

Biocatalytic Radical C(sp³)-N Coupling via Active Site Templating

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1. General information

Unless otherwise noted, all chemicals and reagents for chemical reactions were obtained from commercial suppliers and used as received (Sigma-Aldrich, Oakwood Chemical, Combi-Blocks, TCI, and VWR). Silica gel chromatography purifications were carried out using AMD Silica Gel 60. NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker UltraShield Plus (500 and 126 MHz, respectively) instrument, and are internally referenced to residual proton signals in CDCl₃ (7.26 ppm), CD₃CN (1.94 ppm) or CD₃OD (3.31 ppm). ¹H NMR data are reported as follows: multiplicity (s = singlet, brs = broad singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, dd = doublet of doublet, dt = doublet of triplet, ddd = doublet of doublet of doublet), coupling constant (Hz), and integration. Data for ¹³C NMR are reported in terms of chemical shift relative to CDCl₃ (77.16 ppm), CD₃CN (1.32 ppm and 118.26 ppm) or CD₃OD (49.00 ppm). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on an Agilent 6220 LC/MS with an electrospray ionization time-of-flight (ESI-TOF) detector.

LED Lamps: For Cyan light: Lumidox Gen 2 Cyan LED (30 mA LED Output, 505 nm) (Array Analytical Sales and Services Inc.), Cyan LED chips (490 nm) were used.

Sonifications were performed with Sonicator QSonica Q500 Ultra Sonicator. Spin-gravity concentration was performed with Amicon Ultra 15 mL concentrators (30 kDa MW cutoff).

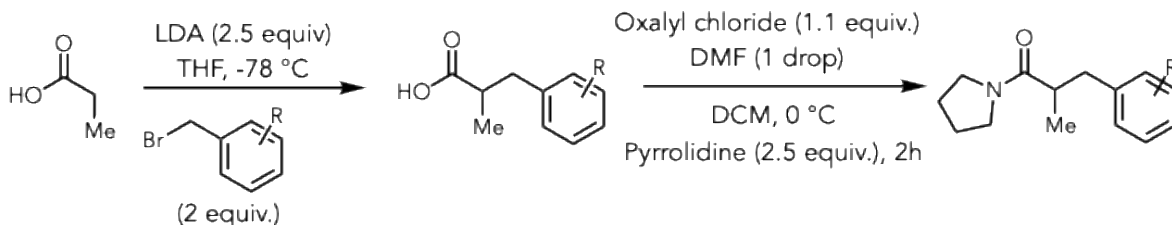
Chromatography. Analytical high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) and Electron Spray Ionization (ESI) mass spectrometry were carried out using an Agilent 1260 Infinity LCMS System. Yields and conversions were determined on a Poroshell C18 column (4.6 x 50 mm, 2.7 μm) against an internal standard 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (TBB) at 210 nm. Chiral HPLC was conducted using an Agilent 1260 Infinity Chiral HPLC system with isopropanol and hexane as the mobile phases. Chiral OJ-H, OD- H, IA-H, IB-H, IC-H, and AS-H columns were used to separate enantiomers (4.6 x 250 mm, 5 μm).

Cloning. pET22b (+) was used as a cloning and expression vector for all enzymes described in this study. Genes for all 'ene'-reductases were purchased as gBlocks from IDT and cloned using the Gibson cloning method.¹ All C-terminal 6xHis-tagged constructs were cloned directly between the NdeI and XhoI restriction sites. N-terminal 6xHis-tagged constructs were created by the introduction of an N-terminal 6xHis sequence directly after the NdeI site and replacement of the C-terminal 6xHis tag with an XhoI cut site. Cloned plasmids were transformed into *E. coli*. DH5-α cells for storage, and *E. coli*. BL21 (DE3) electrocompetent cells for expression.

2. Synthesis of substrates

2.1 Tertiary alkyl bromides (starting materials)

This synthesis was adapted from Biegasiewicz et. al²



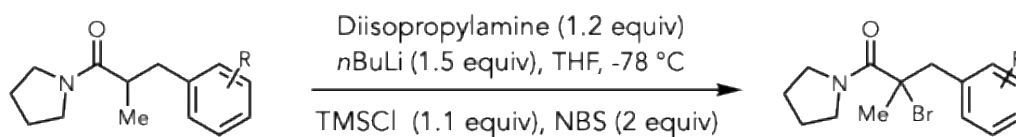
2.1.1 General Procedure A: alkylation of propanoic acid

Propanoic acid (1.0 equiv) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of lithium diisopropylamide (LDA, 2.5 equiv, 2.5 M in THF) at $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. After stirring for 30 minutes at this temperature, the reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and then heated to $60\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for an additional hour. It was subsequently re-cooled to $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, and benzyl bromide (2.0 equiv) in THF was added dropwise. The mixture was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred overnight. The reaction was quenched with water, and ethyl acetate was added. The aqueous layer was separated, acidified with 3 M HCl, and extracted with ethyl acetate (three times). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the crude product.

2.1.2 General Procedure B: amidation of 2-methyl-3-phenylpropanoic acid

2-Methyl-3-phenylpropionic acid from the previous step (1.0 equiv) was dissolved in dry dichloromethane (DCM) in a sealed flask equipped with an outlet needle under a nitrogen atmosphere and cooled to $0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. After adding two drops of dry DMF at $0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, oxalyl chloride (1.1 equiv) was introduced dropwise. The mixture was stirred for 1 hour, allowing it to warm to room temperature. The solvent was then removed *in vacuo*, and the resulting crude acid chloride was dried under vacuum for 1 hour before proceeding to the next step without additional purification.

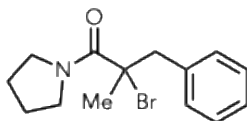
The crude from the last step was dissolved in dry DCM and cooled to $0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. Pyrrolidine (2.5 equiv) was added dropwise, and the reaction was stirred for 2 h while warming to room temperature. The reaction was quenched with water and extracted with DCM. The organic extracts were washed with water and brine, dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and concentrated to give the product, which was purified by flash column chromatography.



2.1.3 General Procedure C: bromination of amide

Diisopropylamine (1.2 equiv) was dissolved in dry THF and cooled to $-78\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. $n\text{BuLi}$ (1.5 equiv) was added dropwise, and the solution was stirred at $-78\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 30 minutes. The amide from the previous step dissolved in dry THF was added and stirred at $-78\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 1 hour. TMSCl (1.1 equiv) dissolved in dry THF was added, and the mixture was warmed to room temperature over 3 hours. The mixture was cooled to $-78\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, and NBS (2 equiv) was added and stirred for 1 hour at $-78\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ before being warmed to room temperature over 1 hour. The reaction was quenched with water, and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc. The organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to give the crude product, which was purified by flash column chromatography.

2.2 Substrate characterization (starting materials)



2-bromo-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**2a**)

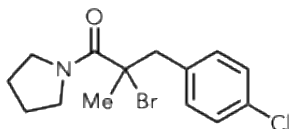
Synthesized according to general procedures A, B, C (16% yield over 3 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 7.32-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 2H), 3.96 (bs, 1H), 3.75 (bs, 1H), 3.58 (bs, 1H), 3.56 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 3.40 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 2.01-1.75 (m, 4H), 1.88 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 168.3, 136.2, 130.6, 128.2, 127.2, 62.5, 48.8, 47.7, 29.4, 27.2, 23.2.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrNO}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 296.0527; found 296.0637

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2974, 1753, 1625, 1436, 1407.



2-bromo-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-methyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**2b**)

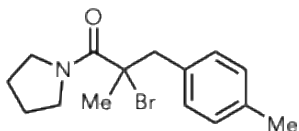
Synthesized according to general procedures A, B, C (15% yield over 3 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 7.27-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.17 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz), 3.93-3.72 (m, 2H), 3.64-3.46 (m, 3H), 3.39 (d, 1H, $J = 15$ Hz), 2.02-1.78 (m, 4H), 1.84 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 168.1, 134.8, 133.2, 132.1, 130.6, 128.3, 128.2, 172.2, 62.1, 49.1, 48.8, 47.7, 47.2, 29.4, 28.9, 27.2, 23.2.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrClNO}$ ($\text{M}+2\text{H}^+$): 332.0182; found 332.0256

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2976, 1623, 1492, 1407, 1095.



2-bromo-2-methyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-(*p*-tolyl)propan-1-one (**2c**)

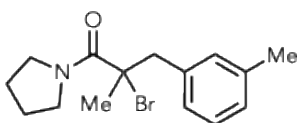
Synthesized according to general procedures A, B, C (8% yield over 3 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 7.09 (s, 4H), 3.98 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 1H), 3.55 (s, 2H), 3.53 (d, 1H, $J = 15$ Hz), 3.37 (d, 1H, $J = 15$ Hz), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.02-1.79 (m, 4H), 1.85 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 168.3, 136.8, 133.1, 130.4, 128.9, 62.8, 49.1, 48.8, 47.2, 29.4, 27.2, 23.4, 21.1.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{21}\text{BrNO}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 310.0728; found 310.0823

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2974, 1627, 1515, 1405, 1054.



2-bromo-2-methyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-(*m*-tolyl)propan-1-one (**2d**)

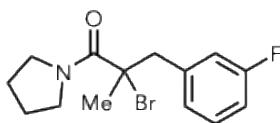
Synthesized according to general procedures A, B, C (20% yield over 3 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 7.17 (t, 1H, 10 Hz), 7.08 (d, 2H, 10 Hz), 7.01 (m, 2H), 3.97 (bs, 1H), 3.75 (bs, 1H), 3.52 (bs, 1H), 3.52 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 3.39 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.01-1.78 (m, 5H), 1.88 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 168.3, 137.7, 136.1, 131.3, 128.1, 127.5, 62.7, 49.1, 47.6, 29.5, 27.2, 23.2, 21.5.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{21}\text{BrNO}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 310.0728; found 310.0825

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2972, 1627, 1449, 1407, 1056.



2-bromo-3-(3-fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**2e**)

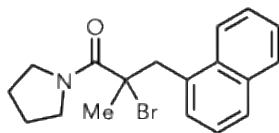
Synthesized according to general procedures A, B, C (17% yield over 3 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 7.28-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.02-6.92 (m, 3H), 3.89 (bs, 1H), 3.79 (bs, 1H), 3.61 (bs, 1H), 3.59 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 3.44 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.01-1.78 (m, 5H), 1.88 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 168.1, 163.8, 161.3, 138.7, 129.6, 126.4, 117.7, 114.1, 61.9, 49.1, 47.5, 29.1, 27.2, 23.2.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{BrFNO}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 314.0478; found 314.0511

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2976, 1673, 1487, 1254, 1142.



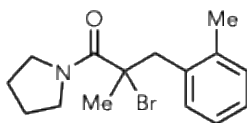
2-bromo-2-methyl-3-(naphthalen-1-yl)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**2f**)

Synthesized according to general procedures A, B, C (18% yield over 3 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 7.82-7.74 (m, 3H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.48-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.36 (d, 1H, 10 Hz), 3.94 (bs, 1H), 3.80 (bs, 1H), 3.59 (bs, 1H), 3.72 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 3.58 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.01-1.78 (m, 5H), 1.93 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 166.4, 131.9, 131.3, 130.6, 127.7, 126.8, 125.8, 125.7, 124.1, 123.9, 60.7, 47.2 (d), 45.9, 27.5, 25.3, 21.3.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{21}\text{BrNO}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 346.0728; found 346.0785



2-bromo-2-methyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-(*o*-tolyl)propan-1-one (**2g**)

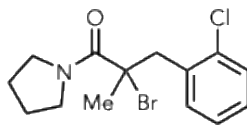
Synthesized according to general procedures A, B, C (7% yield over 3 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 7.21-7.08 (m, 4H), 3.98 (bs, 1H), 3.75 (bs, 1H), 3.64-3.54 (m, 2H), 3.58 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 3.52 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.01-1.78 (m, 5H), 1.93 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 168.6, 137.2, 134.8, 130.7, 130.4, 127.2, 125.8, 63.6, 48.9, 43.3, 29.8, 27.2, 23.2, 20.4.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{21}\text{BrNO}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 310.0728; found 310.0832

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2976, 1627, 1408, 1058.



2-bromo-3-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-methyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**2h**)

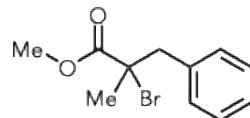
Synthesized according to general procedures A, B, C (12% yield over 3 steps)

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 7.21-7.08 (m, 4H), 3.98 (bs, 1H), 3.75 (bs, 1H), 3.64-3.54 (m, 2H), 3.58 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 3.52 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.01-1.78 (m, 5H), 1.93 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 168.6, 137.2, 134.8, 130.7, 130.4, 127.2, 125.8, 63.6, 48.9, 43.3, 29.8, 27.2, 23.2, 20.4.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrClNO}$ ($\text{M}+2\text{H}^+$): 332.0182; found 332.0264

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2974, 1718, 1623, 1407, 1056.



methyl 2-bromo-2-methyl-3-phenylpropanoate (**2i**)

Synthesized according to general procedures A, B, C (12% yield over 3 steps)

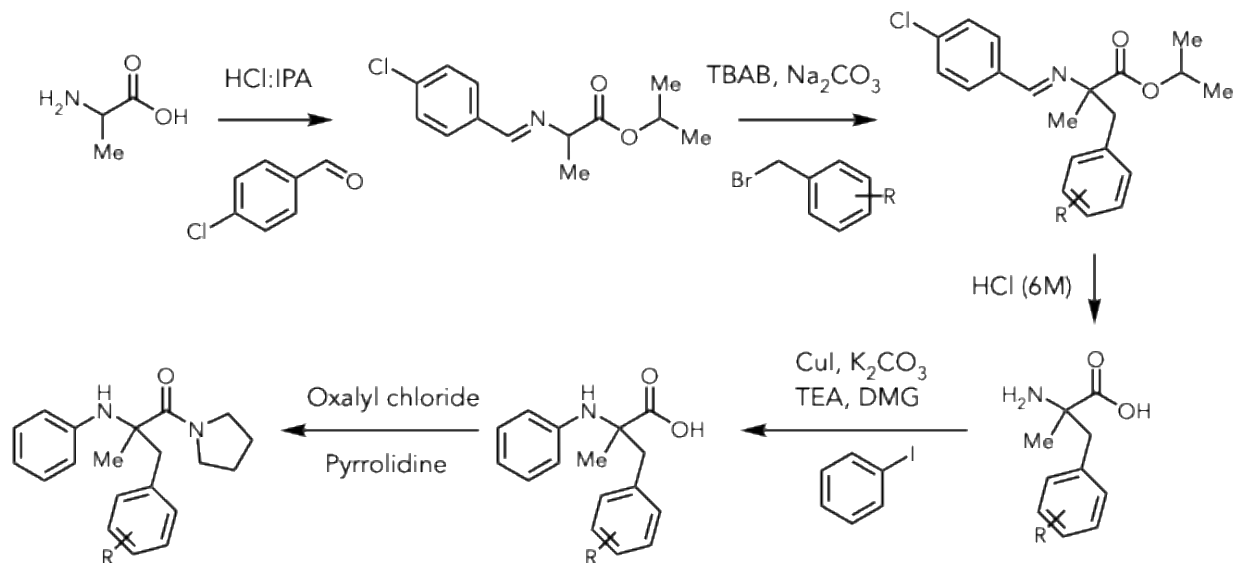
$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 7.19-7.11 (m, 3H), 7.10-7.05 (m, 2H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.49 (d, 1H, $J=15\text{Hz}$), 3.23 (d, 1H, $J=15\text{Hz}$)

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CDCl_3): δ 171.5, 135.8, 130.47, 128.3, 127.4, 59.9, 53.0, 48.2, 27.4.

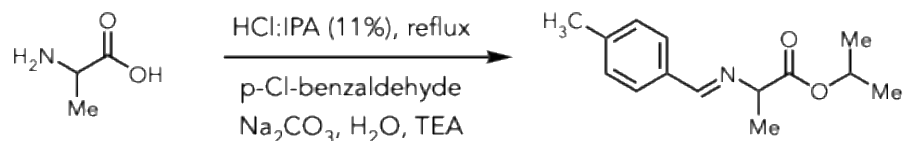
IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2953, 1736, 1451, 1278, 1208, 1101.

2.3 Product synthesis (general route)

Overview of the synthesis plan

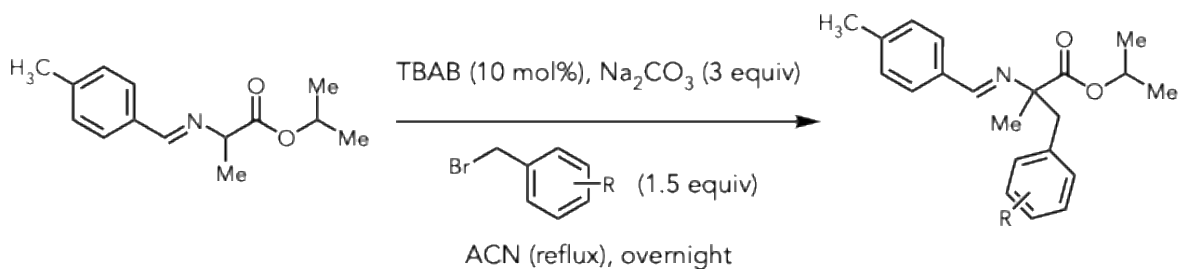


2.3.1 General Procedure D: Imine formation



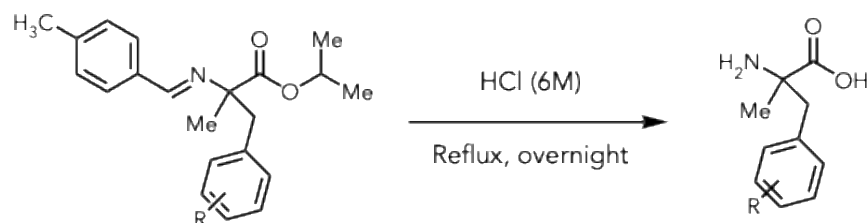
This protocol was adapted from Casas et al.^{3,4} DL-alanine was dissolved 11% HCl/isopropanol and heated to reflux for four hours. After completion, the reaction was concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was resuspended in acetonitrile and concentrated *in vacuo* to ensure complete removal of isopropanol. Water, 4-chlorobenzaldehyde (1 equiv.), and sodium carbonate (1.5 equiv.) were then added to the crude residue, and the mixture was stirred vigorously at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture was extracted twice with ethyl acetate, and the combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate. The dried organic layer was then concentrated *in vacuo* to yield a pure product for the next steps.

2.3.2 General Procedure E: Arylation



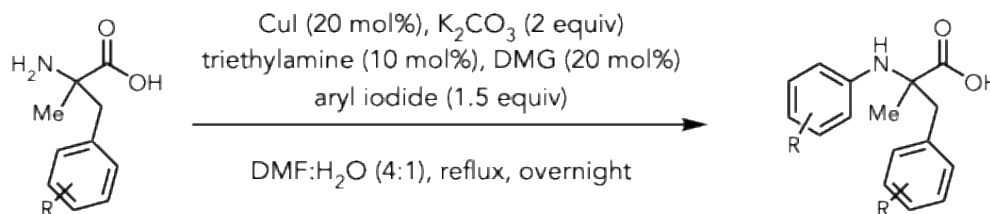
The procedure was adapted from O'Donnell et al.⁵ A flame-dried flask was charged with isopropyl 2-[(E)-(4-chlorophenyl)methyleneamino]propanoate (1 equiv), benzyl bromide (1.5 equiv), tetra-*n*-butylammonium bromide (TBAB, 0.1 equiv), and anhydrous potassium carbonate (3 equiv). The mixture was dissolved in dry acetonitrile and heated under reflux until the reaction was complete, as monitored by LC-MS. After cooling, the mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*, and the resulting residue was carried forward without further purification.

2.3.3 General Procedure F: Deprotection



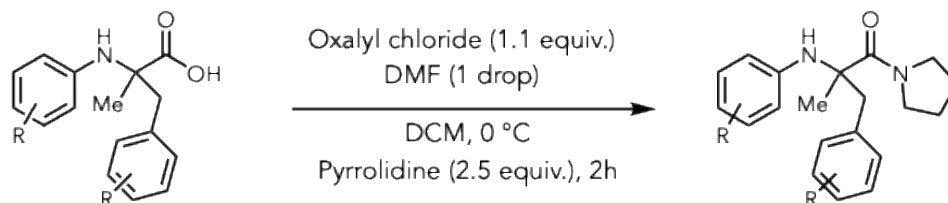
The residue from the previous step was dissolved in 1:1 HCl (6 M) and diethyl ether and stirred vigorously overnight. The aqueous layer was washed three times with diethyl ether, and then the aqueous layer was refluxed overnight. The HCl was removed *in vacuo*, and the residue was recrystallized using a mixture of acetonitrile/diethyl ether.

2.3.4 General Procedure G: N-alkylation



This procedure was adapted from literature.⁶ The acid product from the previous step was transferred to a flame-dried round-bottom flask under an inert atmosphere. To the flask, copper(I) iodide (0.2 equiv), potassium carbonate (2.0 equiv), triethylamine (0.1 equiv), and dimethylglycine (0.2 equiv), and aryl iodide (1.5 equiv) were added. The reaction vessel was subjected to three cycles of vacuum evacuation and nitrogen backfilling to ensure an oxygen-free environment. A pre-degassed mixture of DMF and water (4:1, v/v) was then added to the flask under a nitrogen atmosphere. The resulting reaction mixture was heated to reflux and stirred for 18 hours under nitrogen.

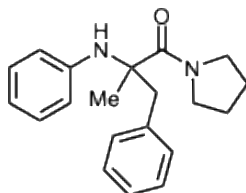
2.3.5 General Procedure H: Amidation



The acid from the previous step (1.0 equiv) was dissolved in dry dichloromethane (DCM) in a sealed flask equipped with an outlet needle under a nitrogen atmosphere and cooled to 0 °C. After adding two drops of dry DMF at 0 °C, oxalyl chloride (1.1 equiv) was introduced dropwise. The mixture was stirred for 1 hour, allowing it to warm to room temperature. The solvent was then removed *in vacuo*, and the resulting crude acid chloride was dried under vacuum for 1 hour before proceeding to the next step without additional purification.

The crude from the last step was dissolved in dry DCM and cooled to 0 °C. Pyrrolidine (2.5 equiv) was added dropwise, and the reaction was stirred for 2 h while warming to room temperature. The reaction was quenched with water and extracted with DCM. The organic extracts were washed with water and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated to give the product.

2.4 Product characterization



(*S*)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**3**)

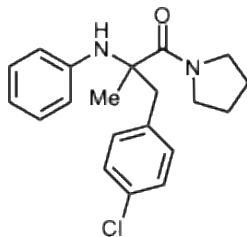
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (17% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.27-7.19 (m, 3H), 7.14 (t, 2H, 10 Hz), 7.07-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.65 (t, 1H, 10 Hz), 6.53 (d, 2H, 10 Hz), 4.48 (s, 1H), 3.65-3.39 (m, 4H), 3.27 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 3.19 (d, 1H, 20 Hz), 1.75-1.55 (m, 4H), 1.28 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.7, 146.8, 137.9, 131.5, 129.8, 128.4, 126.9, 117.9, 113.8, 61, 48.5, 47.4, 41.5, 27.5, 23.3, 22.9.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{FN}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 309.1961; found 309.1968

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3118, 2976, 1671, 1406, 1209, 1046.



(*R*)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**5**)

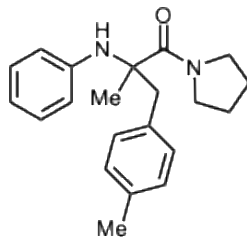
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (18% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.26 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 7.17 (t, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 7.03 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.68 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.54 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 4.53 (s, 1H), 3.70-3.42 (m, 4H), 3.34 (d, 2H, 20 Hz), 3.19 (d, 2H, 20 Hz), 1.80-1.55 (m, 4H), 1.29 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.7, 146.6, 137.1, 133.2, 132.3, 129.8, 128.2, 117.9, 113.8, 60.8, 48.5, 47.3, 40.3, 27.5, 23.3, 22.8,

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{24}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 343.1572; found 343.1560

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3002.5, 2252.9, 1442.9, 1375.3, 1038.7, 918.2, 750.3.



(*R*)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-(*p*-tolyl)propan-1-one (**6**)

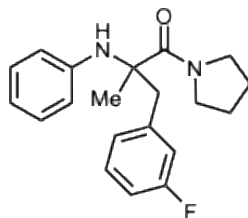
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (14% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.15 (t, 2H, $J=8$ Hz), 7.08 (d, 2H, $J=8$ Hz), 6.67 (d, 2H, $J=8$ Hz), 6.54 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 4.51 (s, 1H), 3.65-3.50 (m, 4H), 3.45 (t, 2H, $J=5$ Hz), 3.19 (dd, 2H, 20 Hz), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.77-1.59 (m, 4H), 1.30 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 173, 152.3, 140.7, 138, 131.5, 128.4, 126.9, 117.3, 115.1, 61.4, 55.7, 48.5, 47.4, 41.8, 27.5, 23.3, 22.9.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 323.2118; found 323.2108

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3002.9, 2252.9, 1442.6, 1375.3, 1038.9, 918, 749.5.



(*R*)-3-(3-fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**7**)

Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (6% yield over 5 steps).

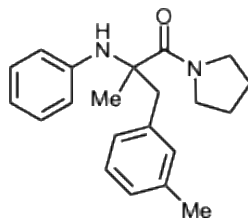
$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.26 (q, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 7.17 (t, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.97 (t, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.89 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.76 (d, 1H, $J=12$ Hz), 6.68 (t, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.55 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 4.55 (s, 1H), 3.70-3.42 (m, 4H), 3.37 (d, 1H, $J=15$ Hz), 3.20 (d, 1H, $J=15$ Hz), 1.80-1.54 (m, 4H), 1.29 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.7, 164.1, 161.7, 146.5, 141.0, 129.9, 129.8, 127.6, 118.2, 117.6, 113.7, 113.4, 60.7, 48.5, 47.4, 27.5, 23.2, 22.9.

$^{19}\text{F-NMR}$ (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -114.31

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{24}\text{FN}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 327.1867; found 327.1860

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3002.2, 2292.5, 1442.8, 1375.3, 1038.8, 918, 749.3.



(*R*)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-(*m*-tolyl)propan-1-one (**8**)

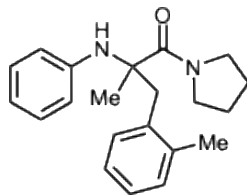
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (12% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.19-7.11 (m, 3H), 7.07 (t, 1H, $J=12$ Hz), 6.89 (m, 2H), 6.68 (t, 1H, $J=12$ Hz), 6.55 (d, 2H, $J=12$ Hz), 4.50 (s, 1H), 3.66-3.42 (m, 4H), 3.25 (d, 1H, $J=15$ Hz), 3.15 (d, 1H, $J=15$ Hz), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.76-1.59 (m, 4H), 1.31 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.8, 146.8, 137.8, 132.3, 129.7, 128.5, 127.5, 123.0, 117.9, 117.5, 113.9, 61.0, 54.8, 48.5, 47.3, 41.6, 27.5, 23.3, 22.9, 21.0.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 323.2118; found 323.2109

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3002.5, 2292.5, 1442.4, 1375.3, 1038.9, 918.1, 749.9.



(*R*)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-(*o*-tolyl)propan-1-one (**9**)

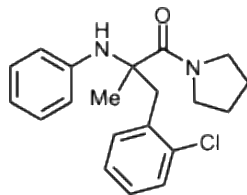
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (7% yield over 5 steps).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz; CD₃CN): δ 7.20 (d, 2H, J= 10 Hz), 7.13-7.05 (m, 3H), 6.96 (d, 2H, J= 10 Hz), 6.62 (t, 1H, J= 12 Hz), 6.48 (d, 2H, J= 10 Hz), 4.46 (s, 1H), 3.62-3.35 (m, 4H), 3.27 (d, 1H, J= 15 Hz), 3.12 (d, 1H, J= 15 Hz), 2.08 (s, 3H), 1.22 (s, 3H)

¹³C-NMR (126 MHz; CD₃CN): δ 172.6, 146.5, 137.1, 133.2, 129.8, 128.3, 117.9, 113.8, 60.8, 48.5, 47.3, 40.3, 27.5, 23.3, 22.8.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for C₂₁H₂₇N₂O (M+H⁺): 323.2118; found 323.2102

IR (neat, cm⁻¹): 3001.5, 2292.4, 2252.9, 1442.6, 1375.3, 1038.9, 918, 749.8.



3-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**10**)

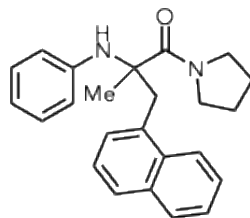
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (10% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.42 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 7.26-7.15 (m, 4H), 7.03 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.96 (t, 1H, $J=7.5$ Hz), 6.57 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 4.68 (s, 1H), 3.68 (d, 1H, $J=15$ Hz), 3.64-3.57 (m, 1H), 3.52-3.44 (m, 3H), 3.27 (d, 1H, $J=15$ Hz), 3.33 (d, 1H, $J=15$ Hz), 1.77-1.56 (m, 4H), 1.32 (s, 3H)

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.4, 146.4, 136.1, 135.6, 133.7, 129.8, 127.1, 117.9, 117.6, 113.8, 61.7, 48.6, 47.4, 37.1, 23.2, 27.5, 22.2.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{24}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 343.1572; found 343.1550

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3000, 2202, 2158, 1443, 918.



2-methyl-3-(naphthalen-1-yl)-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**11**)

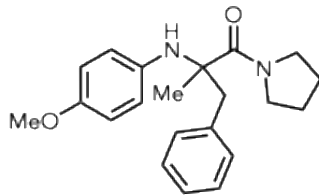
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (22% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.86 (m, 1H), 7.78-7.73 (m, 2H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.48 (quintet, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 7.41-7.15 (m, 7H), 6.71 (t, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.58 (d, 2H, $J=12$ Hz), 4.58 (s, 1H), 3.69-3.33 (m, 6H), 1.80-1.58 (m, 4H), 1.35 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.8, 146.8, 139.6, 135.8, 135.8, 133.8, 132.8, 130.2, 130.0, 129.1, 128.0, 127.4, 126.5, 126.1, 117.9, 113.9, 61.2, 48.5, 47.4, 41.4, 31.8, 27.5, 26.9, 23.3, 23.0.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 359.2118; found 359.2096.

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3002.1, 2292.4, 2253, 1442.9, 1375.3, 1038.7, 918.1, 745.



2-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**12**)

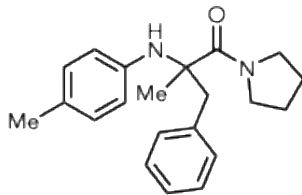
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (9% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.29-7.21 (m, 3H), 7.08 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.77 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.50 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 4.21 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.69-3.42 (m, 4H), 3.22 (dd, 2H, 20 Hz), 1.80-1.59 (m, 4H), 1.27 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 173, 152.3, 140.7, 138, 131.5, 128.4, 126.9, 117.3, 115.1, 61.4, 55.7, 48.5, 47.4, 41.8, 27.5, 23.3, 22.9.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{FN}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 339.2067; found 339.2050

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3002.9, 2252.9, 1442.8, 1375.3, 1034, 918.2, 749.4.



2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-(*p*-tolylamino)propan-1-one (**13**)

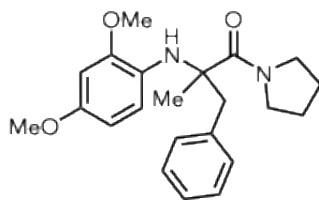
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (25% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.15 (t, 2H, $J=8$ Hz), 7.08 (d, 2H, $J=8$ Hz), 6.67 (d, 2H, $J=8$ Hz), 6.54 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 4.51 (s, 1H), 3.65-3.50 (m, 4H), 3.45 (t, 2H, $J=5$ Hz), 3.19 (dd, 2H, 20 Hz), 2.31 (s, 3H), 1.77-1.59 (m, 4H), 1.30 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.9, 144.3, 138.0, 131.5, 130.2, 128.4, 126.9, 117.9, 114.0, 61.1, 48.5, 47.3, 41.5, 27.5, 23.3, 22.9, 19.9.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 323.2118; found 323.2108

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3002.9, 2252.9, 1442.6, 1375.3, 1038.9, 918, 749.5.



2-((2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**14**)

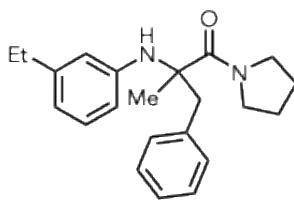
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (5% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.31-7.21 (m, 3H), 7.03 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.56 (t, 1H, $J=8$ Hz), 6.39 (d, 2H, $J=8$ Hz), 4.15 (s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.63-3.43 (m, 4H), 3.28 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.17 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 1.79-1.60 (m, 4H), 1.29 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 173.1, 152.6, 148.6, 137.8, 131.4, 130.2, 128.4, 127.0, 115.6, 111.8, 104.6, 100.0, 61.0, 55.7, 48.5, 47.4, 41.7, 27.5, 23.3, 22.9.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 369.2173; found 369.2173

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2937.5, 1619.9, 1515.5, 1405.3, 1033, 705.3.



2-((3-ethylphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**15**)

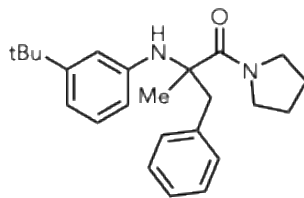
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (16% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.30-7.21 (m, 3H), 7.10-7.03 (m, 3H), 6.54 (d, 1H, $J=8$ Hz), 6.41 (m, 1H), 6.38 (d, 1H, $J=8$ Hz), 4.44 (s, 1H), 3.66-3.44 (m, 4H), 3.30 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.18 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 1.79-1.58 (m, 4H), 1.30 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.9, 146.8, 145.9, 138.0, 131.6, 129.7, 128.4, 126.9, 117.9, 117.3, 113.3, 111.5, 61.0, 48.5, 47.4, 41.6, 29.3, 23.3, 22.9.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 337.2274; found 337.2279

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3349.1, 2964.7, 1605.1, 1410, 701.8.



2-((3-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**16**)

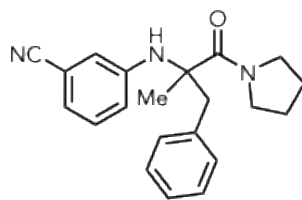
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (15% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.29-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.10-7.04 (m, 3H), 6.74 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.63 (t, 1H, $J=5$ Hz), 6.38 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 4.45 (s, 1H), 3.65-3.42 (m, 4H), 3.31 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.19 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 1.78-1.58 (m, 4H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.27 (s, 9H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 173.0, 162.9, 152.7, 146.5, 138.0, 131.5, 129.7, 129.3, 128.8, 126.9, 117.9, 114.6, 111.7, 111.0, 61.1, 48.6, 47.3, 38.5, 34.9, 31.2, 27.8, 23.3, 22.9.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 365.2587; found 365.2642

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3350, 2962.8, 1603.2, 1414.2, 779, 702.6.



3-((2-methyl-1-oxo-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-2-yl)amino)benzonitrile (**17**)

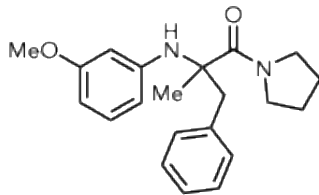
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (20% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.32-7.23 (m, 4H), 7.08-7.04 (m, 2H), 7.00 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.82 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.79-6.76 (m, 1H), 5.01 (s, 1H), 3.59-3.42 (m, 4H), 3.29 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.21 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 1.78-1.58 (m, 4H), 1.31 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.1, 147.3, 137.7, 131.7, 130.9, 128.6, 127.4, 120.9, 119.9, 118.3, 118.1, 116.2, 113.3, 61.2, 48.8, 47.6, 41.4, 27.6, 23.4, 22.7.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_3\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 334.1914; found 334.1888

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3332, 2972.7, 2226.4, 1600.5, 1536.5, 1421, 1372.4, 703.2.



2-((3-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**18**)

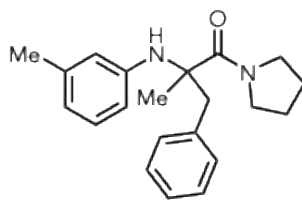
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (8% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.29-7.21 (m, 3H), 7.09-7.02 (m, 3H), 6.26 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.17 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.12 (m, 1H), 4.56 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.66-3.43 (m, 4H), 3.32 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.18 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 1.78-1.58 (m, 4H), 1.29 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.8, 161.4, 148.1, 137.9, 131.6, 130.5, 128.4, 126.9, 117.9, 106.9, 103.0, 99.4, 60.9, 51.1, 48.5, 47.4, 41.4, 27.5, 23.3, 22.8.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 339.2067; found 339.2046

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3345.6, 2971.1, 1597.5, 1494.8, 1161.9, 703



2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-(*m*-tolylamino)propan-1-one (**19**)

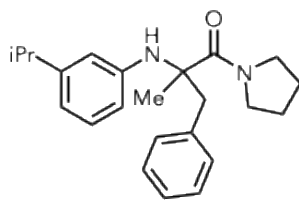
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (10% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.36-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.09-7.04 (m, 2H), 6.96 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.81-6.76 (m, 2H), 4.95 (s, 1H), 3.61-3.42 (m, 4H), 3.29 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.22 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 1.78-1.58 (m, 4H), 1.34 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.1, 147.2, 137.6, 131.5, 130.6, 128.4, 127.1, 117.9, 117.1, 113.6, 113.5, 109.6, 61.1, 48.5, 47.4, 41.4, 27.5, 23.2, 22.6.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 323.2118; found 323.2105

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3347.9, 2971.2, 1603.6, 1492.3, 1182, 770.7, 733.6



2-((3-isopropylphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**20**)

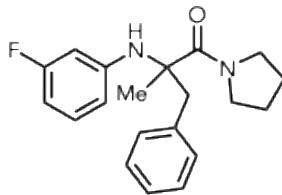
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (16% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.29-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.10-7.04 (m, 3H), 6.57 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.45 (m, 1H), 6.37 (d, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 4.44 (s, 1H), 3.64-3.46 (m, 4H), 3.30 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.20 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 2.80 (sep, 1H, $J=7$ Hz), 1.78-1.58 (m, 4H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.21 (d, 6H, $J=7$ Hz).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.9, 150.5, 146.7, 138.0, 131.5, 129.6, 128.3, 126.9, 117.9, 115.9, 111.8, 111.6, 61.1, 48.5, 47.3, 41.6, 34.6, 27.5, 24.0, 23.9, 23.3, 22.9.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 351.2431; found 351.2423.

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3350.2, 2962.8, 1603.2, 1414.6, 779, 702.6.



2-((3-fluorophenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**21**)

Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (11% yield over 5 steps).

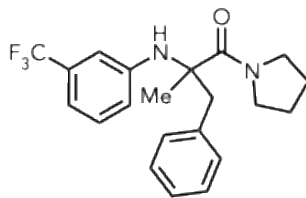
$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.29-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.14 (q, 1H, $J=8$ Hz), 7.09-7.04 (m, 2H), 6.43-6.35 (m, 2H), 6.26 (dt, 1H, $J=1$ Hz, 15 Hz), 4.82 (s, 1H), 3.64-3.42 (m, 4H), 3.31 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.19 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 1.80-1.60 (m, 4H), 1.32 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.3, 165.4, 163.5, 148.7, 148.6, 137.7, 131.5, 131.1, 131.0, 128.4, 127.0, 117.9, 109.9, 103.6, 103.4, 100.2, 99.9, 61.1, 48.5, 47.4, 41.3, 27.5, 23.3, 22.6.

$^{19}\text{F-NMR}$ (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -114.3.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{24}\text{FN}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 327.1867; found 327.1877

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3337.8, 2972.8, 1602.2, 1535, 1495.4, 1338.3, 1179, 735.3



2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-((3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)amino)propan-1-one (**22**)

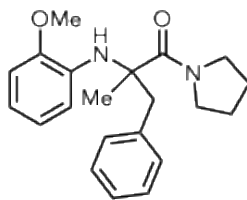
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (9% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.33 (t, 1H, $J = 8$ Hz), 7.30-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.07 (d, 2H, $J = 7.5$ Hz), 6.96 (d, 1H, $J = 7.5$ Hz), 6.81-6.75 (m, 2H), 4.95 (s, 1H), 3.61-3.40 (m, 4H), 3.29 (d, 1H, $J = 15$ Hz), 3.22 (d, 1H, $J = 15$ Hz), 1.80-1.56 (m, 4H), 1.34 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.1, 147.1, 137.6, 131.5, 130.6, 128.4, 127.0, 117.9, 117.1, 113.5, 109.6, 61.1, 48.5, 47.4, 41.4, 27.5, 23.2, 22.6.

$^{19}\text{F-NMR}$ (470 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -63.4

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{24}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 377.1762; found 377.1792



2-((2-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**23**)

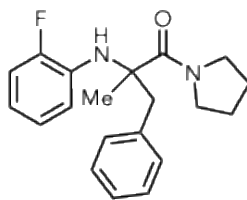
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (10% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.29-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.04 (d, 2H, $J=8$ Hz), 6.90 (d, 1H, $J=8$ Hz), 6.81 (t, 1H, $J=8$ Hz), 6.69 (t, 1H, $J=8$ Hz), 6.48 (d, 1H, $J=8$ Hz), 4.51 (s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.60-3.44 (m, 4H), 3.32 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.18 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 1.77-1.60 (m, 4H), 1.33 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.8, 147.5, 135.9, 131.3, 128.4, 127.0, 121.6, 117.9, 117.5, 111.4, 110.8, 60.7, 56.0, 48.5, 47.2, 41.6, 27.5, 23.3, 22.9.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 339.2067; found 339.2035.

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2970.24, 1619.7, 1511, 1454.4, 1222, 1028.2, 736.8



2-((2-fluorophenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**24**)

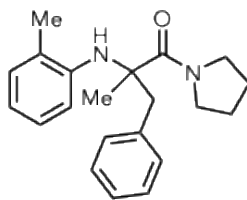
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (8% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.32-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.09-6.97 (d, 4H), 6.72-6.61 (m, 2H), 4.39 (s, 1H), 3.63-3.45 (m, 4H), 3.32 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.22 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 1.79-1.60 (m, 4H), 1.38 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.4, 137.5, 131.3, 128.5, 127.2, 125.2, 117.9, 117.6, 117.5, 115.2, 113.7, 61.1, 48.5, 47.4, 27.5, 23.3, 22.8.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{24}\text{FN}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 327.1867; found 327.1848.

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3349.5, 2971.7, 1618, 1495.5, 743.4.



2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-(*o*-tolylamino)propan-1-one (**25**)

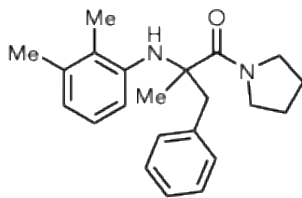
Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (7% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.31-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.09 (d, 1H, $J=7.5\text{Hz}$), 7.07-7.00 (m, 3H), 6.64 (t, 1H, $J=7.5\text{Hz}$), 6.50 (d, 1H, $J=7.5\text{Hz}$), 3.81 (s, 1H), 3.63-3.52 (m, 1H), 3.50-3.42 (m, 3H), 3.38 (d, 1H, $J=15\text{Hz}$), 3.19 (d, 1H, $J=15\text{Hz}$), 2.02 (s, 3H), 1.77-1.58 (m, 4H), 1.37 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 172.9, 144.1, 137.8, 131.4, 130.9, 128.5, 127.4, 127.1, 123.0, 117.9, 117.6, 111.3, 60.9, 48.5, 47.2, 41.4, 27.5, 23.3, 23.1, 17.5.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 323.2118; found 323.2104.

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2970.4, 1605.7, 1495.6, 1406.6, 747.6, 705.



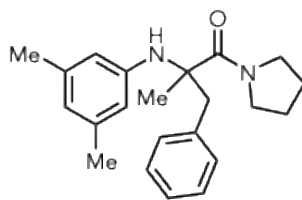
2-((2,3-dimethylphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**26**)

Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (17% yield over 5 steps).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.31-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.04 (d, 2H, $J=5$ Hz), 6.92 (t, 1H, $J=7$ Hz), 6.57 (d, 1H, $J=7$ Hz), 6.37 (d, 1H, $J=7$ Hz), 3.82 (s, 1H), 3.58-3.42 (m, 4H), 3.37 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.18 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.93 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 173.1, 144.0, 137.8, 137.2, 131.4, 128.5, 127.0, 126.4, 121.2, 119.9, 117.9, 109.6, 61.0, 48.5, 47.2, 41.6, 27.4, 23.3, 23.2, 20.6, 12.5.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 337.2202; found 337.2256



2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**27**)

Synthesized according to general procedures D, E, F, G, H (15% yield over 5 steps).

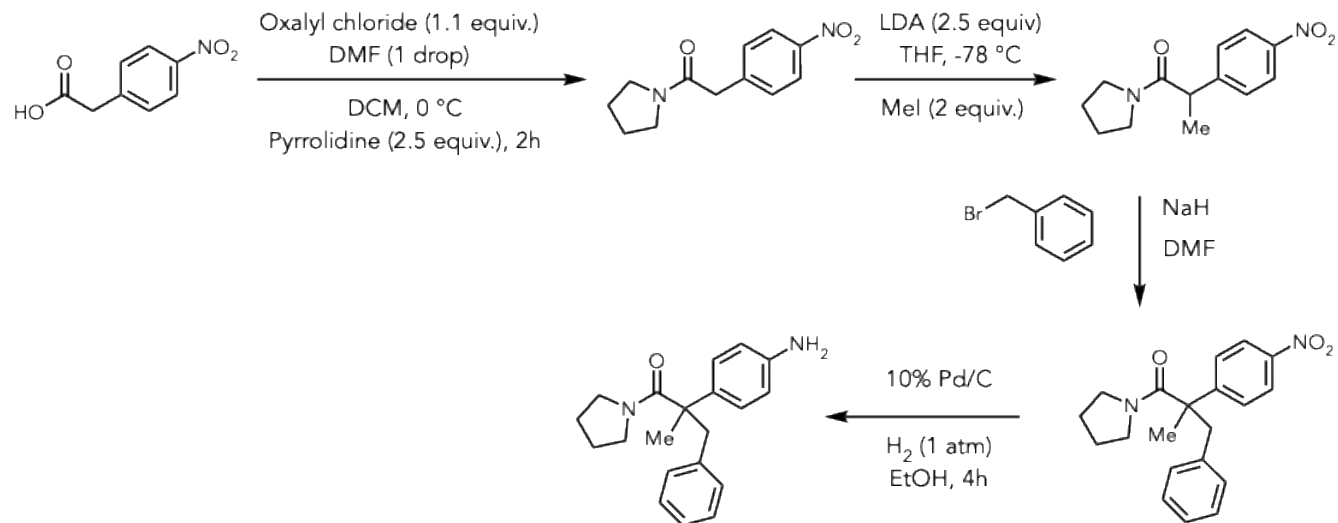
$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.29-7.21 (m, 3H), 7.08 (d, 2H, $J=5$ Hz), 6.35 (s, 1H), 6.18 (s, 2H), 4.35 (s, 1H), 3.64-3.43 (m, 4H), 3.30 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.18 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 2.19 (s, 6H), 1.28 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 127.8, 146.7, 139.2, 138.0, 131.5, 128.3, 126.9, 119.5, 117.9, 111.8, 61.0, 48.5, 47.3, 41.5, 27.5, 23.3, 22.9, 12.3.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 337.2202; found 337.2278

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 2974, 1492, 1409, 751, 705.

2.5 Synthesis of the hydroarylation byproduct (overview)



2.5.1 General Procedure K: Amidation

2-(4-nitrophenyl)acetic acid (1.0 equiv) was dissolved in dry dichloromethane (DCM) in a sealed flask equipped with an outlet needle under a nitrogen atmosphere and cooled to 0 °C. After adding two drops of dry DMF at 0 °C, oxalyl chloride (1.1 equiv) was introduced dropwise. The mixture was stirred for 1 hour, allowing it to warm to room temperature. The solvent was then removed *in vacuo*, and the resulting crude acid chloride was dried under vacuum for 1 hour before proceeding to the next step without additional purification.

The crude from the last step was dissolved in dry DCM and cooled to 0 °C. Pyrrolidine (2.5 equiv) was added dropwise, and the reaction was stirred for 2 h while warming to room temperature. The reaction was quenched with water and extracted with DCM. The organic extracts were washed with water and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated to give the product.

2.5.2 General Procedure L: Methylation

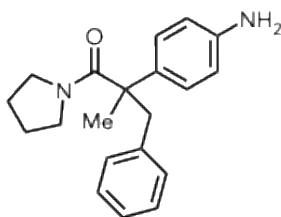
2-(4-nitrophenyl)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethan-1-one (1.0 equiv) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of lithium diisopropylamide (LDA, 2.5 equiv, 2.5 M in THF) at $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. After stirring for 30 minutes at this temperature, the reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and then heated to $60\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for an additional hour. It was subsequently re-cooled to $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, and methyl iodide (2.0 equiv) in THF was added dropwise. The mixture was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred overnight. The reaction was quenched with water, and ethyl acetate was added. The aqueous layer was separated, acidified with 3 M HCl, and extracted with ethyl acetate (three times). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and concentrated in vacuo to afford the crude product.

2.5.3 General Procedure M: Arylation

To a suspension of NaH (60% dispersion in mineral oil, 1.5 equiv.) in anhydrous DMF at $0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ under N_2 was added a solution of the 2-(4-nitrophenyl)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl) propan-1-one (1.0 equiv.) in anhydrous DMF dropwise over 5 min. The reaction mixture was stirred at $0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 15 min and then at room temperature for 30 min. Benzyl bromide (1.5 equiv.) was added dropwise at $0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, and the reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 4 h (monitored by TLC). The reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous NH_4Cl at $0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude was purified by flash column chromatography.

2.5.4 General Procedure N: Reduction

In a round-bottom flask, 2-methyl-2-(4-nitrophenyl)-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (1.0 equiv.) was dissolved in EtOH. 10% Pd/C was added, and the reaction vessel was evacuated and backfilled with H_2 (balloon). The suspension was stirred vigorously at room temperature under a H_2 atmosphere for 2 h, until TLC indicated complete consumption of the starting material. The reaction mixture was filtered through a short pad of Celite, washing with EtOAc ($3 \times 10\text{ mL}$), and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was partitioned between EtOAc and saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 , and the layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and concentrated.



2-(4-aminophenyl)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**4**)

Synthesized according to general procedures K, L, M, N (28% yield over 4 steps).

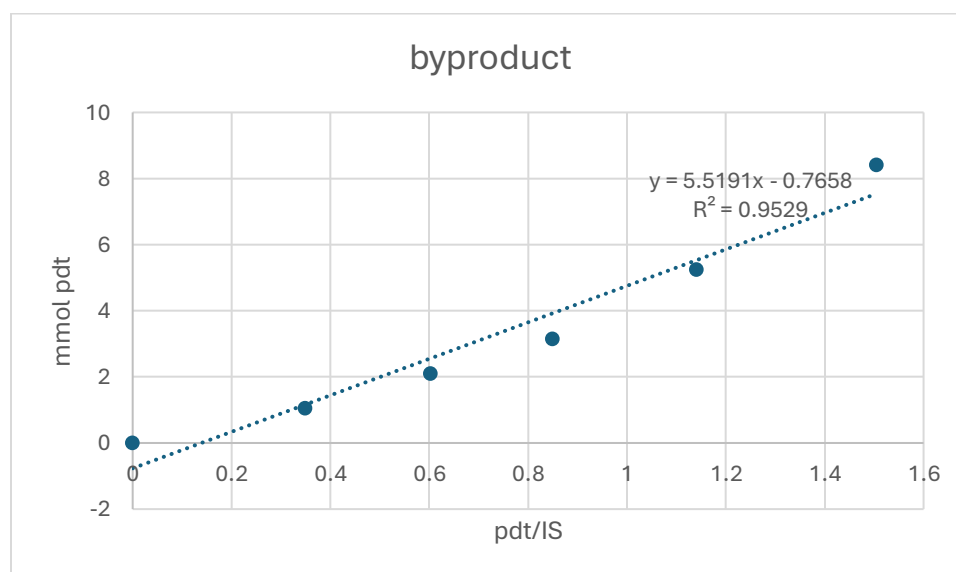
$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 7.07-7.03 (m, 3H), 6.77-6.72 (m, 4H), 6.49 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 3.99 (s, 2H), 3.34-3.27 (m, 2H), 3.22 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.00 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.87-3.69 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.41 (m, 4H), 1.22 (s, 3H)

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 174.4, 146.8, 139.2, 133.2, 131.5, 128.0, 127.7, 126.5, 117.9, 114.8, 51.1, 47.8, 47.4, 45.5, 26.9, 23.5, 23.1.

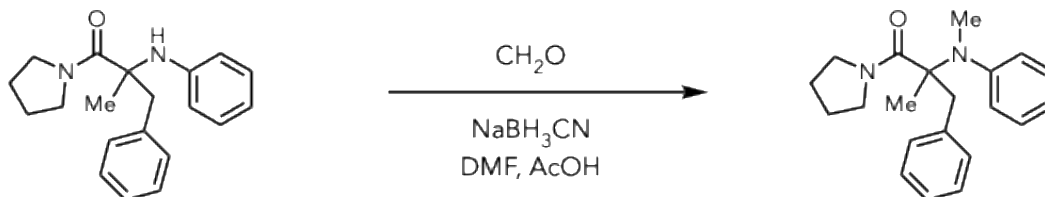
HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$): 309.1889; found 309.1805

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3345, 2972, 1610, 1517, 1453, 1373, 1287.

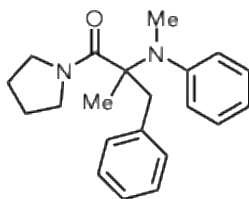
Calibration



2.6 Synthesis of N-Methyl product



This procedure was adapted from literature.⁷ In a dry round-bottom flask, the secondary amine (**2a**, 1.0 equiv.) was dissolved in anhydrous DMF. Paraformaldehyde (15.0 mg, 5.0 equiv) and one drop of glacial AcOH were added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 40 min. Sodium cyanoborohydride (NaBH₃CN, 1.5 equiv.) was then added dropwise, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After completion, the reaction mixture was poured into saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, and the resulting suspension was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude was purified by flash column chromatography.



2(*S*)-2-methyl-2-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**28**)

Synthesized according to general procedure 2.11 (5% yield).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz; CDCl₃): δ 7.40-7.05 (m, 7H), 6.98 (d, 1H), 6.84 (d, 1H, J= 10 Hz), 6.78 (t, 1H, J= 5Hz), 4.67 (s, 3H), 3.62 (d, 1H, J= 15Hz), 3.52-3.33 (m, 2H), 3.22-2.96 (m, 3H), 1.80-1.56 (m, 4H), 1.45 (s, 3H).

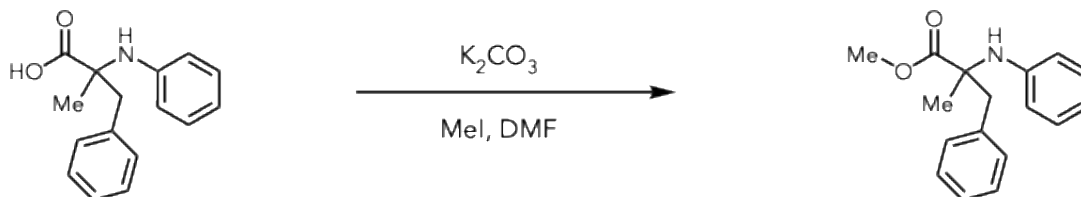
¹³C-NMR (126 MHz; CDCl₃): δ 173.5, 131.6, 131.4, 129.3, 128.7, 128.3, 126.8, 117.9, 47.9, 46.6, 40.5, 38.9, 29.9, 27.4, 23.3, 21.9.

162.4, 160.5, 150.2, 148.8, 141.1, 128.3, 124.7, 115.2, 44.5, 40.5, 21.6.

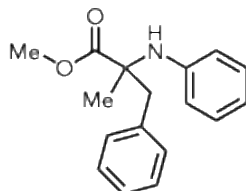
HRMS (ESI-MS): *m/z* calculated for C₂₂H₂₉N₂O (M+H⁺): 322.2045; found 322.2008

IR (neat, cm⁻¹): 2981, 1609, 1498, 1405, 747.6.

2.7 Synthesis of ester product



In a dry round-bottom flask, the acid substrate (1.0 equiv.) was dissolved in anhydrous DMF. Powdered K_2CO_3 (3.0 equiv) was added, and the resulting suspension was stirred at room temperature for 20 minutes. Methyl iodide (MeI, 5.0 equiv.) was then added dropwise, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with EtOAc, and washed with water and brine. The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography.



methyl 2-methyl-3-phenyl-2-(phenylamino)propanoate (**29**)

Synthesized according to general procedure 2.12 (45% yield over 1 steps).

1H -NMR (500 MHz; CD_3CN): δ

7.31-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.19-7.09 (m, 4H), 6.71 (t, 1H, $J=10$ Hz), 6.58 (d, 2H, $J=10$ Hz), 4.66 (s, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.30 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 3.18 (d, 1H, $J=20$ Hz), 1.41 (s, 3H).

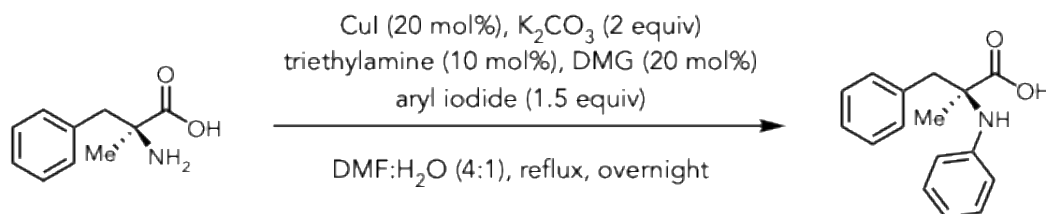
^{13}C -NMR (126 MHz; CD_3CN): δ 176.2, 146.6, 137.0, 131.1, 129.7, 128.5, 127.3, 117.9, 114.9, 67.9, 61.3, 52.4, 43.1, 23.2.

HRMS (ESI-MS): m/z calculated for $C_{17}H_{20}NO_2$ ($M+H^+$): 270.1416; found 270.1512

IR (neat, cm^{-1}): 3408, 2950, 1731, 1603, 1500, 1313.

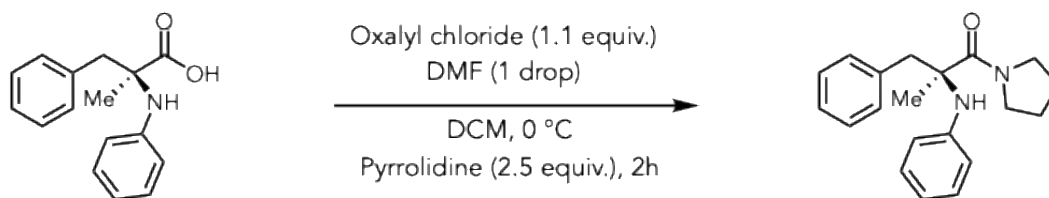
2.8 Determination of absolute stereoconfiguration

The synthesis of the enantioenriched product was performed by copper-catalyzed N-alkylation of enantiopure (*S*)-2-amino-2-methyl-3-phenylpropanoic acid (commercially available), followed by amidation of the crude product.



General Procedure I: N-alkylation

The chiral (*S*)-2-amino-2-methyl-3-phenylpropanoic acid was transferred to a flame-dried round-bottom flask under an inert atmosphere. To the flask, copper(I) iodide (0.2 equiv), potassium carbonate (2.0 equiv), triethylamine (0.1 equiv), and dimethylglycine (0.2 equiv), and aryl iodide (1.5 equiv) were added. The reaction vessel was subjected to three cycles of vacuum evacuation and nitrogen backfilling to ensure an oxygen-free environment. A pre-degassed mixture of DMF and water (4:1, v/v) was then added to the flask under a nitrogen atmosphere. The resulting reaction mixture was heated to reflux and stirred for 18 hours under nitrogen.

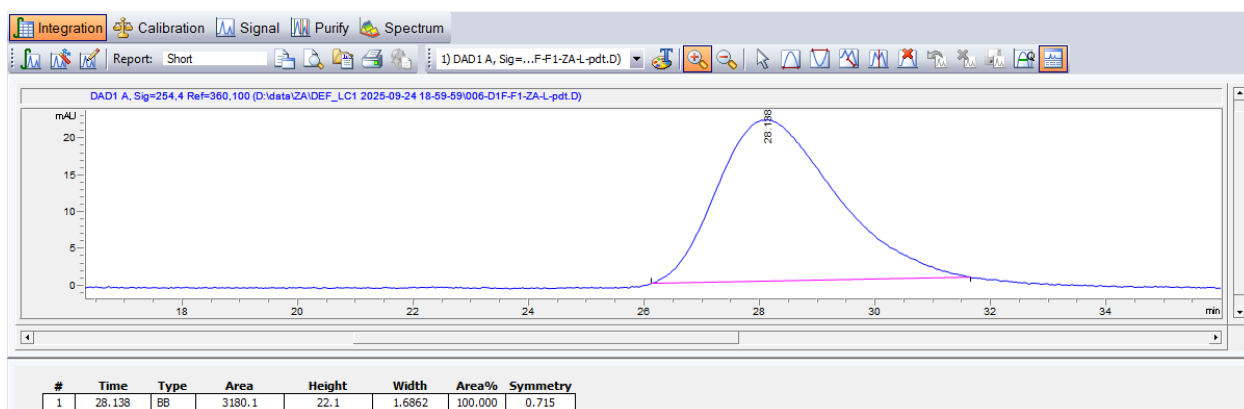


General Procedure J: Amidation

The acid from the previous step (1.0 equiv) was dissolved in dry dichloromethane (DCM) in a sealed flask equipped with an outlet needle under a nitrogen atmosphere and cooled to 0 °C. After adding two drops of dry DMF at 0 °C, oxalyl chloride (1.1 equiv) was introduced dropwise. The mixture was stirred for 1 hour, allowing it to warm to room temperature. The solvent was then removed *in vacuo*, and the resulting crude acid chloride was dried under vacuum for 1 hour before proceeding to the next step without additional purification.

The crude from the last step was dissolved in dry DCM and cooled to 0 °C. Pyrrolidine (2.5 equiv) was added dropwise, and the reaction was stirred for 2 h while warming to room temperature. The reaction was quenched with water and extracted with DCM. The organic extracts were washed with water and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated to give the product.

Comparison of the chiral HPLC traces of the enantiopure and our enzymatic product led the conclusion that our enzymatic product is (S)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one



3. Protein sequence and expression

3.1 Morphinone reductase (MorB)

Genebank accession number: AAC43569

Protein Sequence:

MPDTSFSNPGLFTPLQLGSLSLPNRVIMAPLTRSRTPDSVPGRLQQIYYGQRASAGLIISEA
TNISPTARGYVYTPGIWTDQEAGWKGVVEAVHAKGGRIALQLWHVGRVSHELVQPDG
QQPVAPSALKAEGAECFVEFEDGTAGLHPTSTPRALETDEIPGIVEDYRQAAQRAKRAGF
DMVEVHAANAQLPNQFLATGTNRRTDQYGGSIENRARFPLEVVDVAEVEFGPERV GIRL
TPFLELFGLTDDEPEAMAFYLAGELDRRGLAYLHFNEPDWIGGDITYPEGFREQMRQRF
KGGLIYCGNYDAGRAQARLDDNTADAVAFGRPFIANPDLPERFRLGAALNEPDPSTFYG
GAEVGYTDY PFLDNHGDRLGHHHHHH

DNA Sequence:

ATGCCCCGACACTTCTTTTTTCGAATCCAGGACTTTTTACTCCTCTTCAGTTGGGTAGTCT
GTCTCTTCCAAATCGTGTGCATAATGGCACCTTTAACCCGCTCACGCACGCCAGATTCT
GTACCTGGACGCCTTCAACAGATATACTATGGTCAACGCGCCAGCGCCGGGTTAATCA
TCTCCGAAGCGACAAATATCAGTCCCACCGCTCGGGGATACGTATACACGCCAGGCAT
TTGGACTGACGCTCAGGAGGCCGGTTGGAAAGGTGTGGTCGAAGCTGTCCATGCTAA
AGGGGGTCGTATAGCGTTGCAGTTATGGCATGTGCGGCCGGGTCTCTCATGAGCTGGTG
CAGCCAGACGGCCAACAACCCGTGGCACCATCCGCCTTAAAAGCCGAAGGGGGCCGA
GTGCTTTGTGCAATTCGAGGATGGGACTGCTGGCCTGCACCCTACGTCAACTCCCAG
AGCCCTGGAGACAGATGAGATACCCGGTATTGTTGAAGATTACAGACAGGCCGCGCA
GCGTGCGAAGCGGGCCGGATTTCGATATGGTAGAGGTCCACGCGGCAAATGCTTGTCT
TCCTAATCAGTTCTTGGCGACAGGAACCAATCGTCGCACAGACCAGTACGGTGGATC
AATTGAGAACCGGGCTAGATTCCCATTAGAGGTTGTCGATGCTGTAGCCGAGGTATTC
GGGCCCCGAAAGAGTGGGGATACGGCTGACTCCTTTCCTGGAGTTATTTGGATTAACG
GATGATGAACCCGAGGCAATGGCTTTTTACCTTGCGGGAGAATTAGACCGGCGTGGT
TTAGCGTATTTACACTTTAATGAACCCGATTGGATAGGTGGGGACATCACGTACCCGG
AAGGGTTTTCGTGAGCAAATGCGTCAACGGTTCAAGGGGGGGCTTATATATTGTGGAA
ACTACGACGCAGGTGCGGGCCCAAGCCCGGCTTGACGACAATACAGCAGATGCAGTG
GCGTTTGGGCGTCCATTTATTGCCAACCCCGACTTGCCAGAACGTTTCCGCTTAGGAG
CAGCGCTGAACGAACCTGACCCCTCTACTTTTTACGGCGGGGCAGAGGTGGGGTACA
CAGACTACCCGTTCTTGACAACGGTCATGACCGCCTGGGACTCGAGCACCACCATC
ACCACCACTGA

3.2 Other proteins evaluated in this work

Gluconobacter oxydans enoate reductase (*GluER*) from *Gluconobacter oxydans* 621H. Genbank accession number: AAW60280

GluER protein sequence:

MHHHHHPTLFDPIDFGPIHAKNRIVMSPLTRGRADKEAVPTPIMAEYYAQRASAGLIITE
ATGISREGLGWPFAPGIWSDAQVEAWKPIVAGVHAKGGKIVCQLWHMGRMVHSSVTGT
QPVSSSATTAPGEVHTYEGKKPFEQARAIDAADISRILNDYENAARNAIRAGFDGVDQIHA
ANGYLIDFLRNGTNHRTDEYGGVPENRIRFLKEVTERVIAAIGADRTGVRLSPNGDTPQG
CIDSAPETVFPAAKLLQDLGVAVLELREPGPNGTFGKTDQPKLSPQIRKVFRLPLVLNQ
DYTFEAAQTALAEKADAIAFGRKFISNPDLPERFARGIALQPDDMKTWYSQGPEGYTD
YPSATSGPN.

GluER DNA sequence:

ATGCACCACCATCACCACCACCCGACCCTTTTCGACCCCATCGATTCGGACCTATCC
ACGCCAAGAATCGTATCGTCATGTCCCCCTGACTCGCGGTCGCGCTGACAAAGAGG
CGGTTCCAACCCCATATTGGCTGAATACTACGCCAACGCGCTTCGGCGGGTTTAAT
TATCACTGAAGCGACGGGGATTTACGCGAAGGCTTAGGTTGGCCGTTTGCGCCGGG
AATTTGGTCCGATGCACAGGTTGAGGCGTGGAACCTATCGTCGCGGGTGTCCATGC
AAAGGGCGGCAAGATCGTATGTCAGCTTTGGCATATGGGCCGTATGGTACATTCTTCA
GTTACAGGGACGCAGCCCGTAAGCAGTTCCGCCACTACTGCTCCAGGTGAGGTTTAC
ACCTATGAGGGCAAGAAGCCCTTCGAACAAGCGCGTGCAATCGATGCTGCAGACATC
TCCCGCATCCTTAACGATTACGAAAATGCAGCACGTAATGCAATCCGCGCGGGTTTCG
ATGGAGTGCAGATCCACGCAGCCAATGGCTACCTTATCGATGAGTTTTTTCGTAACGG
AACCAATCATCGCACCGATGAGTATGGGGGGGTGCCGGAGAACCGTATTCGTTTTCTTG
AAAGAGGTAACAGAACGCGTCATCGCGGCGATTGGCGCTGACCGTACGGGTGTGCGT
CTGAGTCCAAACGGTGACACACAGGGTTGTATCGACAGTGCTCCCGAAACCGTTTTT
GTTCTGCGCAAAGCTTTTTCGAAAGATTTAGGGGTAGCGTGGCTTGAGCTGCGTGAA
CCTGGTCCGAATGGTACGTTTGGAAAGACGGATCAACCAAATTATCTCCACAAATCC
GTAAGGTATTCCTTCGTCCATTGGTCTTAAATCAAGACTATACTTTTGAGGCGGCACAG
ACGGCCCTGGCTGAGGGCAAGGCGGACGCTATTGCGTTTGGCCGTAAGTTCATTTCA
ATCCAGACTTGCCTGAGCGCTTTGCCCGTGGCATCGCACTGCAACCAGACGATATGA
AAACATGGTACTCCCAAGGCCAGAGGGTTACACAGACTATCCATCCGCAACTTCTG
GGCCGA ACT GA

Old yellow enzyme 2 (OYE2) from Saccharomyces cerevisiae.
Genbank accession number: AAA83386.1

OYE2 protein sequence:

MPFVKDFKPQALGDTNLFKPIKIGNNELLHRAVIPPLTRMRAQHHPGNIPNRDWAVEYYAQ
RAQRPGTLIITEGTFPSPQSGGYDNAPGIWSEEQIKEWTKIFKAIHENKSFAWVQLWVLG
WAAFPDGLARDGLRYDSASDNVYMNAEQEEKAKKANNPQHSITKDEIKQYVKEYVQA
AKNSIAAGADGVEIHSANGYLLNQFLDPHSNRRTDEYGGSIENRARFTLEVVDVAVDAI
GPEKVGLRLSPYGVFNSMSGGAETGIVAQYAYVLGELERRAKAGKRLAFVHLVEPRVTN
PFLTEGEGEYNGGSNKFAYSIWKGPIIRAGNFALHPEVVREEVKDPRTLIGYGRFFISNPDL
VDRLEKGLPLNKYDRDTFYKMS AEGYIDYPTYEEALKLGWDKNHHHHHHH.

OYE2 DNA sequence:

ATGCCCTTCGTGAAAGACTTCAAACCTCAAGCCCTGGGCGATACTAATTTATTTAAGC
CAATTAATAATTGGAAACAATGAGTTGTTACACCGCGCTGTAATTCACCCCTTAACCCG
CATGCGCGCCCAACATCCAGGGAACATCCCTAATCGCGATTGGGCAGTCGAGTACTAT
GCTCAGCGTGCTCAGCGTCCGGGTACCCTTATCATCACGGAAGGAACGTTTCCGTCG
CCGCAATCGGGAGGGTATGACAACGCTCCCGGTATCTGGTCGGAAGAACAGATTAAA
GAATGGACCAAAAATCTTTAAAGCAATTCATGAGAATAAATCTTTCGCCTGGGTCCAAC
TTTGGGTCCTGGGCTGGGCAGCCTTCCTGACACATTGGCGCGTGACGGGCTTCGTT
ATGATAGTGCTTCGGATAACGTGTATATGAATGCTGAACAAGAAGAAAAGGCCAAAA
AAGCAAACAATCCACAGCATTTCGATTACTAAAGACGAGATTAAGCAGTATGTTAAGG
AATACGTACAAGCAGCAAAGAATTCTATTGCCGCAGGGGCGGACGGGGTAGAAATCC
ACTCTGCTAATGGGTACTTGCTTAACCAGTTCCTGGACCCGCATTCAAACAACCGCAC
TGATGAGTACGGAGGGTCCATCGAAAATCGTGCACGTTTTACTTTAGAGGTCGTAGAT
GCTGTAGTCGACGCGATTGGCCCTGAGAAGGTAGGTTTTCGTTTAAAGTCCTTATGGCG
TGTTCAATCAATGTCAGGGGGCGCTGAAACAGGTATCGTCGCGCAGTACGCATACGT
CTTGGGAGAGCTGGAGCGTCGTGCTAAGGCTGGCAAGCGTTTAGCTTTTGTGCATTTA
GTTGAACCGCGCGTGACAAACCCCTTCTTGACGGAAGGCGAAGGAGAGTATAACGG
AGGATCGAATAAATTTGCGTATTCCATTGGAAGGGCCCGATCATTCGTGCCGGTAACT
TTGCCTTACATCCCGAAGTTGTTTCGCGAGGAAGTAAAAGACCCACGTACCTTGATCG
GGTATGGCCGTTTCTTTATTTCAAACCCCGACTTGGTGGATCGCCTTGAAAAAGGTCT
TCCCTTGAATAAGTATGACCGTGATACGTTCTACAAAATGTCAGCCGAAGGTTACATC
GACTACCCACCTACGAAGAGGCTTTGAAACTTGGTTGGGACAAGAACCACCACCAT
CACCACCACTGA.

Old yellow enzyme 3 (OYE3)

Genbank Accession Number: AAA64522

Amino acid sequence:

MPFVKGFEPISLRDTNLFEPKIGNTQLAHRVMPPLTRMRATHPGNIPNKEWAAVYYG
QRAQRPGTMIITEGTFISPPQAGGYDNAPGIWSDEQVAEWKNIFLAIHDCQSFVWQLWS
LGWASFPDVLARDGLRYDCASDRVYMNATLQEKAKDANNLEHSLTKDDIKQYIKDYIH
AAKNSIAAGADGVEIHSANGYLLNQFLDPHSNKRTDEYGGTIENRARFTLEVVDALieti
GPERVGLRLSPYGTfNSMSGGAEPGIIAQYSYVLGELEKRAKAGKRLAFVHLVEPRVTD
PSLVEGEGEYSEGtNDFAYSiWKGPiIRAGNYALHPEVVREQVKDPRTLIGYGRFFISNPd
LVYRLEEGLPLNKYDRSTFYtMSAEgyTDYPTyEEAVDLGWNKNHHHHHHH

DNA sequence:

ATGCCTTTCGTGAAGGGGTTTCGAGCCGATCTCTCTGCGCGATACAACTTGTTCGAA
CCTATCAAGATCGGTAATACCCAATTAGCGCACCGTGCTGTAATGCCCCATTGACC
CGTATGCGCGCGACGCACCCCGTAATATTCCAATAAAGAGTGGGCGGCGGTCT
ACTATGGACAACGTGCGCAACGTCCTGGGACGATGATTACTGAAGGTACTTTTA
TTTCACCCAAGCCGGCGGGTATGATAACGCACCTGGAATCTGGAGTGATGAGCAA
GTGGCTGAGTGGAAAACATCTTCCTTGCAATCCATGACTGCCAATCTTTTGCTTGG
GTTCAGCTGTGGAGCTTAGGATGGGCATCATTCCAGATGTATTAGCCCGTGACGG
TCTTCGTTATGATTGTGCTTCAGACCGCGTGTATATGAACGCAACATTACAAGAAAA
AGCCAAAGACGCAAACAACCTTGAGCACTCGCTGACTAAAGACGACATTAAGCAAT
ACATTAAGGACTATATTCATGCAGCGAAGAATAGTATCGCTGCCGGAGCCGATGGC
GTGGAAATTCACAGCGCTAATGGCTACCTGCTGAACCAATTCTTAGACCCCCATTCT
AATAAACGCACTGATGAGTACGGGGGAACGATTGAGAACCGTGCTCGTTTCACATT
AGAGGTAGTCGATGCTTTGATTGAGACGATCGGCCCGGAGCGCGTAGGCCTGCGT
TTGTCCCCCTATGGGACCTTCAACAGTATGAGTGGAGGGGCAGAGCCTGGAATCAT
TGCACAGTATAGCTATGTCCTGGGTGAATTGGAAAAGCGTGCAAAAAGCGGGCAAAC
GTCTTGCCCTTCGTTTCATCTGGTGGAGCCGCGTGTACCGACCCCTCCTTAGTTGAGG
GAGAGGGAGAGTACAGTGAGGGTACGAATGACTTCGCCTACAGCATCTGGAAGGG
GCCCATCATTGCGCTGGCAATTACGCCTTGCACCCAGAAGTCGTCCGCGAGCAG
GTAAAGGATCCACGTACACTGATCGGCTATGGGCGCTTCTTCATTTCAAATCCAGAC
TTGGTCTACCGTCTGGAAGAGGGATTACCATTAATAAATATGACCGCTCCACATTTT
ATACCATGTCGGCTGAGGGGTATACAGACTACCCACCTATGAGGAAGCAGTGGAT
CTTGTTGGAACAAGAATCACCACCATCACCACCACTGA

The detailed expression and purification information of other tested 'ene'-reductases in this study, namely old yellow enzyme 2 (OYE2), and gluconobacter oxydans enoate reductase (GluER), were described previously.⁸⁻¹¹

3.3 MorB Protein Expression and Purification

Morphinone reductase (MorB) was expressed according to the protocol described previously [1] and was produced in *E. coli* BL21 transformed with plasmid encoding MorB. Transformed glycerol stocks were used to initiate a 5 mL overnight culture in Luria-Bertani (LB) media with ampicillin (100 µg/mL at 37 °C and 250 rpm. Expression culture (500 mL in a 2 L baffled shake flask) containing ampicillin (100 µg/mL) and autoinducing mixtures (sterile filtered mixture of 1% glucose, 4% lactose and 15% glycerol, 40 mL/L media) was inoculated with 5 mL of the overnight culture, then grown at 30 °C and 250 rpm for 24 h. The cells were harvested by centrifugation (4000 x g, 20 min, 4 °C) and frozen at -80 °C for further purification.

Frozen cells were thawed and resuspended in buffer A (20 mM KPi pH 7, 300 mM NaCl, 25 mM imidazole) to a final concentration of 2 mL/g of wet cells. The resuspended cells were supplemented with lysozyme (1 mg/mL), FMN (1 mg/mL), DNase I (0.1 mg/mL), phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF, 1 mM) and allowed to shake for 30 min at 37 °C. The cells were further disrupted by sonication (2 x 4 min, output control 5, 35% duty cycle, Sonicator QSonica Q500 Ultra Sonicator). Lysates were centrifuged (20,000 x g, 1 h, 4 °C) to pellet insoluble materials. Proteins were purified using a nickel-NTA column (5 mL HisTrap HP, GE Healthcare, Piscataway, NJ) via an AKTASTart purifier FPLC system (GE Healthcare). Enzymes were eluted with buffer B (20 mM KPi pH 7, 300 mM NaCl, 250 mM imidazole) over five column volumes. Yellow fractions containing MorB enzymes were pooled, concentrated through buffer exchange into an imidazole free storage buffer (20 mM KPi, pH 7, 300 mM NaCl). Concentrated enzymes were aliquoted, flash-frozen in liquid N₂, and then stored at -80 °C until later use. Protein purity was assessed with SDS-PAGE.

Protein concentrations were determined using the extinction coefficient (12.2 x mM⁻¹ cm⁻¹ at 446 nm) for free FMN released after protein denaturation. Extinction coefficient for MorB: $\epsilon = 10.7 \times \text{mM}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$ at 463 nm. Both the WT and the final mutant expressed with an approximate yield of 150 mg protein/L culture.

3.4 Dialyzed, Cell-Free Lysate Preparation

The cell pellet was thawed at room temperature and resuspended in lysis buffer containing kPi (pH 8, 20 mM), FMN (0.5 mg/mL), lysozyme (1 mg/mL), DNase (0.05 mg/mL), PMSF in ethanol (0.2 mM final concentration). The suspension was incubated at 37 °C for 45 min at 250 rpm, then cooled on ice. The cold suspension was sonicated on ice for 2x 4 min (output control 5, 35% duty cycle) on a Sonicator QSonica Q500 Ultra Sonicator system. The resulting lysed mixture was spun down at 65'000g at 4 °C for 1.5 h. The supernatant was transferred into dialysis tubing (10 kDa MW cutoff) and dialyzed into kPi (20 mM, pH 8) at 4 °C (3x 1000 mL) for 12 h each cycle. The resulting wet, cell-free lysate was flash frozen in liquid nitrogen and lyophilized for 48 h. The crude lysate was ground up to a powder, and protein levels were determined by protein gel analysis.

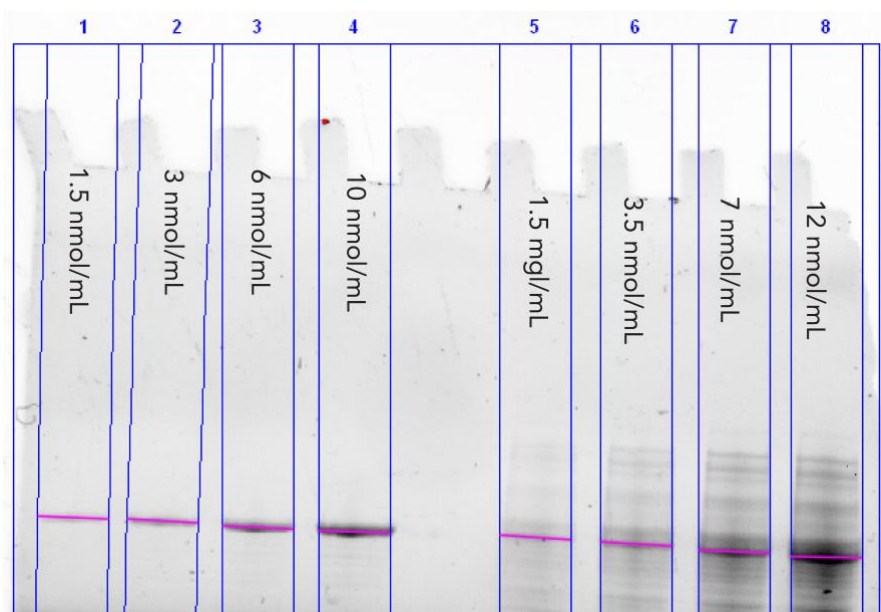


Fig. S1. The calculated amount of final variant protein corresponds to 1.4 nmol/mg of dry lysate.

4. Site Saturation Mutagenesis of MorB for N-alkylation

Site saturation mutagenesis primers were designed in accordance with the 22-codon trick using the PCR protocol.¹² The PCR products were digested with DpnI, and reassembled with NEBuilder[®] Hi-Fi Assembly, and used to directly transform *E. coli*. BL21 electrocompetent cells and plated on LB agar plates containing ampicillin (100 µg/mL).

4.1 Screening procedure for N-alkylation with MorB mutants in 96-well plates

Single colonies were picked with sterile toothpicks and used to inoculate 500 µL of LB media containing ampicillin (100 µg/mL) in deep-well 96-well plates, and cultured overnight (30 °C, 250 rpm). Wells A2, B4, C6, D8, E10, F12, and G2 were embedded controls of the parent protein for that round of engineering. Well H12 was used as blank control. A glycerol stock plate of the library was prepared by mixing sterilized glycerol solution (50% v/v, 50 µL/well) with the overnight cell cultures (50 µL/well). The library was sealed and stored at -80 °C. The expression cultures (950 µL of autoinducing Turbo Broth[™] media containing 100 µg/mL of ampicillin) in 96-well plates were inoculated by adding 50 µL of the overnight cultures, and grown for 24 h (30 °C, 250 rpm). After growth and expression, cells were harvested by centrifugation (4000 x g, 20 min, 4 °C) and frozen at -80 °C for later screening. The cell libraries were thawed and resuspended with lysis buffer (100 µL/well) and allowed to shake for 1 h at 37 °C. The crude cell lysates were centrifuged (4000 x g, 20 min, 4 °C) and the supernatants (90 µL/well) were transferred into a new white plastic 96-well plate for desalting.

Desalting: Since NADPH and NADP can halt the reaction progress we aimed to remove these small molecules using desalting plates. We used Zeba[™] Spin Desalting Plate from ThermoScientific. 90 µL/well from the supernatants were transferred to the desalting plate, followed by spin at 900 rpm for 1 minute to get the new supernatant lysate for reaction, to which 110 µL tricine pH=9 100 mM, was then then transferred to the glovebox

4.2 Plate preparation

In the glovebox, to the plate containing the lysate supernatant (200 µL/well) substrates (alkyl bromide: 1 mg/well, aniline: 0.1 mg/well in 20 µL DMSO) were added. Then the 96-well plate was sealed with adhesive plate-sealing film and shaken under anaerobic conditions with a fan cooling and irradiated using a Lumidox 96-well Cyan LED array at room temperature for 20 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with acetonitrile (700 µL/well), and the plate was sealed with a reusable silicone mat, shaken for 60 min, and centrifuged (4500 ×g, 20 min). The supernatant (200 µL/well) was filtered through a Millipore 96-well filter plate into a shallow-well plate (1000 x g, 1 min), and the filtrate was retained for mass analysis. Promising hits were chosen and subjected to cultivation in shaking flasks for further confirmation. The DNA plasmids of hits were extracted and submitted for sequencing to identify their mutations.

Recipe for Auto Inducing TB Media. For autoinducing cultures, Turbo Broth™ media was supplemented with a sterile-filtered solution of 1.25% glucose, 5% lactose, and 15% glycerol (40 mL/L media).

Lysis buffer. 100 mM Tricine (pH 9.0) buffer containing lysozyme (1 mg/mL), DNase I (0.1 mg/mL), FMN (1 mg/mL), and PMSF (1 mM).

4.3 PCR for Site Saturation Mutagenesis

Site saturation mutagenesis primers were designed in accordance with the 22-codon trick using the PCR protocol.¹²

The PCR products were digested with DpnI, and reassembled with NEBuilder[®] Hi-Fi Assembly, and used to directly transform E. coli. BL21 electrocompetent cells and plated on LB agar plates containing ampicillin (100 µg/mL).

Primers for Site Saturation Mutagenesis

| Round 2 | |
|----------|---|
| Q104-NDT | AAAGGGGGTTCGTATAGCGTTGNDTTTATGGCATGTCGGC CGG |
| Q104-VHG | AAAGGGGGTTCGTATAGCGTTGVHGTTATGGCATGTCGGC CGG |
| Q104-TGG | AAAGGGGGTTCGTATAGCGTTGTGGTTATGGCATGTCGGC CGG |
| Q104-rev | CAACGCTATACGACCCCTTTAGCATGGACAGC |
| V73-NDT | TCCCACCGCTCGGGGATACNDTTACACGCCAGGCATTTG G |
| V73-VHG | TCCCACCGCTCGGGGATACVHGTTACACGCCAGGCATTTG G |
| V73-TGG | TCCCACCGCTCGGGGATACTGGTACACGCCAGGCATTTG G |
| V73-rev | GTATCCCCGAGCGGTGGGACTGATATTTGTCGC |
| R110-NDT | CAGTTATGGCATGTCGGCNDTGTCTCTCATGAGCTGGTG |
| R110-VHG | CAGTTATGGCATGTCGGCVHGGTCTCTCATGAGCTGGTG |
| R110-TGG | CAGTTATGGCATGTCGGCTGGGTCTCTCATGAGCTGGTG |
| R110-rev | GCCGACATGCCATAACTGCAACGCTATACGACC |
| T240-NDT | AGAGTGGGGATACGGCTGNDTCCTTTCCTGGAGTTATTT |
| T240-VHG | AGAGTGGGGATACGGCTGVHGCCTTTCCTGGAGTTATTT |
| T240-TGG | AGAGTGGGGATACGGCTGTGGCCTTTCCTGGAGTTATTT |
| T240-rev | CAGCCGTATCCCCACTCTTTCGGGCCCGAATAC |

| Round 3 | |
|----------------|--|
| Y72-NDT | CAGTCCCACCGCTCGGGGANDTAATTACACGCCAGGCAT T |
| Y72-VHG | CAGTCCCACCGCTCGGGGAVHGAATTACACGCCAGGCAT T |
| Y72-TGG | CAGTCCCACCGCTCGGGGATGGAATTACACGCCAGGCATT |
| Y72-rev | TCCCCGAGCGGTGGGACTGATATTTGTCGCTTC |
| F246-NDT | ACTCCTTTCCTGGAGTTANDTGGATTAACGGATGATGAA |
| F246-VHG | ACTCCTTTCCTGGAGTTAVHGGGATTAACGGATGATGAA |
| F246-TGG | ACTCCTTTCCTGGAGTTATGGGGATTAACGGATGATGAA |
| F246-rev | TAACTCCAGGAAAGGAGTCAGCCGTATCCCCAC |
| V111-NDT | TTATGGCATGTCGGCCGGNDTTCTCATGAGCTGGTGCAG |
| V111-VHG | TTATGGCATGTCGGCCGGVHGTCTCATGAGCTGGTGCAG |
| V111-TGG | TTATGGCATGTCGGCCGGTGGTCTCATGAGCTGGTGCAG |
| V111-rev | CCGGCCGACATGCCATAACTGCAACGCTATACG |
| A190-NDT | GAGGTCCACGCGGCACATNDTTGTCTTCCTAATCAGTTC |
| A190-VHG | GAGGTCCACGCGGCACATVHGTGTCTTCCTAATCAGTTC |
| A190-TGG | GAGGTCCACGCGGCACATTGGTGTCTTCCTAATCAGTTC |
| A190-rev | ATTTGCCGCGTGGACCTCTACCATATCGAATCC |
| P241-NDT | GTGGGGATACGGCTGACTNDTTTCCTGGAGTTATTTGGA |
| P241-VHG | GTGGGGATACGGCTGACTVHGTTCCTGGAGTTATTTGGA |
| P241-TGG | GTGGGGATACGGCTGACTNTGGTCCTGGAGTTATTTGGA |
| P241-rev | AGTCAGCCGTATCCCCACTCTTTCGGGCCCCGAA |
| Y356-NDT | CCTGACCCCTCTACTTTTNDTGGCGGGGCAGAGGTGGGG |
| Y356-VHG | CCTGACCCCTCTACTTTTVHGGGCGGGGCAGAGGTGGGG |
| Y356-TGG | CCTGACCCCTCTACTTTTGGGGCGGGGCAGAGGTGGGG |
| Y356-rev | AAAAGTAGAGGGGTCAGGTTTCGTTTCAGCGCTGC |
| G281-NDT | AATGAACCCGATTGGATANDTGGGGACATCACGTACCCG |
| G281-VHG | AATGAACCCGATTGGATAVHGGGGGACATCACGTACCCG |
| G281-TGG | AATGAACCCGATTGGATATGGGGGGACATCACGTACCCG |

| | |
|----------|--|
| G281-rev | TATCCAATCGGGTTCATTAAAGTGTAATAACGC |
| N275-NDT | TTAGCGTATTTACACTTTNDTGAACCCGATTGGATAGGT |
| N275-VHG | TTAGCGTATTTACACTTTVHGGAAACCCGATTGGATAGGT |
| N275-TGG | TTAGCGTATTTACACTTTTGGGAACCCGATTGGATAGGT |
| N275-rev | AAAGTGTAATAACGCTAAACCACGCCGGTCTAAT |

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Round 4 | |
| I280-NDT | TTTAATGAACCCGATTGGNDTGGTGGGGACATCACGTAC |
| I280-VHG | TTTAATGAACCCGATTGGVHGGGTGGGGACATCACGTAC |
| I280-TGG | TTTAATGAACCCGATTGGTGGGGTGGGGACATCACGTAC |
| I280-rev | CCAATCGGGTTCATTAAAGTGTAATAACGCTAAACC |
| E135-NDT | TTAAAAGCCGAAGGGGCCNDTTGCTTTGTCTGAATTCGAG |
| E135-VHG | TTAAAAGCCGAAGGGGCCVHGTGCTTTGTCTGAATTCGAG |
| E135-TGG | TTAAAAGCCGAAGGGGCCCTGGTCTTTGTCTGAATTCGAG |
| E135-rev | GGCCCCTTCGGCTTTTAAGGCGGATGGTGCCAC |
| F137-NDT | GCCGAAGGGGCCGAGTGCNDTGTCTGAATTCGAGGATGG GA |
| F137-VHG | GCCGAAGGGGCCGAGTGCVHGGTCTGAATTCGAGGATGG GA |
| F137-TGG | GCCGAAGGGGCCGAGTGTCTGGGTCTGAATTCGAGGATGG GA |
| F137-rev | GCACTCGGCCCTTCGGCTTTTAAGGCGGATGGT |
| S34-NDT | ATGGCACCTTTAACC CGCNDTCGCACGCCAGATTCTGTA |
| S34-VHG | ATGGCACCTTTAACC CGCVHGCACGCCAGATTCTGTA |
| S34-TGG | ATGGCACCTTTAACC CGCTGGCGCACGCCAGATTCTGTA |
| S34-rev | GCGGGTTAAAGGTGCCATTATGACACGATTTGG |
| G133-NDT | TCCGCCTTAAAAGCCGAANDTGCCGAGTGCTTTGTCTGAA |
| G133-VHG | TCCGCCTTAAAAGCCGAAVHGGCCGAGTGCTTTGTCTGAA |
| G133-TGG | TCCGCCTTAAAAGCCGAATGGGCCGAGTGCTTTGTCTGAA |

| | |
|----------|---|
| G133-rev | TTCGGCTTTTAAGGCGGATGGTGCCACGGGTTG |
| S353-NDT | CTGAACGAACCTGACCCCNDTACTTTTTACGGCGGGGCA |
| S353-VHG | CTGAACGAACCTGACCCCVHGACTTTTTACGGCGGGGCA |
| S353-TGG | CTGAACGAACCTGACCCCTGGACTTTTTACGGCGGGGCA |
| S353-rev | GGGGTCAGGTTCGTTTCAGCGCTGCTCCTAAGCG |
| D283-NDT | ACCCGATTGGATAGGTGGGNDTATCACGTACCCGGAAGG GT |
| D283-VHG | ACCCGATTGGATAGGTGGGVHGATCACGTACCCGGAAG GGT |
| D283-TGG | ACCCGATTGGATAGGTGGGTGGATCACGTACCCGGAAGG GT |
| D283-REV | CCCACCTATCCAATCGGGTTCATTAAAGTGTA |
| A62-NDT | GGGTTAATCATCTCCGAANDTACAAATATCAGTCCCACC |
| A62-VHG | GGGTTAATCATCTCCGAAVHGACAAATATCAGTCCCACC |
| A62-TGG | GGGTTAATCATCTCCGAATGGACAAATATCAGTCCCACC |
| A62-REV | TTCGGAGATGATTAACCCGGCGCTGGCGCGTTG |

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Round 5 | |
| C136-NDT | AAAGCCGAAGGGGCGGAGNDTTTTGTCTGAATTCGAGGAT |
| C136-VHG | AAAGCCGAAGGGGCGGAGNVHGTTGTCTGAATTCGAGGAT |
| C136-TGG | AAAGCCGAAGGGGCGGAGNTGGTTGTCTGAATTCGAGGAT |
| C136-rev | CTCGGCCCTTCGGCTTTTAAGGCGGATGGTGC |
| R33-NDT | GTCATAATGGCACCTTTAACNDTTCACGCACGCCAGATT CT |
| R33-VHG | GTCATAATGGCACCTTTAACCVHGTACGCACGCCAGATT CT |
| R33-TGG | GTCATAATGGCACCTTTAACCTGGTACGCACGCCAGATT CT |
| R33-rev | GGTTAAAGGTGCCATTATGACACGATTTGGAAG |
| W279-NDT | CACTTTAATGAACCCGATNDTATAGGTGGGGACATCACG |
| W279-VHG | CACTTTAATGAACCCGATVHGATAGGTGGGGACATCACG |
| W279-TGG | CACTTTAATGAACCCGATTGGATAGGTGGGGACATCACG |
| W279-rev | ATCGGGTTCATTAAAGTGTAATAACGCTAAACCACGC |
| L243-NDT | ATACGGCTGACTCCTTTCNDTGAGTTATTTGGATTAACG |
| L243-VHG | ATACGGCTGACTCCTTTCVHGGAGTTATTTGGATTAACG |
| L243-TGG | ATACGGCTGACTCCTTCTGGGAGTTATTTGGATTAACG |
| L243-rev | GAAAGGAGTCAGCCGATCCCCACTCTTTCGGG |
| I59-NDT | GCCAGCGCCGGGTTAATCNDTTCGAAGCGACAAATATC |
| I59-VHG | GCCAGCGCCGGGTTAATCVHGTCCGAAGCGACAAATATC |
| I59-TGG | GCCAGCGCCGGGTTAATCTGGTCCGAAGCGACAAATATC |
| I59-rev | GATTAACCCGGCGCTGGCGCGTTGACCATAGTAT |
| E184-NDT | GCCGGATTCGATATGGTANDTGTCCACGCGGCAAATGCT |
| E184-VHG | GCCGGATTCGATATGGTAVHGGTCCACGCGGCAAATGCT |
| E184-TGG | GCCGGATTCGATATGGTATGGGTCCACGCGGCAAATGCT |
| E184-rev | TACCATATCGAATCCGGCCCGCTTCGCACGCTG |
| P352-NDT | AGCGCTGAACGAACCTGACNDTCTACTTTTTACGGCGG G |

| | |
|----------|--|
| P352-VHG | AGCGCTGAACGAACCTGACVHGTCTACTTTTTACGGCGG G |
| P352-TGG | AGCGCTGAACGAACCTGACTGGTCTACTTTTTACGGCGG G |
| P352-rev | GTCAGGTTCG TTCAGCGCTGCTCCTAAGCGGAAACG |
| V111-NDT | TTATGGCATGTCGGCCGGNDTTCTCATGAGCTGGTGCAG |
| V111-VHG | TTATGGCATGTCGGCCGGVHGTCTCATGAGCTGGTGCAG |
| V111-TGG | TTATGGCATGTCGGCCGGTGGTCTCATGAGCTGGTGCAG |

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Round 6 | |
| T32-NDT | GTCATAATGGCACCTTTANDTCGCTCACGCACGCCAGAT |
| T32-VHG | GTCATAATGGCACCTTTAVHGCCTCACGCACGCCAGAT |
| T32-TGG | GTCATAATGGCACCTTTATGGCGCTCACGCACGCCAGAT |
| T32-r | TAAAGGTGCCATTATGACACGATTTGGAAGAGACAGACT AC |
| R238-NDT | GCCCGAAAGAGTGGGGATANDTCTGACTCCTTTCCTGGA G |
| R238-VHG | GCCCGAAAGAGTGGGGATAVHGCTGACTCCTTTCCTGGA G |
| R238-TGG | GCCCGAAAGAGTGGGGATATGGCTGACTCCTTTCCTGGA G |
| R238-rev | TATCCCCACTCTTTCGGGCCCGAATACCTCGGCT |
| T75-NDT | GCTCGGGGATACGTATACNDTCCAGGCATTTGGACTGAC |
| T75-VHG | GCTCGGGGATACGTATACVHGCCAGGCATTTGGACTGAC |
| T75-TGG | GCTCGGGGATACGTATACTGGCCAGGCATTTGGACTGAC |
| T75-rev | GTATACGTATCCCCGAGCGGTGGGACTGATATTTGTCGC |
| Y72-NDT | AGTCCCACCGCTCGGGGANDTGTATACACGCCAGGCATT |
| Y72-VHG | AGTCCCACCGCTCGGGGAVHGGTATACACGCCAGGCATT |
| Y72-TGG | AGTCCCACCGCTCGGGGATGGGTATACACGCCAGGCATT |
| Y72-rev | TCCCCGAGCGGTGGGACTGATATTTGTCGCTTC |
| I237-NDT | CGGGCCCCGAAAGAGTGGGGNDTCGGCTGACTCCTTTCCT GG |
| I237-VHG | CGGGCCCCGAAAGAGTGGGGVHGCCTGACTCCTTTCCT GG |
| I237-TGG | CGGGCCCCGAAAGAGTGGGGTGGCGCTGACTCCTTTCCT GG |
| I237-rev | CCCCACTCTTTCGGGCCCGAATACCTCGGCTAC |
| G109-NDT | TTGCAGTTATGGCATGTCNDTCGGGTCTCTCATGAGCTG |

| | |
|----------|--|
| G109-VHG | TTGCAGTTATGGCATGTCVHGC GGGTCTCTCATGAGCTG |
| G109-TGG | TTGCAGTTATGGCATGTCTGGCGGGTCTCTCATGAGCTG |
| G109-rev | GACATGCCATAACTGCAACGCTATACGACCCCCTTAGCA TGG |
| H186-NDT | TTCGATATGGTAGAGGTCNDTGCGGCACATGCTTGTCTT |
| H186-VHG | TTCGATATGGTAGAGGTCVHGGCGGCACATGCTTGTCTT |
| H186-TGG | TTCGATATGGTAGAGGCTCTGGGCGGCACATGCTTGTCTT |
| H186-rev | GACCTCTACCATATCGAATCCGGCCCGCTTCGC |

4.4 Summary of Iterative Site Saturation Mutagenesis

Table S1. Evolution campaign

| Entry | MorB mutant | Yield | Chemoselectivity | Enantioselectivity e.r |
|-------|---------------------------------|-------|------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | WT | 25% | 66% | 52:48 |
| 2 | N189H | 42% | 75% | 53:47 |
| 3 | N189H/V73N | 58% | 80% | 54:46 |
| 4 | N189H/V73N/F246Y | 52% | 79% | 72:28 |
| 5 | N189H/V73N/F246Y/S353 | 72% | 83% | 74:26 |
| 6 | N189H/V73N/F246Y/S353/I59 | 78% | 85% | 81:19 |
| 7 | N189H/V73N/F246Y/S353/I59/A134V | 76% | 86% | 88:12 |

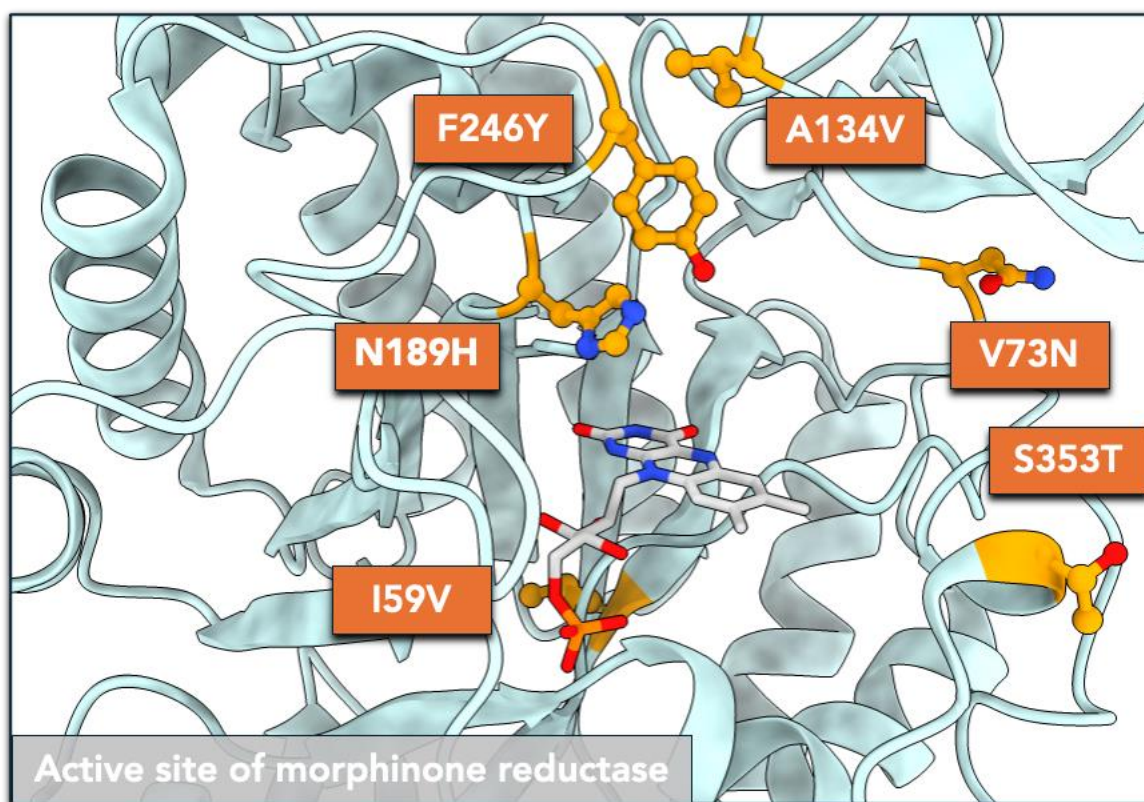
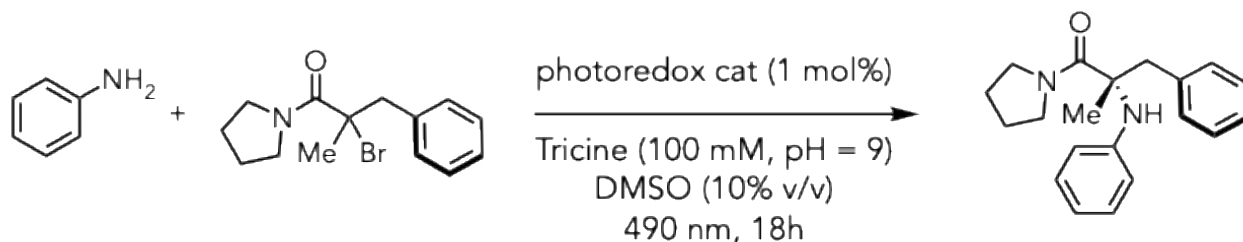


Fig. S2. Site saturation mutagenesis summary

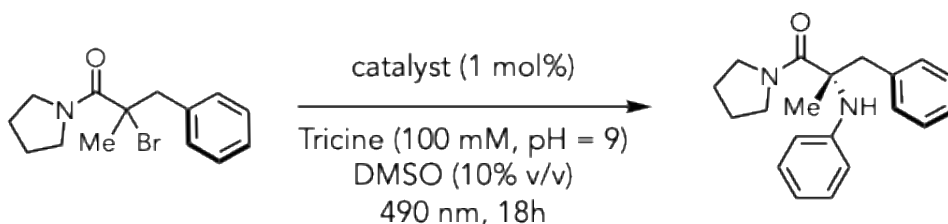
5. Enzymatic reactions

5.1 Initial screening and reaction discovery (photoredox, ketoreductases and 'ene'-reductases)



Reaction conditions: Vial reactions were set in the MBraun glovebox system (under N₂ atmosphere and oxygen levels of <0.5 ppm). To a 4 mL shell vial sealed with a septum, 450 μ L Tris buffer (100 mM, pH=9), followed by aniline (5 μ mol, 10 μ L from a 5 mg/100 μ L DMSO solution, prepared in the glovebox), and alkyl bromide (20 μ mol in 40 μ L in DMSO). To the mixture, the enzyme was added (50 nmol, 1 mol%), and the total reaction volume is 500 μ L with 10% (v/v) DMSO. The vial was sealed with a screw cap and stirred under cyan light irradiation and anaerobic conditions at room temperature for 24 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with 2 mL of acetonitrile and 100 μ L of 5 mg/mL 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (TBB) in acetonitrile as the internal standard. The mixture was shaken for 30 min, centrifuged (12000 x g, 5 mins), and the supernatant was filtered and retained for LC-MS analysis for yield calculation.

5.1.1 Photoredox catalysts



Reaction conditions: Vial reactions were set in the MBraun glovebox system (under N₂ atmosphere and oxygen levels of <0.5 ppm). To a 4 mL shell vial sealed with a septum, 450 μ L Tris buffer (100 mM, pH=9), followed by aniline (5 μ mol, 10 μ L from a 5 mg/100 μ L DMSO solution, prepared in the glovebox), and alkyl bromide (20 μ mol in 40 μ L in DMSO). To the mixture, the catalyst was added (50 nmol, 1 mol%), a total reaction volume is 500 μ L with 10% (v/v) DMSO. The vial was sealed with a screw cap and stirred under cyan light irradiation and anaerobic conditions at room temperature for 24 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with 2 mL of acetonitrile and 100 μ L of 5 mg/mL 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (TBB) in acetonitrile as the internal standard. The mixture was shaken for 30 min, centrifuged (12000 x g, 5 mins), and the supernatant was filtered and retained for LC-MS analysis for yield calculation.

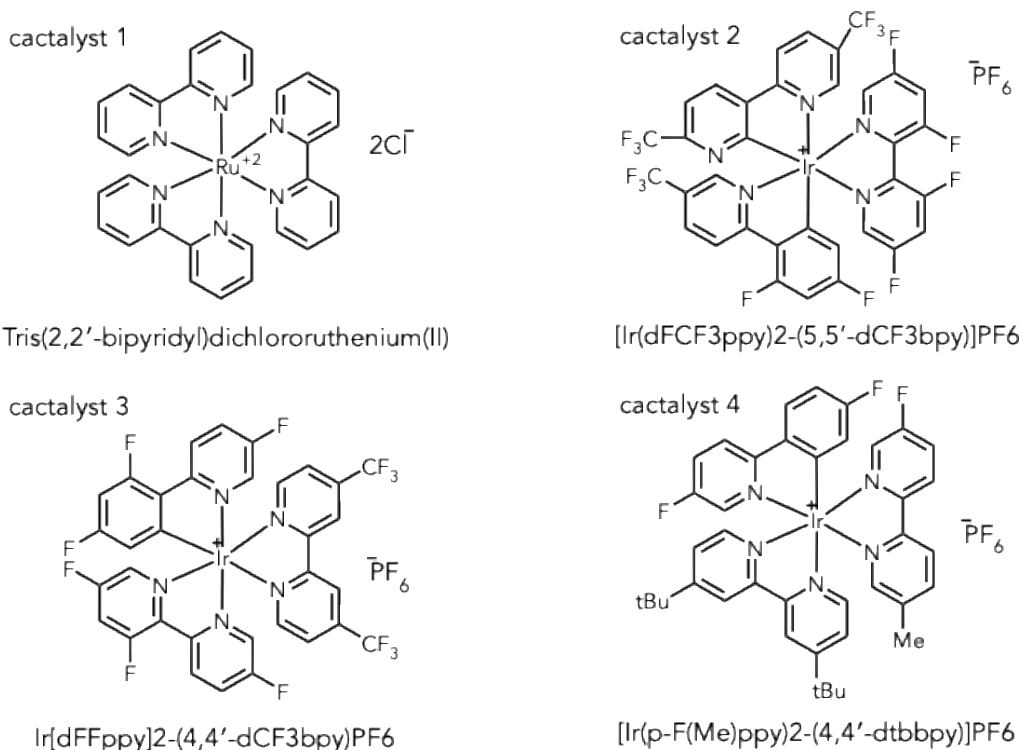
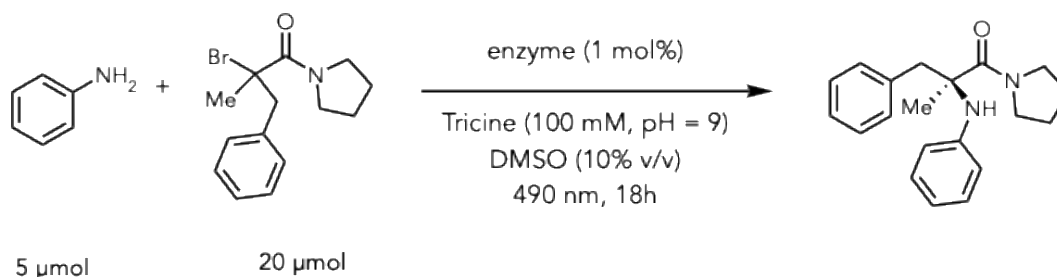


Fig. S3. Photoredox catalyst comparison

Table S2. Photoredox catalyst comparison

| Entry | Catalyst | yield | chemoselectivity | enantioselectivity |
|-------|----------|-------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 1 | ~2% | 78:22 | n.d |
| 2 | 2 | - | n.d | n.d |
| 3 | 3 | - | n.d | n.d |
| 4 | 4 | - | n.d | n.d |

5.1.2 Prozomix ketoreductase (KREDs) library screening



Reaction conditions: Vial reactions were set in the MBraun glovebox system (under N_2 atmosphere and oxygen levels of <0.5 ppm). To a 4 mL shell vial sealed with a septum, 450 μL Tris buffer (100 mM, pH=9), followed by aniline (5 μmol , 10 μL from a 5 mg/100 μL DMSO solution, prepared in the glovebox), and alkyl bromide (20 μmol in 40 μL in DMSO). To the mixture, the enzyme was added (50 nmol, 1 mol%), a total reaction volume is 500 μL with 10% (v/v) DMSO. The vial was sealed with a screw cap and stirred under cyan light irradiation and anaerobic conditions at room temperature for 24 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with 2 mL of acetonitrile and 100 μL of 5 mg/mL 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (TBB) in acetonitrile as the internal standard. The mixture was shaken for 30 min, centrifuged (12000 \times g, 5 mins), and the supernatant was filtered and retained for LC-MS analysis for yield calculation.

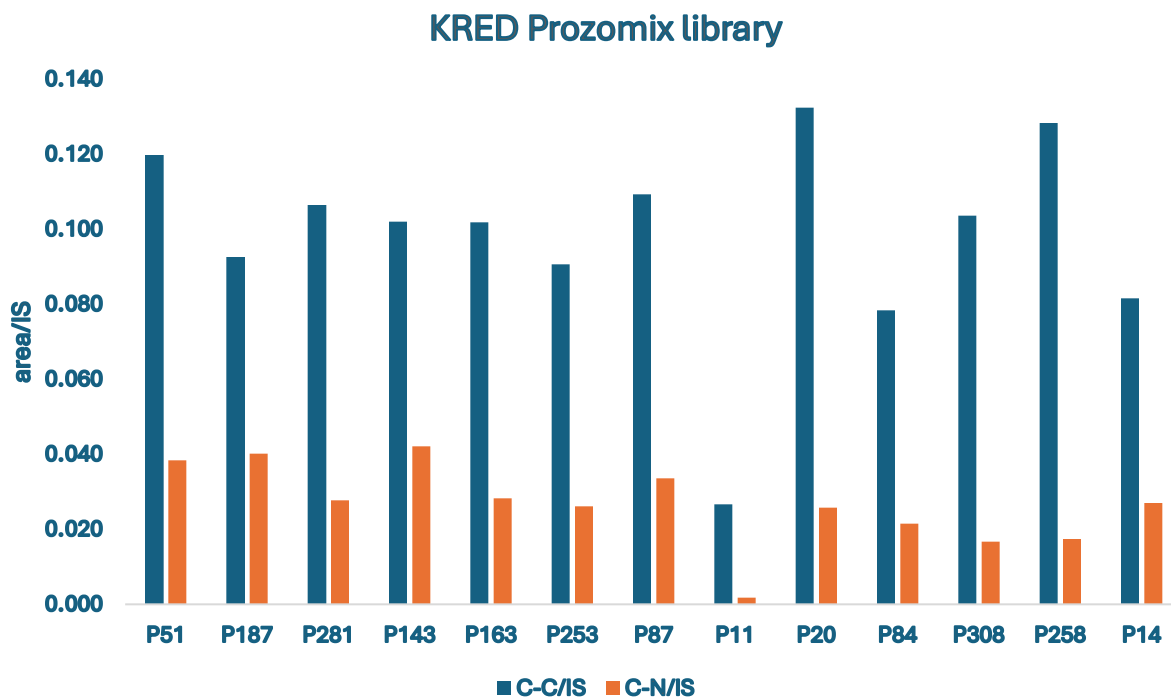
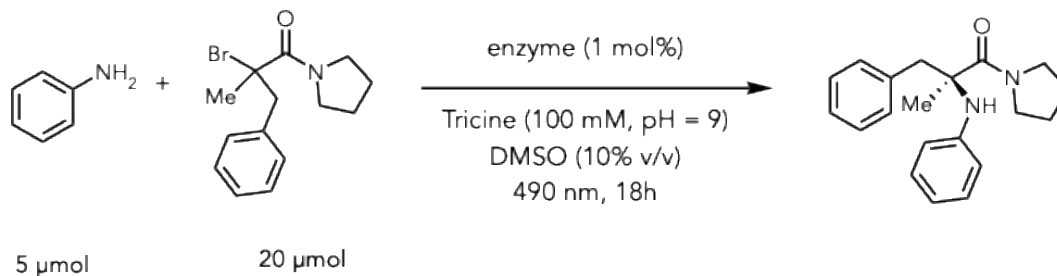


Fig. S4. Prozomix KRED library screening

6.1.2 'Ene'-reductases (EREDs) library screening



Reaction conditions: Vial reactions were set in the MBraun glovebox system (under N_2 atmosphere and oxygen levels of <0.5 ppm). To a 4 mL shell vial sealed with a septum, 450 μL Tris buffer (100 mM, pH=9), followed by aniline (5 μmol , 10 μL from a 5 mg/100 μL DMSO solution, prepared in the glovebox), and alkyl bromide (20 μmol in 40 μL in DMSO). To the mixture, the enzyme was added (50 nmol, 1 mol%), a total reaction volume is 500 μL with 10% (v/v) DMSO. The vial was sealed with a screw cap and stirred under cyan light irradiation and anaerobic conditions at room temperature for 24 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with 2 mL of acetonitrile and 100 μL of 5 mg/mL 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (TBB) in acetonitrile as the internal standard. The mixture was shaken for 30 min, centrifuged (12000 \times g, 5 mins), and the supernatant was filtered and retained for LC-MS analysis for yield calculation.

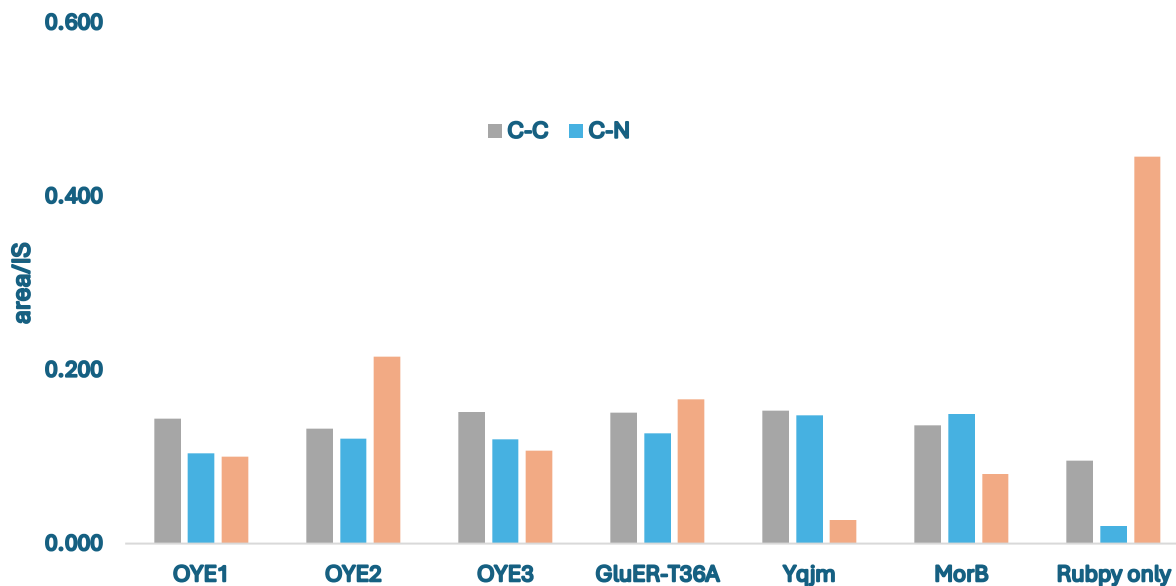
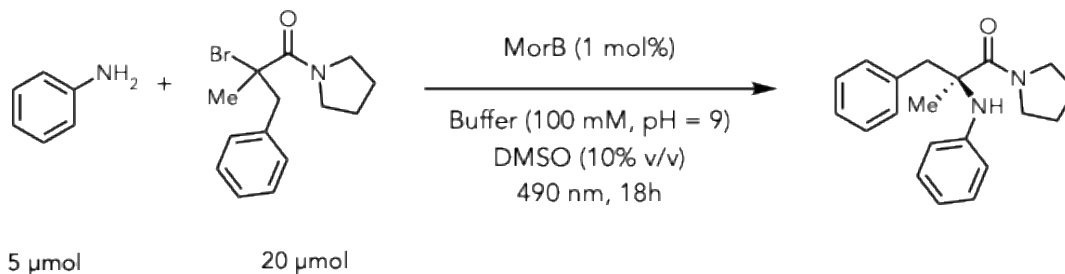


Fig. S5. ERED library screening

5.2 Buffer screening



Reaction conditions: Vial reactions were set in the MBraun glovebox system (under N_2 atmosphere and oxygen levels of <0.5 ppm). To a 4 mL shell vial sealed with a septum, 450 μL buffer (100 mM, pH=9), followed by aniline (5 μmol , 10 μL from a 5 mg/100 μL DMSO solution, prepared in the glovebox), and alkyl bromide (20 μmol in 40 μL in DMSO). To the mixture, the enzyme was added (50 nmol, 1 mol%), a total reaction volume is 500 μL with 10% (v/v) DMSO. The vial was sealed with a screw cap and stirred under cyan light irradiation and anaerobic conditions at room temperature for 24 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with 2 mL of acetonitrile and 100 μL of 5 mg/mL 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (TBB) in acetonitrile as the internal standard. The mixture was shaken for 30 min, centrifuged (12000 x g, 5 mins), and the supernatant was filtered and retained for LC-MS analysis for yield calculation.

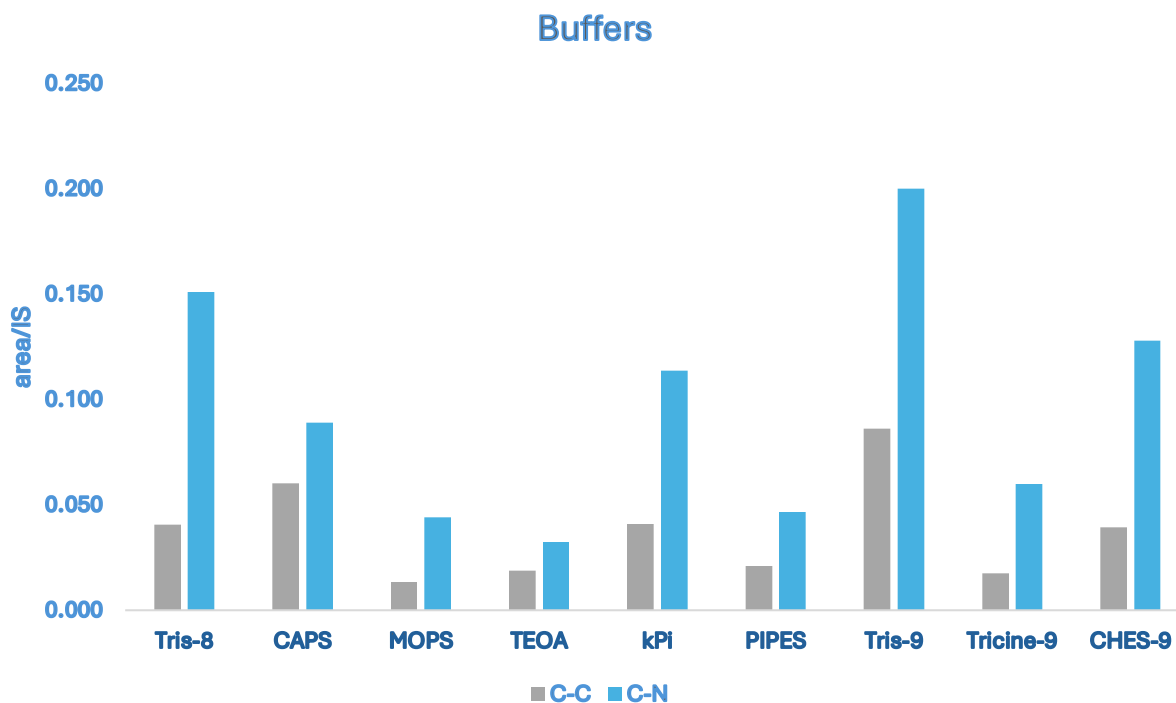
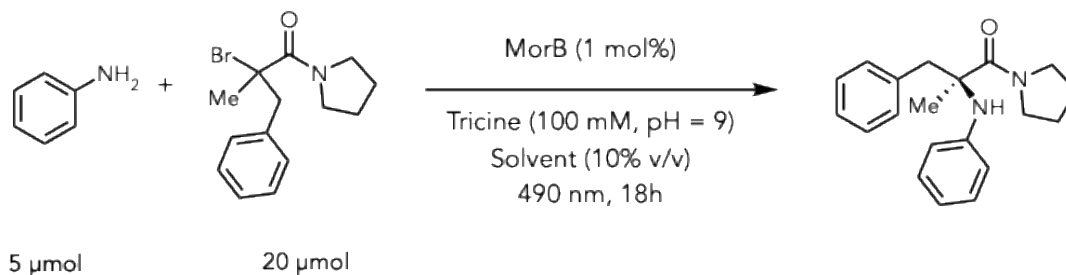


Fig S6. Buffer Screen

5.3 Solvent screening



Reaction conditions: Vial reactions were set in the MBraun glovebox system (under N_2 atmosphere and oxygen levels of <0.5 ppm). To a 4 mL shell vial sealed with a septum, 450 μL tricine buffer (100 mM, pH=9), followed by aniline (5 μmol , 10 μL from a 5 mg/100 μL solvent solution, prepared in the glovebox), and alkyl bromide (20 μmol in 40 μL in solvent). To the mixture, the enzyme was added (50 nmol, 1 mol%), a total reaction volume is 500 μL with 10% (v/v) solvent. The vial was sealed with a screw cap and stirred under cyan light irradiation and anaerobic conditions at room temperature for 24 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with 2 mL of acetonitrile and 100 μL of 5 mg/mL 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (TBB) in acetonitrile as the internal standard. The mixture was shaken for 30 min, centrifuged (12000 \times g, 5 mins), and the supernatant was filtered and retained for LC-MS analysis for yield calculation.

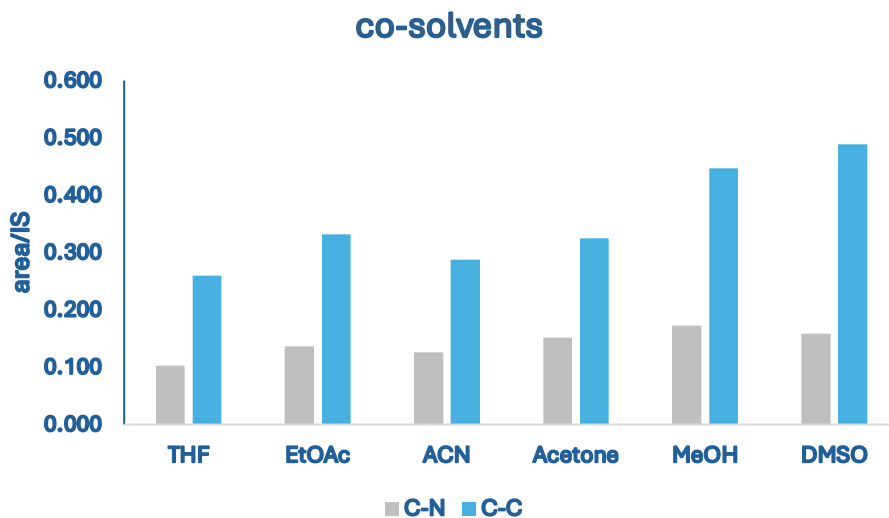
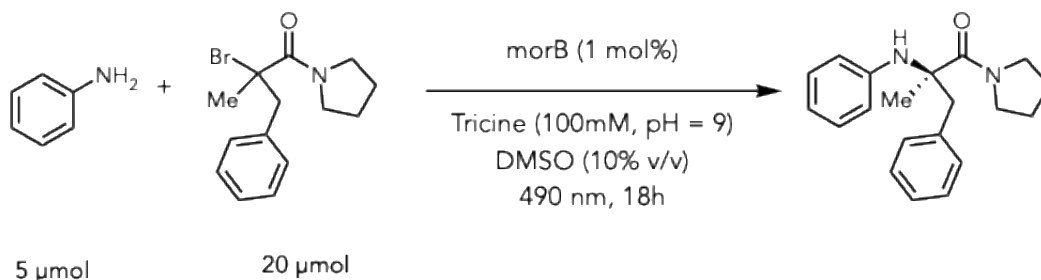


Fig S7. Solvent Screens

5.4 General procedure for the enzymatic reaction



Vial/Schlenk tube reactions were set in the MBraun glovebox system (under N₂ atmosphere and oxygen levels of <0.5 ppm). To a 4 mL shell vial sealed with a septum (or Schlenk tube), 450 μL tricine buffer (100 mM, pH=9), followed by aniline (5 μmol, 10 μL from a 5 mg/100 μL DMSO solution, prepared in the glovebox), and alkyl bromide (20 μmol in 40 μL in DMSO). To the mixture, the enzyme was added (50 nmol, 1 mol%), a total reaction volume is 500 μL with 10% (v/v) DMSO. The vial was sealed with a screw cap and stirred under cyan light irradiation and anaerobic conditions at room temperature for 24 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with 2 mL of acetonitrile and 100 μL of 5 mg/mL 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (TBB) in acetonitrile as the internal standard. The mixture was shaken for 30 min, centrifuged (12000 x g, 5 mins), and the supernatant was filtered and retained for LC-MS analysis for yield calculation. **Analysis:** After LC-MS analysis, the supernatant was concentrated under reduced pressure, extracted with EtOAc, the combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and passed through a syringe filled with silica. The mixture was then concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude residue was dissolved in 20% isopropanol/hexane (v/v) for chiral HPLC analysis.

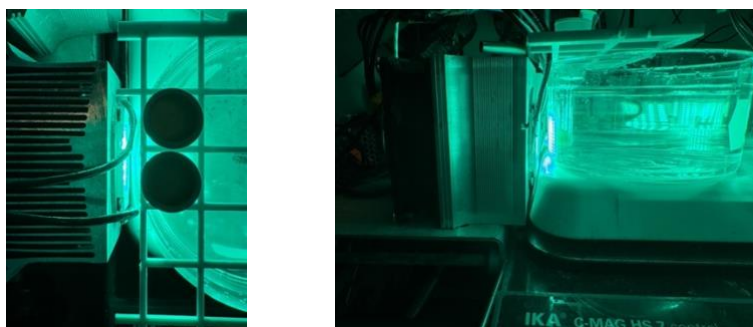


Fig. S8. Vial reaction setup

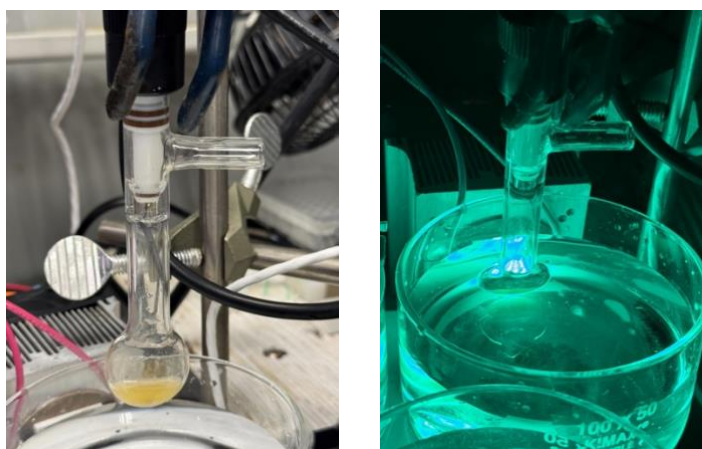
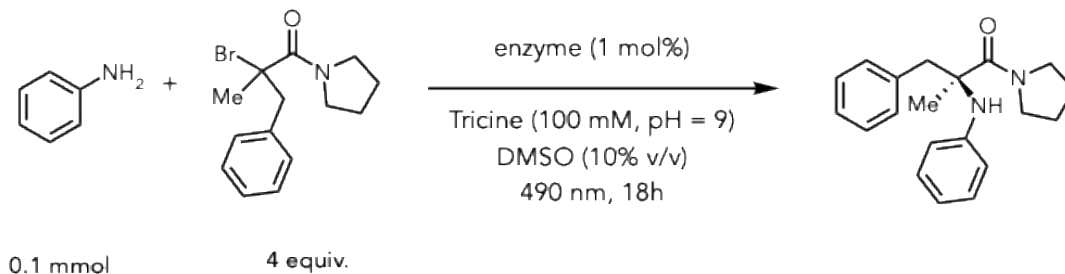


Fig. S9. Schlenk reaction setup

Plate set-up: The site-saturation 96-well plate (stored at $-80\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$) was thawed for 30 min at RT and to each well was added lysis buffer (Tricine 100mM, pH=9, 130 μL /well) containing FMN (0.5 mg/mL), lysozyme (1.0 mg/mL), DNase (0.05 mg/mL) and PMSF (35 μg /mL). The plate was sealed and shaken at $37\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 1.5 h. The whole-cell lysates were then 100 μL of the lysate was passed through a desalting plate. The desalted lysate was added to another 100 μL of Tricine buffer, and the plate was brought to the MBraun glovebox. Aniline **1** (0.05 mg, 10 μL from 5mg/1 mL in DMSO) and tertiary bromide **2** (1 mg, 100 mg/1 mL in DMSO) were added. The plate was sealed, and the mixture was stirred under cyan light (490 nm, 55 mW) irradiation for 16 h at RT. To each well was added MeCN (700 μL /well) and the mixtures were stirred for 1 hour at RT. The suspension was centrifuged at 4000 rpm for 10 minutes, and then 200 μL aliquots were filtered for analysis in RapidFire.

5.5 Larger scale



The reaction was performed according to the general procedure 6.4: To a 20 mL vial), 9 mL tricine buffer (100 mM, pH=9), followed by aniline (0.1 mmol), and alkyl bromide (0.5 mmol, in 1 mL DMSO). To the mixture, the enzyme was added (1000 nmol, 1 mol%), and the total reaction volume is 10 mL with 10% (v/v) DMSO. The vial was sealed and stirred under cyan light irradiation and anaerobic conditions at room temperature for 24 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with 40 mL of acetonitrile and 2000 μ L of 5 mg/mL 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (TBB) in acetonitrile as the internal standard. The mixture was shaken for 30 min, centrifuged (12000 x g, 5 mins), and the supernatant was filtered and retained for LC-MS analysis for yield calculation. **Analysis:** After LC-MS analysis, the supernatant was concentrated under reduced pressure, extracted with EtOAc, the combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and passed through a syringe filled with silica. The mixture was then concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude residue was dissolved in 20% isopropanol/hexane (v/v) for chiral HPLC analysis.

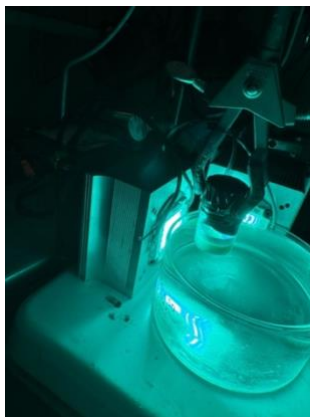
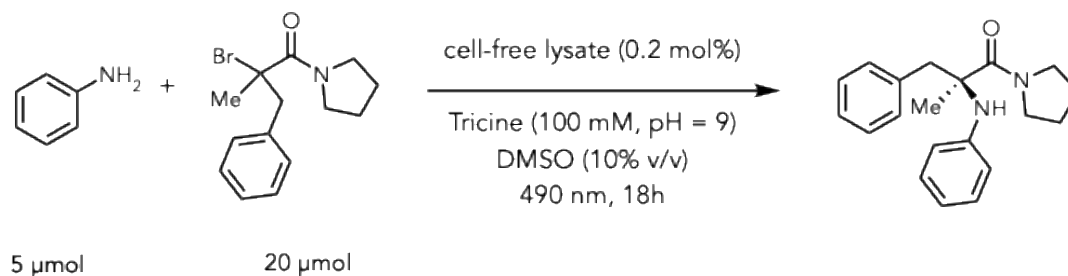


Fig. S10. Large scale reaction

5.6 Dialyzed lysate reaction



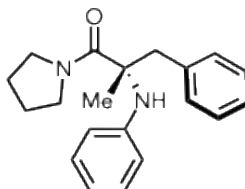
The reaction was performed according to the general procedure 6.4:

To a 4 mL shell vial sealed with a septum, 450 μL tricine buffer (100 mM, pH=9), followed by aniline (5 μmol , 10 μL from a 5 mg/100 μL DMSO solution, prepared in the glovebox), and alkyl bromide (20 μmol in 40 μL in DMSO). To the mixture, the dialyzed cell-free lysate was added (0.2 mol%, 10 mg), a total reaction volume is 500 μL with 10% (v/v) DMSO. The vial was sealed with a screw cap and stirred under cyan light irradiation and anaerobic conditions at room temperature for 24 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with 2 mL of acetonitrile and 100 μL of 5 mg/mL 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (TBB) in acetonitrile as the internal standard. The mixture was shaken for 30 min, centrifuged (12000 x g, 5 mins), and the supernatant was filtered and retained for LC-MS analysis for yield calculation. **Analysis:** After LC-MS analysis, the supernatant was concentrated under reduced pressure, extracted with EtOAc, the combined organic layers were dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and passed through a syringe filled with silica. The mixture was then concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude residue was dissolved in 20% isopropanol/hexane (v/v) for chiral HPLC analysis.

Table S3. Lysate loadings

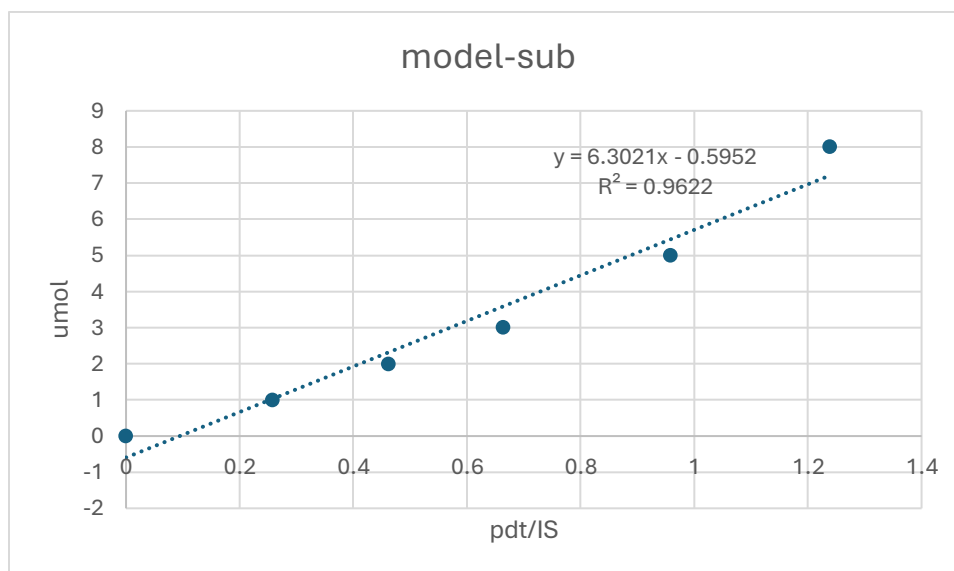
| Entry | Catalyst | yield | chemoselectivity | enantioselectivity |
|-------|-----------|-------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 1 mol% | 12% | 80:20 | n.d |
| 2 | 0.5 mol% | 18% | 82:18 | 85:15 |
| 3 | 0.2 mol% | 25% | 83:17 | 86:14 |
| 4 | 0.05 mol% | <5% | n.d | n.d |

5.7 Enzymatic reaction scope



(*S*)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**3**)

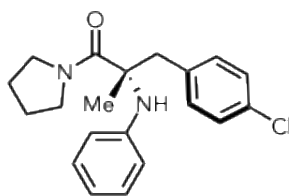
Calibration curve



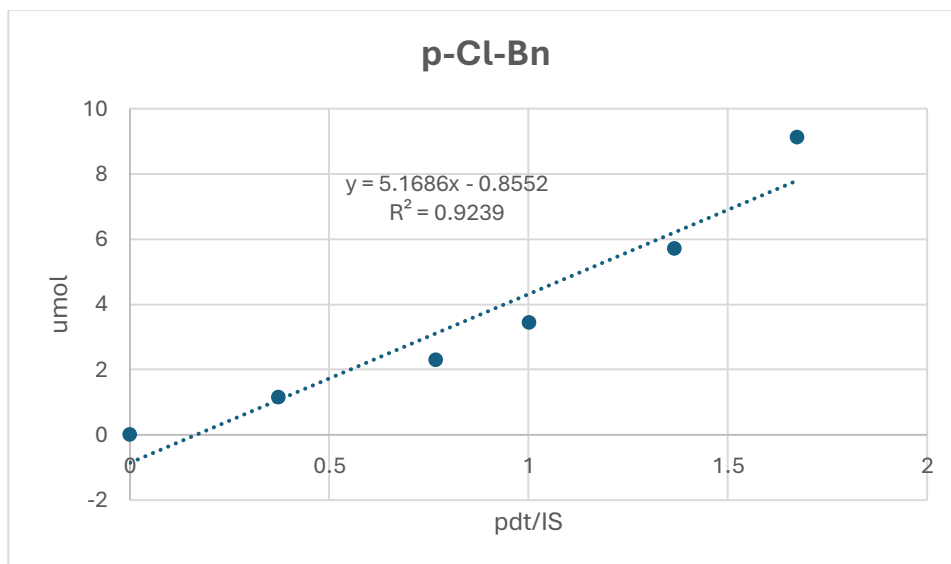
Yield: Schenck: 76%, 74%. Vial: 68%, 64%

Chemoselectivity: 85:15, 86:14

Enantioselectivity: 88:12 er. 87:13 er. Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 99.3:0.7, 1.5 mL/min. isocratic.



(*S*)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**5**)

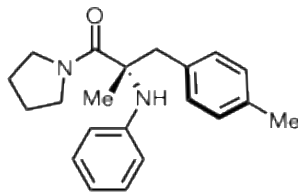


s

Yield: Schenck: 52%, 48%. Vial: 42%, 41%

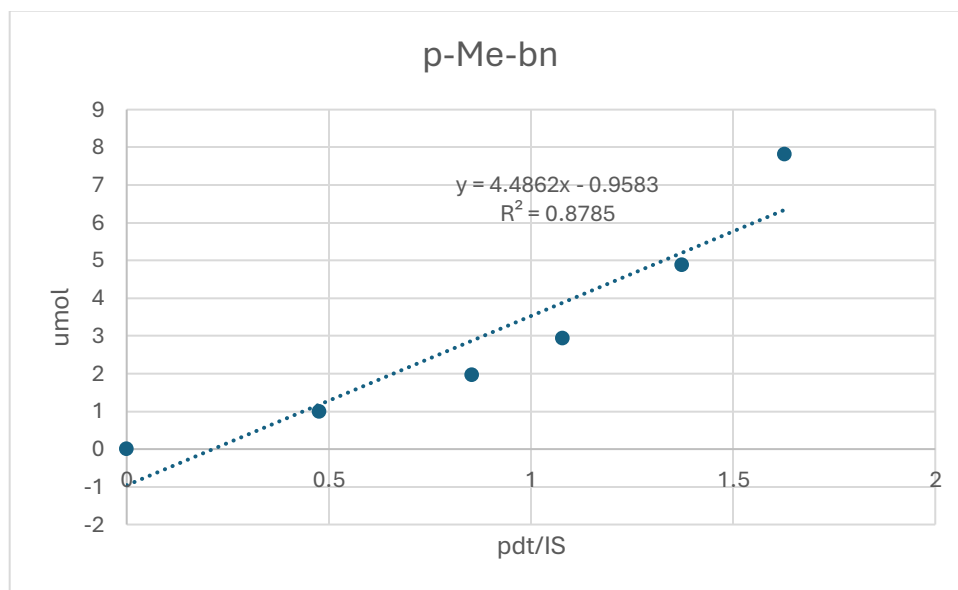
Chemoselectivity: 80:20, 77:23

Enantioselectivity: 80:20 er. 72:28 er. Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 96:4, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



(*S*)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-(*p*-tolyl)propan-1-one (**6**)

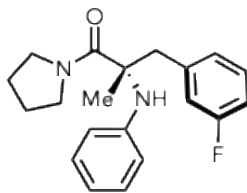
Calibration curve



Yield: Schenck: 78%, 73%. Vial: 70%, 61%

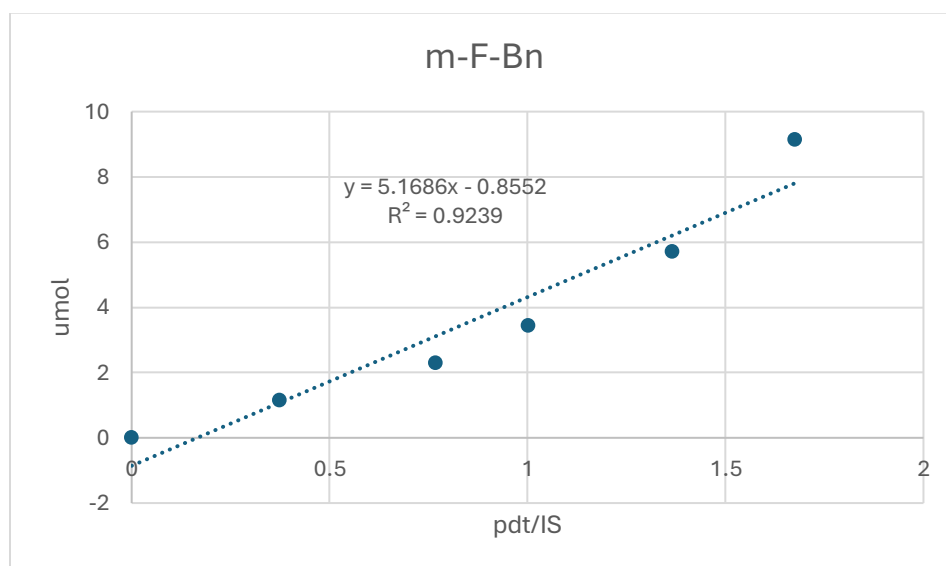
Chemoselectivity: 88:12, 85:15

Enantioselectivity: 72:28 er. 68:32 er. Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



(S)-3-(3-fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (7)

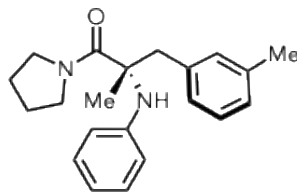
Calibration curve



Yield: Schenck: 18%, 16%. Vial: 14%, 10%

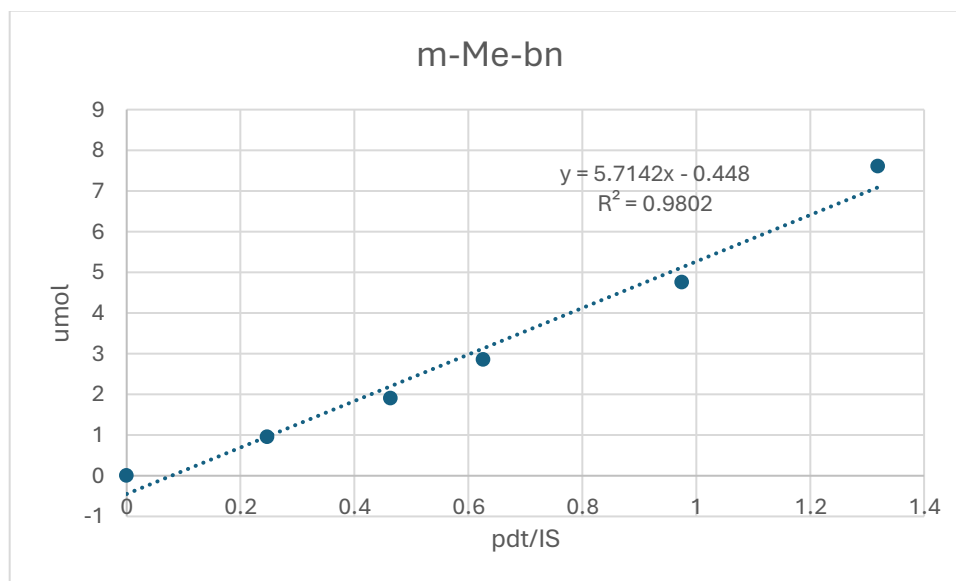
Chemoselectivity: 73:27, 70:30

Enantioselectivity: 73:27 er. 66:34 er. Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



(*S*)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-(*m*-tolyl)propan-1-one (**8**)

Calibration curve

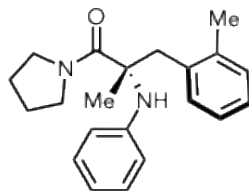


HPLC standard curve prepared with constant amounts of tribromobenzene.

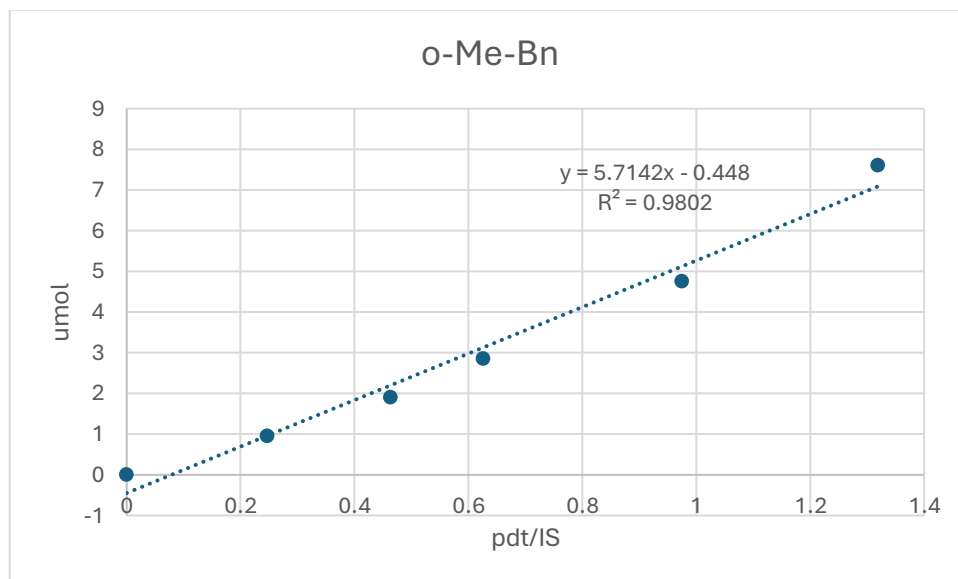
Yield: Schenck: 25%, 22%. Vial: 18%, 17%

Chemoselectivity: 70:30, 69:31

Enantioselectivity: 84:16 er. 80:20 er. Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



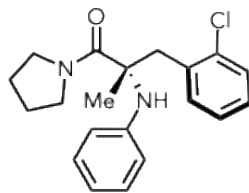
(*S*)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-(*o*-tolyl)propan-1-one (**9**)



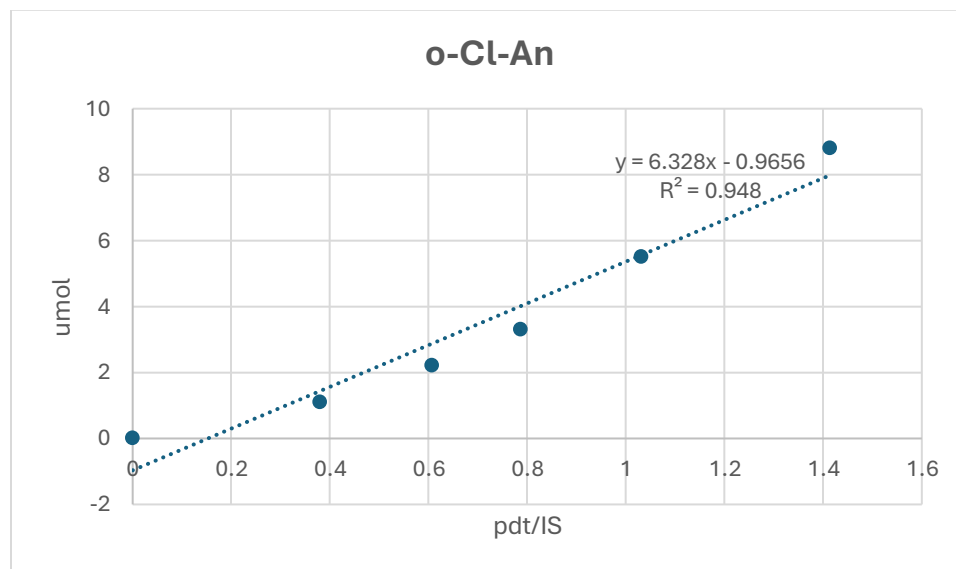
Yield: Schenck: 32%, 25%. Vial: 20%, 20%

Chemoselectivity: 66:34, 62:38

Enantioselectivity: 74:26 er. 70:30 er. Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



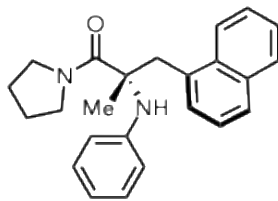
(*S*)-3-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**10**)



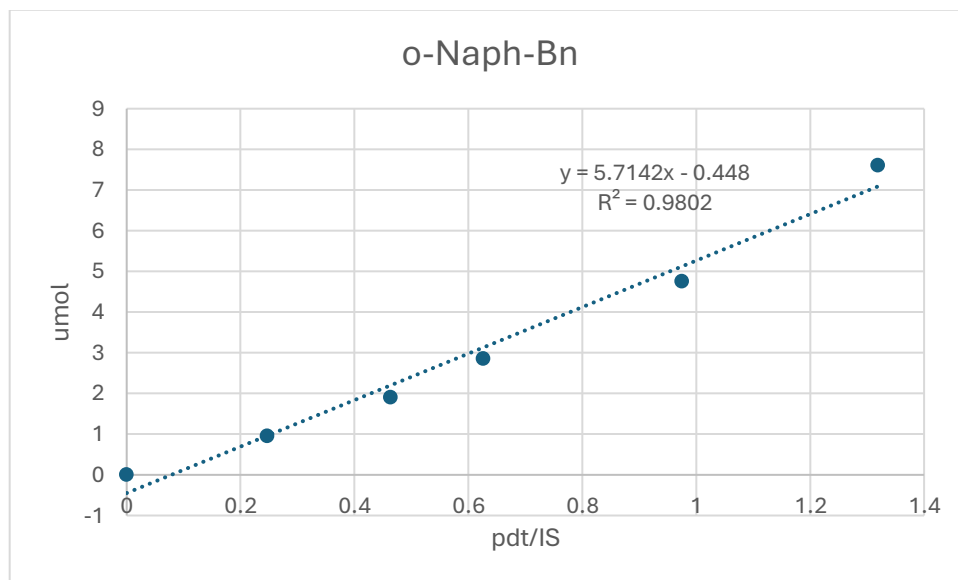
Yield: Schenck: 44%, 40%. Vial: 36%, 32%

Chemoselectivity: 60:40, 59:41

Enantioselectivity: 70:30 er. 66:34 er. Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 91:9, 1 mL/min. isocratic



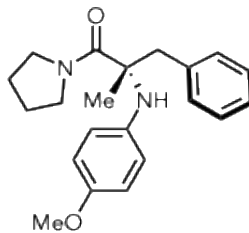
(*S*)-2-methyl-3-(naphthalen-1-yl)-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**11**)



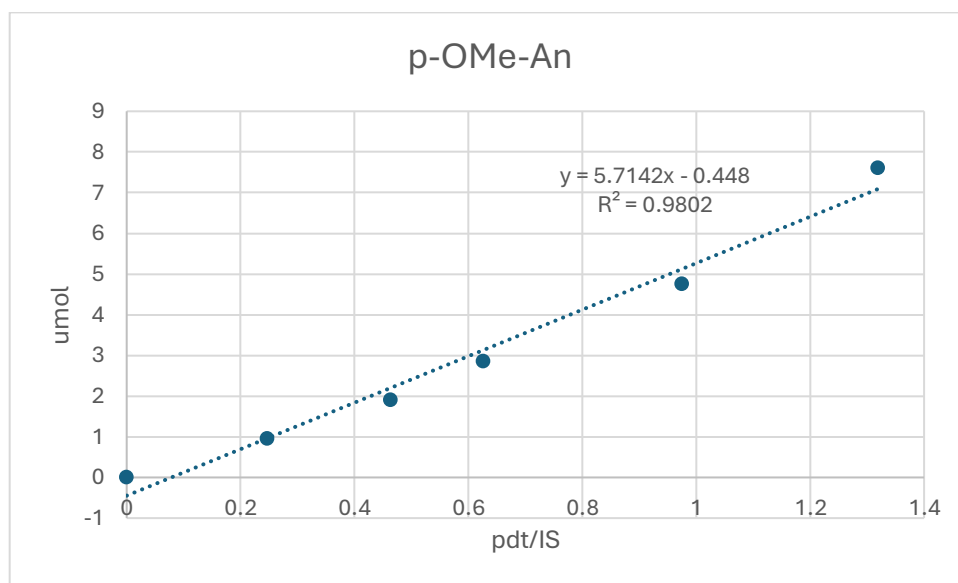
Yield: Schenck: 54%, 53%. Vial: 42%, 40%

Chemoselectivity: 73:27, 70:30

Enantioselectivity: 69:31 er. 63:37 er. Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 96:4, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



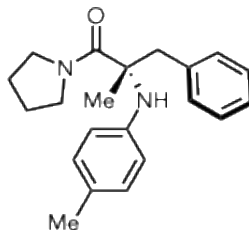
(*S*)-2-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**12**)



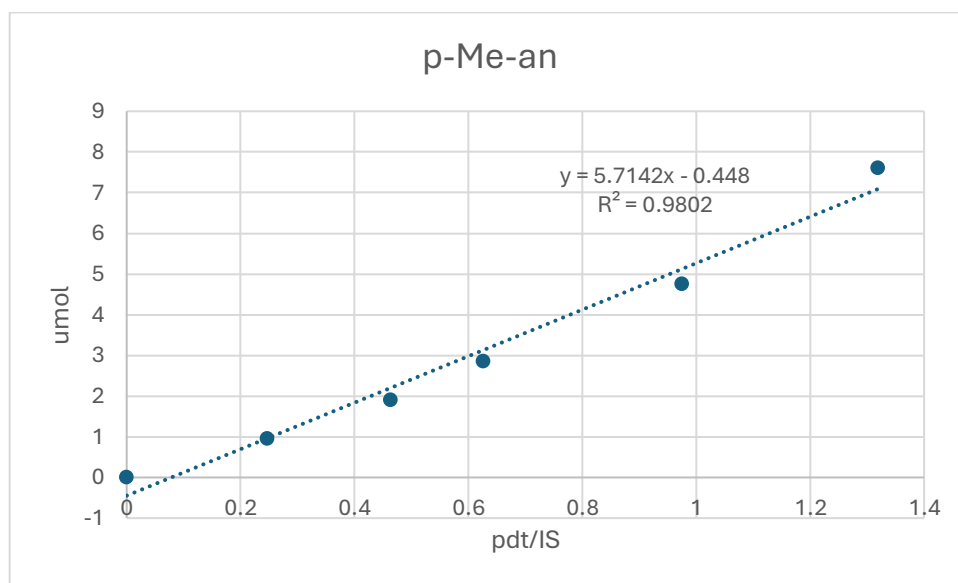
Yield: Schenck: 72%, 67%. Vial: 55%, 54%

Chemoselectivity: 100:0, 100:0 *N:C*

Enantioselectivity: 64:36 er. 62:38 er. Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



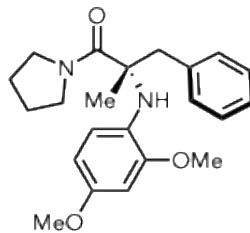
(*S*)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-(*p*-tolylamino)propan-1-one (**13**)



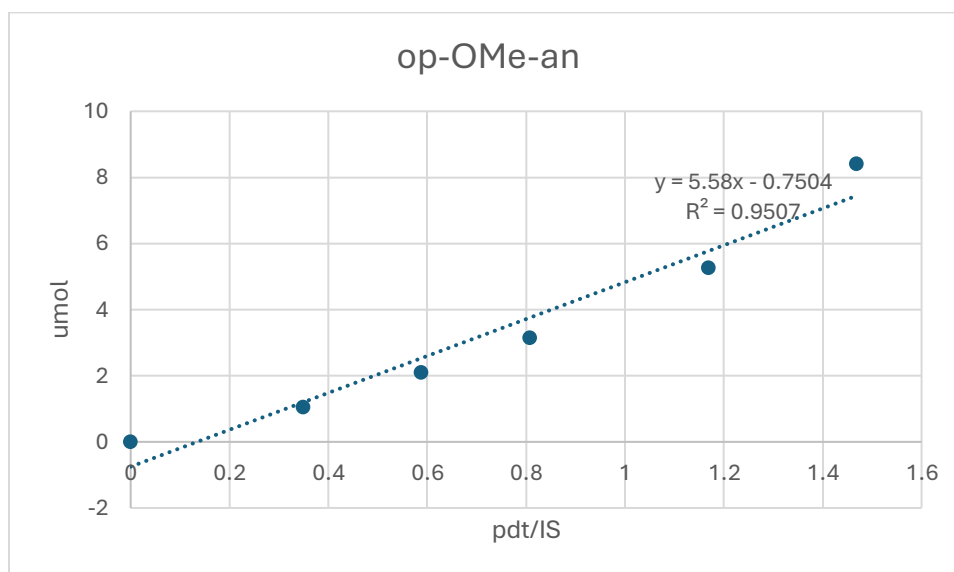
Yield: Schenck: 81%, 74%. Vial: 60%, 58%

Chemoselectivity: 100:0, 100:0 *N:C*

Enantioselectivity: 70:30 er. 67:33 er. Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



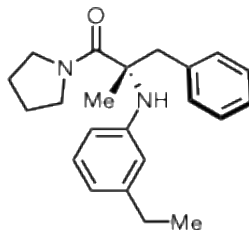
(*S*)-2-((2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**14**)



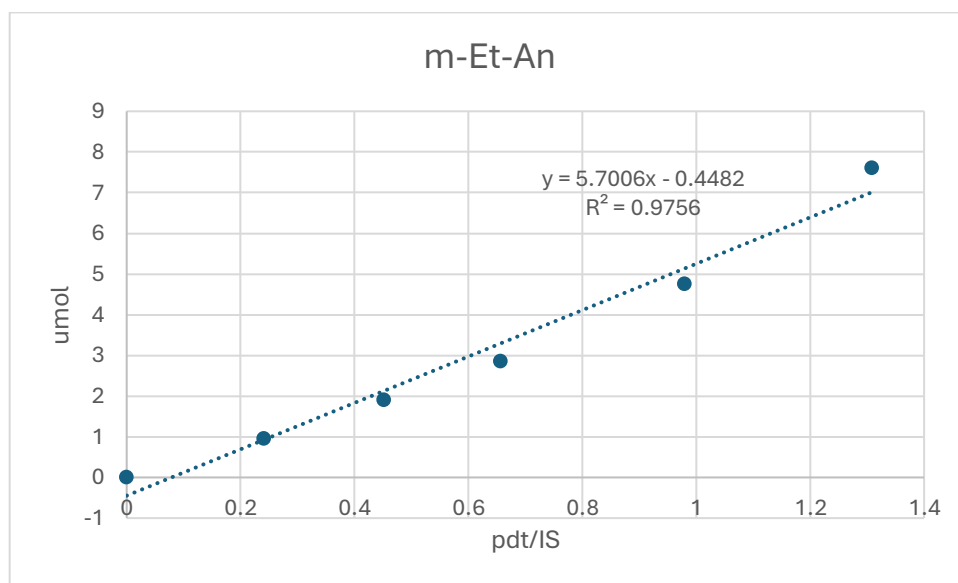
Yield: Schenck: 90%, 84%. Vial: 79%, 72%

Chemoselectivity: 100:0, 100:0 *N:C*

Enantioselectivity: 89:11 er. 86:14 er. Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



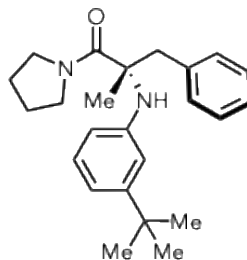
(*S*)-2-((3-ethylphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**15**)



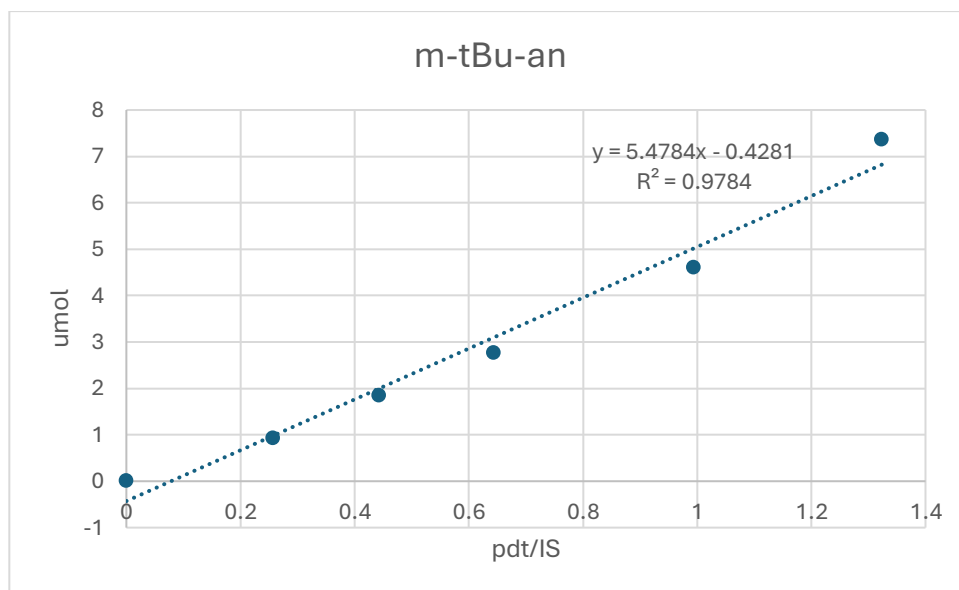
Yield: Schenck: 54%, 52%. Vial: 46%, 44%

Chemoselectivity: 83:17, 80:20

Enantioselectivity: 71:29 er. 68:32 er. Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 99:1, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



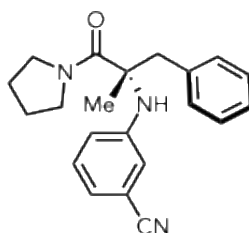
(*S*)-2-((3-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**16**)



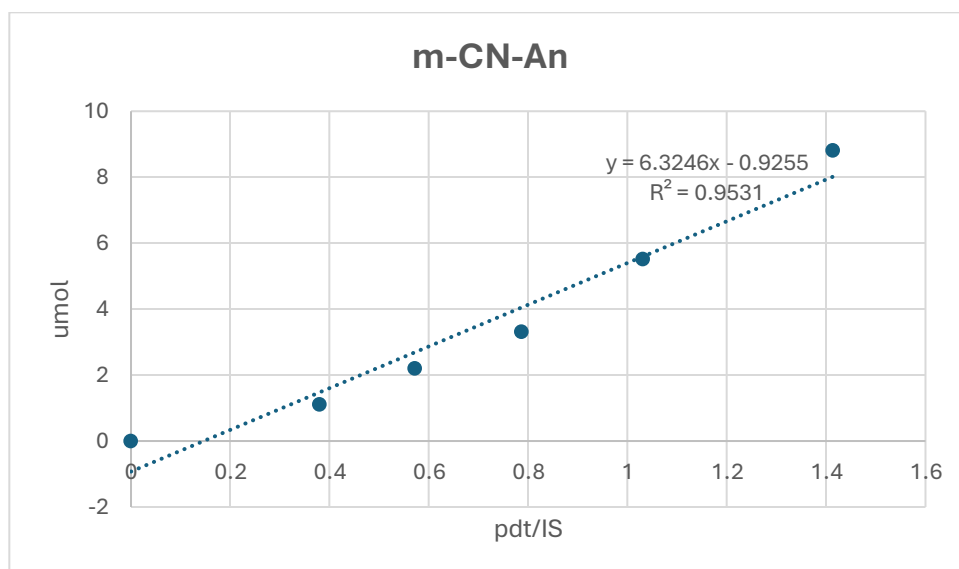
Yield: Schenck: 58%, 56%. Vial: 46%, 40%

Chemoselectivity: 93:7, 92:8

Enantioselectivity: 57:43 er. 55:45 er. Chiral HPLC: IC column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



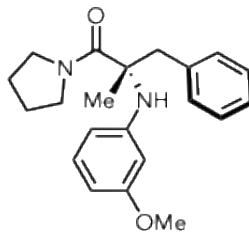
(*S*)-3-((2-methyl-1-oxo-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-2-yl)amino)benzonitrile (**17**)



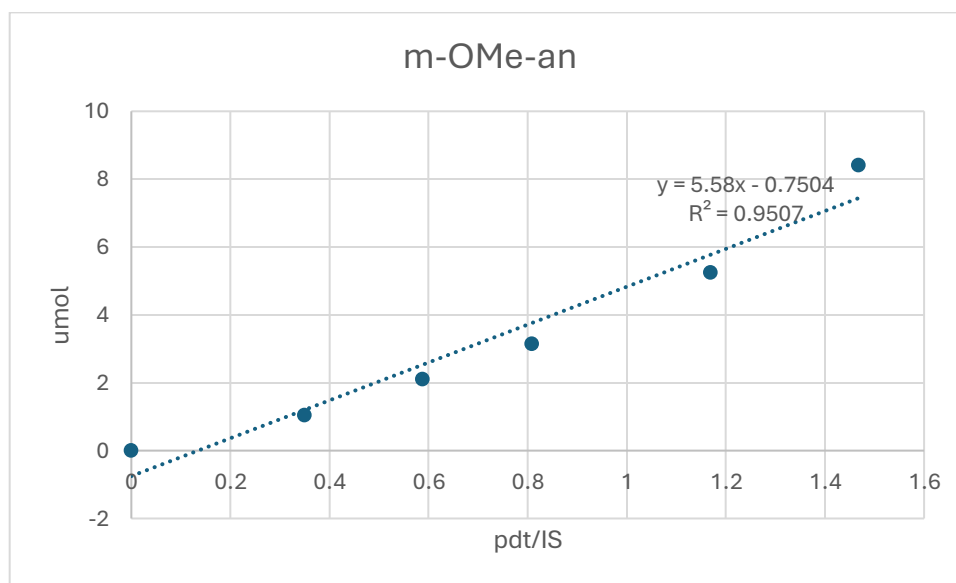
Yield: Schenck: 21%, 19%. Vial: 12%, 10%

Chemoselectivity: 52:48, 50:50

Enantioselectivity: 79:21 er. 75:25 er. Chiral HPLC: IA column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 92:8, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



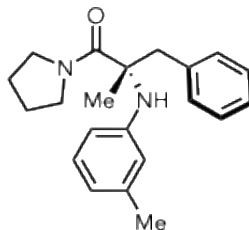
(*S*)-2-((3-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**18**)



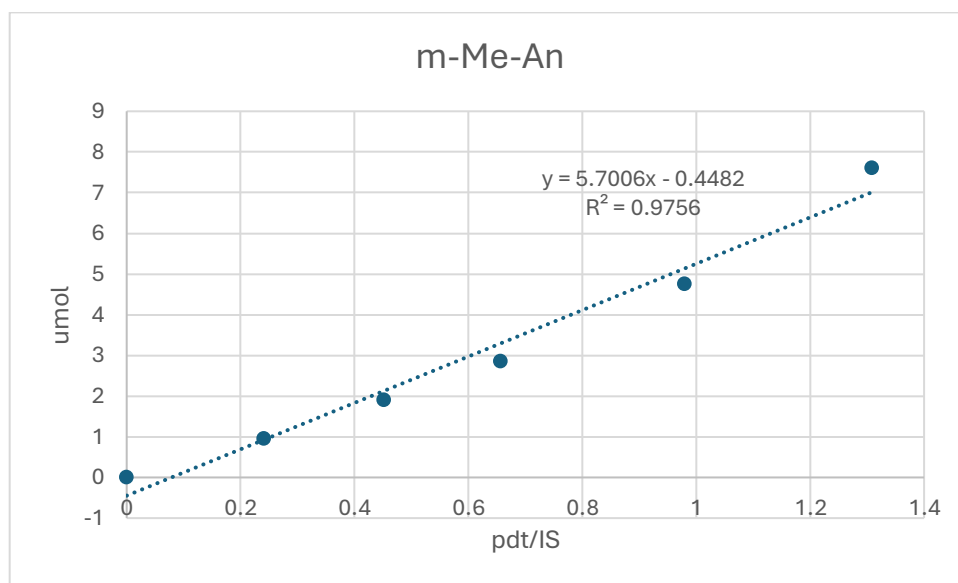
Yield: Schenck: 29%, 27%. Vial: 21%, 20%

Chemoselectivity: 65:35, 62:38

Enantioselectivity: 70:30 er. 68:32 er. Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 93:7, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



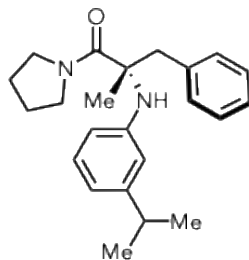
(*S*)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-(*m*-tolylamino)propan-1-one (**19**)



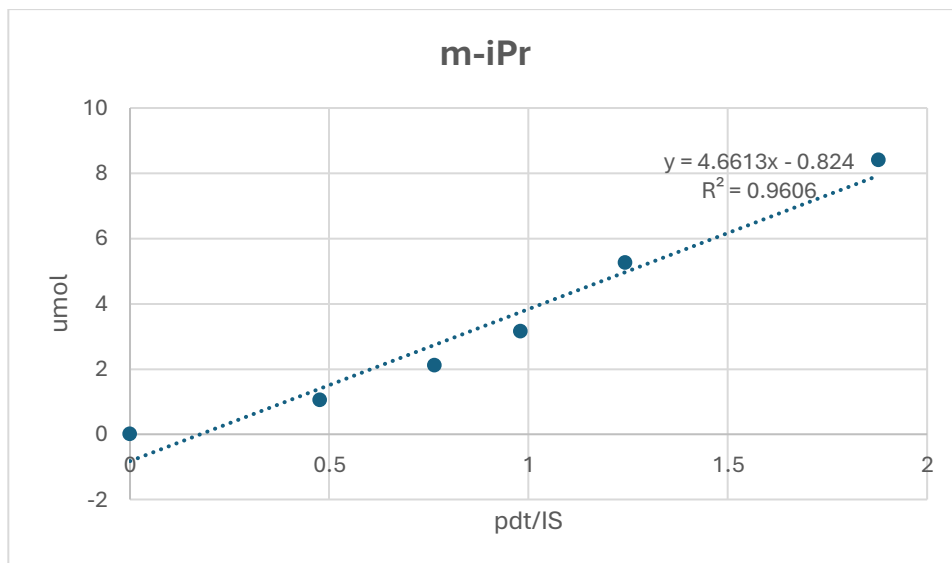
Yield: Schenck: 62%, 59%. Vial: 55%, 49%

Chemoselectivity: 84:16, 83:17

Enantioselectivity: 62:38, 60:40 er. 80:20 er. Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 99:1, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



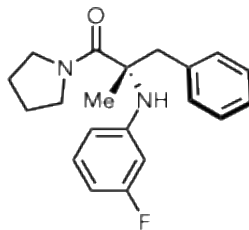
(*S*)-2-((3-isopropylphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**20**)



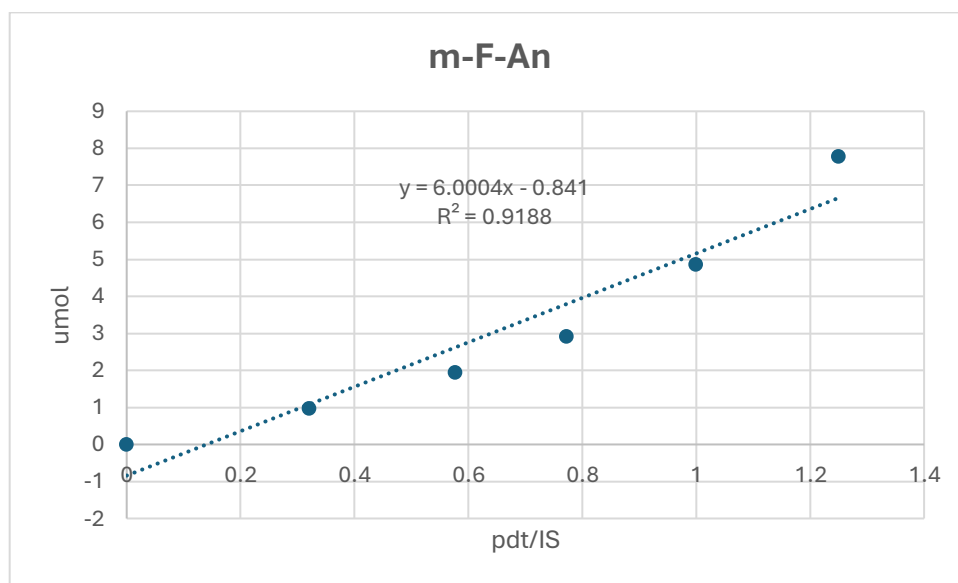
Yield: Schenck: 50%, 48%. Vial: 41%, 38%

Chemoselectivity: 91:9, 90:10

Enantioselectivity: 58:42 er. 52:48 er. Chiral HPLC: IC column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



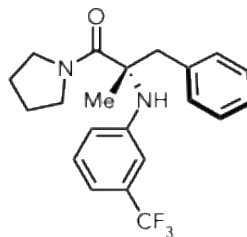
(*S*)-2-((3-fluorophenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**21**)



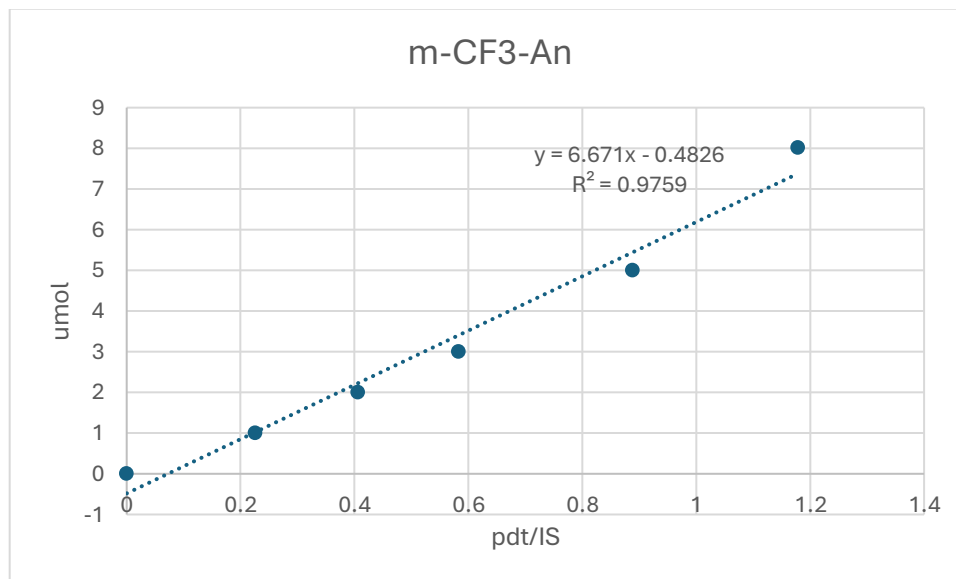
Yield: Schenck: 25%, 22%. Vial: 20%, 15%

Chemoselectivity: 66:34, 65:35

Enantioselectivity: 62:38 er. 61:39 er. Chiral HPLC: IA column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



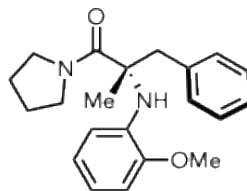
(*S*)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-((3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)amino)propan-1-one
(**22**)



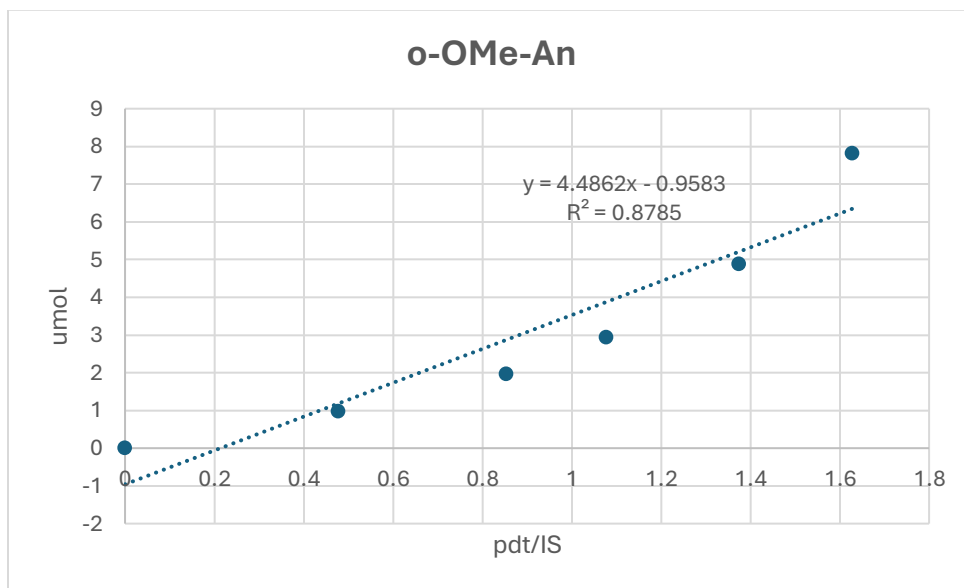
Yield: Schenck: 24%, 22%. Vial: 15%, 13%

Chemoselectivity: 70:30, 69:31

Enantioselectivity: 90:10 er. 84:16 er. Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 99:1, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



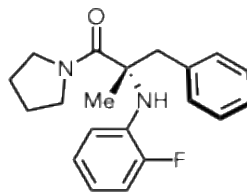
(*S*)-2-((2-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**23**)



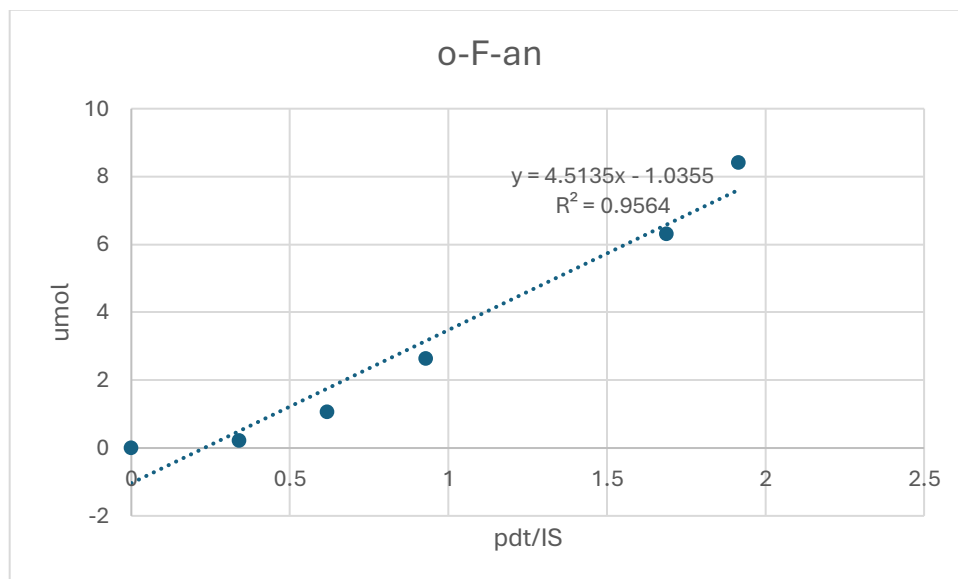
Yield: Schenck: 67%, 62%. Vial: 48%, 45%

Chemoselectivity: 70:30, 69:31 *N:C*-alkylation

Enantioselectivity: 70:30 er. 68:32 er. Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



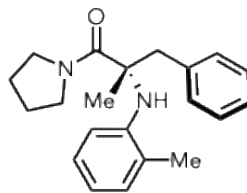
(*S*)-2-((2-fluorophenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**24**)



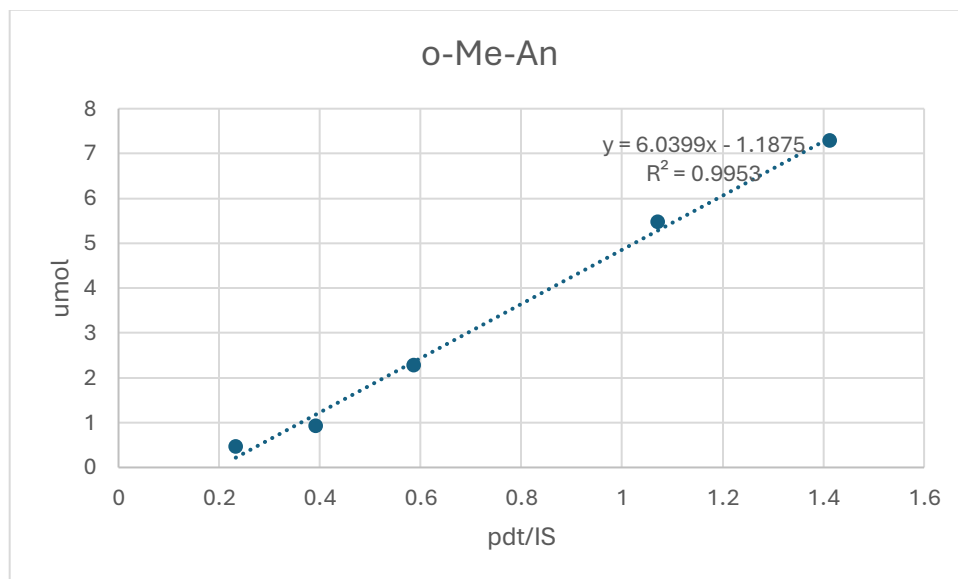
Yield: Schenck: 38%, 35%. Vial: 25%, 25%

Chemoselectivity: 72:28, 70:30

Enantioselectivity: 78:22 er. 74:26 er. Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



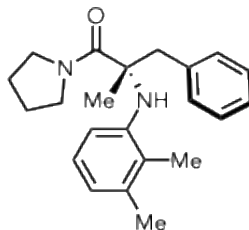
(*S*)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-(*o*-tolylamino)propan-1-one (**25**)



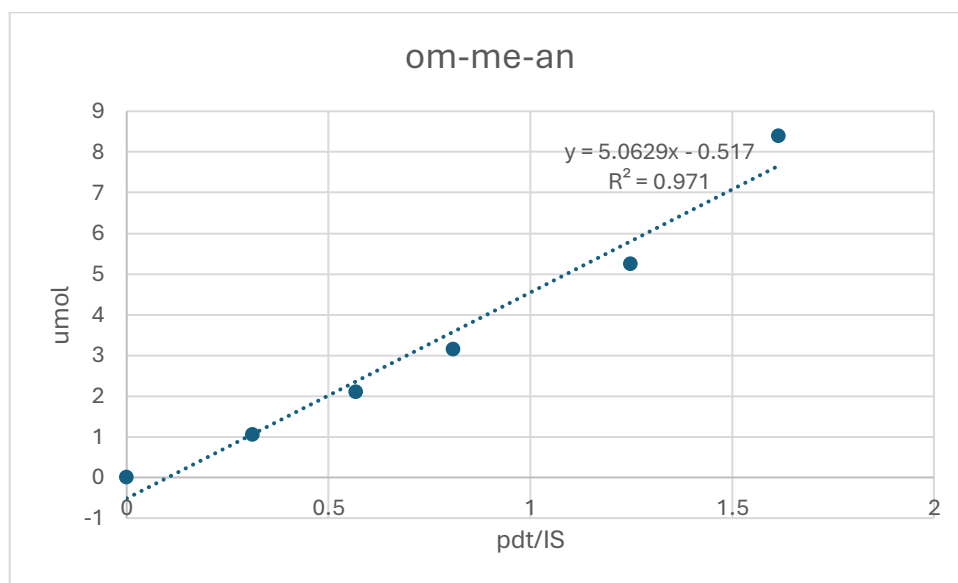
Yield: Schenck: 42%, 38%. Vial: 30%, 29%

Chemoselectivity: 75:25, 72:28

Enantioselectivity: 86:14 er. 82:18 er. Chiral HPLC: OJ column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



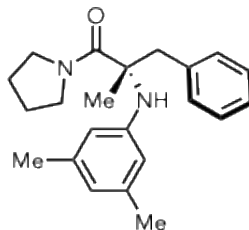
(*S*)-2-((2,3-dimethylphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**26**)



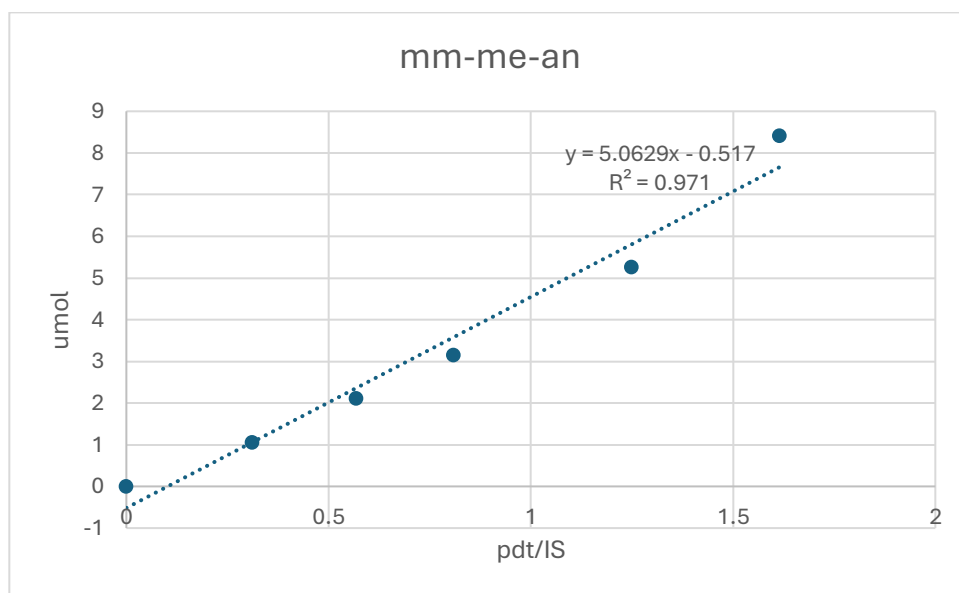
Yield: Schenck: 38%, 35%. Vial: 28%, 27%

Chemoselectivity: 70:30, 69:31

Enantioselectivity: 78:22 er. 73:27 er. Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 99:1, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



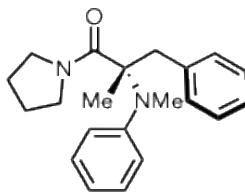
(*S*)-2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**27**)



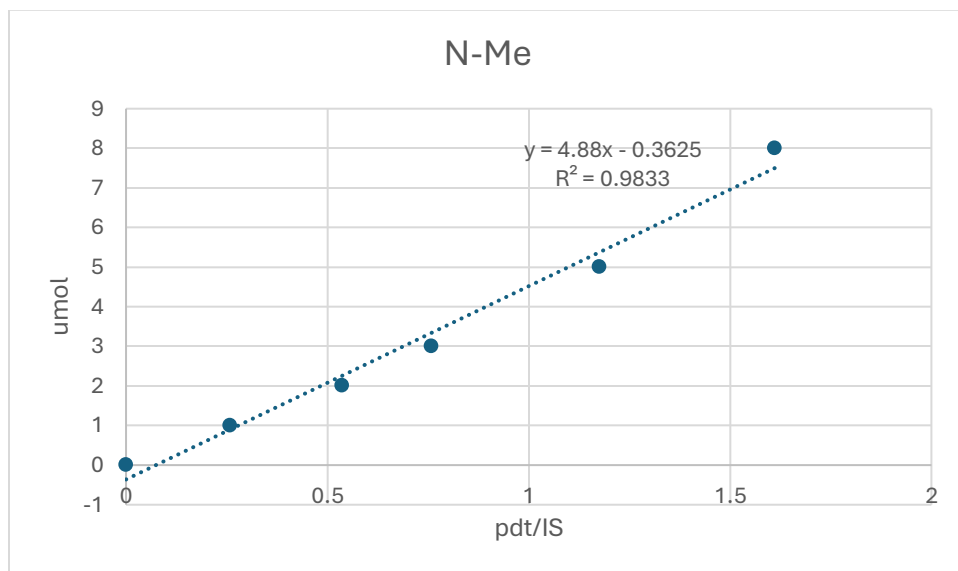
Yield: Schenck: 50%, 47%. Vial: 40%, 38%

Chemoselectivity: 62:38, 60:40

Enantioselectivity: 86:14 er. 85:15 er. Chiral HPLC: OJ column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



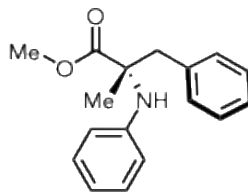
(*S*)-2-methyl-2-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**28**)



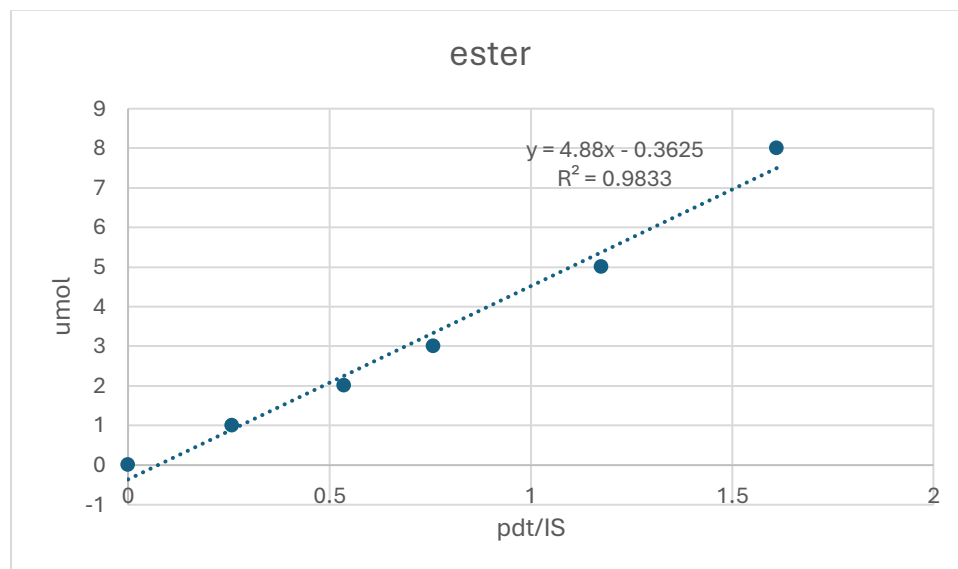
Yield: Schenck: 52%, 50%. Vial: 41%, 40%

Chemoselectivity: 72:28, 70:30

Enantioselectivity: 92:8 er. 89:11 er. Chiral HPLC: IA column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.



methyl (*S*)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-2-(phenylamino)propanoate (**29**)

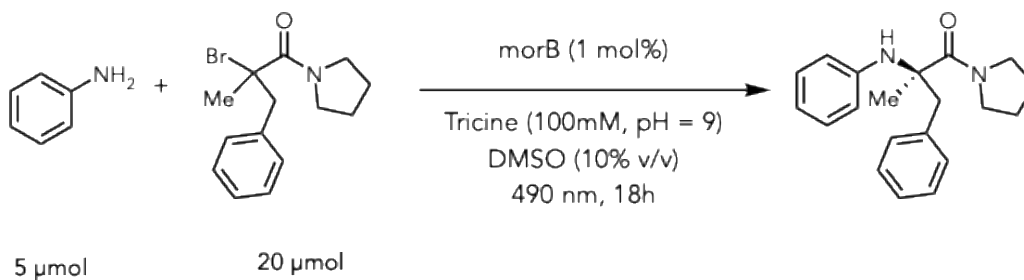


Yield: Schenck: 30%, 27%. Vial: 22%, 19%

Chemoselectivity: 72:28, 69:31

Enantioselectivity: 72:28 er. 69:31 er. Chiral HPLC: IA column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

5.8 Unreactive substrates



The following substrates were evaluated under the conditions described in section 5.4 and showed no detectable reactivity.

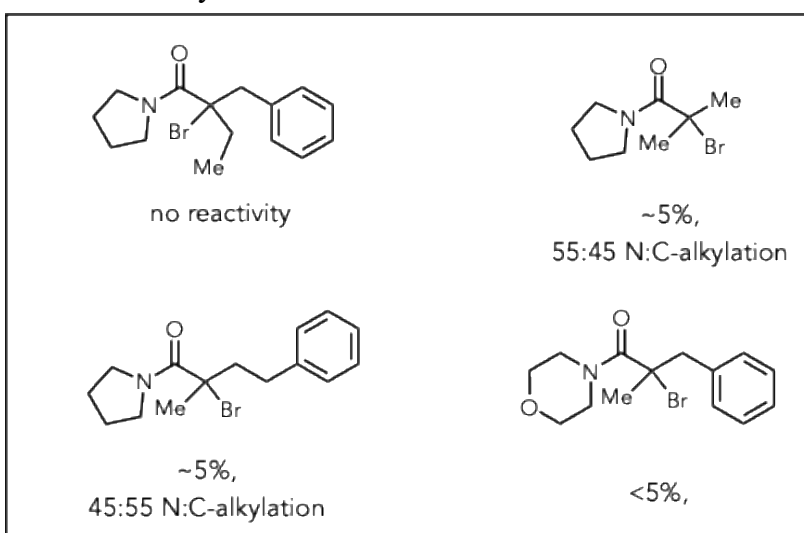


Fig. S10. Unreactive tertiary bromides

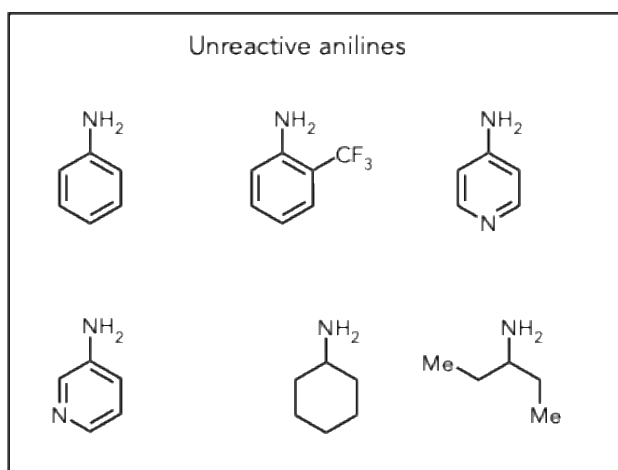


Fig. S11. Unreactive amines

6. Mechanistic studies

6.1 Control experiments

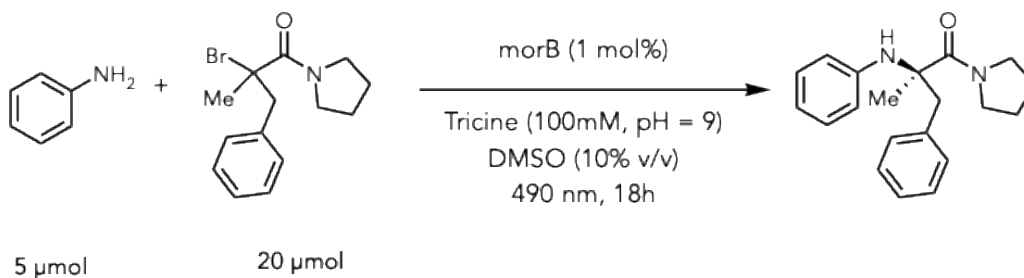
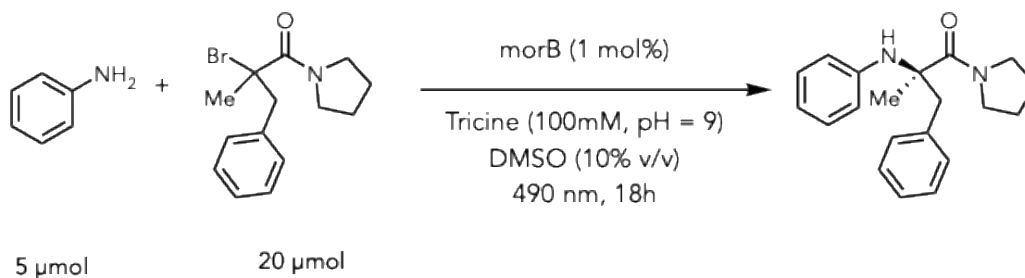


Table. S4. Control experiments

| <i>entry</i> | <i>deviation</i> | <i>yield</i> | <i>Chemoselectivity (3:4)</i> | <i>Enantioselectivity (er.)</i> |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | none | 76% | 85:15 | 88:12 |
| 2 | No light | 0 | - | - |
| 3 | No enzyme | 0 | - | - |
| 4 | No light and enzyme | 0 | - | - |
| 5 | Just FMN | 0 | - | - |
| 6 | Lysate | 25% | 83:17 | 86:14 |
| 7 | 0.1 mmol scale | 52% | 83:17 | 86:14 |

Each reaction was conducted according to the general procedure in section 5.4.

6.2 Reaction progress analysis



Reactions were set up according to the procedure in section 5.4, Each point was performed in duplicates. Upon completion, each reaction was quenched with 2 mL of acetonitrile and 100 μL of 5 mg/mL 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (TBB) in acetonitrile as the internal standard. The mixture was shaken for 30 min, centrifuged (12000 x g, 5 mins), and the supernatant was filtered and retained for LC-MS analysis for yield calculation.

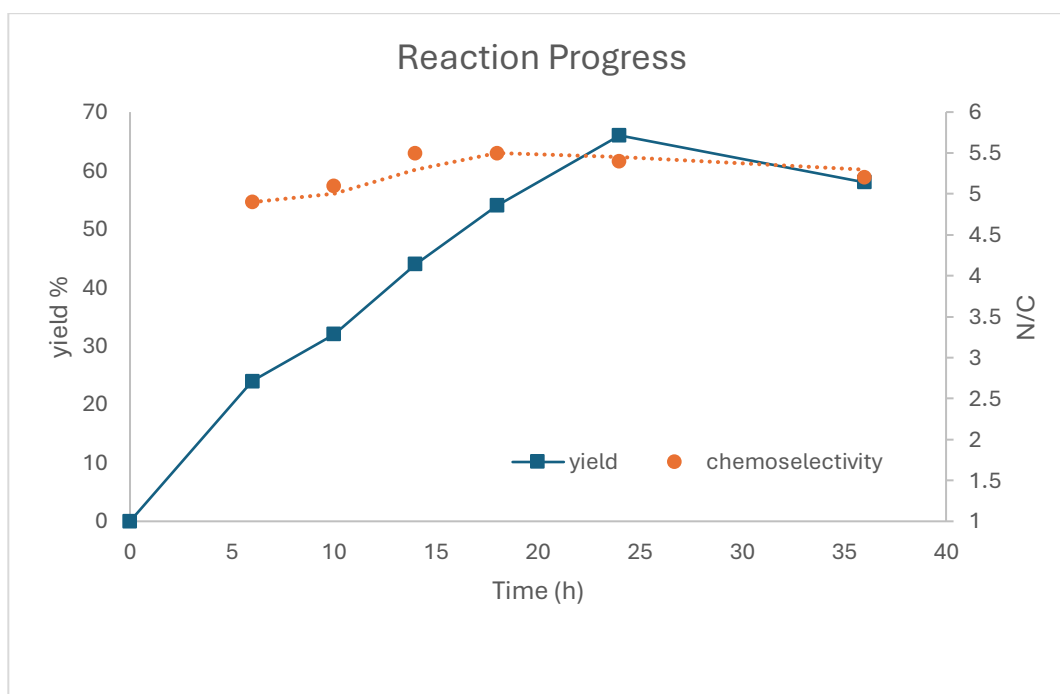
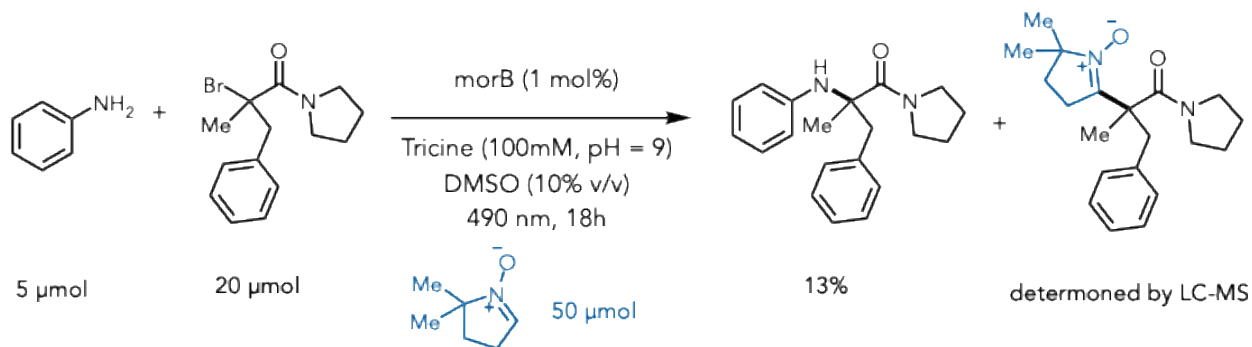


Fig. S12. Time course study

6.3 Radical trap



The reaction was conducted according to general procedure x, with the addition of DMPO (5,5-Dimethyl-1-pyrroline N-oxide, 10 equiv.) to the reaction mixture. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with 2 mL of acetonitrile and 100 μL of 5 mg/mL 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (TBB) in acetonitrile as the internal standard. The mixture was shaken for 30 min, centrifuged (12000 x g, 5 mins), and the supernatant was filtered and retained for LC-MS analysis for yield calculation.

6.4 UV-Vis studies

6.4.1 Photoreduction in tricine buffer

This procedure is adapted from a previous study in our group, in which irradiating ‘ene’-reductases with cyan light in tricine buffer reduces the flavin to its semiquinone state.^{8,13}

MorB-mutant (in Tricine pH 9 buffer, 5% DMSO) was irradiated under cyan light (490 nm) for 20 min in a 3 mL quartz cuvette to generate the anionic flavin semiquinone, confirmed by spectroscopy. Addition of substrates 1 and 2 *after* photoreduction, followed by dark incubation, yielded no product (Fig. 5B). Substrate-induced oxidation of the semiquinone thus requires photoexcitation for productive single-electron transfer to the acyl bromide.

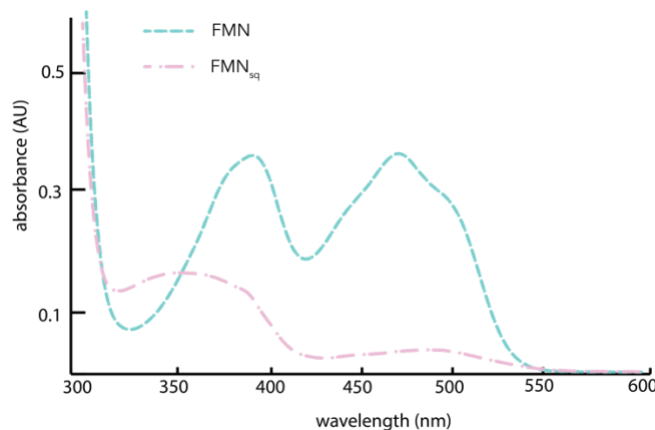


Fig. S13. Photoreduction to flavin semiquinone in tricine buffer

6.4.2 Photoreduction in phosphate buffer (oxidative diradical mechanism)

To rigorously test the diradical mechanism—in which photoexcited FMN oxidizes aniline's lone pair to generate aniline radical cation concurrent with FMN semiquinone formation—we directly compared the kinetics of enzyme-bound FMN photoreduction under cyan light irradiation. If operational, aniline oxidation should accelerate FMN reduction relative to buffer-only controls, detectable via time-dependent loss of the characteristic FMN A_{470} and A_{390} peaks.¹³

In a 3 mL quartz cuvette containing potassium phosphate buffer, purified enzyme was added to a final concentration of 67 nM and irradiated with cyan light. Time-resolved spectra (200-800 nm, 1 nm resolution) were recorded for parallel reactions conducted both in the absence and presence of aniline. FMN photoreduction was monitored by decay of the characteristic A_{450} peak and appearance of the A_{390} characteristic for flavin semiquinone.

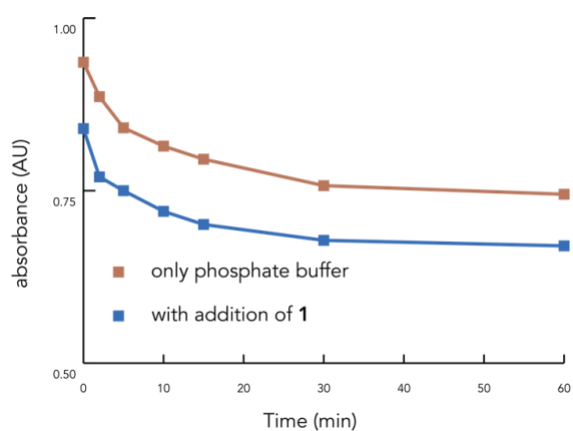


Fig. S14. Kinetics for disappearance at A_{450}

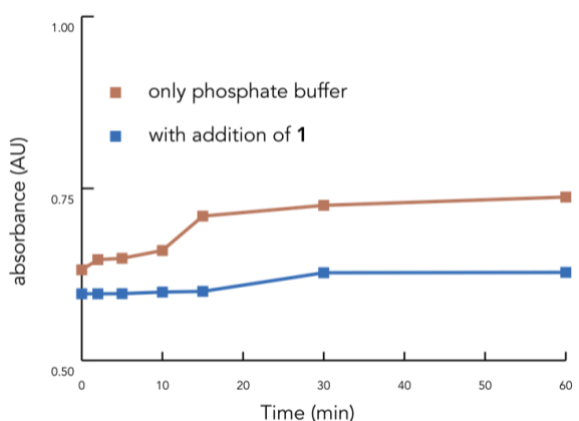


Fig. S15. Kinetics for growth at A_{390}

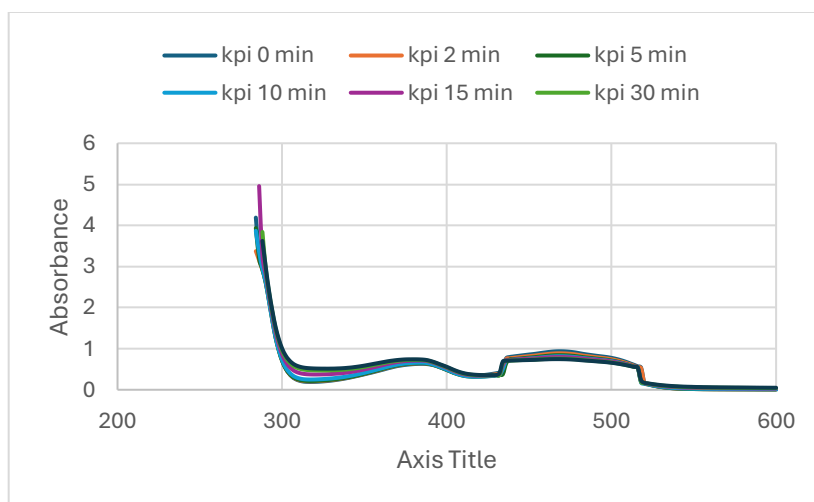


Fig. S16. Full uv-vis data for kPi alone

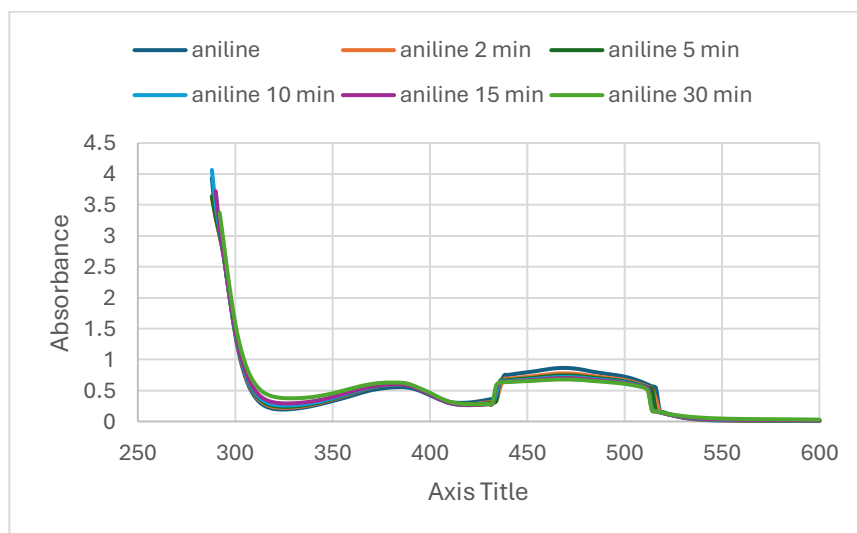


Fig. S17. Full uv-vis data for kPi and aniline

6.5 Catalytic cycle

Photoexcitation of the flavin semiquinone (generated via photoreduction in tricine buffer) drives single-electron reduction of the acyl bromide, generating a tertiary radical. This radical couples selectively with the aniline lone pair through enzyme-templated $n \rightarrow \text{SOMO}$ hyperconjugation, followed by single-electron oxidation and proton transfer to afford the C–N coupled product.¹⁴

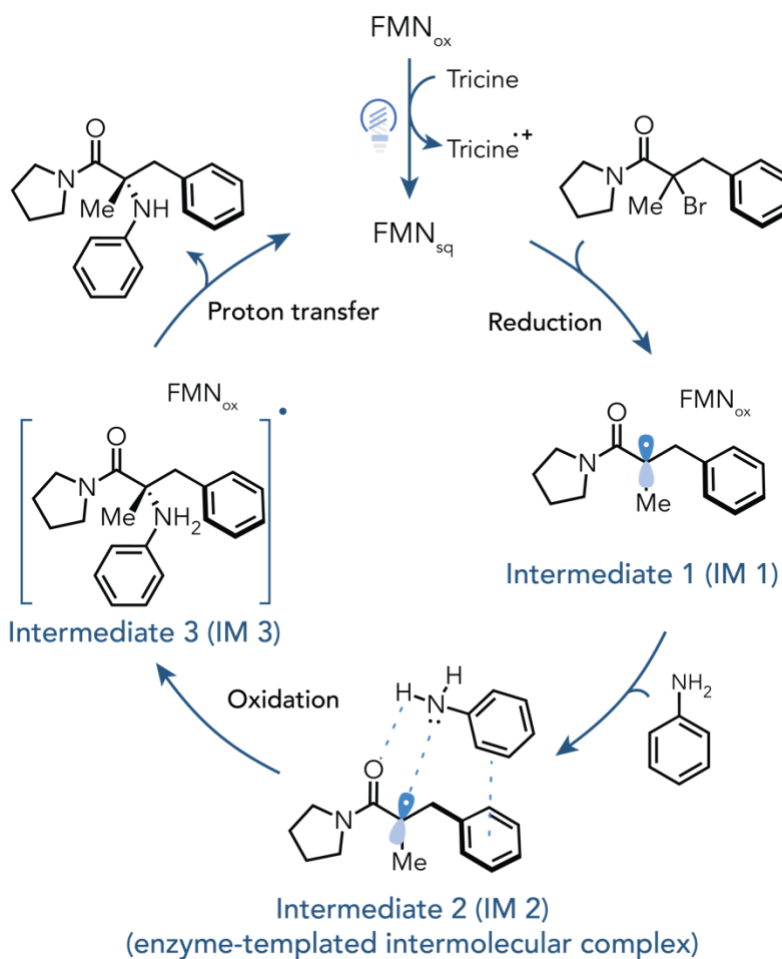


Fig. S18. Catalytic cycle

6.6 Reaction with dithionite

6.6.1 Reduction with irradiation

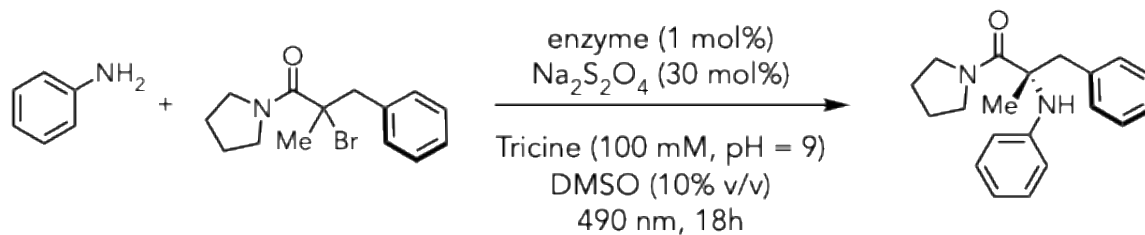


Fig. S19. Dithionite reduction excludes FMN_{hq} Initiation

Reaction was performed as described in section 5.4.

photoirradiation: Standard conditions (section 6.1.1) with $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ (2.0 μmol , 30 mol%) added *prior to* photoirradiation afforded product in 14% yield (59:41 N:C selectivity). The dramatic drop in yield and selectivity compared to standard conditions demonstrates that excited-state flavin hydroquinone (FMN_{hq}) cannot initiate radical generation. Photoexcitation is thus required to access the reactive flavin species.

6.6.2 Reduction without light

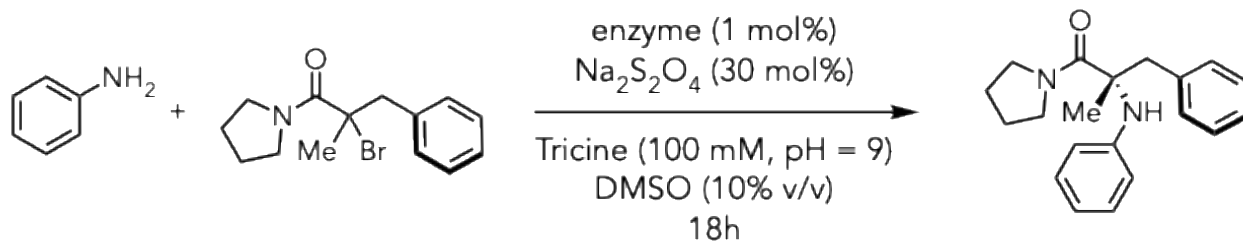


Fig. S20. Dithionite reduction excludes FMN_{hq} Initiation

Dark reaction: Standard conditions (section 5.4) with $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ (2.0 μmol , 30 mol%) added *without* photoirradiation afforded no product. The result compared to standard conditions demonstrates that ground-state flavin hydroquinone (FMN_{hq}) cannot initiate radical generation. Photoexcitation is thus required to access the reactive flavin species.

6.7 Reactions with NADPH

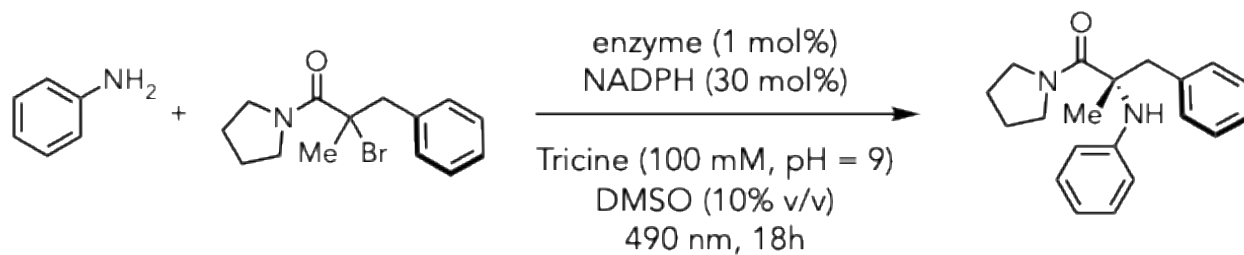


Fig. S21. NADPH reduction excludes FMN_{hq} Initiation

photoirradiation: Standard conditions (section 6.1.1) with NADPH (2.0 μmol , 30 mol%) added *prior to* photoirradiation afforded the product in 29% yield and 69:31 *N:C*-alkylation. The dramatic drop in yield and selectivity compared to standard conditions demonstrates that excited-state flavin hydroquinone (FMN_{hq}) cannot initiate radical generation. Photoexcitation is thus required to access the reactive flavin species.

6.8 No Hydroxylation (radical polar crossover)

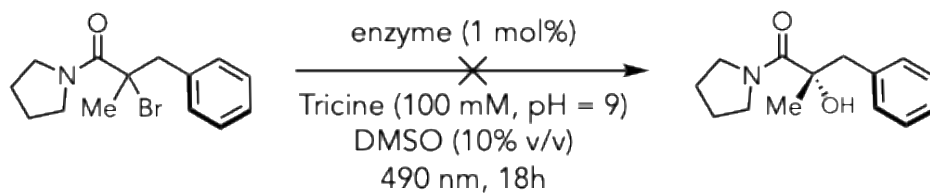


Fig. S22. Radical polar crossover

A radical-polar crossover mechanism, which would generate a carbocation intermediate susceptible to nucleophilic attack by water, is disfavored. Despite water serving as the reaction medium and a competent nucleophile, no hydroxylated products were detected under any standard or control conditions examined. This negative result—combined with high N:C selectivity—provides strong mechanistic evidence that C–N coupling proceeds via a purely radical pathway templated by the enzyme active site, rather than promiscuous ionic intermediates characteristic of crossover mechanisms.

6.9 DFT

DFT calculations were performed using Gaussian 16 on the Princeton Adroit cluster. All input and output files are provided as Supporting Information attachments.

6.9.1 C-N coupling step

A relaxed coordinate scan of the C–N bond dissociation in protonated intermediate IM3 was performed over 15 steps (0.2 Å increments) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) level.¹⁵ The highest-energy geometry was optimized to a transition state frequency analysis, confirmed by a single imaginary frequency.

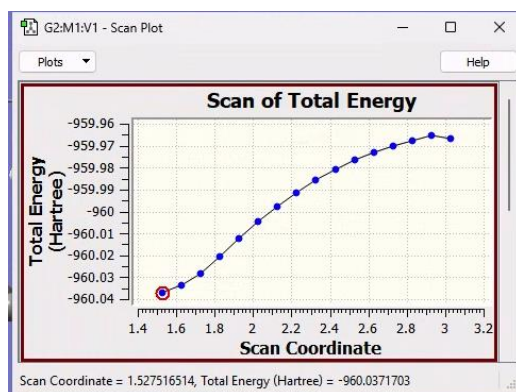


Fig. S23. TS structure

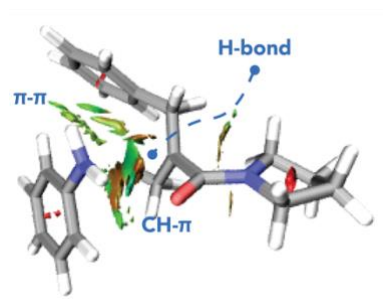


Fig. S24. NCI plot for noncovalent interactions

6.9.2 Redox potential (no water)

To probe whether aniline lone-pair donation stabilizes the transient tertiary radical via $n \rightarrow \text{SOMO}$ hyperconjugation, we computed oxidation potentials (E_{ox}) for the isolated α -acyl radical and its aniline complex using a Born–Haber thermodynamic cycle at the M06-2X/6-311+G(d,p), (MeCN) level in Gaussian 16.¹⁶ The free radical exhibits a high $E_{\text{ox}} = -0.02$ V vs SCE, rendering single-electron oxidation unfavorable under reaction conditions. Complexation with aniline lowers E_{ox} dramatically to -0.51 V vs SCE ($\Delta E_{\text{ox}} = -0.49$ V), confirming that noncovalent orbital interactions electronically reprogram the radical for selective C–N coupling. Optimized geometries reveal optimal N–C separation (3.1 Å with explicit waters) and frontier orbital overlap consistent with productive hyperconjugation.

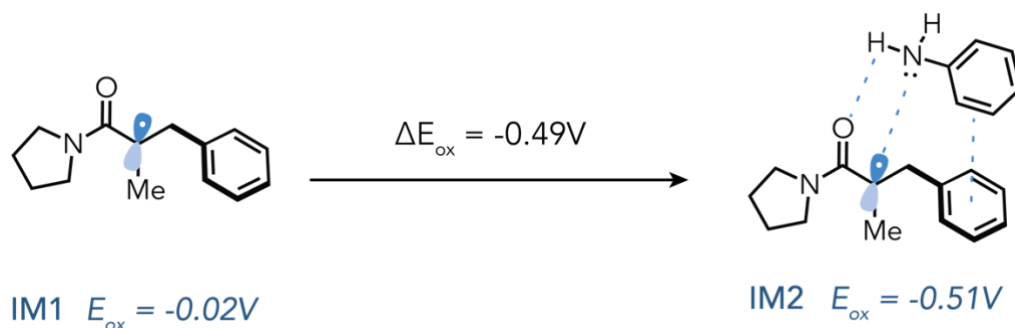


Fig. S25. Oxidation potential calculated at M06-2X/6-311+G(d,p)

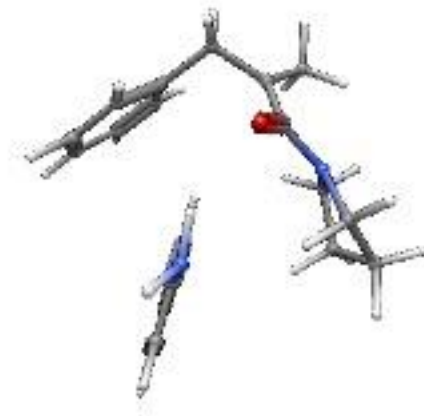


Fig. S26. Structure of the radical intermediate

6.9.3 Redox with water (with water)

Explicit inclusion of two water molecules as H-bond bridges between the aniline nitrogen and α -acyl radical carbonyl dramatically enhances $n \rightarrow$ SOMO stabilization. The isolated radical exhibits $E_{\text{ox}} = -0.02$ V vs. SCE in MeCN at M06-2X/6-311+G(d,p). The water-bridged aniline complex lowers E_{ox} to -1.21 V vs. SCE ($\Delta E_{\text{ox}} = -1.19$ V), compressing the N–C separation to 3.1 Å with optimal frontier orbital overlap. This H₂O-mediated preorganization—not accessible in bulk solution—provides the electronic driving force for selective C–N coupling within the enzyme active site, where analogous water networks and His relays amplify this stabilization.

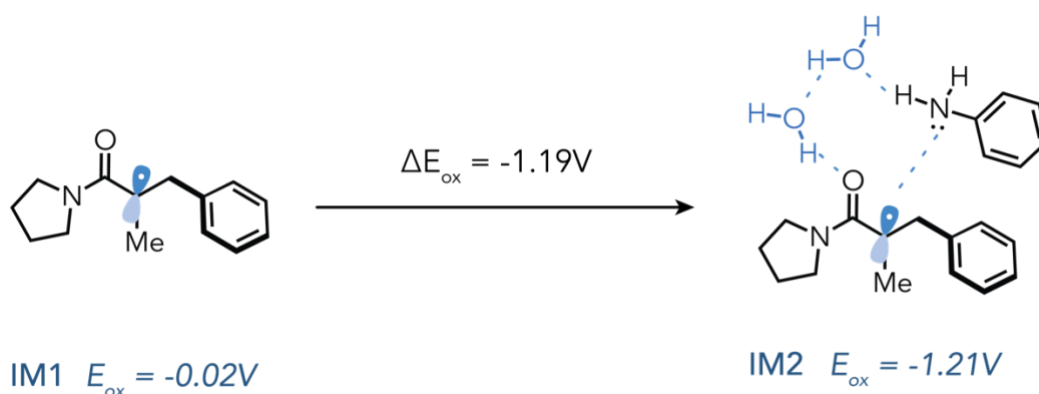


Fig. S27. Oxidation potential for the adduct with water

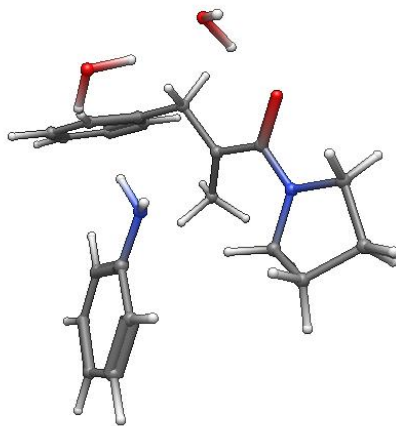


Fig. S28. Structure of encounter complex

6.10 ProteinX

The ProteinX structure was predicted using Protenix-server (<https://protenix-server.com>), an open-source AlphaFold3 reproduction. The enzyme mutant sequence was submitted via the web interface, generating a high-confidence model (ipTM = 0.97). The refined structure features His186–His189 tandem (N189H from the evolution campaign) forming a water-mediated H-bond relay between aniline N–H and substrate carbonyl.

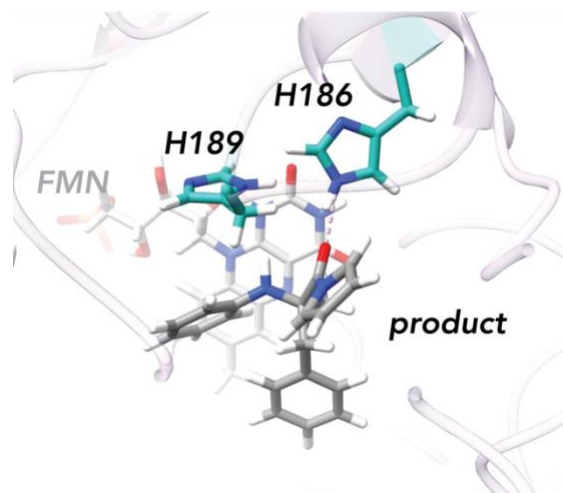


Fig. S29. Mutant structure prediction and substrate docking

7. Modeling

7.1 Hammett analysis

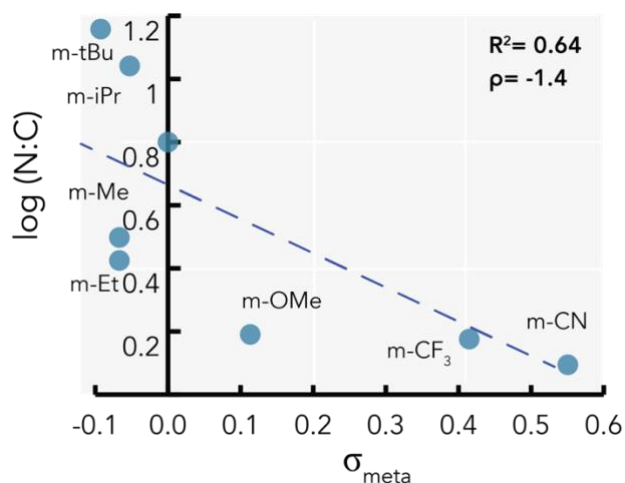
Chemoselectivity values were correlated against Hammett σ constants for meta-substituted aryl derivatives. A poor linear correlation was observed between the product chemoselectivity and σ values for these meta-substituents. The Hammett analysis yielded a negative ρ value, indicating buildup of positive charge character at the selectivity-determining transition state.^{17,18} Notably, para substituents completely suppressed arylation byproduct formation, precluding Hammett analysis for that series and highlighting differential electronic effects on competing pathways.

This analysis aligns well with the observation that electron-rich substituents enhance chemoselectivity, consistent with the development of partial positive charge at the postulated selectivity-determining transition state.

Table. S5. Hammett analysis

| aniline | σ | N/C |
|---------|----------|------|
| H | 0 | 5.5 |
| m-cn | 0.56 | 0.95 |
| m-ethyl | -0.07 | 5.5 |
| m-ome | 0.12 | 3.9 |
| m-tbu | -0.1 | 12 |
| m-ipr | -0.04 | 11 |
| m-me | -0.07 | 4.8 |

Fig. S30. Hammett plot



7.2 Statistical modeling

Geometry optimizations and frequency calculations for all aniline structures were carried out using Gaussian 16 software. The functional used for the DFT calculation is M06-2X, which was previously benchmarked for thermodynamic and kinetic accuracy of main-group elements and for non-covalent interactions, and the 6-31g(d) basis-set was chosen.¹⁶

All regression models were calculated using R (V 4.5.0)⁹ and R Studio¹⁰, and the packages used in the code are molecularR, caret, car, ggrepel, tidyr, reshape2, scales, tibble, caret, plyr, dplyr, data.table, nnet, ggplot2, knitr, stringr, pracma, and matlib.

Aniline structures were built in ChemDraw and optimized using M06-2X/6-31g(d) method. Sterimol values were calculated for the geometry optimized structures with the use of the Milo group in-house developed Sterimol program (available at <https://github.com/Milo-group/SteRimol>), based on Verloop's original definitions.¹⁹

Sterimol values were calculated along the substituent axis such that the principal axis begins on the aniline nitrogen atom. Thus, L is the added length of the substituted ring and the nitrogen-carbon bond distance, B_1 is the minimal width perpendicular to the principal axis L , and B_5 is the maximal width perpendicular to the principal axis L .

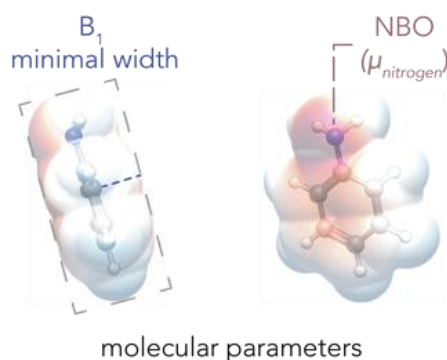


Fig. S31. Parameters

NPA charges were calculated using the NBO 3.1 extension incorporated in Gaussian. Dipole moments for the linear regression model were calculated for the geometry optimized structures with respect to a consistent Cartesian origin, the origin is set at the carbon on the phenyl ring connected to the nitrogen x-axis aligned with the Sterimol L axis, and the y-axis on the plane of the ring towards the *ortho* and *meta* positions (see Figure SX).

Model development involved a selection process that evaluated all possible models with a given range for the number of variables. The maximum number of variables is set to be 2 variables for the overall of 13 observations in this data set. Each parameter was normalized by subtracting its respective mean and dividing by its standard deviation. The resulting models are assessed for their statistical significance and then ranked by a leave-one-out cross-validation. For the most predictive model, a general goodness-of-fit measure, R^2 , and cross-validation Q^2 are provided.

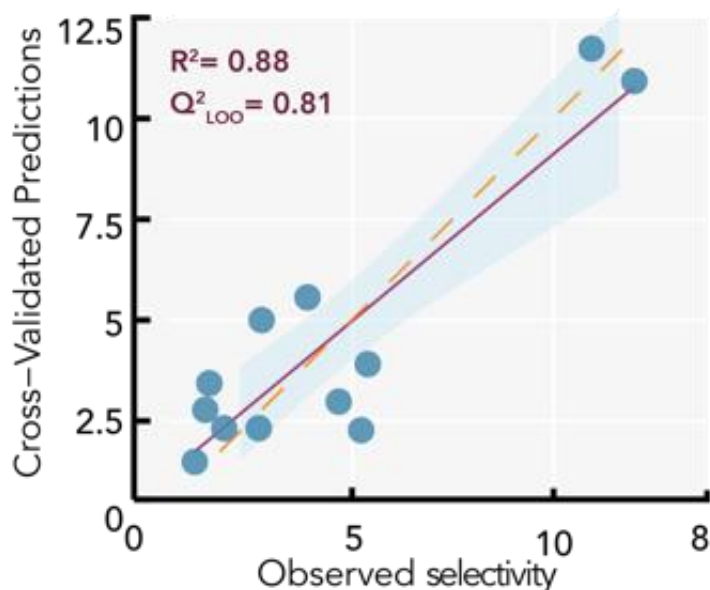


Fig. S32. Multivariate model

7.3 Aniline xyz structure

Aniline-unsubstituted (XYZ)

H -1.700120 -2.142113 0.006738

H 0.760138 -2.144993 -0.015606

C 0.933772 0.000017 -0.008498

C 0.220256 1.202772 -0.005923

C -1.167489 1.197413 0.003494

C -1.874063 -0.000082 0.008832

C -1.166917 -1.197587 0.003689

C 0.220612 -1.202889 -0.006167

H 0.759493 2.144996 -0.016686

H -1.700709 2.141958 0.006998

H -2.957371 -0.000443 0.016377

N 2.327290 0.000333 -0.072497

H 2.774739 0.836028 0.269432

H 2.775771 -0.835628 0.267668

m-Me-aniline (XYZ)

H 0.126119 2.883499 -0.012249

H 2.222354 1.586646 0.000686

C 1.225079 -0.322841 0.008638

C -0.017952 -0.960927 0.018940

C -1.206050 -0.235998 0.011820

C -1.148701 1.157310 0.001413

C 0.083654 1.799610 -0.006594

C 1.265472 1.074355 -0.002807

H -0.055397 -2.047150 0.039868

H -2.485607 -1.894764 0.538382

H -2.065562 1.736861 0.001635

N 2.403149 -1.067707 0.069987

H 2.333003 -2.014396 -0.268205

H 3.226090 -0.601209 -0.277284

H -3.321341 -0.339367 0.423730

C -2.531143 -0.953175 -0.013734

H -2.823862 -1.186175 -1.042531

m-OMe-aniline (XYZ)

H 0.580261 2.881105 -0.008472

H 2.662617 1.567275 0.014311

C 1.642818 -0.336016 0.009221

C 0.401162 -0.963399 0.008507

C -0.772194 -0.211168 0.000922

C -0.721322 1.181545 -0.005880

C 0.528662 1.797738 -0.003822

C 1.701012 1.065479 0.004734

H 0.321106 -2.044821 0.019053

O -1.922290 -0.933460 -0.000540

H -1.618776 1.784187 -0.012564

N 2.813771 -1.088578 0.069354

H 2.736546 -2.038539 -0.257462

H 3.639905 -0.629827 -0.280064

H -3.252666 0.385838 -0.900130

C -3.147785 -0.236204 -0.003953

H -3.926866 -0.996919 -0.002157

H -3.254325 0.391583 0.887956

m-iPr-aniline (XYZ)

H 1.219812 2.894430 -0.012547
H 3.150816 1.361930 0.011605
C 1.937561 -0.416885 0.009844
C 0.626270 -0.904546 0.009381
C -0.468753 -0.048408 -0.000649
C -0.247175 1.330523 -0.009038
C 1.050355 1.822968 -0.006548
C 2.140956 0.964156 0.003585
H 0.462448 -1.979189 0.022743
H -1.787773 -1.705543 0.003859
H -1.084614 2.019469 -0.016912
N 3.017946 -1.297583 0.072963
H 2.836924 -2.226891 -0.272314
H 3.892565 -0.930887 -0.267841
C -2.644304 -0.205948 1.263100
C -1.877116 -0.613272 0.000105
C -2.645072 -0.214457 -1.264984
H -2.105966 -0.519985 -2.165193
H -3.633625 -0.682934 -1.279327
H -2.788091 0.869274 -1.312201
H -2.104901 -0.505976 2.164844
H -2.786339 0.878222 1.302979
H -3.633212 -0.673618 1.280784

m-Et-aniline (XYZ)

H -1.704752 2.738191 0.007987

H -3.094878 0.698842 -0.015017
C -1.405956 -0.635691 -0.009505
C -0.007555 -0.715596 -0.007651
C 0.782619 0.426745 0.001496
C 0.157653 1.677720 0.007659
C -1.225647 1.764952 0.003591
C -2.012434 0.620018 -0.005571
H 0.453792 -1.697698 -0.019251
C 2.297096 0.367635 0.004974
H 0.760890 2.579841 0.015351
N -2.173908 -1.799538 -0.071695
H -1.725053 -2.630394 0.280357
H -3.119048 -1.708985 0.266121
C 2.923241 -1.021863 -0.001828
H 2.658793 0.928403 -0.864222
H 2.655195 0.918619 0.881936
H 2.634069 -1.589717 -0.890596
H 4.013000 -0.944269 0.000452
H 2.631253 -1.599583 0.879753

m-CN-aniline (XYZ)

H -0.884460 2.880050 0.007880

H -2.711125 1.235658 -0.010141

C -1.409252 -0.477570 -0.007234

C -0.077071 -0.895720 -0.008406

C 0.950455 0.045725 -0.000540

C 0.677551 1.413732 0.005750

C -0.649088 1.822143 0.003921

C -1.680500 0.896017 -0.003315

H 0.164327 -1.952599 -0.019551

C 2.312666 -0.408713 0.001688

H 1.487124 2.131667 0.011878

N -2.440140 -1.404410 -0.066284

H -2.219393 -2.338017 0.240255

H -3.340763 -1.088787 0.255386

N 3.405245 -0.772969 0.003872

m-tBu (XYZ)

H -1.764246 2.898764 0.010047

H -3.511120 1.153568 -0.012901

C -2.095283 -0.468777 -0.009638

C -0.735746 -0.803976 -0.009323

C 0.259178 0.167901 -0.000493

C -0.132296 1.512091 0.007025

C -1.475890 1.853023 0.004626

C -2.461955 0.875902 -0.004476

H -0.473679 -1.855739 -0.022626

C 1.751612 -0.187274 0.000949

H 0.612019 2.299806 0.014789

N -3.063061 -1.473241 -0.072274

H -2.772454 -2.372078 0.279240

H -3.974632 -1.212143 0.269256

C 1.996502 -1.700759 -0.006532

C 2.415898 0.411480 -1.252058

C 2.411130 0.398573 1.262438

H 1.955653 0.013929 -2.160910

H 2.323461 1.499671 -1.278083

H 3.482125 0.164219 -1.270220

H 1.576374 -2.175694 -0.897681

H 3.072666 -1.895251 -0.005198

H 1.572654 -2.184877 0.878015

H 1.948086 -0.008682 2.165661

H 3.477431 0.151719 1.281838

H 2.318181 1.486374 1.299575

m-CF₃-aniline (XYZ)

H 1.730191 2.903013 0.001746
H 3.447460 1.143164 0.039078
C 2.034014 -0.479228 0.005754
C 0.676376 -0.807255 -0.017048
C -0.282405 0.196130 -0.036676
C 0.076539 1.538493 -0.027418
C 1.427457 1.862256 -0.002150
C 2.396818 0.872256 0.015672
H 0.371534 -1.847697 -0.023009
F -1.971824 -1.352285 -0.632514
H -0.680204 2.311482 -0.046710
N 2.999805 -1.475250 0.071053
H 2.719346 -2.387253 -0.251464
H 3.922741 -1.218283 -0.239439
F -2.181373 -0.336116 1.260091
C -1.736523 -0.186618 -0.003818
F -2.520510 0.737970 -0.581296

mm-Me-aniline (XYZ)

C 2.490191 1.480079 -0.002201

H 2.170789 -1.205336 0.028410

C 0.032508 -1.417956 0.010431

C -1.188626 -0.735666 -0.002404

C -1.229199 0.652254 -0.013500

C -0.030703 1.368257 -0.015255

C 1.194836 0.709583 -0.000262

C 1.217539 -0.683203 0.013594

H -2.115938 -1.302243 0.000691

H -3.355851 0.752738 -0.382364

H -0.056472 2.453826 -0.029635

N 0.060235 -2.811942 0.073254

H -0.762838 -3.274332 -0.279388

H 0.908011 -3.240388 -0.263390

H -2.815060 1.665263 1.029090

C -2.549570 1.378355 0.006651

H -2.507555 2.291816 -0.591220

H 2.311462 2.556926 -0.012670

H 3.085935 1.245425 0.884600

H 3.094022 1.229690 -0.879230

o-F-aniline (XYZ)

H -2.701355 -1.463539 0.008013

H -0.470462 -2.509118 -0.014895

C 0.598617 -0.651608 -0.008628

C 0.429152 0.732927 -0.004241

C -0.806443 1.341233 0.002016

C -1.949890 0.548359 0.005820

C -1.818497 -0.834896 0.004616

C -0.562573 -1.427914 -0.004236

F 1.549843 1.495478 0.002393

H -0.859797 2.423137 0.006526

H -2.929061 1.010714 0.010615

N 1.870052 -1.205230 -0.072652

H 2.622282 -0.595330 0.206029

H 1.957247 -2.137154 0.298666

o-Me-aniline (XYZ)

H 2.941921 -1.058446 0.004332

H 0.892172 -2.425020 0.017581

C -0.440889 -0.740497 0.004061

C -0.540324 0.661896 -0.000611

C 0.630987 1.412449 -0.010770

C 1.886304 0.815302 -0.009551

C 1.973407 -0.570687 0.001599

C 0.820154 -1.341488 0.006976

C -1.891578 1.323096 0.013547

H 0.553709 2.495576 -0.015569

H 2.781889 1.425062 -0.015420

N -1.594214 -1.525584 0.067627

H -2.422999 -1.125005 -0.342507

H -1.468758 -2.488526 -0.201787

H -2.485420 0.994055 0.872984

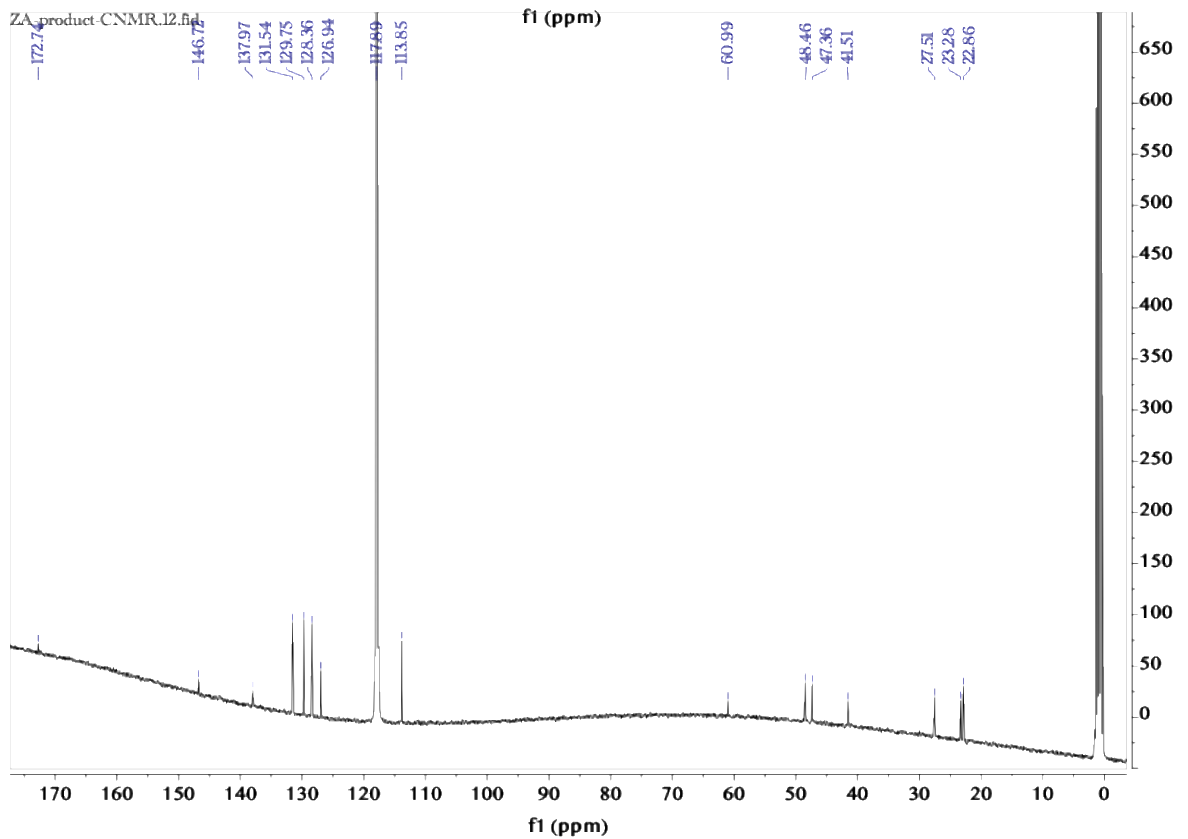
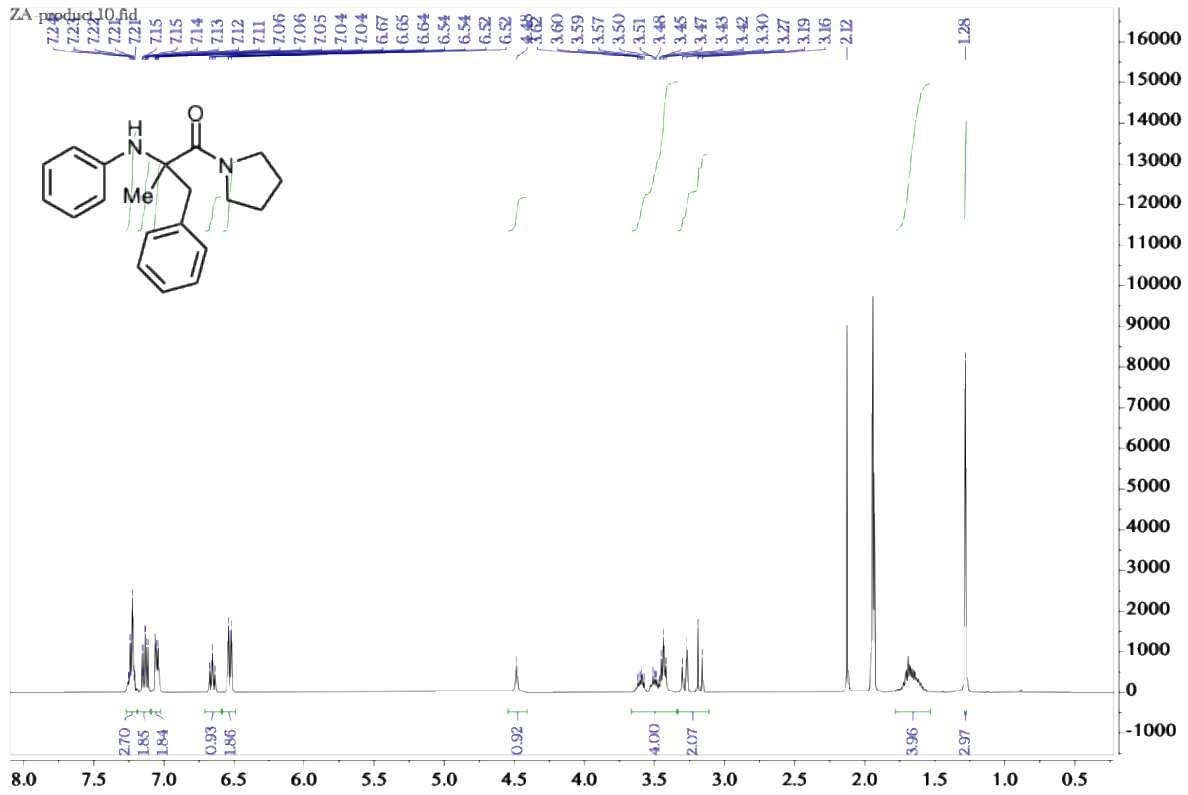
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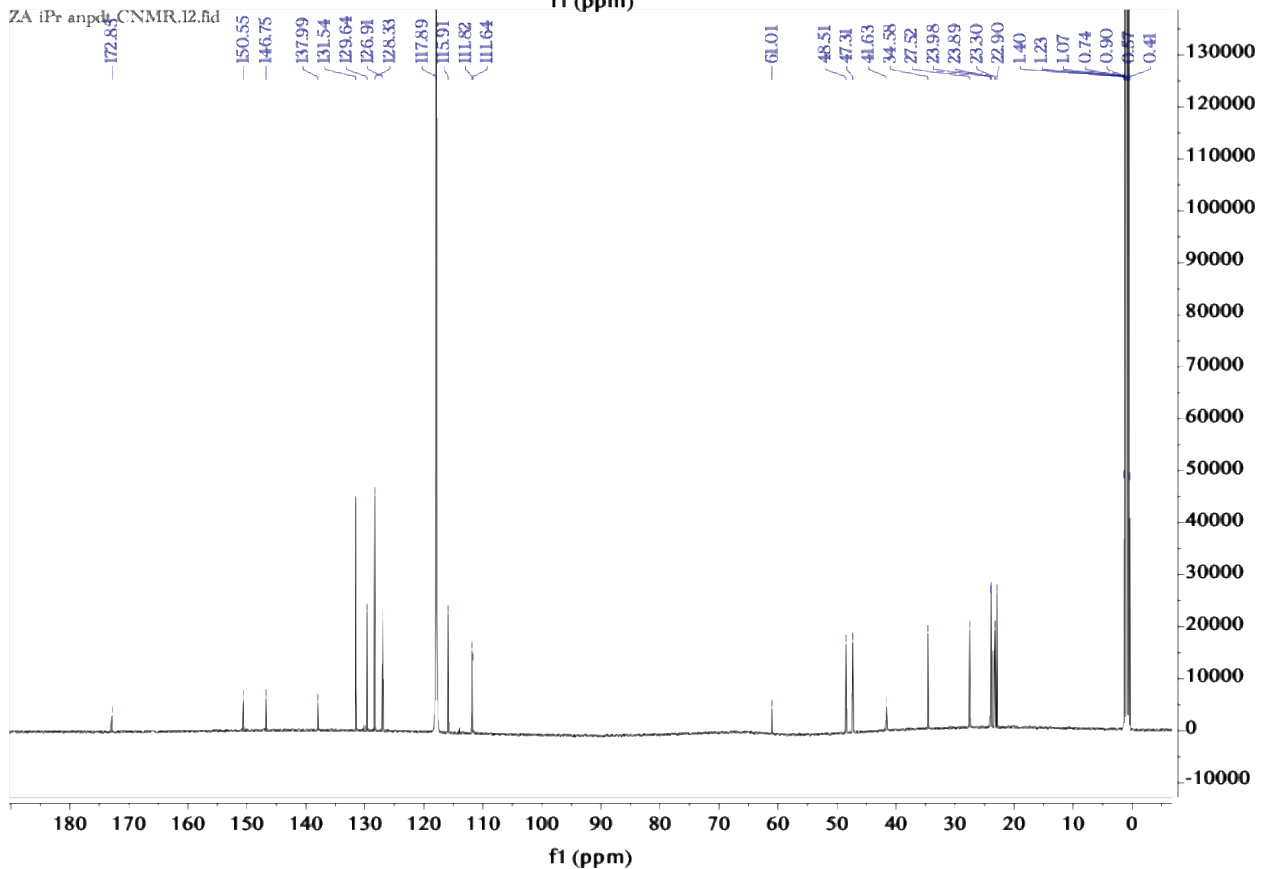
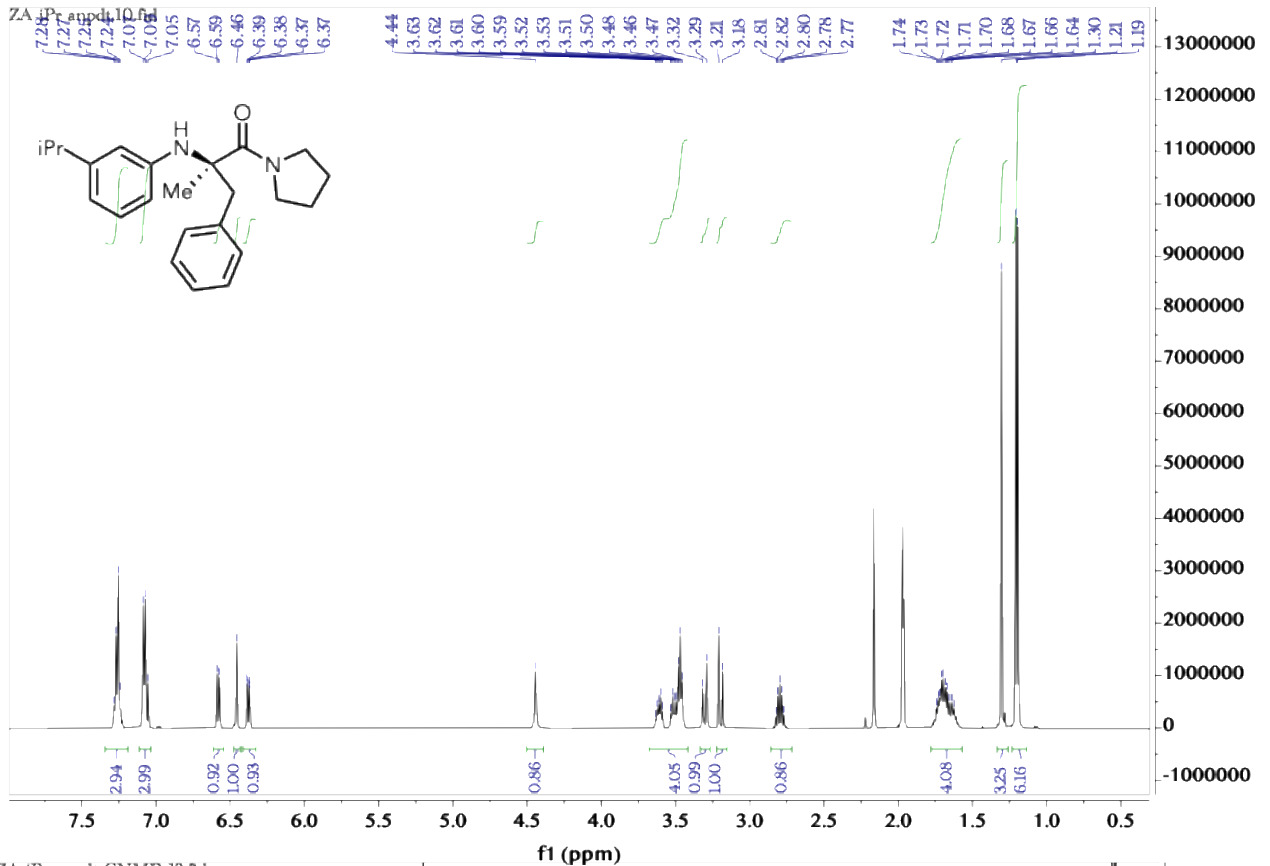
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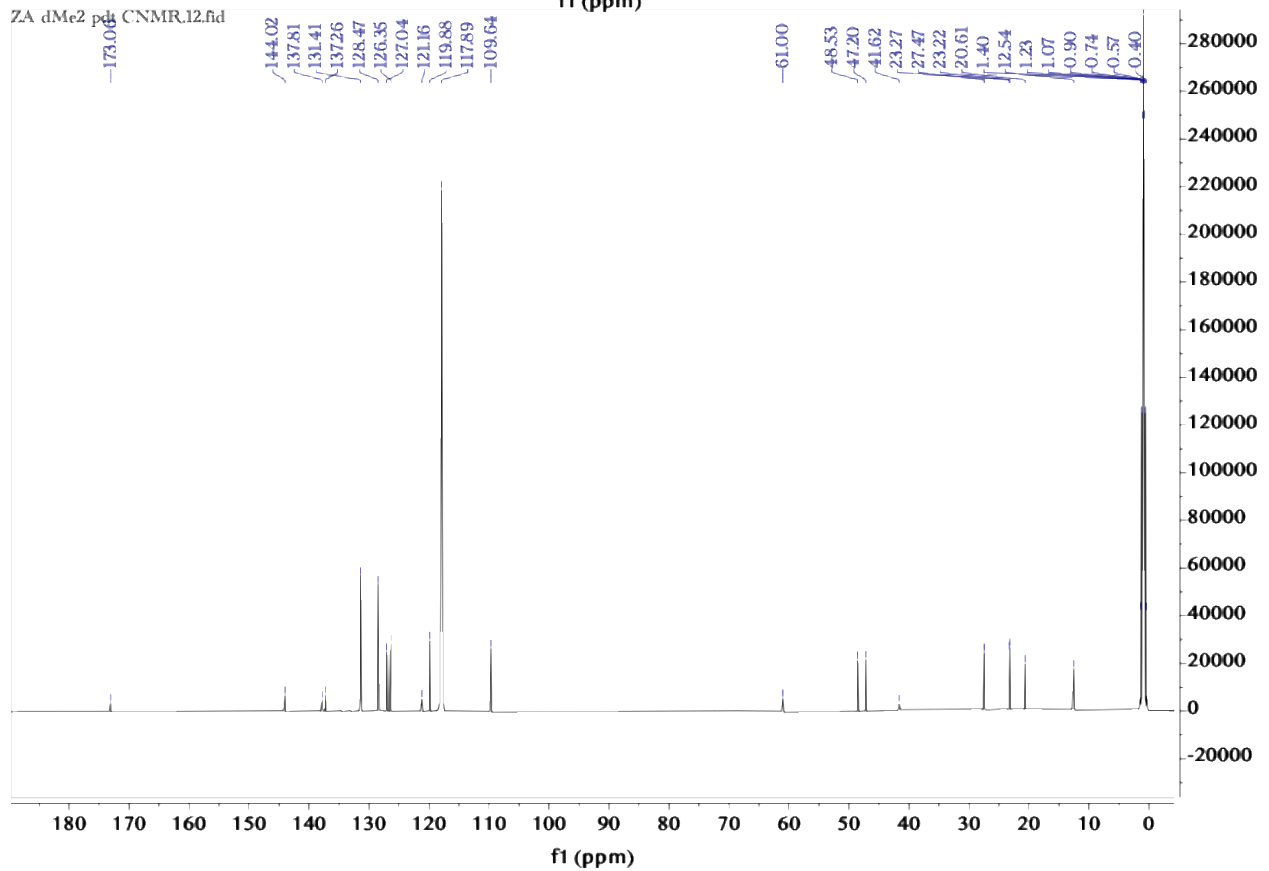
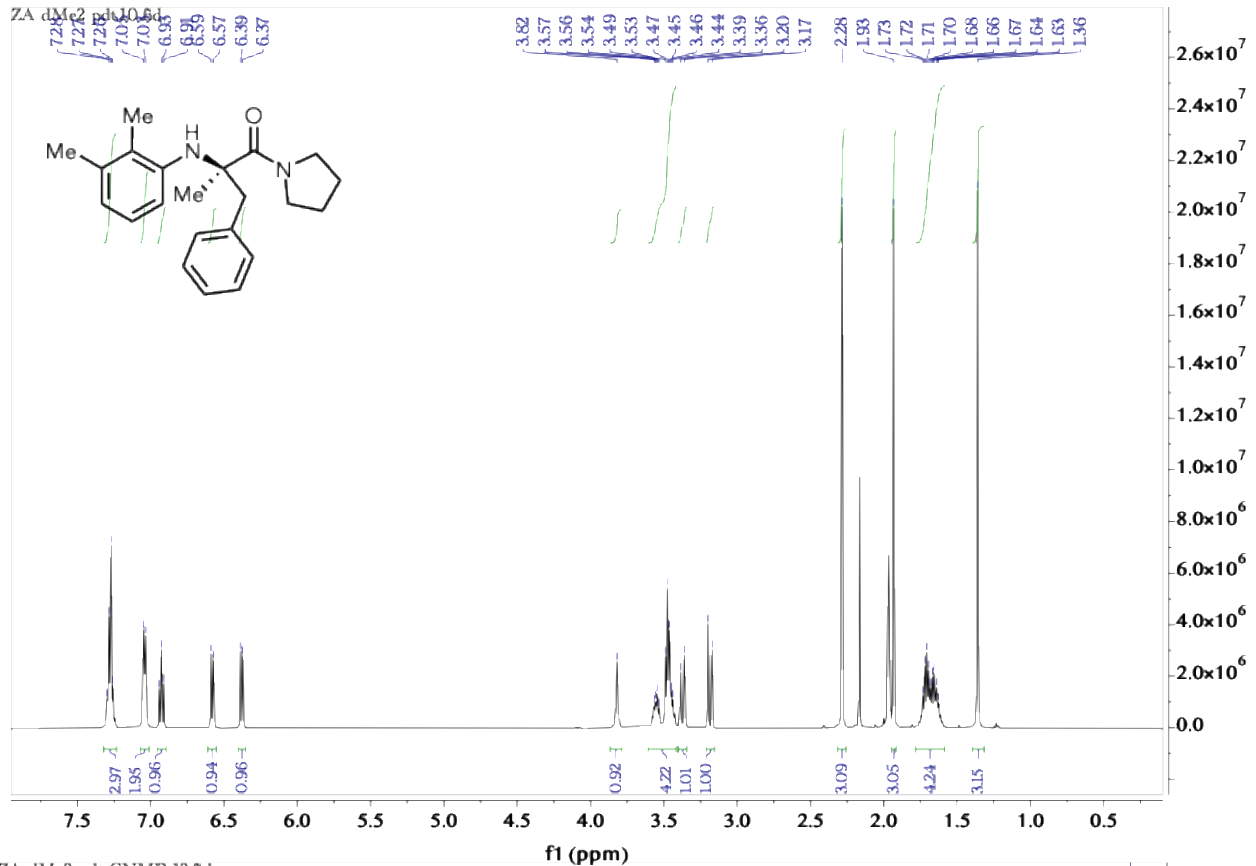
om-Me-aniline (XYZ)

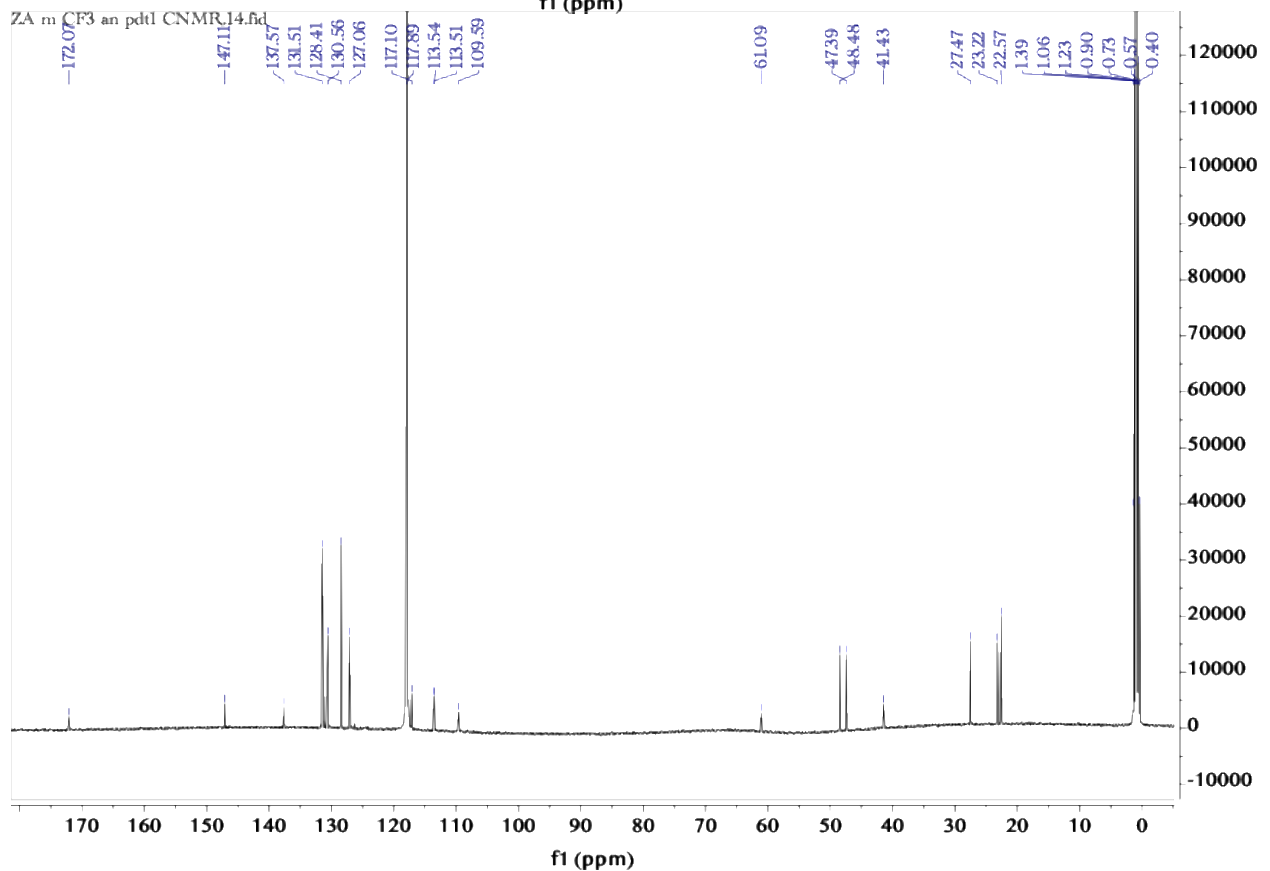
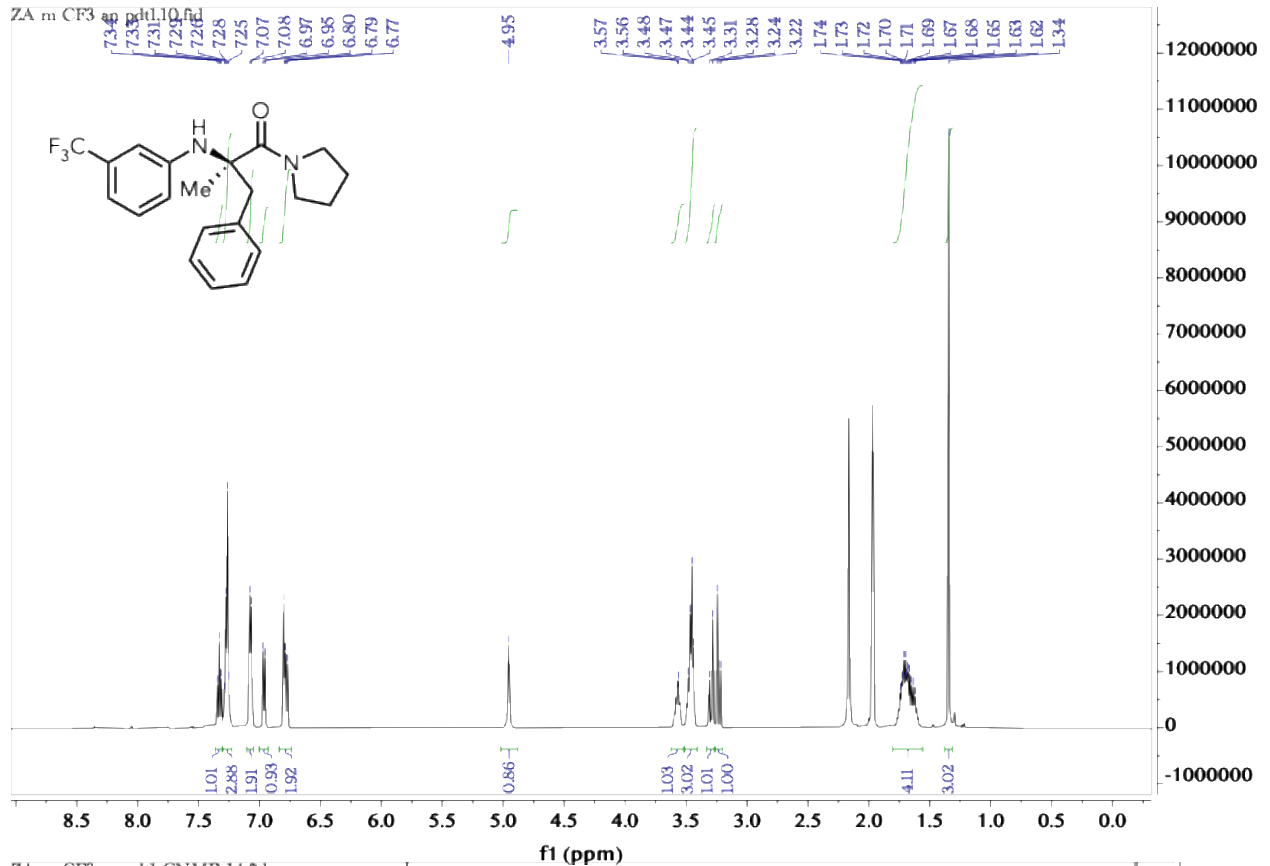
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C 1.221339 -0.003293 0.002928
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C -1.198840 0.084659 -0.006376
C -1.132681 1.477749 -0.005083
C 0.094553 2.125953 0.006256
C 1.268215 1.392367 0.007588
C -0.023182 -2.175079 0.027507
H -2.665263 -1.252086 -0.876550
H -2.050168 2.056144 -0.012542
N 2.409631 -0.738366 0.056401
H 2.385434 -1.646181 -0.380585
H 3.234906 -0.221597 -0.203679
H -2.709385 -1.185714 0.885716
C -2.550619 -0.586570 -0.016116
H -3.347597 0.157529 -0.062887
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8. NMR spectra

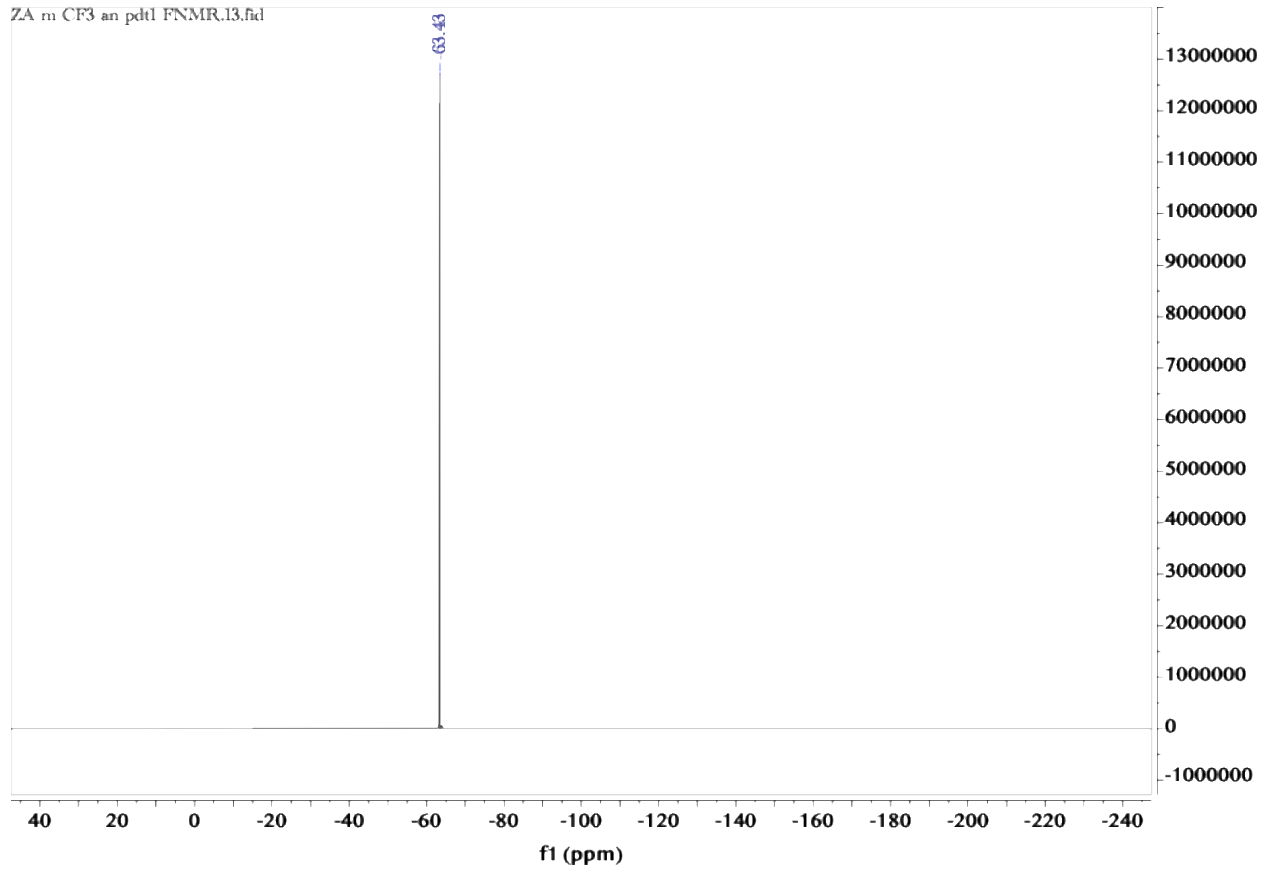


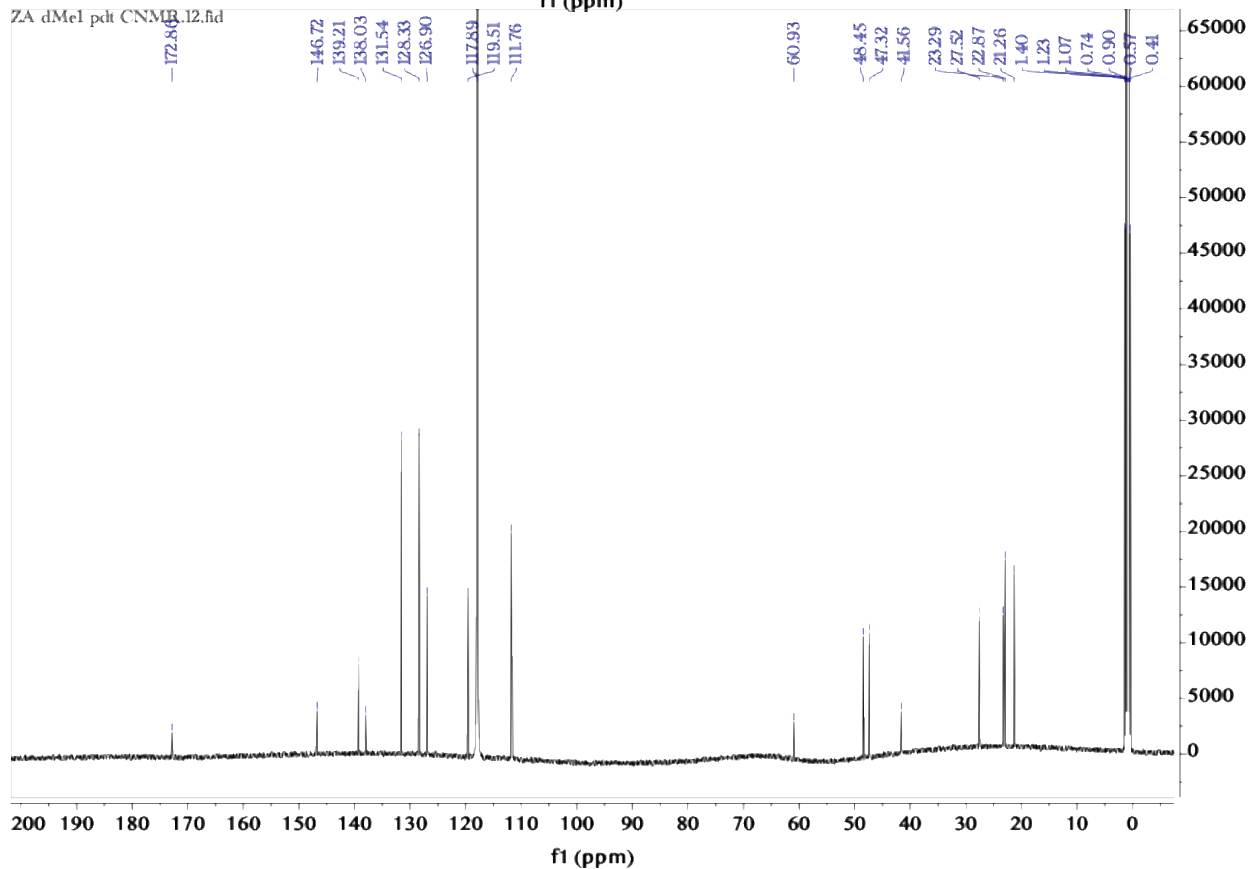
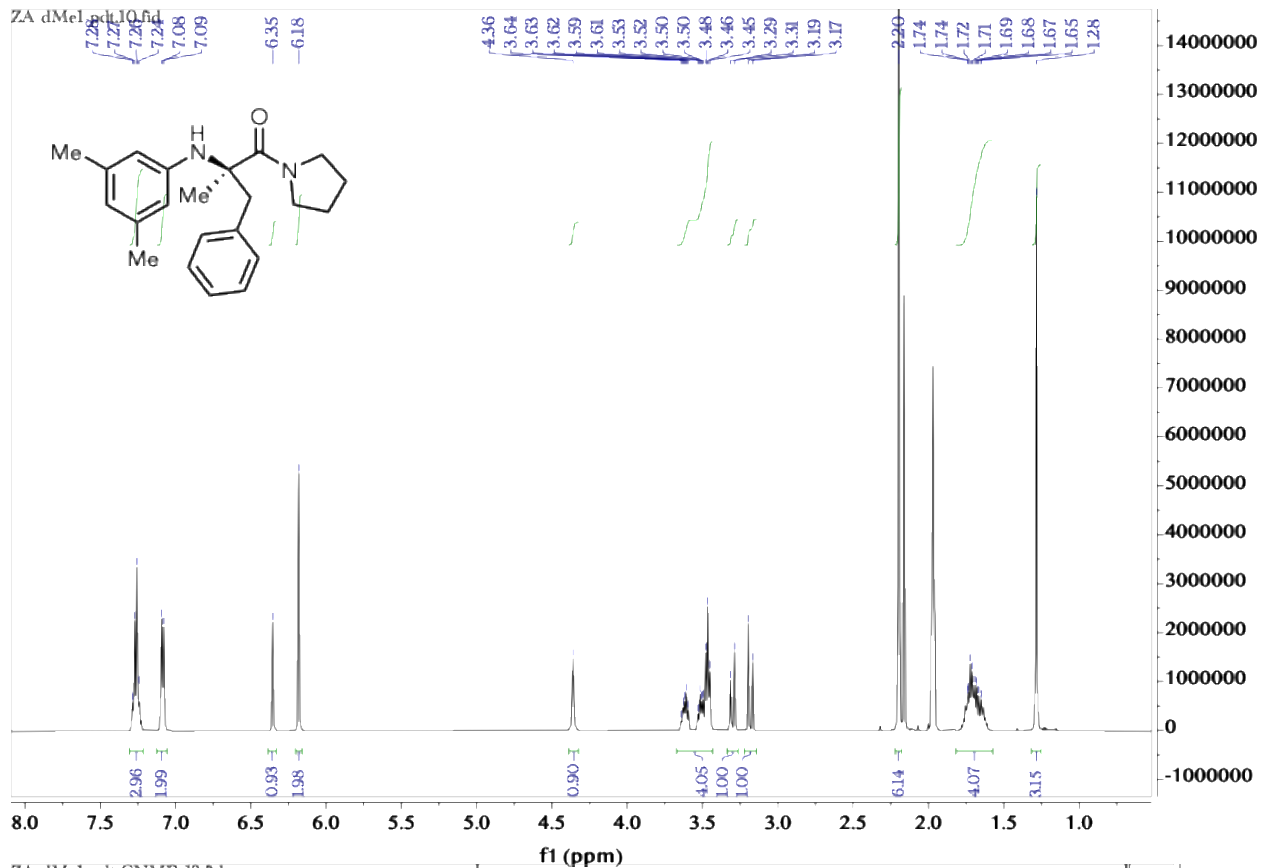


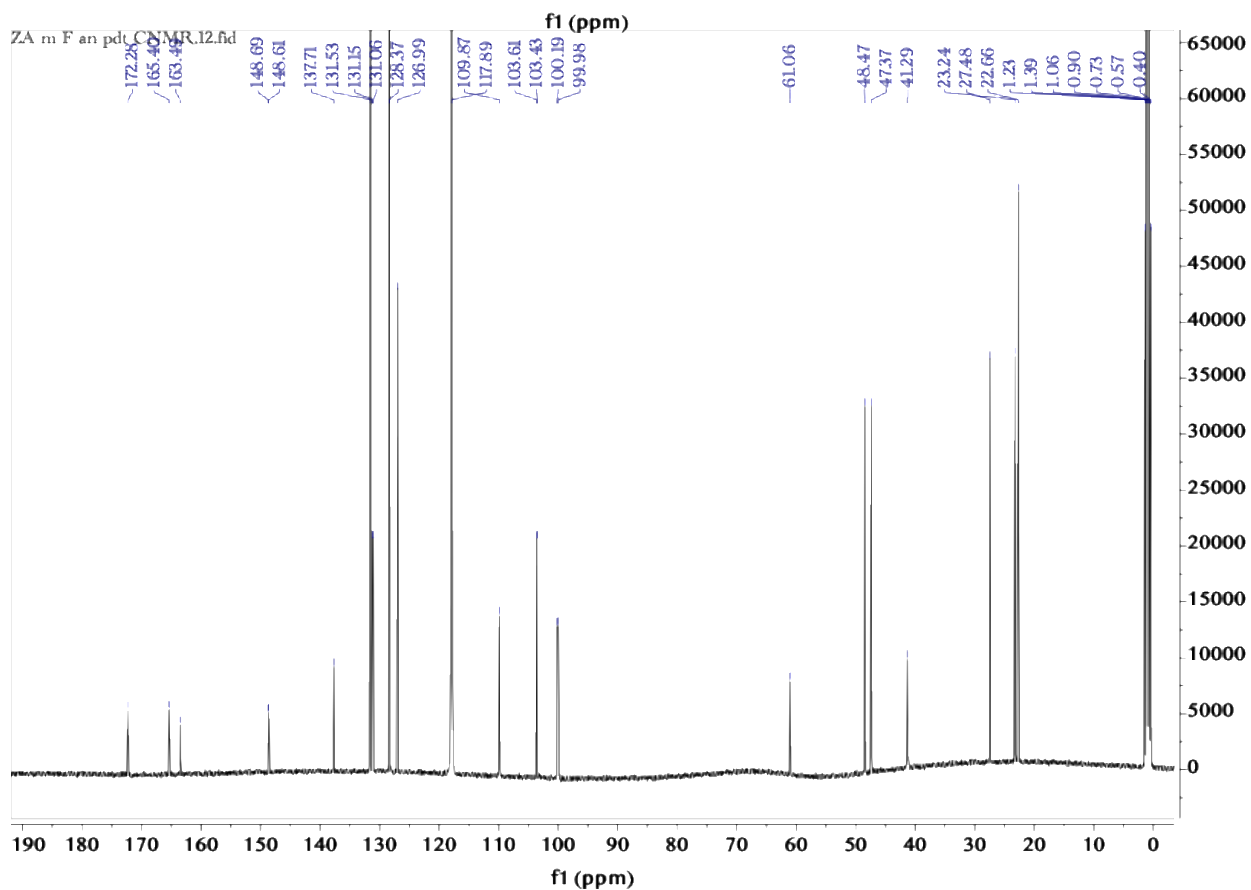
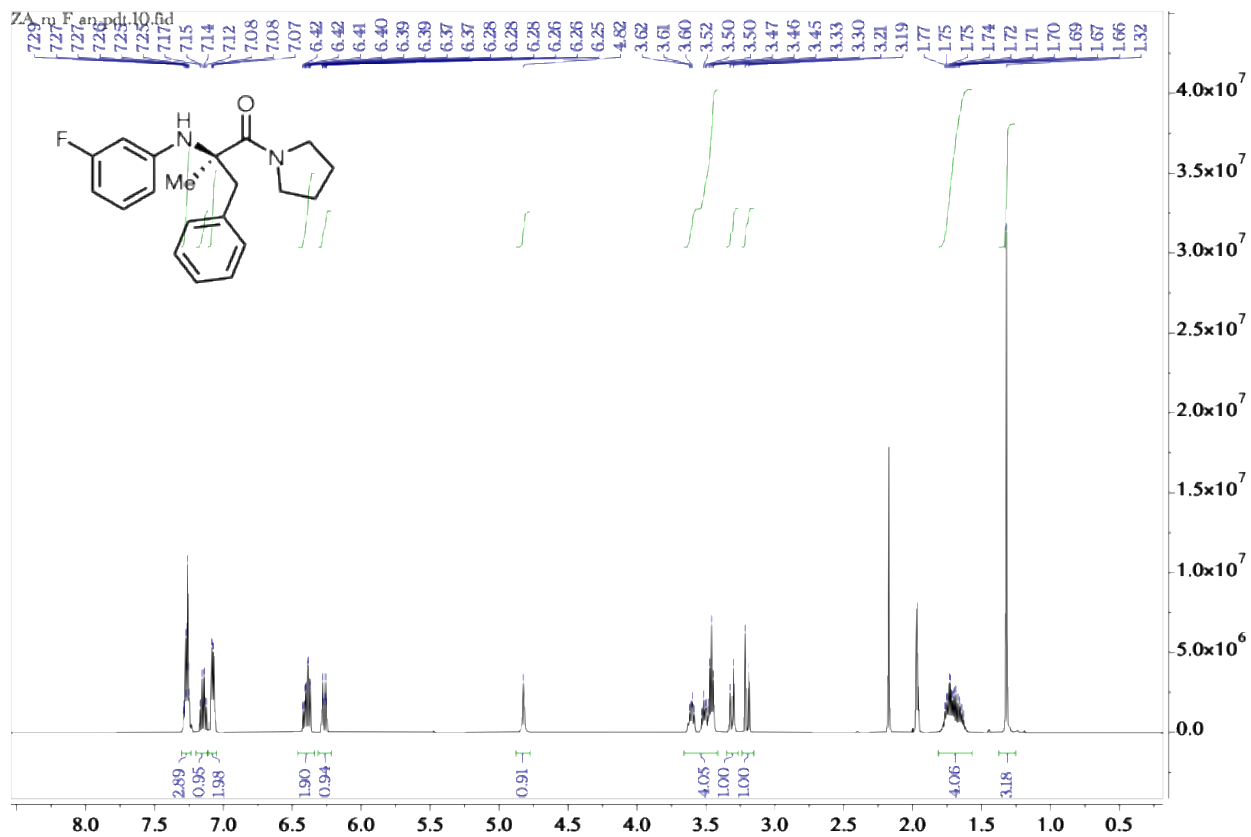




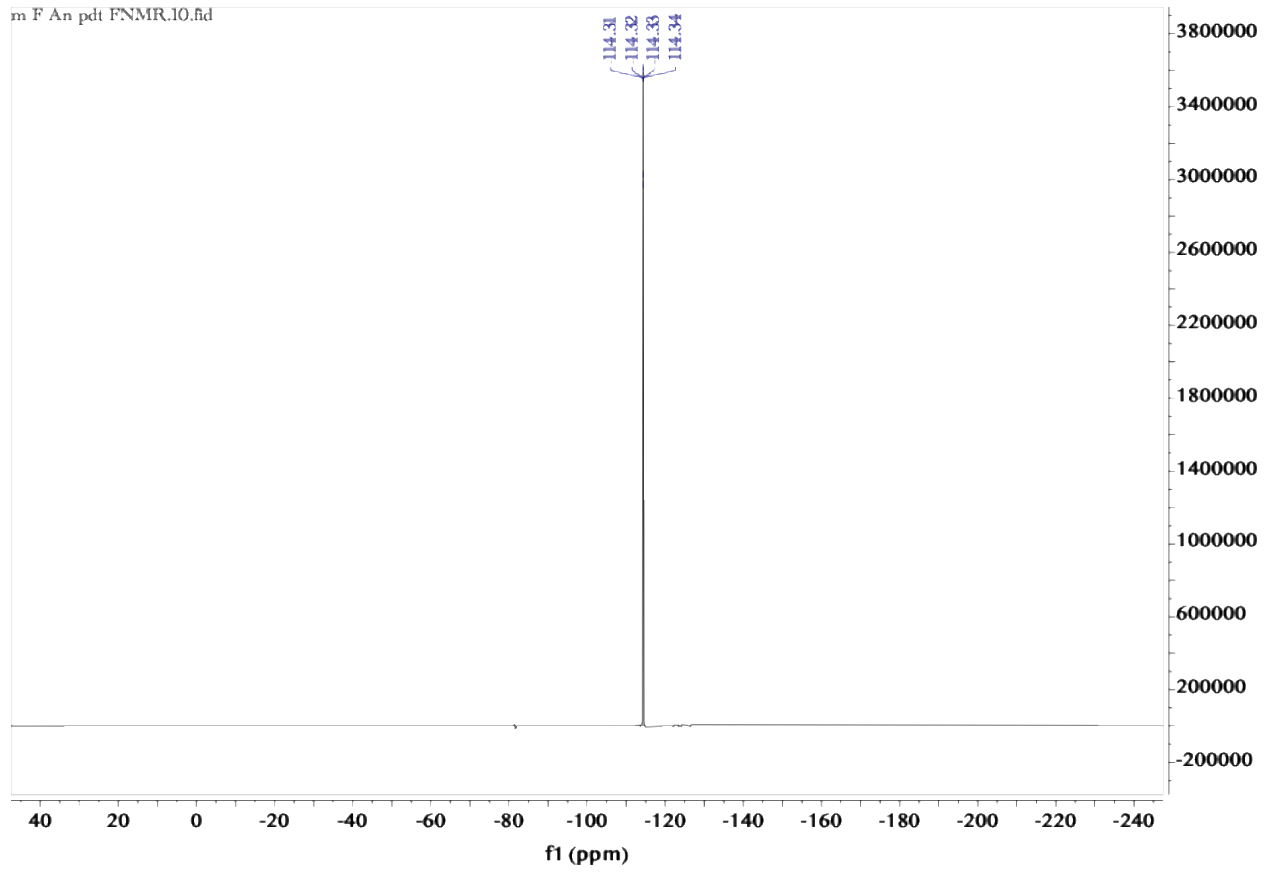
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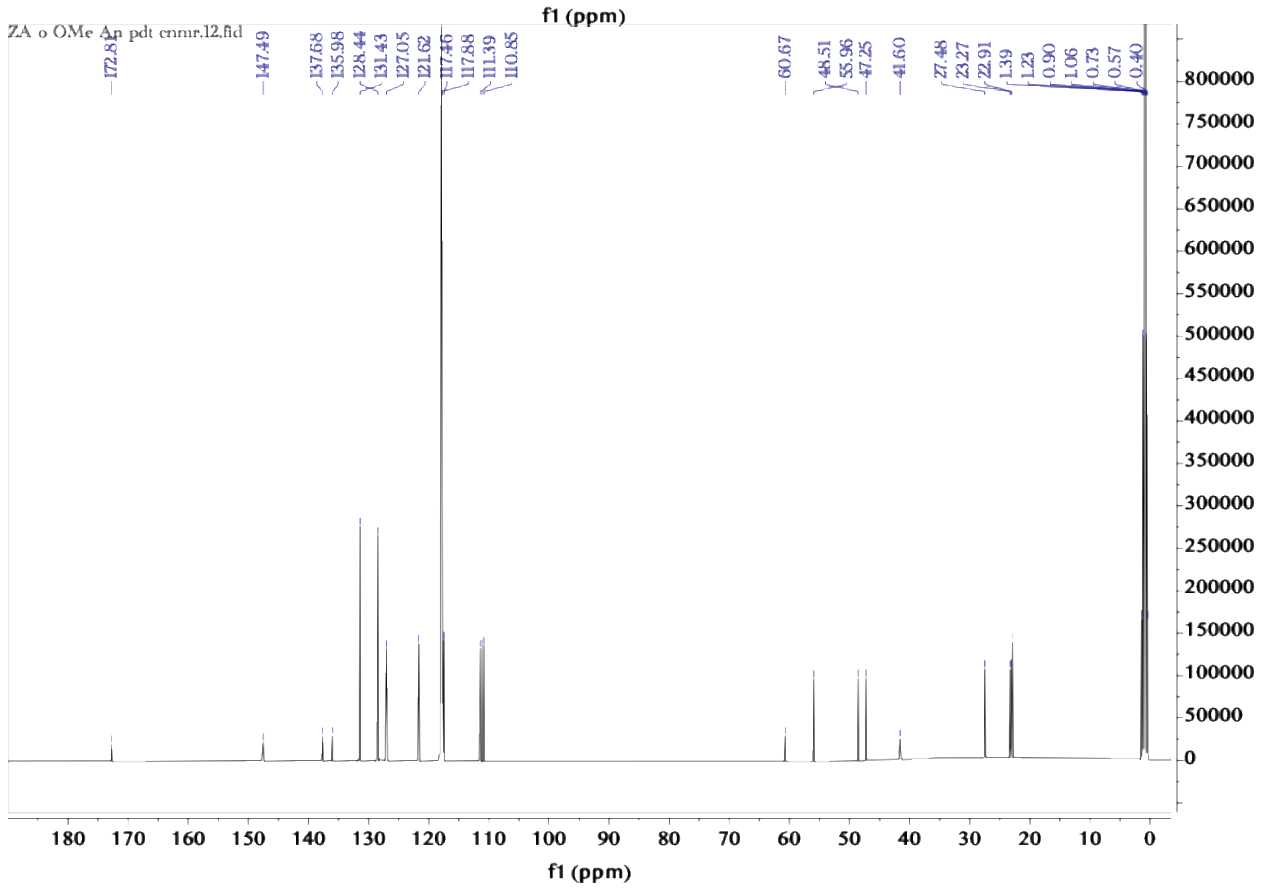
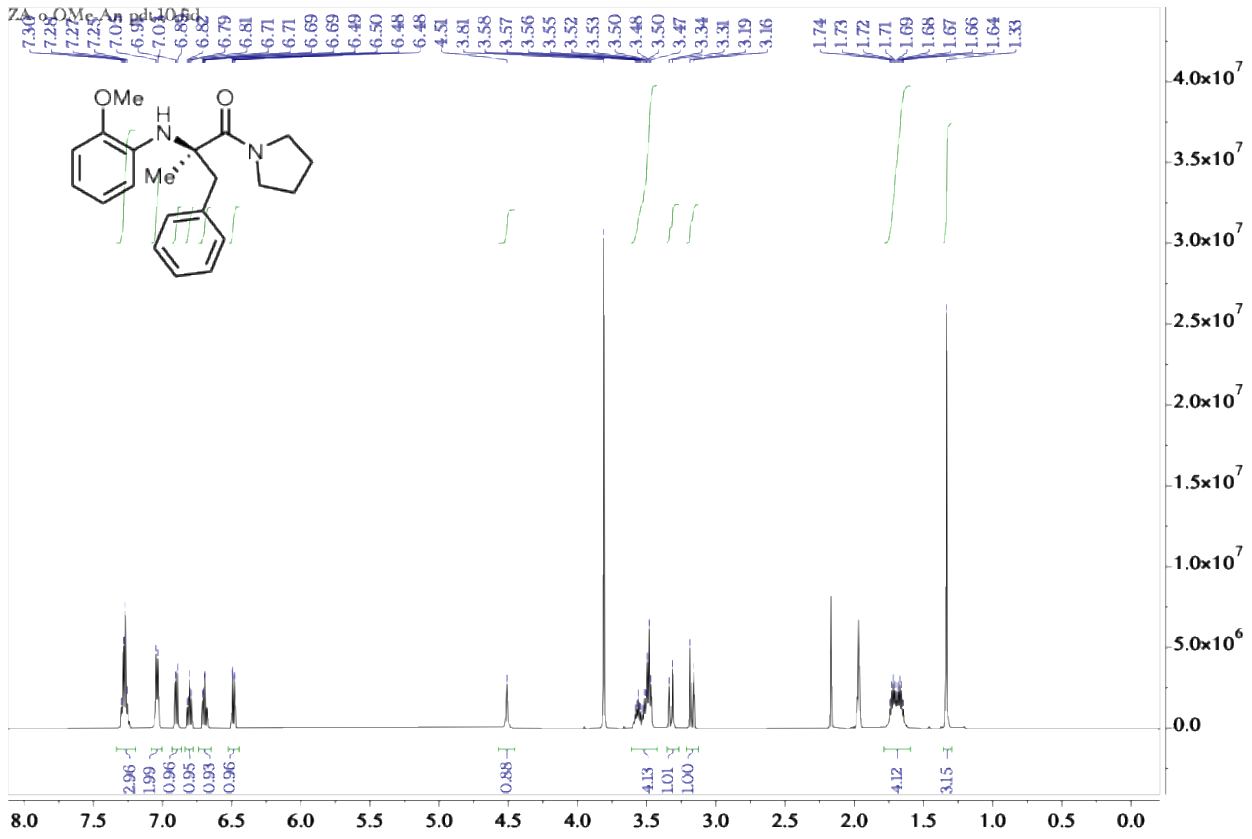


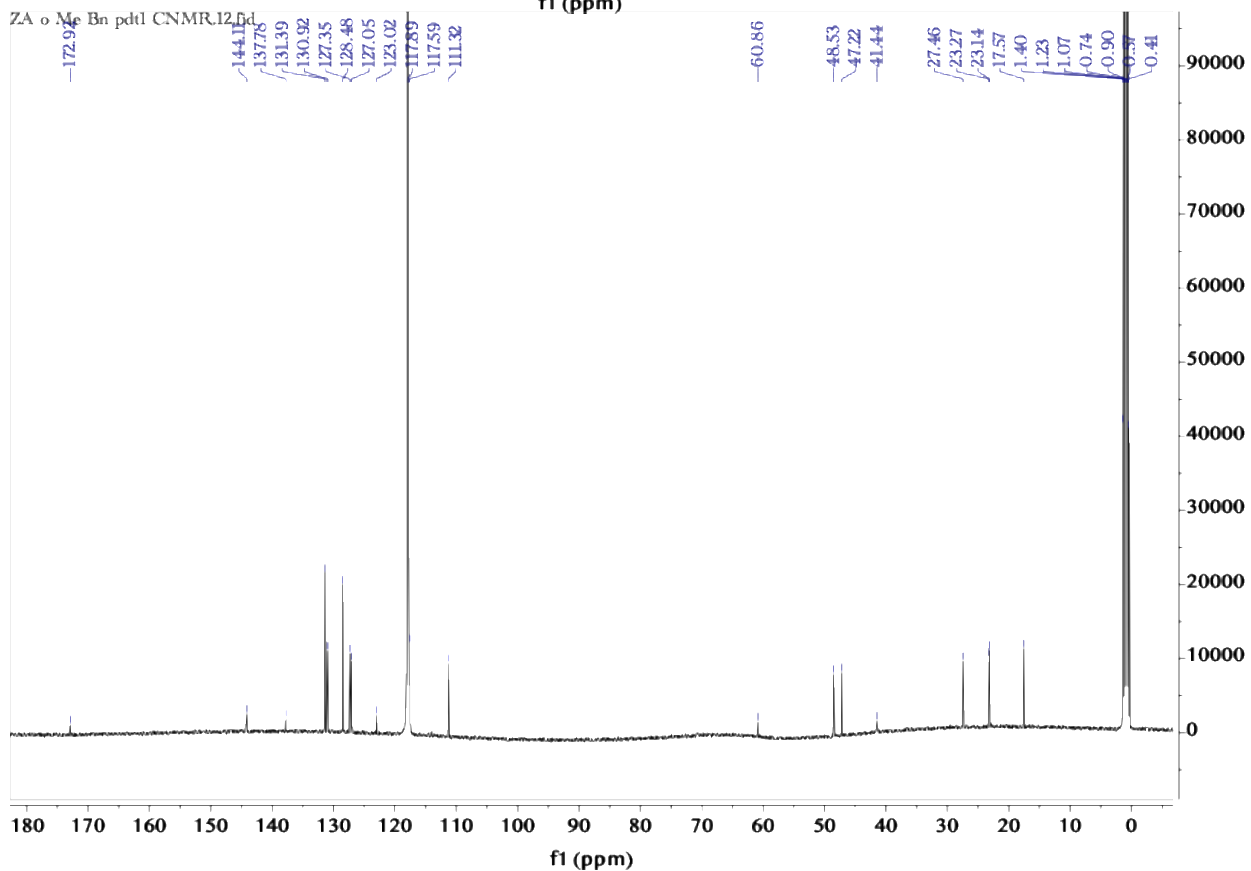
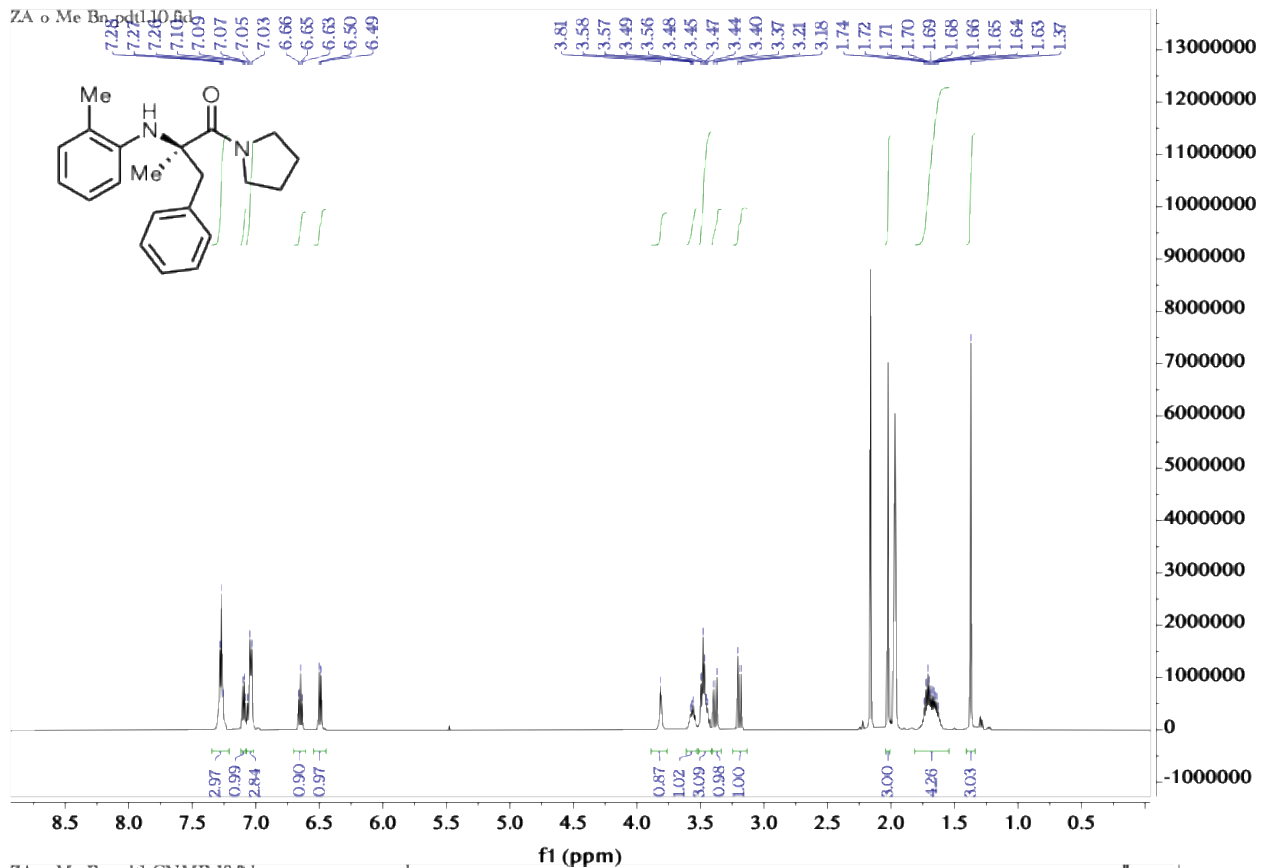


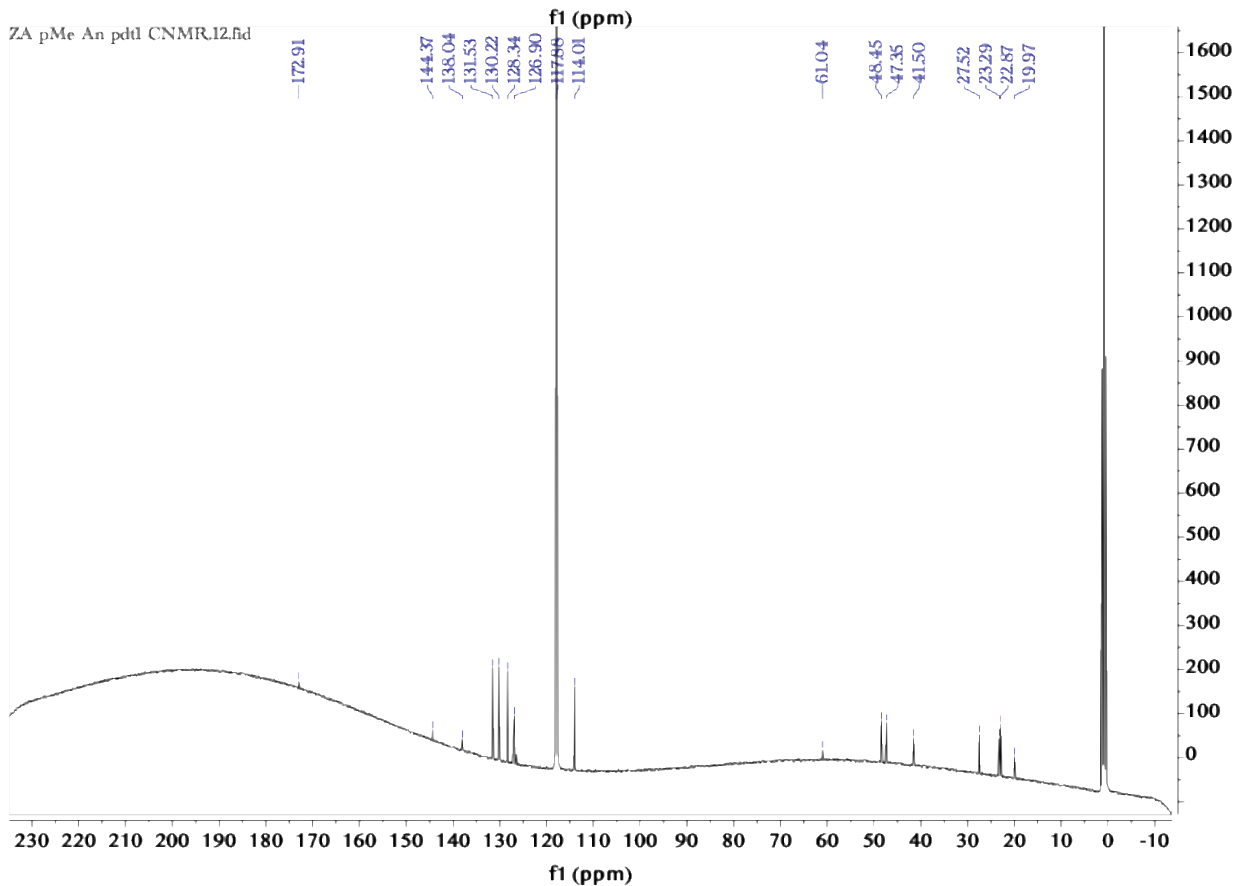
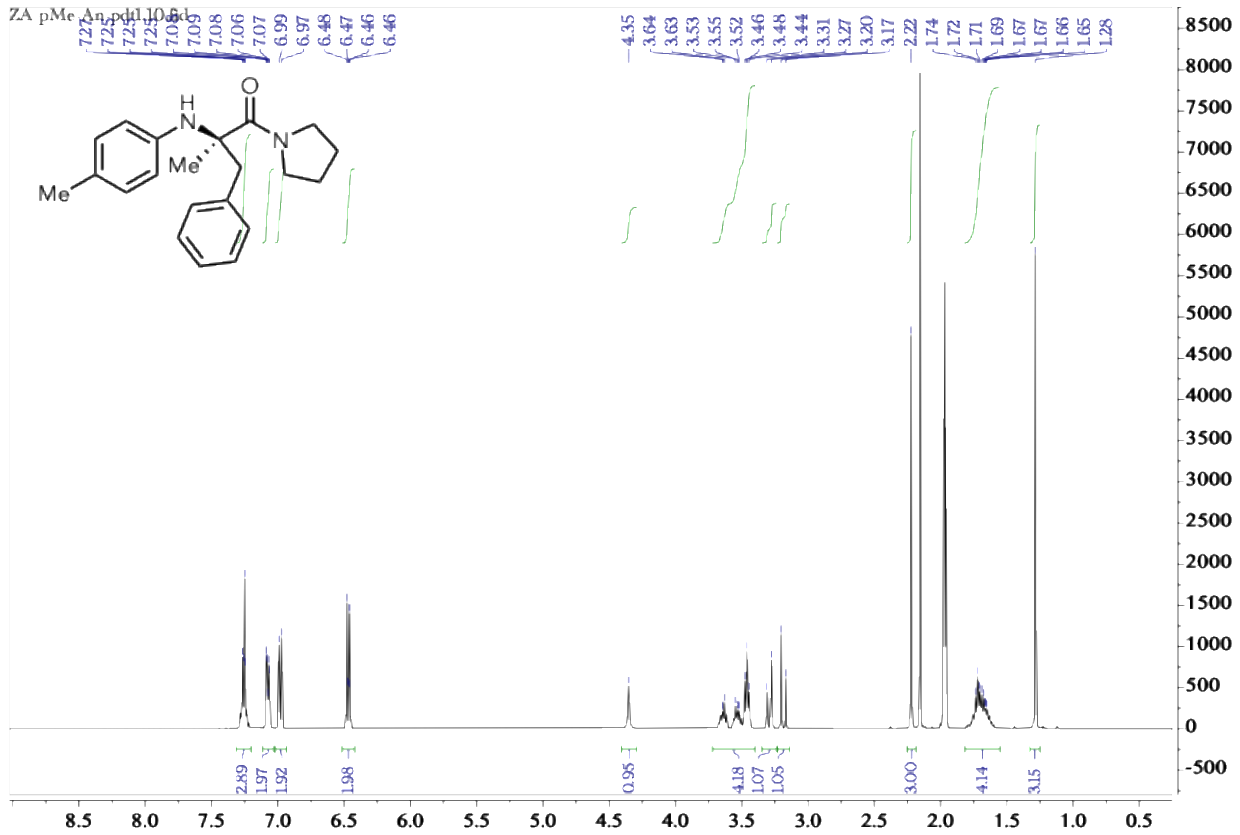


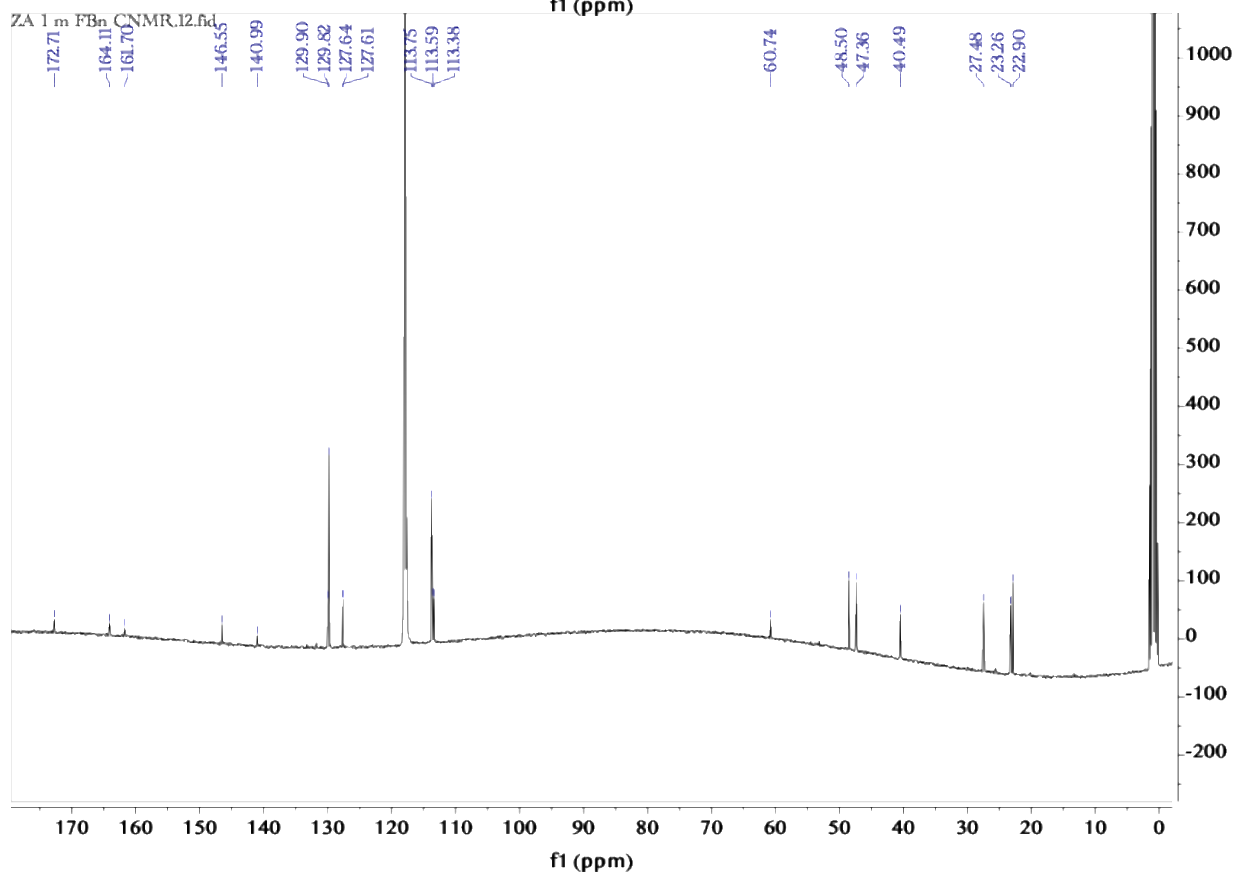
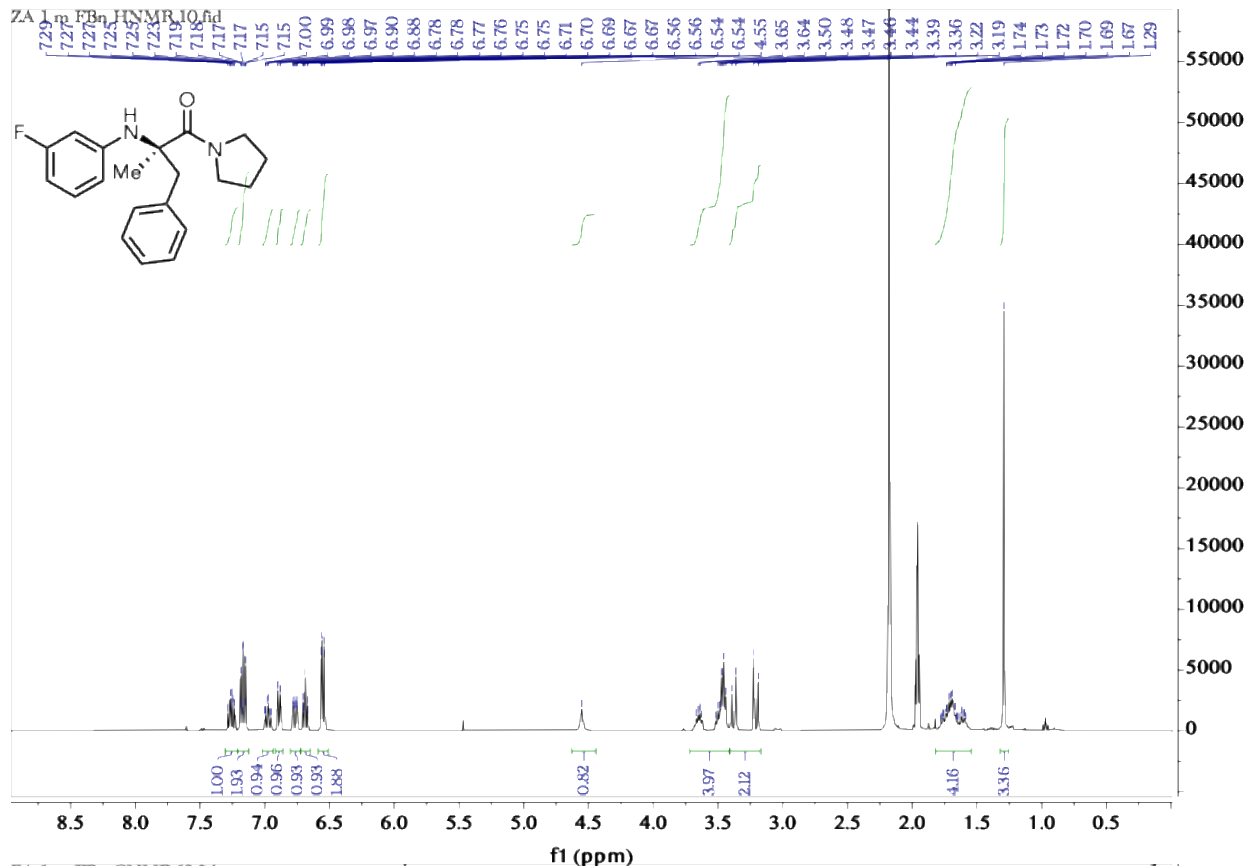
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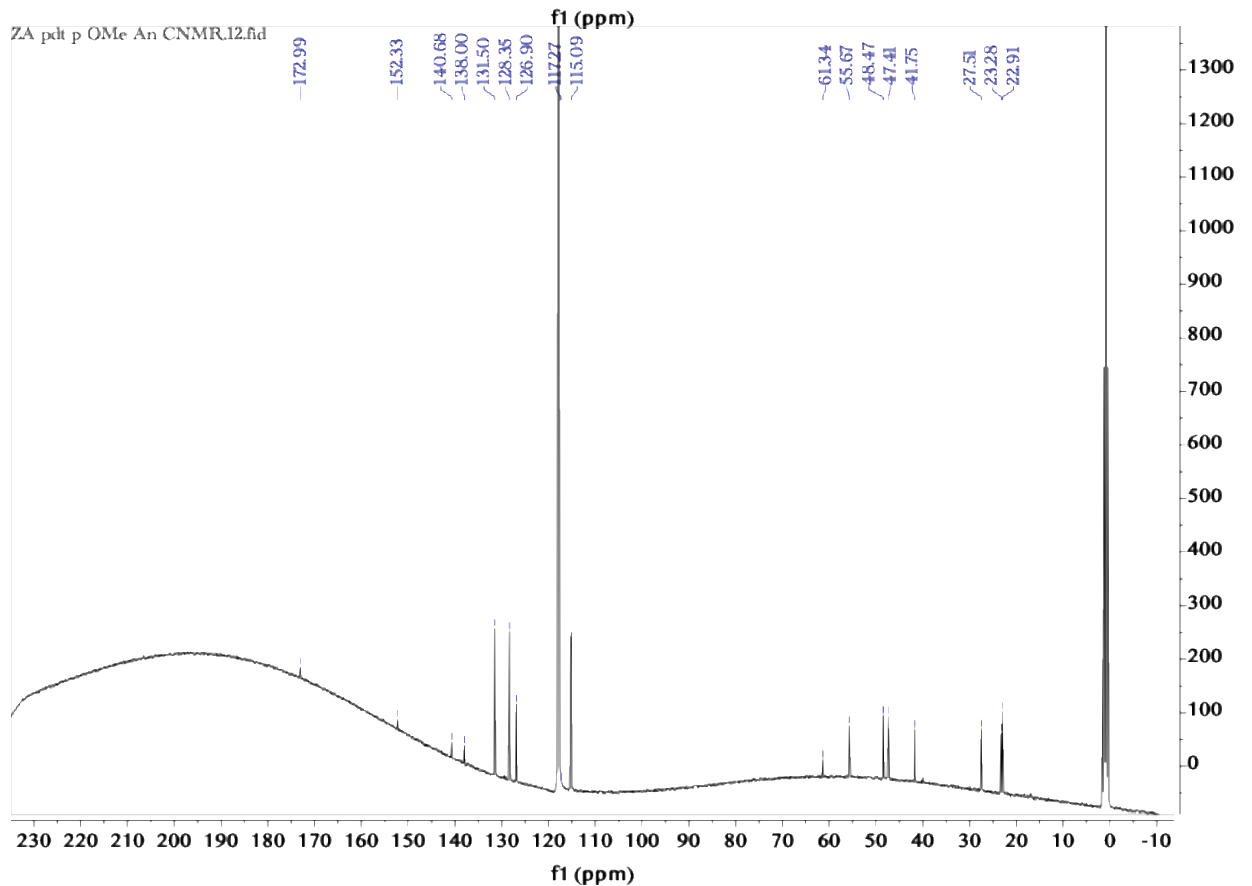
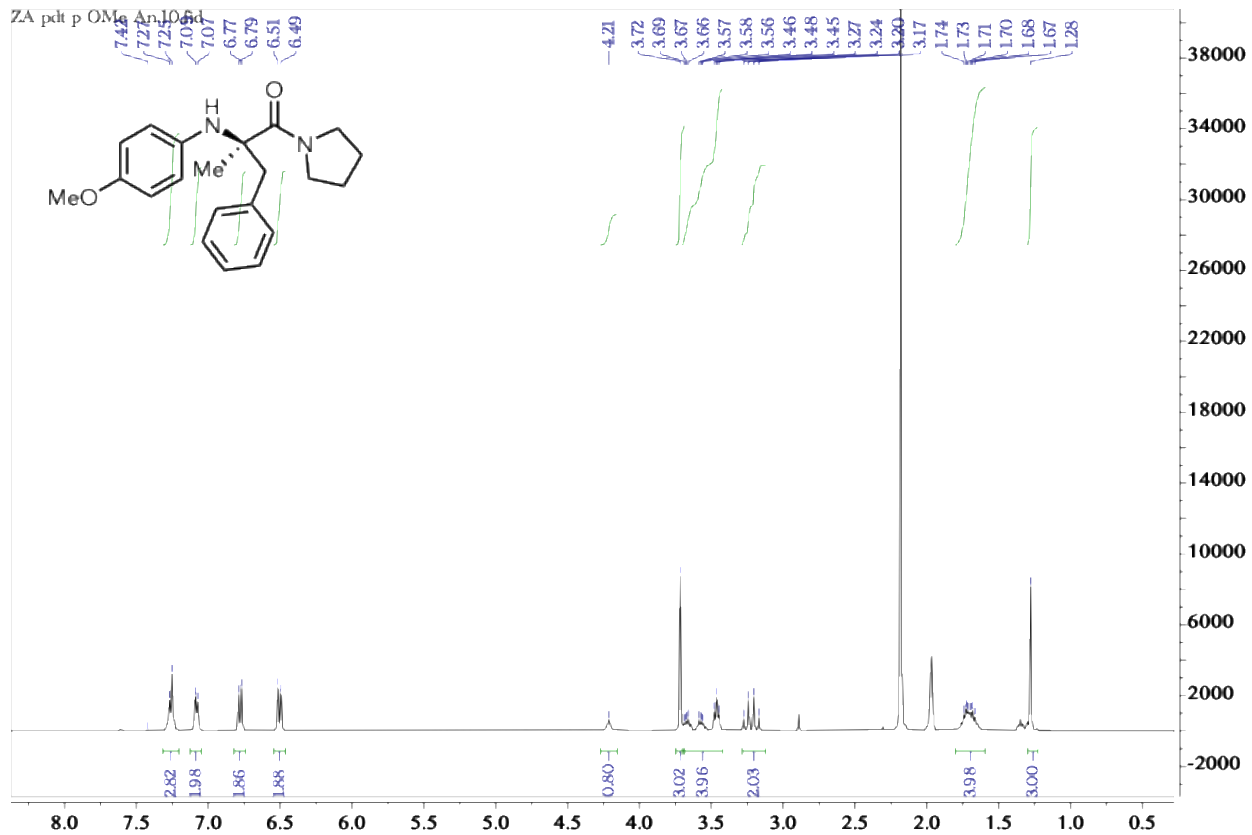


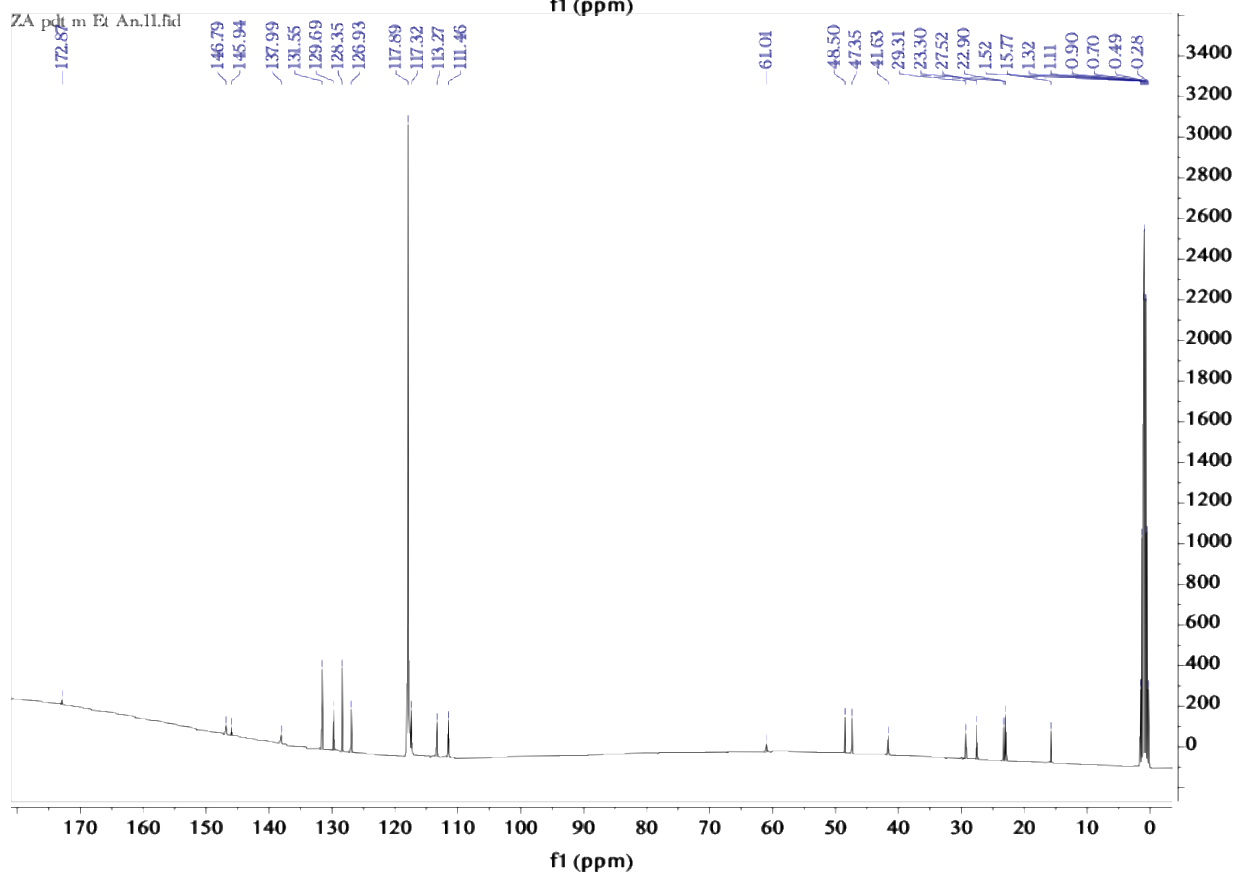
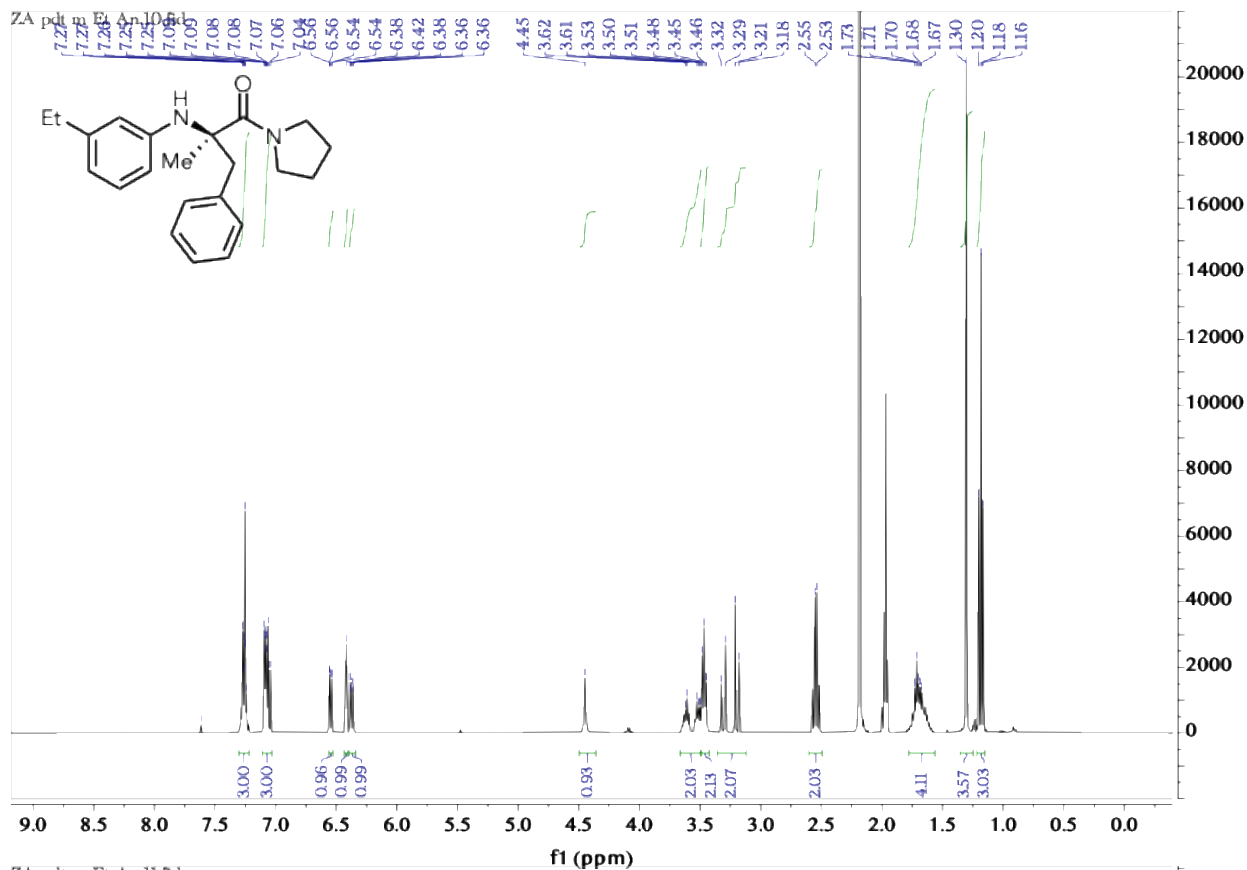


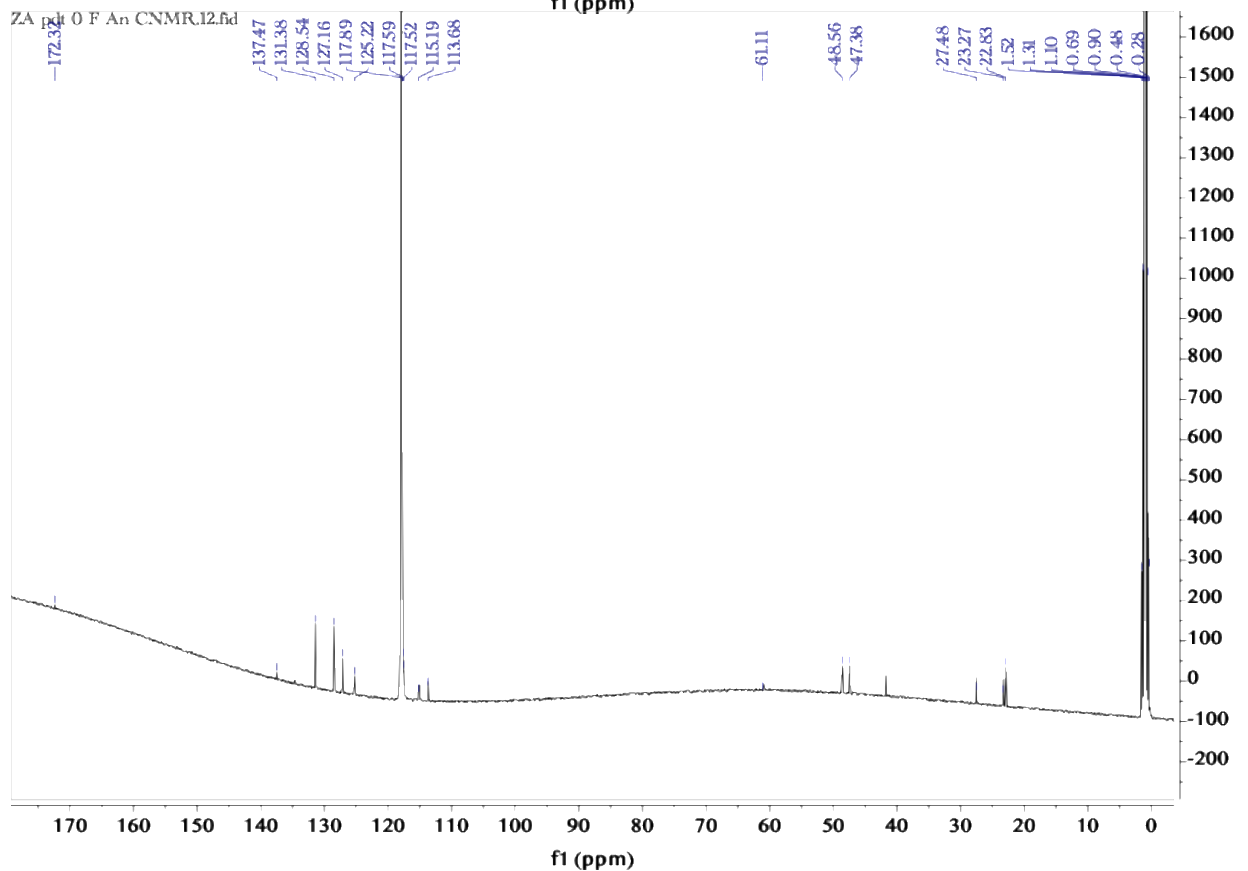
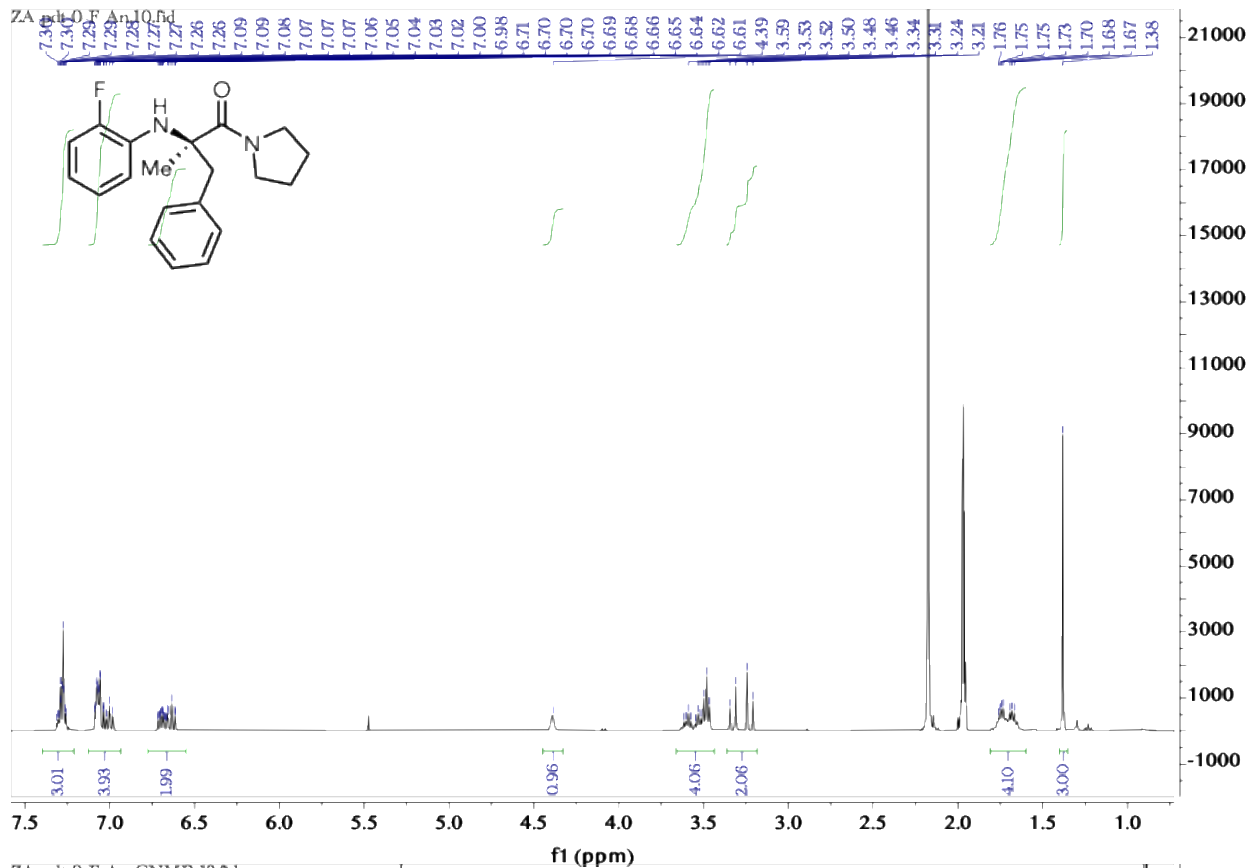


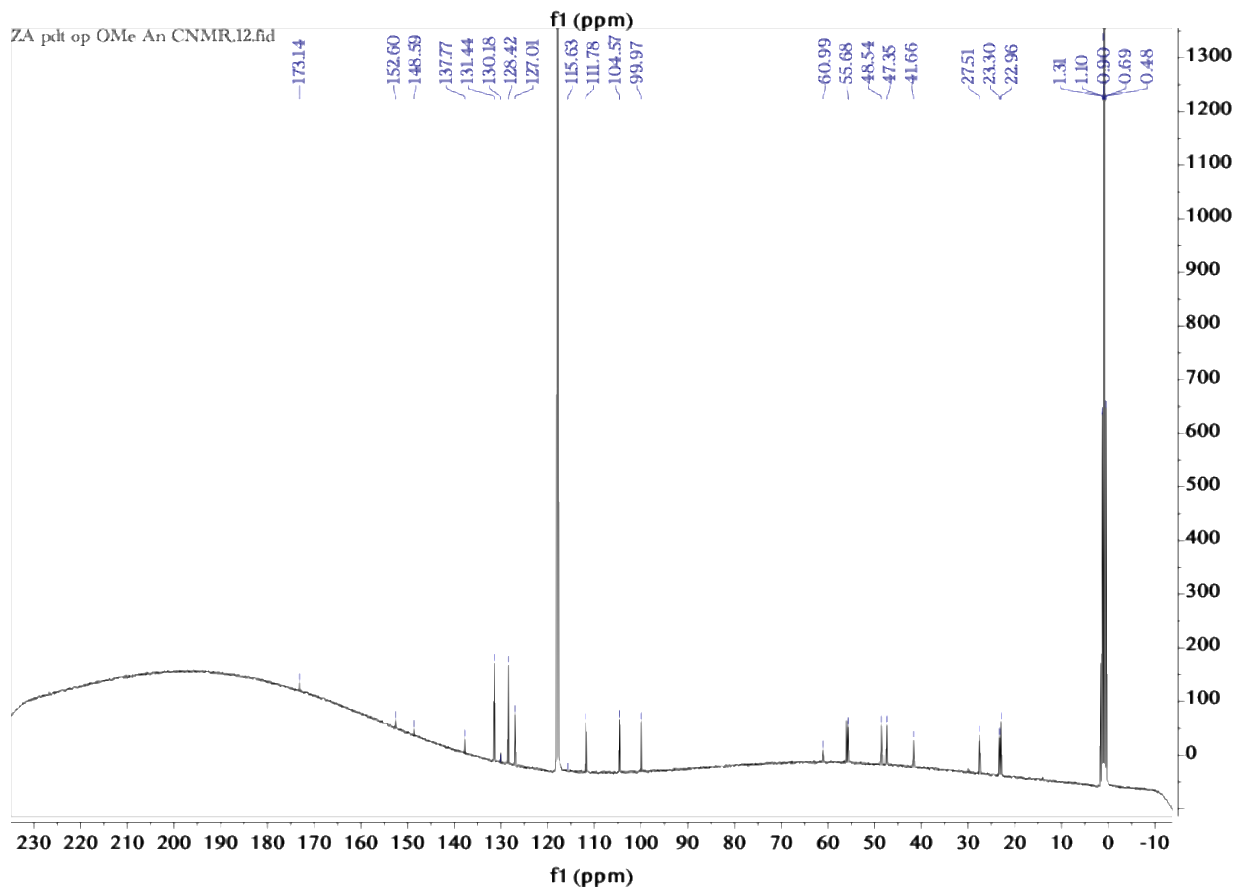
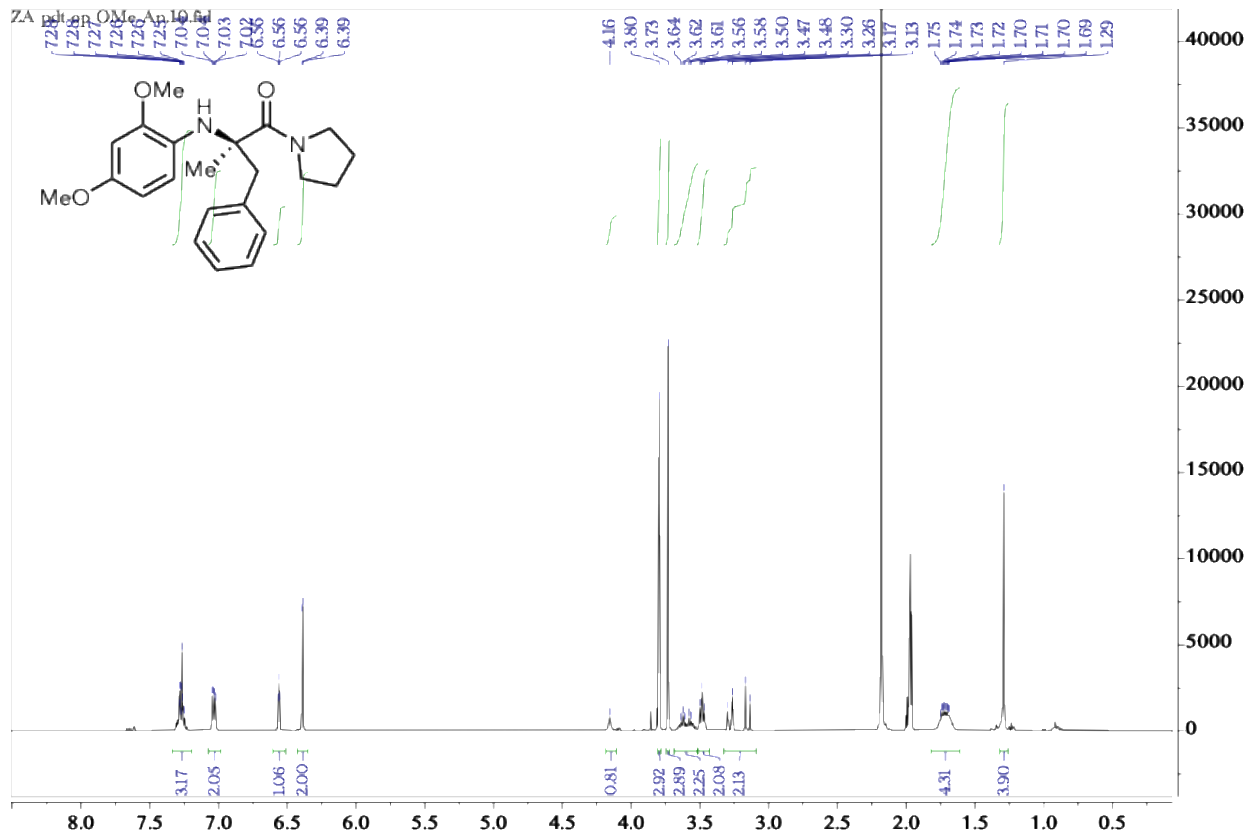


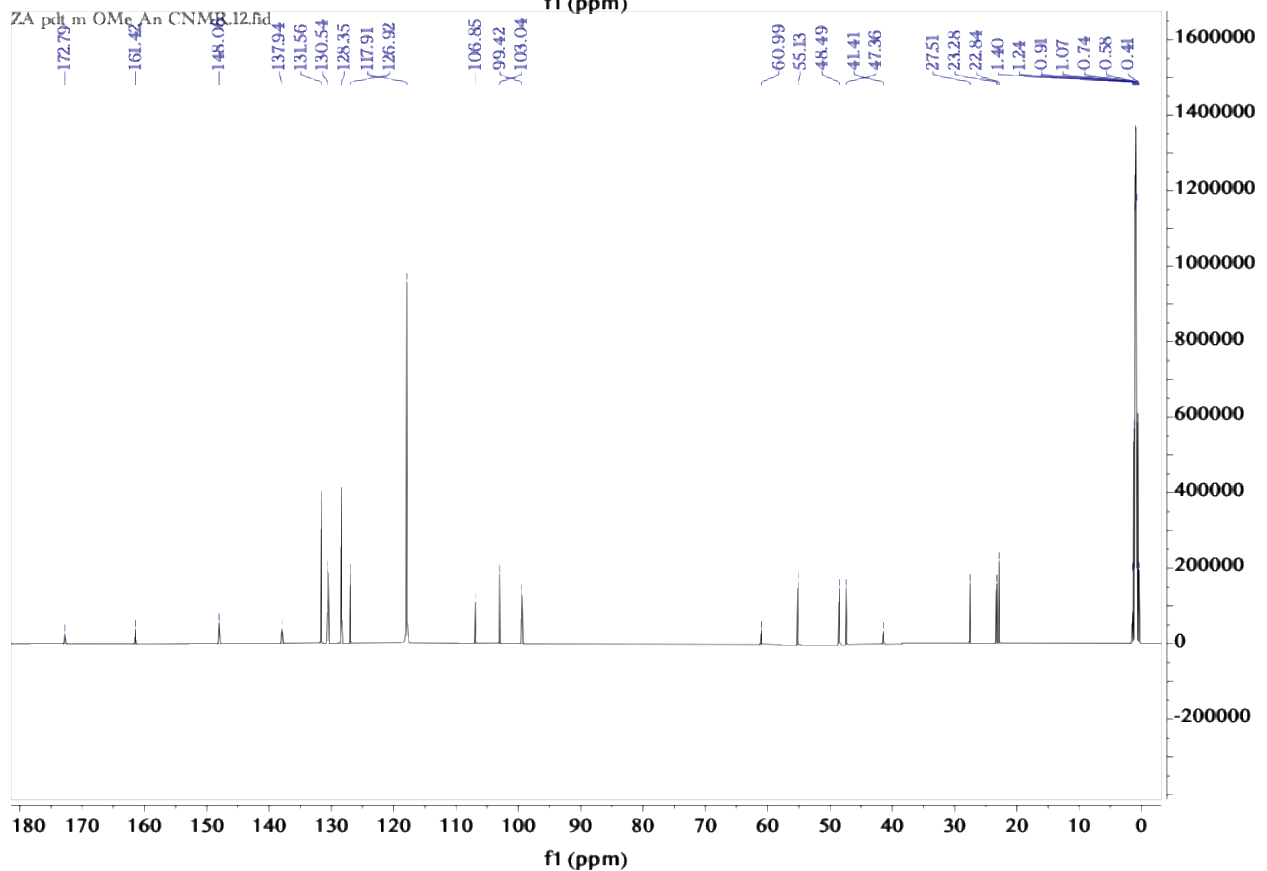
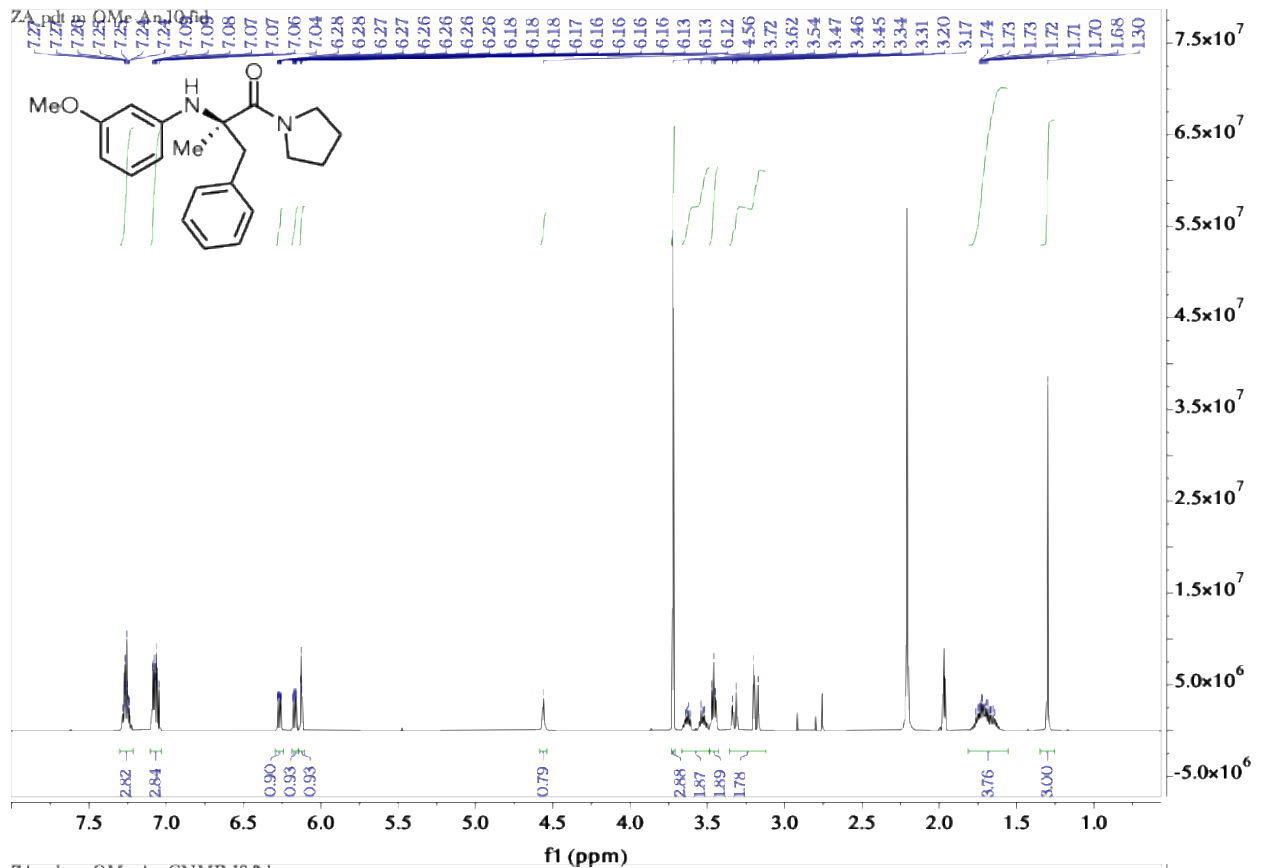


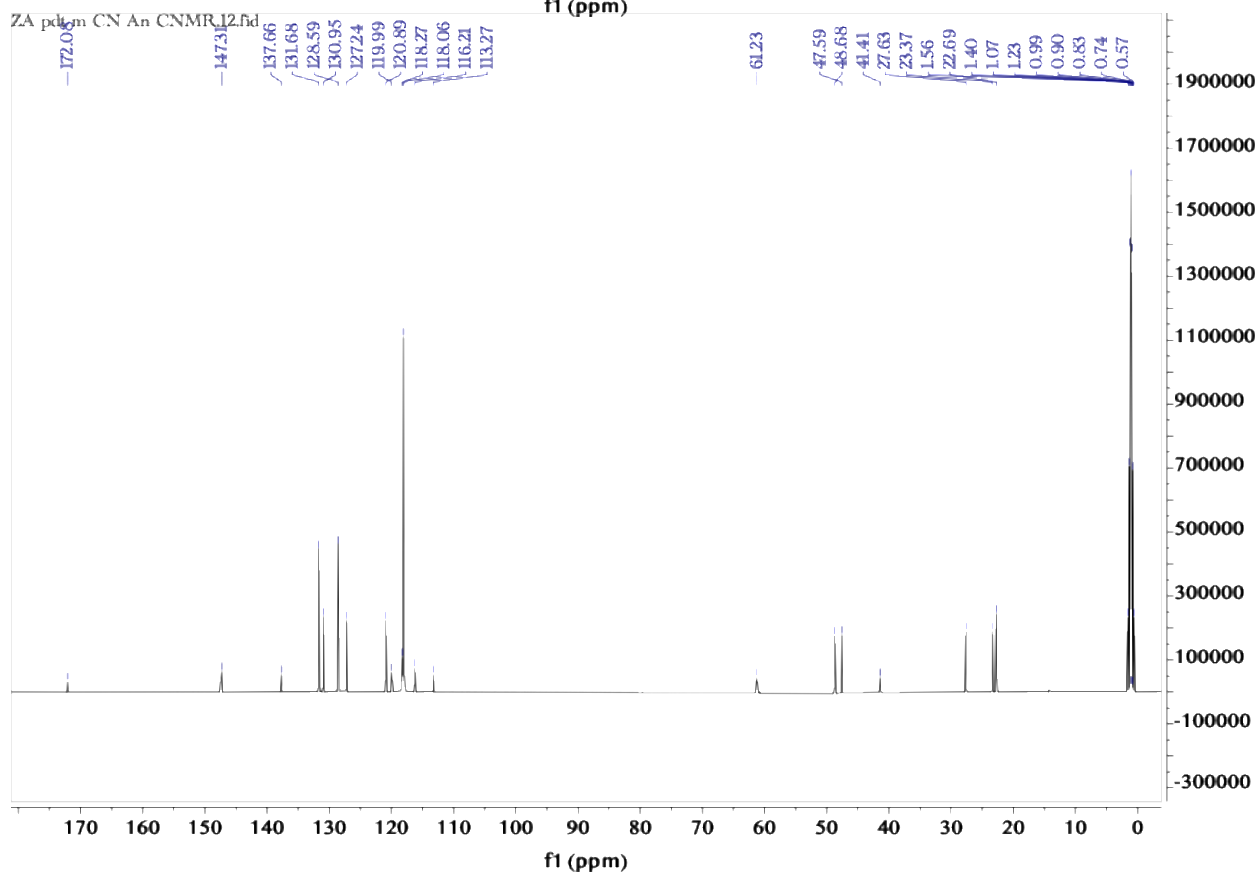
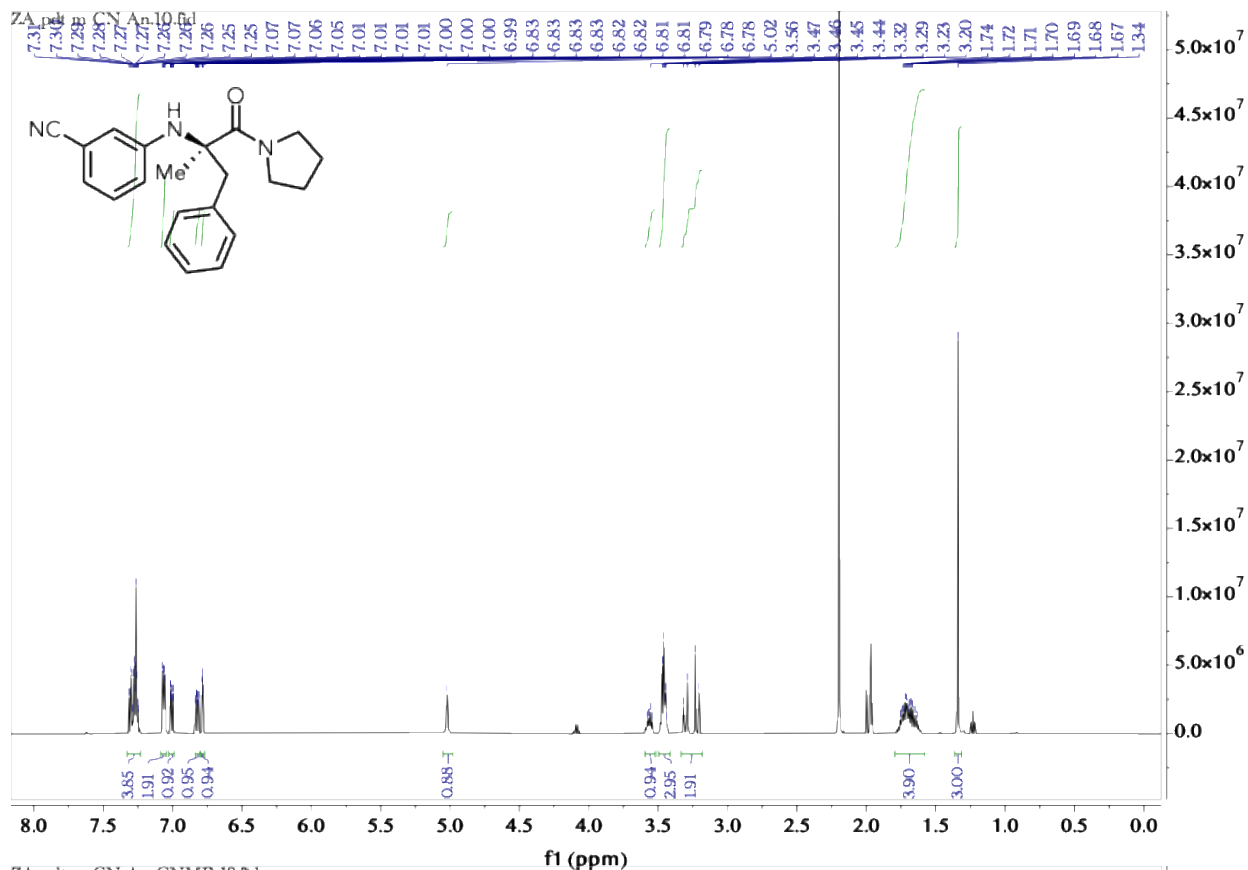


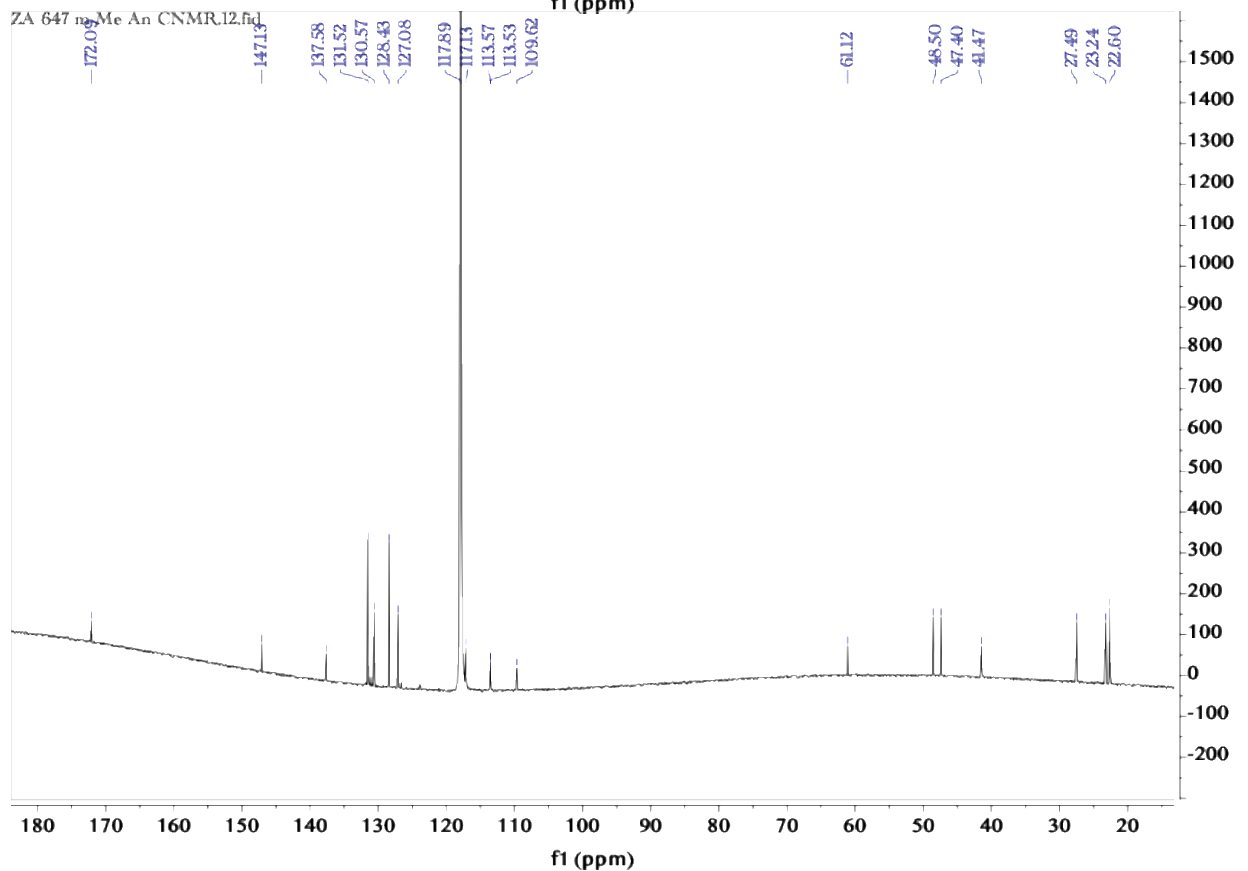
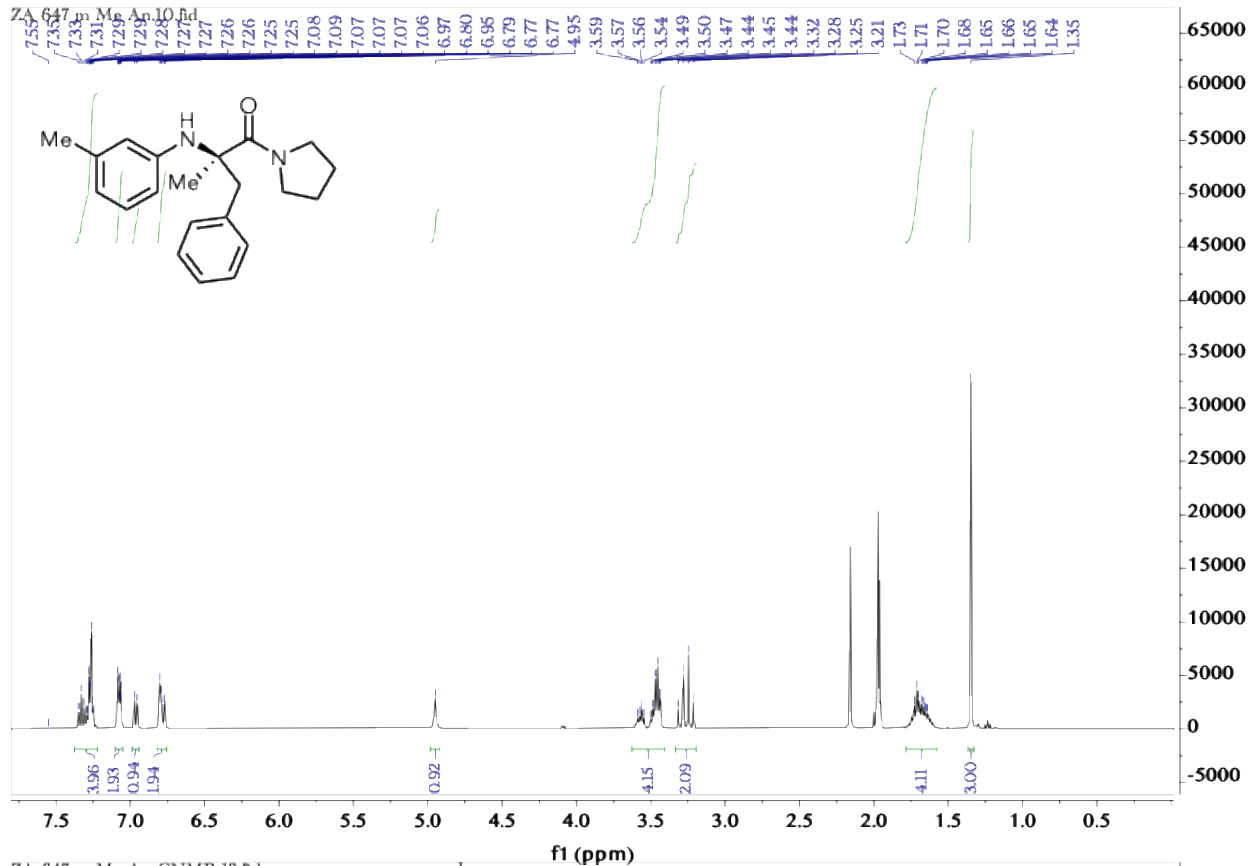


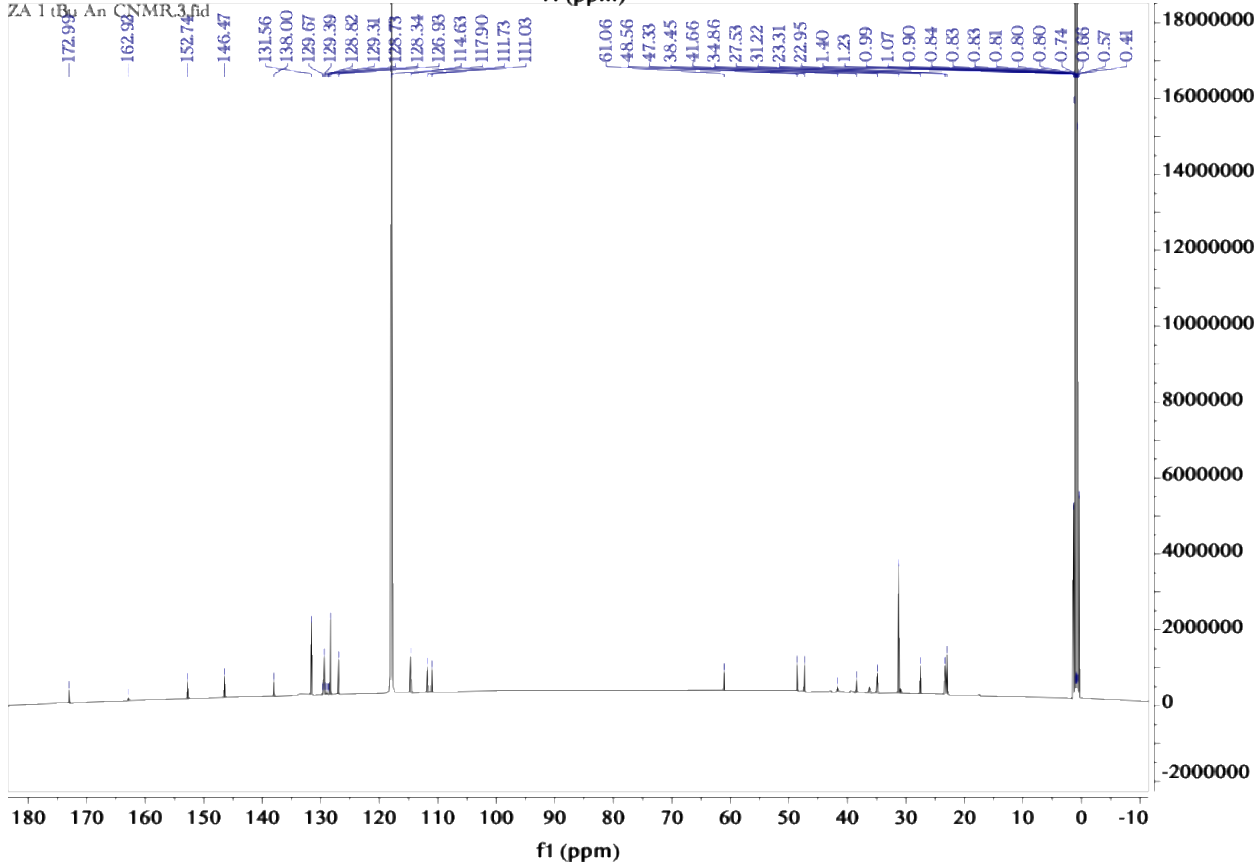
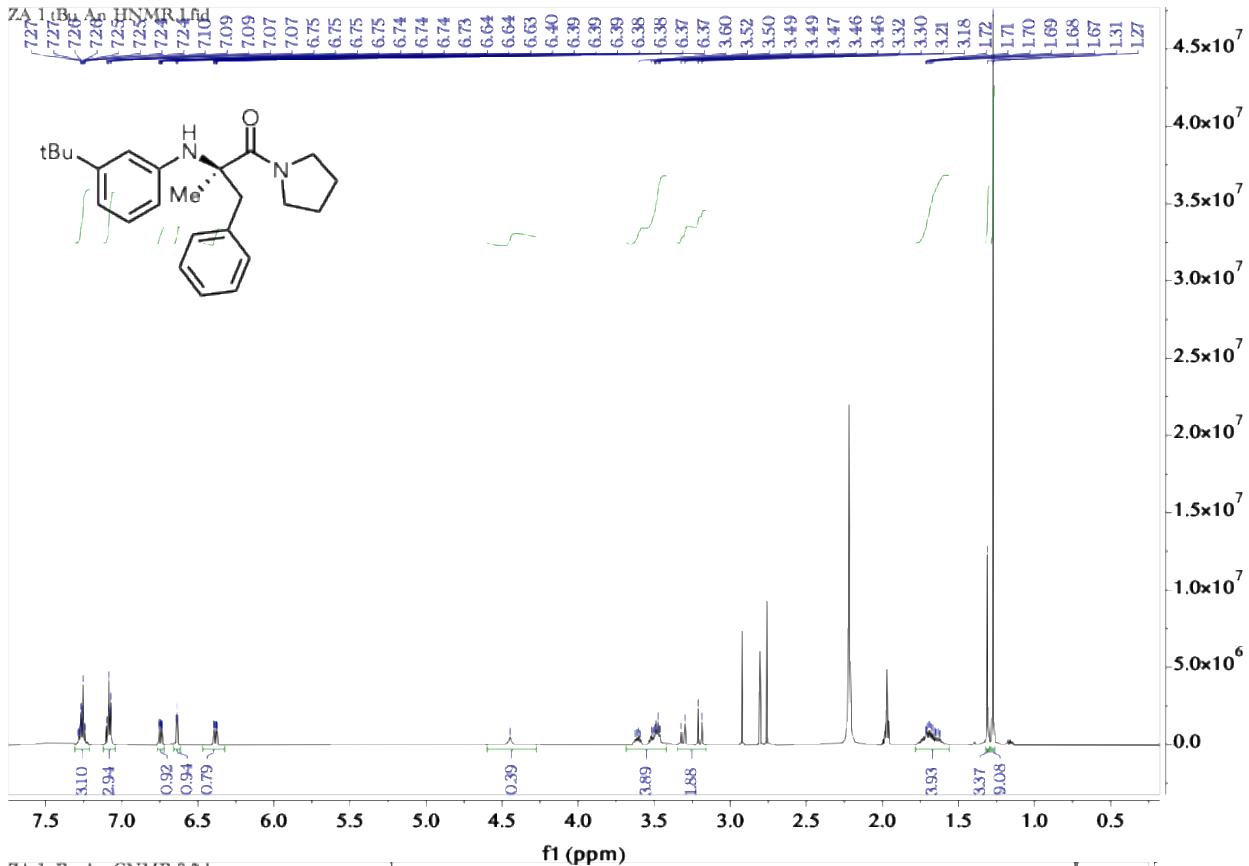


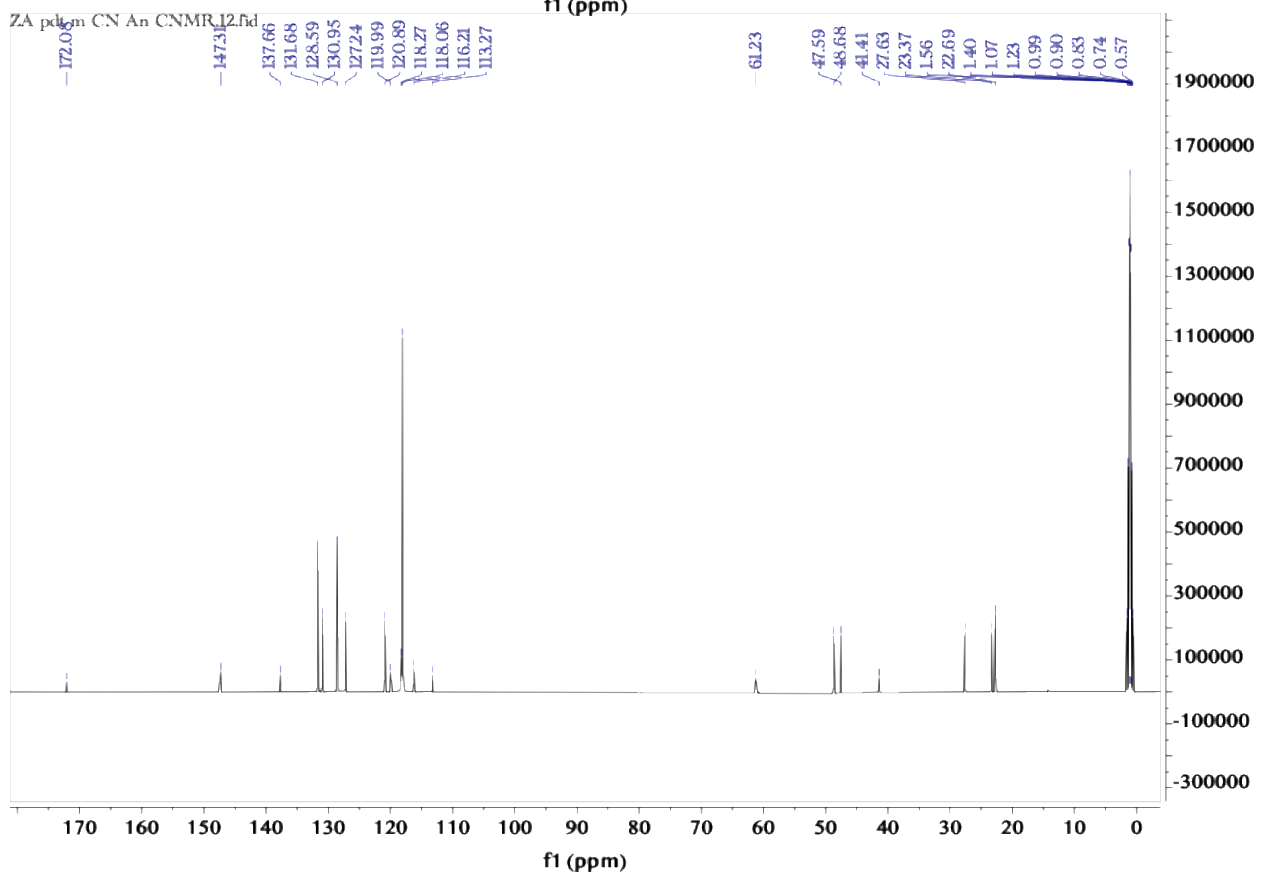
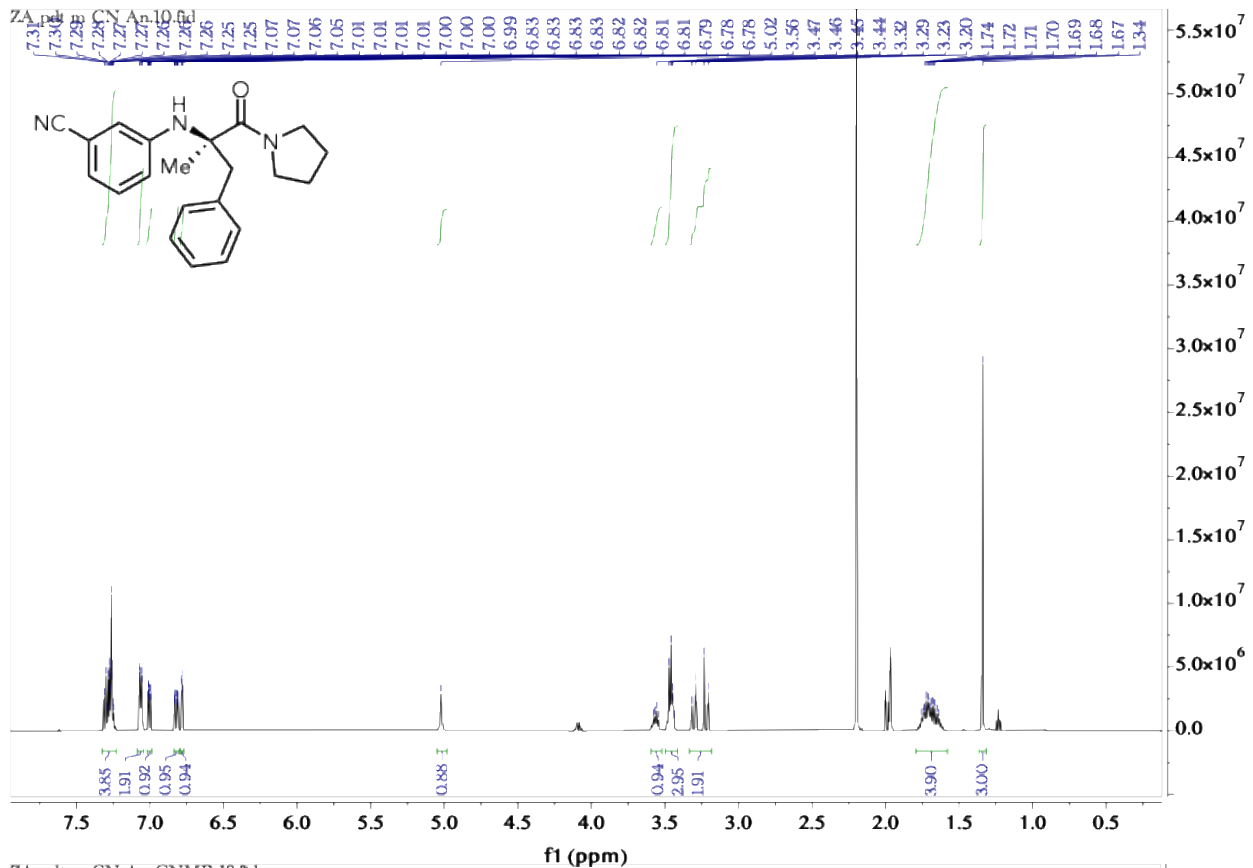


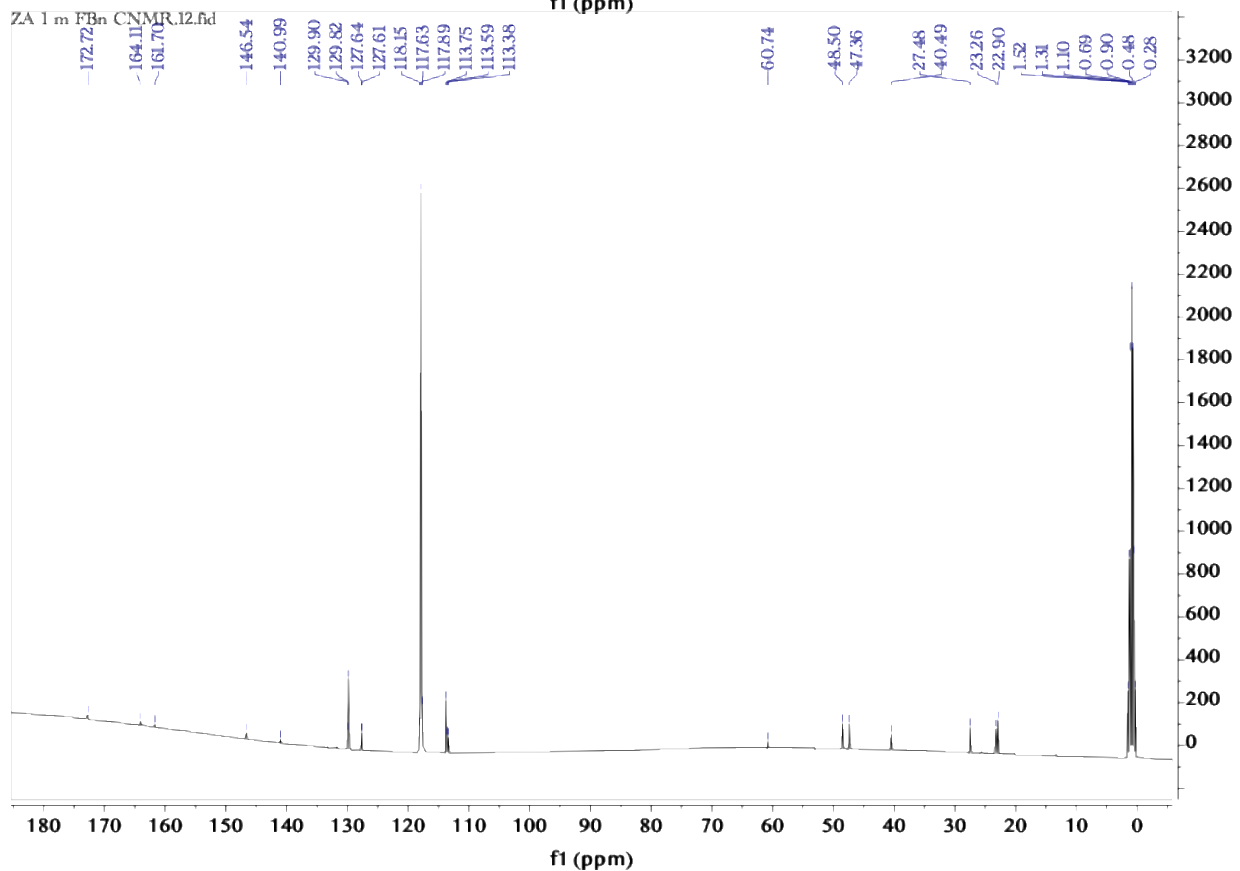
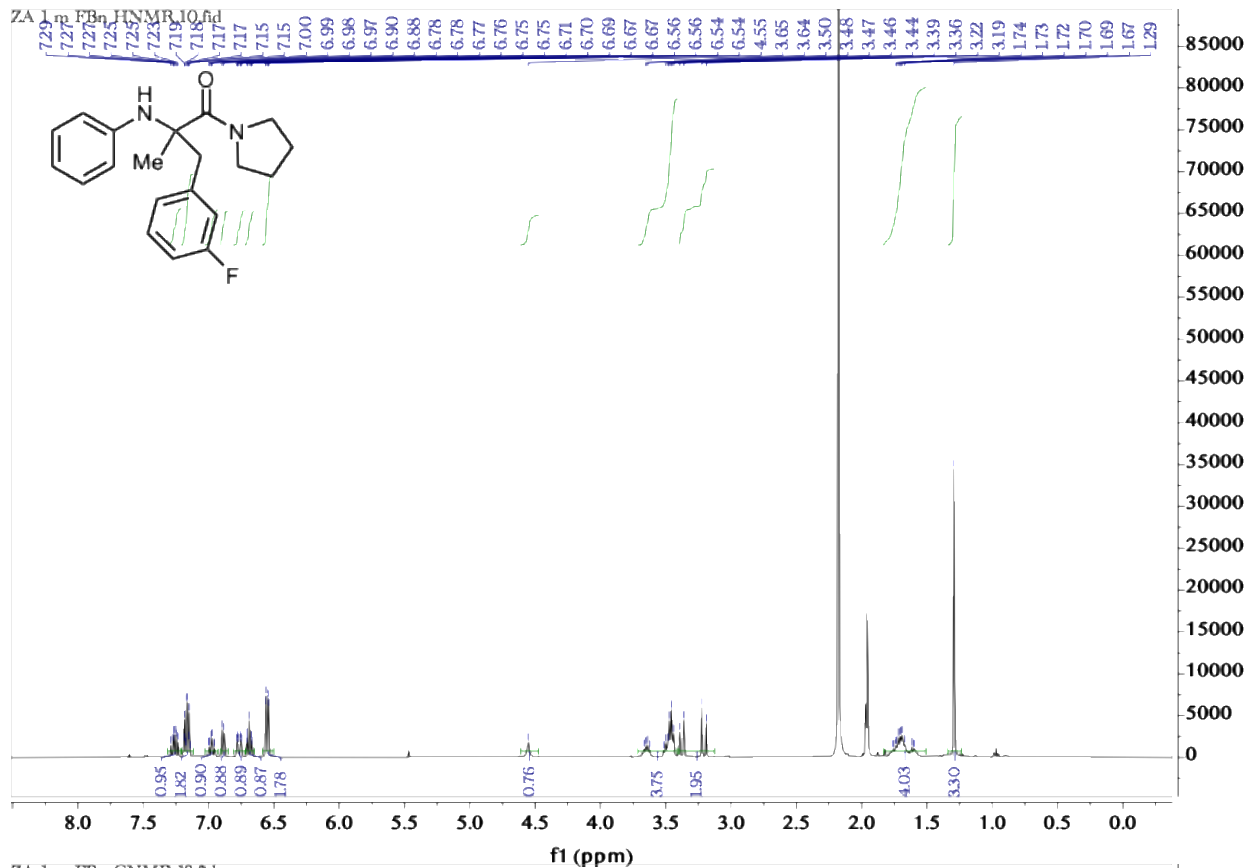


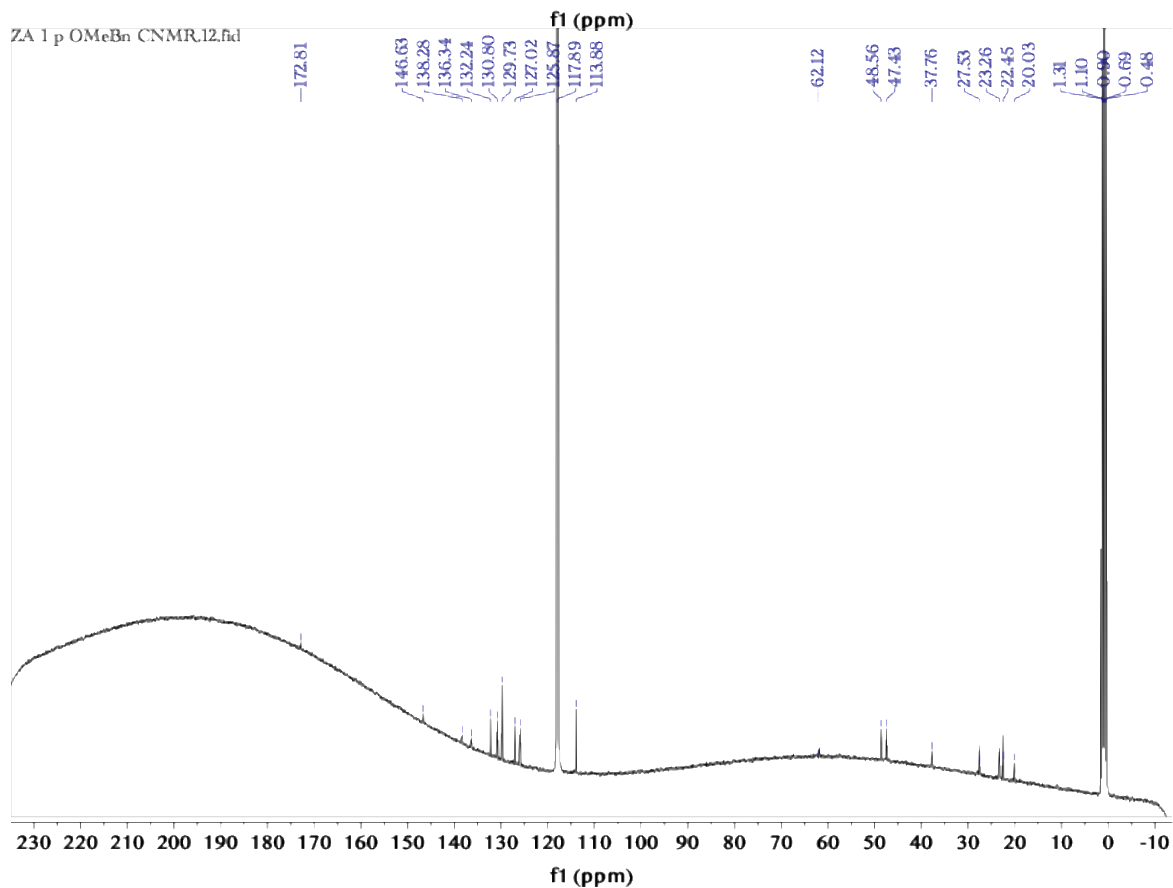
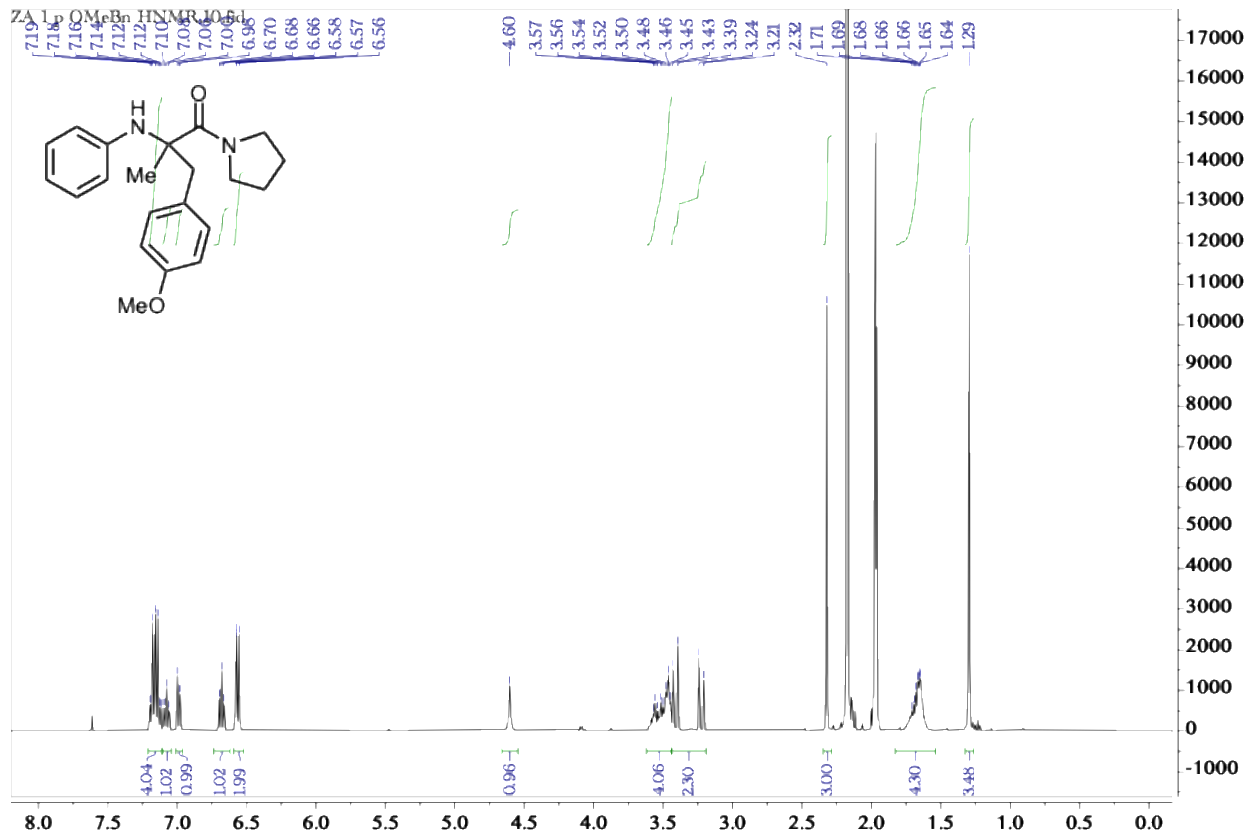


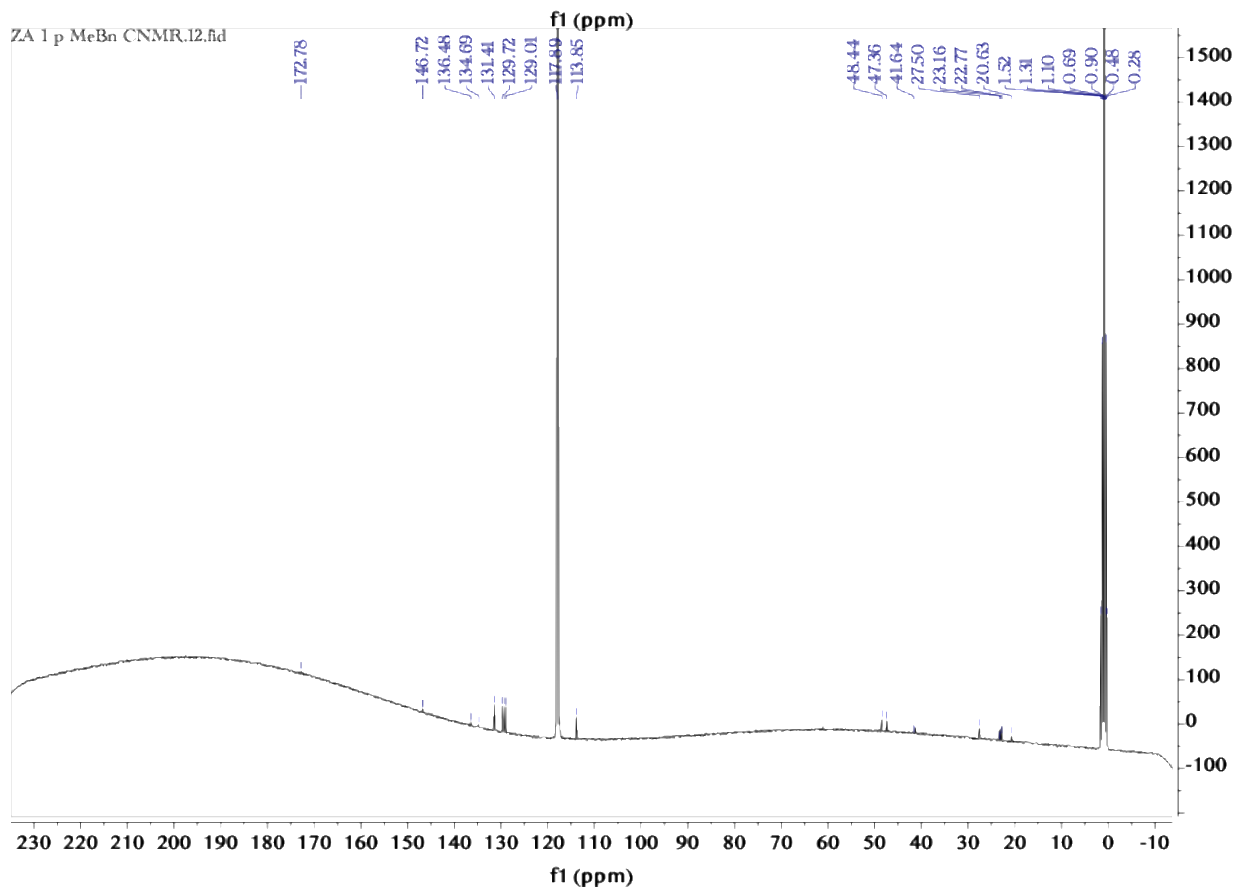
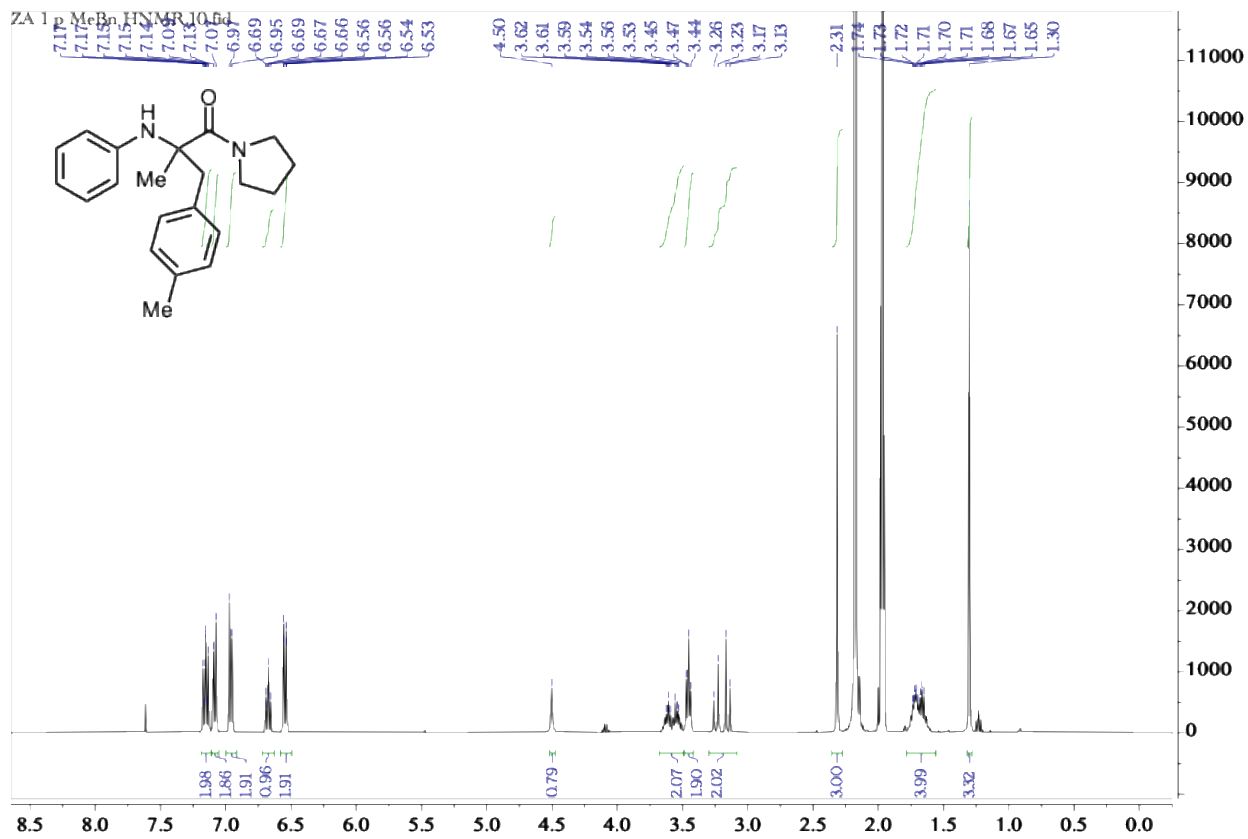


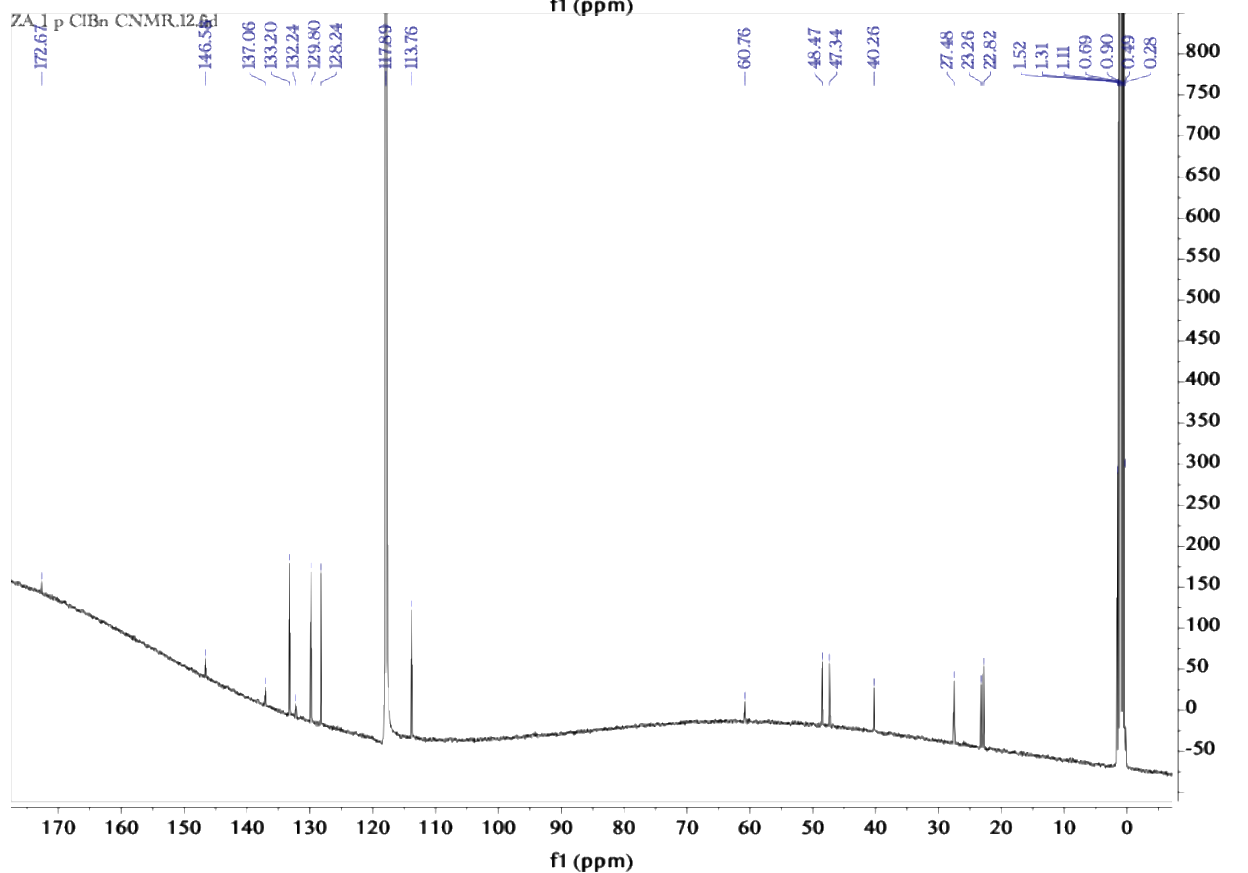
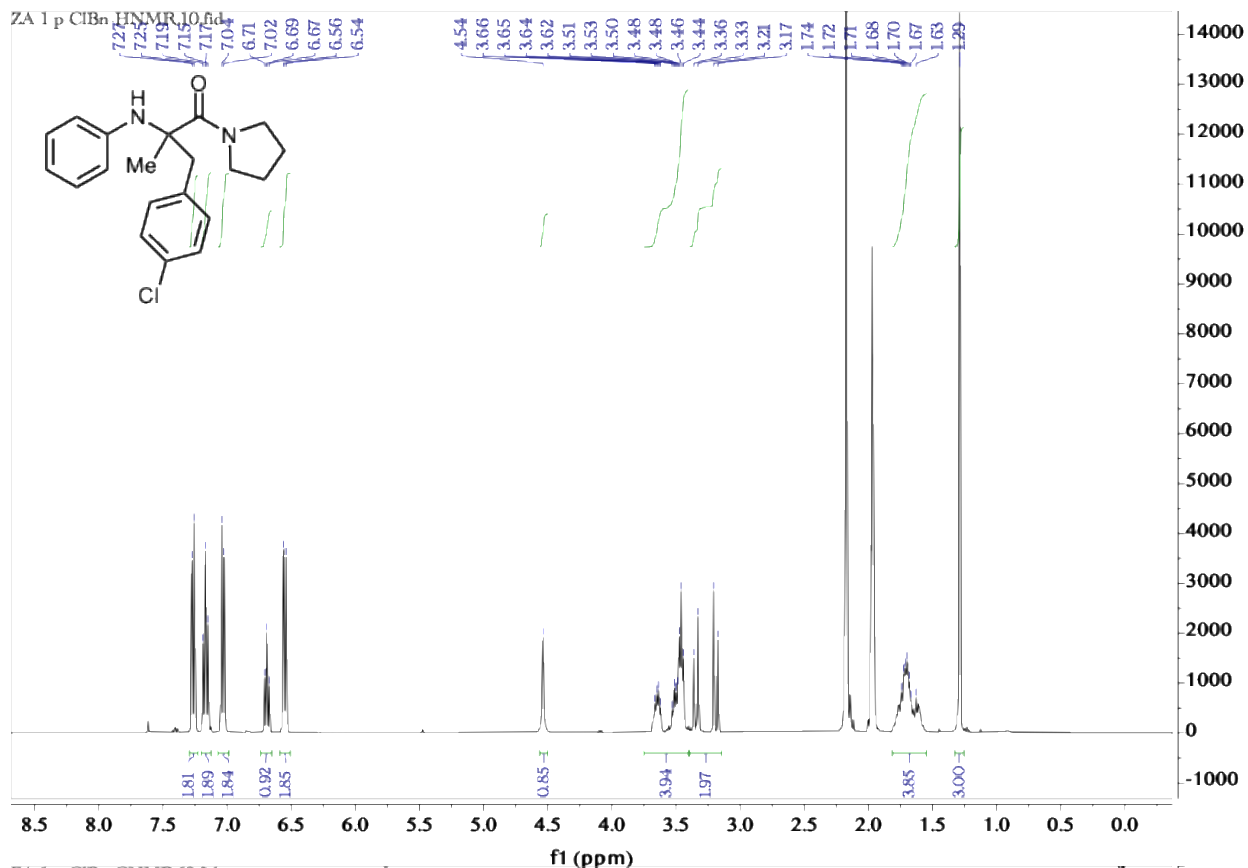


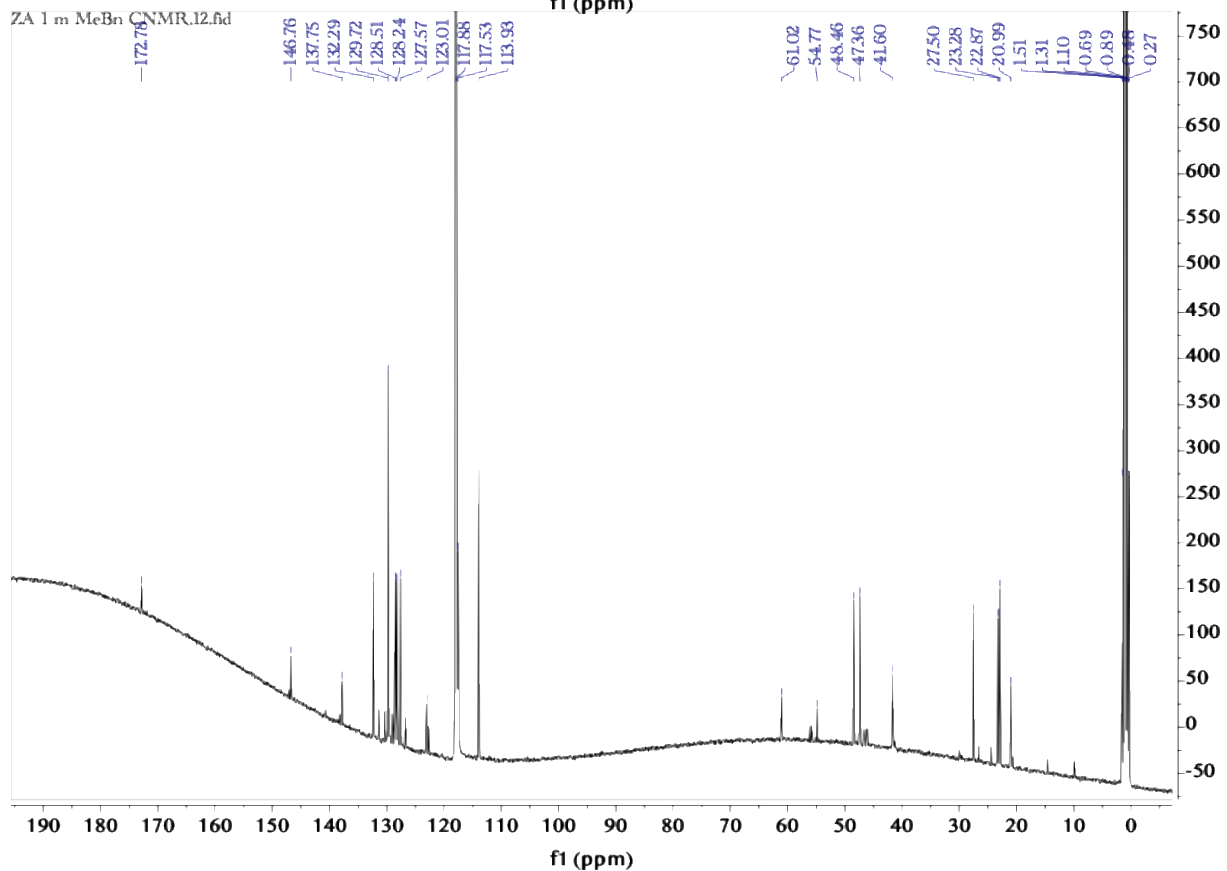
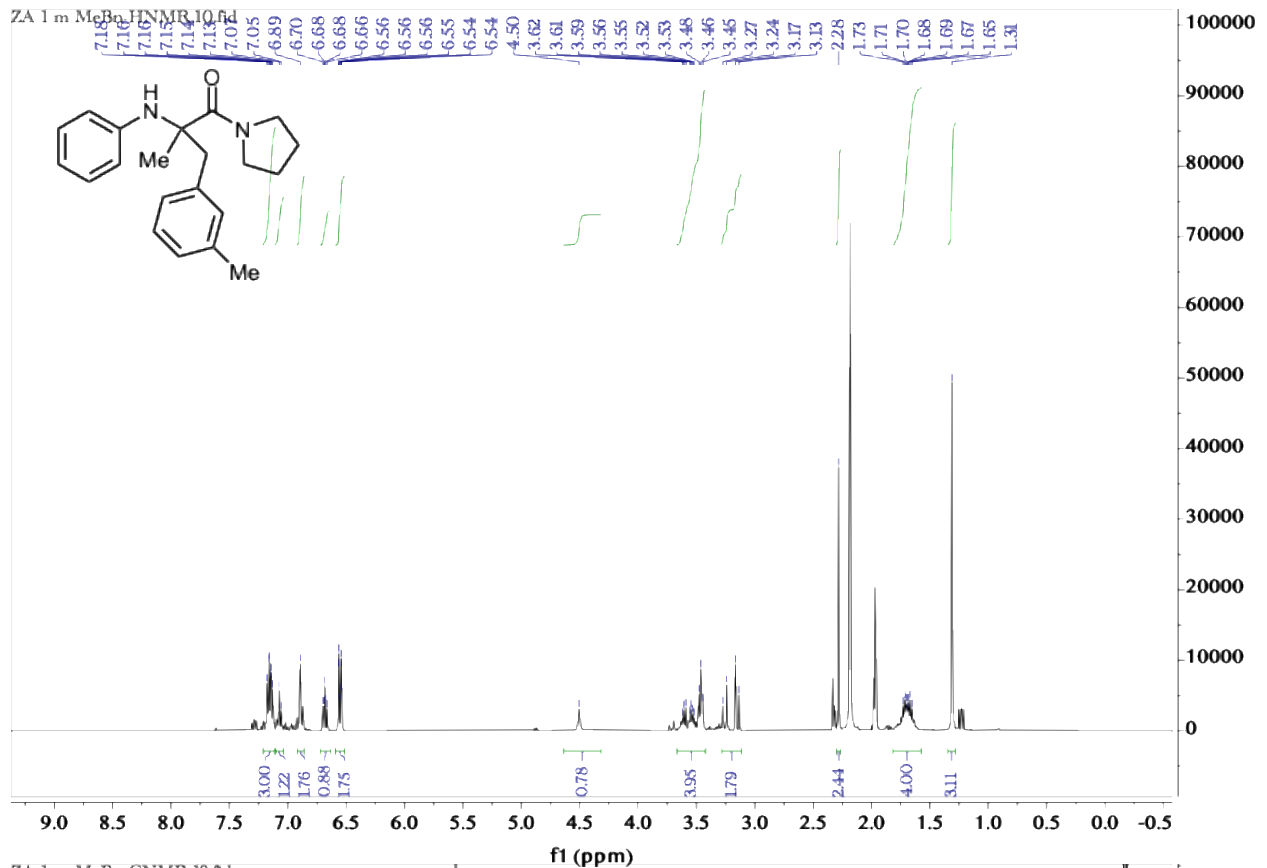


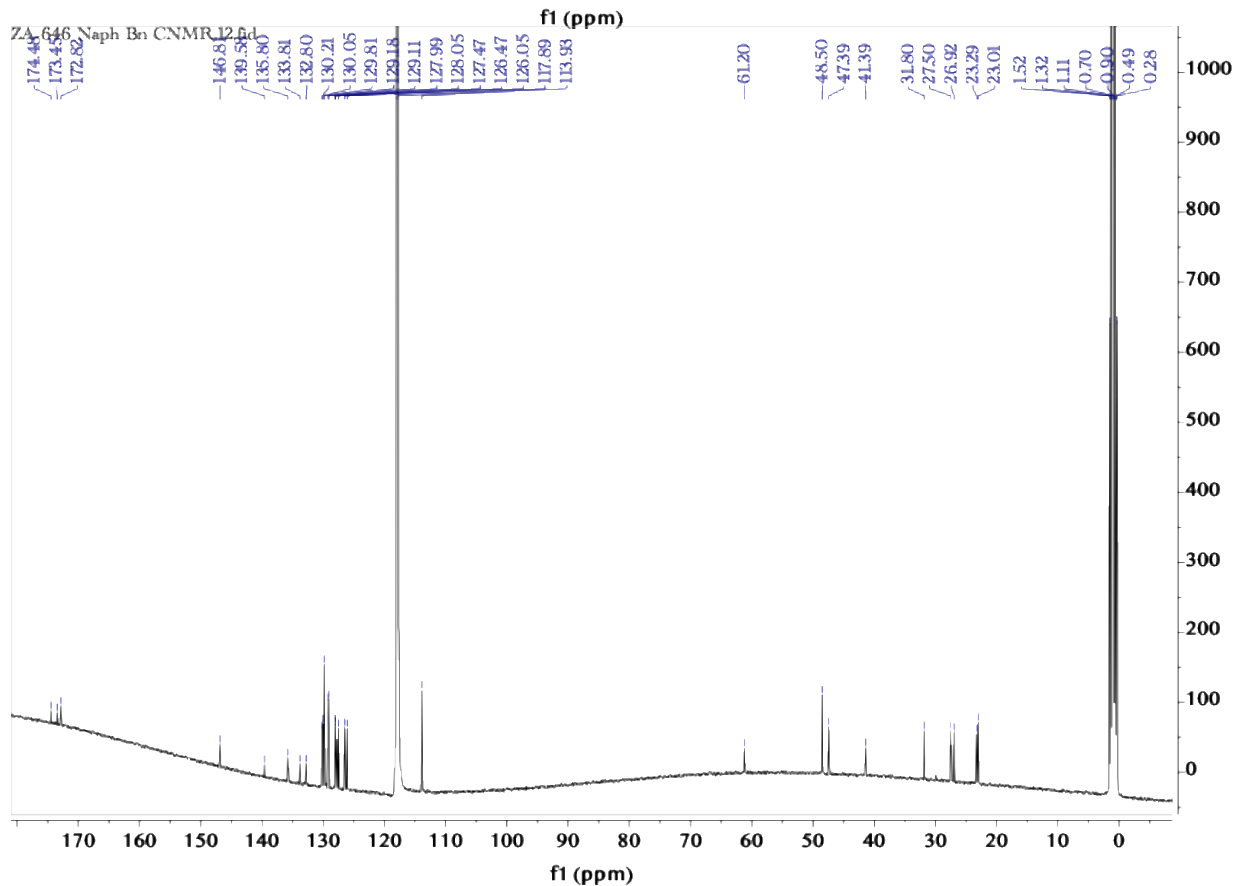
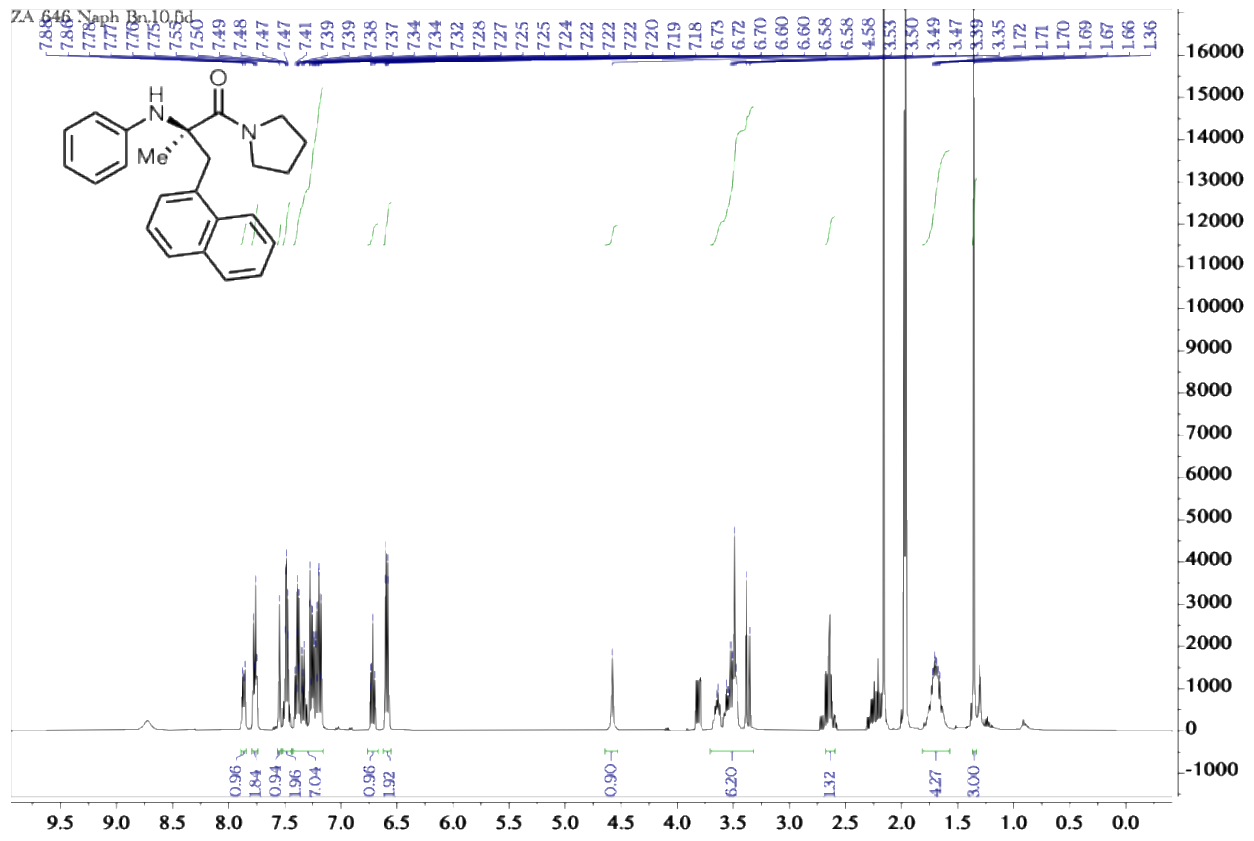


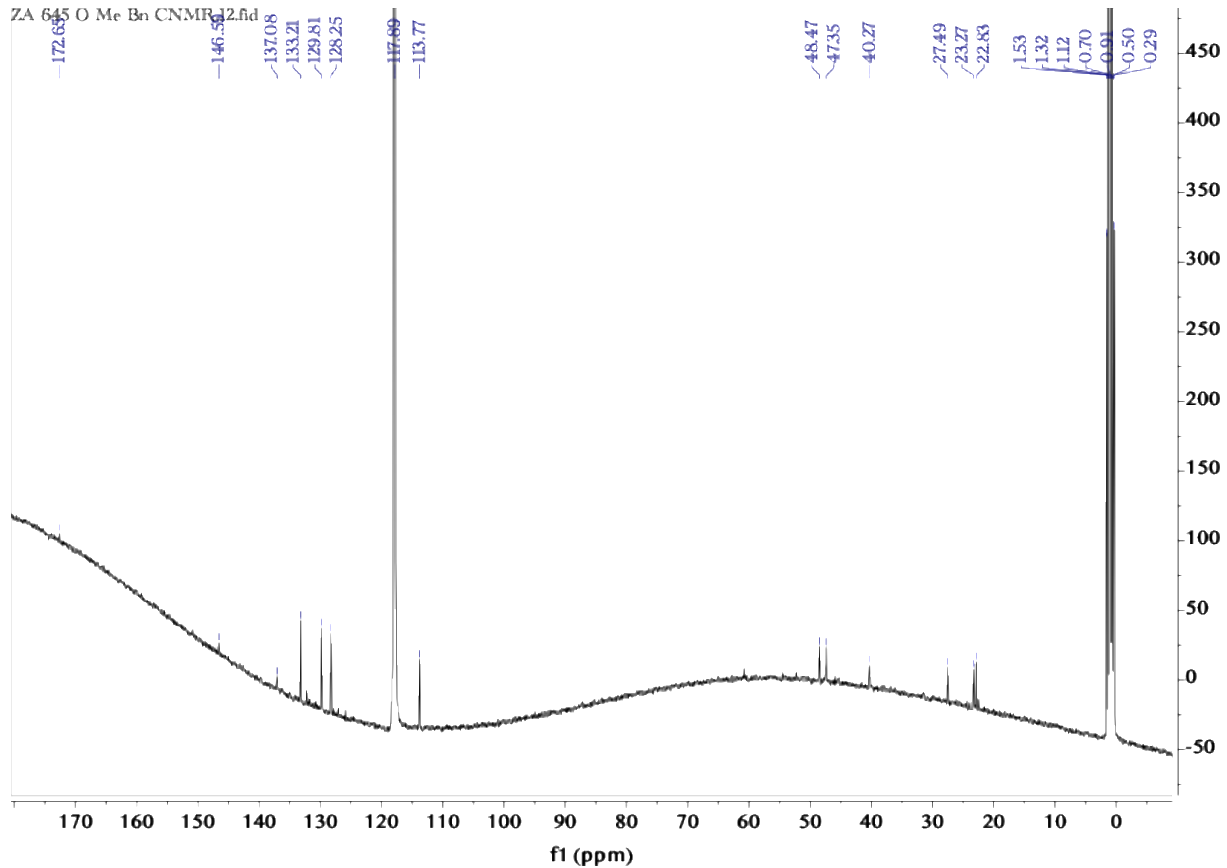
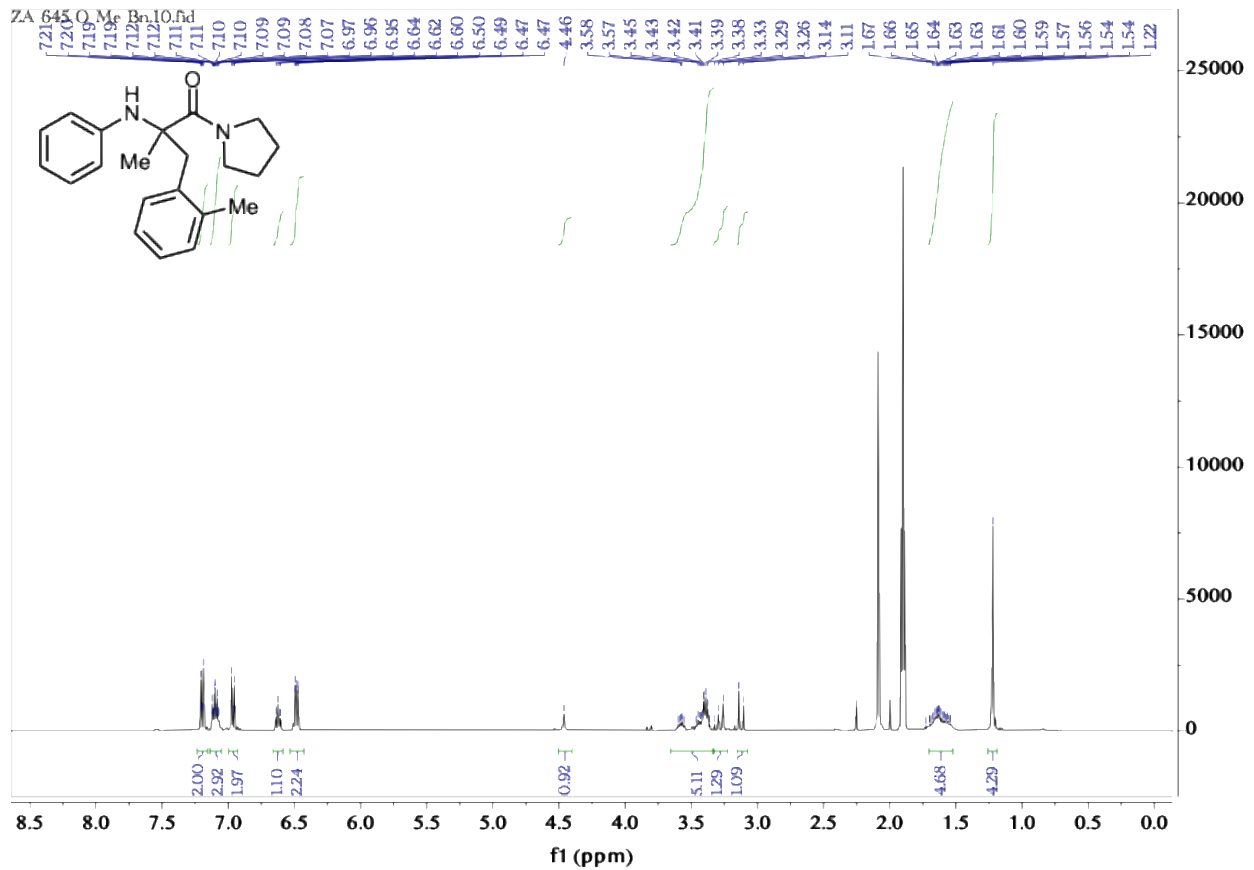


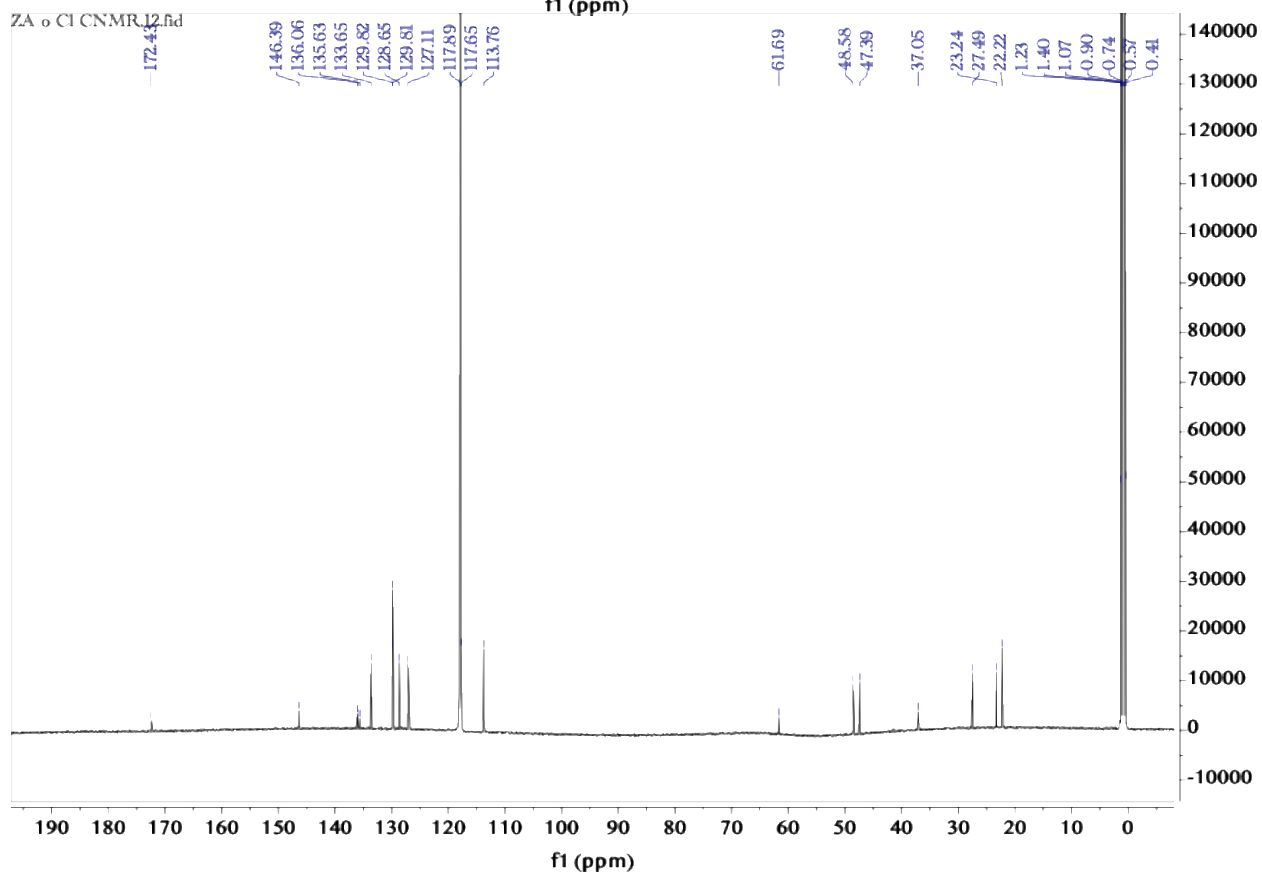
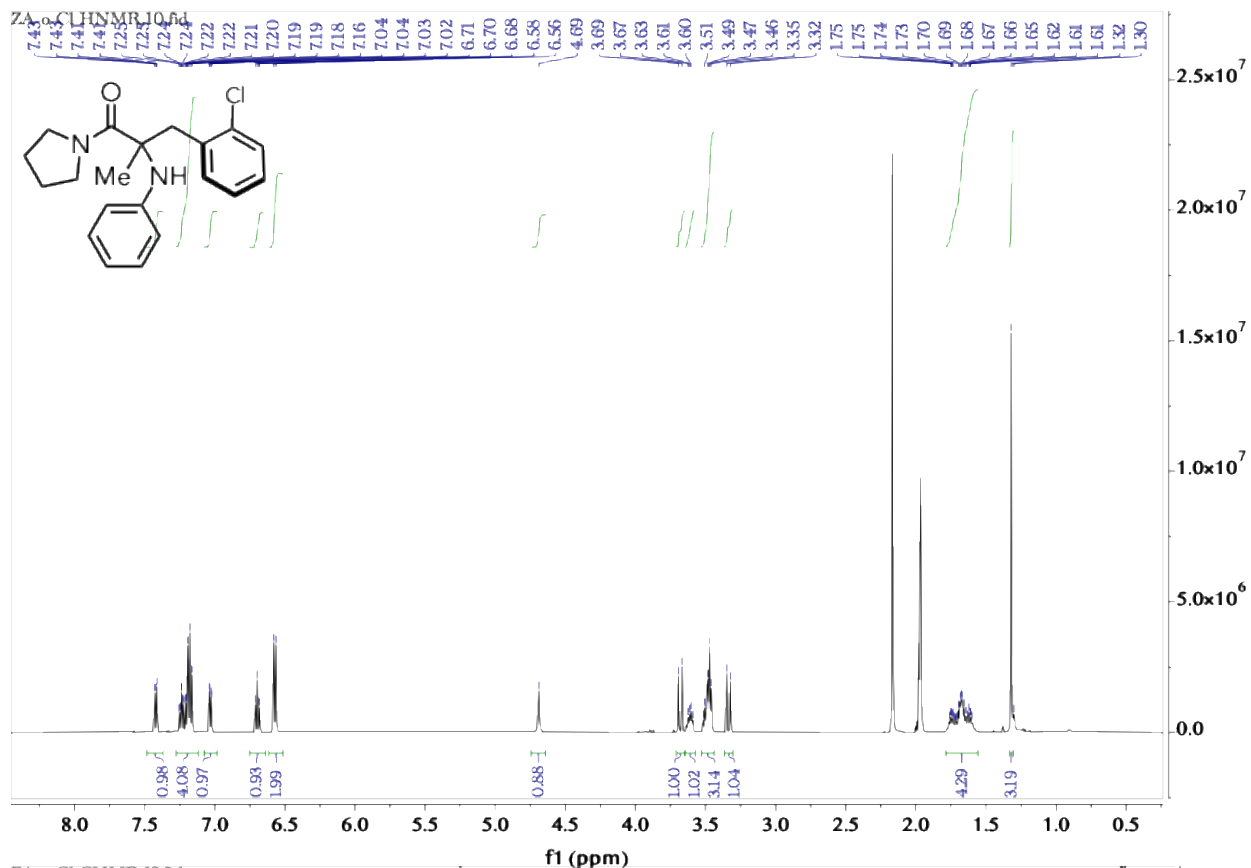


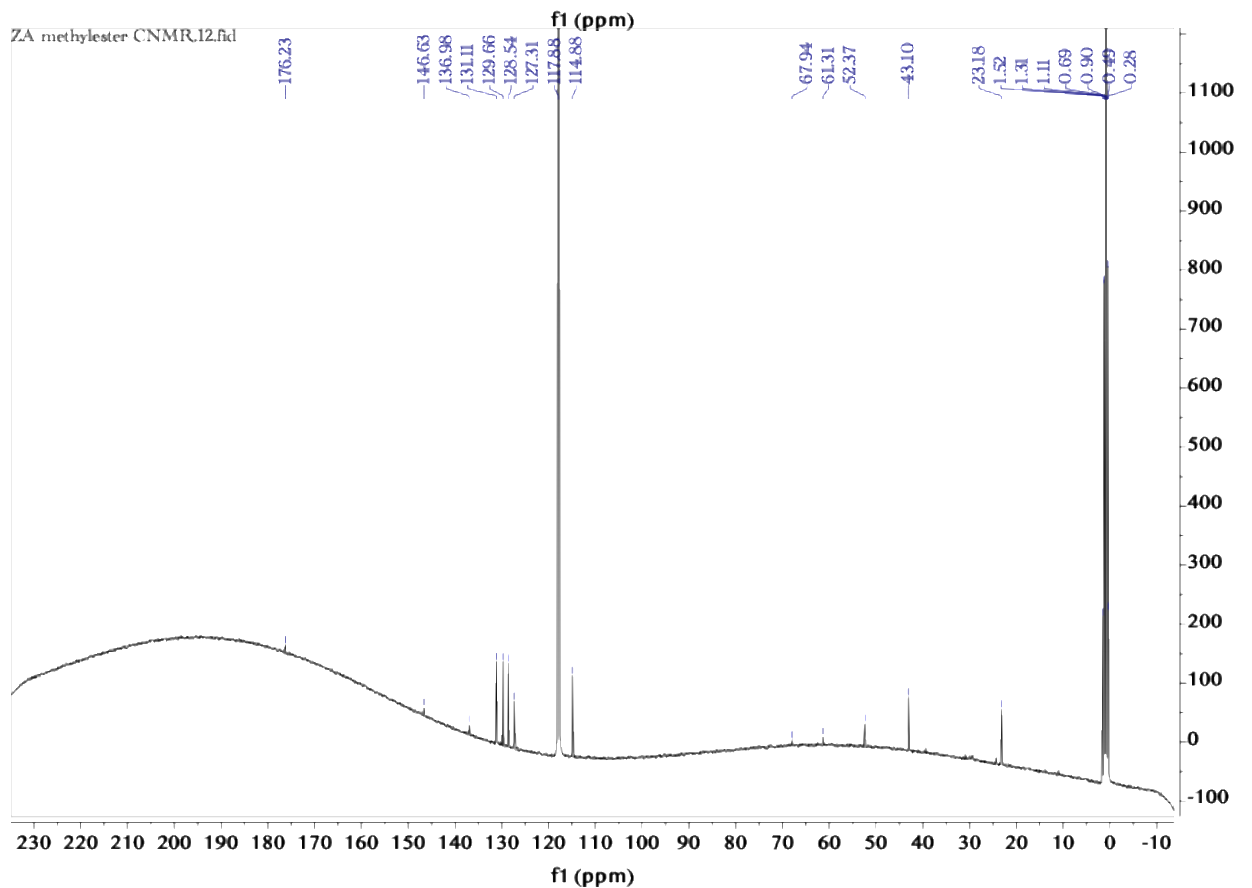
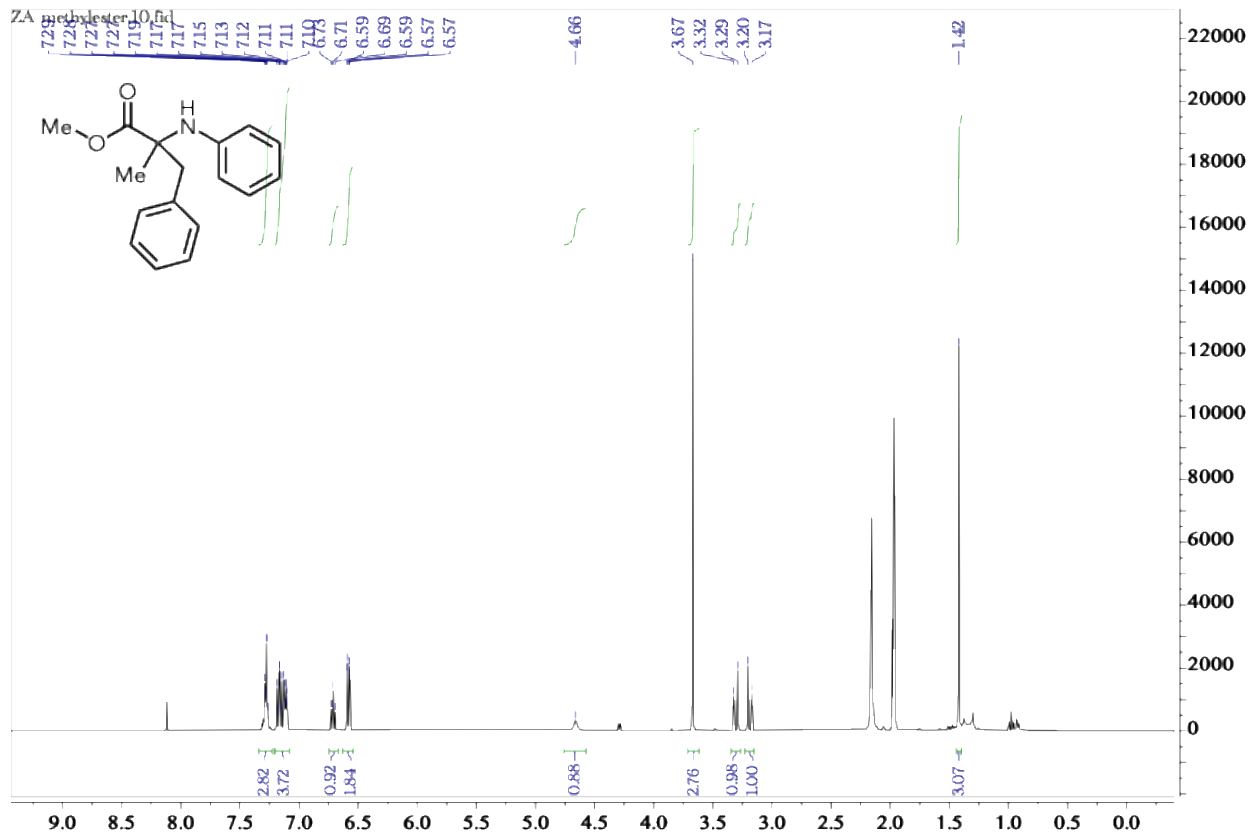




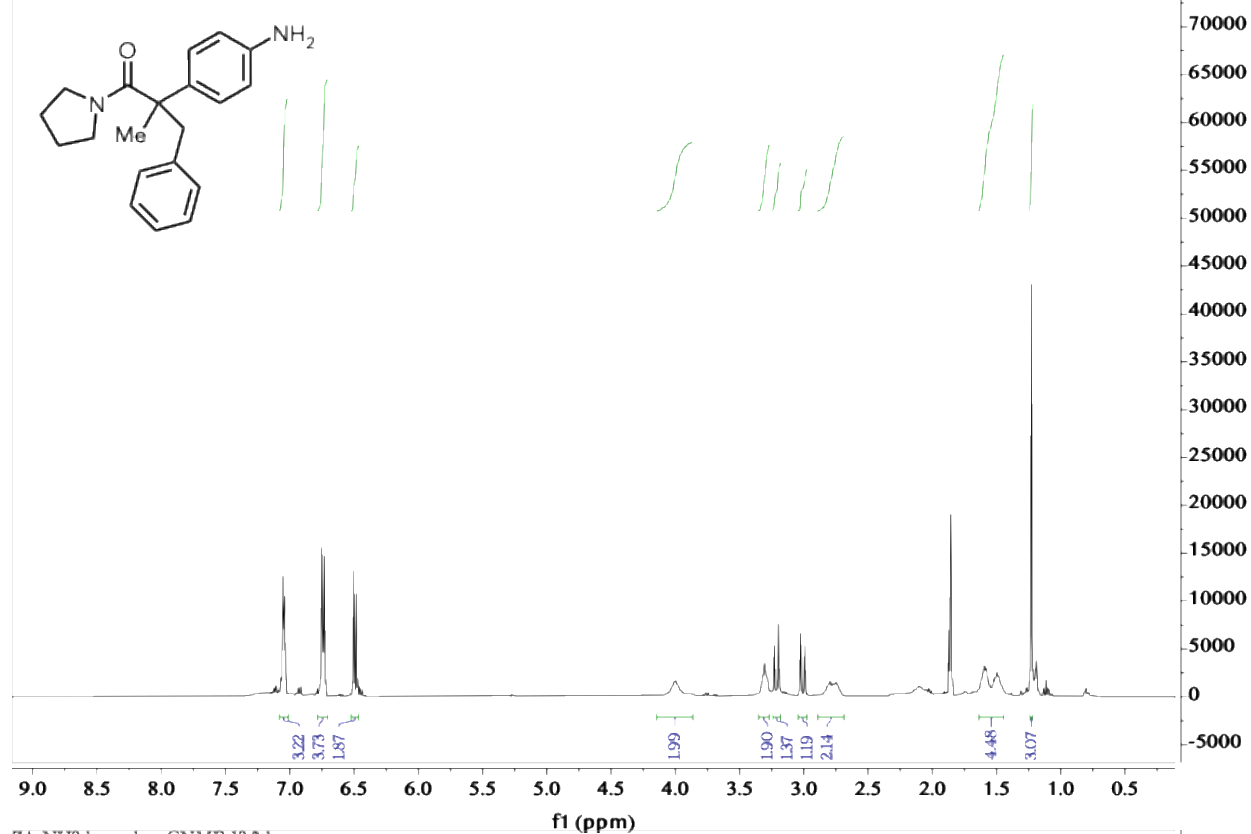




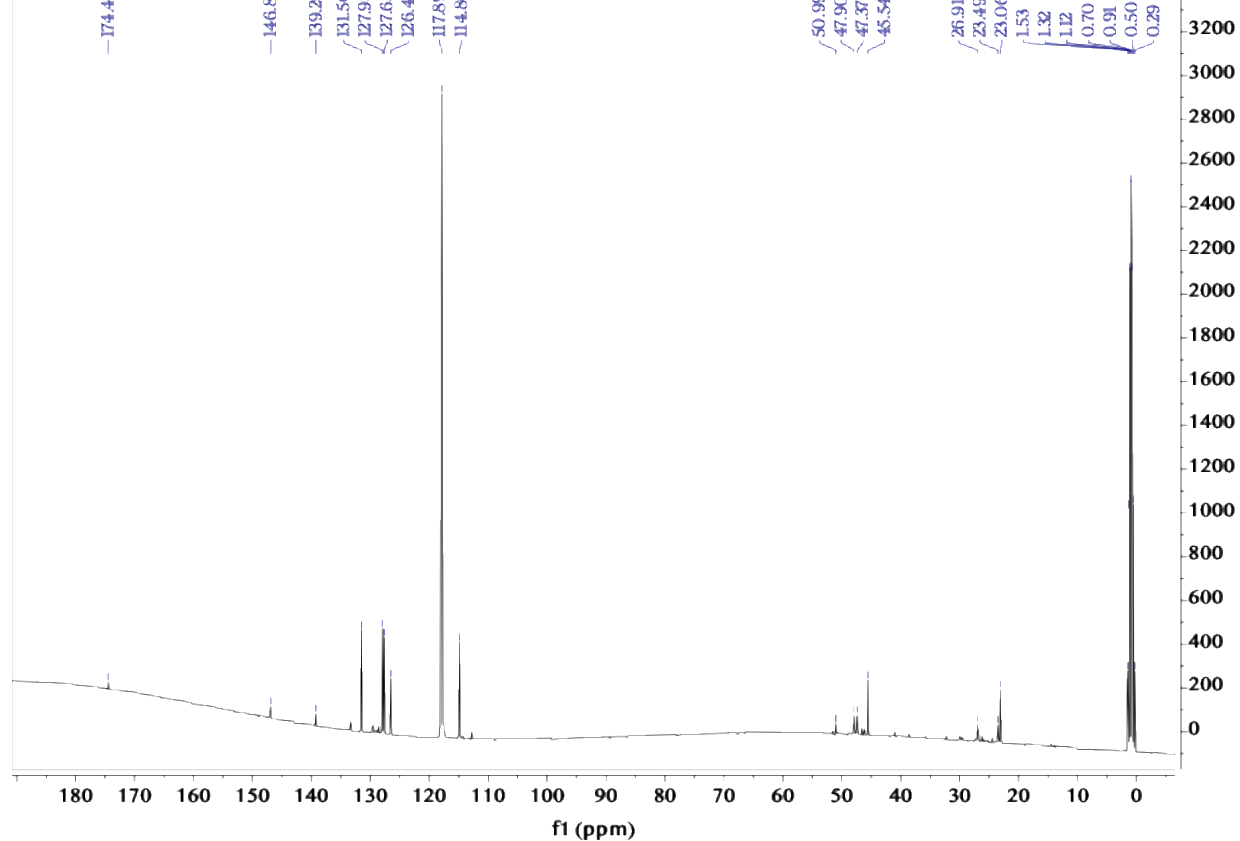




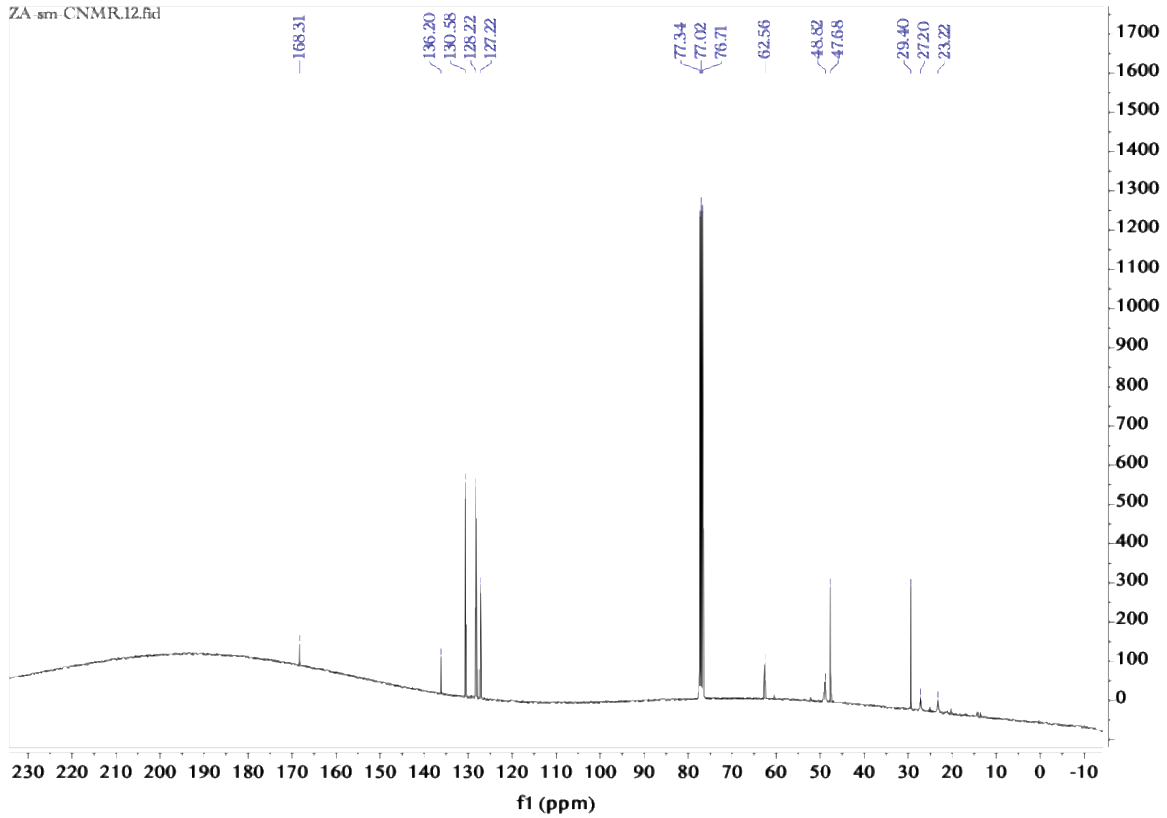
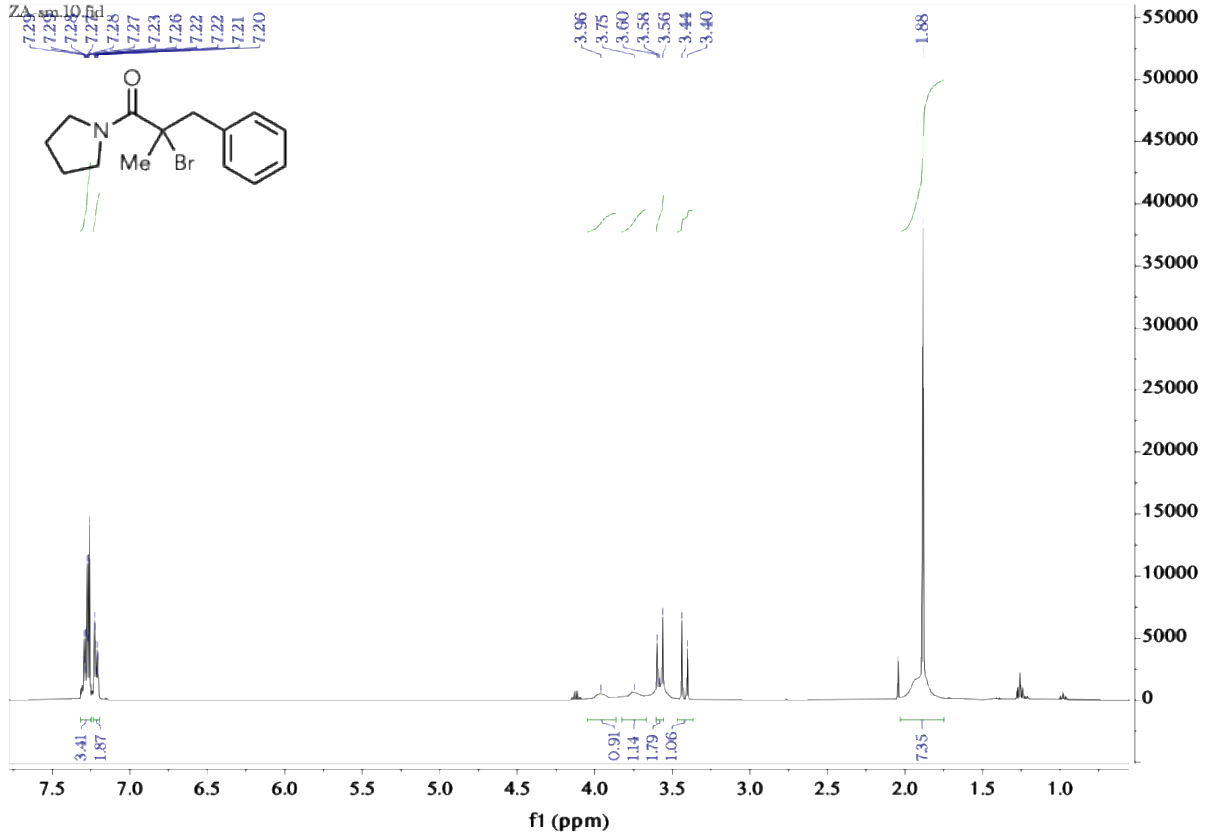
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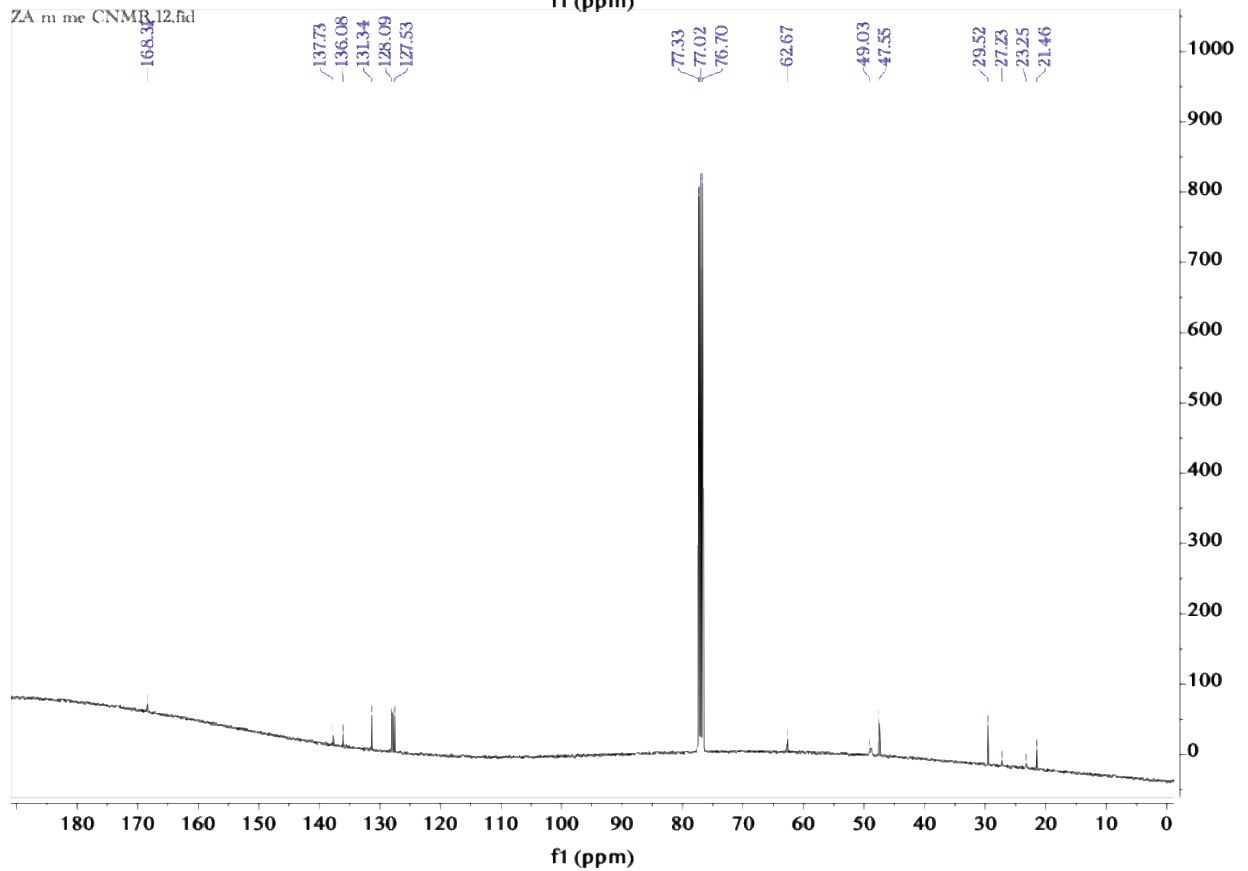
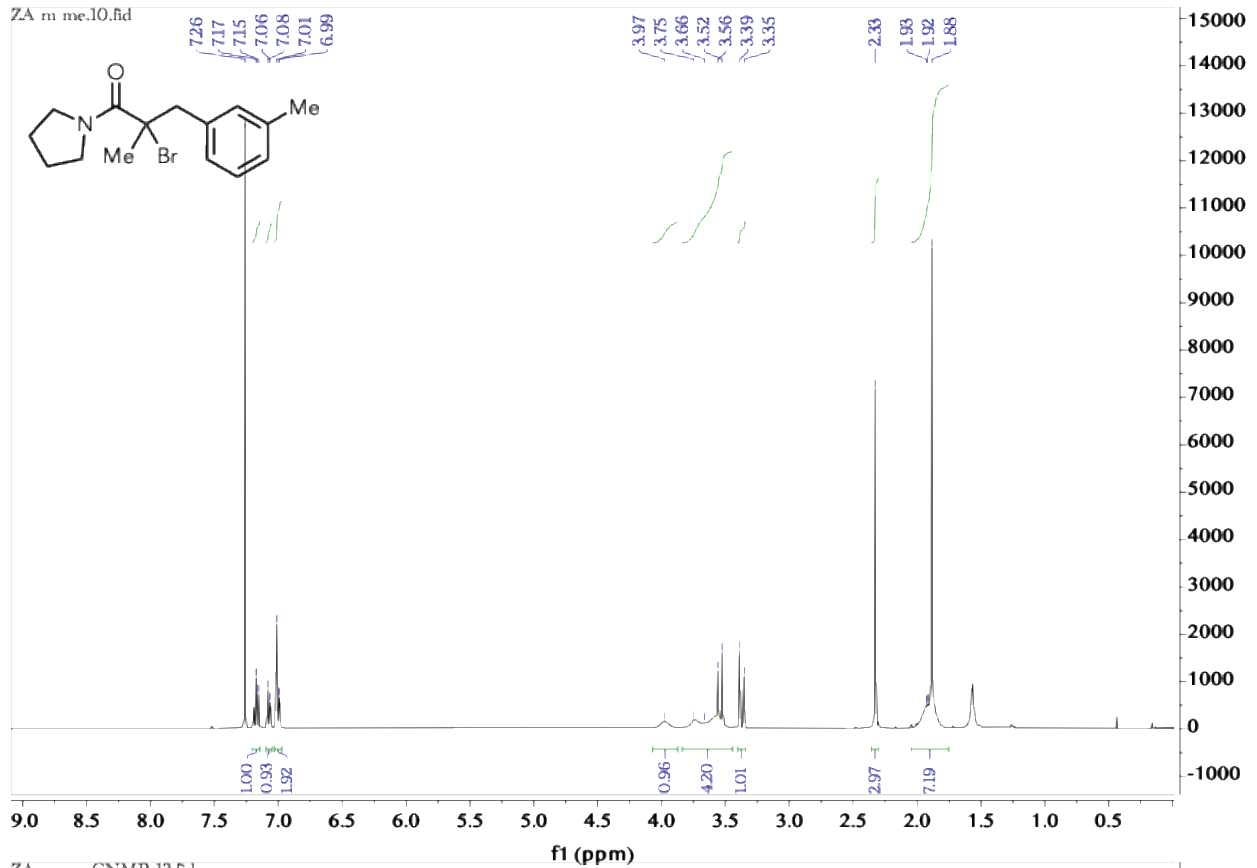


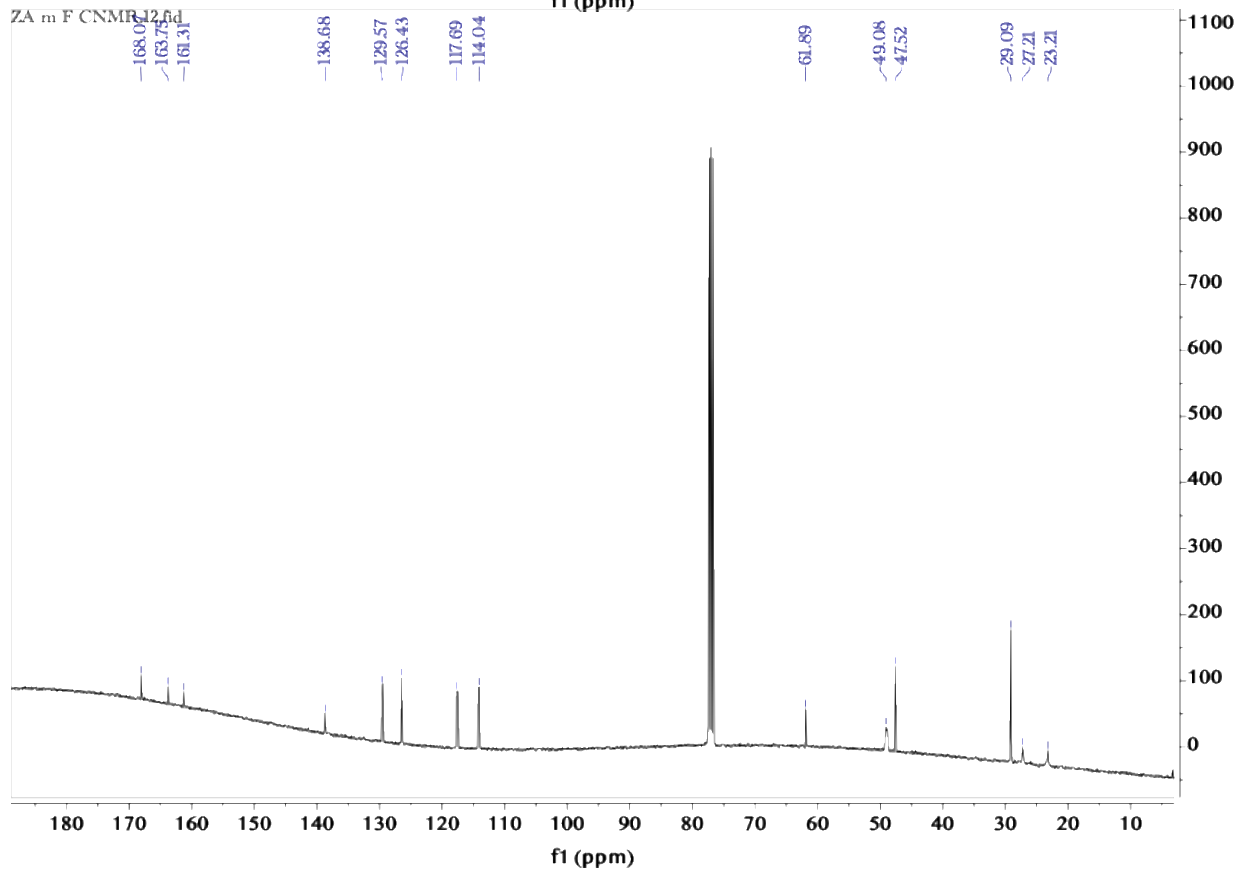
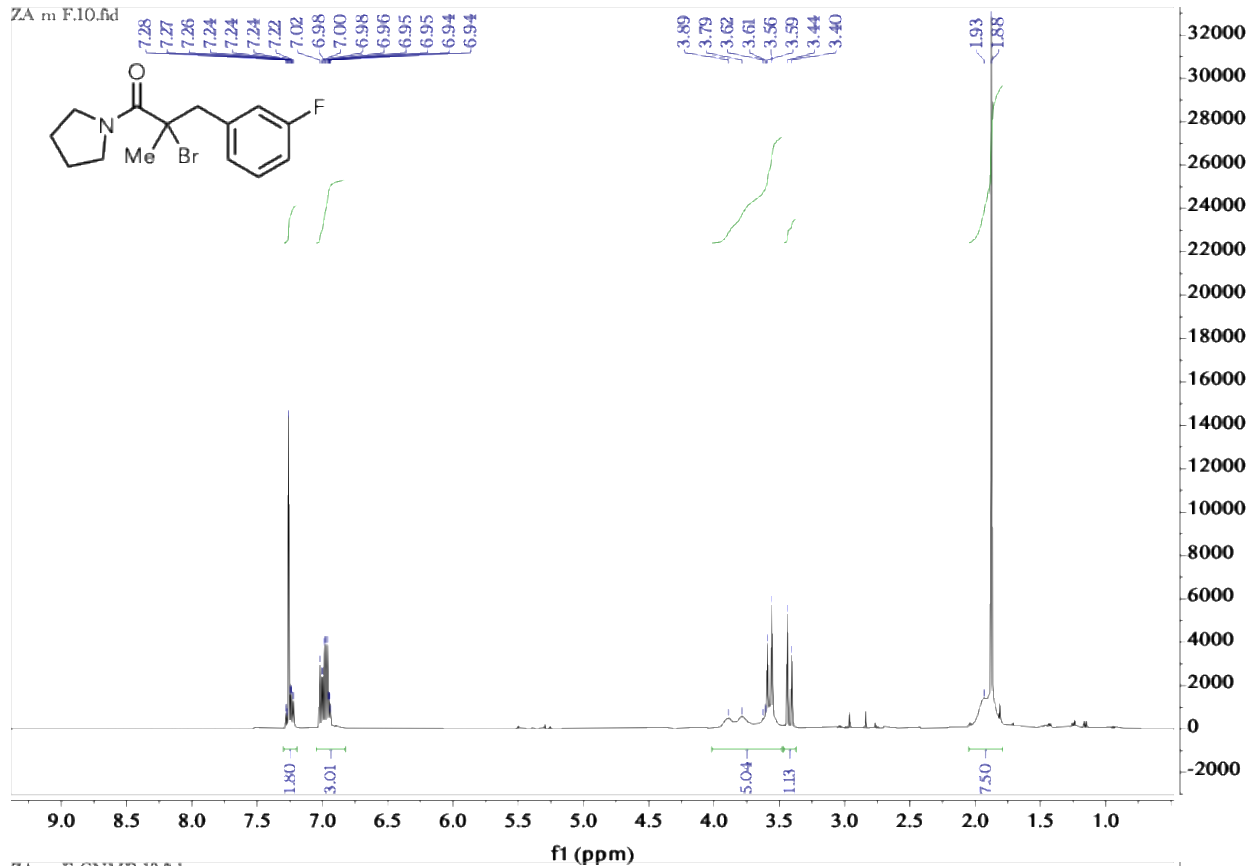
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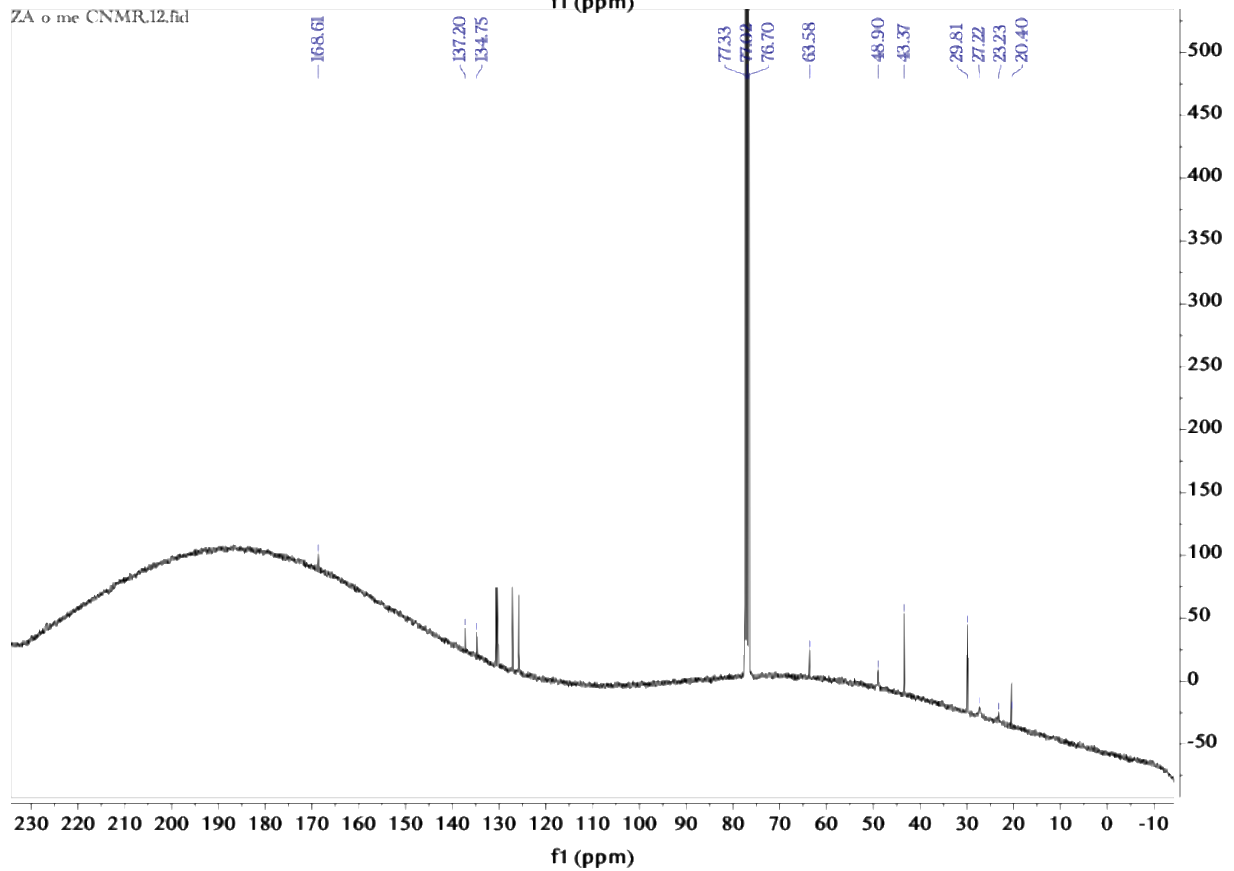
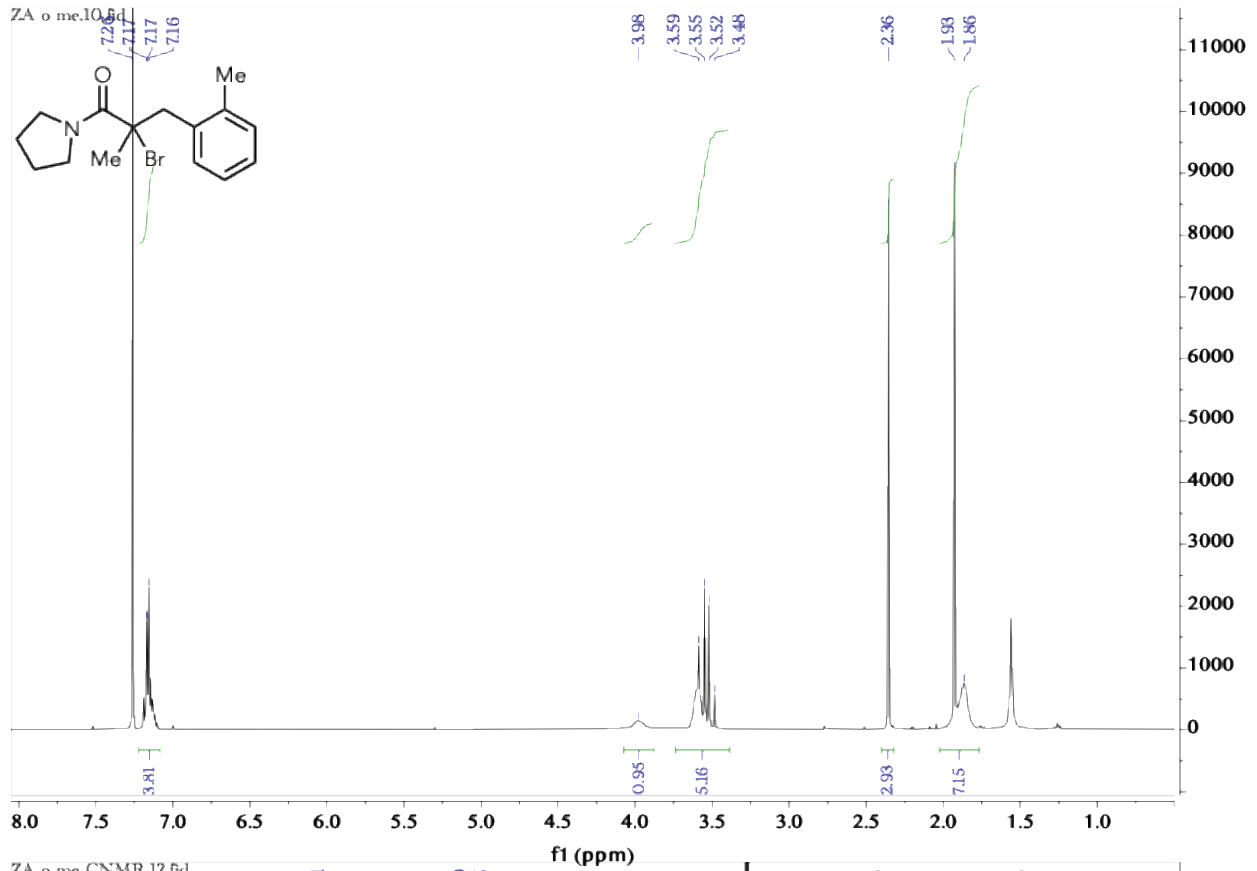


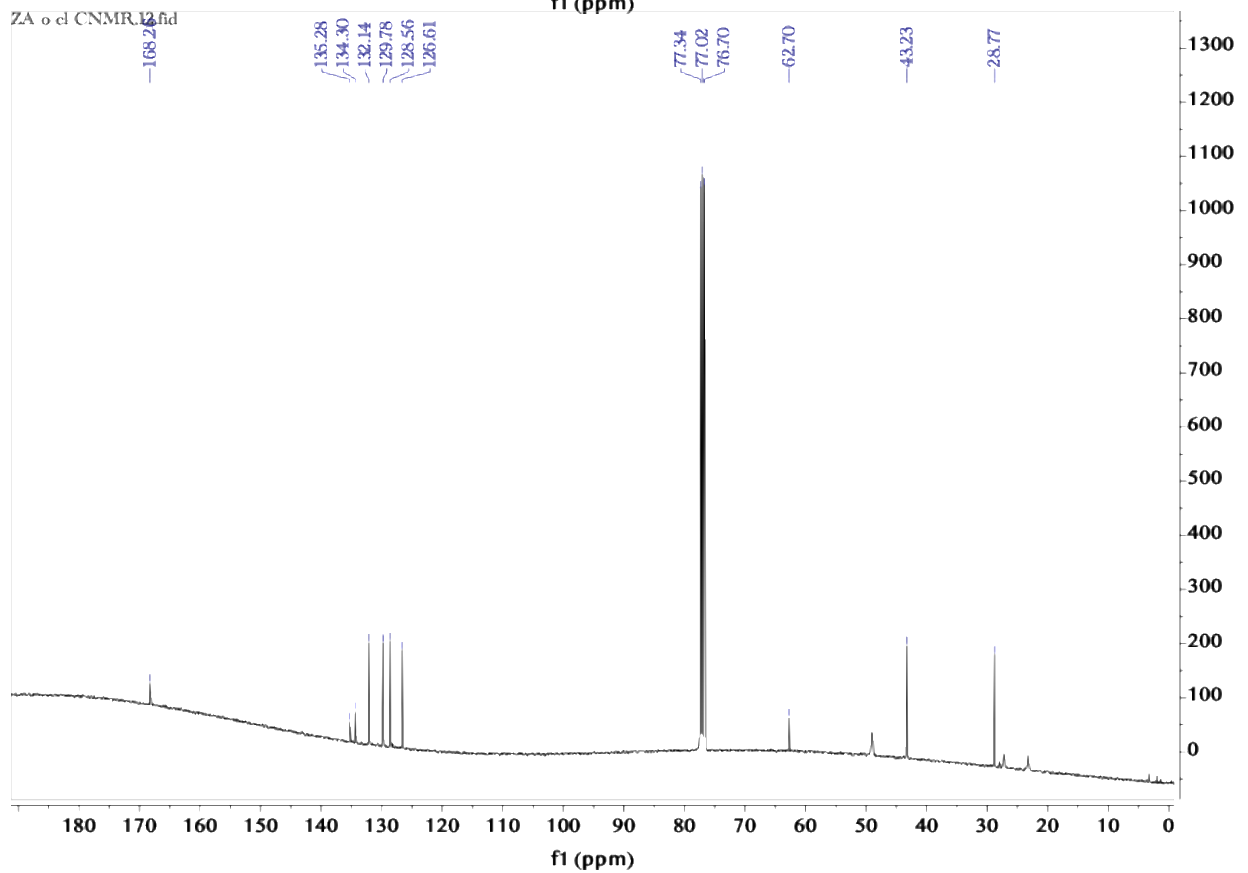
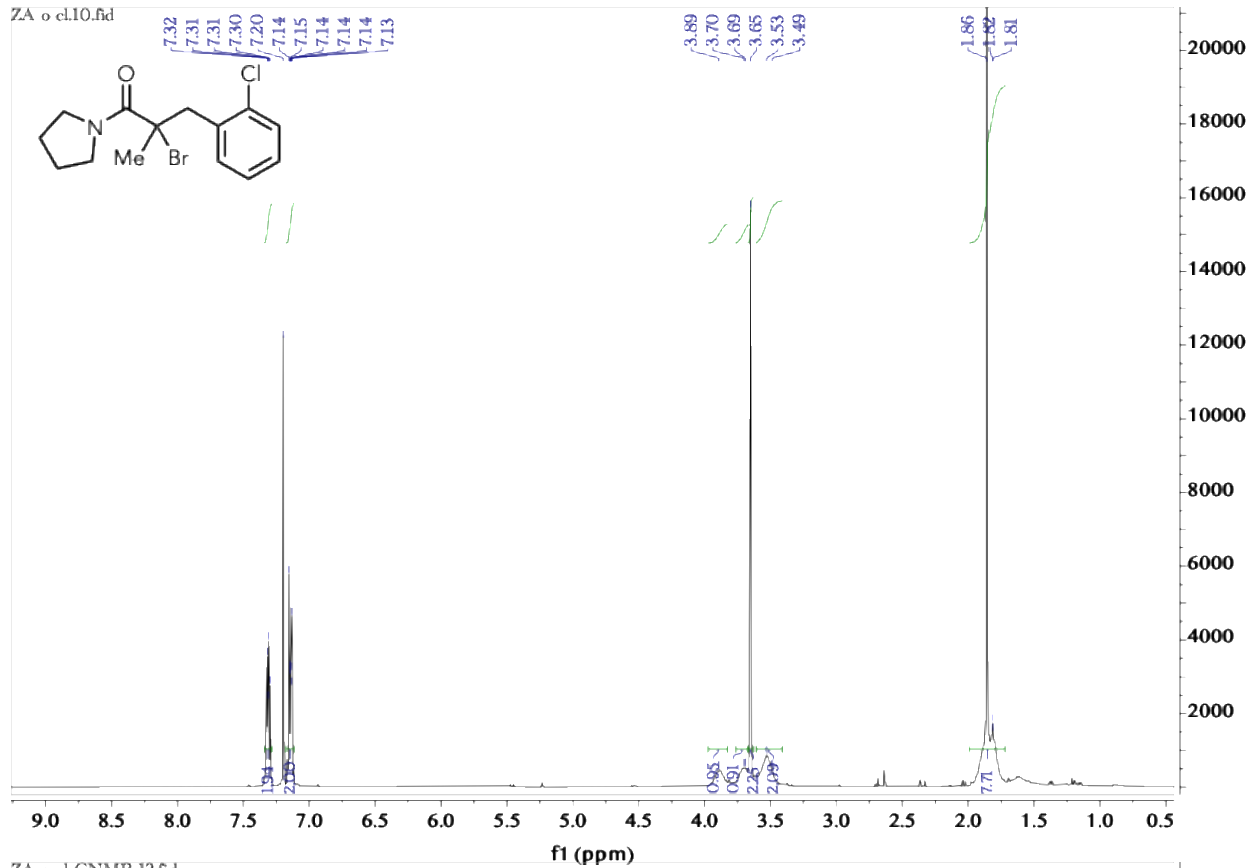
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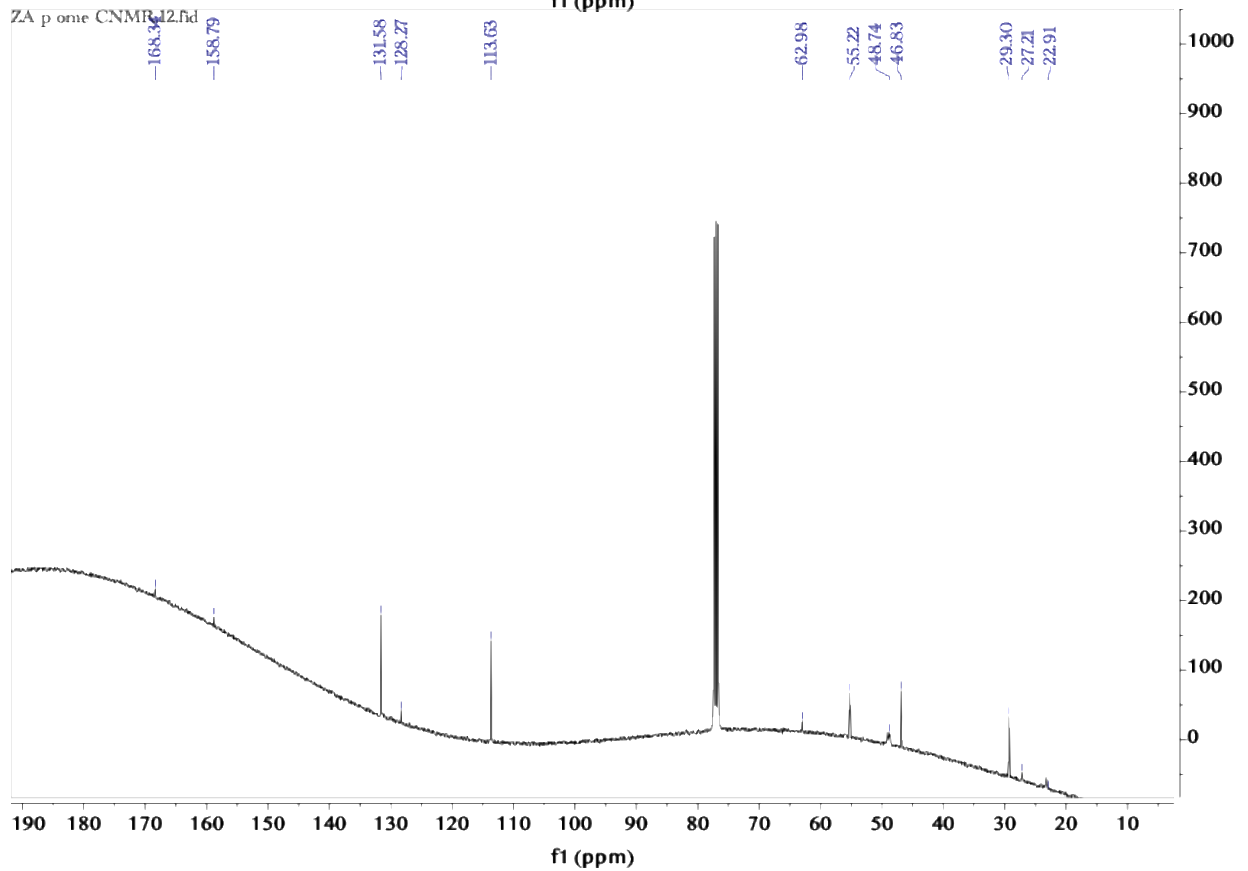
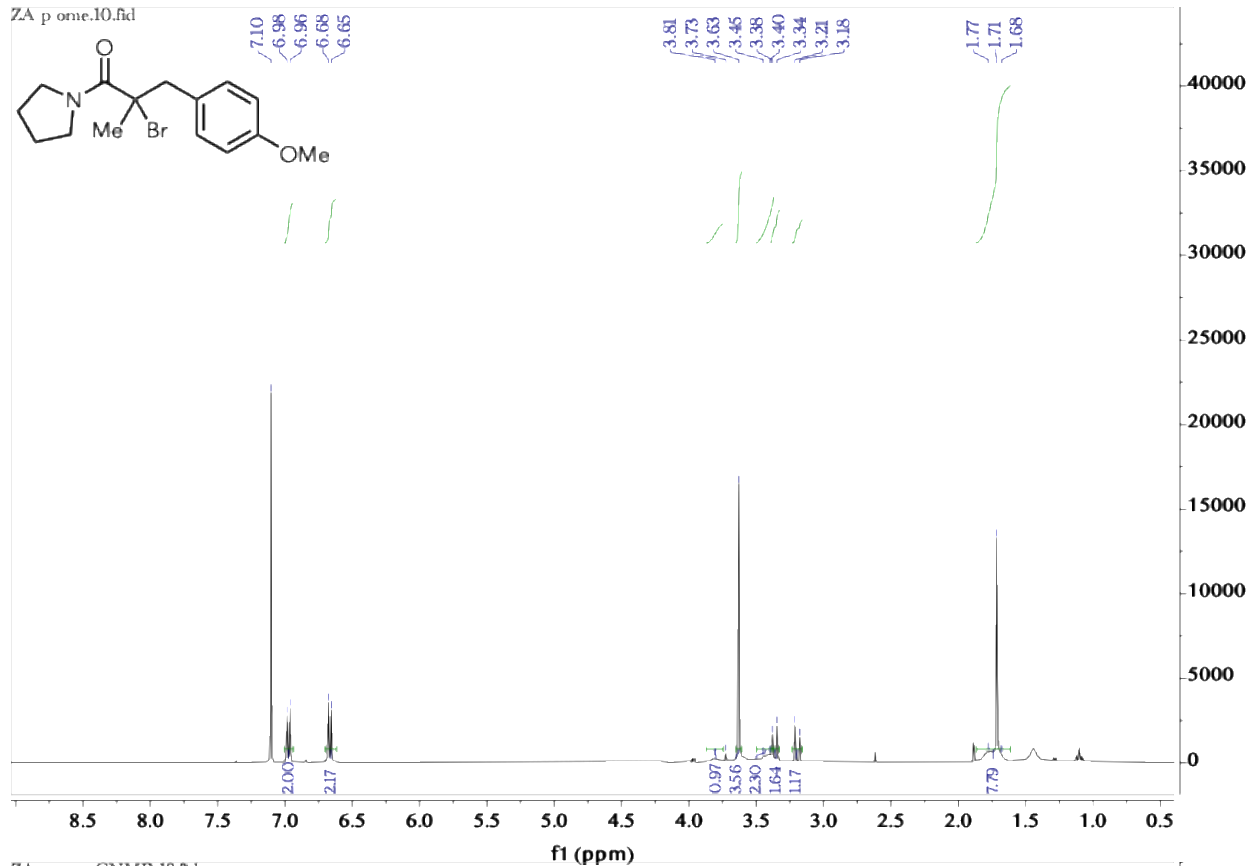


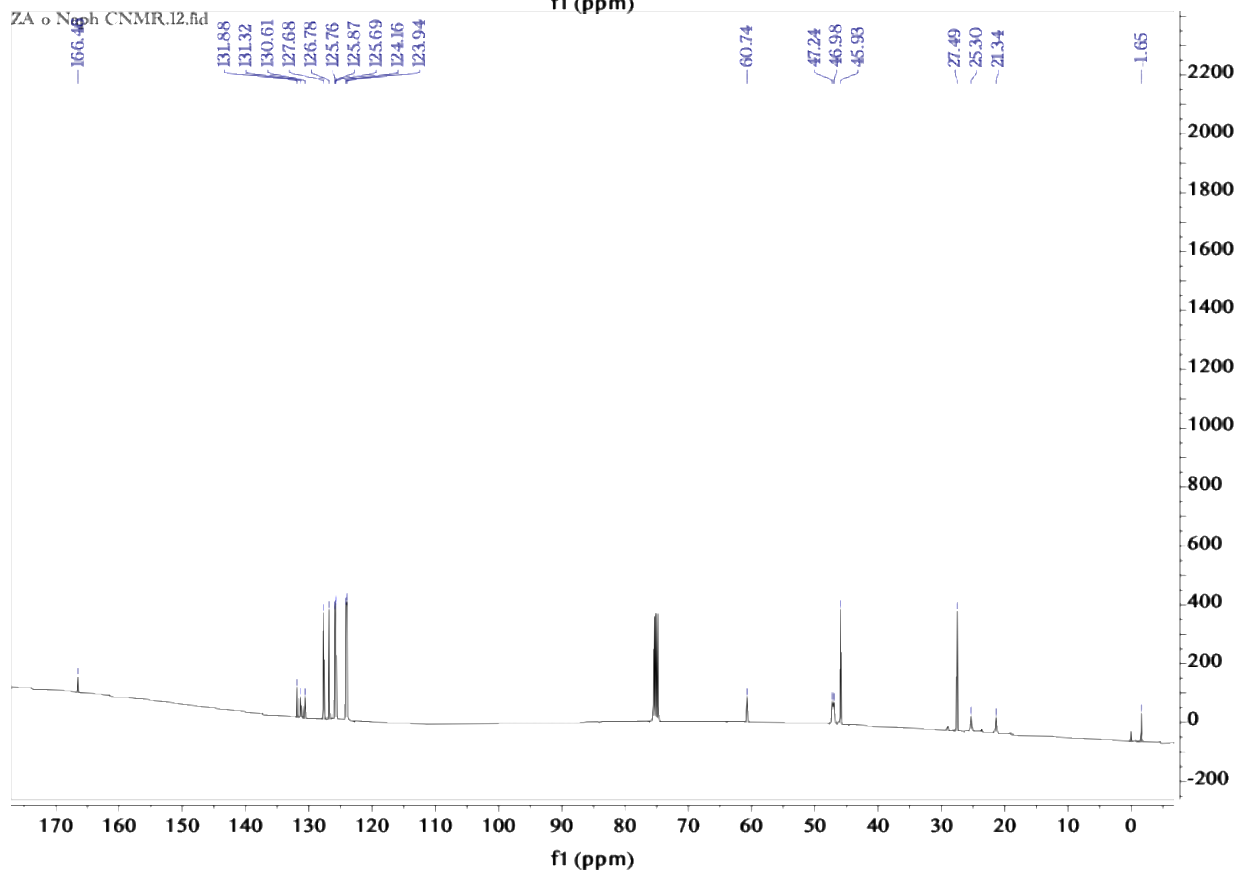
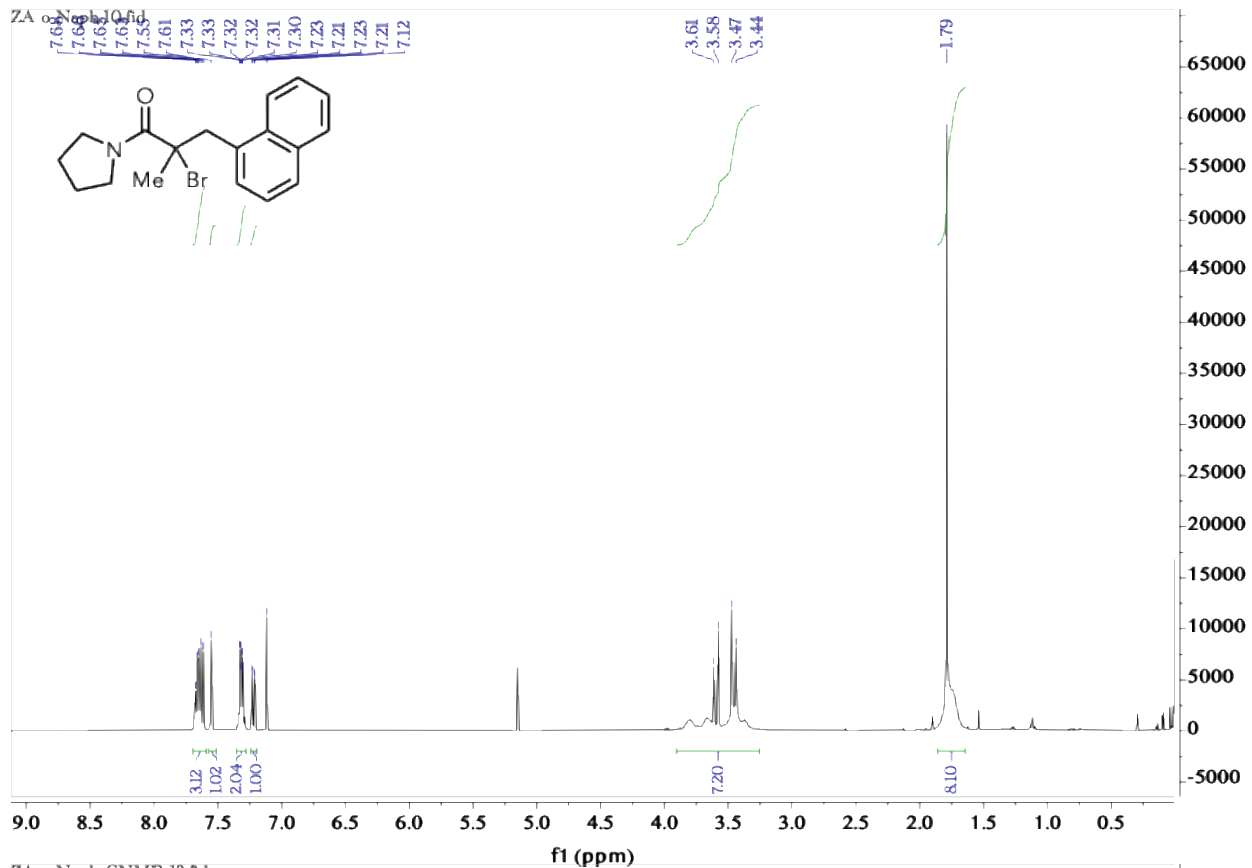




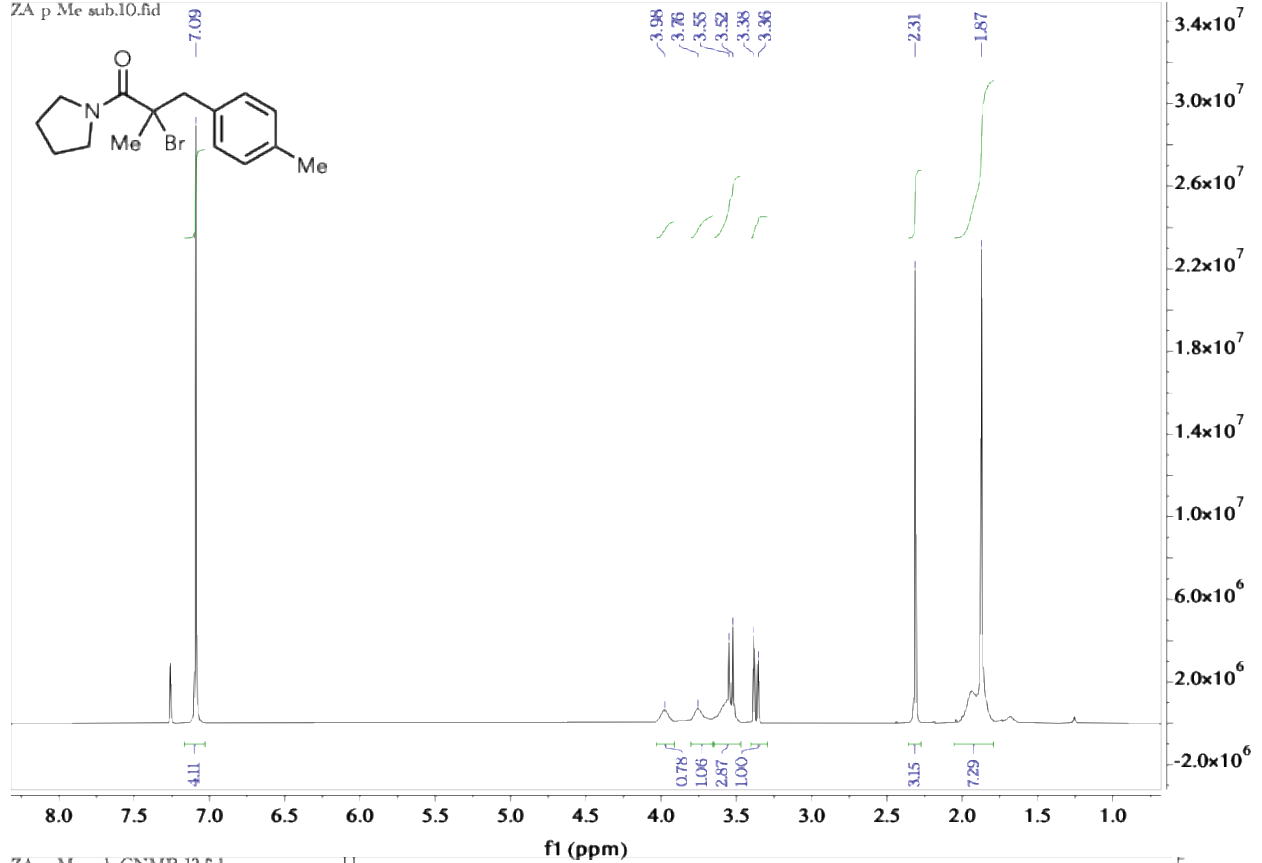




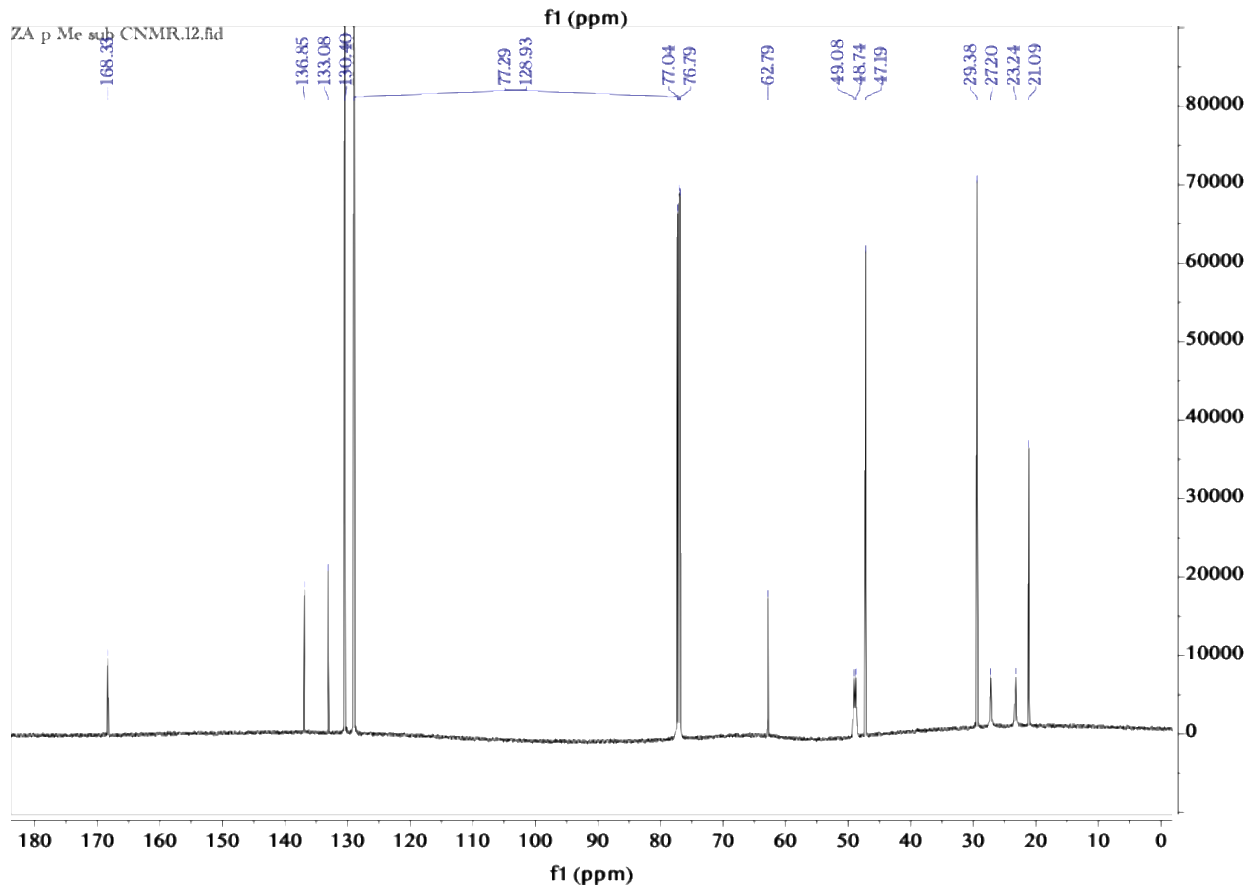


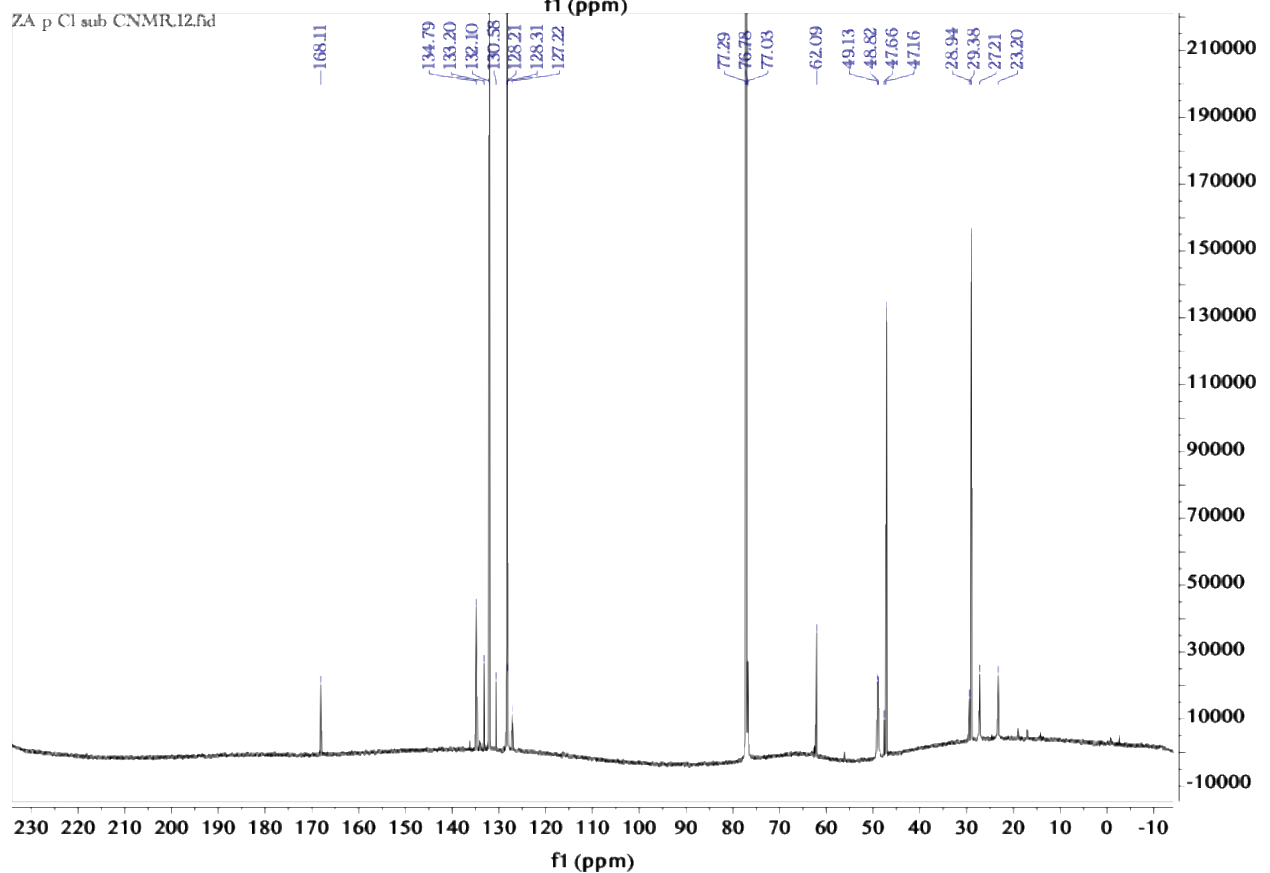
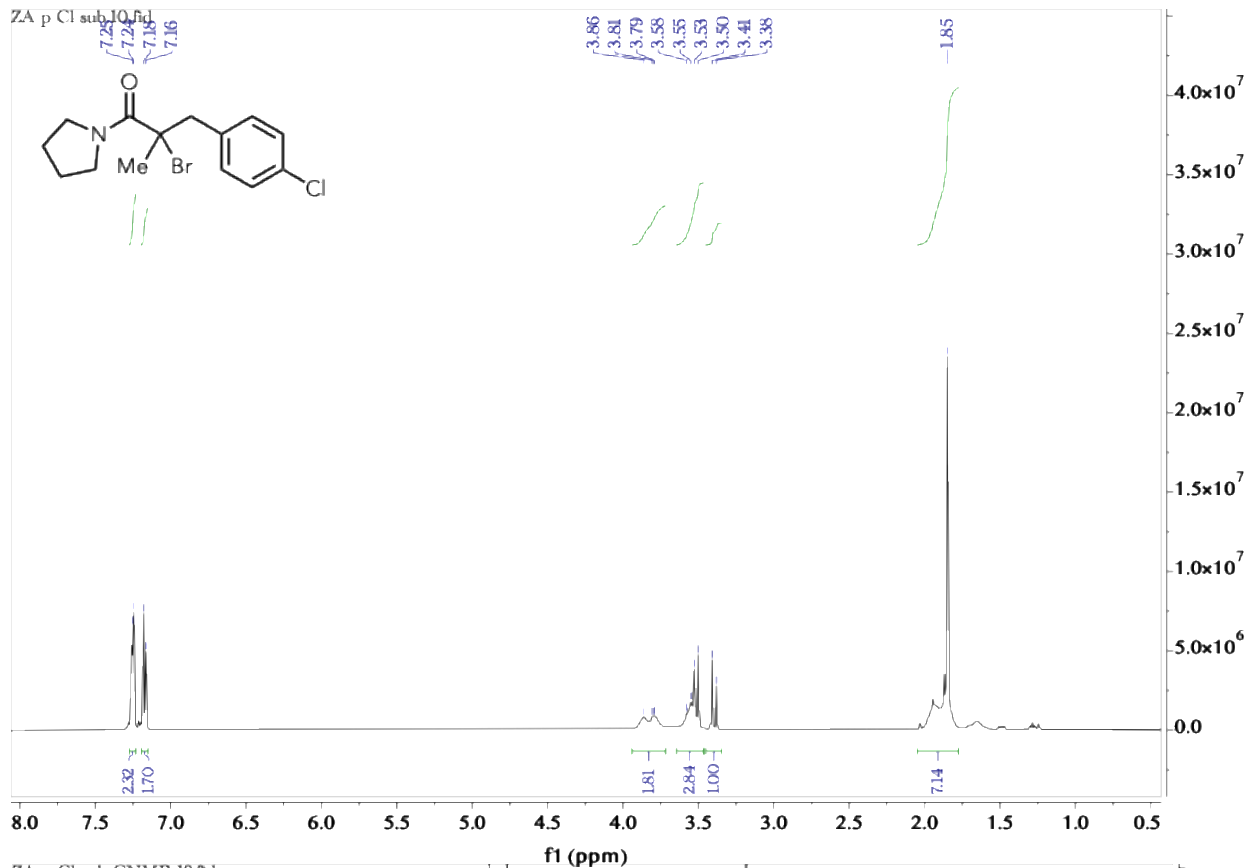


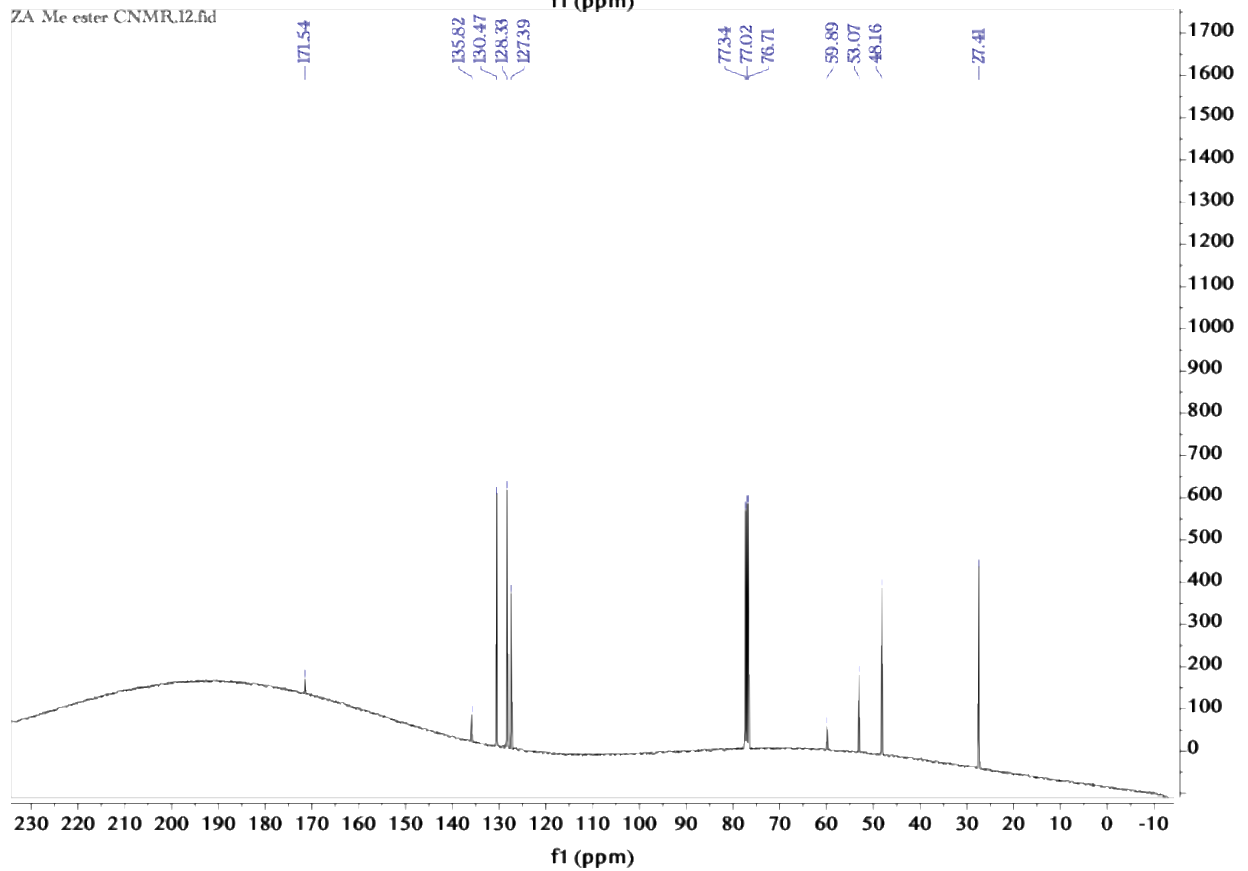
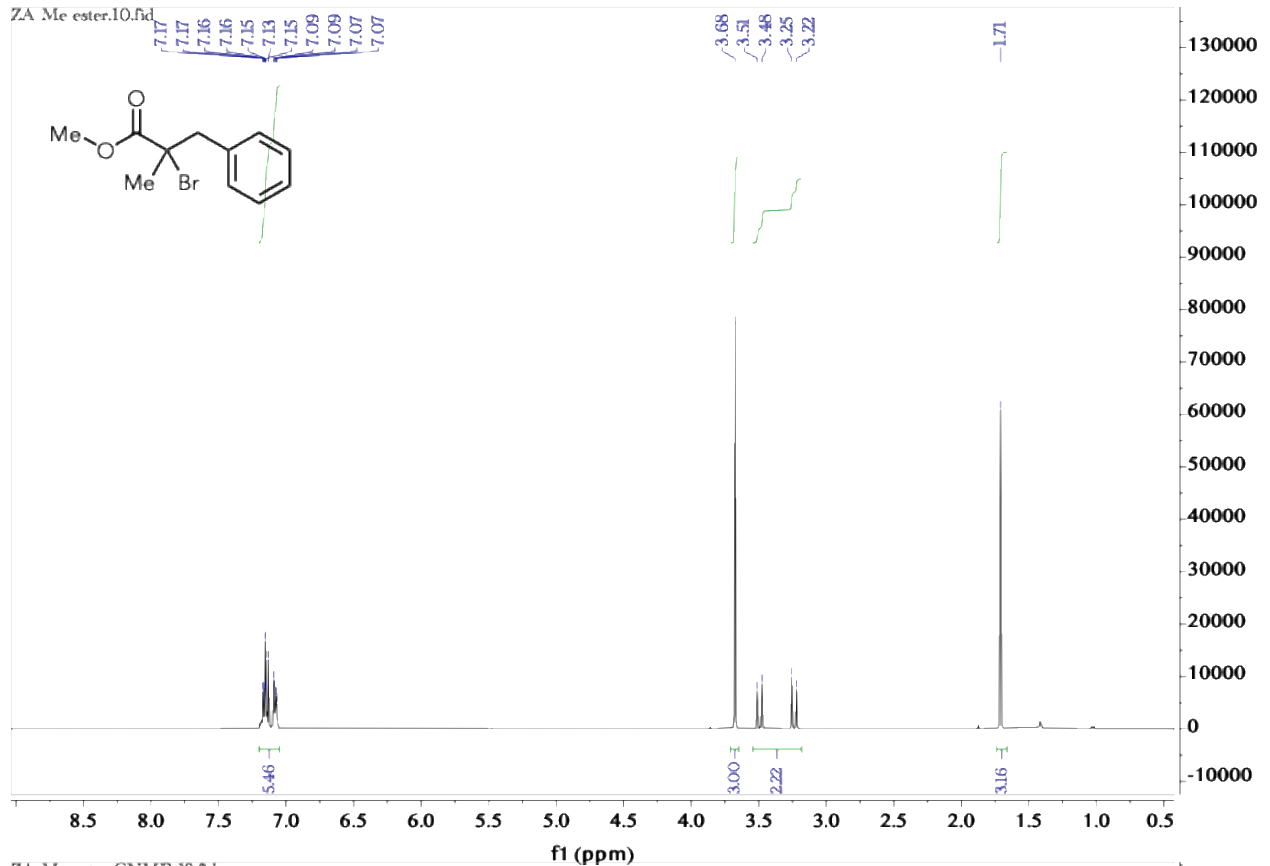
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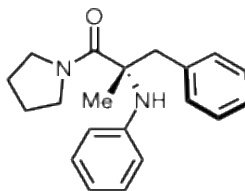
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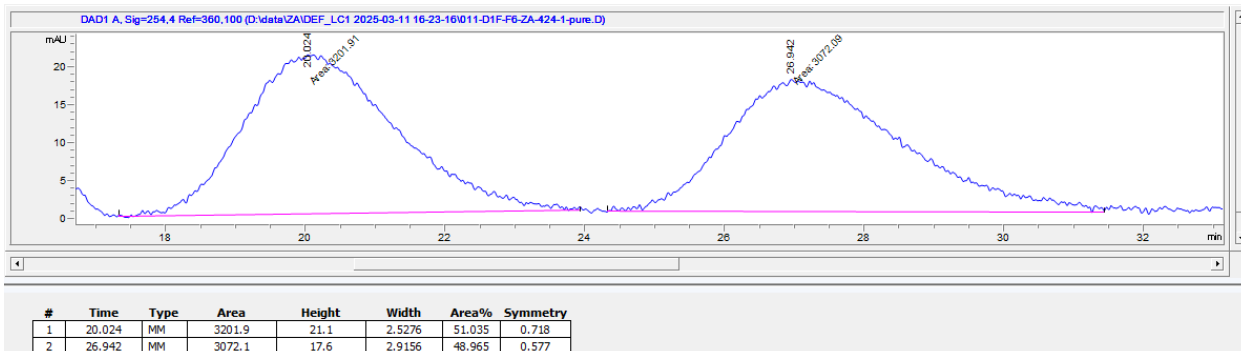
9. HPLC traces



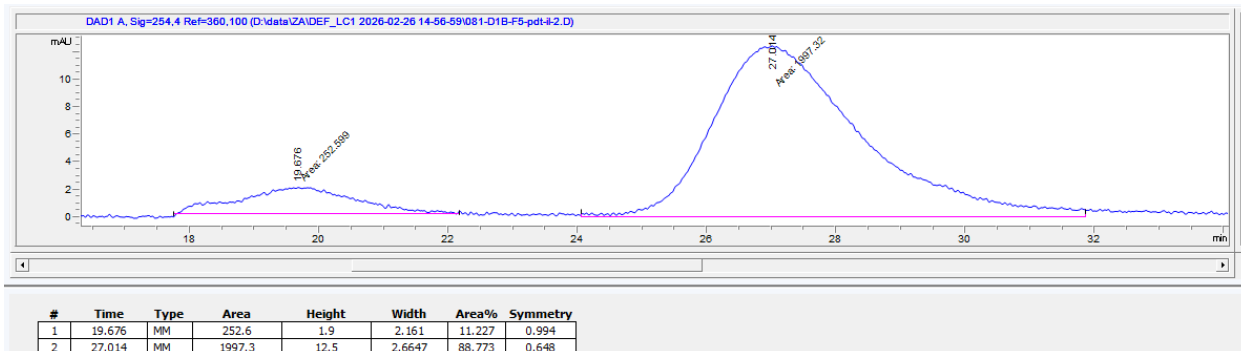
(*S*)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**3**)

Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 99.3:0.7, 1.5 mL/min. isocratic.

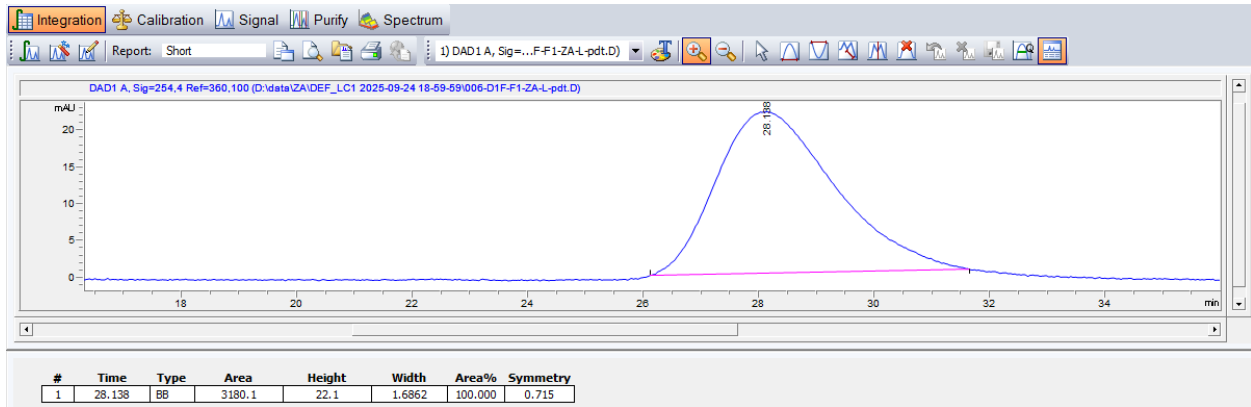
Racemate

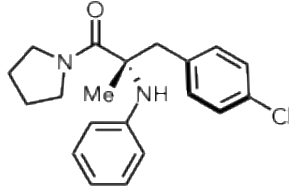


Final mutant



S-product

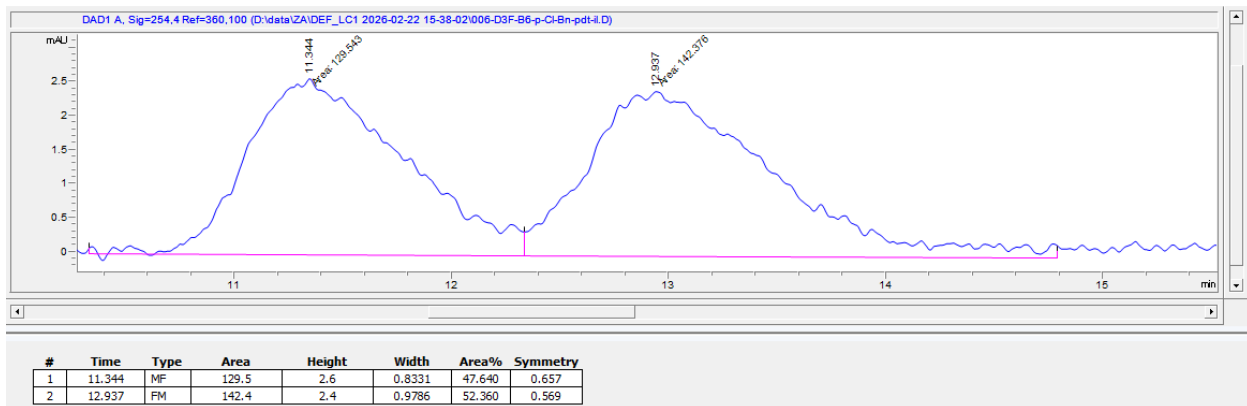




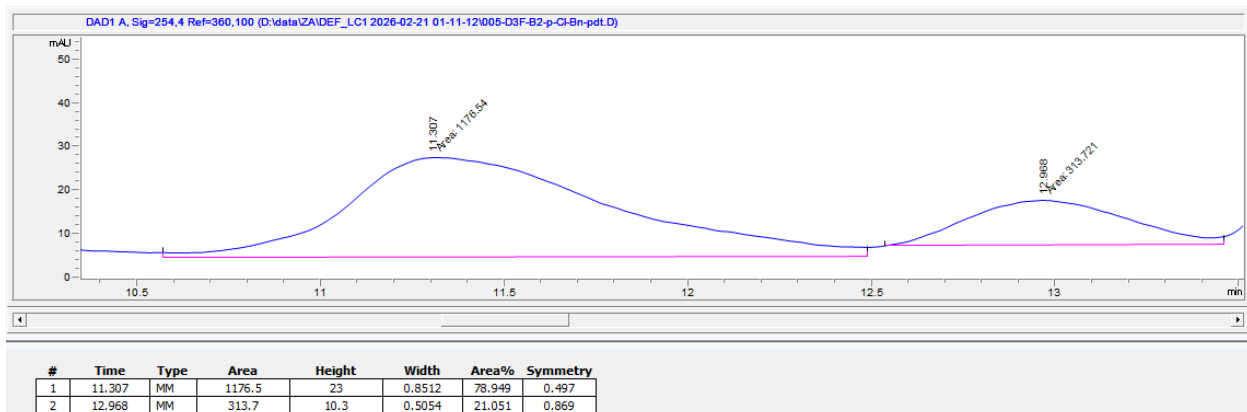
(*S*)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**5**)

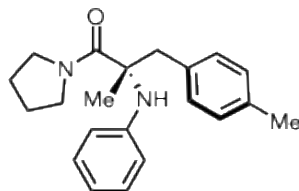
Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 96:4, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

Racemate



Final mutant

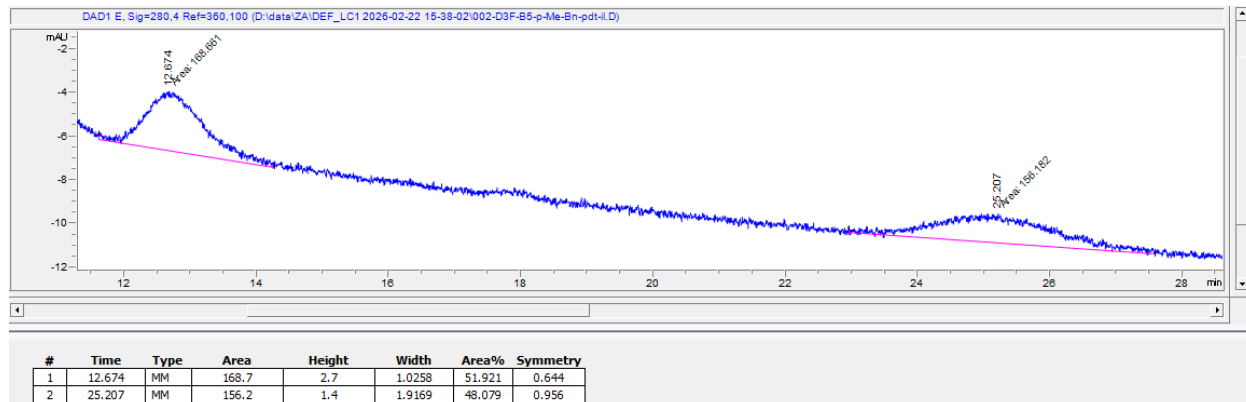




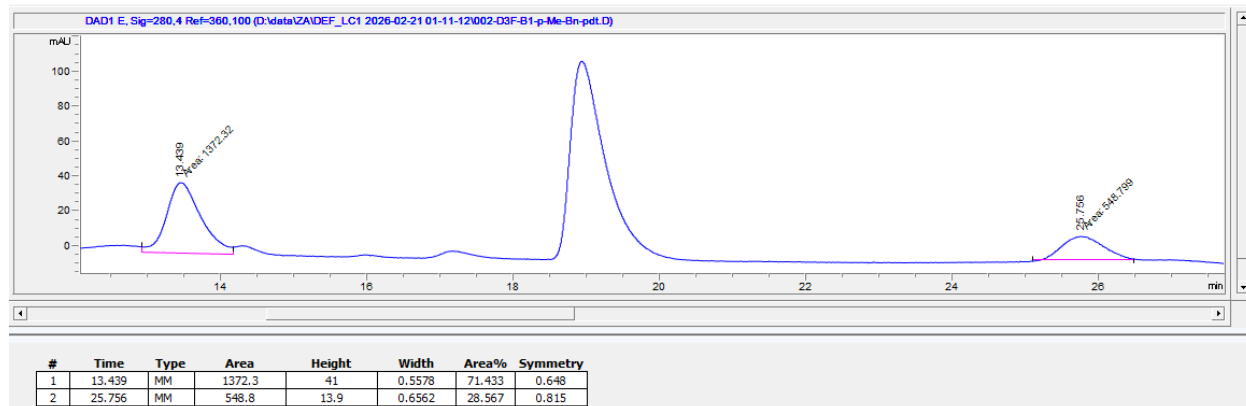
(*S*)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-(*p*-tolyl)propan-1-one (**6**)

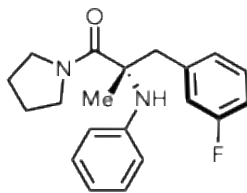
Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

Racemate



Final mutant

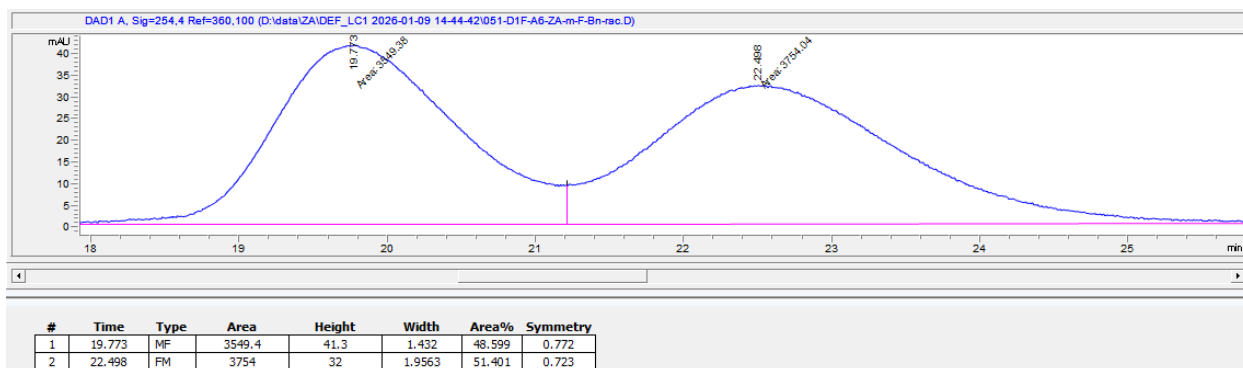




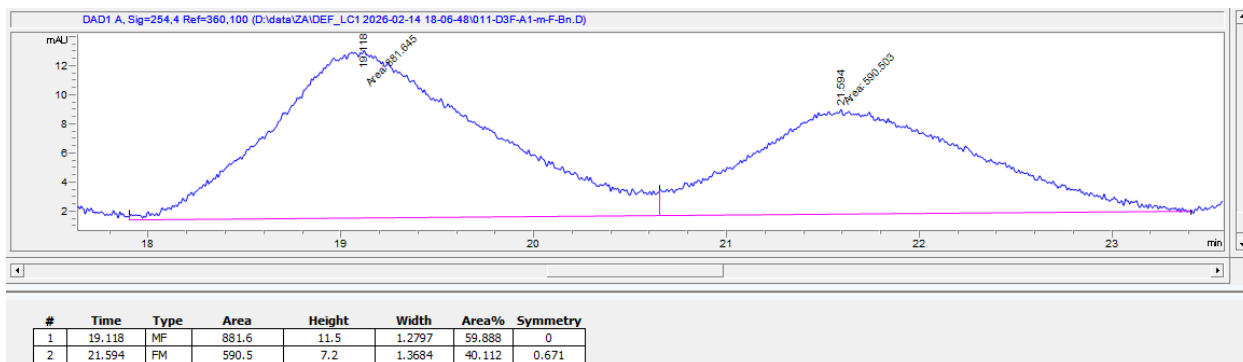
(*S*)-3-(3-fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (7)

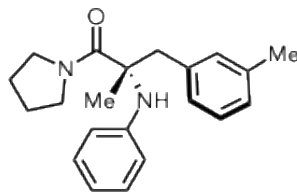
Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

Racemate



Final mutant

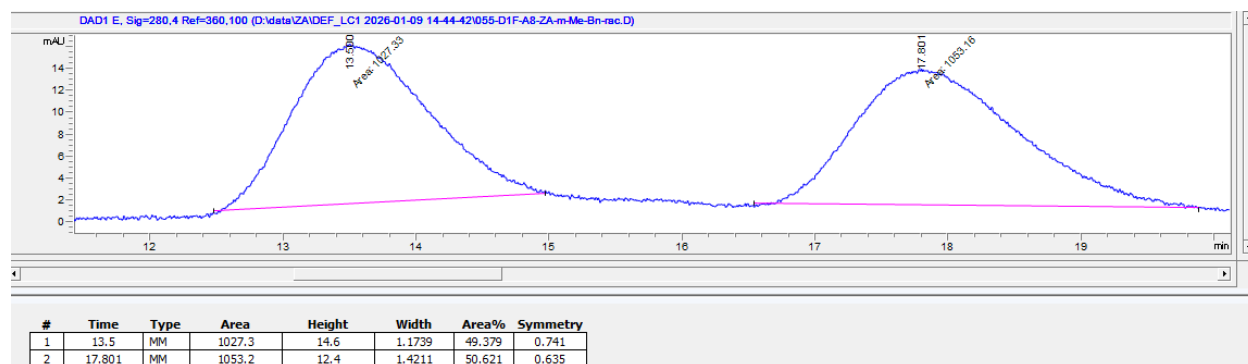




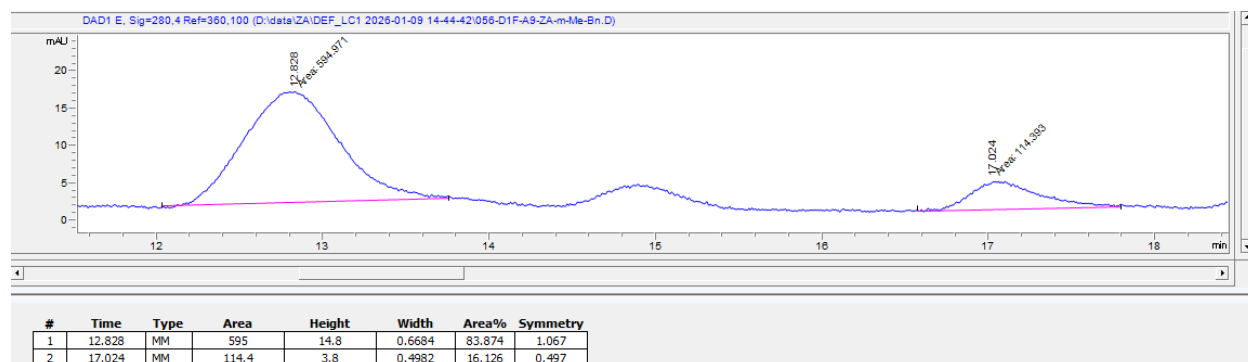
(*S*)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-(*m*-tolyl)propan-1-one (**8**)

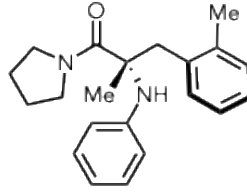
Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

Racemate



Final mutant

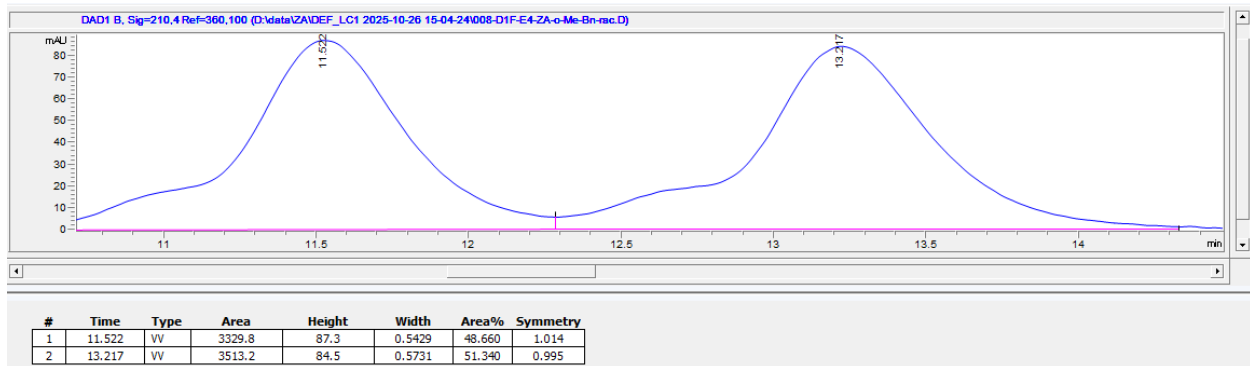




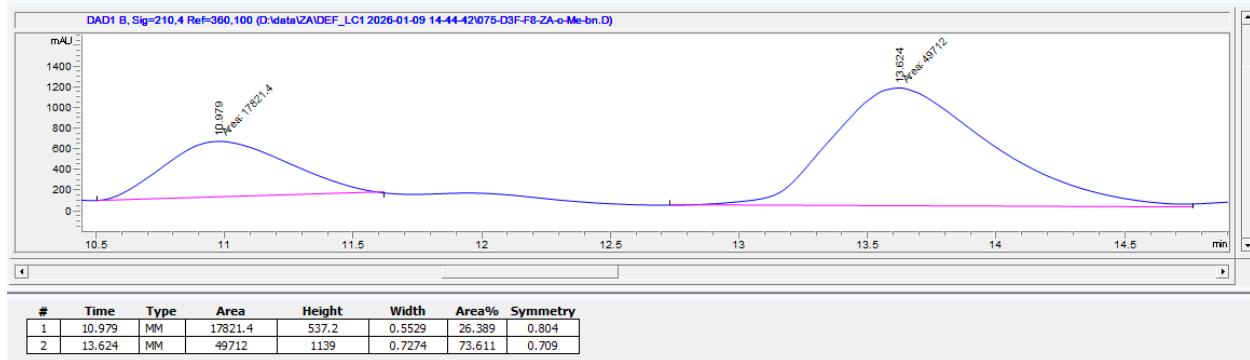
(*S*)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3-(*o*-tolyl)propan-1-one (**10**)

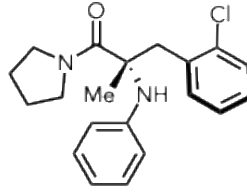
Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

Racemate



Final mutant

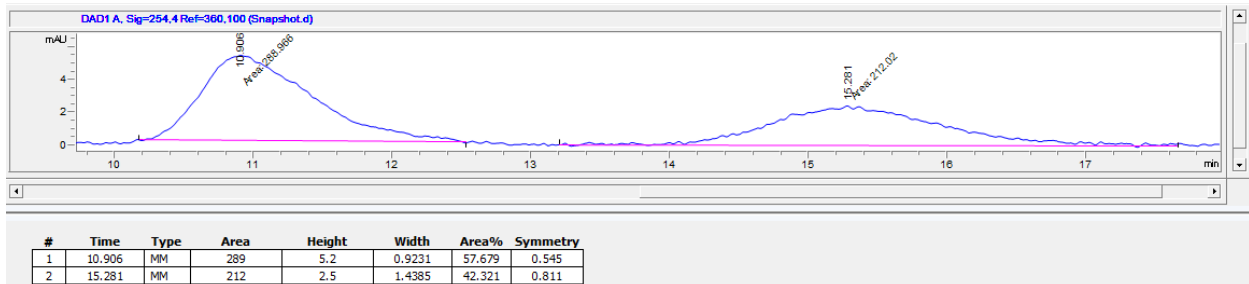




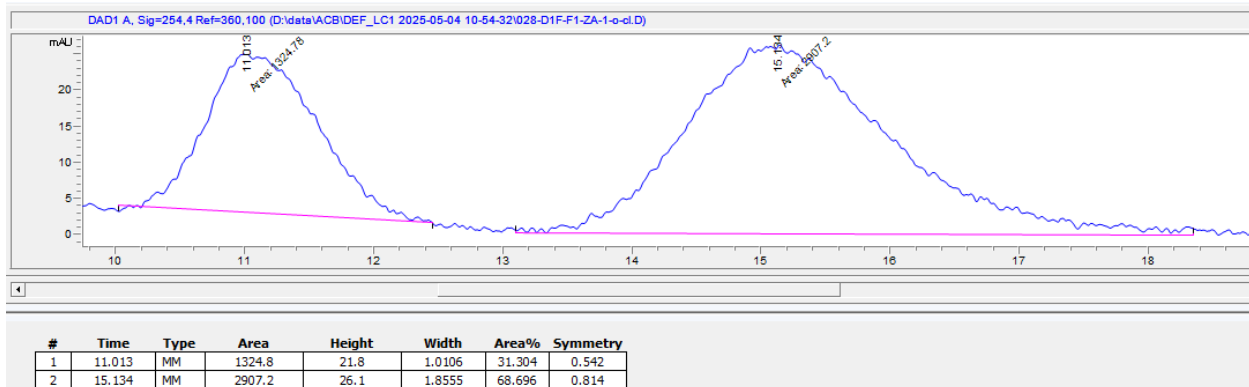
(S)-3-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-methyl-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**10**)

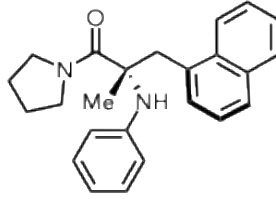
Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 91:9, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

Racemate



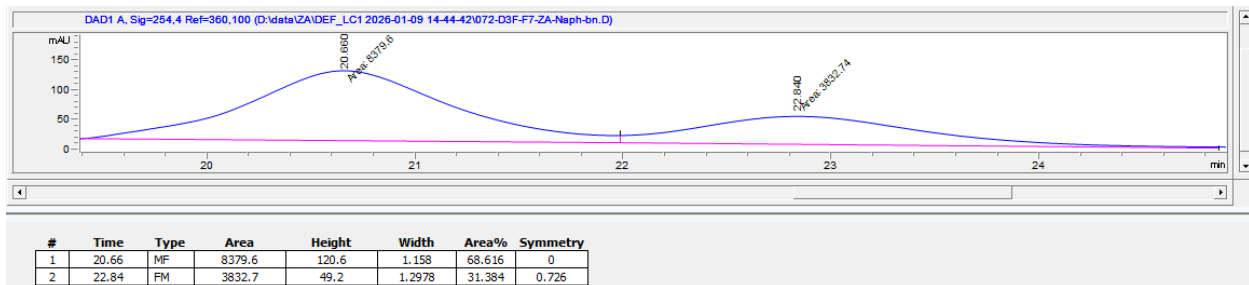
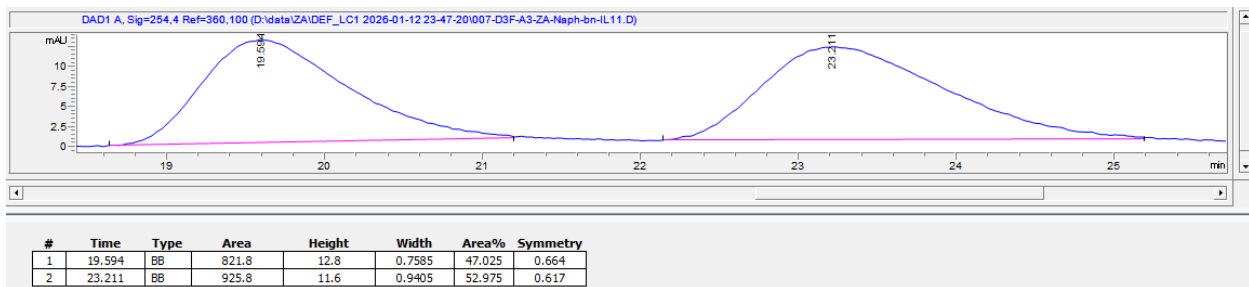
Final mutant

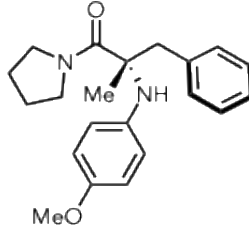




2-methyl-3-(naphthalen-1-yl)-2-(phenylamino)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**11**)

Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 96:4, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

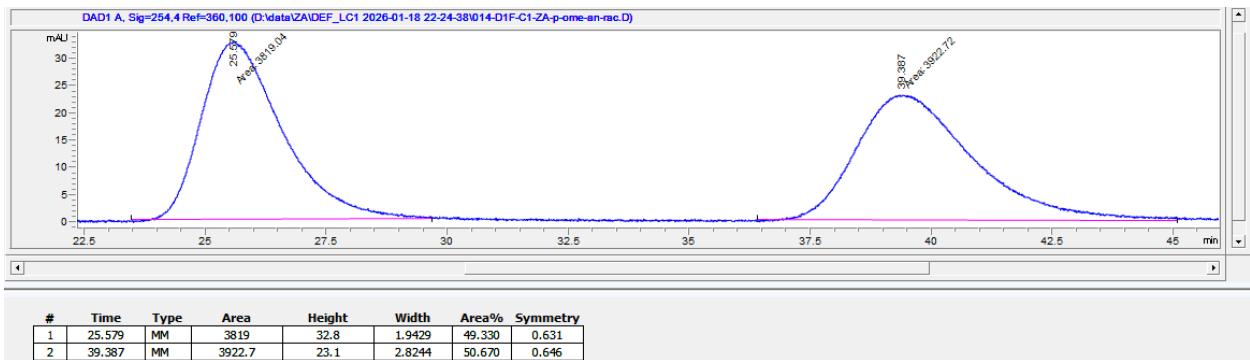




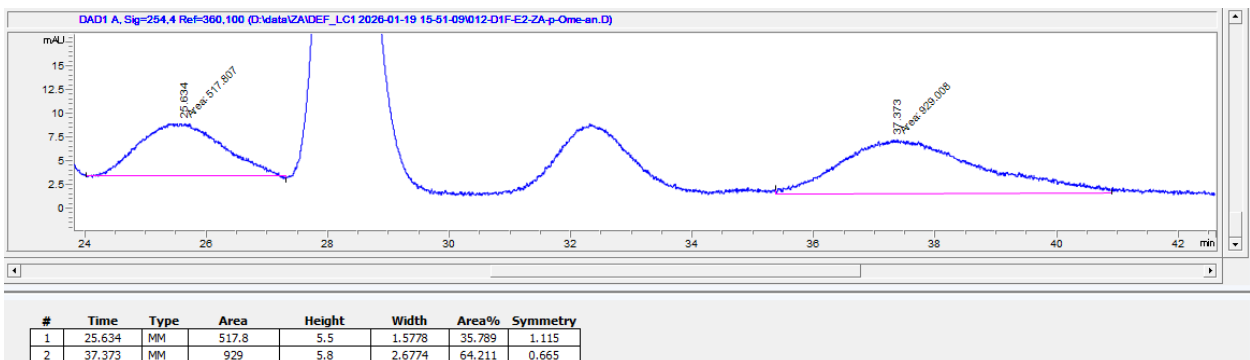
(S)-2-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**12**)

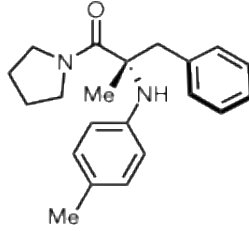
Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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Final mutant

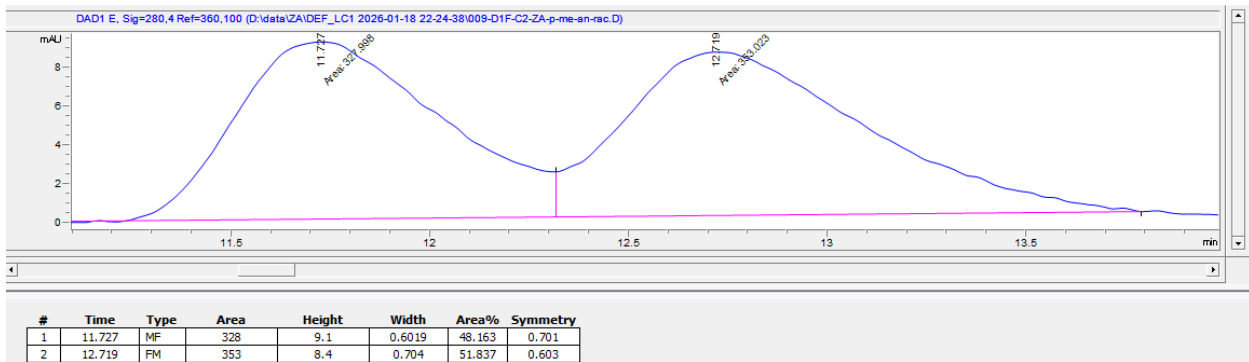




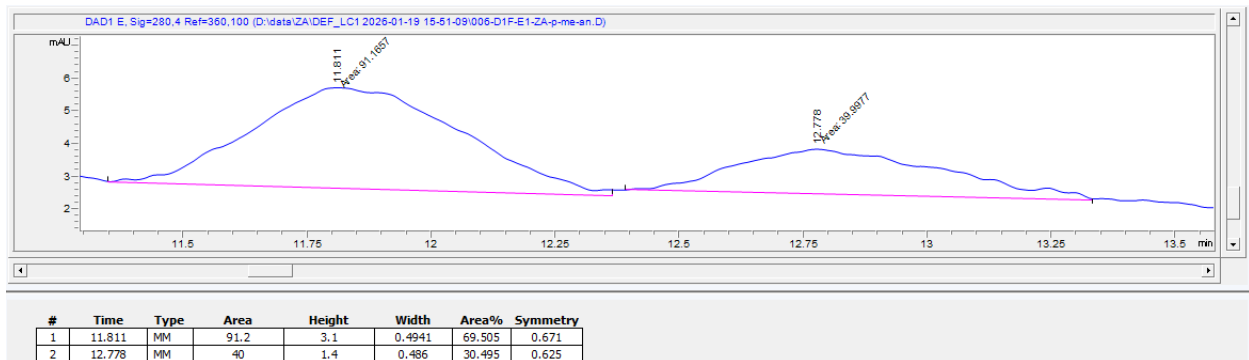
(S)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-(*p*-tolylamino)propan-1-one (**13**)

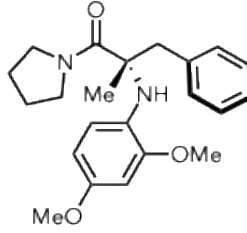
Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

Racemate



Final mutant

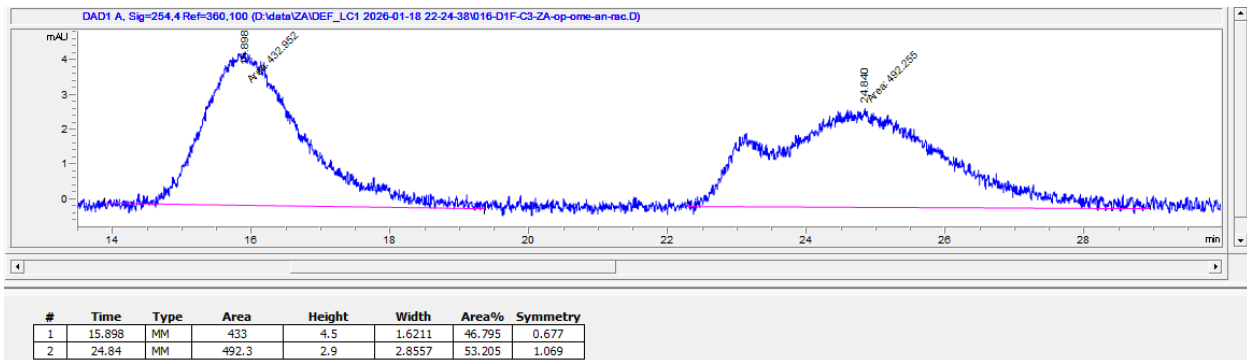




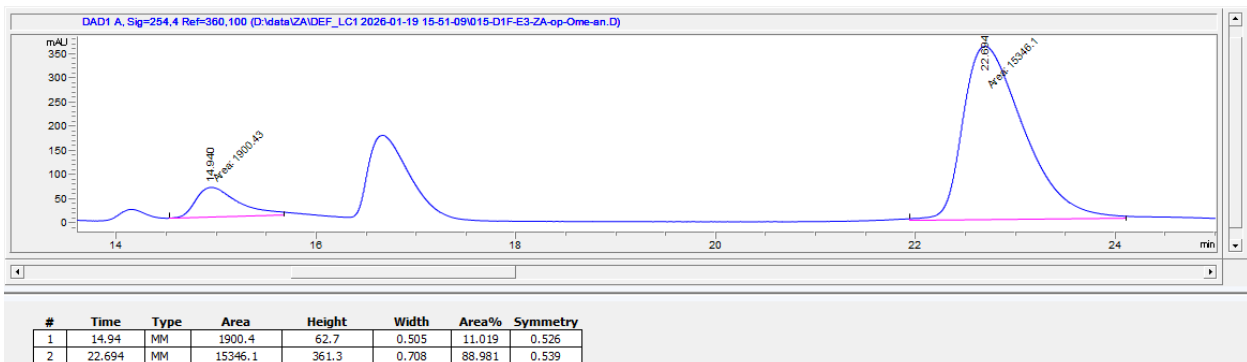
(S)-2-((2,4-dimethoxyphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**14**)

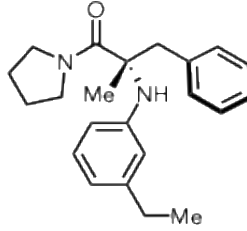
Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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Final mutant

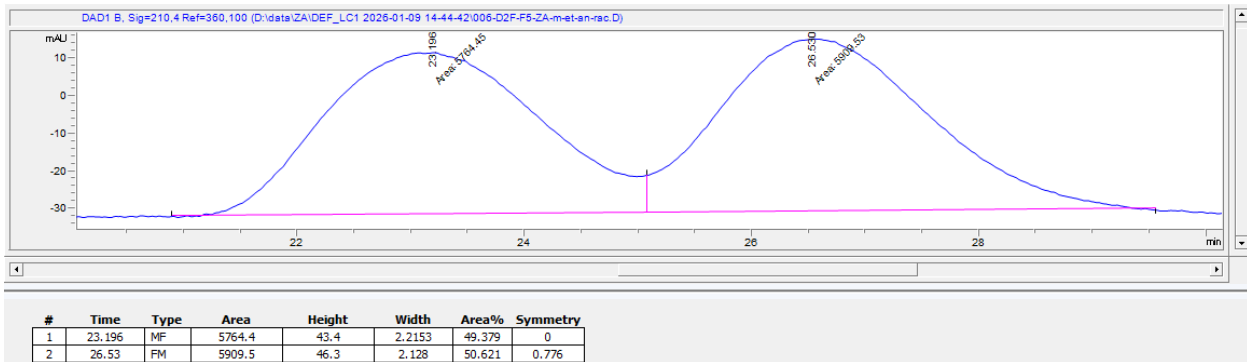




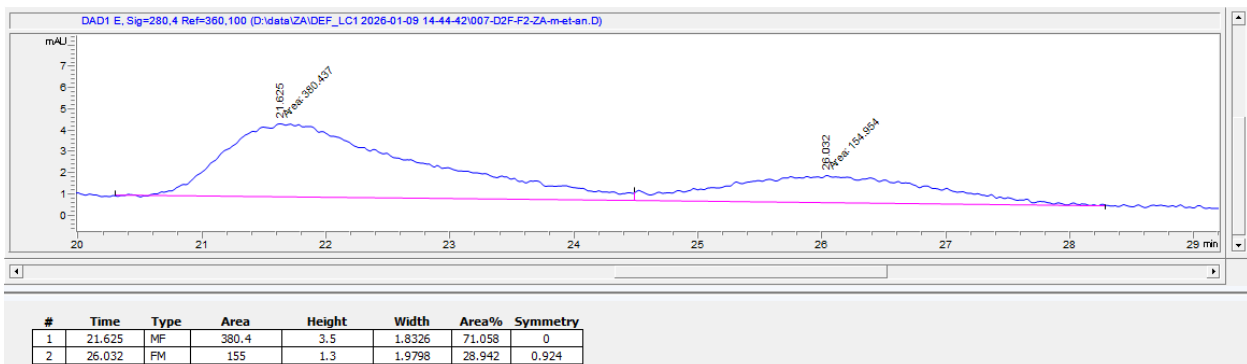
(S)-2-((3-ethylphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**15**)

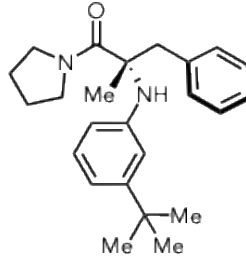
Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 99:1, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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Final mutant

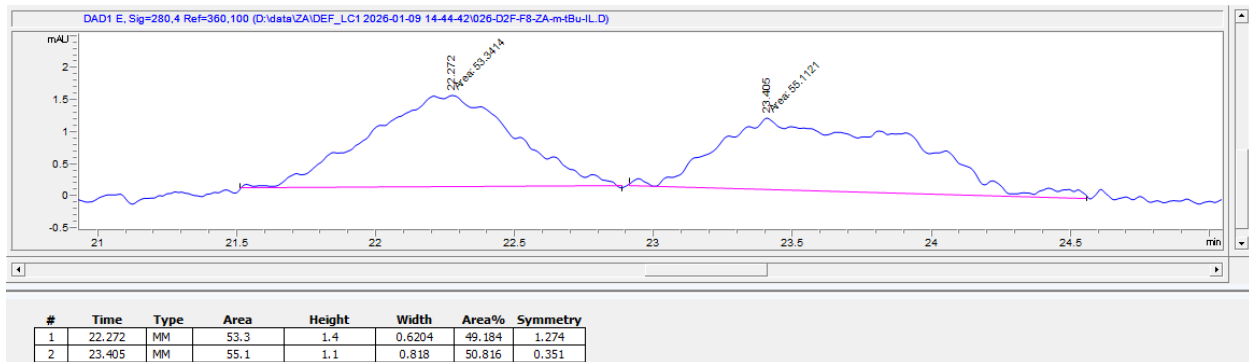




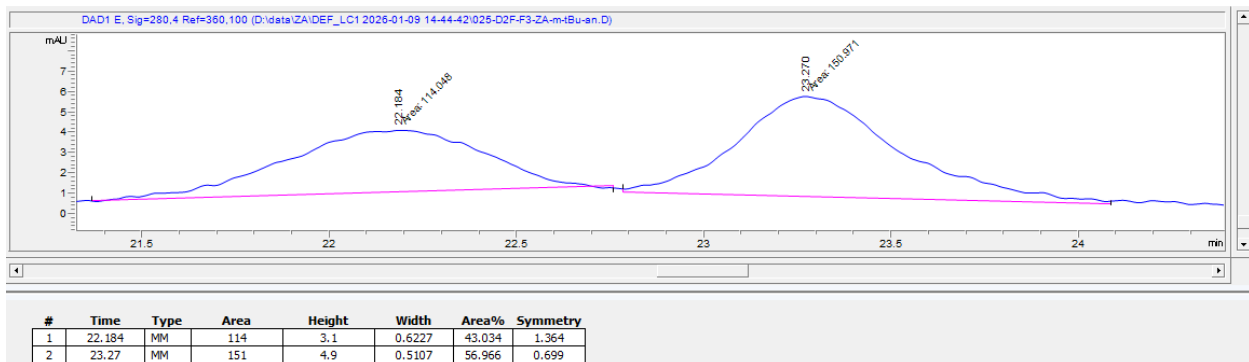
(S)-2-((3-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**16**)

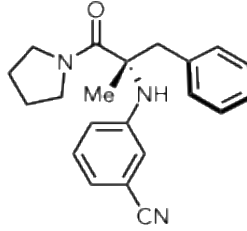
Chiral HPLC: IC column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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Final mutant

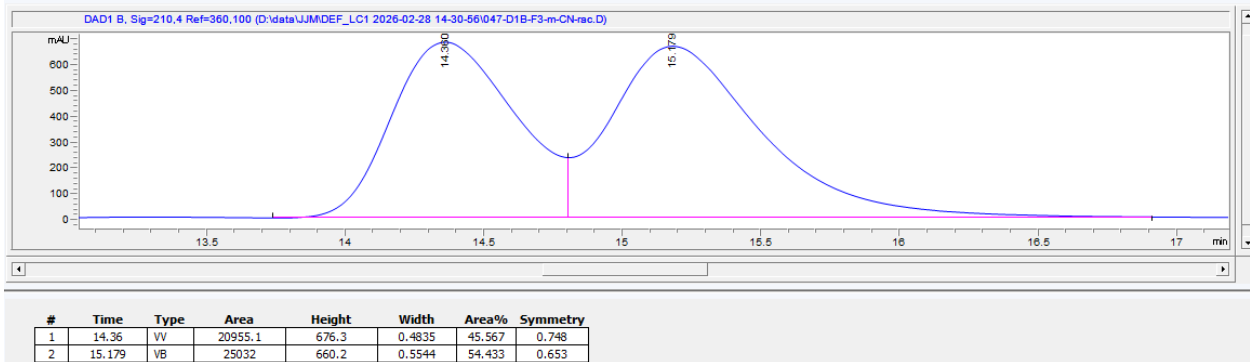




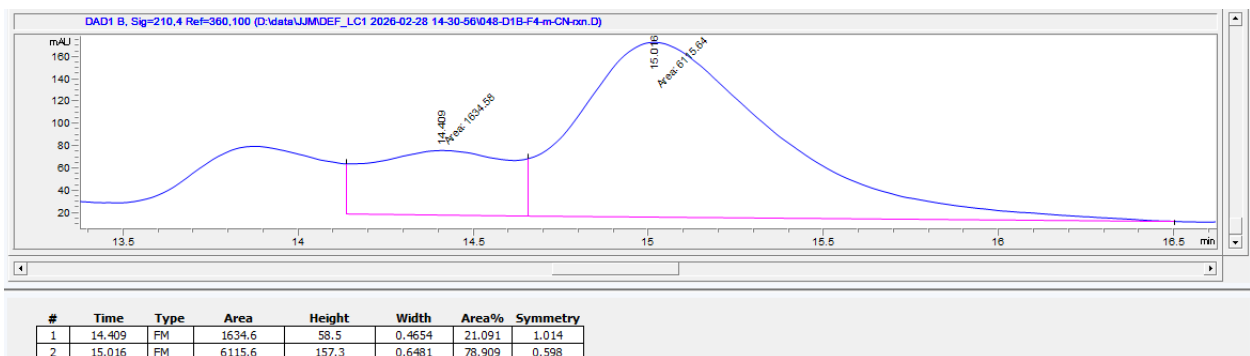
(S)-3-((2-methyl-1-oxo-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-2-yl)amino)benzonitrile (**17**)

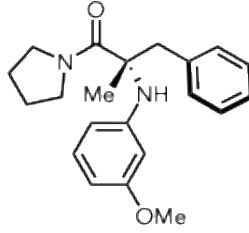
Chiral HPLC: IA column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 92:8, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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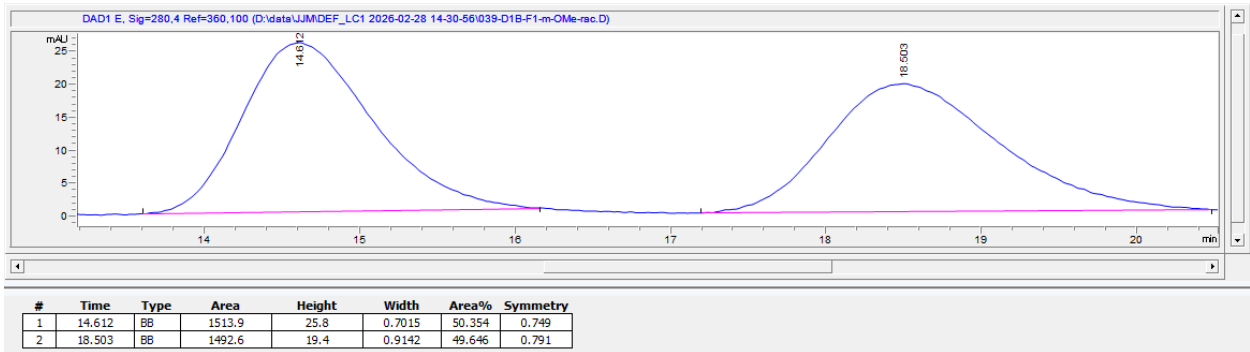




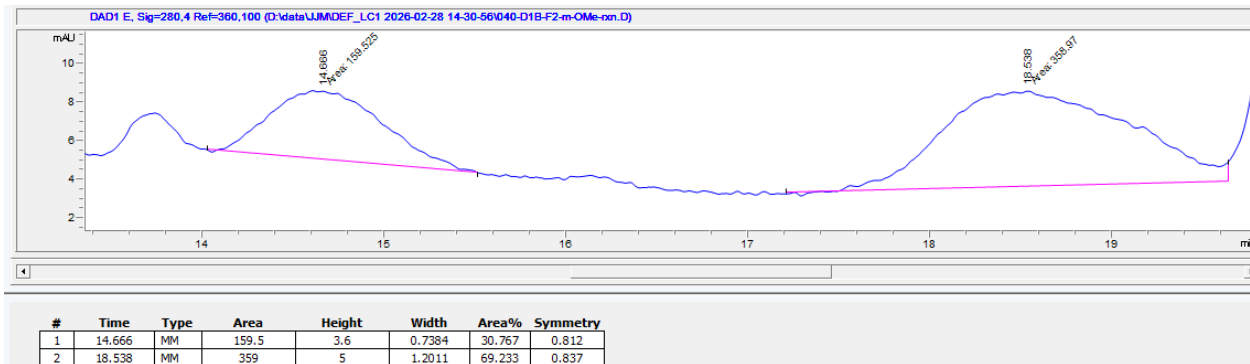
(S)-2-((3-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**18**)

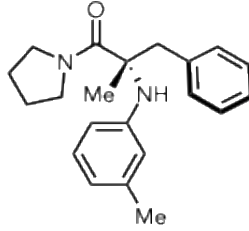
Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 93:7, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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Final mutant

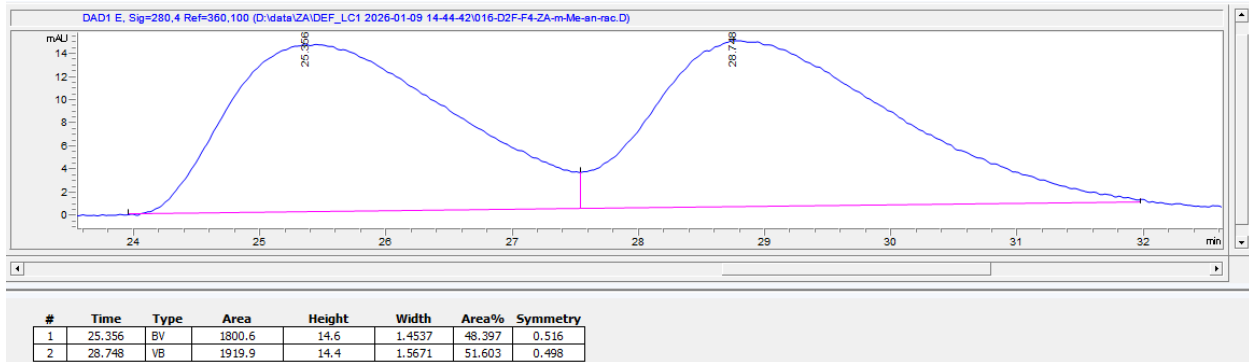




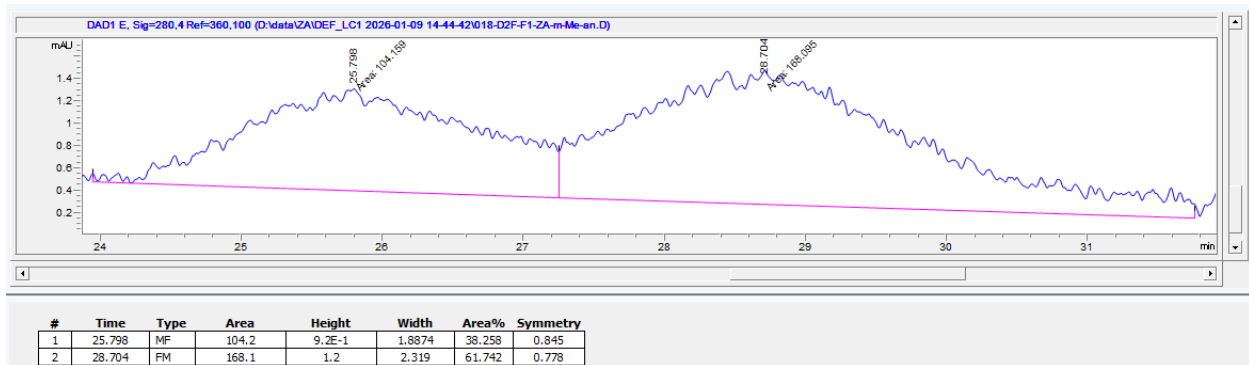
(S)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-(*m*-tolylamino)propan-1-one (**19**)

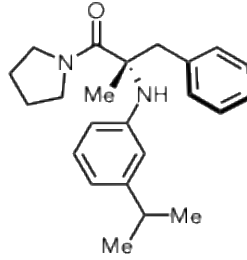
Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 99:1, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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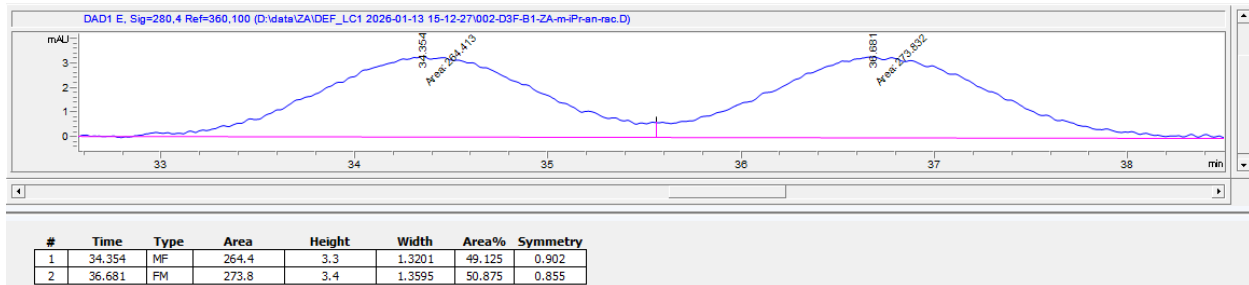




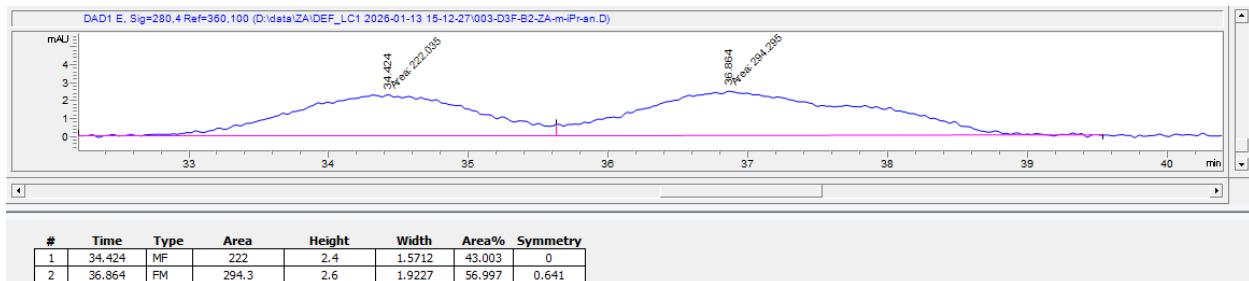
(S)-2-((3-isopropylphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**20**)

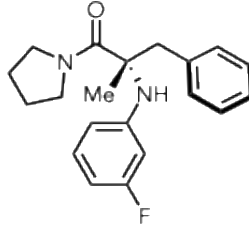
Chiral HPLC: IC column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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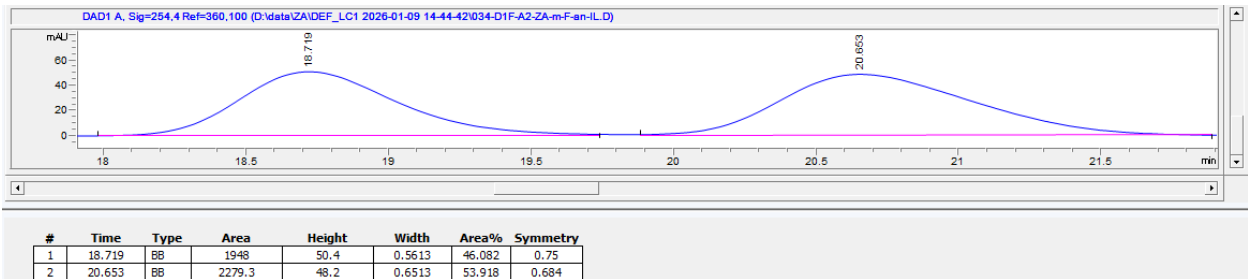




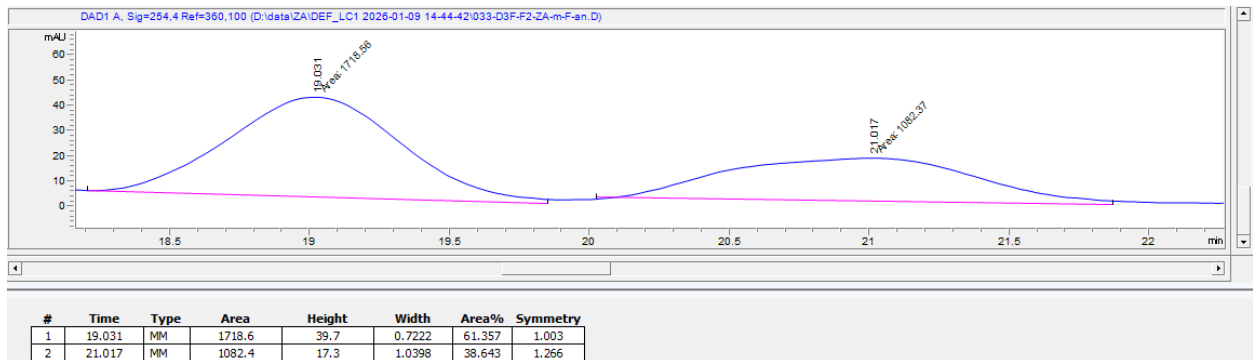
(S)-2-((3-fluorophenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**21**)

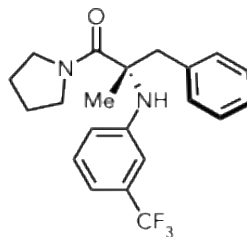
Chiral HPLC: IA column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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Final mutant

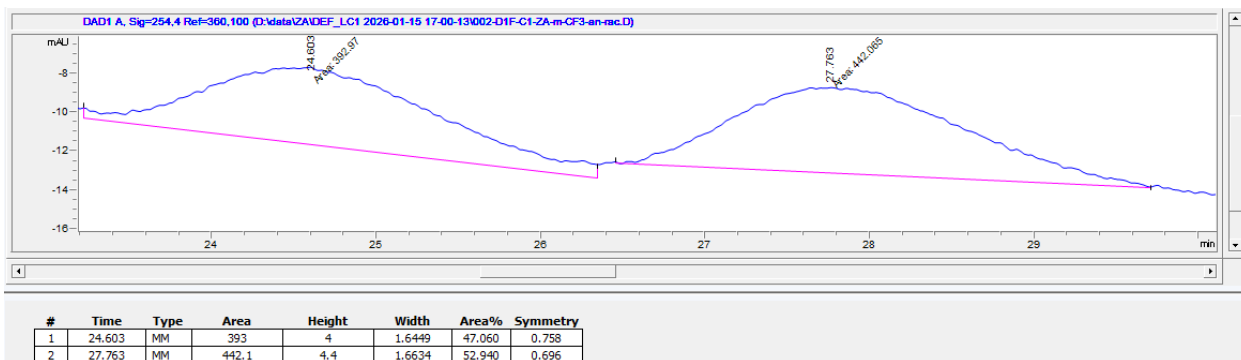




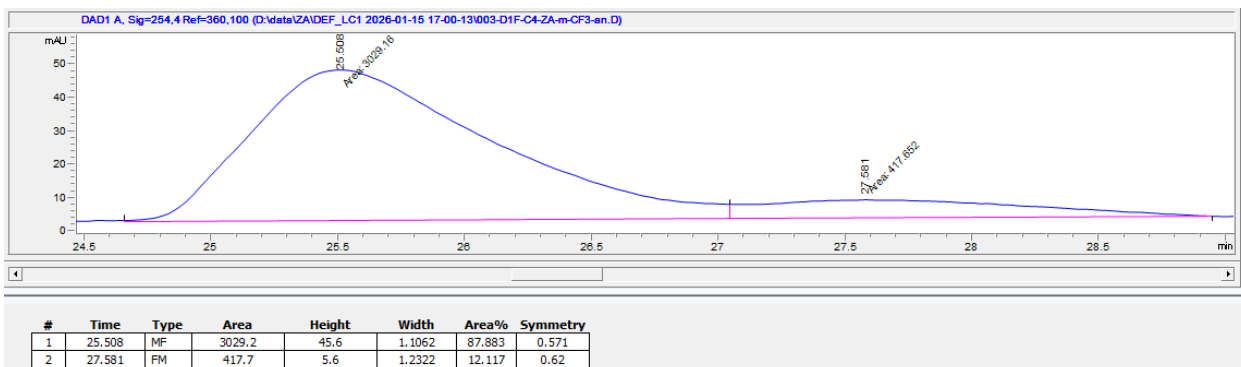
(S)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-((3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)amino)propan-1-one
(22)

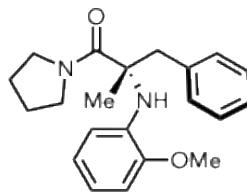
Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 99:1, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

Racemate



Final mutant

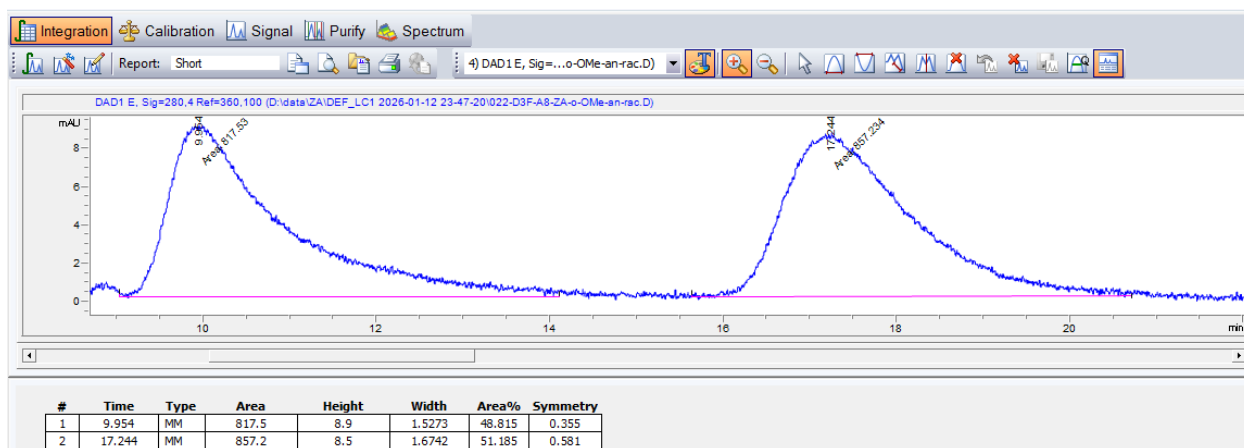




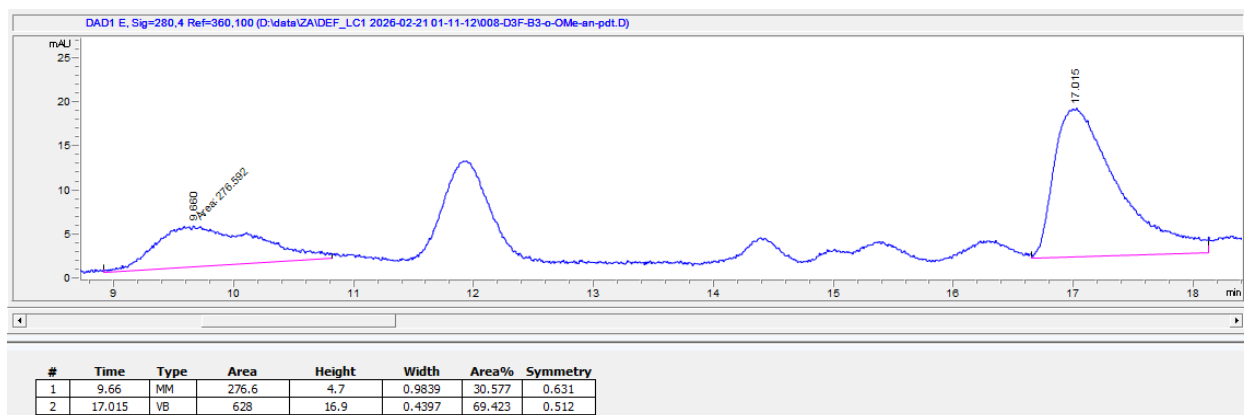
(S)-2-((2-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**23**)

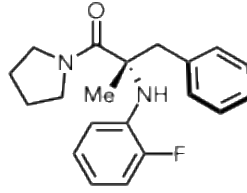
Chiral HPLC: OJ-H column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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Final mutant

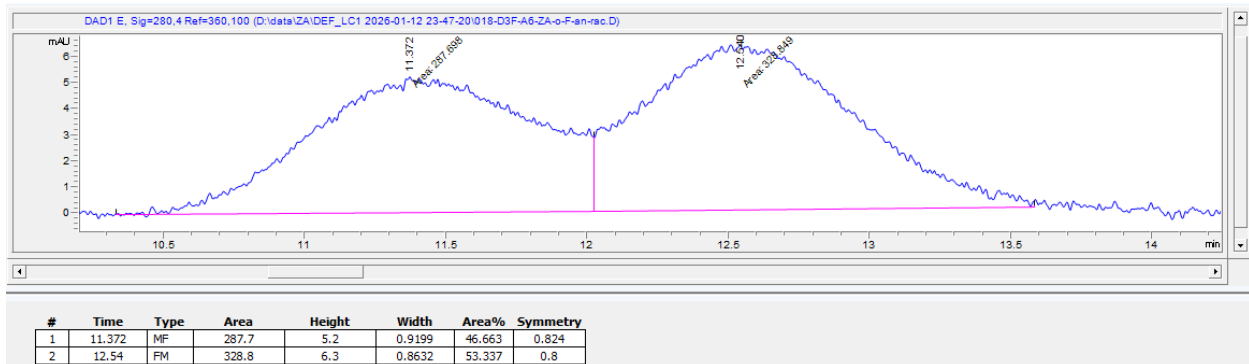




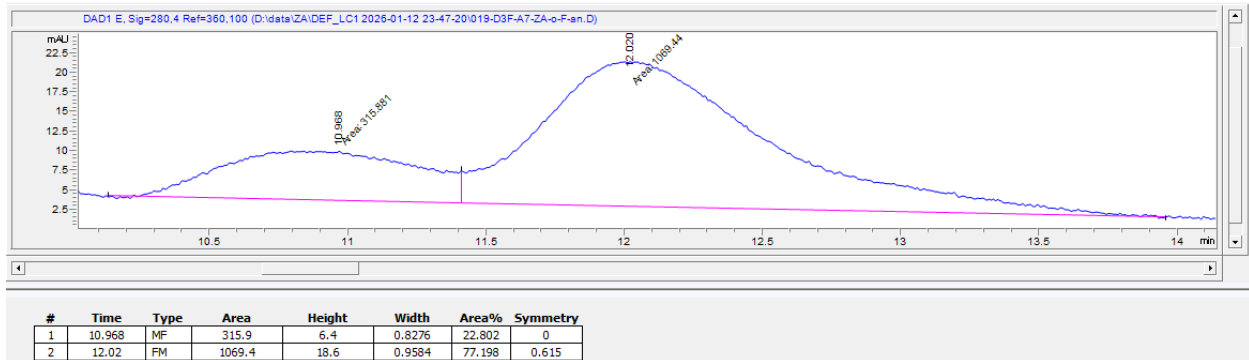
(S)-2-((2-fluorophenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**24**)

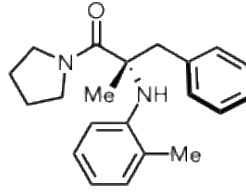
Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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Final mutant

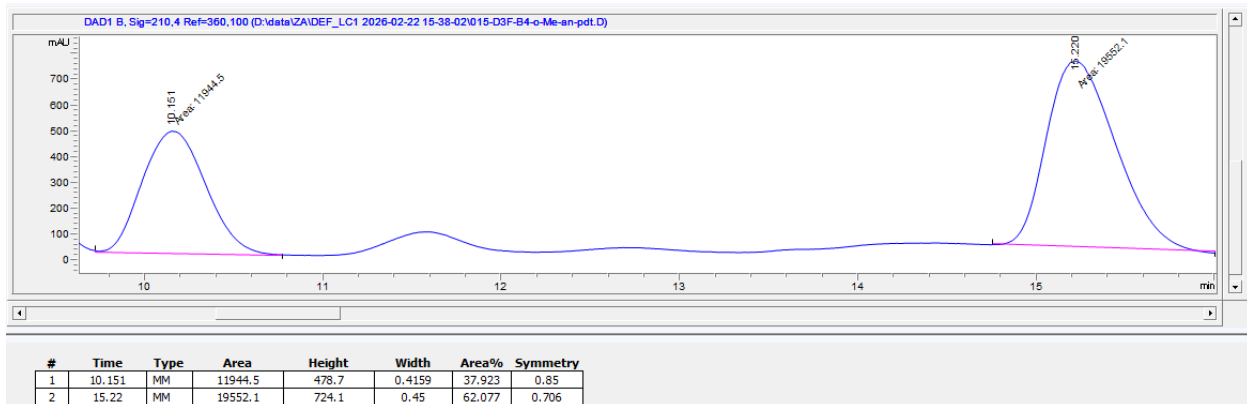




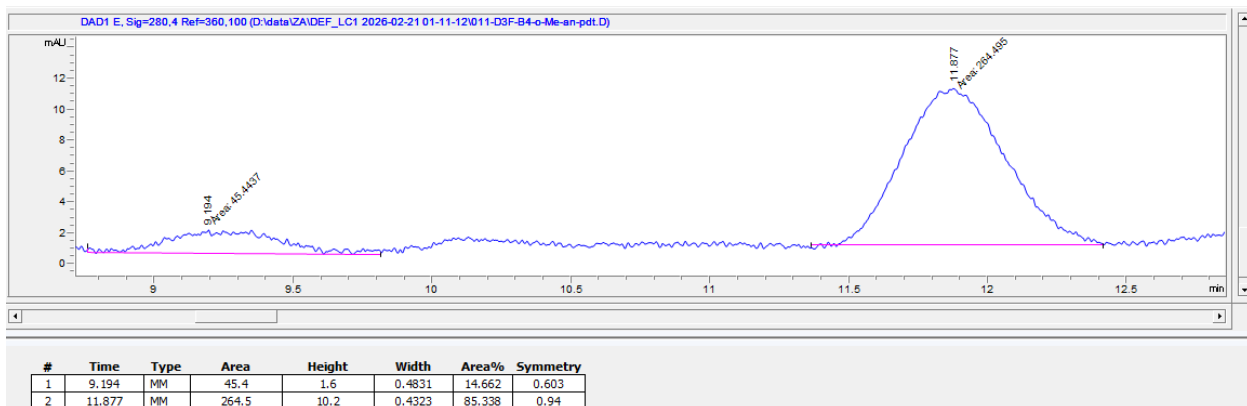
(S)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-(*o*-tolylamino)propan-1-one (**25**)

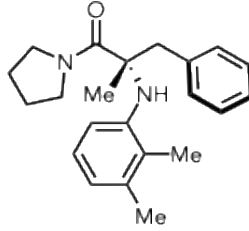
Chiral HPLC: OJ column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

Racemate



Final mutant

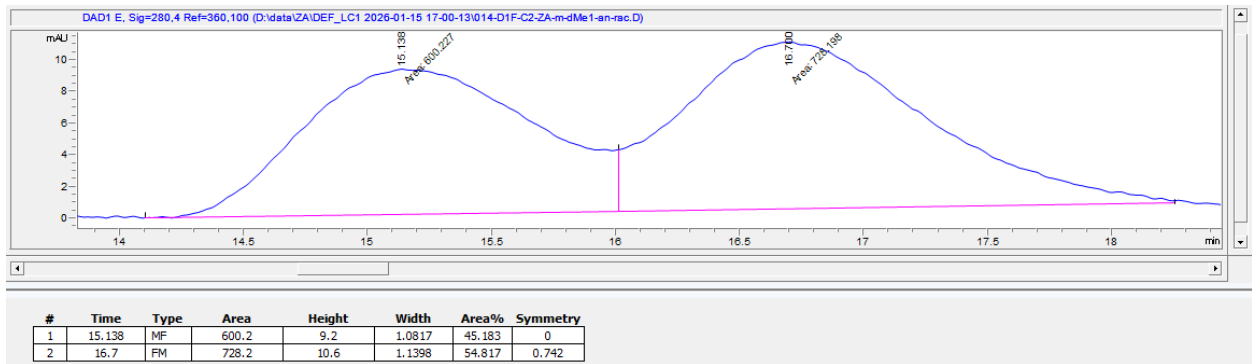




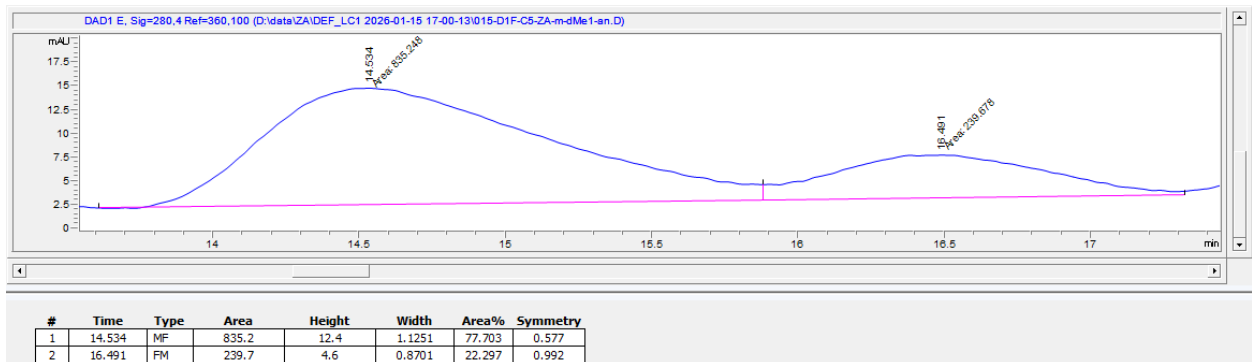
(S)-2-((2,3-dimethylphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**26**)

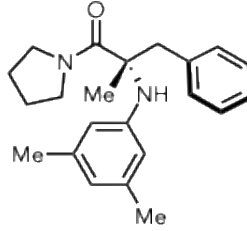
Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 99:1, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

Racemate



Final mutant

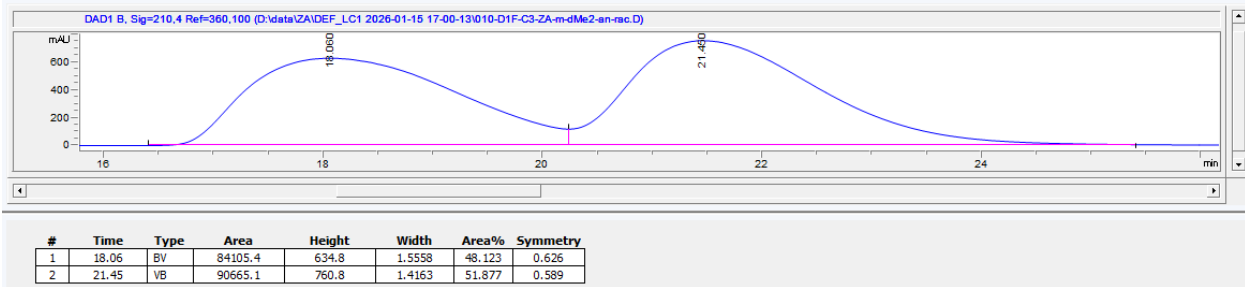




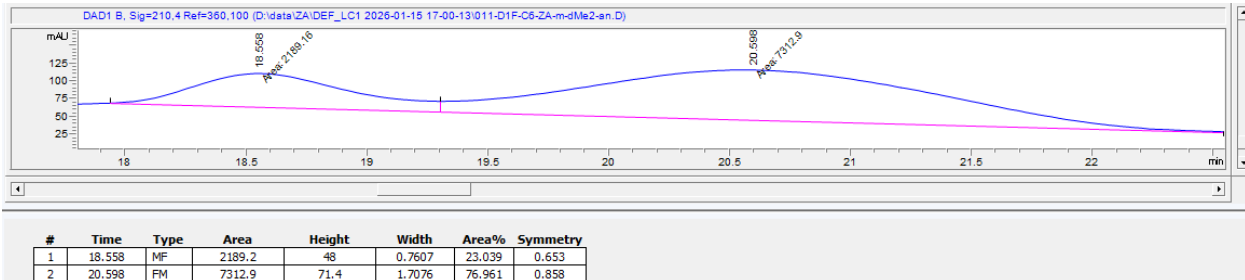
(S)-2-((3,5-dimethylphenyl)amino)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**27**)

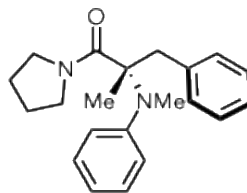
Chiral HPLC: IB column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 99:1, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

Racemate



Final mutant

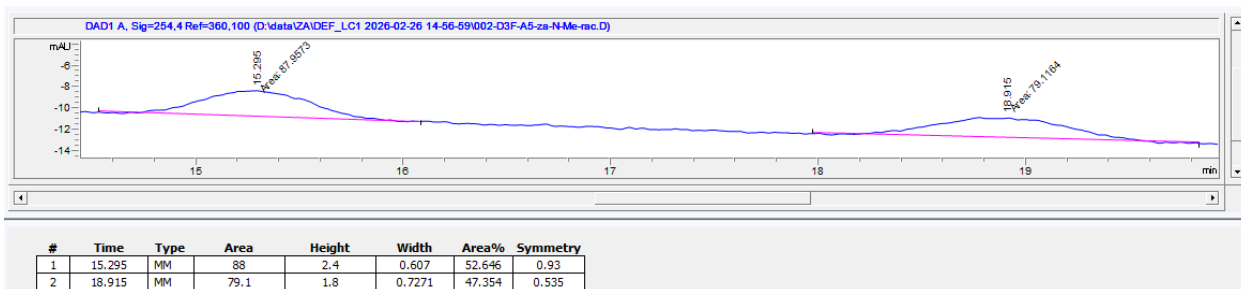




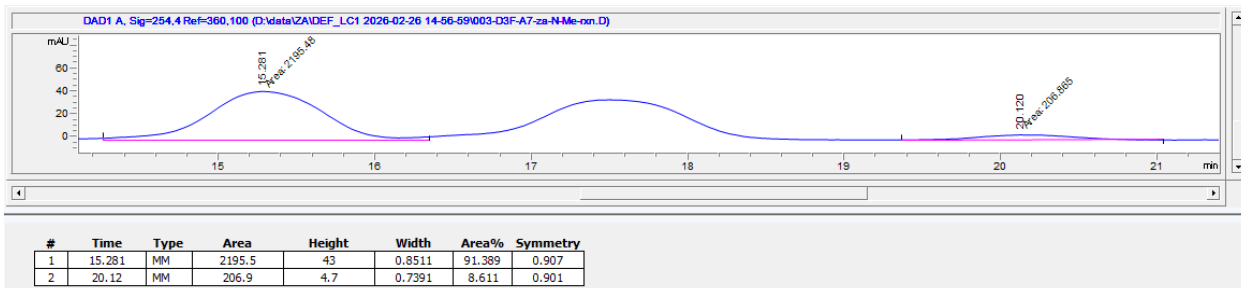
(*S*)-2-methyl-2-(methyl(phenyl)amino)-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (**28**)

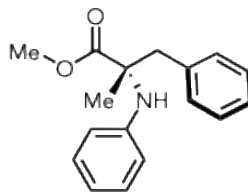
Chiral HPLC: IA column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 98:2, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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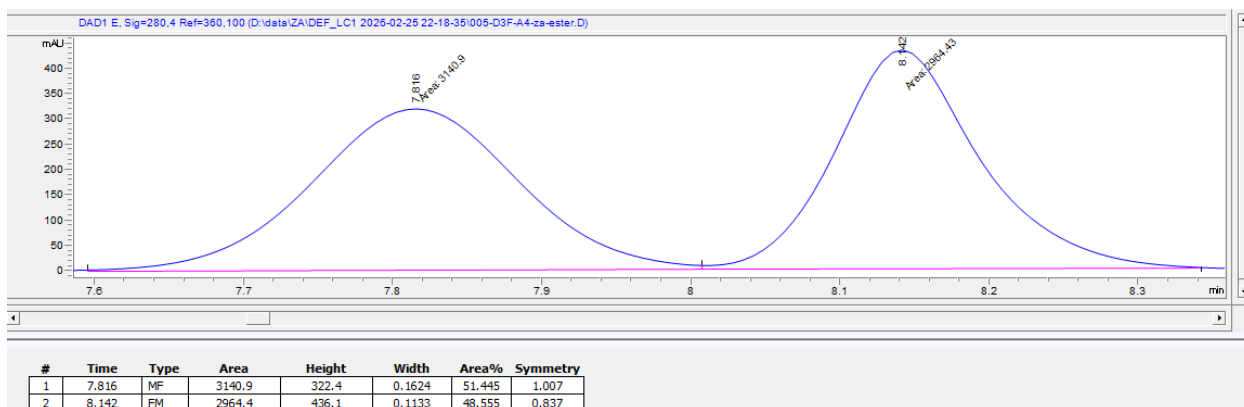




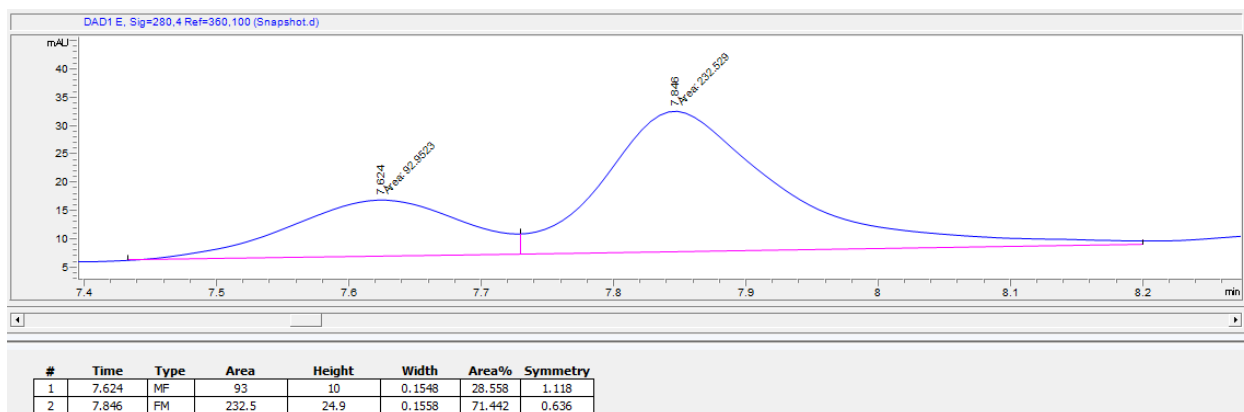
methyl (*S*)-2-methyl-3-phenyl-2-(phenylamino)propanoate (**30**)

Chiral HPLC: IA column: *n*-hexane/IPA, 97:3, 1 mL/min. isocratic.

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10. References

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