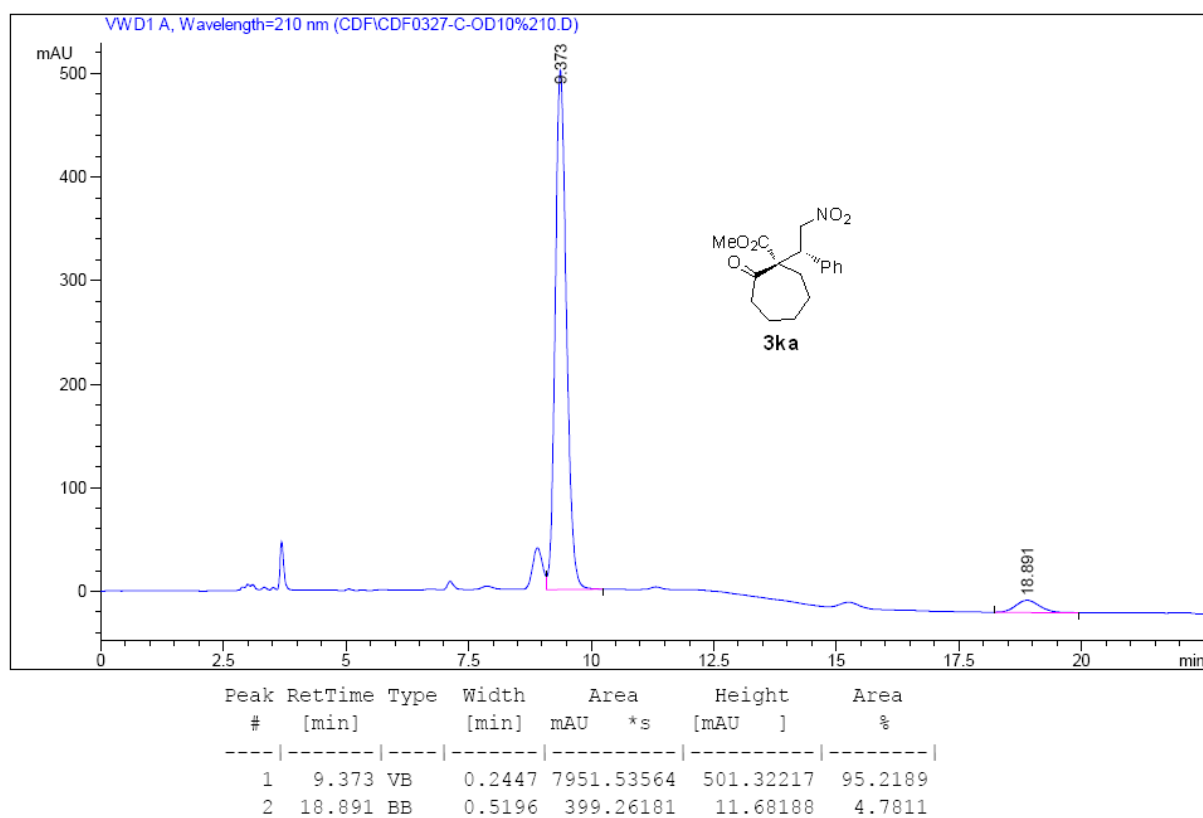
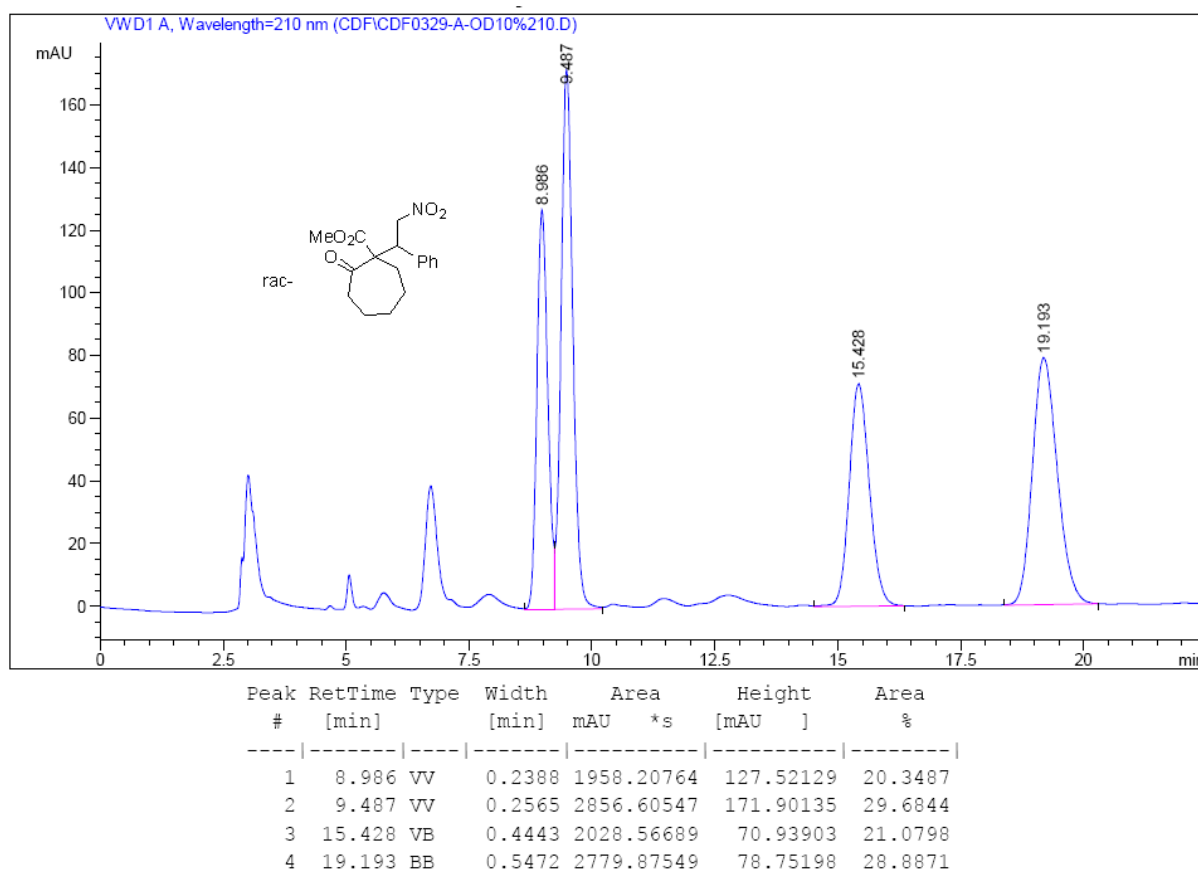
	RT (min)	Area (V*sec)	% Area	Height (V)	% Height
1	28.541	11134856	29.87	61635	35.57
2	34.722	8481578	22.76	42479	24.51
3	42.785	7512601	20.16	32757	18.90
4	49.847	10143734	27.21	36423	21.02

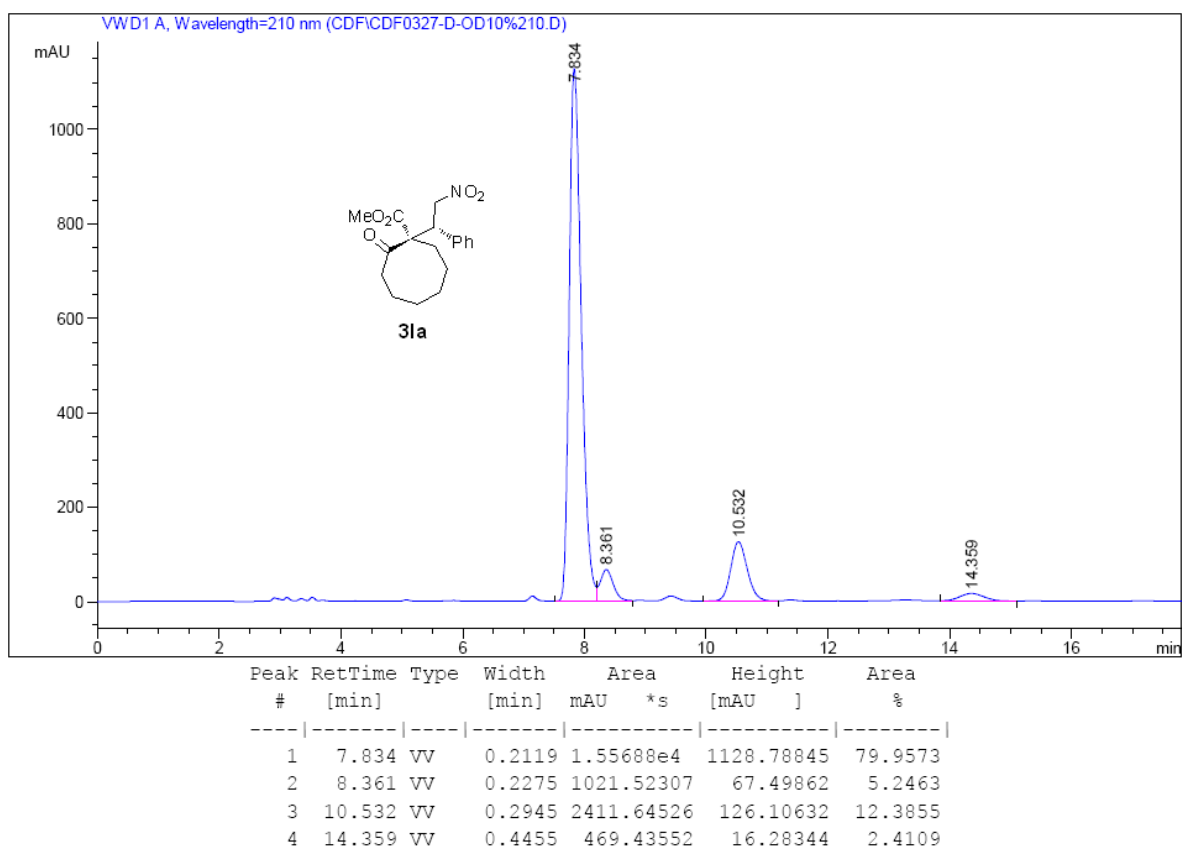
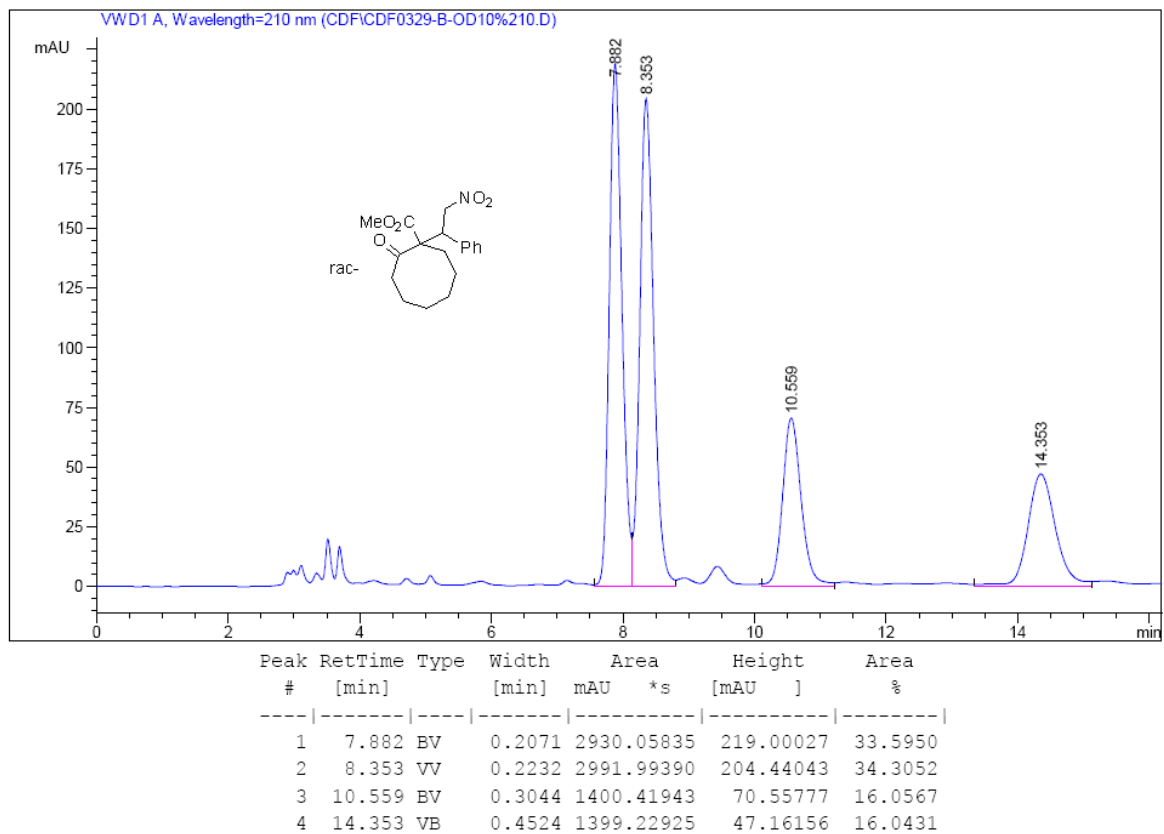


	RT (min)	Area (V*sec)	% Area	Height (V)	% Height
1	28.254	5891578	50.73	38570	55.93
2	34.253	5587268	48.11	29682	43.04
3	42.735	17312	0.15	174	0.25
4	49.760	118443	1.02	539	0.78

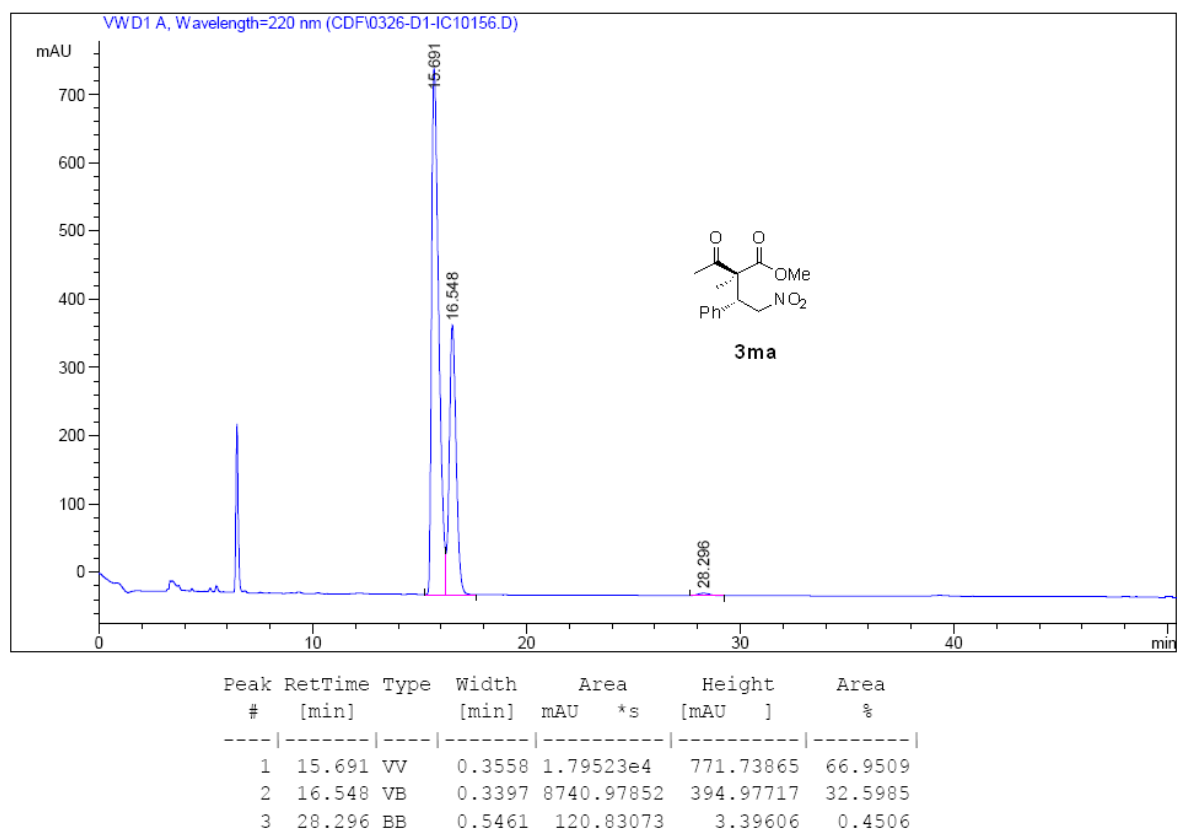
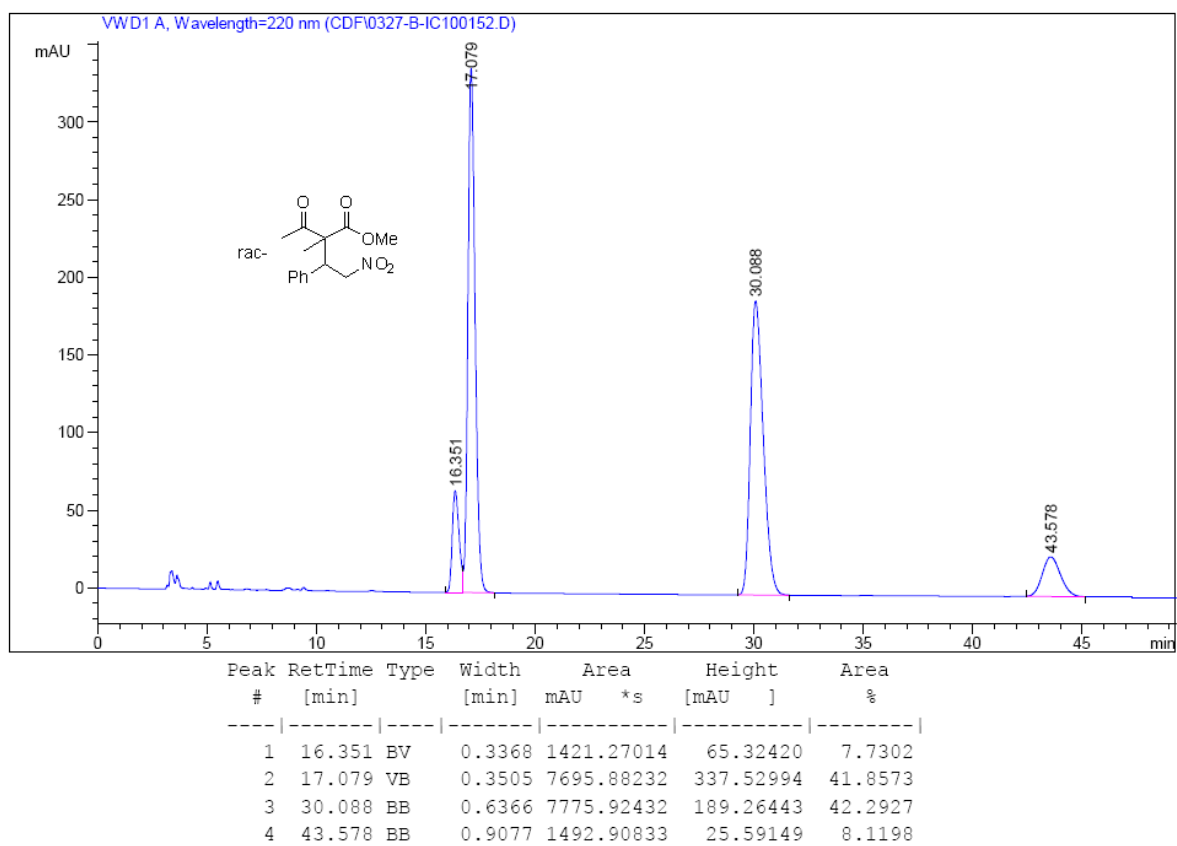
Supporting Information



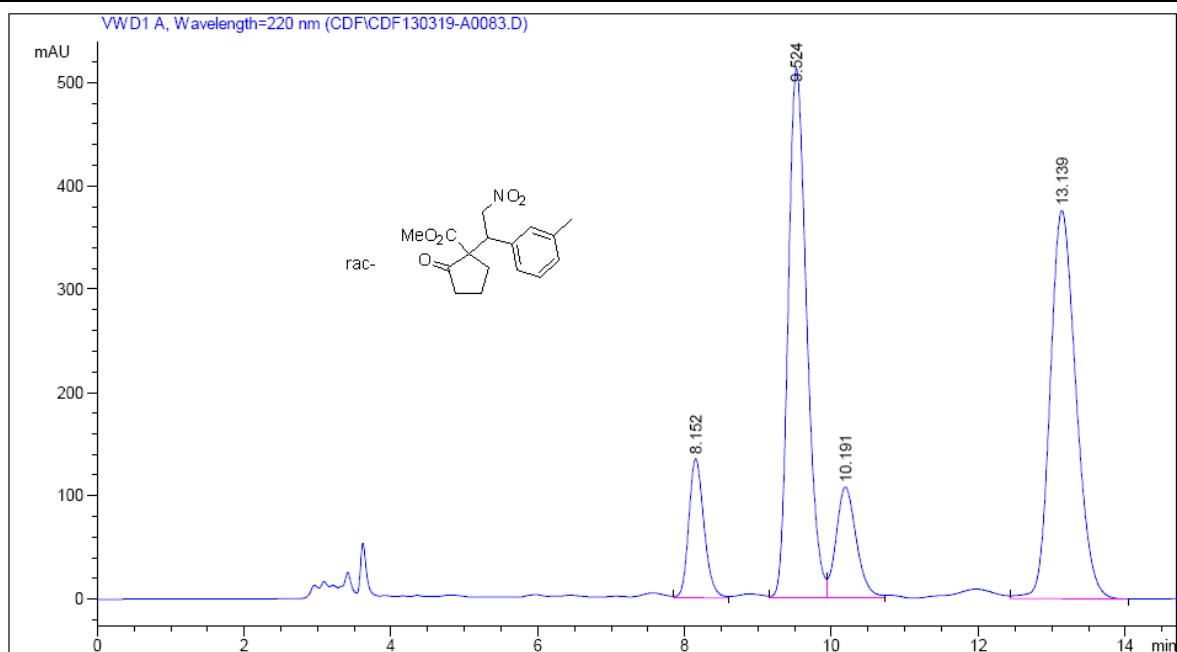




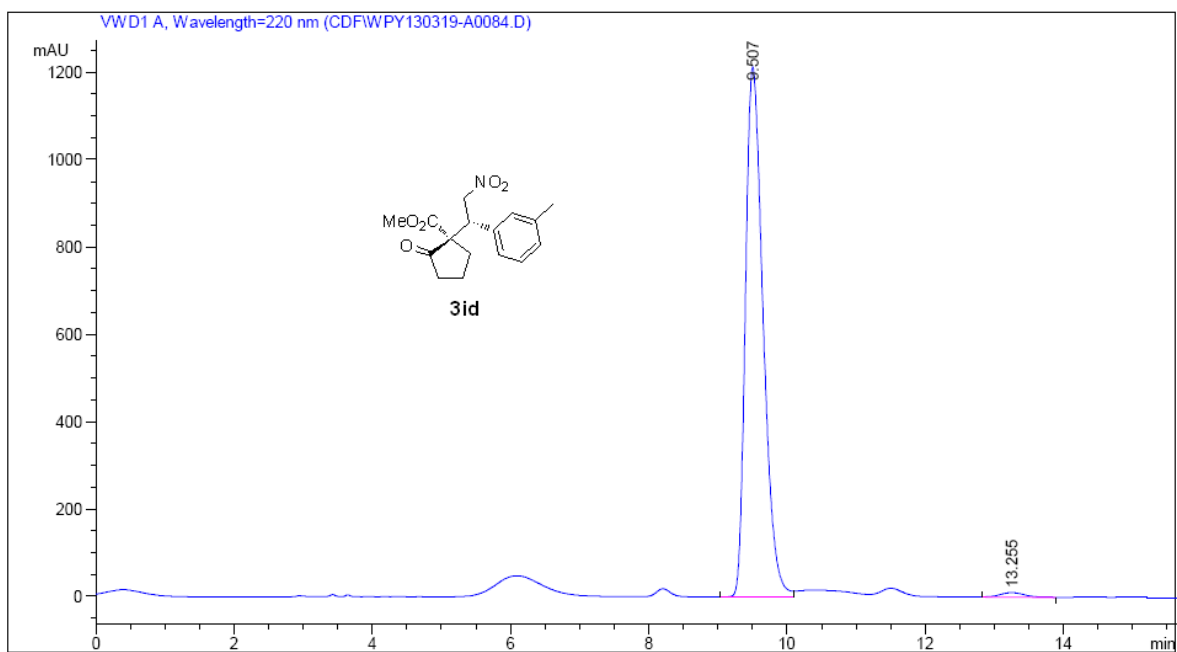
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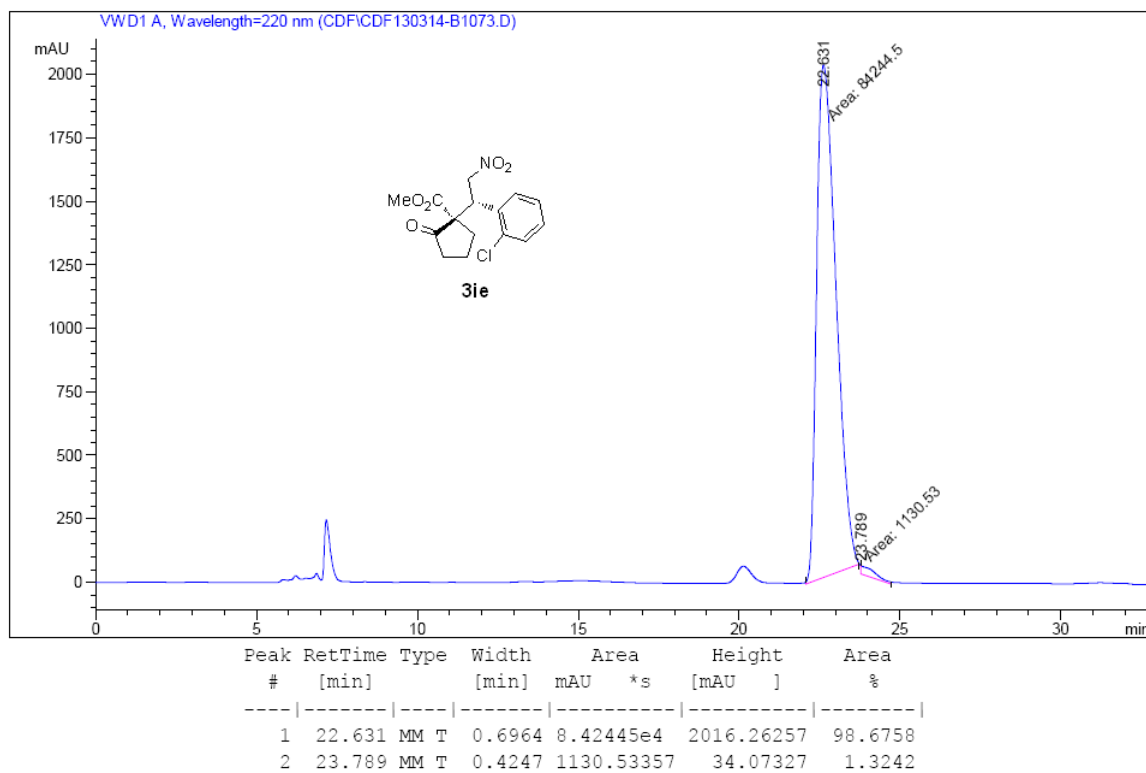
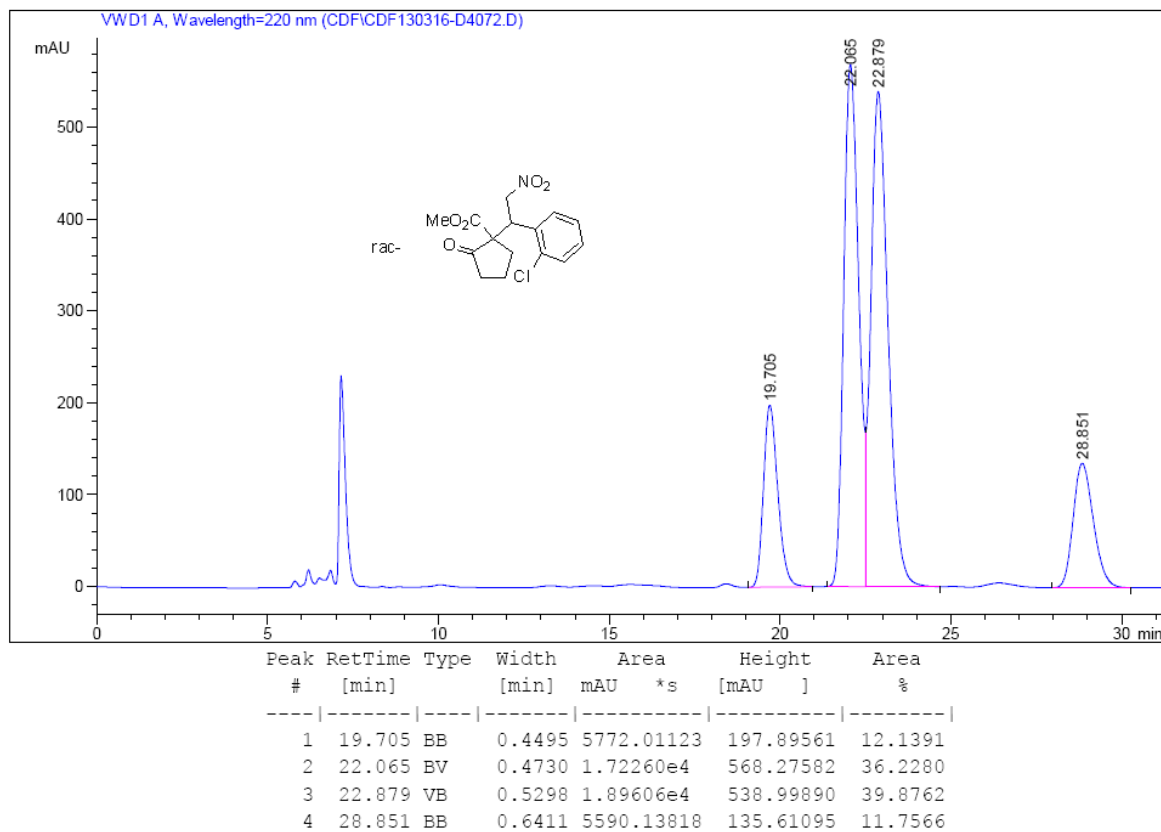
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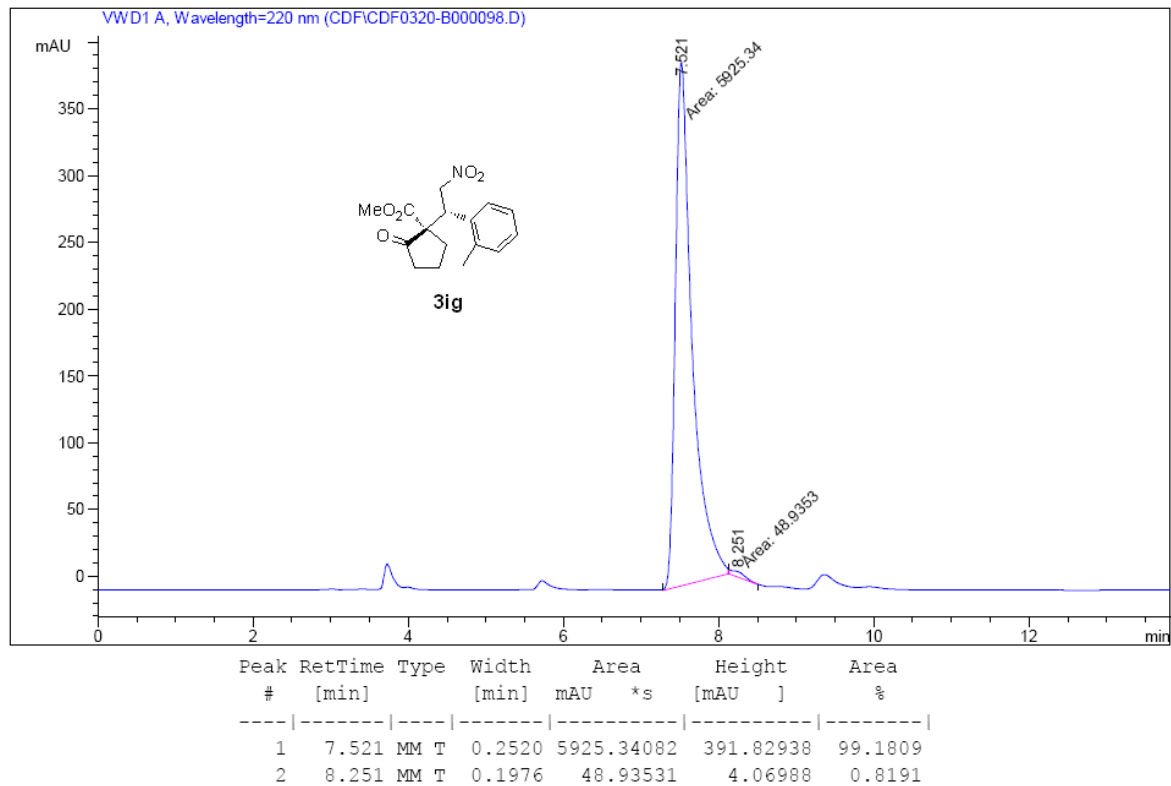
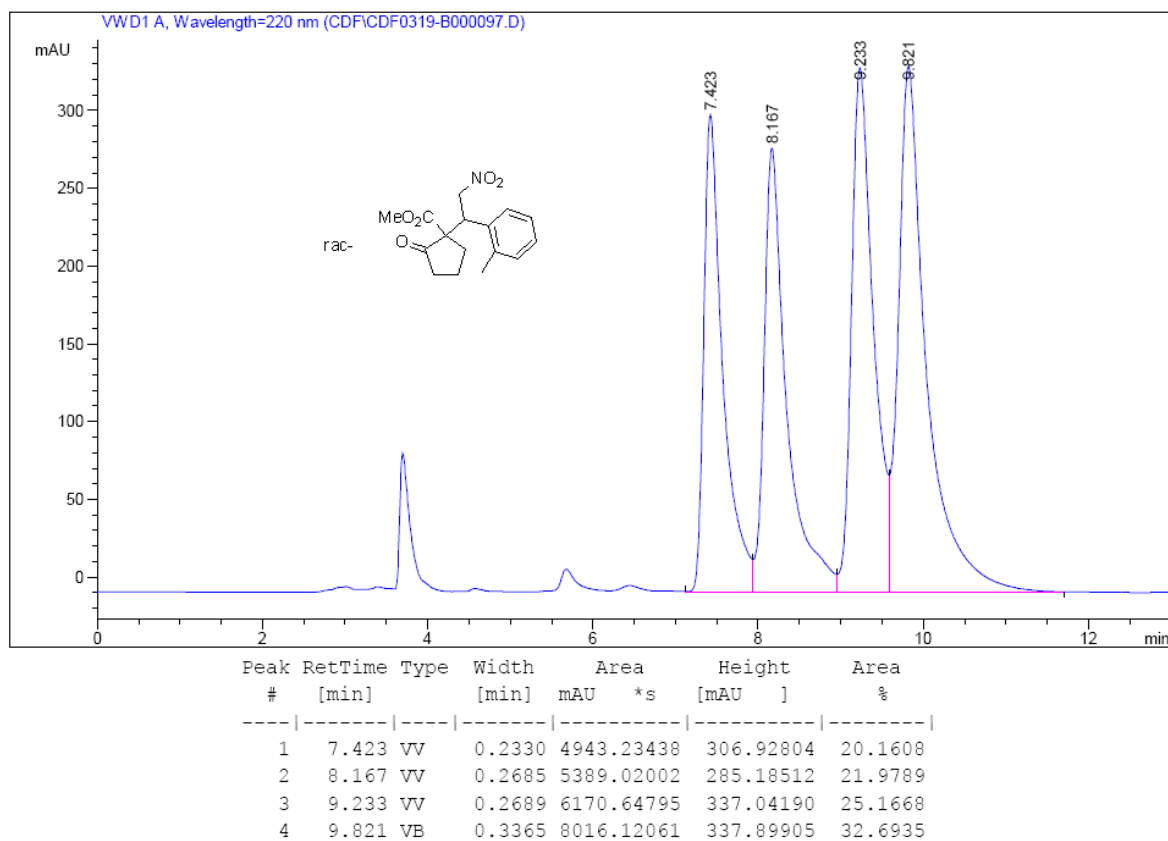


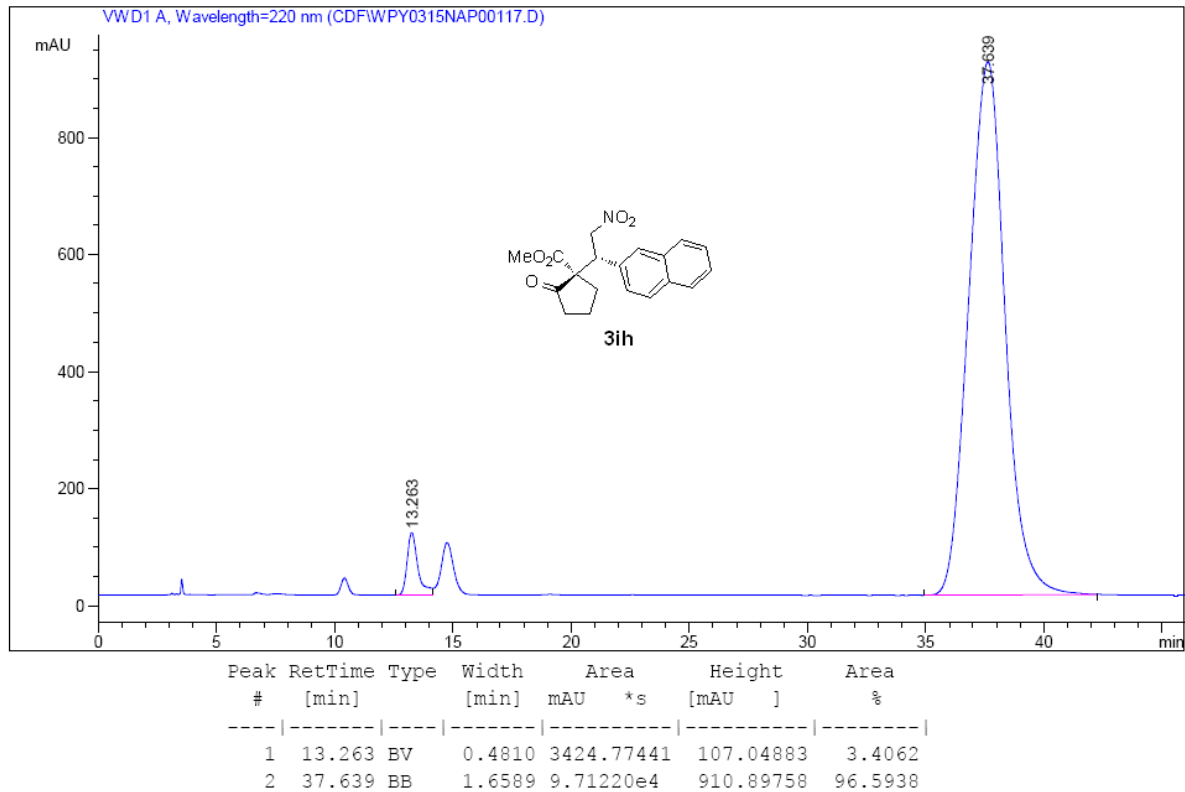
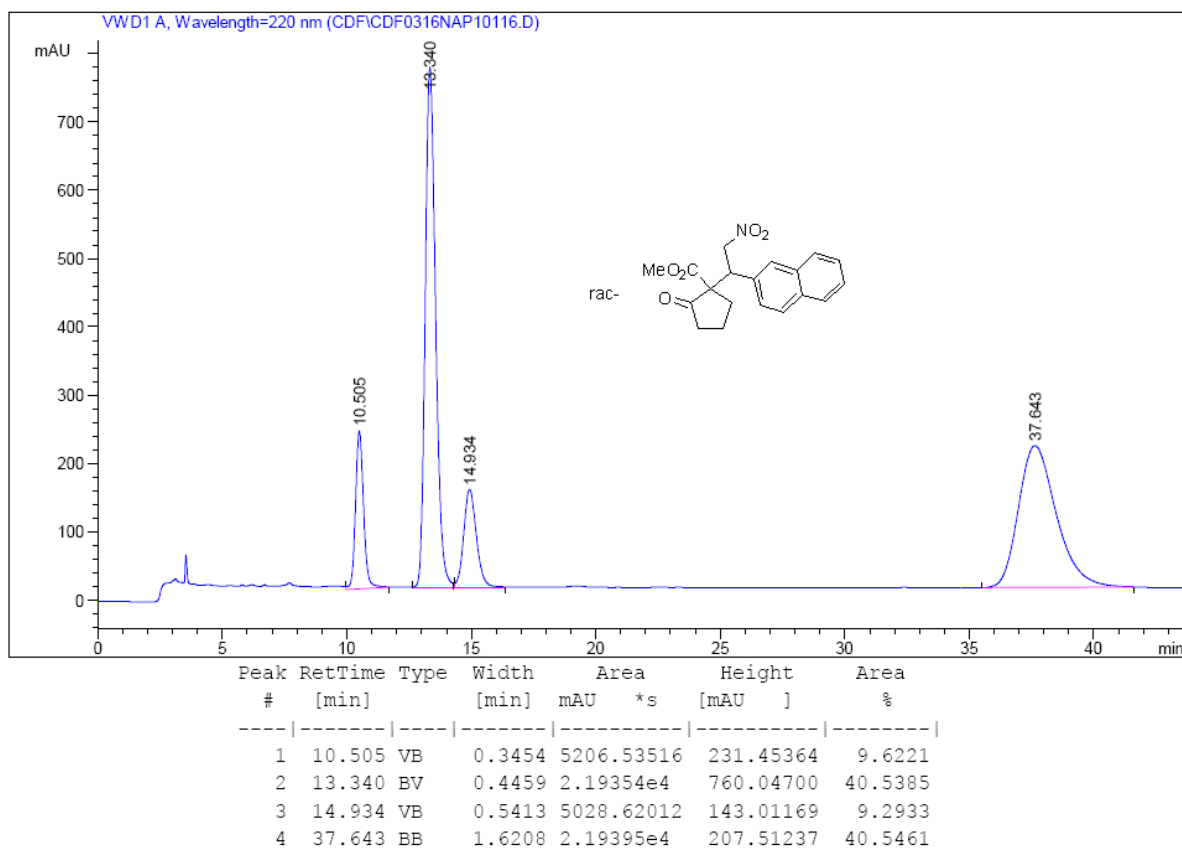
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area mAU	Area %	Height [mAU]
1	8.152	VV	0.2218	1937.34900	8.7446	134.59714
2	9.524	VV	0.2709	8966.56543	40.4721	512.97906
3	10.191	VV	0.2949	2076.04517	9.3706	107.66341
4	13.139	VB	0.3791	9174.95703	41.4127	376.23843

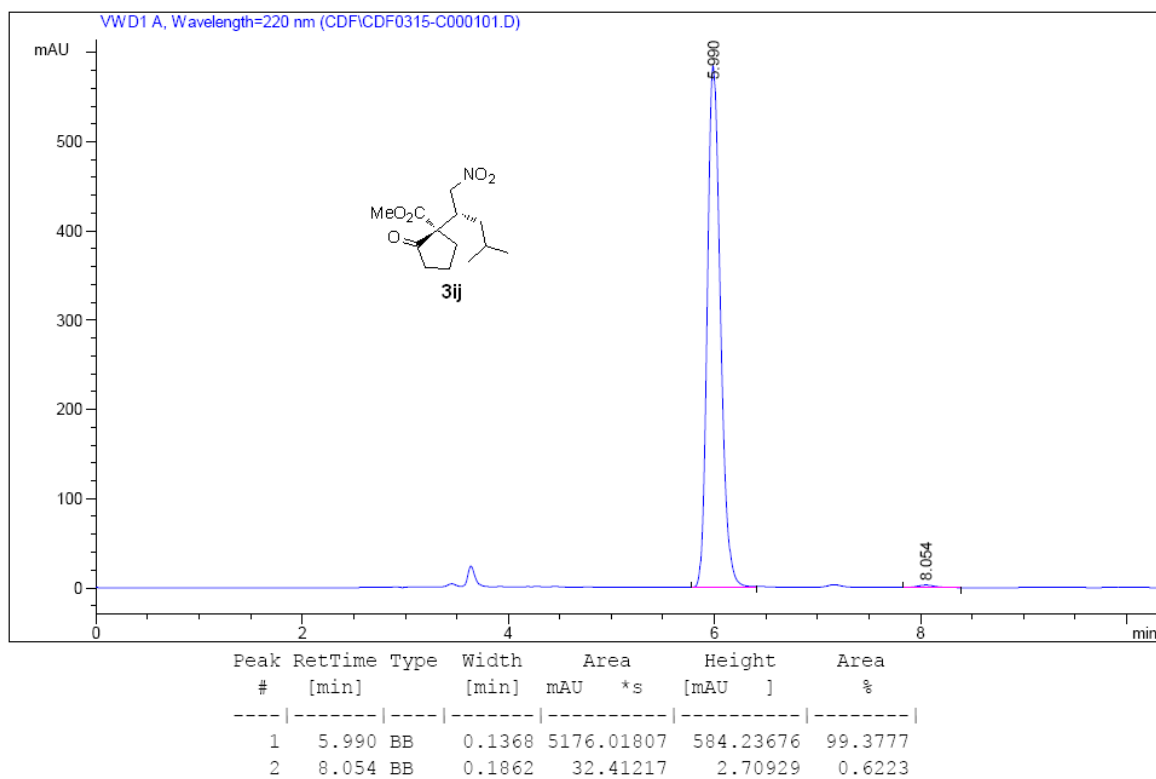
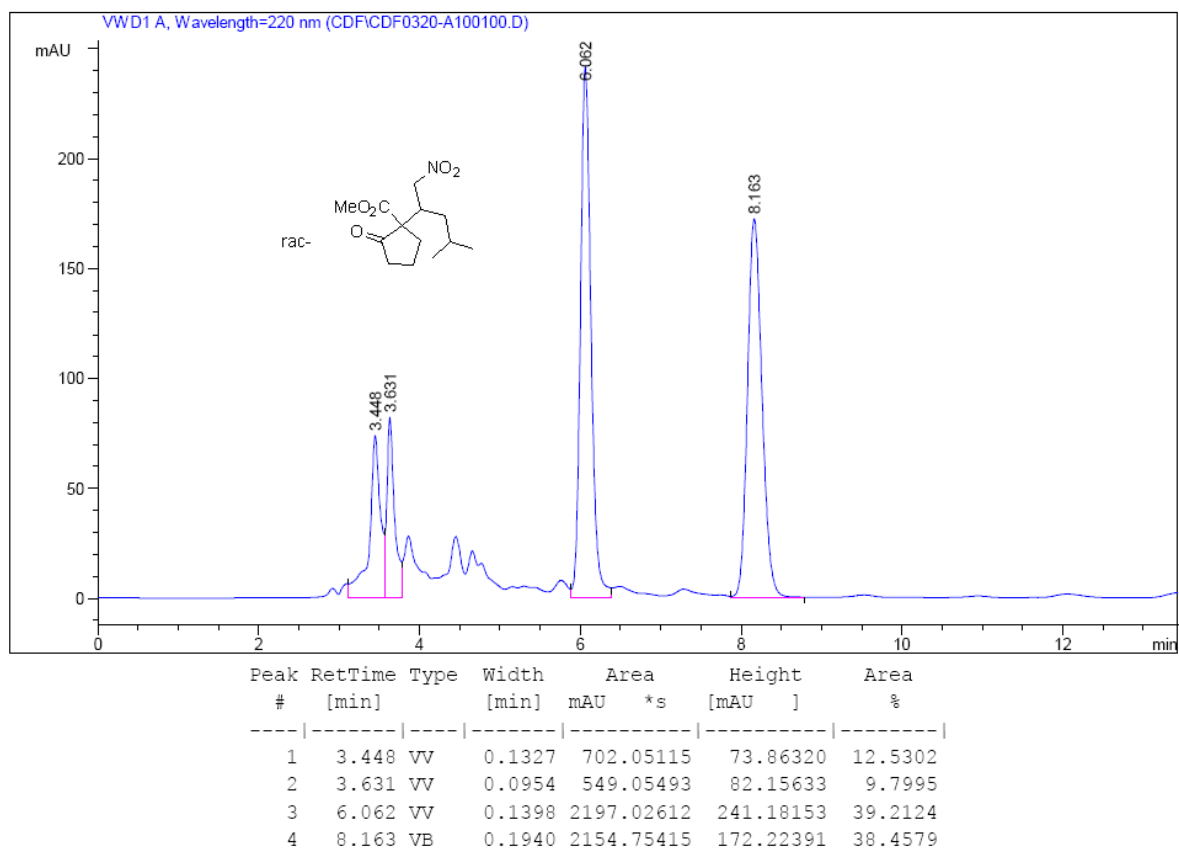


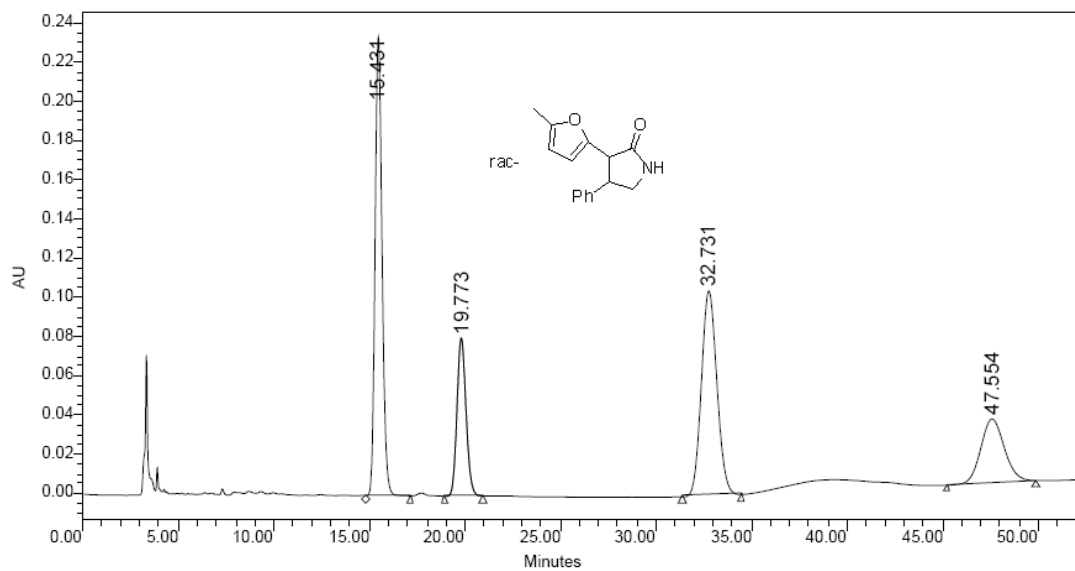
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area mAU	Area %	Height [mAU]
1	9.507	BV	0.2734	2.14785e4	98.8944	1213.70715
2	13.255	BB	0.3631	240.11440	1.1056	10.26907



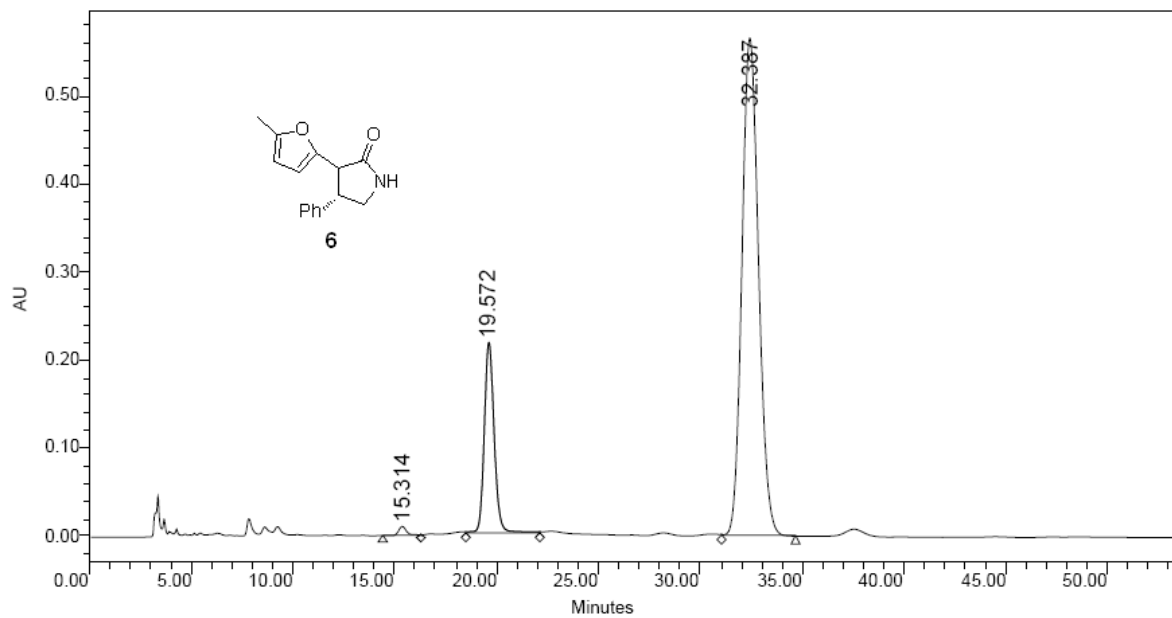








	RT (min)	Area (V*sec)	% Area	Height (V)	% Height
1	15.431	5959078	34.38	233958	51.78
2	19.773	2665973	15.38	80743	17.87
3	32.731	5912929	34.11	104534	23.13
4	47.554	2797417	16.14	32610	7.22



	RT (min)	Area (V*sec)	% Area	Height (V)	% Height
1	15.314	300921	0.75	10448	1.32
2	19.572	7786422	19.35	218120	27.48
3	32.387	32156432	79.90	565270	71.21