

## Supplementary Information

### Discovery of new 1,4,6-trisubstituted-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridines with anti-tumor efficacy in mouse model of breast cancer

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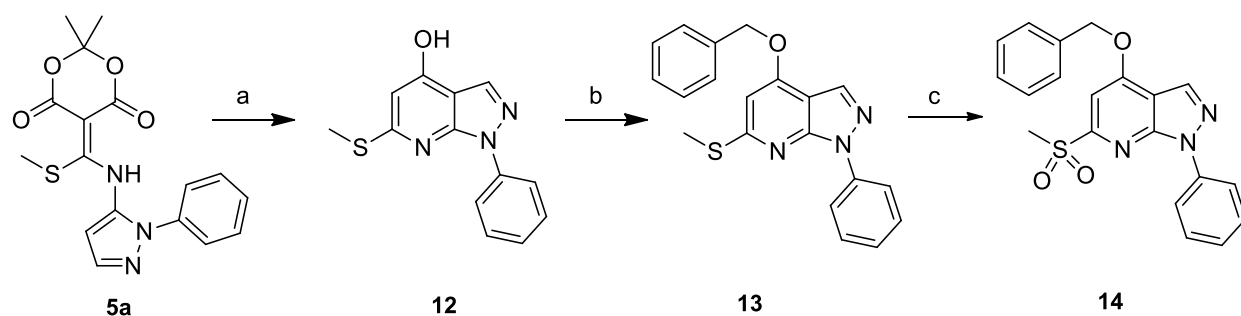
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### Attempt for an alternative synthetic pathway

During the initial investigation of the synthetic procedures, we have also performed the cyclization of **5a** prior the introduction of aniline, in order to have access to the more versatile 6-methylthiopyrazolopyridinol intermediate **12** (Scheme SI1). This compound was converted in the 4-benzyloxyderivative **13** however, our attempts to substitute the 6-methylthiogroup of **13**, or even the corresponding oxidized 6-methylsulfonylderivative **14**, were not successful.



**Scheme S1.** Reagents and conditions. a) Ph<sub>2</sub>O, reflux, Ar, 85%; b) 1)K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, DMF, 2) benzylbromide, 50°C, 57%;, c) mCPBA, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 98%.

## Experimental data of compounds 12-14

### 6-(Methylthio)-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridin-4-ol (**12**)

This derivative was prepared by a method analogous to that described for the synthesis of **7a**. Chromatographic purification (silica gel 40-60 $\mu$ m) was performed using a mixture of cyclohexane / EtOAc (9/1 to 6/4, v/v) as the eluent. Yield 85%. Pale white solid, mp. 154-156°C (EtOAc/*n*-pentane). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 2.59 (s, 3H, SCH<sub>3</sub>), 6.51 (s, 1H, H-5), 7.31 (t, 1H, *J*= 7.0 Hz, phenyl H-4), 7.54 (t, 2H, *J*= 8.1 Hz, phenyl H-3, H-5), 8.28-8.29 (m, 3H, H-3, phenyl H-2, H-6), 11.78 (brs, 1H, D<sub>2</sub>O exch., OH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 12.94, 100.38, 106.41, 120.08, 125.58, 129.06, 132.60, 139.37, 151.83, 158.73, 161.77. HR-MS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 258.0696; found 258.0696.

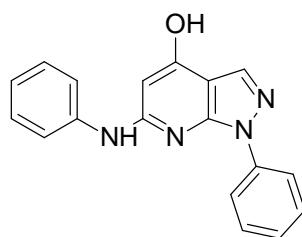
### 6-(Methylthio)-4-benzyloxy-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine (**13**)

This derivative was prepared by a method analogous to that described for the synthesis of **8a**. Chromatographic purification (silica gel 40-60 $\mu$ m) was performed using a mixture of cyclohexane / EtOAc (1/1, v/v) as the eluent. Yield 57%. White solid, mp. 138-140°C (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/Et<sub>2</sub>O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 2.67 (s, 3H, SCH<sub>3</sub>), 5.22 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.54 (s, 1H, H-5), 7.29 (t, 1H, *J*= 7.4 Hz, phenyl H-4), 7.39-7.53 (m, 7H, benzyloxy 5H, phenyl H-3, H-5), 8.12 (s, 1H, H-3), 8.33 (d, 2H, *J*= 7.7 Hz, phenyl H-2, H-6). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 13.70, 70.69, 98.17, 106.97, 121.01, 125.85, 127.77, 128.70, 128.93, 128.99, 132.14, 135.43, 139.88, 152.09, 159.24, 162.88. HR-MS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>OS [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 348.1165; found 348.1164.

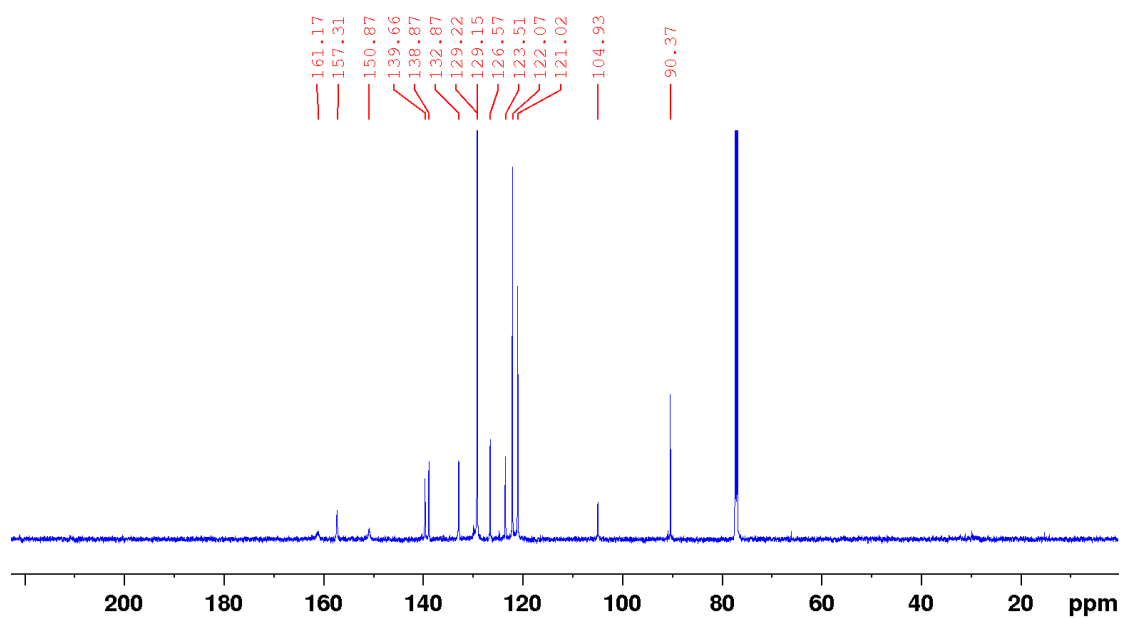
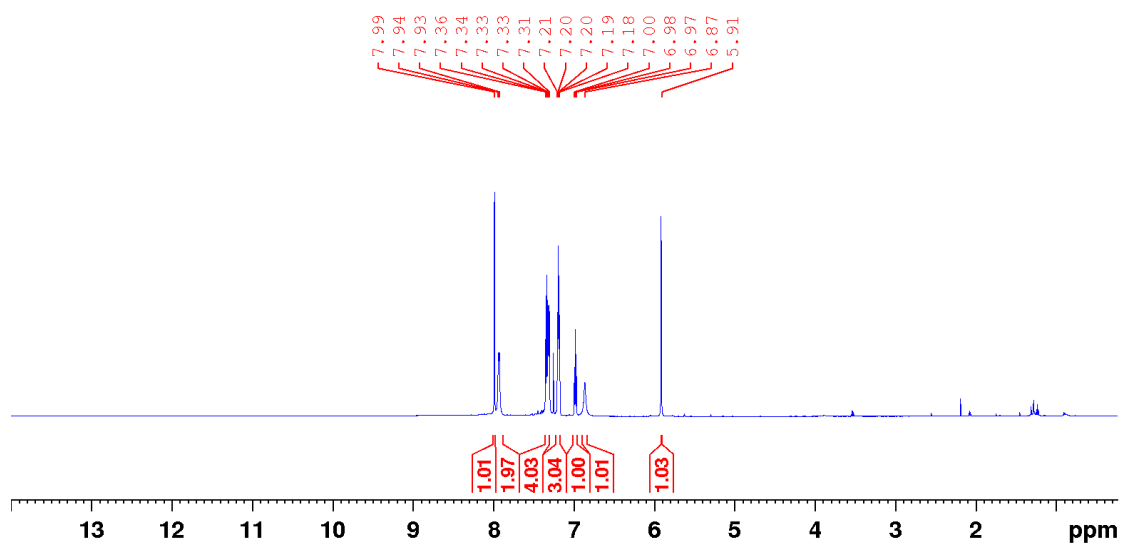
### 6-(Methylsulfonyl)-4-benzyloxy-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine (**14**)

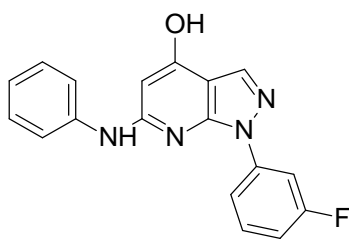
To a solution of **13** (40 mg, 0.12 mmol) in dichloromethane (4 mL) was added 3-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (*m*-CPBA, 59 mg, 0.34 mmol) and the mixture was stirred for 3h at room temperature. It was then neutralized with a Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution (150 mg in 40 mL H<sub>2</sub>O) and extracted with dichloromethane. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and the solvent was vacuum evaporated to provide pure **14** (42 mg, 98%) as a white solid. Mp. 144°C (Et<sub>2</sub>O). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 3.34 (s, 3H, SO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.41 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.36 (t, 1H, *J*= 7.4 Hz, phenyl H-4), 7.40-7.43 (m, 1H, benzyloxy 1H), 7.46 (t, 2H, *J*= 6.8 Hz, phenyl H-3, H-5), 7.50-7.55 (m, 5H, benzyloxy 4H, H-5), 8.22 (d, 2H, *J*= 7.8 Hz, phenyl H-2, H-6), 8.34 (s, 1H, H-3). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 39.97, 71.86, 96.50, 110.97, 121.39, 126.85, 128.10, 129.10, 129.15, 129.32, 132.33, 134.48, 139.09, 150.67, 159.32, 161.70. HR-MS (ESI) *m/z* calculated for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 380.1063; found 380.1060.

## Spectral data of the new derivatives

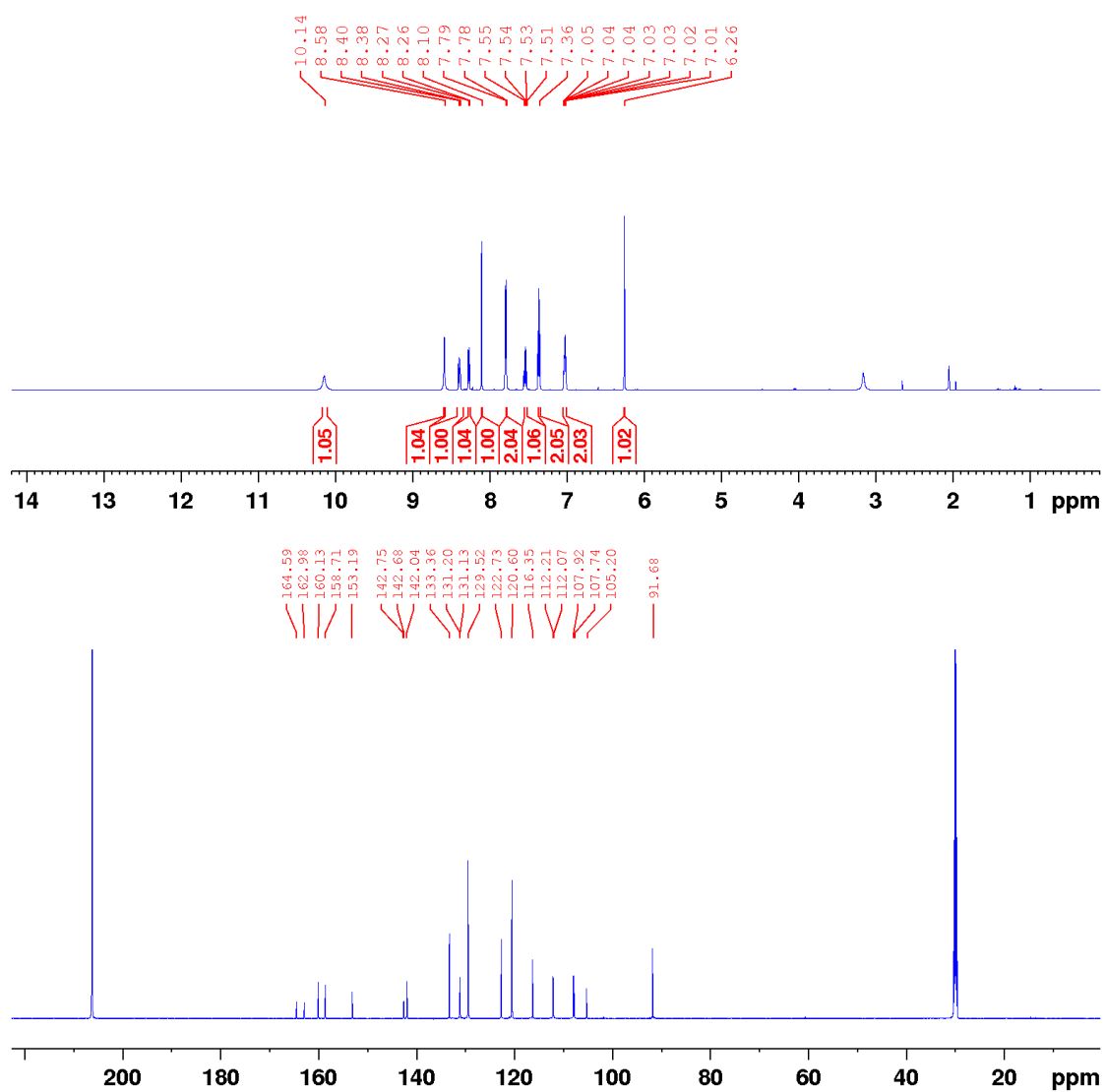


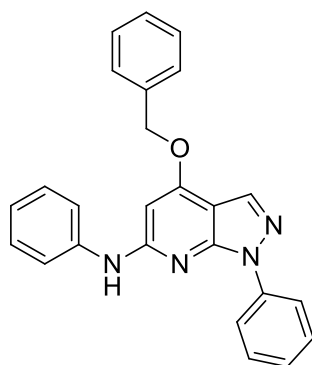
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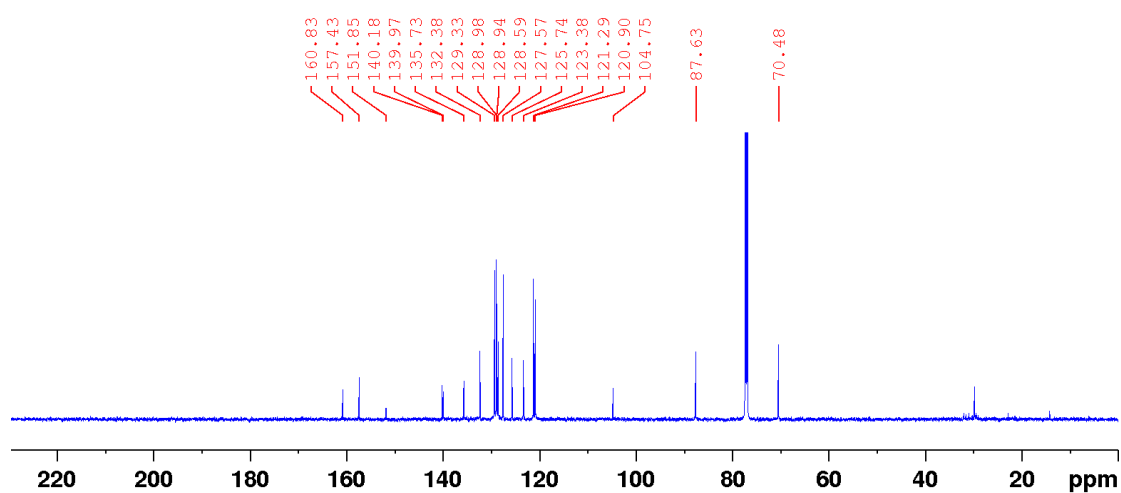
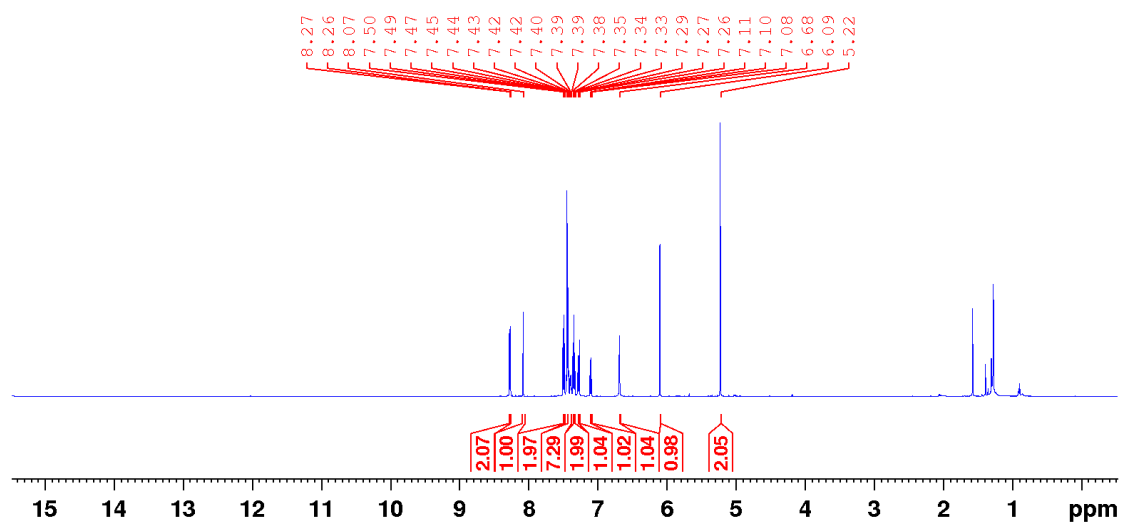


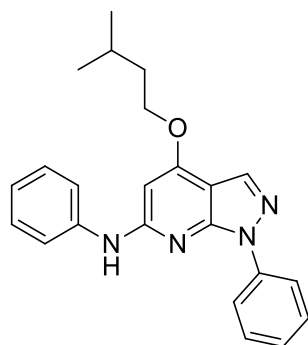
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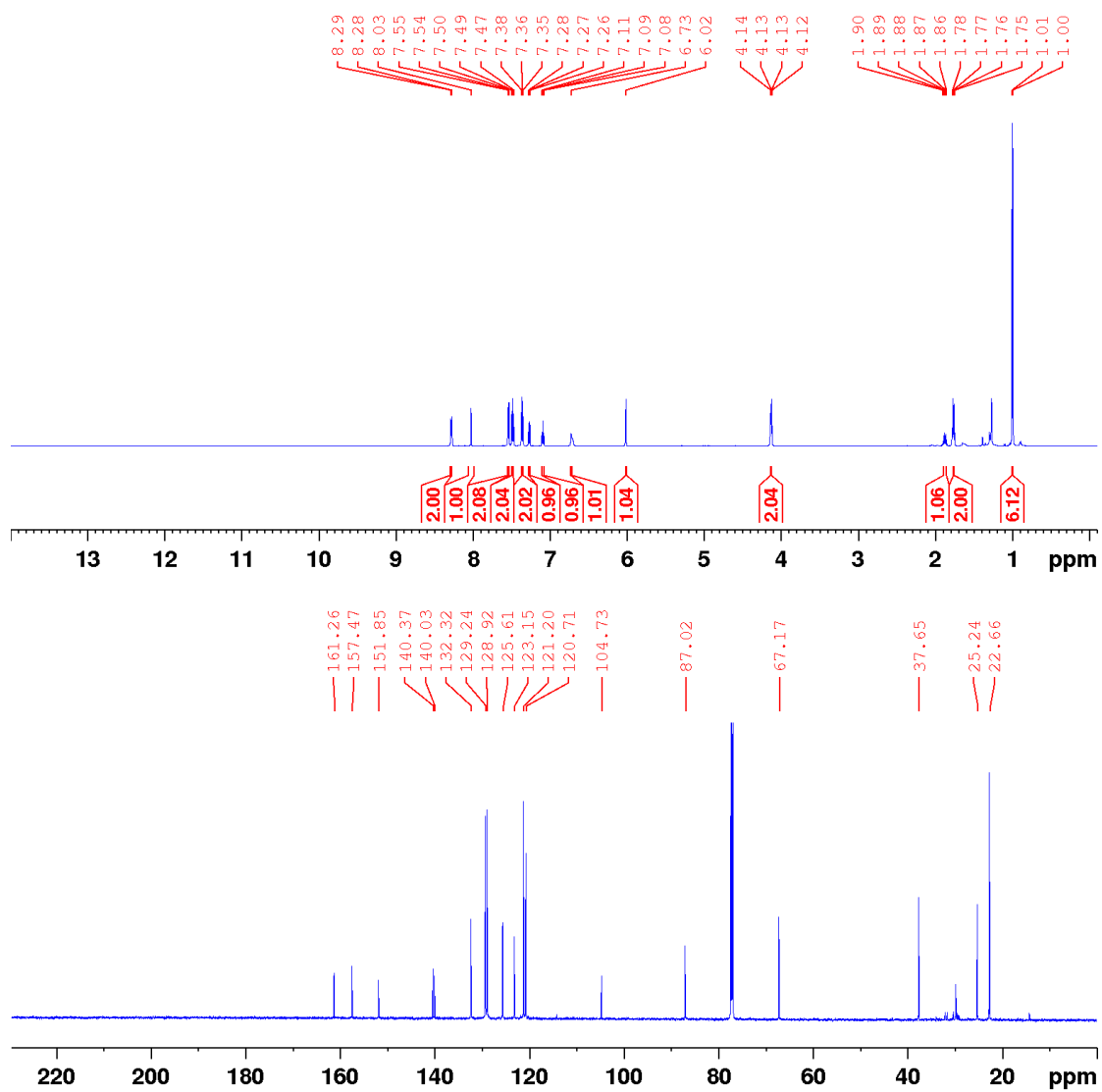


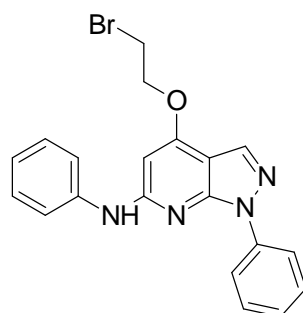
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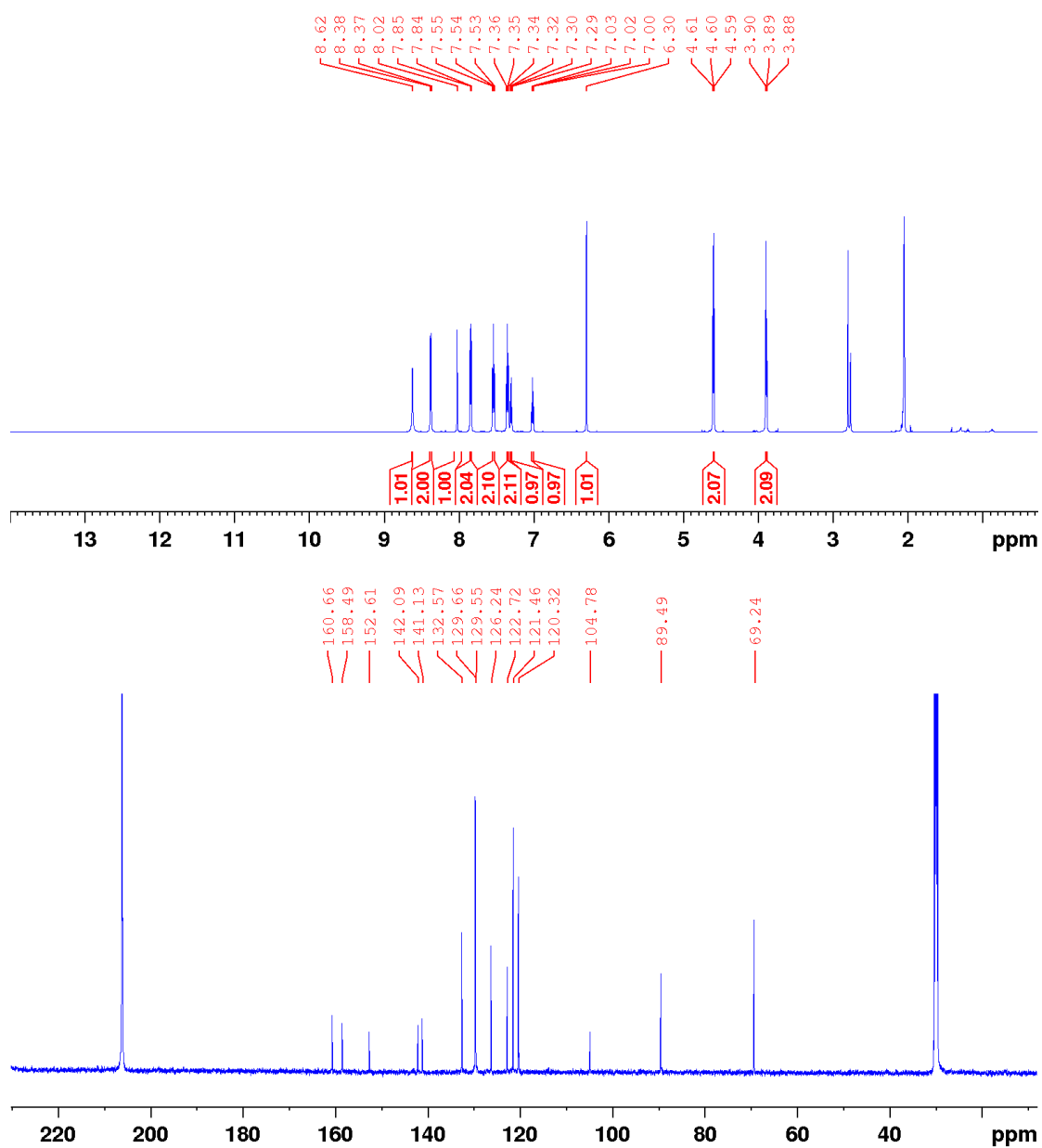


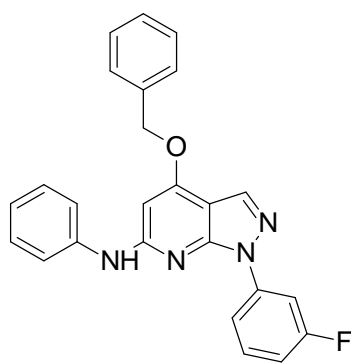
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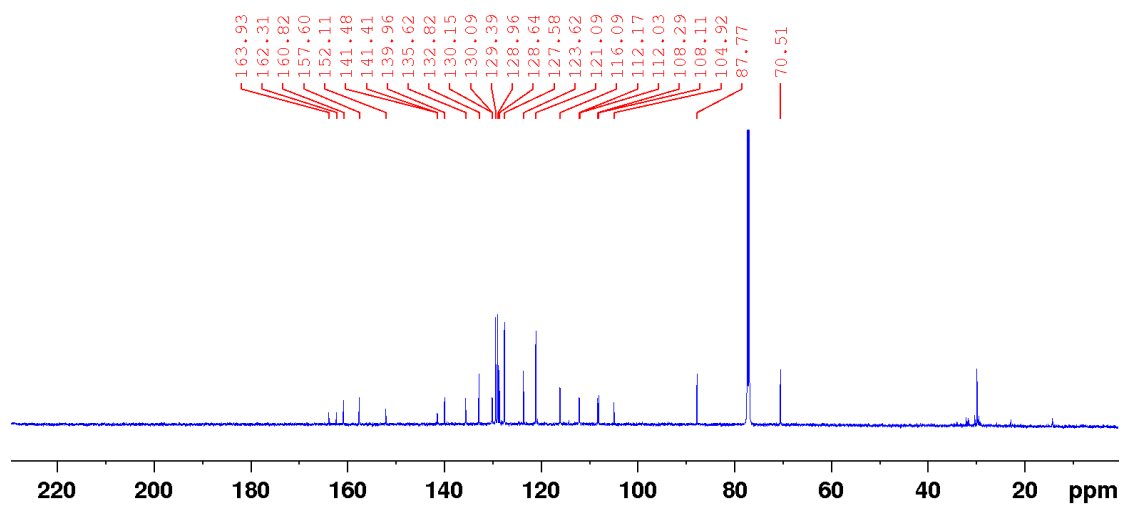
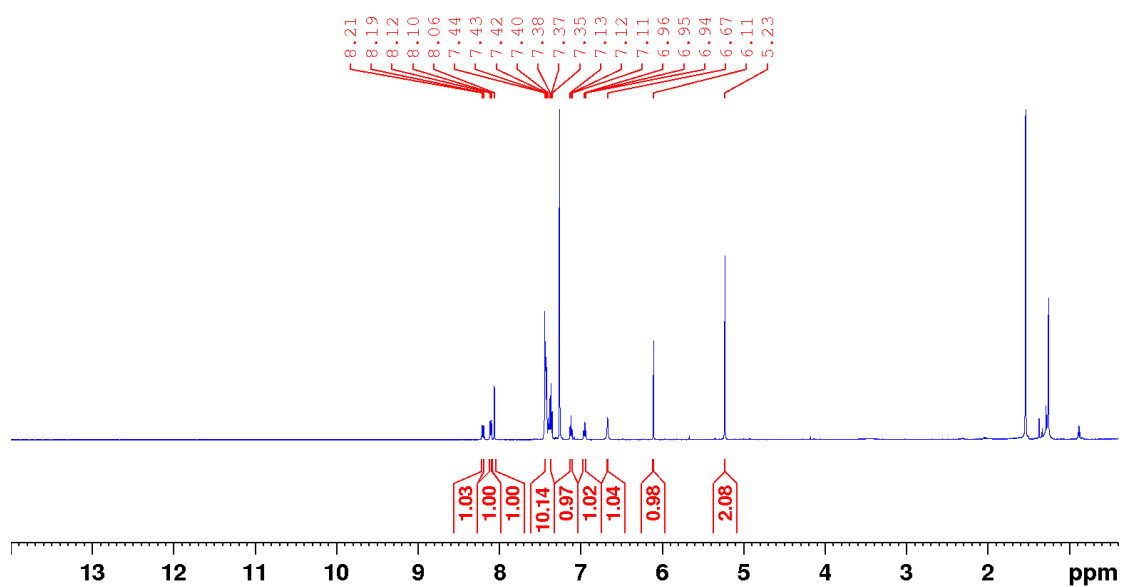


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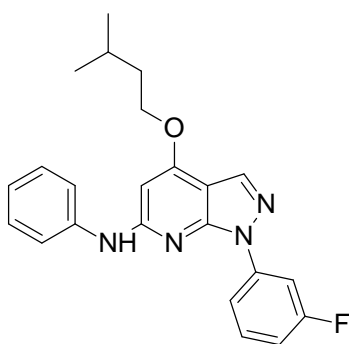




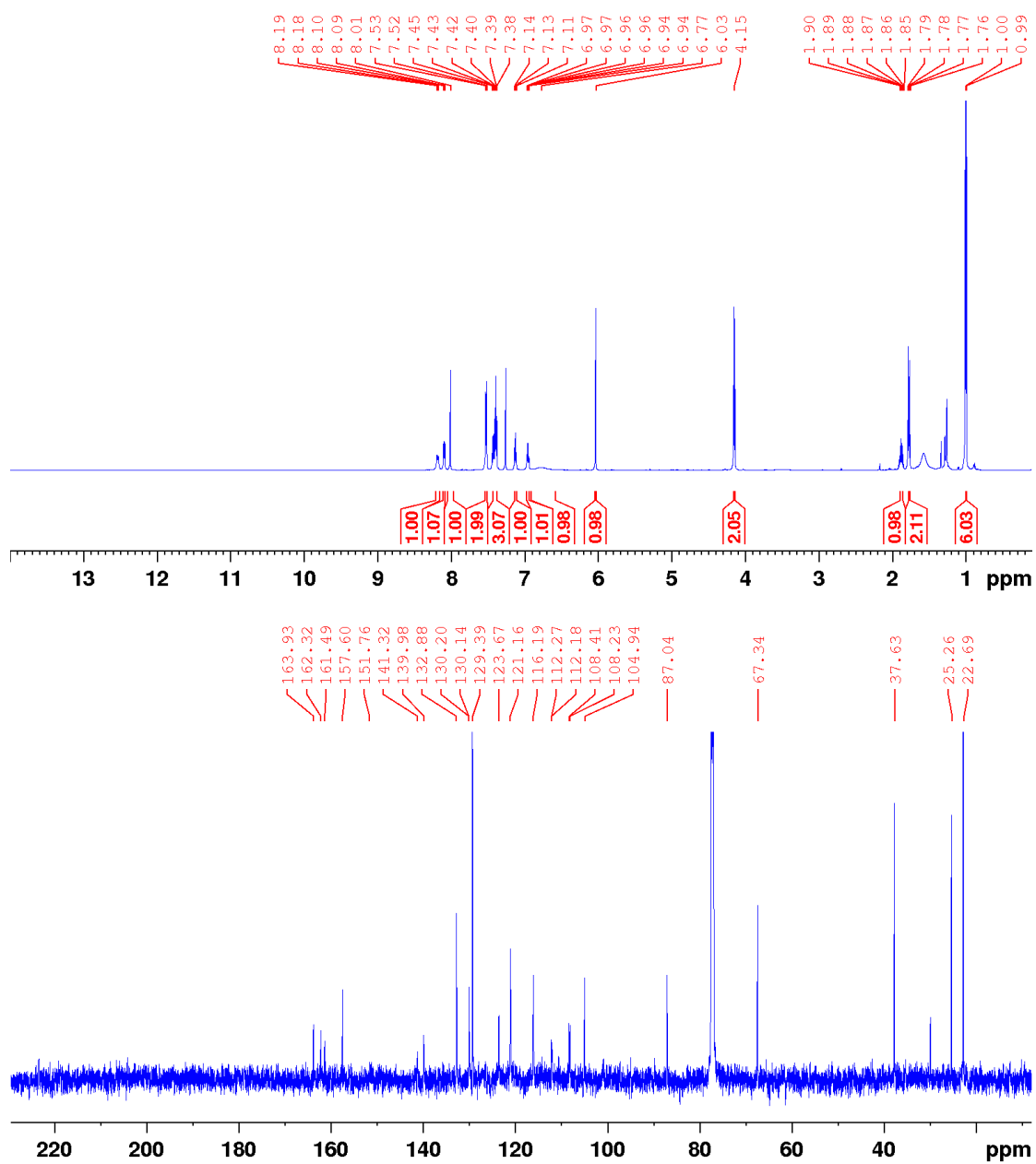
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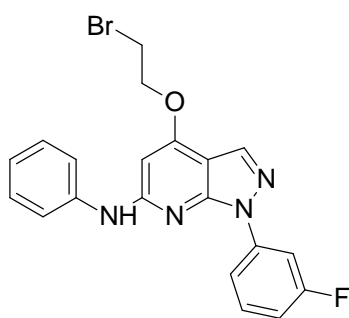




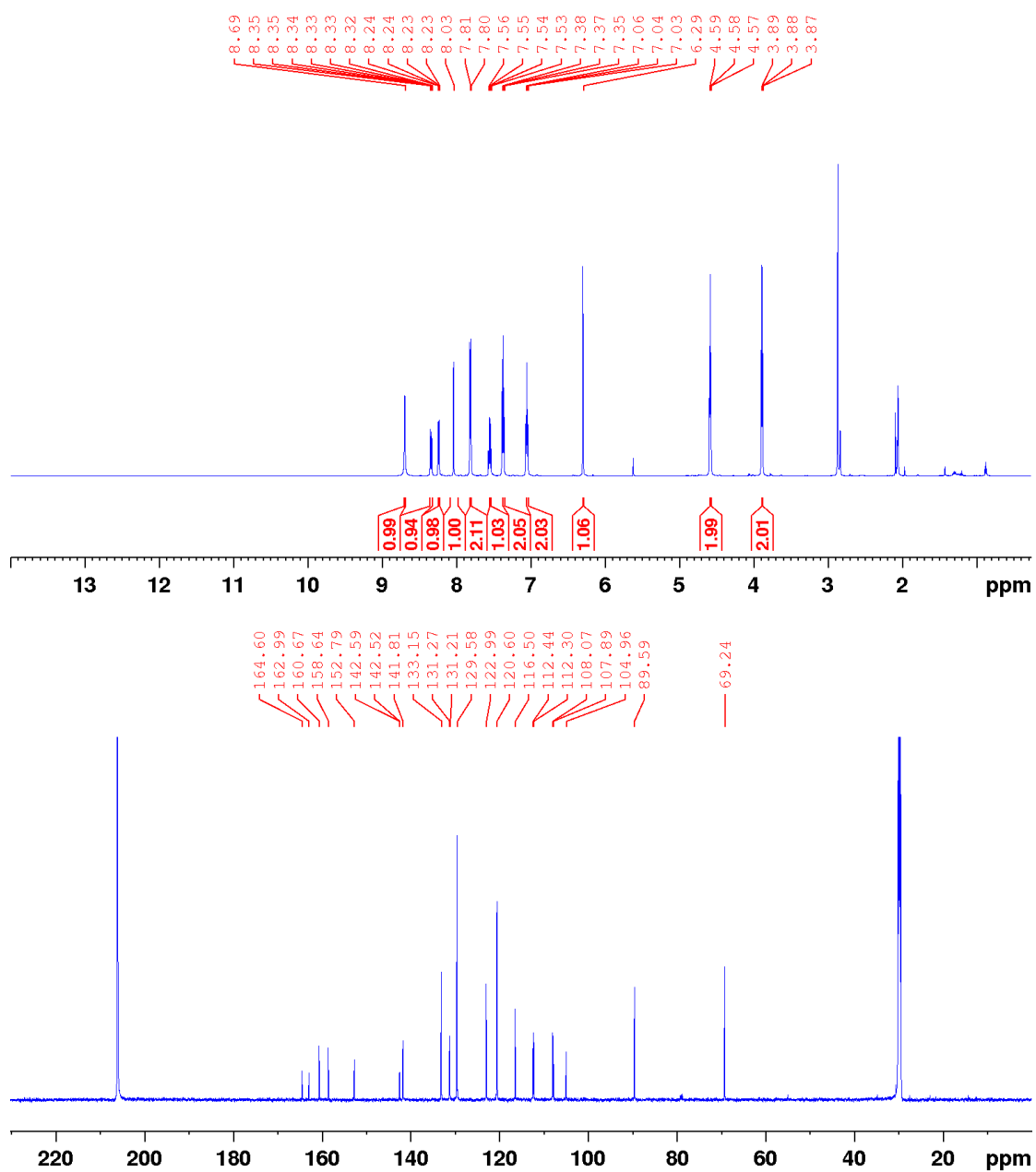


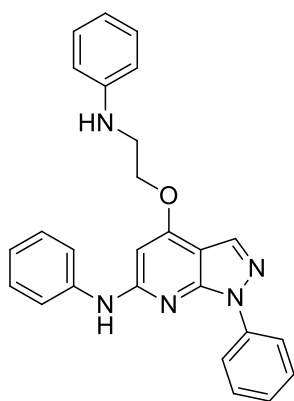
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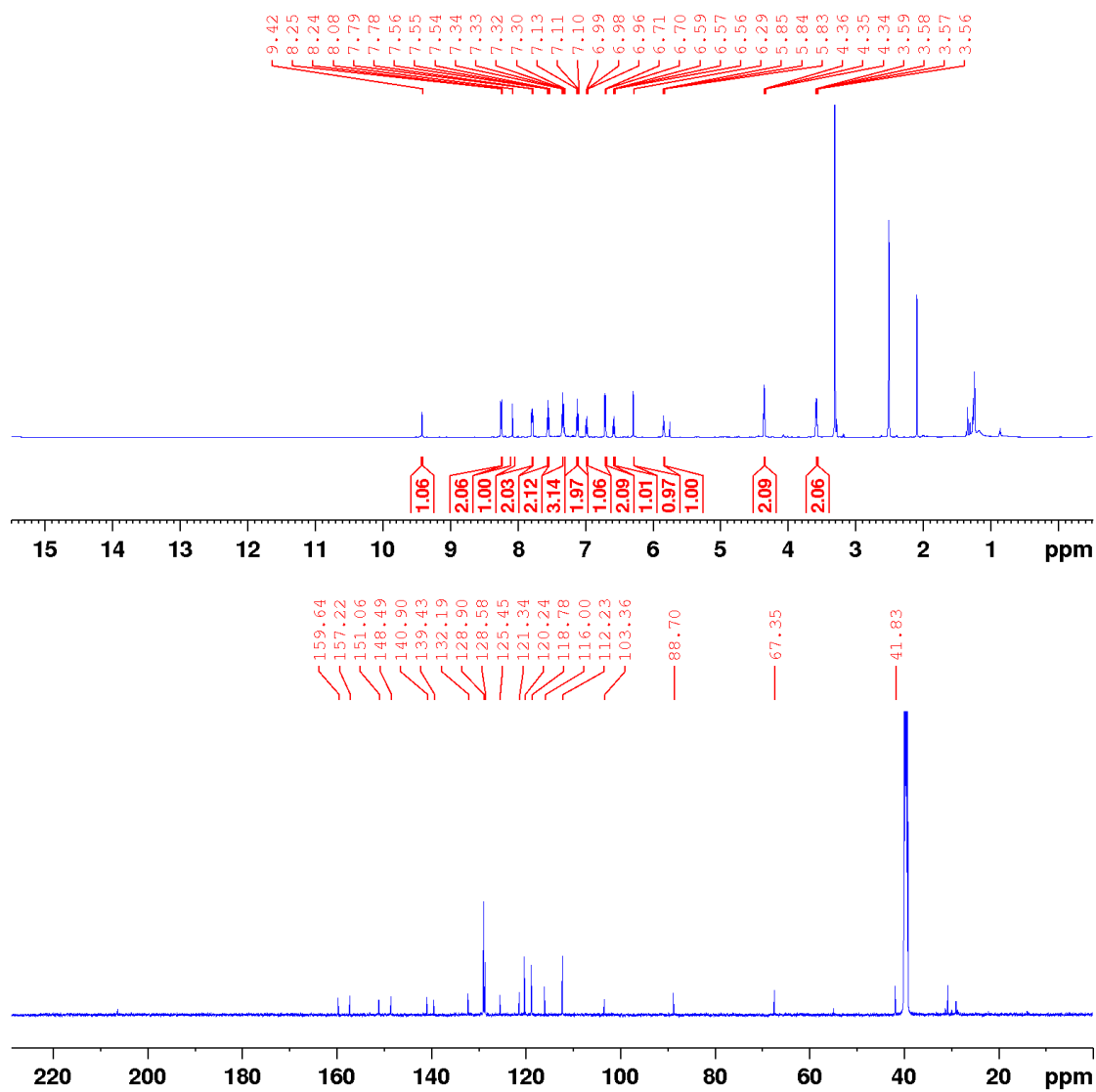


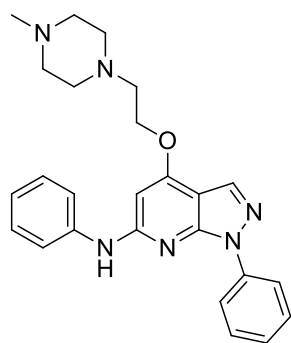
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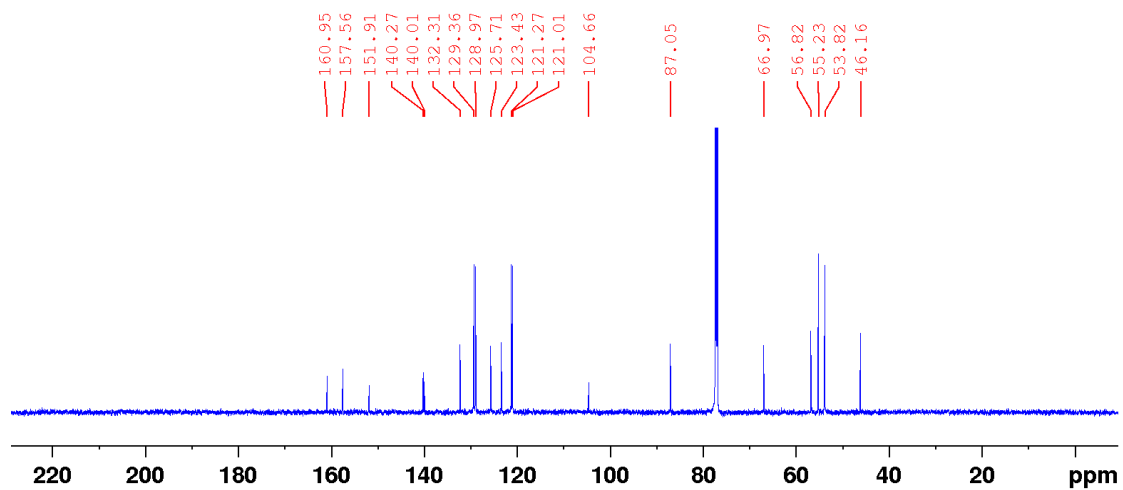
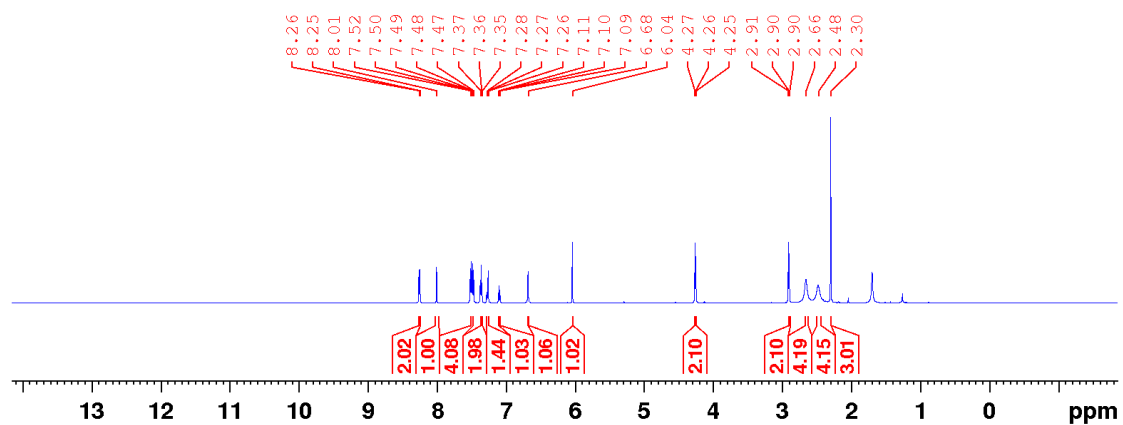


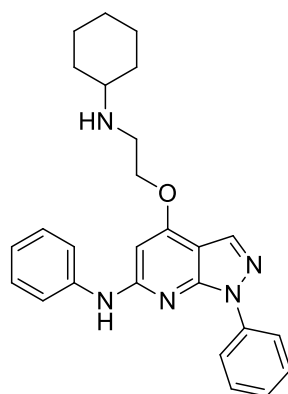
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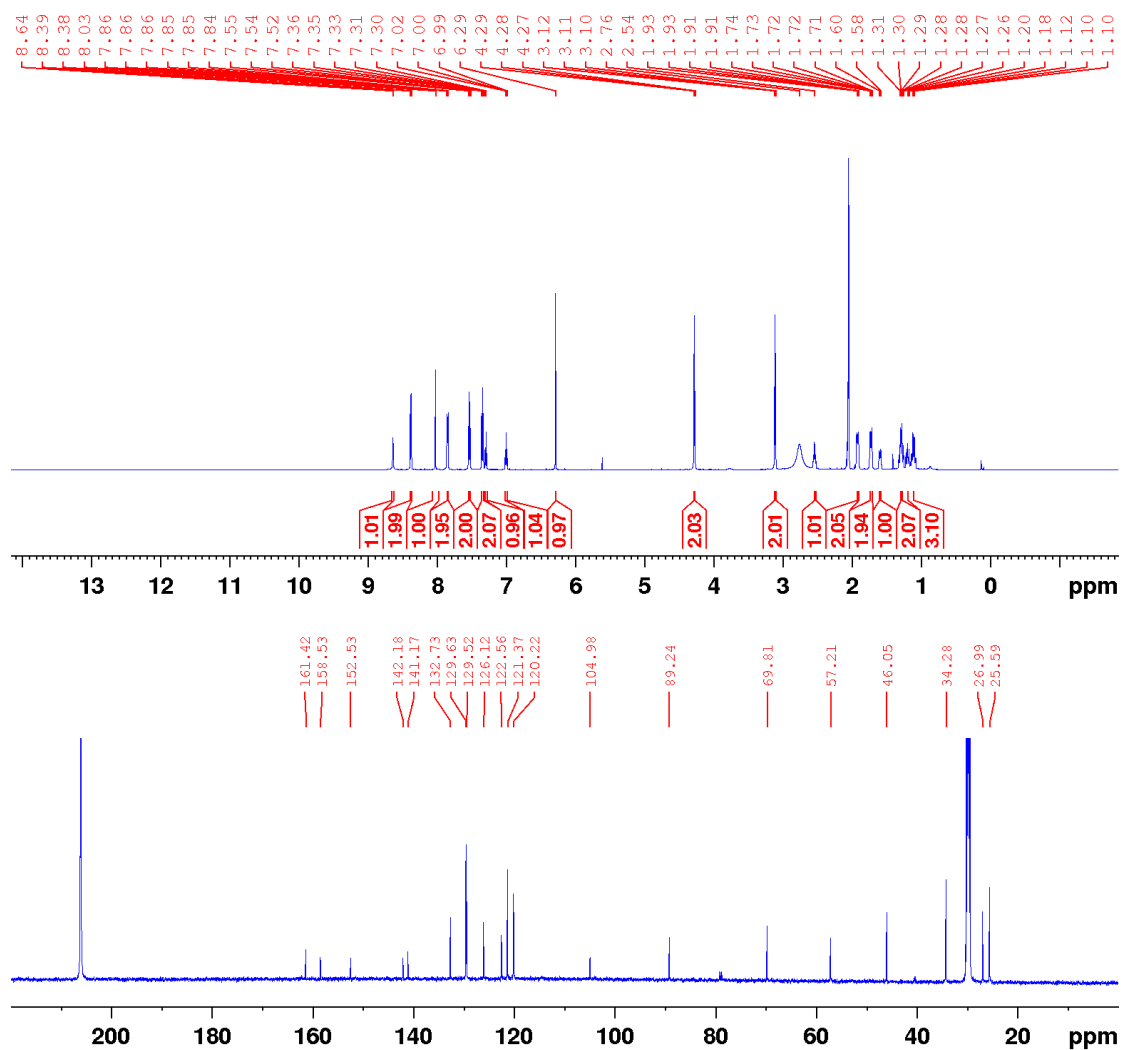


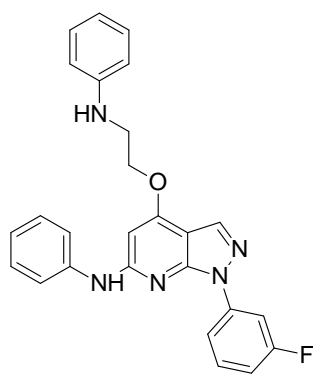
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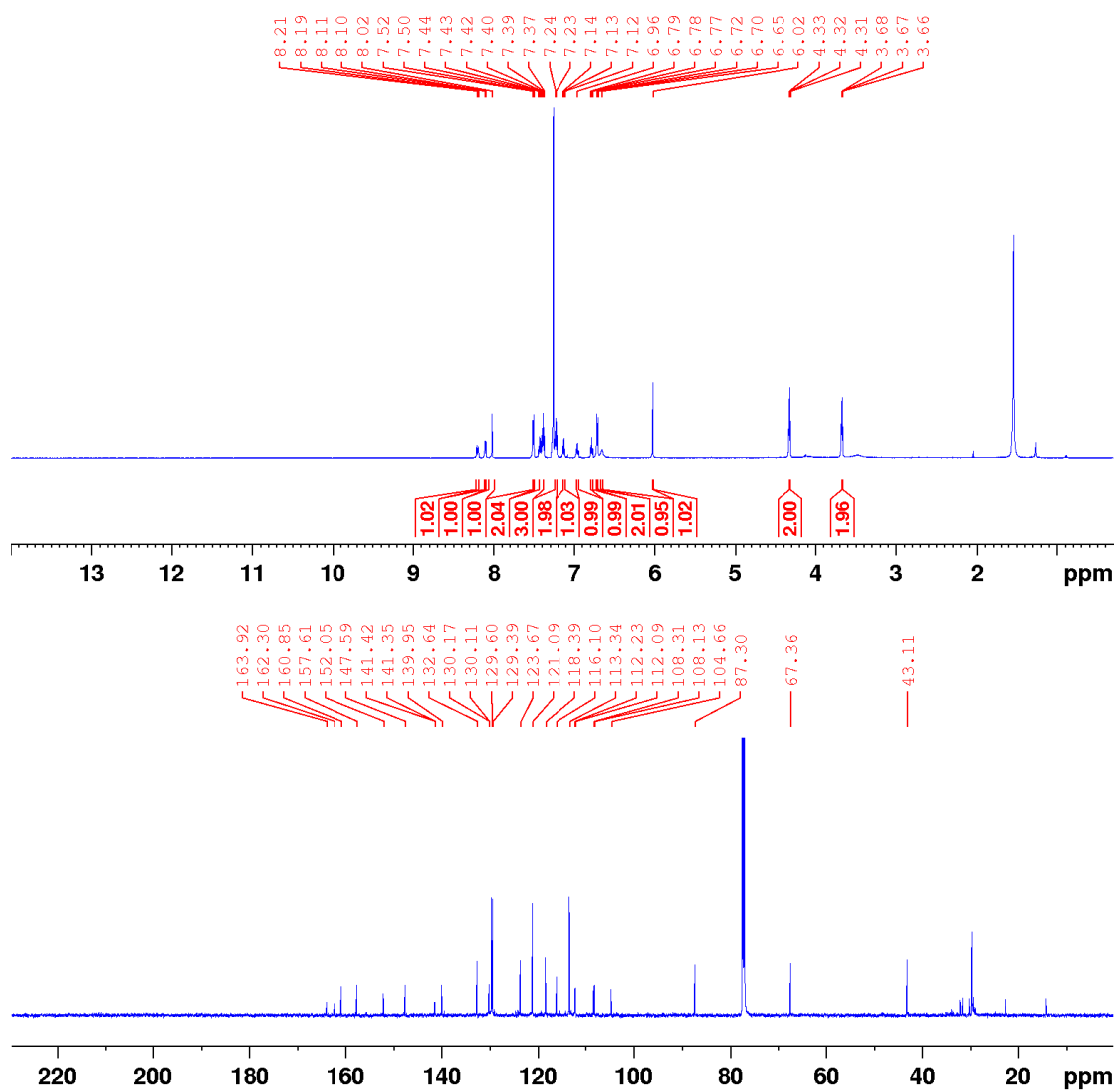


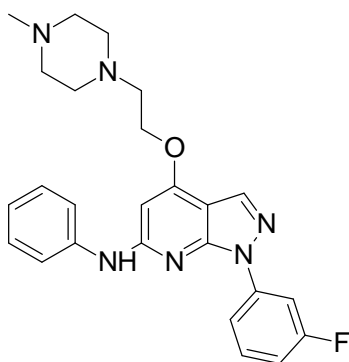
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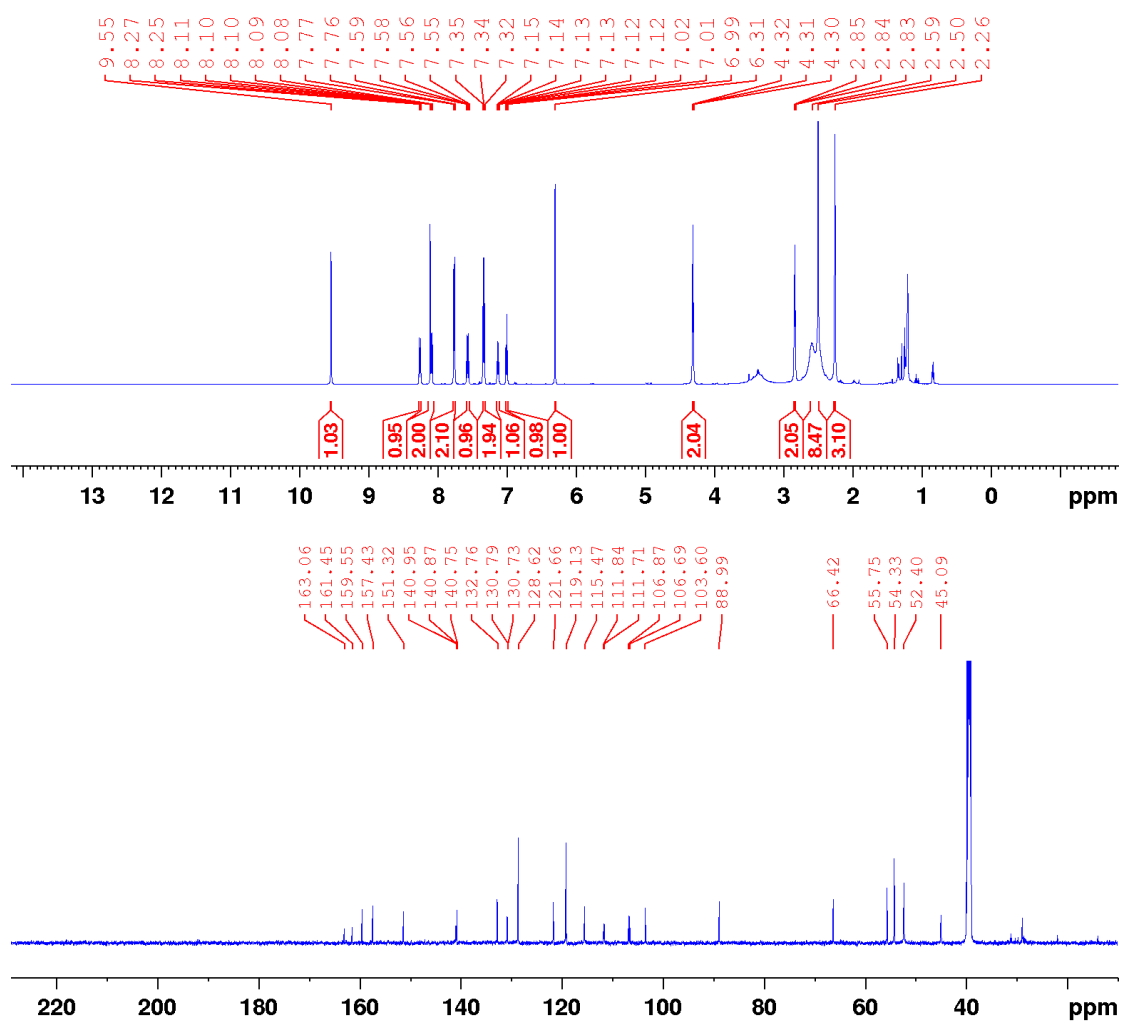


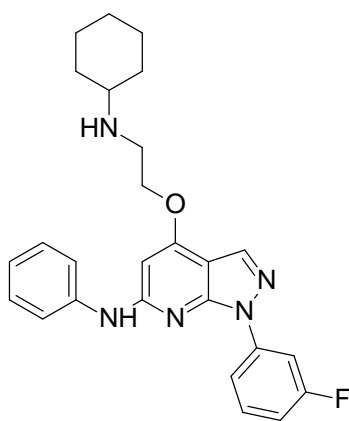
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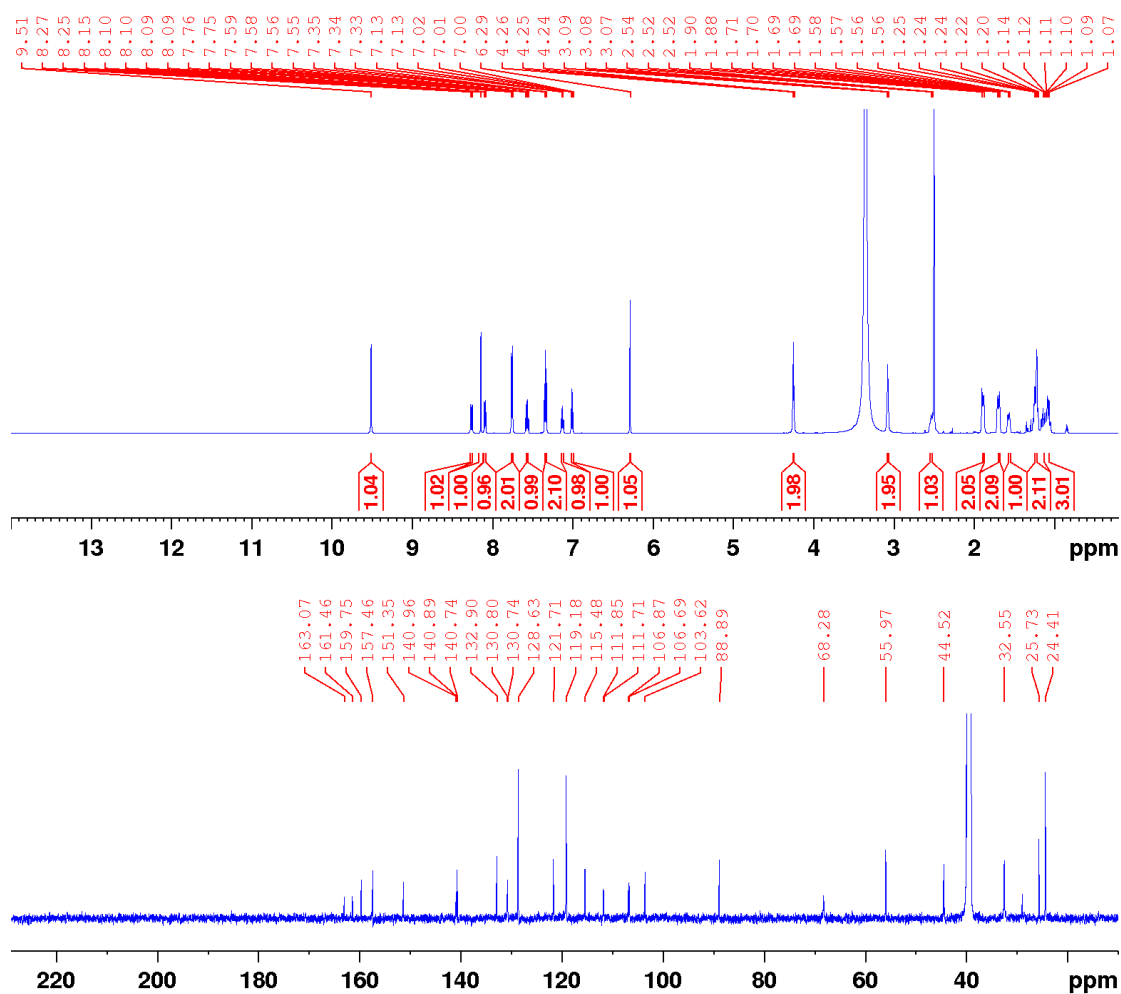


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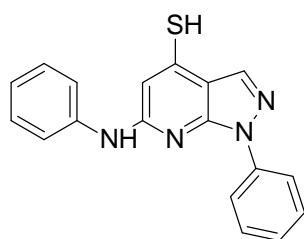




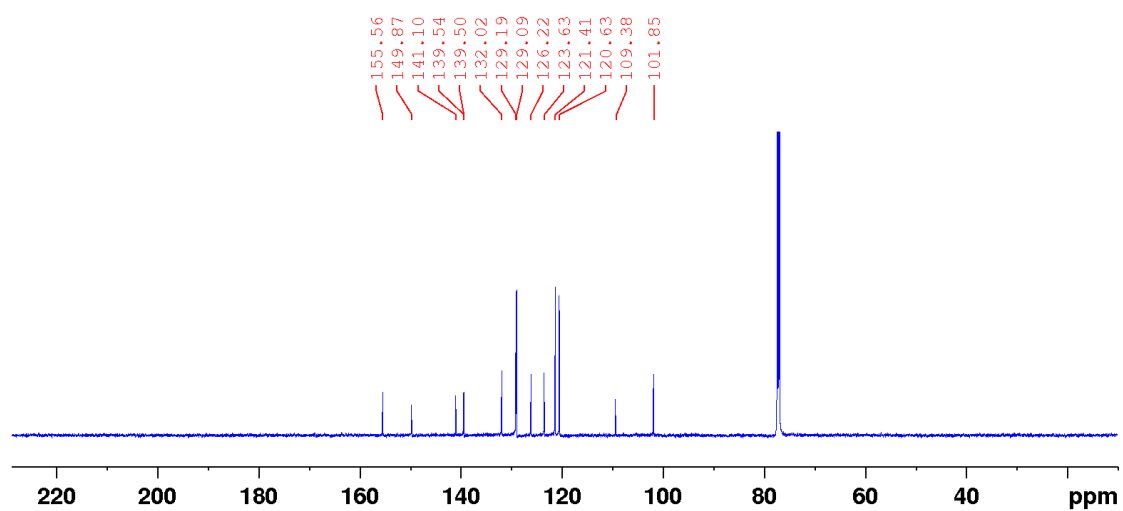
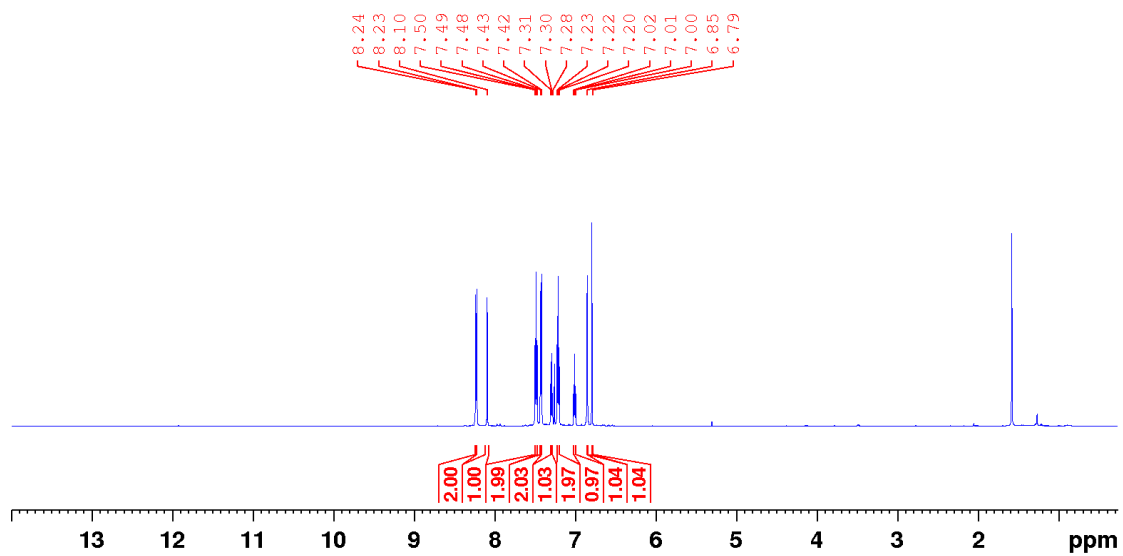
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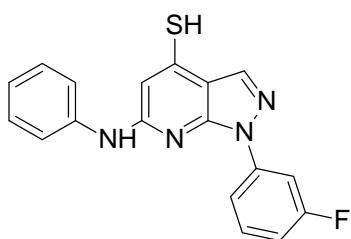




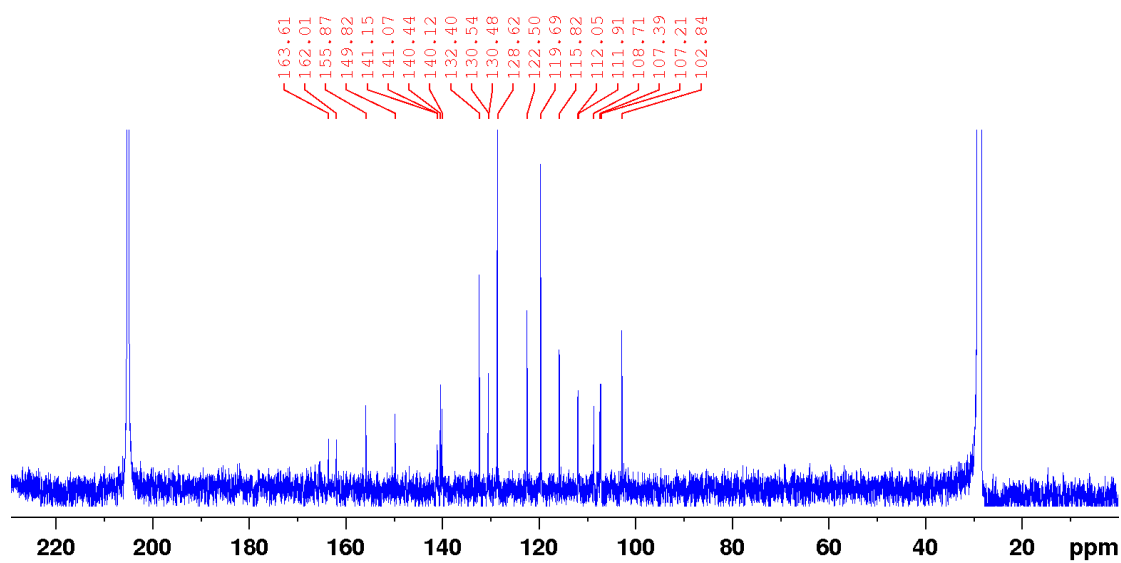
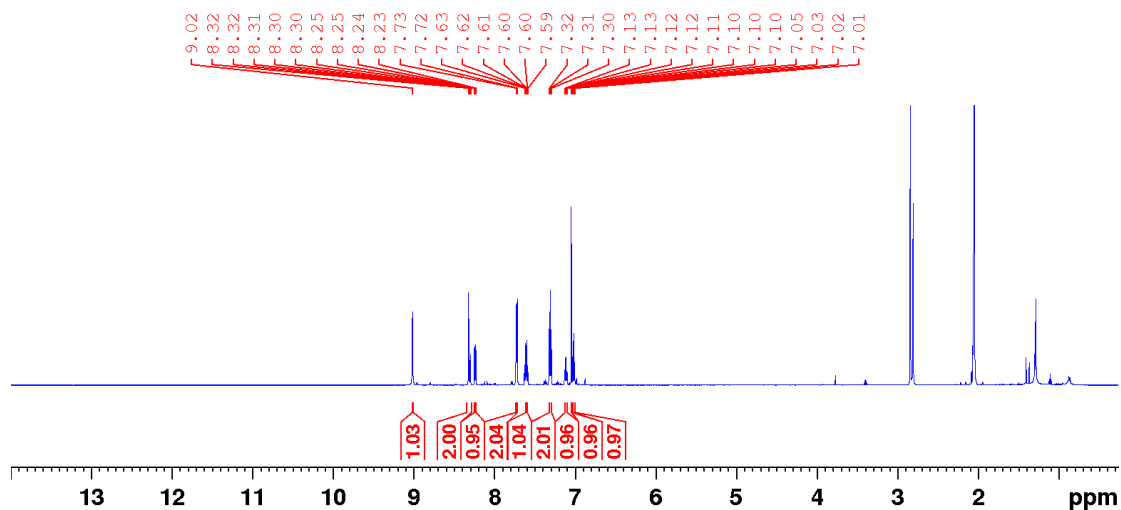


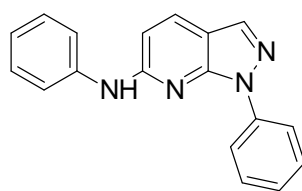
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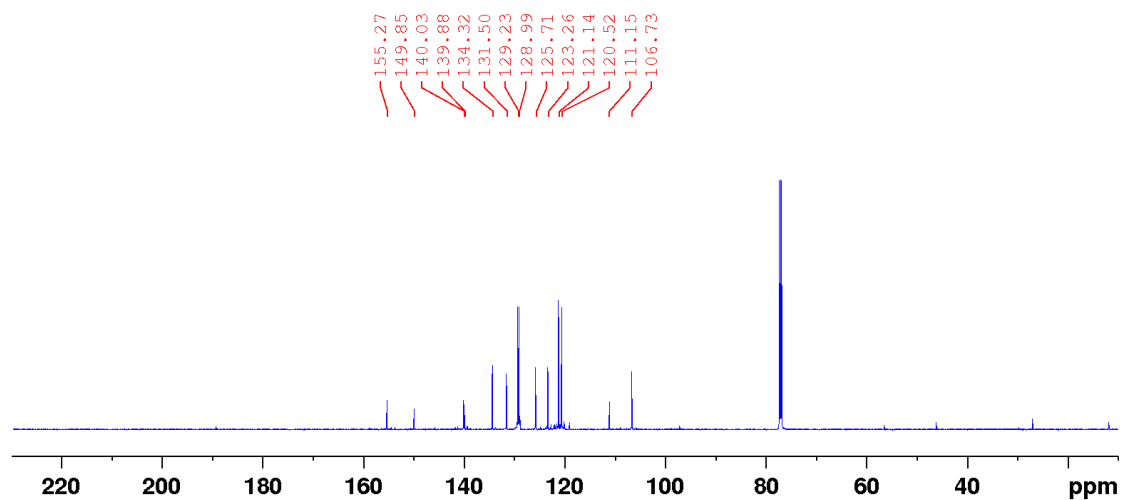
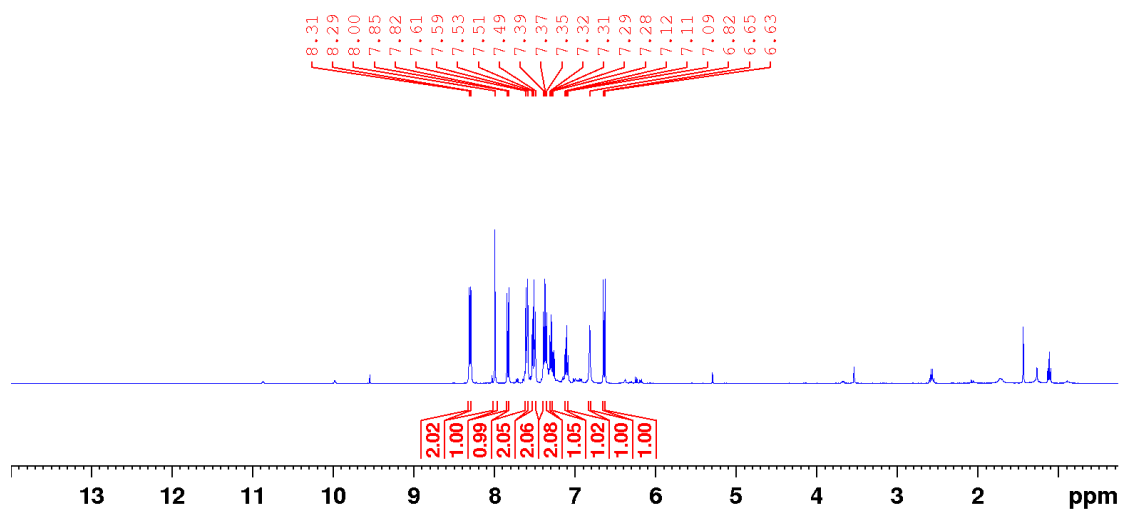


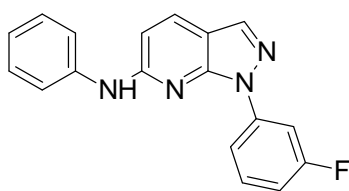
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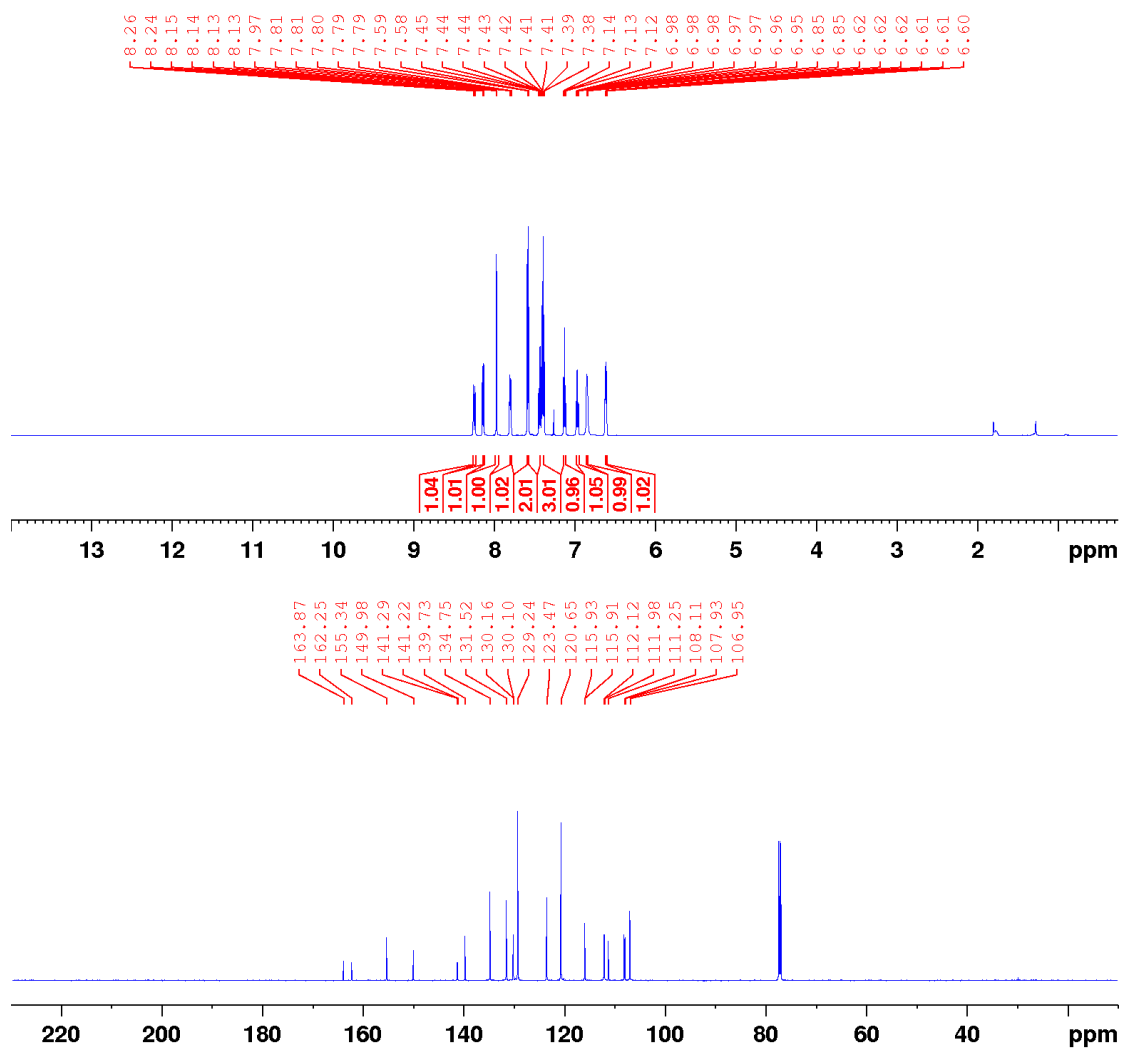


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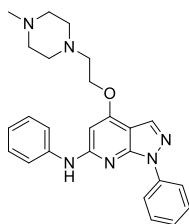




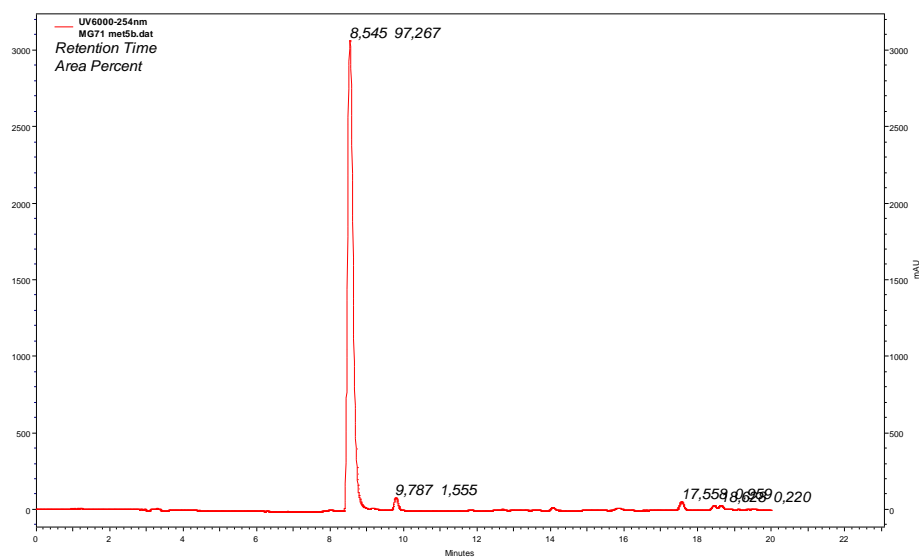
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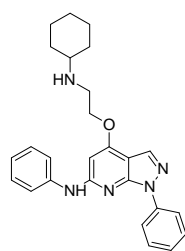


## HPLC of the compounds tested in vivo

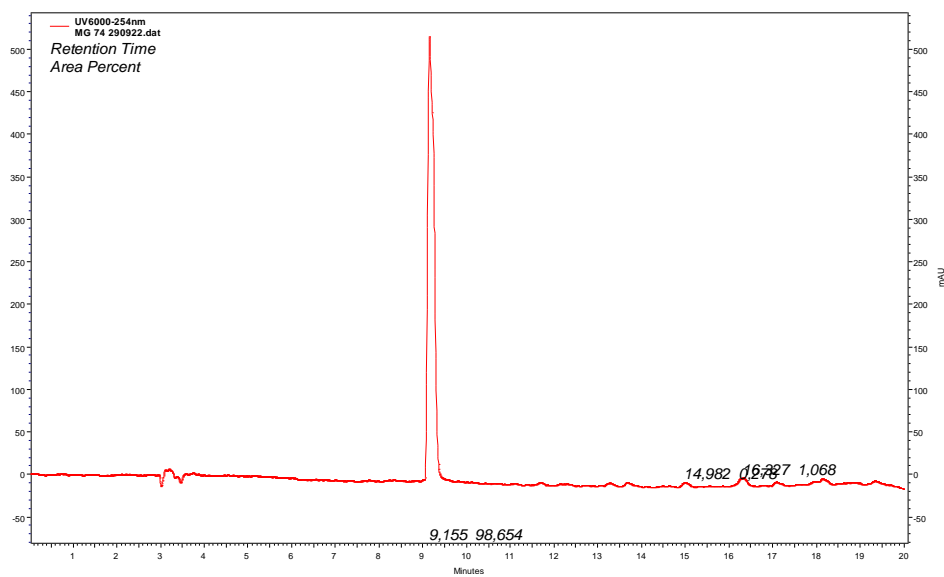


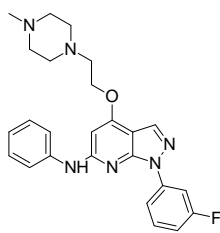
9b





9c





9e

