

Supporting Information

Dearomative Ring Expansion of Polycyclic Arenes

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1. General Experimental

Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were carried out under an ambient atmosphere. All chemicals were purchased from commercial suppliers and used as received. *N*-methyl-1,2,4-triazoline-3,5-dione (MTAD **12**) was prepared based on the literature procedures¹ and was resublimed before use. Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ was purchased from Strem Chemicals. (Trimethylsilyl)diazomethane solution 2.0 M in hexanes was purchased from Sigma Aldrich. Nickel oxide² and hydroxycarbonimidic dibromide,³ were synthesized according to literature procedures. Dry dichloromethane (CH₂Cl₂), ethyl acetate (EtOAc) and tetrahydrofuran (THF) were obtained by passing commercially available anhydrous, oxygen-free HPLC-grade solvents through activated alumina columns. Analytical thin-layer chromatography was performed on Merck silica gel 60 F254 aluminum plates. Visualization was accomplished with UV light and/or potassium permanganate (KMnO₄). Retention factor (*R_f*) values reported were measured using a 5 × 2 cm TLC plate in a developing chamber containing the solvent system described. Flash column chromatography was performed using Silicycle SiliaFlash® P60 (SiO₂, 40-63 μm particle size, 230-400 mesh). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker 500 (500 MHz, ¹H; 126 MHz, ¹³C) or Varian Unity Inova 500 (500 MHz, ¹H) spectrometers. Spectra are referenced to residual chloroform (δ = 7.26 ppm, ¹H; 77.16 ppm, ¹³C), residual methanol (δ = 3.31 ppm, ¹H; 49.00 ppm, ¹³C), residual benzene (δ = 7.16 ppm, ¹H; 128.06 ppm, ¹³C), residual H₂O (δ = 4.76 ppm, ¹H) or residual dimethyl sulfoxide (δ = 2.50 ppm, ¹H; 39.5 ppm, ¹³C). Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm). Multiplicities are indicated by s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet), and br (broad). Coupling constants *J* are reported in Hertz (Hz). Mass spectrometry (MS) was performed by the University of Illinois Mass Spectrometry Laboratory. Electrospray ionization (ESI+) spectra were performed using a time-of-flight (TOF) mass analyzer. Data are reported in the form of *m/z* (intensity relative to the base peak = 100). Infrared spectra were measured neat on a Perkin-Elmer spectrum BX FT-IR spectrometer. Peaks are reported in cm⁻¹ with indicated relative intensities: s (strong, 0–33% T); m (medium, 34–66% T); w (weak, 67–100% T), and br (broad). Visible-light spectrum of LED was recorded using an Avantes Sensline Avaspec-ULS TEC Spectrometer. Melting points of solids, compounds that solidified after chromatography, were measured on a Buchi B-540 melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. The x-ray diffraction experiments were conducted using Bruker D8 Venture/Photon 100 diffractometer or Bruker APEX-II CCD diffractometer. Using Olex2,⁶ the structure was solved with ShelXT⁷ structure solution program using Intrinsic Phasing solution method, and the XL⁸ refinement package using Least Squares minimization.

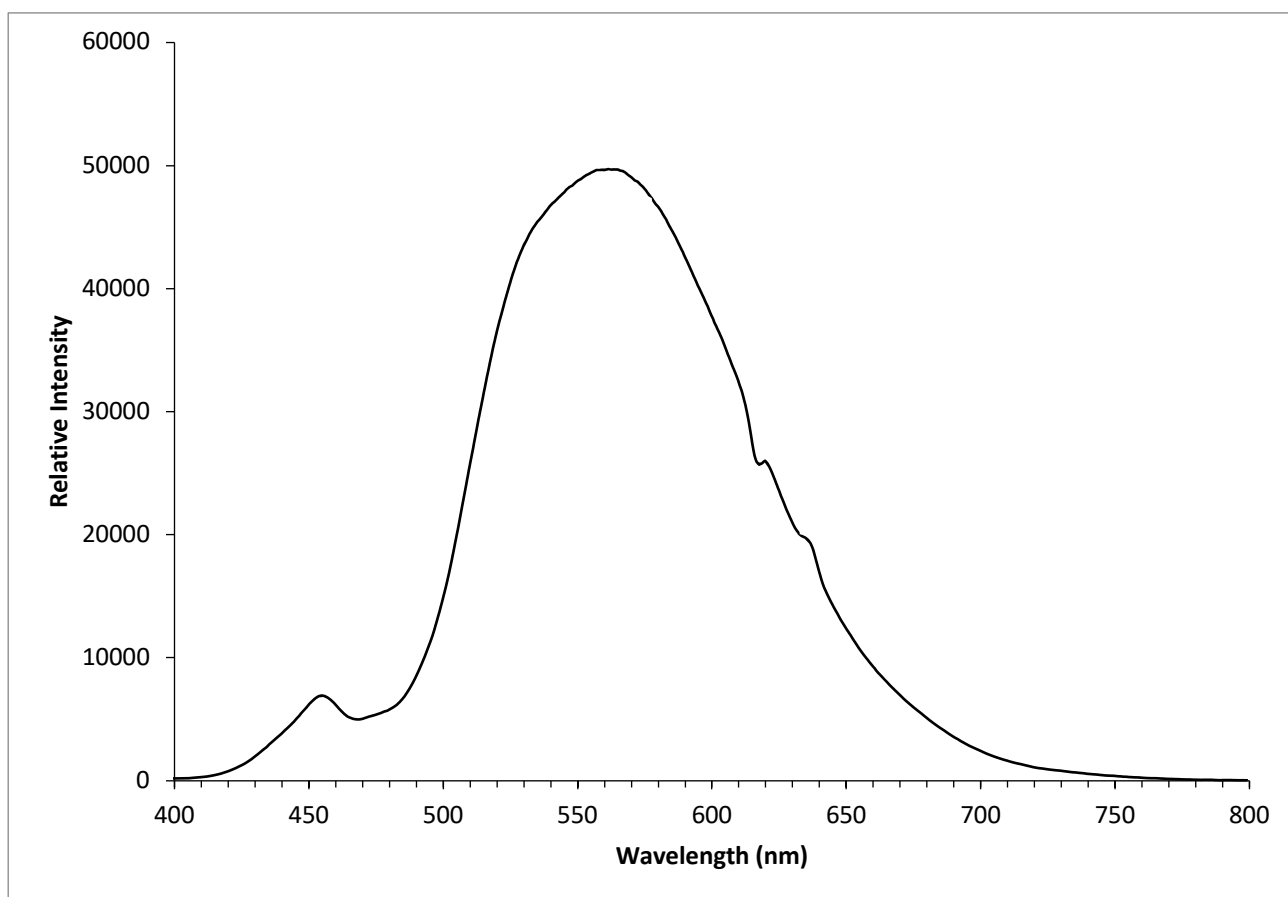
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2. Experimental set-up**2-1. LED light source:**

Generic cool white light LED corn bulbs were used for the photochemical experiments. These can be obtained from several manufacturers over amazon.com and proved to give consistent results as well as identical visible spectra. Detailed info:



Socket: G4
LED Chip: 48 LEDs SMD 2835
Consume wattage: 4W
Input voltage: AC / DC 12V
Beam degree: 360 degrees
Color temperature: 6500K (Cool White)
Initial Lumens (lm): 290



Spectra S1. Spectrum of a LED bulb used.

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2-2. Set-up for small scale reactions (<2.0 mmol scale)

Six 4 W LED corn bulbs (12V, cool white light 6500K) were wired to a suitable 12V power supply, then sealed into test tubes and capped with septa (Picture S1). Lights and reaction tubes were arranged in a merry-go-round fashion for maximal exposure of each reaction vessel to light source and submerged in a $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ bath. Generally, up to four 1.0 mmol scale reactions can be run in the same bath using five 4 W lamps positioned around them.



Picture S1. Assembly of LED bulbs from small-scale photochemical reactions.

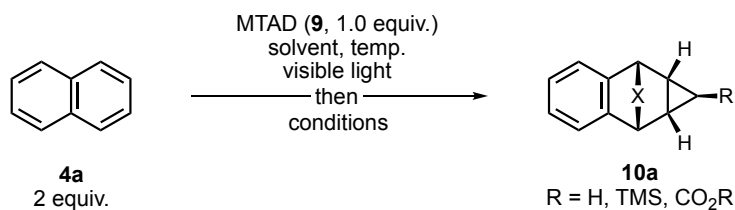
2-3. Set-up for large scale reactions (2 - 10 mmol scale)

Picture S2. Photochemical set-up for large scale reactions.

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3. Experimental procedures

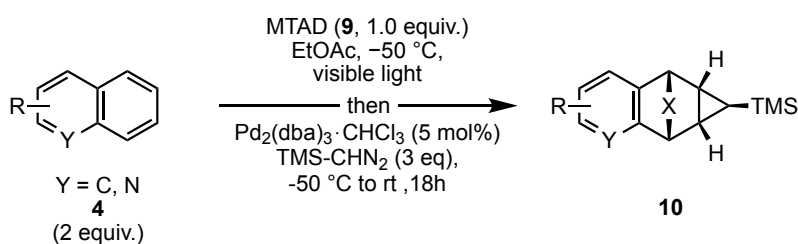
3-1. Optimization of arenophile-mediated cyclopropanation of naphthalene



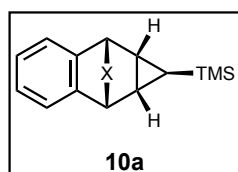
Entry	TM [mol%]	Reagent [equiv.]	Solvent	Temp. [°C]	Yield [%]
1	-	EtZn ₂ (5)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-78 to 25	0
2	Rh ₂ (OAc) ₄ (5)	N ₂ CHCO ₂ Et (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-78 to 25	0
3	[Rh ₂ (cap) ₄] (5)	N ₂ CHCO ₂ Et (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-78 to 25	0
4	Fe(TPP) (10)	N ₂ CHCO ₂ Et (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-78 to 25	0
5	(Ph ₃ P)AuCl (5)	N ₂ CHCO ₂ Et (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-78 to 25	0
6	JohnPhosAuCl (5)	N ₂ CHCO ₂ Et (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-78 to 25	0
7	[(IPr)AuCl] (5)	N ₂ CHCO ₂ Et (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-78 to 25	0
8	CuOTf (2)	N ₂ CHCO ₂ Et (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-78 to 25	0
9	Pd(OAc) ₂ (5)	CH ₂ N ₂ (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-78 to 25	16
10	Pd(OAc) ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-78 to 25	5
11	Pd(OAc) ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-50 to 25	28
12	Pd(TFA) ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-50 to 25	45
13	Pd(Piv) ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-50 to 25	51
14	PdCl ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-50 to 25	52
15	PdCl ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	EtCN	-50 to 25	0
16	PdCl ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	acetone	-50 to 25	51
17	PdCl ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	EtOAc	-50 to 25	58
18	Pd(OAc) ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	EtOAc	-50 to 25	50
19	Pd(Piv) ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	EtOAc	-50 to 25	57
20	Pd(TFA) ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	EtOAc	-50 to 25	60
21	[Pd(allyl)Cl] ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	EtOAc	-50 to 25	35
22	PdCl ₂ (PPh ₃) ₂ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	EtOAc	-50 to 25	0
23	Pd ₂ dba ₃ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	EtOAc	-50 to 25	64
24	Pd ₂ dba ₃ ·CHCl ₃ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (3)	EtOAc	-50 to 25	79
25	Pd ₂ dba ₃ ·CHCl ₃ (5)	TMSCHN ₂ (1.5)	EtOAc	-50 to 25	35

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3-2. General procedure for dearomative cyclopropanation with polycyclic arenes



A solution of *N*-methyl-1,2,4-triazoline-3,5-dione (**9**, MTAD, 113.4 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and arene (**4**, 2.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) in dry and degassed ethyl acetate (5.0 mL) was irradiated with LED lights at $-50\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ under a nitrogen atmosphere. Upon decolorization, which generally proceeds within 8 – 12 hours with the described setup, a suspension of $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3\cdot\text{CHCl}_3$ (51.76 mg, 0.05 mmol, 0.05 equiv.) in dry and degassed ethyl acetate (2 mL, sonicated for 1 minute), was added dropwise to the solution, followed by dropwise addition of (trimethylsilyl)diazomethane (2.0 M solution in hexanes, 1.5 mL, 3.0 mmol, 3.0 equiv.). After addition, the cold bath was allowed to slowly warm up from $-50\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ to room temperature, over 18 hours. The reaction was quenched by adding acetic acid (350 μL , 6 equiv.) and left to stir for 15 minutes. The solution was filtered through celite and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography to give the desired compound **10**.



2-methyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,10-dihydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-1,3(2H)-dione (10a):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO_2 , hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1 to 4:1) as a yellow solid (259 mg, 79%).

$R_f = 0.25$ (SiO_2 , hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO_4)

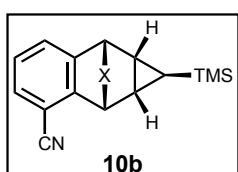
$^1\text{H NMR}$: (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.36 (dd, $J = 5.4, 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.20 (dd, $J = 5.4, 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 5.54 (dd, $J = 3.2, 2.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.83 (s, 3H), 1.63 (ddd, $J = 5.2, 3.3, 2.0$ Hz, 2H), -0.09 (s, 9H), -1.16 (t, $J = 5.2$ Hz, 1H)

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$: (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.34, 131.09, 129.23, 124.02, 57.89, 25.22, 12.61, -2.26

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{Si}$ [$\text{M} + \text{H}$] $^+$, 328.1481; found: 328.1476

IR: (ATR, neat, cm^{-1}) = 2954 (w), 1771 (m), 1704 (s), 1446 (m), 1388 (m), 1246 (m), 1227 (w), 1202 (w), 1170 (w), 1047 (w), 964 (m), 923 (w), 837 (s), 755 (m), 701 (w), 666 (w), 555 (m), 505 (w)

m.p. = 166 – 169 $^{\circ}\text{C}$



2-methyl-1,3-dioxo-14-(trimethylsilyl)-2,3,5,10-tetrahydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-6-carbonitrile (10b):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO_2 , hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (261 mg, 74%).

$R_f = 0.25$ (SiO_2 , hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1, UV, KMnO_4)

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.67 (dd, $J = 7.8, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 5.91 (d, $J = 4.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.57 (d, $J = 4.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.83 (s, 3H), 1.71 (dt, $J = 7.4, 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.66 (dt, $J = 7.5, 4.9$ Hz, 1H), -0.09 (s, 10H), -1.28 (t, $J = 5.1$ Hz, 1H).

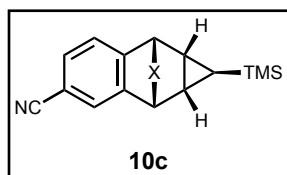
$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.34, 157.05, 134.23, 132.62, 132.32, 129.90, 128.55, 115.80, 108.62, 57.40, 55.72, 25.42, 12.06, 11.88, 8.85, -2.26.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2\text{Si}$ [$\text{M} + \text{H}$] $^+$, 353.1434; found: 353.1430

IR: (ATR, neat, cm^{-1}) = 2228 (w), 1771 (m), 1705 (s), 1447 (m), 1396 (m), 1247 (m), 1228 (w), 1201 (w), 1174 (w), 1046 (w), 963 (m), 926 (w), 837 (s), 767 (m), 710 (w), 656 (w), 522 (m), 477 (w)

m.p. = 229 – 232 $^{\circ}\text{C}$

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2-methyl-1,3-dioxo-14-(trimethylsilyl)-2,3,5,10-tetrahydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-7-carbonitrile (10c):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (176 mg, 50%).

R_f = 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1, UV, KMnO₄)

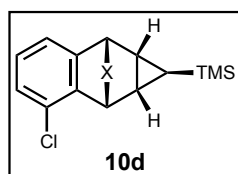
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (q, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 2H), 2.83 (s, 3H), 1.67 (dt, *J* = 5.3, 2.5 Hz, 2H), -0.08 (s, 9H), -1.23 (t, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.18, 135.55, 133.60, 132.21, 127.57, 125.06, 117.98, 113.46, 57.37, 57.18, 25.42, 12.24, 12.07, 9.05, -2.26.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₈H₂₀N₄O₂Si [M + H]⁺, 353.1434; found: 353.1432

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2229 (w), 1770 (m), 1705 (s), 1448 (m), 1394 (m), 1245 (m), 1199 (w), 1177 (w), 1001 (w), 972 (w), 962 (m), 869 (s), 830 (s), 767 (m), 710 (w), 656 (w), 542 (m), 489 (w)

m.p. = 182 – 184 °C



6-chloro-2-methyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,10-dihydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-1,3(2H)-dione (10d):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (217 mg, 60%).

R_f = 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO₄)

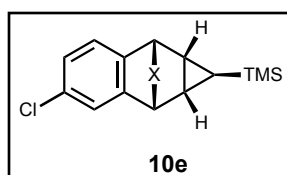
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.09 – 7.05 (m, 1H), 5.98 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 5.49 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.81 (s, 3H), 1.63 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 1.59 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 4.9 Hz, 1H), -0.11 (s, 9H), -1.20 (t, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.18, 157.05, 132.82, 130.08, 129.79, 129.61, 129.14, 122.48, 57.49, 54.49, 25.27, 11.99, 11.95, 8.56, -2.35.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₇H₂₀ClN₃O₂Si [M + H]⁺, 362.1092; found: 362.1080

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2229 (w), 1771 (m), 1705 (s), 1457 (m), 1449 (m), 1395 (m), 1246 (w), 1200 (w), 1174 (w), 1035 (w), 965 (m), 869 (m), 840 (s), 764 (m), 712 (w), 675 (w), 585 (m), 489 (w)

m.p. = 184 – 185 °C



7-chloro-2-methyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,10-dihydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-1,3(2H)-dione (10e):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (181 mg, 50%).

R_f = 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.50 (dt, *J* = 10.4, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 1.62 (td, *J* = 7.2, 6.1, 3.2 Hz, 3H), -0.08 (s, 9H), -1.15 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H).

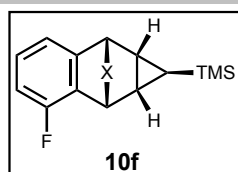
¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.37, 157.32, 135.09, 132.64, 129.52, 129.46, 125.52, 124.55, 57.52, 57.39, 25.39, 12.61, 12.42, 8.89, -2.20.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₇H₂₀ClN₃O₂Si [M + H]⁺, 362.1092; found: 362.1085.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2958 (w), 1765 (m), 1705 (s), 1451 (m), 1394 (m), 1245 (m), 1200 (w), 1174 (w), 999 (w), 967 (m), 869 (m), 837 (s), 815 (w), 765 (m), 748 (w), 637 (w), 530 (m), 506 (w).

m.p. = 190 – 192 °C

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6-fluoro-2-methyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,10-dihydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-1,3(2H)-dione (10f):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 10:1 to 9:1) as a yellow solid (169 mg, 49%).

R_f = 0.30 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 7.4, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.12 – 7.05 (m, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 5.53 (dd, *J* = 4.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 1.63 (ddt, *J* = 12.0, 7.7, 3.9 Hz, 2H), -0.09 (s, 9H), -1.14 (t, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

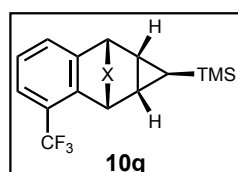
¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.24, 157.18, 156.66 (d, *J* = 250.7 Hz), 133.47 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz), 130.66 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 119.81 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 117.96 (d, *J* = 18.3 Hz), 116.35 (d, *J* = 20.7 Hz), 57.26, 51.66, 25.34, 12.32, 8.74, -2.25.

¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -122.86.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₇H₂₀FN₃O₂Si [M + H]⁺, 346.1387; found: 346.1380

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2959 (w), 1772 (m), 1705 (s), 1476 (m), 1448 (m), 1392 (m), 1247 (m), 1204 (w), 1154 (w), 994 (w), 962 (m), 834 (s), 815 (w), 758 (m), 746 (w), 738 (w), 731 (m), 472 (w)

m.p. = 144 – 147 °C


2-methyl-6-(trifluoromethyl)-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,10-dihydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-1,3(2H)-dione (10g):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (237 mg, 60%).

R_f = 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.97 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (s, 3H), 1.67 (tt, *J* = 8.0, 3.9 Hz, 2H), -0.11 (s, 9H), -1.33 (t, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

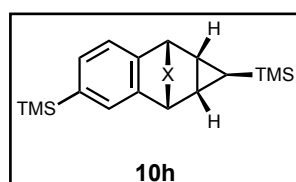
¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.13, 156.39, 132.75, 129.62, 129.25, 127.89, 125.95 (q, *J* = 4.7 Hz), 125.9 (q, *J* = 27 Hz), 123.37 (q, *J* = 274 Hz), 57.15, 54.32, 25.43, 12.04, 9.01, -2.41.

¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -60.10.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₈H₂₀F₃N₃O₂Si [M + H]⁺, 396.1355; found: 396.1342.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2961 (w), 1766 (m), 1716 (s), 1457 (m), 1397 (m), 1320 (m), 1249 (m), 1211 (w), 1176 (w), 1163 (m), 1124 (s), 968 (m), 871 (w), 841 (m), 758 (m), 743 (w), 731 (m), 555 (w)

m.p. = 213 – 215 °C


2-methyl-7,14-bis(trimethylsilyl)-5,10-dihydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-1,3(2H)-dione (10h):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 10:1) as a yellow solid (180 mg, 45%).

R_f = 0.3 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.50 (t, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 2.82 (s, 3H), 1.59 (q, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 2H), 0.24 (s, 9H), -0.11 (s, 10H), -1.20 (t, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

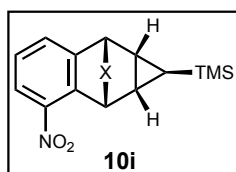
¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.02, 142.21, 134.31, 131.60, 130.40, 128.49, 123.13, 76.93, 57.97, 57.69, 25.27, 12.88, 12.69, 8.51, -1.02, -2.21.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₂₀H₂₉N₃O₂Si₂ [M + H]⁺, 400.1877; found: 400.1867.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2950 (w), 1766 (m), 1704 (s), 1449 (m), 1392 (m), 1248 (w), 1206 (m), 1170 (w), 995 (m), 954 (w), 868 (m) 828 (s), 779 (m), 751 (m), 733 (m), 693 (w), 634 (m).

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

m.p. = 67 – 70 °C

**2-methyl-6-nitro-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,10-dihydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-1,3(2H)-dione (10i):**

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (242 mg, 65%).

R_f = 0.30 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO₄)

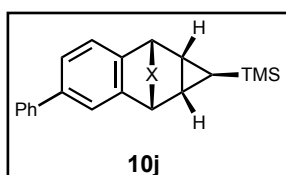
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (s, 3H), 1.75 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 1.68 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H), -0.09 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 9H), -1.19 (t, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.19, 156.65, 144.19, 133.54, 129.84, 126.49, 124.87, 57.20, 53.48, 25.38, 11.71, 11.49, 9.11, -2.33.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₇H₂₀N₄O₄Si [M + H]⁺, 373.1332; found: 373.1323

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2958 (w), 1770 (m), 1704 (s), 1555 (m), 1455 (m), 1401 (m), 1370 (m), 1201 (w), 1180 (w), 1001 (w), 966 (m), 869 (m), 840 (s), 820 (w), 766 (m), 747 (w), 640 (w), 531 (m), 505 (w)

m.p. = 218 – 220 °C

**2-methyl-7-phenyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,10-dihydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-1,3(2H)-dione (10j):**

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (169 mg, 42%).

R_f = 0.3 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO₄)

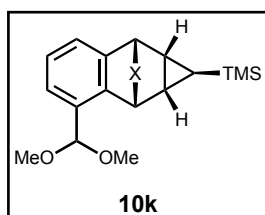
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 (dd, *J* = 9.2, 7.4 Hz, 3H), 7.46 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 5.58 (dt, *J* = 9.4, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 1.69 – 1.61 (m, 2H), -0.08 (s, 9H), -1.07 (t, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.36, 157.29, 142.22, 140.05, 131.69, 130.07, 129.01, 127.92, 127.79, 127.22, 124.47, 122.75, 58.11, 57.70, 25.34, 12.86, 12.79, 8.77, -2.19.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₂₃H₂₅N₃O₂Si [M + H]⁺, 404.1770; found: 404.1781.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2952 (w), 1764 (m), 1698 (s), 1446 (m), 1388 (m), 1253 (w), 1244 (m), 1218 (w), 1171 (m), 993 (w), 967 (m), 955 (m), 834 (s), 761 (s), 751 (m), 735 (w), 568 (m).

m.p. = 190 – 193 °C

**6-(dimethoxymethyl)-2-methyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,10-dihydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-1,3(2H)-dione (10k):**

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (283 mg, 62%).

R_f = 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (s, 1H), 5.50 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 3.02 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 1.61 (q, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H), -0.12 (s, 9H), -1.24 (t, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

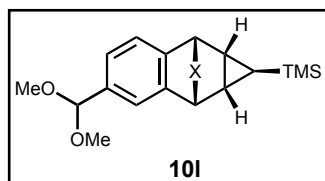
¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.47, 157.35, 133.17, 131.34, 129.73, 128.50, 127.61, 124.32, 100.16, 57.87, 54.85, 53.92, 49.91, 25.25, 12.28, 12.08, 8.93, -2.35.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₂₀H₂₇N₃O₄Si [M + Na]⁺, 424.1669; found: 424.1655.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2951 (w), 1769 (m), 1704 (s), 1449 (m), 1393 (m), 1247 (w), 1199 (m), 1172 (w), 1144 (m), 1030 (w), 1000 (m), 964 (m), 868 (m), 836 (s), 778 (m), 764 (m), 732 (m).

m.p. = 73 – 74 °C

SUPPORTING INFORMATION



7-(dimethoxymethyl)-2-methyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,10-dihydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-1,3(2H)-dione (10l):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (217 mg, 54%).

R_f = 0.3 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO₄)

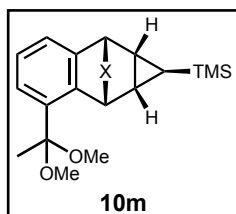
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 5.52 (dt, J = 3.8, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 5.36 (s, 1H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 2.81 (s, 3H), 1.63 – 1.57 (m, 2H), -0.12 (s, 8H), -1.20 (t, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.25, 157.21, 139.35, 131.32, 131.06, 127.53, 123.99, 122.61, 102.73, 57.99, 57.67, 53.09, 53.04, 25.25, 12.64, 12.62, 8.65, -2.23.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₂₀H₂₇N₃O₄Si [M + Na]⁺, 424.1669; found: 424.1661.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2952 (w), 1768 (m), 1710 (s), 1455 (m), 1388 (m), 1245 (w), 1201 (m), 1174 (w), 1140 (m), 1025 (w), 998 (m), 965 (m), 868 (m) 837 (s), 778 (m), 764 (m), 732 (m).

m.p. = 69 – 71 °C



6-(1,1-dimethoxyethyl)-2-methyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,10-dihydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-1,3(2H)-dione (10m):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (283 mg, 68%).

R_f = 0.30 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO₄)

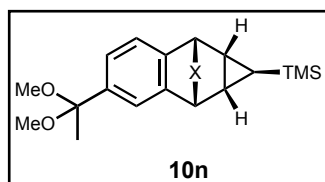
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 2.88 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 4H), -0.14 (s, 9H), -1.27 (t, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.35, 155.88, 138.56, 132.14, 129.26, 128.65, 128.35, 124.07, 101.58, 57.37, 54.13, 49.30, 48.85, 25.92, 25.35, 12.83, 12.56, 9.01, -2.33.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₂₁H₂₉N₃O₄Si [M + Na]⁺, 438.1849; found: 438.1835.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2950 (w), 1766 (m), 1704 (s), 1451 (m), 1393 (m), 1275 (w), 1249 (m), 1201 (w), 1148 (m), 1037 (w), 958 (m), 872 (m), 868 (m) 837 (s), 766 (m), 763 (m), 570 (w).

m.p. = 70 – 71 °C



7-(1,1-dimethoxyethyl)-2-methyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,10-dihydro-1H-5,10-[1,2]epicyclopropa[1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-1,3(2H)-dione (10n):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (233 mg, 56%).

R_f = 0.30 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.46 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (dd, J = 4.0, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 3.12 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 6H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 1.65 – 1.55 (m, 2H), 1.48 (s, 3H), -0.13 (s, 8H), -1.24 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H).

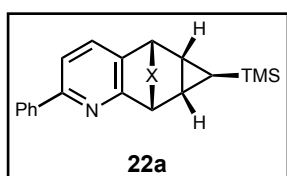
¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.21, 157.13, 144.12, 130.95, 130.51, 127.11, 123.81, 122.17, 101.48, 58.13, 57.62, 49.07, 49.05, 26.06, 25.21, 12.73, 12.64, 8.53, -2.22.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₂₁H₂₉N₃O₄Si [M + Na]⁺, 438.1849; found: 438.1821.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2952 (w), 1768 (m), 1704 (s), 1449 (m), 1392 (m), 1264 (w), 1198 (m), 1168 (m), 1143 (w), 1037 (w), 958 (m), 873 (m), 867 (m) 835 (s), 761 (m), 733 (m), 561 (w).

m.p. = 67 – 70 °C

SUPPORTING INFORMATION


8-methyl-2-phenyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,11-dihydro-7H-5,11-[1,2]epicyclopropapyrido[2,3-d][1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-a]pyridazine-7,9(8H)-dione (22a):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (182 mg, 45%).

R_f = 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO₄)

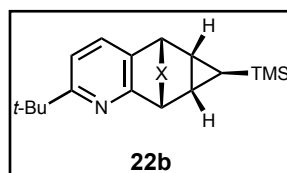
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.05 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.39 (m, 1H), 5.77 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 5.63 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (s, 3H), 1.73 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 1.67 (dt, *J* = 7.6, 5.0 Hz, 1H), -0.09 (s, 9H), -1.10 (t, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.09, 157.01, 156.53, 151.31, 138.43, 132.58, 129.60, 128.96, 127.18, 124.64, 120.81, 59.74, 56.68, 25.45, 12.89, 12.12, 8.47, -2.21.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₂₂H₂₄N₄O₂Si [M + H]⁺, 405.1747; found: 405.1727.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2950 (w), 1767 (m), 1695 (s), 1456 (m), 1438 (s), 1391 (m), 1263 (m), 1249 (m), 1164 (m), 990 (w), 961 (m), 878 (m), 835 (s), 820 (m), 759 (s), 691 (s), 576 (m).

m.p. = 155 – 157 °C


2-(tert-butyl)-8-methyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,11-dihydro-7H-5,11-[1,2]epicyclopropapyrido[2,3-d][1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-a]pyridazine-7,9(8H)-dione (22b):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1) as a yellow solid (258 mg, 67%).

R_f = 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO₄)

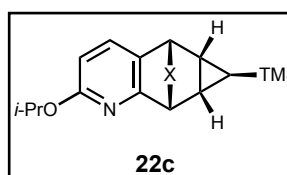
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (s, 3H), 1.66 (dt, *J* = 7.4, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 1.60 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 1.32 (s, 9H), -0.11 (s, 9H), -1.28 (t, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.45, 156.81, 156.34, 150.23, 131.73, 123.24, 119.32, 59.72, 56.60, 37.78, 30.29, 25.41, 12.83, 12.17, 8.06, -2.22.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₂₀H₂₈N₄O₂Si [M + H]⁺, 385.2060; found: 385.2052.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2957 (w), 1769 (m), 1702 (s), 1443 (m), 1389 (s), 1263 (m), 1248 (m), 1212 (m), 1166 (m), 1026 (w), 995 (m), 963 (m), 867 (w), 832 (s), 760 (m), 746 (m), 624 (m), 543 (m).

m.p. = 149 – 150 °C


2-isopropoxy-8-methyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,11-dihydro-7H-5,11-[1,2]epicyclopropapyrido[2,3-d][1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-a]pyridazine-7,9(8H)-dione (22c):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 10:1) as a yellow solid (193 mg, 50%).

R_f = 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 5.49 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 5.25 (dp, *J* = 12.3, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 1.57 (q, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 6H), -0.12 (s, 9H), -1.20 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H).

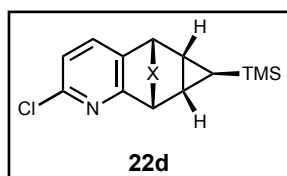
¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.14, 157.14, 156.73, 148.74, 134.69, 118.34, 111.39, 68.85, 59.36, 56.59, 25.31, 21.99, 21.97, 12.95, 11.68, 8.17, -2.29.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₉H₂₆N₄O₃Si [M + H]⁺, 387.1852; found: 387.1847.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2950 (w), 1770 (m), 1705 (s), 1600 (m), 1452 (s), 1430 (m), 1393 (m), 1299 (m), 1250 (m), 1168 (w), 1105 (m), 972 (m), 955 (w), 868 (m), 834 (s), 808 (m), 765 (m), 726 (m), 569 (m).

m.p. = 150 – 151 °C

SUPPORTING INFORMATION



2-chloro-8-methyl-14-(trimethylsilyl)-5,11-dihydro-7H-5,11-[1,2]epicyclopropapyrido[2,3-d][1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-a]pyridazine-7,9(8H)-dione (22d):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1) as a yellow solid (181 mg, 50%).

R_f = 0.2 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1, UV, KMnO₄)

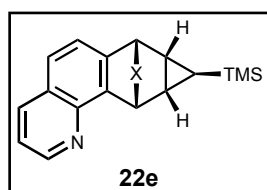
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (s, 3H), 1.72 – 1.68 (m, 1H), 1.66 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H), -0.08 (s, 9H), -1.21 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.03, 156.48, 152.07, 151.67, 134.60, 125.08, 125.03, 58.98, 56.18, 25.53, 12.45, 11.66, 8.67, -2.25.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₆H₁₉ClN₄O₂Si [*M* + H]⁺, 363.1044; found: 363.1035.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2953 (w), 1775 (m), 1706 (s), 1567 (w), 1457 (m), 1424 (m), 1399 (m), 1253 (w), 1200 (m), 1170 (w), 1114 (m), 996 (m), 961 (m), 869 (m), 834 (s), 766 (m), 656 (m).

m.p. = 203 – 206 °C



10-methyl-16-(trimethylsilyl)-7,13-dihydro-9H-7,13-[1,2]epicyclopropapyrido[2,3-f][1,2,4]triazolo[1,2-b]phthalazine-9,11(10H)-dione (22e):

Following General Procedure (1.0 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 4:1) as a yellow solid (155 mg, 41%).

R_f = 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 7:3, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.01 (dd, *J* = 4.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 5.73 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.76 (s, 3H), 1.78 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 1.68 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H), -0.13 (s, 9H), -1.26 (t, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.70, 157.24, 151.80, 142.63, 136.47, 131.64, 129.10, 128.75, 128.41, 122.71, 121.84, 58.10, 52.77, 25.33, 12.15, 12.07, 8.75, -2.13.

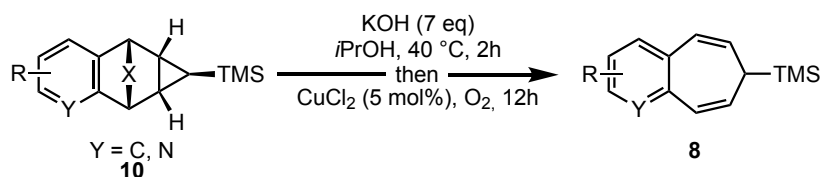
HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₂₀H₂₂N₄O₂Si [*M* + H]⁺, 379.1590; found: 379.1584.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2955 (w), 1769 (m), 1699 (s), 1455 (m), 1441 (m), 1391 (m), 1247 (m), 1211 (w), 1169 (m), 972 (m), 955 (w), 868 (m), 835 (s), 808 (m), 765 (m), 726 (m), 551 (m).

m.p. = 203 – 206 °C

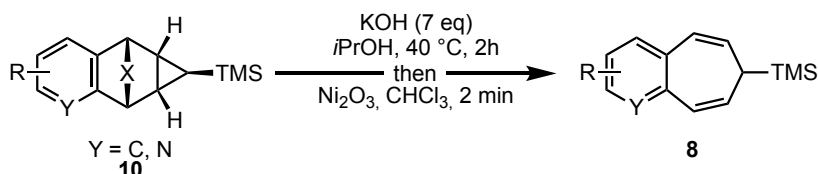
SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3-3. General procedure A for the synthesis of benzocycloheptatrienes



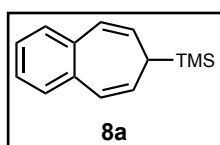
To a vial containing finely ground KOH (156 mg, 5.0 equiv., 90 wt%), and substrate (**13**, 0.500 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) under nitrogen was added *i*-PrOH (5.0 mL, 0.1 M) and degassed with nitrogen/sonication for 15 min. The reaction was heated to 40 °C with vigorous stirring (700 rpm) and progress was monitored by TLC in 30 min intervals. Upon completion, the reaction was cooled in an ice bath and H₂O (5.0 mL) was added. AcOH is then carefully added dropwise until pH = 5, upon which gas evolution is observed. CuCl₂ dihydrate (4.3 mg, 25 μmol, 5.0 mol%) was then added as a solid, followed by sparging with oxygen, and the reaction was stirred for 10-16 h under an atmosphere of oxygen (balloon). Upon completion, the reaction was partitioned between CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) and saturated brine (10 mL) and the organic layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 10 mL). The combined organics were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, concentrated under vacuum, and isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate mixtures).

3-4. General procedure B for the synthesis of benzocycloheptatrienes



To a vial containing finely ground KOH (156 mg, 5.0 equiv., 90 wt%), and substrate (**13**, 0.500 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) under nitrogen was added *i*-PrOH (5.0 mL, 0.1 M) and degassed with nitrogen/sonication for 15 min. The reaction was heated to 40 °C with vigorous stirring (700 rpm) and progress was monitored by TLC in 30 min intervals. Upon completion, the reaction was cooled in an ice bath and H₂O (5.0 mL) was added. AcOH is then carefully added dropwise until pH = 5, upon which gas evolution is observed. The semicarbazide intermediate was then extracted out with ethyl acetate (3 × 5 mL). The organic layers were combined, dried with MgSO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. This mixture containing the semicarbazide was added to the vial, followed by CHCl₃ (5.0 mL, 0.1 M), and sparged with nitrogen for 15 minutes. Next, nickel oxide (Ni₂O₃, 30% active basis, 830 mg, 3.0 equiv.) was added as a solid under a stream of nitrogen (note: vigorous gas evolution was observed). The solution was agitated 2 minutes, filtered through a celite plug, washed thoroughly with CH₂Cl₂, concentrated under vacuum, and isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate mixtures).

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

**(7H-benzo[7]annulen-7-yl)trimethylsilane (8a):**

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (81 mg, 75%).

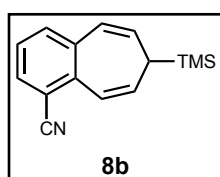
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.00 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (dd, *J* = 5.6, 3.4 Hz, 2H), 6.09 (d, *J* = 11.3 Hz, 2H), 5.46 (dd, *J* = 11.3, 8.3 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (t, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), -0.01 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.92, 132.83, 130.71, 128.70, 126.60, 37.05, -2.88.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₉Si [M + H]⁺, 214.1178; found: 214.1177.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2953 (w), 1770 (w), 1449 (w), 1439 (w), 1314 (w), 1247 (m), 1114 (w), 1058 (w), 1038 (w), 1001 (w), 834 (s), 790 (m), 747 (m), 728 (m), 630 (m), 484 (m).

**7-(trimethylsilyl)-7H-benzo[7]annulene-1-carbonitrile (8b):**

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (78 mg, 65%).

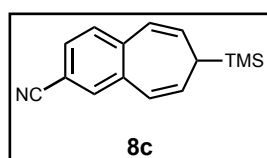
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (dd, *J* = 6.0, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.11 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 6.53 (d, *J* = 11.5 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (ddd, *J* = 11.6, 8.6, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (ddd, *J* = 11.6, 8.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), -0.03 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.95, 139.15, 138.49, 136.05, 134.68, 131.00, 127.23, 126.72, 124.43, 118.36, 112.47, 37.65, -2.81.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈NSi [M + H]⁺, 240.1209; found: 240.1207.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2953 (w), 2225 (m), 1460 (w), 1248 (m), 1102 (w), 1080 (w), 1061 (w), 1009 (w), 983 (w), 835 (s), 805 (w), 782 (m), 757 (m), 732 (m), 650 (m), 544 (w), 484 (m).

**7-(trimethylsilyl)-7H-benzo[7]annulene-2-carbonitrile (8c):**

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (78 mg, 65%).

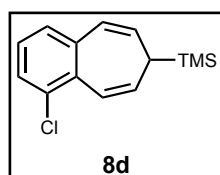
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42 – 7.36 (m, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.18 (dd, *J* = 23.0, 11.5 Hz, 2H), 5.73 (ddt, *J* = 11.2, 8.3, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.69 – 5.60 (m, 1H), 2.56 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 0.14 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.95, 139.15, 138.49, 136.05, 134.68, 131.00, 127.23, 126.72, 124.43, 118.36, 112.47, 37.65, -2.81.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈NSi [M + H]⁺, 240.1209; found: 240.1208.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2952 (w), 2224 (m), 1494 (w), 1246 (m), 1126 (w), 1081 (w), 1060 (w), 1009 (w), 983 (w), 830 (s), 805 (w), 789 (m), 757 (m), 728 (m), 650 (m), 544 (w), 497 (m).

**(1-chloro-7H-benzo[7]annulen-7-yl)trimethylsilane (8d):**

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (99 mg, 79%).

R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

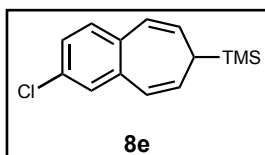
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.14 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 6.19 (d, *J* = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.68 – 5.61 (m, 1H), 2.37 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), -0.03 – -0.07 (m, 9H).

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¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.87, 135.42, 135.40, 135.37, 134.83, 133.95, 129.26, 127.87, 127.45, 127.26, 124.55, 36.32, -2.57.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₈ClSi [M + H]⁺, 247.0710; found: 247.0715.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2954 (w), 1556 (w), 1459 (w), 1432 (m), 1248 (s), 1131 (w), 1030 (w), 899 (w), 834 (s), 808 (s), 794 (m), 763 (m), 730 (m), 716 (m), 691 (w), 654 (m), 520 (w).



(2-chloro-7H-benzo[7]annulen-7-yl)trimethylsilane (8e):

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (85 mg, 68%).

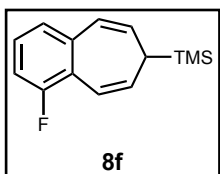
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.95 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (dd, *J* = 19.1, 11.5 Hz, 2H), 5.54 – 5.42 (m, 2H), 2.36 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), -0.00 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.58, 136.41, 134.47, 133.22, 131.97, 131.94, 130.25, 127.65, 127.41, 126.44, 37.29, -2.88.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₈ClSi [M + H]⁺, 247.0710; found: 247.0718.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2954 (w), 1586 (w), 1485 (w), 1409 (m), 1247 (s), 1125 (w), 1098 (m), 878 (w), 834 (s), 808 (s), 788 (m), 749 (m), 730 (m), 706 (m), 692 (w), 649 (m), 495 (w).



(1-fluoro-7H-benzo[7]annulen-7-yl)trimethylsilane (8f):

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (94 mg, 81%).

R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

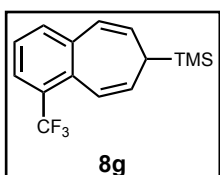
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.99 (td, *J* = 7.9, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.73 – 6.68 (m, 1H), 6.37 (d, *J* = 11.5 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (dd, *J* = 11.6, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (dd, *J* = 11.4, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), -0.01 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.17 (d, *J* = 246.6 Hz), 139.92, 134.44, 134.17, 128.03 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 127.66 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz), 126.22 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 125.71 (d, *J* = 11.9 Hz), 119.32 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz), 113.13 (d, *J* = 23.6 Hz), 36.87, -2.81.

¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -119.31.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₈FSi [M + H]⁺, 232.1084; found: 232.1085.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2970 (w), 2953 (w), 1738 (s), 1446 (m), 1421 (m), 1365 (s), 1228 (s), 1217 (s), 836 (m), 823 (s), 806 (s), 782 (m), 758 (m), 731 (m), 540 (m), 527 (w), 513 (m).



trimethyl(1-(trifluoromethyl)-7H-benzo[7]annulen-7-yl)silane (8g):

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (103 mg, 73%).

R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (q, *J* = 3.3, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 6.54 (dq, *J* = 11.3, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.26 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (dddd, *J* = 13.1, 10.1, 8.8, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 2.37 (t, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), -0.10 (s, 9H).

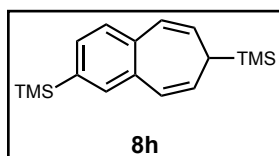
¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.72, 136.65, 136.62, 136.17, 134.20, 128.38 (q, *J* = 28.7 Hz), 127.89, 125.98, 124.6 (q, *J* = 274, 7 Hz), 124.01 (q, *J* = 6.1 Hz), 123.40 (q, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 36.28, -2.46.

¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -60.62.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈F₃Si [M + H]⁺, 282.1052; found: 282.1047.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2970 (w), 1467 (w), 1449 (w), 1395 (w), 1311 (s), 1249 (m), 1155 (m), 1117 (s), 1081 (m), 908 (w), 836 (s), 824 (s), 803 (m), 781 (m), 766 (m), 733 (m), 651 (w), 602 (w), 514 (m).

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

**(7H-benzo[7]annulene-1,7-diyl)bis(trimethylsilane) (8h):**

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (114 mg, 81%).

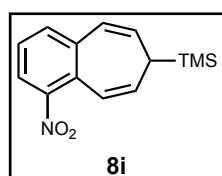
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.15 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 6.86 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (dd, J = 15.4, 11.5 Hz, 2H), 5.50 – 5.41 (m, 2H), 2.35 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 0.23 (s, 8H), -0.00 (s, 8H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.51, 138.27, 136.87, 135.88, 133.01, 132.45, 131.68, 129.93, 129.03, 128.76, 37.21, -1.03, -2.91.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₇H₂₇Si₂ [M + H]⁺, 286.1573; found: 286.1581.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2970 (w), 1738 (m), 1419 (w), 1365 (s), 1246 (s), 1229 (m), 1217 (s), 1112 (m), 1100 (w), 894 (w), 833 (s), 789 (m), 728 (m), 691 (w), 613 (w), 514 (w).

**trimethyl(1-nitro-7H-benzo[7]annulen-7-yl)silane (8i):**

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (98 mg, 75%).

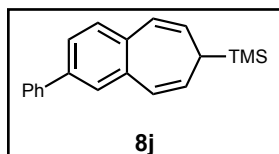
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40 (dt, J = 7.5, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.18 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 6.25 (d, J = 11.3 Hz, 1H), 6.20 (d, J = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 5.79 – 5.69 (m, 2H), 2.41 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), -0.03 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.47, 139.98, 137.53, 137.03, 133.95, 131.49, 127.19, 126.69, 121.59, 121.50, 36.72, -2.50.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₈NO₂Si [M + H]⁺, 258.0950; found: 258.0944.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2970 (w), 1522 (s), 1446 (m), 1450 (w), 1351 (m), 1248 (m), 1101 (w), 1063 (w), 1008 (w), 835 (s), 818 (m), 788 (m), 736 (m), 610 (w), 540 (w), 485 (w).

**trimethyl(1-phenyl-7H-benzo[7]annulen-7-yl)silane (8j):**

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (112 mg, 77%).

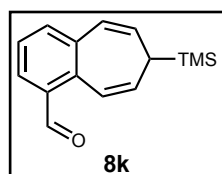
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.41 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 1H), 7.28 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (dd, J = 19.4, 11.5 Hz, 2H), 5.53 – 5.45 (m, 2H), 2.39 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 0.02 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.67, 139.11, 138.22, 137.01, 133.03, 132.84, 131.31, 129.42, 128.82, 128.69, 128.29, 127.31, 126.83, 125.12, 37.28, -2.85.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₂₀H₂₃Si [M + H]⁺, 290.1491; found: 290.1497.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2971 (w), 1738 (m), 1482 (m), 1366 (s), 1355 (s), 1229 (m), 1217 (s), 1112 (m), 831 (s), 791 (m), 756 (s), 693 (w), 650 (w), 486 (w).

**7-(trimethylsilyl)-7H-benzo[7]annulene-1-carbaldehyde (8k):**

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (92 mg, 76%).

R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

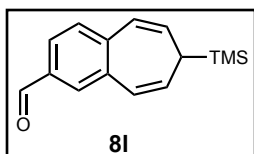
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.34 (s, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 7.2, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 11.3 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (d, J = 11.1 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (ddd, J = 11.4, 8.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.71 (ddd, J = 11.2, 8.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), -0.07 (s, 10H).

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¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 192.65, 139.88, 139.25, 136.97, 136.23, 136.05, 133.66, 129.92, 128.03, 126.59, 123.32, 36.47, -2.38.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₉OSi [M + H]⁺, 243.1205; found: 243.1201.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2955 (w), 1738 (m), 1693 (m), 1595 (w), 1365 (s), 1247 (s), 1229 (s), 1217 (s), 1111 (m), 1051 (m), 862 (s), 834 (s), 789 (m), 728 (m), 691 (w), 613 (w), 514 (w).



7-(trimethylsilyl)-7H-benzo[7]annulene-2-carbaldehyde (8l):

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (90 mg, 74%).

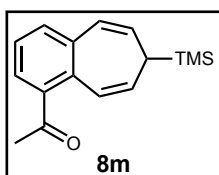
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 9.85 (s, 1H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.13 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 6.6 Hz, 2H), 5.64 (ddd, *J* = 11.6, 8.3, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.52 (ddd, *J* = 11.5, 8.2, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 0.00 (s, 8H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) δ 191.99, 191.97, 191.96, 144.61, 139.13, 137.76, 135.14, 134.95, 132.14, 131.71, 128.30, 128.17, 127.97, 38.55, -2.91.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₉OSi [M + H]⁺, 243.1205; found: 243.1200.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2950 (w), 1740 (m), 1700 (m), 1593 (w), 1362 (s), 1250 (s), 1230 (s), 1216 (s), 1116 (m), 898 (s), 836 (s), 789 (m), 728 (m), 691 (w), 613 (w), 514 (w).



1-(7-(trimethylsilyl)-7H-benzo[7]annulen-1-yl)ethan-1-one (8m):

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (83 mg, 65%).

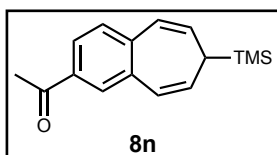
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.18 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (d, *J* = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 5.70 – 5.61 (m, 2H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 2.34 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), -0.04 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 204.65, 141.02, 138.85, 135.70, 135.51, 134.45, 133.01, 128.31, 126.25, 125.61, 125.33, 36.24, 31.19, -2.43.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₆H₂₁OSi [M + H]⁺, 257.1362; found: 257.1362.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2955 (w), 1738 (m), 1678 (s), 1595 (m), 1355 (m), 1272 (s), 1247 (m), 1225 (m), 1218 (m), 1192 (m), 1125 (m), 1081 (w), 976 (w), 862 (s), 834 (s), 789 (m), 728 (m), 698 (w), 613 (w), 487 (w).



1-(7-(trimethylsilyl)-7H-benzo[7]annulen-2-yl)ethan-1-one (8n):

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (82 mg, 64%).

R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

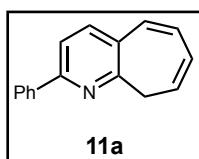
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57 (dt, *J* = 8.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.11 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 8.9 Hz, 2H), 5.62 – 5.55 (m, 1H), 5.48 (dd, *J* = 11.6, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 3H), 2.41 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), -0.00 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.69, 142.79, 138.08, 136.36, 135.14, 133.88, 130.90, 130.69, 128.08, 127.90, 126.81, 37.90, 26.63, -2.92.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₆H₂₁OSi [M + H]⁺, 257.1362; found: 257.1355.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2960 (w), 1740 (m), 1682 (s), 1590 (m), 1350 (m), 1281 (s), 1255 (m), 1250 (m), 1212 (m), 1191 (m), 1122 (m), 1084 (w), 981 (w), 866 (s), 835 (s), 789 (m), 725 (m), 690 (w), 615 (w), 487 (w).

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

**2-phenyl-9H-cyclohepta[b]pyridine (11a):**

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (50 mg, 46%).

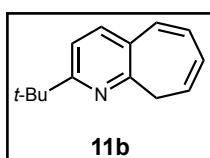
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.04 – 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.37 (m, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 11.3 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (dd, J = 11.3, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 6.21 (dd, J = 9.8, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (dt, J = 9.8, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.55, 153.14, 139.42, 136.39, 130.20, 129.72, 129.32, 128.98, 128.90, 128.88, 127.07, 126.62, 126.24, 118.08, 38.05.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₆H₁₄N [M + H]⁺, 220.1126; found: 220.1124.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 3016 (w), 2970 (w), 1738 (s), 1579 (w), 1447 (m), 1455 (m), 1366 (s), 1228 (s), 1217 (s), 761 (w), 727 (w), 712 (w), 691 (m), 653 (w).

**2-(tert-butyl)-9H-cyclohepta[b]pyridine (11b):**

Following General Procedure A (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (41 mg, 41%).

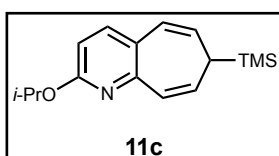
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, J = 11.3 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (dd, J = 11.4, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 6.16 (dd, J = 9.8, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 5.86 (dt, J = 10.0, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.27 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.69, 152.01, 135.70, 130.54, 128.87, 127.72, 126.65, 125.99, 116.43, 38.14, 37.40, 30.35, 29.86.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₈N [M + H]⁺, 200.1439; found: 200.1439.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 3016 (w), 2970 (w), 1738 (s), 1586 (w), 1456 (m), 1427 (m), 1365 (s), 1228 (s), 1217 (s), 1205 (s), 1143 (w), 1092 (w), 834 (w), 671 (w).

**2-isopropoxy-7-(trimethylsilyl)-7H-cyclohepta[b]pyridine (11c):**

Following General Procedure B (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (93 mg, 68%).

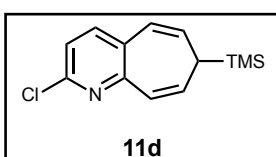
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.08 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.19 (d, J = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (ddd, J = 11.3, 8.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.37 (ddd, J = 11.0, 8.3, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.29 – 5.20 (m, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 1.31 (dd, J = 6.2, 3.4 Hz, 7H), -0.02 (s, 10H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.83, 154.11, 140.64, 135.64, 130.69, 130.45, 127.36, 125.75, 108.31, 67.82, 36.67, 22.20, 22.14, -2.91.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₆H₂₄NOSi [M + H]⁺, 274.1627; found: 274.1626.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 3015 (w), 1587 (s), 1558 (m), 1458 (s), 1381 (w), 1370 (w), 1263 (s), 1248 (s), 1139 (w), 1101 (s), 988 (m), 862 (s), 833 (s), 806 (m), 751 (m), 732 (m), 693 (w).

**2-chloro-7-(trimethylsilyl)-7H-cyclohepta[b]pyridine (11d):**

Following General Procedure B (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (62 mg, 50%).

R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

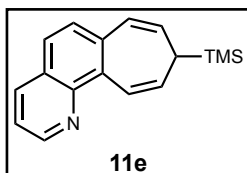
SUPPORTING INFORMATION

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.23 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 5.71 (ddd, *J* = 11.7, 8.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (ddd, *J* = 11.4, 8.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 0.00 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.16, 147.66, 140.04, 138.39, 135.08, 133.26, 129.58, 124.68, 121.28, 37.99, -3.00.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₃H₁₇CINSi [M + H]⁺, 250.0819; found: 250.0814.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2968 (w), 1573 (m), 1548 (m), 1438 (s), 1423 (m), 1249 (s), 1178 (w), 1146 (w), 1132 (w), 1109 (m), 1080 (w), 925 (m), 862 (s), 835 (s), 808 (m), 761 (s), 735 (w), 699 (w).



9-(trimethylsilyl)-9H-cyclohepta[h]quinoline (11e):

Following General Procedure B (0.5 mmol scale) the title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (89 mg, 67%).

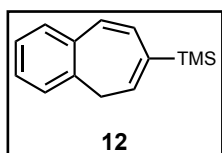
R_f = 0.4 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.89 (dd, *J* = 4.1, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 11.1 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 5.77 (dddd, *J* = 29.1, 10.8, 8.5, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 2.30 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), -0.09 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.39, 146.61, 138.84, 136.08, 135.56, 135.42, 132.54, 129.75, 128.66, 126.64, 125.96, 124.44, 120.84, 35.34, -2.59.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₇H₂₀NSi [M + H]⁺, 266.1365; found: 266.1359.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2952 (w), 1599 (m), 1496 (w), 1453 (w), 1411 (w), 1372 (w), 1247 (s), 1134 (w), 1002 (w), 976 (w), 889 (w), 864 (s), 835 (s), 771 (m), 745 (m), 647 (w).



(5H-benzo[7]annulen-7-yl)trimethylsilane (12):

To a stirred solution of benzocycloheptatriene **8a** (50 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) dissolved in dry DCM (2.3 mL, 0.1 M) at -78 °C, was added BF₃·Et₂O (0.086 mL, 0.70 mmol, 3 equiv.) dropwise. After 2 h of stirring at -78 °C the reaction was quenched with water (5 mL), extracted with DCM (3 x 5 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude mixture was dry-loaded onto celite and isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes: ethyl acetate = 50:1) to give the desired compounds as a colorless liquid (30 mg, 60%).

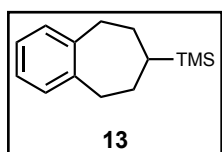
R_f = 0.3 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 (ddd, *J* = 13.2, 7.5, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 11.3 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 11.3 Hz, 1H), 5.97 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 0.09 (s, 8H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.26, 136.68, 136.30, 133.88, 131.77, 131.72, 128.50, 128.07, 127.38, 125.51, 36.49, -1.36.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. For C₁₄H₁₈Si [M + H]⁺, 214.1178; found: 214.1181.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2970 (w), 1738 (s), 1435 (w), 1365 (s), 1228 (s), 1216 (s), 1206 (s), 1092 (w), 894 (w), 835 (w), 788 (w), 746 (w), 696 (m), 654 (m).



trimethyl(6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-5H-benzo[7]annulen-7-yl)silane (13):

Benzocycloheptatriene **8a** (22 mg, 0.1 mmol) was charged into a 4 mL vial and methanol (1.0 mL, 0.1 M) was added. The solution was sparged with nitrogen under sonication for 15 minutes, followed by the addition of Pd/C (8 mg, 5 mol%). And sparged for an additional 10 minutes. The reaction mixture was sparged with hydrogen (1 atm) for 3 minutes and left to stir overnight. The reaction was filtered through celite and concentrated under reduced pressure to yield the desired compound as a colorless oil (21 mg, 94%).

R_f = 0.3 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 50:1, UV, KmnO₄)

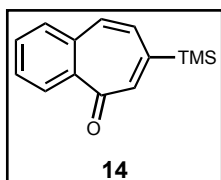
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.10 (s, 4H), 2.95 – 2.79 (m, 5H), 1.98 (dddd, *J* = 13.7, 6.8, 2.9, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 1.28 – 1.16 (m, 3H), 0.99 (tt, *J* = 12.7, 2.8 Hz, 1H), -0.05 (s, 9H).

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¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.74, 128.97, 126.00, 38.87, 32.84, 28.70, -3.20.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. For C₁₄H₂₂Si [M + H]⁺, 218.1491; found: 218.1493.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 3016 (w), 2970 (w), 2910 (w), 1738 (s), 1448 (m), 1365 (s), 1246 (s), 1228 (m), 1217 (s), 1206 (s), 940 (w), 859 (m), 832 (m), 747 (m), 696 (m), 527 (w).



7-(trimethylsilyl)-5H-benzo[7]annulen-5-one (14):

To a stirring solution of CrO₃ (319 mg, 3.19 mmol, 6 equiv.) in pyridine: DCM (4 ml, 1:1) at 0 °C was added benzocycloheptatriene **8a** (114 mg, 0.532 mmol, 1 equiv.) dissolved in DCM (0.8 mL) and the resulting mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred overnight until complete conversion as judged by TLC. The reagents were quenched with a 10% aqueous solution of Na₂S₂O₃ (5 mL), and the resulting solution was stirred for 30 min. The aqueous phase was extracted with DCM (3 × 5 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude mixture was dry-loaded onto celite and isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes: ethyl acetate = 20:1) to give the desired compounds as a brown oil (85 mg, 70%).

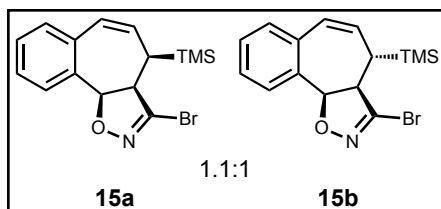
R_f = 0.3 (SiO₂, hexanes: ethyl acetate = 20:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.20 (m, 3H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 6.41 (d, *J* = 11.5 Hz, 1H), -0.10 (s, 10H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.69, 150.33, 141.62, 139.07, 137.67, 135.99, 133.24, 132.33, 130.66, 130.28, 129.91, -1.62.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₇OSi [M + H]⁺, 229.1049; found: 229.1046.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2954 (w), 1738 (s), 1625 (m), 1584 (s), 1427 (w), 1366 (m), 1338 (m), 1304 (m), 1249 (s), 1229 (m), 1217 (s), 1206 (s), 989 (s), 840 (s), 822 (s), 778 (m), 729 (w).



(3a*S*^{*},4*S*^{*},10b*R*^{*})-3-bromo-4-(trimethylsilyl)-3a,10b-dihydro-4H-benzo[3,4]cyclohepta[1,2-*d*]isoxazole (15a) and (3a*S*,4*R*,10b*R*)-3-bromo-4-(trimethylsilyl)-3a,10b-dihydro-4H-benzo[3,4]cyclohepta[1,2-*d*]isoxazole (15b):

A 4 mL vial was charged with benzocycloheptatriene **8a** (22 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), hydroxycarbonimidic dibromide (28 mg, 1.5 equiv., 0.15 mmol), potassium carbonate (39 mg, 3.0 equiv., 0.3 mmol), and acetonitrile (1 mL). The reaction mixture was left to stir at room temperature overnight. Upon completion, the reaction was partitioned with H₂O (3 mL) and ethyl acetate (3 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 3 mL), dried with MgSO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The ¹H NMR of the crude reaction mixture revealed 1:1 mixture of diastereoisomers **15a** and **15b**. The resulting crude mixture was dry-loaded onto celite and isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes: ethyl acetate = 1:0 to 5:1) to give the desired compounds as colorless solids (14 + 13 mg, 80% combined yield).

R_f = 0.3, 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR 15a (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 (ddt, *J* = 8.7, 6.8, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (q, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (dt, *J* = 11.2, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 6.21 (tt, *J* = 11.5, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.45 (dt, *J* = 10.7, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (dt, *J* = 10.9, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 2.25 – 2.19 (m, 1H), -0.26 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 9H).

¹³C NMR 15a (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.93, 139.38, 133.25, 133.13, 131.99, 130.15, 128.68, 128.54, 127.14, 97.05, 60.68, 37.05, -1.39.

¹H NMR 15b (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.32 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 11.3 Hz, 1H), 6.04 (dd, *J* = 11.3, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.48 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.04 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), -0.26 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 9H).

¹³C NMR 15b (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.71, 139.77, 134.26, 132.52, 130.91, 130.88, 130.78, 129.75, 127.09, 87.62, 66.81, 30.33, -1.41.

HRMS15a: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₉BrNOSi [M + H]⁺, 336.0419; found: 336.0415.

HRMS15b: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₉BrNOSi [M + H]⁺, 336.0419; found: 336.0421.

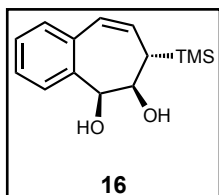
IR 15a: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 2966 (w), 1738 (s), 1448 (m), 1366 (m), 1249 (s), 1230 (m), 1216 (m), 1209 (m), 881 (m), 872 (m), 834 (s), 783 (s), 749 (s), 531 (w).

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IR 15b: (ATR, neat, cm^{-1}) = 2968 (w), 1743 (s), 1449 (m), 1366 (m), 1253 (s), 1229 (m), 1217 (m), 1209 (m), 880 (m), 870 (m), 834 (s), 783 (s), 749 (s), 531 (w).

m.p. 15a = 182 – 184 °C

m.p. 15b = 179 – 182 °C



(5S*,6S*,7S*)-7-(trimethylsilyl)-6,7-dihydro-5H-benzo[7]annulene-5,6-diol (16):

To a stirred solution of benzocycloheptatriene **8a** (200 mg, 0.98 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and NMO (115 mg, 0.98 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), in acetone:H₂O (10 mL, 4:1) at 25 °C was added OsO₄ (240 μ L, 0.2 M in MeCN, 0.05 mmol, 5.0 mol%) and the resulting mixture was stirred overnight until complete conversion as judged by TLC. The reagents were quenched with a 10% aqueous solution of Na₂S₂O₃ (5 mL), and the resulting solution was stirred for 30 min. The aqueous phase was extracted with DCM (3 \times 5 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude mixture was dry-loaded onto celite and isolated

by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes: ethyl acetate = 7:3) to give the desired compounds as a brown oil (211 mg, 91%).

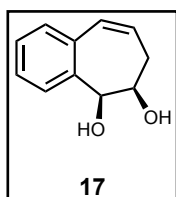
R_f = 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 7:3, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.25 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.27 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 5.68 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (s, 1H), 4.03 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.24 – 2.87 (m, 1H), 2.53 (s, 1H), 2.00 – 1.80 (m, 1H), -0.07 (s, 10H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.40, 134.48, 130.72, 130.54, 128.68, 127.83, 126.94, 79.01, 76.57, 39.18, -2.21.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. For C₁₄H₂₀O₂NaSi [M + Na]⁺, 271.1130; found: 271.1124.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm^{-1}) = 3266 (m), 1360 (m), 1247 (s), 1090 (m), 1063 (m), 1048 (m), 988 (m), 888 (m), 875 (m), 833 (s), 785 (m), 747 (m), 696 (m), 527 (w) 485 (m).



(5S*,6R*)-6,7-dihydro-5H-benzo[7]annulene-5,6-diol (17):

To a stirred solution of diol **16** (54 mg, 0.22 mmol, 1 equiv.) dissolved in dry THF (2.2 mL), at -78 °C was added KH (80 mg, 0.65 mmol, 3 equiv., 35% in mineral oil). After 2 h of stirring the reaction was quenched with a 1.0 M solution of HCl (5 mL), extracted with DCM (3 \times 5 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude mixture was dry-loaded onto celite and isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes: ethyl acetate = 7:3 to 1:1) to give the desired compounds as a colorless liquid (21 mg, 55%).

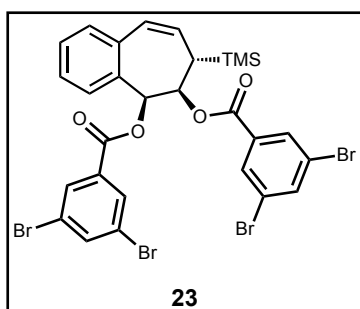
R_f = 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 1:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OH) δ 7.42 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 0H), 7.16 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (dt, *J* = 11.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (dt, *J* = 11.9, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 4.77 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 6.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (ddd, *J* = 8.9, 4.6, 2.1 Hz, 2H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₃OH) δ 139.71, 136.37, 131.96, 130.69, 130.24, 128.58, 127.88, 79.02, 74.64, 35.32.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₁H₁₃O₂ [M + H]⁺, 177.0916; found: 177.0918.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm^{-1}) = 2970 (w), 2415 (w), 1738 (s), 1450 (m), 1366 (s), 1229 (s), 1217 (s), 1206 (s), 1036 (m), 976 (m), 954 (m), 921 (w), 782 (m), 761 (m), 701 (m), 630 (m), 507 (m).



(5S*,6S*,7S*)-7-(trimethylsilyl)-6,7-dihydro-5H-benzo[7]annulene-5,6-diyl bis(3,5-dibromobenzoate) (23):

To a stirred solution of diol **16** (40 mg, 0.16 mmol, 1 equiv.) dissolved in dry DCM (1.6 mL), were added sequentially 3,5-dibromobenzoic acid (110 mg, 0.40 mmol, 2.5 equiv.), 4-DMAP (2.0 mg, 0.016 mmol, 0.1 equiv) and DCC (73 mg, 0.35 mmol, 2.2 equiv.). After 1 h of stirring the reaction was diluted with hexanes (5 mL), washed with water (2 \times 2 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude mixture was dry-loaded onto celite and isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes: ethyl acetate = 10:1 to 9:1) to give the desired compounds as a white solid (108 mg, 87%).

R_f = 0.25 (SiO₂, hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1, UV, KMnO₄)

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

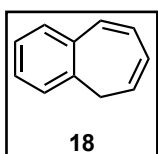
¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (s, 2H), 7.39 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 6.55 (dd, *J* = 12.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 5.91 (dd, *J* = 12.3, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 5.69 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.56 – 2.51 (m, 1H), 0.16 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.32, 163.26, 138.75, 138.54, 133.28, 132.32, 131.74, 131.52, 130.88, 129.10, 128.70, 127.22, 127.10, 123.29, 123.14, -2.14.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₂₈H₂₅Br₄O₄Si [M + H]⁺, 773.1011; found: 773.1009.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 1717 (s), 1557 (m), 1272 (m), 1250 (s), 1139 (m), 1127 (m), 1003 (m), 970 (m), 914 (m), 876 (m), 841 (m), 780 (m), 741 (m), 696 (m), 654 (m).

m.p. = 150 – 151 °C

**5H-benzo[7]annulene (18):**

To a solution of KH (650 mg, 5.68 mmol, 6 equiv., 35% in mineral oil) in dry NMP (4.0 mL) was added TBHP (1.032 mL, 5.68 mmol, 6 equiv., 5.0 – 6.0 M in decane) at 0 °C dropwise (caution! Gas evolution). After stirring for 15 minutes at room temperature, a solution of benzocycloheptatriene **8a** (200 mg, 0.95 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in dry NMP (4.0 mL) was added dropwise. After 1 h of stirring at room temperature, the reaction was quenched with a 10% aqueous solution of Na₂S₂O₃ (10 mL) followed by water (10 mL), extracted with DCM (3 x 10 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude mixture was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, pentane: diethyl ether = 50:1) to give the desired compounds as a colorless liquid (102 mg, 76%). (caution! The product is slightly volatile).

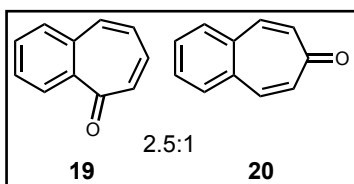
R_f = 0.3 (SiO₂, pentane: diethyl ether = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.27 – 7.20 (m, 1H), 7.20 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 11.5 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (ddd, *J* = 11.5, 5.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.13 – 6.06 (m, 1H), 5.81 (dtd, *J* = 10.1, 6.9, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 136.57, 136.25, 133.63, 128.91, 128.76, 128.04, 127.65, 127.32, 126.04, 125.70, 34.69.

HRMS: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₁H₁₁ [M + H]⁺, 143.1105; found: 143.1101.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm⁻¹) = 3016 (m), 2970 (w), 1738 (s), 1486 (w), 1450 (w), 1433 (w), 1366 (s), 1228 (s), 1217 (s), 1206 (s), 824 (w), 790 (m), 768 (m), 744 (w), 689 (s), 597 (w).

**5H-benzo[7]annulen-5-one (19) and 7H-benzo[7]annulen-7-one (20):**

To a stirring solution of CrO₃ (220 mg, 2.2 mmol, 6 equiv.) in pyridine:DCM (3.4 ml, 1:1) at 0 °C was added compound **18** (52 mg, 0.37 mmol, 1 equiv.) dissolved in DCM (0.7 mL) and the resulting mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred overnight until complete conversion as judged by TLC. The reagents were quenched with a 10% aqueous solution of Na₂S₂O₃ (5 mL), and the resulting solution was stirred for 30 min. The aqueous phase was extracted with DCM (3 x 5 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude mixture was dry-loaded onto celite and isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes: ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give the desired compounds as brown oil (33 mg + 13 mg, 81%).

R_f = 0.3, 0.1 (SiO₂, hexanes: ethyl acetate = 10:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR 1 (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.54 – 8.46 (m, 1H), 7.75 – 7.62 (m, 4H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (ddd, *J* = 12.2, 7.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (dt, *J* = 12.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (ddd, *J* = 11.6, 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR 1 (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.54, 139.64, 139.08, 136.43, 136.06, 135.61, 134.00, 132.47, 131.01, 130.63, 126.82.

¹H NMR 2 (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 (dt, *J* = 7.4, 3.7 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (dd, *J* = 5.8, 3.4 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 12.2 Hz, 2H), 6.88 – 6.77 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR 2 (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 188.52, 141.61, 136.15, 135.13, 134.15, 130.62.

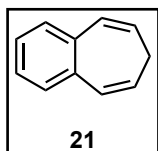
HRMS 1: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₁H₉O [M + H]⁺, 157.0653; found: 157.0650.

HRMS 2: (ESI-TOF, *m/z*) calcd. for C₁₁H₉O [M + H]⁺, 157.0653; found: 157.0649.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

IR 1: (ATR, neat, cm^{-1}) = 2970 (w), 1738 (s), 1676 (w), 1639 (w), 1585 (m), 1574 (m), 1467 (w), 1447 (w), 1366 (s), 1308 (w), 1229 (s), 1217 (m), 1207 (s), 1171 (w), 800 (w), 770 (m), 712 (w).

IR 2: (ATR, neat, cm^{-1}) = 2968 (w), 1740 (s), 1677 (w), 1637 (w), 1586 (m), 1564 (m), 1470 (w), 1435 (w), 1355 (s), 1312 (w), 1232 (s), 1215 (m), 1204 (s), 1173 (w), 822 (w), 772 (m), 732 (w).

**7H-benzo[7]annulene (21):**

To a solution of KH (367 mg, 8.25 mmol, 18 equiv., 90%) in dry NMP (2.5 mL) was added TBHP (0.5 mL, 2.75 mmol, 6 equiv., 5.0 – 6.0 M in decane) at 0 °C dropwise (caution! Gas evolution). After stirring for 15 minutes at room temperature, a solution of cyclopropane **10a** (150 mg, 0.458 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in dry NMP (2.0 mL) was added dropwise. Upon completion, the reaction was cooled in an ice bath and water (4.5 mL) was added. AcOH is then carefully added dropwise until pH = 5, upon which gas evolution is observed. CuCl₂ dihydrate (4.0 mg, 25 μmol , 5.0 mol%) was then added as a solid, followed by sparging with oxygen, and the reaction was stirred for 10-16 h under an atmosphere of oxygen (balloon). Upon completion, the reaction was partitioned between CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) and saturated brine (10 mL), and the organic layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 \times 10 mL). The resulting crude mixture was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO₂, pentane: diethyl ether = 50:1) to give the desired compounds as a colorless liquid (46 mg, 70%). (caution! The product is slightly volatile).

R_f = 0.3 (SiO₂, pentane: diethyl ether = 50:1, UV, KMnO₄)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.31 (dt, J = 7.3, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 6.60 (d, J = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (dt, J = 10.2, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.24, 130.61, 130.39, 128.55, 126.17, 26.40.

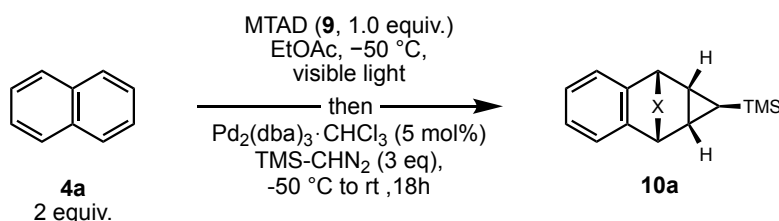
HRMS: (ESI-TOF, m/z) calcd. for C₁₁H₁₁ [M + H]⁺, 143.1105; found: 143.1102.

IR: (ATR, neat, cm^{-1}) = 3014 (m), 2966 (w), 1738 (s), 1480 (w), 1448 (w), 1435 (w), 1360 (m), 1230 (s), 1216 (s), 1203 (s), 830 (w), 812 (w), 792 (m), 769 (m), 740 (w), 694 (s), 600 (w).

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

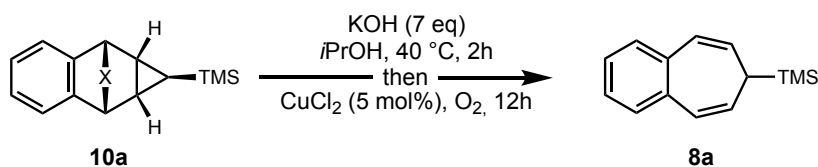
3-5. Large-scale procedures:

Gram-scale synthesis of 10a:



A solution of N-methyl-1,2,4-triazoline-3,5-dione (**9**, MTAD, 1 g, 8.8 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and arene (**4a**, 2.26 g, 17.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) in dry and degassed ethyl acetate (44.0 mL, 0.2 M) was irradiated with LED lights at $-50\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ under a nitrogen atmosphere. Upon decolorization, which generally proceeds within 8 – 12 hours with the described setup, a suspension of $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$ (455.44 mg, 0.44 mmol, 0.05 equiv.) in dry and degassed ethyl acetate (10 mL, sonicated for 1 minute), was added dropwise to the solution, followed by dropwise addition of (trimethylsilyl)diazomethane (2.0 M solution in hexanes, 13.2 mL, 3.0 equiv.). After addition, the cold bath was allowed to slowly warm up from $-50\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ to room temperature, over 18 hours. The reaction was quenched by adding acetic acid (3.2 mL, 6 equiv.) and left to stir for 15 minutes. The solution was filtered through celite and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography to give the desired compound **10a**. The title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO_2 , hexanes:ethyl acetate = 9:1 to 4:1) as a yellow solid (2.16 g, 75%).

Gram-scale synthesis of 8a:



To a vial containing finely ground KOH (770 mg, 5.0 equiv., 90 wt%), and substrate (**10a**, 1 g, 3.05 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) under nitrogen was added *i*-PrOH (30.5 mL, 0.1 M) and degassed with nitrogen/sonication for 15 min. The reaction was heated to $40\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ with vigorous stirring (700 rpm) and progress was monitored by TLC in 30 min intervals. Upon completion, the reaction was cooled in an ice bath and H_2O (30.5 mL) was added. AcOH is then carefully added dropwise until pH = 5, upon which gas evolution is observed. CuCl_2 dihydrate (26.0 mg, 152.5 μmol , 5.0 mol%) was then added as a solid, followed by sparging with oxygen, and the reaction was stirred for 12 h under an atmosphere of oxygen (balloon). Upon completion, the reaction was partitioned between CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL) and saturated brine (30 mL) and the organic layer was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 ($3 \times 30\text{ mL}$). The combined organics were washed with brine, dried over MgSO_4 , filtered, and concentrated under vacuum. The title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (SiO_2 , hexanes:ethyl acetate = 100:0 to 50:1) as a yellow oil (458 mg, 70%).

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

4. Crystallographic data

X-ray diffraction experiments were carried out on single crystals mounted on Cryo-loops using Paratone-N or Krytox oils. The data was collected on Bruker D8 Venture / Photon II or on a Bruker APEX II diffractometers in George L. Clark X-ray Facility at UIUC. Multi-scan absorption correction was applied. The space group was determined in XPREP (Bruker AXS). The solutions were obtained using Intrinsic Phasing method, as implemented in SHELXT,¹² and refined using full-matrix least squares against F^2 , as implemented in SHELXL,¹³ using OLEX2¹⁴ as the graphical user interface.

Crystallographic data for compound 10a

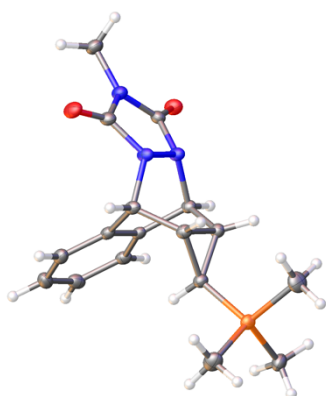
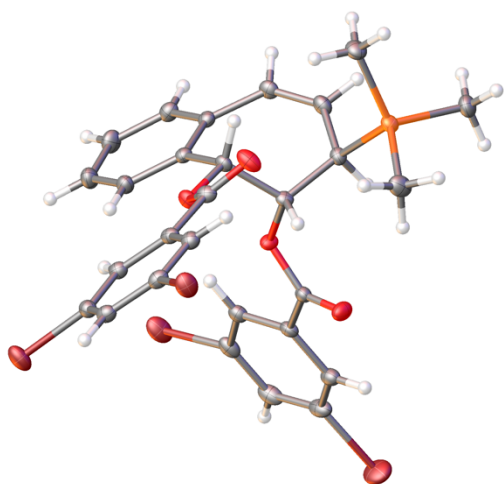


Table 10a Crystal data and structure refinement.

CCDC	2129869
Empirical formula	C ₁₇ H ₂₁ N ₃ O ₂ Si
Formula weight	327.46
Temperature/K	99.99
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 ₁ /c
a/Å	26.2536(4)
b/Å	11.6384(2)
c/Å	29.4236(4)
α/°	90
β/°	107.01
γ/°	90
Volume/Å ³	8596.9(2)
Z	20
ρ _{calc} /cm ³	1.265
μ/mm ⁻¹	0.149
F(000)	3480.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.631 × 0.48 × 0.372
Radiation	MoKα (λ = 0.71073)
2θ range for data collection/°	4.284 to 56.596
Index ranges	-34 ≤ h ≤ 35, -15 ≤ k ≤ 15, -39 ≤ l ≤ 37
Reflections collected	278930
Independent reflections	21341 [R _{int} = 0.0513, R _{sigma} = 0.0202]
Data/restraints/parameters	21341/18/1056
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.024
Final R indexes [I >= 2σ (I)]	R ₁ = 0.0343, wR ₂ = 0.0876
Final R indexes [all data]	R ₁ = 0.0422, wR ₂ = 0.0940
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.35/-0.27

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Crystallographic data for compound 23

**Table 23 Crystal data and structure refinement.**

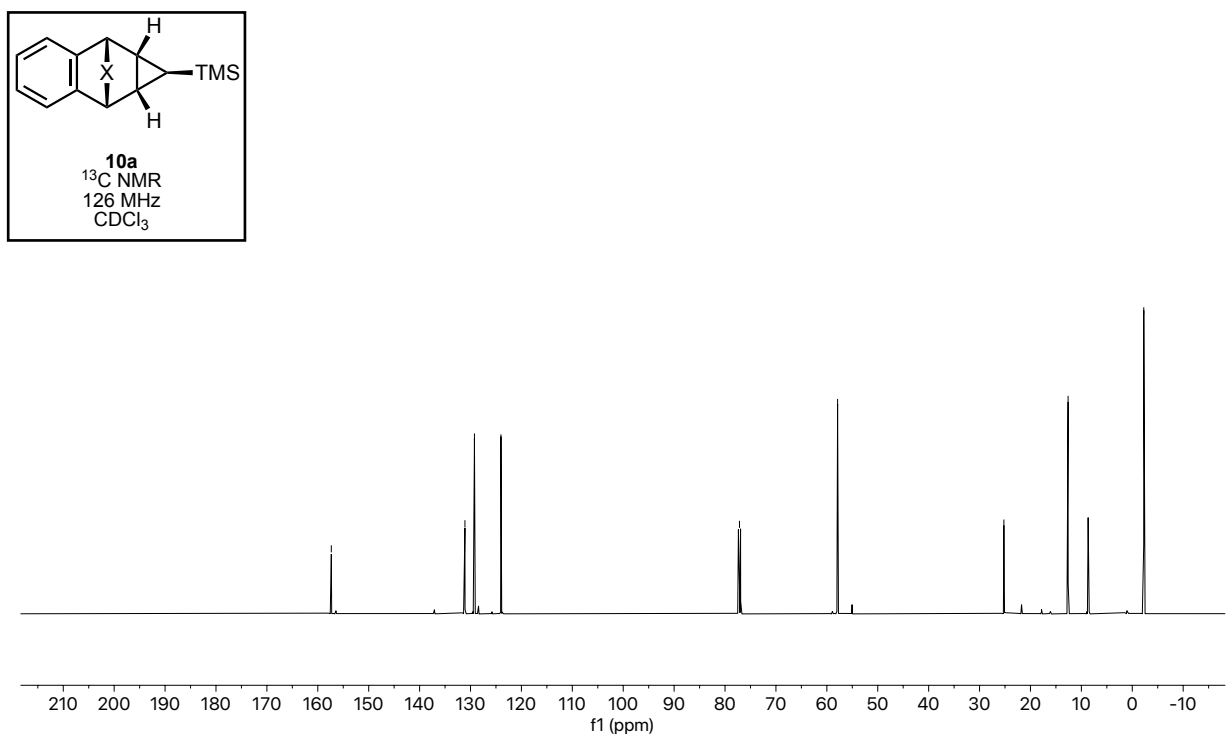
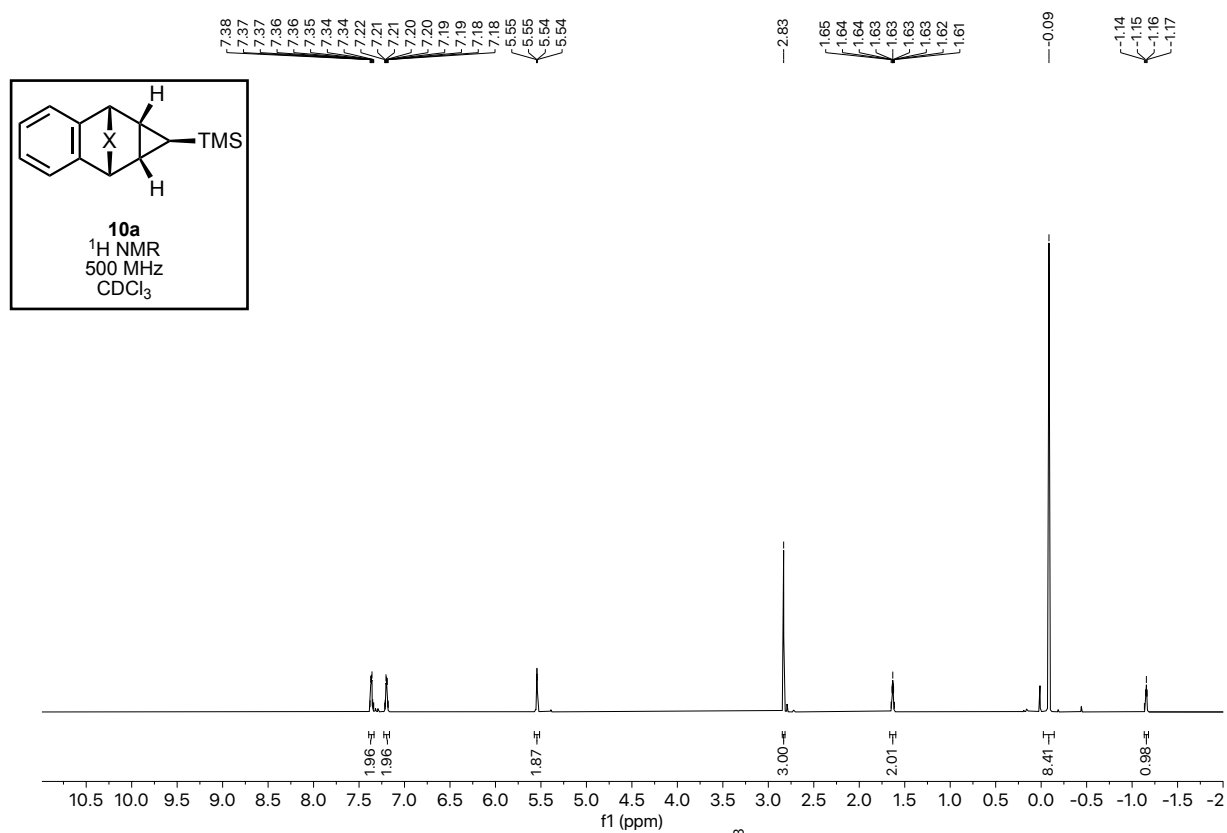
CCDC	2129868
Empirical formula	C ₂₈ H ₂₄ Br ₄ O ₄ Si
Formula weight	772.20
Temperature/K	100.00
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	C2/c
a/Å	38.408(2)
b/Å	9.4430(4)
c/Å	16.6160(8)
α/°	90
β/°	108.776(2)
γ/°	90
Volume/Å ³	5705.7(5)
Z	8
ρ _{calc} /cm ³	1.798
μ/mm ⁻¹	5.717
F(000)	3024.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.306 × 0.264 × 0.172
Radiation	MoKα (λ = 0.71073)
2θ range for data collection/°	4.456 to 56.592
Index ranges	-51 ≤ h ≤ 47, -12 ≤ k ≤ 12, -22 ≤ l ≤ 22
Reflections collected	87936
Independent reflections	7099 [R _{int} = 0.0340, R _{sigma} = 0.0150]
Data/restraints/parameters	7099/0/338
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.027
Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ (I)]	R ₁ = 0.0187, wR ₂ = 0.0447
Final R indexes [all data]	R ₁ = 0.0212, wR ₂ = 0.0456
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.59/-0.43

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

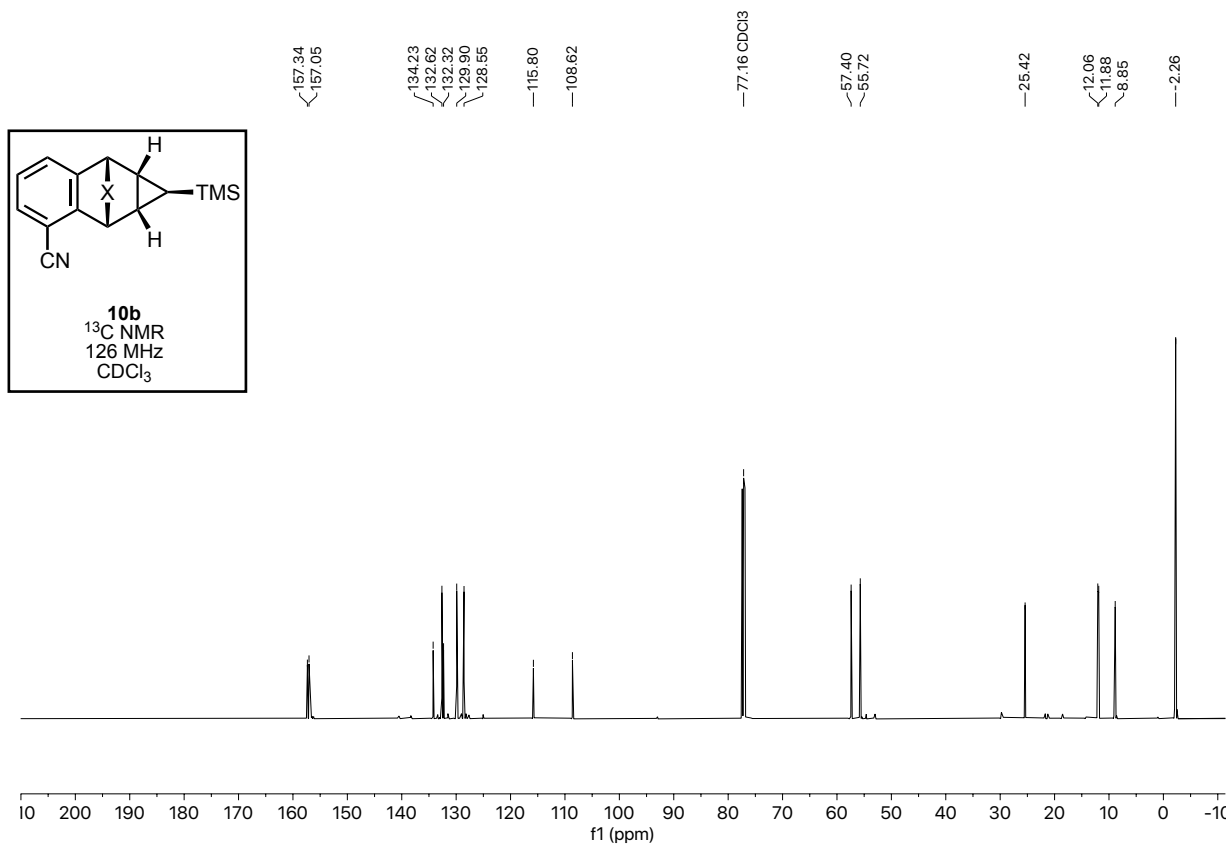
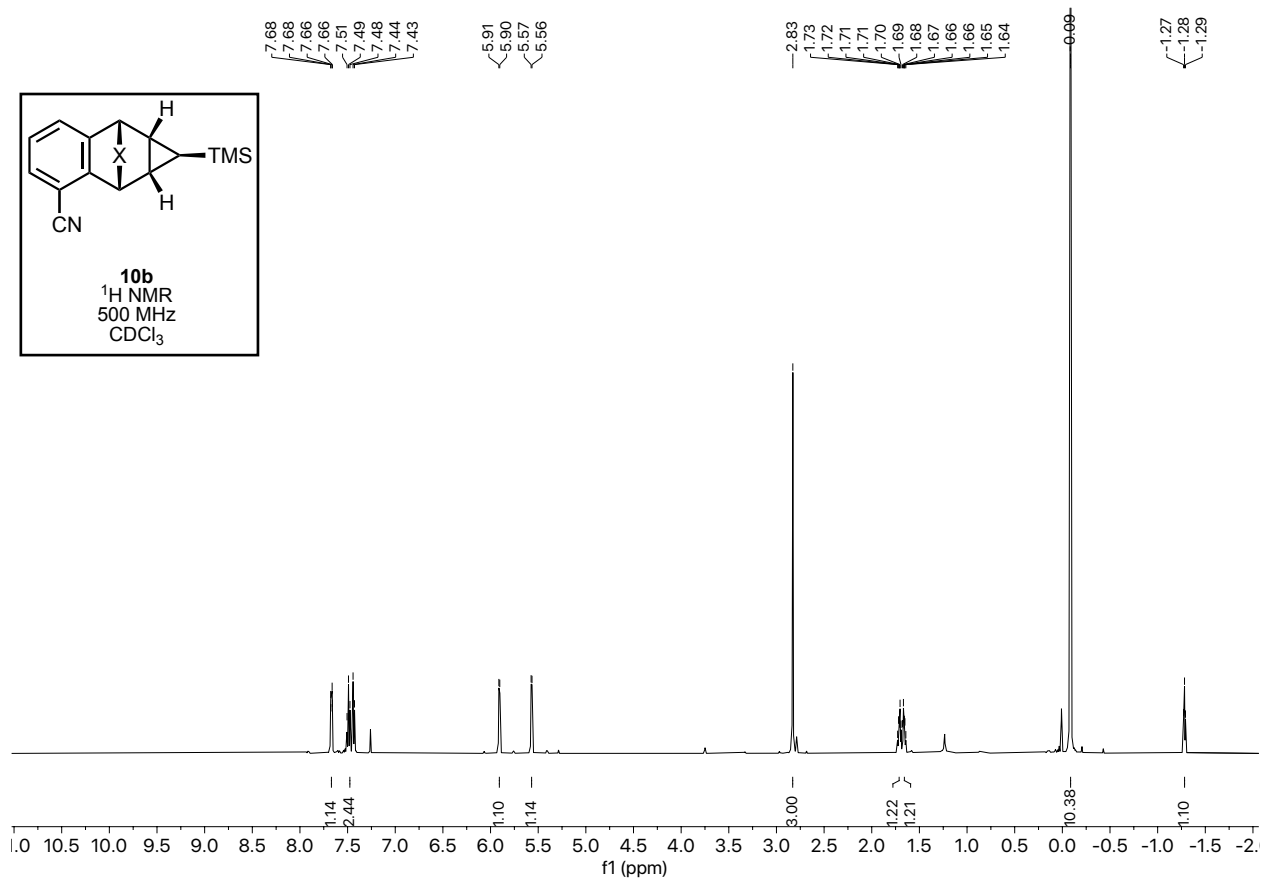
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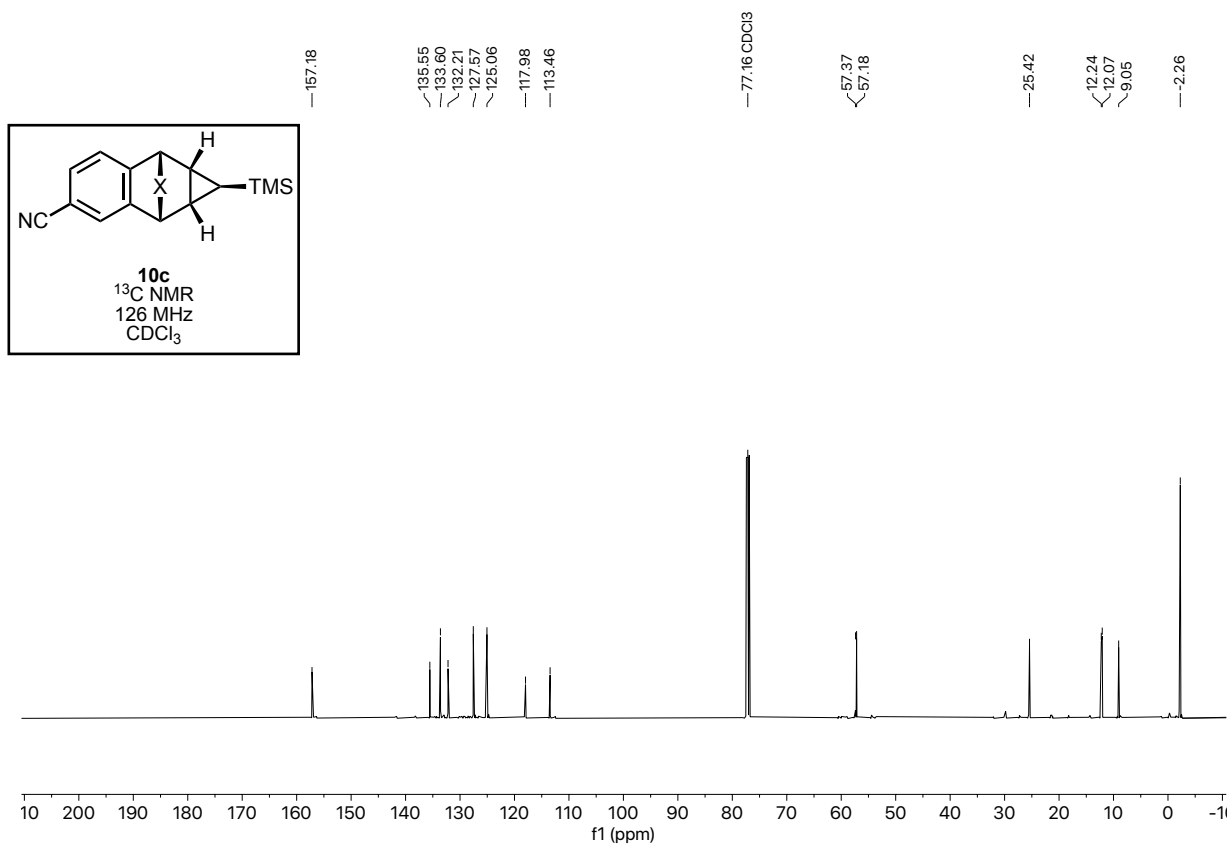
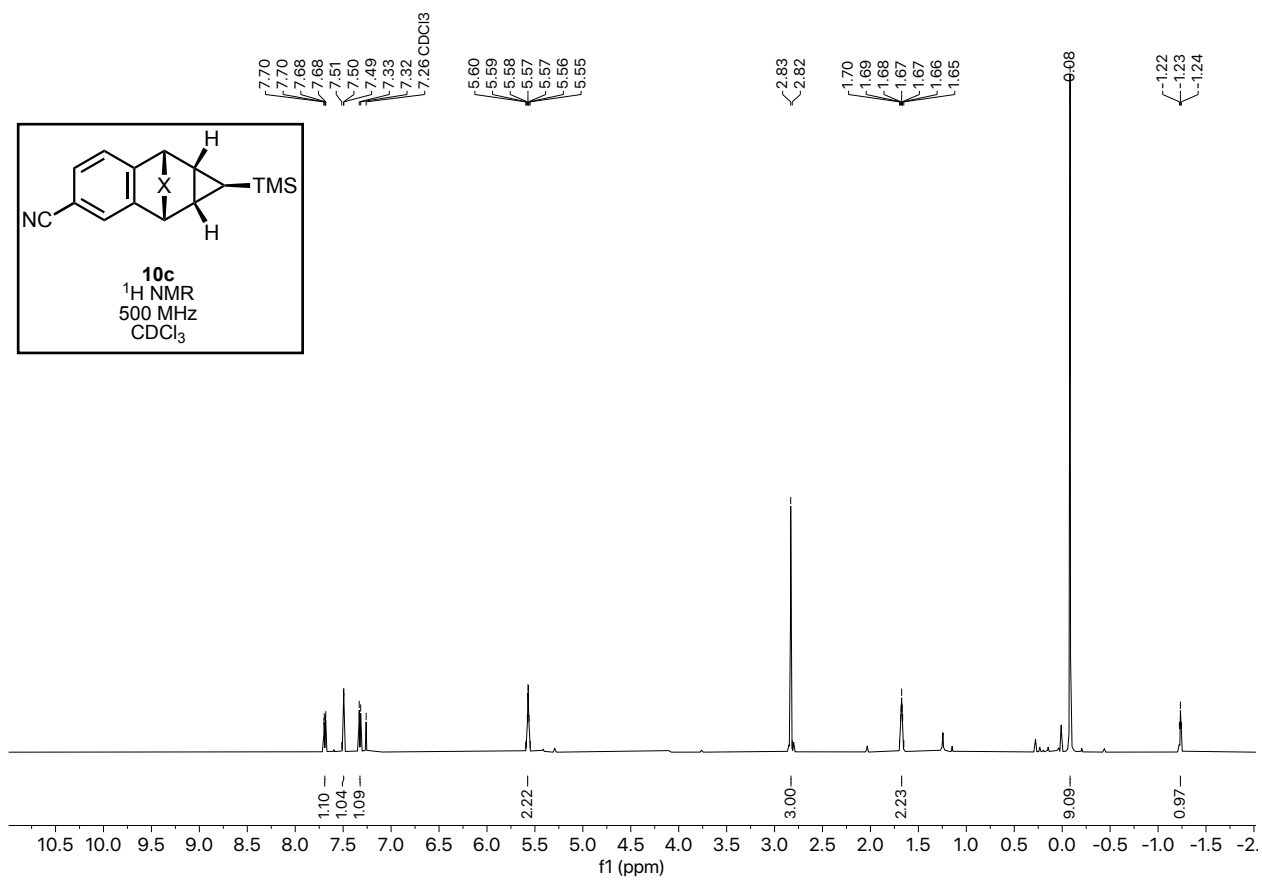
SUPPORTING INFORMATION

6. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra

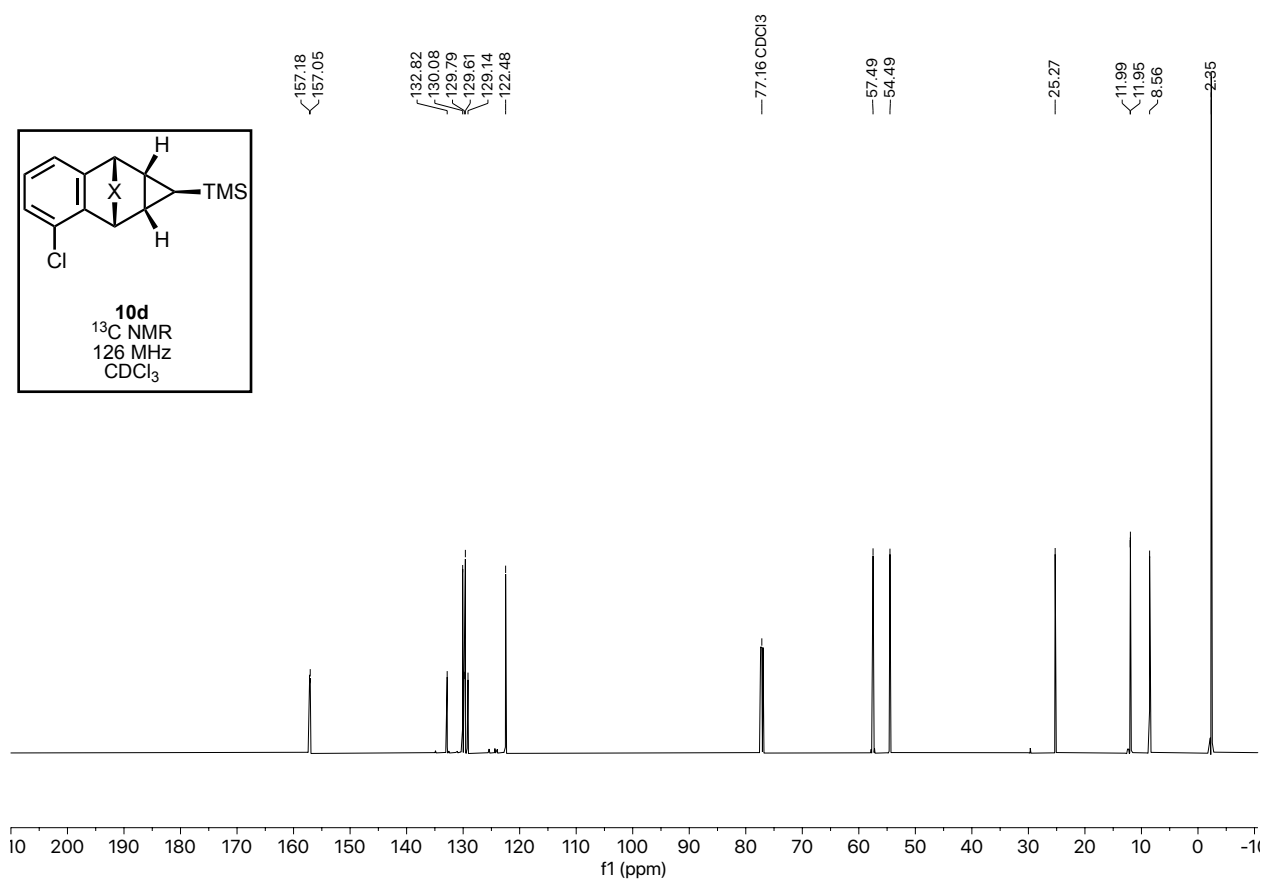
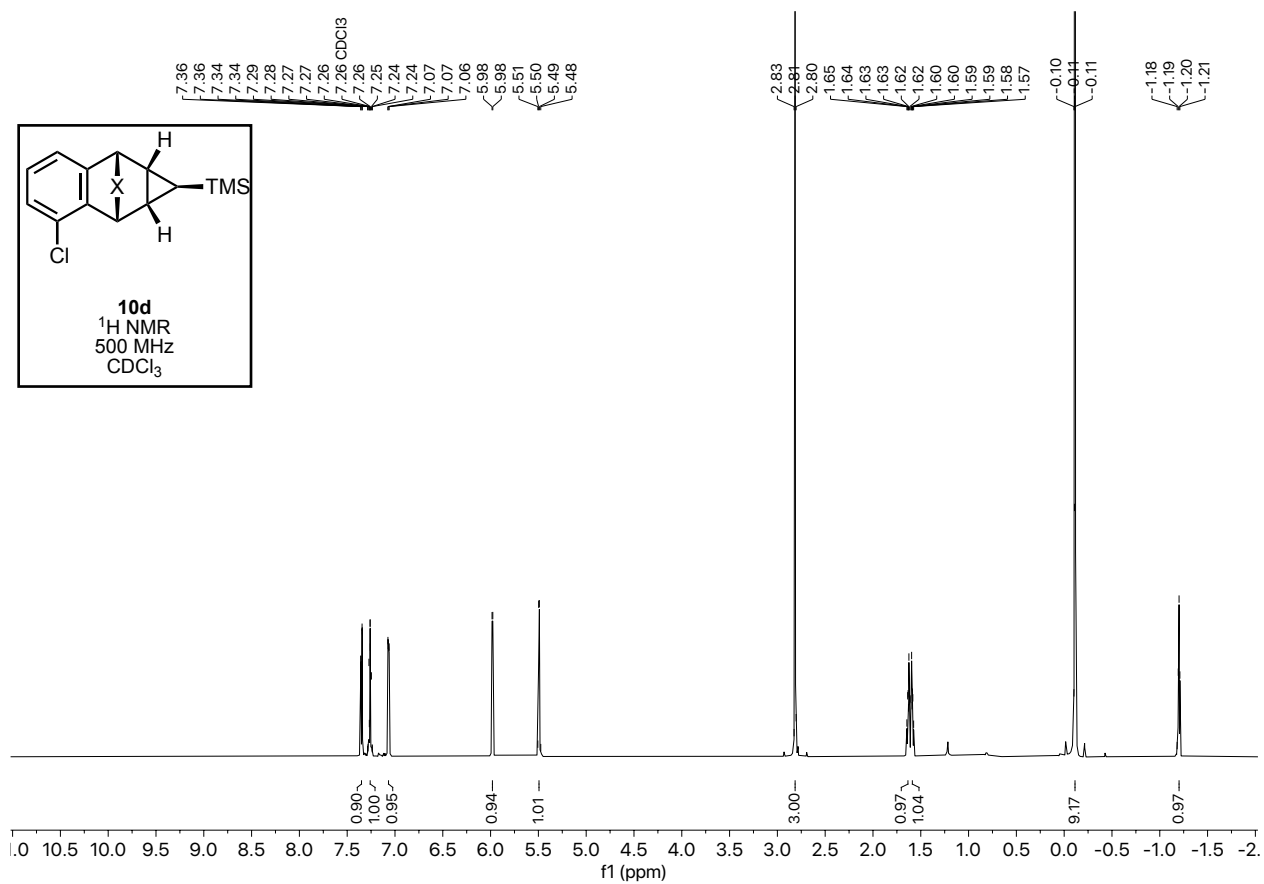
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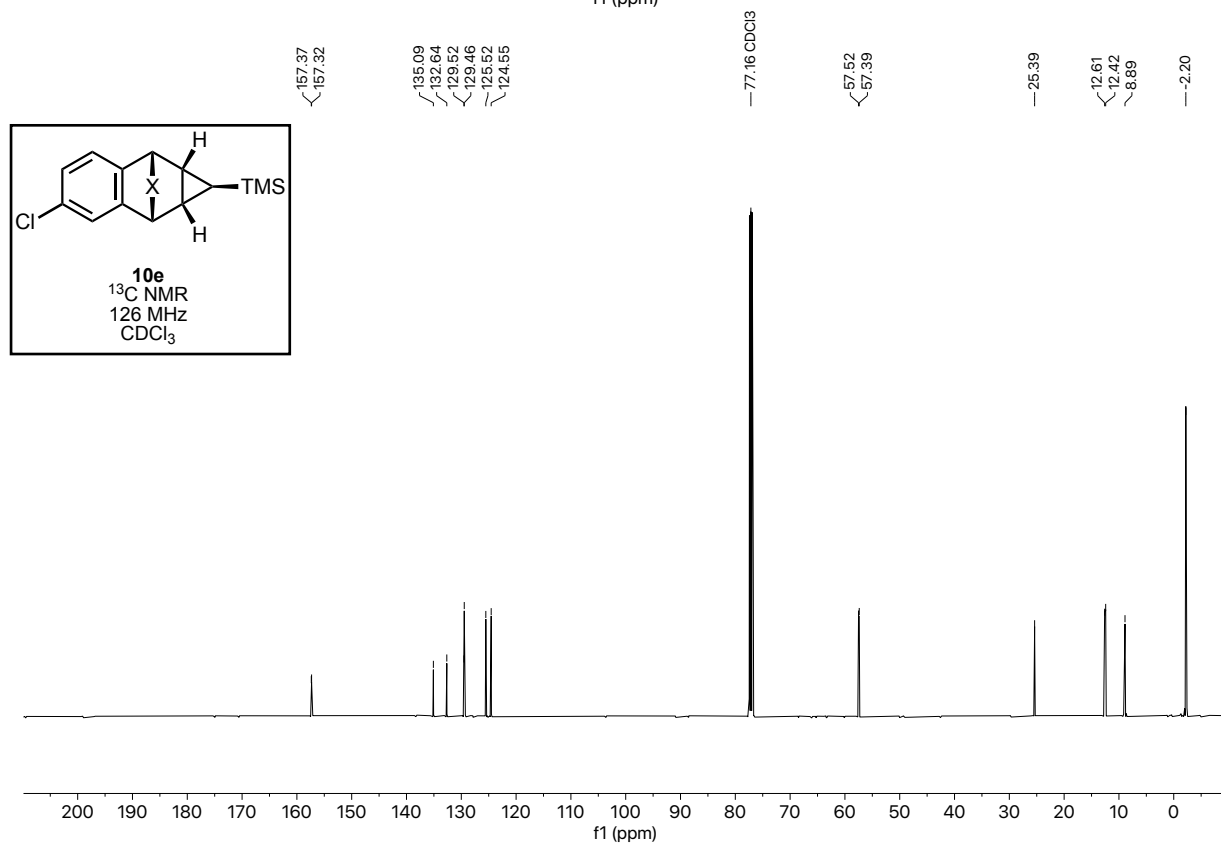
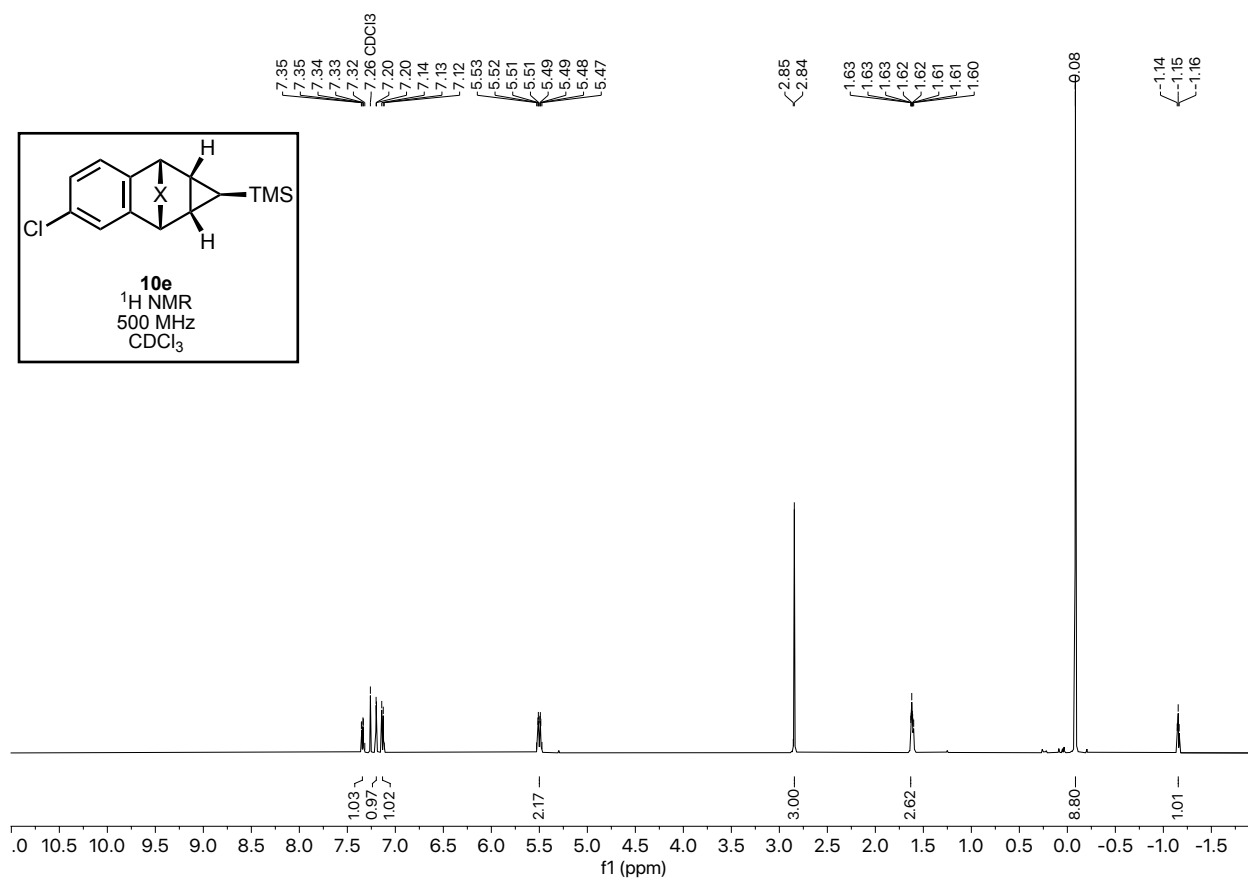
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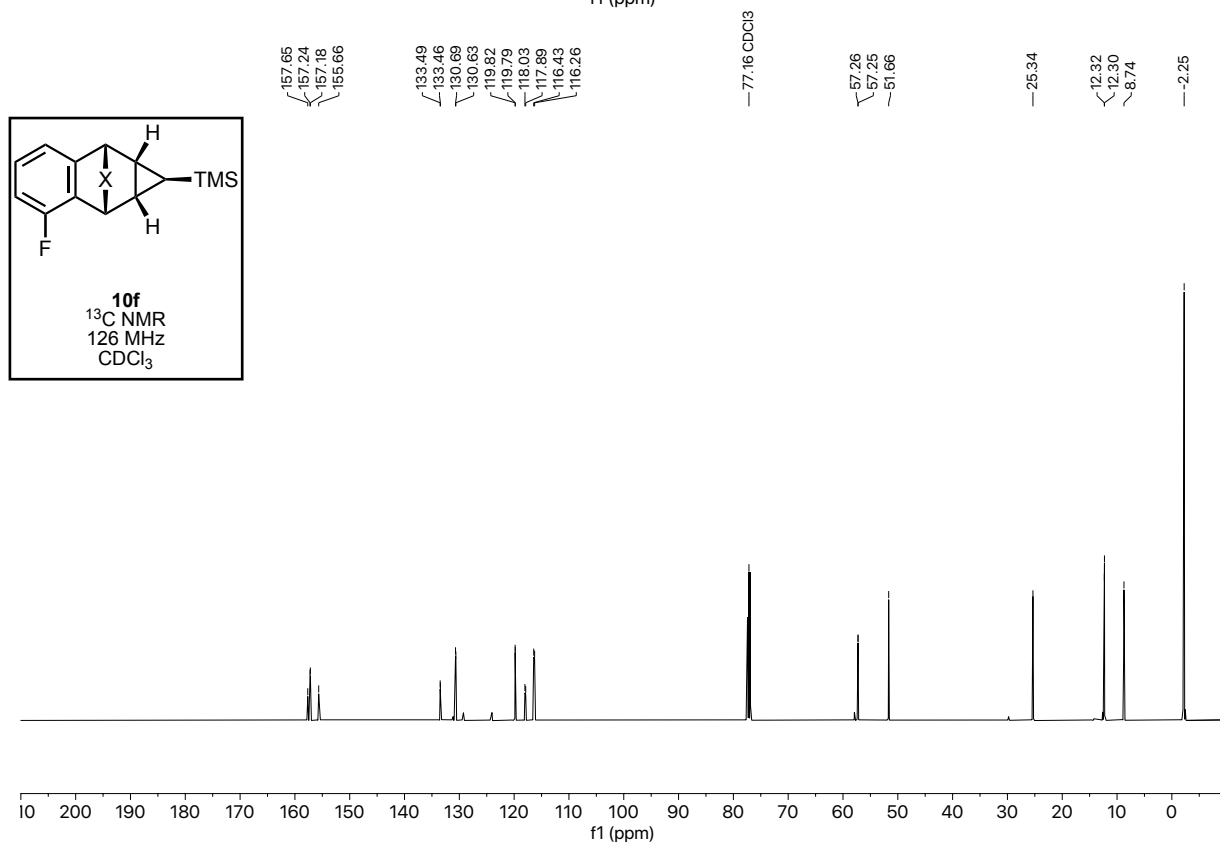
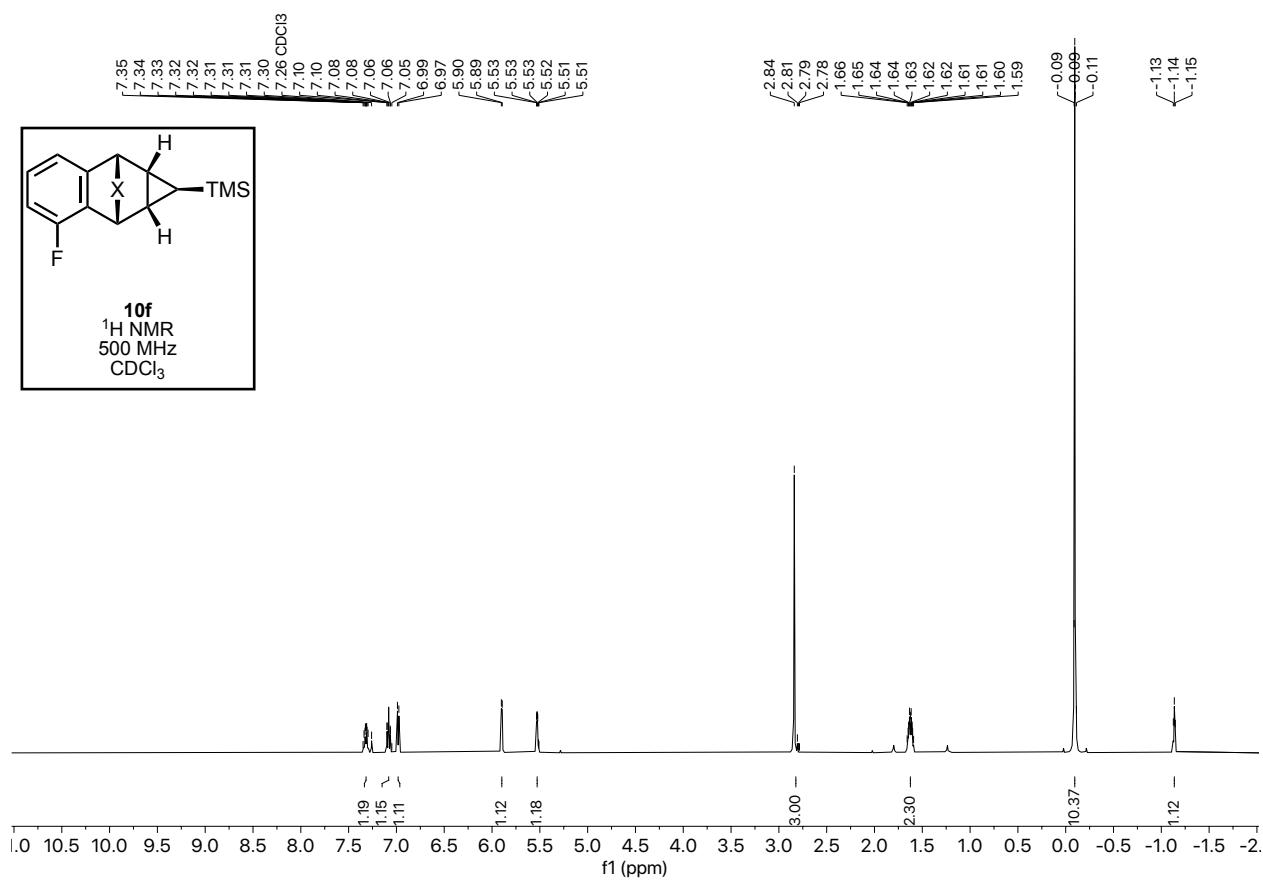
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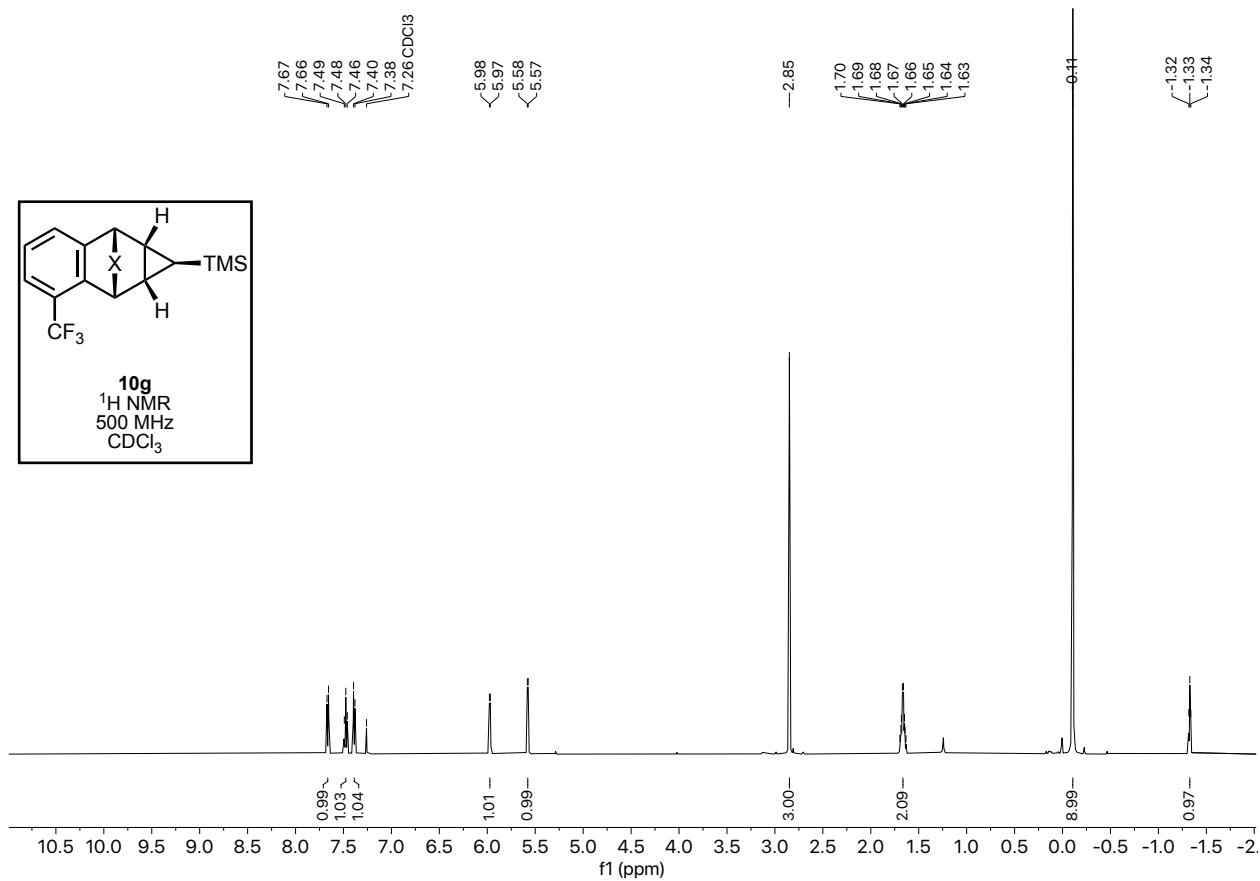
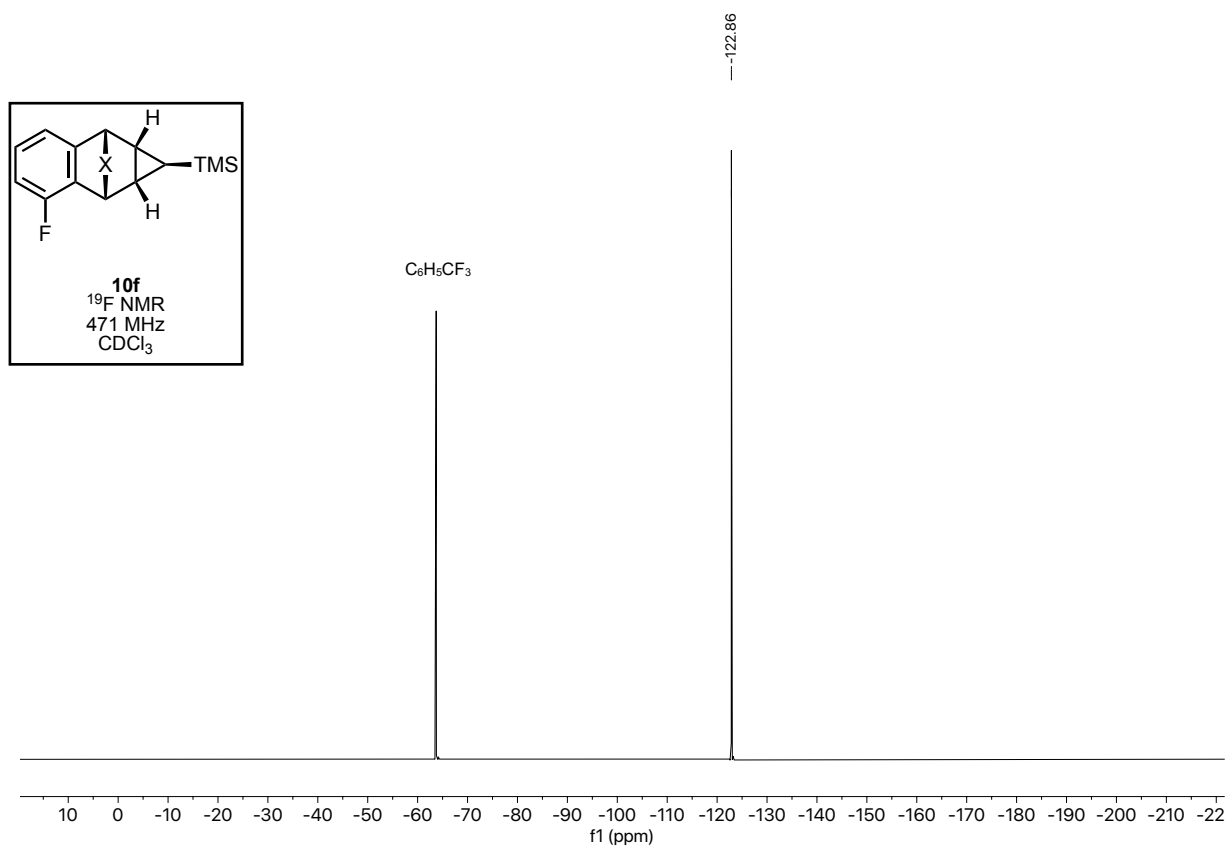
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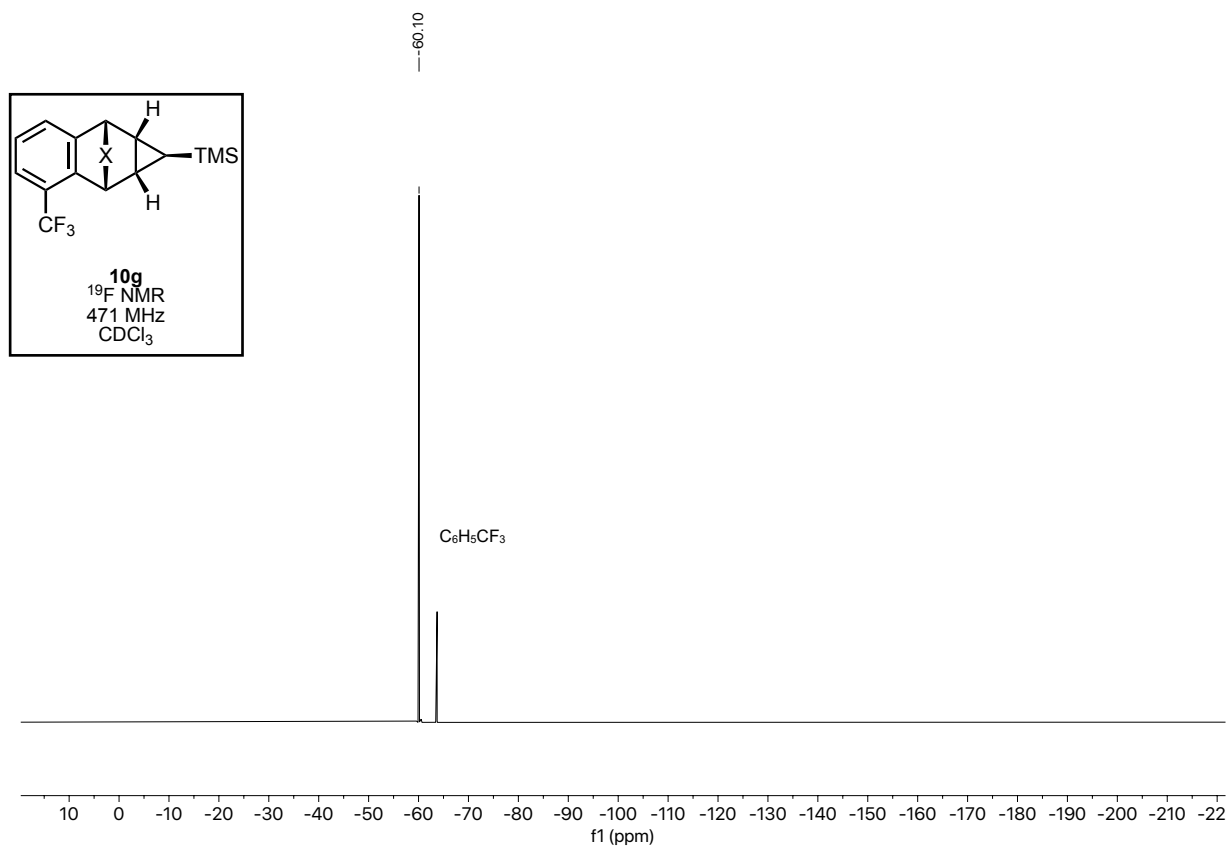
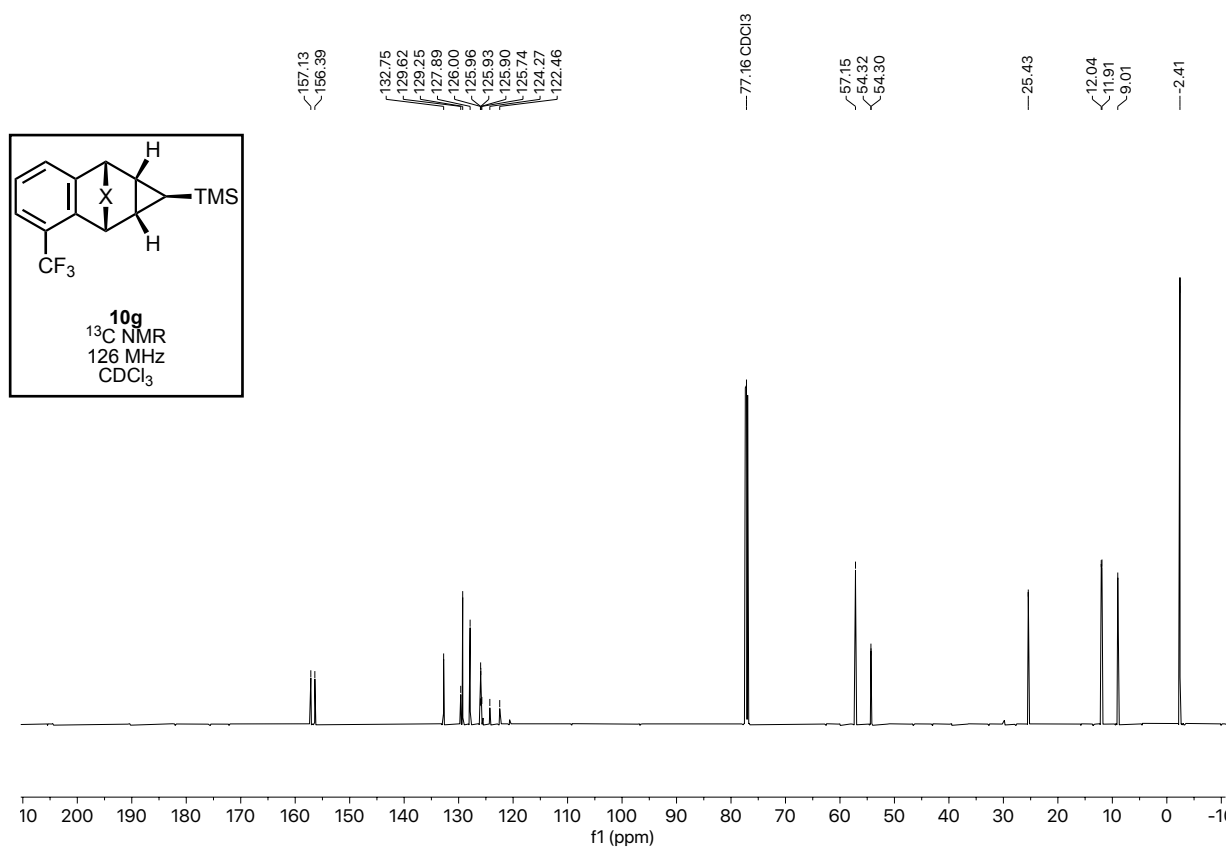
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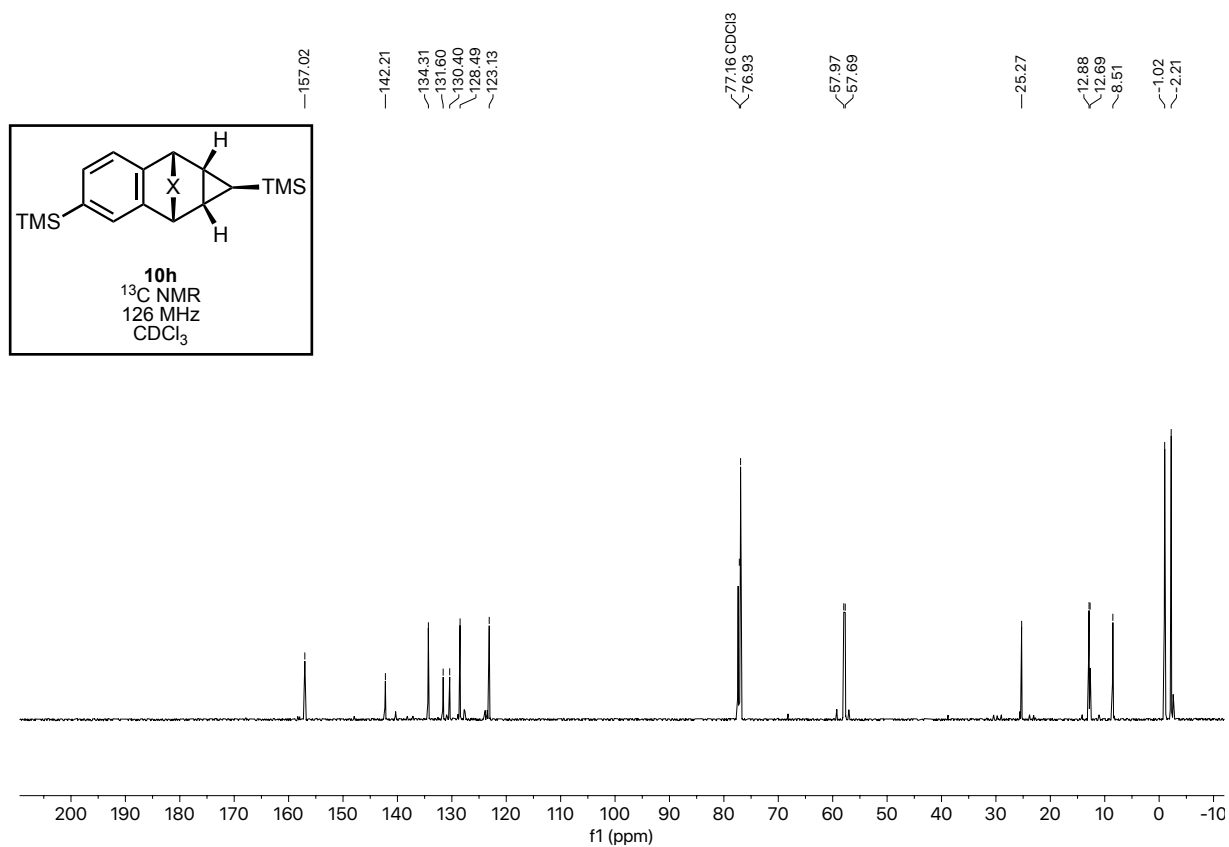
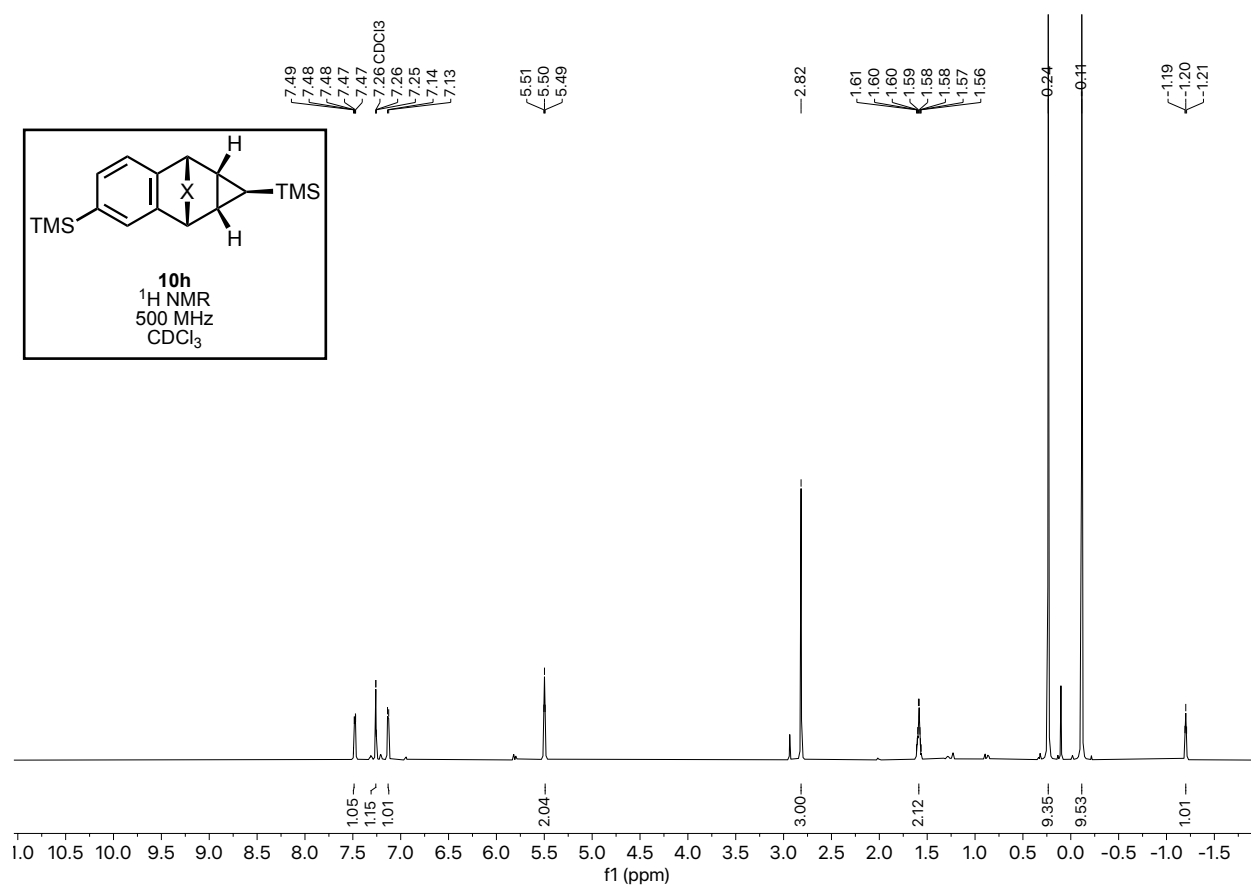
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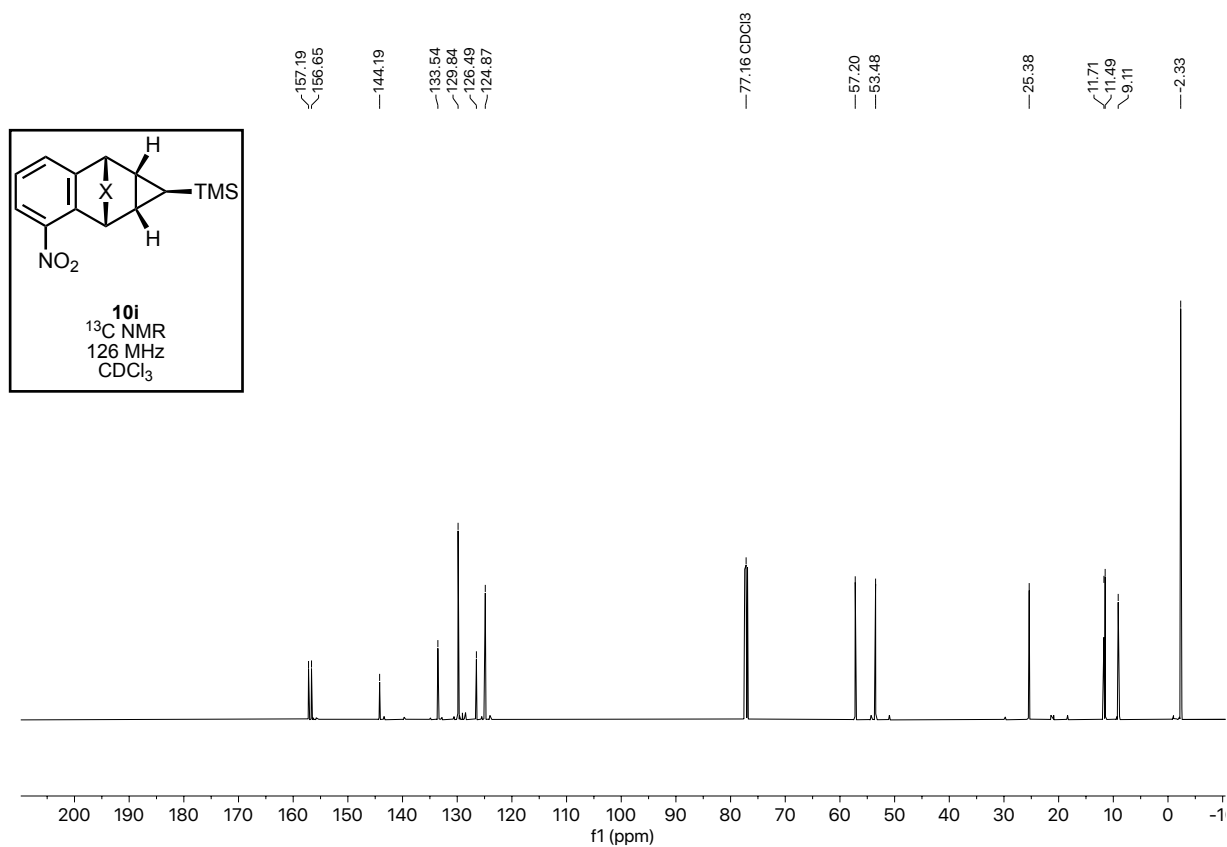
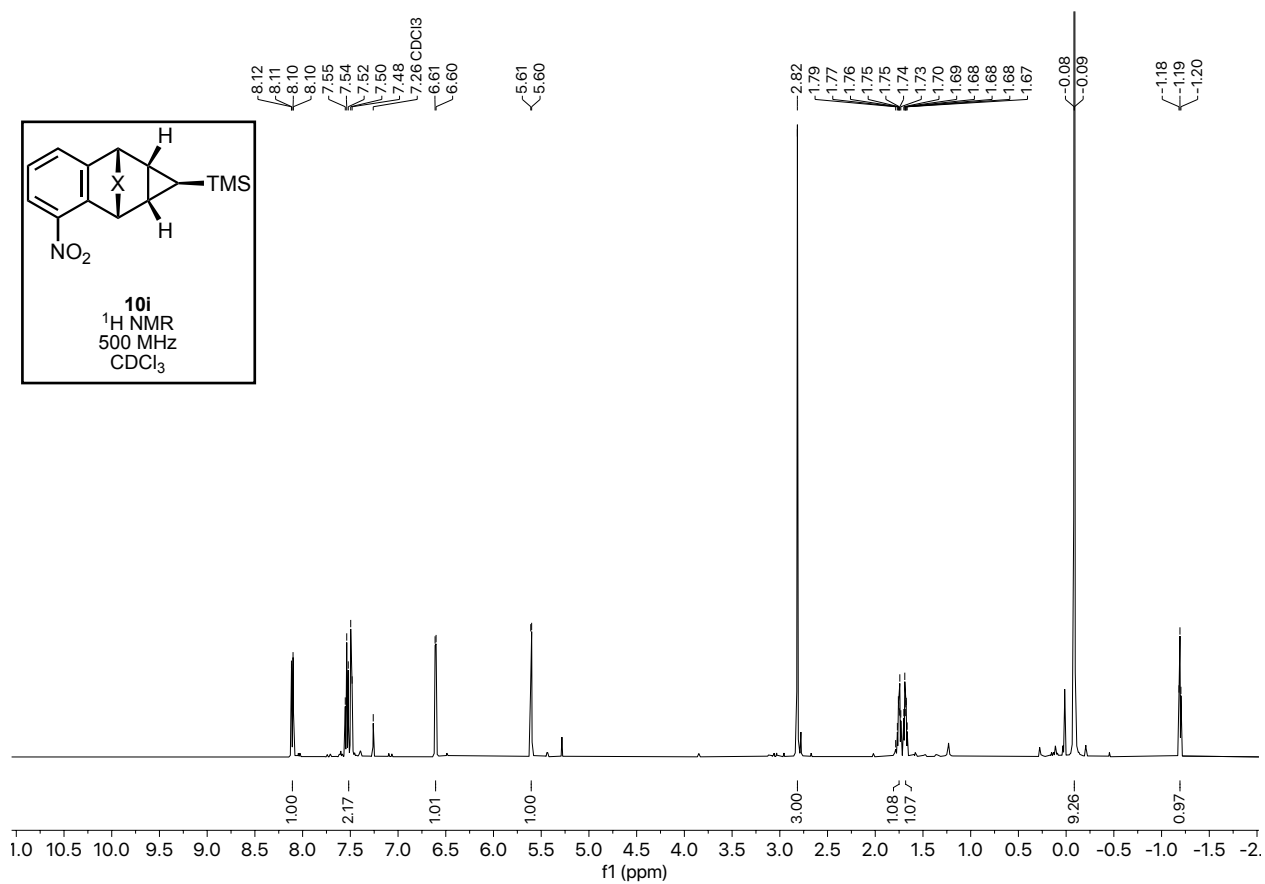
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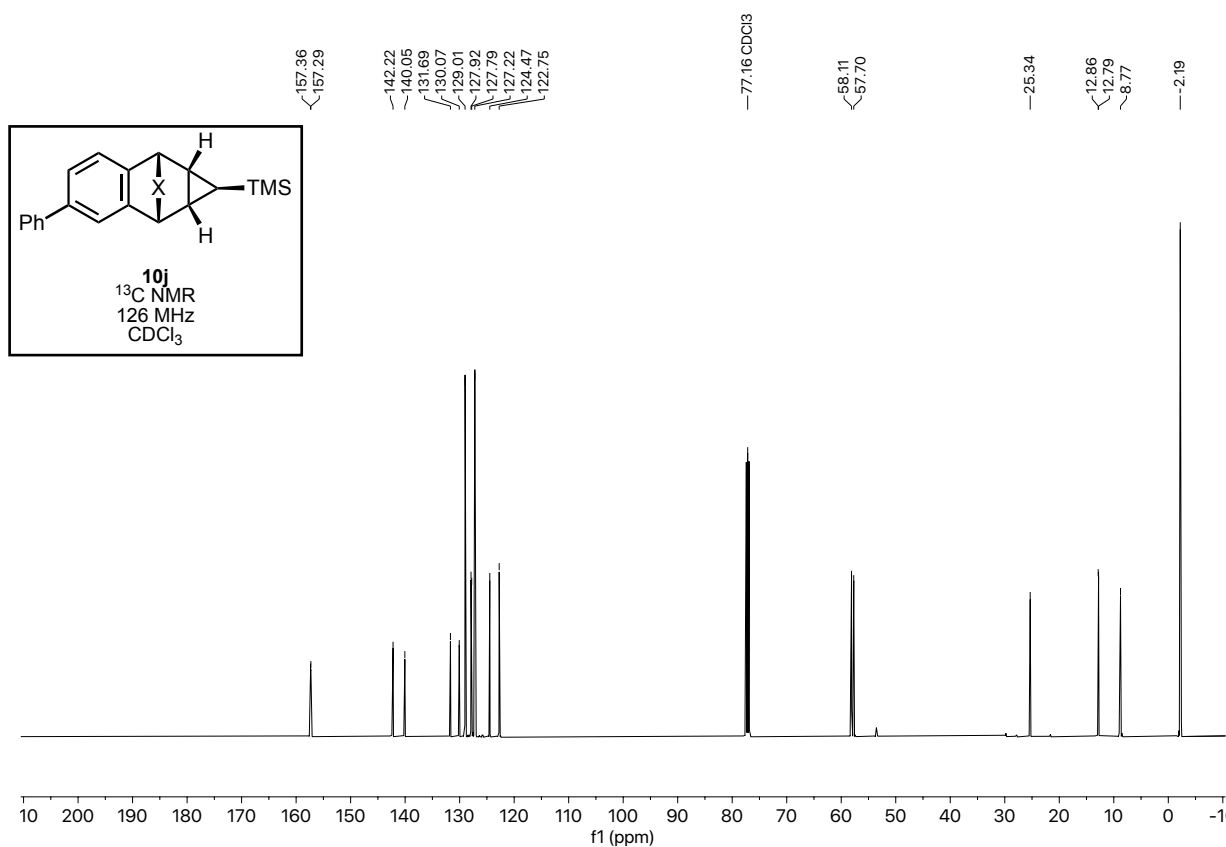
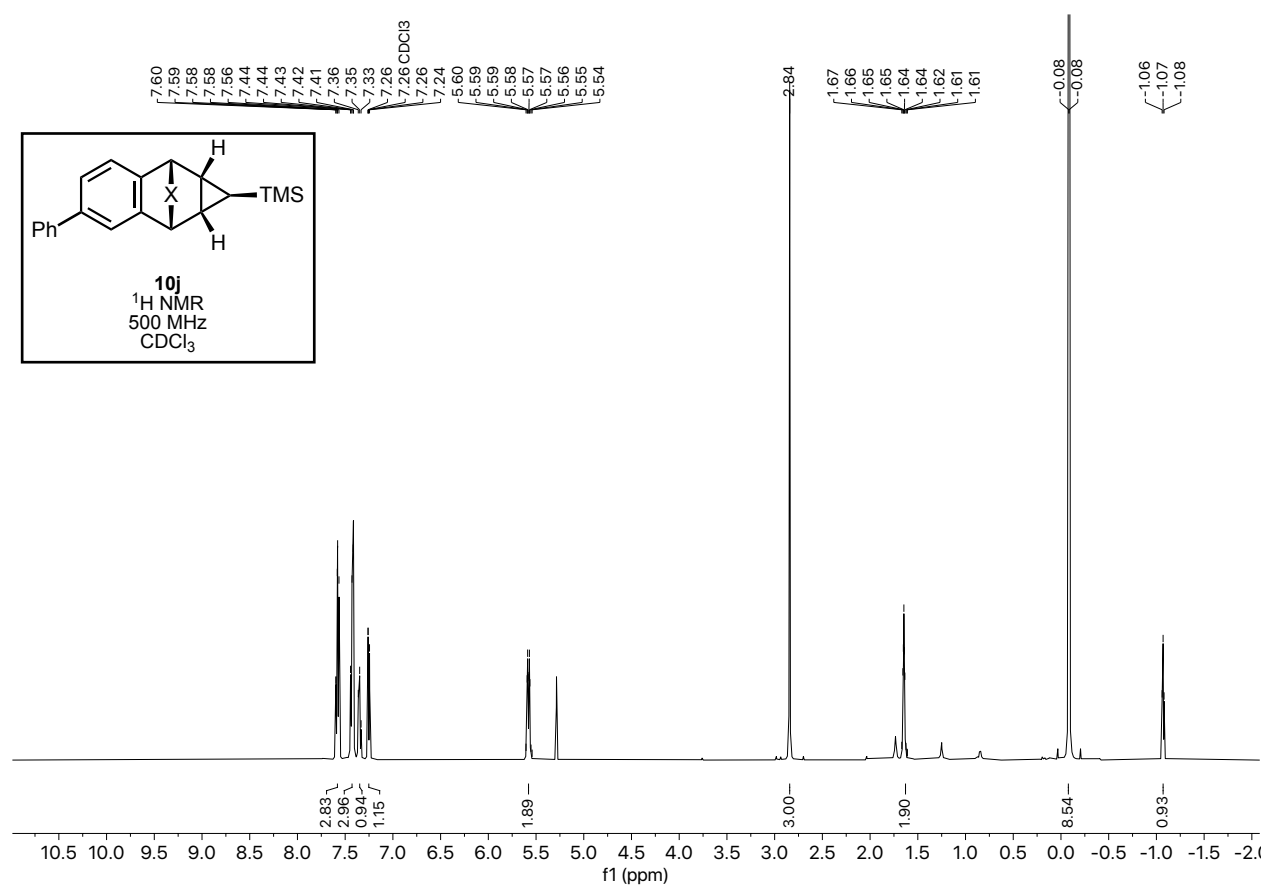
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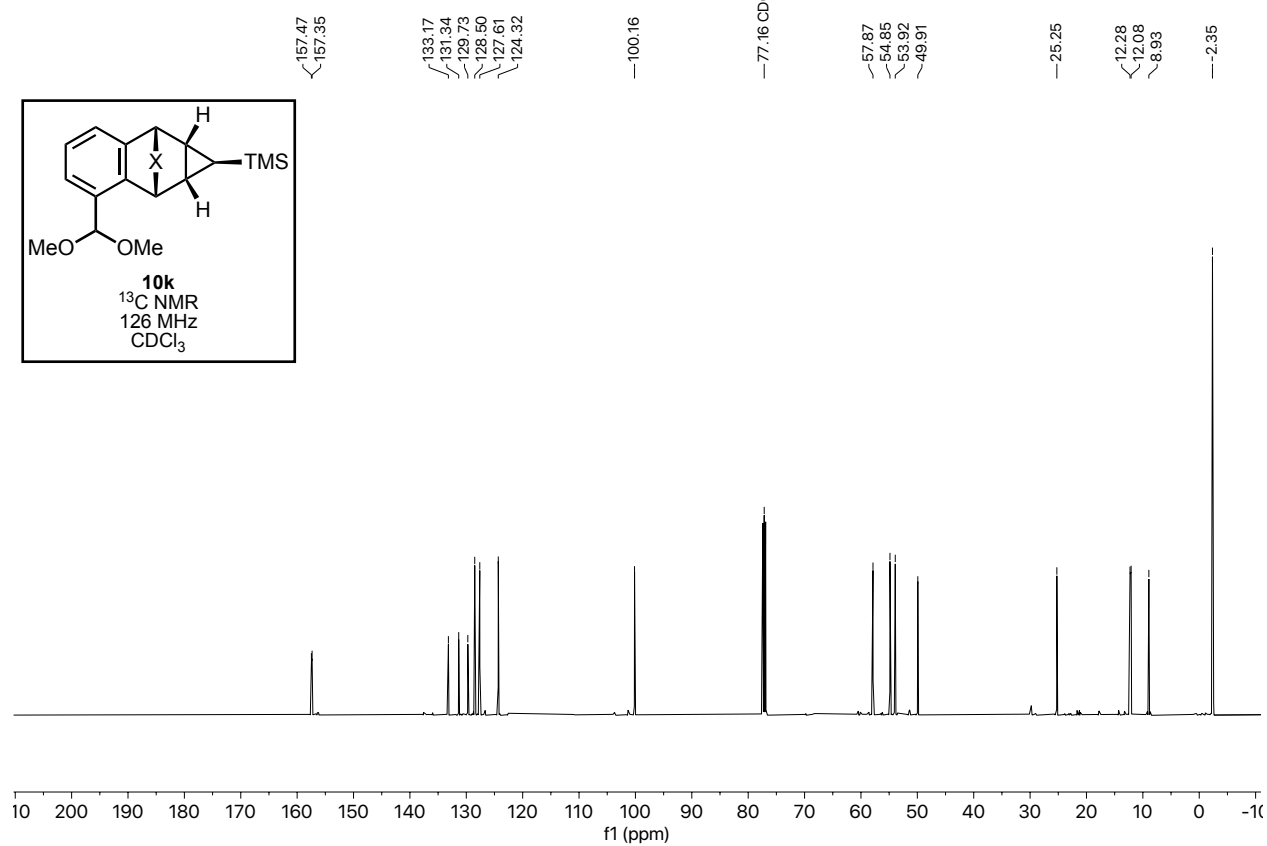
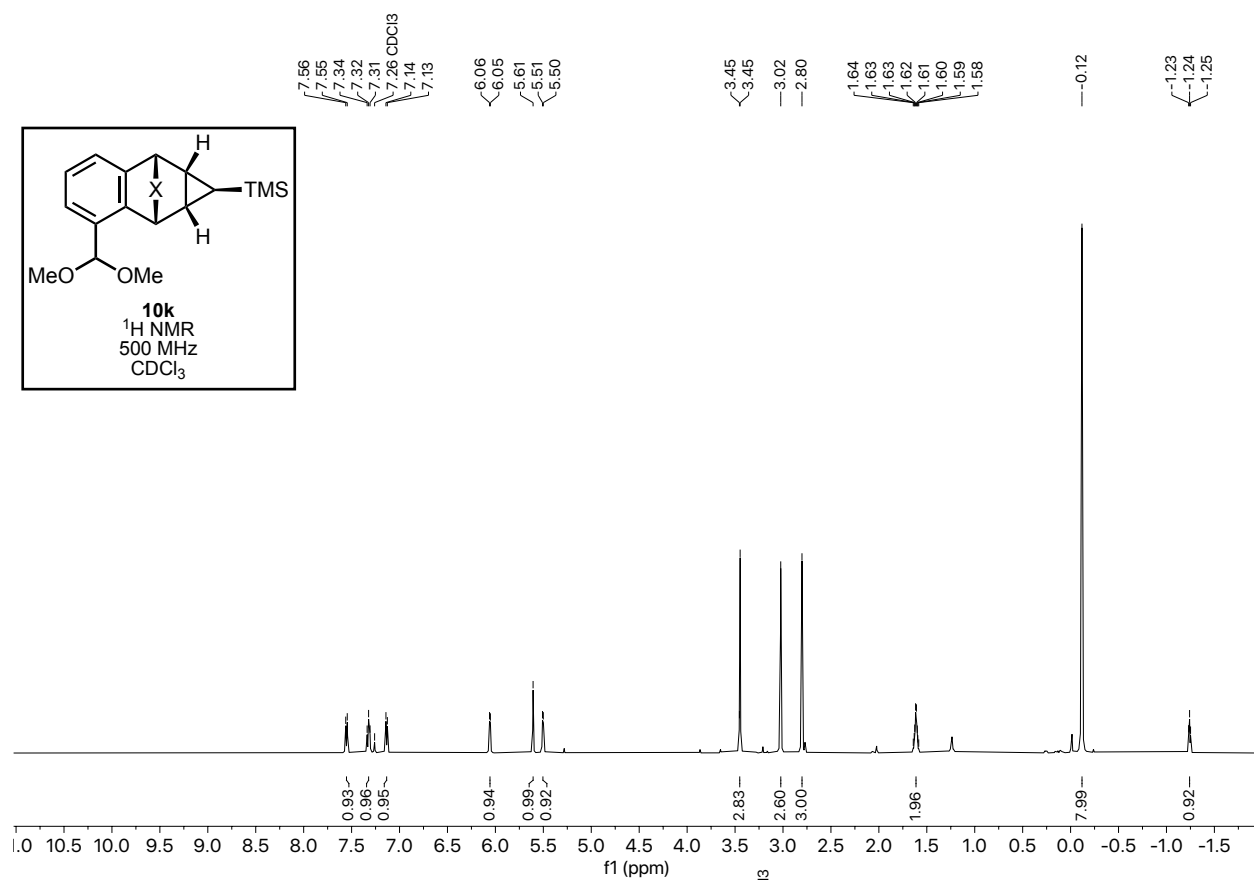
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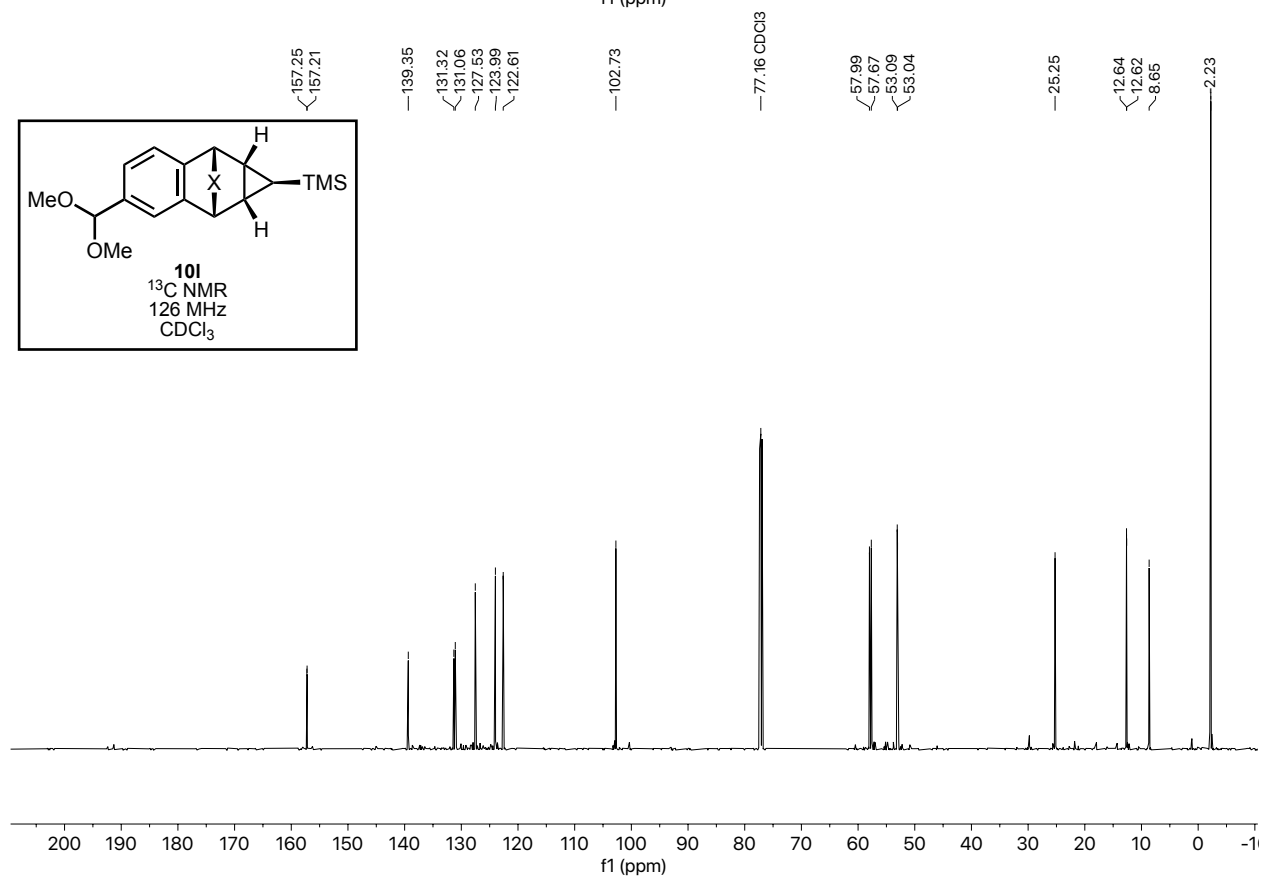
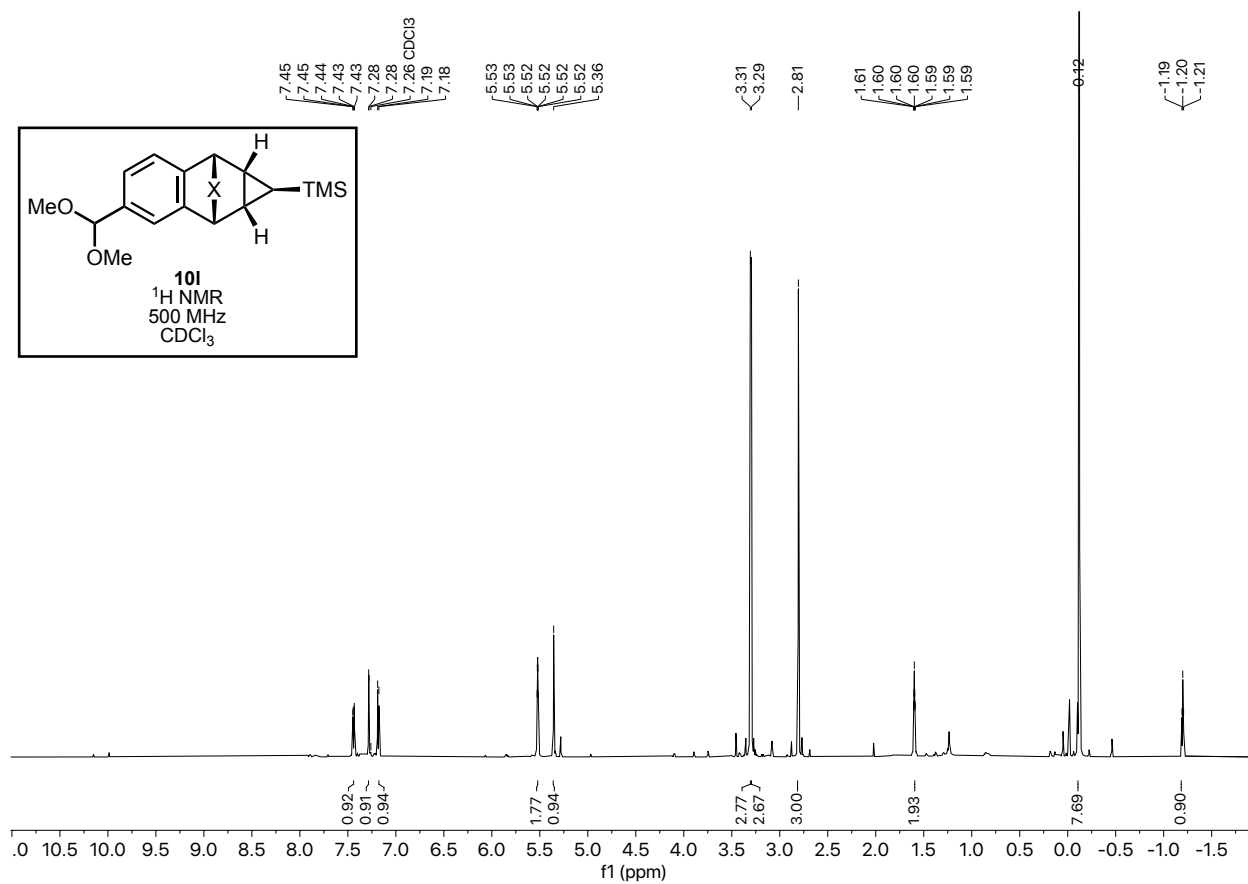
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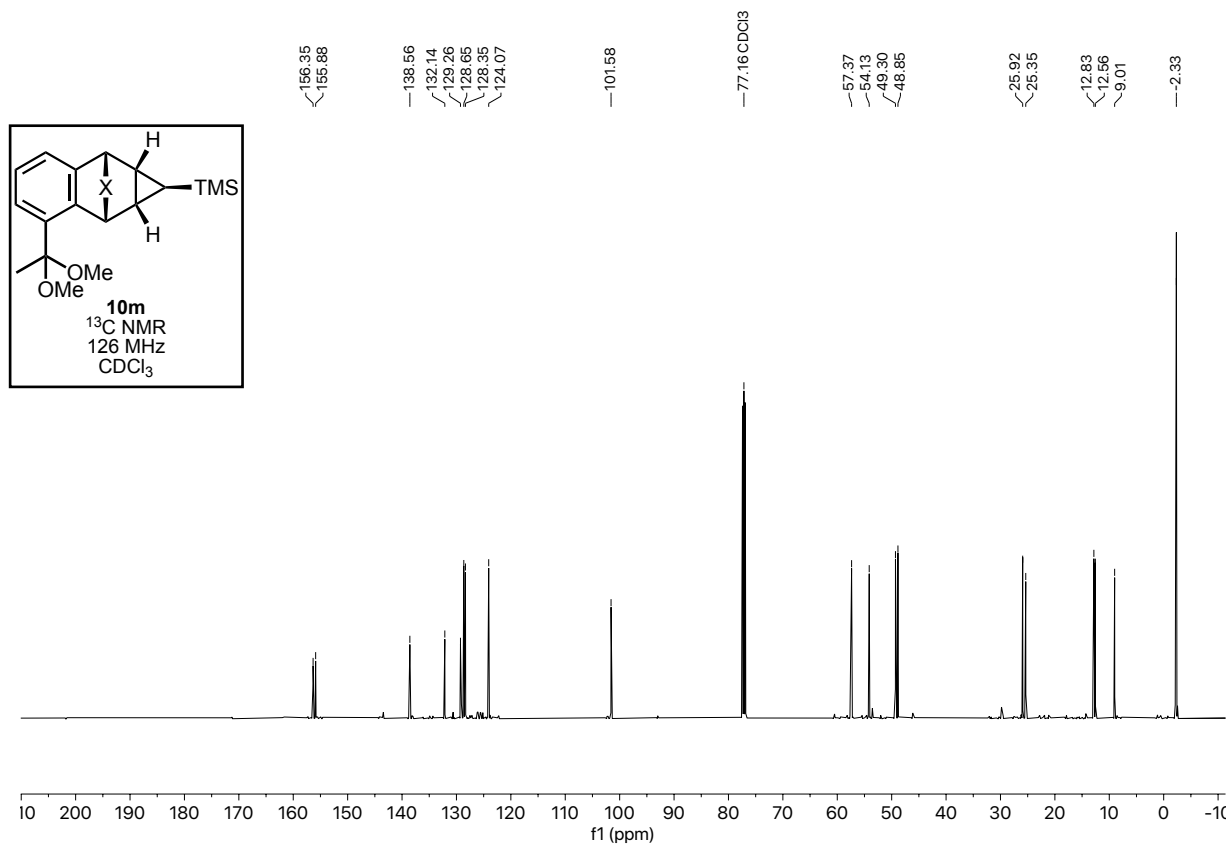
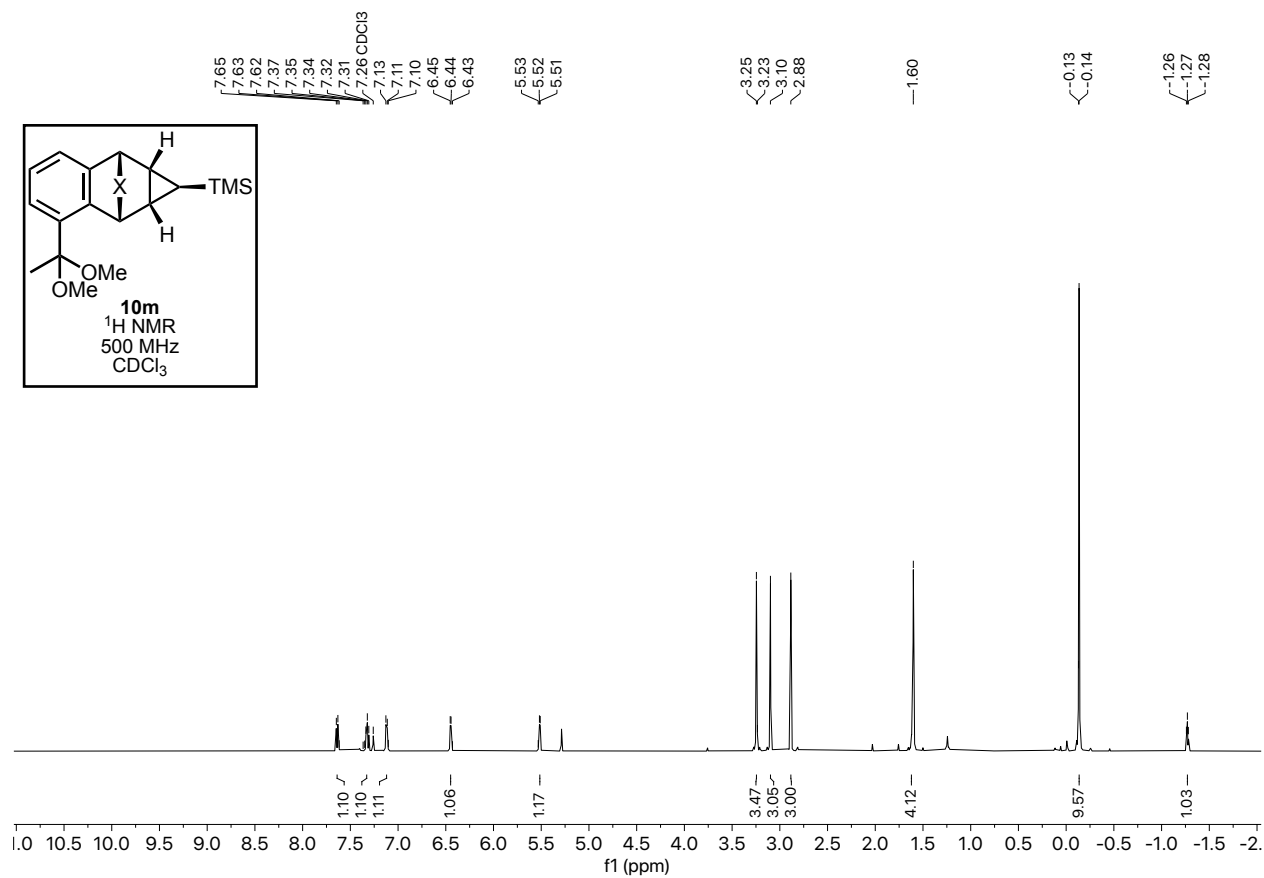
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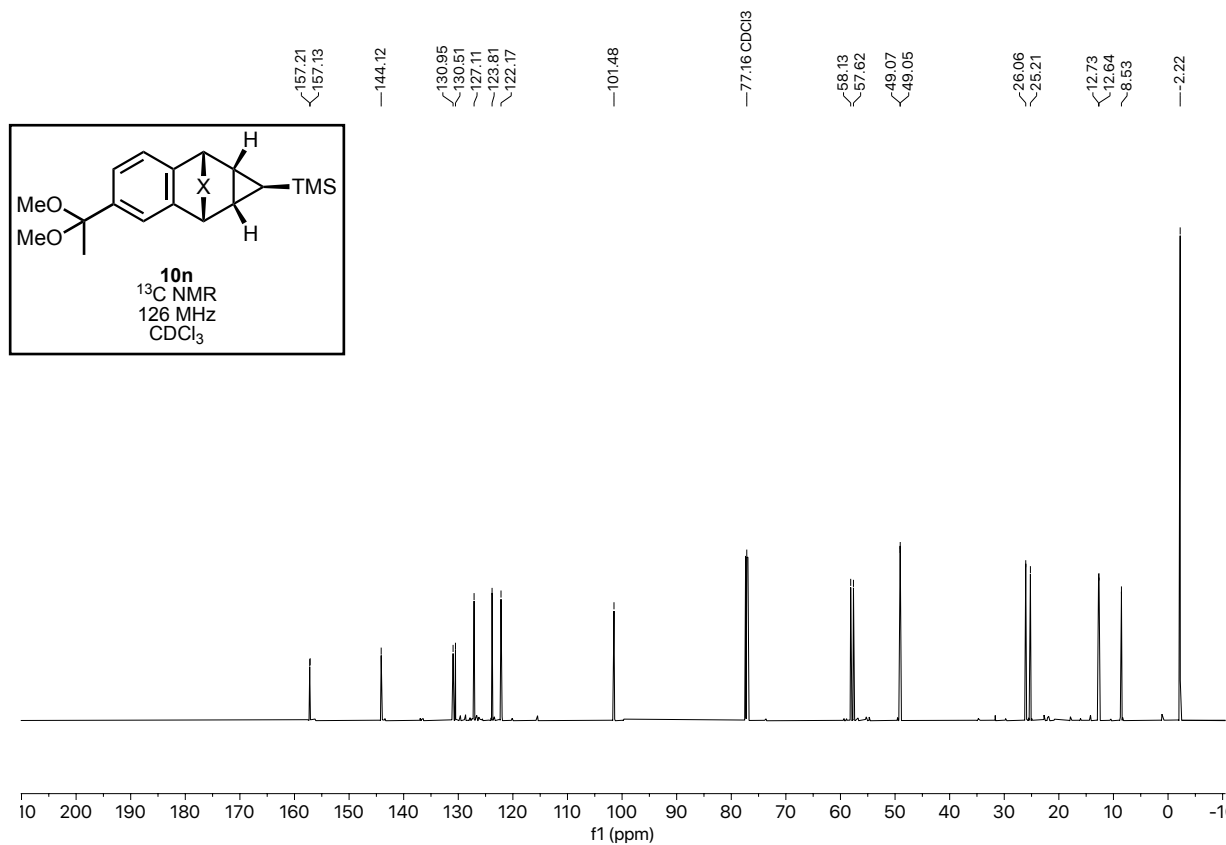
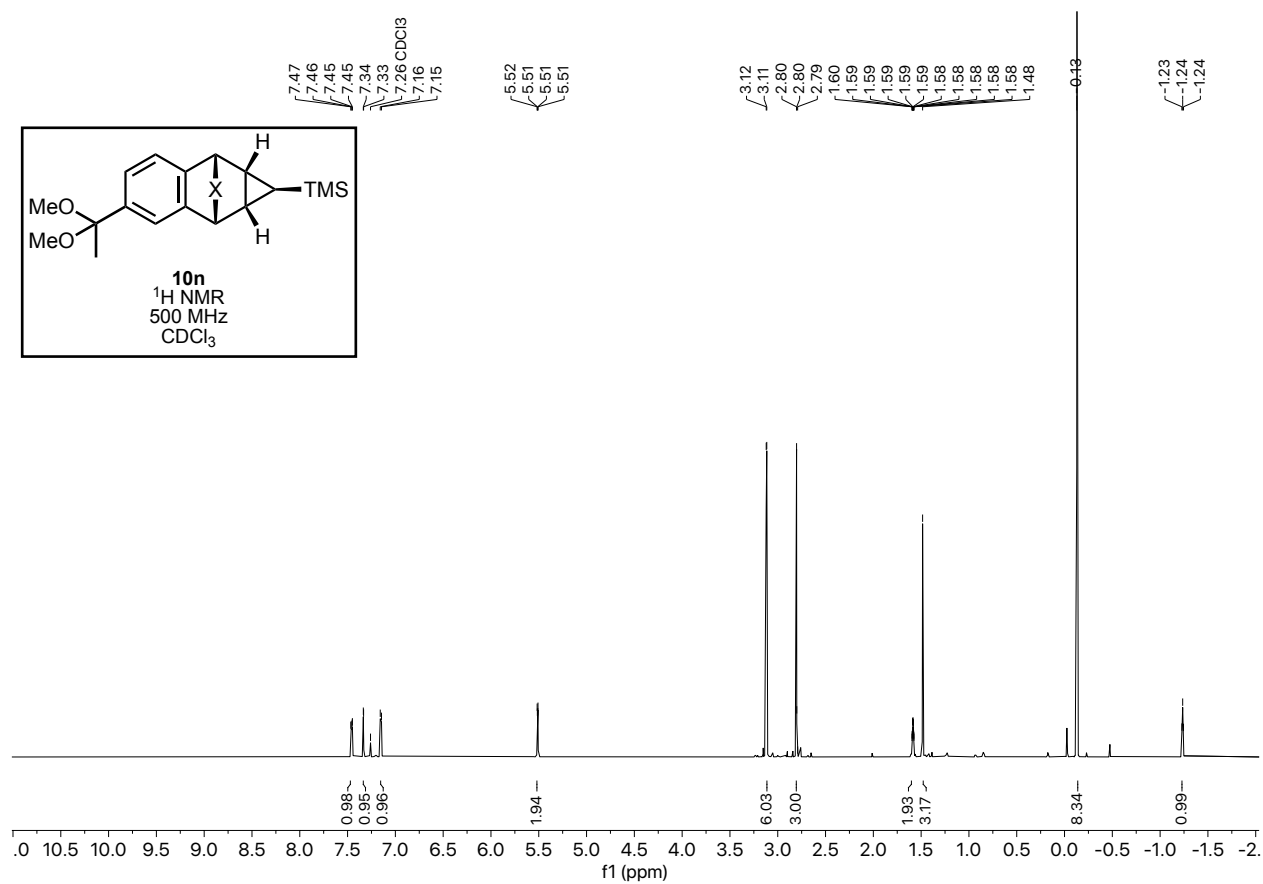
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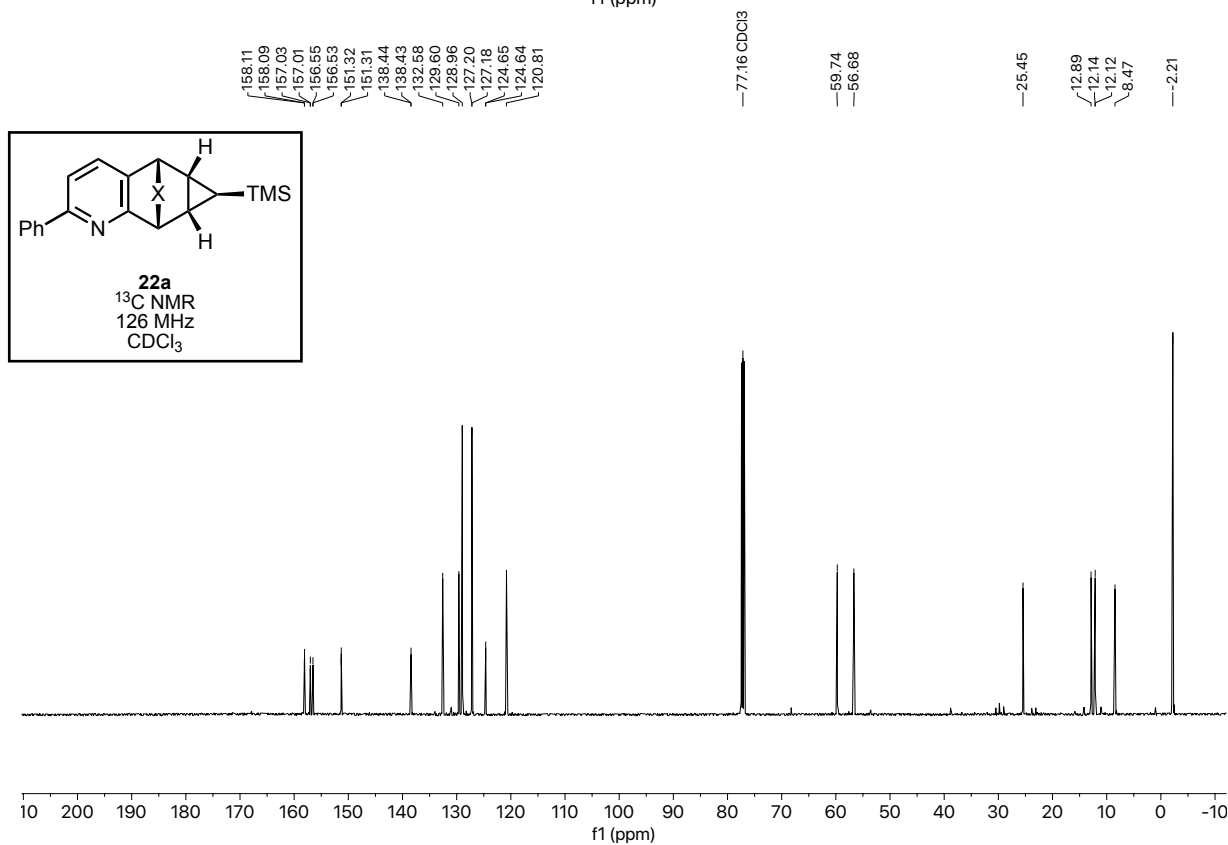
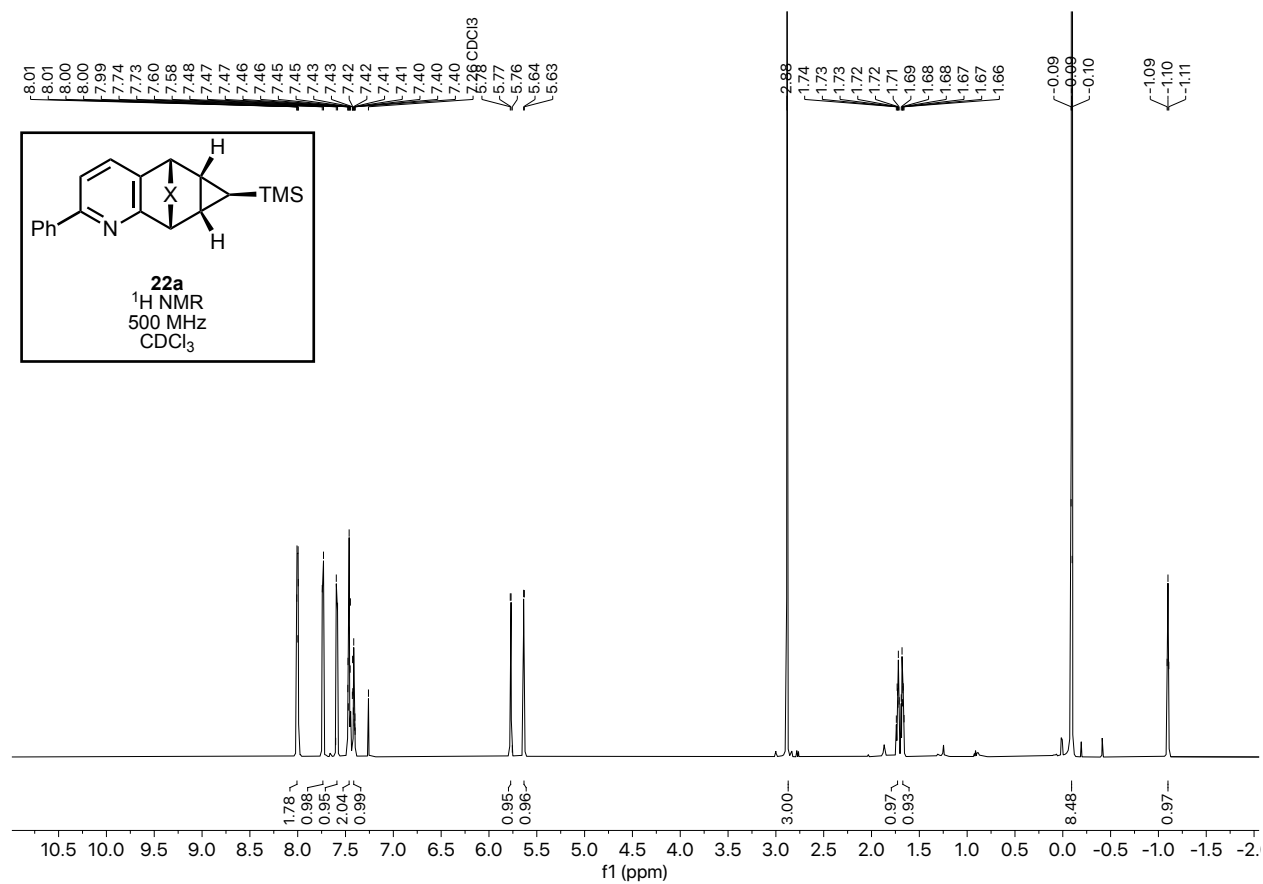
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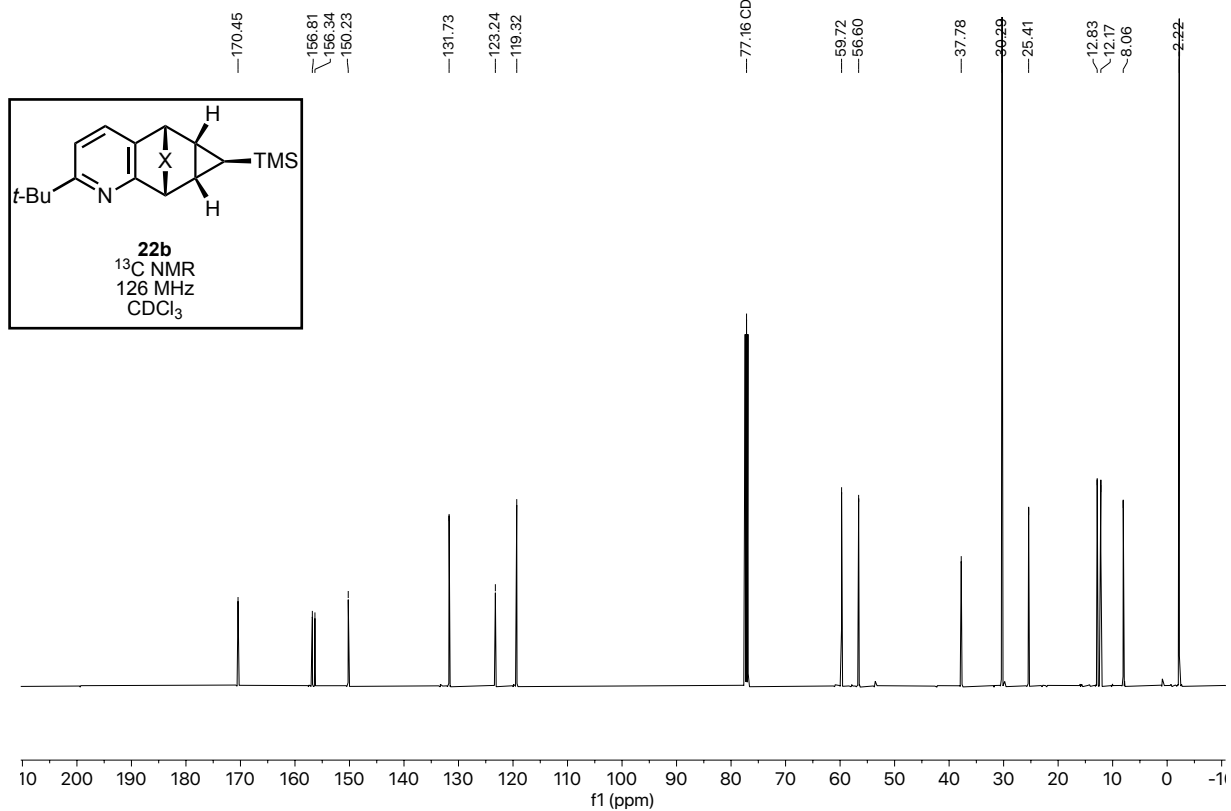
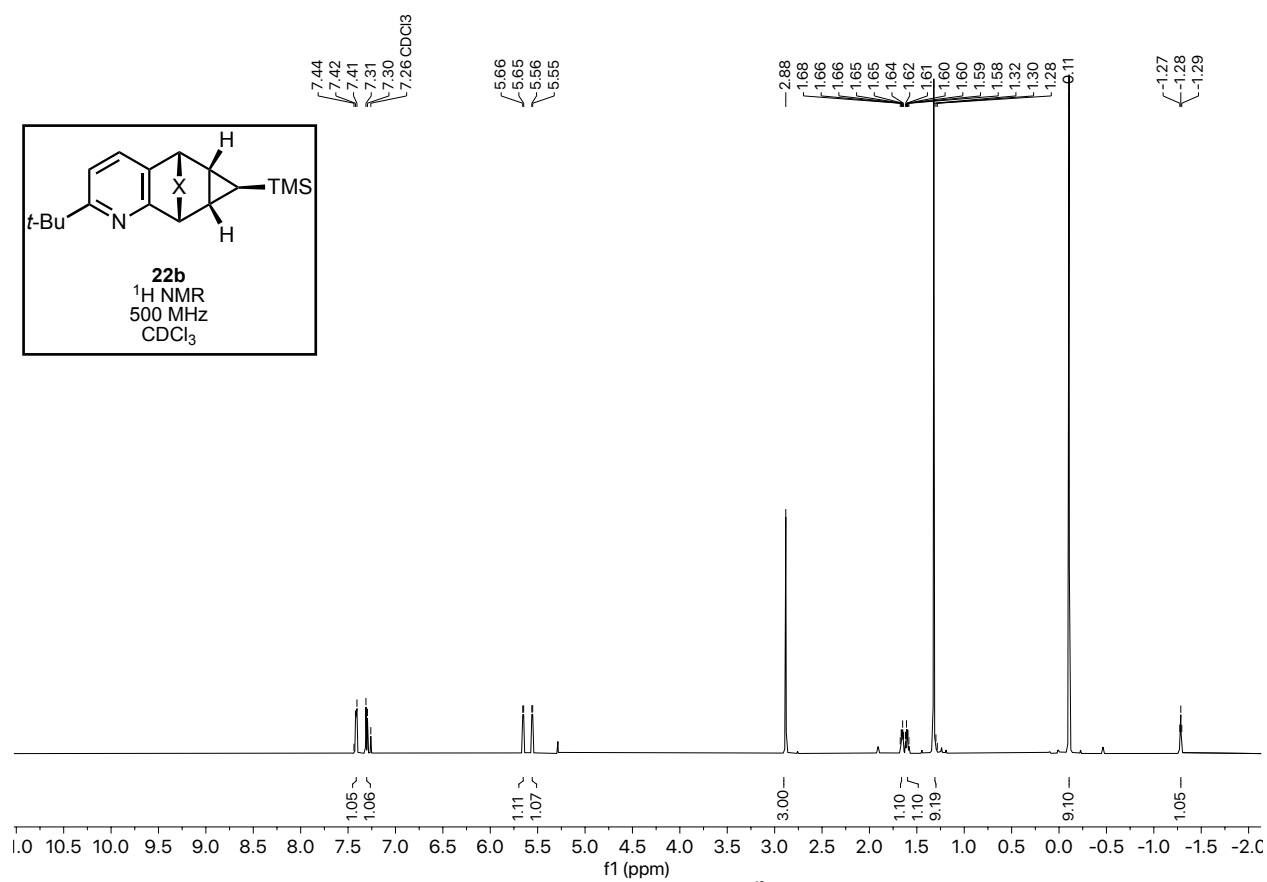
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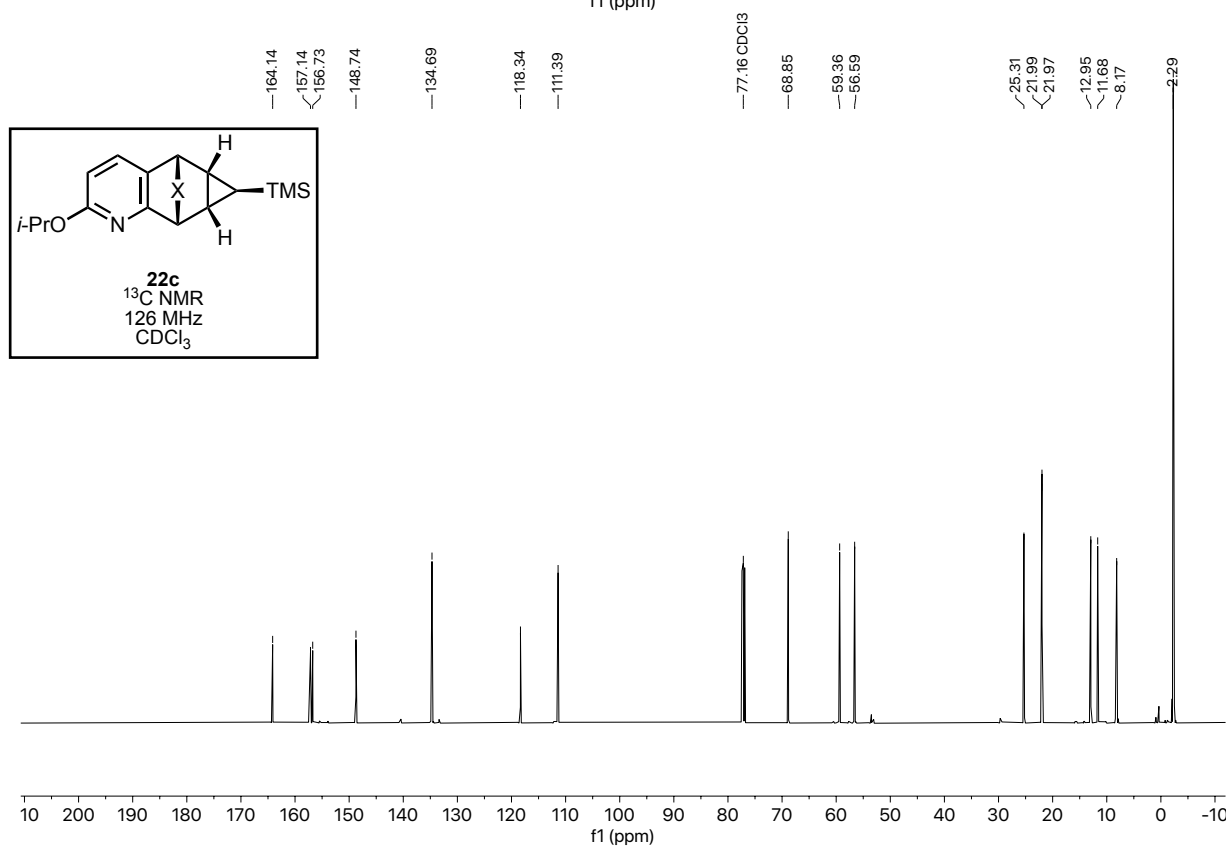
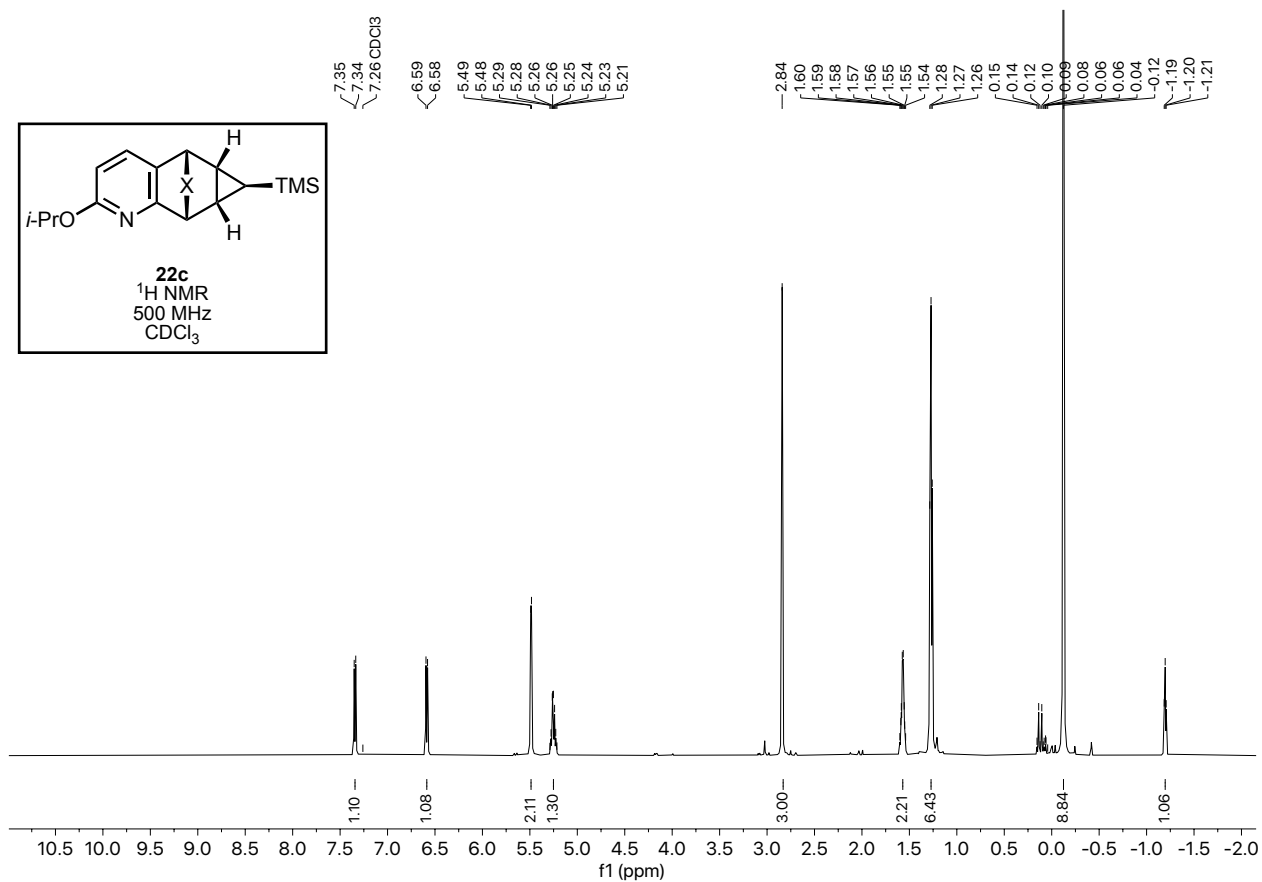
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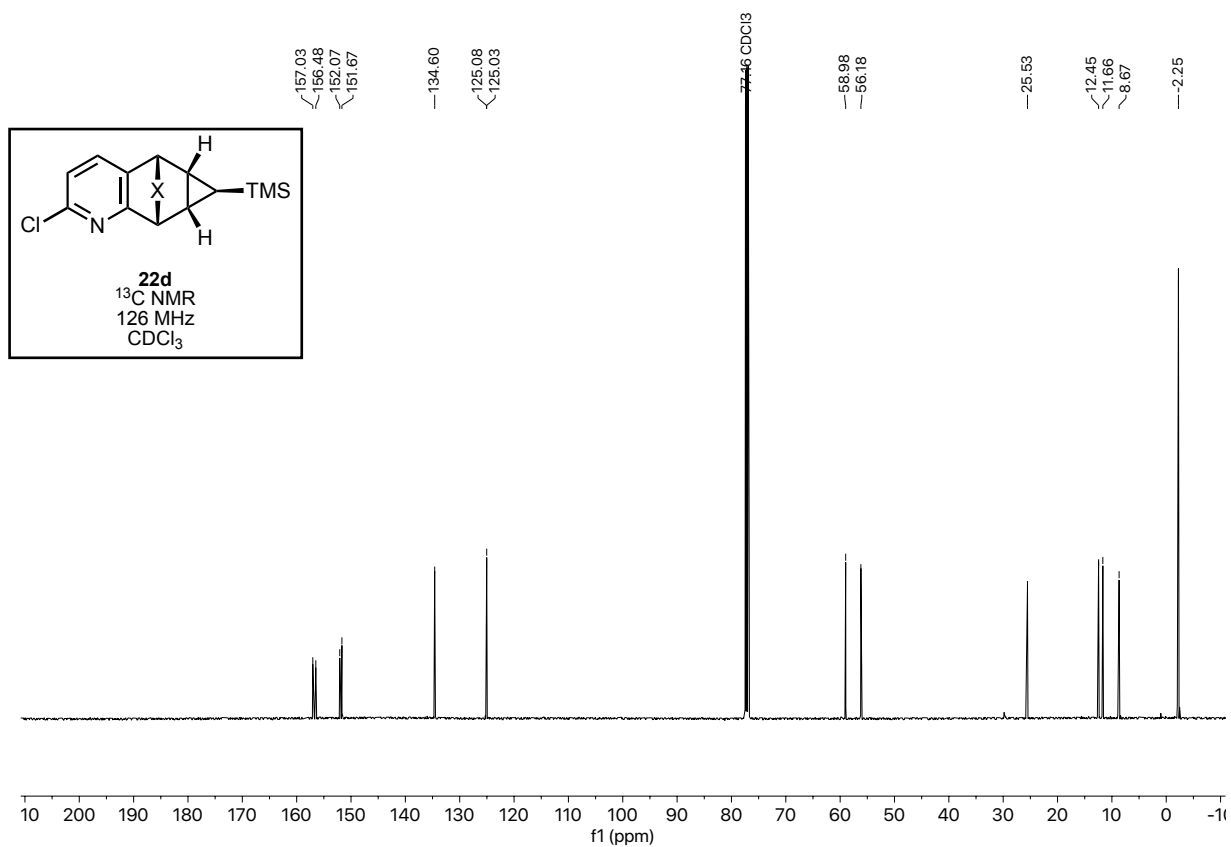
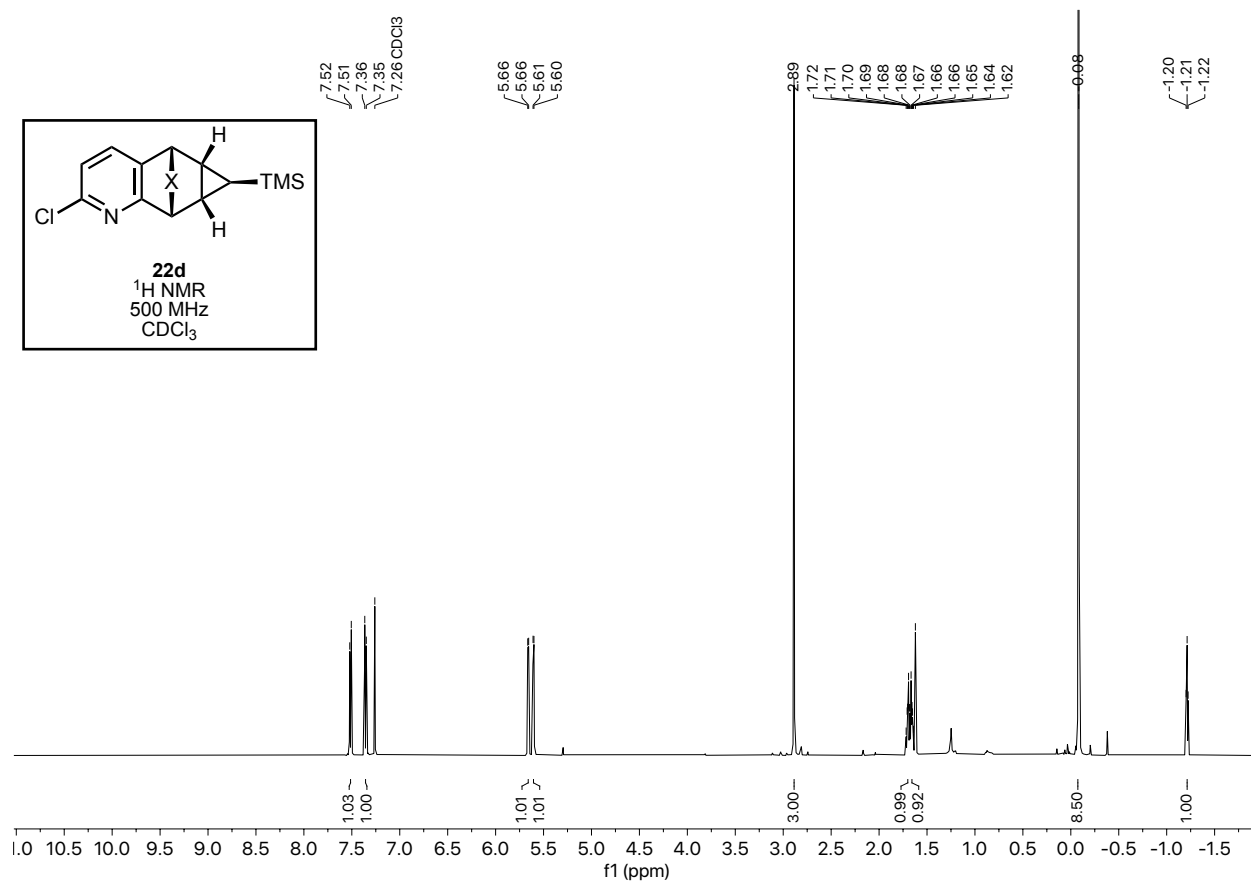
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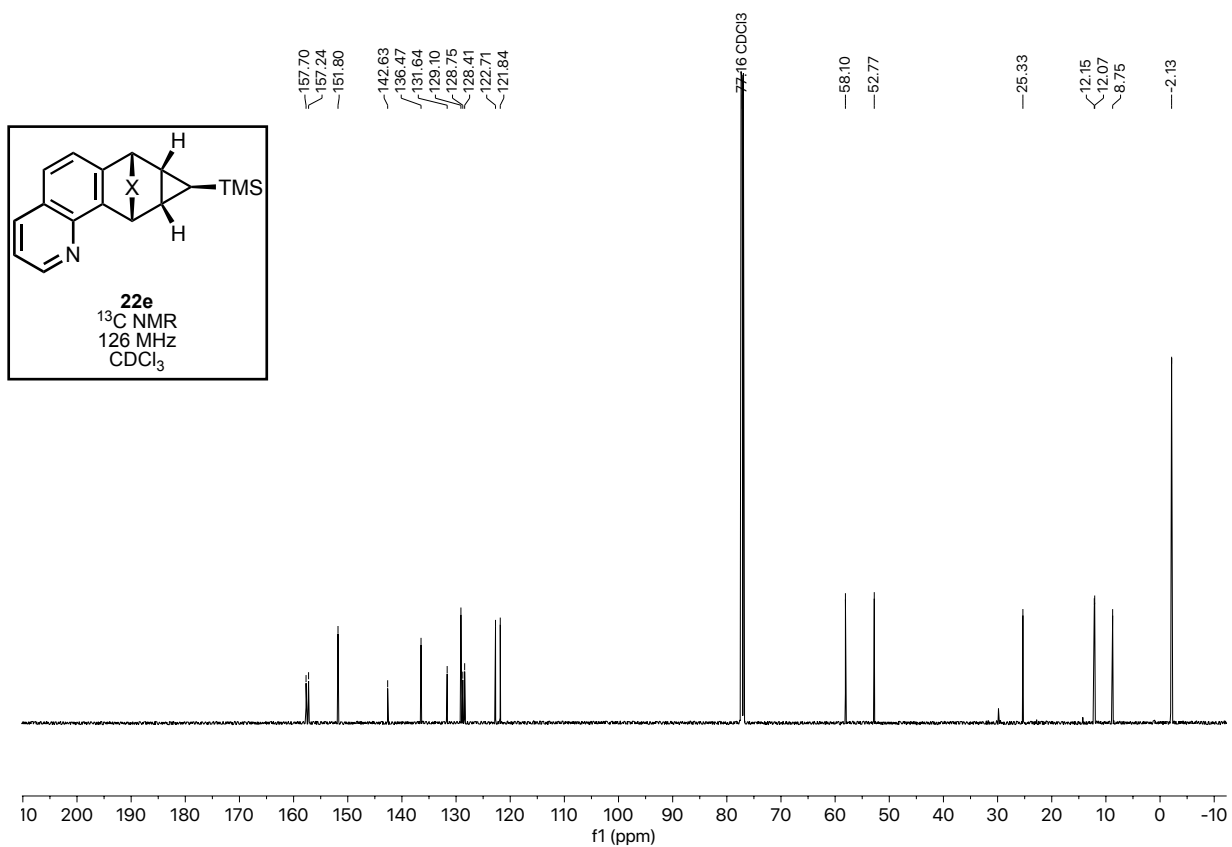
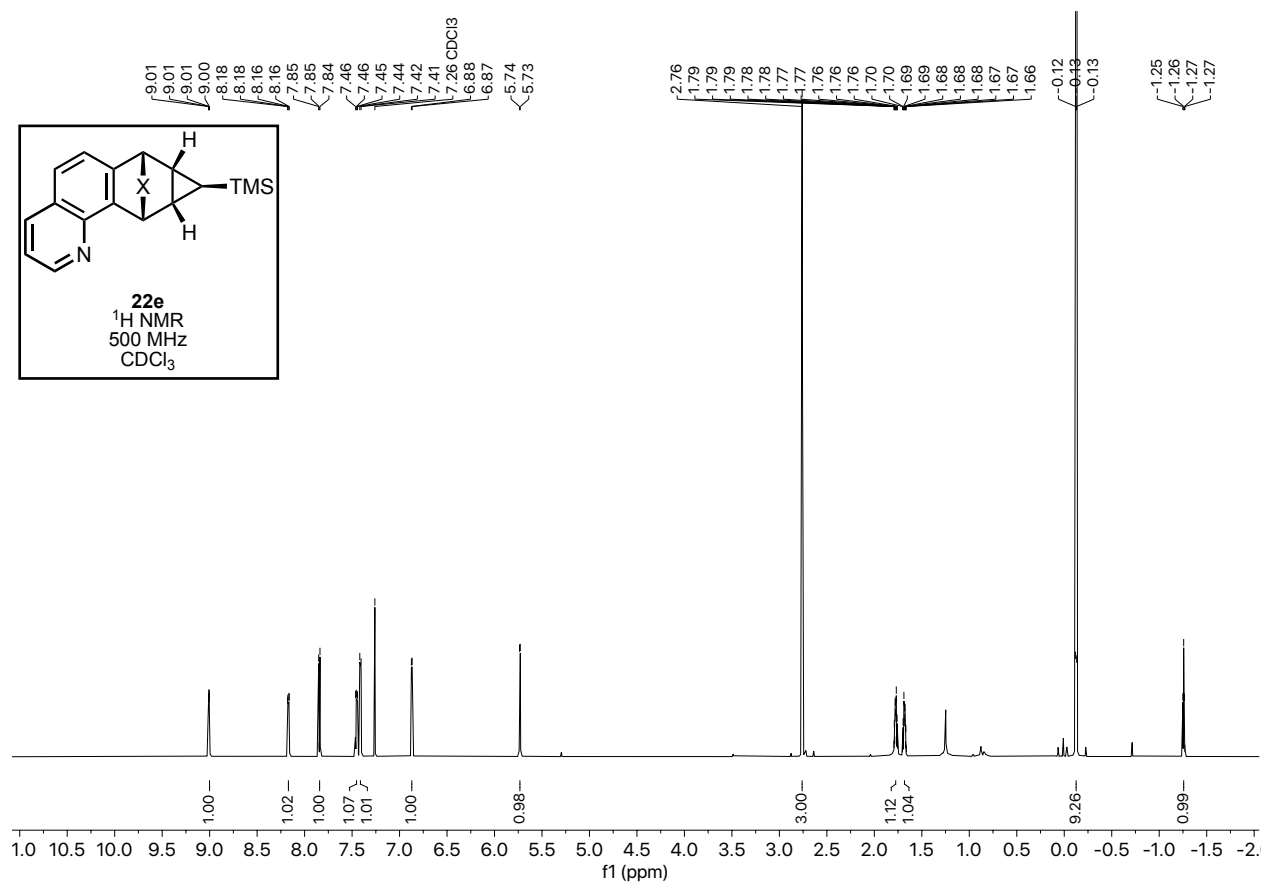
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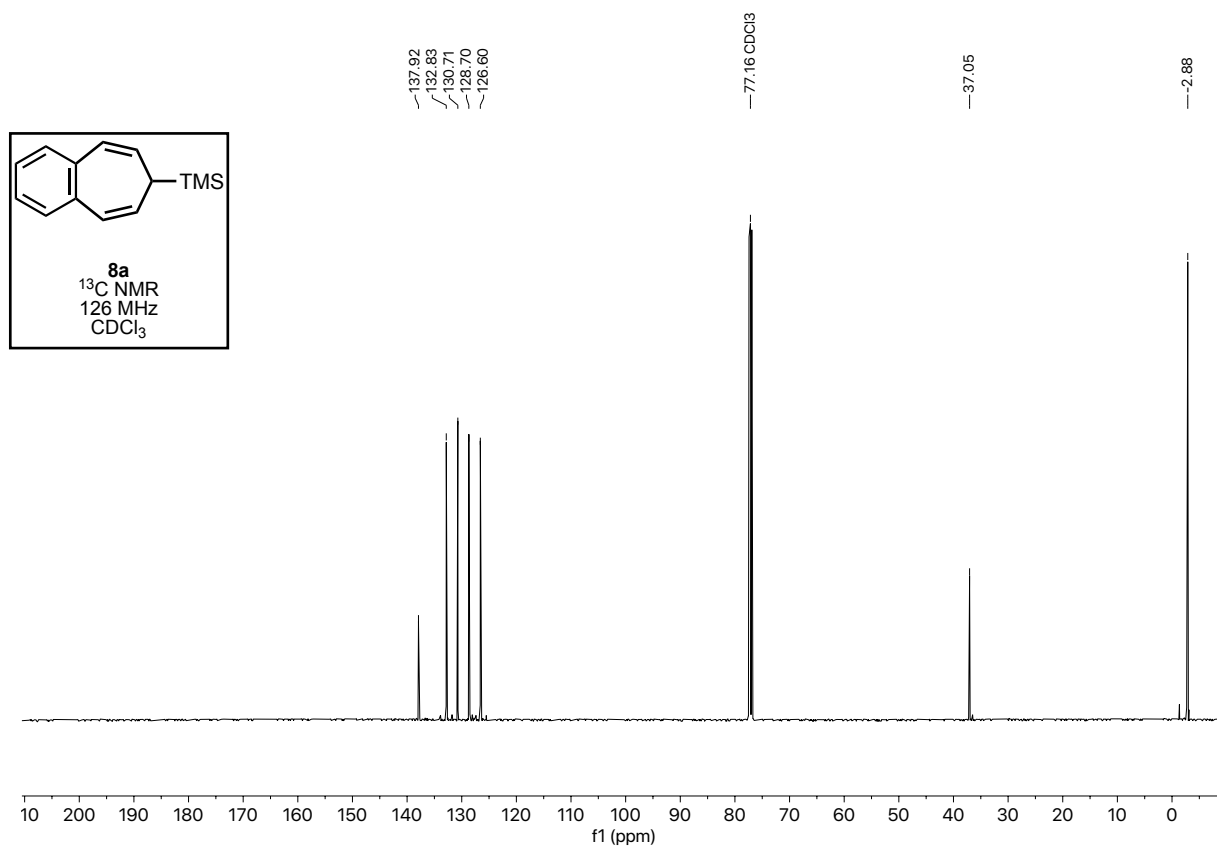
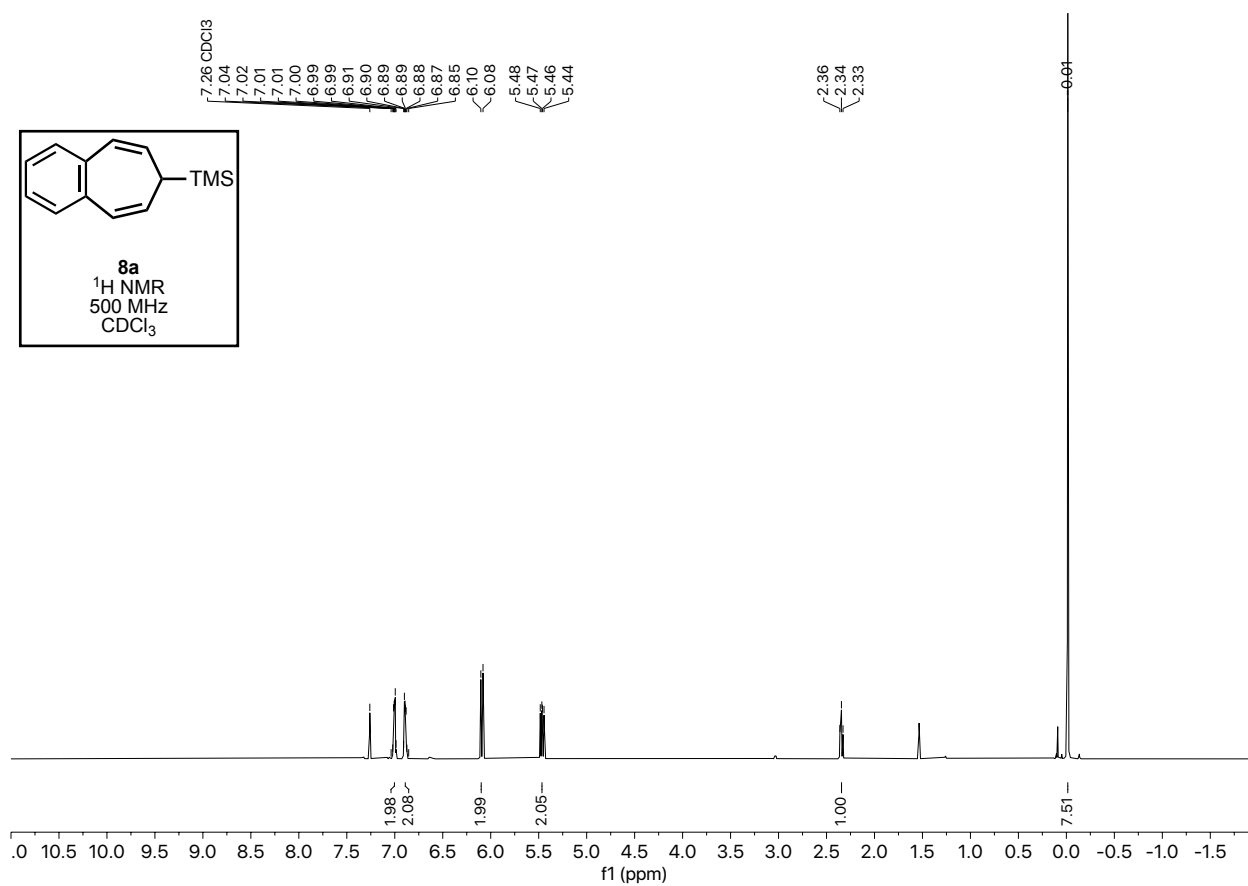
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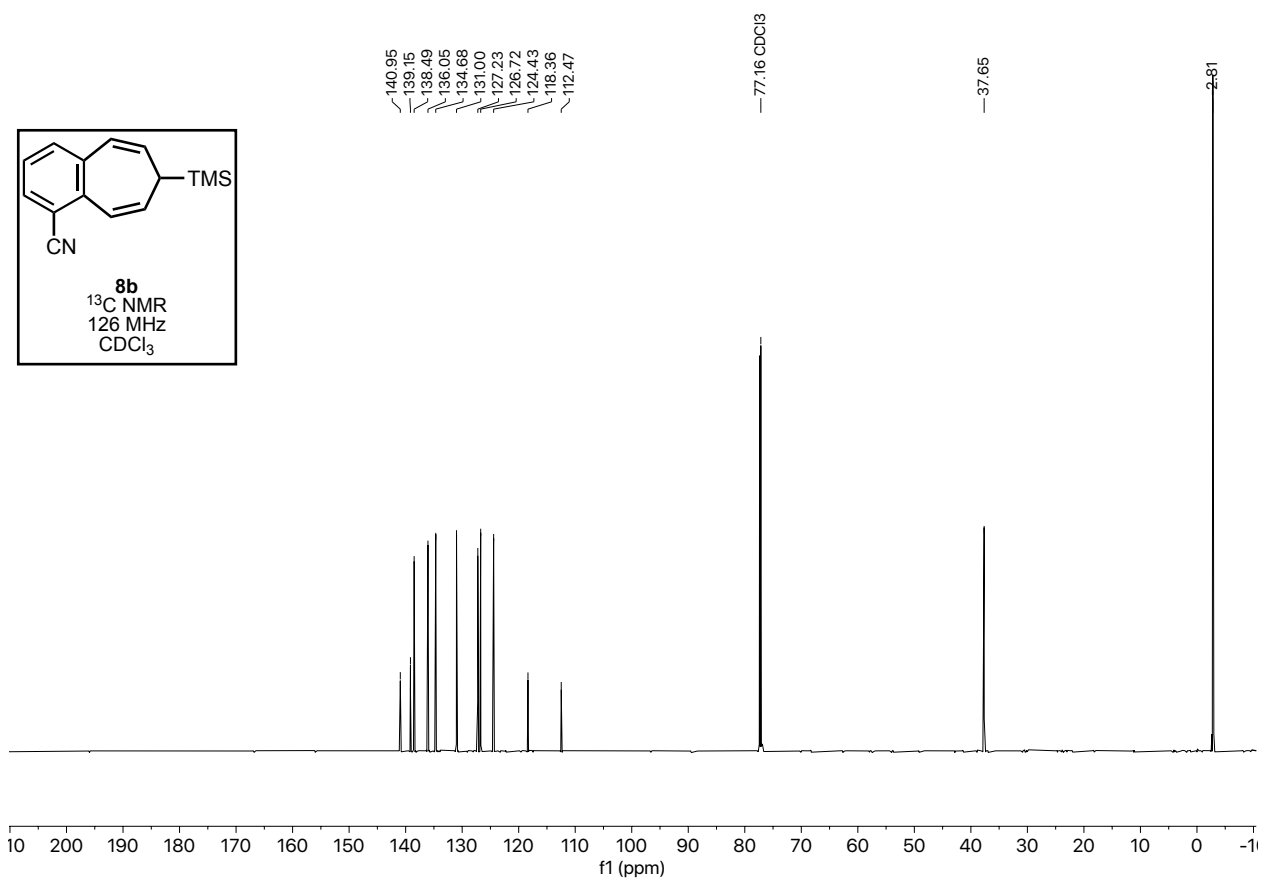
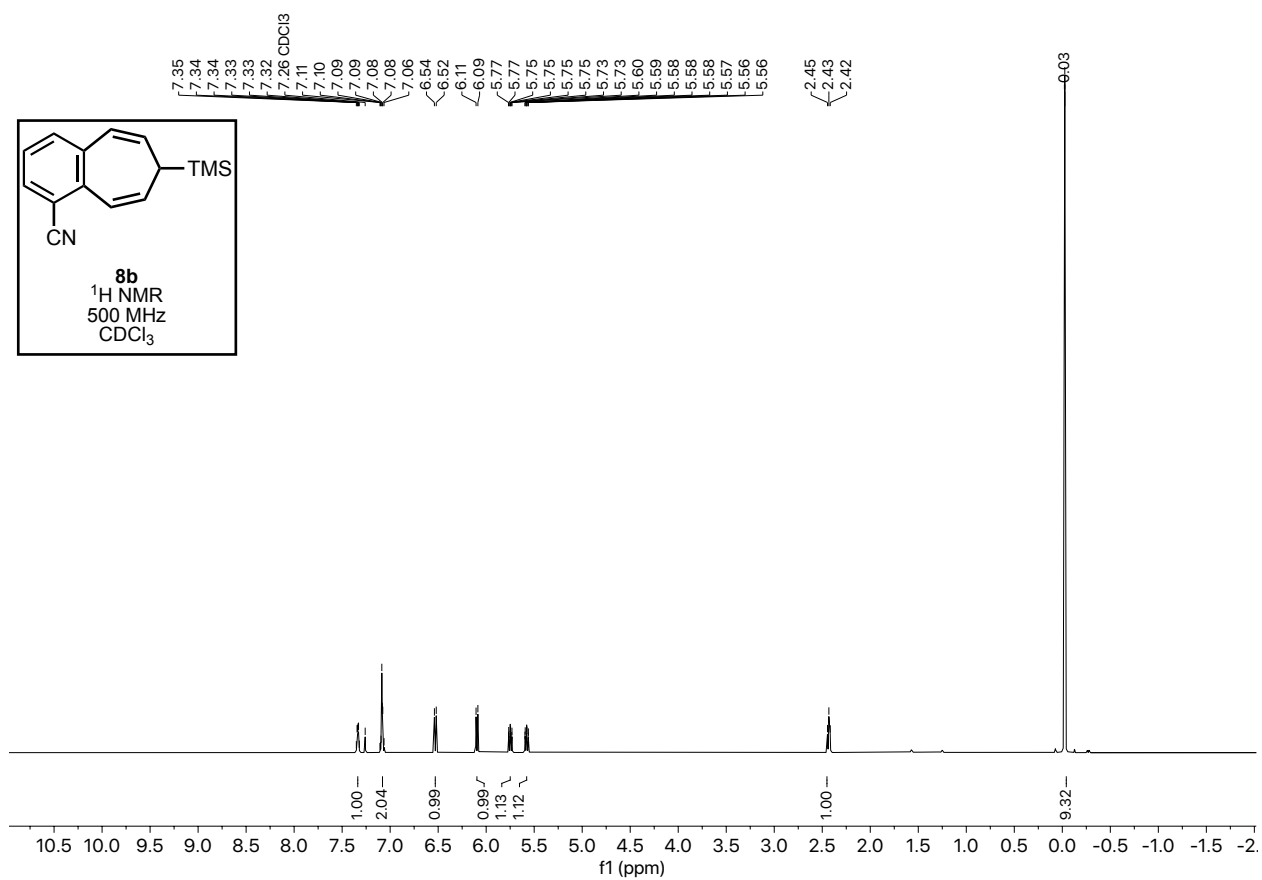
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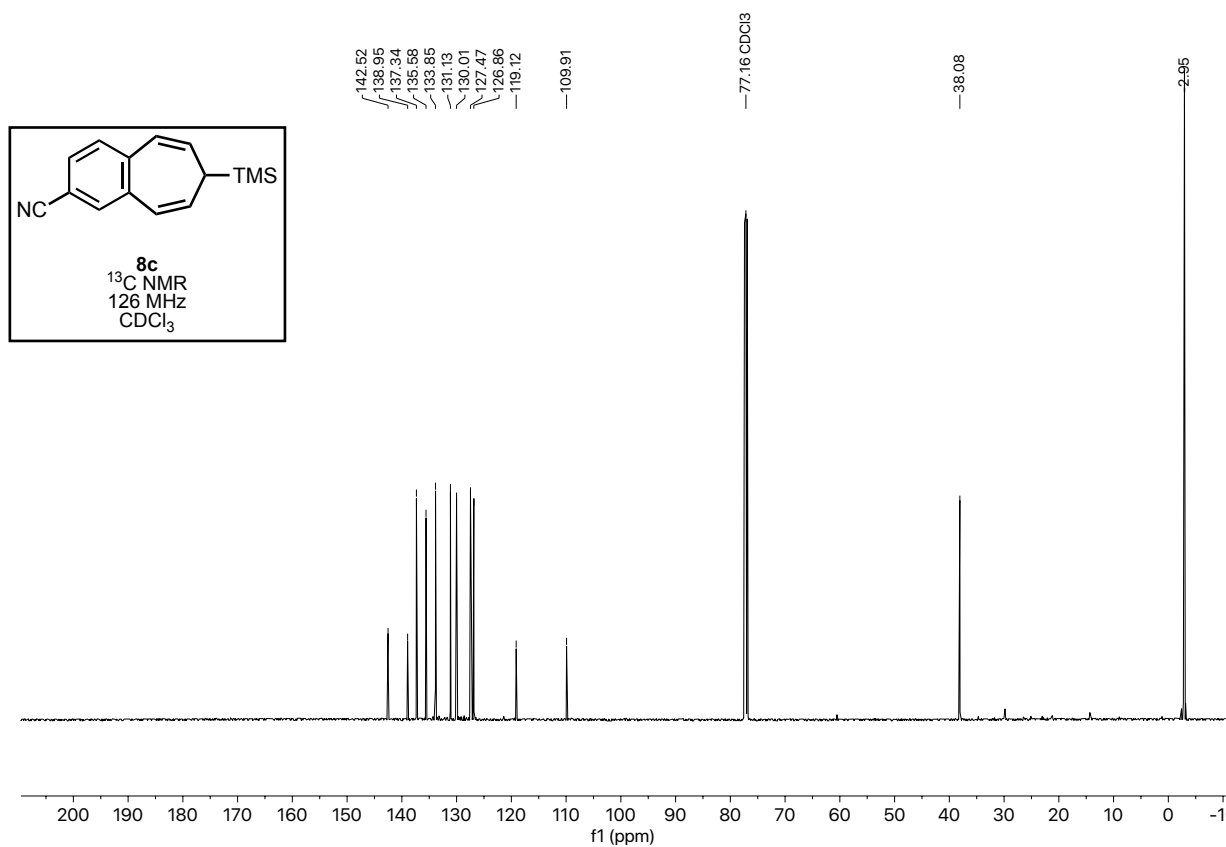
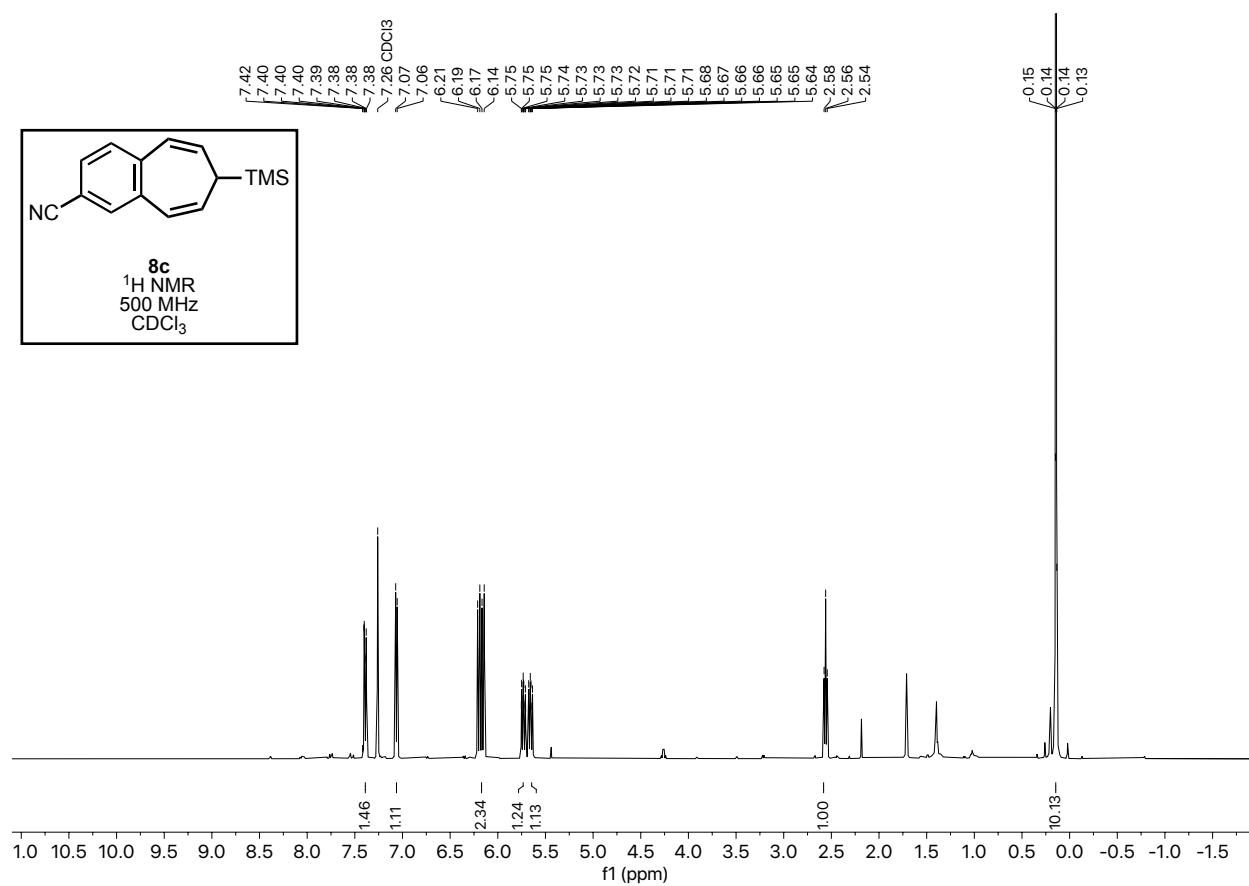
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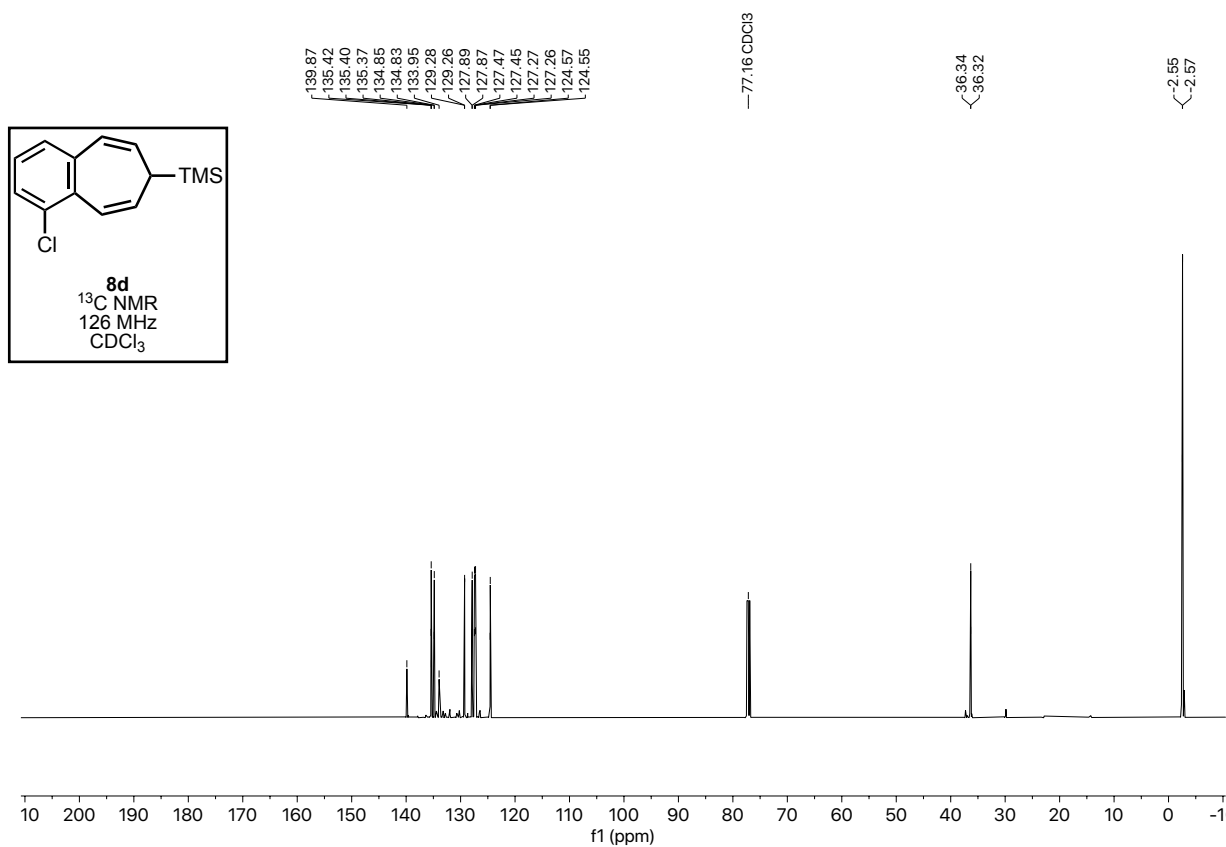
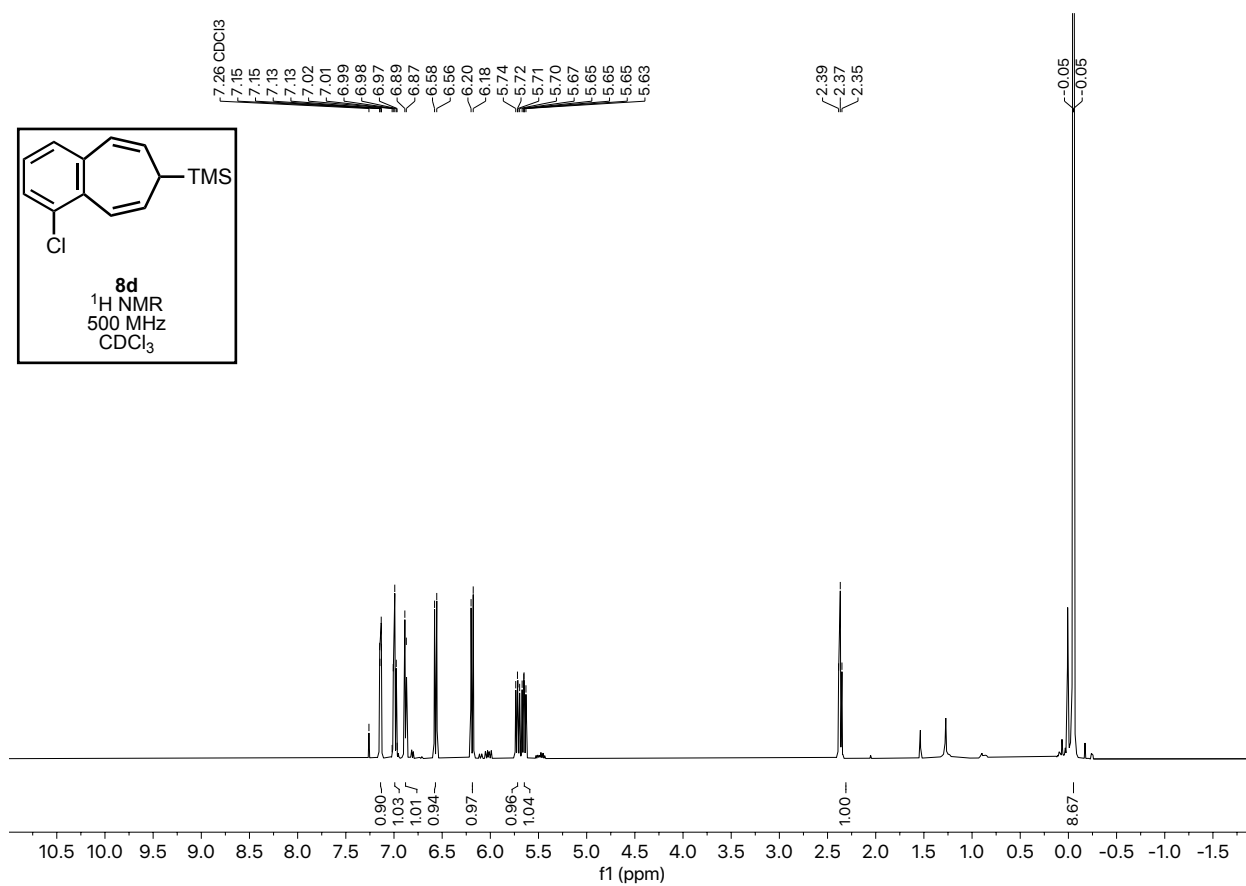
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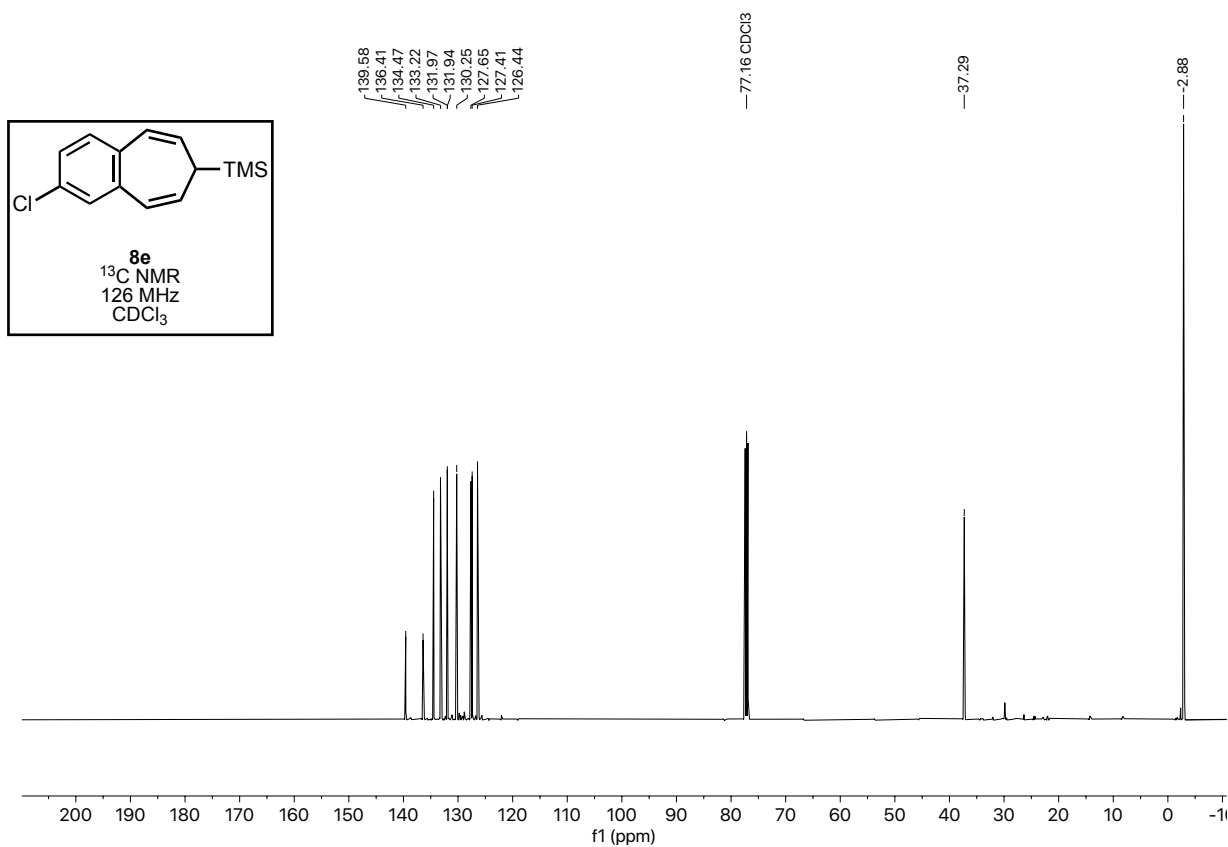
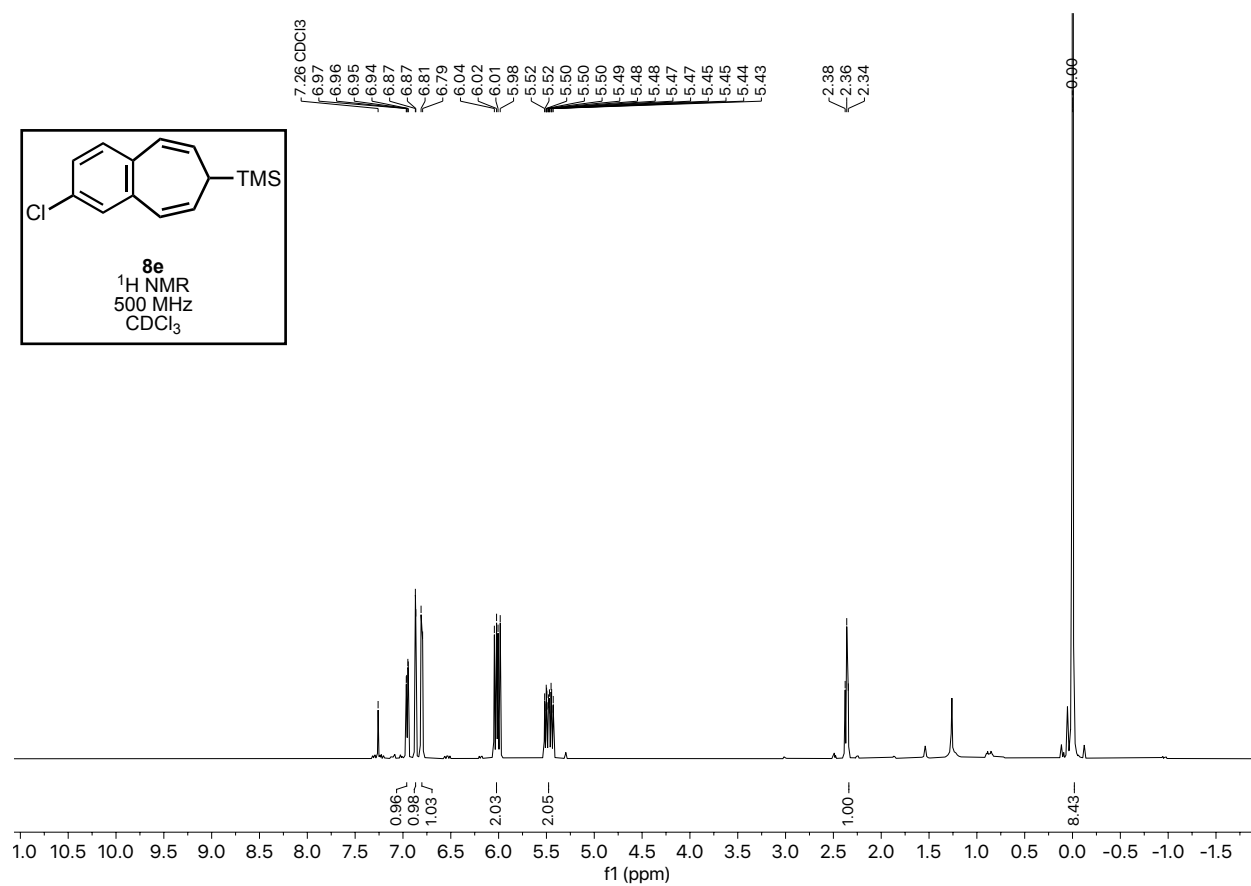
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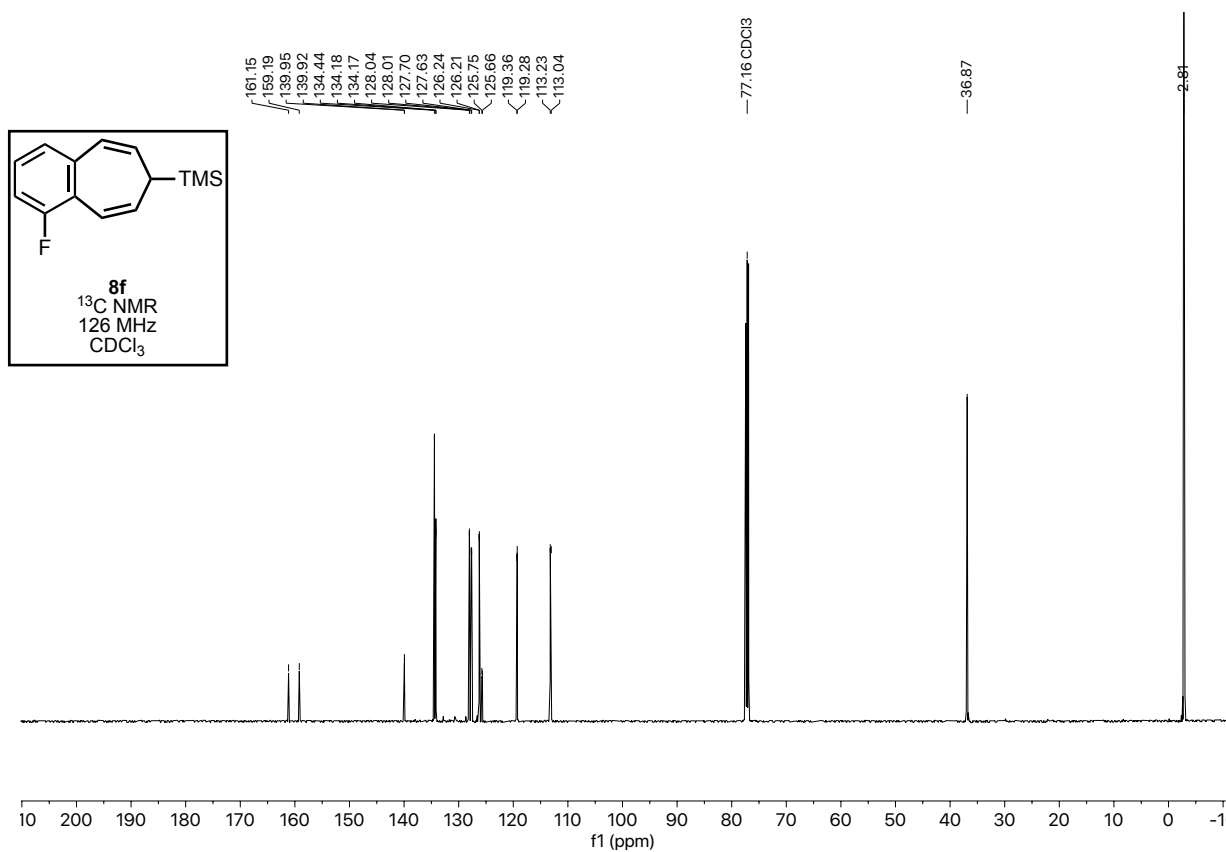
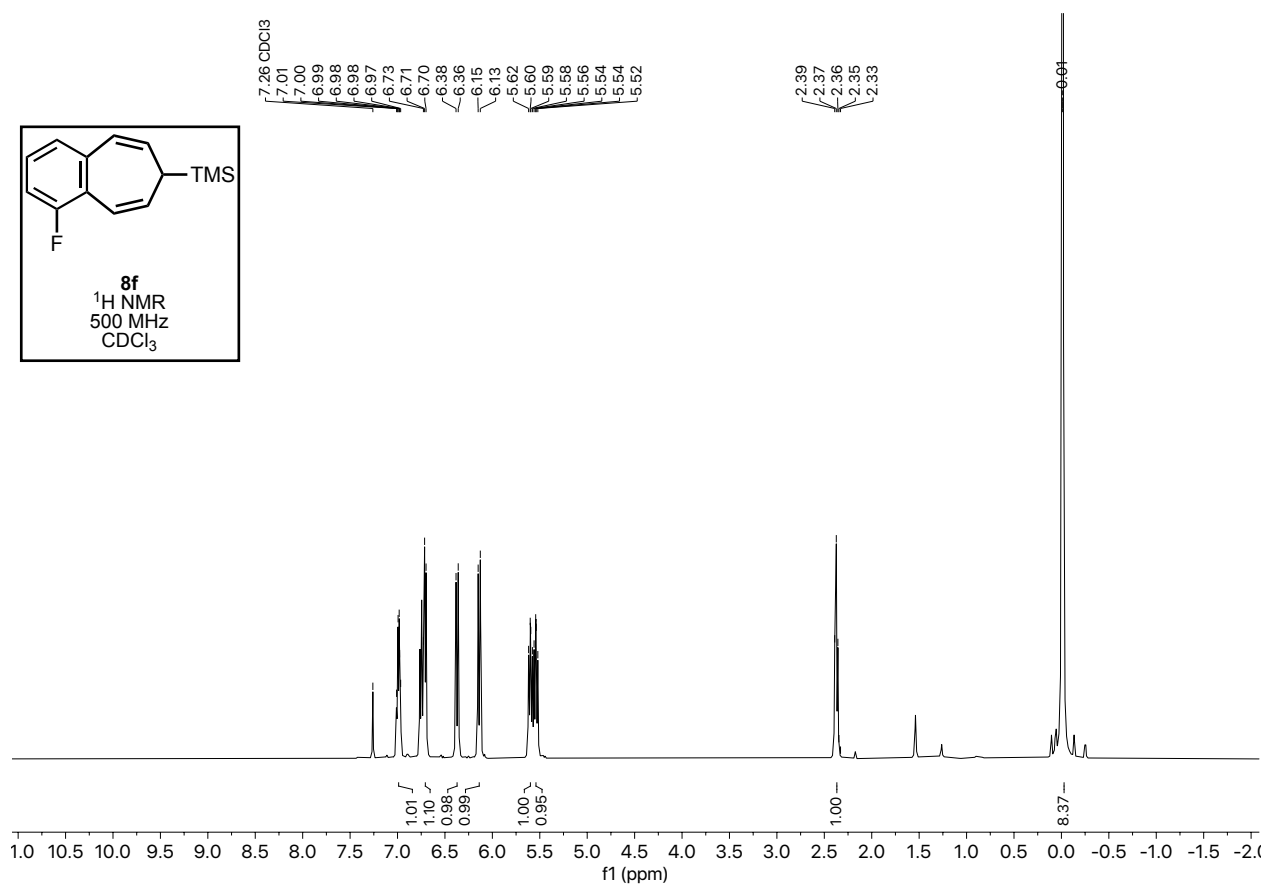
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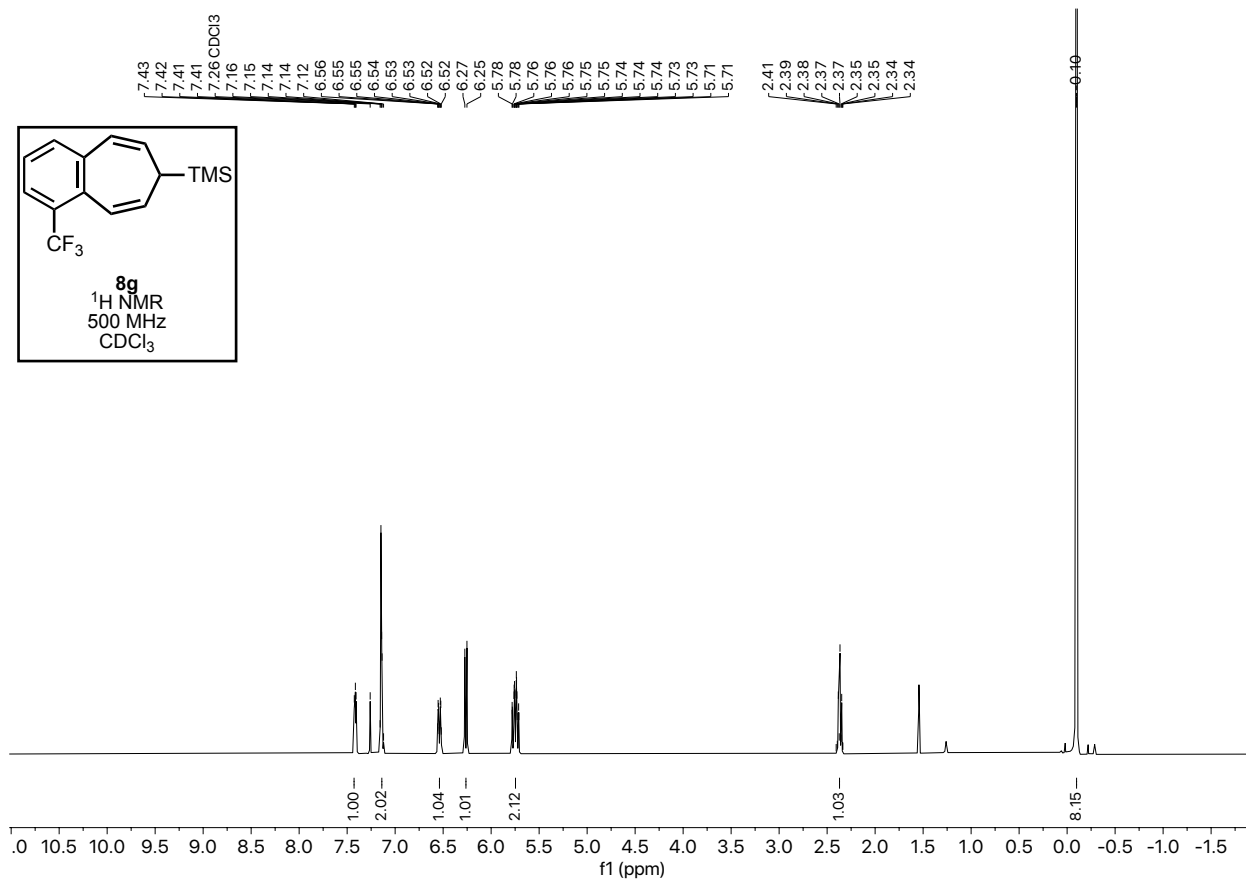
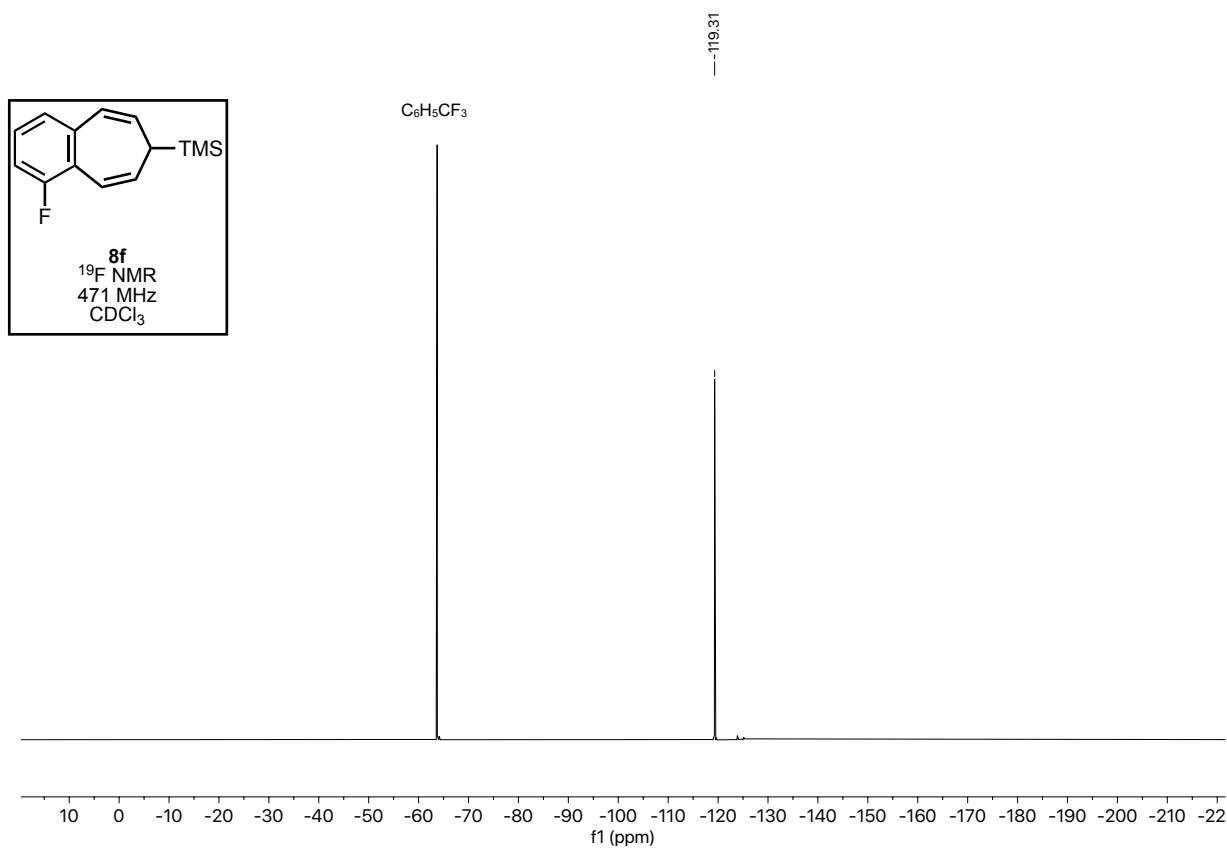
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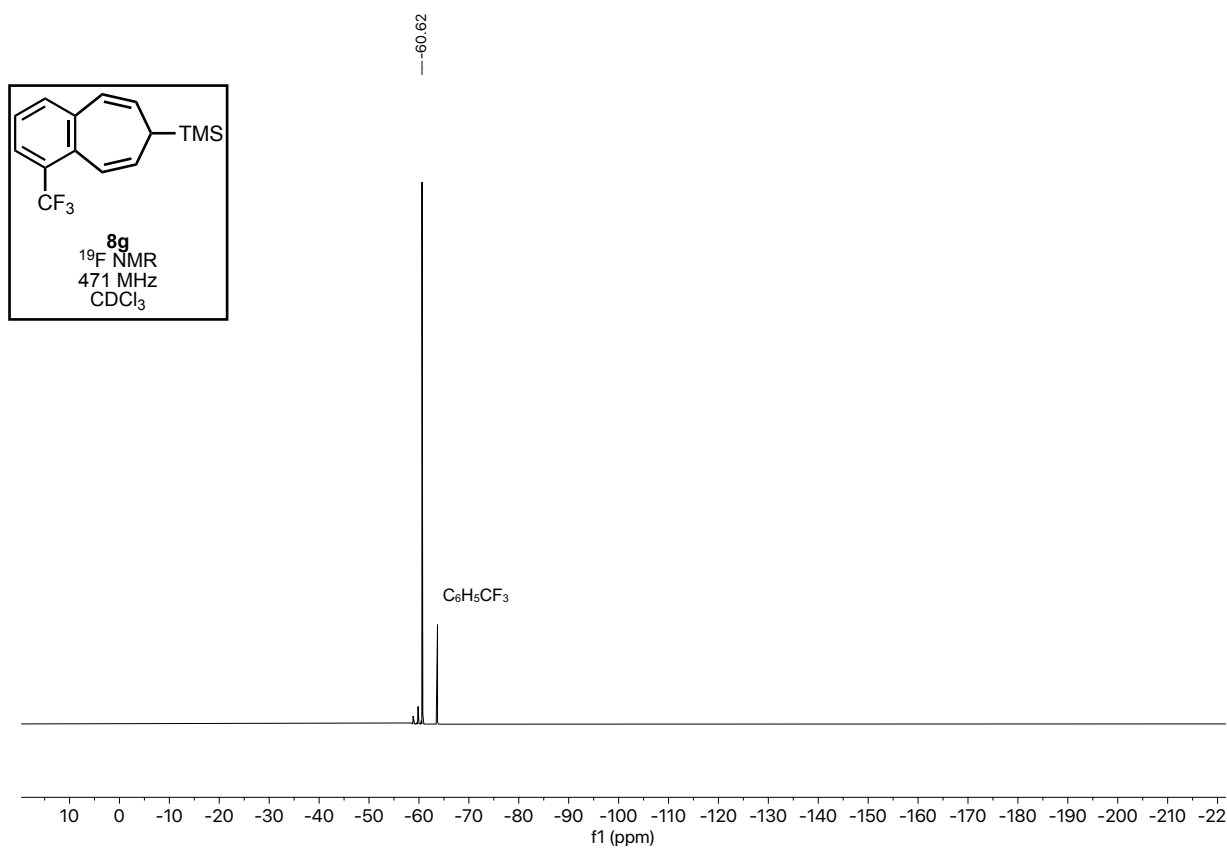
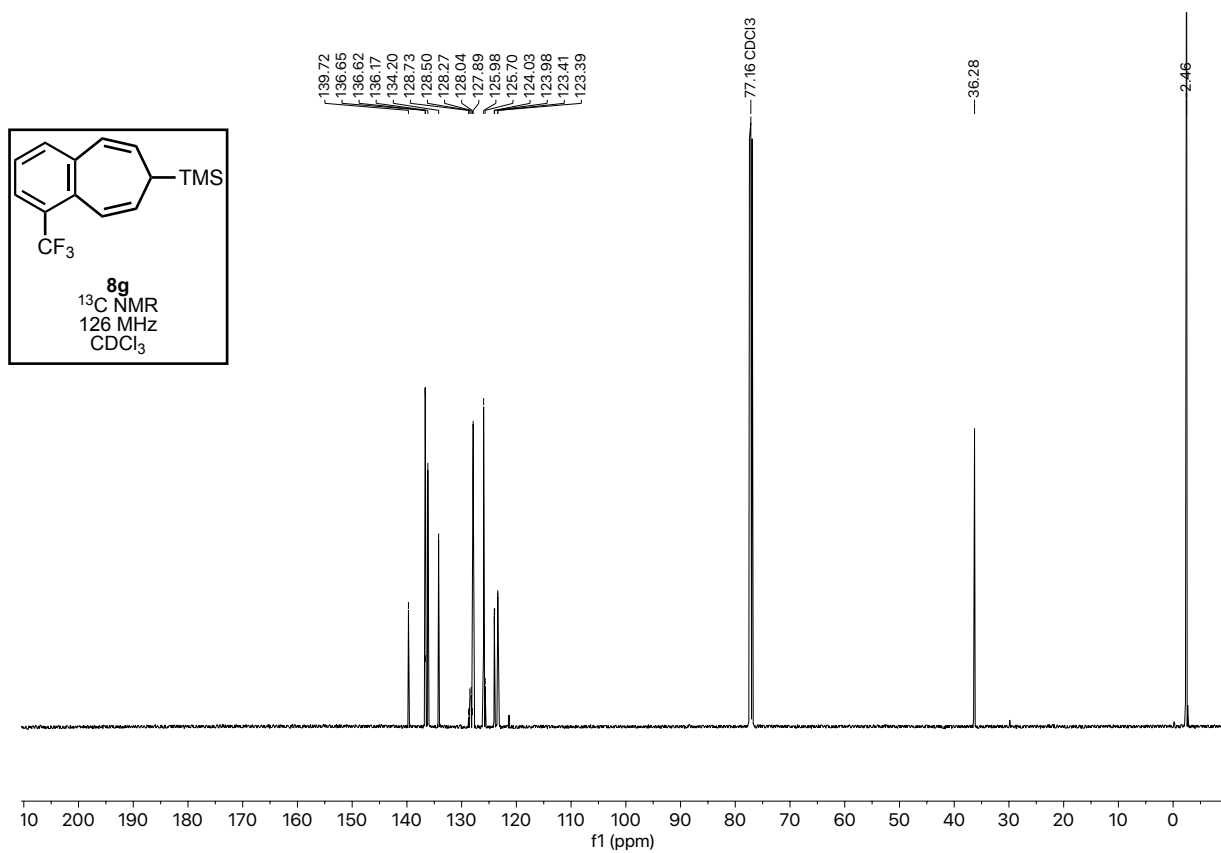
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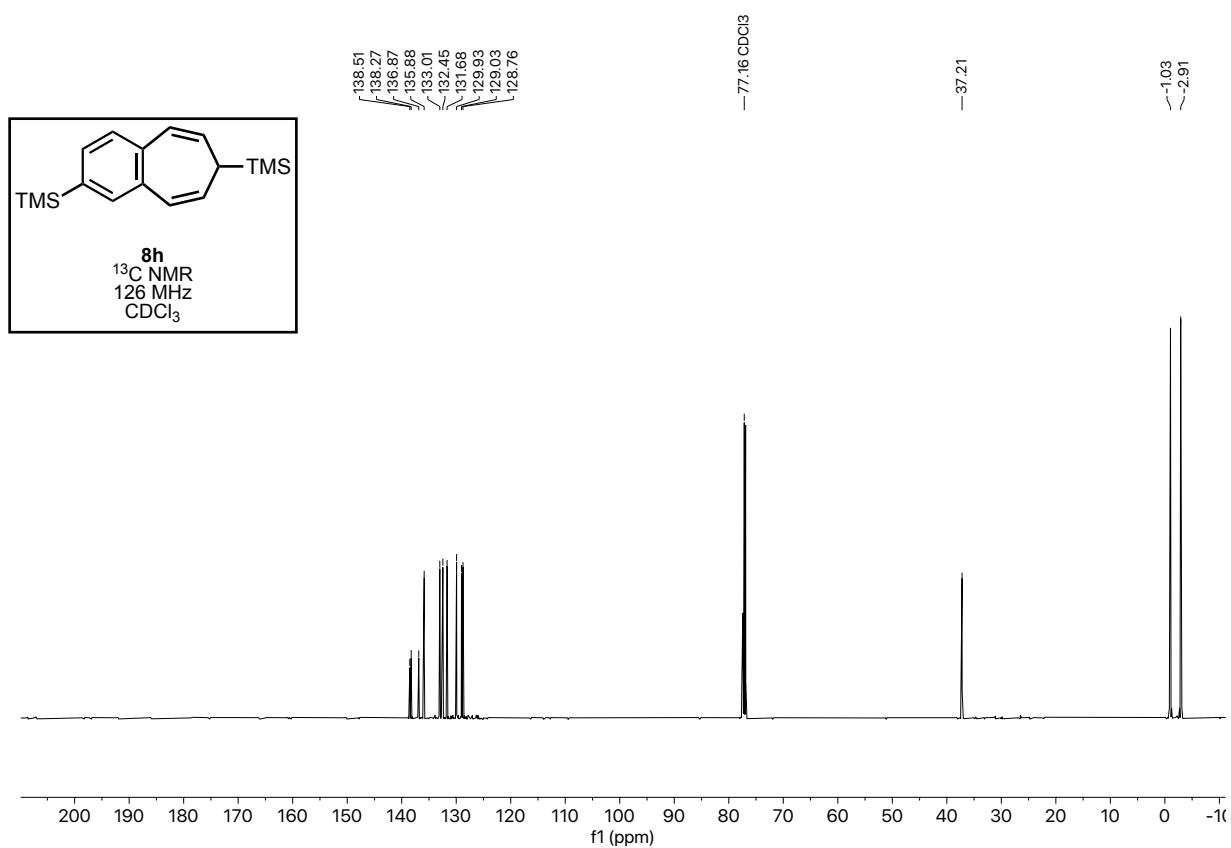
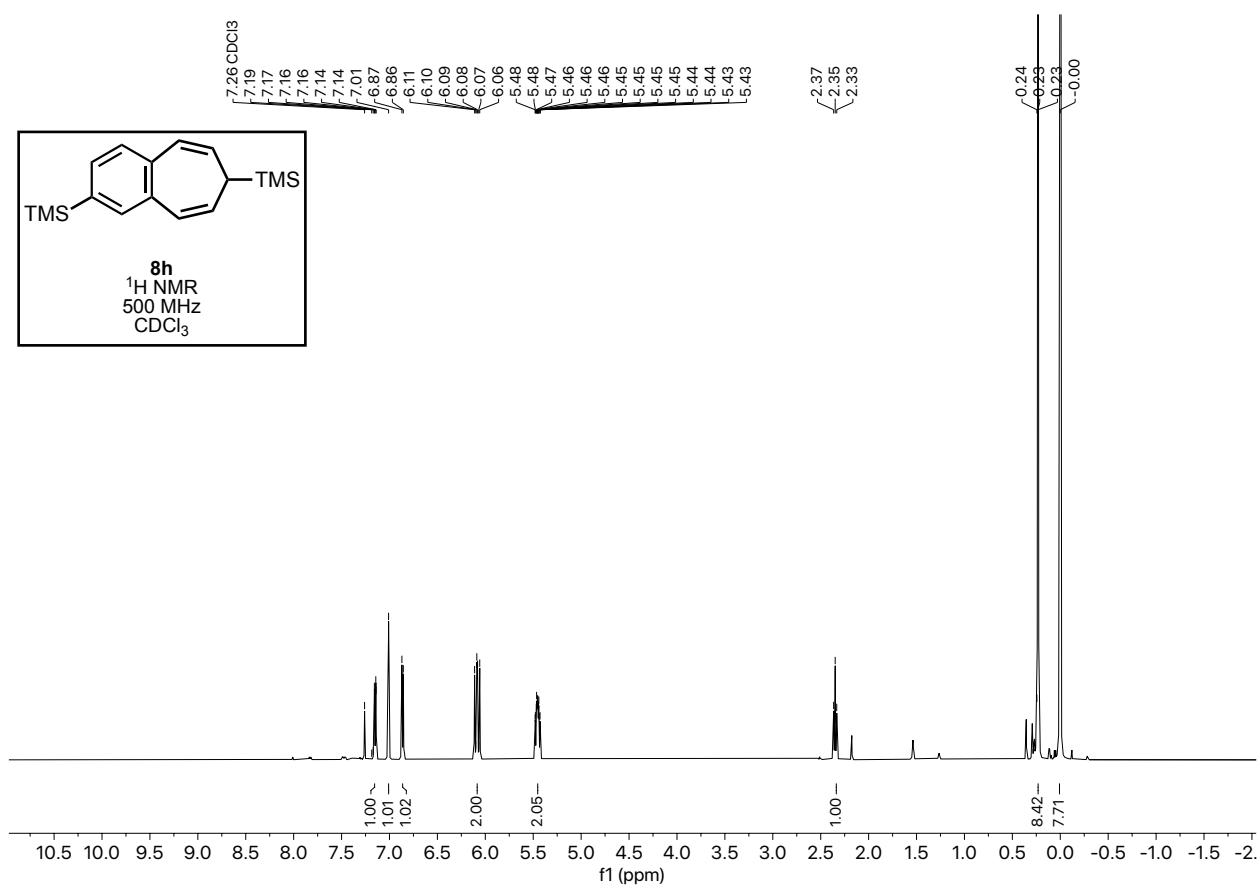
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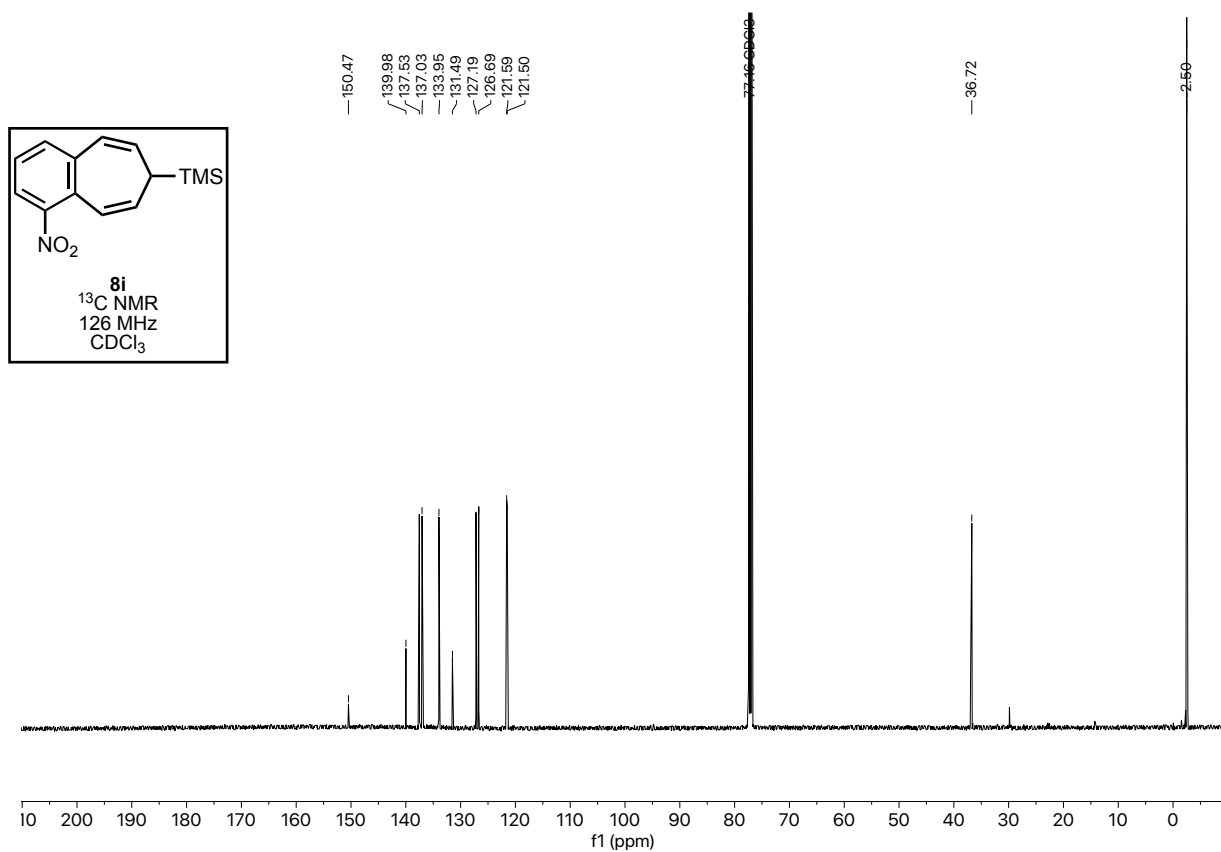
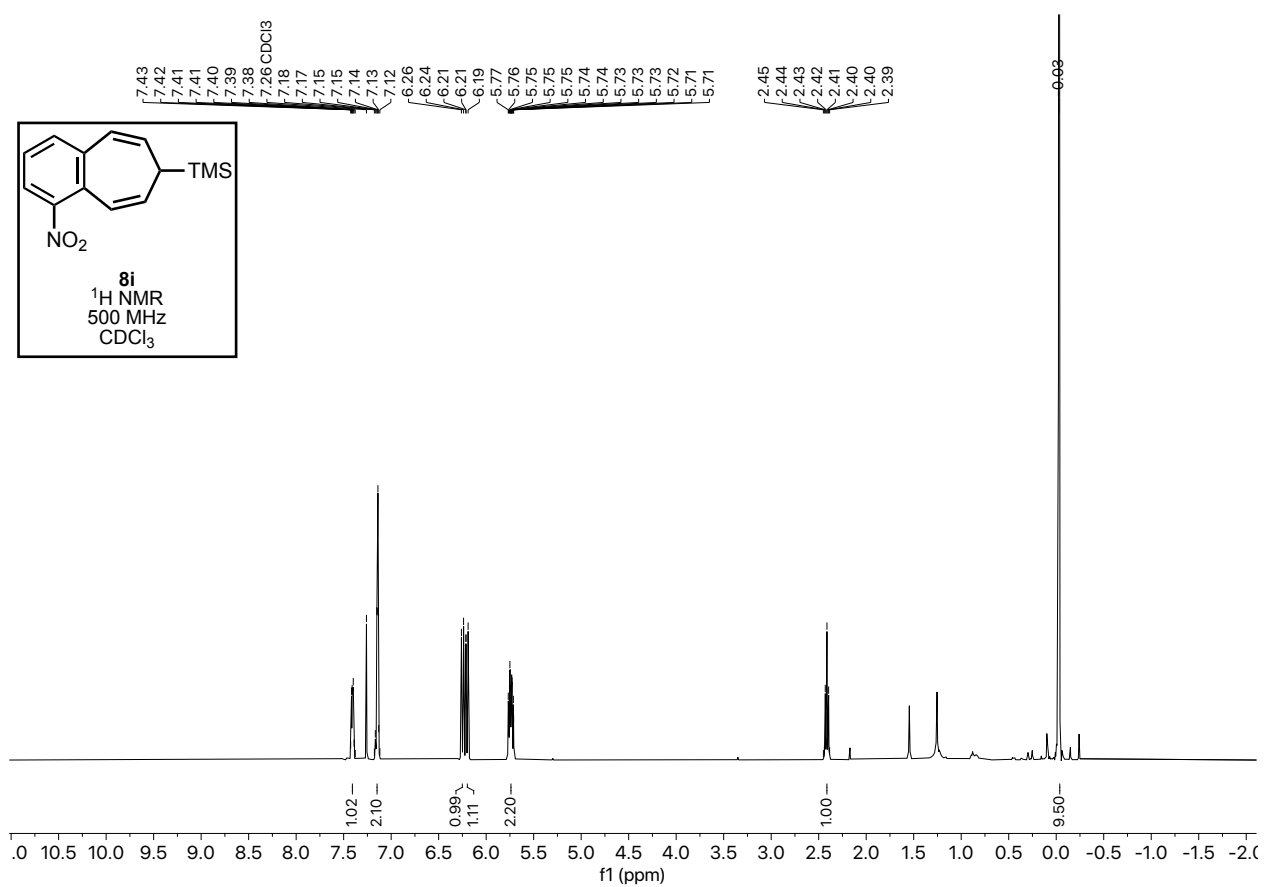
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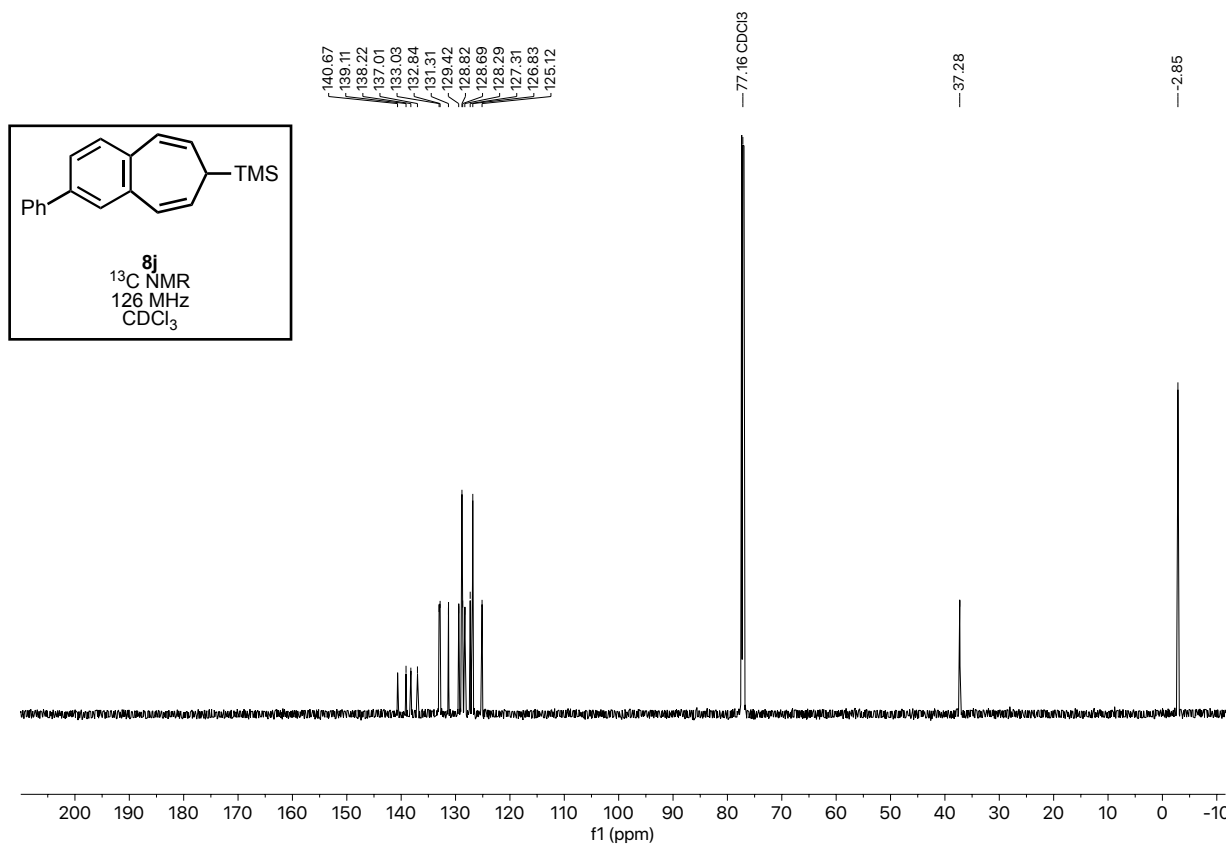
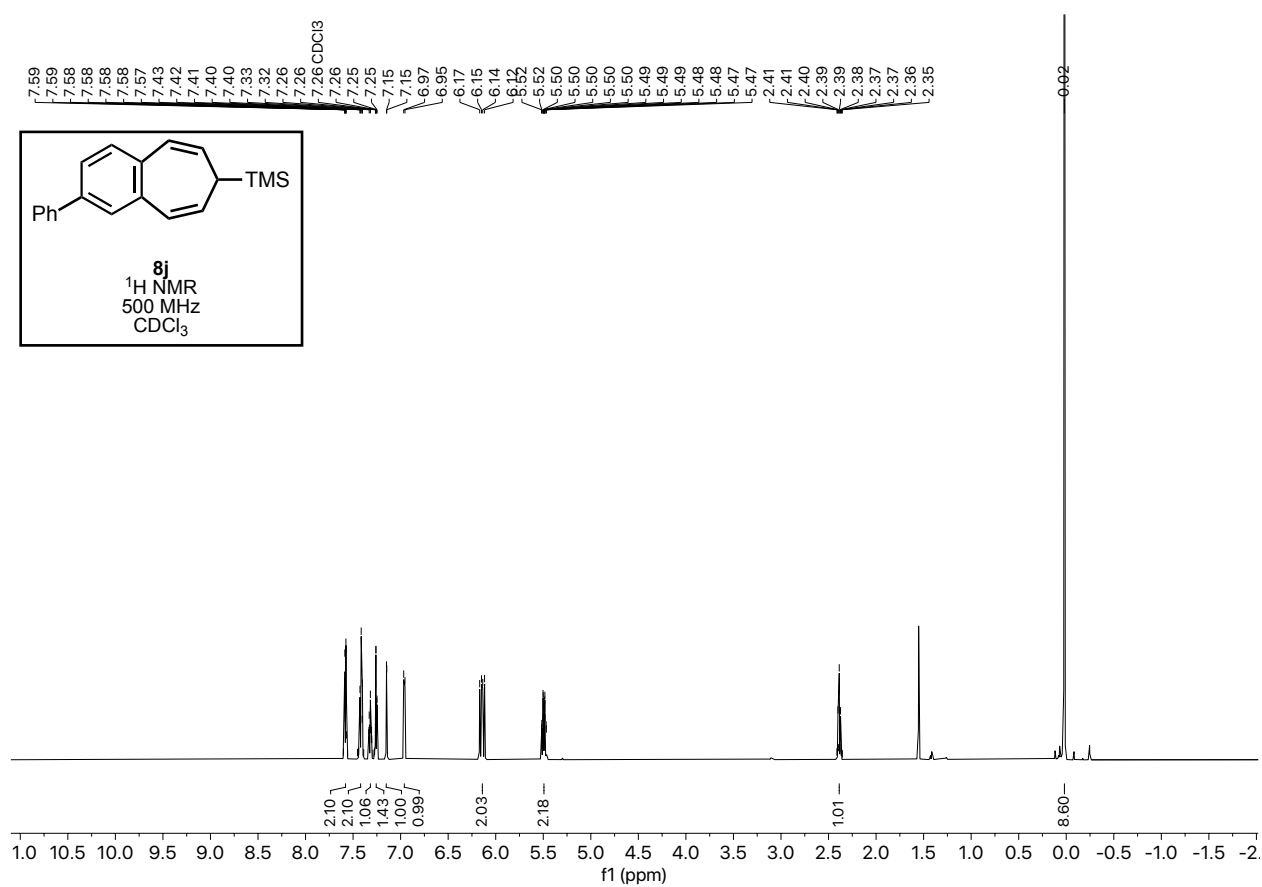
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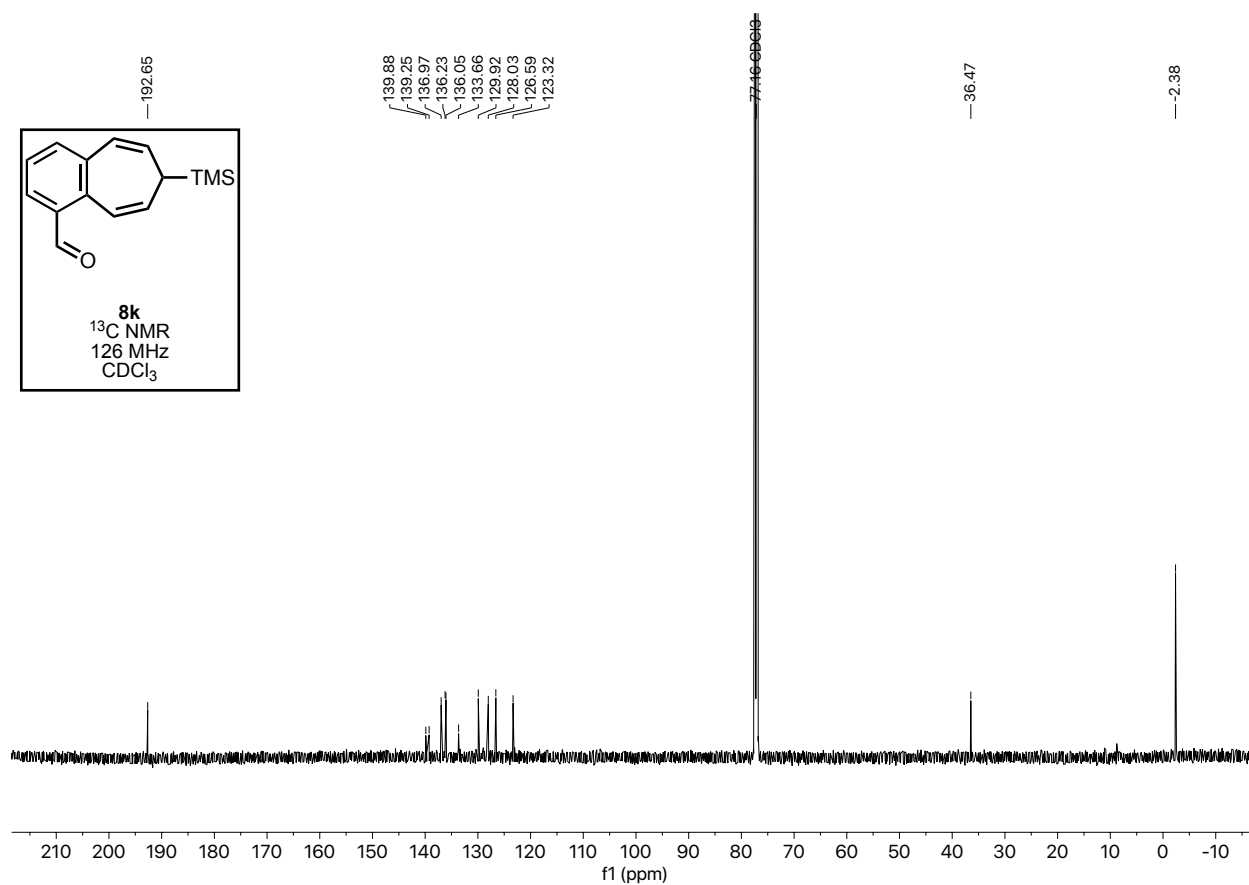
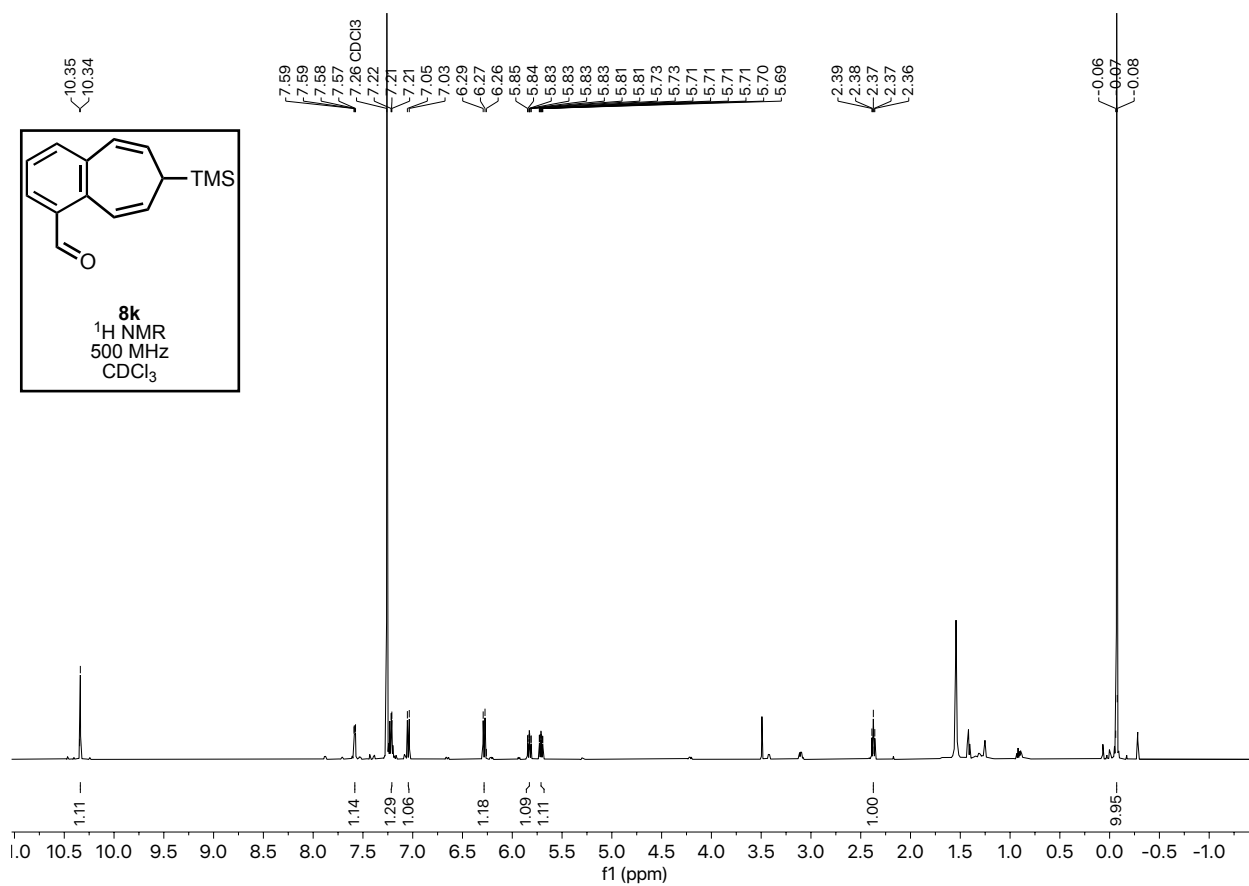
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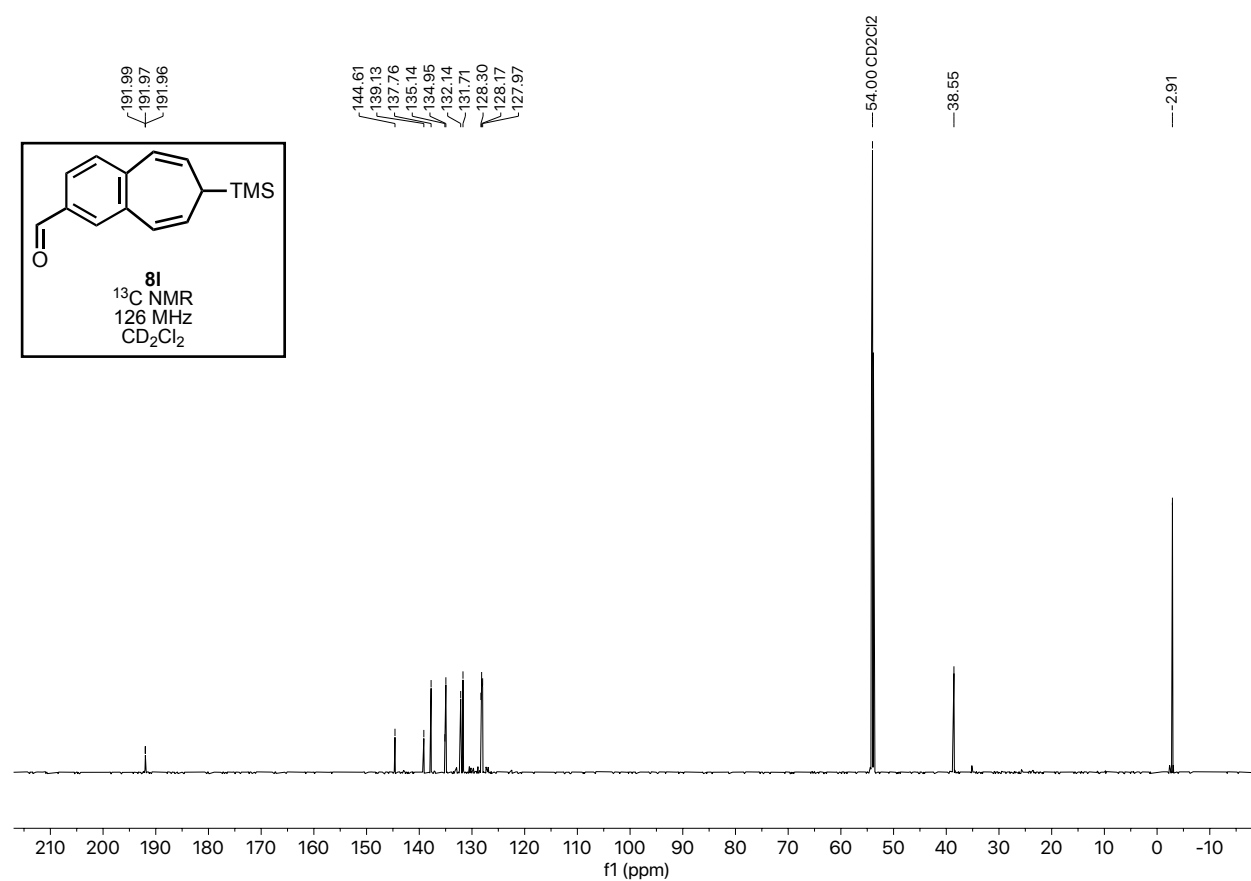
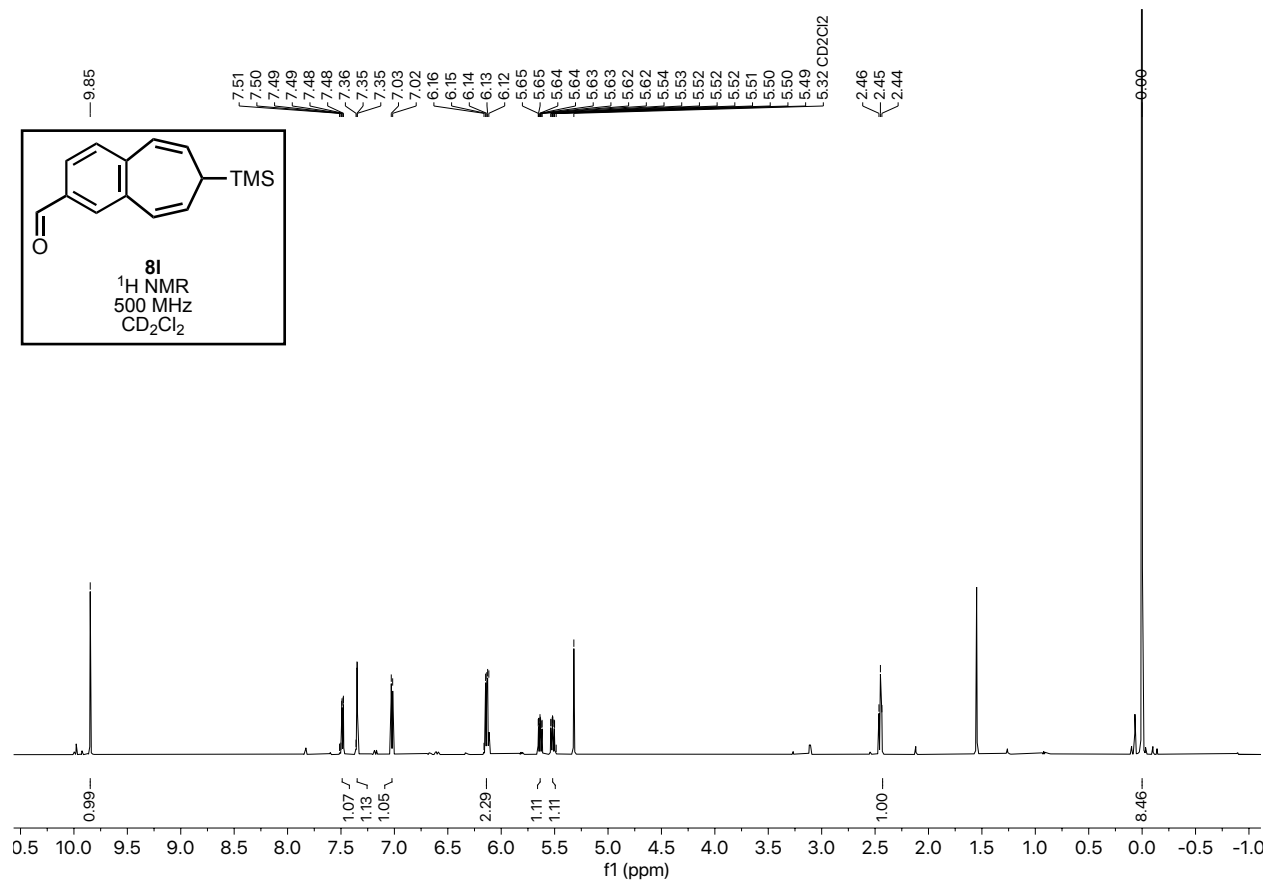
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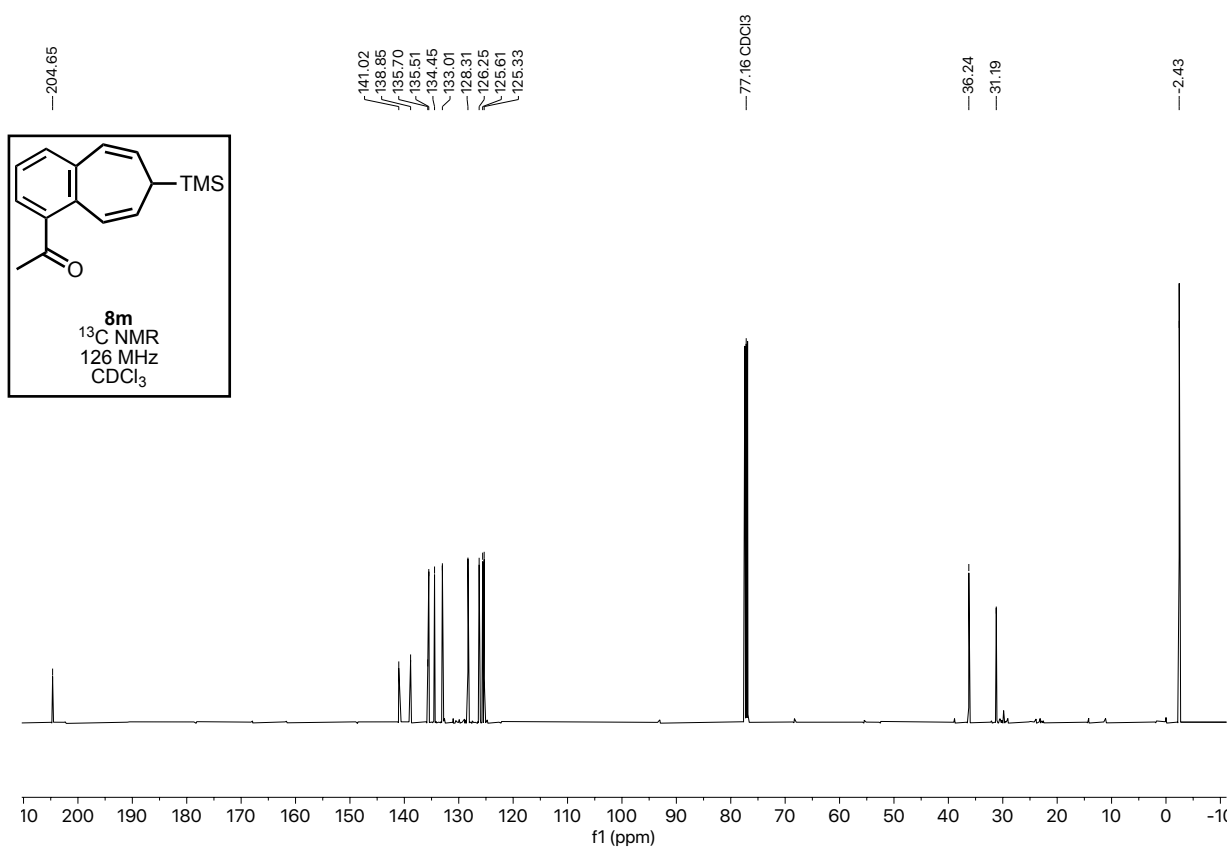
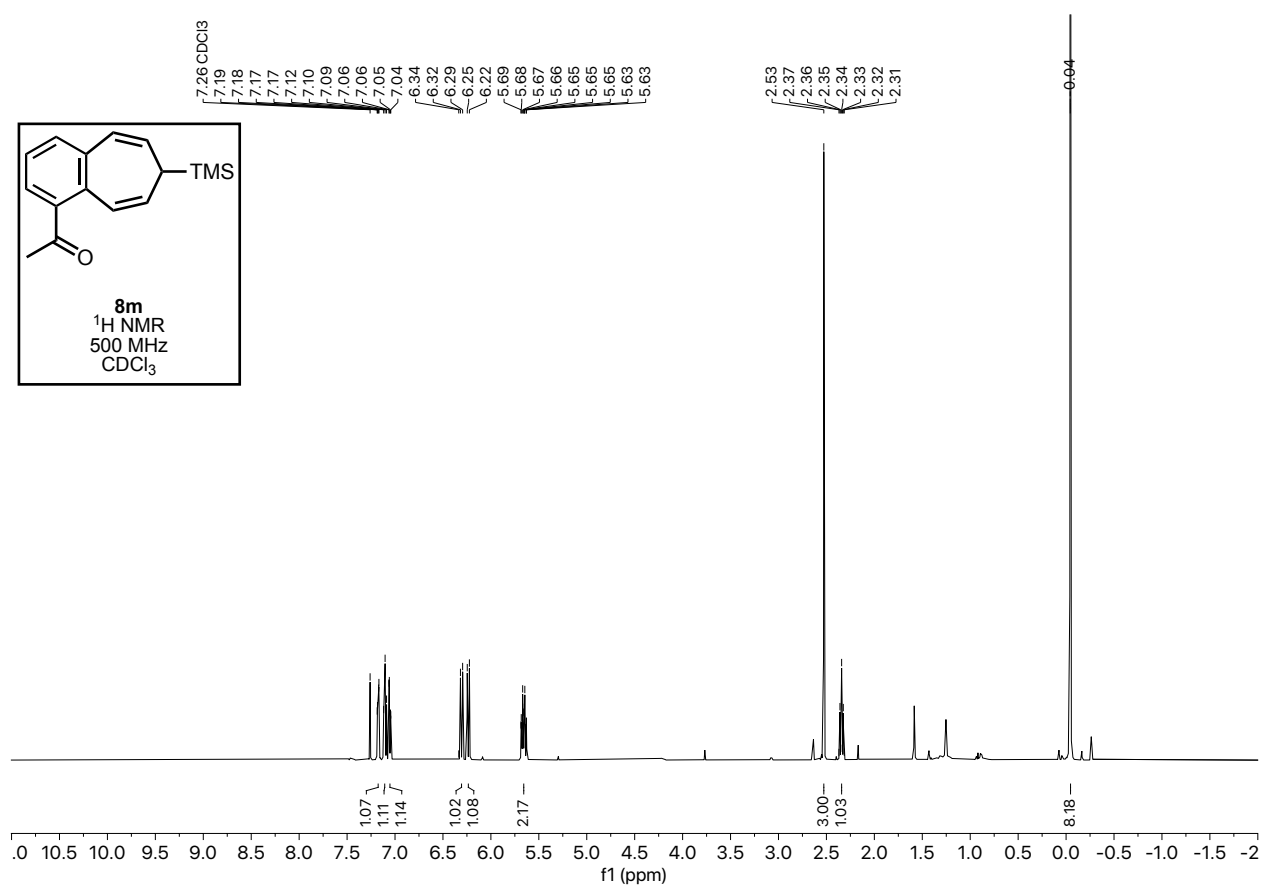
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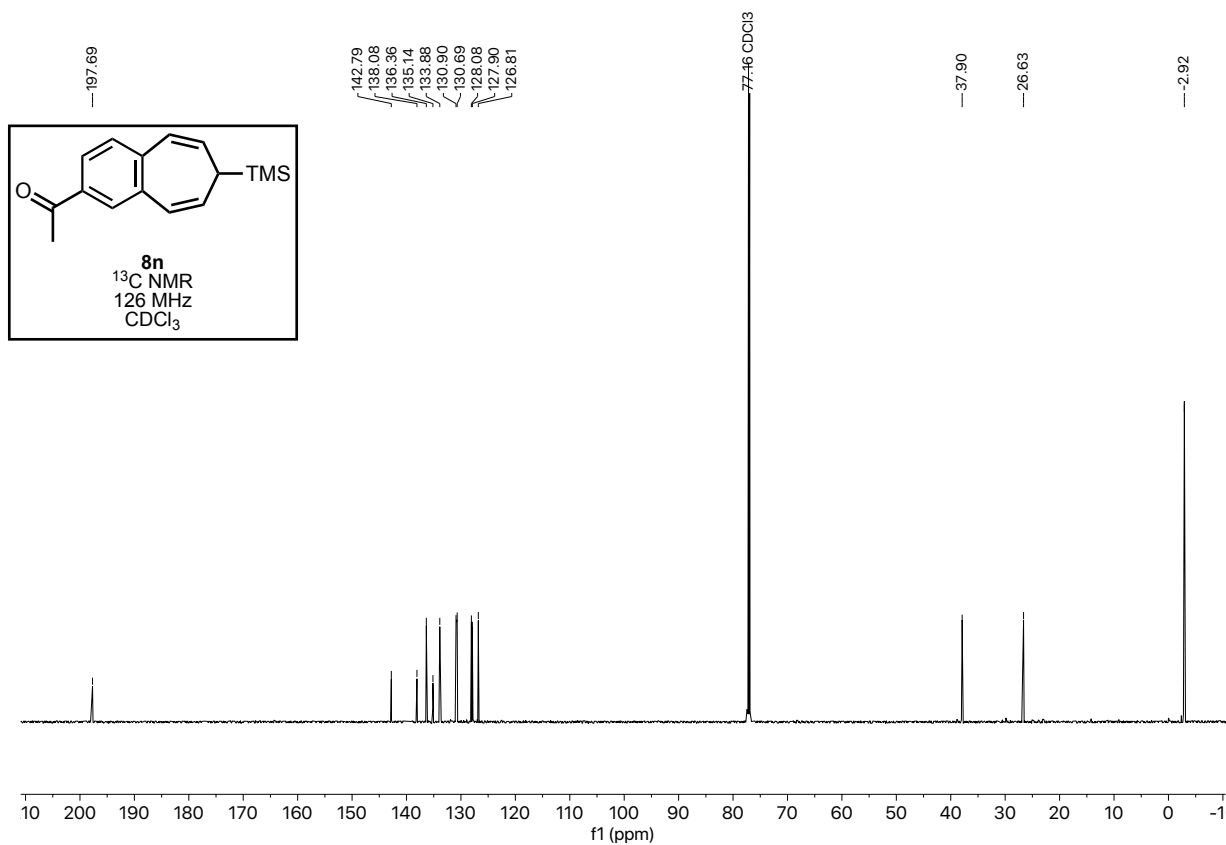
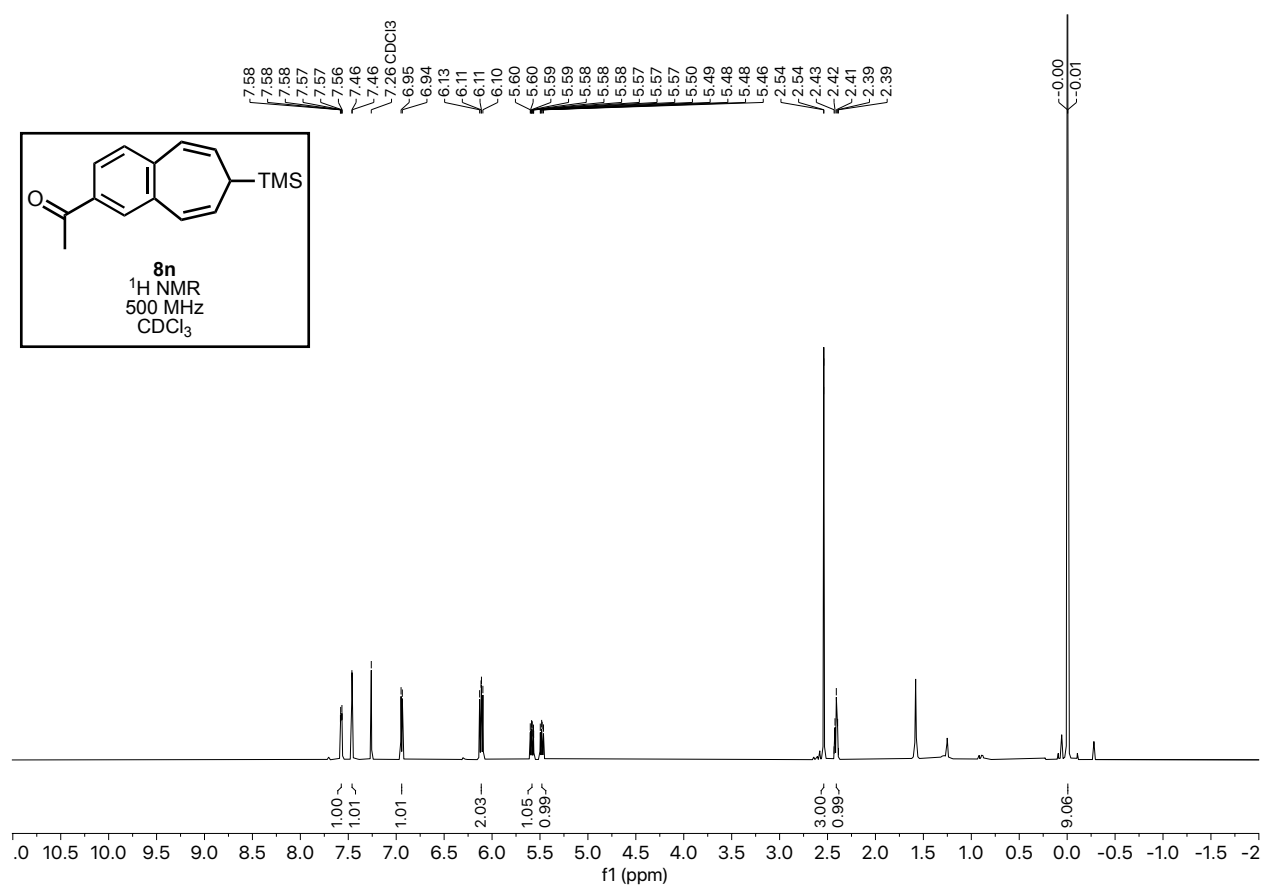
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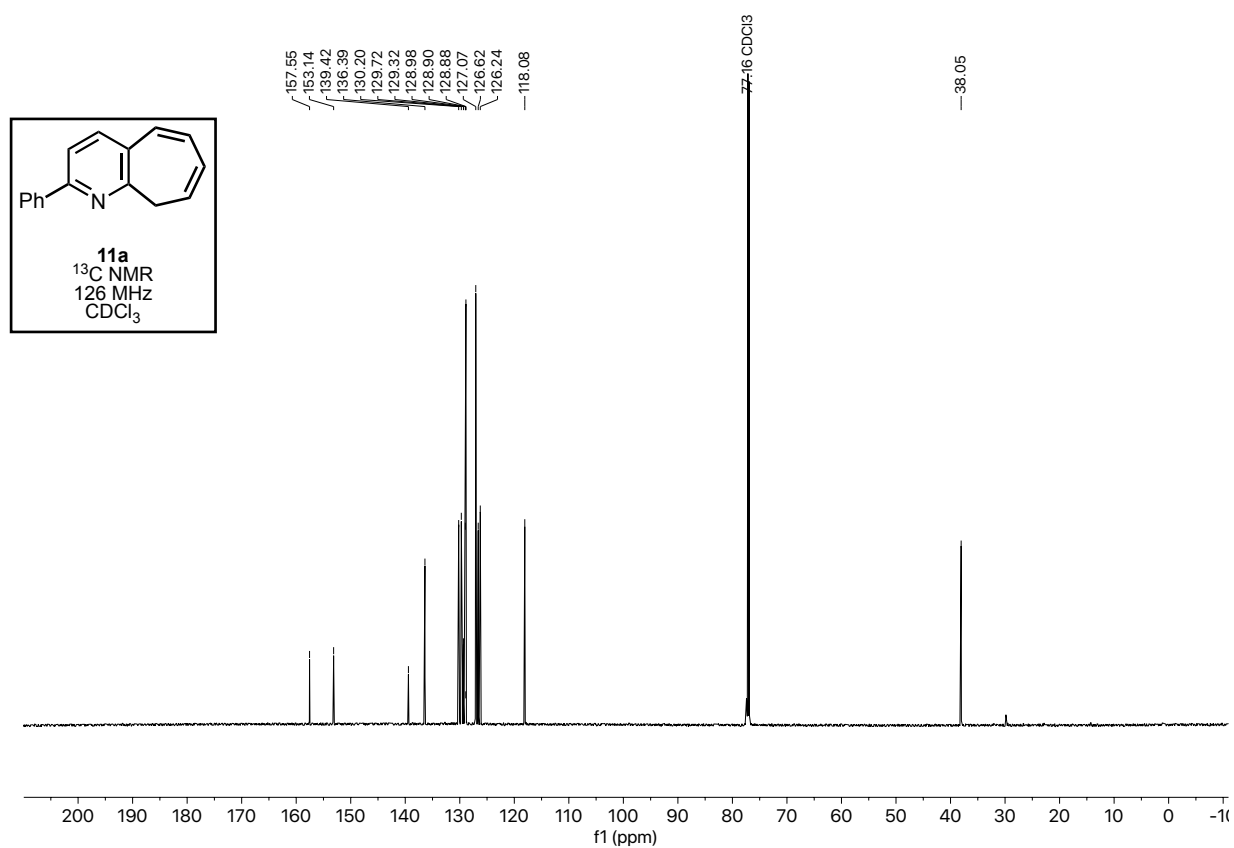
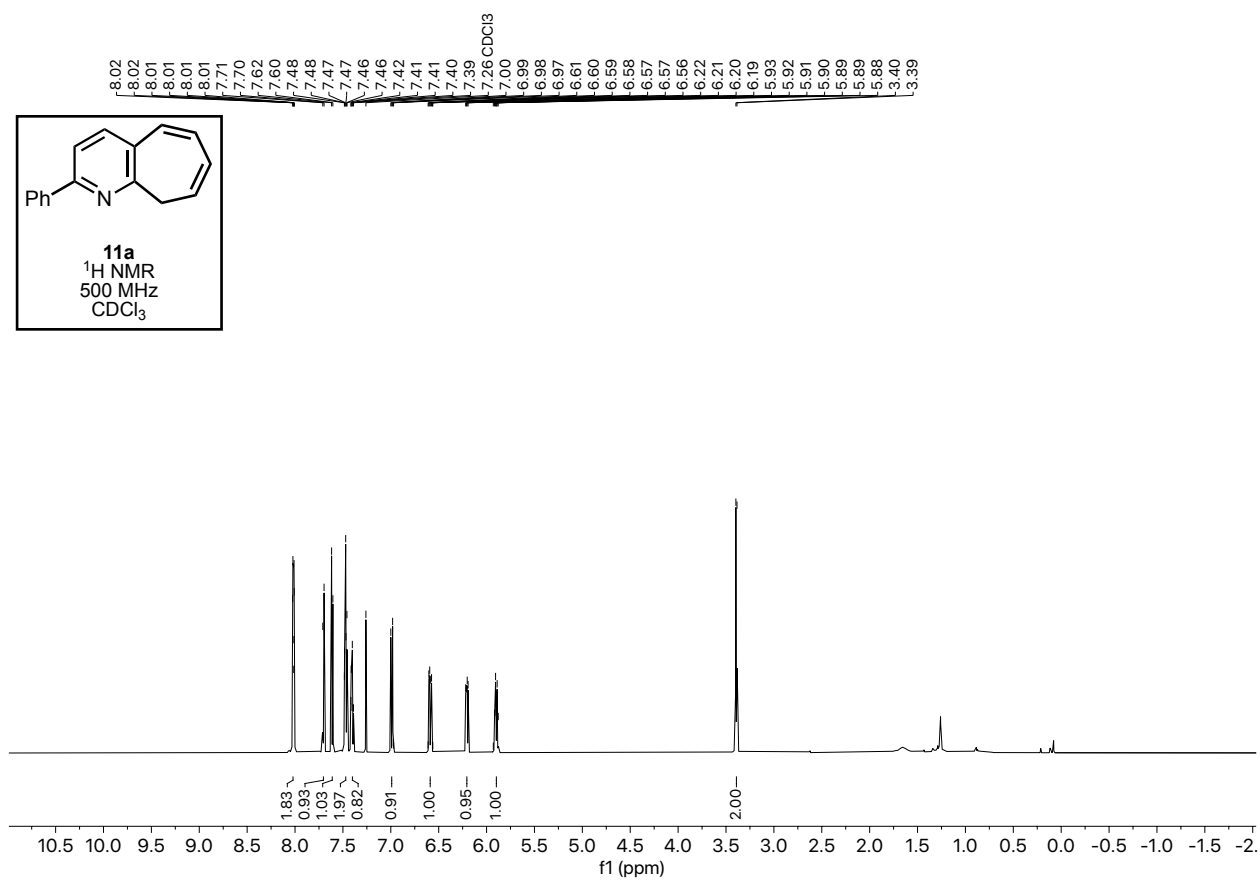
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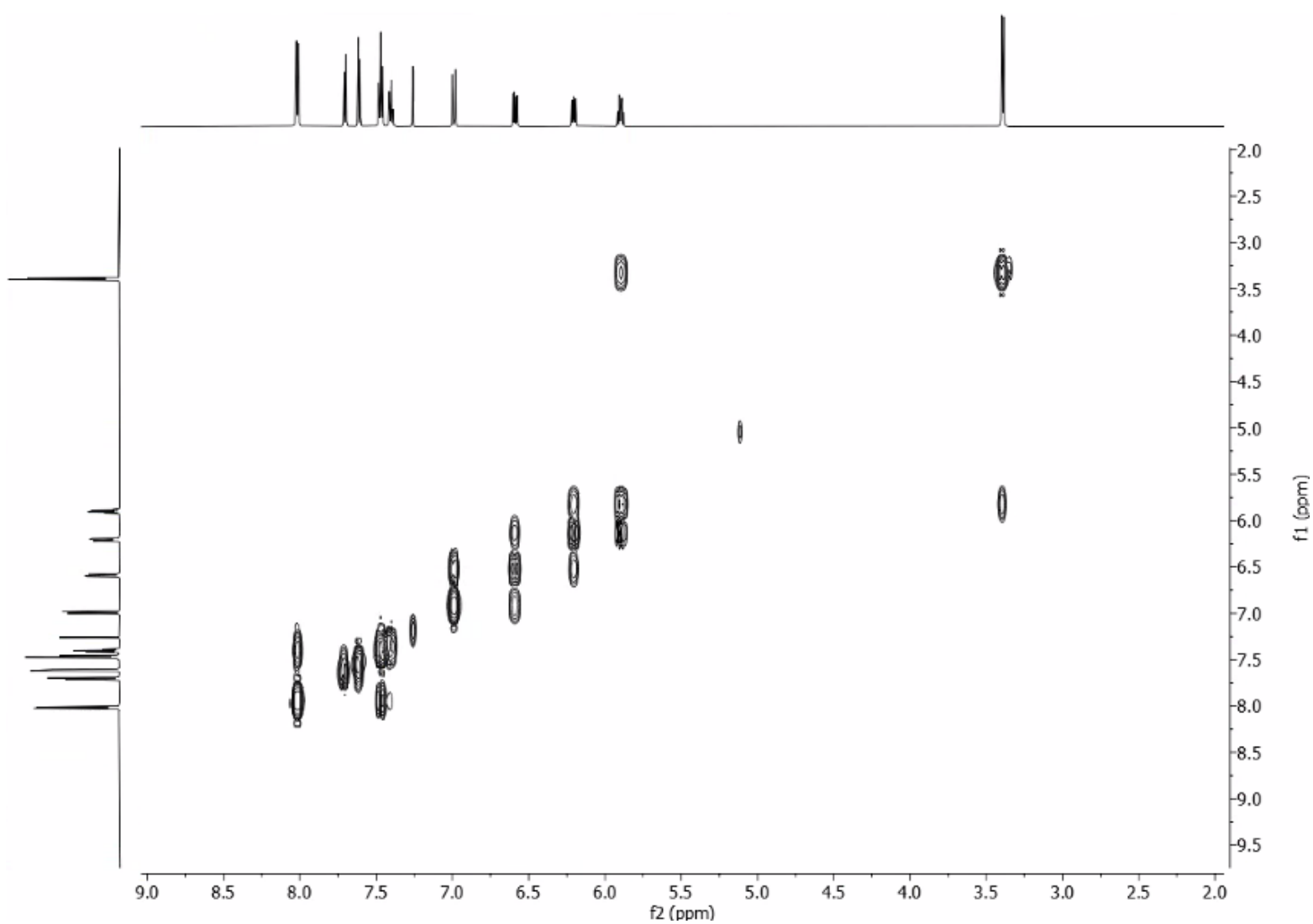
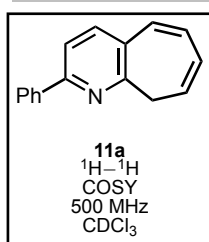
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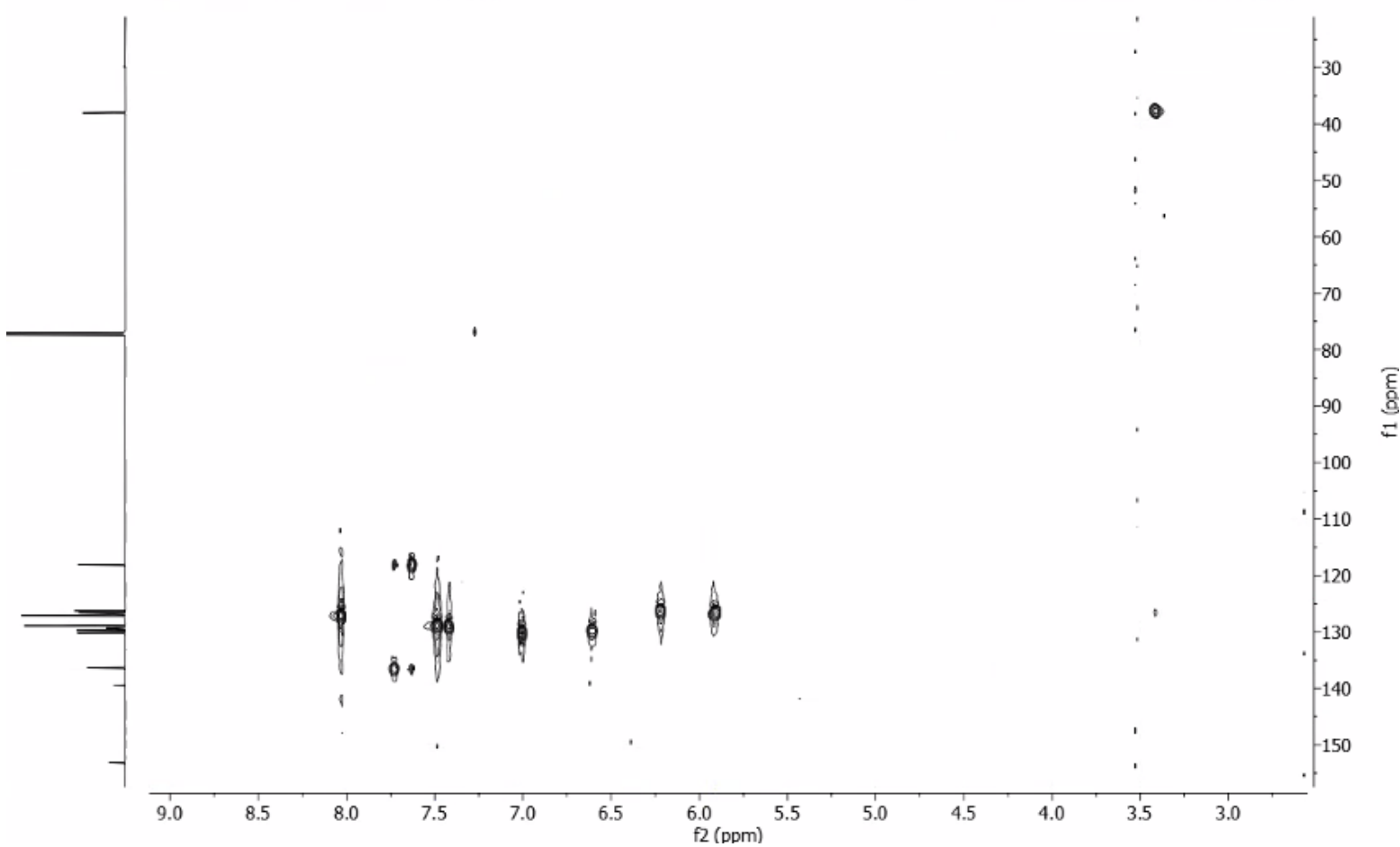
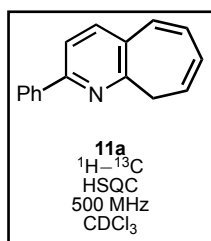
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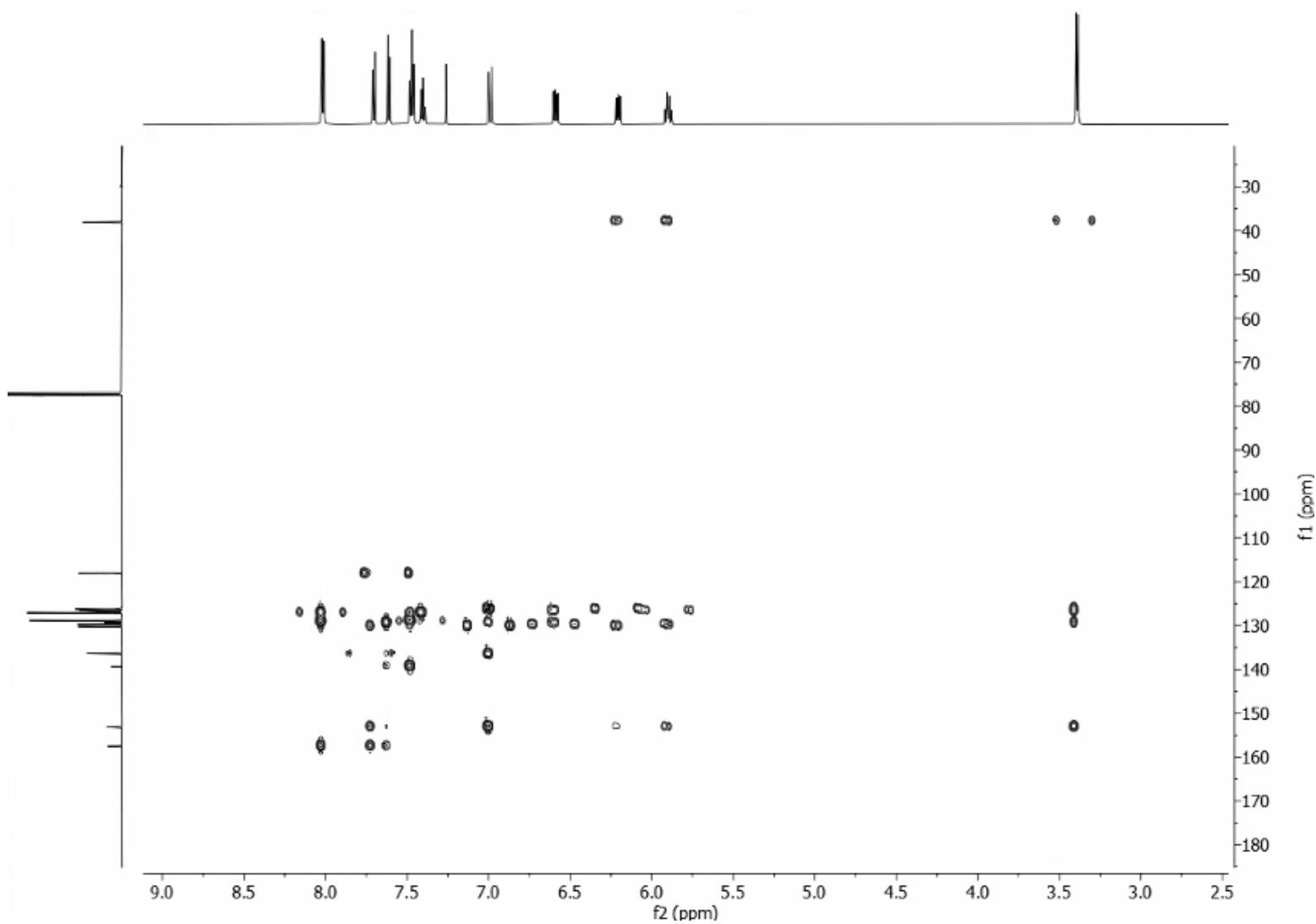
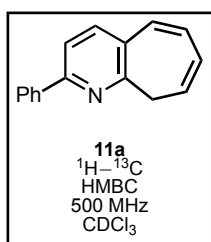
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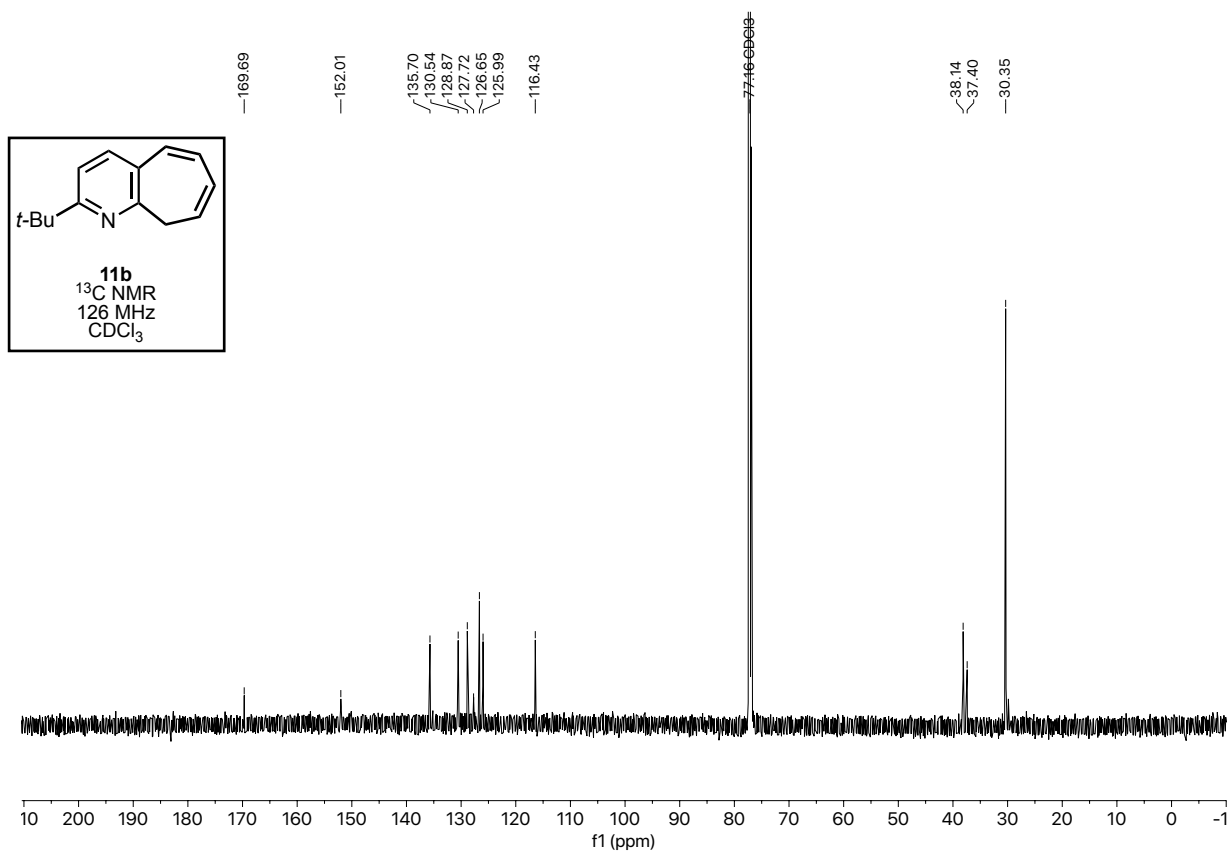
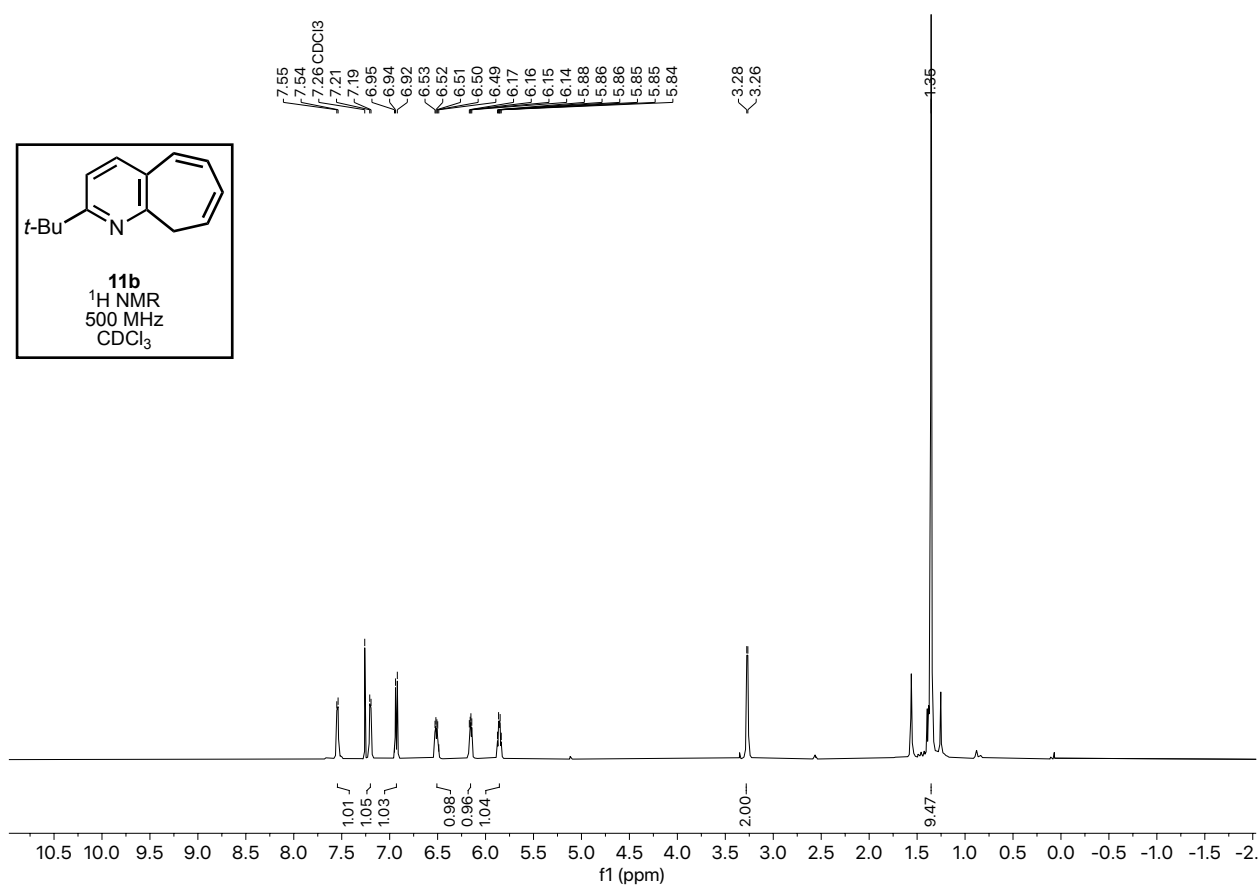
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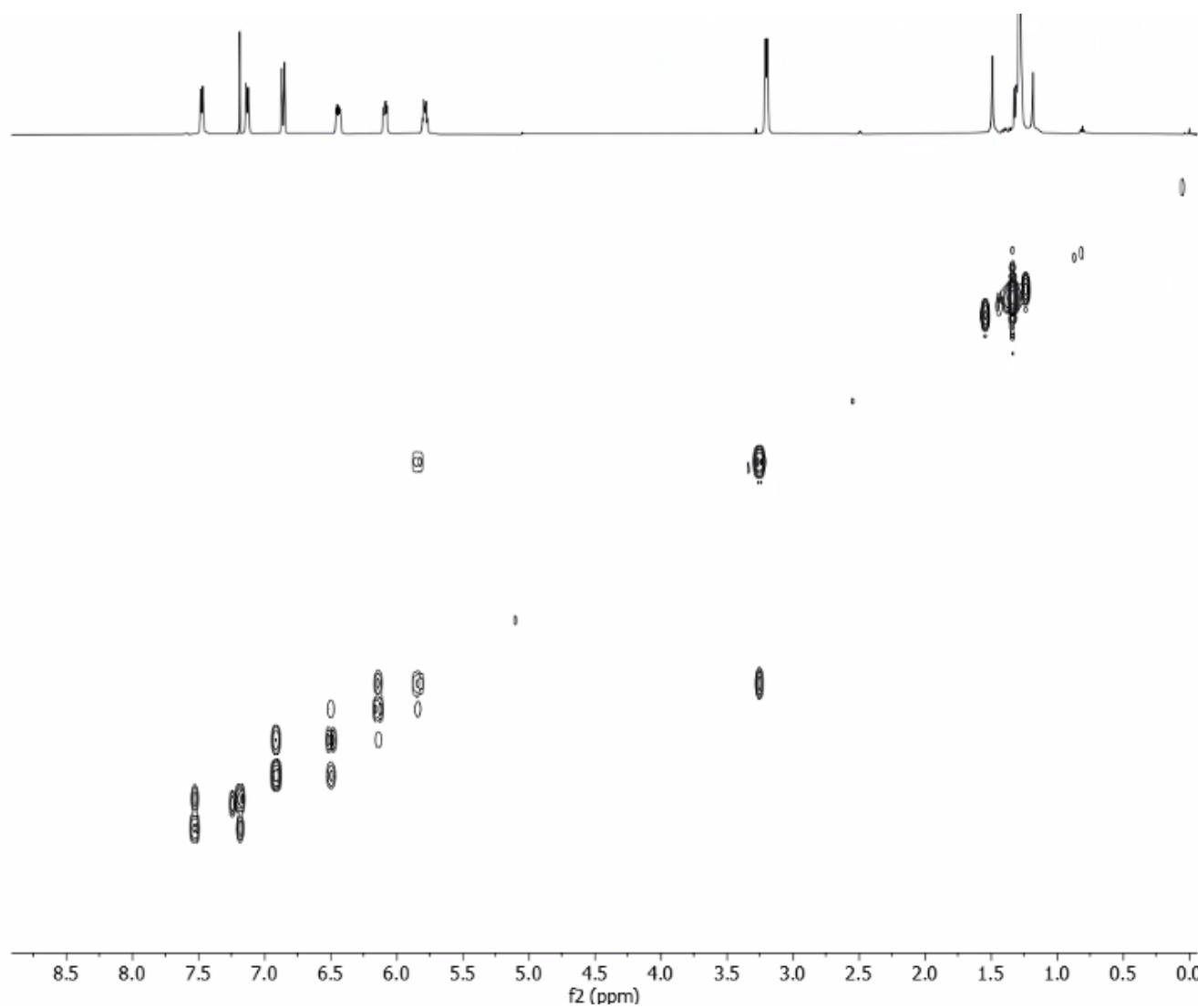
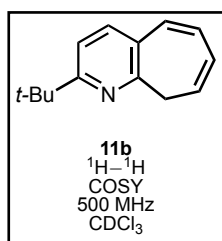
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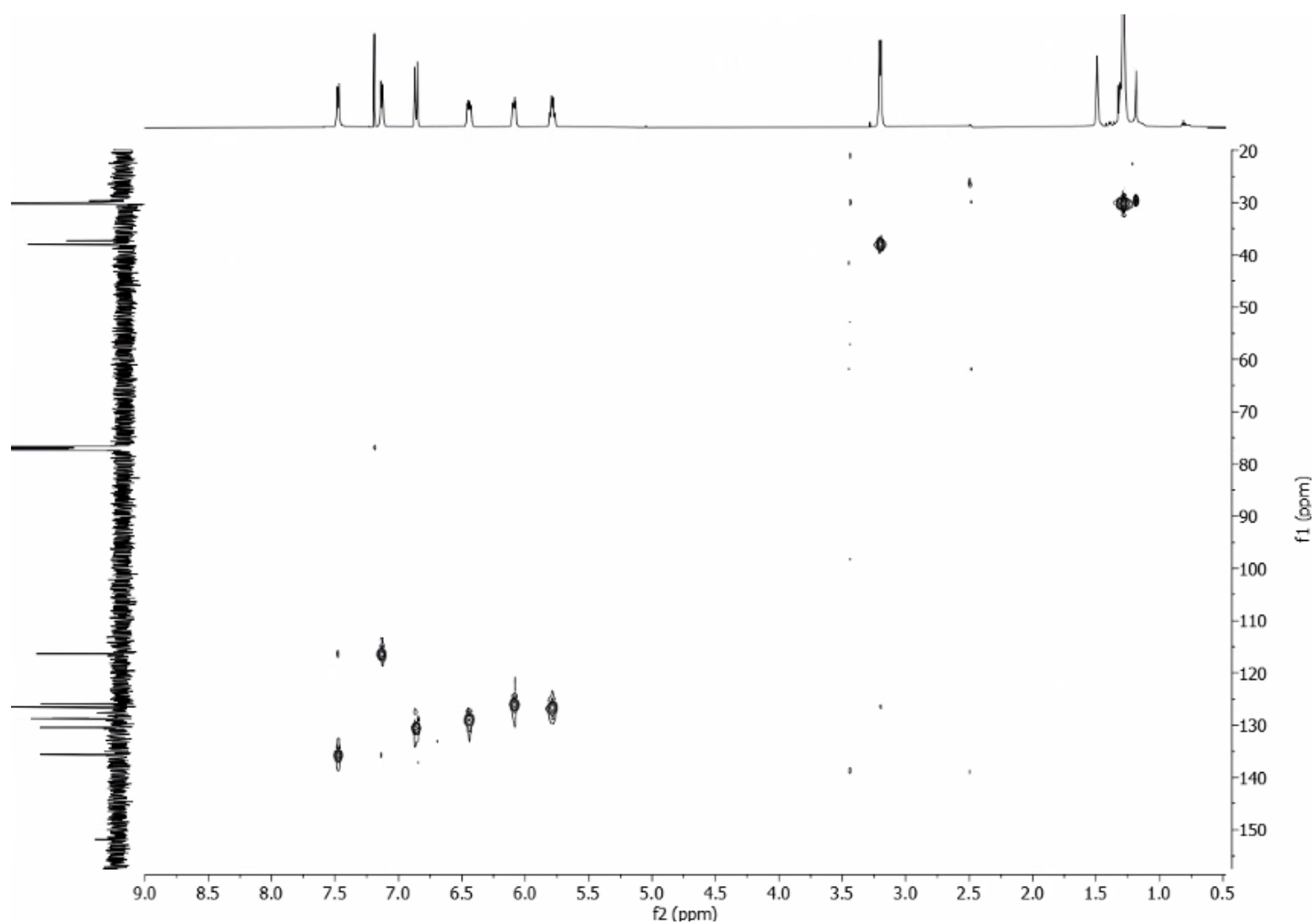
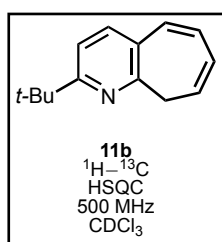
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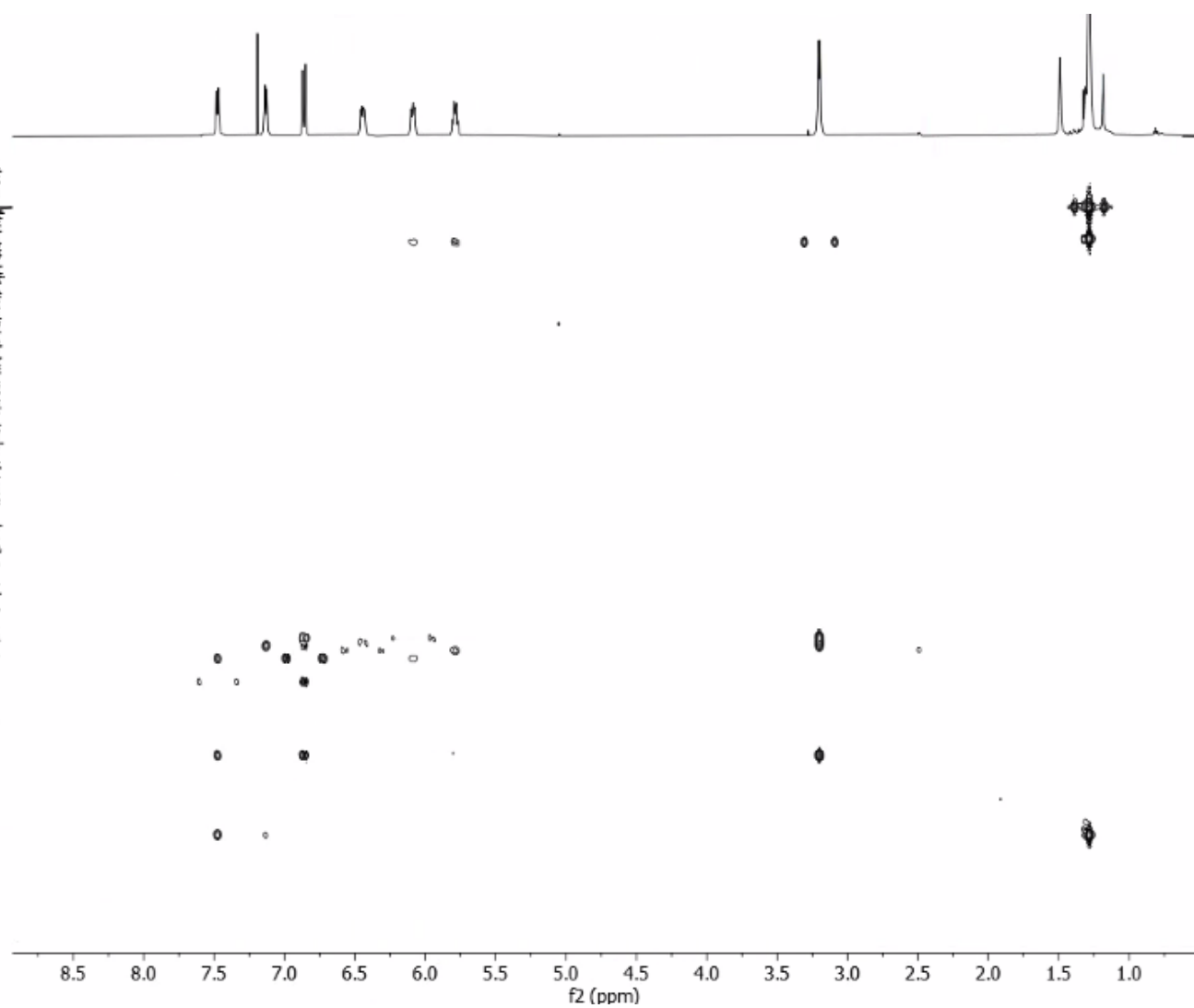
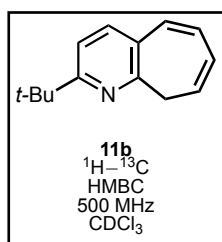
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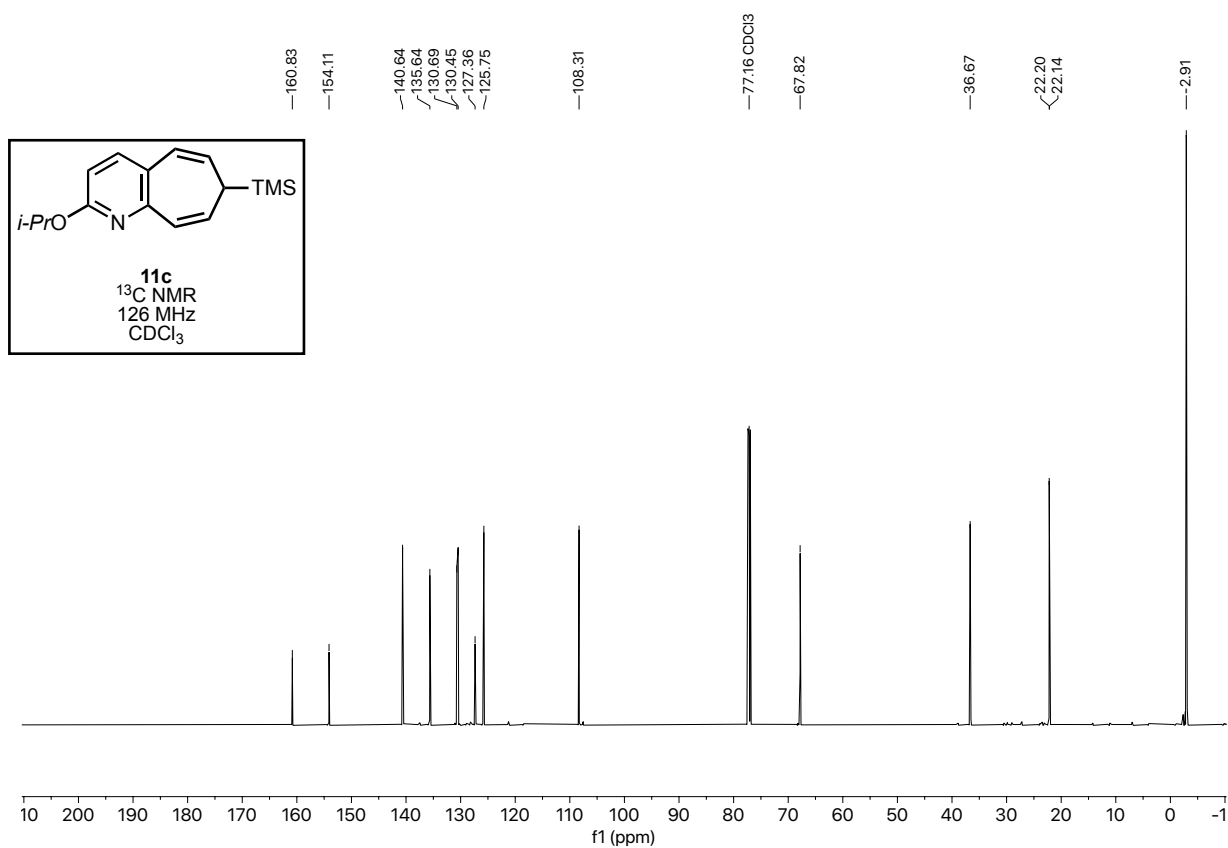
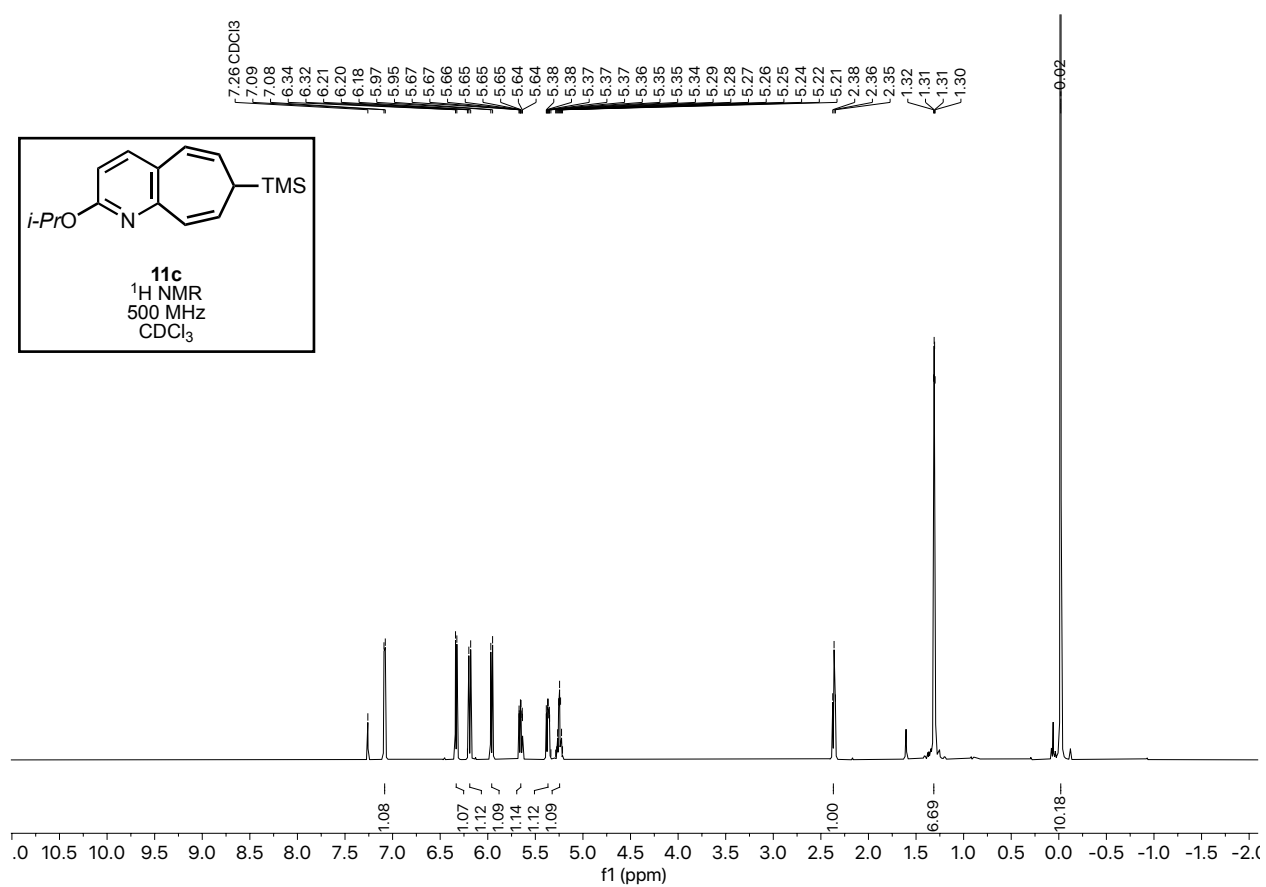
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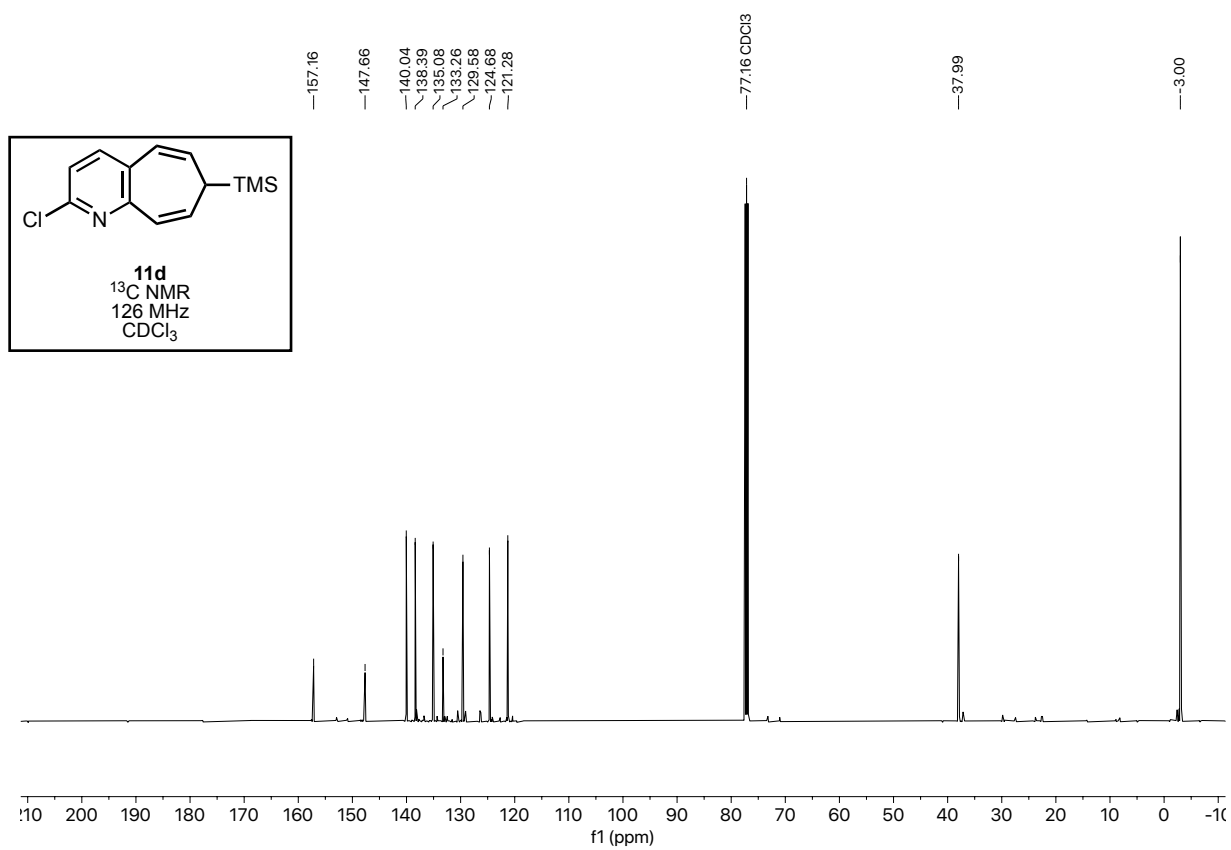
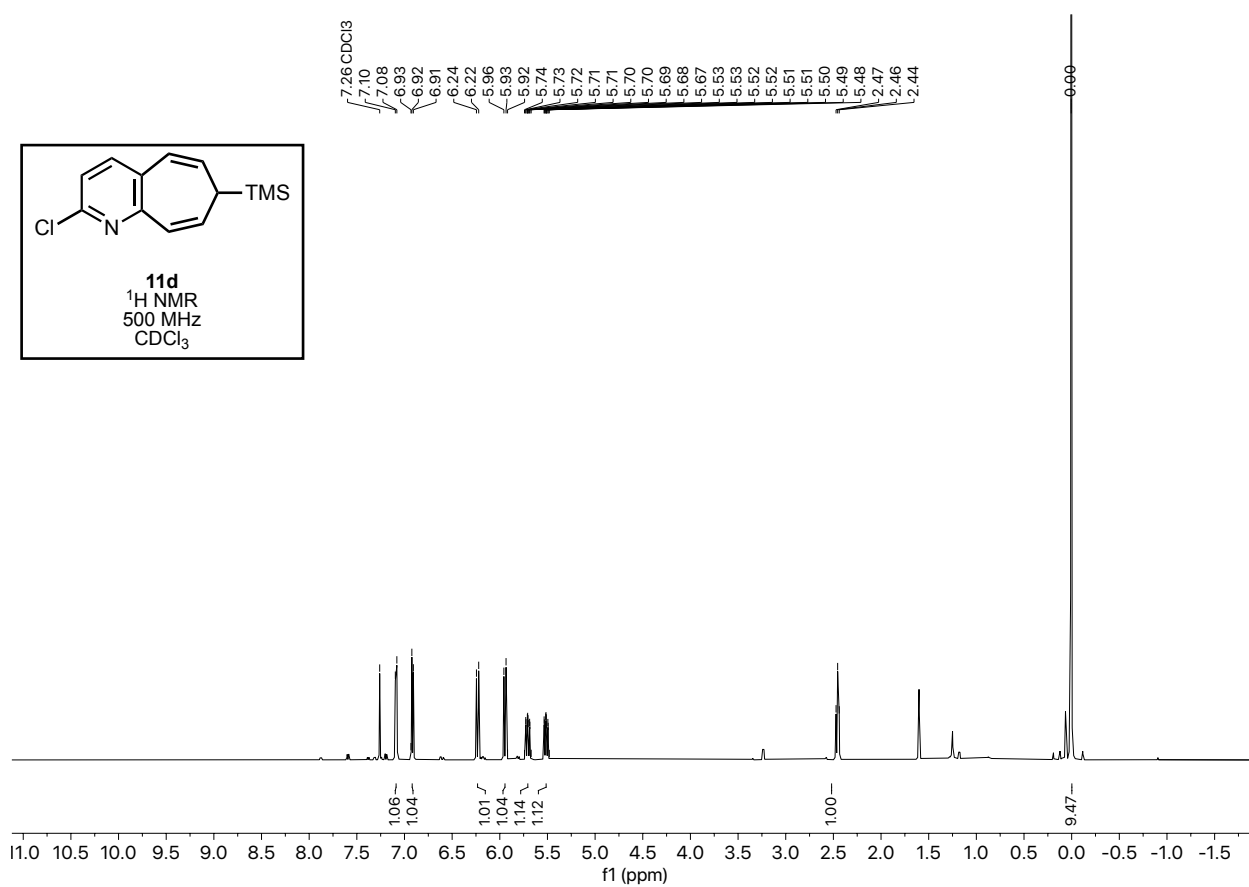
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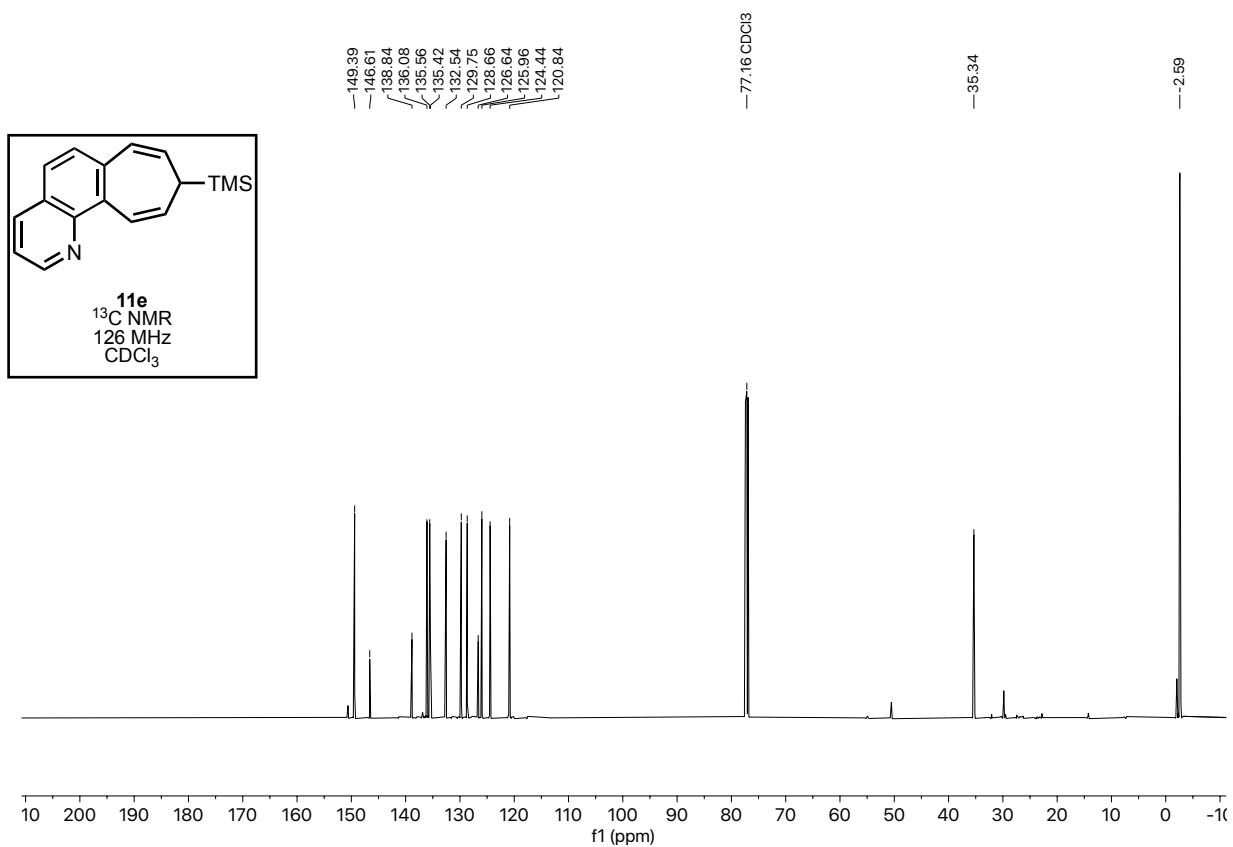
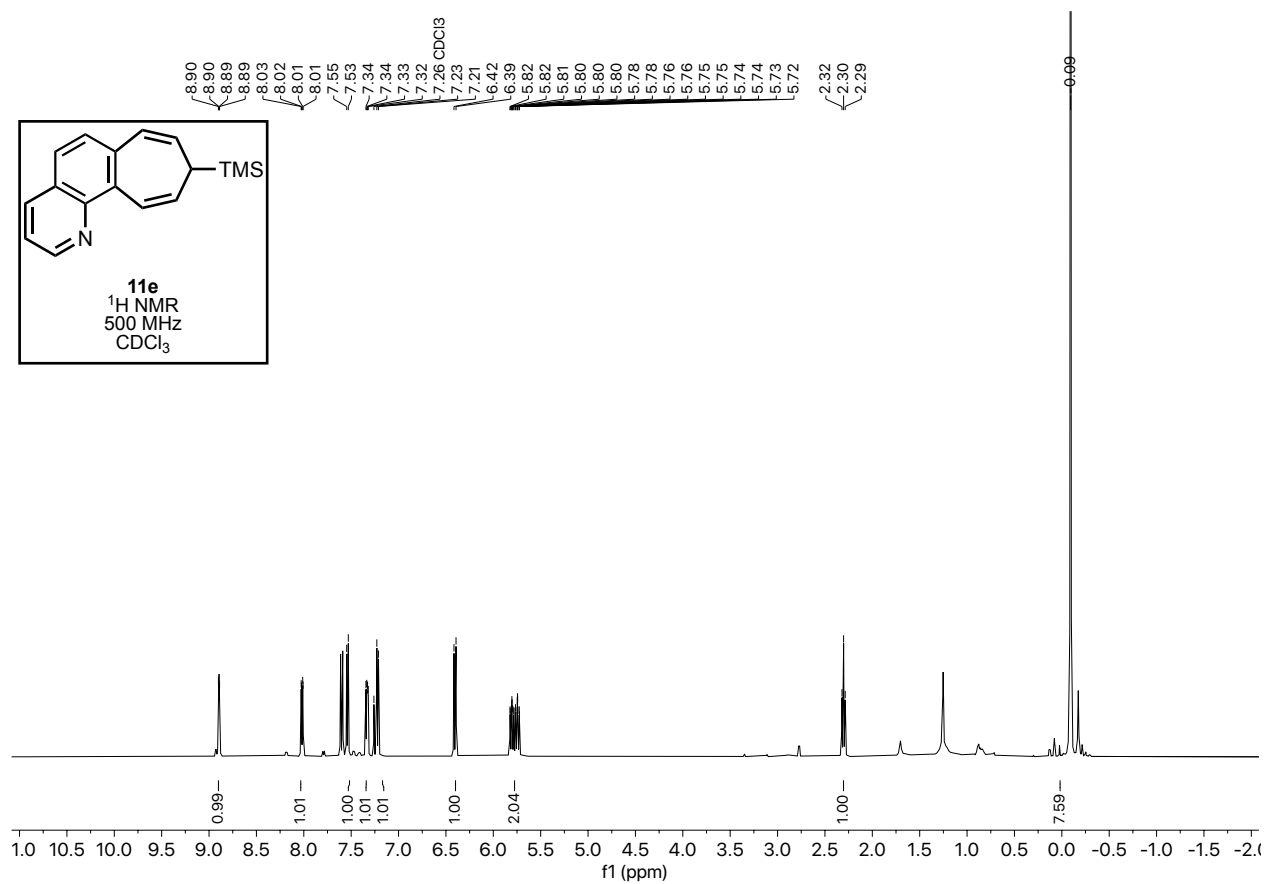
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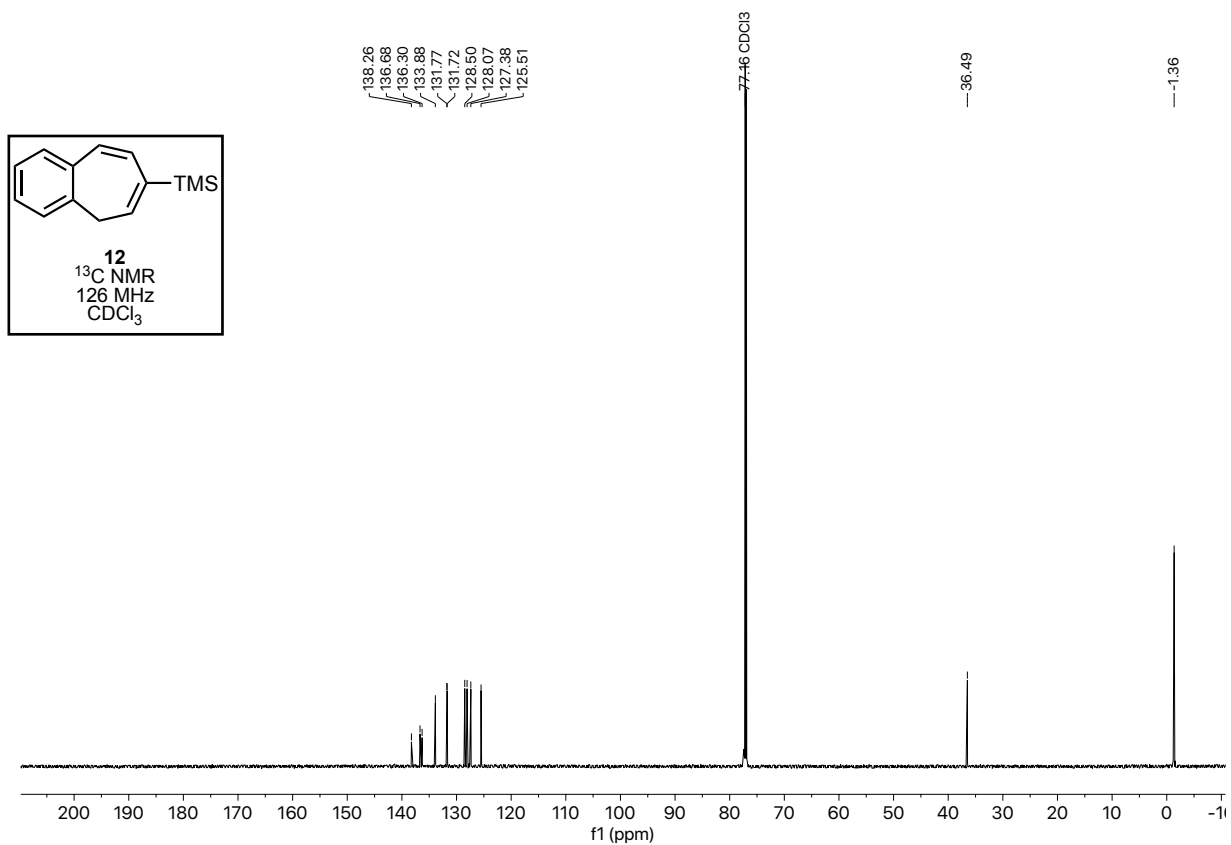
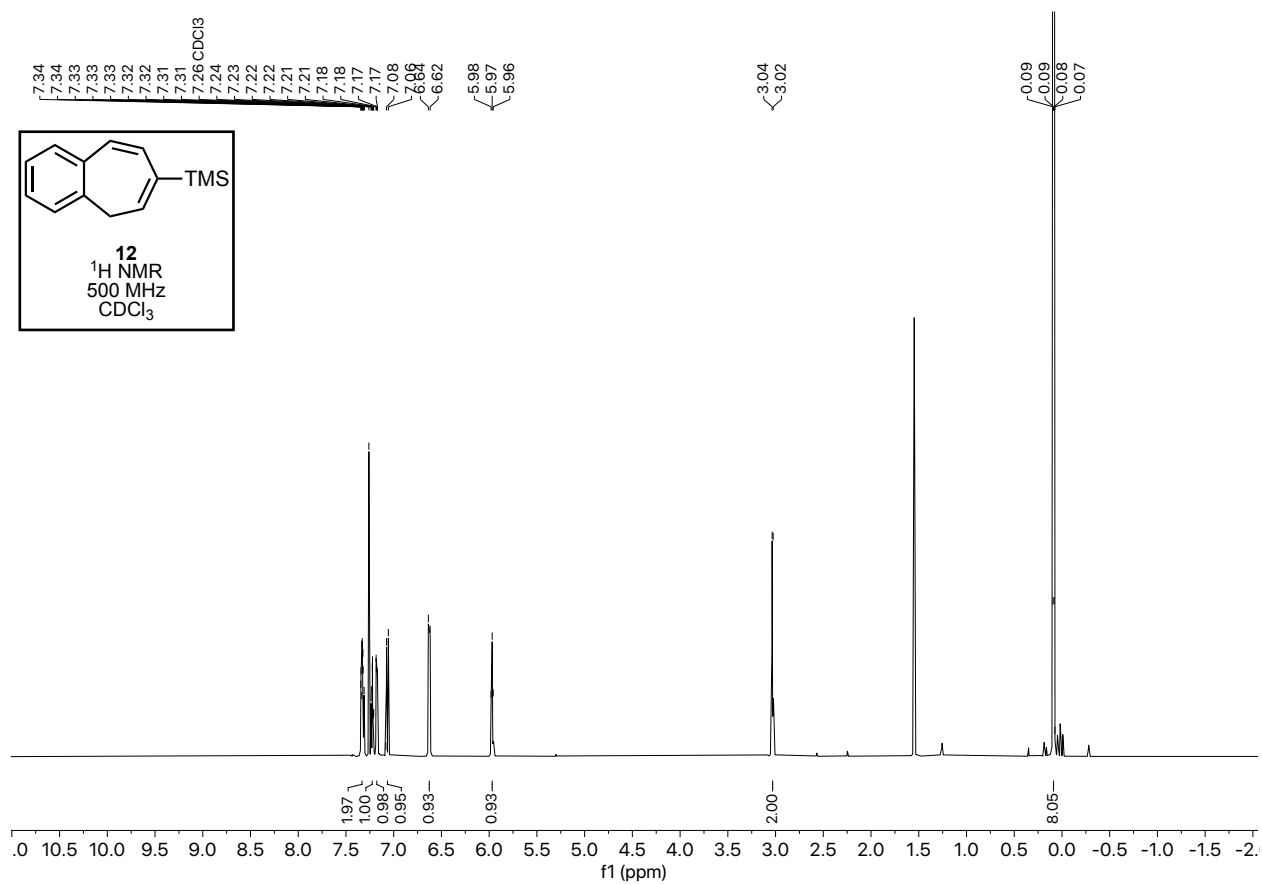
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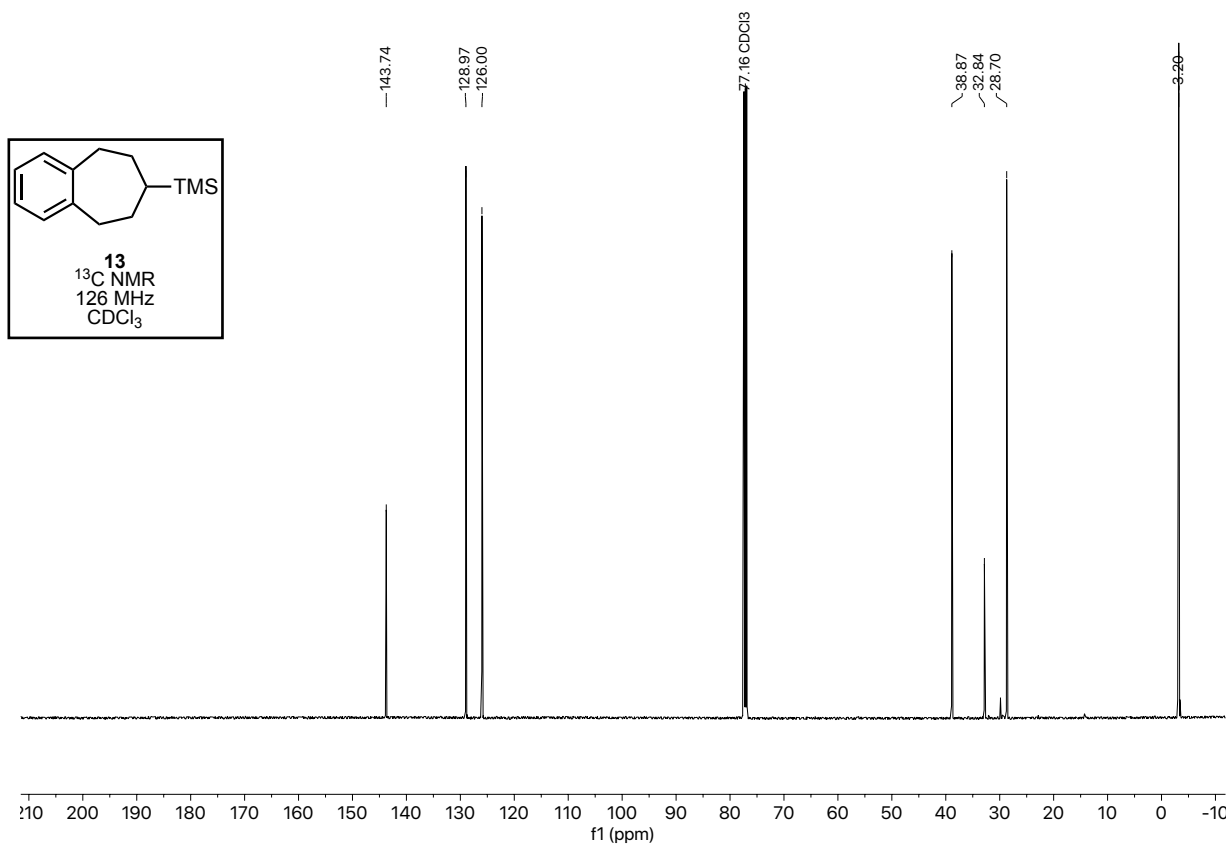
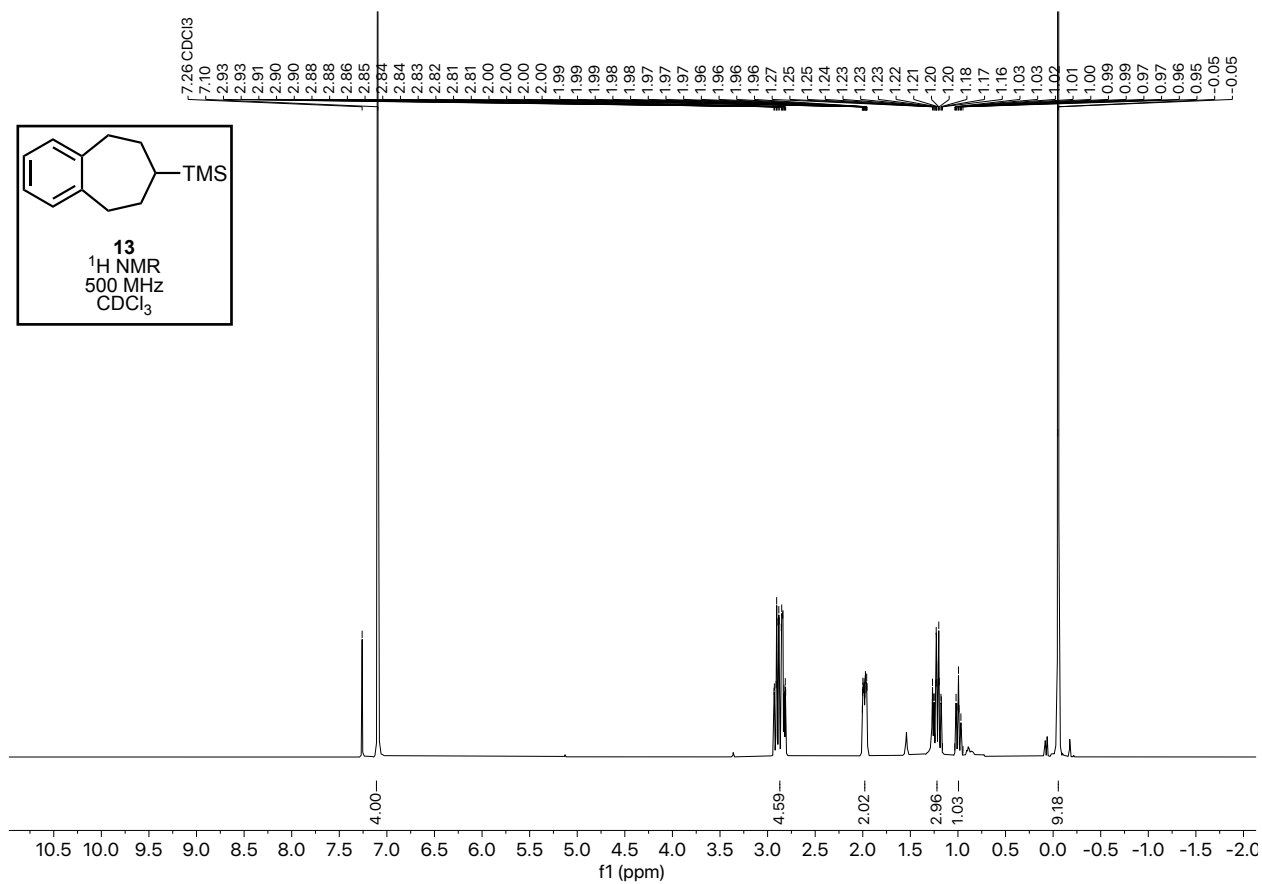
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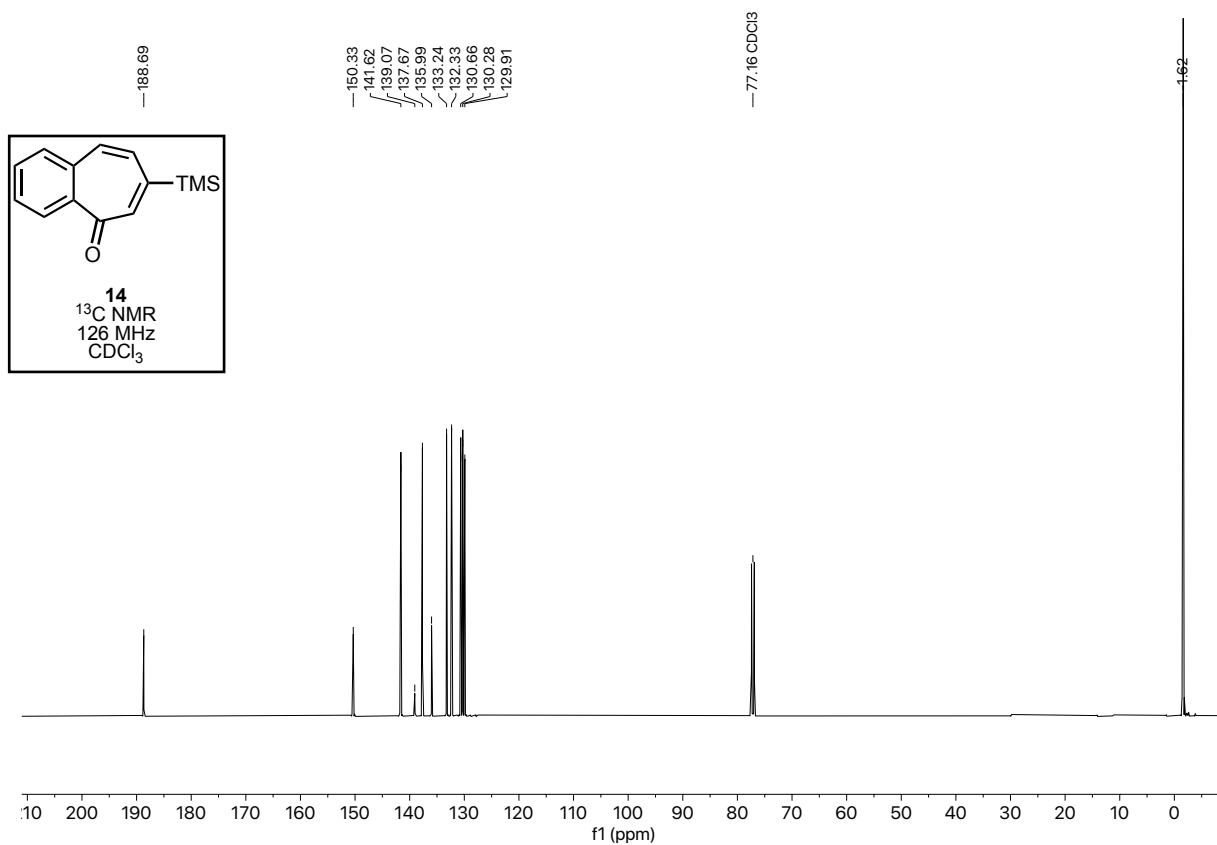
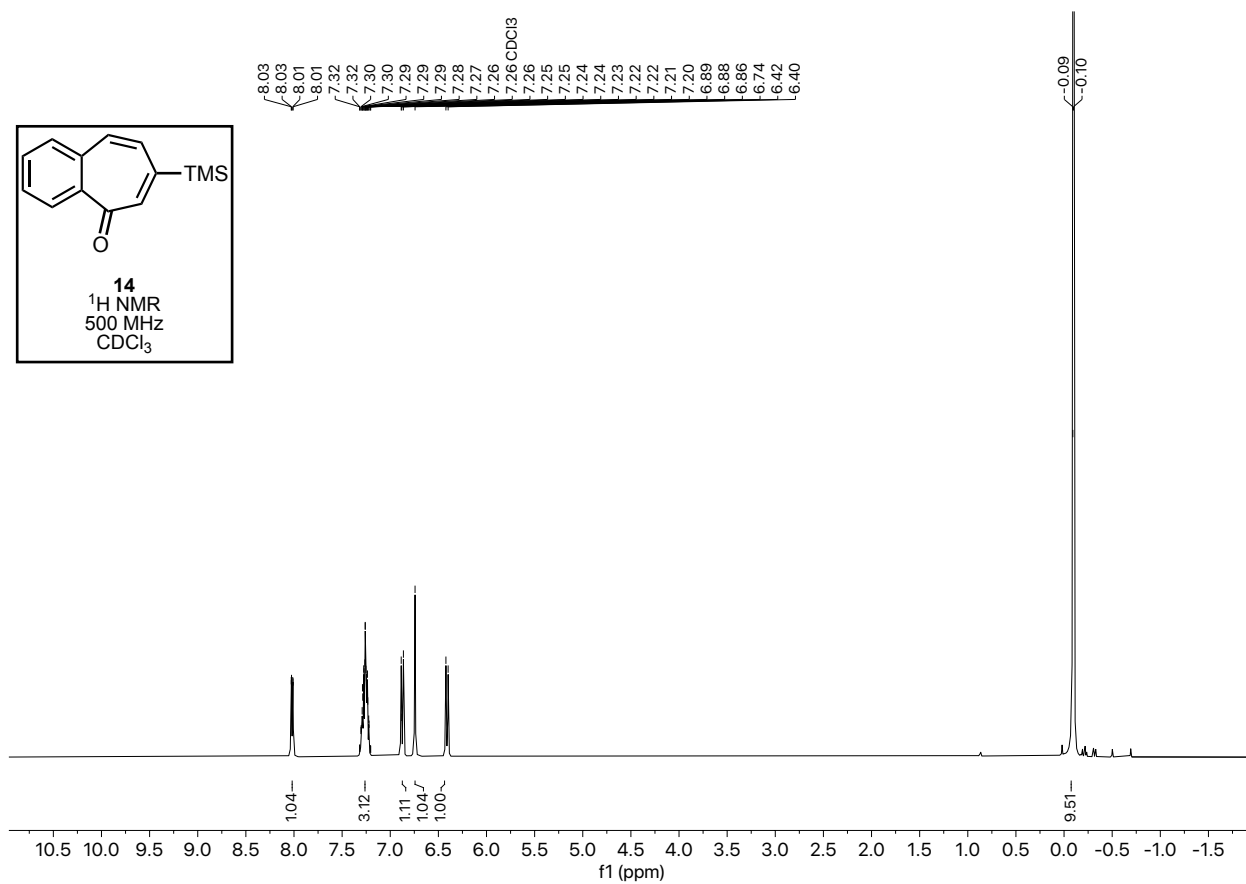
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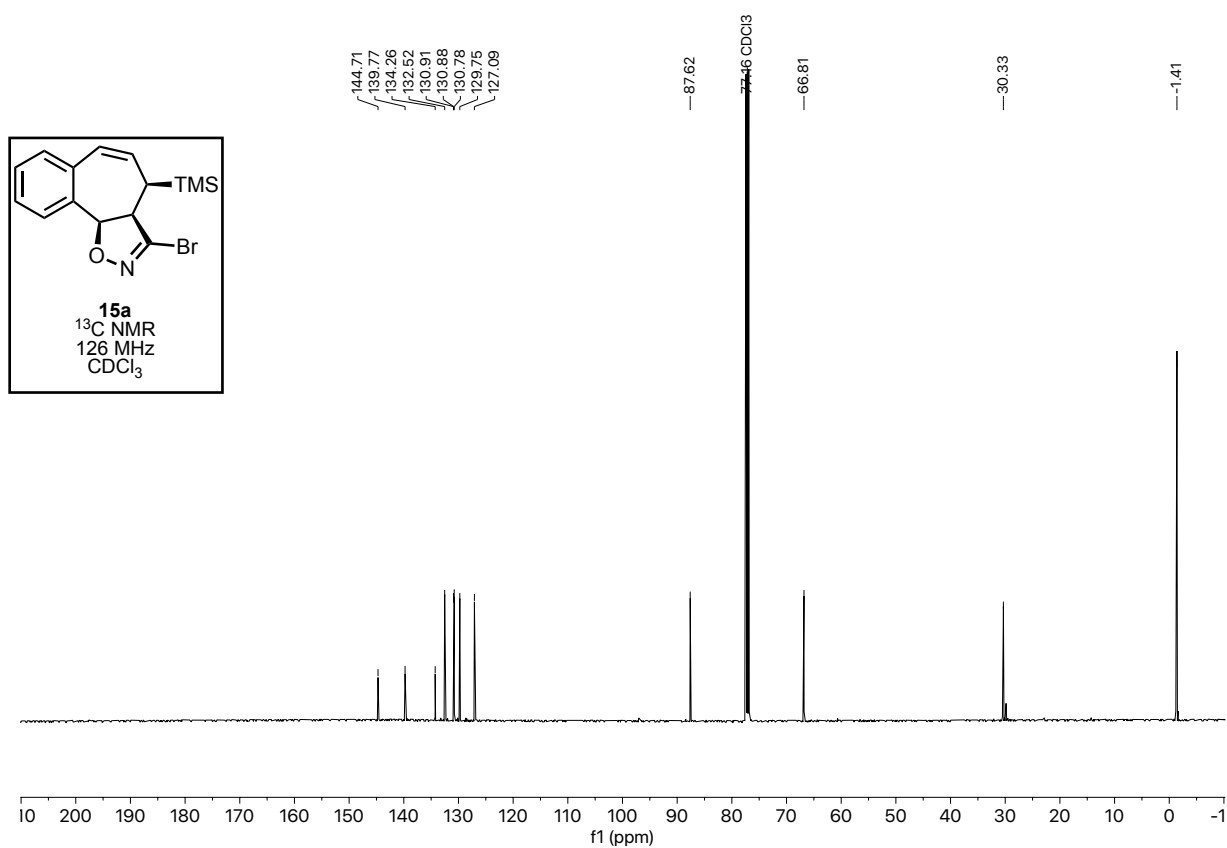
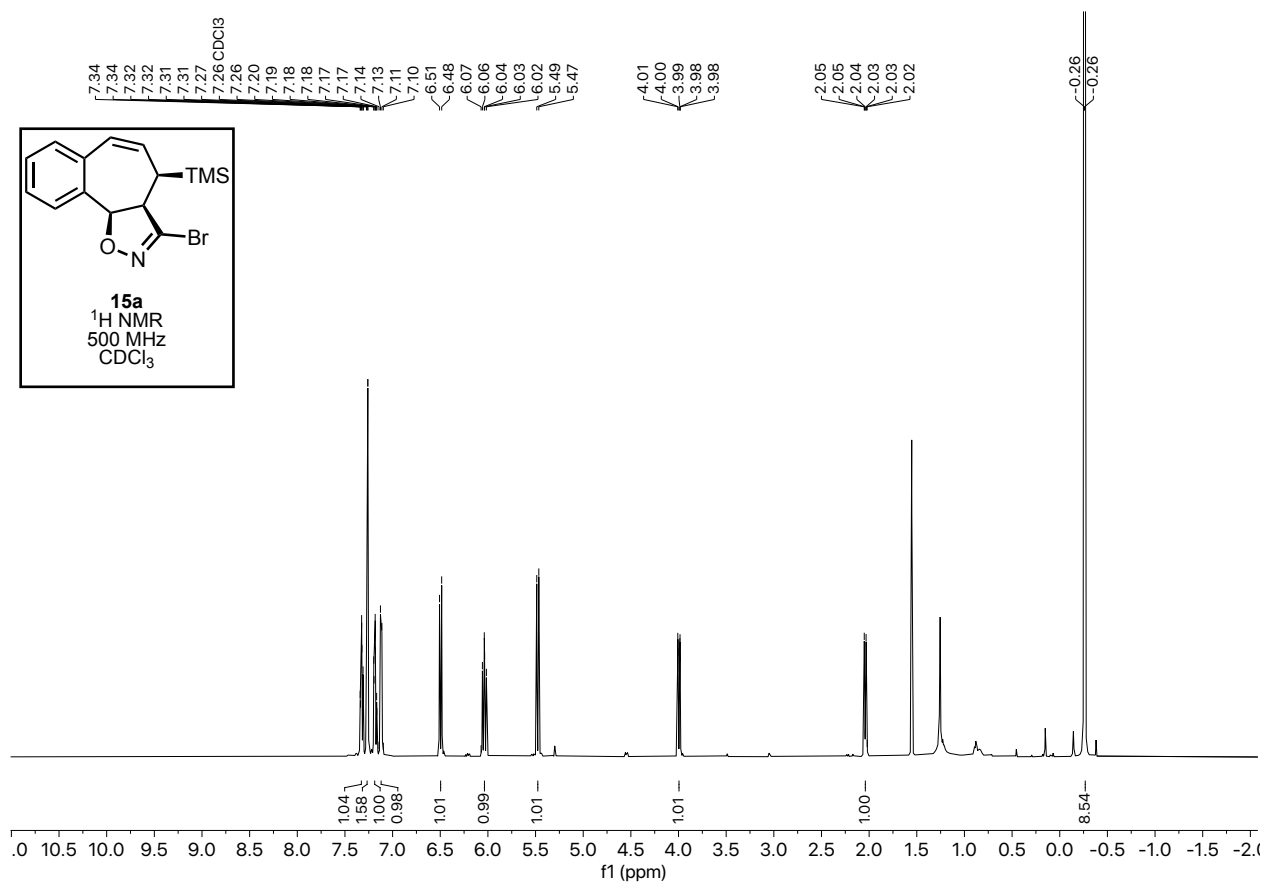
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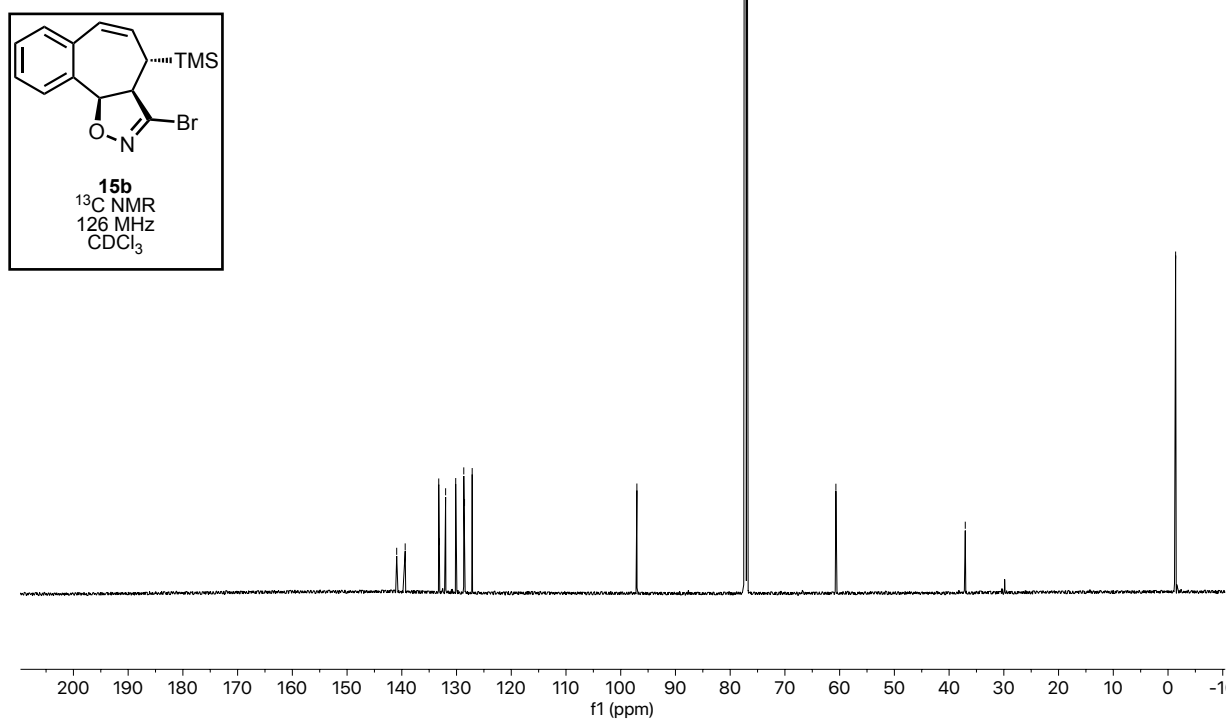
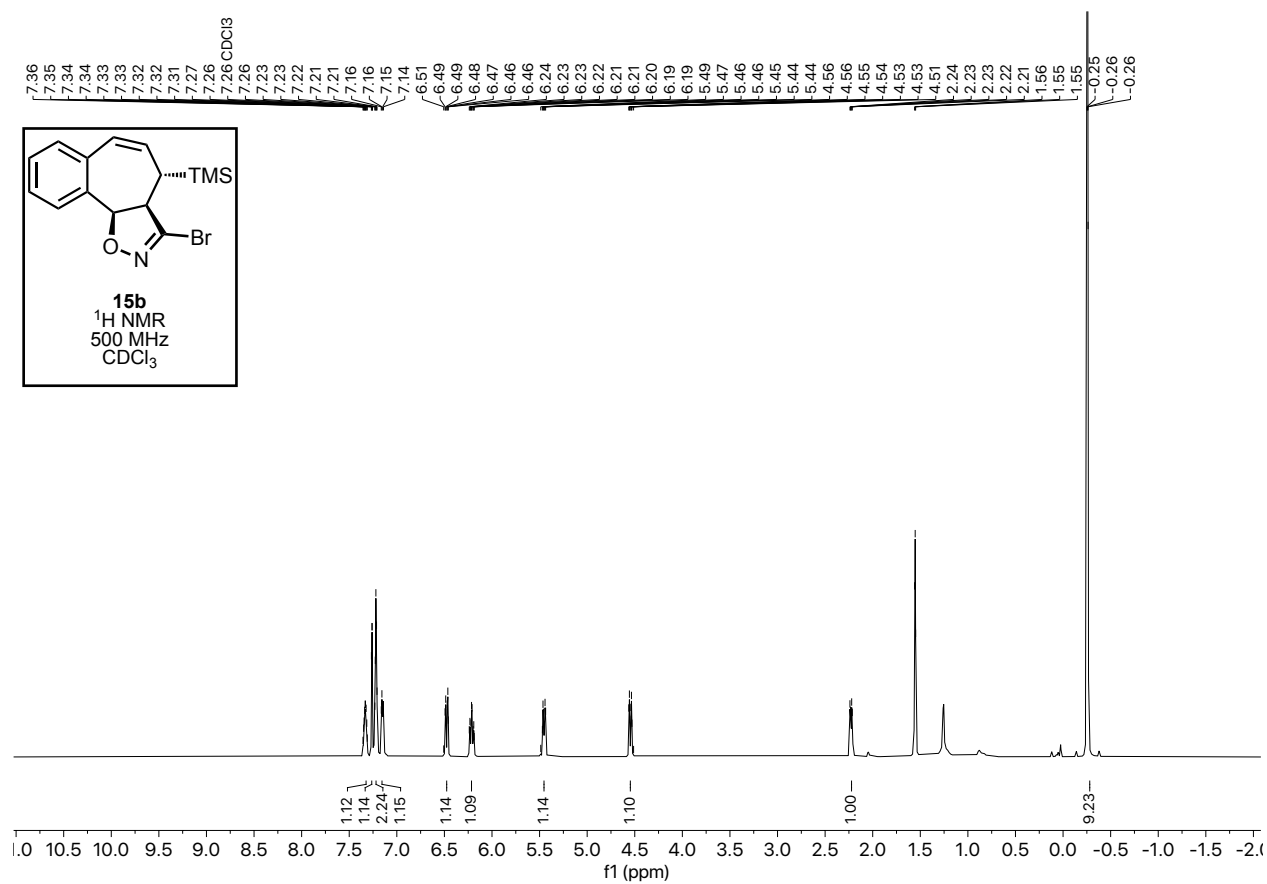
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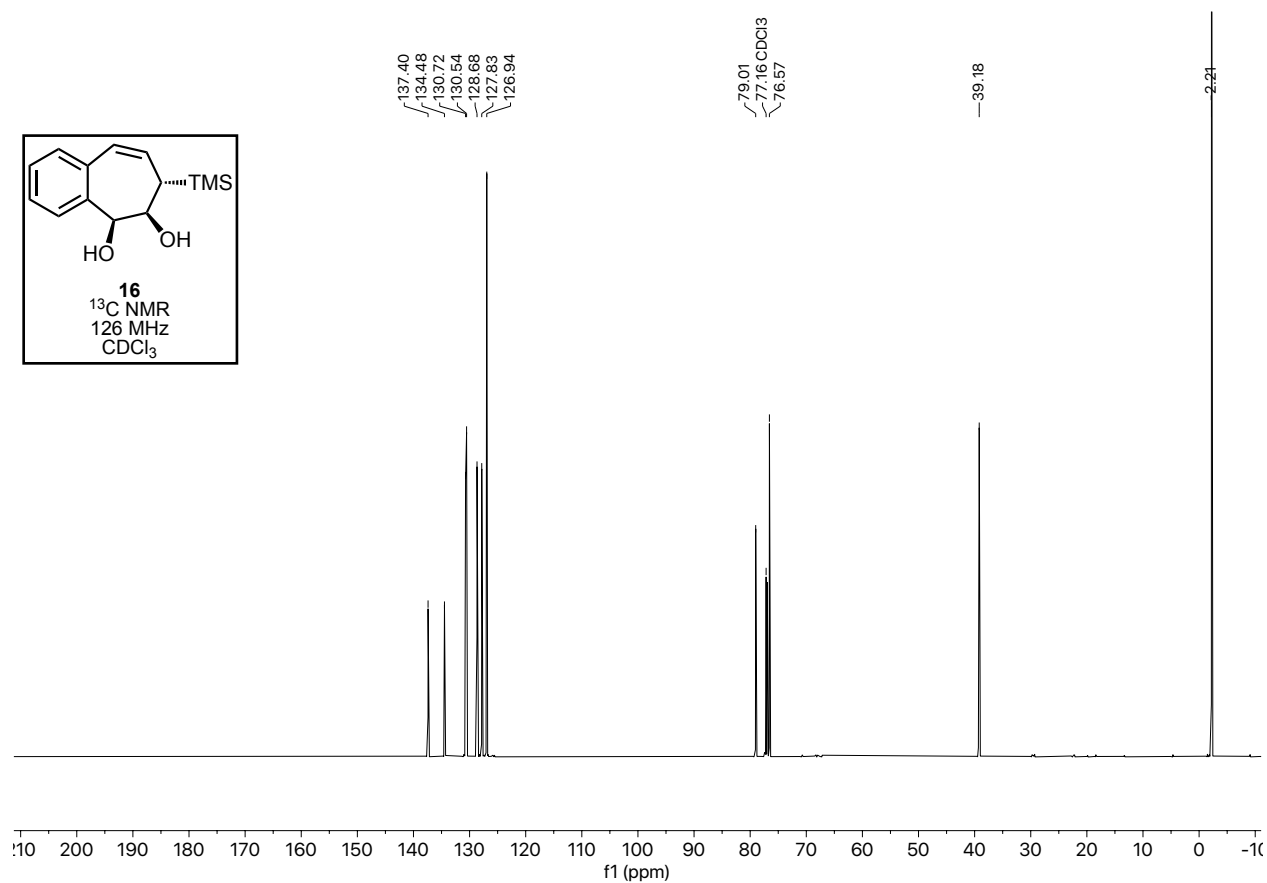
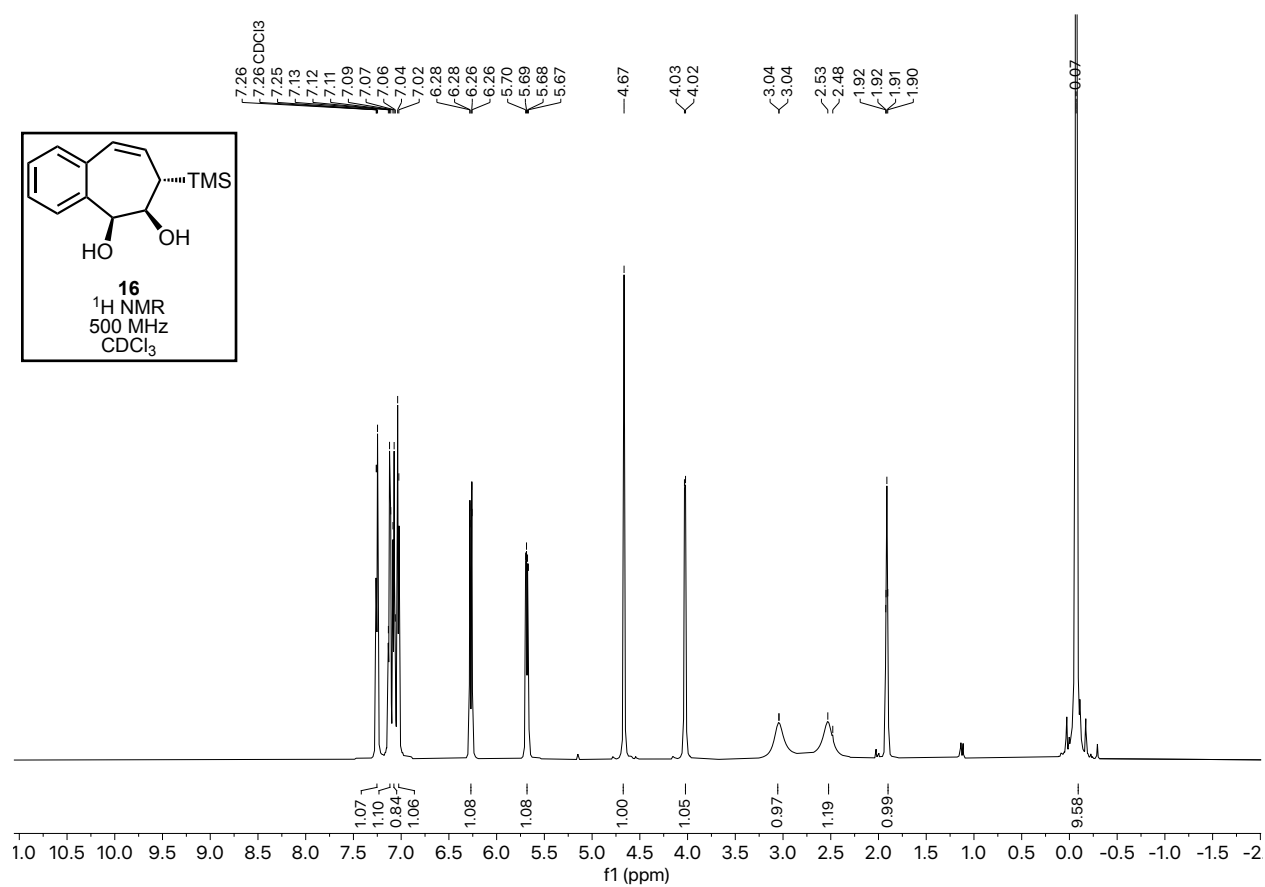
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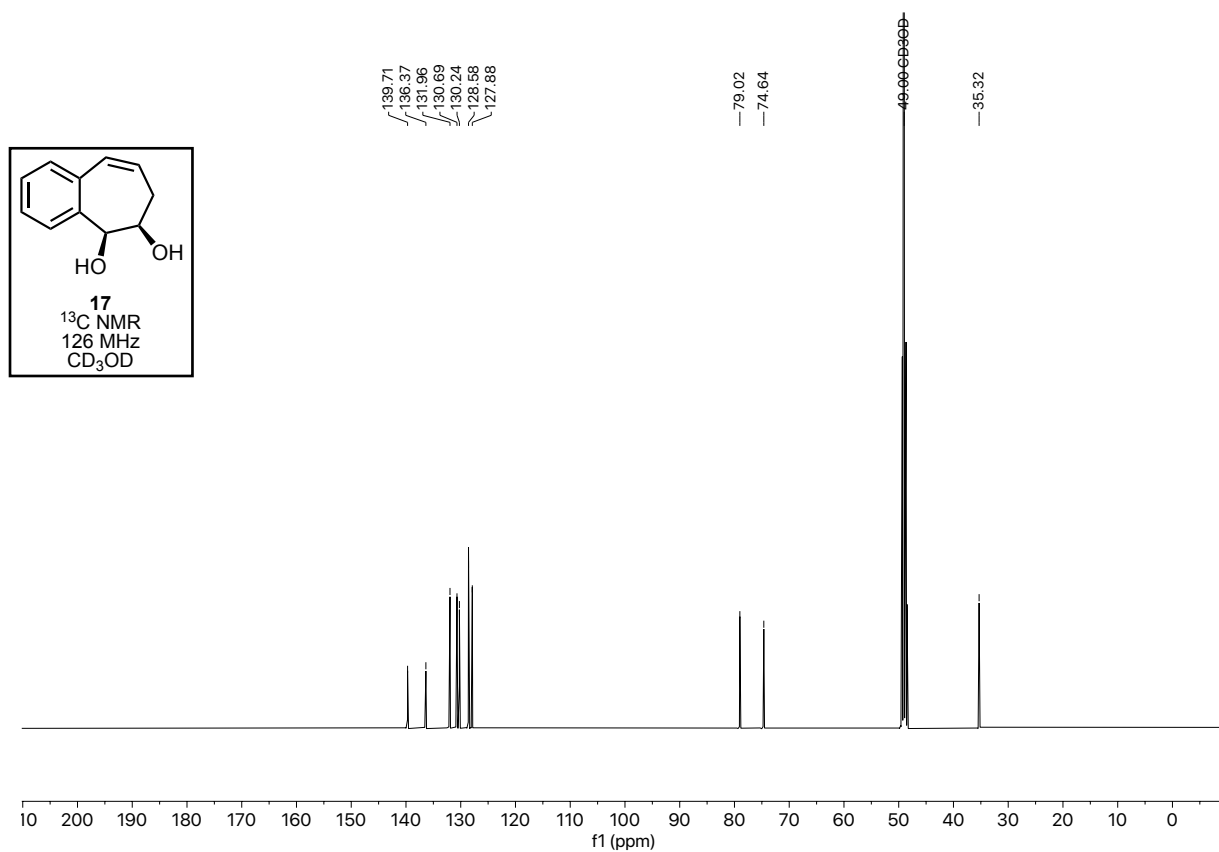
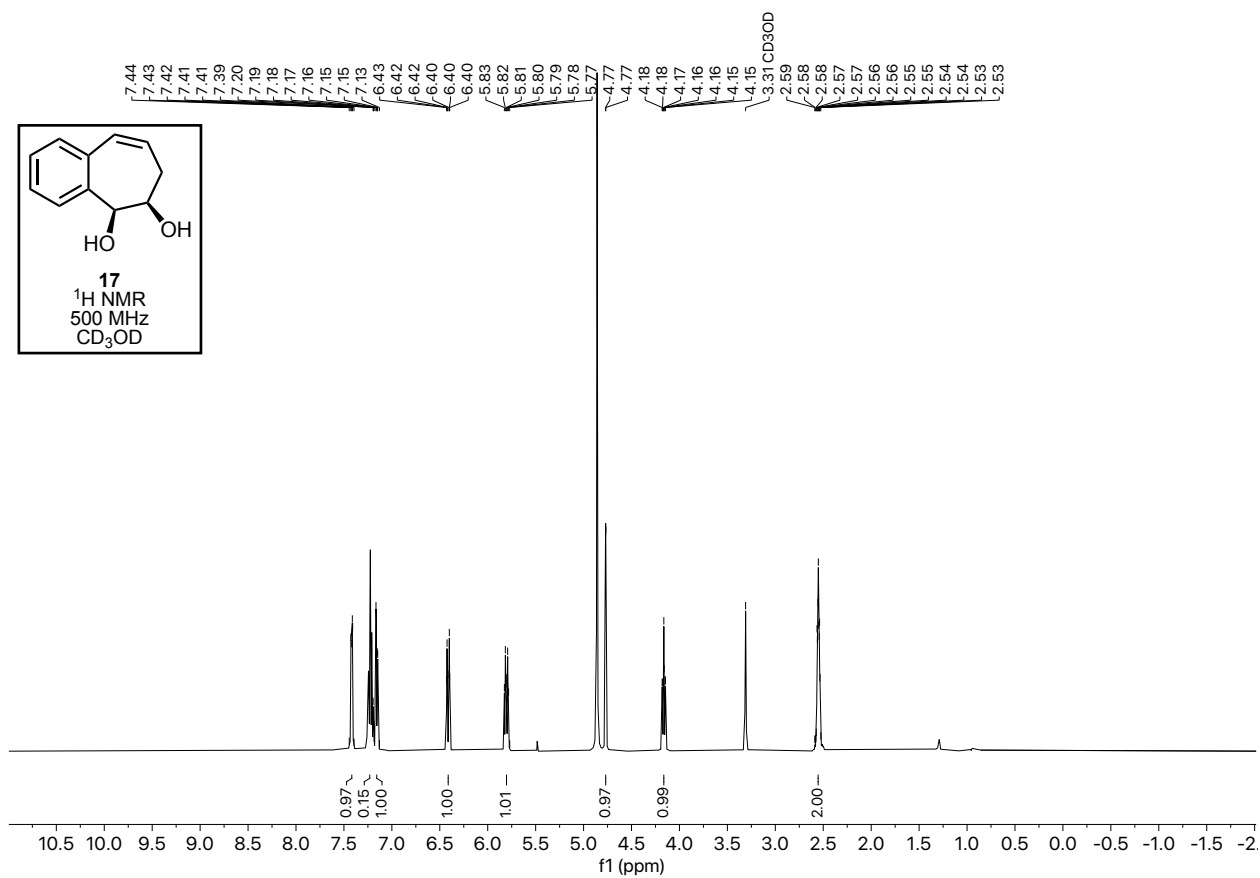
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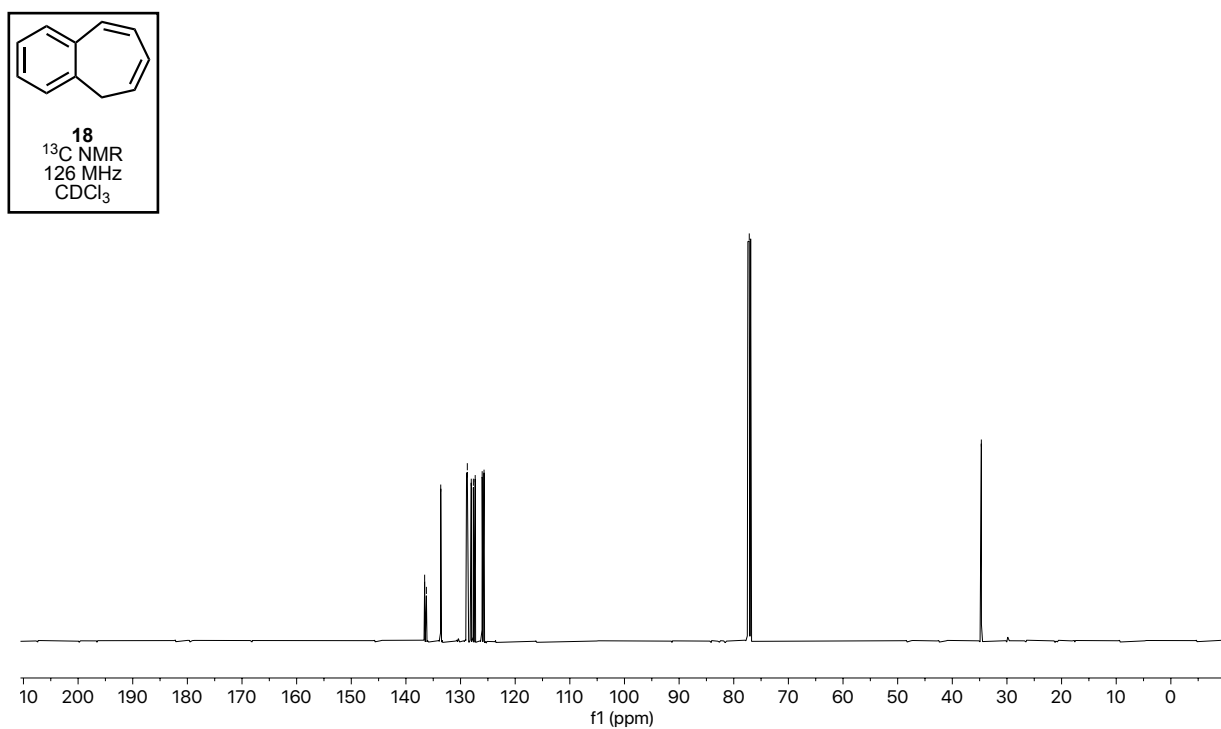
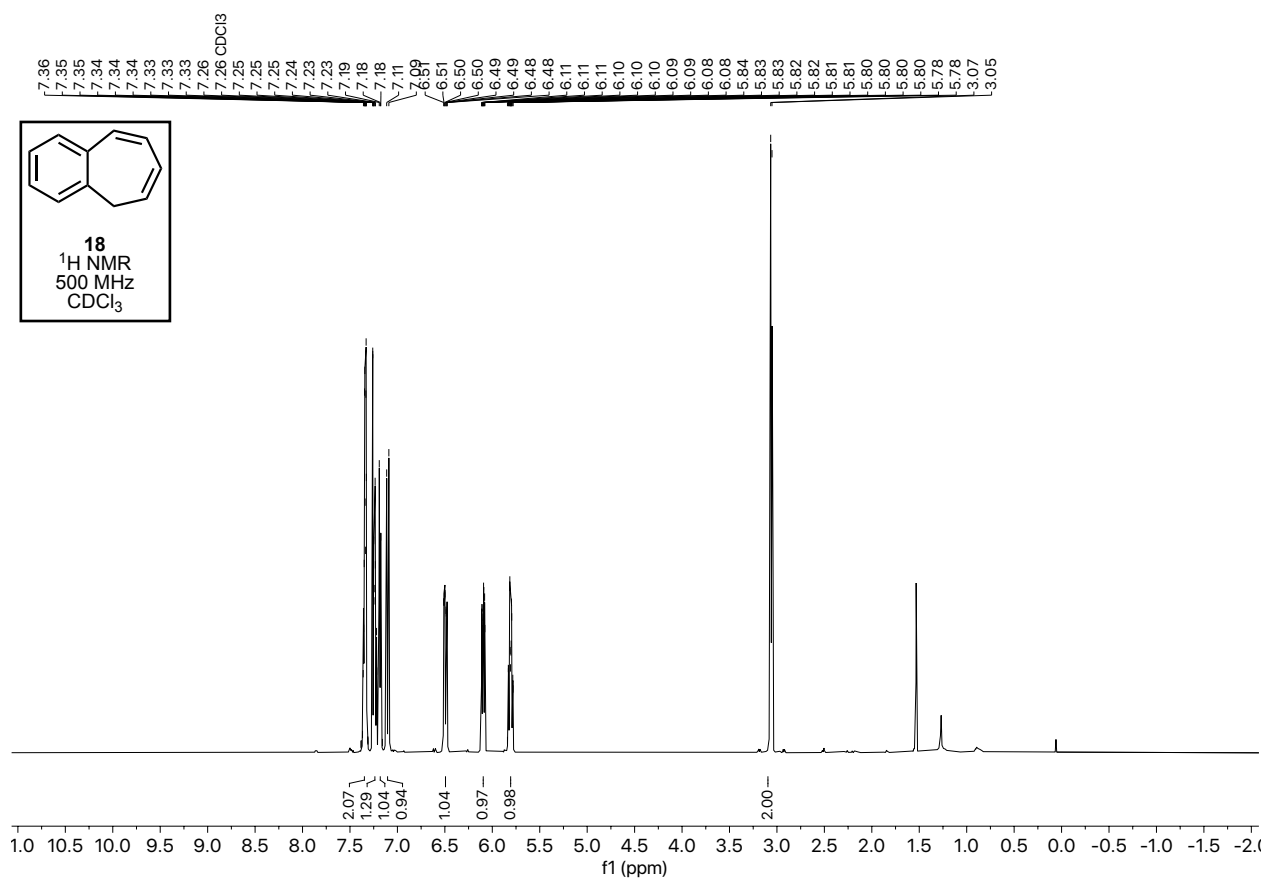
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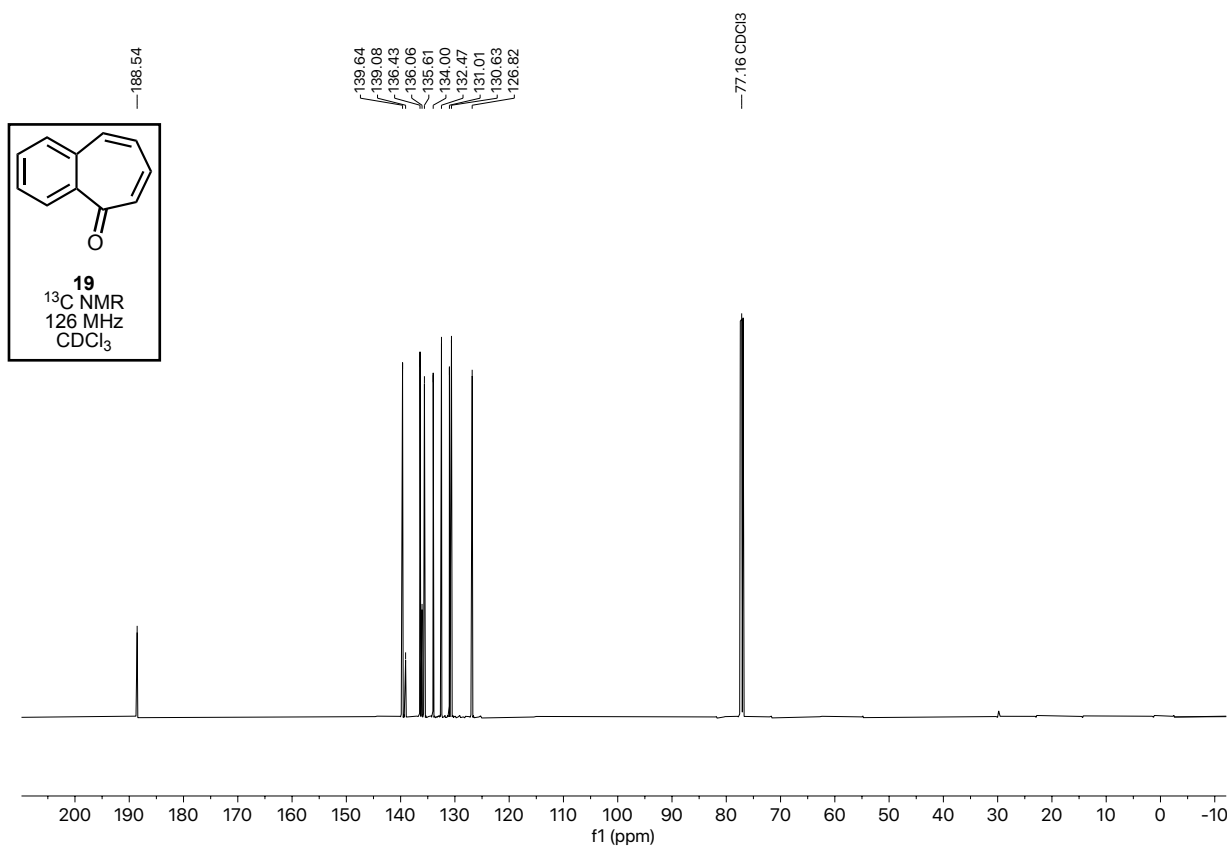
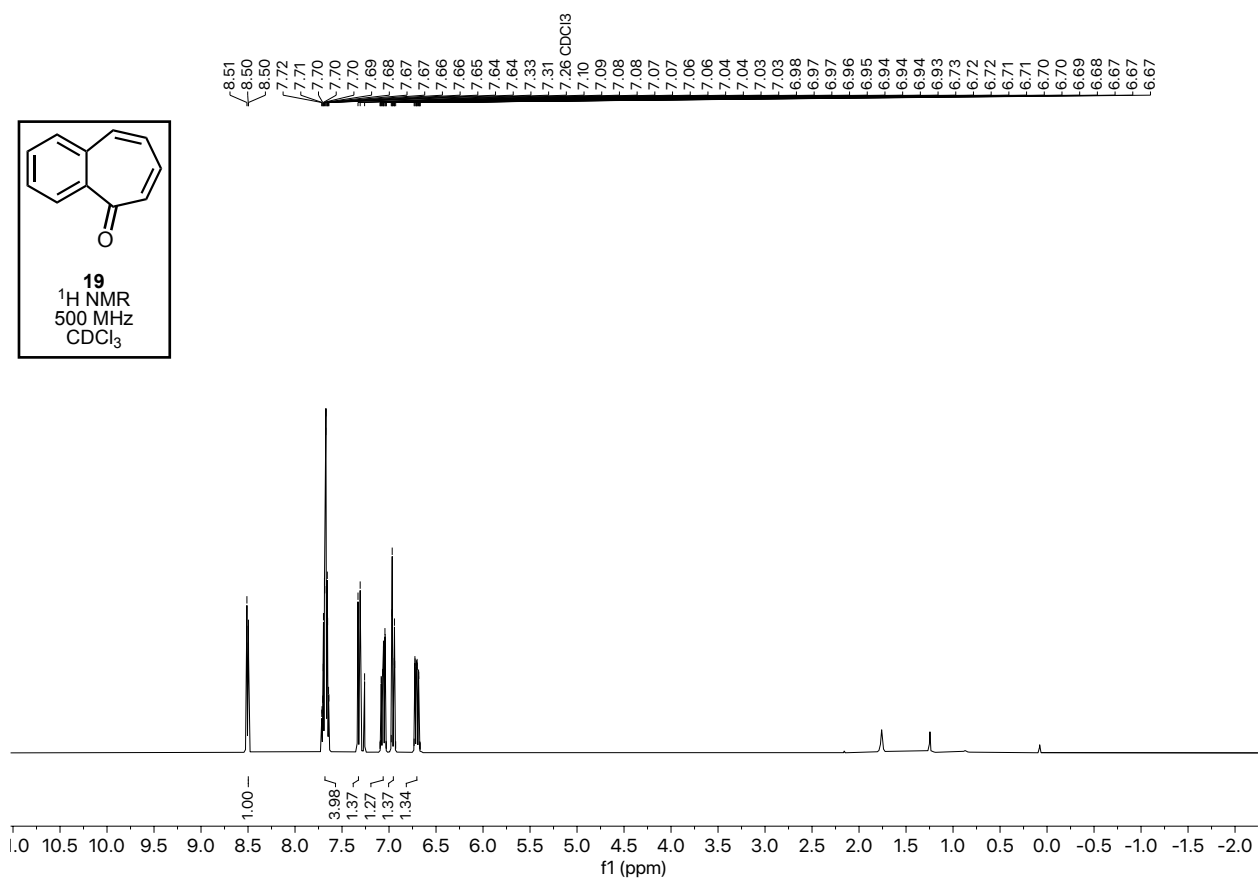
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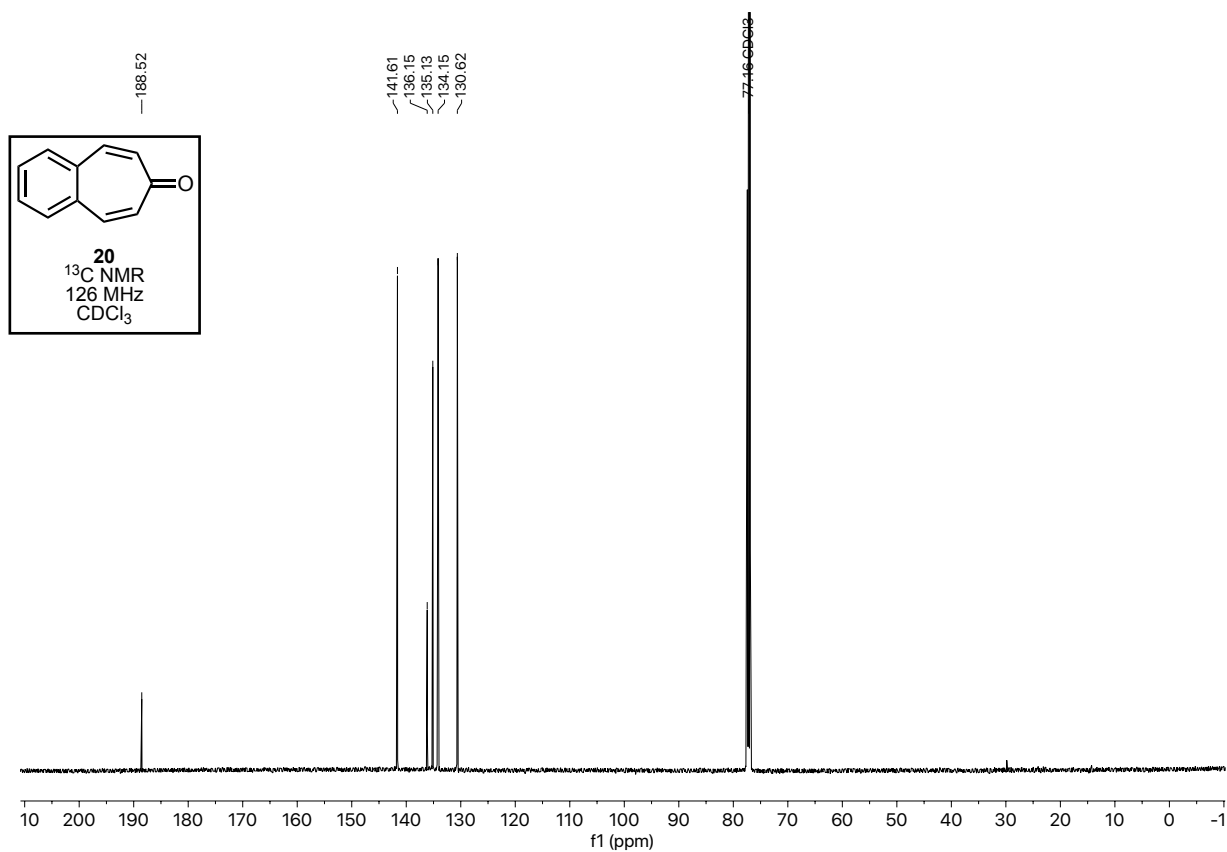
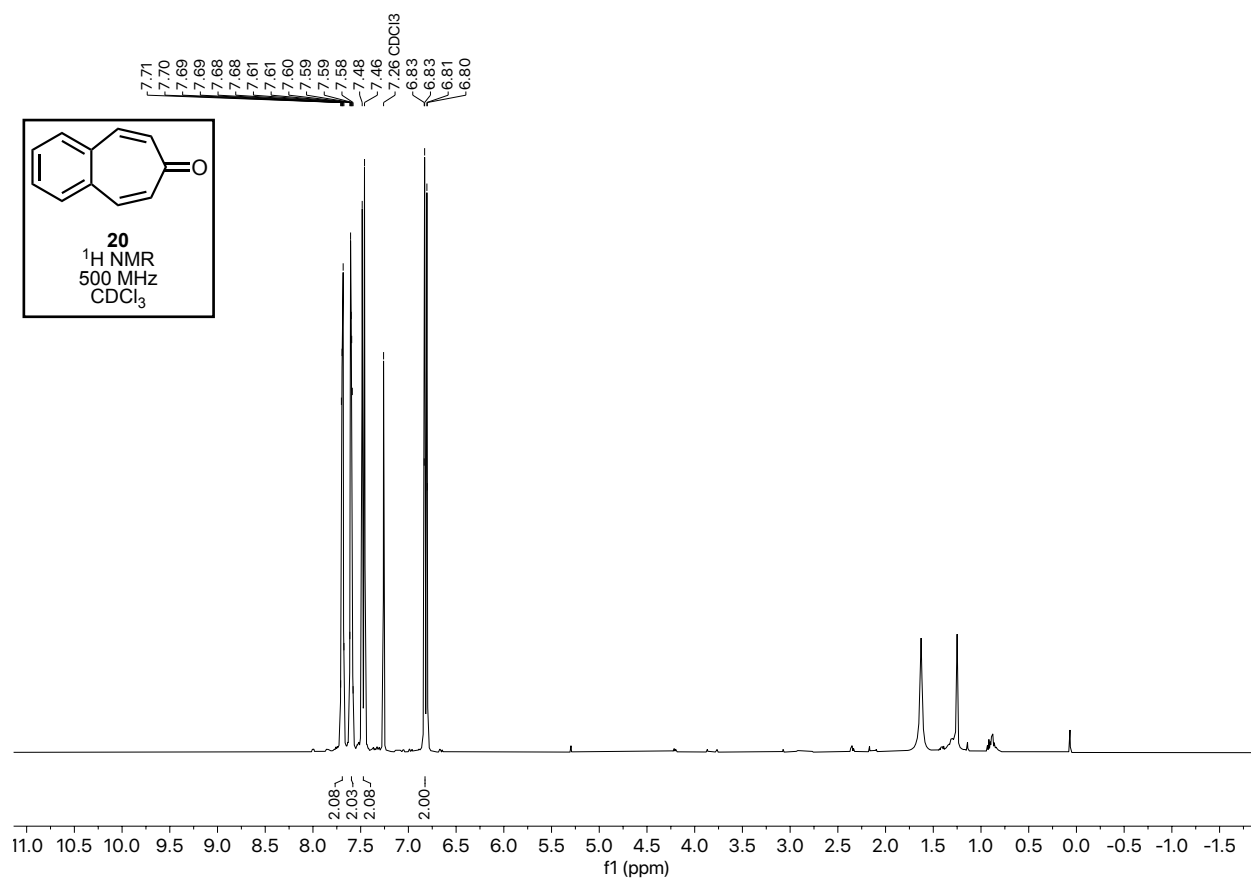
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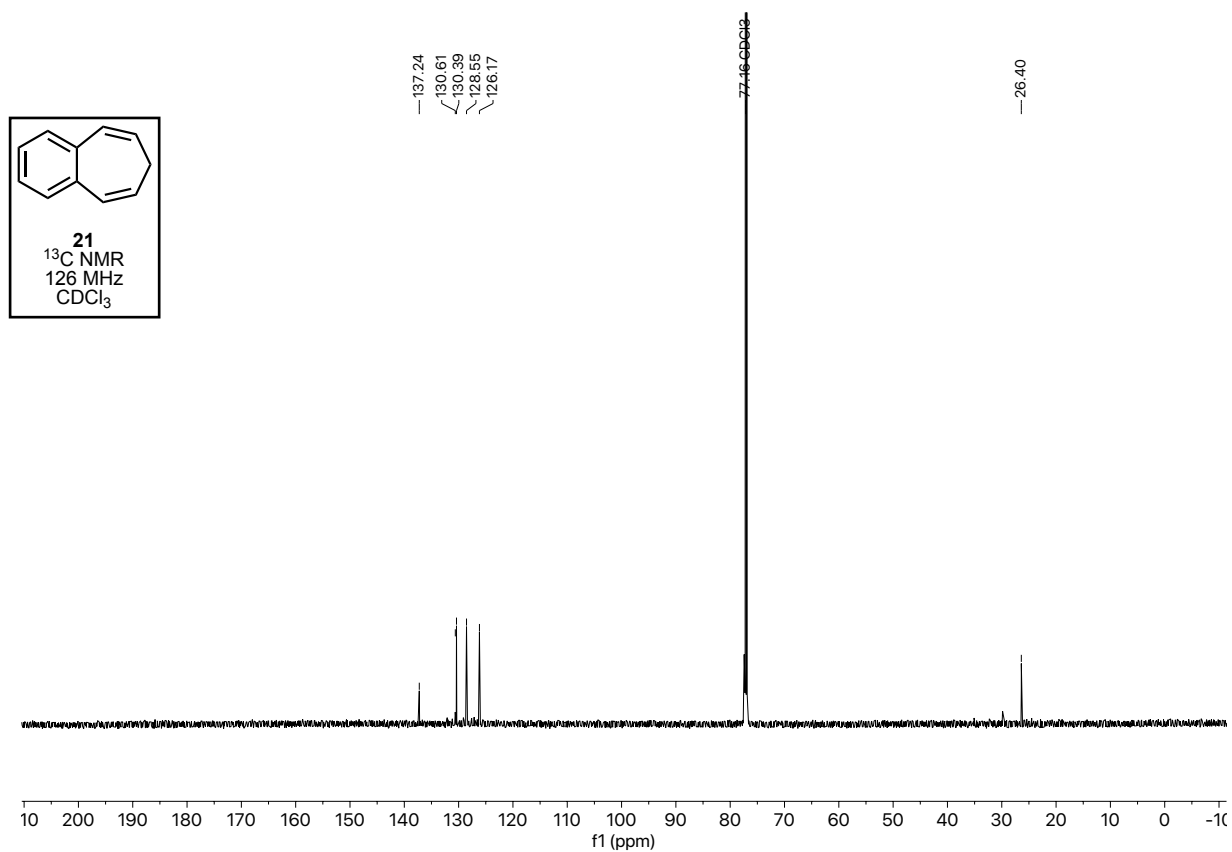
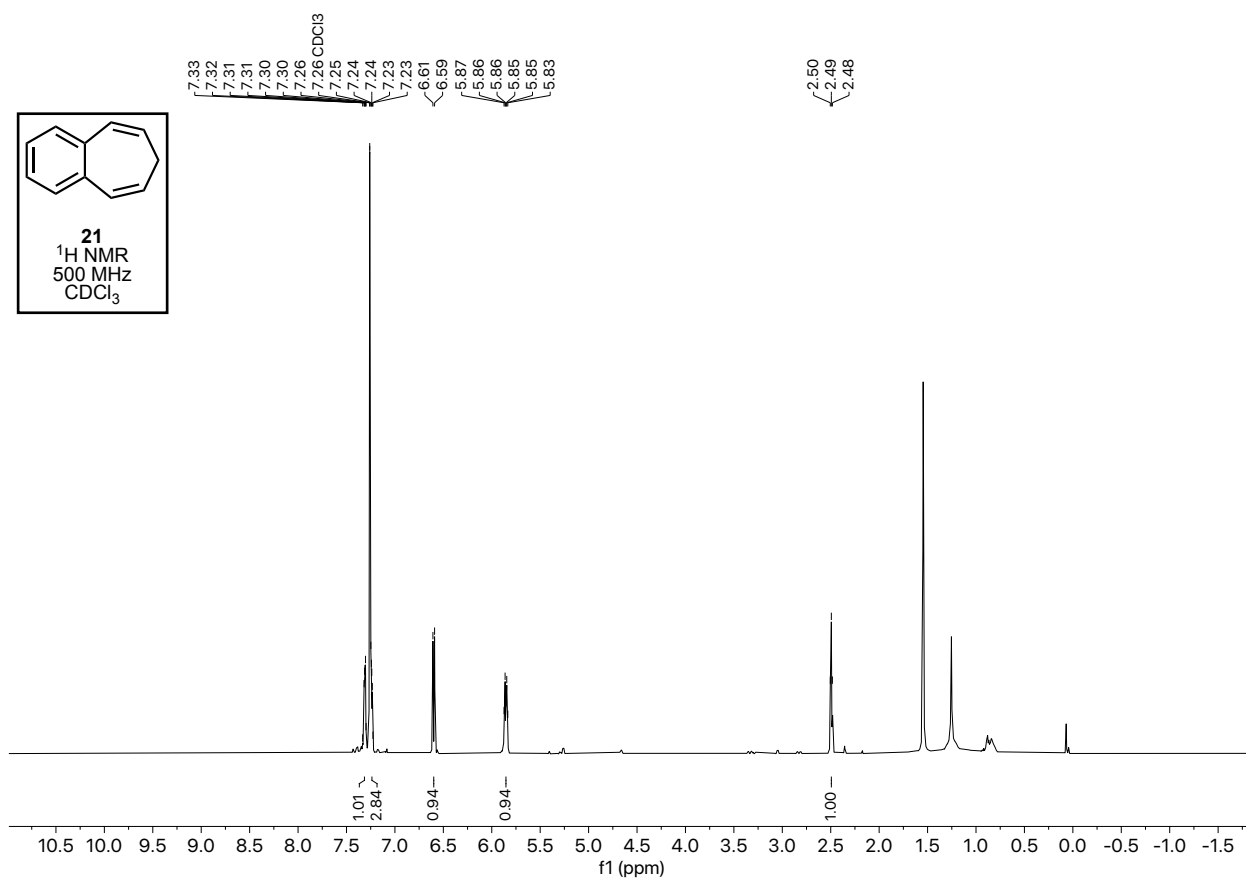
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