

Design, synthesis, and evaluation of donepezil-like compounds as AChE and BACE-1 inhibitors

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Supplementary Informations

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Experimental

General Information

All chemicals were obtained from Aldrich Chem. Co or Acros Organics and used as received. Q-Tube assisted reactions were performed in a Q-TubeTM safe pressure reactor from Labtech, equipped with a cap/sleeve, a pressure adapter (120 psi), a needle adapter/needle, a borosilicate glass tube, a teflon septum and a catch bottle. US-assisted reactions were performed in a high-power US-bath (19.6 kHz) made by Danacamerini (Torino). Reactions were monitored by a GC-MS Thermo Fisher Scientific workstation, composed by a Focus GC (Thermo TR- 5ms SQC 15m X 0.25mm ID X 0.25 μ m, working on split mode, 1.2 mL/min He as carrier gas) and a DSQ II mass detector. Functionalization of unvolatile compound using BSA was performed according to the following procedure: 0.1 mg of compound were solubilized in 50 μ l AcOEt and 50 μ l of BSA were added under stirring. The mixture was reacted at 65°C for 35 minutes, diluted 1:1000 with AcOEt and injected in the GC/MS apparatus. The $[M+72]^+$ m/z value was detected for each desired product. TLC were performed using silica plates 60-F₂₆₄ on alumina, commercially available from Merk. Liquid flash chromatography was performed on a Supelco VERSA FLASH HTEFP station using silica cartridges commercially available from Supelco. ¹H-NMR and ¹³C-NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker WM 300 instrument on samples dissolved in CDCl₃ (compounds **13**, **15**, **17-26**) or in d₆-DMSO (compounds **14** and **16**). NOESY spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 500 MHz instrument (¹H:500.13 MHz), using a standard 5 mm double resonance broadband (BBO) probe. Chemical shifts are given in parts per million (ppm) from tetramethylsilane as the internal standard (0.0 ppm). HRMS measurements were realized on a Thermo Scientific QExactive (Thermo Fisher, Milan, Italy) mass spectrometer working in positive mode at 35,000 resolving power, operating in SIM mode by flow injection (flow rate 15 μ L/min for each stock solution). Stock solutions at a concentration of 1 mg/mL were prepared in UHPLC-MS grade MeOH for each analytes separately. Prior to analysis, each solution was diluted 1:1000 (v/v) in a vial to obtain a concentration of 1 mg/L. Detection of the targeted compounds was based on theoretical exact mass. Data were evaluated by Xcalibur 2.2.SP1(Thermo Fisher Scientific, Bremen, Germany). The mass accuracy, directly calculated from Xcalibur, is defined by the formula $\Delta(\text{ppm}) = [(\text{theoretical mass} - \text{measured mass})/\text{theoretical mass}] \times 1.000.000$.

eeAChE, hAChE from human erythrocytes, BuChE, acetylthiocholine, butyrylthiocholine, 5',5'-dithiobis-2-nitrobenzoic acid (DTNB), and donepezil, were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich.

The fluorescent peptide substrate containing the Lys-Met/Asn-Leu mutations of the amyloid precursor protein (APP) β -secretase cleavage site was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Mouse BACE-1 (recombinant) and BACE-1 Inhibitor I, were from Life Technology; BACE-1 inhibitor IV solution (10 mM in DMSO) was from Calbiochem. Stock solutions of the synthesized compounds were prepared in DMSO at 100 mM final concentration.

General protocol for Q-Tube assisted synthesis of indanones

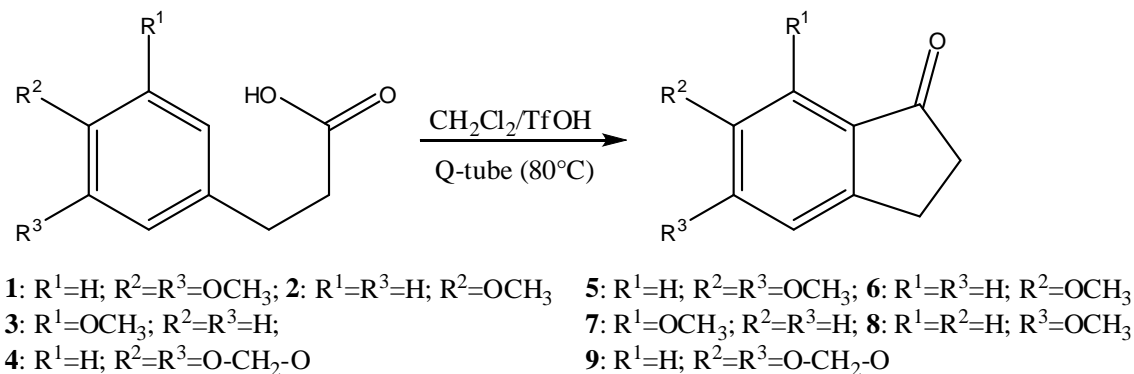


Figure S1

In a 12 mL Q-Tube™ pressure tube, furnished by Q Labtech, trifluoromethan sulfonic acid (3 eq) was gently added to a cooled (0°C) solution of a 3-Phenyl propionic acid (0.5 mmol) in dry dichloromethane (1.0 mL). Temperature was raised to room temperature. A teflon septum was placed on the top of the tube and the appropriate cap with a pressure adapter were used. The mixture was heated in a oil bath at 80°C. The reaction was monitored by TLC and GC/MS until disappearance of the reactant. The mixture was poured into ice and extracted three times with dichloromethane. The organic phase collected were dried on Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The desired pure product was separated from the crude by flash chromatography. See Ref 22 for spectral characterization of products.

General protocol for synthesis of *N*-benzylpiperidine-4-carboxaldehydes

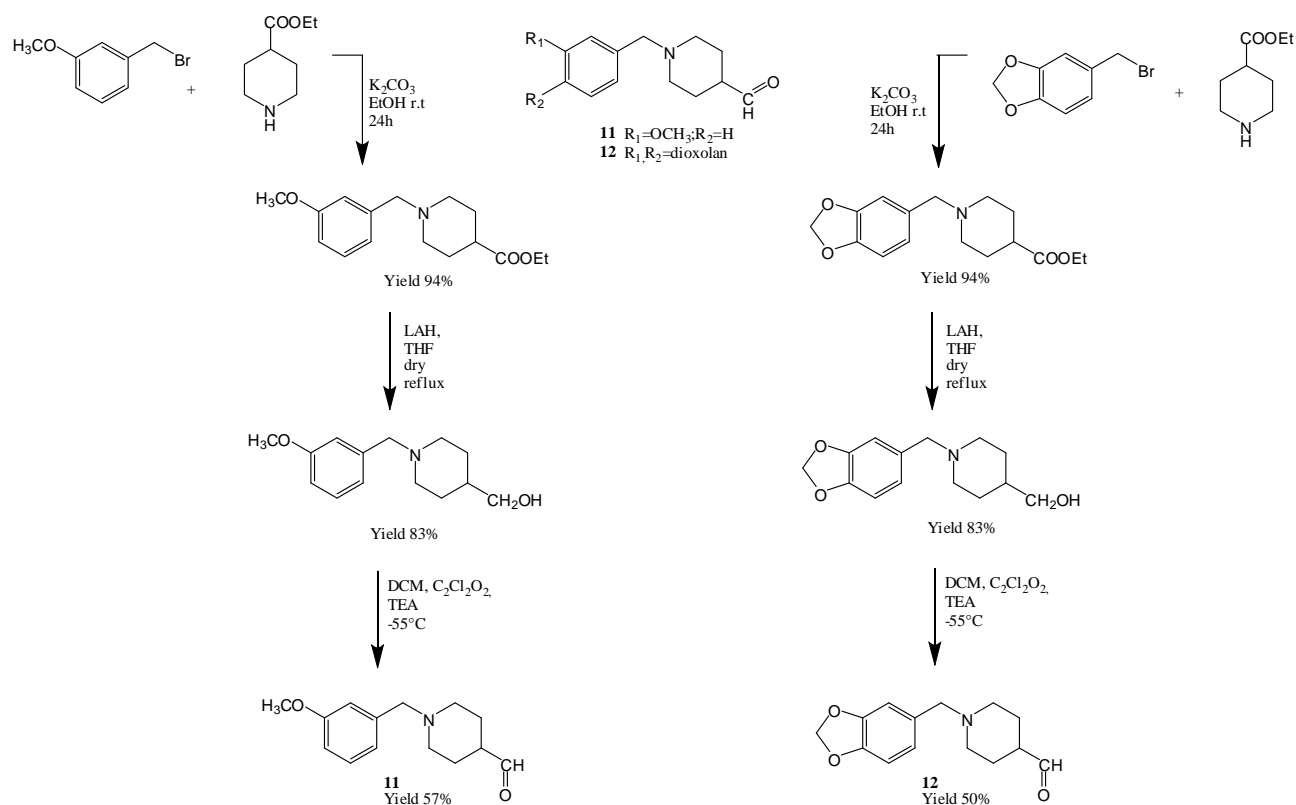


Figure S2

Alkylation

To a solution of ethyl isonipecotatate (0.997 g, 6.35 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (2.1 g, 15.3 mmol) in EtOH (32.5 mL), an excess of bromide (7.6 mmol) is added portion wise and under stirring. The mixture is reacted for 24 hours at room temperature and monitored by TLC. At the end of reaction the solution is diluted with water and extracted three times with AcOEt. The organic phases were collected, dried with Na_2SO_4 , filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The product is separated from the crude by flash chromatography (Hexane /AcOEt 8:2 v/v).

Reduction/Oxidation

A solution of *N*-alkyl-piperidine-4-ethyl carboxylate (1.3 mmol) coming from the previous step in 2.2 ml of dry THF is added under stirring to a suspension of $LiAlH_4$ (0.2087 g, 5.2 mmol) in dry THF (4.3 mL) previously cold down at $0^\circ C$. The mixture is heated until room temperature and stirred for 1 hour, then refluxed for 4 hours. The reaction is monitored by TLC; at the end the mixture is cold down at room temperature and H_2O (5 mL) and a solution of NaOH 2N (1.3 mL) are gently added. The resulting mixture is extracted three times with AcOEt; the organic phases collected are dried on Na_2SO_4 , filtered and the solvent is evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude, analyzed by GC/MS after BSA derivatization in order to verify the formation of the desired product, is used in the oxidation step without purification. To a solution of oxalic chloride (2.16 mmol, 0.274 g in 5.38 ml of dry DCM) previously cold down at $-48^\circ C$ and maintained at this actual temperature for 10 minutes, DMSO (2.52 mmol, 0.196 g) is added drop wise. To the mixture, a solution of the crude in dry dichloromethane (1.08 mmol in 0.6 ml of DCM dry) is added and the

reaction is stirred at -55°C for 15 minutes. After the addition of 0.575 ml of trimethylamine, the mixture is heated until room temperature and stirred for 24 hours. After completion the mixture is diluted with CHCl_3 and extracted three times with water. The organic phases were collected, dried with Na_2SO_4 , filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The product is separated from the crude by flash chromatography (DCM / MeOH 9.5:0.5v/v). See Ref 24 for spectral characterization of products.

General procedure for synthesis of compounds 17-26

The synthesis of donepezil precursor **17-26** was realized by US-assisted aldol condensation between indanones **5-9**¹ and the correspondent N-benzylpiperidine-4-carboxyaldehydes **10-12**, itself synthesized according to the procedure reported,² when needed.

For a typical synthesis, 0.33 g/mL of resin and methanol (3 mL) were charged in a round bottom flask and stirred at room temperature. 0.5 mmol of 1-indanone and 0.6 mmol of aldehyde were then added. The flask was closed with a silicone cup and equipped with a needle. The mixture was reacted in a high-power US-bath (19.6 kHz) made by Danacamerini with a nominal power 250 W. The temperature was maintained at 40-50 °C. The reaction temperature was controlled by a continuous water steam. The reaction was monitored by TLC until the reactant disappeared. After cooling to room temperature the mixture was filtered, and the resin was washed with dichloromethane, dried and reused for three reaction cycles. Solvent was then evaporated and the dried crude products were crystallized from methanol or purified by flash chromatographic purification where needed. All the compounds were identified by HRMS and characterized by ¹H-NMR and ¹³C-NMR by comparison with the data reported (See Supporting Information).

General Protocol for demethylation of compounds 17-20

In a two neck round bottom flask, equipped with magnetic stirrer, 0.26 mmol of donepezil precursor were dissolved in 3 ml of wet DMF and 15 equivalents of iodocyclohexane were added under N₂ atmosphere. The mixture was refluxed at the DMF boiling point and continuously controlled by TLC. A total amount of 45 to 60 equivalents of iodocyclohexane was added at portion of 15 equivalents in a total time ranging from 6 to 10 hours depending on the case. At the end of reaction 10 ml of water was added and the mixture was extracted three times with 10 ml of dichloromethane. The collected organic phases were washed with a hypertonic NaHSO₄ solution (30 ml x 3) and a brine solution (30 ml x 3). The organic phases were finally dried on Na₂SO₄, filtered and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The DMF eventually still present was evaporated by azeotropic distillation with toluene. The products **13a/13b**, **14**, **15**, and **16** were separated by chromatographic purification and characterized by HRMS, ¹H-NMR and ¹³C-NMR.

¹ Oliverio, M.; Nardi, M.; Costanzo, P.; Cariati, L.; Cravotto, G.; Giofrè V. S.; Procopio, A. Non-conventional methodologies in the synthesis of 1-indanones, *Molecules*. **2014**, *19*, 5599–5610.

² Caruso, A.; Garofalo, A.; Grande, F.; Aiello, F.; Anzini, M.; Ortuso, F.; Alcaro, S.; Panno, A.; Saturnino, C; Sinicropi, M. S. Synthesis and biological evaluation of 1,3-idandione derivatives as acetylcholinesterase inhibitors. *Pharmacologyonline*. **2009**, *1*, 264–277.

Enzymatic and viability assays

Cholinesterase activity was assayed by the Ellman method³ using acetylthiocholine or butyrylthiocholine as substrate for AChE or BuChE, respectively. The reduction of dithiobisnitrobenzoate by the thiocholine, produced by the enzymatic hydrolysis of thiolated substrates, was followed colorimetrically (412 nm) at room temperature (22-27°C). The reaction mixture (500 µL) contained 330 µM DTNB and the appropriate amount of substrate, in 0.1 M sodium phosphate buffer, pH 7.1. The reaction was started by the addition of 100 mU/ml or 200 mU/ml of AChE or BuChE, respectively, and the initial rate of the reaction was derived from the linear portion of the kinetics.

The reversibility of the inhibition was assessed using a dilution method described previously^{4,5}. Briefly, the enzyme was pre-incubated for 20 min with the inhibitors or with DMSO, as a vehicle control; after a 100-fold dilution of the incubation mixture, the residual enzyme activity was measured as reported above.

The concentration of inhibitor required to reduce the enzymatic activity to 50% (IC₅₀) was derived from semi-logarithmic plots in which the residual cholinesterase activity was determined at different concentration of inhibitor, using a thiolated substrate concentration of 500 µM. Linear curve fits were obtained with the least-squares method, and the significance of the correlation was estimated from the squared correlation coefficient r^2 , which was always higher than 0.95.

The kinetic parameters of the enzymatic reaction K_m and V_{max} , were derived from the determination of the enzyme activity at 6 different acetylthiocholine or butyrylthiocholine concentration (80 – 500 µM), chosen in order to give the similar weight in the regression. The data were either interpolated in the Michaelis-Menten equation or treated with the Lineweaver-Burk equation giving similar results.

The inhibition constant K_i was derived by measuring the kinetic parameters in the presence of different inhibitor concentration, 0.2 – 30 µM for AChE or 3 – 100 µM for BuChE. The values of K_i were derived from the equation $K_m' = K_m (1 + [I]/K_i)$, in case of competitive inhibition or $V_{max}' = V_{max} / (1 + [I]/K_i)$, in case of non competitive inhibition, or with both in the case of mixed inhibition. In these equations K_m' and V_{max}' represent the values of K_m and V_{max} measured at the [I] concentration of inhibitor. Values of IC₅₀ and K_i reported were the mean of at least 4 different determinations.

BACE-1 activity was assayed by a fluorimetric method⁶ using the Enspire™ Multimode Plate Reader (Perkin-Elmer) in the kinetic Fluorescence method. The assay was performed in black polystyrene 96-well microtiter plates. The reaction mixtures contained 2.1 ng/µl mouse BACE-1 in 50 mM ammonium acetate buffer, pH 4.5 supplemented with 1 mM triton X-100, and the appropriate amount of the inhibitor. The mixture was incubated for 10 min at room temperature (22-25°C), the reaction started by adding 100 nM final concentration of the fluorescent peptide substrate, and the increase in fluorescence was followed kinetically. The enzymatic cleavage of the

³ Ellman, G. L.; Courtney, K. D.; Andres, V.; Featherstone, R. M.; A new and rapid colorimetric determination of acetylcholinesterase activity. *Biochem. pharmacol.* **1961**, *7*, 88-95.

⁴ Sohn, J.; Kiburz, B.; Li, Z.; Deng, L.; Safi, A.; Pirrung, M. C.; Rudolph, J. Inhibition of Cdc25 phosphatases by indolyldihydroxyquinones, *J. Med. Chem.* **2003**, *46*, 2580-2588(2003).

⁵ Lavecchia, A.; Di Giovanni, C.; Pesapane, A.; Montuori, N.; Ragno, P.; Martucci, N. M.; Masullo, M.; De Vendittis, E.; Novellino, E.; Discovery of new inhibitors of Cdc25B dual specificity phosphatases by structure-based virtual screening. *J. Med. Chem.* **2012**, *55*,4142-4158.

⁶ Mancini, F.; Naldi, M.; Cavrini, V.; Andrisano, V. Multiwellfluorometric and colorimetric microassays for the evaluation of beta-secretase (BACE-1) inhibitors. *Anal. Bioanal. Chem.* **2007**, *388*, 1175–11831.

peptide led to the appearance of a fluorescence signal using excitation and emission wavelength of 320 and 420 nm, respectively. The rate was derived from the linear portion of the kinetics, usually in the first 30 min of the reaction. The known Inhibitors I (IC₅₀, 240 nM),⁷ and IV (IC₅₀, 15 nM)⁸ were used as positive controls.

The effect of the synthesized compounds on cell viability was assessed in SH-SY5Y neuroblastomacells. Cells were grown in Roswell Park Memorial Institute medium (RPMI) supplemented with 2 mM L-glutamine, 100 UI/mL penicillin, 100 µg/mL streptomycin and 10% (v/v) fetal bovine serum. Cells were maintained in culture dishes at 37 °C in a saturated humidity atmosphere containing 95% air and 5% CO₂. Cells were seeded at an initial density of 10⁴ cells/cm² in culture dishes. At a confluence of 80%, cells were detached by trypsin treatment, suspended in fresh medium without FBS and transferred to multiwell (24 or 96 wells). After 24 h from seeding, cells were incubated in the absence or in the presence of the synthesized compounds, and their viability was evaluated after 48h treatment as mitochondrial activity using the MTT assay.⁹ Briefly, after the treatment the medium was removed and cells were incubated with 100 µl MTT (0.5 mg/ml) for 1 h. After that, the solution was removed, the formazan formed solubilized in 100 µl of 0.1N HCl in 90 % (v/v) 2-propanol and the absorbance measured at 570 nm using a microplate reader (BioRad). Results were expressed as percentage of cell survival vs. control cells, which have been cultured in the presence of the inhibitor vehicle (0.01 % (v/v) DMSO).

Table S1. IC₅₀ of synthesized compounds on the BACE-1 activity.^a

Inhibitor	IC ₅₀ (µM)	SD	p
Donepezil	0.143	0.025	< 0.0005
13a,b	2.241	0.420	< 0.05
14	1.553	0.022	< 0.05
15	0.608	0.019	< 0.05
16	0.669	0.100	< 0.005
17	0.697	0.248	< 0.05
18	1.335	0.091	< 0.05
19	0.845	0.019	< 0.005
20	0.333	0.104	< 0.0005
21	0.529	0.012	< 0.05
22	0.873	0.283	< 0.05
23	0.996	0.229	< 0.05
24	2.128	0.099	< 0.0005
25	204.18	16.294	< 0.0005
26	14.662	2.649	< 0.005

a Data were derived from semi-logarithmic plots of BACE-1 activity determined at three different inhibitor concentration.

⁷ May, P. C. Dean, R. A.; Lowe, S. L.; Martenyi, F.; Sheehan, S. M.; Boggs, L. N.; Monk, S. A.; Mathes, B. M.; Mergott, D. J.; Watson, B. M.; Stout, S. L.; Timm, D. E.; Smith Labell, E.; Gonzales, C. R.; Nakano, M.; Jhee, S. S.; Yen, M.; Ereshefsky, L.; Lindstrom, T. D.; Calligaro, D. O.; Cocke, P. J.; Greg Hall, D.; Friedrich, S.; Citron, M.; Audia, J. E. Robust central reduction of amyloid-β in humans with an orally available, non-peptidic β-secretase inhibitor, *J Neurosci.* **2011**, *31*, 16507-16516.

⁸ Stachel, S. J.; Coburn, C. A.; Steele, T. G.; Jones, K. G. Loutzenhiser, E. F.; Gregro, A. R.; Rajapakse, H. A.; Lai, M. T.; Crouthamel, M. C.; Xu, M.; Tugusheva, K.; Lineberger, J. E.; Pietrak, B. L.; Espeseth, A. S.; Shi, X. P.; Chen-Dodson, E.; Holloway, M. K.; Munshi, S.; Simon, A. J.; Kuo, L.; Vacca, J. P. Structure-based design of potent and selective cell-permeable inhibitors of human beta-secretase (BACE-1), *J Med Chem.* **47**, 6447-6450(2004).

⁹ Mossman, T.; Rapid colorimetric assay for cellular growth and survival: application to proliferation and cytotoxicity assays. *J. Immunol. Methods.* **1983**, *65*,55-63.

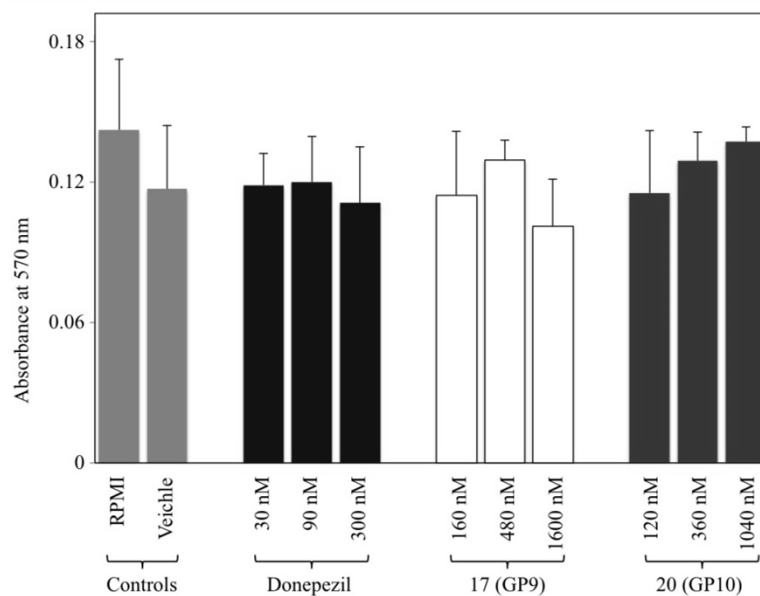


Figure S3. Effect of compounds 17 and 20 on cell viability.

The effect of tested compounds on SH-SY5Y cell viability was evaluated on 3×10^4 cells at the indicated final concentration, falling in the 3 – 30 times range of the correspondig IC_{50} exhibited towards hAChE activity. As controls, RPMI medium in the absence or in the presence of 0.1% DMSO, were used.

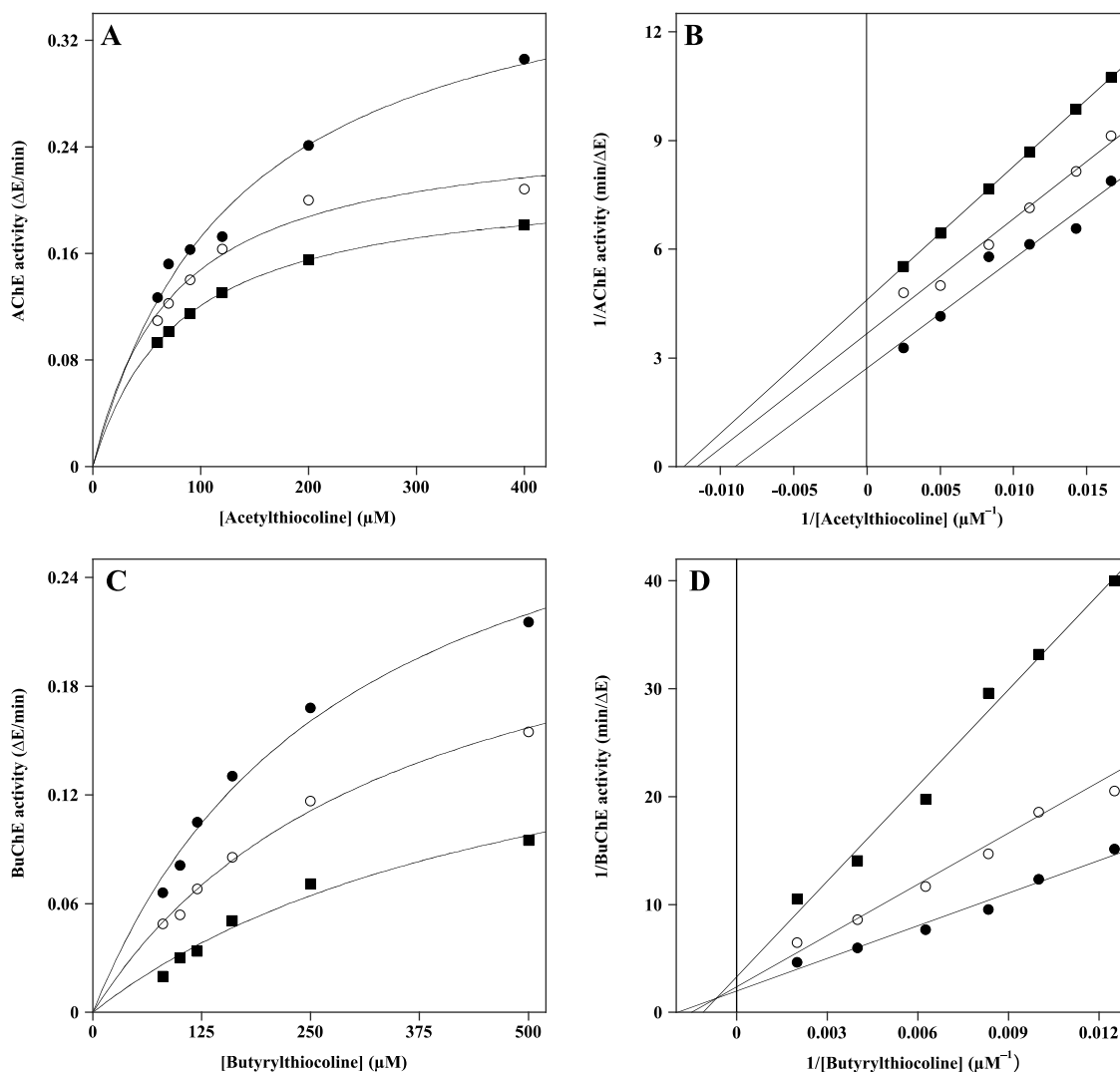


Figure S4. Determination of the inhibition parameters of a representative synthesized compound on AChE and BuChE.

The kinetic parameters K_m and V_{max} were derived by both interpolation on the Michaelis-Menten equation (Panels A and C) or by Lineweaver-Burk equation. The cholinesterase activity was determined as reported in the Experimental section at different concentration of the specific substrate in the absence (③) or in the presence of 15 (④) and 30 nM (⑤) or 1 (④) and 4 μM (⑤) compound **17** for AChE (Panel A and B) and BuChE (Panel C and D), respectively.

Characterization of compounds

(E)-2-((1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)methylene)-6-hydroxy-5-methoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one, (13a), (E)-2-((1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)methylene)-5-hydroxy-6-methoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (13b) Isomeric mixture: Yellow oil, Yield 45%, R_f (Chloroform-Methanol 9.5:0.5) 0.13; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 364.1906 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 364.1907); 1H NMR δ (ppm) (300MHz, $CDCl_3$): 7.48-7.20 (m, 12H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 6.65 (d, $J=9.5$ Hz, 2H), 3.98 (s, 1H), 3.94 (s, 1H), 3.62-3.55 (m, 2H), 2.97 (m, 4H), 2.43-2.27 (m, 8H), 2.20-2.06 (m, 2H), 1.77-1.57 (m, 4H), 1.44-1.08 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (300MHz, $CDCl_3$): 192.4, 152.7, 146.1, 145.1, 142.9, 139.3, 135.6, 129.3, 128.4, 128.1, 127.1, 110.7, 106.5, 63.1, 56.4, 52.5, 37.1, 29.2, 22.7.

(E)-2-((1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)methylene)-6-hydroxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (14): Yellow powder, Yield 53%, R_f = (Chloroform-Methanol 9.5:0.5) 0.22; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 334.1807 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 334.1802), 1H NMR δ (ppm) (300 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): 7.50-7.30 (m, 5H), 7.14-7.10 (m, 1H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 6.92-6.94 (m, 1H), 6.51 (d, $J=9.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.45 (s br, 1H), 3.85-3.75 (m, 2H), 3.62 (s, 2H), 3.52-2.98 (m, 4H), 2.70-2.40 (m, 1H), 1.80-1.50 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): 192.4, 157.0, 156.9, 156.8, 144.2, 139.1, 137.1, 129.7, 128.5, 128.3, 127.4, 123.3, 108.1, 107.5, 51.7, 40.3, 38.7, 28.4.

(E)-2-((1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)methylene)-7-hydroxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (15): Brown oil, Yield 65%, R_f = (Chloroform-Methanol 9.5:0.5) 0.28; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 334.1803 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 334.1802), 1H NMR δ (ppm) (300MHz, $CDCl_3$): 8.02 (s br, 1H), 7.61-7.28 (m, 6H), 7.04-6.88 (m, 1H), 6.79 (d, $J=8$ Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d, $J=9.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 3.64 (s, 2H), 3.46-3.28 (m, 1H), 3.20-3.10 (m, 2H), 3.0-2.80 (m, 2H), 2.55-2.37 (m, 2H), 2.01-1.80 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (300MHz, d_6 -DMSO): 179.0, 158.1, 148.9, 139.9, 137.8, 131.1, 130.3, 129.1, 128.8, 128.6, 116.9, 113.7, 113.6, 62.3, 52.1, 36.2, 29.8, 29.6.

(E)-2-((1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)methylene)-5-hydroxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (16): Yellow powder, Yield 80%, R_f = (Chloroform-Methanol 9.5:0.5) 0.16; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 334.1799 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 334.1802); 1H NMR δ (ppm) (300 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): 7.70-7.38 (m, 7H), 6.95-6.85 (m, 2H), 6.82 (d, $J=8.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.26 (s br, 1H), 3.66 (s, 2H), 3.51 (s, 2H), 3.40-2.52 (m, 5H), 2.10-1.20 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (300 MHz, d_6 -DMSO): 205.4, 163.9, 163.8, 156.4, 152.4, 131.3, 129.2, 128.6, 127.7, 125.0, 115.8, 111.8, 59.0, 51.3, 39.0, 29.1, 28.2.

(E)-2-((1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)methylene)-5,6-dimethoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (17): White powder; Yield: 56%; R_f = (Dichloromethane-Methanol 9:1) 0.44; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 378.2061 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 378.2064); 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300MHz): δ 7.34-7.21 (m, 6H), 6.92-6.89 (s, 1H), 6.69-6.63 (d, 1H, $J=9.8$ Hz), 3.97 (s, 3H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.61-3.57 (d, 2H, $J=1.1$ Hz), 3.54 (s, 2H), 2.99-2.90 (m, 2H), 2.40-2.25 (m, 1H), 2.13-2.02 (m, 2H), 1.80-1.58 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 192.5, 155.3, 149.6, 144.4, 139.6, 135.7, 129.3, 131.8, 129.2, 128.2, 127.0, 107.2, 105.1, 63.3, 56.2, 56.1, 52.9, 37.1, 31.0, 29.5.

(E)-2-((1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)methylene)-6-methoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (18): Yellow powder; Yield: 62%; R_f = (Chloroform-Methanol 9:1) 0.83; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 348.1958

(theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 348.1958); 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 7.39-7.15 (m, 8H), 6.77-6.70 (d, 1H, $J=9.8$ Hz), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.63-3.58 (d, 2H, $J=1.1$ Hz), 3.53 (s, 2H), 2.99-2.87 (m, 2H), 2.43-2.27 (m, 1H), 2.13-2.00 (m, 2H), 1.83-1.55 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300MHz): δ 193.5, 159.5, 142.1, 141.4, 140.0, 138.3, 135.9, 129.1, 128.1, 126.9, 123.8, 105.8, 63.4, 55.6, 53.0, 37.3, 30.1, 29.0.

(E)-2-((1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)methylene)-7-methoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (19).

Yellow oil; Yield: 48%; R_f = (Chloroform-Methanol 9:1) 0.41; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 348.1959 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 348.1958); 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 7.57-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.38-7.22 (m, 5H), 7.02 (d, 1H, $J=7.5$ Hz), 6.81 (d, 1H, $J=8.2$ Hz), 6.67 (d, 1H, $J=9.5$ Hz), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 2H), 3.55 (s, 2H), 2.99-2.89 (m, 2H), 2.39-2.22 (m, 1H), 2.15-2.02 (m, 2H), 1.77-1.56 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300MHz): δ 191.9, 159.2, 152.1, 139.9, 136.5, 135.8, 129.8, 129.1, 129.0, 128.7, 127.7, 118.3, 109.6, 63.4, 56.2, 53.0, 37.2, 31.0, 30.0.

(E)-2-((1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)methylene)-5-methoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (20).

White powder; Yields: 63%; R_f = (Chloroform-Methanol 9:1)0.76; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 348.1958 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 348.1958); 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 7.82-7.76 (d, 1H, $J=9.2$ Hz), 7.38-7.21 (m, 6H), 6.95-6.87 (m, 1H), 6.66 (d, 1H, $J=9.6$ Hz), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 2H), 3.52 (s, 2H), 2.99-2.87 (m, 2H), 2.40-2.26 (m, 1H), 2.12-2.00 (m, 2H), 1.76-1.53 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 192.1, 165.1, 152.1, 140.0, 138.3, 135.5, 132.3, 129.1, 128.1, 126.9, 126.1, 115.1, 109.8, 63.4, 55.6, 53.0, 37.2, 31.2, 29.9.

(E)-6-((1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)methylene)-6,7-dihydro-5H-indeno[5,6-d][1,3]dioxol-5-one (21)

White powder; Yield: 64%; R_f = (Chloroform-Methanol 9:1) 0.6; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 362.1752 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 362.1751); 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 7.38-7.19 (m, 6H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 6.64 (d, 1H, $J=9.6$ Hz), 6.06 (s, 2H), 3.56 (s, 2H), 3.53 (s, 2H), 3.00-2.87 (m, 2H), 2.36-2.23 (m, 1H), 2.14-1.97 (m, 2H), 1.76-1.55 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 191.5, 154.1, 148.6, 146.6, 139.9, 135.8, 129.2, 128.3, 127.1, 105.6, 103.4, 102.1, 63.6, 53.2, 37.4, 31.5, 30.0.

(E)-5-methoxy-2-((1-(3-methoxybenzyl)piperidin-4-yl)methylene)-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (22).

Orange powder; Yield: 40%; R_f = (Chloroform-Methanol 9:1) 0.62; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 378.2061 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 378.2064); 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 7.80 (d, 1H, $J=9.2$ Hz), 7.28-7.20 (m, 1H), 6.96-6.88 (m, 4H), 6.84-6.77 (m, 1H), 6.67 (d, 1H, $J=9.8$ Hz), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 2H), 3.52 (s, 2H), 2.99-2.88 (m, 2H), 2.42-2.26 (m, 1H), 2.14-2.00 (m, 2H), 1.77-1.55 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 192.6, 165.5, 160.0, 152.5, 140.4, 140.2, 135.9, 132.6, 129.5, 126.5, 121.8, 115.4, 115.0, 112.8, 110.2, 63.7, 56.0, 55.6, 53.4, 37.5, 31.5, 30.2.

(E)-6-methoxy-2-((1-(3-methoxybenzyl)piperidin-4-yl)methylene)-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (23)

Yellow oil; Yield: 40%; R_f = (Chloroform-Methanol 98:2) 0.44; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 378.2061 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 378.2064); 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 7.47-6.77 (m, 7H), 6.74 (d, 1H, $J=9.8$ Hz), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.61 (s, 2H), 3.52 (s, 2H), 3.00-2.90 (m, 2H), 2.48-1.54 (m, 7H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 192.8, 160.5, 140.8, 29.6, 129.5, 127.3, 124.0, 121.9, 115.3, 113.2, 106.9, 63.5, 61.1, 56.1, 49.1, 37.8, 31.8, 29.6.

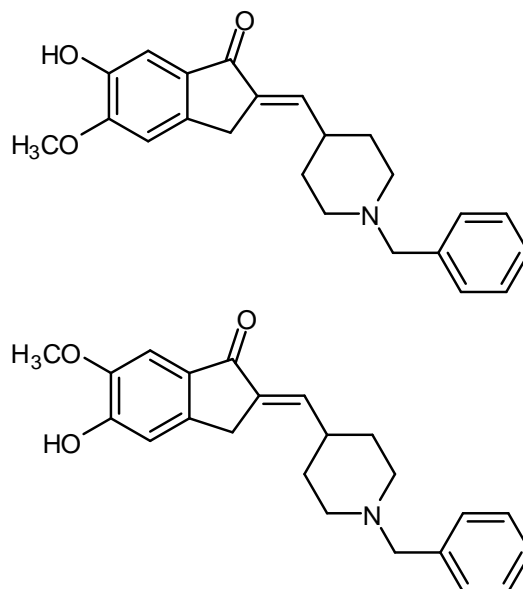
(E)-7-methoxy-2-((1-(3-methoxybenzyl)piperidin-4-yl)methylene)-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (24) Yellow powder; Yield: 30%; R_f = (Chloroform-Methanol 98:2) 0.4; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 378.2060 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 378.2064); 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 7.51 (t, 1H, $J=7.9$ Hz), 7.28-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.04-6.99 (m, 1H), 6.94-6.89 (m, 2H), 6.84-6.77 (m, 2H), 6.67 (dt, 1H, $J=9.6$ Hz, 2.0 Hz), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 2H), 3.51 (s, 2H), 3.00-2.88 (m, 2H), 2.21-2.40 (m, 1H), 2.18-2.00 (m, 2H), 1.78-1.56 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 191.2, 161.4, 160.3, 147.2, 145.9, 140.9, 134.9, 130.9, 129.9, 116.2, 112.9, 112.0, 61.4, 56.3, 56.8, 52.0, 34.5, 29.9.

(E)-2-((1-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl)methylene)-6-methoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (25) White powder; Yield: 30%; R_f = (Chloroform-Methanol 9:1) 0.5; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 392.1855 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 392.1856); 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 7.42-7.14 (m, 4H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 6.78-6.70 (m, 2H), 5.95 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.61 (s, 2H), 3.44 (s, 2H), 2.97-2.85 (m, 2H), 2.42-2.26 (m, 1H), 2.10-1.57 (m, 6H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 193.9, 159.7, 147.9, 146.8, 142.4, 141.6, 140.3, 136.2, 132.2, 127.2, 124.1, 122.5, 109.8, 108.1, 106.0, 101.1, 63.4, 55.9, 53.1, 37.5, 31.3, 29.3.

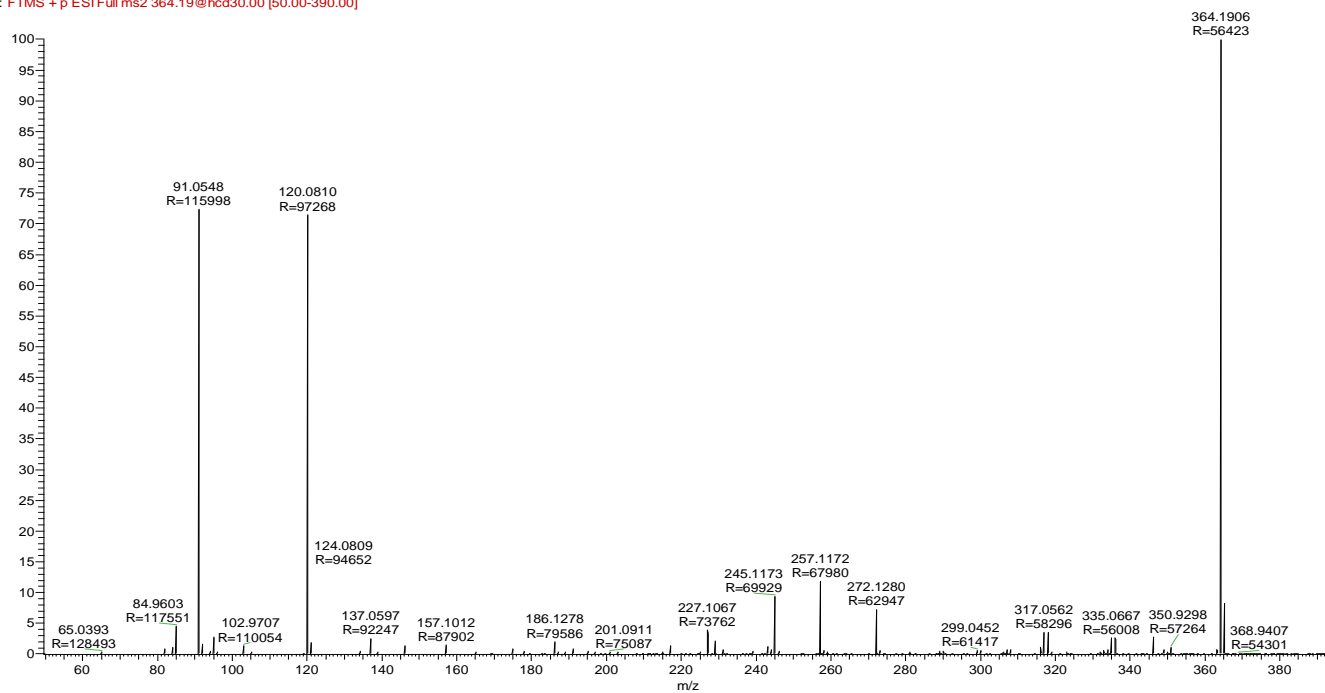
(E)-2-((1-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl)methylene)-7-methoxy-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-one (26) Yellow Oil; Yield: 30%; R_f = (Chloroform-Methanol 9:1) 0.46; HRMS: $[M+H]^+$ m/z 392.1855 (theoretical $[M+H]^+$ m/z 378.1856); 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 7.55-7.46 (t, 1H, $J=7.7$ Hz), 7.05-6.98 (d, 1H, $J=7.7$ Hz), 6.89-6.71 (m, 4H), 6.70-6.62 (dt, 1H, $J=9.6$ Hz, 1.9 Hz), 5.94 (s, 2H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 2H), 3.43 (s, 2H), 2.97-2.85 (m, 2H), 2.39-2.22 (m, 1H), 2.10-1.97 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.56 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 300 MHz): δ 191.9, 159.0, 152.0, 147.8, 146.8, 140.3, 136.3, 135.5, 132.3, 127.2, 122.4, 118.2, 110.4, 109.8, 109.4, 108.0, 101.1, 63.3, 56.0, 53.1, 37.4, 31.3, 29.9.

HRMS Spectra

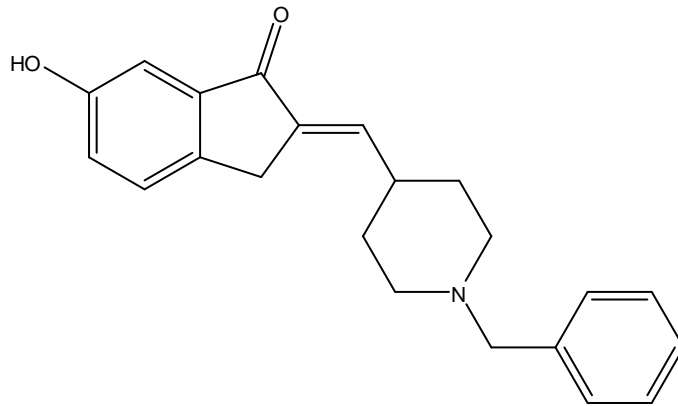
Sample 13a/13b



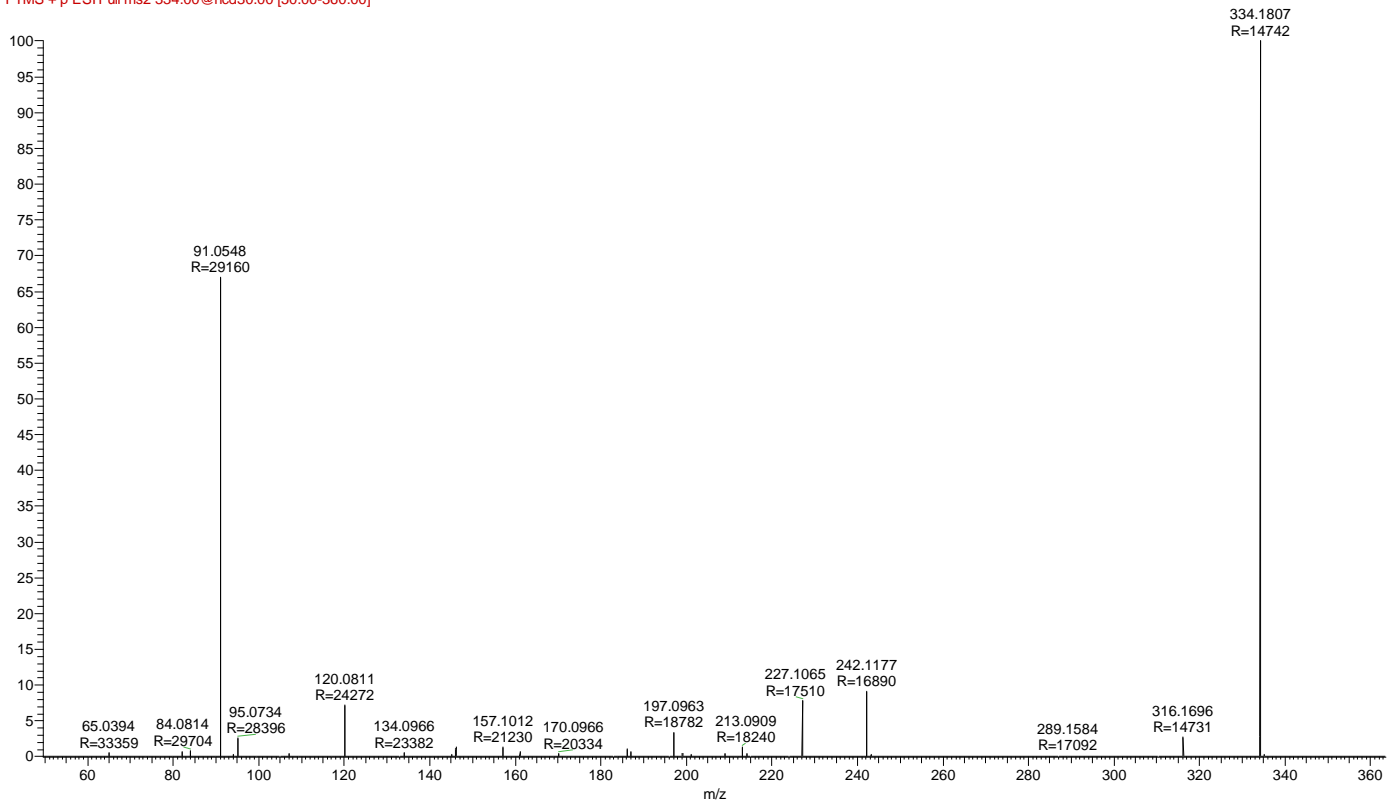
DEMG3MIX10ppmtris3MSMS #1599-1910 RT: 7.85-9.34 AV: 156 SB: 25 0.53-0.62 , 0.90-1.06 NL: 1.42E6
F: FTMS + p ESI Full ms2 364.19@hcd30.00 [50.00-390.00]



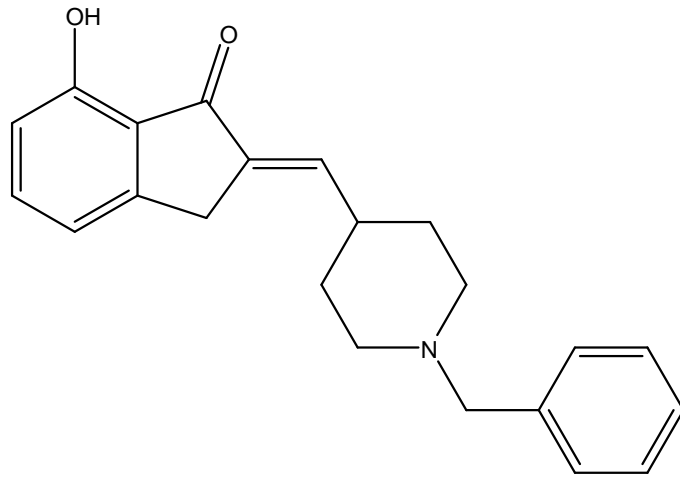
Sample 14



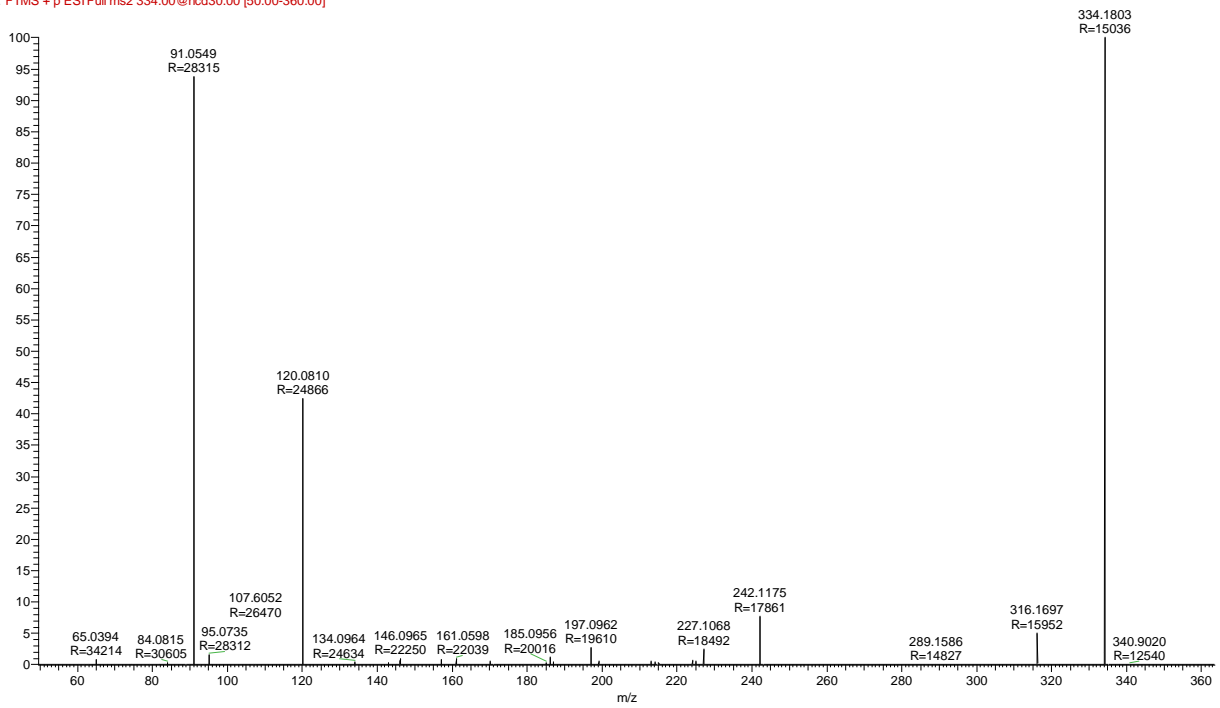
DEMG5_100ppm #2720 RT: 8.66 AV: 1 SB: 39 0.53-0.62, 0.90-1.06 NL: 9.35E8
F: FTMS + p ESI Full ms2 334.00@hcd30.00 [50.00-360.00]



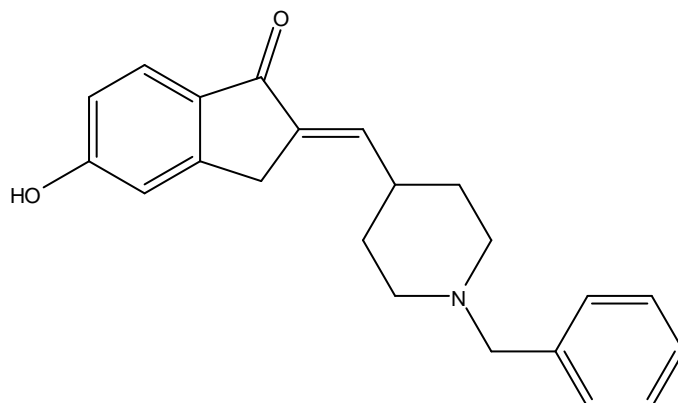
Sample 15



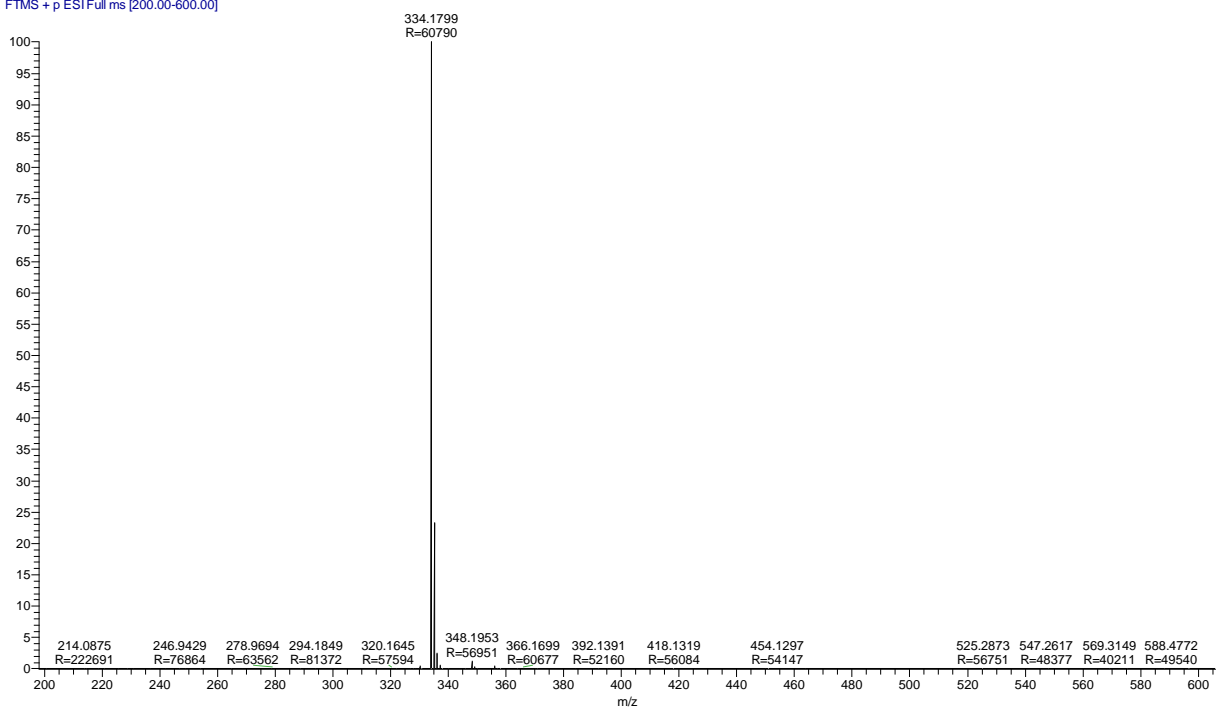
DEMG6_100ppm#3038 RT: 9.42 AV: 1 SB: 39 0.53-0.62, 0.90-1.06 NL: 2.39E9
F: FTMS + p ESI Full ms2 334.00@hcd30.00 [50.00-360.00]



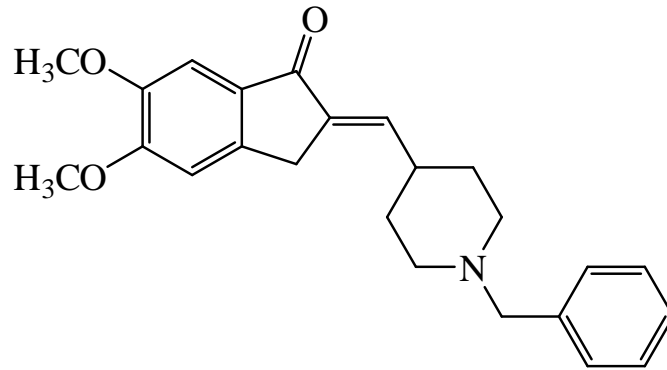
Sample 16



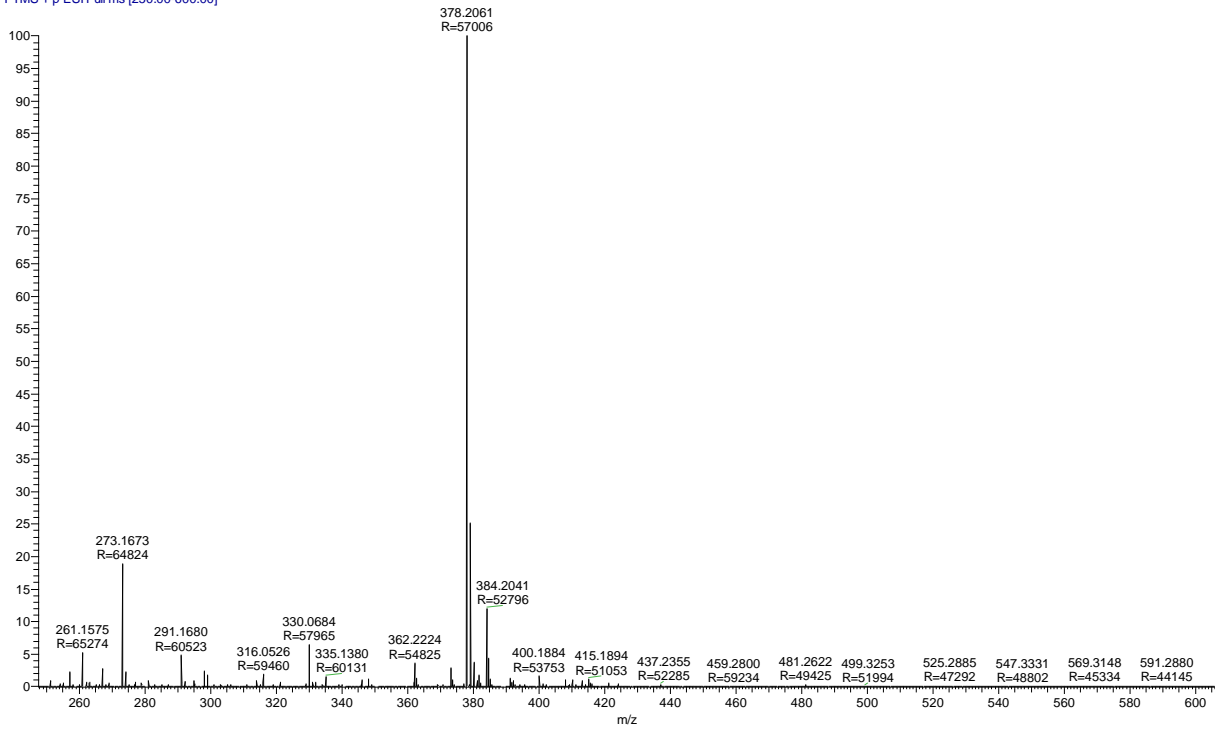
DEMG_BIS_14-04-2015 #1027 RT: 4.58 AV: 1 SB: 57 0.53-0.62, 0.90-1.05 NL: 5.66E9
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [200.00-600.00]



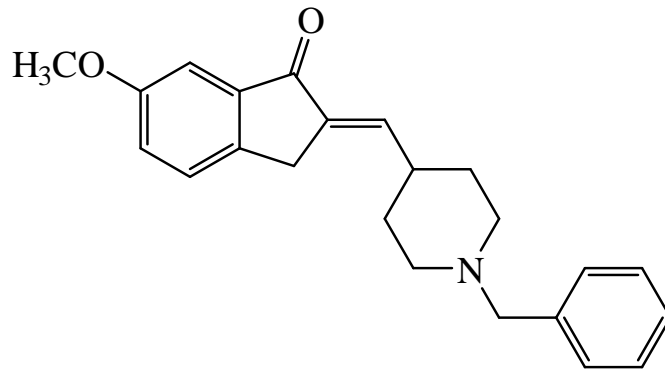
Sample 17



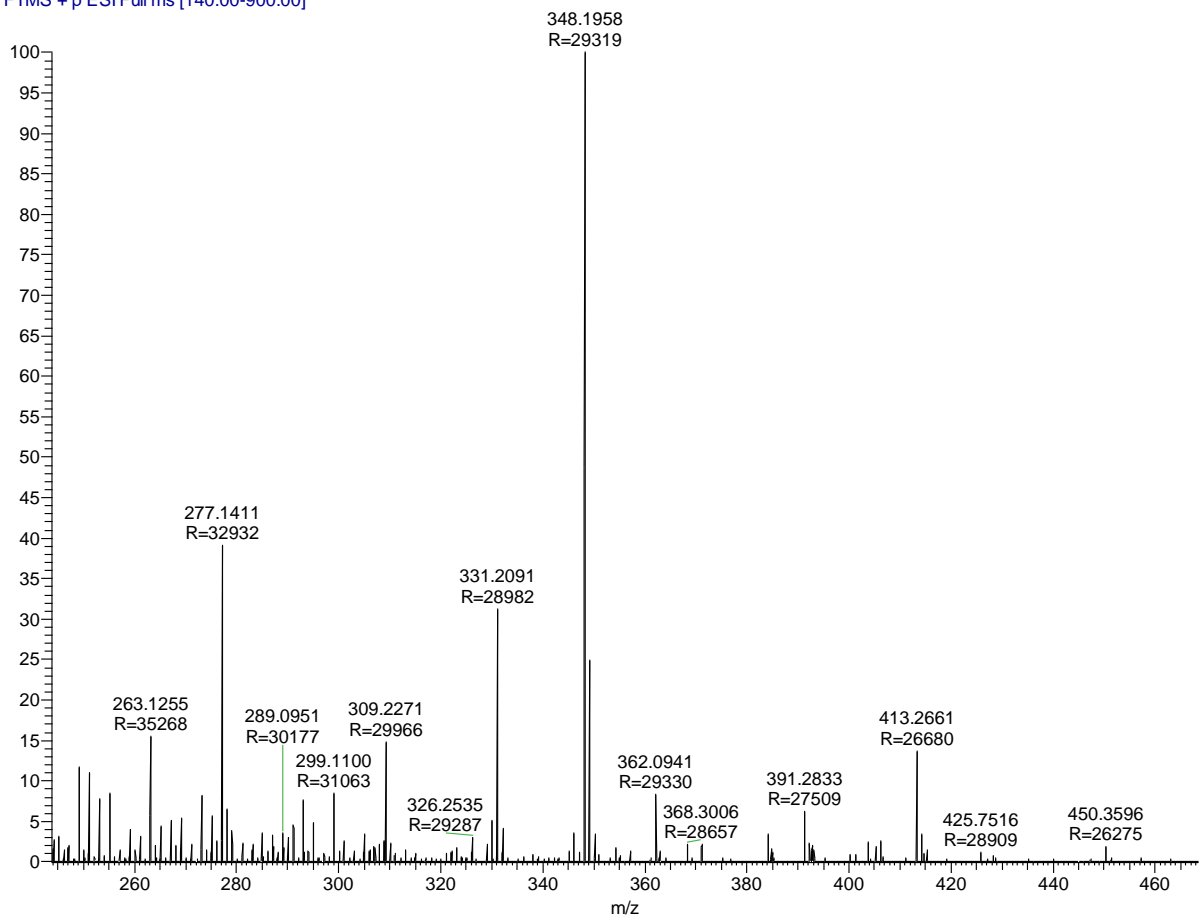
GP9_10ppm #1893 RT: 9.27 AV: 1 SB: 26 0.53-0.62, 0.90-1.06 NL: 6.04E7
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [250.00-600.00]



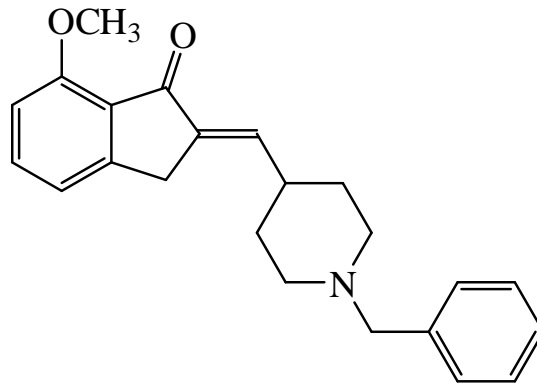
Sample 18



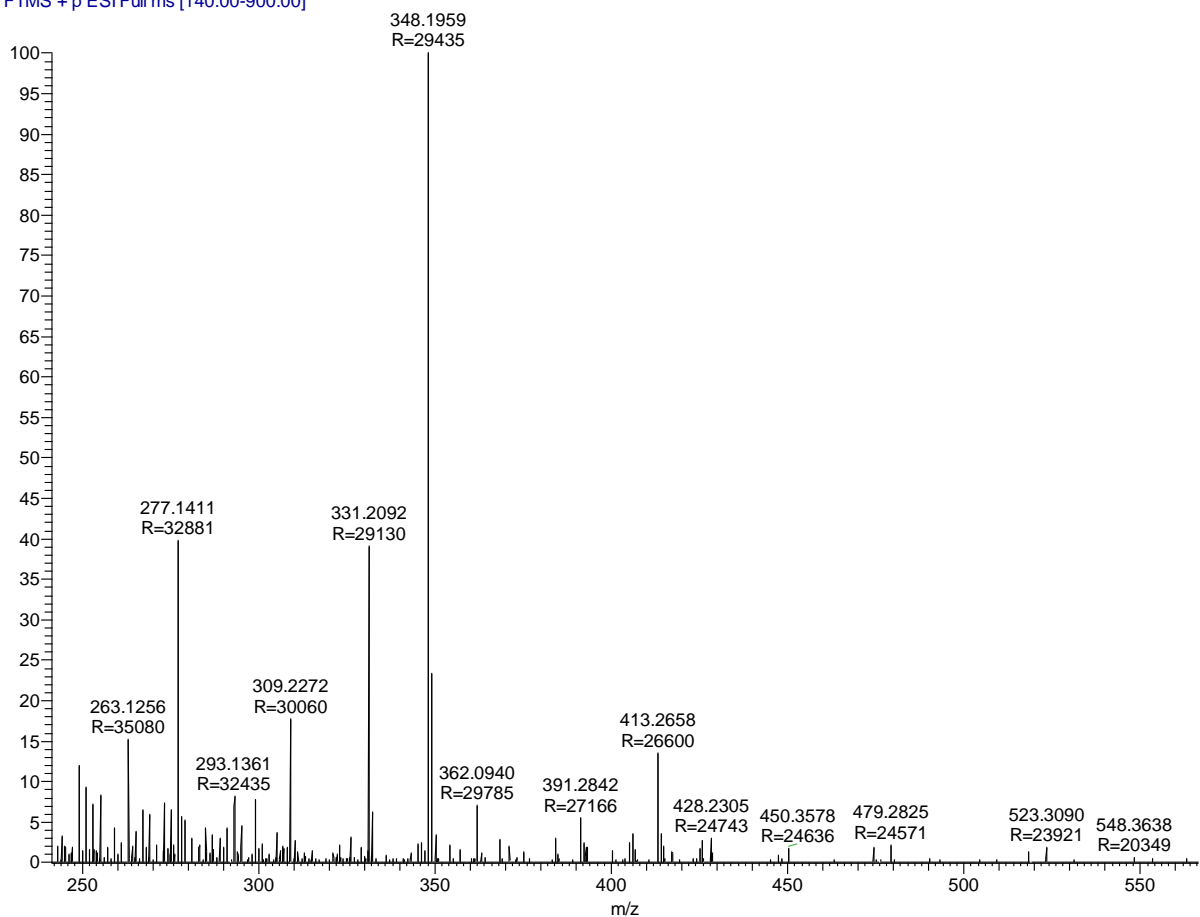
GP11_4ppm #622 RT: 4.68 AV: 1 SB: 17 0.54-0.62, 0.90-1.06 NL: 2.51E7
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [140.00-900.00]



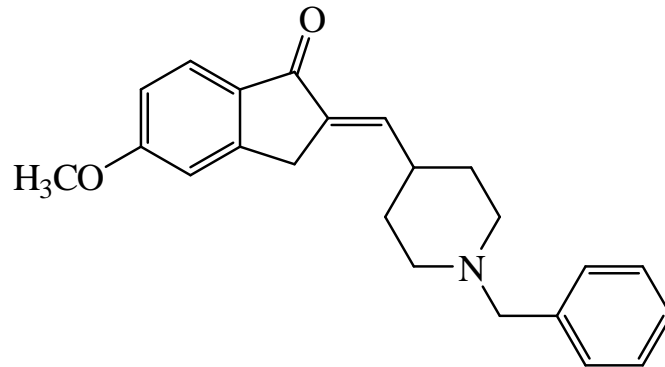
Sample 19



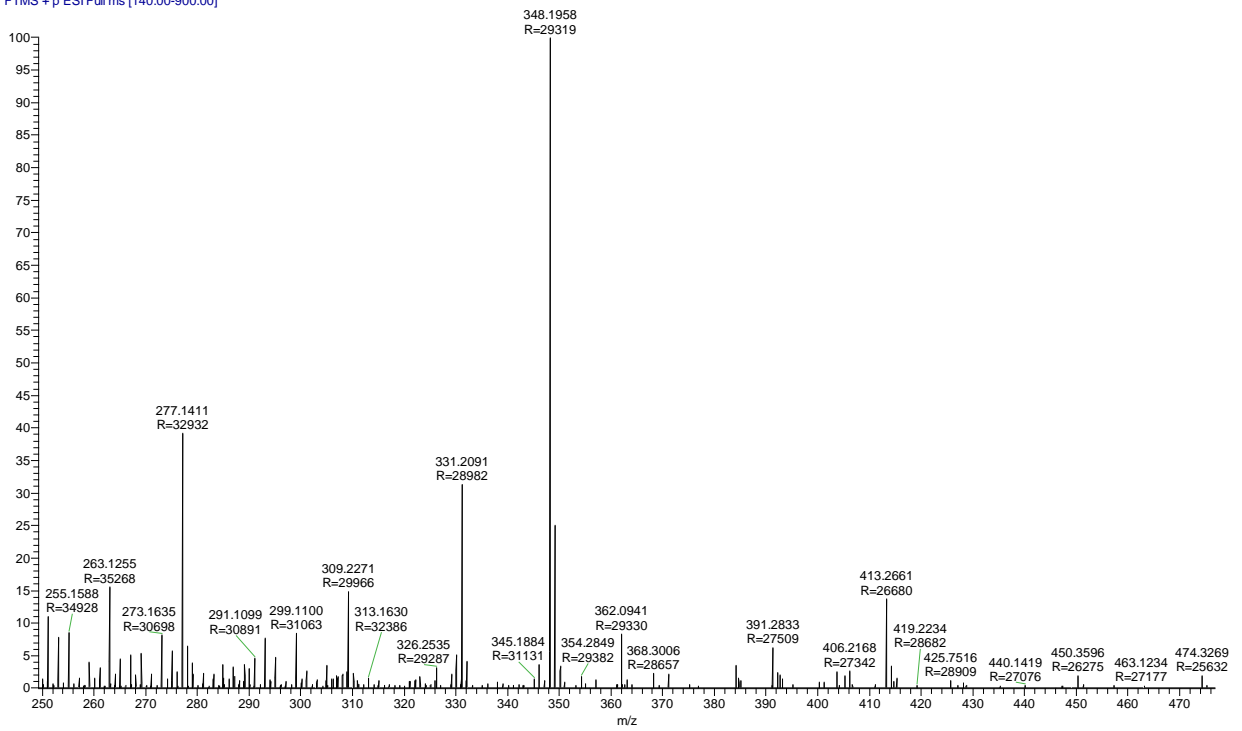
GP12_4ppm #624 RT: 4.70 AV: 1 SB: 17 0.54-0.62, 0.90-1.06 NL: 2.36E7
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [140.00-900.00]



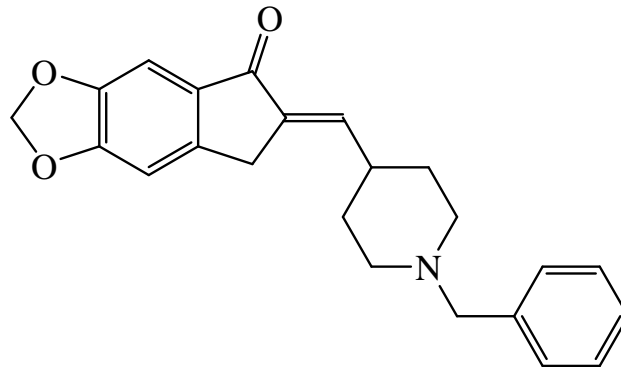
Sample 20



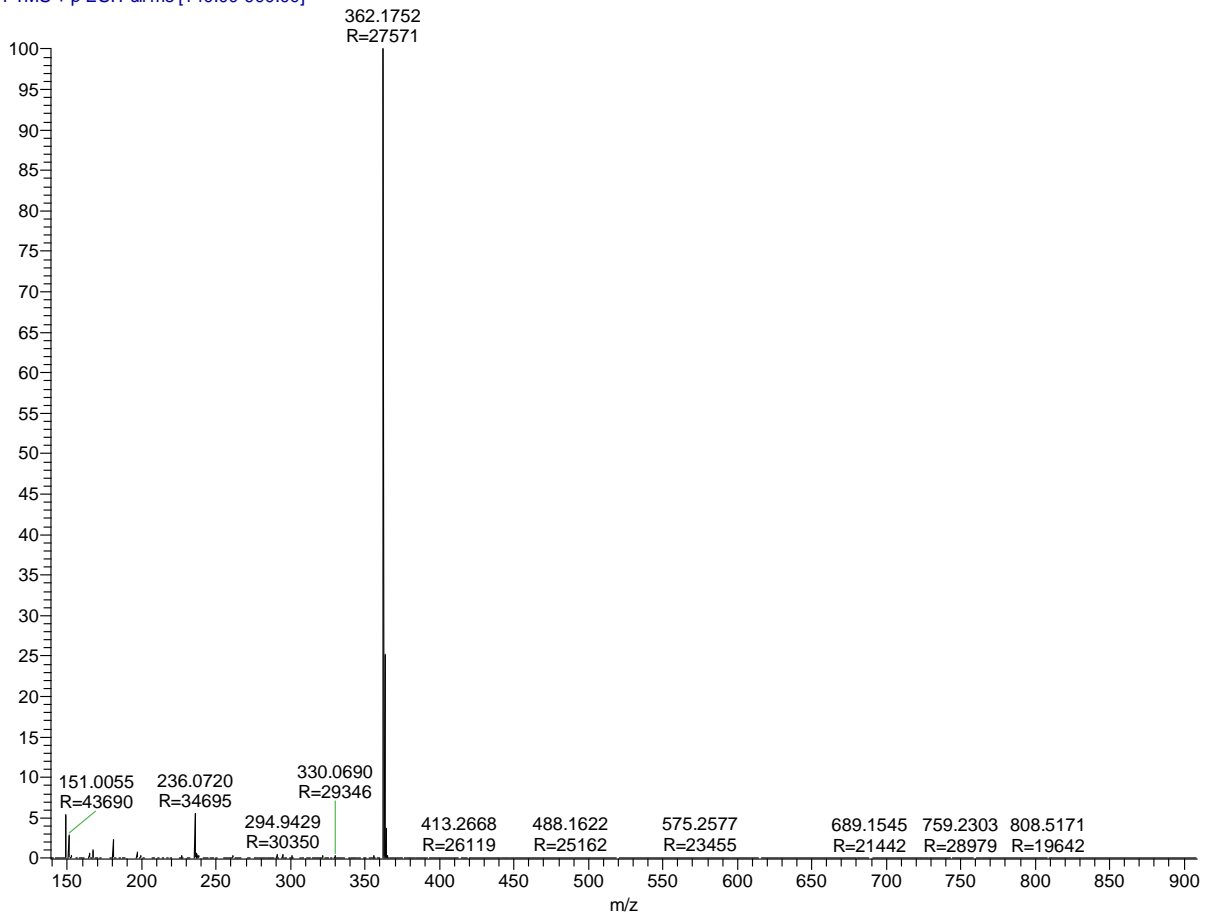
GP10_4ppm #622 RT: 4.68 AV: 1 SB: 17 0.54-0.62, 0.90-1.06 NL: 2.51E7
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [140.00-900.00]



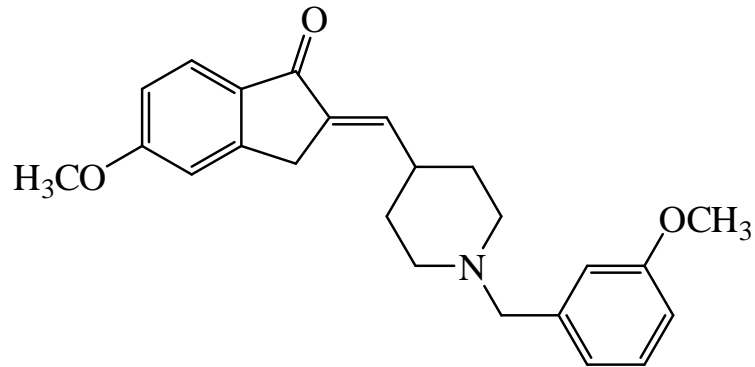
Sample 21



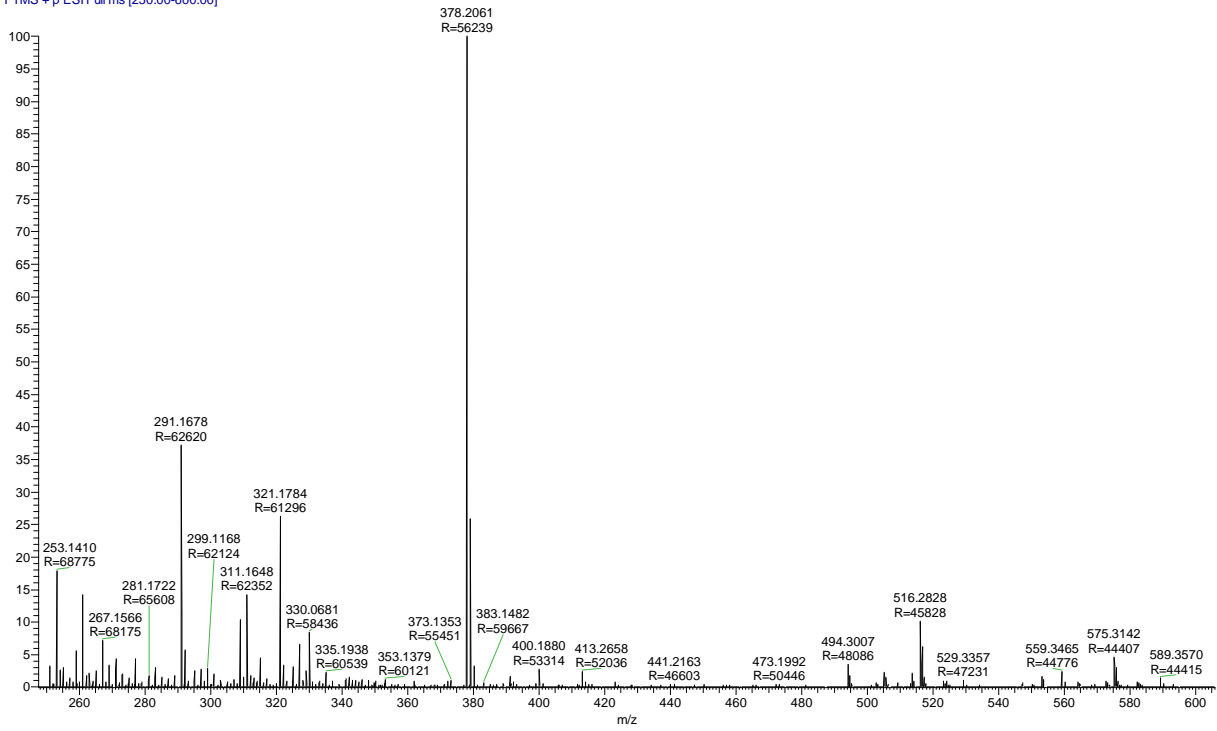
GP17_1ppm #634 RT: 4.75 AV: 1 SB: 17 0.53-0.62 , 0.90-1.06 NL: 8.42E8
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [140.00-900.00]



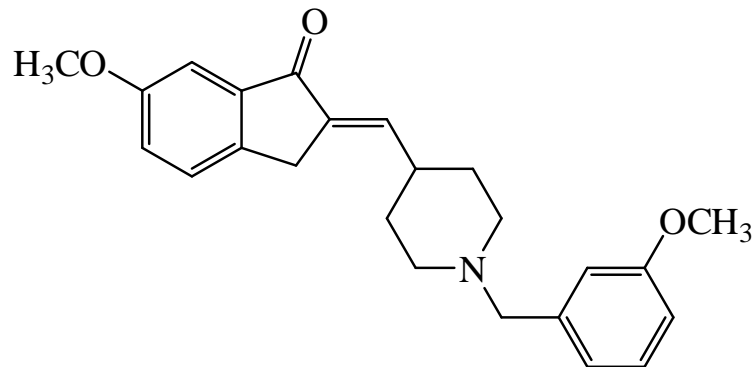
Sample 22



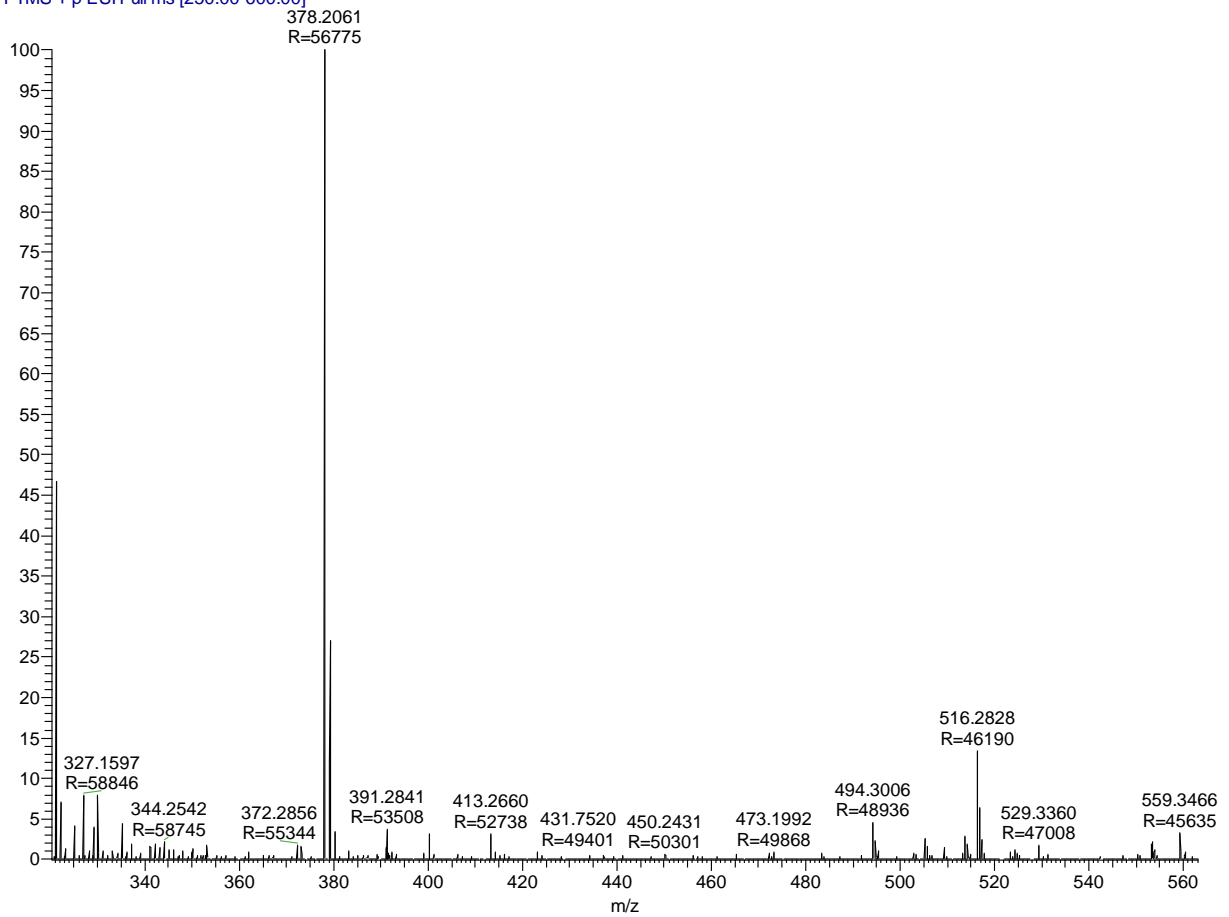
GP13_1ppm #2097 RT: 10.13 AV: 1 SB: 27 0.53-0.62, 0.90-1.06 NL: 2.83E7
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [250.00-600.00]



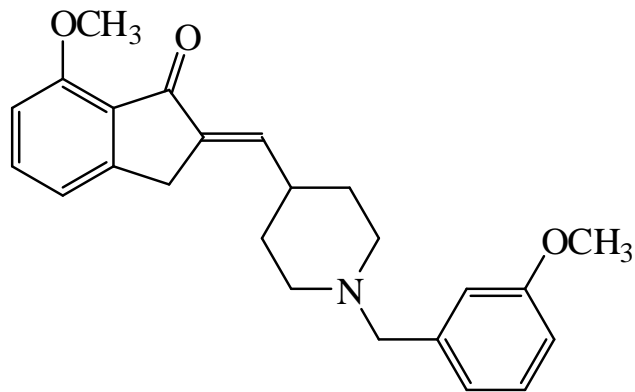
Sample 23



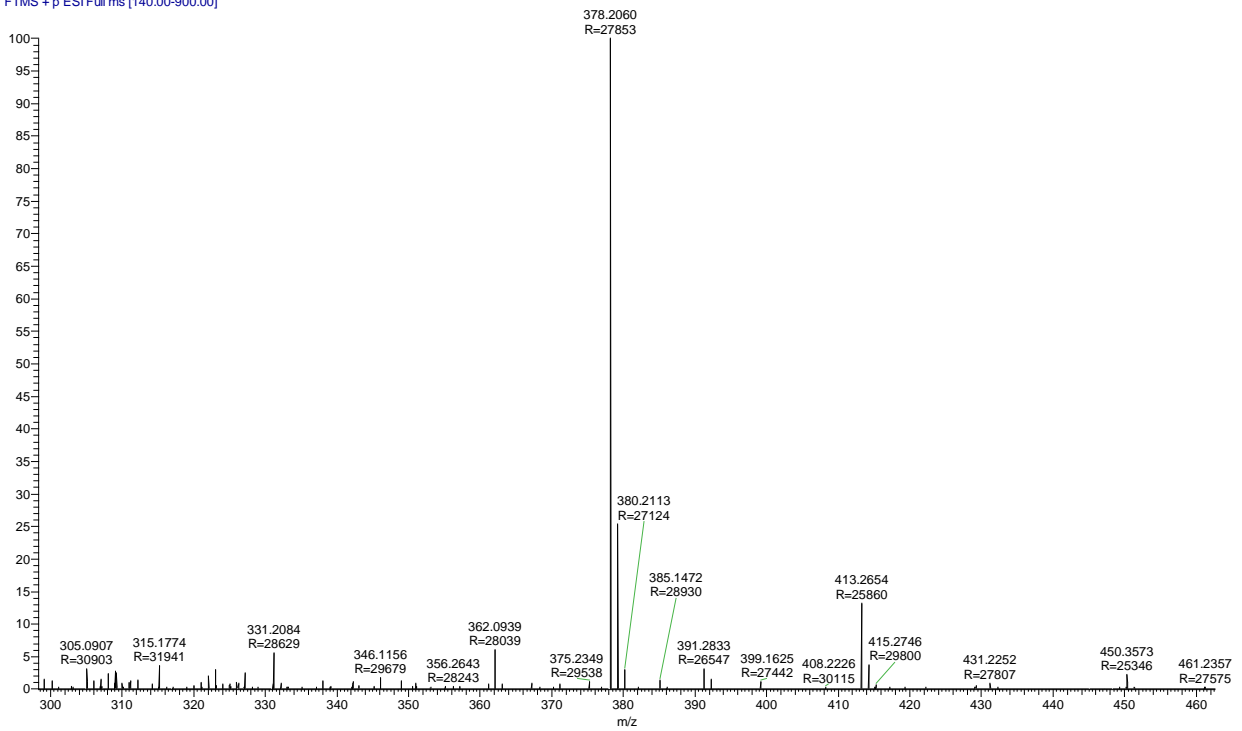
GP15_1ppm #2093 RT: 10.11 AV: 1 SB: 27 0.53-0.62, 0.90-1.06 NL: 2.29E7
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [250.00-600.00]



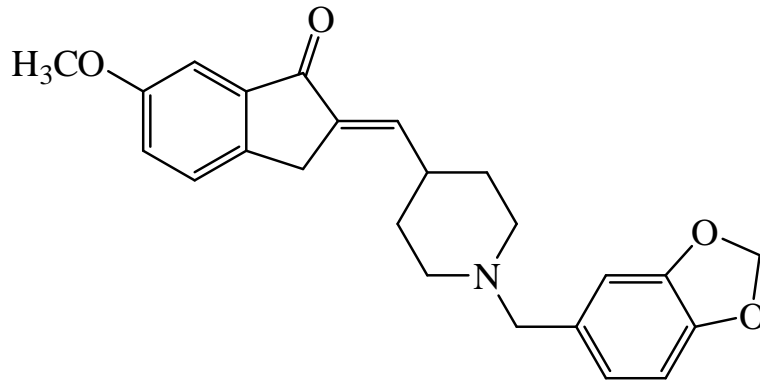
Sample 24



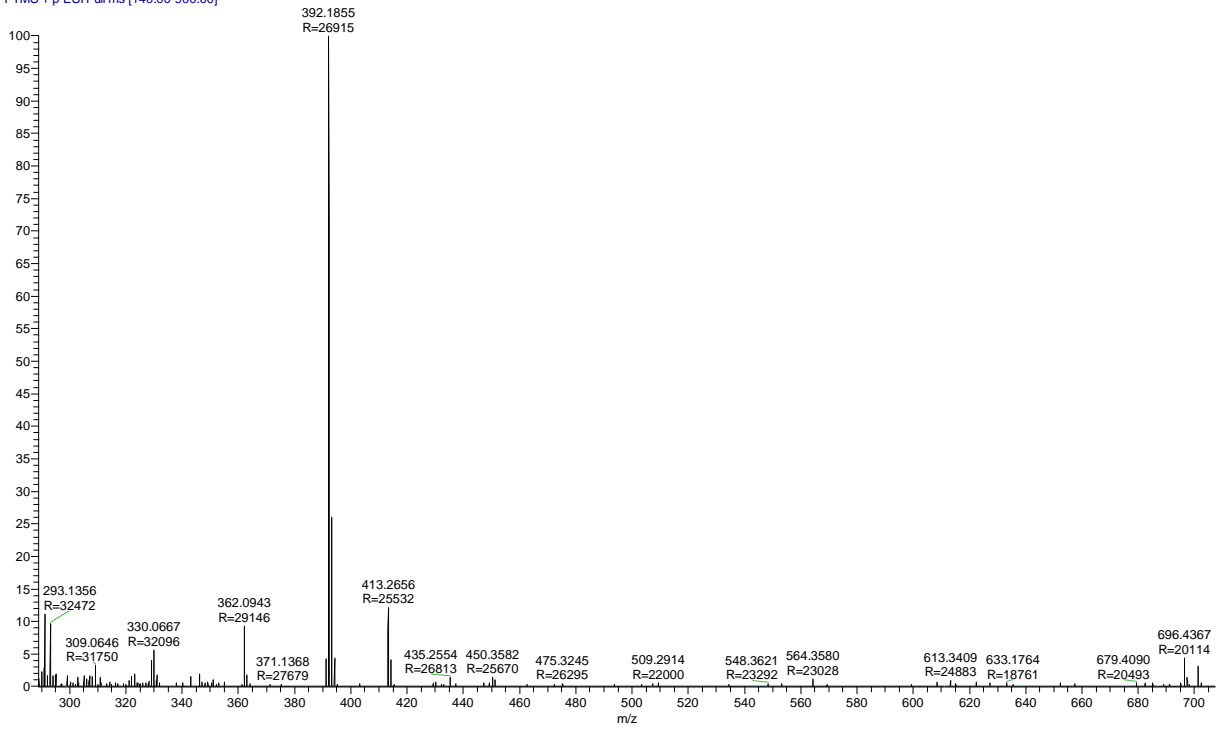
GP16_6ppm #668 RT: 5.04 AV: 1 SB: 17 0.54-0.62, 0.90-1.06 NL: 2.80E7
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [140.00-900.00]



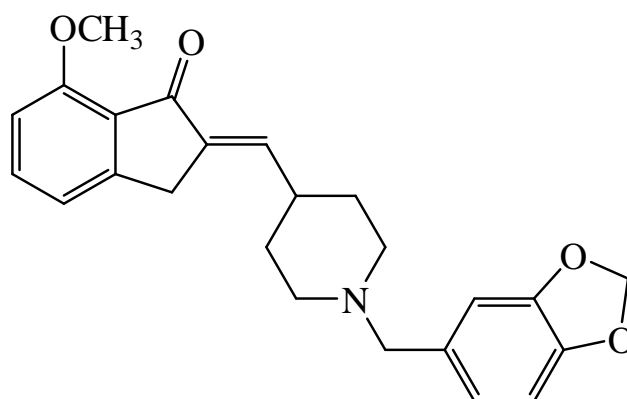
Sample 25



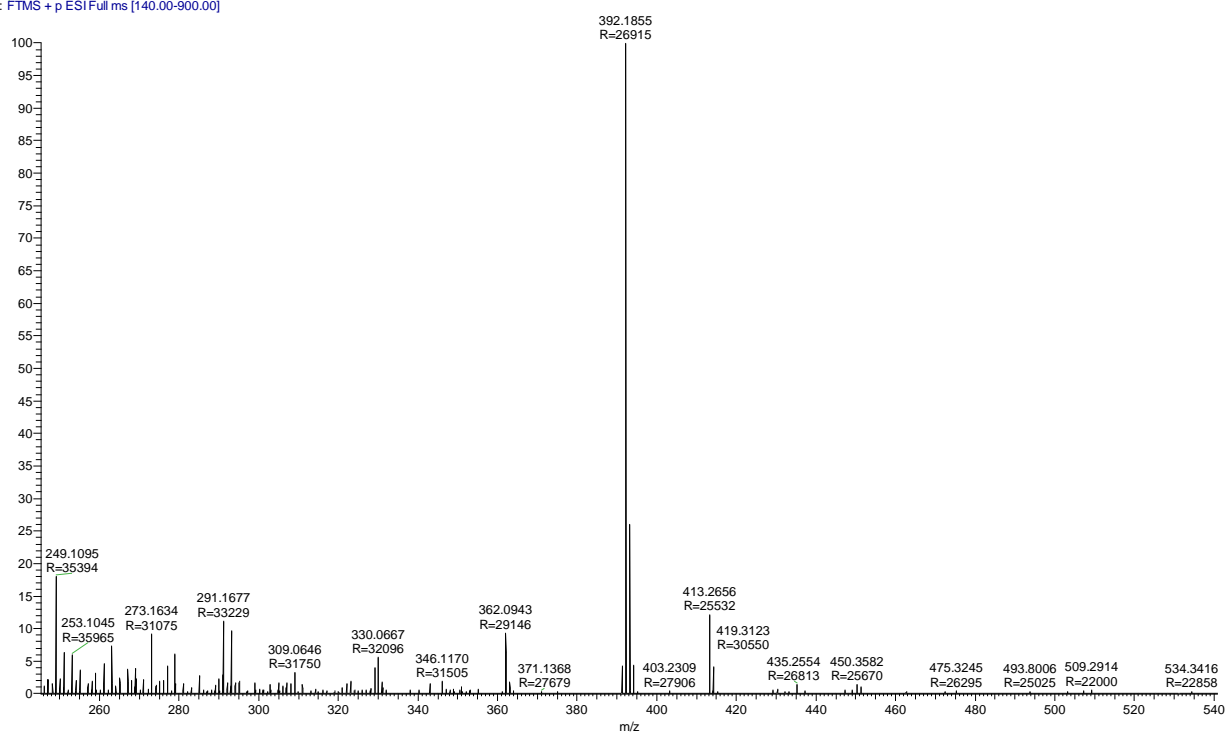
GP19_10ppm #594 RT: 4.47 AV: 1 SB: 17 0.53-0.62, 0.90-1.05 NL: 2.23E7
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [140.00-900.00]



Sample 26

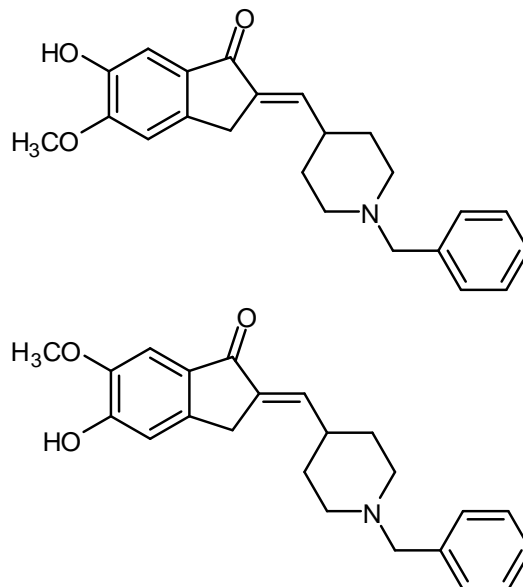


GP18_10ppm #594 RT: 4.47 AV: 1 SB: 17 0.53-0.62, 0.90-1.05 NL: 2.23E7
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [140.00-900.00]



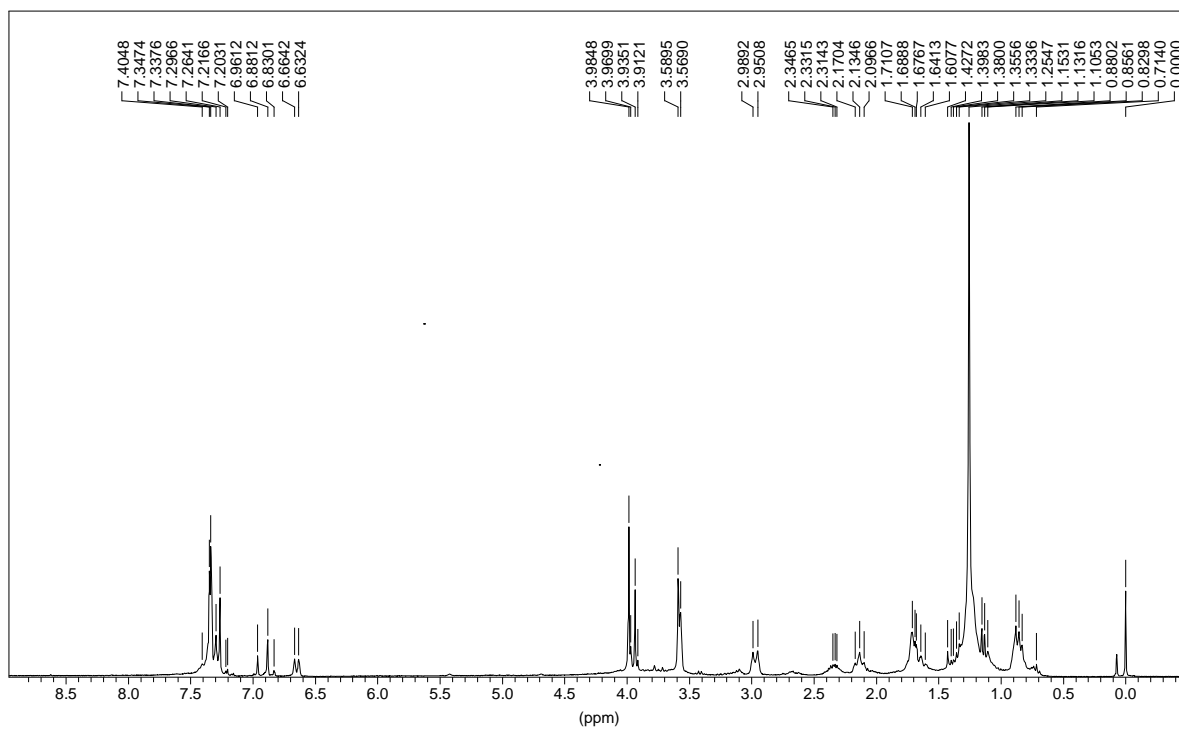
¹H-NMR Spectra

Sample 13a/13b

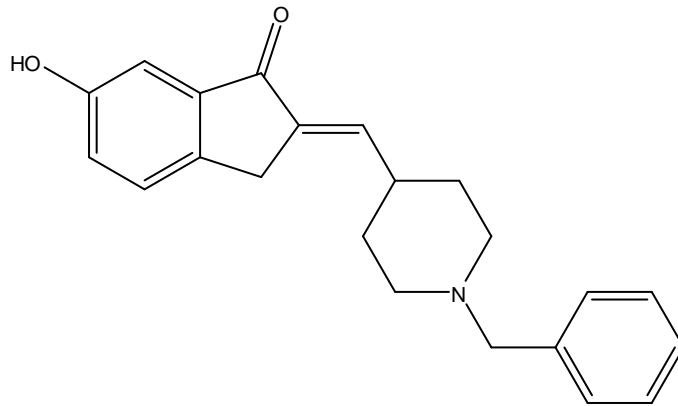


*** Current Data Parameters ***

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EXPNO : 1
PROCNO : 1

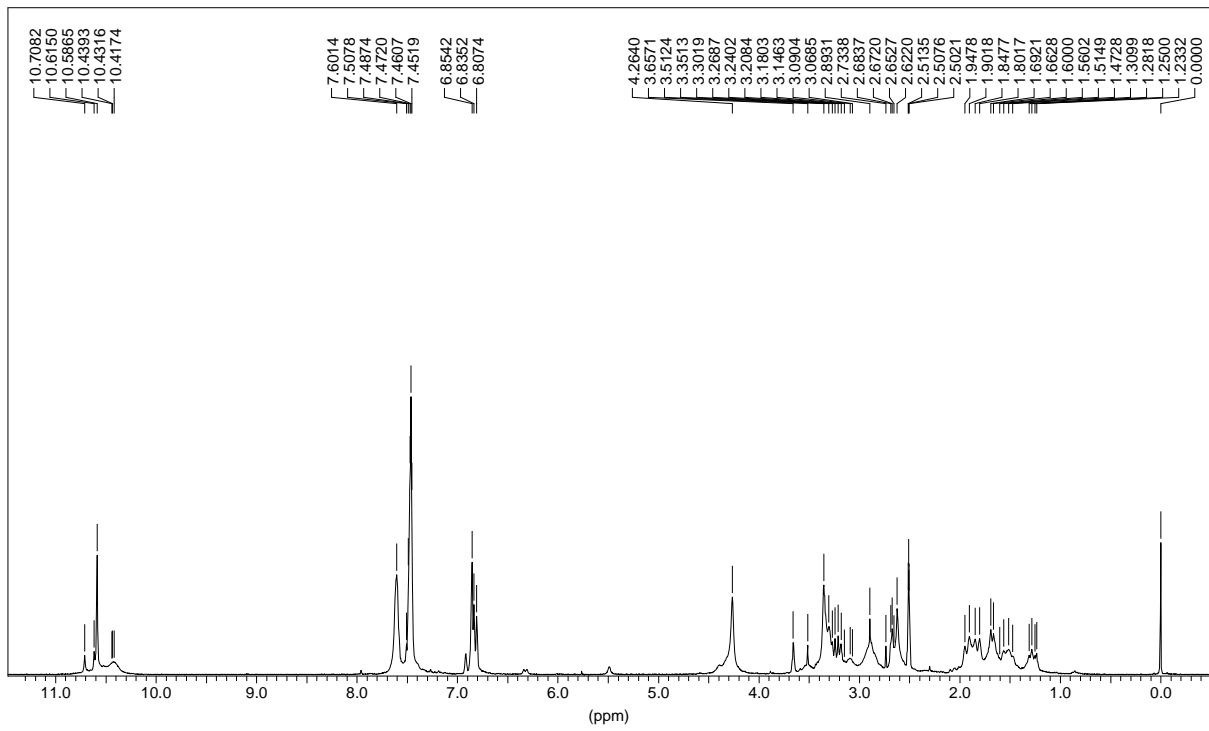


Sample 14

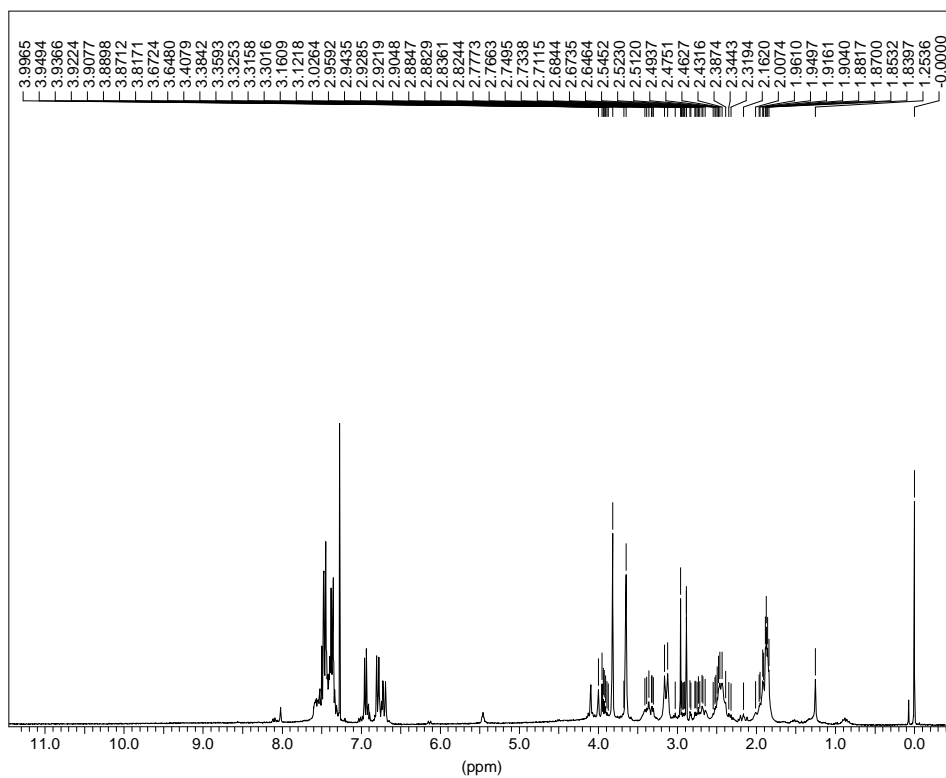
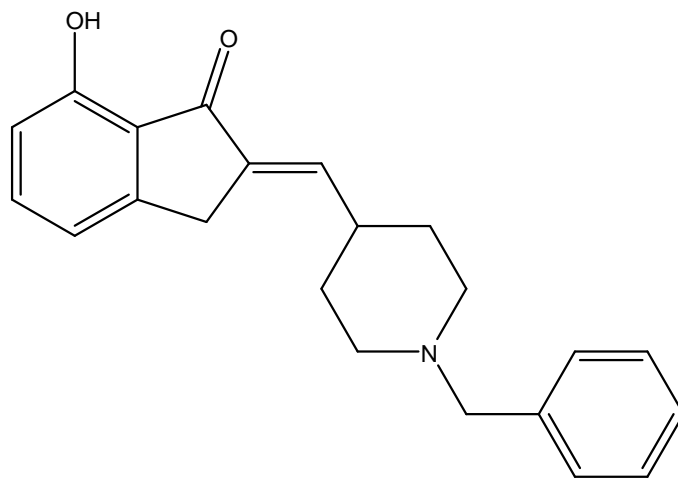


*** Current Data Parameters

NAME : dmemg7
EXPNO : 1
PROCNO : 1



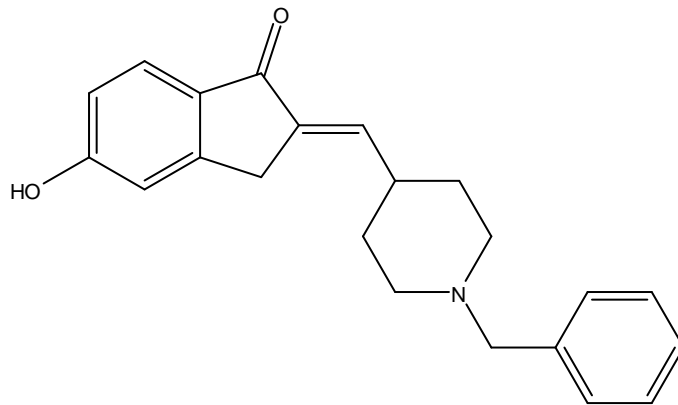
Sample 15



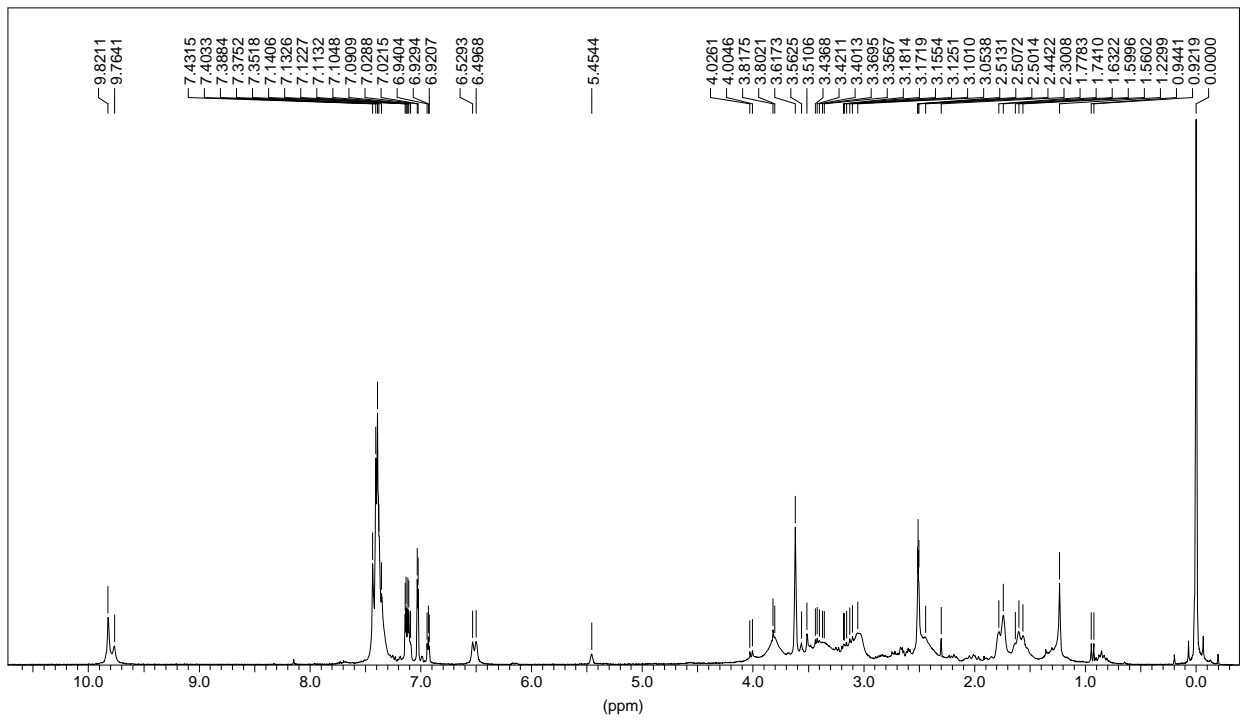
*** Current Data Parameters **
NAME : demg6
EXPNO : 1
PROCNO : 1



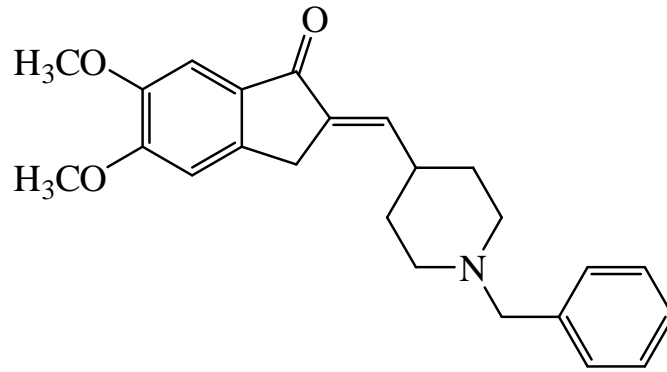
Sample 16



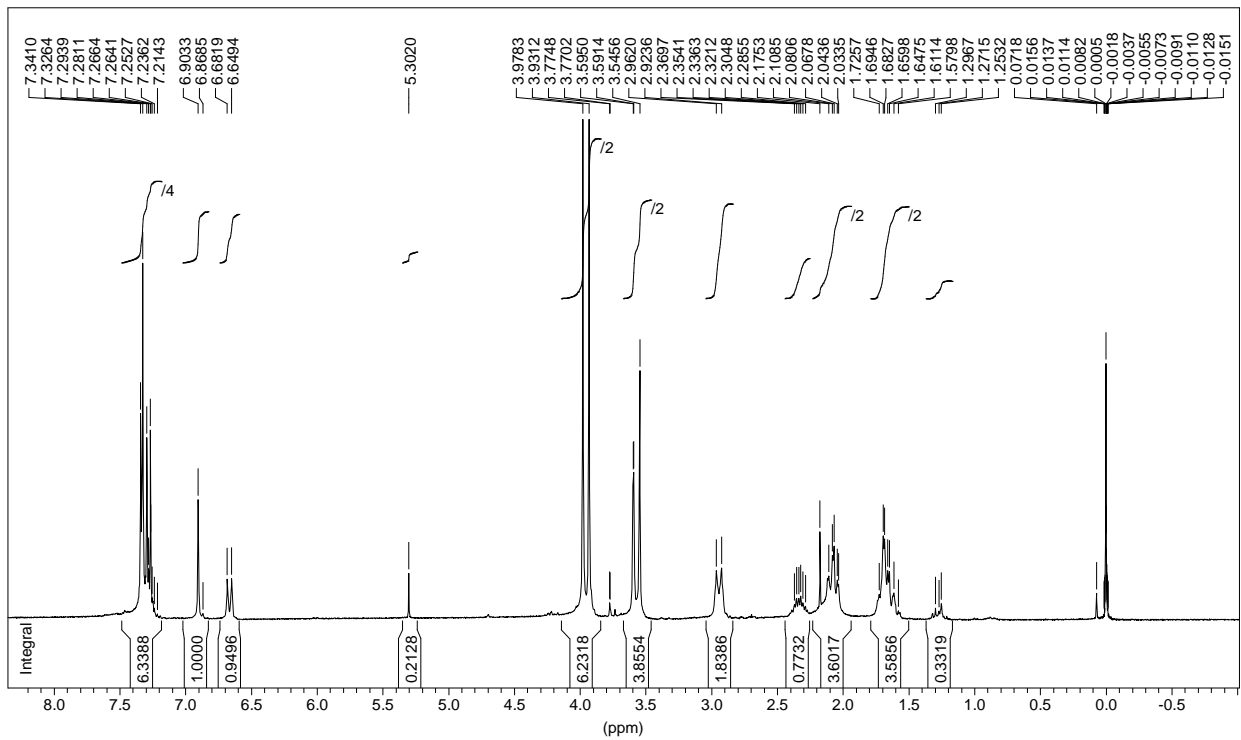
*** Current Data Parameters **
NAME : dmemg5
EXPNO : 1
PROCNO : 1



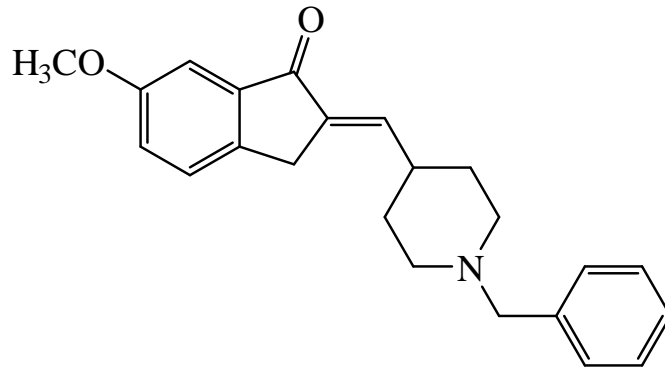
Sample 17



*** Current Data Parameters ***
 NAME : gp5
 EXPNO : 1
 PROCNO : 1

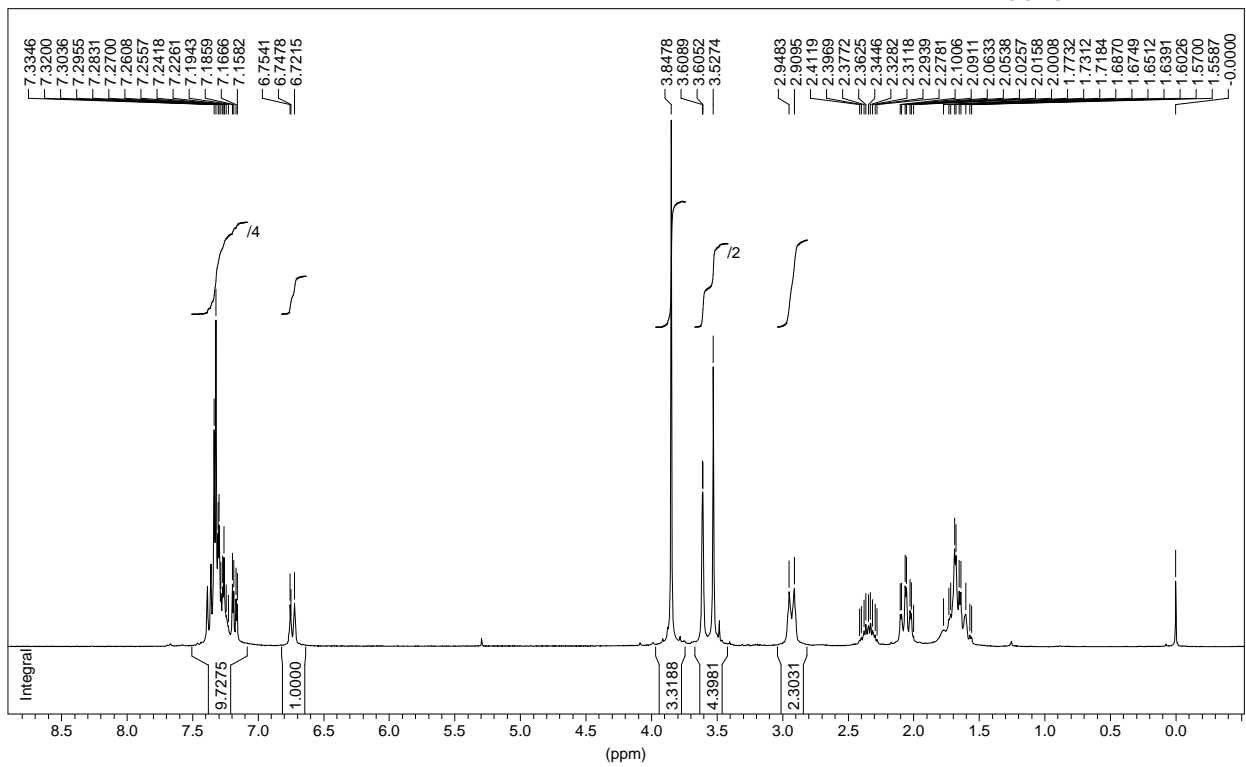


Sample18

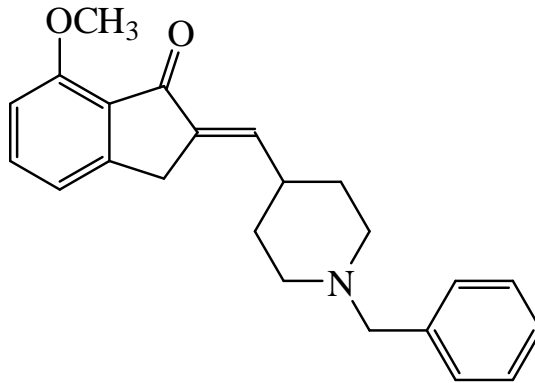


*** Current Data Parameters **

NAME : gp11
 EXPNO : 1
 PROCNO : 1

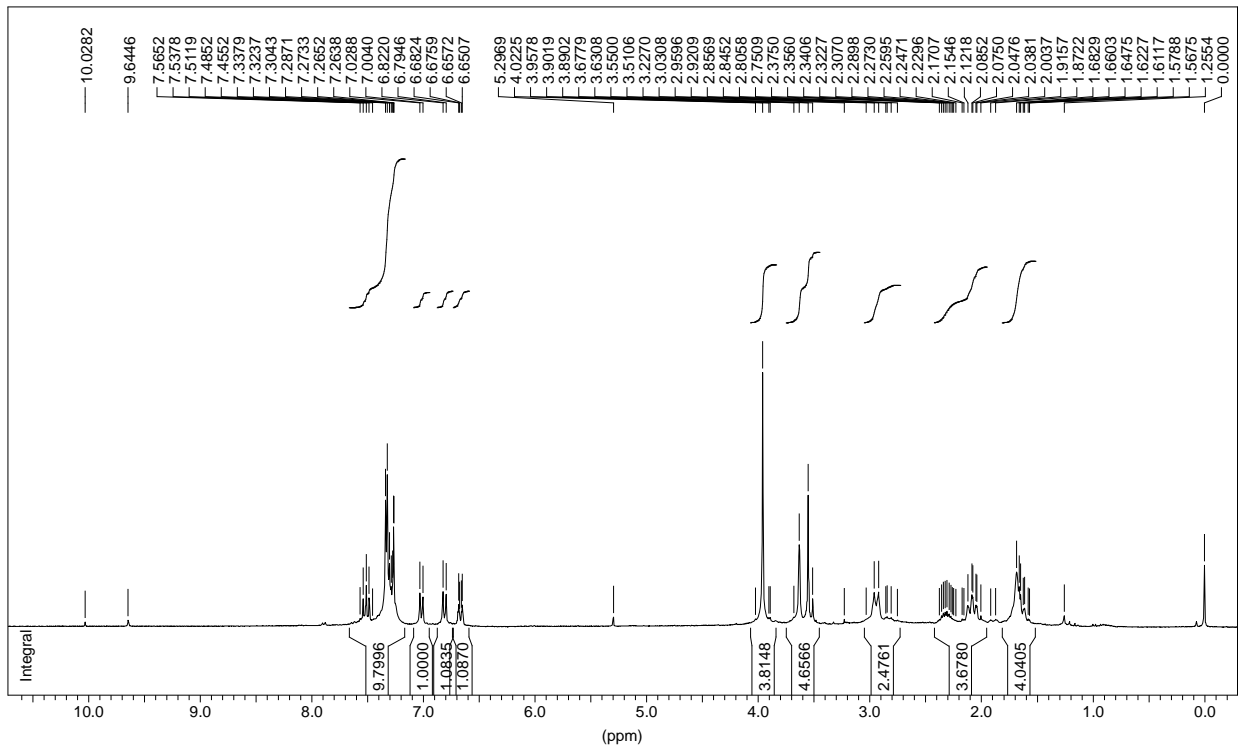


Sample19

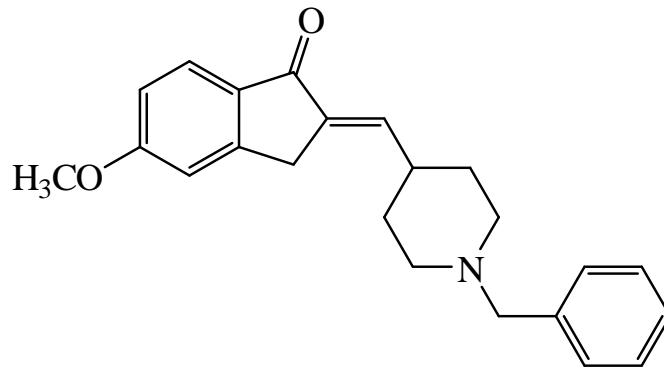


*** Current Data Parameters *

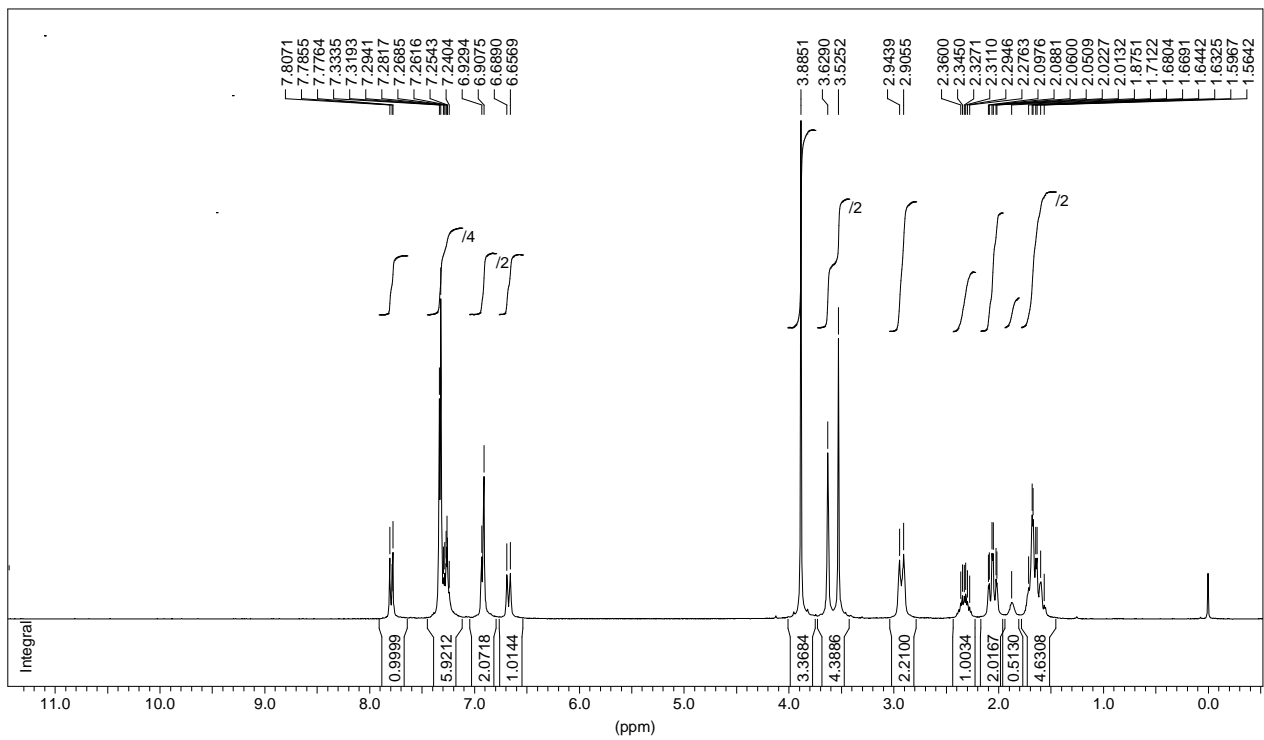
NAME : gp12
 EXPNO : 1
 PROCNO : 1



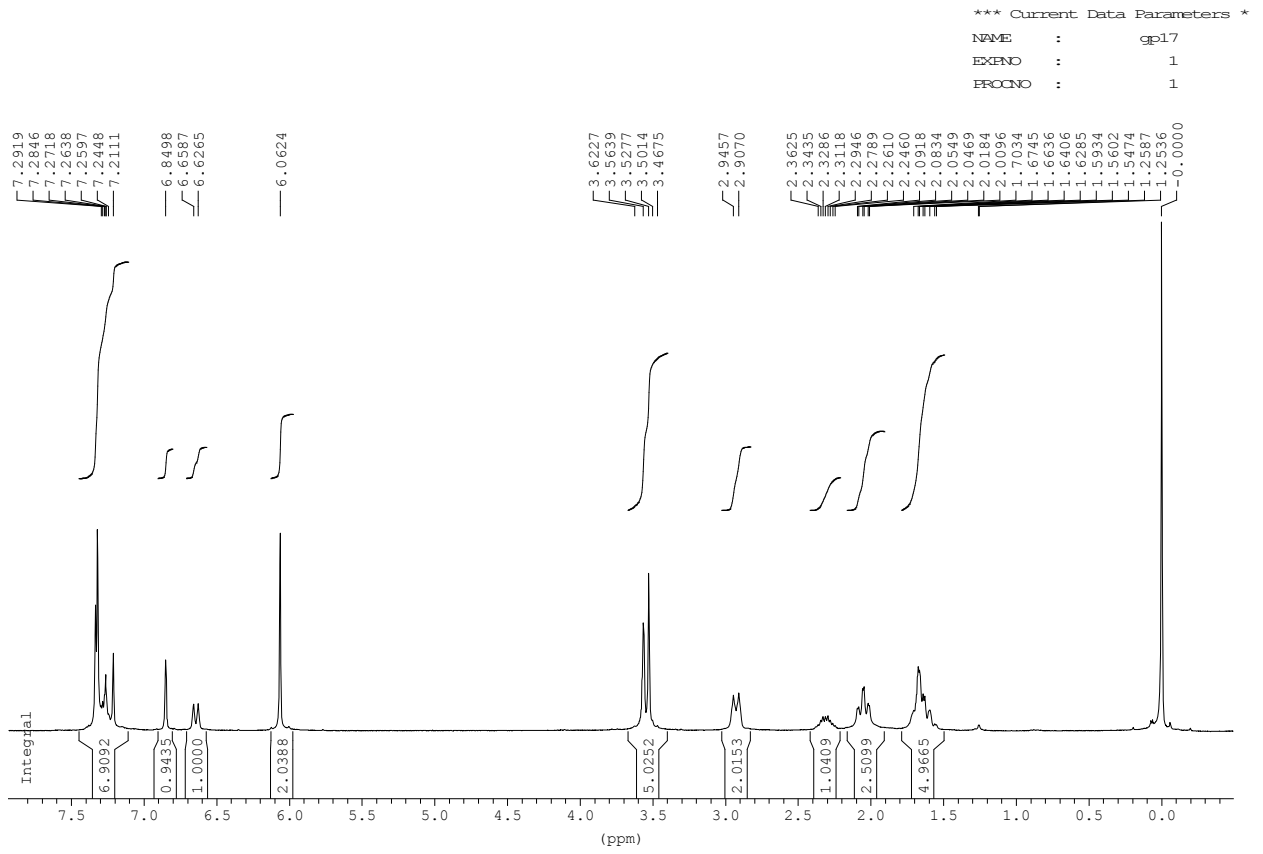
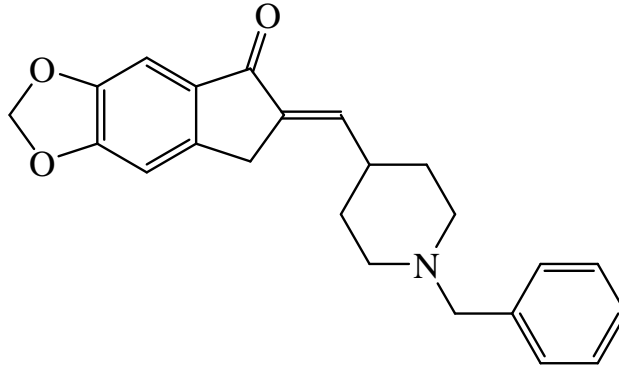
Sample 20



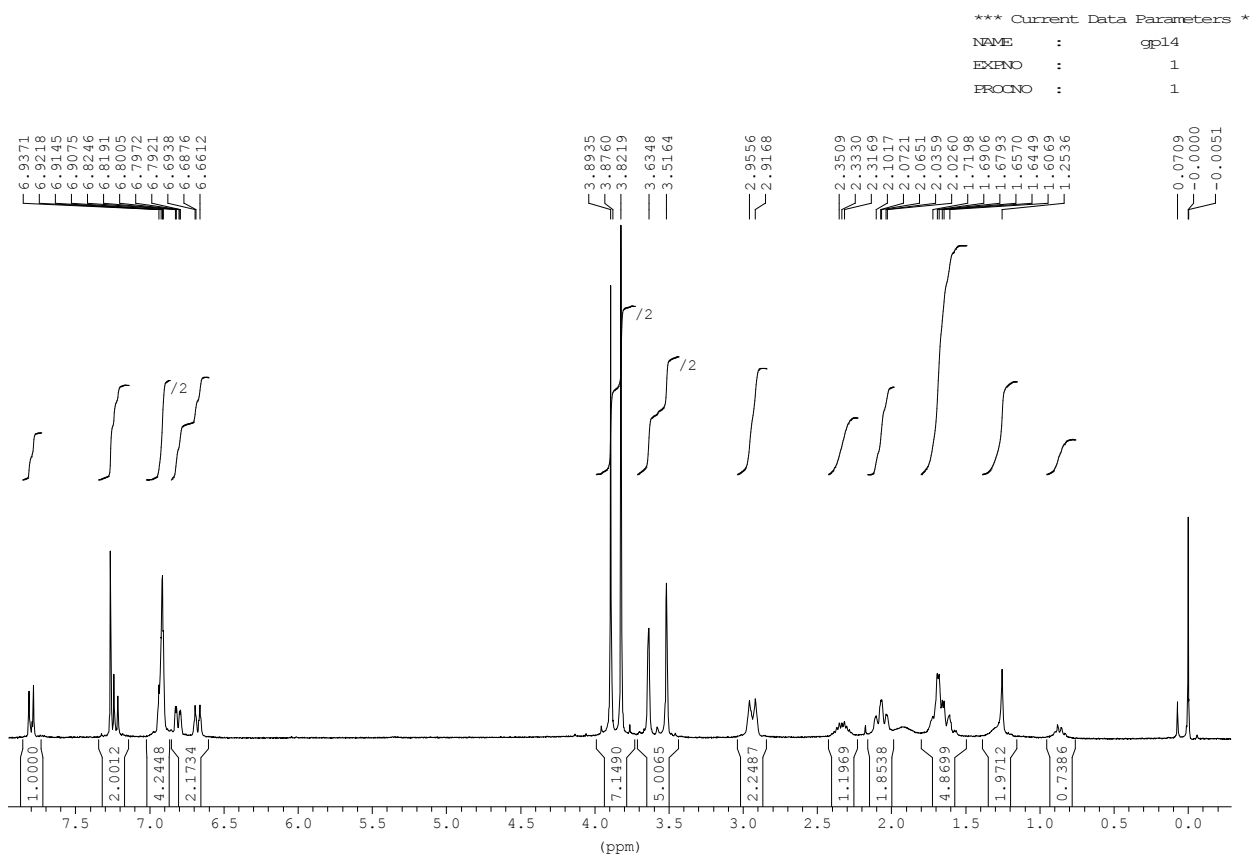
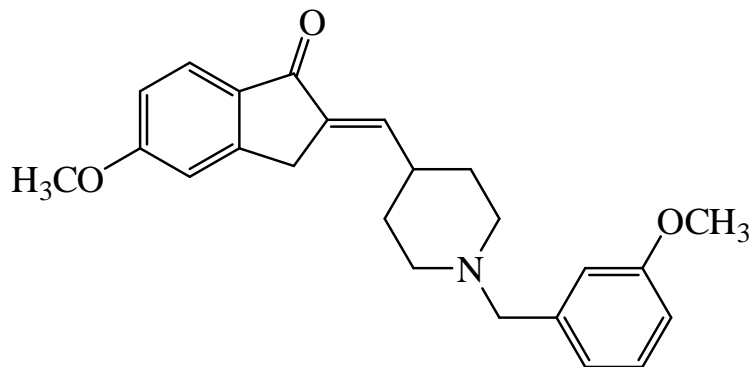
*** Current Data Parameters **
 NAME : gp10
 EXPNO : 1
 PROCNO : 1



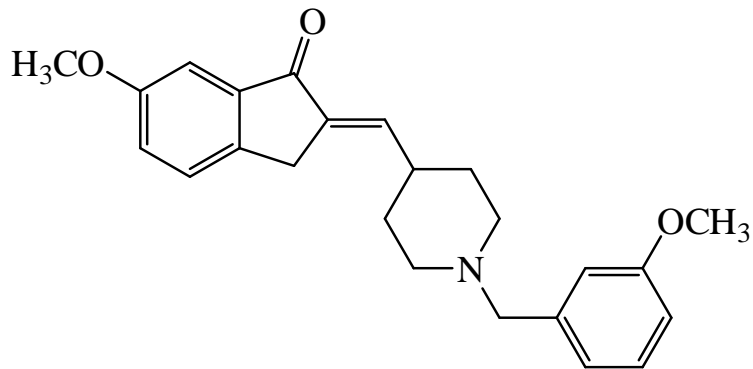
Sample21



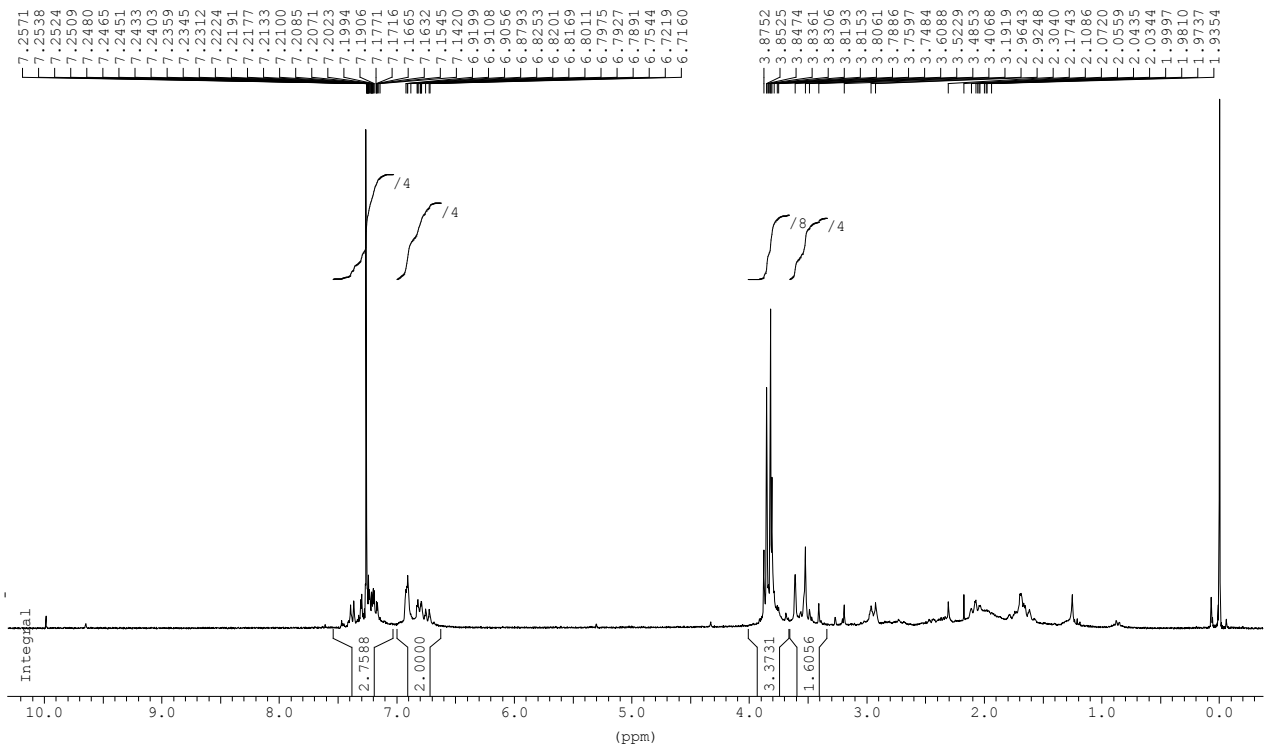
Sample22



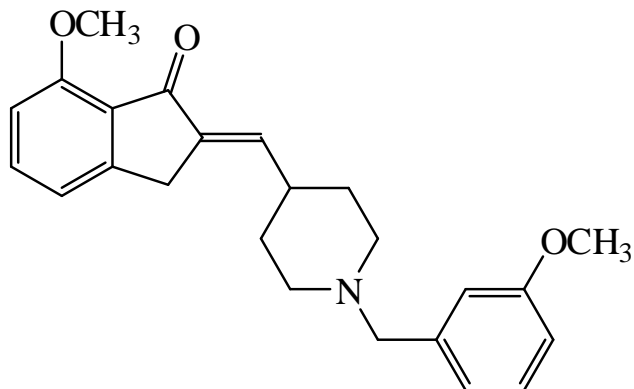
Sample23



*** Current Data Parameters *
 NAME : gp15
 EXPTNO : 1
 PROCNO : 1

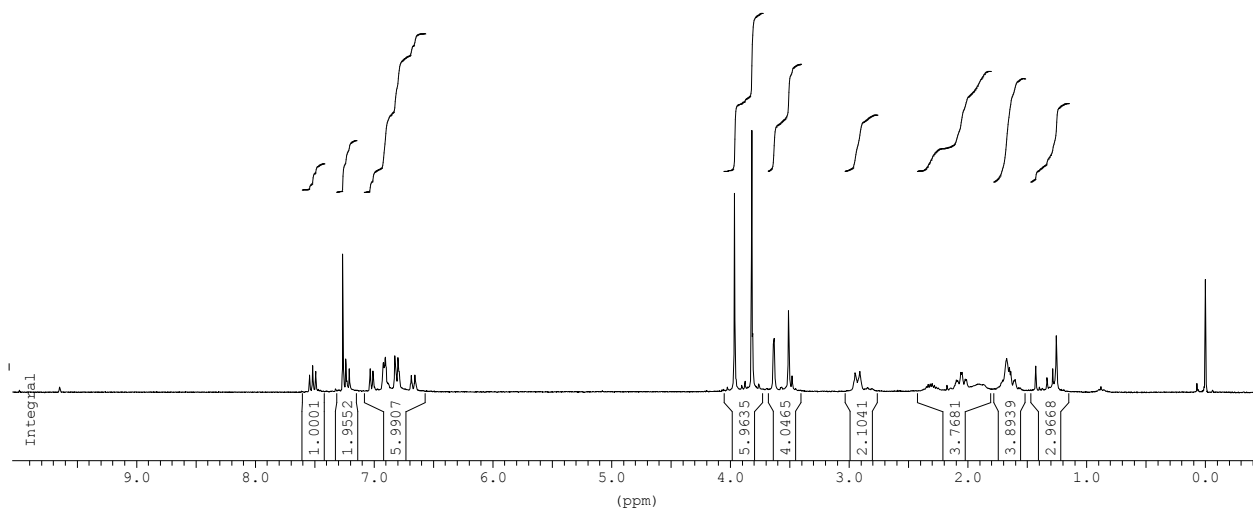
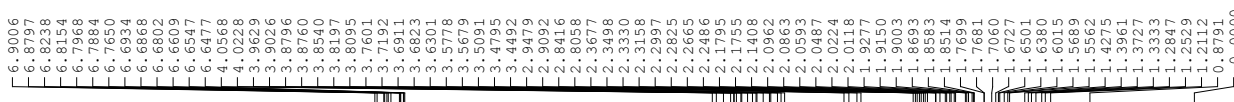


Sample24

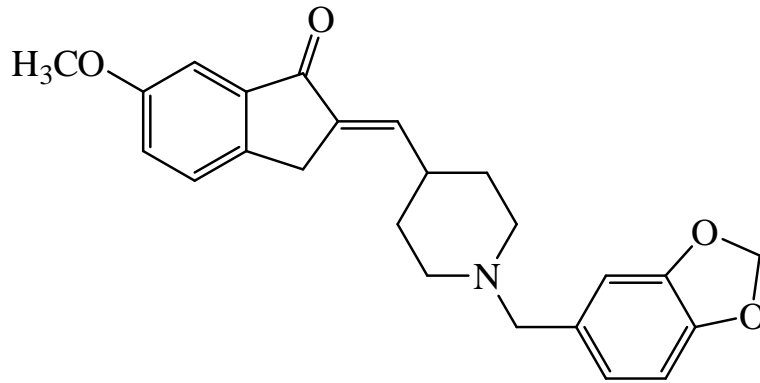


*** Current Data Parameters *

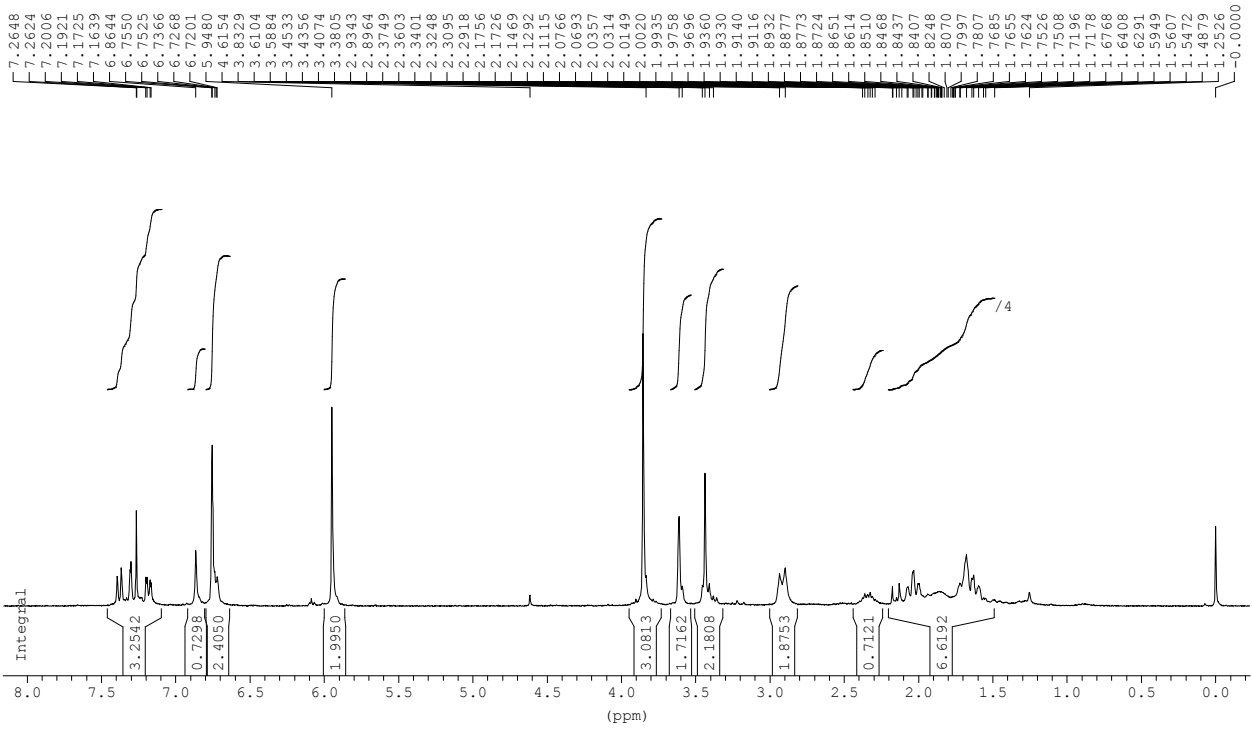
NAME : gp16
 EXPNO : 1
 PROCNO : 1



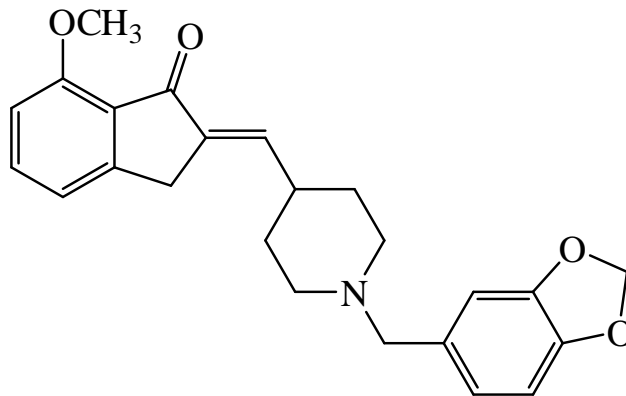
Sample25



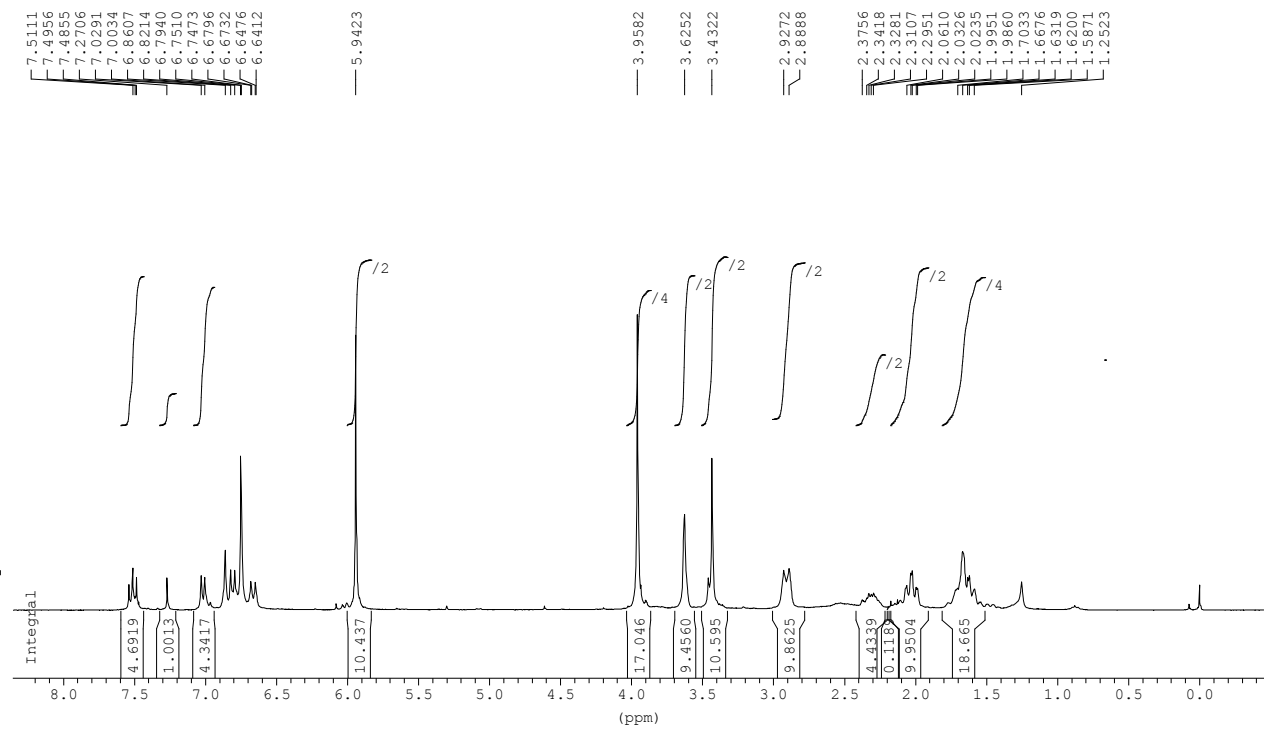
*** Current Data Parameters *
 NAME : gp19
 EXPNO : 1
 PROCNO : 1



Sample26

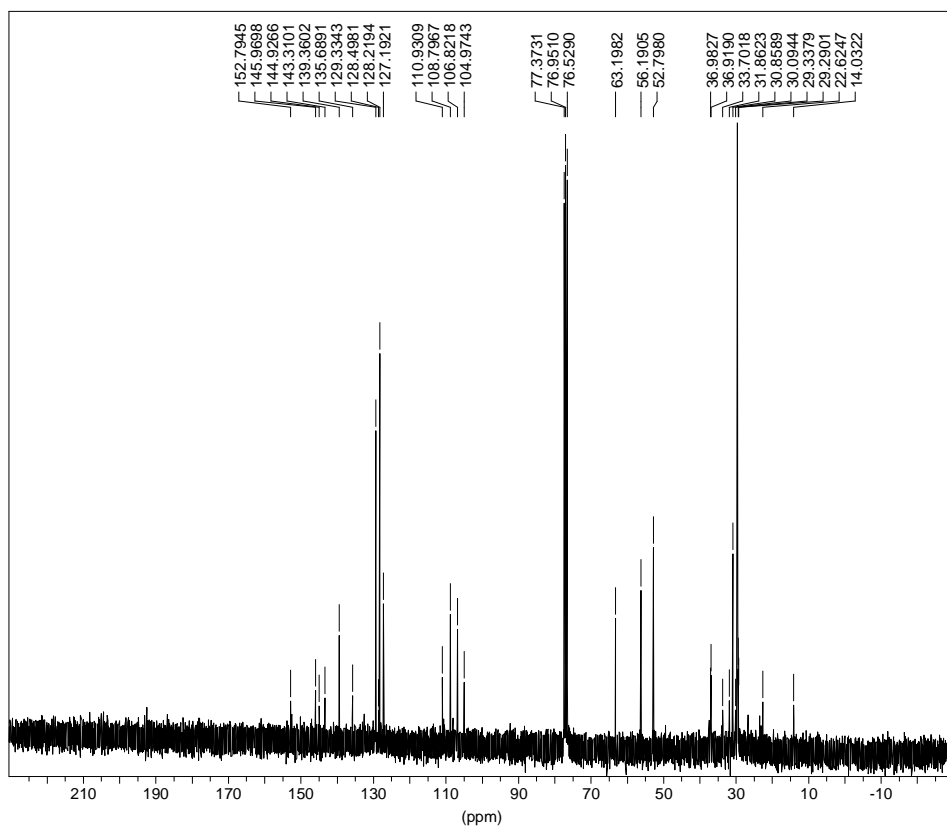
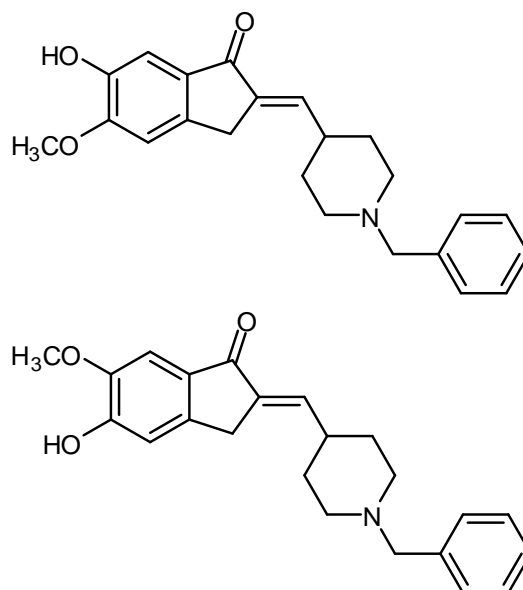


*** Current Data Parameters ***
 NAME : gpl8
 EXPNO : 1
 PROCNO : 1



¹³C-NMR Spectra

Sample 13a/13b



*** Current Data Parameters ***

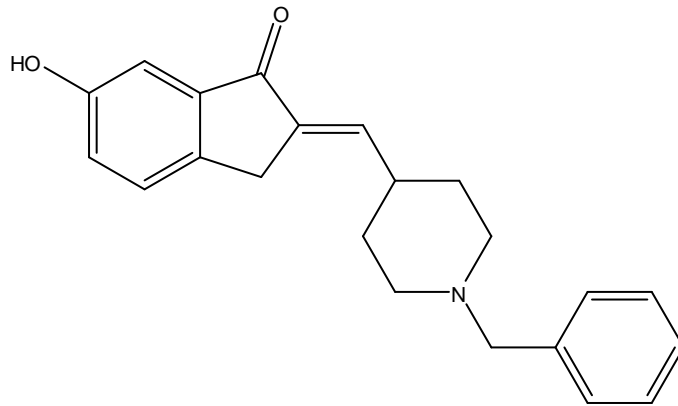
NAME : demg3c13

EXPNO : 1

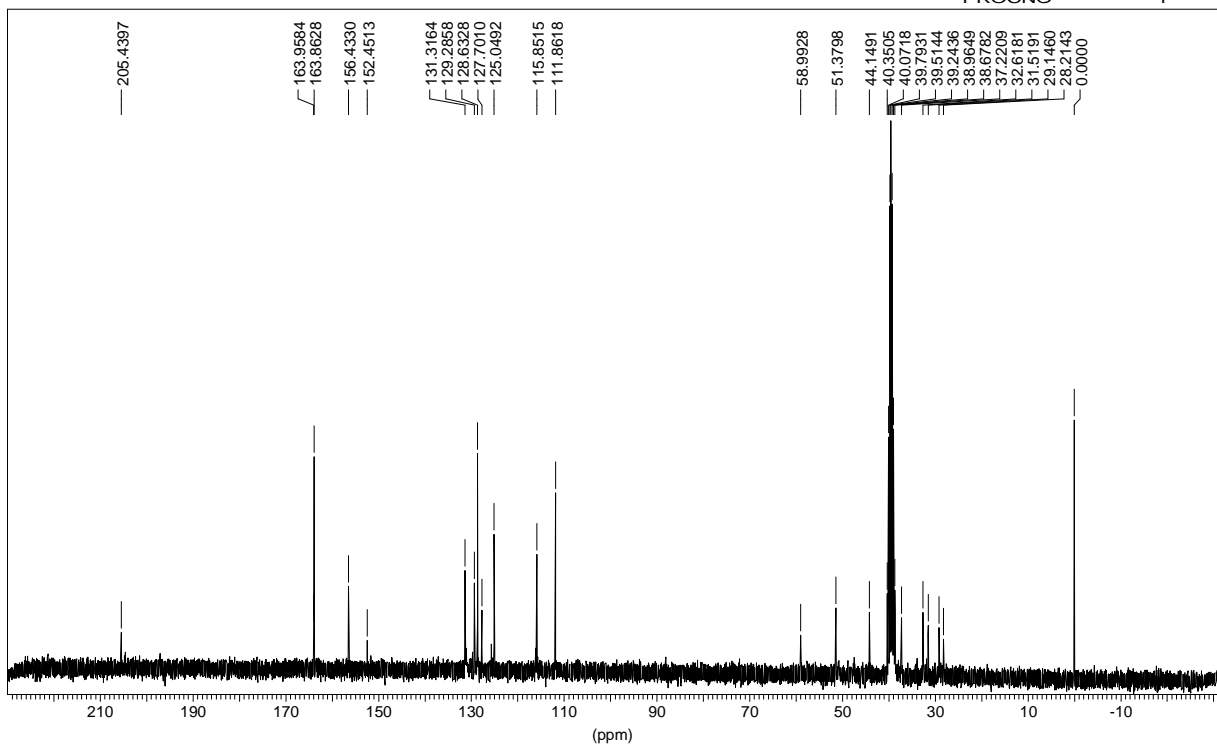
PROCNO : 1



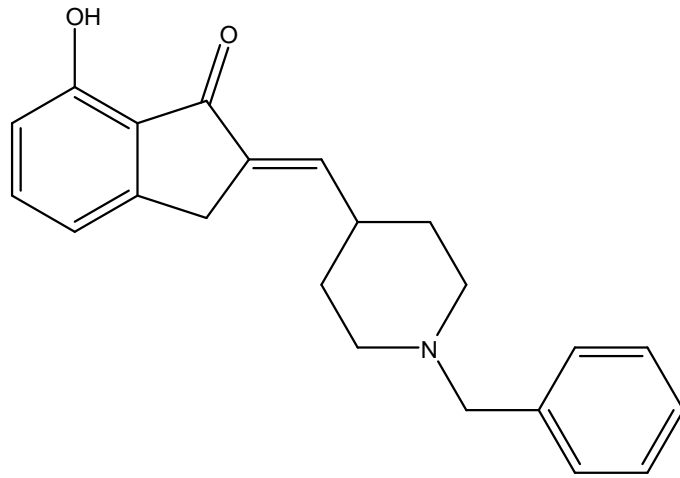
Sample 14



*** Current Data Parameters ***
NAME : demg7c13
EXPNO : 1
PROCNO : 1



Sample 15

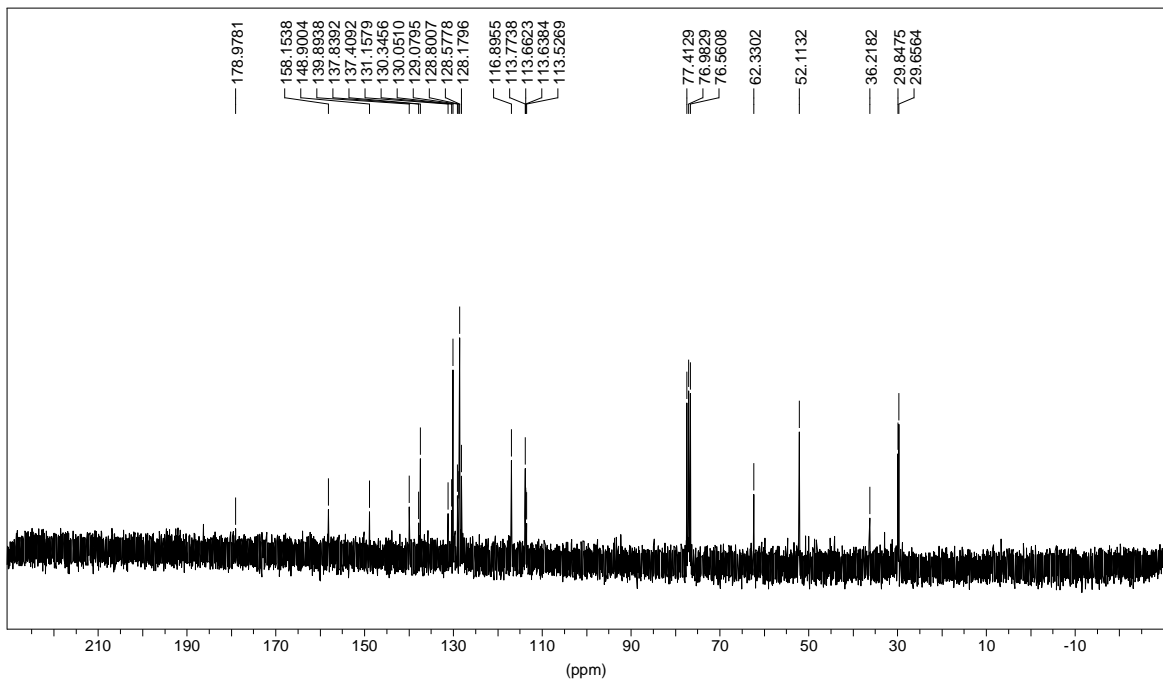


*** Current Data Parameters ***

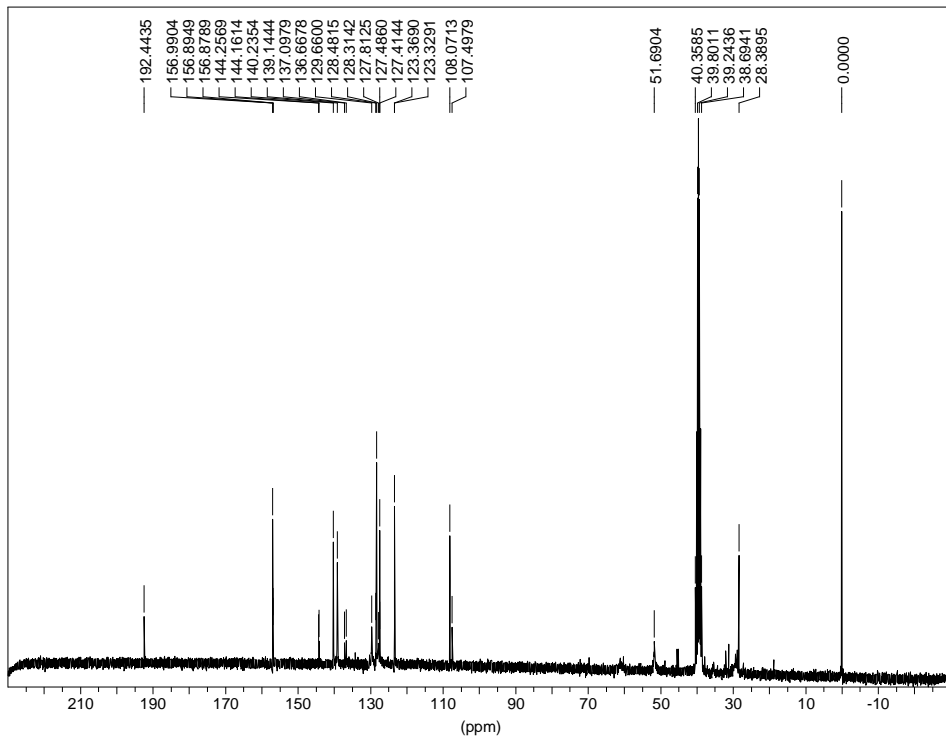
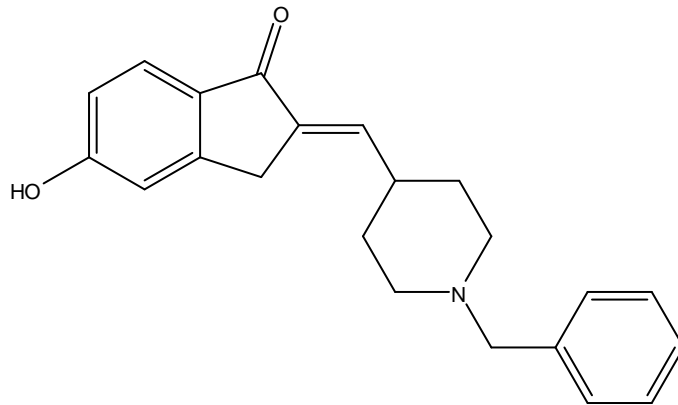
NAME : dm6c132

EXPNO : 1

PROCNO : 1



Sample 16



*** Current Data Parameters ***

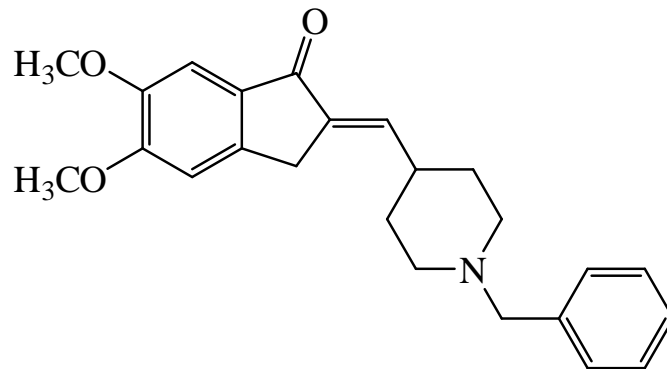
NAME : dang5c13

EXPNO : 1

PROCNO : 1



Sample 17

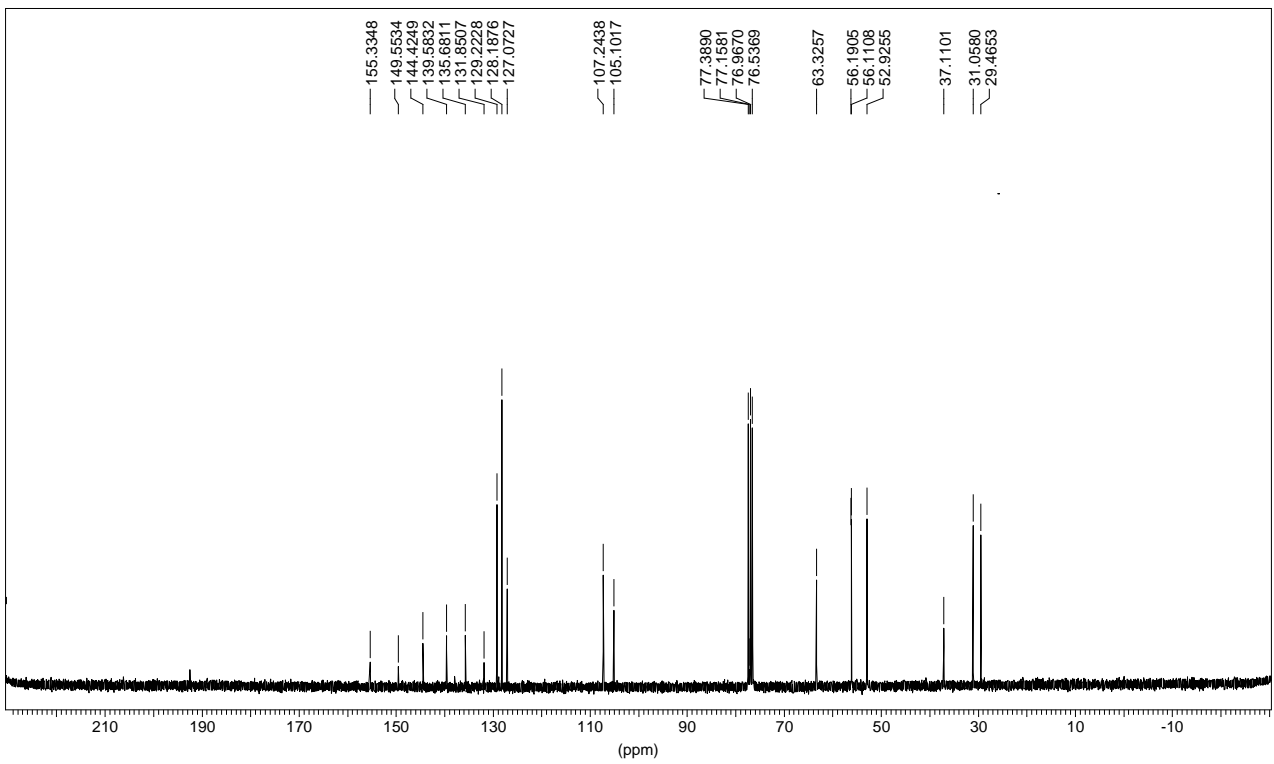


*** Current Data Parameters **

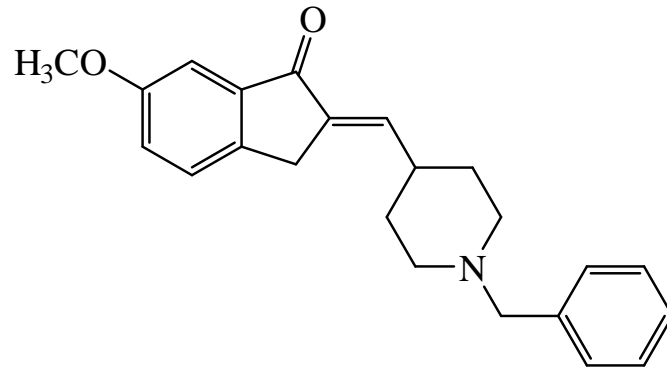
NAME : gp5c13

EXPNO : 1

PROCNO : 1



Sample18

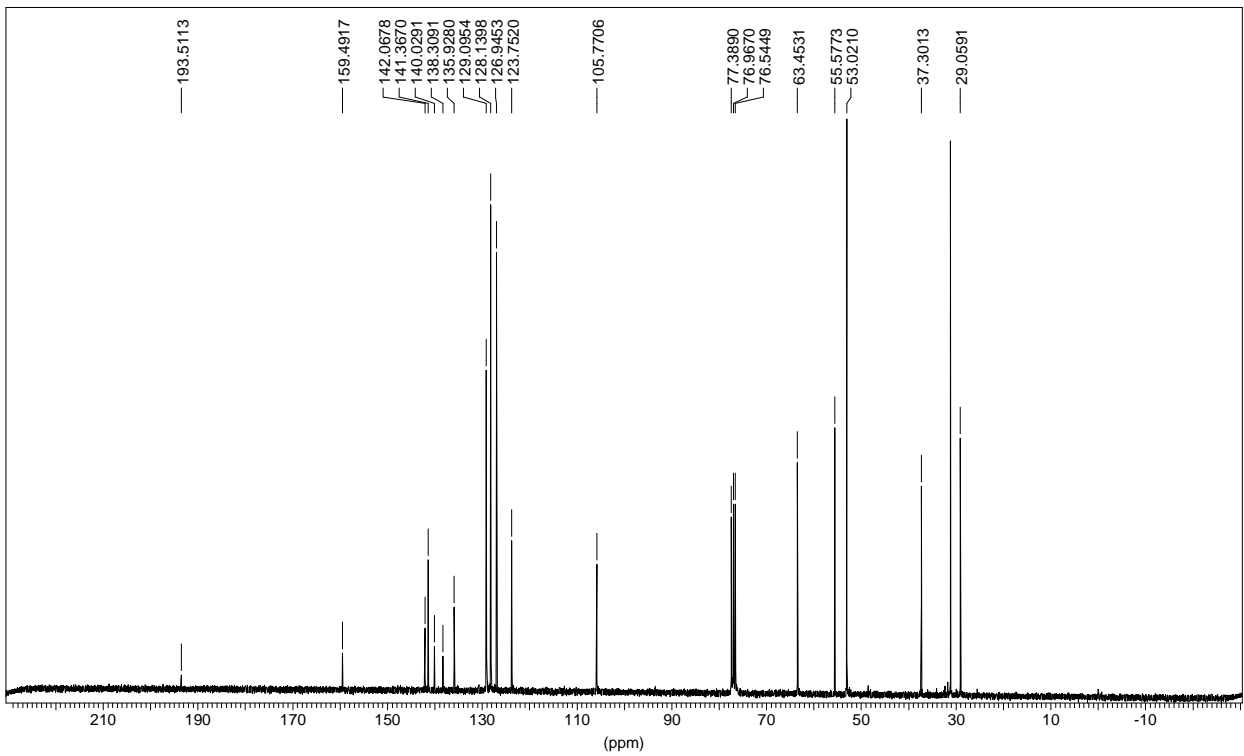


*** Current Data Parameters *

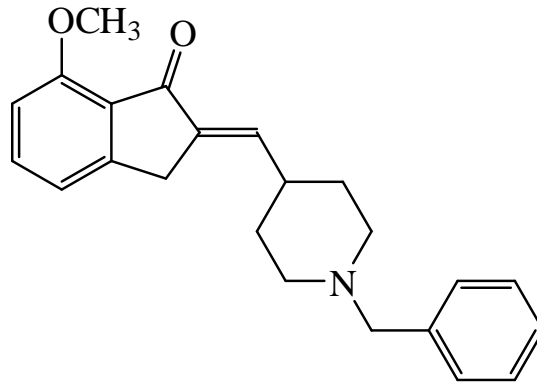
NAME : gp11c13

EXPNO : 1

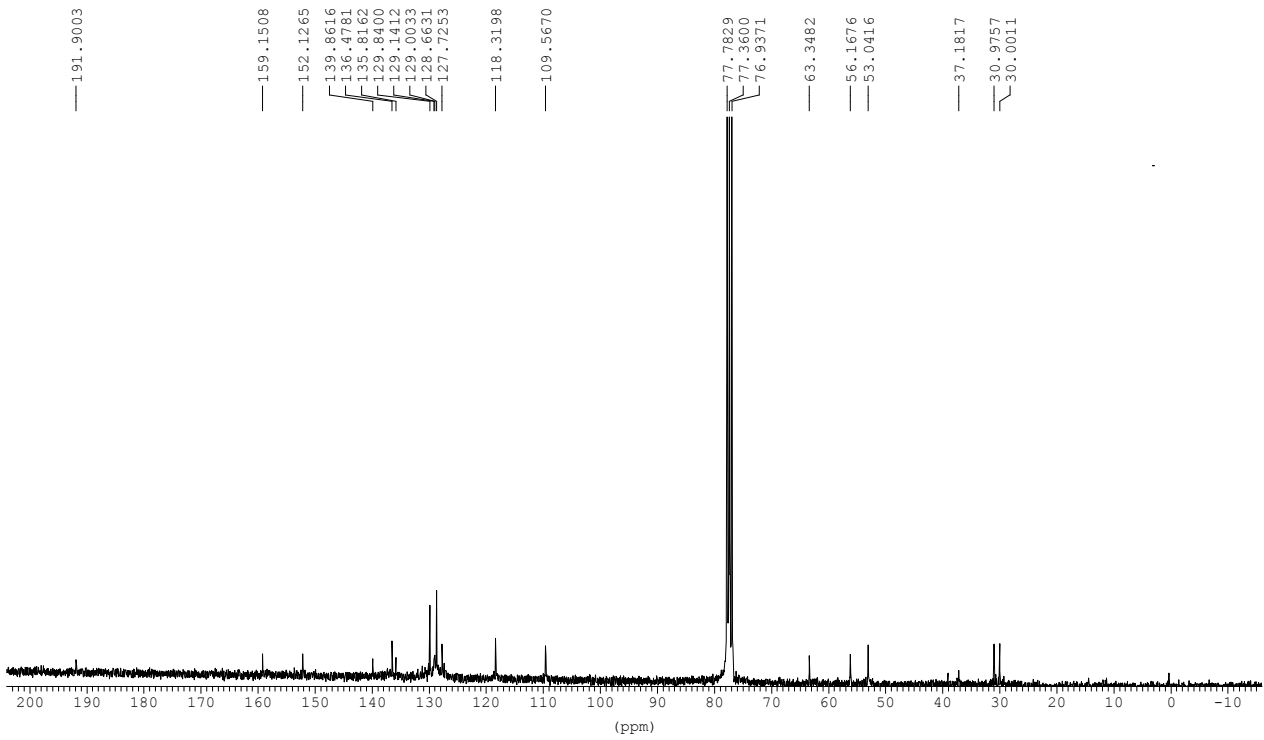
PROCNO : 1



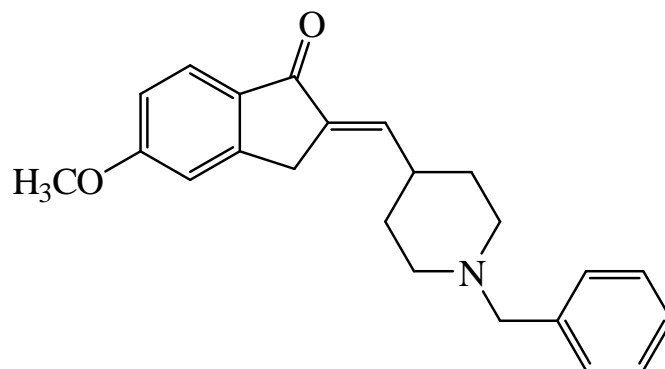
Sample19



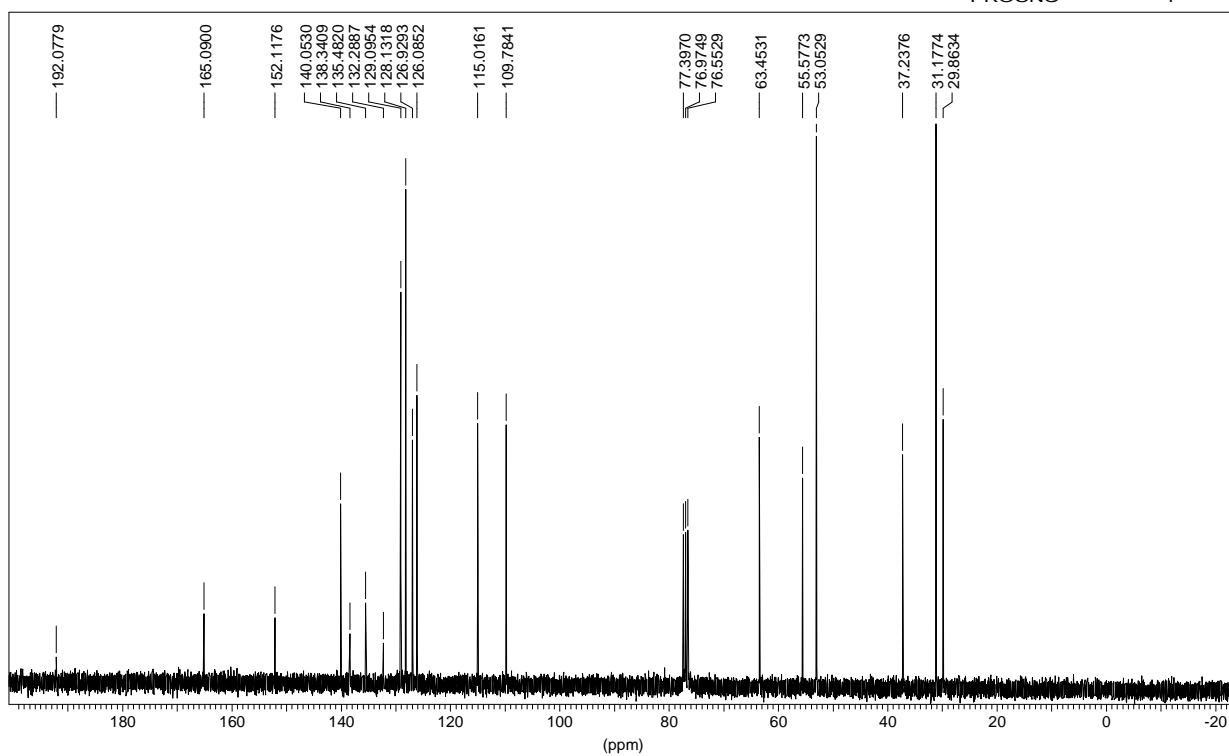
*** Current Data Parameters *
NAME : gp12c13
EXPNO : 5
PROCNO : 1



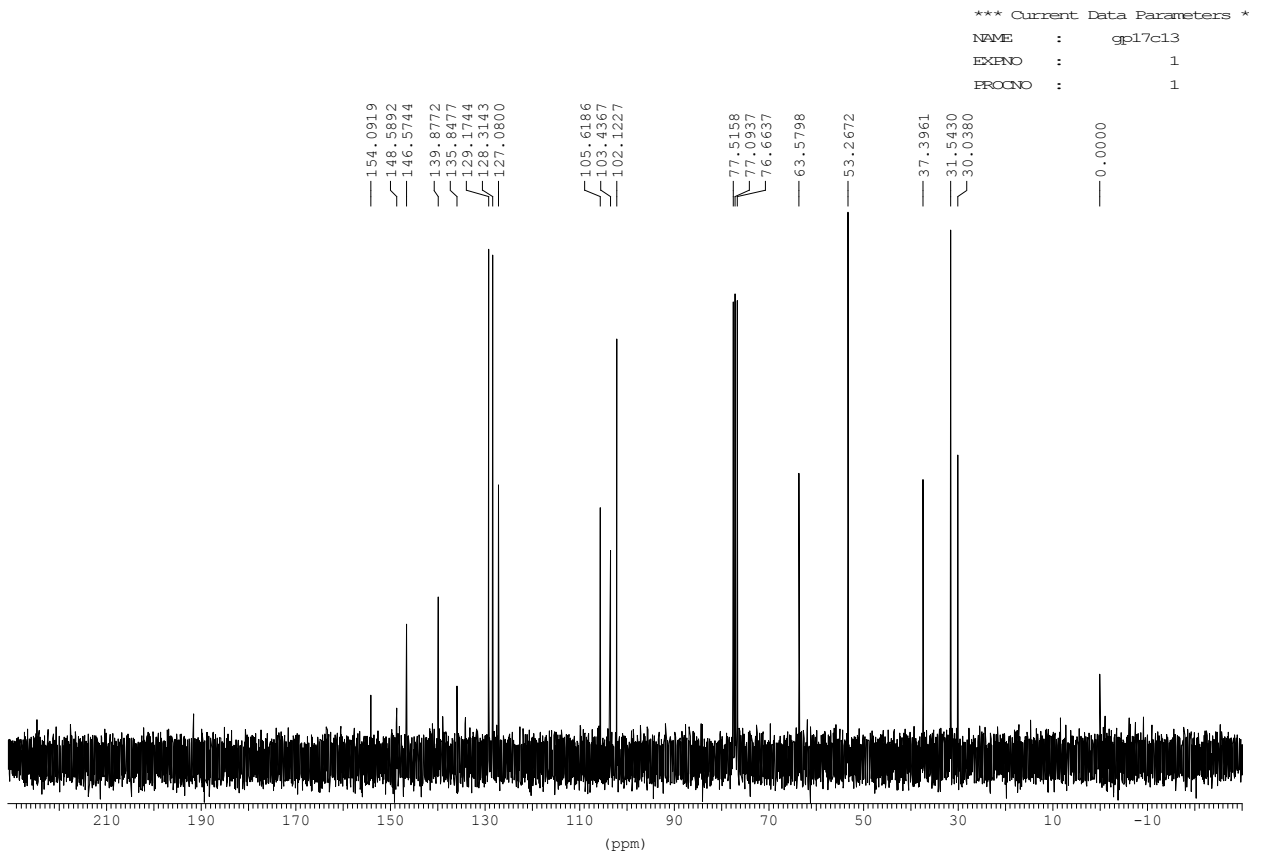
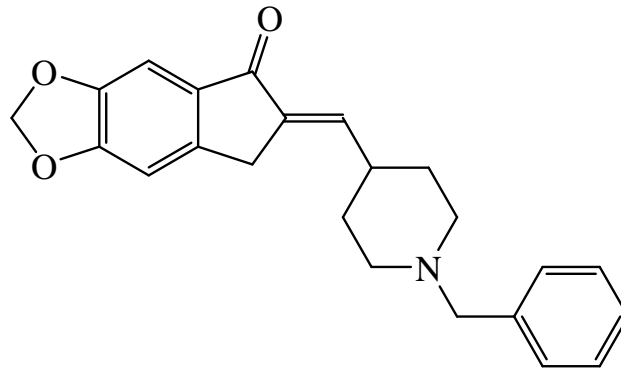
Sample20



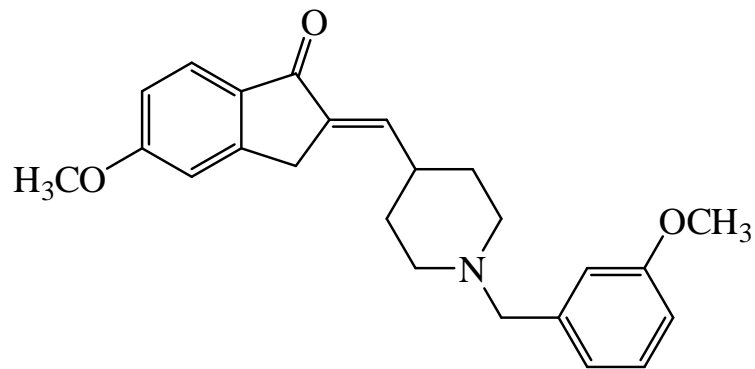
*** Current Data Parameters ***
NAME : gp10c13
EXPNO : 1
PROCNO : 1



Sample21

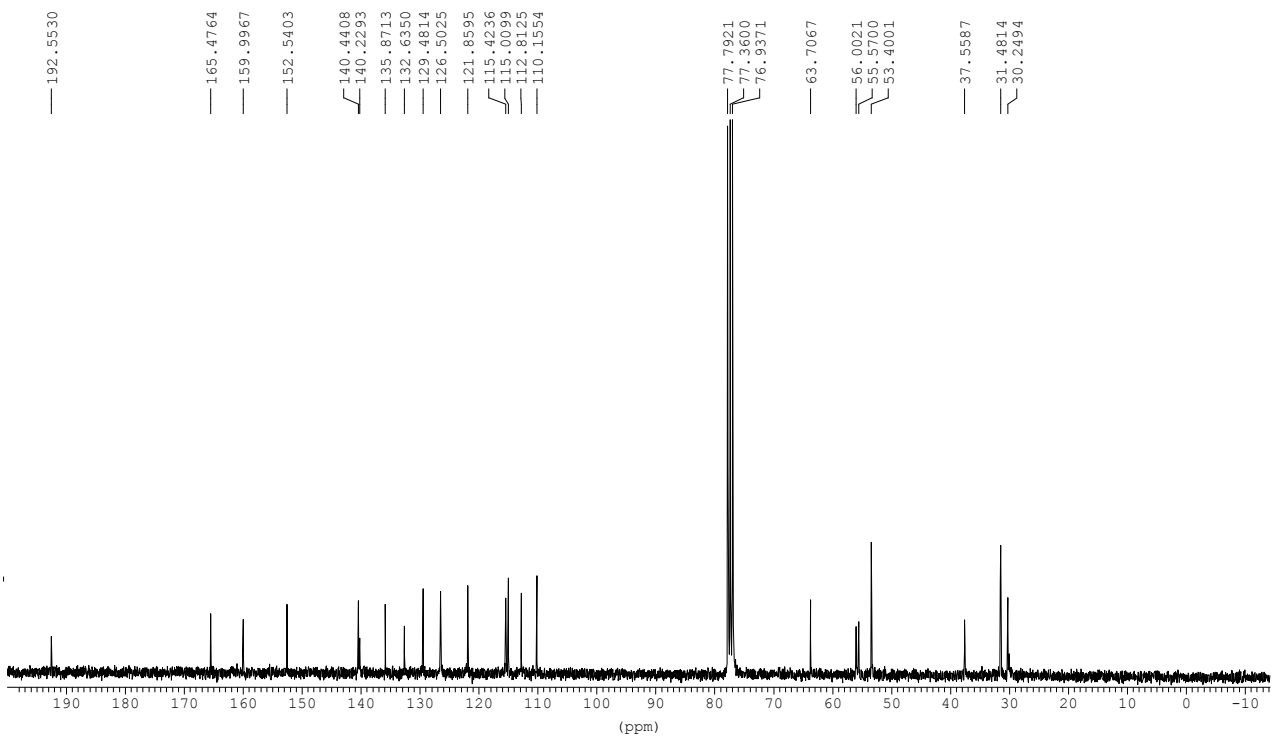


Sample22

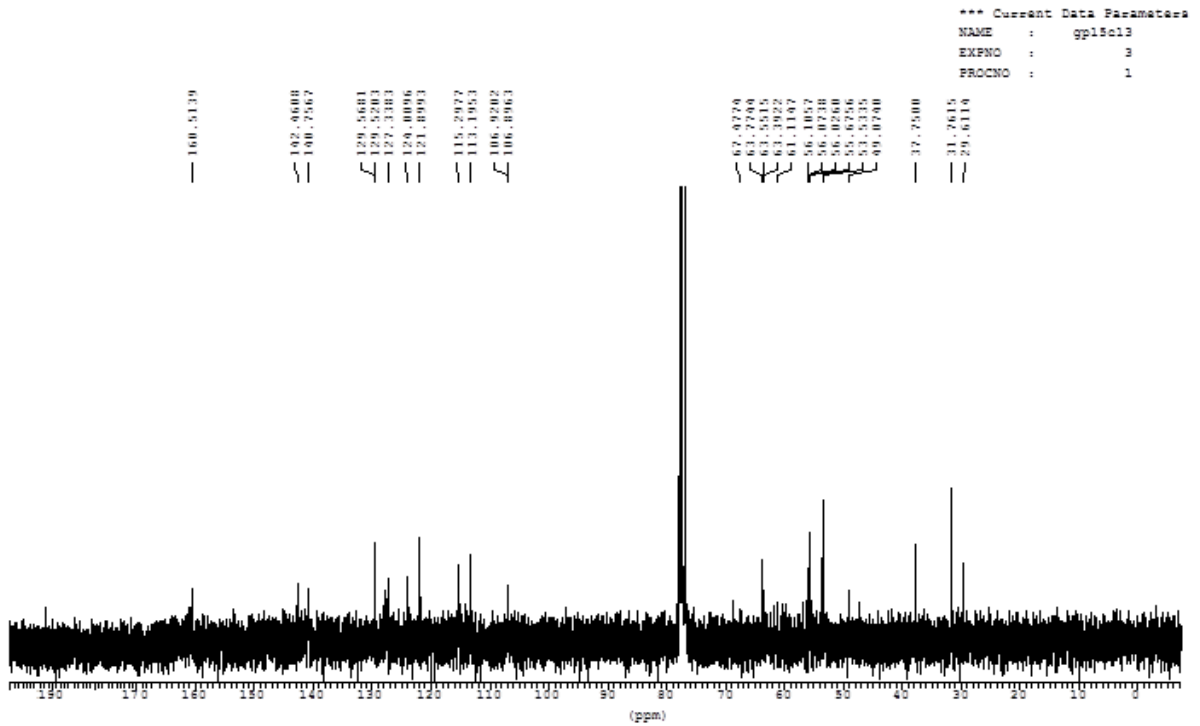
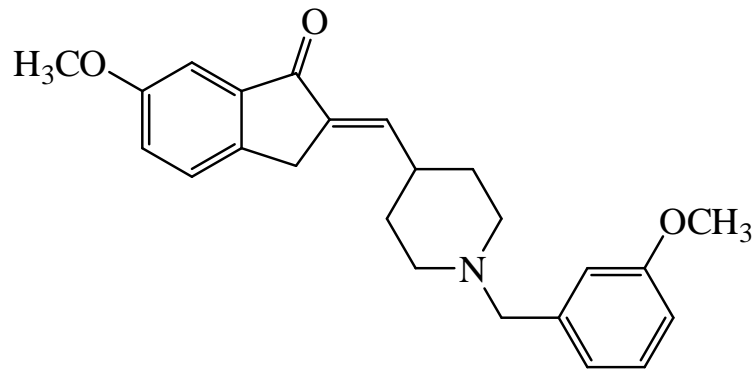


*** Current Data Parameters ***

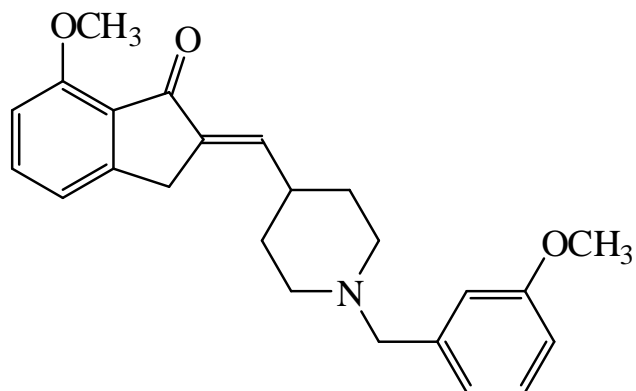
NAME : gp14c13
EXENO : 1
PROCNO : 1



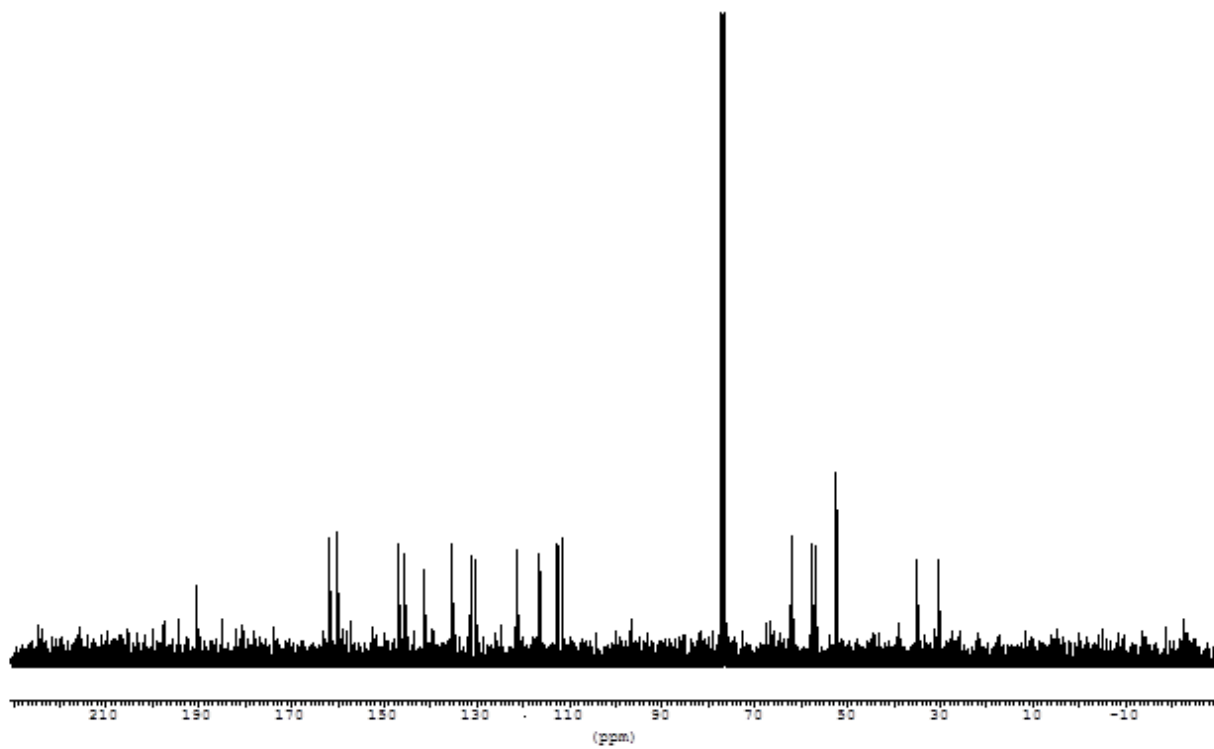
Sample23



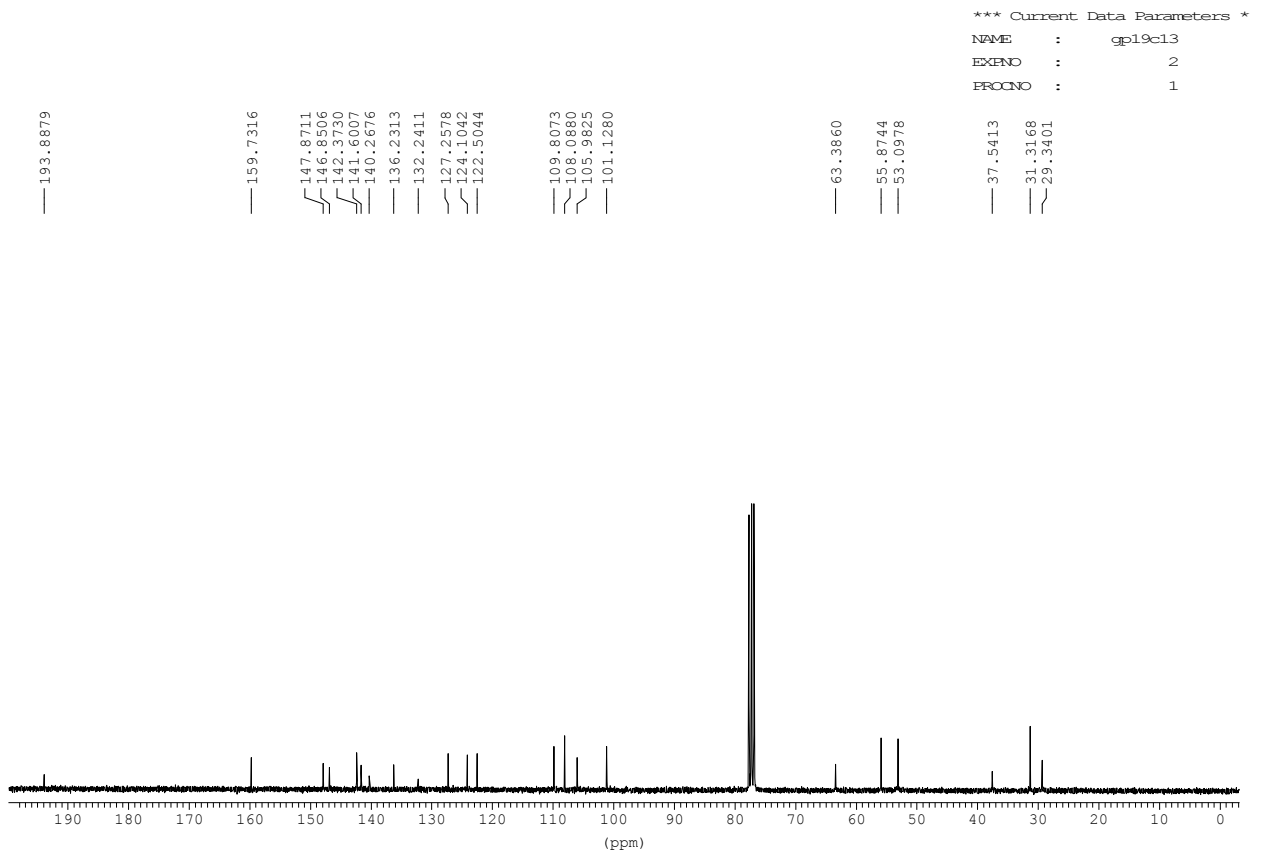
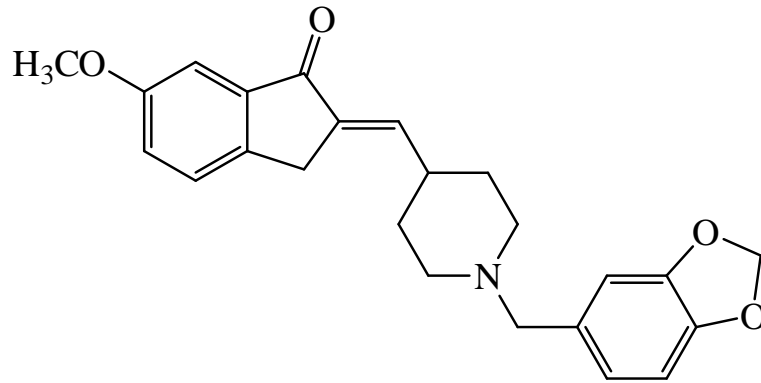
Sample24



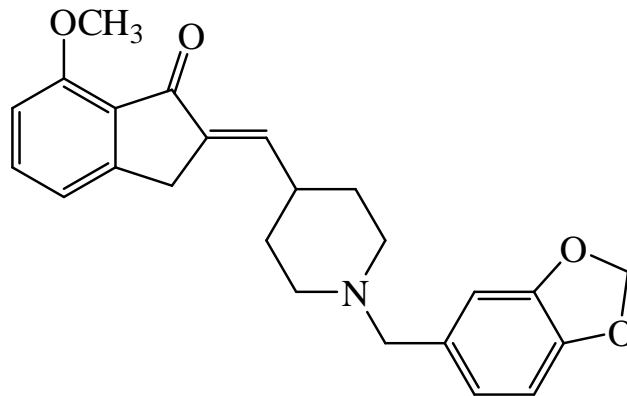
*** Current Data Parameters
NAME : gpl6013
EXPNO : 1
PROCNO : 1



Sample25

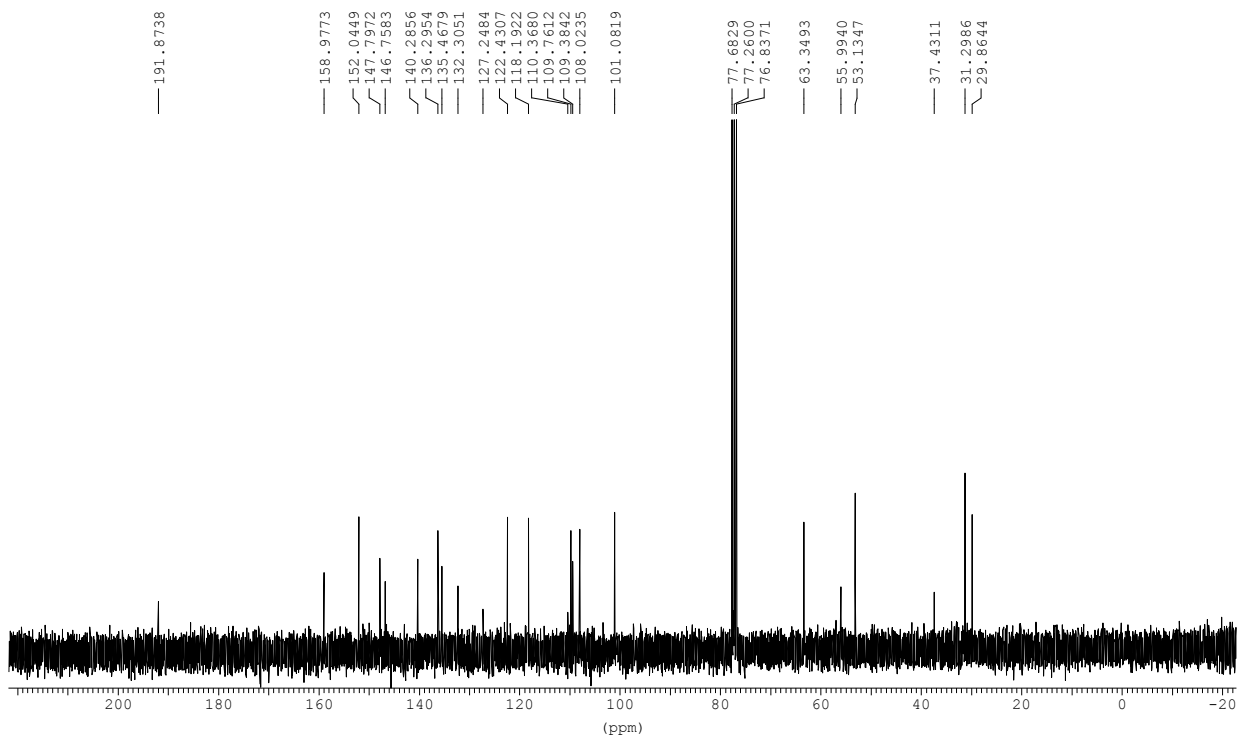


Sample26



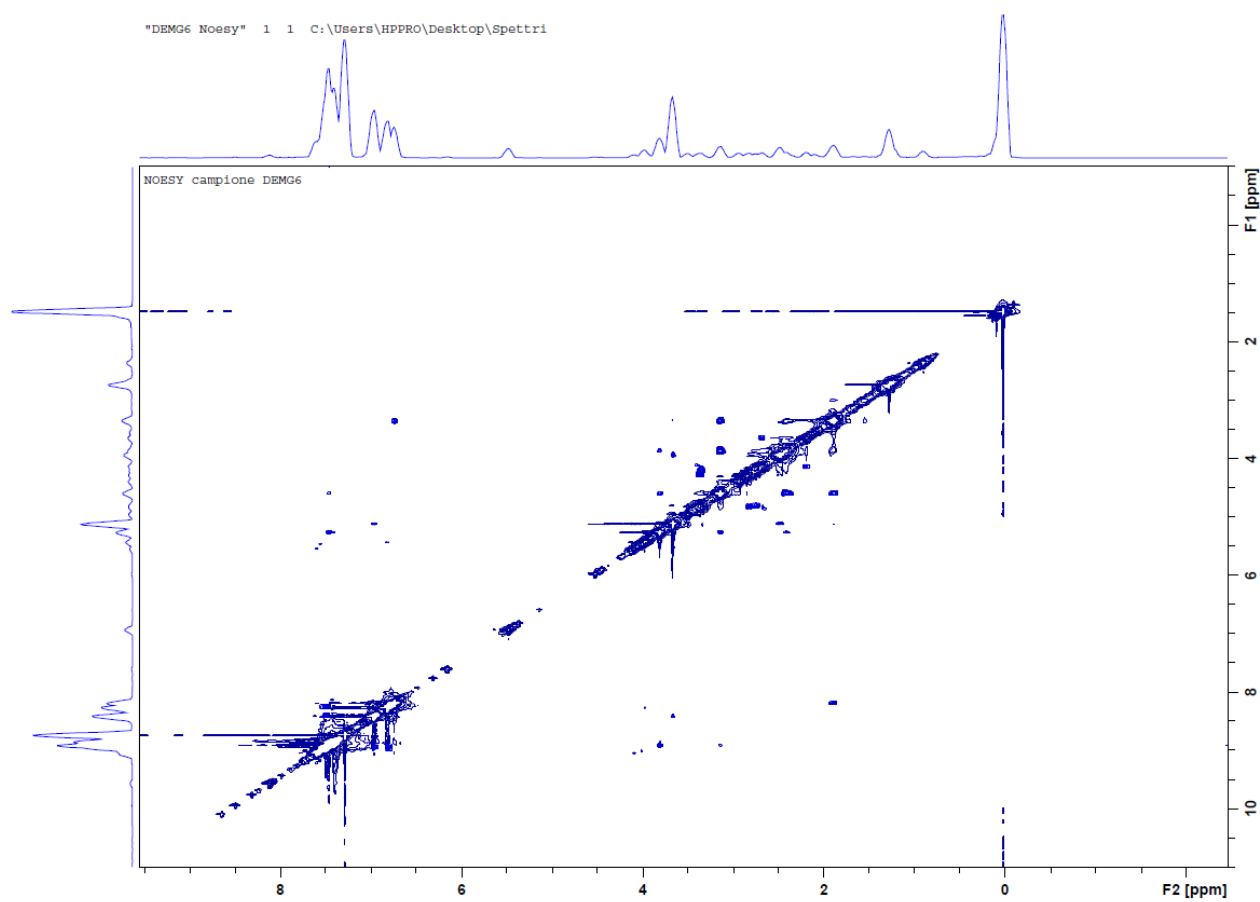
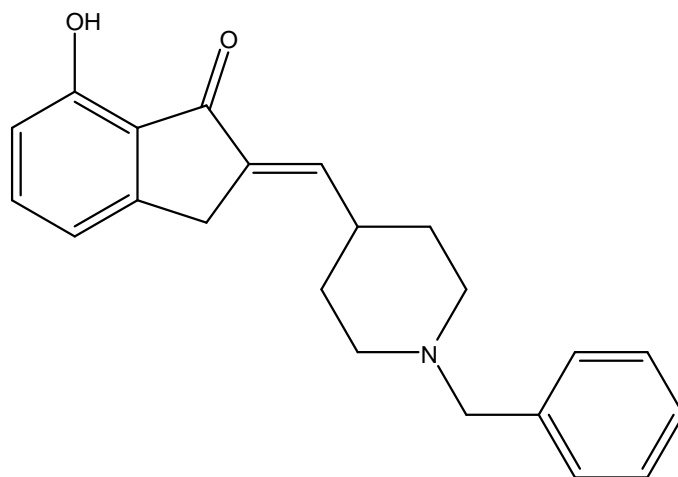
*** Current Data Parameters *

NAME : gp18c13
EXPNO : 1
PROCNO : 1

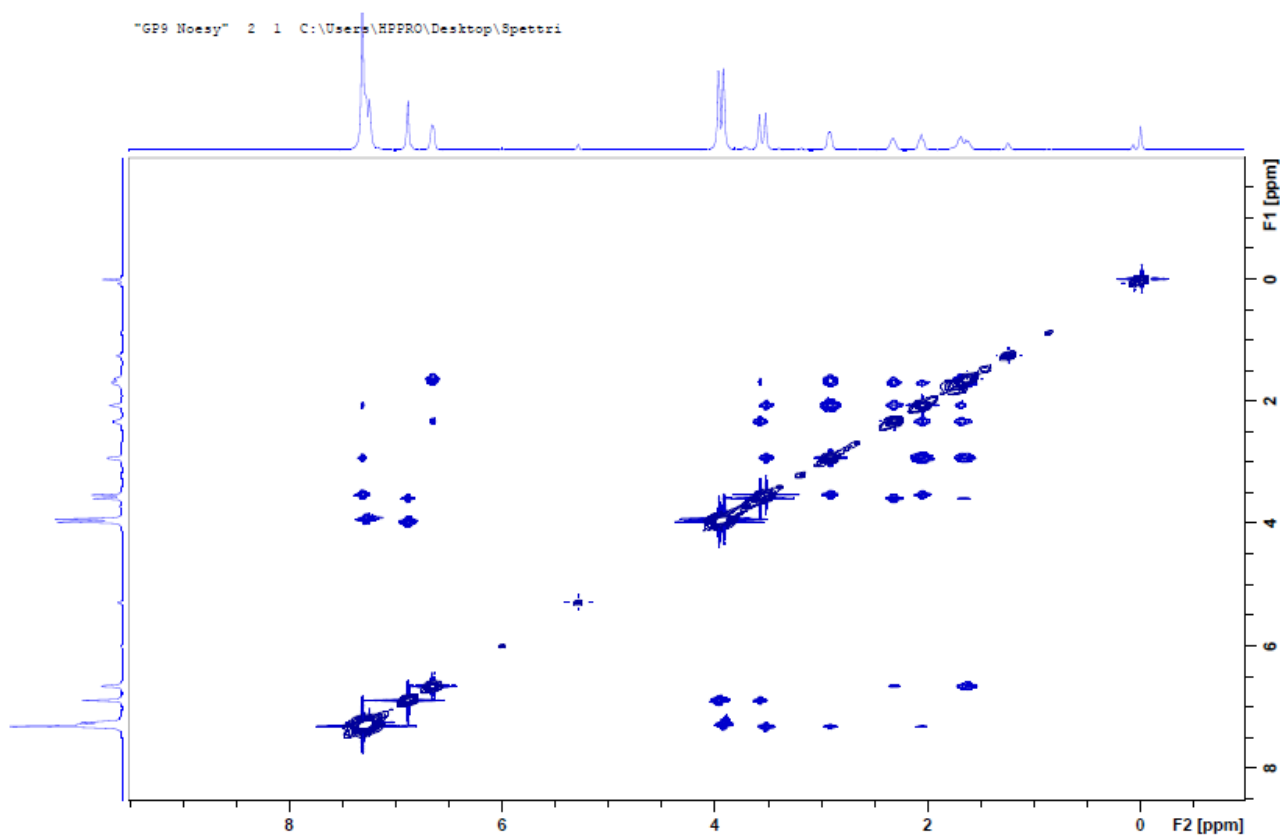
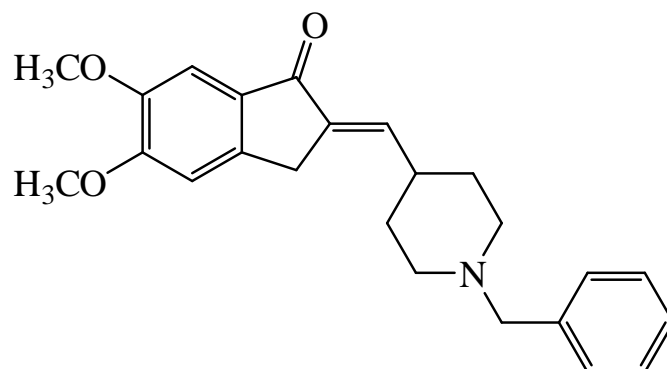


NOESY SPECTRA

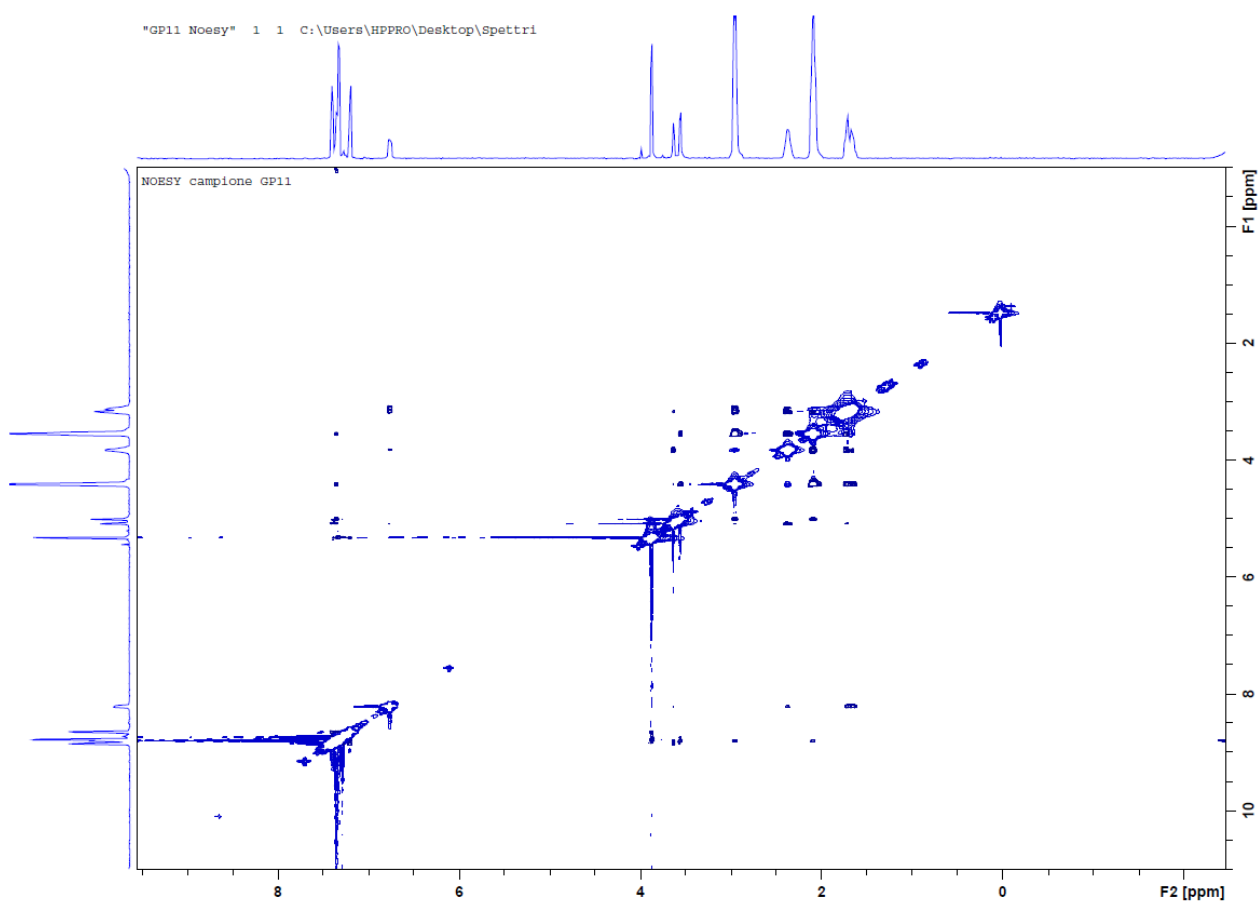
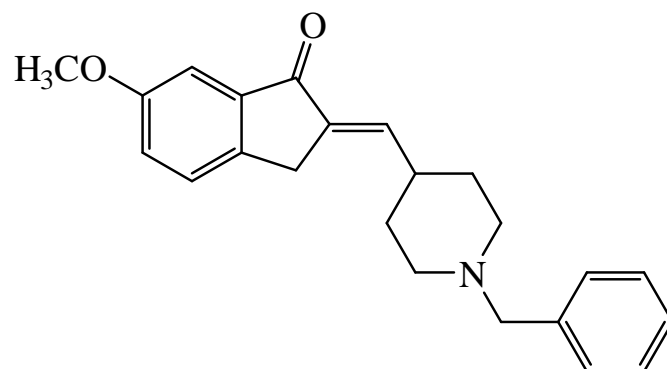
Sample 15



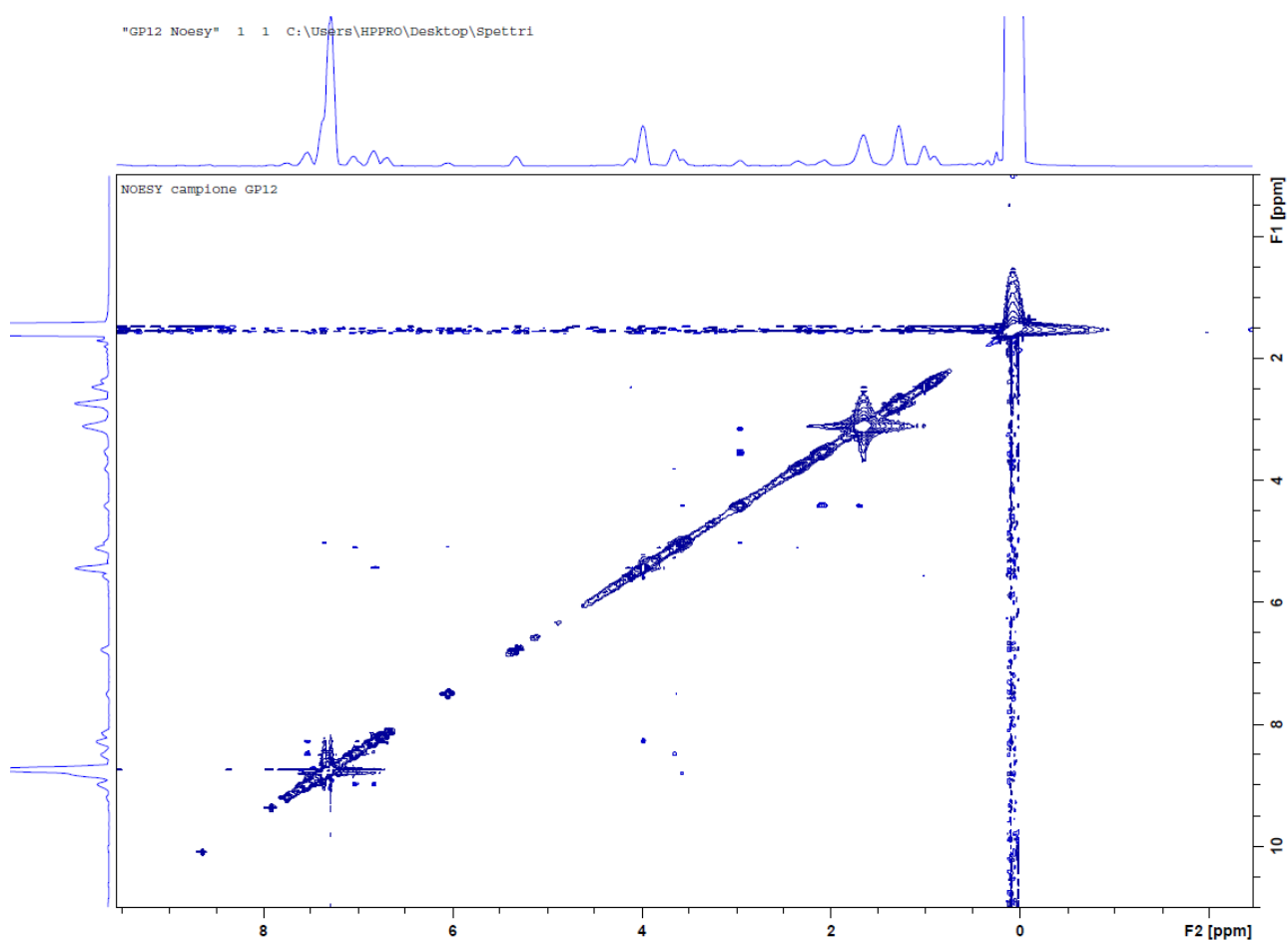
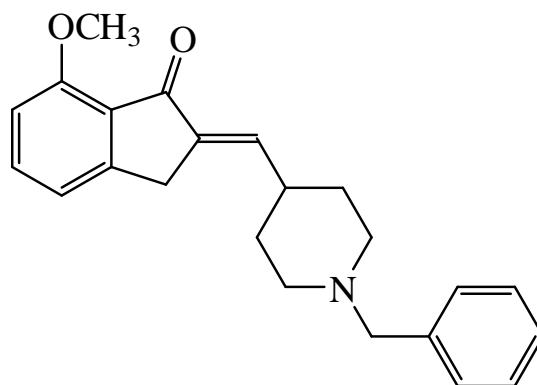
Sample 17



Sample18



Sample19



Sample20

