

Supporting Information

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Synthesis of Polycyclic Indole Skeletons by a Gold(I)-Catalyzed Cascade Reaction

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Frank Rominger,^[a] and A. Stephen K. Hashmi^{*[a, b]}

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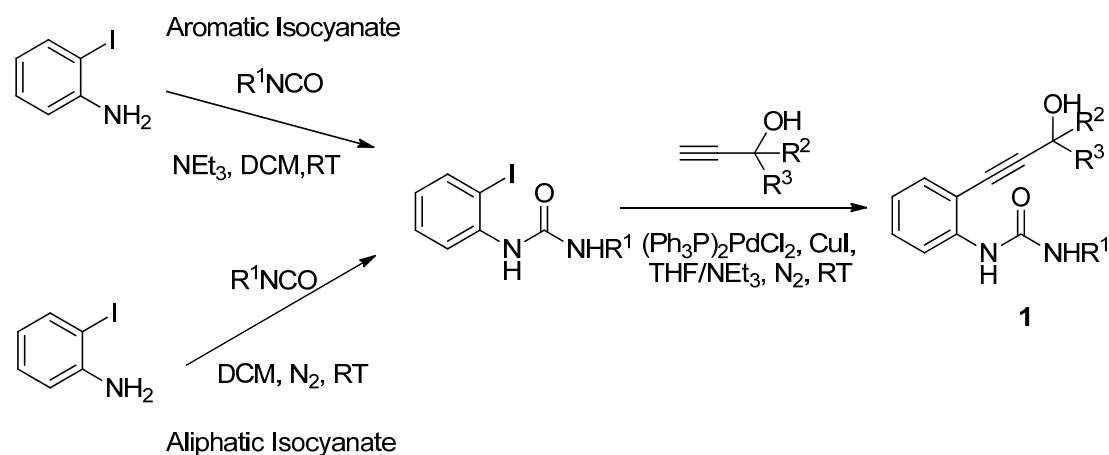
Synthesis of Polycyclic Indole Skeletons by a Gold(I)-Catalyzed Cascade Reaction

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General Information: Chemicals (Aldrich, Fluka, Lancaster, and Merck) were used without further purification. Dichloromethane and toluene were dried from dried machine. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker, ARX300 and AMX250 spectrometers. Chemical shifts were referenced to residual solvent protons. Signal multiplicity as follows: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet), br (broad). MS spectra were recorded on a Finnigan MAT 90 a Varian 711 or a micrOTOF-Q spektometer. IR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Vector 22. Flash chromatography was performed with Macherey-Nagel silica gel SiO₂ (40-63 µm), Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on precoated polyester sheets (POLYGRAM SIL /GUV254), and components were visualized by observation under UV light or by treating the plates with phosphomolybdic acid hydrate followed by heating.

General procedure for synthesis of substrates 1.



Synthesis of (2-iodophenyl)urea:

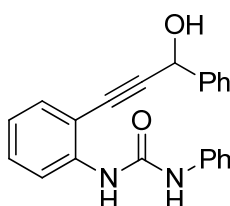
For aromatic isocyanates: To a solution of 2-iodo-benzenamin (2 mmol) and isocyanate (2.2 mmol) in dichloromethane (10 mL) was added 455 mg (4.5 mmol) of triethylamine. The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours. The precipitate was filtered and washed with dichloromethane (2mL*3). The solid obtained was air-dried and was used directly for next step without further purification.

For aliphatic isocyanates: 2-iodoaniline (2.28 mmol) and isocyanate (2.74 mmol) were dissolved in 1 mL of anhydrous dichloromethane under nitrogen. The solution was stirred at room temperature under nitrogen for 24 hours. The precipitate was filtered and washed with dichloromethane (2mL*3). The solid obtained was air-dried and was used directly for next step without further purification.

Synthesis of substrate 1:

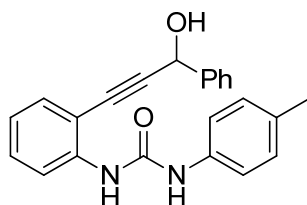
(2-iodophenyl)urea (1 mmol), propargylic alcohol (1.1 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture solvent of THF (10 mL) and NEt_3 (5 mL) under nitrogen. $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (14 mg, 0.02 mmol) and CuI (7.6 mg, 0.04 mmol) were added and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. The solvent was removed and the crude product was purified via column chromatography on silica gel (hexane / ethyl acetate 6:1 to 3:1) to yield substrate 1 in good to excellent yields.

1-(2-(3-hydroxy-3-phenylprop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)-3-phenylurea (1a).



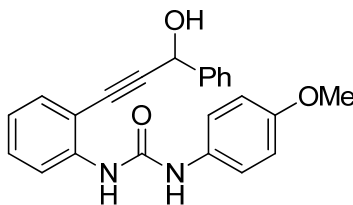
Yield: 88%, white solid, m.p. 167-168 °C; ^1H NMR [300 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: δ = 8.71 (sbr, 1 H), 8.26 (d, 1 H, J = 8.3 Hz), 8.00 (sbr, 1 H), 7.64 (d, 2 H, J = 7.1 Hz), 7.54 (d, 2 H, J = 7.7 Hz), 7.41-7.25 (m, 7 H), 7.02-6.97 (m, 2 H), 5.75 (d, 1 H, J = 5.7 Hz), 5.25 (d, 1 H, J = 5.7 Hz); ^{13}C NMR [75 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: δ = 153.5, 143.0, 142.0, 141.0, 133.2, 130.6, 130.0, 129.6, 129.1, 128.0, 123.7, 123.2, 120.7, 120.1, 112.7, 98.1, 82.1, 65.4 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3275, 3059, 3036, 1950, 1742, 1645, 1598, 1578, 1547, 1497, 1478, 1446, 1295, 1247, 1216, 1185, 1159, 1112, 1078, 1024, 1001, 966, 919, 899, 822, 752, 742, 714, 693, 660, 633 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 365.1260, found 365.1263.

1-(2-(3-hydroxy-3-phenylprop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)-3-(p-tolyl)urea (1b).



Yield: 85%, yellow solid, m.p. 171-172 °C; ^1H NMR [500 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: δ = 8.55 (sbr, 1 H), 8.27 (d, 1 H, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.93 (sbr, 1 H), 7.63 (d, 2 H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.41-7.37 (m, 5 H), 7.35-7.30 (m, 2 H), 7.09 (d, 2 H, J = 8.3 Hz), 6.98 (td, 1 H, J_1 = 7.6 Hz, J_2 = 1.0 Hz), 5.74 (d, 1 H, J = 5.9 Hz), 5.24 (d, 1 H, J = 5.9 Hz), 2.26 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR [125 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: δ = 153.2, 142.6, 141.7, 138.0, 132.9, 132.7, 130.3, 130.2, 129.3, 128.8, 127.6, 122.7, 120.2, 120.0, 112.2, 97.7, 81.8, 65.0, 20.8 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3651, 3297, 3031, 1644, 1603, 1577, 1547, 1511, 1492, 1476, 1448, 1406, 1293, 1249, 1216, 1189, 1110, 1079, 1023, 966, 905, 818, 790, 748, 708, 695, 638, 613 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 379.1417, found 379.1420.

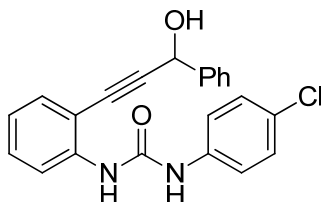
1-(2-(3-hydroxy-3-phenylprop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)urea (1c).



Yield: 75%, yellow solid, m.p. 175-176 °C; ^1H NMR [400 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: δ = 8.59 (sbr, 1 H), 8.27 (d, 1 H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.93 (sbr, 1 H), 7.64-7.62 (m, 2 H), 7.46-7.29 (m, 7 H), 6.97 (td, 1 H, J_1 = 7.6 Hz, J_2 = 1.2 Hz), 6.88-6.84 (m, 2 H), 5.72 (d, 1 H, J = 5.5 Hz), 5.28 (d, 1 H, J = 5.5 Hz), 3.75 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR [100 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: δ = 156.5, 153.4, 142.7, 142.0, 133.6, 132.8, 130.2, 129.3, 128.7, 127.7, 122.6, 121.9, 120.1, 114.9, 112.1, 97.9, 81.7, 65.0, 55.7 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ =

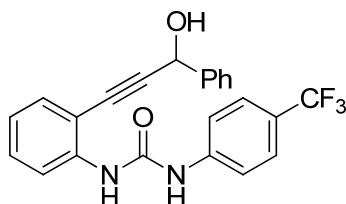
3299, 3063, 2938, 2838, 1643, 1605, 1578, 1547, 1508, 1475, 1450, 1411, 1301, 1244, 1180, 1168, 1108, 1079, 1023, 960, 911, 828, 793, 756, 695, 636, 610 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 395.1366, found 395.1370.

1-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(2-(3-hydroxy-3-phenylprop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)urea (1d).



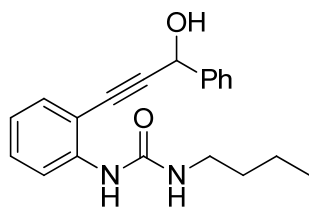
Yield: 80%, white solid, m.p. 188-189 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; ^1H NMR [500 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: δ = 8.79 (sbr, 1 H), 8.23 (d, 1 H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.98 (sbr, 1 H), 7.63 (d, 2 H, J = 7.3 Hz), 7.55 (d, 2 H, J = 8.8 Hz), 7.43-7.28 (m, 7 H), 7.02 (t, 1 H, J = 7.6 Hz), 5.74 (d, 1 H, J = 5.9 Hz), 5.20 (d, 1 H, J = 5.9 Hz); ^{13}C NMR [125 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: δ = 152.9, 142.7, 141.5, 139.7, 133.0, 130.3, 129.6, 129.3, 128.8, 127.7, 123.1, 121.0, 120.4, 112.5, 97.9, 81.7, 65.1 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3325, 3059, 2926, 2850, 1946, 1810, 1683, 1631, 1598, 1577, 1549, 1497, 1446, 1395, 1303, 1250, 1216, 1175, 1114, 1085, 1048, 1029, 1002, 986, 947, 917, 894, 824, 776, 748, 723, 692, 642, 607 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 399.0871, found 399.0872.

1-(2-(3-hydroxy-3-phenylprop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)urea (1e).



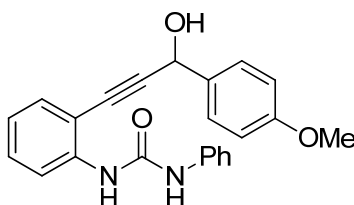
Yield: 70%, white solid, m.p. 189-190 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; ^1H NMR [300 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: δ = 9.12 (sbr, 1 H), 8.24 (d, 1 H, J = 8.3 Hz), 8.10 (sbr, 1 H), 7.75 (d, 2 H, J = 8.5 Hz), 7.65-7.60 (m, 4 H), 7.44-7.28 (m, 5 H), 7.03 (t, 1 H, J = 7.5 Hz), 5.77 (d, 1 H, J = 5.0 Hz), 5.30 (d, 1 H, J = 5.0 Hz). ^{13}C NMR [75 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: δ = 253.3, 144.8, 143.0, 141.7, 133.3, 130.7, 129.7, 129.2, 128.0, 127.3 (q, $J_{\text{F-C}}$ = 3.9 Hz), 123.7, 121.0, 119.5, 113.2, 98.2, 82.1, 65.5 ppm; ^{19}F NMR [282 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: -62.2 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3292, 3062, 1914, 1649, 1602, 1577, 1542, 1492, 1477, 1449, 1410, 1328, 1300, 1251, 1224, 1183, 1155, 1108, 1070, 1047, 1025, 1017, 968, 905, 867, 845, 798, 747, 711, 694, 639 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$: 409.1169, found 409.1182.

1-butyl-3-(2-(3-hydroxy-3-phenylprop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)urea (1f).



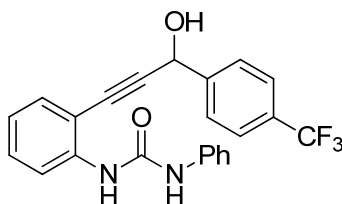
Yield: 83%, yellow oil; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 7.96 (d, 1 H, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.55 (d, 2 H, J = 7.5 Hz), 7.38-7.19 (m, 6 H), 6.91 (t, 1 H, J = 7.6 Hz), 5.68 (s, 1 H), 5.34 (s, 1 H), 4.74 (s, 1 H), 3.05-2.99 (m, 2 H), 1.33-1.16 (m, 4 H), 0.82 (t, 3 H, J = 7.2 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 156.3, 141.4, 141.1, 132.2, 130.3, 129.2, 128.9, 127.2, 122.7, 120.0, 112.2, 96.5, 82.7, 65.3, 40.6, 32.6, 20.6, 14.1 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3330, 2958, 2931, 2871, 2220, 1652, 1606, 1549, 1493, 1447, 1379, 1302, 1249, 1219, 1159, 1097, 1043, 1016, 964, 917, 821, 755, 698, 641, 614 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 345.1574, found 345.1579.

1-(2-(3-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)prop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)-3-phenylurea (1g).



Yield: 83%, yellow solid, m.p. 134-135 $^\circ\text{C}$; ^1H NMR [300 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)\text{CO}$]: δ = 8.69 (sbr, 1 H), 8.26 (d, 1 H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.96 (sbr, 1 H), 7.56-7.51 (m, 4 H), 7.41-7.25 (m, 4 H), 7.02-6.91 (m, 4 H), 5.69 (d, 1 H, J = 5.7 Hz), 5.13 (d, 1 H, J = 5.7 Hz), 3.78 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR [125 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)\text{CO}$]: δ = 160.9, 153.5, 142.1, 141.1, 135.2, 133.2, 130.6, 130.1, 129.4, 123.7, 123.2, 120.7, 120.1, 115.0, 112.9, 98.4, 82.0, 65.1, 56.0 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3566, 3295, 3063, 2958, 2932, 2830, 2223, 1946, 1868, 1771, 1649, 1601, 1579, 1544, 1509, 1478, 1464, 1446, 1379, 1301, 1245, 1174, 1109, 1079, 1030, 1015, 986, 965, 898, 871, 826, 803, 752, 716, 692, 681, 646, 608 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$: 371.1401, found 371.1411.

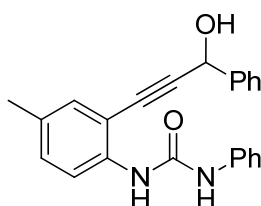
1-(2-(3-hydroxy-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)prop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)-3-phenylurea (1h).



Yield: 73%, white solid, m.p. 200-201 $^\circ\text{C}$; ^1H NMR [300 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)\text{CO}$]: δ = 8.64 (sbr, 1 H), 8.24 (d, 1 H, J = 8.4 Hz), 7.97 (sbr, 1 H), 7.87 (d, 2 H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.73 (d, 2 H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.52 (d, 2 H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.42-7.25 (m, 4 H), 7.00 (t, 2 H, J = 7.5 Hz), 5.88 (d, 1 H, J = 5.9 Hz), 5.52 (d,

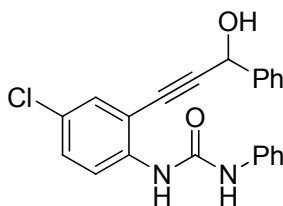
1 H, $J = 5.9$ Hz). ^{13}C NMR [75 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: $\delta = 153.5, 147.5, 142.1, 141.0, 133.4, 130.8, 130.1, 128.6, 126.6$ (q, $\text{JF-C} = 3.9$ Hz), $123.7, 123.3, 120.9, 120.1, 112.6, 97.2, 82.7, 64.8$ ppm; ^{19}F NMR [282 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: -62.9 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu} = 3302, 1641, 1619, 1598, 1579, 1551, 1496, 1479, 1447, 1414, 1391, 1325, 1304, 1248, 1223, 1164, 1111, 1068, 1051, 1016, 975, 914, 897, 849, 826, 796, 751, 718, 692, 646, 633$ cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{16}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M-H}]^-$: 409.1169, found 409.1182.

1-(2-(3-hydroxy-3-phenylprop-1-yn-1-yl)-4-methylphenyl)-3-phenylurea (1i).



Yield: 76%, white solid, m.p. 178-179 °C; ^1H NMR [300 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: $\delta = 8.64$ (sbr, 1 H), 8.12 (d, 1 H, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 7.89 (sbr, 1 H), 7.63 (d, 2 H, $J = 7.6$ Hz), 7.52 (d, 2 H, $J = 8.3$ Hz), 7.41-7.15 (m, 7 H), 6.99 (t, 1 H, $J = 7.4$ Hz), 5.73 (d, 1 H, $J = 5.9$ Hz), 5.23 (d, 1 H, $J = 5.9$ Hz), 2.26 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR [125 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: $\delta = 153.2, 142.7, 140.9, 139.3, 133.0, 132.3, 131.0, 129.7, 129.3, 128.8, 127.7, 123.2, 120.5, 119.6, 112.4, 97.3, 82.0, 65.1, 20.5$ ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu} = 3289, 3026, 1637, 1586, 1554, 1497, 1443, 1294, 1254, 1220, 1186, 1131, 1078, 1042, 1028, 1005, 897, 809, 778, 738, 714, 692, 640, 614$ cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ $[\text{M-H}]^-$: 355.1452, found 355.1462.

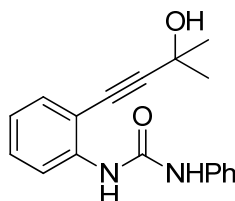
1-(4-chloro-2-(3-hydroxy-3-phenylprop-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)-3-phenylurea (1j).



Yield: 77%, white solid, m.p. 203-204 °C; ^1H NMR [500 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: $\delta = 8.70$ (sbr, 1 H), 8.28 (d, 1 H, $J = 9.0$ Hz), 8.03 (sbr, 1 H), 7.63 (d, 2 H, $J = 7.5$ Hz), 7.52 (d, 2 H, $J = 7.8$ Hz), 7.42-7.27 (m, 7 H); 7.02 (t, 1 H, $J = 7.4$ Hz), 5.74 (d, 1 H, $J = 5.4$ Hz), 5.27 (d, 1 H, $J = 5.4$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR [125 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$]: $\delta = 152.9, 142.4, 140.6, 140.5, 132.1, 130.2, 129.8, 129.4, 128.9, 127.7, 127.0, 123.5, 121.7, 119.7, 114.0, 99.0, 80.4, 65.0$ ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu} = 3291, 3060, 3028, 1942, 1894, 1636, 1598, 1576, 1544, 1493, 1476, 1445, 1400, 1291, 1247, 1207, 1184, 1158, 1124, 1088, 1037, 1024, 980, 913, 897, 879, 836, 803, 773, 752, 730, 707, 691, 638$ cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI):

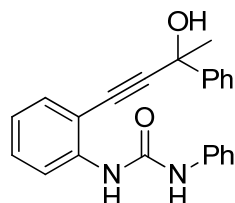
calculated for $C_{22}H_{17}ClN_2O_2Na$ $[M+Na]^+$: 399.0871, found 399.0874.

1-(2-(3-hydroxy-3-methylbut-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)-3-phenylurea (1k).



Yield: 95%, white solid, m.p. 126-127 °C; 1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 7.97 (d, 1 H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.69 (sbr, 1 H), 7.52 (sbr, 1 H), 7.37-7.34 (m, 2 H), 7.30-7.19 (m, 4 H), 7.04 (t, 1 H, J = 7.3 Hz), 6.94 (td, 1 H, J_1 = 7.6 Hz, J_2 = 1.0 Hz), 3.86 (sbr, 1 H), 1.55 (s, 6 H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 153.9, 140.0, 138.8, 132.3, 129.8, 129.6, 124.4, 123.5, 121.4, 121.0, 113.4, 100.9, 78.5, 66.5, 31.7 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3323, 2985, 2934, 1664, 1601, 1582, 1525, 1499, 1444, 1363, 1302, 1254, 1220, 1157, 1112, 1045, 963, 907, 823, 749, 692, 634 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $C_{18}H_{18}N_2O_2Na$ $[M+Na]^+$: 317.1261, found 317.1265.

1-(2-(3-hydroxy-3-phenylbut-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl)-3-phenylurea (1l).

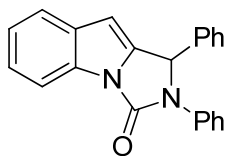


Yield: 70%, yellow solid, m.p. 175-176 °C; 1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3OD): δ = 8.01 (d, 1 H, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.73-7.71 (m, 2 H), 7.46-7.42 (m, 3 H), 7.37-7.25 (m, 6 H), 7.06-7.01 (m, 2 H), 1.86 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_3OD): δ = 155.1, 147.2, 141.3, 140.5, 133.3, 130.5, 130.1, 129.5, 128.8, 126.3, 124.2, 124.0, 121.7, 120.6, 114.2, 100.4, 81.2, 71.3, 34.0 ppm; IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3325, 1655, 1599, 1580, 1525, 1498, 1445, 1366, 1302, 1253, 1221, 1159, 1141, 1088, 1048, 1028, 940, 893, 749, 693, 606 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $C_{23}H_{20}N_2O_2Na$ $[M+Na]^+$: 379.1417, found 379.1420.

General Procedure for Gold(I)-catalyzed Cascade Reactions.

Urea **1** (0.4 mmol) was added to a suspension of $IPrAuCl$ (0.02 mmol, 12.4 mg) and $AgNTf_2$ (0.02 mmol, 7.8 mg) in a mixed solvent (2.2 ml, Toluene/ CH_3CN = 10:1), the resulting suspension was stirred at 110 °C for 12 h. After that the solution was removed by evaporation and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petrol ether/EtOAc = 10:1) to afford the desired product.

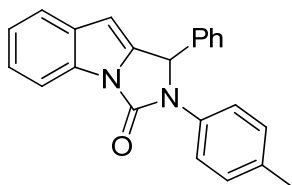
1,2-diphenyl-1*H*-imidazo[1,5-*a*]indol-3(2*H*)-one (4a).



Yield: 71%, white solid, m.p. 167-168 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ = 8.09 (d, 1 H, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 7.60-7.53 (m, 3 H), 7.39-7.24 (m, 9 H), 7.17-7.12 (m, 1 H), 6.28 (s, 1 H), 6.27 (s, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ = 150.8, 139.1, 137.9, 137.8, 134.0, 131.1, 129.7, 129.5, 129.3, 127.6, 125.6, 124.0, 123.5, 123.0, 121.8, 113.2, 98.4, 61.4 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3060, 2924, 2850, 1725, 1599, 1501, 1491, 1479, 1450, 1405, 1371, 1334, 1306, 1289, 1252, 1231, 1172, 1158, 1144, 1126, 1108, 1075, 1057, 1028, 981, 937, 911, 893, 856, 845, 832, 791, 781, 767, 747, 707, 692, 658, 641, 616 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₂₂H₁₆N₂ONa [M+Na]⁺ : 347.1155, found 347.1159.

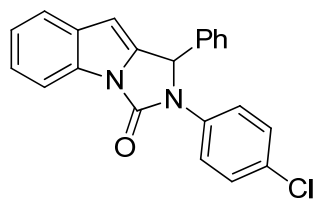
4a (2% ee), Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralpak IB column (85:15 hexane: 2-propanol, 1 mL/min, 280 nm); minor enantiomer *tr* = 7.6 min, major enantiomer *tr* = 8.0 min; (2% ee).

1-phenyl-2-(*p*-tolyl)-1*H*-imidazo[1,5-*a*]indol-3(2*H*)-one (4b).



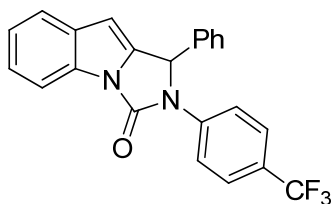
Yield: 53%, yellow solid, m.p. 183-184 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ = 8.09 (d, 1 H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 7.58 (d, 1 H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.41-7.24 (m, 9 H), 7.15 (d, 2 H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 6.27 (s, 1 H), 6.21 (s, 1 H), 2.30 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ = 150.9, 139.3, 137.9, 135.7, 135.0, 133.9, 131.1, 130.1, 129.7, 129.3, 127.7, 123.9, 123.4, 122.9, 121.7, 113.1, 98.4, 61.6, 21.1 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3030, 2919, 1721, 1613, 1591, 1516, 1493, 1479, 1452, 1406, 1368, 1335, 1316, 1288, 1248, 1231, 1172, 1157, 1142, 1127, 1106, 1077, 1058, 1032, 1015, 982, 965, 927, 911, 850, 832, 796, 783, 763, 738, 711, 694, 674, 653, 638, 615 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI): calculated for C₂₃H₁₈N₂ONa [M+Na]⁺ : 361.1311, found 361.1316.

2-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-phenyl-1*H*-imidazo[1,5-*a*]indol-3(2*H*)-one (4d).



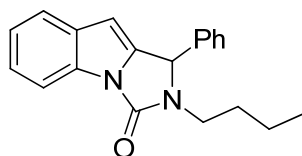
Yield: 70%, white solid, m.p. 164-165 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 8.08 (d, 1 H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.59-7.50 (m, 3 H), 7.38-7.25 (m, 9 H), 6.28 (s, 1 H), 6.21 (s, 1 H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 150.6, 138.8, 137.5, 136.6, 134.0, 131.1, 130.6, 129.8, 129.6, 129.5, 127.5, 124.1, 123.6, 123.5, 121.8, 113.2, 98.7, 61.4 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3566, 3067, 3027, 2925, 1944, 1868, 1724, 1599, 1541, 1495, 1478, 1449, 1417, 1401, 1368, 1335, 1285, 1257, 1228, 1201, 1177, 1156, 1143, 1127, 1115, 1096, 1078, 1058, 1029, 1012, 982, 934, 909, 847, 818, 792, 781, 770, 738, 720, 707, 693, 669, 648, 628, 616 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$: 359.0946, found 359.0948.

1-phenyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1H-imidazo[1,5-a]indol-3(2H)-one (4e).



Yield: 75%, white solid, m.p. 165-166 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 8.09 (d, 1 H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.78 (d, 2 H, J = 8.5 Hz), 7.61-7.56 (m, 3 H), 7.39-7.25 (m, 7 H), 6.29 (s, 2 H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 150.5, 141.3, 138.5, 137.3, 134.0, 131.1, 129.9, 129.5, 127.1, 127.0 (q, $J_{\text{F-C}}$ = 261 Hz), 126.7 (q, $J_{\text{F-C}}$ = 3.9 Hz), 124.2, 123.8, 121.9, 120.9, 113.2, 98.8, 61.0 ppm; ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = -62.5 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 2927, 1738, 1615, 1522, 1480, 1452, 1426, 1405, 1366, 1320, 1302, 1257, 1167, 1113, 1071, 1056, 1013, 982, 839, 795, 779, 744, 707, 694, 662, 649, 633 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{ONa}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 415.1029, found 415.1031.

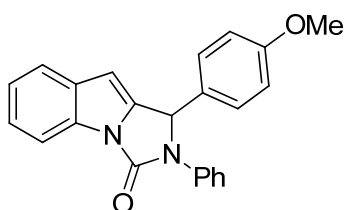
2-butyl-1-phenyl-1H-imidazo[1,5-a]indol-3(2H)-one (4f).



Yield: 41%, yellow solid, m.p. 74-75 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 8.00 (d, 1 H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.55 (d, 1 H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.41-7.38 (m, 3 H), 7.32-7.27 (m, 3 H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 1 H), 6.21 (s,

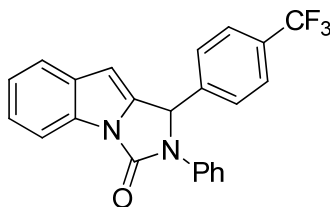
1 H), 5.61 (s, 1 H); 3.72-3.65 (m, 1 H), 2.95-2.89 (m, 1 H), 1.55-1.48 (m, 2 H), 1.37-1.27 (m, 2 H), 0.90 (t, 3 H, $J = 7.4$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): $\delta = 152.3, 140.5, 137.6, 133.7, 131.0, 129.7, 129.5, 128.3, 123.6, 122.8, 121.6, 112.8, 97.9, 60.2, 41.4, 30.4, 20.4, 14.0$ ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu} = 3431, 3086, 3061, 3032, 2959, 2929, 2872, 2316, 1955, 1868, 1810, 1734, 1613, 1584, 1520, 1493, 1478, 1453, 1412, 1391, 1351, 1312, 1267, 1216, 1184, 1156, 1114, 1101, 1085, 1071, 1027, 1002, 970, 933, 912, 859, 831, 794, 779, 746, 707, 695, 670, 655, 638, 617$ cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 327.1468, found 327.1469.

1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-1*H*-imidazo[1,5-*a*]indol-3(2*H*)-one (4g).



Yield: 40%, yellow solid, m.p. 155-156 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): $\delta = 8.07$ (d, 1 H, $J = 8.1$ Hz), 7.58 (d, 1 H, $J = 7.9$ Hz), 7.52-7.50 (m, 2 H), 7.36-7.33 (m, 3 H), 7.28-7.22 (m, 3 H), 7.15 (t, 1 H, $J = 7.4$ Hz), 6.85-6.82 (m, 2 H), 6.27 (s, 1 H), 6.21 (s, 1 H), 3.74 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): $\delta = 160.5, 150.7, 139.5, 137.7, 134.0, 131.1, 129.49, 129.48, 129.0, 125.6, 123.9, 123.4, 123.0, 121.7, 115.0, 113.1, 98.3, 61.1, 55.8$ ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu} = 3061, 2931, 2836, 1732, 1611, 1599, 1586, 1511, 1478, 1451, 1422, 1403, 1365, 1329, 1304, 1248, 1171, 1144, 1107, 1030, 981, 934, 897, 840, 800, 782, 741, 697, 652, 636, 623$ cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 377.1261, found 377.1266.

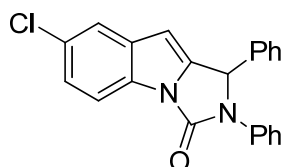
2-phenyl-1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1*H*-imidazo[1,5-*a*]indol-3(2*H*)-one (4h).



Yield: 36%, white solid, m.p. 145-146 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): $\delta = 8.07$ (d, 1 H, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.61-7.57 (m, 3 H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 4 H), 7.37-7.33 (m, 3 H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1 H), 7.16 (t, 1 H, $J = 7.4$ Hz), 6.35 (s, 1 H), 6.31 (s, 1 H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): $\delta = 150.6, 142.0, 138.0, 137.5, 133.8, 131.1, 129.7, 128.0, 126.7$ (q, $\text{JF-C} = 3.9$ Hz), 125.8, 124.2, 123.6, 122.4, 121.9, 113.2, 98.9, 60.8 ppm; ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): -63.0 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu} = 3062, 2926, 2851,$

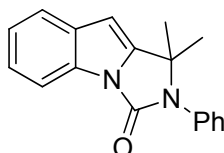
1729, 1619, 1598, 1502, 1479, 1451, 1419, 1403, 1366, 1322, 1254, 1229, 1166, 1124, 1066, 1017, 981, 935, 895, 861, 844, 797, 783, 744, 705, 688, 667, 648, 608 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{ONa}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 415.1029, found 415.1033.

7-chloro-1,2-diphenyl-1*H*-imidazo[1,5-*a*]indol-3(2*H*)-one (4j).



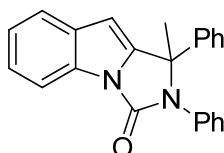
Yield: 45%, yellow solid, m.p. 169-170 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 8.01 (d, 1 H, J = 8.6 Hz), 7.56-7.51 (m, 3 H), 7.36-7.30 (m, 8 H), 7.15 (t, 1 H, J = 7.4 Hz), 6.26 (s, 1 H), 6.25 (s, 1 H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 150.4, 140.5, 137.5, 137.3, 135.0, 129.8, 129.6, 129.5, 129.4, 128.9, 127.5, 125.8, 124.2, 122.7, 121.3, 114.1, 98.0, 61.4 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3066, 3035, 2925, 2851, 1953, 1881, 1733, 1598, 1578, 1503, 1455, 1430, 1404, 1363, 1290, 1266, 1252, 1222, 1200, 1185, 1175, 1163, 1124, 1113, 1079, 1061, 1050, 1028, 980, 942, 913, 898, 891, 870, 852, 824, 813, 796, 774, 747, 737, 718, 699, 693, 669, 646, 617 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{30}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_4\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{2M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 739.1638, found 739.1643.

1,1-dimethyl-2-phenyl-1*H*-imidazo[1,5-*a*]indol-3(2*H*)-one (4k).



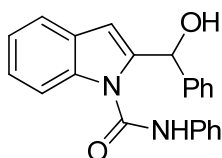
Yield: 77%, white solid, m.p. 192-193 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 7.98 (d, 1 H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.64 (d, 1 H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.55-7.47 (m, 3 H), 7.38-7.24 (m, 4 H), 6.41 (s, 1 H), 1.61 (s, 6 H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 151.3, 146.0, 135.4, 133.9, 131.1, 130.4, 130.0, 129.0, 123.6, 123.1, 121.6, 113.0, 95.8, 61.8, 27.8 ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3109, 3058, 2976, 2930, 1730, 1598, 1583, 1494, 1478, 1450, 1427, 1405, 1379, 1338, 1300, 1284, 1225, 1198, 1186, 1172, 1144, 1108, 1089, 1071, 1030, 1006, 971, 931, 907, 844, 837, 807, 749, 702, 680, 654 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{ONa}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 299.1155, found 299.1159.

1-methyl-1,2-diphenyl-1*H*-imidazo[1,5-*a*]indol-3(2*H*)-one (4l).



Yield: 62%, yellow solid, m.p. 148-149 °C; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 8.06 (d, 1 H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.60 (d, 1 H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.36-7.25 (m, 10 H), 7.03-7.01 (m, 2 H), 6.25 (s, 1 H), 2.01 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 151.2, 145.6, 141.7, 135.9, 134.0, 131.0, 129.5, 129.3, 129.0, 128.3, 128.0, 127.1, 123.8, 123.3, 121.8, 113.1, 96.9, 66.3, 24.3 ppm; δ = IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3113, 3059, 2970, 1732, 1613, 1597, 1585, 1492, 1477, 1450, 1402, 1364, 1339, 1302, 1219, 1203, 1171, 1140, 1103, 1073, 1046, 1026, 1002, 968, 950, 909, 837, 818, 794, 783, 759, 736, 709, 697, 674, 656, 640, 616 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{ONa}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 361.1311, found 361.1314.

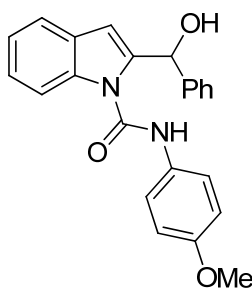
2-(hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)-*N*-phenyl-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamide (2a).



Yield: 50%, yellow solid, m.p. 165-166 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 9.34 (sbr, 1 H), 8.01 (d, 1 H, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.51-7.45 (m, 3 H), 7.37-7.29 (m, 8 H), 7.24-7.12 (m, 2 H), 6.27 (s, 1 H), 6.16 (d, 1 H, J = 2.9 Hz), 4.53 (d, 1 H, J = 3.7 Hz); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 150.7, 140.6, 140.5, 137.9, 137.8, 129.6, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 126.7, 125.13, 125.10, 123.0, 121.7, 120.6, 114.7, 110.5, 70.2 ppm; δ = IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3257, 3142, 3026, 2926, 1943, 1679, 1632, 1599, 1567, 1498, 1446, 1414, 1355, 1325, 1300, 1270, 1236, 1214, 1203, 1157, 1118, 1093, 1074, 1006, 950, 878, 856, 818, 796, 780, 752, 742, 717, 690, 671, 618 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 365.1261, found 365.1261.

2a (>99% ee): Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC with a Chiralpak IB column (90:10 hexane: 2-propanol, 1 mL/min, 250 nm); major enantiomer t_r = 12.9 min, minor enantiomer t_r = 16.2 min, (>99% ee).

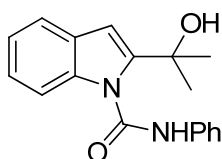
2-(hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)-*N*-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamide (2c).



Yield: 70%, yellow solid, m.p. 139-140 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ = 9.15 (sbr, 1 H),

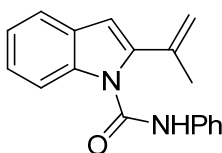
7.98 (d, 1 H, $J = 8.3$ Hz), 7.50 (d, 1 H, $J = 7.7$ Hz), 7.35-7.18 (m, 9 H), 6.85 (d, 2 H, $J = 8.8$ Hz), 6.26 (s, 1 H), 6.13 (d, 1 H, $J = 3.8$ Hz), 4.69 (sbr, 1 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): $\delta = 157.4, 151.0, 140.7, 140.6, 137.7, 130.7, 128.8, 128.6, 128.3, 126.7, 125.0, 122.9, 122.7, 121.7, 114.7, 114.6, 110.2, 70.1, 56.0$ ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu} = 3272, 3140, 3065, 2928, 2850, 1869, 1680, 1611, 1557, 1512, 1452, 1416, 1319, 1301, 1240, 1178, 1158, 1120, 1088, 1033, 951, 920, 888, 825, 784, 752, 716, 701, 671, 636, 622$ cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$: 371.1401, found 371.1410.

2-(2-hydroxypropan-2-yl)-*N*-phenyl-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamide (2k).

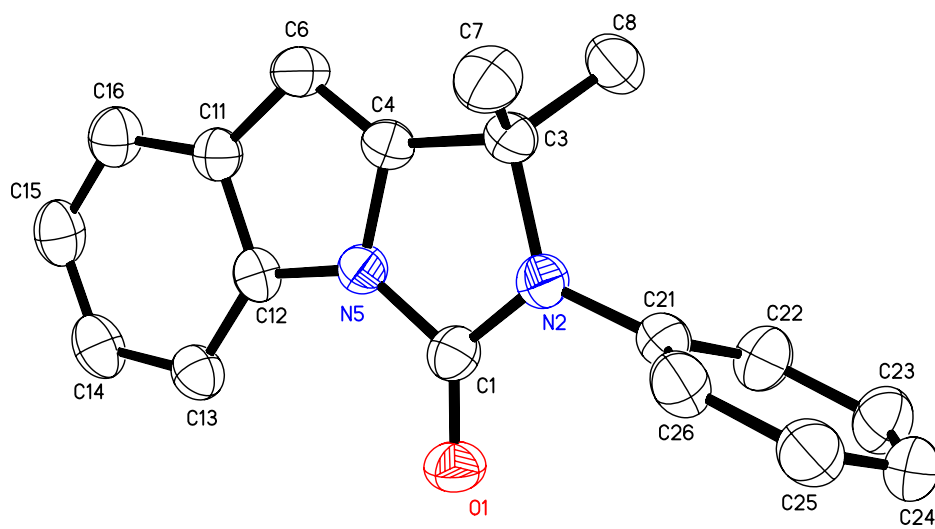


Yield: 50%, yellow solid, m.p. 156-157 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): $\delta = 10.01$ (sbr, 1 H), 7.96 (d, 1 H, $J = 8.3$ Hz), 7.63 (d, 2 H, $J = 8.3$ Hz), 7.53 (d, 1 H, $J = 7.8$ Hz), 7.39 (t, 1 H, $J = 7.8$ Hz), 7.30-7.16 (m, 3 H), 6.57 (s, 1 H), 4.27 (s, 1 H), 1.73 (s, 6 H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): $\delta = 151.6, 144.2, 138.4, 138.2, 129.7, 128.2, 125.2, 124.8, 122.8, 121.5, 120.5, 114.5, 106.4, 70.0, 29.9$ ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu} = 3281, 2985, 1670, 1636, 1601, 1569, 1501, 1491, 1445, 1391, 1358, 1332, 1295, 1239, 1207, 1189, 1159, 1147, 1132, 1108, 1063, 1018, 958, 918, 886, 847, 811, 755, 733, 691, 680, 638$ cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Na}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 317.1261, found 317.1263.

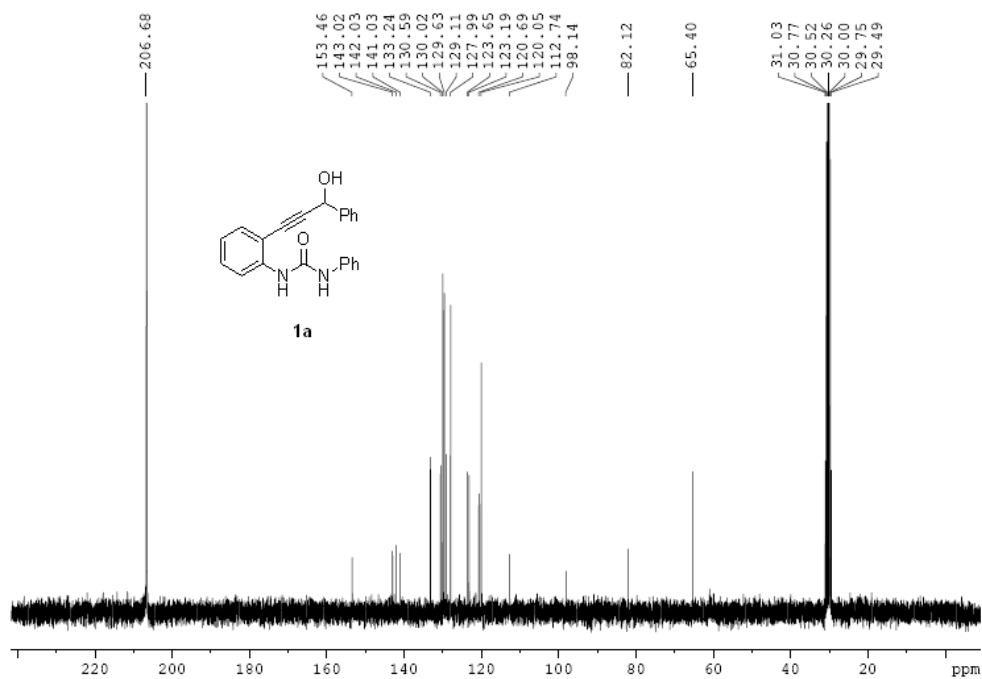
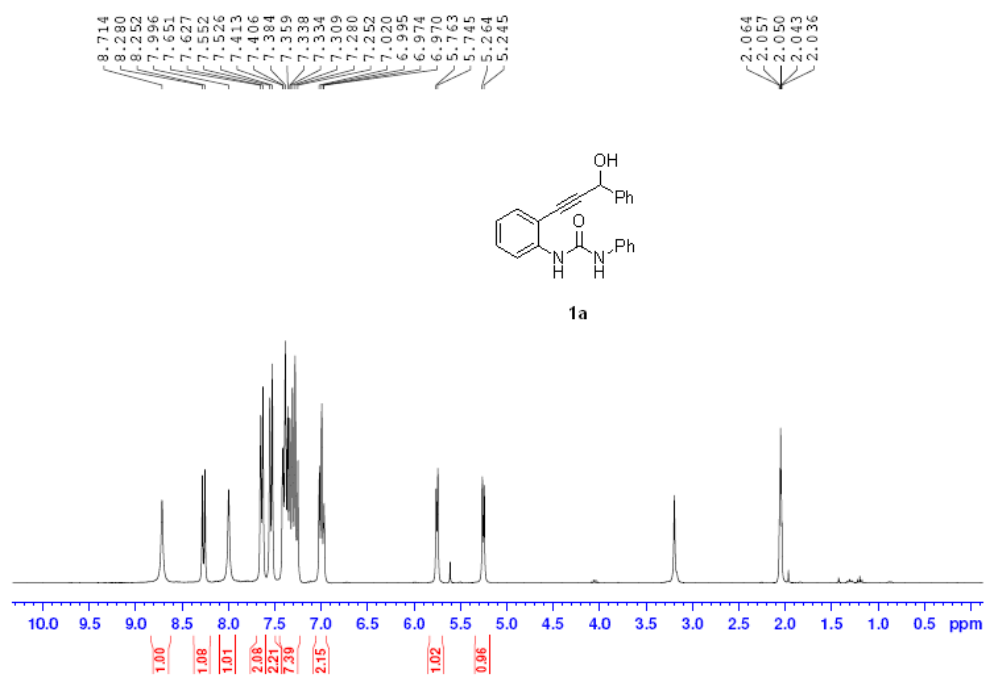
***N*-phenyl-2-(prop-1-en-2-yl)-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamide (3k).**

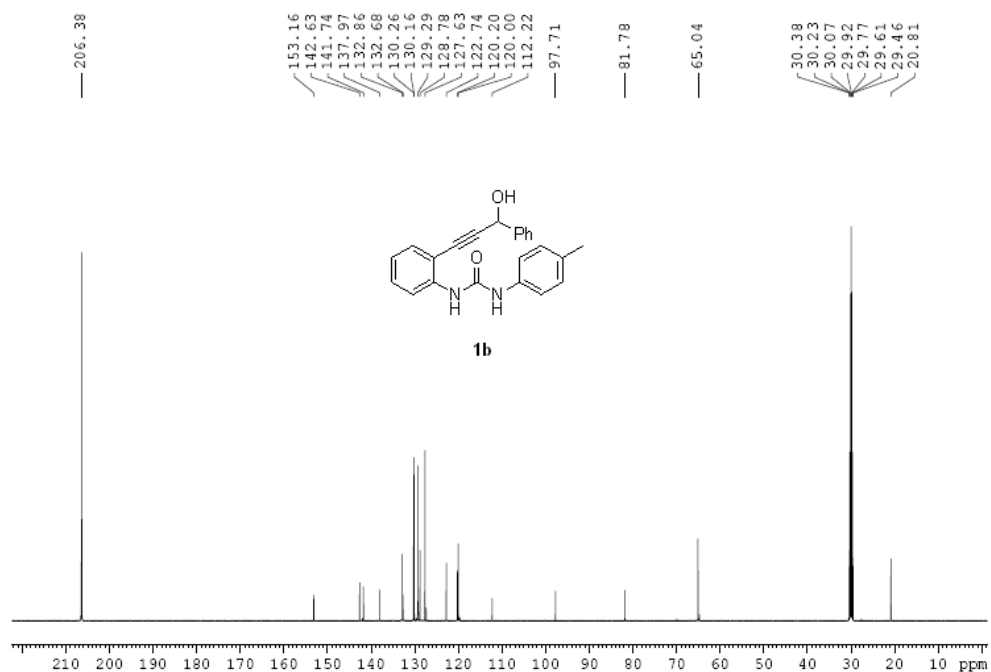
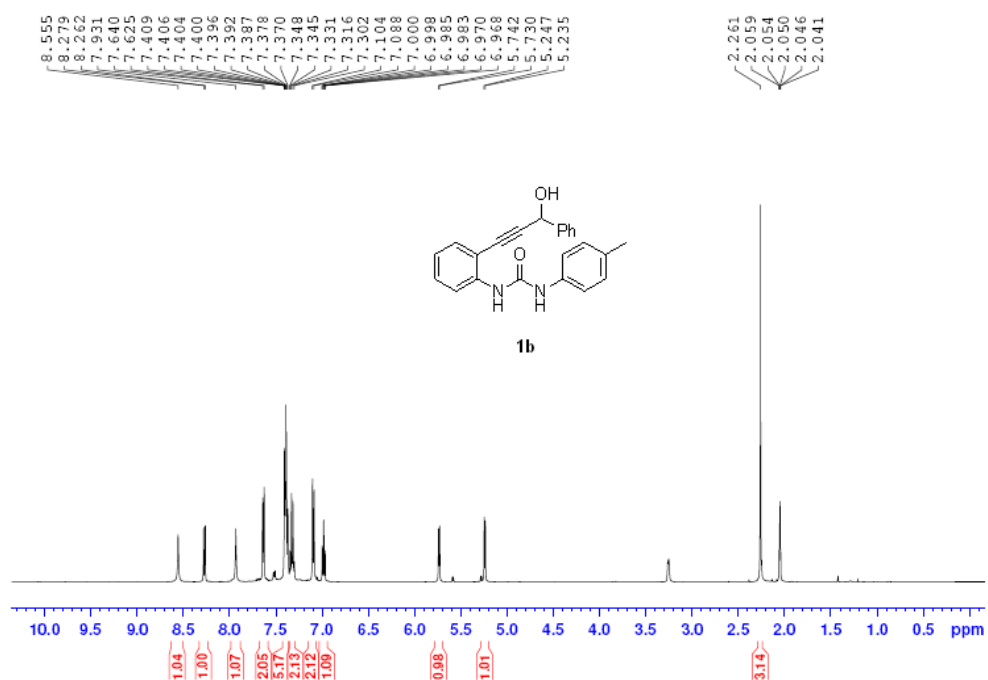


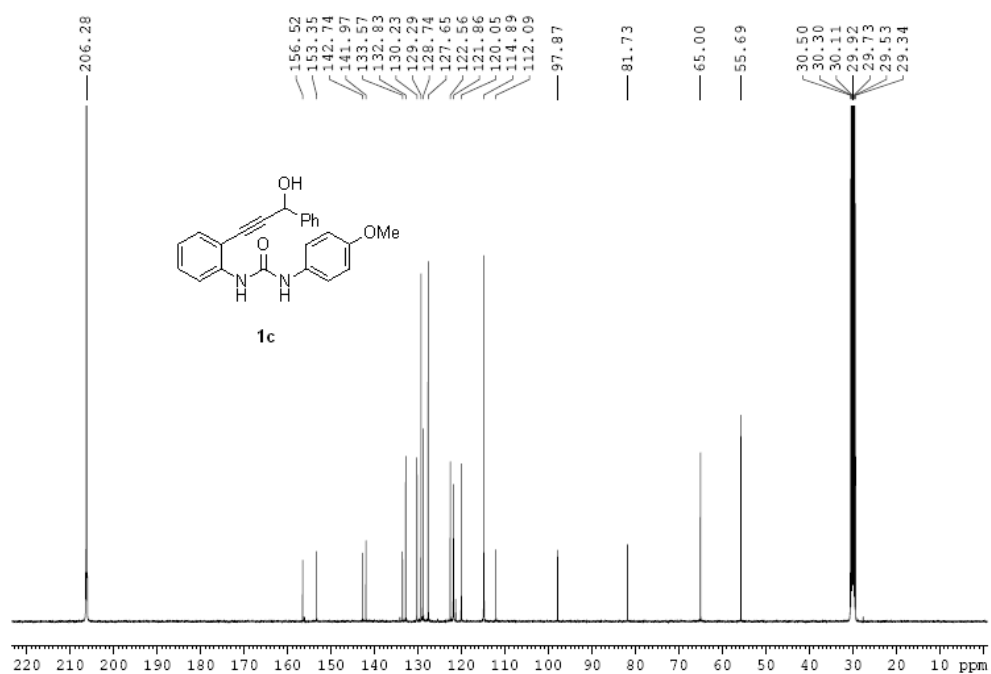
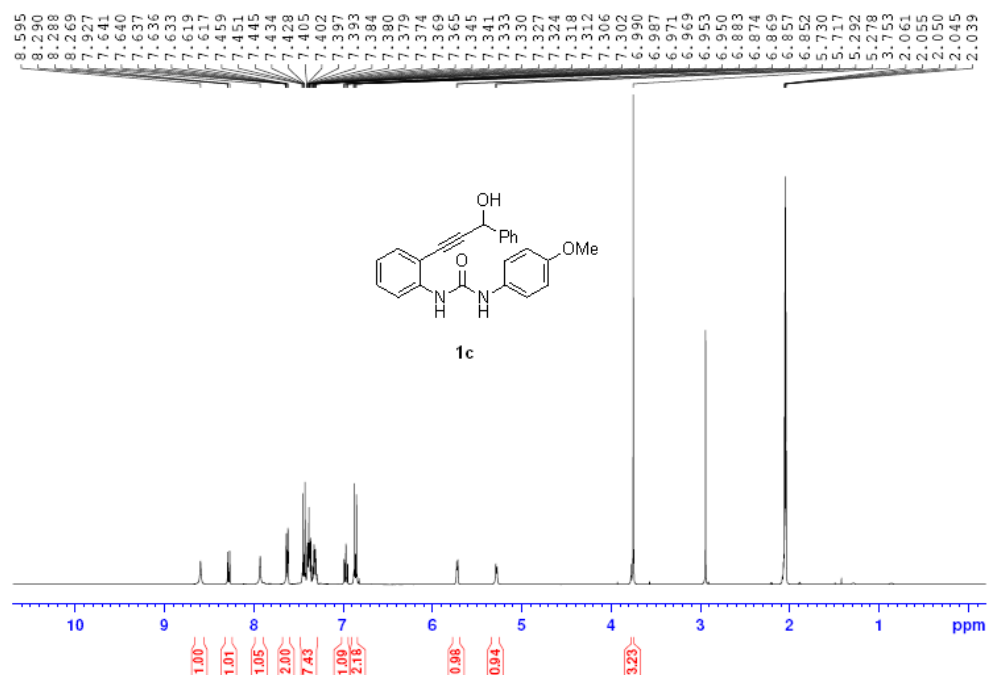
Yield: 35%, white solid, m.p. 85-86 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): $\delta = 8.08$ (d, 1 H, $J = 8.2$ Hz), 7.62-7.51 (m, 4 H), 7.42-4.16 (m, 5 H), 6.63 (s, 1 H), 5.50 (s, 1 H), 5.43 (s, 1 H), 2.16 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): $\delta = 150.1, 140.1, 138.3, 138.2, 138.0, 129.8, 129.0, 125.3, 124.9, 123.1, 121.2, 120.2, 118.7, 114.4, 108.5, 23.0$ ppm; IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu} = 3254, 3050, 2977, 1786, 1682, 1602, 1541, 1499, 1442, 1380, 1365, 1322, 1294, 1272, 1245, 1215, 1200, 1177, 1151, 1113, 1068, 1028, 955, 878, 847, 806, 752, 734, 692, 673, 633$ cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI): calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{ONa}$ $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$: 299.1155, found 299.1156.

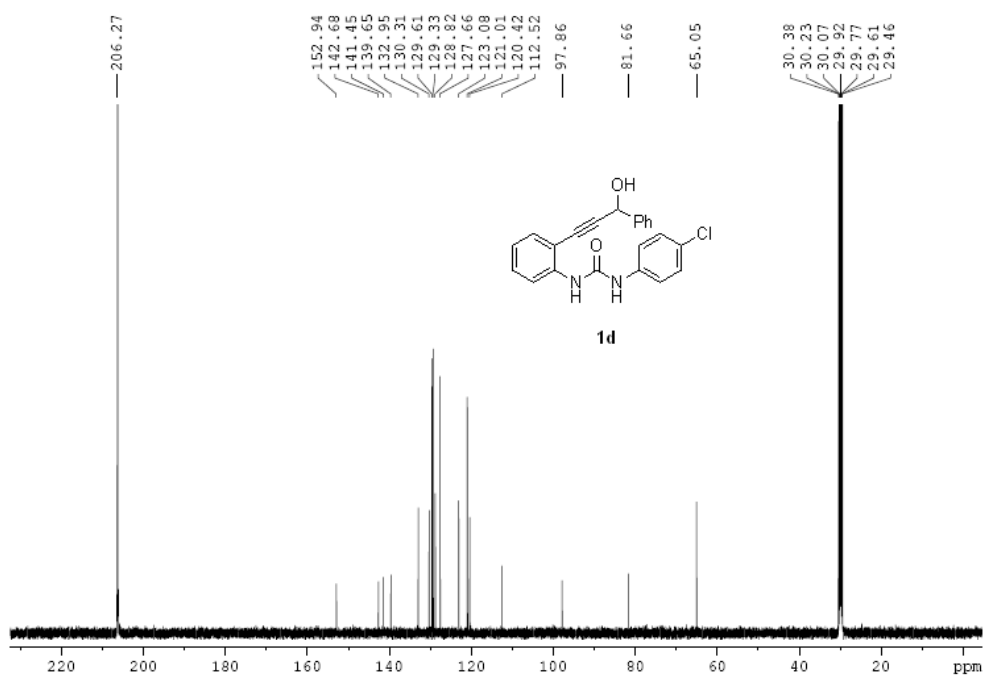
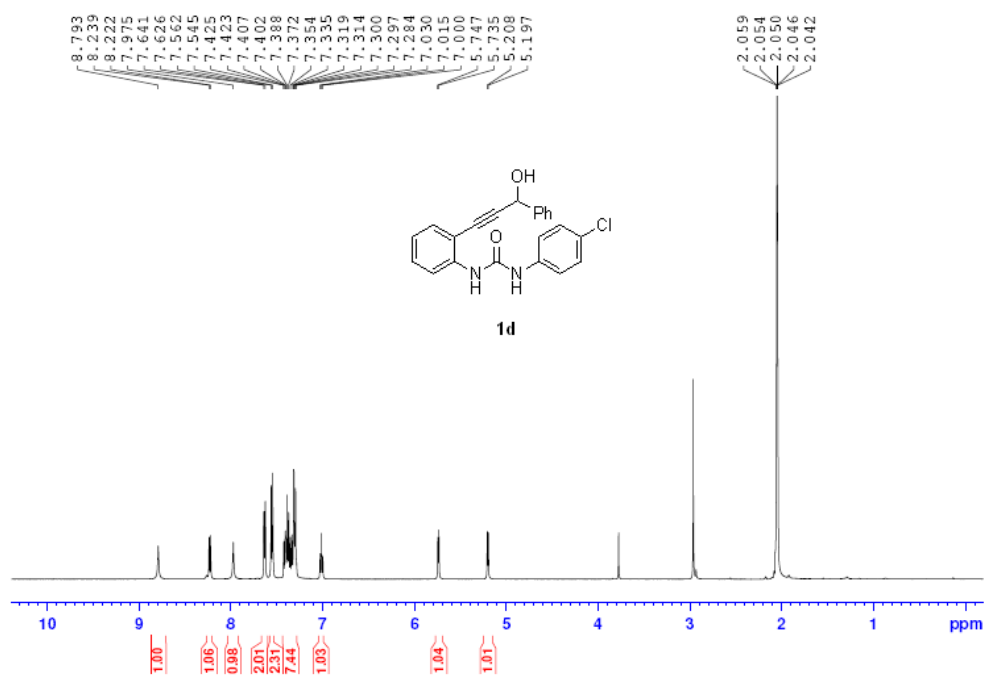


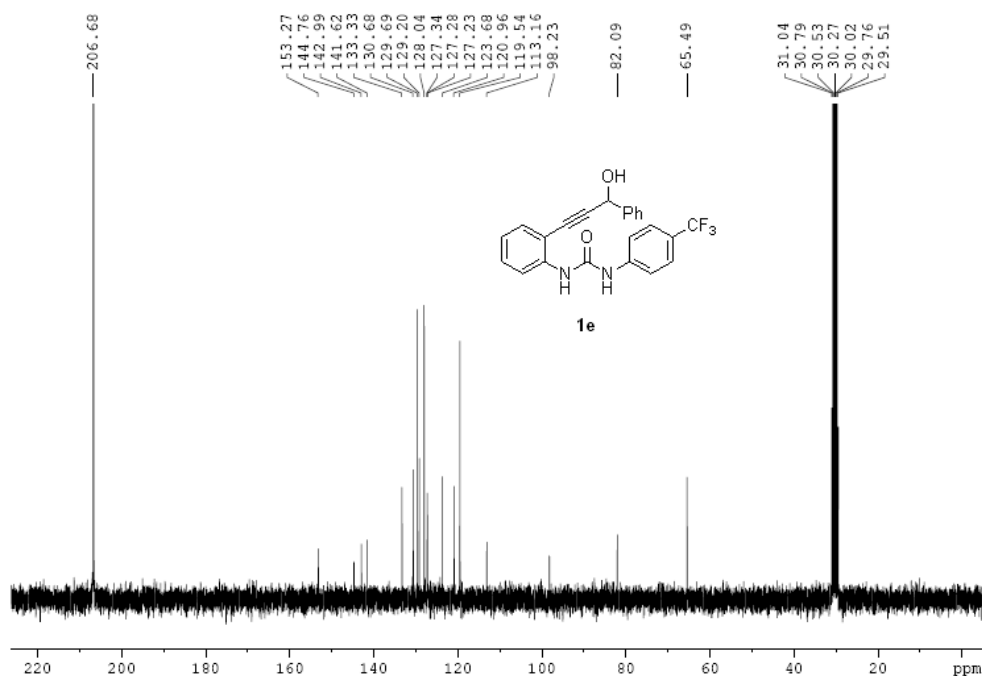
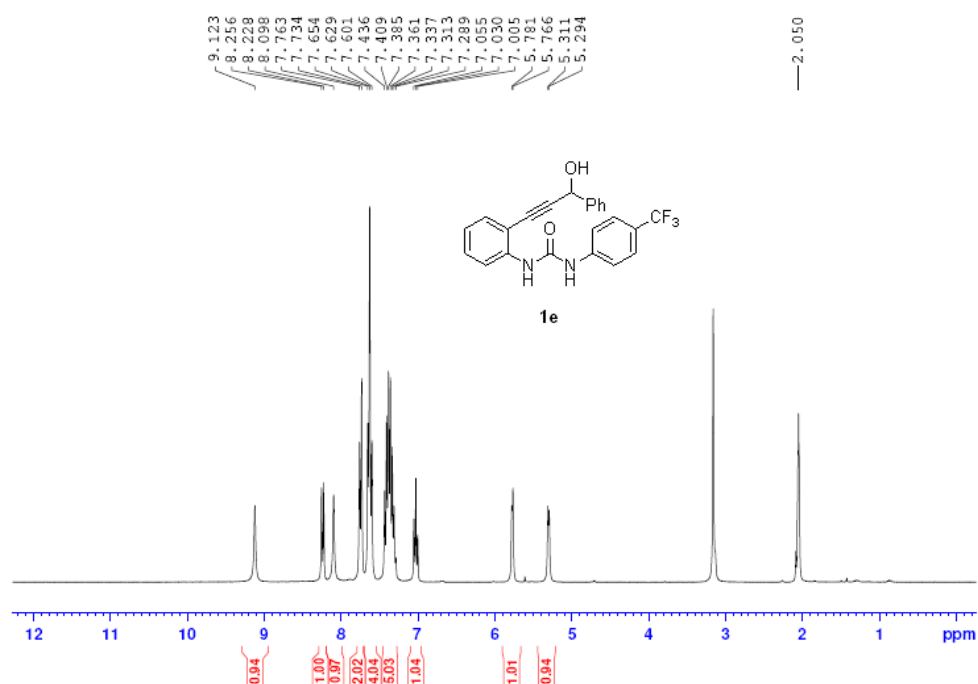
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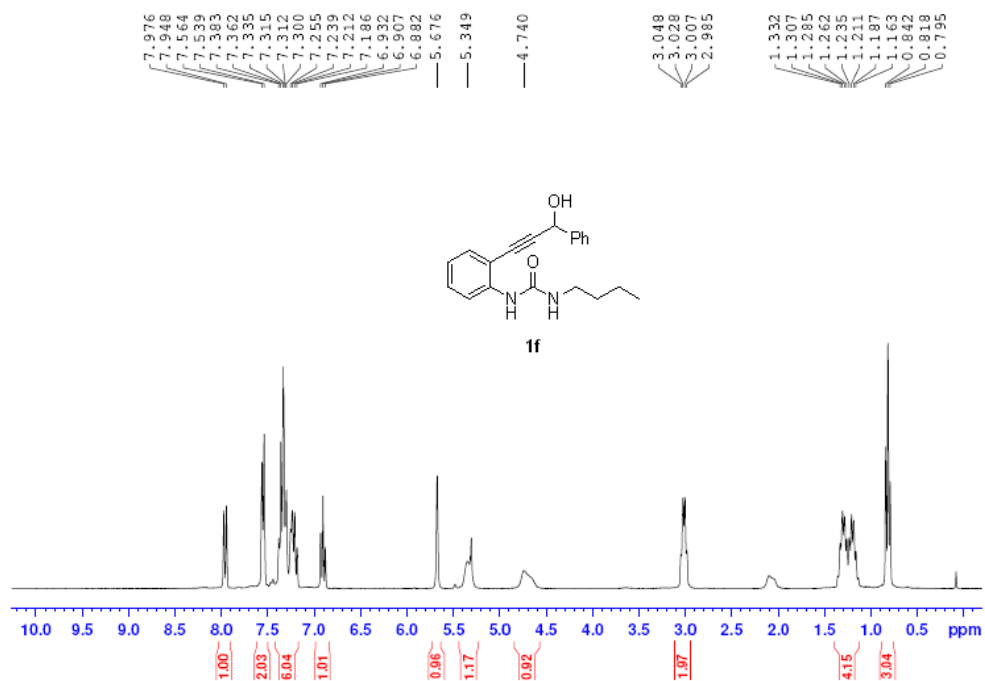
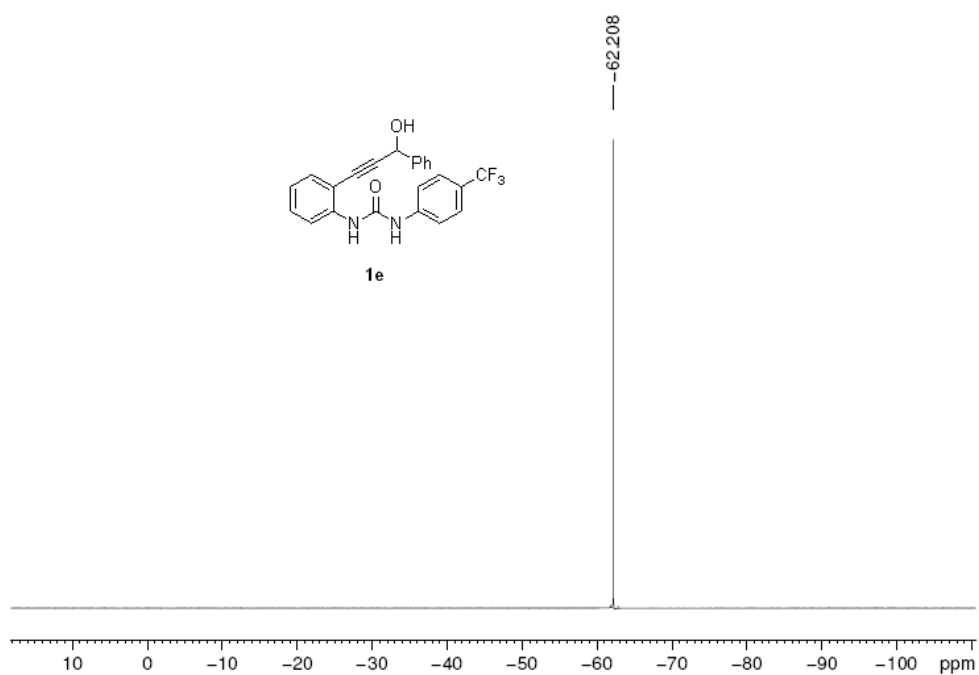


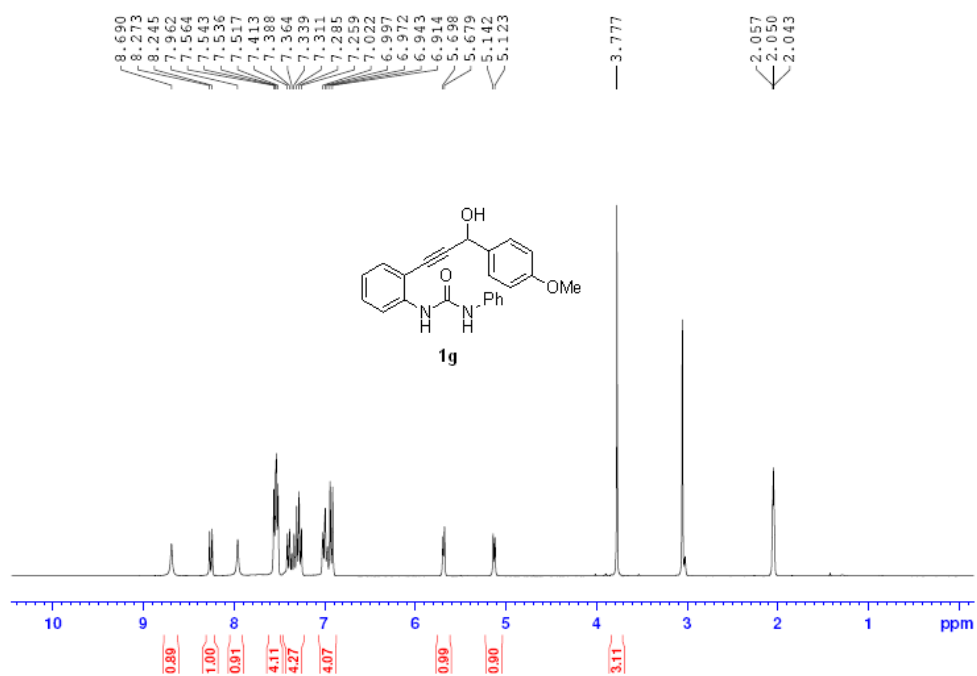
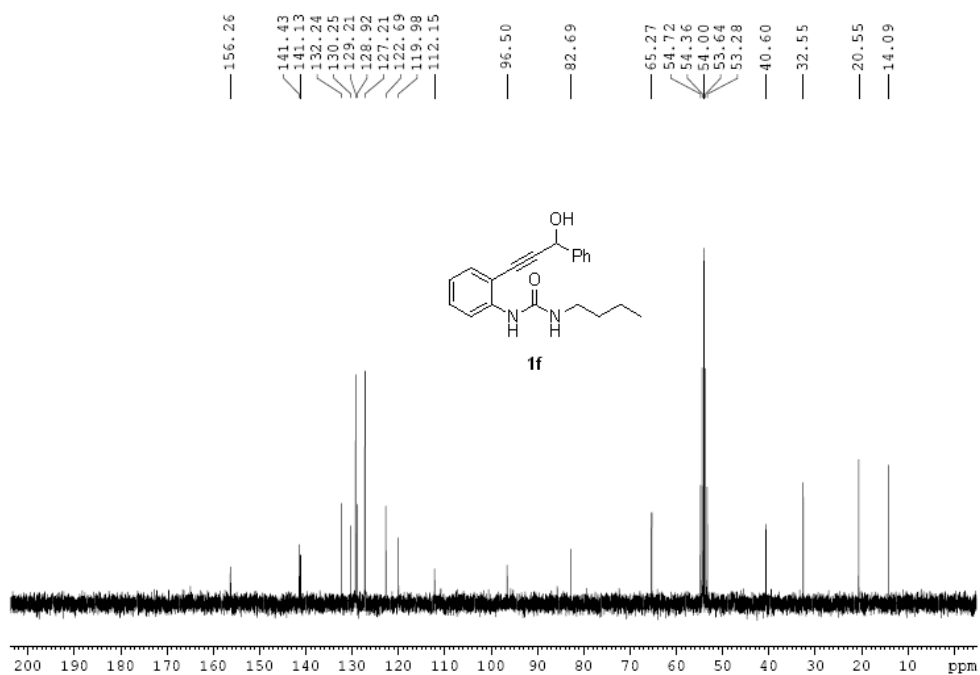


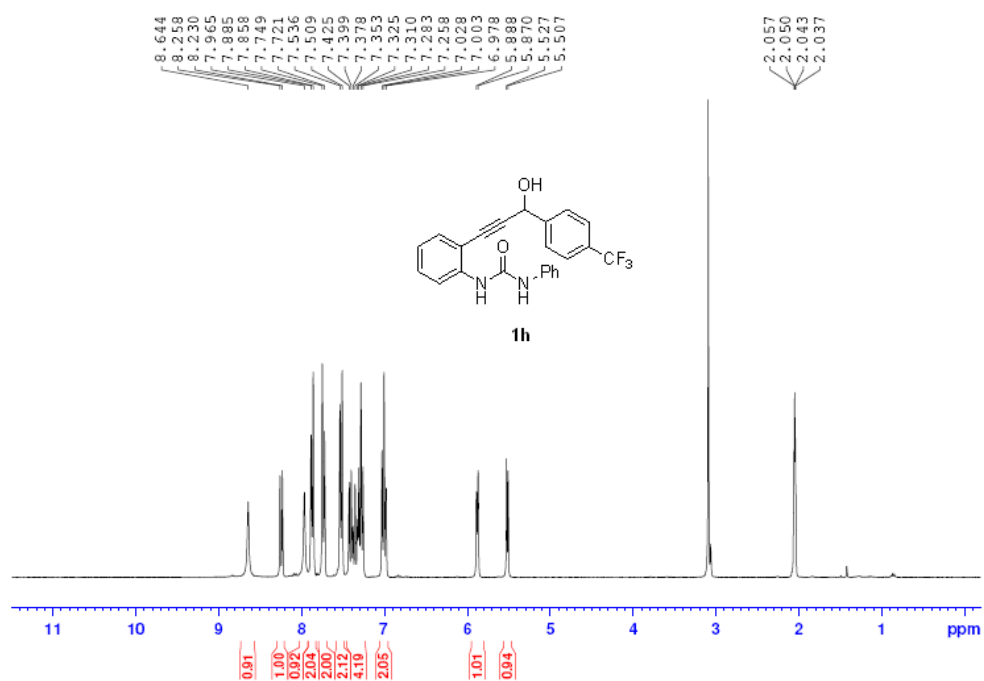
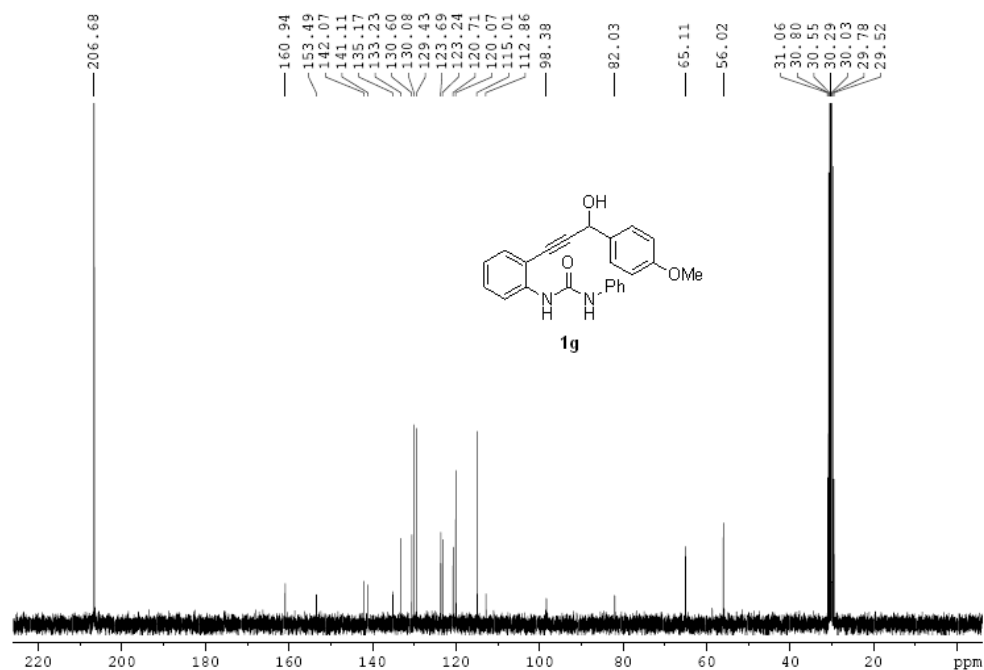


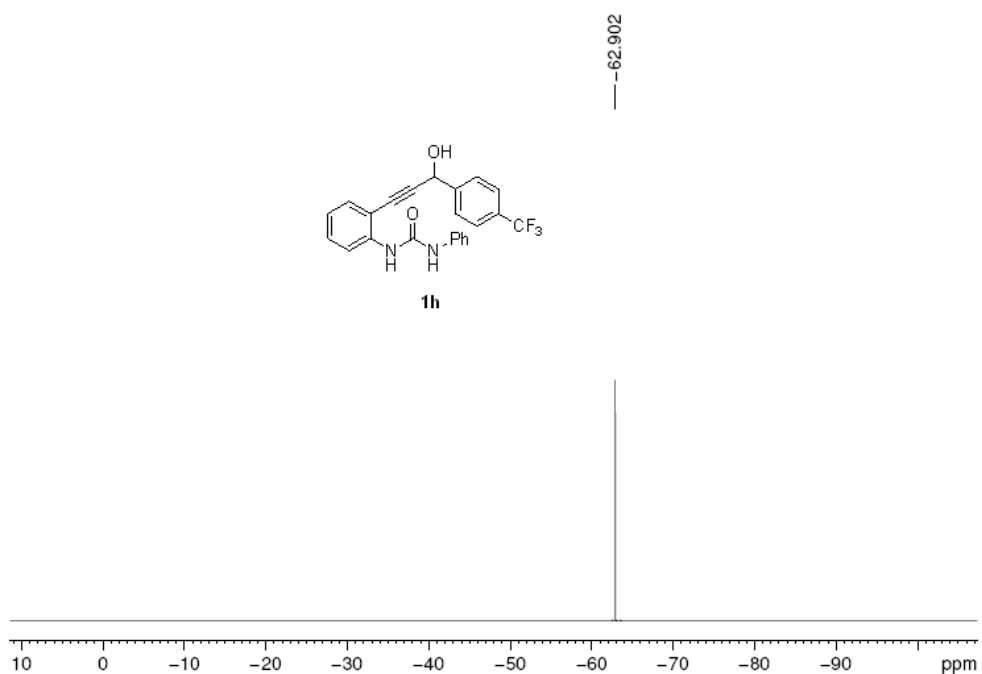
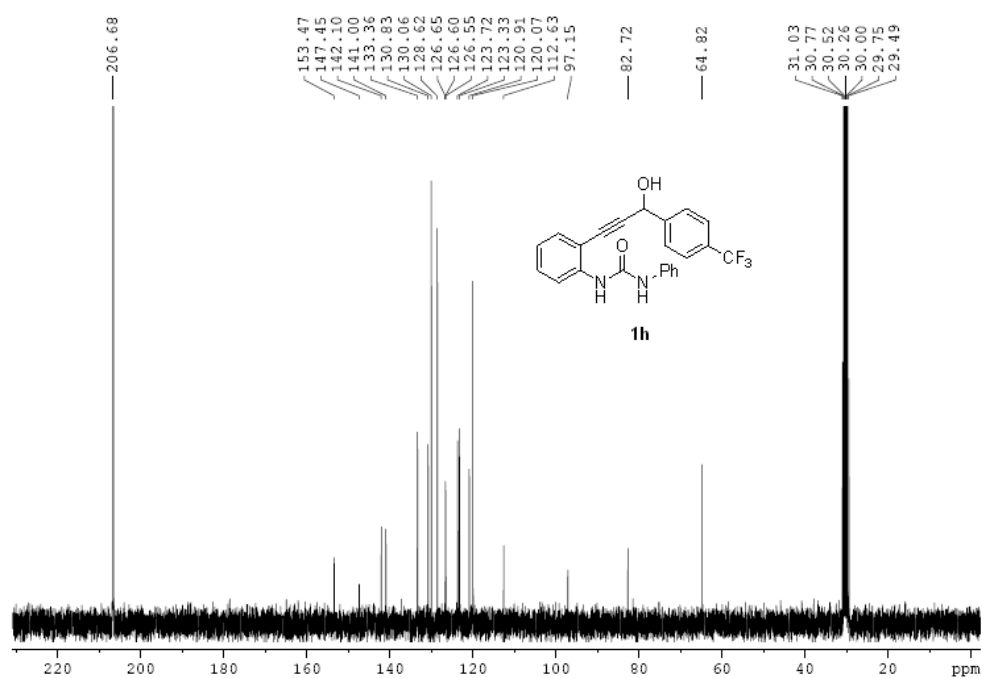


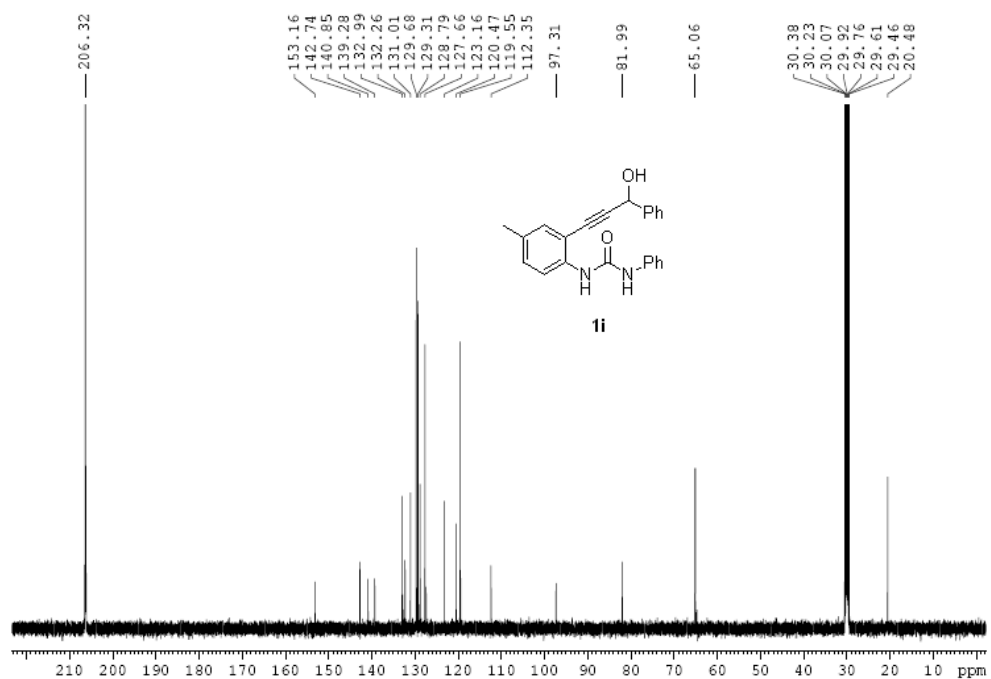
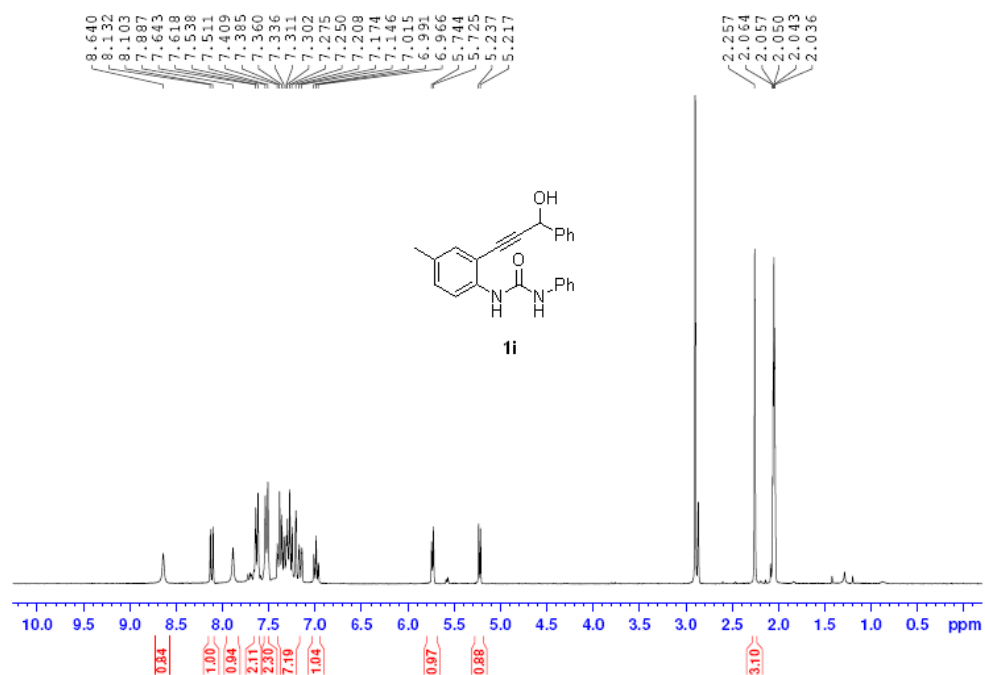


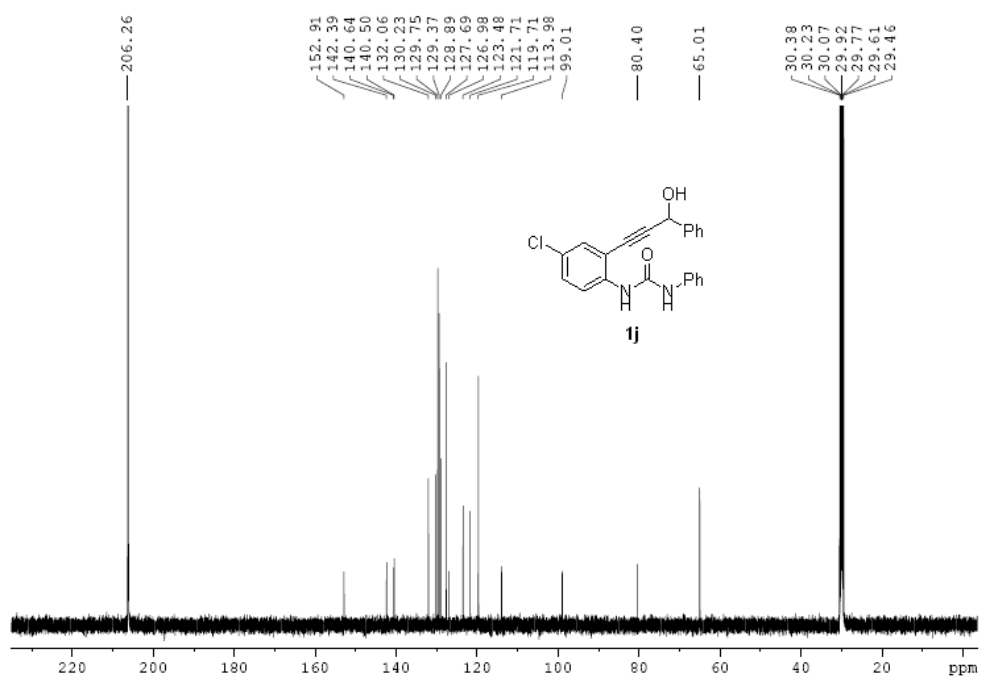
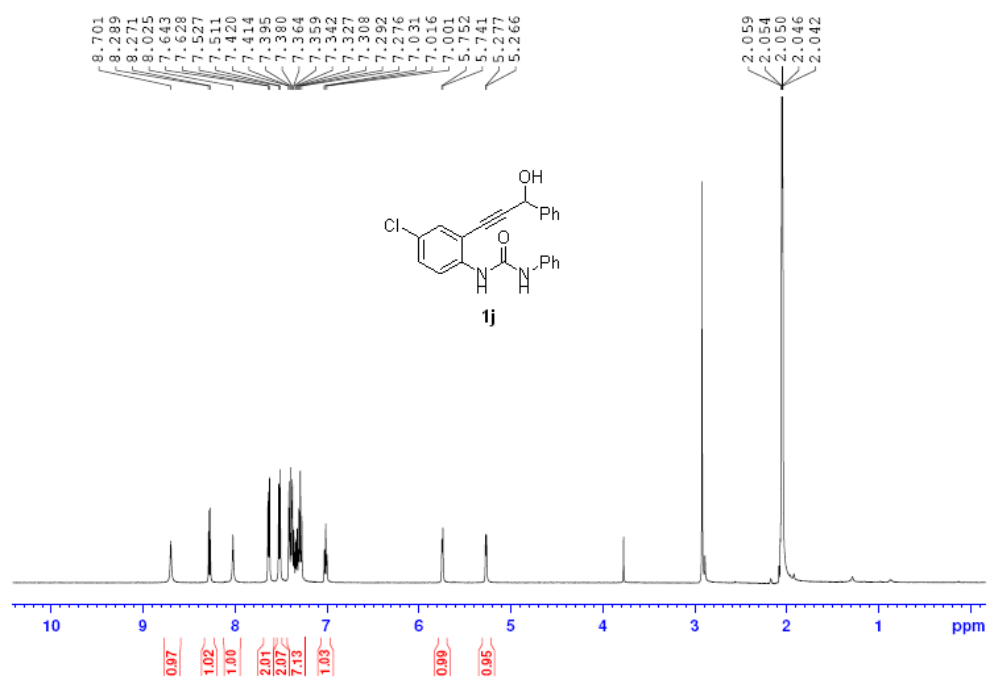


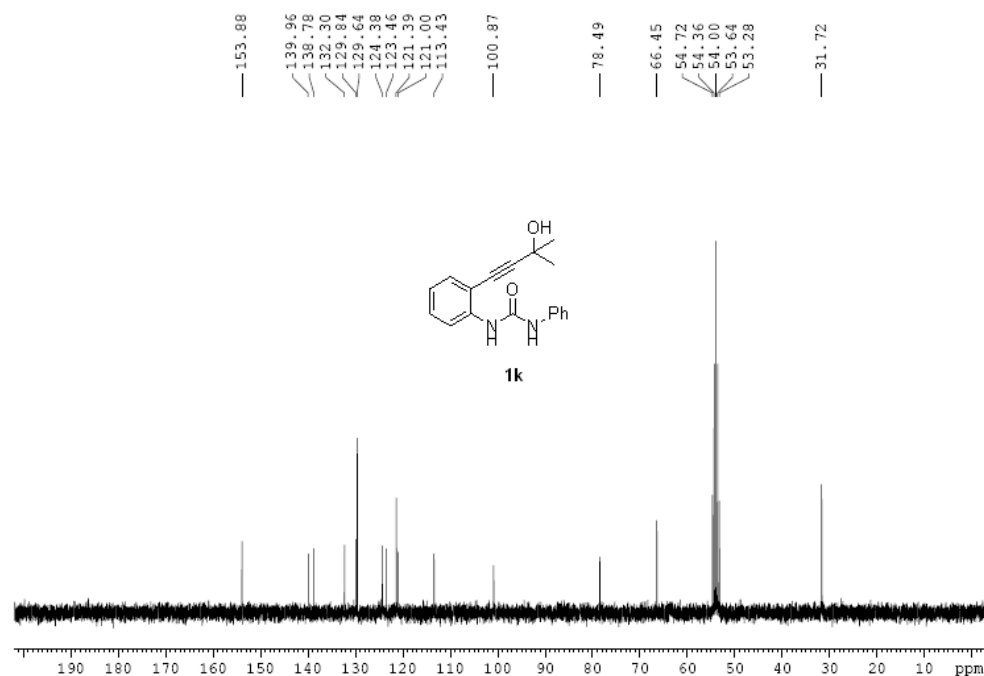
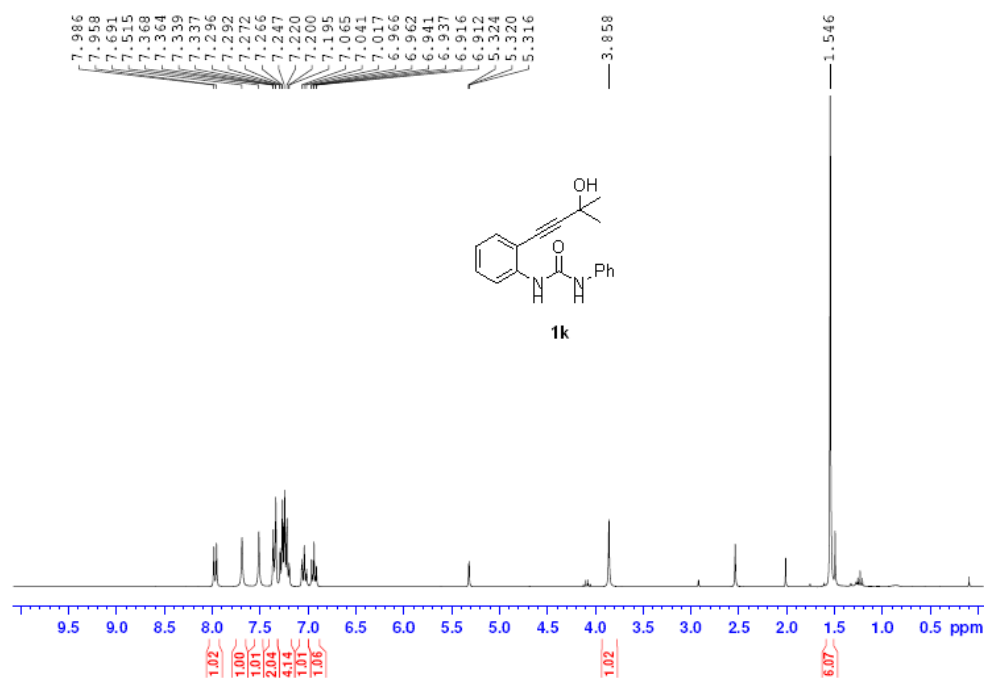


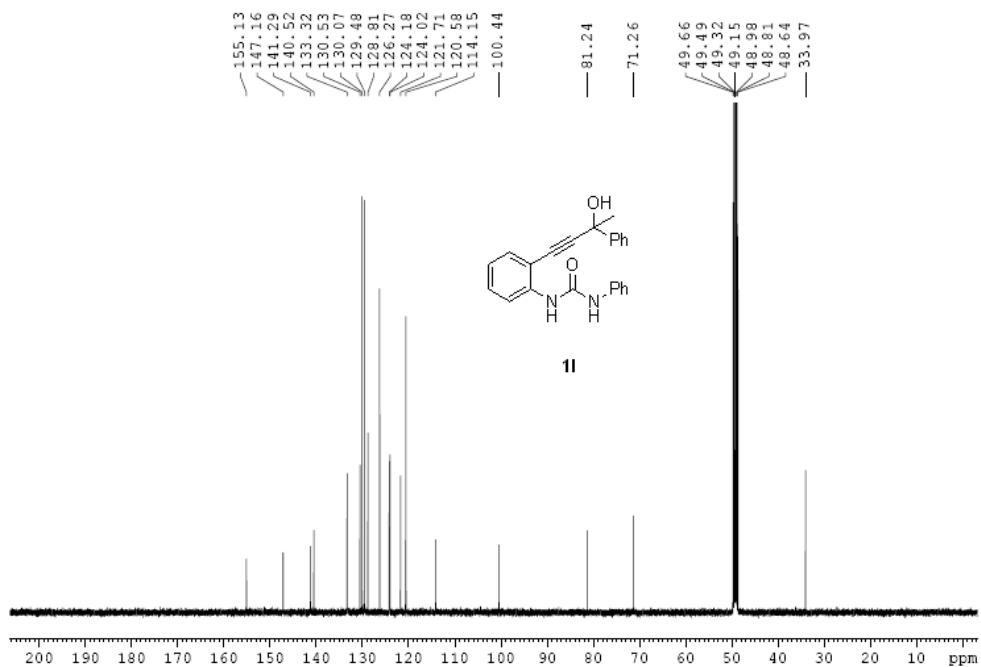
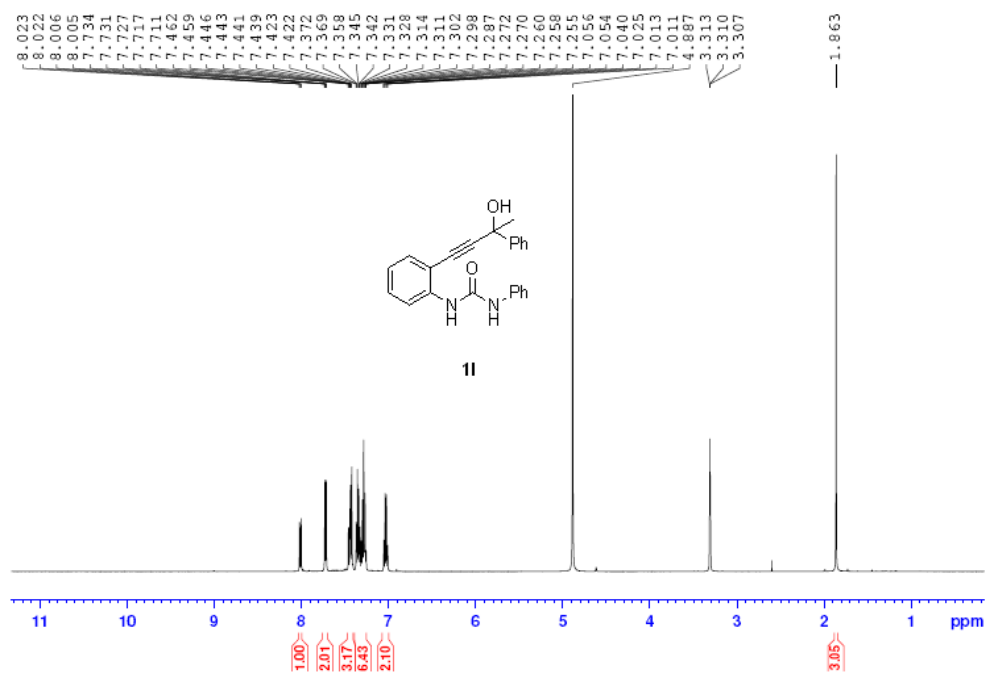


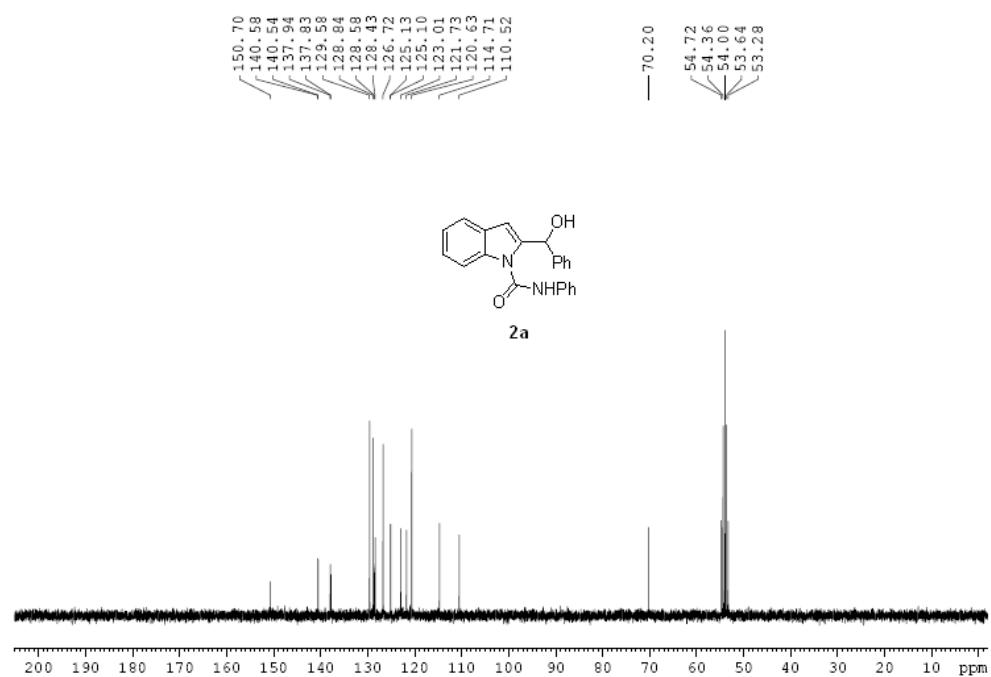
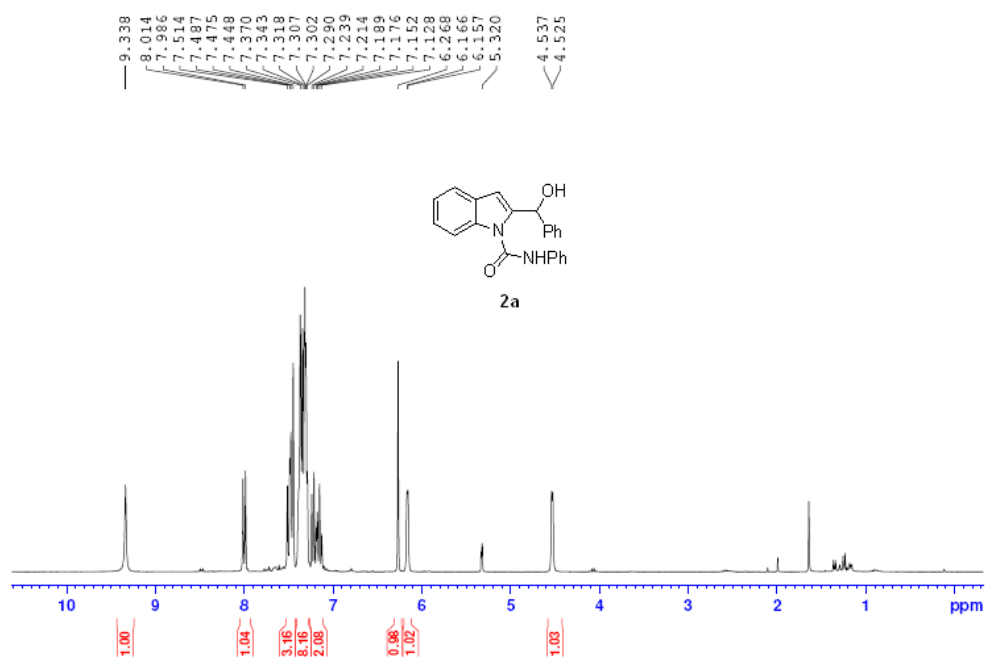


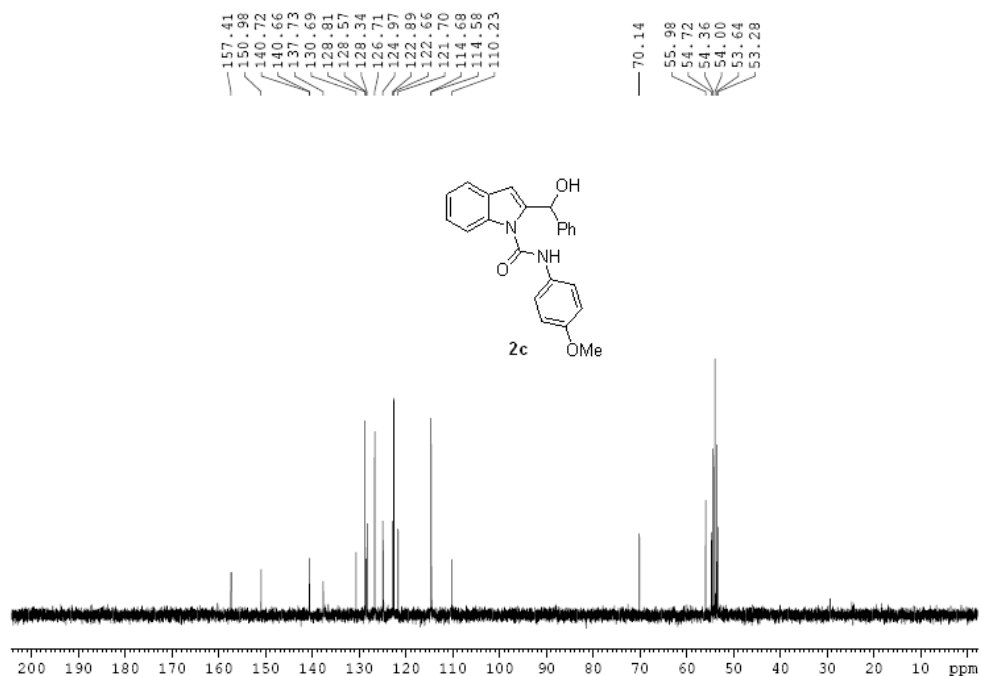
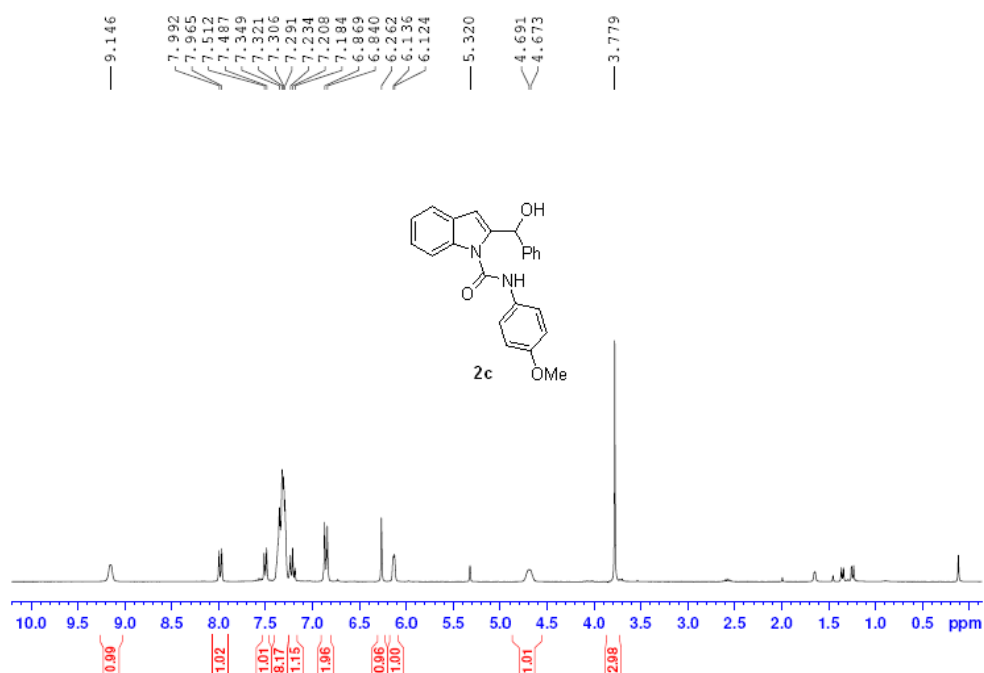


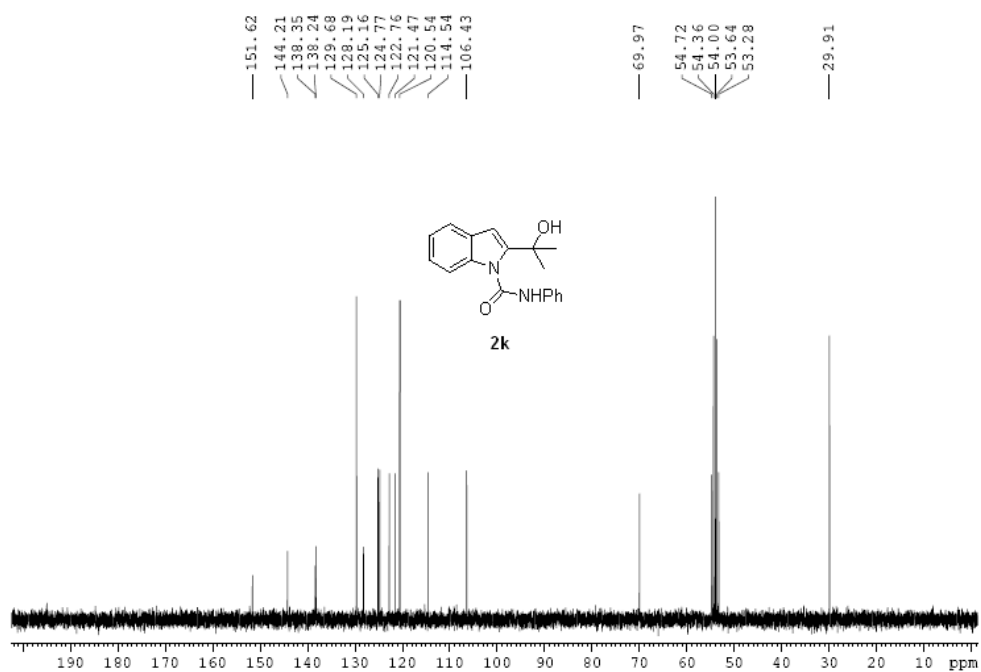
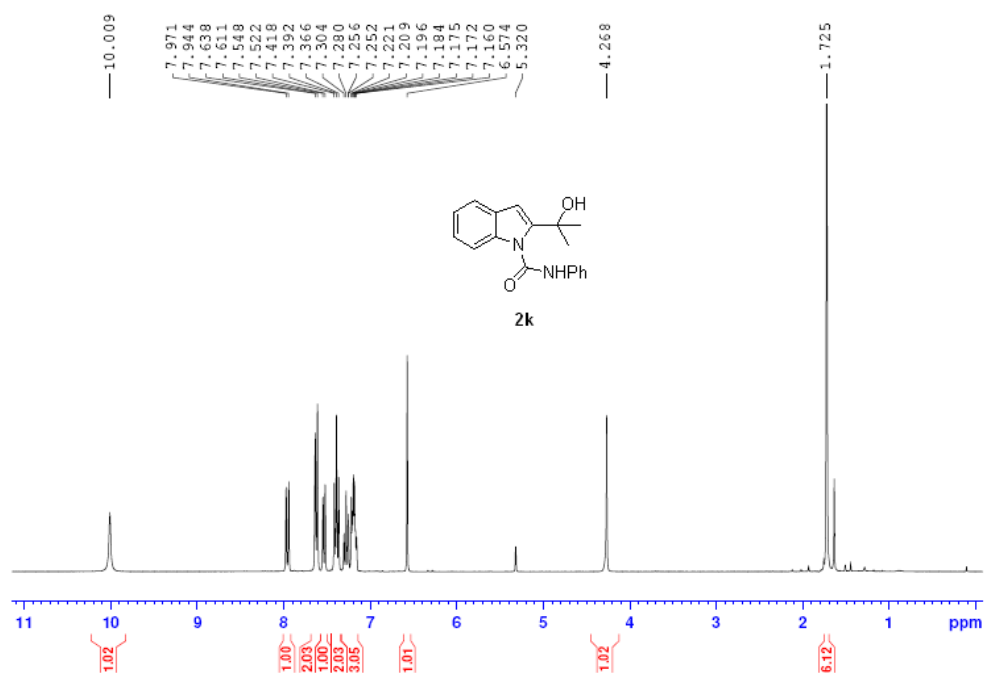


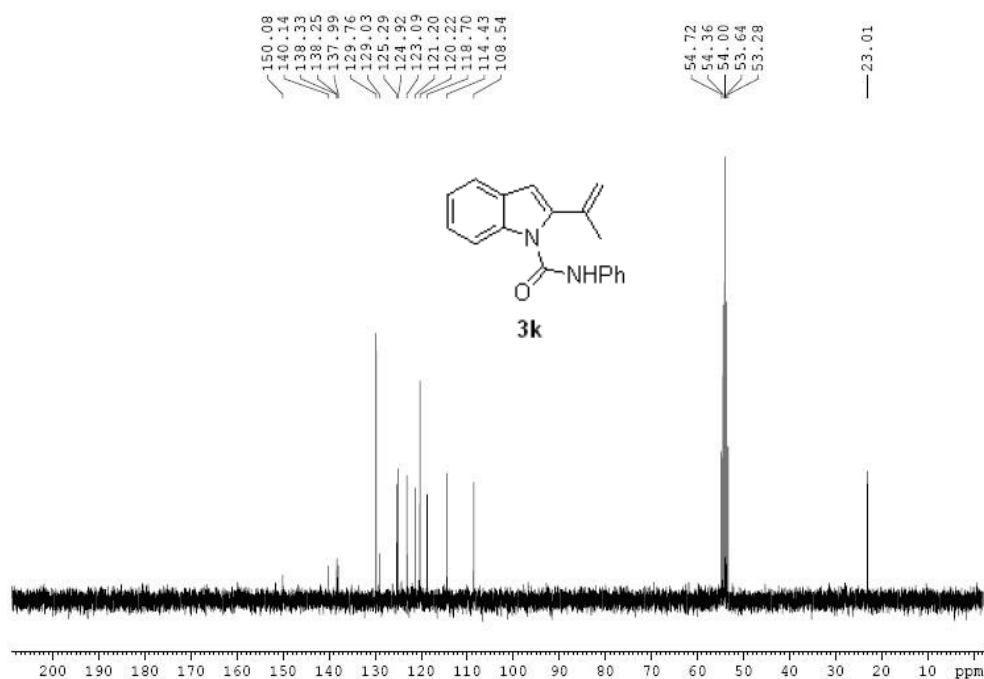
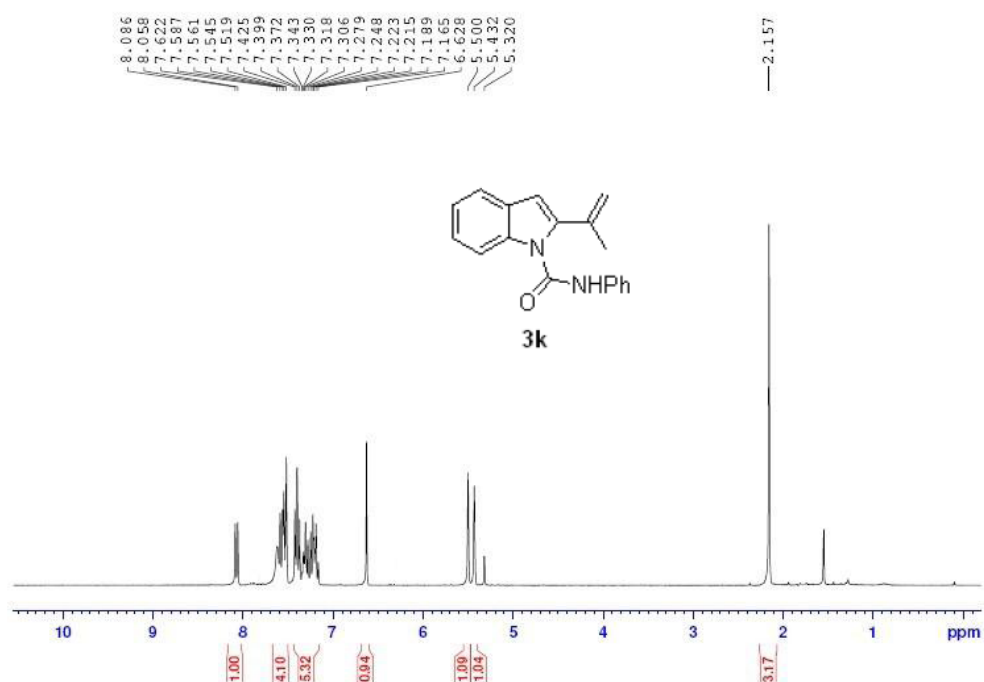


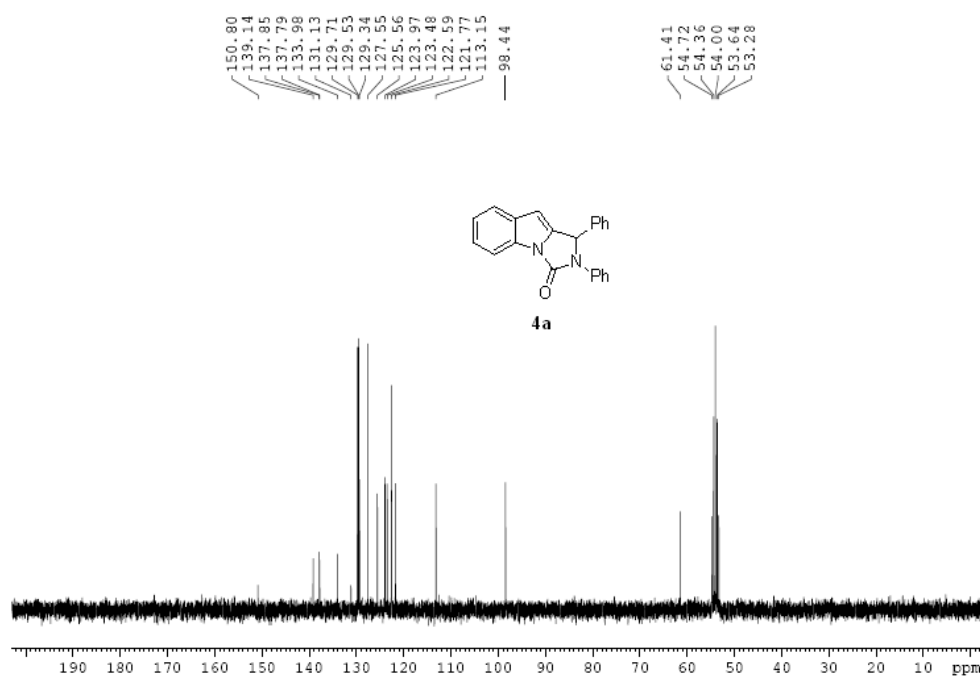
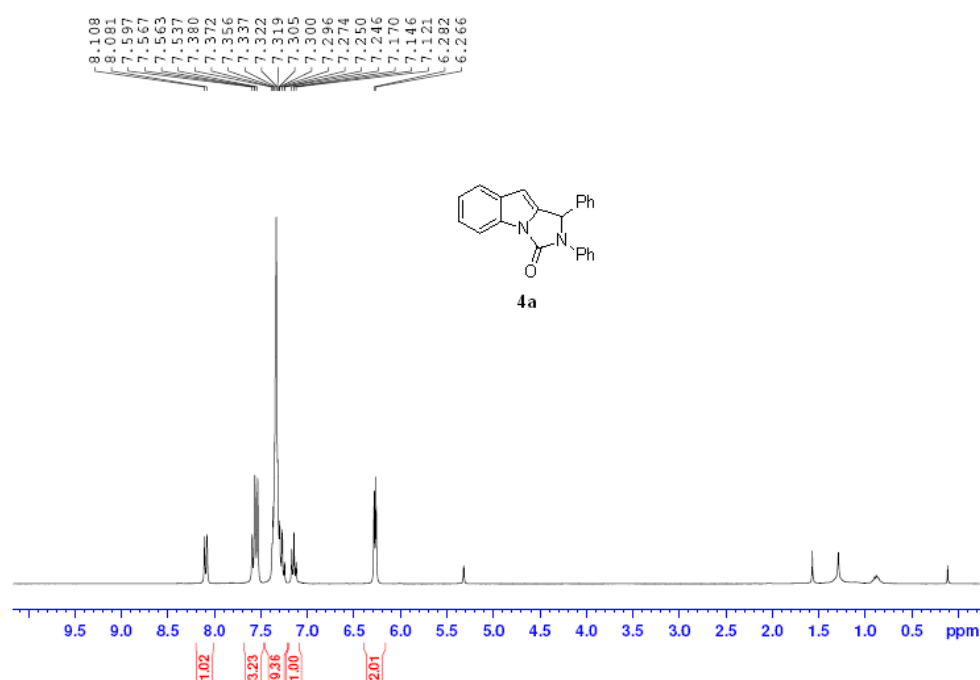


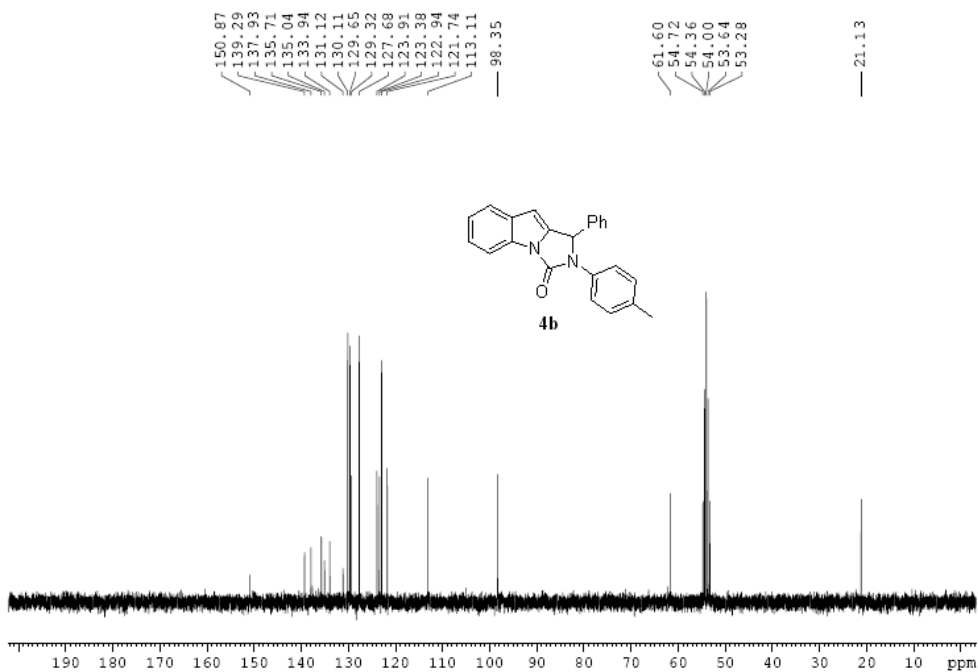
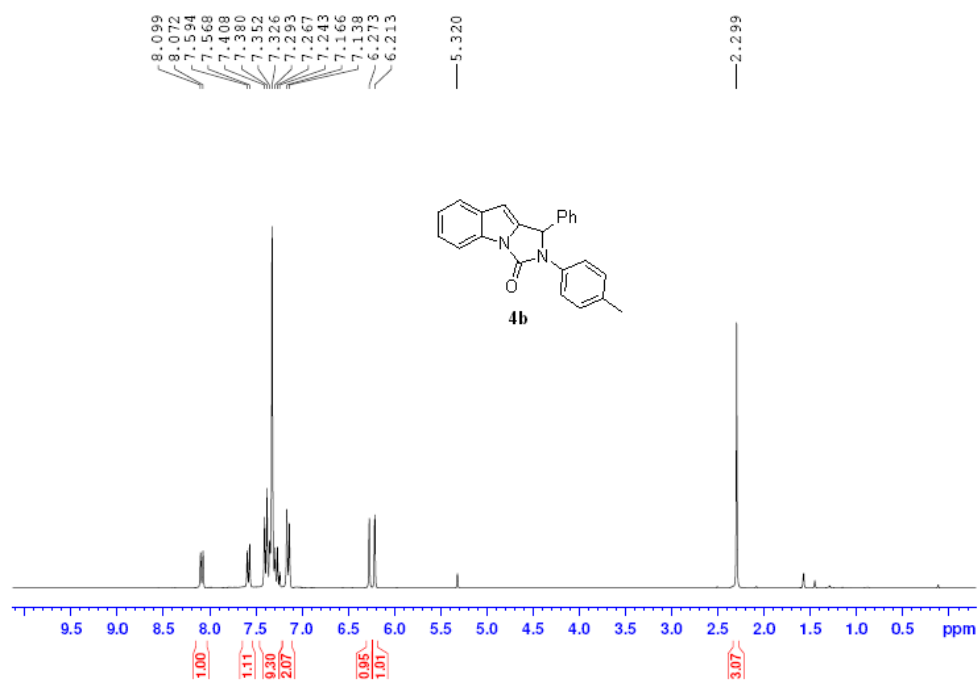


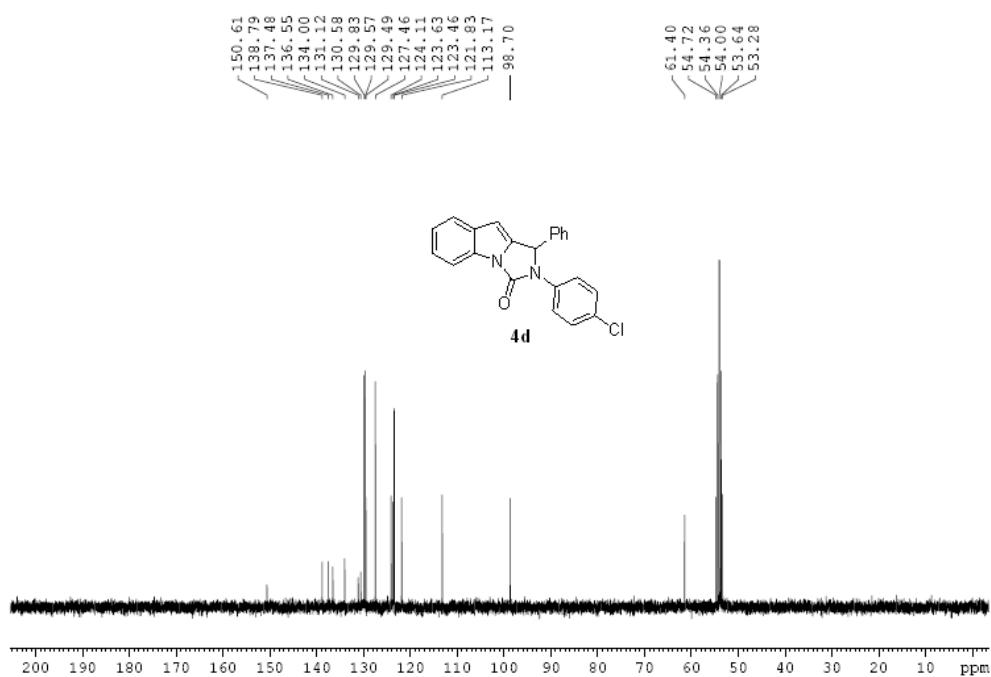
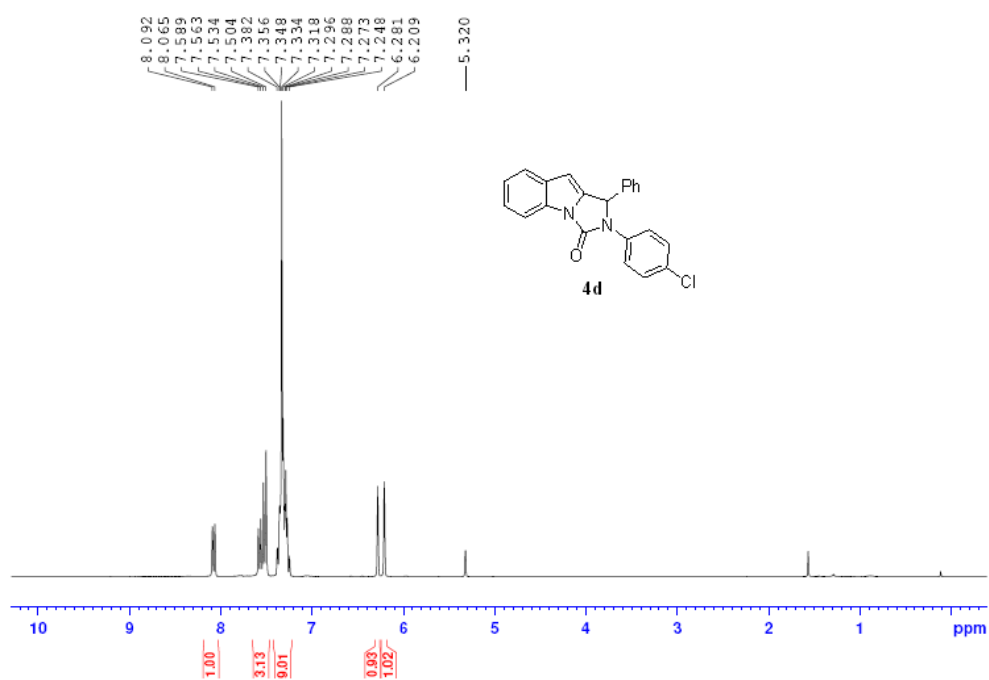


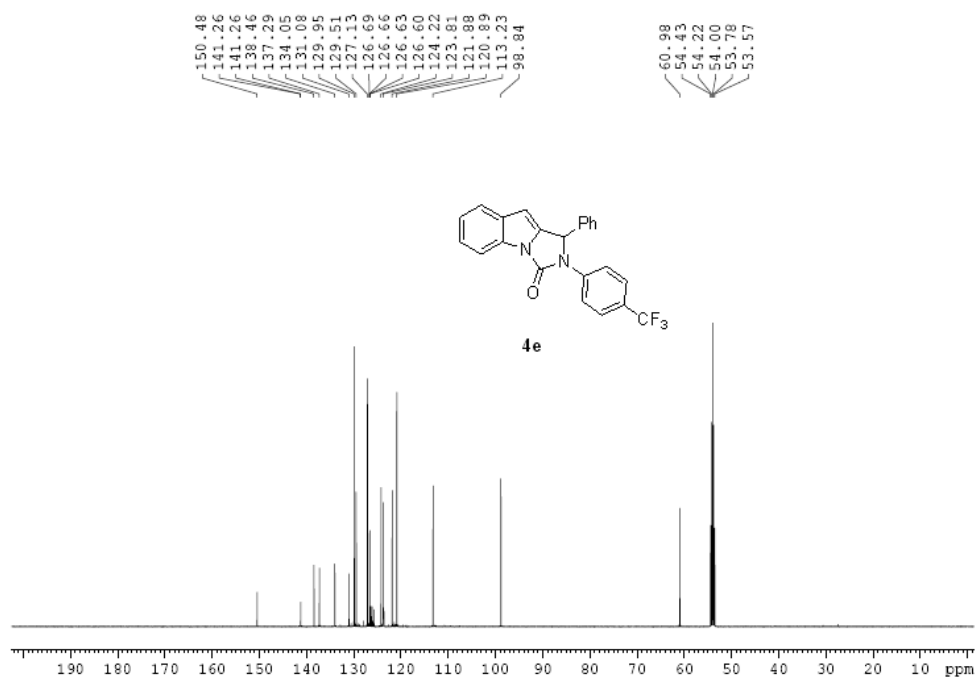
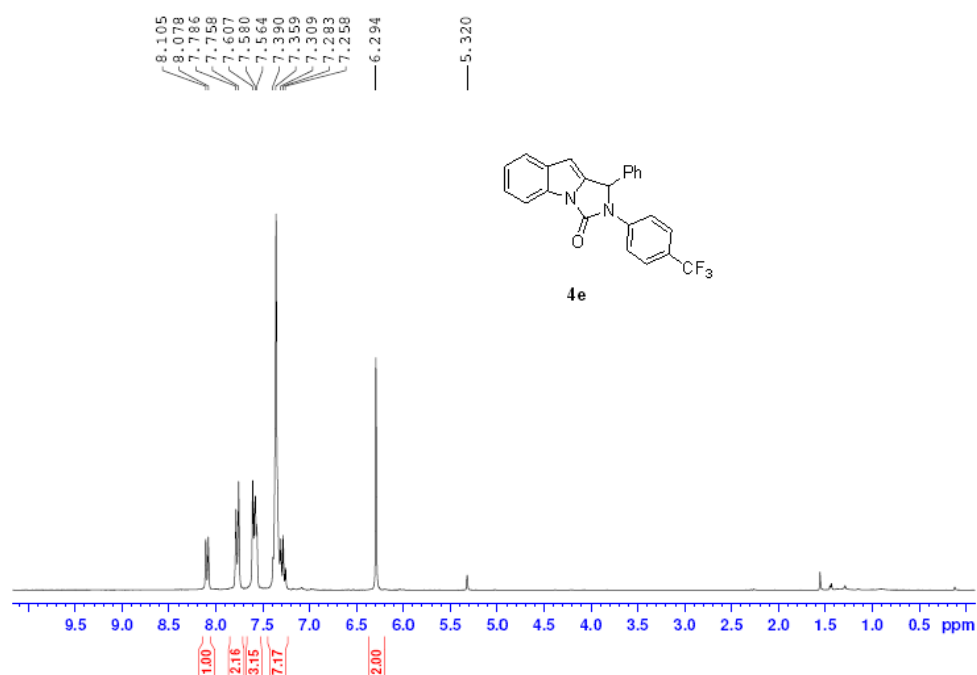


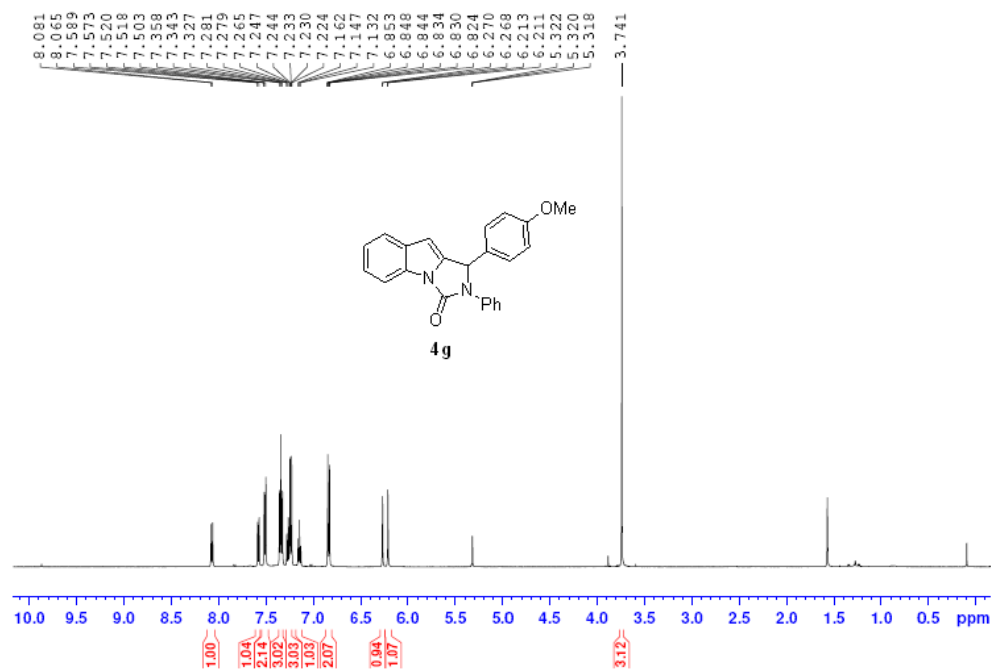
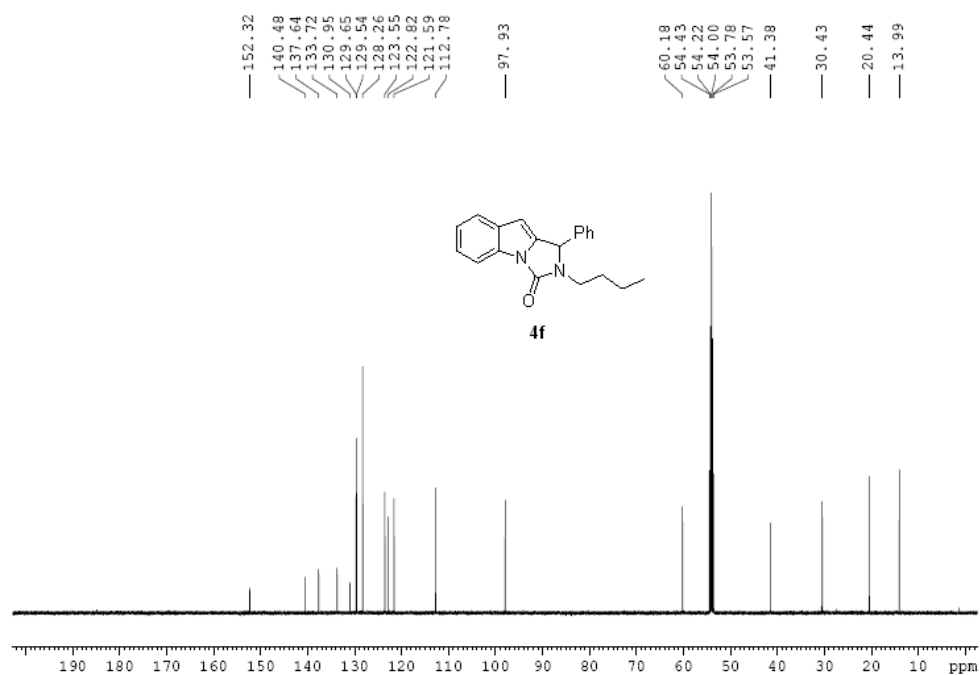


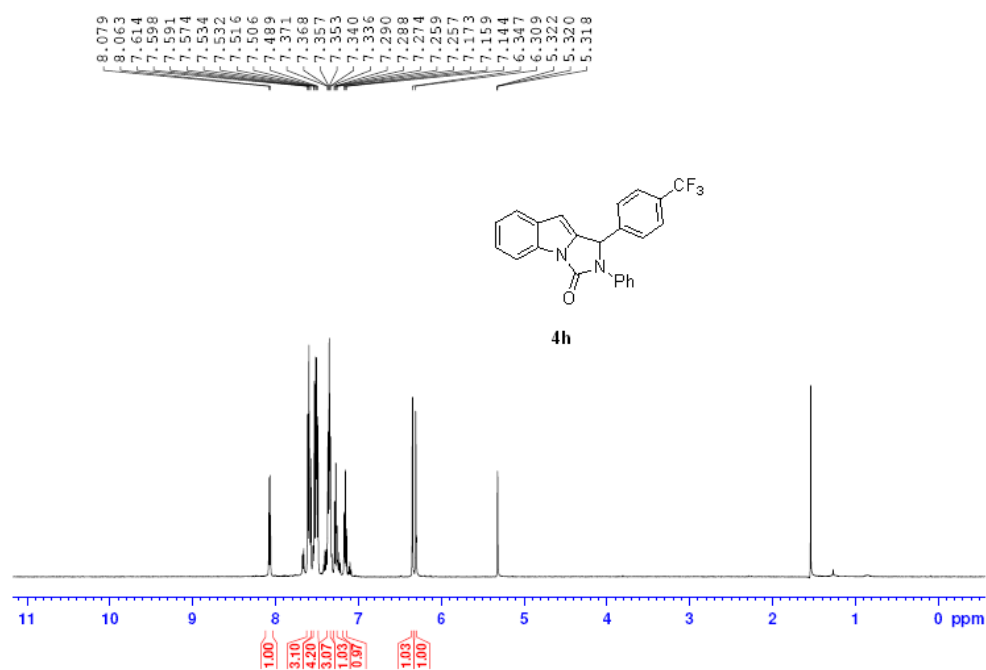
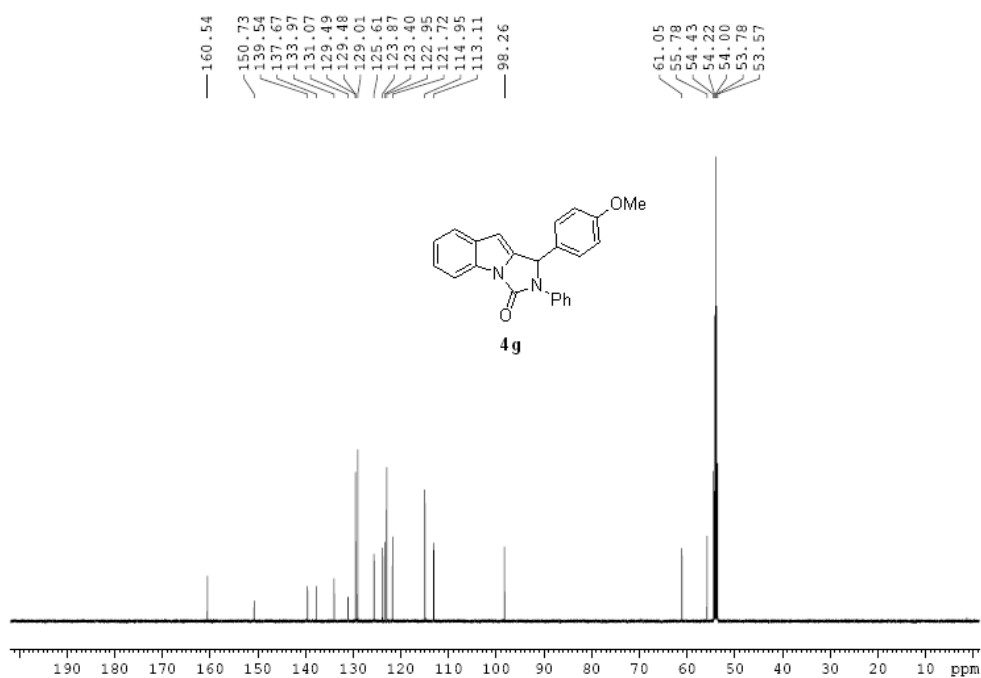


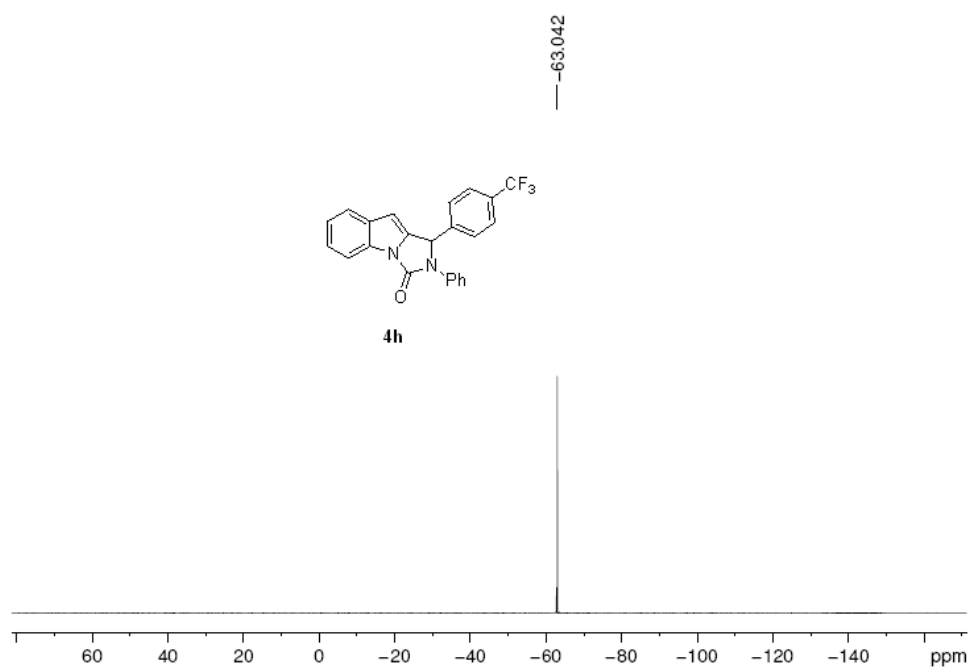
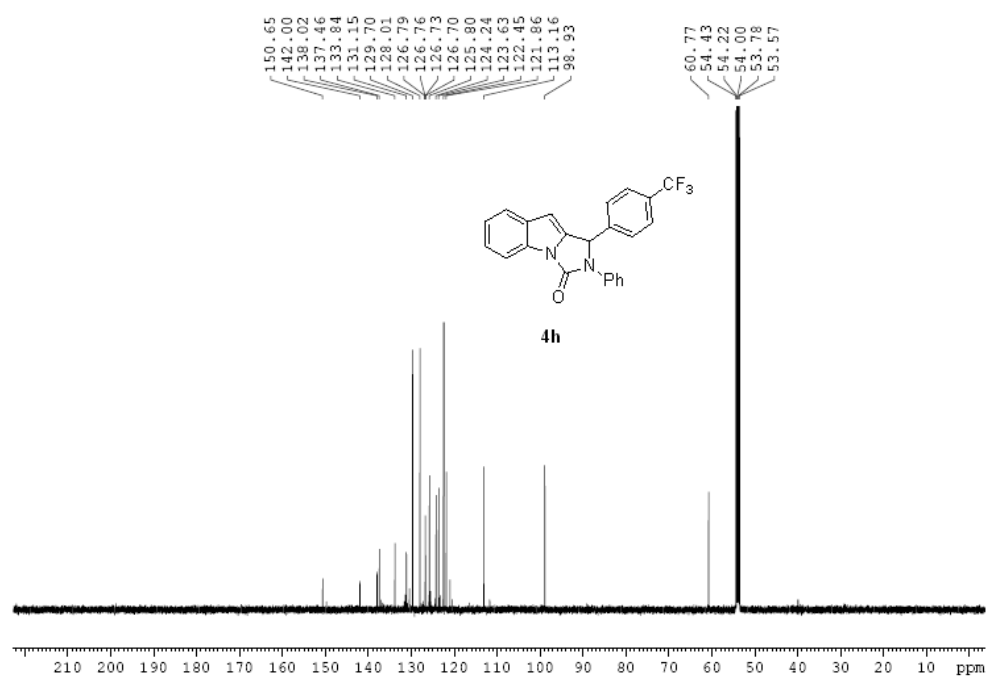


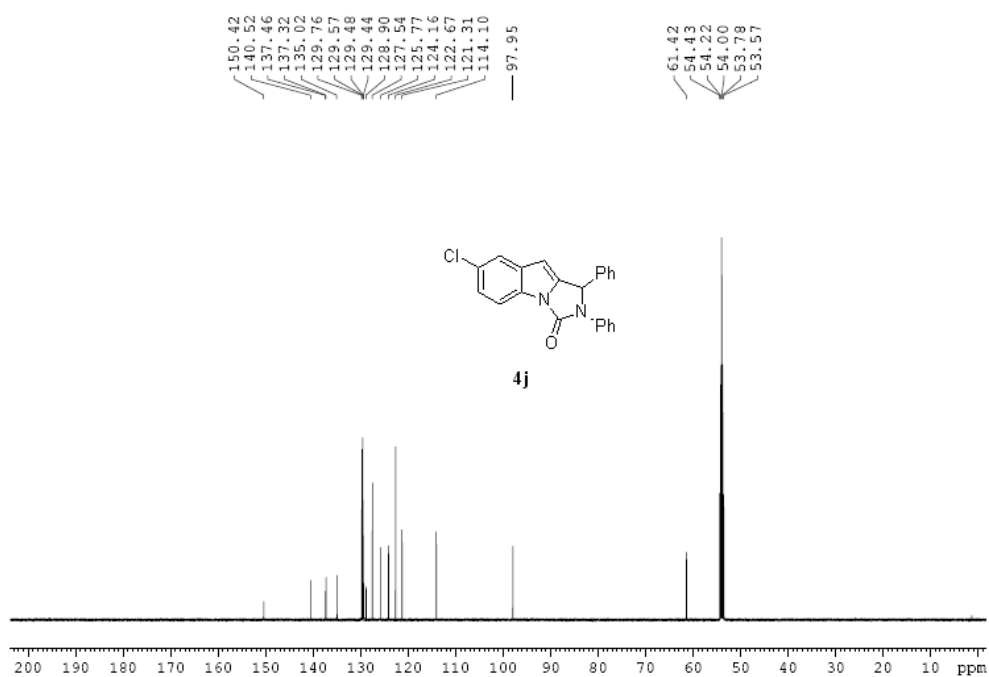
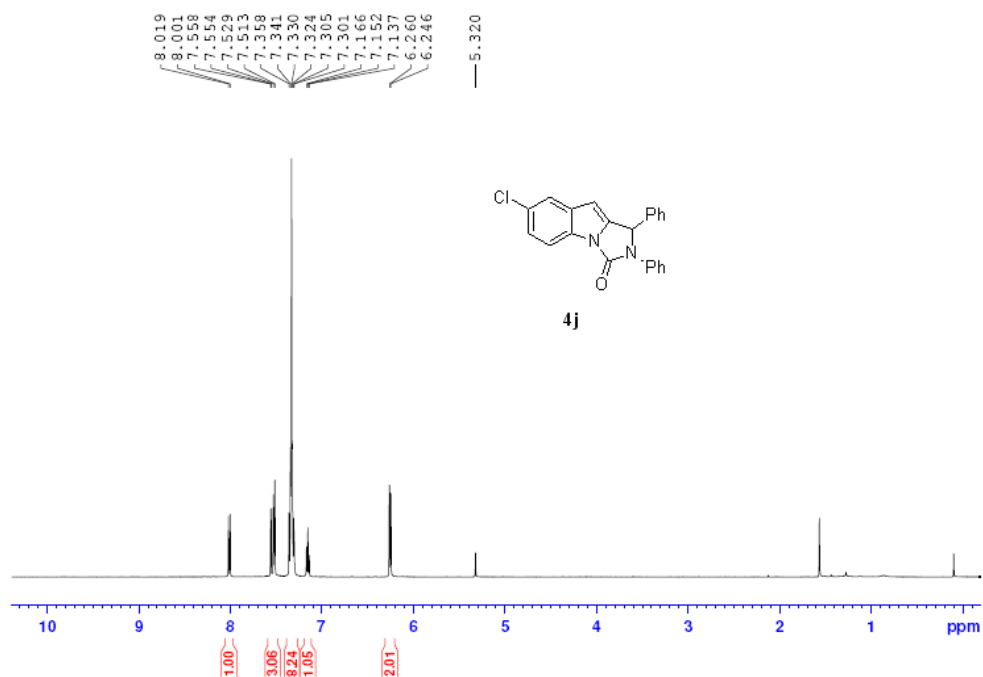


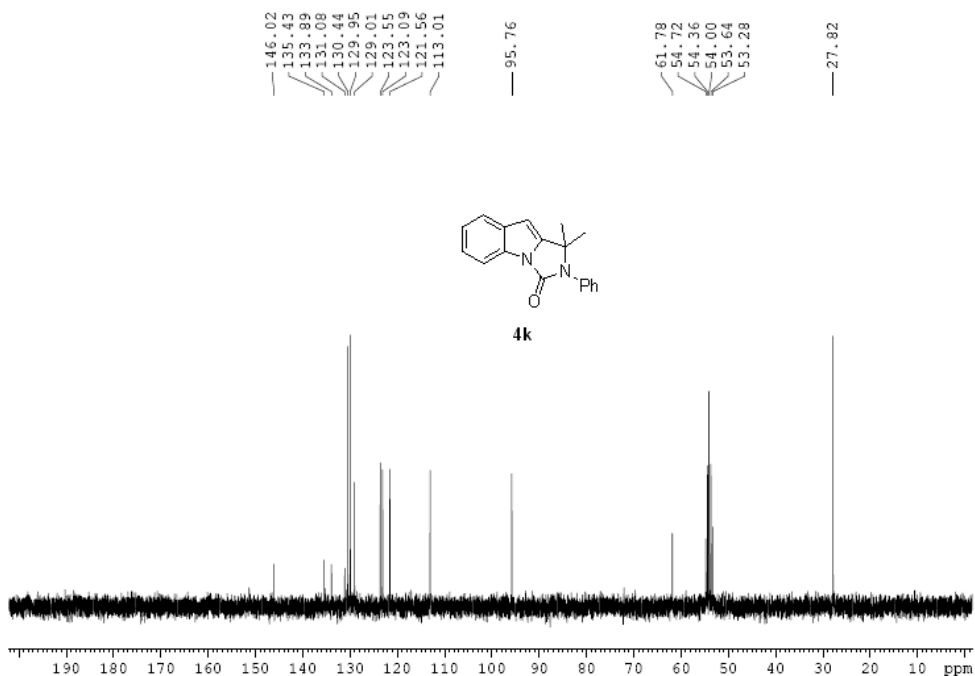
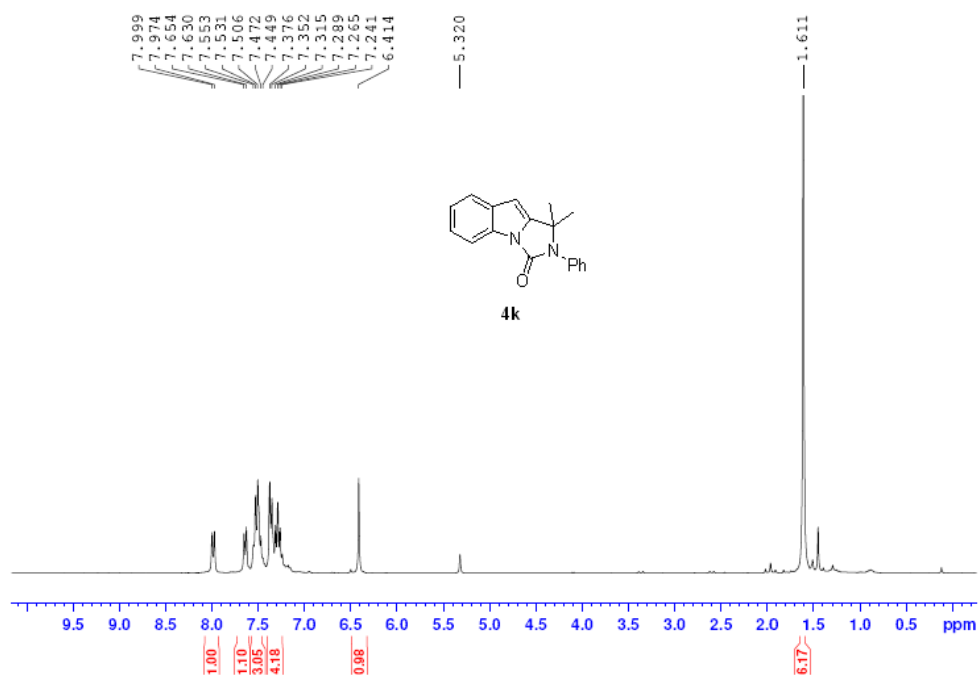


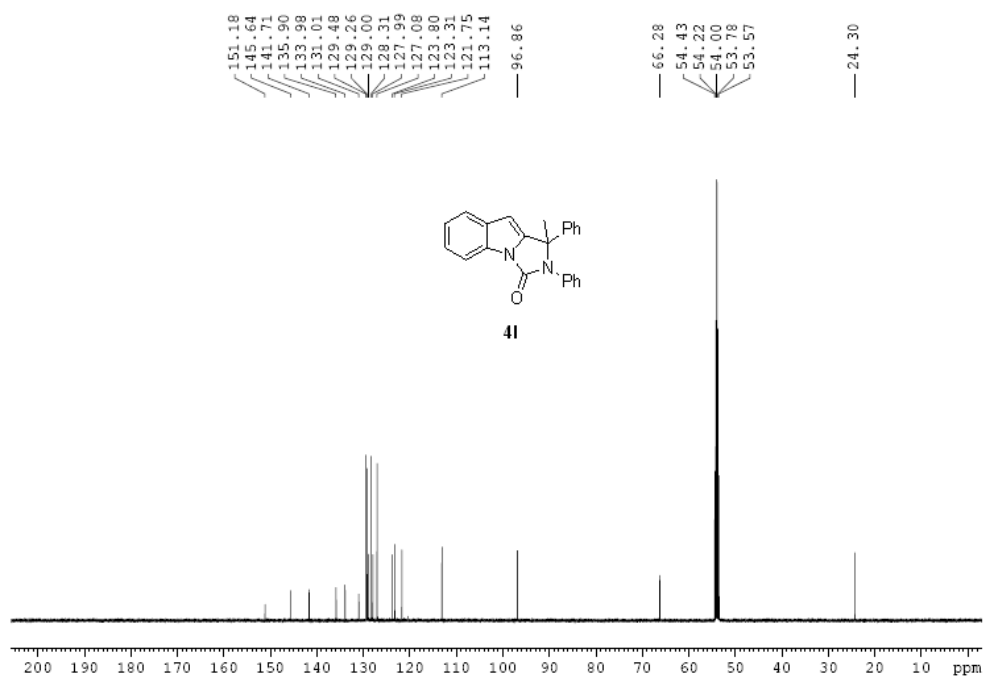
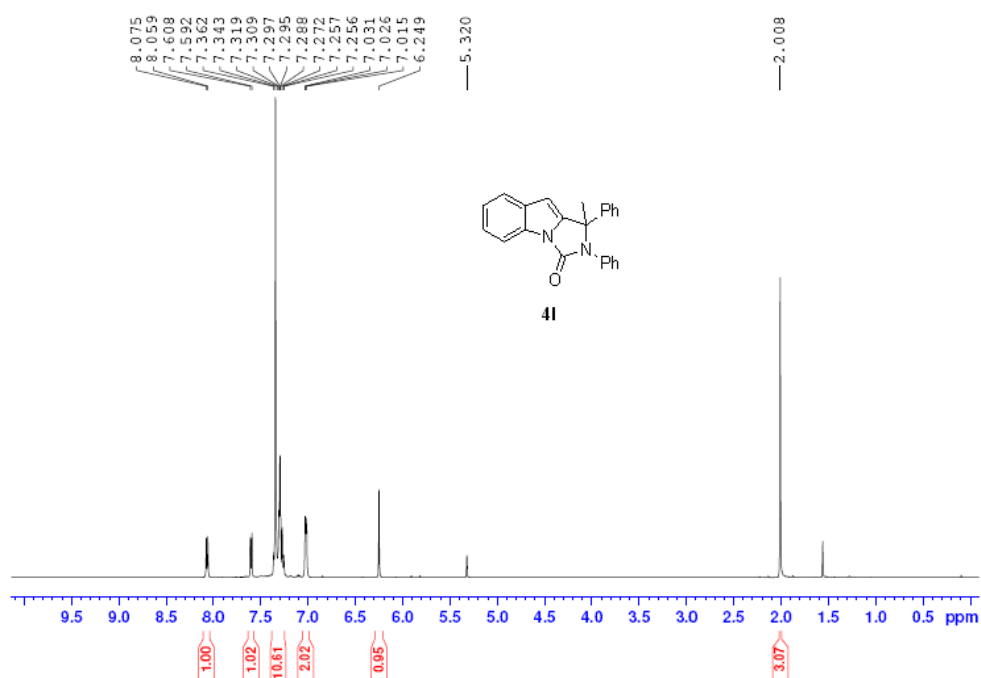




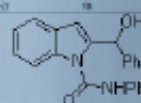
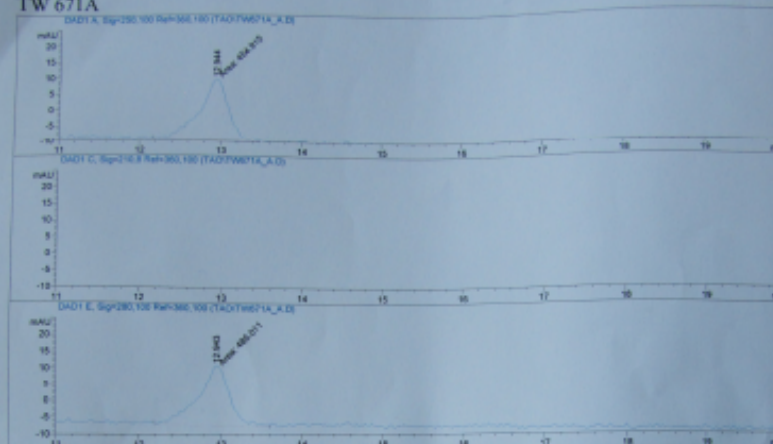




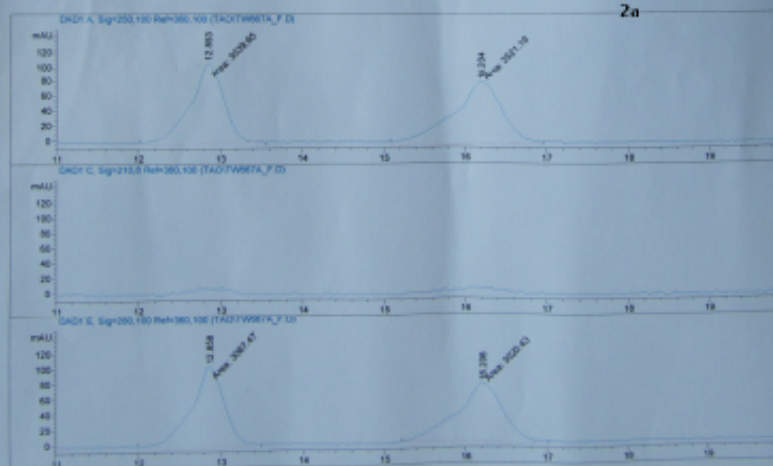




IB, 90% Hexan, 10% 2-Propanol
TW 671A

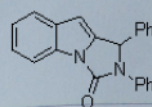


TW 667A



2a

Column: IB, 85% n-Hexan, 15% 2-Propanol



4a

TW 664B

