



Supporting Information

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Supporting Information:

Selective Chemical Rescue of a Thyroid Hormone Receptor Mutant, TR β (H435Y), Identified in Pituitary Carcinoma and Resistance to Thyroid Hormone.

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EXPERIMENTAL:

All compounds were purchased from Acros Organics (Morris Plains, NJ) and Aldrich Chemical Co. (Milwaukee, WI) unless otherwise mentioned. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker DRX-400 MHz spectrometer at the University of Delaware NMR facility. Mass spectrometry was carried out at University of Delaware mass spectrometry laboratory. All the designed oligonucleotides for mutagenesis were purchased from Ranson Hill Biosciences Inc. Human Embryonic Kidney cells (HEK293) were obtained from ATCC (American Type Culture Collection). Transactivation response assays were performed using the Dual-Luciferase Assay System (Promega # E1960) following the manufacturer's protocol. Solvents THF, ether and methylene chloride were distilled from Na or K. Silica gel (60 Å) and TLC plates (60 Å, 250 μ m) were purchased from Sillicycle (Quebec, Canada) and Bodman Industries (Aston, Pa) respectively.

Construction of mutants

pSG5hTR β (wt) encodes for the “wild-type” receptor isoforms which are constitutively expressed when transfected into mammalian cells. pSG5hTR β (H435A), pSG5hTR β (H435L), pSG5hTR β (H435Y), pSG5hTR β (H435Q) were created from pSG5hTR β (wt) using Quickchange mutagenesis kit (Stratagene) following manufacturers protocol. The mutagenic oligonucleotides primers were:

TRwt GG ATG ATA GGA GCC TGC **CAT** GCC AGC CGC TTC C

H435Y f GG ATG ATA GGA GCC TGC **TAT** GCC AGC CGC TTC C

H435Y r G GAA GCG GCT GGC **ATA** GCA GGC TCC TAT CAT CC.

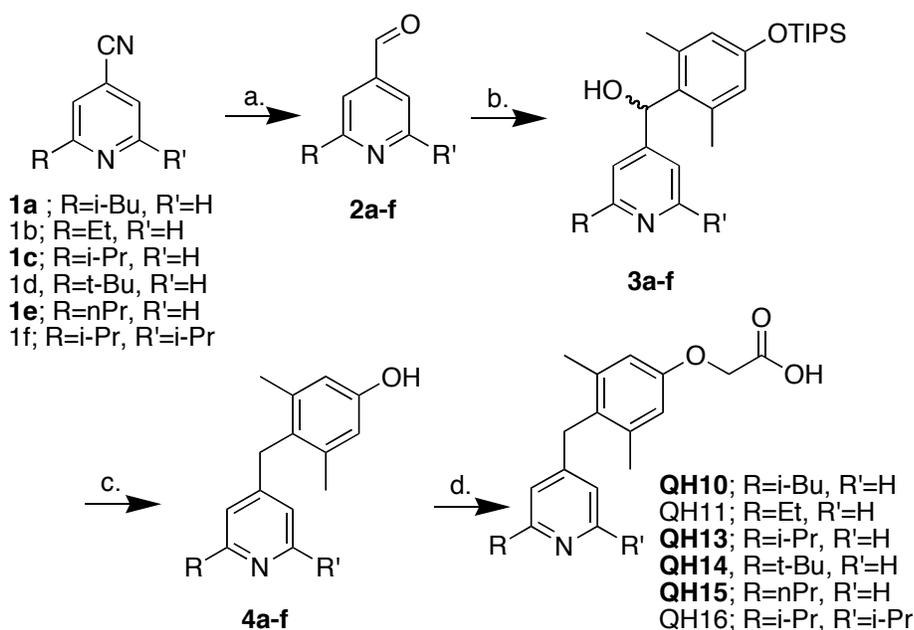
The constructs were sequenced over the entire coding region of the TR to confirm the presence of only the desired mutation.

Evaluation of biological activities

Twenty-four hours prior to transfection, HEK 293 cells were seeded at a density of 45,000 cells per well in 24-well culture plates and grown in Dulbecco’s Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) and gentamycin. Four hours prior to transfection, the medium was changed to DMEM containing 10% charcoal-resin stripped FBS. Transfections were performed using CaPO₄ method with 0.08 μ g of TR, 0.17 μ g of TRE-Luc, 0.03 μ g of Renilla-Luc as internal standard per well. Six hours after transfection, the medium was removed and replaced with DMEM with 10% charcoal-resin stripped FBS containing appropriate concentrations of ligand. The cells were allowed to incubate for 36h before harvesting by passive lysis buffer. Cell extracts were immediately assayed by the Dual Luciferase Assay (Promega) with a Wallac Microbeta luminometer. All experiments were run in triplicate and normalized to the highest activation of wild type TR β at 50nM T₃. Activity is reported in relative light unit (RLU), determined as the ratio of the inducible firefly luciferase luminescence divided by the luminescence of the renilla luciferase control and normalized by RLU of wild type TR β at 50 nM T₃. Dose-response data were analyzed by nonlinear regression analysis using GraphPad Prism.

Synthesis of QH10-QH16.

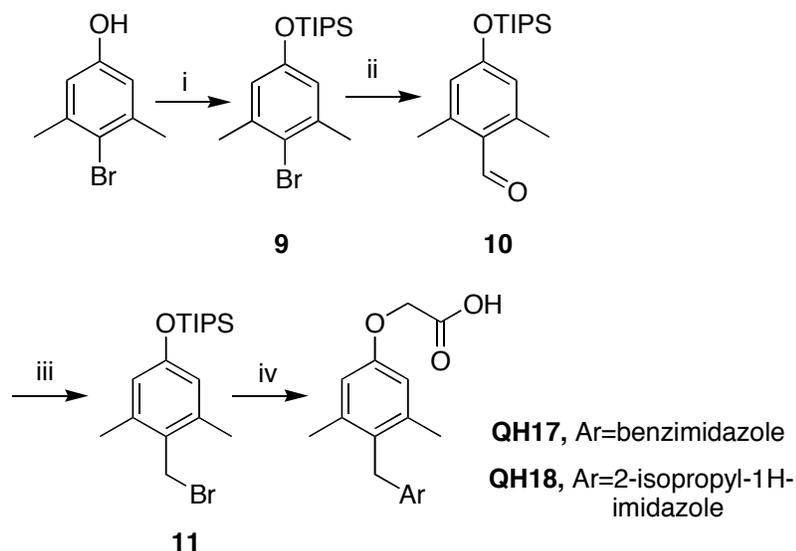
Pyridyl analogs were derived from the corresponding 2-substituted-4-cyanopyridines by nucleophilic radical addition to 4-cyanopyridine by alkyl radicals generated by silver-promoted radical decarboxylation of corresponding carboxylic acids providing an efficient entry into the 2-alkylpyridine series (Scheme 1).²³ The resulting intermediates, **1a-f**, were reduced to aldehydes by DIBAL, which was then coupled with aryl lithium derived from (4-bromo-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane to give alcohols, **3a-f**. The oxoacetic acid side chain was introduced by alkylating the phenol with ethyl-2-bromoacetate followed by hydrogenation to afford the target molecules. The phenyl analog **QH9** was synthesized starting from 1-bromo-3-isopropyl-benzene following the analogous synthetic scheme used to synthesize GC-1 from 4-bromo-2-isopropylanisole.



Scheme S1. Synthesis of Pyridyl ligands. a. Dibal-H, -78C, H⁺ b. n-BuLi, (4-Bromo-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane c. Zn/HCOOH d. i. Cs₂CO₃, BrCH₂CO₂Bn ii. H₂, 10%Pd/C, 9%AcOH/EtOH.

Synthesis of QH17-QH18.

2-Isobutyl-pyridine-4-carbaldehyde, (2a). To a solution of 2-isobutyl-isonicotinonitrile (1.6 g, 9.8 mmol) in toluene (11 mL) at -78°C , and was added drop-wise via syringe 1M DIBAL in hexanes (11.3



mL, 11.3 mmol). The reaction mixture was warmed to 5°C , stirred for 5 min, and cooled to -78°C before adding CH_3OH (11 mL). The mixture was warmed to 5°C and stirred for 5 min before 25% aqueous rochelle's salt (potassium sodium tartrate) was added. After 3 min the reaction mixture was

acidified to $\text{pH} < 1.0$ with 10% aqueous H_2SO_4 . The aqueous solution was made basic by slow addition of solid K_2CO_3 and extracted with EtOAc. The extracts were dried over MgSO_4 , concentrated, filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, 2% MeOH/ CH_2Cl_2) to give pure product, **2a** (1.0g, 7.84 mmol, 77%). $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 0.90 (d, $J=7.2$ Hz, 6H), 2.13 (m, $J=6.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.76 (d, $J=7.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, $J=3.9$ Hz, 2H), 8.77 (dd, $J=1.8$ Hz, $J=3.9$ Hz, 1H), 10.0 (s, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz), δ 22.6, 25.7, 36.3, 119.4, 119.9, 142.3, 150.5, 169.4, 192.1; HRMS (CI) calculated for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}$ (M^+) 163.0997 found 163.0992.

2-Isopropyl-pyridine-4-carbaldehyde, (2c). This compound was synthesized in 78% yield from 2-isopropyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare 2a. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 1.34 (d, $J=6.9$ Hz, 6H), 3.20 (heptet, $J=6.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd, $J=1.4$ Hz, $J=4.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, $J=0.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.80 (d, $J=4.9$ Hz, 1H), 10.07 (s, 1H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 13.9, 31.5, 119.9, 120.9, 142.3, 150.7, 165.6, 192.1, HRMS (CI) calculated for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}$ (MH^+) 149.0841, found 149.0849.

2-tert-Butyl-pyridine-4-carbaldehyde, (2d). This compound was synthesized in 81% yield from 2-tert-butyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare 2a. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.38 (s, 9H), 7.48 (dd, *J*=1.4 Hz, *J*=4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J*=1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.80 (dd, *J*=0.6 Hz, *J*=4.8 Hz 1H), 10.0 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 30.3, 38.0, 118.0, 119.6, 142.1, 150.2, 171.5, 192.4; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₁₀H₁₃NO (M⁺) 163.0997, found 163.0989.

2-Propyl-pyridine-4-carbaldehyde, (2e). This compound was synthesized in 75% yield from 2-Propyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare 2a. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 0.98 (t, *J*=7.4Hz, 3H), 1.8 (hextet, *J*=7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.89 (t, *J*=7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (d, *J*=1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J*=0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.7 (dd, *J*=4.9 Hz, *J*=0.4 Hz, 1H), 10.0 (s, 1H), ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 12.8, 21.9, 39.1, 118.4, 120.1, 141.0, 149.6, 163.1, 190.9; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₉H₁₁NO, 149.0841, found 150.0920(MH⁺).

2,6-Diisopropyl-pyridine-4-carbaldehyde, (2f). This compound was synthesized from 2,6-diisopropyl-isonicotinonitrile in 75% yield following the protocol used to prepare 2a. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.30 (d, *J*=6.8 Hz, 12H), 3.10 (heptet, *J*=6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (s, 2H), 10.0 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 22.6, 36.5, 116.5, 140.1, 168.5, 192.7; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₁₂H₁₇NO (M⁺) 191.1310, found 192.1388.

[2,6-Dimethyl-4-(triisopropyl-silanyloxy)-phenyl]-(2-isobutyl-pyridin-4-yl)-methanol, (3a). To a solution of (4-bromo-3, 5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane (2.4 g, 6.8 mmol) in 17 mL of dry tetrahydrofuran at -78°C was added 13.9 mL of n-butyllithium (2.5 M in hexane). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at -78°C and then **2a** (1.1 g, 6.6 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at -78°C and for 6 h at room temperature. The mixture was diluted with 30 mL of ether, washed with 35 mL of water and 5×10 mL of brine. The organic portion was dried (MgSO₄), filtered, and evaporated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, 90:10 hexane/ethyl acetate) to yield **3a** (1.88 g, 4.4 mmol, 67%) as an oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 0.85 (d, *J*=6.8 Hz, 6H), 1.06-1.10 (m, 18H), 1.22 (heptet, *J*=5.2 Hz, 3H), 2.04 (m, *J*=6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.15 (s,

6H), 2.56 (d, $J=5.6$ Hz, 2H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 6.53 (s, 2H), 6.94-6.96 (m, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 8.35 (d, $J=5.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) 12.9, 20.9, 22.5, 29.5, 47.7, 70.0, 118.2, 120.4, 120.7, 131.5, 138.8, 149.1, 153.3, 155.6, 161.5; HRMS (CI) calculated for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{43}\text{NO}_2\text{Si}$ 442.3141, found 442.3120 (MH^+).

[2,6-Dimethyl-4-(triisopropyl-silanyloxy)-phenyl]-(2-ethyl-pyridin-4-yl)-methanol, (3b). This compound was synthesized in 63% yield from (4-bromo-3, 5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane and 2-isobutyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare **3a**. ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 1.11 (d, $J=8.0$ Hz, 18H), 1.19-1.28 (m, 6H), 2.17 (s, 6H), 2.78 (q, $J=8.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.19 (s, 1H), 6.55 (s, 2H), 6.98-7.01 (m, 1H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 8.3 (d, $J=4.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 13.0, 18.2, 20.9, 70.2, 118.5, 119.3, 120.8, 131.4, 131.5, 138.8, 148.6, 155.8, 163.4; HRMS (CI) calculated for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{39}\text{NO}_2\text{Si}$ (MH) 413.2985, found 413.2740.

[2,6-Dimethyl-4-(triisopropyl-silanyloxy)-phenyl]-(2-isopropyl-pyridin-4-yl)-methanol, (3c). This compound was synthesized in 68% yield from (4-bromo-3, 5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane and 2-isopropyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare **3a**. ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 1.04 (d, $J=6.9$ Hz, 18H), 1.18 (heptet, $J=7.1$ Hz, 3H), 1.35-1.42 (m, 6H), 2.13 (s, 6H), 3.60 (heptet, $J=7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 6.53 (s, 2H), 7.44 (d, $J=6.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 8.35 (d, $J=6.1$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 12.6, 21.0, 22.2, 32.9, 69.7, 120.9, 121.0, 121.5, 130.2, 138.7, 139.7, 156.3, 162.2, 166.6; HRMS (CI) calculated for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{41}\text{NO}_2\text{Si}$ 427.2907, found 428.2978 (MH^+).

(2-tert-Butyl-pyridin-4-yl)-[2,6-Dimethyl-4-(triisopropyl-silanyloxy)-phenyl]-methanol, (3d). This compound was synthesized in 66% yield from (4-bromo-3, 5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane and 2-tert-butyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare **3a**. ^1H -NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 1.09 (d, $J=7.2$ Hz, 18H), 1.23 (heptet, $J=6.8$ Hz, 3H), 1.31 (s, 9H), 2.16 (s, 6H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 6.55 (s, 2H), 6.90-6.91 (m, 1H) 7.33 (s, 1H), 8.35 (d, $J=5.1$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C -NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 12.9, 20.9, 30.4, 37.5, 70.1, 116.3, 118.1, 120.7, 131.7, 138.7, 148.4, 153.2, 155.5, 169.3; HRMS (CI) calculated for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{43}\text{NO}_2\text{Si}$ 442.3141, found 442.3130(MH^+).

[2,6-Dimethyl-4-(triisopropyl-silanyloxy)-phenyl]-(2-propyl-pyridin-4-yl)-methanol, (3e). This compound was synthesized from in 66% yield (4-bromo-3, 5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane and 2-propyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare 3a. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 0.88 (t, *J*=7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.10 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 18H), 1.23 (heptet, *J*=7.5 Hz, 3H), 1.67 (sextet, *J*=7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.15 (s, 6H), 2.66 (t, *J*=7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 6.54 (s, 2H), 6.94 (d, *J*=5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 8.24 (d, *J*=5.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 12.9, 18.1, 20.8, 23.3, 69.6, 118.4, 119.9, 120.6, 131.8, 138.7, 148.7, 153.9, 155.5, 162.1; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₂₆H₄₁NO₂Si 427.2907, found 428.2969 (MH⁺).

(2,6-Diisopropyl-pyridin-4-yl)-[2,6-dimethyl-4-(triisopropyl-silanyloxy)-phenyl]-methanol, (3f). This compound was synthesized in 65% yield from (4-bromo-3, 5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane and 2-diisopropyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare 3a. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.11 (d, *J*=7.1 Hz, 18H), 1.18-1.27 (m, 15H), 2.16 (s, 6H), 3.0 (heptet, *J*=6.9 Hz, 2H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 6.56 (s, 2H), 6.89 (s, 2H), ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 12.9, 21.0, 22.8, 36.4, 70.1, 114.5, 120.6, 132.1, 138.8, 153.7, 155.4, 166.6; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₂₉H₄₇NO₂Si 469.3376, found 467.3353(M⁺).

4-(2-Isobutyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-phenol, (4a). Zinc (780 mg, 12 mmol) was added to a solution of **3a** (530 mg, 1.2 mmol) in formic acid (3.6 mL). The mixture was vigorously stirred under reflux over night and then filtered. The filter cake was washed with formic acid and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was taken up in H₂O (2 mL) and the pH was adjusted to 9 with saturated Na₂CO₃. The solution was extracted with EtOAc (3×2mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give **4a** (216 mg, 0.9 mmol, 75%). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 0.88 (d, *J*=6.6 Hz, 6H), 2.03 (m, *J*=6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (s, 6H), 2.60 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.94 (s, 1H), 6.60 (s, 2H), 6.78-6.8 (m, 2H), 8.3 (d, *J*=5.1 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 20.5, 22.6, 29.5, 34.0 47.2, 115.5, 121.0, 123.5, 126.7, 138.6, 148.7, 150.7, 155.2, 161.4; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₁₈H₂₃NO (M) 269.1780, found 269.1773.

4-(2-Ethyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-phenol, (4b). This compound was synthesized in 64% yield from (4-bromo-3, 5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane and 2-isobutyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare **4a**. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.25 (t, *J*=8.4 Hz, 3H), 2.14 (s, 6H), 2.77 (q, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.94 (s, 1H), 6.60 (s, 2H), 6.76 (d, *J*=5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 8.3 (d, *J*=5.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 14.3, 20.5, 30.9, 34.3, 115.5, 119.6, 120.8, 126.2, 138.6, 148.8, 151.5, 157.6, 163.8; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₉NO 241.1467, found 241.1477(M⁺).

4-(2-Isopropyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-phenol, (4c). This compound was synthesized in 69% yield from (4-bromo-3, 5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane and 2-isopropyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare **4a**. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.26 (d, *J*=6.9 Hz, 6H), 2.15 (s, 6H), 3.01 (heptet, *J*=6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (s, 2H), 6.59 (s, 2H), 6.72 (d, *J*=4.4, 1H), 6.9 (s, 1H), 8.3 (d, *J*=5.1 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 20.5, 22.8, 34.1, 36.1, 115.3, 120.6, 120.9, 126.9, 138.8, 148.7, 150.9, 154.8, 167.2; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₁₇H₂₁NO (M) 255.1623, found 255.1632.

4-(2-*tert*-Butyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-phenol, (4d). This compound was synthesized in 60% yield from (4-bromo-3, 5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane and 2-*tert*-butyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare **4a**. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.34 (s, 9H), 2.14 (s, 6H), 3.95 (s, 2H), 6.60 (s, 2H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 8.37 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 20.5, 30.4, 34.3, 37.4, 115.3, 119.3, 120.4, 127.0, 138.8, 148.6, 150.6, 154.9, 169.1; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₁₈H₂₃NO (M) 269.1780, found 269.1783.

3,5-Dimethyl-4-(2-propyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-phenol, (4e). This compound was synthesized in 66% yield from (4-bromo-3, 5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane and 2-propyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare **4a**. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 0.8 (m, 3H), 1.6 (hextet, *J*=7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.1 (s, 6H), 2.6 (triplet, *J*=7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.9 (s, 2H), 6.6 (s, 2H), 6.7 (dd, *J*=1.2 Hz, *J*=5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.8 (s, 1H), 8.3 (d, *J*=5.2Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), δ 12.2, 20.4, 22.9, 35.2, 49.4, 115.4, 121.0, 122.6, 127.1, 138.6, 148.8, 151.2, 155.3, 165.2; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₁₇H₂₁NO (M) 255.1623, found 255.1596 (M⁺).

4-(2,6-Diisopropyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-phenol, (4f). This compound was synthesized in 61% yield from (4-bromo-3, 5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane and 2-diisopropyl-isonicotinonitrile following the protocol used to prepare **4a**. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.21-1.29 (m, 12H), 2.2 (s, 6H), 2.92 (heptet, *J*=6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.9 (s, 2H), 6.46-6.61 (m, 4H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 20.5, 22.6, 29.5, 34.1, 113.5, 114.2, 115.5, 116.4, 117.5, 139.6, 154.6, 166.1; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₂₀H₂₇NO (M) 297.2093, found 297.2090.

[4-(2-Isobutyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid, (QH10). To cesium carbonate (5.72 g, 17.6 mmol) and **4a** (941 mg, 3.5 mmol) in 27 mL of DMF was added bromo-acetic acid benzyl ester (1.0 g, 4.4 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature, poured into 35 mL of cold 1N HCl, and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic portions were dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to yield crude product. To the above ester (842.3 mg, 2.02 mmol) in 16 mL of methanol was added 11 mL of 1N NaOH. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h, then acidified with 12 mL of 2N HCl, and extracted with ethyl acetate (3×30mL). The combined organic layer was dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure to give **QH10** (612 mg, 1.79 mmol, 89%) as oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 0.86 (d, *J*=6.6 Hz, 6H), 1.9 (heptet, *J*=7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (s, 6H), 2.66 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 4.64 (s, 2H), 6.68 (s, 2H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 8.45 (d, *J*=4.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) 14.4, 20.7, 22.5, 34.6, 44.9, 69.3, 114.7, 121.5, 122.0, 126.7, 138.5, 146.3, 155.5, 157.2, 164.9, 179.1; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₂₀H₂₅NO₃ (MH⁺) 299.1521 found 299.1514.

[4-(2-Ethyl -pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid, (QH11). This compound was synthesized from 3,5-dimethyl-4- (2-isobutyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-phenol following the protocol used to prepare **QH10**. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ ¹H 1.2-1.3 (m, 3H), 2.12 (s, 6H), 2.71-2.91 (m, 2H), 3.97 (s, 2H), 4.57 (s, 2H), 6.67 (s, 2H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.96 (broad s, 1H), 8.41 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) 20.7, 28.3, 29.7, 34.7, 67.1, 114.7, 118.1, 121.6, 123.4, 127.0, 138.5, 156.9, 161.1, 162.8, 188.0; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₂₀H₂₅NO (M) 299.1521, found 298.1443 (M-H⁺).

[4-(2-Isopropyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid, (QH13). This compound was synthesized in 93% yield from 3,5-dimethyl-4- (2-isopropyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-phenol following the protocol used to prepare **QH10**. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.20 (d, *J*=6.9 Hz, 6H), 2.10 (s, 6H), 3.21 (heptet, *J*=6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 4.62 (s, 2H), 6.68 (s, 2H), 6.85 (d, *J*=5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 8.45 (d, *J*=4.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), δ 20.7, 22.6, 34.5, 34.8, 60.1, 114.7, 121.2, 121.7, 126.9, 138.5, 146.3, 154.2, 157.1, 165.5, 171.1; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₁₉H₂₃NO₃ (M) 313.1638 found 313.1680.

[4-(2-*tert*-butyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid QH14. This compound was synthesized in 93% yield from 3,5-dimethyl-4- (2-*tert*-butyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-phenol following the protocol used to prepare QH10. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.53 (s, 9H), 2.16 (s, 6H), 4.16 (s, 2H), 4.67 (s, 2H), 6.69 (s, 2H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 8.78 (s, 1H), ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), δ 20.7, 29.9, 34.5, 37.2, 65.7, 114.6, 120.2, 121.1, 127.2, 138.5, 146.7, 153.9, 156.8, 167.1, 173.2; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₂₀H₂₅NO₃ (M) 327.1831 found 327.1825.

[3,5-Dimethyl-4-(2-propyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-acetic acid, (QH15). This compound was synthesized in 94% yield from 3,5-dimethyl-4- (2-propyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-phenol following the protocol used to prepare **QH10**. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 250 MHz) δ 0.98 (t, *J*=7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.6-1.7 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, 6H), 2.83 (t, *J*=7.5 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (s, 2H), 4.7 (s, 2H), 6.6 (s, 2H), 7.27 (s, 2H), 8.7 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 12.8, 18.0, 26.1, 26.7, 32.9, 46.6, 118.7, 119.2, 119.3, 132.5, 136.0, 145.5, 149.8, 156.2, 167.5, 177.7; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₂₀H₂₅NO (M) 313.1678, found 313.1681(M⁺).

[4-(2,6-Diisopropyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid, (QH16). This compound was synthesized in 94% yield from 3,5-dimethyl-4- (2-diisopropyl-pyridin-4-ylmethyl)-phenol following the protocol used to prepare QH10. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.2-1.3(m, 12H), 2.38 (s, 6H), 3.07 (heptet, *J*=6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 2H), 4.68 (s, 2H), 6.58 (s, 2H), 7.18 (s, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) 20.5, 22.8, 34.2, 36.2, 66.8, 115.3, 120.6, 121.0, 126.9, 138.8, 148.8, 151.0, 154.9, 167.2, 179.1; HRMS (CI) calculated for C₂₂H₂₉NO₃ (M) 355.2147 found 354.2055(M-H⁺).

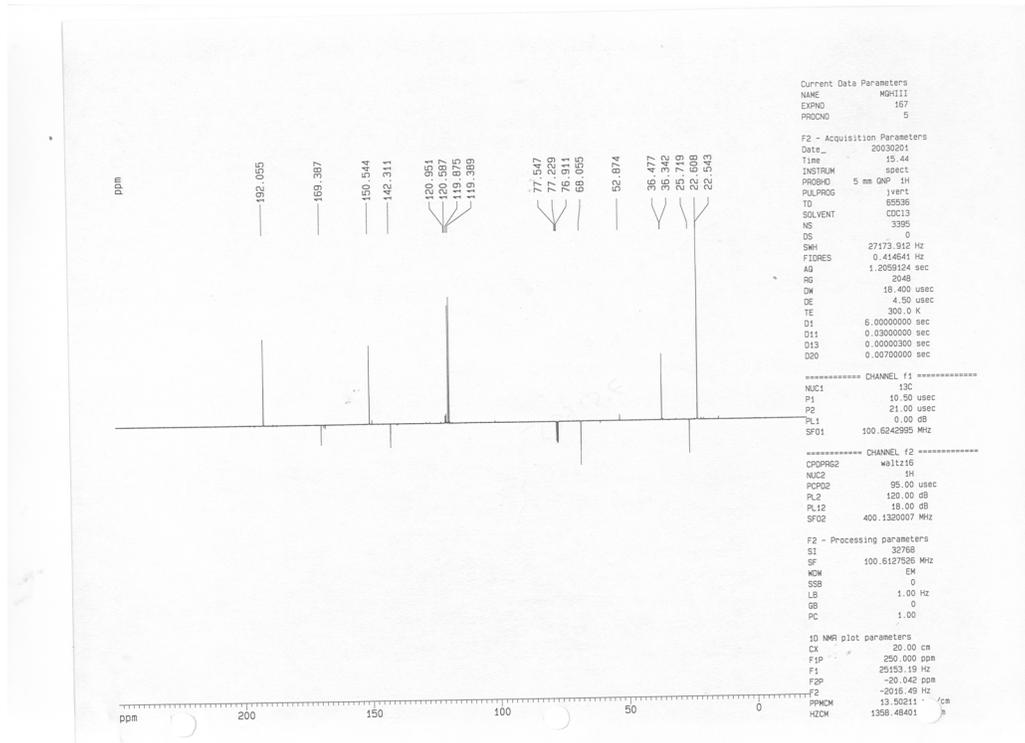
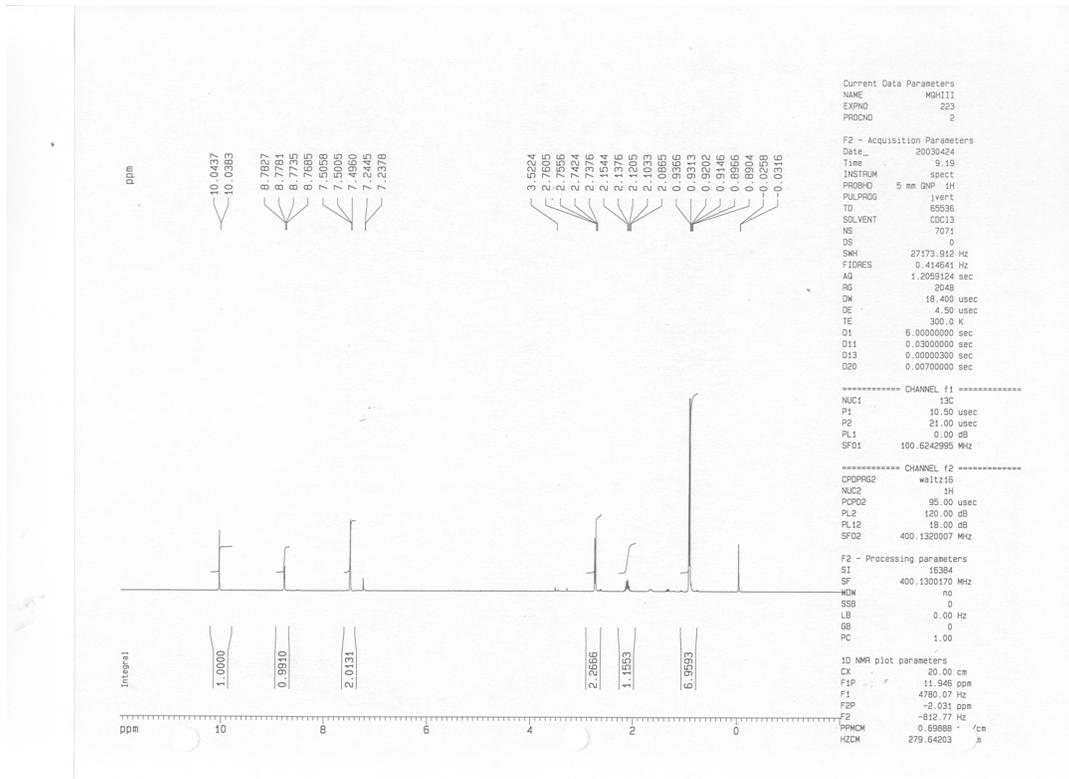
(4-Benzoimidazol-1-ylmethyl-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid, QH17. QH17 was made from 4-Bromomethyl-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane: To a solution of 2,6-dimethyl-4-(triisopropyl-silanyloxy)-benzaldehyde (250mg, 0.8 mmol) in 2.5 mL ethanol was added NaBH₄ (80mg, 2.1 mmol). After stirring for 2 hr at room temperature, the reaction mixture was quenched with 3 mL of water, and then diluted with 7 mL of ether. The organic portion was dried (MgSO₄), filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure to give crude [2,6-dimethyl-4-(triisopropyl-silanyloxy)-phenyl]-methanol. To the crude alcohol in 2.5 mL of dry ether was added pyridine (15 μL) and PBr₃ (95 μL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 hrs and then diluted with 3 mL of ether and washed with 2 mL of water and 3×2 mL of brine. The organic portion was dried (MgSO₄), filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure to give 4-Bromomethyl-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane. The compound was not stable to storage and therefore was directly used in next reaction without any purification.

To a solution of (4-bromomethyl-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-triisopropyl-silane (50 mg, 0.2 mmol), NaH (8 mg, 0.3 mmol) in 0.8 mL of THF was a 1*H*-Benzoimidazole (23 mg, 0.2 mmol). After stirring for 2 hr at room temperature, the reaction mixture was diluted with 5 mL of ether and washed with 2 mL of water and 3×2 mL of brine. The organic portion was dried (MgSO₄), filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure to give 4-Benzoimidazol-1-ylmethyl-3,5-dimethyl-phenol, which was carried to the next step. To a solution of cesium carbonate (150 mg, 0.5 mmol) and 4-Benzoimidazol-1-ylmethyl-3,5-dimethyl-phenol (10.0 mg, 0.04 mmol) in 1.0 mL of DMF was added ethyl bromoacetate (85mg, 0.06 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature, poured into 0.5 mL of cold 1N HCl, and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic portions were dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated to yield crude (4-benzoimidazol-1-ylmethyl-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy)-acetic acid ethyl ester. To this ester in 0.2 mL of methanol was added 0.2 mL of 1N NaOH. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h, then acidified with 0.3 mL of 2N HCl, and extracted with ethyl acetate (1×1 mL). The combined organic layer was dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (reverse phase silica gel, 10%MeOH/H₂O) to give **QH17** (4.5 mg, 0.02 mmol, 71%).

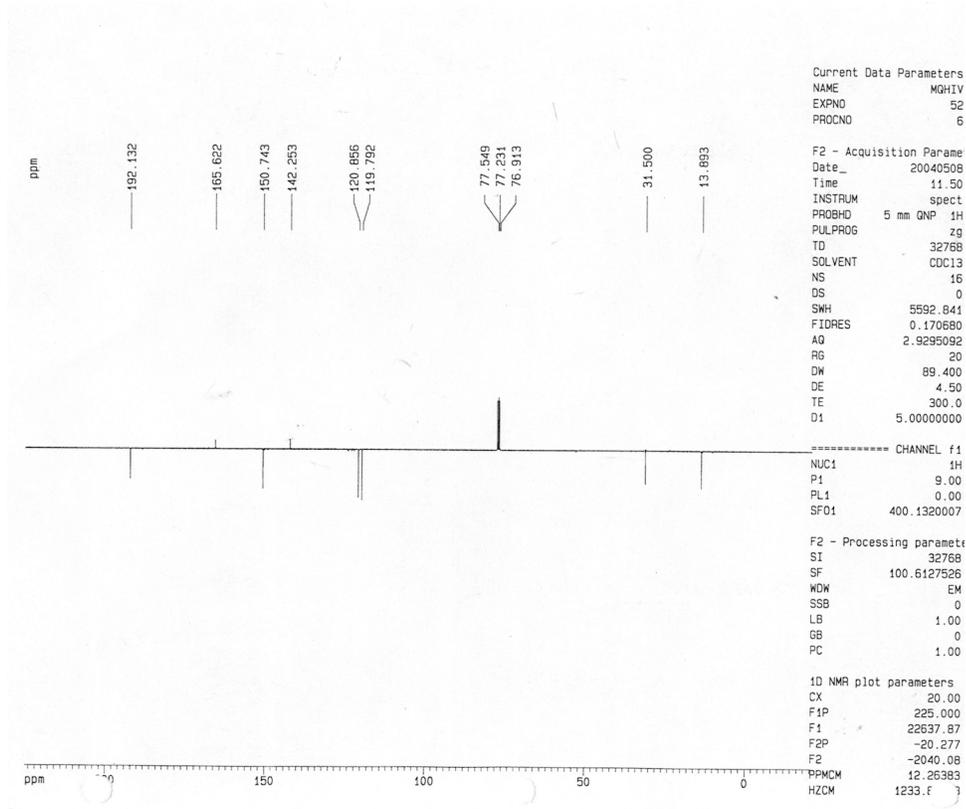
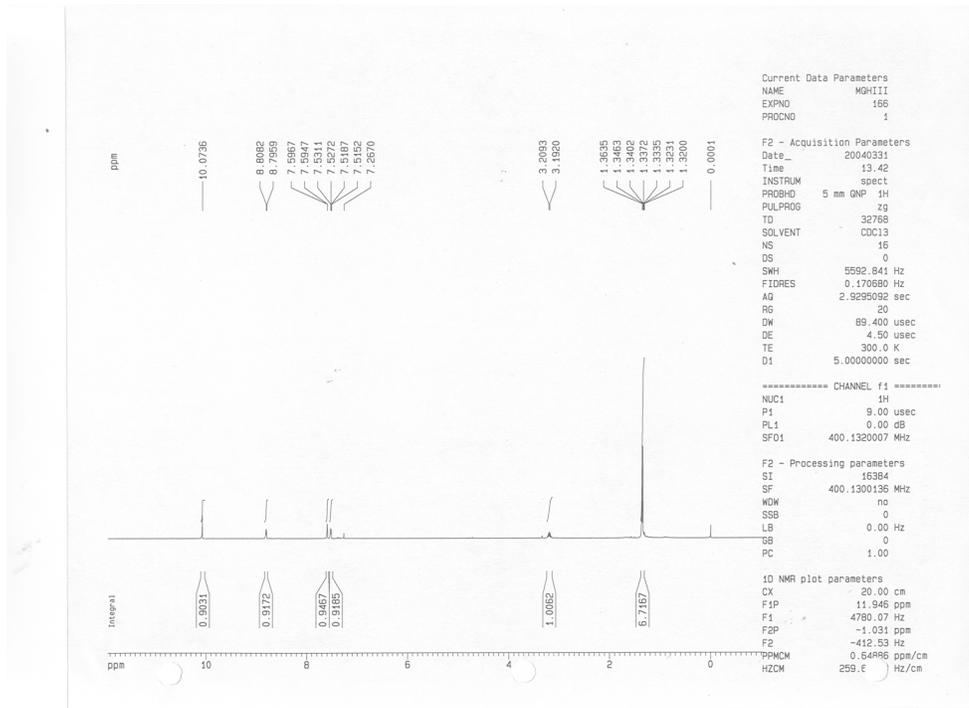
$^1\text{H-NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 2.2 (s, 6H), 4.6 (s, 2H), 5.2 (s, 2H), 6.6 (s, 2H), 7.35-7.36 (m, 4H), 8.4 (s, 1H), $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz), δ 20.7, 34.3, 67.5, 114.5, 119.0, 128.6, 128.8, 135.5, 138.8, 148.8, 156.3, 169.2; HRMS (CI) calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ 310.1317, found 309.1245 (M-H^+).

[4-(2-Isopropyl-imidazol-1-ylmethyl)-3,5-dimethyl-phenoxy]-acetic acid, QH18. This compound was prepared in 74% yield from **11** following the protocol for **QH17**. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ δ 1.3 (d, $J=8.6$ Hz, 6H), 2.4 (s, 6H), 3.0 (heptet, $J=8.1$ Hz, 1H), 4.7 (s, 2H), 6.6 (s, 2H), 7.2 (s, 2H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (CDCl_3) δ 20.7, 22.7, 34.1, 36.2, 67.1, 114.4, 120.7, 128.7, 138.7, 135.4, 149.9, 156.3, 169.2; MS (CI) found 302.1 (M^+).

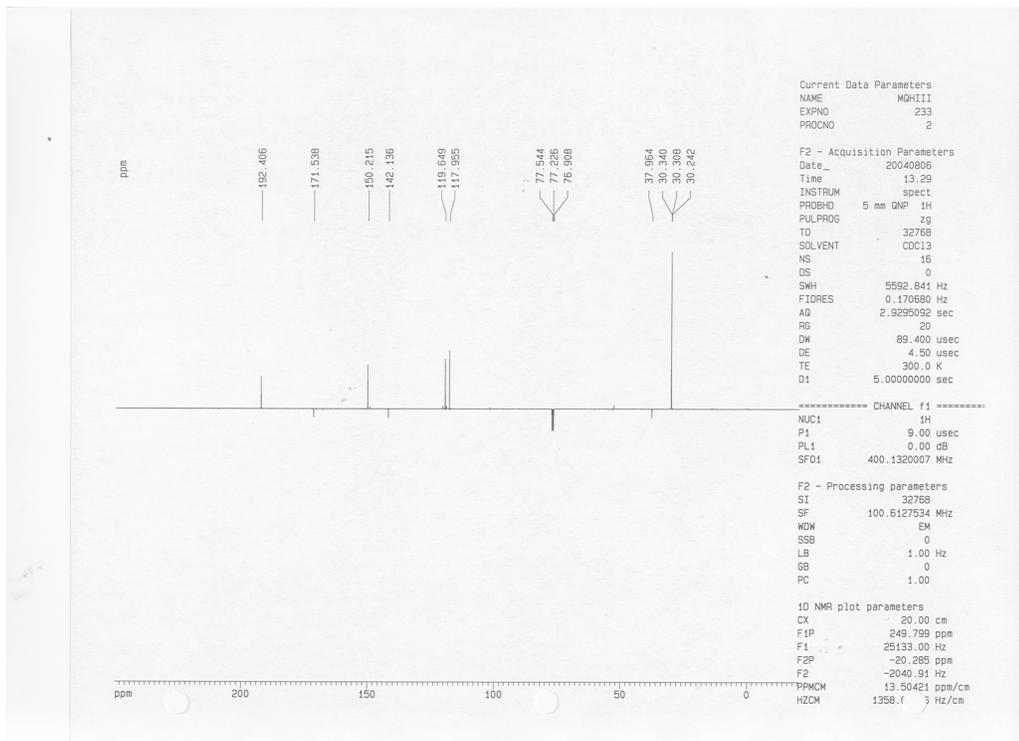
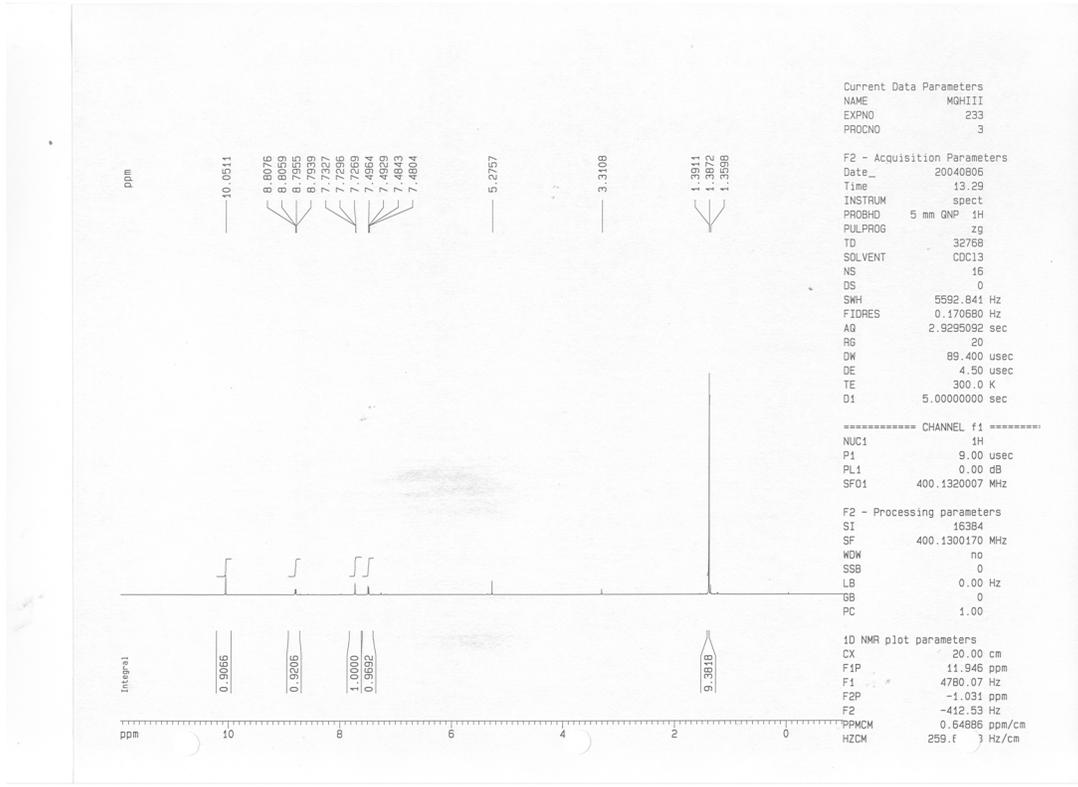
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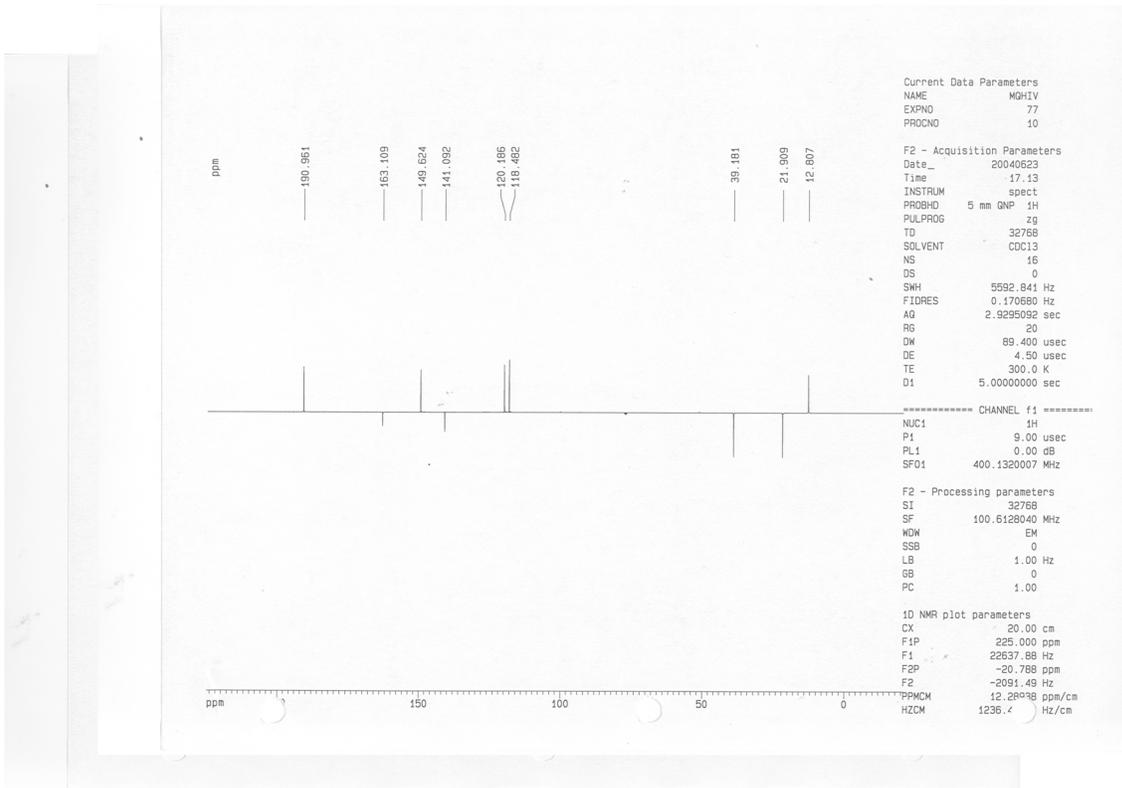
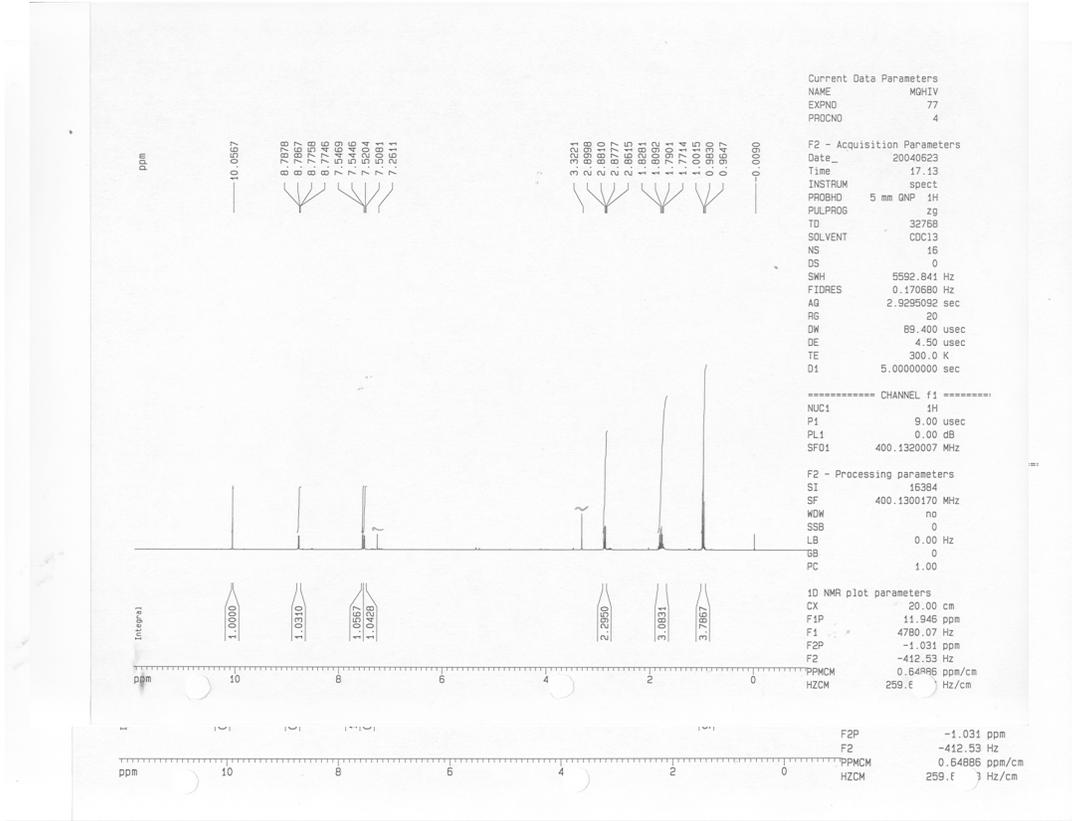
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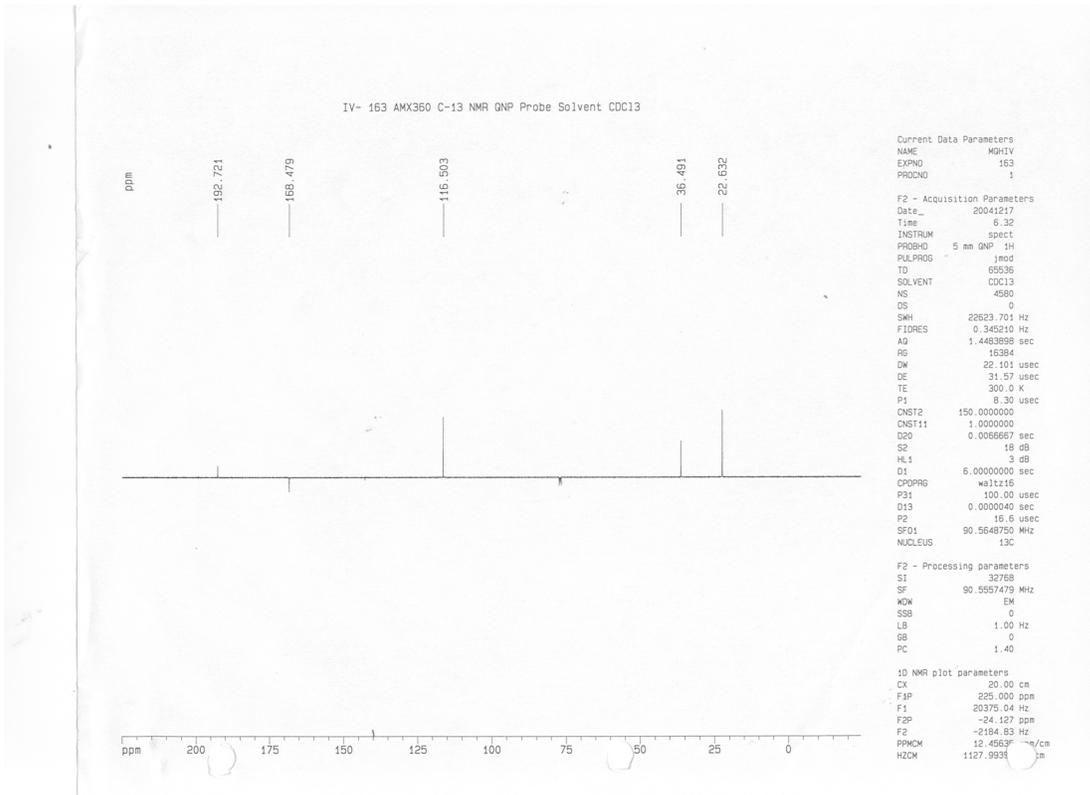
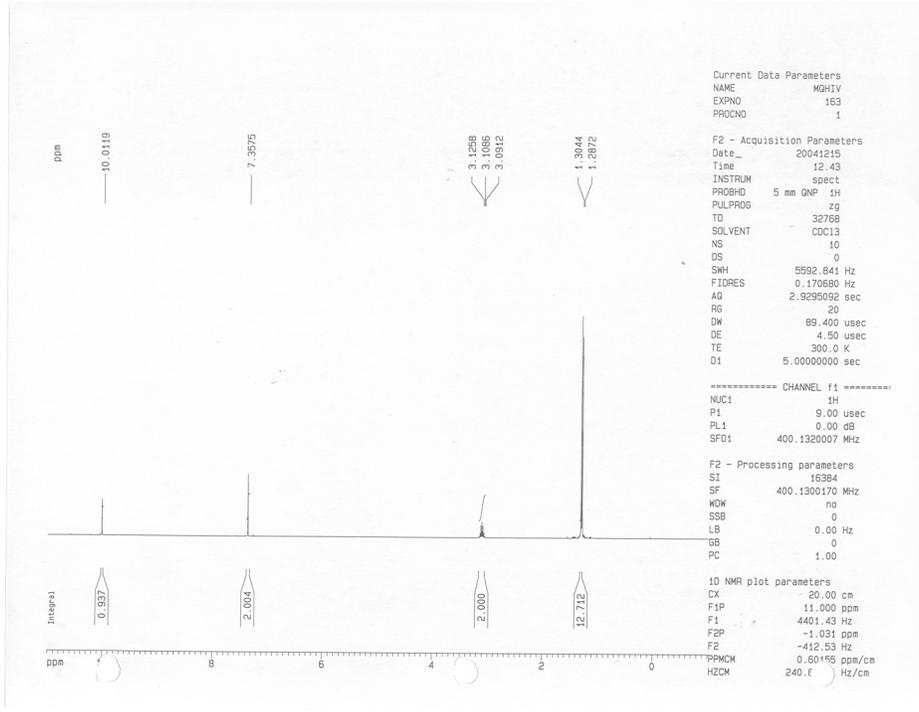
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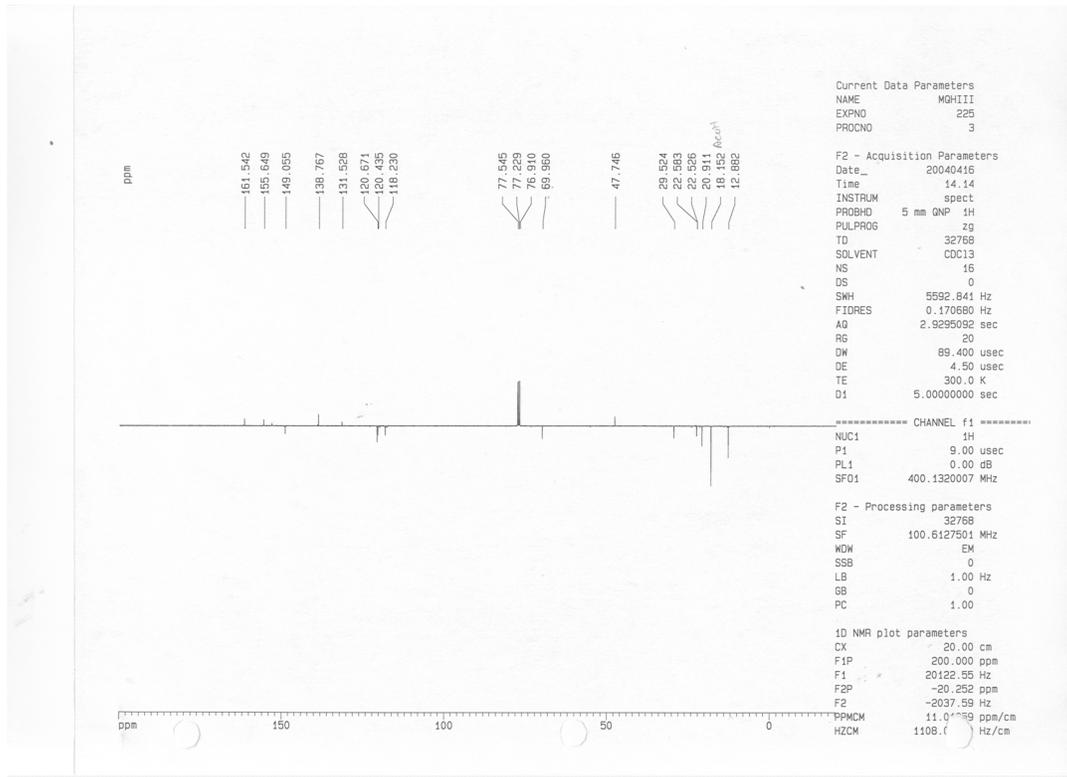
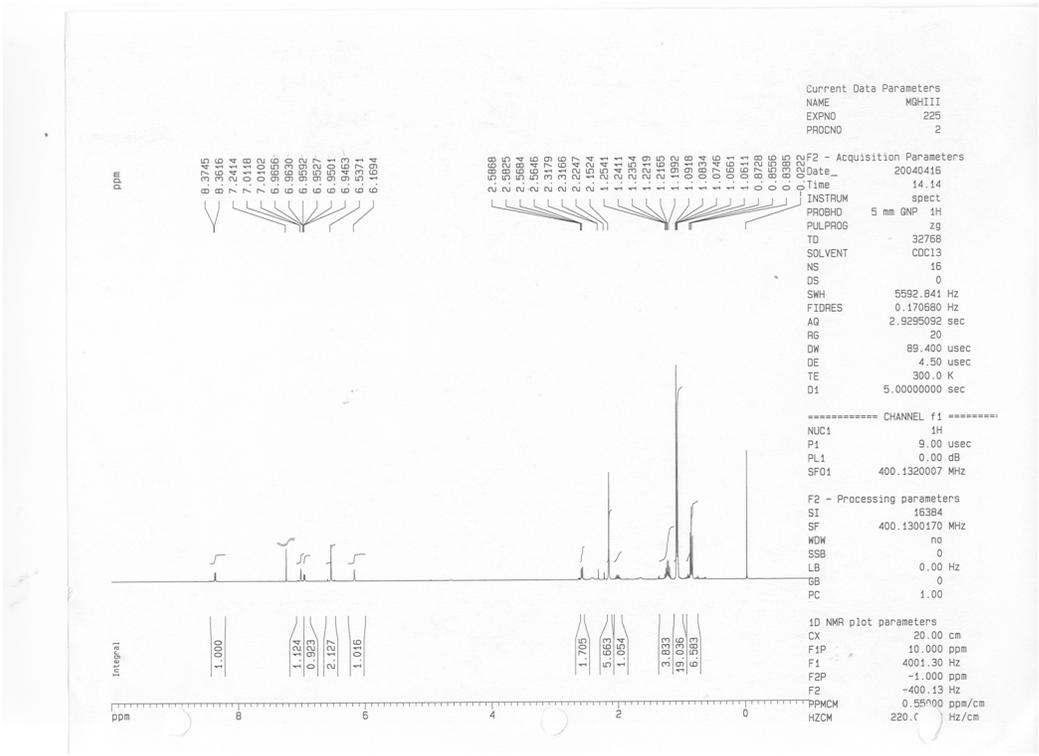
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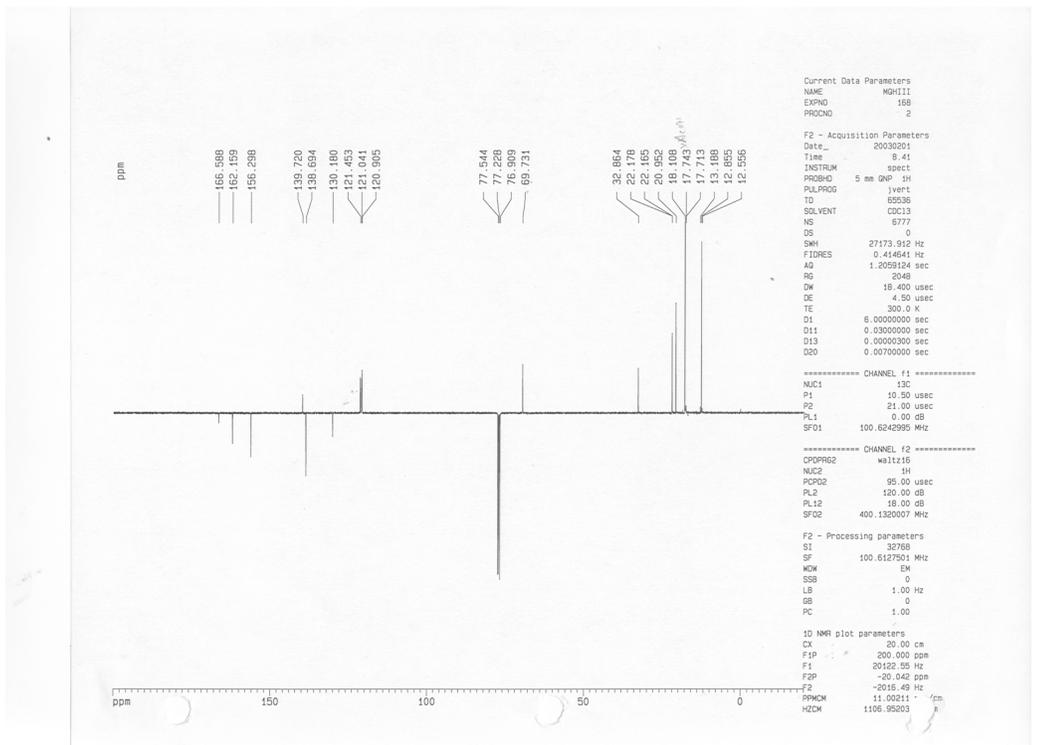
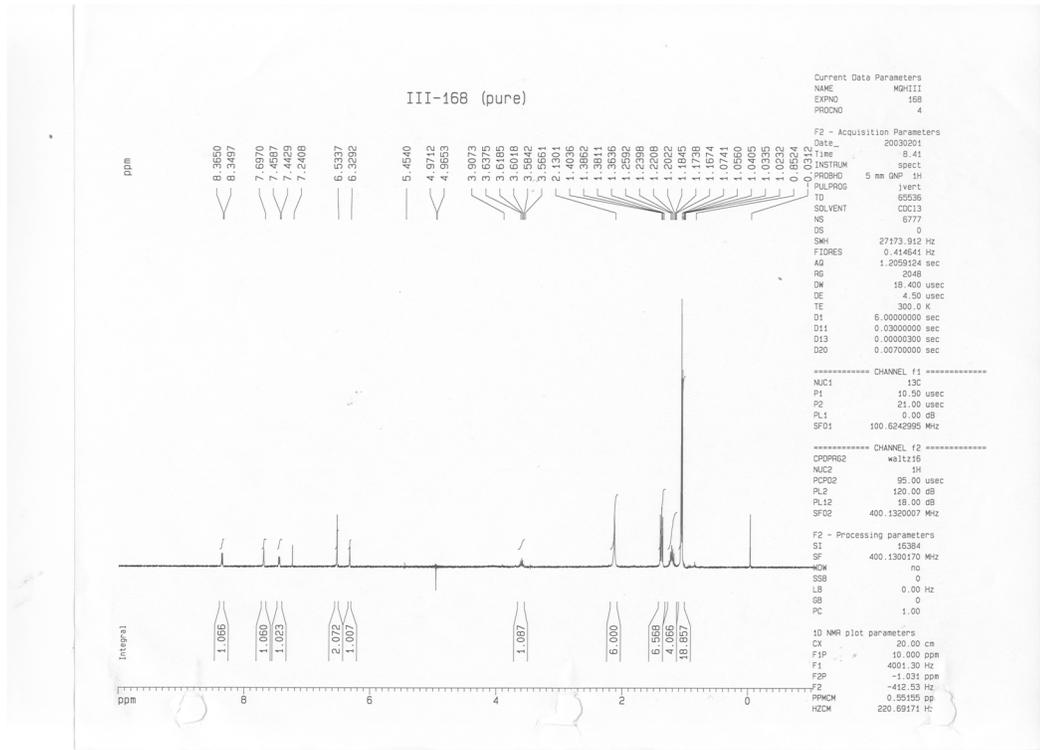
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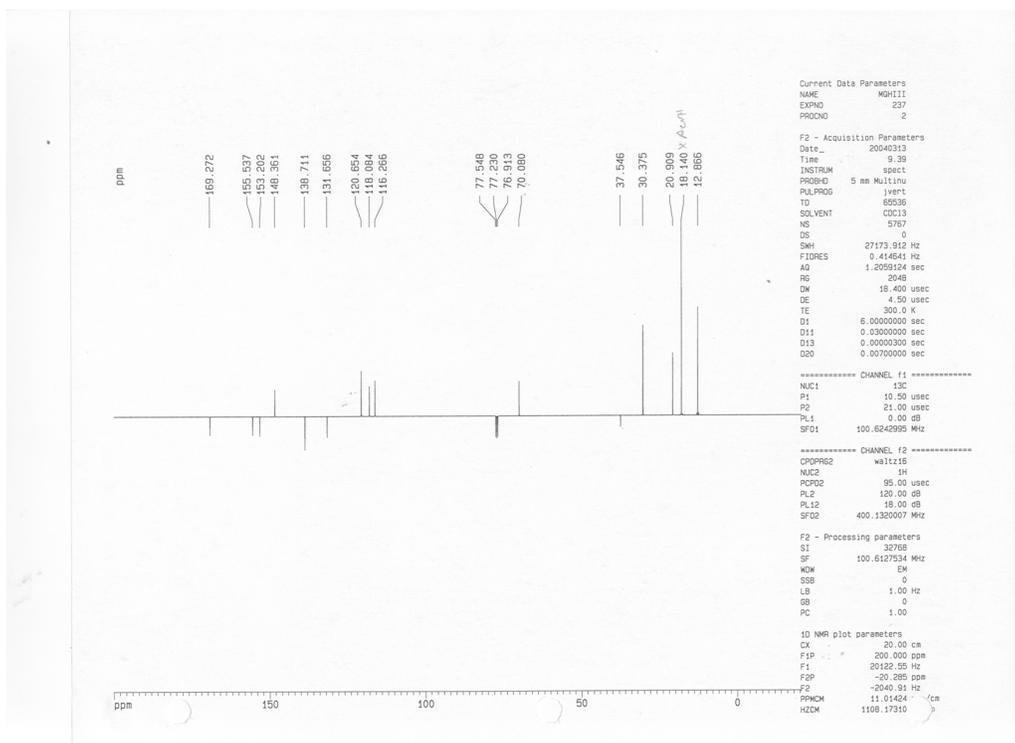
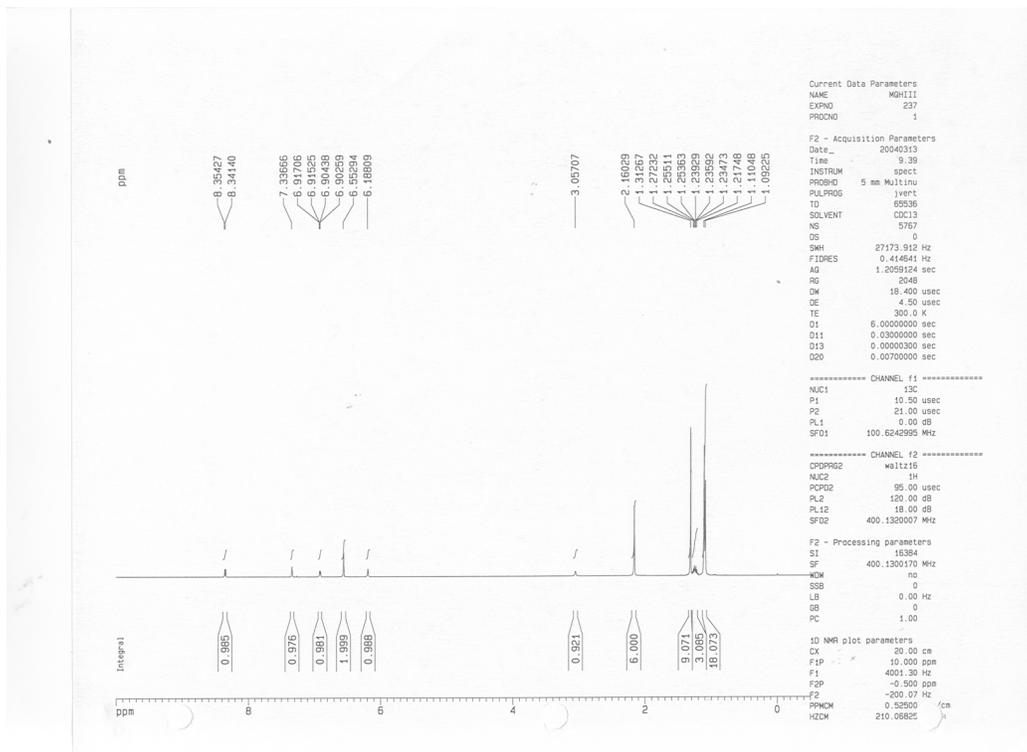
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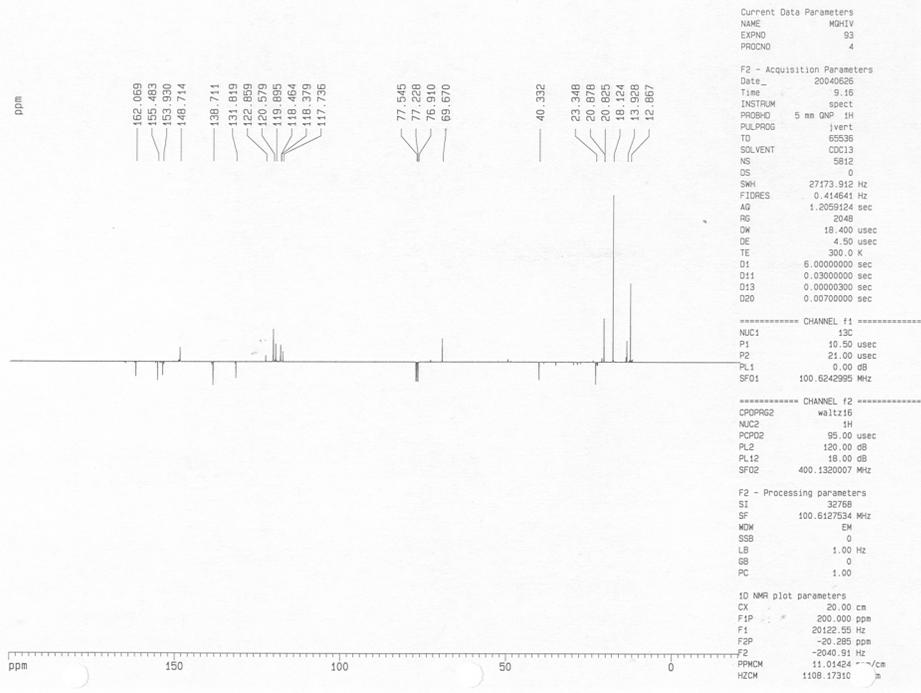
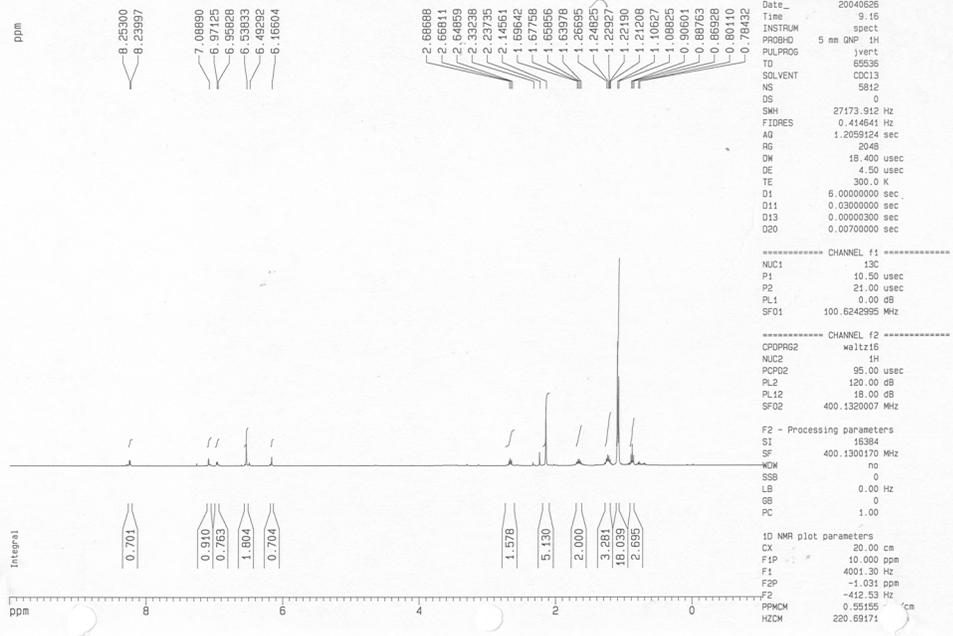


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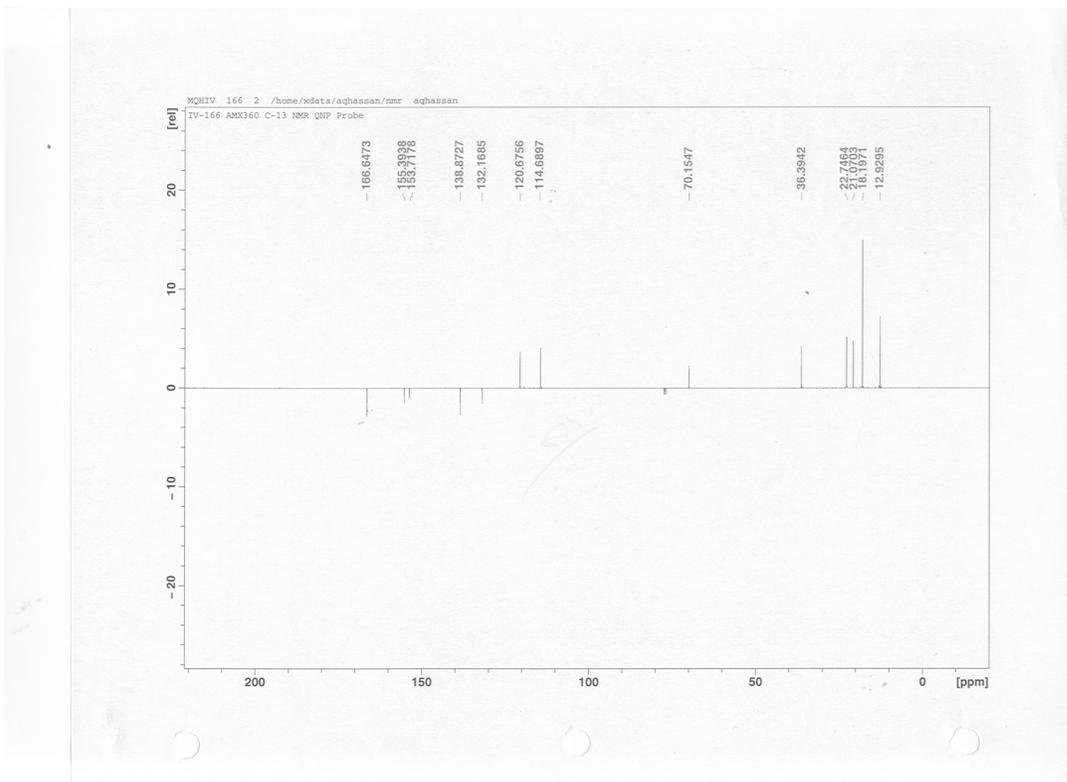
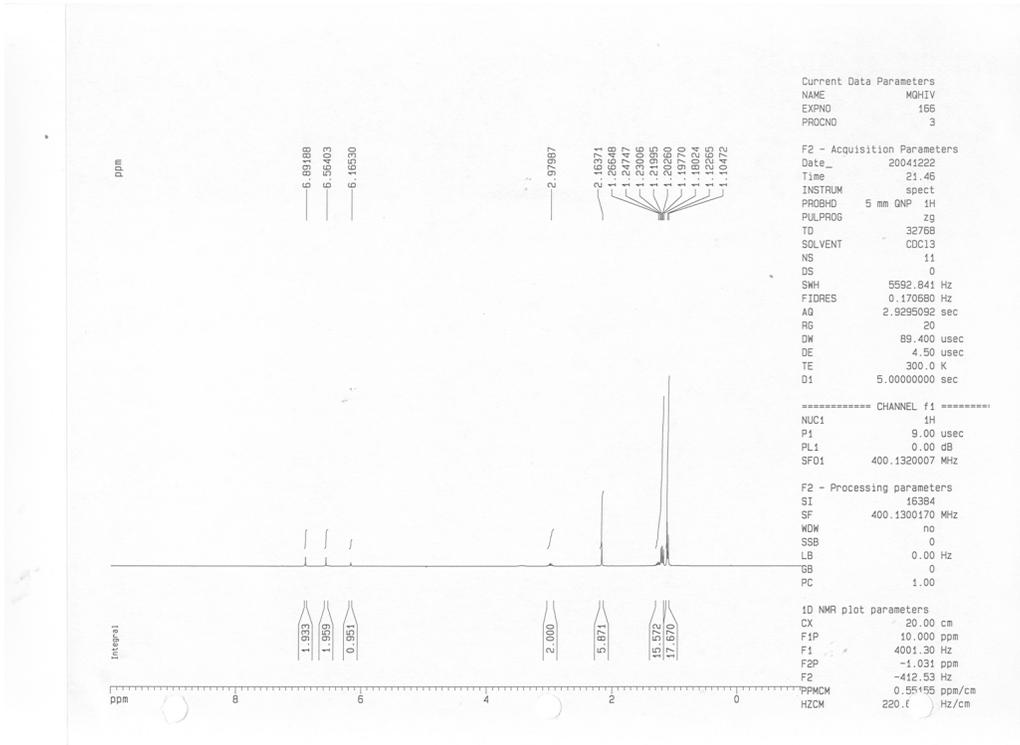


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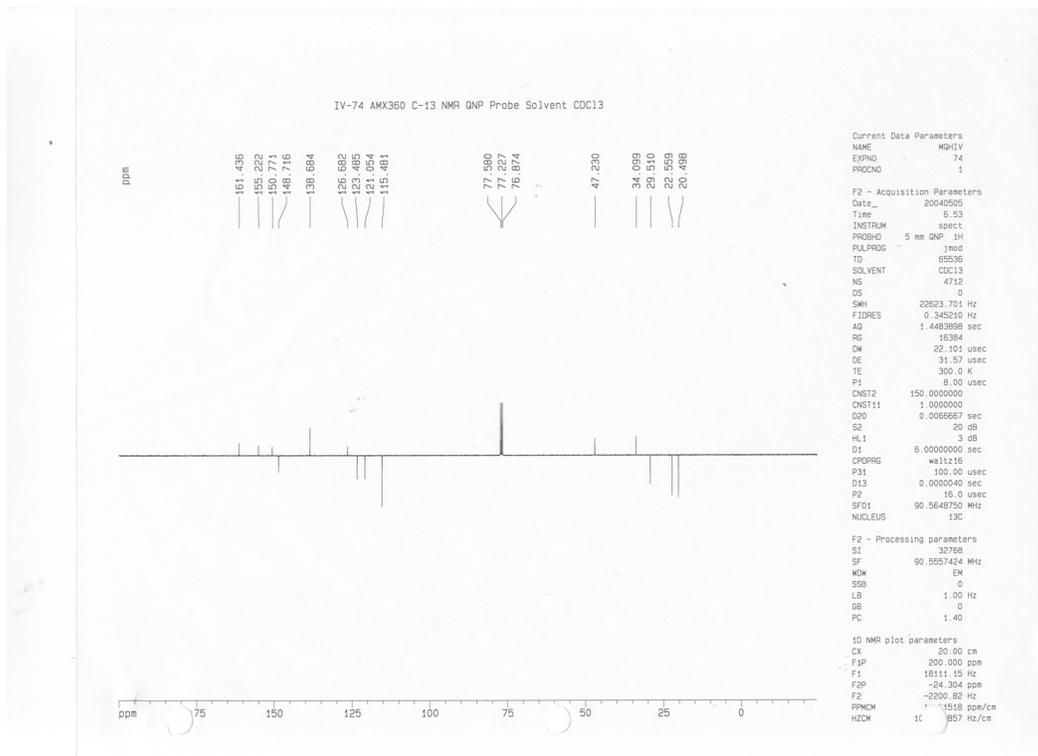
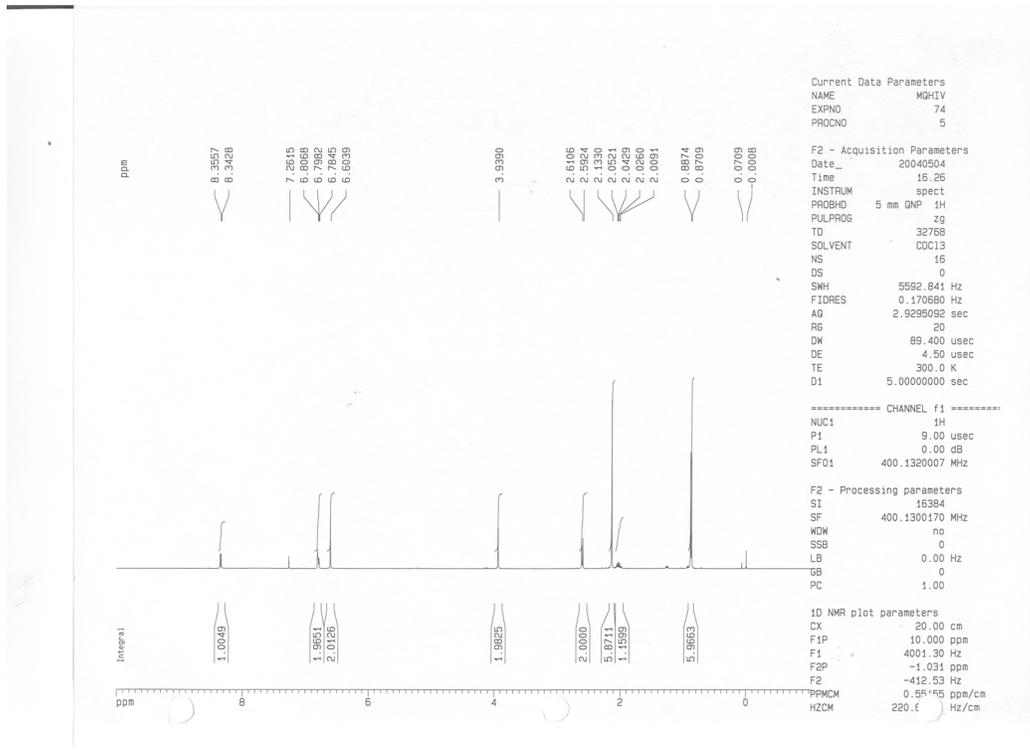




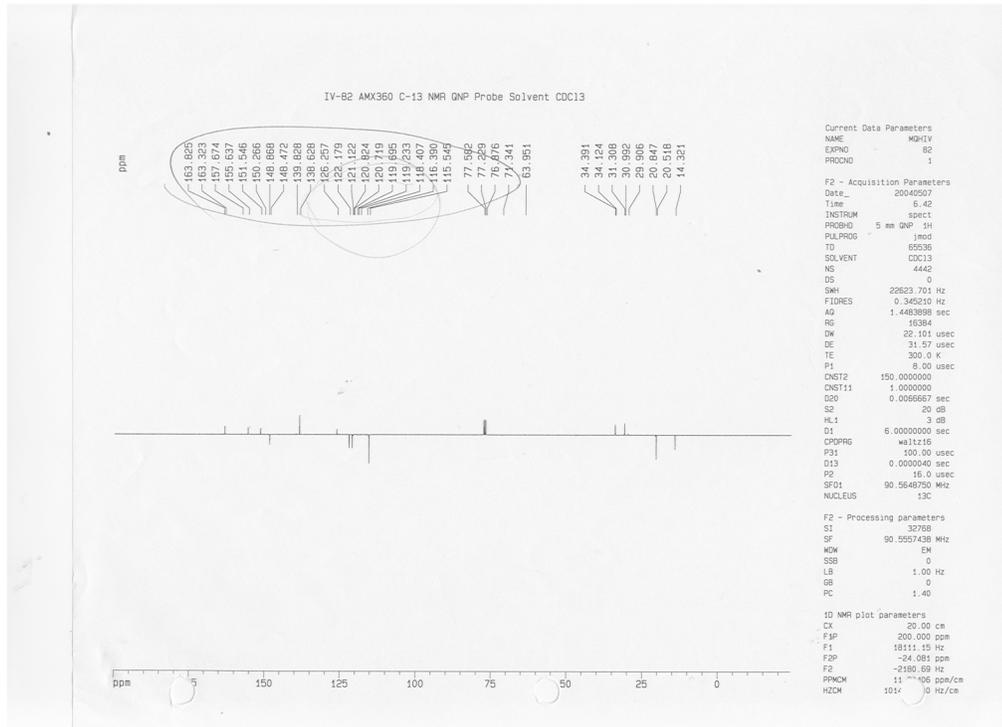
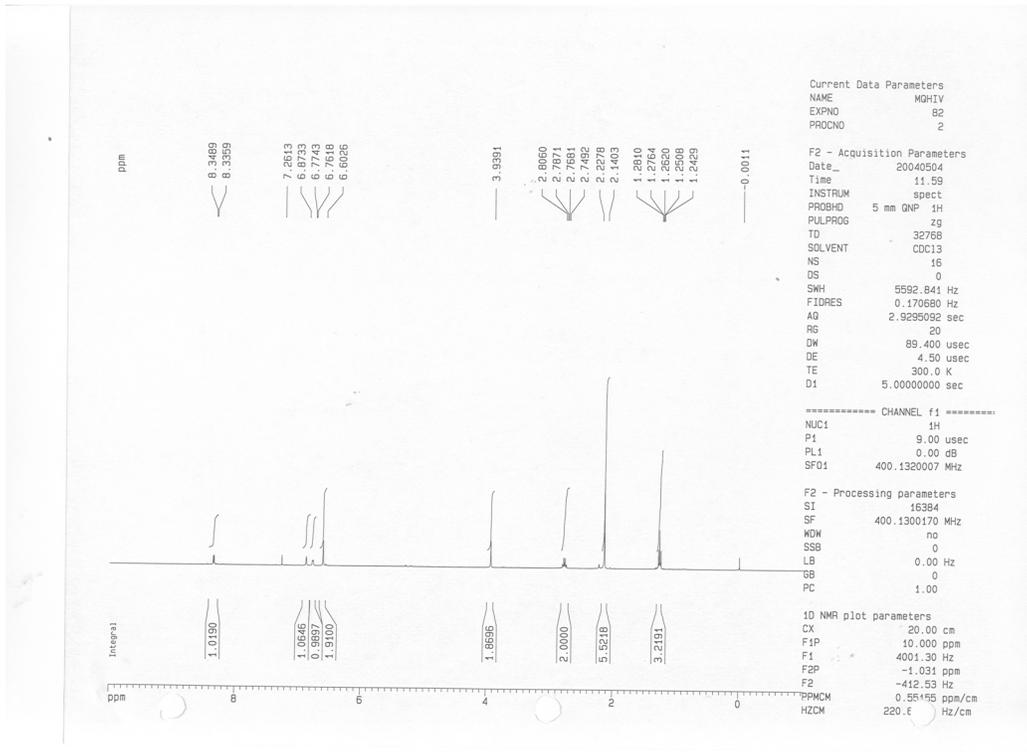
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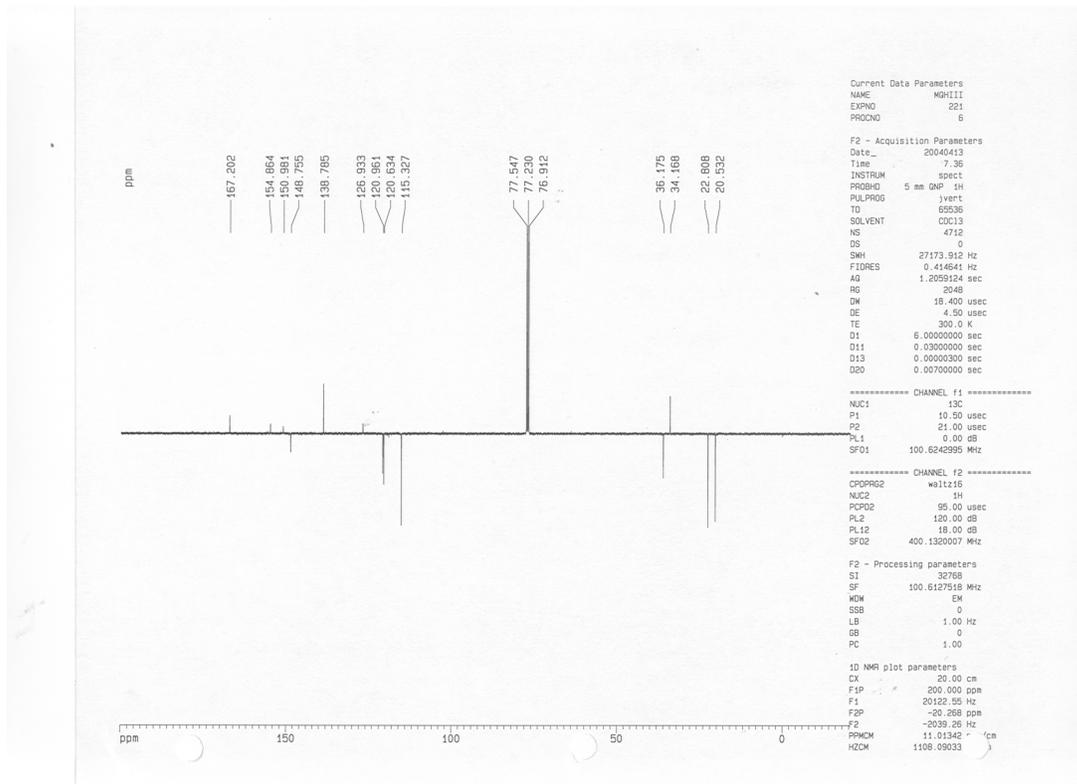
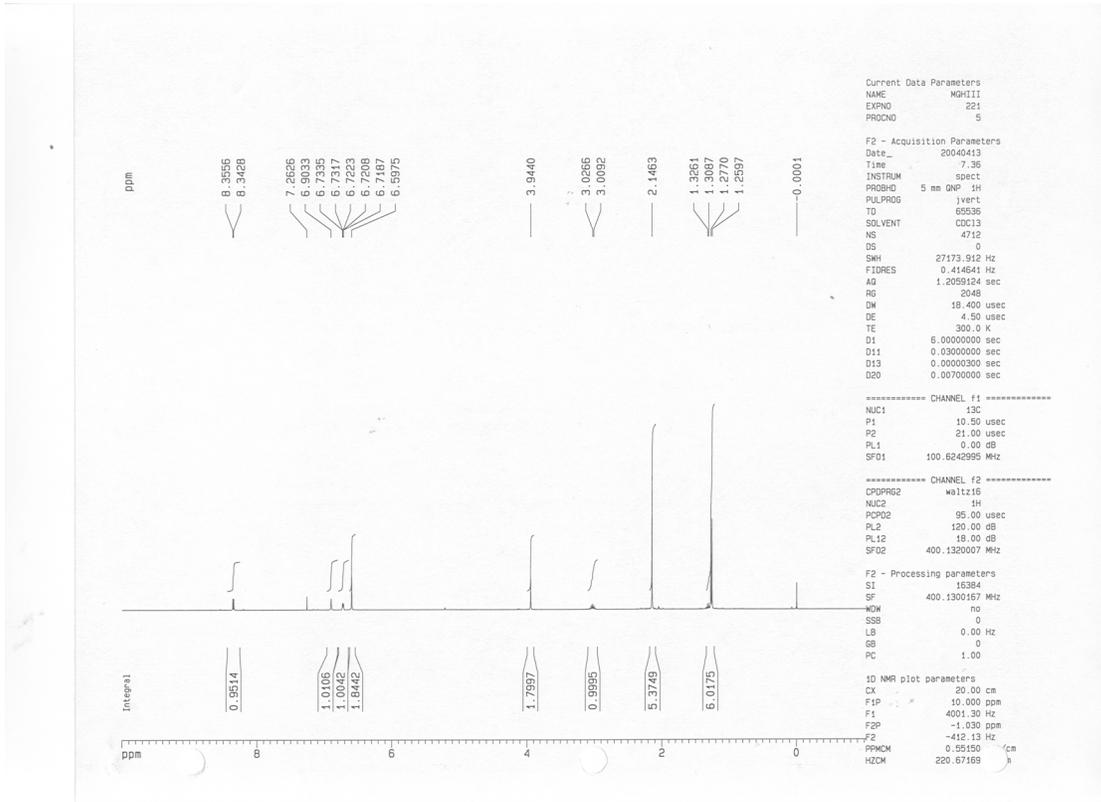
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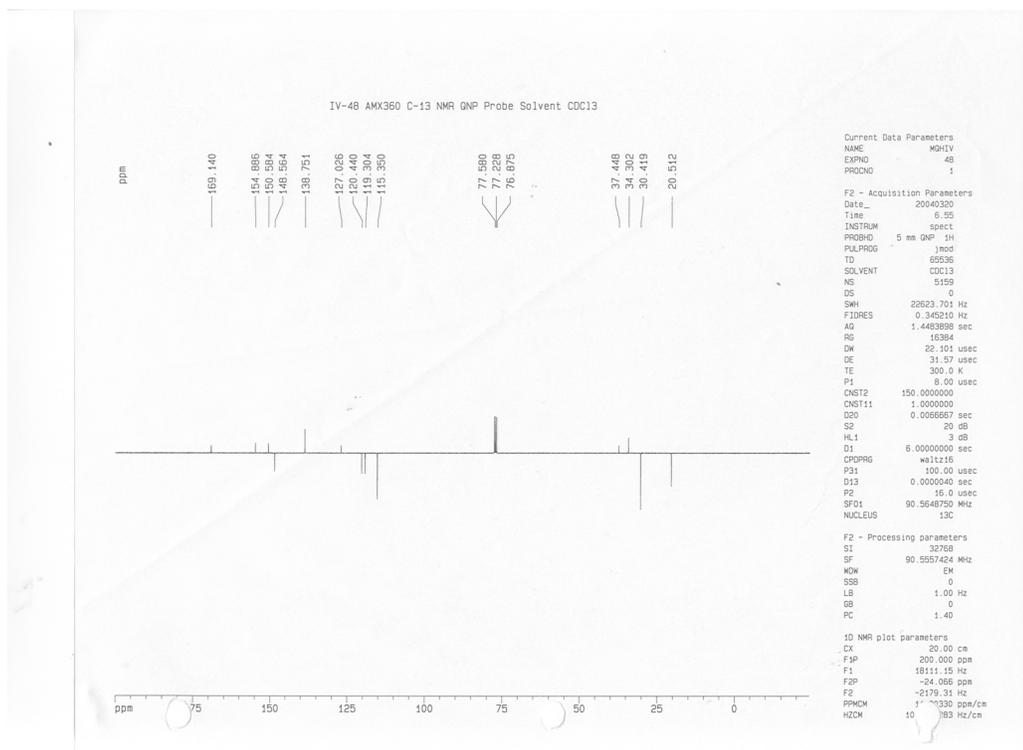
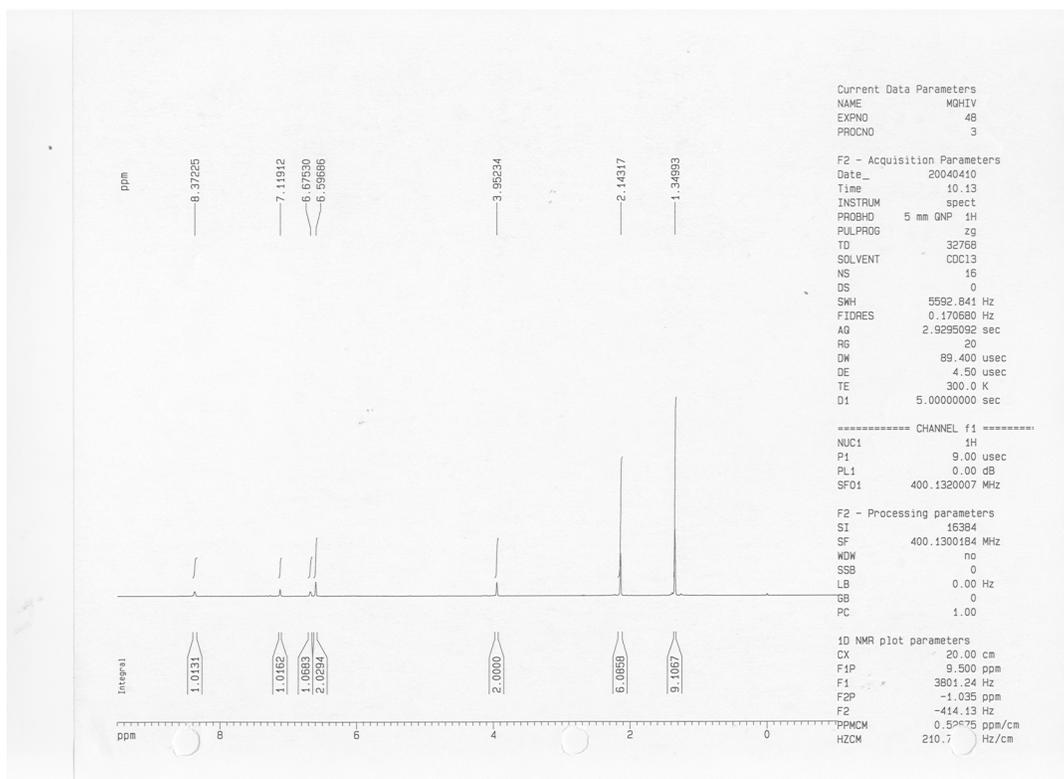
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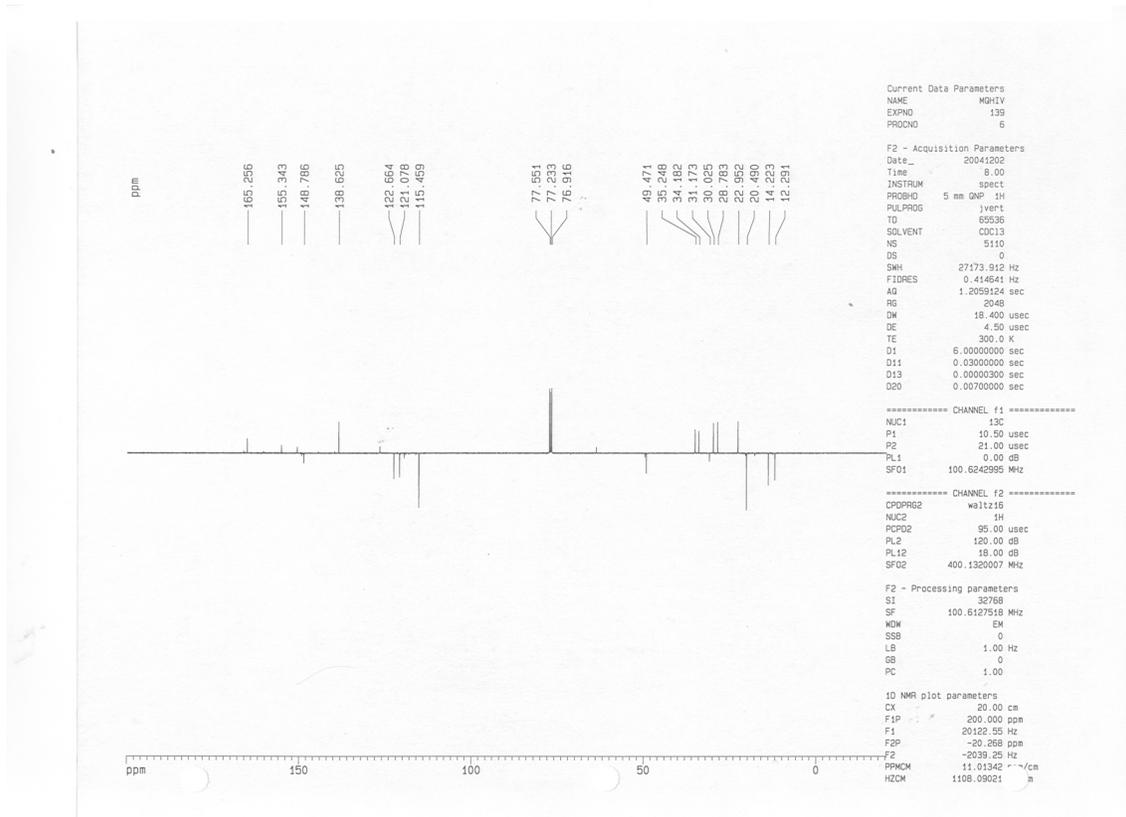
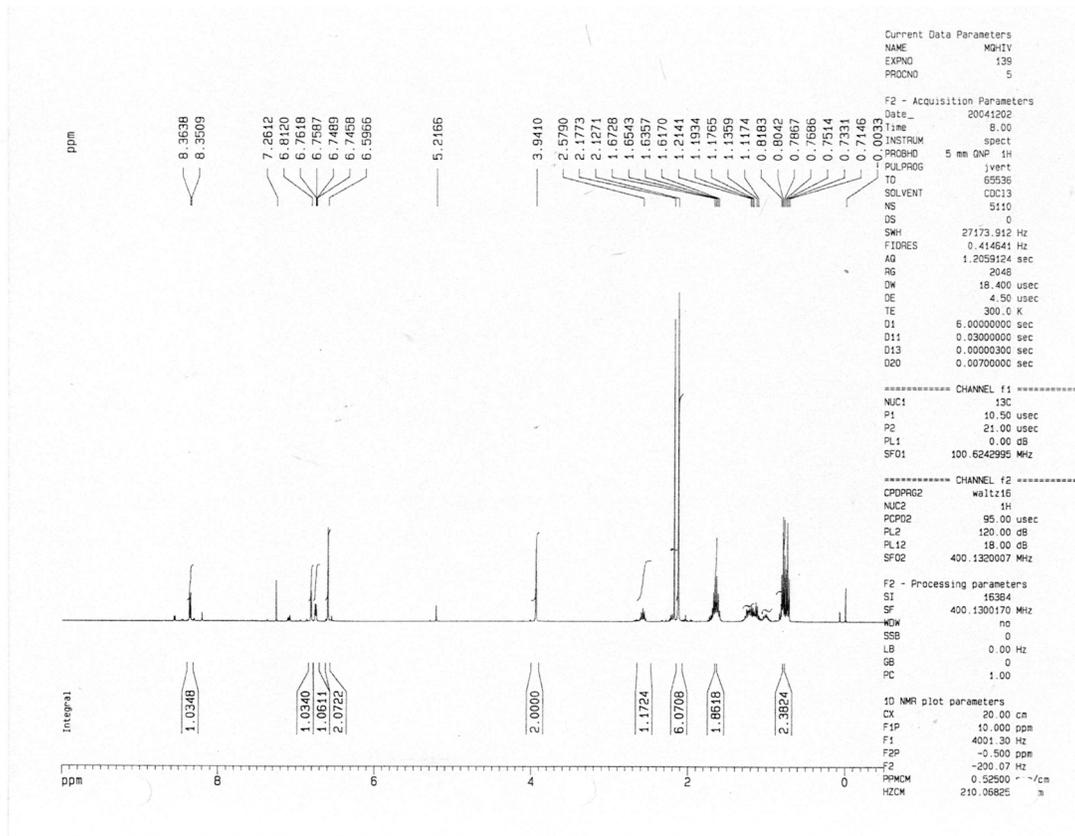
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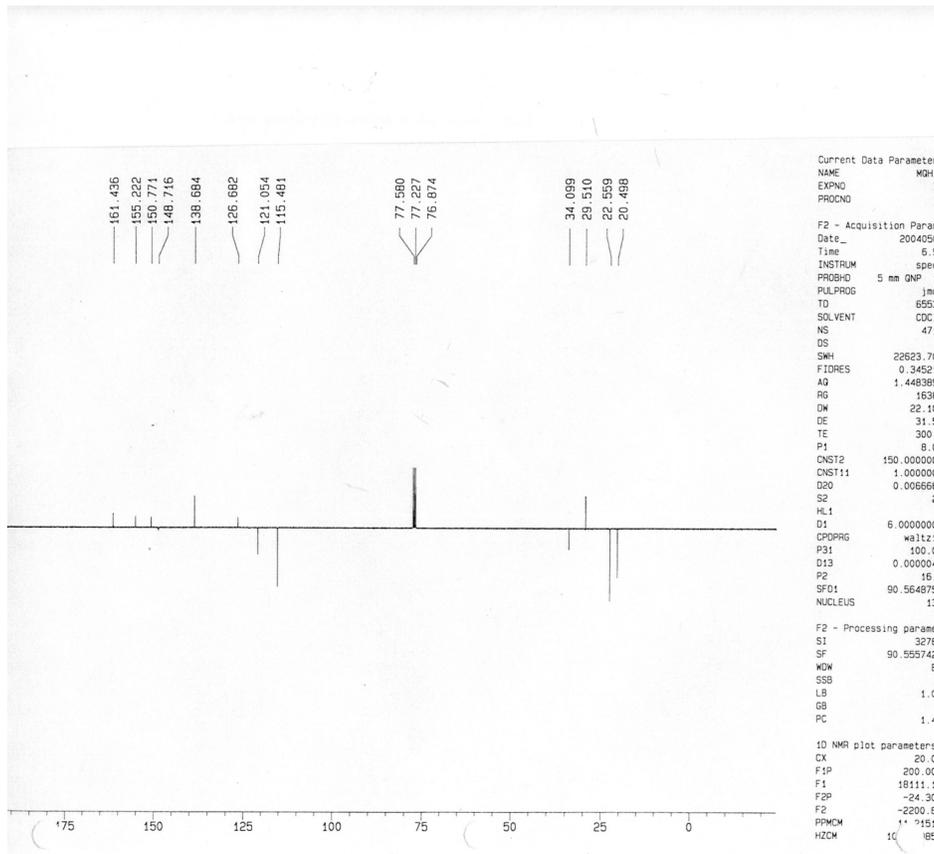
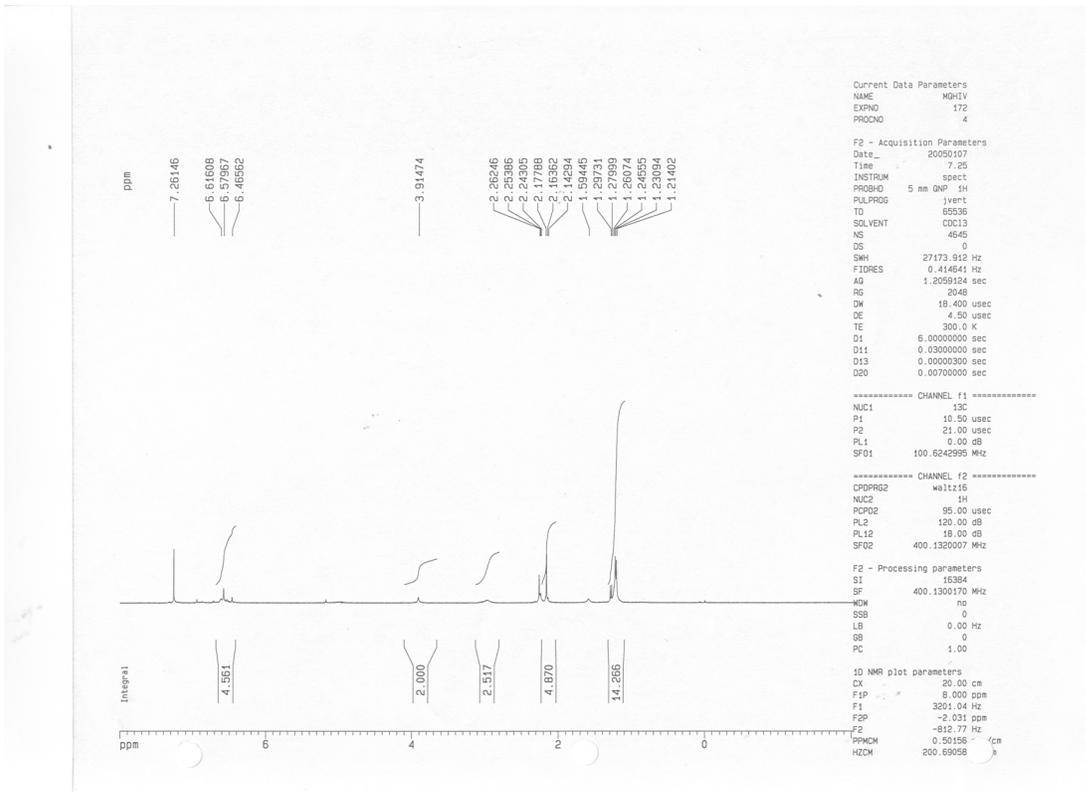
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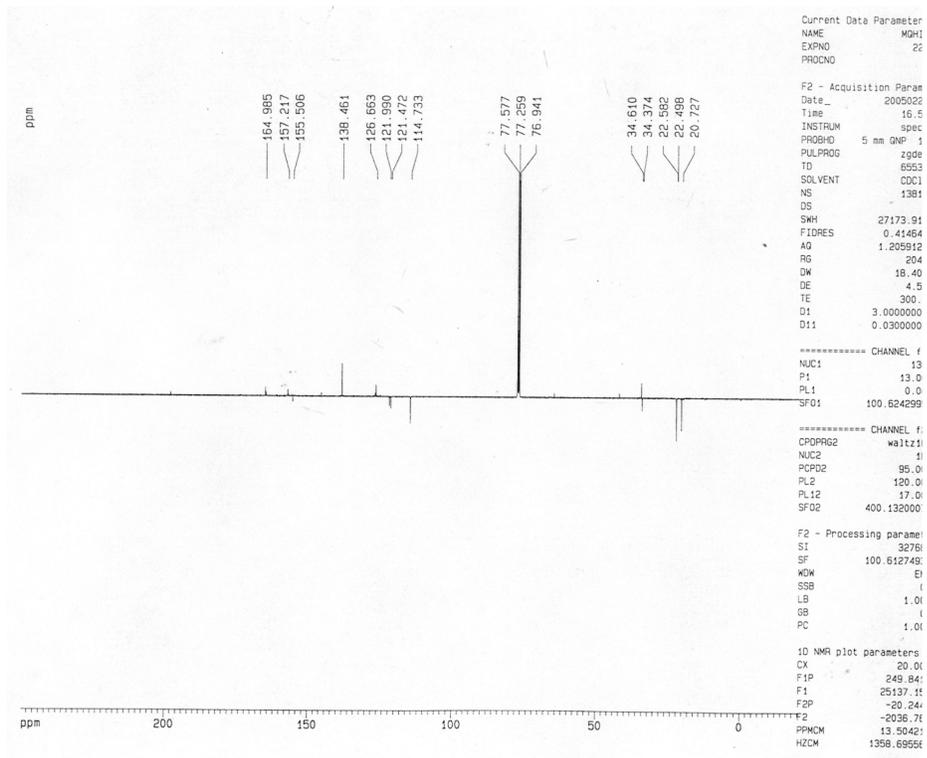
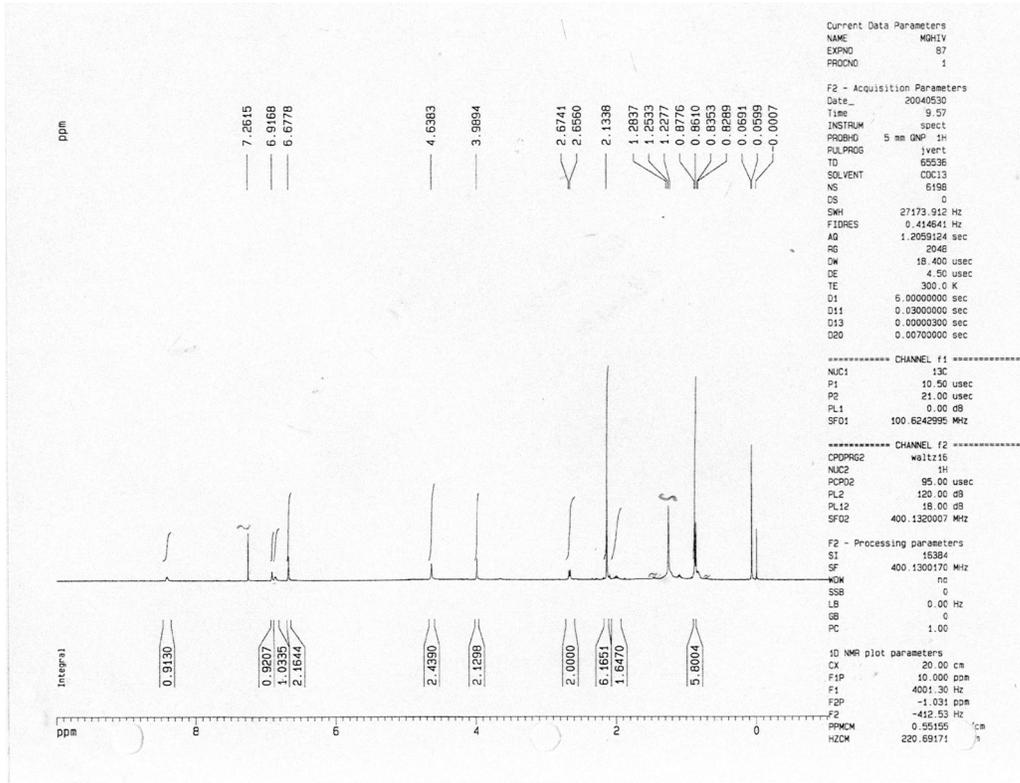
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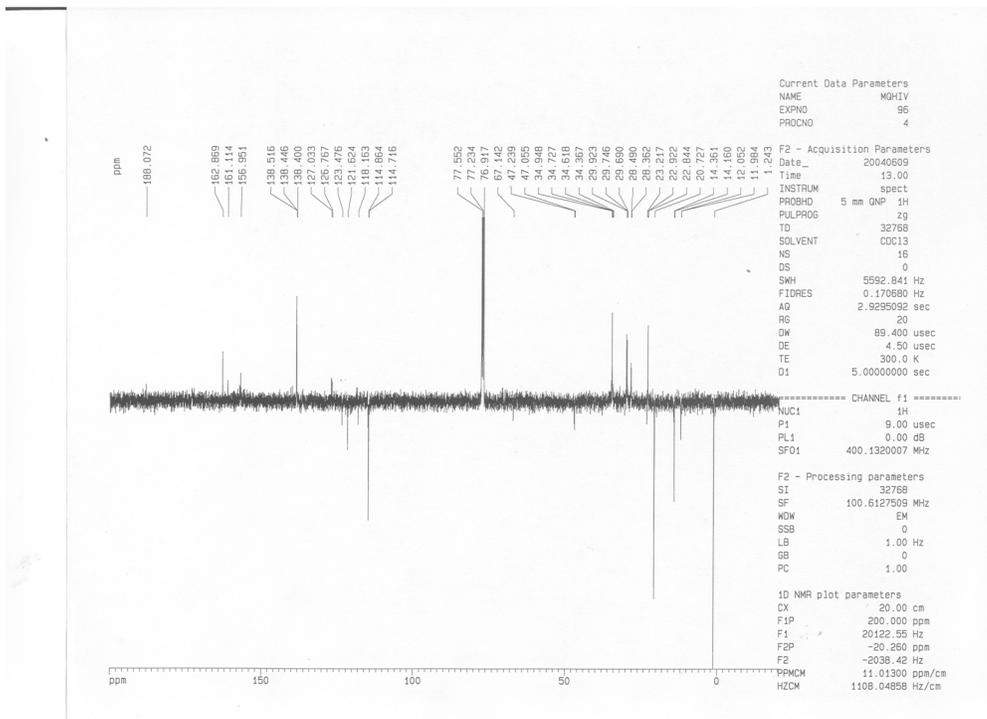
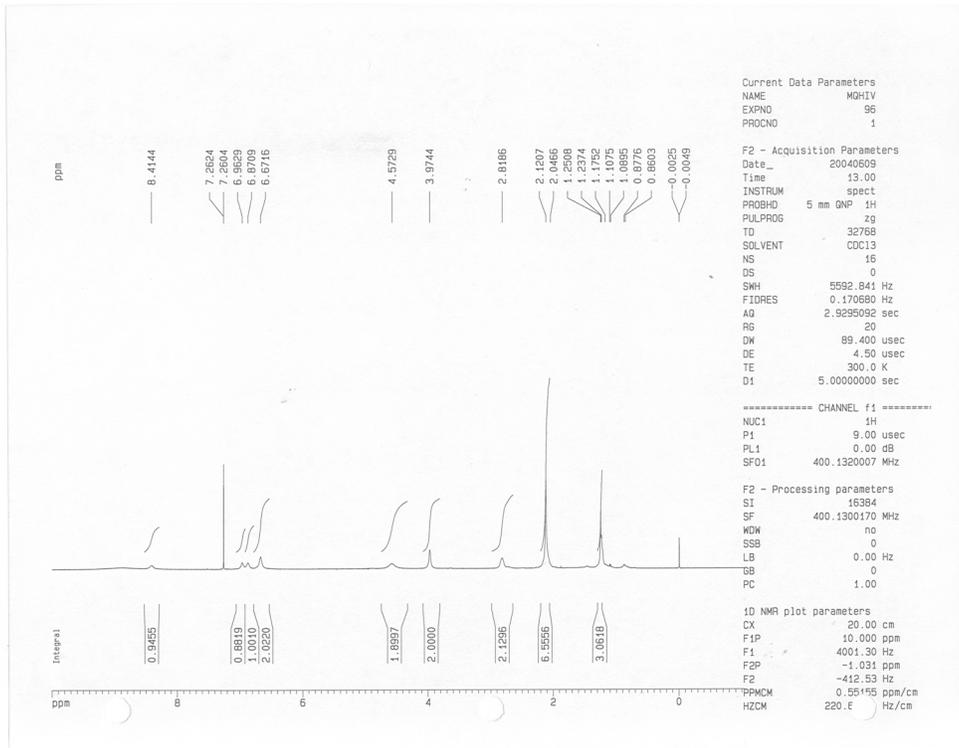
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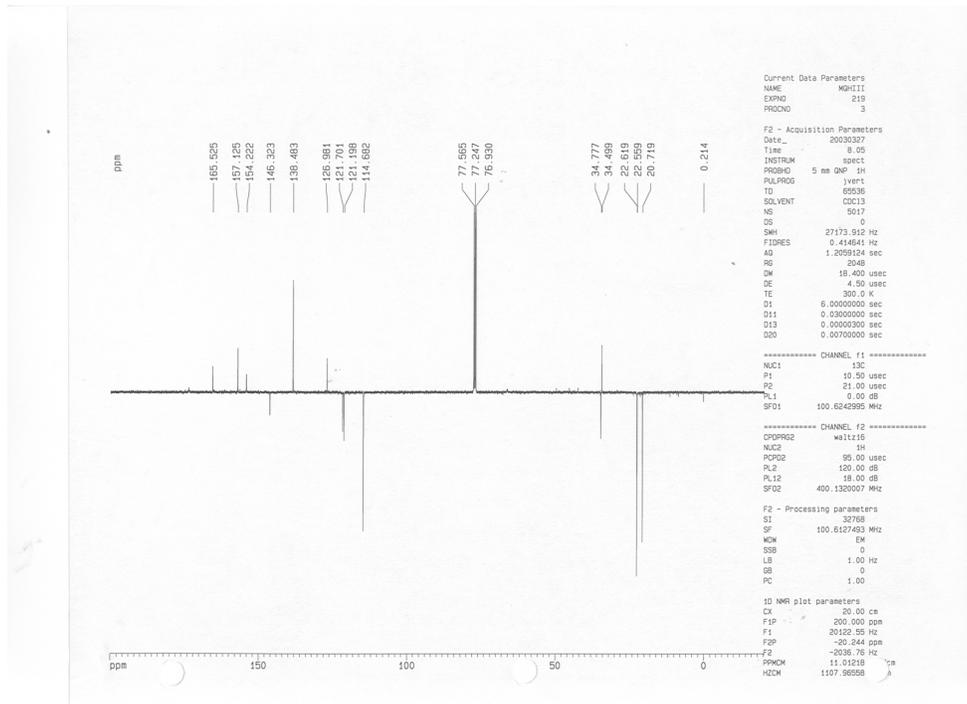
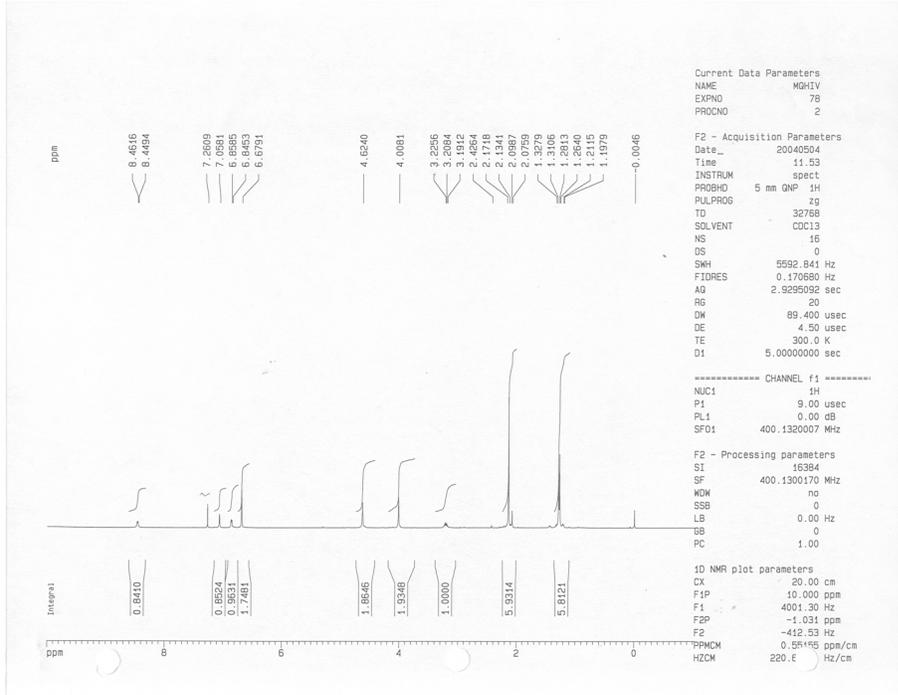
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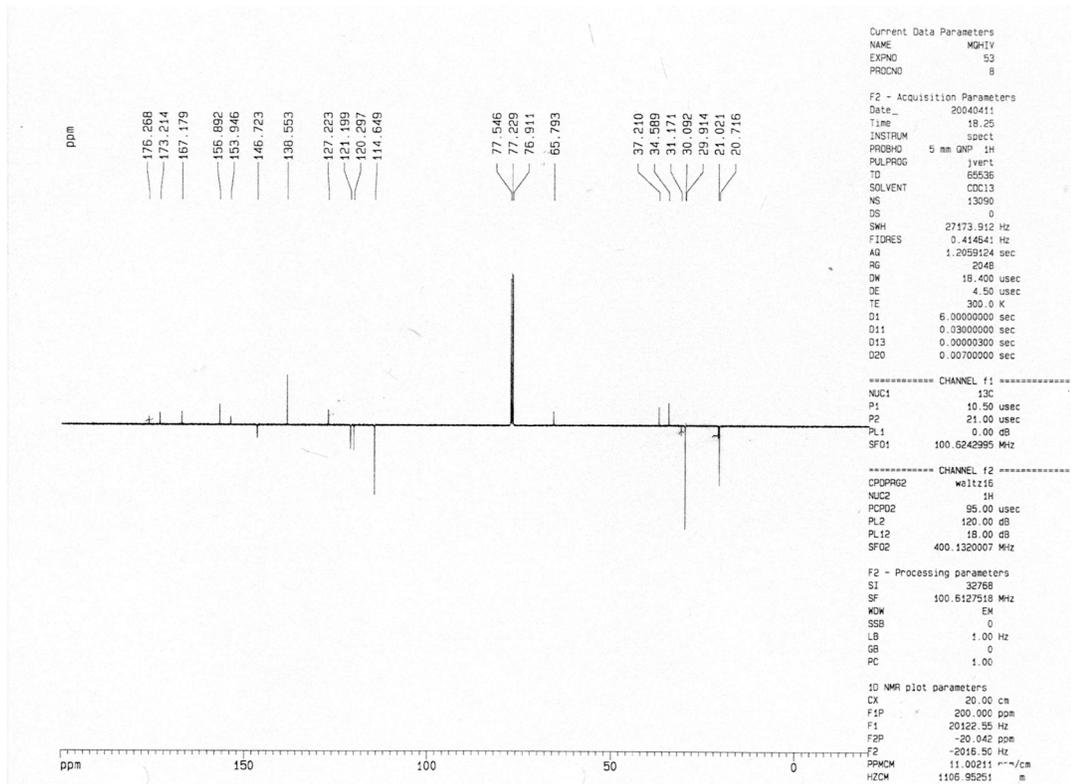
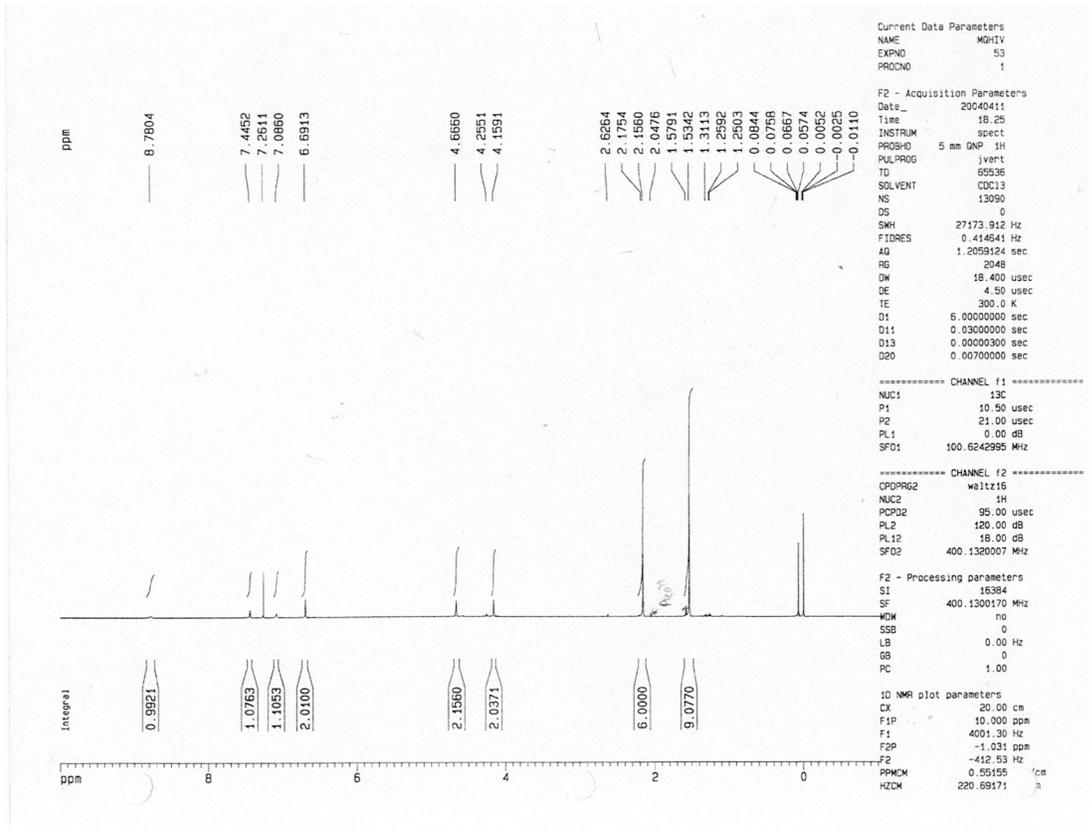
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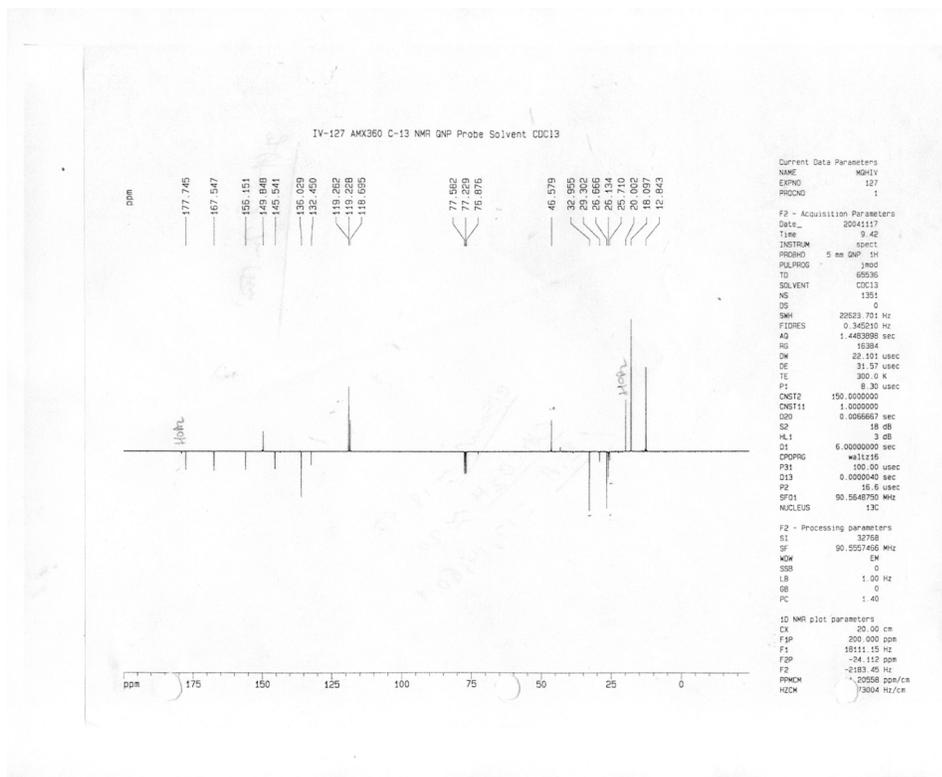
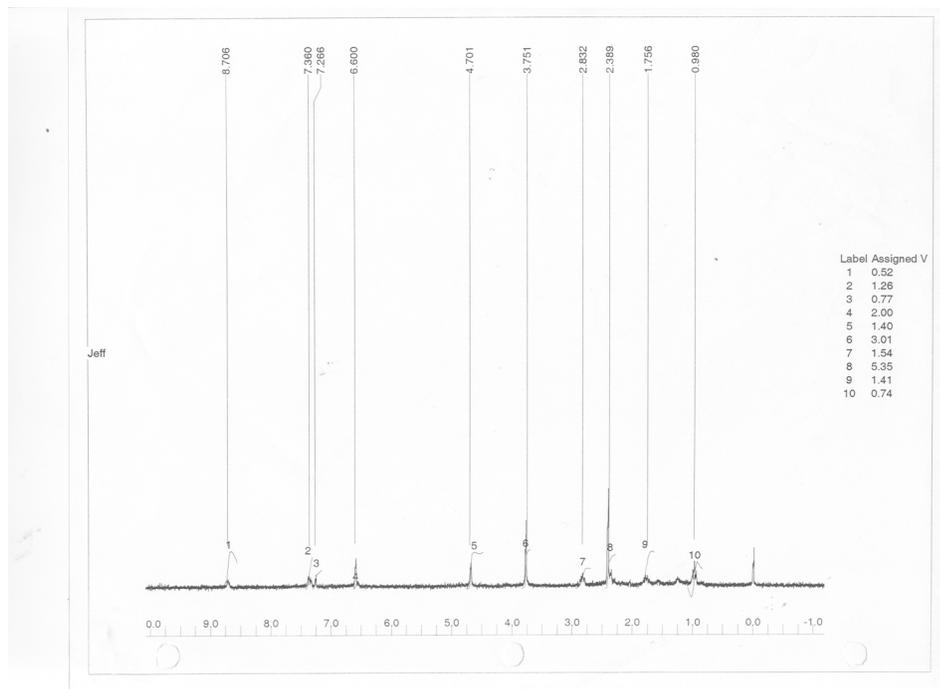
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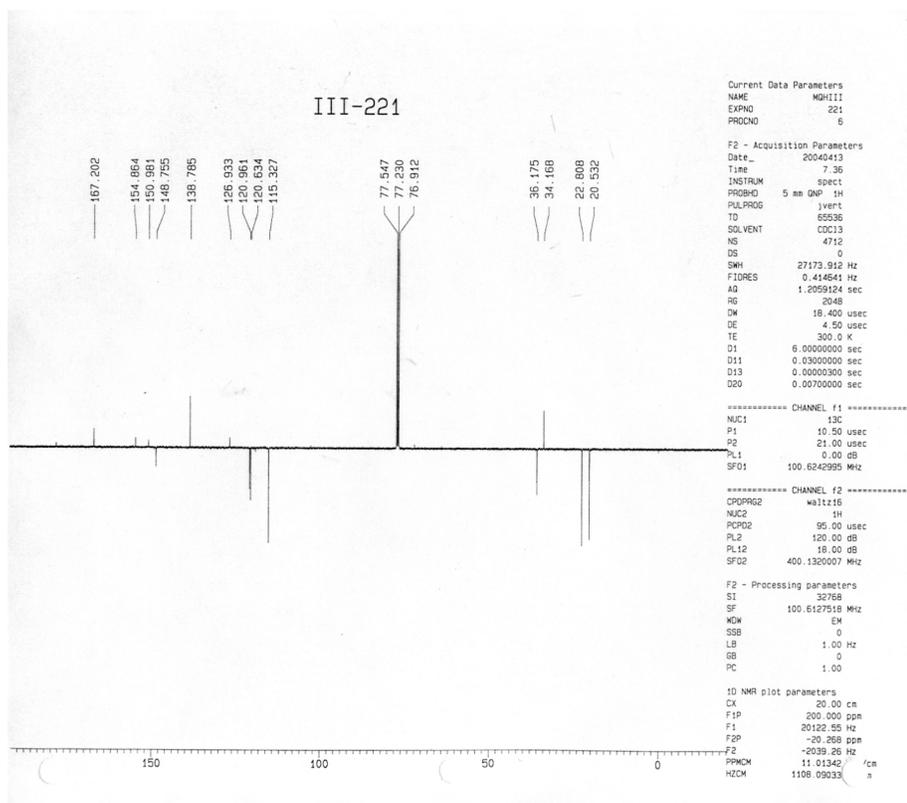
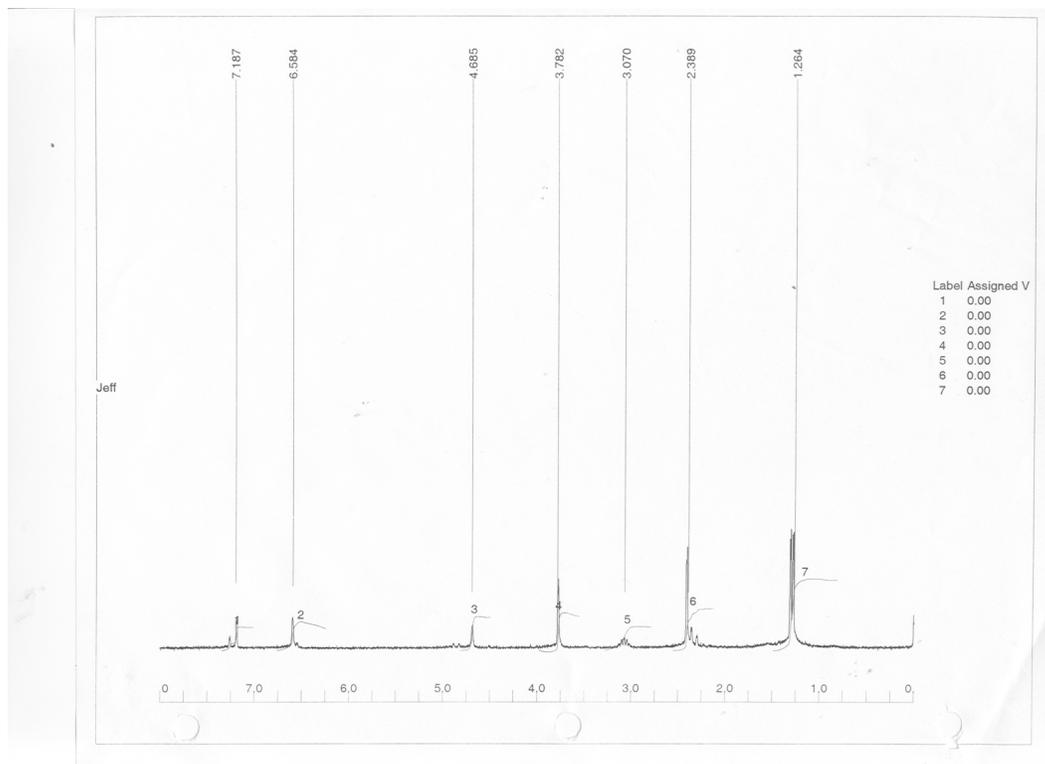
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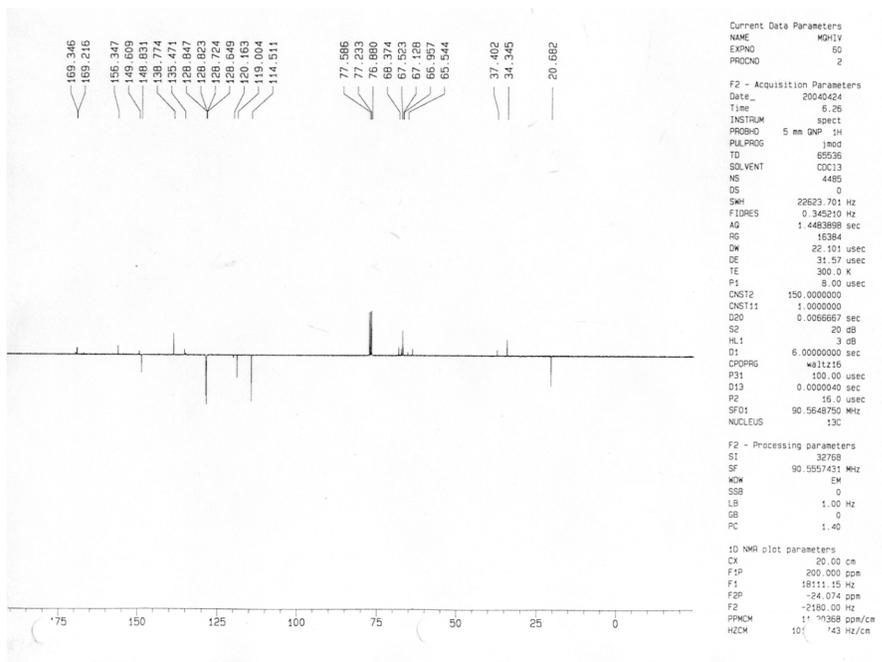
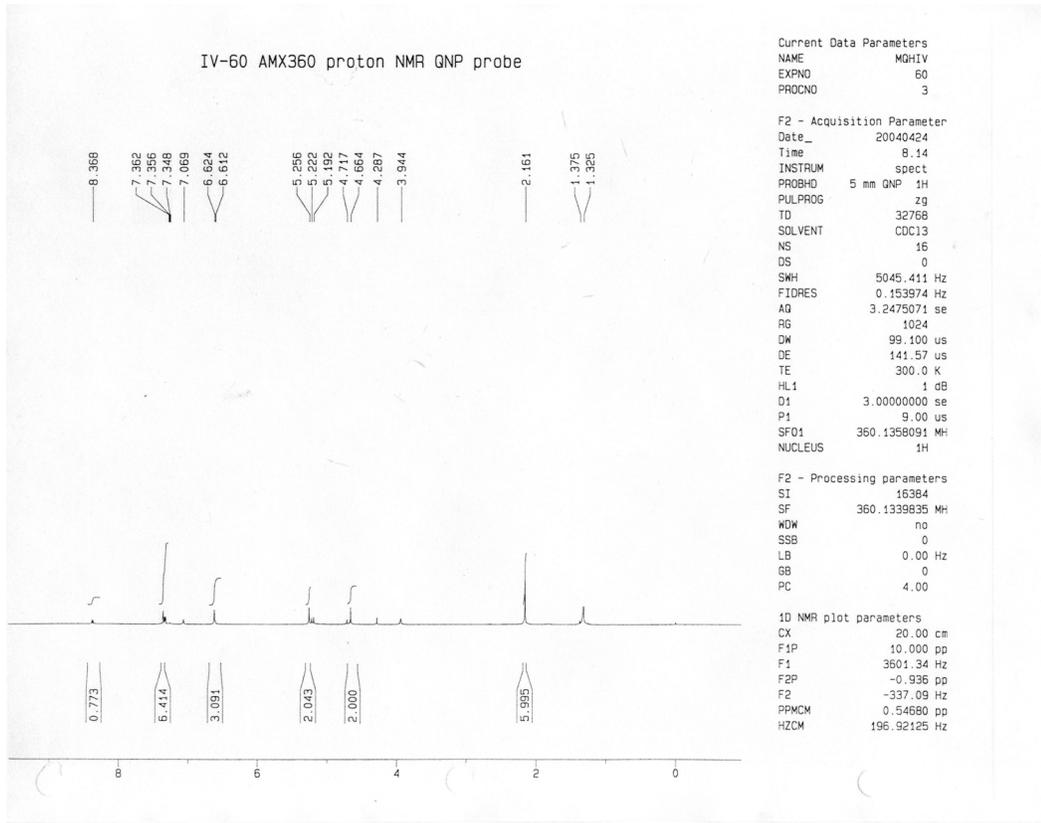
QH15.



QH16.



QH17.



QH18.

