

Supporting Information

For

**Synthesis of a 3-(alpha-Styryl)benzo[b]-thiophene Library via
Bromocyclization of Alkynes and Palladium Catalyzed
Tosylhydrazones Cross-Couplings: Evaluation as Antitubulin
Agents**

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Table of Contents

Experimental section general	2
Analytical data for the selected compounds	2
Biology methods.....	30
Computational methods	31
I. ¹ H and ¹³ C NMR Spectra for Alkynes	34
II. ¹ H and ¹³ C NMR Spectra for 3-bromobenzo[b]thiophenes 11b–k.....	45
III. ¹ H and ¹³ C NMR Spectra for 2-aryl-3(α-styryl)benzo[b]thiophene 5a–t	55
IV. ¹ H and ¹³ C NMR Spectra for 6-methyl-6-phenyl-6H-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-c]chromenes derivatives, 13a-c.....	76

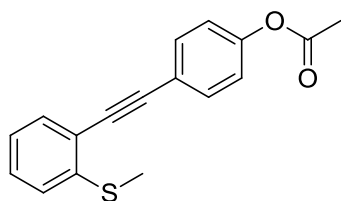
Experimental section general

Commercial reagents were used without further purification unless otherwise stated. All glassware's were oven-dried at 140 °C and all reactions were conducted under an argon atmosphere. Solvents: cyclohexane and ethyl acetate (EtOAc), and dioxane, were dried using the procedures described in D. Perrin Purification of Laboratory Chemicals.¹

The compounds were all identified by usual physical methods, i.e. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, IR, elemental analysis. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were measured in CDCl₃ with a Bruker ARX 400 or Bruker Avance 300 and chemical shifts are reported in ppm. The following abbreviations are used: m (multiplet), s (singlet), br s (broad singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), dd (doublet of doublet), td (triplet of doublet), q (quadruplet), ddd (doublet of doublet of doublet). IR spectra were measured on a Bruker Vector 22 spectrophotometer (neat, cm⁻¹). Elemental analyses were performed with a Perkin-Elmer 240 analyser. Analytical TLC was performed on Merck precoated silica gel 60F plates with detection by exposure to ultraviolet light (254 nm) and by immersion in a staining solution of 20% phosphomolybdic acid in EtOH or vanillin stain (vanillin, concentrated H₂SO₄, EtOH). Merck silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh) was used for column chromatography. Melting points (m.p.) were recorded on a Büchi B-450 apparatus and were uncorrected.

Analytical data for the selected compounds

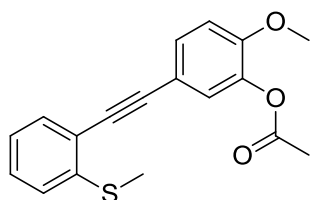
4-((2-(methylthio)phenyl)ethynyl)phenyl acetate (**9b**)



was prepared according to the general procedure from the alkyne (2-ethynylphenyl)(methyl)sulfane and the 4-iodophenyl acetate. Compound **9b** was obtained

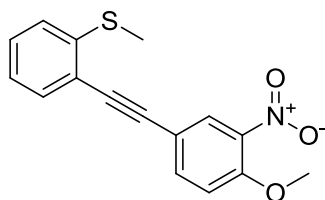
as a brown oil (274 mg, 97% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.50 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat) 3800, 3646, 1763, 1504, 1433, 1368, 1186, 1163, 1067 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.64 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.48 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.22 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 7.12 – 7.06 (m, 3H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.2 (C), 150.7 (C), 141.9 (C), 132.9 (2CH), 132.3 (CH), 128.9 (CH), 124.4 (CH), 124.2 (CH), 121.8 (2CH), 121.3 (C), 121.0 (C), 95.1 (C), 87.1 (C), 21.2 (SCH₃), 15.2 (CH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₇H₁₅O₂S (M + H)⁺: m/z calcd 283.0748, found 283.0750.

2-methoxy-5-((2-(methylthio)phenyl)ethynyl)phenyl acetate (9c)



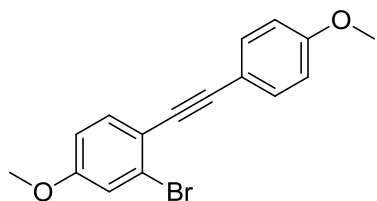
was prepared according general procedure from the alkyne (2-ethynylphenyl)(methyl)sulfane and the 5-iodo-2-methoxyphenyl acetate. Compound **9c** was obtained as a yellow oil (269 mg, 86% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.38 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat) 3736, 3395, 2067, 1977, 1769, 1613, 1532, 1510, 1434, 1270, 1111, 1018 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.44 (ddd, J = 7.3, 5.1, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 7.33 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 6.93 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.8 (C), 151.8 (C), 141.7 (C), 139.6 (C), 132.3 (CH), 130.7 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 126.2 (CH), 124.4 (CH), 124.3 (CH), 121.6 (C), 115.9 (C), 112.4 (CH), 95.1 (C), 86.3 (C), 56.1 (OCH₃), 20.8 (SCH₃), 15.3 (CH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₈H₁₇O₃S (M + H)⁺: m/z calcd 313.0854, found 313.0857.

(2-((4-methoxy-3-nitrophenyl)ethynyl)phenyl)(methyl)sulfane (9d)



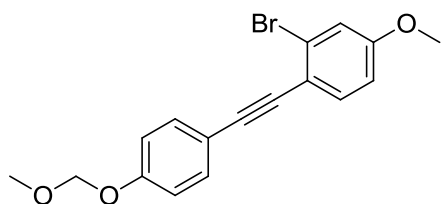
was prepared according general procedure from the alkyne (2-ethynylphenyl)(methyl)sulfane and the 4-iodo-1-methoxy-2-nitrobenzene. Compound **9d** was obtained as a yellow oil (296 mg, 99% yield); TLC: $R_f = 0.20$ (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 3/7, SiO₂); IR (neat) 3736, 3395, 2067, 1977, 1769, 1613, 1532, 1510, 1434, 1270, 1111, 1018 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 8.04 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd, $J = 8.7$, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.33 (dd, $J = 8.7$, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.12 (td, $J = 7.2$, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.9 (C), 142.0 (C), 137.2 (CH), 132.4 (CH), 129.3 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 124.4 (CH), 124.3 (CH), 120.7 (C), 116.0 (C), 113.7 (CH), 113.2 (C), 93.2 (C), 87.7 (C), 56.8 (OCH₃), 15.2 (SCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₆H₁₄NO₃S (M + H)⁺: m/z calcd 300.0650, found 300.0648.

2-bromo-4-methoxy-1-((4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)benzene (9f)



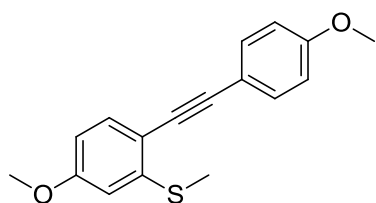
was prepared according general procedure from the alkyne 2-bromo-1-ethynyl-4-methoxybenzene and the 1-iodo-4-methoxybenzene. Compound **9f** was obtained as a brown oil (298 mg, 94% yield); TLC: $R_f = 0.30$ (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 5/95, SiO₂); IR (neat) 3085, 3065, 3014, 2940, 2840, 2222, 1893, 1604, 1510, 1462, 1402, 1320, 1153, 1036, 1026 cm⁻¹; ¹H RMN (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.50 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, $J = 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 6.83 (dd, $J = 8.7$, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 159.8 (C), 159.7 (C), 133.8 (CH), 133.1 (2CH), 126.2 (C), 118.0 (C), 117.9 (CH), 115.4 (C), 114.1 (2CH), 113.6 (CH), 92.4 (C), 86.8 (C), 55.7 (OCH₃), 55.4 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₆H₁₄BrO (M + H)⁺: m/z calcd 318.1852, found 318.1850.

2-bromo-4-methoxy-1-((4-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)ethynyl)-benzene (9g)



was prepared according general procedure from the alkyne 2-bromo-1-ethynyl-4-methoxybenzene and the 1-iodo-4-(methoxymethoxy)benzene. Compound **9g** was obtained as a brown solid (341 mg, 99% yield); m.p = 58-60 °C; TLC: R_f = 0.23 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 5/95, SiO₂); IR (neat) 2899, 1605, 1564, 1510, 1487, 1461, 1439, 1394, 1320, 1285, 1238, 1223, 1200, 1176, 1151, 1107, 1079, 1032 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.49 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (dd, J = 1.2, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.48 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 159.6 (C), 157.3 (C), 133.7 (CH), 132.9 (2CH), 126.2 (C), 117.8 (C), 117.7 (CH), 116.6 (C), 116.2 (2CH), 113.5 (CH), 94.3 (OCH₂O), 92.2 (C), 86.9 (C), 56.1 (OCH₃), 55.6 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₇H₁₆BrO₃ (M + H)⁺: m/z calcd 347.0283, found 347.0287.

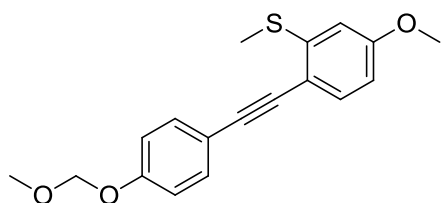
(5-methoxy-2-((4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)phenyl)(methyl)-sulfane (9j)



was prepared from the alkyne **9f** (1 mmol). To a solution of **9f** in anhydrous THF (8 mL/mmol) was added at -78 °C *n*-BuLi (2.2 equiv. 1.6 M in THF). The mixture was stirred 1 hour at -78 °C and Me₂S₂ (1.2 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred 12 hours from -78 °C to room temperature. The mixture was hydrolyzed by a solution saturated of NH₄Cl and extracted by EtOAc. The aqueous layer was washed three times by EtOAc. Organic layers was joined,

washed with water and a saturated solution of NaCl and dried dry by anhydrous MgSO₄. The crude product was concentrated under reduce pressure and purified by silica gel chromatography. Compound **9j** was obtained as a yellow oil (182 mg, 64% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.28 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 1/9, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2828, 1604 , 1588, 1552, 1508, 1479, 1462, 1436, 1402, 1289, 1265 , 1223, 1198, 1175, 1149, 1106, 1078, 1057, 1037 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 159.8 (C), 159.5 (C), 143.1 (C), 133.2 (CH), 132.8 (2CH), 115.6 (C), 113.9 (2CH), 113.8 (C), 110.5 (CH), 109.2 (CH), 94.4 (C), 85.5 (C), 55.3 (OCH₃), 55.2 (OCH₃), 15.0 (SCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₇H₁₇O₂S (M + H)⁺: *m/z* calcd 285.3807, found 285.3808.

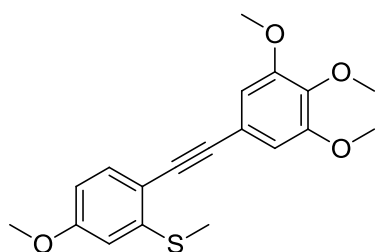
(5-methoxy-2-((4-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)ethynyl)phenyl)(methyl)sulfane (9k)



was prepared from the alkyne **9g** (1 mmol). To a solution of **9g** in anhydrous THF (8 mL/mmol) was added at -78 °C *n*-BuLi (2.2 equiv., 1.6 M in THF). The mixture was stirred 1 hour at -78 °C and Me₂S₂ (1.2 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred 12 hours from -78 °C to room temperature. The mixture was hydrolyzed by a solution saturated of NH₄Cl and extracted by EtOAc. The aqueous layer was washed three times by EtOAc. Organic layers was joined, washed with water and a saturated solution of NaCl and dried dry by anhydrous MgSO₄. The crude product was concentrated under reduce pressure and purified by silica gel chromatography. Compound **9k** was obtained as a brown oil (242 mg, 77% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.21 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 1/9, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2828, 1604 , 1588, 1552,

1508, 1479, 1462, 1436, 1402, 1289, 1265, 1223, 1198, 1175, 1149, 1106, 1078, 1057, 1037 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 7.50 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.62 (dd, $J = 2.2, 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.18 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 159.7 (C), 156.9 (C), 143.0 (C), 133.1 (CH), 132.6 (2CH), 118.6 (C), 116.0 (2CH), 113.6 (C), 110.4 (CH), 109.1 (CH), 94.6 (OCH_2O) and (C), 87.5 (C), 55.9 (OCH_3), 55.1 (OCH_3), 14.8 (SCH_3); HRMS (ESI): for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_3\text{S}$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: m/z calcd 315.1055, found 315.1060.

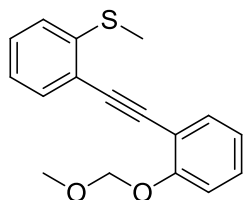
(5-methoxy-2-((3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)ethynyl)phenyl)(methyl)sulfane (9m)



was prepared from the 5-((2-bromo-4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-1,2,3-trimethoxybenzene² (1 mmol) To a solution of 5-((2-bromo-4-methoxyphenyl)ethynyl)-1,2,3-trimethoxybenzene in anhydrous THF. (8 mL/mmol) was added at -78°C $n\text{-BuLi}$ (2.2 equiv. 1.6 M in THF). The mixture was stirred 1 hour at -78°C and Me_2S_2 (2 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred 12 hours from -78°C to room temperature. The mixture was hydrolyzed by a solution saturated of NH_4Cl and extracted by EtOAc. The aqueous layer was washed three times by EtOAc. Organic layers was joined, washed with water and a saturated solution of NaCl and dried dry by anhydrous MgSO_4 . The crude product was concentrated under reduce pressure and purified by silica gel chromatography. Compound **9m** was obtained as a yellow oil (234 mg, 68% yield); TLC: $R_f = 0.24$ (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 1/9, SiO_2); IR (neat): 2964, 2924, 2830, 2014, 1988, 1581, 1496, 1463, 1420, 1414, 1331, 1283, 1246, 1177, 1157, 1119, 1050, 1002 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 7.41 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.78 (s, 2H), 6.71 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.65 (dd, $J = 8.5, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 6H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm):

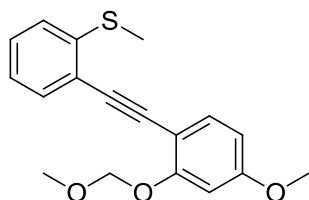
160.2 (C), 153.2 (2C), 143.5 (C), 138.8 (C), 133.6 (CH), 118.7 (C), 113.7 (C), 110.8 (CH), 109.5 (CH), 108.9 (2CH), 94.5 (C), 86.0 (C), 61.1 (OCH₃), 56.3 (2OCH₃), 55.5 (OCH₃), 15.2 (SCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₉H₂₁O₄S (M + H)⁺: *m/z* calcd 345.1161, found 345.1161.

(2-((2-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)ethynyl)phenyl)(methyl)sulfane (9n)



was prepared according general procedure from the alkyne (2-ethynylphenyl)(methyl)sulfane and the 1-iodo-2-(methoxymethoxy)benzene. Compound **9n** was obtained as a brown oil (276 mg, 97% yield); TLC: *R_f* = 0.68 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat) 1583, 1470, 1403, 1271, 1234, 1200, 1152, 1119, 1082, 1044, 1017 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): δ 7.59 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.08 (m, 3H), 7.05 – 6.97 (dt, *J* = 8.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 5.31 (s, 2H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 177.9 (C), 167.7 (C), 157.8 (C), 141.7(CH), 133.7 (CH), 132.5 (CH), 129.9 (CH), 128.8 (2CH), 122.1 (CH), 115.6 (CH), 114.2 (C), 95.2 (OCH₂O), 92.3 (C), 91.0 (C), 56.5 (OCH₃), 15.4 (SCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₇H₁₆O₂NaS (M + Na)⁺: *m/z* calcd 307.0769, found 307.0770.

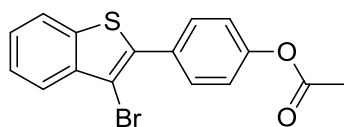
(2-((4-methoxy-2-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)ethynyl)phenyl)(methyl)sulfane (9o)



was prepared according general procedure from the alkyne (2-ethynylphenyl)(methyl)sulfane and the 1-iodo-4-methoxy-2-(methoxymethoxy)benzene. Compound **9o** was obtained as an orange oil (283 mg, 90% yield); TLC: *R_f* = 0.53 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat) 2962, 2919, 2833, 2012, 1984, 1581, 1494,

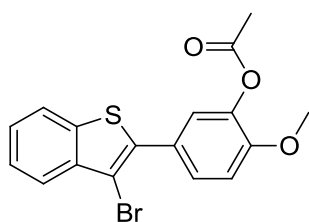
1461, 1430, 1331, 1292, 1187, 1075, 1004 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 7.62 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.45 (m, 1H), 7.39 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.12 – 7.04 (m, 1H), 6.70 (d, $J = 2.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.39 (dd, $J = 8.7, 2.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.22 (s, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 161.3 (C), 159.1 (C), 141.3 (C), 134.4 (CH), 132.3 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 124.5 (CH), 124.4 (CH), 122.4 (C), 107.5 (CH), 106.5 (C), 102.5 (CH), 95.4 (OCH_2O), 92.5 (C), 89.7 (C), 56.5 (OCH_3), 55.6 (OCH_3), 15.4 (SCH_3); HRMS (ESI): for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_3\text{S}$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: m/z calcd 315.1010, found 315.1013.

4-(3-bromobenzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)phenyl acetate (**10b**)



was prepared according to method A. Compound **10b** was obtained as a yellow solid (512 mg, 93% yield); m.p = 136-138 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ TLC: $R_f = 0.57$ (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO_2); IR (neat) 2839, 1709, 1611, 1537, 1530, 1449, 1436, 1367, 1299, 1273, 1247, 1123, 1082, 1014 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 7.87 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 169.3 (C), 151.0 (C), 139.1 (C), 137.7 (C), 130.2 (2CH), 130.8 (CH), 130.7 (CH), 125.6 (CH), 125.3 (CH), 123.7 (CH), 122.2 (CH), 121.8 (2CH), 105.2 (C), 21.2 (OCH_3); HRMS (ESI): for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{11}\text{BrNaO}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$: m/z calcd 368.9561, found 368.9564.

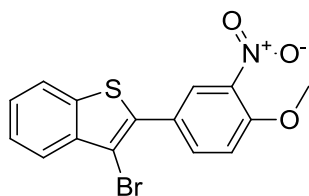
5-(3-bromobenzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)-2-methoxyphenyl acetate (**10c**)



was prepared according to method A. Compound **10c** was obtained as a yellow oil (595 mg, 99% yield); TLC: $R_f = 0.41$ (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 3/7, SiO_2); IR (neat) 2839, 2359,

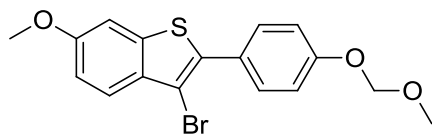
1765, 1711, 1613, 1537, 1500, 1497, 1461, 1435, 1368, 1300, 1267, 1248, 1199, 1162, 1125, 1072, 1029, 1016 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 7.86 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, $J = 2.2, 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 (ddd, $J = 1.2, 7.1, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 (ddd, $J = 1.2, 7.1, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 168.8 (C), 151.6 (C), 139.6 (C), 139.2 (C), 137.5 (C), 137.1 (C), 128.3 (CH), 125.7 (C), 125.4 (CH), 125.2 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 123.6 (CH), 122.1 (CH), 112.3 (CH), 104.7 (C), 56.0 (OCH_3), 20.7 (CH_3); HRMS (ESI): for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrNaO}_3\text{S}$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$: m/z calcd 398.9666, found 398, 9664.

3-bromo-2-(4-methoxy-3-nitrophenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (10d)



was prepared according to method A. Compound **10d** was obtained as a yellow solid (576 mg, 99% yield); m.p = 151-153 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; TLC: $R_f = 0.38$ (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO_2); IR (neat) 2162, 2149, 1619, 1536, 1434, 1352, 1284, 1020, 1020 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 8.27 (d, $J = 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.94 (dd, $J = 2.3, 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.87 (ddd, $J = 0.6, 1.3, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.82 (ddd, $J = 0.6, 1.3, 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 (ddd, $J = 1.3, 7.2, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (ddd, $J = 1.3, 7.2, 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.04 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 153.2 (2C), 139.6 (C), 139.0 (C), 137.6 (C), 135.2 (CH), 126.8 (CH), 126.1 (CH), 125.7 (CH), 123.9 (CH), 122.4 (CH), 113.8 (CH), 106.4 (2C), 56.9 (OCH_3); HRMS (ESI): for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{BrNO}_3\text{S}$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: m/z calcd 363.9643, found 363.9664.

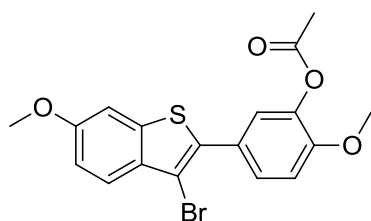
3-bromo-6-methoxy-2-(4-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (10g)



was prepared according to method A. Compound **10g** was obtained as a yellow oil (270

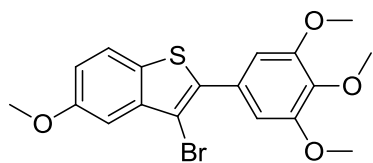
mg, 45% yield); TLC: $R_f = 0.29$ (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 1/9, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2961, 2891, 2829, 1604, 1561, 1494, 1475, 1436, 1404, 1329, 1263, 1231, 1200, 1177, 1151, 1128, 1112, 1080, 1060, 1031 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.72 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.08 (dd, $J = 8.9, 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.24 (s, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 158.2 (C), 157.4 (C), 138.7 (C), 135.2 (C), 133.2 (C), 130.8 (2CH), 126.7 (C), 124.2 (CH), 116.2 (2CH), 115.1 (CH), 104.7 (CH), 103.8 (C), 94.3 (OCH₂O), 56.1 (OCH₃), 55.7 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₇H₁₆BrO₃S (M + H)⁺: m/z calcd 379.0004, found 379, 0006.

5-(3-bromo-6-methoxybenzo[b]thiophen-2-yl)-2-methoxyphenyl acetate (10h)



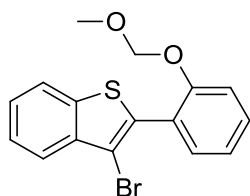
was prepared according to method A from the 2-methoxy-5-((4-methoxy-2-(methylthio)phenyl)ethynyl)phenyl acetate. Compound **10h** was obtained as a colorless oil (364 mg, 90% yield); TLC: $R_f = 0.31$ (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat) 2837, 1764, 1601, 1538, 1496, 1475, 1368, 1297, 1162, 1028, 1015 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.71 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.64 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.48 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd, $J = 13.5, 5.3$ Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.0 (C), 158.3 (C), 151.4 (C), 139.6 (C), 138.8 (C), 134.3 (C), 133.2 (C), 128.2 (CH), 126.0 (C), 124.4 (CH), 123.9 (CH), 115.3 (CH), 112.4 (CH), 104.7 (CH), 104.2 (C), 56.1 (OCH₃), 55.8 (OCH₃), 20.8 (CH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₈H₁₅BrNaO₄S (M + Na)⁺: m/z calcd 428.9772, found 428.9770.

3-bromo-5-methoxy-2-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (10i)



was prepared according to method A from compound **9m**. Compound **10i** was obtained as a yellow solid (417 mg, 64% yield); m.p = 130-132 °C; TLC: R_f = 0.67 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 1/9, SiO₂); IR (neat) : 3002, 2938 , 2838, 1606, 1581, 1466, 1452, 1335, 1291, 1237, 1174, 1125, 1029, 1004 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.74 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (s, 2H), 3.93 (s, 6H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.90 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 158.5 (C), 153.4 (2C), 138.9 (C), 138.6 (C), 135.5 (C), 133.4 (C), 128.7 (C), 124.5 (CH), 115.4 (CH), 107.1 (2CH), 104.9 (CH), 104.3 (C), 61.1 (OCH₃), 56.4 (2OCH₃), 55.9 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₈H₁₈O₄SBr (M + H)⁺: m/z calcd 409.0109, found 409.0107.

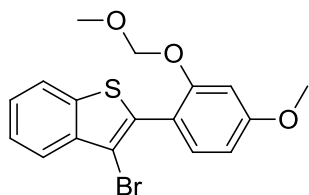
3-bromo-2-(2-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (10j)



was prepared according method B from the alkyne (2-((2-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)ethynyl)phenyl)(methyl)sulfane. Compound **10j** was obtained as an orange oil (342 mg, 98% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.91 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat) 3057, 2956, 1482, 1434, 1237, 1198, 1114, 1081, 1046cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.91 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.29 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (td, J = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (s, 2H), 3.45 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.3 (C), 138.7 (C), 138.4 (C), 135.5 (C), 132.5 (CH), 130.8 (CH), 125.4 (CH), 125.1 (CH), 123.6 (CH), 122.8 (C), 122.3 (CH), 121.8 (CH), 115.3 (CH), 107.8 (CH), 94.9 (OCH₂O), 56.4 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₆H₁₃BrNaO₂S (M + Na)⁺: m/z calcd

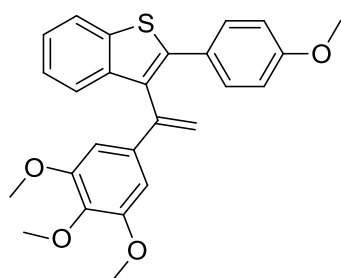
370.9717, found 370.9720.

3-bromo-2-(4-methoxy-2-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (10k)



was prepared according to method B from compound **9o**. Compound **10k** was obtained as a brown solid (571 mg, 95% yield); m.p = 83-85 °C; TLC: R_f = 0.47 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 5/95, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2958, 2836, 1609, 1575, 1542, 1493, 1431, 1394, 1310, 1295, 1262, 1249, 1219, 1191, 1077, 1043 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): δ 7.89 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.47 (td, J = 8.0, 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.17 (s, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.45 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 161.8 (C), 156.3 (C), 138.7 (C), 138.5 (C), 135.6 (C), 133.1 (CH), 125.2 (CH), 125.0 (CH), 123.5 (CH), 122.2 (CH), 115.2 (C), 107.6 (C), 106.9 (CH), 102.1 (CH), 95.0 (OCH₂O), 56.5 (OCH₃), 55.8 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₁₇H₁₅BrNaO₃S (M + Na)⁺: m/z calcd 400.9823, found 400.9821.

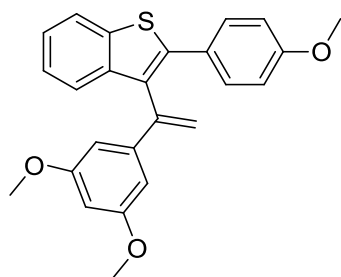
2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (5a)



was prepared according to the method C from the 4-methyl-N'-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide and the 3-bromo-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene. **5a** was obtained as a yellow oil (416 mg, 96% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.32 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 1/9, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2925, 1607, 1579, 1500, 1455, 1434, 1412, 1356, 1317, 1292, 1246, 1176, 1124, 1033, 1005 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz,

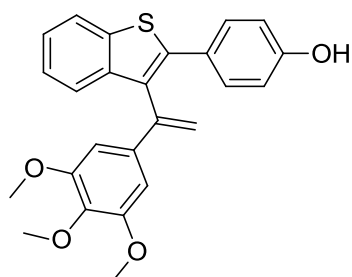
CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.87 – 7.80 (m, 1H), 7.61 – 7.48 (m, 3H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 6.92 – 6.82 (m, 2H), 6.65 (s, J = 1.5 Hz, 2H), 5.98 (s, 1H), 5.34 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.5 (C), 153.1(2C), 142.8(C), 141.1(C), 140.4(2C), 138.3 (C), 135.4 (C), 131.7 (C), 130.2 (2CH), 126.8 (C), 124.4 (CH), 124.3 (CH), 123.4 (CH), 121.9 (CH), 117.5 (CH₂), 113.9 (2CH), 104.0 (2CH), 60.9 (OCH₃), 56.1 (2OCH₃), 55.2 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₆H₂₄NaO₄S (M + Na)⁺: m/z calcd 455.1293, found 455.1291.

3-(1-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (5b)



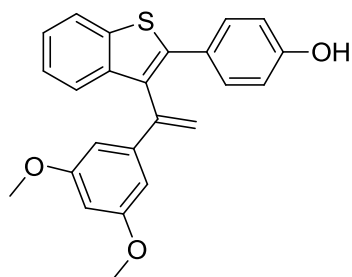
was prepared according to the method C from N'-(1-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonohydrazide and the 3-bromo-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene. **5b** was obtained as a colorless oil (370 mg, 92% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.19 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 5/95, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2837, 1656, 1589, 1534, 1502, 1454, 1433, 1422, 1355, 1292, 1250, 1204, 1178, 1154, 1112, 1065, 1033 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.84 (dd, J = 1.3, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.40-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.21-7.37 (m, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.62 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 2H), 6.42 (t, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.02 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.34 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.9 (2C), 159.5 (C), 142.9 (C), 142.0 (C), 141.2 (C), 141.0 (C), 138.4 (C), 131.8 (C), 130.3 (C), 126.9 (2CH), 124.4 (C), 124.3 (CH), 123.5 (CH), 121.9 (CH), 118.5 (CH), 114.0 (2CH), 105.1 (2CH), 99.8 (CH), 55.4 (2OCH₃), 55.3 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₅H₂₃O₃S (M + H)⁺: m/z calcd 403.1368, found 403.1367.

4-(3-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)phenol (**5c**)



was prepared according to the method D from 4-methyl-N'-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide and the 4-(3-bromobenzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)phenyl acetate. **5c** was obtained as a yellowish oil (314 mg, 75% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.25 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat) : 1610, 1581, 1538, 1503, 1453, 1432, 1357, 1316, 1267, 1204, 1174, 1126, 1001 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.83 (dd, J = 1.5, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.27-7.36 (m, 2H), 6.77 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H),; 6.62 (s, 2H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 5.32 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.9 (2C), 153.2 (C), 142.8 (C), 141.2 (C), 140.5 (C), 138.5 (C), 138.1 (C), 135.7 (C), 131.8 (C), 130.5 (2CH), 126.9 (C), 124.5 (CH), 124.4 (CH), 123.5 (CH), 122.0 (CH), 117.6 (CH₂), 115.6 (2CH), 104.2 (2CH), 61.0 (OCH₃), 56.3 (2OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₅H₂₂O₄NaS (M + Na)⁺: m/z calcd 441.1136, found 441.1134.

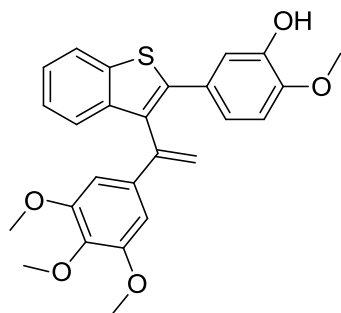
4-(3-(1-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)phenol (**5d**)



was prepared according to the method D from N'-(1-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonohydrazide and the 4-(3-bromobenzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)phenyl acetate. **5d** was obtained as an orange oil (320 mg, 83% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.21

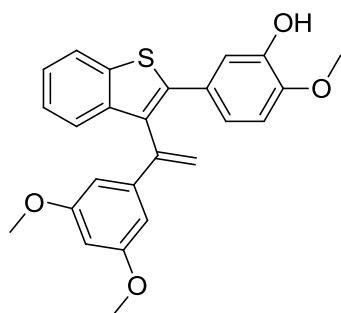
(EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2839, 1617, 1590, 1514, 1422, 1324, 1253, 1200, 1191, 1011 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.47-7.51 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.36 (m, 2H), 6.76 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 2H), 6.41 (t, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (s, 1H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 5.33 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.9 (2C), 155.6 (C), 142.8 (C), 142.1 (C), 141.2 (C), 140.4 (C), 138.4 (C), 131.9 (C), 130.5 (2CH), 127.0 (C), 124.5 (CH), 124.3 (CH), 123.6 (CH), 122.0 (CH), 118.6 (CH₂), 115.5 (2CH), 105.2 (2CH), 99.9 (CH), 55.5 (2OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₄H₂₁O₃S (M + H)⁺: *m/z* calcd 389.1211, found 389.1209.

2-methoxy-5-(3-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)phenol (5e)



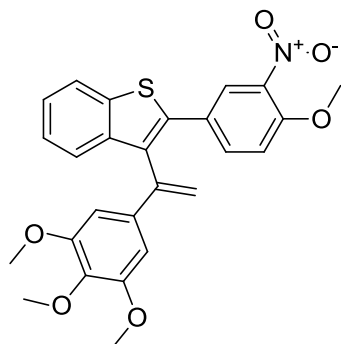
was prepared according to the method D from 4-methyl-N'-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide and the 5-(3-bromobenzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)-2-methoxyphenyl acetate. **5e** was obtained as a yellow oil (313 mg, 70% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.25 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat): 1610, 1581, 1538, 1503, 1453, 1432, 1412, 1357, 1316, 1236, 1174, 1126, 1001 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.89 – 7.77 (m, 1H), 7.56 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.12 – 7.06 (m, 1H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (s, 2H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 5.32 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.1 (2C), 146.6 (C), 145.4 (C), 142.9 (C), 141.2 (C), 140.3 (C), 138.5 (C), 138.1 (C), 135.6 (C), 132.0 (C), 127.8 (2CH), 124.4 (CH), 123.6 (CH), 122.0 (CH), 121.1 (CH₂), 117.6 (CH), 115.4 (CH), 110.5 (CH), 104.1 (2CH), 61.0 (OCH₃), 56.2 (2OCH₃), 56.0 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₆H₂₅O₅S (M + H)⁺: *m/z* calcd 449.1423, found 449.1420.

5-(3-(1-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)-2-methoxyphenol (5f)



was prepared according to the method D from N'-(1-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonohydrazide and the 5-(3-bromobenzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)-2-methoxyphenyl acetate. **5f** was obtained as a yellowish oil (306 mg, 72% yield); TLC: $R_f = 0.30$ (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat): 1589, 1504, 1454, 1424, 1357, 1283, 1263, 1241, 1203, 1154, 1064, 1017 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.87 – 7.76 (m, 1H), 7.54–7.39 (m, 1H), 7.33–7.18 (m, 3H), 7.12 (dd, $J = 8.3, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.58 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 6.00 (s, 1H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 5.34 (s, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.9 (2C), 146.6 (C), 145.4 (C), 142.9 (C), 142.1 (C), 141.2 (C), 140.3 (C), 138.5 (C), 132.1 (C), 127.8 (C), 124.4 (CH), 124.3 (CH), 123.6 (CH), 121.9 (CH), 121.2 (CH), 118.5(CH₂), 115.4 (CH), 110.6 (CH), 105.1 (2CH), 99.9 (CH), 56.0 (OCH₃), 55.4 (2OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₅H₂₃O₄S (M + H)⁺: m/z calcd 419.5127, found 419.5128.

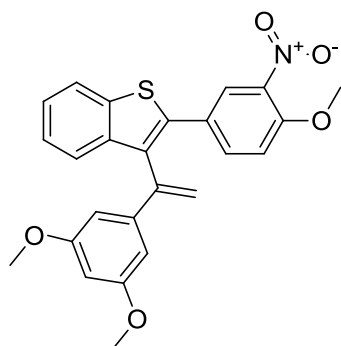
2-(4-methoxy-3-nitrophenyl)-3-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (5g)



was prepared according to the method C from 4-methyl-N'-(1-(3,4,5-

trimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide and the 3-bromo-2-(4-methoxy-3-nitrophenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene. **5g** was obtained as a colorless oil (464 mg, 97% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.29 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 3/7, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2937, 1579, 1539, 1504, 1457, 1412, 1353, 1278, 1239, 1125, 1006, 1204, 1178, 1154, 1112, 1065, 1033 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 8.10 (d, 1H, J = 1.8 Hz), 7.84 (dd, J = 1.8, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd, J = 2.2, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.37 (m, 2H), 6.98 (dd, J = 1.4, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (s, 2H), 6.00 (s, 1H), 5.37 (s, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.2 (2C), 152.4 (C), 142.3 (C), 140.8 (C), 139.2 (C), 138.5 (C), 138.3 (C), 136.2 (C), 135.2 (CH), 134.2 (C), 133.6 (C), 126.9 (CH), 125.9 (CH), 125.1 (CH), 124.8 (CH), 124.0 (CH), 123.7 (CH), 122.1 (CH₂), 113.5 (CH), 104.1 (2CH), 60.8 (OCH₃), 56.6 (OCH₃), 56.1 (2OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₆H₂₄NO₆S (M + H)⁺: m/z calcd 478.1324, found 478.1323.

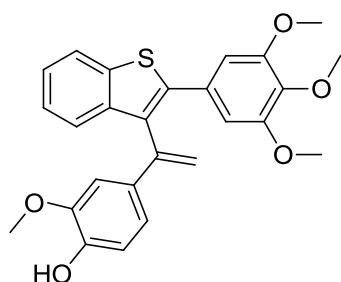
3-(1-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)-2-(4-methoxy-3-nitrophenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (**5h**)



was prepared according to the method C from N'-(1-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonohydrazide and the 3-bromo-2-(4-methoxy-3-nitrophenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene. **5h** was obtained as a yellow oil (350 mg, 78% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.29 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 1/9, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2838, 1688, 1509, 1418, 1333, 1262, 1153, 1009 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 8.12 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H) 7.84 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, J = 1.6, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (dd, J = 1.1, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (m, 2H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 2H), 6.37 (t, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (s, 1H),

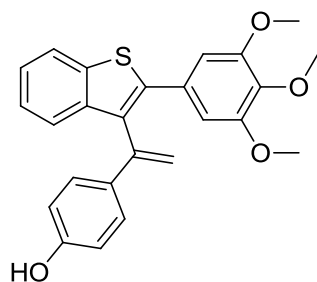
5.37 (s, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 161.0 (2C), 152.5 (C), 142.5 (C), 141.6 (C), 141.0 (C), 139.4 (C), 138.5 (C), 137.0 (CH), 134.4 (C), 133.8 (C), 127.0 (CH), 126.0 (CH), 125.1 (CH), 124.9 (CH), 123.8 (CH), 122.1 (CH_2), 119.0 (CH), 113.6 (CH), 105.1 (2CH), 100.0 (CH), 56.7 (OCH_3), 55.4 (2 OCH_3); HRMS (ESI): for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_5\text{S}$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: m/z calcd 448.1219, found 448.1217.

2-methoxy-4-(1-(2-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)vinyl)phenol (5i)



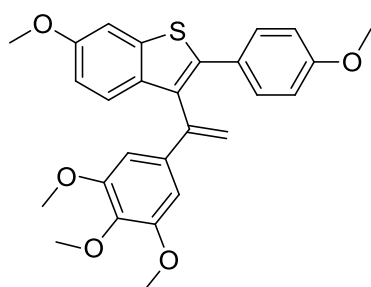
was prepared according to the method D. Compound **5i** was obtained as a yellow solid (389 mg, 86% yield); m.p = 63-64 °C; TLC: R_f = 0.54 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 3/7, SiO_2); IR (neat): 3355, 2939, 1581, 1512, 1500, 1464, 1431, 1412, 1355, 1279, 1240, 1127, 1077, 1026, 1002 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 7.83 (dd, J = 6.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, J = 6.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (ddd, J = 8.7, 6.8, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 6.85 (s, 2H), 6.81 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 5.97 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 5.25 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 153.0 (2C), 146.7 (C), 145.7 (C), 142.4 (C), 141.5 (C), 139.9 (C), 138.4 (C), 138.0 (C), 133.2 (C), 132.9 (C), 129.8 (C), 124.6 (2CH), 123.6 (CH), 122.0 (CH), 118.7 (CH), 116.1 (CH_2), 112.4 (CH), 110.5 (CH), 106.4 (2CH), 61.0 (OCH_3), 56.1 (OCH_3), 56.1 (2 OCH_3); HRMS (ESI): for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_5\text{NaS}$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$: m/z calcd 471.1242, found 471.1241.

4-(1-(2-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)benzo[b]thiophen-3-yl)vinyl)phenol (5j)



was prepared according to the method D. **5j** was obtained as a yellow solid (385 mg, 92% yield); m.p = 74-75 °C; TLC: R_f = 0.13 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat): 3356, 1652, 1652, 1607, 1581, 1512, 1497, 1452, 1431, 1410, 1275, 1236, 1218, 1167, 1076, 1022 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ (ppm): 9.54 (s, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (s, 2H), 6.68 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.02 (s, 1H), 5.14 (s, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ (ppm): 157.5 (C), 152.6 (2C), 141.8 (2C), 140.8 (C), 138.6 (C), 137.5 (C), 132.8 (C), 129.6 (C), 128.9 (C), 127.2 (2CH), 124.8 (2CH), 122.9 (CH), 122.2 (CH), 115.4 (2CH), 114.6 (CH₂), 105.9 (2CH), 60.0 (OCH₃), 55.6 (2OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₅H₂₂O₄NaS (M + Na)⁺: m/z calcd 441.1136, found 441.1134.

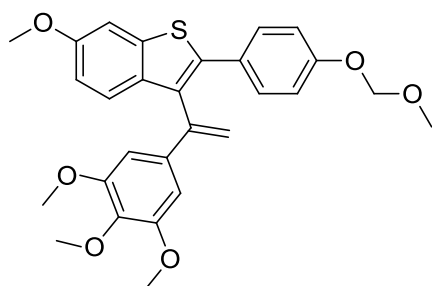
6-methoxy-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[b]thiophene (5k)



was prepared according to the method C from 4-methyl-N'-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide and the 3-bromo-6-methoxy-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)benzo[b]thiophene. **5k** was obtained as a yellow oil (346 mg, 75% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.21 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2933, 2836, 1612, 1579, 1502, 1412, 1322, 1239, 1176, 1065, 1032, 1003 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.51

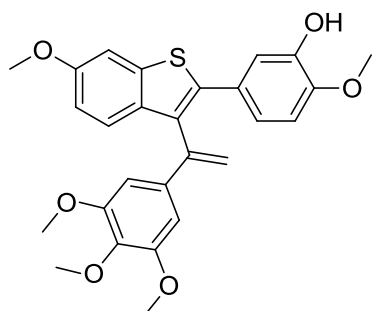
(d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd, $J = 2.2$, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 6.62 (s, 2H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 5.30 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.3 (C), 157.5 (C), 153.2 (2C), 143.0 (C), 139.7 (C), 138.1 (C), 137.8 (C), 135.5 (C), 135.3 (C), 131.3 (C), 130.0 (2CH), 127.0 (C), 124.2 (CH), 117.4 (CH_2), 114.3 (CH), 113.9 (2CH), 104.6 (CH), 104.0 (2CH), 61.0 (OCH_3), 56.2 (2OCH_3), 55.7 (OCH_3), 55.3 (OCH_3); HRMS (ESI): for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{26}\text{NaO}_5\text{S}$ ($\text{M} + \text{Na}$) $^+$: m/z calcd 485.1399, found 485.1387.

6-methoxy-2-(4-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)-3-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (5l)



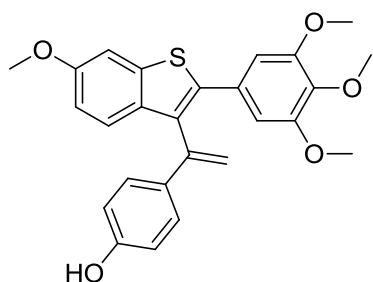
was prepared according to the method C from 4-methyl-*N'*-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide and the 3-bromo-6-methoxy-2-(4-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene. **5l** was obtained as a yellow oil (391 mg, 80% yield); TLC: $R_f = 0.30$ (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO_2); IR (neat): 3004, 1605, 1579, 1502, 1472, 1436, 1357, 1236, 1152, 1080, 1064, 1035 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 7.50 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 6.90 (dd, $J = 2.2$, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (s, 2H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 5.29 (s, 1H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 6H), 3.47 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.5 (C), 156.9 (C), 153.2 (2C), 142.9 (C), 139.8 (C), 138.2 (C), 137.6 (C), 135.5 (C), 135.2 (C), 131.6 (C), 130.1 (2CH), 128.2 (C), 124.3 (CH), 117.5 (CH_2), 116.2 (2CH), 114.3 (CH), 104.6 (CH), 104.0 (2CH), 94.4 (OCH_2O), 61.0 (3OCH_3), 56.2 (OCH_3), 55.7 (OCH_3); HRMS (ESI): for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{29}\text{O}_6\text{S}$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: m/z calcd 493.1685, found 493.1680.

2-methoxy-5-(6-methoxy-3-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)phenol (5m)



was prepared according to the method D from 4-methyl-N'-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide and the 5-(3-bromo-6-methoxybenzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)-2-methoxyphenyl acetate. **5m** was obtained as a yellowish oil (335 mg, 70% yield); TLC: $R_f = 0.11$ (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2959, 2936, 1601, 1581, 1538, 1505, 1463, 1412, 1283, 1227, 1264, 1126 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.38 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd, $J = 1.5, 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, $J = 2.0, 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.59 (s, 2H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 5.61 (s, 1H), 5.31 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.4 (C), 153.0 (2C), 146.3 (C), 145.2 (C), 142.8 (C), 139.7 (C), 137.9 (C), 137.5 (C), 135.5 (C), 135.1 (C), 131.5 (C), 127.8 (C), 124.1 (CH), 120.8 (CH), 117.3 (CH₂), 115.1 (CH), 114.2 (CH), 110.4 (CH), 104.5 (CH), 104.0 (2CH), 60.8 (OCH₃), 56.1 (2OCH₃), 55.9 (OCH₃), 55.6 (OCH₃) ; HRMS (ESI): for C₂₇H₂₇O₆S (M + H)⁺: m/z calcd 479.1528, found 479.1523.

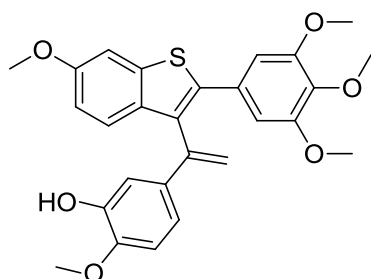
4-(1-(6-methoxy-2-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophen-3-yl)vinyl)phenol (5n)



was prepared according to the method D. **5n** was obtained as a white solid (296 mg, 66%

yield); m.p = 68-70 °C; TLC: R_f = 0.12 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat): 3002, 2937, 2035, 1600, 1582, 1535, 1499, 1472, 1434, 1412, 1227, 1174, 1053 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.39 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (s, 2H), 6.71 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.93 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.8 (C), 155.8 (C), 153.0 (2C), 142.5 (C), 139.8 (C), 137.7 (C), 137.1 (C), 135.6 (C), 132.7 (C), 132.2 (C), 130.0 (C), 127.8 (2CH), 124.4 (CH), 115.6 (2CH), 115.3 (CH₂), 114.5 (CH), 106.2 (2CH), 104.7 (CH), 61.0 (OCH₃), 56.1 (2OCH₃), 55.8 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₆H₂₄O₅NaS (M + Na)⁺: m/z calcd 471.1242, found 471.1244.

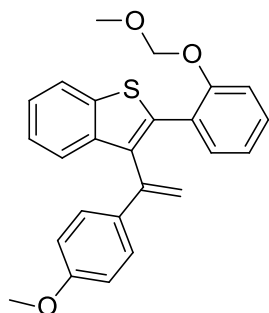
2-methoxy-5-(1-(6-methoxy-2-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophen-3-yl)vinyl)phenol (5o)



was prepared according to the method D. Compound **5o** was obtained as a white solid (311 mg, 65% yield); m.p = 66-67 °C; TLC: R_f = 0.15 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat): 3001, 2936, 2035, 1599, 1581, 1535, 1502, 1472, 1435, 1412, 1364, 1277, 1229, 1071, 1053, 1025, 1001 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.38 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.85 – 6.80 (m, 1H), 6.82 (s, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 5.57 (s, 1H), 5.24 (s, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.7 (C), 153.0 (2C), 146.7 (C), 145.7 (C), 142.6 (C), 139.7 (C), 137.8 (C), 137.1 (C), 135.7 (C), 133.1 (C), 132.5 (C), 130.0 (C), 124.3 (CH), 118.7 (CH), 115.9 (CH₂), 114.4 (CH), 112.4 (CH), 110.5 (CH), 106.1 (2CH), 104.7 (CH), 61.0 (OCH₃), 56.1 (3OCH₃), 55.8

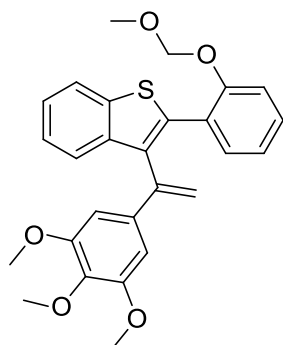
(OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₇H₂₆NaO₆S (M + Na)⁺: *m/z* calcd 501.1348, found 501.1341.

2-(2-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)-3-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (5p)



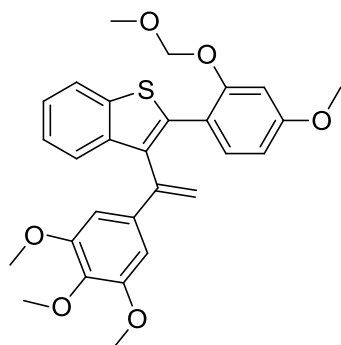
was prepared according to the method A from N'-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonohydrazide and the 3-bromo-2-(2-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (**10j**). **5p** was obtained as a yellow oil (268 mg, 66% yield); TLC: *R_f* = 0.73 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 1/9, SiO₂); IR (neat): 3001, 2858, 2902, 2835, 1590, 1577, 1441, 1423, 1391, 1305, 1254, 1217, 1192, 1152, 1133, 1052, 1014 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.23 (m, 6H), 7.23 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 6.99 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.65 (s, 1H), 5.09 (s, 1H), 5.00 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.25 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.4 (C), 155.1 (C), 142.3 (C), 139.8 (C), 139.5 (C), 137.3 (C), 135.1 (C), 132.8 (2C), 132.4 (CH), 129.7 (CH), 128.2 (2CH), 124.2 (CH), 124.1 (2CH), 121.9 (CH), 121.5 (CH), 115.3 (CH₂), 114.7 (CH), 113.7 (2CH), 94.5 (OCH₂O), 56.0 (OCH₃), 55.4 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₅H₂₃O₃S (M + H)⁺: *m/z* calcd 403.1368, found 403.1364.

2-(2-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)-3-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (5q)



was prepared according to the method C from 4-methyl-N'-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide and the 3-bromo-2-(2-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene. **5q** was obtained as yellow oil (346 mg, 75% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.42 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2999, 2935, 2662, 1580, 1504, 1453, 1413, 1357, 1316, 1238, 1197, 1153, 1127, 1079 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.85 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.21 (m, 5H), 7.21 – 7.07 (m, 1H), 7.05 – 6.88 (m, 1H), 6.59 (s, 2H), 5.70 (s, 1H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 5.02 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 6H), 3.30 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.0 (C), 152.9 (2C), 143.0 (2C), 139.7 (C), 139.5 (C), 138.0 (C), 137.6 (C), 136.2 (C), 134.7 (C), 132.4 (CH), 129.8 (CH), 124.3 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 123.9 (CH), 122.0 (CH), 121.6 (CH), 116.9 (CH₂), 114.8 (CH), 104.6 (2CH), 94.7 (OCH₂O), 61.0 (OCH₃), 56.3 (2OCH₃), 56.1 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₇H₂₆O₅NaS (M + Na)⁺: m/z calcd 485.1399, found 485.1401.

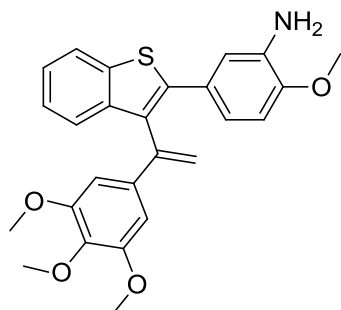
2-(4-methoxy-2-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)-3-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (5r)



was prepared according to the method C from 4-methyl-N'-(1-(3,4,5-

trimethoxyphenyl)ethylidene)benzenesulfonohydrazide and the 3-bromo-2-(4-methoxy-2-(methoxymethoxy)phenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene. **5r** was obtained as a yellow oil (411 mg, 83% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.44 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 1/9, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2836, 2154, 2018, 1990, 1611, 1579, 1460, 1413, 1358, 1240, 1221, 1154, 1044, 1005 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.82 (dd, J = 7.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.18 (m, 4H), 6.71 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (s, 2H), 6.51 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.70 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.00 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 6H), 3.29 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.1 (C), 156.0 (C), 153.0 (2C), 143.1 (C), 139.9 (C), 139.4 (C), 138.1 (C), 137.7 (C), 136.2 (C), 134.3 (C), 132.8 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 123.8 (CH), 121.9 (CH₂), 116.7 (C), 116.5 (CH), 106.6 (2CH), 104.7 (CH), 101.7 (CH), 94.8 (OCH₂O), 61.0 (OCH₃), 56.3 (2OCH₃), 56.1 (OCH₃), 55.5 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₈H₂₈NaO₆S (M + Na)⁺: m/z calcd 515.1502, found 515.1498.

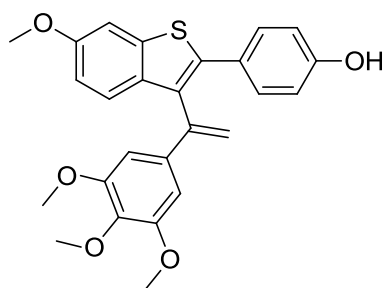
2-methoxy-5-(3-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)aniline (5s)



was prepared from the product **5g**. To a solution of **5g** (0.99 mmol) in 11 mL of EtOH and 4 mL of H₂O were added at room temperature Iron (9.9 mmol) and a drop of concentrated HCl. The mixture was stirred overnight at reflux. After cooling to rt, the mixture was treated by EtOAc, filtrated on celite and concentrated under reduce pressure. The crude product was purified by silica gel chromatography. **5t** was obtained as a colorless oil (420 mg, 90% yield); TLC: R_f = 0.26 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 3/7, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2939, 1613, 1581, 1463, 1413, 1369, 1235, 1203, 1026, 1031, 1003 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, (CD₃)₂CO) δ 7.93 – 7.84 (m, 1H), 7.52 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.05 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd,

$J = 8.3, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.76 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.69 (s, 2H), 6.04 (d, $J = 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 5.29 (d, $J = 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$) δ 154.2 (2C), 148.0 (C), 144.0 (C), 142.1 (C), 142.0 (C), 139.5 (C), 139.1 (C), 138.5 (C), 136.3 (C), 132.4 (C), 127.8 (C), 125.2 (CH), 125.1 (CH), 123.9 (CH), 122.8 (CH), 118.7 (CH), 117.8 (CH_2), 115.4 (CH), 111.0 (CH), 105.3 (2CH), 60.5 (CH_3), 56.4 (2 CH_3), 55.8 (CH_3); HRMS (ESI): for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_4\text{S}$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$: m/z calcd 448.1583, found 448.1580.

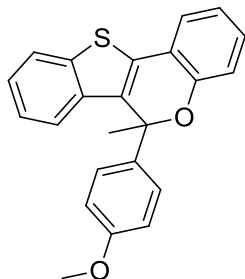
4-(6-methoxy-3-(1-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)vinyl)benzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)phenol (5t)



was prepared from the product **5l**. A solution of **5l** (0.7 mmol) and PTSA (2.1 mmol) in 18 mL of EtOH was stirred overnight at 60°C. After cooling to rt, the mixture was treated by water and extract by EtOAc. The layers are separated. Organic layer was washed with a saturated solution of NaCl, dried with anhydrous MgSO_4 and concentrated under reduce pressure. The crude product was purified by silica gel chromatography. **5t** was obtained as a yellow oil (305 mg, 97% yield); TLC: $R_f = 0.18$ (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 3/7, SiO_2); IR (neat): 2833, 1610, 1582, 1538, 1503, 1473, 1435, 1413, 1357, 1315, 1238, 1173, 1065, 1035 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 7.43 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, $J = 2.2, 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 2H), 6.60 (s, 2H), 5.91 (s, 1H), 5.43 (s, 1H), 5.30 (s, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.5 (C), 155.6 (C), 153.1 (2C), 142.9 (C), 139.7 (C), 138.0 (C), 137.8 (C), 135.6 (C), 135.3 (C), 131.3 (C), 130.3 (2CH), 127.1 (C), 124.2 (CH), 117.5 (CH_2), 115.5 (2CH), 114.3(CH), 104.7 (CH), 104.0 (2CH), 61.0 (OCH_3), 56.2 (2 OCH_3),

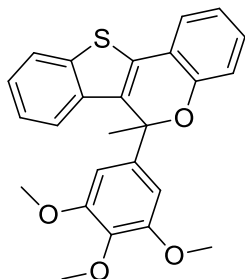
55.8 (OCH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₆H₂₄NaO₅S (M + Na)⁺: *m/z* calcd 471.1242, found 471.1244.

6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6-methyl-6H-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-*c*]chromene (13a)



was prepared according to the general method E from the compound **5p**. **13a** was obtained as a yellow oil (340 mg, 95% yield); TLC: *R_f* = 0.57 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 1/9, SiO₂); IR (neat): 3300, 2951, 1451, 1403, 1115, 1012, 1077, 1003 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.85 – 7.79 (m, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.08 – 7.02 (m, 1H), 7.01 – 6.92 (m, 2H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.6 (C), 151.6 (C), 139.5 (C), 137.5 (C), 136.0 (C), 133.3 (C), 131.8 (C), 130.0 (CH), 128.5 (2CH), 124.6 (CH), 124.2 (CH), 123.8 (CH), 123.0 (CH), 122.9 (CH), 121.6 (CH), 119.3 (C), 117.1 (CH), 113.8 (2CH), 82.4 (C), 55.4 (OCH₃), 26.0 (CH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₃H₁₉O₂S (M + H)⁺: *m/z* calcd 359.1106, found 359.1105.

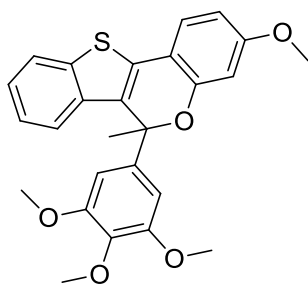
6-methyl-6-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-6H-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-*c*]chromene (13b)



was prepared according to the general method E from the compound **5q**. **13b** was obtained as a yellow oil (376 mg, 90% yield); TLC: *R_f* = 0.4 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 1/9, SiO₂); IR (neat): 2957, 2923, 2853, 1590, 1553, 1435, 1401, 1290, 1274, 1232, 1198, 1152, 1042 cm⁻¹

¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.82 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.18 (m, 3H), 7.16 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.00 (dd, *J* = 11.2, 4.6 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 6H), 2.14 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.2 (2C), 151.4 (C), 139.4 (2C), 138.2 (C), 137.5 (C), 133.4 (C), 131.5 (C), 130.1 (CH), 124.8 (CH), 124.3 (CH), 124.0 (CH), 122.9 (2CH), 121.8 (CH), 119.4 (C), 117.2 (CH), 104.8(2CH), 82.8 (C), 60.9 (OCH₃), 56.3 (2OCH₃), 26.2 (CH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₅H₂₃O₄S (M + H)⁺: *m/z* calcd 419.1317, found 419.1312.

3-methoxy-6-methyl-6-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-6H-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-c]chromene (13c)



was prepared according to the general method E from the compound **5r**. **13c** was obtained as a yellow solid (426 mg, 95% yield); mp= 84-85°C; TLC: R_f = 0.54 (EtOAc/Cyclohexane, 2/8, SiO₂); IR (neat): 3334, 3317, 2974, 2928, 2898, 2876, 2360, 2181, 2137, 1929, 1592, 1521, 1421, 1334, 1229, 1089, 1046 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.79 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (dtd, *J* = 16.4, 7.1, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (s, 2H), 6.59 – 6.53 (m, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 6H), 2.11 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.6 (C), 153.2 (2C), 152.7 (C), 139.3 (C), 138.9 (C), 138.3 (C), 137.6(C), 133.6 (C), 129.2 (C), 124.8 (CH), 124.7 (CH), 123.8 (CH), 122.8 (CH), 122.5 (CH), 112.6 (C), 108.2 (CH), 104.9 (2CH), 102.6(CH), 83.1 (C), 61.0 (OCH₃), 56.4 (2OCH₃), 55.6 (OCH₃), 26.0 (CH₃); HRMS (ESI): for C₂₆H₂₅O₅S (M + H)⁺: *m/z* calcd 449.1423, found 449.1421.

Biology methods

Cell culture and proliferation assay: Cancer cell lines were obtained from the American type Culture Collection (Rockville, USA) and were cultured according to the supplier's instructions. HCT116 colorectal carcinoma cells were grown in RPMI 1640 containing 10% FCS and 1% glutamine. All cell lines were maintained at 37°C in a humidified atmosphere containing 5% CO₂. Cell viability was assessed using Promega CellTiter-Blue reagent according to the manufacturer's instructions. Cells were seeded in 96-well plates (5 X 10³ cells per well) containing 50 mL growth medium. After 24 h of culture, the cells were supplemented with 50 mL of the test compound dissolved in DMSO (less than 0.1% in each preparation). After 72 h of incubation, 20 mL of resazurin was added for 2 h before recording fluorescence (λ_{ex} =560 nm, λ_{em} =590 nm) using a Victor microtiter plate fluorimeter (Perkin–Elmer, USA). The IC₅₀ value corresponds to the concentration of test compound that caused a decrease of 50% in fluorescence of drug treated cells compared with untreated cells. Experiments were performed in triplicate.

Tubulin binding assay: Sheep brain tubulin was purified according to the method of Shelanski³ by two cycles of assembly–disassembly and then dissolved in the assembly buffer containing 0.1m MES, 0.5 mm MgCl₂, 1mm EGTA and 1 mm GTP (pH 6.6) to give a tubulin concentration of ~2–3 mg/mL. Tubulin assembly was monitored and recorded continuously by turbidimetry at 350 nm in a UV spectrophotometer equipped with a thermostatted cell at 37 °C. The GI₅₀ value of each compound was determined as the concentration at which the maximum assembly rate of tubulin was decreased by 50% compared to the rate in the absence of compound. The GI₅₀ values for all compounds were compared to the GI₅₀ of CA-4, *iso*CA-4 and measured the same day under the same conditions.

Computational methods

X-ray structures of 5 different tubuline cocrystals were retrieved from the PDB⁴ (accession codes 1SA0, 1SA1, 3HKC, 3HKD and 3HKE) and prepared using Protein Preparation Wizard workflow from Schrödinger suite,⁵ including optimization of the hydrogen bond network and a short minimization with position restraints on heavy atoms using OPLS_2005 force field⁶. Coordinates for compounds **5e,k,m** were generated using Standardizer from JChem suite v6.3⁷ and geometries were refined at the HF/STO-3G level⁸ using NWChem v6.1⁹. Ligands were then freely docked in the colchicine binding site located between chains C and D using the ensemble docking procedure available in GOLD v5.2.2¹⁰ over the 5 aligned tubuline structures. CHEMPLP with default parameters was used as an objective function.¹¹ Structures of complexes were exported, subjected to hydrogen bond network optimization using Protein Preparation Wizard, and loaded in Chimera v1.9¹² for examination (including hydrogen bond detection, close contact analysis and representation of solvent-accessible surface) and depiction.

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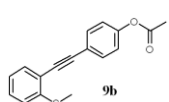
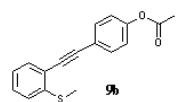
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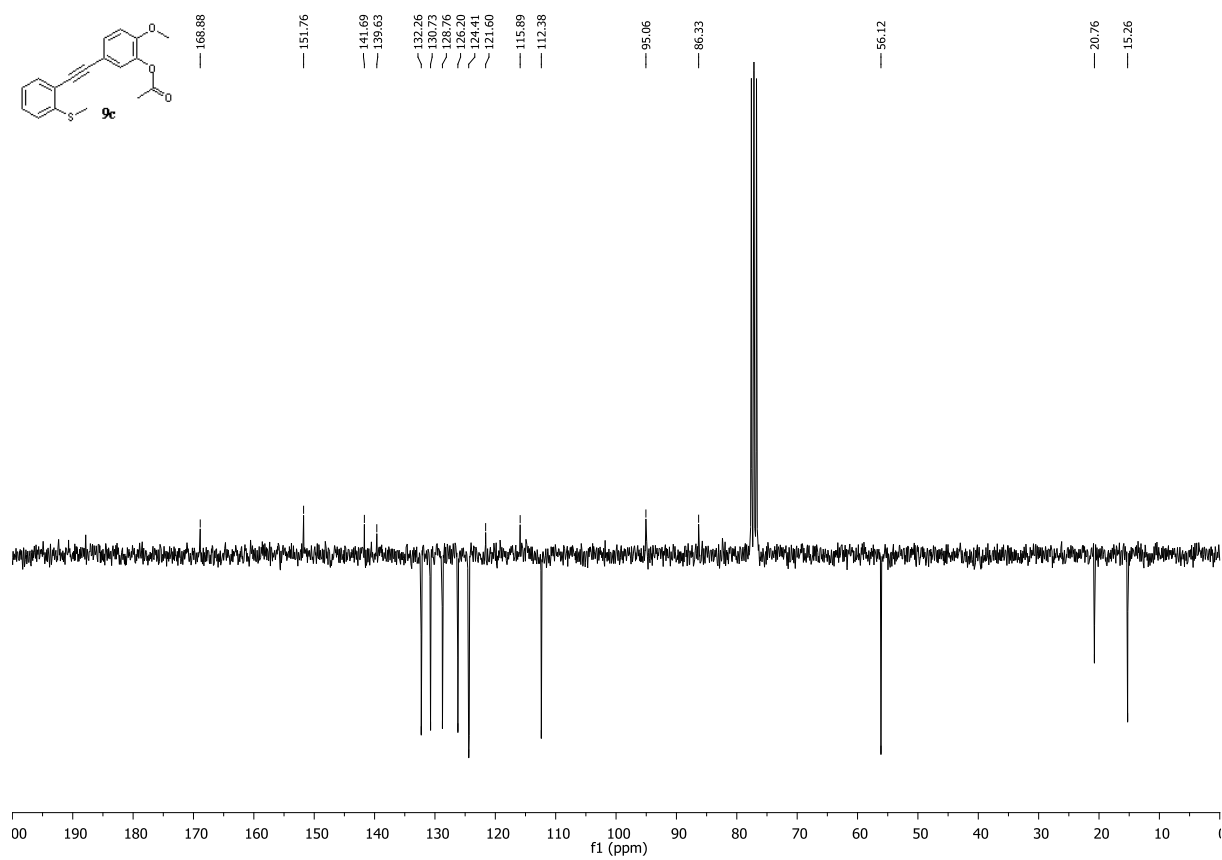
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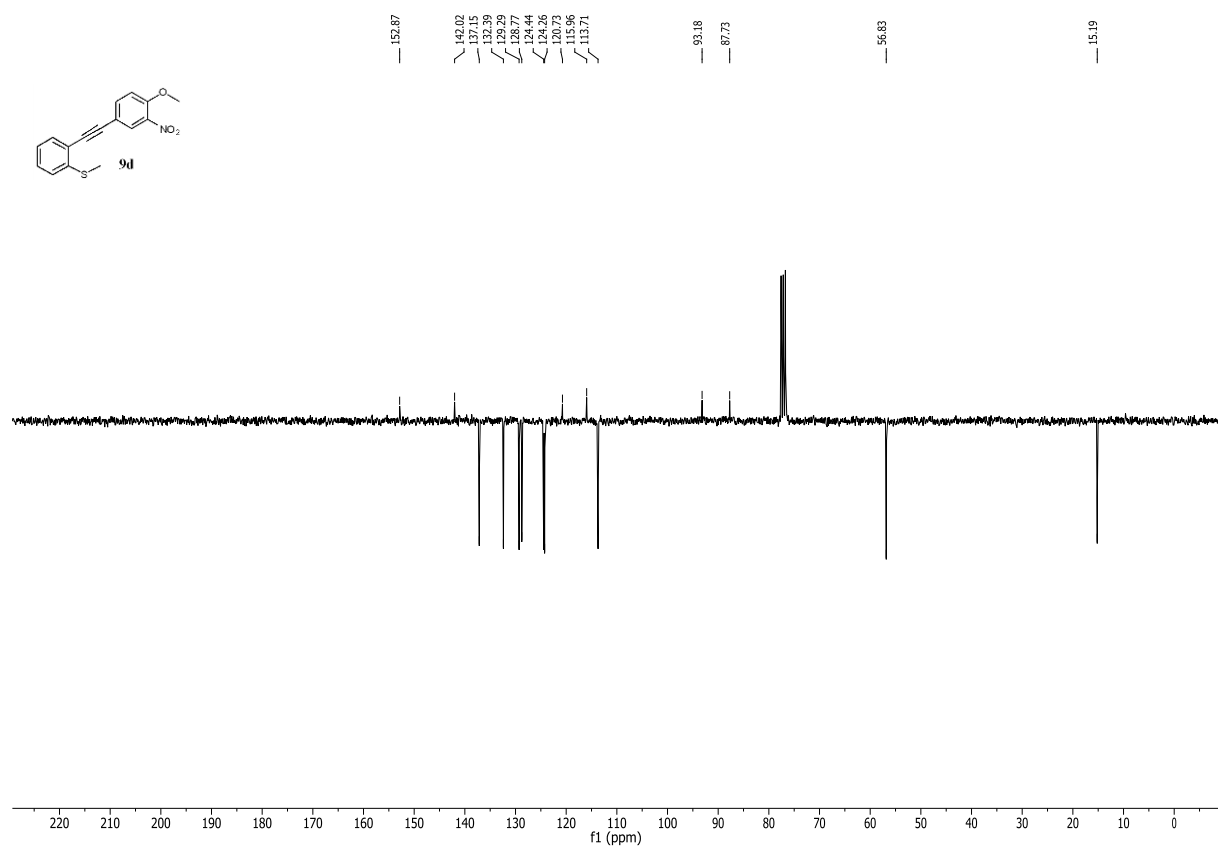
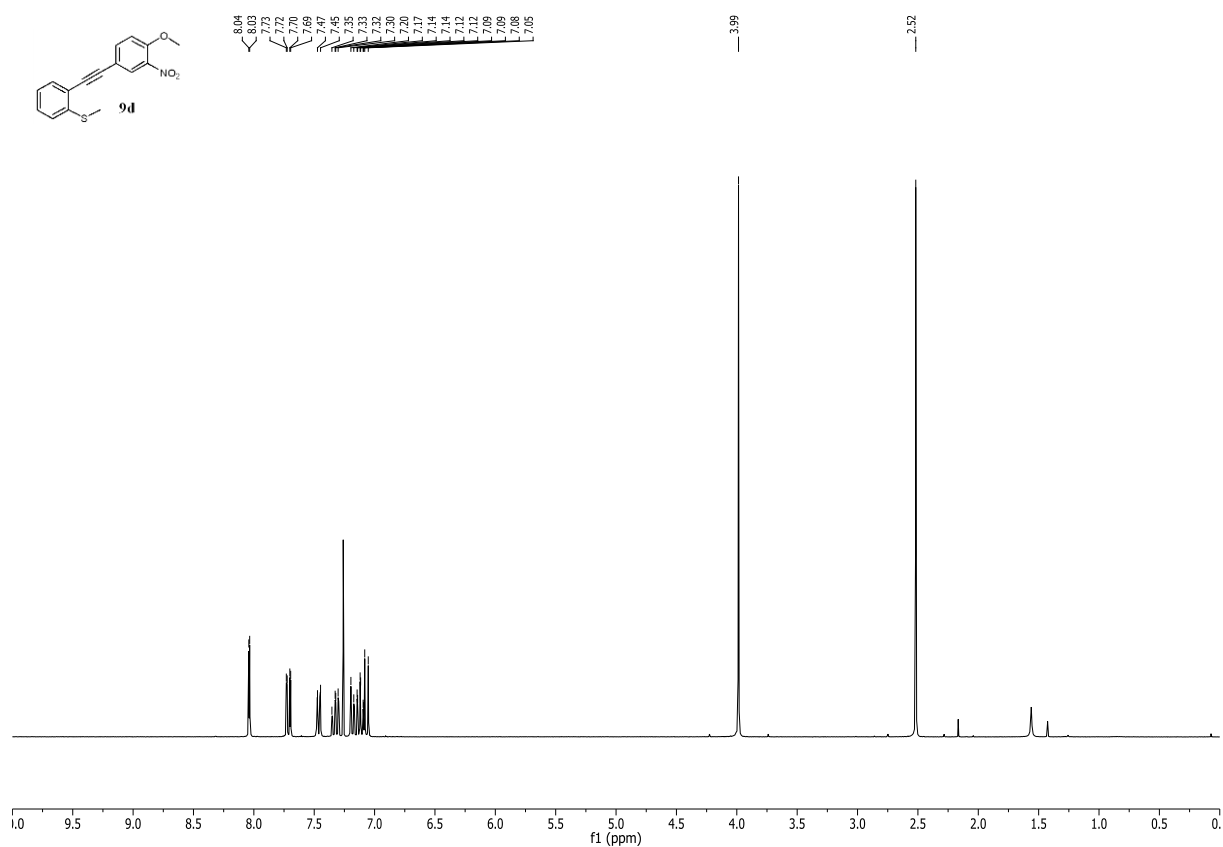
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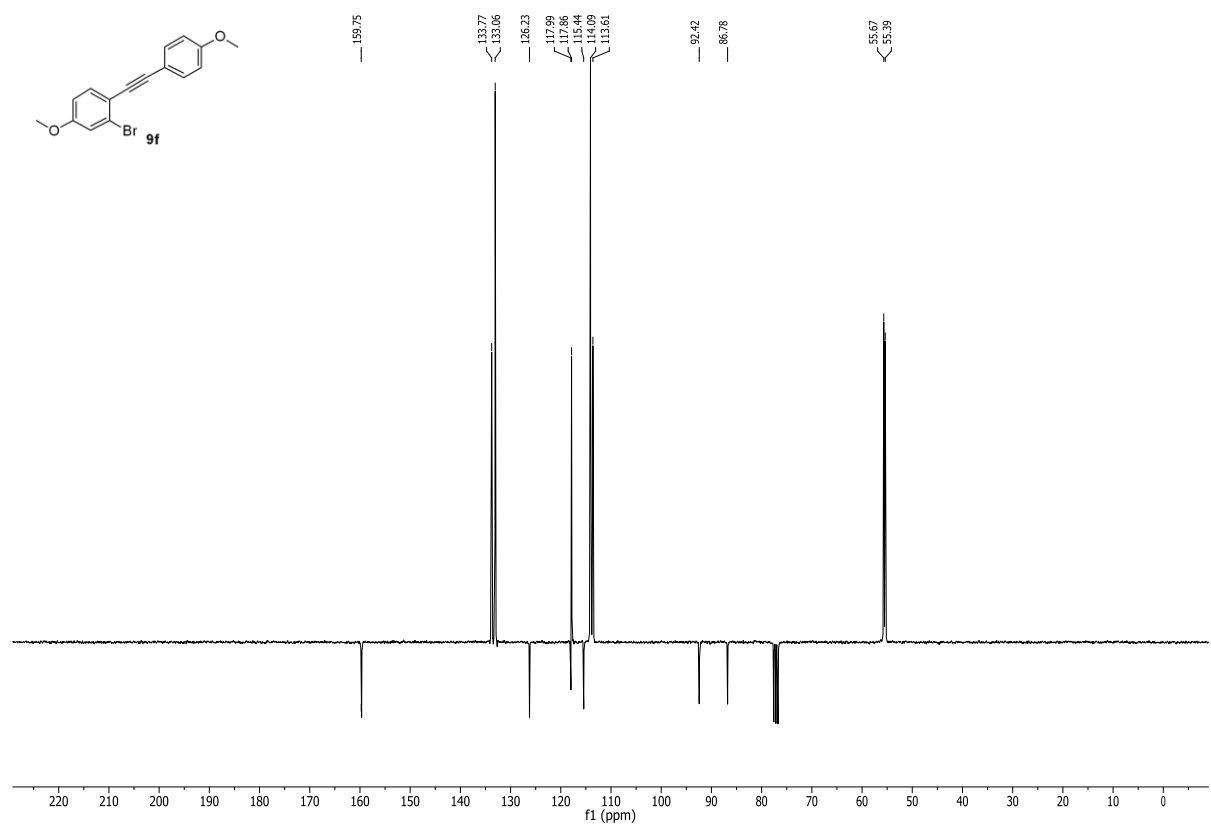
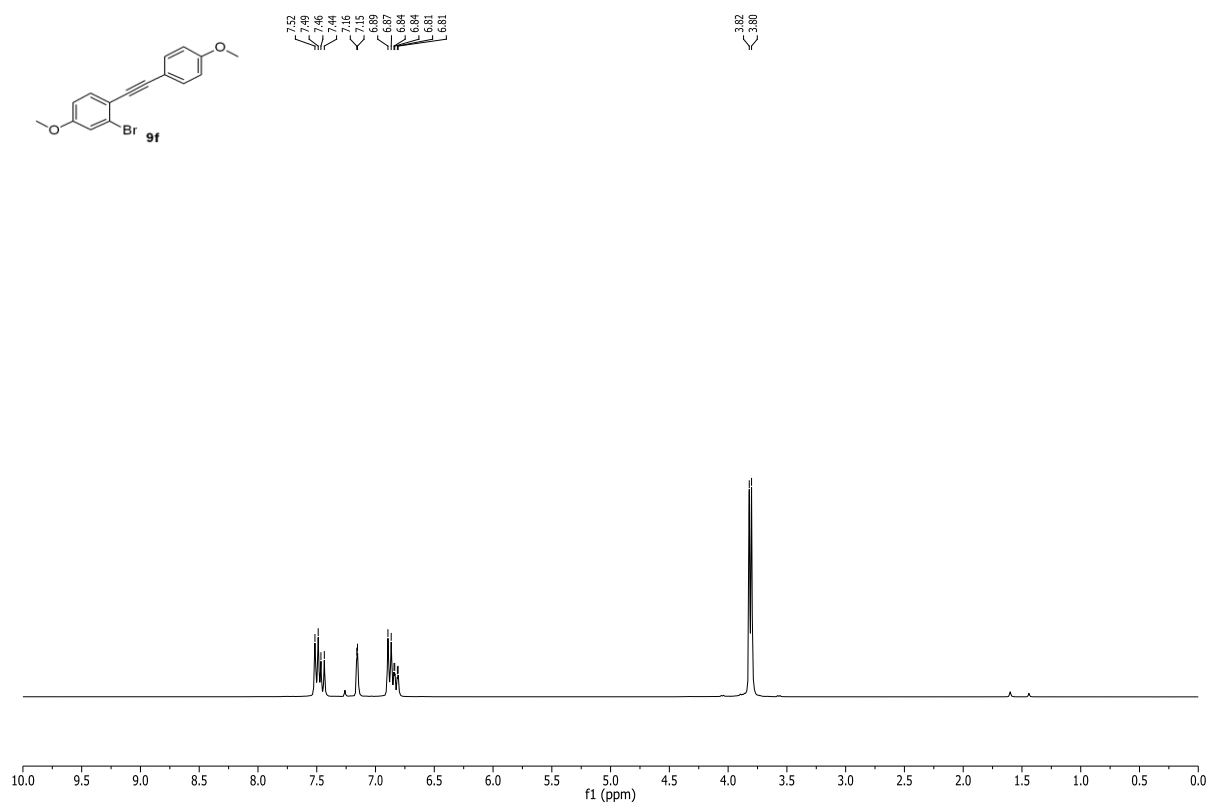
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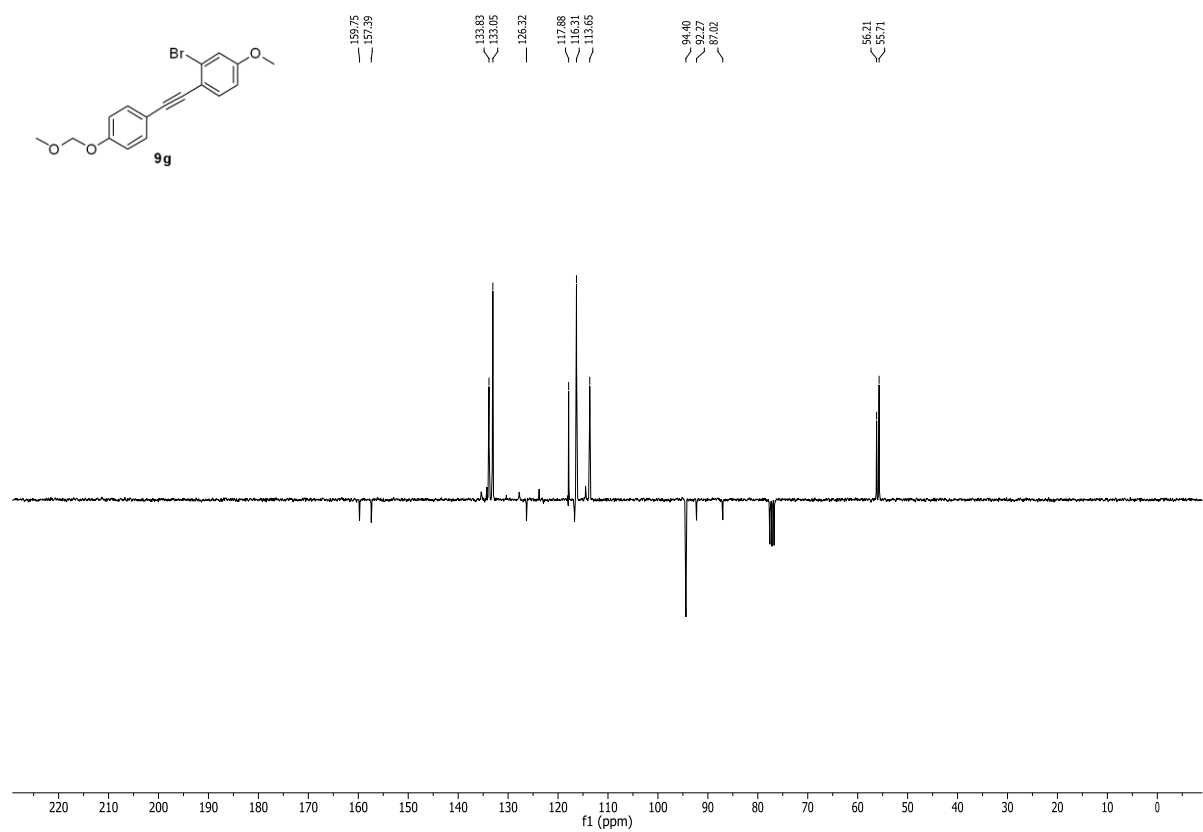
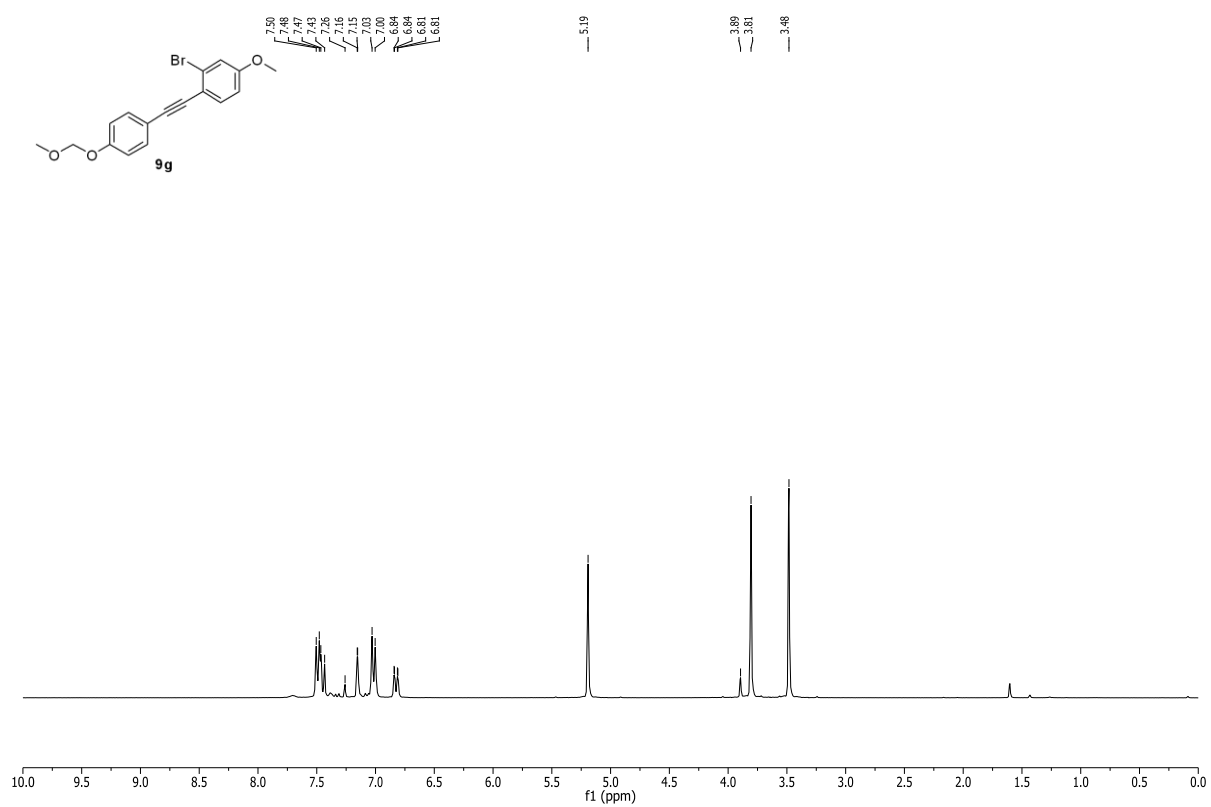
I. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra for Alkynes

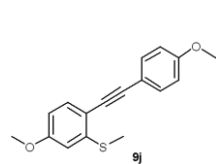
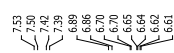


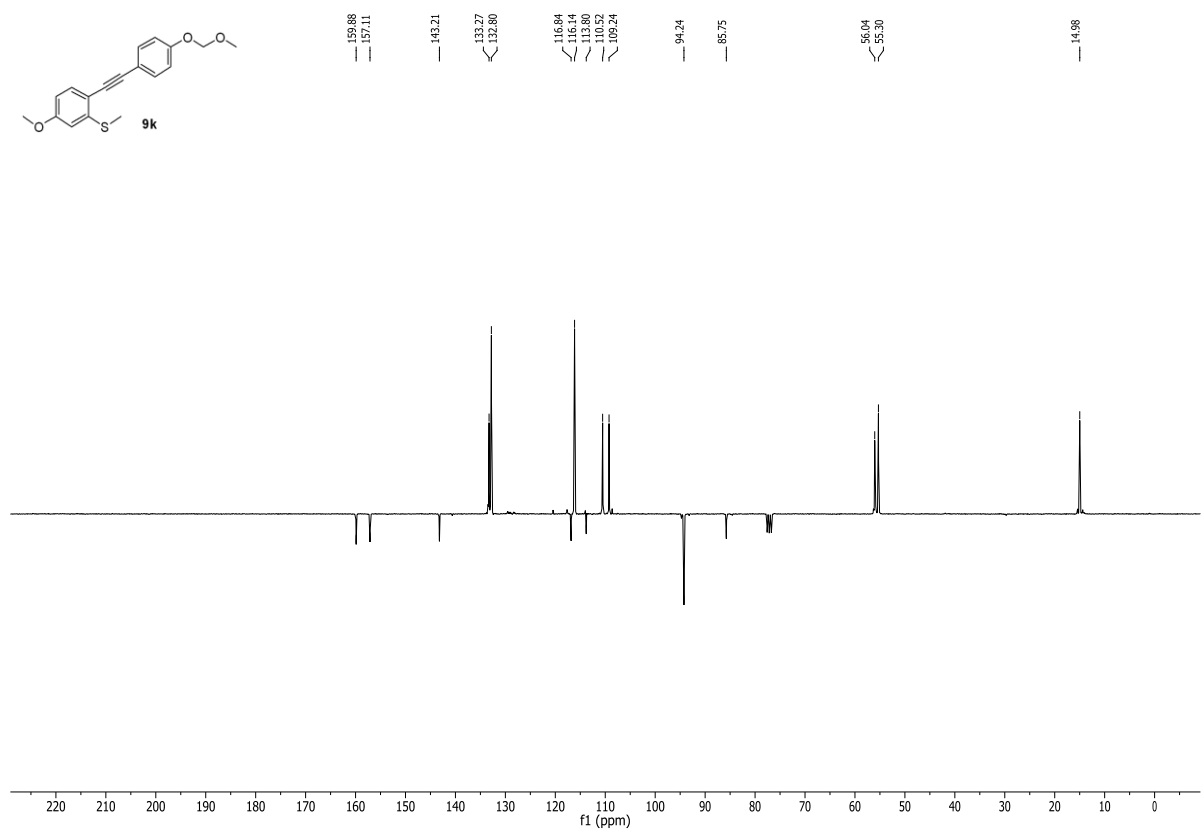
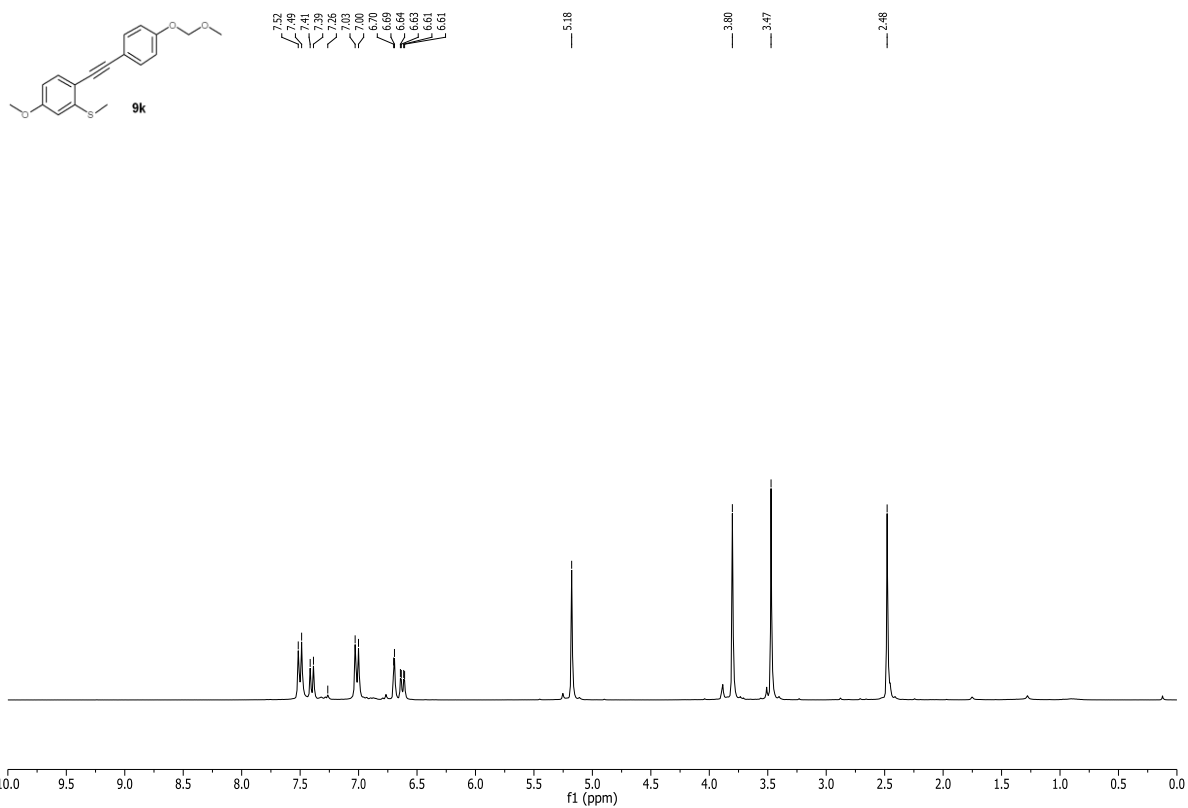


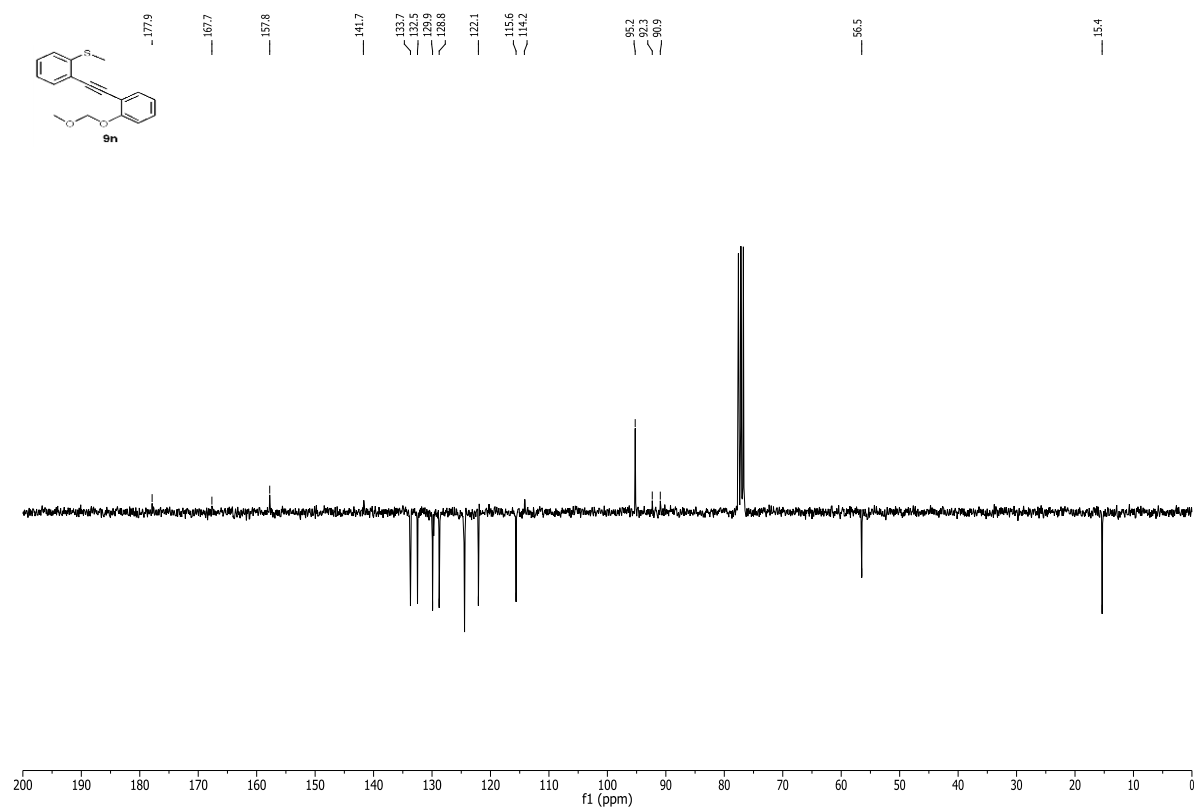
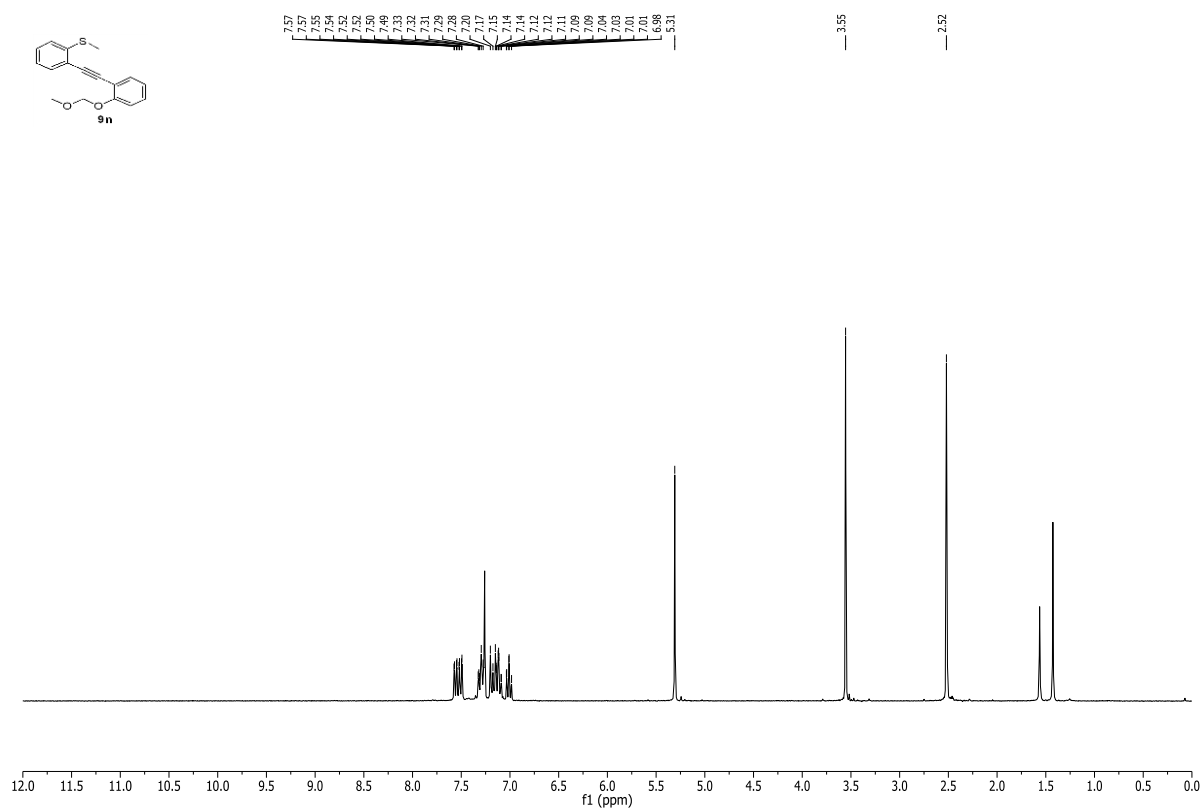




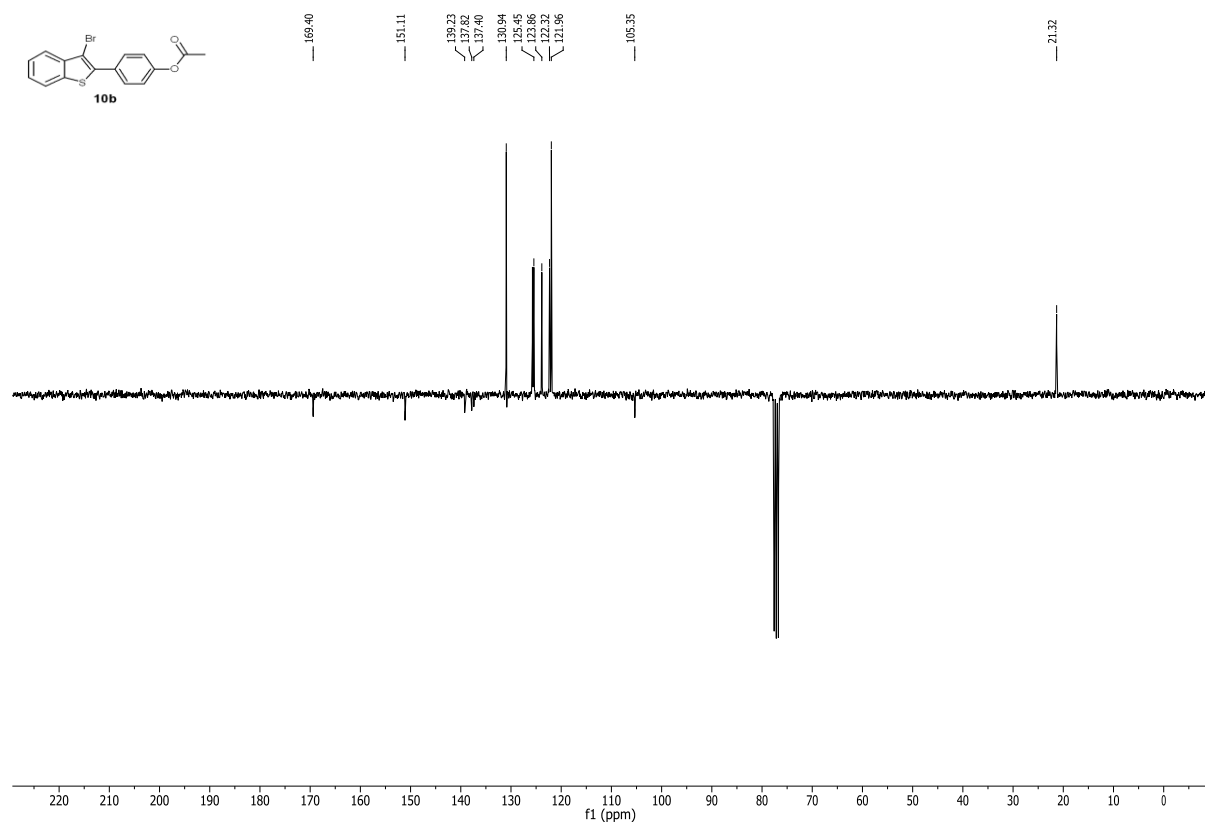
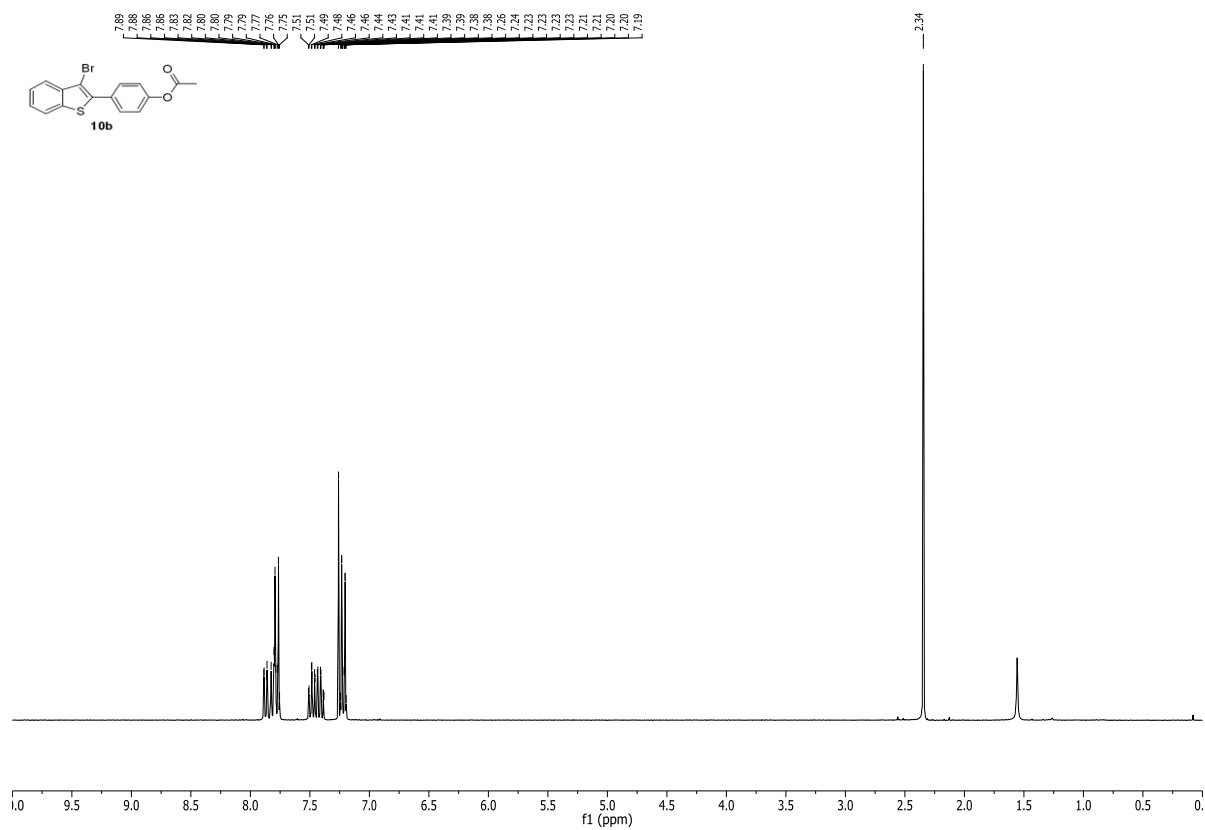


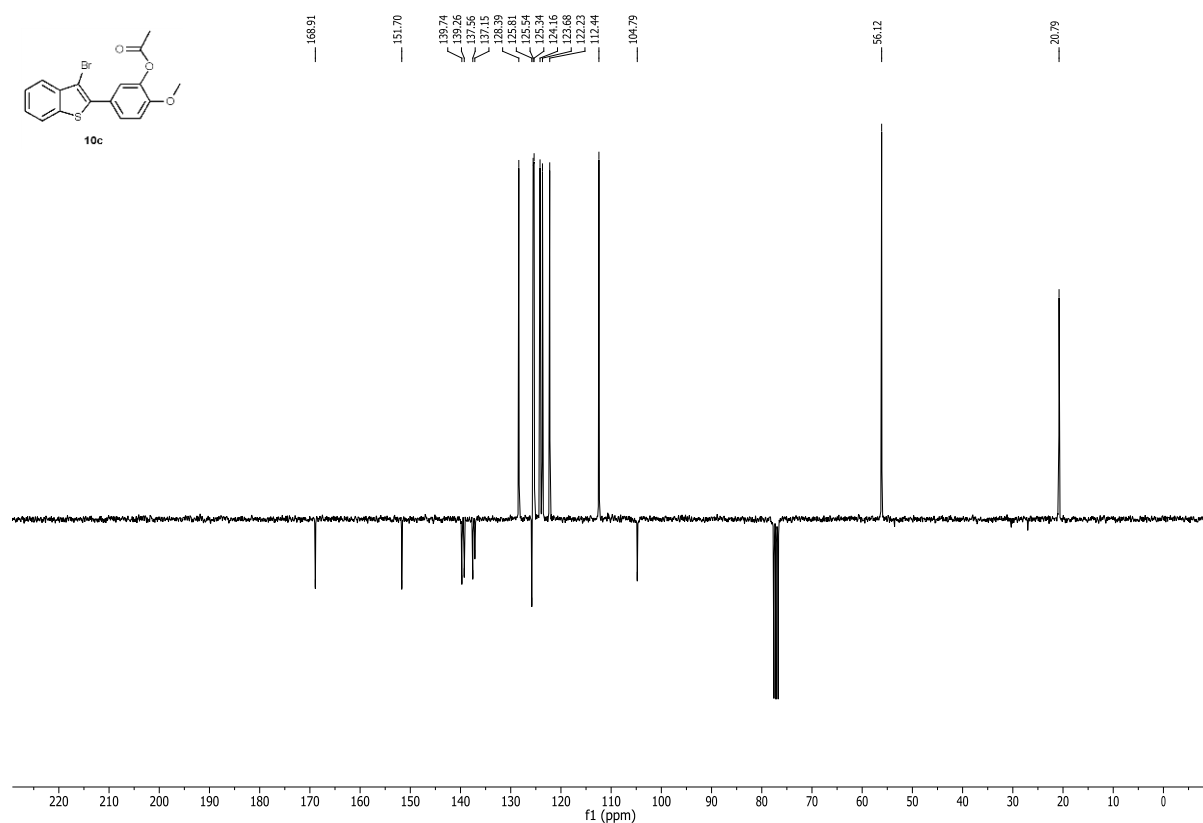
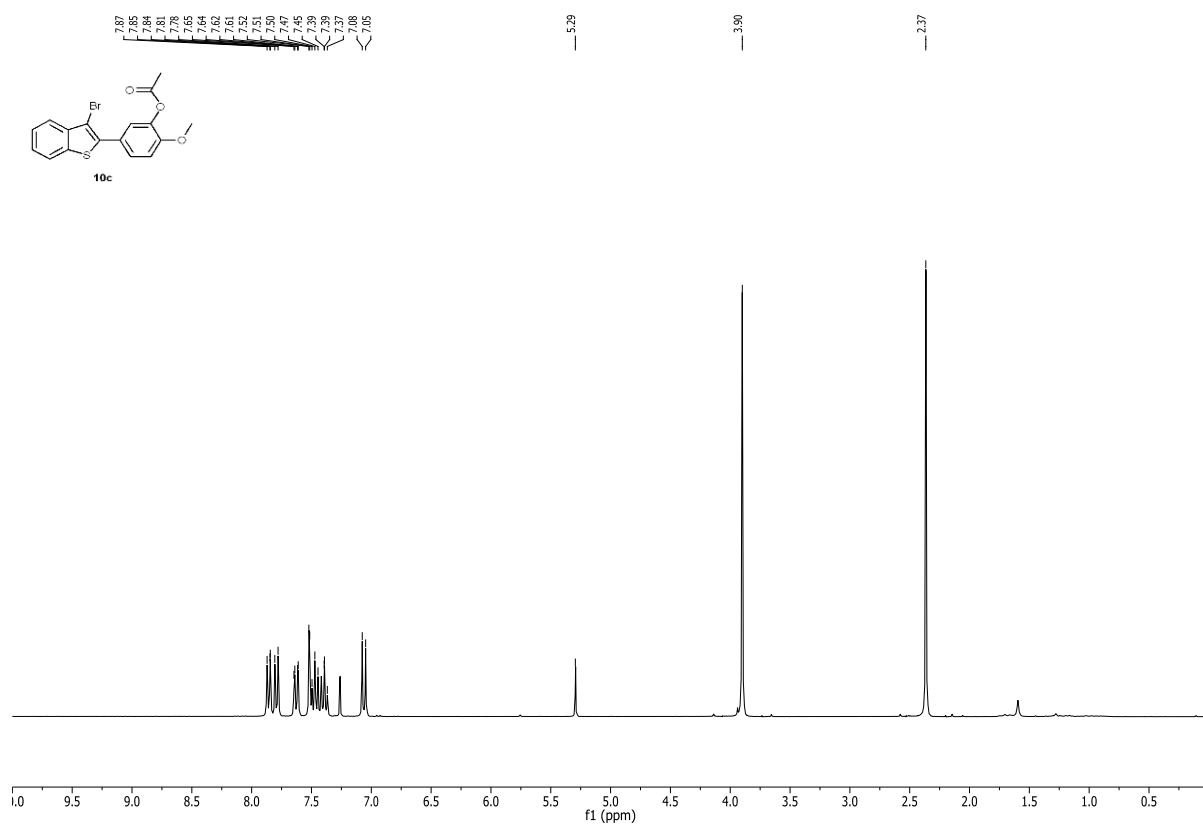


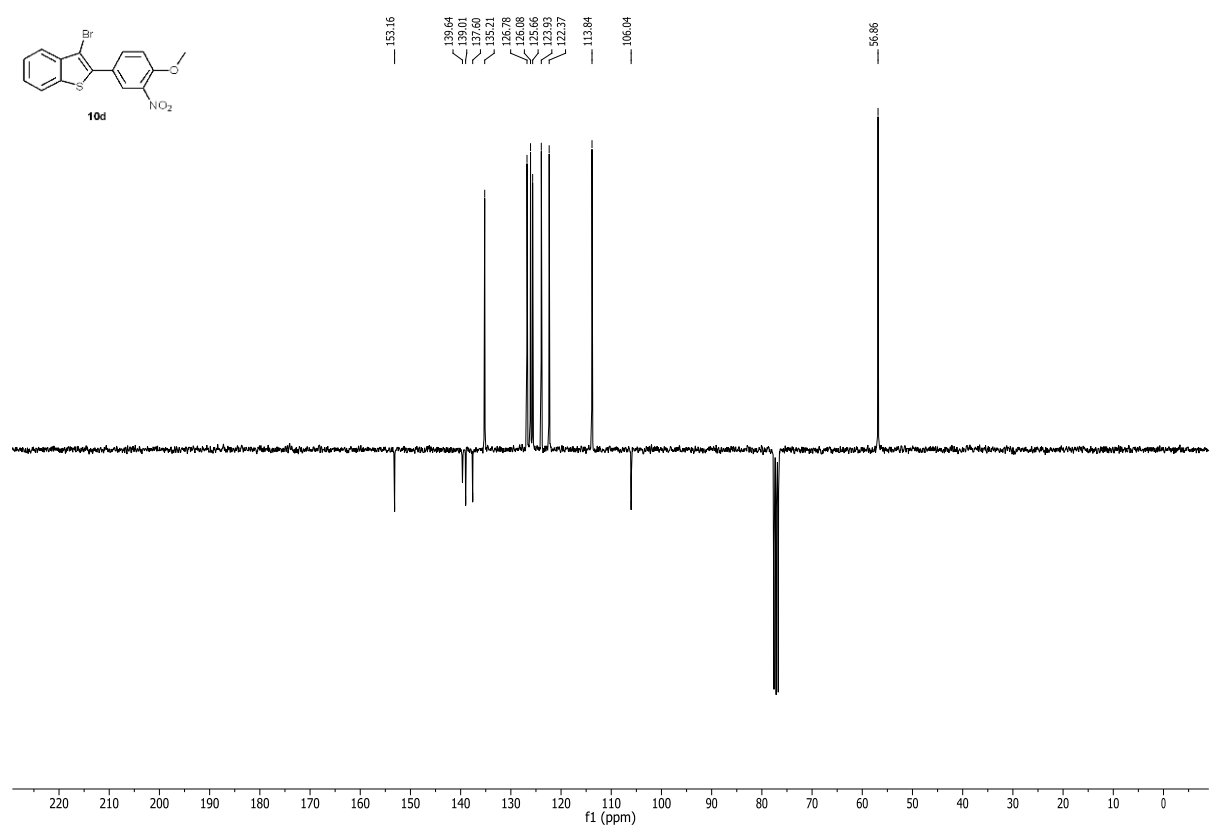
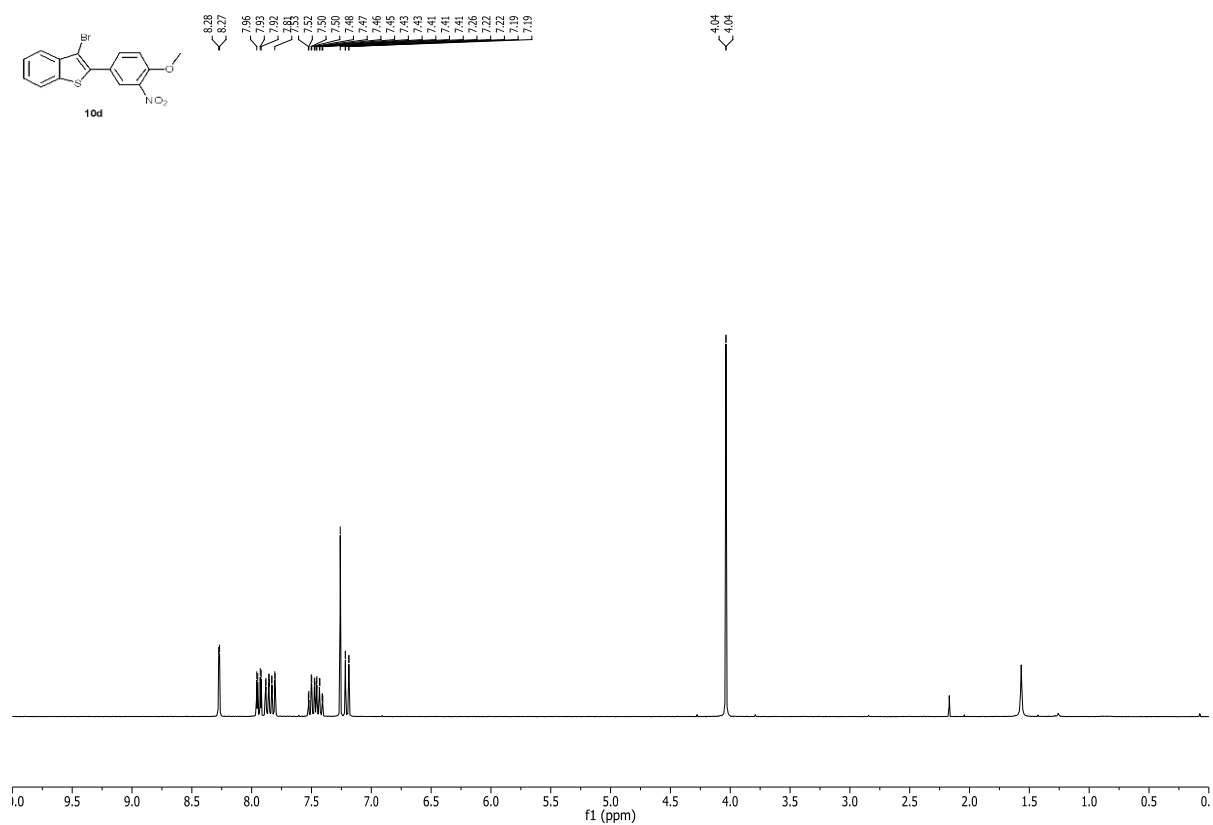


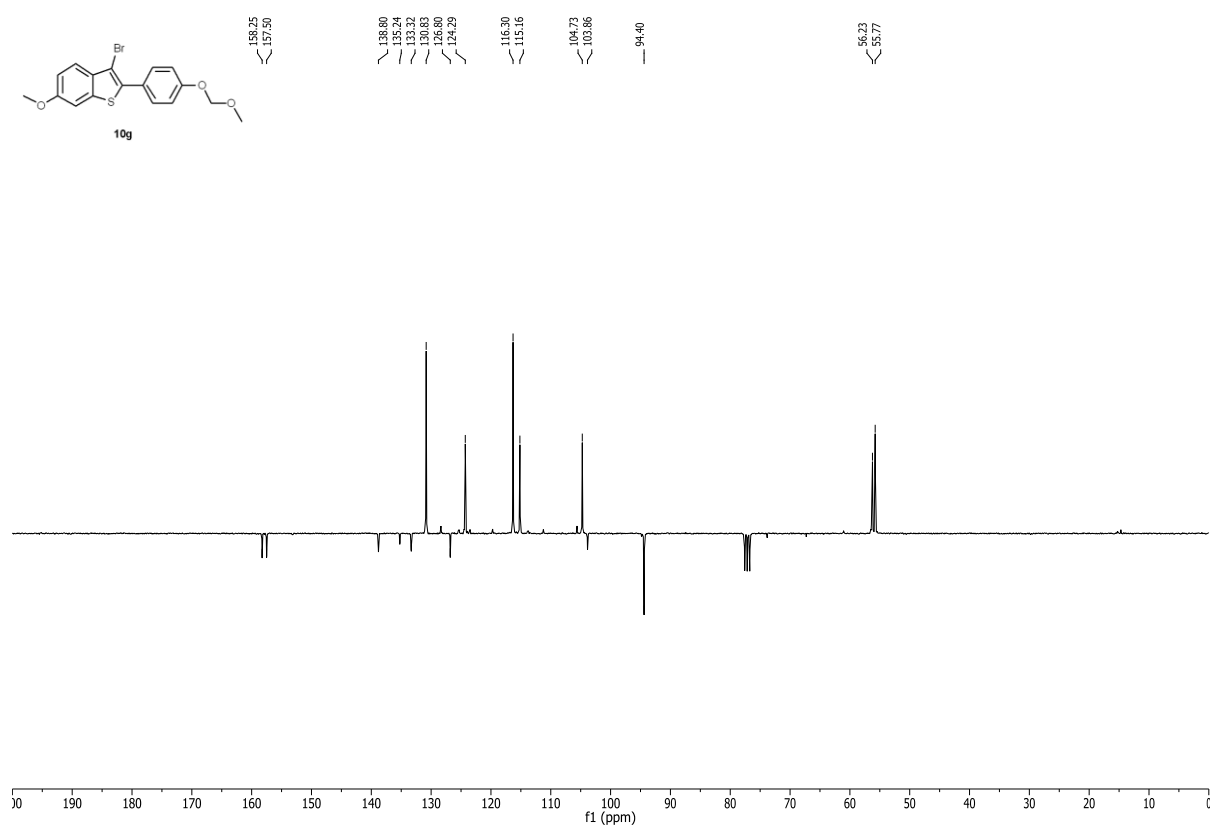
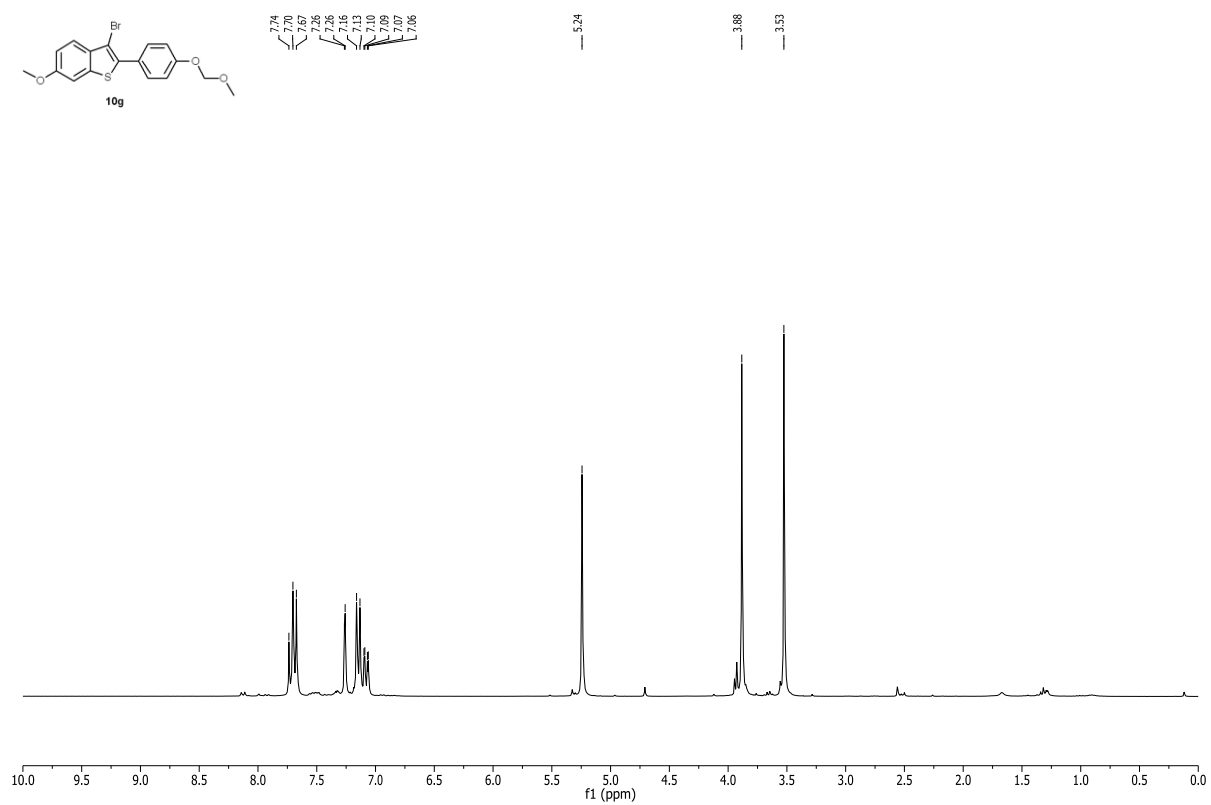


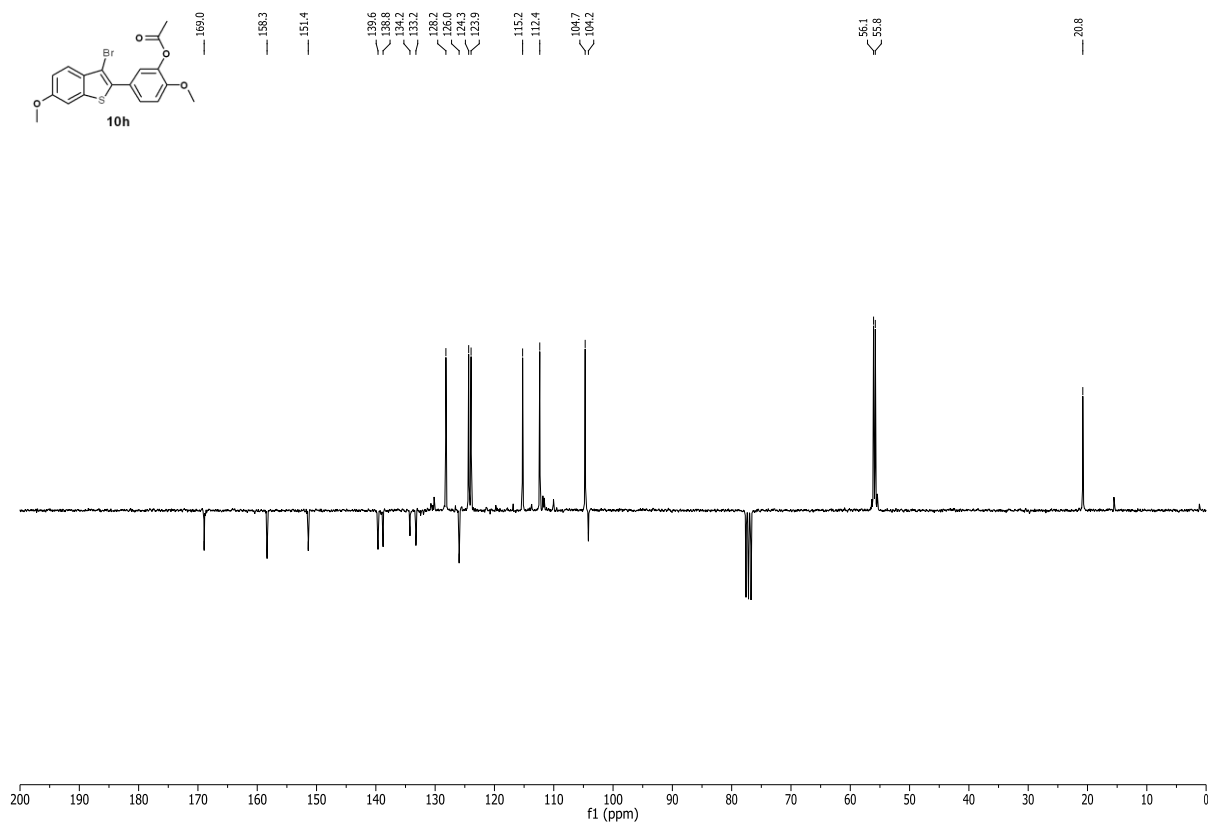
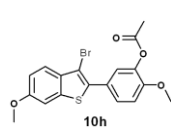
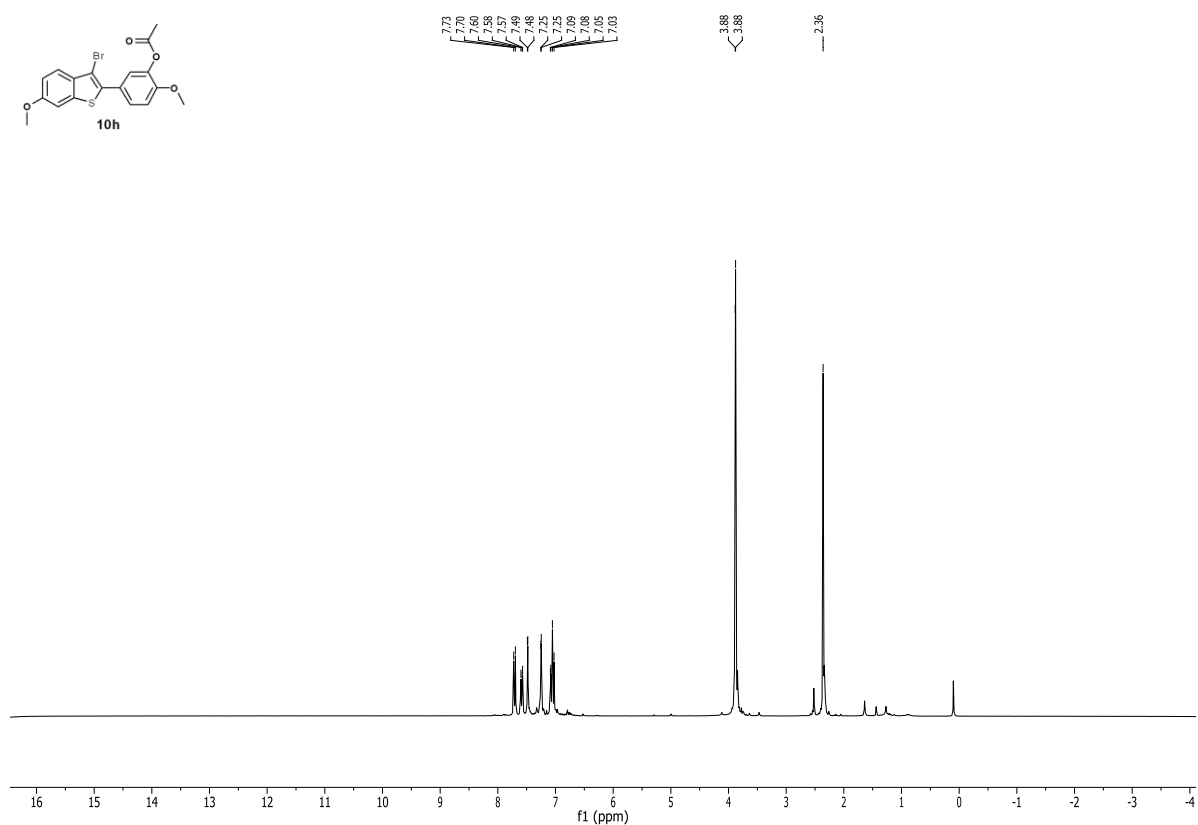
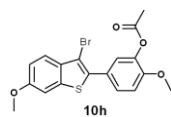
II. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra for 3-bromobenzo[*b*]thiophenes 11b–k

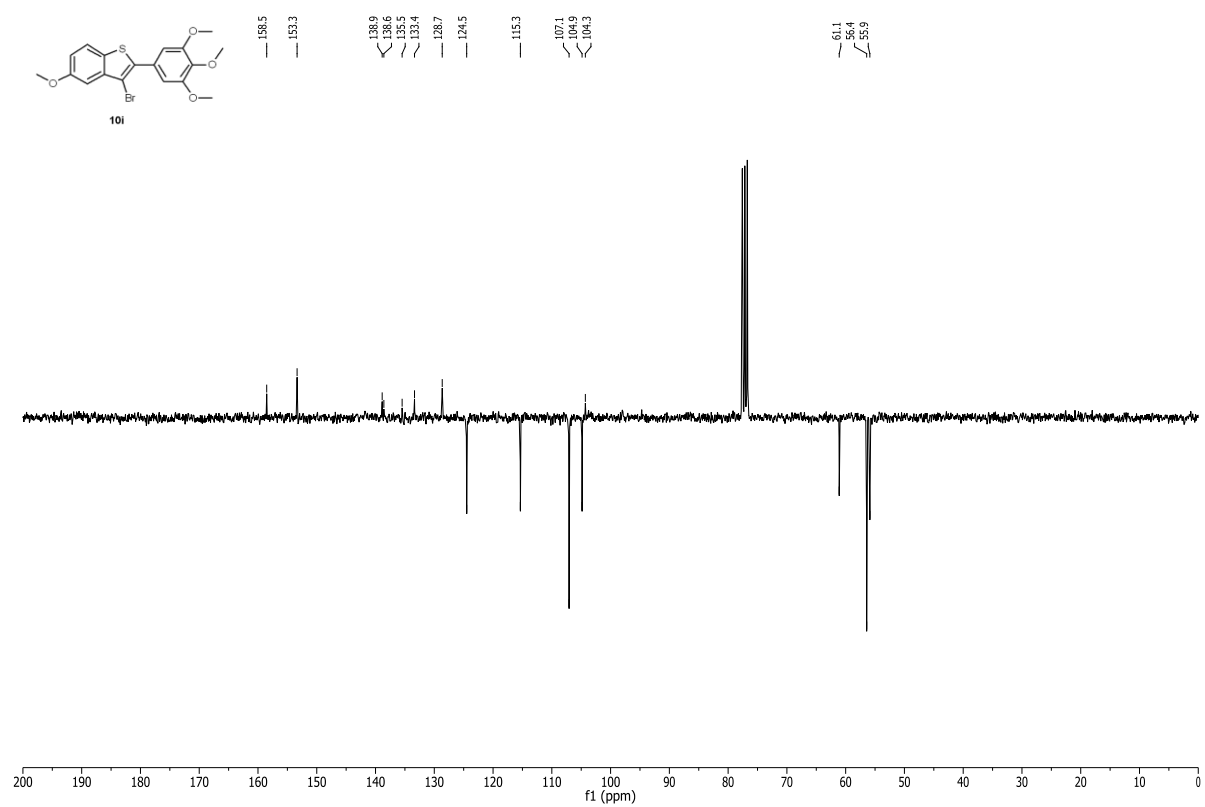
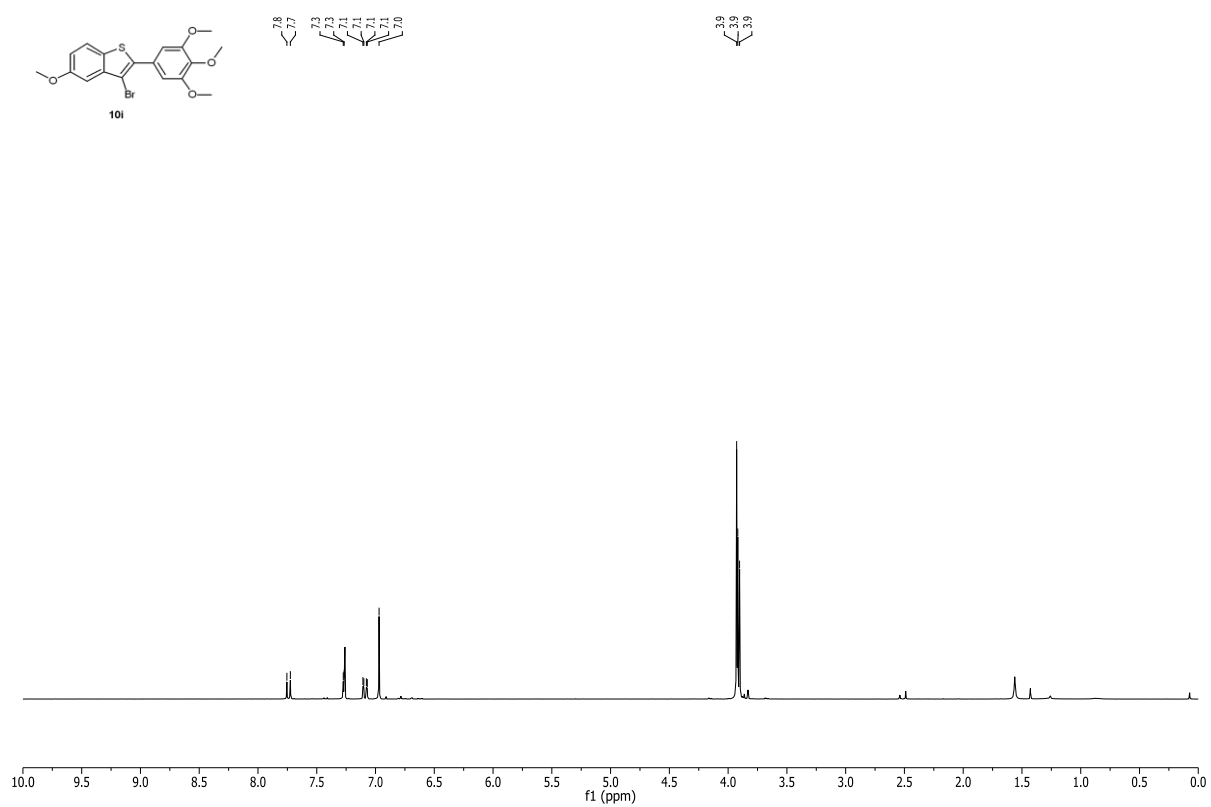


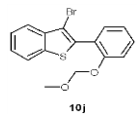
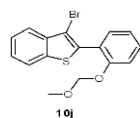


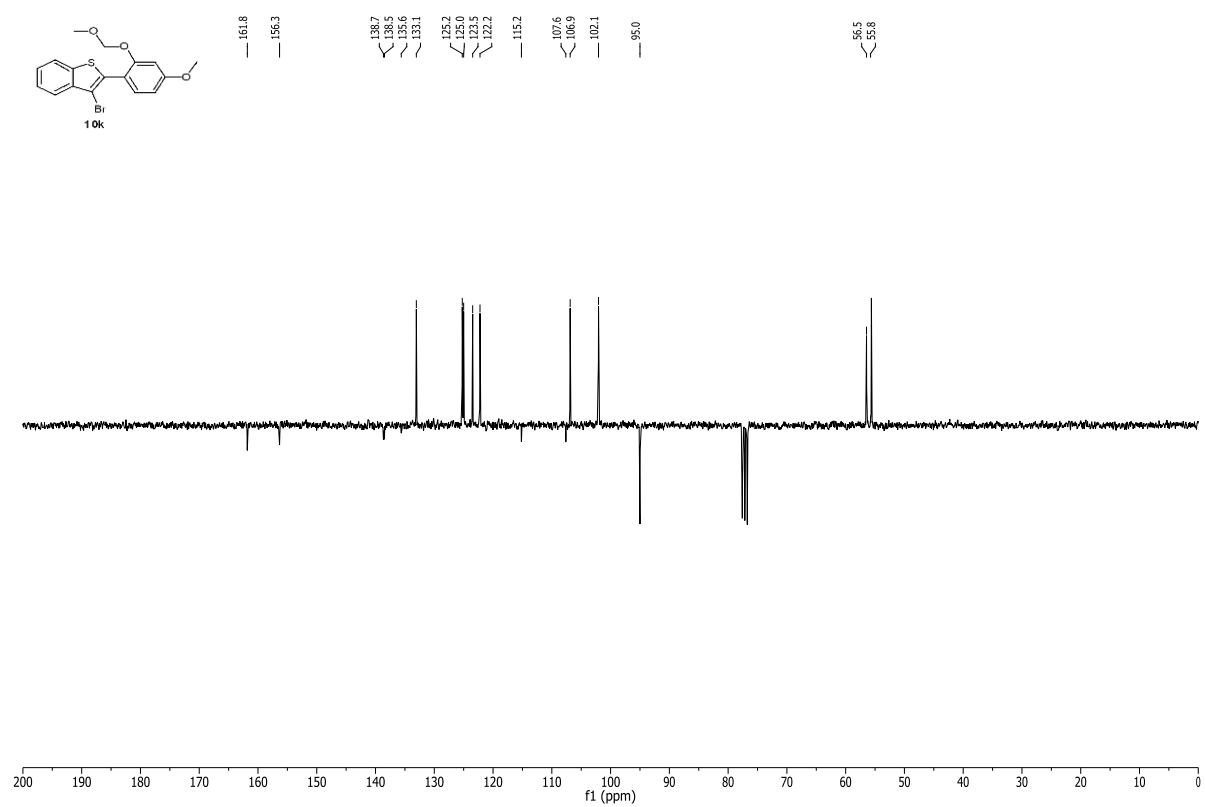
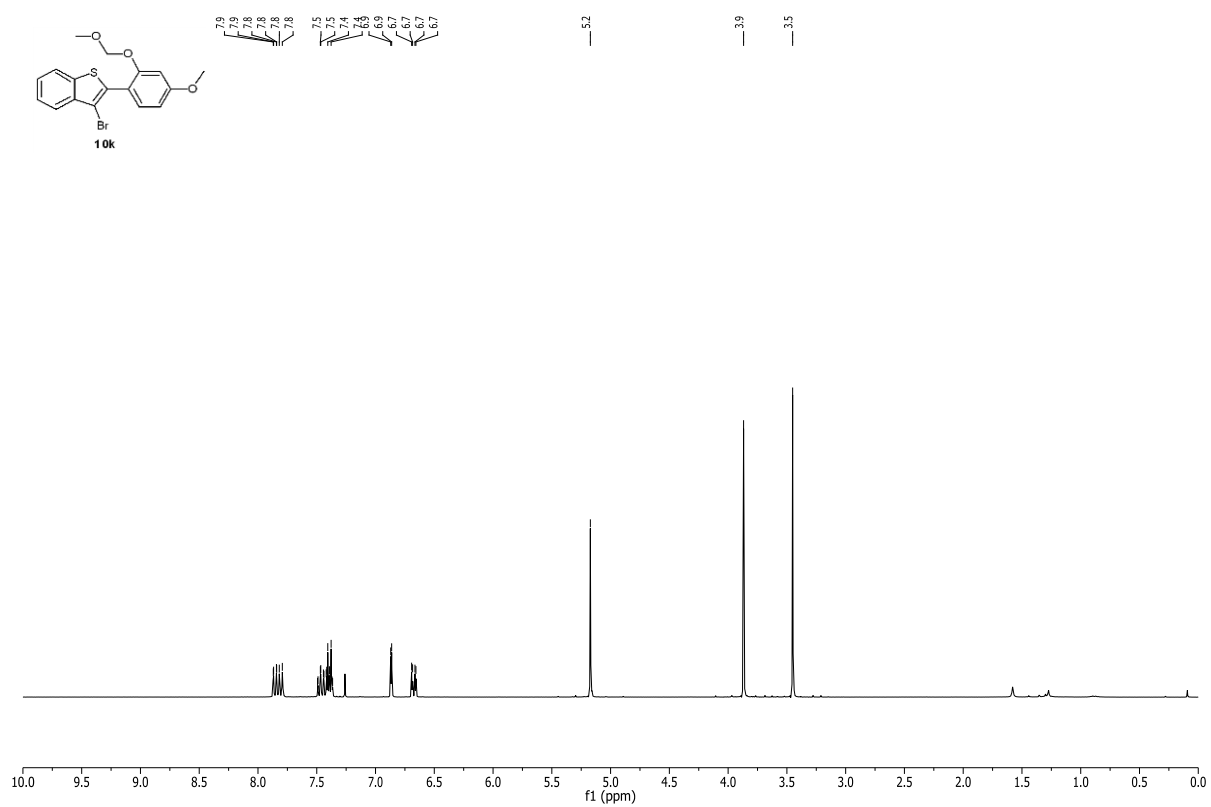




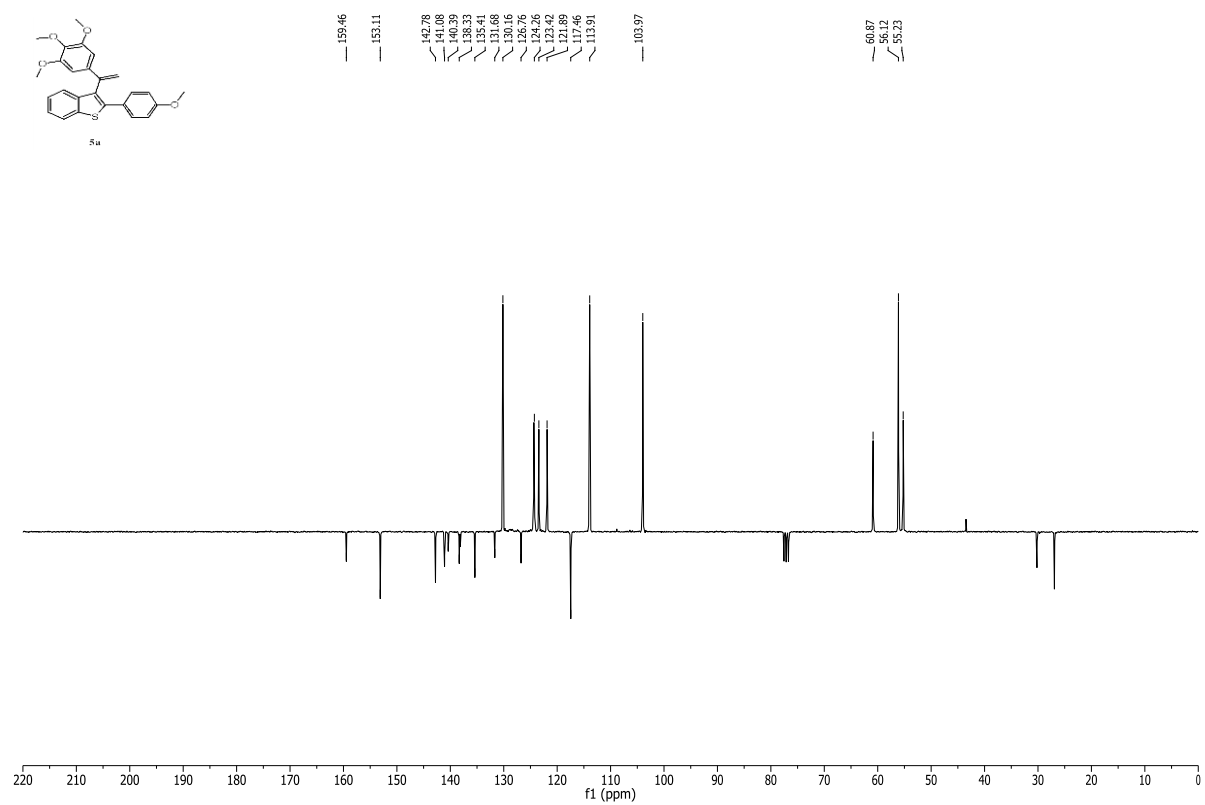
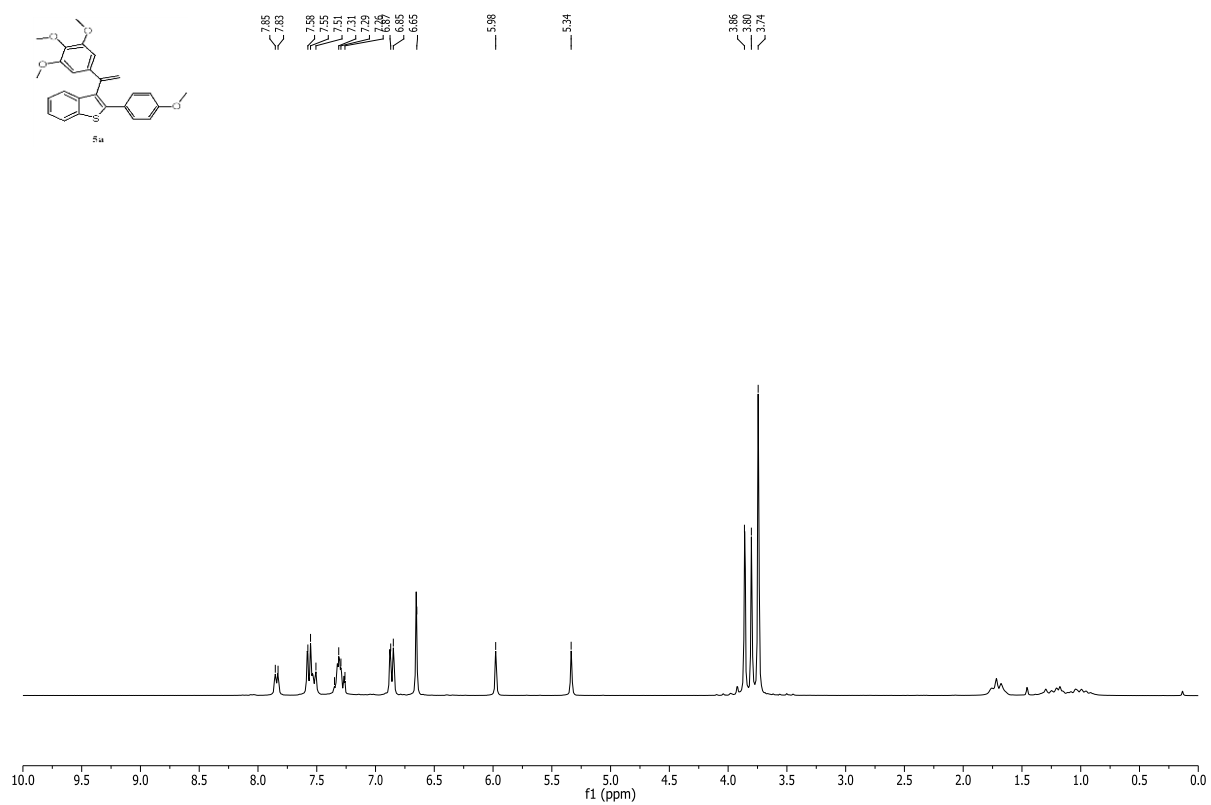


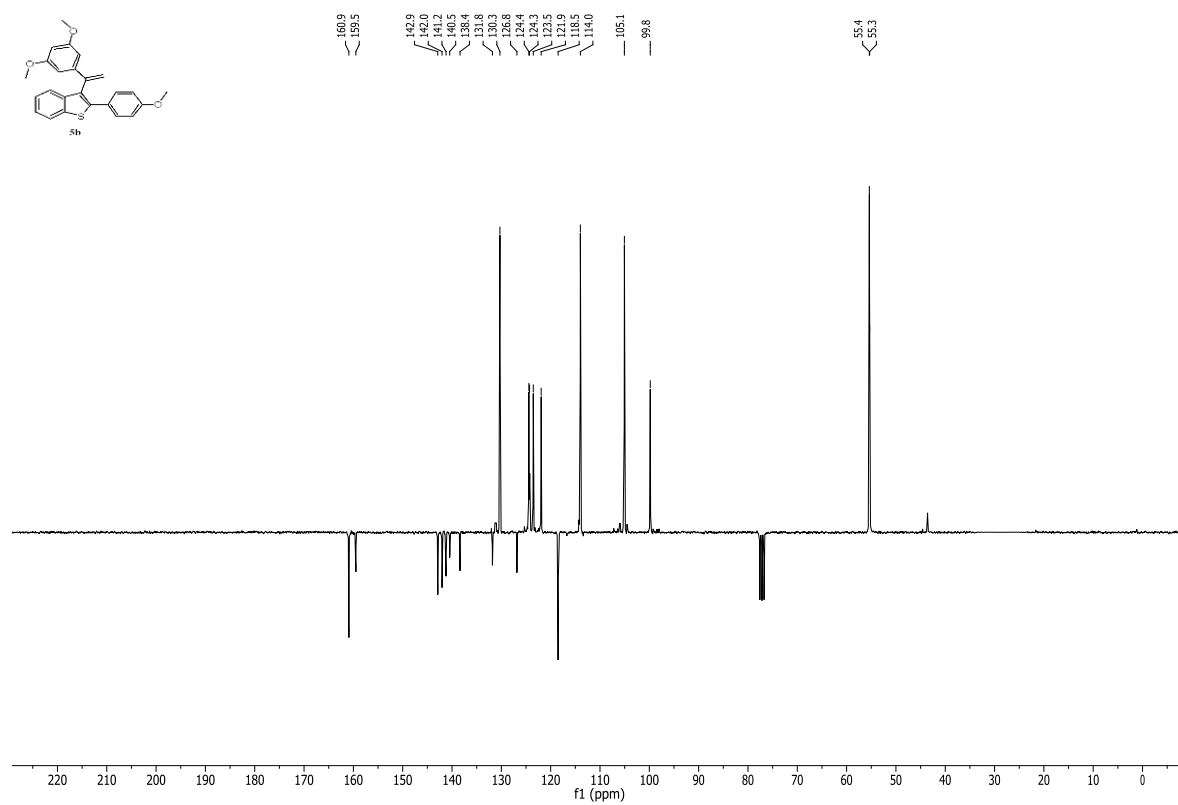
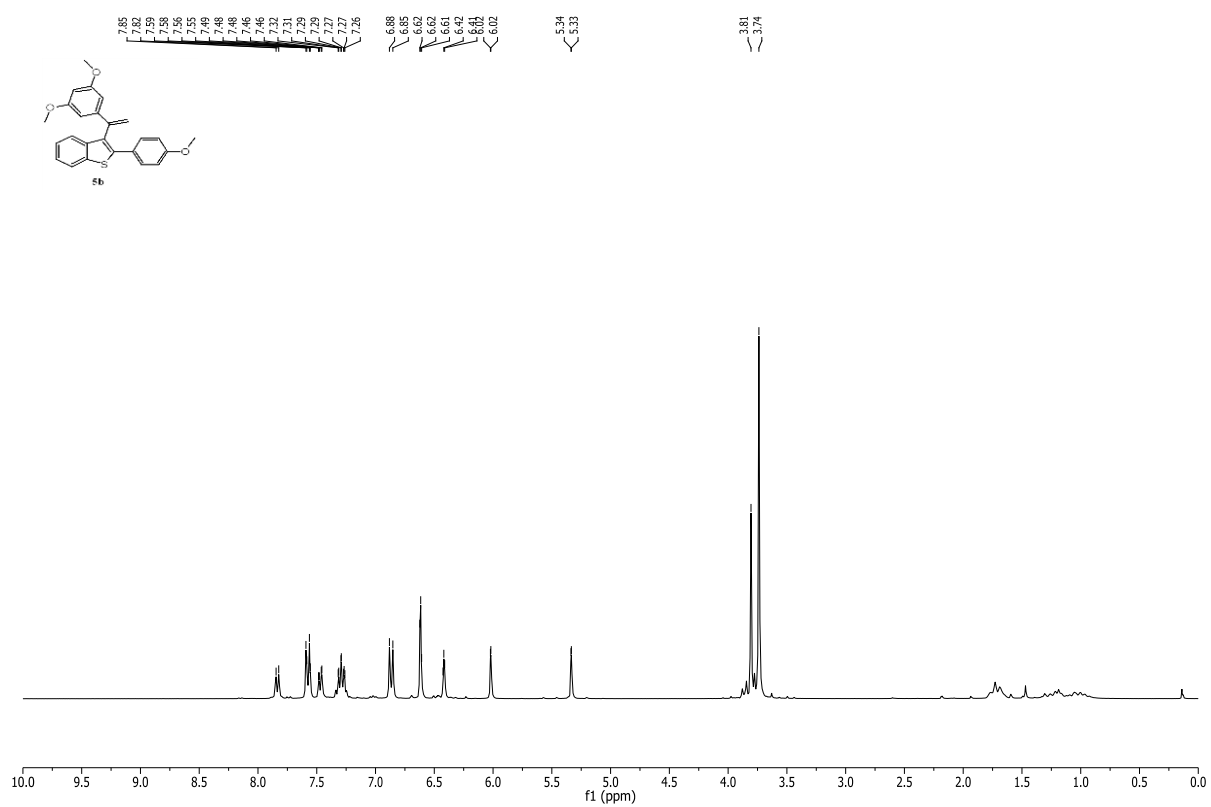


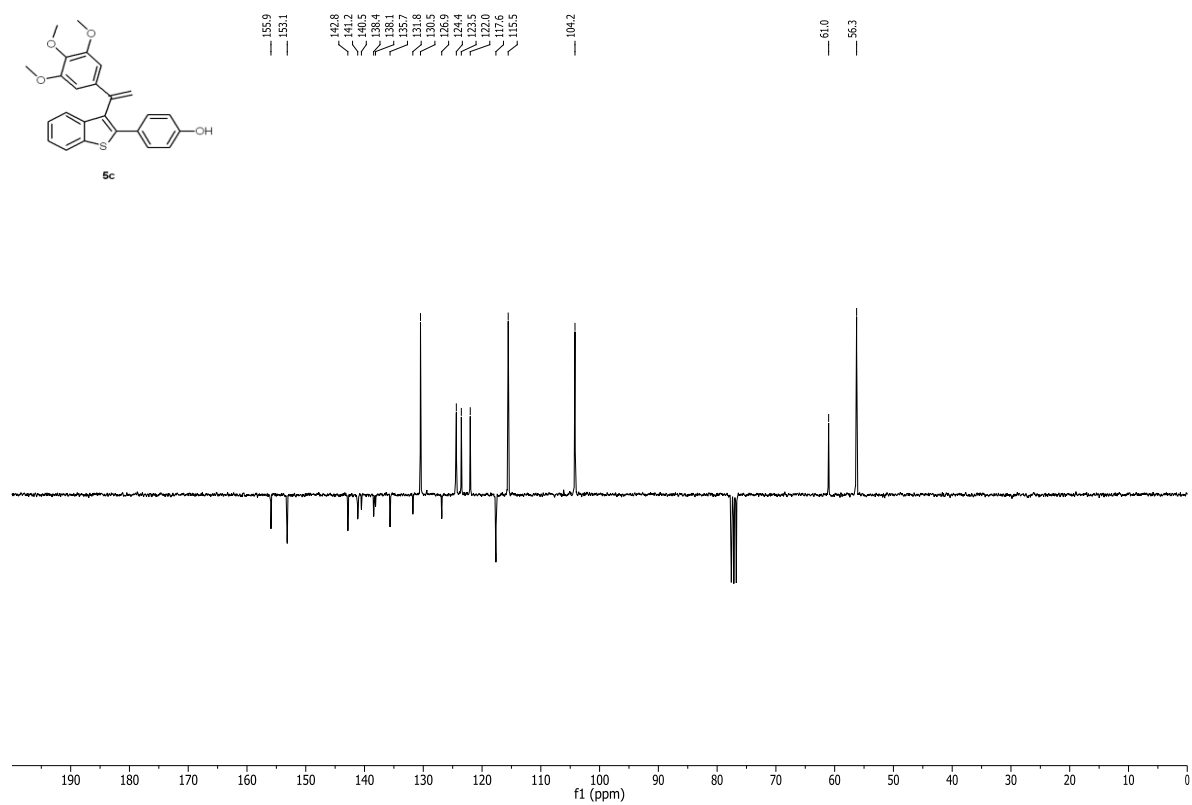
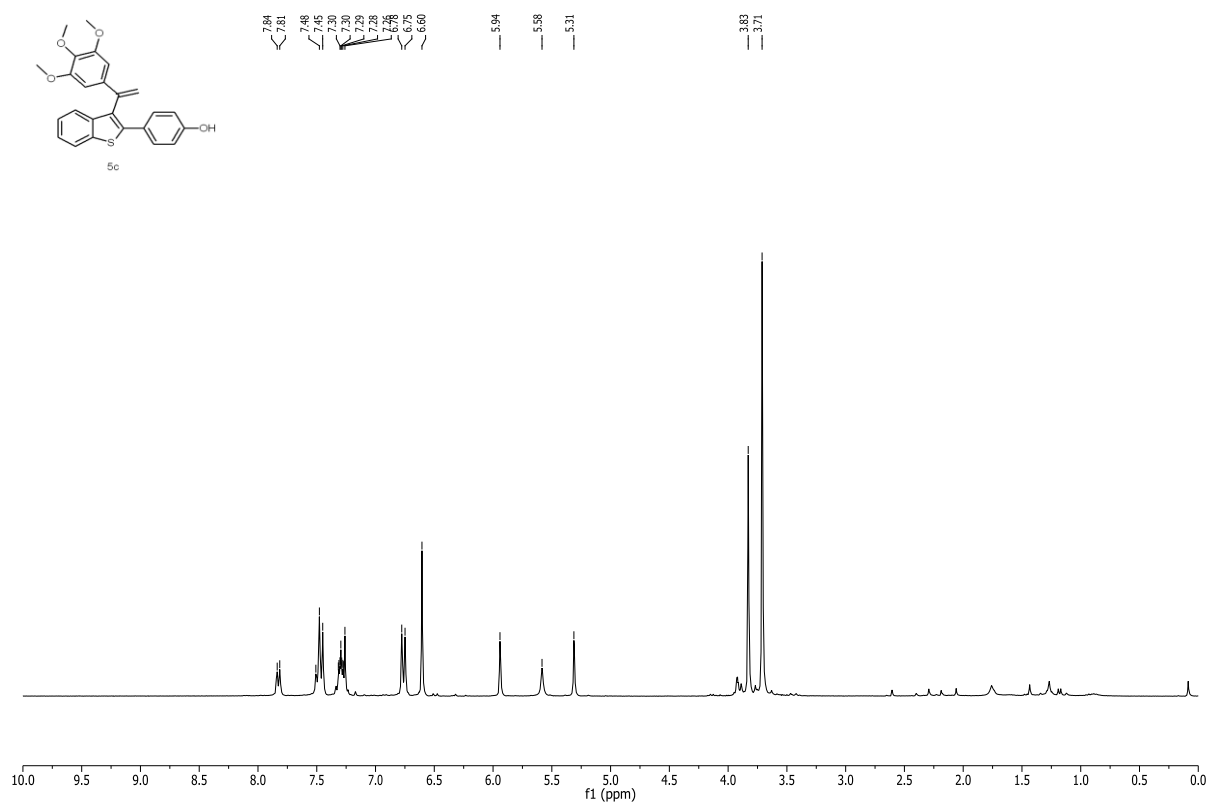


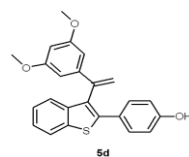
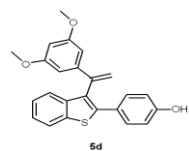


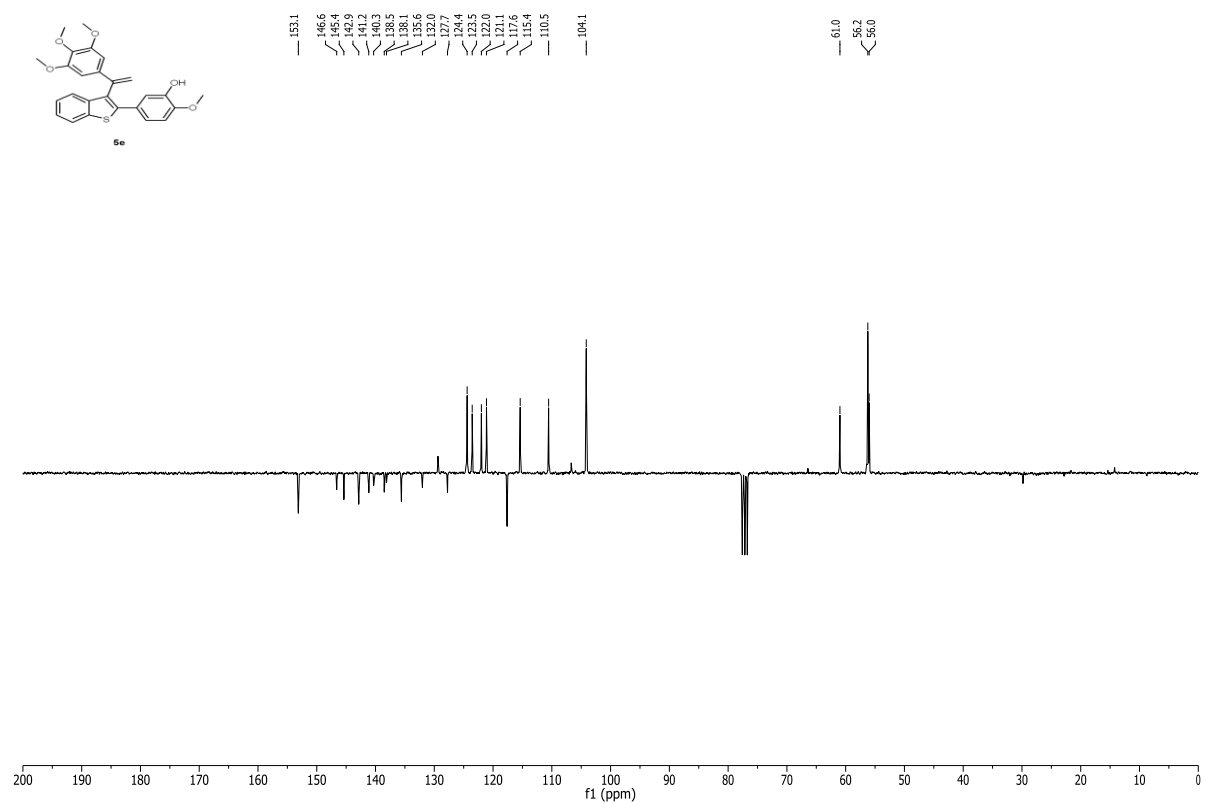
III. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra for 2-aryl-3(α -styryl)benzo[*b*]thiophene 5a–t

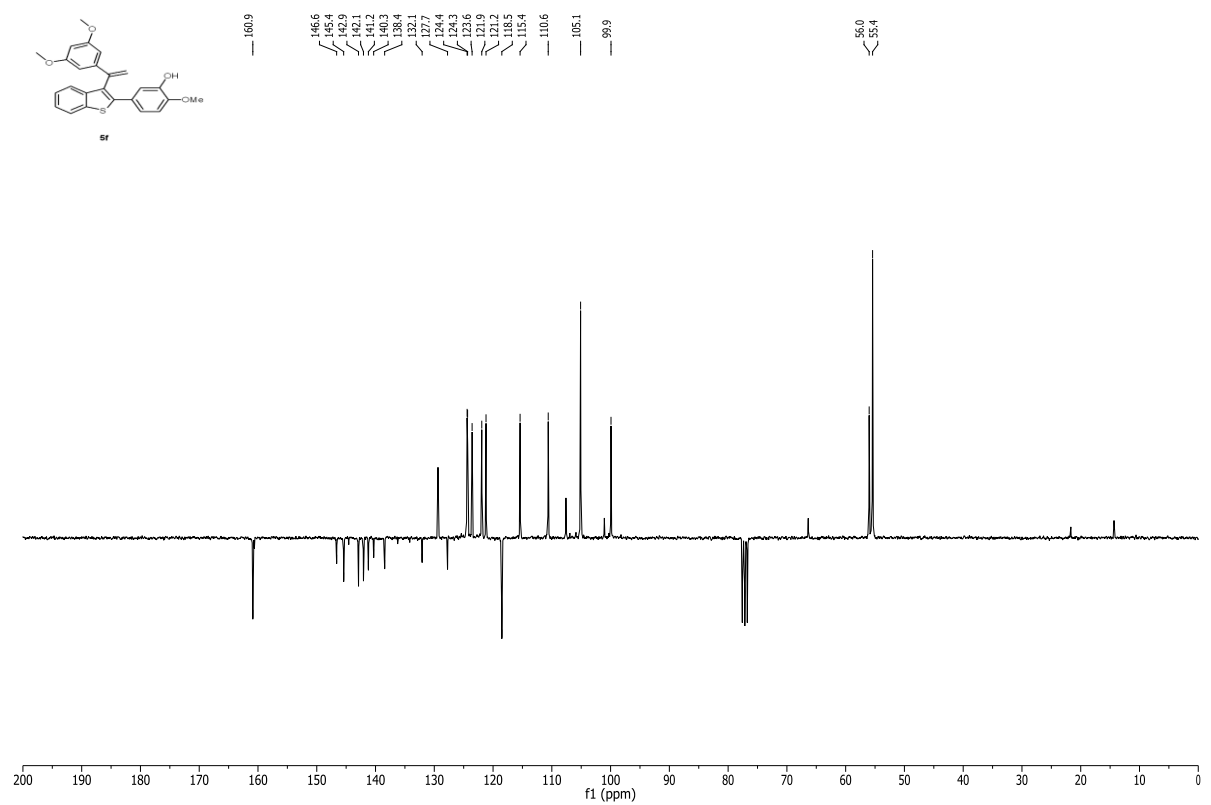
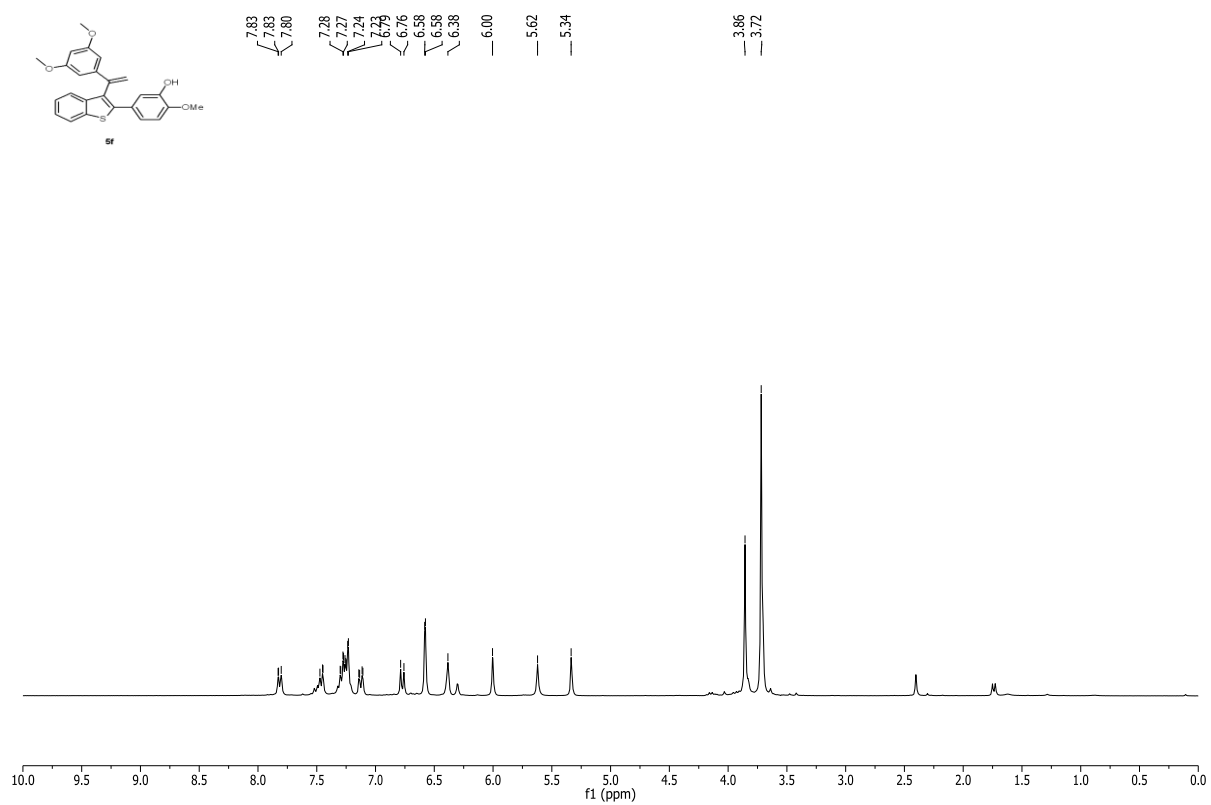


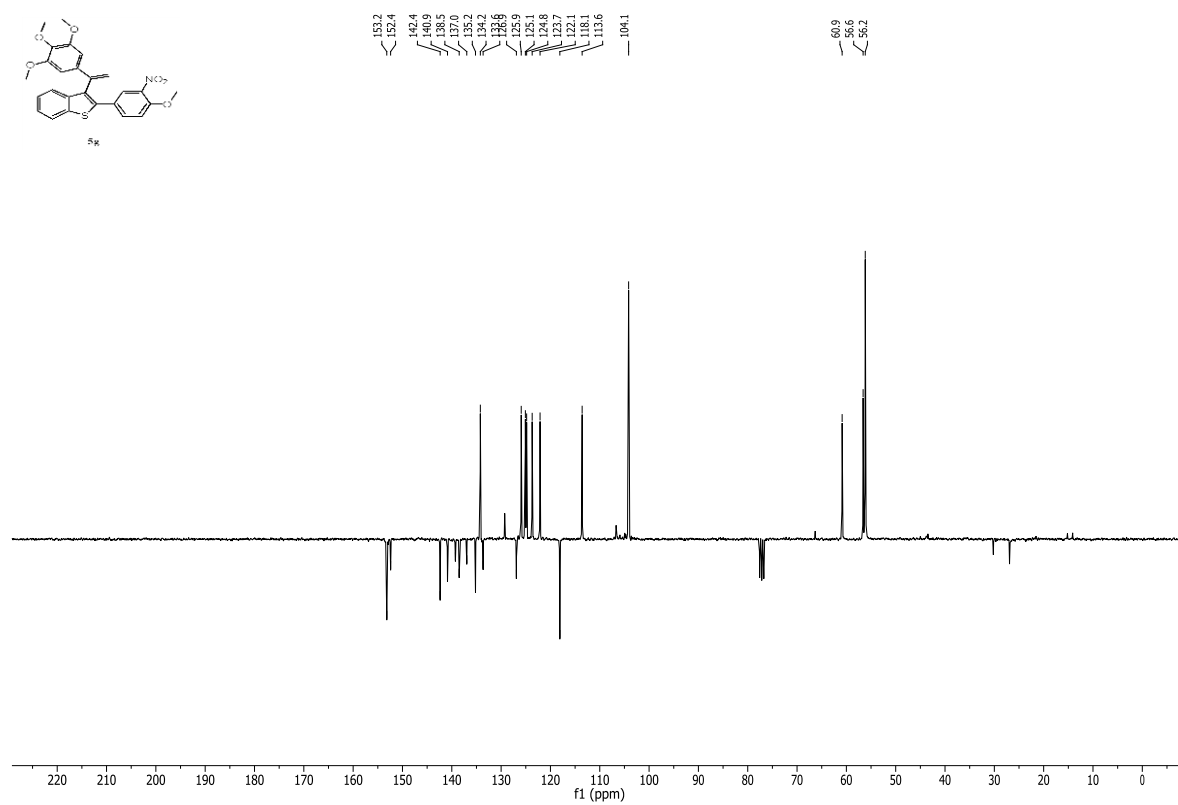
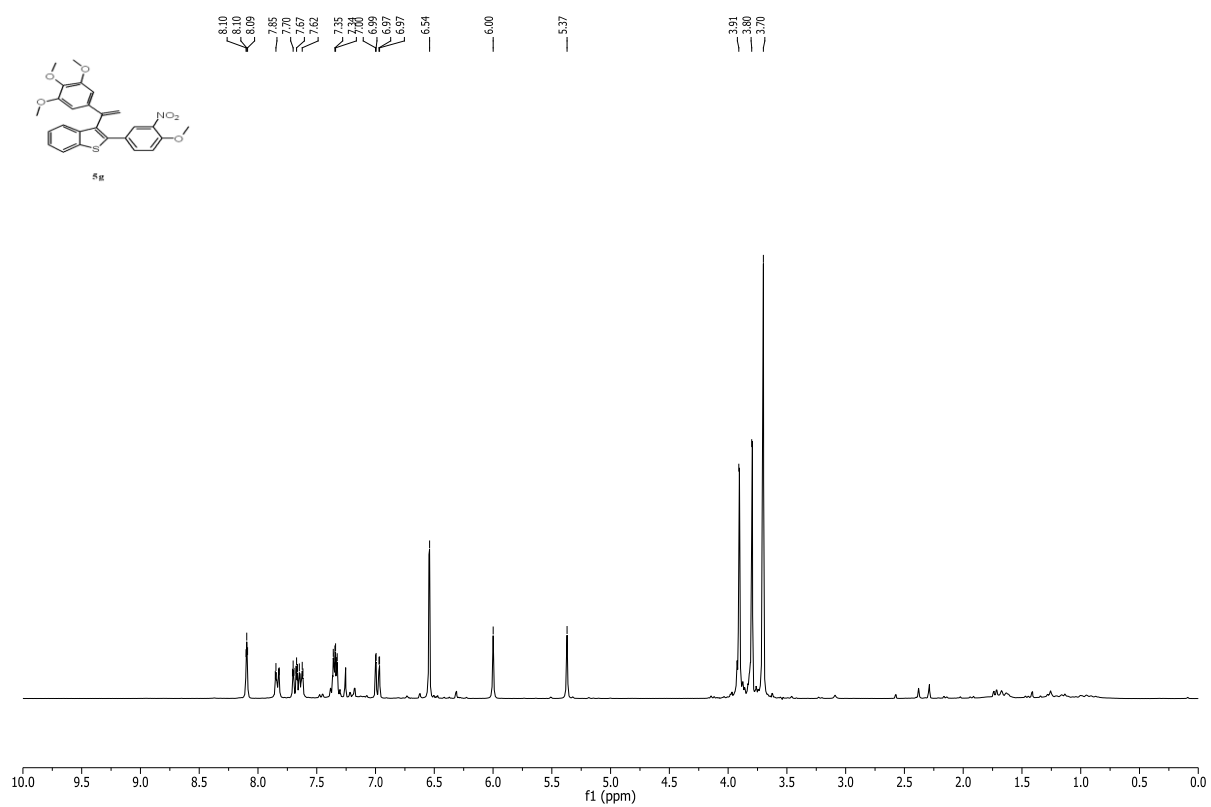


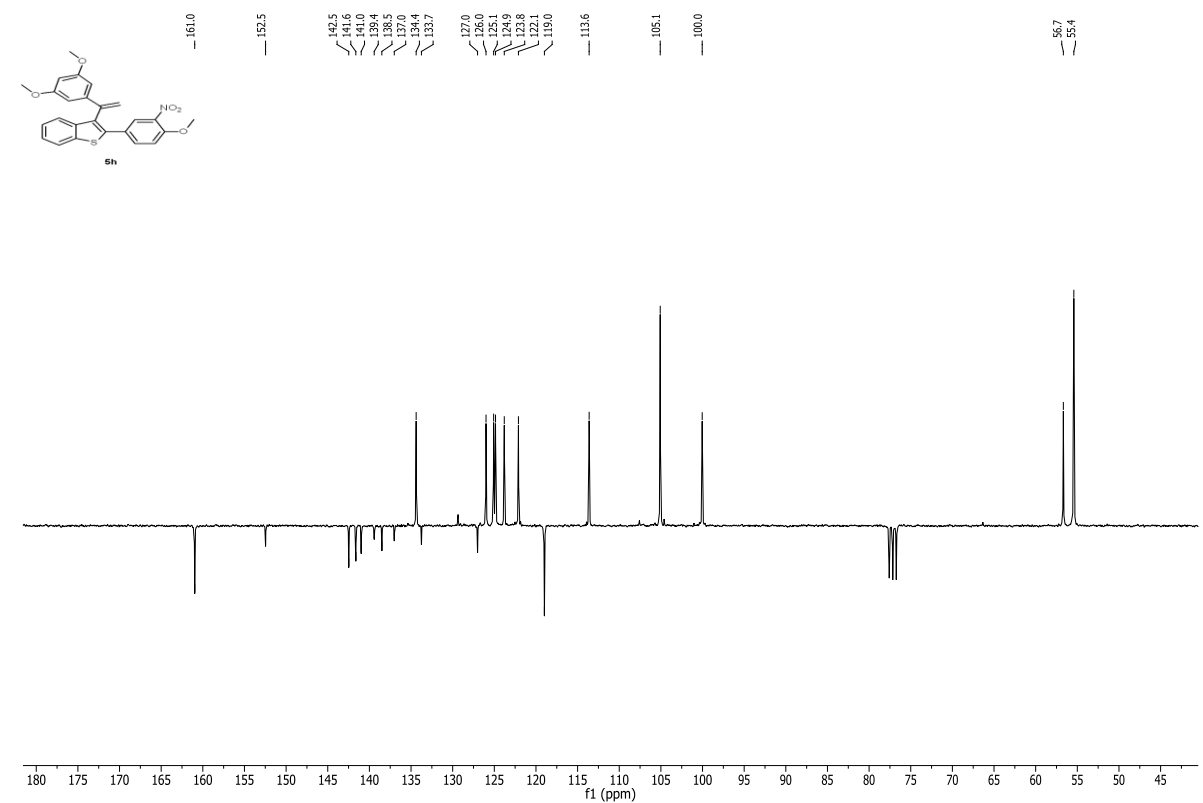
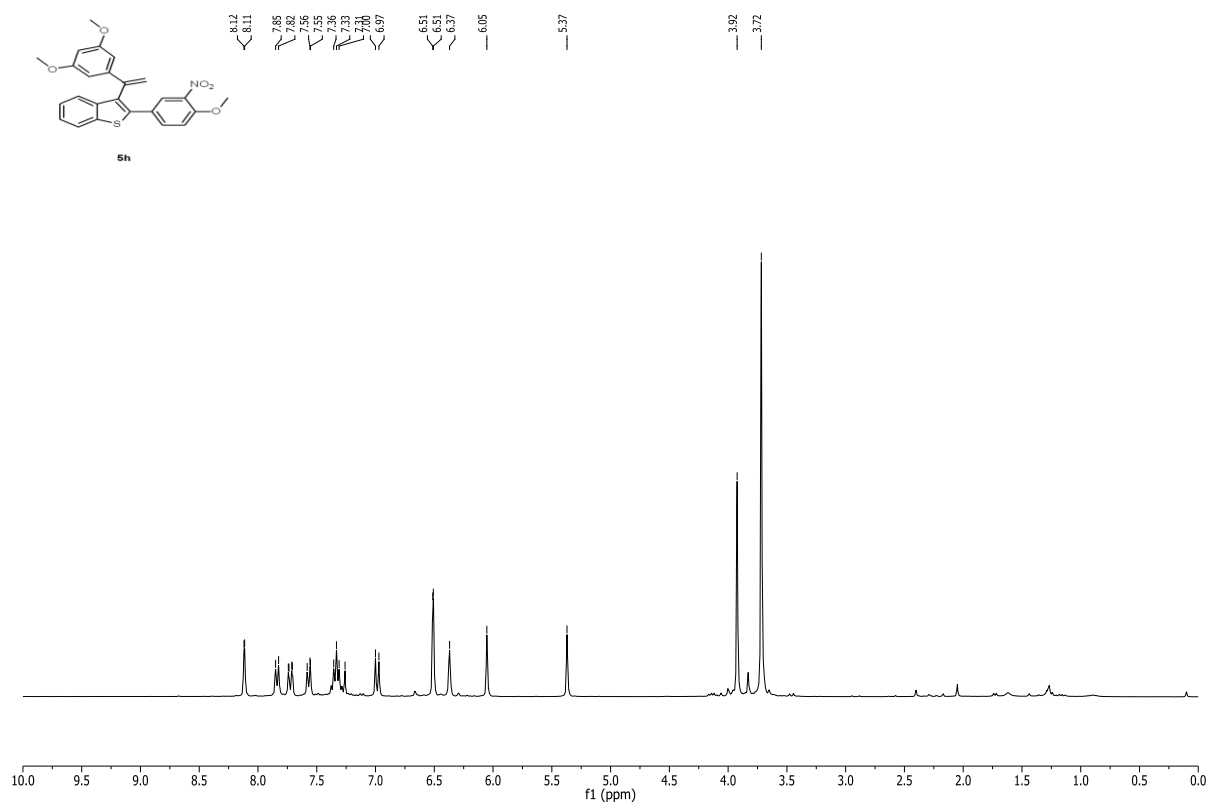


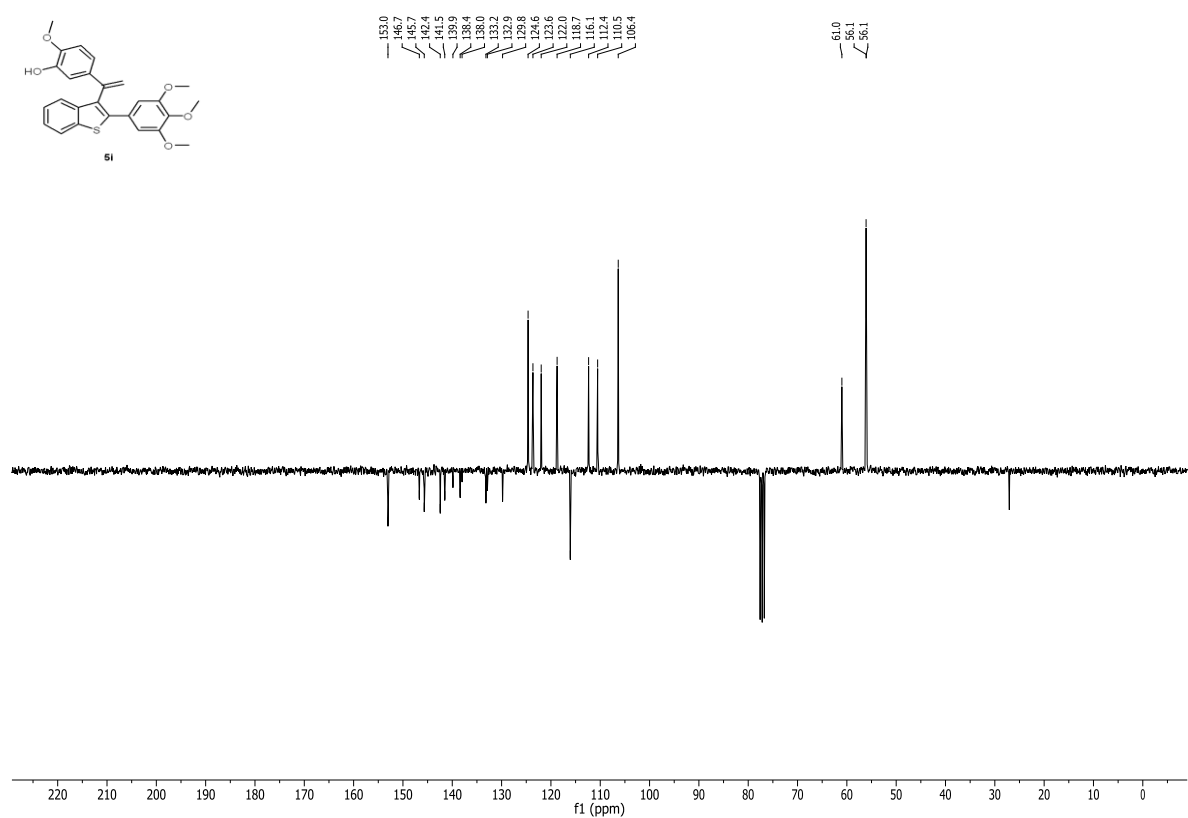
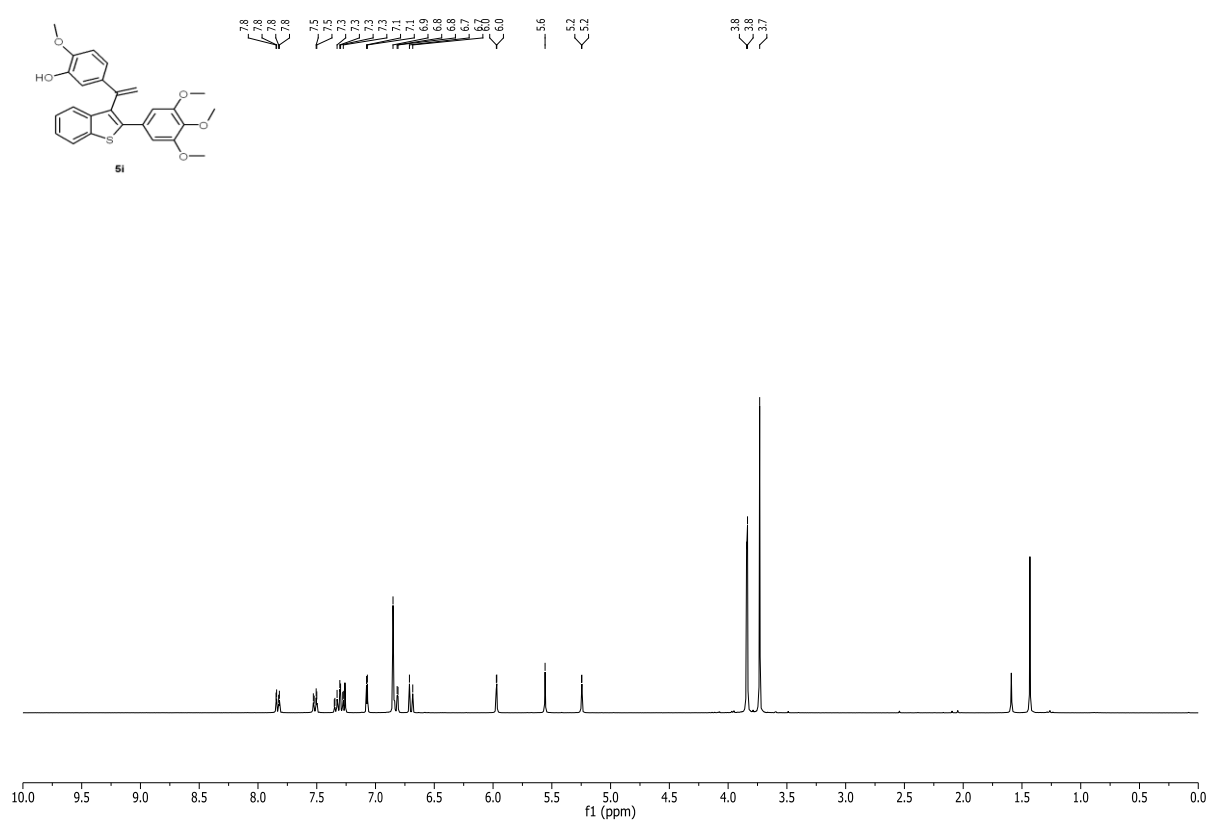


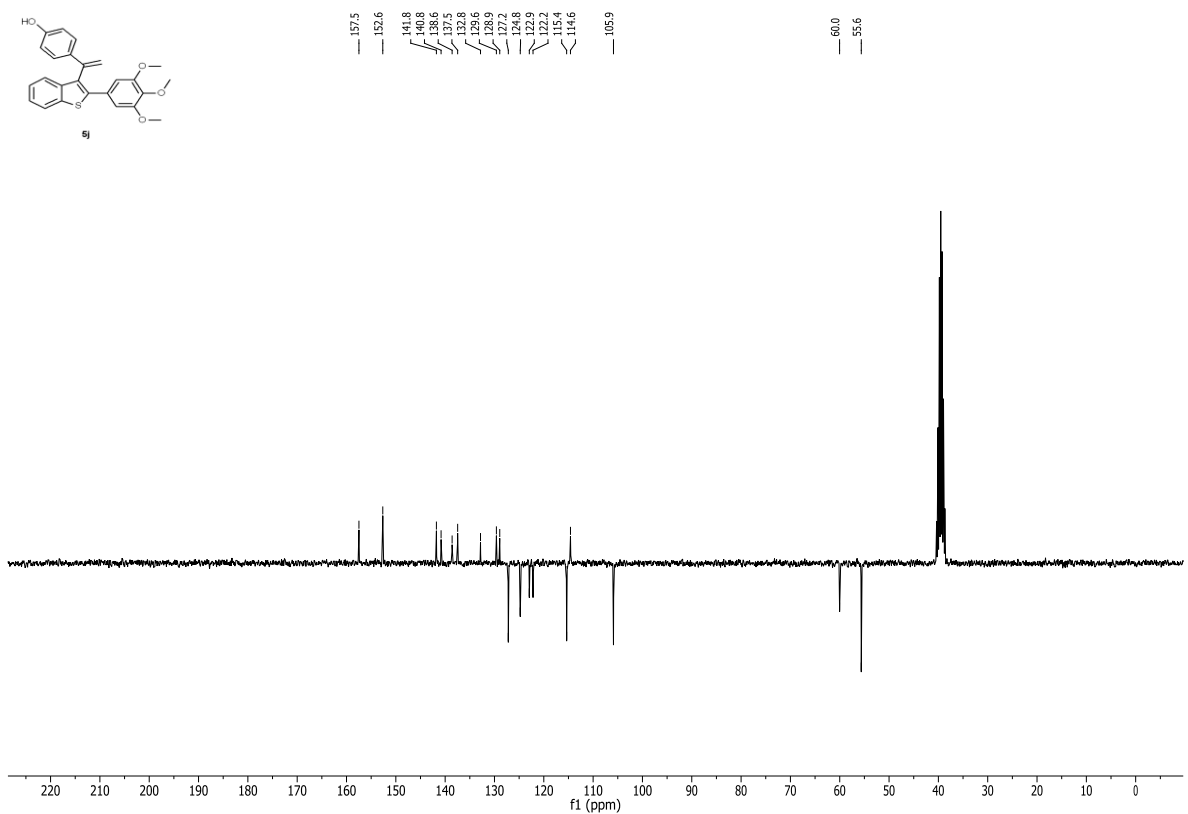
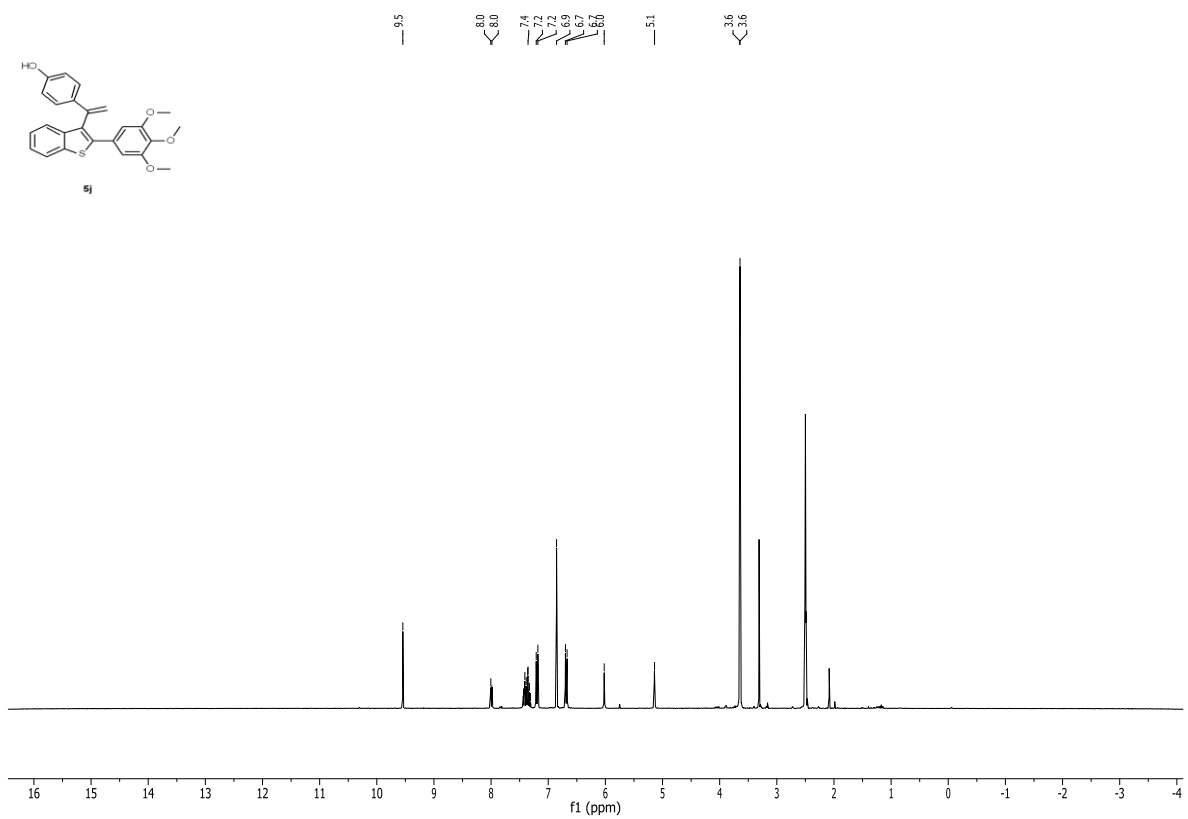


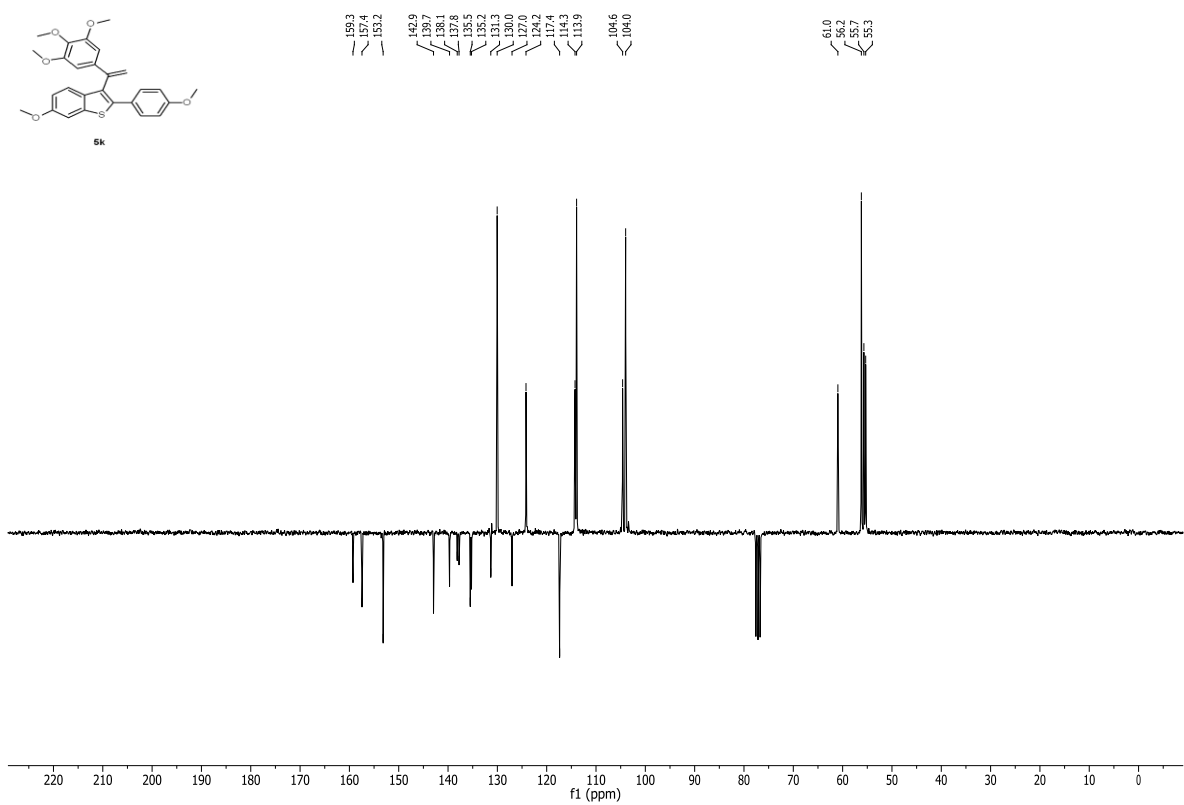
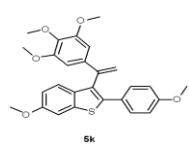
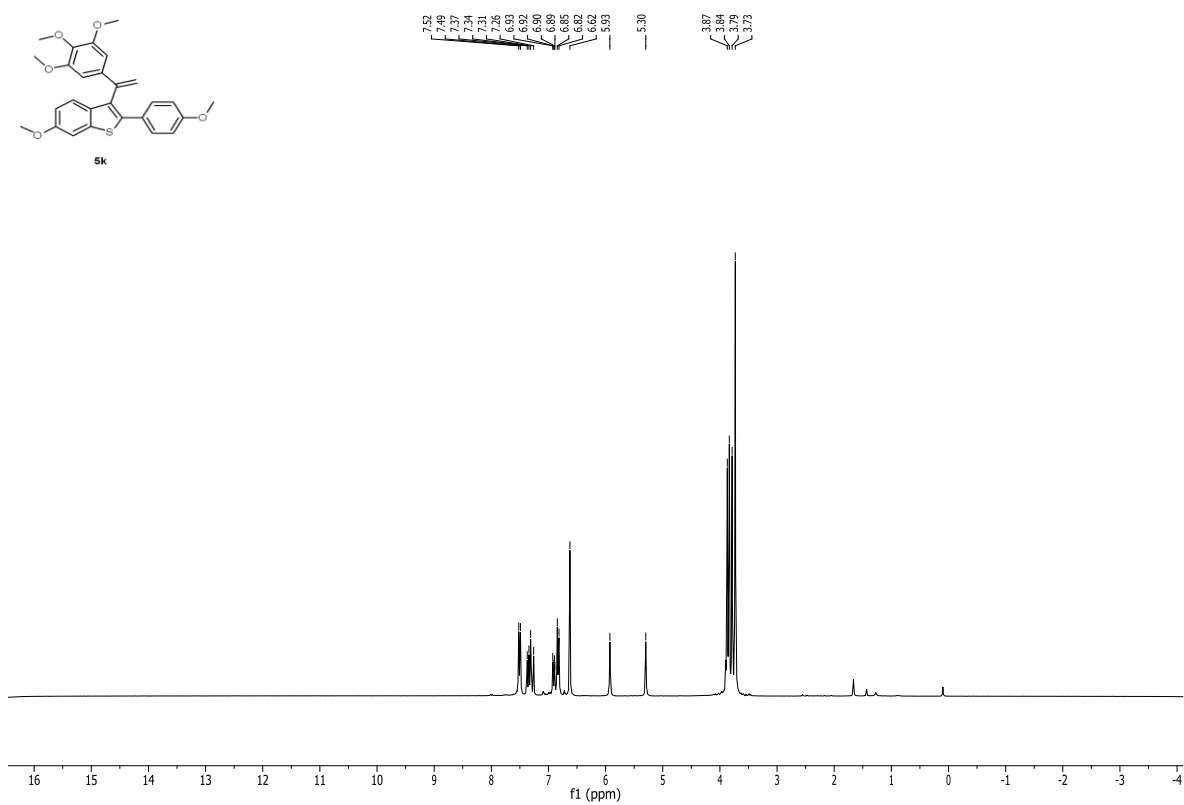
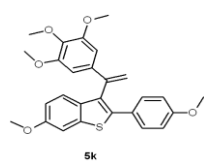


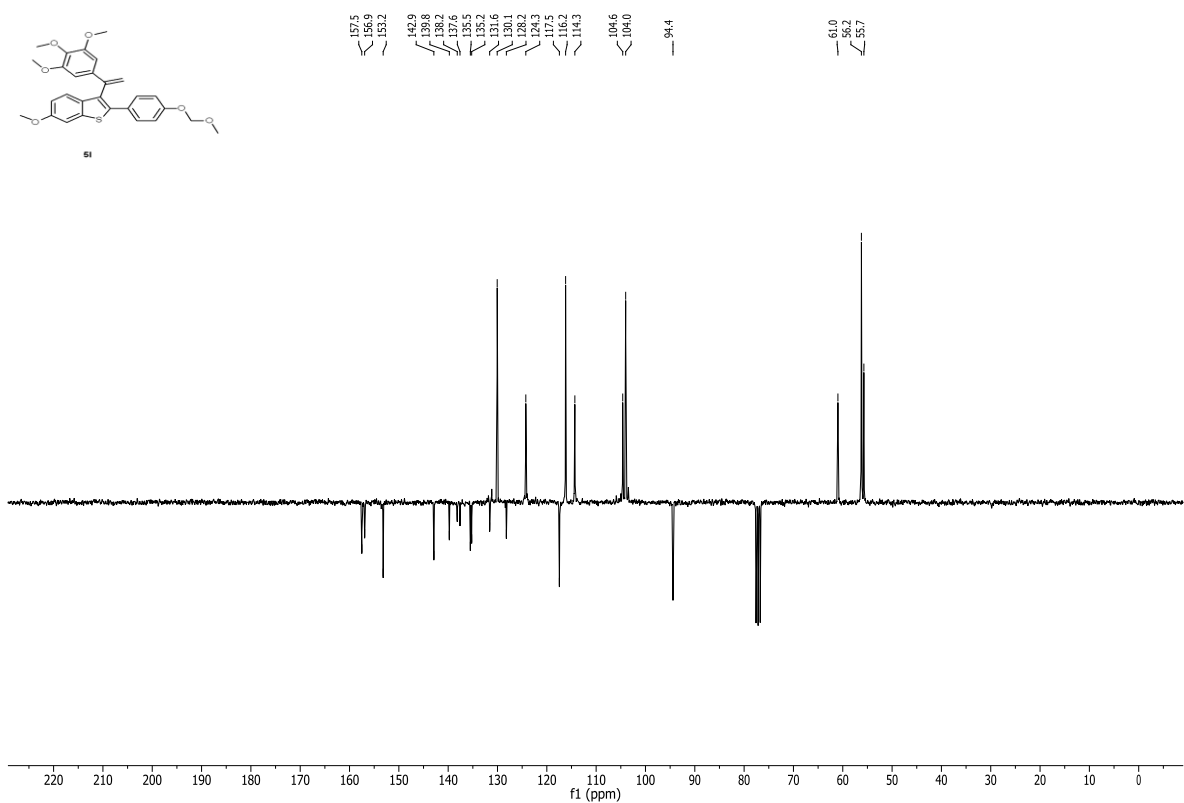
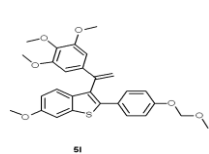
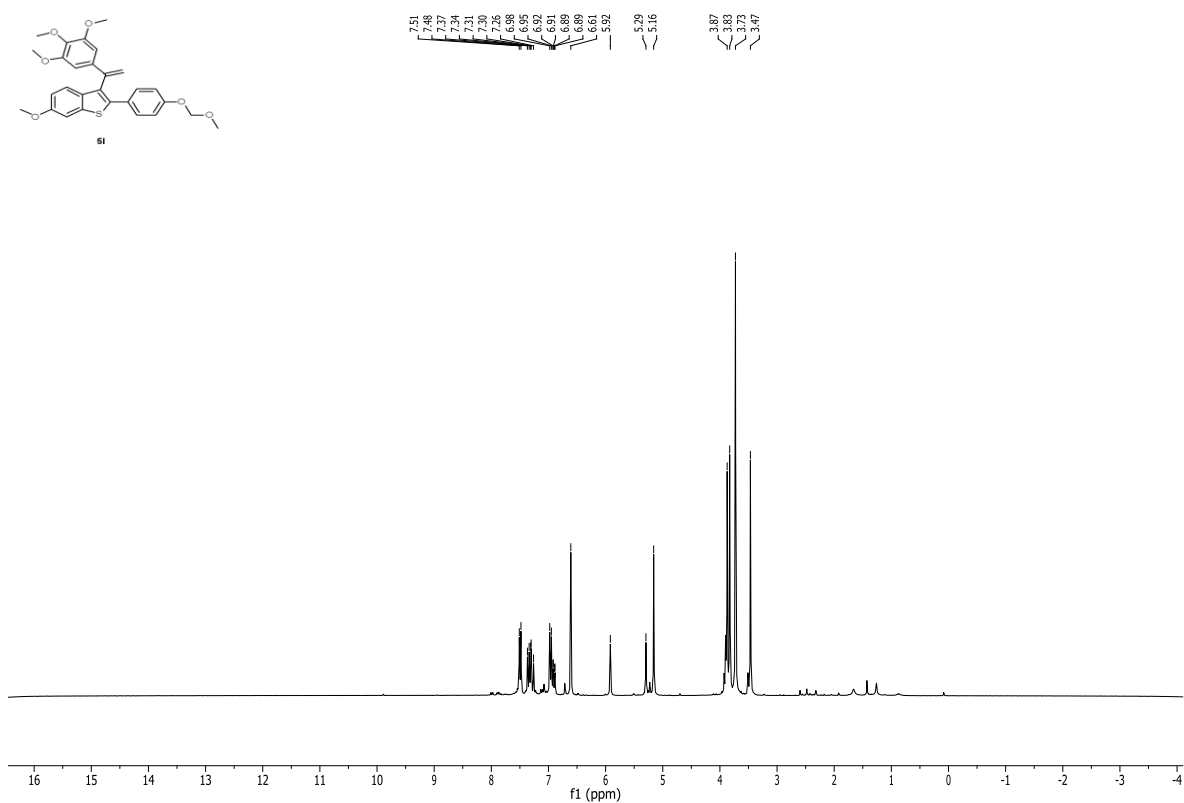
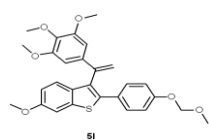


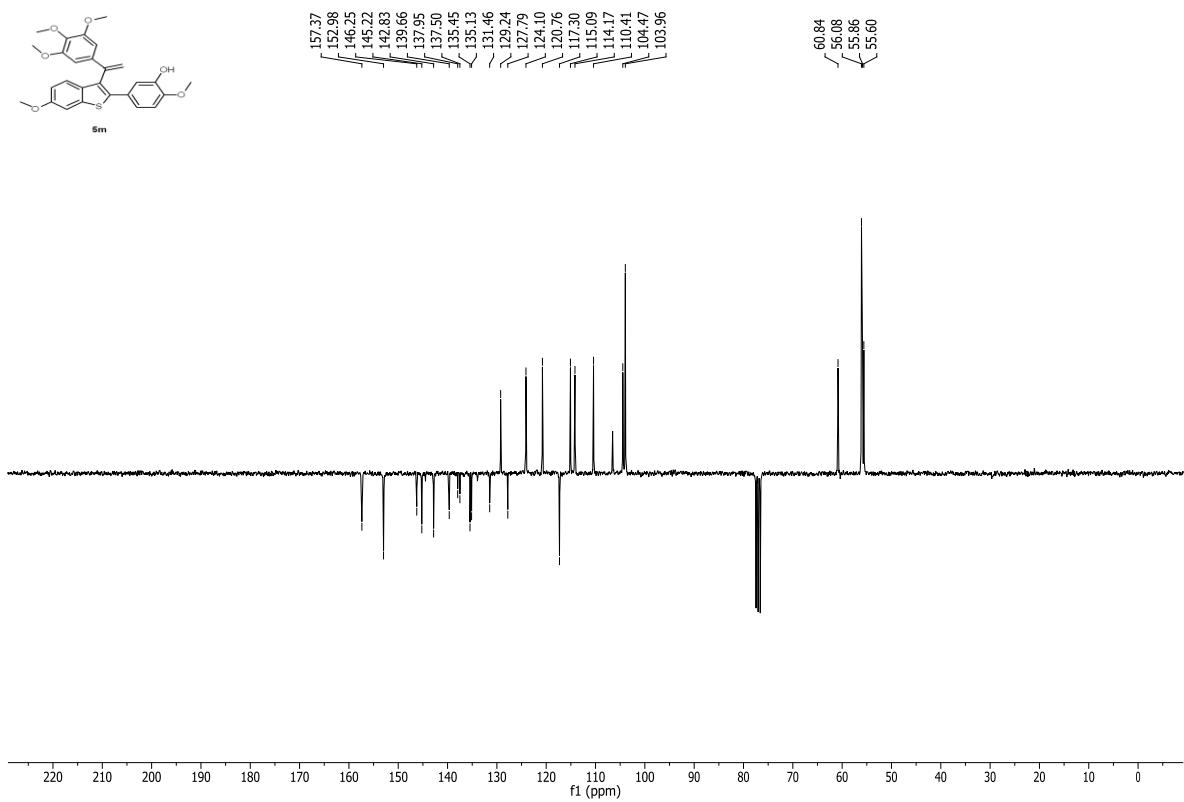
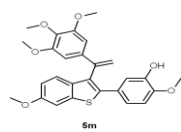
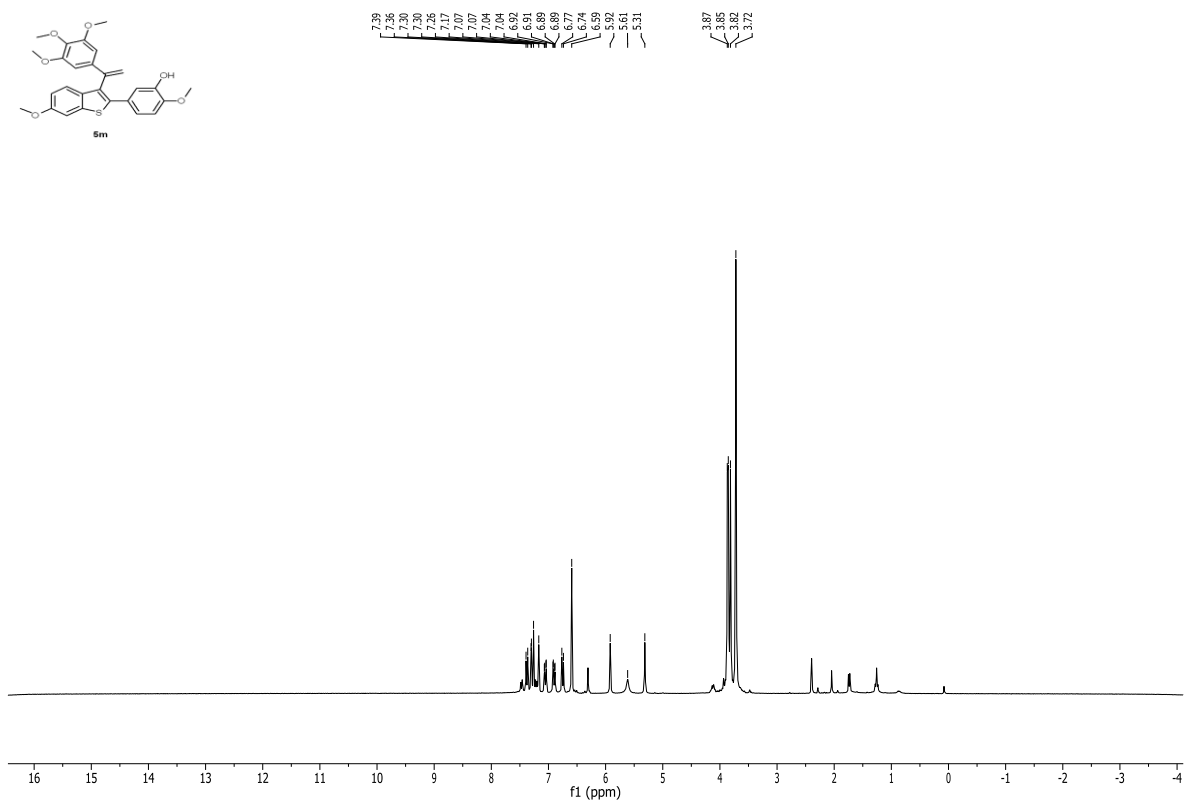
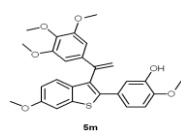


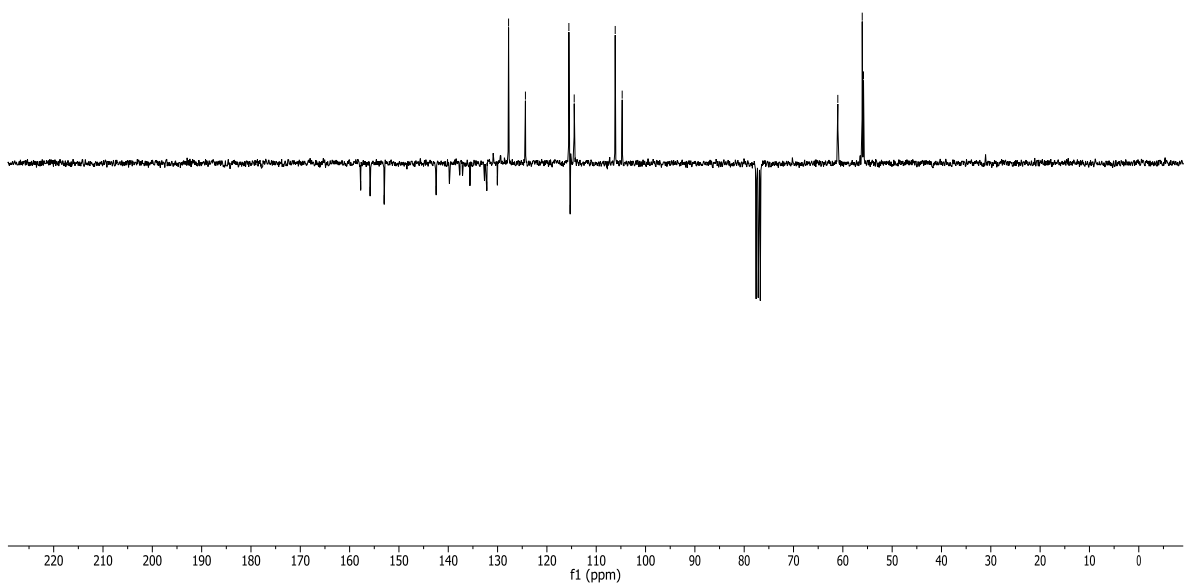
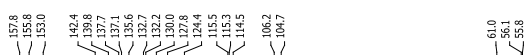
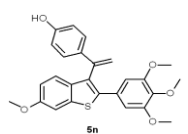
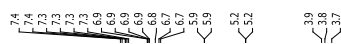


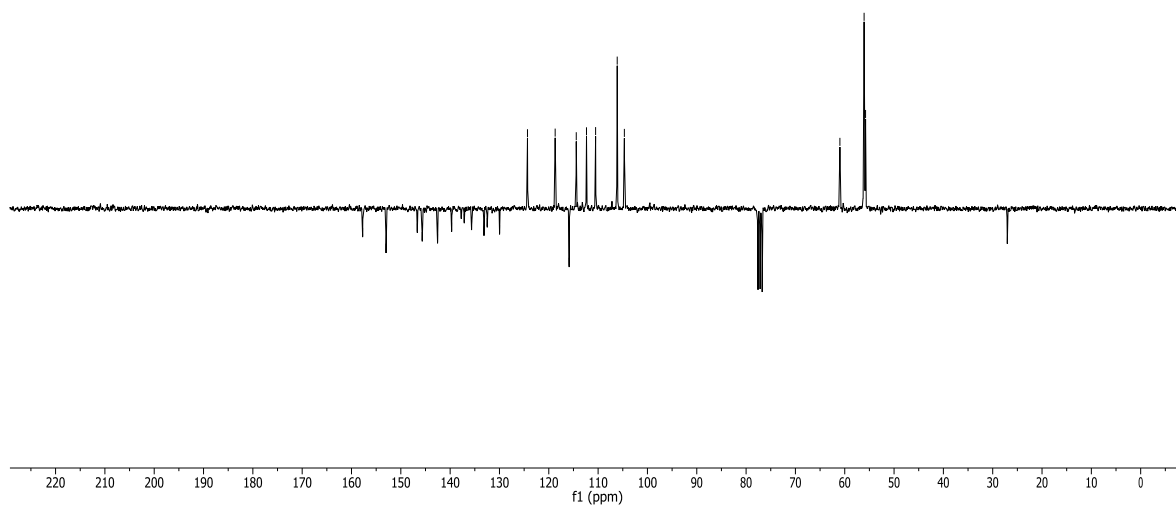
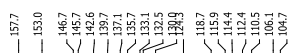
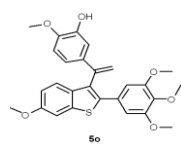
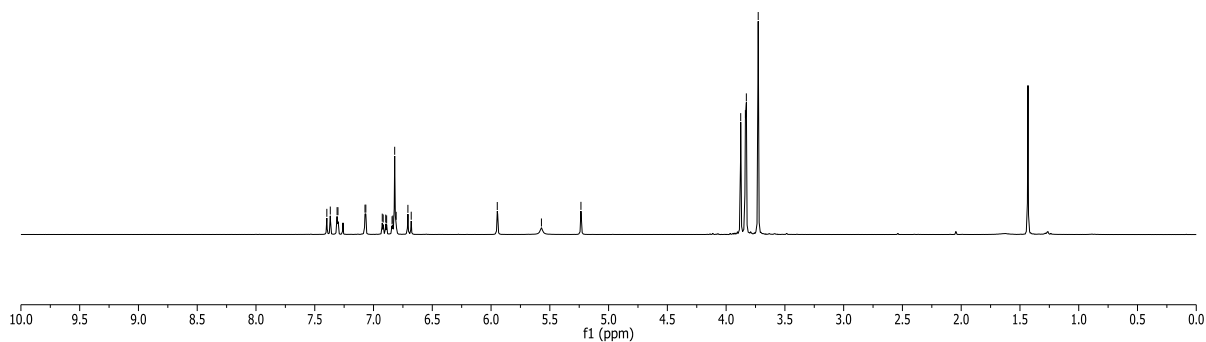
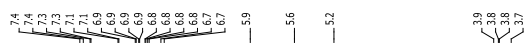
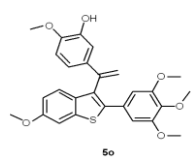


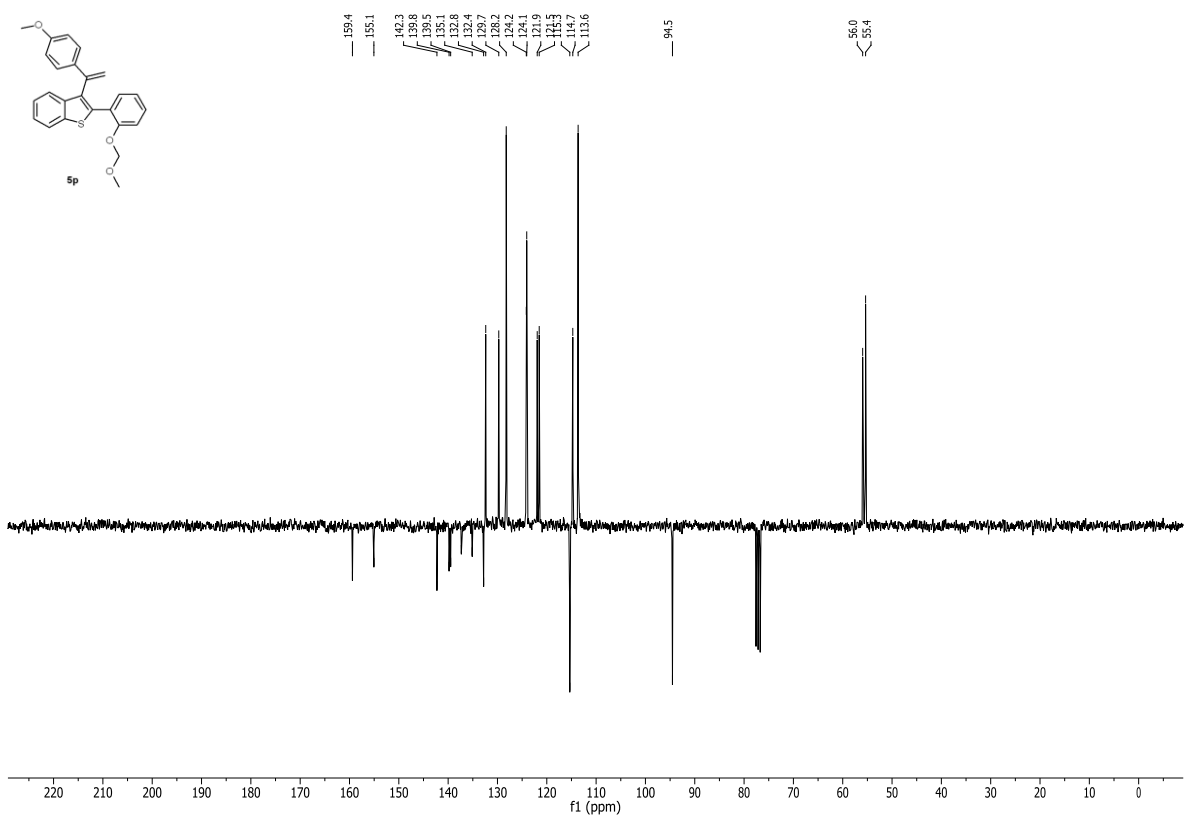
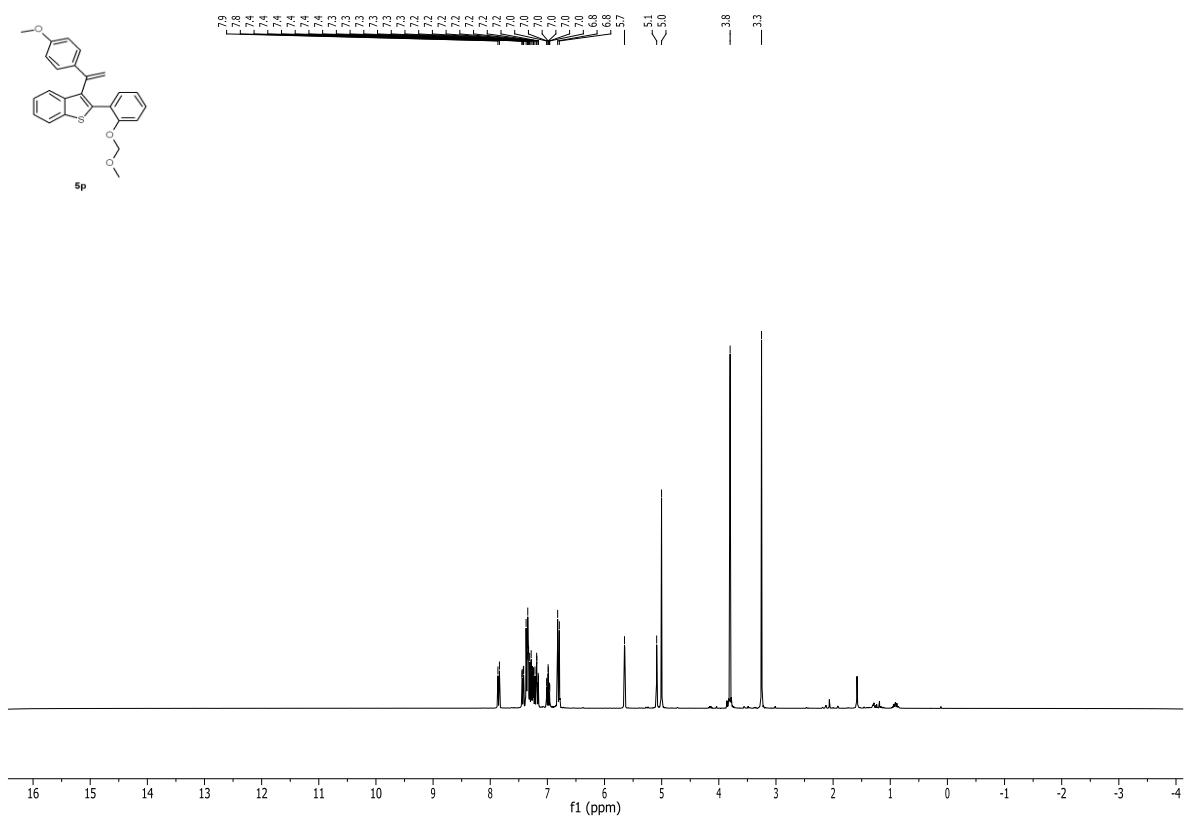


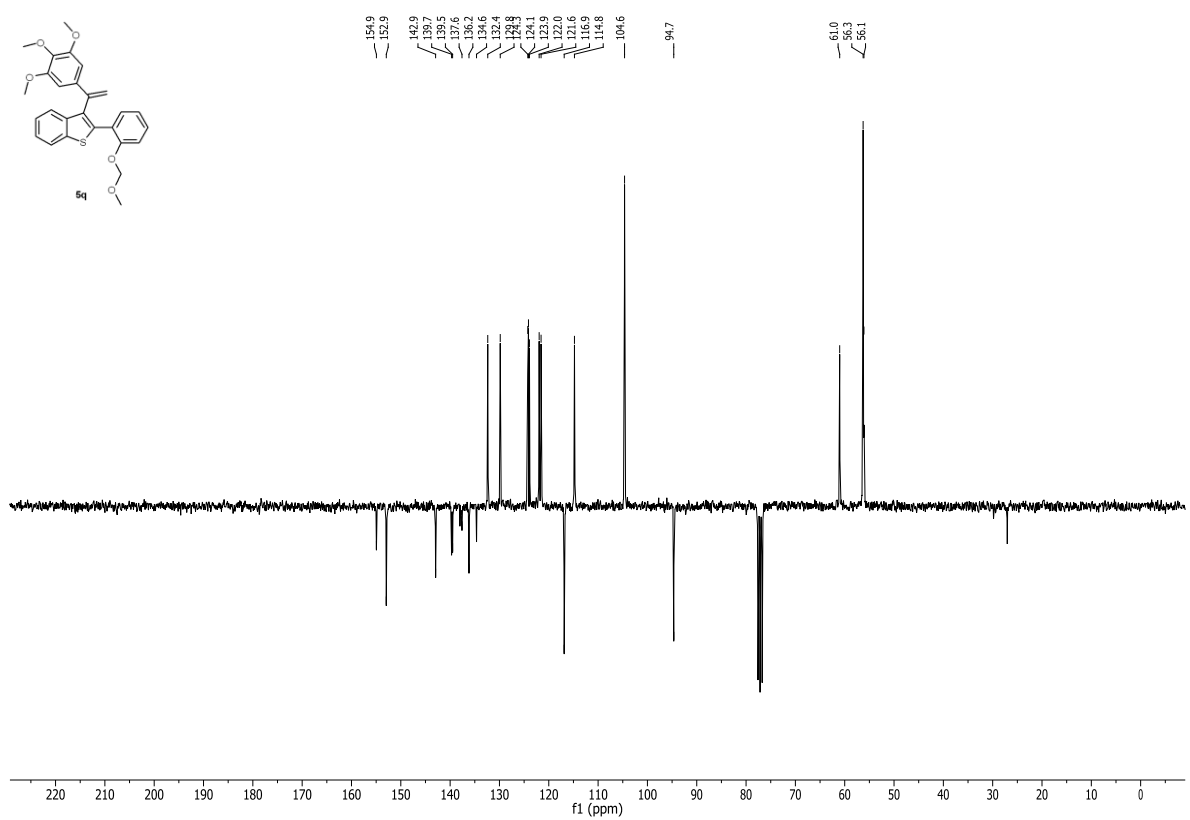
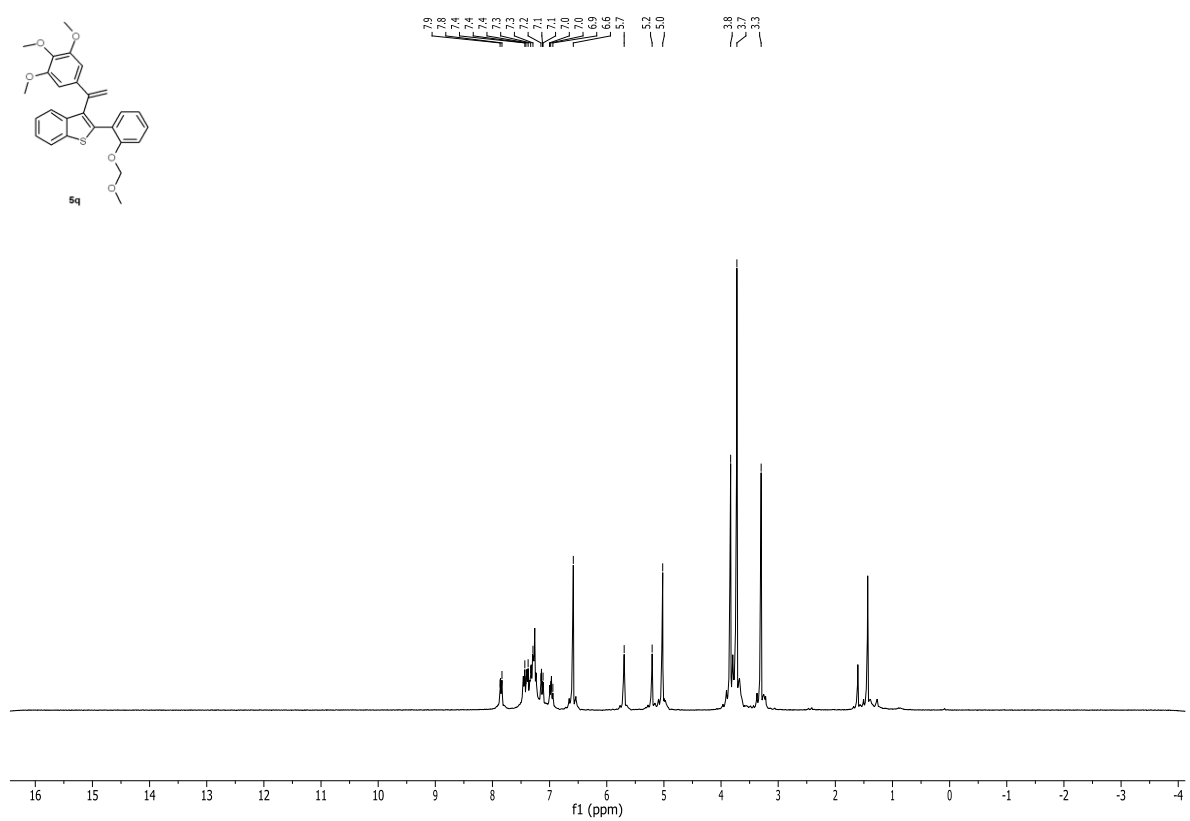


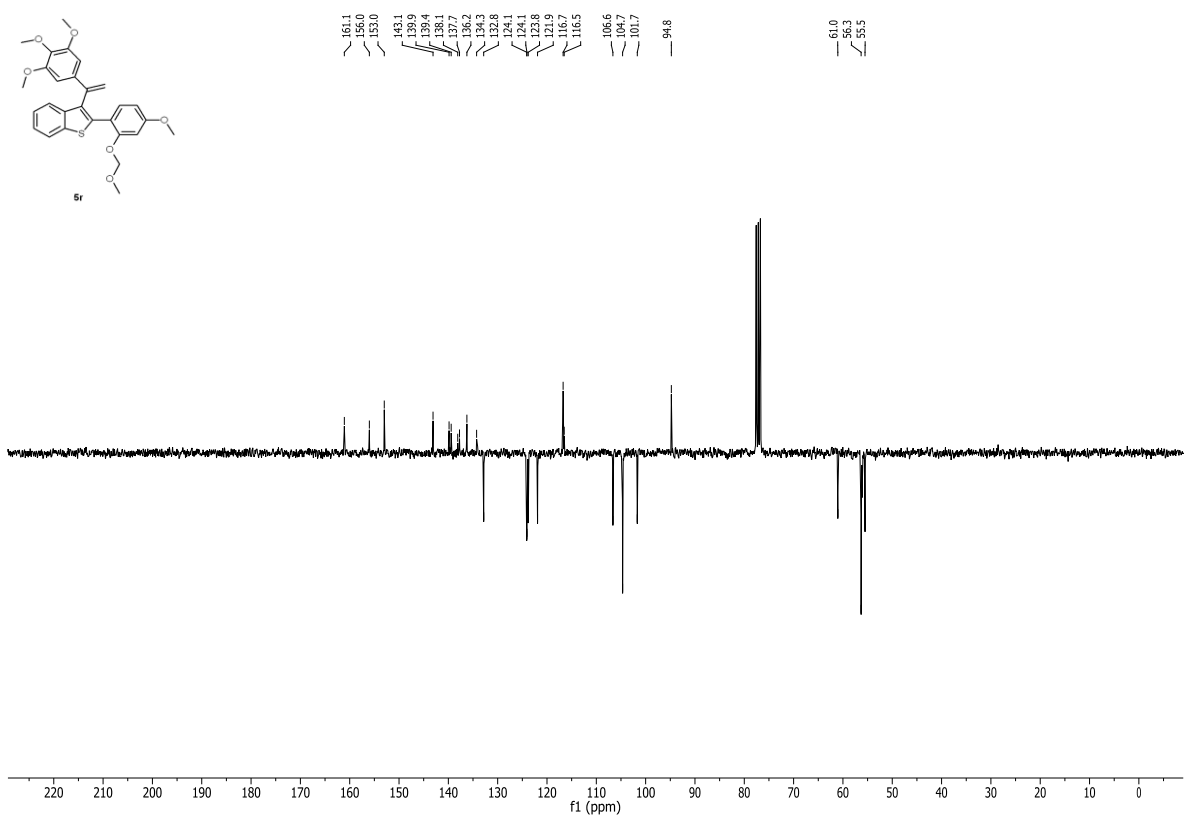
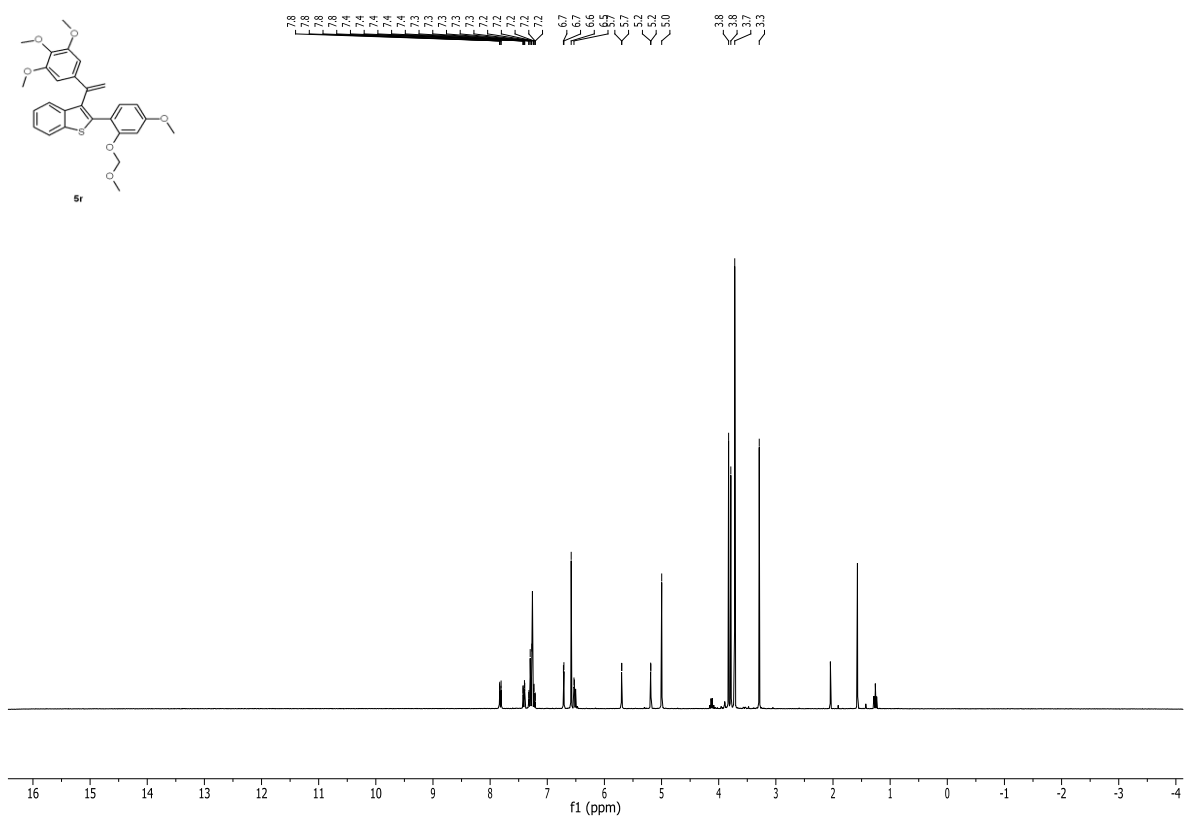




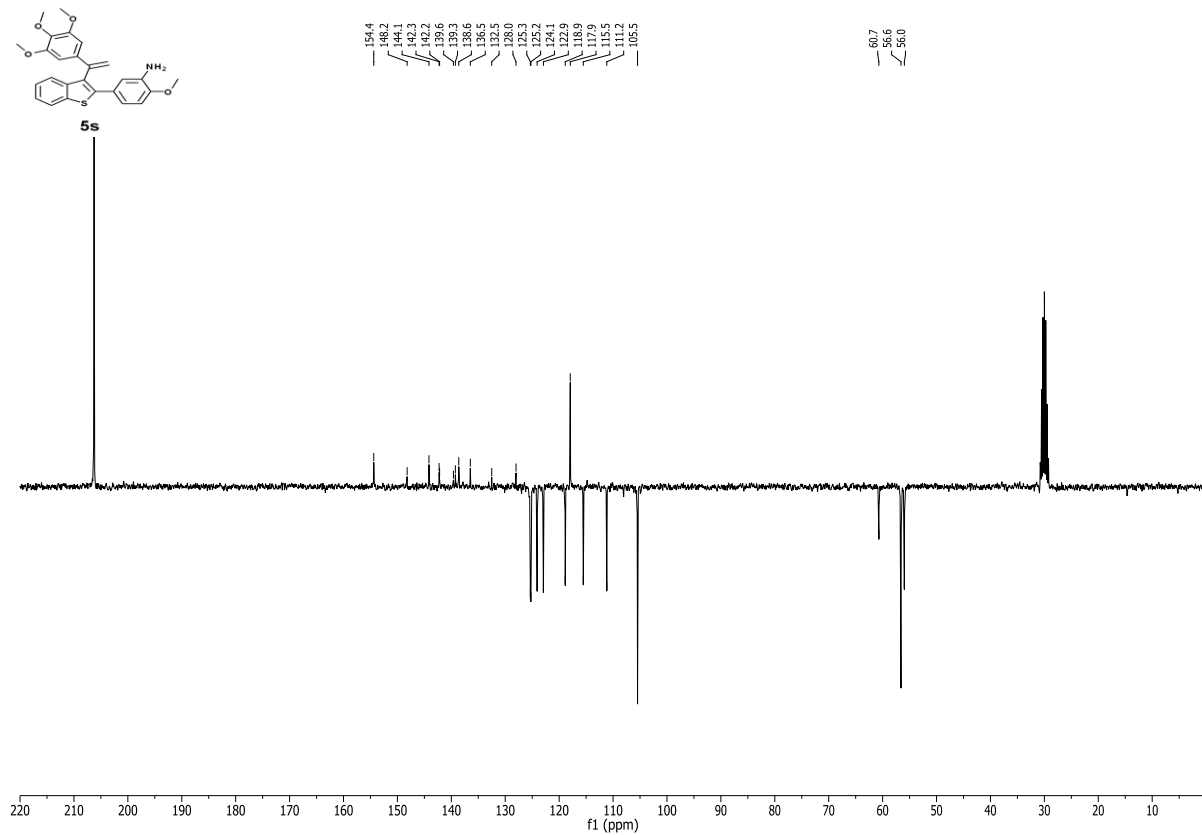
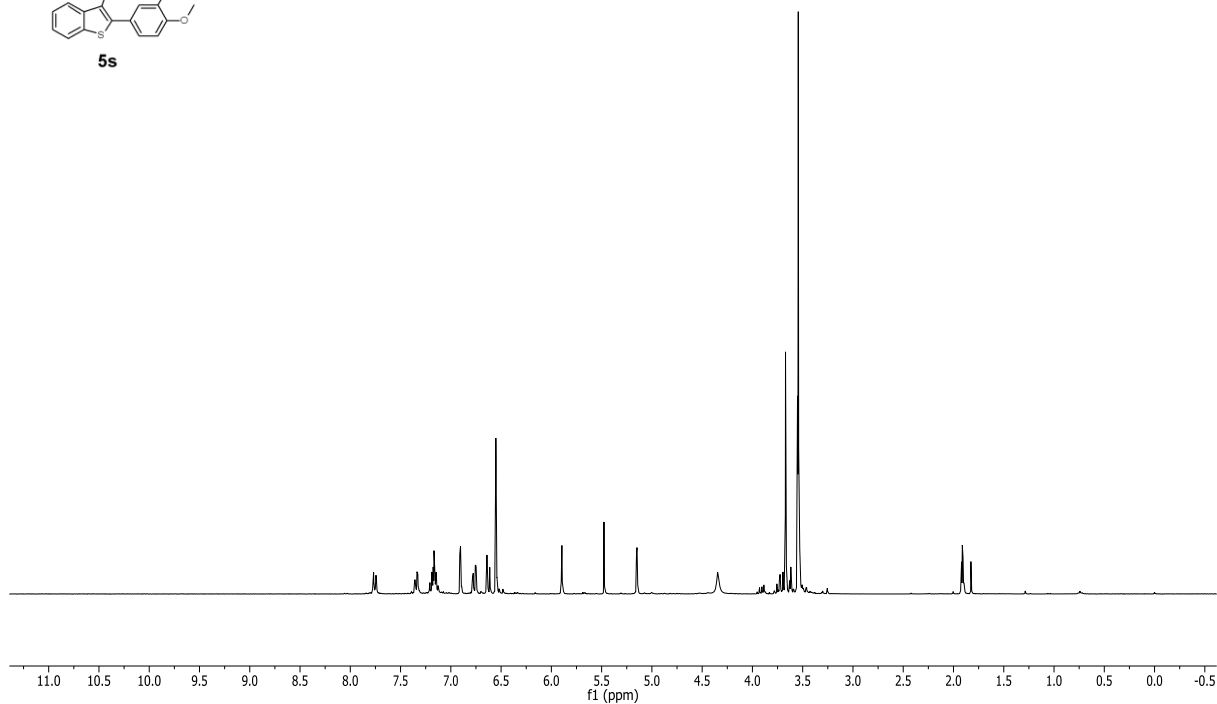
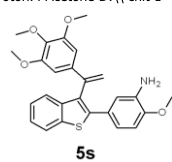


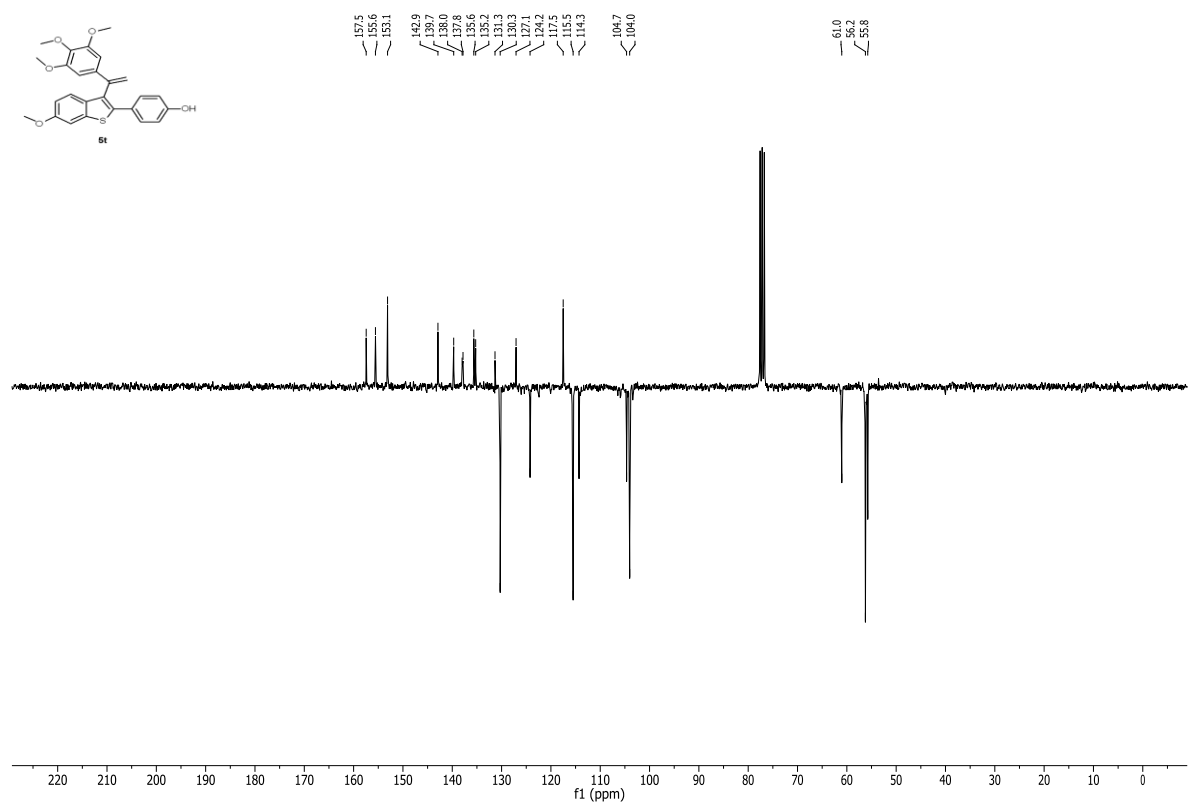
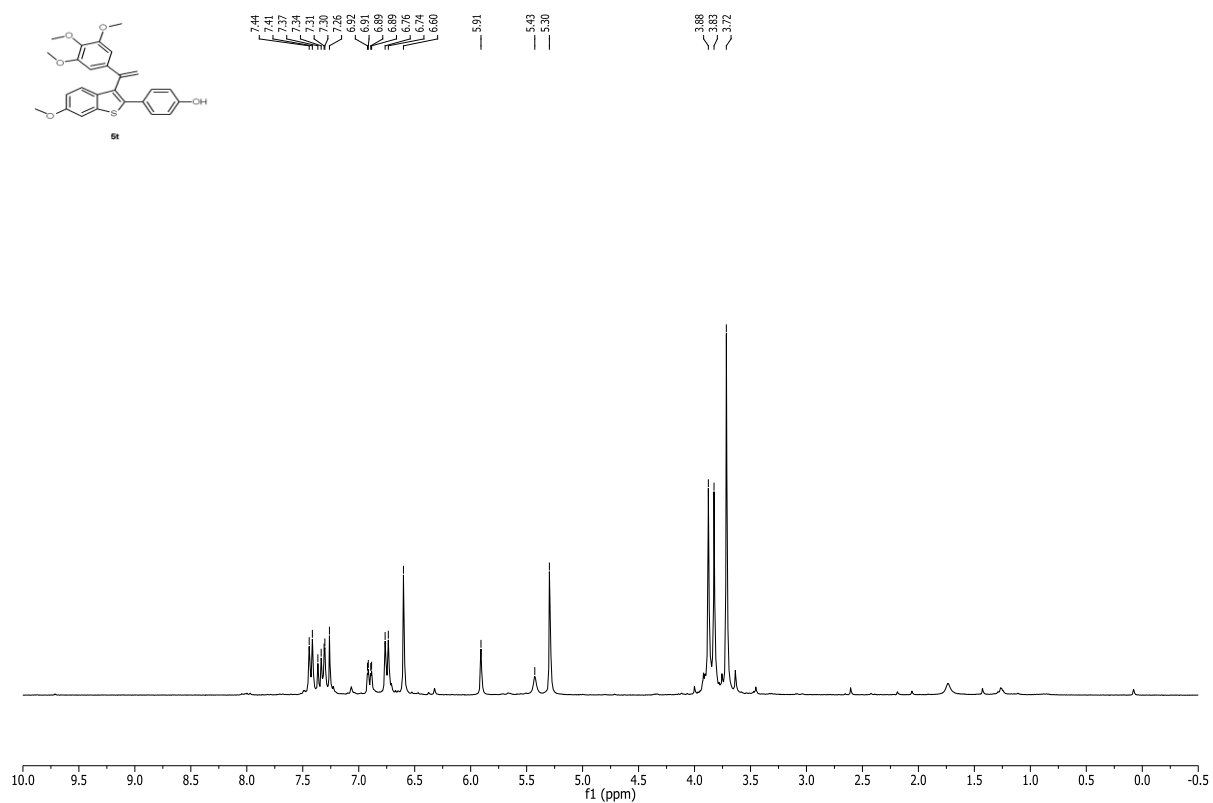






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IV. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra for 6-methyl-6-phenyl-6H-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-c]chromenes derivatives, 13a-c

[illegible]