

Supplementary Information file

**Design and Synthesis of Amino Acid Derivatives of Substituted
Benzimidazoles and Pyrazoles as Sirt1 Inhibitors**

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Table S1.	Page no. S2
Fig. S1.	Page no. S3
Fig. S2.	Page no. S4
Fig. S3.	Page no. S5
Fig. S4.	Page no. S6
Fig. S5.	Page no. S7
Fig. S6.	Page no. S8
Fig. S7.	Page no. S9
Experimental Chemistry	Page no S10
Fig. S8.	Page no. S28

Table S1. The top 3 molecules obtain from computational virtual screening of *in-house* virtual library (1 million e-molecules) over Sirt1 (PDB id. 4I5I).

Name	Chemical structure	Molecule ID	Docking score (kcal/mol)	MMGBSA (kcal/mol)
V1		3281091	-14.07	-90.45
V2		2746690	-13.64	-92.64
V3		49334118	-13.14	-74.44

Fig. S1. Architecture of Sirt1 catalytic site: (A) Structure of Human Sirt1 with inhibitor Ex527-analogue (Ex527*) and co-factor NAD, “PDB id: 4I5I”. In right-inset, enlarged surface view of catalytic grove (cut-off distance 6.0 Å), with Ex527*, NAD⁺ and docked Ex527. NAD⁺ is shown in licorice representation rendered in atom wise i.e. carbon atom in cyan color, while Ex527* and Ex527 are shown in ball and sticks representation in which carbon atoms are in cyan and green color, respectively. (B) Comparison of interaction pattern of docked Sirt1-Ex527 complex with published crystal structure Sirt1-Ex527* (PDB id. 4I5I) in 3D space. Ex527, Ex427* are shown with “green” color and “ball-stick” representation. The key residues which cover the pocket from front face are shown in fluorescent cyan color stick representation. Other interacting residues are highlighted in transparent cyan color.

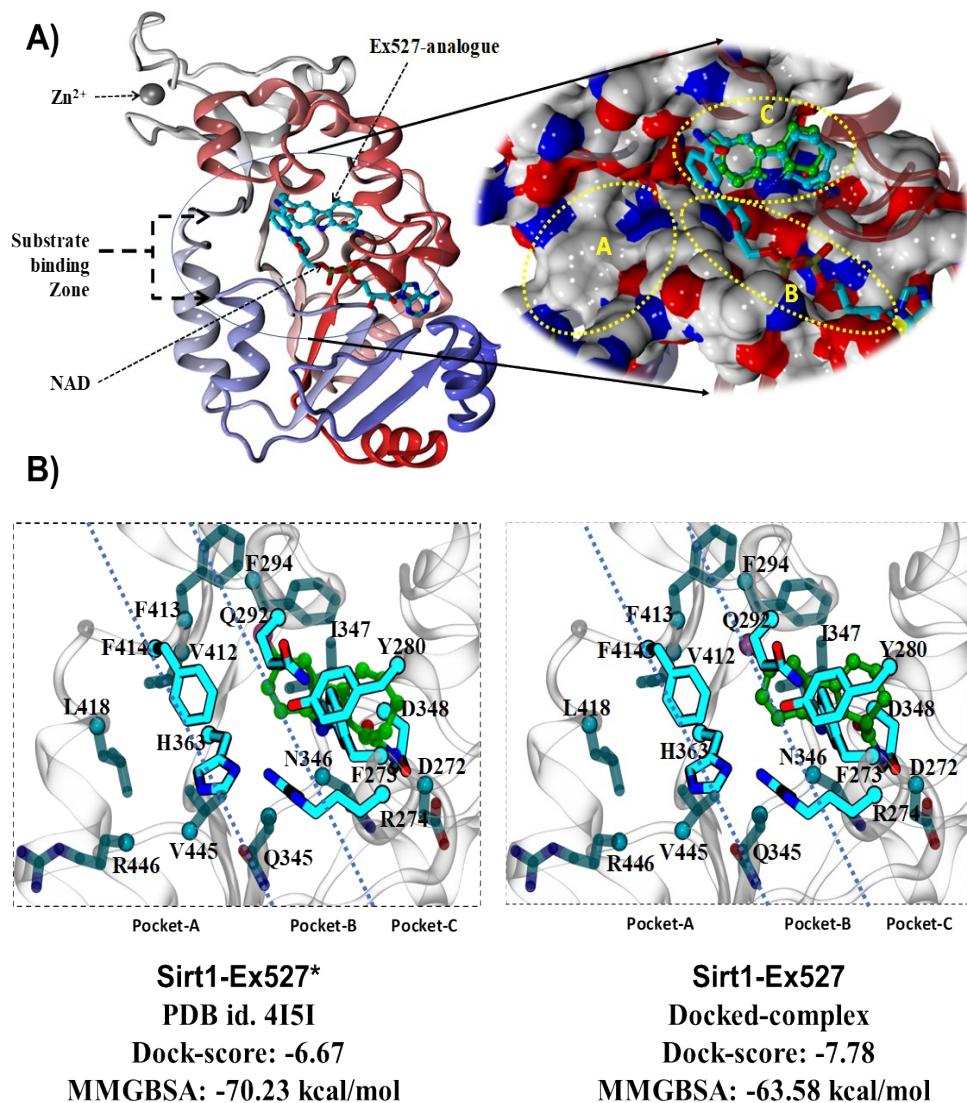


Fig. S2: The concentration-response curve of Sirt1-inhibition. Data was shown as Mean \pm SEM, n=3.

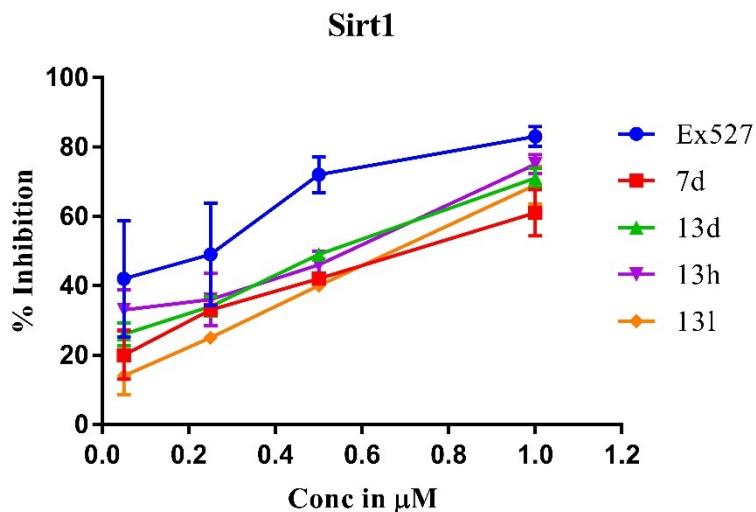


Fig. S3. Heat map of MM-GBSA and docking score of all designed compounds docked on Sirt1, Sirt2 and Sirt3. The cut-off scores are highlighted with dotted black box. All ligands are represented in the form of small square, color of square represent respective color of MM-GBSA heat-map. Ligand 7d, 13d, 13h and 13l are marked with arrows in left most panel.

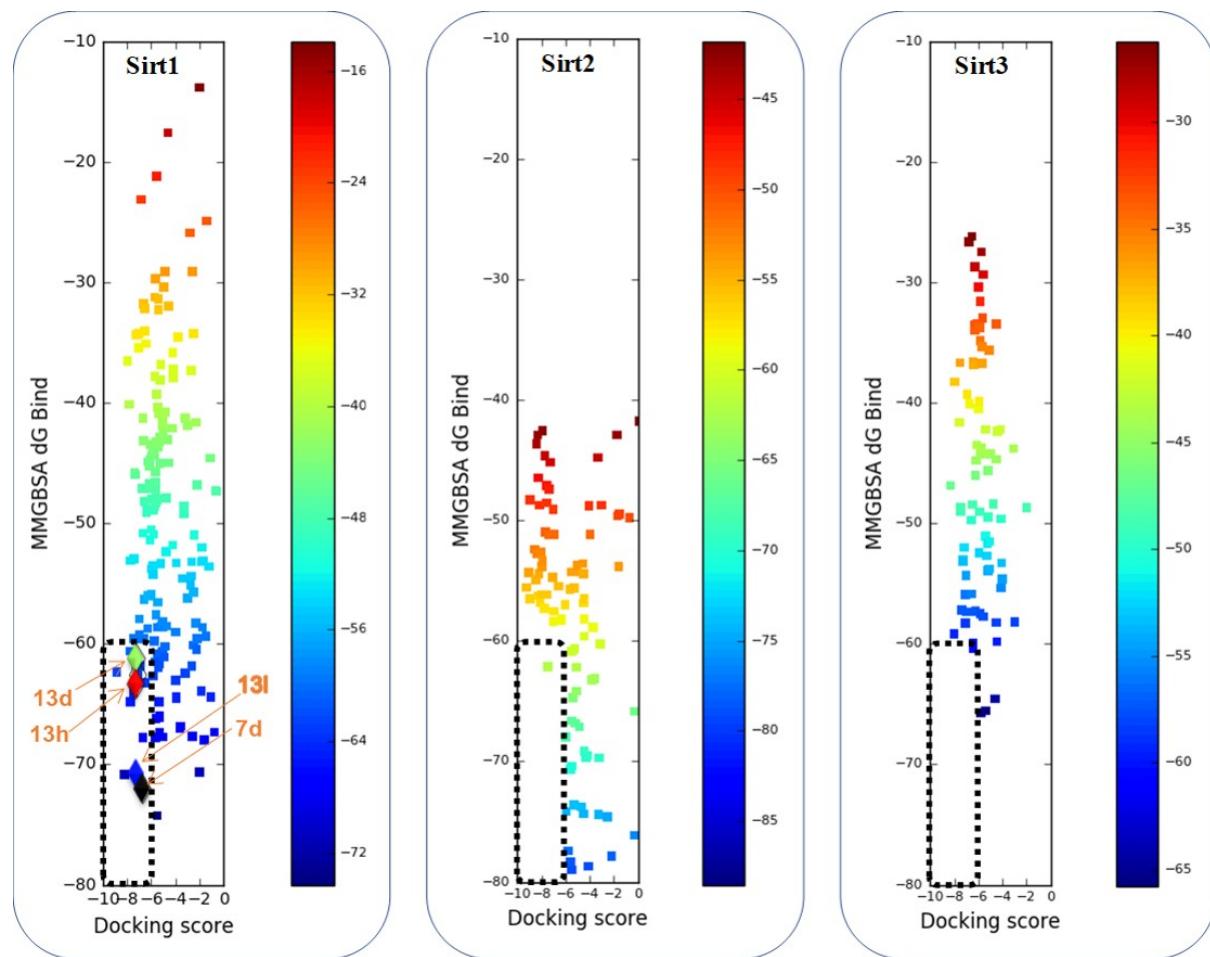


Fig. S4. The comparison of the 2d-interaction map of Sirt1 co-crystal (4I5I, Sirt1-Ex527*) with docked complex (Sirt1-Ex527).

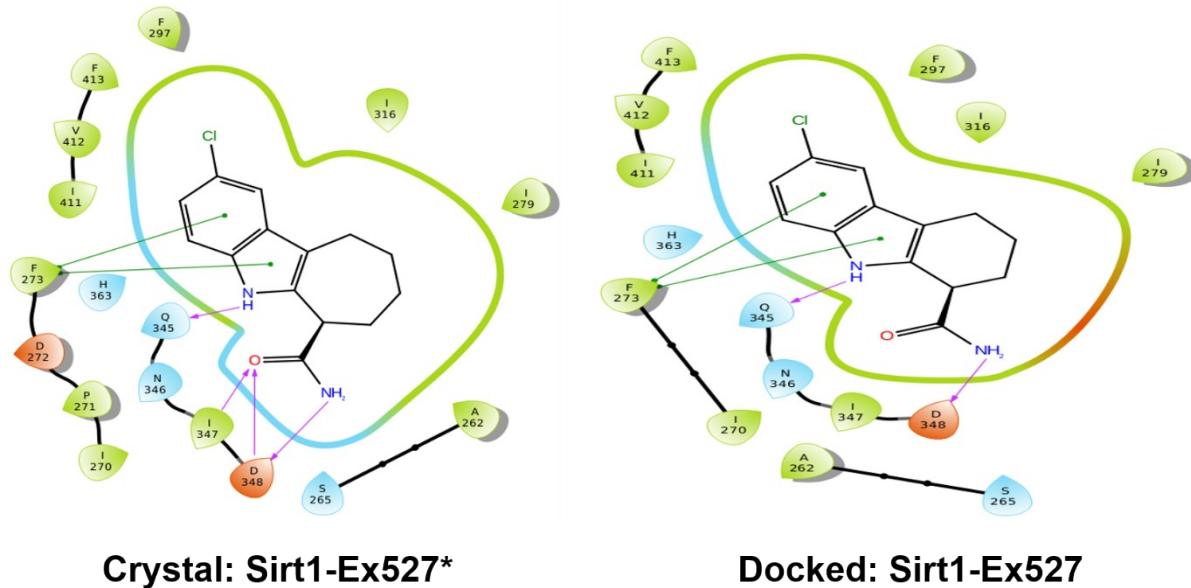


Fig. S5. The residue interaction fraction analysis of Ex527*. The region highlighted in yellow background represents *hot-spot2*. The dashed line in light-blue color represent **cut-off** value **0.5**, which indicated that the specific interaction is maintained $\geq 50\%$ of the total simulation time **(A)** Potential key residues within 3.5 Å cut-off from Ex527*, in the most stable pose extracted from dynamics. **(B)** Residue interaction fraction analysis.

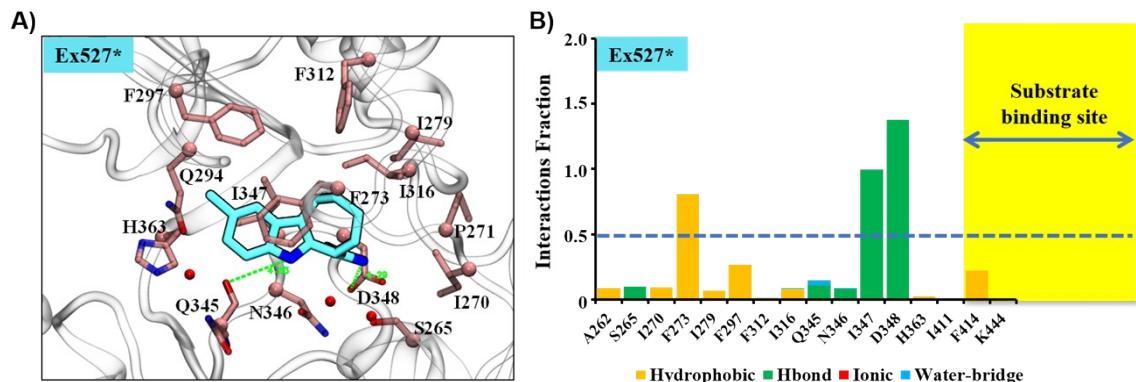


Fig. S6. Establishment of SAR of Scheme1 compounds. **(A)** Binding of scheme1 inhibitor (ball and stick representation), with –OMe substitution in R1 position, in catalytic pocket of Sirt1. The compound 7d is shown in color-type element with C in green. **(B)** Overlay binding of compounds 7l-7d, and 7h-7d at the catalytic pocket to speculate the difference in their binding pose. Sirt1 catalytic pocket is shown in the surface view. 7d is shown in representation “stick”, while compound 7l and 7h are shown in representation “ball and stick”. **(C)** MD trajectory analysis of scheme1 molecules (7l, 7h and 7d). The Root mean square deviation (RMSD) of protein (all backbone atoms) and ligand (no hydrogen atom) in coordinates as a function of the simulation time.

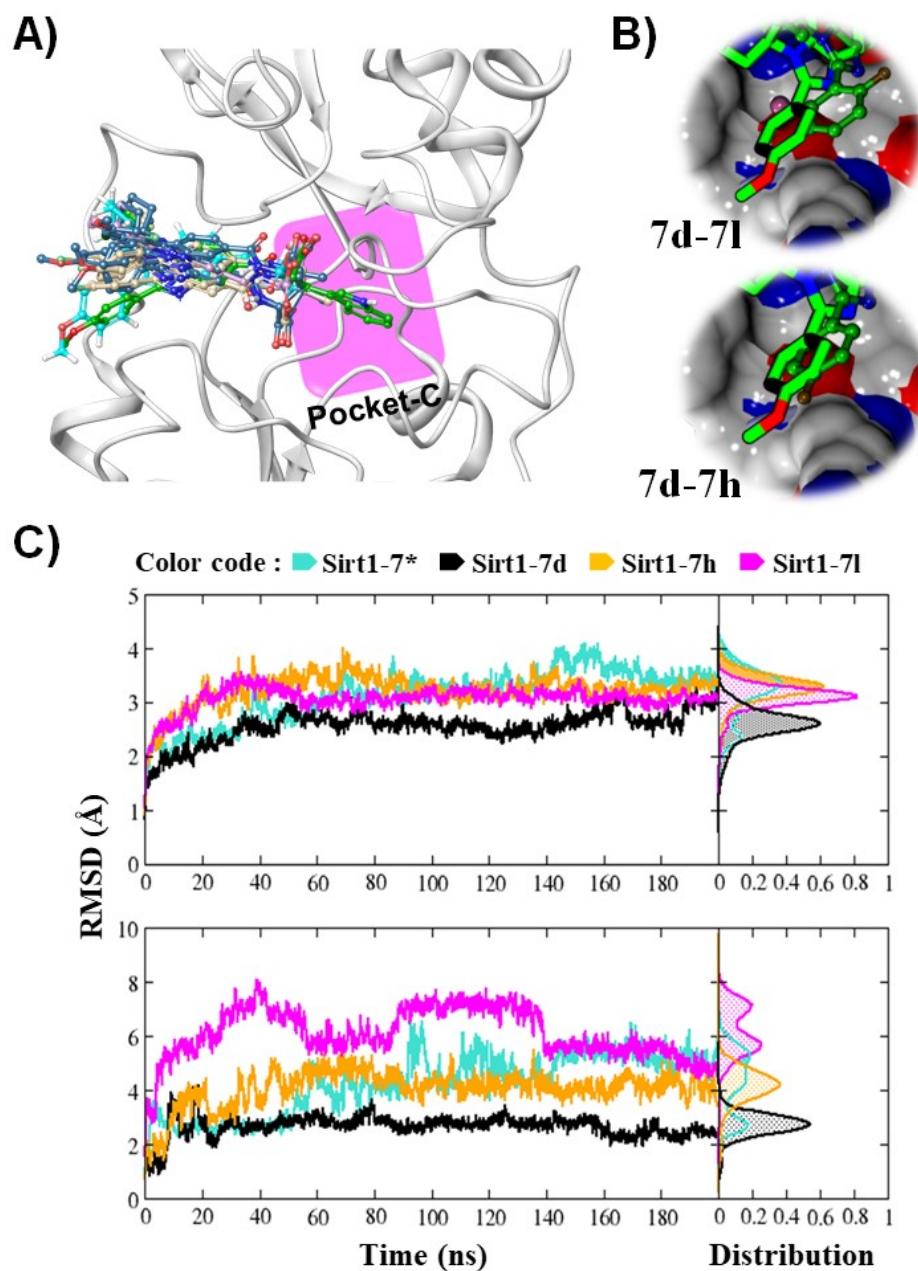
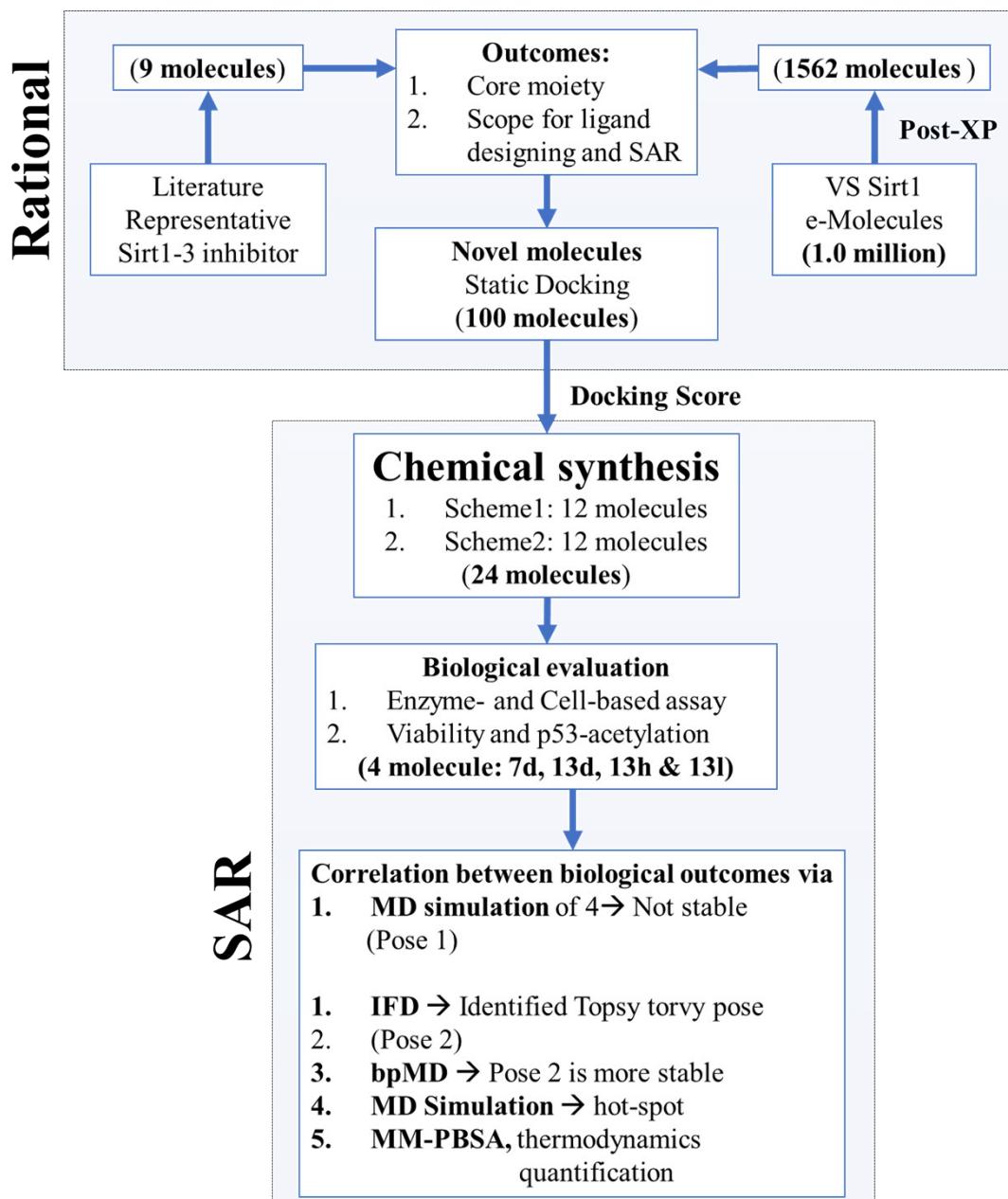


Fig. S7. The flow chart of overall computational protocol implemented in this study.



Experimental chemistry

Procedure for the synthesis of ethyl 4-(cyclohexylamino)-3-nitrobenzoate (3)

To a clear solution of ethyl 4-chloro-3-nitrobenzoate (**2**, 0.01 mol, 1.0 equiv.) in 15 mL of THF, cyclohexylamine (0.02 mol, 2.0 equiv.) and triethylamine (0.03 mol, 3.0 equiv.) were added and stirred at room temperature for 24 h. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was quenched with crushed ice and left undisturbed for two hours. The resulting yellow solid was washed with water, filtered and dried. The crude product was recrystallized from ethyl alcohol to obtain the pure product.

Procedure for the synthesis of benzimidazole esters (4a-c)

Sodium dithionite (0.03 mol, 3.0 equiv.) was added to a clear solution of ethyl 4-(cyclohexylamino)-3-nitrobenzoate (**3**) (0.01 mol; 1.0 equiv.) and substituted benzaldehyde (0.01 mol; 1.0 equiv.) in DMSO (15 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 3 h. After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC hexane: ethyl acetate (8: 2, v/v)), the reaction mass was allowed to cool to room temperature and poured onto crushed ice. The solid separated was filtered, washed with water, dried and recrystallized from ethyl alcohol to obtain the pure product.

Ethyl 1-cyclohexyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carboxylate (4a): Yield 92%; Mp 118-120 °C; Off white to pale yellow solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3001 (Ar-H), 2933, 2856 (C-H), 1705 (C=O), 1610 (C=N), 1529 (C=C), 1172 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 8.52 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 1.2 Hz), 7.98 (dd, 1H, Ar-H, J = 1.6 Hz, 8.8 Hz), 7.66 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.59 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 6.8 Hz), 7.07 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 6.8 Hz), 4.40-4.45 (q, 2H, -CH₂ of ethyl, J = 7.2 Hz), 4.33-4.39 (m, 1H, N-CH of cyclohexyl), 3.90 (s, 3H, O-CH₃), 2.27-2.36 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.95-1.99 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.77-1.79 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.43 (t, 3H, -CH₃ of ethyl, J = 7.2 Hz), 1.33-1.38 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 167.2, 160.9, 155.5, 143.4, 137.3, 130.8, 124.3, 123.4, 122.8, 122.2, 114.2, 112.0, 60.8, 57.1, 55.4, 31.4, 25.9, 25.2, 14.4; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 379.2 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₃H₂₆N₂O₃: C, 72.99; H, 6.92; N, 7.40. Found: C, 72.97; H, 6.94; N, 7.37.

Ethyl 1-cyclohexyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carboxylate (4b): Yield 87%; Mp 130-132 °C; Off white to pale brown solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3050 (Ar-H), 2927, 2850 (C-H), 1705 (C=O), 1602 (C=N), 1527 (C=C), 1300 (C-O), 1224 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 8.52 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 1.2 Hz), 8.00 (dd, 1H, Ar-H, J = 1.6 Hz, 8.8 Hz), 7.67 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.62-7.66 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.23-7.27 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.40-4.45 (q, 2H, -CH₂ of ethyl group, J = 7.2 Hz), 4.29-4.35 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl N-CH), 2.27-2.36

(m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.95-2.03 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.76-1.8 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.43 (t, 3H, -CH₃ of ethyl group, $J = 7.2$ Hz), 1.35-1.36 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 167.1, 163.7 (d, $^1J_{F-C} = 249.1$ Hz), 154.4, 143.3, 137.1, 131.4 (d, $^3J_{F-C} = 8.6$ Hz), 126.8 (d, $^4J_{F-C} = 3.5$ Hz), 124.6, 123.7, 122.46, 116.0 (d, $^2J_{F-C} = 21.8$ Hz), 112.1, 60.8, 57.3, 31.5, 25.9, 25.2, 14.4; ESI-MS (m/z): 367.3 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₂H₂₃N₂FO₂: C, 72.11; H, 6.33; N, 7.64. Found: C, 72.10; H, 6.29; N, 7.62.

Ethyl 2-(2-chloro-6-fluorophenyl)-1-cyclohexyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carboxylate (4c): Yield 82%; Mp 104-106 °C; Pale yellow crystalline solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3000 (Ar-H), 2943, 2858 (C-H), 1710 (C=O), 1618 (C=N), 1570 (C=C), 1298 (C-O), 1249 (C-F), 790 (C-Cl); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 8.49 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 1.6$ Hz), 7.96 (dd, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 8.8 Hz), 7.61 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.39-7.45 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.31 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.10 (t, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 4.32-4.37 (q, 2H, -CH₂ of ethyl group, $J = 6.8$ Hz), 3.74-3.81 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl N-CH), 2.05-2.14 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.83-1.99 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.67 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.34 (t, 3H, -CH₃ of ethyl group, $J = 6.8$ Hz), 1.20-1.21 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 167.0, 161.5 (d, $^1J_{F-C} = 250.5$ Hz), 146.7, 143.6, 136.5, 136.1 (d, $^3J_{F-C} = 8.6$ Hz), 132.3 (d, $^3J_{F-C} = 9.4$ Hz), 125.6 (d, $^4J_{F-C} = 3.5$ Hz), 124.5, 124.0, 122.9, 119.4 (d, $^2J_{F-C} = 20$ Hz), 114.4 (d, $^2J_{F-C} = 21.6$ Hz), 111.8, 60.8, 57.9, 31.4, 25.9, 25.2, 14.4; ESI-MS (m/z): 401.3 [M+H]⁺, 403.3 [M+2+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₂H₂₂N₂ClFO₂: C, 65.91; H, 5.53; N, 6.99. Found: C, 65.89; H, 5.51; N, 7.02.

Procedure for the synthesis of benzimidazole carboxylic acids (5a-c)

To a clear solution of **4 a-c** (0.01 mol) in minimum amount of ethanol, catalytic amount of sodium hydroxide in 20 mL of water was added and the solution was refluxed for 3 h. After the completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC, hexane: ethyl acetate (8:2, v/v)), the cooled reaction mixture was poured onto crushed ice and acidified with dilute HCl. The solid obtained was washed with water, filtered, dried and recrystallized from ethyl alcohol to obtain pure product.

1-Cyclohexyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carboxylic acid (5a): Yield 92%; Mp 244-246 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3462 (O-H), 3001 (Ar-H), 2933, 2856 (C-H), 1702 (C=O), 1610 (C=N), 1529 (C=C), 1172 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 12.81 (bs, 1H, CO₂H), 8.53 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 1.2$ Hz), 7.98 (dd, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 8.8 Hz), 7.66 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.59 (d, 2H, Ar-H, $J = 6.8$ Hz), 7.07 (d,

2H, Ar-H, $J = 6.8$ Hz), 4.33-4.39 (m, 1H, N-CH of cyclohexyl), 3.90 (s, 3H, O-CH₃), 2.27-2.36 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.95-1.99 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.77-1.79 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.33-1.38 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 167.3, 160.9, 155.5, 143.4, 137.3, 130.8, 124.3, 123.4, 122.8, 122.2, 114.2, 112.0, 57.1, 55.4, 31.4, 25.9, 25.2; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 351.1 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₁H₂₂N₂O₃: C, 71.98; H, 6.33; N, 7.99. Found: C, 71.97; H, 6.30; N, 7.94.

1-Cyclohexyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carboxylic acid (5b): Yield 94%; Mp 248-250 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3450 (O-H), 3050 (Ar-H), 2927, 2850 (C-H), 1703 (C=O), 1601 (C=N), 1527 (C=C), 1300 (C-O), 1224 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 12.80 (bs, 1H, CO₂H), 8.51 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 1.2$ Hz), 8.00 (dd, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 8.8 Hz), 7.67 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.62-7.66 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.23-7.27 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.29-4.35 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl N-CH), 2.27-2.36 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.95-2.03 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.76-1.8 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.35-1.36 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 167.1, 163.7 (d, ¹*J*_{F-C} = 240 Hz), 154.4, 143.3, 137.1, 131.4 (d, ³*J*_{F-C} = 10 Hz), 126.8, 124.6, 123.7, 122.46, 116.1 (d, ²*J*_{F-C} = 21.4 Hz), 112.1, 57.3, 31.5, 25.9, 25.2; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 339.3 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₀H₁₉N₂FO₂: C, 70.99; H, 5.66; N, 8.28. Found: C, 70.97; H, 5.62; N, 8.24.

2-(2-Chloro-6-fluorophenyl)-1-cyclohexyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carboxylic acid (5c): Yield 96%; Mp 232-234 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3500 (O-H), 2941, 2862 (C-H), 1706 (C=O), 1620 (C=N), 1572 (C=C), 1298 (C-O), 1248 (C-F), 779 (C-Cl); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 12.82 (bs, 1H, CO₂H), 8.30 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 8.01 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 12.0$ Hz), 7.93 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.73-7.71 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.63 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.51 (t, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 3.84-3.90 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl N-CH), 2.14-2.23 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.78-1.92 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.58 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.23-1.32 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 167.6, 160.7 (d, ¹*J*_{F-C} = 240 Hz), 146.1, 143.0, 136.5, 136.1 (d, ³*J*_{F-C} = 8.6 Hz), 132.3 (d, ³*J*_{F-C} = 9.4 Hz), 125.9, 124.7, 123.8, 121.5, 118.3 (d, ²*J*_{F-C} = 20 Hz), 115.0 (d, ²*J*_{F-C} = 20 Hz), 112.7, 57.2, 30.7, 25.2, 24.3; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 373.3 [M+H]⁺, 375.3 [M+2+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₀H₁₈N₂ClFO₂: C, 64.43; H, 4.87; N, 7.51. Found: C, 64.41; H, 4.83; N, 7.54.

Procedure for the synthesis of benzimidazole monopeptide esters (6a-l)

To a clear solution of **5a-c** (0.01 mol) in 15 mL of DMF, NMM (0.025 mol, 2.5 equiv.) and TBTU (0.0125 mol, 1.25 equiv.) were added and stirred for an hour at room temperature. To

the clear resulting solution, amino acid methyl ester hydrochloride (0.01 mol, 1.0 equiv.) was added and stirred at room temperature for 4 h. After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC hexane: ethyl acetate (7:3, v/v)), the reaction mass was poured onto crushed ice. The precipitated solid was washed with water, filtered, dried column purified using 5-15% of ethyl acetate in hexane to obtain the pure product.

Methyl (S)-(1-cyclohexyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)alaninate (6a): Yield 90%; Mp 134-136 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3078 (Ar-H), 2935 and 2854 (C-H), 1726 (C=O of ester), 1652 (C=O of amide), 1612 (C=N), 1577 (C=C), 1029 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 8.65 (d, 1H, amide N-H, J = 7.2 Hz), 8.27 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 1.2 Hz), 7.90 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.80 (dd, 1H, Ar-H, J = 1.6 Hz, 7.2 Hz), 7.61 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.15 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 9.2 Hz), 4.42-4.49 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.26-4.32 (m, 1H, N-CH), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.25-2.33 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.84-1.92 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.63-1.66 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.42-1.44 (d, 3H, CH₃, J = 7.2 Hz), 1.23-1.39 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 174.4, 166.4, 160.4, 154.7, 142.8, 135.7, 130.8, 127.5, 122.5, 121.6, 118.7, 114.2, 112.4, 56.7, 55.3, 51.9, 48.2, 30.5, 25.5, 24.4, 16.9; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 436.2 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₅H₂₉N₃O₄: C, 68.95; H, 6.71; N, 9.65. Found: C, 68.96; H, 6.70; N, 9.62.

Methyl (S)-(1-cyclohexyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)valinate (6b): Yield 62%; Mp 68-70 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3409 (NH), 3100 (Ar-H), 2935 and 2850 (C-H), 1722 (C=O of ester), 1650 (C=O of amide), 1612 (C=N), 1581 (C=C), 1029 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 8.33 (d, 1H, amide NH, J = 8.0 Hz); 8.27 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 1.2 Hz), 7.89 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.79 (dd, 1H, Ar-H, J = 1.6 Hz, 8.4 Hz), 7.61 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.15 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 8.8 Hz), 4.26-4.32 (m, 2H, N-CH and chiral CH), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.19-2.33 (m, 3H, CH and cyclohexyl), 1.84-1.90 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.63-1.66 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.23-1.41 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl), 0.97-1.01 (m, 6H, diastereotopic CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 174.3, 166.9, 160.4, 154.6, 142.7, 135.7, 130.8, 127.8, 122.5, 121.7, 118.8, 114.2, 112.4, 58.6, 56.7, 55.3, 51.8, 30.5, 29.6, 25.5, 24.4, 19.4, 18.8; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 464.4 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₇H₃₃N₃O₄: C, 69.96; H, 7.18; N, 9.06. Found: C, 69.94; H, 7.15; N, 9.03.

Methyl (S)-(1-cyclohexyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)leucinate (6c): Yield 75%; Mp: 82-84 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3074 (Ar-H), 2935 and 2862 (C-H), 1726 (C=O of ester), 1650 (C=O of amide), 1612 (C=N), 1577 (C=C), 1029

(C-O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ ppm): 8.33 (d, 1H, amide NH, $J = 6.8$ Hz), 8.23 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.88 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.78 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.60 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.14 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 4.37-4.40 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.25-4.31 (m, 1H, C-NH), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 2.24-2.33 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.83-1.90 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.62-1.76 (m, 4H, isobutyl CH, CH_2 and cyclohexyl), 1.24-1.41 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl), 0.89-0.92 (m, 6H, diastereotopic CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ ppm): 174.4, 166.4, 160.4, 154.6, 142.8, 135.6, 130.8, 128.0, 122.5, 121.5, 118.6, 114.2, 112.4, 56.6, 55.3, 52.2, 30.5, 29.6, 25.5, 24.6, 23.0, 21.6, 18.9; ESI-MS (m/z): 478.4 [$\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$; Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{35}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4$: C, 70.42; H, 7.39; N, 8.80. Found: C, 70.40; H, 7.35; N, 8.81.

Methyl (S)-(1-cyclohexyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)tryptophanate (6d): Yield 99%, Mp: 86-88 °C; Off white to pale brown solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm^{-1}): 3055 (Ar-H), 2933 and 2856 (C-H), 1728 (C=O of ester), 1643 (C=O of amide), 1612 (C=N), 1577 (C=C), 1178 (C-O); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ ppm): 10.81 (s, 1H, indole NH), 8.62 (d, 1H, amide NH, $J = 7.6$ Hz), 8.20 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 1.6$ Hz), 7.88 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.73 (dd, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1.6 Hz), 7.59-7.63 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.32 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.23 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 7.15 (d, 2H, Ar-H, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.04-7.08 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 6.97-7.01 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 4.66-4.72 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.25-4.31 (m, 1H, C-NH), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 2.23-2.29 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.83-1.89 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.62-1.65 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.25-1.41 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ ppm): 173.7, 166.6, 160.4, 154.6, 142.6, 136.1, 135.6, 130.9, 127.6, 127.1, 125.76, 123.6, 121.6, 120.9, 118.5, 118.4, 118.1, 114.2, 112.5, 111.4, 110.5, 56.7, 55.3, 53.7, 52.4, 30.5, 26.6, 25.5, 24.3; ESI-MS (m/z): 551.3 [$\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$; Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_4\text{O}_4$: C, 71.98; H, 6.22; N, 10.17. Found: C, 71.95; H, 6.20; N, 10.13

Methyl (S)-(1-cyclohexyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)alaninate (6e): Yield 86%; Mp 128-130 °C; Off white solid; IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm^{-1}): 3071 (Ar-H), 2932 and 2861 (C-H), 1730 (C=O of ester), 1653 (C=O of amide), 1614 (C=N), 1578 (C=C), 1265 (C-O), 1230 (C-F); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ ppm): 8.63 (d, 1H, amide N-H, $J = 7.2$ Hz), 8.29 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.93 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.83 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.71-7.75 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.42-7.46 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.41-4.48 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.20-4.26 (m, 1H, N-CH), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 2.24-2.32 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.83-1.93 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.63-1.66 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.42-1.44 (d, 3H, CH_3 , $J = 7.2$ Hz), 1.23-1.38 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ ppm): 174.5, 166.3, 163.1 (d, $^1J_{\text{F-C}} = 246$ Hz), 153.7, 142.7, 135.7, 131.8 (d, $^3J_{\text{F-C}} = 8.5$ Hz), 127.7, 126.9, 121.9, 118.9, 115.9 (d, $^2J_{\text{F-C}} = 21.5$ Hz), 112.6,

56.8, 52.1, 48.4, 30.5, 25.4, 24.3, 17.1; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 424.4 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₄H₂₆N₃FO₃: C, 68.07; H, 6.19; N, 9.92. Found: C, 68.02; H, 6.15; N, 9.91.

Methyl (S)-(1-cyclohexyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)valinate (6f): Yield 92%; 118-120 °C; Off white solid; IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3407 (N-H), 3074 (Ar-H), 2935 and 2864 (C-H), 1721 (C=O of ester), 1654 (C=O of amide), 1614 (C=N), 1581 (C=C), 1265 (C-O), 1232 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 8.52 (d, 1H, amide N-H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 8.20 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 1.2 Hz), 7.90 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.74-7.76 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.71-7.73 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.42-7.46 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.29-4.32 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.26-4.28 (m, 1H, N-CH), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.25-2.33 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 2.20-2.25 (m, 1H, C-H of isopropyl), 1.84-1.90 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.63-1.66 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.24-1.41 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl), 0.97-1.01 (m, 6H, diastereotopic CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 174.4, 166.9, 162.9 (d, ¹J_{F-C} = 250 Hz), 154.6, 142.8, 135.7, 131.8 (d, ³J_{F-C} = 9.6 Hz), 127.5, 122.5, 121.6, 118.7, 115.8 (d, ²J_{F-C} = 21 Hz), 112.4, 58.6, 56.3, 52.3, 30.5, 29.6, 25.5, 24.4, 19.4, 18.8; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 452.4 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₆H₃₀N₃FO₃: C, 69.16; H, 6.70; N, 9.31. Found: C, 69.13; H, 6.69; N, 9.32.

Methyl (S)-(1-cyclohexyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)leucinate (6g): Yield 96%, 102-104 °C; Off white solid; IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3409 (N-H), 3071 (Ar-H), 2934 and 2865 (C-H), 1717 (C=O of ester), 1654 (C=O of amide), 1614 (C=N), 1579 (C=C), 1265 (C-O), 1231 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 8.59 (d, 1H, amide N-H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 8.3 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.93 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.84 (d, 2H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.72-7.75 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.42-7.46 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.47-4.52 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.20-4.26 (m, 1H, N-CH), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.24-2.32 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.59-1.92 (m, 8H, cyclohexyl, isobutyl CH and diastereotopic CH₂), 1.23-1.41 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl), 0.95 (d, 3H, diastereotopic CH₃, *J* = 6.4 Hz) 0.91 (d, 3H, diastereotopic CH₃, *J* = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 174.4, 166.7, 162.9 (d, ¹J_{F-C} = 250 Hz), 153.7, 142.6, 135.6, 131.7 (d, ³J_{F-C} = 9.6 Hz), 127.7, 126.8, 121.9, 118.9, 115.8 (d, ²J_{F-C} = 20 Hz), 112.6, 56.8, 52.1, 50.9, 30.5, 25.4, 24.6, 24.3, 22.9, 21.2; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 466.4 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₇H₃₂N₃FO₃: C, 69.66; H, 6.93; N, 9.03. Found: C, 69.64; H, 6.91; N, 9.04.

Methyl (S)-(1-cyclohexyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)-tryptophanate (6h): Yield 96%; Mp 78-80 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3409 (N-H), 3056 (Ar-H), 2933 and 2858 (C-H), 1720 (C=O of ester), 1641 (C=O of amide), 1614 (C=N), 1527 (C=C), 1296 (C-O), 1230 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 10.79

(s, 1H, indole-NH), 8.52 (d, 1H, amide-NH, $J = 7.6$ Hz), 8.2 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 1.2$ Hz), 7.90 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.71-7.76 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.62 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.44 (m, 2H, Ar-H, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.32 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.22 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 7.03-7.07 (m, 1H, Ar-H); 6.95-6.99 (m, 1H, Ar-H); 4.63-4.68 (m, 1H, chiral C-H), 4.19-4.25 (m, 1H, -NC-H), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.35 (dd, 1H, indole CH₂, $J = 4.2$ Hz, 14.6 Hz), 3.26 (dd, 1H, indole CH₂, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 14.4 Hz), 2.22-2.31 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.82-1.92 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.62-1.65 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.26-1.40 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 173.8, 166.3, 162.9 (d, ¹J_{F-C} = 250 Hz), 164.2, 161.7, 153.7, 142.6, 136.0, 135.6, 131.7 (d, ³J_{F-C} = 9.6 Hz), 128.0, 127.3, 126.9, 125.9, 123.5, 121.7, 120.8, 118.7, 118.2, 115.8 (d, ²J_{F-C} = 20 Hz), 112.6, 111.3, 110.7, 56.8, 54.1, 51.9, 30.5, 26.8, 25.4, 24.3; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 539.22 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₃₂H₃₁N₄FO₃: C, 71.36; H, 5.80; N, 10.40. Found: C, 71.37; H, 5.78; N, 10.36.

Methyl (S)-(2-(2-chloro-6-fluorophenyl)-1-cyclohexyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)-alaninate (6i): Yield 88%; Mp 104-106 °C; Off white solid; IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 2928 and 2863 (C-H), 1738 (C=O of ester), 1642 (C=O of amide), 1614 (C=N), 1532 (C=C), 1159 (C-O), 781 (C-C-Cl); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 8.27 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.86 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.70 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.47-7.51 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.37-7.39 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.17 (t, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 6.90 (bs, 1H, amide N-H), 4.83-4.86 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 3.83-3.87 (m, 1H, N-CH), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.91-2.18 (m, 6H, cyclohexyl), 1.55 (d, 3H, CH₃, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 1.27-1.31 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 173.7, 167.2, 161.5 (d, ¹J_{F-C} = 250 Hz), 146.7, 143.6, 136.1, 135.7, 132.4 (d, ³J_{F-C} = 10 Hz), 128.2, 125.6, 122.3, 119.4, 114.4 (d, ²J_{F-C} = 21 Hz), 112.4, 58.0, 52.5, 48.6, 31.5, 25.9, 25.1, 18.6; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 458.2 [M+H]⁺, 460.2 [M+2+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₄H₂₅N₃ClFO₃: C, 62.95; H, 5.50; N, 9.18. Found: C, 62.92; H, 5.48; N, 9.15.

Methyl (S)-(2-(2-chloro-6-fluorophenyl)-1-cyclohexyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)-valinate (6j): Yield 86%; Mp 58-60 °C; Off white solid; IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3362 (O-H), 3073 (Ar-H), 2947 and 2861 (C-H), 1724 (C=O of ester), 1644 (C=O of amide), 1621 (C=N), 1574 (C=C), 1297 (C-O), 1246 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 8.61 (d, 1H, amide N-H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 8.34 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.97 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.87 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 7.71-7.77 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.62 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.49-7.54 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 4.29-4.32 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.26-4.28 (m, 1H, N-CH), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.25-2.33 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 2.20-2.25 (m, 1H, C-H of isopropyl), 1.84-1.90 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.63-1.66 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.24-1.41 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl), 0.97-1.01 (m, 6H, diastereotopic CH₃); ¹³C NMR

(100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 174.4, 166.4, 161.4 (d, ¹J_{F-C} = 254 Hz), 146.8, 143.7, 136.1 (d, ³J_{F-C} = 8 Hz), 135.0, 132.7, 125.6 (d, ⁴J_{F-C} = 3 Hz), 124.5, 122.9, 119.3, 114.4 (d, ²J_{F-C} = 21 Hz), 112.4, 58.7, 56.6, 52.4, 30.5, 29.6, 25.5, 24.4, 19.4, 18.9; ESI-MS (m/z): 486.4 [M+H]⁺, 488.4 [M+2+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₆H₂₉N₃ClFO₃: C, 64.26; H, 6.02; N, 8.65. Found: C, 64.20; H, 5.99; N, 8.61.

Methyl (S)-(2-(2-chloro-6-fluorophenyl)-1-cyclohexyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)-leucinate (6k): Yield 96%; Mp 54-56 °C; Off white solid; IR (ATR, ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3355 (O-H), 3080 (Ar-H), 2948 and 2864 (C-H), 1722 (C=O of ester), 1643 (C=O of amide), 1620 (C=N), 1571 (C=C), 1299 (C-O), 1249 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 12.51 (s, 1H, CO₂H), 8.61 (d, 1H, amide N-H, J = 8.0 Hz), 8.34 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.97 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.87 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.71-7.77 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.62 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.49-7.54 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 4.47-4.51 (m, 1H, chiral C-H), 3.84-3.90 (m, 1H, N-CH), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.12-2.21 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.60-1.84 (m, 8H, cyclohexyl, isobutyl CH and diastereotopic CH₂), 1.24-1.29 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl), 0.94 (d, 3H, diastereotopic CH₃, J = 6.4 Hz), 0.90 (d, 3H, diastereotopic CH₃, J = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 174.4, 166.4, 161.6 (d, ¹J_{F-C} = 230 Hz), 146.8, 143.7, 136.5, 135.3, 132.3 (d, ³J_{F-C} = 10 Hz), 125.5, 124.5, 124.0, 122.9, 119.4, 114.4 (d, ²J_{F-C} = 20 Hz), 111.9, 56.6, 50.9, 52.1, 48.6, 30.5, 25.5, 24.6, 24.3, 23.1, 21.6; ESI-MS (m/z): 500.2 [M+H]⁺, 502.2 [M+2+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₇H₃₁N₃ClFO₃: C, 64.86; H, 6.25; N, 8.40. Found: C, 64.85; H, 6.23; N, 8.42.

Methyl (S)-(2-(2-chloro-6-fluorophenyl)-1-cyclohexyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)-tryptophanate (6l): Yield 97%; Mp 84-86 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3409 (N-H), 3056 (Ar-H), 2937 and 2858 (C-H), 1724 (C=O of ester), 1641 (C=O of amide), 1620 (C=N), 1573 (C=C), 1299 (C-O), 1251 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 10.80 (s, 1H, indole-NH), 8.67 (d, 1H, amide N-H, J = 7.6 Hz), 8.27 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.95 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.71-7.80 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.60-7.63 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.49-7.53 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.32 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.23 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.04-7.08 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 6.98-7.01 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 4.67-4.72 (m, 1H, chiral C-H), 3.83-3.89 (m, 1H, N-CH), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.22-3.28 (m, 2H, indolyl CH₂), 2.07-2.18 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.79-1.90 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.59-1.61 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.17-1.28 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 173.6, 166.6, 160.7 (d, ¹J_{F-C} = 240 Hz), 145.8, 142.8, 136.2, 135.1, 134.8, 133.6, 128.1, 127.2, 125.9, 123.6, 122.5, 120.9, 119.2, 118.4, 118.1, 114.9, 112.3, 111.5, 110.5, 57.2, 53.9, 52.2, 30.8, 26.6, 25.3, 24.3; ESI-MS (m/z): 573.3 [M+H]⁺, 575.3 [M+2+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₃₂H₃₀N₄ClFO₃: C, 67.07; H, 5.28; N, 9.78. Found: C, 67.05; H, 5.27; N, 9.76.

Procedure for the synthesis of benzimidazole monopeptides (7a-l)

To a stirred clear solution of **6a-l** (0.01 mol) in 20 mL of THF:water (2:1) mixture, LiOH.H₂O (0.015 mol, 1.5 equiv.) was added at 0 °C. The stirring was continued at this temperature for 4 h. After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC, hexane: ethyl acetate (4:6, v/v)), the reaction mass was quenched to crushed ice, acidified with dilute HCl. The resulting solid was washed with water and dried. The solid was subjected to column chromatography using 10-50% of ethyl acetate in hexane to obtain pure benzimidazole monopeptides.

(S)-(1-Cyclohexyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)alanine (7a):
Yield 71%; Mp 278-280 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3406 (O-H), 3078 (Ar-H), 2935 and 2854 (C-H), 1716 (C=O of acid), 1654 (C=O of amide), 1612 (C=N), 1577 (C=C), 1029 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 12.44 (s, 1H, CO₂H), 8.65 (d, 1H, amide N-H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 8.27 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 1.2 Hz), 7.90 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.80 (dd, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 7.2 Hz), 7.61 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.15 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 9.2 Hz), 4.42-4.49 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.26-4.32 (m, 1H, N-CH), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.25-2.33 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.84-1.92 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.63-1.66 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.42-1.44 (d, 3H, CH₃, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 1.23-1.39 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 174.4, 166.4, 160.4, 154.7, 142.8, 135.7, 130.8, 127.5, 122.5, 121.6, 118.7, 114.2, 112.4, 56.7, 55.3, 48.2, 30.5, 25.5, 24.4, 16.9; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 422.4 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₄H₂₇N₃O₄: C, 68.39; H, 6.46; N, 9.97. Found: C, 68.35; H, 6.47; N, 9.94.

(S)-(1-Cyclohexyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)valine (7b):
Yield 50%; Mp 194-196 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3409 (O-H), 3379 and 3409 (NH), 3100 (Ar-H), 2935 and 2850 (C-H), 1712 (C=O of acid), 1650 (C=O of amide), 1612 (C=N), 1581 (C=C), 1029 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 8.33 (d, 1H, amide NH, *J* = 8.0 Hz); 8.27 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 1.2 Hz), 7.89 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.79 (dd, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 8.4 Hz), 7.61 (d, 2H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.15 (d, 2H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 4.26-4.32 (m, 2H, N-CH and chiral CH), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.19-2.33 (m, 3H, CH and cyclohexyl), 1.84-1.90 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.63-1.66 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.23-1.41 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl), 0.97-1.01 (m, 6H, diastereotopic CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 174.3, 166.9, 160.4, 154.6, 142.7, 135.7, 130.8, 127.8, 122.5, 121.7, 118.8, 114.2, 112.4, 58.6, 56.7, 55.3, 30.5, 29.6, 25.5, 24.4, 19.4, 18.8; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 450.4 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₆H₃₁N₃O₄: C, 69.47; H, 6.95; N, 9.35. Found: C, 69.45; H, 6.92; N, 9.37.

(S)-(1-Cyclohexyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)leucine (7c):

Yield 66%; Mp: 224-226 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3413 (O-H), 3074 (Ar-H), 2935 and 2862 (C-H), 1712 (C=O of acid), 1650 (C=O of amide), 1612 (C=N), 1577 (C=C), 1029 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 8.33 (d, 1H, amide NH, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 8.23 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.88 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.78 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.60 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.14 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 4.37-4.40 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.25-4.31 (m, 1H, C-NH), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.24-2.33 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.83-1.90 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.62-1.76 (m, 4H, isobutyl CH, CH₂ and cyclohexyl), 1.24-1.41 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl), 0.89-0.92 (m, 6H, diastereotopic CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 174.4, 166.4, 160.4, 154.6, 142.8, 135.6, 130.8, 128.0, 122.5, 121.5, 118.6, 114.2, 112.4, 56.6, 55.3, 30.5, 29.6, 25.5, 24.6, 23.0, 21.6, 18.9; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 464.4 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₇H₃₃N₃O₄: C, 69.95; H, 7.18; N, 9.06. Found: C, 69.96; H, 7.15; N, 9.04.

(S)-(1-Cyclohexyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)tryptophan (7d):

Yield 99%, Mp: 172-174 °C; Off white to pale brown solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3406 (O-H), 3055 (Ar-H), 2933 and 2856 (C-H), 1720 (C=O of acid), 1643 (C=O of amide), 1612 (C=N), 1577 (C=C), 1178 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 10.81 (s, 1H, indole NH), 8.62 (d, 1H, amide NH, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 8.20 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 1.6 Hz), 7.88 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.73 (dd, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1.6 Hz), 7.59-7.63 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.32 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.23 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 2.0 Hz), 7.15 (d, 2H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.04-7.08 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 6.97-7.01 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 4.66-4.72 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.25-4.31 (m, 1H, C-NH), 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 2.23-2.29 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.83-1.89 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.62-1.65 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.25-1.41 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 173.7, 166.6, 160.4, 154.6, 142.6, 136.1, 135.6, 130.9, 127.6, 127.1, 125.76, 123.6, 121.6, 120.9, 118.5, 118.4, 118.1, 114.2, 112.5, 111.4, 110.5, 56.7, 55.3, 53.7, 30.5, 26.6, 25.5, 24.3; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 537.5 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₃₂H₃₂N₄O₄: C, 71.62; H, 6.01; N, 10.44. Found: C, 71.59; H, 6.02; N, 10.41.

(S)-(1-Cyclohexyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)alanine (7e): Yield

75%; Mp 272-274 °C; Off white solid; IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3411 (O-H), 3071 (Ar-H), 2932 and 2861 (C-H), 1706 (C=O of acid), 1653 (C=O of amide), 1614 (C=N), 1578 (C=C), 1265 (C-O), 1230 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 8.63 (d, 1H, amide N-H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 8.29 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.93 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.83 (d, 1H, Ar-H, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.71-7.75 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.42-7.46 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.41-4.48 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.20-4.26 (m, 1H, N-CH), 2.24-2.32 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.83-1.93 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.63-1.66 (m, 1H,

cyclohexyl), 1.42-1.44 (d, 3H, CH₃, J = 7.2 Hz), 1.23-1.38 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 174.5, 165.2 (d, $^1J_{F-C}$ = 213.8 Hz), 161.7, 153.7, 142.7, 135.7, 131.8 (d, $^3J_{F-C}$ = 8.5 Hz), 127.7, 126.9, 121.9, 118.9, 115.9 (d, $^2J_{F-C}$ = 21.5 Hz), 112.6, 56.8, 48.4, 30.5, 25.4, 24.3, 17.1; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 410.4 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₃H₂₄N₃FO₃: C, 67.47; H, 5.91; N, 10.26. Found: C, 67.43; H, 5.88; N, 10.27.

(S)-(1-Cyclohexyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-5-carbonyl)valine (7f): Yield 89%; 262-264 °C; Off white solid; IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3407 (O-H), 3074 (Ar-H), 2935 and 2864 (C-H), 1706 (C=O of acid), 1654 (C=O of amide), 1614 (C=N), 1581 (C=C), 1265 (C-O), 1232 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 8.29 (d, 1H, amide N-H, J = 10.4 Hz), 8.25 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 1.6 Hz), 7.92 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 11.6 Hz), 7.78-7.82 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.41-7.46 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.22-4.27 (m, 2H, chiral CH and N-CH), 2.18-2.28 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl), 1.81-1.90 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.63-1.66 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.24-1.32 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl), 0.97-1.01 (m, 6H, diastereotopic CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 173.9, 167.4, 162.9 (d, $^1J_{F-C}$ = 250 Hz), 154.2, 142.9, 136.03, 132.3 (d, $^3J_{F-C}$ = 12 Hz), 128.6, 127.2, 122.4, 119.4, 116.4 (d, $^2J_{F-C}$ = 29 Hz), 113.2, 59.33, 57.3, 30.9, 30.3, 25.9, 24.8, 19.9, 19.3; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 438.4 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₅H₂₈N₃FO₃: C, 68.63; H, 6.45; N, 9.60. Found: C, 68.65; H, 6.44; N, 9.62.

(S)-(1-Cyclohexyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-5-carbonyl)leucine (7g): Yield 90%, 244-248 °C; Off white solid; IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3409 (O-H), 3071 (Ar-H), 2934 and 2865 (C-H), 1707 (C=O of acid), 1654 (C=O of amide), 1614 (C=N), 1579 (C=C), 1265 (C-O), 1231 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 8.59 (d, 1H, amide N-H, J = 7.6 Hz), 8.3 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.93 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.84 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.72-7.75 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.42-7.46 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.47-4.52 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.20-4.26 (m, 1H, N-CH), 2.24-2.32 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.59-1.92 (m, 8H, cyclohexyl, isobutyl CH and diastereotopic CH₂), 1.23-1.41 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl), 0.95 (d, 3H, diastereotopic CH₃, J = 6.4 Hz) 0.91 (d, 3H, diastereotopic CH₃, J = 6.4 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 174.4, 166.7, 162.9 (d, $^1J_{F-C}$ = 246.7 Hz), 153.7, 142.6, 135.6, 131.8 (d, $^3J_{F-C}$ = 8.6 Hz), 127.7, 126.8, 121.9, 118.9, 115.8 (d, $^2J_{F-C}$ = 21.7 Hz), 112.6, 56.8, 50.9, 30.5, 25.4, 24.6, 24.3, 22.9, 21.2; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 450.4 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₂₆H₃₀N₃FO₃: C, 69.16; H, 6.70; N, 9.31. Found: C, 69.14; H, 6.73; N, 9.34.

(S)-(1-Cyclohexyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-5-carbonyl)tryptophan (7h): Yield 91%; Mp 164-166 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3409 (O-H), 3056

(Ar-H), 2933 and 2858 (C-H), 1720 (C=O of acid), 1641 (C=O of amide), 1614 (C=N), 1527 (C=C), 1296 (C-O), 1230 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 10.79 (s, 1H, indole-NH), 8.66 (d, 1H, amide-NH, J = 10 Hz), 8.20 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 1.2 Hz), 7.90 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 11.6 Hz), 7.69-7.76 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.61 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 10.4 Hz), 7.43 (t, 2H, Ar-H, J = 12 Hz), 7.32 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 10.4 Hz), 7.23 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 2.4 Hz), 6.99-7.06 (m, 2H, Ar-H); 4.64-4.68 (m, 1H, chiral C-H), 4.16-4.24 (m, 1H, -NC-H), 3.25-3.32 (m, 2H, indole CH₂), 2.23-2.27 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.81-1.91 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.62-1.65 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.26-1.40 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 174.3, 167.2, 162.9 (d, ¹*J*_{F-C} = 250 Hz), 154.3, 142.9, 136.5, 136.1, 132.3 (d, ³*J*_{F-C} = 11 Hz), 128.2, 127.6, 124.1, 123.5, 121.5, 119.3, 118.9, 118.6, 118.2, 116.4 (d, ²*J*_{F-C} = 29 Hz), 113.2, 111.9, 110.9, 57.3, 54.3, 30.9, 27.1, 25.9, 24.8; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 524.22 [M+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₃₁H₂₉N₄FO₃: C, 70.98; H, 5.57; N, 10.68. Found: C, 70.95; H, 5.58; N, 10.66.

(S)-(2-(2-Chloro-6-fluorophenyl)-1-cyclohexyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)alanine (7i): Yield 70%; Mp 248-250 °C; Off white solid; IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3372 (O-H), 3078 (Ar-H), 2948 and 2862 (C-H), 1721 (C=O of acid), 1642 (C=O of amide), 1620 (C=N), 1576 (C=C), 1296 (C-O), 1247 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 8.61 (d, 1H, amide N-H, J = 8.0 Hz), 8.34 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.97 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.87 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.71-7.77 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.62 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.49-7.54 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 4.63-4.68 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 4.19-4.25 (m, 1H, N-CH), 2.22-2.31 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.82-1.92 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.62-1.65 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.42-1.44 (d, 3H, CH₃, J = 7.2 Hz), 1.26-1.40 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 175.8, 166.2, 161.1 (d, ¹*J*_{F-C} = 251 Hz), 145.7, 141.7, 135.8, 134.6, 132.3 (d, ³*J*_{F-C} = 10 Hz), 128.8, 125.3, 125.3, 123.3, 118.9 (d, ²*J*_{F-C} = 20 Hz), 114.5 (d, ²*J*_{F-C} = 12 Hz), 112.2, 58.0, 48.8, 31.1, 30.1, 25.6, 18.5; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 444.4 [M+H]⁺, 446.4 [M+2+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₃H₂₃N₃ClFO₃: C, 62.23; H, 5.22; N, 9.47. Found: C, 62.25; H, 5.21; N, 9.45.

(S)-(2-(2-Chloro-6-fluorophenyl)-1-cyclohexyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)valine (7j): Yield 81%; Mp 88-90 °C; Off white solid; IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3362 (O-H), 3073 (Ar-H), 2947 and 2861 (C-H), 1724 (C=O of acid), 1644 (C=O of amide), 1621 (C=N), 1574 (C=C), 1297 (C-O), 1246 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 8.94 (m, 1H, amide N-H), 8.00 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.74 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.54-7.56 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.42 (d, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.21 (t, 1H, Ar-H, J = 8.0 Hz), 4.70-4.74 (m, 1H, chiral CH), 3.83-3.86 (m, 1H, N-CH), 2.20-2.40 (m, 1H, C-H of isopropyl), 2.17-2.21 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.91-2.16 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.20-1.30 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.0-1.03 (m, 6H, diastereotopic CH₃); ¹³C

NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ ppm): 174.4, 166.4, 161.4 (d, $^1J_{F-C} = 254$ Hz), 146.0, 142.4, 136.1, 135.0, 129.2 (d, $^3J_{F-C} = 8$ Hz), 125.7, 123.4, 119.3, 115.1, 114.4 (d, $^2J_{F-C} = 21$ Hz), 112.4, 60.4, 58.1, 31.6, 29.4, 25.8, 22.7, 21.0, 18.9; ESI-MS (m/z): 472.4 [M+H]⁺, 474.4 [M+2+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₅H₂₇N₃ClFO₃: C, 63.62; H, 5.77; N, 8.90. Found: C, 63.60; H, 5.74; N, 8.91.

(S)-(2-(2-Chloro-6-fluorophenyl)-1-cyclohexyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)leucine (7k): Yield 98%; Mp 124-126 °C; Off white solid; IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3355 (O-H), 3080 (Ar-H), 2948 and 2864 (C-H), 1722 (C=O of acid), 1643 (C=O of amide), 1620 (C=N), 1571 (C=C), 1299 (C-O), 1249 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ ppm): 12.51 (s, 1H, CO₂H), 8.43 (d, 1H, amide N-H, $J = 10.0$ Hz), 8.28 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.96 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 11.6$ Hz), 7.85 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 11.2$ Hz), 7.69-7.74 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.59-7.61 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.47-7.53 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 4.41 (m, 1H, chiral C-H), 2.10-2.19 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.64-1.89 (m, 8H, cyclohexyl, isobutyl CH and diastereotopic CH₂), 1.58-1.60 (m, 5H, cyclohexyl), 1.21-1.24 (m, 6H, diastereotopic CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ ppm): 175.1, 166.8, 161.6 (d, $^1J_{F-C} = 230$ Hz), 146.3, 143.3, 135.4, 135.2, 134.2, 128.9, 126.4, 122.8, 119.5, 119.0 (d, $^2J_{F-C} = 26$ Hz), 115.5 (d, $^2J_{F-C} = 29$ Hz), 112.9, 57.7, 52.3, 31.2, 25.8, 25.1, 24.7, 23.5, 21.9; ESI-MS (m/z): 485.4 [M+H]⁺, 487.4 [M+2+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₂₆H₂₉N₃ClFO₃: C, 64.26; H, 6.01; N, 8.65. Found: C, 64.25; H, 6.03; N, 8.66.

(S)-(2-(2-Chloro-6-fluorophenyl)-1-cyclohexyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-5-carbonyl)tryptophan (7l): Yield 97%; Mp 182-184 °C; Off white solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3409 (O-H), 3056 (Ar-H), 2937 and 2858 (C-H), 1724 (C=O of acid), 1641 (C=O of amide), 1620 (C=N), 1573 (C=C), 1299 (C-O), 1251 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ ppm): 10.80 (s, 1H, indole-NH), 8.67 (d, 1H, amide N-H, $J = 7.6$ Hz), 8.27 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.95 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.71-7.80 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.60-7.63 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.49-7.53 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.32 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.23 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.04-7.08 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 6.98-7.01 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 4.67-4.72 (m, 1H, chiral C-H), 3.83-3.89 (m, 1H, N-CH), 3.22-3.28 (m, 2H, indolyl CH₂), 2.07-2.18 (m, 2H, cyclohexyl), 1.79-1.90 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl), 1.59-1.61 (m, 1H, cyclohexyl), 1.17-1.28 (m, 3H, cyclohexyl); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ ppm): 173.6, 166.6, 160.7 (d, $^1J_{F-C} = 240$ Hz), 154.3, 145.8, 142.8, 136.2, 135.1, 134.8, 133.6, 128.1, 127.6, 127.2, 125.9, 123.6, 122.5, 120.9, 119.2, 118.2 (d, $^2J_{F-C} = 25$ Hz), 114.9, 112.3, 111.5, 110.5, 57.2, 53.9, 30.8, 26.6, 25.3, 24.3; ESI-MS (m/z): 559.3 [M+H]⁺, 561.3 [M+2+H]⁺; Anal. calcd. for C₃₁H₂₈N₄ClFO₃: C, 66.60; H, 5.05; N, 10.02. Found: C, 66.57; H, 5.08; N, 10.01.

General procedure for the synthesis of 3-aryl-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxaldehydes (10a-c)

3-Aryl-1*H*-pyrazole-4-carboxaldehydes (**10a-c**) were prepared according to the general procedure described in the literature¹¹ by means of Vilsmeier-Haack reaction on 2-(1-arylethylidene)hydrazine carboxamides (**9a-c**) which in-turn were prepared by the reaction of substituted acetophenones (**8a-c**) with semicarbazide hydrochloride in acetic acid-sodium acetate buffer. In a typical experiment, to an ice-cold solution of 2-(1-arylethylidene)hydrazine carboxamides (**9a-c**) (10 mmol) in DMF (20 mL), POCl₃ (50 mmol) was added dropwise with stirring at 0 °C. After complete addition, the reaction mass was stirred at room temperature for about 30 min and then at 60-65 °C for 8 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and then quenched with crushed ice, followed by neutralization with 25% sodium hydroxide solution. The solid obtained was filtered, washed with water and dried. The crude product was used as such for the next step.

General procedure for the synthesis of 2-(4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)amino acids (12a-d**)**

2-(4-Oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)amino acids (**12a-d**) were prepared according to the reported procedure.²¹ Appropriate amino acid (**11a-d**, 10 mmol) was dissolved in a solution of potassium hydroxide (10 mmol) in water (10 mL). Carbon disulfide (10 mmol) was added dropwise to the above clear solution and stirred at room temperature for 6-12 h. An aqueous solution of potassium chloroacetate (10 mmol) was then added and continued stirring for further 30 min. The reaction mixture was acidified with 2N HCl to pH 3.0 and stirred at 90 °C for 1-3 h. The reaction mixture was poured onto crushed ice and solid obtained was filtered, washed with water, dried and used as such for the next step. Whenever a gummy solid was obtained, it was extracted to ethyl acetate, concentrated *in vacuo* and triturated with hexane to get orange solid.

General procedure for the synthesis of pyrazole conjugated rhodanine carboxylic acids (13a-l**)**

β-Alanine (0.02 mol, 2.0 equiv.) was added to a clear solution of pyrazole aldehyde (**10a-c**, 0.01 mol, 1.0 equiv.) and rhodanine amino acid (**12a-d**, 0.01 mol, 1.0 equiv.) in acetic acid (10 mL). Then the reaction mixture was heated to reflux for 16-18 h. After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC hexane: ethyl acetate (2:1, v/v)), the reaction mass was allowed to cool to room temperature and poured onto crushed ice to get yellow to orange colored solid. The solid separated was filtered, washed with water, dried and subjected to column purification using 10-60 % ethyl acetate in hexane to obtain pure product.

(S)-2-((3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)acetic acid (13a): Yield 60%; Mp 164-166 °C; Red solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3400 (O-H), 3001 (Ar-H), 2933 and 2858 (C-H), 1705 (C=O), 1610 (C=N), 1529 (C=C), 1228 (C=S), 1106 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 8.05 (s, 1H, pyrazole-5H), 7.53 (s, 1H, =C-H), 7.49 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.12 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 8.8 Hz), 3.57 (s, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 192.1, 169.6, 166.0, 160.1, 130.1, 125.4, 117.4, 114.6, 112.8, 55.3, 43.1; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 374.2 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₁₆H₁₃N₃O₄S₂: C, 51.19; H, 3.49; N, 11.19. Found: C, 51.21; H, 3.46; N, 11.14.

(S)-2-((3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)propanoic acid (13b): Yield 65%; Mp 150-152 °C; Red solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3496 (O-H), 3172 (Ar-H), 2903 and 2856 (C-H), 1709 (C=O), 1608 (C=N), 1516 (C=C), 1247 (C=S), 1111 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 8.05 (s, 1H, pyrazole-5H), 7.53 (s, 1H, =C-H), 7.49 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.12 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 8.8 Hz), 5.55-5.61 (q, 1H, J = 7.2 Hz), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 1.51 (d, 3H, CH₃, J = 6.8 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 192.1, 169.6, 166.0, 160.1, 130.1, 125.4, 117.4, 114.6, 112.8, 55.3, 52.8, 13.4; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 388.2 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₁₇H₁₅N₃O₄S₂: C, 52.43; H, 3.88; N, 10.79. Found: C, 52.41; H, 3.85; N, 10.81.

(S)-2-((3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)-3-phenylpropanoic acid (13c): Yield 48%; Mp 122-124 °C; Red solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3279 (O-H), 3001 (Ar-H), 2933 and 2858 (C-H), 1702 (C=O), 1610 (C=N), 1529 (C=C), 1250 (C=S), 1172 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 7.86 (s, 1H, pyrazole-5H), 7.32-7.35 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 6.92-7.12 (m, 7H, Ar-H, =C-H, Ph), 5.67 (overlapped multiplet, 1H, chiral CH), 3.68 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.13-3.16 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 192.1, 169.6, 166.0, 160.1, 136.5, 130.1, 128.9, 128.2, 126.7, 125.4, 117.4, 114.6, 112.8, 58.1, 55.3, 33.1; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 464.2 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₂₃H₁₉N₃O₄S₂: C, 59.34; H, 4.11; N, 9.03. Found: C, 59.31; H, 4.10; N, 9.05.

(S)-3-(1H-Indol-3-yl)-2-((3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)propanoic acid (13d): Yield 85%; Mp 160-162 °C; Red solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3274 (O-H), 3001 (Ar-H), 2929 and 2853 (C-H), 1705 (C=O), 1608 (C=N), 1513 (C=C), 1253 (C=S), 1177 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 10.77 (s, 1H, indole NH), 7.98 (s, 1H, pyrazole-5H), 7.45-7.49 (m, 4H, Ar-H, =C-H), 7.27-7.29 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.12-7.15 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 8.4 Hz), 6.99-7.05 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 6.89-6.93 (m, 1H, Ar-H),

5.86 (overlapped multiplet, 1H, chiral CH), 3.83 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.58 (dd, 2H, CH₂, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 5.2 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, *δ* ppm): 192.1, 169.1, 166.3, 160.1, 135.9, 130.1, 127.1, 125.2, 123.7, 120.9, 118.4, 117.8, 114.6, 112.7, 111.3, 108.9, 58.0, 55.3, 23.0; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 503.2 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₂₅H₂₀N₄O₄S₂: C, 59.51; H, 4.00; N, 11.10. Found: C, 59.49; H, 4.10; N, 11.06.

(S)-2-((3-(3,5-Difluorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)acetic acid (13e): Yield 83%; Mp 108-110 °C; Yellow solid; FT IR (ATR, *v*_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3325 (O-H), 3001 (Ar-H), 2929 and 2848 (C-H), 1703 (C=O), 1605 (C=N), 1512 (C=C), 1253 (C=S), 1122 (C-F), 1060 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, *δ* ppm): 8.16 (s, 1H, pyrazole-5H), 7.51 (s, 1H, =C-H), 7.29-7.38 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 3.57 (s, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, *δ* ppm): 192.5, 167.2, 166.0, 162.5 (d, ¹*J*_{F-C} = 245.5 Hz), 124.7, 119.4, 113.3, 111.8 (d, ²*J*_{F-C} = 26 Hz), 104.4, 43.1; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 374.2 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₁₅H₉N₃F₂O₃S₂: C, 47.24; H, 2.38; N, 11.02. Found: C, 47.27; H, 2.35; N, 11.04.

(S)-2-((3-(3,5-Difluorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)propanoic acid (13f): Yield 57%; Mp 110-112 °C; Yellow solid; FT IR (ATR, *v*_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3246 (O-H), 3087 (Ar-H), 2922 and 2858 (C-H), 1712 (C=O), 1604 (C=N), 1534 (C=C), 1243 (C=S), 1120 (C-F), 1056 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, *δ* ppm): 8.21 (s, 1H, pyrazole-5H), 7.55 (s, 1H, =C-H), 7.29-7.38 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 5.55-5.61 (q, 1H, chiral CH, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 1.52 (d, 3H, CH₃, *J* = 7.2 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, *δ* ppm): 192.1, 169.5, 165.9, 162.5 (d, ¹*J*_{F-C} = 246 Hz), 124.4, 118.9, 113.3, 111.8 (d, ²*J*_{F-C} = 19 Hz), 104.3, 52.8, 13.3; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 394.2 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₁₆H₁₁N₃F₂O₃S₂: C, 48.60; H, 2.80; N, 10.63. Found: C, 48.57; H, 2.81; N, 10.66.

(S)-2-((3-(3,5-Difluorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)-3-phenylpropanoic acid (13g): Yield 61%; Mp 114-116 °C; Yellow solid; FT IR (ATR, *v*_{max}, cm⁻¹): 3253 (O-H), 3025 (Ar-H), 2924 and 2858 (C-H), 1716 (C=O), 1604 (C=N), 1535 (C=C), 1230 (C=S), 1122 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, *δ* ppm): 8.29 (s, 1H, pyrazole-5H), 7.54 (s, 1H, =C-H), 7.32-7.41 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.14-7.22 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 5.85 (overlapped multiplet, 1H, chiral CH), 3.29-3.33 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, *δ* ppm): 192.2, 168.7, 166.2, 162.5 (d, ¹*J*_{F-C} = 246 Hz), 136.5, 128.9, 128.2, 126.6, 124.6, 118.3, 113.2, 111.8 (d, ²*J*_{F-C} = 26 Hz), 104.3, 58.2, 33.1; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 470.2 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₂₂H₁₅N₃F₂O₃S₂: C, 56.04; H, 3.21; N, 8.91. Found: C, 56.01; H, 3.24; N, 8.89.

(S)-2-((3-(3,5-Difluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)-3-(1H-indol-3-yl)propanoic acid (13h): Yield 83%; Mp 120-122 °C; Yellow solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3411 (O-H), 3081 (Ar-H), 2924 and 2858 (C-H), 1709 (C=O), 1604 (C=N), 1534 (C=C), 1223 (C=S), 1121 (C-F); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 10.77 (s, 1H, indole-NH), 8.16 (s, 1H, pyrazole-5H), 7.51 (s, 1H, =C-H), 7.45-7.47 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.36-7.45 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.26-7.30 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 6.99-7.05 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 6.89-6.92 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 5.86 (s, 1H, chiral C-H), 3.58 (dd, 2H, CH₂, J = 14.8 Hz and 4.8 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 192.1, 169.0, 166.2, 162.5 (d, ¹ $J_{\text{F-C}} = 245.5$ Hz), 135.9, 127.0, 124.2, 123.7, 120.9, 118.6, 118.4, 117.8, 113.2, 111.7 (d, ² $J_{\text{F-C}} = 19$ Hz), 108.9, 104.4, 58.1, 23.0; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 509.2 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₂₄H₁₆N₄F₂O₃S₂: C, 56.46; H, 3.16; N, 10.97. Found: C, 56.42; H, 3.18; N, 10.94.

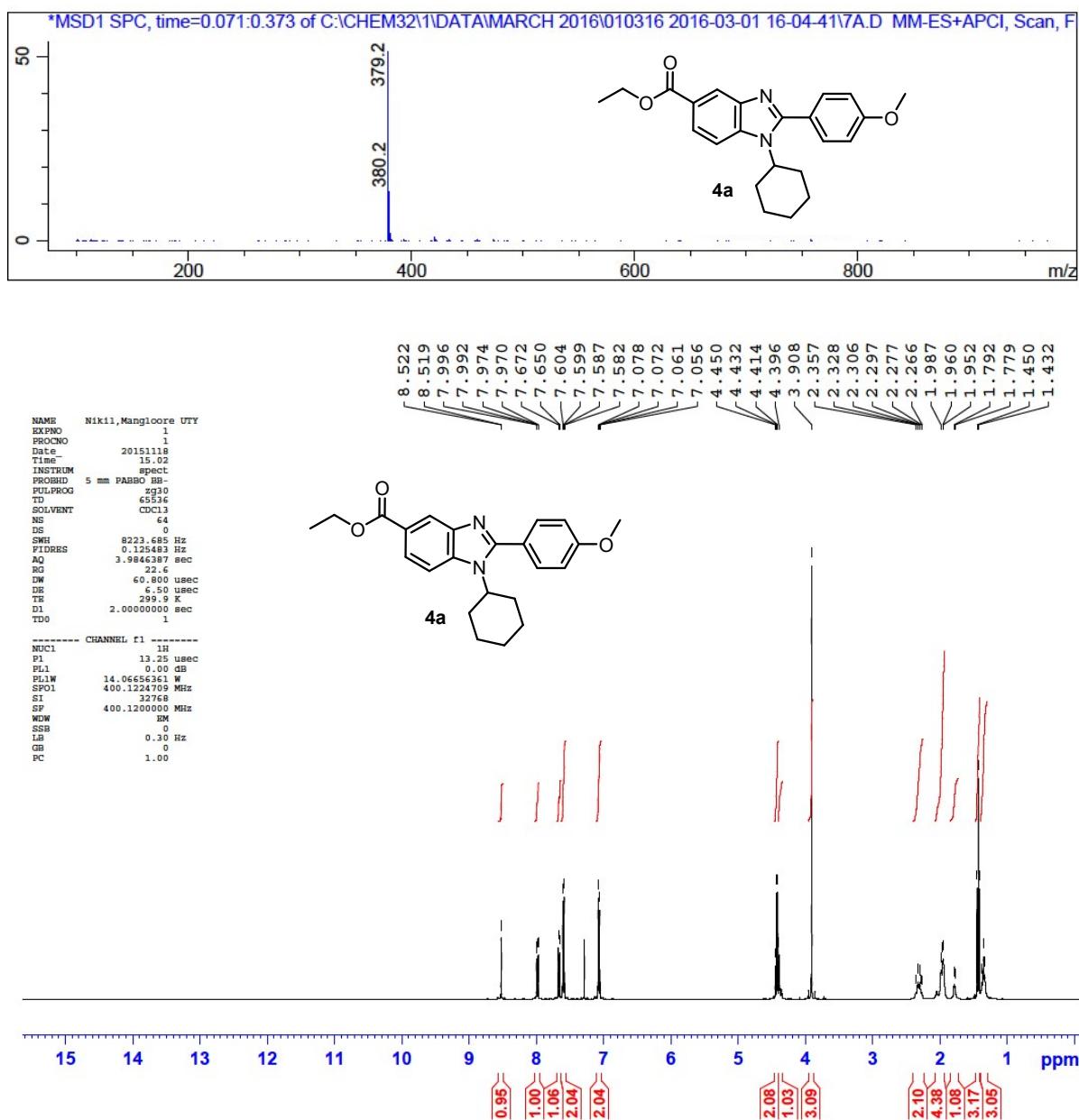
(S)-2-((3-(4-Nitrophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)acetic acid (13i): Yield 72%; Mp 136-138 °C; Yellow solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3332 (O-H), 3116 (Ar-H), 2967 and 2856 (C-H), 1703 (C=O), 1601 (C=N), 1548 (C=C), 1332 (N=O), 1241 (C=S), 1127 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 8.40 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 8.0 Hz), 8.30 (s, 1H, pyrazole-5H), 7.87 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.56 (s, 1H, =C-H), 3.56 (s, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 192.1, 169.6, 165.9, 147.4, 129.8, 124.3, 124.1, 119.3, 113.6, 43.1; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 479.2 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₁₅H₁₀N₄O₅S₂: C, 46.15; H, 2.58; N, 14.35. Found: C, 46.12; H, 2.55; N, 14.29.

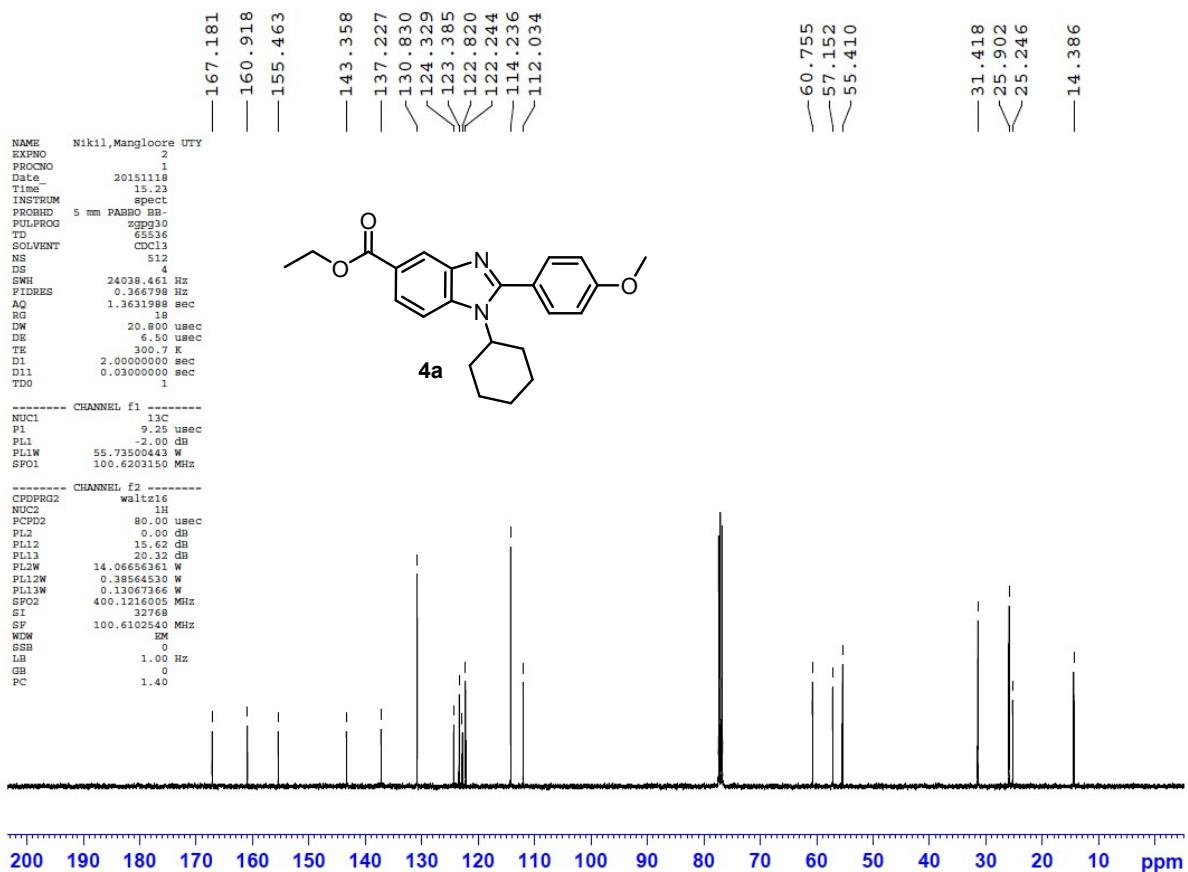
(S)-2-((3-(4-Nitrophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)propanoic acid (13j): Yield 68%; Mp 240-242 °C; Yellow solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3223 (O-H), 3116 (Ar-H), 2967 and 2862 (C-H), 1702 (C=O), 1601 (C=N), 1548 (C=C), 1336 (N=O), 1247 (C=S), 1127 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 8.39 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 8.4 Hz), 8.30 (s, 1H, pyrazole-5H), 7.87 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.58 (s, 1H, =C-H), 5.56-5.62 (q, 1H, chiral CH, J = 7.2 Hz), 1.52 (d, 3H, CH₃, J = 6.8 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 192.1, 169.5, 165.9, 147.4, 129.7, 124.3, 124.1, 119.3, 113.6, 52.8, 13.3; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 403.2 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₁₆H₁₂N₄O₅S₂: C, 47.52; H, 2.99; N, 13.85. Found: C, 47.55; H, 2.96; N, 13.82.

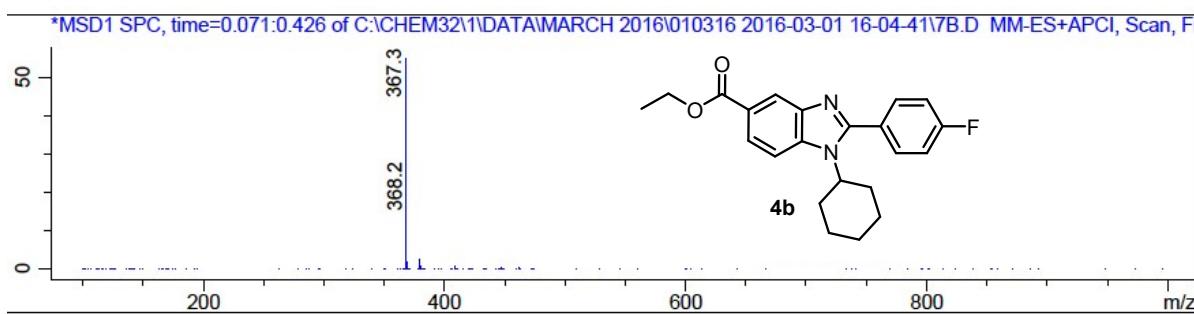
(S)-2-((3-(4-Nitrophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-yl)-3-phenylpropanoic acid (13k): Yield 67%; Mp 90-92 °C; Yellow solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3256 (O-H), 3025 (Ar-H), 2921 and 2851 (C-H), 1713 (C=O), 1601 (C=N), 1337 (N=O), 1230 (C=S), 1107 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 8.40 (d, 2H, Ar-H, J = 8.0

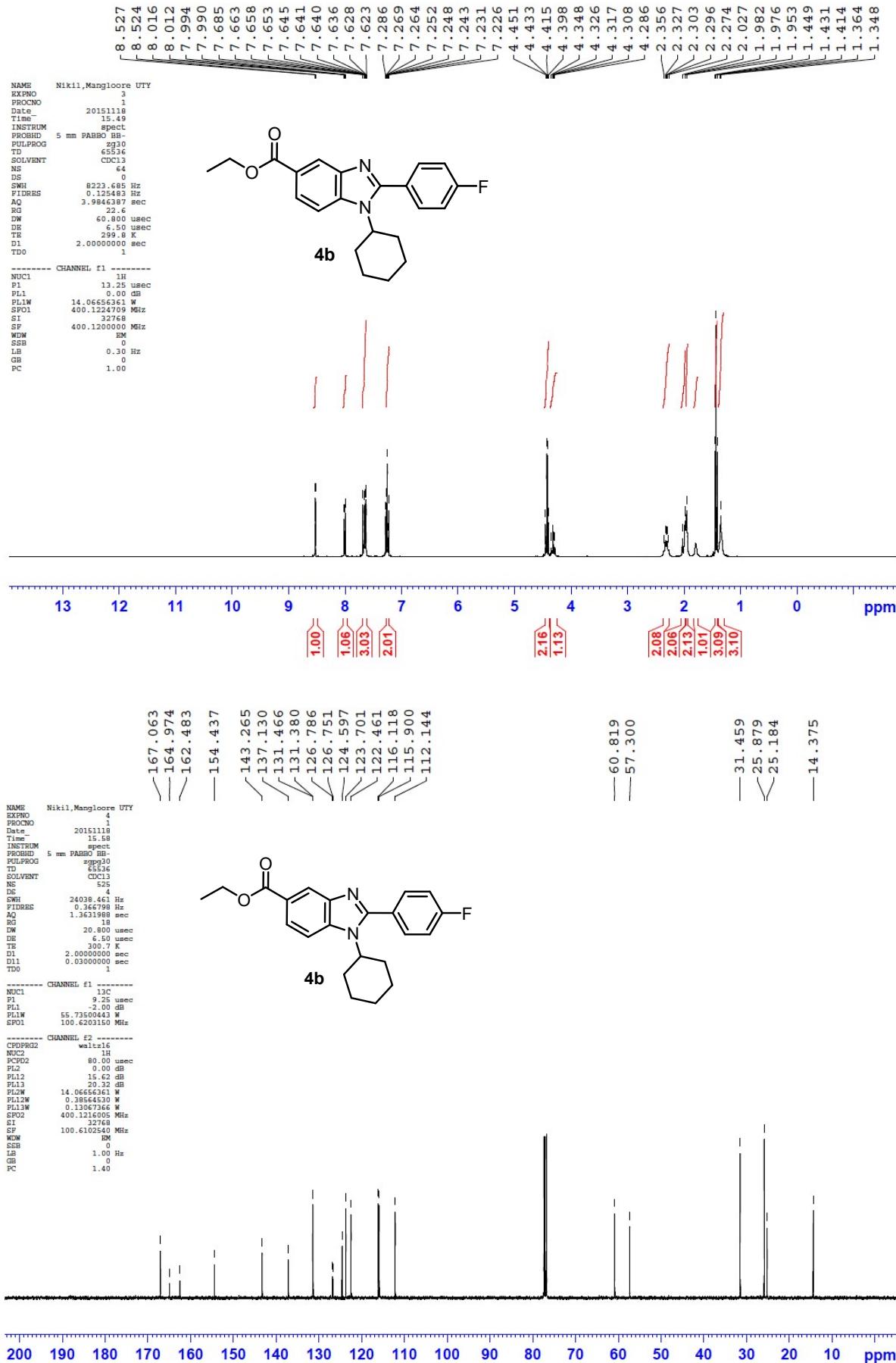
Hz), 8.30 (s, 1H, pyrazole-5H), 7.87 (d, 2H, Ar-H, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.56 (s, 1H, =C-H), 7.13-7.2 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 5.86 (overlapped multiplet, 1H, chiral CH), 2.09 (s, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 192.1, 168.7, 166.1, 147.4, 136.5, 129.7, 128.9, 128.2, 126.7, 124.4, 124.1, 118.6, 113.5, 58.1, 33.1; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 479.2 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₂₂H₁₆N₄O₅S₂: C, 54.99; H, 3.36; N, 11.66. Found: C, 54.96; H, 3.38; N, 11.63.

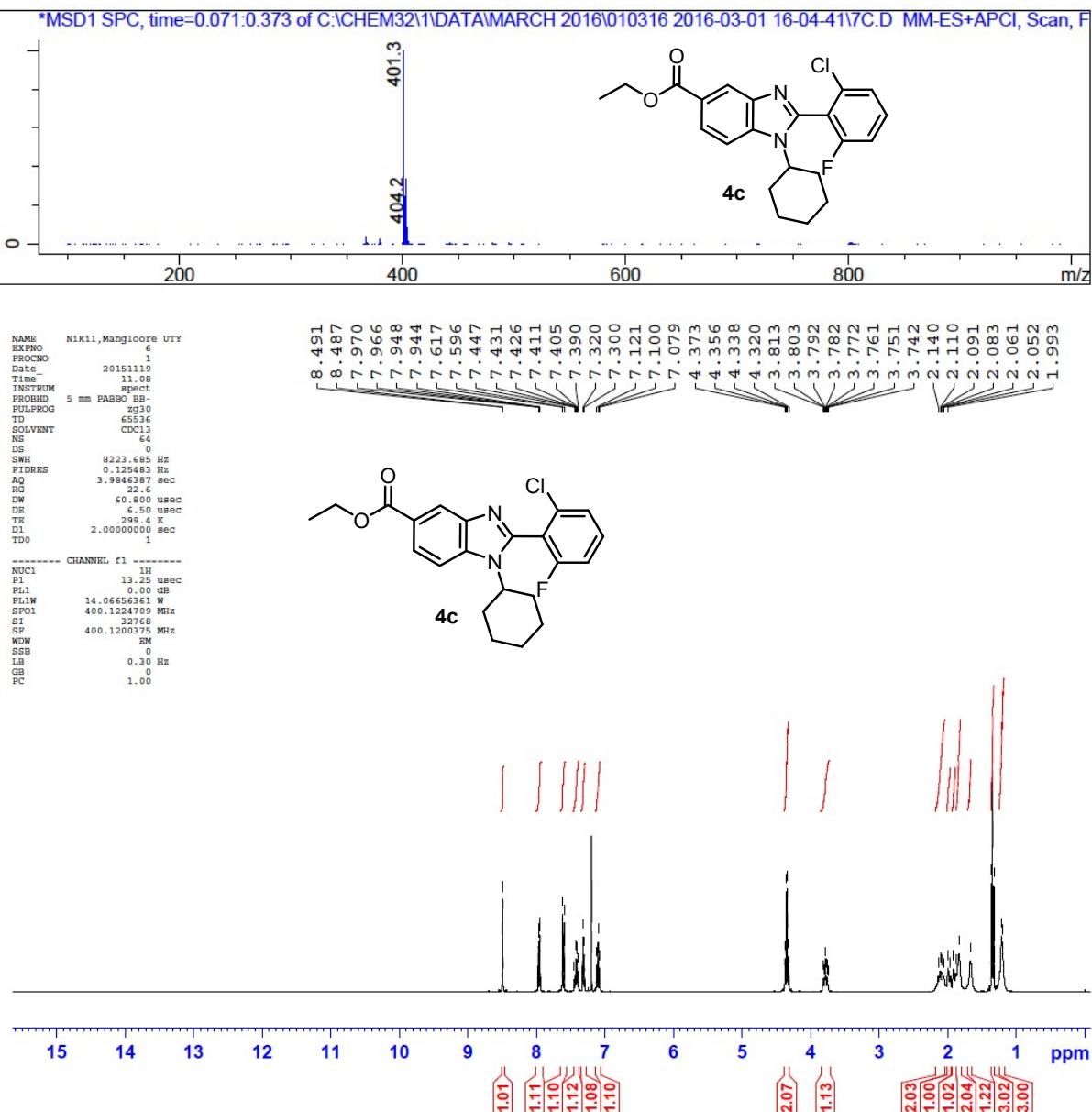
(S)-3-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-((3-(4-nitrophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)methylene)-4-oxo-2-thioxothiazolidin-3-ylpropanoic acid (13l): Yield 83%; Mp 152-154 °C; Yellow solid; FT IR (ATR, ν_{max} , cm⁻¹): 3271 (O-H), 3023 (Ar-H), 2928 and 2852 (C-H), 1713 (C=O), 1603 (C=N), 1334 (N=O), 1231 (C=S), 1108 (C-O); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 10.84 (s, 1H, indole-NH), 8.47 (d, 2H, Ar-H, $J = 8.3$ Hz), 8.38 (s, 1H, pyrazole-5H), 7.92 (d, 2H, Ar-H, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 7.59 (s, 1H, =C-H), 7.53 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 7.6$ Hz), 7.33 (d, 1H, Ar-H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.11 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.05-7.09 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 6.95-6.99 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 5.91 (overlapped multiplet, 1H, chiral CH), 3.64 (dd, 2H, CH₂, $J = 15.2$ Hz, 5.2 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, δ ppm): 192.1, 169.4, 166.1, 147.6, 135.9, 129.7, 127.1, 124.3, 124.1, 123.7, 120.9, 119.3, 118.4, 117.8, 113.6, 111.3, 108.9, 55.3, 23.0; ESI-MS (*m/z*): 518.2 [M-H]⁻; Anal. calcd. for C₂₄H₁₇N₅O₅S₂: C, 55.48; H, 3.30; N, 13.48. Found: C, 55.44; H, 3.28; N, 13.45.

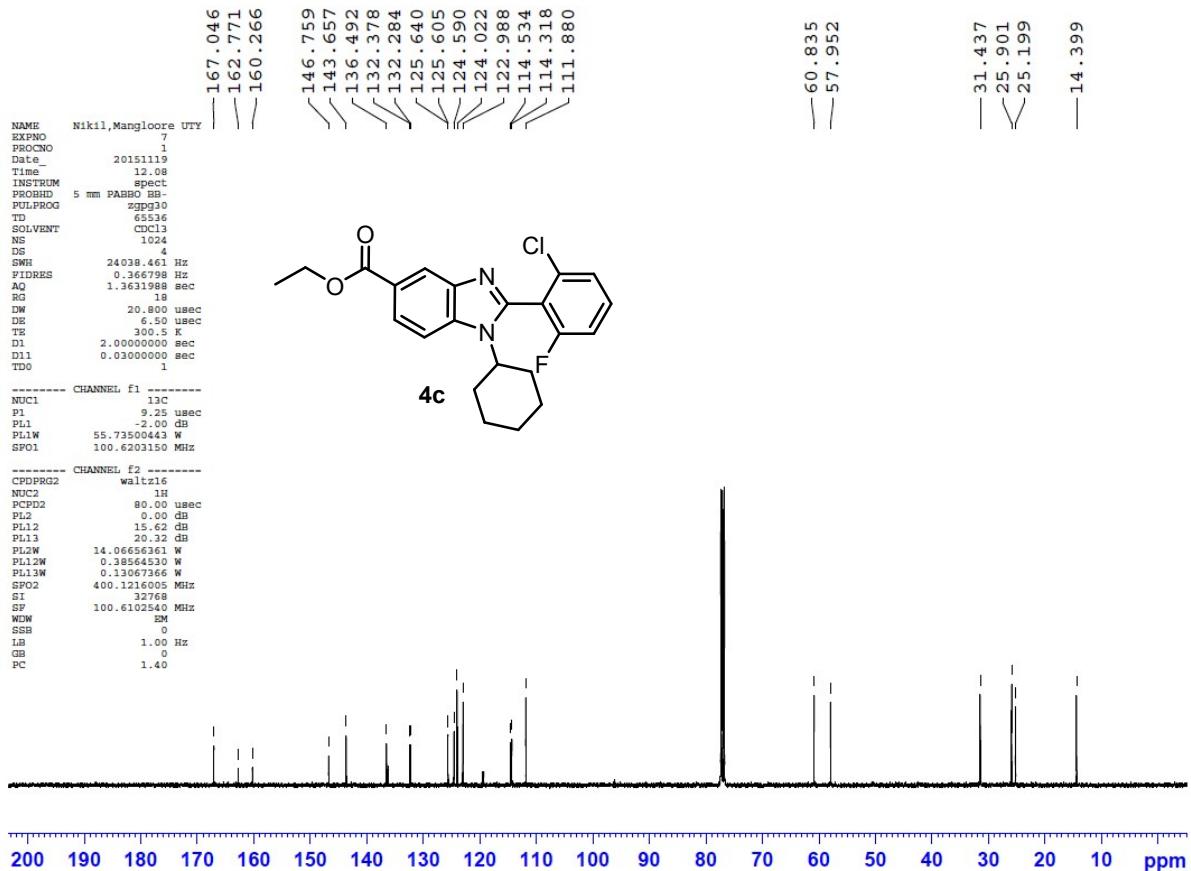
Figure S8. Mass, ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectral data of the compounds.

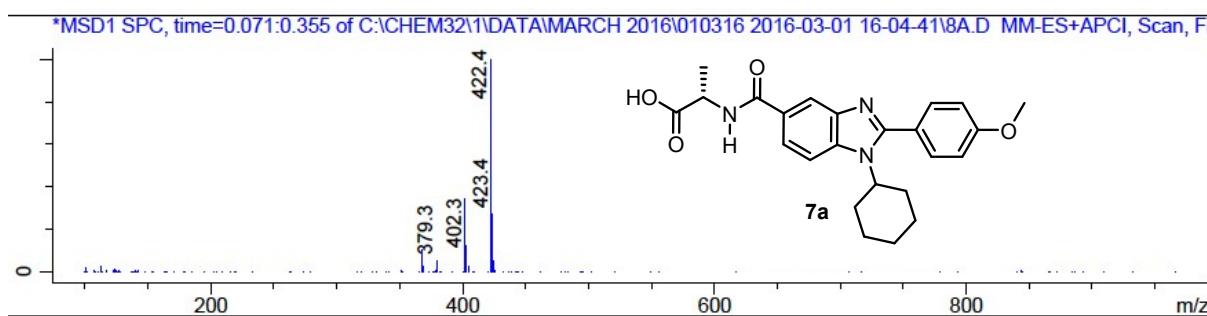


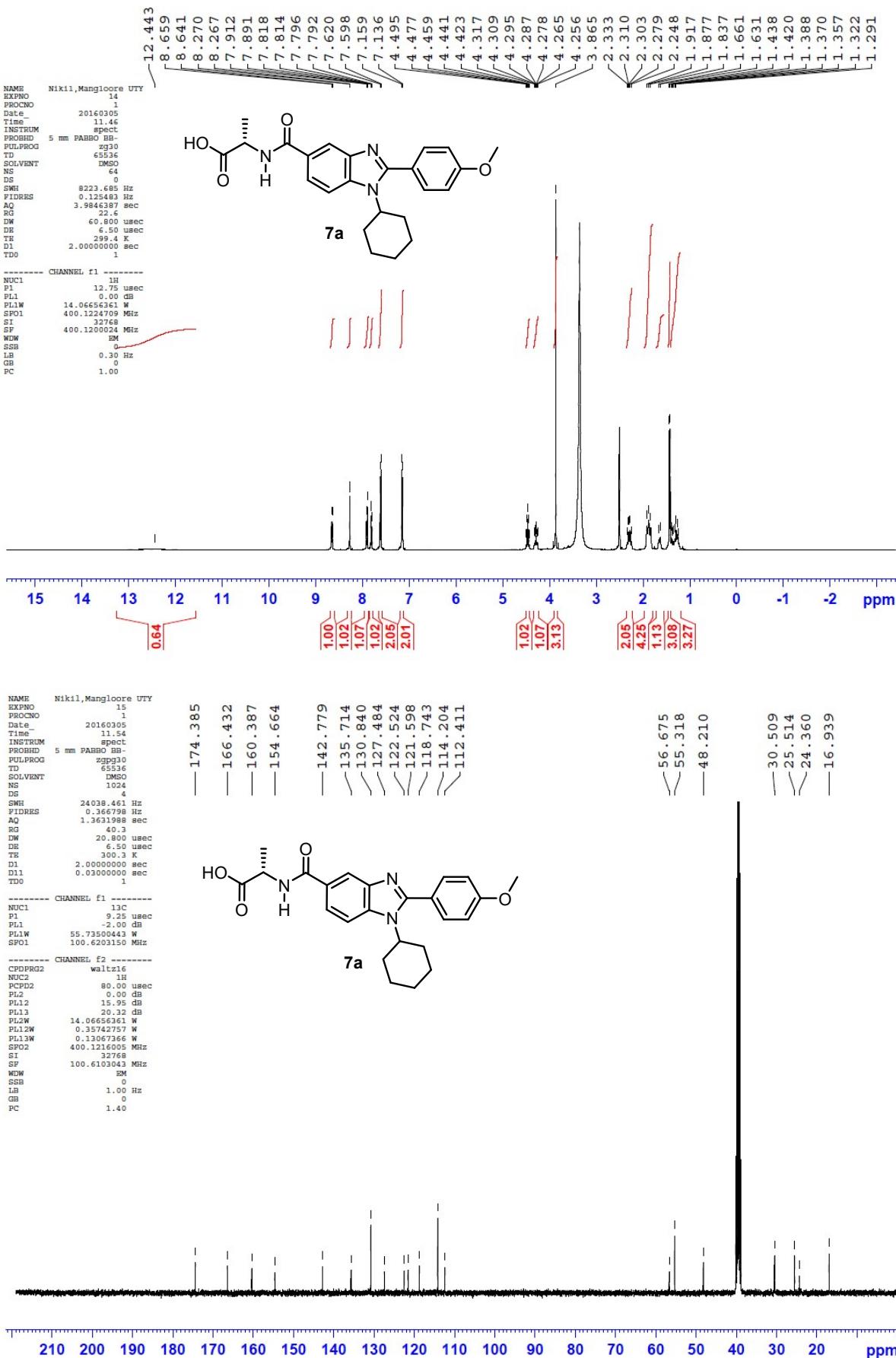


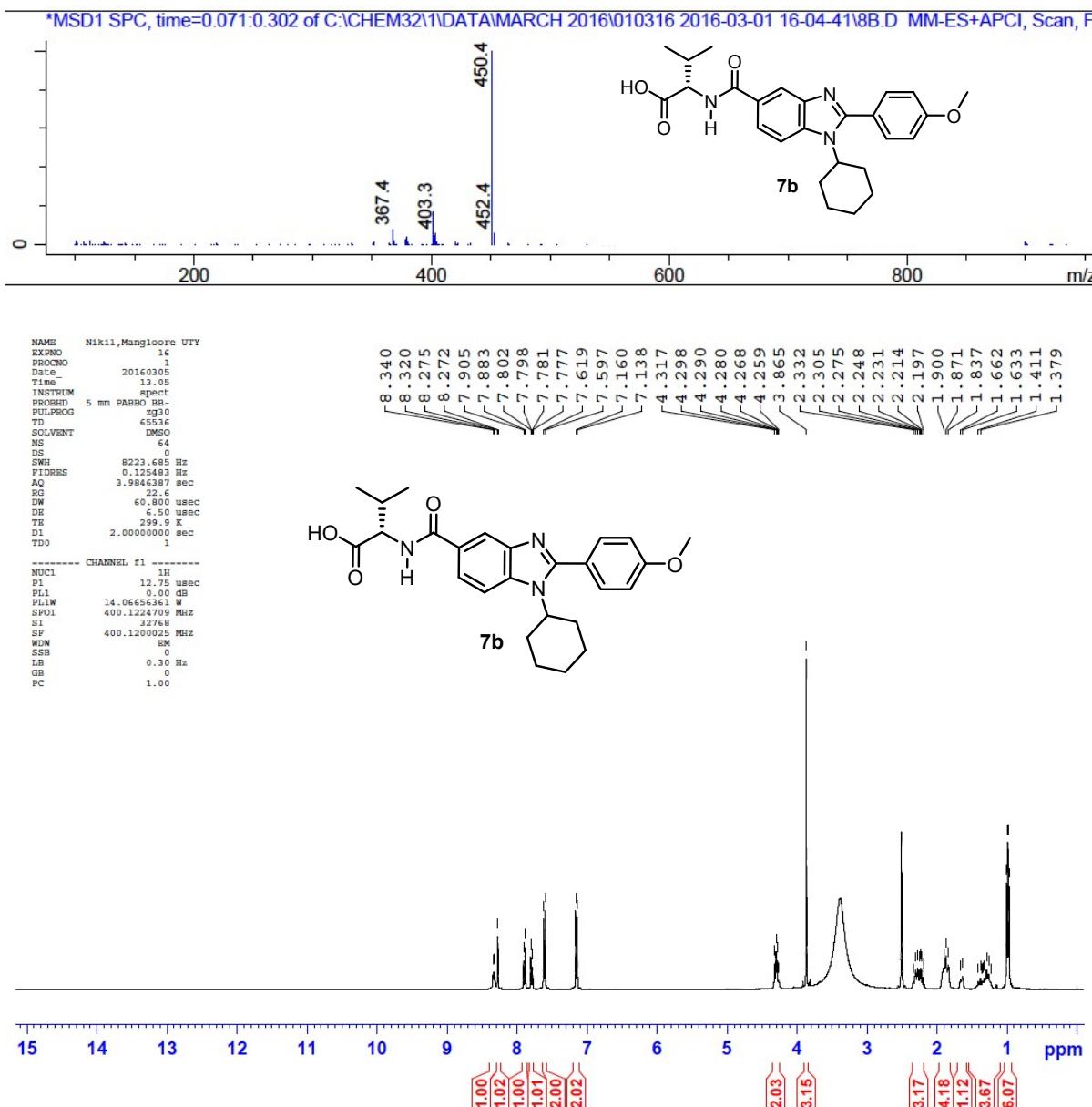


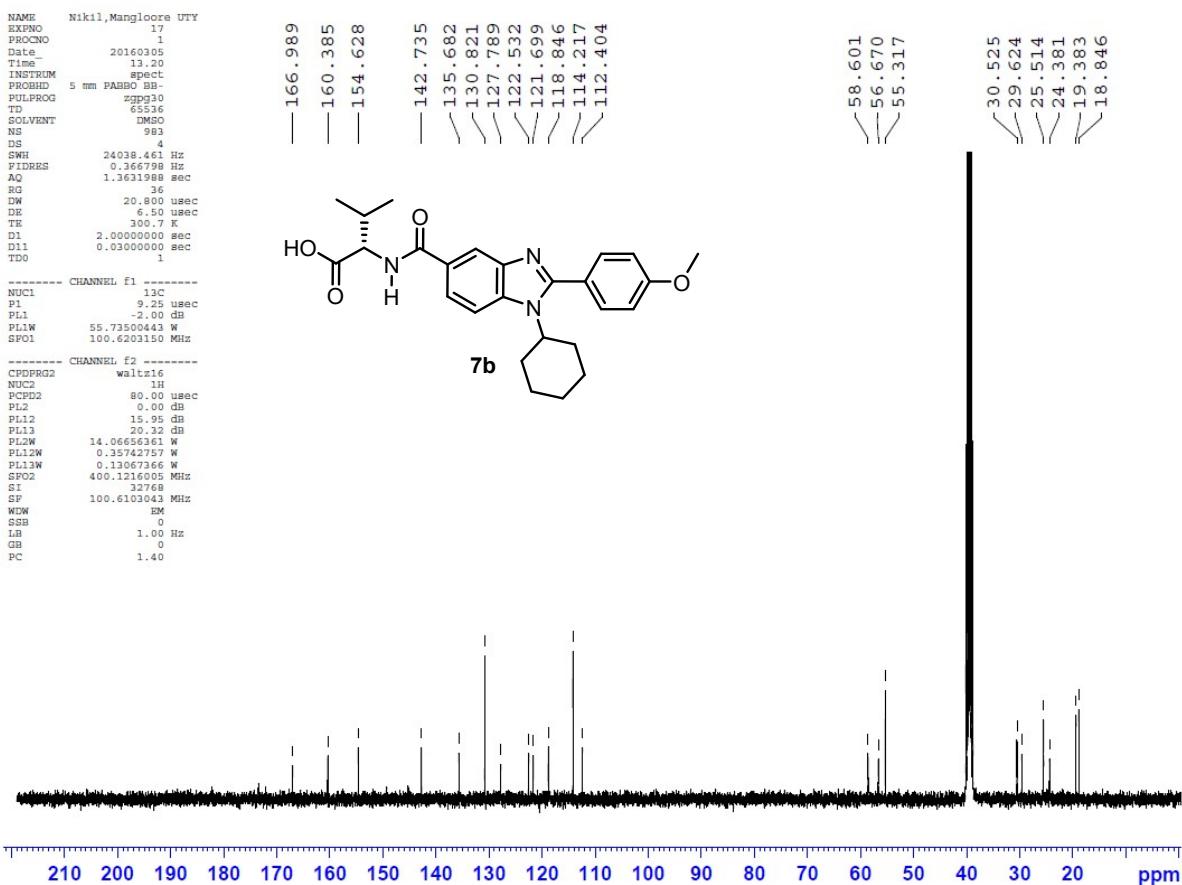


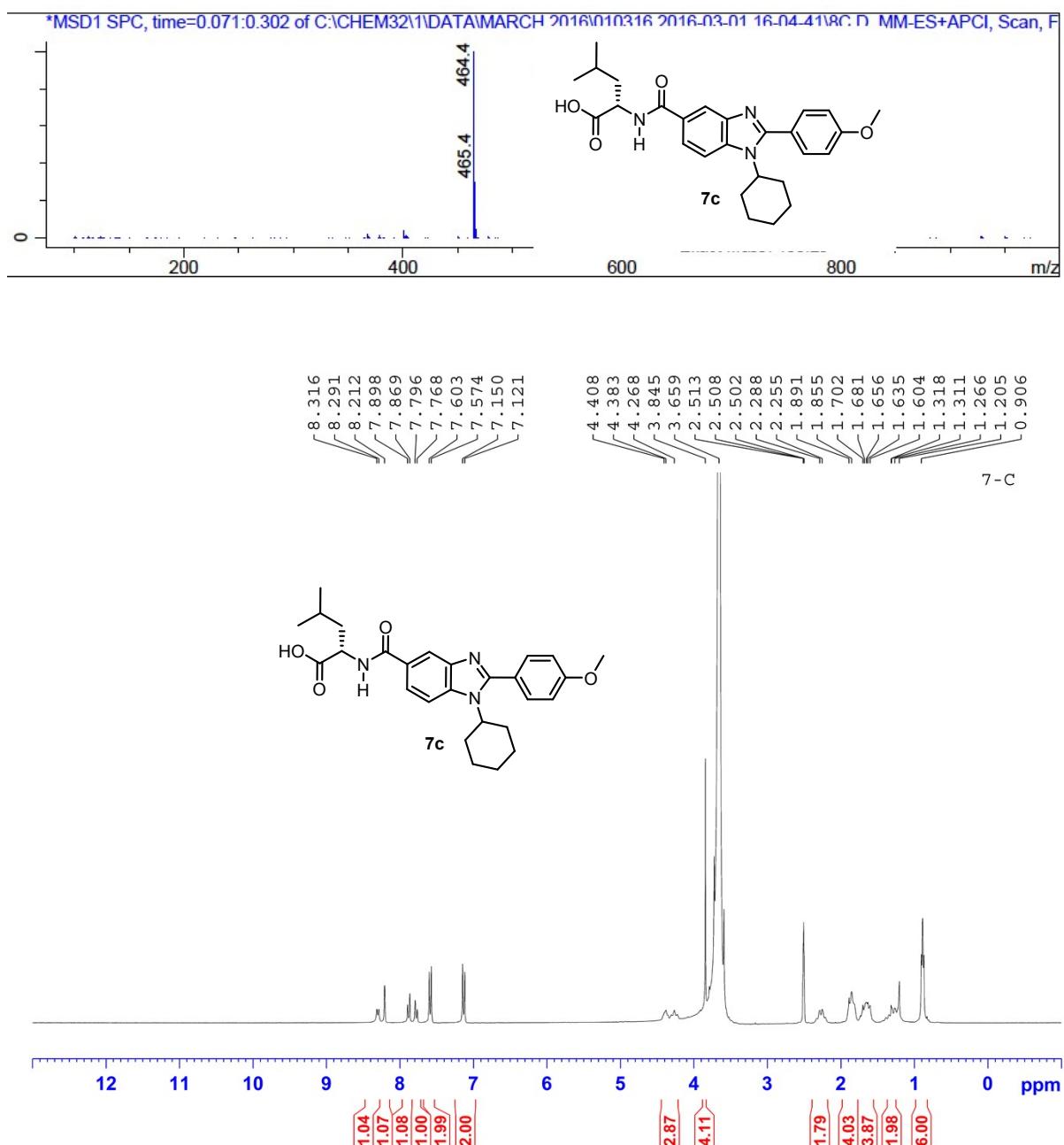


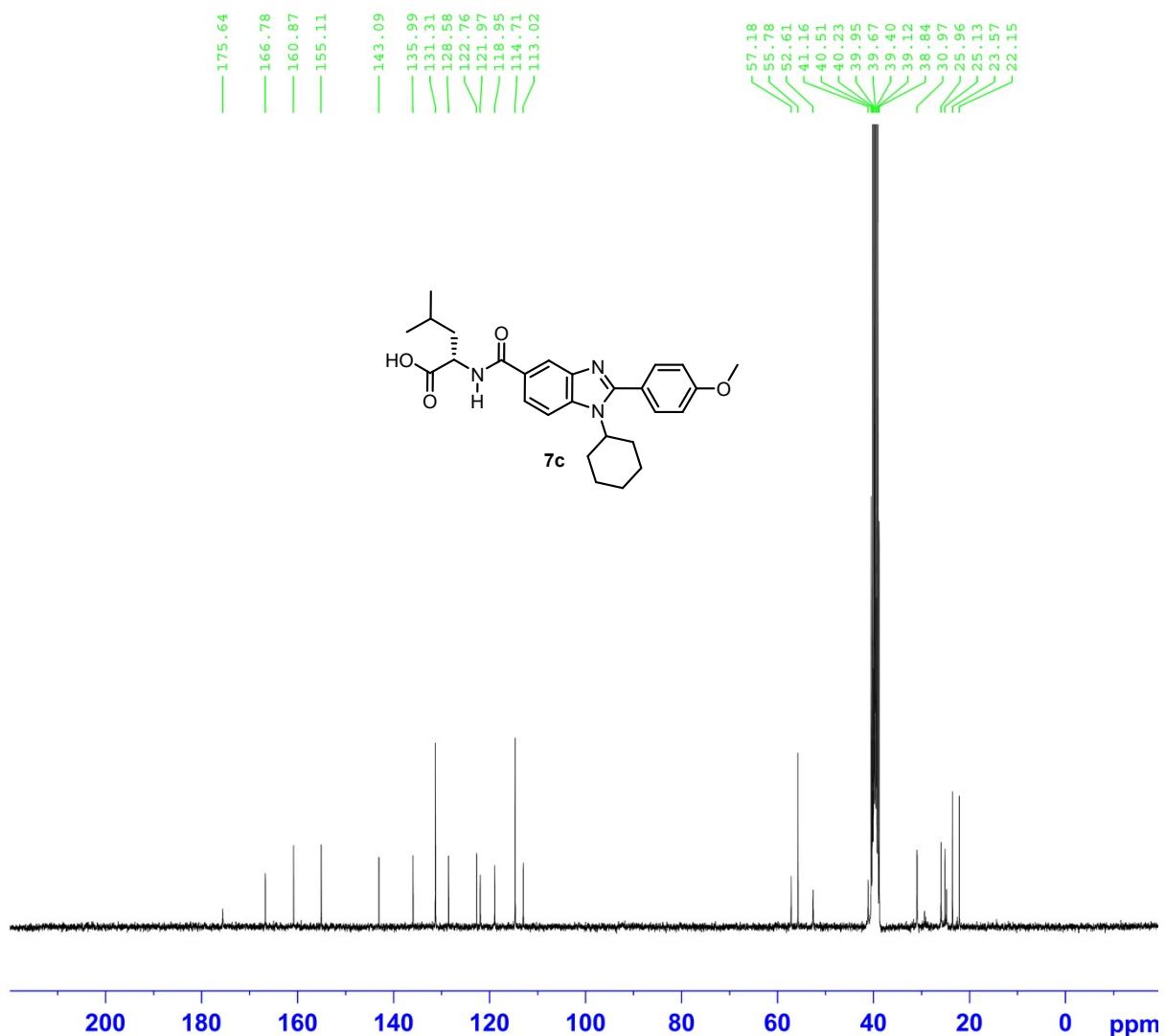


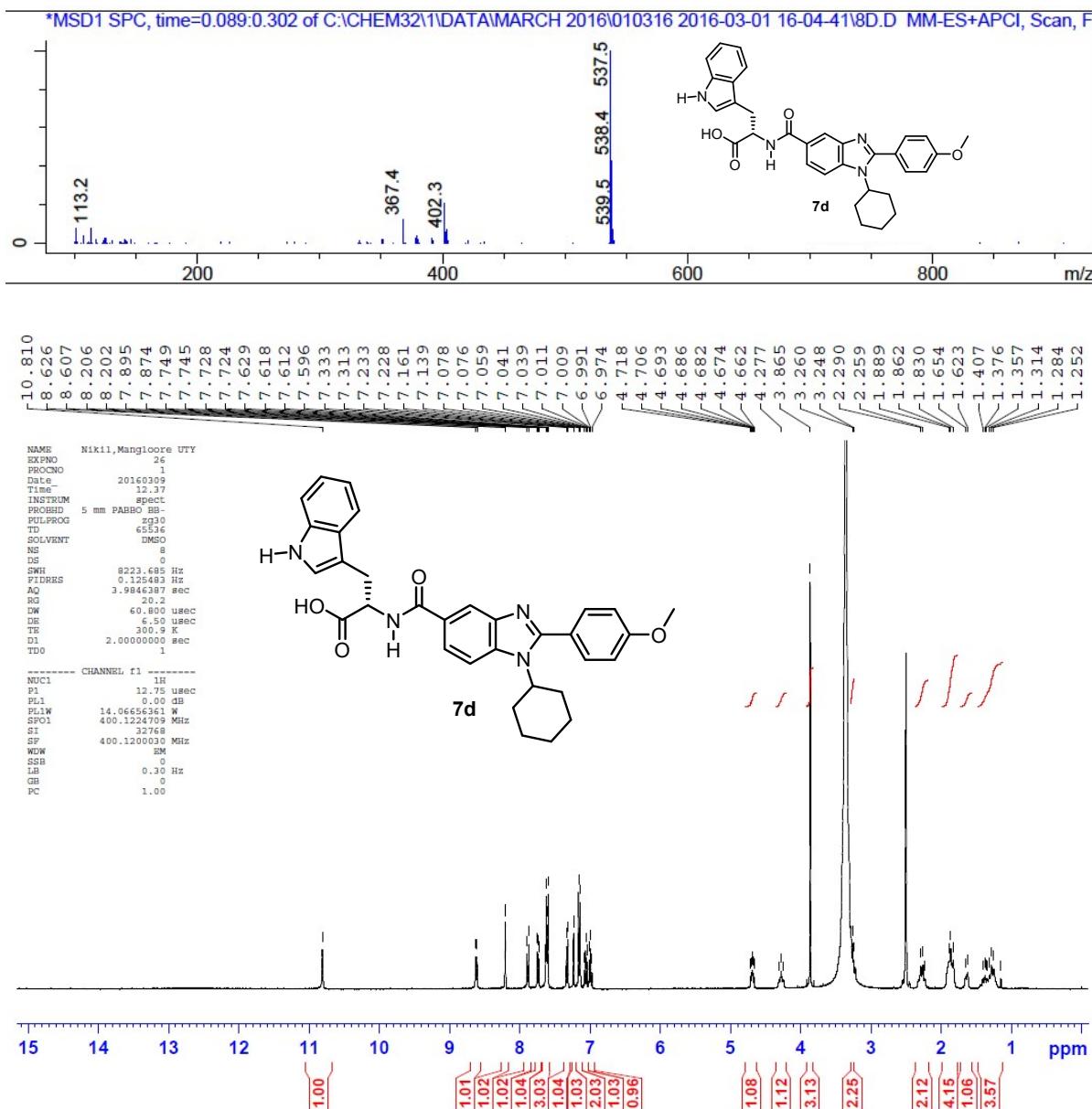


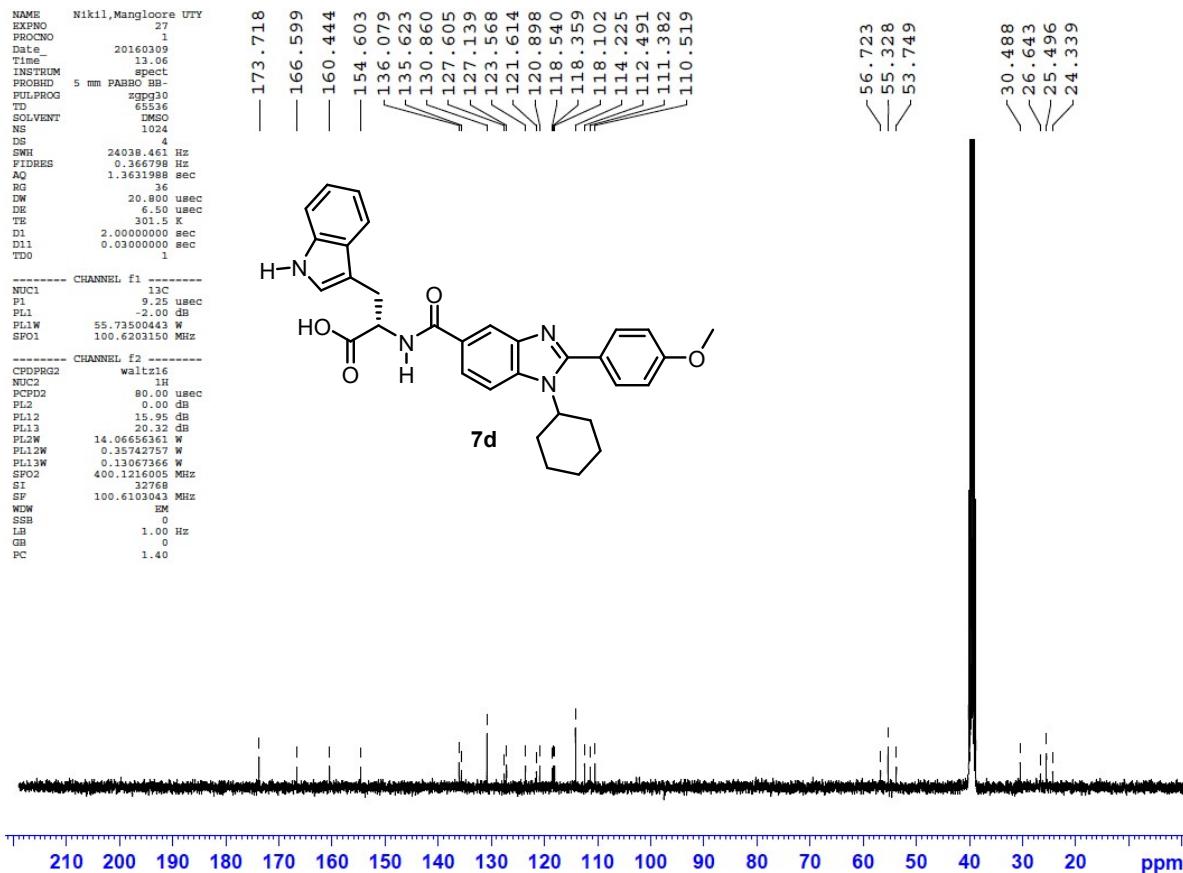


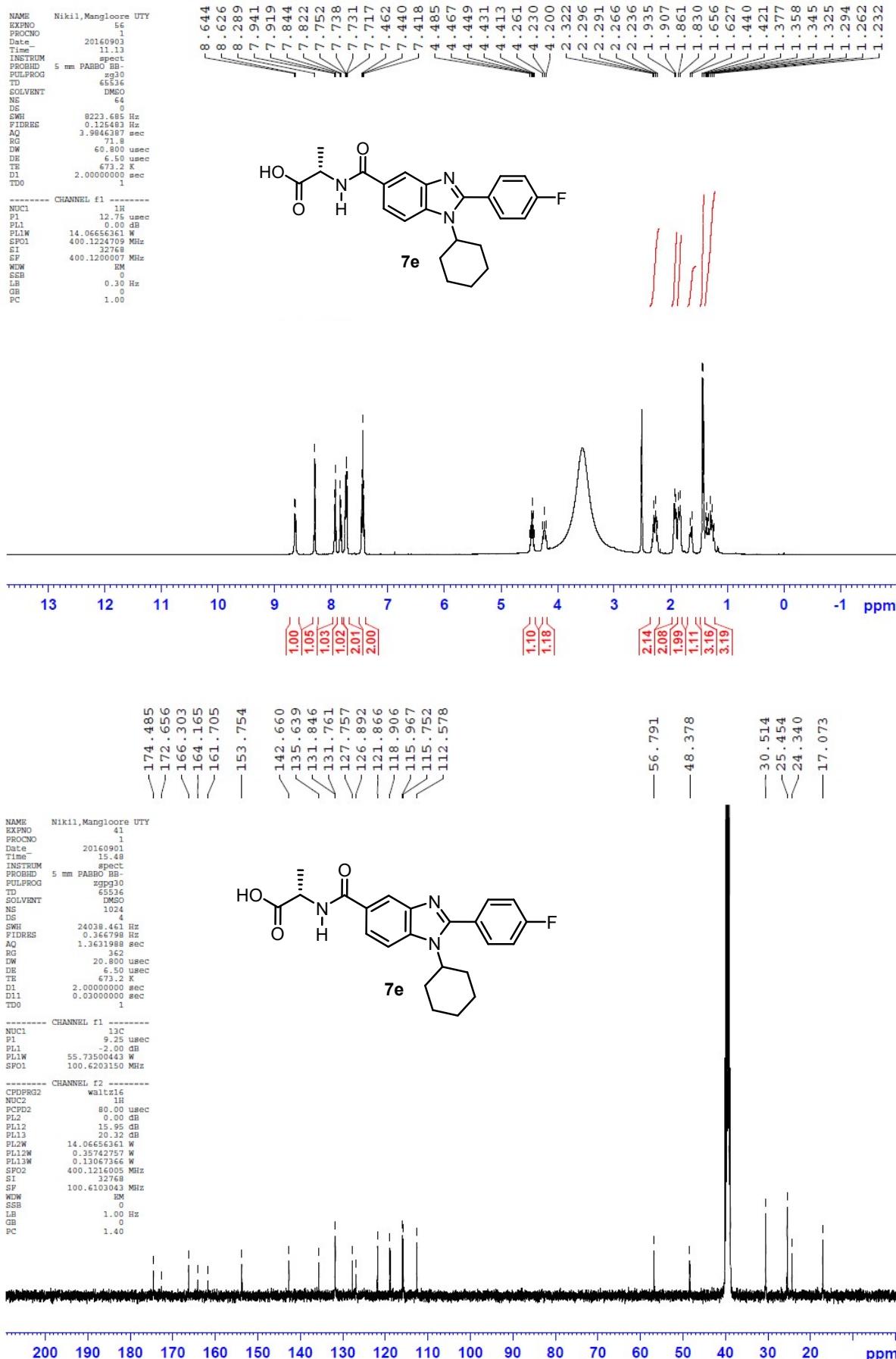


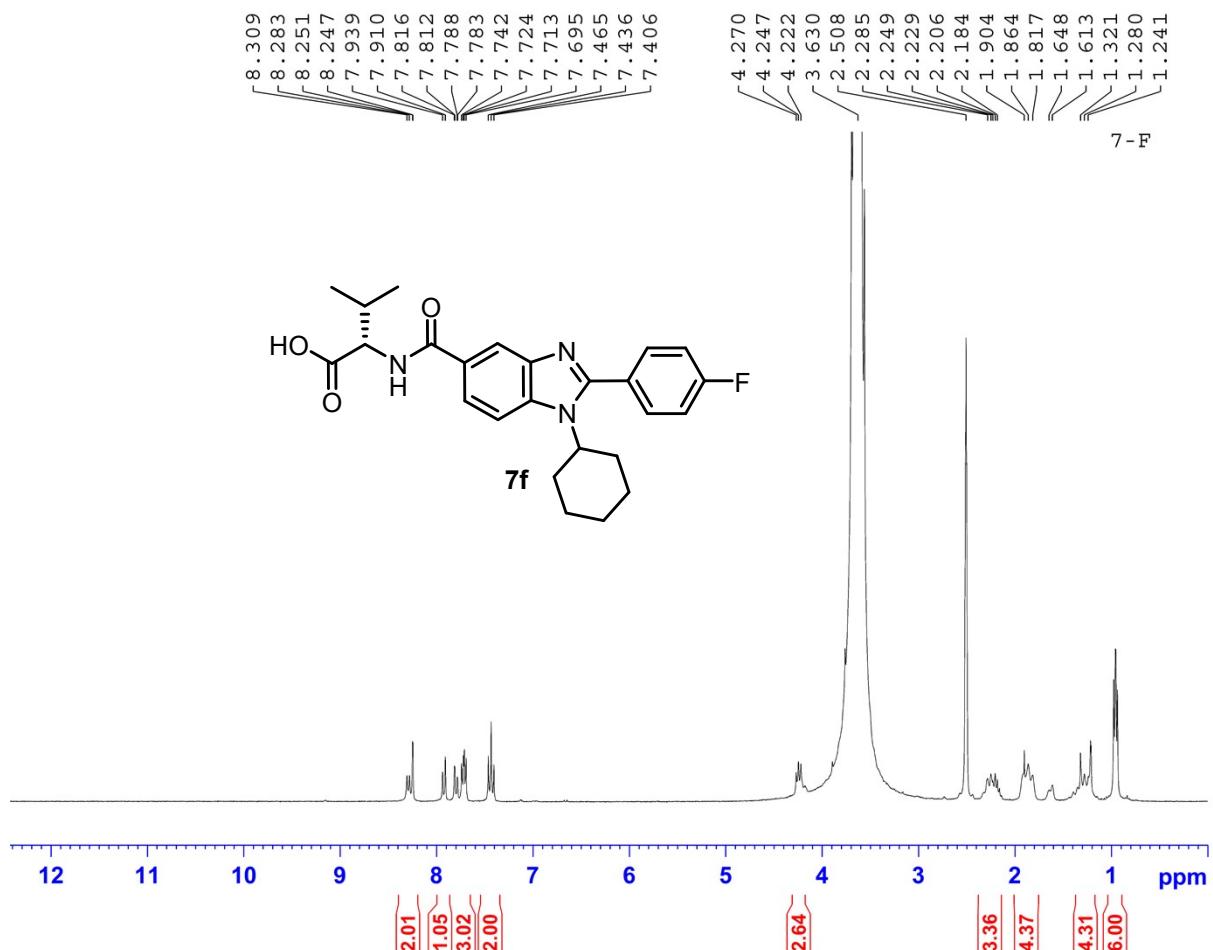


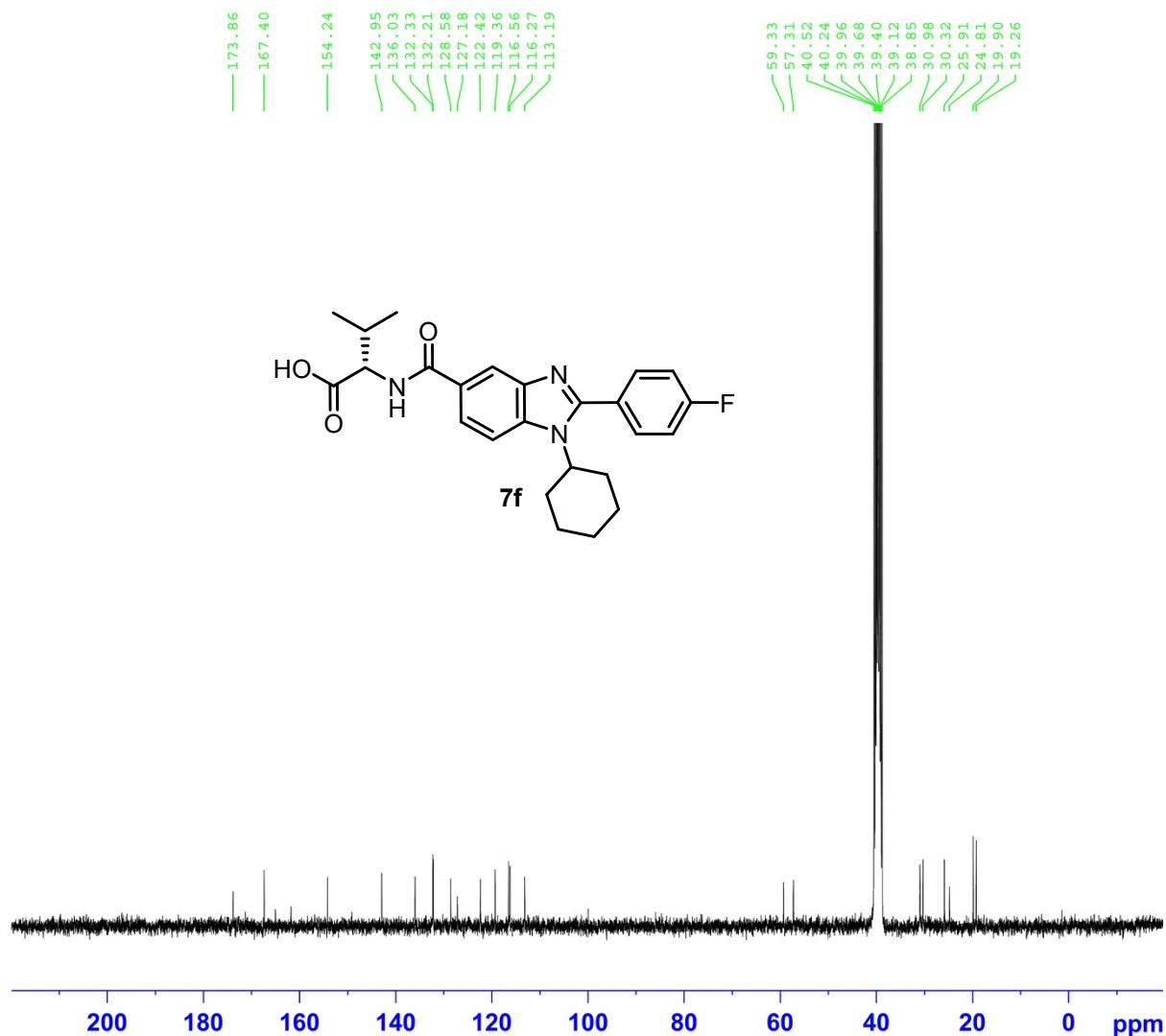


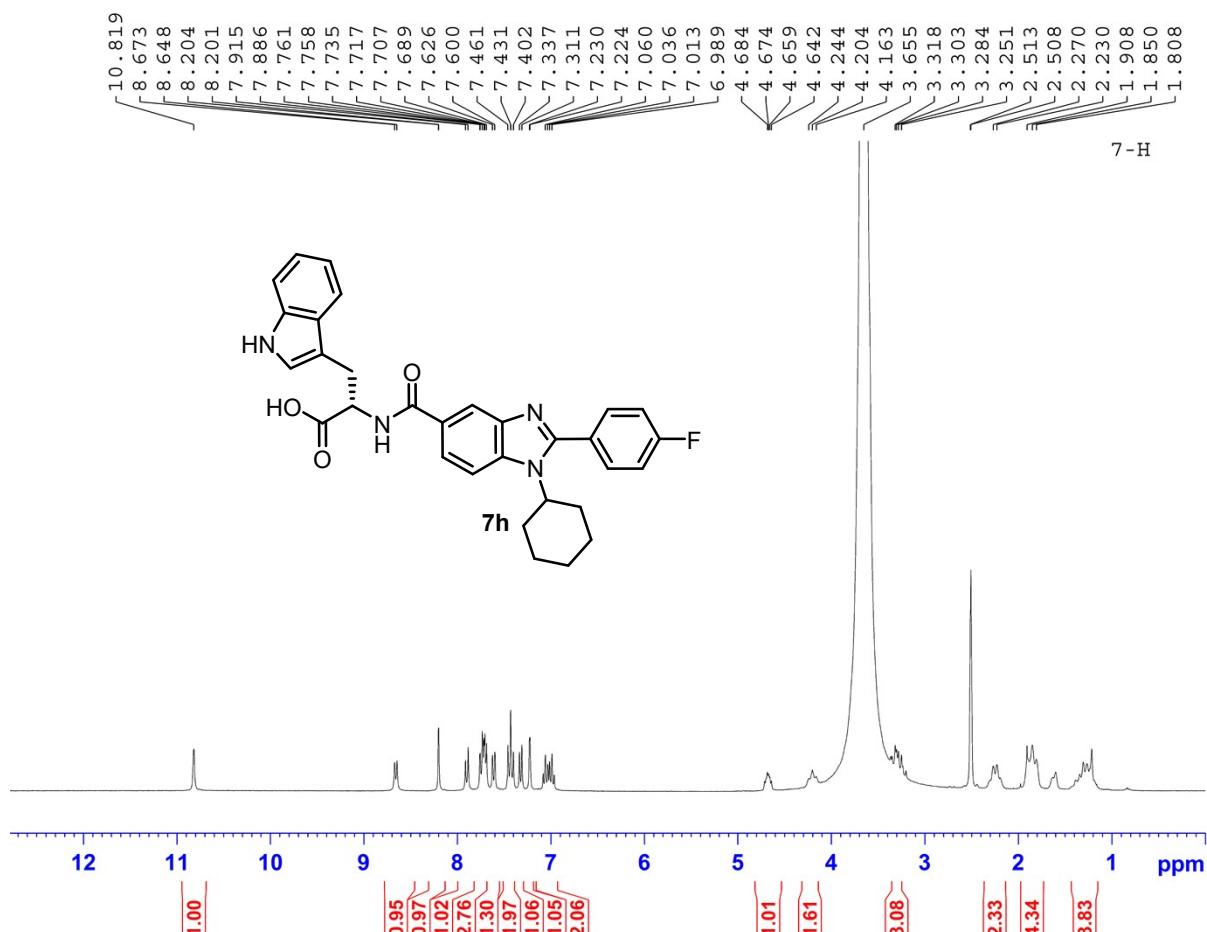


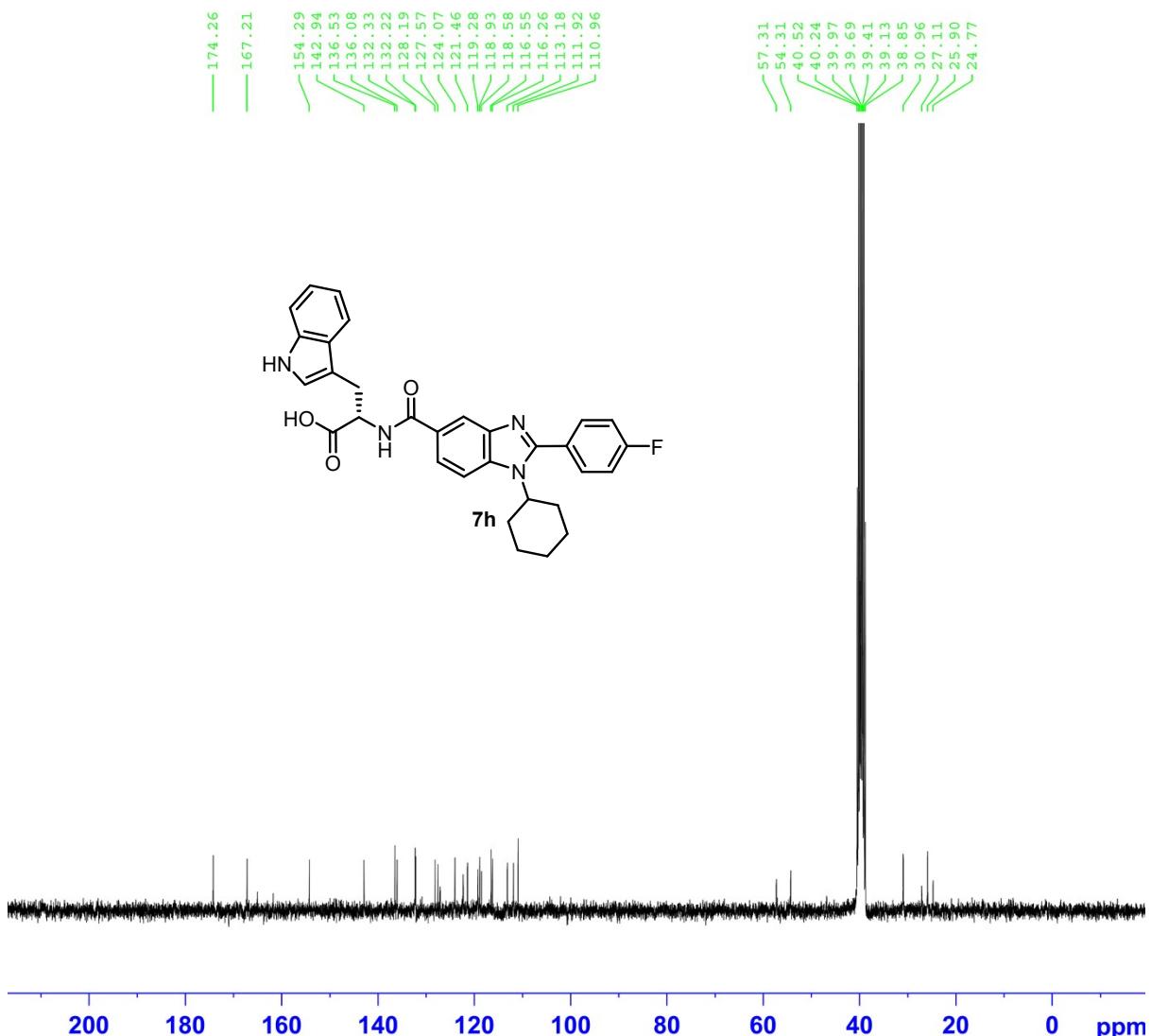


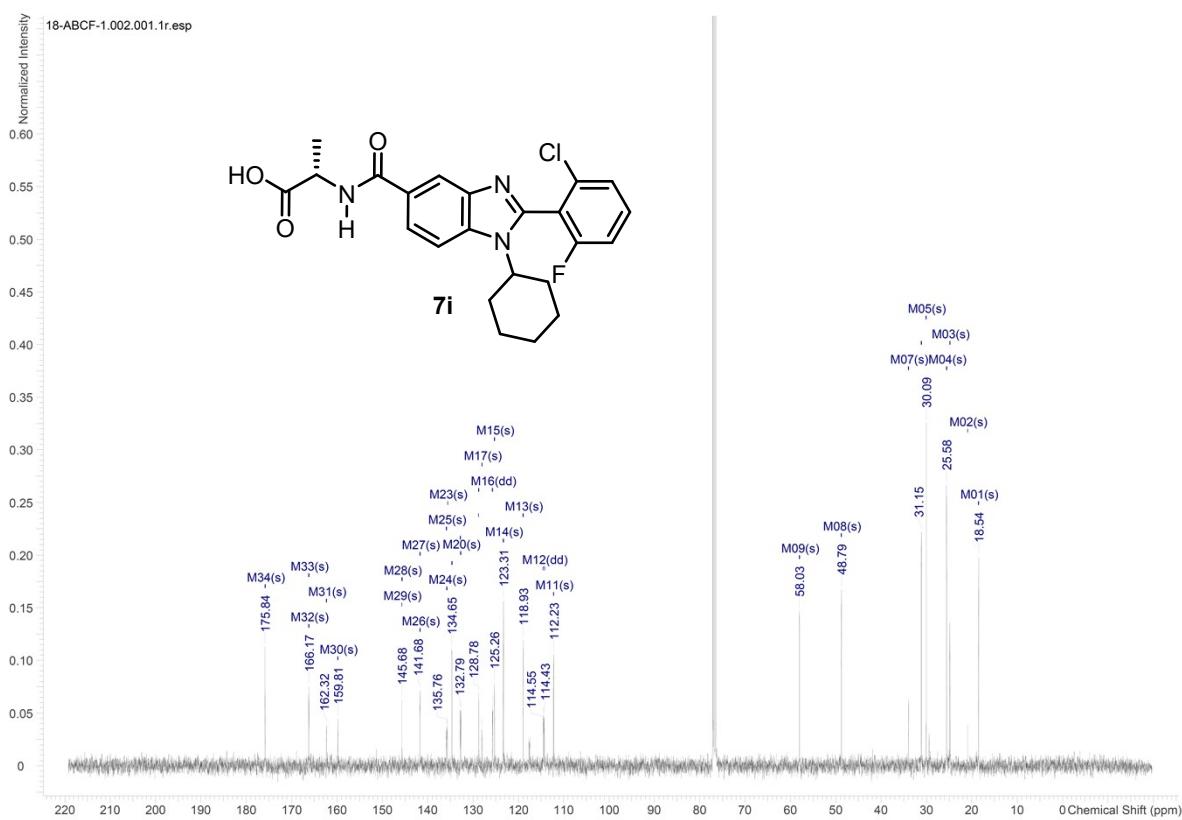
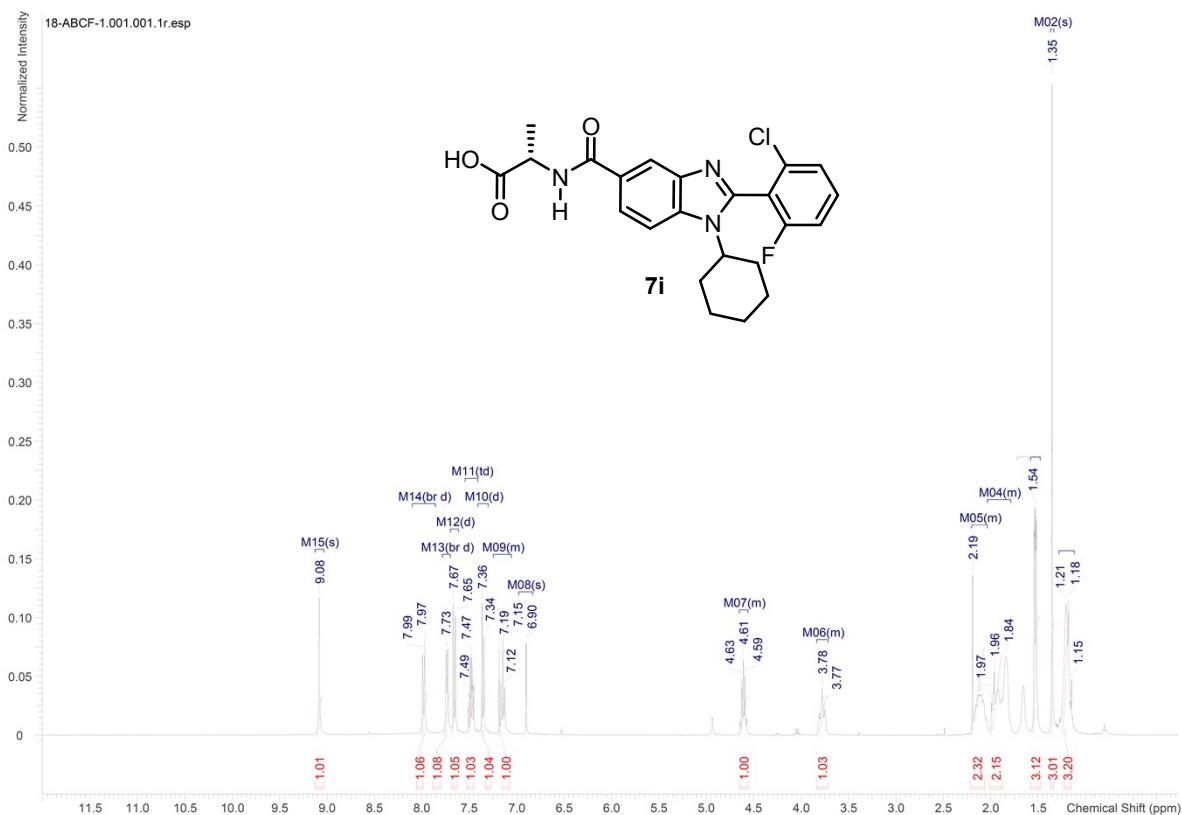


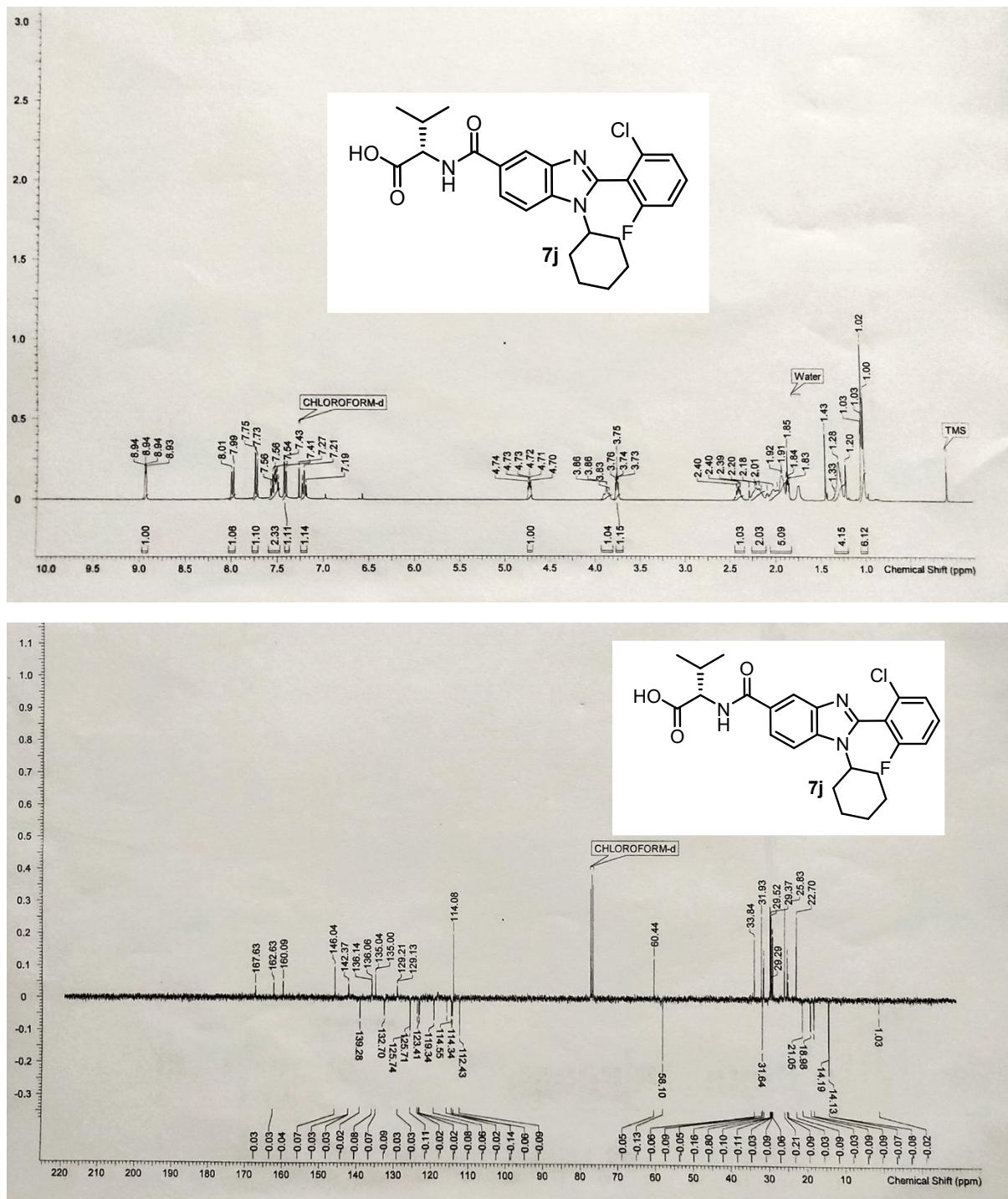


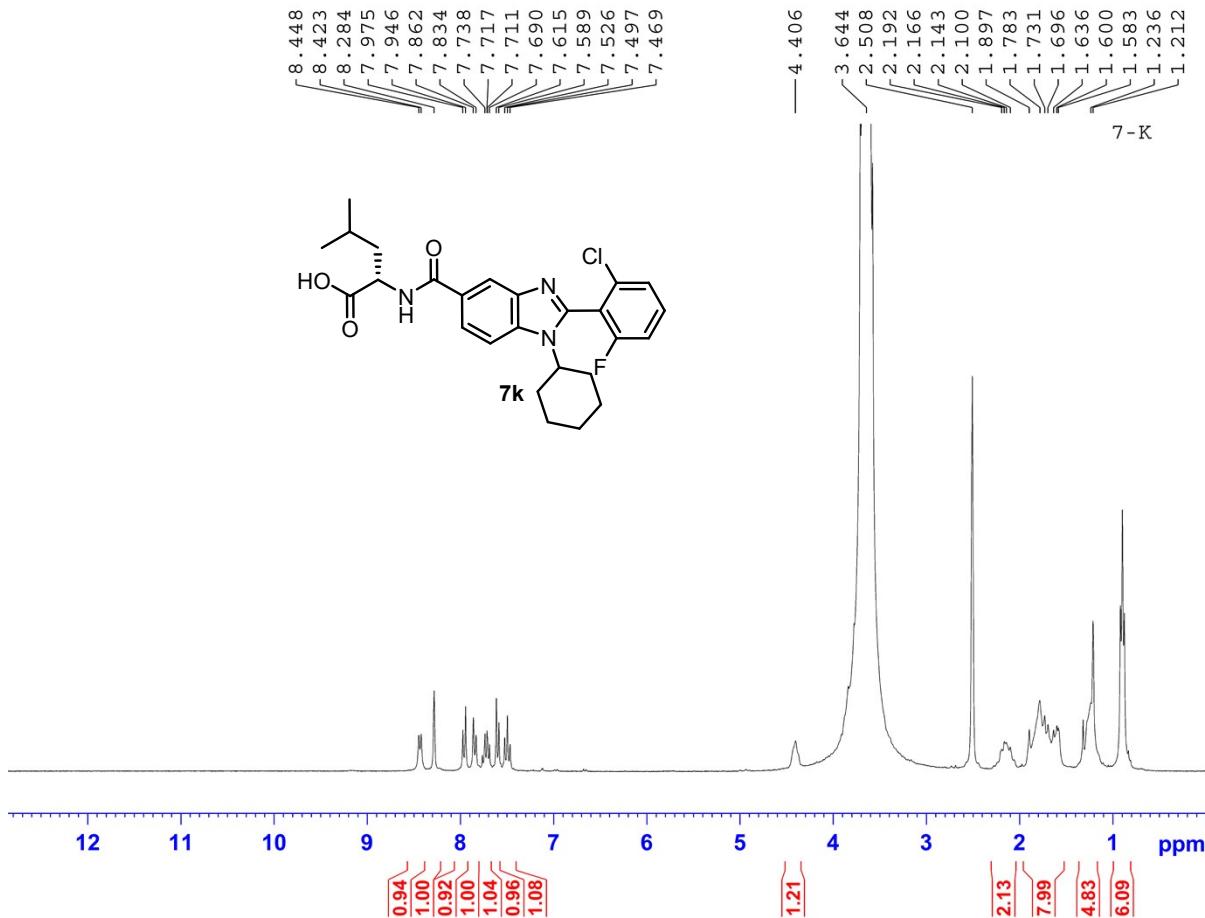


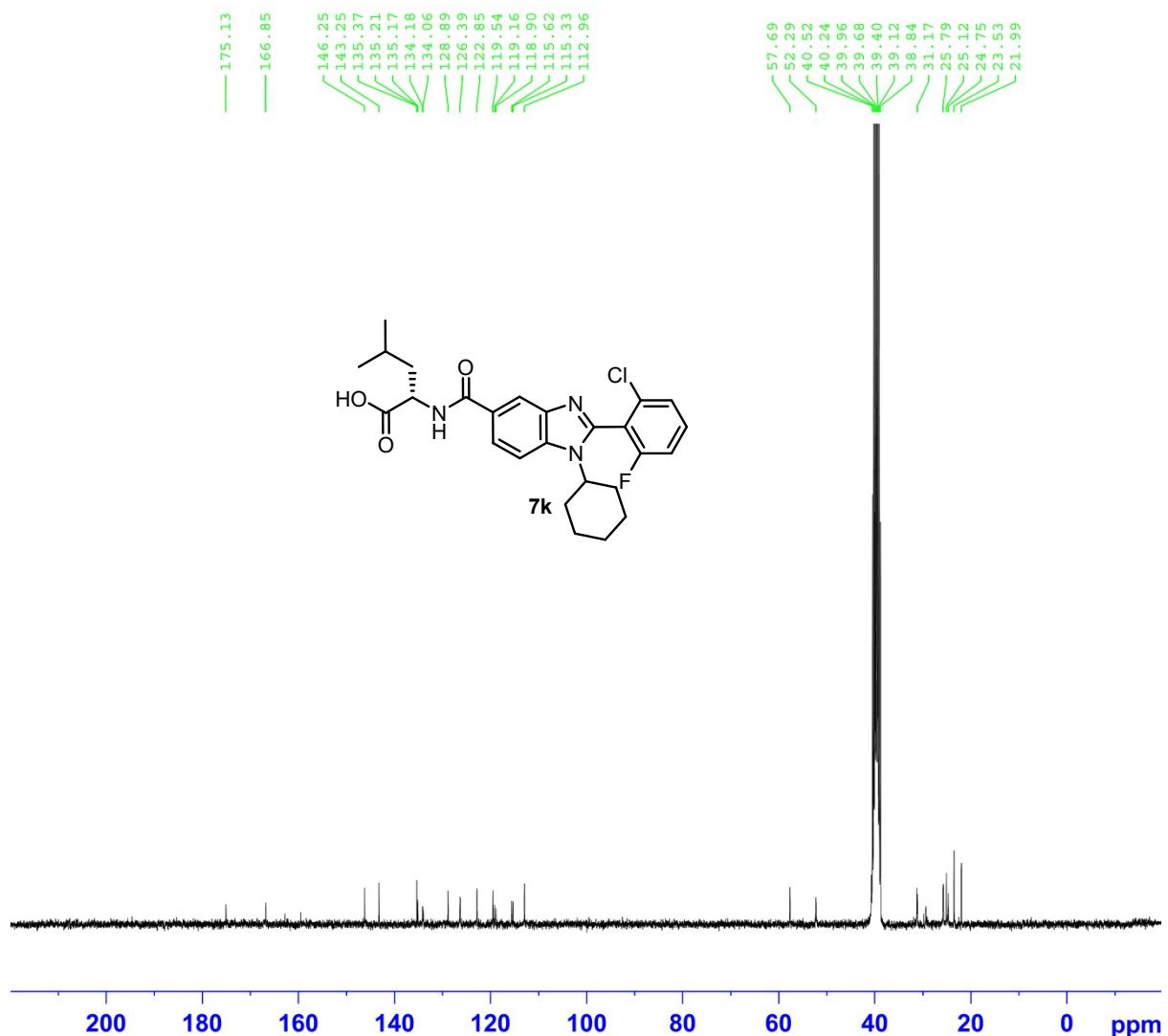


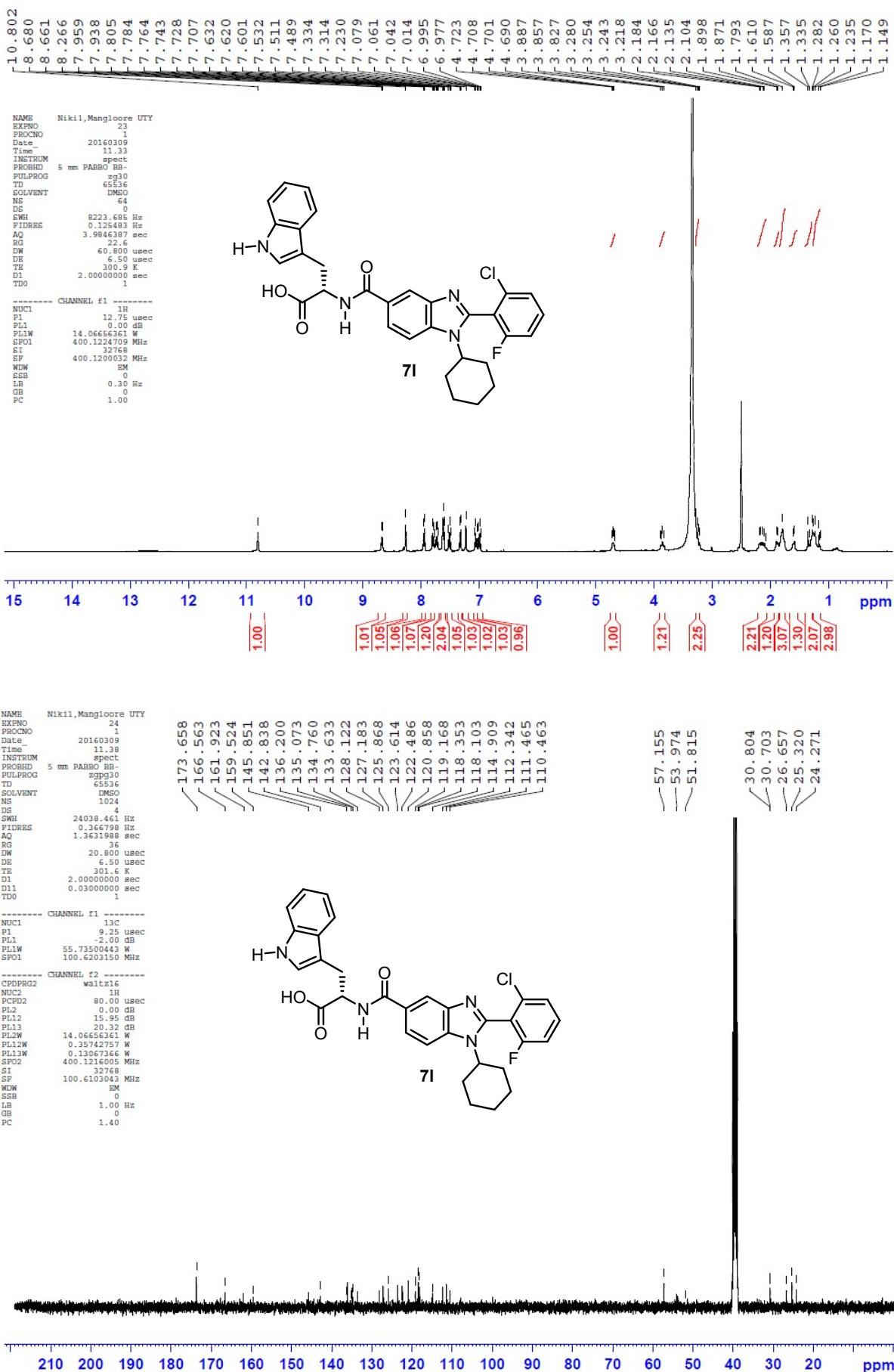




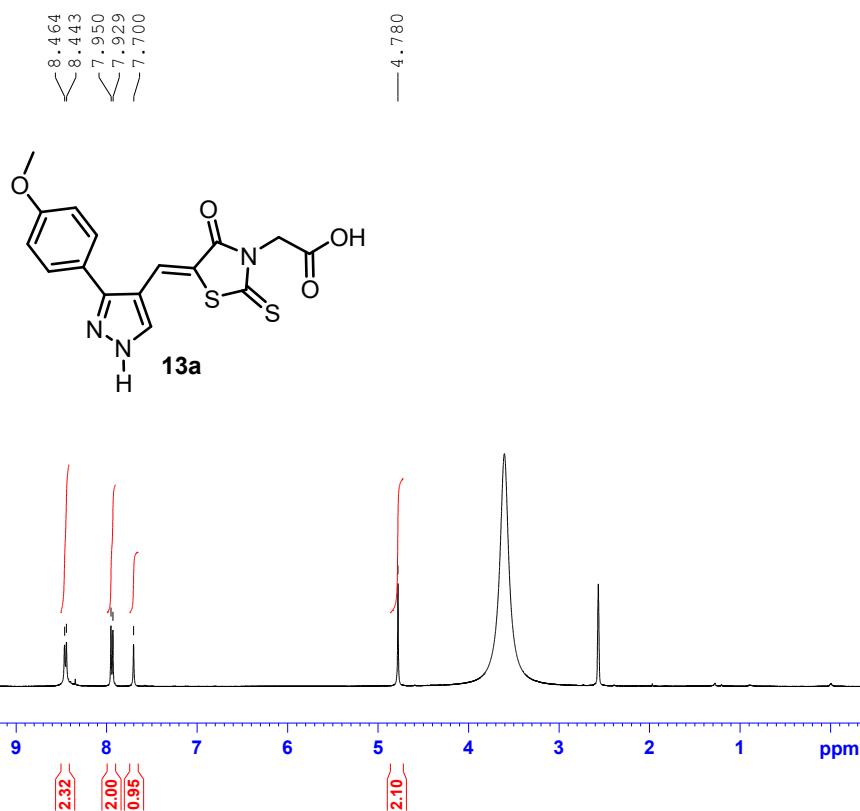




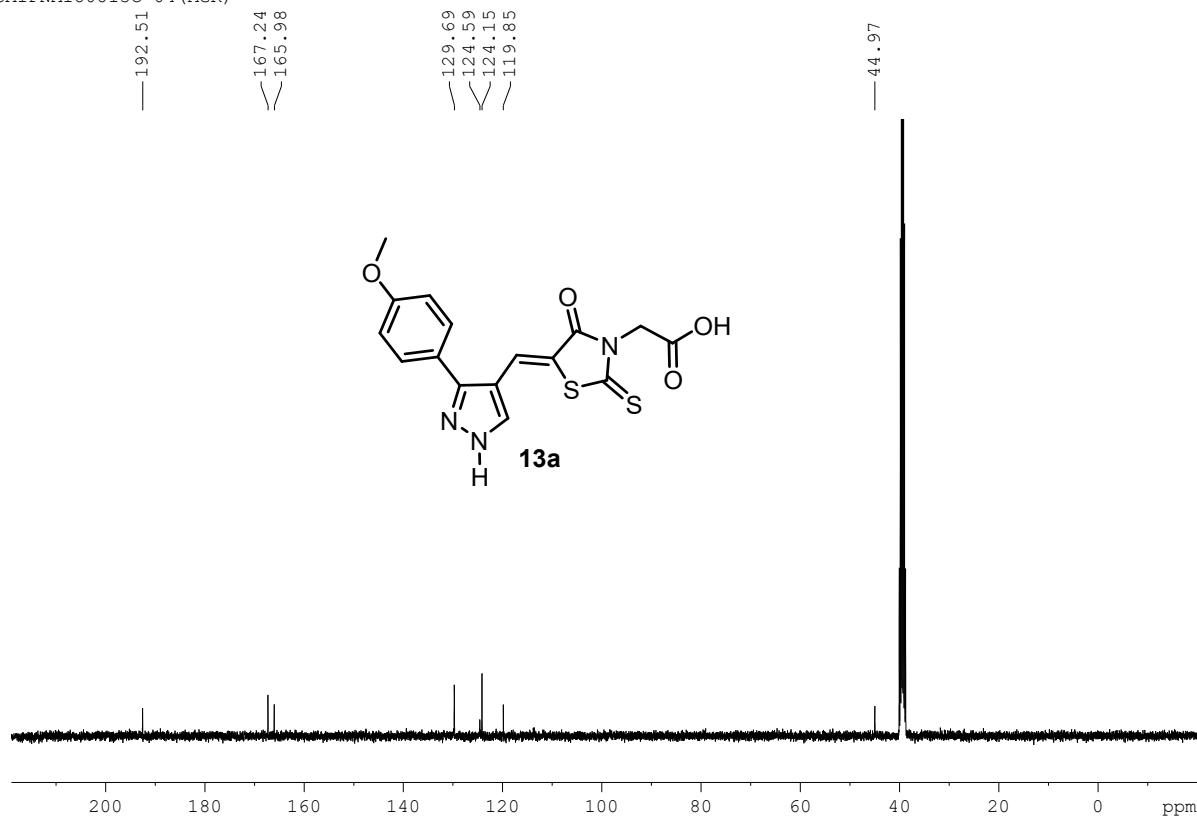




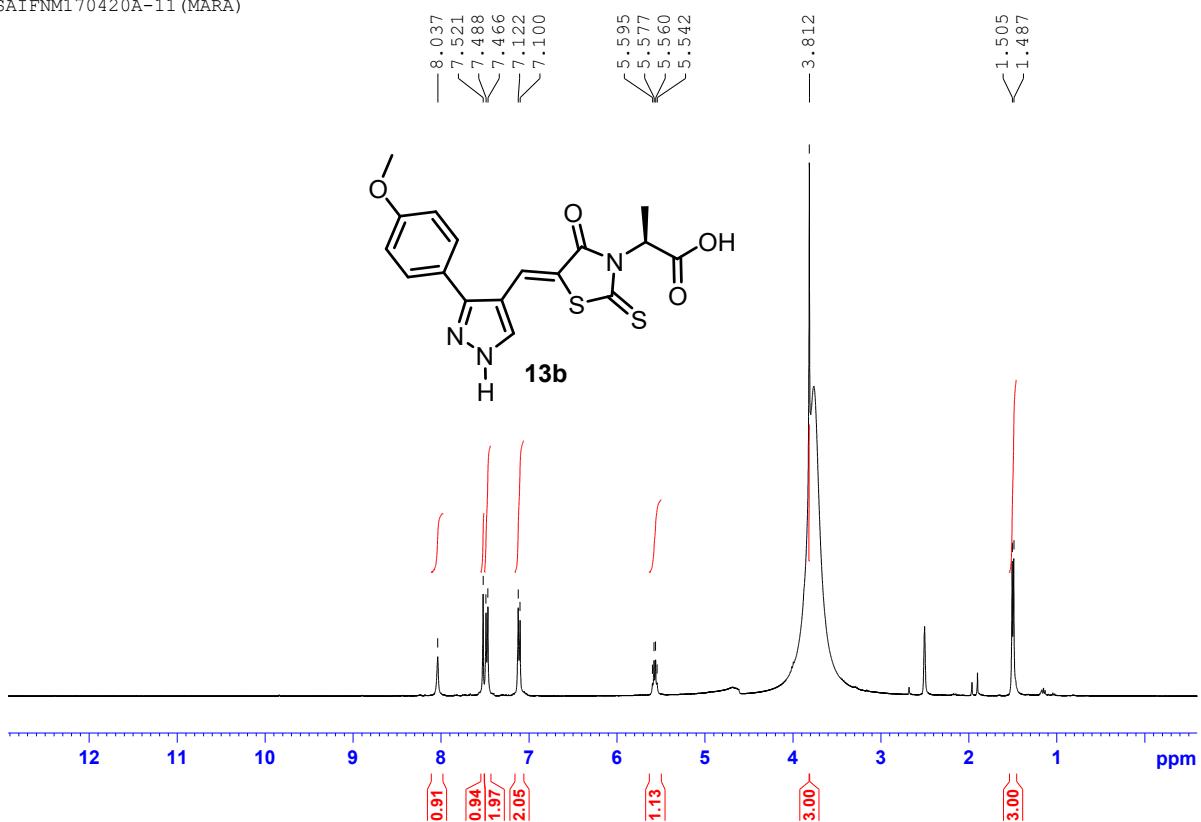
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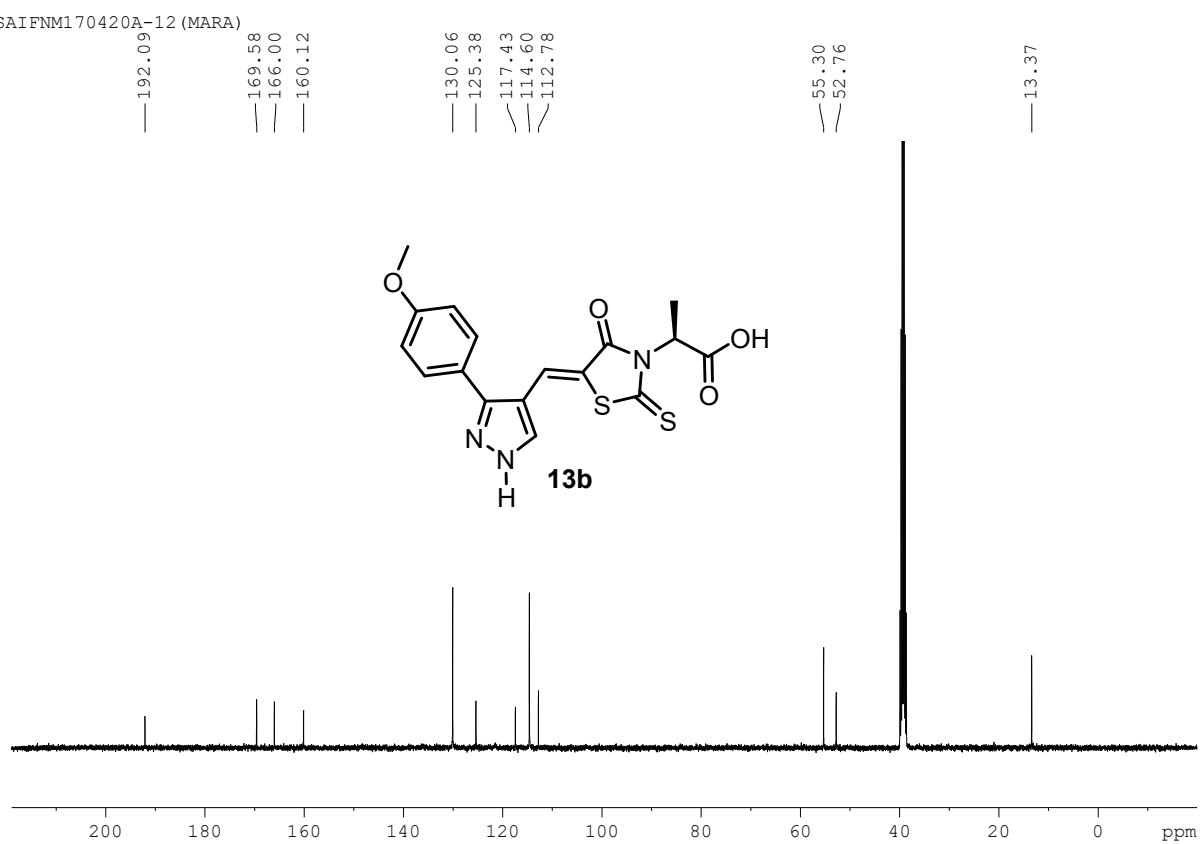
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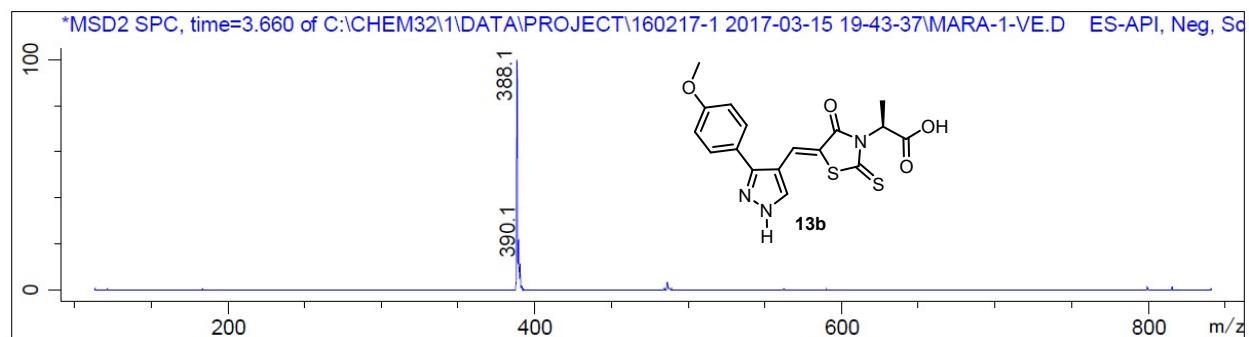


SAIFNM170420A-11 (MARA)

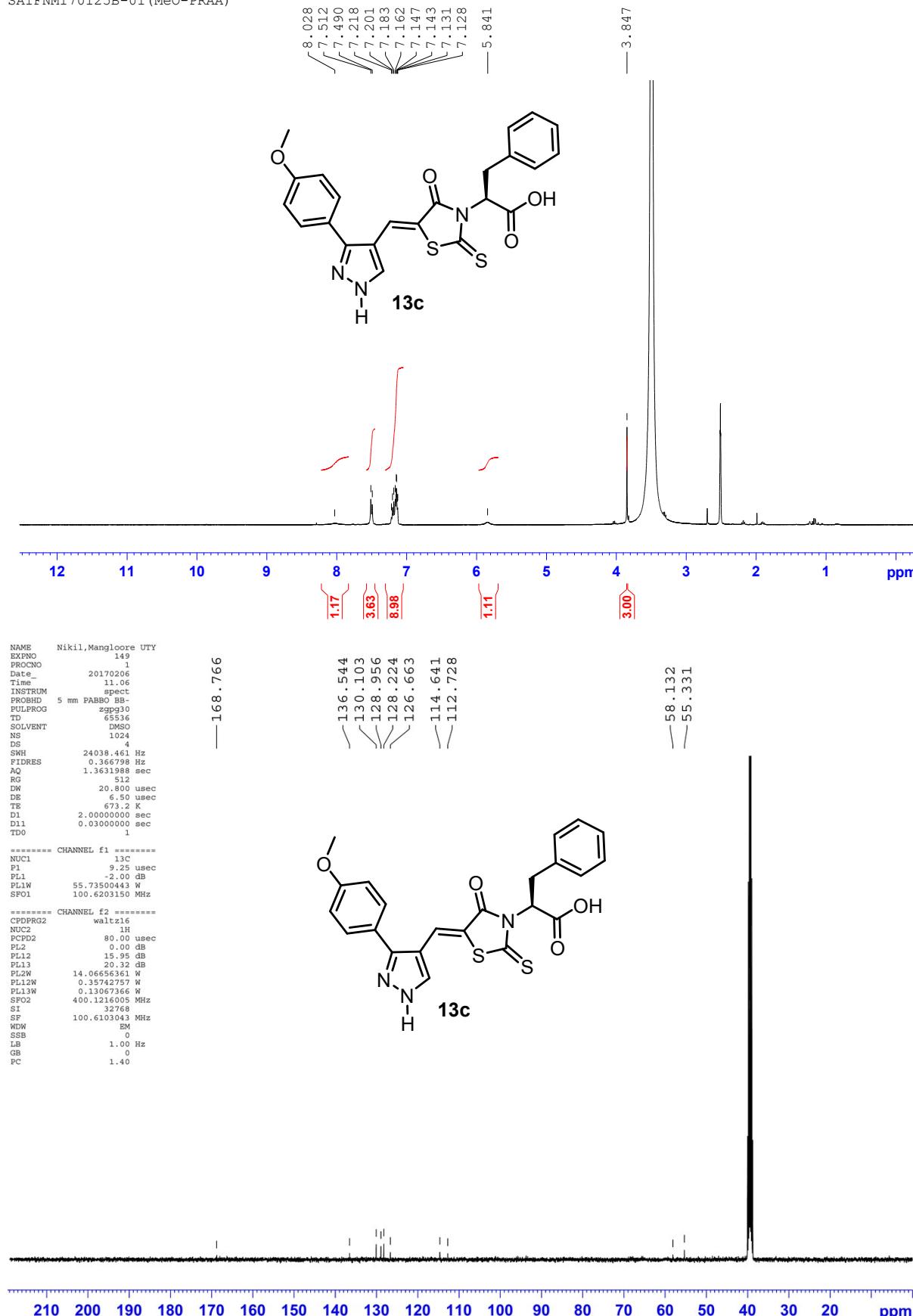


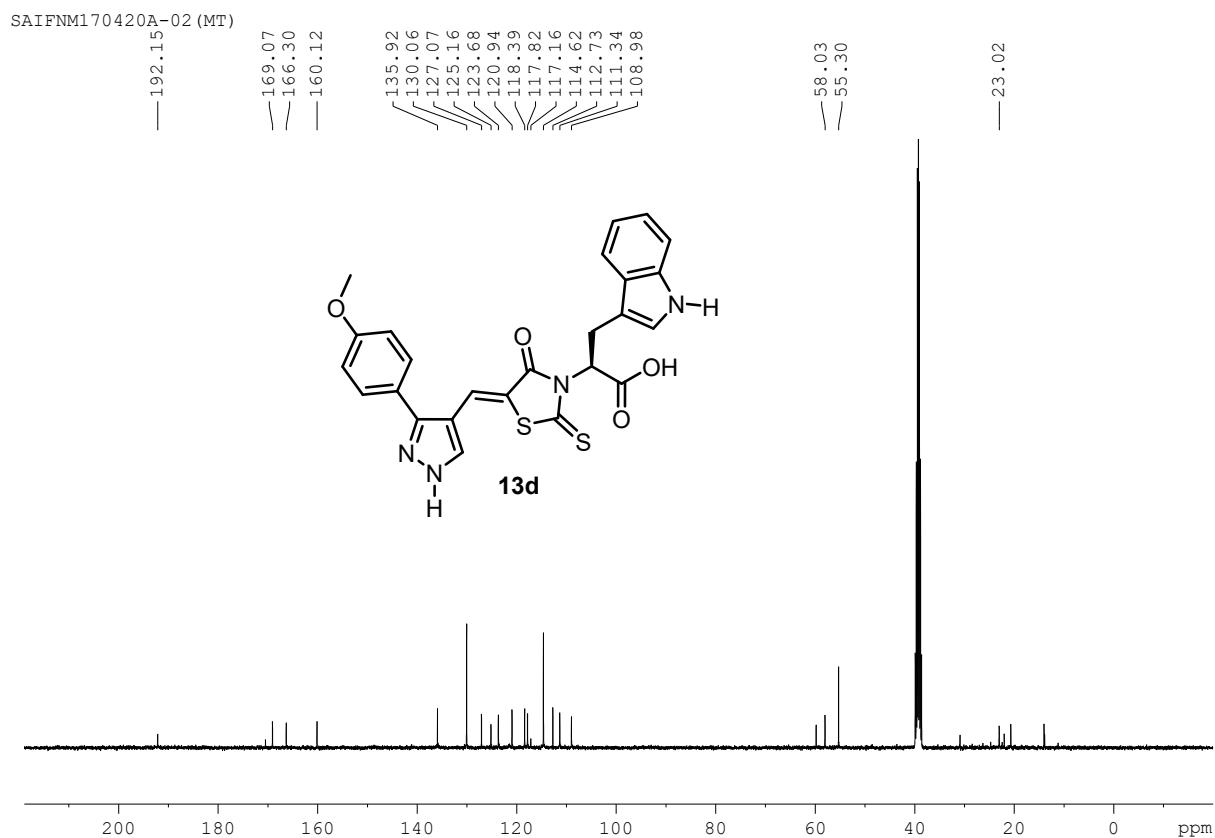
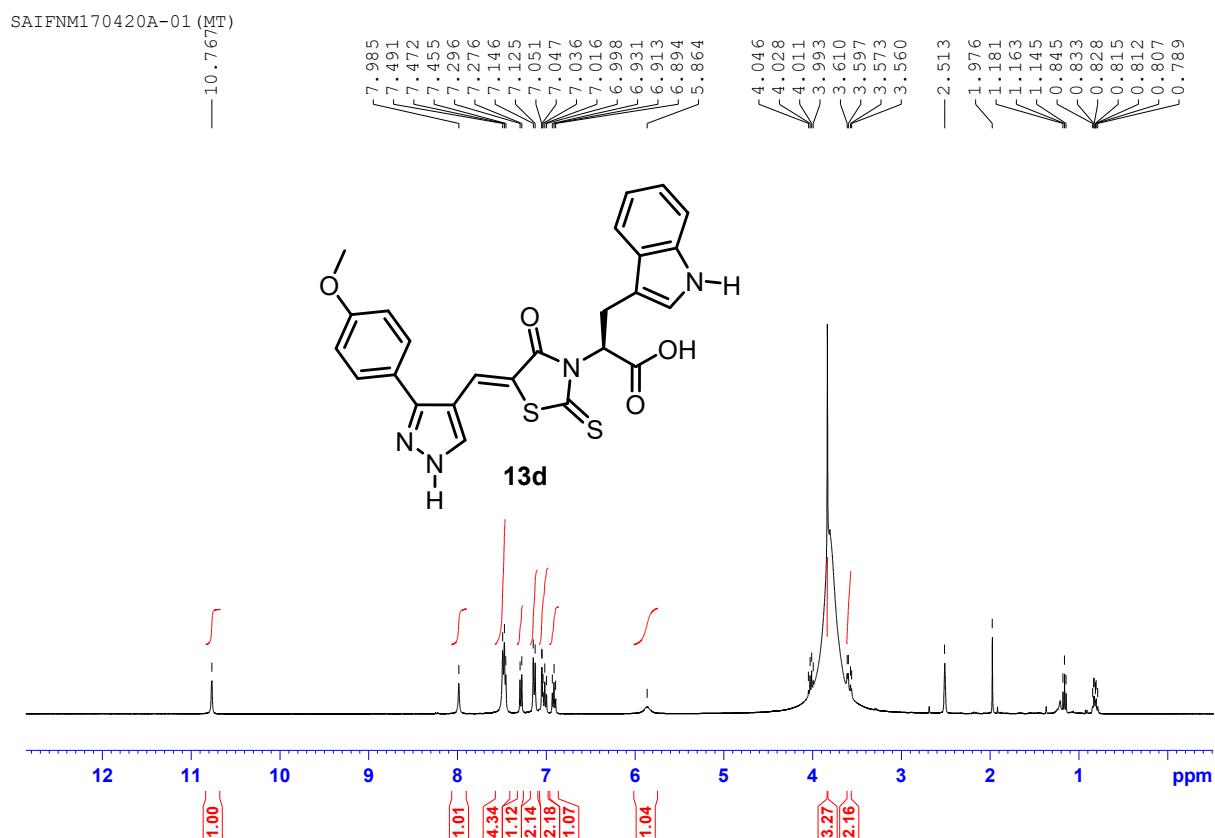
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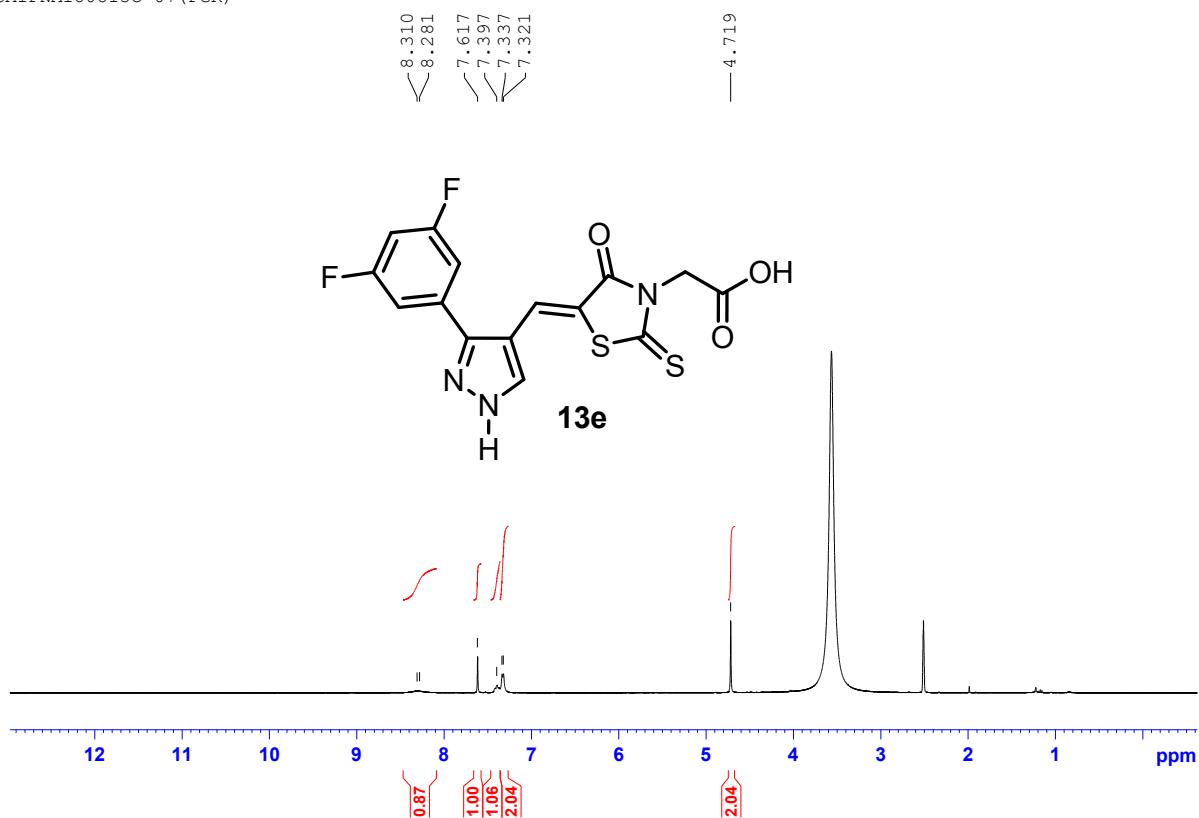


SAIFNM170125B-01 (MeO-PRAA)

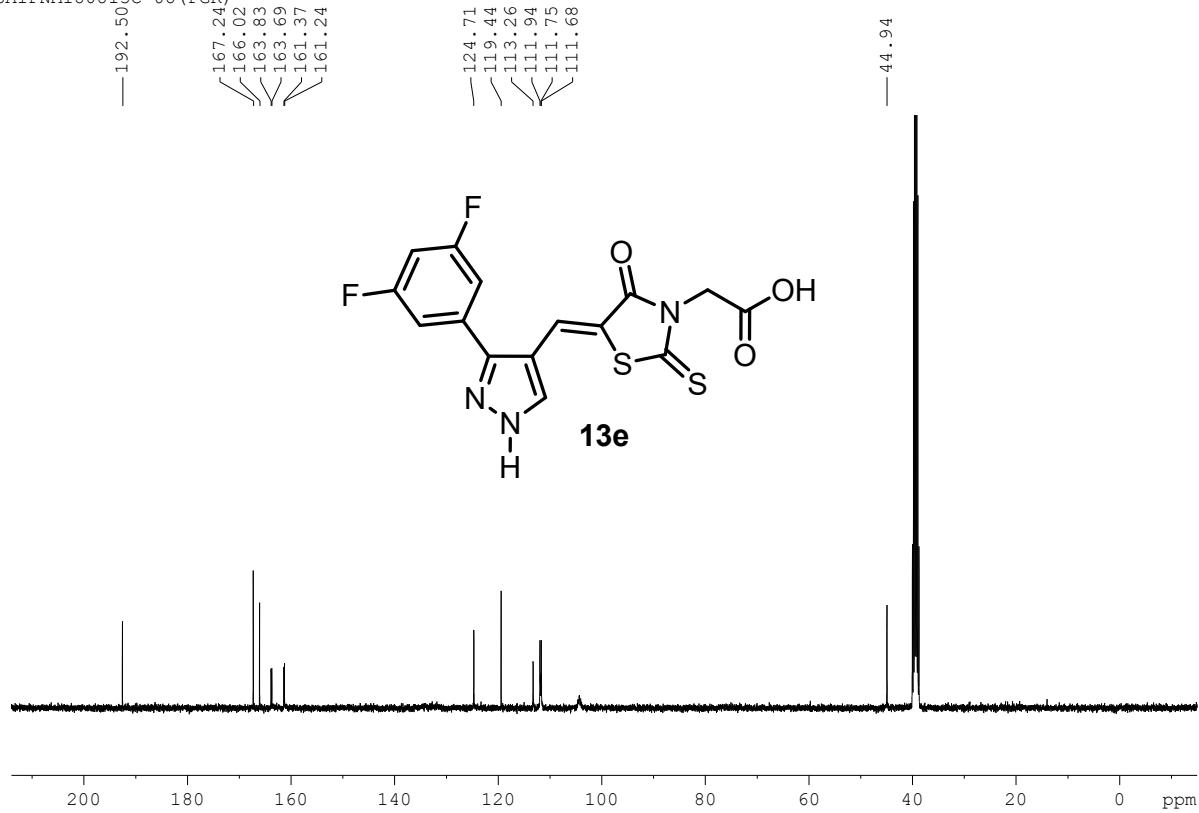


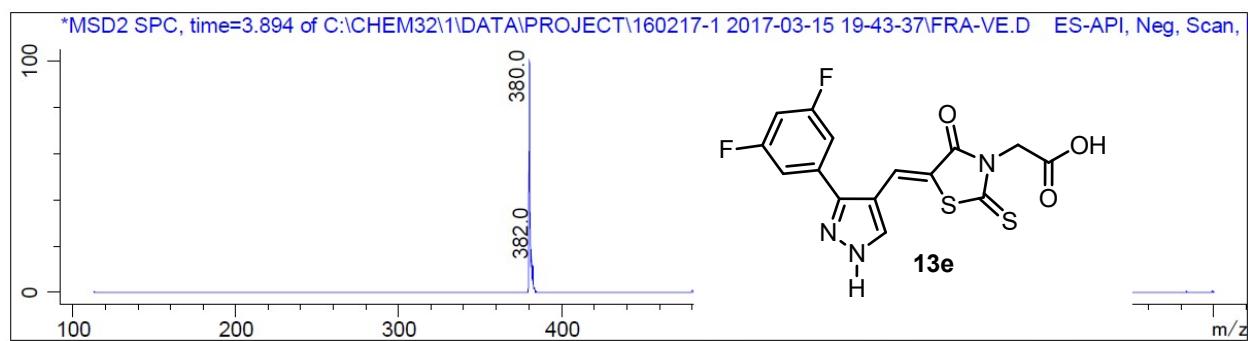


SAIFNM180813C-07 (FGR)

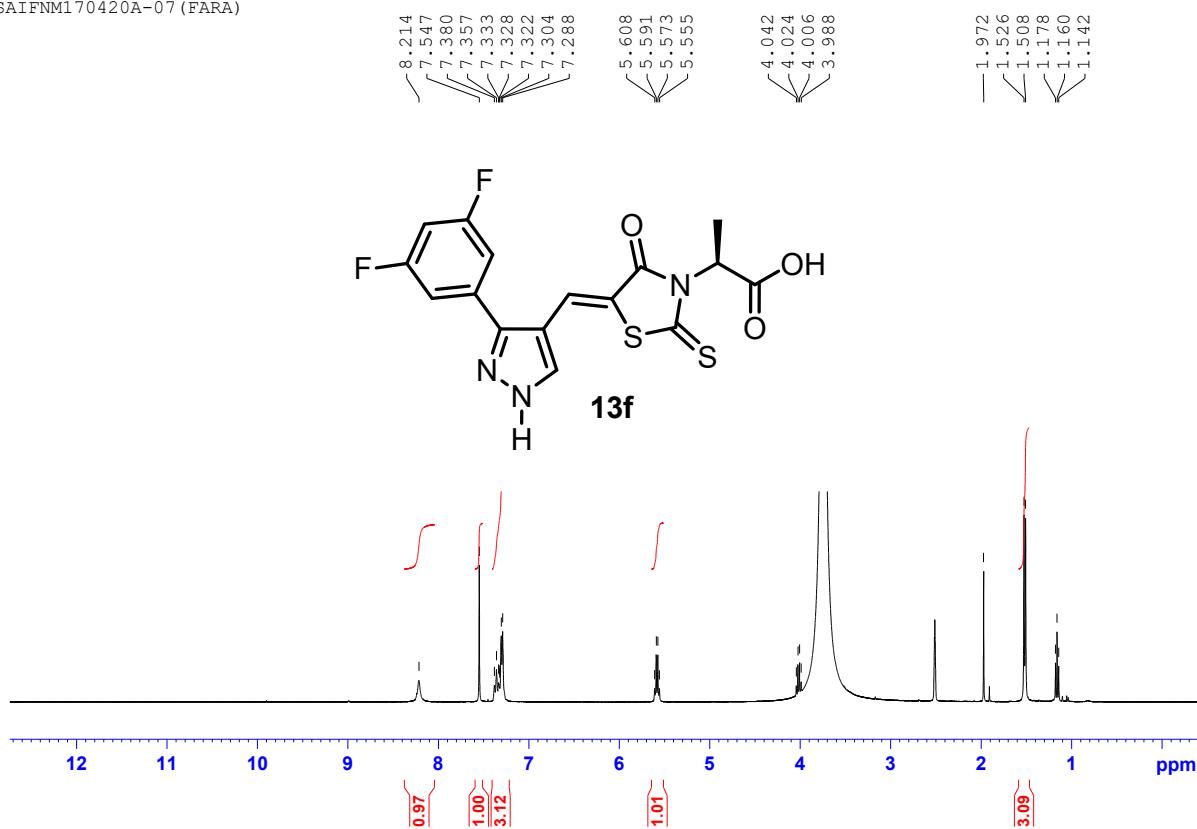


SAIFNM180813C-08 (FGR)

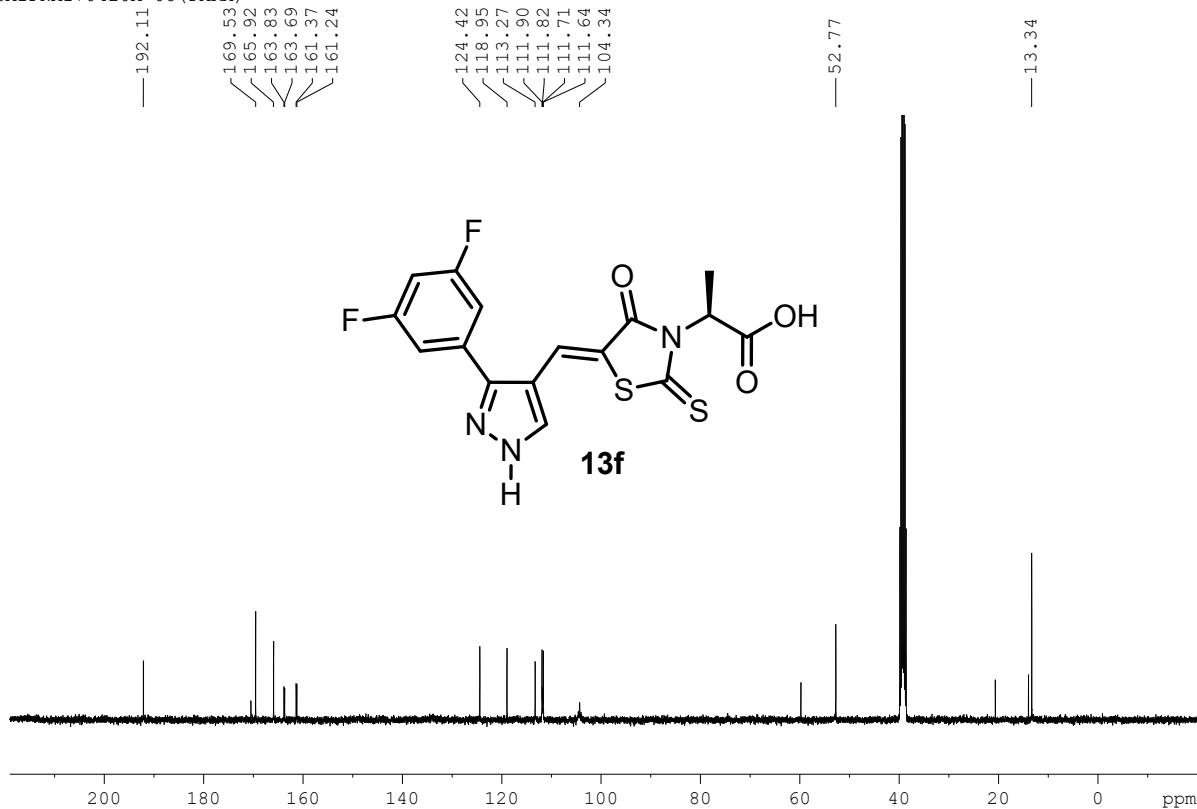


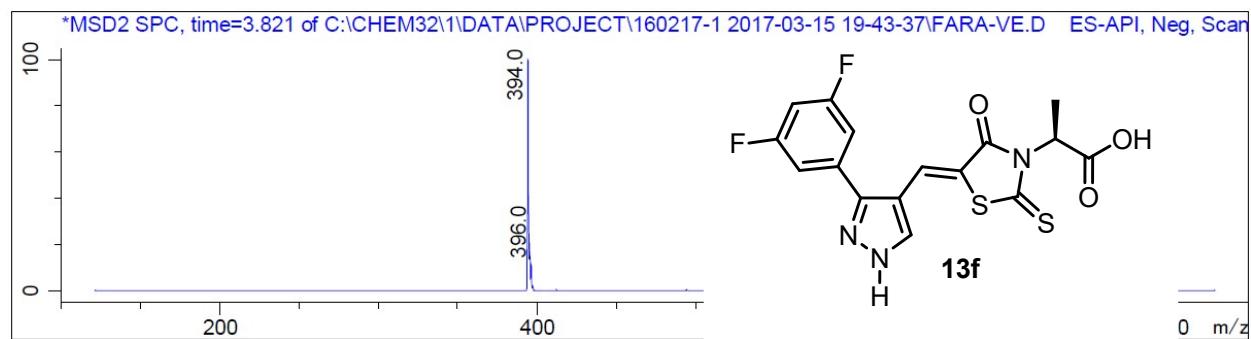


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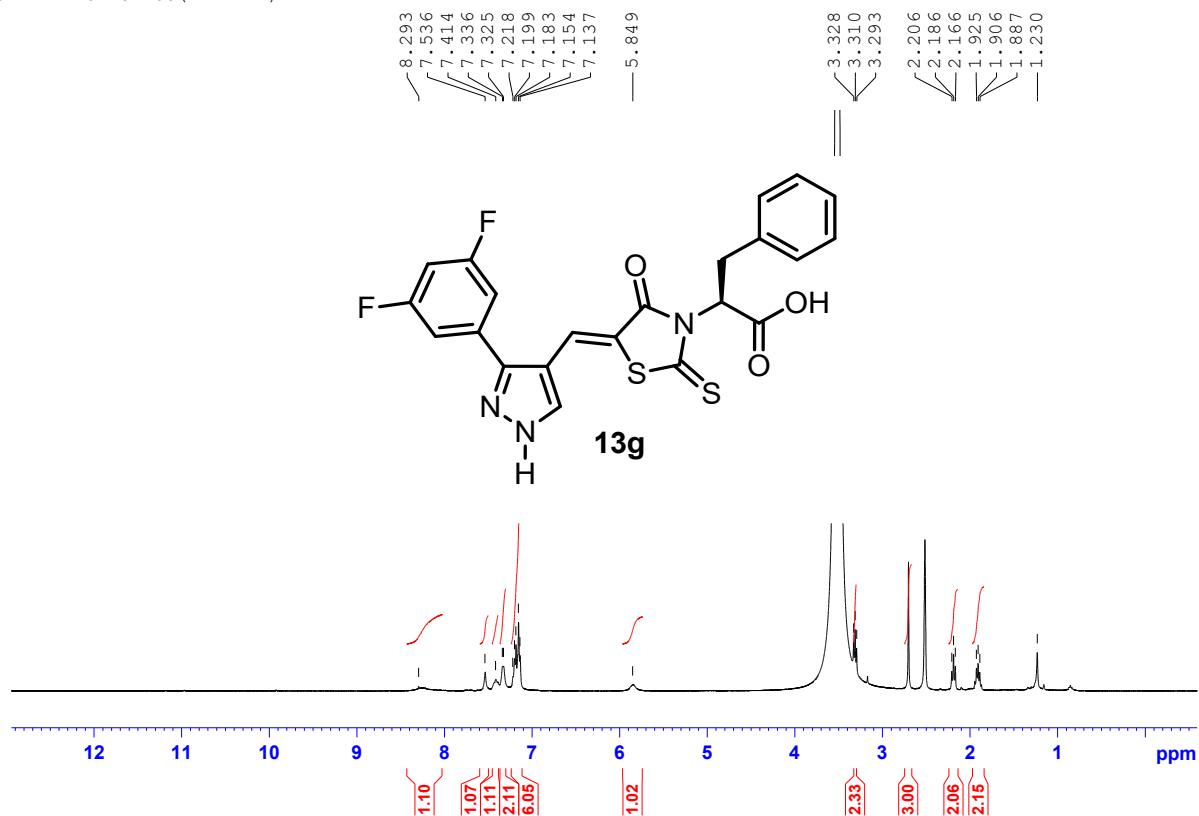


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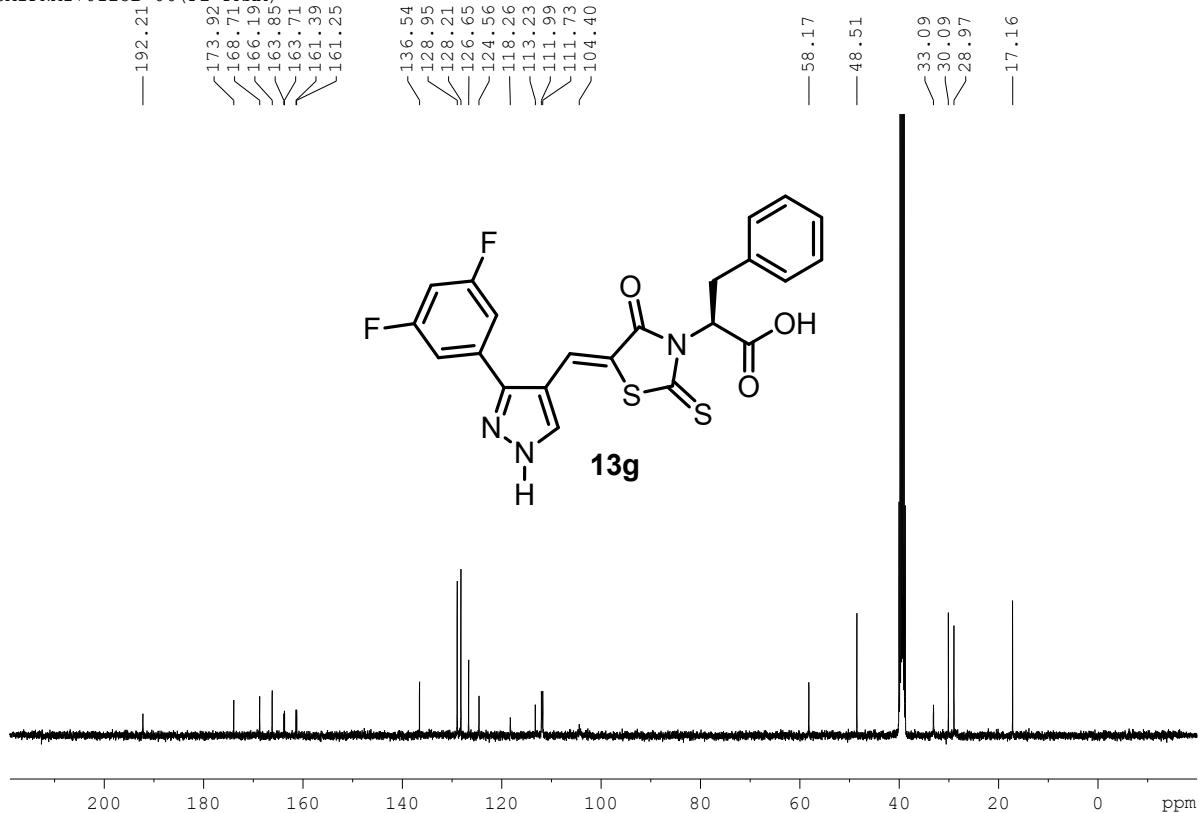


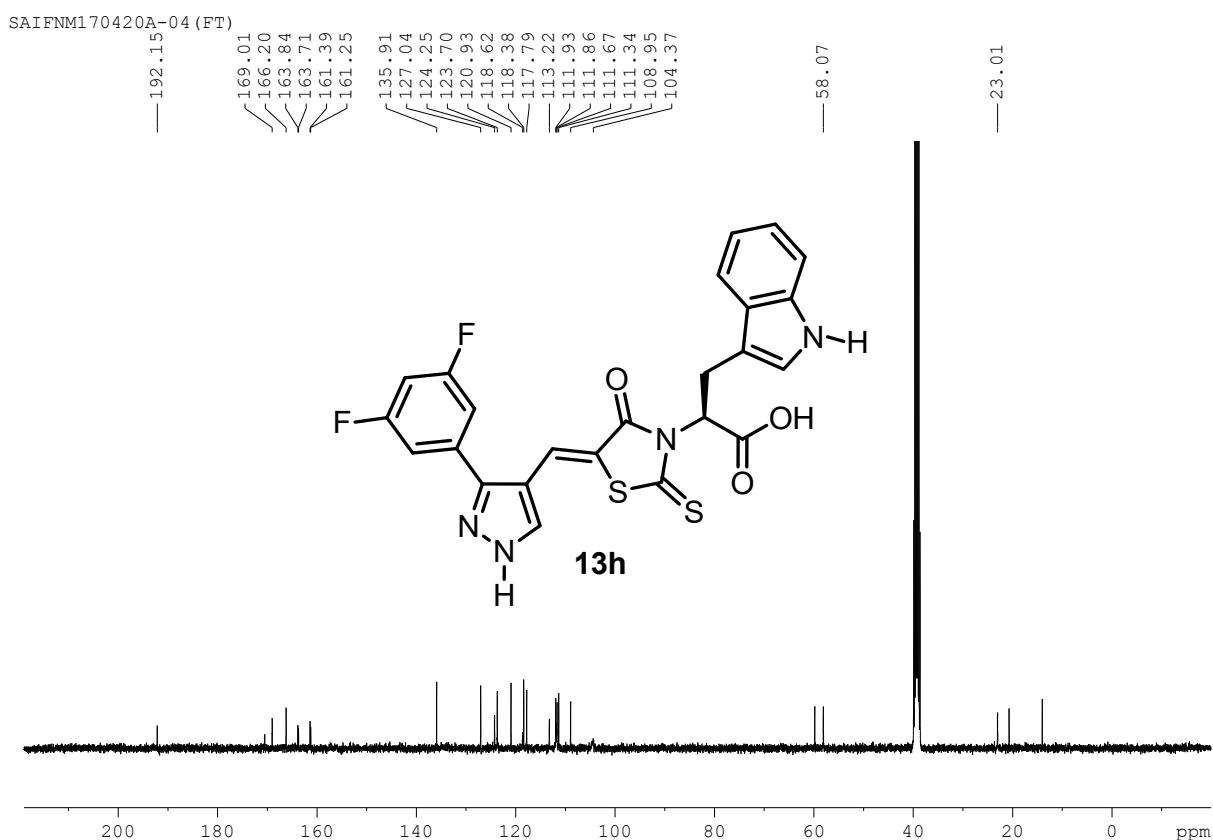
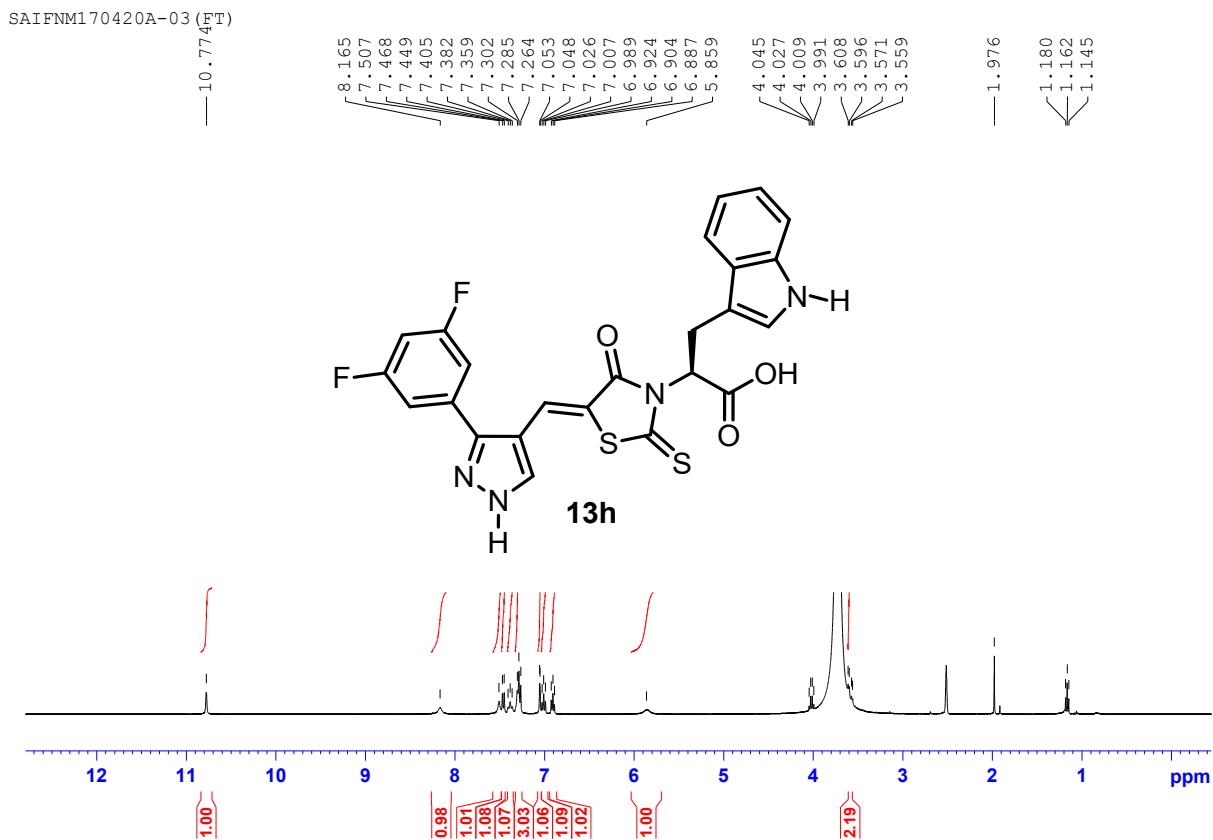


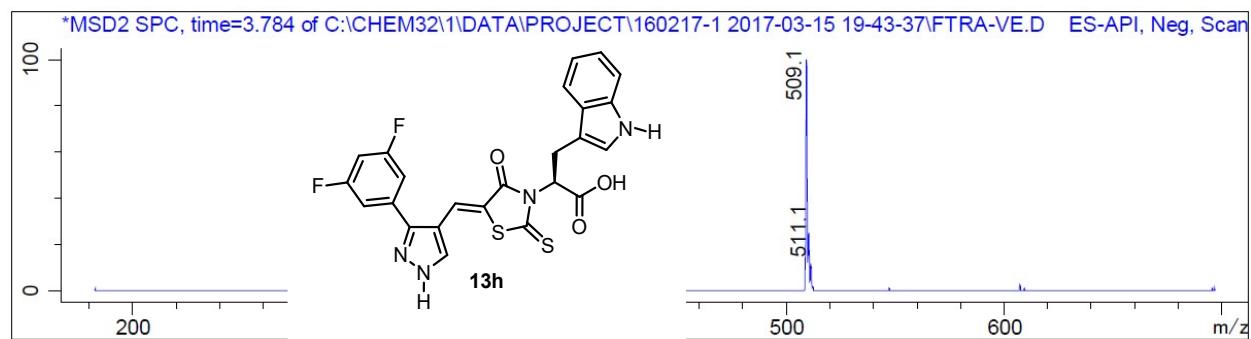
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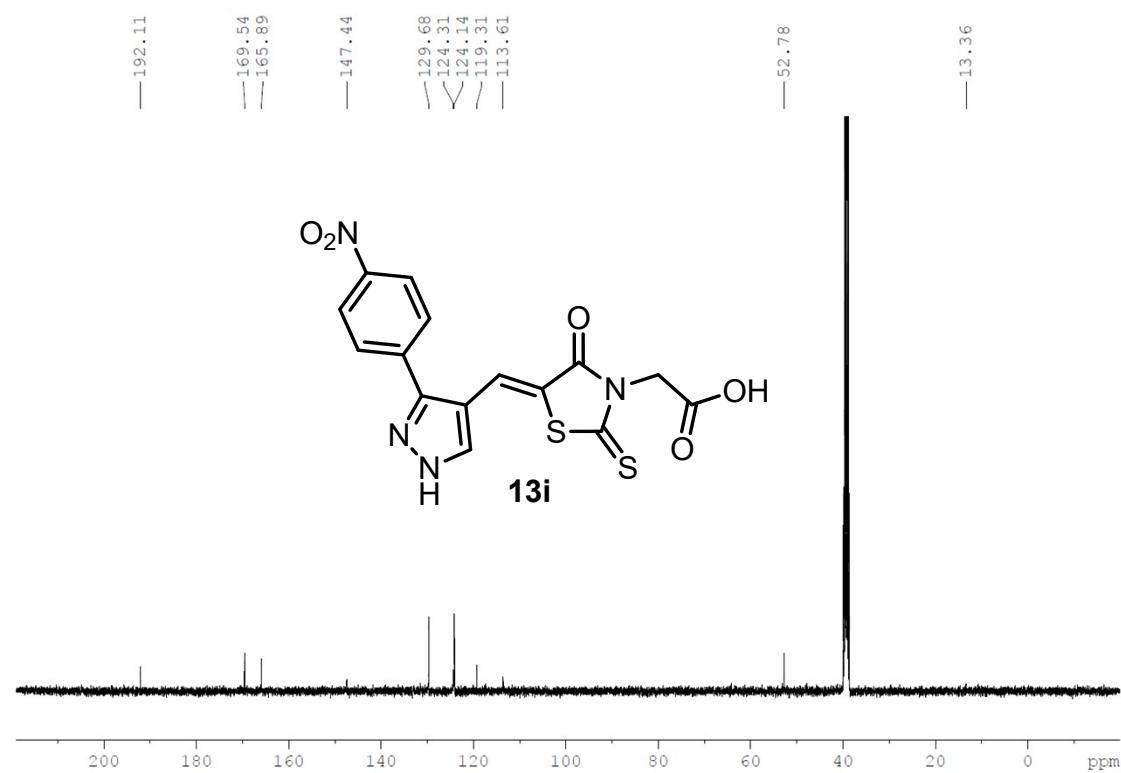
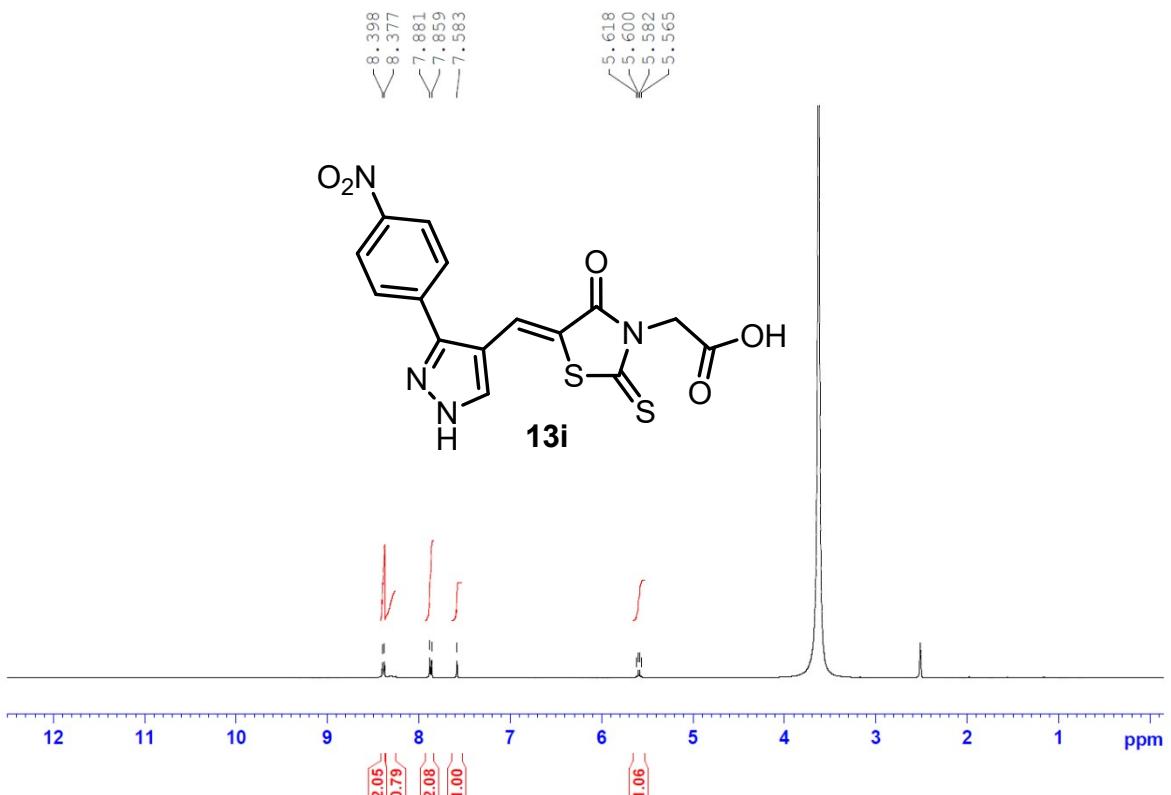


SAIFNM170125B-06 (F2-PRAA)

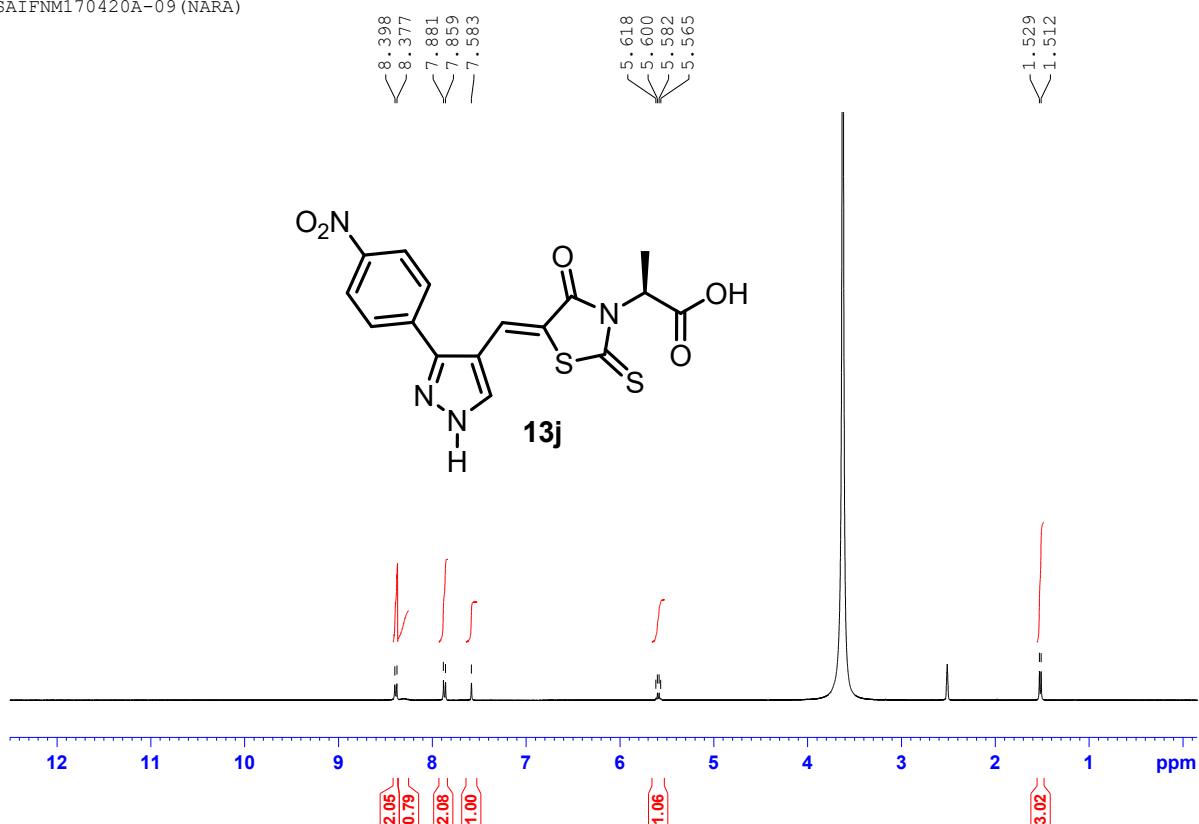




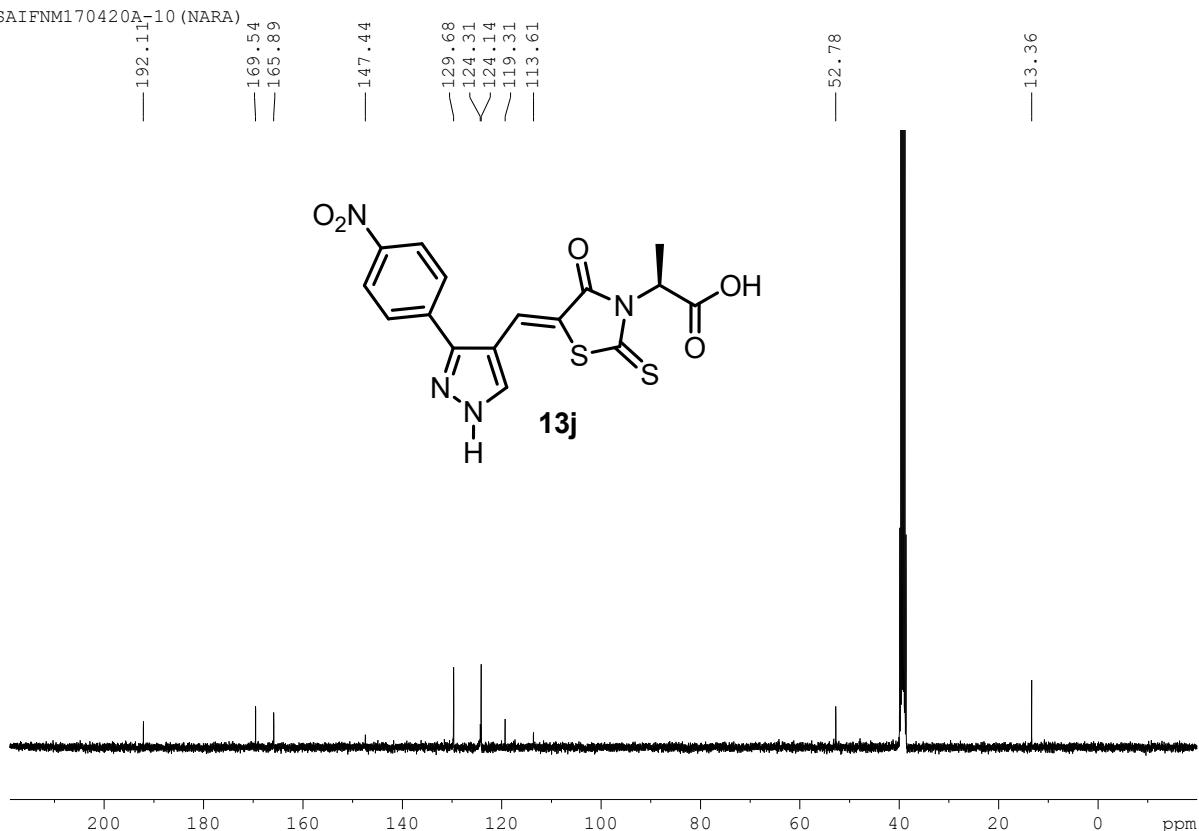




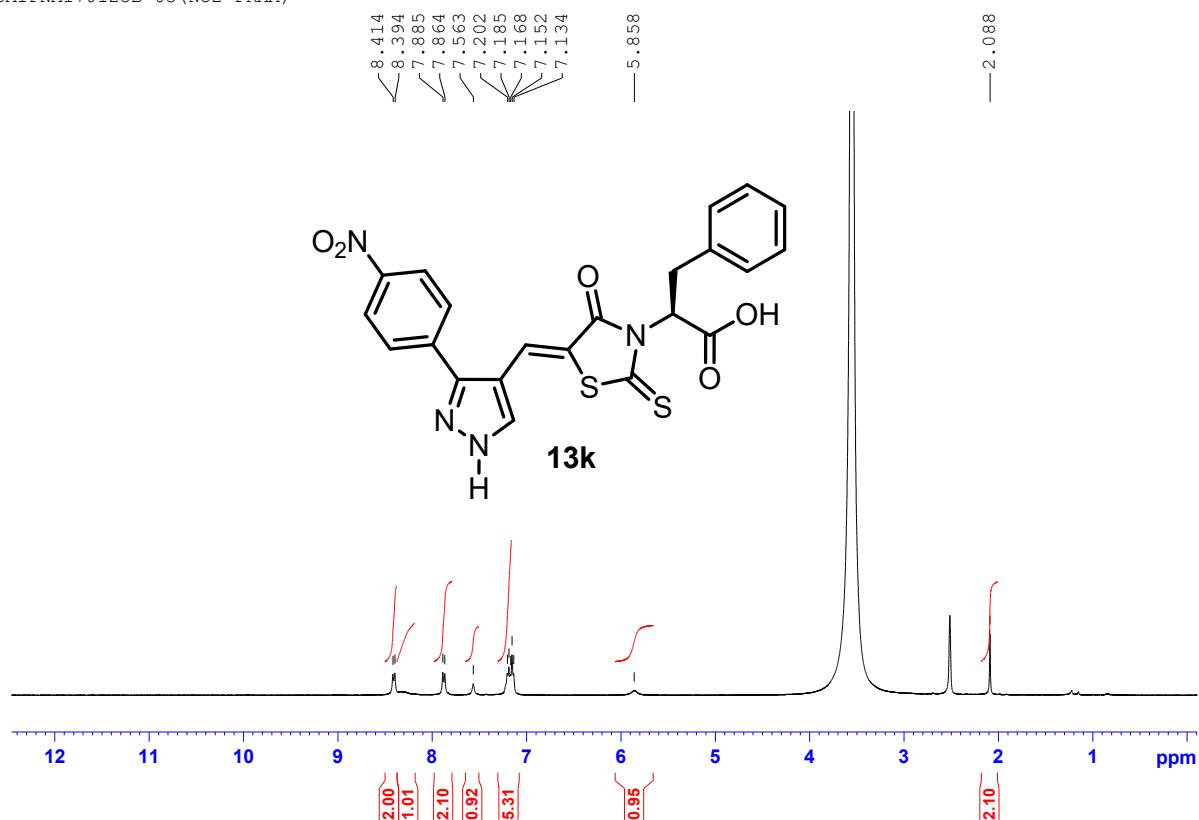
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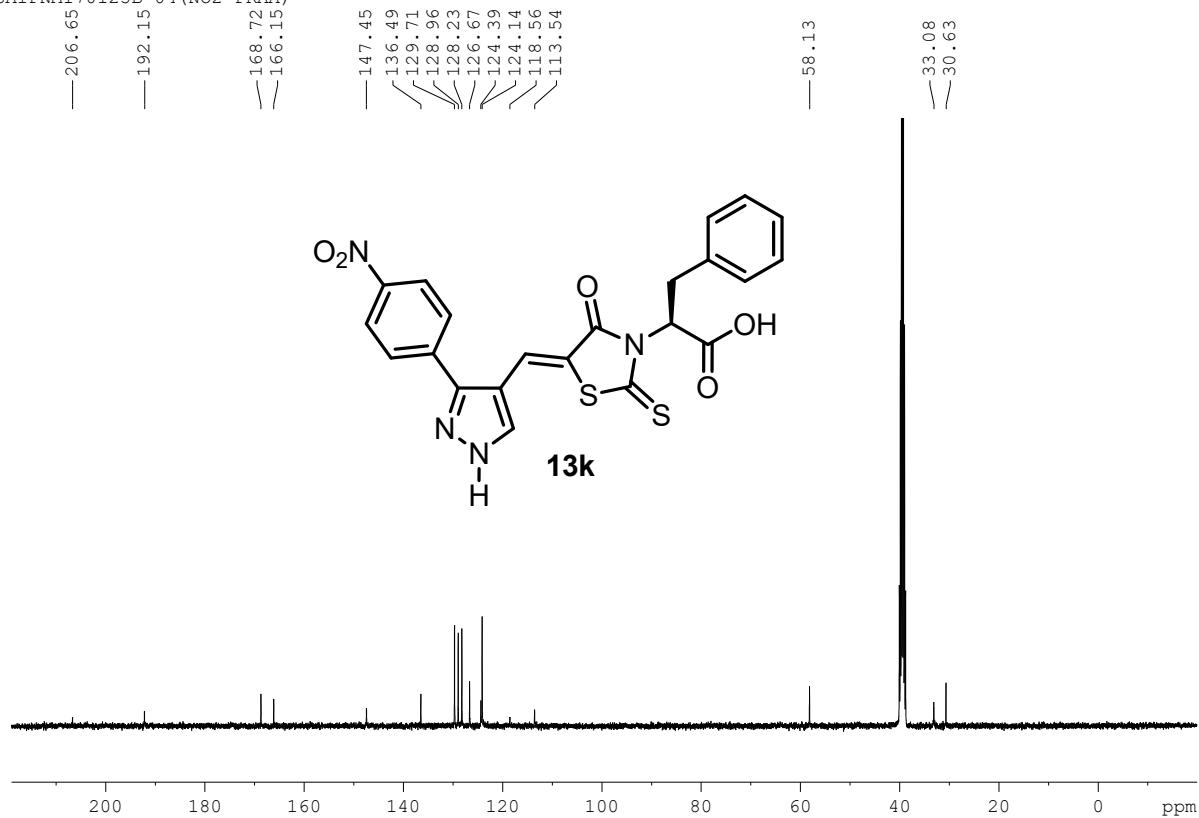
SAIFNM170420A-10 (NARA)



SAIFNM170125B-03 (NO2-PRAA)



SAIFNM170125B-04 (NO2-PRAA)



SAIFNM180212A-13 (NTRA)

