

Stereocontrolled New efficient asymmetric synthesis of taranabant, a CB1R inverse agonist for the treatment of obesity

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General

All reagents were used directly from a commercial source without any further purification. Solvents were found to contain 50 ppm water or less via Kf titration.

All reactions were performed under a nitrogen atmosphere using glassware stored at ambient temperature and humidity. Flash column chromatography was performed with Silica gel 60 (0.04-0.063 mm particle size). Thin layer chromatography was performed with Silica Gel 60 F₂₅₄ precoated plates (2.5x7.5 cm, 250 um thickness).

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded using an internal deuterium lock. Chemical shifts are quoted in parts per million (ppm) and referenced to the solvent signal (CHCl₃ and CDCl₃ for ¹H and ¹³C, respectively. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded with composite pulse (Waltz16) proton decoupling. Chemical ionization and high resolution mass spectra were acquired using electrospray ionization in the positive ion mode. Optical rotations were recorded at 20 °C using a cell length of 1.0 dm. [α]_D was calculated according to the following equation:

$$[\alpha]_D = \alpha_{\text{observed}} / (d * c)$$

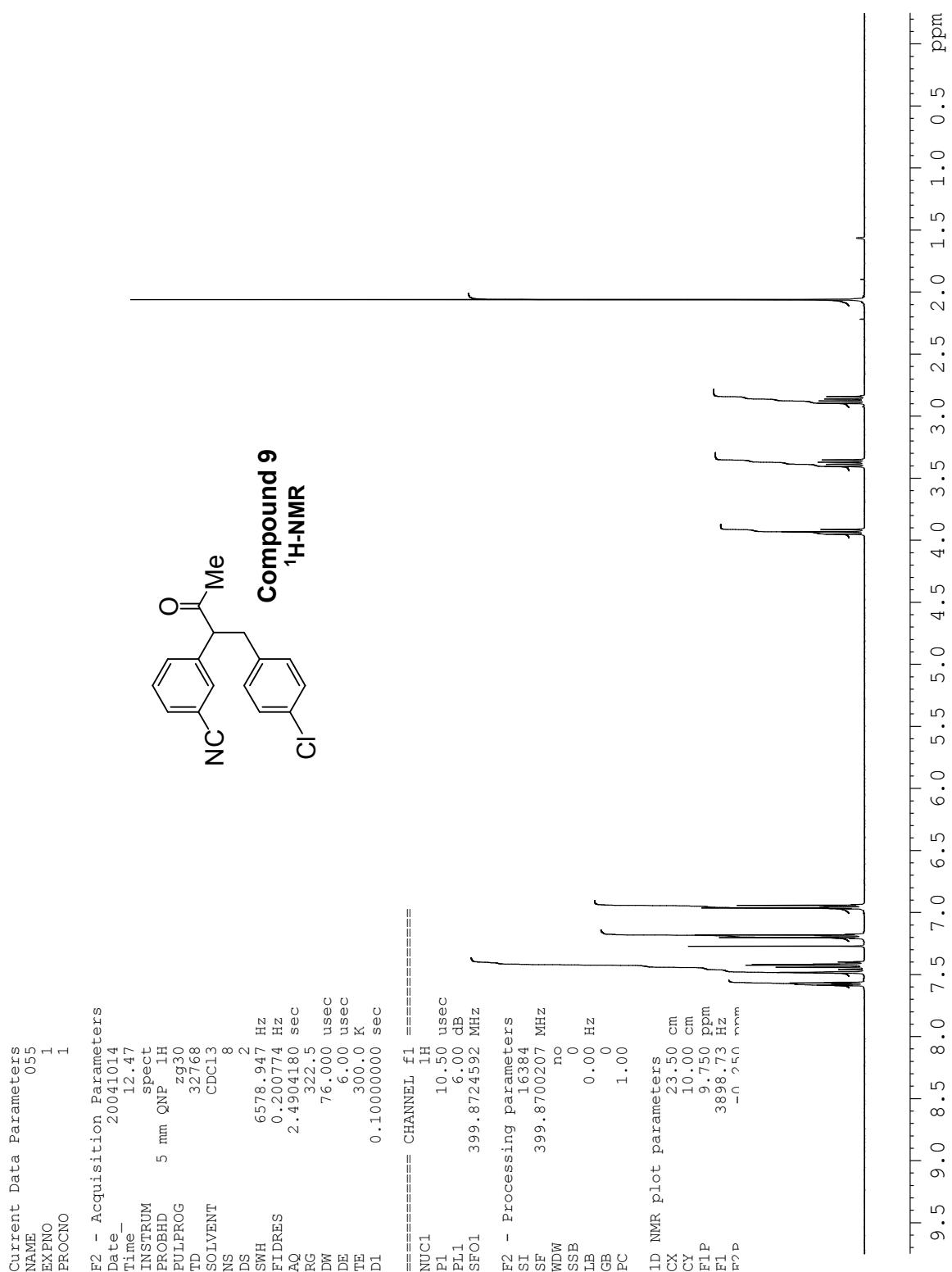
where *d* refers to the cell length in decimeters and *c* refers to the concentration in g/mL. Chiral stationary phase HPLC signals were recorded at both 210 nm and 250 nm.

Direct synthesis of **1** via asymmetric hydrogenation of cyanoenamide **6**

In a N₂-filled glove box, ligand **16** (364 mg, 0.61 mmol) and COD₂Rh BF₄ (23.8 mg, 0.59 mmol) were added to a 50 mL vial containing a stir bar, followed by 1,2-dichloroethane (10 mL). The resulting solution was aged at RT with stirring for 1 hour, and transferred to rinse chamber stainless steel bomb. An extra 15 mL of 1,2-

dichloroethane was used to rinse the vial and this was also charged to the rinse chamber of the bomb.

In a N₂-filled glove box, a solution of enamide **6** (12.0 g, 23.4 mmol) in 100 ml of 1,2-dichloroethane was charged to the main chamber of the stainless steel bomb followed by a rinse of 25 mL of 1,2-dichloroethane. The stainless steel bomb was removed from the glove box and connected to a stainless steel autoclave. The autoclave was degassed with N₂ five times and then placed under partial vacuum. The substrate solution was drawn into the autoclave followed by the catalyst solution. The autoclave was sealed and degassed with N₂ purges three times. The autoclave was then degassed with H₂ purges three times, and pressurized up to 500 psi. The stirrer was initiated, and the temperature was raised to 80 °C. The reaction was aged at 500 psi, 80 °C for 7 hours. The reaction was cooled to room temperature, and the resulting solution was assayed for ee and purity (11.5 g assay of **1**, 95% yield, 95.0 LCAP, 84.0% ee). Separation of enantiomers by HPLC (Chiralcel OD-H, 93% hexane, 7% EtOH, 0.7 mL/min, Tr=10.5, 12.8 min). Treatment of an MTBE solution (10 mL/g) of this crude hydrogenation product with Ecosorb C-941, followed by crystallization via addition of heptane, afforded **1** as an MTBE hemisolvate (12.2 g isolated, 88% yield from **6**). Subsequent ee upgrade and isolation of the anhydrous form of **1** was performed as described in reference 4.



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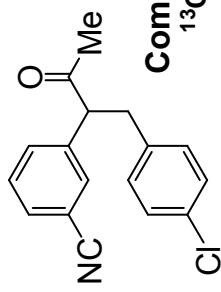
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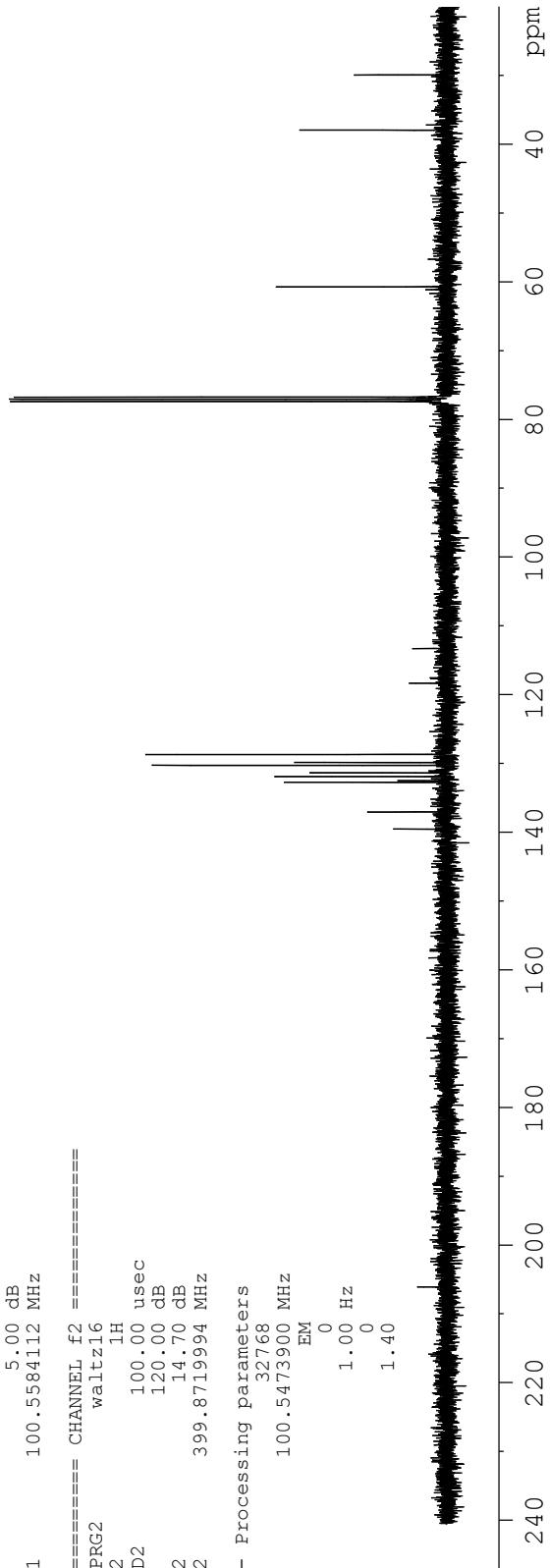
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29.92



Compound 9
¹³C-NMR



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PROCNO 1

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PULPROG zg30

TD 32768

SOLVENT CDCl3

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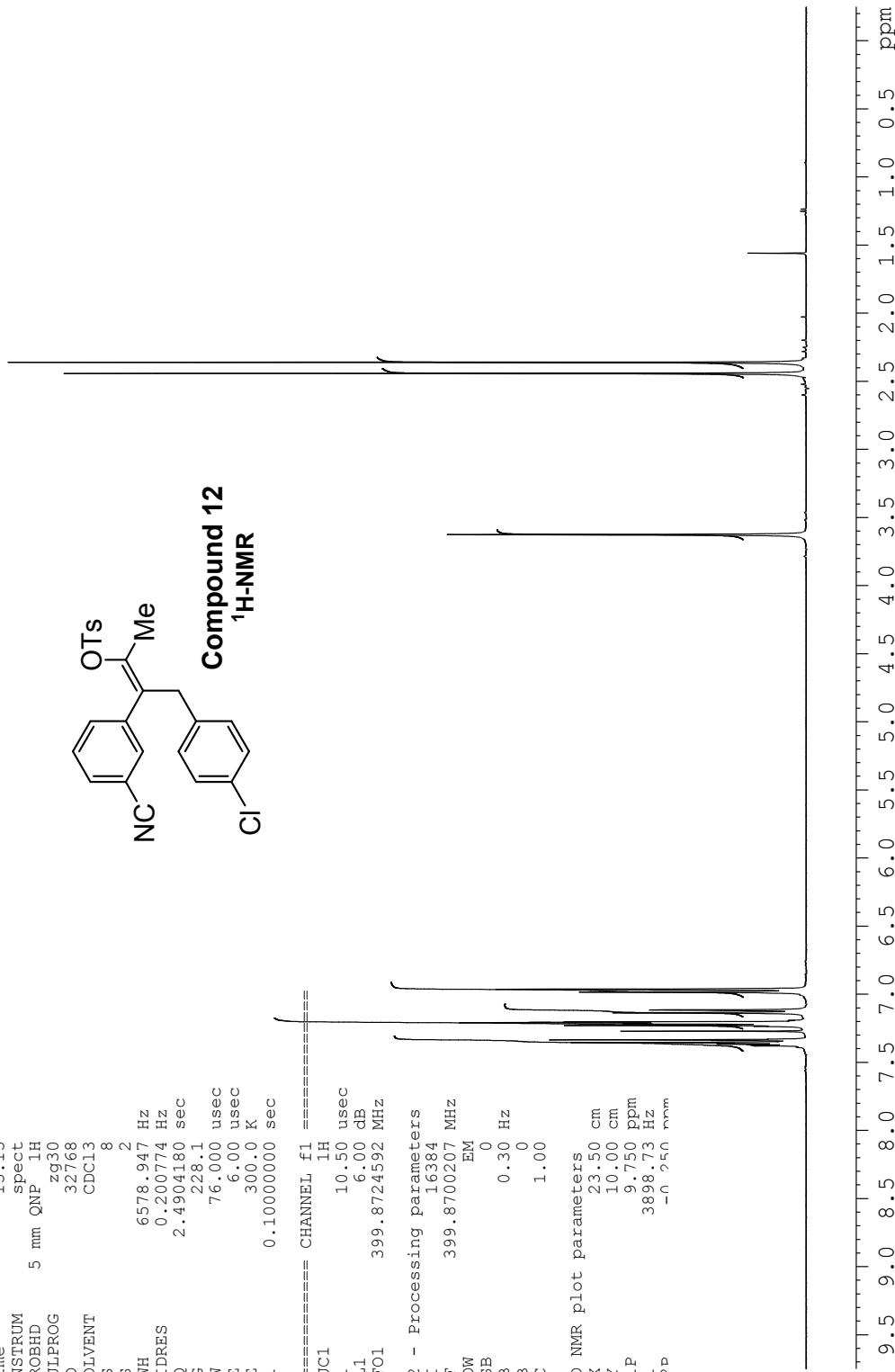
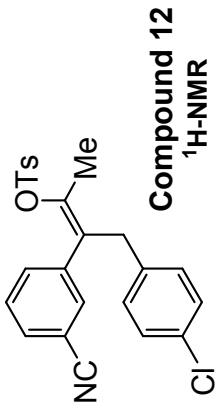
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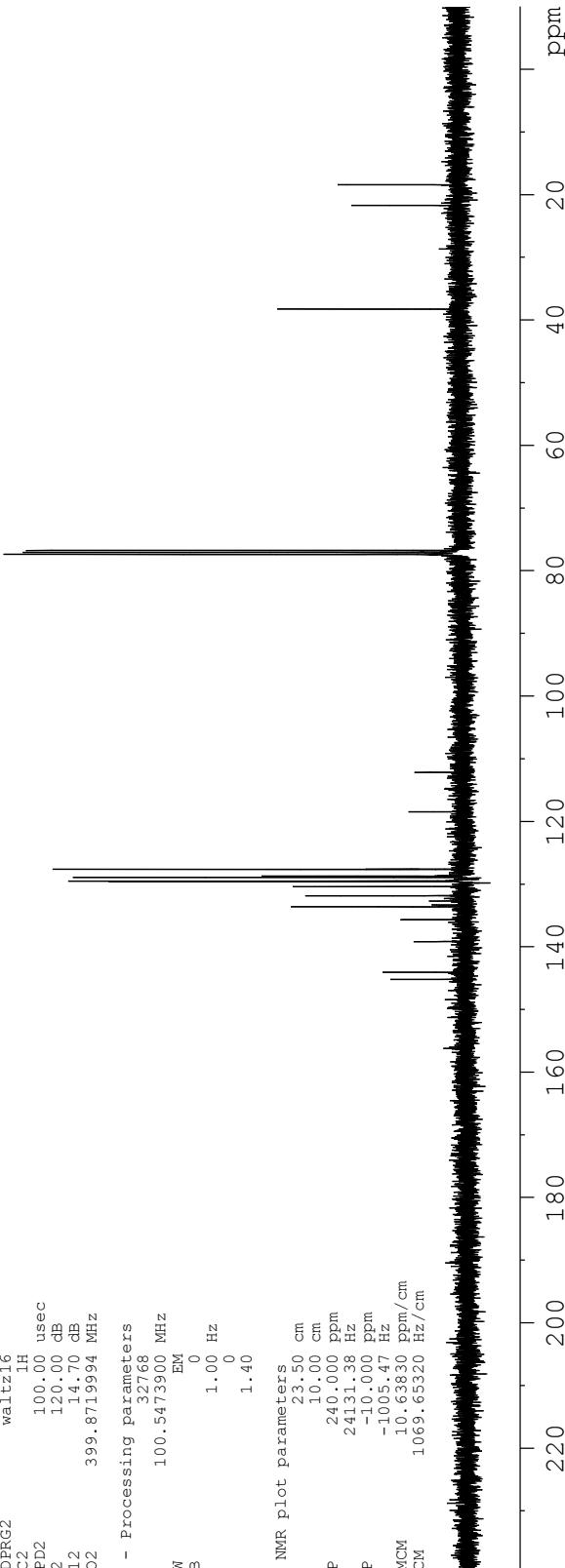
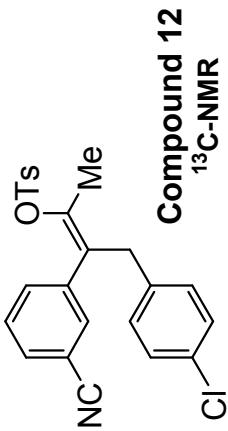
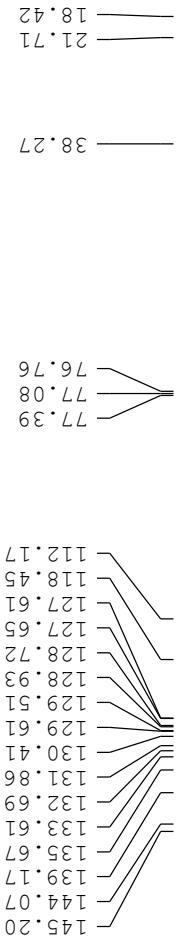
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F2 - Processing parameters

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PC	1.40

1D NMR plot parameters

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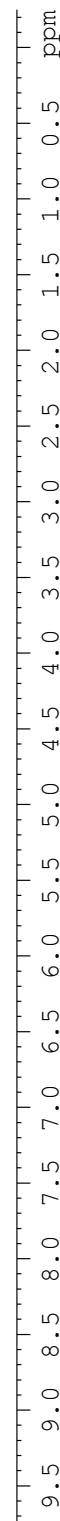
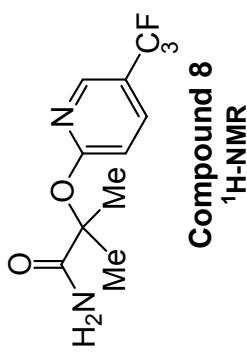
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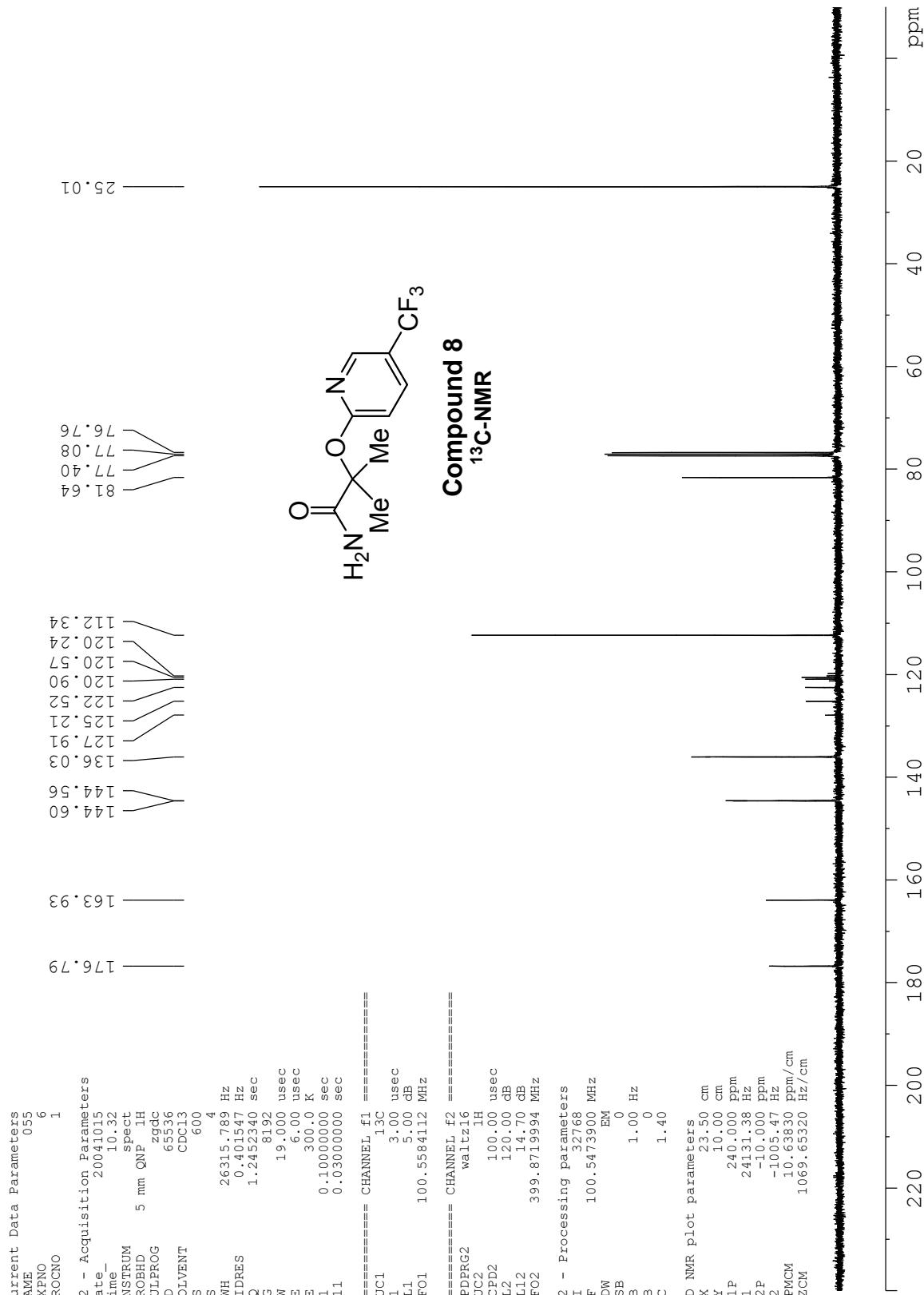
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1D NMR plot parameters

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F1 3898.73 Hz
 $\pi/2\gamma_0$ 100 sec





Current Data Parameters
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EXPT 7
PROCNO 1

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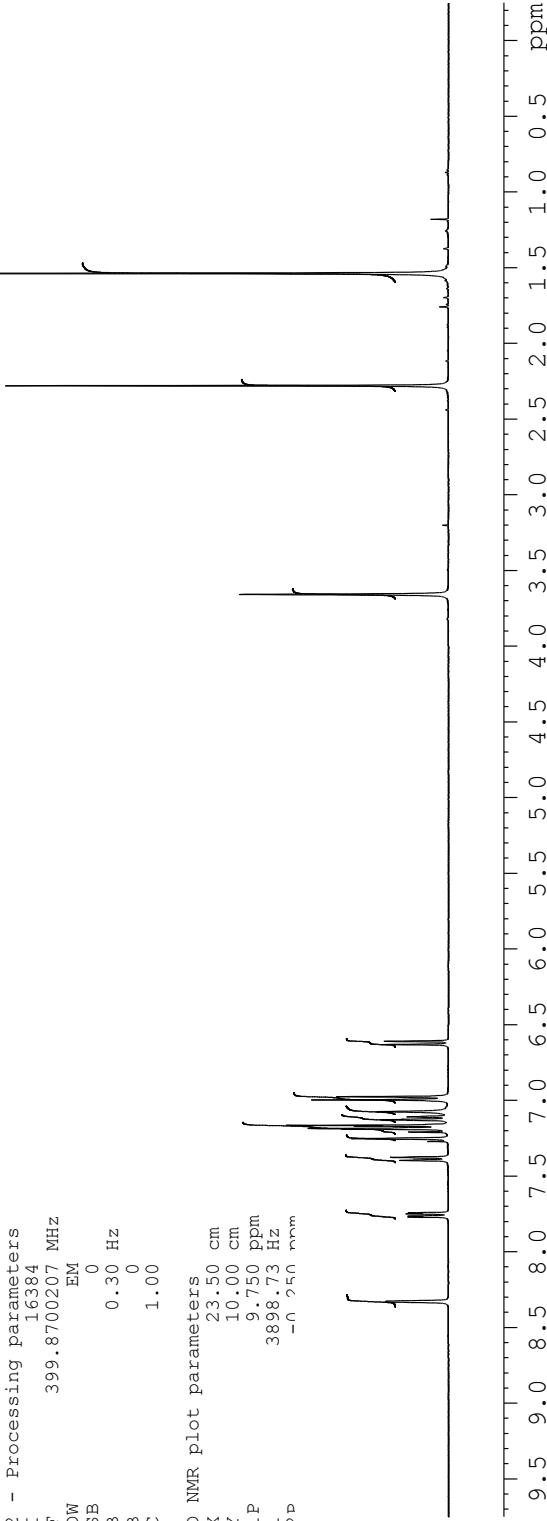
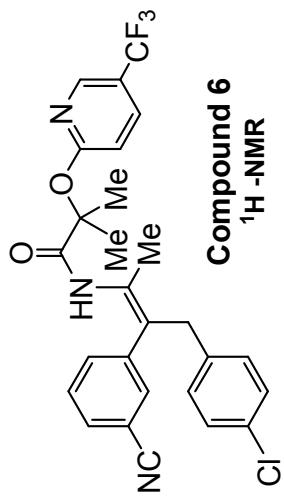
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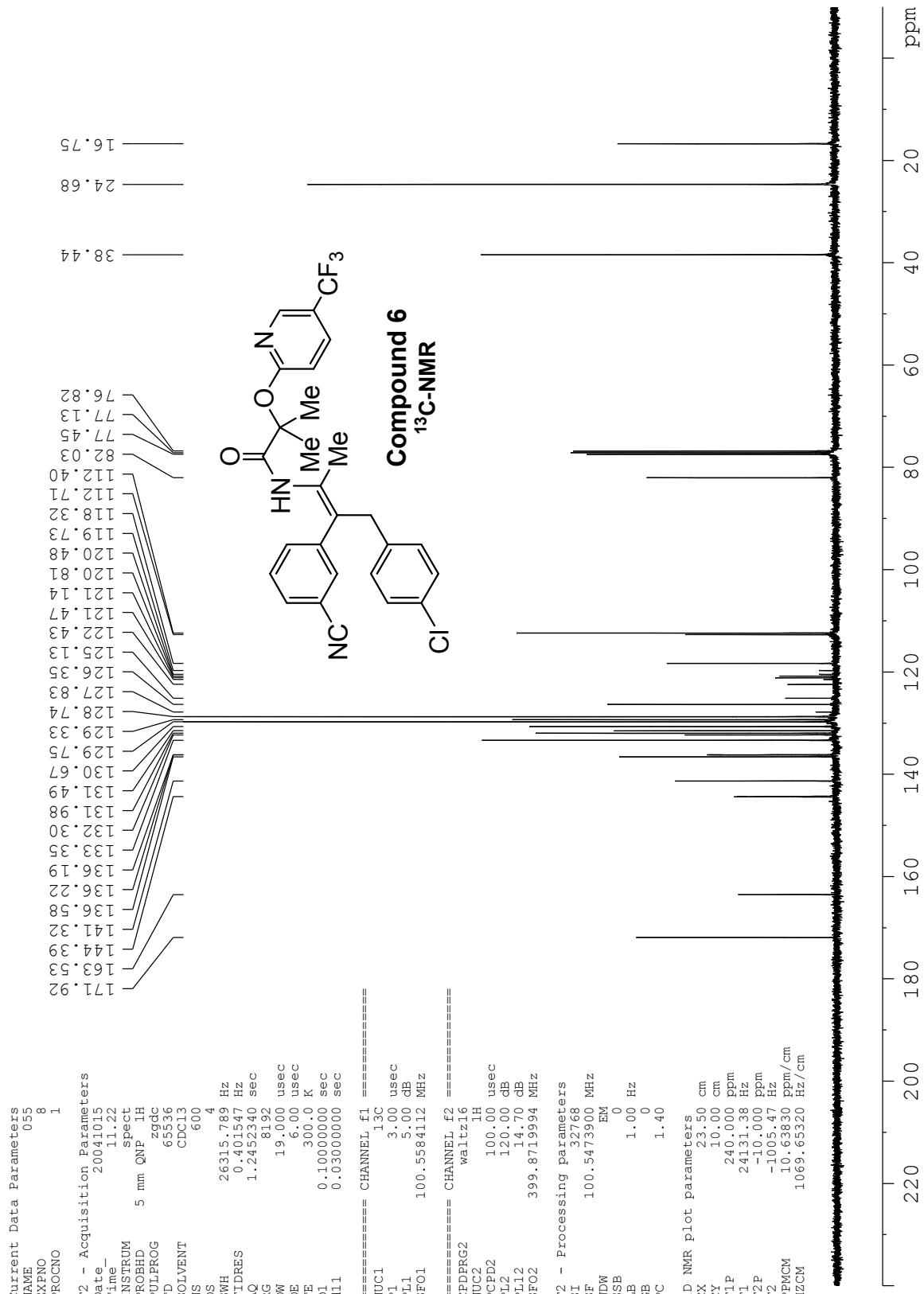
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F2 - Processing parameters

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LB 0.30 Hz
GB 0
PC 1.00

1D NMR plot parameters
CX 23.50 cm
CY 10.00 cm
F1P 9.750 ppm
 δ_{H} 3898.73 Hz
 ppm





Current Data Parameters
NAME 055
EXPT 9
PROCNO 1

F2 - Acquisition Parameters

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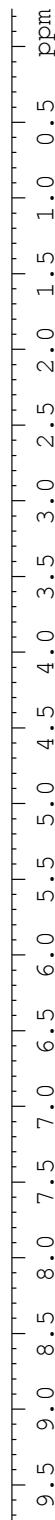
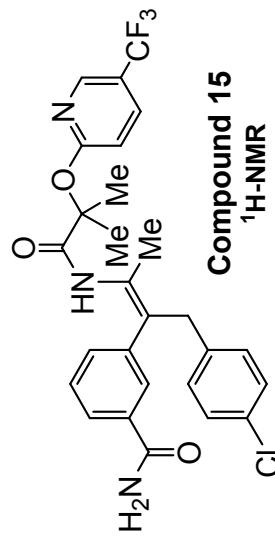
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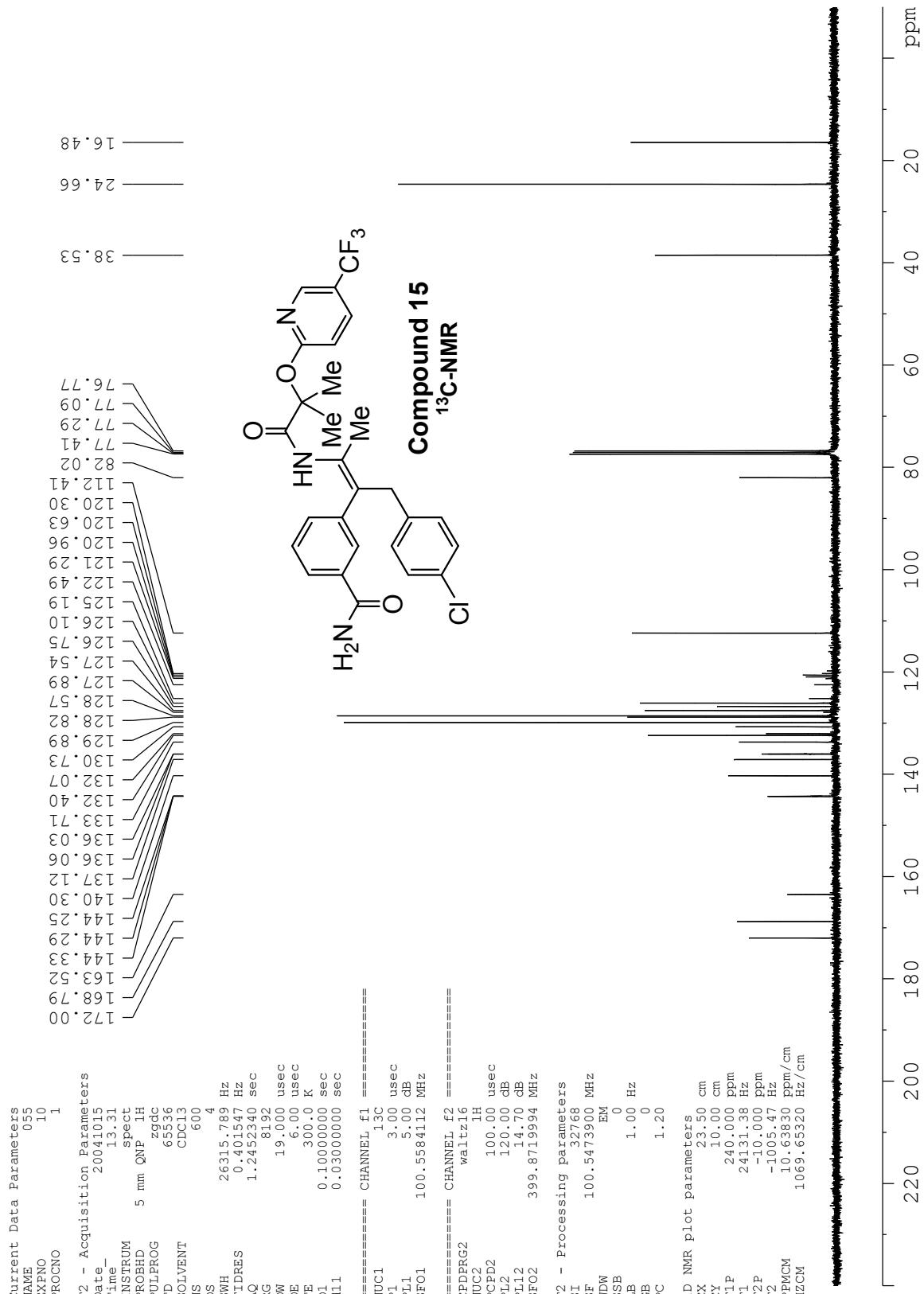
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1D NMR plot parameters
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Current Data Parameters
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EXPT 1
PROCNO 1

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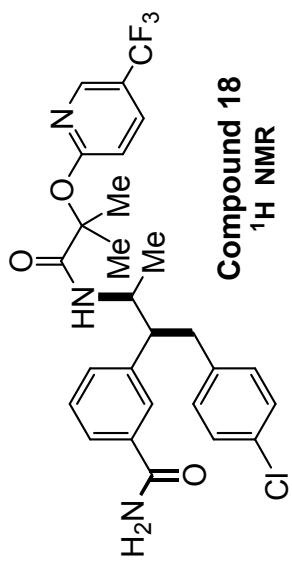
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===== CHANNEL f1 =====

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PL1 6.00 dB
SFO1 399.8724592 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters

SI 16384
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Compound 18
¹H NMR



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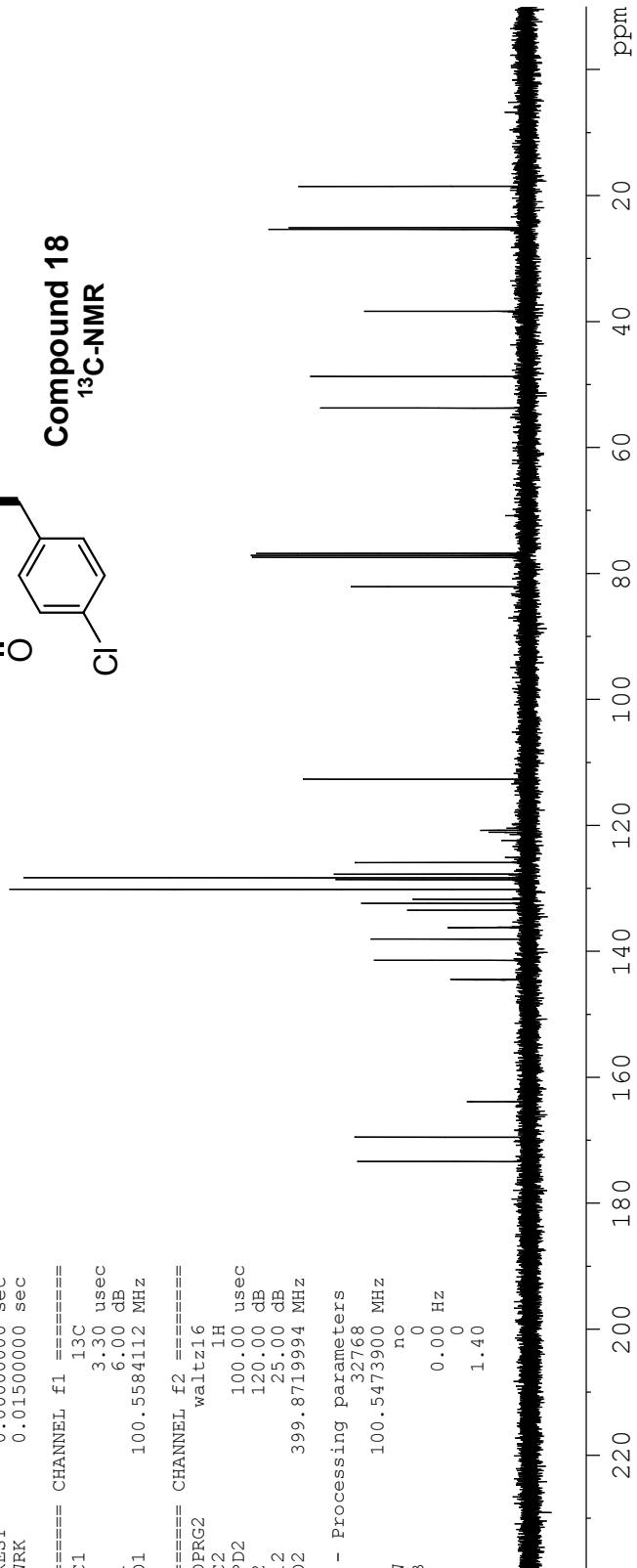
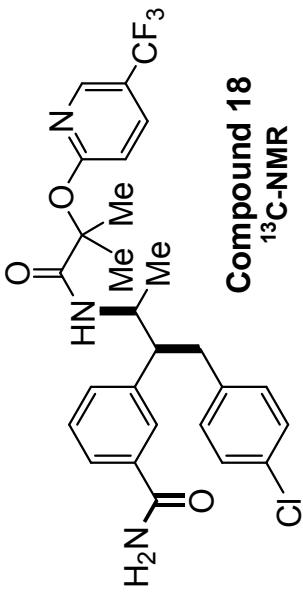
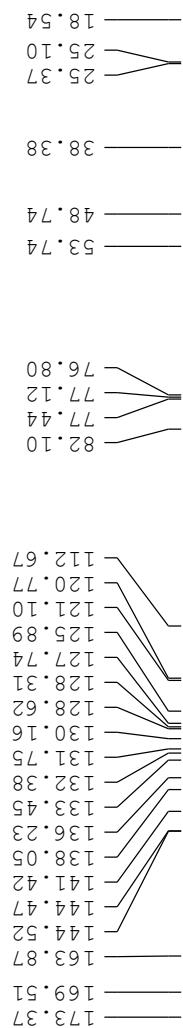
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Current Data Parameters
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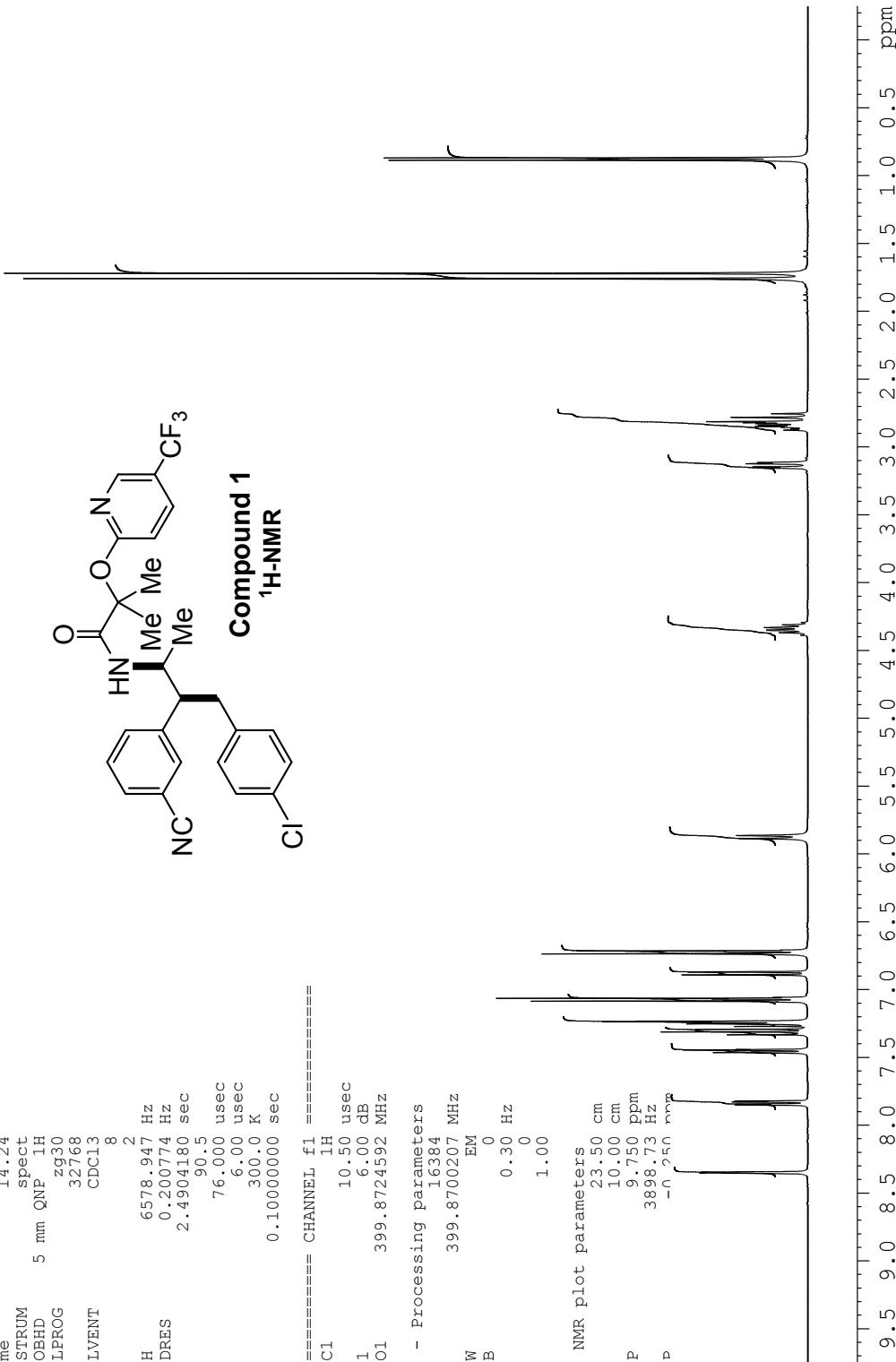
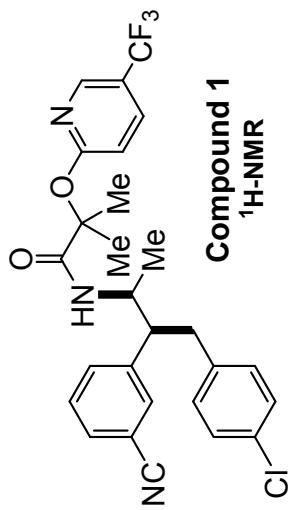
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F2 - Processing parameters

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1D NMR plot parameters
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Current Data Parameters
NAME 055
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PROCNO 1

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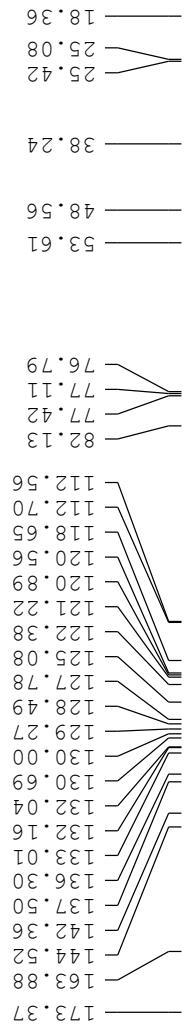
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FIDRES 0.401547 Hz
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RG 5792.6
DW 19.00 usec
DE 6.00 usec
TE 300.0 K
D1 0.1000000 sec
d1 0.0300000 sec
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PL1 5.00 dB
SF01 100.5584112 MHz
===== CHANNEL f2 =====
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PL2 120.00 dB
PL12 14.70 dB
SF02 399.8719994 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters

SI 32768
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1D NMR plot parameters

CX 23.50 cm
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Compound 1
¹³C-NMR

