

Synergistic Palladium-Phosphoric Acid Catalysis in (3 + 2) Cycloaddition Reactions Between Vinylcyclopropanes and Imines

Vasco Corti ^{1,*}, Enrico Marcantonio ¹, Martina Mamone ¹, Alessandro Giungi ¹, Mariafrancesca Fochi ¹ and Luca Bernardi ^{1,*}

¹ Department of Industrial Chemistry "Toso Montanari" and INSTM RU Bologna, Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna; V. Risorgimento 4, 40136 Bologna (Italy); enrico.marcantonio@studio.unibo.it (E.M.); martina.mamone@studio.unibo.it (M.M.); alessandro.giungi3@studio.unibo.it (A.G.); mariafrancesca.fochi@unibo.it (M.F.)

* Correspondence: vasco.corti2@unibo.it (V.C.); luca.bernardi2@unibo.it (L.B.)

Supplementary Materials

Contents

-Assignment of the relative configuration of compound 4a by 1D NOESY NMR experiments.....	S1
-Copies of NMR spectra for compounds 4 and 5	S8
-Screening of chiral catalysts and reaction conditions in the reaction between 1 and 2a	S19
-Copies of the HPLC traces for racemic and enantioenriched 4a	S23

Assignment of the relative configuration of compound **4a** by 1D NOESY NMR experiments.

Extensive chromatography on silica gel allowed to obtain the two diastereoisomers of **4a** in diastereoenriched form. This simplified the assignment of the relative configuration of the major and minor diastereoisomers obtained, which was carried out as follows:

-Major diastereoisomer (**4a**):

¹H NMR and 1D NOESY experiments:

Based on chemical shifts and multiplicities of the ¹H NMR spectrum:

-The signal at 5.80 ppm (ddd, J = 17.1, 9.8, 8.7 Hz, 1H) was assigned to H1'

-The signals at 2.54 (dd, J = 13.0, 7.1 Hz, 1H) and 2.36 (dd, J = 13.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H) were assigned to the two H4.

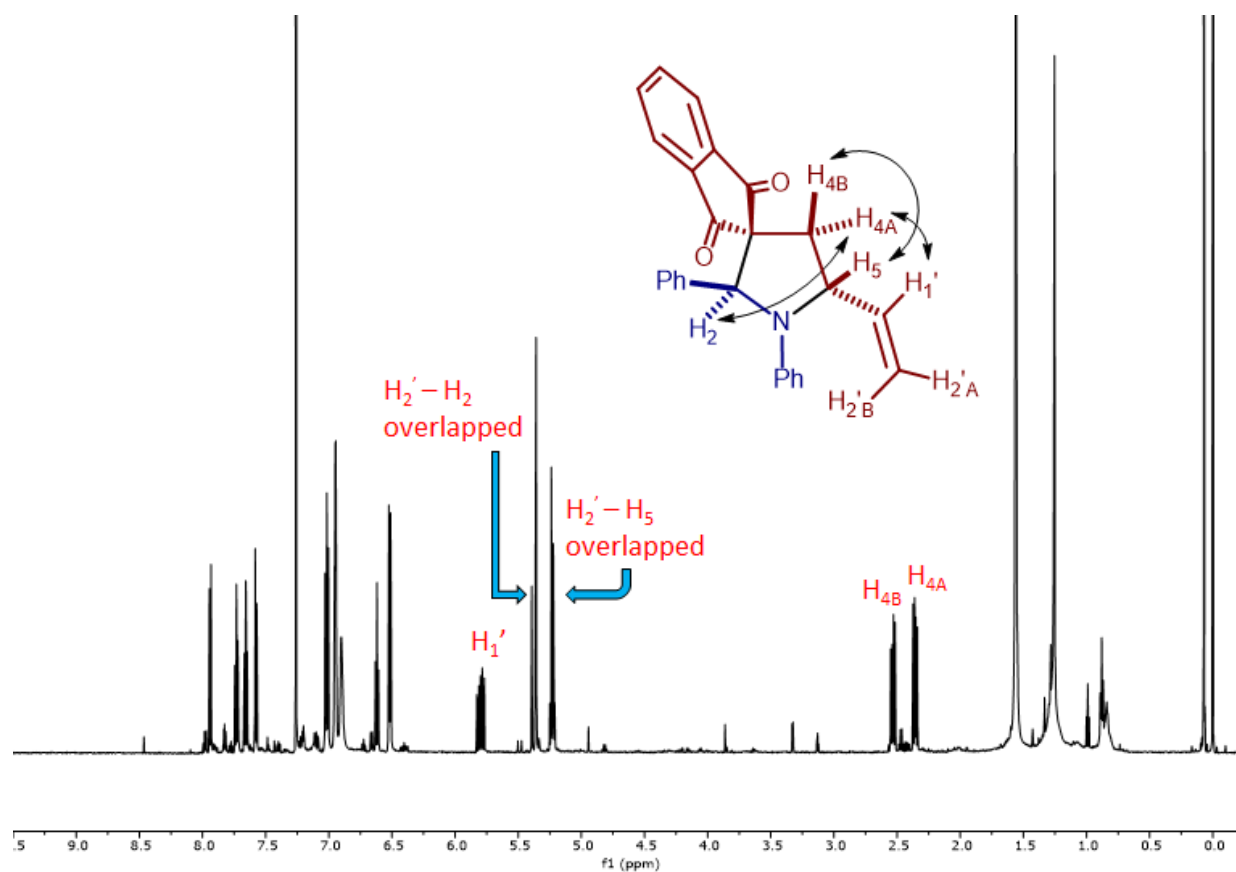
Then, 1D NOESY NMR experiments were performed:

a-Saturating the signal at 5.80 ppm (H1'), enhanced the signal at 2.36 ppm (dd). The latter signal corresponds to the proton *cis* to the vinyl group (H4A), and the signal at 2.54 ppm (dd) to the proton *trans* to the vinyl group (H4B).

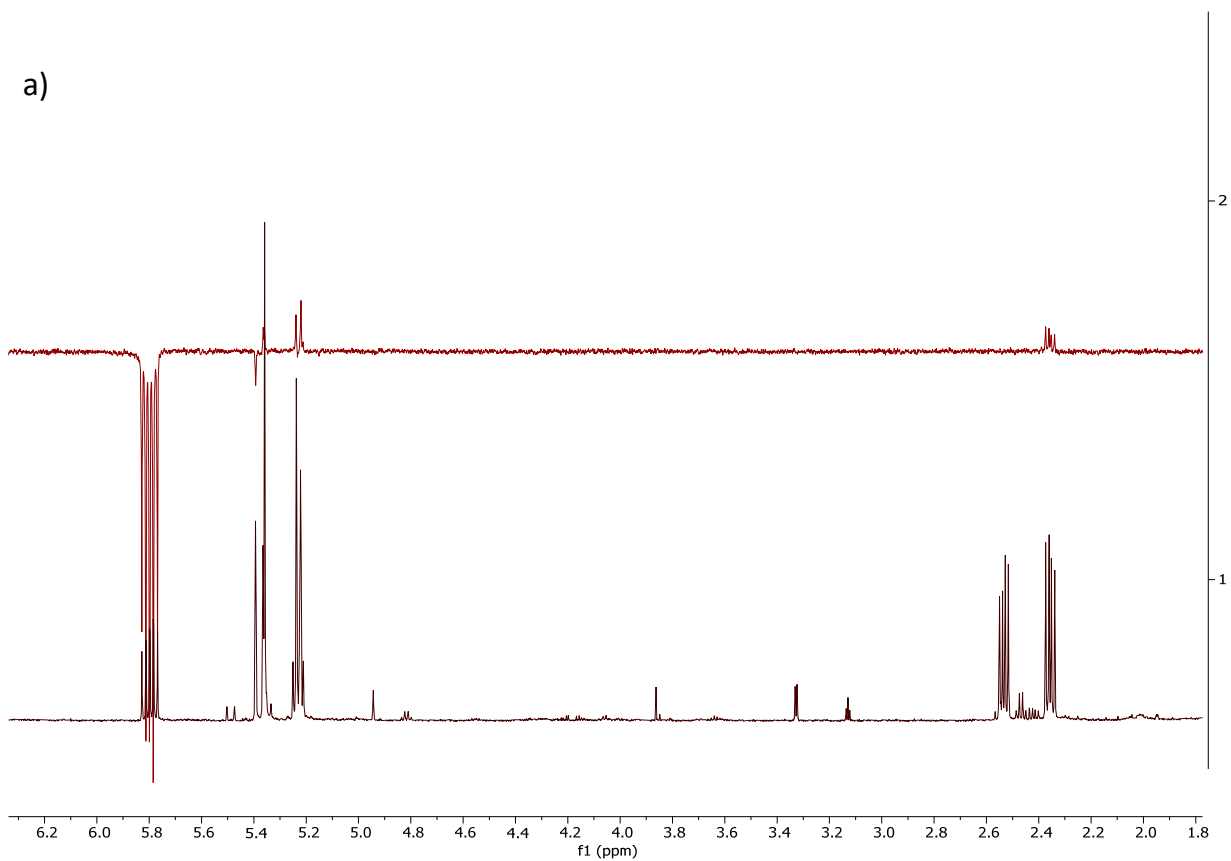
b-Saturating the signal at 2.36 ppm (H4A), enhanced a singlet at 5.35 ppm. This singlet, superimposed in the ¹H NMR spectrum with the signals of H2', was assigned to H2 based on multiplicity.

c-Saturating the signal at 2.54 ppm (H4B), did not enhance the same singlet at 5.35 ppm (H2). It enhanced instead a signal at 5.23 ppm, a quartet, which could be assigned to H5.

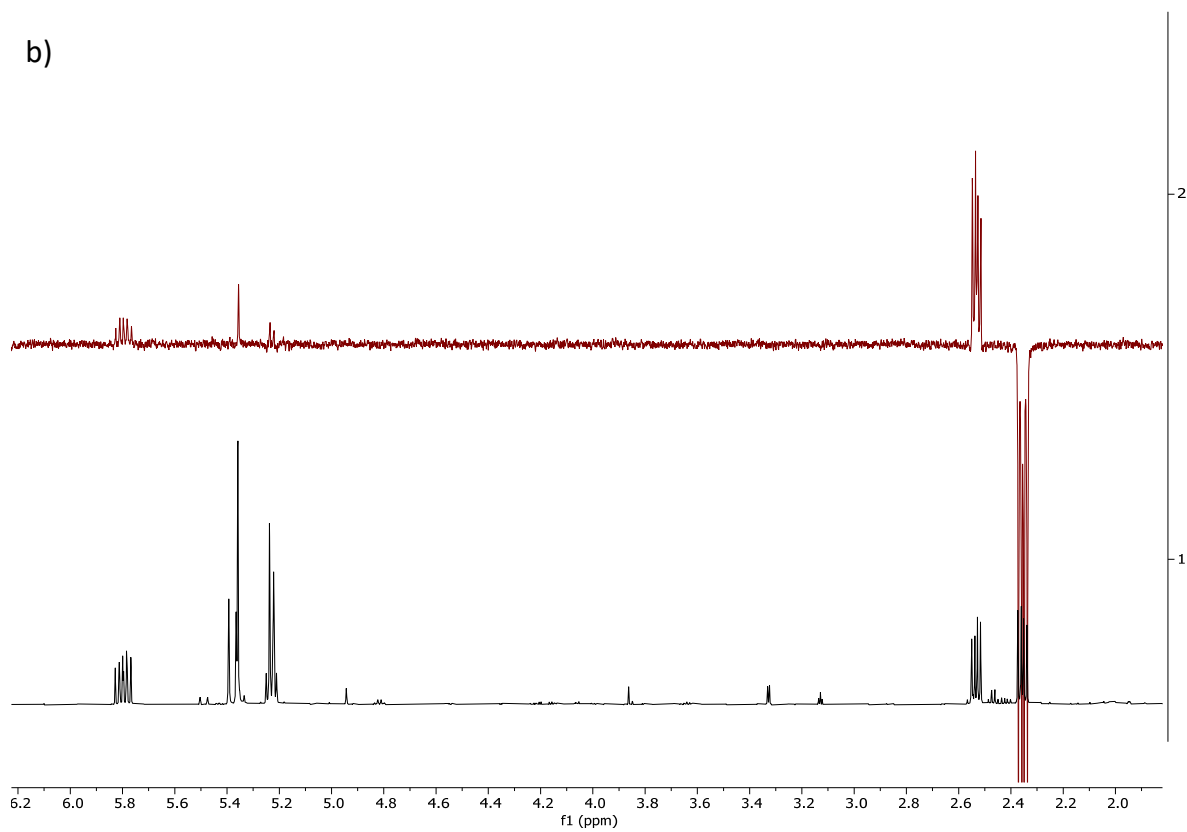
On these grounds, H2, H4A and H1' should all be *cis* to each other. Therefore, the relative configuration of the major diastereoisomer of **4a** could be assigned as *trans*.



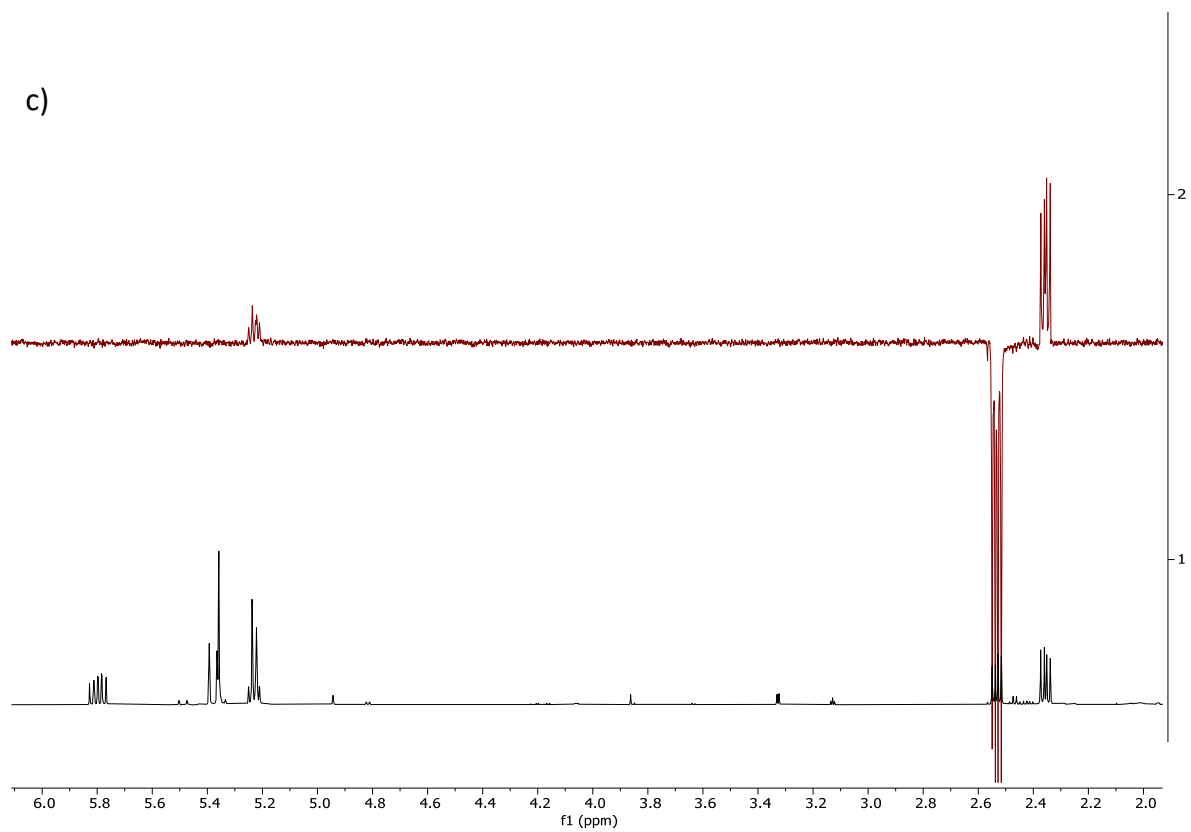
a)



b)



c)



-Minor diastereoisomer (**4a**):

Based on chemical shifts and multiplicities of the ^1H NMR spectrum:

- The signal at 6.41 ppm (ddd, $J = 17.5, 10.3, 7.4$ Hz, 1H) was assigned to $\text{H1}'$.
- The signal at 5.48 ppm (d, $J = 17.3$ Hz, 1H) was assigned to $\text{H2}'\text{A}$.
- The signal at 5.34 ppm (d, $J = 10.2$ Hz, 1H) was assigned to $\text{H2}'\text{B}$.
- The signal at 4.95 ppm (s, 1H) was assigned to H2 .
- The signal at 4.82 ppm (q, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H) was assigned to H5 .
- The signals at 2.55 ppm (dd, $J = 13.1\text{-}7.8$ Hz, 1H) and 2.44 ppm (dd, $J = 13.2, 7.3$ Hz, 1H) were assigned to the two H4 .

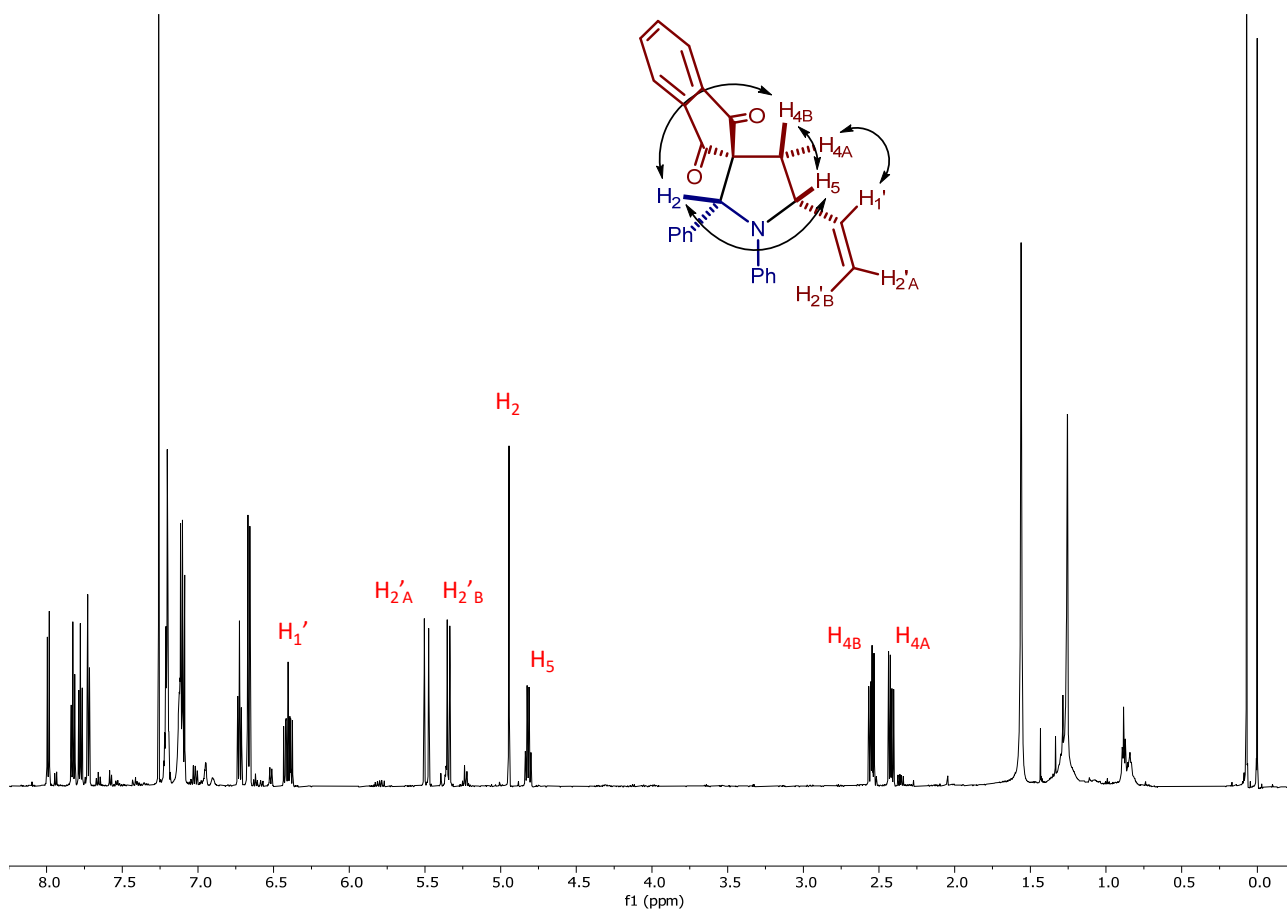
Then, 1D NOESY NMR experiments were performed:

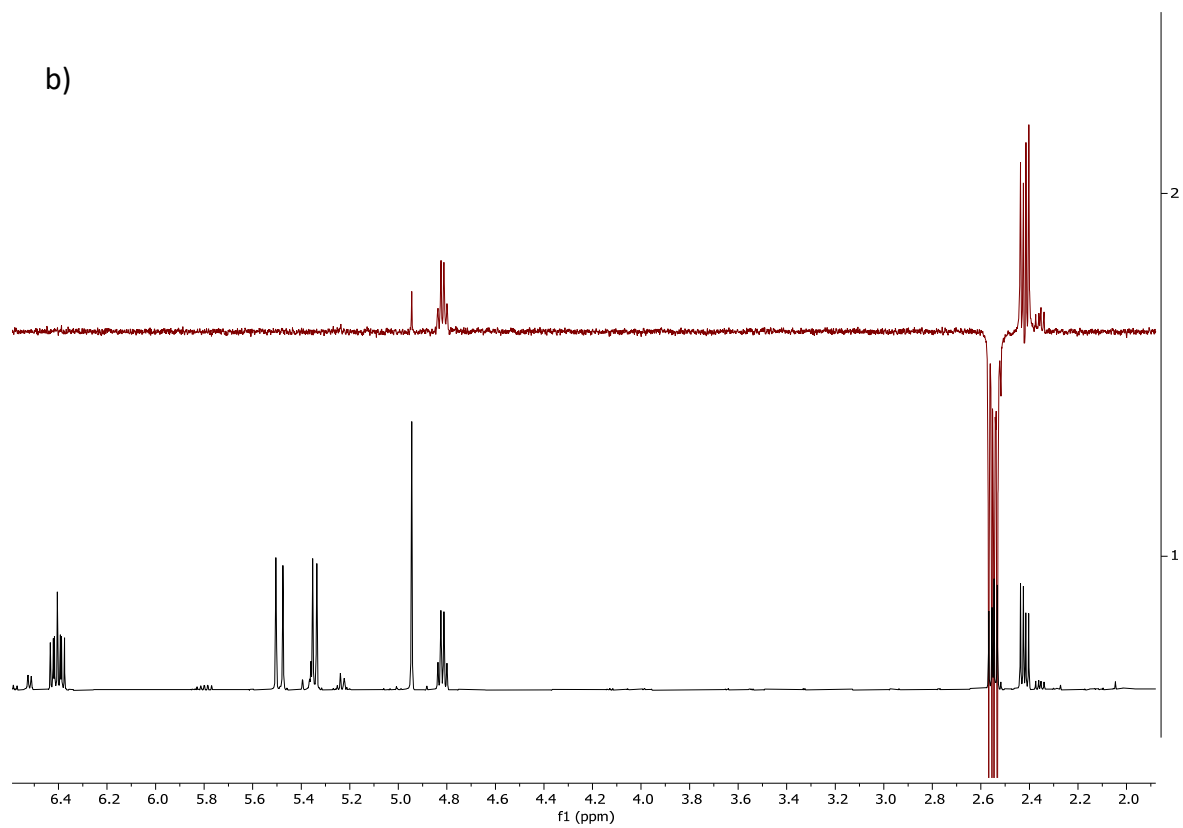
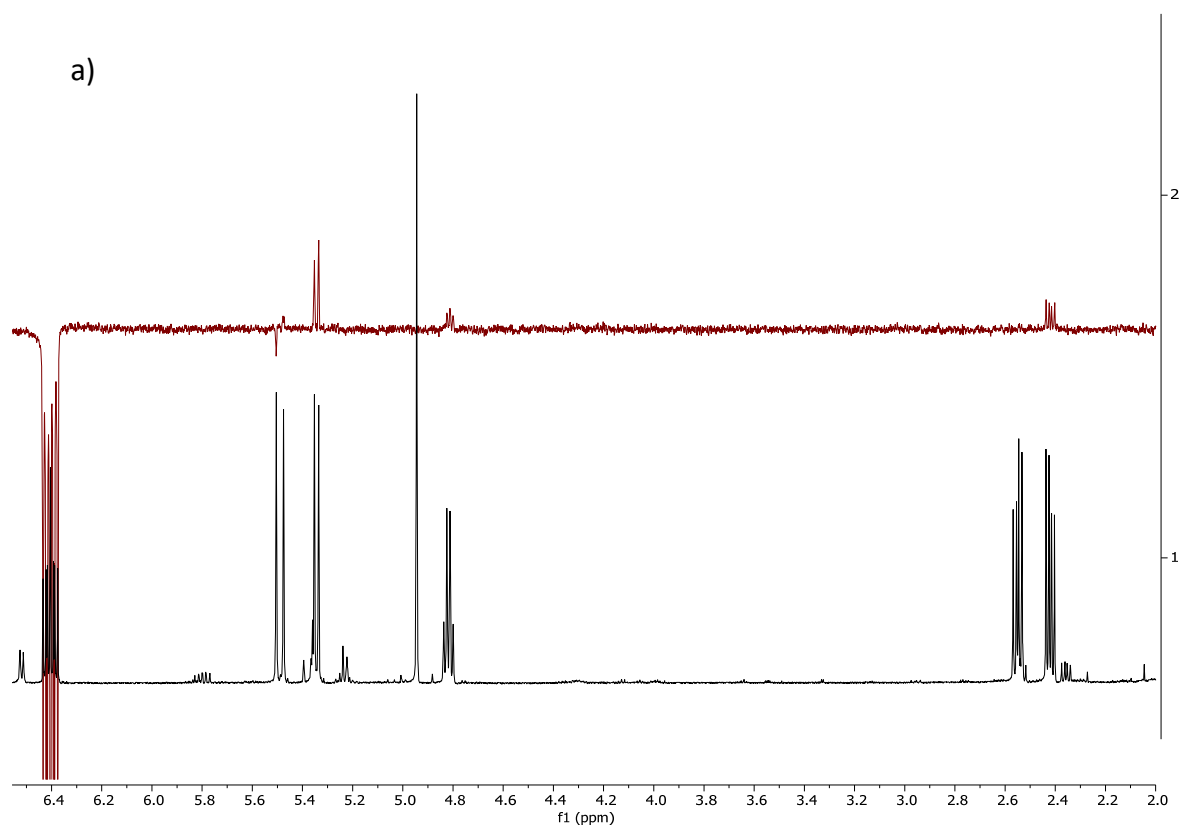
a-Saturating the signal at 6.41 ppm ($\text{H1}'$), enhanced the signal at 2.44 ppm (dd). The latter signal corresponds to the proton *cis* to the vinyl group (H4A), and the signal at 2.55 ppm (dd) to the proton *trans* to the vinyl group (H4B).

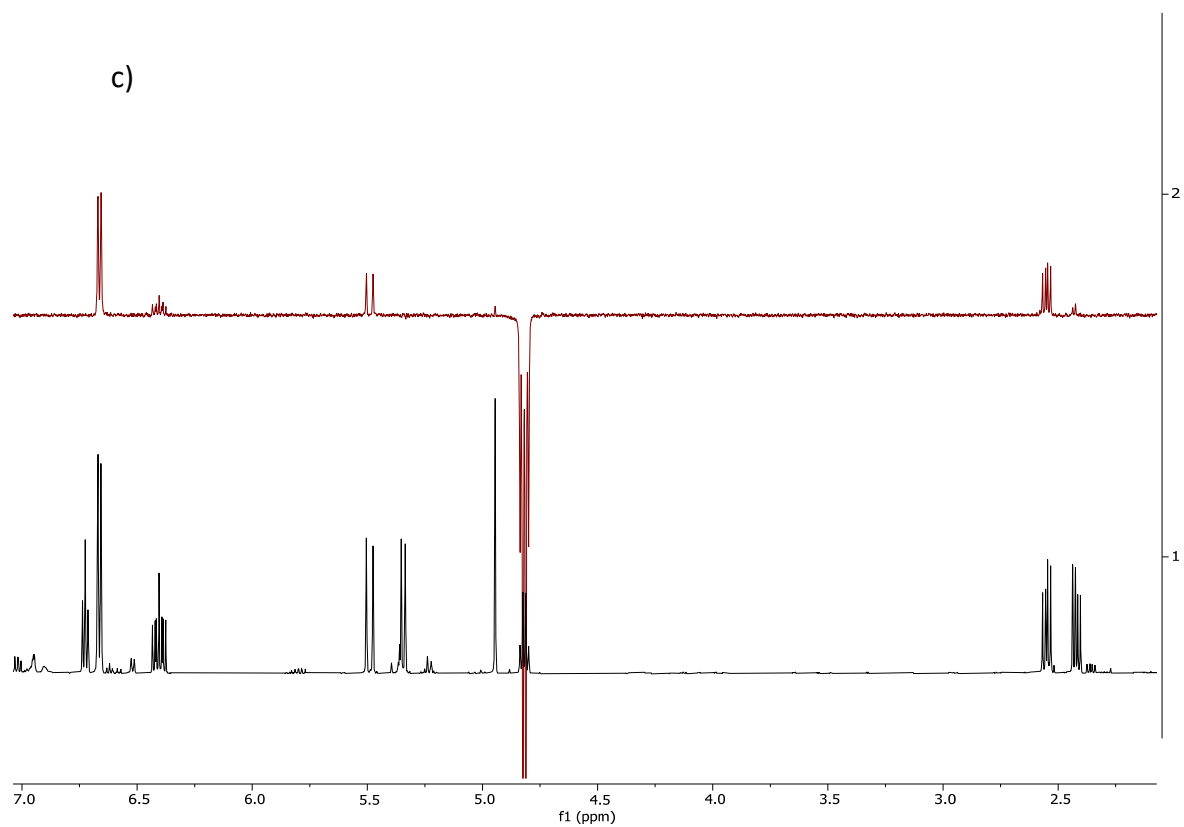
b-Saturating the signal at 2.55 ppm (H4B), enhanced the signal at 4.95 ppm (s), corresponding to H2 , and the signal at 4.82 ppm, corresponding to H5 .

c-Saturating the signal at 4.82 ppm (H5), enhanced the signals at 4.95 ppm (H2), and at 2.55 ppm (H4B).

On these grounds, H2 , H4B and H5 should all be *cis* to each other. Therefore, the relative configuration of the minor diastereoisomer of **4a** could be assigned as *cis*.

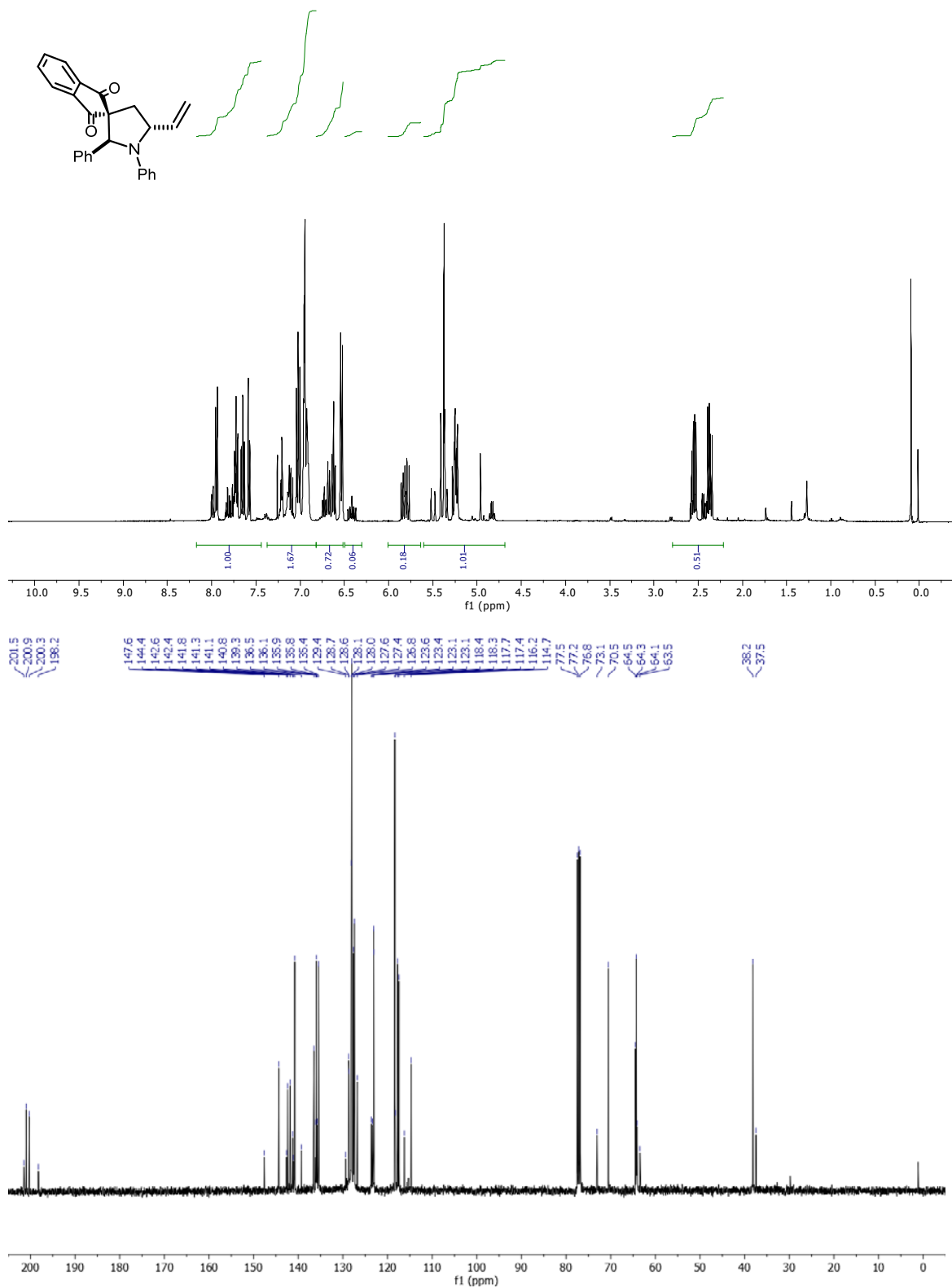




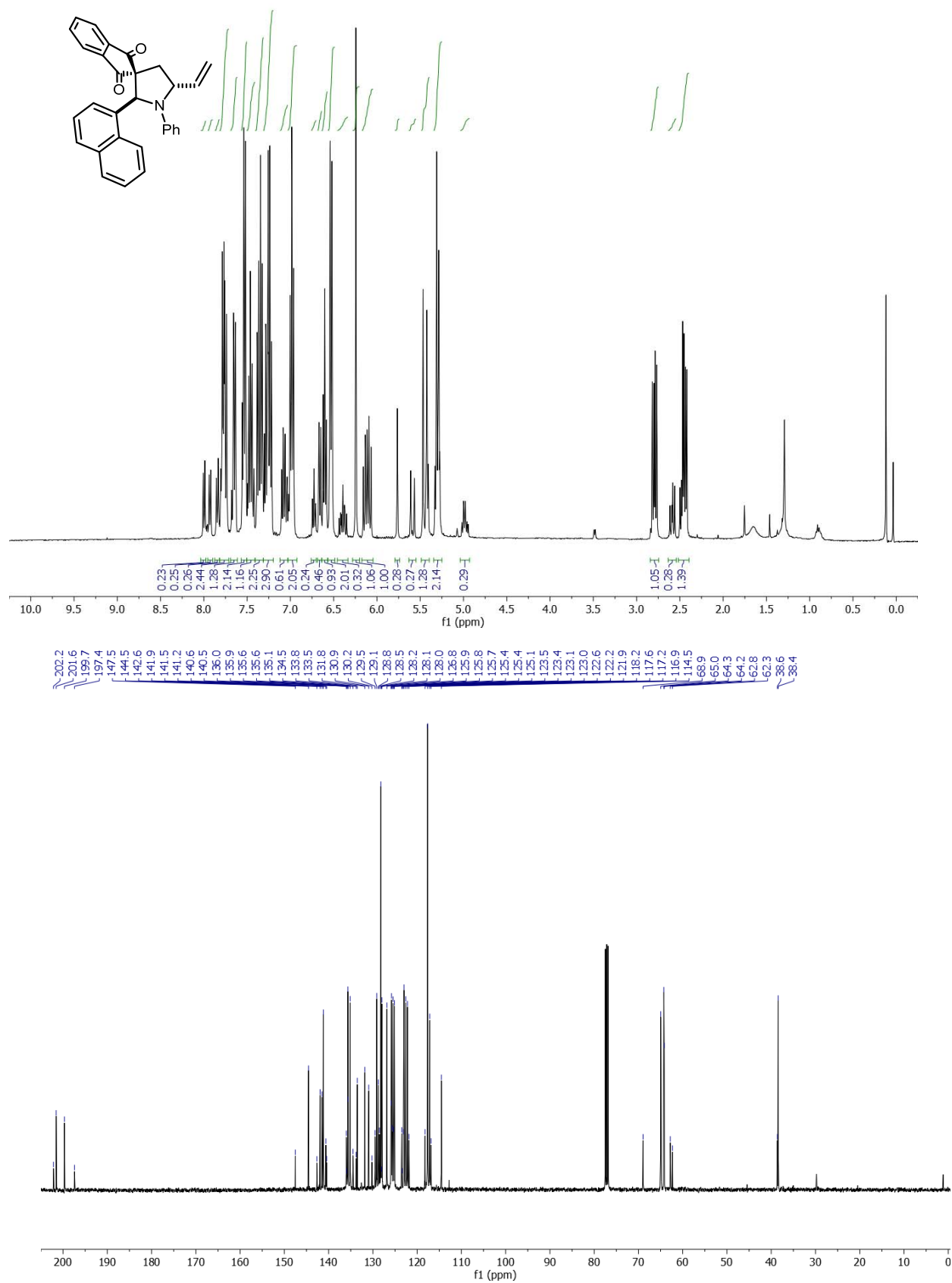


Copies of NMR spectra for compounds 4 and 5

1',2'-diphenyl-5'-vinylspiro[indene-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-1,3-dione **4a** (*trans/cis* = 4.0 : 1)



2'-(naphthalen-1-yl)-1'-phenyl-5'-vinylspiro[indene-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-1,3-dione **4b** (*trans/cis* = 3.0 : 1)

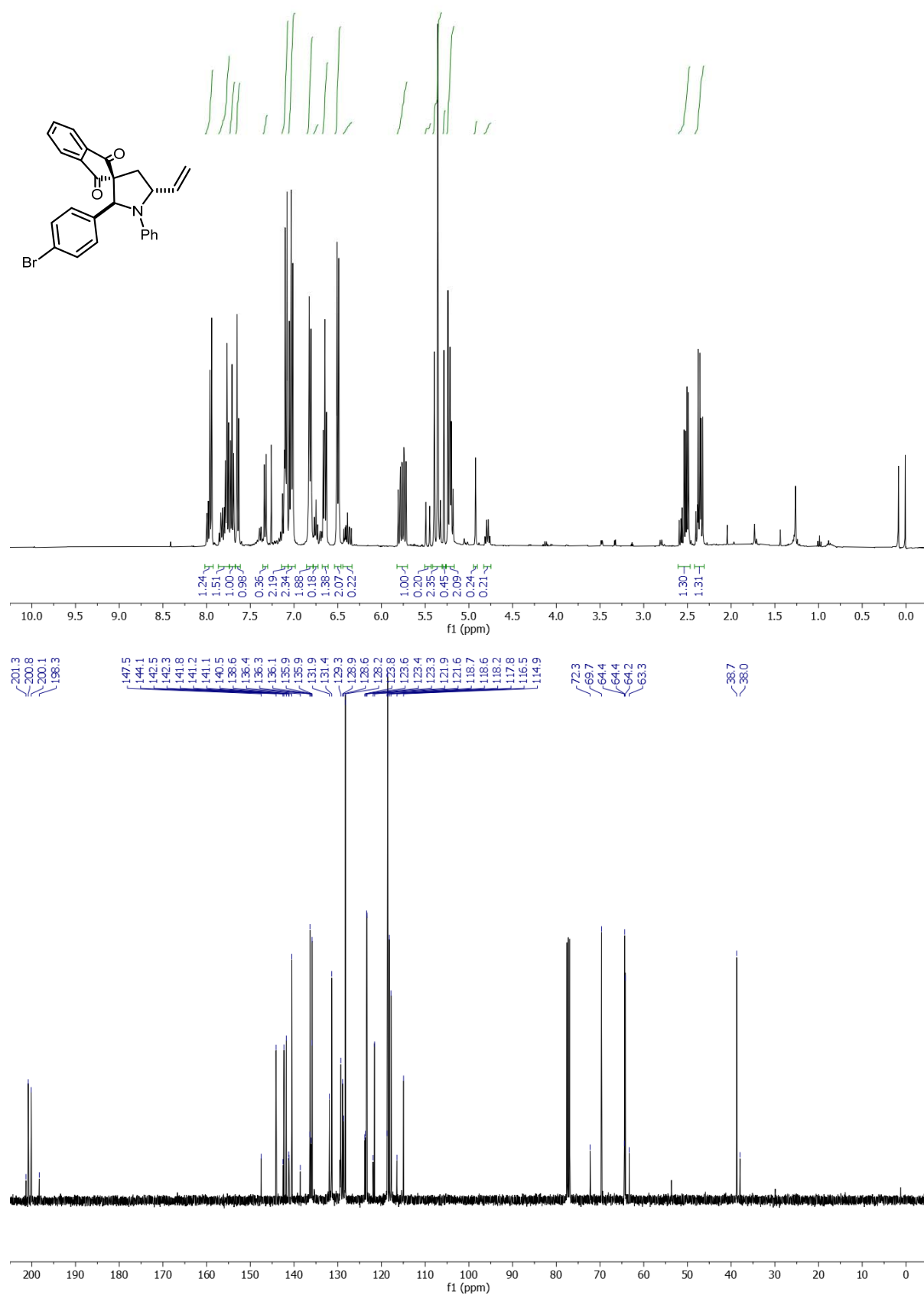


Chemical structure of the compound is shown above the spectra. The compound is a complex molecule featuring a benzodioxane core, a phenyl group, and a methoxy-substituted benzene ring.

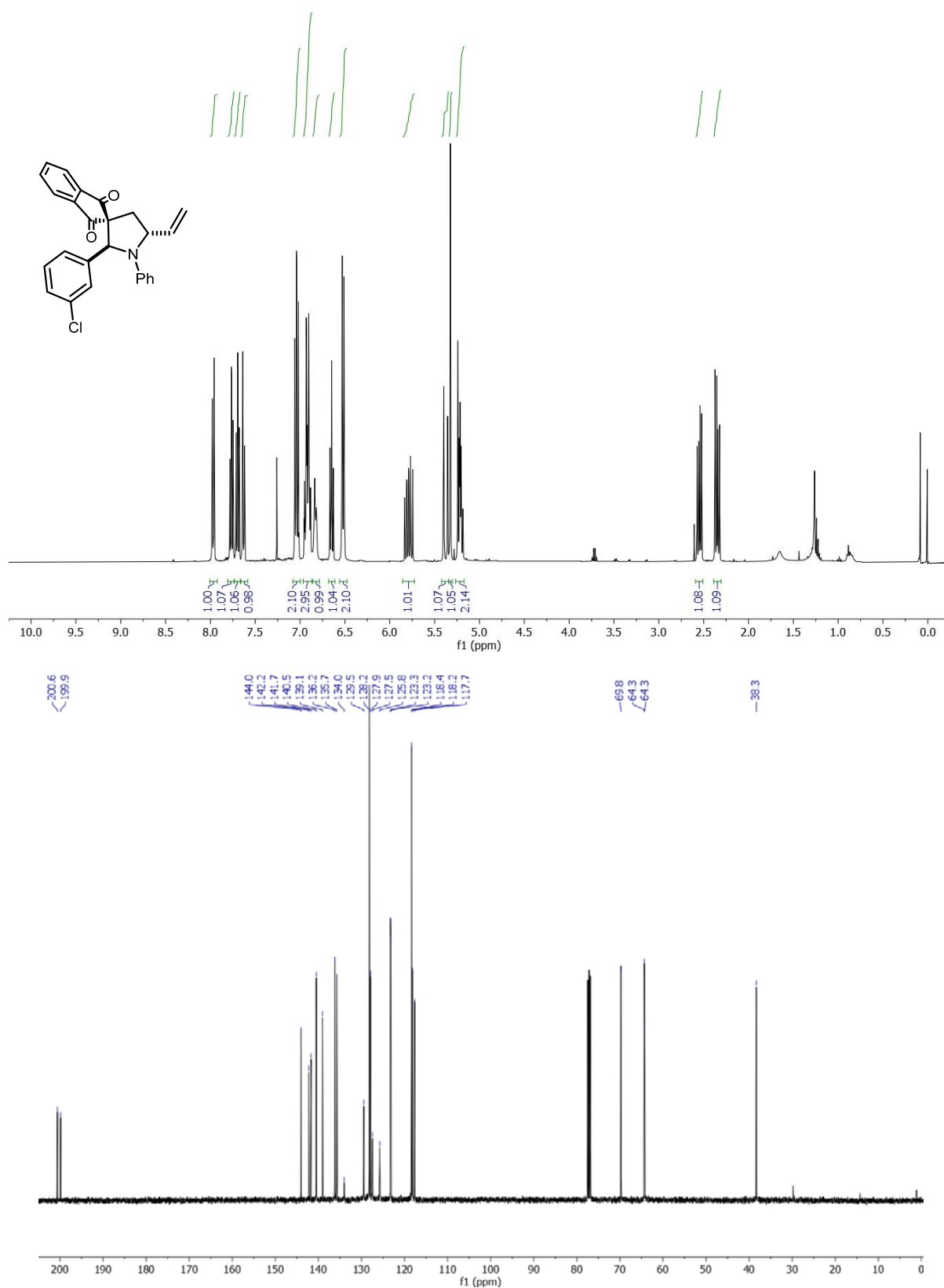
¹H NMR Spectrum (Top): The x-axis represents the chemical shift in ppm, ranging from 10.0 to 0.0. The spectrum shows several peaks, with integration values provided below the baseline. The integration values are: 0.93, 0.20, 0.20, 0.19, 0.20, 1.98, 0.42, 4.69, 0.78, 0.40, 1.36, 0.22, 1.00, 0.12, 1.33, 0.45, 1.00, 1.00, 3.00, 3.59, 0.67, 0.96, 0.20, 1.26.

¹³C NMR Spectrum (Bottom): The x-axis represents the chemical shift in ppm, ranging from 220 to -10. The spectrum shows several peaks, with chemical shift values provided above the baseline. The chemical shift values are: 201.5, 201.1, 200.5, 198.2, 148.9, 148.5, 148.3, 148.1, 147.7, 144.4, 142.7, 142.5, 141.9, 141.3, 141.2, 140.6, 136.1, 136.0, 135.7, 135.4, 131.5, 128.7, 127.9, 123.5, 123.3, 123.1, 122.9, 119.9, 118.9, 118.6, 118.3, 117.8, 117.5, 115.9, 114.8, 111.0, 110.5, 109.8, 73.1, 70.4, 64.6, 64.3, 64.2, 63.8, 55.8, 55.7, 55.7, 55.7, 55.6, 38.0, 37.1.

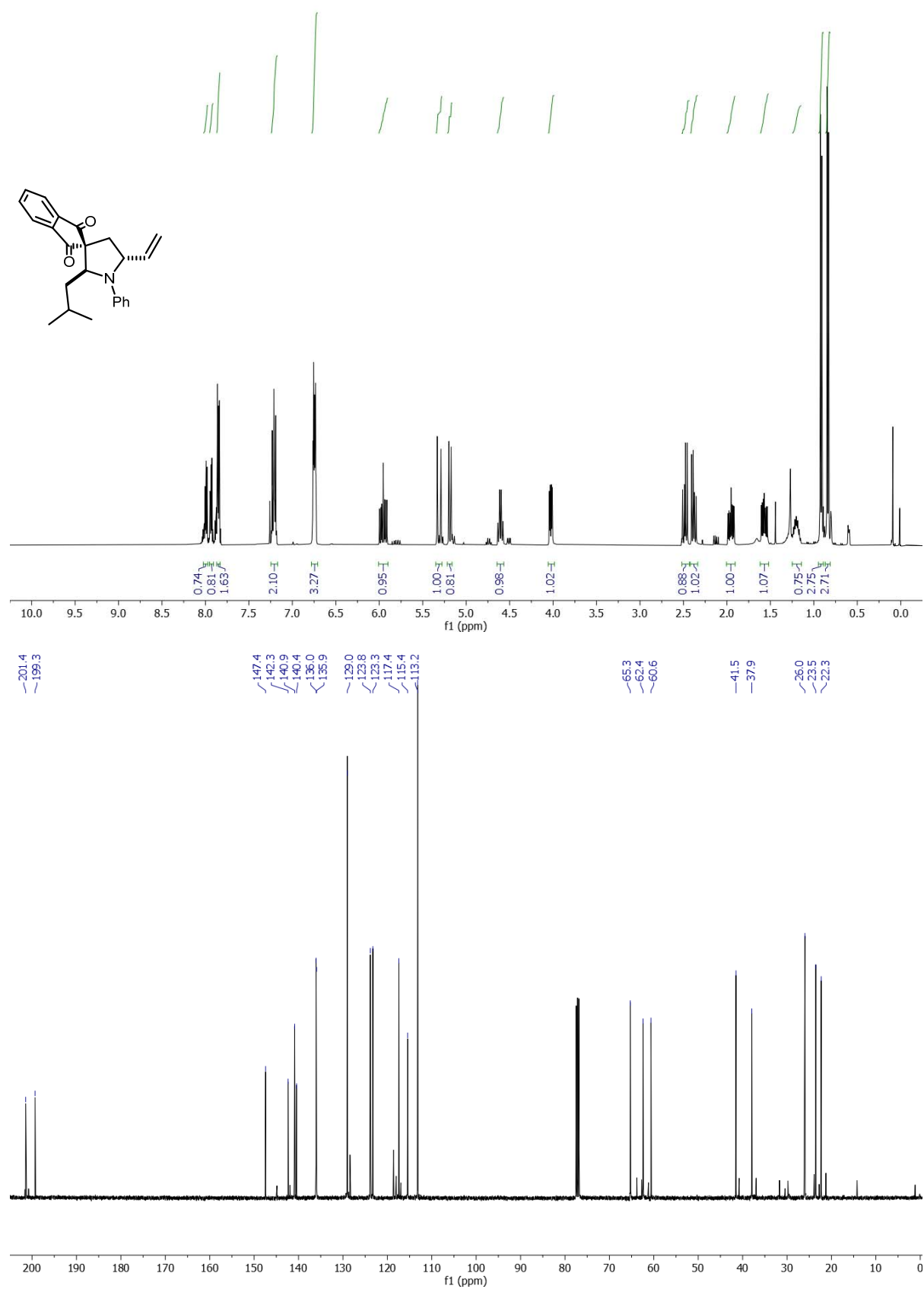
2'-(4-Bromophenyl)-1'-phenyl-5'-vinylspiro[indene-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-1,3-dione **4d** (*trans/cis* = 3.5 : 1)



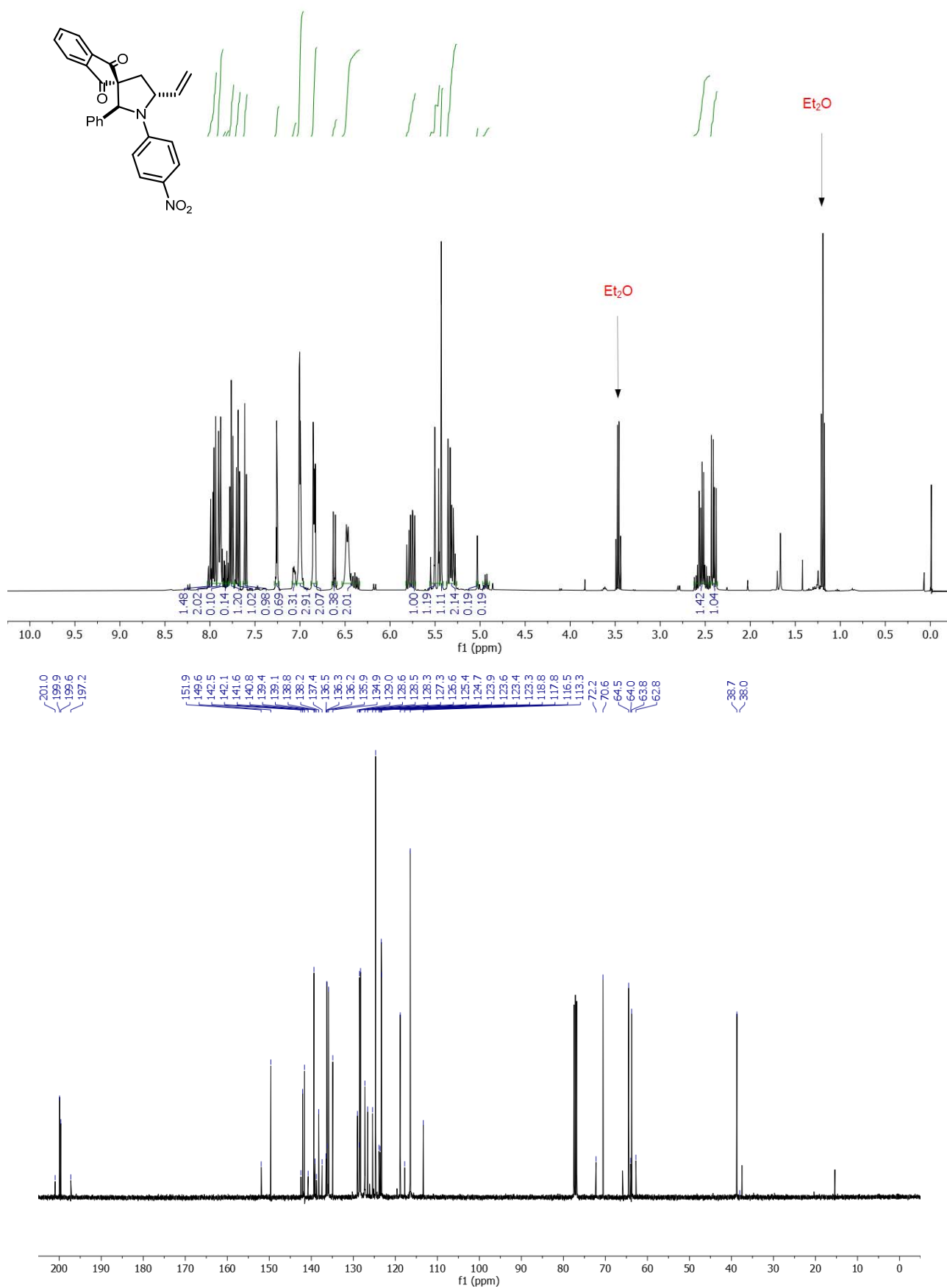
2'-(3-Chlorophenyl)-1'-phenyl-5'-vinylspiro[indene-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-1,3-dione **4e** (*trans/cis* = 10.0 : 1)



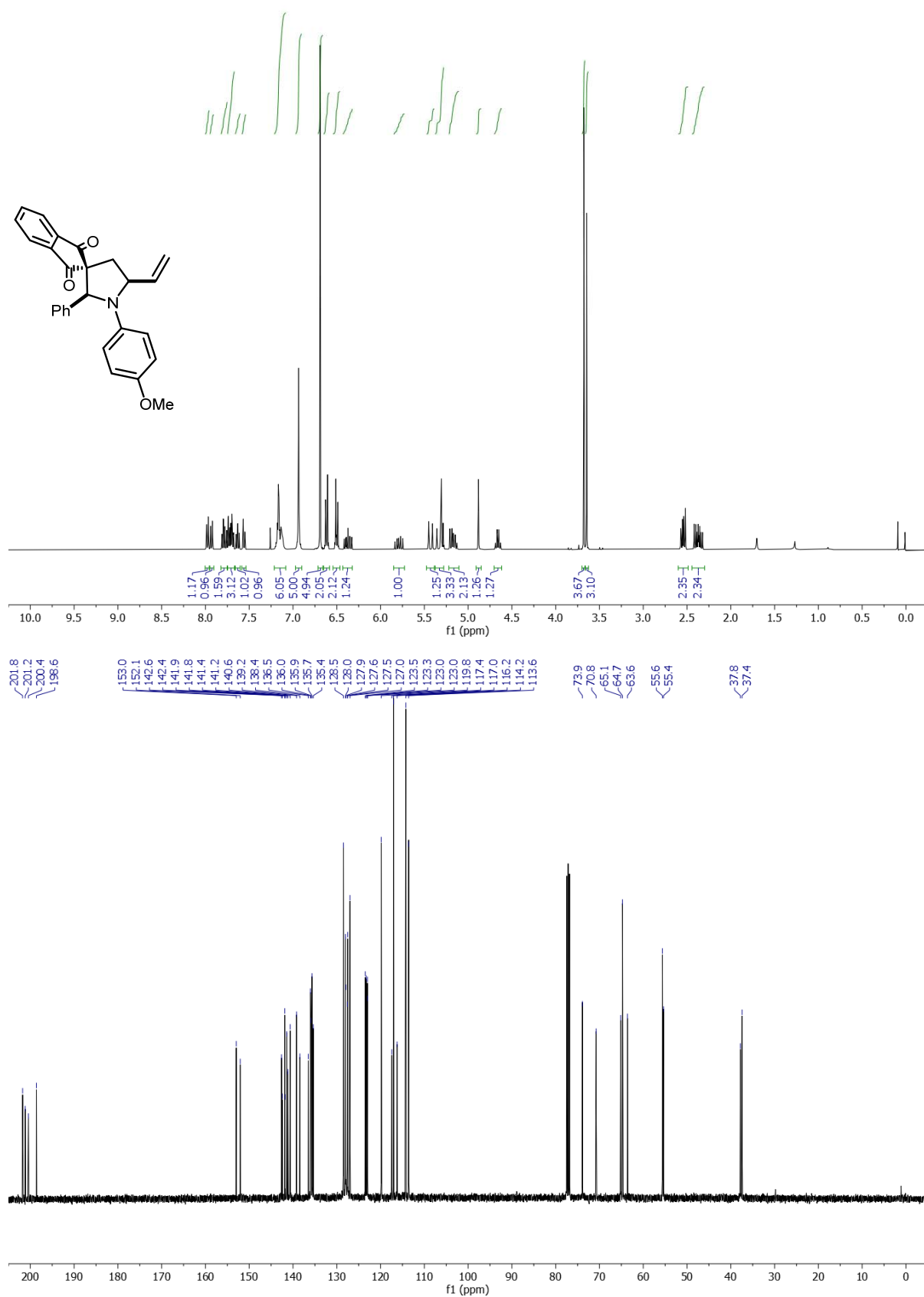
2'-Isobutyl-1'-phenyl-5'-vinylspiro[indene-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-1,3-dione **4f** (*trans/cis* = 9.5 : 1)



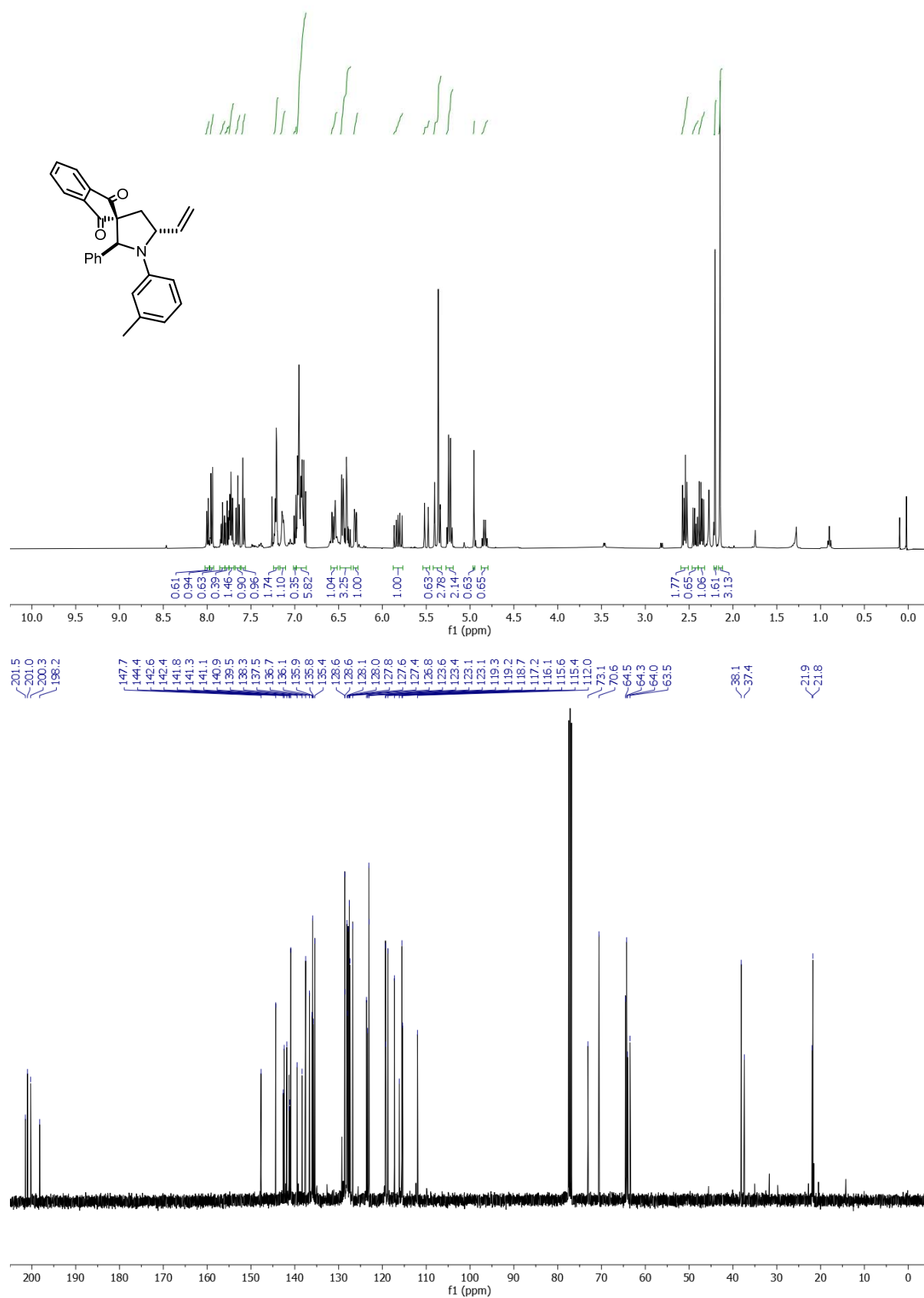
1'-(4-Nitrophenyl)-2'-phenyl-5'-vinylspiro[indene-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-1,3-dione **4g** (*trans/cis* = 4.8 : 1)



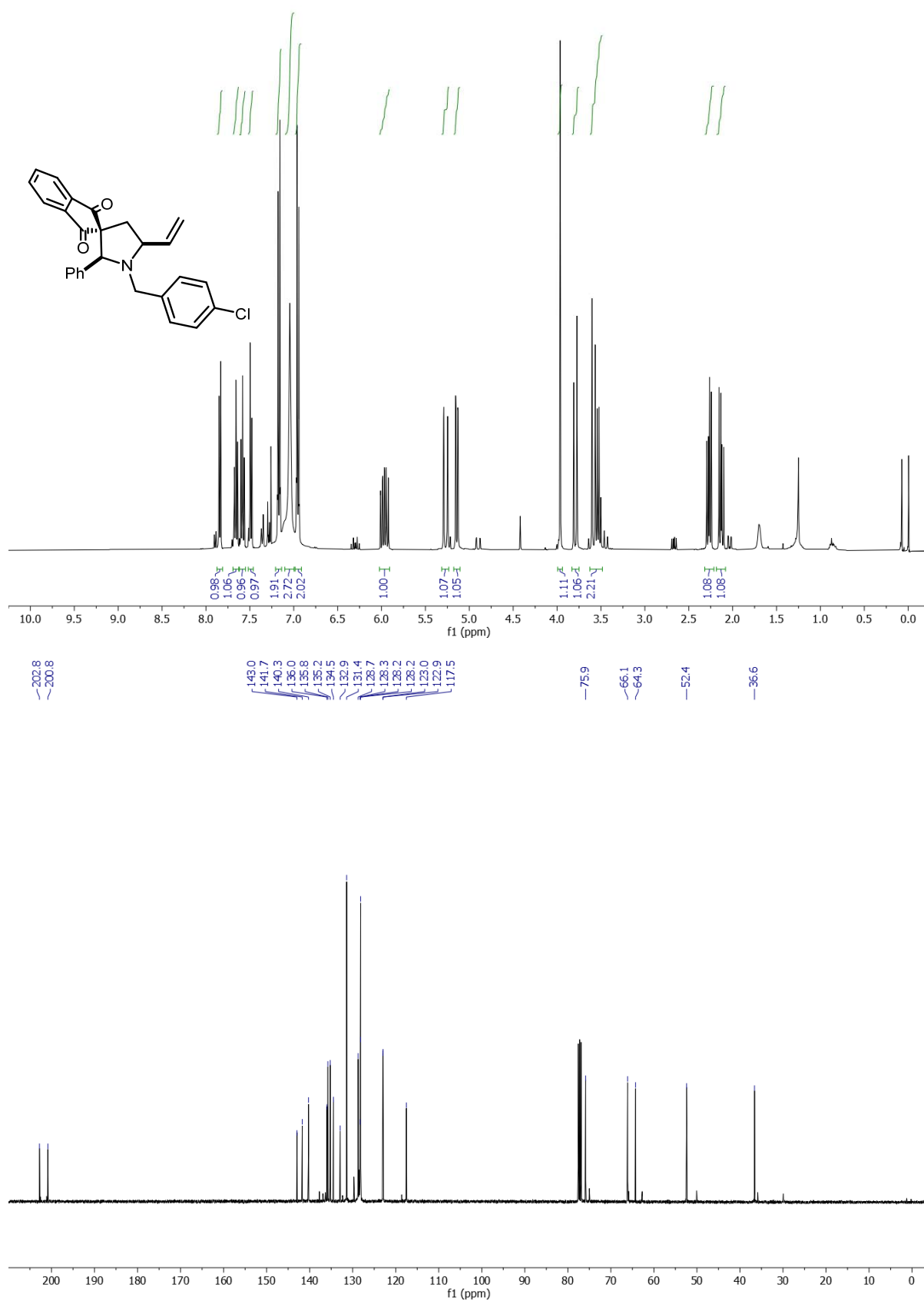
1'-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2'-phenyl-5'-vinylspiro[indene-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-1,3-dione **4h** (*trans/cis* = 1 : 1.2)



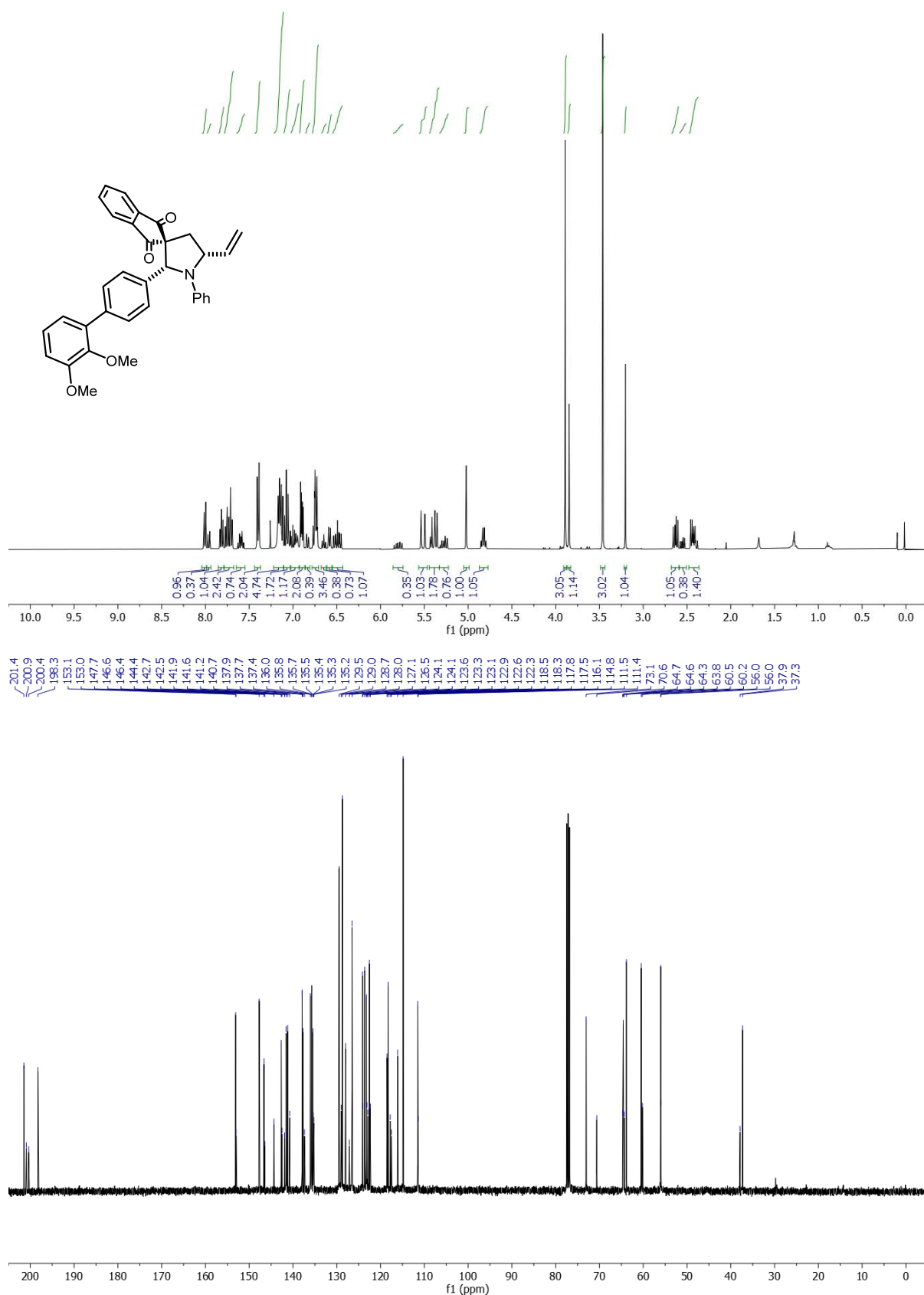
2'-Phenyl-1'-(m-tolyl)-5'-vinylspiro[indene-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-1,3-dione **4i** (*trans/cis* = 1.6 : 1)



1'-(4-Chlorobenzyl)-2'-phenyl-5'-vinylspiro[indene-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-1,3-dione **4j** (*trans/cis* = 1 : 9.2)

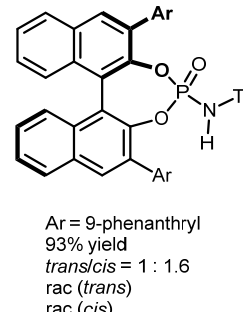
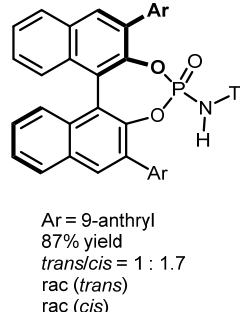
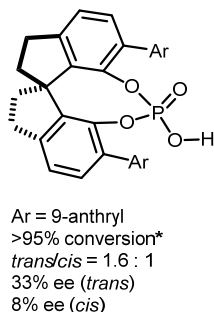
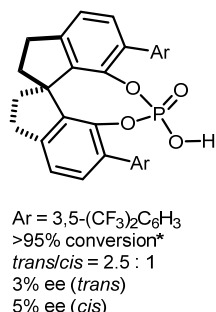
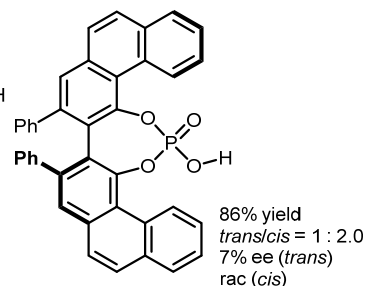
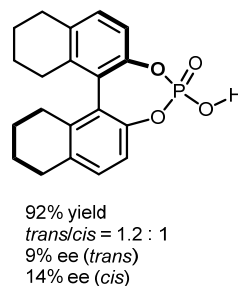
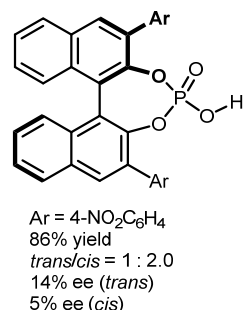
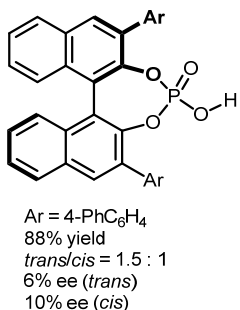
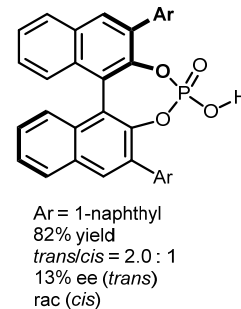
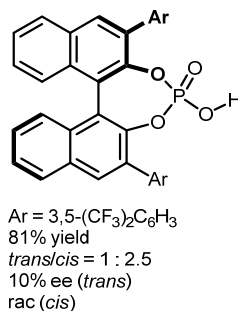
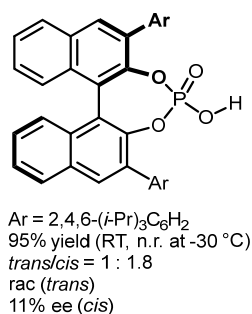
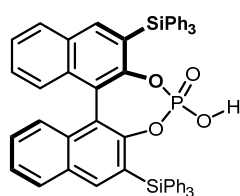
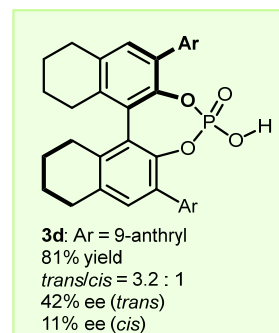
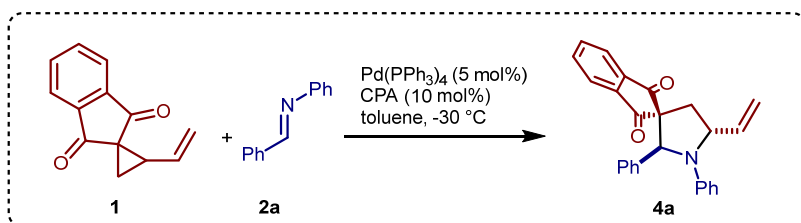


2'-(2',3'-Dimethoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-1'-phenyl-5'-vinylspiro[indene-2,3'-pyrrolidine]-1,3-dione **5**
(*trans/cis* = 1 : 2.8)



Screening of chiral catalysts and reaction conditions in the enantioselective reaction between **1** and **2a**

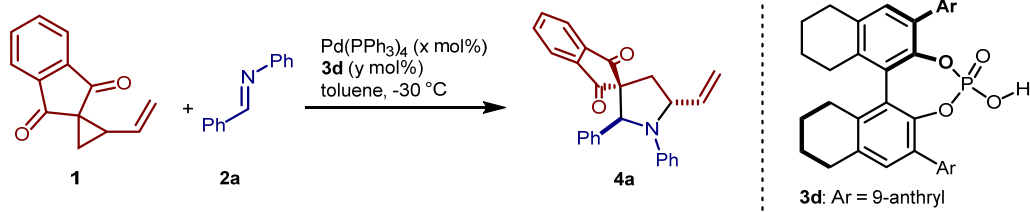
-Screening of chiral phosphoric acid catalysts: selected results



Conditions: VCP **1** (0.05 mmol), imine **2a** (0.06 mmol), $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$ (5 mol%), chiral phosphoric acid (CPA) (10 mol%), toluene (0.2 mL), $-30\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$.

* Conditions: VCP **1** (0.05 mmol), imine **2a** (0.06 mmol), $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$ (10 mol%), chiral phosphoric acid (CPA) (5 mol%), toluene (0.6 mL), $-30\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$.

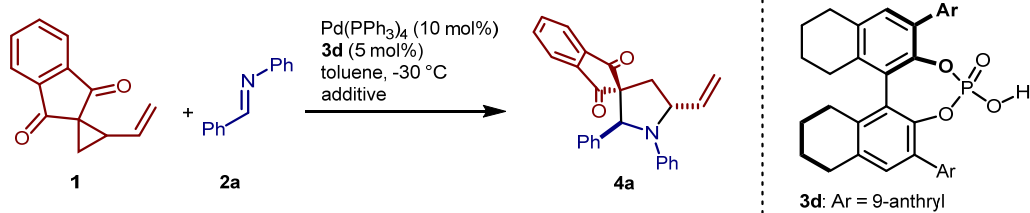
-Screening of the two catalysts loadings: selected results



Entry ¹	$\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$ [x mol%]	3d [y mol%]	Yield [%]	<i>trans/cis</i>	ee (<i>trans</i>) [%]	ee (<i>cis</i>) [%]
1	5	10	81	3.2 : 1	42	11
2	5	15	64	2.0 : 1	52	11
3	5	20	57	1 : 1.8	52	23
4	5	5	88	5.3 : 1	58	15
5	10	5	66	7.0 : 1	60	35
6	10	2.5	low	n.d.	56	31
7	5	2.5	low	n.d.	60	32

¹ Conditions: VCP **1** (0.05 mmol), imine **2a** (0.06 mmol), $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$ (x mol%), chiral phosphoric acid **3d** (y mol%), toluene (0.2 mL), $-30\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$.

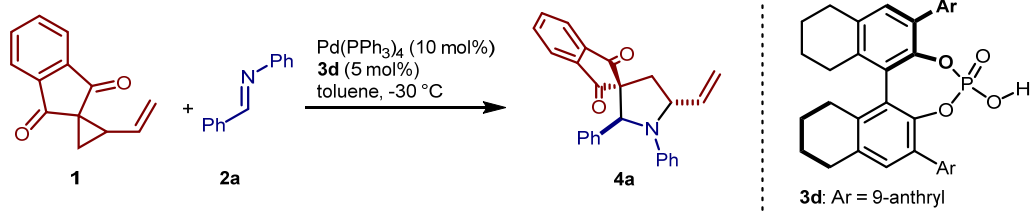
-Screening of additives/drying agents: selected results



Entry ¹	Additive	Yield [%]	<i>trans/cis</i>	ee (<i>trans</i>) [%]	ee (<i>cis</i>) [%]
1	none	66	7.0 : 1	60	35
2	5 Å MS	56	3.2 : 1	12	48
3	4 Å MS	89	2.2 : 1	10	53
4	3 Å MS	91	2.4 : 1	10	53
5	MgSO_4	86	1.1 : 1	49	rac
6	AcOH	>95% ²	12.5 : 1	24	n.d.
7	TBACl	<10	-	-	-

¹ Conditions: VCP **1** (0.05 mmol), imine **2a** (0.06 mmol), $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$ (10 mol%), chiral phosphoric acid **3d** (5 mol%), toluene (0.2 mL), additive, $-30\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. ² Conversion.

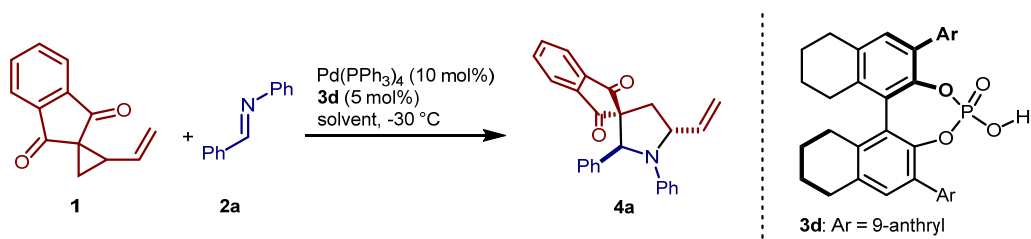
-Effect of the dilution: selected results



Entry ¹	Toluene [M]	Yield [%]	<i>trans/cis</i>	ee (<i>trans</i>) [%]	ee (<i>cis</i>) [%]
1	0.25	66	7.0 : 1	60	35
2	0.5	>99	1.9 : 1	61	rac
3	0.125	80	14 : 1	62	n.d.
4	0.083	>95²	12.3 : 1	60	n.d.
5	0.0625	66	26 : 1	60	n.d.

¹ Conditions: VCP **1** (0.05 mmol), imine **2a** (0.06 mmol), $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$ (10 mol%), chiral phosphoric acid **3d** (5 mol%), toluene (x mL), $-30\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. ² Conversion.

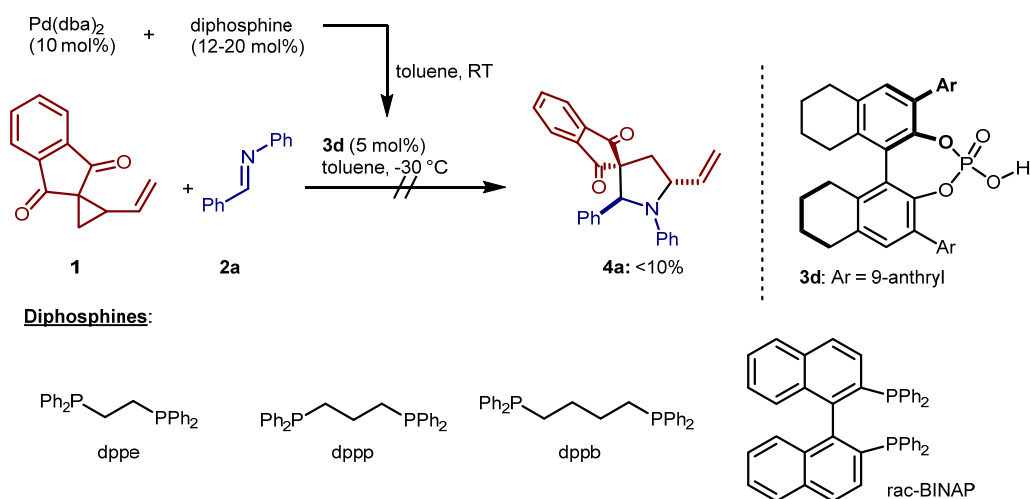
-Solvent screening: selected results



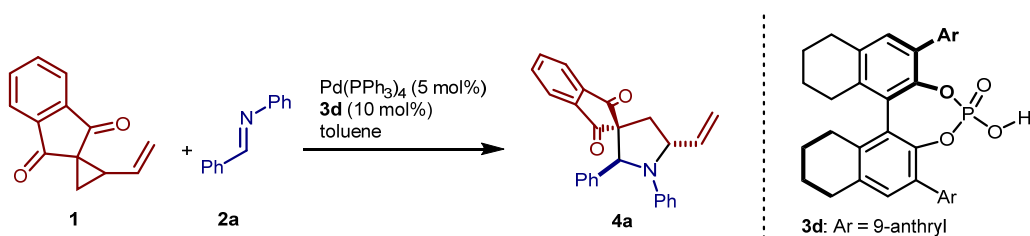
Entry ¹	Solvent	Conversion [%]	<i>trans/cis</i>	ee (<i>trans</i>) [%]	ee (<i>cis</i>) [%]
1	toluene	>95	12.3 : 1	60	n.d.
2	EtOAc	>95	18 : 1	32	n.d.
3	THF	>95	11 : 1	16	n.d.
4	CH_2Cl_2	>95	5.2 : 1	14	6
5	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CF}_3$	>95	4.6 : 1	50	rac

¹ Conditions: VCP **1** (0.05 mmol), imine **2a** (0.06 mmol), $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$ (10 mol%), chiral phosphoric acid **3d** (5 mol%), solvent (0.6 mL), $-30\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$.

-Phosphine ligands screening: selected results



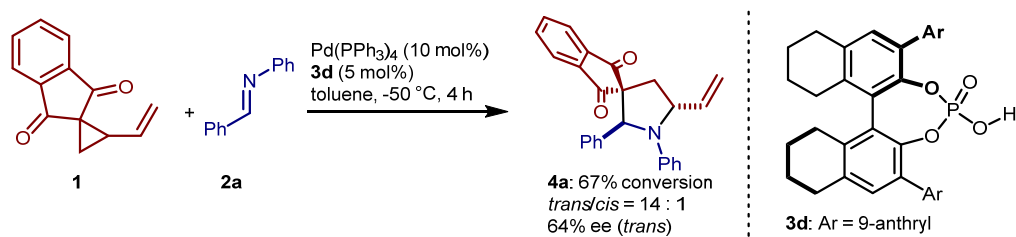
-Temperature screening: selected results



Entry ¹	T [°C]	t [h]	Conversion [%]	trans/cis	ee (trans) [%]
1	-30	4	>95	12.3 : 1	60
2	-50	6	67	14 : 1	64
3	-70	18	>95	3.5 : 1	62

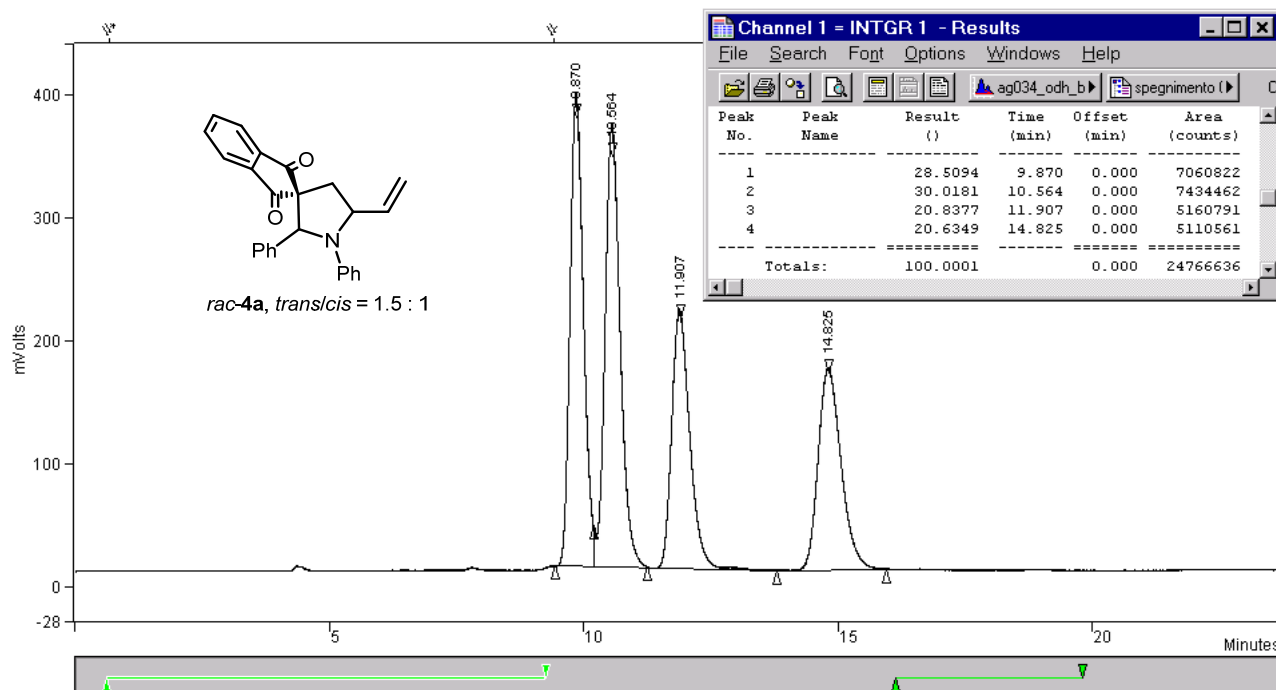
¹ Conditions: VCP **1** (0.05 mmol), imine **2a** (0.06 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (10 mol%), chiral phosphoric acid **3d** (5 mol%), solvent (0.6 mL), -30 °C.

-Preliminarily optimised conditions:

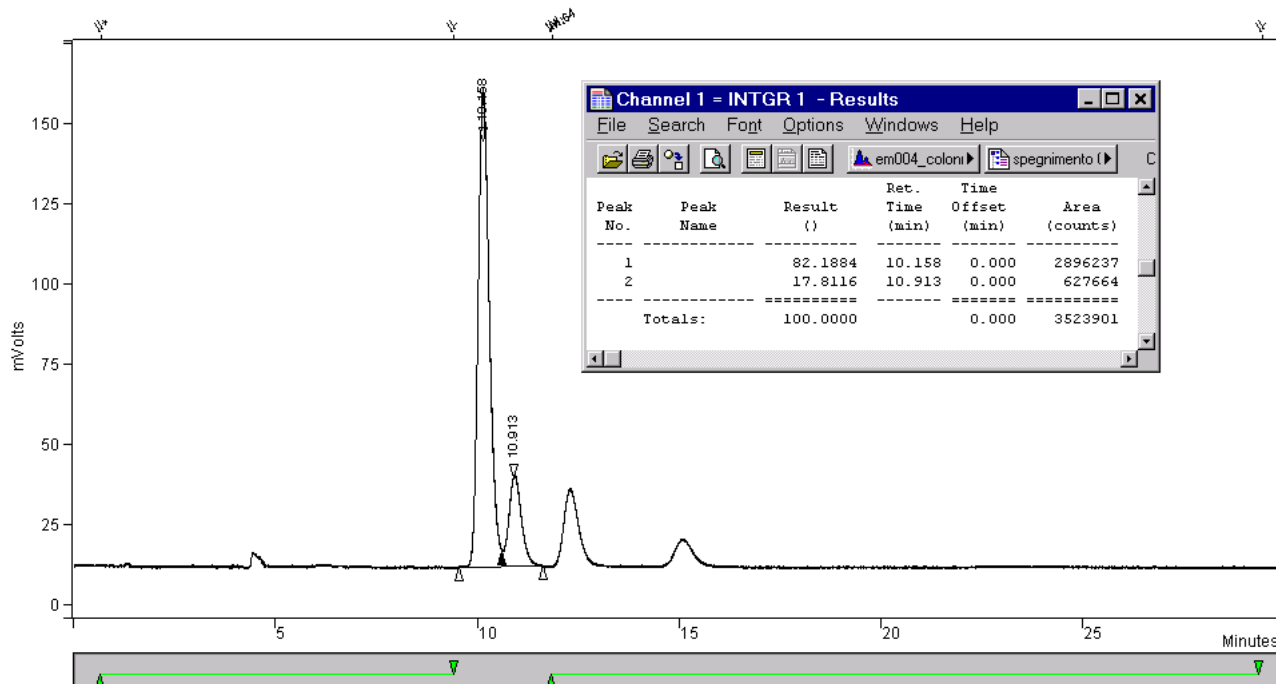


Copies of the HPLC traces for racemic and enantioenriched 4a

Racemic 4a:



Enantioenriched 4a: integration values for the major *trans*-diastereoisomer:



Enantioenriched **4a**: integration values for the minor *cis*-diastereoisomer:

