

Supporting Information

Enantioselective Intermolecular [2+2] Photocycloaddition Reactions of 2(1*H*)-Quinolones Induced by Visible Light Irradiation

Andreas Tröster, Rafael Alonso, Andreas Bauer, and Thorsten Bach

Department Chemie and Catalysis Research Center (CRC), Technische Universität München, Lichtenbergstr. 4, D-85747 Garching

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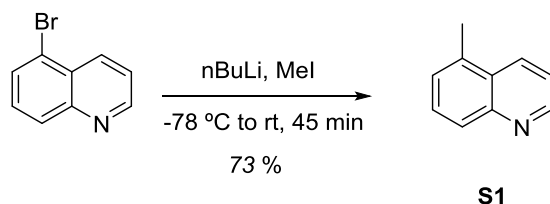
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1. General Information

All reactions sensitive to air or moisture were carried out in flame-dried glassware under argon pressure using standard Schlenk techniques. Dry tetrahydrofuran (THF) and dichloromethane (CH_2Cl_2) were obtained from an MBraun MB-SPS 800 solvent purification system. Other dry solvents were obtained from Fluka and Acros in the highest purity available and used without further purification. Technical solvents used for aqueous workup and for column chromatography [*n*-pentane (pentane), ethyl acetate (EtOAc), methanol (MeOH), dichloromethane (CH_2Cl_2)] were distilled prior to use. Photochemical experiments were performed in pyrex tubes ($\varnothing = 1.0$ cm for racemic reactions, $\varnothing = 0.8$ cm for enantioselective reactions and $\varnothing = 1.8$ cm for 0.15 mmol scale reactions) in Rayonet type photochemical reactors equipped with 16 lamps [$\lambda = 419$ nm (RPR-4190 Å, Rayonet)]. Prior to irradiation, the reaction mixture was degassed by purging with argon in an ultrasonating bath for 15 minutes. Flash chromatography was performed on silica 60 (Merck, 230-400 mesh) with the indicated eluent mixtures. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica coated glass plates (silica 60 F254) with detection by UV ($\lambda = 254$ and 366 nm). HPLC analyses were performed using a chiral stationary phase [ChiralPak AD-H (250 x 4.6 mm), ChiralCell OD-H (250 x 4.6 mm), Chiralcel, OJ-H, (250 x 4.6), Chiralpak AS-H (250 x 4.6 mm), Chiralpak AS-RH, 150 x 4.6 mm) Daicel Chemical Industries] with UVD 340 Photodiode Array Detector, P580 Pump and an ASI-100 Automated Sample Injector at 20 °C. Analytical gaschromatography was performed at a HP 6890 Series GC (Agilent, achiral stationary phase: HP-5 column, poly-dimethyl/diphenyl-siloxane, 95/5; chiral stationary phase: 2,3-dimethyl-6-TBDMS- β -cyclodextrine modified column) with a flame ionisation detector. The temperature method is given for the corresponding compounds. IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO IR-4100 (ATR), MS/HRMS measurements were performed on a Thermo Scientific DFS HRMS high resolution magnetic sector mass spectrometer. ^1H and ^{13}C -NMR-spectra were recorded at 303 K either on a Bruker AVHD400 or a Bruker AVHD500 spectrometer. NMR spectra were calibrated to the respective residual solvent signals of CDCl_3 δ (^1H) = 7.26 ppm, δ (^{13}C) = 77.16 ppm (DMSO δ (^1H) = 2.50 ppm). Apparent multiplets which occur as a result of accidental equality of coupling constants to those of magnetically non-equivalent protons are marked as virtual (*virt.*). The relative configuration of chiral products and the multiplicity of the ^{13}C NMR signals were determined by two-dimensional NMR spectra (COSY, HSQC, HMBC, NOESY). UV-Vis spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Lambda 35 UV-Vis spectrometer. Melting points were measured on a Büchi 510 instrument and are not corrected. Specific rotations were determined with a ADP440+ Polarimeter.

2. Synthesis of Quinolones

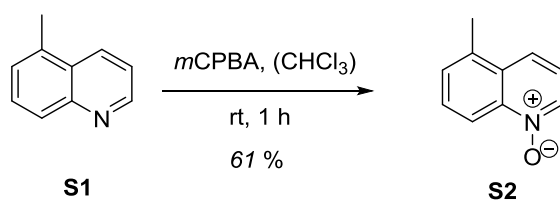
5-Methylquinoline (S1)



A solution of 5-bromoquinoline (985 mg, 4.73 mmol, 1.00 eq) in dry THF (47 mL) was cooled to -78 °C under argon atmosphere and n-BuLi (2.5 M in hexane) (2.46 ml, 6.15 mmol, 1.30 eq) was added dropwise. After addition the solution was stirred at -78 °C for 15 min. Iodomethane (1.33 ml, 21.30 mmol, 4.5 eq) was added dropwise and the mixture was allowed to reach room temperature over 30 min, quenched with a solution of ammonium chloride and extracted with diethyl ether. The organic phase was dried with Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 4:1). Quinoline **S1** (497 mg, 3.47 mmol, 73 %) was obtained as a colorless solid. The analytical data are in agreement with the literature.^[RSC Adv. 2014, 4, 21456-21464.]

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.91 (dd, ³J = 4.2 Hz, ⁴J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.32 (*virt.* td, ³J \approx ³J = 8.5 Hz, ⁴J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, ³J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 - 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.42 (dd, ³J = 8.5 Hz, ³J = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (s, 3H).
¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 150.0, 148.6, 134.7, 132.7, 129.3, 127.8, 127.8, 127.2, 120.8, 18.7.

5-Methylquinoline 1-oxide (S2)



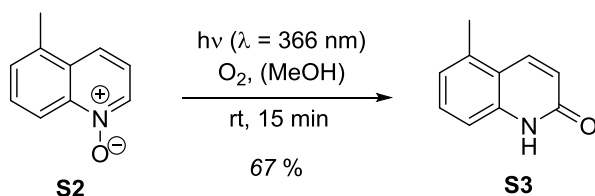
A solution of 5-methylquinoline (**S1**) (480 mg, 3.35 mmol, 1.00 eq) in 13 mL of chloroform was treated with *meta*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (1.164 g, 5.20 mmol, 1.55 eq). The mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. Subsequently, saturated NaHCO₃ (17 mL) and 2M NaOH (17 mL) were added and the mixture was extracted with dichloromethane. The combined organic layers were dried with Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was removed at reduced pressure yielding the desired N-oxide **S2** (324 mg, 2.04 mmol, 61 %) as a bright yellow solid which was used in the following step without further purification. The analytical data are in agreement with the literature.^[J. Chem. Soc. B, 1970, 440-443.]

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.74 (*virt.* td, ³J \approx ³J = 8.9 Hz, ⁴J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.56 (dd, ³J = 6.0 Hz, ⁴J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (dd, ³J = 8.8 Hz, ⁴J = 1.0 Hz, 1H),

7.91 (dd, $^3J = 7.5$ Hz, $^4J = 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.59 (dd, $^3J = 8.8$ Hz, $^3J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, $^3J = 8.8$ Hz, $^3J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.72 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 142.0, 135.5, 135.4, 130.1, 130.0, 129.3, 122.9, 120.4, 117.9, 19.1.

5-Methylquinolin-2-(1H)-one (S3)

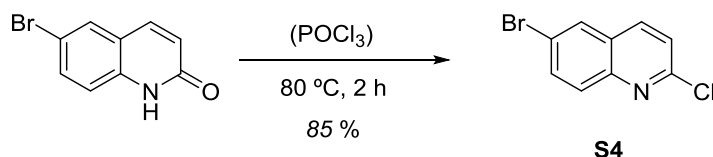


5-Methylquinoline 1-oxide (**S2**) (90 mg, 0.57 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (HPLC grade, 80 mL). The solution was then saturated with oxygen, transferred into 7 phototubes and irradiated at $\lambda = 366$ nm in a Rayonet photoreactor at room temperature for 15 min. Subsequently the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). Quinolone **S3** (60.4 mg, 0.38 mmol, 67 %) was isolated as a colorless solid. The analytical data are in agreement with the literature.^[*PLoS ONE* 2015, 10, e0113705]

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 12.55 (br. s, 1H), 8.05 (d, $^3J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, $^3J = 8.2$ Hz, $^3J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, $^3J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, $^3J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.76 (d, $^3J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.64 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 164.4, 138.9, 138.0, 135.6, 130.8, 124.2, 120.7, 119.0, 114.7, 18.8.

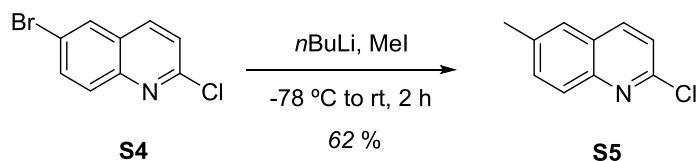
6-Bromo-2-chloroquinoline (S4)



6-Bromoquinolin-2(1H)-one (700 mg, 3.12 mmol, 1.00 eq) was suspended in POCl_3 (0.5 mL, 5.38 mmol, 1.72 eq) under inert atmosphere. The suspension was heated at 80 °C for 2 hours. After the mixture was cooled at room temperature, the dark red thick suspension was poured onto an ice-water mixture. The mixture was then rendered basic with 8M NaOH and extracted with dichloromethane. The organic layers were washed with water, brine, dried over Na_2SO_4 and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was then purified by column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 9:1). Quinoline **S4** (643 mg, 2.65 mmol, 85 %) was isolated as a colorless solid. The analytical data are in agreement with the literature.^[*Tetrahedron Lett.* 2014, 55, 7130-7132.]

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.03 (d, $^3J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, $^4J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, $^3J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.81 (dd, $^3J = 9.0$ Hz, $^4J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, $^3J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H).

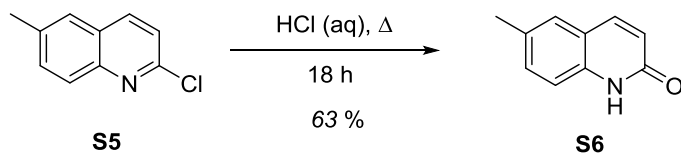
6-Methyl-2-chloroquinoline (S5)



A solution of 6-bromo-2-chloroquinoline (**S4**) (300 mg, 1.24 mmol, 1.00 eq) in dry THF (10 mL) was cooled to $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ under argon atmosphere and *n*-BuLi (2.5 M in hexane) (0.61 mL, 1.51 mmol, 1.22 eq) was added dropwise. After addition the solution was stirred at $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 1 h. Iodomethane (0.08 mL, 1.24 mmol, 1.00 eq) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred at this temperature for 1 h, then it was quenched with water at $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, extracted with ethyl acetate, dried with Na_2SO_4 and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 4:1). Quinoline **S5** (137 mg, 0.77 mmol, 62 %) was obtained as a colorless solid. The analytical data are in agreement with the literature.^[*Tetrahedron Lett.* **2014**, *55*, 7130-7132]

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 7.99 (d, $^3J = 8.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, $^3J = 9.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.33 (d, $^3J = 8.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.53 (s, 3H).

6-Methylquinolin-2-(1H)-one (S6)

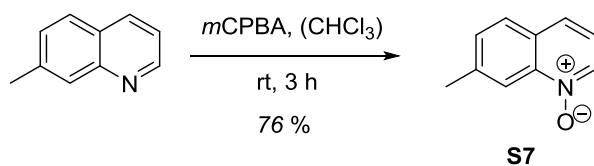


6-Methyl-2-chloroquinoline (75 mg, 0.42 mmol, 1.00 eq) was refluxed in HCl 6M (1.5 mL) for 22 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, and it was extracted with dichloromethane and dried with Na_2SO_4 . The crude residue was purified by column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). 6-Methylquinolin-2-(1H)-one (**S6**) (42.1 mg, 0.26 mmol, 63 %) was obtained as a colorless solid. The analytical data are in agreement with the literature.^[*Org. Lett.* **2015**, *17*, 222-225.]

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 12.44 (br. s, 1H), 7.77 (d, $^3J = 9.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.30 (m, 3H), 6.71 (d, $^3J = 9.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 163.9, 141.0, 136.6, 132.5, 132.3, 127.5, 121.3, 120.1, 116.2, 21.0.

7-Methylquinoline 1-oxide (**S7**)

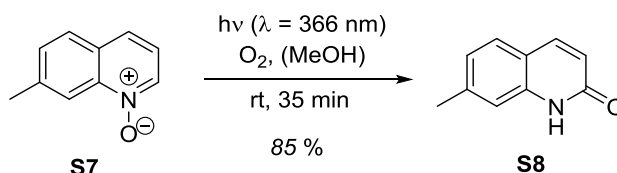


A solution of 7-methylquinoline (1.00 g, 6.98 mmol, 1.00 eq) in 20 mL of chloroform was treated with *meta*-chloroperbenzoic acid (2.67 g, 7.57 mmol, 1.55 eq). The mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. Subsequently saturated NaHCO₃ (25 mL) and 2M NaOH (25 mL) were added and the mixture was extracted with dichloromethane. The combined organic layers were dried with Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was removed at reduced pressure yielding the desired N-oxide **S7** (844 mg, 5.30 mmol, 76 %) as a yellow solid which was used in the following step without further purification. The analytical data are in agreement with the literature.^[*Org. Lett.* 2015, 17, 3134-3137.]

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.54 (s, 1H), 8.51 (d, ³*J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, ³*J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, ³*J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, ³*J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, ³*J* = 8.4 Hz, ³*J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 2.58 (s, 3H).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 141.8, 141.6, 135.9, 131.1, 128.8, 128.0, 126.2, 120.1, 118.9, 22.2.

7-Methylquinolin-2-(1H)-one (**S8**)

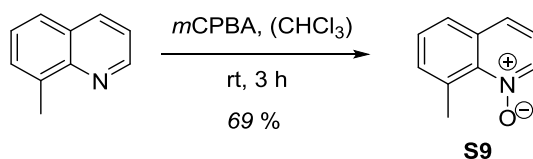


7-Methylquinoline 1-oxide (**S7**) (250 mg, 1.57 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (HPLC grade, 50 mL). The solution was then saturated with oxygen, transferred into 5 phototubes and irradiated at $\lambda = 366$ nm in a Rayonet photoreactor at room temperature for 35 min. Subsequently the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude product was then purified by column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). Quinolone **S8** (212 mg, 1.33 mmol, 85 %) was isolated as a colorless solid. The analytical data are in agreement with the literature.^[*Org. Lett.* 2015, 17, 222-225.]

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 12.63 (br. s, 1H), 7.80 (d, ³*J* = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.05 (d, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, ³*J* = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 165.0, 141.8, 141.2, 138.8, 127.6, 124.6, 120.1, 118.1, 116.3, 21.9.

8-Methylquinoline 1-oxide (**S9**)

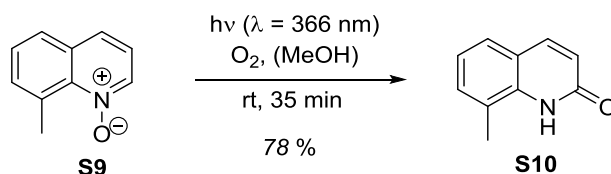


A solution of 8-methylquinoline (1.00 g, 6.98 mmol, 1.00 eq) in 20 mL of chloroform was treated with *meta*-chloroperbenzoic acid (2.67 g, 7.57 mmol, 1.55 eq). The mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. Subsequently saturated NaHCO_3 (25 mL) and 2M NaOH (25 mL) were added and the mixture was extracted with dichloromethane. The combined organic layers were dried with Na_2SO_4 and the solvent was removed at reduced pressure yielding the desired N-oxide **S9** (767 mg, 4.81 mmol, 69 %) as a yellow solid which was used in the following step without further purification. The analytical data are in agreement with the literature.^[*Org. Lett.* **2015**, *17*, 3134-3137.]

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.37 (d, $^3J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.71 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.46 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.16 (dd, $^3J = 7.0$ Hz, $^3J = 5.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.16 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 141.5, 137.4, 133.7, 133.5, 132.6, 128.2, 126.9, 126.6, 120.7, 25.0.

8-Methylquinolin-2-(1H)-one (**S10**)



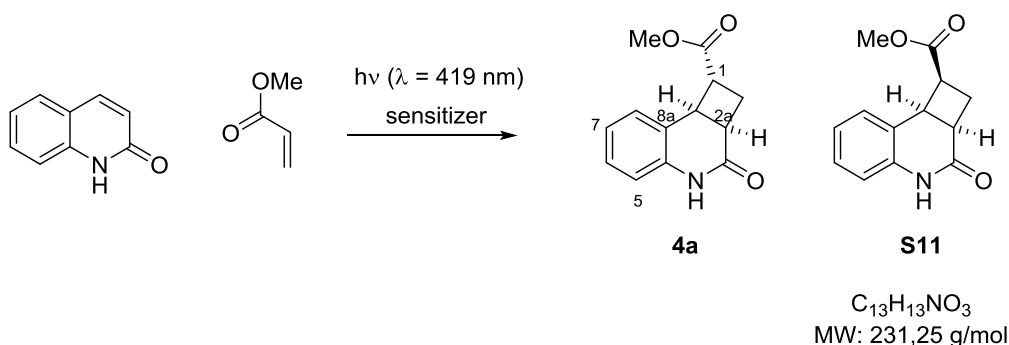
8-Methylquinoline 1-oxide (**S9**) (300 mg, 1.88 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (HPLC grade, 60 mL). The solution was then saturated with oxygen, transferred into 6 phototubes and irradiated at $\lambda = 366$ nm in a Rayonet photoreactor at room temperature for 35 min. Subsequently the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). Quinolone **S10** (234 mg, 1.47 mmol, 78 %) was isolated as a colorless solid. The analytical data are in agreement with the literature.^[*Org. Lett.* **2015**, *17*, 222-225.]

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.96 (br. s, 1H), 7.77 (d, $^3J = 9.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, $^3J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, $^3J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.12 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, $^3J = 9.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.52 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 163.5, 141.5, 137.0, 132.0, 126.2, 123.4, 122.5, 121.5, 119.9, 17.0.

3. Intermolecular [2 + 2] Photocycloaddition Reactions of Quinolones

Methyl (1*R*,2*aR*,8*bR*)-3-oxo-1,2,2*a*,3,4,8*b*-hexahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinoline-1-carboxylate (**4a**) and Methyl (1*S*,2*aR*,8*bR*)-3-oxo-1,2,2*a*,3,4,8*b*-hexahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinoline-1-carboxylate (**S11**)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (20 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, $c = 14$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, methyl acrylate (125 μ l, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 5 h at room temperature. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compounds **4a** (22.4 mg, 0.10 mmol, 69 %) and **S11** (4.9 mg, 0.02 mmol, 15 %) were obtained as colorless solids.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (3.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, methyl acrylate (113 μ l, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 6 h at -25 $^{\circ}$ C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4a** (4.4 mg, 19.0 μ mol, 76 %, 81 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition at -40 $^{\circ}$ C

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (3.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in a solvent mixture [1,3-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzene and α,α,α -trifluorotoluene = 2/1] (10 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, methyl acrylate (113 μ l, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 22 h at -40 $^{\circ}$ C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4a** (4.4 mg, 19.0 μ mol, 85 %, 83 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Exo isomer (4a):

M.p.: 156-158 °C.

TLC: R_f = 0.66 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.36 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.17 (*virt. td*, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.7$ Hz, $^4J = 1.6$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 7.10 (dd, $^3J = 7.5$ Hz, $^4J = 1.6$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.98 (*virt. td*, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.5$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.83 (dd, $^3J = 8.0$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.02 (*virt. t*, $^3J \approx ^3J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.73 (s, 3H, MeO), 3.41 – 3.26 (m, 2H, H-1, H-2a), 2.87 (*virt. dt*, $^2J = 12.1$ Hz, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.72 – 2.58 (m, 1H, H-2).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, DMSO, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 10.18 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.14 (*virt. td*, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.7$ Hz, $^4J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 7.03 (dd, $^3J = 7.5$ Hz, $^4J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.93 – 6.85 (m, 2H, H-5, H-7), 3.86 (*virt. t*, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.64 (s, 3H, MeO), 3.24 (*virt. qd*, $^3J \approx ^3J \approx ^3J = 9.1$ Hz, $^4J = 1.3$ Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.14 (*virt. tdd*, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.8$ Hz, 3.0, $^4J = 1.4$ Hz, 1H, H-2a), 2.67 (*virt. dt*, $^2J = 11.8$ Hz, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.35 (ddd, $^2J = 11.8$, $^3J = 8.8$ Hz, $^3J = 3.0$ Hz, 1H, H-2).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 174.0 (s, COOMe), 173.0 (s, C-3), 136.8 (s, C-4a), 128.5 (d, C-6), 128.0 (d, C-8), 123.8 (d, C-7), 122.5 (s, C-8a), 116.0 (d, C-5), 52.2 (q, OMe), 45.0 (d, C-2a), 40.1 (d, C-8b), 34.9 (d, C-1), 29.4 (t, C-2).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 1728, 1671, 1652, 1592, 1488, 1383, 1357, 1304, 1240, 1201, 1175, 1126, 1065, 1021, 942, 795, 766, 697, 669, 633, 620, 605.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 231 (8) [M⁺], 216 (0.4) [M⁺-CH₃], 199 (4) [M⁺-OCH₃], 171 (12) [M⁺-C₂H₃O₂], 145 (100) [M⁺-C₄H₇O₂], 117 (28), 90 (9).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₃H₁₃NO₃): calc.: 231.0895; found: 231.0890.

HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4a**, t_R = 15.2 min; *ent*-**4a**, 16.8 min).

Endo isomer (S11):

M.p.: 159-161 °C.

TLC: R_f = 0.55 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 7.96 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.14 (*virt. td*, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.7$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 6.98 (dd, $^3J = 7.3$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.94 (*virt. td*, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.4$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.68 (dd, $^3J = 7.9$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.25 (*virt. t*, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.64 (ddd, $^3J = 9.9$ Hz, $^3J = 8.5$ Hz, $^3J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.45 (*virt. td*, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.9$ Hz, $^3J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H, H-2a), 3.39 (s, 3H, OMe), 2.89 (*virt. dt*, $^2J = 12.6$ Hz, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.72 (ddd, $^2J = 12.6$ Hz, $^3J = 10.3$ Hz, $^3J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H, H-2).

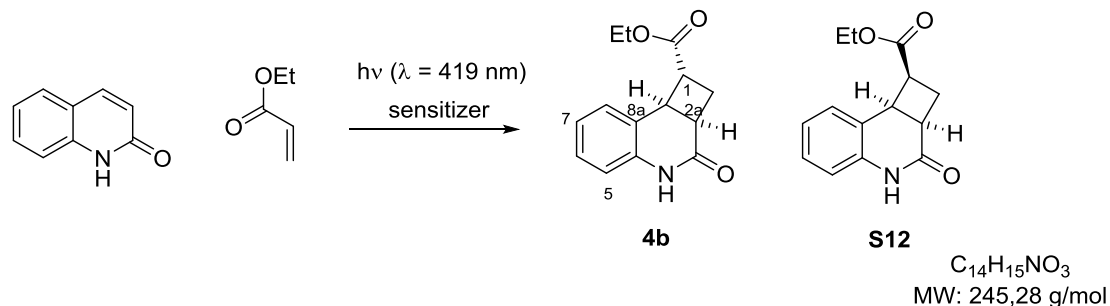
¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 172.3 (s, COOMe), 170.8 (s, C-3), 137.3 (s, C-4a), 129.0 (d, C-8), 128.6 (d, C-6), 123.3 (d, C-7), 119.5 (s, C-8a), 115.9 (d, C-5), 51.6 (q, OMe), 44.1 (d, C-1), 38.9 (d, C-8b), 34.9 (d, C-2a), 27.5 (t, C-2).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 1726, 1669, 1590, 1492, 1433, 1400, 1357, 1323, 1288, 1241, 1200, 1171, 1158, 1086, 1058, 1038, 938, 874, 842, 752, 731, 709, 679, 602.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 231 (9) [M⁺], 216 (0.2) [M⁺-CH₃], 199 (4) [M⁺-OCH₃], 171 (14) [M⁺-C₂H₃O₂], 145 (100) [M⁺-C₄H₇O₂], 117 (26), 90 (10).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₃H₁₃NO₃): calc.: 231.0895; found: 231.0890.

Ethyl (1*R*,2*aR*,8*bR*)-3-oxo-1,2,2*a*,3,4,8*b*-hexahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinoline-1-carboxylate (4*b*) and Ethyl (1*S*,2*aR*,8*bR*)-3-oxo-1,2,2*a*,3,4,8*b*-hexahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinoline-1-carboxylate (S12)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (20 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, *c* = 14 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, ethyl acrylate (150 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 5 h at room temperature. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compounds **4b** (22.0 mg, 0.09 mmol, 64 %) and **S12** (4.1 mg, 0.02 mmol, 12 %) were obtained as colorless solids.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (3.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, *c* = 2.5 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, ethyl acrylate (138 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 6 h at -25 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4b** (5.6 mg, 23.0 μ mol, 82 %, 78 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition at -40 °C

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (3.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in a solvent mixture [1,3-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzene and α,α,α -trifluorotoluene = 2/1] (10 mL, *c* = 2.5 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, ethyl acrylate (138 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 45 h at -40 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4b** (4.8 mg, 19.7 μ mol, 79 %, 80 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition (0.15 mmol scale)

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (22.0 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (6.6 mg, 15.0 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (60 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, methyl acrylate (807 μ L, 7.50 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 8 h at -25 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4b** (30.3 mg, 124 μ mol, 82 %, 76 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Exo isomer (4b):

M.p.: 111-113 °C.

TLC: $R_f = 0.84$ (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.37 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.17 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 7.10 (d, $^3J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.99 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.84 (d, $^3J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.27 – 4.09 (m, 2H, OCH₂CH₃), 4.01 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.48 – 3.22 (m, 2H, H-1, H-2a), 2.87 (*virt.* dt, $^2J = 11.9$ Hz, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.64 (ddd, $^2J = 11.9$ Hz, $^3J = 9.1$ Hz, $^3J = 3.2$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 1.28 (t, 3H, $^3J = 7.1$ Hz, OCH₂CH₃).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 173.5 (s, COOEt), 173.0 (s, C-3), 136.7 (s, C-4a), 128.5 (d, C-6), 128.0 (d, C-8), 123.9 (d, C-7), 122.6 (s, C-8a), 116.1 (d, C-5), 61.0 (t, OCH₂CH₃), 45.2 (d, C-2a), 40.1 (d, C-8b), 34.8 (d, C-1), 29.3 (t, C-2), 14.4 (q, OCH₂CH₃).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 3204, 3062, 2982, 1726, 1666, 1593, 1491, 1374, 1350, 1301, 1239, 1198, 1166, 1063, 1035, 859, 753.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 245 (7) [M⁺], 199 (4) [M⁺-C₂H₅O], 171 (11) [M⁺-C₃H₅O₂], 145 (100) [M⁺-C₅H₈O₂], 117 (23), 90 (7).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₄H₁₅NO₃): calc.: 245.1046; found: 245.1052.

HPLC (AD-H, 250 \times 4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4b**, $t_R = 12.4$ min; *ent*-**4b**, 13.7 min).

Specific rotation $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -88.6$ ($c = 0.54$, CHCl₃) [76% *ee*].

Endo isomer (S12):

M.p.: 131-133 °C.

TLC: $R_f = 0.54$ (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.21 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.14 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.7$ Hz, $^4J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 7.00 (dd, $^3J = 7.6$ Hz, $^4J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.93 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.5$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.70 (dd, $^3J = 8.0$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.25 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.89 – 3.76 (m, 2H, OCH₂CH₃), 3.59 (ddd, $^3J = 9.9$ Hz, $^3J = 8.5$ Hz, $^3J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.45 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.9$ Hz, $^3J = 6.7$ Hz, 1H, H-2a), 2.88 (m, 1H, H-2), 2.78 – 2.67 (m, 1H, H-2), 0.98 (t, $^3J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H, OCH₂CH₃).

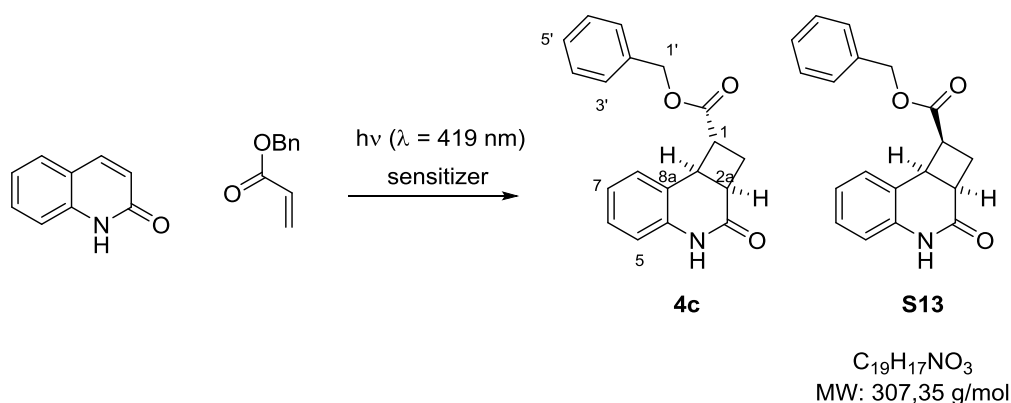
¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 174.7 (s, COOEt), 172.0 (s, C-3), 137.2 (s, C-4a), 129.2 (d, C-8), 128.6 (d, C-6), 123.3 (d, C-7), 119.6 (s, C-8a), 115.9 (d, C-5), 60.7 (t, OCH₂CH₃), 44.2 (d, C-1), 38.8 (d, C-8b), 34.9 (d, C-2a), 27.5 (t, C-2), 14.3 (q, OCH₂CH₃).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 2981, 2936, 1728, 1677, 1446, 1378, 1299, 1243, 1176, 1176, 1160, 1097, 1023, 853, 757.

HRMS (EI) (C₁₄H₁₅NO₃): calc.: 245.1046; found: 245.1049.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 245 (5) [M⁺], 199 (4) [M⁺-C₂H₅O], 171 (9) [M⁺-C₃H₅O₂], 145 (100) [M⁺-C₅H₈O₂], 117 (22), 90 (8).

Benzyl (1*R*,2*aR*,8*bR*)-3-oxo-1,2,2*a*,3,4,8*b*-hexahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinoline-1-carboxylate (4*c*) and Benzyl (1*S*,2*aR*,8*bR*)-3-oxo-1,2,2*a*,3,4,8*b*-hexahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinoline-1-carboxylate (S13)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (20 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, $c = 14$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, benzyl acrylate (207 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 3 h at room temperature. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compounds **4*c*** (34.5 mg, 0.11 mmol, 79 %) and **S13** (7.4 mg, 0.02 mmol, 17 %) were obtained as colorless solids.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (3.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, benzyl acrylate (188 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 6 h at -25 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4*c*** (6.4 mg, 21.0 μ mol, 83 %, 82 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition (0.15 mmol scale)

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (22.0 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (6.6 mg, 15.0 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (60 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, benzyl acrylate (1.16 mL, 7.50 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 8 h at -25 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 7:3 \rightarrow 1:1). The title compound **4*c*** (36.3 mg, 119 μ mol, 79 %, 80 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Exo isomer (4c):

M.p.: 119-121 °C.

TLC: R_f = 0.73 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.36 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.45 – 7.30 (m, 4H, Ar), 7.23 – 7.20 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.17 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.7$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 7.01 (dd, $^3J = 7.1$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.95 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.3$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.83 (dd, $^3J = 7.9$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 5.22 (d, $^2J = 12.2$ Hz, 1H, H-1'), 5.13 (d, $^2J = 12.2$ Hz, 1H, H-1'), 4.01 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.47 – 3.23 (m, 2H, H-1, H-2a), 2.90 (*virt.* dt, $^2J = 12.1$ Hz, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.65 (ddd, $^2J = 12.1$ Hz, $^3J = 9.2$ Hz, $^3J = 3.3$ Hz, 1H, H-2).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 173.2 (s, COOBn), 172.9 (s, C-3), 136.8 (s, C-4a), 135.8 (s, C-2'), 128.7 (d, C-4'), 128.5 (d, C-5'), 128.4 (d, C-6), 128.3 (d, C-3'), 128.0 (d, C-8), 123.8 (d, C-7), 122.4 (s, C-8a), 116.0 (d, C-5), 66.7 (t, C-1'), 45.1 (d, C-2a), 40.2 (d, C-8b), 34.9 (d, C-1), 29.2 (t, C-2).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 1728, 1665, 1593, 1493, 1456, 1382, 1350, 1250, 1236, 1195, 1173, 1151, 1123, 1065, 1025, 907, 870, 854, 831, 758, 701, 679, 620.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 307 (4) [M⁺], 248 (3), 216 (3) [M⁺-Bn], 200 (2) [M⁺-OBn], 172 (3) [M⁺-C₈H₇O₂], 159 (2) [M⁺-C₉H₉O₂], 145 (100) [M⁺-C₁₀H₁₁O₂], 117 (18), 91 (14).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₉H₁₇NO₃): calc.: 307.1208; found: 307.1216.

HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4c**, t_R = 18.1 min; *ent*-**4c**, 24.2 min).

Specific rotation $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -86.8$ ($c = 0.67$, CHCl₃) [80% *ee*].

Endo isomer (S13):

M.p.: 121-123 °C.

TLC: R_f = 0.64 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.03 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.39 – 7.26 (m, 3H, Ar), 7.26 – 7.06 (m, 3H, Ar, H-6), 6.94 (dd, $^3J = 7.7$ Hz, $^4J = 1.6$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.86 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.4$ Hz, $^4J = 1.1$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.65 (dd, $^3J = 8.0$ Hz, $^4J = 1.1$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.85 (d, $^2J = 12.1$ Hz, 1H, H-1'), 4.71 (d, $^2J = 12.1$ Hz, 1H, H-1'), 4.25 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.9$ Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.66 (ddd, $^3J = 9.8$ Hz, $^3J = 8.5$ Hz, $^3J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.45 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.9$ Hz, $^3J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H, H-2a), 2.91 (*virt.* dt, $^2J = 12.4$ Hz, $^3J \approx ^3J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.82 – 2.64 (m, 1H, H-2).

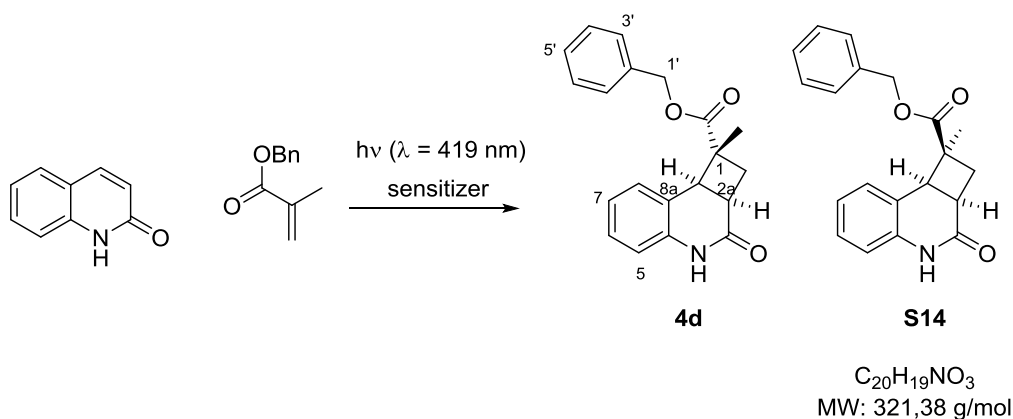
¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 171.8 (s, COOBn), 170.9 (s, C-3), 137.3 (s, C-4a), 135.5 (s, C-2'), 129.1 (d, C-5'), 128.7 (d, C-6), 128.6 (d, C-4'), 128.6 (d, C-3'), 128.4 (d, C-8), 123.3 (d, C-7), 119.4 (s, C-8a), 115.9 (d, C-5), 66.7 (t, C-1'), 44.2 (d, C-1), 39.0 (d, C-8b), 34.9 (d, C-2a), 27.6 (t, C-2).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 1728, 1713, 1685, 1594, 1495, 1455, 1383, 1348, 1322, 1308, 1251, 1185, 1173, 1152, 1124, 1094, 1065, 1037, 1011, 946, 909, 871, 853, 810, 752, 685, 666, 648, 620.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 307 (3) [M⁺], 248 (2), 216 (2) [M⁺-Bn], 200 (1) [M⁺-OBn], 172 (2) [M⁺-C₈H₇O₂], 159 (1) [M⁺-C₉H₉O₂], 145 (100) [M⁺-C₁₀H₁₁O₂], 117 (18), 91 (16).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₉H₁₇NO₃): calc.: 307.1208; found: 307.1203.

Benzyl (1*R*,2*aR*,8*bS*)-1-methyl-3-oxo-1,2,2*a*,3,4,8*b*-hexahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinoline-1-carboxylate (4*d*) and Benzyl (1*S*,2*aR*,8*bS*)-1-methyl-3-oxo-1,2,2*a*,3,4,8*b*-hexahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinoline-1-carboxylate (S14)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (20 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, $c = 14$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, benzyl methacrylate (234 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 6 h at room temperature. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compounds **4d** (28.2 mg, 0.09 mmol, 64 %) and **S14** (6.8 mg, 0.02 mmol, 15 %) were obtained as colorless solids.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (3.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, benzyl methacrylate (212 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 6 h at -25 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compounds **4d** (5.3 mg, 16.0 μ mol, 66 %, 90 % *ee*) and **S14** (1.4 mg, 4.0 μ mol, 17 %, 91 % *ee*) were obtained as colorless solids.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition (0.15 mmol scale)

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (22.0 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (6.6 mg, 15.0 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (60 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, benzyl methacrylate (1.28 mL, 7.50 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 8 h at -25 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 7:3 \rightarrow 1:1). The title compounds **4d** (37.2 mg, 116 μ mol, 76 %, 88 % *ee*) and **S14** (7.1 mg, 22.0 μ mol, 15 %, 85 % *ee*) were obtained as colorless solids.

Exo isomer (4d):

M.p.: 157-159 °C.

TLC: R_f = 0.78 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.11 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.44 – 7.31 (m, 5H, Ar), 7.16 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 6.99 (d, $^3J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.95 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.80 (d, $^3J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 5.23 (d, $^2J = 12.4$ Hz, 1H, H-1'), 5.18 (d, $^2J = 12.4$ Hz, 1H, H-1'), 4.20 (d, $^3J = 10.4$ Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.33 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 10.6$ Hz, $^3J = 3.9$ Hz, 1H, H-2a), 3.19 (dd, $^2J = 12.5$ Hz, $^3J = 10.8$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.30 (dd, $^2J = 12.5$ Hz, $^3J = 3.9$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 1.16 (s, 3H, Me).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 176.4 (s, COOBn), 173.2 (s, C-3), 138.0 (s, C-4a), 136.2 (s, C-2'), 129.3 (d, C-5'), 128.9 (d, C-4'), 128.6 (d, C-6), 128.6 (d, C-3'), 128.3 (d, C-8), 123.7 (d, C-7), 119.5 (s, C-8a), 115.9 (d, C-5), 66.9 (t, C-1'), 47.9 (s, C-1), 42.5 (d, C-8b), 36.4 (t, C-2), 32.5 (d, C-2a), 20.3 (q, Me).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 1728, 1667, 1594, 1456, 1382, 1350, 1323, 1308, 1250, 1236, 1194, 1173, 1151, 1124, 1093, 1065, 1037, 1026, 908, 870, 830, 755, 696, 679, 667, 620.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 321 (5) [M⁺], 176 (8), 158 (8), 145 (100) [M⁺-C₁₁H₁₂O₂], 131 (20), 117 (33), 91 (49), 69 (17).

HRMS (EI) (C₂₀H₁₉NO₃): calc.: 321.1359; found: 321.1361.

HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4d**, t_R = 14.4 min; *ent*-**4d**, 19.6 min).

Specific rotation $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -74.9$ ($c = 0.67$, CHCl₃) [88% *ee*].

Endo isomer (S14):

M.p.: 162-164 °C.

TLC: R_f = 0.72 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 7.89 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 3H, Ar), 7.14 – 7.05 (m, 3H, Ar, H-6), 6.95 (d, $^3J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.87 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.55 (d, $^3J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.69 (d, $^2J = 12.3$ Hz, 1H, H-1'), 4.65 (d, $^2J = 12.3$ Hz, 1H, H-1'), 3.76 (d, $^3J = 10.1$ Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.44 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 10.2$ Hz, $^3J = 5.8$ Hz, 1H, H-2a), 3.17 (dd, $^2J = 12.5$ Hz, $^3J = 5.8$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.44 (*virt.* t, $^2J \approx ^3J = 11.4$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 1.62 (s, 3H, Me).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 173.8 (s, COOBn), 171.5 (s, C-3), 137.2 (s, C-4a), 135.7 (s, C-2'), 128.9 (d, C-5'), 128.7 (d, C-6), 128.6 (d, C-4'), 128.5 (d, C-3'), 128.4 (d, C-8), 123.3 (d, C-7), 120.0 (s, C-8a), 115.8 (d, C-5), 66.8 (t, C-1'), 50.9 (s, C-1), 47.3 (d, C-8b), 35.2 (t, C-2), 32.5 (d, C-2a), 25.5 (q, Me).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 1729, 1715, 1667, 1594, 1494, 1456, 1382, 1350, 1323, 1308, 1250, 1236, 1187, 1173, 1153, 1124, 1065, 911, 755, 696, 678, 667, 621, 601.

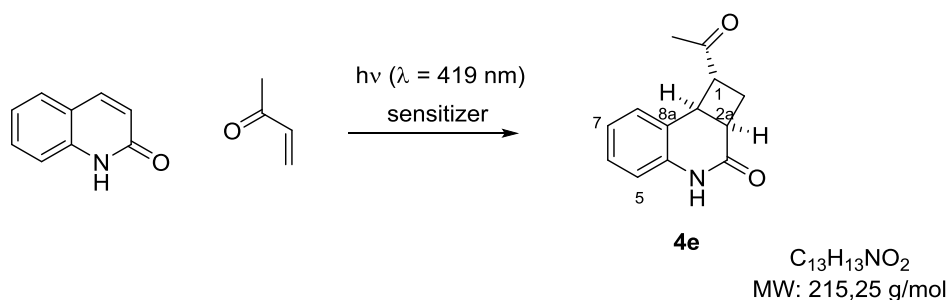
MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 321 (5) [M⁺], 176 (7), 158 (8), 145 (100) [M⁺-C₁₁H₁₂O₂], 131 (22), 117 (34), 91 (46), 69 (12).

HRMS (EI) (C₂₀H₁₉NO₃): calc.: 321.1359; found: 321.1365.

HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 80:20) = **S13**, t_R = 13.0 min; *ent*-**S13**, 22.8 min).

Specific rotation $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -43.0$ ($c = 1.53$, CHCl₃) [85% *ee*].

(1*R*,2*aR*,8*bS*)-1-Acetyl-2,2*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinolin-3(1*H*)-one (4*e*)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (20 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, *c* = 14 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (115 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 3 h at room temperature. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4e** (21.0 mg, 0.10 mmol, 70 %) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (3.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, *c* = 2.5 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (104 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 7 h at -25 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4e** (4.3 mg, 20.0 μ mol, 80 %, 91 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

M.p.: 157-159°C.

TLC: *R_f* = 0.62 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.52 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.18 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 7.6 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H-6), 7.09 (dd, ³*J* = 7.5 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.99 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 7.4 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.87 (dd, ³*J* = 7.9 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-5), 3.97 (*virt.* t, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, H-8*b*), 3.47 (ddd, ³*J* = 11.6 Hz, ³*J* = 9.2 Hz, ³*J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.24 (ddd, ³*J* = 9.8 Hz, ³*J* = 9.1 Hz, ³*J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, H-2*a*), 2.80 (*virt.* td, ²*J* \approx ³*J* = 11.8 Hz, ³*J* = 9.8 Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.60 (ddd, ²*J* = 12.0 Hz, ³*J* = 9.2 Hz, ³*J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.10 (s, 3H, Me).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 207.1 (s, COMe), 173.2 (s, C-3), 136.9 (s, C-4*a*), 128.5 (d, C-6), 127.9 (d, C-8), 123.9 (d, C-7), 122.8 (s, C-8*a*), 116.1 (d, C-5), 52.8 (d, C-1), 39.1 (d, C-8*b*), 34.3 (d, C-2*a*), 28.8 (t, C-2), 28.2 (q, Me).

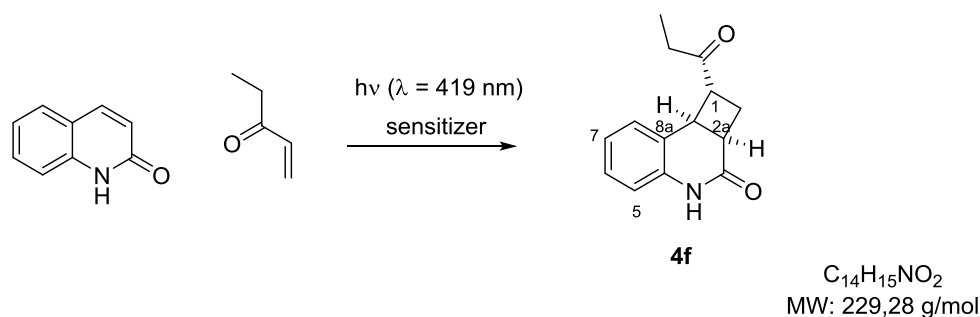
IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 1699, 1662, 1592, 1492, 1440, 1388, 1363, 1317, 1302, 1250, 1237, 1189, 1175, 948, 932, 869, 833, 804, 752, 704, 607, 637, 620, 601.

MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%) = 215 (7) [M⁺], 200 (1) [M⁺-Me], 172 (55) [M⁺-C₂H₃O], 154 (4), 145 (100) [M⁺-C₄H₆O], 117 (37), 90 (12).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₃H₁₃NO₂): calc.: 215.0941; found: 215.0935.

HPLC (OJ-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 80:20) = *ent*-**4e**, *t*_R = 17.5 min; **4e**, 20.9 min).

(1*R*,2*aR*,8*bS*)-1-Propionyl-2,2*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinolin-3(1*H*)-one (4*f*)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (20 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, *c* = 14 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 1-penten-3-one (136 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 3 h at room temperature. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4f** (22.9 mg, 0.10 mmol, 72 %) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (3.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, *c* = 2.5 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 1-penten-3-one (124 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 6 h at -25 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4f** (4.0 mg, 18.0 μ mol, 70 %, 92 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition (0.15 mmol scale)

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (22.0 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (6.6 mg, 15.0 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (60 mL, *c* = 2.5 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 1-penten-3-one (750 μ L, 7.50 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 12 h at -25 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 2:1 \rightarrow 1:1). The title compound **4f** (30.9 mg, 135 μ mol, 89 %, 91 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

M.p.: 154-156 °C.

TLC: *R_f* = 0.76 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.38 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.17 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 7.7 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H-6), 7.07 (dd, ³*J* = 7.5 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.97 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 7.5 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.84 (dd, ³*J* = 7.9 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-5), 3.98 (*virt.* t, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, H-8*b*), 3.47 (*virt.* dt, ³*J* = 9.8 Hz, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 8.0

Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.24 (ddd, $^3J = 9.8$ Hz, $^3J = 9.1$ Hz, $^3J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H, H-2a), 2.78 (*virt. td*, $^2J \approx ^3J = 11.9$ Hz, $^3J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.59 (ddd, $^2J = 12.0$ Hz, $^3J = 9.1$ Hz, $^3J = 3.0$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.45 – 2.22 (m, 2H, CH_2CH_3), 1.05 (t, $^3J = 7.3$ Hz, 3H, CH_2CH_3).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 210.0 (s, COMe), 173.2 (s, C-3), 137.1 (s, C-4a), 128.5 (d, C-6), 128.0 (d, C-8), 123.9 (d, C-7), 123.0 (s, C-8a), 116.1 (d, C-5), 51.9 (d, C-1), 39.3 (d, C-8b), 34.6 (d, C-2a), 34.4 (t, CH_2CH_3), 29.2 (t, C-2), 7.7 (q, CH_2CH_3).

IR (ATR): ν (cm^{-1}) = 1699, 1662, 1592, 1492, 1440, 1388, 1363, 1317, 1302, 1250, 1237, 1189, 1175, 948, 932, 869, 833, 804, 752, 704, 607, 637, 620, 601.

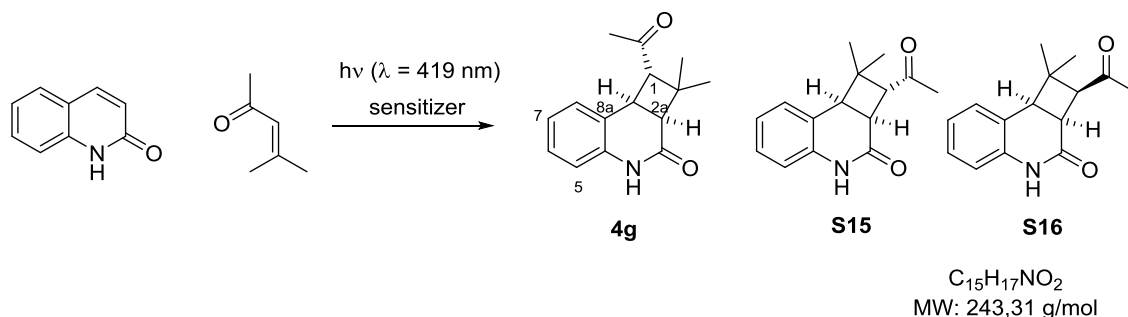
MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 229 (8) [M^+], 200 (1) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_2\text{H}_5$], 172 (26) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_3\text{H}_5\text{O}$], 154 (4), 145 (100) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_5\text{H}_8\text{O}$], 128 (4), 117 (18), 90 (7), 77 (3).

HRMS (EI) ($\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_2$): calc.: 229.1097; found: 229.1096.

HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6 , *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4f**, $t_{\text{R}} = 15.4$ min; *ent*-**4f**, 16.9 min).

Specific rotation $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -93.9$ ($c = 0.50$, MeOH) [88% *ee*].

(1*S*,2*aS*,8*bS*)-1-Acetyl-2,2-dimethyl-2,2*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinolin-3(1*H*)-one (**4g**), (2*R*,2*aS*,8*bR*)-2-acetyl-1,1-dimethyl-2,2*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinolin-3(1*H*)-one (**S15**) and (2*S*,2*aS*,8*bR*)-2-acetyl-1,1-dimethyl-2,2*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinolin-3(1*H*)-one (**S16**)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (20 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, $c = 14$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, mesityl oxide (158 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 22 h at room temperature (92 % conversion). After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compounds **4g** (14.6 mg, 0.06 mmol, 43 %), **S15** (5.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 15 %) and **S16** (2.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 8 %) were obtained as colorless solids.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (3.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, mesityl oxide (143 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 8 h at -25 °C (72 % conversion). After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4g** (2.1 mg, 8.5 μ mol, 34 %, 88 % *ee*, 47 % based on recovered starting material) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Major regioisomer (**4g**):

M.p.: 151-153 °C.

TLC: $R_f = 0.76$ (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.88 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.13 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.7$ Hz, $^4J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 7.08 (dd, $^3J = 7.5$ Hz, $^4J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.94 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.5$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.77 (dd, $^3J = 7.9$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.20 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.3$ Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.09 (d, $^3J = 8.7$ Hz, 1H, H-1), 2.88 (d, $^3J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H, H-2a), 2.07 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 1.41 (s, 3H, Me), 1.27 (s, 3H, Me).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 206.7 (s, COCH₃), 169.9 (s, C-3), 136.7 (s, C-4a), 128.2 (d, C-8), 127.9 (d, C-6), 123.7 (d, C-7), 123.5 (s, C-8a), 115.6 (d,

C-5), 64.4 (s, C-2), 45.2 (d, C-2a), 43.6 (d, C-1), 31.3 (d, C-8b), 30.4 (q, COCH₃), 27.1 (q, Me), 25.6 (q, Me).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 1699, 1660, 1593, 1493, 1459, 1389, 1371, 1352, 1319, 1301, 1243, 1220, 1193, 1164, 1143, 875, 832, 750, 715, 676, 624, 602.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 243 (10) [M⁺], 228 (2) [M⁺-CH₃], 200 (16) [M⁺-C₂H₃O], 186 (3), 173 (2), 158 (2), 145 (100) [M⁺-C₆H₁₀O], 117 (16), 91 (7).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₅H₁₇NO₂): calc.: 243.1254; found: 243.1255.

HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = *ent*-**4g**, t_R = 16.7 min; **4g**, 30.1 min).

Exo minor regioisomer (S15):

M.p.: 176-178 °C.

TLC: R_f = 0.69 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.49 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.16 (*virt.* td, ³ $J \approx$ ³ J = 7.6 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H-6), 6.97 (*virt.* td, ³ $J \approx$ ³ J = 7.3 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.90 (dd, ³ J = 7.2 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.74 (dd, ³ J = 7.8 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-5), 3.80 (dd, ³ J = 10.4 Hz, ³ J = 5.3 Hz, 1H, H-2a), 3.46 (d, ³ J = 10.4 Hz, 1H, H-2), 3.35 (d, ³ J = 5.3 Hz, 1H, H-8b), 2.17 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 1.17 (s, 3H, Me), 1.06 (s, 3H, Me).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 205.9 (s, COCH₃), 171.9 (s, C-3), 137.2 (s, C-4a), 129.2 (d, C-8), 128.2 (d, C-6), 123.4 (d, C-7), 120.3 (s, C-8a), 115.8 (d, C-5), 61.0 (d, C-8b), 44.2 (d, C-2), 43.9 (s, C-1), 33.2 (d, C-2a), 31.1 (q, COCH₃), 26.4 (q, Me), 25.8 (q, Me).

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 243 (1) [M⁺], 228 (1) [M⁺-CH₃], 200 (4) [M⁺-C₂H₃O], 158 (2), 145 (100) [M⁺-C₆H₁₀O], 130 (4), 117 (15), 91 (4).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₅H₁₇NO₂): calc.: 243.1254; found: 243.1252.

Endo minor regioisomer (S16):

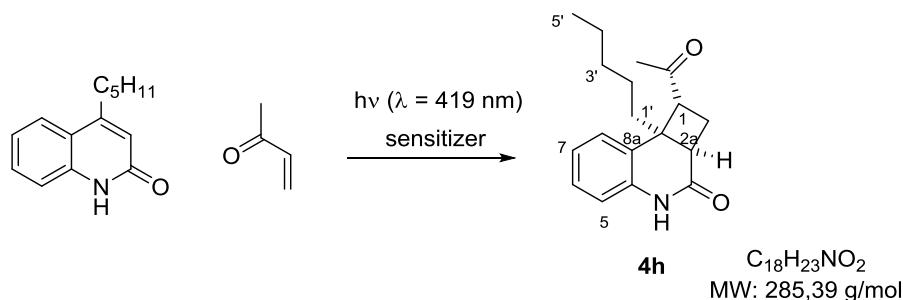
TLC: R_f = 0.58 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 7.67 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.15 (*virt.* td, ³ $J \approx$ ³ J = 7.6 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H-6), 6.95 (*virt.* td, ³ $J \approx$ ³ J = 7.4 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.91 (dd, ³ J = 7.6 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.67 (dd, ³ J = 7.7 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-5), 3.65 (*virt.* t, ³ $J \approx$ ³ J = 10.1 Hz, 1H, H-2a), 3.54 (d, ³ J = 10.0 Hz, 1H, H-2), 3.43 (d, ³ J = 10.2 Hz, 1H, H-8b), 2.20 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 1.40 (s, 3H, Me), 0.89 (s, 3H, Me).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 206.9 (s, COCH₃), 169.6 (s, C-3), 137.4 (s, C-4a), 129.0 (d, C-8), 128.1 (d, C-6), 123.0 (d, C-7), 120.1 (s, C-8a), 115.5 (d, C-5), 58.0 (d, C-2), 44.7 (d, C-8b), 44.4 (s, C-1), 36.1 (d, C-2a), 32.4 (q, Me), 31.6 (q, COCH₃), 20.0 (q, Me).

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 243 (1) [M⁺], 228 (1) [M⁺-CH₃], 200 (4) [M⁺-C₂H₃O], 158 (2), 145 (100) [M⁺-C₆H₁₀O], 130 (4), 117 (15), 91 (4).

(1*R*,2*aR*,8*bS*)-1-Acetyl-8*b*-pentyl-2,2*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinolin-3(1*H*)-one (4*h*)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

4-Pentylquinolin-2-(1*H*)-one^[*J. Org. Chem.* **1969**, *34*, 3263–3268.] (30.1 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, *c* = 14 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (115 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 10 h at room temperature (85 % conversion). After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 2:1). The title compound **4h** (31.5 mg, 0.11 mmol, 79 %) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

4-Pentylquinolin-2-(1*H*)-one (5.4 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, *c* = 2.5 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (104 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 18 h at -25 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 2:1). The title compound **4h** (6.7 mg, 23.0 μ mol, 94 %, 90 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

M.p.: 88-90 °C.

TLC: *R_f* = 0.82 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.27 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.27 – 7.17 (m, 2H, H-6, H-8), 7.09 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 7.6 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.86 (dd, ³*J* = 7.9 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-5), 3.44 (*virt.* t, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.05 (dd, ³*J* = 10.5 Hz, ³*J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H, H-2*a*), 2.92 (ddd, ²*J* = 12.1 Hz, ³*J* = 10.5 Hz, ³*J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.24 (ddd, ²*J* = 12.1 Hz, ³*J* = 8.8 Hz, ³*J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.19 (s, 3H, Me), 1.81 (dt, ²*J* = 13.4 Hz, ³*J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H, H-1'), 1.66 (dt, ²*J* = 13.4 Hz, ³*J* = 3.5 Hz, 1H, H-1'), 1.21 – 1.04 (m, 6H, H-2', H-3', H-4'), 0.79 (t, ³*J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H, H-5').

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 207.1 (s, COMe), 172.2 (s, C-3), 136.9 (s, C-4*a*), 128.4 (d, C-8), 126.8 (s, C-8*a*), 126.2 (d, C-6), 124.2 (d, C-7), 116.4 (d, C-5), 56.8 (d, C-1), 48.3 (s, C-8*b*), 40.1 (d, C-2*a*), 36.0 (t, C-1'), 32.0 (t, C-2'), 31.1 (q, Me), 24.2 (t, C-2), 23.2 (t, C-3'), 22.5 (t, C-4'), 14.1 (q, C-5').

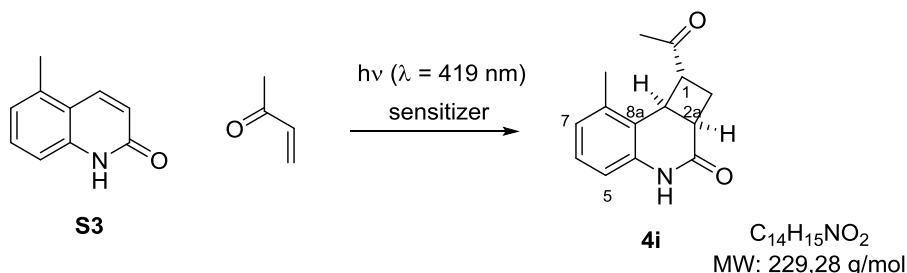
IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 1749, 1734, 1716, 1697, 1671, 1654, 1637, 1593, 1558, 1542, 1522, 1508, 1490, 1473, 1457, 1437, 1457, 1438, 1418, 1388, 1362, 1339, 1168, 756, 728, 707, 662, 620, 603.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 285 (1) [M⁺], 270 (1) [M⁺-CH₃], 256 (1) [M⁺-C₂H₅], 242 (26) [M⁺-C₃H₇], 229 (9) [M⁺-C₄H₉], 215 (24) [M⁺-C₅H₁₁], 200 (1) [M⁺-C₆H₁₄], 186 (6), 172 (9) [M⁺-C₇H₁₄O], 159 (100) [M⁺-C₈H₁₅O], 146 (4) [M⁺-C₉H₁₇O], 130 (27).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₈H₂₃NO₂): calc.: 285.1723; found: 285.1722.

HPLC (OJ-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 95:5) = *ent*-**4h**, t_R = 22.5 min; **4h**, 25.0 min).

(1*R*,2*aR*,8*bS*)-1-Acetyl-8-methyl-2,2*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinolin-3(1*H*)-one (4*i*)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

5-Methylquinolin-2(1*H*)-one (**S3**) (22.0 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, $c = 14$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (115 μL , 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 5 h at room temperature. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4i** (17.7 mg, 0.08 mmol, 56 %) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

5-Methylquinolin-2(1*H*)-one (4.0 mg, 25.0 μmol , 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μmol , 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (104 μL , 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 10 h at -25 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ (73 % conversion). After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4i** (2.0 mg, 8.8 μmol , 35 %, 91 % *ee*, 48 % based on recovered starting material) was obtained as a colorless solid.

M.p.: 162-164 $^{\circ}\text{C}$.

TLC: $R_f = 0.58$ (ethyl acetate, UV).

$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.02 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.07 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 6.83 (d, $^3J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.66 (d, $^3J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.22 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H, H-8*b*), 3.51 (*virt.* q, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.28 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.1$ Hz, $^3J = 4.2$ Hz, 1H, H-2*a*), 2.77 – 2.60 (m, 2H, H-2), 2.19 (s, 3H, Me), 2.12 (s, 3H, COCH_3).

$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , 303 K): δ (ppm) = 207.5 (s, COCH_3), 172.5 (s, C-3), 137.1 (s, C-4*a*), 136.8 (s, C-8), 128.2 (d, C-6), 125.8 (d, C-7), 121.3 (s, C-8*a*), 113.9 (d, C-5), 51.9 (d, C-1), 35.7 (d, C-8*b*), 34.3 (d, C-2*a*), 30.1 (t, C-2), 28.7 (q, COCH_3), 19.3 (q, Me).

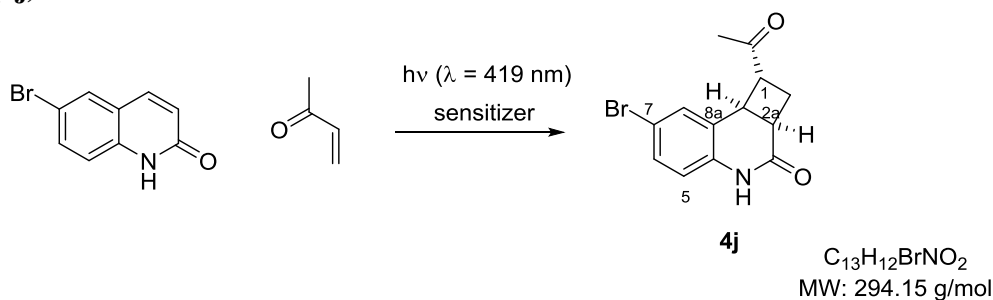
IR (ATR): ν (cm^{-1}) = 1699, 1667, 1590, 1558, 1542, 1521, 1507, 1489, 1474, 1457, 1437, 1418, 1396, 1362, 1340, 1314, 1233, 1200, 1177, 1162, 887, 852, 828, 804, 789, 755, 704, 668, 620.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 229 (7) [M^+], 186 (56) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}$], 168 (4), 159 (100) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_6\text{O}$], 141 (2), 130 (35), 115 (4), 103 (5), 77 (8) [C_6H_5].

HRMS (ESI) ($C_{14}H_{16}NO_2^+$): calc.: 230.1176; found: 230.1174.

Chiral GC [60 °C (1 min), 15 °C/min → 200 °C (30 min)] = *ent*-**4i**, t_R = 34.1 min; **4i**, 34.8 min).

(1*R*,2*aR*,8*bS*)-1-Acetyl-7-bromo-2,2*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinolin-3(1*H*)-one (4*j*)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

6-Bromoquinolin-2(1*H*)-one (31.4 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, *c* = 14 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (115 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 9 h at room temperature (78 % conversion). After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4j** (21.9 mg, 0.07 mmol, 54 %) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

6-Bromoquinolin-2(1*H*)-one (5.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, *c* = 2.5 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (104 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 9 h at -25 $^{\circ}$ C (61 % conversion). After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4j** (2.7 mg, 9.0 μ mol, 36 %, 94 % *ee*, 59 % based on recovered starting material) was obtained as a colorless solid.

M.p.: 167-169 $^{\circ}$ C.

TLC: *R_f* = 0.68 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.32 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.28 (dd, ³*J* = 8.4 Hz, ⁴*J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H, H-6), 7.24 (d, ⁴*J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.72 (d, ³*J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.00 (*virt.* t, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H, H-8*b*), 3.44 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 10.1 Hz, ³*J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.22 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 9.4 Hz, ³*J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H, H-2*a*), 2.74 (*virt.* dt, ²*J* = 12.0 Hz, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 9.7 Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.64 (ddd, ²*J* = 12.0 Hz, ³*J* = 9.3 Hz, ³*J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.11 (s, 3H, COCH₃).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 206.6 (s, COCH₃), 172.6 (s, C-3), 136.1 (s, C-4*a*), 131.3 (d, C-6), 130.8 (d, C-8), 124.9 (s, C-8*a*), 117.5 (d, C-5), 116.1 (s, C-7), 52.6 (d, C-1), 38.2 (d, C-8*b*), 34.0 (d, C-2*a*), 29.3 (t, C-2), 27.9 (q, COCH₃).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 1698, 1669, 1586, 1489, 1446, 1412, 1377, 1362, 1342, 1308, 1281, 1248, 1197, 1180, 1155, 1132, 1076, 1045, 986, 939, 906, 881, 851, 822, 807, 755, 725, 701, 626.

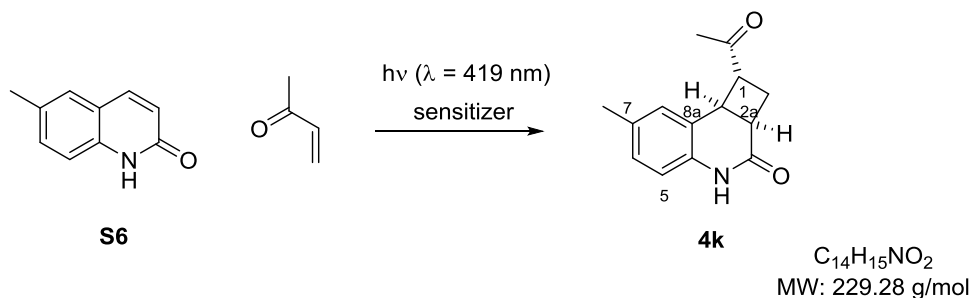
MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 295 (8) [M^+ (^{81}Br)], 293 (9) [M^+ (^{79}Br)], 252 (42) [M^+ (^{81}Br)– $\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}$], 250 (42) [M^+ (^{79}Br)– $\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}$], 225 (93) [M^+ (^{81}Br)– $\text{C}_4\text{H}_6\text{O}$], 223 (100) [M^+ (^{79}Br)– $\text{C}_4\text{H}_6\text{O}$], 197 (19), 195 (21), 116 (27), 89 (21).

HRMS (EI) ($\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{12}\text{BrNO}_2$): calc.: 295.0025; found: 295.0004.

HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4j**, t_{R} = 17.7 min; *ent*-**4j**, 21.3 min).

Specific rotation $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -54.7$ ($c = 0.28$, MeOH) [$>99\%$ *ee*].

(1*R*,2*aR*,8*bS*)-1-Acetyl-7-methyl-2,2*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinolin-3(1*H*)-one (4*k*)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

6-Methylquinolin-2(1*H*)-one (22 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, *c* = 14 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (115 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 9 h at room temperature (61 % conversion). After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4k** (14.2 mg, 0.06 mmol, 45 %) was obtained as a colorless solid. A second fraction was collected containing a non-characterized cyclobutane (0.9 mg, 4 μ mol, 4 %, *R_f* = 0.72 (ethyl acetate, UV)).

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

6-Methylquinolin-2(1*H*)-one (4.0 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, *c* = 2.5 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (104 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 7 h at -25 °C (55 % conversion). After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 2:1). The title compound **4k** (2.2 mg, 9.8 μ mol, 39 %, 85 % *ee*, 71 % based on recovered starting material) was obtained as a colorless solid.

M.p.: 120-122 °C.

TLC: *R_f* = 0.62 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.60 (br. s, 1H, NH), 6.98 (d, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, H-6), 6.91 (s, 1H, H-8), 6.68 (d, ³*J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, H-5), 3.95 (*virt. t.*, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, H-8*b*), 3.44 (*virt. td.*, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 10.6 Hz, ³*J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.21 (*virt. td.*, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 9.5 Hz, ³*J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H, H-2*a*), 2.75 (*virt. dt.*, ²*J* = 12.2 Hz, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 9.7 Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.60 (ddd, ²*J* = 12.2 Hz, ³*J* = 9.5 Hz, ³*J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.27 (s, 3H, Me), 2.11 (s, 3H, COCH₃).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 207.2 (s, COCH₃), 172.4 (s, C-3), 134.4 (s, C-4*a*), 133.5 (s, C-7), 128.9 (d, C-6), 128.5 (d, C-8), 122.8 (s, C-8*a*), 115.7 (d, C-5), 52.9 (d, C-1), 39.0 (d, C-8*b*), 34.3 (d, C-2*a*), 29.0 (t, C-2), 28.1 (q, COCH₃), 20.8 (q, Me).

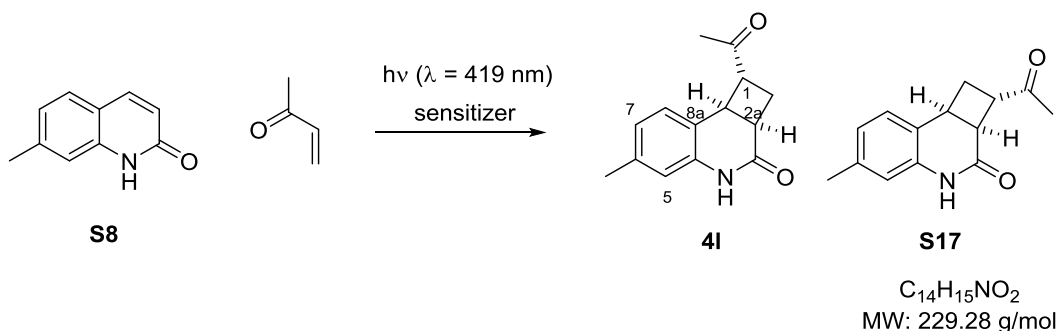
IR (ATR): ν (cm^{-1}) = 1715, 1698, 1666, 1617, 1602, 1507, 1489, 1457, 1447, 1417, 1389, 1362, 1311, 1248, 1233, 1193, 1175, 1151, 954, 842, 818, 796, 736, 729, 703, 620.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 229 (10) [M^+], 186 (47) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}$], 159 (100) [$\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_4\text{H}_6\text{O}$], 130 (22), 115 (3), 103 (4), 77 (4).

HRMS (EI) ($\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_2$): calc.: 229.1097; found: 229.1097.

HPLC (AD-H, 250 \times 4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 95:5) = **4k**, t_{R} = 35.7 min; *ent*-**4k**, 44.3 min).

(1*R*,2*aR*,8*bS*)-1-Acetyl-6-methyl-2,2*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinolin-3(1*H*)-one (4*l*) and **(2*S*,2*aS*,8*bS*)-2-acetyl-6-methyl-2,2*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinolin-3(1*H*)-one (S17)**



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

7-Methylquinolin-2(1*H*)-one (22 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, *c* = 14 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (115 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 6 h at room temperature. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compounds **4*l*** (21.4 mg, 0.09 mmol, 68 %) and **S17** (4.4 mg, 0.02 mmol, 14 %) were obtained as colorless solids.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

7-Methylquinolin-2(1*H*)-one (4.0 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, *c* = 2.5 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (104 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 8 h at -25 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 2:1). The title compound **4*l*** (4.1 mg, 18.0 μ mol, 72 %, 95 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Major regioisomer (4l):

M.p.: 154-156 °C.

TLC: *R_f* = 0.66 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.21 (br. s, 1H, NH), 6.97 (d, ³*J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.80 (dd, ³*J* = 7.6 Hz, ⁴*J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.65 (d, ³*J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H, H-5), 3.91 (*virt.* t, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, H-8*b*), 3.43 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 10.1 Hz, ³*J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.23 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 8.8 Hz, ³*J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H, H-2*a*), 2.79 (*virt.* dt, ²*J* = 11.8 Hz, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 9.8 Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.57 (ddd, ²*J* = 11.8 Hz, ³*J* = 9.2 Hz, ³*J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.30 (s, 3H, Me), 2.10 (s, 3H, COCH₃).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 207.2 (s, COCH₃), 173.2 (s, C-3), 138.7 (s, C-6), 136.9 (s, C-4*a*), 122.8 (d, C-8), 124.6 (d, C-7), 120.0 (s, C-8*a*), 116.5 (d, C-5), 53.0 (d, C-1), 39.1 (d, C-8*b*), 34.4 (d, C-2*a*), 28.6 (t, C-2), 28.2 (q, COCH₃), 21.3 (q, Me).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 1696, 1662, 1267, 1588, 1524, 1487, 1407, 1361, 1348, 1314, 1305, 1265, 1204, 1174, 871, 835, 801, 638.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 229 (6) [M⁺], 186 (55) [M⁺-C₂H₃O], 159 (100) [M⁺-C₄H₆O], 130 (29), 115 (4), 103 (5), 77 (5).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₄H₁₅NO₂): calc.: 229.1097; found: 229.1097.

HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **41**, t_R = 16.4 min; *ent*-**41**, 21.2 min).

Minor regioisomer (S17):

TLC: R_f = 0.72 (ethyl acetate, UV).

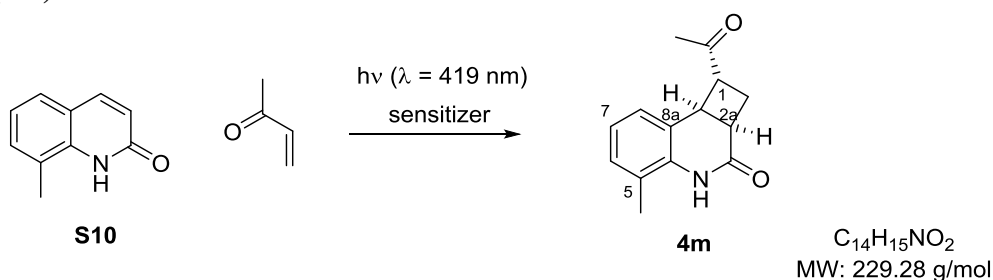
¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 7.59 (br. s, 1H, NH), 6.96 (d, ³ J = 7.7 Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.83 (d, ³ J = 7.7 Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.50 (s, 1H, H-5), 3.69 (*virt.* td, ³ J \approx ³ J = 9.0 Hz, ³ J = 5.5 Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.58 (*virt.* dt, ³ J = 9.4 Hz, ³ J \approx ³ J = 7.3 Hz, 1H, H-2), 3.53 (*virt.* t, ³ J \approx ³ J = 7.4 Hz, 1H, H-2a), 2.89 – 2.71 (m, 1H, H-1), 2.31 (s, 3H, Me), 2.29 – 2.24 (m, 1H, H-1), 2.23 (s, 3H, COCH₃).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 207.1 (s, COCH₃), 170.0 (s, C-3), 138.3 (s, C-6), 135.9 (s, C-4a), 128.6 (d, C-8), 125.0 (d, C-7), 121.5 (s, C-8a), 116.3 (d, C-5), 49.6 (d, C-2), 40.3 (d, C-2a), 32.5 (d, C-8b), 31.9 (t, C-1), 27.9 (q, COCH₃), 21.3 (q, Me).

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 229 (6) [M⁺], 186 (23) [M⁺-C₂H₃O], 159 (100) [M⁺-C₄H₆O], 130 (19), 115 (3), 103 (3), 77 (3).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₄H₁₅NO₂): calc.: 229.1097; found: 229.1096.

(1*R*,2*aR*,8*bS*)-1-Acetyl-5-methyl-2,2*a*,4,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinolin-3(1*H*)-one (4*m*)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

8-Methylquinolin-2(1*H*)-one (22.0 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, $c = 14$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (115 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 7 h at room temperature. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 2:1). The title compound **4m** (20.6 mg, 0.09 mmol, 65 %) was obtained as a colorless solid. A second fraction was collected containing a mixture of two non-characterized cyclobutanes (4.4 mg, 0.02 mmol, 14 %, $R_f = 0.74$ (ethyl acetate, UV)).

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

8-Methylquinolin-2(1*H*)-one (4.0 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (104 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 9 h at -25 $^{\circ}$ C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 2:1). The title compound **4m** (3.9 mg, 17 μ mol, 68 %, 80 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

M.p.: 146-148 $^{\circ}$ C.

TLC: $R_f = 0.68$ (ethyl acetate, UV).

1 H-NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 7.70 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.04 (d, $^3J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 6.96 (d, $^3J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.90 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 3.94 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H, H-8*b*), 3.45 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.9$ Hz, $^3J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.20 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 10.0$ Hz, $^3J = 2.8$ Hz, 1H, H-2*a*), 2.76 (*virt.* dt, $^4J = 11.8$ Hz, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.56 (ddd, $^3J = 11.8$ Hz, $^3J = 9.0$ Hz, $^3J = 2.8$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.25 (s, 3H, Me), 2.09 (s, 3H, $COCH_3$).

^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 207.0 (s, $COCH_3$), 172.2 (s, C-3), 135.1 (s, C-4*a*), 130.0 (d, C-6), 125.9 (d, C-8), 123.2 (d, C-7), 122.7 (s, C-8*a*), 122.6 (s, C-5), 52.7 (d, C-1), 39.6 (d, C-8*b*), 34.3 (d, C-2*a*), 28.8 (t, C-2), 28.2 (q, $COCH_3$), 16.9 (q, Me).

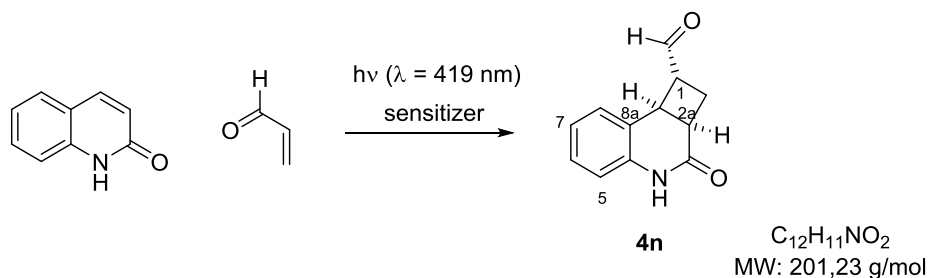
IR (ATR): ν (cm^{-1}) = 1715, 1698, 1666, 1617, 1602, 1507, 1489, 1457, 1447, 1417, 1389, 1362, 1311, 1248, 1233, 1193, 1175, 1151, 954, 842, 818, 796, 736, 729, 703, 620.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 229 (7) [M^+], 186 (51) [$M^+ - C_2H_3O$], 159 (100) [$M^+ - C_4H_6O$], 141 (14), 130 (21), 114 (5), 103 (4), 77 (4).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₄H₁₅NO₂): calc.: 229.1097; found: 229.1098.

Chiral HPLC (AS-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 70:30) = **4m**, *t_R* = 11.6 min;
ent-**4m**, 14.7 min).

(1*R*,2*aR*,8*bS*)-3-Oxo-1,2,2*a*,3,4,8*b*-hexahydrocyclobuta[*c*]quinoline-1-carbaldehyde (4*n*)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (20 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, *c* = 14 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, acrolein (92 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 8 h at room temperature. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4n** (17.6 mg, 0.07 mmol, 47 %) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1*H*)-Quinolone (3.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, *c* = 2.5 mmol/L). After degassing the solution, acrolein (83 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 18 h at -25 °C. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **4n** (3.0 mg, 11.0 μ mol, 44 %, 91 % *ee*) was obtained as a colorless solid.

M.p.: Decomposition.

TLC: *R*_f = 0.58 (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.81 (s, 1H, CHO), 8.89 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.19 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 7.6 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H, H-6), 7.08 (dd, ³*J* = 7.5 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H, H-8), 7.00 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 7.4 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.81 (dd, ³*J* = 8.0 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-5), 4.08 (*virt.* t, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H, H-8*b*), 3.45 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 9.2 Hz, ³*J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.31 (*virt.* td, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 9.3 Hz, ³*J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H, H-2*a*), 2.84 (*virt.* dt, ²*J* = 12.0 Hz, ³*J* \approx ³*J* = 9.8 Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.62 (ddd, ²*J* = 12.0 Hz, ³*J* = 9.3 Hz, ³*J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H, H-2).

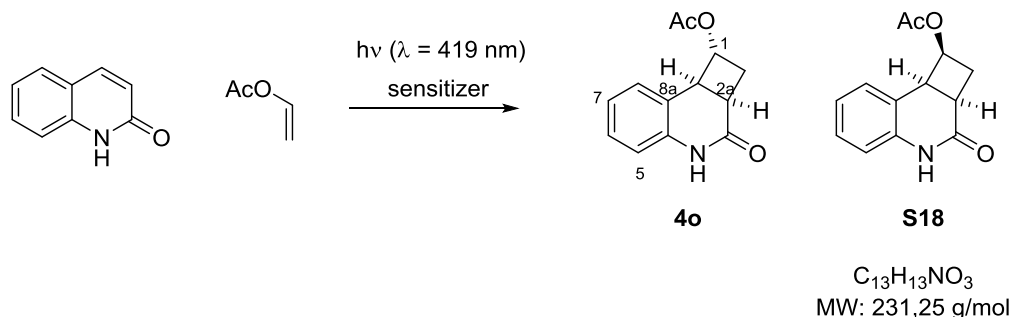
¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 200.1 (s, CHO), 172.1 (s, C-3), 136.8 (s, C-4*a*), 128.6 (d, C-6), 128.1 (d, C-8), 124.0 (d, C-7), 122.4 (s, C-8*a*), 116.0 (d, C-5), 52.4 (d, C-1), 37.4 (d, C-8*b*), 34.8 (d, C-2*a*), 27.0 (t, C-2).

MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%) = 201 (9) [M⁺], 172 (44) [M⁺-CHO], 154 (3), 145 (100) [M⁺-C₃H₄O], 117 (42), 90 (14), 77 (3).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₂H₁₁NO₂): calc.: 201.0784; found: 201.0789.

HPLC (OJ-H, 250 \times 4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = *ent*-**4n**, *t*_R = 19.4 min; **4n**, 22.6 min).

(1R,2aR,8bS)-3-oxo-1,2,2a,3,4,8b-hexahydrocyclobuta[c]quinolin-1-yl acetate (**4o**) and (1S,2aR,8bS)-3-oxo-1,2,2a,3,4,8b-hexahydrocyclobuta[c]quinolin-1-yl acetate (**S18**)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1H)-Quinolone (20 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, $c = 14$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, vinyl acetate (127 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 3 h at room temperature. After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 6:4). The title compounds **4o** (14.8 mg, 64.0 μ mol, 46 %) and **S18** (13.2 mg, 57.8 μ mol, 40 %) were obtained as colorless solids.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

2(1H)-Quinolone (3.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, vinyl acetate (115 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 9 h at -25 °C (87 % conversion). After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 6:4). The title compounds **4o** (2.4 mg, 10.3 μ mol, 42 %, 58 % *ee*, 48 % based on recovered starting material) and **S18** (2.1 mg, 9.08 μ mol, 41 %, 43 % *ee*) were obtained as a colorless solid.

Exo isomer (4o):

M.p.: 181 °C.

TLC: $R_f = 0.31$ (cyclohexane:ethyl acetate, 1:1, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 7.99 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.22 – 7.12 (m, 2H, H-6, H-8), 7.00 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.5$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.72 (dd, $^3J = 7.9$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 5.12 (dt, $^3J = 7.6$ Hz, $^3J \approx ^3J = 6.2$ Hz, 1H, H-1), 3.78 (dd, $^3J = 10.0$ Hz, $^3J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.36 (dddd, $^3J = 11.1$ Hz, $^3J = 9.9$ Hz, $^3J = 3.6$ Hz, $^4J = 1.3$ Hz, 1H, H-2a), 2.89 (dddd, $^2J = 12.3$ Hz, $^3J = 7.5$ Hz, $^3J = 3.6$ Hz, $^4J = 1.1$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.70 – 2.60 (m, 1H, H-2), 2.08 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 171.5 (s, C-3), 170.2 (s, OCOCH₃), 136.9 (s, C-4a), 128.7 (d, C-6), 128.5 (d, C-8), 123.8 (d, C-7), 121.2 (s, C-8a), 115.6 (d, C-5), 74.0 (d, C-1), 44.9 (d, C-8b), 35.2 (t, C-2), 31.7 (d, C-2a), 21.0 (q, CH₃).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 3202, 3063, 1738, 1670, 1594, 1491, 1436, 1378, 1327, 1303, 1236, 1185, 1082, 1051, 815, 755, 733.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 231 (5) [M⁺], 188 (14) [M⁺-C₂H₃O], 145 (100) [M⁺-C₄H₆O₂], 117 (22).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₃H₁₃NO₃): calc.: 231.0890; found: 231.0892.

HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4o**, t_R = 16.2 min; *ent*-**4o**, 30.7 min).

Endo isomer (S18):

M.p.: 153 °C.

TLC: R_f = 0.24 (cyclohexane:ethyl acetate, 1:1, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.44 (br. s, 1H, NH), 7.19 (dddd, ³ J = 7.8 Hz, ³ J = 7.0 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.8 Hz, ⁴ J = 0.7 Hz, 1H, H-6), 6.99 (*virt.* td, ³ J \approx ³ J = 7.4 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-7), 6.95 (ddd, ³ J = 7.7 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.8 Hz, ⁴ J = 0.8 Hz, H-8), 6.78 (dd, ³ J = 7.9 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H-5), 5.42 (*virt.* qd, ³ J \approx ³ J \approx ³ J = 7.3 Hz, ⁴ J = 0.6 Hz, 1H, H-1), 4.19 – 4.12 (m, 1H, H-8b), 3.21 (*virt.* q, ³ J \approx ³ J \approx ³ J = 8.6 Hz, 1H, H-2a), 2.95 (dddd, ² J = 12.2 Hz, ³ J = 8.9 Hz, ³ J = 7.3 Hz, ⁴ J = 3.1 Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.53 (dddd, ² J = 12.2 Hz, ³ J = 8.4 Hz, ³ J = 7.3 Hz, ⁴ J = 1.1 Hz, 1H, H-2), 1.88 (s, 3H, CH₃).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 170.45 (s, C-3), 170.2 (s, OCOCH₃), 137.4 (s, C-4a), 130.5 (d, C-8), 128.4 (d, C-6), 123.3 (d, C-7), 117.5 (s, C-8a), 116.0 (d, C-5), 69.4 (d, C-1), 42.5 (d, C-8b), 34.6 (t, C-2), 31.9 (d, C-2a), 20.9 (q, CH₃).

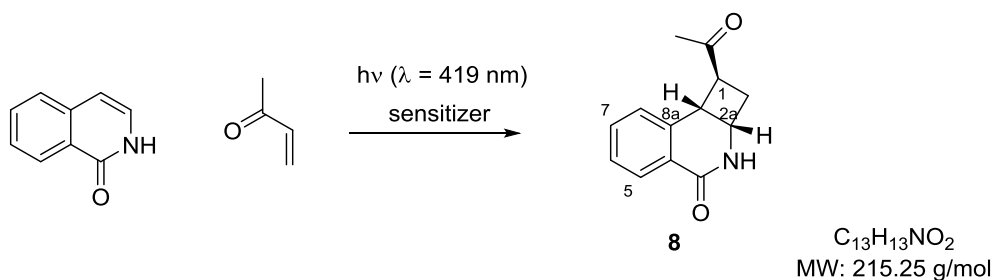
IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 3202, 3064, 2987, 1735, 1671, 1593, 1559, 1507, 1490, 1436, 1388, 1324, 1296, 1235, 1087, 1014, 756, 735.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 231 (5) [M⁺], 188 (14) [M⁺-C₂H₃O], 145 (100) [M⁺-C₄H₆O₂], 117 (22).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₃H₁₃NO₃): calc.: 231.0890; found: 231.0893.

HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 95:5) = **S17**, t_R = 34.5 min; *ent*-**S17**, 36.8 min).

(1*S*,2*aS*,8*bS*)-1-Acetyl-1,2*a*,3,8*b*-tetrahydrocyclobuta[*c*]isoquinolin-4(2*H*)-one (**8**)



Racemic [2+2] Photocycloaddition

Isoquinolone (20.0 mg, 0.14 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthen-9-one (15 mg, 0.07 mmol, 0.50 eq.) were dissolved in acetonitrile (10 mL, $c = 14$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (115 μ L, 1.4 mmol, 10.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 9 h at room temperature (conversion 93 %). After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **8** (16.6 mg, 0.08 mmol, 56 %) was obtained as a colorless solid.

Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

Isoquinolone (3.6 mg, 25.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.1 mg, 2.5 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (10 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, 3-buten-2-one (104 μ L, 1.25 mmol, 50.00 eq.) was added and the mixture was irradiated at 419 nm for 9 h at -25 °C (86 % conversion). After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 1:1). The title compound **8** (4.0 mg, 19 μ mol, 74 %, 91 % *ee*, 86 % based on recovered starting material) was obtained as a colorless solid.

M.p.: 143-145 °C.

TLC: $R_f = 0.44$ (ethyl acetate, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.15 (dd, $^3J = 7.9$ Hz, $^4J = 1.4$ Hz, 1H, H-5), 7.47 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.5$ Hz, $^4J = 1.4$ Hz, 1H, H-7), 7.36 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.6$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-6), 7.18 (dd, $^3J = 7.6$ Hz, $^4J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H, H-8), 6.77 (br. s, 1H, NH), 4.32 – 4.20 (m, 1H, H-2a), 3.99 (*virt.* t, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H, H-8b), 3.52 (*virt.* td, $^3J \approx ^3J = 9.0$ Hz, $^3J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H, H-1), 2.54 (*virt.* dt, $^2J = 11.8$ Hz, $^3J \approx ^3J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.37 (ddd, $^2J = 11.8$ Hz, $^3J = 9.3$ Hz, $^3J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H, H-2), 2.14 (s, 3H, COCH₃).

¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 207.5 (s, COCH₃), 164.5 (s, C-4), 138.8 (s, C-8a), 133.1 (d, C-7), 128.5 (d, C-5), 127.6 (d, C-6), 127.3 (d, C-8), 126.5 (s, C-4a), 53.3 (d, C-1), 46.5 (d, C-2a), 37.1 (d, C-8b), 33.6 (t, C-2), 28.2 (q, COCH₃).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 3186, 2923, 1686, 1492, 1458, 1413, 1362, 1342, 1174, 1161, 811, 786, 766, 734.

MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 215 (1) [M⁺], 145 (100) [M⁺-C₄H₆O], 118 (24), 90 (8).

HRMS (EI) (C₁₃H₁₃NO₂): calc.: 215.0946; found: 215.0949

HPLC (AD-H, 250 \times 4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = ent-**8**, $t_R = 18.9$ min; **8**, 29.4 min).

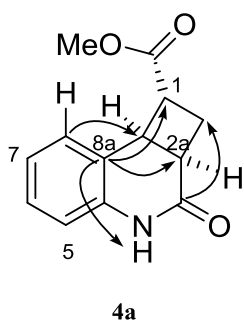
4. Proof of Constitution and Absolute Configuration

Regioselectivity and Relative Configuration

The complete set of ^1H and ^{13}C NMR signals was assigned by a combination of 1D and 2D NMR experiments. HMBC was used to determine the constitution of the isomers while NOESY spectra gave information about the spatial correlations between proximate protons (i.e. relative configuration). The most important HMBC and NOESY correlations for compound **4a** and **S11** are depicted in Figure S1 and Figure S2.

Important HMBC correlations (**4a**):

- C-3 \rightarrow H-2, H-8b
- C-4a \rightarrow H-6, H-8, H-8b
- C-8 \rightarrow H-6, H-8b
- C-8a \rightarrow H-1, H-2a, N-H



Important NOESY correlations (**4a**):

- N-H \leftrightarrow H-1
- N-H \leftrightarrow H-2 (2.60 ppm)
- N-H \leftrightarrow H-5
- H-8b \leftrightarrow H-2 (2.87 ppm)

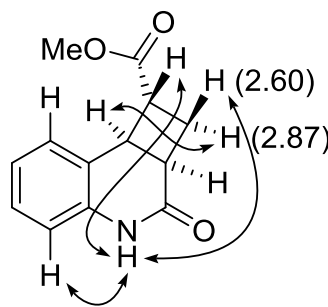
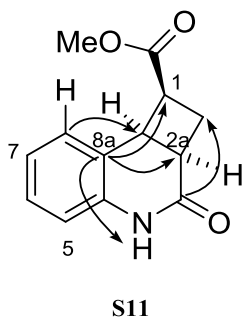


Figure S1: HMBC/NOESY correlations of compound **4a** (exo).

Important HMBC correlations (**S11**):

- C-3 \rightarrow H-2, H-8b
- C-4a \rightarrow H-6, H-8, H-8b
- C-8 \rightarrow H-6, H-8b
- C-8a \rightarrow H-1, H-2a, N-H



Important NOESY correlations (**S11**):

- N-H \leftrightarrow H-2 (2.89 ppm)
- N-H \leftrightarrow H-5
- H-8b \leftrightarrow H-2 (2.72 ppm)

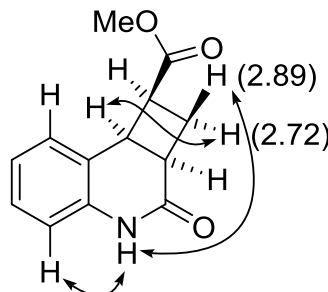


Figure S2: HMBC/NOESY correlations of compound **S11** (endo).

The most important HMBC and NOESY correlations for compound **4d** and **S14** are depicted in Figure S3 and Figure S4.

Important HMBC correlations (**4d**):

- C-3 → H-2, H-8b
- C-4a → H-6, H-8, H-8b
- C-8 → H-6, H-8b
- C-8a → H-2a, N-H

Important NOESY correlations (**4d**):

- N-H ↔ H-2 (2.33 ppm)
- N-H ↔ CH₃, H-5
- CH₃ ↔ H-2 (2.33 ppm)
- H-8b ↔ H-2 (3.21 ppm)

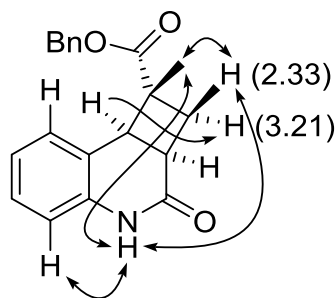
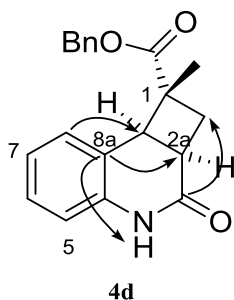


Figure S3: HMBC/NOESY correlations of compound **4d** (exo).

Important HMBC correlations (**S14**):

- C-3 → H-2, H-8b
- C-4a → H-6, H-8, H-8b
- C-8 → H-6, H-8b
- C-8a → H-2a, N-H

Important NOESY correlations (**S14**):

- N-H ↔ H-2 (3.17 ppm), H-5
- H-2a ↔ CH₃
- H-8b ↔ H-2 (2.44 ppm), CH₃
- CH₃ ↔ H-2 (2.44 ppm)

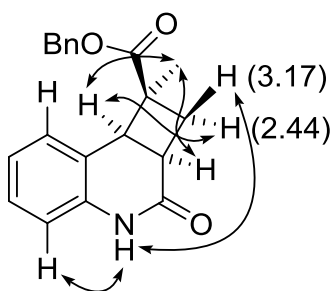
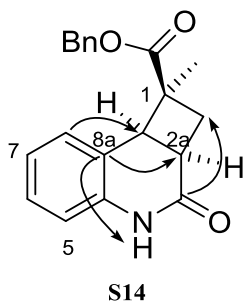
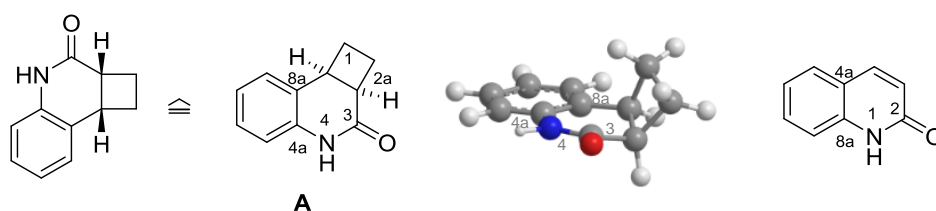


Figure S4: HMBC/NOESY correlations of compound **S14** (endo).

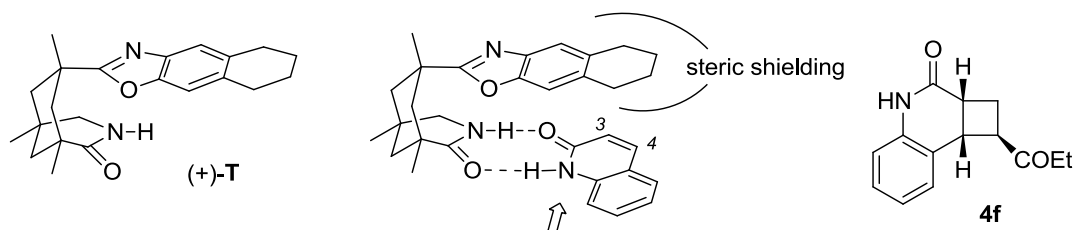
Absolute Configuration

In previous work [*Nature* **2005**, 436, 1139-1140], it has been established that the dihedral angle of the dihydroquinolone chromophore is responsible for the specific rotation of a given dihydroquinolone. When applied to products of a [2+2] photocycloaddition the relevant dihedral angle relates to atoms C3-N4-C4a-C8a, which are in the precursor quinolones atoms C2-N1-C8a-C4a. In products with core **A**, the twist of the chromophore results from the annelated cyclobutane. The dihedral angle becomes negative if the cyclobutane ring and hydrogen atoms at C-2a and C-8b are positioned as shown for **A** [in **A** this would correlate to an (*R*)-configuration at C-2a]. Photocycloaddition products with this absolute configuration are levorotatory. This scenario is shown in the adjacent molecular model of **A**. In the opposite scenario, the dihedral angle is positive and the photocycloaddition products are dextrorotatory.



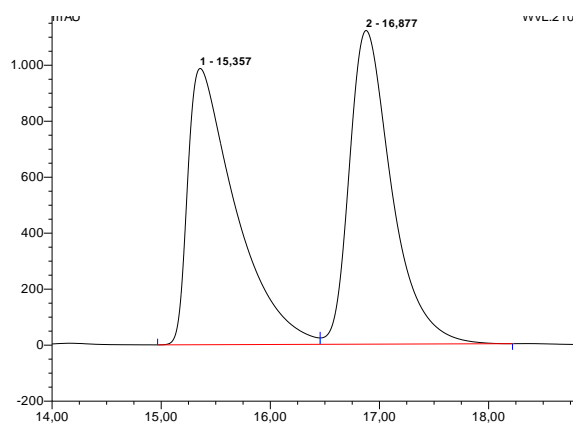
The method has been applied to assign the absolute configuration in intramolecular [2+2] photocycloaddition reactions [*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, 133, 16689-16697].

To substantiate further the direction of the enantioface differentiation, the reaction of 1(2*H*)-quinolone with ethyl vinyl ketone was performed under conditions of direct excitation ($\lambda = 366$ nm, -70 °C, PhCH₃) in the presence of stoichiometric amounts (2.5 eq.) of chiral template (+)-**T**, which has proven in the last 15 years to provide a complete enantioface differentiation according to the model shown below [Review: Bauer, A.; Alonso, R. Templated Enantioselective Photocatalysis. In *Chemical Photocatalysis*; König, B., Ed.; DeGruyter: Berlin, 2013; pp 67-90]. The product enantiomer **4f** was according to its HPLC trace identical to the product enantiomer obtained with catalyst **3**.

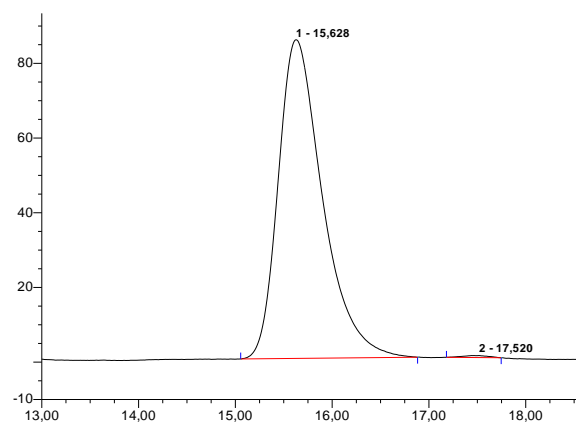


HPLC traces (for details, see section 10)

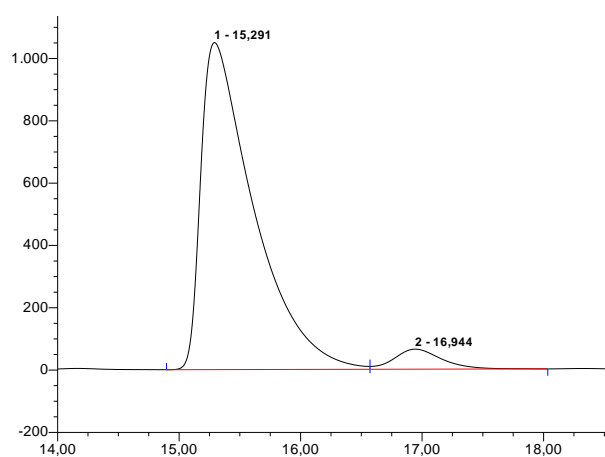
HPLC trace of *rac-4f*



HPLC trace of **4f** (from (+)-**T**)

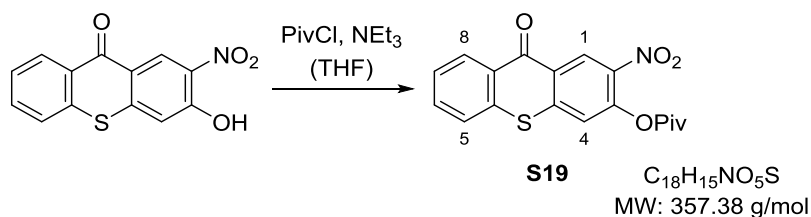


HPLC trace of **4f** (from **3**)



5. Synthesis of the Thioxanthone Derivative 7

2-Nitro-9-oxo-9H-thioxanthen-3-yl pivaloate (S19)



PivCl (356 μ L, 2.90 mmol, 1.05 eq.) was added dropwise via syringe to a solution of 3-Hydroxy-2-nitro-9H-thioxanth-9-one^[Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2014, 53, 4368-4371.] (754 mg, 2.76 mmol, 1.0 eq.), Et₃N (1.2 mL, 8.3 mmol, 1.15 eq.) and THF (50 mL, *c* = 50 mmol/L). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min and then poured into 0.1 M HCl (200 mL). The precipitate was filtered and dried in the desiccator to yield the desired pivaloate **S19** (980 mg, 2.74 mmol, 99 %).

M.p.: 233 °C.

TLC: *R*_f = 0.66 (cyclohexane:ethyl acetate, 1:1, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 9.30 (s, 1H, C-1-H), 8.61 (dd, ³*J* = 8.1 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H, C-8-H), 7.70 (ddd, ³*J* = 8.4, 7.1 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H, C-6-H), 7.61-7.55 (m, 2H, C-5-H, C-7-H), 7.40 (s, 1H, C-4-H), 1.42 [s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃].

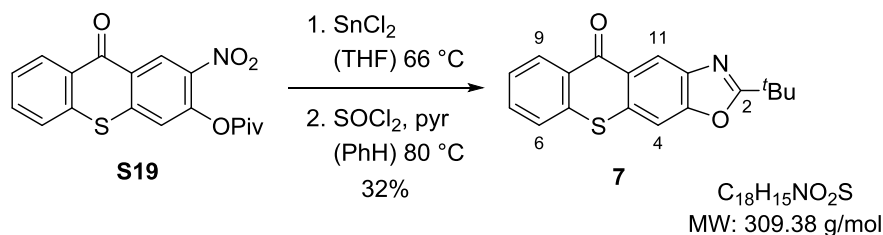
¹³C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 178.0 (s, CO), 175.7 (s, COO), 146.6 (s, C-4a), 144.1 (s, C-2), 140.4 (s, C-3), 135.8 (s, C-5a), 133.4 (d, C-6), 130.3 (d, C-8), 128.5 (s, C-8a), 128.4 (d, C-1), 127.8 (d, C-7), 127.0 (s, C-9a), 126.3 (d, C-5), 122.1 (d, C-4), 39.5 [s, C(CH₃)₃], 27.14 (q, CH₃).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 1759, 1636, 1604, 1553, 1343, 1212, 1099, 929, 753, 743.

MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%) = 357 (18) [M⁺], 309 (14), 294 (24), 273 (73) [M-CO₂tBu]⁺, 227 (12) [M-CO₂tBu-NO₂]⁺, 171 (9), 85 (13) [CO₂tBu]⁺, 57 (100) [tBu]⁺.

HRMS (EI) (C₁₈H₁₅NO₂S): calc.: 357.0665; found: 357.0664

2-(*tert*-Butyl)-10*H*-thioxantheno[2,3-*d*]oxazol-10-one (**7**)



A solution of pivaloate **S19** (910 mg, 2.55 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and dry tin(II) chloride (2.41 g, 12.7 mmol, 5.00 eq.) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (50 mL, *c* = 50 mmol/L) was heated to 70 °C for 20 h. The mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and water (35 mL) was added. The resulting suspension was repeatedly extracted with chloroform until the product cannot be detected in the extract (TLC). The combined organic layers were filtered over celite. The solvent was removed in vacuo to yield 1.46 g of crude material which was used without further purification.

A solution of the crude product and pyridine (1.33 mL, 16.5 mmol, 6.50 eq.) in dry benzene (17 mL, *c* = 0.15 mol/L) was treated dropwise with thionyl chloride (0.55 mL, 7.60 mmol, 3.00 eq.) and heated to 90 °C for 20 h. The solution was allowed to cool to room temperature and some silica gel was added carefully. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the mixture was submitted to purification by column chromatography (silica gel, dichloromethane/diethyl ether = 100:0 → 95:5). Further purification by flash column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/ethyl acetate/dichloromethane = 8:1:1) gave the pure pure benzoxazole **7** (249 mg, 0.805 mmol, 32% over two steps).

M.p.: 156 °C.

TLC: *R_f* = 0.50 (cyclohexane:ethyl acetate, 8:2, UV).

¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 8.98 (s, 1H, C-11-H), 8.64 (dd, ³*J* = 8.0 Hz, ⁴*J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H, C-9-H), 7.67 (s, 1H, C-4-H), 7.66-7.57 (m, 2H, C-6-H, C-8-H), 7.50 (ddd, ³*J* = 8.2, 7.0, ⁴*J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H, C-7-H), 1.53 [s, 9H, C(CH₃)₃].

¹³C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ (ppm) = 179.9 (s, CO), 175.5 (s, C-2), 153.5 (s, C-3a), 141.3 (s, C-11a), 137.2 (s, C-5a), 134.0 (s, C-10a), 132.4 (d, C-7), 130.1 (d, C-9), 128.8 (s, C-9a), 126.5 (s, C-4a), 126.5 (d, C-8), 125.8 (d, C-6), 121.9 (d, C-11), 106.7 (d, C-4), 34.6 [s, C(CH₃)₃], 28.6 (q, CH₃).

IR (ATR): ν (cm⁻¹) = 2973, 1635, 1617, 1589, 1436, 1412, 1289, 1246, 1112, 1101, 1043, 1032, 915, 860, 809, 744.

MS (EI, 70 eV): *m/z* (%) = 309 (72) [M⁺], 294 (100) [M-CH₃]⁺, 267 (14) [M-CO-CH₃]⁺, 253 (7) [M-*t*Bu]⁺, 225 (12) [M-CO-*t*Bu]⁺.

HRMS (EI) (C₁₈H₁₅NO₂S): calc.: 309.0818; found: 309.0821

6. Competition Experiment

Prior to the experiment the GC calibration parameters were determined for every compound.

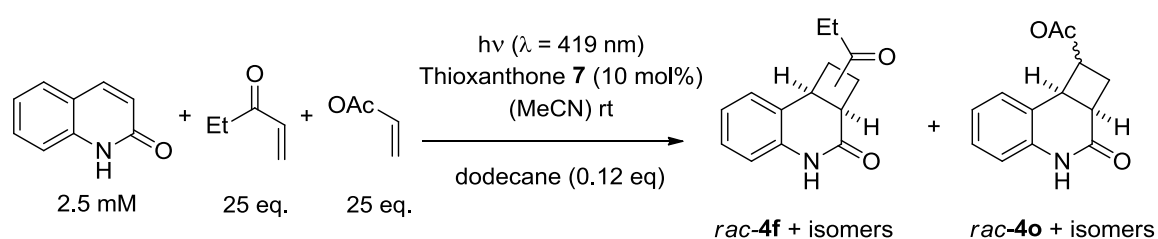
Dodecane: $y = 78.12904x + 0.34781$

Quinolone **S20**: $y = 67.42409x - 1.17052$

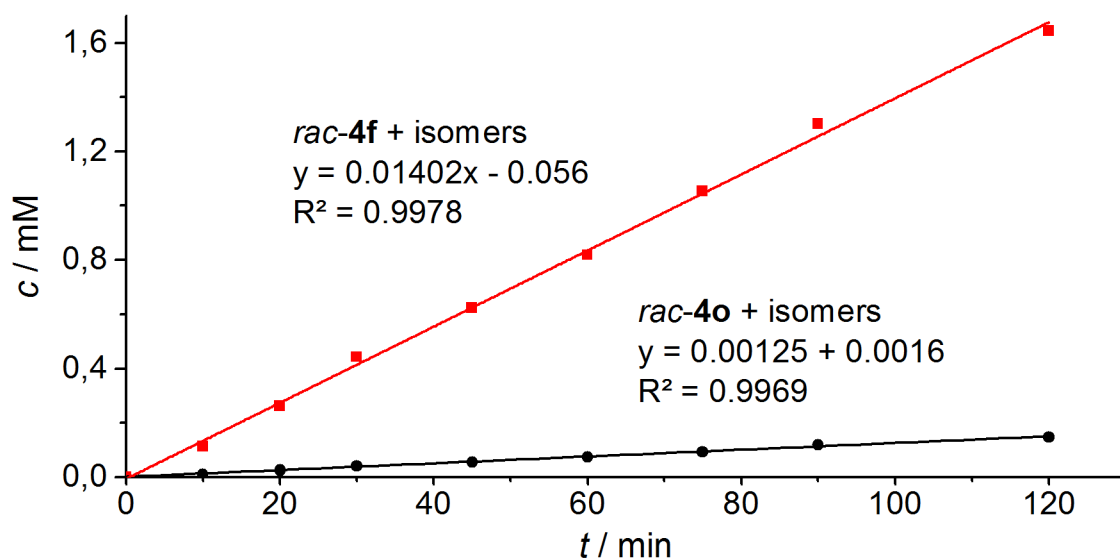
Product **4f**: $y = 92.76575x - 0.25822$

Product **4o**: $y = 107.6437x + 0.38640$

Thioxanthone **7**: $y = 174.4212x - 1.56069$



In the experiment 2(1H)-quinolone (**S20**) (7.20 mg, 50.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and thioxanthone **7** (1.56 mg, 5.04 μ mol, 0.10 eq.) were dissolved in degassed acetonitrile (20 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). Dodecane was used as internal standard (1.36 μ L, 5.99 μ mol, 0.12 eq.). Subsequently, pent-1-en-3-one (123 μ L, 1.24 mmol, 25 eq.) and vinyl acetate (114 μ L, 1.24 mmol, 25 eq.) were added and the solution was irradiated at 419 nm at room temperature. Aliquots of 100 μ L were taken from the reaction mixture after 0, 10, 20, 30, 45, 60, 75, 90 and 120 mins reaction time, and measured without dilution. GC analysis was carried using the following temperature profile: 60 $^{\circ}$ C (hold 3 min), then 15 $^{\circ}$ C/min to 250 $^{\circ}$ C (hold 3 min), then 40 $^{\circ}$ C/min to 300 $^{\circ}$ C (hold 5 min).



Areas measured by GC

Table S1: GC data (area) for Quinolone **S20** product **4f** (+isomers) and product **4o** (+isomers) at different reaction times. The conversion of quinolone **S20** was calculated as the change of the area of **S20**.

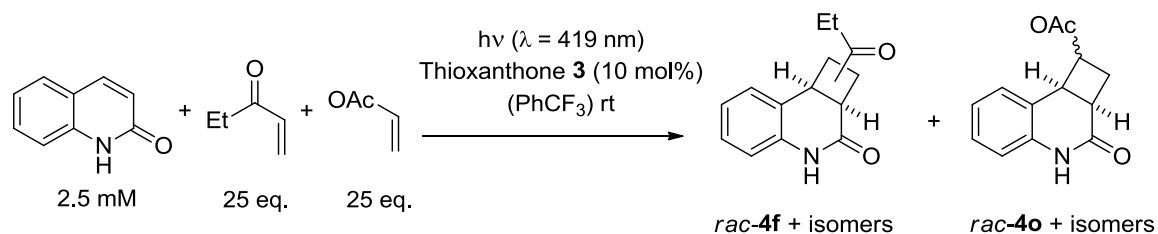
Time [min]	Dodecane	Quinolone S20	Product 4f + isomers	Product 4o + isomers	Conversion (%)
0	23.6	158.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
10	22.1	126.7	1.7	13.4	14.8
20	21.1	107.8	3.4	29.5	24.2
30	24.2	106.4	6.3	57.2	34.7
45	23.6	84.7	8.4	78.6	46.8
60	21.5	66.2	10.1	94.0	54.3
75	23.6	53.8	13.8	132.7	66.2
90	19.5	38.8	14.4	135.5	70.5
120	18.0	21.8	16.6	158.0	82.0

Concentrations of starting material **S20** and products **4f/4o**

Table S2: Calculated concentrations for quinolone **S20**, product **4f** (+isomers) and product **4o** (+isomers).

Time [min]	0	10	20	30	45	60	75	90	120
Quinolone S20 (mM)	2.74	2.33	2.08	1.79	1.46	1.25	0.93	0.81	0.49
4f + isomers (mM)	0.00	0.11	0.26	0.44	0.62	0.82	1.05	1.30	1.62
4o + isomers (mM)	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.08	0.09	0.12	0.15

Competition Experiment Using Catalyst **3**



In the experiment 2(1*H*)-quinolone (**S20**) (3.65 mg, 25.0 μmol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (1.08 mg, 2.50 μmol, 0.10 eq.) were dissolved in degassed α,α,α-trifluorotoluene (10 mL, *c* = 2.5 mmol/L). Subsequently, pent-1-en-3-one (62.2 μl, 0.63 mmol, 25 eq.) and vinyl acetate (57.6 μl, 0.63 mmol, 25 eq.) were added and the solution was irradiated at 419 nm at room temperature for 30 min. The reaction was

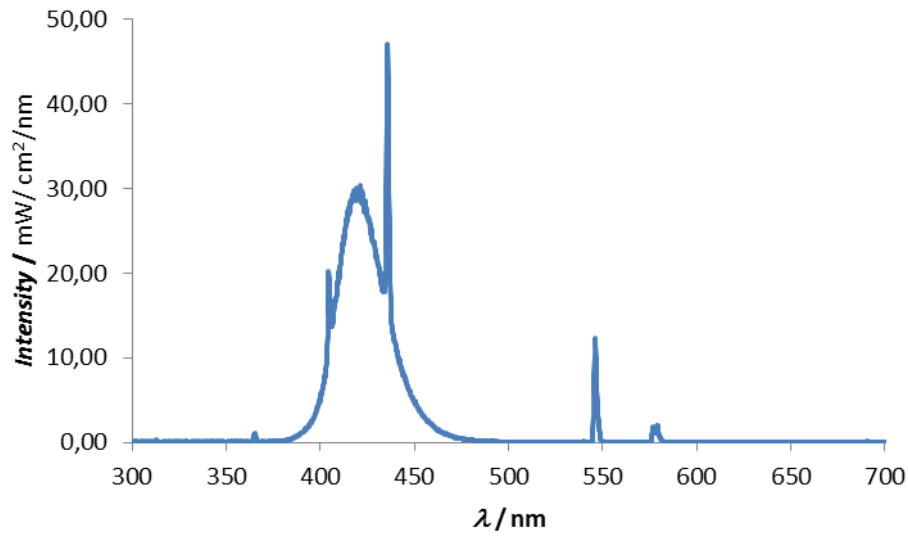
stopped and the reaction mixture was analyzed by GLC after removal of the catalyst. GC analysis was carried using the following temperature profile: 60 °C (hold 3 min), then 15 °C/min to 250 °C (hold 3 min), then 40 °C/min to 300 °C (hold 5 min).

Table S3: GC data (area) and calculated concentrations for product **4f** (+isomers) and product **4o** (+isomers) after 30 min. The ratio of $k_{\text{COEt}}/k_{\text{OAc}}$ determined under these conditions was 7.7.

Time [min]	Product 4f + isomers	Product 4o + isomers	4f + isomers (mM)	4o + isomers (mM)	$k_{\text{COEt}}/k_{\text{OAc}}$
30	73.8	12.1	0.23	0.03	7.7

7. Emission Spectra of the Light Sources.

Emission spectra of the light sources used in this study (Rayonet RPR-4190A) were measured using a USB-4000 spectrometer (OceanOptics Inc. Dunedin, FL, USA; 600 lines grating blazed at 300 nm; bandwidth 200-850 nm; 10 μm slit) through a cosine corrector connected with a 400 μm fibre to the spectrometer. The light intensity was measured at the lamp centre in a distance of 10 cm and refers to a calibration of the above described setup against radiometric calibration standards (OceanOptics Inc. Dunedin, FL, USA) traceable to NIST references.

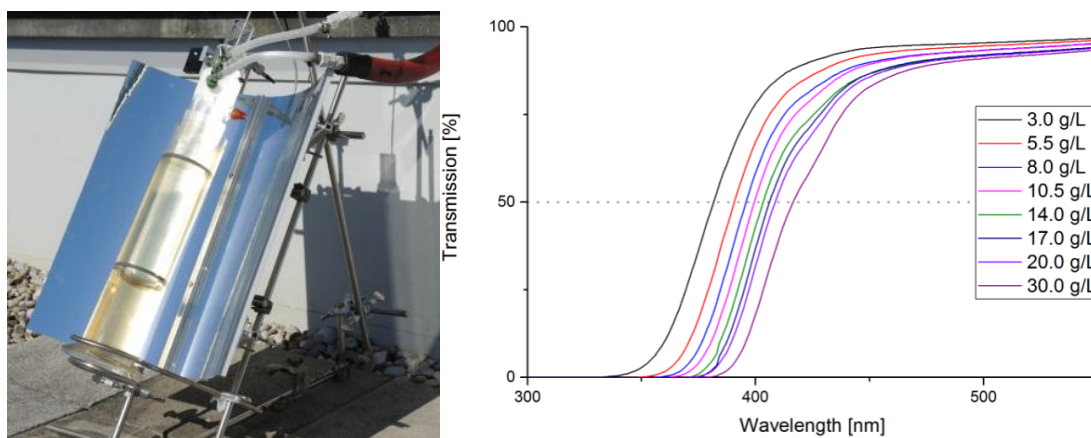


8. Solar Irradiation Experiment

Solar irradiation experiments were conducted in the standard low-temperature setup consisting of the irradiation tube in a vacuum-insulated cooling finger. The cooling finger was placed in a surrounding cylinder filled with a slightly acidified (0.075 mol/L HCl) iron(III) sulfate solution ($c = 10.5$ g/L) to cut off the UV-content of the incident light.¹ Both, cooling finger and phototube were held in place by spacers to result in a stable, concentric setup; the resulting thickness of the filter solution was 10 mm.

The irradiation setup was placed in the focus of a parabolic mirror (see Figure S5). During prolonged irradiation, the complete device was turned and tilted, to follow the course of the sun.

Figure S5: Apparatus for solar irradiation and UV-Vis transmission spectra of various concentrations of a iron(III) sulfate solution (10 mm optical pathlength).

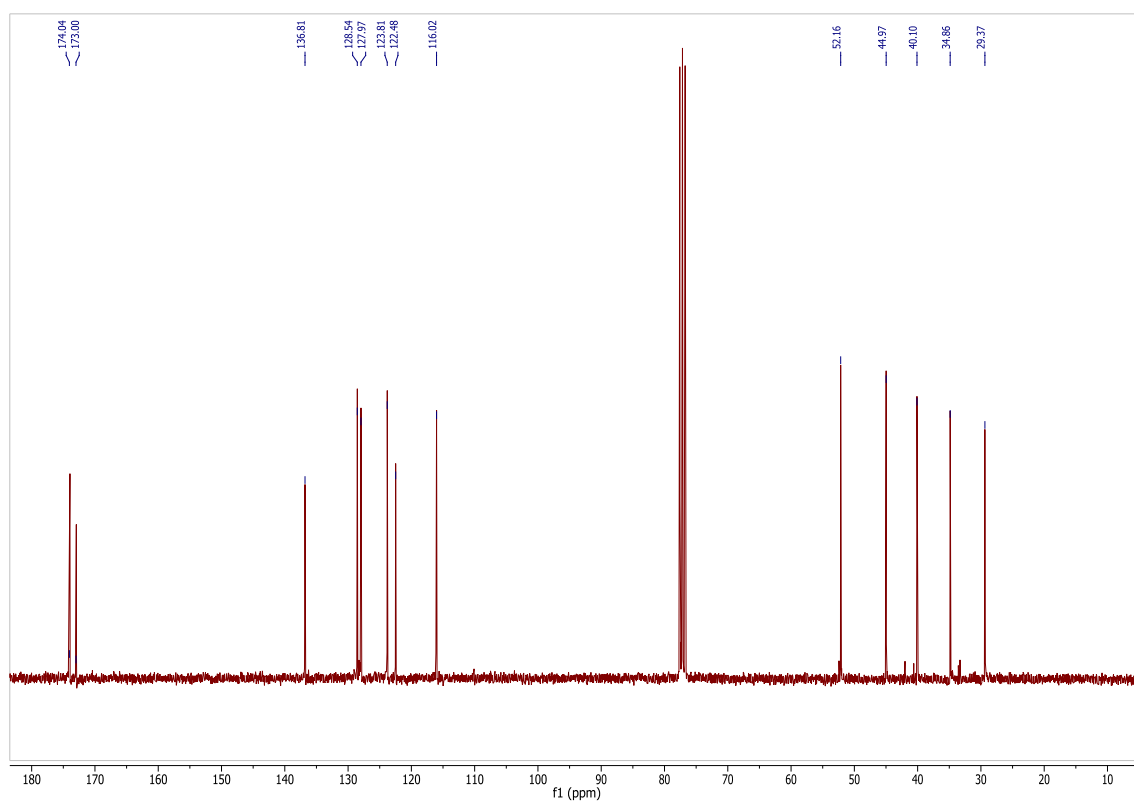
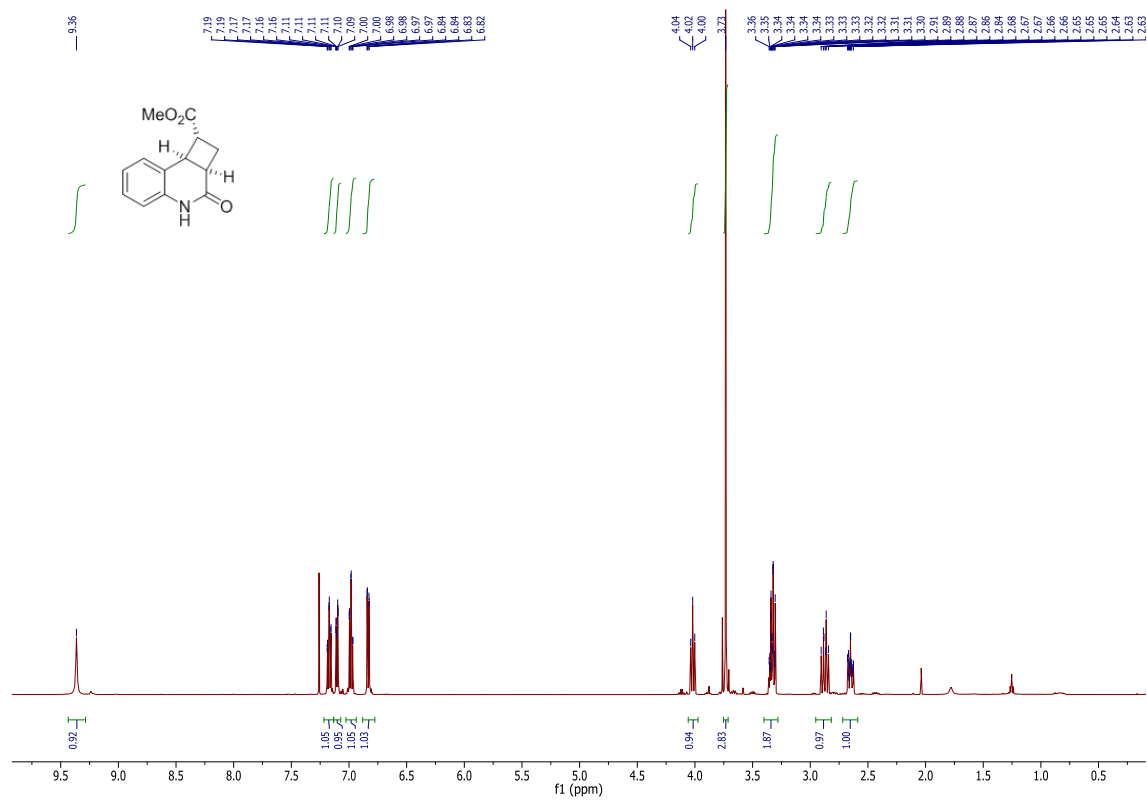


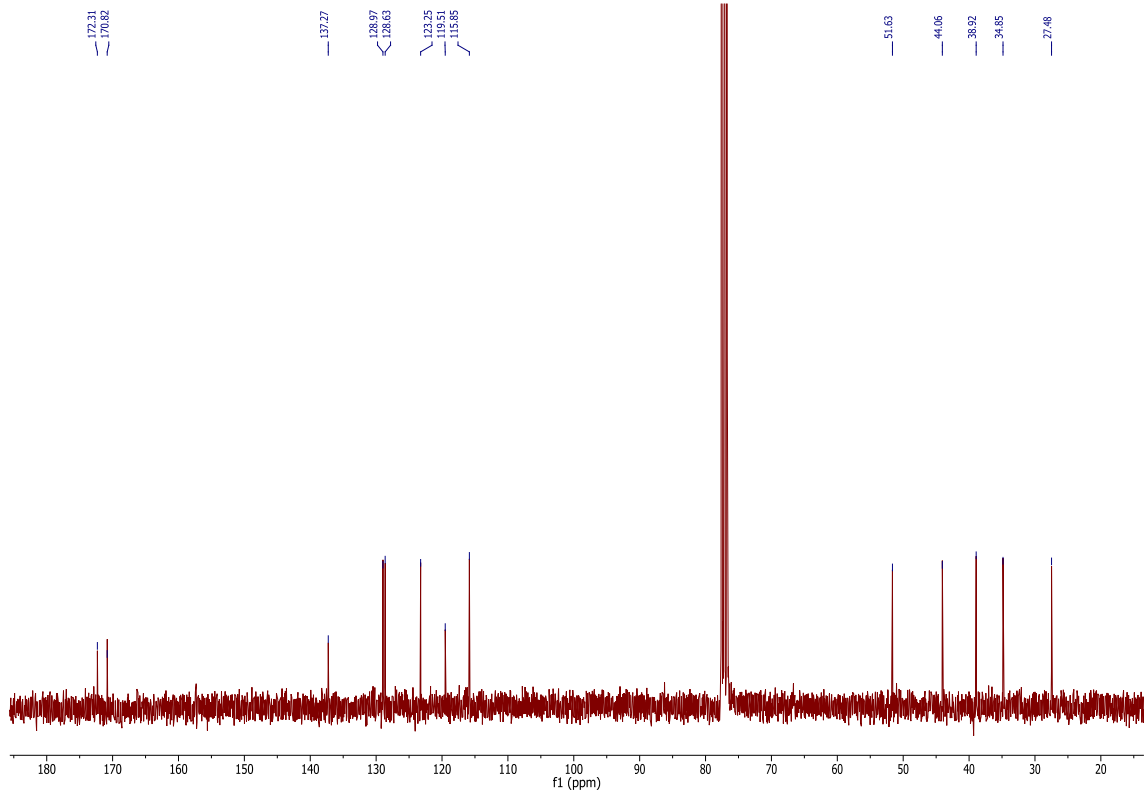
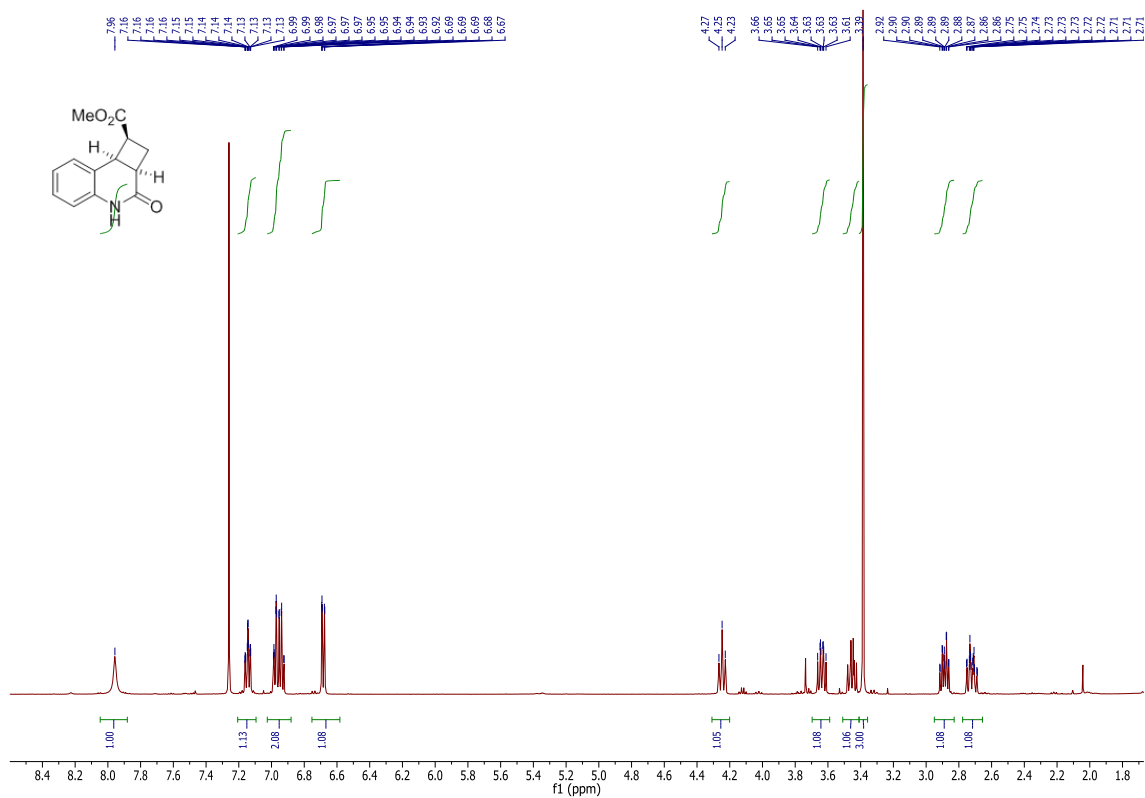
Enantioselective [2+2] Photocycloaddition

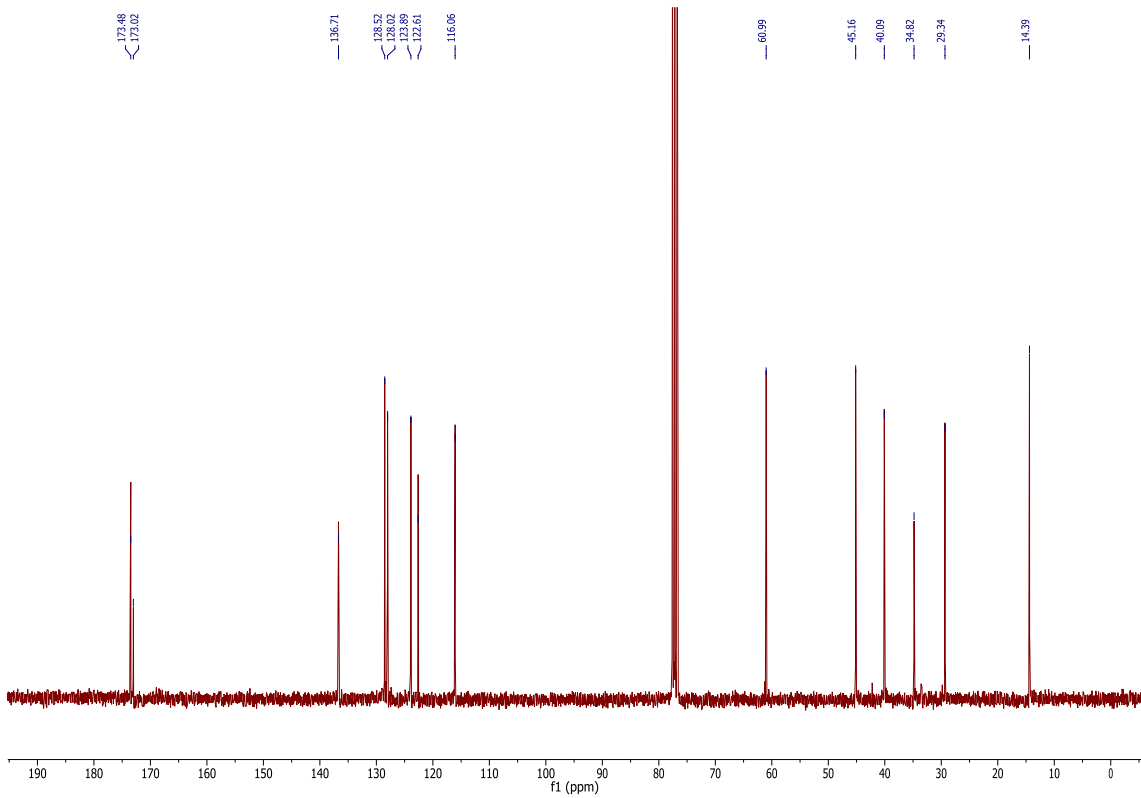
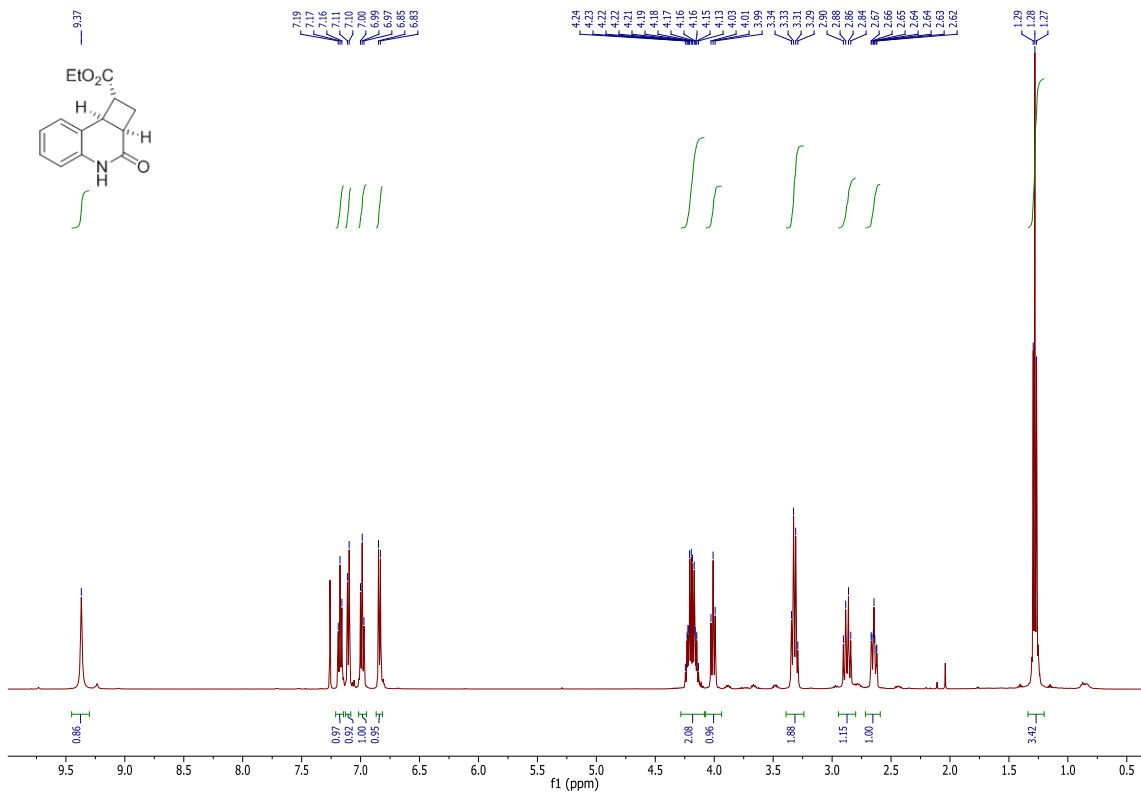
2(1*H*)-Quinolone (2.9 mg, 20.0 μ mol, 1.00 eq.) and enantiomerically pure **3** (0.9 mg, 2.0 μ mol, 10 mol%) were dissolved in α,α,α -trifluorotoluene (8 mL, $c = 2.5$ mmol/L). After degassing the solution, pent-1-en-3-one (99 μ L, 1.00 mmol, 50.0 eq.) was added and the mixture was exposed to sunlight irradiation for 4 h 15 min at -25 $^{\circ}$ C (21 % conversion). After removing the solvent, purification was achieved by flash column chromatography (silica, pentane/ethyl acetate 7:3 \rightarrow 1:1). The title compound **4f** (0.8 mg, 3.5 μ mol, 17%, 86% *ee*, 81 % based on recovered starting material) and remaining starting material (2.3 mg, 16.0 μ mol, 79 %) were obtained as a colorless solid.

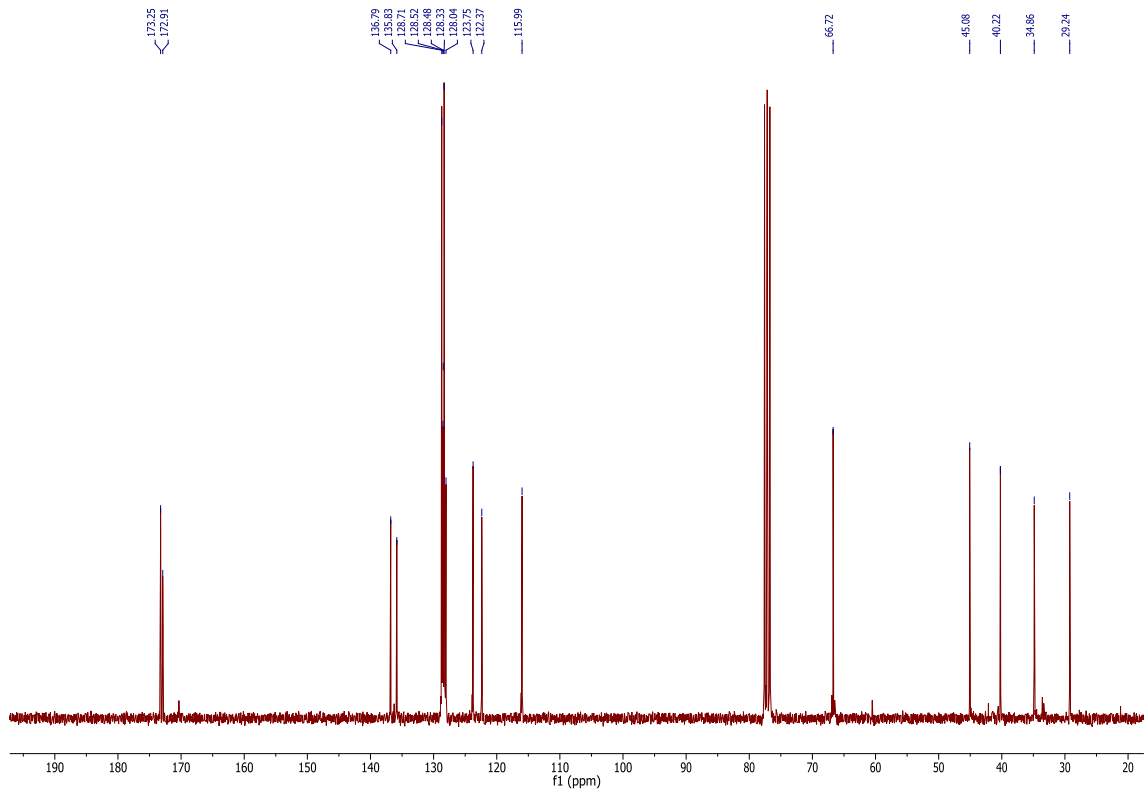
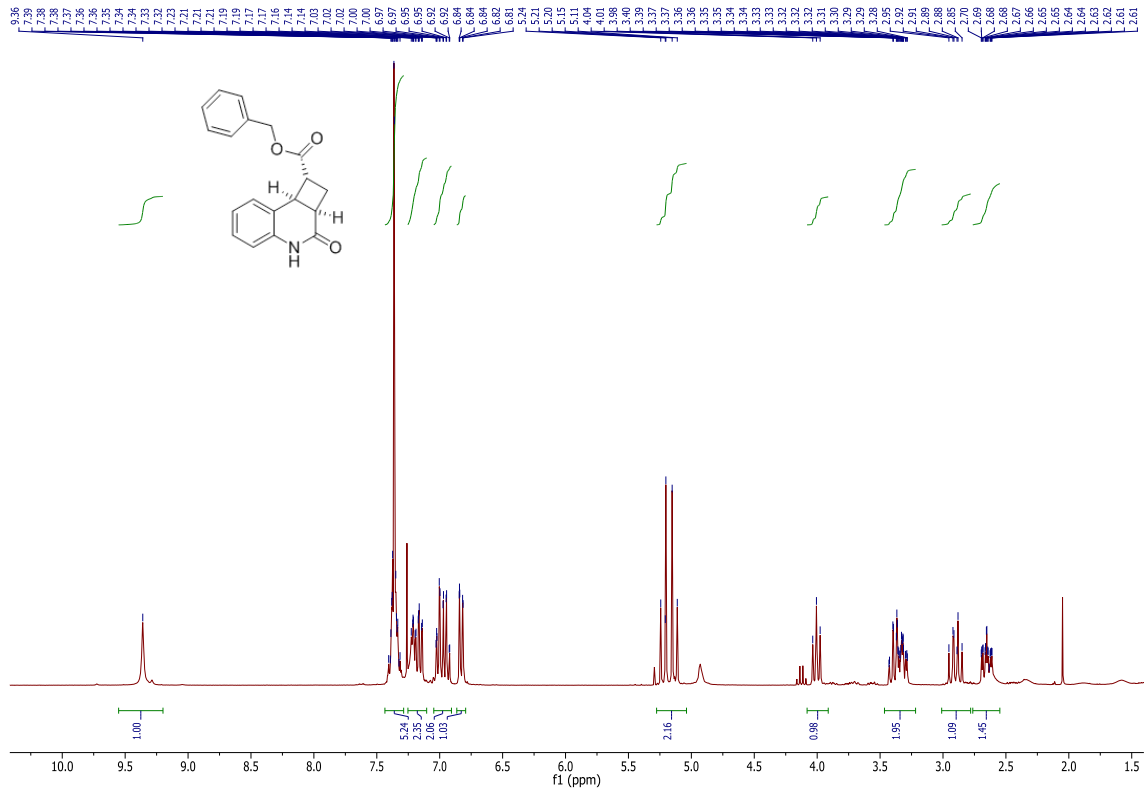
¹ The concentration needs to be optimized for different sunlight-intensities; 10.5 g/L where used for low intensity sun light (Munich, late October 2015).

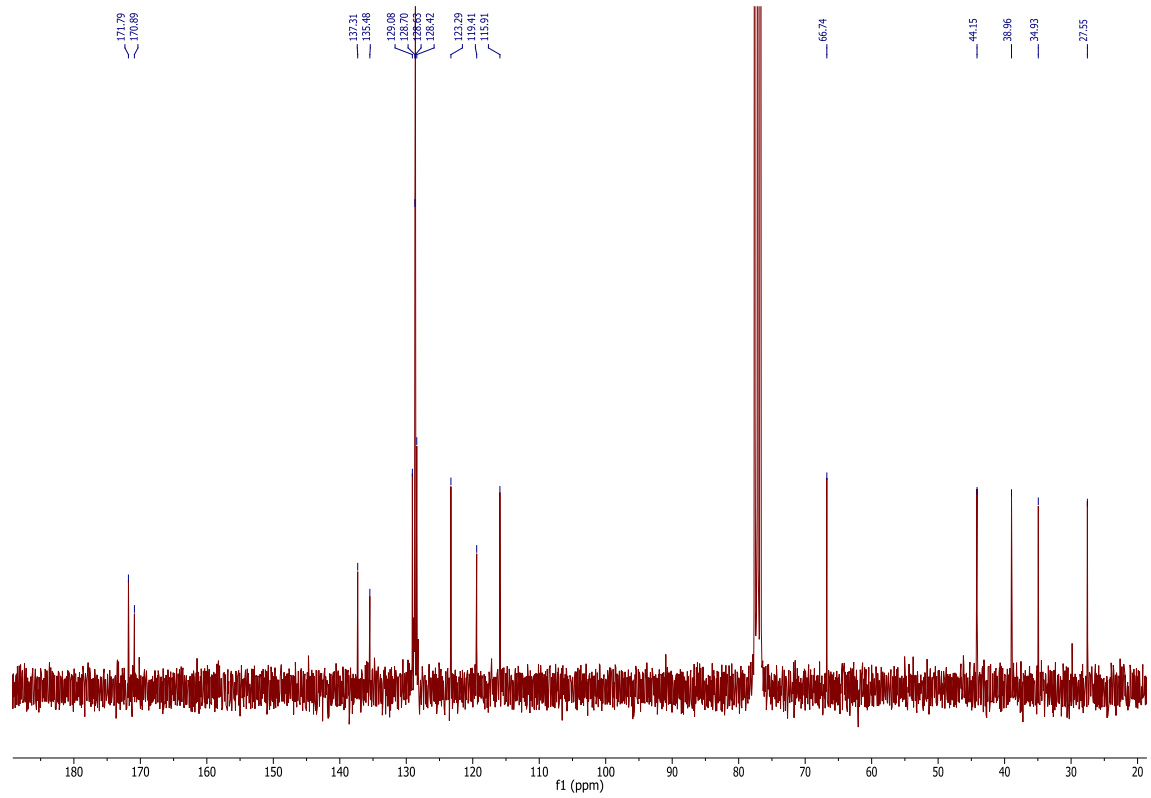
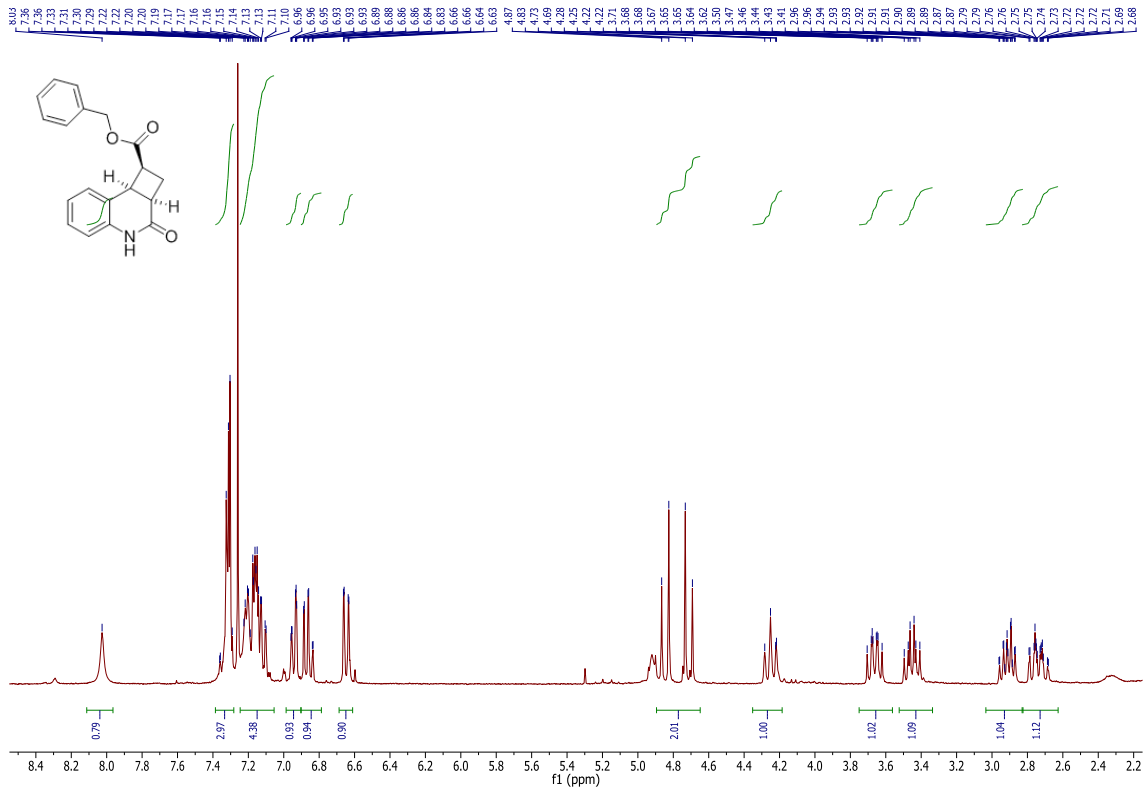
9. NMR-Spectra of New Compounds

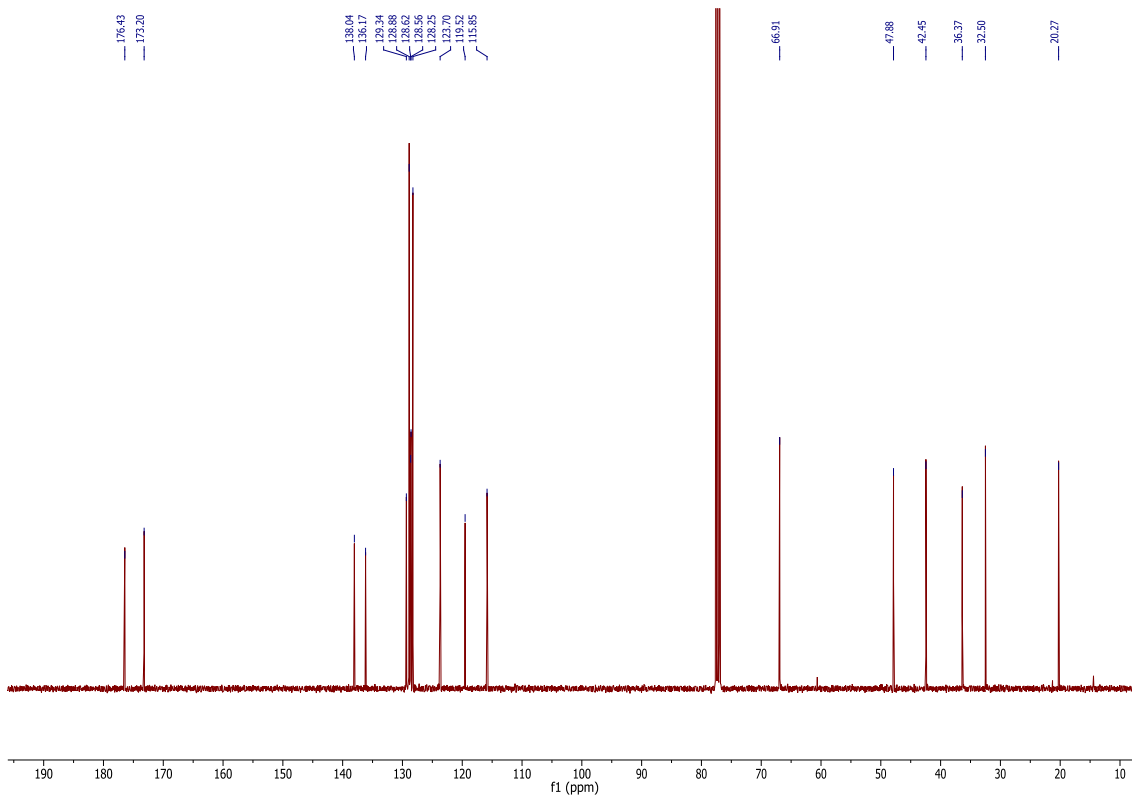
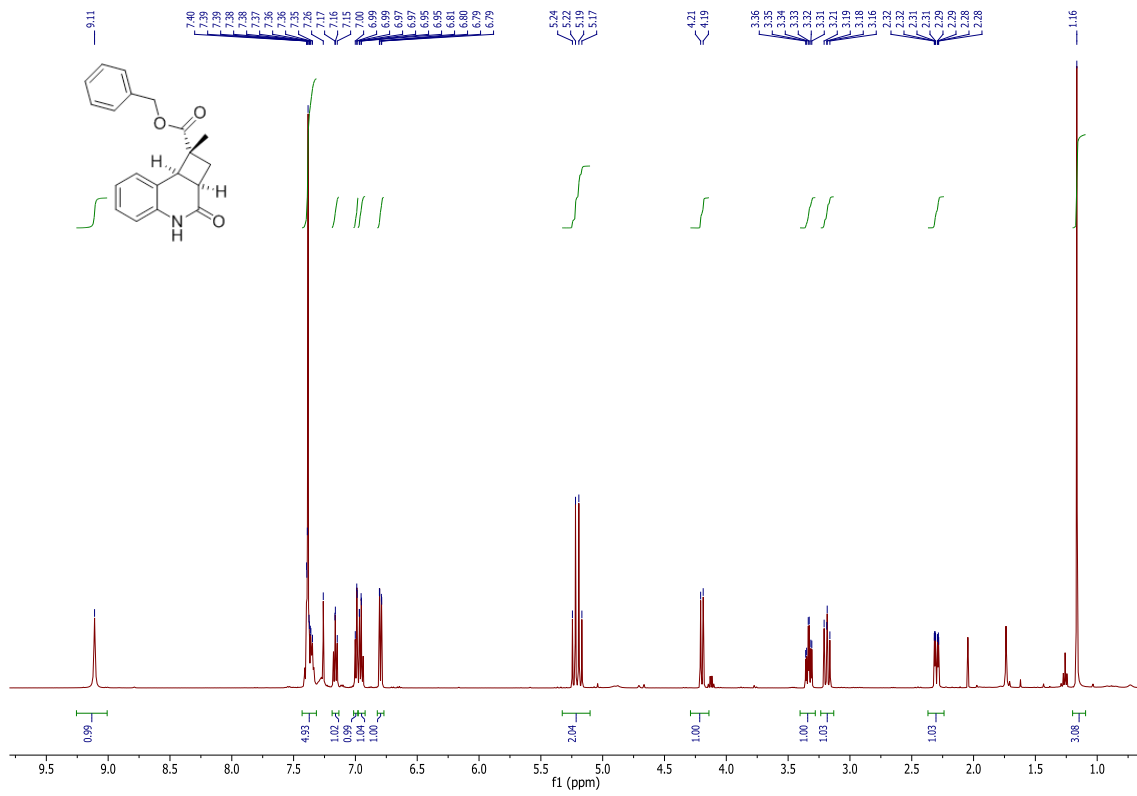


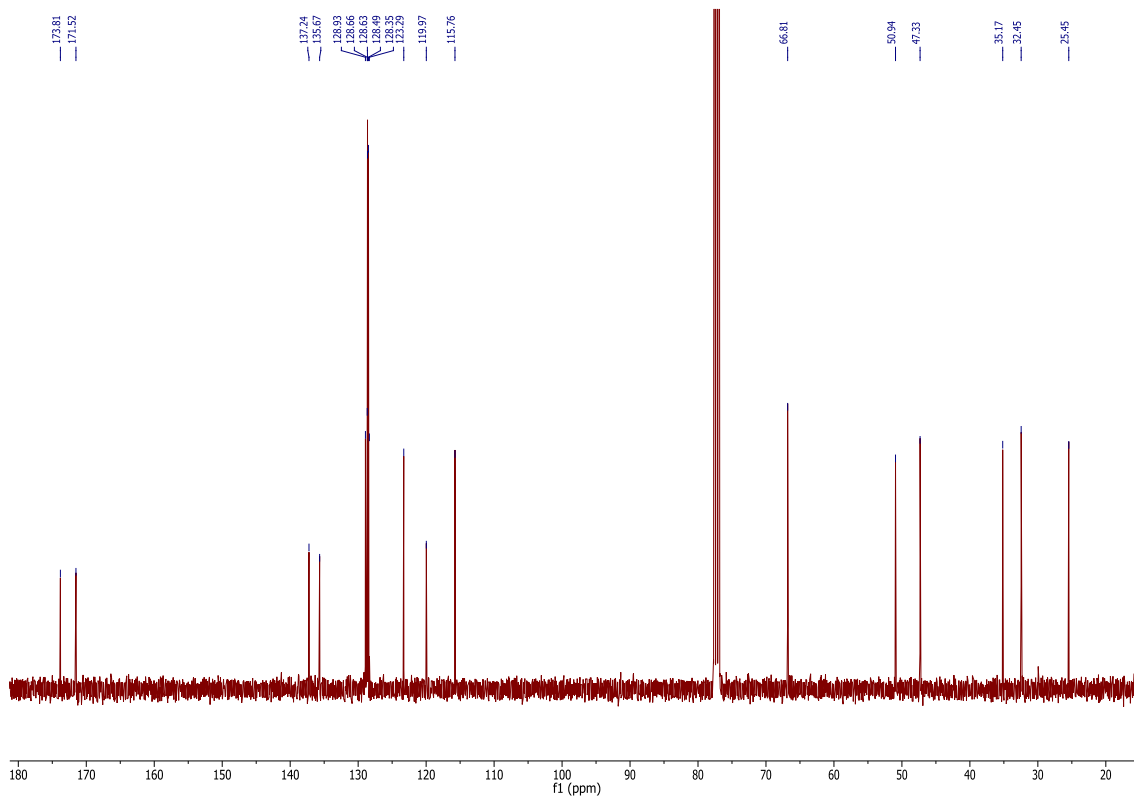
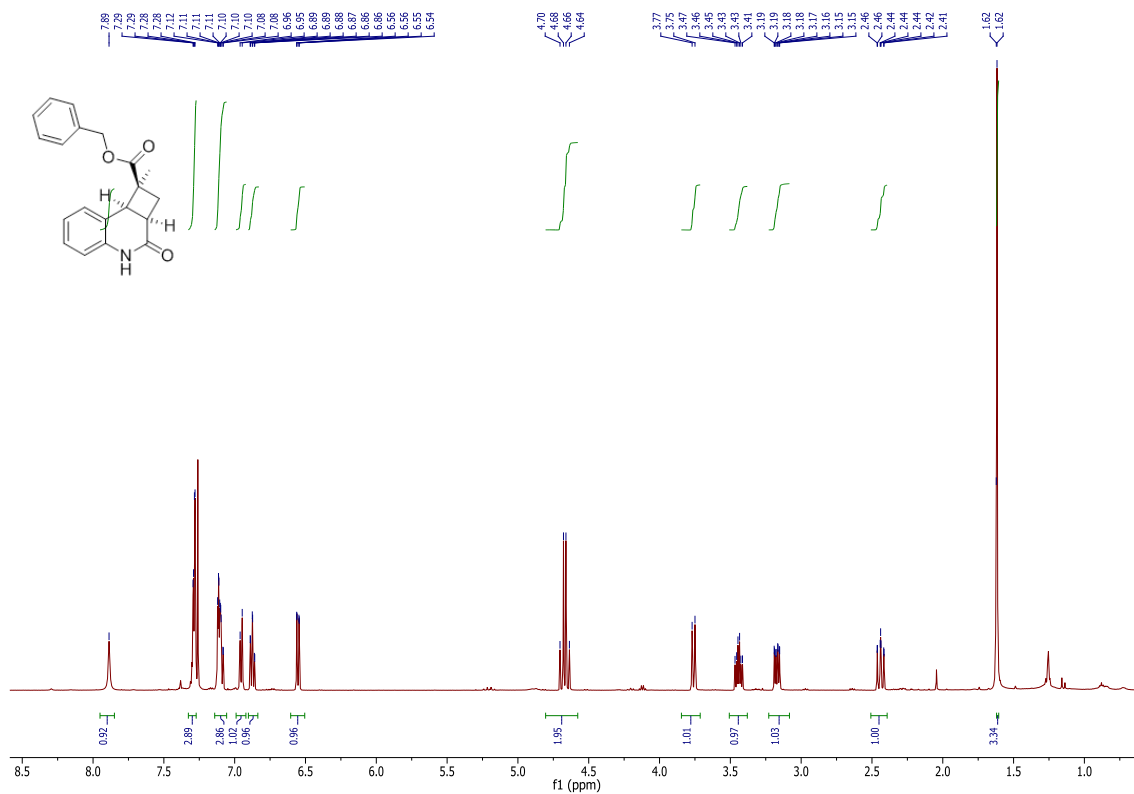


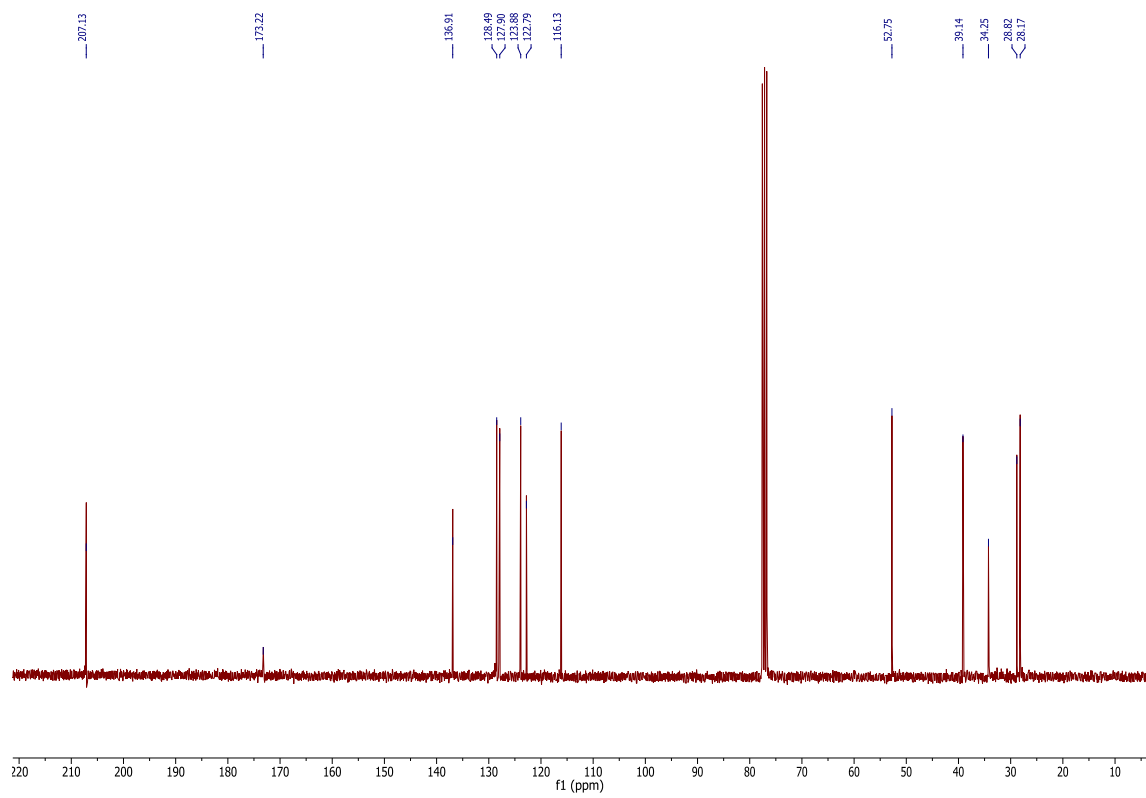
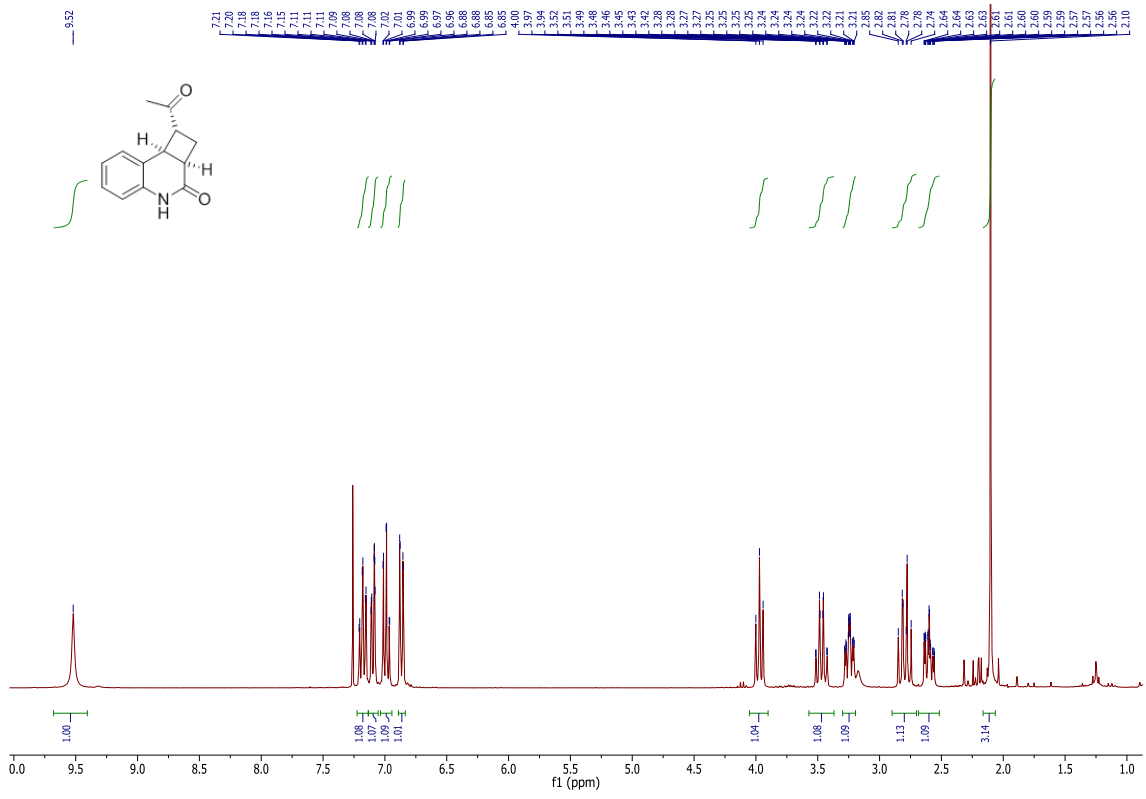


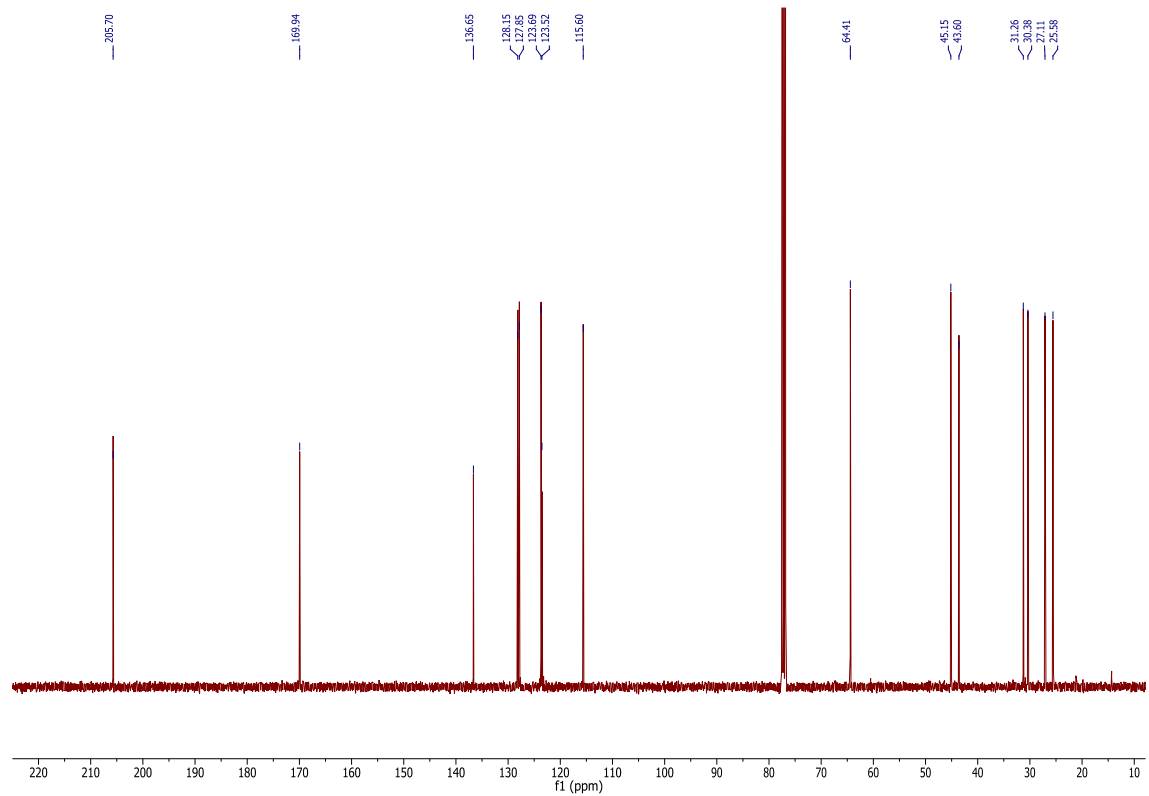
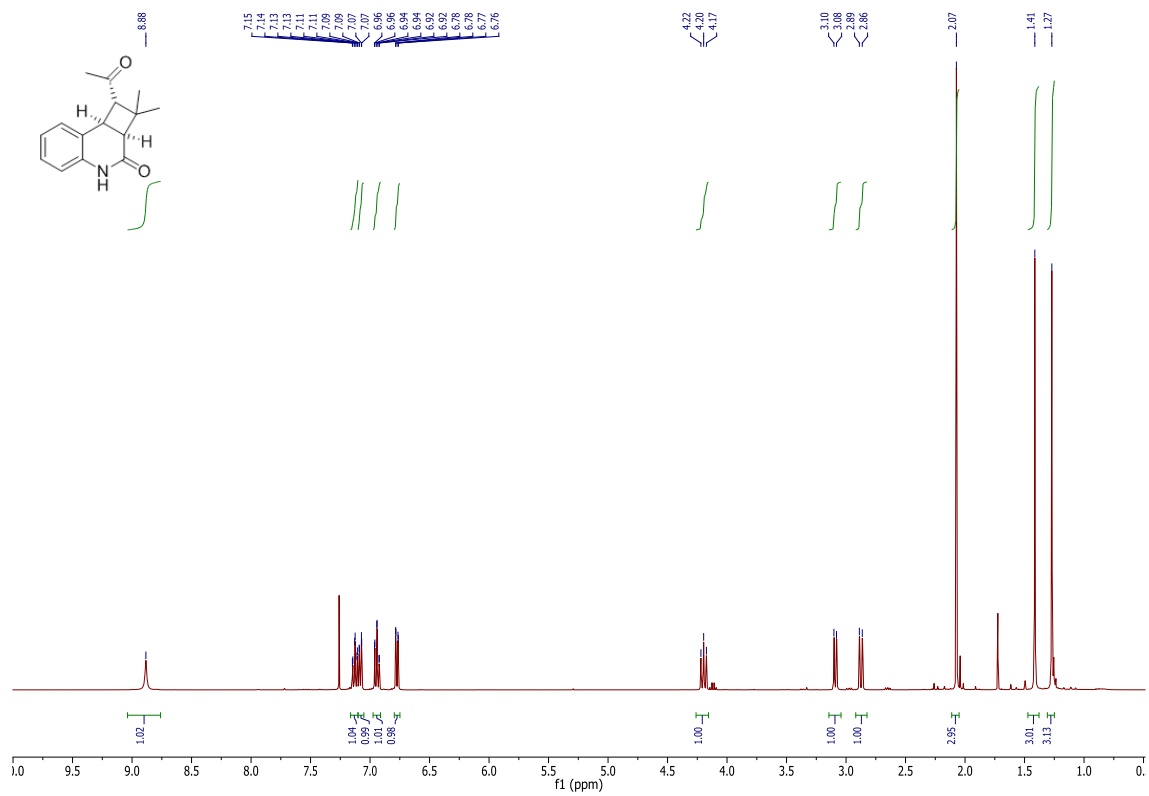


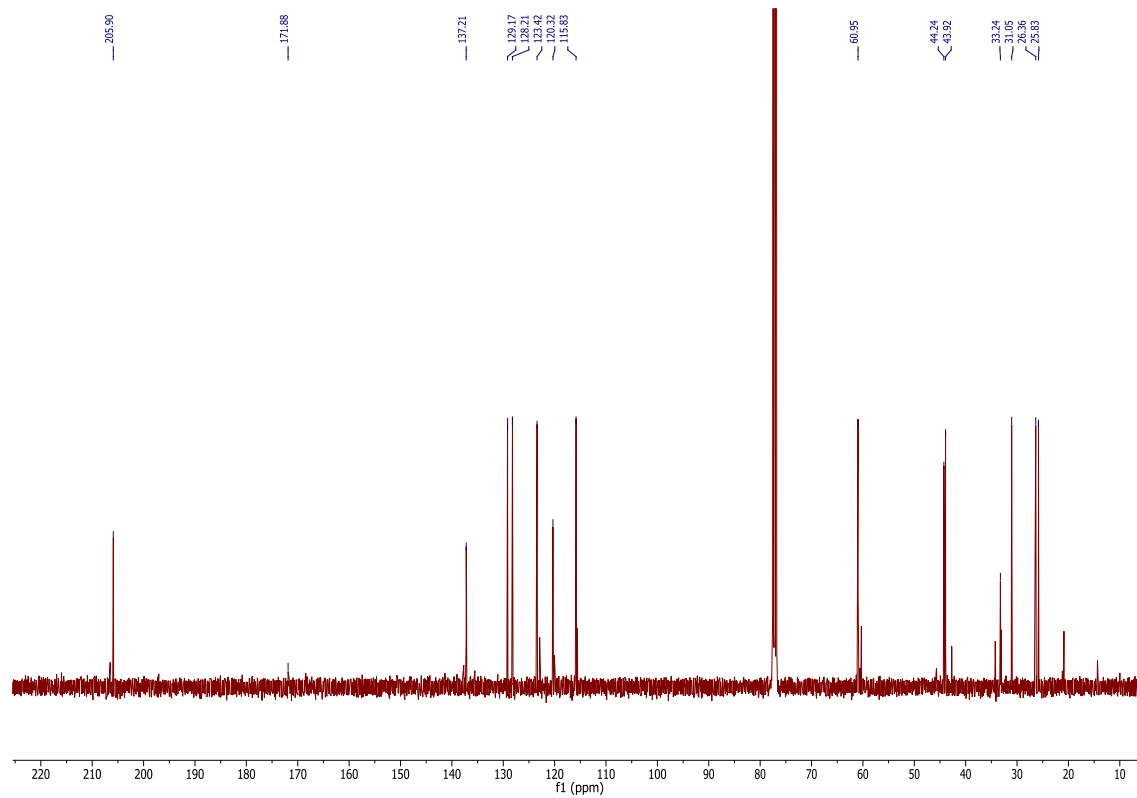
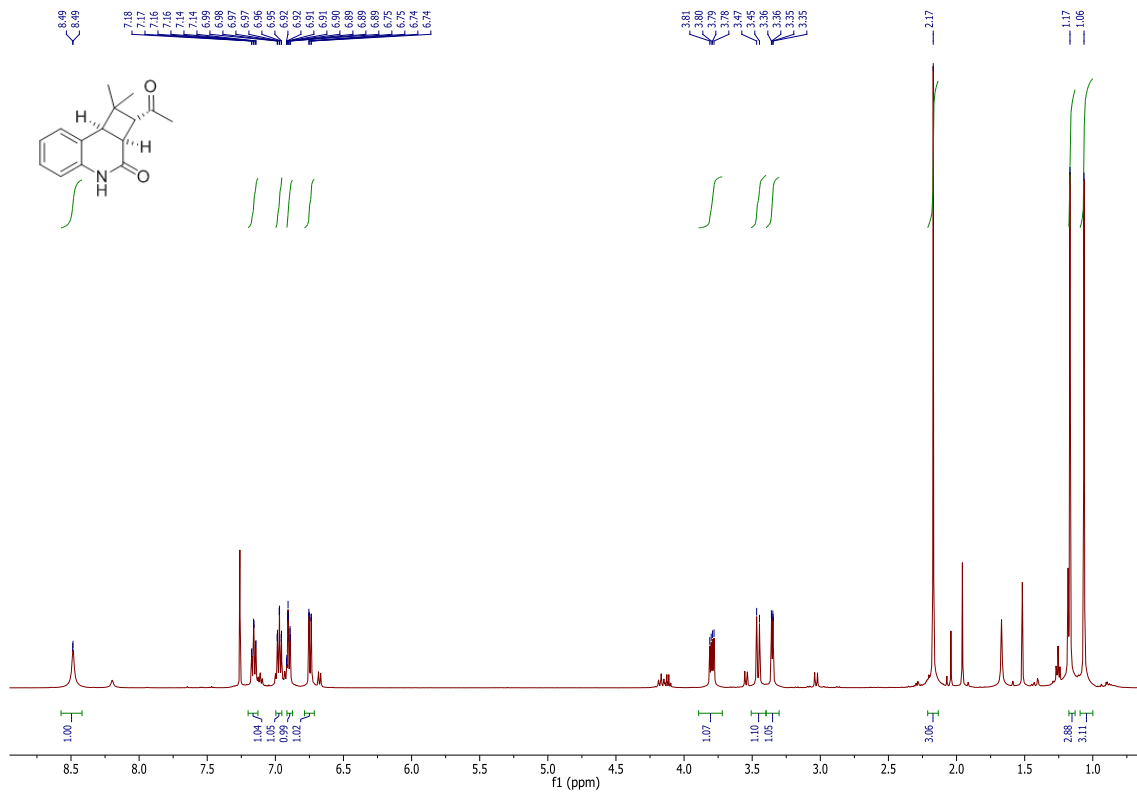


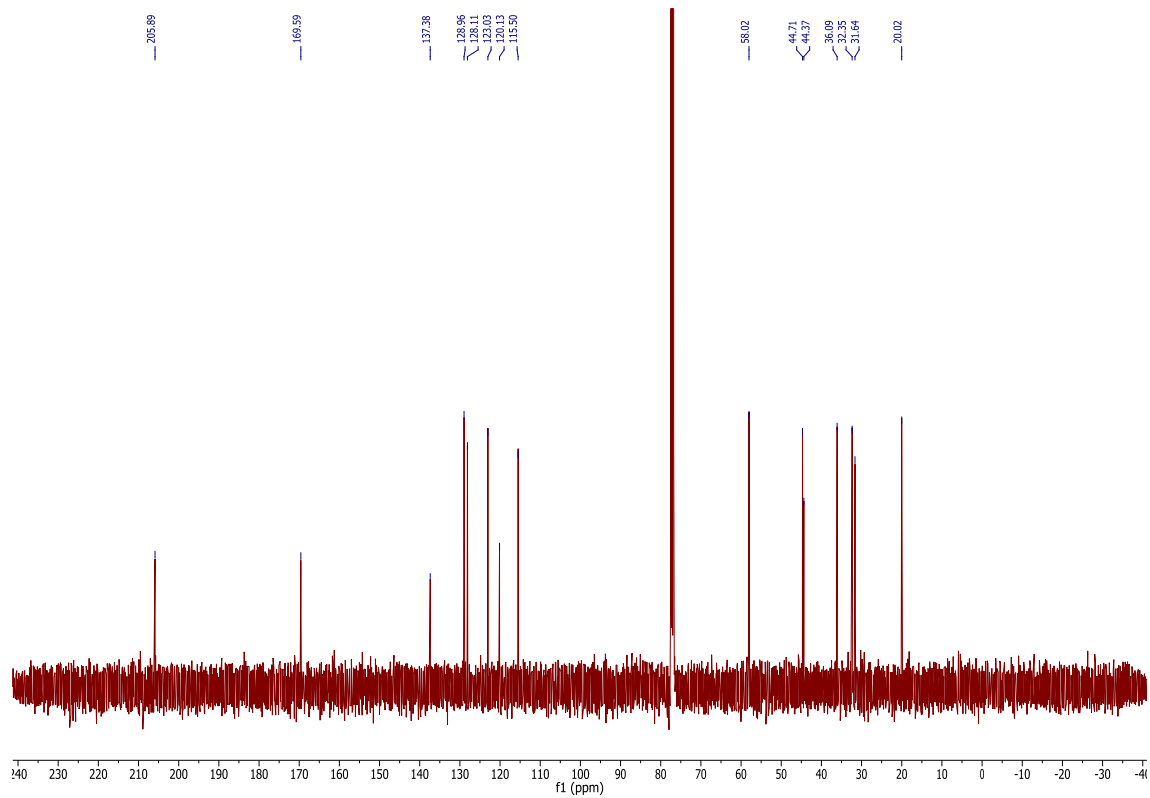
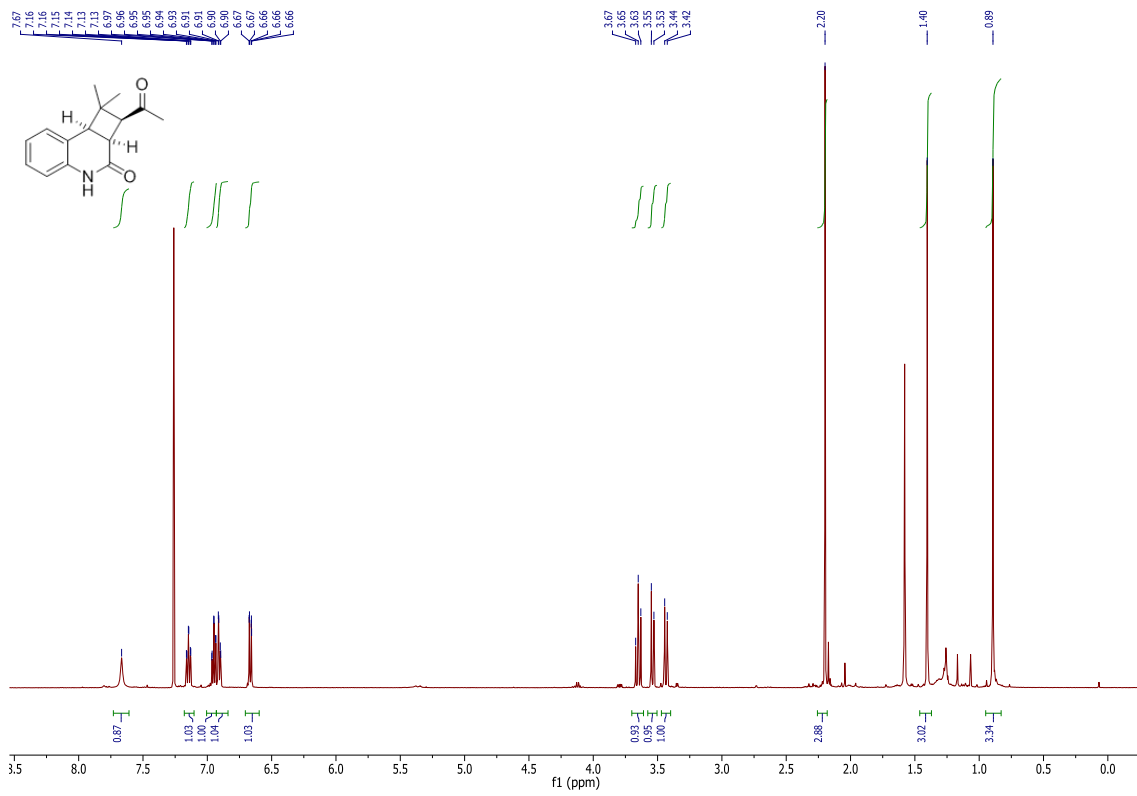


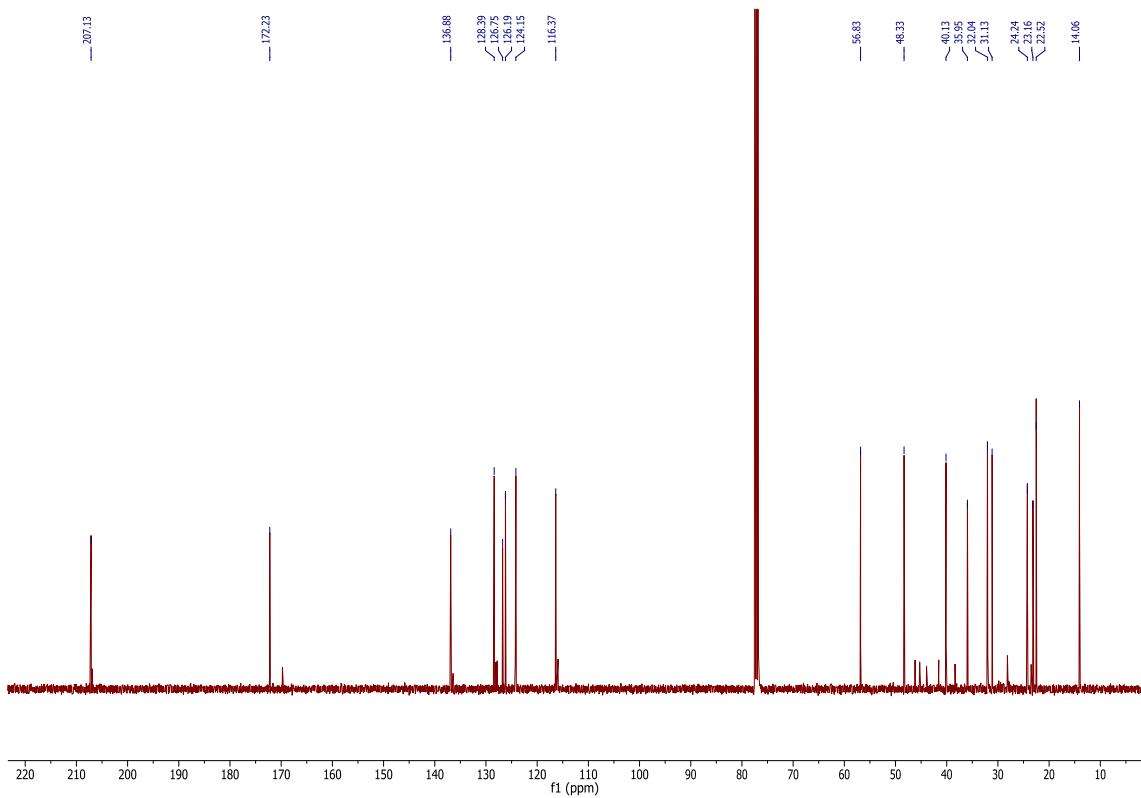
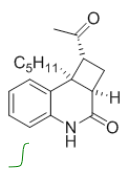
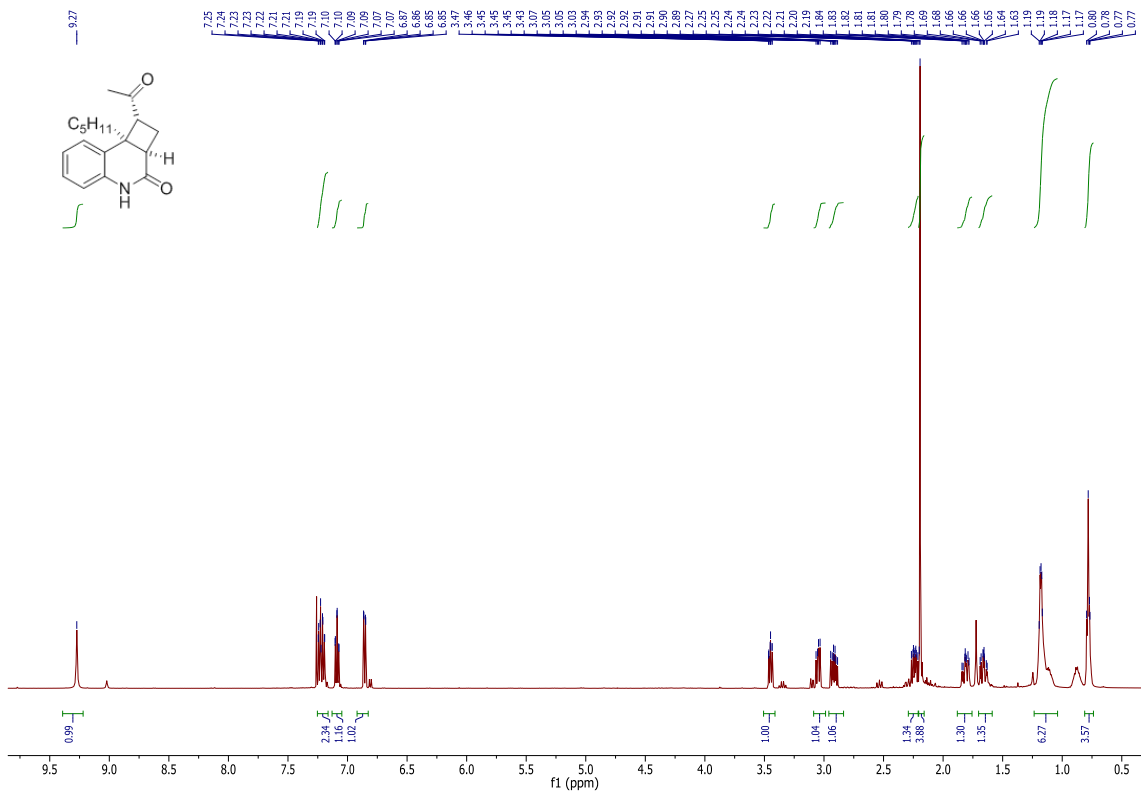


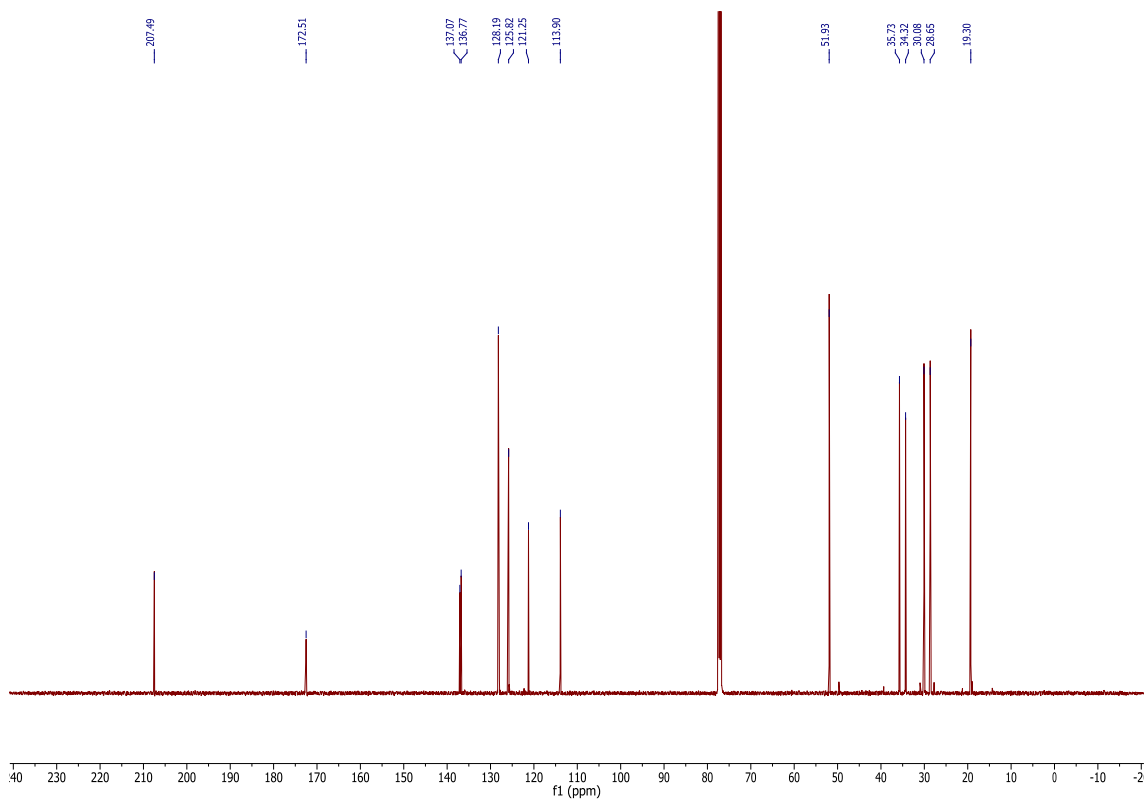
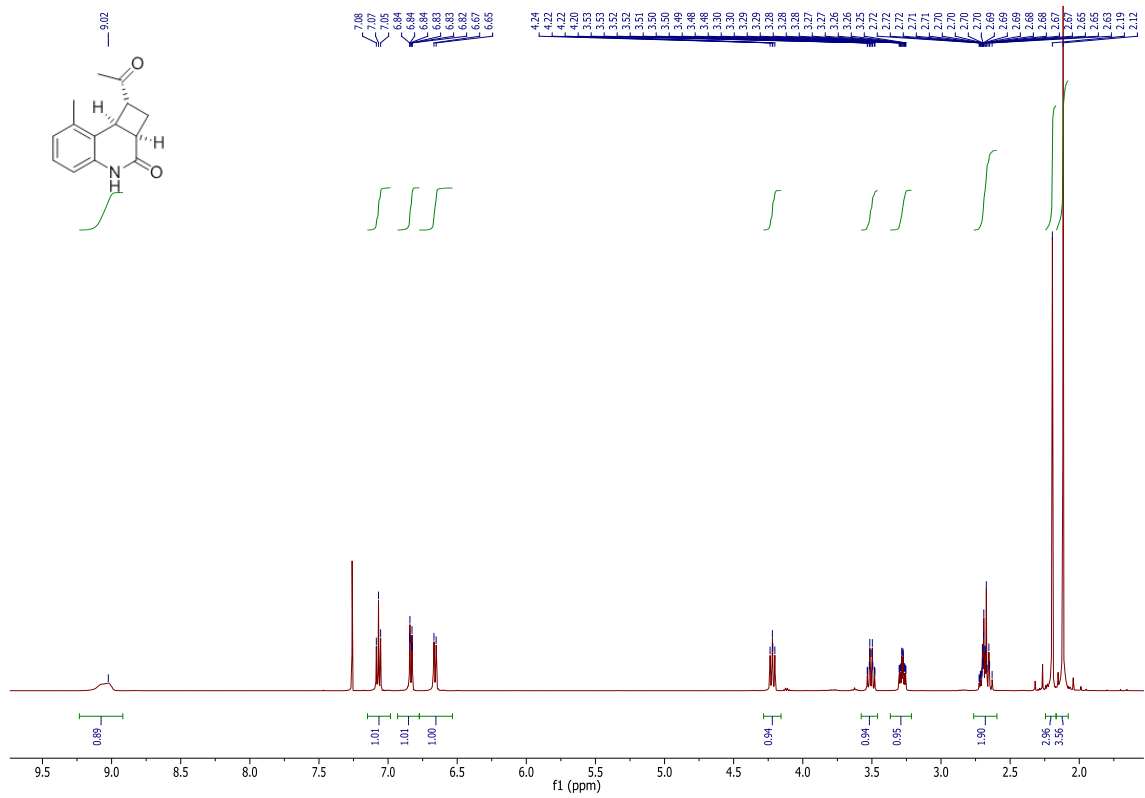


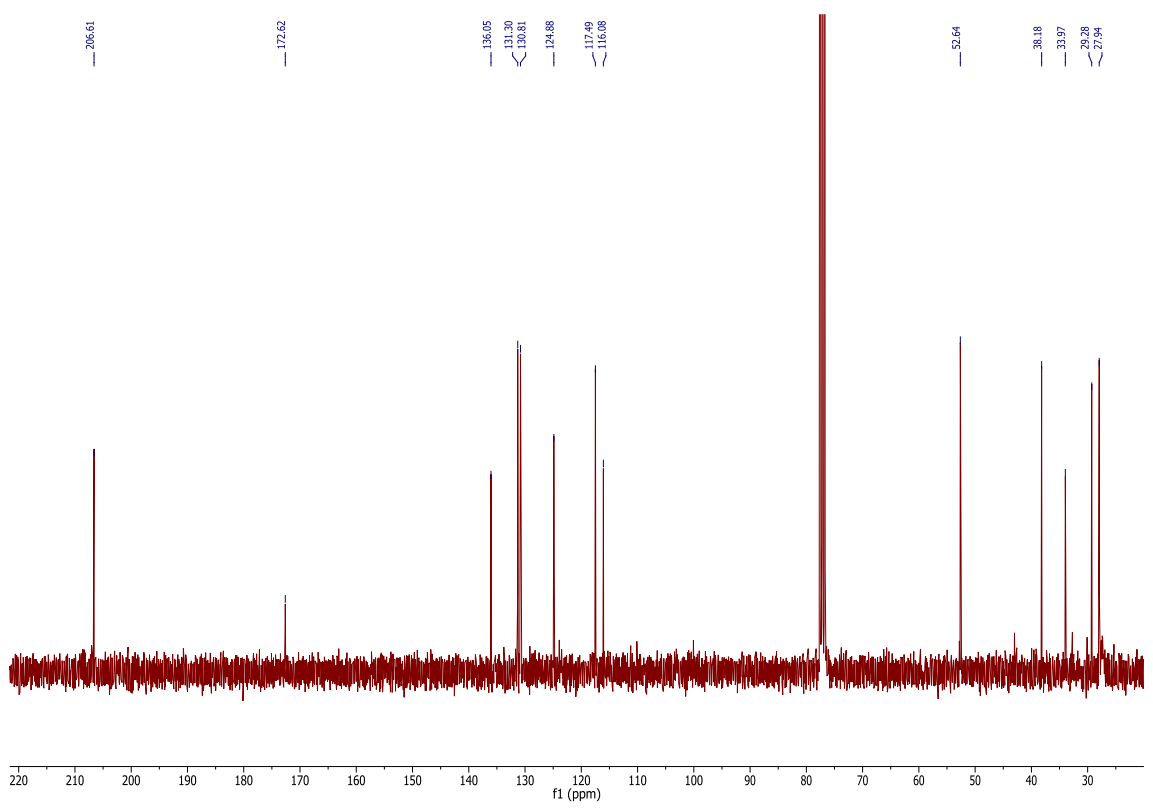
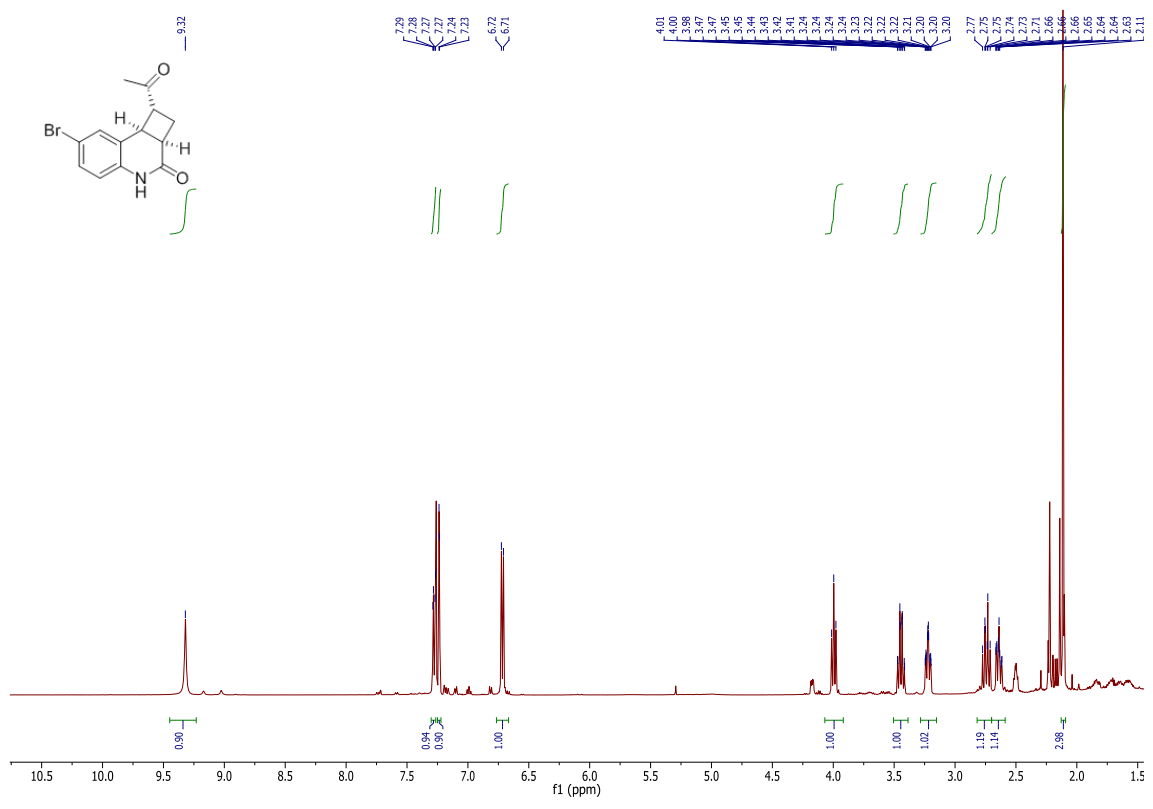


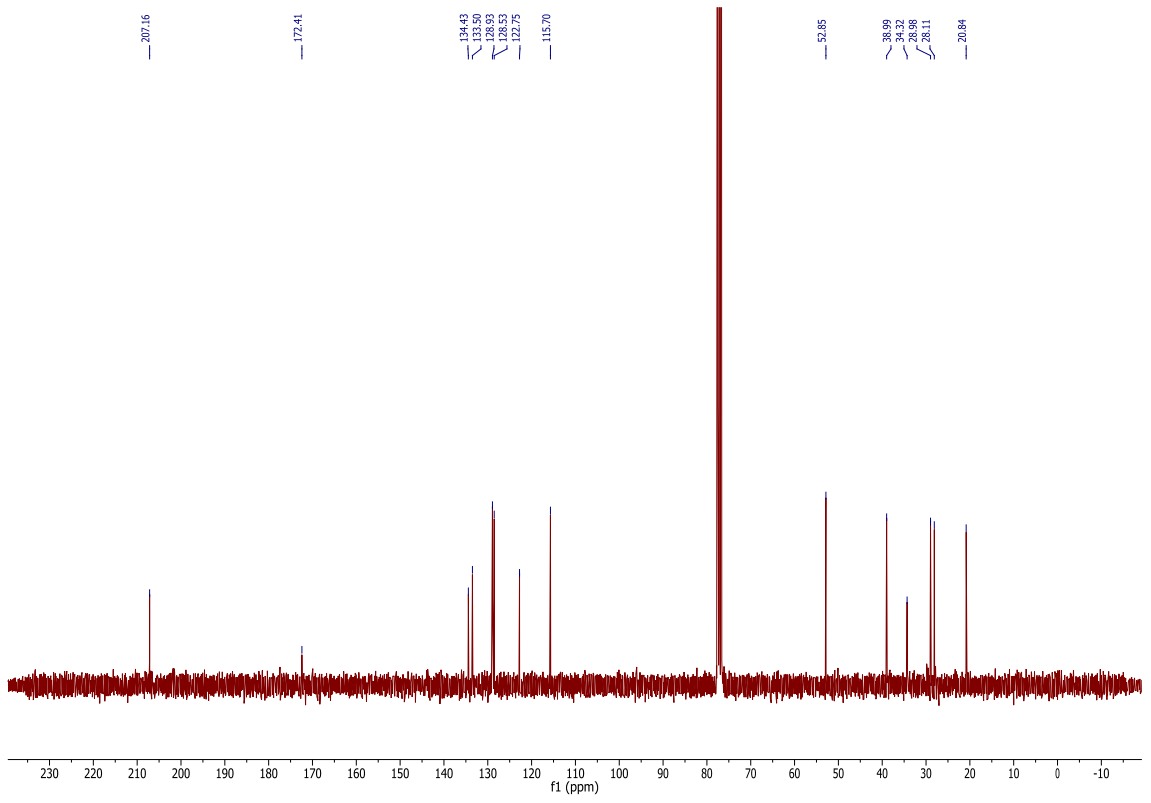
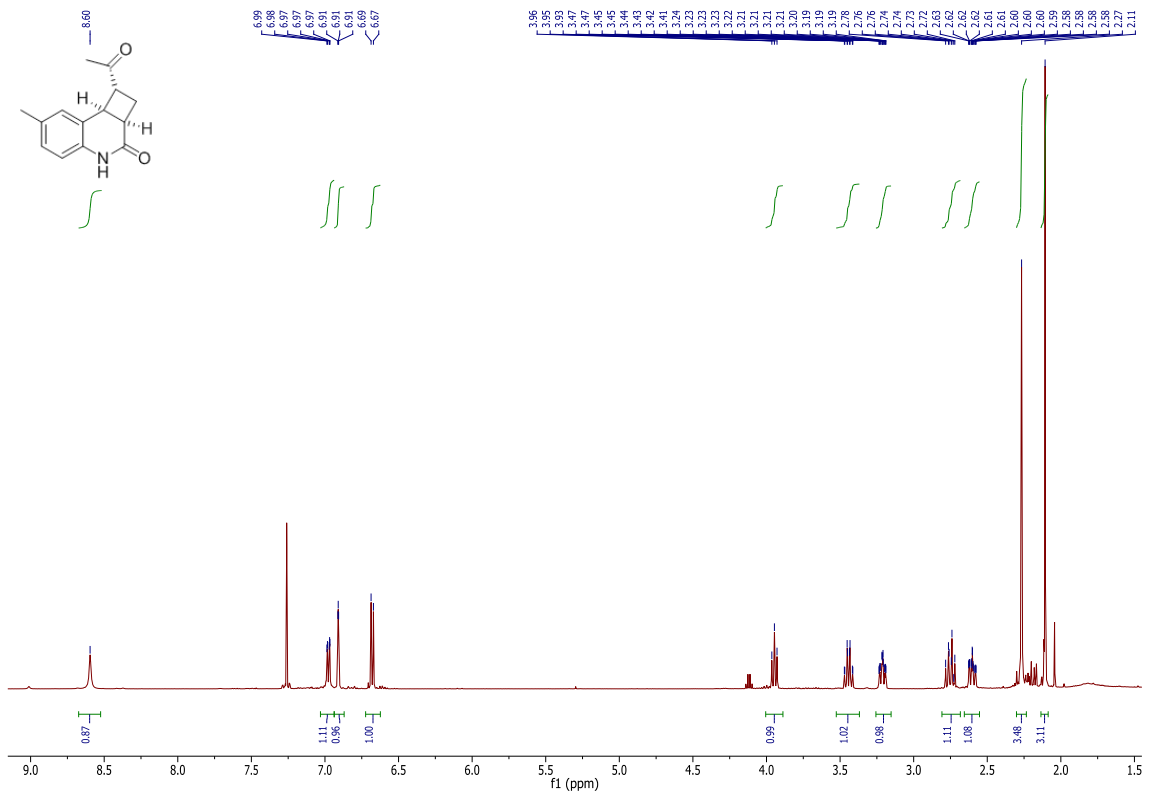


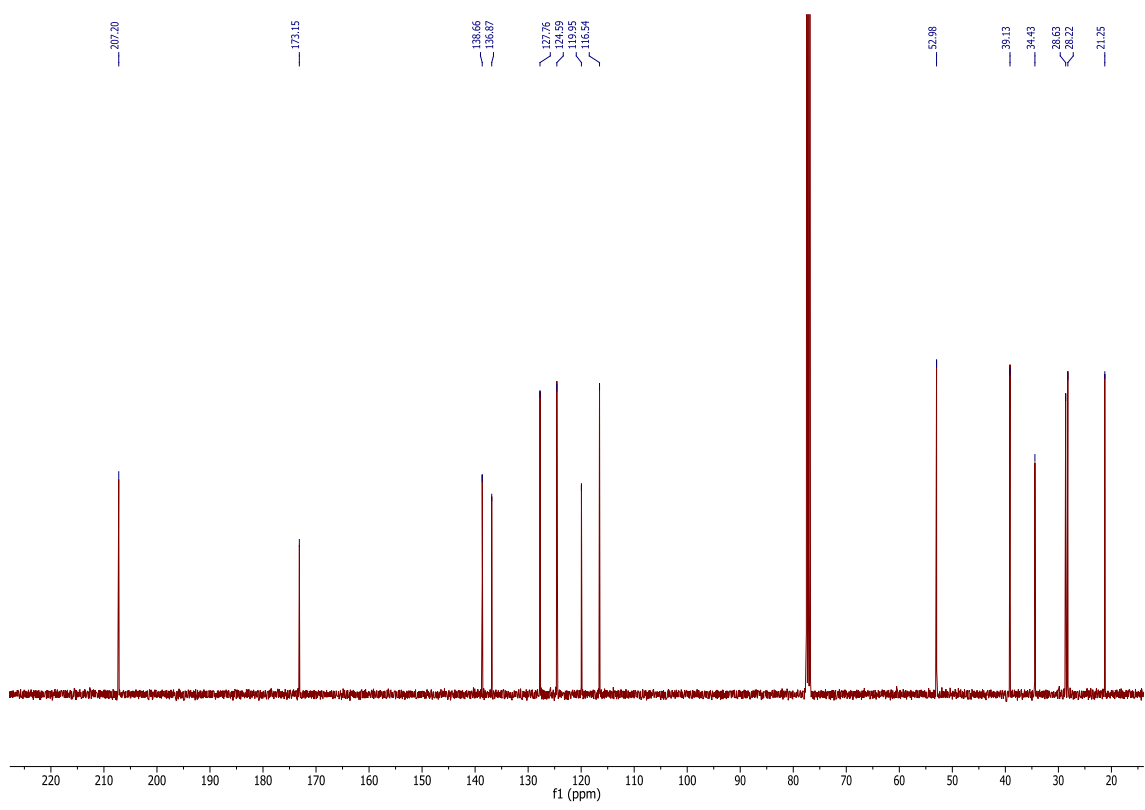
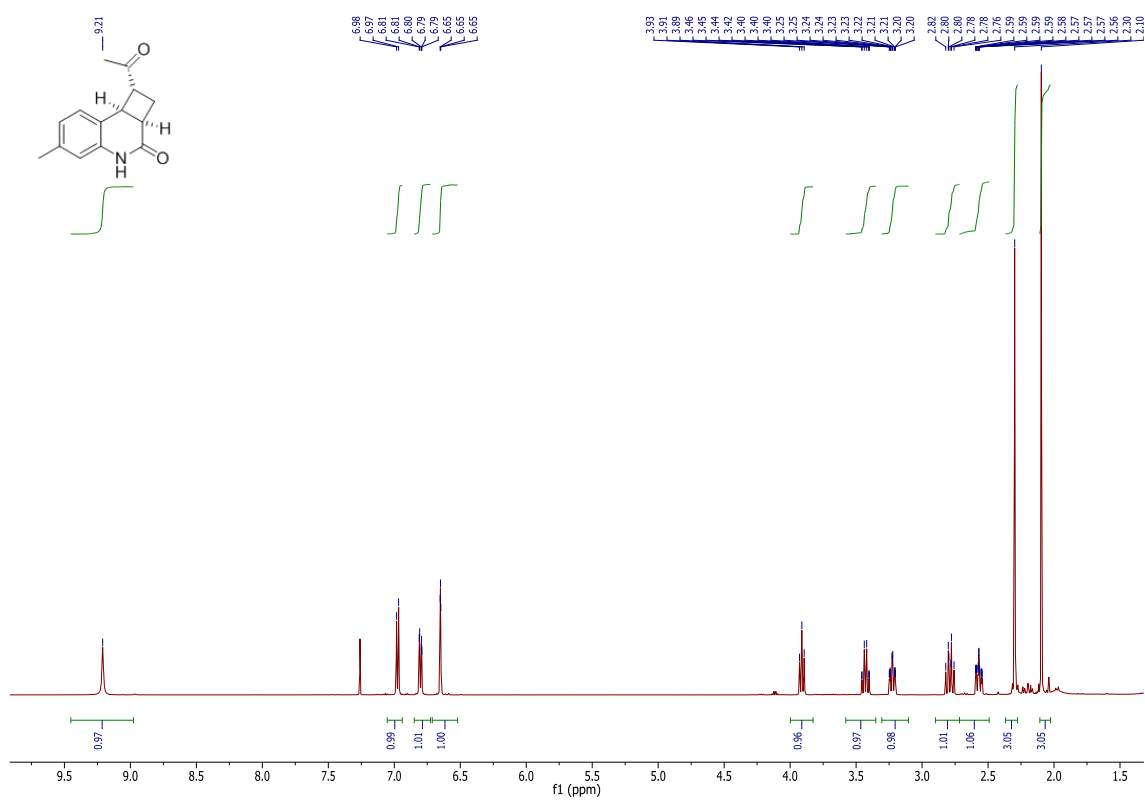


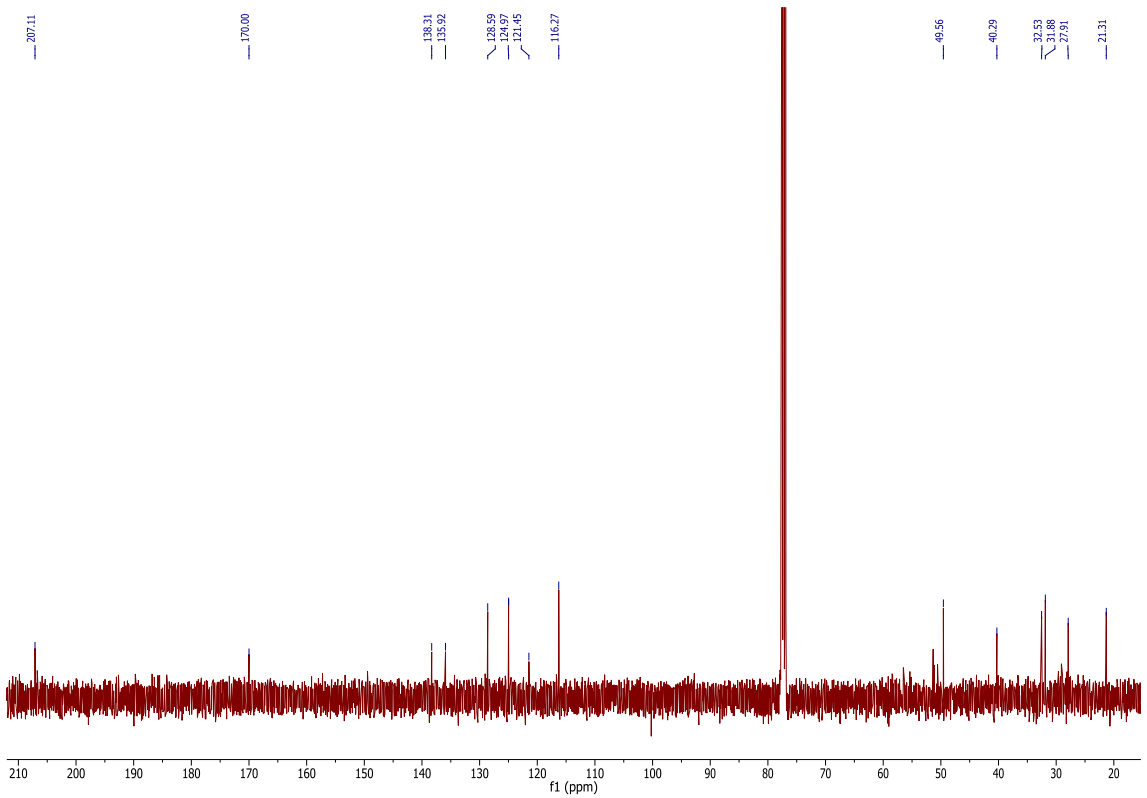
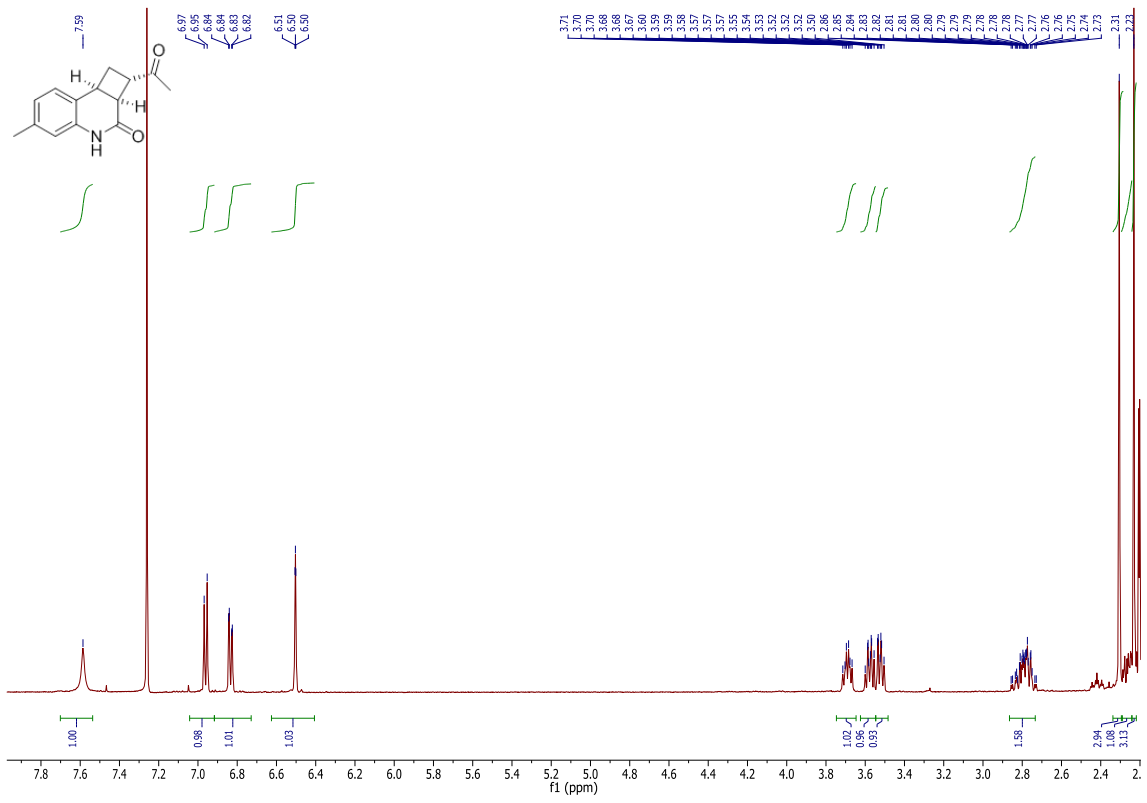


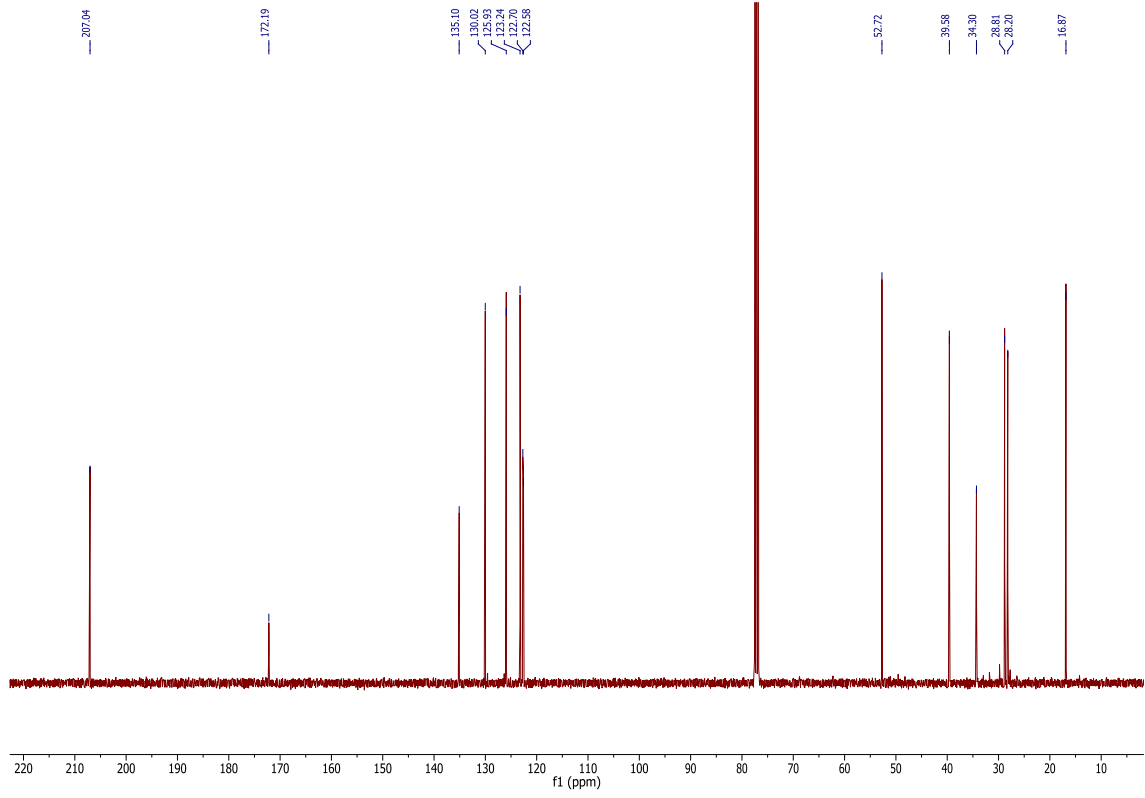
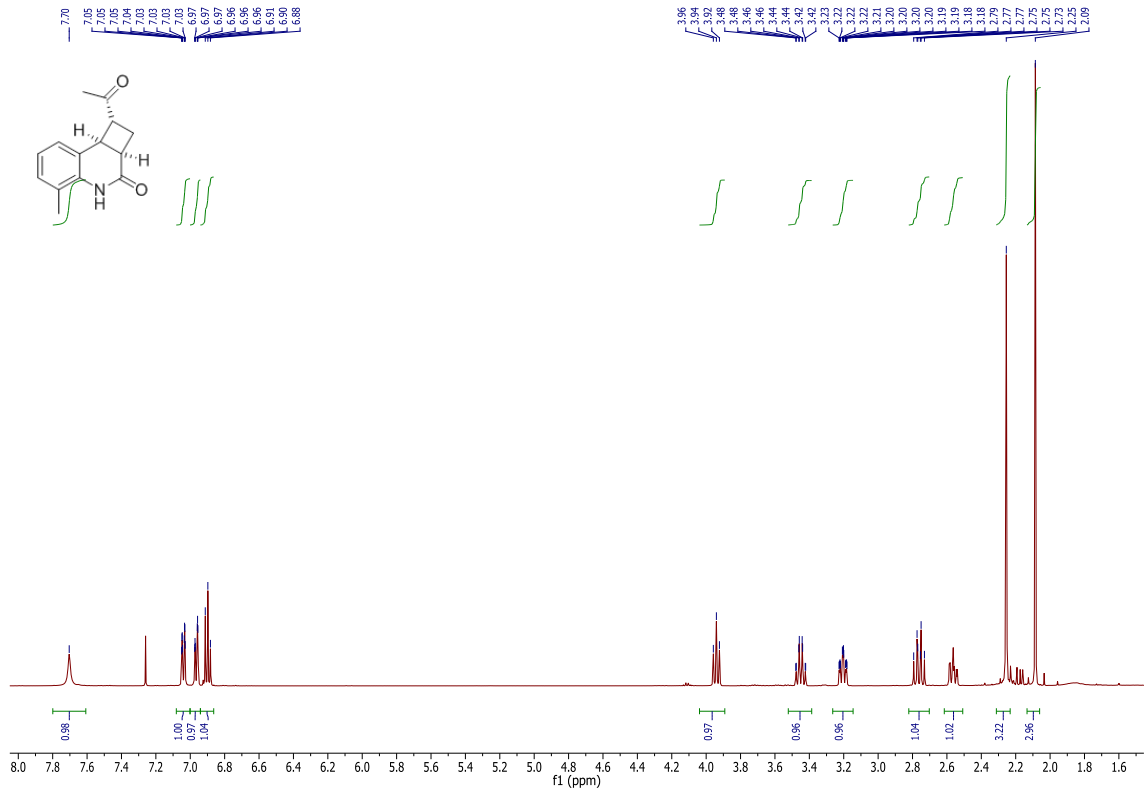


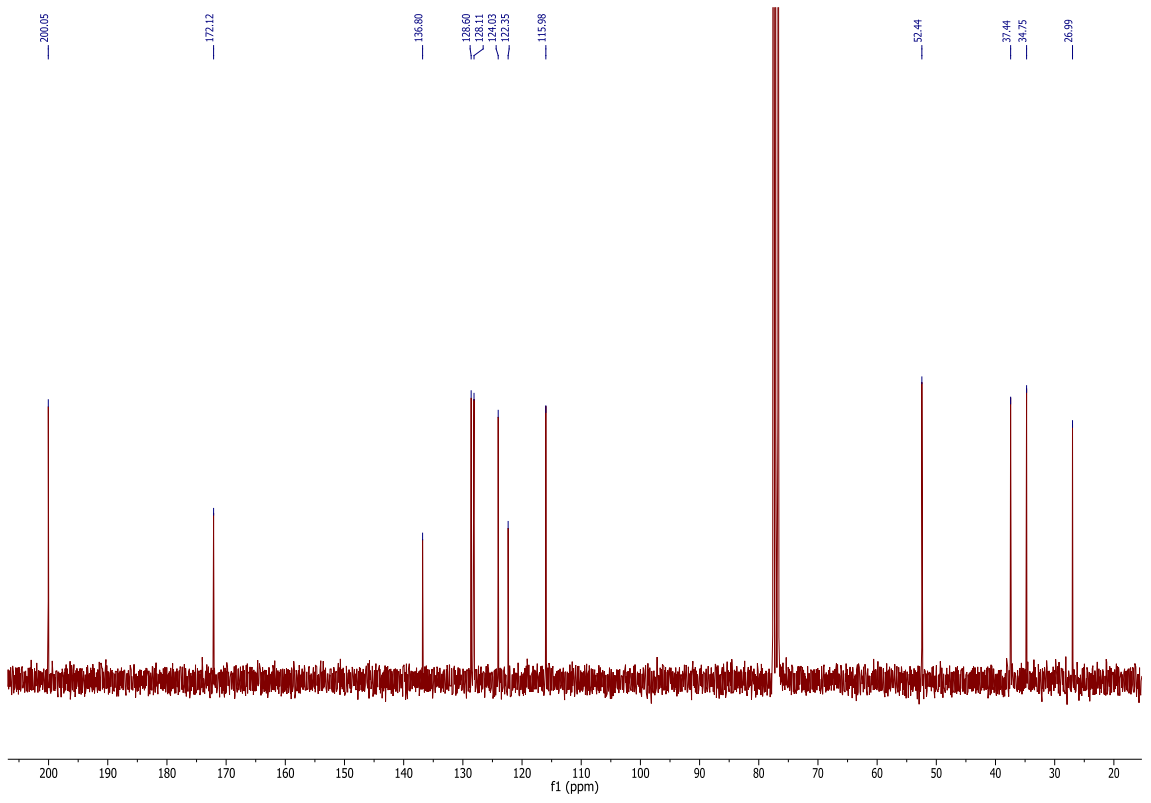
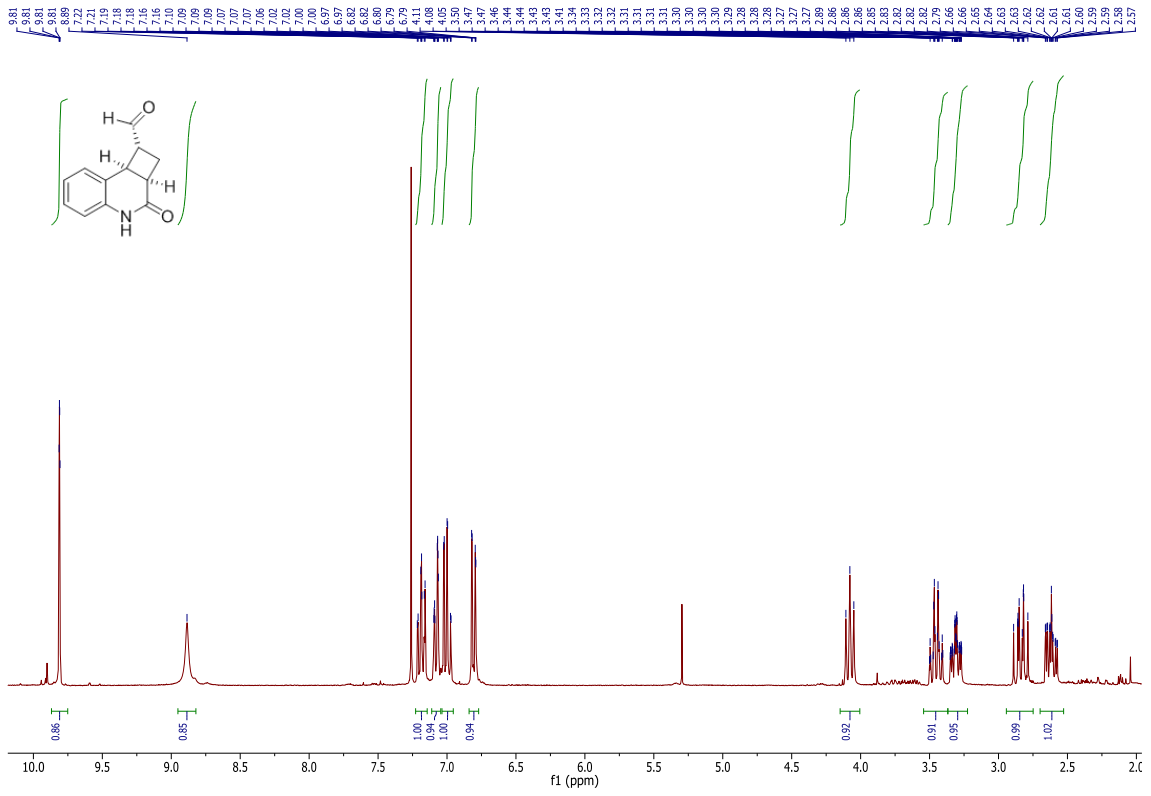


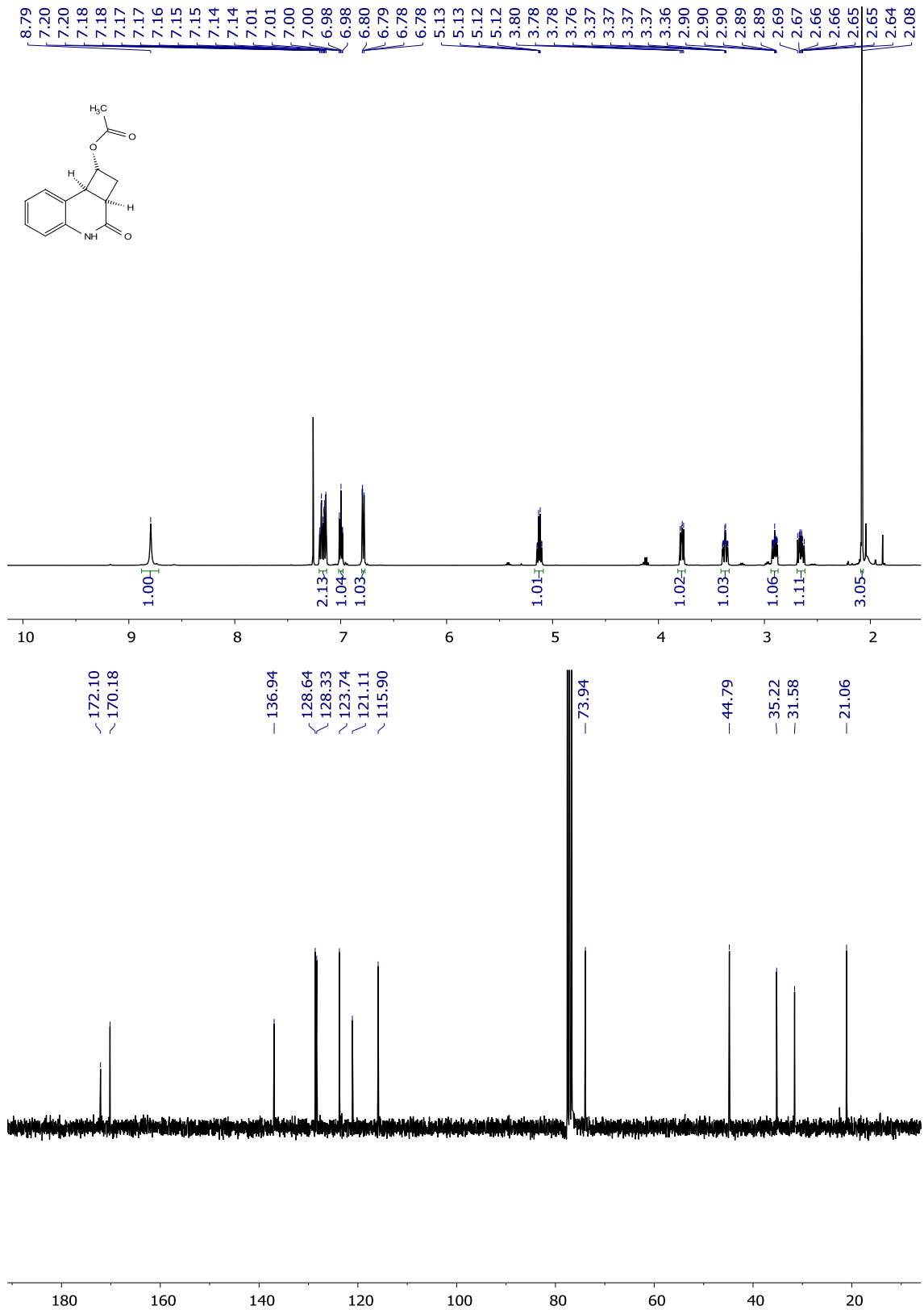


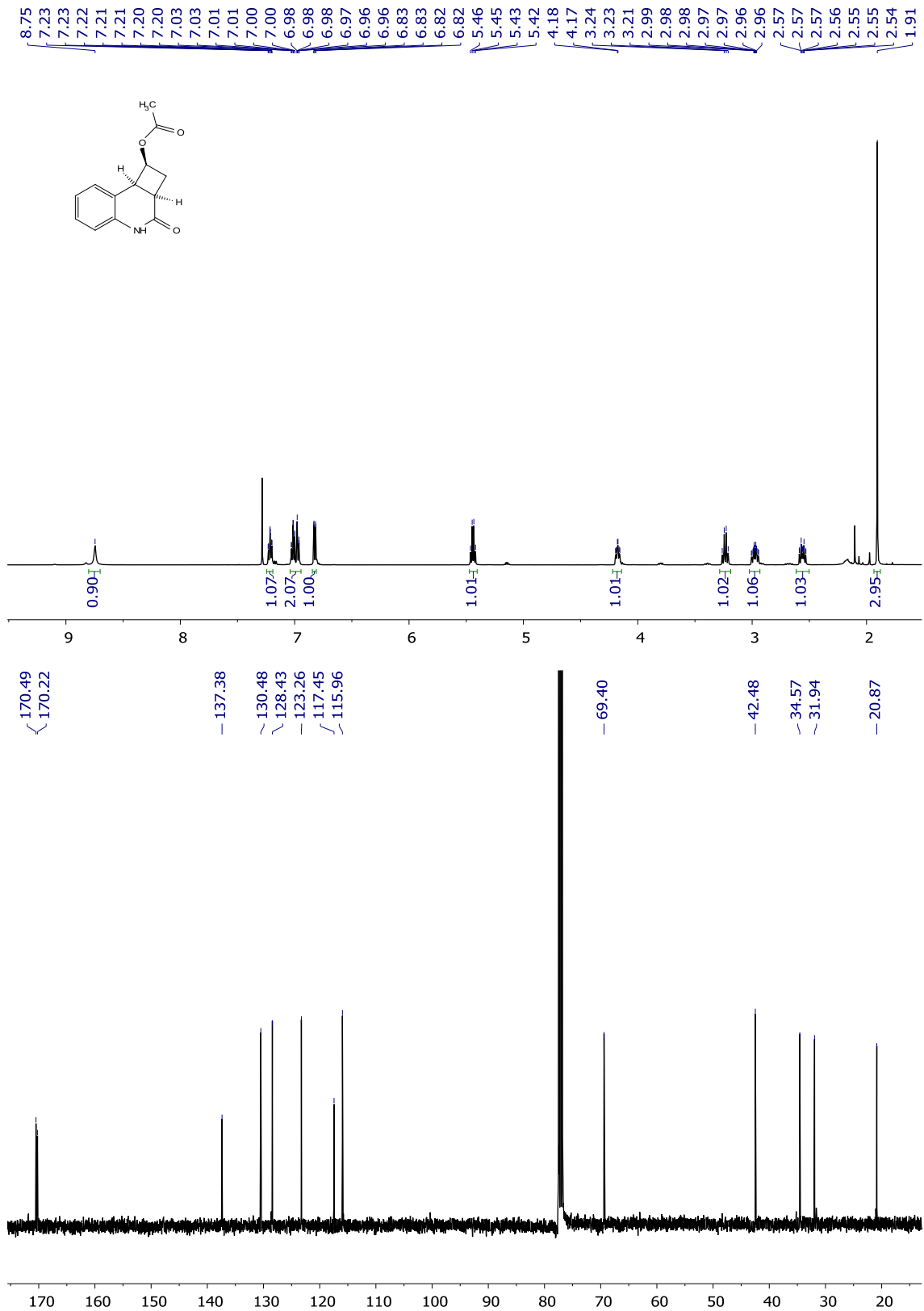


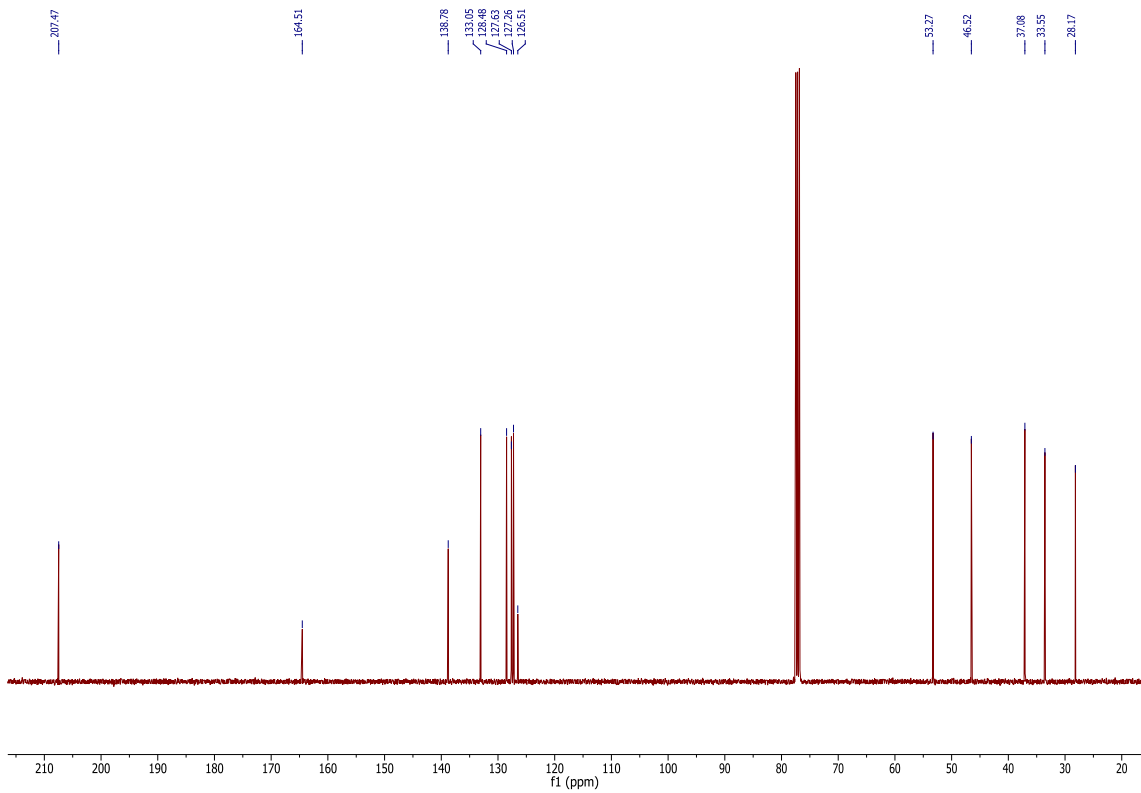
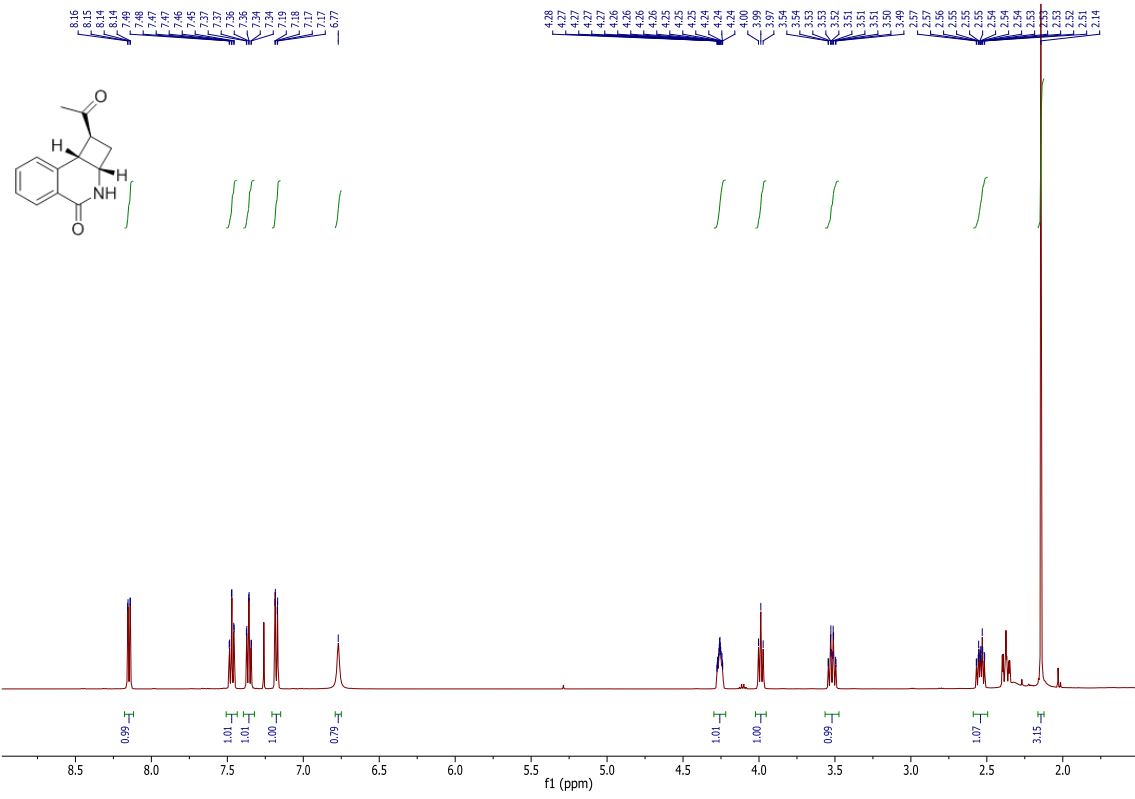


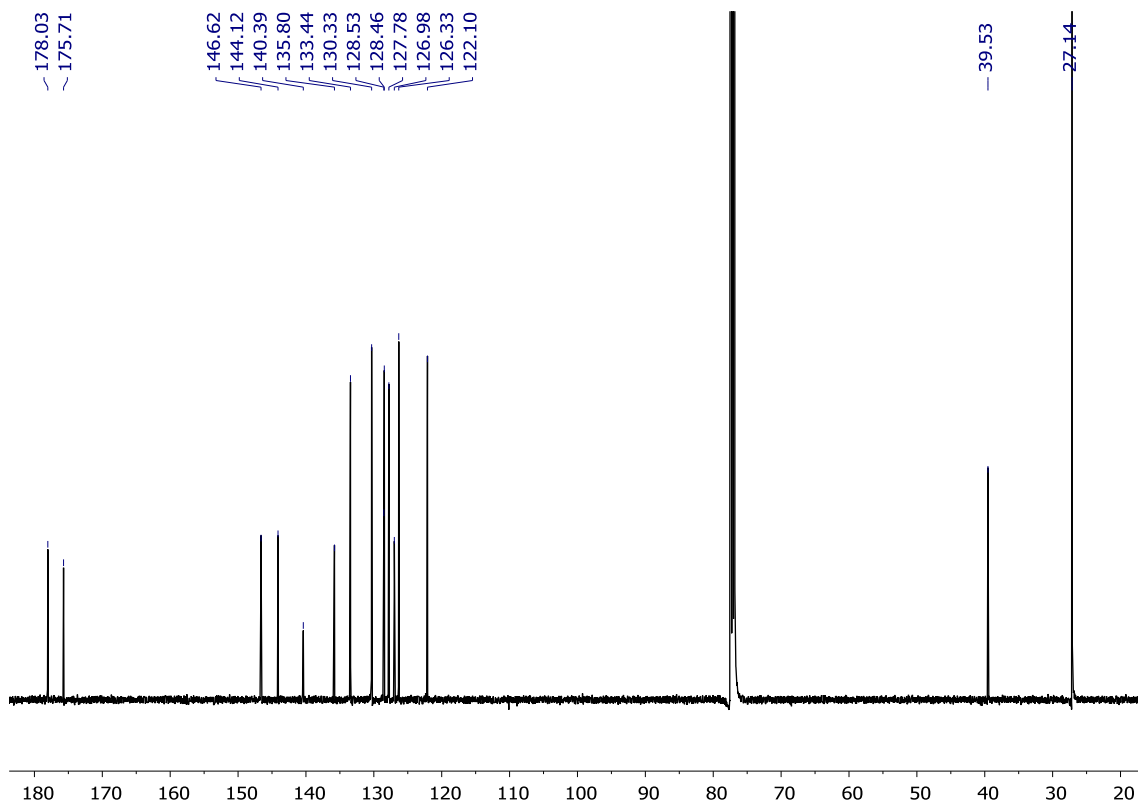
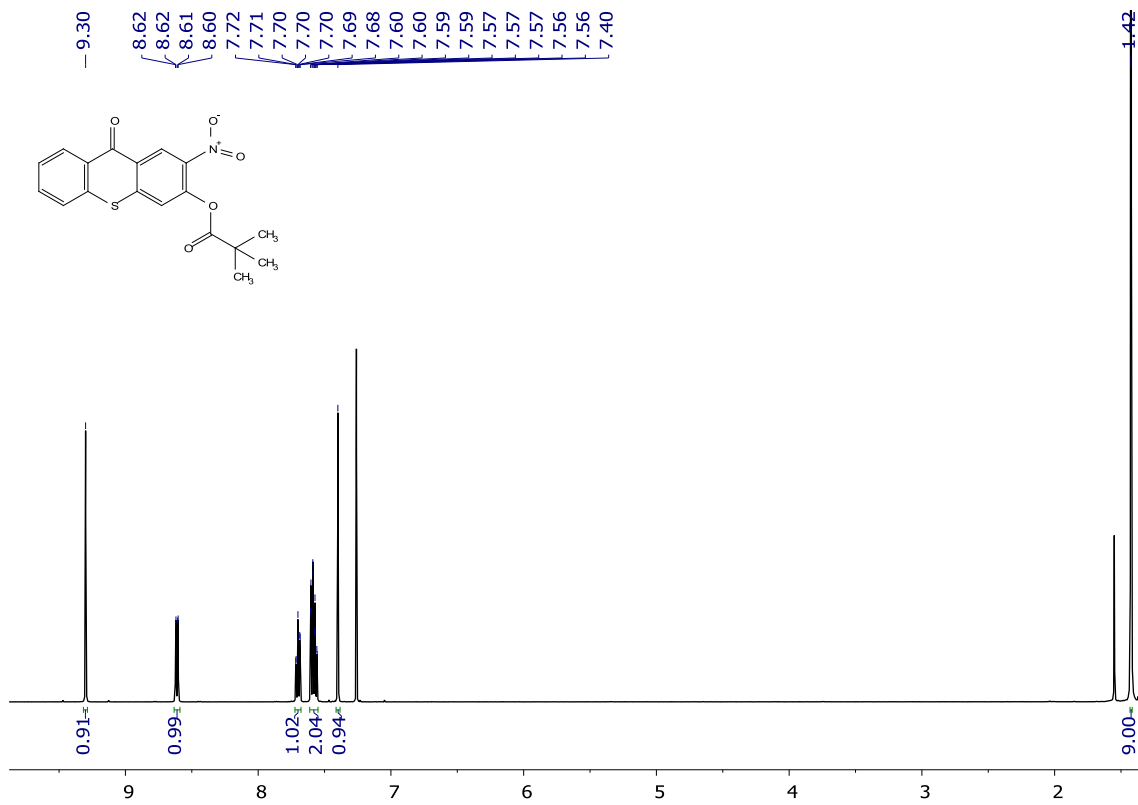


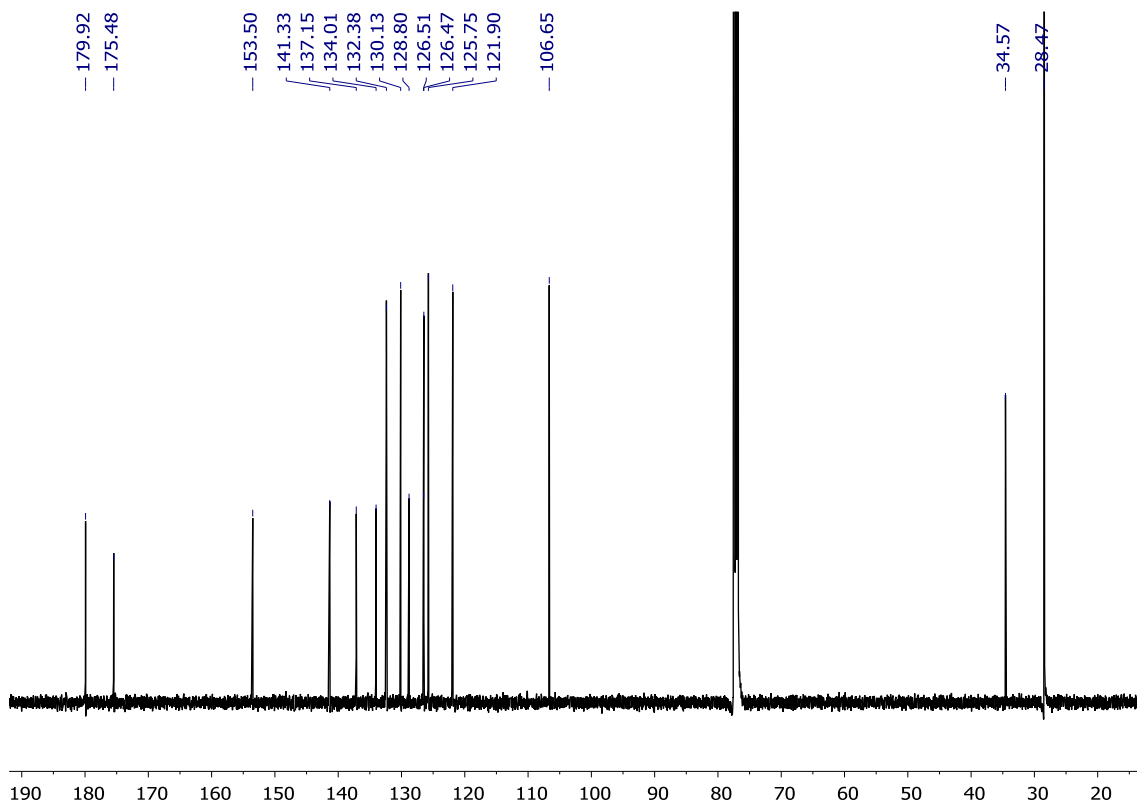
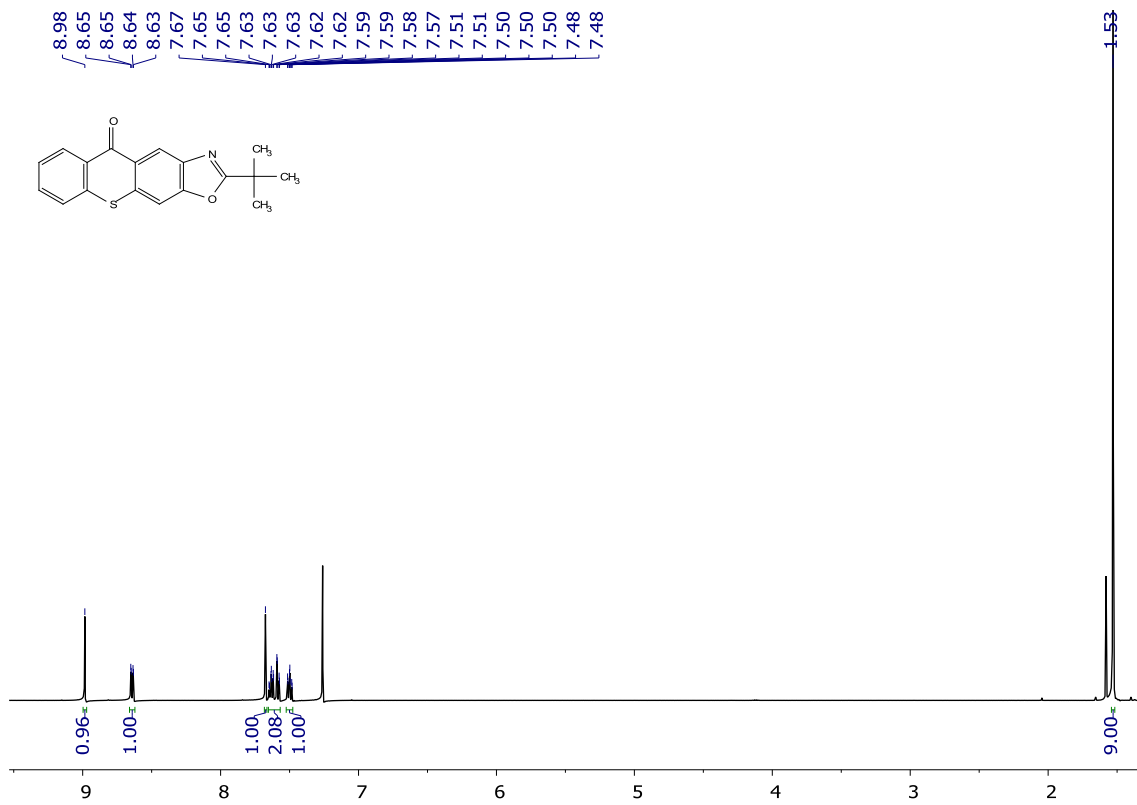




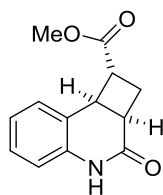




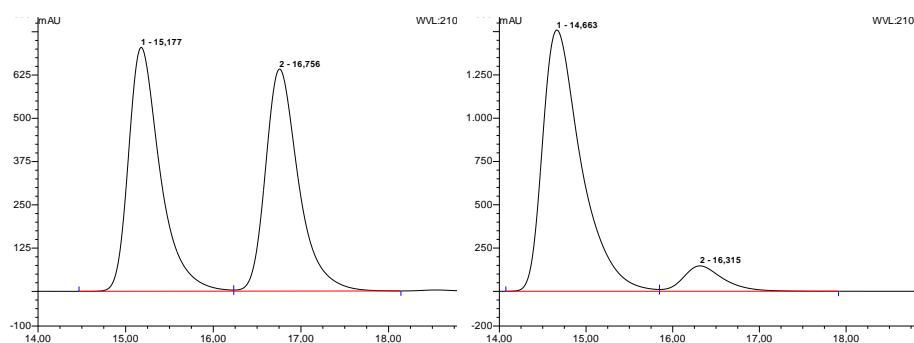




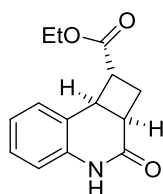
10. Representative HPLC/GC Traces



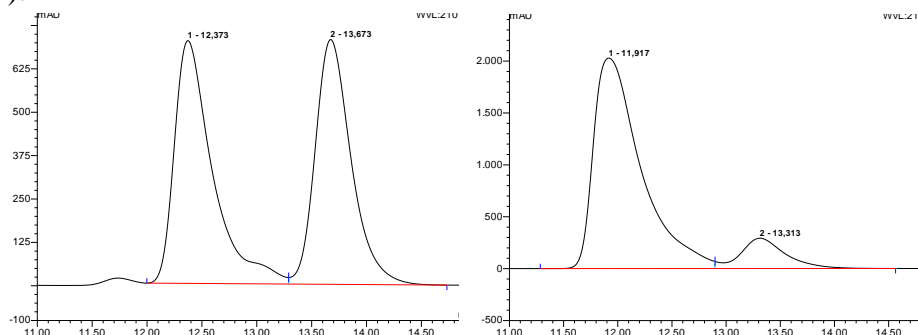
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4a**, t_R = 15.2 min; *ent*-**4a**, 16.8 min).



	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 15.2 min	295.295	51.33	777.707	90.89
t_R = 16.8 min	279.945	48.67	77.978	9.11



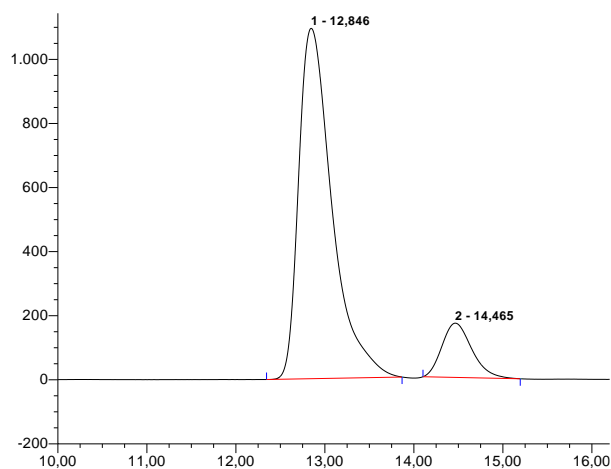
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4b**, t_R = 12.4 min; *ent*-**4b**, 13.7 min).



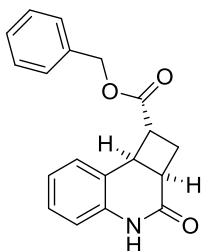
	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 12.4 min	282.609	51.29	1030.052	88.04
t_R = 13.7 min	268.345	48.71	139.868	11.96

HPLC trace of the 0.15 mmol scale reaction of **4b**

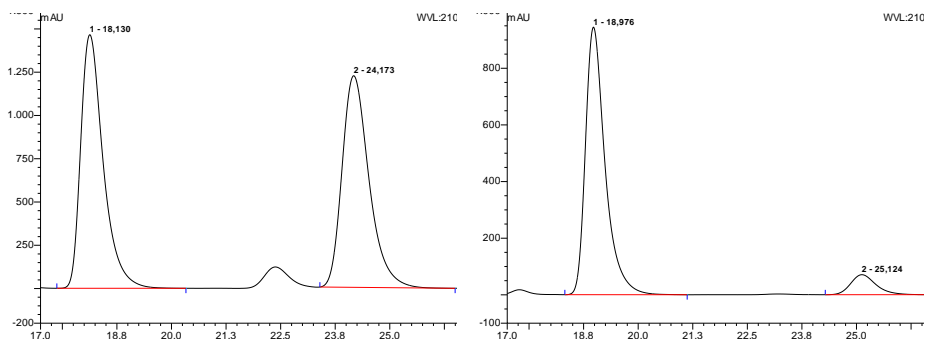
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-heptane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4b**, $t_R = 12.9$ min; *ent*-**4b**, 14.5 min).



	Area	Rel. Area (%)
$t_R = 12.9$ min	1093.542	87.79
$t_R = 14.5$ min	159.299	12.21



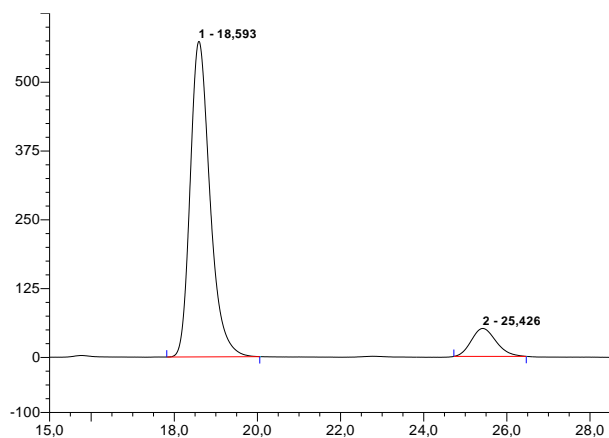
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4c**, $t_R = 18.1$ min; *ent*-**4c**, 24.2 min).



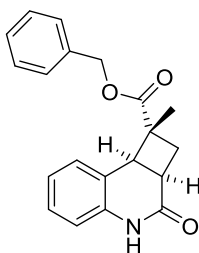
	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
$t_R = 18.1$ min	874.215	50.01	492.605	91.21
$t_R = 24.2$ min	873.870	49.99	47.473	8.79

HPLC trace of the 0.15 mmol scale reaction of **4c**

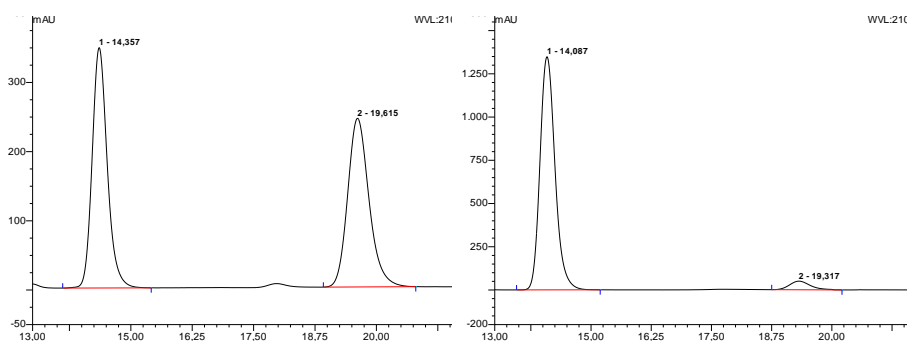
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-heptane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4c**, t_R = 18.6 min; *ent*-**4c**, 25.4 min).



	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 18.6 min	573.215	89.99
t_R = 25. min	50.792	10.01



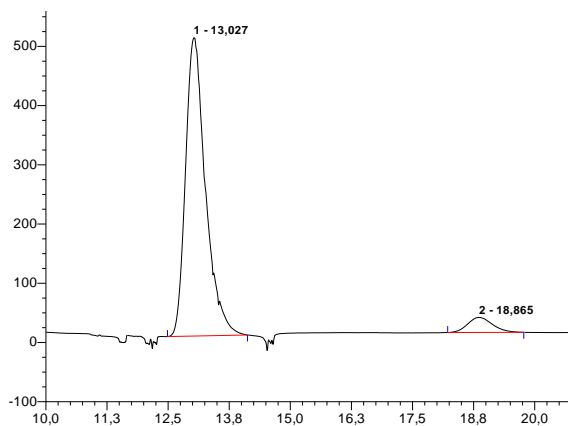
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4d**, t_R = 14.4 min; *ent*-**4d**, 19.6 min).



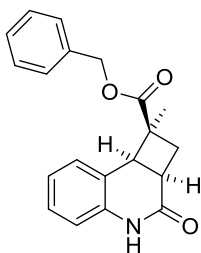
	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 14.4 min	124.001	50.26	242.833	92.41
t_R = 19.6 min	122.735	49.74	19.931	7.59

HPLC trace of the 0.15 mmol scale reaction of **4d**

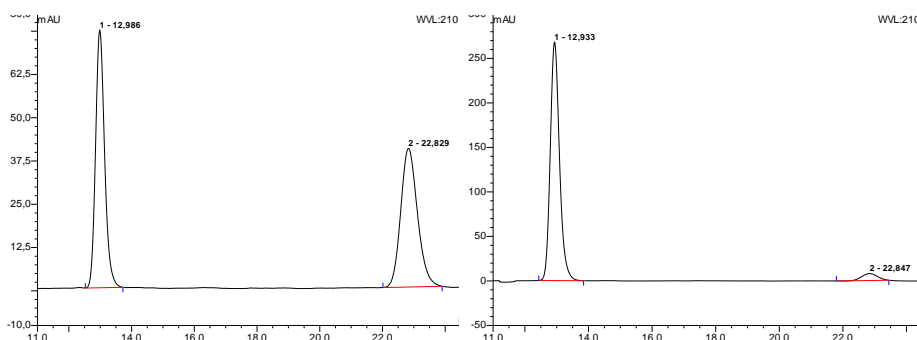
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-heptane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4d**, t_R = 13.0 min; *ent*-**4d**, 18.9 min).



	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 13.0 min	238.152	94.11
t_R = 18.9 min	14.908	5.89



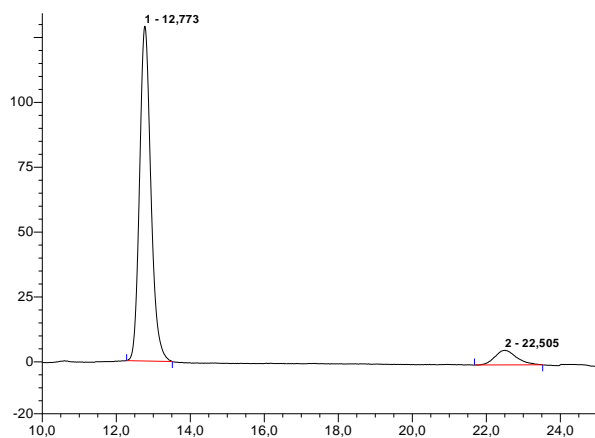
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 80:20) = **S13**, t_R = 13.0 min; *ent*-**S13**, 22.8 min).



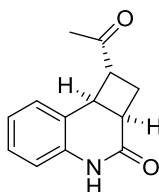
	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 13.0 min	24.877	50.14	90.037	95.36
t_R = 22.8 min	24.743	49.86	4.377	4.64

HPLC trace of the 0.15 mmol scale reaction of S13

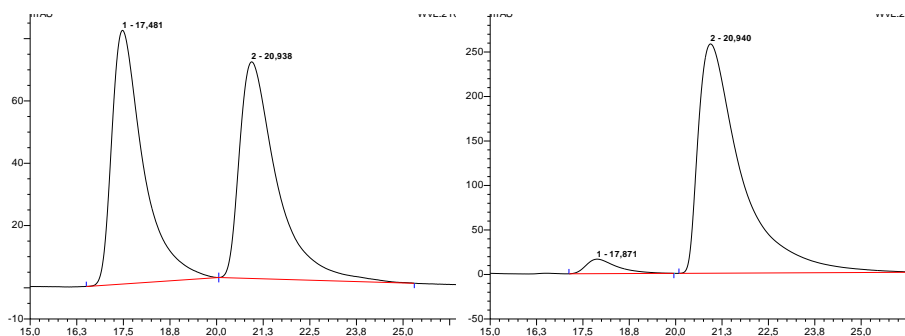
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-heptane/*iso*-propanol = 80:20) = **S13**, t_R = 12.8 min; *ent*-**S13**, 22.5 min).



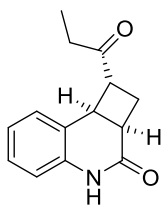
	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 12.8 min	45.652	92.28
t_R = 22.5 min	3.818	7.72



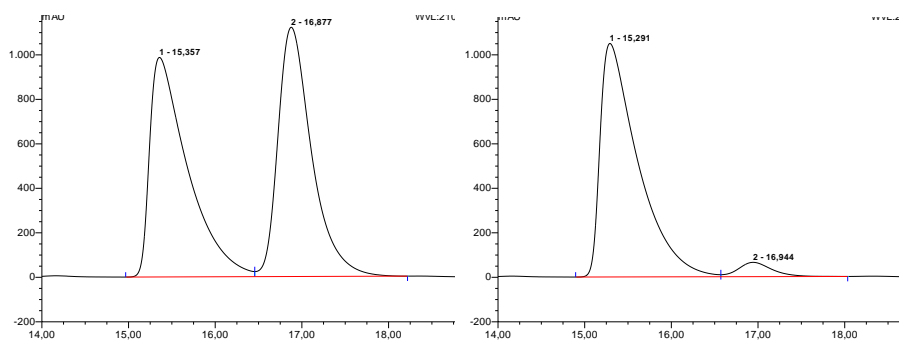
HPLC (OJ-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 80:20) = *ent*-**4e**, t_R = 17.5 min; **4e**, 20.9 min).



	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 17.5 min	80.080	49.78	15.823	4.36
t_R = 20.9 min	80.803	50.22	347.064	95.64



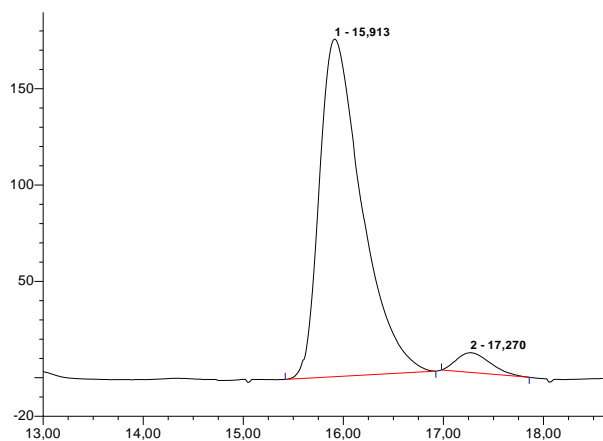
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4f**, t_R = 15.4 min; *ent*-**4f**, 16.9 min).



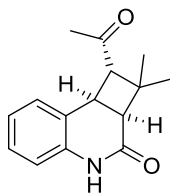
	<i>Area</i>	<i>Rel. Area (%)</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Rel. Area (%)</i>
t_R = 15.4 min	501.803	49.81	530.416	94.79
t_R = 16.9 min	505.639	50.19	29.149	5.21

HPLC trace of the 0.15 mmol scale reaction of **4f**

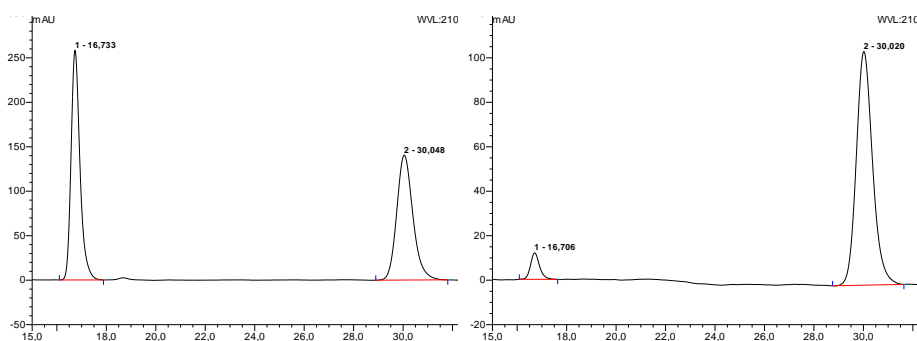
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-heptane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4f**, t_R = 15.9 min; *ent*-**4f**, 17.3 min).



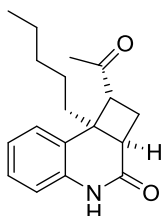
	<i>Area</i>	<i>Rel. Area (%)</i>
t_R = 15.9 min	85.937	95.55
t_R = 17.3 min	4.003	4.45



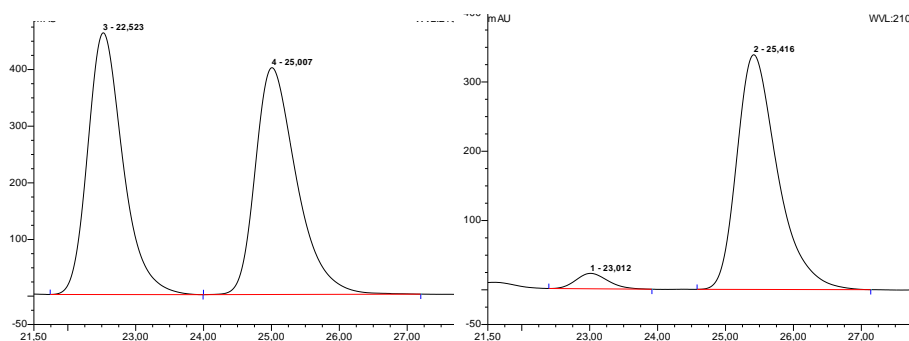
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = *ent*-**4g**, t_R = 16.7 min; **4g**, 30.1 min).



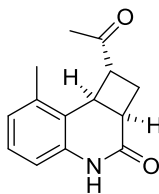
	<i>Area</i>	<i>Rel. Area (%)</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Rel. Area (%)</i>
t_R = 16.7 min	107.983	50.35	5.046	5.92
t_R = 30.1 min	106.463	49.65	80.256	94.08



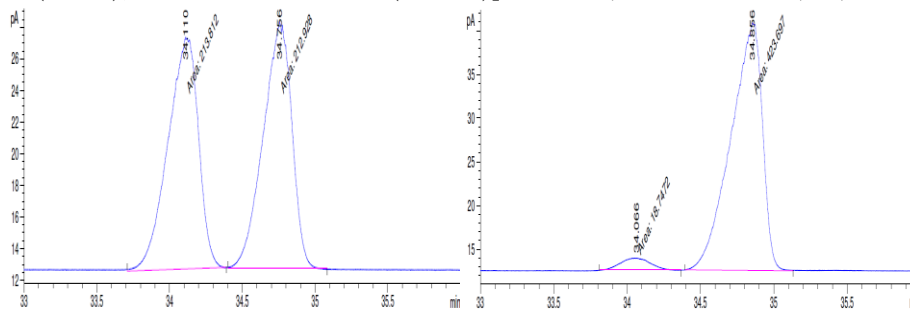
HPLC (OJ-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 95:5) = *ent*-**4h**, t_R = 22.5 min; **4h**, 25.0 min).



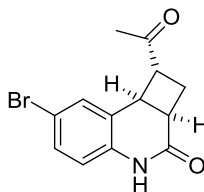
	<i>Area</i>	<i>Rel. Area (%)</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Rel. Area (%)</i>
t_R = 22.5 min	278.239	49.72	12.102	4.89
t_R = 25.0 min	281.343	50.28	235.231	95.11



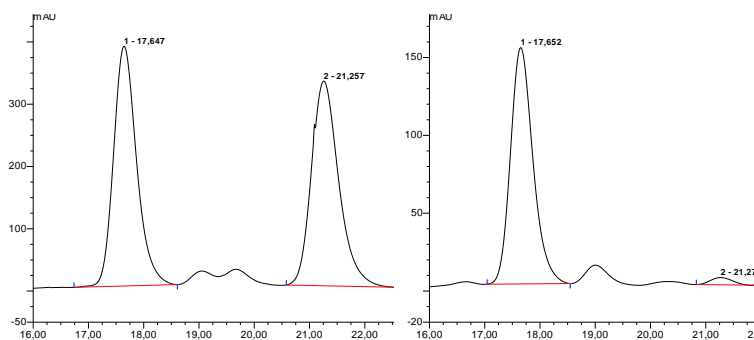
GC [60 °C (1 min), 15 °C/min → 200 °C (30 min)] = *ent*-**4i**, $t_R = 34.1$ min; **4i**, 34.8 min).



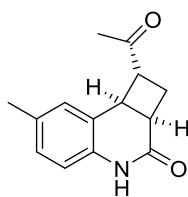
	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
$t_R = 34.1$ min	213.812	50.10	18.747	4.24
$t_R = 34.8$ min	212.928	49.90	423.697	95.76



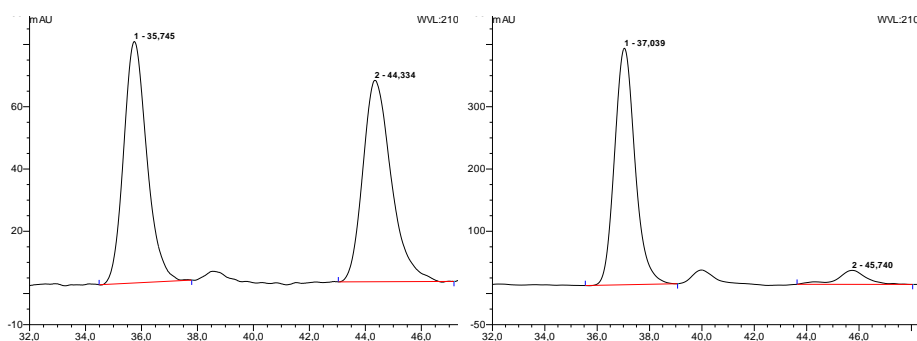
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4j**, $t_R = 17.7$ min; *ent*-**4j**, 21.3 min).



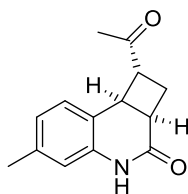
	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
$t_R = 17.7$ min	186.487	49.69	71.836	97.16
$t_R = 21.3$ min	188.783	50.31	2.099	2.84



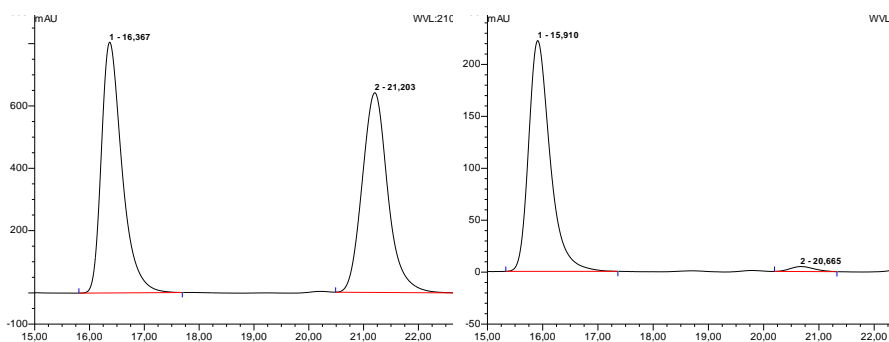
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 95:5) = **4k**, t_R = 35.7 min; *ent*-**4k**, 44.3 min).



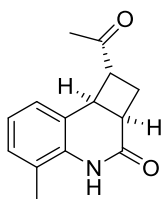
	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 35.7 min	74.674	49.46	344.454	92.26
t_R = 44.3 min	76.317	50.54	28.908	7.74



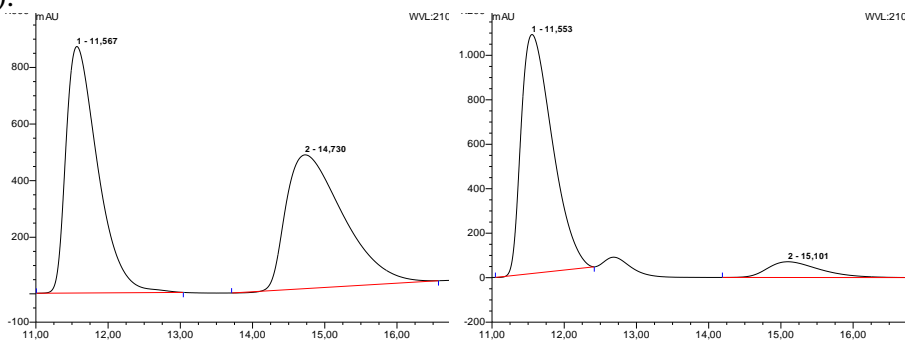
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4l**, t_R = 16.4 min; *ent*-**4l**, 21.2 min).



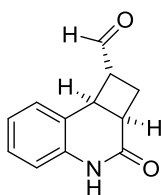
	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 16.4 min	351.037	50.28	99.933	97.68
t_R = 21.2 min	347.185	49.72	2.377	2.32



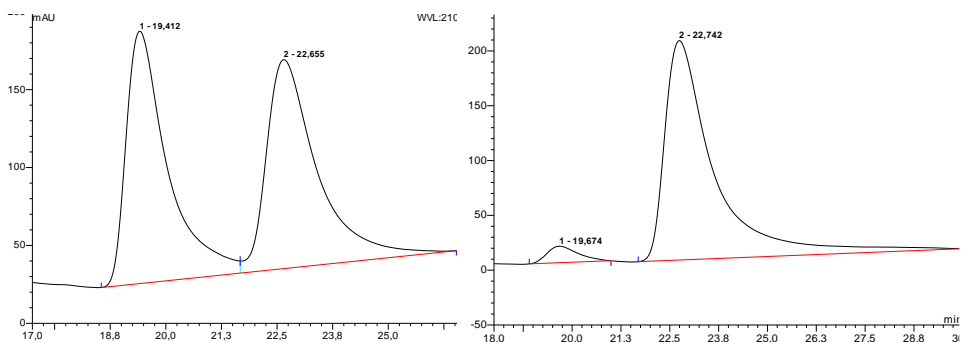
HPLC (AS-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 70:30) = **4m**, t_R = 11.6 min; ent-**4m**, 14.7 min).



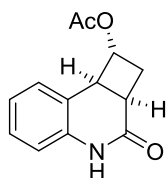
	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 11.6 min	444.509	50.67	538.649	90.07
t_R = 14.7 min	432.785	49.33	59.403	9.93



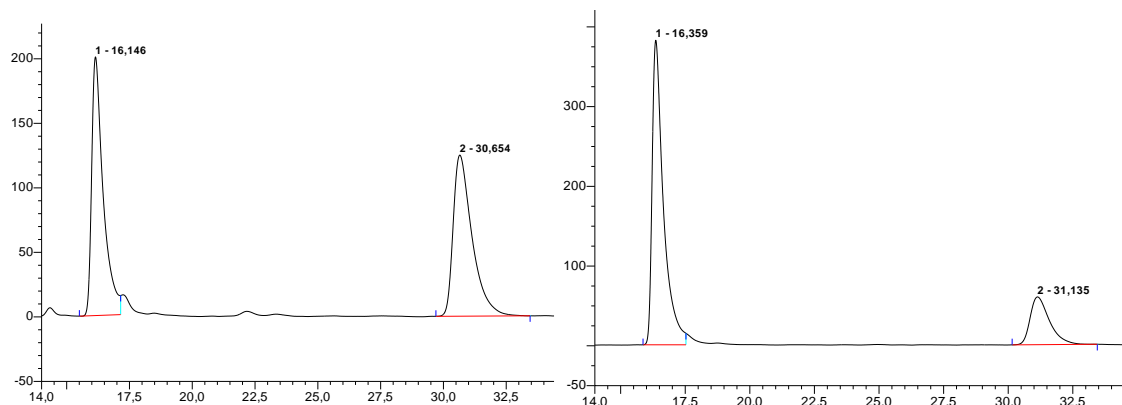
HPLC (OJ-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = ent-**4n**, t_R = 19.4 min; **4n**, 22.6 min).



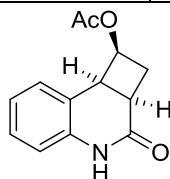
	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 19.4 min	174.665	49.57	13.879	4.52
t_R = 22.6 min	177.728	50.43	293.261	95.48



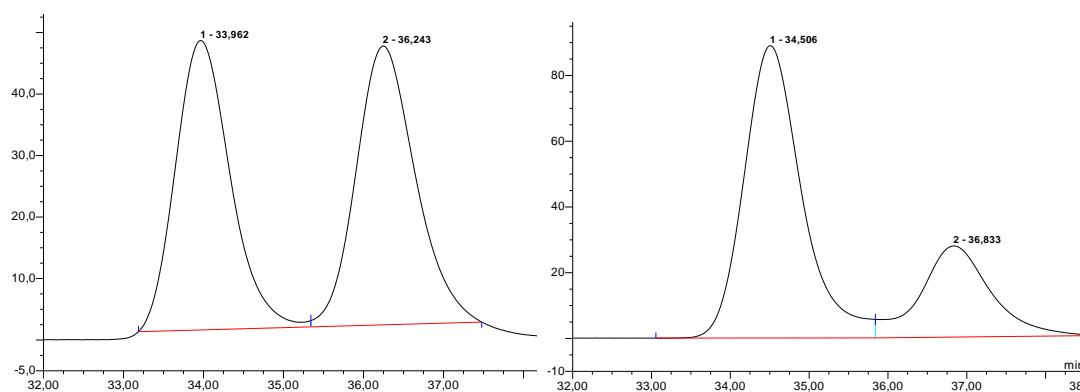
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4o**, t_R = 16.1 min; *ent*-**4o**, 30.6 min).



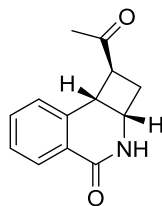
	<i>Area</i>	<i>Rel. Area (%)</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Rel. Area (%)</i>
t_R = 16.1 min	106.644	49.50	193.880	78.90
t_R = 30.6 min	108.797	50.50	51.848	21.10



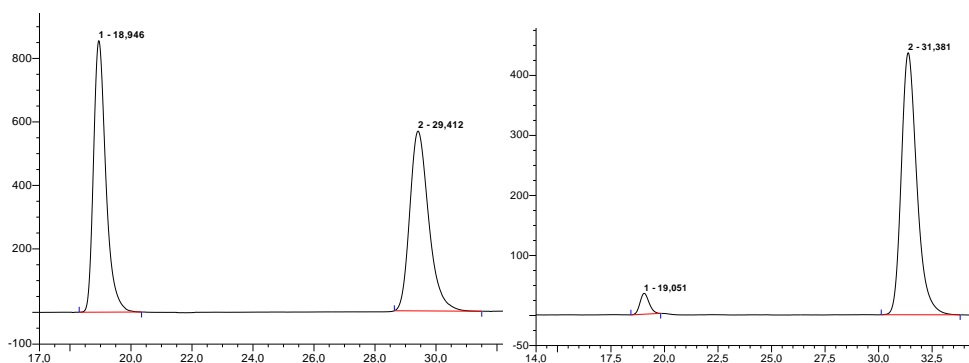
HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 95:5) = **S17**, t_R = 33.9 min; *ent*-**S17**, 36.2 min).



	<i>Area</i>	<i>Rel. Area (%)</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Rel. Area (%)</i>
t_R = 33.9 min	37.439	49.02	75.597	72.52
t_R = 36.2 min	38.942	50.98	28.651	27.48

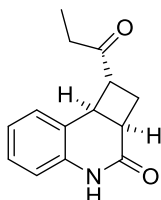


HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = ent-**8**, t_R = 18.9 min; **8**, 29.4 min).

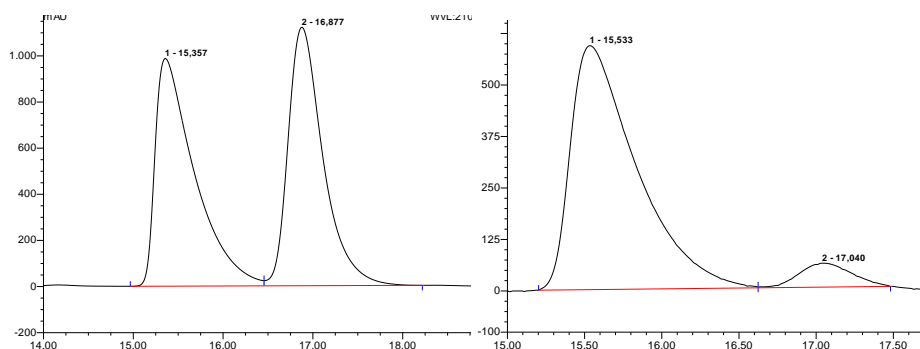


	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 18.9 min	400.859	49.61	17.156	4.46
t_R = 29.4 min	407.086	50.39	367.140	95.54

HPLC traces of the solar irradiation experiment



HPLC (AD-H, 250×4.6, *n*-hexane/*iso*-propanol = 90:10) = **4f**, t_R = 15.4 min; ent-**4f**, 16.9 min).



	Area	Rel. Area (%)	Area	Rel. Area (%)
t_R = 15.4 min	501.803	49.81	293.421	92.73
t_R = 16.9 min	505.639	50.19	23.013	7.27