## Total Synthesis of (+)-Suaveolindole: Establishment of its Absolute Configuration

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### **General Information:**

**General Experimental Details:** Reactions involving air or moisture-sensitive reagents or intermediates were performed under argon or nitrogen atmosphere in glassware which had been oven dried, or flame-dried under high vacuum. Indicated reaction temperatures refer to those of the reaction bath, while room temperature (rt) is noted as 23 °C. Preparative reactions were stirred magnetically. Tetrahydrofuran (THF), diethyl ether (Et<sub>2</sub>O), methylene chloride (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), and toluene were obtained from a dry solvent system (activated alumina columns, positive pressure of argon). All other solvents were bottles used received Sure/Seal (Aldrich). Triethylamine disopropylethylamine (i-Pr<sub>2</sub>NEt), pyridine, 2,6-lutidine, and chlorotrimethylsilane (TMSCI) were distilled from CaH<sub>2</sub> immediately prior to use. All other reagents were purchased from Aldrich at the highest commercial quality and used without further purification, with the exception of Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, and Pd<sub>2</sub>dba<sub>3</sub>, which were purchased from Strem and PhNTf<sub>2</sub> which was purchased from Oakwood Chemical.

Instrumentation: Optical rotations were measured on a JASCO DIP-370 digital polarimeter at rt. Concentration (c) in g/100 ml and solvent are given in parentheses. Infrared spectra were obtained on a Perkin-Elmer 1600 FT-IR spectrophotometer neat or as a film in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (NaCl plates). Absorption bands are noted in cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AMX-400, a Bruker DRX-500, or a Bruker AVII+-600 spectrometer in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ -values) are reported in ppm with residual undeuterated CHCl<sub>3</sub> as the internal standard (referenced to 7.26 ppm for 1H-NMR and 77.2 ppm for 13C-NMR). Coupling constants (J) (H,H) are given in Hz, spectral splitting patterns are designated as singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), quadruplet (q), quintet (qunit), multiplet or more overlapping signals (m), apparent (app), broad signal (br). Low resolution mass spectra (ionspray, a variation of electrospray) were acquired on a Perkin-Elmer Sciex API 100 spectrometer. Samples were introduced by direct infusion. High resolution mass spectra data was collected at the CUNY Mass Spectrometry Facility at Hunter College on an Agilent Technologies 6210 high resolution time-of-flight mass spectrometer attached to an Agilent Technologies 1200 HPLC system. The sample was ionized by simultaneous electrospray and atmospheric pressure chemical ionization with data being collected for both positive and negative ionization using Agilent's Multimode source. Flash chromatography (FC) was performed with E. Merck silica gel (60, particle size 0.040-0.063 mm) with loading approximately 50:1 (wt/wt) silica gel/crude residue. Preparative thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed with Whatman Partisil Plates (20 x 20 cm, 60 Å, 200 µm).

Scheme 1. Synthesis of Heck precursor 8.

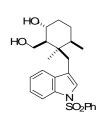
Chemical Formula: C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>47</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSi Exact Mass: 565.30459 Molecular Weight: 565.88168 **Indole 10**. A solution of alkenyl iodide **8** (0.5 g, 1.15 mmol), indole stannane **9** (0.94 g, 1.7 mmol), and Bu<sub>4</sub>NCl (0.35 g, 1.3 mmol) in DMF (4 mL) was degassed with Ar. After 15 min, Ph<sub>3</sub>As (35 mg, 0.12 mmol) and Pd<sub>2</sub>dba<sub>3</sub> (26 mg, 0.029 mmol) were added in one portion and the reaction was immediately submersed in a 105 °C oil bath. After stirring for 3 h, the reaction was cooled to 23 °C and poured into H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) and Et<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL). The layers were partitioned, and the aqueous

phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (5 × 10 mL), brine (10 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (1% ethyl acetate – hexanes) to yield 0.36g (55%) of **10** as a 4:1 mixture of diastereomers; major isomer:  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  7.99 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.54–7.49 (m, 2H), 7.42–7.39 (m, 3H), 7.29–7.19 (m, 2H), 5.84 (bs, 1H), 4.10 (d, J = 13 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (d, J = 13 Hz, 1H), 2.87 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H), 2.00–1.94 (m, 2H), 1.64–1.56 (m, 2H), 1.46–1.41 (m, 1H), 1.29–1.21 (m, 2H), 1.21 (s, 3H), 1.06–0.89 (m, 33H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz):  $\delta$  141.59, 138.47, 134.79, 133.56, 132.28, 129.10, 126.64, 124.45, 124.39, 123.53, 122.98, 120.84, 120.13, 113.57, 64.48, 40.12, 38.24, 29.76, 26.29, 25.67, 23.88, 18.09, 17.71, 16.15, 12.29, 11.96; HRMS (ESI, [M+Na] $^{+}$ ) calculated for: C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>47</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSiNa 588.2938. Found: 588.2933.

Chemical Formula: C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>49</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>SSi Exact Mass: 583.31516 Molecular Weight: 583.89696

**Alcohol 11.** A solution of BH<sub>3</sub>•THF (0.53 mL, 0.53 mmol, 1.0 M THF) was added dropwise to a solution of **10** (0.1 g, 0.18 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred for 3 h allowing it to warm to 23 °C. Excess borane was quenched by the slow addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (36  $\mu$ L), and the oraganoborane was sequentially treated with NaBO<sub>3</sub>•4H<sub>2</sub>O (0.14 g, 0.9 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (0.18 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h at 23 °C, whereupon it was diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL). The layers were partitioned and the aqueous phase was

extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 5 mL), the combined organic extracts were washed with brine (10 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (10% ethyl acetate – hexanes) to yield 56 mg (56%) of **11** as a colorless oil:  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):  $\delta$  7.99 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.53–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.26 (m, 3H), 4.14–4.06 (m, 1H), 3.70 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (dd, J = 14.6, 9.7 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (d, J = 22 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (d, J = 22 Hz, 1H), 1.46–1.34 (m, 3H), 1.22–1.19 (m, 3H), 0.90–0.83 (m, 28H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz):  $\delta$  138.36134.73, 133.69, 131.93, 129.21, 126.71, 124.65, 124.62, 123.37, 120.31, 119.85, 113.71, 73.18, 70.57, 65.77, 56.49, 43.96, 40.43, 35.58, 28.71, 25.09, 23.37, 17.70, 17.64, 16.46, 11.31. HRMS (ESI, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>) calculated for: C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>49</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>SSiNa 606.3043. Found: 606.3042.

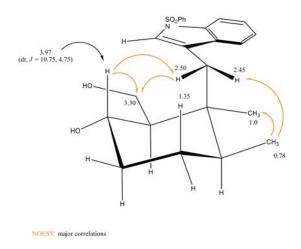


Chemical Formula: C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S Exact Mass: 427.18173 Molecular Weight: 427.55636

**Deprotection of 11:** A solution of **11** (10 mg, 0.017 mmol) in THF (100 μL) and AcOH (4 μL, 0.068 mmol) at 23 °C was treated with TBAF (34 μL, 0.034 mmol, 1.0 M THF). After stirring for 16 h, the reaction was concentrated in vacuo and the crude residue was purified by preparative TLC (20% ethyl acetate – hexanes) to afford the title compound as a white foam (7.0 mg, 100% yield): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.95 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.47–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.36 (dd, J = 7.9, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.25–7.24 (m, 1H), 7.21–7.18 (m 2H),

3.97 (dt, J = 10.75, 4.75 Hz, 1H), 3.44–3.40 (m, 1H), 3.30 (dd, J = 10.85, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (bs, 1H), 2.50 (d, J = 15 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (d, J = 15 Hz, 1H), 2.02–1.98 (m, 1H), 1.52–1.31 (m, 5H), 1.25–1.17 (m, 3H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 0.78 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz):  $\delta$  138.21, 134.95, 133.76, 132.16, 129.23, 128.34, 126.62, 124.97, 124.69, 123.34, 120.77, 119.85, 113.93, 73.55, 63.95, 57.91, 43.85, 41.06, 36.42, 29.69, 28.97, 24.95, 23.57, 16.49. HRMS (ESI, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>) calculated for:  $C_{24}H_{29}NO_4SNa$  450.1709. Found: 450.1707.

### Structural Determination of Deprotected 11:



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Chemical Formula: C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O Exact Mass: 164.1201 Molecular Weight: 164.2441

### (*R*)-3-(but-3-enyl)-4-methylcyclohex-2-enone (13).

A solution of 4-bromo-1-butene (1.0 mL, 10 mmol) in THF (4.6 mL) was added dropwise over a 20 min period to a stirring suspension of Mg turnings (240 mg, 10 mmol) in THF (2.0 mL). Following completion of the addition, the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at 23 °C and cannulated into a solution of (R)-12 in THF (17 mL) at -78 °C. After 20 min, the reaction was warmed

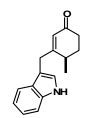
to 23 °C and maintained at this temperature for 3 h. The reaction was quenched by cooling to 0 °C and cautiously adding H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL). The layers were partitioned and the aqueous phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 20 mL), the combined organic extracts were washed with brine  $(2 \times 20 \text{ mL})$ , dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated. The crude carbinol was then dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6 mL) and added to a flask charged with PCC (3.9 g, 18.2 mmol) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (18 mL) at 23 °C. The resulting reaction mixture was maintained at this temperature for 16 h, decanted, and the remaining polymeric material was thoroughly washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3  $\times$  30 mL). The organic layers were combined, and sequentially washed with aqueous NaOH (2 × 20 mL, 5%), aqueous HCl (2 × 20 mL, 5%), saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (2  $\times$  20 mL) and brine (2  $\times$  20 mL). The layers were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (5→10% ethyl acetate – hexanes) to yield 0.7 g (47%) of (R)-13 as a pale yellow oil:  $[\alpha]^{22}_{D} = +15^{\circ}$  (c = 2.3, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 5.82–5.75 (m, 2H), 5.06–4.98 (m, 2H), 2.51–2.41 (m, 2H), 2.34–2.19 (m, 5H), 2.13–2.06 (m, 1H), 1.80–1.74 (m, 1 H), 1.19 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): δ 199.88, 169.53, 137.28, 125.42, 115.79, 34.99, 34.42, 33.32, 31.40, 30.37, 18.0; HRMS (ESI,  $[M+H]^+$ ) calculated for:  $C_{11}H_{17}O$  165.1273. Found: 165.1272.

<sup>(1)</sup> Access to racemic **13** was accomplished by a Stork-Danheiser reaction of 3-ethoxy-6-methylcyclohex-2-enone and but-3-enylmagnesium bromide in 94% yield, see: Stork, G.; Danheiser, R. L. *J. Org. Chem.* **1973**, *38*, 1775–1776.

<sup>(2) (</sup>a) *Organic Syntheses*; Wiley & Sons: New York, 2005; Vol. 82, p 108. (b) Schreiber, S. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1980**, *102*, 6165–6166.

Chemical Formula: C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>2</sub> Exact Mass: 166.10 Molecular Weight: 166.22

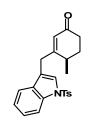
(R)-3-(6-methyl-3-oxocyclohex-1-enyl)propanal (14).Α suspension of 13 (0.5 g, 3.0 mmol) and NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (12 mg, 0.15 mmol) in MeOH (30 mL) at -78 °C was treated with ozone until TLC indicated the reaction was complete. The reaction mixture was purged with argon for 10 min, and a solution of DMS (1.1 ml, 15 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.1 mL) was added. The reaction was maintained at 23 °C for 16 h, filtered through a pad of celite and concentrated. The crude residue (0.44 g, 88%) was dried in vacuo (450 mtorr) for 1 h and used without further purification:  $\left[\alpha\right]^{\overline{2}2}_{D} = +48^{\circ}$  (c = 1.3, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 9.82 (s, 1H), 5.72 (s, 1H), 2.71–2.67 (m, 2H), 2.63–2.43 (m, 4H), 2.35–2.29 (m, 1H), 2.15-2.08 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.76 (m, 1H), 1.21 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125) MHz): δ 200.21, 199.26, 167.72, 124.87, 41.0, 34.10, 33.49, 30.13, 27.29, 17.83; HRMS (ESI,  $[M+H]^+$ ) calculated for:  $C_{10}H_{15}O_2$  167.1066. Found 167.1063.



Chemical Formula: C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO Exact Mass: 239.13101 Mdecular Weight: 239.31228

(R)-3-((1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)-4-methylcyclohex-2-enone. A mixture of 2-iodoaniline (6.4 g, 29.2 mmol), (R)-14 (4.4 g, 26.5 mmol), and DABCO (8.9 g, 79.5 mmol) in DMF (130 mL) was degassed with Ar for 20 min. Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (300 mg, 1.33 mmol) was added to the reaction, and the resulting reaction mixture was heated to 85 °C for 16 h. The reaction was cooled to 23 °C and was diluted with H<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3  $\times$  50 mL), and the combined organic phases were washed with brine (50 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated. The

crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (30% ethyl acetate – hexanes) to yield 4.3 g (68%) of the title compound as a yellow foam:  $[\alpha]^{22}_{D}$  =  $+81^{\circ}$  (c = 0.9, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  8.03 (bs, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (dd, J = 15.3, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (dd, J = 16.2, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 5.84 (s, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 2.54–2.46 (m, 2H), 2.31 (ddd, J = 11.5, 11.5, 5.8, 1H), 2.11–2.04 (m, 1H), 1.81–1.75 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125MHz): δ 200.28, 169.56, 136.69, 127.41, 125.78, 122.95, 122.16,119.59, 118.71, 111.33, 111.16, 34.09, 32.57, 31.97, 30.22, 17.83; HRMS (ESI, [M+H]<sup>+</sup>) calculated for: C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO 240.1382. Found: 240.1383.

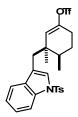


Chemical Formula: C23H23NO3S Exact Mass: 393.13986 Molecular Weight:

(R)-4-methyl-3-((1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)cyclohex-2-enone (15). Tosyl chloride (0.87 g, 4.60 mmol) was added to a mixture of (R)-3-((1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)-4-methylcyclohex-2-enone (1.0) 4.18 mmol), and TBAB (0.14 g, 0.42 mmol) in NaOH (14 mL, 15% aq), and benzene (13 mL) at 23 °C. The reaction was maintained at this temperature for 2 h, and monitored by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis. Upon consumption of starting material the layers were partitioned, and the aqueous phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine (50 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by flash

column chromatography on silica gel (20 $\rightarrow$ 30% ethyl acetate – hexanes) to yield 1.5 g

(91%) of **15** as a yellow foam:  $[\alpha]^{22}_D = +48^\circ$  (c = 2.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.98 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (s, 1H), 7.36–7.21 (m, 2H), 7.23–7.19 (m, 3H), 5.70 (s, 1H), 3.59 (s, 1H), 2.53–2.44 (m, 2H), 2.35–2.29 (m, 4H), 2.11–2.05 (m, 1H), 1.82–1.76 (m, 1H), 1.25 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125MHz): $\delta$  199.39, 166.72, 145.08, 135.4, 135.06, 130.48, 125.01, 124.54, 123.38, 119.4 8, 118.13, 113.91, 34.03, 31.63, 30.12, 21.60, 17.81; HRMS (ESI, [M+H]<sup>+</sup>) calculated for:  $C_{23}H_{24}NO_{3}S$  394.1471. Found: 394.1474.



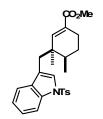
Chemical Formula: C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>26</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>S<sub>2</sub> Exact Mass: 541.1204 Molecular Weight: 541.6028

### (3R,4R)-3,4-dimethyl-3-((1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)cyclohex-1-enyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (16).

A suspension of CuI (0.87 g, 4.58 mmol), in Et<sub>2</sub>O (38 mL) was cooled to -30 °C and treated dropwise with a solution of MeLi (7.4 mL, 9.17 mmol, 1.25 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O). After 10 min, the reaction mixture was warmed to 0 °C resulting in a colorless, homogeneous solution. A solution of enone **15** (1.5 g, 3.82 mmol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O-THF (6 mL-1.5 mL) was added over a 20 min period, resulting in an orange precipitate. After stirring for an additional 30 min, the

reaction mixture was treated with a solution of PhNTf<sub>2</sub> (3.14 g, 8.79 mmol) in THF (9 mL). After 20 min, saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl was added, and the layers partitioned. The aqueous phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 20 mL), and the combined organic extracts were washed with brine (2 × 20 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (5 $\rightarrow$ 10% ethyl acetate – hexanes) to yield (*R*,*R*)-**16** as a 9:1 mixture of diastereomers and an inseparable mixture<sup>3</sup> with PhNHTf: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600 MHz):  $\delta$  7.92 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 7.4 Hz, 1 H), 7.17–7.12 (m, 3H), 2.60 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 1 H), 2.36–2.27 (m, 2H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 1.72–1.67 (m, 2H), 1.63–1.55 (m, 1H), 1.00 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.95 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR

δ 148.19, 144.91, 135.16, 135.06, 131.86, 128.84, 127.10, 126.74, 125.06, 124.60, 123.18, 120.06, 118.43, 113.73, 39.01, 38.07, 30.67, 30.67, 27.35, 27.09, 26.11, 21.51, 15.22; HRMS (ESI, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>) calculated for: C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>F<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Na 564.1096. Found: 564.1096.



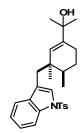
Chemical Formula: C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S Exact Mass: 451.18 Molecular Weight: 451.58

(3R,4R)-Methyl 3,4-dimethyl-3-((1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)cyclohex-1-enecarboxylate. A mixture of enol triflate 16 (2.0 g, 3.8 mmol), i-Pr<sub>2</sub>EtN (3.3 mL, 19 mmol), MeOH (13 mL, 0.3 M), and DMF (20 mL) was purged with Ar for 5 min. Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0.22 g, 0.19 mmol) was added and CO was bubbled through the reaction mixture for 30 min. Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) were added, and the layers partitioned. The aqueous phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 20 mL), and the combined organic extracts were washed with water (5 × 20 mL), brine (2 ×

20 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (5→10% ethyl acetate – hexanes) to yield the title

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Note, that on small scale, recrystallization of **18** from 5% ethyl acetate was successful in removing majority of the PhNHTf.

compound (0.76 g, 45% from **15**) as a white foam:  $[\alpha]^{22}_{D} = +40^{\circ}$  (c = 1.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600 MHz):  $\delta$  7.90 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22–7.18 (m, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.11–7.10 (m, 1H), 6.40 (s, 1H), 2.60 (dd, J = 22.3, 13.8, 2H), 2.38–2.35 (m, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.18–2.12 (m, 1H), 1.67–1.61 (m, 1H), 1.58–1.51 (m, 2H), 1.00 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 0.91 (s, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150MHz):  $\delta$  167.97, 147.84, 144.74, 135.17, 135.05, 132.16, 129.80, 129.12, 126.81, 125.06, 124.42, 122.98, 120.35, 119.19, 113.69, 51.62, 38.46, 38.17, 30.76, 26.75, 25.57, 24.27, 21.56, 16.0; HRMS (ESI, [M+H] $^{+}$ ) calculated for: C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>30</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S 452.1890. Found: 452.1887.

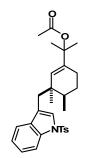


Chemical Formula: C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>83</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S Exact Mass: 451.22 Molecular Weight: 451.62

### 2-((3R,4R)-3,4-dimethyl-3-((1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-

yl)methyl)cyclohex-1-enyl)propan-2-ol. A solution the above  $\alpha$ , β-unsaturated ester (0.76 g, 1.69 mmol) in THF (13 mL) at 0 °C was treated with MeLi (4.0 mL, 5.0 mmol, 1.25 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O). After 10 min, the reaction was poured into half-saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (20 mL) and Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) and the layers partitioned. The aqueous phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 10 mL), and the combined organic extracts were washed with brine (2 × 10 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (10 $\rightarrow$ 20% ethyl

acetate – hexanes) to yield the title compound (0.64 g, 84%) as a white foam:  $[\alpha]^{22}_D = +52^{\circ}$  (c = 1.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.99 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.29–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.21–7.18 (m, 3H), 2.67 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.21–2.18 (m, 1H), 2.06–2.00 (m, 1H), 1.66–1.57 (m, 3H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 1.06–1.05 (m, 6H), 1.00 (s, 3H); NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150MHz):  $\delta$  144.92, 142.04, 135.44, 135.33, 132.70, 130.19, 129.97, 128.66, 127.62, 126.95, 124.85, 124.64, 122.84, 120.80, 120.49, 114.03,72.77, 44.85, 39.04, 37.48, 31.33, 28.86, 28.78, 28.04, 27.94, 26.86, 24.65, 21.76, 16.10; HRMS (ESI, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>) calculated for:  $C_{27}H_{33}NO_3SNa$  474.2073. Found: 474.2069.



**Chemical Formula:** C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S Exact Mass: 493.23 Molecular Weight: 493.66

2-((3R,4R)-3,4-dimethyl-3-((1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-

yl)methyl)cyclohex-1-enyl)propan-2-yl acetate (17). A mixture of the above tertiary allylic alcohol (0.5 g, 1.11 mmol), i-Pr<sub>2</sub>EtNH (2.0 mL, 11.1 mmol),  $Ac_2O$  (0.63 mL, 6.65 mmol), and DMAP (13 mg, 0.11 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (2 ml) was maintained at 23 °C for 16 h.  $Et_2O$  (10 mL) and  $H_2O$  (10 mL) were added, and the layers partitioned. The aqueous phase was extracted with  $Et_2O$  (2 × 10 mL), and the combined organic extracts were washed with brine (20 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (5% ethyl acetate – hexanes) to yield 17 (0.45 g, 83%) as a white foam:

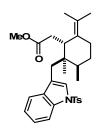
 $[\alpha]^{22}_{D}$  = + 67° (c = 1.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.86 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.64–7.62 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.17–7.14 (m, 2H), 7.08–7.06 (m, 3H), 2.53 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.95–1.92 (m, 1H), 1.82 (s, 3H), 1.52–1.46 (m, 4H), 1.23 (s, 3H), 1.18–1.13 (m, 4H), 0.93 (d, J = 5.9

Hz, 3H), 0.85 (s, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150MHz):  $8\,169.76,\,144.62,\,138.77,\,135.36,\,135.02,\,132.49,\,129.71,\,126.74,\,124.97,\,124.25,\,122.78$ ,  $120.75,\,120.02,\,113.52,\,38.74,\,37.39,\,30.82,\,27.44,\,26.72,\,26.52,\,25.74,\,24.03,\,22.67,\,22$ ,  $13,\,21.53,\,15.90;\,HRMS$  (ESI, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>) calculated for:  $C_{29}H_{35}NO_4SNa$  516.2179. Found: 516.2174.

**Chemical Formula:** C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>85</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S Exact Mass: 493.23 Molecular Weight: 493.66

2-((15,2R,3R)-2,3-dimethyl-6-(propan-2-ylidene)-2-((1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)cyclohexyl)acetic acid (18). A solution of 17 (0.45 g, 0.91 mmol) in THF (4.0 mL) was added dropwise over a 5 min period to a mixture of LiHMDS (3.0 mL, 3.0 mmol, 1.0 M THF) and TMSCl (0.35 mL, 2.74 mmol) in THF (5.0 mL) at -78 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to 23 °C over a 2 h period, and maintained at this temperature for 16 h. Et<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) and 2M HCl (10 mL) were added, and the layers partitioned. The aqueous phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 5 mL), and the combined organic extracts were washed with brine (10 mL), dried

(MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (10% ethyl acetate – hexanes with 1% AcOH) to yield 0.25g (56%) of the title compound as a white foam:  $\left[\alpha\right]^{22}_{D}$  = + 89° (c = 0.9, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600 MHz):  $\delta$  8.06 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.49–7.45 (m, 2H), 7.39–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.28–7.24 (m, 3H), 3.26–3.20 (m, 1H), 2.75 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H), 2.72–2.69 (m, 1H), 2.59 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H), 2.52–2.46 (m, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.16–2.04 (m, 1H), 1.85–1.75 (m, 1 H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.65–1.63 (m, 1H), 1.53–1.45 (m, 1H), 1.32 (s, 3H), 1.04 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 0.95 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150MHz): $\delta$  182.06, 146.76, 137.13, 137.11, 135.03, 131.89, 131.84, 128.74, 128.02, 126. 63, 126.41, 124.90, 122.38, 122.03, 115.83, 43.97, 42.50, 38.43, 36.14, 32.80, 28.24, 27.0 8, 26.71, 23.54, 22.82, 22.30, 17.89; HRMS (ESI, [M+H]<sup>+</sup>) calculated for: C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>36</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S 494.2360. Found: 494.2365.



Chemical Formula: C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>57</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S Exact Mass: 507.24433 Molecular Weight: 507.68408

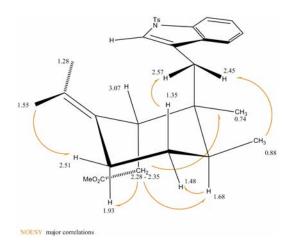
**Methyl 2,3-dimethyl-6-(propan-2-ylidene)-2-((1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)cyclohexyl)acetate.** A solution of **18** (5.0 mg, 0.01 mmol) in MeOH (0.5 mL) was treated with  $H_2SO_4$  (15 μL, catalytic) at 23 °C and maintained for 16 h. The reaction mixture was poured into 10% aq. NaOH (1 mL) and extracted with  $Et_2O$  (3 × 2 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (5 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by preparative TLC (20% ethyl acetate – hexanes) to afford the title compound as a colorless oil (5 mg, 100% yield):  $^1H$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600 MHz):  $\delta$  7.89 (d, J = 8.3 Hz,

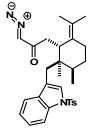
1H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34–7.32 (m, 2H), 7.14–1.11 (m, 3 H), 3.49 (s, 3H), 3.08 (dd, J = 9.5, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 2.58–2.53 (m, 3H), 2.44 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 2.35–2.29 (m, 2 H), 2.25 (s, 3 H), 1.94–1.89 (m, 1 H), 1.71–1.66 (m, 1 H), 1.57 (s, 3 H), 1.49–1.47 (m, 4 H), 1.36–1.27 (m, 4 H), 6.80 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 0.74 (s, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150MHz):

δ 173.72, 144.55, 135.17, 135.02, 132.99, 130.17, 129.77, 126.76, 125.53, 124.65, 124.28, 122.82, 120.37, 119.99, 113.74, 51.27, 42.05, 40.38, 36.32, 34.14, 30.77, 26.17, 25.09, 2

4.38, 21.53, 20.71, 20.26, 15.83; LRMS (ESI, [M+H]<sup>+</sup>) calculated for:  $C_{30}H_{38}NO_4S$  508. Found: 508.

### Structural Determination for the Methyl Ester Derivative of 18:





Chemical Formula: C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>35</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S Exact Wass: 517.23991 Molecular Weight: 517.68220

1-diazo-3-((1S,2R,3R)-2,3-dimethyl-6-(propan-2-ylidene)-2-((1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)cyclohexyl)propan-2-one. To a solution of carboxylic acid 18 (108 mg, 0.22 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) at 0 °C, was added oxalyl chloride (0.55 mL, 1.1 mmol), followed by DMF (25  $\mu$ l). After stirring at 0 °C for 45 min, all solvent was removed in vacuo. The crude acid chloride was dried in vacuo (450 mtorr) for 2 h and used without any further purification.

Note in the next step, diazomethane was dried with sodium metal for 15 min immediately prior to use. Diazomethane is toxic and equation, should be exercised when preparing and handling

explosive. Extreme caution should be exercised when preparing and handling diazomethane. All reactions should be carried out in a well-ventilated fume hood and behind a blast shield.

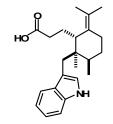
The crude acid chloride was dissolved in THF (1 mL), cooled to 0 °C, and treated sequentially with *i*-Pr<sub>2</sub>EtNH (0.2 mL, 1.1 mmol) and diazomethane (6.6 mL, 2.2 mmol). The reaction mixture was warmed to 23 °C and maintained at this temperature for 30 min. The reaction mixture was poured into saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (5 mL) and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 5 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (5 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (2 $\rightarrow$ 20% ethyl acetate – hexanes) to yield the title compound as a white foam (70 mg, 62%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 600 MHz):  $\delta$  8.54 ( $\delta$ , J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.61–7.59 (d, J = 1 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (dd, J = 7.4, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.42 (s, 1H), 3.66–3.63 (m, 1H), 2.81–2.79 (m, 1H), 2.60 (d, J = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 2.33–2.30 (m, 1H), 2.00 (s, 3H), 1.79 (s, 3H), 1.66–1.51 (m, 3H), 1.07 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 0.92 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 150MHz): $\delta$  193.56, 144.33, 135.91, 135.74, 133.53, 130.73, 130.16, 127.22, 125.57, 124. 62, 123.09, 120.28, 120.23, 114.35, 40.59, 36.70, 30.89, 26.16, 25.70, 24.61, 21.07, 21.04

, 20.21, 15.83, 5.61; HRMS (ESI,  $[M+H]^+$ ) calculated for:  $C_{30}H_{36}N_3O_3S$  518.2471. Found: 518.2475. IR (NaCl) 2096 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Chemical Formula: C<sub>80</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S Exact Mass: 507.24 Molecular Weight: 507.68

3-((1S,2R,3R)-2,3-dimethyl-6-(propan-2-ylidene)-2-((1-tosyl-1H-indol-3-yl)methyl)cyclohexyl)propanoic acid. The purified diazoketone from the preceding step is dissolved in THF (0.54 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (0.05 mL). The reaction mixture is cooled to –25 °C and protected from light. A solution of CF<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>Ag (4.0 mg, 0.017 mmol) in Et<sub>3</sub>N (60  $\mu$ L, 0.41 mmol) was added in one portion and the reaction was warmed to 23 °C over a two hour period. After stirring for 16 h, 2M HCl (1 mL) was added and the aqueous phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 5 mL). The combined organic

extracts were washed with brine (2 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (5 $\rightarrow$ 50% ethyl acetate – hexanes) to yield the title compound as a white foam (50 mg, 74%):  $[\alpha]^{22}_D = +62^{\circ}$  (c = 1.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600 MHz):  $\delta$  8.00 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 3H), 2.65 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H), 2.58-2.55 (m, 1H), 2.47 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H), 2.42-2.39 (m, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.18-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.87-1.73 (m, 3H), 1.71-1.65 (m, 1H), 1.63 (s, 3H), 1.55-1.53 (m, 1H), 1.43-1.38 (m, 1H), 1.06 (s, 3H), 0.94 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 150MHz): $\delta$  193.56<sup>4</sup>, 144.72, 135.24, 135.11, 133.15, 130.08, 129.66, 125.75, 124.36, 124 .17, 122.85, 121.05, 120.06, 113.80, 44.04, 40.57, 36.17, 31.96, 30.89, 26.62, 25.23, 24.7 5, 22.69, 21.46, 20.79, 20.06, 15.84; HRMS (ESI, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>) calculated for:  $C_{30}H_{37}NO_4SNa$  530.2335. Found: 530.2333. IR (NaCl) 1705 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



Chemical Formula: C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> Exact Mass: 353.24 Molecular Weight: 353.50

**Suaveolindole** (1). A 1.0 M stock solution of sodium naphthalenide was prepared by added Na (0.23 g, 10 mmol) to a solution of naphthalene (1.3 g, 10 mmol) in DME (10 mL) at 23 °C. After stirring for 90 m, the freshly prepared sodium napthalenide (1.0 mL, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 M in DME) was transferred to a solution of the tosyl protected indole (52 mg, 0.10 mmol) in DME (1 mL) at 23 °C. The reaction mixture was maintained at this temperature for 20 min, poured into 2M HCl (1 mL) and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 2 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed

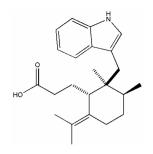
with brine (5 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by HPLC (2% IPA – hexanes;  $4.6 \times 250$  mm column, Silica  $5\mu$ M;  $R_T = 6.6$  min) to afford suaveolindole (**1**, 33 mg, 94%) as a white foam:  $[\alpha]^{22}_D = +32^\circ$  (c = 1.0, CD<sub>3</sub>OD). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 600 MHz): 10.10 (bs, 0.4H), 7.43 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (dd, J = 7.7, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.94 (dd, J = 7.9, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (d, J = 14.5, 1H), 2.68–2.61 (m, 3H), 2.08–1.85 (m, 4 H), 1.80–1.72 (m, 2H), 1.70 (s, 3H), 1.56–1.46 (m, 2 H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 1.00 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 150 MHz):

δ 178.22, 137.70, 132.35, 130.78, 126.23, 124.33, 121.80, 120.13, 119.16, 113.27, 111.92

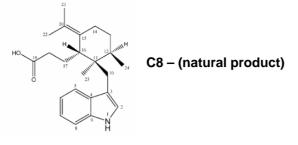
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 $<sup>^4</sup>$  Visible when LB = 10

, 45.57, 41.86, 37.75, 33.11, 32.31, 27.89, 26.09, 25.91, 24.0, 21.67, 20.33, 16.39; HRMS (ESI,  $\left[M+H\right]^+$ ) calculated for:  $C_{23}H_{32}NO_2$  354.2427. Found: 354.2427.



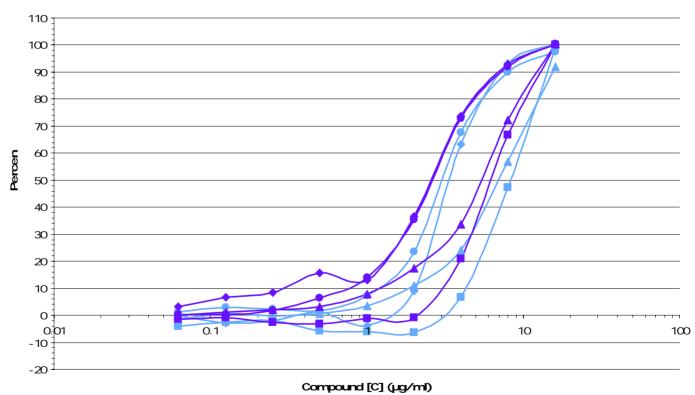
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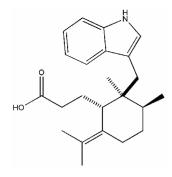




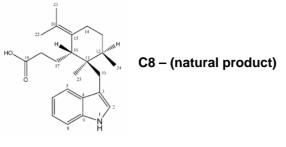
### C8 and C8 precursors MIC on Staphylococcus aureus (Suave4)





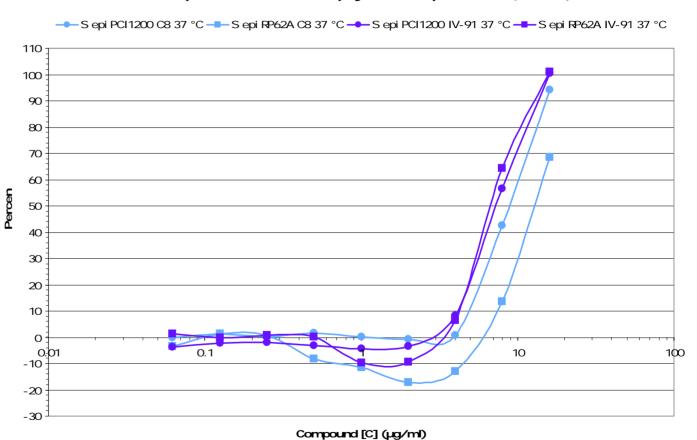


EJV-IV-91 (synthetic)





### C8 and C8 precursors MIC on Staphylococcus epidermidis (Suave4)

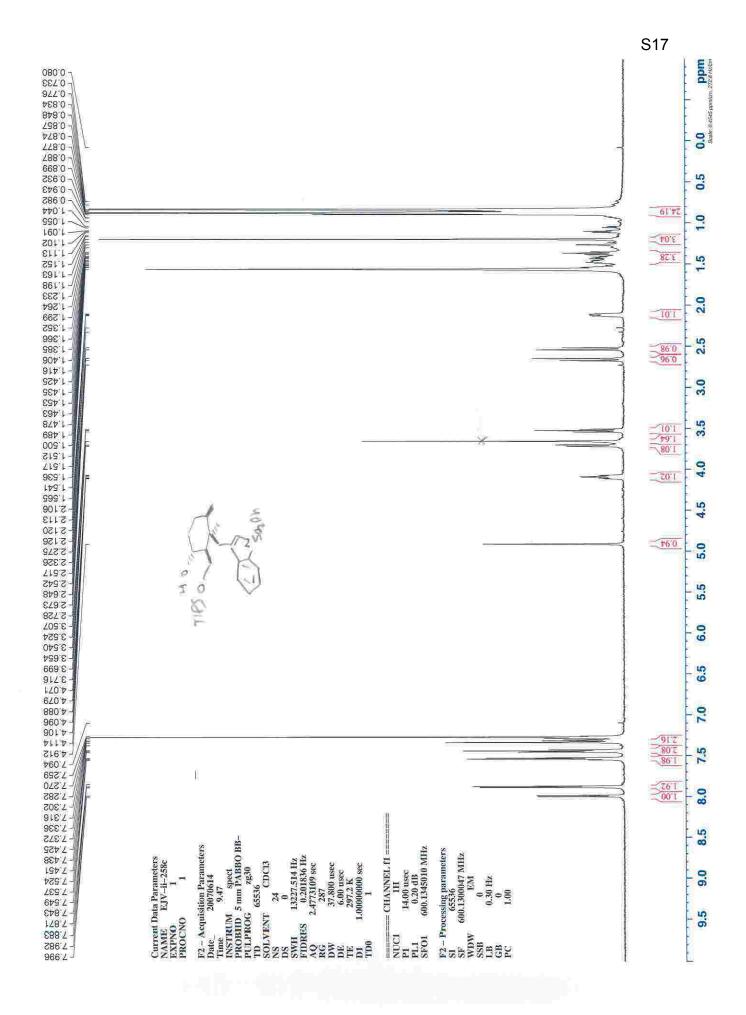


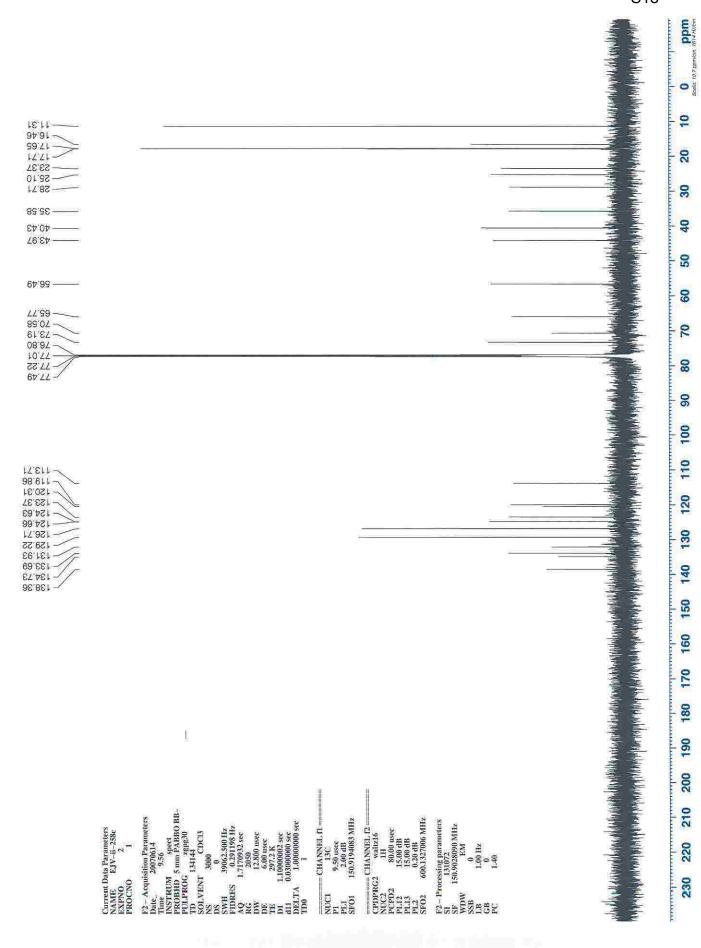
.\* evelthui ejv-ii-151f (1 1) CDC13 25.0C September\_07,2006\_08:50 AMX 400MHz zg30

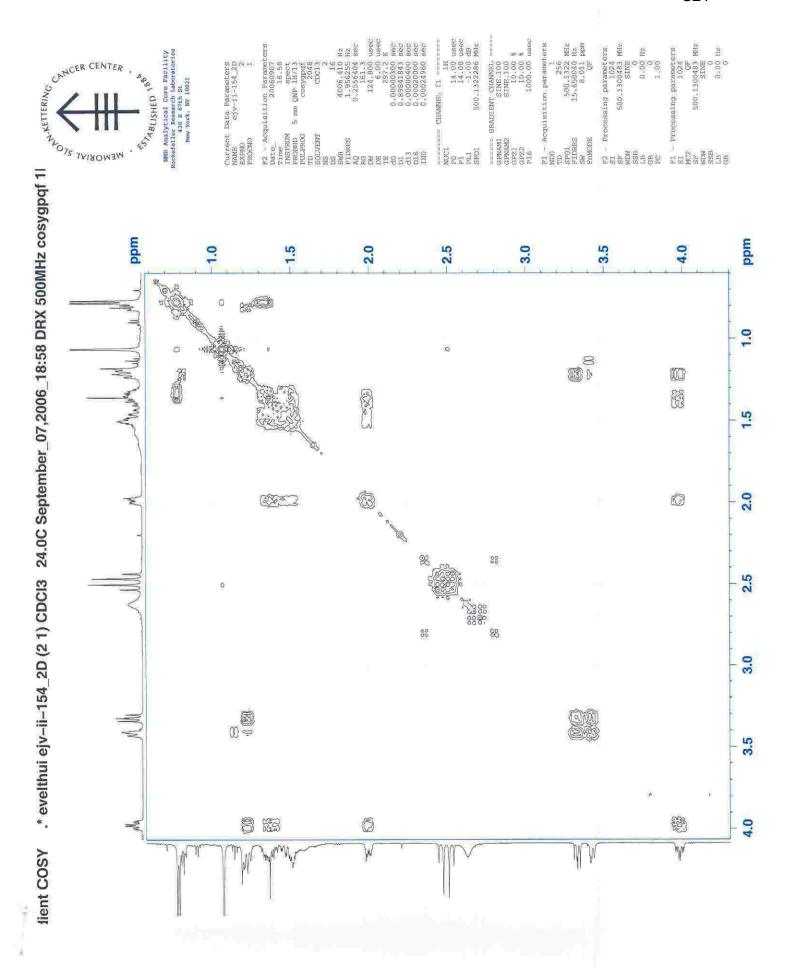
Proton

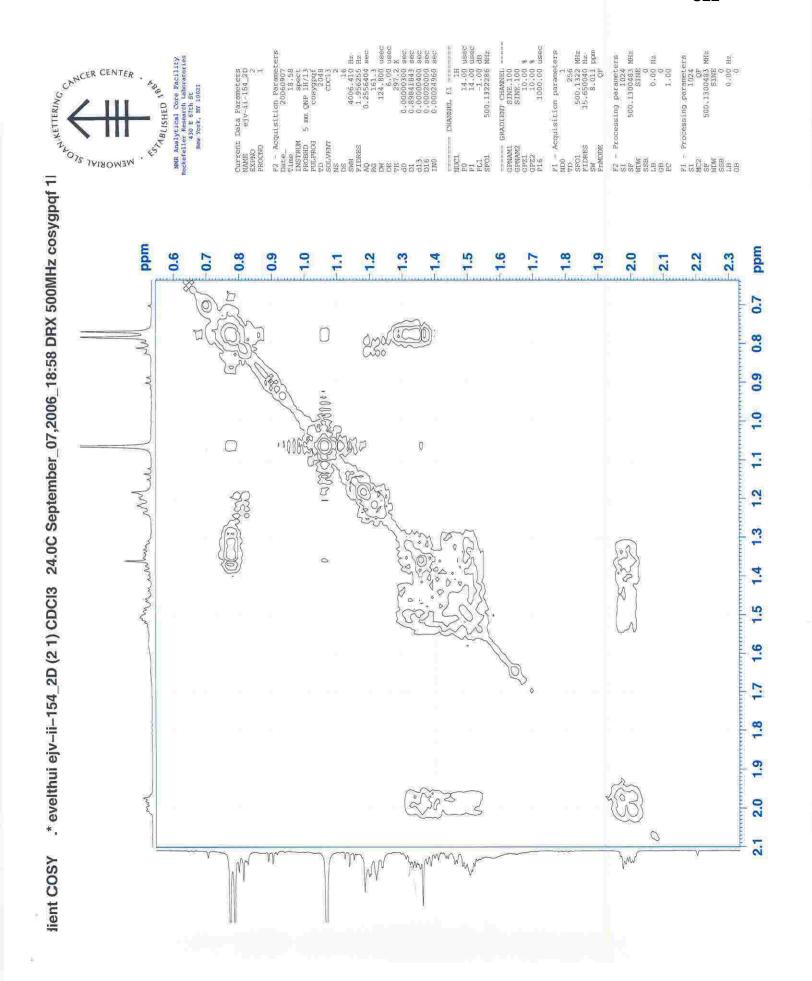
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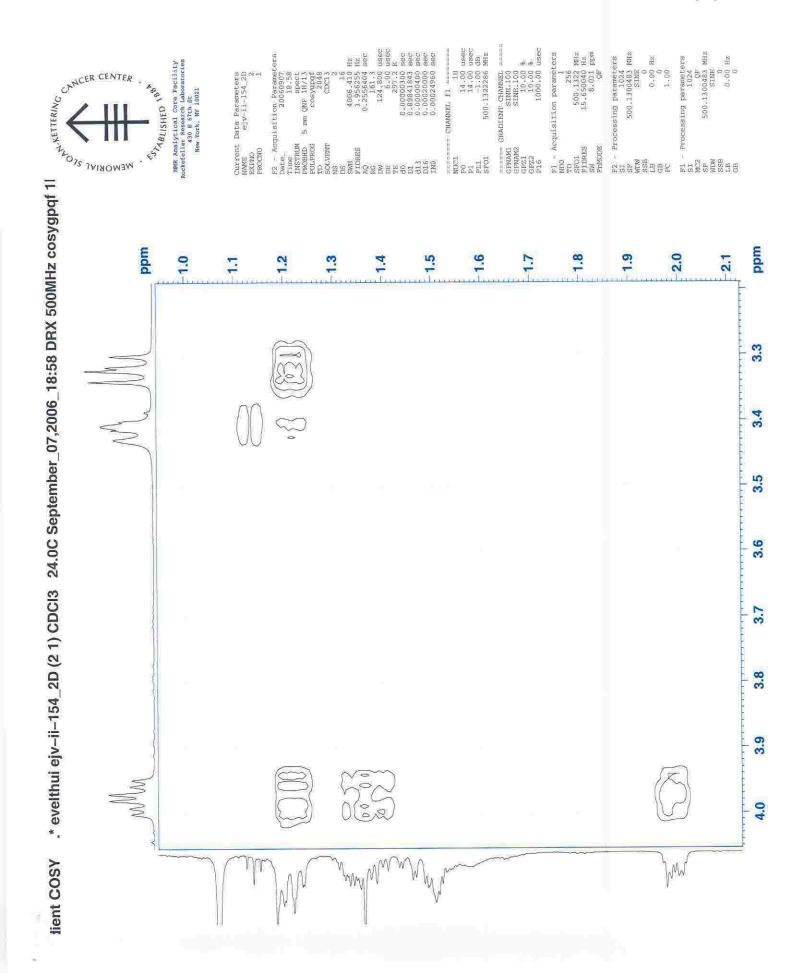
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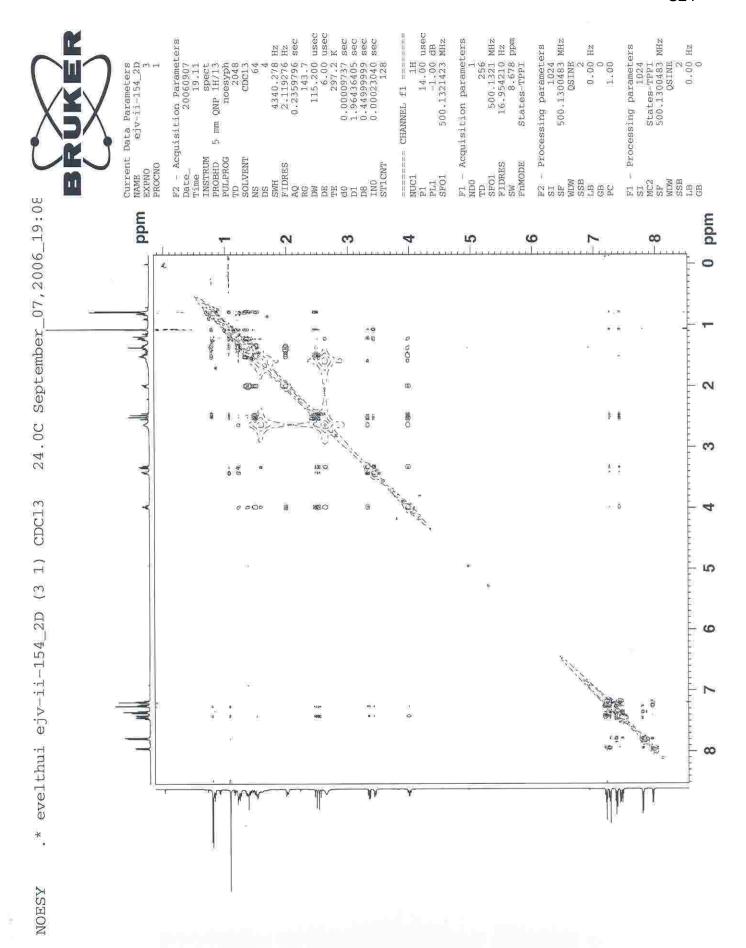


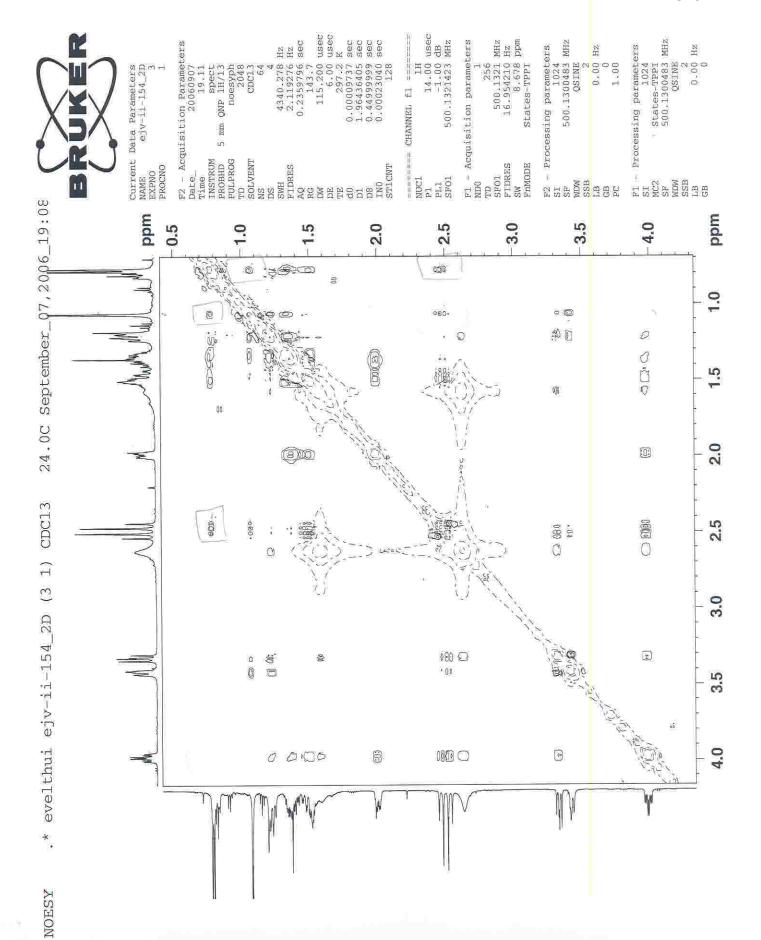


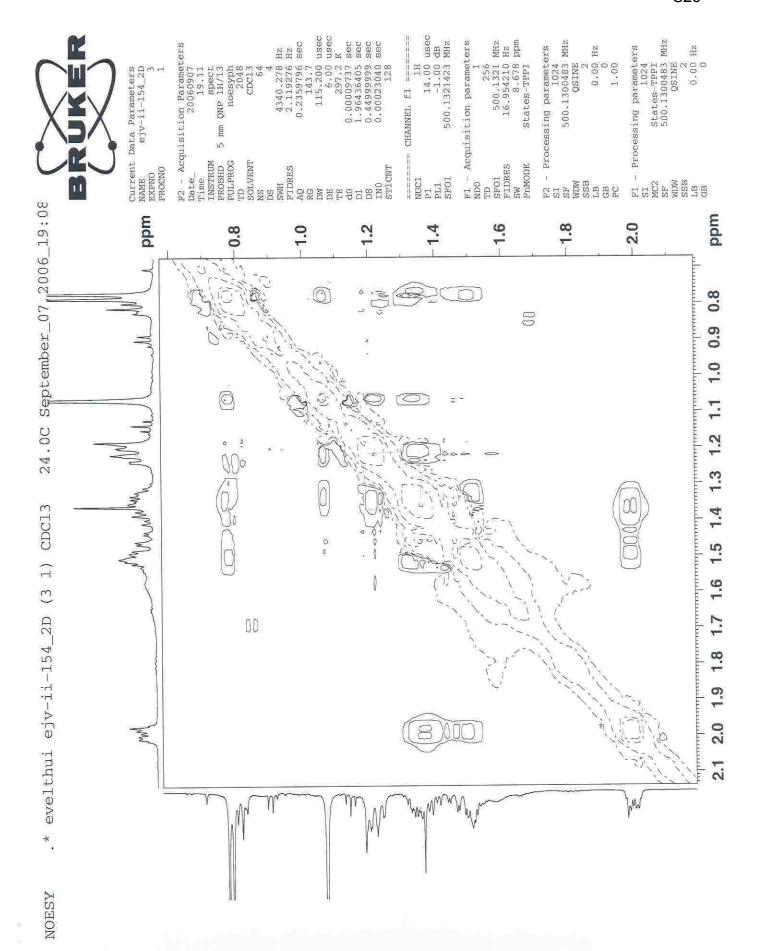




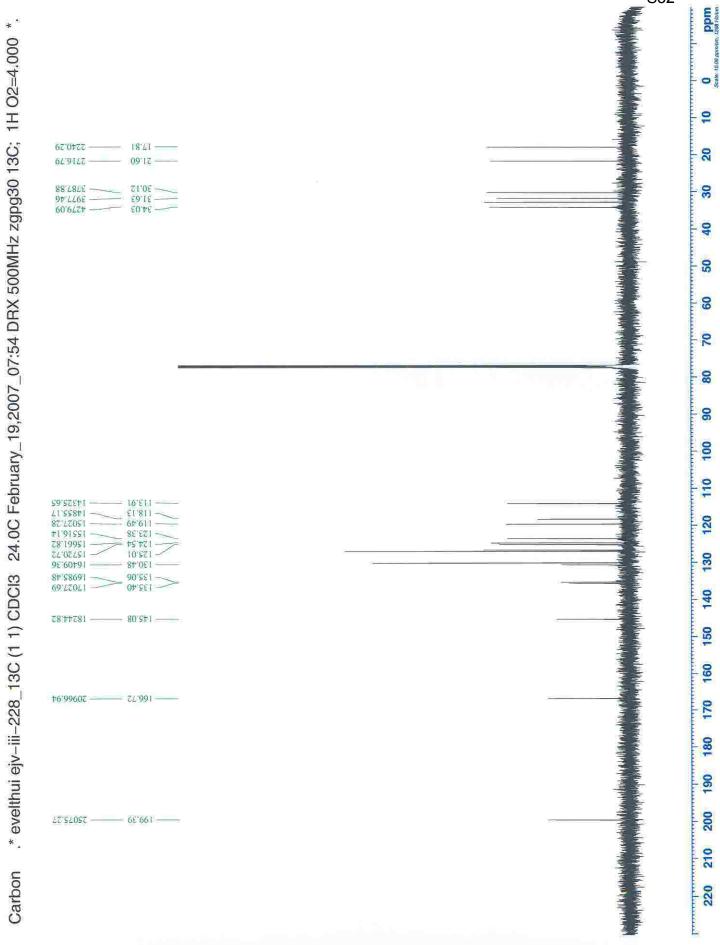


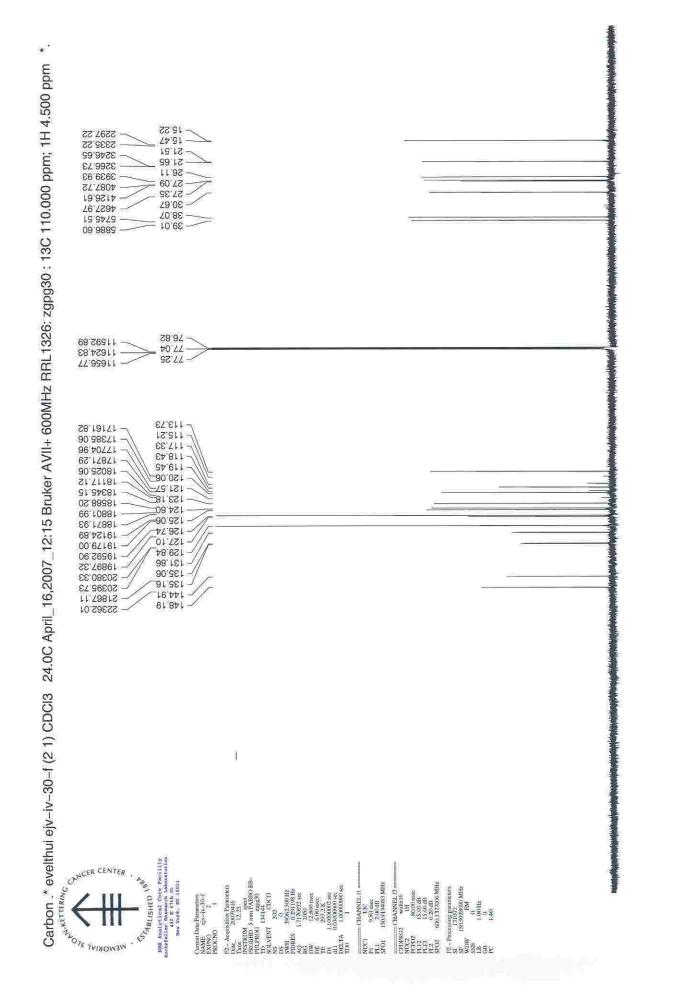


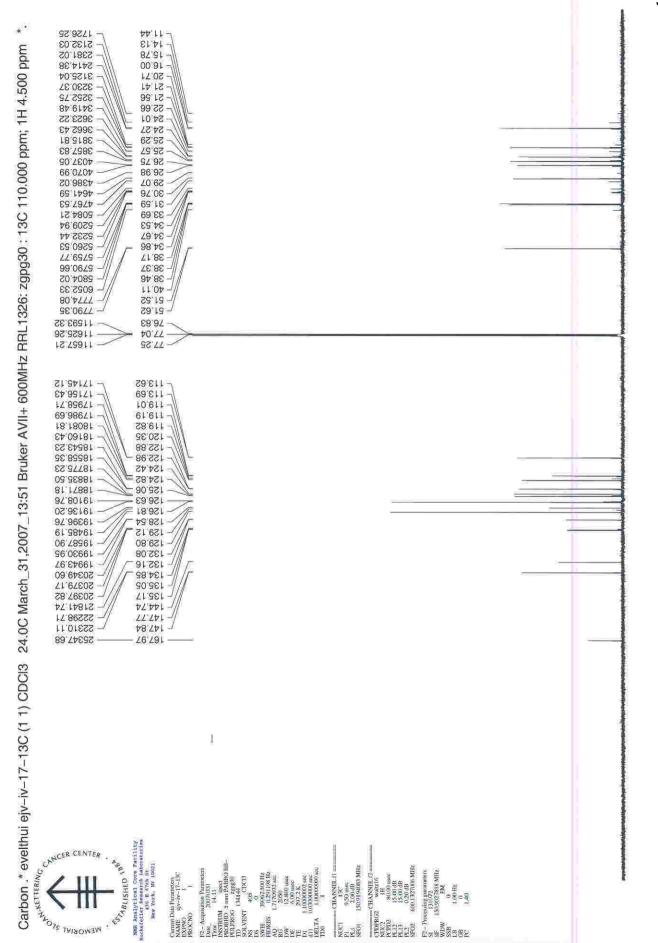


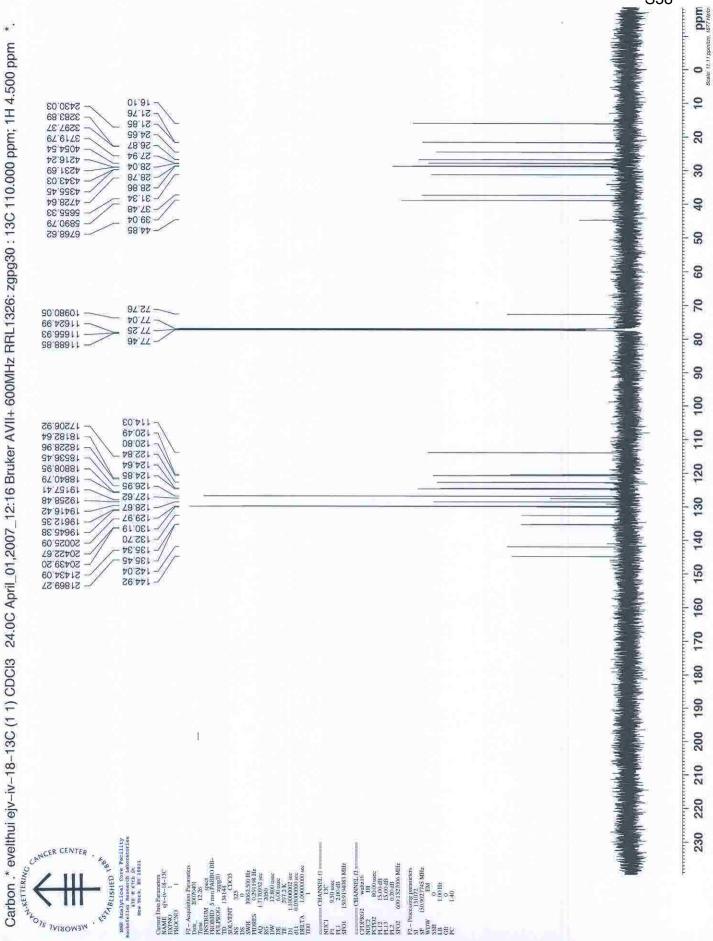


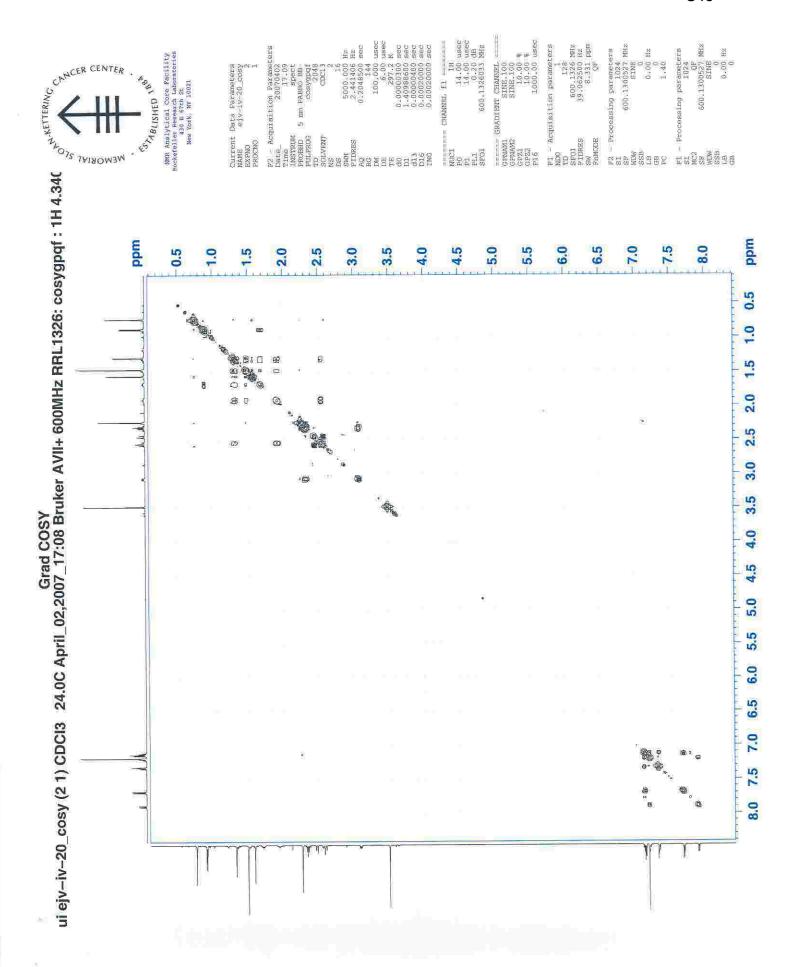
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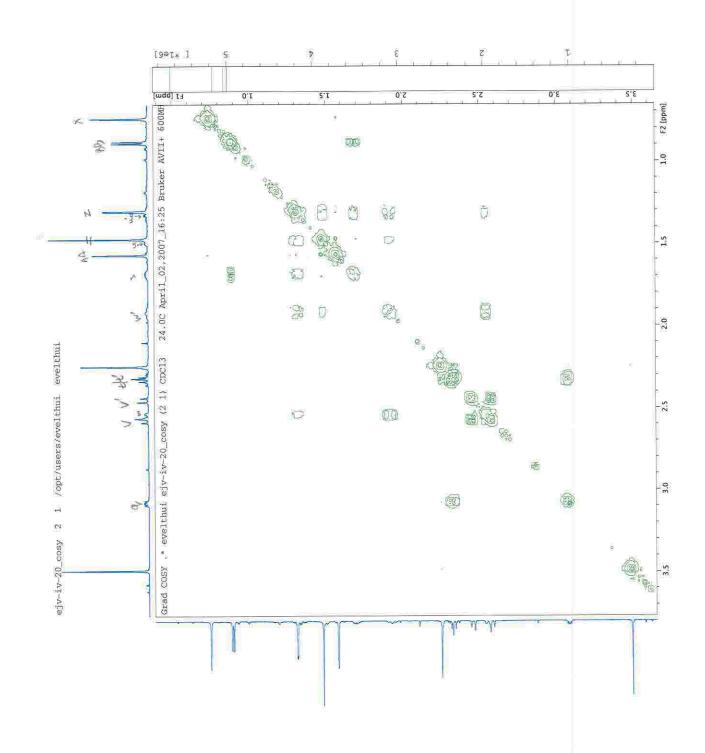


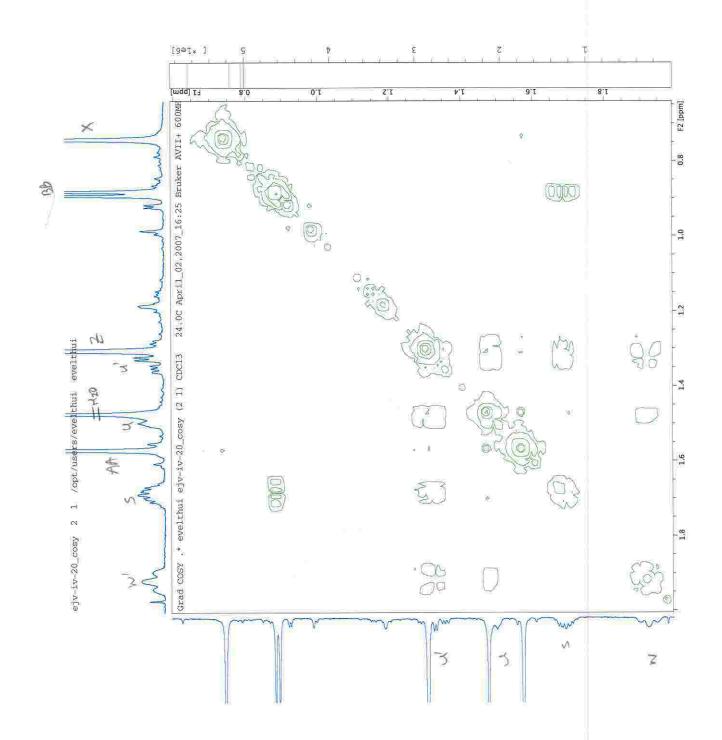


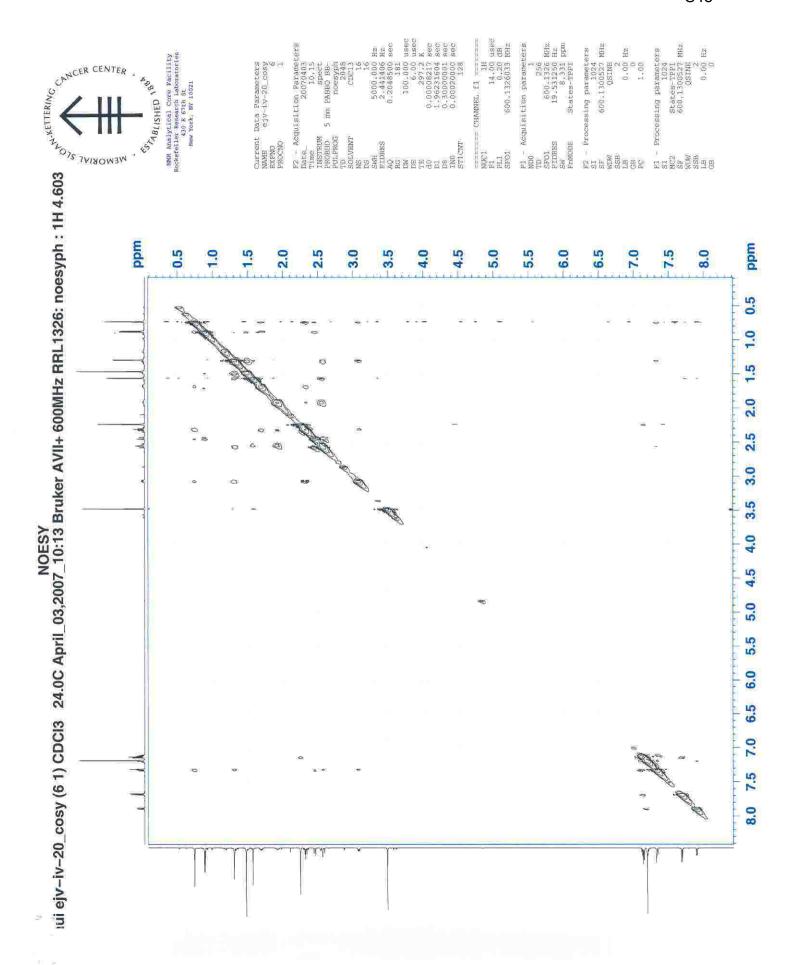


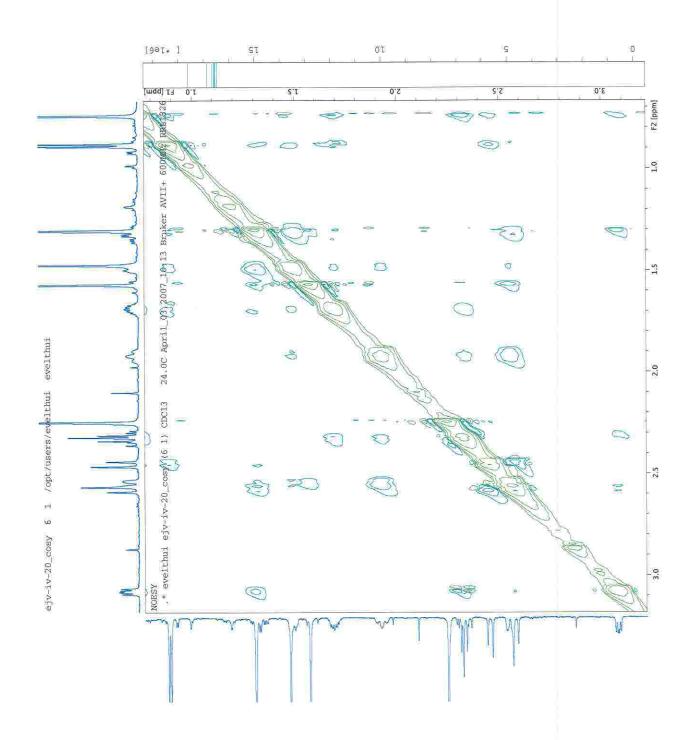


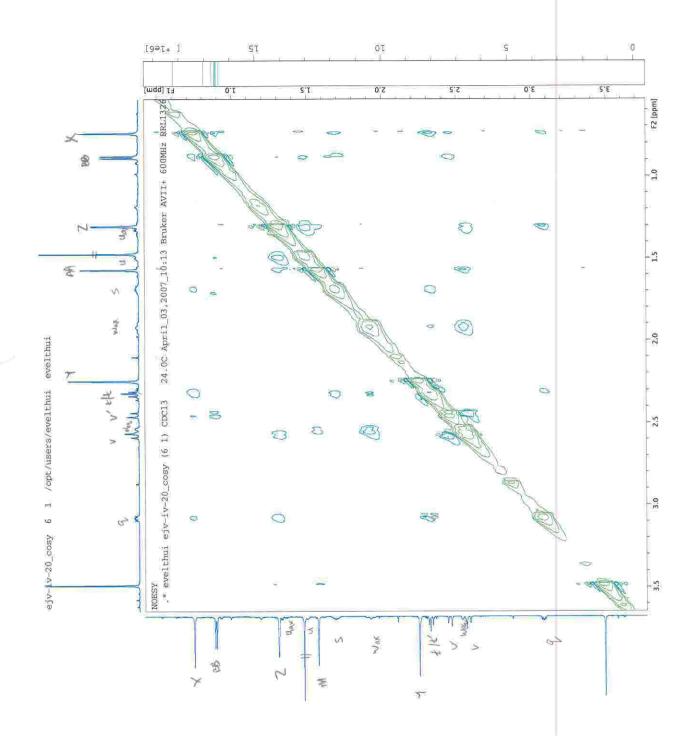


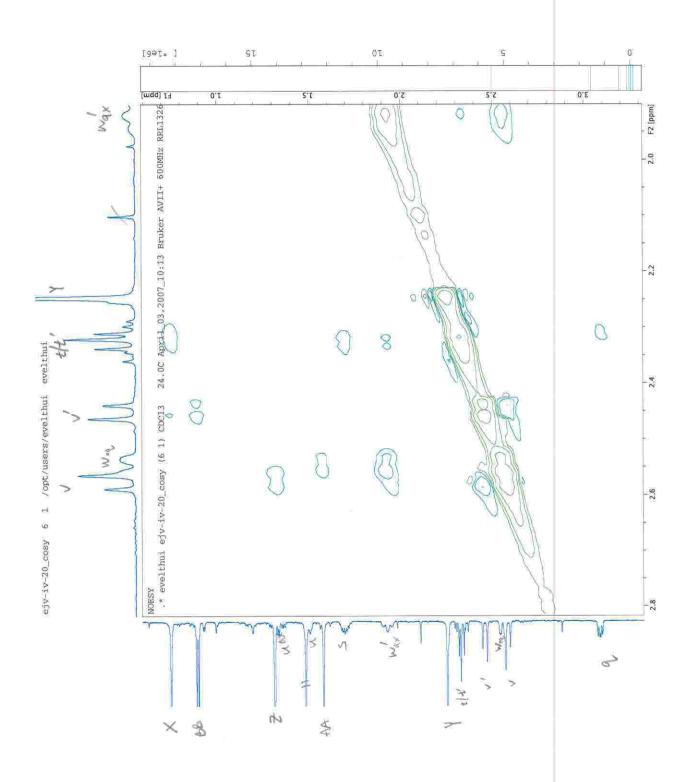


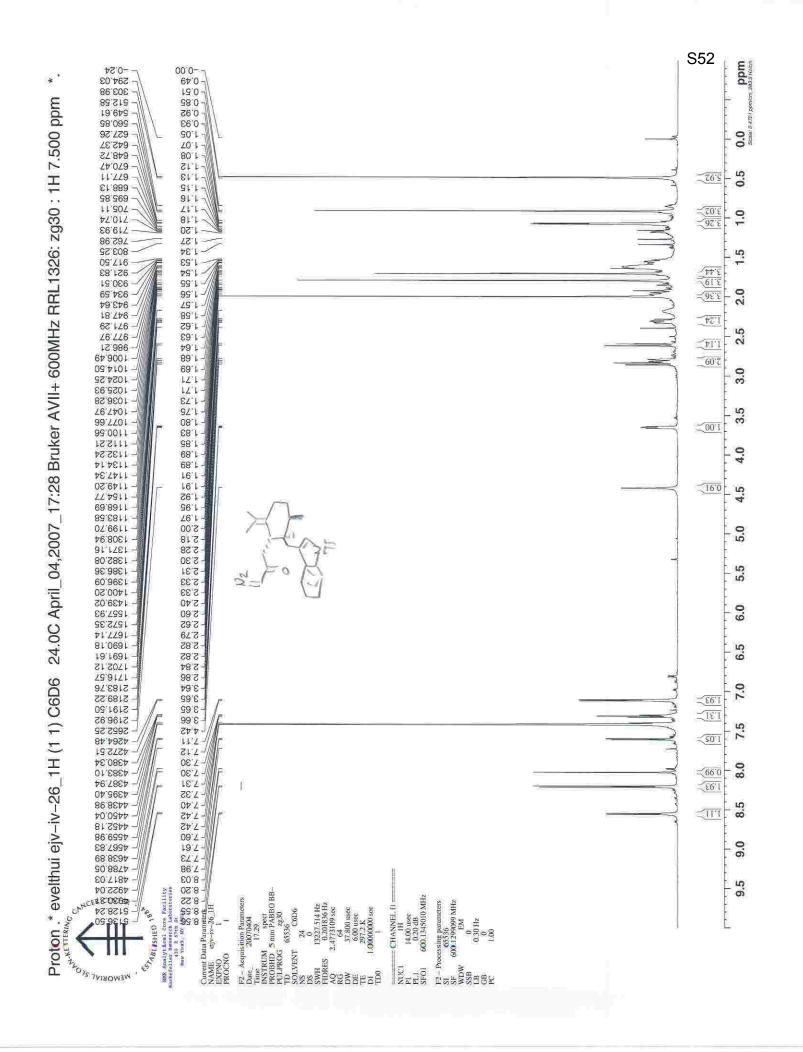












220

230

Carbon .\* evelthui ejv-iv-28f (2 1) CDCl3 24.0C April\_07,2007\_13:38 Bruker AVII+ 600MHz RRL1326: zgpg30 : 13C 110.000 ppm; 1H 4.500 ppm 1300.19 15.84 S6.8 3026.64 - 20.06 3138.60 20.80 3239.01 21.46 3425,00 22,70 17.4578 24.75 64.3088 25.23 84.7104 26.62 4662.22 30.90 4823.10 34.96 49.8245 41.98 6123.10 85.04 61.3433 40.44 98.8199 45.82 11652.53 11688.68 08.97 -10.77 77.22 17172.85 -113.80 18117.04 120.06 18267.30 121.05 18538.63 122.85 18737,58 124.17 18765.56 154.36 38.37681 125.75 19118.53 126.69 19122.00 126.72 19566.85 129.67 90.18891 129.76 19629.96 130.08 - 20092.63 31.661 -20389.29 135,12 20409.16 135.25 21838.44 144.72 ORRE Analytical Core Facility ockefeller Research Laboratories 430 E 67th St New York, NY 10021 CANACER CENTER SABLISHED 186" 

