

Oxazoline/Copper Catalyzed Alkoxy Radical Generation: Solvent-Switched to Access 3a,3a'-Bisfuroindoline and 3-Alkoxy Furoindoline

Hai Ren*, Jun-Rong Song, Zhi-Yao Li, Wei-Dong Pan*

State Key Laboratory of Functions and Applications of Medicinal Plants, Guizhou Medical University,
Guiyang 550014, (China);

The Key Laboratory of Chemistry for Natural Products of Guizhou Province and Chinese Academy of
Sciences/Guizhou Provincial Engineering Research Center for Natural Drugs, Guiyang 550014,
(China)

Email: renh0206@163.com; wdpan@163.com

Supporting Information

Content

1. General Information	2
2. Detailed Reaction Optimizations	3
3. Mechanistic Studies	4
4. General Procedure for Dimerization and Product Characterizations	12
5. X-Ray Dates	20
6. General Procedure for Alkoxylation and Product Characterizations	23
7. 1.0 mmol Scale Experiment.....	29
8. References	30
9. ^1H NMR、 and ^{13}C NMR spectras	31
10. HPLC spectras of 2a'	62

1. General information

Unless stated, otherwise all reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of nitrogen using standard Schlenk techniques. All solvents and reagents were obtained from commercial sources and were purified according to standard procedures before use. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (Qingdao, 300 - 400 mesh) using the indicated eluents. NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Mercury 400 MHz or Agilent Mercury 400 MHz spectrometer (^1H : 400 MHz, ^{13}C : 100 MHz) in chloroform-d or Agilent Mercury 600 MHz spectrometer (^1H : 600 MHz and ^{13}C : 150 MHz) in chloroform-d. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were internally referenced to the proton (^1H) of the internal TMS signal at 0.00 ppm or the solvent residue of DMSO at 2.54 ppm and the residual carbon nuclei (^{13}C) of the solvent at 77.0 or 40.5 ppm, respectively. Data for ^1H NMR were recorded as follows: chemical shift (δ , ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet or unresolved, coupling constant(s) in Hz, integration). IR spectra were recorded using a FTIR spectrometer (IR 200) and the KBr disk method was adopted; High resolution mass spectra were obtained using Bruker ESI-QTOF mass spectrometry.

2. Optimization of the reaction conditions^[a]

Table S1: Ligand screening

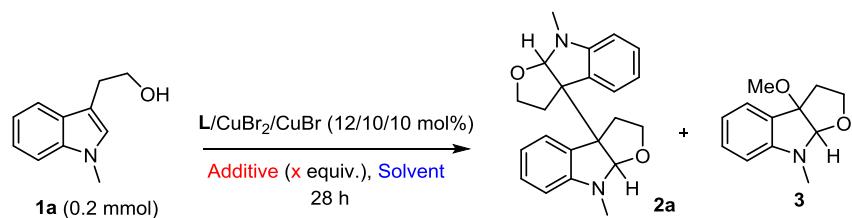
Entry	L	Metal salts	t (h)	Yield (%) ^[b]	Dr ^[c]
1	L1	CuBr ₂ /CuBr	24	15	3/1
2	L2	CuBr ₂ /CuBr	24	<10	--
3	L3	CuBr ₂ /CuBr	48	60	2.4/1
4	L4	CuBr ₂ /CuBr	24	76(75) ^[d]	2.6/1
5	L5	CuBr ₂ /CuBr	24	68	2.4/1
6	L6	CuBr ₂ /CuBr	24	42	2/1
7	L7	CuBr ₂ /CuBr	24	17	2.3/1
8	L8	CuBr ₂ /CuBr	24	28	2.5/1
9	L9	CuBr ₂ /CuBr	24	trace	--
10	L10	CuBr ₂ /CuBr	24	nr	--
11	L11	CuBr ₂ /CuBr	24	nr	--
22	L12	CuBr ₂ /CuBr	24	nr	--

^[a] The reactions were carried out under Ar atmosphere: Metal salts (0.02 mmol), **L** (0.024 mmol), THF (2.0 mL), **1a** (0.20 mmol). ^[b] Yield was determined by ¹H NMR with TTCE as internal standard, in parentheses is isolated yield. ^[c] Dr was determined by ¹H NMR of the crude product. ^[d] The enantioinduction of the current catalyst for the reaction was, however, found to be problematic (6% ee), remaining an interesting and challenging subject for further investigation.

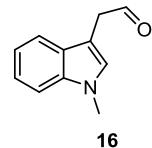
Procedure for eliminating the oxygen dissolved in THF: A mixture of CuBr₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol), CuBr (2.9 mg, 0.02 mmol), **L4** (11.7 mg, 0.024 mmol) and **2a** (35.0 mg) in dry THF (2 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 1 minute under the atmosphere of nitrogen and frozen in liquid nitrogen under reduced pressure of oil-pump for another 30 minutes, then the mixture was warmed to 50 °C for 24 h. The reaction was filtered through a glass funnel with thin layer (30 mm) of silica gel (100-200 mesh) and eluted with DCM/Ethyl Acetate. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, yield and dr were determined by ¹H NMR with TTCE as internal standard.

3. Mechanistic Studies

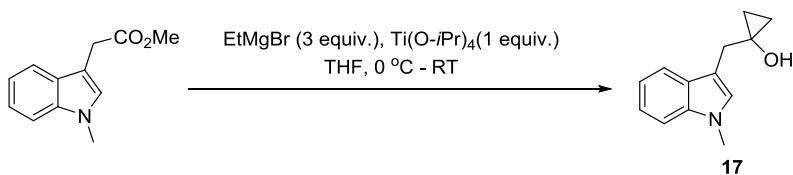
3.1 Controlled experiments with different radical scavengers



Entry	Additive (x equiv.)	Solvent	Yield	dr
1	TEMPO (1)	THF	<10% (2a), 46% (16)	--
2	BHT (1)	THF	42% (2a)	2.4/1
3	TEMPO (1)	MeOH	trace (3)	--

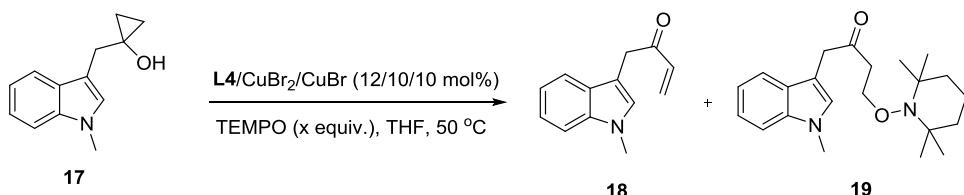


3.2 Radical clock experiments



Following the literature procedure¹, ester (3 mmol, 1.0 eq.), titanium isopropoxide (3 mmol, 1 eq.) and THF (10 mL) were added to a 100 mL round-bottomed flask under the atmosphere of Ar. 9 mL of ethylmagnesium bromide (1 M in THF, 3.0 eq.) was added dropwise by syringe under Ar atmosphere at 0 °C, then the mixture was warmed to room temperature for 20 mins. The mixture was then quenched with ammonium chloride solution and the precipitate was removed by filtration. The filtrate was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 30 mL), washed with sodium chloride solution, and dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration and concentration, the residue was purified by column chromatography.

17 white solid, 543.0 mg, 90% yield. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 2H), 0.83 (q, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 0.67 (q, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H). **¹³C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.0, 128.2, 127.6, 121.6, 119.4, 119.0, 111.0, 109.2, 77.2, 55.9, 33.9, 32.7, 13.6. IR (KBr): 3369.3, 2984.5, 2832.9, 1741.5, 1375.1, 1244.4, 1024.0 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₁₃H₁₆NO⁺ [M+H]⁺: 202.1226; Found: 202.1230.



Procedure: A mixture of CuBr₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol), CuBr (2.9 mg, 0.02 mmol), **L4** (11.7 mg, 0.024 mmol) and **17** (35.0 mg) in THF (2 mL) was stirred at 50 °C for 12 h under the atmosphere of Ar. Then, the reaction was filtered through a glass funnel with thin layer (30 mm) of silica gel (100-200 mesh) and eluted with DCM/Ethyl Acetate. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, purified by flash

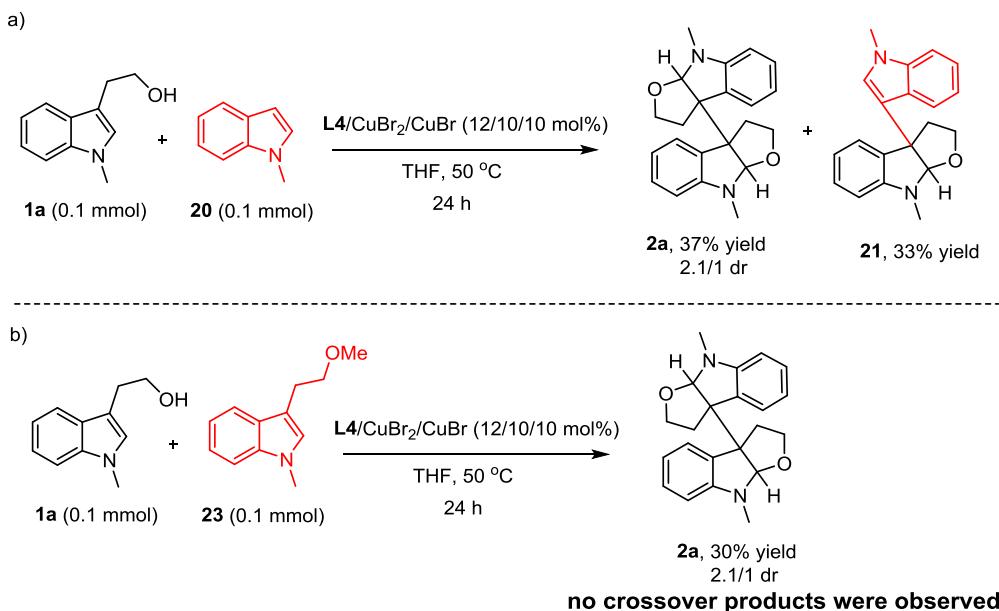
chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate = 10/1) to afford the product **18**, which is unstable in air.

18 yellow liquid, 9.1 mg, 23% yield. **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.25 - 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.12 (dd, *J* = 11.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.46 (dd, *J* = 17.5, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (dd, *J* = 17.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.74 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (s, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.0, 136.9, 135.1, 128.5, 127.9, 127.7, 121.7, 119.2, 118.7, 109.3, 106.5, 37.3, 32.7. IR (KBr): 2984.7, 2942.8, 1742.2, 1373.9, 1242.2, 1047.1 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₁₃H₁₄NO⁺ [M+H]⁺: 200.1070; Found: 200.1074.

Procedure: A mixture of CuBr₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol), CuBr (2.9 mg, 0.02 mmol), **L4** (11.7 mg, 0.024 mmol), TEMPO (31.2 mg, 0.2 mmol) and **17** (35.0 mg) in THF (2 mL) was stirred at 50 °C for 2 h under the atmosphere of Ar. Then, the reaction was filtered through a glass funnel with thin layer (30 mm) of silica gel (100-200 mesh) and eluted with DCM/Ethyl Acetate. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, purified by flash chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate = 12/1) to afford the product **18** and **19**, the product **19** is unstable in the reaction system and air.

19 oil, 14.1 mg, 20% yield. **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.26 - 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.12 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 3.98 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.66 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 1.42 - 1.41 (m, 4H), 1.30 - 1.25 (m, 2H), 1.13 (s, 6H), 1.04 (s, 6H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 207.5, 136.7, 127.7, 127.6, 121.6, 119.0, 118.6, 109.1, 106.7, 71.8, 59.6, 40.5, 40.2, 39.4, 32.7, 32.5, 19.9, 16.9. IR (KBr): 2985.2, 1738.1, 1374.3, 1244.2, 1047.1 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₂₂H₃₃N₂O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 357.2537; Found: 357.2539.

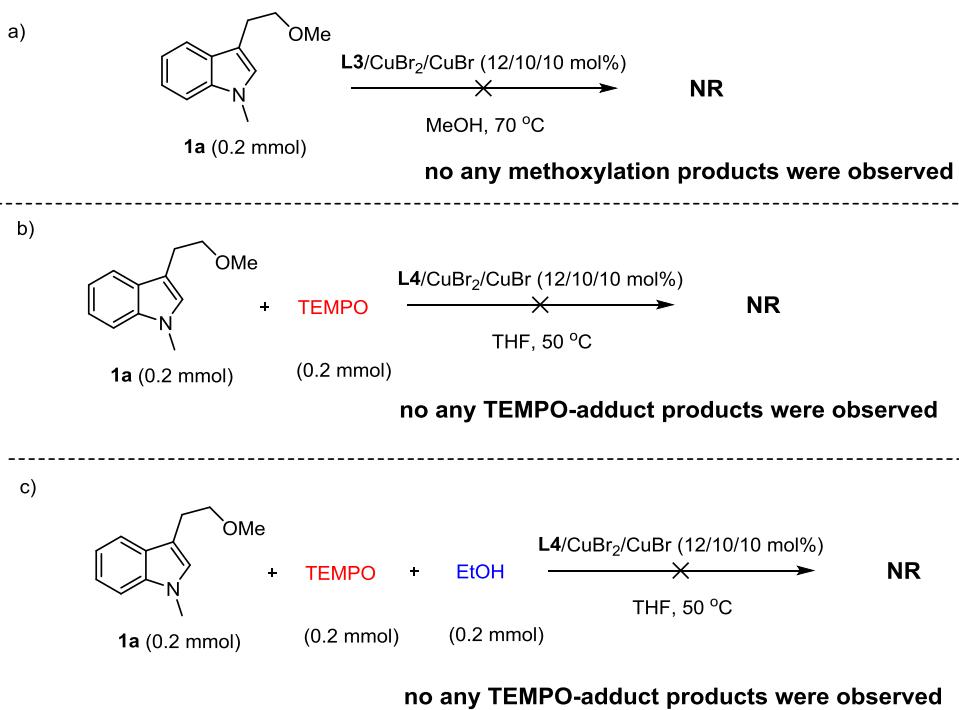
3.3. Crossover experiments



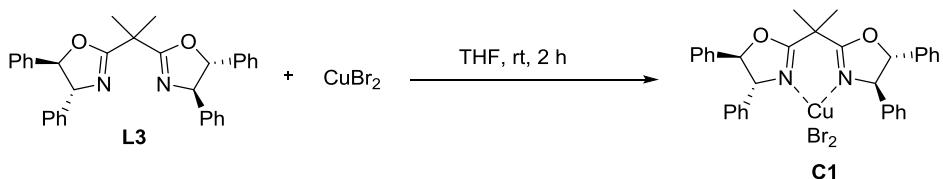
Procedure: A mixture of CuBr₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol), CuBr (2.9 mg, 0.02 mmol), **L4** (12.7 mg, 0.024 mmol) and **two substrates** in THF (2 mL) was stirred at 50 °C under the atmosphere of Ar. After the reaction was completed (monitored by TLC), the reaction was filtered through a glass funnel with thin layer (30 mm) of silica gel (100-200 mesh) and eluted with DCM/Ethyl Acetate. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, purified by flash chromatography to afford the product.

21 white solid, 10.0 mg, 33% yield. **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 - 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.24 - 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.19 - 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.10 - 7.03 (m, 1H), 6.71 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.49 - 6.43 (m, 1H), 5.63 (s, 1H), 4.20 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 3H), 3.65 - 3.56 (m, 1H), 3.01 - 2.90 (m, 4H), 2.38 (dt, *J* = 17.7, 8.8 Hz, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.9, 137.9, 132.5, 128.5, 126.7, 125.9, 124.2, 121.7, 120.0, 119.0, 117.3, 117.0, 109.5, 105.1, 104.0, 67.8, 55.9, 40.8, 32.6, 30.8. IR (KBr): 2984.9, 2946.7, 1742.5, 1374.0, 1241.9, 1047.3 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₂₀H₂₁N₂O⁺ [M+H]⁺: 305.1648; Found: 305.1654.

3.4. Controlled experiments with hydroxyl group protected substrates



3.5 Mechanistic Investigations of the Catalyst



Procedure for preparing L4/CuBr₂ complex C1:² A mixture of CuBr₂ (44.6 mg, 0.2 mmol) and **L4** (97.2 mg, 0.2 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 2 h under the atmosphere of Ar until the cupric salts disappeared. The reaction solution was concentrated under reduced pressure, affording the product **C1** as a reddish brown solid, which is stable in Air. However, we failed to get the X-Ray crystal structure of the **C1** after many tries.

Results: When chose previously prepared **L4/CuBr₂** complex **C1** as the catalyst, the reaction procced smoothly (Table S2, entry 1). In combination with CuBr as a co catalyst, the reaction efficiency improved significantly to give **2a** in 75% yield and 2.4/1 dr (entry 2). However, a lower yield was obtained with CuBr₂ (entry 3). Notably, when CuBr was used as the single metal catalyst, trace amounts of product were observed (entries 4-5), suggesting that the Cu^{II}-active species formed directly from CuBr oxidated with O₂ is impossible in the catalytic cycle.

Table S2. Mechanistic Investigations of the Catalyst

1a → **2a**

Catalyst (10 mol%)

THF, 50 °C, Ar, 24 h

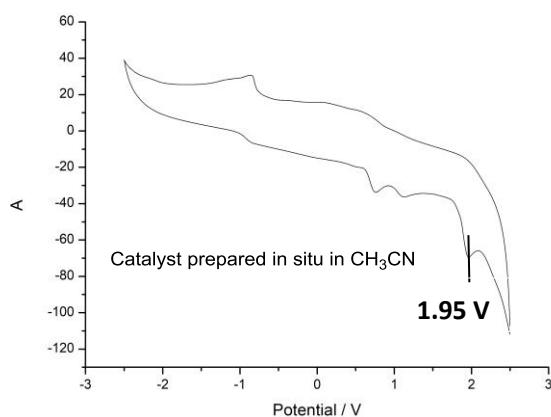
Entry	Catalyst	Yield	dr
1	CuBr ₂	nr	--
2	C1	52%	2.4/1
3	C1/CuBr	75%	2.4/1
4	C1/CuBr₂	46%	2.5/1
5	L4/CuBr₂	42%	2.4/1
6	L4/CuBr	trace	--
7*	L4/CuBr	<5	--

* Carried out under the atmosphere of O₂.

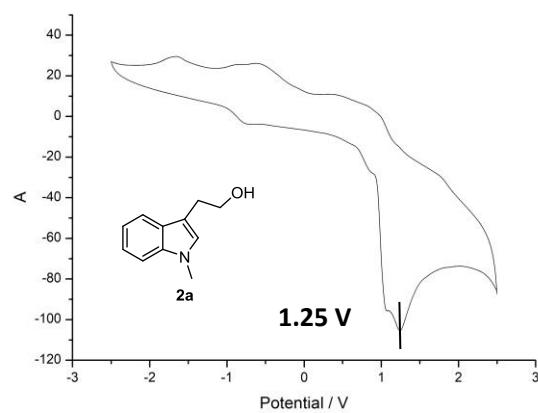
Procedure for reaction with C1 as catalyst: A mixture of **C1** (14.1 mg, 0.02 mmol) and **1a** (35.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was stirred at 50 °C under the atmosphere of Ar. After the reaction was completed (monitored by TLC), the reaction was filtered through a glass funnel with thin layer (30 mm) of silica gel (100-200 mesh) and eluted with DCM/Ethyl Acetate. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, the yields and dr of **2a** were determined by ¹H NMR with TTCE as internal standard.

3.6 The Cyclic Voltammetry Experiments

Cyclic Voltammetry was performed on a GU Instruments Electrochemical Workstation model CH/1660D. CV measurement were carried out in 0.1 M CH₃CN solution of **Catalyst (L4/CuBr₂ = 1/1 prepared in situ in CH₃CN)** or **2a** was prepared with 0.1 M n-Bu₄NPF₆ at a scan rate of 100 mV/s with the protection of Ar. The working electrode is a glassy carbon, the counter electrode is a Pt wire, and the reference electrode is saturated calomel electrode.

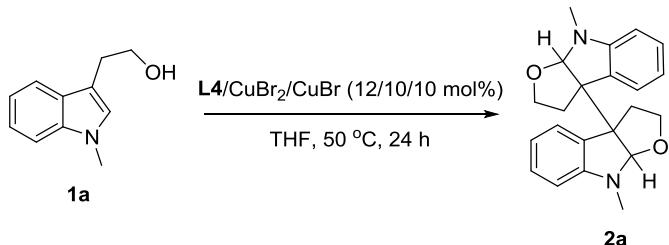


Scheme S1: The Cyclic Voltammetry Experiment of complex (**L3/CuBr₂ = 1/1**) prepared in situ in CH₃CN

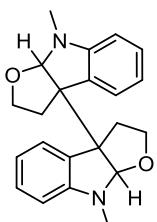


Scheme S2: The Cyclic Voltammetry Experiment of substrate **2a**

4. General Procedure for Dimerization and Product Characterizations



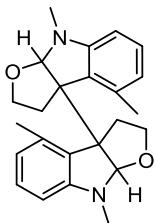
Procedure: A mixture of CuBr₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol), CuBr (2.9 mg, 0.02 mmol), **L4** (11.7 mg, 0.024 mmol) and **1a** (35.0 mg) in THF (2 mL) was stirred at 50 °C for 24 h under the atmosphere of Ar. After the reaction was completed (monitored by TLC), the reaction was filtered through a glass funnel with thin layer (30 mm) of silica gel (100-200 mesh) and eluted with DCM/Ethyl Acetate. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, purified by flash chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate = 8/1) to afford the product **2a**.



8,8'-dimethyl-2,2',3,3',8,8a,8',8'a-octahydro-3a,3'a-bifuro[2,3-b]indole

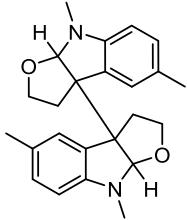
2a white solid, 24 h, 26.0 mg, 75% yield. 2.6 dr; for the mixture of the two diastereomers: **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.13 - 7.06 (m, 2.4H), 6.61 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (br, 0.4H), 6.33 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.4H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 5.11 (s, 0.4H), 4.04 - 4.01 (m, 0.4H), 3.92 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (ddd, *J* = 11.9, 8.8, 4.8 Hz, 0.4H), 3.34 (ddd, *J* = 11.5, 8.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 2.72 (s, 1.2H), 2.46 - 2.41 (m, 1+0.4H), 2.23 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 4.7 Hz, 0.4H), 2.07 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 4.7 Hz, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.9, 151.8, 130.3, 128.7, 124.1, 123.9, 117.0, 117.0, 105.0, 105.0, 105.0, 101.3, 100.7, 66.9, 66.8, 61.4, 60.9, 37.8, 36.8, 31.0, 30.6.

IR (KBr): 3435.0, 2925.1, 2854.1, 1606.6, 1498.1, 1302.8, 1261.7, 1038.7, 911.9 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₂₂H₂₅N₂O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 349.1911; Found: 349.1909.



4,4',8,8'-tetramethyl-2,2',3,3',8,8a,8',8'a-octahydro-3a,3'a-bifuro[2,3-b]indole

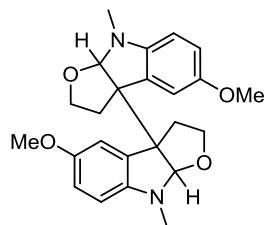
2b white solid, 28 h, 11.2 mg, 30% yield. the spectral data of the isolated isomer: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.98 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 3.99 (ddd, *J* = 8.6, 7.2, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (ddd, *J* = 10.8, 8.6, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (s, 3H), 2.51 - 2.50 (m, 1H), 2.47 - 2.40 (m, 1H), 1.92 (s, 3H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.6, 135.5, 128.6, 127.5, 121.0, 103.3, 101.5, 67.7, 63.0, 35.7, 31.3, 19.3. IR (KBr): 3447.3, 2922.6, 2848.4, 2359.4, 2342.6, 1587.1, 1475.7, 1283.7, 1045.7, 924.0 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₂₄H₂₉N₂O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 377.2224; Found: 377.2221.



5,5',8,8'-tetramethyl-2,2',3,3',8,8a,8',8'a-octahydro-3a,3'a-bifuro[2,3-b]indole

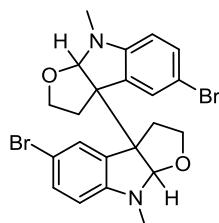
2c oil, 18 h, 31.3 mg, 83% yield. 2/1 dr; for the mixture of the two diastereomers: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.91 - 6.88 (m, 1+1.5H), 6.26 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.20 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.5H), 5.10 - 5.10 (s, 1+0.5H), 4.01 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 0.5H), 3.89 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 8.7, 4.7 Hz, 0.5H), 3.33 (ddd, *J* = 11.4, 8.5, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (s, 3H), 2.67 (s, 1.5H), 2.46 - 2.36 (m, 1+0.5H), 2.26 - 2.20 (m, 3+0.5H), 2.13 (s, 1.5H), 2.04 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 4.6 Hz, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.0, 130.7, 130.4, 129.0, 129.0, 126.1, 126.0, 125.5, 124.8, 105.0, 104.9, 101.5, 101.2, 67.1, 66.9, 61.4, 60.6, 37.5, 36.5, 31.5, 30.9, 20.9, 20.8. IR (KBr): 3456.6, 2925.5, 2865.0, 1738.6, 1616.2, 1504.9, 1288.5, 1039.4, 1006.0, 913.8 cm⁻¹;

HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for $C_{24}H_{28}N_2O_2Na^+$ [M+Na]⁺: 399.2048; Found: 399.2040.



5,5'-dimethoxy-8,8'-dimethyl-2,2',3,3',8,8a,8',8'a-octahydro-3a,3'a-bifuro[2,3-b]indole

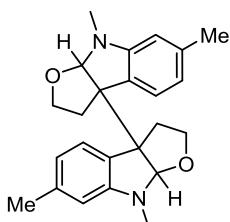
2d yellow solid, 18 h, 24.2 mg, 59% yield. 1.3/1 dr; for the mixture of the two diastereomers: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.68 - 6.64 (m, 1+0.8H), 6.25 - 6.23 (m, 1+1.6H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 5.08 (s, 0.8H), 4.02 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 0.8H), 3.91 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.59 (s, 2.4H), 3.47 - 3.43 (m, 0.8H), 3.34 (ddd, *J* = 11.4, 8.6, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (s, 3H), 2.68 (s, 2.4H), 2.47 - 2.39 (m, 1.8H), 2.23 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 4.6 Hz, 0.8H), 2.05 (dd, *J* = 12.2, 4.5 Hz, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.2, 152.2, 146.6, 146.4, 131.6, 114.0, 113.1, 112.2, 111.0, 105.7, 105.3, 101.9, 101.5, 66.9, 66.8, 61.5, 60.9, 56.1, 56.0, 37.5, 36.6, 32.0, 31.3. IR (KBr): 3455.8, 2940.5, 2825.2, 2356.6, 1595.6, 1498.9, 1281.3, 1215.2, 1036.6, 915.2 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₂₄H₂₈N₂O₄Na⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 431.1941; Found: 431.1937.



5,5'-dibromo-8,8'-dimethyl-2,2',3,3',8,8a,8',8'a-octahydro-3a,3'a-bifuro[2,3-b]indole

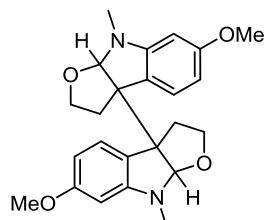
2e white solid, 72 h, 12.0 mg (recycle **1e**, 13.1 mg), 24% yield (brsm, 49%). 2/1 dr; for the mixture of the two diastereomers: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.21 - 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.14 - 7.10 (m, 2 H), 6.20 - 6.17 (m, 1+0.5H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 5.07 (s, 0.5H), 4.06 - 4.03 (m, 0.5H), 3.96 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.45 - 3.41 (m, 0.5H), 3.37 (ddd, *J* = 11.4, 8.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 2.72 (s, 1.5H), 2.42 - 2.35 (m, 1.5H), 2.22 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 4.7 Hz, 0.5H), 2.06 (dd, *J* = 12.1, 4.7 Hz, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.8, 150.7, 132.1, 131.7, 131.5, 126.8, 126.7, 108.5, 108.5, 106.4, 106.3, 101.3,

100.6, 66.9, 66.8, 61.2, 60.8, 37.4, 36.3, 30.9, 30.7. The purified major isomer **2e'** was recrystallized from cold DCM/hexane. Major isomer **2e'**: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.19 - 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.18 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 3.97 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (ddd, *J* = 11.5, 8.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 2.40 (td, *J* = 11.7, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.06 (dd, *J* = 12.2, 4.7 Hz, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.6, 132.1, 131.5, 126.7, 108.5, 106.4, 101.3, 66.8, 60.8, 36.3, 30.7. IR (KBr): 3435.2, 2928.6, 2866.4, 2359.5, 1710.6, 1599.3, 1492.8, 1271.6, 1036.1, 1003.2, 912.4 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₂₂H₂₃N₂O₂Br₂ [M+H]⁺: 505.0121; Found: 505.0104.



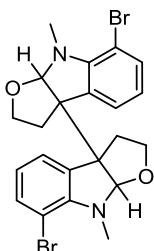
6,6',8,8'-tetramethyl-2,2',3,3',8,8a,8',8'a-octahydro-3a,3'a-bifuro[2,3-b]indole

2f white solid, 20 h, 29.0 mg, 77% yield. 3.5/1 dr; for the mixture of the two diastereomers: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.06 - 7.05 (m, 1+0.3H), 6.46 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.34 (br, 0.3H), 6.18 (s, 1H), 6.12 (s, 0.3H), 5.11 (s, 1+0.3H), 4.01 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 0.3H), 3.88 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.45 - 3.41 (m, 0.3H), 3.32 (ddd, *J* = 11.5, 8.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (s, 3H), 2.72 (s, 0.9H), 2.42 - 2.37 (m, 1+0.3H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 0.9H), 2.18 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 4.7 Hz, 0.3H), 2.01 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 4.6 Hz, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.2, 152.0, 138.7, 138.5, 127.8, 127.6, 124.1, 123.6, 117.8, 117.7, 106.1, 105.8, 101.5, 101.1, 67.0, 66.7, 61.1, 60.6, 37.9, 36.8, 31.0, 30.6, 23.2, 21.7. IR (KBr): 3447.3, 2922.6, 2848.4, 2359.4, 2342.6, 1587.1, 1475.7, 1422.5, 1287.7, 1045.7, 924.0 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₂₄H₂₉N₂O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 377.2224; Found: 377.2222.



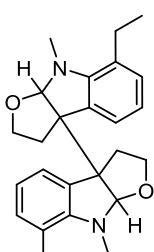
6,6'-dimethoxy-8,8'-dimethyl-2,2',3,3',8,8a,8',8'a-octahydro-3a,3'a-bifuro[2,3-b]indole

2g white solid, 24 h, 18.5 mg, 45% yield. 3.5/1 dr; for the mixture of the two diastereomers: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.05 - 7.04 (m, 1.3H), 6.17 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (br, 0.3H), 5.93 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 0.3H), 5.12 (s, 1+0.3H), 4.01 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 0.3H), 3.90 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 0.9H), 3.46 - 3.42 (m, 0.3H), 3.34 (ddd, *J* = 11.6, 8.6, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (s, 3H), 2.73 (s, 0.9H), 2.39 - 2.34 (m, 1+0.3H), 2.16 (dd, *J* = 11.6, 4.5 Hz, 0.3H), 2.00 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 4.5 Hz, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.0, 161.0, 153.4, 124.6, 124.2, 122.9, 101.7, 101.1, 92.4, 92.0, 67.1, 66.8, 60.9, 60.4, 55.2, 36.9, 30.9, 30.6. IR (KBr): 3445.7, 2925.6, 2859.9, 2358.5, 2342.7, 1618.7, 1499.9, 1259.9, 1094.0, 1031.1 cm⁻¹; Exact mass calcd. for C₂₄H₂₉N₂O₄⁺ [M+H]⁺: 409.2122; Found: 409.2117.



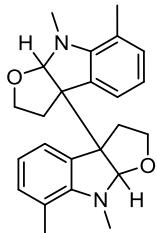
7,7'-dibromo-8,8'-dimethyl-2,2',3,3',8,8a,8',8'a-octahydro-3a,3'a-bifuro[2,3-b]indole

2h white solid, 48 h, 14.8 mg (recycle, 21.2 mg), 29% yield (brsm, 71%). 2.4/1 dr; for the mixture of the two diastereomers: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 0.4H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.94 - 6.93 (m, 1+0.4H), 6.48 - 6.45 (m, 1+0.4H), 5.18 (s, 1H), 4.98 (s, 0.4H), 4.04 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 0.4H), 3.95 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.50 - 3.46 (m, 0.4H), 3.41 (ddd, *J* = 11.6, 8.7, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.03 (br, 1.2H), 2.44 - 2.38 (m, 1+0.4H), 2.20 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 4.5 Hz, 0.4H), 2.06 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 4.7 Hz, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 148.0, 134.3, 134.2, 133.6, 123.0, 122.9, 119.6, 119.0, 103.2, 100.5, 66.7, 66.2, 60.8, 60.2, 37.0, 35.0. IR (KBr): 3444.4, 2962.1, 2852.2, 1598.2, 1260.9, 1026.3 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₂₂H₂₃N₂O₂Br₂ [M+H]⁺: 505.0121; Found: 505.0108.



7,7'-diethyl-8,8'-dimethyl-2,2',3,3',8,8a,8',8'a-octahydro-3a,3'a-bifuro[2,3-b]indole

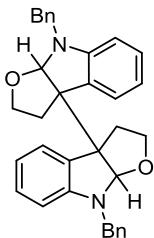
2i white solid, 48 h, 29.0 mg, 71% yield. 2/1 dr; for the major isomer: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.91 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.92 (s, 1H), 3.82 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (ddd, *J* = 11.3, 8.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 2.68 (dt, *J* = 15.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (dd, *J* = 14.7, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (td, *J* = 11.6, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.02 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.10 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.2, 131.7, 130.2, 124.7, 122.1, 118.4, 103.7, 66.5, 60.0, 36.8, 35.8, 25.2, 15.4. for the minor isomer: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, d-DMSO, 80 °C) 6.90 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (br, 1H), 4.92 (s, 1H), 3.95 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (ddd, *J* = 11.2, 8.6, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 2.65 (ddt, *J* = 22.1, 14.6, 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (td, *J* = 11.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.18 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.14 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, d-DMSO, 80 °C) δ 149.9, 132.9, 130.4, 125.1, 122.2, 119.0, 103.6, 66.5, 60.9, 37.7, 36.2, 25.0, 15.7. IR (KBr): 3446.8, 2965.7, 2860.6, 2364.3, 1464.9, 1261.4, 1018.2, 919.8 cm⁻¹; Exact mass calcd. for C₂₆H₃₃N₂O₄⁺ [M+H]⁺: 405.2537; Found: 405.2531.



7,7',8,8'-tetramethyl-2,2',3,3',8,8a,8',8'a-octahydro-3a,3'a-bifuro[2,3-b]indole

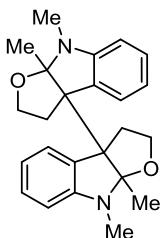
2j white solid, 17 h, 35.0 mg, 93% yield. 1.5/1 dr; for the major isomer: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.00 (s, 1H), 3.90 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (ddd, *J* = 11.3, 8.6, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 2.44 (td, *J* = 11.6, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.06 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 4.7 Hz, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.1, 131.9, 131.3, 122.3, 118.4, 118.2, 103.6, 66.5, 60.2, 37.0, 36.0, 19.4. for the minor isomer: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.85 (br, 1H), 6.54 (br, 2H), 4.95 (s, 1H), 4.02 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.47 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 8.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 2.43 (dd, *J* = 19.0, 11.3 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.22 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 4.6 Hz, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.7, 132.1, 131.8, 121.9, 119.0, 103.8, 66.7, 61.2, 37.5, 36.7, 19.2. IR (KBr): 3419.8, 2924.3, 2360.1, 1595.7, 1465.9,

1261.0, 1093.4 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₂₄H₂₈N₂O₂Na⁺ [M+Na]⁺: 399.2048; Found: 399.2042.



8,8'-dibenzyl-2,2',3,3',8,8a,8',8'a-octahydro-3a,3'a-bifuro[2,3-b]indole

2k white solid, 48 h, 22.6 mg, 45% yield. 1.5/1 dr; A purified mixture isomers of 5/1 dr were determined by NMR: **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (dt, *J* = 12.9, 7.4 Hz, 4H), 7.27 - 7.25 (m, 1H), 6.99 - 6.95 (m, 1H), 6.54 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.26 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.46 (s, 1H), 4.49 (s, 2H), 4.35 (s, 0.4H), 4.04 - 4.01 (m, 0.2H), 3.96 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.54 - 3.49 (m, 0.2H), 3.44 (ddd, *J* = 11.6, 8.7, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.49 - 2.44 (m, 1.2H), 2.33 - 2.26 (m, 0.2H), 2.08 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 4.7 Hz, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.1, 138.3, 130.2, 128.5, 128.5, 127.5, 127.1, 124.1, 117.2, 105.4, 100.2, 66.4, 61.4, 48.6, 37.2. IR (KBr): 3446.0, 2934.3, 2873.7, 2358.2, 2337.3, 1608.9, 1473.7, 1368.6, 1109.5, 1031.5, 913.6 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₃₄H₃₃N₂O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 501.2537; Found: 501.2535.



8,8a,8',8'a-tetramethyl-2,2',3,3',8,8a,8',8'a-octahydro-3a,3'a-bifuro[2,3-b]indole

2l white solid, 48 h, 12.0 mg, 32% yield. 1/1 dr; for the mixture of the two diastereomers: **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20 - 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 3.39 - 3.31 (m, 3H), 2.95 - 2.90 (m, 2H), 2.77 (s, 3H), 2.44 (td, *J* = 11.8, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 1.48 (s, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.2, 136.4, 133.6, 130.2, 127.7, 126.3, 124.7, 120.4, 118.6, 117.8, 117.4, 108.4, 107.0, 106.1, 91.7, 65.8, 65.5, 40.0, 29.4, 27.8, 25.8, 19.2, 10.1. IR (KBr): 3439.4, 2934.5, 2867.7, 1608.7, 1371.9,

1110.0, 1031.7, 913.8 cm⁻¹. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₂₄H₂₉N₂O₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 377.2221; Found: 377.2224.

5. X-ray Dates

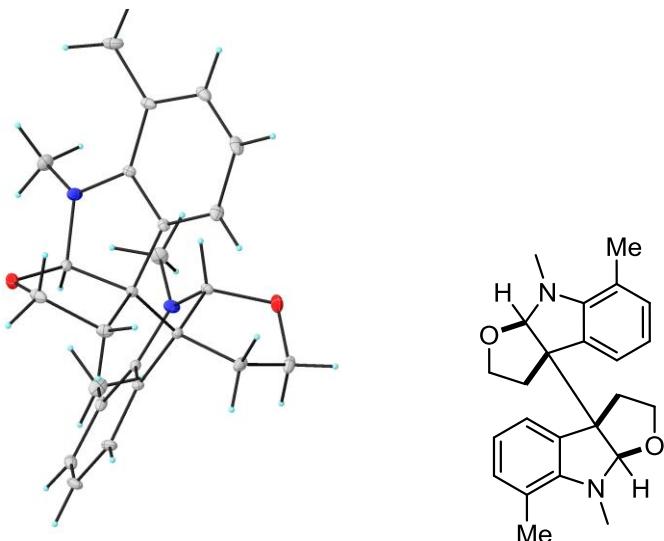


Figure S1. Crystal structure of major isomer **2j'** (CCDC number: 1915998)

Bond precision:	C-C = 0.0044 Å	Wavelength=1.54184
Cell:	a=38.8350(15)	b=12.1246(6)
	alpha=90	beta=90
		amma=90
Temperature:	293 K	
	Calculated	Reported
Volume	3940.6(3)	3940.6(3)
Space group	F d d 2	F d d 2
Hall group	F 2 -2d	F 2 -2d
Moiety formula	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₂	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₂
Sum formula	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₂	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₂
Mr	376.48	376.48
D _x ,g cm ⁻³	1.269	1.269
Z	8	8
Mu (mm ⁻¹)	0.635	0.635
F000	1616.0	1616.0
F000'	1620.50	
h,k,lmax	45,14,9	45,14,9

Nref	1681[904]	1659
Tmin,Tmax	0.892,0.927	0.650,1.000
Tmin'	0.892	
Correction method= # Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.650 Tmax=1.000		
AbsCorr = MULTI-SCAN		
Data completeness=	1.84/0.99	Theta(max)= 64.920
R(reflections)=	0.0404(1548)	wR2(reflections)= 0.1132(1659)
S =	1.068	Npar= 130

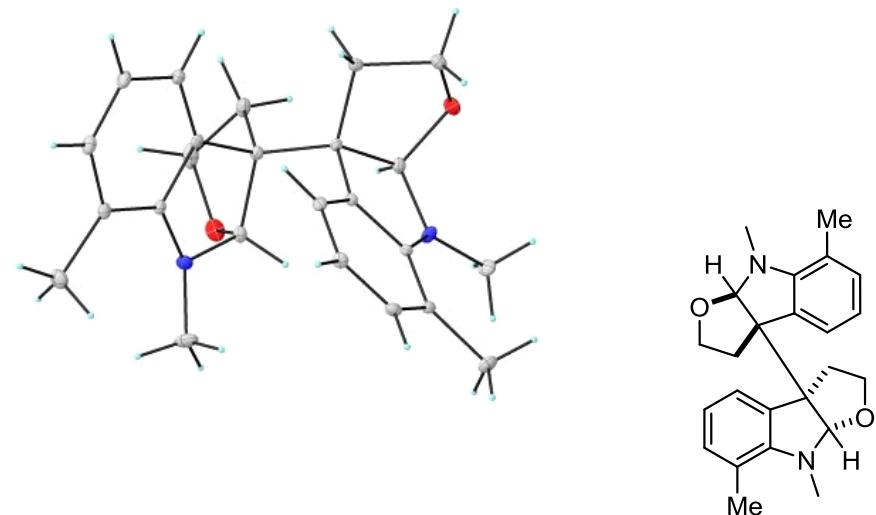


Figure S2. Crystal structure of minor isomer **2j''** (CCDC number: 1915999)

Bond precision:	C-C = 0.0047 Å	Wavelength=0.71073
Cell:	a=30.916(2)	b=30.916(2)
	alpha=90	beta=90
		gamma=90
Temperature:	293 K	
	Calculated	Reported
Volume	7908.9(17)	7908.9(17)
Space group	I 41/a	I 41/a
Hall group	-I 4ad	-I 4ad
Moiety formula	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₂	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₂
Sum formula	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₂	C ₂₄ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₂

Mr	376.48	376.48
Dx,g cm ⁻³	1.265	1.265
Z	16	16
Mu (mm-1)	0.080	0.080
F000	3232.0	3232.0
F000'	3233.28	
h,k,lmax	39,39,10	39,38,10
Nref	4321	4281
Tmin,Tmax	0.986,0.991	0.301,1.000
Tmin' 0.979		

Correction method= # Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.301 Tmax=1.000

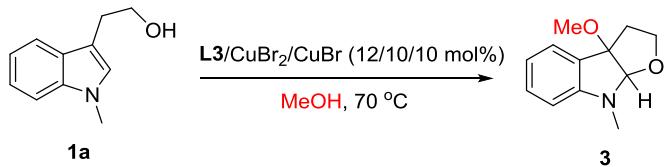
AbsCorr = MULTI-SCAN

Data completeness= 0.991 Theta(max)= 26.995

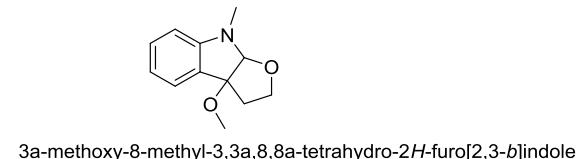
R(reflections)= 0.0808(1975) wR2(reflections)= 0.1752(4281)

S = 1.033 Npar= 257

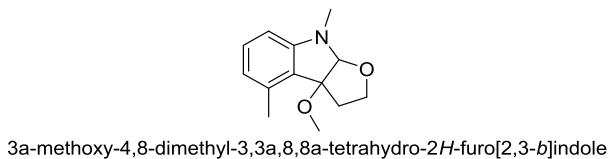
6. General procedure for alkoxylation and Product Characterizations



Procedure: A mixture of CuBr₂ (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol), CuBr (2.9 mg, 0.02 mmol), L3 (7.0 mg, 0.024 mmol) and **1a** (35.0 mg) in dry MeOH (10 mL) was stirred at 70 °C under the atmosphere of Ar. After the reaction was completed (monitored by TLC), the reaction was filtered through a glass funnel with thin layer (30 mm) of silica gel (100-200 mesh) and eluted with DCM/Ethyl Acetate. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, purified by flash chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate = 8/1) to afford the product **3**.

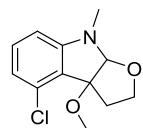


3 Light yellow oil, 23 h, 25.5 mg, 62% yield. 20/1 dr; **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.03 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2 H), 6.84 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 1 H), 6.55 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1 H), 5.31 (s, 1 H), 4.05 - 4.02 (m, 1H), 3.56 - 3.55 (m, 1 H), 3.11 (s, 3 H), 2.90 (s, 3 H), 2.42 (td, *J* = 11.4, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (ddd, *J* = 11.4, 5.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.0, 130.2, 126.2, 124.4, 117.5, 105.8, 100.0, 93.5, 70.0, 53.1, 40.5, 30.8. **IR** (KBr): 3441.8, 2945.3, 2823.2, 1709.7, 1422.3, 1224.3, 1033.6 cm⁻¹; HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₁₂H₁₆NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 206.1176; Found: 206.1176.



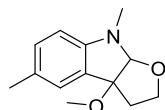
4 Light yellow oil, 17 h, 39.4 mg, 90% yield. 3/1 dr; for the mixture of the two diastereomers: **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 0.33 H), 7.11 (t, *J* =

7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.27 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.16 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 0.33 H), 5.33 (s, 1+0.33H), 4.04 - 4.01 (m, 1+0.33H), 3.61 - 3.56 (m, 1+0.33H), 3.04 (s, 3+1H), 2.91 (s, 3H), 2.88 (s, 1 H), 2.42 - 2.38 (m, 1+0.33H), 2.35 (s, 1H), 2.34 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 0.33H), 2.31 (s, 3+1H). **^{13}C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.0, 151.1, 135.6, 135.1, 133.7, 130.1, 125.2, 123.2, 119.5, 112.8, 104.7, 103.2, 100.2, 100.0, 94.2, 66.4, 66.3, 53.0, 52.9, 40.1, 39.8, 31.0, 30.9, 17.4, 17.1. **IR** (KBr): 3419.0, 2945.5, 1709.8, 1422.2, 1364.3, 1224.4, 1030.9. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2^+$ [M+H] $^+$: 220.1332; Found: 220.1331.



4-chloro-3a-methoxy-8-methyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydro-2*H*-furo[2,3-*b*]indole

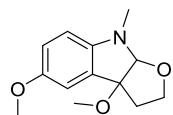
5 Light yellow oil, 23 h, 22.9 mg, 48% yield. 6/1 dr; for the mixture of the two diastereomers: **^1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.21 - 7.19 (m, 0.18H), 7.13 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 0.18H), 6.66 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 0.18H), 6.31 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.32 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1+0.18H), 4.07 - 4.03 (m, 1+0.18H), 3.56 - 3.55 (m, 1+0.18H), 3.11 (s, 3+0.54H), 2.92 (s, 3+0.54H), 2.60 - 2.57 (m, 1H), 2.43 - 2.38 (m, 1+0.18H), 2.28 - 2.25 (m, 0.18H). **^{13}C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 153.4, 131.6, 131.6, 130.2, 126.6, 124.4, 122.0, 118.1, 117.5, 105.8, 103.9, 100.0, 99.8, 93.9, 67.0, 66.7, 53.3, 53.1, 40.5, 39.0, 30.8, 30.7. **IR** (KBr): 3418.8, 2946.3, 2832.2, 1704.6, 1422.9, 1365.0, 1228.7, 1093.4, 1031.7. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClNO}_2^+$ [M+H] $^+$: 240.0786; Found: 240.0785.



3a-methoxy-5,8-dimethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydro-2*H*-furo[2,3-*b*]indole

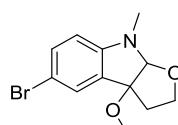
6 Light yellow oil, 24 h, 24.1 mg, 55% yield. >20/1 dr; **^1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.02 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 6.36 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (s, 1H), 4.03 (ddd, J = 9.2, 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.56 (ddd, J = 11.2, 8.9, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 2.90 (s, 3H), 2.43 (td, J = 11.5, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.26 (ddd, J = 11.9, 5.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H). **^{13}C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 150.0, 130.6, 126.9, 126.4, 125.0, 105.8, 100.4, 93.5, 67.0, 53.0, 40.4, 31.2, 20.7. **IR** (KBr): 3441.9, 3002.6, 2945.6, 2827.1, 1709.5, 1422.1,

1364.4, 1224.6, 1031.7. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for $C_{13}H_{18}NO_2^+ [M+H]^+$: 220.1332; Found: 220.1331.



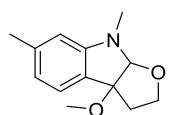
3a,5-dimethoxy-8-methyl-3,3a,8a-tetrahydro-2*H*-furo[2,3-*b*]indole

7 Light yellow oil, 23 h, 33.0 mg, 70% yield. >20/1 dr; **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.84 - 6.79 (m, 2H), 6.38 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (s, 1H), 4.05 - 4.02 (m, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.61 - 3.55 (m, 1H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 2.89 (s, 3H), 2.43 (td, *J* = 11.5, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.26 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 5.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.7, 146.5, 127.5, 115.4, 110.9, 106.6, 100.7, 93.5, 66.9, 56.0, 53.1, 40.4, 31.8. **IR** (KBr): 3424.9, 2945.8, 2831.0, 1709.5, 1422.4, 1364.9, 1226.5. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₁₃H₁₈NO₃⁺ [M+H]⁺: 236.1281; Found: 236.1281.



5-bromo-3a-methoxy-8-methyl-3,3a,8a-tetrahydro-2*H*-furo[2,3-*b*]indole

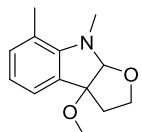
8 Light yellow oil, 41 h, 35.0 mg, 63% yield. 16/1 dr; **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.03 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (dd, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.31 (s, 1H), 4.06 - 4.03 (m, 1H), 3.54 - 3.53 (m, 1H), 3.11 (s, 3H), 2.90 (s, 3H), 2.45-2.40 (m, 1H), 2.23 - 2.20 (m, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) 153.1, 125.6, 125.4, 124.3, 120.2, 108.8, 99.8, 93.1, 66.9, 53.1, 40.5, 30.5. **IR** (KBr): 3350.75, 2974.09, 2884.99, 1708.86, 1423.21, 1379.87. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₁₂H₁₅BrNO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 284.0281; Found: 284.0278.



3a-methoxy-6,8-dimethyl-3,3a,8a-tetrahydro-2*H*-furo[2,3-*b*]indole

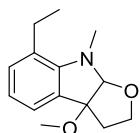
9 Light yellow oil, 29 h, 36.3 mg, 83% yield. 12/1 dr; **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 5.32 (s, 1H), 4.07 - 4.04 (m, 1H), 3.60 - 3.55 (m, 1H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 2.47 - 2.42 (m, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.27 (ddd, *J* = 11.8, 5.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.3, 140.5, 124.2, 123.4, 118.3, 106.6, 100.3, 93.3, 67.0, 53.0, 40.5, 30.8, 21.9. **IR** (KBr): 3418.9, 2947.7, 2832.9,

1705.0, 1656.5, 1421.2, 1366.9, 1231.1, 1031.7. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₁₃H₁₈NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 220.1332; Found: 220.1331.



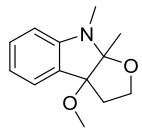
3a-methoxy-7,8-dimethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydro-2H-furo[2,3-b]indole

10 Light yellow oil, 23 h, 35.6 mg, 81% yield. >20/1 dr; **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (s, 1H), 3.96 - 3.93 (m, 1H), 3.52 (ddd, *J* = 10.7, 9.1, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 2.38 - 2.34 (m, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.16 (ddd, *J* = 11.9, 5.2, 1.9 Hz, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.5, 133.2, 127.6, 122.4, 119.5, 119.3, 102.7, 92.8, 66.6, 53.0, 40.5, 36.4, 19.2. **IR** (KBr): 3415.9, 2946.9, 2834.8, 1708.9, 1421.3, 1365.8, 1229.7, 1025.9. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₁₃H₁₈NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 220.1332; Found: 220.1331.



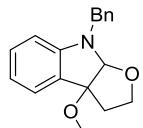
7-ethyl-3a-methoxy-8-methyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydro-2H-furo[2,3-b]indole

11 Light yellow oil, 23 h, 42.6 mg, 92% yield. 14/1 dr; **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.00 - 6.95 (m, 2H), 6.71 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (s, 1H), 3.93 (ddd, *J* = 9.4, 7.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.51 - 3.50 (m, 1H), 3.07 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H), 2.70 - 2.65 (m, 2H), 2.36 (td, *J* = 11.4, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.17 - 2.13 (m, 1H), 1.17 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.8, 131.4, 127.9, 125.9, 122.3, 119.4, 102.8, 92.6, 66.6, 53.0, 40.6, 36.5, 25.0, 15.2. **IR** (KBr): 3350.8, 2974.4, 2925.5, 2886.9, 1450.2, 1415.5, 1270.9, 1324.9, 1089.5. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₁₄H₂₀NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 234.1489; Found: 234.1483.



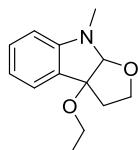
3a-methoxy-8,8a-dimethyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydro-2H-furo[2,3-b]indole

12 Light yellow oil, 19 h, 86% yield. 5.5/1 dr; for the mixture of the two diastereomers: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.23 - 7.20 (m, 2.6H), 6.81 - 6.77 (m, 0.33H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.33H), 6.46 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (t, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 0.33H), 3.91 - 3.88 (m, 1H), 3.47 - 3.43 (m, 0.33H), 3.38 - 3.33 (m, 1H), 3.28 (s, 1H), 3.14 (s, 3H), 2.86 (s, 1H), 2.83 (s, 3H), 2.64 - 2.60 (m, 0.33H), 2.43 - 2.37 (m, 1+0.33H), 2.36 - 2.33 (m, 1H), 1.51 (s, 3+0.7H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.2, 130.5, 130.2, 125.5, 124.8, 124.7, 118.2, 117.3, 107.3, 106.1, 102.4, 92.7, 91.7, 67.4, 65.8, 53.3, 52.7, 39.2, 39.1, 31.6, 29.1, 27.7, 18.8. **IR (KBr)**: 3350.9, 2974.2, 2883.0, 1708.9, 1378.9, 1230.3, 1093.44. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₁₃H₁₈NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 220.1332; Found: 220.1331.



8-benzyl-3a-methoxy-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydro-2*H*-furo[2,3-*b*]indole

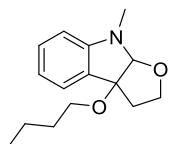
13 Light yellow oil, 18 h, 39.1 mg, 70% yield. >20/1 dr; **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32 - 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.24 (dt, *J* = 7.4, 2.7 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.76 - 6.73 (m, 1H), 6.40 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.42 (s, 1H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.47 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.06 - 4.05 (m, 1H), 3.63 (ddd, *J* = 11.6, 9.0, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 3.08 (s, 3H), 2.46 (td, *J* = 11.7, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (ddd, *J* = 11.8, 4.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H). **13C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.5, 138.0, 130.2, 128.5, 127.3, 127.1, 124.6, 117.8, 106.1, 98.5, 93.5, 66.8, 53.1, 48.5, 40.9. **IR (KBr)**: 3441.8, 2932.5, 2869.1, 2817.4, 2361.4, 1607.6, 1492.0, 1315.13, 1363.7, 1130.4, 1040.3, 946.1. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₁₈H₂₀NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 282.1489; Found: 282.1489.



3a-ethoxy-8-methyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydro-2*H*-furo[2,3-*b*]indole

14 Light yellow oil, 23 h, 30.2 mg, 69% yield. 3/1 dr; A purified mixture isomers of 10/1 dr were determined by NMR: **1H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.21 - 7.18 (m, 2H), 6.75 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 5.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.33 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (ddd, *J* = 9.0, 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.53 - 3.52 (m, 1H), 3.24 (qd, *J* = 7.0, 3.4

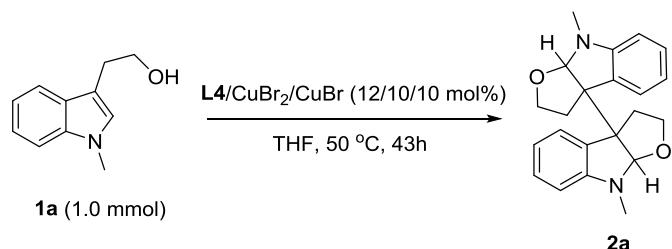
Hz, 2H), 2.94 (s, 3H), 2.85 (s, 0.26H), 2.47 - 2.44 (m, 1H), 2.33 - 2.27 (m, 1H), 1.15 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.9, 130.1, 127.1, 124.3, 117.4, 105.7, 100.3, 92.9, 66.8, 60.9, 40.9, 30.8, 15.6. **IR** (KBr): 3368.2, 2974.7, 1708.5, 1616.0, 1380.2, 1232.2, 1087.6, 1047.1, 946.1. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₁₃H₁₈NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 220.1332; Found: 220.1332.



3a-butoxy-8-methyl-3,3a,8,8a-tetrahydro-2*H*-furo[2,3-*b*]indole

15 Light yellow oil, 48 h, 16.7 mg, 34% yield. 3/1 dr; A purified mixture isomers of 5/1 dr were determined by NMR: **¹H NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.21 – 7.16 (m, 2+0.4H), 6.75 - 6.71 (m, 1+0.2H), 6.44 - 6.42 (m, 1+0.2H), 5.30 (s, 1+0.2H), 4.08 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 0.2H), 4.03 (ddd, J = 9.1, 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (ddd, J = 11.4, 8.9, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (ddd, J = 12.1, 8.9, 5.1 Hz, 0.2H), 3.20 – 3.13 (m, 2+0.4H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 2.82 (s, 0.6H), 2.53 - 2.49 (m, 0.2H), 2.45 (td, J = 11.6, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (dd, J = 12.0, 4.9 Hz, 0.2H), 2.27 (ddd, J = 11.9, 5.1, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 1.51 - 1.47 (m, 2+0.4H), 1.34 - 1.29 (m, 2+0.4H), 0.95 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 0.6H), 0.87 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). **¹³C NMR** (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.9, 150.2, 130.3, 130.0, 127.2, 125.9, 124.5, 124.4, 117.9, 117.4, 106.0, 105.6, 100.2, 92.9, 87.8, 66.8, 65.2, 64.8, 64.0, 63.7, 40.9, 40.0, 32.5, 32.3, 32.2, 30.8, 19.3, 19.2, 14.0, 13.9. **IR** (KBr): 3367.8, 2974.4, 2923.5, 2883.0, 1656.5, 1612.2, 1452.1, 1087.6, 1048.8. HRMS-ESI: Exact mass calcd. for C₁₅H₂₂NO₂⁺ [M+H]⁺: 248.1645; Found: 248.1651.

7. 1.0 mmol Scale experiment

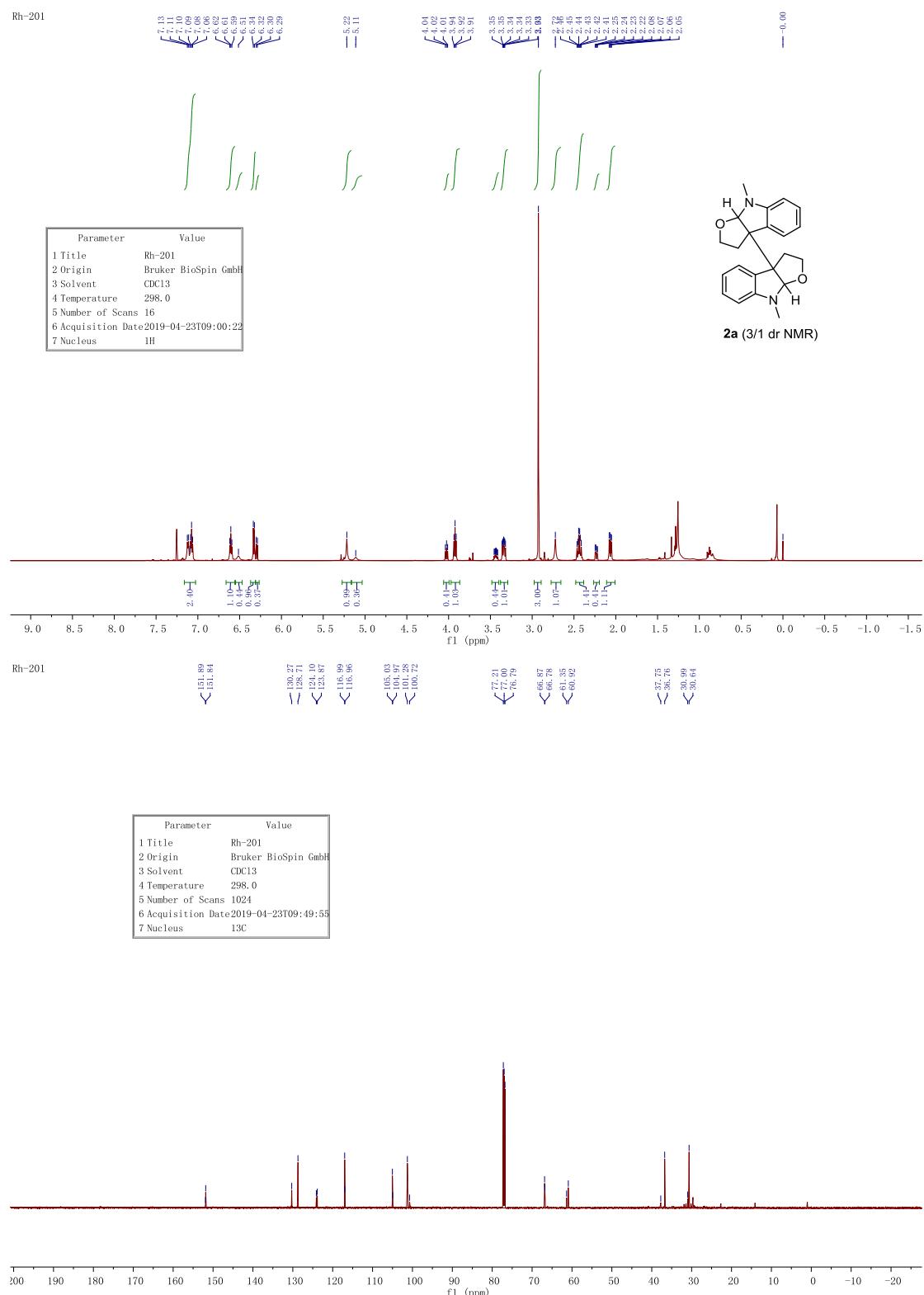


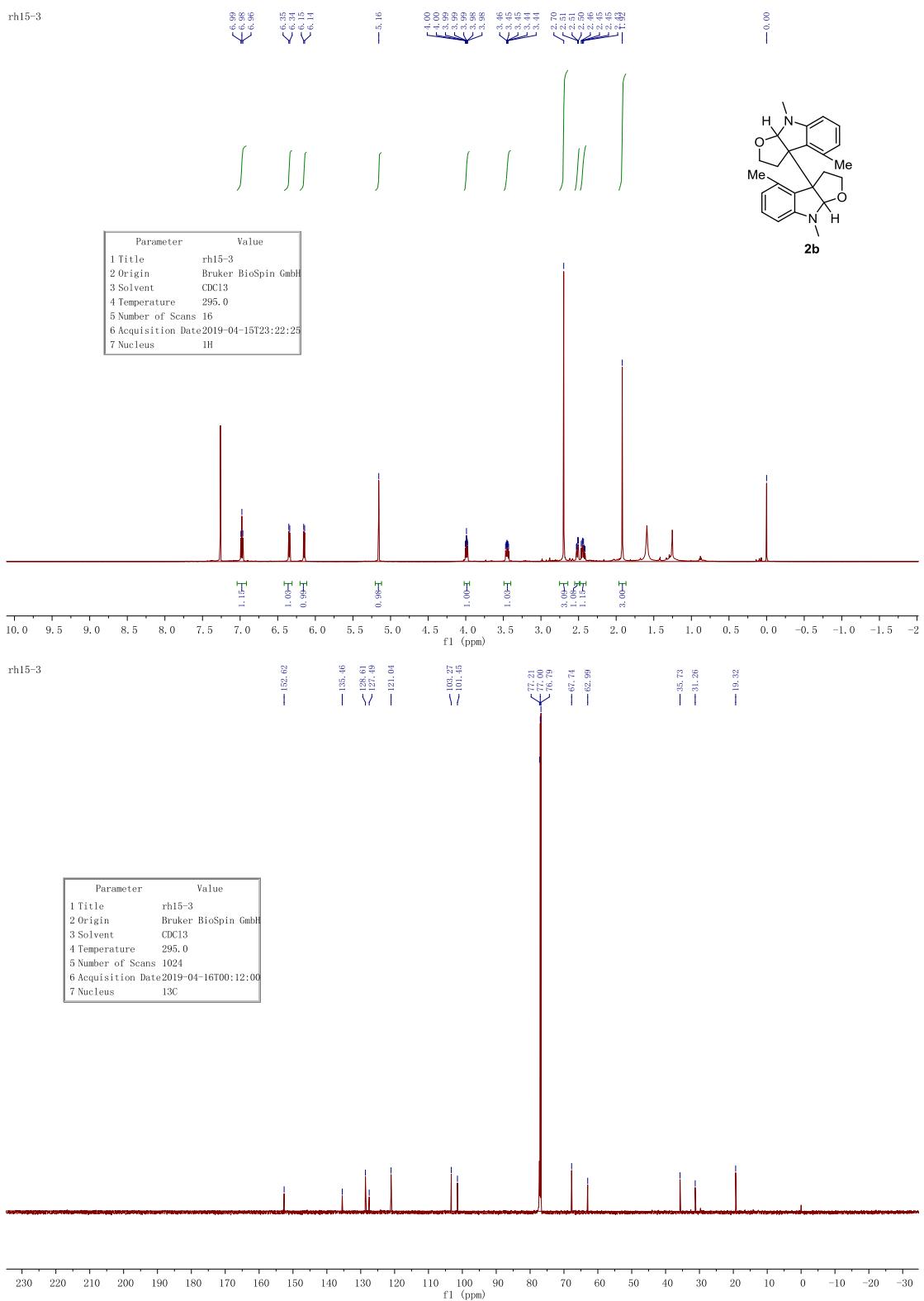
Procedure: A mixture of CuBr₂ (22.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CuBr (14.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), **L4** (58.5 mg, 0.12 mmol) and **1a** (175 mg) in THF (10 mL) was stirred at 50 °C for 43 h under the atmosphere of Ar. The reaction was filtered through a glass funnel with thin layer (30 mm) of silica gel (100-200 mesh) and eluted with DCM/Ethyl Acetate. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, purified by flash chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate = 8/1) to afford the product **2a** (73.8 mg, 42% yield, 2.3/1 dr).

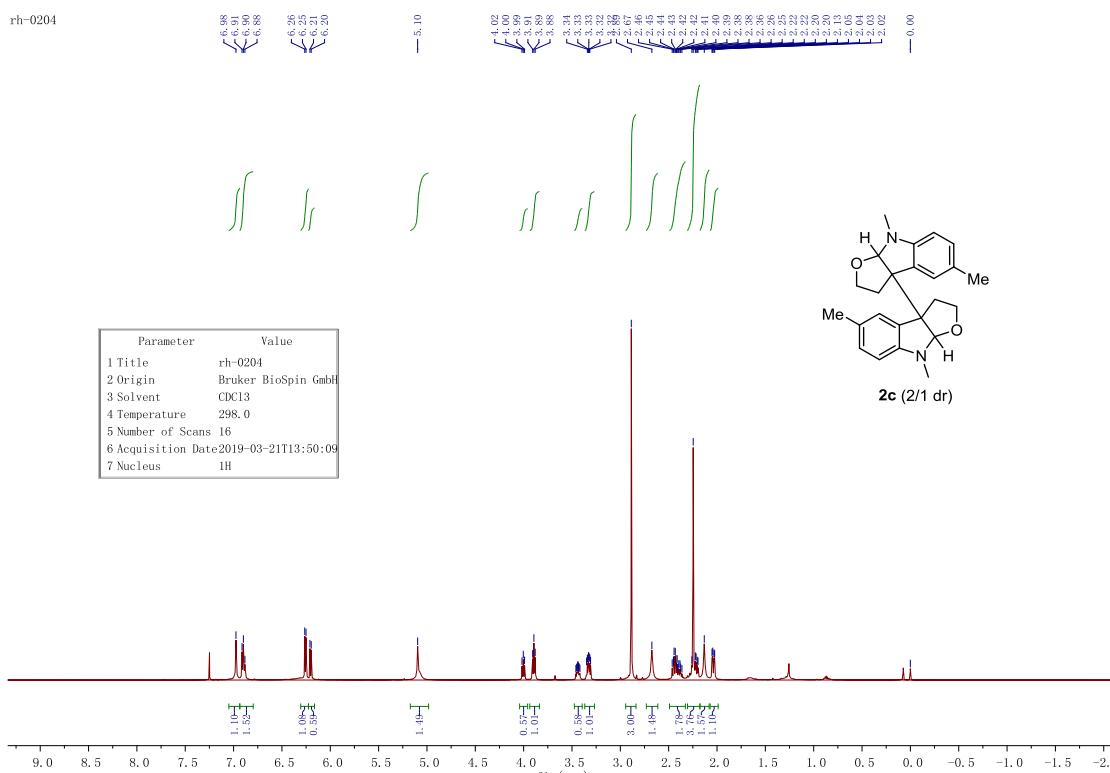
8. References

1. Jia, K.; Zhang, F.; Huang, H.; Chen, Y. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, *138*, 1514.
2. (a) Evans, D. A.; Olhava, E. J.; Johnson, J. S.; Janey, J. M. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **1998**, *37*, 3372. (b) Xiong, H.; Xu, H.; Liao, S.; Xie, Z.; Tang, Y. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2013**, *135*, 7851.

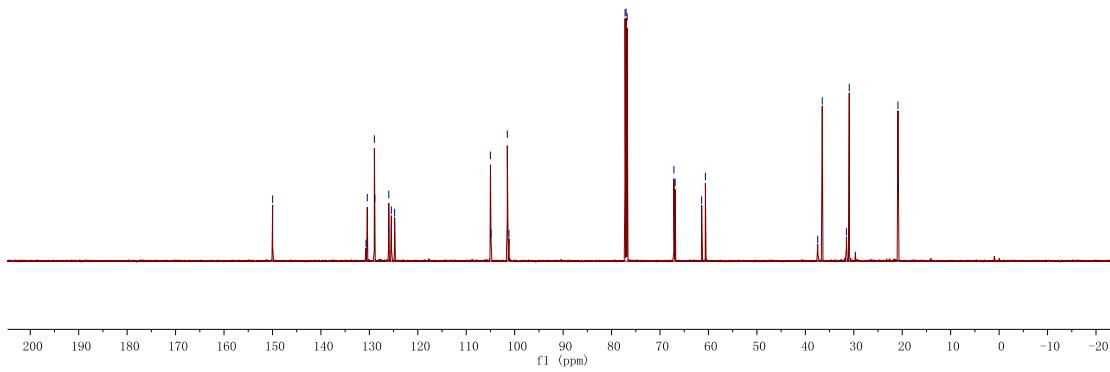
9. ^1H NMR、and ^{13}C NMR Spectras After purification

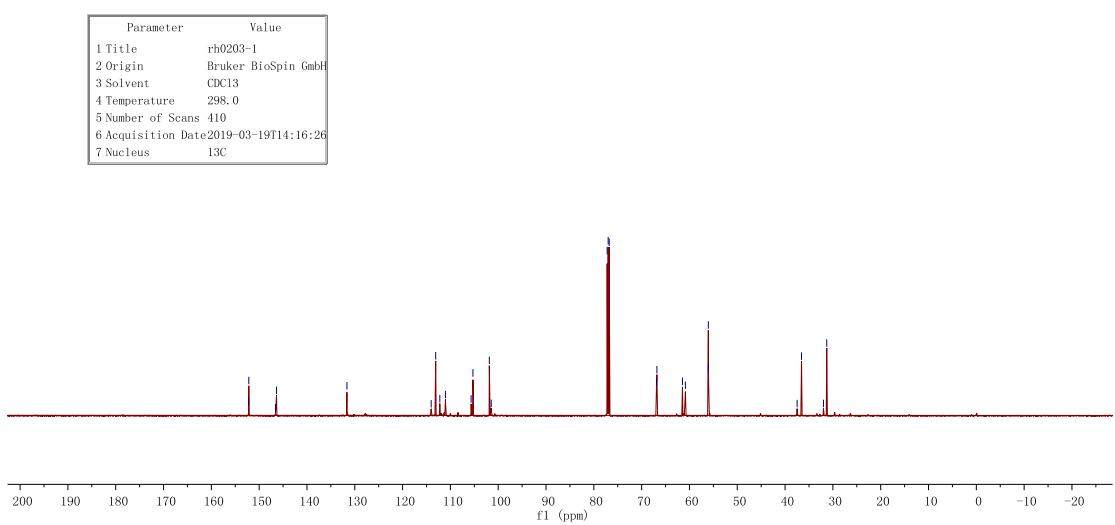
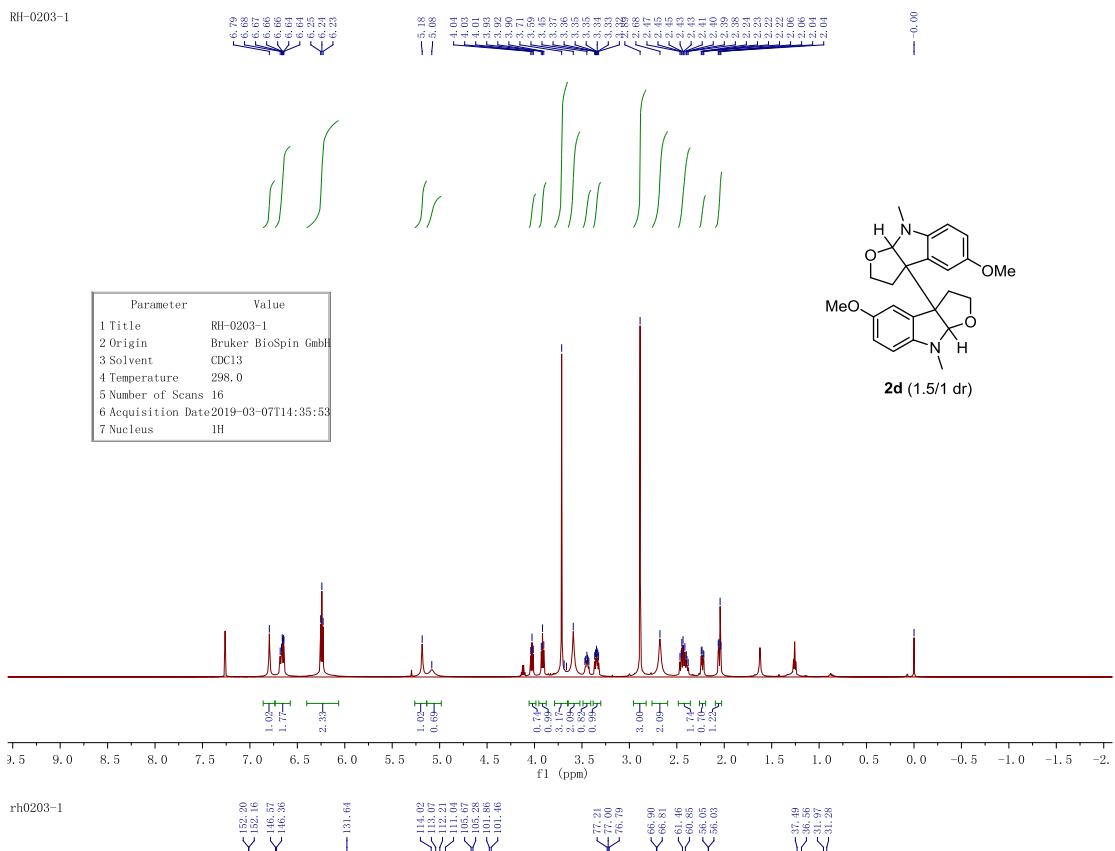


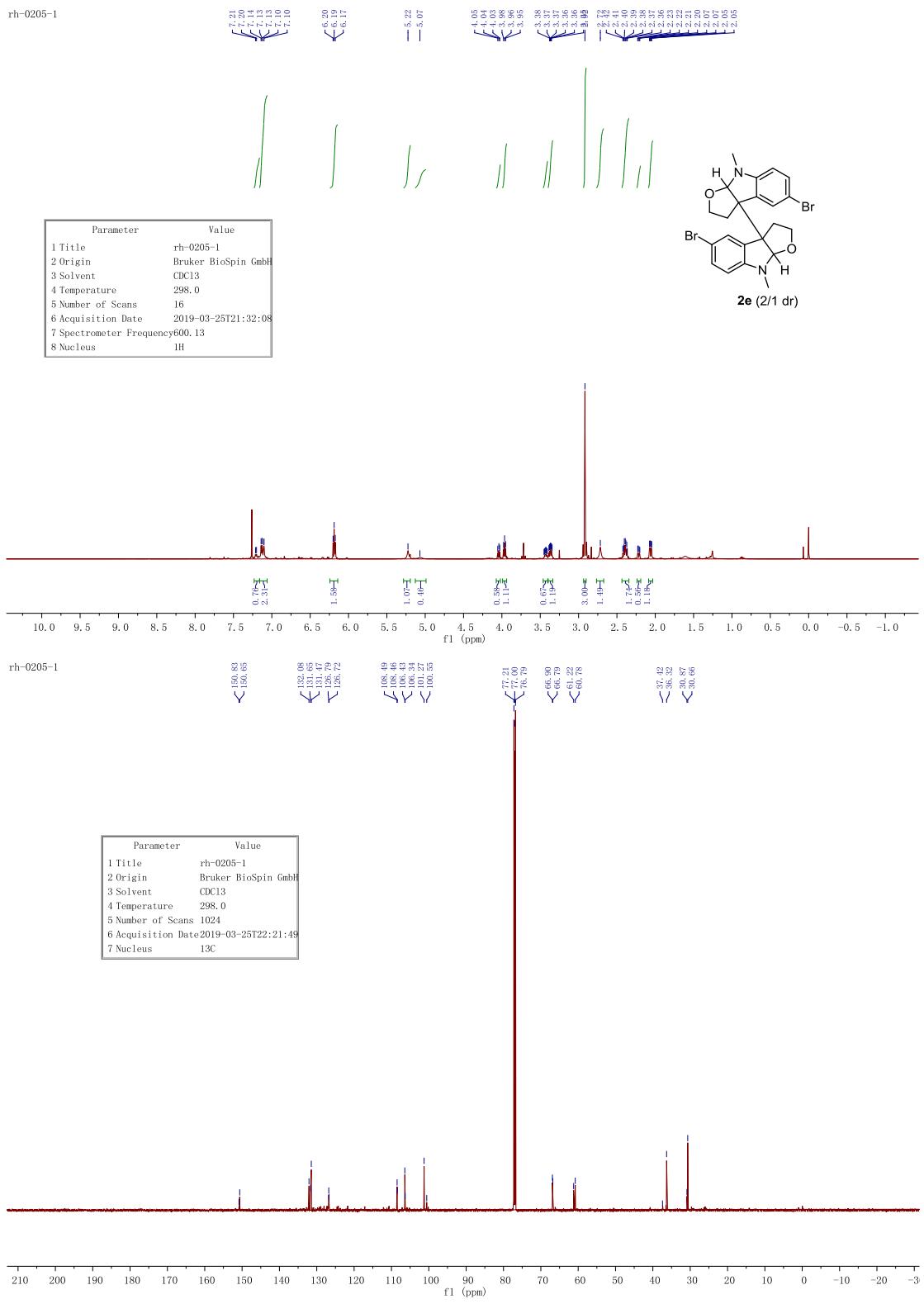


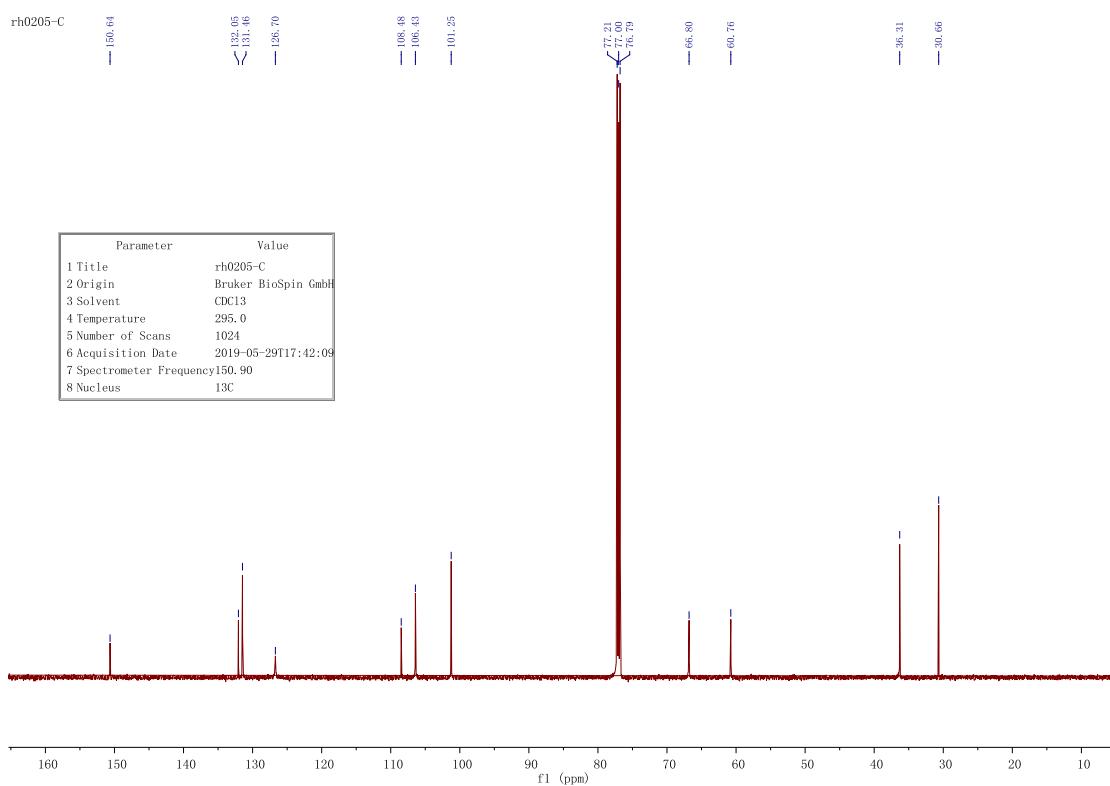
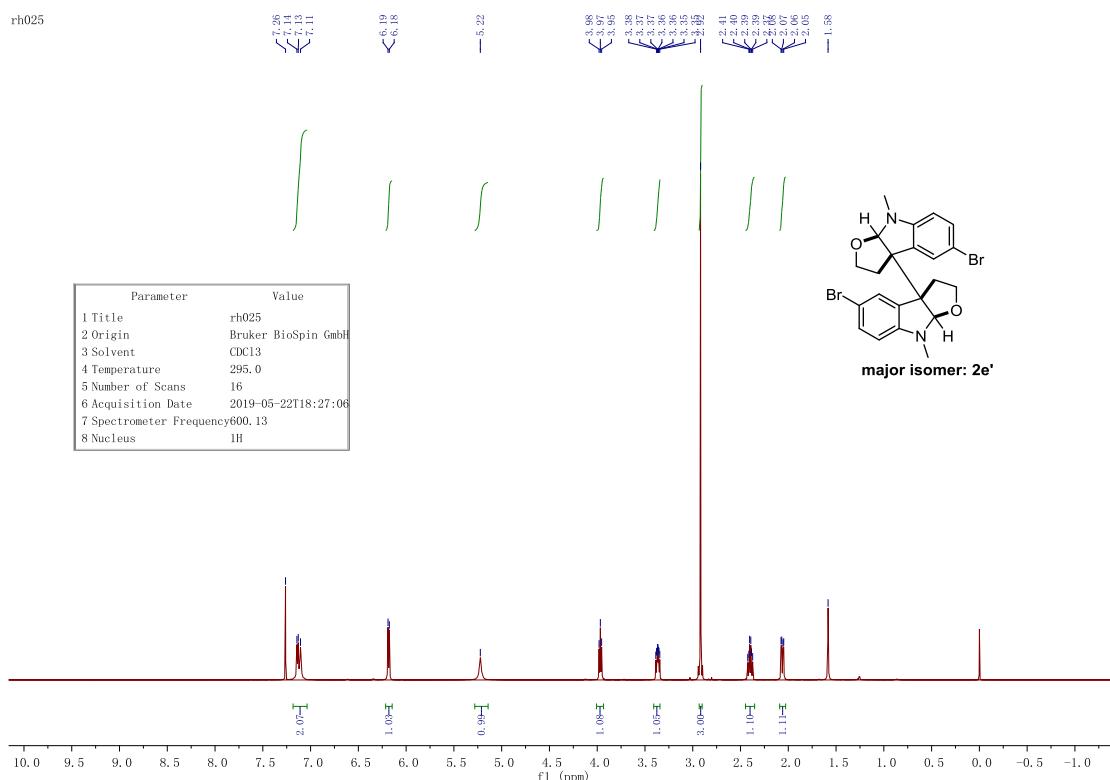


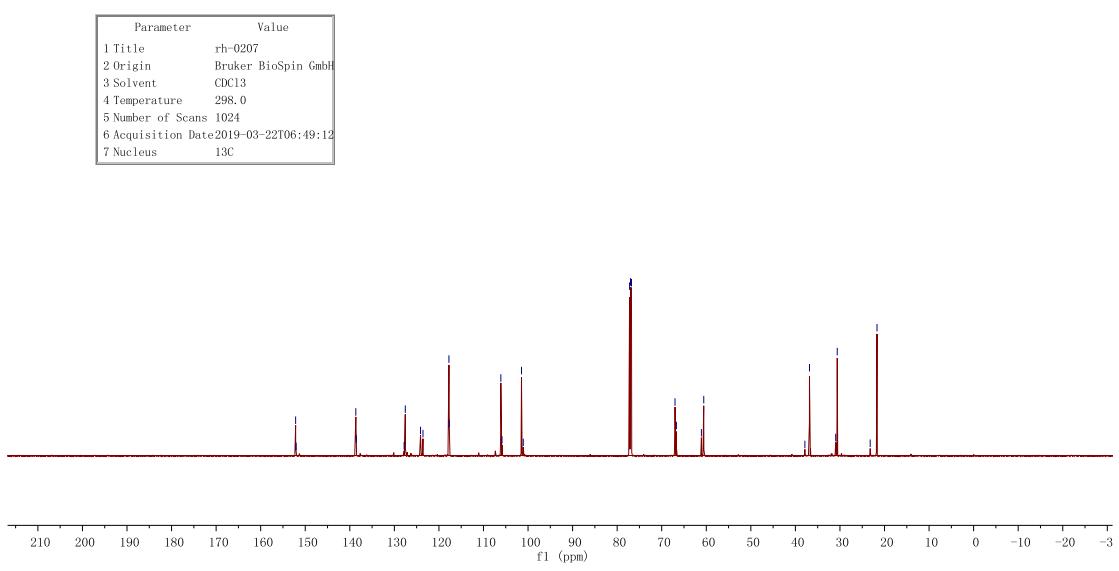
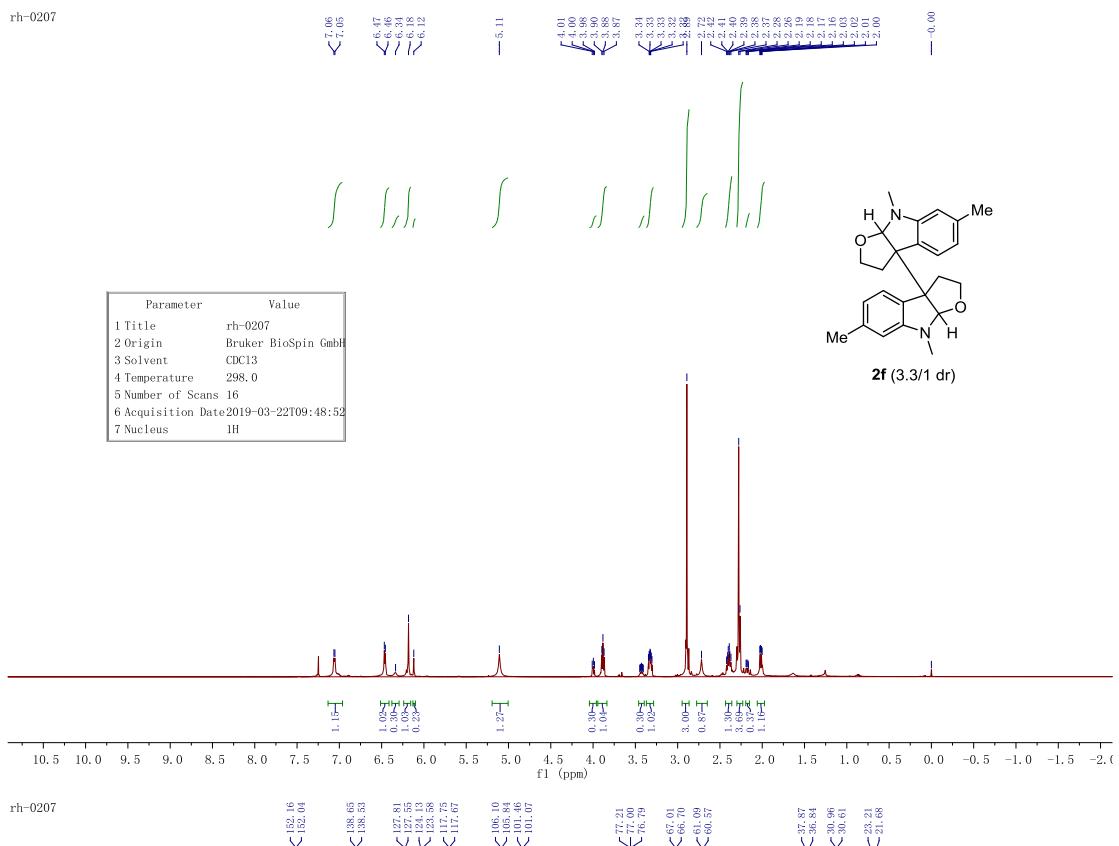
Parameter	Value
1 Title	rh-0204
2 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
3 Solvent	CDC13
4 Temperature	298.0
5 Number of Scans	1024
6 Acquisition Date	2019-03-22T05:55:06
7 Nucleus	13C



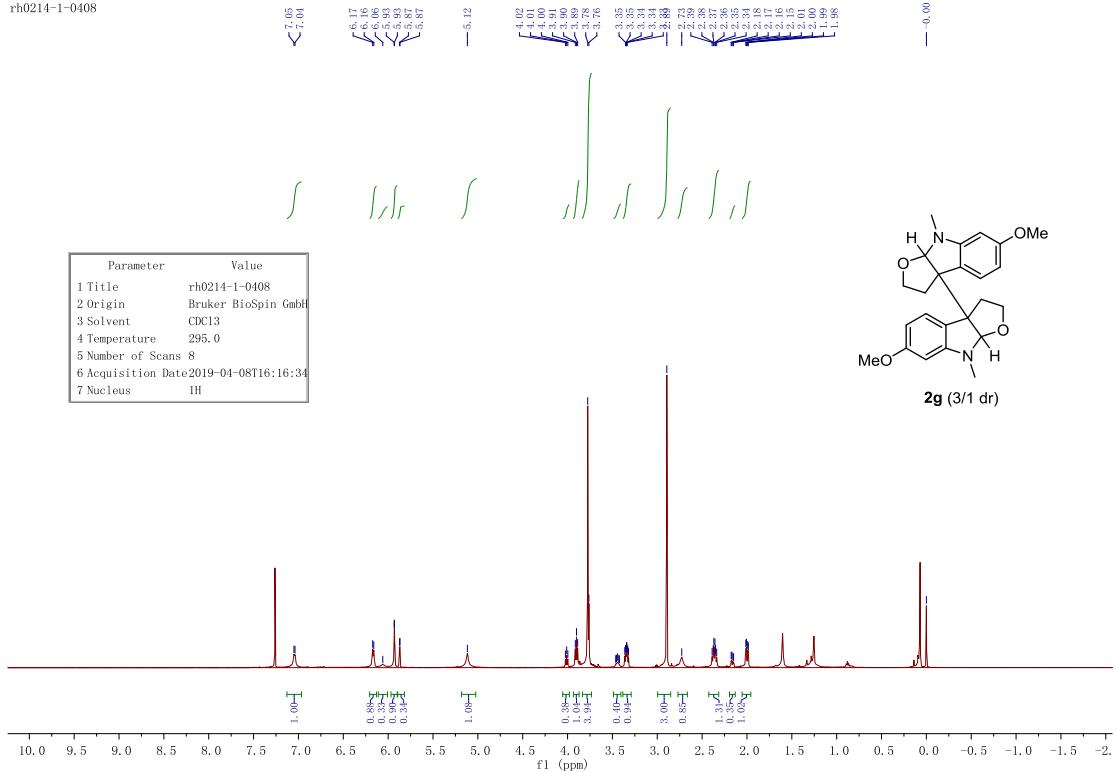




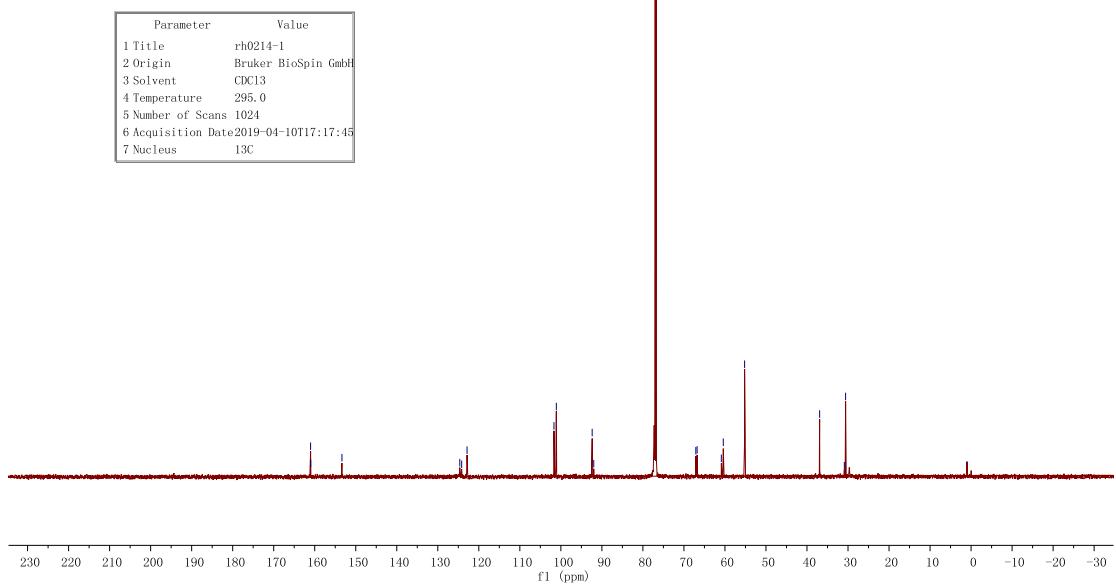


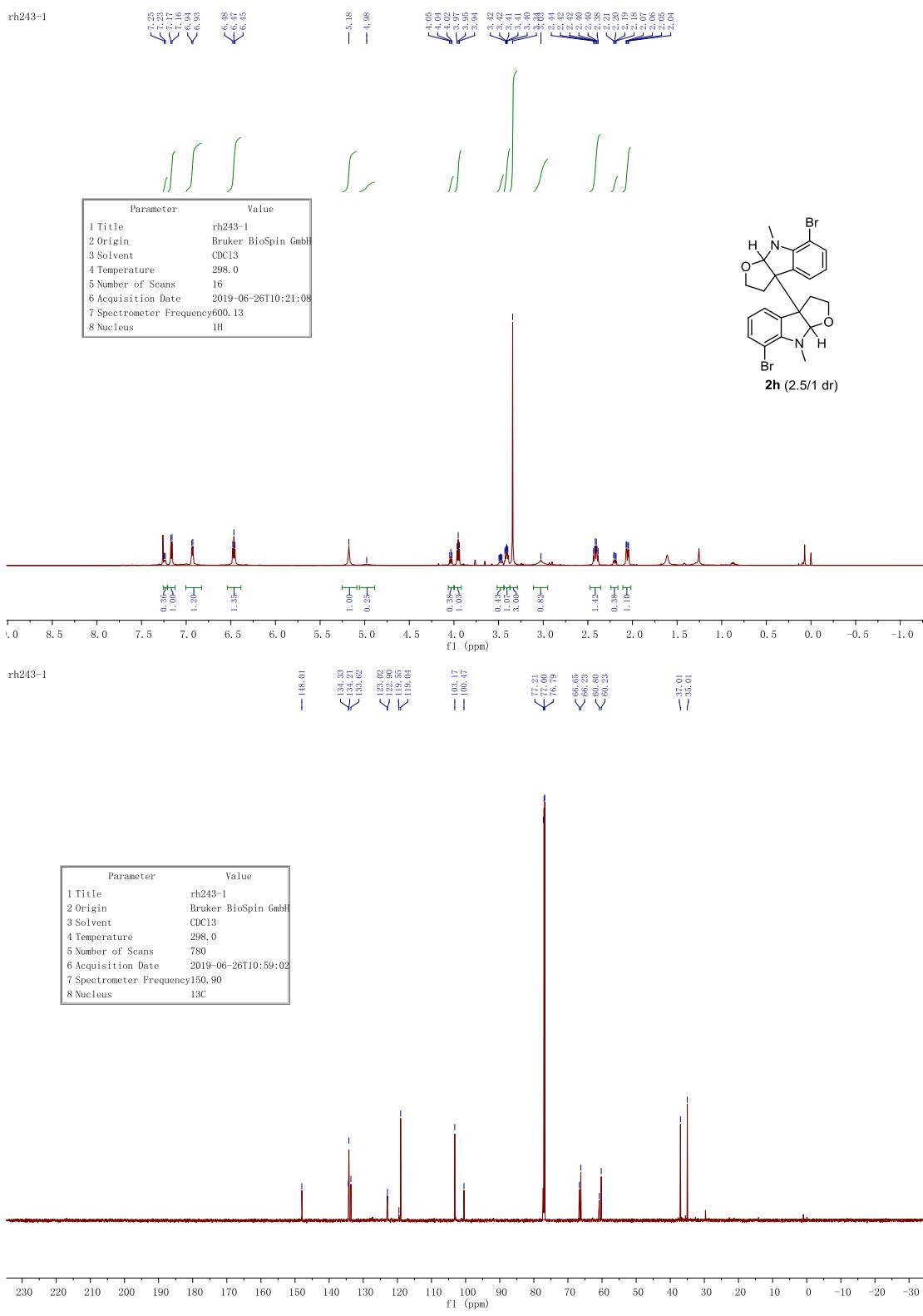


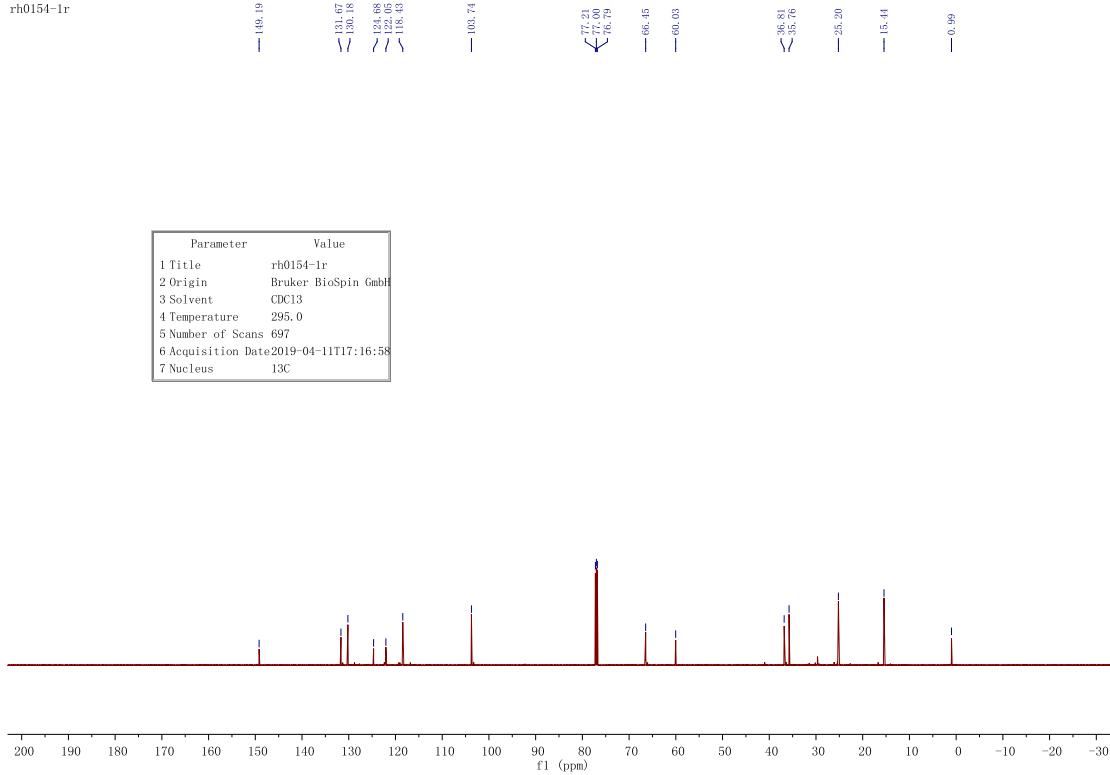
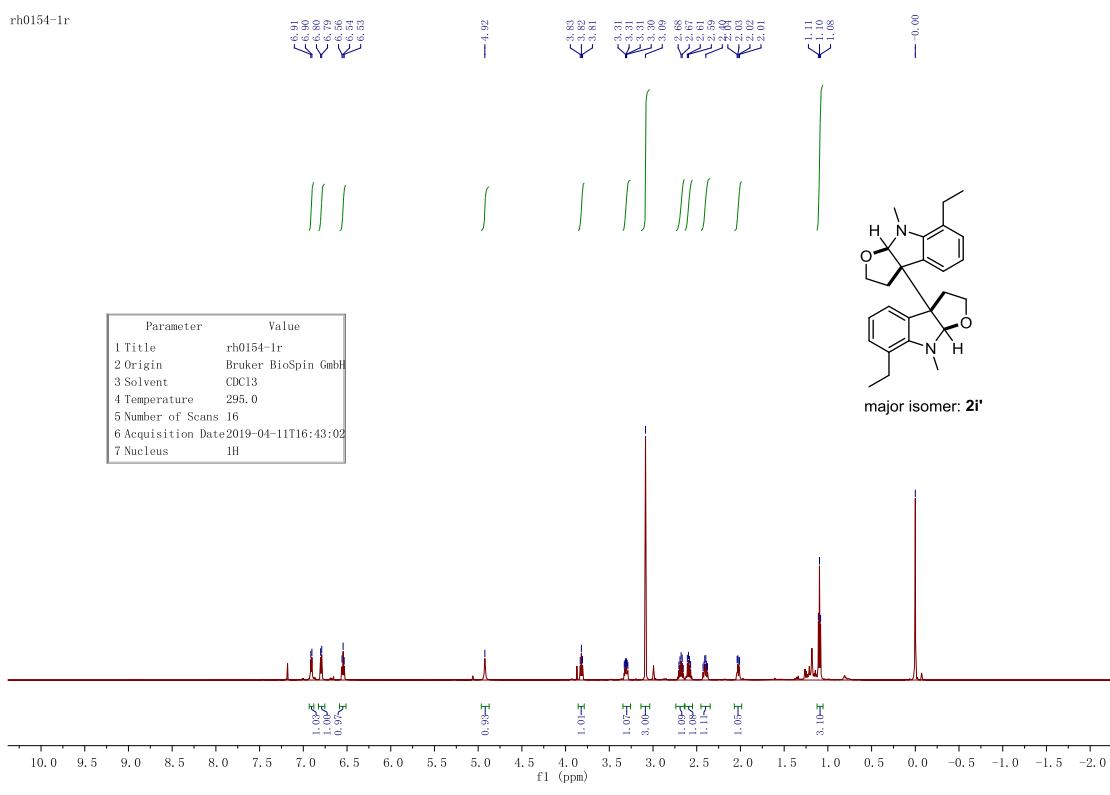
rh0214-1-0408

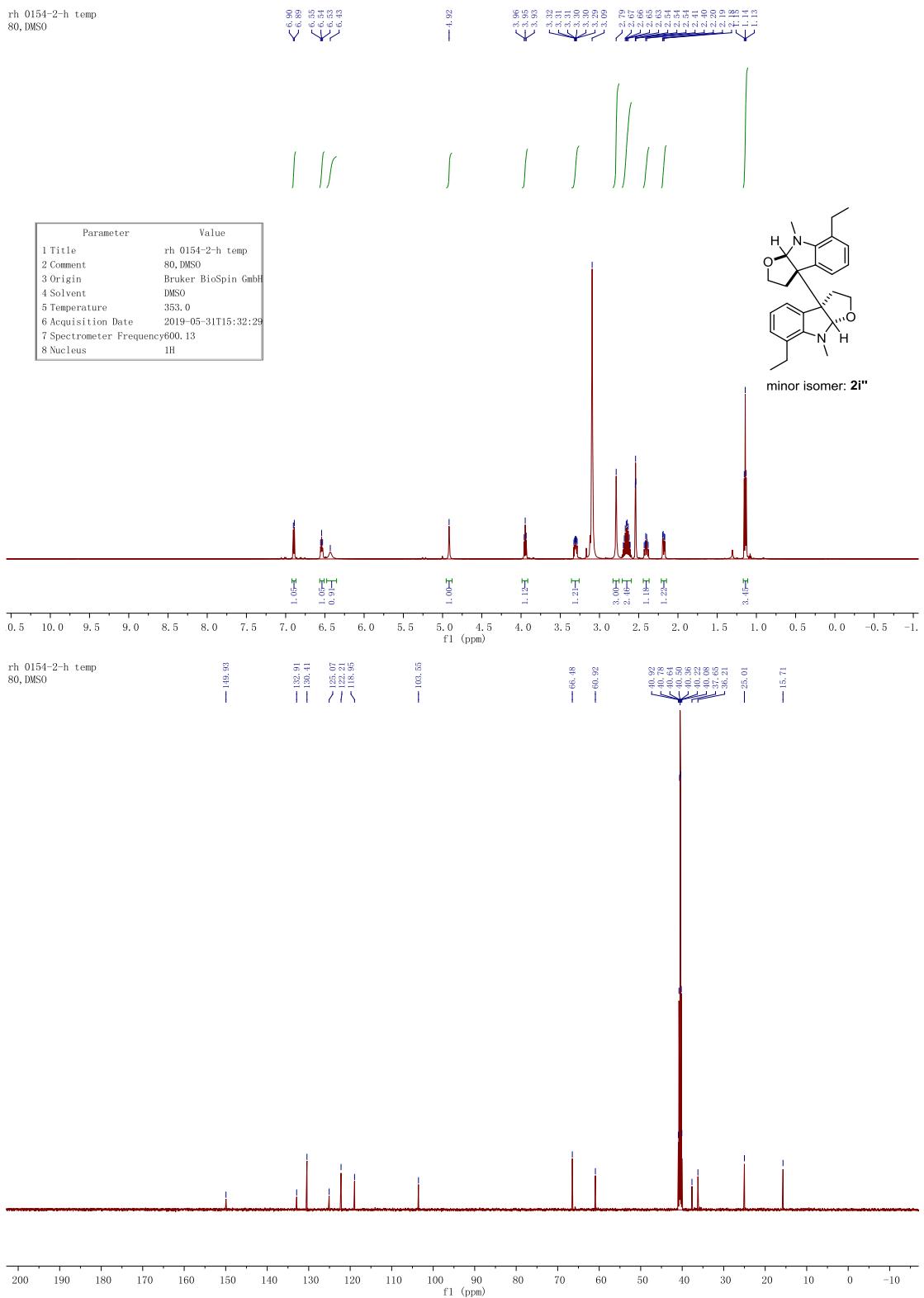


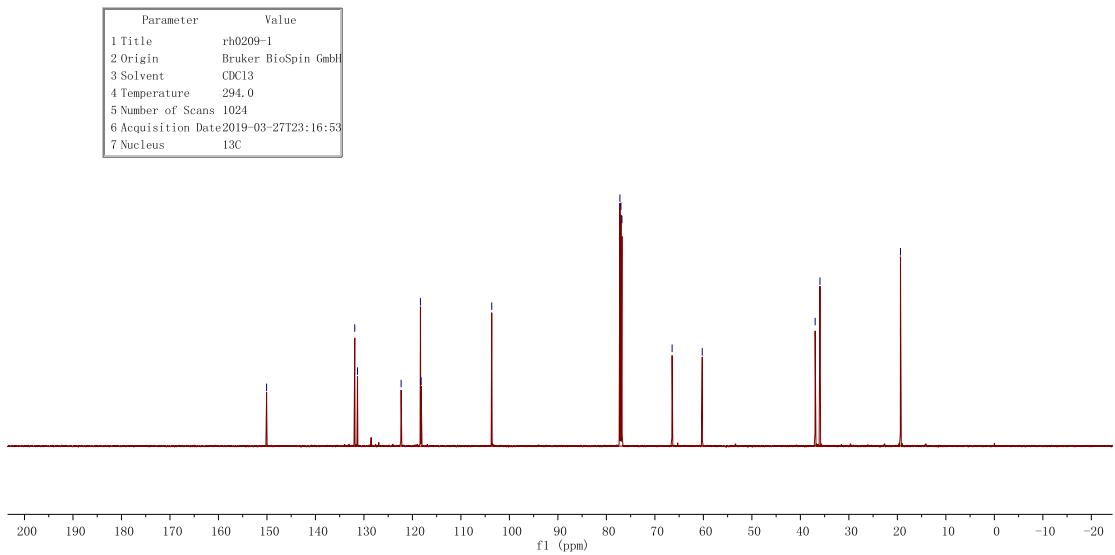
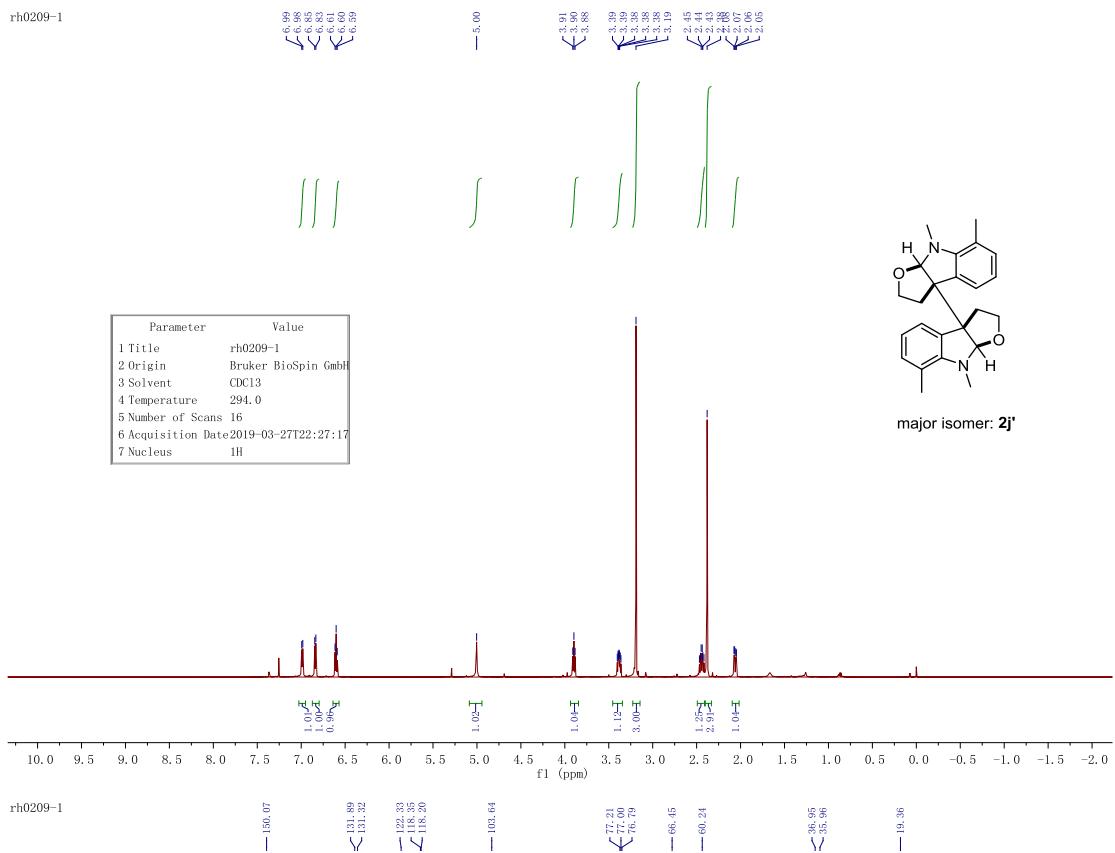
rh0214-1

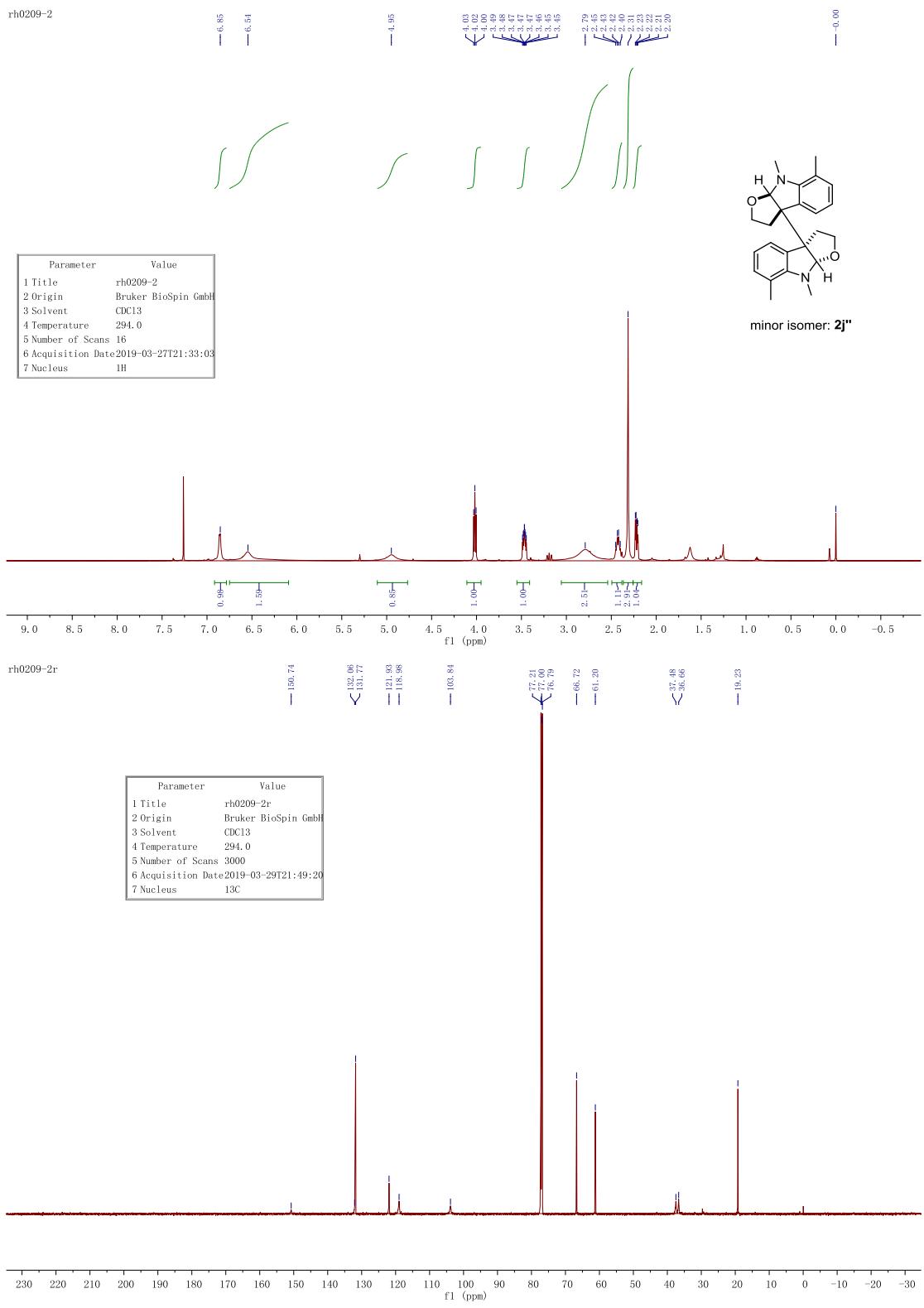


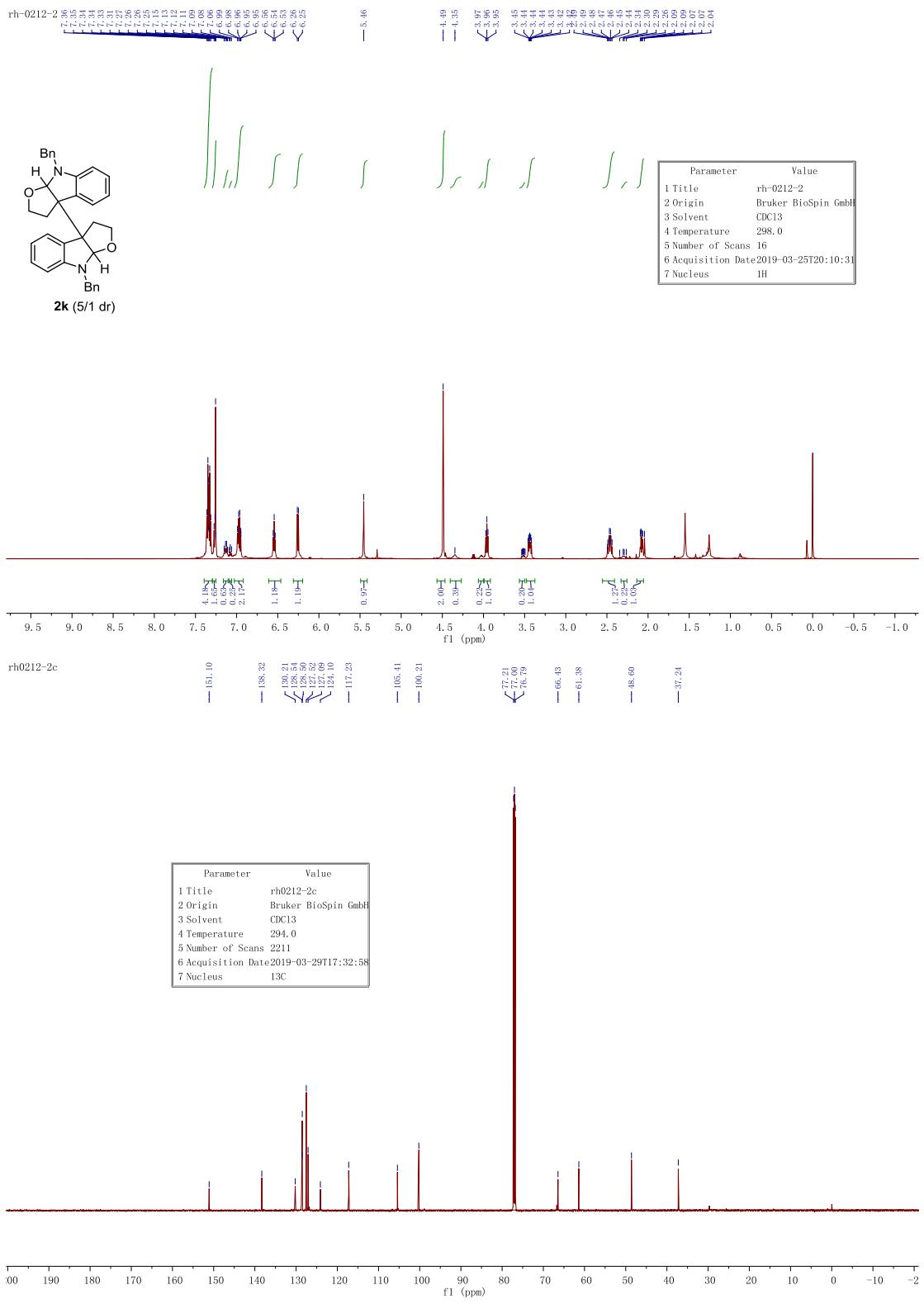


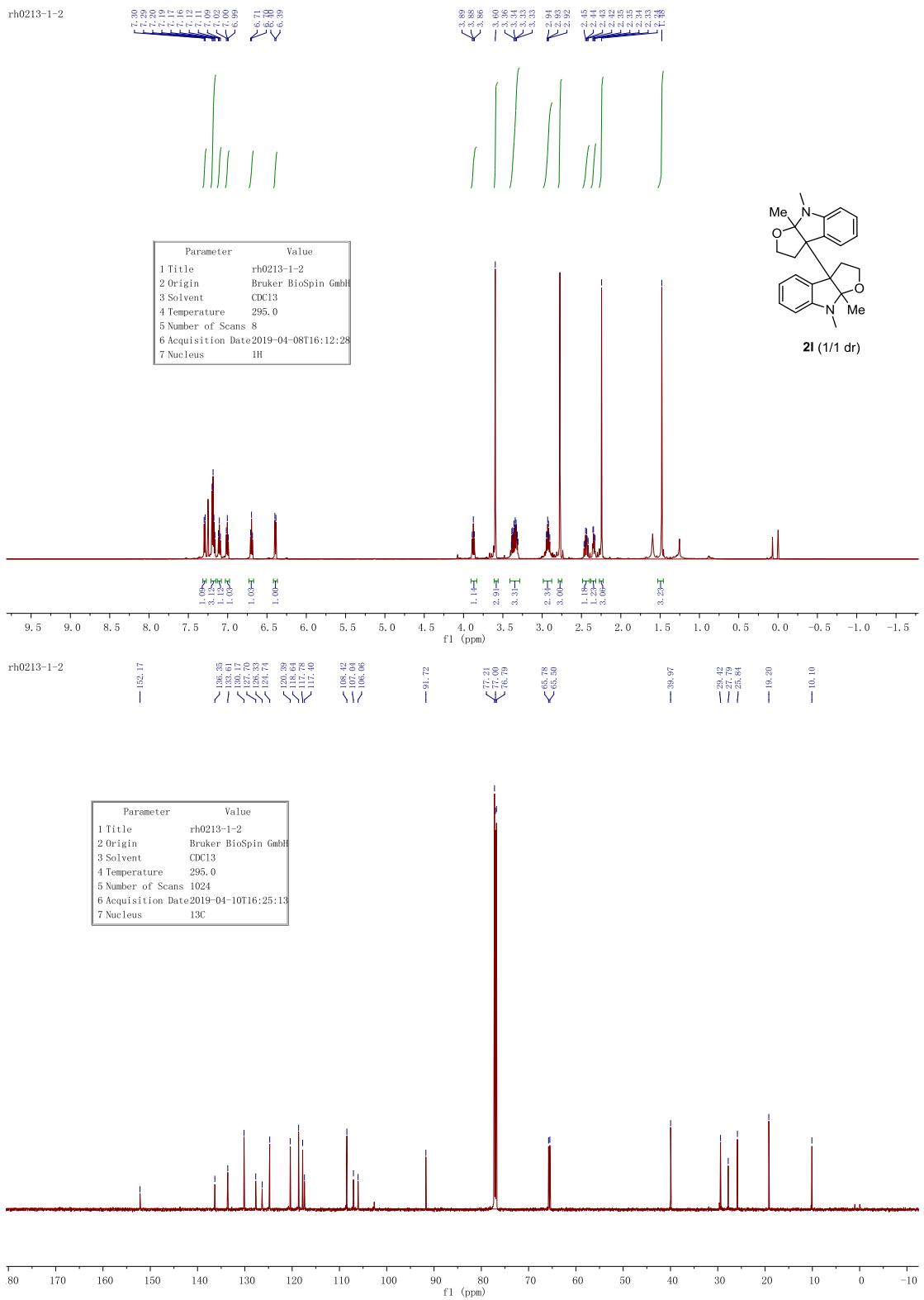


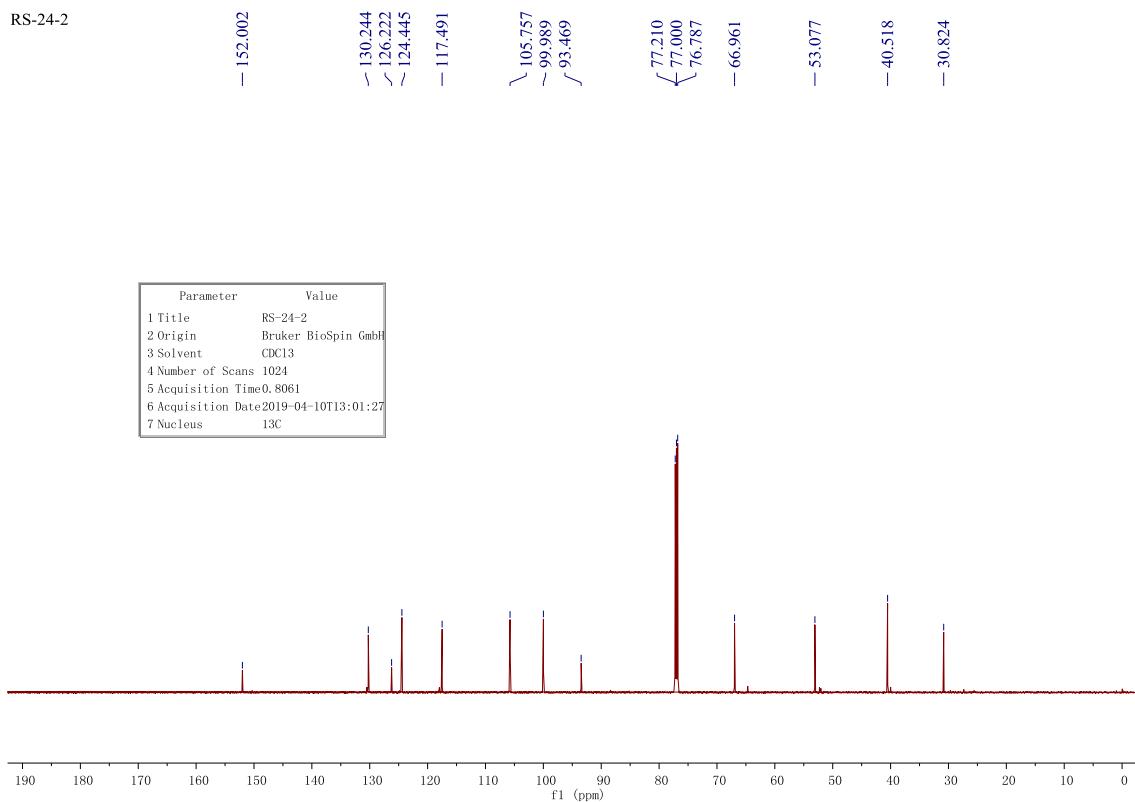
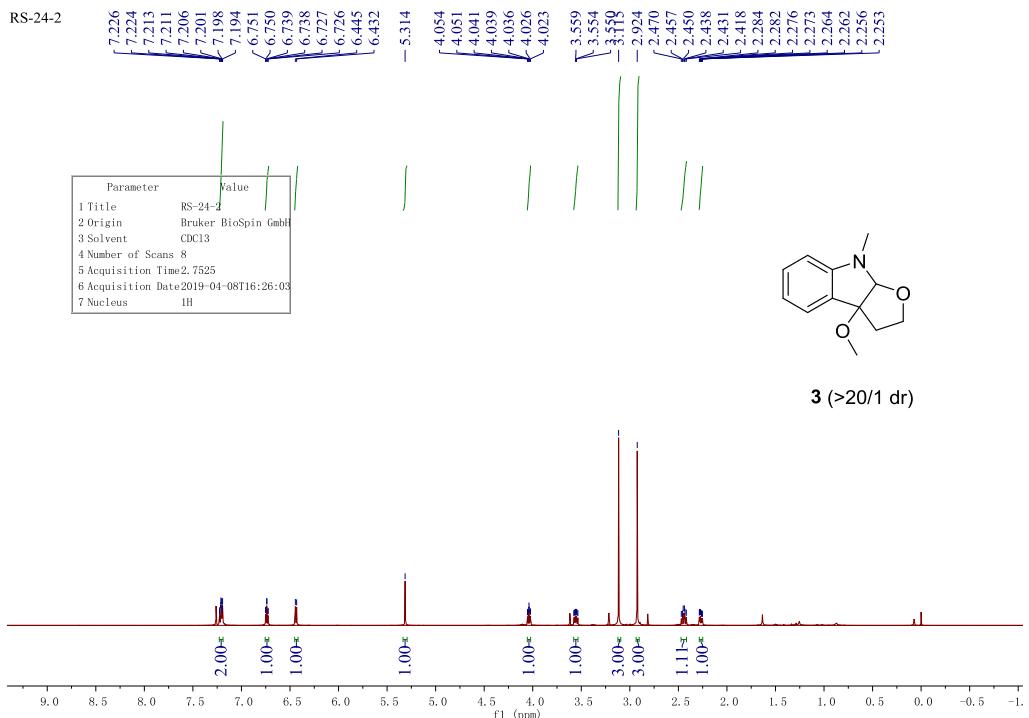




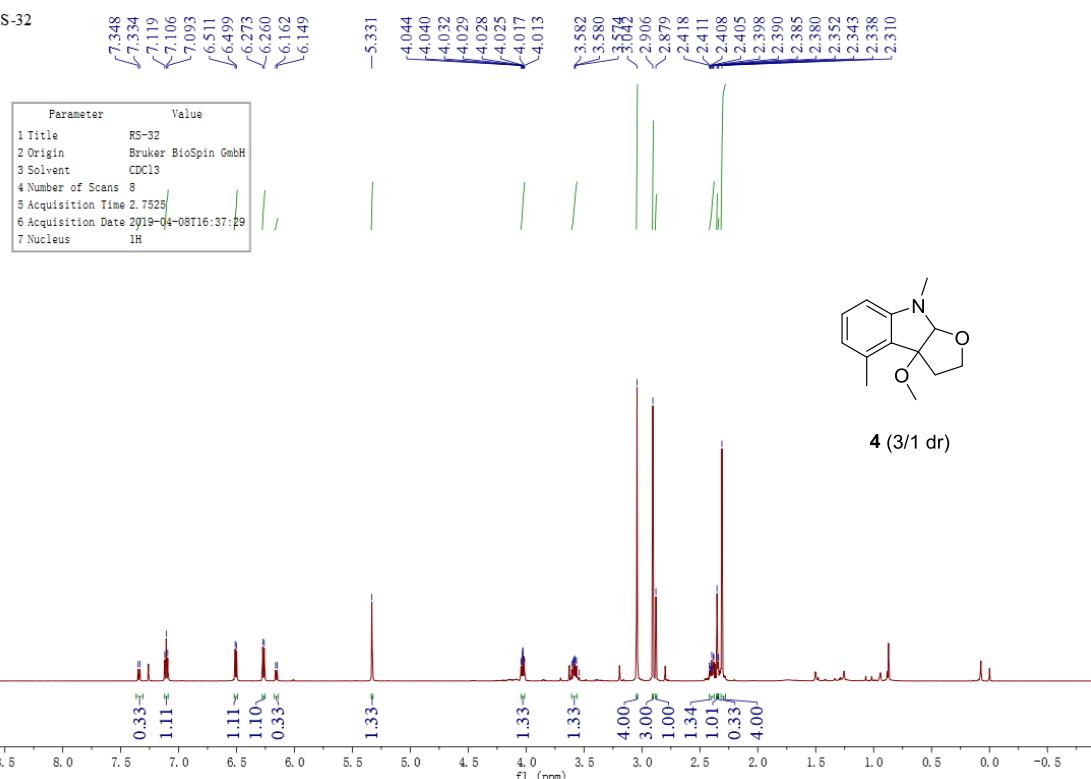








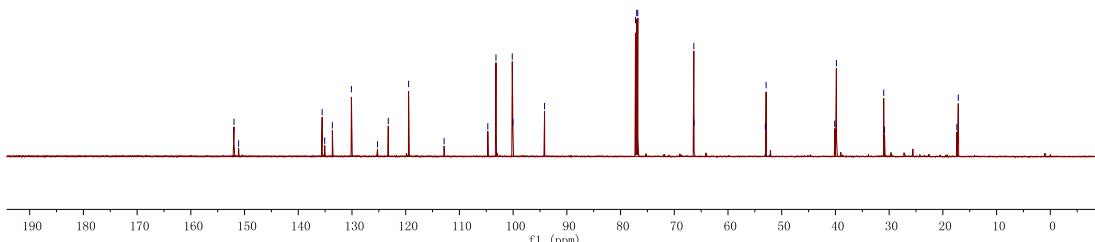
RS-32



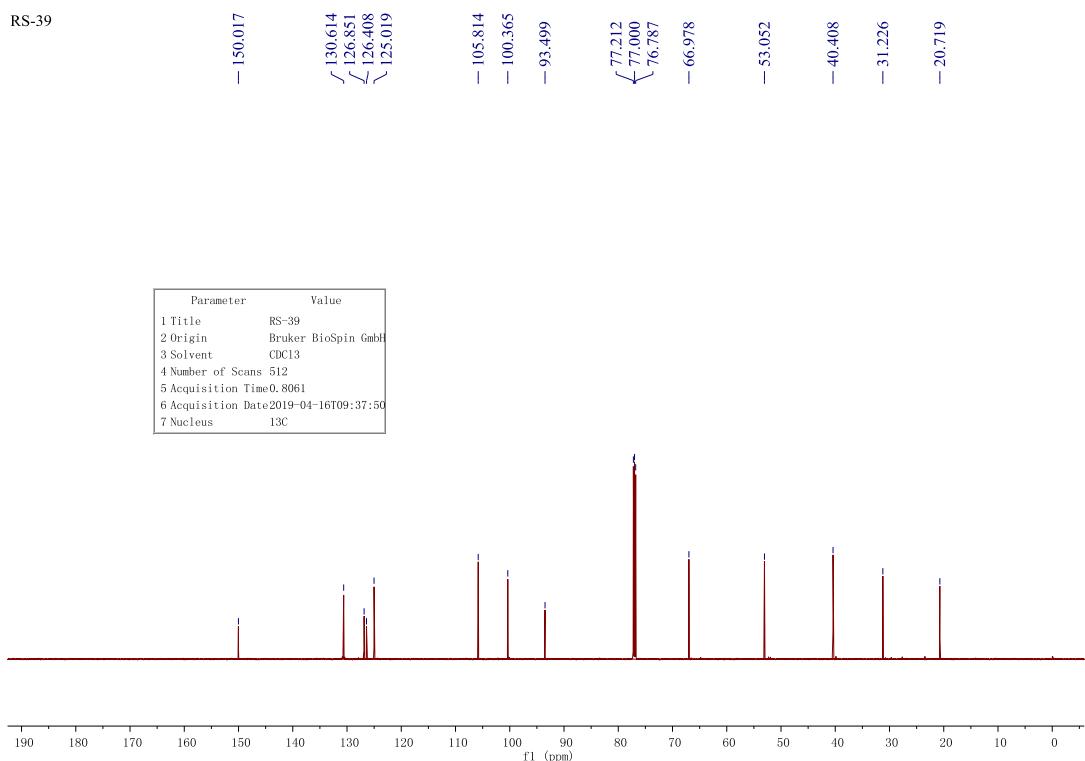
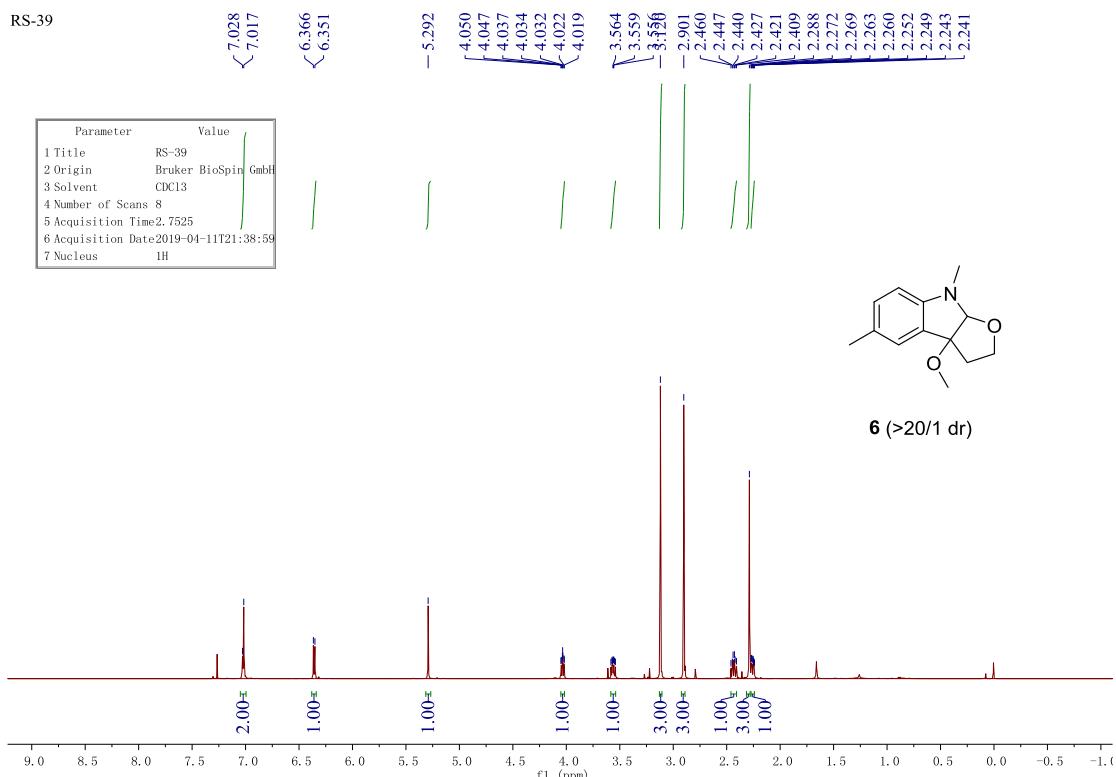
RS-32



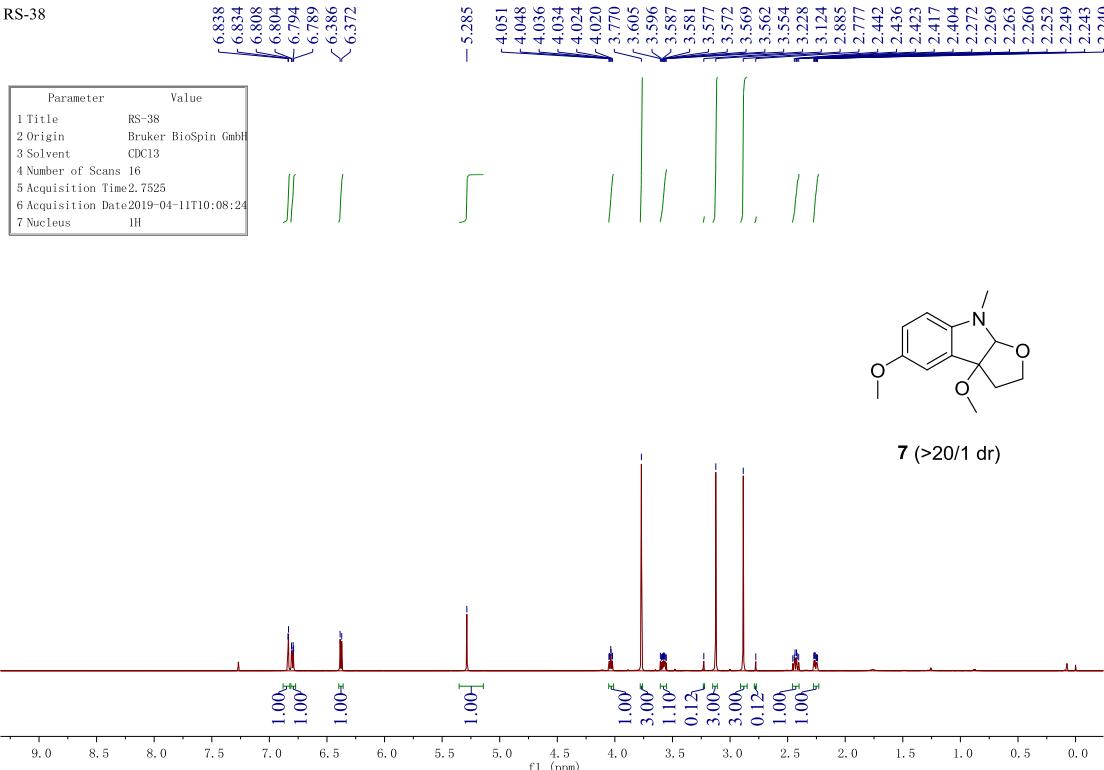
Parameter	Value
1 Title	RS-32
2 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
3 Solvent	CDCl ₃
4 Number of Scans	569
5 Acquisition Time	0.8061
6 Acquisition Date	2019-04-10T13:55:39
7 Nucleus	¹³ C







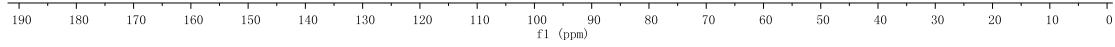
RS-38



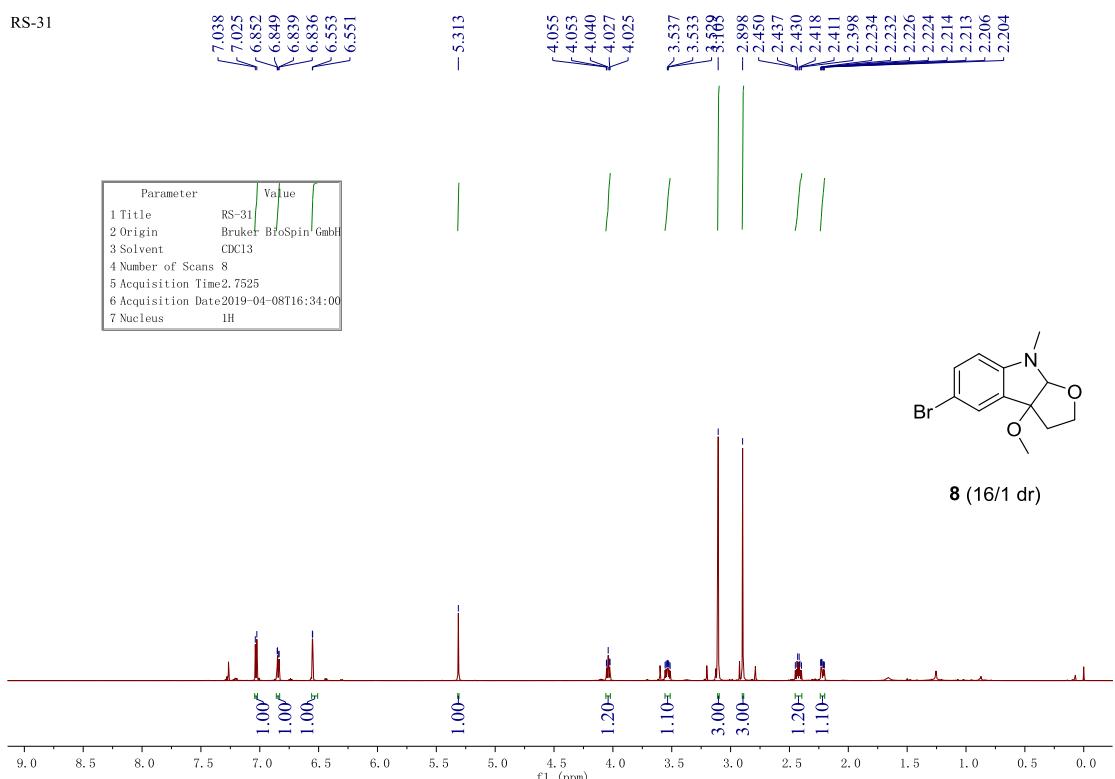
RS-38



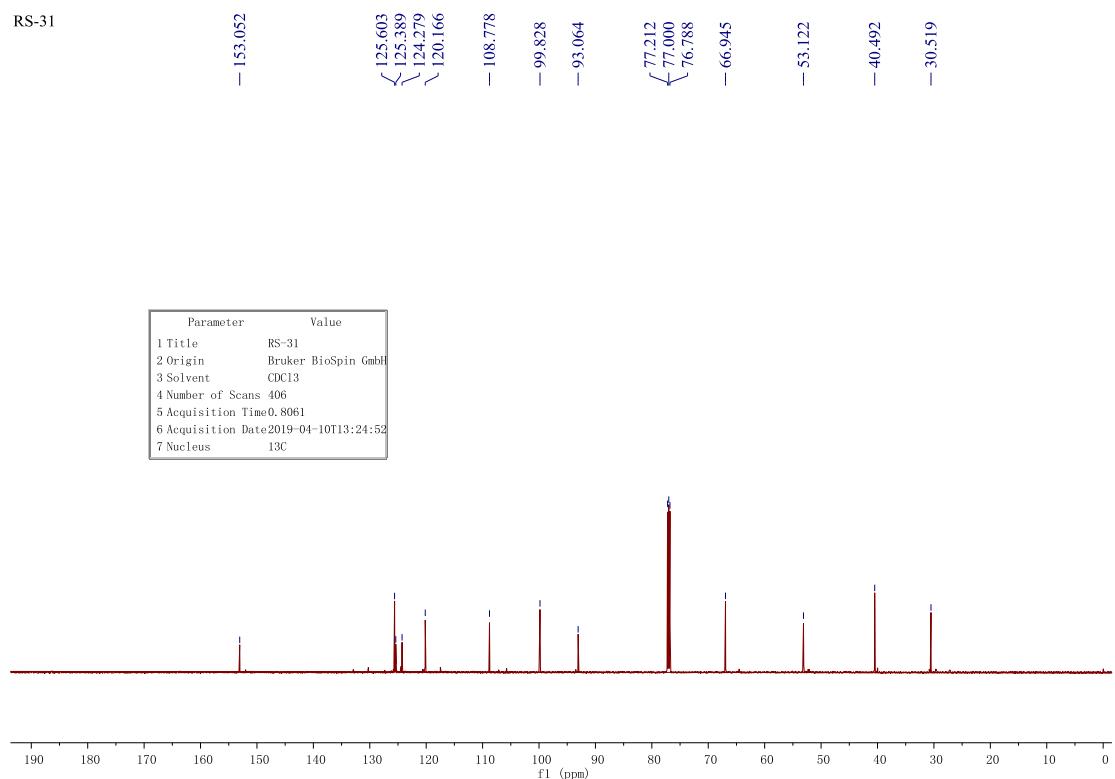
Parameter	Value
1 Title	RS-38
2 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
3 Solvent	CDCl ₃
4 Receiver Gain	101
5 Acquisition Time	0.8061
6 Acquisition Date	2019-04-11T22:56:57
7 Nucleus	13C



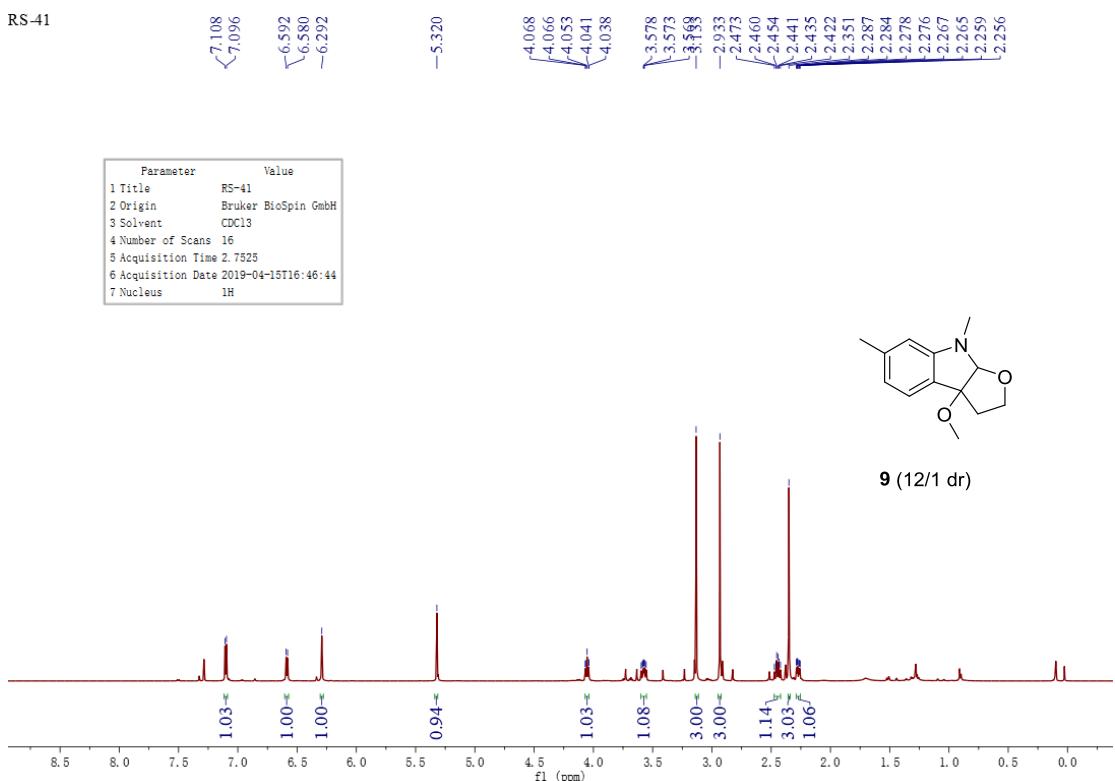
RS-31



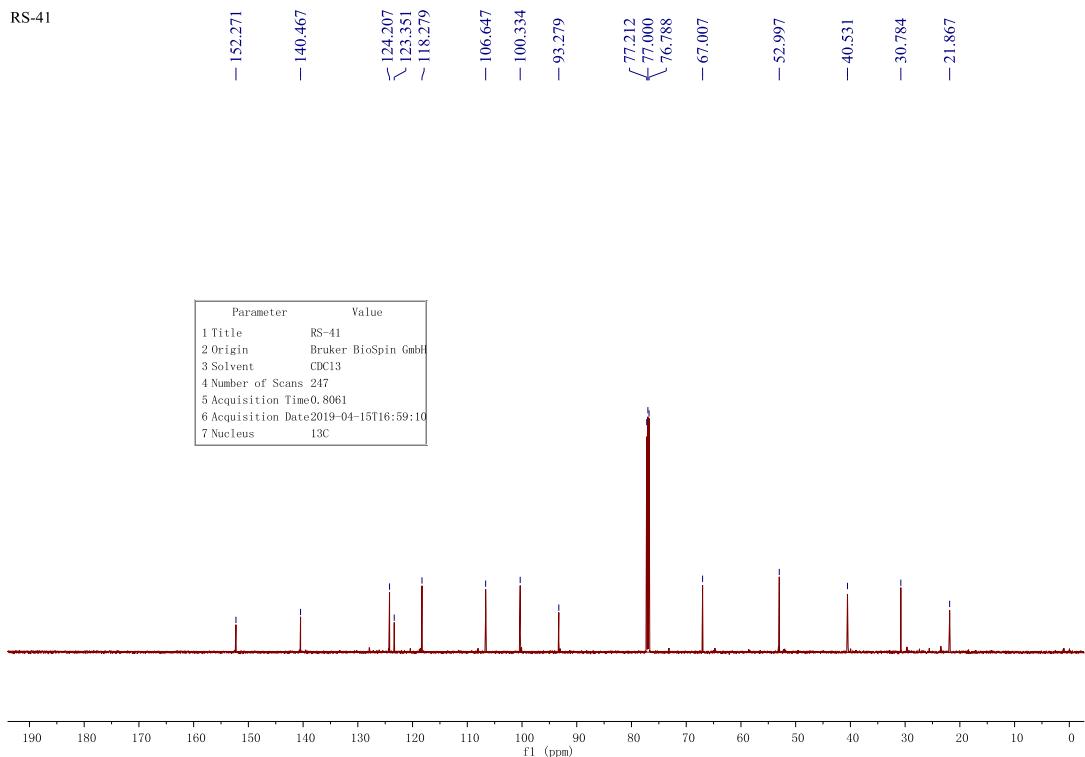
RS-31



RS-41



RS-41



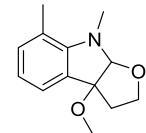
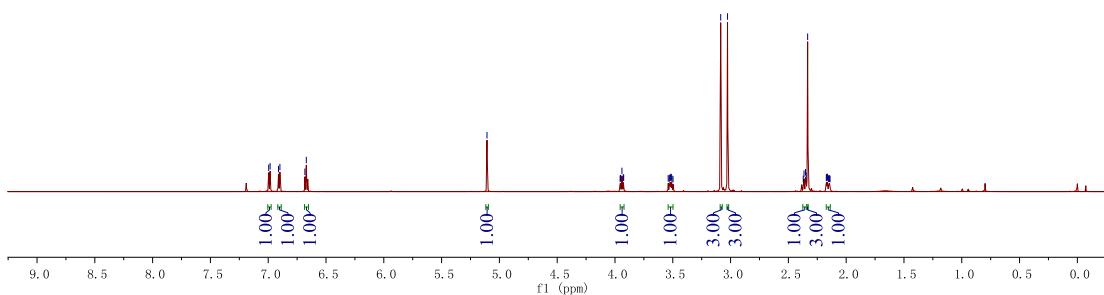
RS-36

6.996
6.984
6.911
6.899
6.683
6.670

-5.107

3.955
3.952
3.940
3.928
3.925

Parameter	Value
1 Title	RS-36
2 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
3 Solvent	CDCl ₃
4 Number of Scans	16
5 Acquisition Time	2.7525
6 Acquisition Date	2019-04-11T09:59:18
7 Nucleus	^ ¹ H

**10 (>20/1 dr)**

RS-36

-150.483
-133.226
-127.587
-122.399
-119.535
-119.294

-102.700

-92.791

-77.211

-77.000

-76.789

-66.621

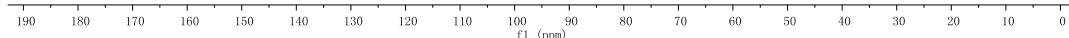
-53.024

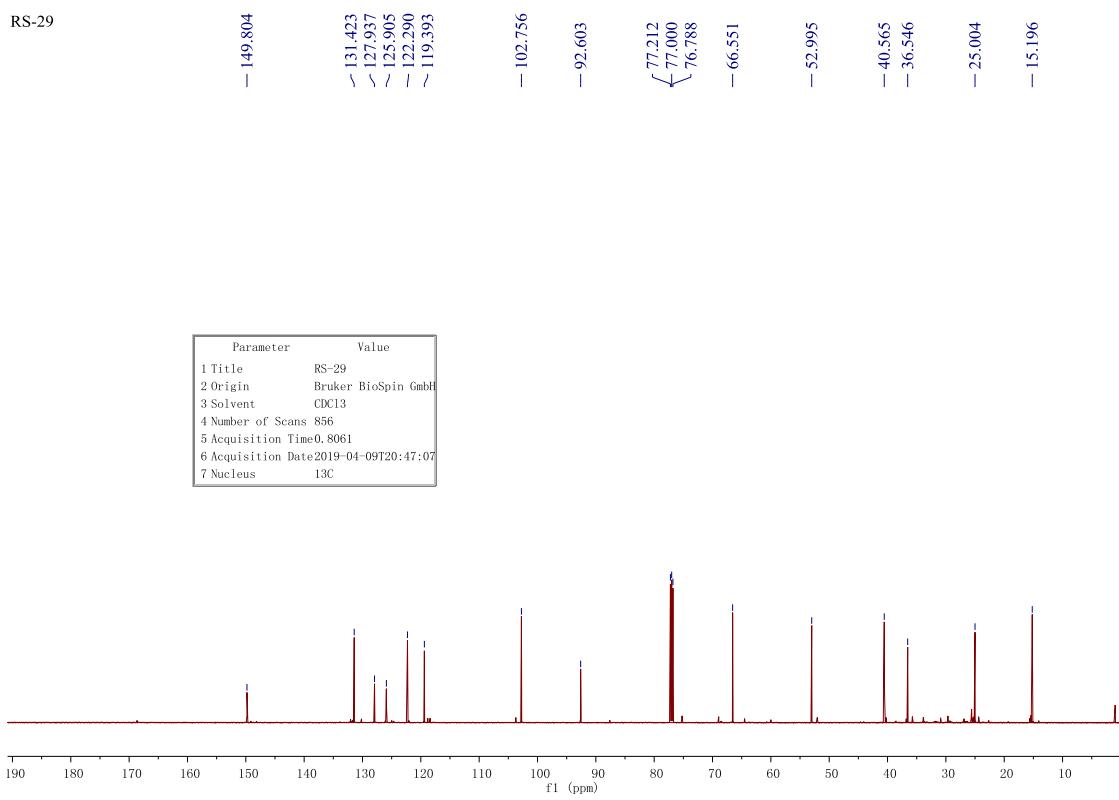
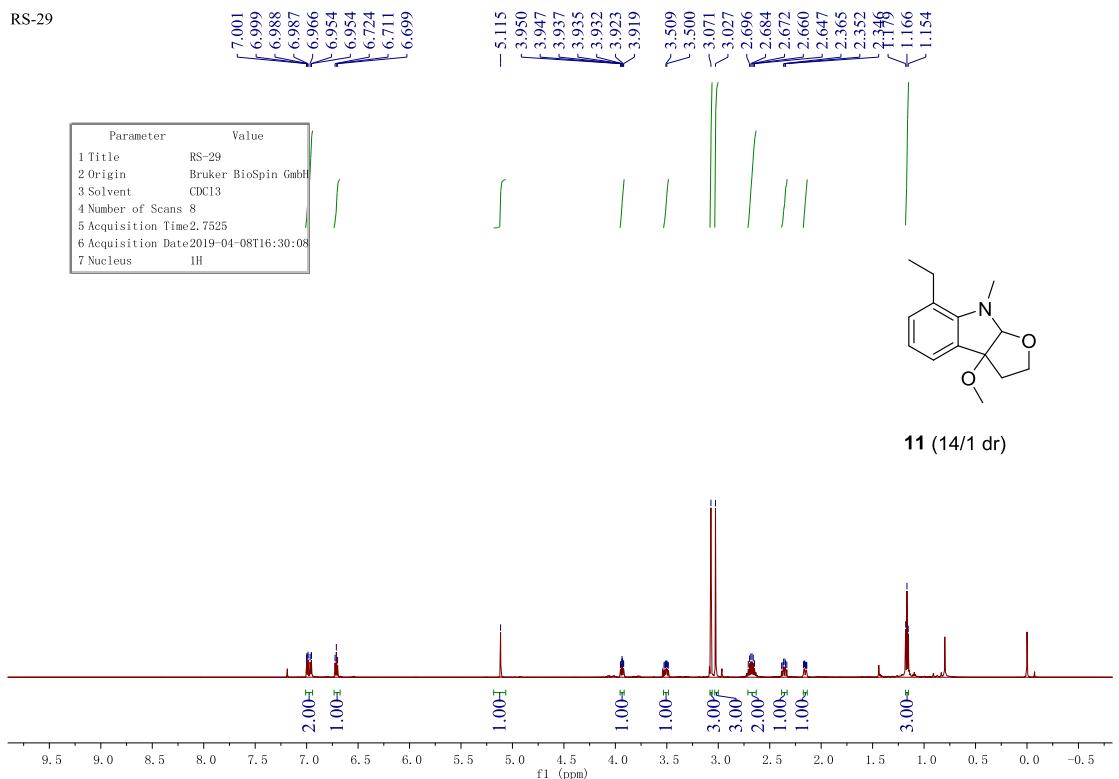
-40.520

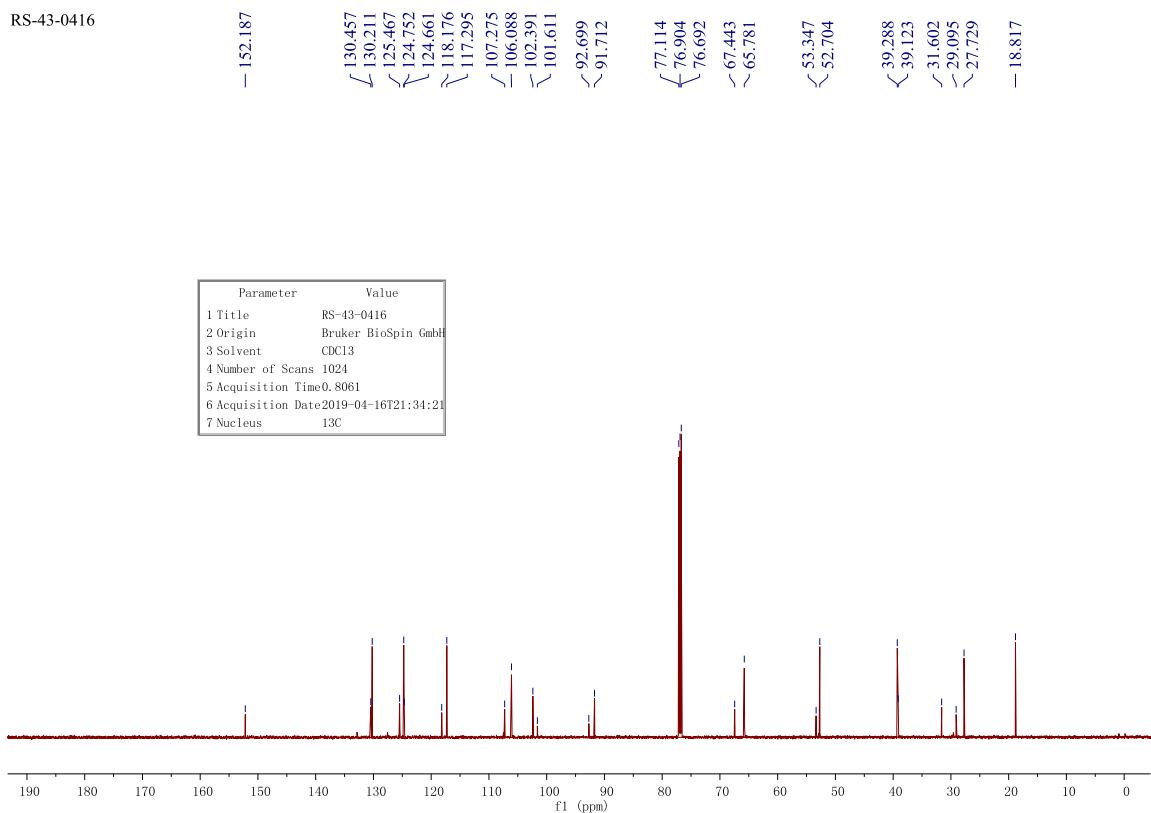
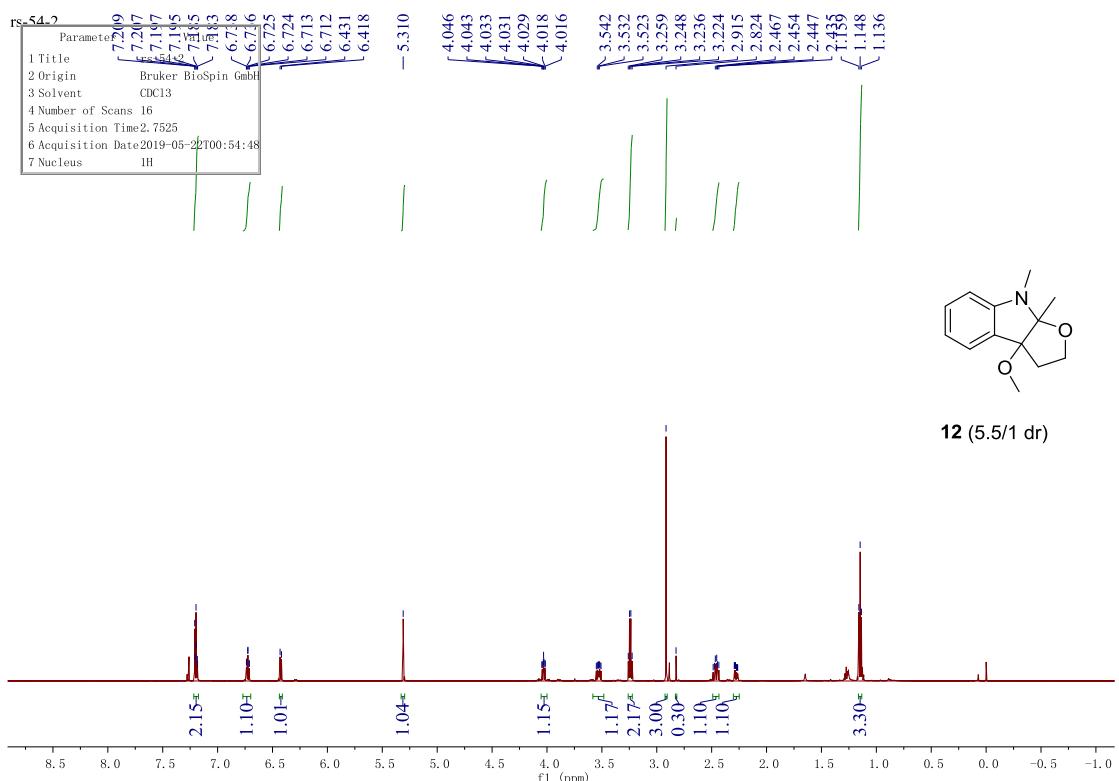
-36.411

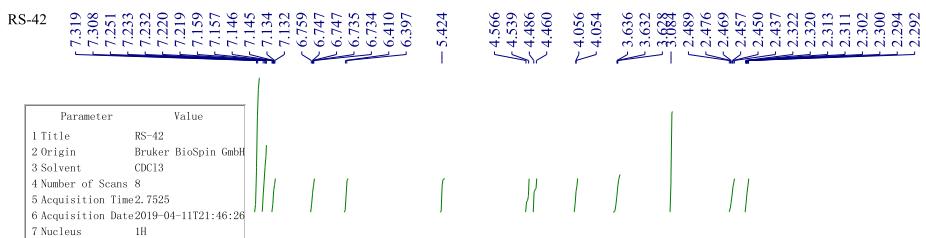
-19.233

Parameter	Value
1 Title	RS-36
2 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
3 Solvent	CDCl ₃
4 Number of Scans	512
5 Acquisition Time	0.8061
6 Acquisition Date	2019-04-11T22:18:51
7 Nucleus	^ ¹³ C

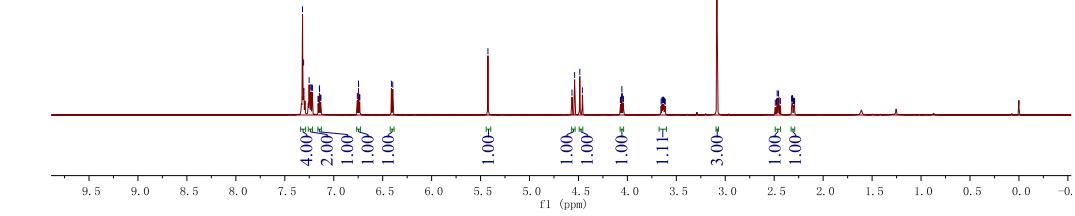




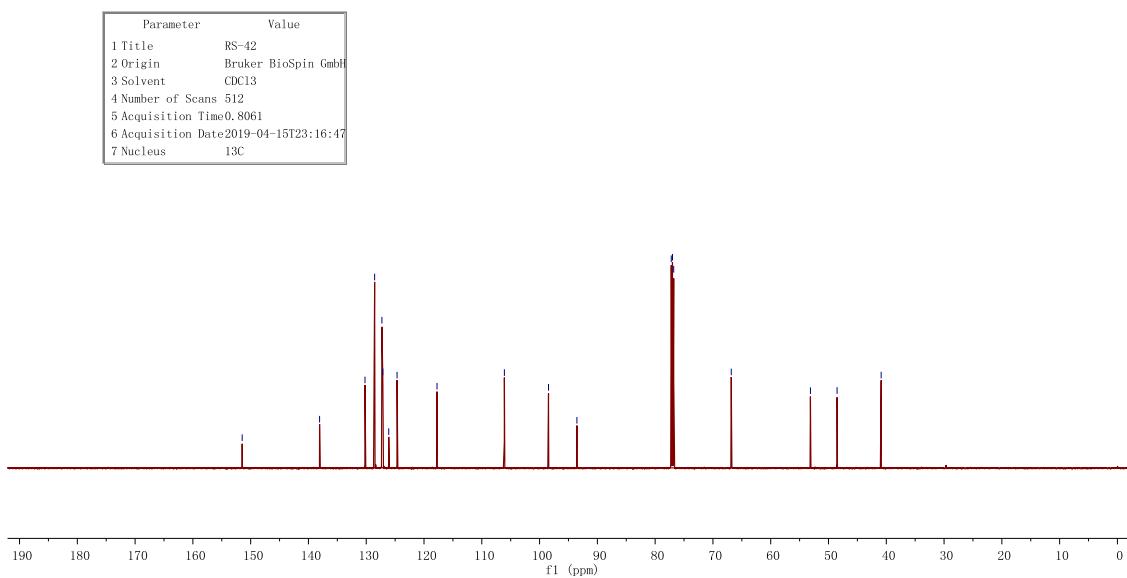


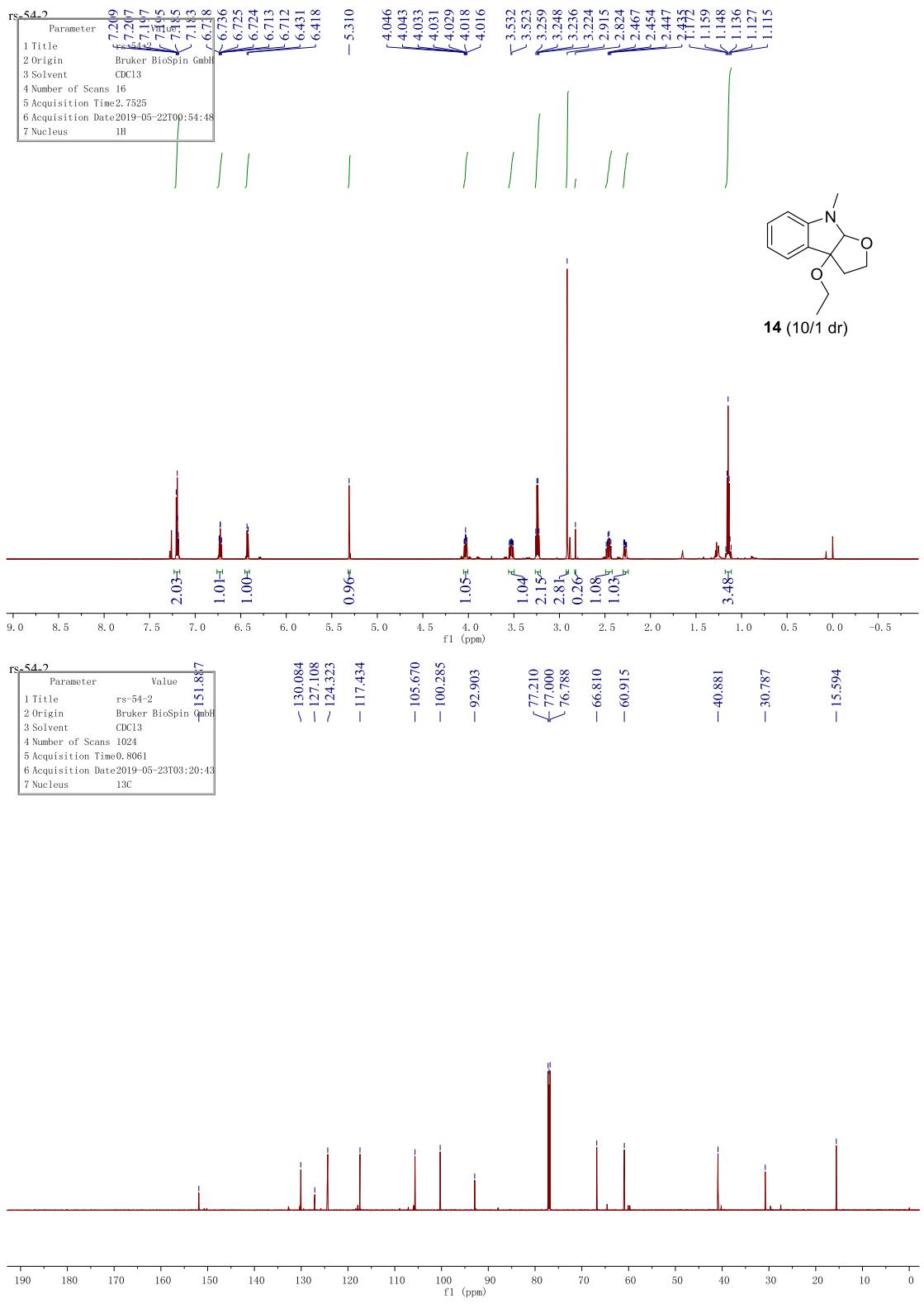


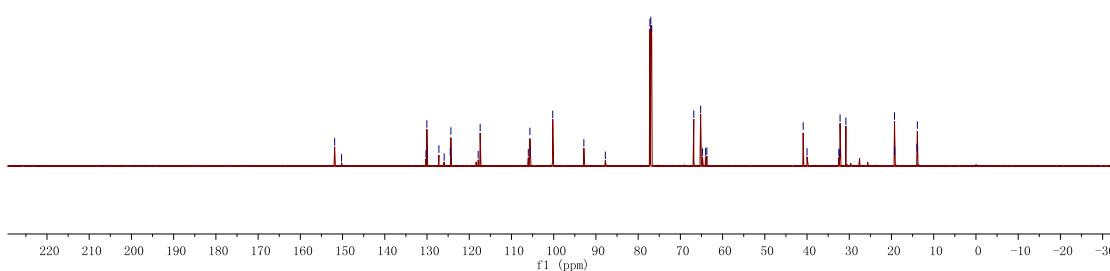
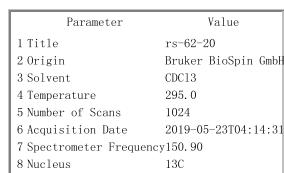
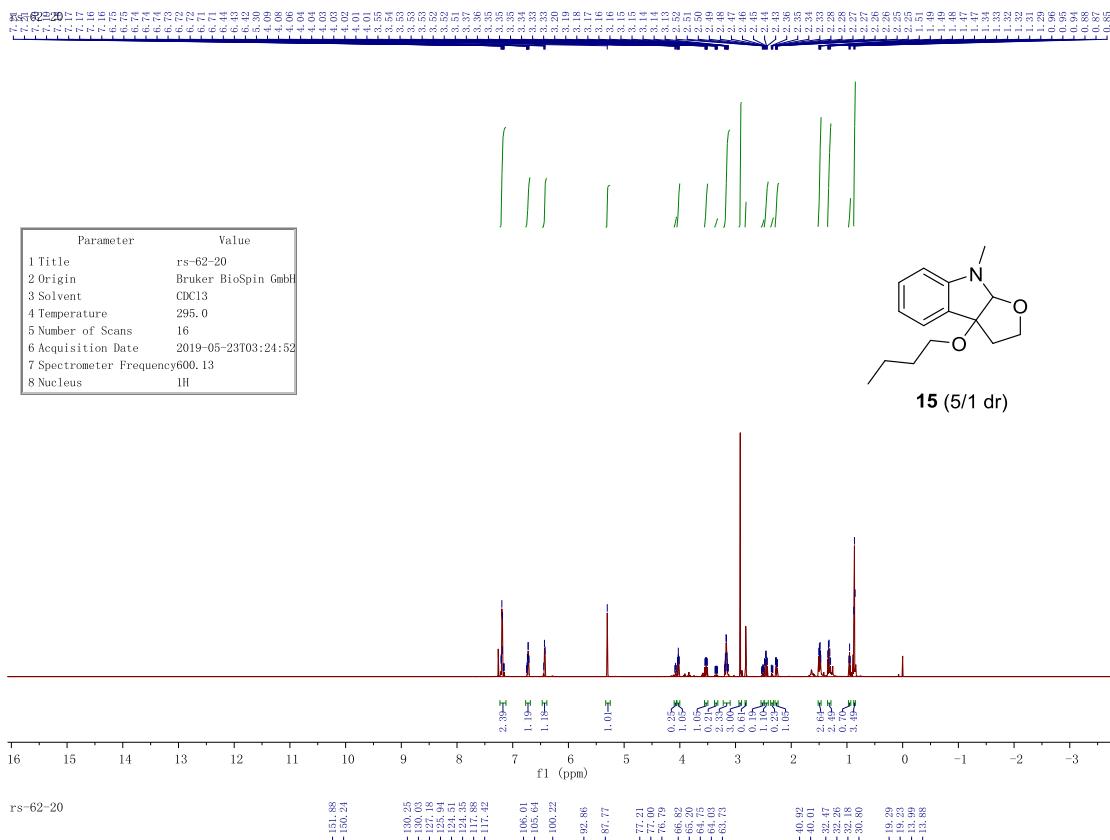
13 (20/1 dr)

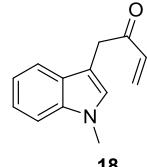
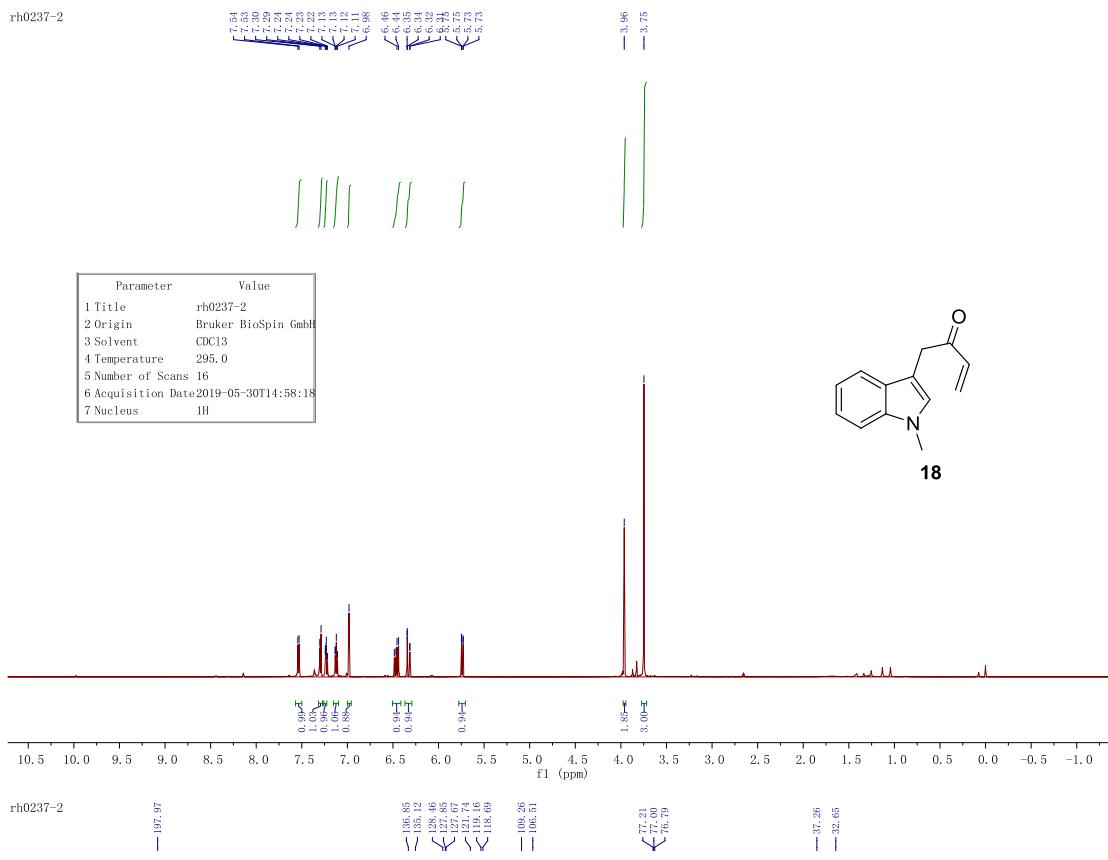


RS-42



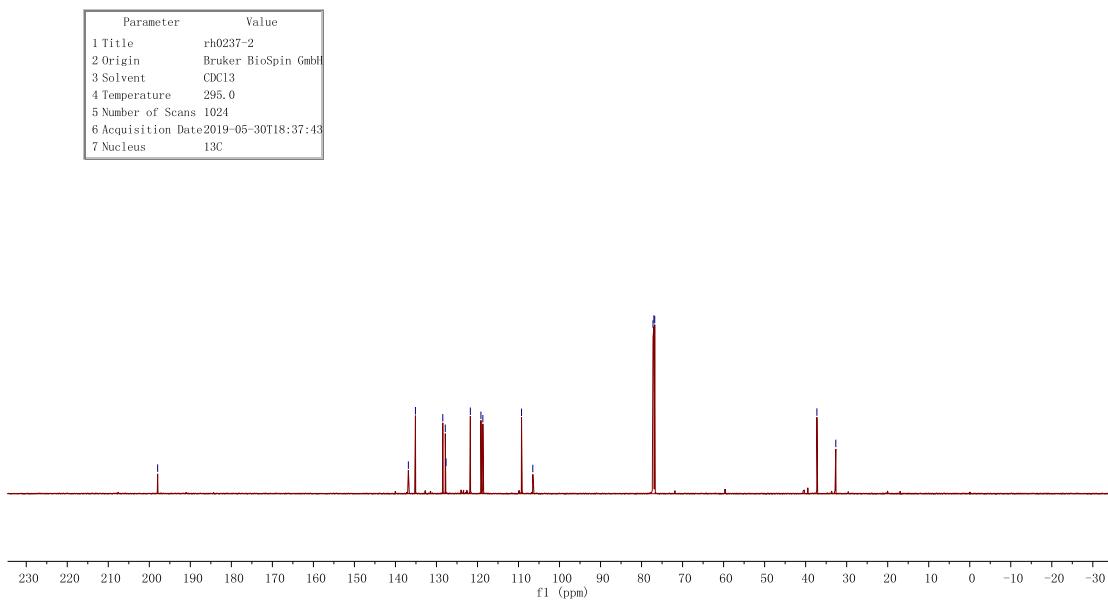




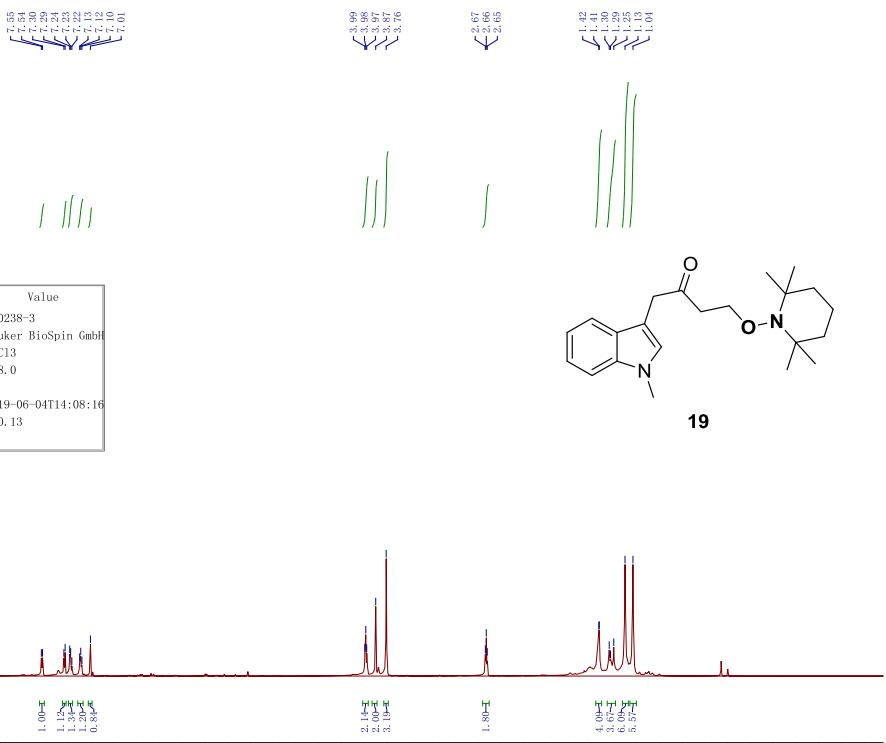


18

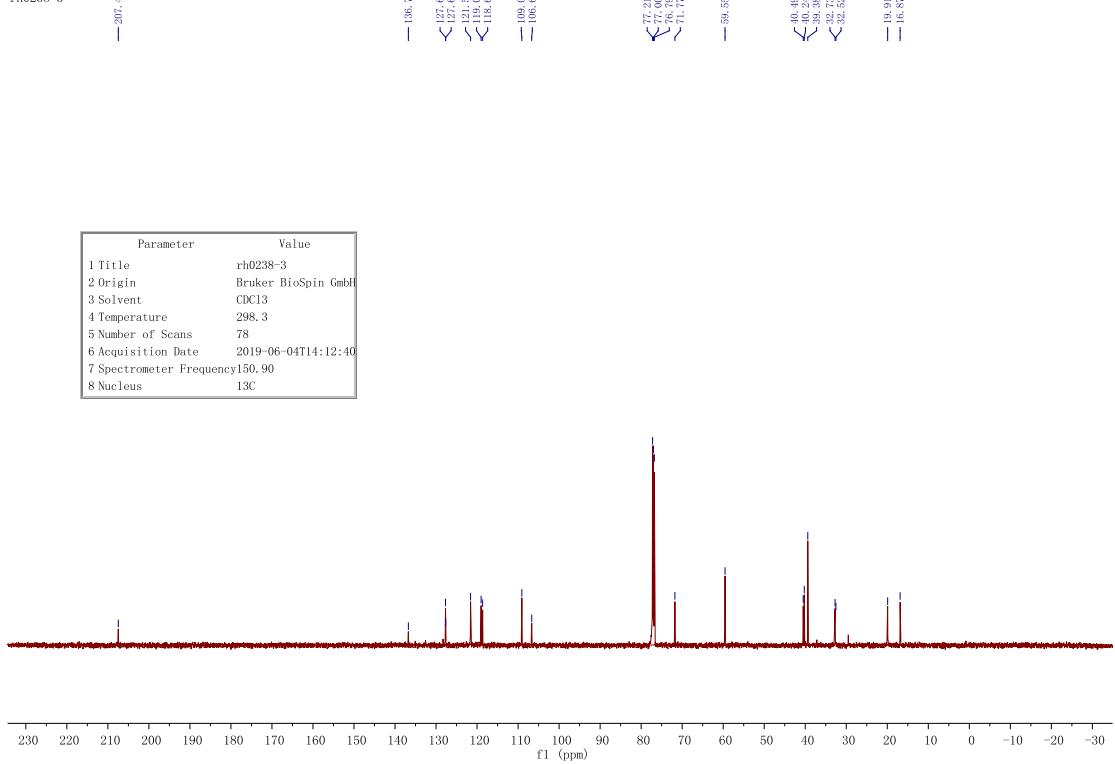
Parameter	Value
1 Title	rb0237-2
2 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
3 Solvent	CDC13
4 Temperature	295.0
5 Number of Scans	16
6 Acquisition Date	2019-05-30T14:58:18
7 Nucleus	IH

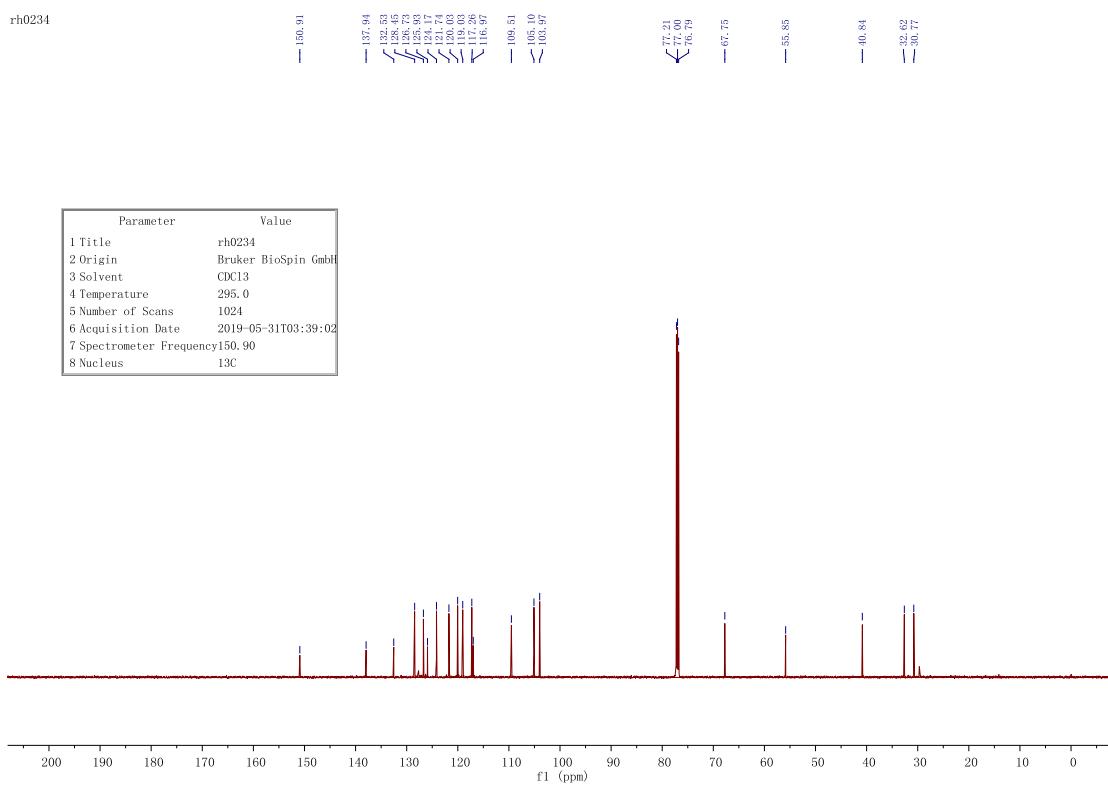
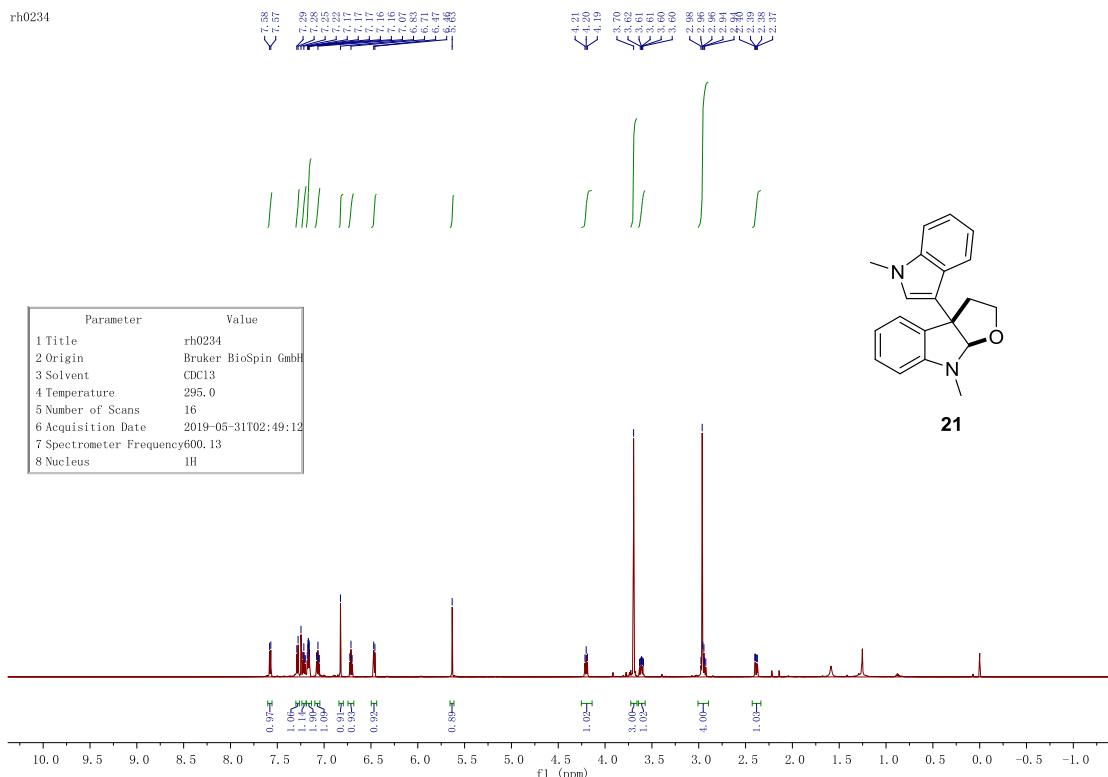


rh0238-3



rh0238-3



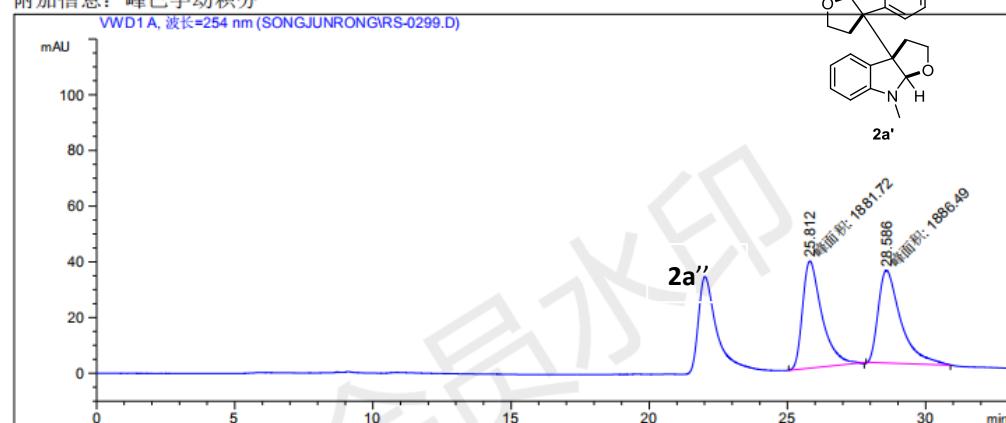


10. HPLC Spectras of 2a'

数据文件: C:\CHEM32\1\DATA\SONGJUNRONG\RS-0299.D
样品名称: rs-0299(99-1)

操作者 : sjr
仪器 : 仪器 1 位置 : 样品瓶 1
进样日期 : 2019/7/30 9:16:02 进样量 : 2.0 μ l
采集方法 : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\SONGJUNRONG\DEF_LC.M (0.7-99-1-2019.07.30).M
最后修改 : 2019/7/30 9:15:04 : sjr
(调用后修改)
分析方法 : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\SONGJUNRONG\GZ.M(1.0-70-30).M
最后修改 : 2019/7/30 11:07:10 : sjr
(调用后修改)
样品信息 : RS-0299 99-1-1

附加信息: 峰已手动积分



面积百分比报告

排序 : 信号
乘积因子: : 1.0000
稀释因子: : 1.0000
内标中不使用乘积因子和稀释因子

信号 1: VWD1 A, 波长=254 nm

峰 #	保留时间 [min]	类型	峰宽 [min]	峰面积 mAU	*s	峰高 [mAU]	峰面积 %
1	25.812	MM	0.8151	1881.72	437	38.47661	49.9367
2	28.586	MM	0.9454	1886.49	390	33.25739	50.0633

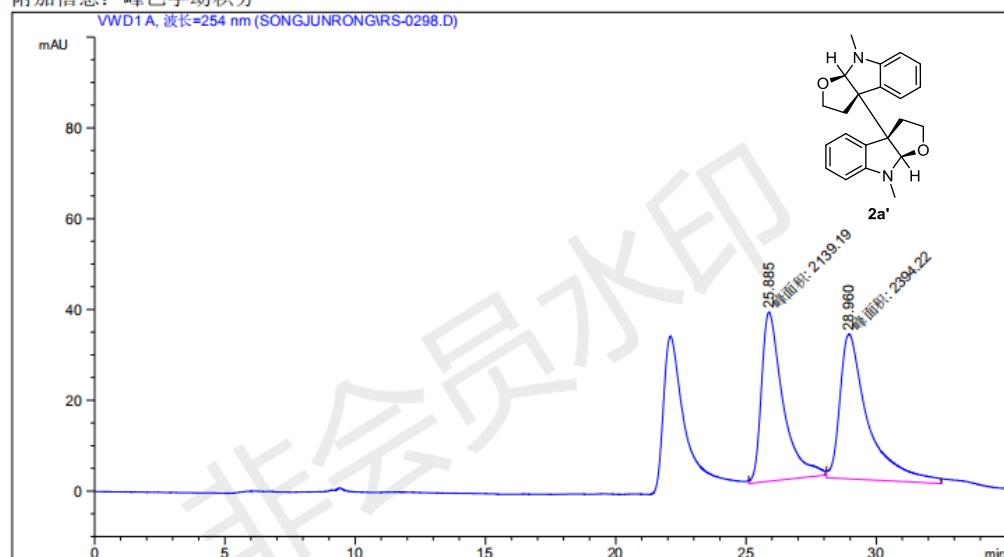
总量 : 3768.21826 71.73400

*** 报告结束 ***

数据文件: C:\CHEM32\1\DATA\SONGJUNRONG\RS-0298.D
样品名称: rs-0298(99-1)

操作者 : sjr
仪器 : 仪器 1 位置 : 样品瓶 2
进样日期 : 2019/7/30 9:54:04
进样量 : 2.0 μ l
采集方法 : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\SONGJUNRONG\DEF_LC.M (0.7-99-1-2019.07.30).M
最后修改 : 2019/7/30 9:50:05 : sjr
(调用后修改)
分析方法 : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\SONGJUNRONG\DEF_LC.M (1.0-95-5-2019.07.30).M
最后修改 : 2019/7/30 11:17:49 : sjr
(调用后修改)
样品信息 : RS-0298 99-1-1

附加信息：峰已手动积分



面积百分比报告

排序 : 信号
乘积因子: : 1.0000
稀释因子: : 1.0000
内标使用乘积因子和稀释因子

信号 1: VWD1 A, 波长=254 nm

峰	保留时间	类型	峰宽	峰面积	峰高	峰面积	
#	[min]		[min]	mAU	*s	[mAU]	%
1	25.885	MM	0.9577	2139.19189		37.22751	47.1872
2	28.960	MM	1.2497	2394.22363		31.93000	52.8128

总量： 4533 41553 69 15751

仪器 1 2019/7/30 11:19:11 sir

页 1/2