# Photosensitized Oxidations of Substituted Pyrroles: Unanticipated Radical-Derived Oxygenated Products

*Mariza N. Alberti, Georgios C. Vougioukalakis*<sup> $\dagger$ </sup> and Michael Orfanopoulos<sup>\*</sup>

Department of Chemistry, University of Crete, 71003 Voutes, Heraklion, Crete, Greece

<sup>†</sup> Present address: Institute of Physical Chemistry, NCSR Demokritos, 15310 Agia Paraskevi, Attiki, Greece

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<sup>\*</sup> To whom correspondence should be addressed. Email: orfanop@chemistry.uoc.gr

### (A) General Experimental Considerations

<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on 500 MHz and 300 MHz spectrometers, in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solutions. All spectra are reported in  $\delta$  (ppm) relative to the solvent residual peak (7.26 and 77.16 ppm in CDCl<sub>3</sub>). GC-MS analysis was performed on an apparatus equipped with a capillary column (MDN-5, 30m × 0.25mm, 0.25µm film thickness) and a 5971A MS detector. Electrospray ionization mass spectra (ESI-MS) were acquired using positive ions detection. All of the samples were sodiated and NaAc was added in order to improve the intensities. Photooxidations were achieved with a Xenon 300W lamp. TLC was carried out on SiO<sub>2</sub> (silica gel F<sub>254</sub>) and flash chromatography was carried out on SiO<sub>2</sub> (silica gel F<sub>254</sub>) and flash chromatography was carried out on SiO<sub>2</sub> (silica gel 60, particle size 0.040–0.063 mm). Diethylether was distilled from Na under N<sub>2</sub> just prior to use.

## (B) Experimental Procedures for the Synthesis of Pyrroles 7–10

1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-pyrrole (7). Pyrrole 7 was prepared according to a literature procedure:<sup>i</sup> 2hydroxyethanolamine (1.52 mL, 25.2 mmol) was added to ice-cooled glacial acetic acid (28 mL) at such a rate that the temperature of the solution was kept below 15 °C. Then, 2,5-dimethoxytetrahydrofuran (0.75 mL, 5.8 mmol) was added in one portion and the solution was heated at 80–90 °C for 3h. Acetic acid was then completely removed from the reaction mixture under vacuum with careful heating. The residue was cooled to room temperature, diluted with H<sub>2</sub>O, and extracted three times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic extract was washed two times with saturated aqueous solutions of Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and then evaporated. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc = 3:2 v/v) to give pyrrole 7 (0.386 mg, 3.48 mmol). Overall yield 60%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  6.71 (br s, 2H), 6.18 (br s, 2H), 4.03 (t, 2H, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 3.86 (t, 2H, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 1.69 (br s, 1H, OH) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  120.5, 107.7, 62.0, 51.3 ppm; MS *m*/*z* = 111 (100, *m*/*z* = 80).

**5-Chloro-3-pentene-2-one.** This chloro enone was prepared according to a literature procedure:<sup>ii</sup> Acetyl chloride (3 mL, 42 mmol) was added dropwise to an ice-cooled slurry of aluminium chloride (7.2 g, 54 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (80 mL). The solution was then filtered. The filtrate was cooled to 0 °C and

allyl bromide (2.6 mL, 30 mmol), dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (30 mL), was added dropwise. This mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1h and then poured into a mixture of ice (40 g), water (40 mL) and HCl 3N (100 mL). The aqueous layer was separated and extracted two times with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The combined organic layers were washed two times with a 10 w/w % aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and then evaporated. The residue was used in the next steps without further purification. Yield 80% (2.84 g, 24 mmol).

1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-2-methylpyrrole (8) and 1-(3-Hydroxypropyl)-2-methylpyrrole (9). Pyrroles 8 and 9 were prepared according to a published procedure:<sup>iii</sup> A solution of 5-chloro-3-pentene-2-one (1.42 g, 12 mmol) and the appropriate amino alcohol (12 mmol) was refluxed for 5-6 h in dry Et<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL) containing Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.66 mL, 12 mmol). The mixture was then cooled to rt and 12 mL of water was added. The aqueous layer was separated and extracted two times with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were washed two times with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After the evaporation of the solvent the crude product was purified by flash column chromatography over silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc = 4:1  $\rightarrow$ 1:1 v/v). Overall yield 40–50%. The spectroscopic data of pyrroles 8 and 9 are the following:

**1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-2-methylpyrrole (8).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.63 (br s, 1H), 6.07 (br s, 1H), 5.89 (br s, 1H), 3.96 (t, 2H, J = 5.5 Hz), 3.81 (t, 2H, J = 5.5 Hz), 2.24 (s, 3H), 1.78 (br s, 1H, OH) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  128.8, 120.4, 107.4, 107.2, 62.8, 48.9, 12.1 ppm; ESI-MS m/z = 148.5 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>.

**1-(3-Hydroxypropyl)-2-methylpyrrole (9).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.60 (br s, 1H), 6.05 (t, 1H, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 5.87 (br s, 1H), 3.95 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 3.66 (t, 2H, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 2.24 (s, 3H), 1.94 (m, 2H), 1.35 (br s, 1H, OH) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  127.9, 119.5, 106.3, 106.2, 58.8, 42.6, 33.3, 11.4 ppm; ESI-MS *m*/*z* = 162.4 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>.

1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-2,5-dimethylpyrrole (10). Pyrrole 10 was prepared according to a published procedure:<sup>iv</sup> A mixture of ethanolamine (1 mL, 16.6 mmol) and 2,5-hexanedione (1 mL, 8.5 mmol) was heated under an argon atmosphere for 1h. The mixture was then cooled to rt and then 50 mL of  $Et_2O$  was added. This mixture was washed three times with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. After evaporation of

the solvent the crude product was purified by flash column chromatography over silica gel (hexanes/EtOAc =  $3:1 \rightarrow 1:1 \text{ v/v}$ ). Overall yield 80% (0.94 g, 6.8 mmol). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.78 (s, 2H), 3.92 (t, 2H, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 3.77 (t, 2H, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 2.24 (s, 6H), 1.85 (br s, 1H, OH) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  127.7, 105.1, 61.6, 45.2, 12.3 ppm; MS *m*/*z* = 139 (100, *m*/*z* = 108).

#### (C) Analytical and Spectroscopic Data for Compounds 15–27

**7a-Methyl-2,3-dihydropyrrolo**[**2,1-***b*]**oxazol-5**(**7a***H*)**-one** (**15**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.09 (d, 1H, J = 5.5 Hz), 6.02 (d, 1H, J = 5.5 Hz), 4.17 (m, 1H), 3.94 (m, 2H), 3.26 (m, 1H), 1.53 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  177.8, 151.5, 127.9, 100.1, 69.7, 42.8, 22.4 ppm; ESI-MS m/z = 162.3 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>.

1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-5-methylene-1*H*-pyrrol-2(5*H*)-one (16). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.98 (d, 1H, J = 5.0 Hz), 6.19 (d, 1H, J = 5.0 Hz), 5.02 (s, 1H), 4.88 (s, 1H), 3.77 (br s, 4H), 2.95 (br s, 1H, OH) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.6, 145.9, 137.7, 125.0, 97.4, 61.4, 42.3 ppm; MS m/z = 139 (100, m/z = 108).

**5-Hydroxy-1-(2-hydroxyethyl)-5-methyl-1***H***-pyrrol-2(5***H***)-one (17).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 6.96 (d, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz), 6.04 (d, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz), 4.75 (br s, 1H, OH), 3.80 (m, 4H), 3.27 (m, 1H), 1.90 (br s, 1H, OH), 1.51 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.4, 151.1, 125.6, 89.8, 61.9, 41.31, 22.8 ppm; ESI-MS m/z = 180.3 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>.

1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-5-methoxy-5-methyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2(5*H*)-one (18). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.82 (d, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz), 6.22 (d, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz), 3.89 (br s, 1H, OH), 3.79 (m, 2H), 3.52 (m, 1H), 3.36 (m, 1H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 1.51 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.0, 148.8, 128.5, 94.2, 62.5, 51.1, 42.4, 22.7 ppm; ESI-MS m/z = 194.3 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>.

**a-Methyl-3,4-dihydro-2***H***-pyrrolo**[**2,1-***b*][**1,3**]**oxazin-6**(**8***H*)**-one** (**19**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.96 (d, 1H, J = 5.5 Hz), 6.17 (d, 1H, J = 5.5 Hz), 4.24 (dd, 1H,  $J_1 = 5.5$  Hz,  $J_2 = 13.5$  Hz), 4.00 (dt, 1H,  $J_1 = 2.5$  Hz,  $J_2 = 12.0$  Hz), 3.86 (m, 1H), 3.11 (dt, 1H,  $J_1 = 3.5$  Hz,  $J_2 = 13.5$  Hz), 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.59 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.9, 149.4, 127.6, 89.3, 61.2, 35.0, 25.1, 17.8 ppm; ESI-MS m/z = 176.3 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>.

**1-(3-Hydroxypropyl)-5-methylene-1***H***-pyrrol-2(5***H***)-one (20).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.00 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 6.23 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 5.00 (s, 1H), 4.91 (s, 1H), 3.78 (t, 2H, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 3.52 (t, 2H, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 3.10 (br s, 1H, OH), 1.76 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.0, 149.5, 137.5, 124.9, 97.5, 58.5, 35.2, 31.1 ppm; MS *m*/*z* = 153 (100, *m*/*z* = 138).

**5-Hydroxy-1-(3-hydroxypropyl)-5-methyl-1***H***-pyrrol-2(5***H***)-one (21).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.94 (d, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz), 6.07 (d, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz), 3.65 (br s, 4H), 3.43 (br s, 2H), 1.84 (m, 2H, OH), 1.54 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.3, 150.9, 126.1, 90.5, 59.8, 34.9, 31.6, 22.8 ppm; MS m/z = 153 (100, m/z = 138).

**1-(3-Hydroxypropyl)-5-methoxy-5-methyl-1***H*-**pyrrol-2**(5*H*)-**one** (22). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.79 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 6.22 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 3.84 (br s, 1H), 3.65 (br s, 1H), 3.54 (m, 2H), 3.34 (dt, 1H, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 5.5 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 14.5 Hz), 2.98 (s, 3H), 1.74 (m, 2H), 1.51 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.0, 148.8, 128.4, 94.3, 58.9, 50.9, 34.1, 32.0, 23.2 ppm; ESI-MS *m/z* = 208.2 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>.

**1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-2-formyl-5-methylpyrrole (23).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.36 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, 1H, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 6.06 (d, 1H, *J* = 4.0 Hz), 4.43 (t, 2H, *J* = 5.5 Hz), 3.92 (br s, 2H), 2.39 (br s, 1H, OH), 2.32 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  179.0, 141.6, 132.0, 126.1, 110.6, 63.0, 47.4, 12.6 ppm; ESI-MS *m/z* = 176.4 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>.

**1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-2-methoxymethyl-5-methylpyrrole** (24). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.09 (d, 1H, J = 3.5 Hz), 5.86 (d, 1H, J = 3.5 Hz), 4.39 (s, 2H), 4.04 (t, 2H, J = 5.5 Hz), 3.82 (q, 2H, J = 5.5 Hz), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.29 (br s, 1H, OH), 2.24 (s, 3H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  130.7, 127.9, 110.0, 106.3, 66.2, 62.5, 57.0, 46.5, 12.7 ppm; MS m/z = 137 (100, m/z = 137).

**1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-2,5-dimethoxymethylpyrrole (25).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.13 (s, 2H), 4.39 (s, 4H), 4.16 (t, 2H, *J* = 5.0 Hz), 3.85 (br s, 2H), 3.69 (br s, 1H, OH), 3.32 (s, 6H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  130.4, 110.2, 66.1, 63.2, 57.2, 47.1 ppm; MS *m*/*z* = 199 (100, *m*/*z* = 136).

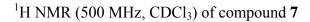
**1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-2-ethoxymethyl-5-methylpyrrole (26).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.08 (br s, 1H), 5.86 (br s, 1H), 4.42 (s, 2H), 4.04 (t, 2H, J = 5.0 Hz), 3.83 (t, 2H, J = 5.0 Hz), 3.54 (q, 3H, J = 7.0 Hz), 2.24 (s, 3H), 1.21 (t, 3H, J = 7.0 Hz) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  130.6, 128.3, 109.7, 106.4, 65.1, 64.3, 62.6, 46.6, 15.0, 12.8 ppm; MS m/z = 137 (100, m/z = 137).

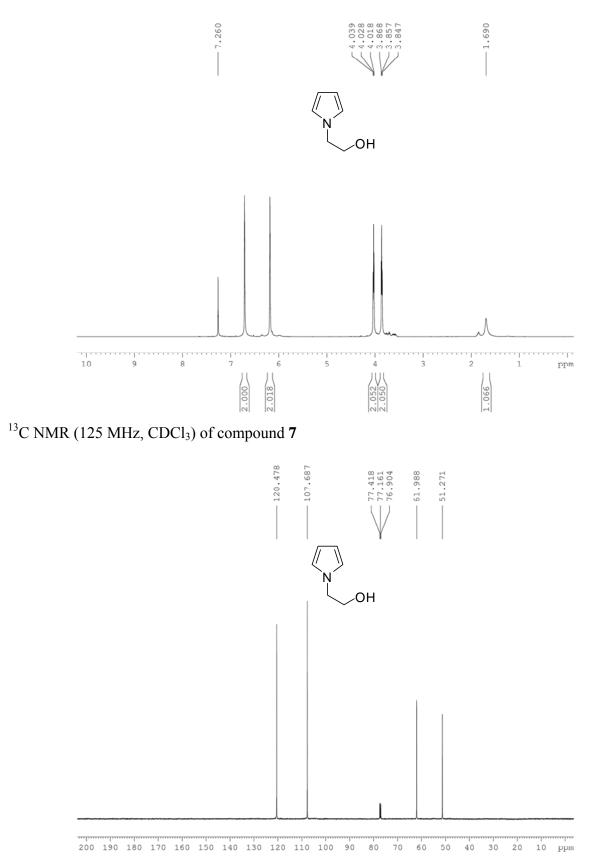
**1-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-2,5-diethoxymethylpyrrole (27).** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.11 (s, 2H), 4.43 (s, 4H), 4.18 (t, 2H, J = 4.5 Hz), 3.93 (t, 1H, OH, J = 5.5 Hz), 3.88 (t, 2H, J = 4.5 Hz), 3.52 (q, 4H, J = 7.0 Hz), 1.20 (t, 6H, J = 7.0 Hz) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  130.5, 109.8, 65.1, 64.2, 63.1, 47.1, 15.0 ppm; ESI-MS m/z = 250.5 [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>.

## References

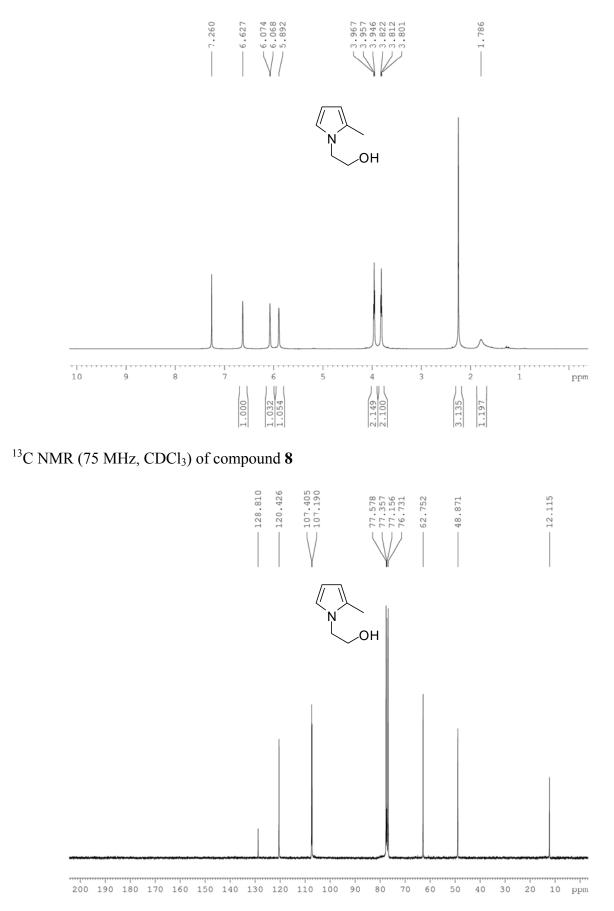
- (i) Reference 16.
- (ii) Reference 28a.
- (iii) References 28b and 28c.
- (iv) Reference 31.

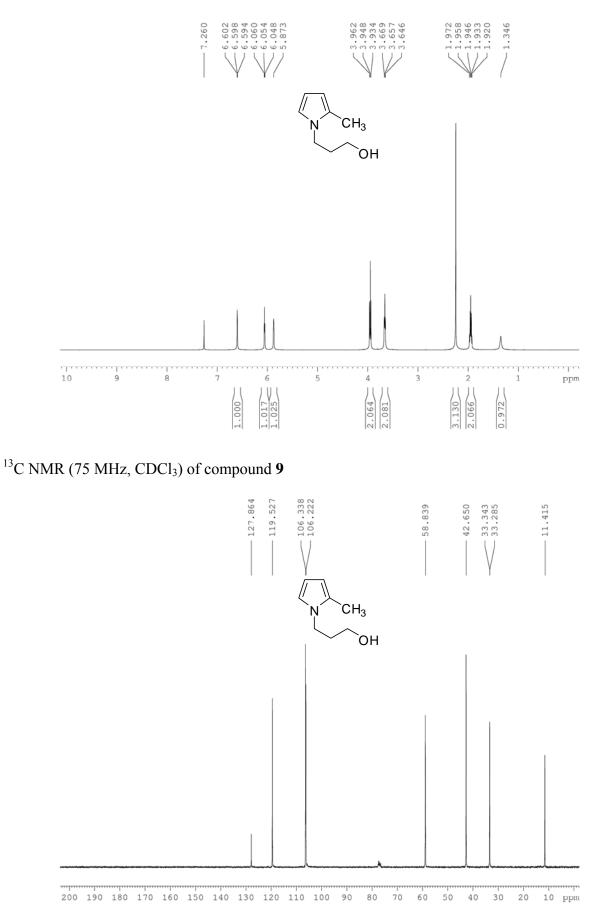
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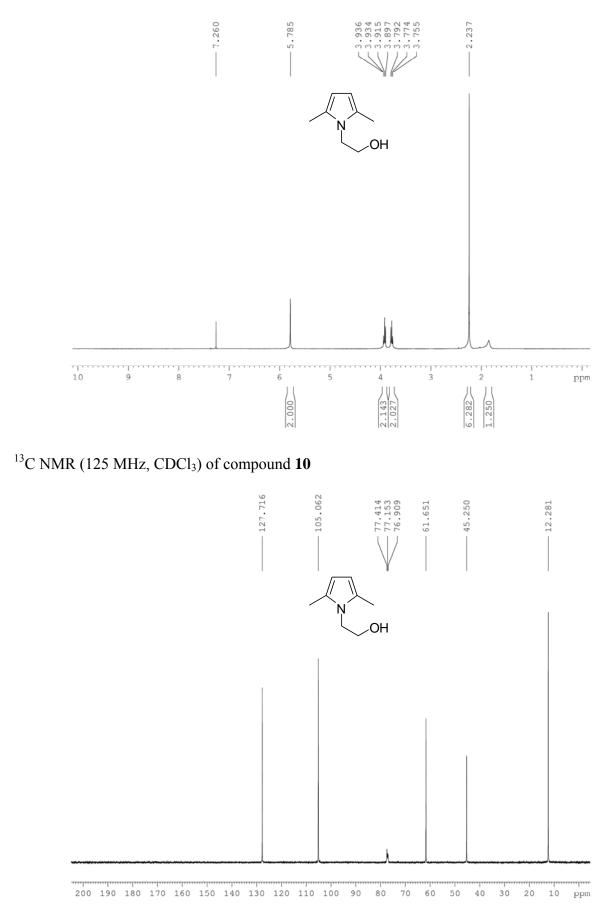


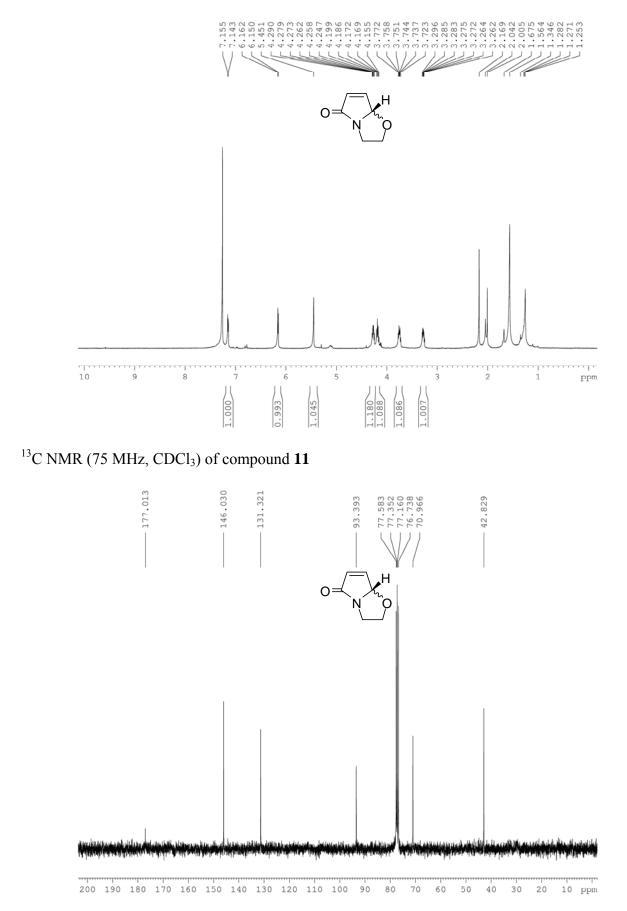


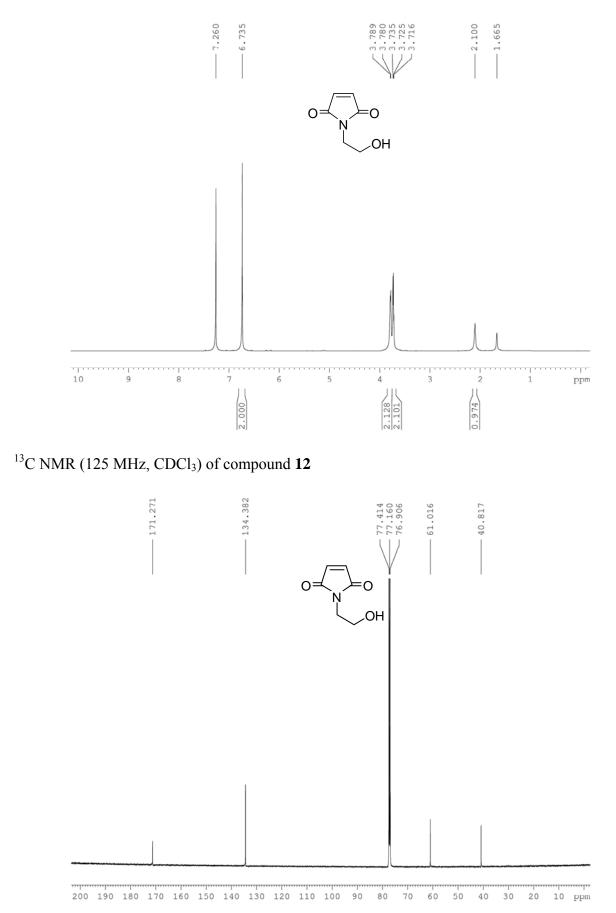
## $^1\text{H}$ NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **8**

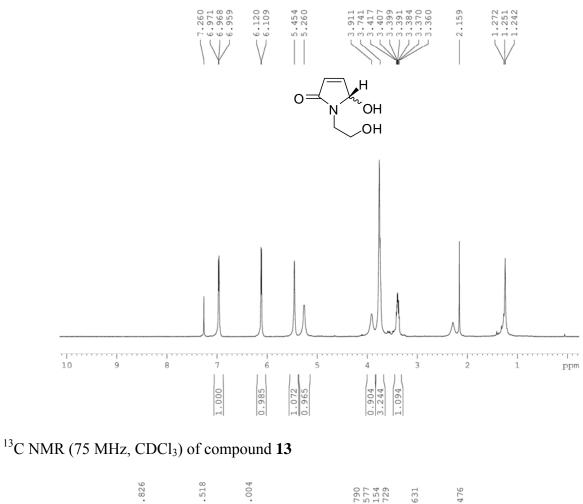


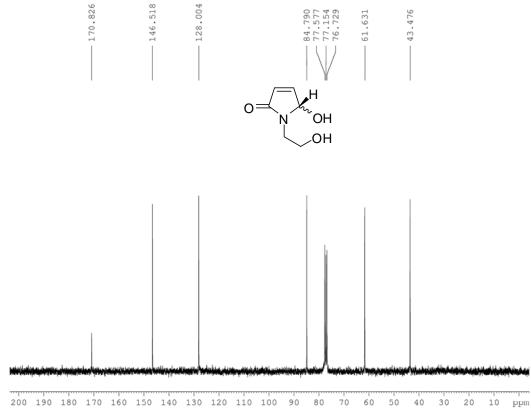


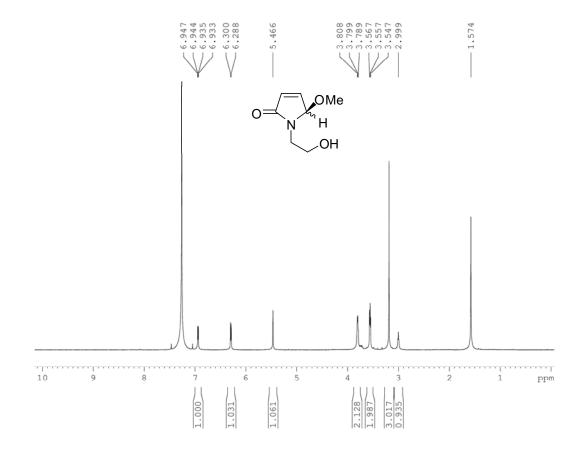




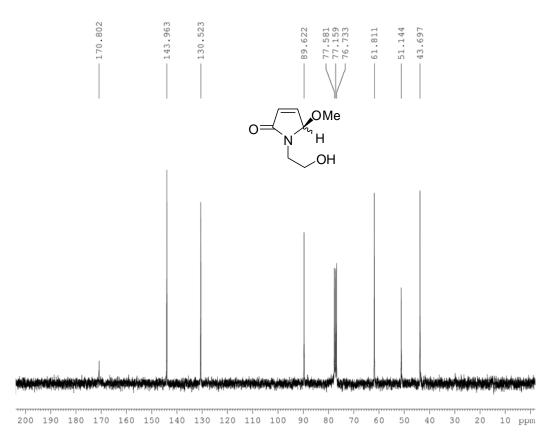


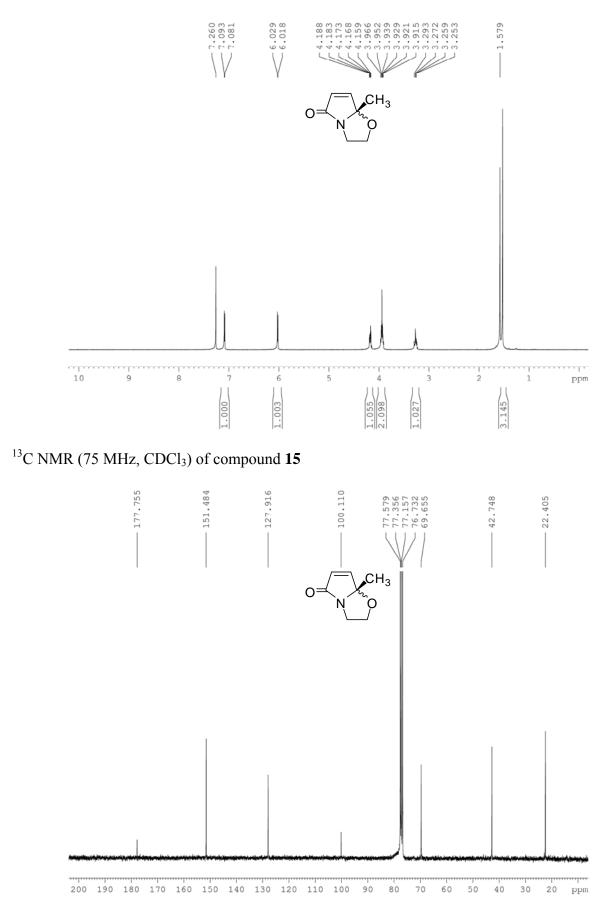


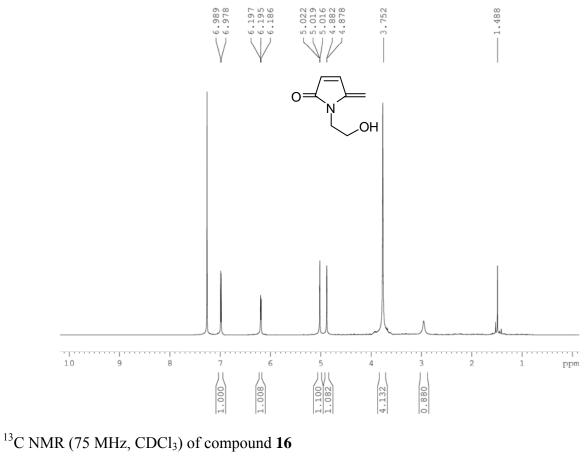


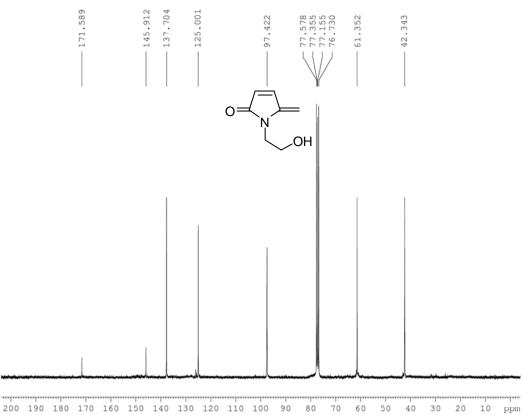


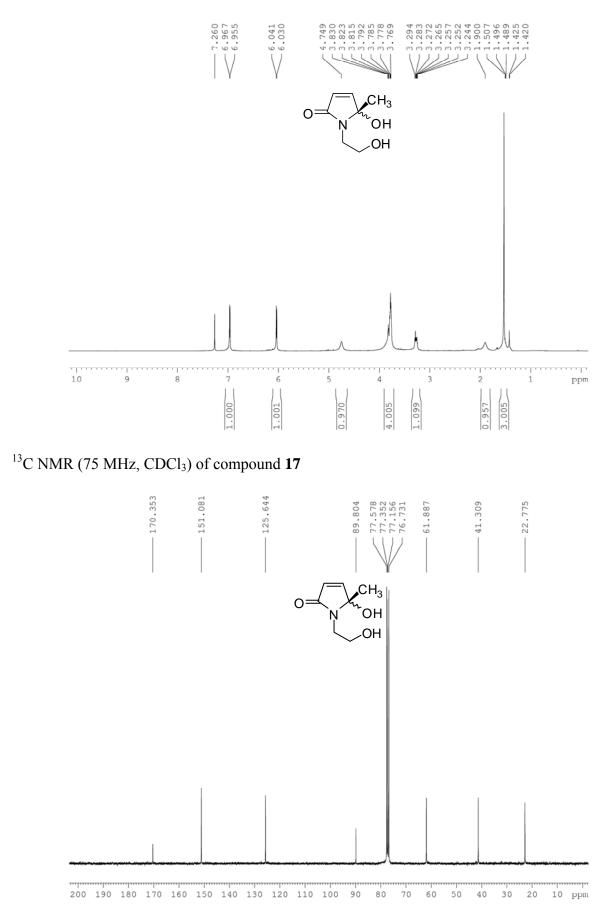
# <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **14**

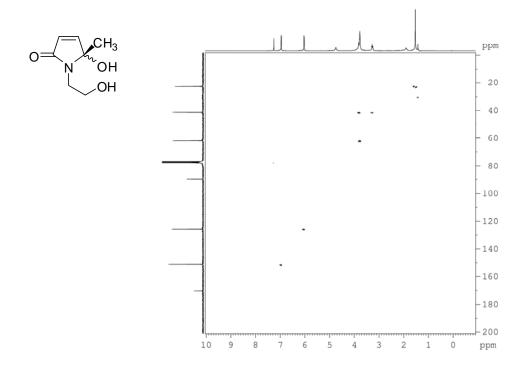




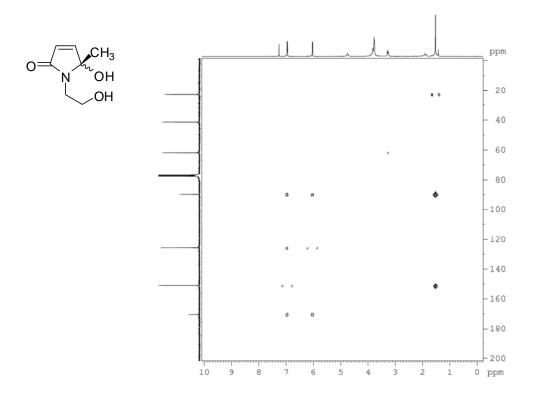


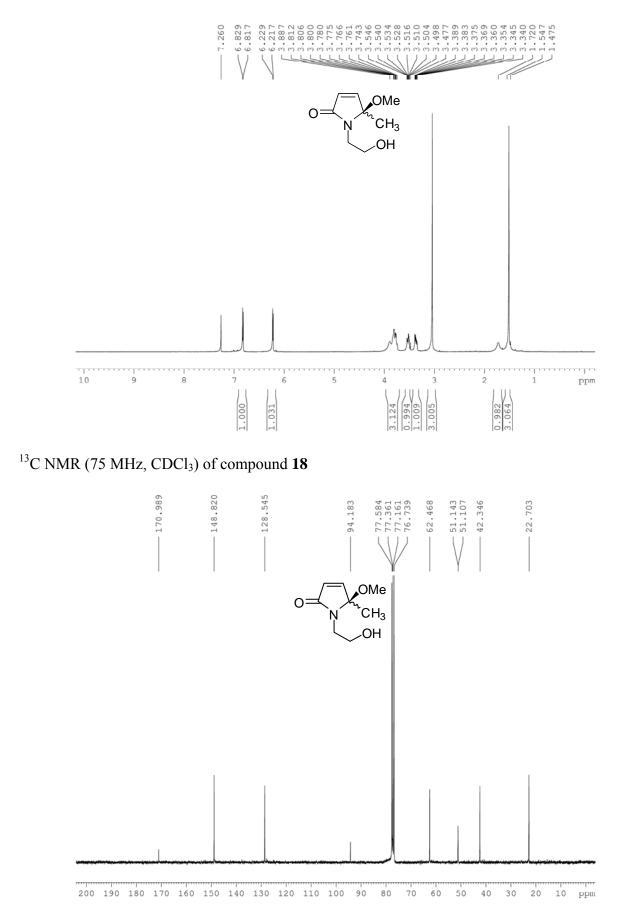


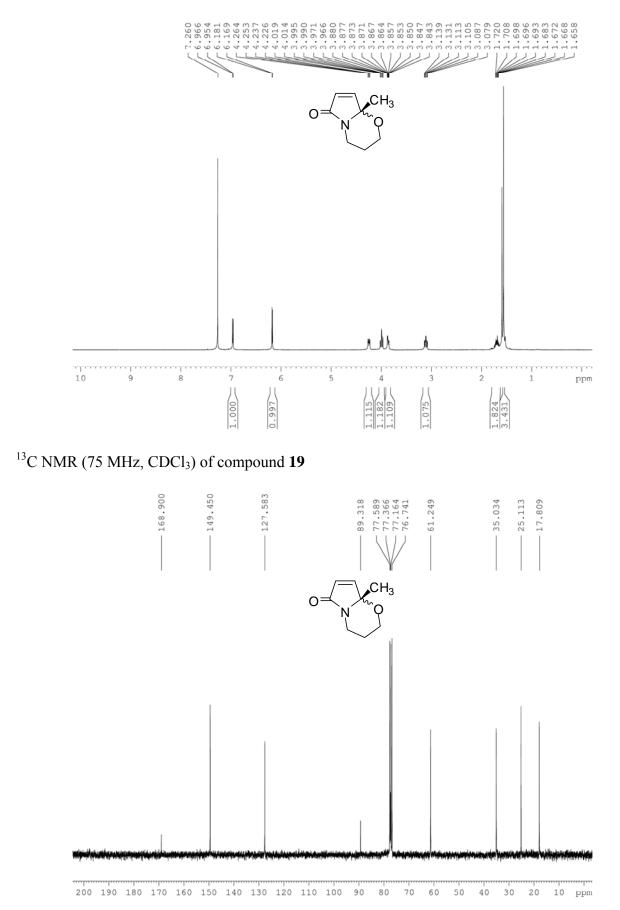


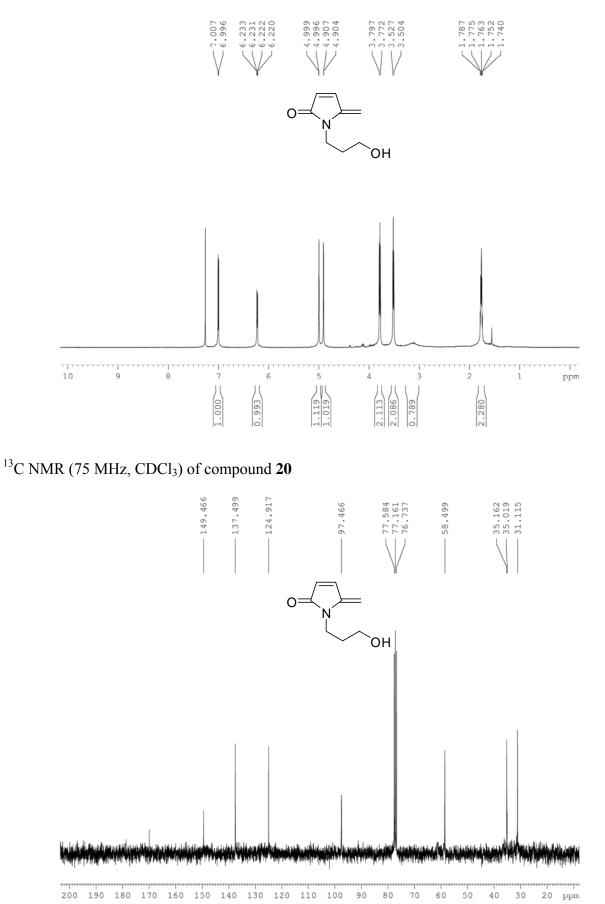


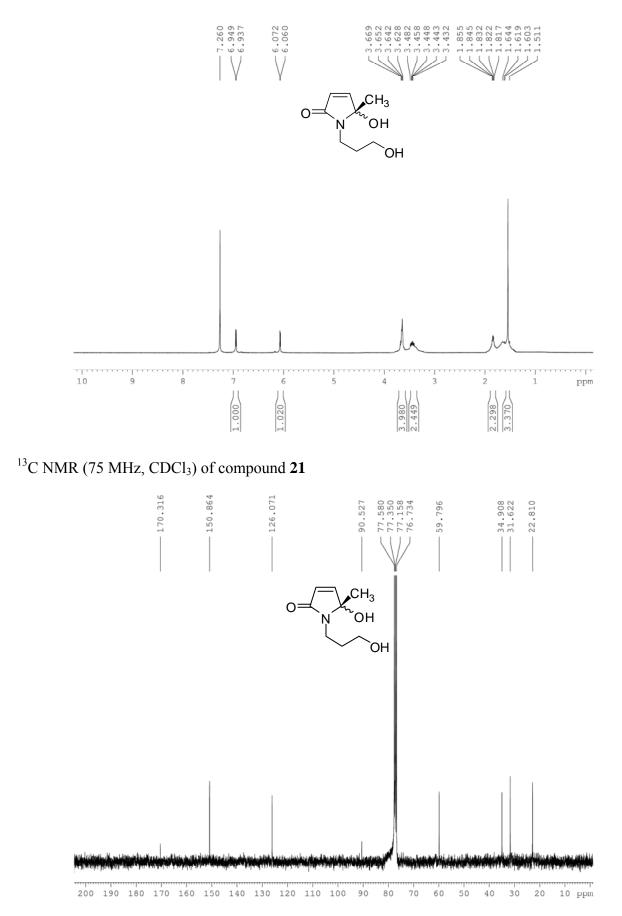
HMBC (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 17

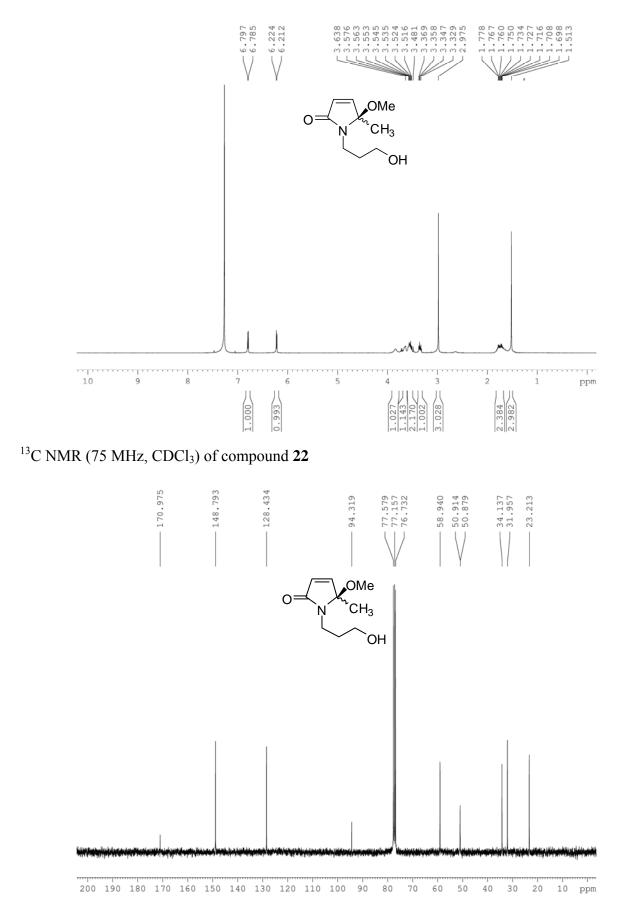




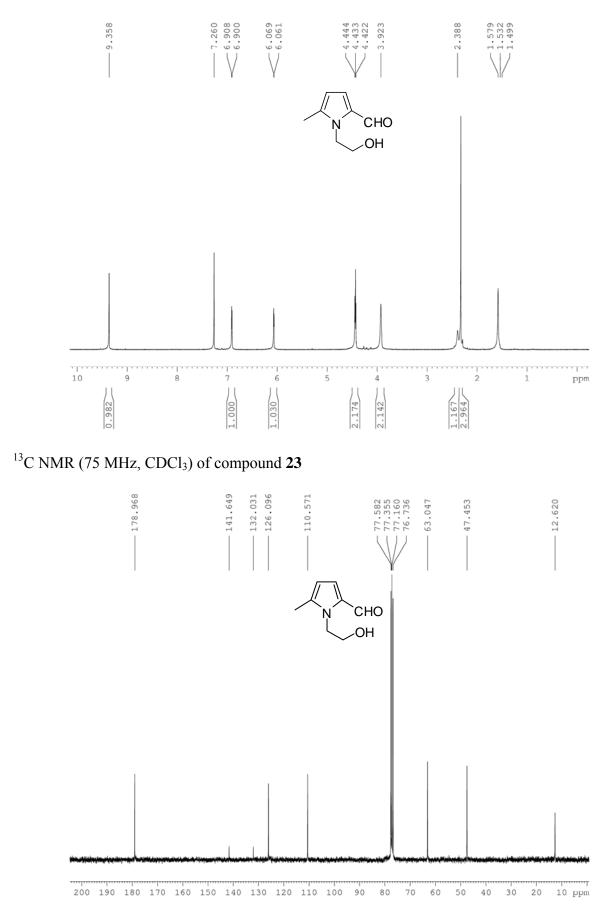


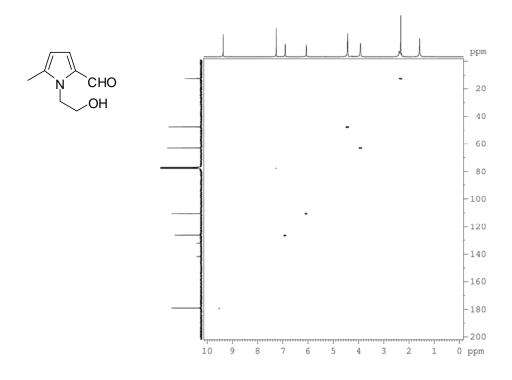




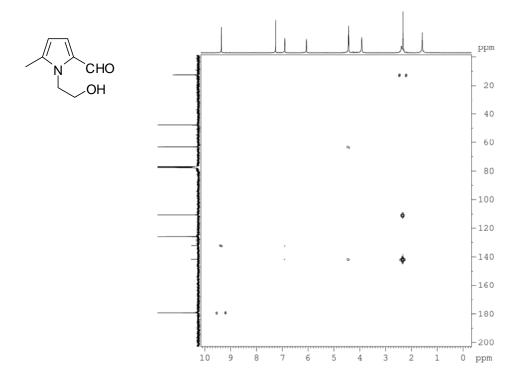


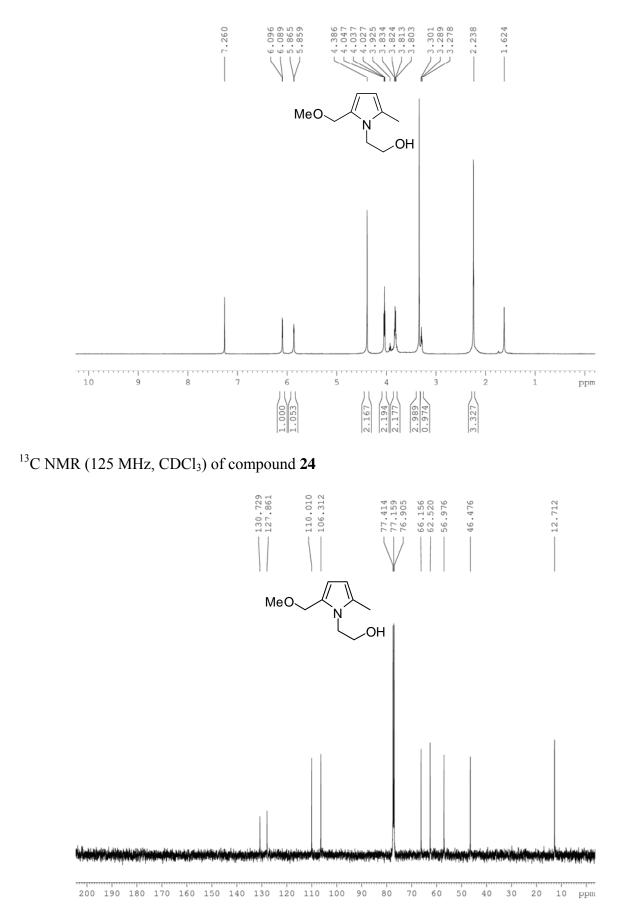
## <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **23**

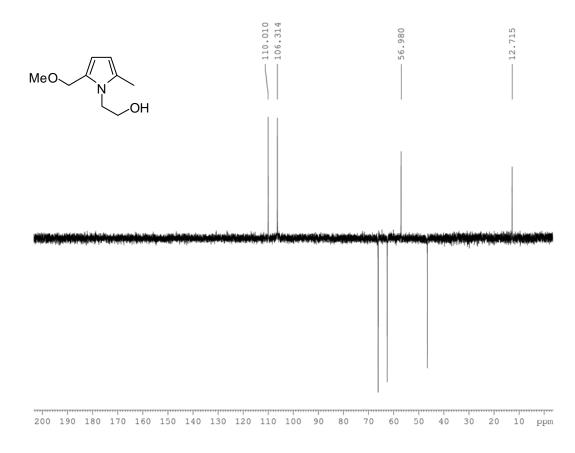




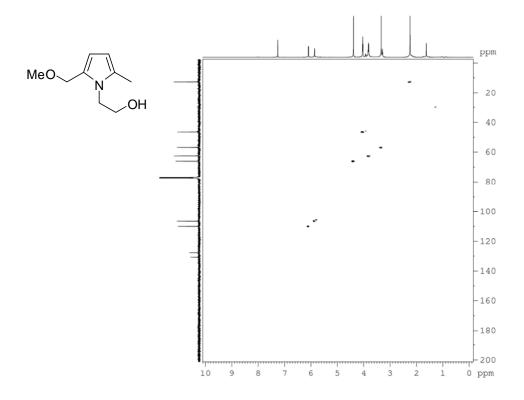
HMBC (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 23

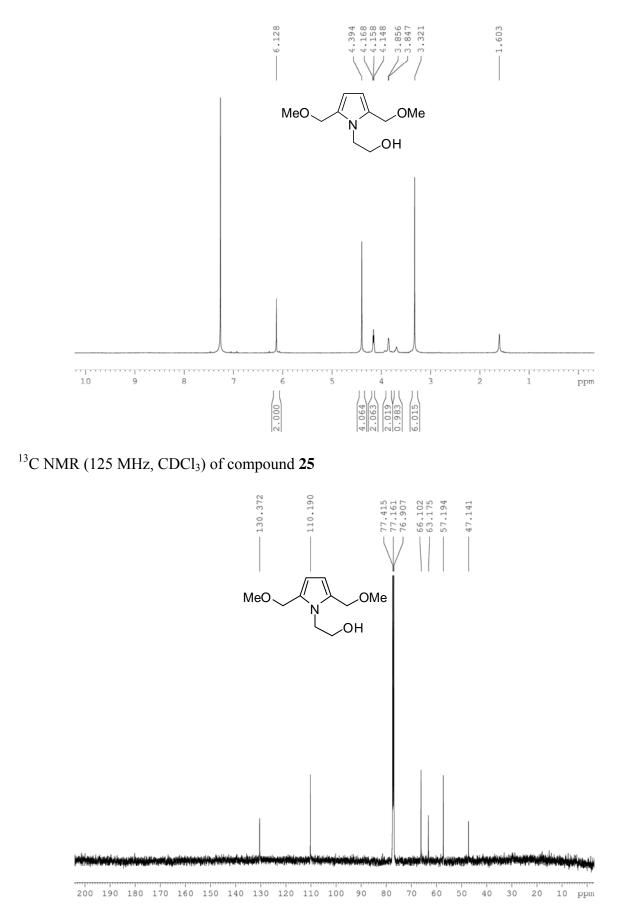


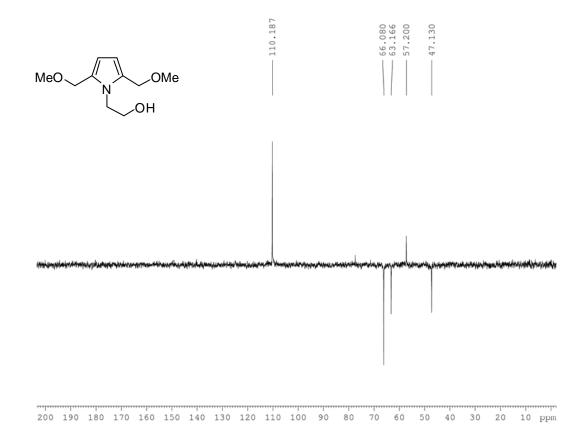




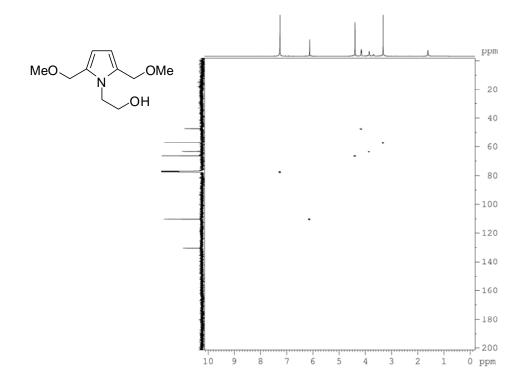
HMQC (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 24

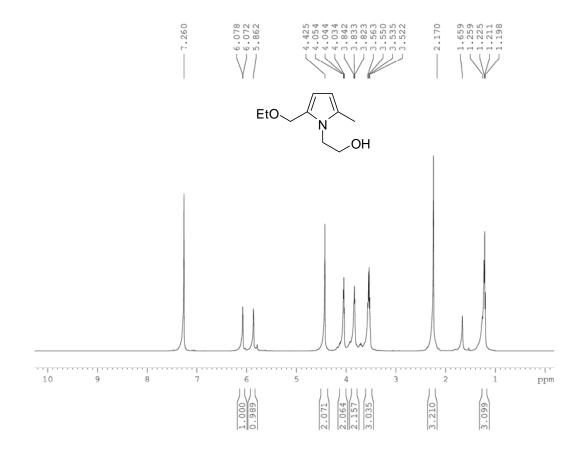






HMQC (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 25





<sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound **26** 

