Supporting information for the paper:

Expanding the scope of In-promoted allylation reaction: 4-(bromomethyl)-1,3-dioxol-2-one as a synthetic equivalent of a 3-arylhydroxyacetone enolate

by Miljan Bigovic, Sanja Skaro, Veselin Maslak,* Radomir N. Saicic*

Faculty of Chemistry, University of Belgrade, Studentski trg 16, P. O. B. 51, 11158 Belgrade, Serbia, Fax: (+381) 11 32 82 537, E-mail: rsaicic@chem.bg.ac.rs

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General experimental:

IR spectra were recorded on a Nicolet 6700 FT instrument, and are expressed in cm⁻¹. NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Gemini 200 (¹H NMR at 200 MHz, ¹³C NMR at 50 MHz, for samples in deuterated chloroform), and on Bruker Avance III 500 (¹H NMR at 500 MHz, ¹³C NMR at 125 MHz). Chemical shifts are expressed in ppm (δ) using tetramethylsilane as internal standard, coupling constants (*J*) are in Hz. Reactions induced by microwave irradiation were performed in a Biotage Initiator 2.5. microwave reactor. All chromatographic separations were performed on Silica, 10-18, 60A, ICN Biomedicals. Standard techniques were used for the purification of reagents and solvents. Mass spectra were obtained on Agilent technologies 6210 TOF LC/MS instrument (LC: series 1200). Microanalyses were performed at the Vario EL III instrument CHNOS Elementar Analyzer, Elementar Analysensysteme GmbH, Hanau-Germany. Melting points were determined on a Kofler hot-stage apparatus and are uncorrected.

Preparation of starting enol carbonates

Enol carbonates 2a-d were prepared according literature procedures. iii

4-(1-Hydroxybutyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one 2e

Butyraldehide (27 mg, $33\mu L$, 0.37 mmol) was added to a mixture of 4-(bromomethyl)-1,3-dioxol-2-one **1** (100 mg, 0.56 mmol), indium (64 mg, 0.56mmol), THF (1 mL) and water (2 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at rt. The reaction was monitored by TLC (eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether) and it was complete after 15 min. The reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (10 mL) and water (10 mL), the aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane (2 x 10 mL), combined organic extracts were dried over anh. MgSO₄, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether). 4-(1-Hydroxybutyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one was obtained as viscous oil (51 mg, 89 %)

Physical data for **2e**: FT-IR (film, cm⁻¹): 3475, 2963, 2938, 2875, 1830, 1690, 1152, 1059. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 200 MHz): 5.07-5.02 (m, 1H), 4.97 (dd, J_1 = 3.9 Hz, J_2 = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (dd, J_1 = 3.9 Hz, J_2 = 1.7 Hz,, 1H), 3.92-3.79 (m, 1H), 2.62 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 1.59-1.34 (m, 4H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 50 MHz): 152.4, 149.8,

89.0, 82.1, 71.6, 32.9, 18.6, 13.7. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for $[C_8H_{12}O_4 + NH_4^{\dagger}]$: 190.1074, found for $[M+NH_4]^{\dagger}$: 190.1073.

Experimental procedures for the Heck reactions

General procedure for the Heck reaction under thermal conditions

To a solution of enol carbonate **2** (0.1 mmol) in dioxane (1 mL) were added aryliodide (0.15 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (0.15 mmol), palladium acetate (0.02 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (0.02 mmol) under an argon atmosphere. The reaction mixture was vigorously stirred and heated to 95 °C, while the progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC (SiO₂ plates, eluent: 30% EtOAc in benzene). Upon completion, the reaction mixture was partitioned between water and EtOAc, the water layer was extracted with EtOAc and the combined organic extract was dried over anh. MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether) afforded of the title compound **3.**

General procedure for the Heck reaction under microwave conditions

A solution of enol carbonate **2** (1.0 mmol) in dioxane (1.5 mL) is put in a microvawe tube, equiped with a magnetic stirring bar and a septum. To this solution were added (in the following order): aryliodide (0.12 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (0.12 mmol), palladium acetate (7.5 μ mol) and triphenylphosphine (7.5 μ mol), under an argon atmosphere. A tube with the reaction mixture was transferred into a microwave reactor (Biotage Initiator 2.5) and irradiated with a 160 W, over 30 min. An additional amount of palladium acetate (7.5 μ mol) and triphenylphosphine (7.5 μ mol) was added and irradiation was continued for additional 20 min, when the reaction was complete. Workup as for the thermally induced reaction afforded compound **3**.

4-Benzylidene-5-((4-chlorophenyl)-hydroxymethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one 3a

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under thermal conditions, starting from 4-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **2a** (23.5 mg, 0.098 mmol), iodobenzene (30.0 mg, 17µL, 0.15 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate

(33.2 mg, 0.15 mmol), palladium acetate (4.4 mg, 0.02 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (5.1 mg, 0.02 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO_2 ; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 18.0 mg (58%) of the title compound **3a** was obtained as white crystals.

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under thermal conditions, starting from 4-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one $\bf 2a$ (23.5 mg, 0.098 mmol), iodobenzene (30.0 mg, 17µL, 0.15 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (33.2 mg, 0.15 mmol), palladium acetate (4.4 mg, 0.02 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (5.1 mg, 0.02 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 18.9 mg (61%) of the title compound $\bf 3a$ was obtained as white crystals.

Physical data for **3a**: mp 115-117 °C; FT-IR (film, cm⁻¹): 3475, 3029, 1832, 1705, 1494, 1370, 1232, 1129, 1086, 1054, 762, 697. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): 7.40-7.24 (m, 9H), 5.32 (dd, $J_1 = 3.7$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.13 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (bs, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): 152.1 (C), 140.6 (C), 134.9 (C), 134.8 (C), 131.9 (C), 128.9 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 106.0 (CH), 82.6 (CH), 73.7 (CH). HRMS (ESI): calcd. for [C₁₇H₁₃ClO₄ + NH₄⁺]: 334.0841, found for [M+NH₄]⁺: 334.0839.

4-(Hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one 3b

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under thermal conditions, starting from 4-(hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **2b** (20.0 mg, 0.097 mmol), 4-iodoanisole (31.8 mg, 0.15 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (32.2 mg, 0.15 mmol), palladium acetate (4.4 mg, 0.019 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (5.0 mg, 0.019 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 30% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 15.4 mg (51%) of the title compound **3b** was obtained as a yellow oil.

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under microwaves conditions, starting from 4-(hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **2b** (15.0 mg, 0.073 mmol), 4-iodoanisole (24.0 mg, 0.12 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (24.2 mg, 0.12 mmol), palladium acetate (3.3 mg, 0.015 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (4.0 mg, 0.015

mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 30% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 11.2 mg (49%) of the title compound **3b** was obtained as a yellow oil.

Physical data for **3b**: FT-IR (film, cm⁻¹):3447, 2932, 1823, 1512, 1251, 1183, 1051, 762, 703, 623. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): 7.40 (s, 5H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.35 (dd, $J_1 = 3.5$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.15 (bs, 1H), 5.01 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.62 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): 159.1 (C), 152.3 (C), 139.1 (C), 136.5 (C), 130.0 (CH), 128.9 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 126.6 (CH), 124.8 (C), 114.0 (CH), 105.5 (CH), 82.8 (CH), 74.3 (CH), 55.3 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI): calcd. for [C₁₈H₁₆O₅ + NH₄⁺]: 330.1336, found for [M+NH₄]⁺: 330.1341.

4-((4-Chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one 3c

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under thermal conditions, starting from 4-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one $\bf 2a$ (40.0 mg, 0.17 mmol), 4-iodoanisole (56.0 mg, 0.25 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (56.0 mg, 0.25 mmol), palladium acetate (7.6 mg, 0.034 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (9.0 mg, 0.034 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 29.0 mg (55%) of the title compound $\bf 3c$ was obtained as a yellow oil.

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under microwave conditions, starting from 4-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **2a** (40.0 mg, 0.17 mmol), 4-iodoanisole (56.0 mg, 0.25 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (56.0 mg, 0.25 mmol), palladium acetate (7.6 mg, 0.034 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (9.0 mg, 0.034 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 26.0 mg (50%) of the title compound **3c** was obtained as a yellow oil.

Physical data for **3c**: FT-IR (film, cm⁻¹): 3467, 2932, 1820, 1702, 1512, 1252, 1129, 1080, 857, 764, 739. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): 7.41-7.34 (m, 6H), 6.86 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 5.31 (dd, J_1 = 4.0 Hz, J_2 = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (bs, 1H), 5.08 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.60 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): 159.0 (C), 152.1 (C), 138.9 (C), 135.0 (C), 134.9 (C), 130.1 (CH), 128.9 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 124.6 (C), 114.1 (CH), 105.7 (CH), 82.5 (CH), 73.9 (CH), 55.3 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI): calcd. for [C₁₈H₁₅ClO₅

+ NH_4^+]: 364.0946, found for [M+NH₄]⁺: 364.0945. Microanal: calcd. for $C_{18}H_{15}CIO_5$: C 62.33, H 4.33; found: C 62.01, H 4.42.

Methyl 2-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-2-oxo-1,3-dioxolan-4-ylidene)methyl)benzoate **3d**

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under thermal conditions, starting from 4-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one $\bf 2a$ (40.0 mg, 0.17 mmol), methyl 2-iodobenzoate (65.0 mg, 0.25 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (56.3 mg, 0.25 mmol), palladium acetate (8.0 mg, 0.034 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (8.8 mg, 0.034 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 31.2 mg (50%) of the title compound $\bf 3d$ was obtained as a yellow oil.

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under microwave conditions, starting from 4-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one $\bf 2a$ (10.0 mg, 0.042 mmol), methyl 2-iodobenzoate (16.3 mg, 0.063 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (14.1 mg, 0.63 mmol), palladium acetate (2.0 mg, 0.0084 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (2.2 mg, 0.0084 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 6.3 mg (40%) of the title compound $\bf 3d$ was obtained as a yellow oil.

Physical data for **3d**: FT-IR (film, cm⁻¹): 3479, 2953, 1835, 1720, 1491, 1299, 1269, 1126, 1085, 980, 762. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): 7.96 (dd, J_1 = 7.8 Hz, J_2 = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, J_1 = 7.8 Hz, J_2 = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (td, J_1 = 7.5 Hz, J_2 = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.35 (m, 5H), 6.23 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.36 (dd, J_1 = 4.3 Hz, J_2 = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.44 (bs, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): 167.6 (C), 151.7 (C), 142.2 (C), 135.3 (C), 134.7 (C), 133.0 (C), 132.5 (CH), 130.7 (CH), 130.4 (CH), 128.9 (CH), 128.3 (C), 128.1 (CH), 127.7 (CH), 104.0 (CH), 82.5 (CH), 74.2 (CH), 52.4 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI): calcd. for [C₁₉H₁₅ClO₆ + NH₄⁺]: 392.0895, found for [M+NH₄]⁺: 392.0894.

Methyl 4-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-2-oxo-1,3-dioxolan-4-ylidene)methyl)benzoate **3e**

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under thermal conditions, starting from 4-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one $\bf 2a$ (10.0 mg, 0.042 mmol), methyl 4-iodobenzoate (16.0 mg, 0.06 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (13.3 mg, 0.06 mmol), palladium acetate (2.0 mg, 0.008 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (2.2 mg, 0.008 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 9.6 mg (61%) of the title compound $\bf 3e$ as yellowish crystals.

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under microwave conditions, starting from 4-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **2a** (10.0 mg, 0.042 mmol), methyl 4-iodobenzoate (16.0 mg, 0.06 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (13.3 mg, 0.06 mmol), palladium acetate (2.0 mg, 0.008 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (2.2 mg, 0.008 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 7.2 mg (46%) of the title compound **3e** as yellowish crystals.

Physical data for **3e**: mp 163-164 °C; FT-IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3481, 2955, 2928, 1835, 1722, 1438, 1288, 1188, 1116, 1087, 767. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 200 MHz): 7.97 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.41-7.37 (m, 4H), 5.35 (dd, $J_1 = 3.9$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.6$ Hz, 1 H), 5.18 (bs, 1H), 5.12 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.93 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 50 MHz): 166.7 (C), 142.6 (C), 136.4 (C), 135.2 (C), 134.8 (C), 129.9 (CH), 129.1 (C), 129.0 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 127.5 (C), 105.1 (CH), 82.6 (CH), 73.6 (CH), 52.2 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI): calcd for [C₁₉H₁₅ClO₆ + NH₄⁺]: 392.0557, found for [M+NH₄]⁺: 392.0907.

4-(Benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl(hydroxy)methyl)-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **3f**

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under thermal conditions, starting from 4-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl(hydroxy)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **2c** (40.0 mg, 0.16 mmol), 4-iodoanisole (57.0 mg, 0.24 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (53.0 mg, 0.24 mmol), palladium acetate (7.0 mg, 0.032 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (8.4 mg, 0.032 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 30.0 mg (53%) of the title compound **3f** was obtained as a yellow oil.

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under microwave conditions, starting from 4-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl(hydroxy)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **2c** (40.0 mg, 0.16 mmol), 4-iodoanisole (57.0 mg, 0.24 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (53.0 mg, 0.24 mmol), palladium acetate (7.0 mg, 0.032 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (8.4 mg, 0.032 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 23.0 mg (40%) of the title compound **3f** was obtained as a yellow oil.

Physical data for 3f: FT-IR (film, cm⁻¹): 3500, 2927, 1827, 1513, 1255, 1130, 1042. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): 7.38 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 5.98 (s, 2H), 5.28 (dd, $J_1 = 4.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.19 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.99 (bs, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.74 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): 159.1 (C), 152.3 (C), 148.0 (C), 147.9 (C), 139.4 (C), 130.5 (C), 130.0 (CH), 124.8 (C), 120.3 (CH), 114.0 (CH), 108.3 (CH), 107.0 (CH), 105.4 (CH), 101.3 (CH₂), 82.8 (CH), 74.2 (CH), 55.3 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI): calcd. for [C₁₉H₁₆O₇ + NH₄⁺]: 374.1234, found for [M+NH₄]⁺: 374.1238.

4-(Hydroxy(thiophen-2-yl)methyl)-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one 3g

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under thermal conditions, starting from (4-(hydroxy(thiophen-2-yl)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **2d** (27.5 mg, 0.13 mmol), 4-iodoanisole (42.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (43.1 mg, 0.2 mmol), palladium acetate (5.8 mg, 0.026 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (6.8 mg, 0.026 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 30.0 mg (53%) of the title compound **3g** was obtained as a yellow oil.

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under microwave conditions, starting from (4-(hydroxy(thiophen-2-yl)methyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **2d** (30.4 mg, 0.14 mmol), 4-iodoanisole (46.0 mg, 0.21 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (46.0 mg, 0.21 mmol), palladium acetate (6.3 mg, 0.028 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (7.3 mg, 0.028 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 21.0 mg (47%) of the title compound **3g** was obtained as a yellow oil.

Physical data for **3g**: FT-IR (film, cm⁻¹): 3463, 2960, 1830, 1705, 1609, 1515, 1254, 1187, 1130, 1085, 858, 712. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): 7.38 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (dd, $J_1 = 5.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.09-7.08 (m, 1H), 7.04 (dd, $J_1 = 5.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 5.39 (dd, $J_1 = 3.7$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.28 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 5.26 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.12 (bs, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz):159.1 (C), 152.2 (C), 139.8 (C), 130.1 (CH), 128.3 (C), 127.2 (CH), 126.1 (CH), 125.5 (CH), 124.7 (C), 114.0 (CH), 105.5 (CH), 82.5 (CH), 71.4 (CH), 55.3 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI): calcd. for [C₁₆H₁₄SO₅ + NH₄⁺]: 336.0900, found for [M+NH₄]⁺: 336.0900.

4-(1-Hydroxybutyl)-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one 3h

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under thermal conditions, starting from 4-(1-hydroxybutyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one 2e (30 mg, 0.19 mmol), 4-iodoanisole (66.0 mg, 0.29 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (66.3 mg, 0.30 mmol), palladium acetate (8.5 mg, 0.038 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (10.0 mg, 0.038 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleumether), 20.0 mg (38 %) of the title compound 3h was obtained as a yellow oil.

Acording to the general procedure for the Heck reaction under microwave conditions, starting from 4-(1-hydroxybutyl)-5-methylene-1,3-dioxolan-2-one **2e** (56.0 mg, 0.54 mmol), 4-iodoanisole (118.0 mg, 0.54 mmol), silver trifluoroacetate (119.0 mg, 0.54 mmol), palladium acetate (16.1 mg, 0.072 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (18.8 mg, 0.072 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 39.4 mg (40%) of the title compound **3h** was obtained as a yellow oil.

Physical data for **3h**: FT-IR (film, cm⁻¹): 3491, 2963, 2365, 1828, 1706, 1611, 1516, 1254, 1188, 1266, 1053. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): 7.49 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d,

J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.61 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (dd, $J_1 = 4.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.89-3.84 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.12 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.61-1.58 (m, 3H), 1.44-1.42 (m, 1H), 0.98 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): 159.1 (C), 152.3 (C), 140.4 (C), 130.1 (CH), 124.8 (C), 114.1 (CH), 104.8 (CH), 82.7 (CH), 72.5 (CH), 55.3 (CH₃), 33.3 (CH₂), 18.7 (CH₂), 13.8 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI): calcd. for [C₁₅H₁₈O₅ + NH₄⁺]: 296.1492, found for [M+NH₄]⁺: 296.1489.

General procedure for the isomerization of carbonates 3a-c:

A solution of carbonate **3** (0.08 mmol) and DIPEA (0.04 mmol) in chloroform (1.0 mL) was stirred at rt for 1 h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), to give the compound **4**.

cis-4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-5-(2-phenylacetyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one 4a

Acording to the general procedure for the isomerization of carbonates, starting from 4-benzylidene-5-((4-chlorophenyl)-hydroxymethyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one $\bf 3a$ (24.0 mg, 0.08 mmol) and DIPEA (2.2 mg, 3.0 μ L, 0.04 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 20% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 21.6 mg (80%) of the title compound $\bf 4a$ was obtained as white crystals.

Physical data for **4a** 142-143 °C; FT-IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3064, 2934, 1808, 1733, 1600, 1494, 1335, 1174, 1154, 1057. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): 7.38 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.26 - 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.74 – 6.69 (m, 2H), 5.90 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 5.34 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (d, J = 16.9 Hz, 1H), 3.29 (d, J = 16.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): 201.0 (C), 153.3 (C), 136.2 (C), 130.5 (C), 130.4 (C), 129.5 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 127.7 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 81.7 (CH), 78.8 (CH), 47.2 (CH₂). HRMS (ESI): calcd. for [C₁₇H₁₃ClO₄ + NH₄⁺]: 334.0502, found for [M+NH₄]⁺: 334.0831.

cis-4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-5-(2-(4-methoxyphenyl)acetyl)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one 4b

Acording to the general procedure for the isomerization of carbonates, starting from 4-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-5-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-1,3-dioxolan-2-one 3c (13.8 mg, 0.04 mmol) and DIPEA (2.2 mg, 3.0 μ L, 0.04 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 30% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 10.8 mg (78%) of the title compound 4b was obtained as white crystals.

Physical data for **4b** 121-123 °C; FT-IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 2930, 2832, 1819, 1728, 1515, 1331, 1249, 1173, 1063, 841, 755. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃):7.36 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.77 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 5.88 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.32 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.47 (d, J = 17.0 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (d, J = 17.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): 201.2 (C), 159.0 (C), 153.3 (C), 136.1 (C), 130.5 (CH), 129.3 (CH), 127.7 (CH), 127.5 (C), 122.3 (C), 114.2 (CH), 81.7 (CH), 78.8 (CH), 55.2 (CH₃), 46.4 (CH₂). HRMS (ESI): calcd. for [C₁₈H₁₅ClO₅ + NH₄⁺]: 364.0946, found for [M+NH₄]⁺: 364.0933.

cis-Methyl 4-((4-chlorophenyl)-2-oxo-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl)-2-oxoethyl)benzoate 4c

Acording to the general procedure for the isomerization of carbonates, starting from methyl 4-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)-2-oxo-1,3-dioxolan-4-ylidene)methyl) benzoate $\bf 3e$ (6.0 mg, 0.016 mmol) and DIPEA (1.0 mg, 1.4 μ L, 0.008 mmol), after purification by dry-flash chromatography (SiO₂; eluent: 30% EtOAc in petroleum-ether), 4.1 mg (68%) of the title compound $\bf 4c$ was obtained as viscous oil.

Physical data for **4c**: FT-IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3094, 2953, 1810, 1717, 1612, 1282, 1165, 1060, 766. ¹H NMR (CDCI₃): 7.90 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.94 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.35 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.48 (d, J = 17.1 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (d, J = 17.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCI₃): 200.6 (C), 166.7 (C), 153.2 (C), 136.4 (C), 135.7 (C), 130.4 (C), 129.9 (CH),

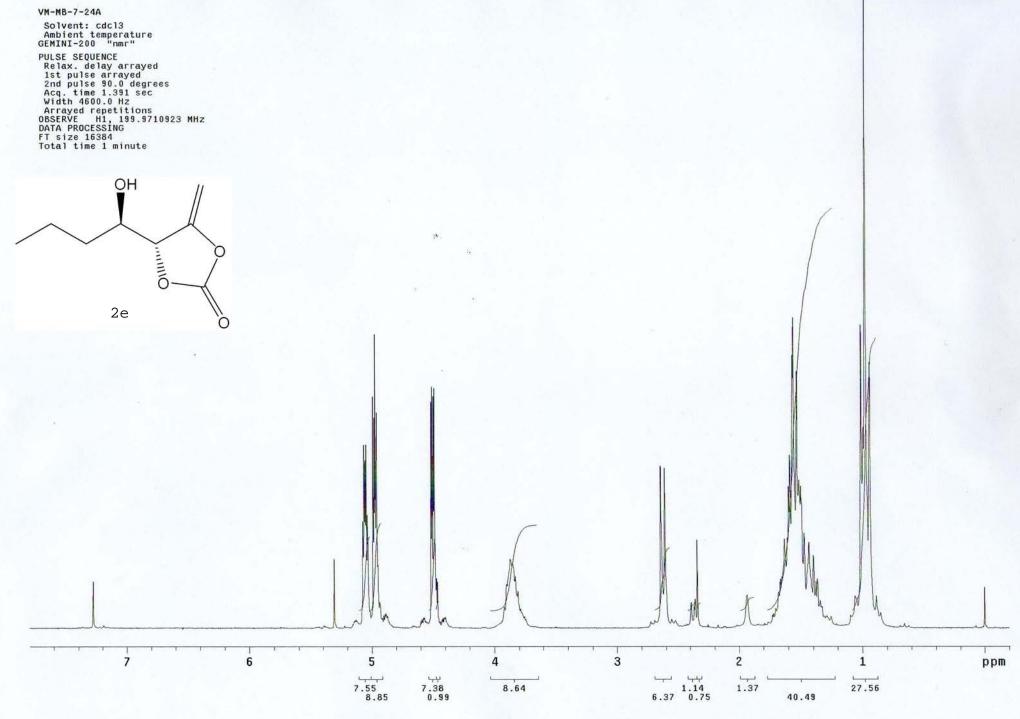
129.5 (CH), 129.4 (CH), 128.5 (C), 127.7 (CH), 81.9 (CH), 78.6 (CH), 52.1 (CH₂), 47.0 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI): calcd. for $[C_{19}H_{15}CIO_6 + NH_4^+]$: 392.0557, found for $[M+NH_4]^+$: 392.0892.

References

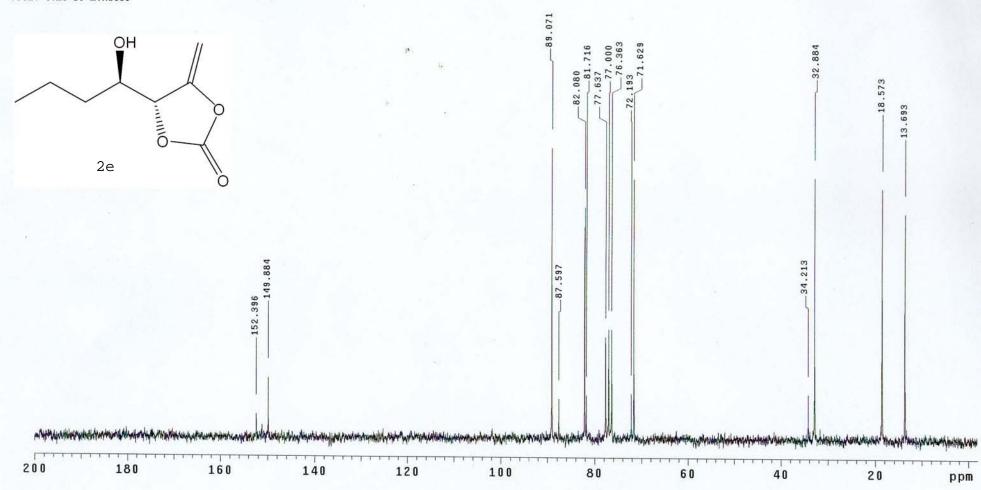
ⁱ For description of the technique of dry-flash chromatography, see: a) Harwood, L. M. Aldrichimica Acta 1985, 18, 25; b) Vogel's Textbook of Practical Organic Chemistry, Longman Scientific&Technical, 5th edition, London, 1989, p. 220; c) A recent account which includes some improvements of the separation technique: Pedersen, D. S.; Rosenbohm, C. *Synthesis* **2001**, 2431.

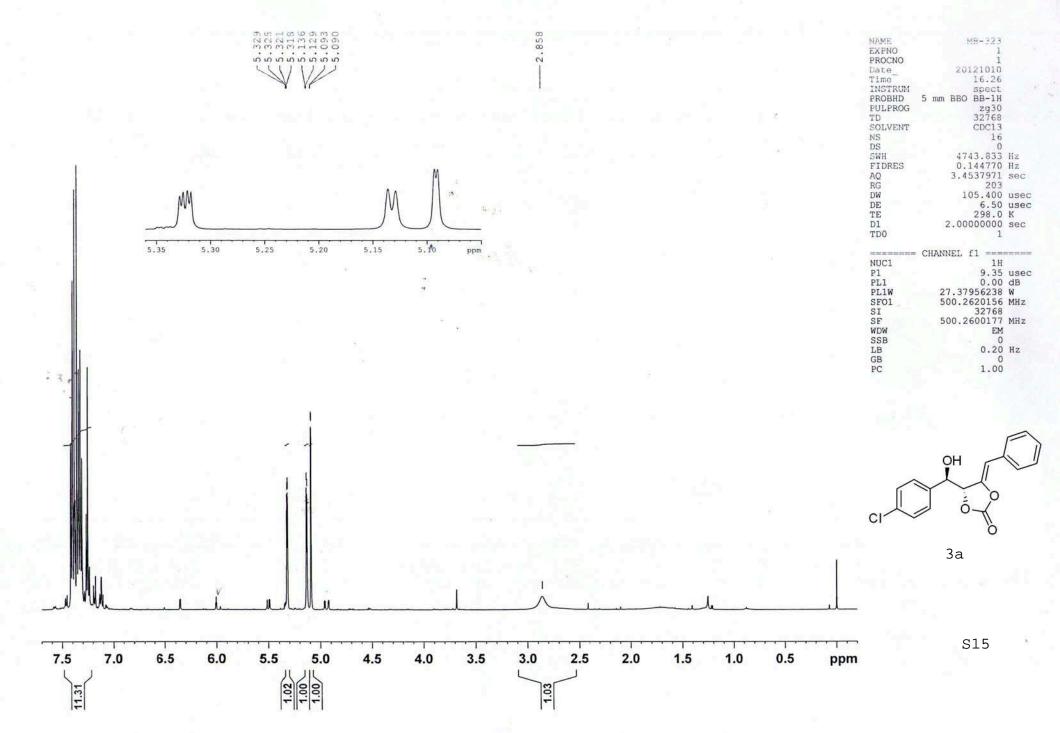
ii Perrin, D. D.; Armarego, W. L. F. *Purification of Laboratory Chemicals*, 3rd edition, Pergamon Press, **1988**.

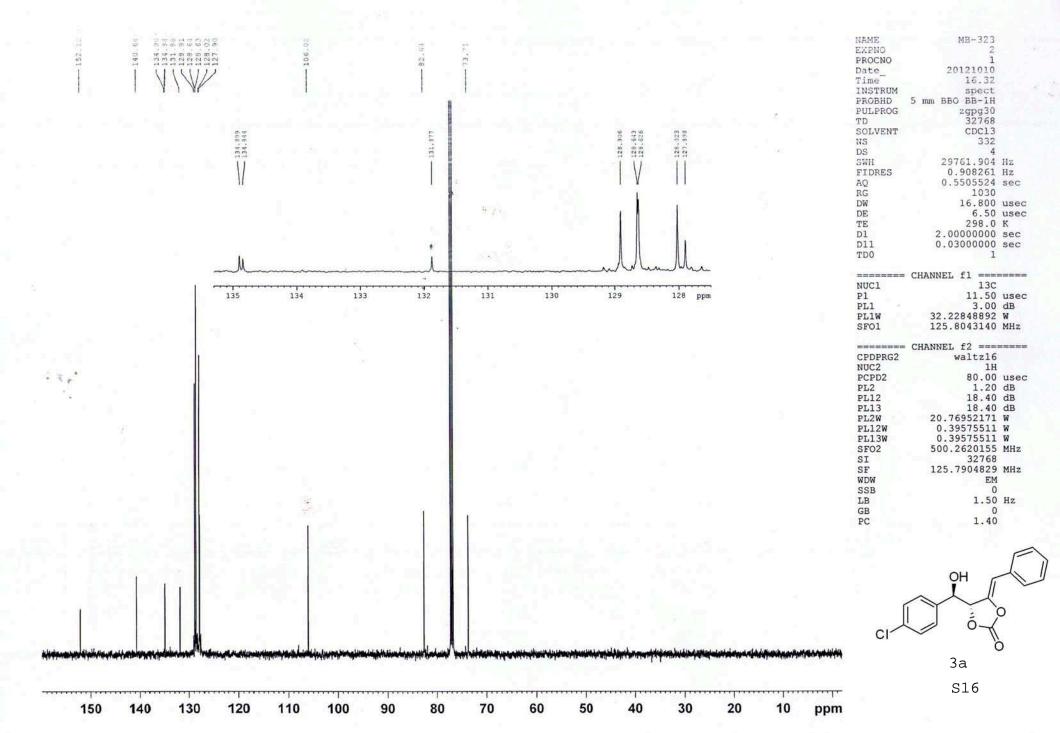
iii Bigovic, M., Maslak, V., Tokic-Vujosevic, Z., Saicic, R. N. *Org. Lett.* **2011**, *13*, 4720.

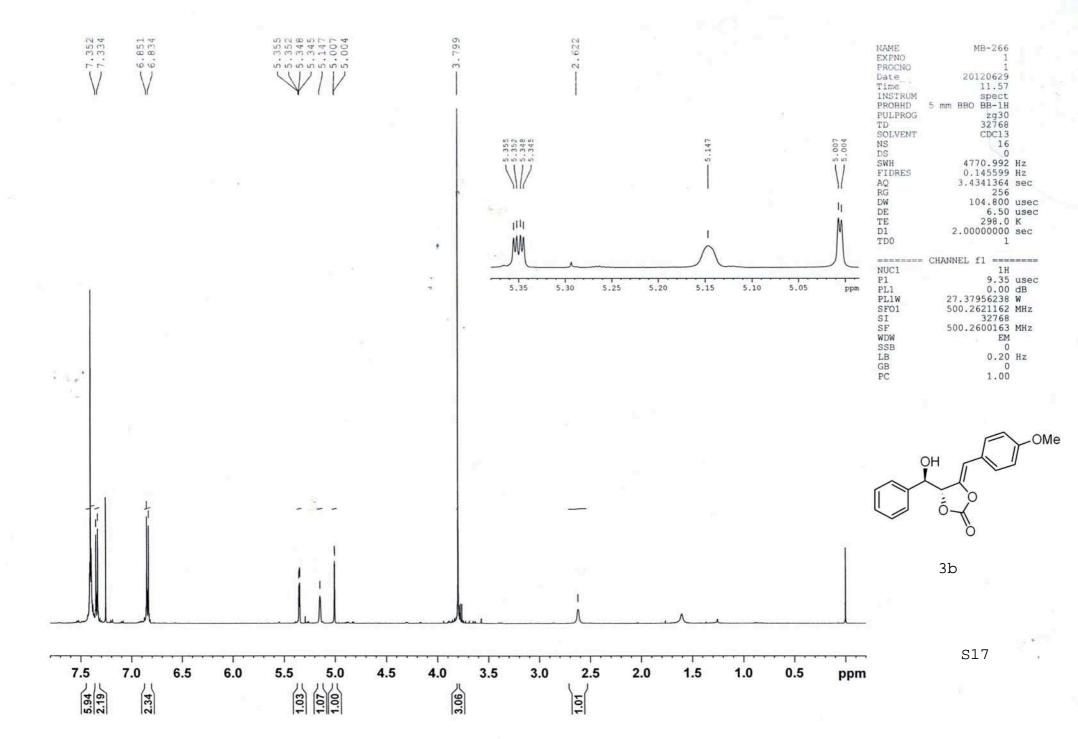


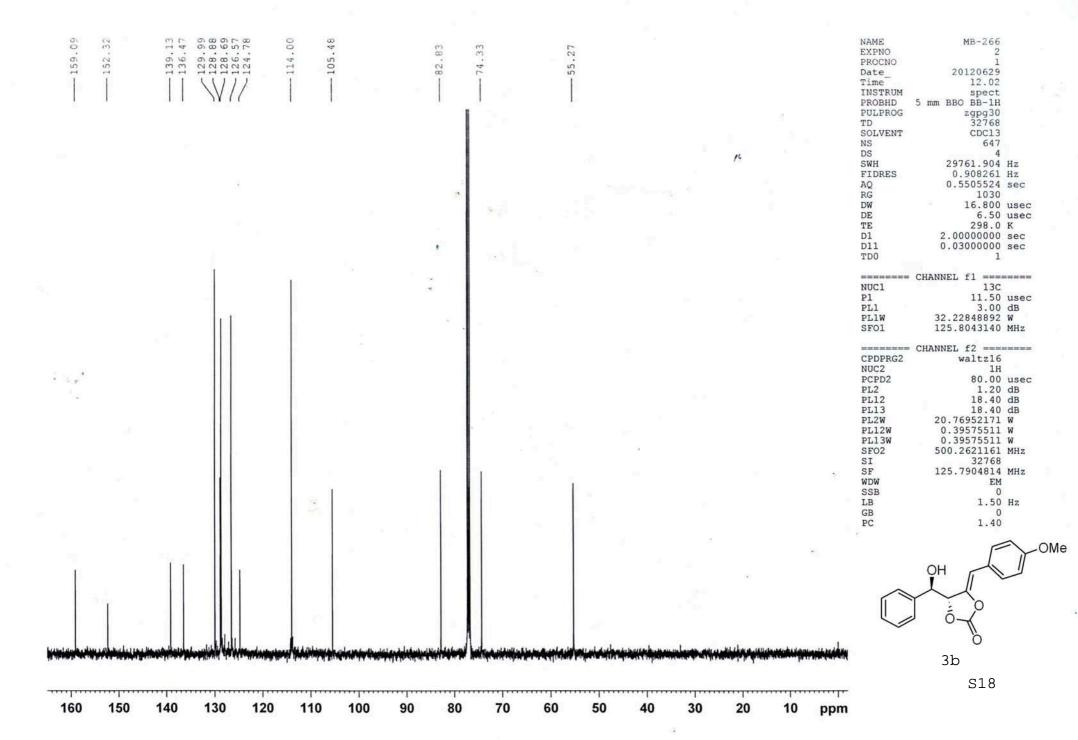


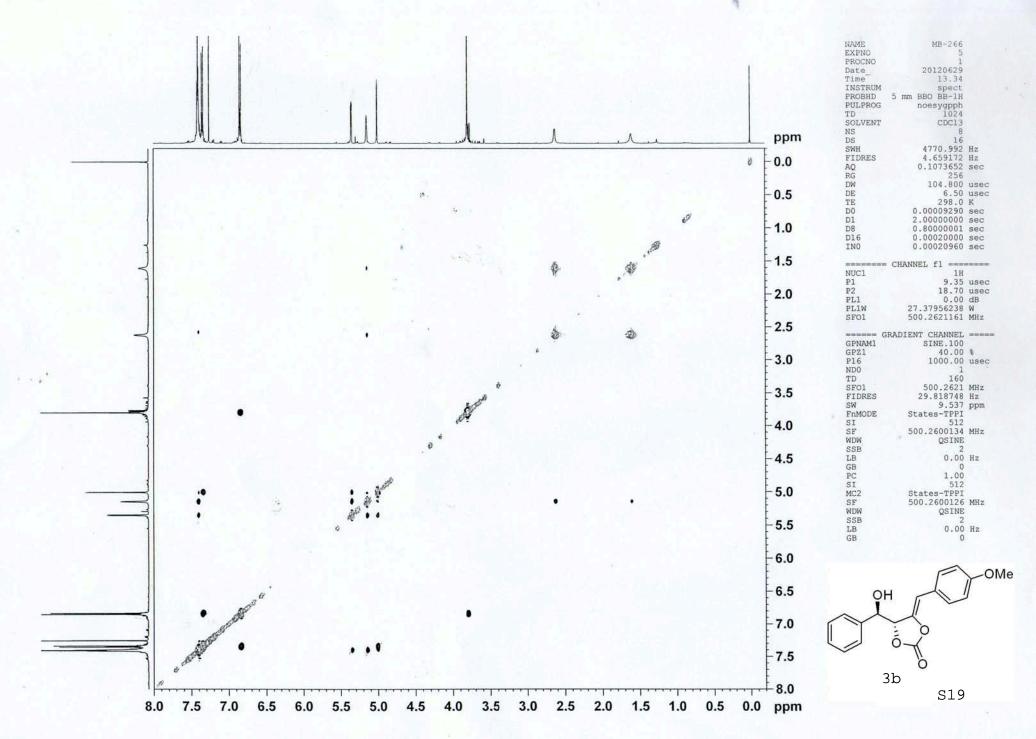


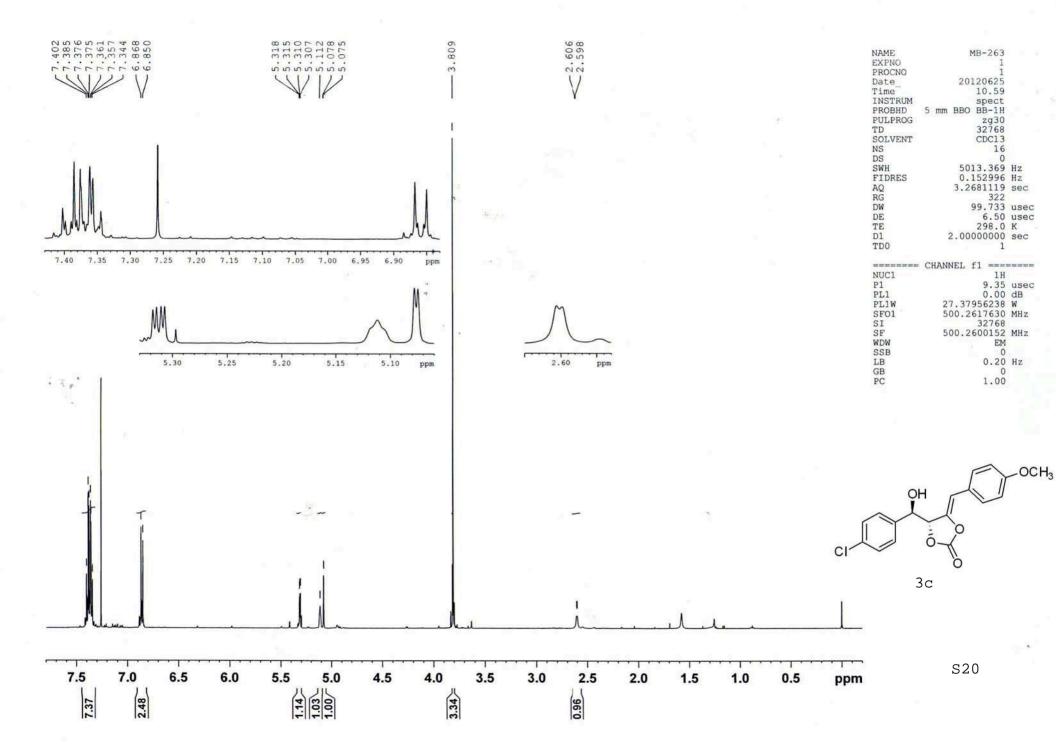


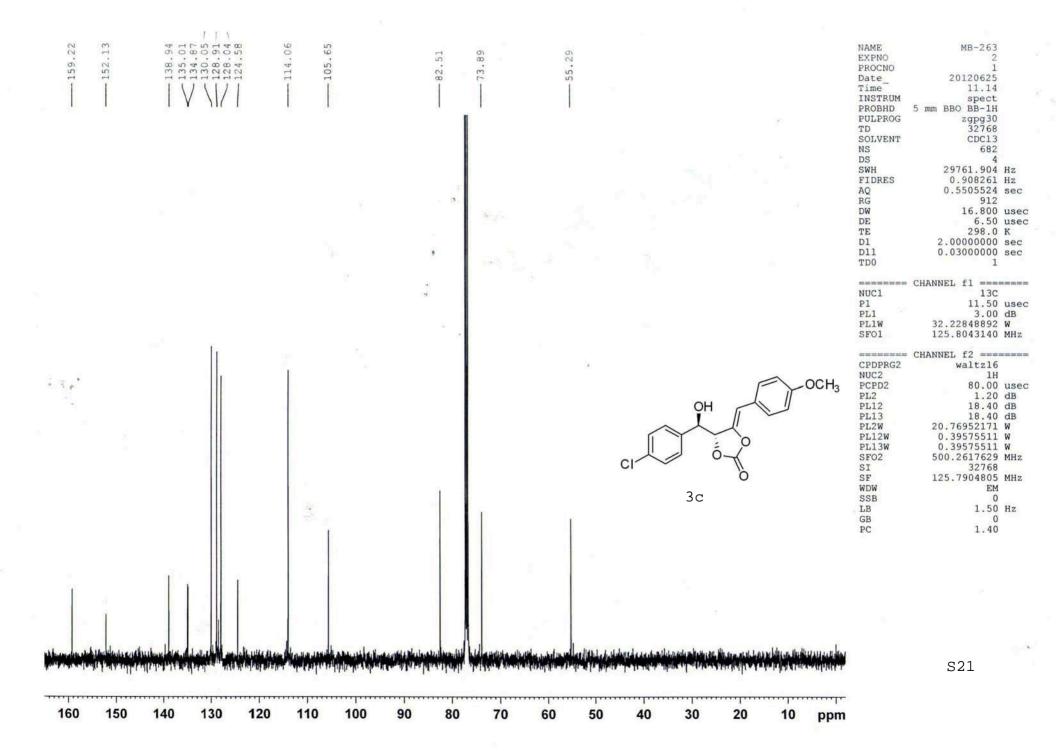


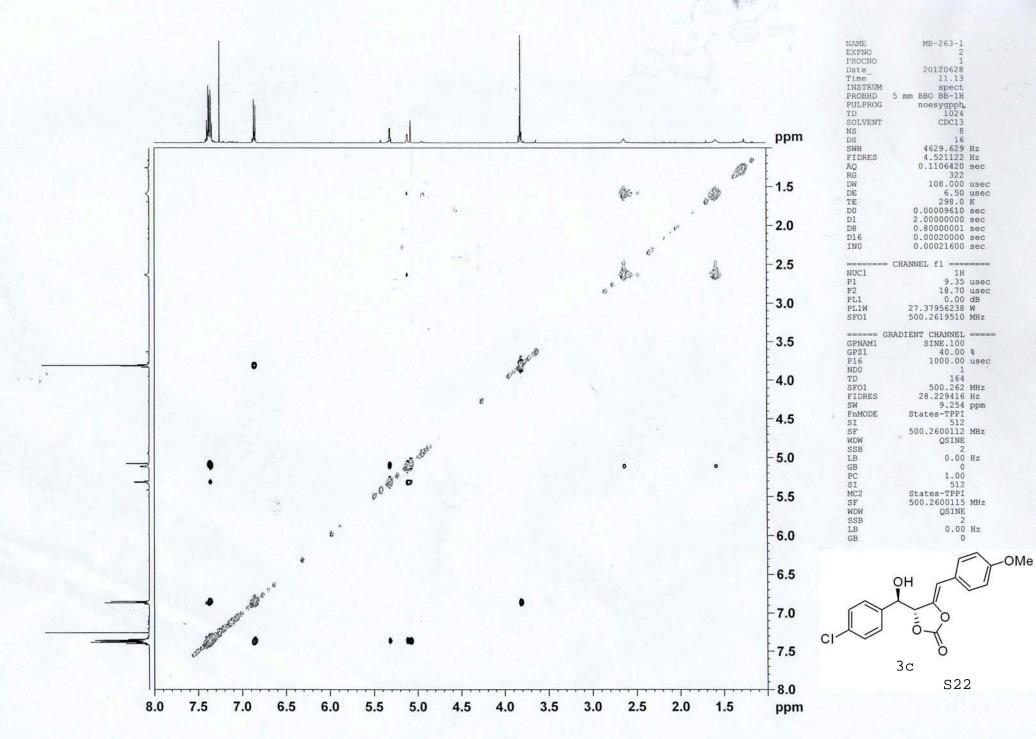


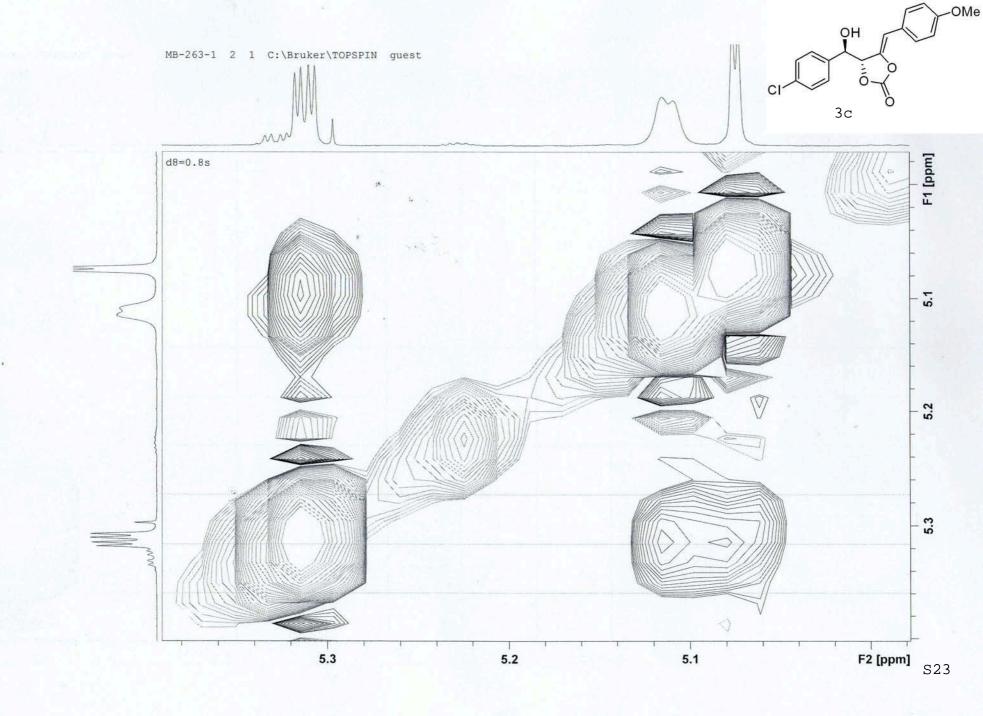


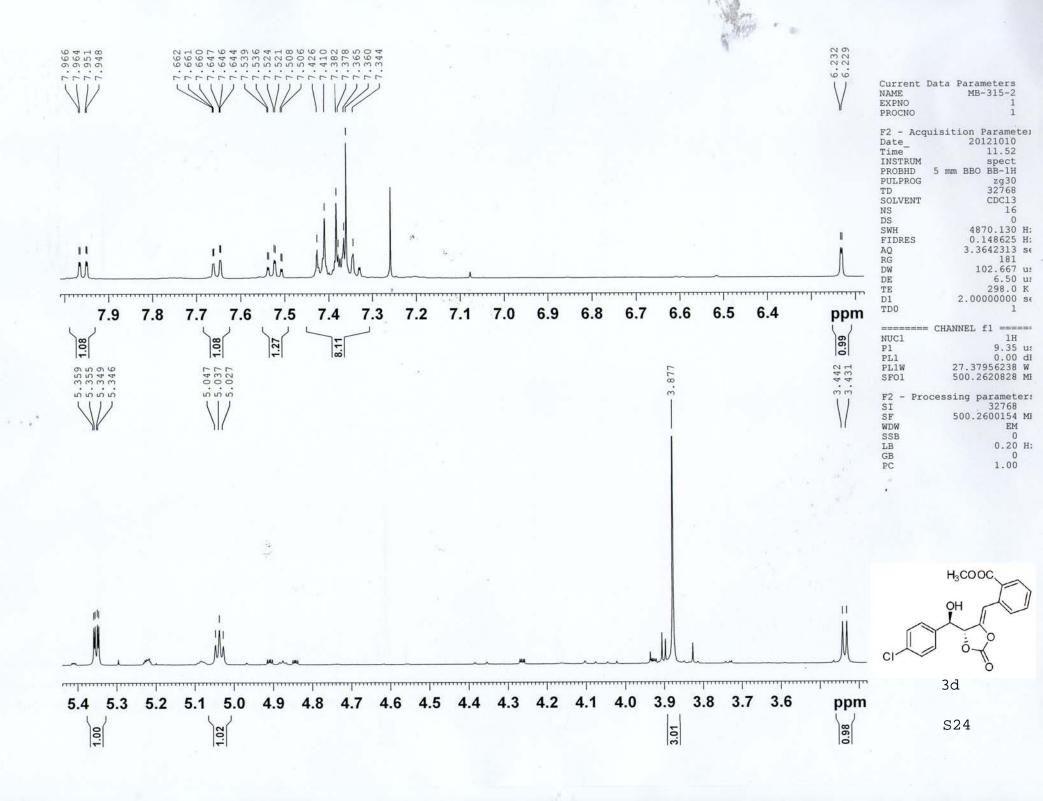


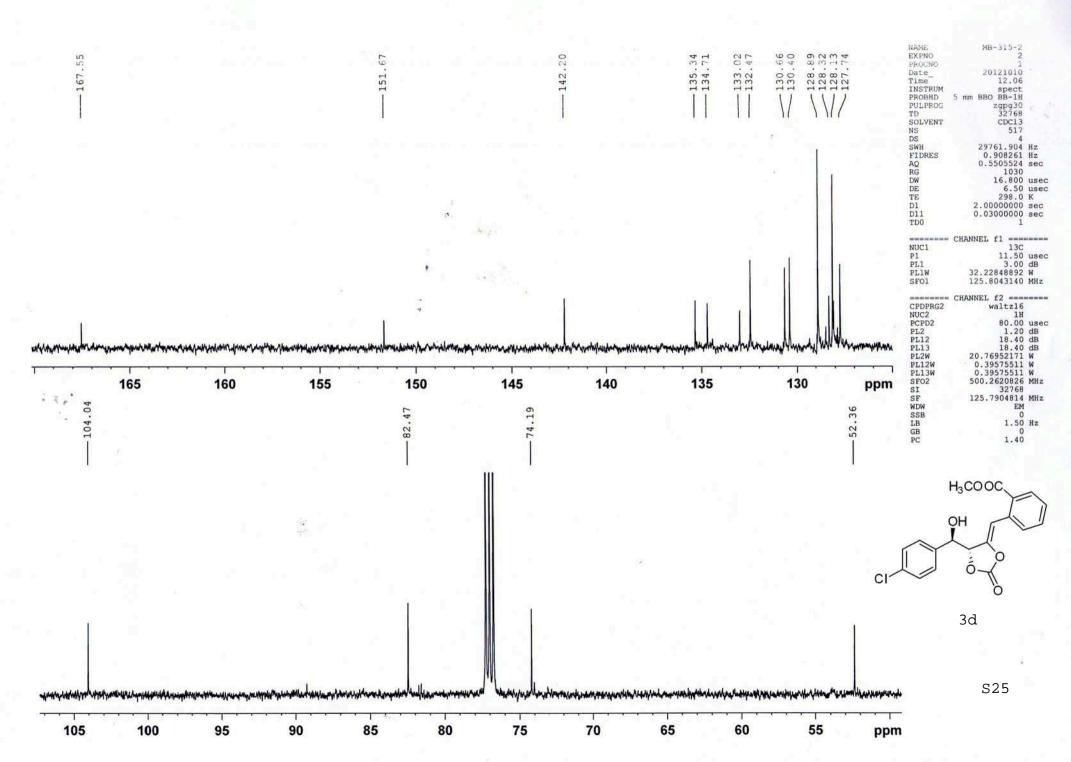








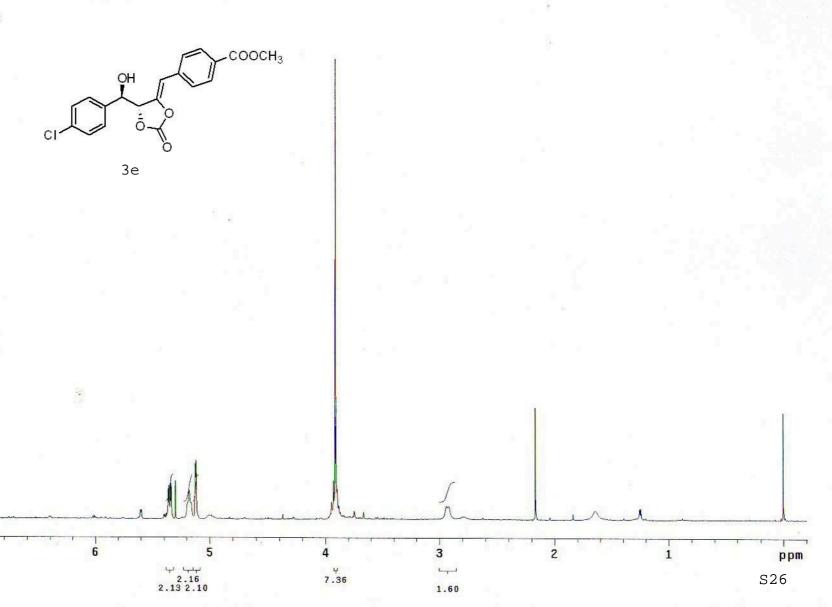


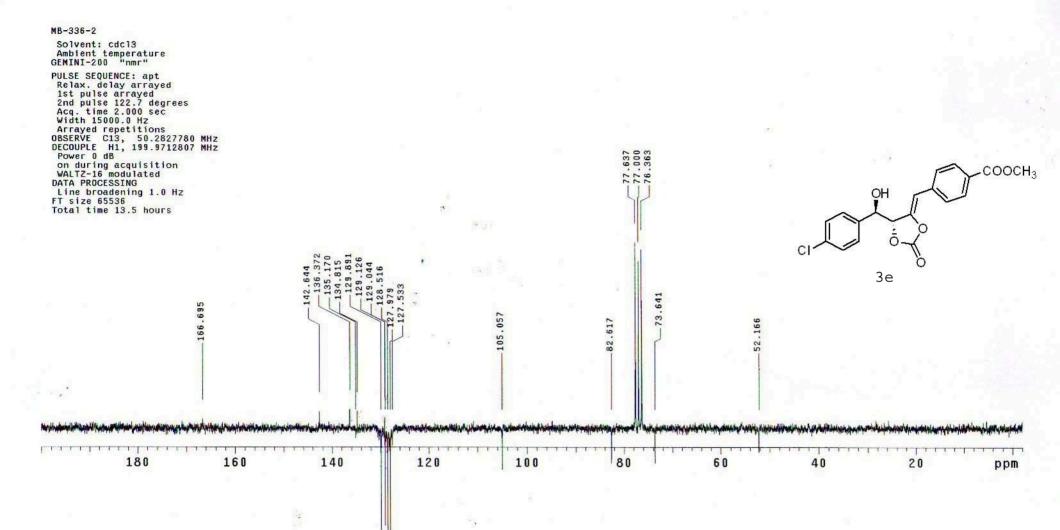


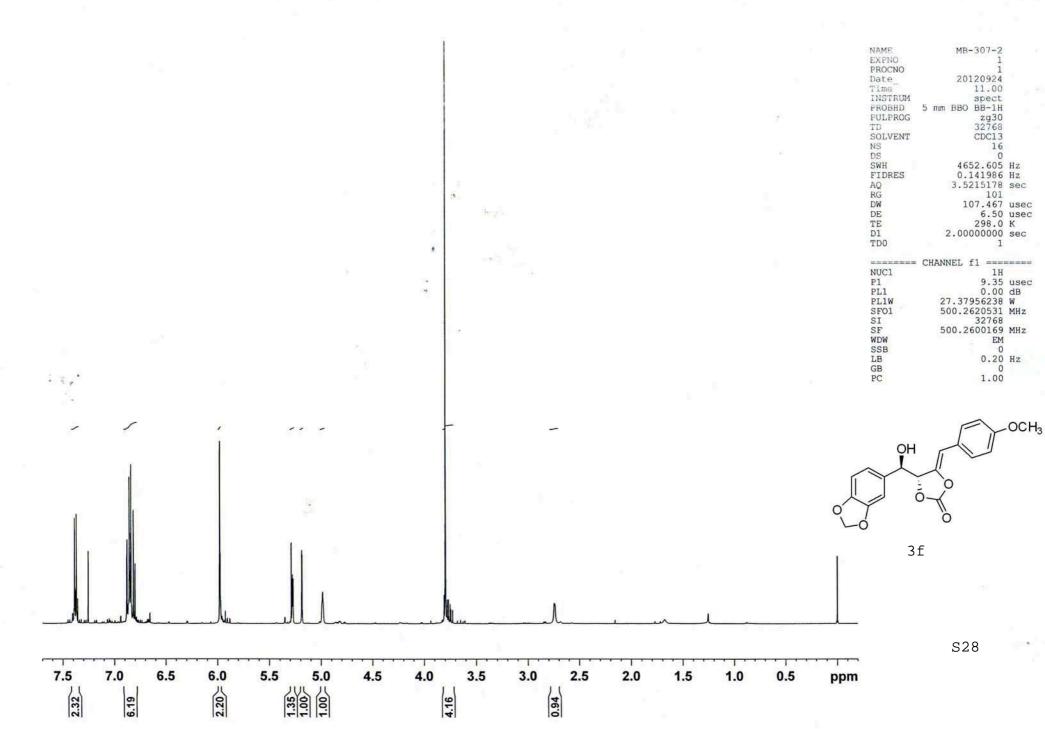
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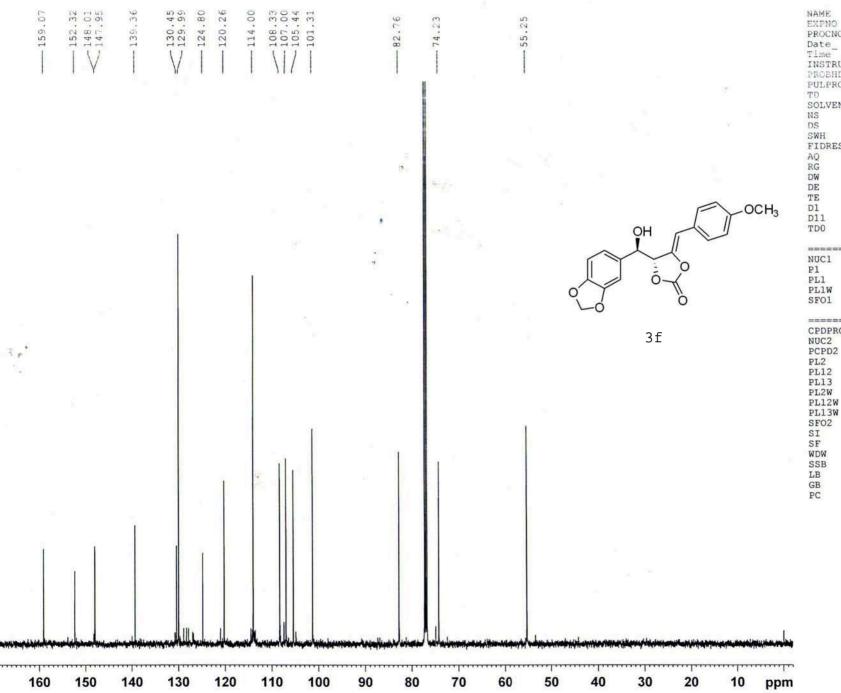
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NUC2	1H	
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PL2	1.20	dB
PL12	18.40	dB

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