



Supplementary Materials for

Asymmetric nucleophilic fluorination under hydrogen bonding phase-transfer catalysis

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General Information

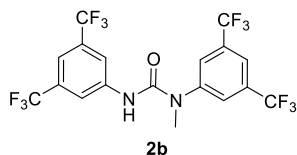
Unless otherwise stated, all reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers (Sigma-Aldrich, Alfa Aesar, Fluorochem and Apollo Scientific) and used without further purification. Unless otherwise stated, solvents were used without prior drying/degassing. Reactions requiring anhydrous conditions are clearly stated and were conducted after flame-drying of the appropriate reaction vessel (round-bottom two-neck flasks or Schlenk) and under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen. Dry solvents were purchased from commercial suppliers or dried on a column of alumina. Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) on silica gel pre-coated aluminium sheets (Merck Kieselgel 60 F₂₅₄ plates). Visualization was accomplished by irradiation with UV light at 254 nm, and/or phosphomolybdic acid (PMA) stain, and/or Cerium Ammonium Molybdate (CAM) stain, and/or permanganate stain. Column chromatography was performed on Merck silica gel (60, particle size 0.040-0.063 mm). Optical rotations were measured on an Autopol L 2000 (Schmidt-Haensch) at 589 nm, 25 °C. Data are reported as: $[\alpha]_D^{25}$, concentration (c in g/100 mL), and solvent. The absolute configuration was determined by X-ray analysis. Low temperature single crystal X-ray diffraction data were collected using a (Rigaku) Oxford Diffraction SuperNova A diffractometer. Full crystallographic data (in CIF format) is available as ESI and has been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC 1812187-88). All NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AVIIIHD 400, AVIIIHD 500 or AVII 500. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectral data are reported as chemical shifts (δ) in parts per million (ppm) relative to the solvent peak using the Bruker internal referencing procedure (edlock). ¹⁹F NMR spectra are referenced relative to CFCl₃. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, pent = pentet, sept = septet, br = broad, m = multiplet), coupling constants (Hz) and integration. NMR spectra were processed with MestReNova 11.0 or Topspin 3.5 or 4.0. UV-Vis spectra were recorded using a PG instruments T60 UV/Vis spectrophotometer. High resolution mass spectra were determined on a Thermo Exactive mass spectrometer using electrospray ionization (ESI) or atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI) or on an Agilent 7200 Q-TOF spectrometer equipped with a direct insertion probe supplied by Scientific Instrument Manufacturer (SIM) GmbH using electron ionization (EI – 20eV). The episulfonium precursors (bromo sulfides) were found to be unstable under a variety of MS ionization methods (CI, EI, ESI) and therefore no HRMS could be obtained for them; this is clearly stated in the single experiment. Infrared spectra were recorded as the neat compound or in solution using a Bruker tensor 27 FT-IR spectrometer. Absorptions are reported in wavenumber (cm⁻¹). Melting points of solids were measured on a Griffin apparatus and are uncorrected. All enantiomeric ratios were determined on spectroscopically pure compounds (after chromatographic purification) by HPLC analysis on a Shimadzu *i*-Prominence LC-2030 (PDA detector) employing a chiral stationary phase column and an eluent mixture specified in the individual experiment (HPLC traces analysis), by comparing the samples with the appropriate racemic mixtures.

Catalysts Synthesis and Characterization

ACHIRAL CATALYSTS

The following achiral catalysts were prepared according to literature procedures and their analytical data was in agreement with the literature values: catalyst **2a** and **2d** (34), **2c** (35), and **2f** (36). Catalysts **2e** and catalyst **2b** were unknown; their synthesis and characterization are therefore described herein.

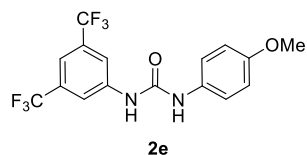
1,3-bis(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1-methylurea (**2b**)



In a flame-dried Schlenk under inert atmosphere, *N*-methyl-3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)aniline (**37**) (0.411 mmol, 100 mg, 1 equiv.) was dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (0.4 M). 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl isocyanate (0.411 mmol, 71 μ L, 1 equiv.) was added dropwise and the solution was stirred overnight.

After dilution with hexane (1 mL), the crude was filtered and the white solid was washed (2 x 5mL) with a hexane:CH₂Cl₂ mixture (8:2) to yield the desired compound as a white solid (68% yield, 140 mg). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.82 (s br, 4H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H), **¹⁹F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -62.9 (s, 6F), -63.0 (s, 6F), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 153.0, 144.1, 139.5, 134.0 (q, J_{C-F} = 34.2 Hz), 132.4 (q, J_{C-F} = 34.2 Hz), 127.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.0 Hz), 123.0 (q, J_{C-F} = 273.5 Hz), 122.5 (q, J_{C-F} = 274.5 Hz), 121.5 (m), 119.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.4 Hz), 117.1 (q, J_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 37.8; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3333, 3129, 1658, 1550, 1372, 1124, 1108, 937, 911, 887, 844, 757, 727, 701, 682, 657, 617 cm⁻¹; **MP** 166–167 °C; **HRMS** (APCIpos) m/z calculated for C₁₈H₁₁ON₂F₁₂ (M+H)⁺ 499.06743, found 499.06623.

1-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)urea (**2e**)



Same protocol used for the synthesis of **2b**, by employing 4-methoxyaniline as starting material. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 9.31 (s br, 1H), 8.78 (s br, 1H), 8.13 (s, 2H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.38 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -61.7 (s, 6F), **¹³C NMR**

(126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.5, 153.0, 142.6, 131.1 (q, J_{C-F} = 32.7 Hz), 123.8 (q, J_{C-F} = 272.2 Hz), 121.4, 118.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.9 Hz), 114.5 (m), 114.4, 55.7; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3342, 3123, 1702, 1654, 1573, 1527, 1513, 1473, 1443, 1385, 1300, 1273, 1249, 1228, 1170, 1129, 1054, 1030, 951, 909, 884, 790, 704, 680, 621 cm⁻¹; **MP** 178–179 °C; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for C₁₆H₁₃O₂N₂F₆ (M+H)⁺ 379.08757, found 379.08754.

ENANTIOPURE CHIRAL CATALYSTS

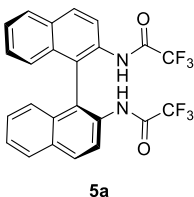
The following chiral catalysts were prepared according to literature procedures and their analytical data was in agreement with the literature values: catalyst **4a–b** (38), **4c** (39), and **4d** (38). Catalysts **4e–h** were unknown; their synthesis and characterization is therefore described herein.

Bis-aniline derivatives

Unless indicated otherwise, alkylated bis-anilines were prepared according to the general procedure described herein. Bis-methylated bis-aniline **5e** ((*S*)-*N*²,*N*^{2'}-dimethyl-[1,1'-binaphthalene]-2,2'-diamine) is commercially available (Sigma-Aldrich) and/or was prepared according to literature procedures (40). *N*-methyl-3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)aniline (34) was prepared according to published protocols (37).

General procedure for the synthesis of *N*-alkylated 1,1'-binaphthyl-2,2'-diamines (**5b–c**): A round-bottom flask was charged with *N,N'*-([1,1'-binaphthalene]-2,2'-diyl)bis(2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide) **5a** (1 equiv.), K₂CO₃ (2 equiv.) and the appropriate alkyl iodide (1.05 equiv.) in acetone (0.25 M). After stirring at reflux for 18–36 h, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude mixture was redissolved in a 4:1 EtOH:H₂O mixture (0.25 M). 10 equiv. of KOH were added and the reaction was stirred at 70 °C for 12 h. The mixture was then cooled to rt and EtOAc was added. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted three times with EtOAc. The combined organic phases were then washed with brine. After anhydrication with MgSO₄ and filtration, the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by FCC (hexane:CH₂Cl₂ or hexane:Et₂O as eluent) to afford the desired products as white solids.

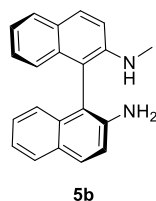
(*S*)-*N,N'*-([1,1'-binaphthalene]-2,2'-diyl)bis(2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide) (**5a**)



A flame-dried two-neck round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer was charged with (*S*)-1,1'-binaphthyl-2,2'-diamine (2.0 g, 7 mmol, 1 equiv.) under a flow of nitrogen. 14 mL of CH₂Cl₂ (0.5 M) were added followed by a dropwise addition of trifluoroacetic anhydride (5.8 mL, 42 mmol, 6 equiv.) at 0 °C. The solution was allowed to warm to rt and stirred for 20 min. The volatiles were then carefully evaporated to afford the desired product without any further purification. White solid, 3.30 g, 99% yield. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.21 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (s br, 2H), 7.59 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = −76.3 (s, 6F), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.6 (q, *J*_{C–F} = 37.9 Hz), 132.3, 131.8, 131.7, 130.9, 128.7, 128.2, 127.0, 124.7, 123.9, 121.8, 114.3 (q, *J*_{C–F} = 289.1 Hz); IR (thin layer film) ν = 3259, 1705, 1530, 1509, 1337, 1266, 1236, 1191, 1161, 933, 910, 864, 812, 765, 741, 717, 649 cm^{−1}; MP 179–180 °C;

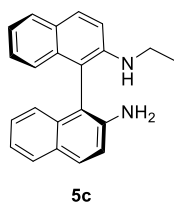
HRMS (ESIpos) m/z calculated for $C_{24}H_{15}O_2N_2F_6$ ($M+H$)⁺ 477.1032, found 477.1033; $[\alpha]_D^{25\text{ }^\circ\text{C}}$ -100.1° ($c = 0.5$, $CHCl_3$).

(S)-N²-methyl-[1,1'-binaphthalene]-2,2'-diamine (5b)



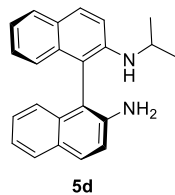
N-methylated aniline **5b** was synthesized according to the general procedure by employing 2.0 g (4.20 mmol) of protected bis-aniline **5a** and 274 μL (4.41 mmol) of iodomethane and stirring for 18h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = hexane:Et₂O (90:10 to 80:20 gradient), white solid, 1.0 g, 80% yield. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ = 7.84 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.77–7.70 (m, 3H), 7.22–7.04 (m, 6H), 6.99–6.91 (m, 2H), 3.65 (s, 2H), 2.77 (s, 3H), 1.48 (s br, 1H), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ = 144.9, 142.8, 133.9, 133.4, 129.8, 129.6, 128.5, 128.2, 128.1, 127.8, 126.9, 126.8, 124.0, 123.7, 122.5, 122.1, 118.4, 113.6, 112.5, 112.3, 31.4; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3349, 2813, 1616, 1594, 1508, 1494, 1470, 1420, 1381, 1337, 1300, 1280, 1247, 1212, 1168, 1153, 1022, 951, 912, 811, 773, 748 cm^{-1} ; **MP** 177–178 $^\circ\text{C}$; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for $C_{21}H_{19}N_2$ ($M+H$)⁺ 299.1542, found 299.1538; $[\alpha]_D^{25\text{ }^\circ\text{C}}$ -144.8° ($c = 1.0$, $CHCl_3$).

(S)-N²-ethyl-[1,1'-binaphthalene]-2,2'-diamine (5c)



N-ethylated aniline **5c** was synthesized according to the general procedure by employing 700 mg (1.47 mmol) of protected bis-aniline **5a** and 124 μL (1.54 mmol) of iodoethane and stirring for 36h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = hexane:CH₂Cl₂ (70:30 to 50:50 gradient), white solid, 330 mg, 72% yield. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ = 7.79 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.67–7.74 (m, 3H), 7.20–7.03 (m, 6H), 6.98–6.94 (m, 1H), 6.93–6.80 (m, 1H), 6.56 (s br, 3H), 3.16 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 0.95 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ = 144.4, 143.0, 134.0, 133.6, 129.6, 129.5, 128.5, 128.2, 128.1, 127.7, 126.8, 126.7, 124.0, 123.8, 122.4, 121.9, 118.3, 114.3, 112.5, 112.4, 38.7, 15.2; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3435, 3370, 3348, 2964, 1614, 1596, 1567, 1508, 1494, 1470, 1427, 1378, 1349, 1334, 1304, 1280, 1259, 1246, 1213, 1166, 1144, 1066, 1023, 964, 928, 860, 821, 810, 773, 755, 748, 683 cm^{-1} ; **MP** 159–160 $^\circ\text{C}$; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for $C_{22}H_{21}N_2$ ($M+H$)⁺ 313.1699, found 313.1699; $[\alpha]_D^{25\text{ }^\circ\text{C}}$ -170.4° ($c = 1.0$, $CHCl_3$).

(S)-N²-isopropyl-[1,1'-binaphthalene]-2,2'-diamine



N-isopropylated aniline **5d** was synthesized according to a slightly modified protocol from a previously published one (41). In a round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer, acetone (361 μL , 4.92 mmol, 1.4 equiv.) was dissolved in THF (0.25M, 14 mL) and a 20% aqueous solution of H₂SO₄ (7 mL, 2 mL/mmol_{substrate}) was added. After stirring for 30 min, (S)-1,1'-binaphthyl-2,2'-diamine (1.0 g, 3.52 mmol, 1 equiv.) was added. After 5 min of

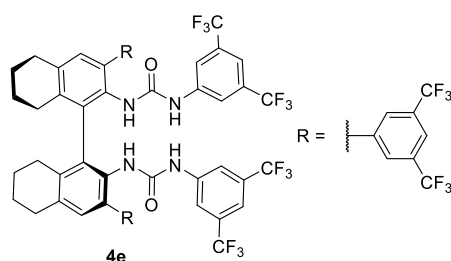
stirring, the solution was cooled to 0 °C and NaBH₄ (1.3 g, 70.0 mmol, 10 equiv.) was carefully added in portions. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at rt, then quenched with 1 M KOH and diluted with EtOAc. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted three times with EtOAc. The combined organic phases were then washed with brine. After anhydrication with MgSO₄ and filtration, the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by FCC (hexane:EtOAc = 95:5 to 90:10 gradient) to afford the desired product as a white solid, 660 mg, 57% yield. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ = 7.90 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.75–7.82 (m, 3H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.17–7.07 (m, 4H), 6.76 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (s, 2H), 3.84–3.75 (m, 1H), 3.40 (s, 1H), 1.01 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 0.91 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ = 144.8, 144.2, 134.1, 133.8, 129.5, 129.4, 128.6, 128.5, 127.7, 127.7, 126.7, 123.9, 123.4, 121.9, 121.7, 118.9, 115.9, 113.2, 109.8, 44.4, 23.6, 23.5; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3462, 3368, 2969, 1611, 1591, 1508, 1490, 1461, 1424, 1382, 1349, 1316, 1287, 1245, 1212, 1168, 1145, 1123, 1029, 958, 909, 821, 809, 772, 747, 687, 621 cm⁻¹; **MP** 165–166 °C; **HRMS** (APCIpos) *m/z* calculated for C₂₃H₂₃N₂ (M+H)⁺ 327.1855, found 327.1847; [α]_D²⁵ °C –170.6 ° (c = 1.0, CHCl₃).

Chiral ureas catalysts

Catalyst **4a–b** (38), **4c** (39), and **4d** (39) were known and prepared according to literature procedures. The starting material (*S*)-BINAM mono-urea (1-(2'-amino-[1,1'-binaphthalen]-2-yl)-3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)urea) for the synthesis of **4i** has also been reported previously (40).

General procedure for the synthesis of urea catalysts: In a flame-dried Schlenk under inert atmosphere, the appropriate bis-aniline (1 equiv.) was dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (0.4 M) and 3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl isocyanate (2 equiv.) was added dropwise. The mixture was stirred overnight at rt (**4e**) or for 36 h at reflux (**4f–m**). After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude mixture was directly purified by FCC (hexane:Et₂O or hexane:EtOAc mixtures) to afford the desired products as white solids. After FCC, the eluent was removed under reduced pressure and the solid catalyst was dried under vacuum at 60 °C overnight.

(*S*)-1,1'-(3,3'-bis(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-5,5',6,6',7,7',8,8'-octahydro-[1,1'-binaphthalene]-2,2'-diyl)bis(3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)urea (4e)

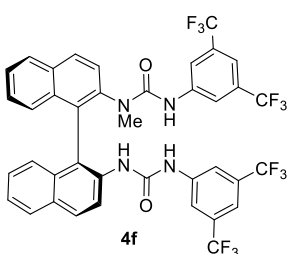


Catalyst **4e** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing (*S*)-3,3'-[3,5-(CF₃)₂C₆H₃]-1,1'-binaphthyl-2,2'-diamine (**38**) (0.22 mmol, 160 mg, 1 equiv.) as starting material.

Purification FCC, eluent = hexane:EtOAc (98:2 to 90:10 gradient), white solid, 246 mg, 90% yield. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.86 (s, 4H), 7.77 (s, 2H), 7.52 (s, 4H), 7.49 (s, 2H),

7.21 (s, 2H), 6.55 (s br, 2H), 6.46 (s, 2H), 2.96–2.80 (m, 4H), 2.26–2.37 (m, 2H), 2.25–2.16 (m, 2H), 1.85–1.66 (m, 8H), ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = –63.1 (s, 12F), –63.3 (s, 12F), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 153.5, 141.6, 139.1, 138.6, 137.1, 135.7, 132.3 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 33.8 Hz), 131.6 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 33.8 Hz), 130.8, 129.1, 128.8, 123.2 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 272.5 Hz), 122.9 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 272.9 Hz), 121.0, 119.2, 117.0, 29.7, 27.6, 22.8, 22.5; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 2963, 1655, 1621, 1569, 1472, 1384, 1275, 1172, 1126, 942, 899, 882, 845, 703, 681 cm^{–1}; **MP** 161–162 °C; **HRMS** (APCIpos) *m/z* calculated for C₅₄H₃₅O₂N₄F₂₄ (M+H)⁺ 1227.2376, found 1227.2356; [α]_D²⁵ °C +219.2 ° (c = 0.4, CHCl₃).

(*S*)-3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1-(2'-(3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ureido)-[1,1'-binaphthalen]-2-yl)-1-methylurea (4f)

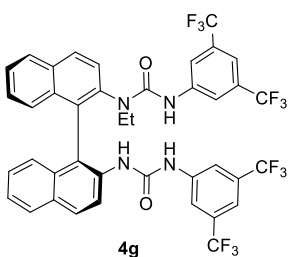


Catalyst **4f** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing (*S*)-*N*-methylated bis-aniline **5b** (0.33 mmol, 100 mg, 1 equiv.) as starting material.

Purification FCC, eluent = hexane:Et₂O (80:20 to 60:40 gradient), white solid, 180.1 mg, 68% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.50 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (t, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (s, 2H), 7.64 (s, 2H), 7.60–7.37 (m, 6H), 7.32–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.12 (s br, 1H),

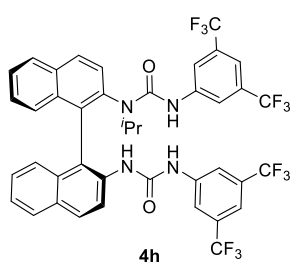
7.10 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (s br, 1H), 2.89 (s, 3H), ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = –63.2 (s, 6F), –63.3 (s, 6F), ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 156.0, 151.7, 139.9, 139.9, 139.2, 135.4, 133.5, 133.2, 133.0, 132.3 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 32.9 Hz), 132.0 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 32.9 Hz), 131.1, 131.0, 130.2, 129.8, 128.5, 128.3, 127.6, 127.3, 127.2, 126.5, 126.3, 125.0, 124.7, 123.1 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 272.9 Hz), 122.8 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 272.9 Hz), 120.1, 119.8, 118.11, 117.4, 115.9 (m), 37.1; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3326, 3064, 1654, 1621, 1600, 1538, 1505, 1473, 1443, 1386, 1358, 1340, 1317, 1276, 1173, 1127, 1058, 1001, 949, 881, 844, 823, 776, 750, 725, 700, 682 cm^{–1}; **MP** 156–157 °C; **HRMS** (APCIpos) *m/z* calculated for C₃₉H₂₅O₂N₄F₁₂ (M+H)⁺ 809.1773, found 809.1780; [α]_D²⁵ °C –81.5 ° (c = 1.0, CHCl₃).

(*S*)-3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1-(2'-(3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ureido)-[1,1'-binaphthalen]-2-yl)-1-ethylurea (4g)



Catalyst **4g** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing (*S*)-*N*-ethylated bis-aniline **5c** (0.48 mmol, 150 mg, 1 equiv.) as starting material. **Purification** FCC, eluent_{first column} = pentane:CH₂Cl₂ (80:20 to 0:100 gradient), eluent_{second column} = pentane:EtOAc (95:5 to 80:20 gradient), white solid, 257.0 mg, 65% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.49 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.02–7.96 (m, 2H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (s br, 2H), 7.63 (s, 2H), 7.55–7.96 (m, 4H), 7.43–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.30–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.14 (s br, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.30–3.18 (m, 1H), 3.18–3.03 (s br, 1H), 1.00 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = –63.2 (s, 6F), –63.3 (s, 6F), ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 155.7, 151.7, 139.8, 139.3, 138.7, 135.4, 133.6, 133.2, 130.0, 132.4 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 33.2 Hz), 132.0 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 33.6 Hz), 131.4, 130.7, 130.2, 129.8, 128.6, 128.2, 127.7, 127.6, 127.3, 127.2, 126.6, 124.9, 124.7, 123.0 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 272.2 Hz), 122.9 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 272.0 Hz), 122.3, 120.1, 119.9, 118.1, 117.4, 115.8 (m), 44.5, 13.2; IR (thin layer film) ν = 3338, 3064, 1644, 1600, 1505, 1473, 1440, 1385, 1371, 1340, 1275, 1174, 1125, 1060, 1033, 1015, 1000, 968, 948, 880, 845, 823, 810, 787, 774, 749, 724, 700, 681 cm^{–1}; MP 141–142 °C; HRMS (APCIpos) *m/z* calculated for C₄₀H₂₇O₂N₄F₁₂ (M+H)⁺ 823.1937, found 823.1916; [α]_D^{25 °C} –81.5 ° (c = 1.0, CHCl₃).

(*S*)-3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1-(2'-(3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ureido)-[1,1'-binaphthalen]-2-yl)-1-isopropylurea (4h)



Catalyst **4h** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing *N*-isopropylated bis-aniline (*S*)-**5d** (3.22 mmol, 1.0 g, 1 equiv.) as starting material. **Purification:** FCC, eluent = hexane:Et₂O (90:10 to 80:20 gradient), white solid, 2.451 g, 91% yield. ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.53 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (s, 2H), 7.60 (s, 2H), 7.56–7.48 (m, 4H), 7.42–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.28 (m, 1H), 7.26–7.21 (m, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (s br, 1H), 3.65 (sept, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.04 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.67 (s br, 3H), ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = –63.2 (s, 12F), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 155.9, 151.8, 139.9, 139.8, 139.3, 135.6, 133.7, 133.2, 133.1, 132.3 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 33.5 Hz), 131.9 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 33.5 Hz), 131.8, 130.7, 130.3, 129.9, 128.5, 128.2, 127.9, 127.5, 127.3, 127.2, 127.1, 126.9, 125.2, 124.6, 123.1 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 273.0 Hz), 122.9 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 273.0 Hz), 120.2, 119.9, 118.1, 117.4, 115.8, 53.2, 20.9, 20.6, IR (thin

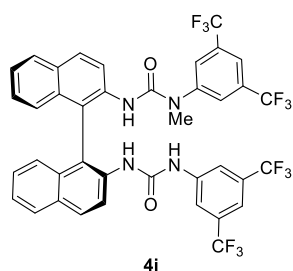
layer film) $\nu = 3328, 3064, 2929, 1687, 1637, 1621, 1602, 1540, 1506, 1473, 1439, 1385, 1338, 1276, 1175, 1127, 1060, 1035, 948, 930, 882, 843, 820, 785, 775, 749, 725, 700, 683, 634 \text{ cm}^{-1}$; **MP** 139–140 °C; **HRMS** (APCIpos) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{41}\text{H}_{29}\text{O}_2\text{N}_4\text{F}_{12}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}^+$) 837.2093, found 837.2077; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25\text{ }^\circ\text{C}} -49.9^\circ$ ($c = 1.0$, CHCl_3).

The opposite enantiomer (*R*)-**4h** $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25\text{ }^\circ\text{C}} +50.2^\circ$ ($c = 1.0$, CHCl_3) was prepared following the same protocol starting from 650 mg (1.99 mmol) of (*R*)-**5d** (1.440 g, 86% yield).

TBAF·4h complex was synthesized according to literature procedure (24): **4h** (100 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1 equiv.) and TBAF·3H₂O (31 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1 equiv.) were refluxed in hexane (0.04 M, 3 mL) for 2 h. The resulting suspension was filtered and the solid dried *in vacuo* affording the desired complex. X-ray quality crystals were obtained by recrystallization layering hexane into a saturated solution of **TBAF·4h** in Et₂O.

Single Crystal Data for **TBAF·4h**: $\text{C}_{57}\text{H}_{64}\text{F}_{13}\text{N}_5\text{O}_2$, $M_r = 1098.14$. 150 K – orthorhombic, P21 21 21, $a = 10.22990(10) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 21.55920(10) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 25.00480(10) \text{ \AA}$, $V = 5514.77(6) \text{ \AA}^3$, Data/restraints/parameters – 11531/456/751, Flack = 0.000(16) for 5144 Friedel pairs and Hooft = -0.007(16) for 5049 Friedel pairs, $P2(\text{correct}) > 99.9999\%$, $P3(\text{correct}) > 99.9999\%$, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.046$, Final $R1 = 0.0511$, $wR2 = 0.1451$ ($I > 2\sigma(I)$).

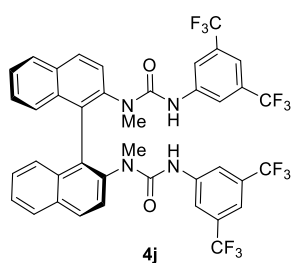
(S)-1-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-3-(2'-(3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ureido)-[1,1'-binaphthalen]-2-yl)-1-methylurea (4i)



In a flame-dried Schlenk under a flow of nitrogen, triphosgene (40.0 mg, 0.135 mmol, 0.5 equiv) was dissolved in DCE (1 mL). A 0.2 M solution of *N*-methyl-3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)aniline (**34**) (72 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) in DCE (1.7 mL) was slowly added at 0 °C. Dry NEt₃ (150 μL , 1.08 mmol, 4 equiv.) was then added dropwise at the same temperature. After stirring for 2 h at rt, (*S*)-BINAM mono-urea (1-(2'-amino-[1,1'-binaphthalen]-2-yl)-3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)urea) (**39**) (145 mg, 0.27 mmol, 1 equiv.) was added in one portion as a solid. The reaction was then refluxed (83 °C) for 24 h until full consumption of the starting material. The mixture was then cooled to rt and quenched with water. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted three times with CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic phases were then washed with brine. After anhydrication with MgSO₄ and filtration, the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by FCC (first column, pentane:Et₂O = 100:0 to 80:20 gradient followed by a second column, pentane:CH₂Cl₂ = 70:30) to afford the desired product as a white solid (75 mg, 34% yield, unoptimized). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta = 8.53$ (d, $J = 9.1 \text{ Hz}$, 1H), 8.16 (d, $J = 8.9 \text{ Hz}$, 1H), 7.98 (d, $J = 8.9 \text{ Hz}$, 1H),

7.96–7.91 (m, 2H), 7.83–7.80 (m, 2H), 7.75 (s, 2H), 7.53 (s br, 1H), 7.48–7.44 (m, 1H), 7.42 (s br, 1H), 7.36–7.27 (m, 4H), 7.16–7.08 (m, 2H), 6.80–6.75 (2H), 5.70 (s, 1H), 3.10 (s, 3H), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = –62.9 (s, 6F), –63.0 (s, 6F), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 155.6, 152.1, 143.3, 140.0, 135.3, 134.8, 133.2 (q, J_{C-F} = 34.3 Hz), 132.8, 132.2 (q, J_{C-F} = 33.4 Hz), 132.1, 131.7, 130.2, 130.1, 129.9, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7, 127.4, 127.3, 127.2, 126.3, 125.7, 125.0, 124.1 (overlapping signals), 123.9, 123.3 (q, J_{C-F} = 273.6 Hz), 122.4 (q, J_{C-F} = 273.0 Hz), 121.5 (m), 120.8, 120.1, 118.5, 118.1 (m), 115.9, 37.4; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3326, 3062, 2987, 1693, 1660, 1620, 1598, 1575, 1522, 1501, 1474, 1429, 1383, 1324, 1275, 1174, 1129, 1057, 1027, 1011, 950, 900, 882, 847, 819, 774, 746, 724, 703, 681, 620 cm^{–1}; **MP** 134–135 °C; **HRMS** (APCIpos) m/z calculated for C₃₉H₂₅O₂N₄F₁₂Na (M+H)⁺ 809.1780, found 809.1762; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ °C –58.1 ° (c = 0.3, CHCl₃).

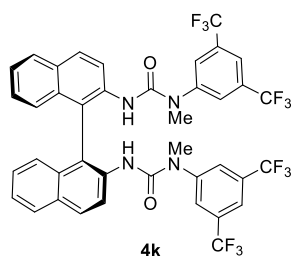
(S)-1,1'-([1,1'-binaphthalene]-2,2'-diyl)bis(3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1-methylurea) (4j)



Catalyst **4j** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing (S)-N²,N^{2'}-dimethyl-[1,1'-binaphthalene]-2,2'-diamine **5e** (37) (75 mg, 0.24 mmol, 1 equiv.) as starting material. **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 80:20 gradient), white solid, 172 mg, 87% yield. Spectroscopic analysis of this compound is highly challenging due to the presence of multiple interconverting rotamers and aggregates. ¹H NMR spectra were dependant on

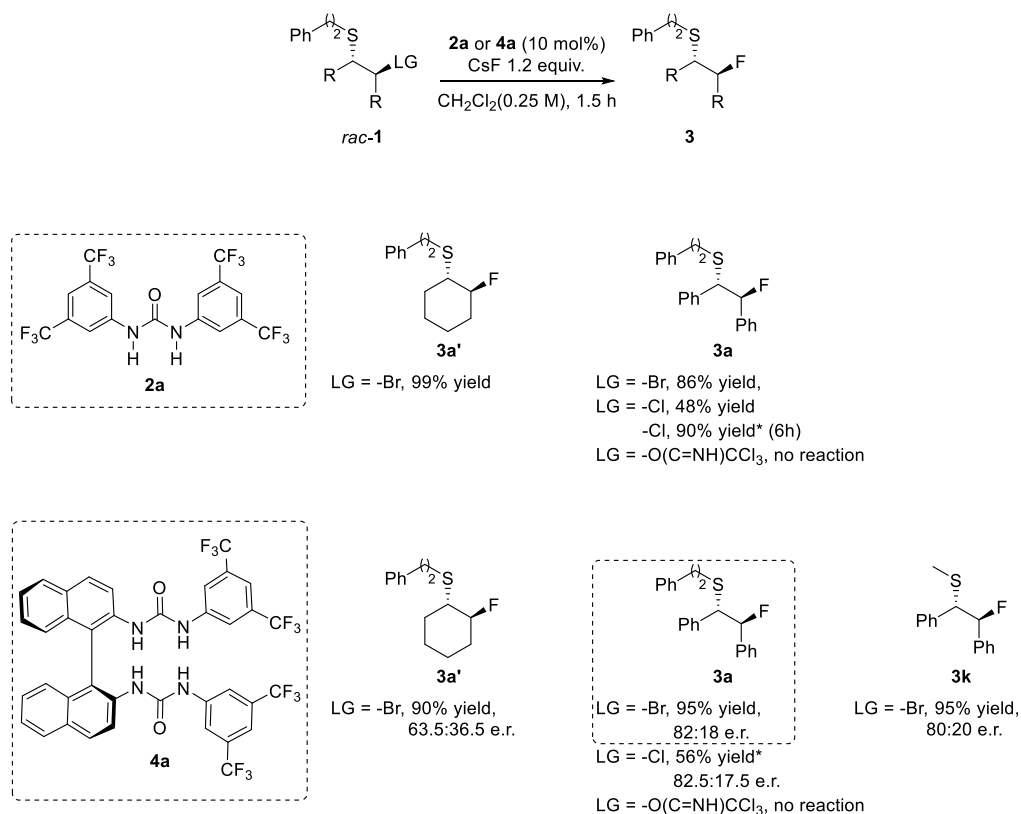
sample concentration and only showed non-assignable very broad signals even at high temperatures (up to 90 °C). ¹H NMR and ¹⁹F NMR could be recorded in a diluted solution of DMSO-d₆ (2 mg/mL) at 120 °C (1 main species observed). Due to instrument limitations at these high temperatures, ¹³C-NMR could not be acquired. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆, 120 °C) δ = 7.92 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.80–7.77 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 9.0, 2H), 7.17–7.07 (m, 8H), 7.00 (s br, 2H), 6.79 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.74 (s br, 2H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 2.78 (s, 3H) **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, DMSO-d₆, 120 °C) δ = –62.1 (s, 12F); **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3422, 1665, 1619, 1595, 1536, 1472, 1440, 1387, 1347, 1312, 1276, 1169, 1127, 1001, 937, 880, 844, 821, 753, 733, 700, 682, 647, 615 cm^{–1}; **MP** 155–156 °C; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for C₄₀H₂₇O₂N₄F₁₂ (M+H)⁺ 823.1915, found 823.1937; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ °C –288.7 ° (c = 1.0, CHCl₃).

(S)-1,1'-([1,1'-binaphthalene]-2,2'-diyl)bis(3-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-3-methylurea) (4k)



In a flame-dried Schlenk under a flow of nitrogen, triphosgene (103.5 mg, 0.35 mmol, 0.7 equiv) was dissolved in 0.5 mL of CH₂Cl₂. A 0.5 M solution of *N*-methyl-3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)aniline (**34**) (243 mg, 1 mmol, 2 equiv.) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) was slowly added at 0 °C. Dry NEt₃ (278 μL, 2 mmol, 4 equiv.) was then added dropwise at the same temperature. After stirring for 2 h at rt, (*S*)-1,1'-binaphthyl-2,2'-diamine (142 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) was added in one portion as a solid. The reaction was then refluxed for 36 h until full consumption of the starting material. The mixture was then cooled to rt and quenched with water. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted three times with CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic phases were then washed with brine. After anhydrication with MgSO₄ and filtration, the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by FCC (hexane:Et₂O, 100:0 to 80:20 gradient) to afford the desired product as a white solid (218 mg, 53% yield). **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.23 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (s, 2H), 7.34–7.30 (m, 6H), 7.16–7.12 (m, 2H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.66 (s, 2H), 3.06 (s, 6H), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = –62.7 (s, 12F), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 153.6, 143.5, 135.3, 132.8 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 34.1 Hz), 131.5, 130.2, 129.6, 128.1, 127.3, 127.3 (overlapped), 125.1, 124.0, 122.5 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 273.6 Hz), 121.0, 120.9 (sept, *J*_{C-F} = 3.5 Hz), 119.1, 37.0; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3395, 1690, 1620, 1597, 1499, 1469, 1431, 1383, 1313, 1275, 1254, 1176, 1135, 1105, 1026, 1008, 965, 900, 847, 818, 774, 746, 705, 692, 682 cm⁻¹; **MP** 152–153 °C; **HRMS** (APCIpos) *m/z* calculated for C₄₀H₂₇O₂N₄F₁₂ (*M*+*H*)⁺ 823.1915, found 823.1936; [**α**]_D²⁵ °C –121.8 ° (c = 1.0, CHCl₃).

Optimization of Reaction Conditions – Preliminary Screening

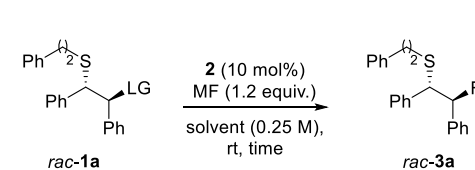
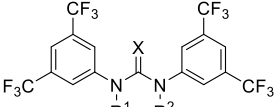
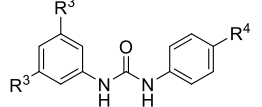


* 3 equiv. of CsF were employed.

Figure S1. – Preliminary screening

Optimization of Reaction Conditions - Non-asymmetric Catalytic System

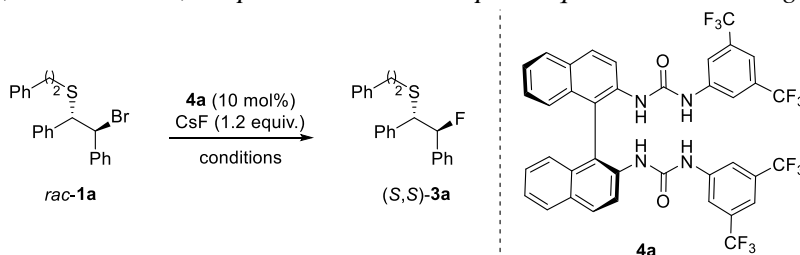
Table S1. – Full screening

 <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>2a X = O, R¹ = R² = H 2b X = O, R¹ = Me; R² = H 2c X = O, R¹ = R² = Me 2d X = S, R¹ = R² = H</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>2e R³ = CF₃; R⁴ = OMe 2f R³ = R⁴ = H</p> </div> </div>							
Entry	Solvent	LG	F ⁻ source [*]	Catalyst	Cat. loading (mol %)	Time (h)	Yield (%) [†]
1	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Br	CsF	2a	10	1.5	80
2	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Br	CsF	--	--	1.5	no reaction
3	PhMe	Br	CsF	2a	10	1.5	33
4	PhMe	Br	CsF	--	--	1.5	< 5
5	CH ₃ CN	Br	CsF	2a	10	1.5	72
6	CH ₃ CN	Br	CsF	--	--	1.5	< 5
7	DMF	Br	CsF	2a	10	1.5	10
8	DMF	Br	CsF	--	--	1.5	9
9 [‡]	MeOH	Br	CsF	2a	10	1.5	10
10 [‡]	MeOH	Br	CsF	--	--	1.5	10
11	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Br	CsF	2b	10	1.5	no reaction
12	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Br	CsF	2c	10	1.5	no reaction
13	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Br	CsF	2d	10	1.5	no reaction
14	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Br	CsF	2e	10	1.5	20
15	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Br	CsF	2f	10	1.5	5
16	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Br	CsF	2a	5	24	64
17	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Br	CsF	2a	0.5	24	6
18 [§]	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Br	KF	2a	10	24	55
19	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Cl	CsF	2a	10	1.5	48
20	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Cl	CsF	2a	10	6	90
21 ^{, ¶}	CH ₂ Cl ₂	O(C=NH)CCl ₃	CsF	2a	10	1.5	no reaction

General conditions: Substrate (0.05 mmol), stirring at 1200 rpm, ^{*} CsF and KF used without any prior drying and used as provided by the supplier (Sigma-Aldrich, CsF 99.9% trace metal basis), [†] Determined by ¹⁹F NMR using 4-fluoroanisole as internal standard, [‡] The major product detected by ¹H NMR was the methyl ether derived from MeOH attack of the episulfonium ion, [§] KF also afforded *rac*-**3a** despite longer reaction times; no reaction was observed with NaF and LiF, ^{||} 3 equivalents of CsF were employed, [¶] 78% yield in the presence of 1 equiv. of a sulfonic acid (*p*-TSA).

Optimization of Reaction Conditions – Asymmetric Catalytic System

Table S2. – Solvent, concentration, temperature and nucleophile equivalents screening (catalyst **4a**)



Entry	Solvent	CsF (equiv.)	Temp. (°C)	M	Time (h)	Yield (%) [*]	e.r. [†]
1	CH ₂ Cl ₂	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	95 (75) [‡]	82:18
2 [§]	CH ₂ Cl ₂	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	99	82:18
3	CH ₂ Cl ₂	1.2	rt	0.5	1.5	90	82:18
4	CH ₂ Cl ₂	1.2	rt	0.1	1.5	62	82:18
5	1,2-DCE	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	38	82:18
6	CHCl ₃	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	36	81.5:18.5
7	Et ₂ O or EtOAc	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	<5	nd
8	Nitromethane	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	40	74:26
9	PhF	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	33	83:17
10	PhCF ₃	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	38	86:14
11	Benzene	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	10	nd
12	1,3-DFB ^{//}	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	29	86:14
13	1,4-DFB	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	12	nd
14	1,2-DFB	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	8	85:15
15	1,2-DFB	1.2	rt	0.25	1.5	99	86:14
16	1,2-DFB	1.2	rt	0.25	0.5	60	86:14
17	1,2-DFB	2	rt	0.25	0.5	99	86:14
18	1,2-DFB	3	rt	0.25	0.5	99	86:14
19	1,2-DFB	1.2	−10	0.25	24	95	89.5:10.5
20	1,2-DFB:CH ₂ Cl ₂ (3:1)	1.2	−30	0.25	24	31	89.5:10.5
21	CH ₂ Cl ₂	1.2	−50	0.25	36	traces	89:11

General conditions: Substrate (0.05 mmol), catalyst (10 mol%) and flame-dried CsF (1.2 equiv.) in 200 μ L of solvent stirred at 1200 rpm for the indicated time at the indicated temperature ^{*} Determined by ¹⁹F NMR using 4-fluoroanisole as internal standard, [†] e.r. was determined by HPLC analysis using a chiral stationary phase; reference racemic mixtures for HPLC analysis were obtained by stirring the corresponding bromide starting material with 1.2 equiv of AgF in CH₂Cl₂ for 1h. [‡] In parenthesis, isolated yield on a 0.25 mmol scale [§] CsF used without any prior drying, as provided by the supplier (Sigma-Aldrich, CsF 99.9% trace metal basis), ^{||} DFB = difluorobenzene.

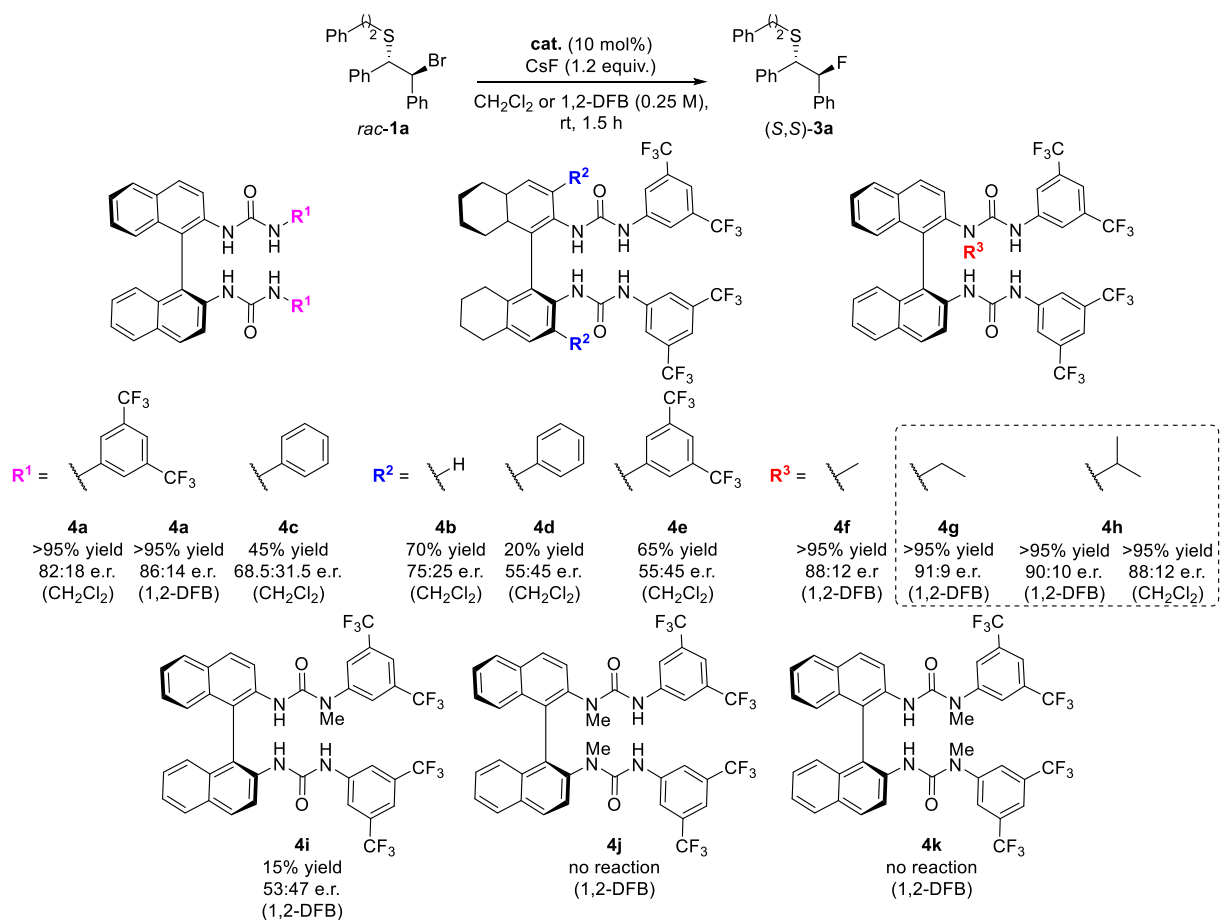


Figure S2. – Catalyst screening and final optimization

Table S3. – Final optimization

Entry	Catalyst	LG	CsF (equiv.)	Solvent	Temp. (°C)	Time (h)	Yield (%) [*]	e.r. [†]
1	4g	Br	1.2	1,2-DFB	rt	1.5	>95	91:9
2	4g	Br	2	1,2-DFB	–30	72	>95	94:6
3	4h	Br	1.2	1,2-DFB	rt	1.5	>95	90:10
4	4h	Br	1.2	CH ₂ Cl ₂	rt	1.5	>95	88:12
5	4h	Cl	3	CH ₂ Cl ₂	rt	6	90	88:12
7	4h	Br	2	1,2-DFB	–30	72	90 (83) [‡]	95.5:4.5

General conditions: Substrate (0.05 mmol), catalyst (10 mol%) and CsF (1.2–3 equiv.) in 200 μ L of 1,2-difluorobenzene stirred at 1200 rpm for the indicated time at the indicated temperature. ^{*} Determined by ¹⁹F NMR using 4-fluoroanisole as internal standard, [†] e.r. was determined by HPLC analysis using a chiral stationary phase, [‡] In parenthesis, the isolated yield on a 0.2 mmol scale is shown.

Urea vs. Thiourea Catalytic Performance

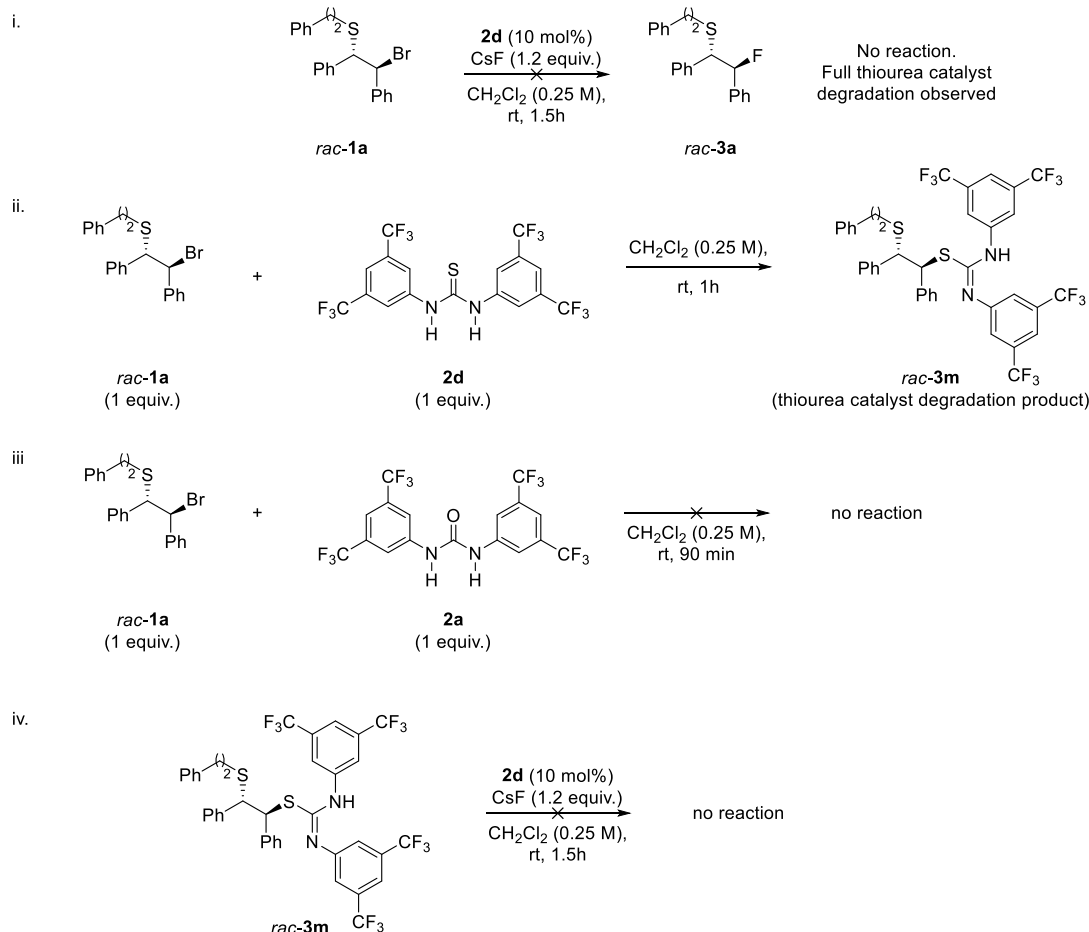


Figure S3. – Thiourea vs. urea catalyst degradation experiments.

While theoretical calculations predict thioureas to be suitable phase-transfer catalysts for fluoride anions (see page S54), these catalysts only afforded traces of the desired product **3a**. This is likely due to competitive formation of a covalent adduct (**3m**) between the substrate and the thiourea. Compound **3m** is stable and did not undergo fluorination if subjected to the reaction conditions, thus excluding the possibility of its involvement as an intermediate. Urea **2a**, less nucleophilic (*O* vs. *S*) than its thiourea counterpart (**2d**), did not react with *rac-1a* and was a suitable catalyst for fluorination.

General Procedure for the Asymmetric Nucleophilic Fluorination of Episulfonium Ions

For reaction optimization: In a screw-cap vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were sequentially added the appropriate substrate **1** (0.05 mmol, 1 equiv.), the catalyst (10 mol%), flame-dried CsF (1.2–3 equiv.) and 1,2-difluorobenzene (0.25 M, pre-cooled at the same temperature as the reaction). The vial was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 1200 rpm at the appropriate temperature for 1.5–72 h. The crude mixture was then filtered through a small plug of silica (and eluted with cold CH₂Cl₂), evaporated to dryness, dissolved in CDCl₃ and analysed by ¹H and ¹⁹F NMR (4-fluoroanisole as internal standard).

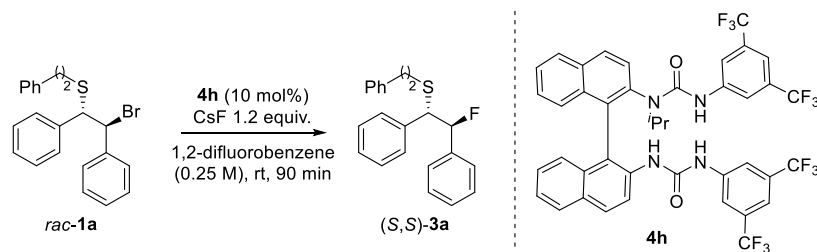
For the substrate scope and the gram-scale reaction: In a screw-cap vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar were sequentially added the appropriate substrate **1** (1 equiv.), the catalyst (10 mol%), CsF (2 equiv.)* and 1,2-difluorobenzene (0.25 M, pre-cooled at the same temperature as the reaction). The vial was sealed and the reaction mixture was stirred at 1200 rpm at the appropriate temperature for 24–72 h. The crude mixture was then filtered through a small plug of silica (and eluted with cold CH₂Cl₂), evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure and directly purified by FCC (Pentane:Et₂O or Pentane:CH₂Cl₂ mixtures as eluent).

* The CsF employed was freshly ground prior to the reaction and used without any additional drying (Sigma-Aldrich, CsF 99.9% trace metal basis).

Non-linear Effect study

The non-linear effect study was conducted with (*R*) or (*S*) mixtures of catalyst **4h** by employing the previously described protocol for reaction optimization (see detailed conditions in scheme below). Under those standard conditions (rt), (*S*)-**4h** affords (*S,S*)-**3a** in 80% ee (90:10 e.r.). No background reaction observed under these conditions and the results shown are mean values of two sets of experiments.

Table S4. – Non-linear effect study



Entry	ee of catalyst [*]	ee of product [†]
1	1.0	0.6
2	19.2	13.7
3	38.9	29.2
4	58.1	44.6
5	77.2	61.0
6	99.9	80.0

^{*} (*R*) and (*S*) mixtures of **4h** were premixed in a ratio between 50:50 and 0:100, respectively. The ee of the catalyst was calculated by comparing its optical rotation value with the one of the enantiopure form, which was assumed to have perfect ee (99.9% ee).

[†] The ee of the product was determined by HPLC analysis using a chiral stationary phase at 254 nm.

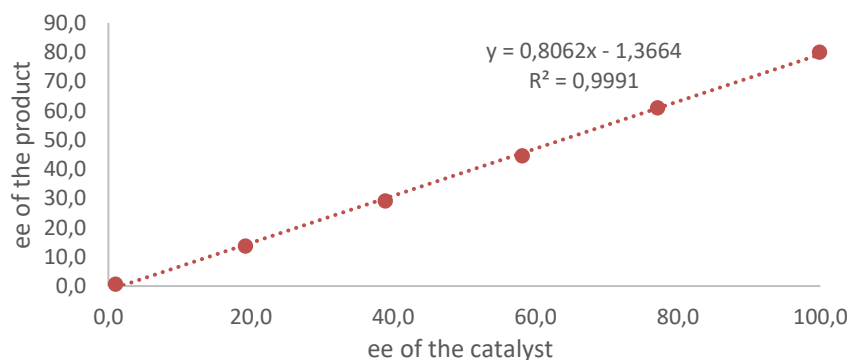


Figure S4. – Non-linear effect study

Conclusion: No non-linear effect was observed. The experiment is thus consistent with the computed transition state model involving only one molecule of the urea catalyst.

Substrates Synthesis and Characterization

Bromo sulfides **1b–1j** and **1l** were prepared from the corresponding *meso*-epoxides (**43**). Bromo sulfides **1a** and **1k** were prepared *via* sulfonyl bromide addition to *cis*-stilbene, and the detailed experimental procedure is described in the single experiment. Chloro sulfide **1a'** and trichloroacetimidate **1a''** were prepared from alcohol **6a** according to reported literature procedures (detailed in the single experiment).

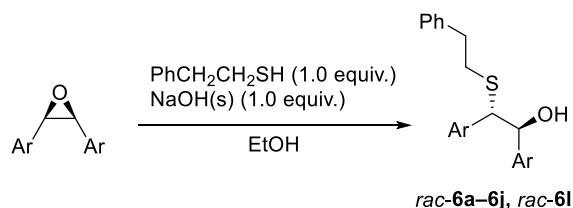
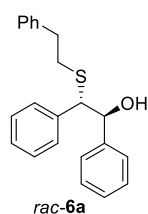


Figure S5. – *Synthesis of hydroxy sulfides*

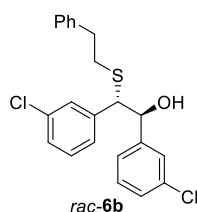
The appropriate *cis*-epoxide (1.0 equiv.) was dissolved in EtOH (0.1 M) in a round-bottom flask and NaOH_(s) (1.0 equiv.), 2-phenylethane-1-thiol (1.0 equiv.) were added to the solution at room temperature. The reaction mixture was either stirred overnight at room temperature or reflux for the indicated time (monitored by TLC using hexane:CH₂Cl₂ = 80:20 as eluent). When TLC analysis showed no further conversion, the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. To the crude mixture residue was then added Et₂O and water, the layers were partitioned and the aqueous phase was extracted three times with Et₂O. The organic phases were combined, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the crude product. The crude products were then purified by flash column chromatography (hexane/Et₂O) to afford pure hydroxy sulfides.

rac-2-(phenethylthio)-1,2-diphenylethan-1-ol (**6a**)



Alcohol **6a** was prepared according to the general procedure from *cis*-stilbene oxide (10.2 mmol, 2.00 g) and by stirring the reaction mixture at reflux for 2 h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 80:20 gradient), yellow oil, 3.19 g, 91% yield. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.32–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.17 (m, 7H), 7.16–7.12 (m, 4H), 7.12–7.08 (m, 2H), 4.86 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.87–2.78 (m, 2H), 2.76–2.62 (m, 2H), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 141.1, 140.3, 139.6, 128.7, 128.6, 128.6, 128.4, 128.1, 127.8, 127.4, 126.8, 126.5, 77.4, 60.4, 36.3, 33.4, **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3433, 3061, 3027, 2917, 1602, 1494, 1453, 1191, 1044, 1030, 756, 730 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESIpos) *m/z* calculated for C₂₂H₂₂ONaS (M+Na)⁺ 357.1284, found 357.1285.

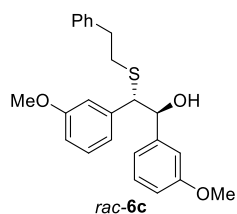
***rac*-1,2-bis(3-chlorophenyl)-2-(phenethylthio)ethan-1-ol (6b)**



Alcohol **6b** was prepared according to the general procedure from the corresponding epoxide (8.1 mmol, 2.1 g) and by stirring the reaction mixture at reflux for 2 h.

Purification FCC, eluent = hexane:Et₂O (100:0 to 80:20 gradient), yellow oil, 2.90 g, 89% yield. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.32–7.21 (m, 3H), 7.20–7.07 (m, 8H), 6.93 (dt, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (dt, J = 7.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (s br, 1H), 2.81 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.75–2.65 (m, 2H), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 142.7, 141.5, 140.0, 134.4, 134.2, 129.7, 129.4, 128.7, 128.7, 128.2, 127.9, 126.9, 126.8, 126.7, 125.1, 76.7, 59.8, 36.3, 33.6; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3439, 3027, 2919, 1595, 1496, 1430, 1191, 1098, 1079, 884, 786, 771, 747, 696 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for C₂₂H₂₀O₃Cl₂NaS (M+Na)⁺ 425.0504, found 425.0504.

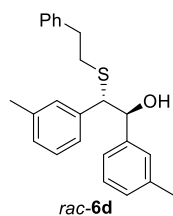
***rac*-1,2-bis(3-methoxyphenyl)-2-(phenethylthio)ethan-1-ol (6c)**



Alcohol **6c** was prepared according to the general procedure from the corresponding epoxide (8.3 mmol, 2.1 g) and by stirring the reaction mixture at reflux for 3 h.

Purification FCC, eluent = hexane:Et₂O (100:0 to 70:30 gradient), yellow oil, 2.90 g, 88% yield. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.25–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.17–7.11 (m, 1H), 7.10–7.00 (m, 4H), 6.71–6.60 (m, 6H), 4.75 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.05 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.78–2.72 (m, 2H), 2.68–2.58 (m, 2H), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 159.6, 159.4, 142.7, 141.2, 140.3, 129.3, 129.1, 128.7, 128.6, 126.5, 121.2, 119.2, 114.3, 113.7, 113.0, 112.1, 77.2, 60.2, 55.3, 55.3, 36.3, 33.5; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3455, 3026, 2536, 2835, 1599, 1585, 1489, 1454, 1259, 1150, 1042, 779, 732, 697 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for C₂₄H₂₆O₃NaS (M+Na)⁺ 417.1495, found 417.1491.

***rac*-2-(phenethylthio)-1,2-di-*m*-tolylethan-1-ol (6d)**

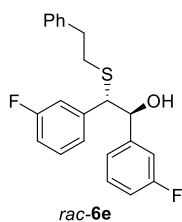


Alcohol **6d** was prepared according to the general procedure from the corresponding epoxide (11.6 mmol, 2.6 g) and by stirring the reaction mixture at reflux for 2 h.

Purification FCC, eluent = hexane:Et₂O (100:0 to 80:20 gradient), yellow oil, 2.70 g, 60% yield. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.24–7.12 (m, 3H), 7.08–7.00 (m, 4H), 6.98–6.83 (m, 6H), 4.77 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.02 (s br, 1H), 2.78–2.70 (m, 2H), 2.68–2.55 (m, 2H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 141.1, 140.4, 139.6, 138.0, 137.7, 129.4, 128.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.2, 128.2, 127.9, 127.4, 126.5, 125.8, 124.0, 77.2, 60.1,

36.3, 33.4, 21.5, 21.5; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3442, 3026, 2918, 1605, 1489, 1454, 1378, 1152, 1044, 780, 729, 698 cm^{-1} ; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{26}\text{ONaS}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$)⁺ 385.1597, found 385.1598.

***rac*-1,2-bis(3-fluorophenyl)-2-(phenethylthio)ethan-1-ol (6e)**

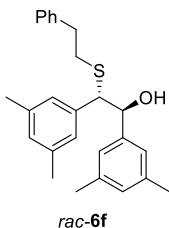


Alcohol **6e** was prepared according to the general procedure from the corresponding epoxide (12.6 mmol, 2.9 g) and by stirring the reaction mixture at reflux for 2 h.

Purification FCC, eluent = hexane:Et₂O (100:0 to 80:20 gradient), yellow oil, 3.98 g, 85% yield. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.24–7.12 (m, 3H), 7.11–6.99 (m, 4H), 6.86–6.68 (m, 6H), 4.68 (d, J = 8.5, 1H), 3.80 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.05 (s br, 1H), 2.74

(t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.67–2.53 (m, 2H), **¹⁹F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -112.7 (td, J = 9.0, 5.7 Hz, 1F), -113.0 (td, J = 9.3, 5.9 Hz, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 162.7 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 246.2 Hz), 162.7 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 246.2 Hz), 143.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 7.3 Hz), 142.0 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 7.3 Hz), 140.0, 130.0 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 8.3 Hz), 129.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 8.2 Hz), 128.6, 124.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 2.9 Hz), 122.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 2.9 Hz), 115.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 22.0 Hz), 114.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 21.1 Hz), 114.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 21.1 Hz), 113.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 22.2 Hz), 77.3 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 1.8 Hz), 59.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 1.8 Hz), 36.2, 33.5; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3432, 3028, 2918, 1613, 1589, 1487, 1448, 1254, 1160, 1045, 877, 782, 734, 694 cm^{-1} ; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{20}\text{OF}_2\text{NaS}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$)⁺ 393.1095, found 393.1095.

***rac*-1,2-bis(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-2-(phenethylthio)ethan-1-ol (6f)**

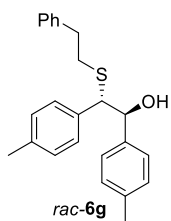


Alcohol **6f** was prepared according to the general procedure from the corresponding epoxide (12.4 mmol, 3.2 g) and by stirring the reaction mixture overnight at room

temperature. **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 80:20 gradient), yellow oil, 982 mg, 20% yield (unoptimized). **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.25–7.20 (m

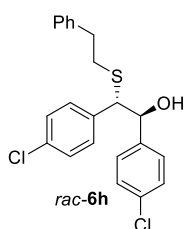
2H), 7.19–7.13 (m, 1H), 7.06–7.00 (m, 2H), 6.82–6.78 (m, 2H), 6.78 (s, 4H), 4.77 (dd, J = 7.3, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.98 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.79–2.70 (m, 2H), 2.66–2.53 (m, 2H), 2.21 (s, 6H), 2.20 (s, 6H), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 141.3, 140.5, 139.7, 137.7, 137.4, 129.3, 129.1, 128.6, 128.5, 126.5, 126.4, 124.5, 76.8, 59.8, 36.3, 33.5, 21.4, 21.4; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3435, 3025, 2916, 1603, 1454, 1376, 1279, 1155, 1038, 852, 735, 697 cm^{-1} ; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{30}\text{ONaS}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$)⁺ 413.1910, found 413.1910.

***rac*-2-(phenethylthio)-1,2-di-*p*-tolylethan-1-ol (6g)**



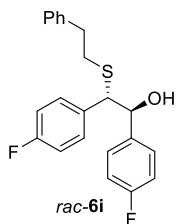
Alcohol **6g** was prepared according to the general procedure from the corresponding epoxide (12.7 mmol, 2.85 g) and by stirring the reaction mixture overnight at room temperature. **Purification** FCC, eluent = hexane:Et₂O (100:0 to 80:20 gradient), yellow oil, 2.99 g, 65% yield. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.33–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.21 (m, 1H), 7.14–7.09 (m, 2H), 7.09–7.01 (m, 8H), 4.86 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.87–2.78 (m, 2H), 2.75–2.61 (m, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.5, 138.3, 137.3, 136.9, 136.6, 129.1, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.6, 126.8, 126.5, 77.0, 59.8, 36.3, 33.3, 21.3, 21.2; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3447, 3025, 2920, 2860, 1901, 1604, 1512, 1454, 1179, 1041, 814, 737, 698 cm⁻¹; **MP** 68–69 °C; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for C₂₄H₂₆ONaS (M+Na)⁺ 385.1597, found 385.1594.

***rac*-1,2-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-2-(phenethylthio)ethan-1-ol (6h)**



Alcohol **6h** was prepared according to the general procedure from the corresponding epoxide (7.2 mmol, 1.9 g) and by stirring the reaction mixture at reflux for 2 h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = hexane:Et₂O (100:0 to 80:20 gradient), yellow oil, 2.63 g, 92% yield. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.23–7.17 (m, 7H), 7.15–7.09 (m, 2H), 7.06–6.99 (m, 4H), 4.65 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 3.10 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.64–2.55 (m, 2H), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 140.0, 139.2, 137.8, 133.6, 133.3, 130.0, 128.7, 128.7, 128.4, 128.2, 126.7, 76.7, 59.7, 36.2, 33.4; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3432, 3027, 2916, 1901, 1596, 1489, 1454, 1407, 1180, 1089, 1014, 834, 747, 697 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for C₂₂H₂₀OC₂NaS (M+Na)⁺ 425.0504, found 425.0505.

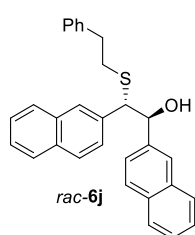
***rac*-1,2-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(phenethylthio)ethan-1-ol (6i)**



Alcohol **6i** was prepared according to the general procedure from the corresponding epoxide (5.16 mmol, 1.2 g) and by stirring the reaction mixture at reflux for 2 h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = hexane:Et₂O (100:0 to 80:20 gradient), yellow oil, 800 mg, 60% yield. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.31–7.19 (m, 3H), 7.11–7.07 (m, 2H), 7.05–6.99 (m, 4H), 6.92–6.84 (m, 4H), 4.73 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.09 (s br, 1H), 2.81 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.74–2.62 (m, 2H), **¹⁹F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -114.2–-114.3 (m, 1F), -114.5–-114.6 (m, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 164.4 (d, J_{C-F} = 246.6 Hz), 162.0 (d, J_{C-F} = 245.7 Hz), 140.1, 135.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 135.2 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 130.2 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.1 Hz), 128.7, 128.5, 128.4 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.1 Hz), 126.6, 115.4 (d, J_{C-F} = 21.4 Hz), 115.1 (d, J_{C-F} = 21.5 Hz), 77.0,

59.7, 36.2, 33.4; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3433, 2919, 1603, 1507, 1221, 1157, 1095, 832, 804, 746, 698 cm^{-1} ; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{20}\text{OF}_2\text{NaS}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$)⁺ 393.1095, found 393.1095.

***rac*-1,2-di(naphthalen-2-yl)-2-(phenethylthio)ethan-1-ol (6j)**

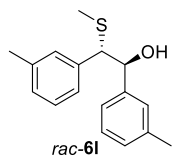


Alcohol **6j** was prepared according to the general procedure from the corresponding epoxide (2.87 mmol, 850 mg) and by stirring the reaction mixture at reflux for 5 h.

Purification FCC, eluent = hexane:Et₂O (100:0 to 80:20 gradient), yellow oil, 1.13 g, 91% yield. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.79–7.62 (m, 7H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.46–7.35 (m, 5H), 7.30–7.16 (m, 4H), 7.07–7.01 (m, 2H), 5.16 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (d, J = 8.3

Hz, 1H), 3.28 (s br, 1H), 2.87–2.76 (m, 2H), 2.75–2.61 (m, 2H), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 140.2, 138.6, 137.0, 133.1, 133.1, 132.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.3, 128.1, 127.9, 127.9, 127.7, 127.7, 126.5, 126.5, 126.2, 126.1, 126.0, 126.0, 126.0, 124.6, 77.1, 60.3, 36.3, 33.4; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3427, 3056, 3025, 2916, 1631, 1508, 1496, 1454, 1364, 1271, 1048, 906, 820, 747, 698 cm^{-1} ; **MP** 48–52 °C, **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{26}\text{ONaS}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$)⁺ 457.1597, found 457.1597.

***rac*-2-(methylthio)-1,2-di-*m*-tolylethan-1-ol (6l)**



The corresponding epoxide (4.4 mmol, 1.0 g, 1.0 equiv.) and sodium methanethiolate (2.0 equiv.) were dissolved in EtOH (0.1 M) in a round-bottom flask at room temperature. The mixture was then refluxed until TLC analysis showed no further conversion (hexane:CH₂Cl₂ = 80:20 as eluent). The reaction vessel was then cooled to room

temperature and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was then treated with Et₂O and water, the layers were partitioned and the aqueous phase was extracted three times with Et₂O. The organic phases were combined, dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was then purified by flash column chromatography (hexane:Et₂O 100:0 to 80:20 gradient), to afford **6l** as a yellow oil (1.00 g, 83% yield). **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.09 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.04–6.92 (m, 6H), 4.87 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.08 (s br, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.97 (s, 3H), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 141.1, 139.1, 138.0, 137.7, 129.4, 128.6, 128.2, 128.0, 127.4, 125.8, 124.0, 76.6, 61.4, 21.5, 14.9; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3421, 3023, 2916, 1606, 1488, 1436, 1044, 778, 732, 699 cm^{-1} ; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{20}\text{ONaS}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$)⁺ 295.1127, found 295.1127.

Synthesis of bromo sulfides with TMSBr (method A)

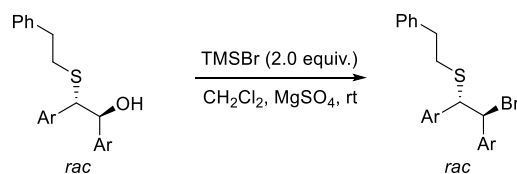


Figure S6. – Synthesis of bromide substrates (method A)

The employed protocol followed a slightly modified literature procedure (44).

In a vial equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, the appropriate hydroxy sulfide was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1.0 M), and anhydrous MgSO₄ was added (500 mg/mmol), followed by dropwise addition of TMSBr (2 equiv.). After stirring at rt for 1 h, the crude mixture was filtered over celite and the solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* thus affording the desired compounds without any further purification (96–99% purity).

Synthesis of bromo sulfides via PBr₃ bromination (method B)

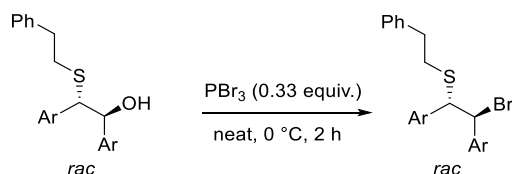
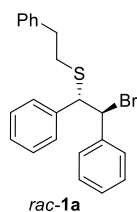


Figure S7. – Synthesis of bromide substrates (method B)

In a flame-dried round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar and under inert atmosphere, the appropriate hydroxy sulfide (neat for liquid alcohols, 1 M CH₂Cl₂ solution for solids) was cooled to 0 °C in an ice-bath and PBr₃ (0.33 equiv.) was added dropwise. The solution was then stirred at this temperature for 2 h. After this time, the reaction was quenched by the addition of ice-cold water and diluted with cold Et₂O. The layers were partitioned and the aqueous phase was extracted three times with Et₂O. The organic phases were combined, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the desired bromide without any further purification (96–99% purity).

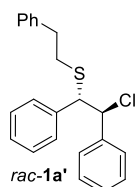
N.B. The bromides starting materials were unstable on silica gel and proved to be unstable for MS analysis with a variety of ionization methods (HRMS of the molecular ion was therefore not recorded). To prevent any decomposition, they were always stored in the fridge.

***rac*-2-bromo-1,2-diphenylethyl(phenethyl)sulfane (1a)**



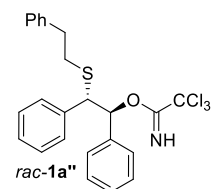
Bromide **1a** was prepared from *cis*-stilbene according to a modified literature procedure (45). In a flame-dried round-bottom flask filled with argon and equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, diphenylethyl disulfide (3 mmol, 814 mg, 1.0 equiv.) was dissolved in 7 ml of anhydrous CH₂Cl₂. The solution was cooled to 0 °C and a solution of Br₂ (6 ml, 0.5 M in CH₂Cl₂, 3 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added dropwise. The solution was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h protected from light, forming an orange/yellow solution. After this time, *cis*-stilbene (1 ml, 6 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was added neat at 0 °C and stirring was continued at the same temperature. Once the orange/yellow colour had disappeared (approx. 1 h), the crude mixture was evaporated to dryness and the residue was stirred in hexane:Et₂O (20:1) to afford a solid which was then recrystallized in hexane:Et₂O (20:1) to afford **1a** as a white solid (800 mg, 33% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.27–7.04 (m, 15H), 5.24 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 2.89–2.73 (m, 2H), 2.60–2.53 (m, 2H), ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.3, 139.6, 138.5, 128.9, 128.5, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.3, 128.2, 127.8, 126.3, 58.1, 58.0, 36.0, 33.6; **MP** 64–65 °C, **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3657, 2980, 2888, 1473, 1462, 1383, 1252, 1152, 1073, 955, 695 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (APCIpos) *m/z* calculated for C₂₂H₂₁S (M-Br)⁺ 317.1358, found 317.1355.

***rac*-2-chloro-1,2-diphenylethyl(phenethyl)sulfane (1a')**



Chloride **1a'** was prepared according to a reported procedure (46). Alcohol **6a** (500 mg, 1.45 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (7.2 ml) under inert atmosphere and the solution was cooled to 0 °C. At this temperature, anhydrous *N,N*-dimethylformamide (5.0 mol%) and thionyl chloride (160 μL, 2.18 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) were sequentially added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at 0 °C. The volatiles were then evaporated *in vacuo* to afford **1a'** as a pale yellow solid (400 mg, 79% yield). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.30–7.04 (m, 15H), 5.19 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.39 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.89–2.73 (m, 2H), 2.59 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.5, 139.1, 138.5, 129.1, 128.6, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 126.5, 67.0, 58.7, 36.2, 33.6; **MP** 58–60 °C; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3061, 3028, 2918, 2850, 1602, 1494, 1453, 1074, 1030, 748, 698 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calculated for C₂₂H₂₀S (M-HCl)⁺ 316.1276, found 316.1276.

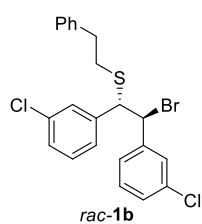
***rac*-2-(phenethylthio)-1,2-diphenylethyl 2,2,2-trichloroacetimidate (1a'')**



Trichloroacetimidate **1a''** was synthesised according to a reported procedure (21). Under inert atmosphere, alcohol **6a** (500 mg, 1.45 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (7.2 ml) and the solution was cooled to 0 °C. At this temperature, trichloroacetonitrile (290 μL, 2.9 mmol, 2 equiv.) and sodium hydride (12 mg, 0.3

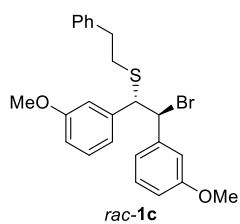
mmol, 0.2 equiv.) were added sequentially and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight at 0 °C. The reaction was quenched by addition of water, the layers were separated and the aqueous one was extracted three times with EtOAc. The organic layers were then combined, washed with brine and dried over MgSO₄. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by FCC (hexane: AcOEt = 98: 2 with 1% NEt₃) and subsequently recrystallized in hexane to afford **1a''** as a white solid (430 mg, 62% yield). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.28–7.10 (m, 13H), 7.09–7.04 (m, 2H), 6.12 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.85–2.75 (m, 2H), 2.73–2.62 (m, 2H), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 161.2, 140.6, 138.1, 137.3, 129.3, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 127.9, 127.7, 127.3, 126.4, 91.6, 83.5, 55.7, 36.3, 33.4, **MP** 92–93 °C; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3338, 3062, 3029, 2918, 1664, 1495, 1454, 1289, 1073, 992, 824, 795, 697, 649 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calculated for C₂₂H₂₀S (M-C₂Cl₃NH₂O)⁺ 316.1276, found 316.1276.

***rac*-2-bromo-1,2-bis(3-chlorophenyl)ethyl(phenethyl)sulfane (1b)**



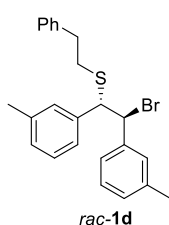
Bromide **1b** was prepared according to the general procedure (method B) by employing alcohol **6b** (3.4 mmol, 1.4 g) as starting material. Yellow solid, 1.4 g, 89% yield. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.32–7.23 (m, 3H), 7.21–7.09 (m, 8H), 7.01 (ddt, *J* = 24.9, 7.6, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 5.12 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.92–2.81 (m, 2H), 2.67–2.57 (m, 2H), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 140.9, 140.4, 140.1, 134.2, 134.0, 129.5, 129.4, 128.9, 128.7, 128.6, 128.6, 128.1, 127.2, 126.6, 126.5, 57.5, 56.1, 36.1, 33.7; **MP** 86–88 °C; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3063, 3026, 2955, 2933, 1571, 1475, 1430, 1077, 885, 863, 795, 712, 689 cm⁻¹.

***rac*-2-bromo-1,2-bis(3-methoxyphenyl)ethyl(phenethyl)sulfane (1c)**



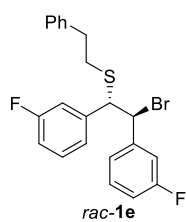
Bromide **1c** was prepared according to the general procedure (method A) by employing alcohol **6c** (2.9 mmol, 1.2 g) as starting material. Brown oil, 835 mg, 63% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.30–7.16 (m, 4H), 7.13–7.06 (m, 3H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.75–6.67 (m, 5H), 5.19 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.40 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.89–2.69 (m, 2H), 2.64–2.49 (m, 2H), ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 159.3, 159.1, 140.9, 140.3, 140.1, 129.1, 129.1, 128.6, 128.4, 126.3, 121.4, 120.6, 114.3, 114.0, 113.9, 113.3, 58.1, 57.9, 55.2, 55.2, 36.0, 33.6; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3059, 3025, 3001, 2935, 2834, 1598, 1584, 1489, 1464, 1260, 1148, 1044 870, 776, 742, 732, 696 cm⁻¹.

***rac*-2-bromo-1,2-di-*m*-tolylethyl(phenethyl)sulfane (1d)**



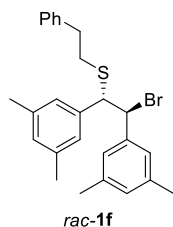
Bromide **1d** was prepared according to the general procedure (method A) by employing alcohol **6d** (3.5 mmol, 1.5 g) as starting material. Brown solid, 1.4 g, 94% yield. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.29–7.20 (m, 3H), 7.13–7.05 (m, 4H), 7.09–6.90 (m, 6H), 5.24 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 2.85–2.75 (m, 2H), 2.58 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.26 (s, 6H), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.4, 139.5, 138.5, 137.7, 137.6, 129.5, 129.0, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 126.3, 126.0, 125.3, 58.4, 58.0, 36.1, 33.6, 21.3, 21.3; **MP** 56–58 °C; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3023, 2917, 2851, 1603, 1585, 1488, 1451, 1408, 1374, 1313, 1254, 1226, 1213, 1165, 1156, 1097, 1029, 997, 961, 902, 888, 823, 791, 784, 763, 749, 736, 700 cm⁻¹.

***rac*-2-bromo-1,2-bis(3-fluorophenyl)ethyl(phenethyl)sulfane (1e)**



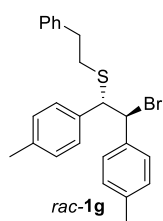
Bromide **1e** was prepared according to the general procedure (method A) by employing alcohol **6e** (1.3 mmol, 500 mg) as starting material, and stirring the reaction for 6 h in the presence of 4 equiv. of TMSBr. Brown oil, 350 mg, 62% yield. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.31–7.20 (m, 3H), 7.20–7.10 (m, 4H), 6.95–6.87 (m, 6H), 5.14 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 2.88–2.76 (m, 2H), 2.60 (m, 2H), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -112.4–112.5 (m, 2F), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 162.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 246.9 Hz), 162.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 246.8 Hz), 141.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 7.4 Hz), 141.0 (d, J_{C-F} = 7.0 Hz), 140.0, 129.7 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.3 Hz), 129.7 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.2 Hz), 128.6, 128.53, 126.5, 124.6 (d, J_{C-F} = 2.9 Hz), 123.9 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.1 Hz), 115.6 (d, J_{C-F} = 22.3 Hz), 115.5 (d, J_{C-F} = 21.0 Hz), 115.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 22.6 Hz), 114.9 (d, J_{C-F} = 21.3 Hz), 57.6 (d, J_{C-F} = 1.8 Hz), 56.2 (d, J_{C-F} = 2.0 Hz), 36.0, 33.6; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3062, 3027, 2917, 2849, 1613, 1589, 1523, 1487, 1447, 1254, 1138, 953, 878, 782, 737, 709, 696 cm⁻¹.

***rac*-2-bromo-1,2-bis(3,5-dimethylphenyl)ethyl(phenethyl)sulfane (1f)**



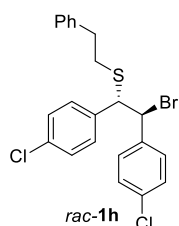
Bromide **1f** was prepared according to the general procedure (method A) by employing alcohol **6f** (1.2 mmol, 460 mg) as starting material. Yellow solid, 300 mg, 60% yield. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.28–7.18 (m, 3H), 7.09–7.06 (m, 2H), 6.81 (s, 2H), 6.79 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (s, 2H), 5.20 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.38 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.88–2.68 (m, 2H), 2.62–2.50 (m, 2H), 2.22 (s, 12H), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.5, 139.3, 138.4, 137.4, 137.4, 129.9, 129.2, 128.5, 128.4, 126.8, 126.3, 126.2, 58.7, 57.7, 36.1, 33.7, 21.2, 21.1; **MP** 101–103 °C; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3023, 2916, 2856, 1599, 1495, 1453, 1374, 1159, 997, 850, 793, 769, 753, 734, 720, 695, 632, cm⁻¹.

***rac*-2-bromo-1,2-di-*p*-tolylethyl(phenethyl)sulfane (1g)**



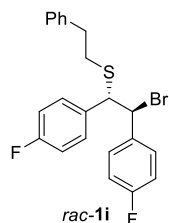
Bromide **1g** was prepared according to the general procedure (method B) by employing alcohol **6g** (3.3 mmol, 1.2 g) as starting material. Brown solid, 800 mg, 57% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.32–7.18 (m, 3H), 7.11–6.97 (m, 10H), 5.26 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 4.47 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 2.89–2.73 (m, 2H), 2.58–2.52 (m, 2H), 2.28 (s, 6H), ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.4, 138.0, 137.2, 136.7, 135.5, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 128.1, 126.3, 58.4, 57.7, 36.1, 33.6, 21.2, 21.1; **MP** 67–69 °C; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3051, 2954, 2854, 1603, 1513, 1496, 1478, 1446, 1412, 1376, 1323, 1298, 1270, 1229, 1199, 1184, 1163, 1111, 1070, 1040, 1021, 970, 912, 868, 784, 764, 738, 722, 707, 696 cm⁻¹.

***rac*-2-bromo-1,2-bis(4-chlorophenyl)ethyl(phenethyl)sulfane (1h)**



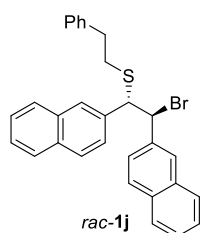
Bromide **1h** was prepared according to the general procedure (method A) by employing alcohol **6h** (1.2 mmol, 500 mg) as starting material, and stirring the reaction for 6 h in the presence of 4 equiv. of TMSBr. Brown oil, 380 mg, 75% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.30–6.99 (m, 13H), 5.13 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.80 (dd, J = 8.4, 5.6 Hz, 2H), 2.56 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.0, 137.4, 136.6, 134.2, 133.6, 130.3, 129.7, 128.5, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 126.5, 57.3, 56.3, 36.0, 33.6; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3084, 3062, 3026, 2918, 2849, 1650, 1456, 1406, 1315, 1029, 826, 764, 742, 623 cm⁻¹.

***rac*-2-bromo-1,2-bis(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl(phenethyl)sulfane (1i)**



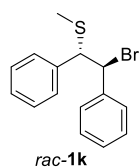
Bromide **1i** was prepared according to the general procedure (method B) by employing alcohol **6i** (3.2 mmol, 1.2 mg) as starting material. Brown solid, 800 mg, 60% yield. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.45–7.30 (m, 3H), 7.25–7.13 (m, 6H), 6.99 (q, J = 8.6 Hz, 4H), 5.28 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.47 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (td, J = 7.5, 4.6 Hz, 2H), 2.68 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -112.8 (ddd, J = 13.7, 8.6, 5.3 Hz, 1F), -113.7 (ddd, J = 14.1, 8.9, 5.2 Hz, 1F), ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 162.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 248.1 Hz), 162.0 (d, J_{C-F} = 247.3 Hz), 140.1, 135.0 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.3 Hz), 133.9 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.3 Hz), 130.6 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.1 Hz), 130.1 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.4 Hz), 128.6, 128.5, 126.5, 115.2 (d, J_{C-F} = 17.8 Hz), 115.0 (d, J_{C-F} = 18.1 Hz), 57.5, 56.8, 36.0, 33.7; **MP** 54–56 °C; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3062, 3024, 2958, 2925, 1601, 1508, 1240, 1220, 1158, 1147, 1072, 1031, 835, 802, 767, 727, 647 cm⁻¹.

***rac*-2-bromo-1,2-di(naphthalen-2-yl)ethyl(phenethyl)sulfane (1j)**



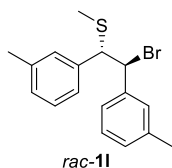
Bromide **7j** was prepared according to the general procedure (method A) by employing alcohol **6j** (0.9 mmol, 390 mg) as starting material, brown solid, 400 mg, 89% yield. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.76–7.62 (m, 6H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.44–7.34 (m, 6H), 7.25–7.17 (m, 3H), 7.03 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 5.57 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 2.91–2.73 (m, 2H), 2.56 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.2, 136.7, 135.8, 132.9, 132.8, 132.8, 132.6, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 128.1, 127.8, 127.6, 127.6, 127.4, 126.4, 126.3, 126.2, 126.2, 126.1, 125.9, 125.7, 58.2, 58.0, 36.1, 33.6; **MP** 35–37 °C; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3056, 2917, 1700, 1507, 1496, 1453, 1366, 1271, 1156, 1123, 1073, 1218, 960, 893, 859, 816, 796, 745, 697, 622 cm⁻¹.

***rac*-2-bromo-1,2-diphenylethyl(methyl)sulfane (1k)**



Bromide **1k** was prepared from *cis*-stilbene according to a modified literature procedure (45). In a flame-dried argon filled round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, dimethyl disulfide (5.5 mmol, 0.49 ml, 1.1 equiv.) was dissolved in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL). The solution was cooled to 0 °C and a solution of Br₂ (10 ml, 0.5 M in CH₂Cl₂, 5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was added dropwise. The solution was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h protected from light. After this time, *cis*-stilbene (1.7 ml, 10 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added neat at 0 °C and stirring was continued at the same temperature. Once the orange/yellow colour had disappeared (~1 h), the crude mixture was evaporated to dryness and the residue stirred in hexane:Et₂O (20:1) to afford a solid that was then recrystallized in hexane:Et₂O (20:1) to afford **1k** as a white solid (1.2 g, 40% yield). **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.24–7.14 (m, 10H), 5.29 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 1.91 (s, 3H), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 139.6, 138.3, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 127.6, 60.0, 58.0, 15.5; **MP** 58–59 °C; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3735, 3649, 2981, 2888, 1456, 1382, 1252, 1151, 1073, 955, 695, 689 cm⁻¹.

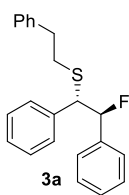
***rac*-2-bromo-1,2-di-(*m*-tolylethyl)(methyl)sulfane (1l)**



Bromide **1l** was prepared according to the general procedure (method B) by employing alcohol **6l** (3.7 mmol, 1.0 g) as starting material, brown solid, 1.0 g, 80% yield. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.11–7.02 (m, 4H), 7.00–6.91 (m, 4H), 5.28 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.39 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (s, 6H), 1.92 (s, 3H), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 139.6, 138.3, 137.8, 137.7, 129.4, 129.0, 129.0, 128.3, 127.9, 127.9, 125.9, 125.3, 59.6, 58.3, 21.4, 21.3, 15.6; **MP** 79–80 °C; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3007, 2961, 2921, 1601, 1585, 1173, 1154, 1089, 1064, 1039, 998, 814, 701, 669 cm⁻¹.

Products Characterization

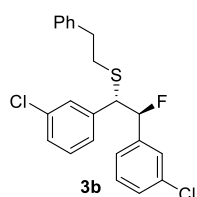
((1*S*,2*S*)-2-fluoro-1,2-diphenylethyl)(phenethyl)sulfane (**3a**)



Product **3a** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 0.2 mmol of substrate (79.5 mg) and the reaction was stirred at $-30\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 72 h. **Purification** FCC eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 99:1 gradient), white solid, 55.0 mg, 83% yield, e.r. = 95.5:4.5. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.30–7.19 (m, 9H), 7.17–7.14 (m, 2H), 7.11–7.09 (m, 4H), 5.67 (dd, J = 46.3, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (dd, J = 13.6, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.88–2.62 (m, 4H), **¹⁹F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -172.6 (dd, J = 46.3, 13.6 Hz, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.5, 137.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 4.8 Hz), 137.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 21.1 Hz), 129.1, 128.7, 128.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 2.4 Hz), 128.5, 128.5, 128.1, 127.8, 126.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 7.0 Hz), 126.4, 97.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 180.3 Hz), 56.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 23.9 Hz), 36.5, 33.4; **MP** 34–36 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3029, 2922, 1602, 1495, 1453, 1211, 1049, 1030, 998, 755, 732, 697, 627 cm^{-1} ; **HRMS** (EI) m/z calculated for C₂₂H₂₀S (M-HF)⁺ 316.128, found 316.1281; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}}$ +104.7 $^{\circ}$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃, e.r. = 95.5:4.5); **HPLC** DAICEL CHIRALPAK[®] IC-3, Heptane:EtOH = 99.75:0.25, 1 ml/min, t_1 = 5.8 (major), t_2 = 6.8 (minor).

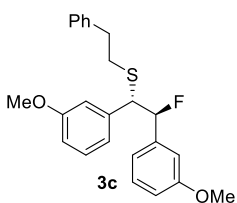
The opposite enantiomer (*1R,2R*)-**3a** ($[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}}$ -97.2 $^{\circ}$ - c = 1.0, CHCl₃, e.r. = 95:5) was prepared following the same protocol using (*R*)-**4h** as catalyst (81% yield, e.r. = 95:5).

((1*S*,2*S*)-1,2-bis(3-chlorophenyl)-2-fluoroethyl)(phenethyl)sulfane (**3b**)



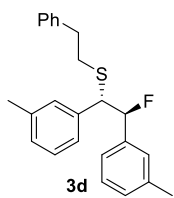
Product **3b** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 0.2 mmol of substrate (93.2 mg) and the reaction was stirred at rt for 72 h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 99:1 gradient), white solid, 79.4 mg, 98% yield, e.r. = 97:3. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.34–7.09 (m, 11H), 7.02 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (dd, J = 46.0, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (dd, J = 15.6, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.88–2.78 (m, 2H), 2.79–2.63 (m, 2H), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -174.9 (dd, J = 46.0, 15.5 Hz, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.1, 139.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 3.7 Hz), 139.0 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 21.3 Hz), 134.3, 134.1, 129.7, 129.3, 129.0, 128.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 1.2 Hz), 128.6, 128.5, 128.1, 127.2, 126.5, 126.3 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 7.6 Hz), 124.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 7.1 Hz), 95.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 182.9 Hz), 55.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 24.0 Hz), 36.2, 33.3 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 1.8 Hz); **MP**: 44–45 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3062, 3027, 2918, 2849, 1595, 1573, 1495, 1476, 1453, 1430, 1209, 1188, 1098, 1080, 1051, 999, 882, 785, 773, 746, 694 cm^{-1} ; **HRMS** (EI) m/z calculated for C₂₂H₁₈Cl₂S (M-HF)⁺ 384.0501, found 384.0501; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}}$ +83.4 $^{\circ}$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃, e.r. = 97:3); **HPLC** DAICEL CHIRALPAK[®] IB-3, Heptane:EtOH 99.9:0.1, 1 ml/min, t_1 : 14.5 min (minor), t_2 : 15.8 min (major).

((1*S*,2*S*)-2-fluoro-1,2-bis(3-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)(phenethyl)sulfane (3c)



Product **3c** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 0.2 mmol of substrate (91.5 mg) and the reaction was stirred at 0 °C for 72 h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 80:20 gradient), colourless oil, 70.5 mg, 89% yield, e.r. = 96:4. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.32–7.09 (m, 7H), 6.84–6.64 (m, 6H), 5.66 (dd, J = 46.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (dd, J = 14.1, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.89–2.77 (m, 2H), 2.76–2.68 (m, 2H), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -173.1 (dd, J = 46.4, 14.1 Hz, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 159.5, 159.2, 140.4, 139.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 4.3 Hz), 139.0 (d, J_{C-F} = 21.0 Hz), 129.3, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 126.3, 121.4, 118.6 (d, J_{C-F} = 7.0 Hz), 114.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 2.9 Hz), 114.3, 113.4, 111.6 (d, J_{C-F} = 7.5 Hz), 96.7 (d, J_{C-F} = 181.0 Hz), 56.2 (d, J_{C-F} = 23.8 Hz), 55.2, 36.2, 33.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 2.0 Hz); **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3060, 3026, 2935, 2835, 1600, 1585, 1490, 1464, 1453, 1434, 1319, 1261, 1153, 1042, 995, 874, 780, 734, 696 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI) m/z calculated for C₂₄H₂₅FO₂S (M)⁺ 396.1554, found 396.1561; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ °C +74.0 ° (c = 1.0, CHCl₃, e.r. = 96:4); **HPLC** DAICEL CHIRALPAK® IF-3, Heptane:EtOH 99.5:0.5, 1 ml/min, t_1 : 10.7 min (major), t_2 : 12.3 min (minor).

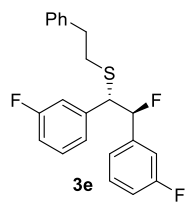
((1*S*,2*S*)-2-fluoro-1,2-di-*m*-tolylethyl)(phenethyl)sulfane (3d)



Product **3d** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 0.2 mmol of substrate (85 mg) and the reaction was stirred at -30 °C for 72 h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 99:1 gradient), white solid, 50 mg, 69% yield, e.r. = 97:3. **Gram scale** Product **3d** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 2.35 mmol of substrate (1 g) and the reaction was stirred at -10 °C for 72 h; **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 99:1 gradient followed by 25:75 to recover the catalyst), white solid, 531 mg, 62% yield, e.r. = 94:6; 99% recovered catalyst. After recrystallization in hexane (82% yield), e.r. > 99.9:0.1. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.34–7.20 (m, 3H), 7.19–6.88 (m, 10H), 5.66 (dd, J = 46.5, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (dd, J = 14.5, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.92–2.76 (m, 2H), 2.71 (m, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -173.4 (dd, J = 46.4, 14.5 Hz, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 140.5, 138.0, 137.8 (J_{C-F} = 4.3 Hz), 137.6, 137.6 (J_{C-F} = 20.7 Hz), 129.5, 129.2, 129.1, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 127.8, 126.9, (J_{C-F} = 6.8 Hz), 126.3, 126.0, 123.4 (J_{C-F} = 6.9 Hz), 97.0 (J_{C-F} = 180.0 Hz), 56.2 (J_{C-F} = 23.7 Hz), 36.2, 33.3 (J_{C-F} = 2.1 Hz), 21.4; **MP**: 84–86 °C; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3026, 2920, 1605, 1494, 1453, 1378, 1312, 1281, 1158, 1094, 1052, 999, 908, 883, 781, 731, 697, 636, 611 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI) m/z calculated for C₂₄H₂₄S (M-HF)⁺ 344.1593, found 344.1587; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ °C +86.1 ° (c = 1.0, CHCl₃, e.r. = 97:3); **HPLC** DAICEL CHIRALPAK® IC-3, Heptane:EtOH 99.75:0.25, 1 ml/min, t_1 : 4.4 min (major), t_2 : 5.2 min (minor).

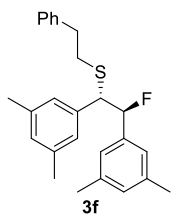
Single Crystal Data for **3d**: C₂₄H₂₅FS, Mr = 364.53. 150 K – monoclinic, P2₁, a = 11.4021(3) Å, b = 7.21710(10) Å, c = 12.6576(3) Å, V = 987.66(4) Å³, Data/restraints/parameters – 4088/1/236, Flack = 0.011(12) for 1862 Friedel pairs and Hooft = 0.012(3) for 1855 Friedel pairs, P2(correct) > 99.9999%, P3(correct), Rint = 0.033, Final R1 = 0.0318, wR2 = 0.0841 (I>2σ(I)).

((1*S*,2*S*)-2-fluoro-1,2-bis(3-fluorophenyl)ethyl)(phenethyl)sulfane (3e)



Product **3e** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 0.2 mmol of substrate (86.6 mg) and the reaction was stirred at rt for 72 h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 99:1 gradient), colourless oil, 56 mg, 75% yield, e.r. = 94:6. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.33–7.18 (m, 5H), 7.12 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 7.03–6.81 (m, 6H), 5.64 (dd, *J* = 46.1, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.88–2.82 (m, 2H), 2.78–2.64 (m, 2H), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -112.4 – -112.5 (m, 1F), -112.6 – -112.7 (m, 1F), -173.8 (dd, *J* = 46.0, 14.8 Hz, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 162.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 246.5 Hz), 162.5 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 247.0 Hz), 140.2, 140.1 (dd, *J*_{C-F} = 8.0, 4.3 Hz), 139.7 (dd, *J*_{C-F} = 21.4, 7.1 Hz), 130.1 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 8.0 Hz), 129.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 8.0 Hz), 128.7, 128.6, 126.6, 124.7 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 2.0 Hz), 122.0 (dd, *J*_{C-F} = 7.3, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 116.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 22.3 Hz), 115.7 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 21.4 Hz), 115.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 20.7 Hz), 113.4 (dd, *J*_{C-F} = 22.6, 8.2 Hz), 95.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 186.0 Hz), 55.7 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 23.9 Hz), 36.3, 33.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 1.9 Hz); **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3064, 3026, 2920, 2850, 1614, 1591, 1488, 1449, 1257, 1142, 1075, 1051, 1004, 955, 919, 878, 784, 738, 696 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calculated for C₂₂H₁₈F₂S (M-HF)⁺ 352.1092, found 352.1087; **[α]_D^{25 °C}** +91.4 ° (c = 0.5, CHCl₃, e.r. = 94:6); **HPLC** DAICEL CHIRALPAK® IB-3, Heptane:EtOH 99.75:0.25, 1 ml/min, *t*₁: 6.9 min (minor), *t*₂: 7.6 min (major).

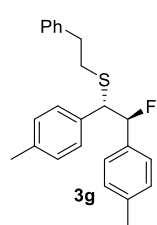
((1*S*,2*S*)-1,2-bis(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-2-fluoroethyl)(phenethyl)sulfane (3f)



Product **3f** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 0.2 mmol of substrate (90.6 mg) and the reaction was stirred at rt for 24 h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 99:1 gradient), colourless oil, 57 mg, 73% yield, e.r. = 96.5:3.5. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.30–7.25 (m, 3H), 7.24–7.19 (m, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.81 (s, 2H), 6.77 (s, 2H), 5.63 (dd, *J* = 46.6, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.87–2.74 (m, 2H), 2.74–2.57 (m, 2H), 2.27 (s, 12H), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -174.6 (dd, *J* = 46.5, 16.1 Hz, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 140.7, 138.1 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 4.0 Hz), 137.9, 137.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 20.2 Hz), 137.5, 130.1 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 1.7 Hz), 129.4, 128.7, 128.5, 126.8, 126.4, 124.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 7.1 Hz), 97.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 179.8 Hz), 56.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 23.4 Hz), 36.4, 33.5 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 2.2 Hz), 21.4, 21.3; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3025, 2917, 2860, 1605, 1495, 1454, 1377, 1227, 1161, 1030. 920, 853, 799, 745, 698 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI) *m/z* calculated for C₂₆H₂₈S (M-HF)⁺ 372.1906, found 372.1912;

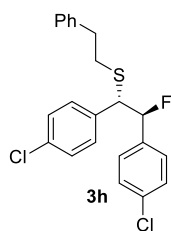
$[\alpha]_D^{25} +84.5^\circ$ ($c = 0.5$, CHCl_3 , e.r. = 96.5:3.5); **HPLC** DAICEL CHIRALPAK® ID-3, Heptane:EtOH 99.8:0.2, 1 ml/min, t_1 : 4.7 min (minor), t_2 : 5.4 min (major).

((1*S*,2*S*)-2-fluoro-1,2-di-*p*-tolylethyl)(phenethyl)sulfane (3g)



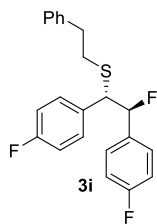
Product **3g** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 0.2 mmol of substrate (85 mg) and the reaction was stirred at -30°C for 72 h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 99:1 gradient), white solid, 44 mg, 60% yield, e.r. = 91:9. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.31–7.14 (m, 3H), 7.12–6.95 (m, 10H), 5.62 (dd, J = 46.3, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (dd, J = 13.3, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.84–2.73 (m, 2H), 2.72–2.60 (m, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H), **¹⁹F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = -171.0 (dd, J = 46.3, 13.2 Hz, 1F); **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 140.6, 138.3 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 1.9 Hz), 137.4, 134.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 21.3 Hz), 134.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 5.3 Hz), 129.2, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 126.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 6.7 Hz), 126.3, 97.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 179.1 Hz), 56.0 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 24.0 Hz), 36.4, 33.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 2.3 Hz), 21.3, 21.2; **MP** 60–62 $^\circ\text{C}$; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3027, 2945, 2869, 1602, 1514, 1496, 1448, 1074, 946, 908, 816, 738, 718, 702 cm^{-1} ; **HRMS** (EI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{24}\text{S}$ (M-HF)⁺ 344.1593, found 344.1595; $[\alpha]_D^{25} +85.0^\circ$ ($c = 0.5$, CHCl_3 , e.r. = 91:9); **HPLC** DAICEL CHIRALPAK® IF-3, Heptane:EtOH 99.8:0.2, 1 ml/min, t_1 : 9.4 min (minor), t_2 : 10.1 min (major).

((1*S*,2*S*)-1,2-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-2-fluoroethyl)(phenethyl)sulfane (3h)



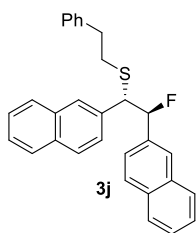
Product **3h** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 0.2 mmol of substrate (93.2 mg) and the reaction was stirred at 0°C for 72 h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 99:1 gradient), white solid, 40.0 mg, 53% yield, e.r. = 93:7. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 7.32–7.15 (m, 7H), 7.10–7.05 (m, 2H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.58 (dd, J = 45.8, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (dd, J = 13.8, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.90–2.76 (m, 2H), 2.73–2.56 (m, 2H), **¹⁹F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = -172.4 (dd, J = 45.9, 13.9 Hz, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ = 140.2, 135.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 4.0 Hz), 135.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 21.4 Hz), 134.7 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 1.9 Hz), 133.8, 130.4, 128.7, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 127.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 6.9 Hz), 126.6, 95.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 181.7 Hz), 55.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 24.4 Hz), 36.2, 33.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 1.8 Hz); **MP** 68–70 $^\circ\text{C}$; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3062, 3027, 2922, 2850, 1601, 1491, 1453, 1408, 1276, 1209, 1179, 1091, 1052, 1014, 862, 836, 822, 771, 748, 720, 698 cm^{-1} ; **HRMS** (EI) m/z calculated for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{18}\text{Cl}_2\text{S}$ (M-HF)⁺ 384.0501, found 384.0499; $[\alpha]_D^{25} +83.7^\circ$ ($c = 0.5$, CHCl_3 , e.r. = 93:7); **HPLC** DAICEL CHIRALPAK® IC-3, Heptane:EtOH 99.9:0.1, 1 ml/min, t_1 : 8.1 min (minor), t_2 : 9.3 min (major).

((1*S*,2*S*)-1,2-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-2-fluoroethyl)(phenethyl)sulfane (3i)



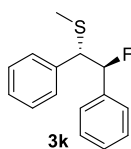
Product **3i** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 0.2 mmol of substrate (86.7 mg) and the reaction was stirred at 0 °C for 72 h. **Purification:** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 99:1 gradient), colourless oil, 43.2 mg, 58% yield, e.r. = 94:6. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.30–7.19 (m, 3H), 7.14–6.99 (m, 6H), 6.98–6.89 (m, 4H), 5.60 (dd, J = 45.8, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (dd, J = 13.2, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.90–2.78 (m, 2H), 2.75–2.65 (m, 2H), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -112.0–-114.0 (m, 1F), -112.6–-112.7 (m, 1F), -170.3 (dd, J = 46.7, 11.2 Hz, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 162.7 (dd, J_{C-F} = 247.0, 1.9 Hz), 162.1 (d, J_{C-F} = 247.0 Hz), 140.2, 133.1 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.4 Hz), 133.0 (dd, J_{C-F} = 18 Hz, J = 3.2 Hz), 130.6 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.1 Hz), 128.5, 128.5, 128.1 (t, J_{C-F} = 7.1 Hz), 126.4, 115.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 21.5 Hz), 115.0 (d, J_{C-F} = 21.5 Hz), 96.1 (d, J_{C-F} = 181.2 Hz), 55.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 24.8 Hz), 36.2, 33.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 2.0 Hz); **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3063, 3028, 2922, 2851, 1604, 1508, 1454, 1417, 1298, 1224, 1158, 1096, 1052, 1013, 937, 834, 806, 749, 722, 698 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI) m/z calculated for C₂₂H₁₈F₂S (M-HF)⁺ 352.1092, found 352.1094; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ °C +65.2 ° (c = 0.5, CHCl₃, e.r. = 94:6); **HPLC** DAICEL CHIRALPAK® IC-3, Heptane:EtOH 99.9:0.1, 1ml/min, t_1 : 12.5 min (major), t_2 : 15.0 min (minor).

((1*S*,2*S*)-2-fluoro-1,2-di(naphthalen-2-yl)ethyl)(phenethyl)sulfane (3j)



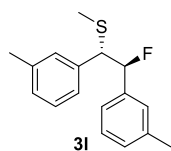
Product **3j** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 0.05 mmol of substrate (25.0 mg) and the reaction was stirred at rt for 24 h. **Purification** Preparative TLC, eluent = pentane:CH₂Cl₂ (80:20), white solid, 13.2 mg, 61% yield, e.r. = 95.5:4.5. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.82–7.69 (m, 6H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.50–7.43 (m, 4H), 7.38 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.17 (m, 4H), 7.10–7.02 (m, 2H), 5.98 (dd, J = 46.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (dd, J = 14.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.92–2.76 (m, 2H), 2.76–2.63 (m, 2H), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -172.3 (dd, J = 46.0, 14.2 Hz, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 139.3, 134.2 (d, J_{C-F} = 4.1 Hz), 134.0, 133.9 (d, J_{C-F} = 20.5 Hz), 132.2, 132.0, 131.7, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 127.1, 127.0, 126.8 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 126.6 (d, J_{C-F} = 4.2 Hz), 125.5, 125.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.3 Hz), 125.2 (d, J_{C-F} = 3.0 Hz), 125.0, 124.9 (d, J_{C-F} = 8.0 Hz), 122.7 (d, J_{C-F} = 5.9 Hz), 95.8 (d, J_{C-F} = 180.4 Hz), 55.3 (d, J_{C-F} = 23.9 Hz), 35.2, 32.2 (d, J_{C-F} = 1.9 Hz); **MP** 105–106 °C; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3057, 3025, 2919, 2850, 1601, 1508, 1496, 1453, 1368, 1331, 1270, 1188, 1143, 1124, 1053, 1018, 950, 896, 860, 819, 805, 748, 697 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI) m/z calculated for C₃₀H₂₄S (M-HF)⁺ 416.1593, found 416.1605; $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ °C +59.5 ° (c = 0.4, CHCl₃, e.r. = 95.5:4.5); **HPLC** DAICEL CHIRALPAK® IB-3, Heptane:EtOH 99.85:0.15, 1ml/min, t_1 : 26.2 min (major), t_2 : 30.2 min (minor).

(1*S*,2*S*)-(2-fluoro-1,2-diphenylethyl)(methyl)sulfane (3k)



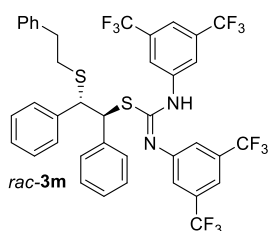
Product **3k** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 0.2 mmol of substrate (49.6 mg) and the reaction was stirred at $-30\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 72 h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 99:1 gradient), colourless oil, 35.5 mg, 72% yield, e.r. = 91:9. **¹H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.19–7.11 (m, 6H), 7.09 (dd, J = 7.5, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.07–7.02 (m, 2H), 5.62 (dd, J = 46.3, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (dd, J = 13.9, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 1.93 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 3H), **¹⁹F NMR** (376.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -173.2 (dd, J = 46.4, 13.9 Hz, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 137.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 16.5 Hz), 137.6, 129.0, 128.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 1.5 Hz), 128.5, 128.2, 127.8, 126.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 7.1 Hz), 97.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 180.2 Hz), 58.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 23.8 Hz), 15.5; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3031, 2918, 1493, 1453, 1212, 1075, 1051, 998, 916, 756, 737, 696, 627 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI) m/z calculated for C₁₅H₁₅FS (M)⁺ 246.0873, found 246.0878; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}}$ +74.1 $^{\circ}$ (c = 0.5, CHCl₃, e.r. = 91:9) **HPLC** DAICEL CHIRALPAK[®] IC-3, Heptane:EtOH 99.9:0.1, 1 ml/min, t_1 : 8.0 min (major), t_2 : 9.1 min (minor).

((1*S*,2*S*)-2-fluoro-1,2-di-*m*-tolylethyl)(methyl)sulfane (3l)



Product **3l** was prepared according to the general procedure by employing 0.2 mmol of substrate (67.0 mg) and the reaction was stirred at -10 ° for 72 h. **Purification** FCC, eluent = pentane:Et₂O (100:0 to 99:1 gradient), colourless liquid, 43.2 mg, 87% yield, e.r. = 92.5:7.5. **¹H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.21–6.86 (m, 8H), 5.69 (dd, J = 46.4, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.10 (dd, J = 15.0, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.29 (s, 6H), 2.01 (s, 3H), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = -174.1 (dd, J = 46.6, 14.9 Hz, 1F), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl₃) [overlapping signals] δ = 138.0, 137.7 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 12.0 Hz), 137.6, 137.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 3.8 Hz), 129.5, 129.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 1.8 Hz), 128.2, 127.8, 126.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 6.8 Hz), 126.0, 123.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 7.0 Hz), 96.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 179.8 Hz), 57.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 23.7 Hz), 21.4, 15.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}$ = 2.6 Hz); **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 3025, 2918, 2864, 1607, 1590, 1488, 1437, 1379, 1313, 1247, 1191, 1159, 1094, 1056, 999, 883, 780, 735, 700 cm⁻¹; **HRMS** (EI) m/z calculated for C₁₇H₁₉FS (M)⁺ 274.1186, found 274.1181; $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}}$ +63.7 $^{\circ}$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃, e.r. = 92.5:7.5); **HPLC** DAICEL CHIRALPAK[®] IC-3, Heptane:EtOH 99.75:0.25, 1 ml/min, t_1 : 3.9 min (major), t_2 : 4.3 min (minor).

***rac*-2-(phenethylthio)-1,2-diphenylethyl-N,N'-bis(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)carbamiimidothioate (3m)**



The thiourea degradation product **3m** was prepared by dissolving bromo sulfide **1a** (0.2 mmol, 79.5 mg, 1 equiv.) and thiourea **2d** (0.2 mmol, 100.0 mg, 1 equiv.) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.25M). After stirring for 1h, the solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the crude product was purified by FCC (pentane:CH₂Cl₂, 95:5 to 85:15 gradient) to afford a dense sticky oil (57.2 mg, 0.07 mmol, 35% yield). **¹H NMR** (500

MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ = 10.09 (s, 1H), 8.06 (s br, 2H), 7.78 (s br, 1H), 7.64 (s br, 1H), 7.20–7.09 (m, 9H), 7.08–7.01 (m, 4H), 7.00–6.94 (m, 4H), 5.29 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 4.40 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 2.72–2.56 (m, 2H), 2.50–2.38 (m, 2H),), **¹⁹F NMR** (470 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ = –61.3 (s, 6F), –61.7 (s, 6F), **¹³C NMR** (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) [overlapping signals] δ = 151.0, 150.8, 142.3, 140.7, 140.2, 139.7, 131.2 (q, J_{C-F} = 32.6 Hz), 131.1 (q, J_{C-F} = 32.6 Hz), 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 127.6, 126.5, 123.7 (q, J_{C-F} = 272.7 Hz), 123.6 (q, J_{C-F} = 272.7 Hz), 122.8, 119.7, 116.6, 115.9, 56.6, 53.4, 35.4, 32.9; **IR** (thin layer film) ν = 2989, 2883, 1632, 1603, 1532, 1470, 1455, 1433, 1372, 1277, 1173, 1134, 1107, 1030, 970, 885, 847, 721, 700, 683, 668, 642, 616, 606 cm^{–1}; **HRMS** (ESIpos) m/z calculated for C₃₉H₂₉N₂F₁₂S₂ (M+H)⁺ 817.15751, found 817.15729.

Determination of binding constants

A stock solution of **4h** (5 μM) in CH_2Cl_2 (spectrophotometric grade) was prepared by weighing out the solid urea catalyst. A TBAF \cdot 3H $_2$ O solution (0.2 mM) was prepared by weighing out commercially available TBAF \cdot 3H $_2$ O in a vial purged with Ar and dissolving it in the previously prepared solution of **4h** (5 μM). The exact fluoride concentration was determined following a reported procedure (47). A TBAB solution (0.2 mM) was prepared by weighing out commercially available TBAB and dissolving it in the previously prepared solution of **4h** (5 μM). 0.8 ml of the stock solution of **4h** were subsequently used as sample for the UV-Vis titration to which an increasing amount of the TBAF or TBAB solution was added (0–10 equiv.). After every addition a UV-Vis spectrum was recorded, a bathochromic shift of the band with a maximum at 255 nm was observed, and the absorption at the new maximum (273 nm or 269 nm, respectively) was plotted against the concentration of the added halide. The association constants were determined by non-linear least squares regression using DynaFit 4 (48); the model fits well when analysed on the basis of 1:1 complexation between the urea and fluoride or bromide ions (K_a (4h:X $^-$)).

$$K_a \text{ (4h:F}^-) = 1.7 \pm 0.2 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1}$$

$$K_a \text{ (4h:Br}^-) = 3.3 \pm 0.3 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1}$$

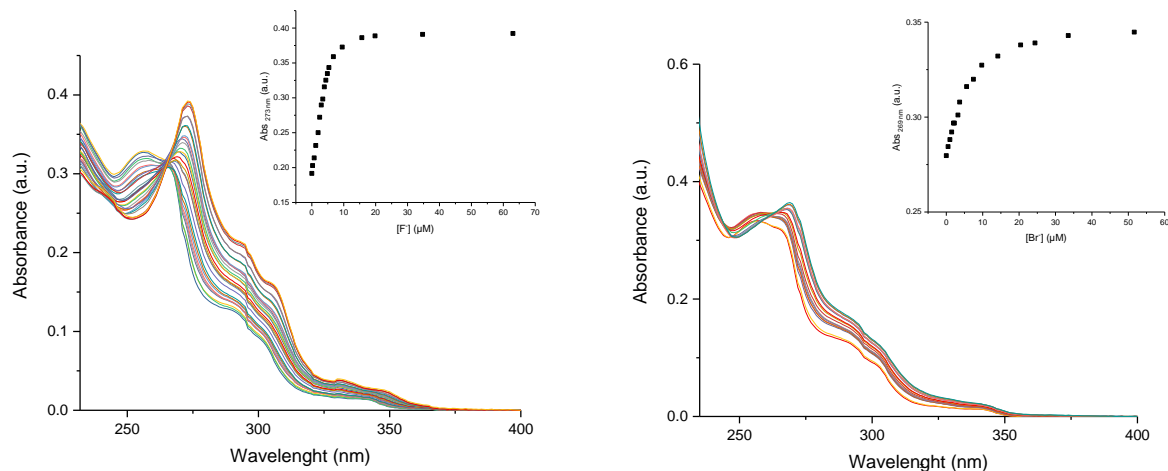


Figure S8: Stacked UV-Vis spectra for the titration of **4h** (5 μM) vs. TBAF \cdot 3H $_2$ O (0.2 mM) in CH_2Cl_2 (left), and TBAB (0.2 mM) (right). Inset: titration profile at the absorption maximum.

Computational Methods

All computational work was undertaken using S-methylated substrate **1k**, in dichloromethane solvent ($\epsilon = 8.93$), with Gibbs free energies evaluated at 298.15 K unless otherwise stated. Distances are quoted in Å and angles in degrees.

Density Functional Theory (DFT)

Density functional theory (DFT) geometry optimizations and frequency analyses were performed using the Gaussian 09, Revision D.01 software package (49). The M06-2X (50) functional was used with ultrafine (99,590) integration grid in combination with a mixed basis set, with Ahlrichs type def2-TZVPPD applied to non-catalyst heteroatoms, and def2-SVP applied to all other atoms, herein referred to as the def2-SVP(TZVPPD) basis set (51-53). The def2-TZVPPD basis set includes an effective core potential (ECP) description for Cs (54). Geometry optimizations were performed in dichloromethane solvent using the conductor-like polarizable continuum model (CPCM) of solvation (55–57), due to the presence of many charged species. Vibrational frequencies were used to classify stationary points. Stationary points with all real frequencies were classified as minima, and those with a single imaginary frequency as a transition state (TS). Thermochemistry was evaluated at the solution standard state of 1 mol dm⁻³ and temperature of 298.15 K unless otherwise stated. Gas phase species were evaluated at standard pressure of 1 bar. Gibbs free energies were calculated using vibrational frequencies with *GoodVibes* (58) python script employing a quasi-harmonic approximation for entropy calculation with a free-rotor description below 100 cm⁻¹, as proposed by Grimme (59). *GoodVibes* was used to implement concentration corrections, but vibrational frequencies were not scaled. Non-covalent interactions (NCI) were computed using the non-covalent interaction index from the optimization density (60, 61).

Energies were corrected with single point calculations using the ORCA 3.0.3 software package (62). The ω B97X-D3 functional, which incorporates Grimme's D3 dispersion correction, was used with default integration grid and tight SCF criteria (63–65). The (ma)-def2-TZVPP basis set refers to ma-def2-TZVPP (66) on heteroatoms, and def2-TZVPP on all others, with corresponding ECP for Cs. Solvation in dichloromethane was modelled using the conductor-like screening model (COSMO) (67). This level of theory most accurately reproduced DLPNO-CCSD(T) (68) S_N2 and E2 activation barriers in unpublished benchmarking studies.

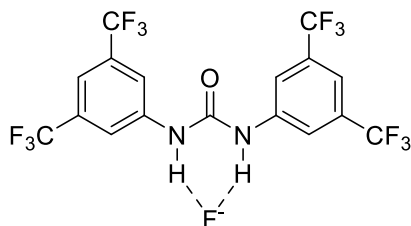
Conformational sampling for simple molecules (starting materials and products) was performed using Spartan '16 (69). Rotatable dihedral bonds were systematically scanned, and energies evaluated using the

Merck molecular force field (MMFF) (70). DFT single point energies (optimization level of theory) were evaluated for each structure and those within a 40 kJ/mol window were fully optimized.

DFT Basis Set Benchmarking

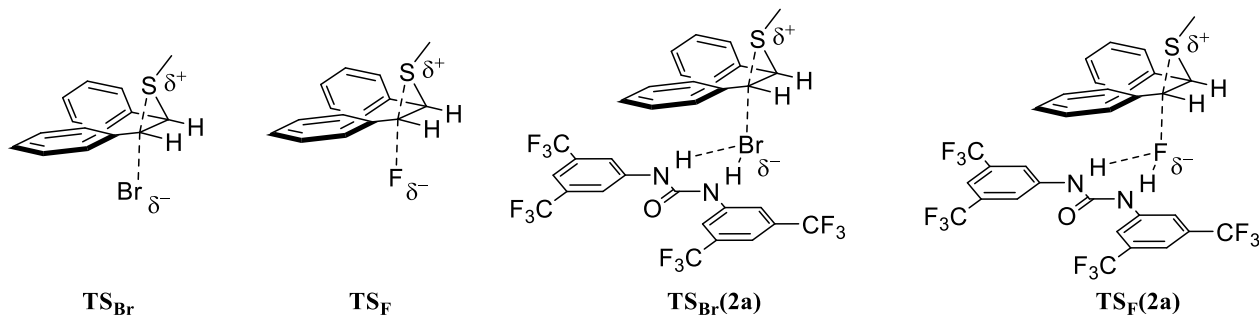
The use of a mixed basis set was found to be essential to accurately reproduce large basis set benchmark geometries, at viable computational cost. We benchmarked urea-fluoride geometries (**Table S5**) and bromide and fluoride TSs (**Table S6**) comparing def2-SVP(TZVPPD) to def2-TZVPP(D). Geometry optimization methods were also benchmarked relative to MP2 (71) geometries in unpublished work. Use of a small basis set on all atoms results in deprotonation of the catalyst by fluoride, and, in some cases, loss of TSs for fluoride delivery. Use of diffuse basis functions on the catalyst structure resulted in density convergence issues.

Table S5. – Key bond lengths of **2a-F⁻** complex with basis set



Functional	Basis Set	Average Key Bond Distances (Å)			RMSD
		N-F	N-H	H-F	
M06-2X	def2-TZVPP(D)	2.589	1.045	1.599	-
M06-2X	def2-SVP(TZVPPD)	2.587	1.051	1.591	0.006
M06-2X	def2-SVP	Deprotonated			(0.115)

Table S6. – Key bond lengths of TSs in non-symmetric reaction pathway



Functional	Basis Set	Uncoordinated (Å)				Coordinated (Å)										RMSD
		TS _{Br}		TS _F		TS _{Br} (2a)				TS _F (2a)						
		C-Br	C-S	C-F	C-S	C-Br	C-S	N-Br	N-H	H-Br	C-F	C-S	N-F	N-H	H-F	
M06-2X	def2-TZVPP(D)	2.715	2.261	2.238	2.067	2.670	2.296	3.453	1.016	2.471	2.093	2.233	2.700	1.027	1.734	-
M06-2X	def2-SVP(TZVPPD)	2.713	2.256	2.238	2.065	2.672	2.283	3.431	1.021	2.499	2.099	2.229	2.690	1.034	1.719	0.011
M06-2X	def2-SVP	2.809	2.192	2.254	2.009	2.727	2.248	3.420	1.023	2.461	2.180	2.163	2.630	1.042	1.649	0.059

Molecular Dynamics (MD)

Conformational sampling of catalyst-CsF complexes and ion pairs was performed using the GROMACS (version 5.1.4) molecular dynamics package (72–77) with optimized potential for liquid simulations (OPLS-AA 2005) forcefield (78, 79). Compatible parameters were generated from Schrodinger Maestro software (ffld_server utility, version 14) (80), with restrained electrostatic potential (RESP) charges (81, 82). Parameters for the episulfonium ion were adapted from those generated for the corresponding dimethyl aziridinium ion in a manner similar to Duarte and Paton (83). RESP charges were fitted to HF/6-31G(d) electrostatic potential using Ambertools (84). Simulations were performed in explicit dichloromethane solvent with topology obtained from virtualchemistry.org (85, 86).

The species of interest was first centered in a cubic box, with 3-dimensional periodic boundary conditions (PBC), and minimum species-boundary distance of 15 Å. Simulations involving a cesium cation made use of the *genion* command to insert the cation into the box in a random position. A 1 nm cut-off was used for both Van der Waals interactions and the particle mesh Ewald method (87). Simulations made use of the linear constraint solver algorithm (LINCS) (88). System temperature was maintained using the velocity rescaling method, with time constant of 100 fs (89), and constant pressure was maintained (NPT simulations) using the Parrinello-Rahman barostat, with time constant of 2 ps, reference pressure of 1 bar, and compressibility of $4.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ bar}^{-1}$ (90, 91).

Each system was minimized by steepest-descents method for 5000 steps, before generation of initial random velocities according to a 173 K Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution. The system was equilibrated under constant volume (NVT), with 1 fs timestep, and heavy atom position restraints. During NVT, system temperature was raised to that required for the NPT production run, followed by an equilibration period, totaling 200 ps. The system was then equilibrated for 400 ps under constant pressure (NPT) with 2 fs timestep. During this equilibration, it was verified that the volume of the system had stabilized. An NPT production run was then performed, from which data was derived.

MD trajectories were analyzed using clustering, performed by heavy atom root-mean-square deviation (RMSD) using the GROMOS algorithm (92) in GROMACS. RMSD between frames was calculated, accounting for automorphism arising from molecular symmetry, using an in-house python script. Fluorine atoms in CF₃ groups were omitted to reduce automorphs 81-fold.

We used classical MD simulations to investigate catalyst-fluoride binding modes, and to generate catalyst-fluoride-episulfonium ion pair conformations in an approach similar to that by Duarte and Paton (83). In order to effectively sample different conformations and binding modes of catalyst; simulations of catalyst alone, and with fluoride were performed at elevated temperature of 373 K. Additionally, it was also found

that the presence of an explicit Cs^+ counter-ion was essential to facilitate interconversion of fluoride binding modes over the simulation timescale. Simulations of the reactive ion pair with episulfonium were performed at reaction temperature of 298 K.

Computation – Non-asymmetric Catalytic System

Herein we describe the methods used to investigate the non-asymmetric pathway, using achiral catalyst, and also the hypothetical uncatalyzed reaction.

Phase-Transfer

In order to generate a free energy profile for the reaction involving catalyst **2a**, a description of the phase-transfer step is required. We applied a thermodynamic approach, combining computed solution phase energies with literature experimental data in an anion-exchange step. A similar approach has been employed by Pliego and Riveros (93, 94) for solid-liquid phase-transfer with crown ethers. Enthalpy changes were calculated using a Hess cycle with experimental data published in the CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics 97th Edition (**Figure S9, Table S7**) (95). Molar entropies of ionic salts and gaseous ion entropies were used in combination with computed entropy changes to calculate the corresponding entropy change for the process (**Table S8**). Gaseous ion entropies were those determined by Marcus and Loewenschuss (96). Values of ΔG with illustrative metal cations, catalysts and leaving groups are given in **Table S9**.

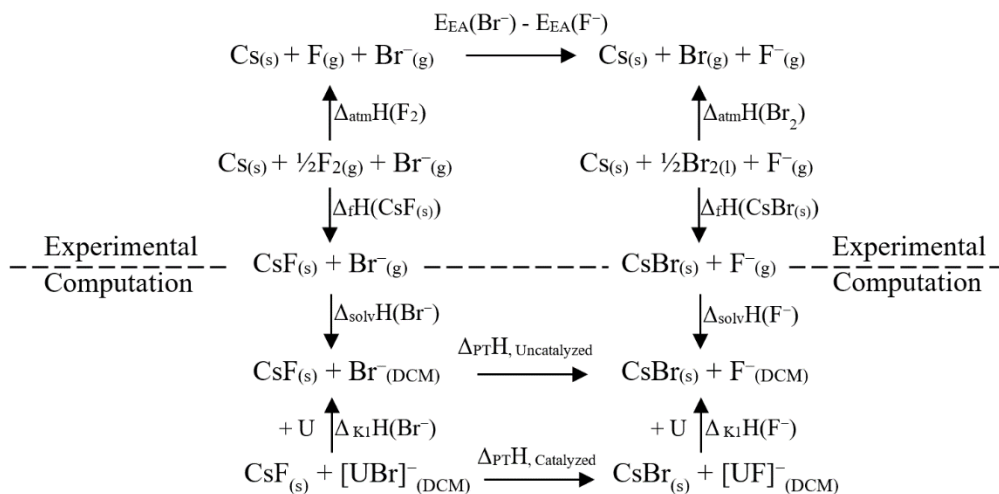


Figure S9. – Hess cycle for calculation of thermochemical values for phase-transfer model

Table S7. – *Standard enthalpy and entropy changes at 298.15 K*

	Source	ΔH (kJ/mol)	ΔS (J/K/mol)
$\Delta_f(\text{CsF}_{(s)})$	Ref (95)	-553.5	-
$\Delta_f(\text{CsBr}_{(s)})$	Ref (95)	-405.8	-
$\Delta_f(\text{CsCl}_{(s)})$	Ref (95)	-443.0	-
$\Delta_{\text{atm}}(\text{F}_2)$	Ref (95)	+79.38	-
$\Delta_{\text{atm}}(\text{Br}_2)$	Ref (95)	+111.87	-
$\Delta_{\text{atm}}(\text{Cl}_2)$	Ref (95)	+121.301	-
$E_{\text{EA}}(\text{F})$	Ref (95)	+328.1649	-
$E_{\text{EA}}(\text{Br})$	Ref (95)	+324.5369	-
$E_{\text{EA}}(\text{Cl})$	Ref (95)	+348.5750	-
$\Delta_{\text{solv}}(\text{F}^-)$	Computed	-317.8	-26.7*
$\Delta_{\text{solv}}(\text{Br}^-)$	Computed	-240.6	-26.7*
$\Delta_{\text{solv}}(\text{Cl}^-)$	Computed	-257.8	-26.7*
K1 (F ⁻) 2a	Computed	+103.0	+88.7
K1 (Br ⁻) 2a	Computed	+51.51	+85.2
K1 (Cl ⁻) 2a	Computed	+58.65	+86.3
K1 (F ⁻) 2f	Computed	+83.30	+76.7
K1 (Br ⁻) 2f	Computed	+39.05	+83.3
K1 (F ⁻) 2d	Computed	+104.5	+75.9
K1 (Br ⁻) 2d	Computed	+49.2	+73.8

* Entropy change associated with a change in standard state from 1 bar to 1 M.

Table S8. – *Standard molar entropies at 298.15 K*

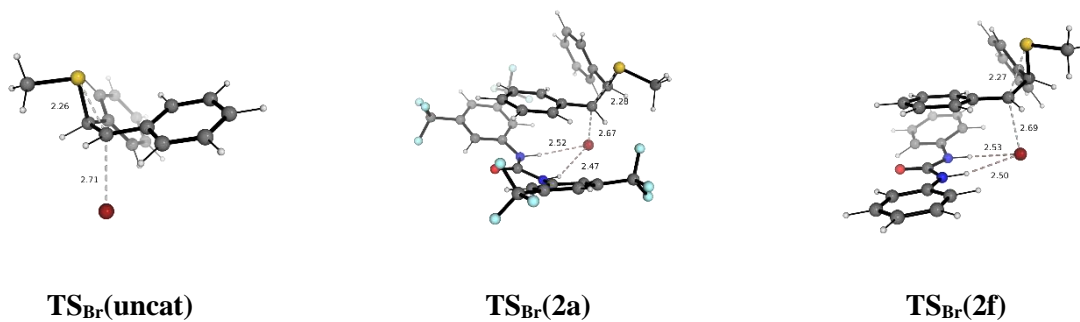
	Source	S (J/K/mol)
$\text{CsF}_{(s)}$	Ref (95)	92.8
$\text{CsBr}_{(s)}$	Ref (95)	113.1
$\text{CsCl}_{(s)}$	Ref (95)	101.2
$\text{F}_{(g)}^-$	Ref (96)	145.59
$\text{Br}_{(g)}^-$	Ref (96)	163.57
$\text{Cl}_{(g)}^-$	Ref (96)	154.40

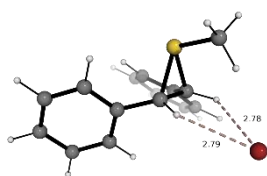
Table S9. – Solubility model standard thermochemical values evaluated at 298.15 K

Catalyst	Cation	Leaving Group	$\Delta_{PT}G$ (kJ/mol)	$\Delta_{PT}H$ (kJ/mol)	$\Delta_{PT}S$ (J/K/mol)
Uncatalyzed	Cs	Br	+33.7	+34.4	+2.31
Uncatalyzed	K	Br	+57.5	+60.8	+11.3
Uncatalyzed	Na	Br	+93.6	+98.8	+17.7
2a	Cs	Br	-16.7	-17.1	-1.16
2a	K	Br	+7.00	+9.33	-7.84
2a	Na	Br	+43.1	+47.3	-14.2
2f	Cs	Br	-7.02	-8.30	-4.29
2f	K	Br	+16.7	+18.1	+4.71
2f	Na	Br	+52.8	+56.1	+11.1
Thiourea 2d	Cs	Br	-21.0	-20.9	+0.29
Uncatalyzed	Cs	Cl	+29.2	+29.0	-0.52
2a	Cs	Cl	-14.5	-15.4	-2.96

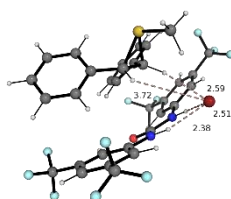
Catalyst 2a

Stationary points along the uncatalyzed pathway, and that catalyzed by urea **2a** are shown in **Figure S10**. Key geometric parameters are tabulated in **Table S10**. Conformational sampling of starting material and product was undertaken with Spartan.

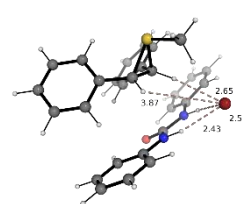




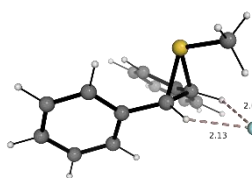
IP_{Br}(uncat)



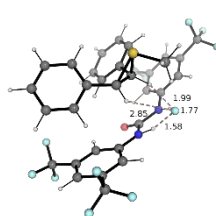
IP_{Br}(2a)



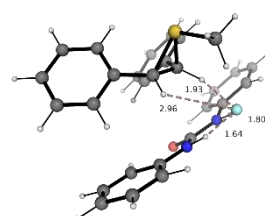
IP_{Br}(2f)



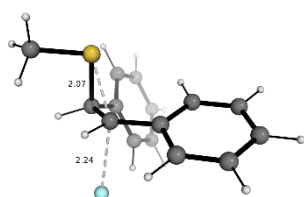
IP_F(uncat)



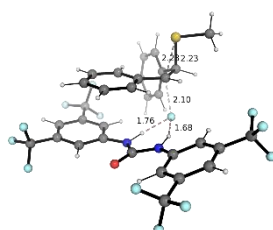
IP_F(2a)



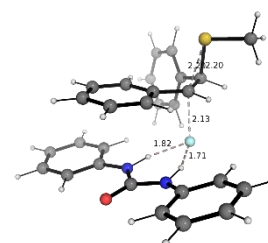
IP_F(2f)



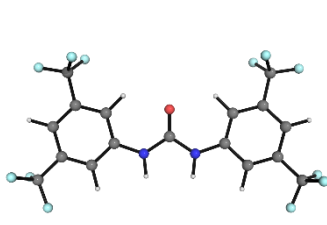
TS_F(uncat)



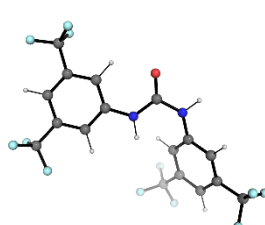
TS_F(2a)



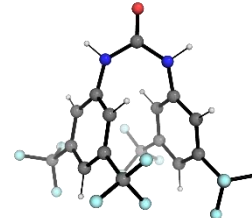
TS_F(2f)



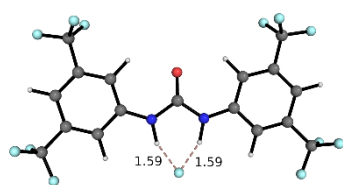
2a_{aa} ($G_{\text{rel}} = 0$ kJ/mol)



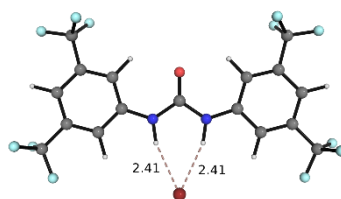
2a_{as} ($G_{\text{rel}} = +11.8$ kJ/mol)



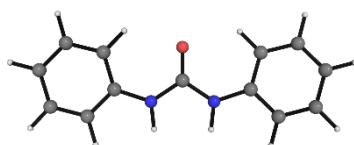
2a_{ss} ($G_{\text{rel}} = +35.4$ kJ/mol)



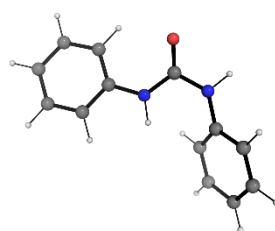
2a-F



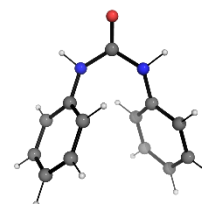
2a-Br



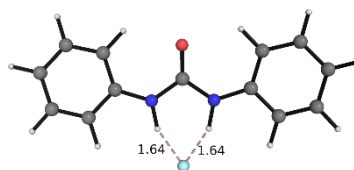
2f_{aa} ($G_{\text{rel}} = 0$ kJ/mol)



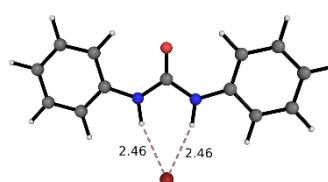
2f_{as} ($G_{\text{rel}} = +1.7$ kJ/mol)



2f_{ss} ($G_{\text{rel}} = +10.9$ kJ/mol)



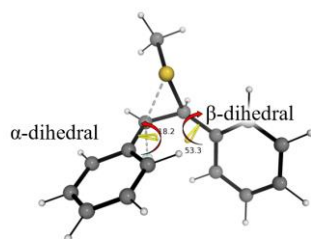
2f-F



2f-Br

Figure S10. – *Geometries of key species on non-asymmetric pathway*

Table S10. – Key geometric parameters for stationary points on non-asymmetric pathway



	k imag	Key Distances (Å)				Key Angles (°)	
		C-X	C-S	H-bond 1	H-bond 2	α -Dihedral [†]	β -Dihedral [†]
2a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2a-F	-	-	-	1.591	1.591	-	-
2a-Br	-	-	-	2.408	2.408	-	-
2f	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2f-F	-	-	-	1.641	1.641	-	-
2f-Br	-	-	-	2.464	2.464	-	-
TS_{Br}(uncat)	-330.27	2.713	2.256	-	-	3.4	-41.0
TS_{Br}(2a)	-327.44	2.672	2.283	2.523	2.475	-41.2	83.9
TS_{Br}(2f)	-327.94	2.694	2.266	2.531	2.498	-33.7	82.7
Epi	-	-	1.834*	-	-	-	-
IP_{Br}(uncat)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IP_{Br}(2a)	-	-	-	2.378	2.507	-	-
IP_{Br}(2f)	-	-	-	2.433	2.517	-	-
IP_F(uncat)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IP_F(2a)	-	-	-	1.580	1.771	-	-
IP_F(2f)	-	-	-	1.645	1.805	-	-
TS_F(uncat)	-296.87	2.238	2.065	-	-	18.2	-53.3
TS_F(2a)	-394.36	2.099	2.229	1.760	1.678	-4.8	-66.5
TS_F(2f)	-369.13	2.133	2.198	1.818	1.705	-12.2	-69.4

* Average value. [†] Phenyl ring dihedrals measured relative to C-C bond.

Unsubstituted Urea 2f

The achiral reaction pathway was also computed with the **catalyst 2f** for comparison with **catalyst 2a** (**Figure S11**). Consistent with previously reported experimental results (25), substitution of the aromatic rings of diarylureas leads to subtle modulation of hydrogen bond donor ability of the catalyst, and relatively

small variation in solution phase Gibbs free energy barriers for S_N2 reactions. In contrast, we find larger Gibbs free energy differences in steps involving phase transfer (**iii-iv**), with differences of up to 19.6 kJ/mol, demonstrating that the unsubstituted catalyst is inferior at phase-transfer, arising from inferior H-bond donor ability.

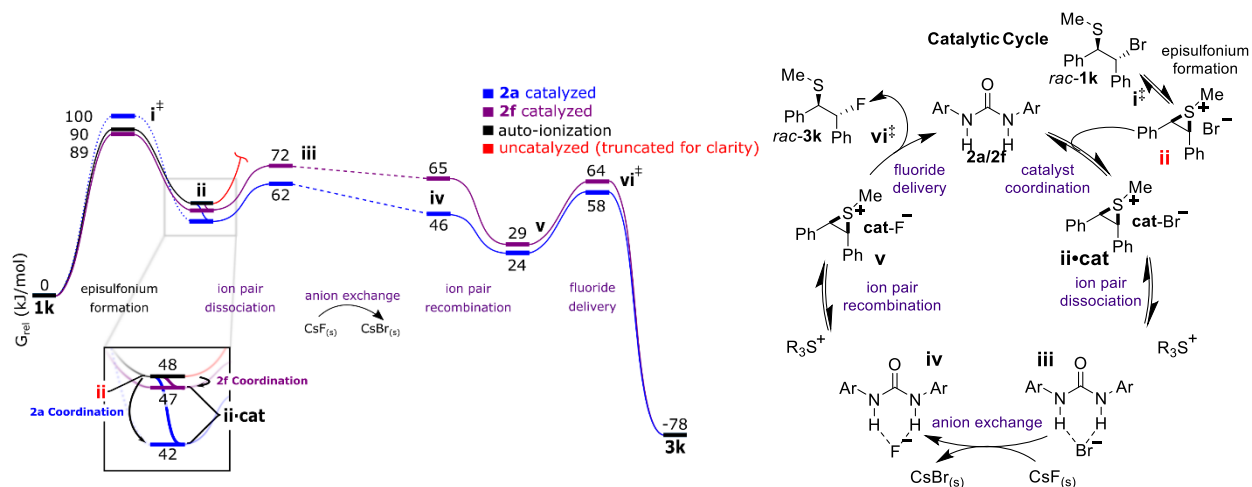


Figure S11. – Gibbs free energy profile comparing urea **2f** with catalyst **2a**

Episulfonium Isomers

We considered the episulfonium methyl group both *syn* and *anti* to the phenyl substituents (**Figure S12**).

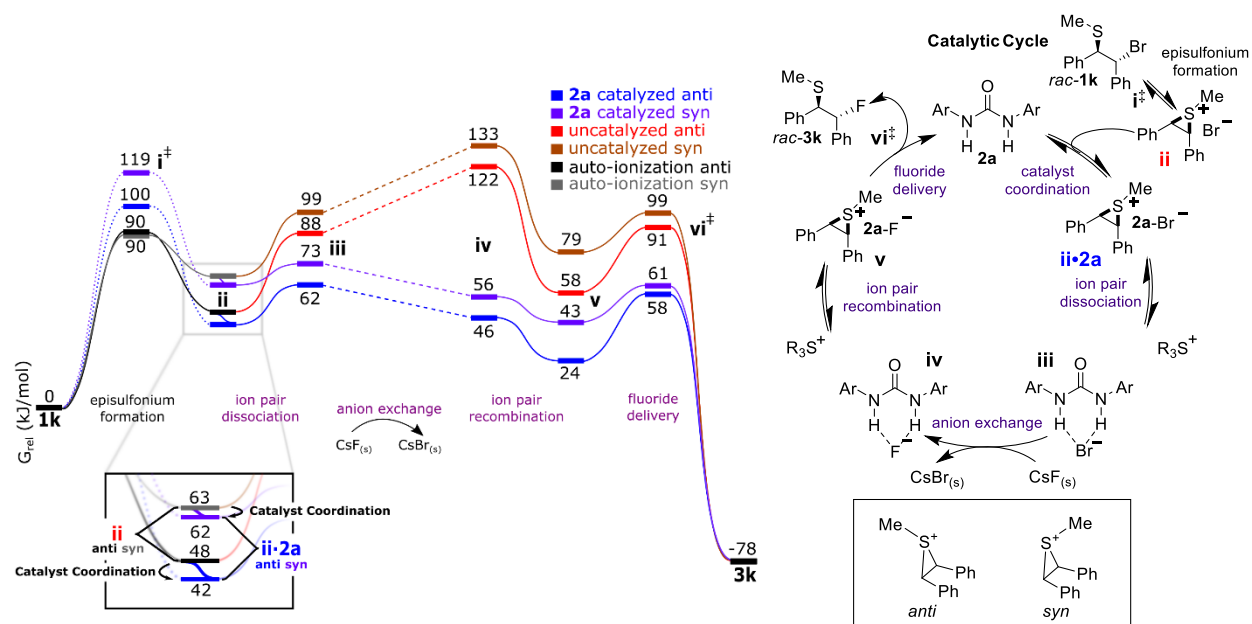


Figure S12. – Gibbs free energy profile comparing *syn* and *anti* episulfonium isomers

For both the catalyzed and uncatalyzed pathways, the *syn* isomer is disfavored, notably for the ion pairs **ii** and **v**. Aryl group atropisomerism was considered and discounted in the *syn* isomer with a dihedral scan indicating an (uncorrected) barrier to interconversion of less than 20 kJ/mol. The barrier to formation of both episulfonium isomers (uncoordinated) is 90.3 kJ/mol, indicating no kinetic preference to formation. The thermodynamic preference for *anti* episulfonium-bromide ion pairs is 14.4 kJ/mol (Boltzmann factor (298.15 K) = 3×10^{-3}), and greater when coordinated by urea. In the case of a chiral urea, the rate-limiting step of the catalyzed reaction is prior to the enantiodetermining step and so the more thermodynamically stable *anti* isomer is used in this work.

Stationary points along the non-symmetric pathway with methyl group *syn* are illustrated in **Figure S13** with key geometric parameters tabulated in **Table S11**.

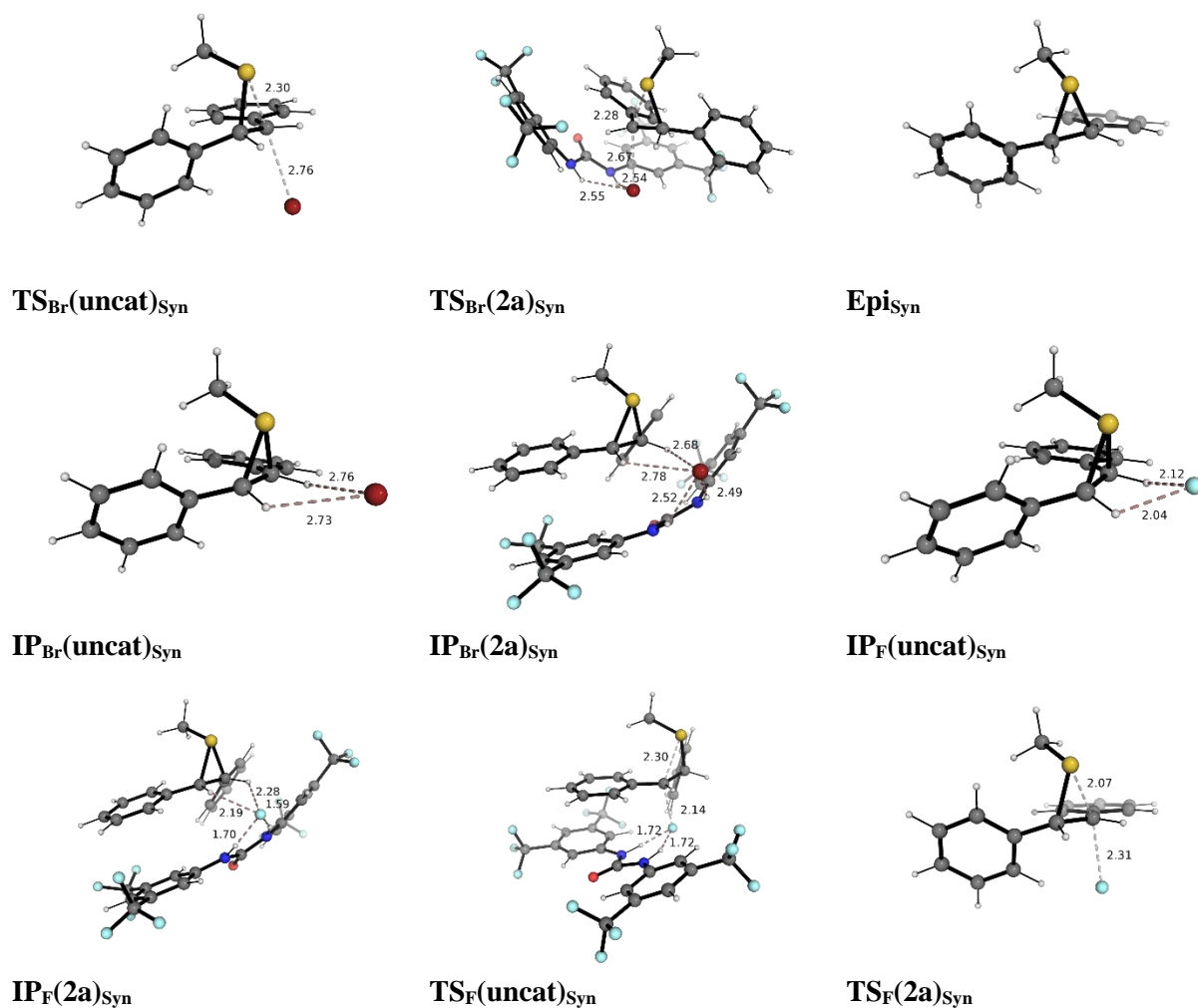


Figure S13. – Geometries of key species with episulfonium methyl *syn*

Table S11. – Key geometric parameters for stationary points with episulfonium methyl syn

	k imag	Key Distances (Å)				Key Angles (°)	
		C-X	C-S	H-bond 1	H-bond 2	α -Dihedral [†]	β -Dihedral [†]
TS_{Br(uncat)}_{Syn}	-292.83	2.758	2.295	-	-	-9.4	-9.4
TS_{Br(2a)}_{Syn}	-348.72	2.665	2.285	2.547	2.540	-49.7	-49.7
Epi_{Syn}	-	-	1.866*	-	-	-	-
IP_{Br(uncat)}_{Syn}	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IP_{Br(2a)}_{Syn}	-	-	-	2.519	2.486	-	-
IP_{F(uncat)}_{Syn}	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IP_{F(2a)}_{Syn}	-	-	-	1.699	1.587	-	-
TS_{F(uncat)}_{Syn}	-209.16	2.309	2.068	-	-	-0.1	-49.1
TS_{F(2a)}_{Syn}	-350.45	2.136	2.299	1.719	1.717	-12.9	-47.9

* Average value. [†] Phenyl ring dihedrals measured relative to C-C bond.

Leaving Groups

The reaction was also studied with the chloride and trichloroacetimidate (TCA) leaving groups. The Gibbs energy barrier to formation of the episulfonium from the corresponding chloride at 104 kJ/mol is slightly higher than from the bromide at 90 kJ/mol. The barrier to ionization of the trichloroacetimidate is, however, prohibitively higher at 143 kJ/mol, in the absence of a promoter (**Figure S14**). These computed barriers are consistent with the reactivity observed experimentally (**Figure S1**).

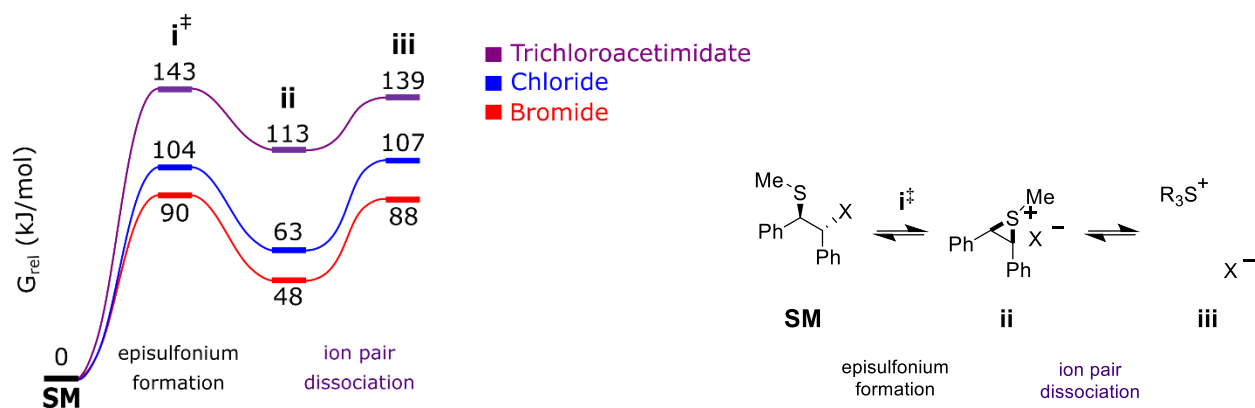


Figure S14. – Gibbs free energy profile comparing starting material leaving groups

The full reaction Gibbs free energy profiles for bromide and chloride starting materials is given in **Figure S15**. Generation of the episulfonium ion from the chloride starting material (i[‡]-iii) is less favorable than for

the bromide, but not prohibitively so. Phase-transfer (**iii-iv**) remains unfavorable in the absence of catalyst ($\Delta_{PT}G = +29.2$ kJ/mol, *c.f.* $\Delta_{PT}G = +33.7$ for bromide) and favorable in the presence of catalyst ($\Delta_{PT}G = -14.5$ kJ/mol, *c.f.* $\Delta_{PT}G = -16.7$ for bromide). Overall, the reaction is slightly less exergonic, by 15 kJ/mol. In the case of a chiral urea, the influence of the leaving group concludes prior to the enantiodetermining step and therefore does not influence the level of enantioinduction, as observed experimentally.

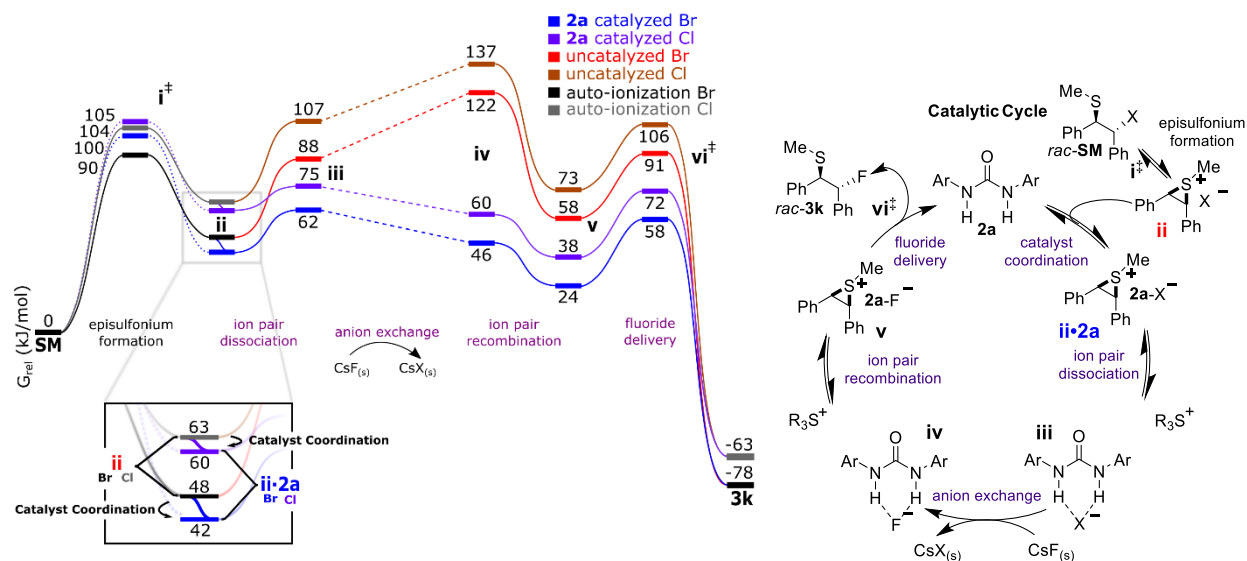
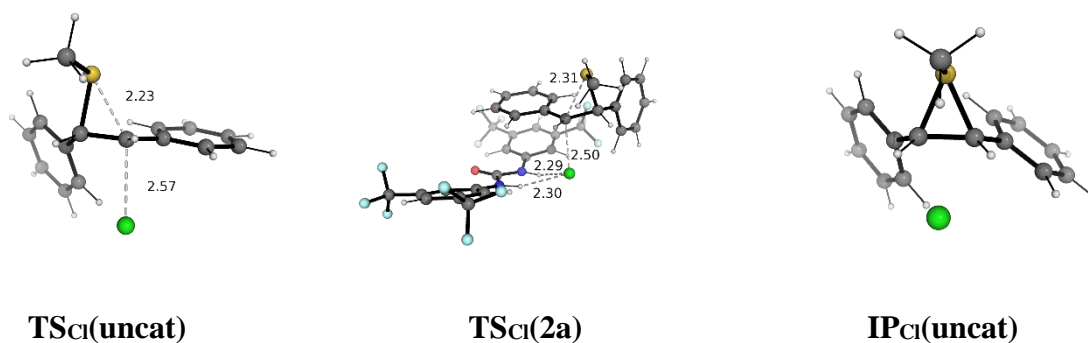


Figure S15. – Full reaction Gibbs free energy profile comparing bromide and chloride leaving groups

Stationary points with chloride and trichloroacetimidate leaving groups are illustrated in **Figure S16** with key geometric parameters tabulated in **Table S12**.



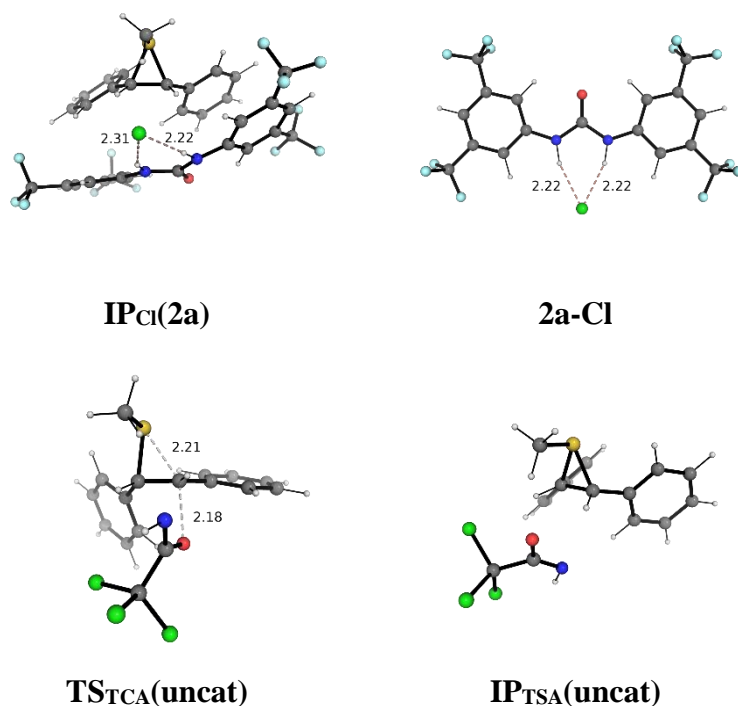


Figure S16. – Geometries of key species with different leaving groups

Table S12. – Key geometric parameters for stationary points with different leaving groups

	k imag	Key Distances (Å)				Key Angles (°)	
		C-X	C-S	H-bond 1	H-bond 2	α -Dihedral [†]	β -Dihedral [†]
TS_{Cl}(uncat)	-359.36	2.571	2.233	-	-	5.6	-43.4
TS_{Cl}(2a)	-349.94	2.498	2.315	2.305	2.292	-12.5	-69.8
IP_{Cl}(2a)	-	-	-	2.306	2.220	-	-
2a-Cl	-	-	-	2.219	2.218	-	-
TS_{TCA}(uncat)	-411.32	2.182	2.206	-	-	12.0	-47.9

[†]Phenyl ring dihedrals measured relative to C-C bond.

Thiourea 2d

Thiourea **2d** is an ineffective catalyst for the reported HB PTC reaction due to reaction of the catalyst with the starting material (**Figure S3**). Evaluation of the thermodynamics of phase-transfer (**Table S9**), however, suggest that the thiourea is suitable for phase-transfer, with $\Delta_{PT}G = -21.0$ kJ/mol, slightly more favorable than for urea **2a** at $\Delta_{PT}G = -16.7$ kJ/mol.

Stationary points with thiourea **2d** are illustrated in **Figure S17** with key geometric parameters tabulated in **Table S13**.

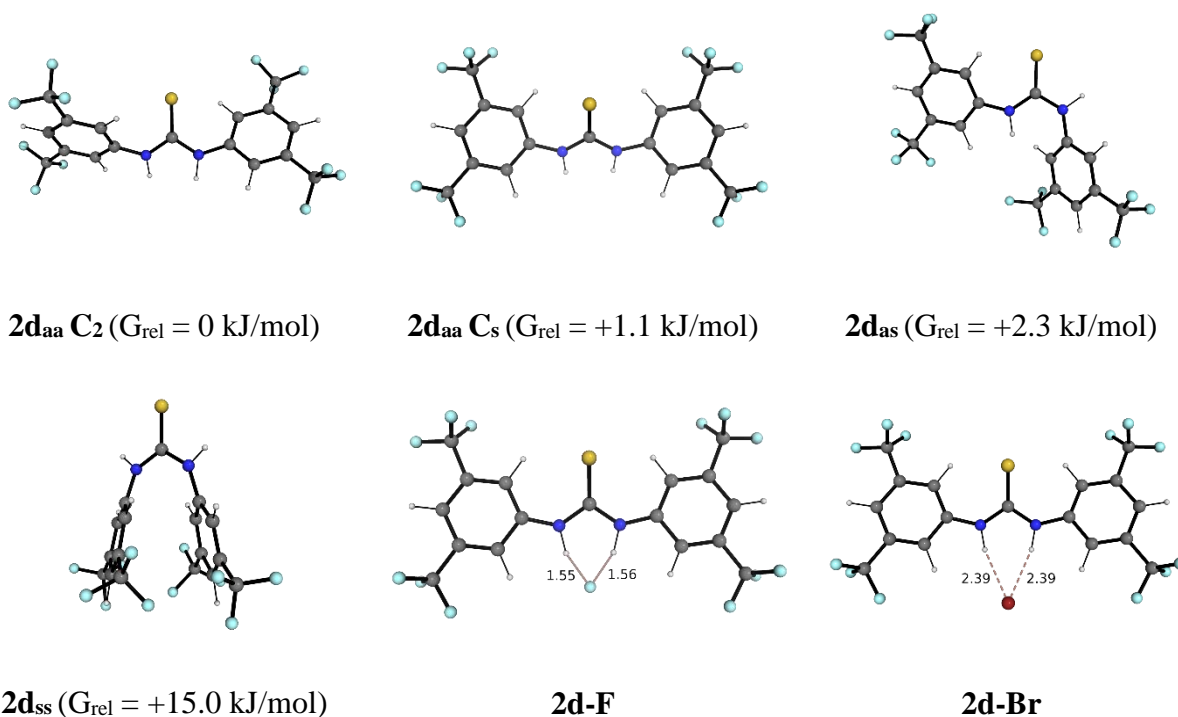


Figure S17. – Geometries of key thiourea species

Table S13. – Key geometric parameters for thiourea stationary points

	Key Distances (Å)	
	H-bond 1	H-bond 2
2d	-	-
2d-F	1.554	1.556
2d-Br	2.387	2.387

Computation – Asymmetric Catalytic System

For the asymmetric reaction, we initially considered the tetradentate catalyst, **4a**. After the advent of alkylated catalysts, we performed conformational sampling and TS analysis on the methylated catalyst, **4f**. A more specific and detailed analysis of selectivity is then undertaken for the isopropylated catalyst, **4h**.

Tetradentate Catalyst, 4a

Binding modes of tetradentate catalyst, **4a**, to fluoride with Cs⁺ counterion, **IP 4a-F Cs**, were investigated using MD simulations. We initially envisaged two binding modes i) ‘bis’, with all 4 N-H donors coordinated to fluoride and ii) ‘cooperative’ with one urea simultaneously acting as a hydrogen bond donor to fluoride and acceptor to the other urea (**Figure S18 A**).

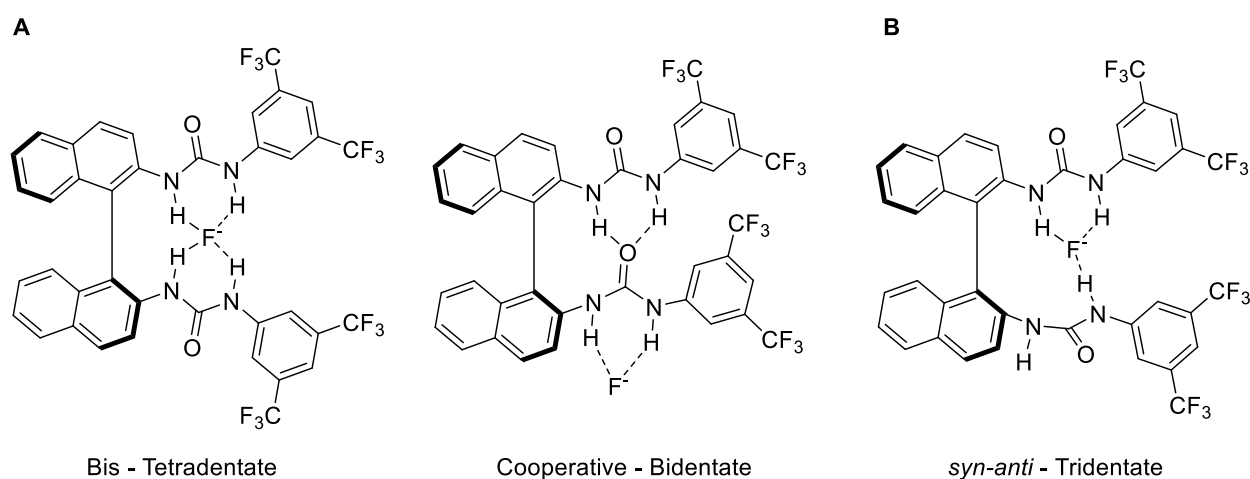


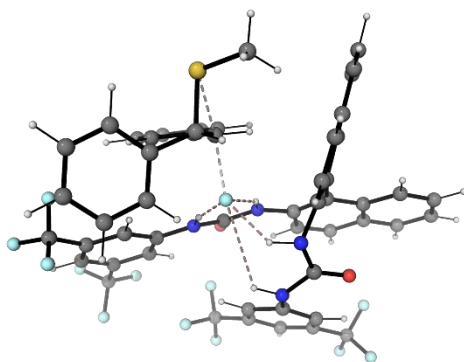
Figure S18. –Binding modes of catalyst **4a** with fluoride A) Initially envisaged B) Arising from simulation

We simulated the complex for a total of 120 ns (3 x 20 ns trajectories with ‘bis’ and ‘cooperative’ starting points respectively) and clustered frames for each trajectory with RMSD cut-off of 0.15 nm (**Table S14**). No ‘cooperative’ binding mode persisted through equilibration to the production runs. Populations of the binding modes were not found to depend strongly on initial binding mode over 60 ns total simulation. Of significance was the high weighting of a binding mode with one urea *syn-anti* isomerized adjacent to the BINAM backbone, resulting in tridentate binding (**Figure S18 B**).

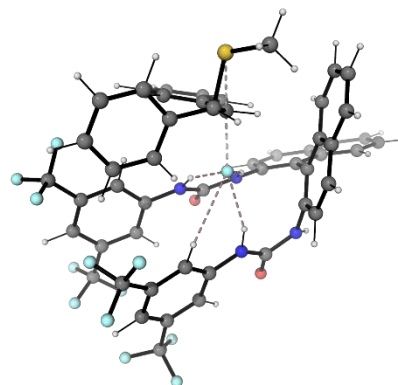
Table S14. – Summary of binding modes from MD simulations of **IP 4a-F Cs**

Run #	Starting point	Binding mode weightings		
		Bis	Cooperative	<i>syn-anti</i>
1	Cooperative	3 %	0 %	96 %
2	Cooperative	73 %	0 %	27 %
3	Cooperative	100 %	0 %	0 %
4	Bis	77 %	0 %	22 %
5	Bis	30 %	0 %	69 %
6	Bis	65 %	0 %	34 %
Average	Cooperative	59 %	0 %	41 %
Average	Bis	57 %	0 %	42 %
	Overall	58 %	0 %	42 %

On the basis of these results, we optimized two analogous TSs, using DFT, with fluoride coordinated by i) 4 N-H donors, **TS 4a-F epi tetra** and ii) 3 N-H donors, **TS 4a-F epi tri**, with *syn-anti* isomerized urea (**Figure S19**). We found that the tetradentate TS was unable to maintain all 4 H-bonds to fluoride, and was 23.8 kJ/mol higher in (non-single point corrected) Gibbs free energy than the tridentate TS (**Table S15**).

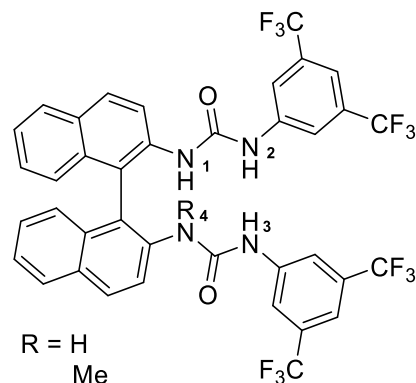


TS 4a-F epi tetra



TS 4a-F epi tri

Figure S19. – Preliminary TSs with catalyst **4a**

Table S15. – Preliminary TS geometric parameters

	G rel (kJ/mol)	H-bond Lengths (N-H ... F) (Å)				H-bond Angles (N-H...F) (°)				TS Distances (Å)	
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	C - F	C - S
TS 4a-F epi tetra	23.8	1.882	1.699	3.218	1.917	150.5	158.1	125.5	134.4	2.069	2.242
TS 4a-F epi tri	0.0	1.867	1.741	2.186	-	152.5	152.8	151.4	-	2.108	2.259

We therefore reasoned that a catalyst mono-methylated on a single nitrogen proximal to the binaphthyl core, **4f**, would be equally active (i.e. comparable yield), to **4a** and that, due to vastly reduced conformational space, would lead to more rationalizable structure activity relationships. Pleasingly this prediction was borne out experimentally with preserved yield (> 95 %), and additionally resulted in a more enantioselective catalyst.

Methylated Tridentate Catalyst, **4f**

MD Conformational Sampling Protocol

Uncoordinated **4f** was simulated for 100 ns to generate conformers. The 20 most populous clusters (0.7 Å RMSD) were optimized using DFT, resulting in 16 distinct conformers.

The CsF complex, **IP 4f-F Cs** was simulated for 100 ns and tricoordination was found to dominate the 100 ns simulation (96 % frames) and to be stable once formed. RMSD clustering resulted in only two conformationally similar high weight clusters (1.1 Å RMSD), which were optimized with DFT.

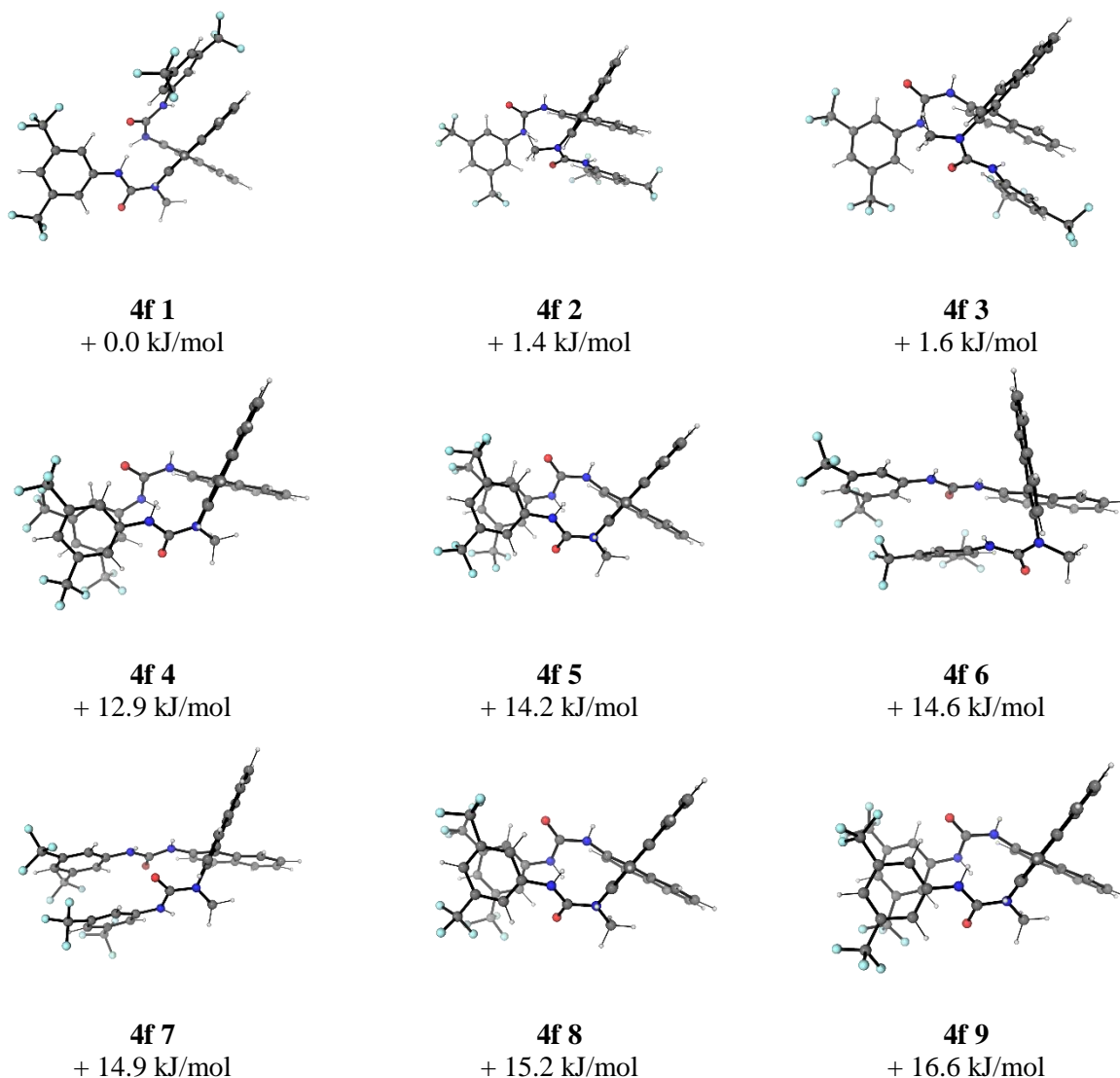
The ion pair of **4f**-fluoride complex with episulfonium intermediate, **IP 4f-F epi**, was simulated at reaction temperature of 298 K for 100 ns. Every fifth frame was clustered with cut-off of 0.1 nm, resulting in 40 clusters. The 12 most populated episulfonium urea-fluoride ion pairs (91 % of frames, cluster weighting >

1.5 %) were then optimized using DFT. To ensure that novel modes were not lost, clusters down to 0.5 % weighting were manually checked and found to be qualitative duplicates of higher weighted clusters.

Each DFT optimized ion pair was used as the starting point for generating TSs by advancing the substrate forward to align fluoride with the C-S σ^* . A total of 16 unique TSs were obtained using DFT (9 to (*S,S*) product with (*S*) catalyst, 7 to (*R,R*)), resulting in an ensemble with energetic span of 42.2 kJ/mol.

Uncoordinated **4f**

The 16 primary conformations of **4f** are illustrated in **Figure S20**, with relative Gibbs free energies.



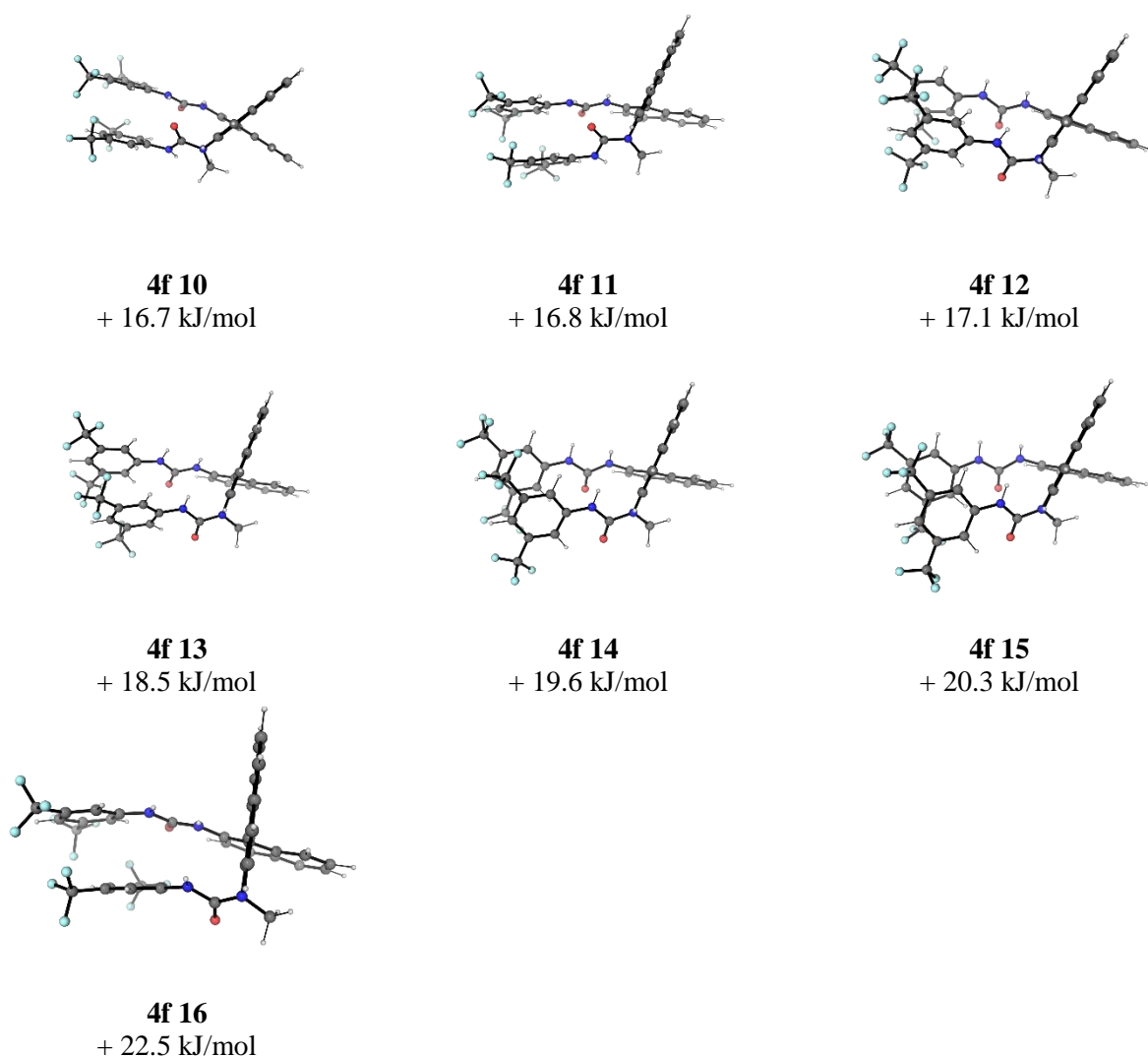


Figure S20. – Conformations of catalyst **4f** and relative Gibbs free energies

4f Complexes

Complex geometries and energies of **4f** coordinating fluoride alone, and with Cs^+ cation are shown in **Figure S21**. Relative Gibbs free energies are given with cesium cation at infinite separation, for fluoride only complexes. Additionally, the lowest energy ion pair with **4f** was used to optimize an ion pair with isopropylated catalyst **4h**, for comparison with the x-ray structure.

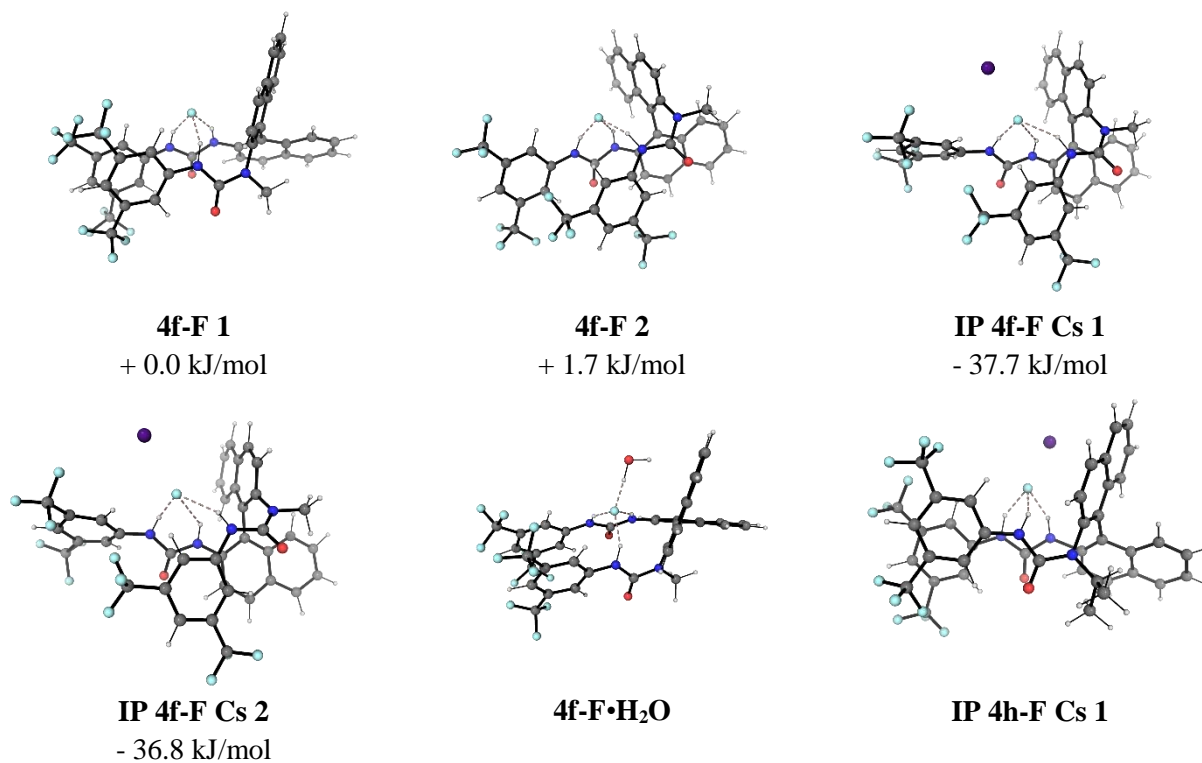
Complexes of catalyst **4f** were also optimized with chloride and bromide anions (**Figure S21**). **4f** binding free energies with fluoride, chloride and bromide in dichloromethane are given in **Table S16**, along with corresponding equilibrium constants. Binding of the catalyst to fluoride is computed to be stronger than to the other halides. This trend is consistent with the experimentally determined binding constants for fluoride

and bromide with catalyst **4h** and TBAF/TBAB, but with a far larger magnitude (Page S38). The discrepancy is likely due to the presence of water in TBAF experimentally, and also the presence of the TBA counter-ion. To estimate the influence of water on the binding of fluoride, we computed a conformer of fluoride coordinating **4f** and a single water molecule (**4f-F•H₂O**). This reduces the equilibrium constant to a value more comparable with experiment (**Table S16**). Key geometric parameters are given in **Table S17**.

Table S16. – Anion binding of catalyst **4f**

Bound Species	ΔG	K
Br ⁻	-21.9	5 x 10 ³
Cl ⁻	-28.9	1 x 10 ⁵
F ⁻	-76.1	2 x 10 ¹³
F ⁻ • (H ₂ O) [†]	-49.4	2 x 10 ⁸
CsF*	-31.6	-

Equilibrium constants computed from ensemble of conformers. [†]K estimated from single conformers. *Binding of a solvated CsF ion pair by catalyst **4f**.



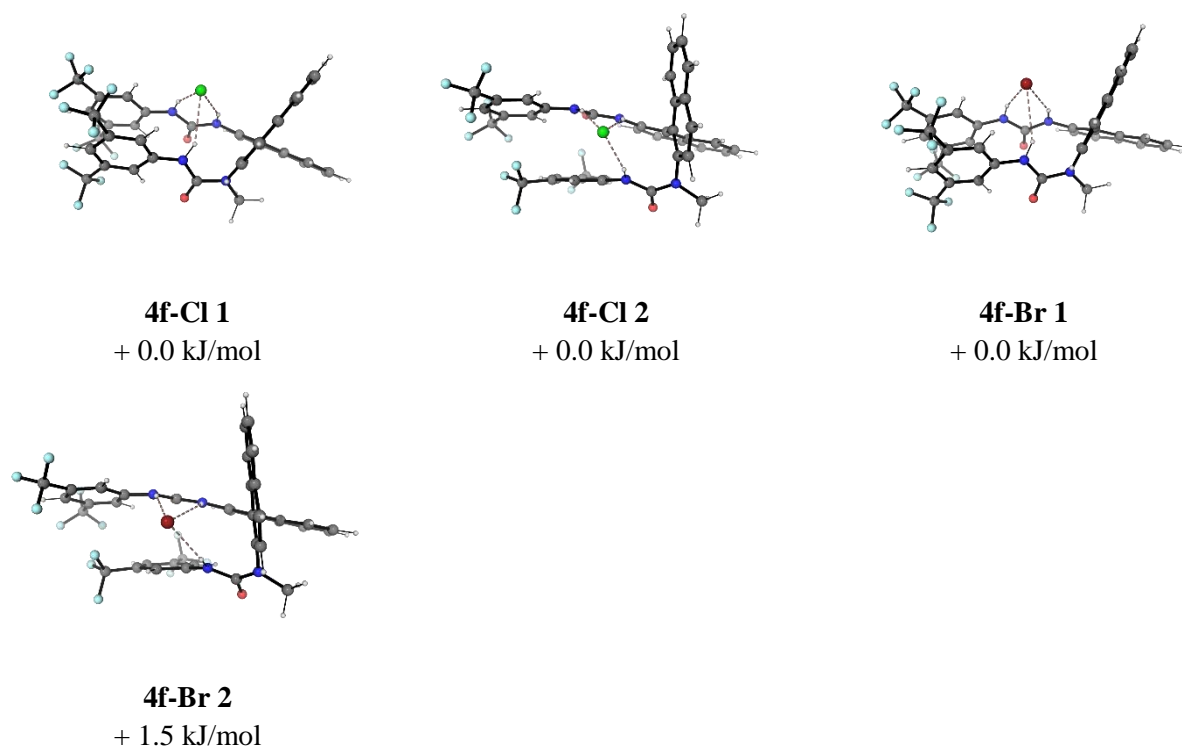


Figure S21. – Anion binding modes of catalyst **4f** and relative Gibbs free energies

Table S17. – Key geometric parameters for complexes of catalyst **4f**

	Key Distances (Å)				Key Angles (°)	
	H-bond 1	H-bond 2	H-bond 3	Cs - F	H-bond 3	Backbone
4f-F 1	1.779	1.649	1.670	-	154.1	68.8
4f-F 2	1.894	1.566	1.664	-	159.9	108.8
4f-F·H₂O	1.786	1.736	1.744	-	151.4	70.0
IP 4f-F Cs 1	1.781	1.753	1.740	2.720	152.0	69.8
IP 4f-F Cs 2	1.814	1.641	1.851	2.759	144.5	99.3
IP 4h-F Cs 1	1.738	1.795	1.756	2.716	152.7	72.2
4f-Cl 1	2.354	2.208	2.354	-	145.1	69.7
4f-Cl 2	2.494	2.154	2.362	-	154.8	109.2
4f-Br 1	2.543	2.384	2.662	-	144.0	69.8
4f-Br 2	2.712	2.344	2.562	-	154.6	109.4

4f-Fluoride Episulfonium Ion Pairs

The structures of the twelve DFT optimized ion pairs of episulfonium intermediate with **4f-F** complex are illustrated in **Figure S22**, along with relative Gibbs free energies.

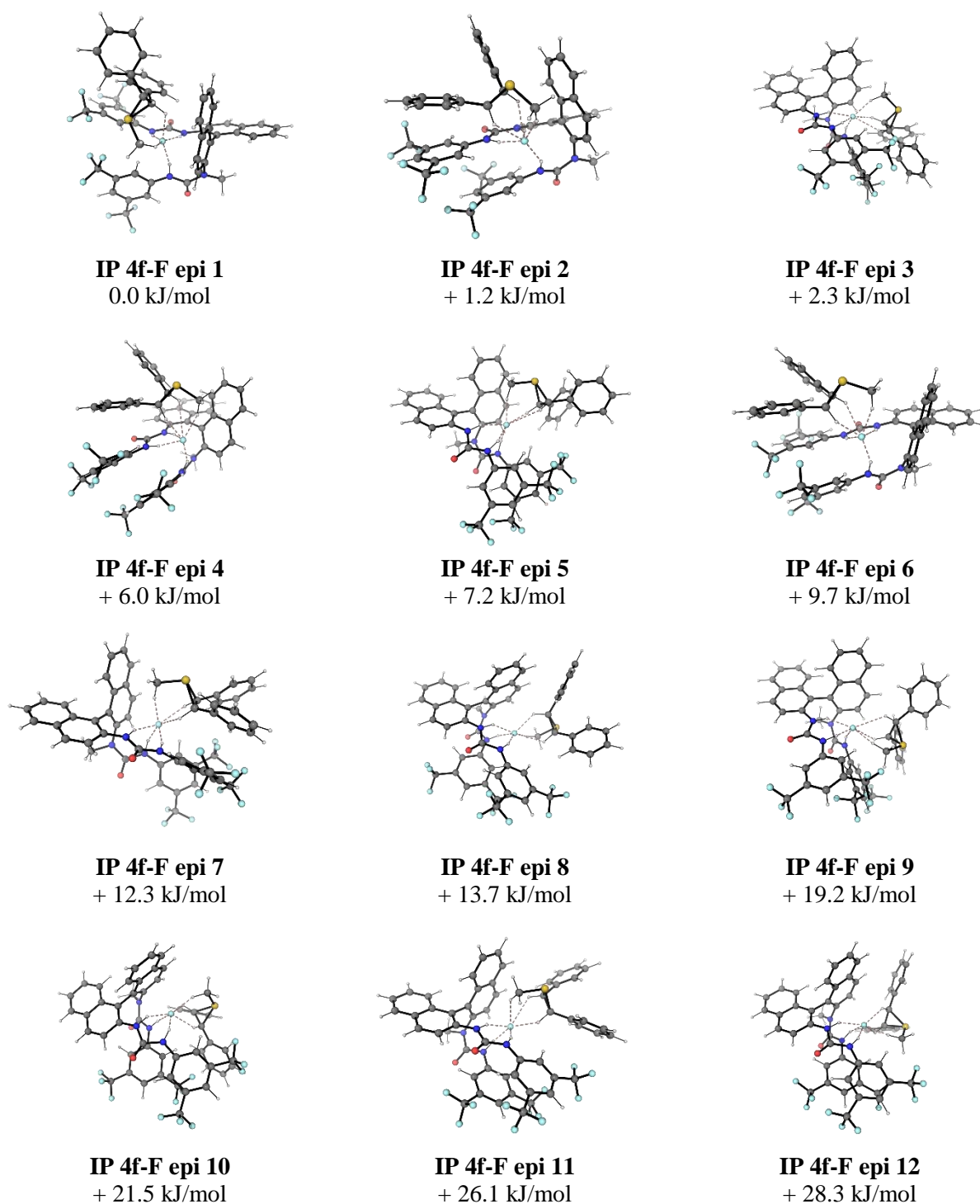


Figure S22. – Geometries and relative Gibbs free energies of **4f-F** complex with episulfonium ion

4f Transition States and Enantioselectivity

Boltzmann weighting of TSs with S-methylated substrate **1k** and methylated catalyst **4f** at 243.15 K (in CH₂Cl₂) gives an e.r. of 92.5:7.5 with (*S*)-catalyst affording (*S,S*) as major product (91:9 at 298.15 K). From our model, we infer that substrates with differing sulfur protecting groups will produce the same enantiomer of product, with minor modulation of catalyst-substrate docking pose. The distribution of TSs affording major and minor product is shown in **Figure S23**. TS geometries and relative Gibbs free energies are illustrated in **Figure S24**, with key geometric parameters tabulated in **Table S18**.

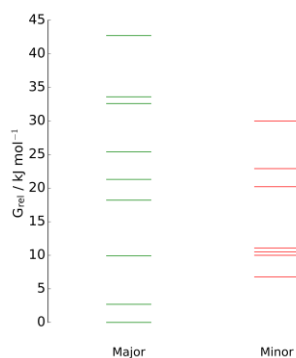
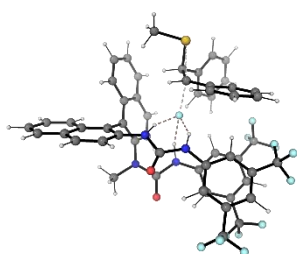
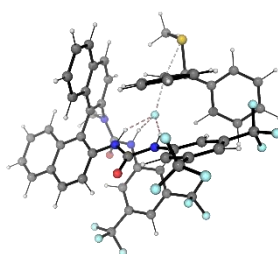


Figure S23. – Distribution of TS free energies at 243.15 K

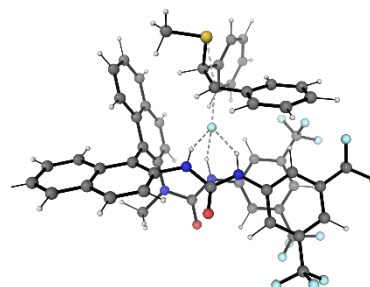
TSs forming major enantiomer



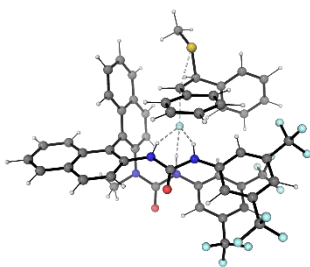
TS 4f-F epi major 1
298.15 K: + 0.0 kJ/mol
243.15 K: + 0.0 kJ/mol



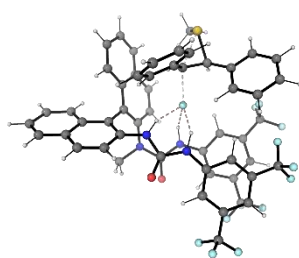
TS 4f-F epi major 2
298.15 K: + 2.8 kJ/mol
243.15 K: + 2.7 kJ/mol



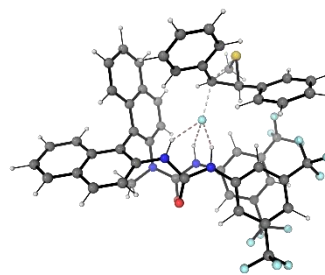
TS 4f-F epi major 3
298.15 K: + 9.9 kJ/mol
243.15 K: + 9.9 kJ/mol



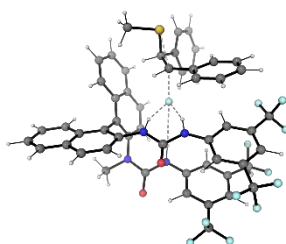
TS 4f-F epi major 4
 298.15 K: + 18.4 kJ/mol
 243.15 K: + 18.2 kJ/mol



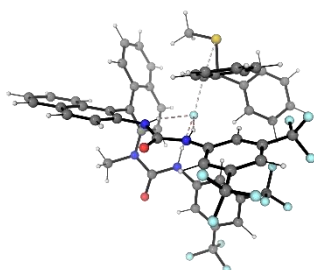
TS 4f-F epi major 5
 298.15 K: + 21.1 kJ/mol
 243.15 K: + 21.3 kJ/mol



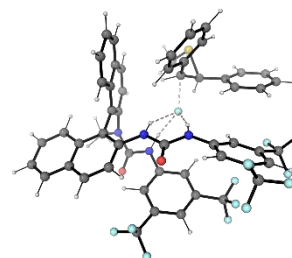
TS 4f-F epi major 6
 298.15 K: + 25.7 kJ/mol
 243.15 K: + 25.4 kJ/mol



TS 4f-F epi major 7
 298.15 K: + 32.6 kJ/mol
 243.15 K: + 32.6 kJ/mol

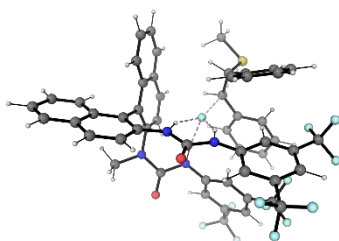


TS 4f-F epi major 8
 298.15 K: + 32.9 kJ/mol
 243.15 K: + 33.6 kJ/mol

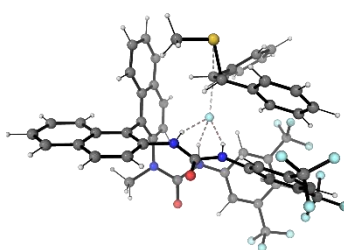


TS 4f-F epi major 9
 298.15 K: + 42.2 kJ/mol
 243.15 K: + 42.7 kJ/mol

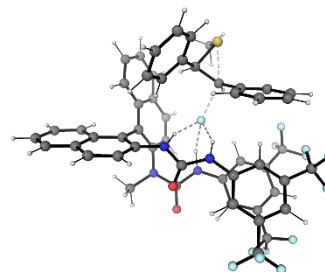
TSs forming minor enantiomer



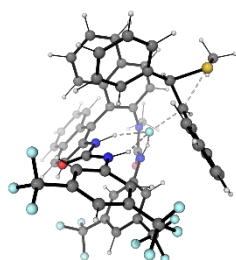
TS 4f-F epi minor 1
 298.15 K: + 6.0 kJ/mol
 243.15 K: + 6.8 kJ/mol



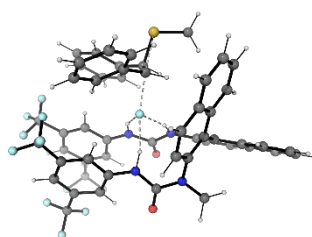
TS 4f-F epi minor 2
 298.15 K: + 10.0 kJ/mol
 243.15 K: + 10.0 kJ/mol



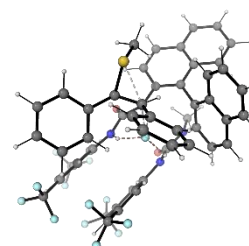
TS 4f-F epi minor 3
 298.15 K: + 10.6 kJ/mol
 243.15 K: + 10.5 kJ/mol



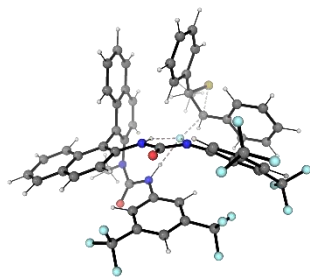
TS 4f-F epi minor 4
 298.15 K: + 10.7 kJ/mol
 243.15 K: + 11.1 kJ/mol



TS 4f-F epi minor 5
 298.15 K: + 20.4 kJ/mol
 243.15 K: + 20.2 kJ/mol



TS 4f-F epi minor 6
 298.15 K: + 23.0 kJ/mol
 243.15 K: + 22.9 kJ/mol



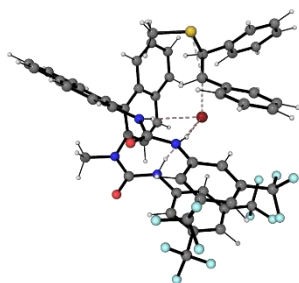
TS 4f-F epi minor 7

298.15 K: + 29.7 kJ/mol

243.15 K: + 30.0 kJ/mol

Figure S24. – TSs with catalyst **4f** and substrate **1k**. $\Delta\Delta G^\ddagger$ values given relative to lowest energy TS at given temperature

We also considered removal of bromide from the starting material, assisted by **4f**; reducing the barrier to bromide dissociation from 90.2 kJ/mol to 82.7 kJ/mol at 298.15 K. The lowest energy TS for fluoride delivery was used as starting point for the optimization, with no further conformational searching (**TS Br 4f 1k**, **Figure S25**).



TS Br 4f 1k

Figure S25. – Example TS for **4f** assisted bromide removal from substrate **1k**

Table S18. – *Key 4f TS geometric parameters*

TS	k imag	Key Distances (Å)						Key Angles (°)			Backbone
		C-F	C-S	α -C-H	H-bond 1	H-bond 2	H-bond 3	H-bond 3	α -Dihedral [†]	β -Dihedral [†]	
TS 4f-F epi major 1	-418.30	2.070	2.210	1.091	1.734	1.839	1.854	149.5	-20.5	-71.4	68.4
TS 4f-F epi major 2	-387.71	2.071	2.268	1.089	1.840	1.795	1.871	152.8	4.7	-59.4	113.2
TS 4f-F epi major 3	-406.05	2.083	2.205	1.091	1.679	1.906	1.879	149.4	-19.6	-72.3	67.6
TS 4f-F epi major 4	-292.68	2.186	2.240	1.091	1.778	1.749	1.933	151.7	-8.6	-76.5	73.2
TS 4f-F epi major 5	-426.00	2.058	2.253	1.090	1.761	1.841	1.898	146.9	13.1	-33.2	64.0
TS 4f-F epi major 6	-424.89	2.066	2.265	1.089	1.938	1.683	2.021	145.5	22.0	-35.4	67.3
TS 4f-F epi major 7	-398.95	2.097	2.205	1.090	1.743	1.633	2.788	140.8	-14.7	-57.5	69.7
TS 4f-F epi major 8	-452.00	2.027	2.289	1.090	1.944	1.658	1.921	165.6	-2.8	-49.1	66.8
TS 4f-F epi major 9	-433.42	2.053	2.277	1.087	2.002	1.643	1.927	152.9	26.4	-26.3	111.6
TS 4f-F epi minor 1	-365.95	2.109	2.225	1.090	1.800	1.728	1.711	172.8	-6.3	90.6	76.9
TS 4f-F epi minor 2	-429.11	2.055	2.243	1.090	1.827	1.803	1.793	148.2	22.2	-26.1	73.6
TS 4f-F epi minor 3	-415.48	2.075	2.196	1.089	1.728	1.808	1.880	147.9	-40.7	86.6	65.2
TS 4f-F epi minor 4	-397.02	2.075	2.224	1.088	1.771	1.877	1.800	151.2	-4.1	-63.2	112.4
TS 4f-F epi minor 5	-438.90	2.068	2.184	1.093	1.748	1.789	1.889	148.1	-52.7	50.9	69.1
TS 4f-F epi minor 6	-426.40	2.068	2.252	1.090	1.734	1.872	2.131	137.0	15.6	-34.0	64.6
TS 4f-F epi minor 7	-412.25	2.068	2.252	1.088	1.902	1.715	1.839	159.2	-21.0	-64.8	112.3
TS Br 4f 1k	-340.66	2.640*	2.265	1.092	2.620	2.350	2.779	133.6	-50.4	74.1	71.2

*C-Br distance. [†]Phenyl ring dihedrals measured relative to C-C bond.

Isopropylated Catalyst, **4h**

Transition States and Enantioselectivity

We used the **4f** TSs as starting points for locating TSs for the isopropylated catalyst, **4h**, on the basis of limited conformation change upon changing the alkyl group. Due to the impact of Boltzmann weighting, and the absence of **4f** TSs between +11.0 and +18.0 kJ/mol, we used only the 7 TSs with relative energy +11.0 kJ/mol and below. Optimizations from **TS 4f-F epi major 1** demonstrated that the favored orientation of the iPr group was with hydrogen pointing towards the BINAM core, and methyl groups straddling the urea carbonyl oxygen. This conformation was later supported by the determination of a crystal structure of **4h** with TBAF. We also considered at least one minor rotamer for each TS, but only in the case of **TS 4f-F epi major 1** was this energetically competitive. A total of 6 TSs were located within +10.7 kJ/mol of the lowest, with a considerable jump to the next TS at +16.2 kJ/mol. The lowest 6 TSs were therefore used for Boltzmann weighting and further analysis.

Comparison of relative Gibbs free energies of the **4h** TSs with its corresponding parent **4f** TS shows nearly all TSs are destabilized relative to the major TS on changing Me to iPr (**Figure S26**). A notable exception is **TS 4f-F epi minor 3** → **TS 4h-F epi major 2**, becoming the new minor TS.

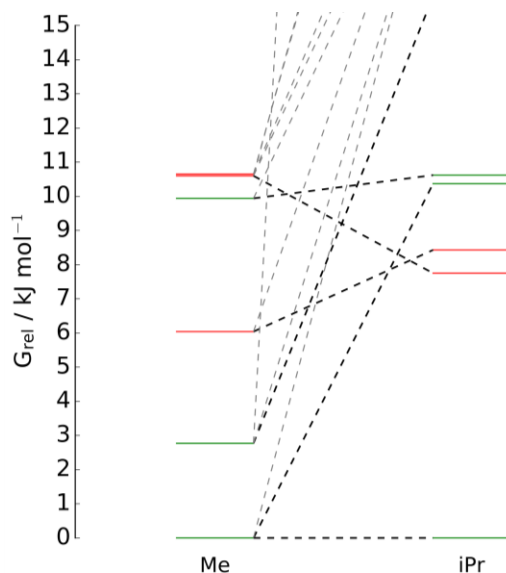
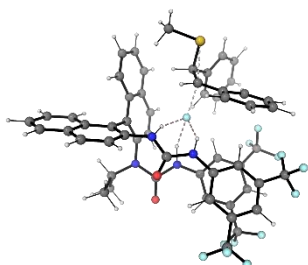


Figure S26. – Correlation of relative TS free energies on replacement of catalyst Me group with iPr

Boltzmann weighting of TSs at 243.15 K (in CH₂Cl₂) gives an er of 96.5:3.5 with (*S*) catalyst affording (*S,S*) as major product (92:8 at 298.15 K).

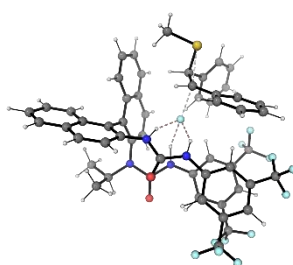
All TSs involving **4h** are illustrated in **Figure S27**, with relative Gibbs free energies. TSs that were used in enantioselectivity calculations are shown in bold. Key geometric parameters are given in **Table S19**.

TSs forming major enantiomer



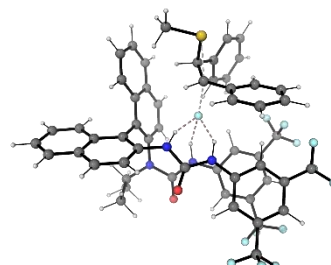
TS 4h-F epi major 1

298.15 K: + 0.0 kJ/mol
243.15 K: + 0.0 kJ/mol



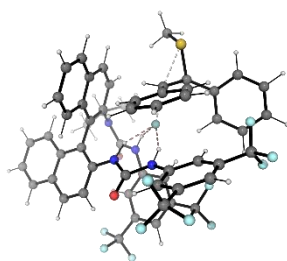
TS 4h-F epi major 2

298.15 K: + 10.4 kJ/mol
243.15 K: + 10.0 kJ/mol



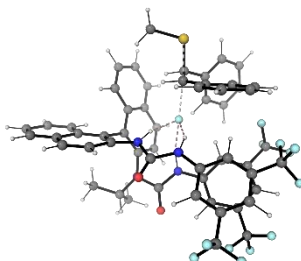
TS 4h-F epi major 3

298.15 K: + 10.6 kJ/mol
243.15 K: + 10.7 kJ/mol



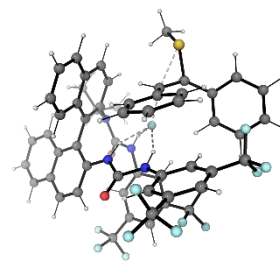
TS 4h-F epi major 4

298.15 K: + 15.9 kJ/mol
243.15 K: + 16.2 kJ/mol



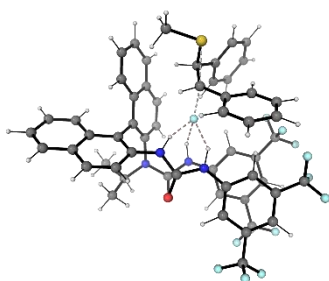
TS 4h-F epi major 5

298.15 K: + 19.8 kJ/mol
243.15 K: + 19.3 kJ/mol



TS 4h-F epi major 6

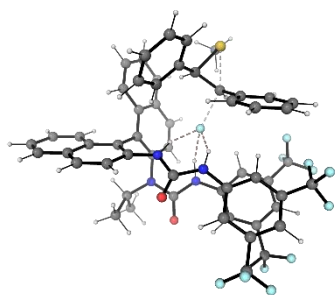
298.15 K: + 19.7 kJ/mol
243.15 K: + 19.7 kJ/mol



TS 4h-F epi major 7

298.15 K: + 20.9 kJ/mol
243.15 K: + 20.6 kJ/mol

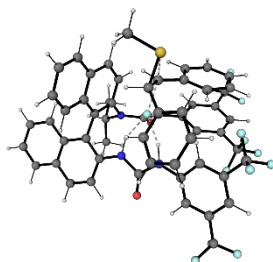
TSs forming minor enantiomer



TS 4h-F epi Minor 1

298.15 K: + 7.8 kJ/mol

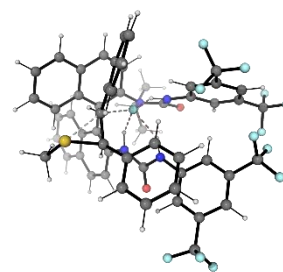
243.15 K: + 7.8 kJ/mol



TS 4h-F epi Minor 2

298.15 K: +8.4 kJ/mol

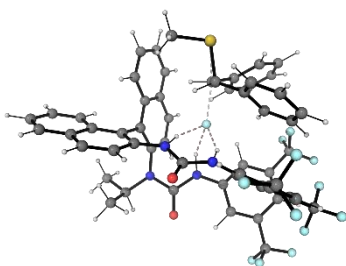
243.15 K: + 9.1 kJ/mol



TS 4h-F epi Minor 3

298.15 K: + 10.4 kJ/mol

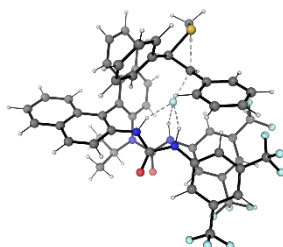
243.15 K: + 10.6 kJ/mol



TS 4h-F epi Minor 4

298.15 K: + 20.0 kJ/mol

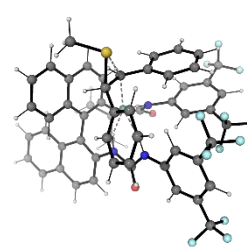
243.15 K: + 20.0 kJ/mol



TS 4h-F epi Minor 5

298.15 K: + 21.8 kJ/mol

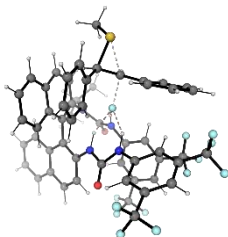
243.15 K: + 21.4 kJ/mol



TS 4h-F epi Minor 6

298.15 K: + 21.1 kJ/mol

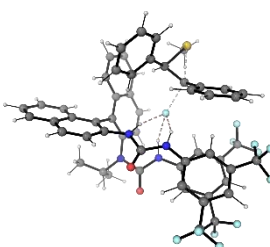
243.15 K: +21.4 kJ/mol



TS 4h-F epi Minor 7

298.15 K: + 22.9 kJ/mol

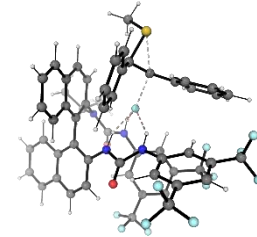
243.15 K: + 23.8 kJ/mol



TS 4h-F epi Minor 8

298.15 K: +30.1 kJ/mol

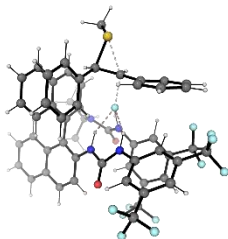
243.15 K: + 29.6 kJ/mol



TS 4h-F epi Minor 9

298.15 K: 29.6 kJ/mol

243.15 K: + 30.2 kJ/mol



TS 4h-F epi Minor 10

298.15 K: + 40.6 kJ/mol

243.15 K: + 41.1 kJ/mol

Figure S27. – TSs with catalyst **4h** and substrate **1k**. ΔG^\ddagger values given relative to lowest energy TS at given temperature

Table S19. – Key *4h* TS geometric parameters

TS	k imag	Key Distances (Å)							Key Angles (°)		
		C-F	C-S	α -C-H	H-bond 1	H-bond 2	H-bond 3	H-bond 3	α -Dihedral	β -Dihedral	Backbone
TS 4h-F epi major 1	-415.39	2.069	2.213	1.090	1.728	1.831	1.870	150.4	-20.9	-70.6	71.7
TS 4h-F epi major 2	-408.62	2.078	2.208	1.090	1.706	1.855	1.888	146.5	-18.0	-72.3	68.5
TS 4h-F epi major 3	-406.40	2.082	2.208	1.091	1.680	1.887	1.903	150.4	-20.6	-70.6	71.3
TS 4h-F epi major 4	-385.12	2.073	2.272	1.088	1.857	1.785	1.865	153.0	5.5	-59.1	111.0
TS 4h-F epi major 5	-408.30	2.077	2.211	1.090	1.705	1.856	1.884	147.5	-17.5	-73.2	68.0
TS 4h-F epi major 6	-375.93	2.082	2.273	1.088	1.840	1.787	1.918	150.3	5.2	-59.2	111.7
TS 4h-F epi major 7	-398.20	2.091	2.202	1.091	1.655	1.938	1.901	147.4	-17.1	-73.0	67.7
TS 4h-F epi minor 1	-416.48	2.073	2.195	1.089	1.726	1.800	1.884	149.5	-40.5	86.6	68.2
TS 4h-F epi minor 2	-364.96	2.113	2.227	1.090	1.791	1.732	1.724	171.0	-7.1	90.2	79.9
TS 4h-F epi minor 3	-421.87	2.060	2.248	1.090	1.811	1.807	1.802	148.9	22.3	-25.4	76.7
TS 4h-F epi minor 4	-416.62	2.066	2.238	1.090	1.771	1.852	1.804	145.8	24.0	-21.9	71.9
TS 4h-F epi minor 5	-418.25	2.075	2.198	1.089	1.731	1.796	1.922	143.9	-41.8	-87.8	65.2
TS 4h-F epi minor 6	-338.12	2.136	2.219	1.090	1.765	1.751	1.713	170.7	-4.2	-91.3	74.3
TS 4h-F epi minor 7	-395.39	2.078	2.227	1.088	1.797	1.852	1.795	150.9	-4.6	-61.7	109.3
TS 4h-F epi minor 8	-417.88	2.075	2.203	1.089	1.734	1.791	1.925	144.1	-41.6	-86.7	64.6
TS 4h-F epi minor 9	-392.96	2.084	2.226	1.088	1.778	1.863	1.838	149.2	-3.5	-67.6	110.4
TS 4h-F epi minor 10	-391.12	2.088	2.236	1.088	1.875	1.789	1.851	144.3	-8.6	-54.6	95.2

[†]Phenyl ring dihedrals measured relative to C-C bond.

Transition State Analysis

Catalyst Conformation

The conformation of the **4h** in the major TS was found to be in very good agreement with the subsequently determined experimental crystal structure (**Figure S28**). Whilst slightly different structures are expected, the following similarities are of note i) the binding mode of the catalyst with fluoride is as predicted from MD simulations, with coordination by three hydrogen bonds, ii) the broad conformation of the catalyst, such as BINAM angle and orientation of the ureas, iii) the orientation of the isopropyl group, iv) the episulfonium substrate sits in the position of the TBA cation of the crystal structure.

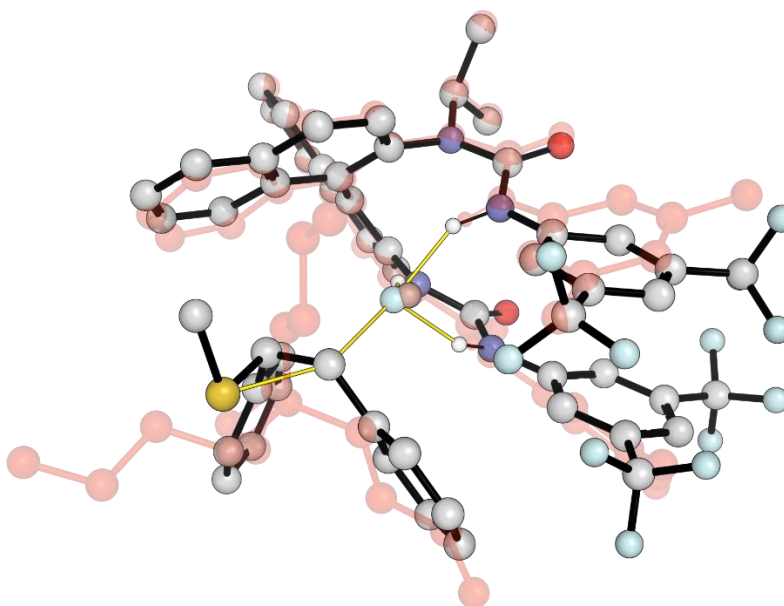


Figure S28. – *Superposition of crystal structure of **4h** coordinating TBAF, and the major TS*

Substrate Conformation

In the TSs for uncoordinated fluoride delivery, and when coordinated by an achiral urea, we note a preference for the substrate phenyl ring to be orthogonal to the forming and breaking bonds (α -dihedrals of -4.8, -12.2 and 18.2 degrees). We attribute this preference primarily to the well-known effects of β -unsaturation on the rate of S_N2 reactions. To estimate the energetic contribution of this effect, a dihedral scan on **TS_F(2a)** with fixed C-S and C-F bond distances was run (**Figure S29**).

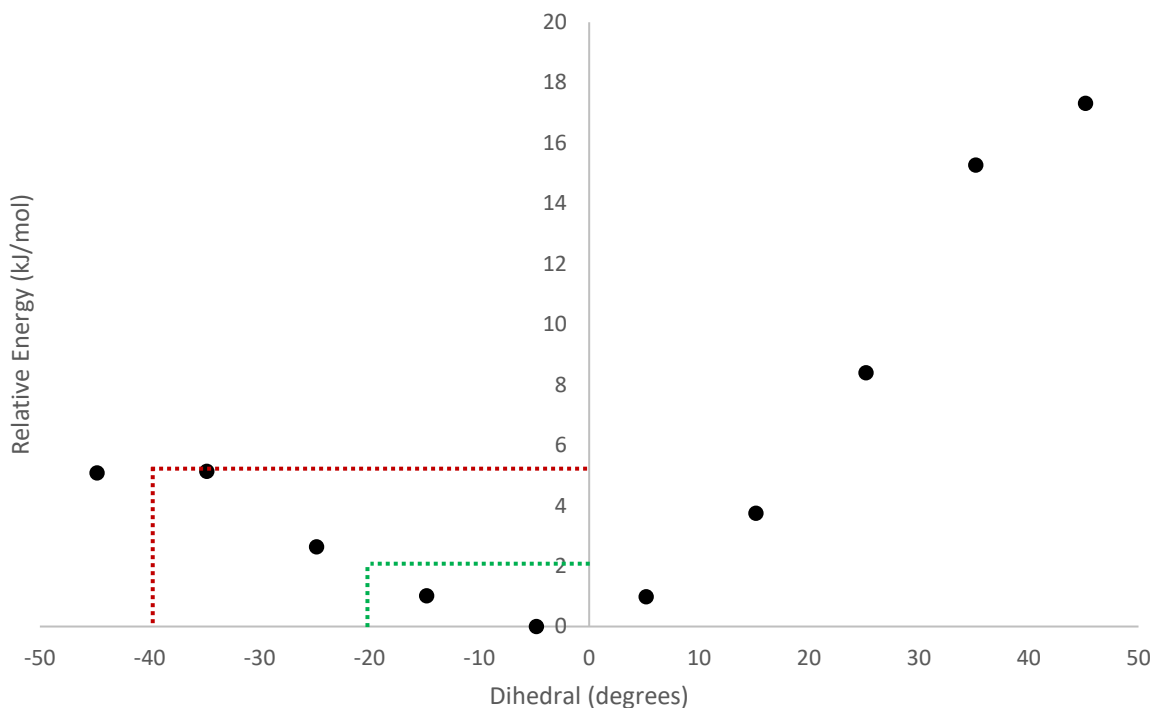


Figure S29. – *Energetic preference (uncorrected) for α -dihedral in fluoride delivery TS*

The conformation of the substrate, in the majority of low energy TSs with chiral urea, **4h**, has a small α -dihedral. A notable exception is in the case of the lowest energy minor TS, **TS 4h-F epi minor 1**, where this angle is -40.5° (See **Table S10** for definitions).

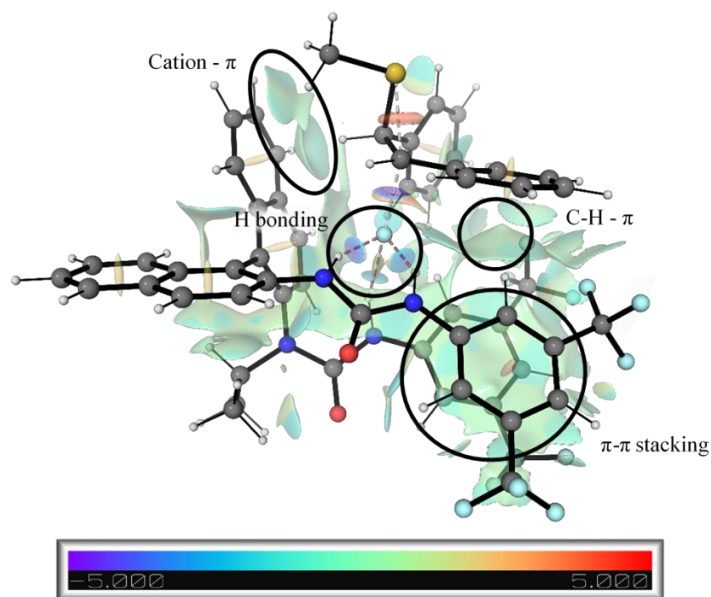
Comparing the dihedral values in the lowest energy major and minor TSs, the dihedral scan estimates an energetic contribution of approximately 3 kJ/mol to a $\Delta\Delta G^\ddagger$ of 7.8 kJ/mol. An alternative approach was also taken, looking at the distortion of the episulfonium + fluoride unit in the chiral TSs. Single point energies were evaluated on this unit (i.e. with catalyst removed), revealing an increased distortion in the minor TS by 4 kJ/mol.

Non-covalent Interactions

Within all optimized TSs, the catalyst forms three hydrogen bonds to fluoride, and the episulfonium forms a cation- π interaction, to varying degrees, with the naphthyl ring of the BINAM core. In the major TS, the cation- π distance is 0.05 Å shorter than in the minor. The minor TS, however, has some π - π stacking of substrate and BINAM backbone, which partially compensates for the loss of planarity of the substrate α -dihedral.

The non-covalent interactions in the lowest major and minor TSs were visualized using the non-covalent interaction index (**Figure S30**). Key additional non-covalent interactions common to both TSs are as i) sandwich intramolecular π - π stacking within the catalyst itself, ii) CH- π interaction from catalyst ortho C-H bond to substrate phenyl ring.

TS 4h-F epi major 1



TS 4h-F epi minor 1

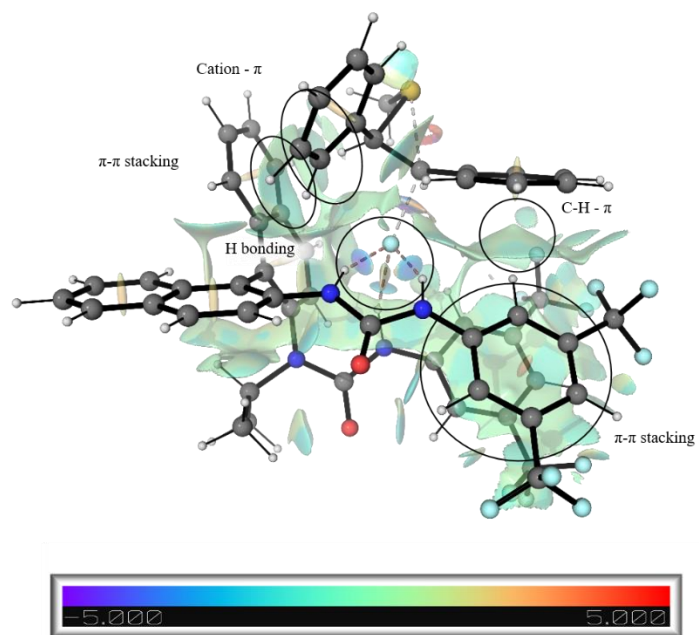


Figure S30. – Non-covalent interaction plots for lowest energy major and minor TSs

Analysis of key geometric parameters over the intrinsic reaction coordinate (IRC) pathway was performed for the **4f** TSs corresponding to **TS 4h-F epi major 1** and **TS 4h-F epi minor 1**. Distances are plotted relative to the IRC (defined as C-S distance minus C-F distance) in **Figure S31**.

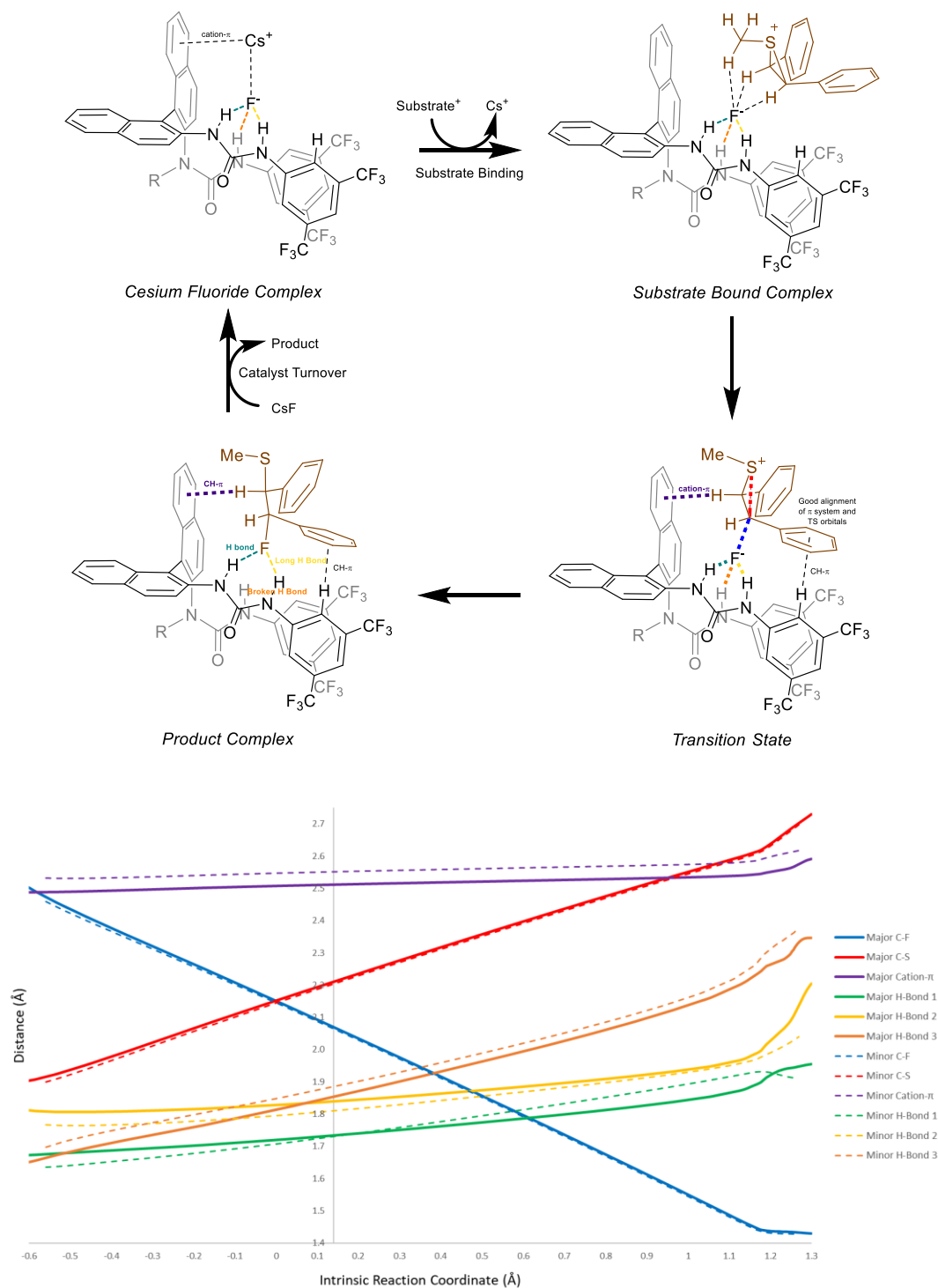


Figure S31. – Key distances over the lowest energy intrinsic reaction coordinate pathways

The y-axis intercepts the x-axis at 0.14 Å - the major TS position (*c.f.* 0.12 Å for the minor). The graph falls into two distinct domains, $-0.5 < \text{IRC} < 1.2$ and $1.2 < \text{IRC} < 1.3$. The former describes the main bond breaking/forming process, and the latter describes substrate relaxation (note that C-F distance remains constant in the latter region). Change in distances with respect to the IRC in the first domain are roughly linear. All gradients quoted in the following analysis were evaluated for $-0.5 < \text{IRC} < 1.0$.

C-S and C-F distances behave similarly along the IRC pathway for both TSs, with the IRC pathway to major product slightly looser. The largest consistent difference in distances between the pathways is the shorter (stronger) cation- π interaction in the pathway leading to major product.

All H-bonds lengthen along the IRC pathways, however, due to the early TS position, all remain bonded at the TS (< 1.9 Å). After the TS, all H-bonds continue to elongate, with this most significant for H-bond 3 with gradient of 0.30 for both pathways (0.12 average gradient for all other H-bonds). For the pathway to major product there is also a significant lengthening of H-bond 2 during product relaxation, resulting in only one dominant H-bond in the product complex. This behavior of the H-bonds over the IRC pathway parallels the fluorinase enzyme, with the bidentate urea (H-bonds 1 and 2) mimicking Ser 158A and the third H-bond mimicking the role of Thr 80A (27, 28, 97).

Computation – Tabulated Thermochemical Data**Table S20.** – *Non-asymmetric pathway*

	Energies (Ha)				
	E (opt)	G (opt)	G-qh (opt)	E (sp)	G-qh (sp)
2a_{aa}	-2033.353700	-2033.169216	-2033.159297	-2035.910612	-2035.716209
2a_{as}	-2033.349097	-2033.163487	-2033.154014	-2035.906815	-2035.711732
2a_{ss}	-2033.353644	-2033.159334	-2033.154211	-2035.902173	-2035.702740
2a-F	-2133.373665	-2133.191831	-2133.181208	-2135.938385	-2135.745928
2a-Br	-4607.746838	-4607.568062	-4607.556044	-4610.320359	-4610.129565
2f_{aa}	-686.592580	-686.403598	-686.400697	-687.441567	-687.249684
2f_{as}	-686.590424	-686.401679	-686.398774	-687.440712	-687.249062
2f_{ss}	-686.586950	-686.396627	-686.394565	-687.437932	-687.245547
2f-F	-786.604866	-786.418795	-786.415088	-787.461699	-787.271921
2f-Br	-3260.981282	-3260.798779	-3260.793709	-3261.846836	-3261.659263
TS_{Br}(uncat)	-3552.313308	-3552.099059	-3552.096054	-3553.071744	-3552.854490
TS_{Br}(2a)	-5585.700428	-5585.277217	-5585.262671	-5589.004716	-5588.566959
TS_{Br}(2f)	-4238.934182	-4238.510177	-4238.502137	-4240.536668	-4240.104623
Epi	-977.934363	-977.715799	-977.713498	-978.672665	-978.451800
IP_{Br}(uncat)	-3552.327903	-3552.114714	-3552.110708	-3553.087609	-3552.870414
IP_{Br}(2a)	-5585.720703	-5585.299111	-5585.283707	-5589.026043	-5588.589047
IP_{Br}(2f)	-4238.951489	-4238.527116	-4238.519030	-4240.553001	-4240.120542
IP_F(uncat)	-1077.944669	-1077.728265	-1077.725249	-1078.696148	-1078.476728
IP_F(2a)	-3111.351814	-3110.924654	-3110.911336	-3114.646474	-3114.205996
IP_F(2f)	-1764.581152	-1764.152806	-1764.145923	-1766.172929	-1765.737700
TS_F(uncat)	-1077.931232	-1077.714931	-1077.712483	-1078.682835	-1078.464086
TS_F(2a)	-3111.333561	-3110.907849	-3110.893899	-3114.632833	-3114.193171
TS_F(2f)	-1764.563519	-1764.136424	-1764.128860	-1766.158998	-1765.724339
TS_{Br}(uncat)_{Syn}	-3552.314667	-3552.098689	-3552.096189	-3553.072956	-3552.854478
TS_{Br}(2a)_{Syn}	-5585.695928	-5585.270984	-5585.256659	-5588.999015	-5588.559746
Epi_{Syn}	-977.932392	-977.711698	-977.709984	-978.670160	-978.447752
IP_{Br}(uncat)_{Syn}	-3552.325789	-3552.110440	-3552.107121	-3553.083582	-3552.864914
IP_{Br}(2a)_{Syn}	-5585.721447	-5585.294962	-5585.281452	-5589.021329	-5588.581334

IP_F(uncat)_{Syn}	-1077.930972	-1077.713062	-1077.710892	-1078.681477	-1078.461397
IP_F(2a)_{Syn}	-1077.940540	-1077.721570	-1077.719401	-1078.689932	-1078.468793
TS_F(uncat)_{Syn}	-3111.333036	-3110.906408	-3110.892635	-3114.632407	-3114.192006
TS_F(2a)_{Syn}	-1077.930518	-1077.712361	-1077.710403	-1078.681423	-1078.461308
2a-Cl	-2493.745562	-2493.564446	-2493.553453	-2496.312863	-2496.120754
IP_{Cl}(uncat)	-1438.325448	-1438.110886	-1438.107288	-1439.078804	-1438.860644
IP_{Cl}(2a)	-3471.722329	-3471.295377	-3471.282386	-3475.017991	-3474.578048
TS_{Cl}(uncat)	-1438.310957	-1438.095721	-1438.092884	-1439.063141	-1438.845068
TS_{Cl}(2a)	-3471.698687	-3471.275025	-3471.260681	-3474.998817	-3474.560811
IP_{TCA}(uncat)	-2565.401972	-2565.163174	-2565.156926	-2566.275419	-2566.030373
TS_{TCA}(uncat)	-2565.390450	-2565.150917	-2565.145234	-2566.264159	-2566.018943
2d_{aa} C_s	-2356.242028	-2356.059599	-2356.050146	-2358.849266	-2358.657384
2d_{aa} C₂	-2356.242176	-2356.059864	-2356.050464	-2358.849507	-2358.657795
2d_{as}	-2356.241488	-2356.059100	-2356.049303	-2358.849116	-2358.656931
2d_{ss}	-2356.250239	-2356.059190	-2356.053767	-2358.848538	-2358.652066
2d-F	-2456.264202	-2456.087093	-2456.075591	-2458.877728	-2458.689117
2d-Br	-4930.635637	-4930.461170	-4930.448352	-4933.258430	-4933.071145

Table S21. – *Starting material and product conformers*

	Energies (Ha)				
	E (opt)	G (opt)	G-qh (opt)	E (sp)	G-qh (sp)
1k 1	-3552.349602	-3552.134441	-3552.130859	-3553.107610	-3552.888867
1k 2	-3552.340139	-3552.122829	-3552.120101	-3553.096913	-3552.876875
1k 3	-3552.347694	-3552.132204	-3552.128731	-3553.105749	-3552.886786
1k 4	-3552.345284	-3552.129334	-3552.126041	-3553.102214	-3552.882971
1k 5	-3552.348631	-3552.131856	-3552.129023	-3553.105882	-3552.886274
1k 6	-3552.342835	-3552.126177	-3552.123292	-3553.099249	-3552.879706
1k 7	-3552.341024	-3552.123968	-3552.121118	-3553.098766	-3552.878860
1k 8	-3552.345270	-3552.127062	-3552.124525	-3553.102599	-3552.881854
1k 9	-3552.341424	-3552.123633	-3552.121115	-3553.097556	-3552.877247
1k 10	-3552.338915	-3552.121719	-3552.118829	-3553.095400	-3552.875314
1k 11	-3552.339750	-3552.121824	-3552.119351	-3553.096422	-3552.876023

1k 12	-3552.340139	-3552.122829	-3552.120101	-3553.096910	-3552.876872
1k 13	-3552.339750	-3552.121828	-3552.119355	-3553.096421	-3552.876026
3k 1	-1078.003107	-1077.783673	-1077.780394	-1078.747642	-1078.52493
3k 2	-1078.00365	-1077.784834	-1077.781383	-1078.748316	-1078.52605
3k 3	-1078.004291	-1077.785309	-1077.781913	-1078.750116	-1078.52774
3k 4	-1078.005161	-1077.786005	-1077.782736	-1078.750915	-1078.52849
3k 5	-1078.003503	-1077.783251	-1077.780522	-1078.747937	-1078.52496
3k 6	-1078.005080	-1077.785660	-1077.782468	-1078.749839	-1078.52723
3k 7	-1078.002886	-1077.783190	-1077.780074	-1078.748758	-1078.52595
3k 8	-1078.004062	-1077.784577	-1077.781462	-1078.748790	-1078.52619
3k 9	-1078.000578	-1077.778922	-1077.776482	-1078.745884	-1078.52179
3k 10	-1077.996285	-1077.776270	-1077.773407	-1078.740453	-1078.51758
3k 11	-1077.997826	-1077.776618	-1077.773935	-1078.742626	-1078.51874
SM CI 1	-1438.355099	-1438.138131	-1438.134843	-1439.104987	-1438.884731
SM CI 2	-1438.352819	-1438.136176	-1438.132757	-1439.102935	-1438.882873
SM CI 3	-1438.354862	-1438.136916	-1438.134003	-1439.103661	-1438.882802
SM CI 4	-1438.354204	-1438.136447	-1438.133509	-1439.103351	-1438.882656
SM CI 5	-1438.353043	-1438.135978	-1438.132596	-1439.102907	-1438.882460
SM CI 6	-1438.352750	-1438.135472	-1438.132232	-1439.101679	-1438.881161
SM CI 7	-1438.352484	-1438.133881	-1438.131336	-1439.101090	-1438.879942
SM CI 8	-1438.350730	-1438.130977	-1438.128611	-1439.100052	-1438.877933
SM CI 9	-1438.350529	-1438.132376	-1438.129609	-1439.098830	-1438.877910
SM CI 10	-1438.346536	-1438.127877	-1438.125169	-1439.095915	-1438.874548
SM CI 11	-1438.347454	-1438.128950	-1438.126160	-1439.095528	-1438.874234
SM CI 12	-1438.346298	-1438.128144	-1438.125299	-1439.094311	-1438.873312
SM CI 13	-1438.344664	-1438.125056	-1438.122806	-1439.093324	-1438.871466
SM TCA 1	-2565.452546	-2565.210573	-2565.204218	-2566.321590	-2566.073262
SM TCA 2	-2565.451583	-2565.209240	-2565.203206	-2566.321064	-2566.072687
SM TCA 3	-2565.452862	-2565.208848	-2565.203461	-2566.321230	-2566.071829
SM TCA 4	-2565.450169	-2565.208660	-2565.202090	-2566.319761	-2566.071682
SM TCA 5	-2565.451754	-2565.208442	-2565.202762	-2566.320487	-2566.071495
SM TCA 6	-2565.449840	-2565.209075	-2565.201866	-2566.319271	-2566.071297
SM TCA 7	-2565.451039	-2565.208409	-2565.202371	-2566.319940	-2566.071272
SM TCA 8	-2565.451922	-2565.207890	-2565.202498	-2566.320477	-2566.071053

SM TCA 9	-2565.451867	-2565.208237	-2565.202586	-2566.319886	-2566.070605
SM TCA 10	-2565.451575	-2565.207986	-2565.202434	-2566.319448	-2566.070307
SM TCA 11	-2565.449238	-2565.206793	-2565.200882	-2566.318648	-2566.070292
SM TCA 12	-2565.452287	-2565.207971	-2565.202570	-2566.319860	-2566.070143
SM TCA 13	-2565.450265	-2565.205579	-2565.200497	-2566.318061	-2566.068293
SM TCA 14	-2565.449122	-2565.205836	-2565.200102	-2566.317297	-2566.068277
SM TCA 15	-2565.449624	-2565.205375	-2565.200122	-2566.317239	-2566.067737
SM TCA 16	-2565.449020	-2565.204895	-2565.199666	-2566.316768	-2566.067414
SM TCA 17	-2565.450488	-2565.205095	-2565.200112	-2566.316998	-2566.066622
SM TCA 18	-2565.447862	-2565.203157	-2565.197780	-2566.316399	-2566.066317
SM TCA 19	-2565.446923	-2565.203405	-2565.197655	-2566.315160	-2566.065892
SM TCA 20	-2565.449467	-2565.202916	-2565.198553	-2566.316618	-2566.065704
SM TCA 21	-2565.446408	-2565.201964	-2565.196582	-2566.313927	-2566.064101
SM TCA 22	-2565.445298	-2565.200455	-2565.195433	-2566.313748	-2566.063883
SM TCA 23	-2565.444836	-2565.200389	-2565.194871	-2566.313149	-2566.063184
SM TCA 24	-2565.443789	-2565.201120	-2565.194997	-2566.311557	-2566.062765
SM TCA 25	-2565.441691	-2565.197287	-2565.192180	-2566.307937	-2566.058426

Table S22. – *Tetradentate catalyst, 4a*

Index	Energies (Ha)				
	E (opt)	G (opt)	G-qh (opt)	E (sp)	G-qh (sp)
TS 4a-F epi tetra	-4103.703284	-4102.991767	-4102.974341	-	-
TS 4a-F epi tri	-4103.714953	-4102.998148	-4102.983416	-	-

Table S23. – *Uncoordinated 4f*

Index	Energies (Ha)				
	E (opt)	G (opt)	G-qh (opt)	E (sp)	G-qh (sp)
4f 1	-3064.986424	-3064.490460	-3064.476912	-3068.773763	-3068.264251
4f 2	-3064.987219	-3064.490110	-3064.476928	-3068.773999	-3068.263708
4f 3	-3064.986698	-3064.489846	-3064.476566	-3068.773786	-3068.263654
4f 4	-3064.994152	-3064.492587	-3064.481799	-3068.771678	-3068.259325
4f 5	-3064.992995	-3064.491042	-3064.480778	-3068.771067	-3068.258850
4f 6	-3064.986817	-3064.489007	-3064.476686	-3068.768822	-3068.258691
4f 7	-3064.994705	-3064.493090	-3064.482298	-3068.770990	-3068.258583
4f 8	-3064.994058	-3064.491212	-3064.481279	-3068.771259	-3068.258480
4f 9	-3064.991288	-3064.488805	-3064.478575	-3068.770634	-3068.257921
4f 10	-3064.995184	-3064.491055	-3064.481609	-3068.771466	-3068.257891
4f 11	-3064.995991	-3064.491813	-3064.482275	-3068.771581	-3068.257865
4f 12	-3064.991921	-3064.489612	-3064.479813	-3068.769863	-3068.257755
4f 13	-3064.990429	-3064.489078	-3064.478726	-3068.768912	-3068.257209
4f 14	-3064.990818	-3064.487932	-3064.478080	-3068.769520	-3068.256782
4f 15	-3064.991178	-3064.489268	-3064.479018	-3068.768666	-3068.256506
4f 16	-3064.988637	-3064.487813	-3064.476789	-3068.767538	-3068.255690

Table S24. – *4f complexes*

	Energies (Ha)				
	E (opt)	G (opt)	G-qh (opt)	E (sp)	G-qh (sp)
4f-F 1	-3165.019236	-3164.518732	-3164.507896	-3168.805120	-3168.293780
4f-F 2	-3165.014392	-3164.515957	-3164.503978	-3168.803552	-3168.293138

IP 4f-F Cs 1	-3185.082242	-3184.582209	-3184.571139	-3188.943324	-3188.432221
IP 4f-F Cs 2	-3185.079080	-3184.583659	-3184.570500	-3188.940455	-3188.431875
4f-F•H₂O	-3241.469500	-3240.947941	-3240.936300	-3245.274813	-3244.741613
4f-Cl 1	-3525.39086	-3524.89129	-3524.88019	-3529.177920	-3528.667249
4f-Cl 2	-3525.385259	-3524.889117	-3524.876315	-3529.176182	-3528.667238
4f-Br 1	-5639.39259	-5638.89422	-5638.88265	-5643.185958	-5642.676018
4f-Br 2	-5639.38687	-5638.89211	-5638.87873	-5643.183590	-5642.675449

Table S25. – *4f-fluoride episulfonium ion pairs*

	Energies (Ha)				
	E (opt)	G (opt)	G-qh (opt)	E (sp)	G-qh (sp)
IP 4f-F epi 1	-4142.993600	-4142.255848	-4142.238021	-4147.517967	-4146.762388
IP 4f-F epi 2	-4142.993974	-4142.253725	-4142.237081	-4147.518838	-4146.761945
IP 4f-F epi 3	-4142.986996	-4142.249185	-4142.231444	-4147.517049	-4146.761497
IP 4f-F epi 4	-4142.996868	-4142.253311	-4142.238222	-4147.518733	-4146.760087
IP 4f-F epi 5	-4142.992901	-4142.253274	-4142.236590	-4147.515959	-4146.759648
IP 4f-F epi 6	-4142.988950	-4142.250082	-4142.232630	-4147.515032	-4146.758712
IP 4f-F epi 7	-4142.988601	-4142.248683	-4142.232097	-4147.514225	-4146.757721
IP 4f-F epi 8	-4142.983972	-4142.246189	-4142.228540	-4147.512619	-4146.757187
IP 4f-F epi 9	-4142.980129	-4142.241181	-4142.224249	-4147.510941	-4146.755061
IP 4f-F epi 10	-4142.988032	-4142.246282	-4142.230455	-4147.511781	-4146.754204
IP 4f-F epi 11	-4142.986052	-4142.242718	-4142.228058	-4147.510436	-4146.752442
IP 4f-F epi 12	-4142.983498	-4142.243063	-4142.226290	-4147.508809	-4146.751601

Table S26. – *4f* TSs and enantioselectivity

Index	Energies (Ha)					
	E (opt)	G (opt)	G-qh (opt)	E (sp)	G-qh (sp)	G-qh 243.15 K (sp)
TS 4f-F epi major 1	-4142.982972	-4142.240007	-4142.224875	-4147.507966	-4146.749869	-4146.726778
TS 4f-F epi major 2	-4142.976870	-4142.234393	-4142.218967	-4147.506718	-4146.748815	-4146.725767
TS 4f-F epi major 3	-4142.979913	-4142.238243	-4142.222399	-4147.503595	-4146.746081	-4146.723007
TS 4f-F epi major 4	-4142.974862	-4142.231326	-4142.216940	-4147.500783	-4146.742861	-4146.719857
TS 4f-F epi major 5	-4142.974597	-4142.233207	-4142.217164	-4147.499259	-4146.741826	-4146.718677
TS 4f-F epi major 6	-4142.973872	-4142.230443	-4142.215939	-4147.498024	-4146.740091	-4146.717086
TS 4f-F epi major 7	-4142.972144	-4142.229100	-4142.214755	-4147.494836	-4146.737447	-4146.714362
TS 4f-F epi major 8	-4142.964220	-4142.224090	-4142.207050	-4147.494490	-4146.737320	-4146.713977
TS 4f-F epi major 9	-4142.961376	-4142.221118	-4142.204790	-4147.490373	-4146.733787	-4146.710501
TS 4f-F epi minor 1	-4142.971969	-4142.233025	-4142.216508	-4147.503029	-4146.747568	-4146.724197
TS 4f-F epi minor 2	-4142.974176	-4142.231943	-4142.216583	-4147.503648	-4146.746055	-4146.722981
TS 4f-F epi minor 3	-4142.980133	-4142.236252	-4142.221542	-4147.504421	-4146.745830	-4146.722789
TS 4f-F epi minor 4	-4142.969500	-4142.229719	-4142.213057	-4147.502255	-4146.745812	-4146.722557
TS 4f-F epi minor 5	-4142.976723	-4142.233558	-4142.218614	-4147.500221	-4146.742112	-4146.719087
TS 4f-F epi minor 6	-4142.975739	-4142.233099	-4142.217823	-4147.499007	-4146.741091	-4146.718064
TS 4f-F epi minor 7	-4142.966408	-4142.225070	-4142.209160	-4147.495812	-4146.738564	-4146.715339
TS Br 4f 1k	-6617.344967	-6616.606991	-6616.590423	-6621.876134	-6621.121590	-

Table S27. – *4h*: TSs and enantioselectivity

Index	Energies (Ha)					
	E (opt)	G (opt)	G-qh (opt)	E (sp)	G-qh (sp)	G-qh 243.15 K (sp)
TS 4h-F epi major 1	-4221.515301	-4220.717951	-4220.702774	-4226.149514	-4225.336987	-4225.313215
TS 4h-F epi major 2	-4221.513746	-4220.714222	-4220.699884	-4226.146899	-4225.333037	-4225.309402
TS 4h-F epi major 3	-4221.512162	-4220.715512	-4220.699979	-4226.145124	-4225.332941	-4225.309148
TS 4h-F epi major 4	-4221.503969	-4220.709103	-4220.692304	-4226.142614	-4225.330949	-4225.307045
TS 4h-F epi major 5	-4221.509583	-4220.710273	-4220.695429	-4226.143581	-4225.329427	-4225.305846
TS 4h-F epi major 6	-4221.503864	-4220.707918	-4220.691489	-4226.141861	-4225.329486	-4225.305697
TS 4h-F epi major 7	-4221.510403	-4220.711598	-4220.696967	-4226.142467	-4225.329031	-4225.305383
TS 4h-F epi minor 1	-4221.512146	-4220.714976	-4220.699766	-4226.146414	-4225.334034	-4225.310226
TS 4h-F epi minor 2	-4221.504642	-4220.710922	-4220.694430	-4226.143989	-4225.333777	-4225.309732
TS 4h-F epi minor 3	-4221.506389	-4220.710996	-4220.694746	-4226.144666	-4225.333023	-4225.309159
TS 4h-F epi minor 4	-4221.504242	-4220.707763	-4220.691809	-4226.141803	-4225.329370	-4225.305593
TS 4h-F epi minor 5	-4221.510668	-4220.710656	-4220.696231	-4226.143123	-4225.328686	-4225.305067
TS 4h-F epi minor 6	-4221.500602	-4220.705226	-4220.689368	-4226.140188	-4225.328954	-4225.305058
TS 4h-F epi minor 7	-4221.496899	-4220.704826	-4220.686655	-4226.138524	-4225.328280	-4225.304133
TS 4h-F epi minor 8	-4221.506543	-4220.706992	-4220.692146	-4226.139923	-4225.325526	-4225.301953
TS 4h-F epi minor 9	-4221.496203	-4220.702901	-4220.685220	-4226.136704	-4225.325721	-4225.301711
TS 4h-F epi minor 10	-4221.492108	-4220.698086	-4220.681046	-4226.132594	-4225.321532	-4225.297565

Table S28. – *Miscellaneous species*

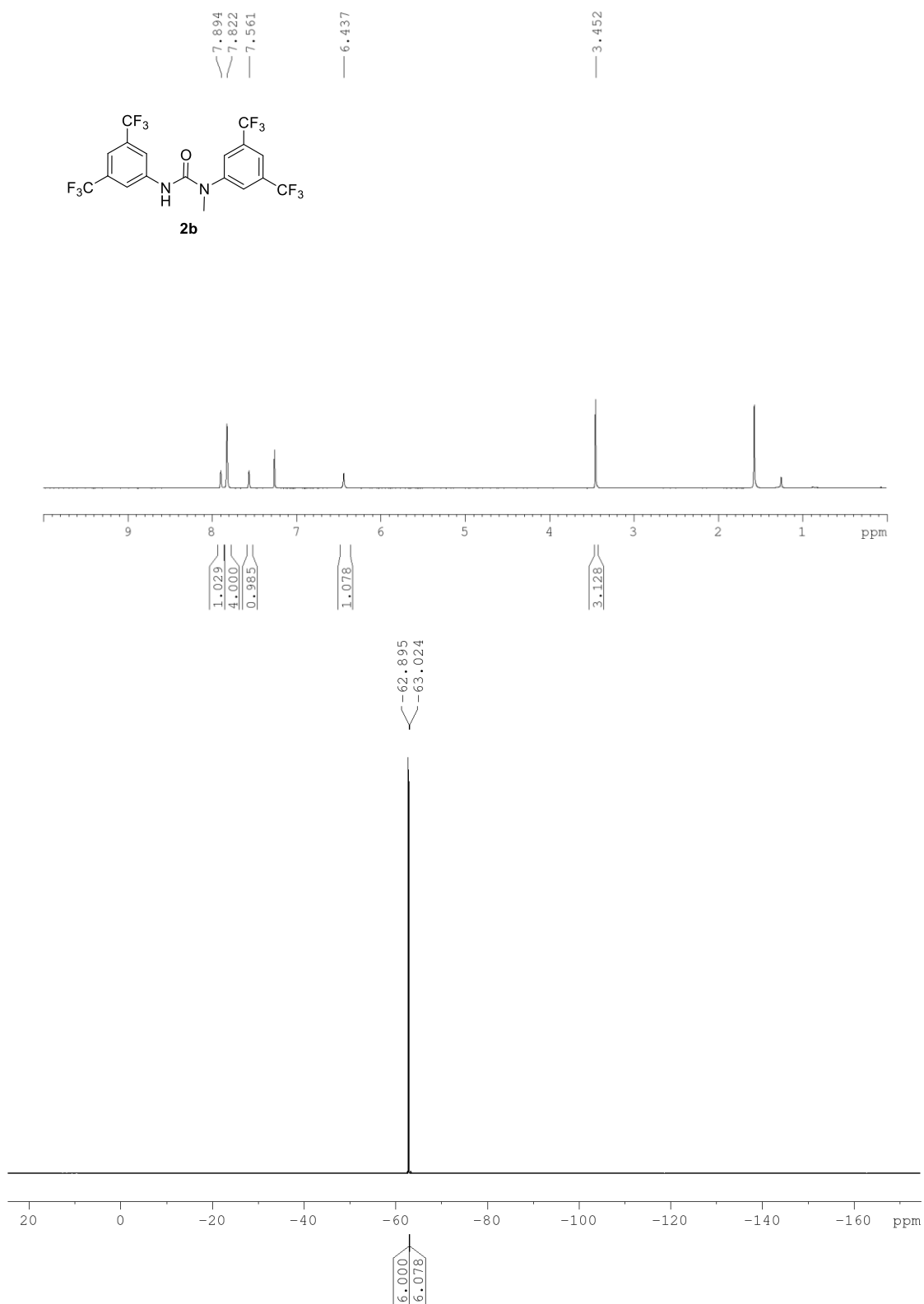
Index	Energies (Ha)				
	E (opt)	G (opt)	G-qh (opt)	E (sp)	G-qh (sp)
Br(g)*	-2574.27728	-2574.290436	-2574.290436	-2574.298613	-2574.311769
Br(CH ₂ Cl ₂)				-2574.39026	-2574.403416
F(g)*	-99.854602	-99.865742	-99.865742	-99.868379	-99.879519
F(CH ₂ Cl ₂)				-99.989411	-100.000551
F•H ₂ O	-176.428994	-176.426887	-176.426888	-176.4606374	-176.4585314
Cl(g)*	-460.266789	-460.278793	-460.278793	-460.281805	-460.293809
Cl(CH ₂ Cl ₂)				-460.379998	-460.392002
Cs(g)*	-19.934066	-19.947960	-19.947960	-20.013829	-20.027723
Cs(CH ₂ Cl ₂)				-20.110183	-20.124077
(Z)-TCA	-1587.435872	-1587.432886	-1587.432227	-1587.572235	-1587.568590
(E)-TCA	-1587.434039	-1587.431808	-1587.430707	-1587.571196	-1587.567864
CsBr(g)*	-2594.377610	-2594.400681	-2594.40066	-2594.475060	-2594.498110
CsBr(CH ₂ Cl ₂)	-2594.422237	-2594.445944	-2594.445749	-2594.525198	-2594.548710
CsF(g)*	-120.001129	-120.021281	-120.021283	-120.088507	-120.108661
CsF(CH ₂ Cl ₂)	-120.040461	-120.061202	-120.061202	-120.135181	-120.155922
* Evaluated at 1M concentration					

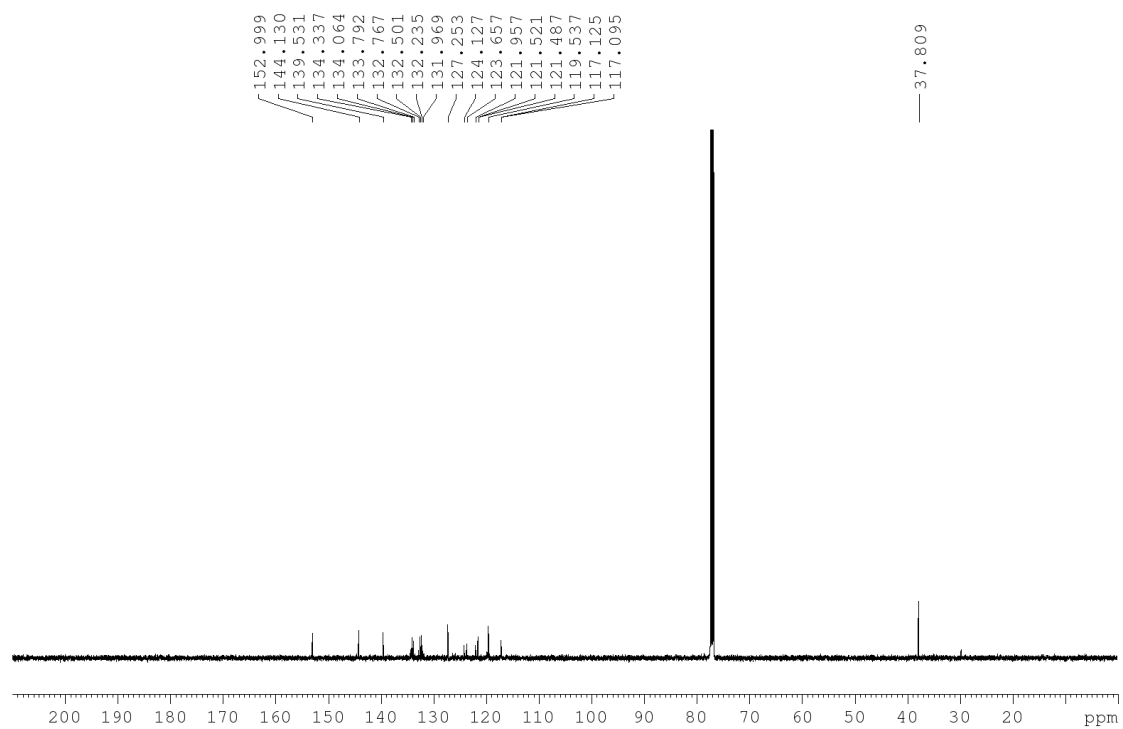
Computation – Coordinates and MD Input Files

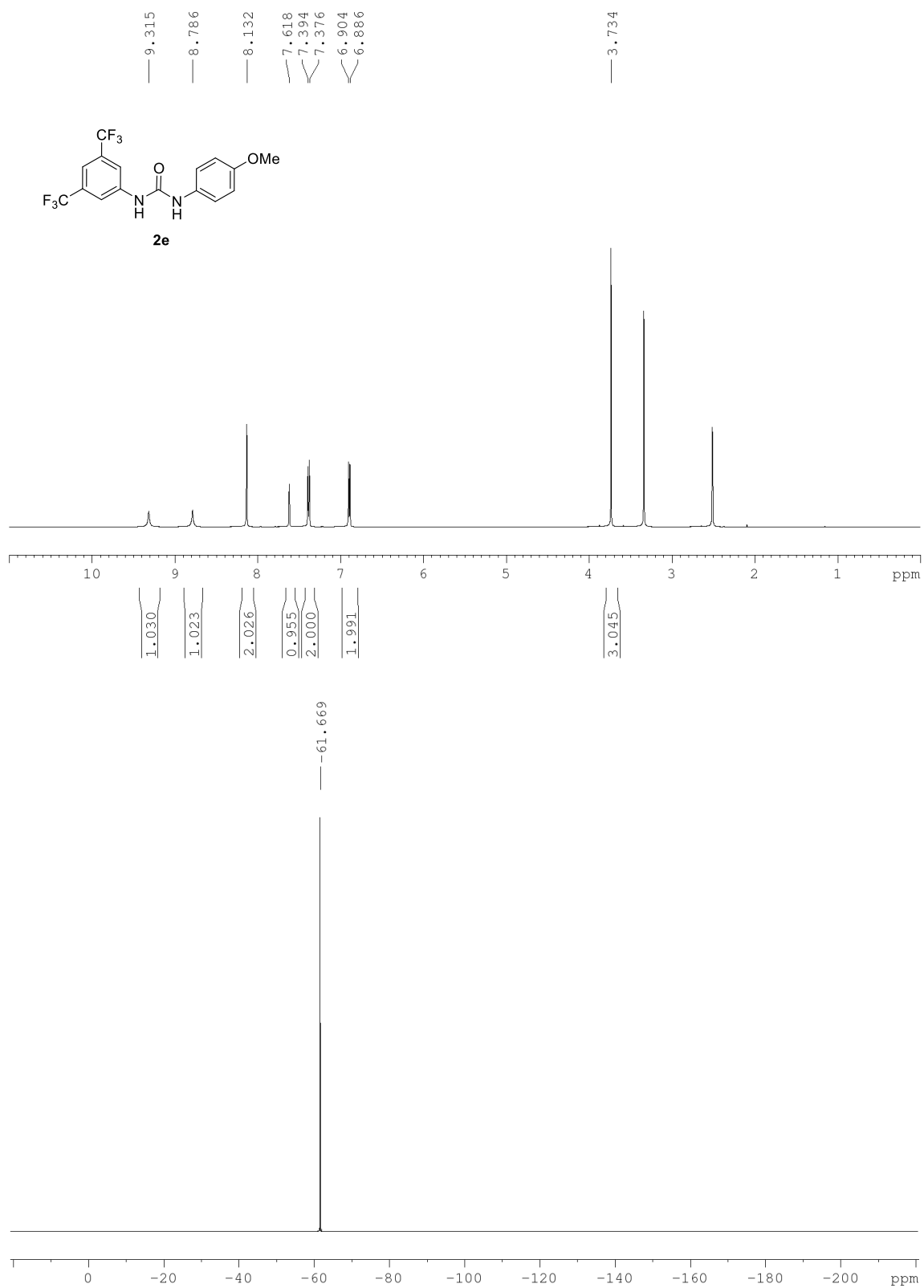
Coordinates for DFT stationary points and MD input files are available as part of the supporting information, and are uploaded separately.

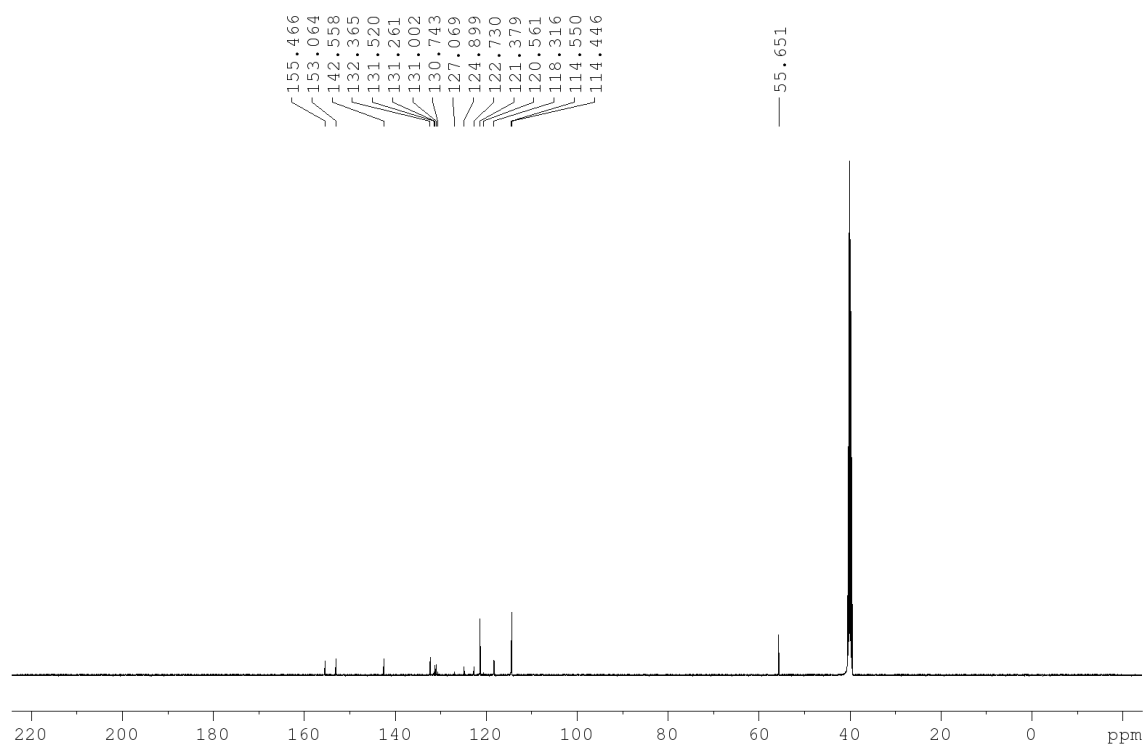
Copies of NMR-spectra

Achiral Catalysts

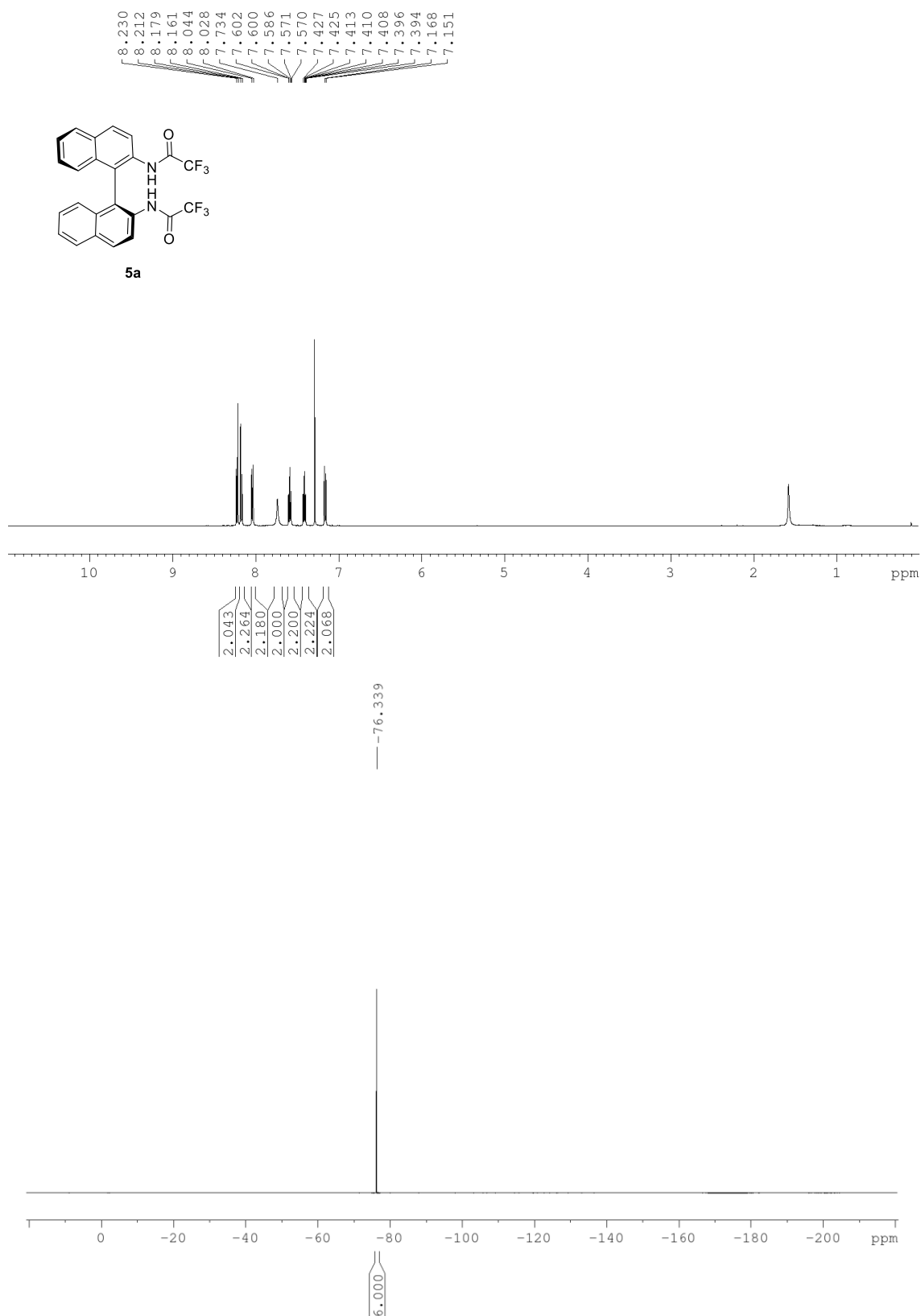


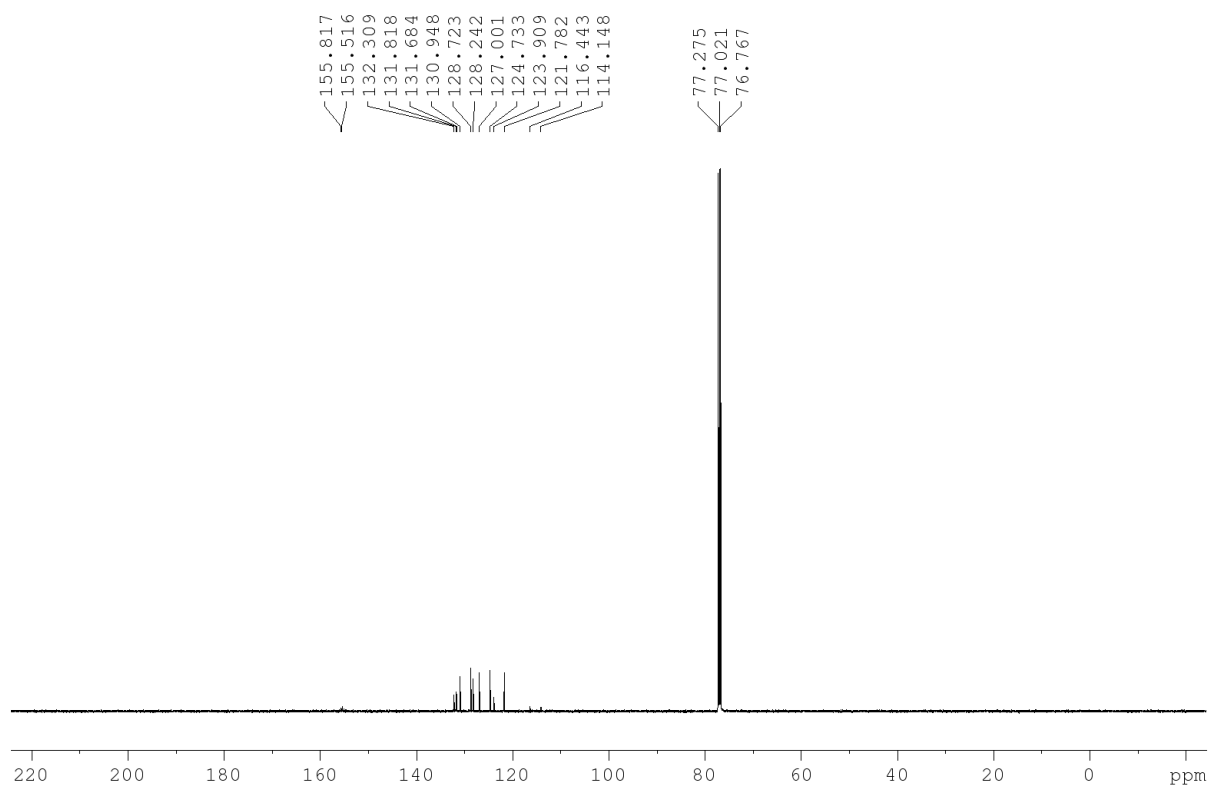


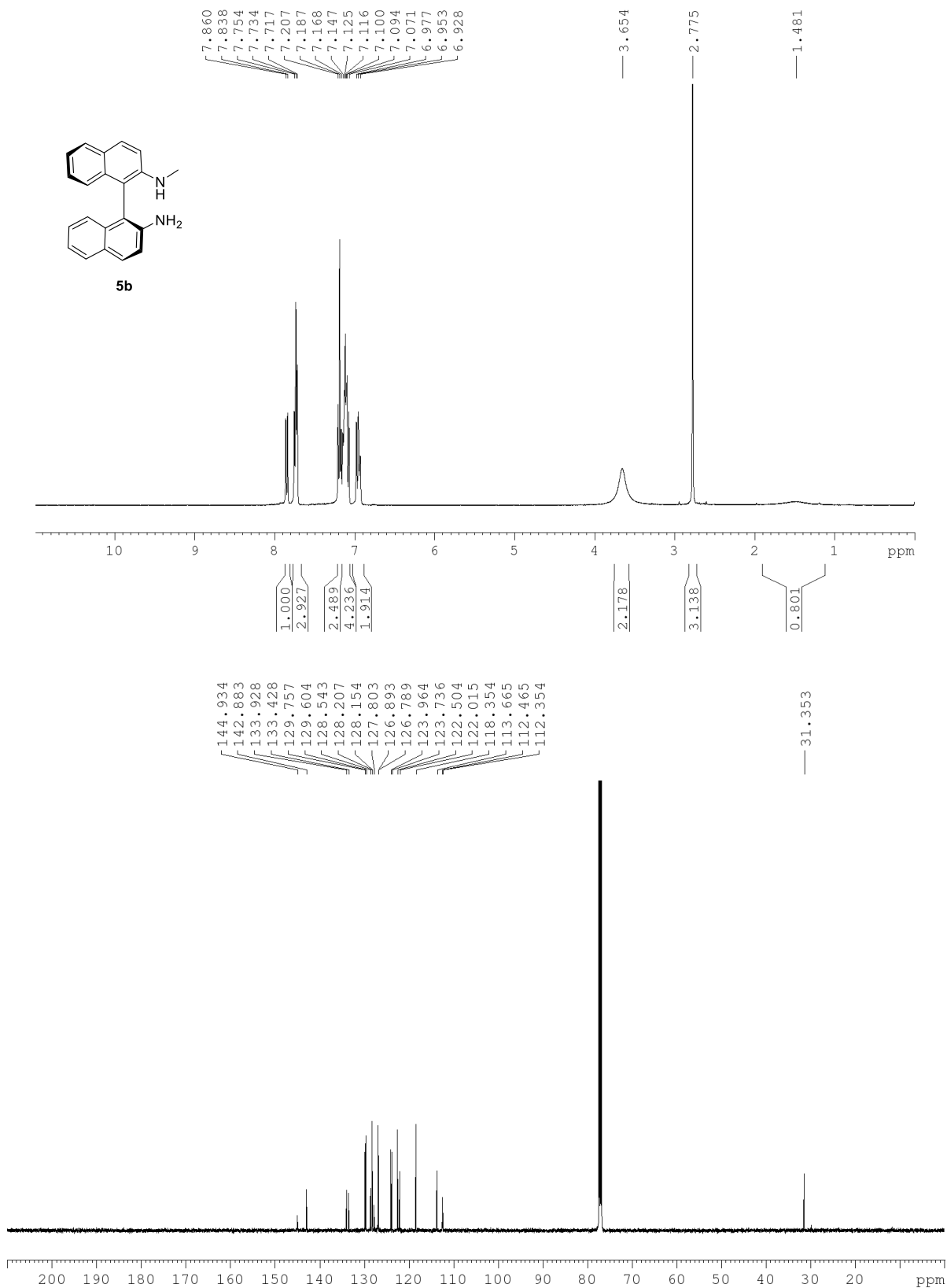


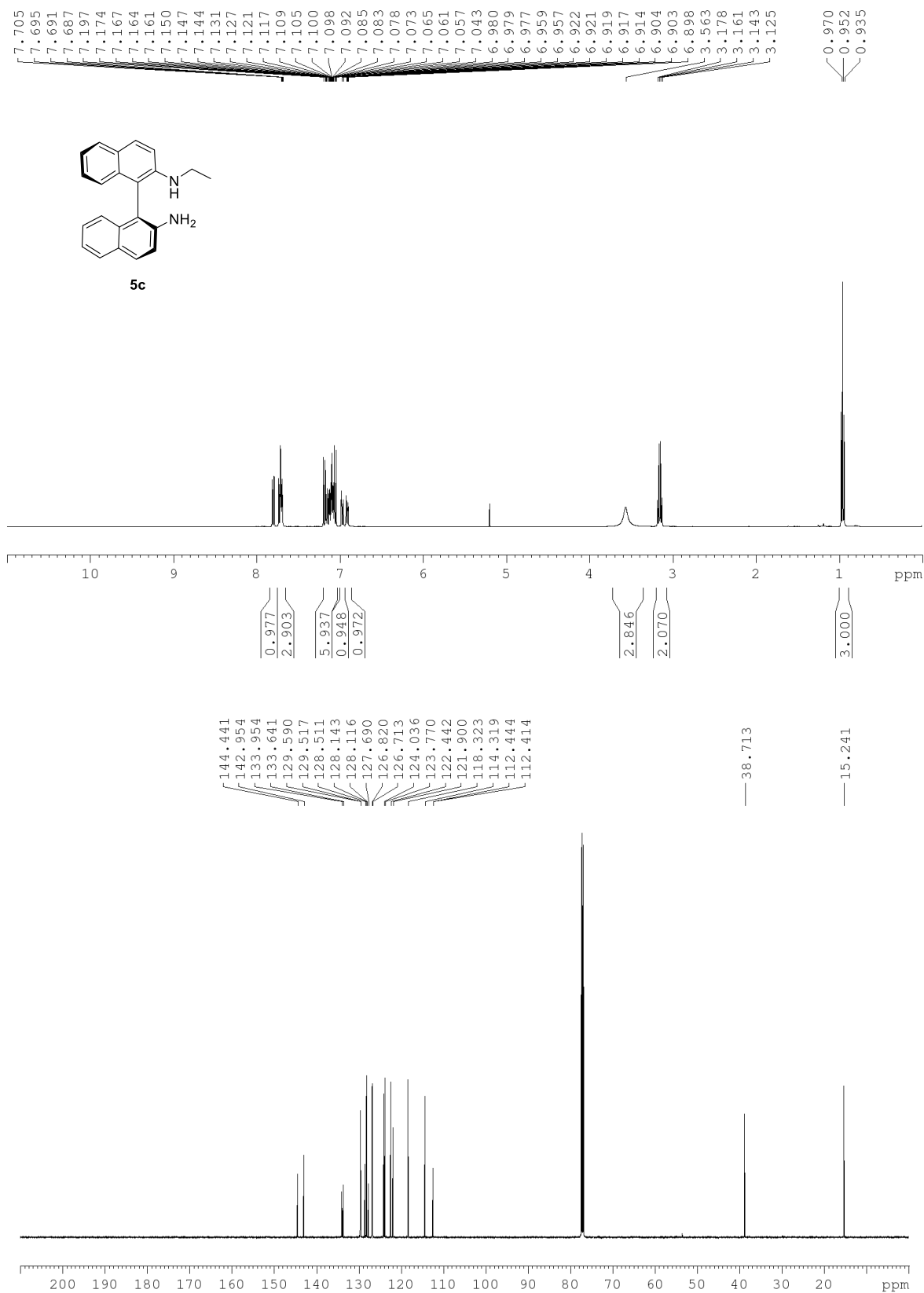


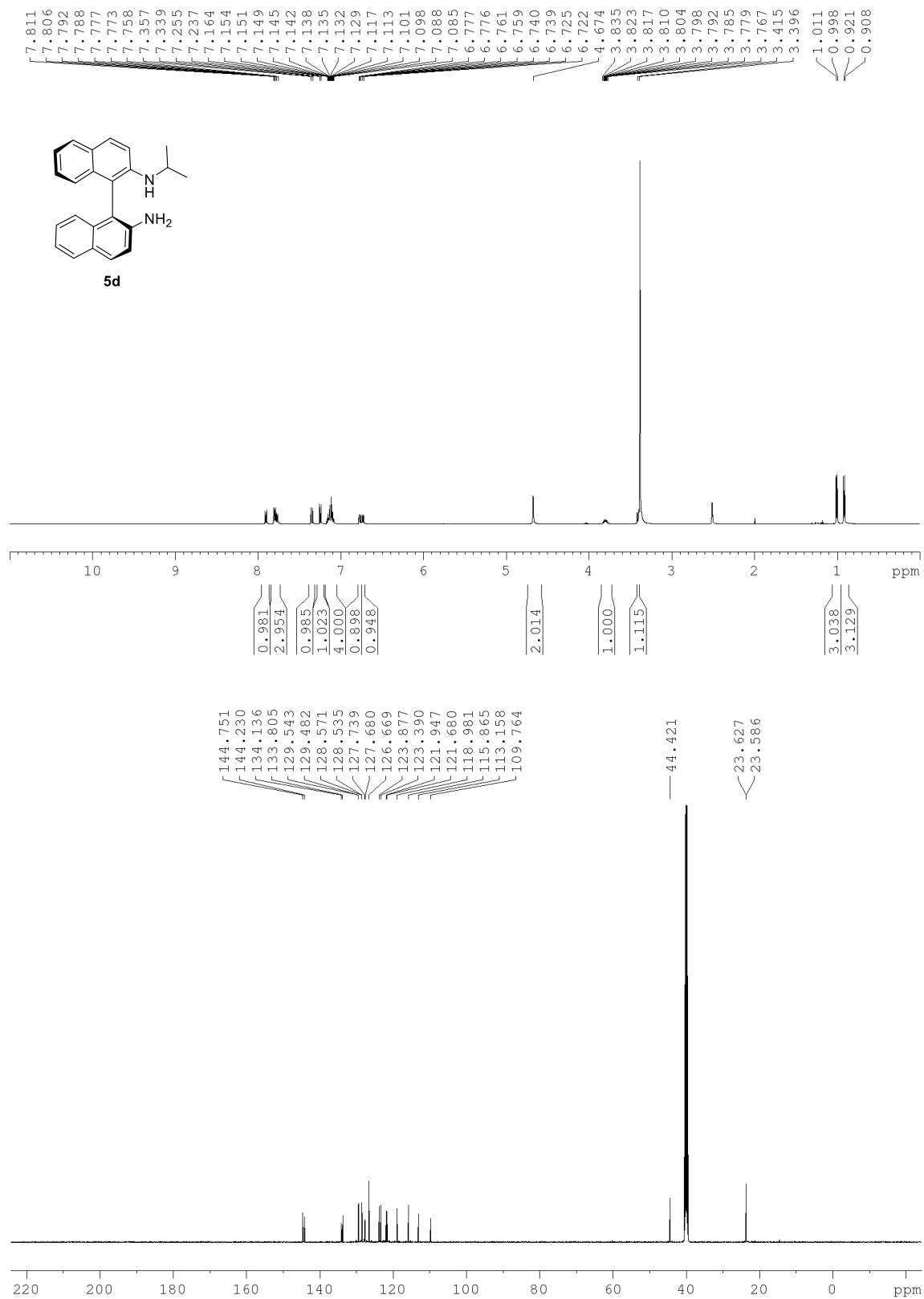
Chiral Catalysts and Bis-aniline precursors

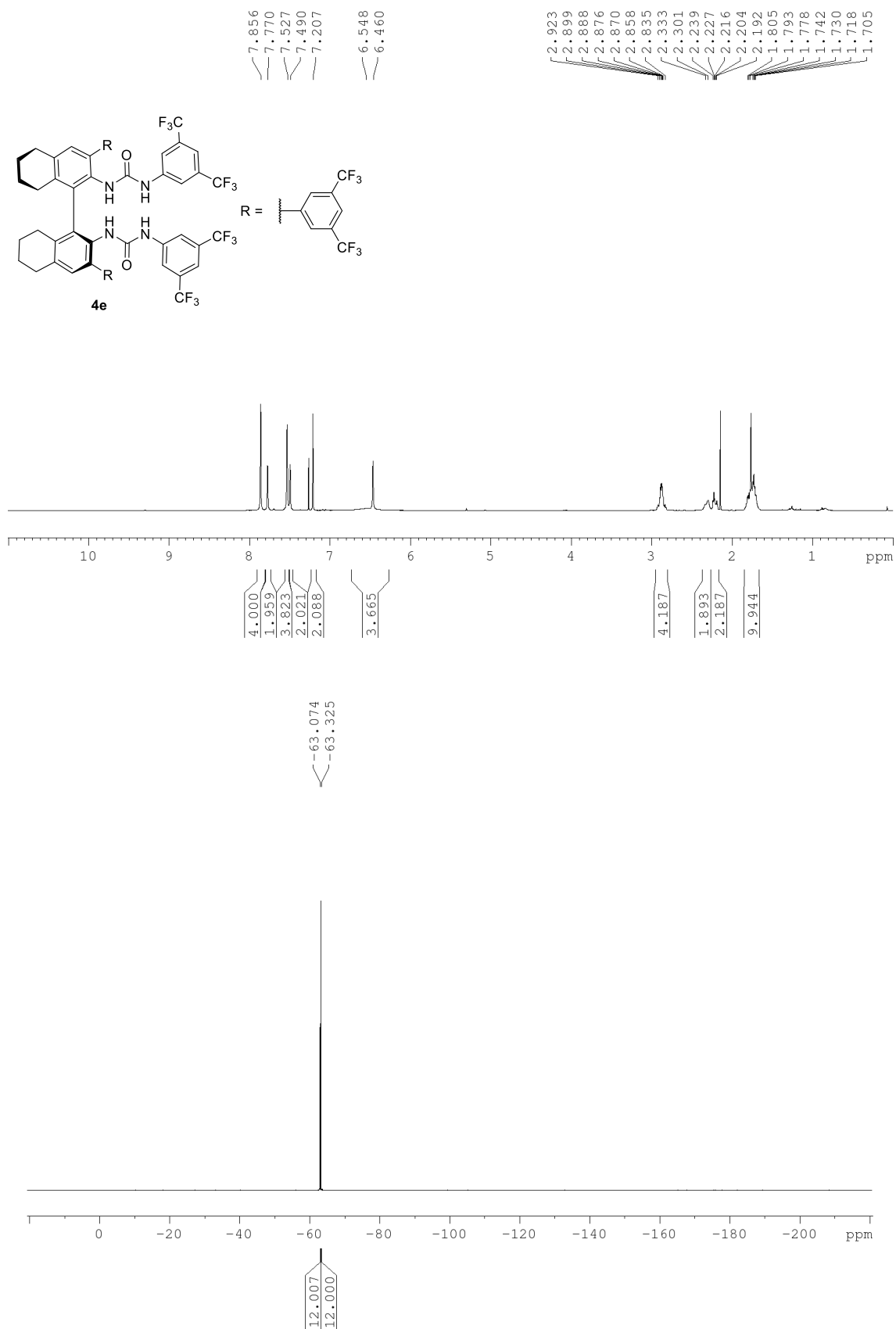


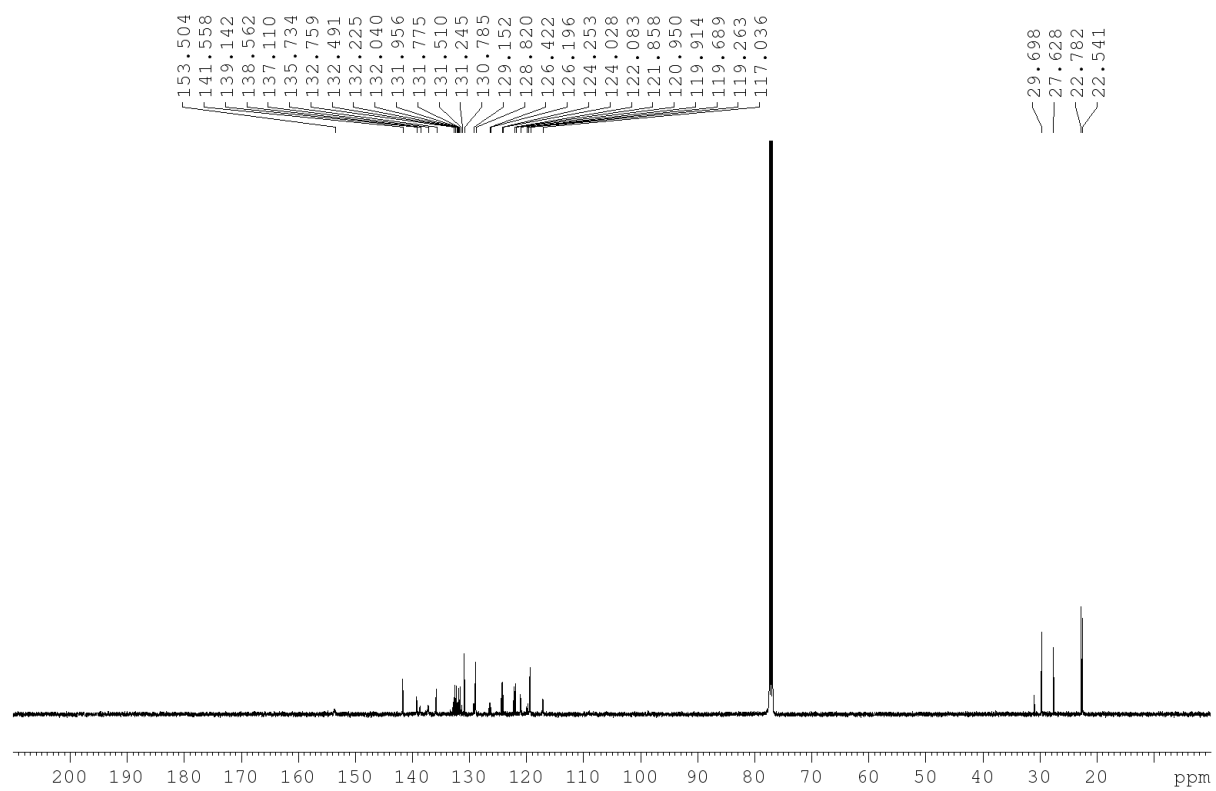


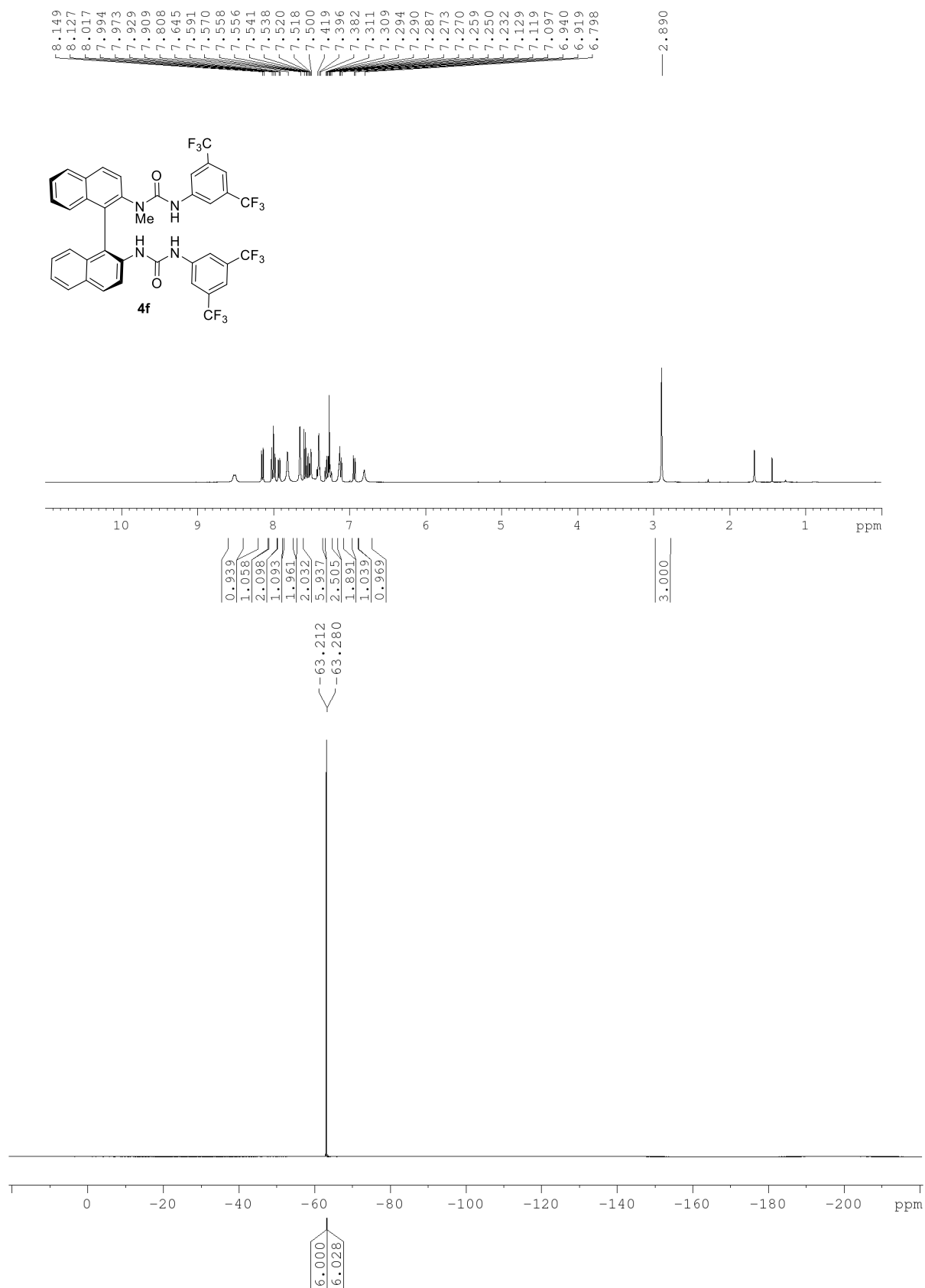


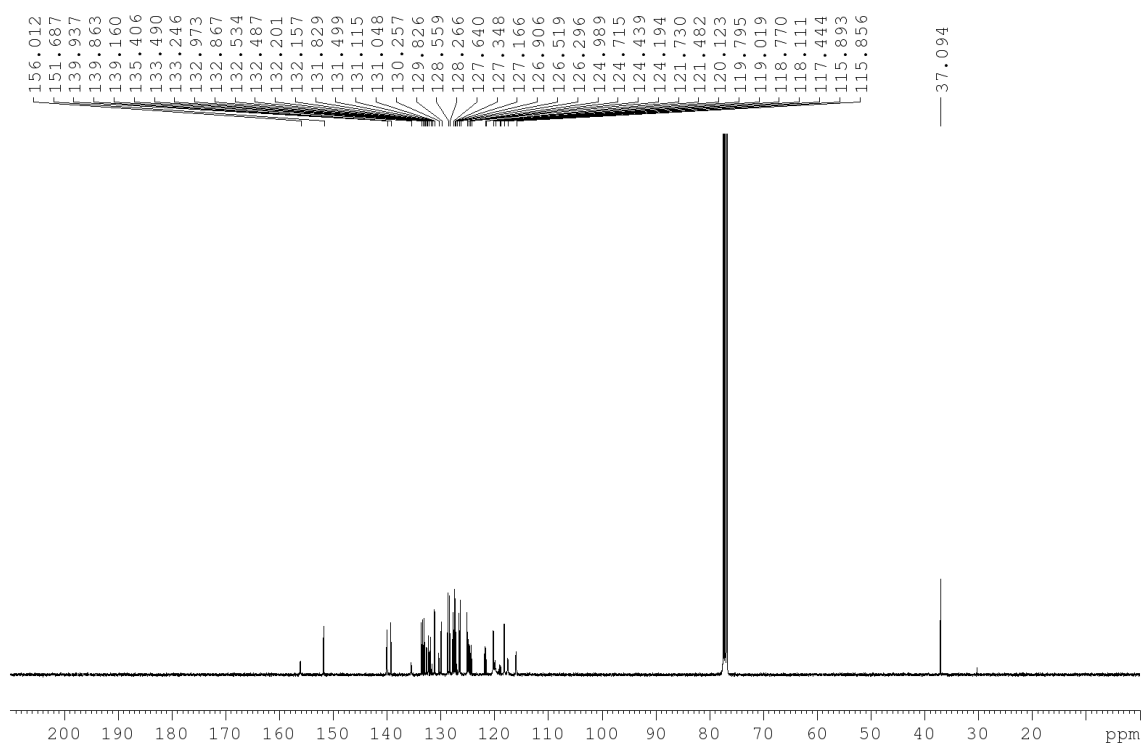


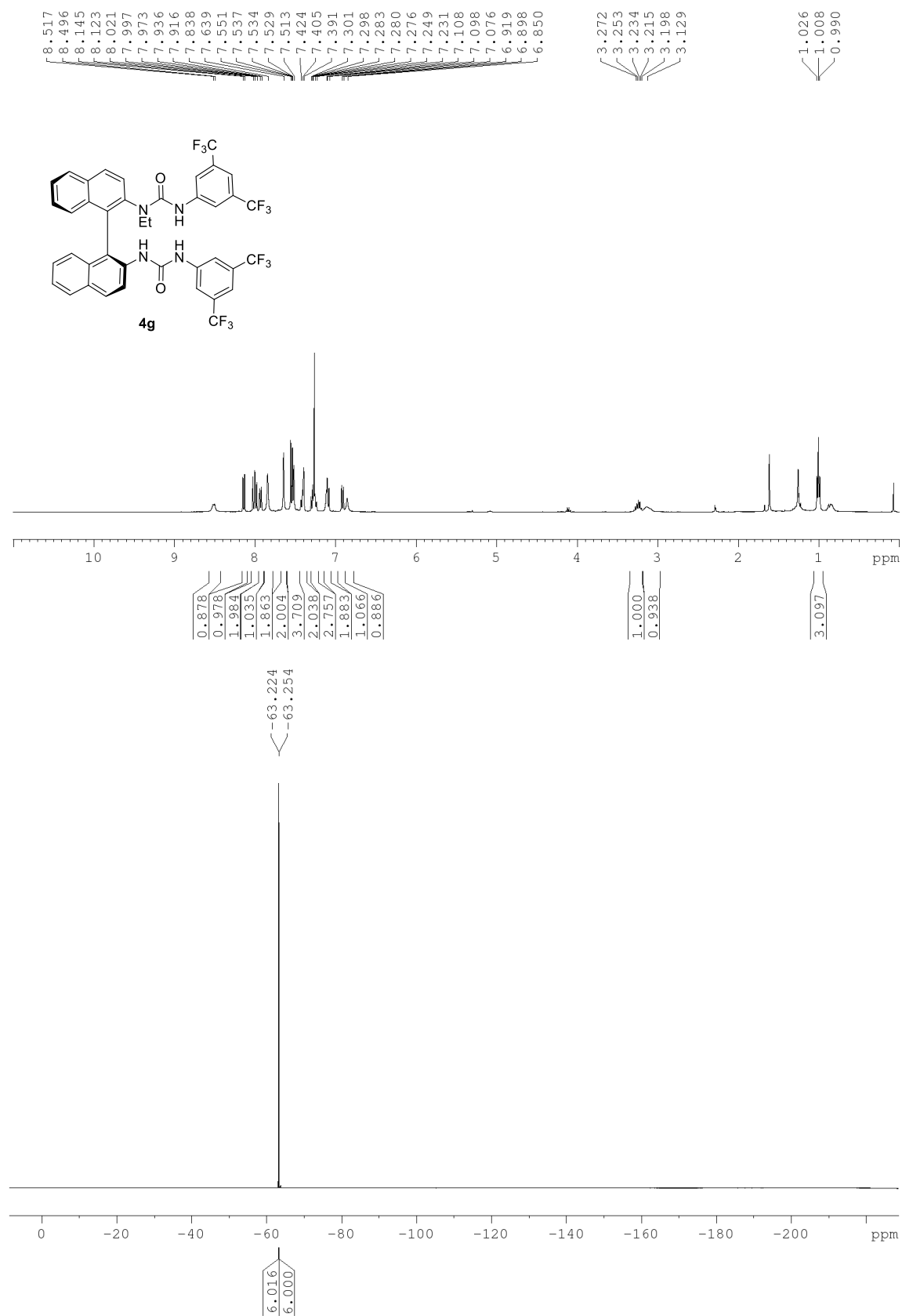


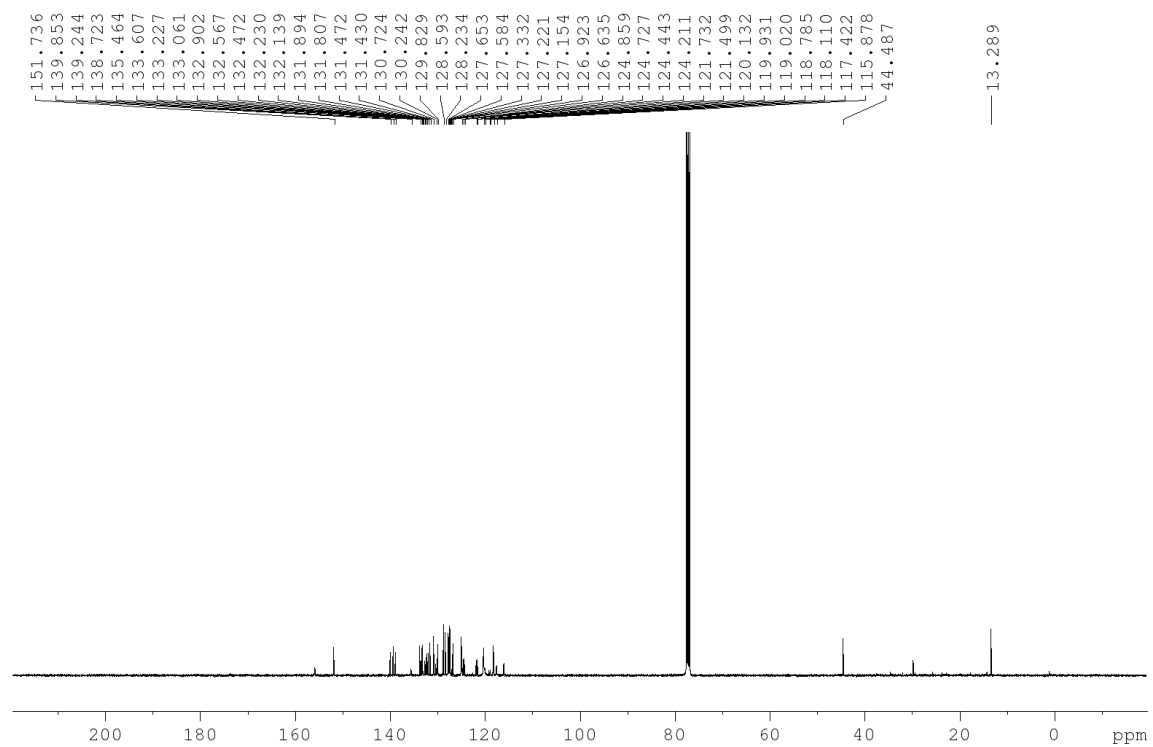


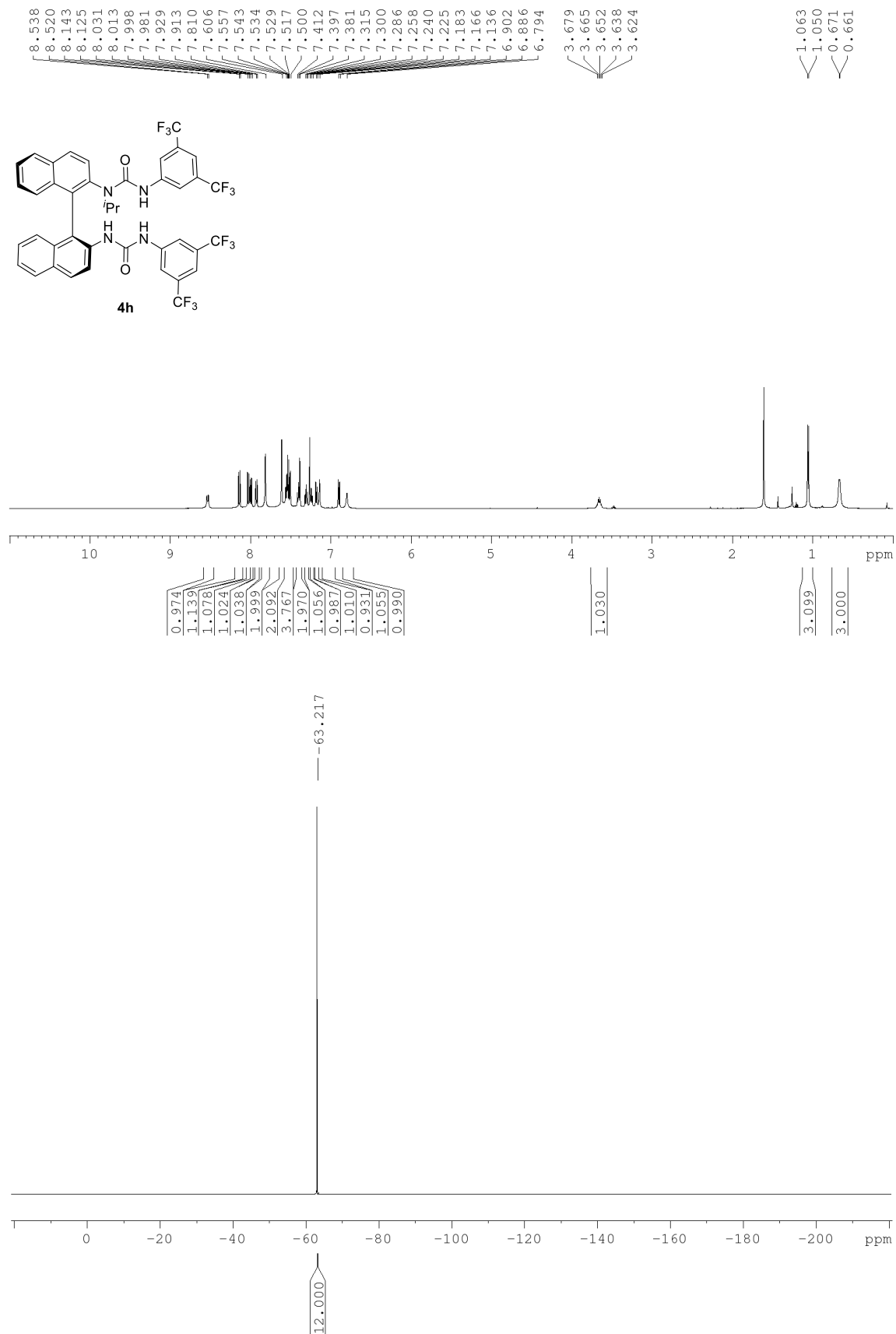


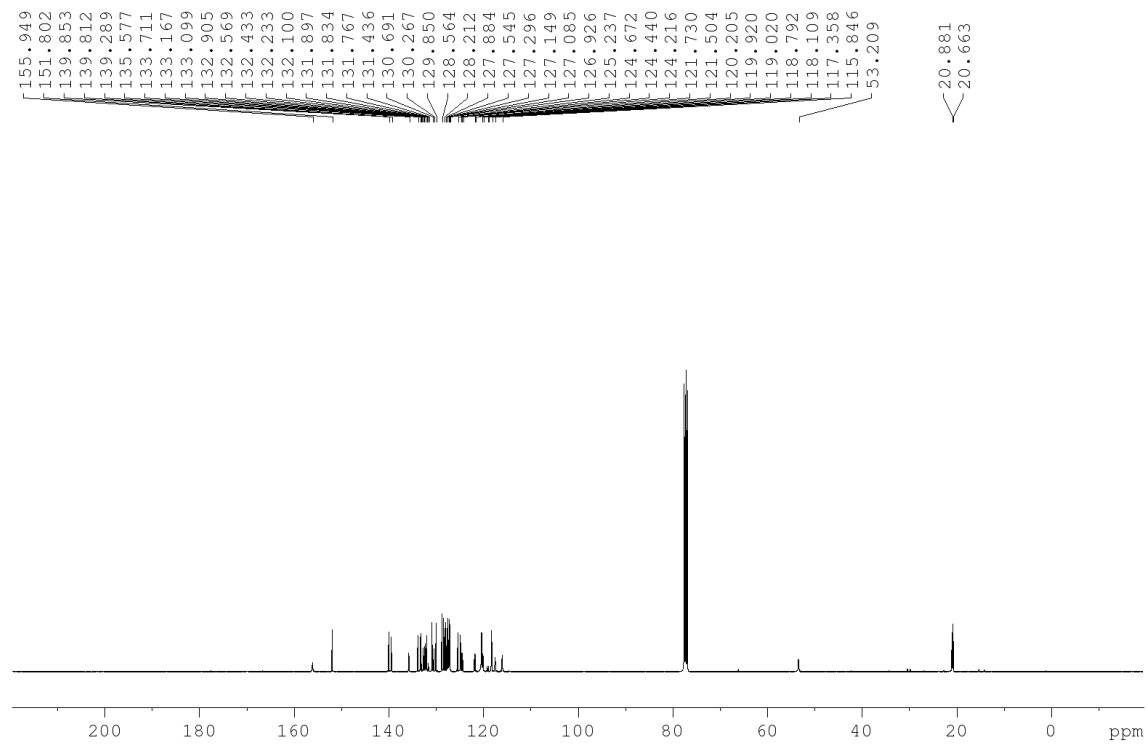


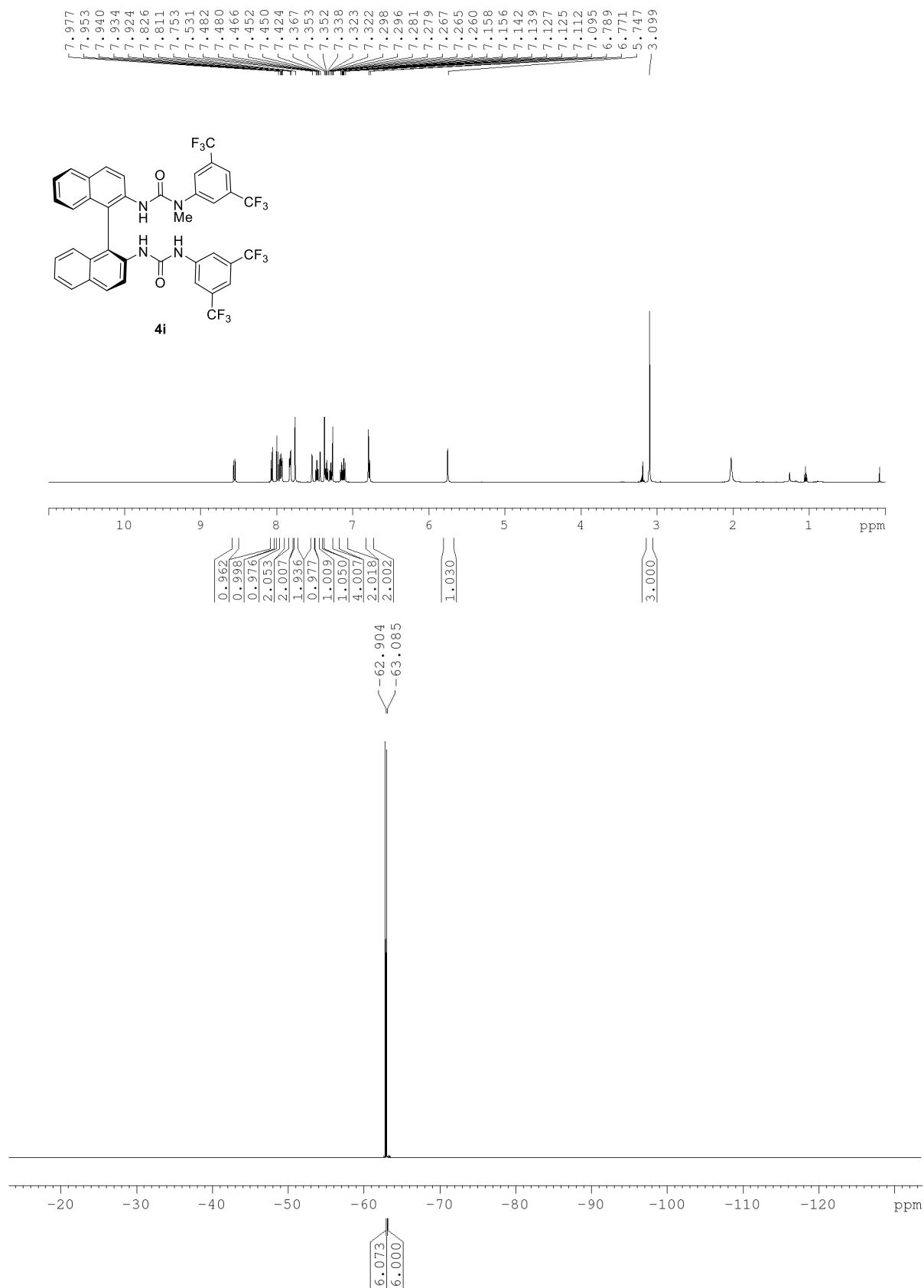


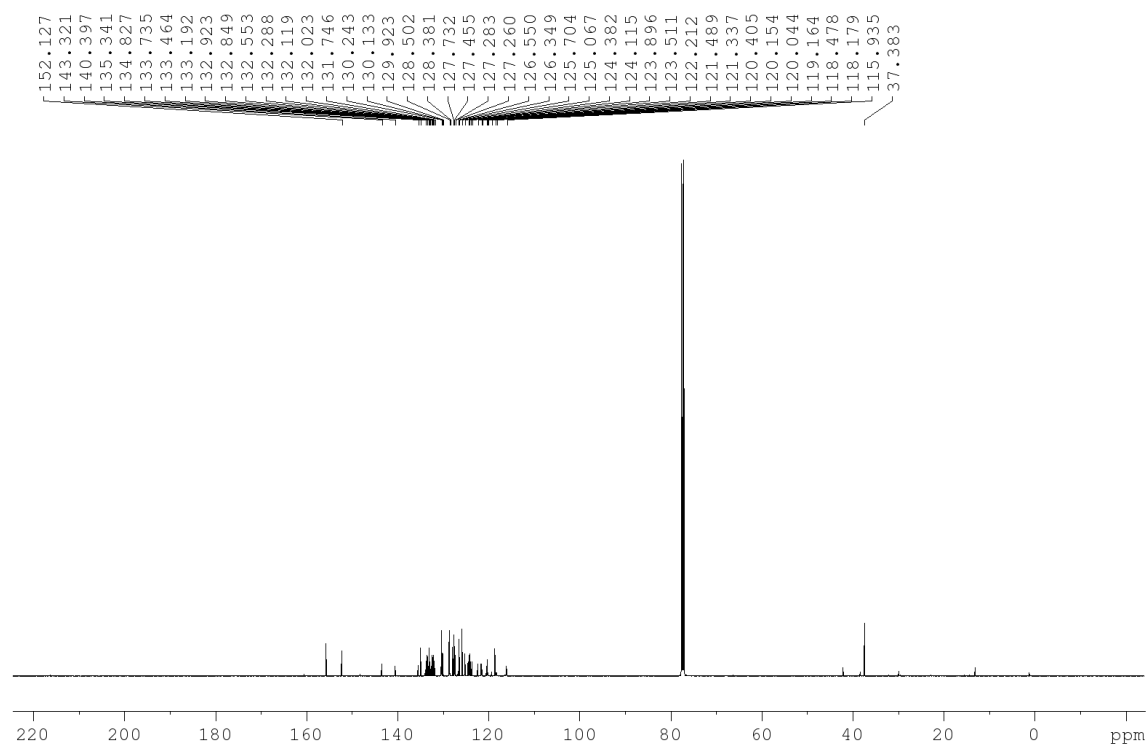


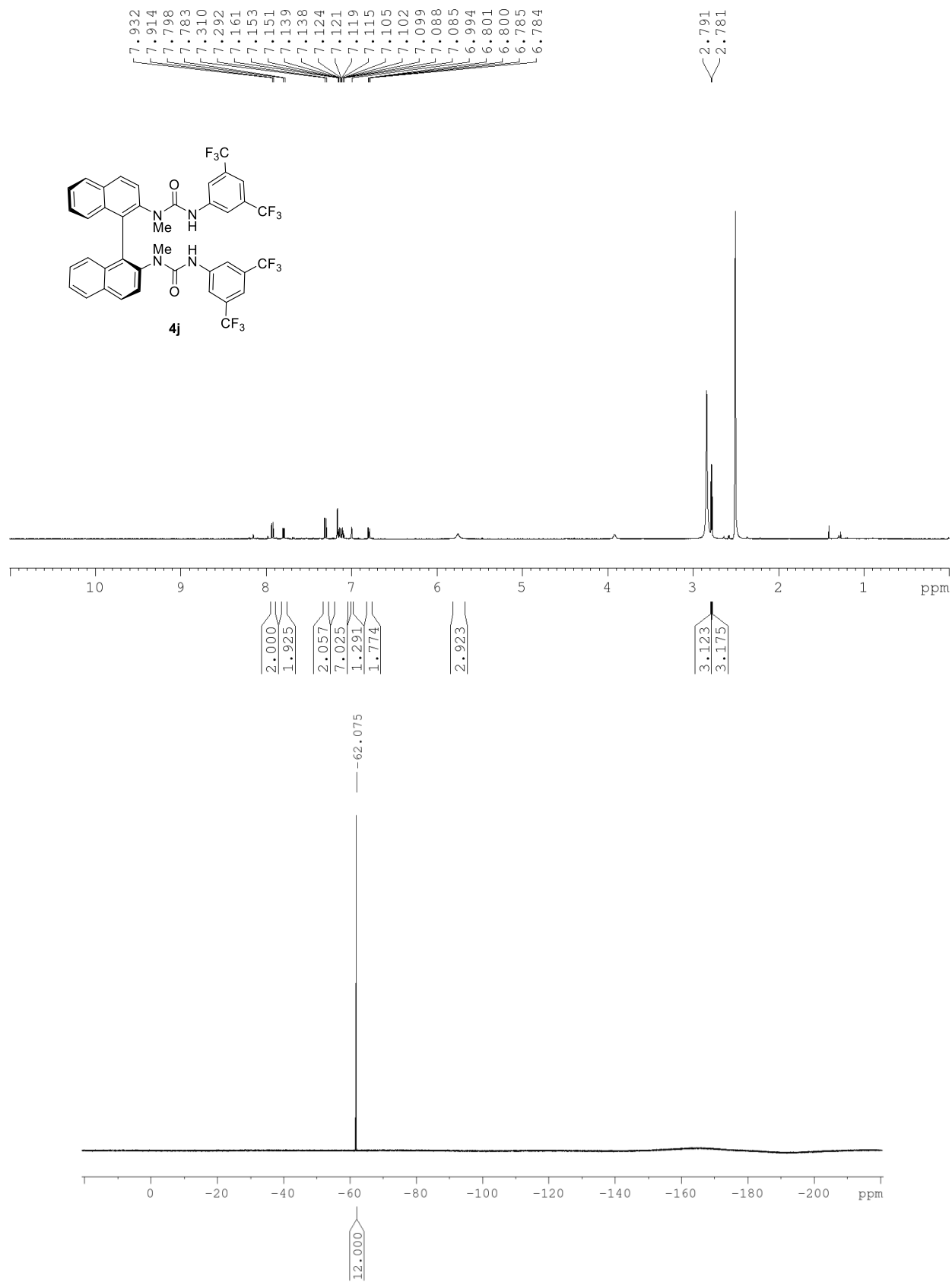


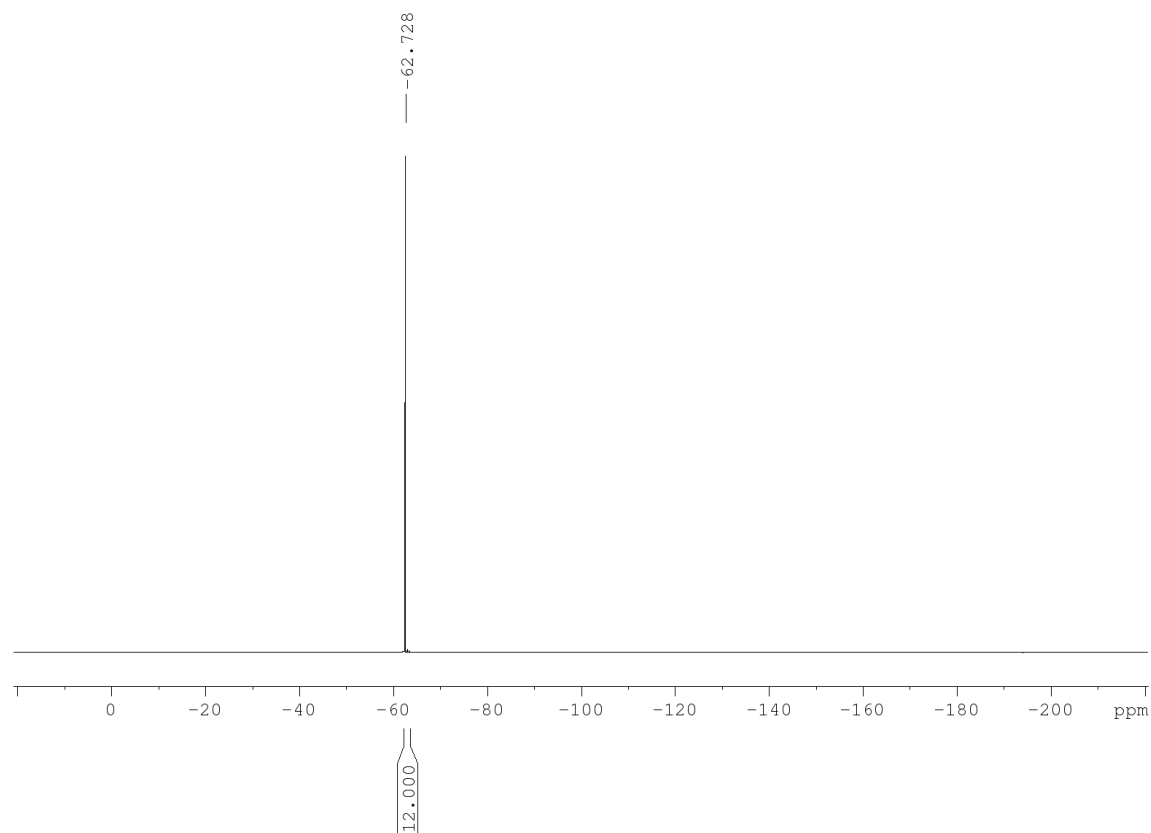
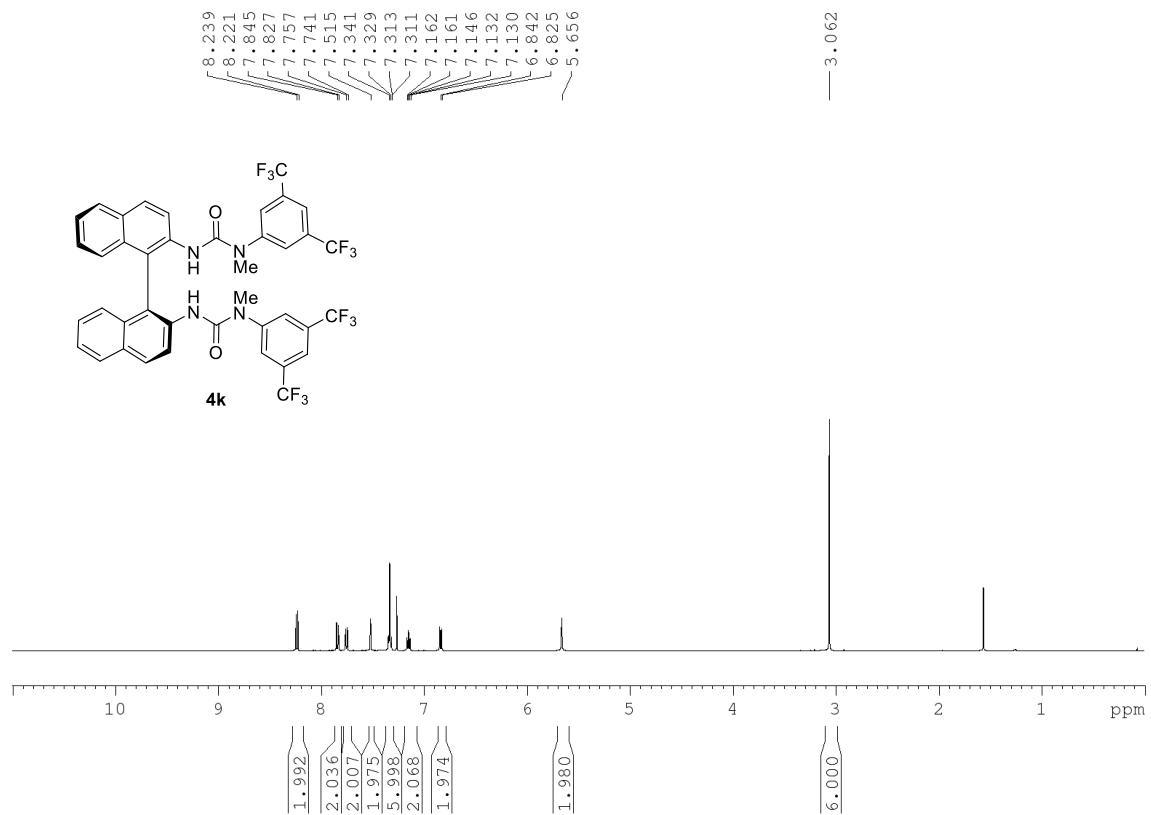


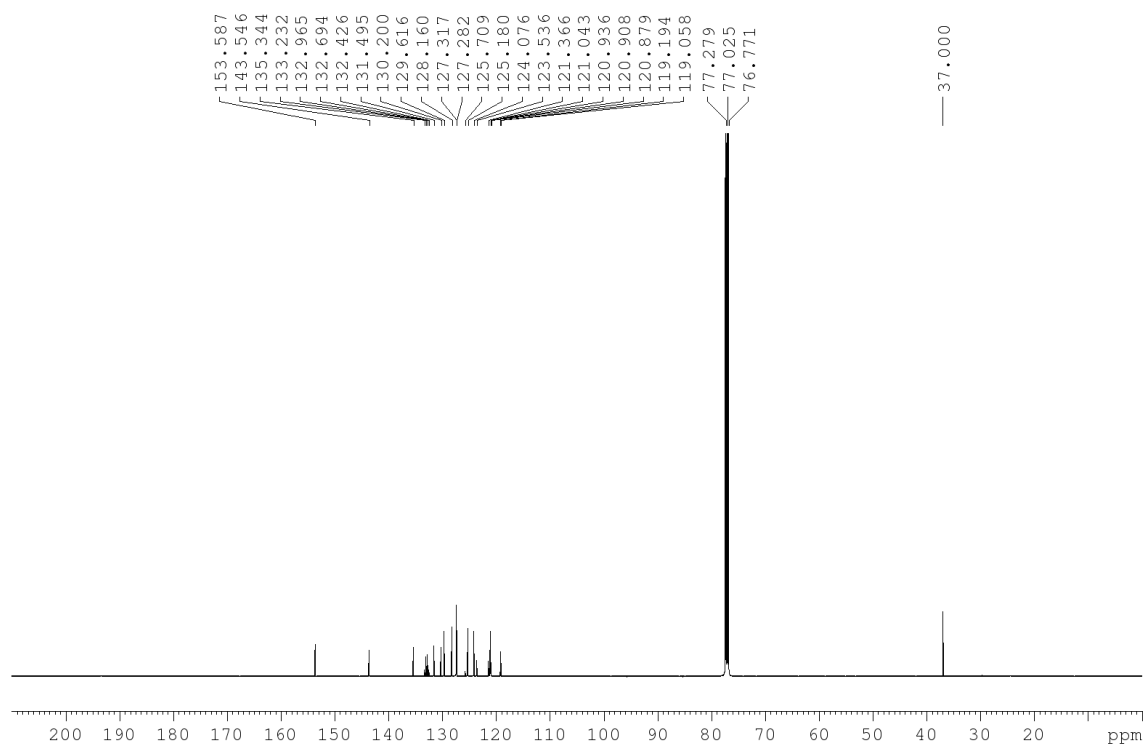




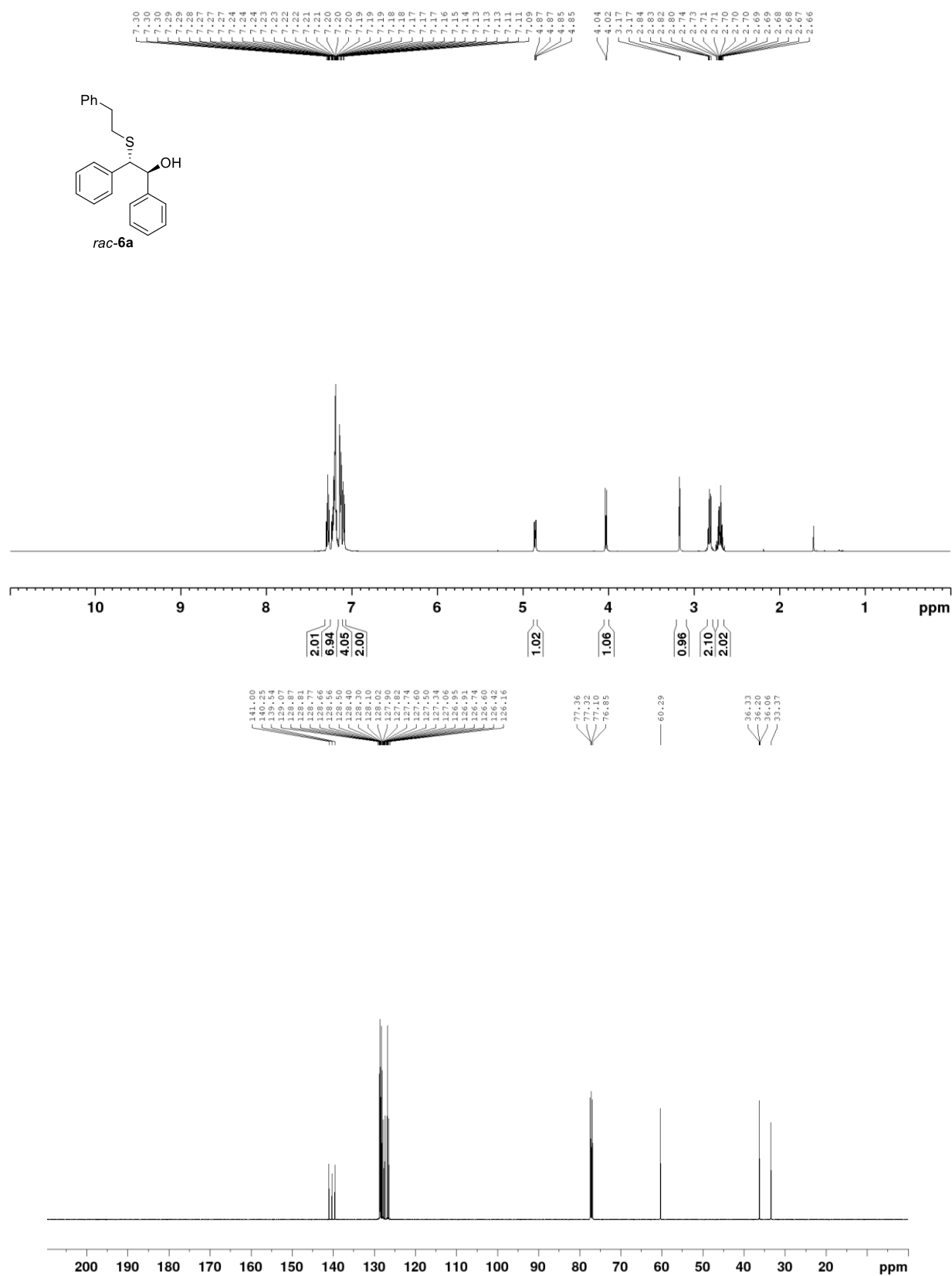


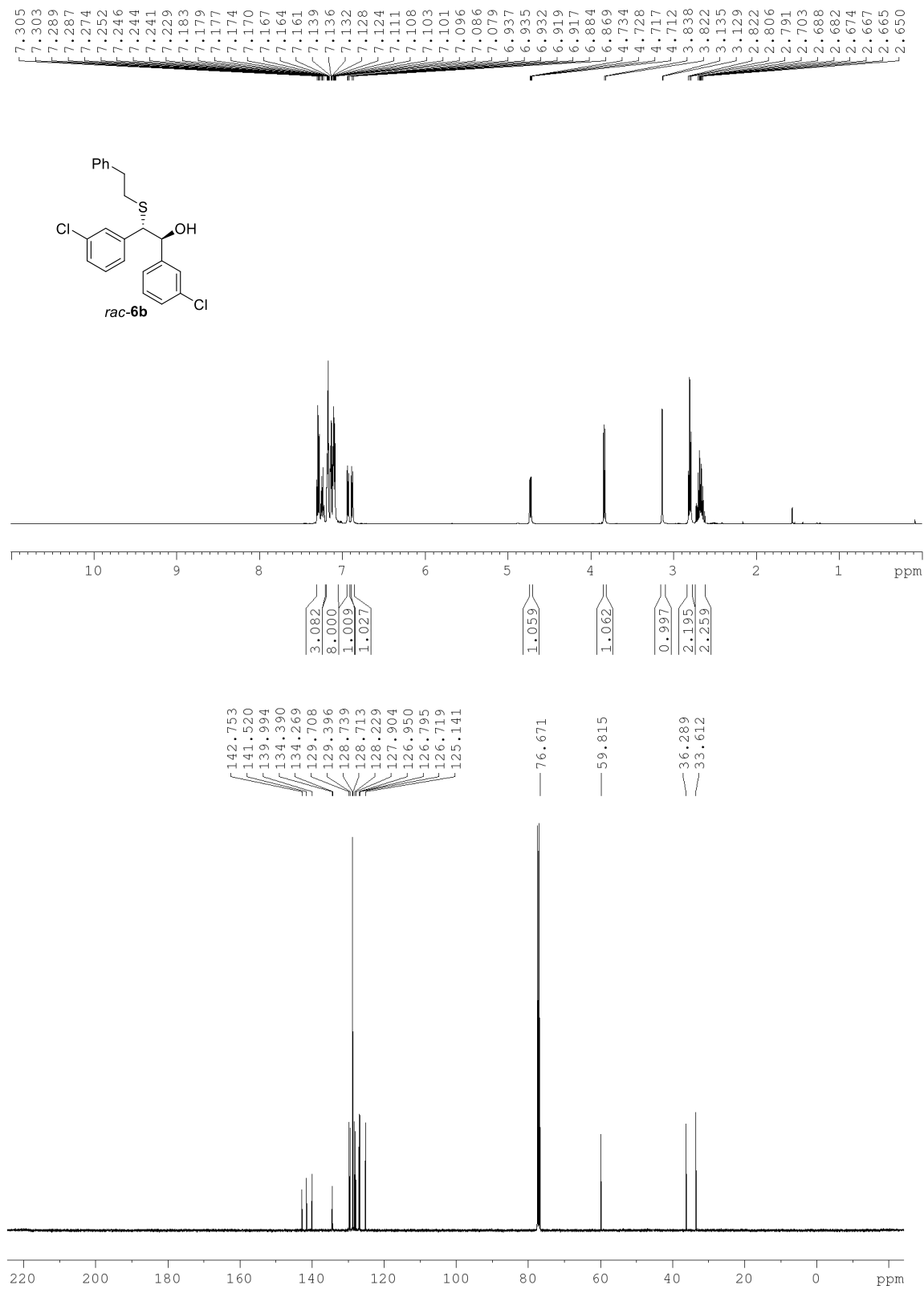


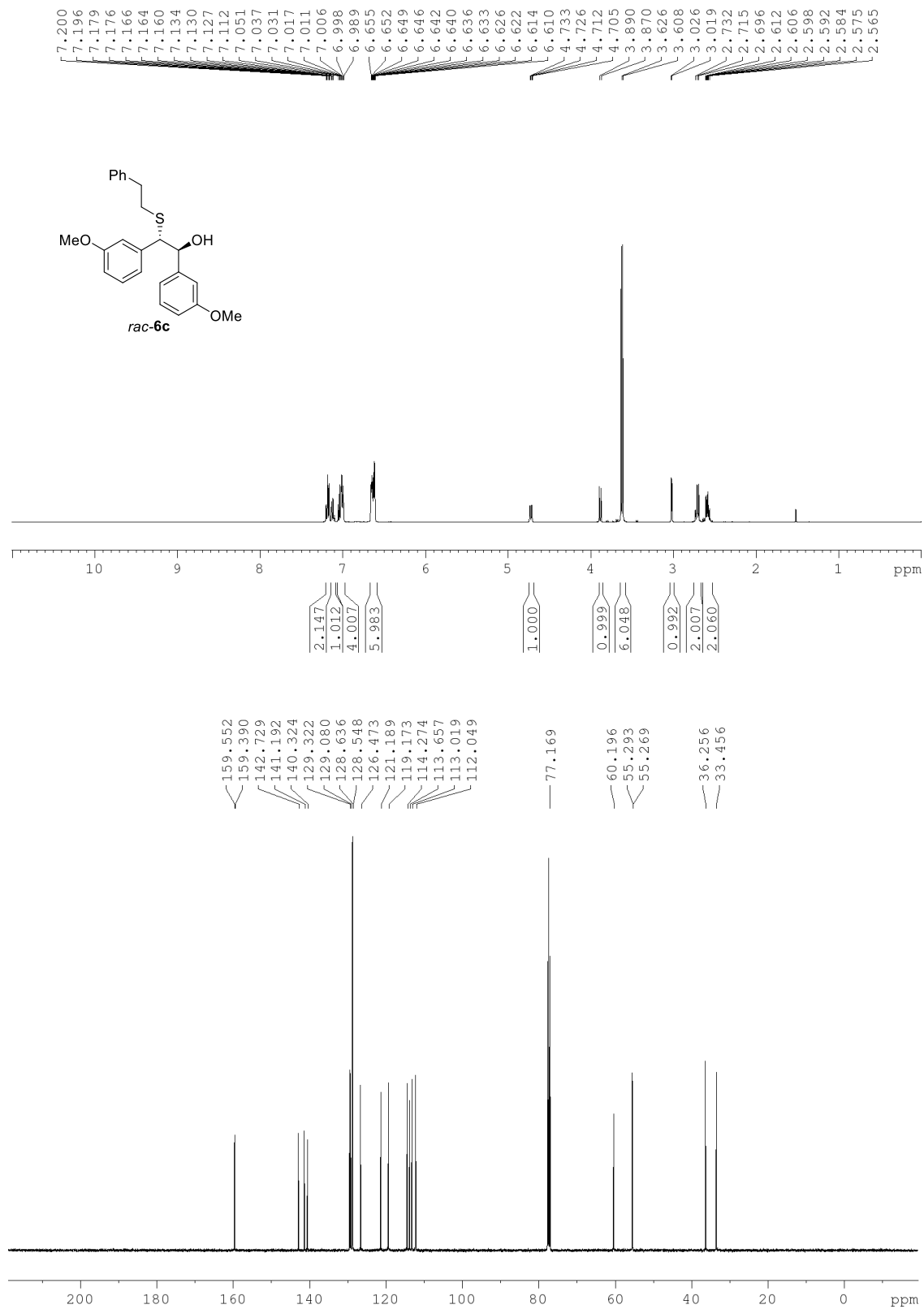


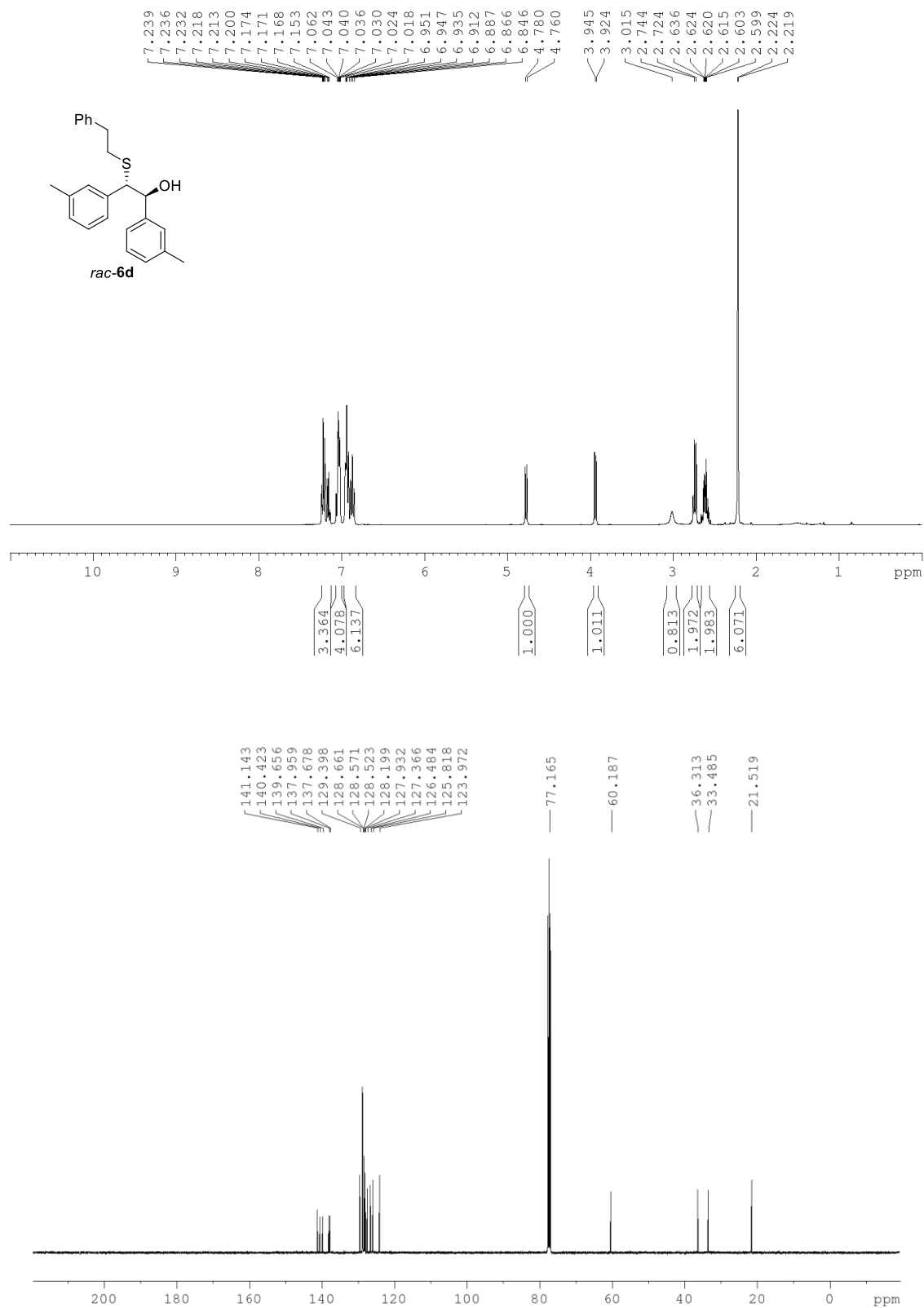


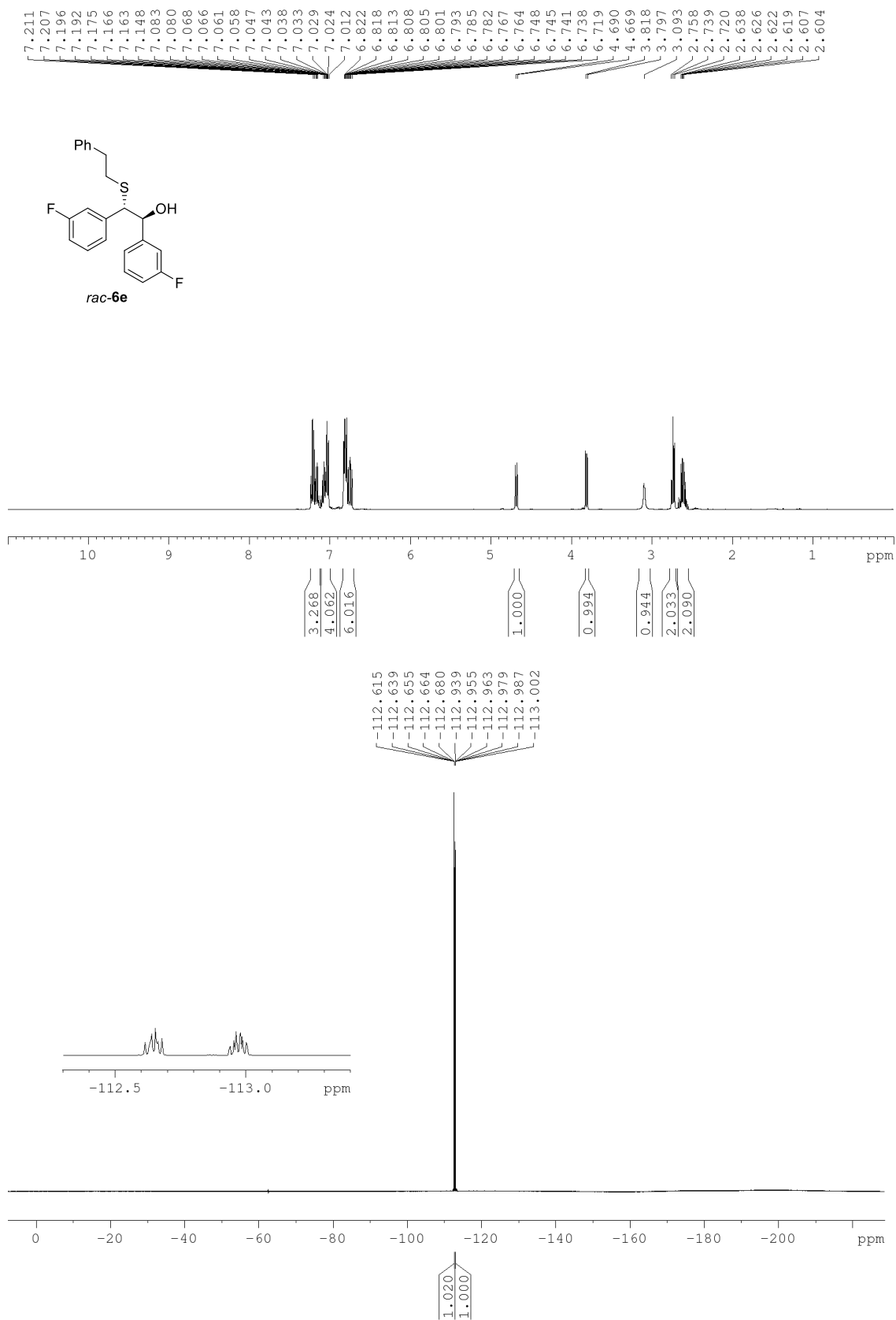
Substrates precursors (alcohols)

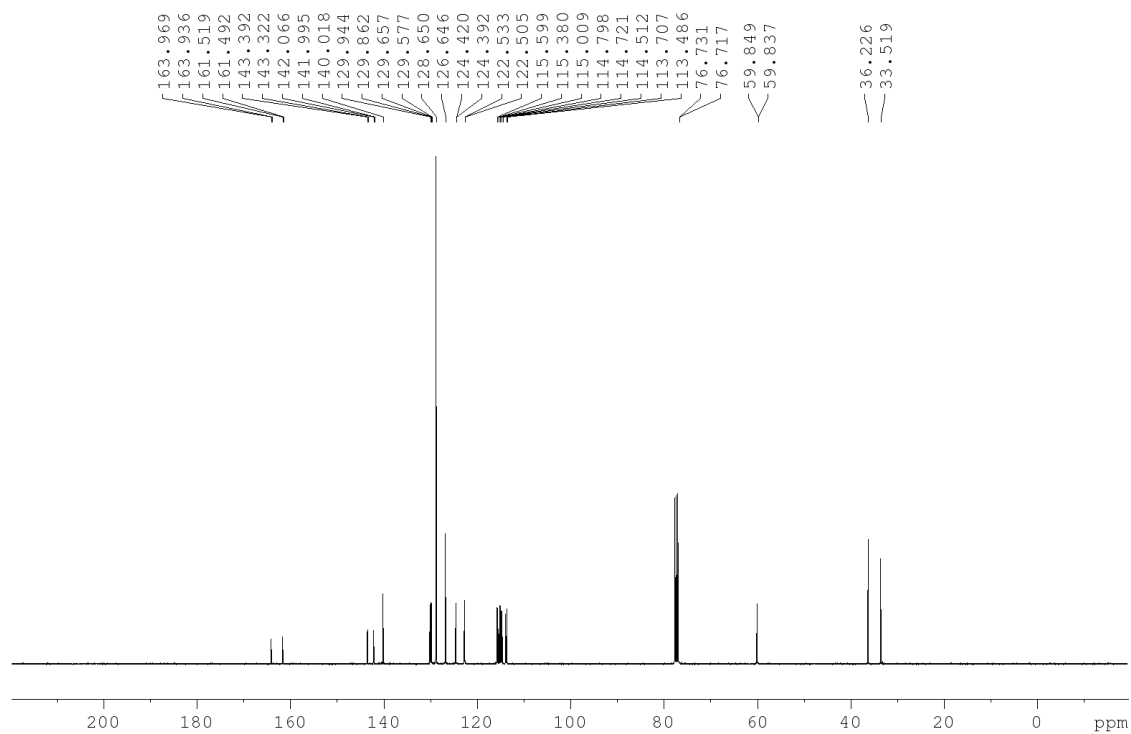


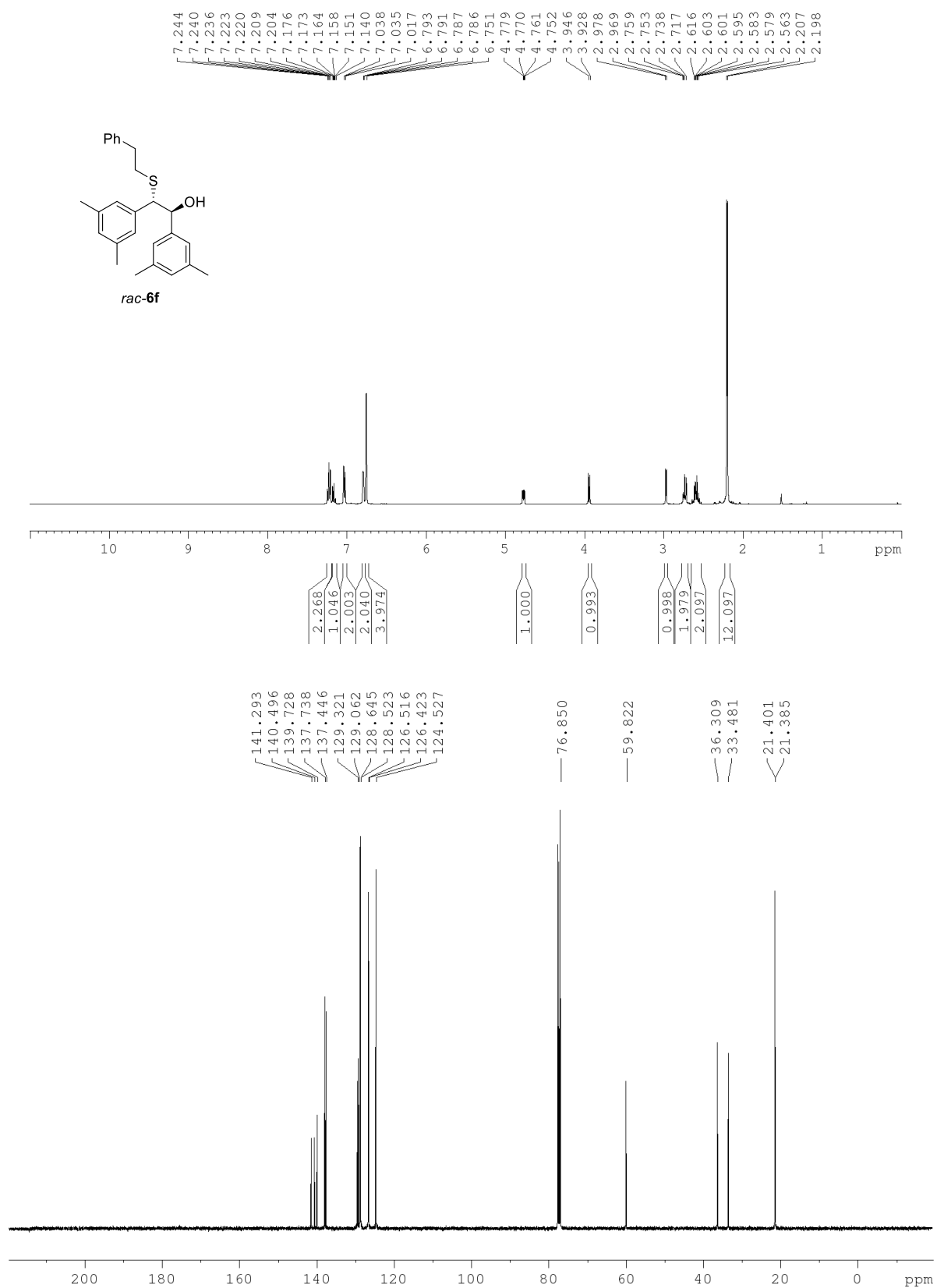


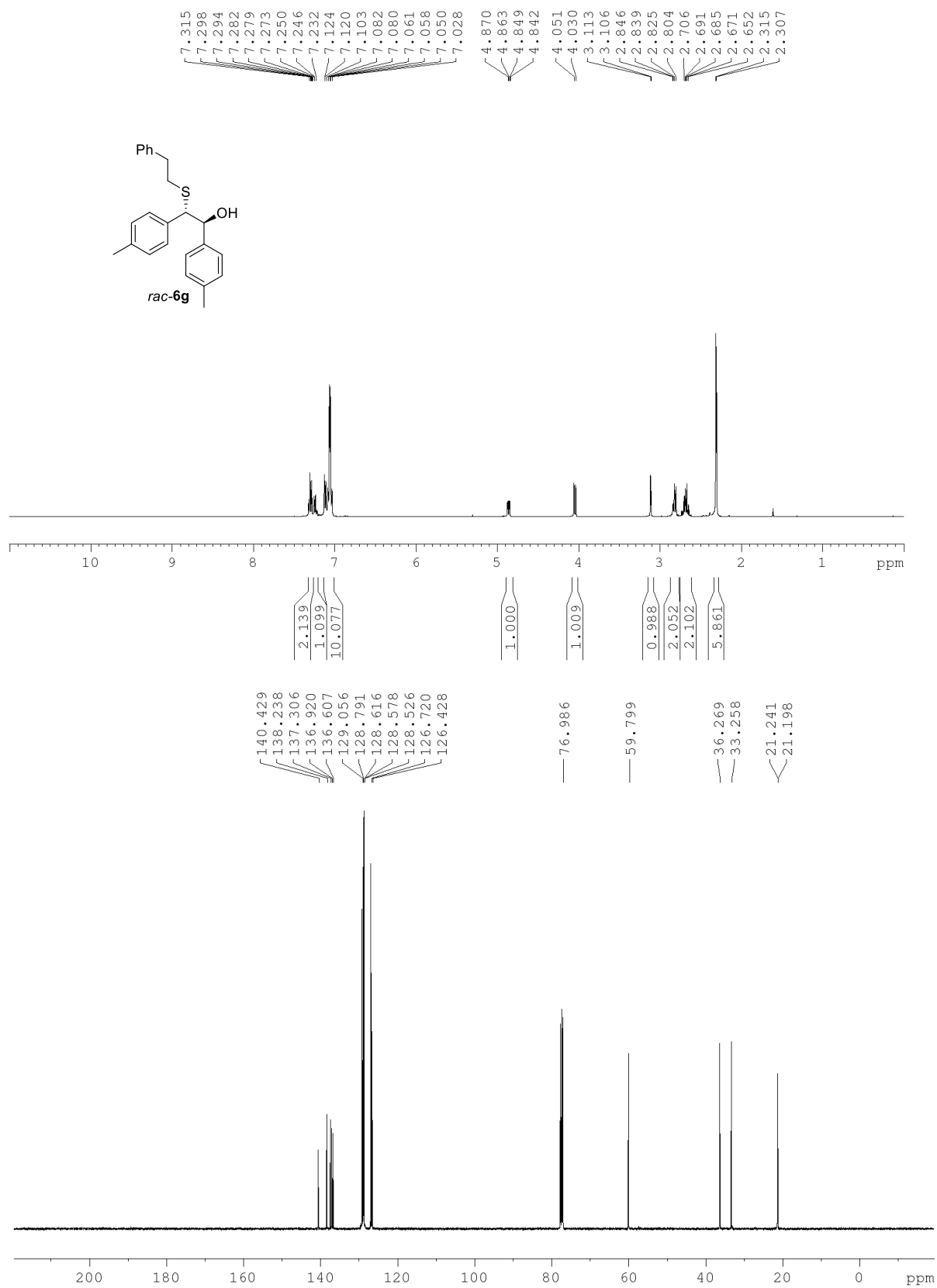


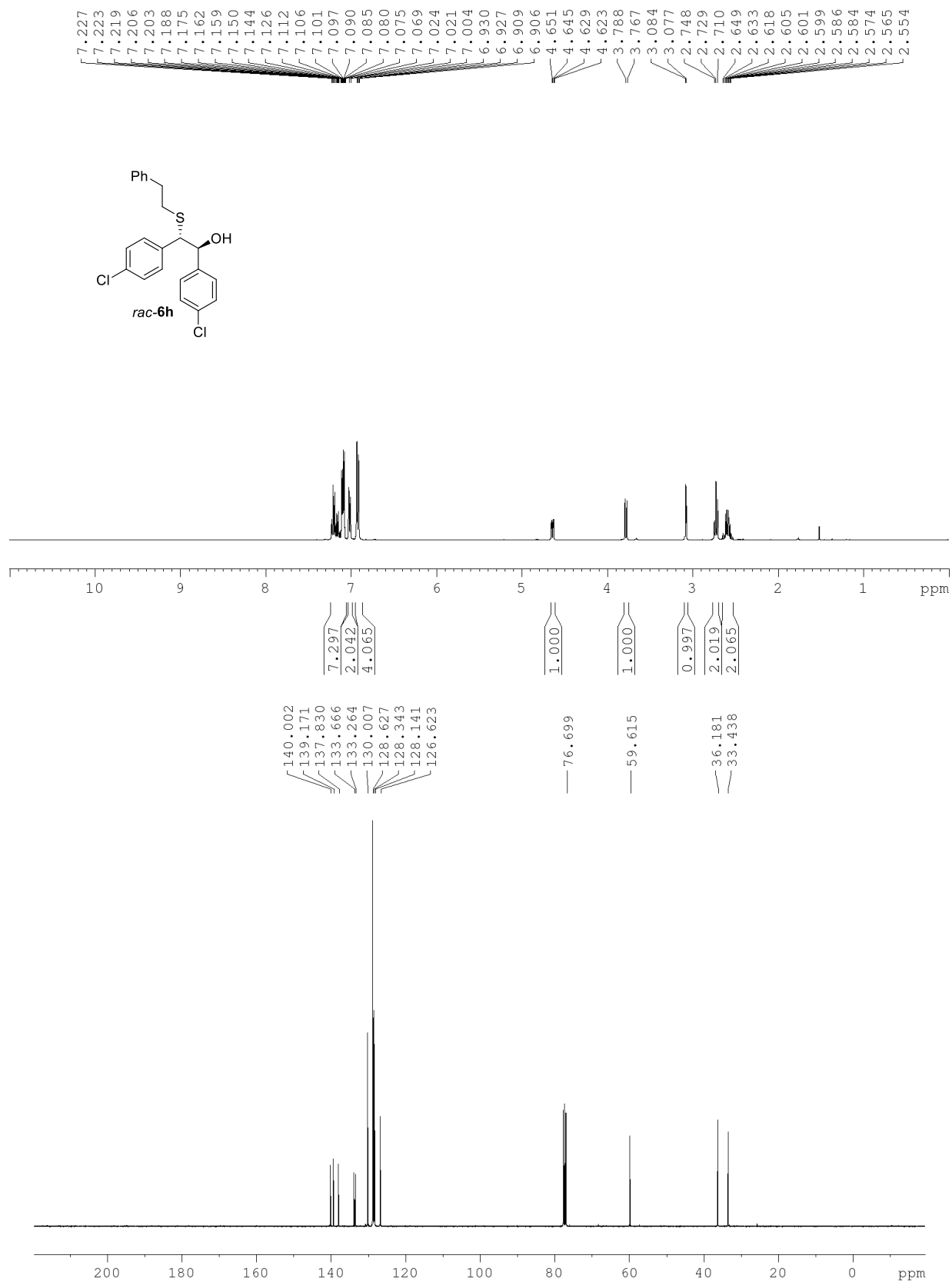


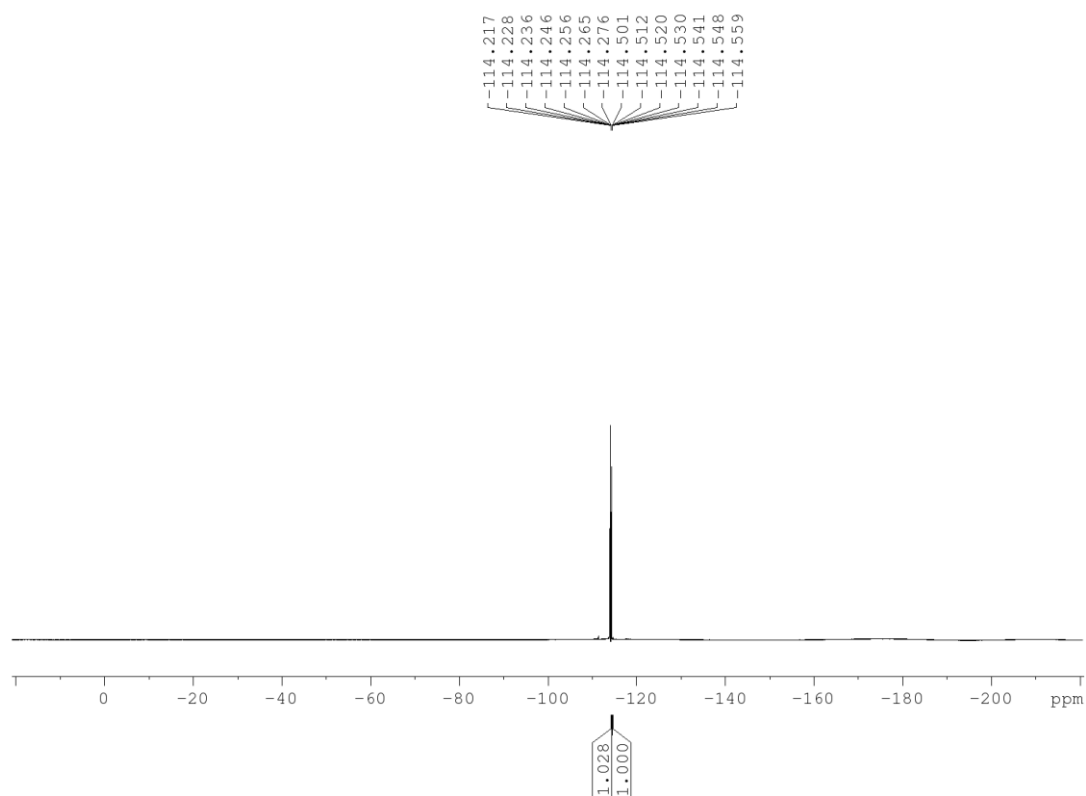
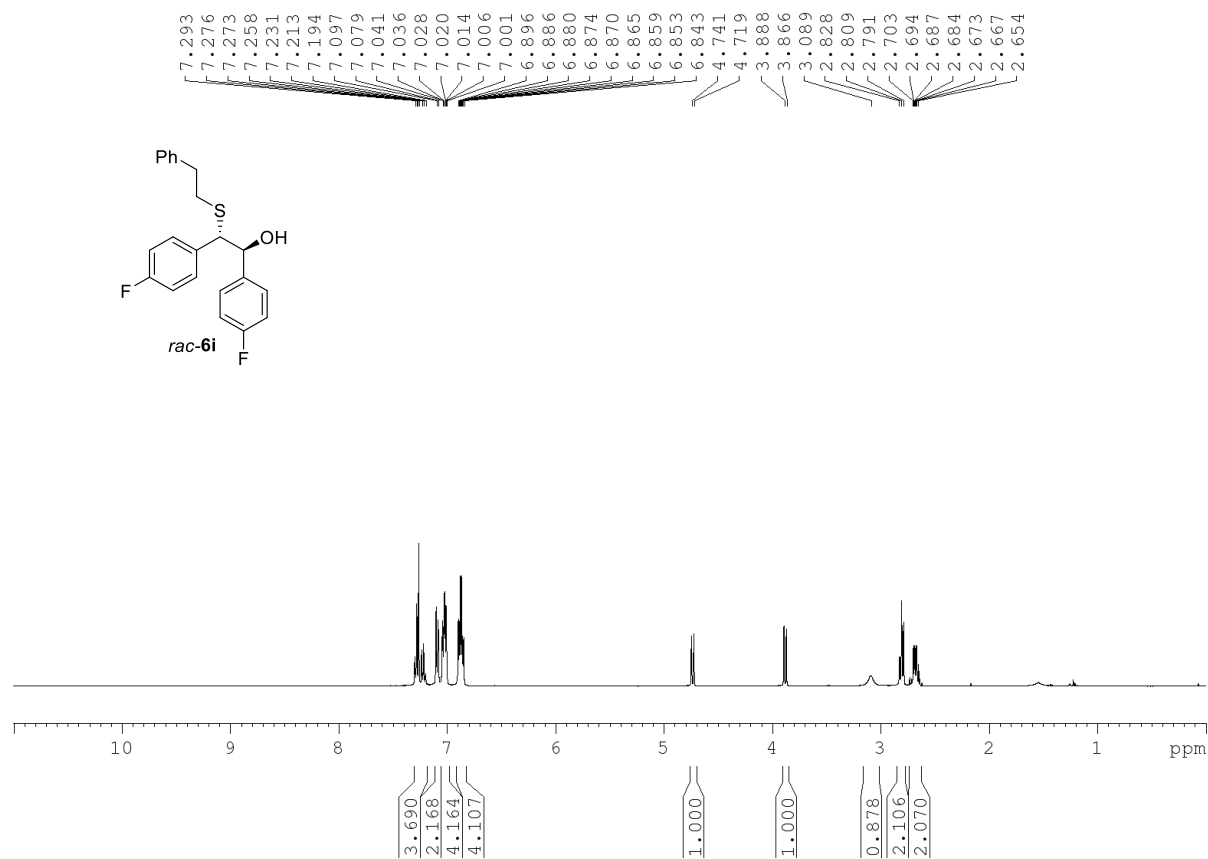


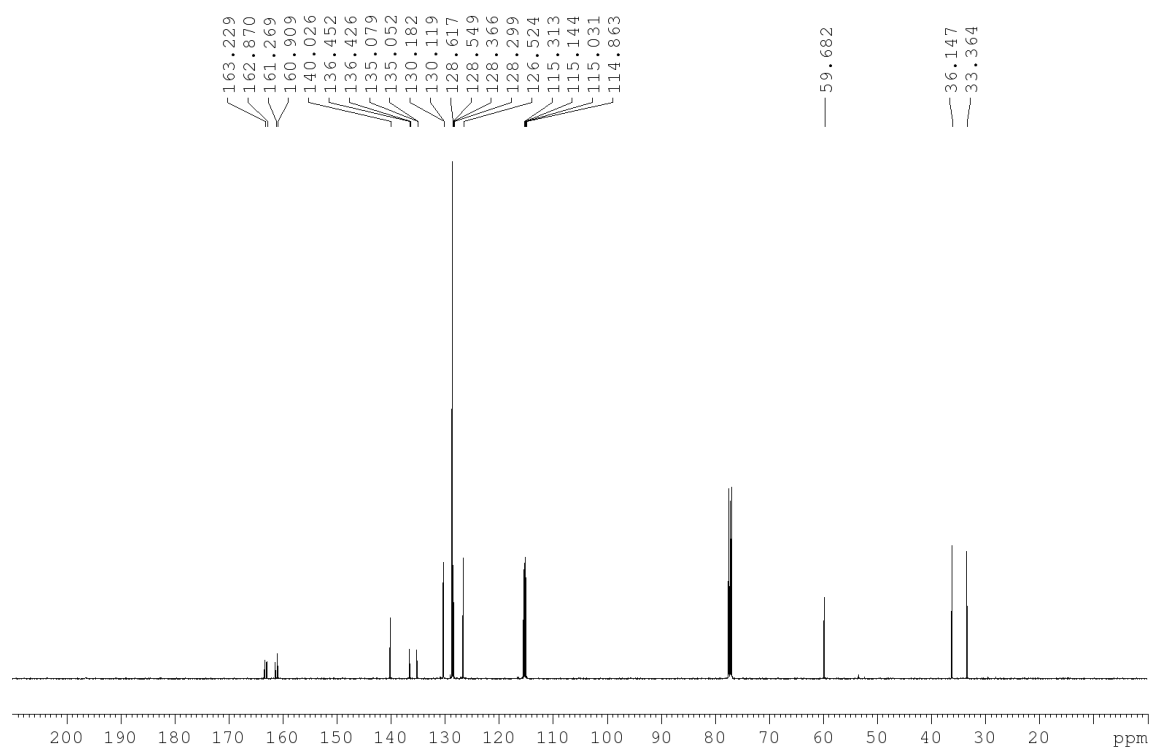


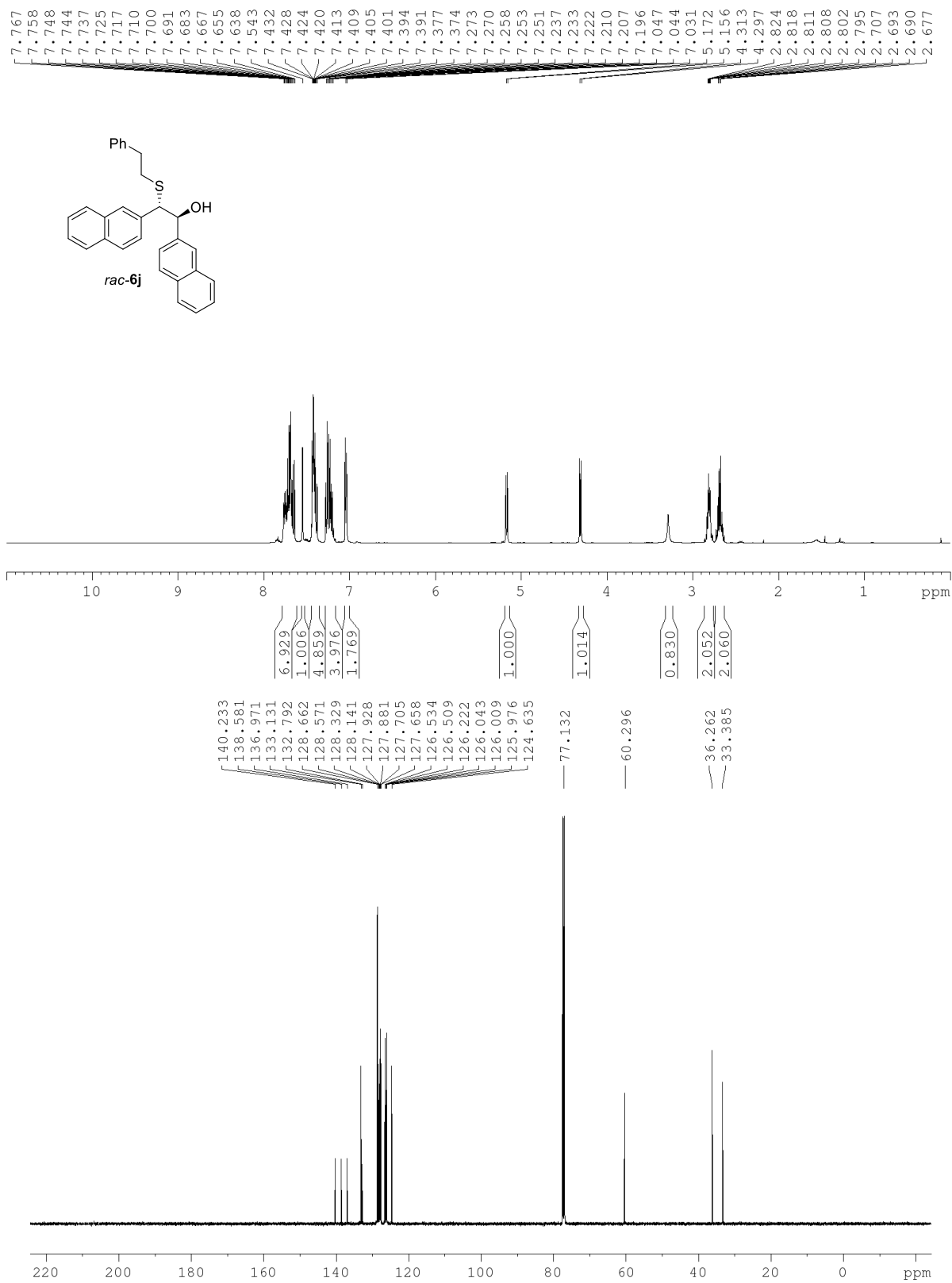


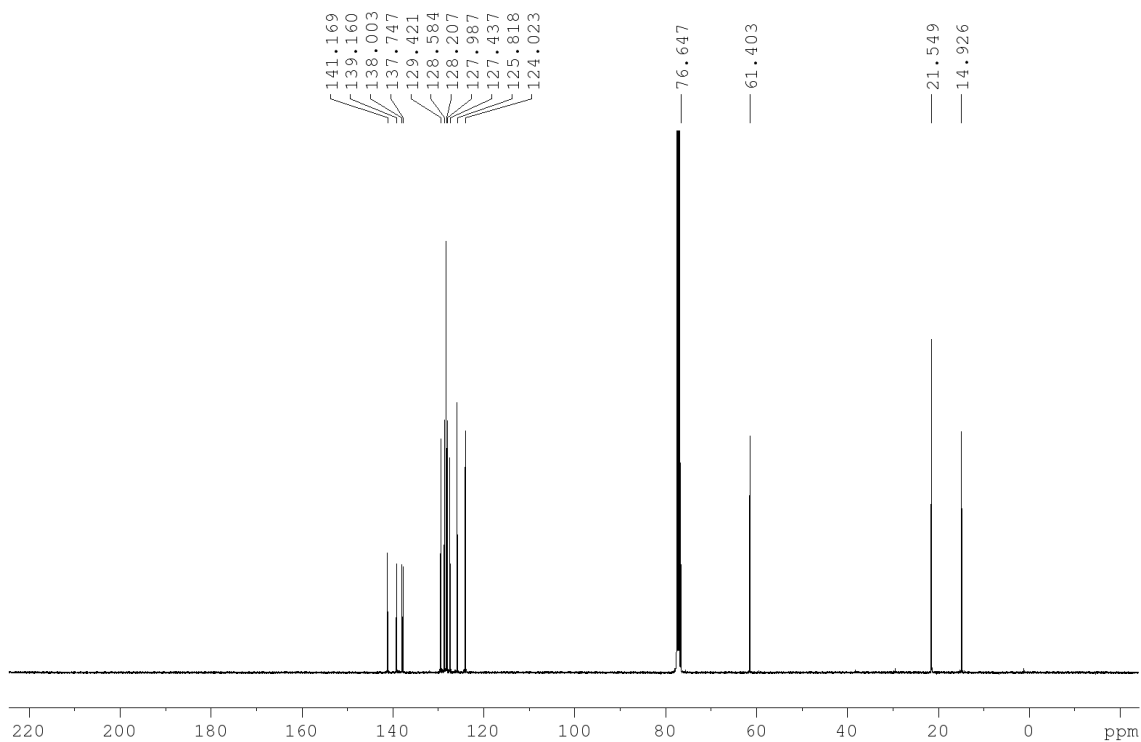
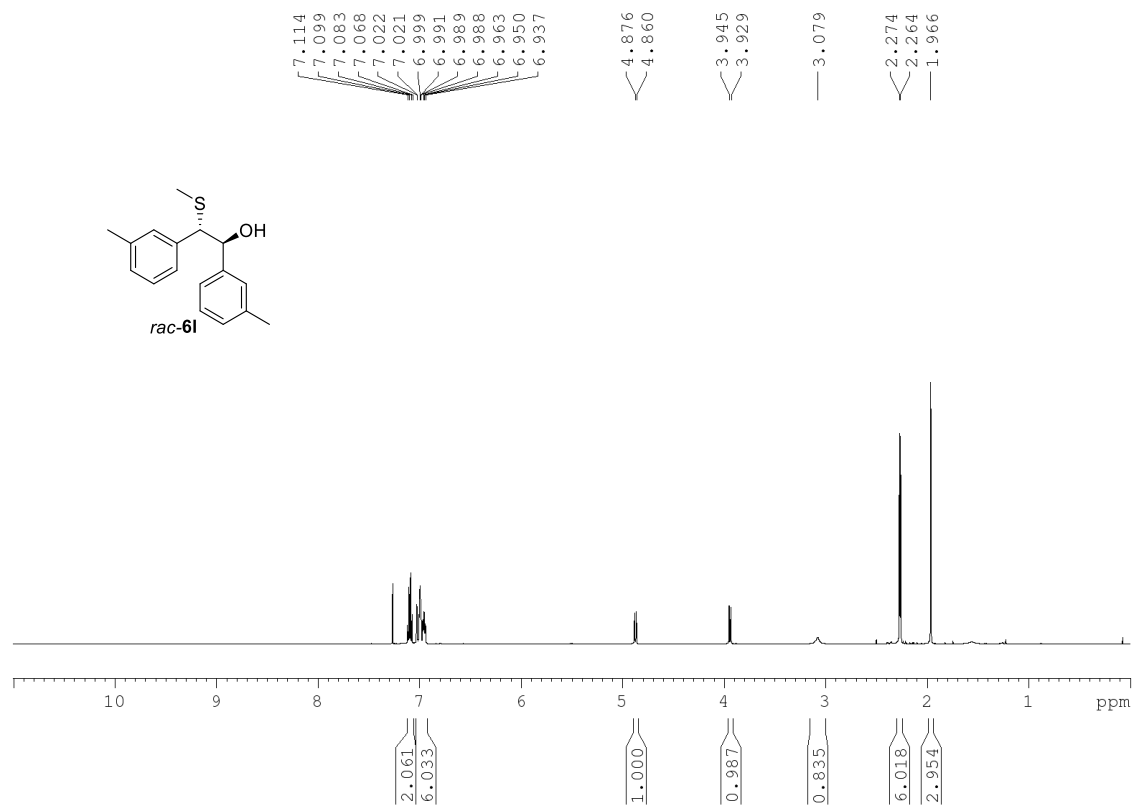




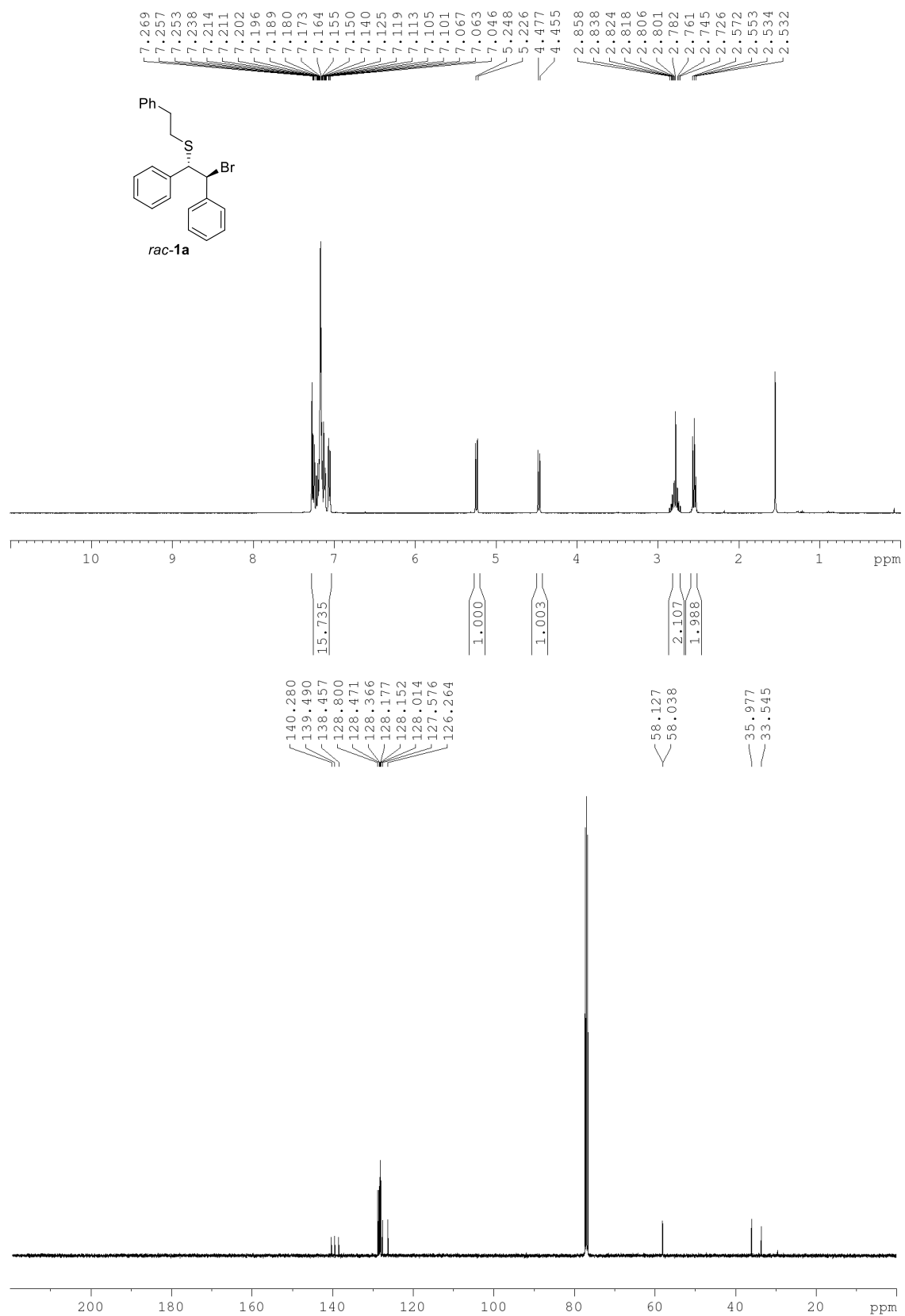


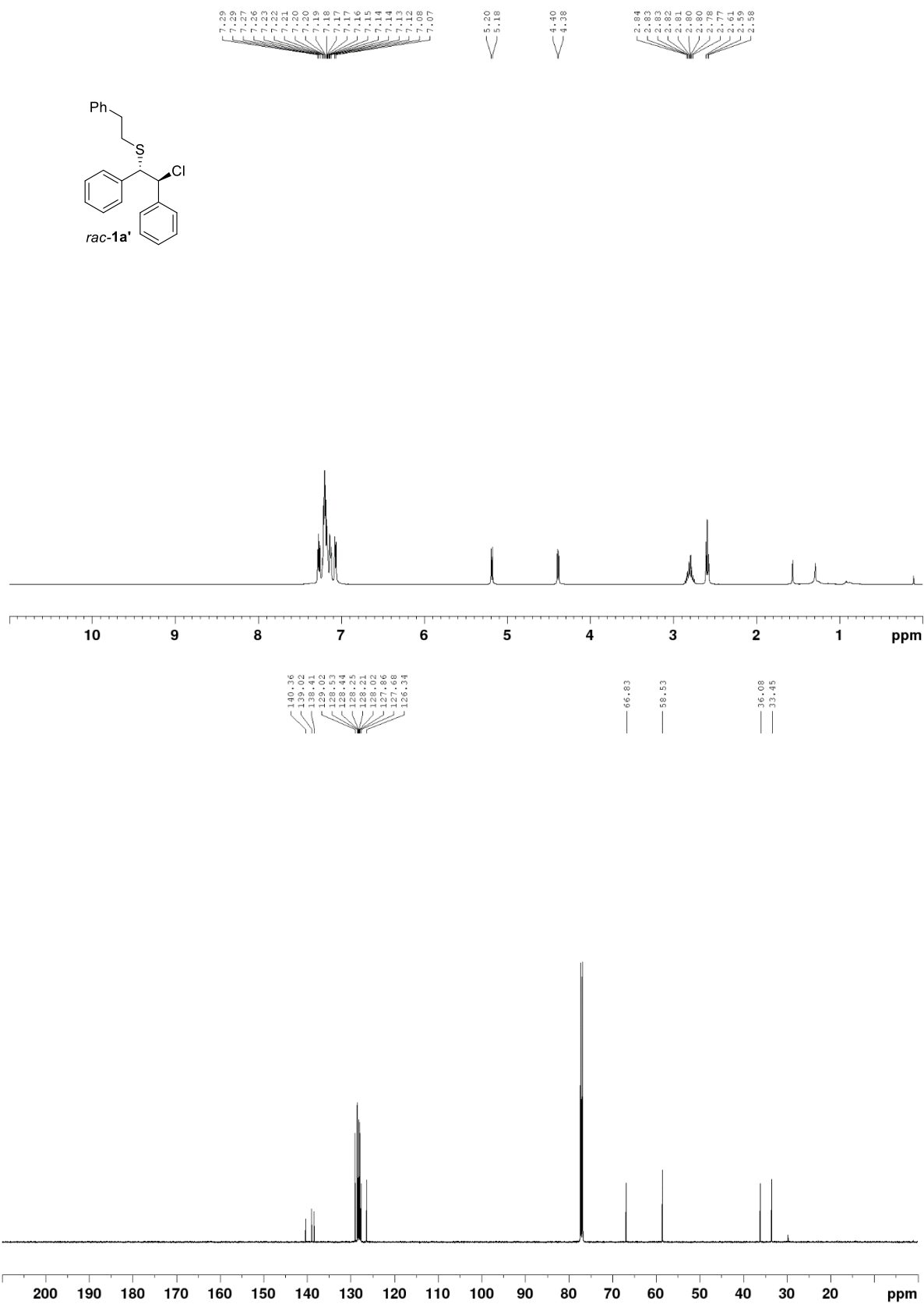


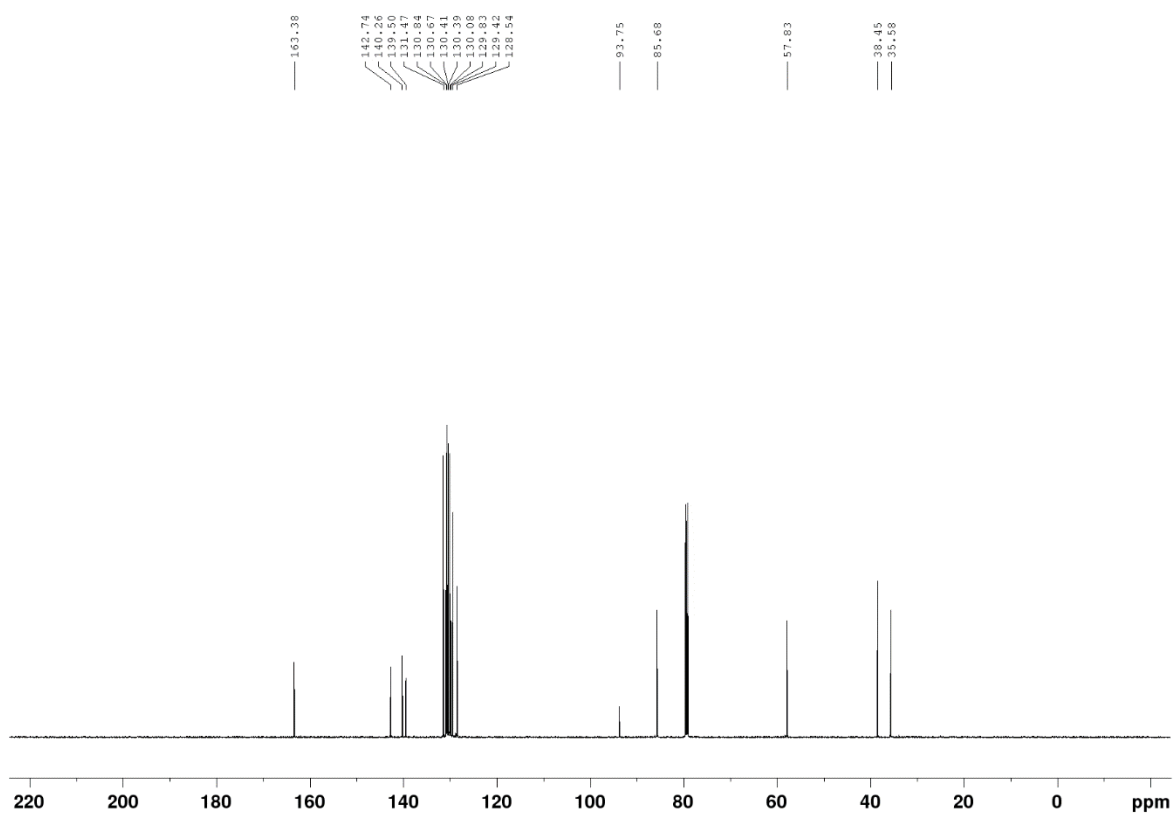
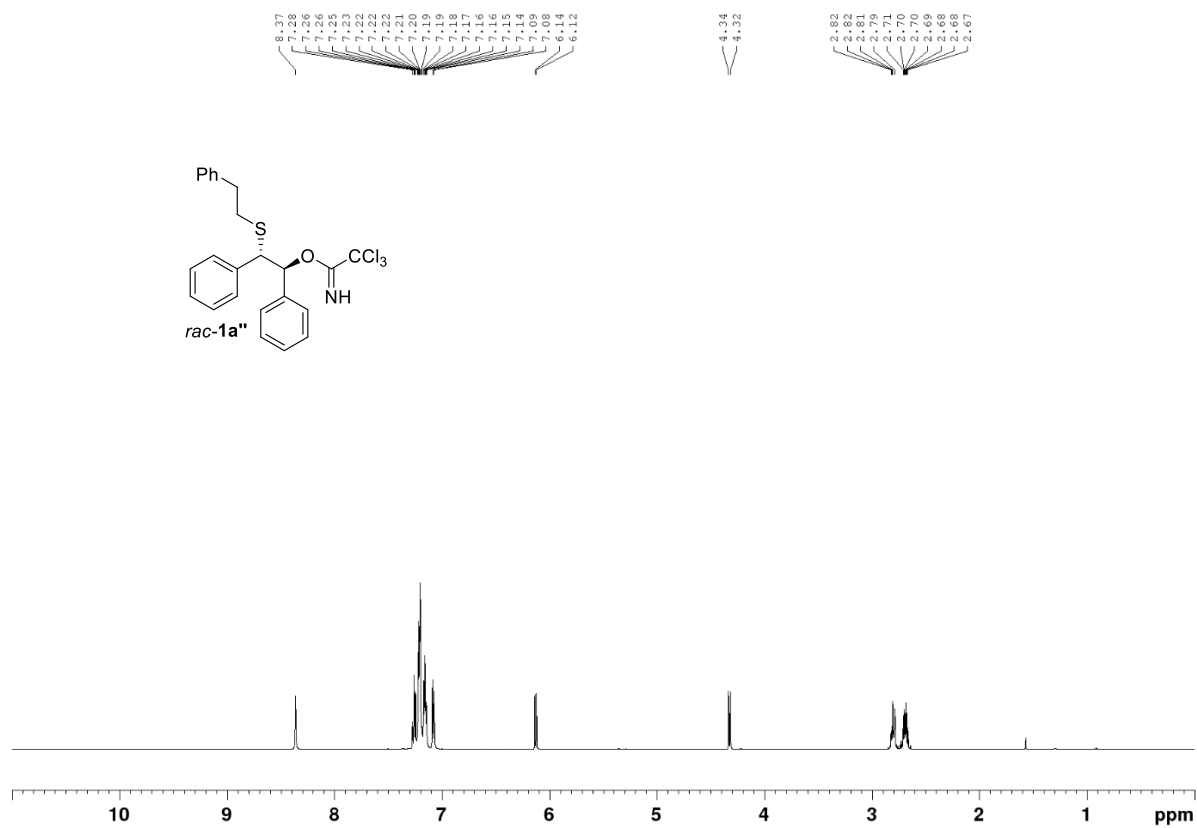


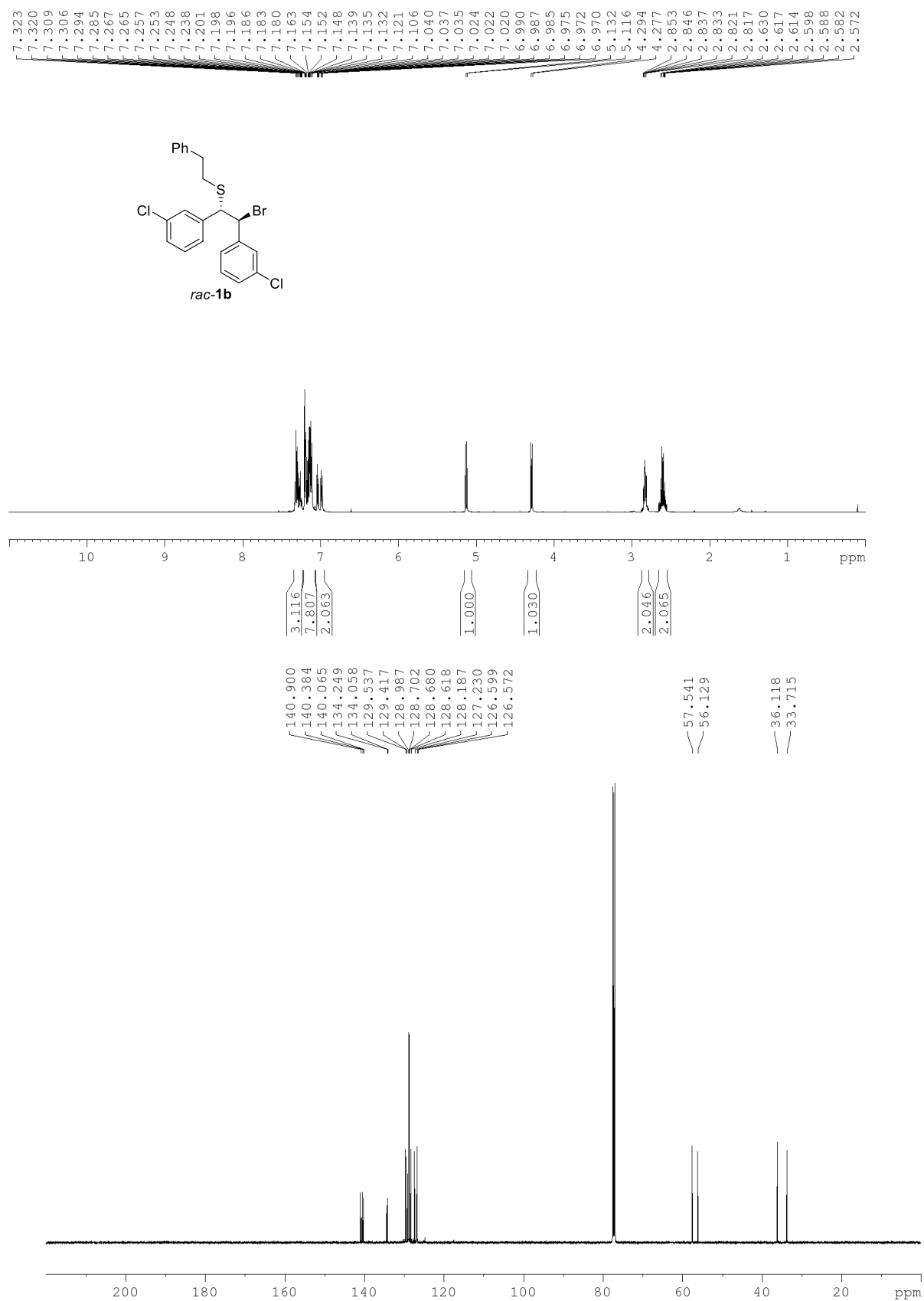


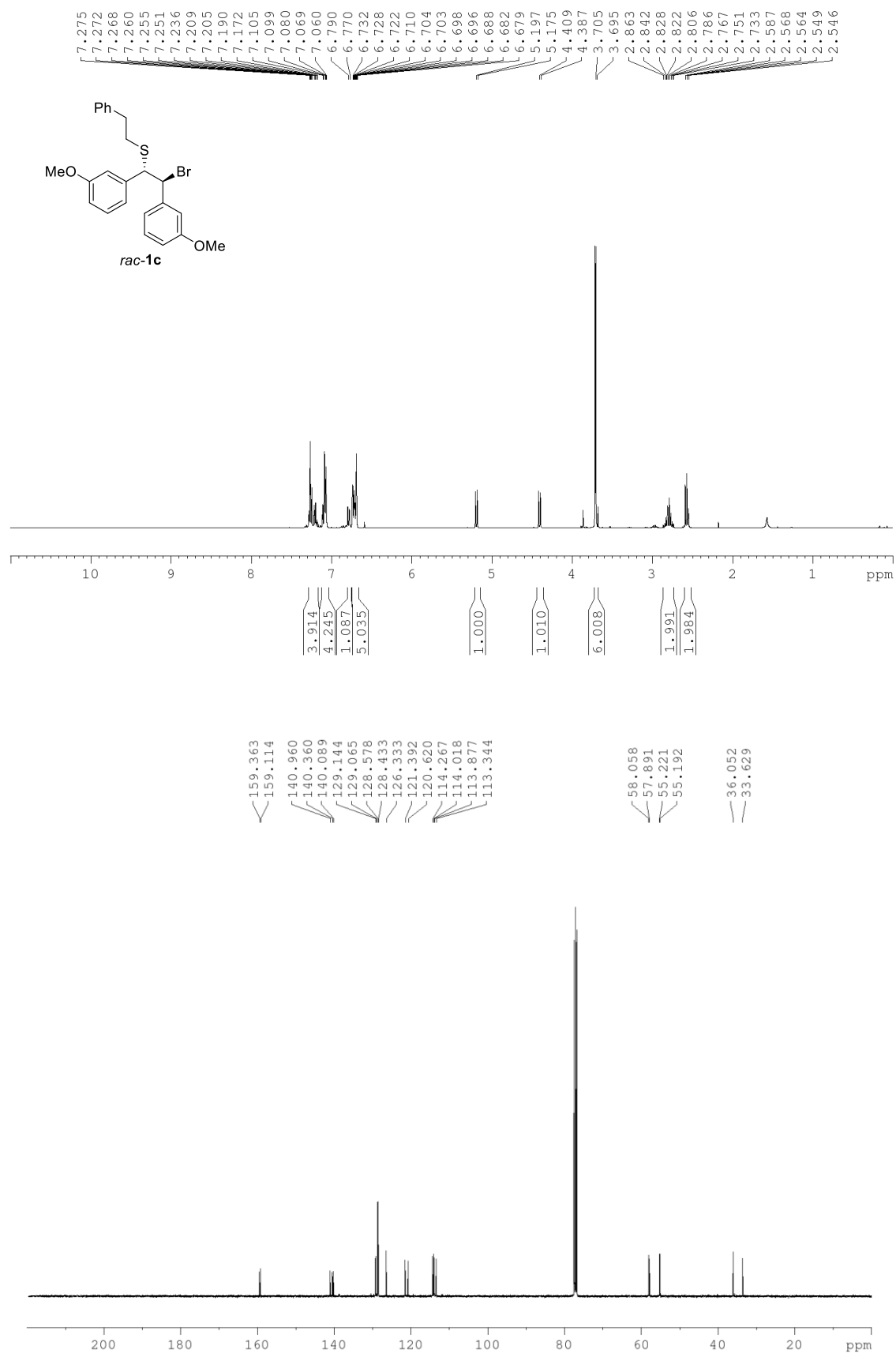
Starting materials

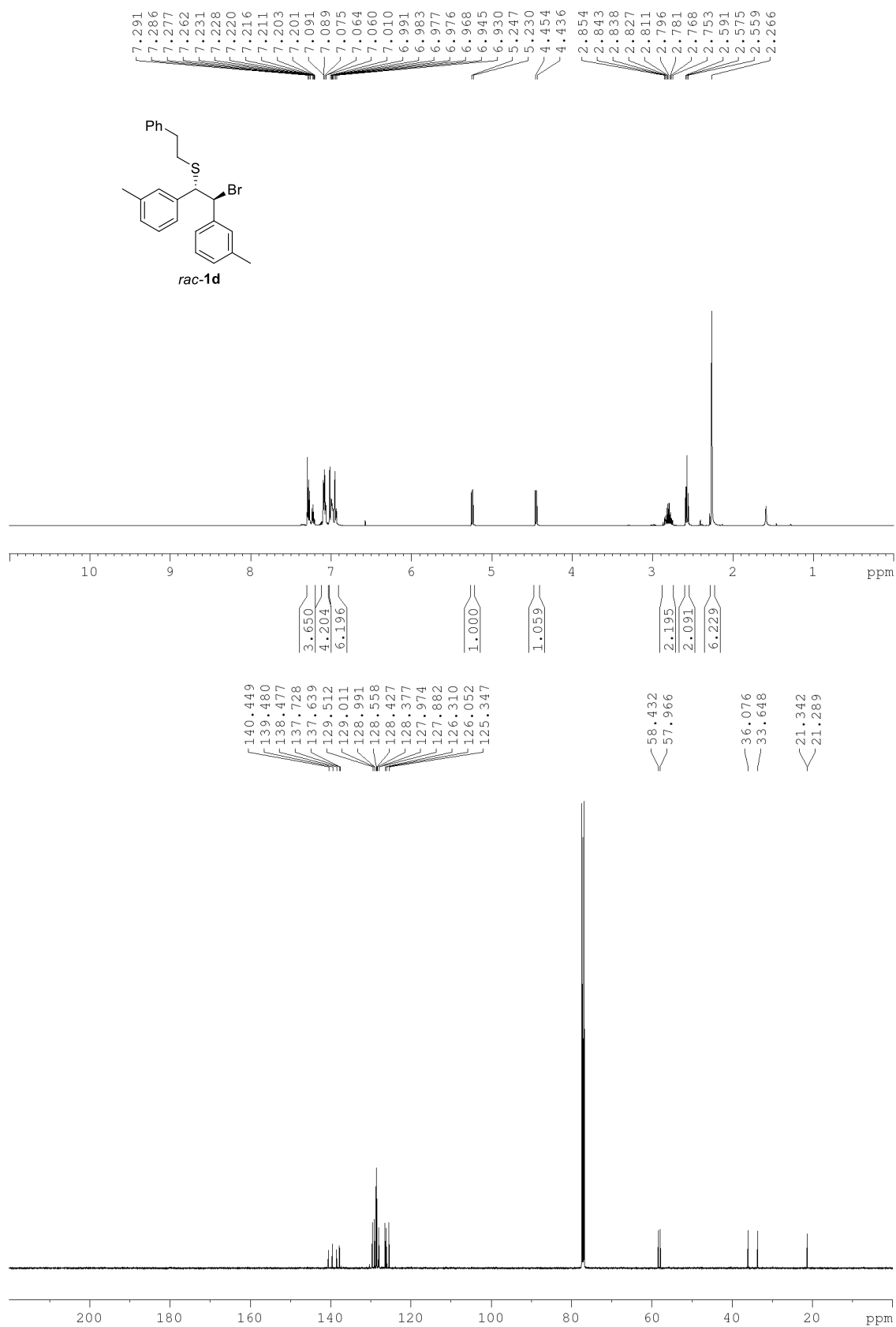


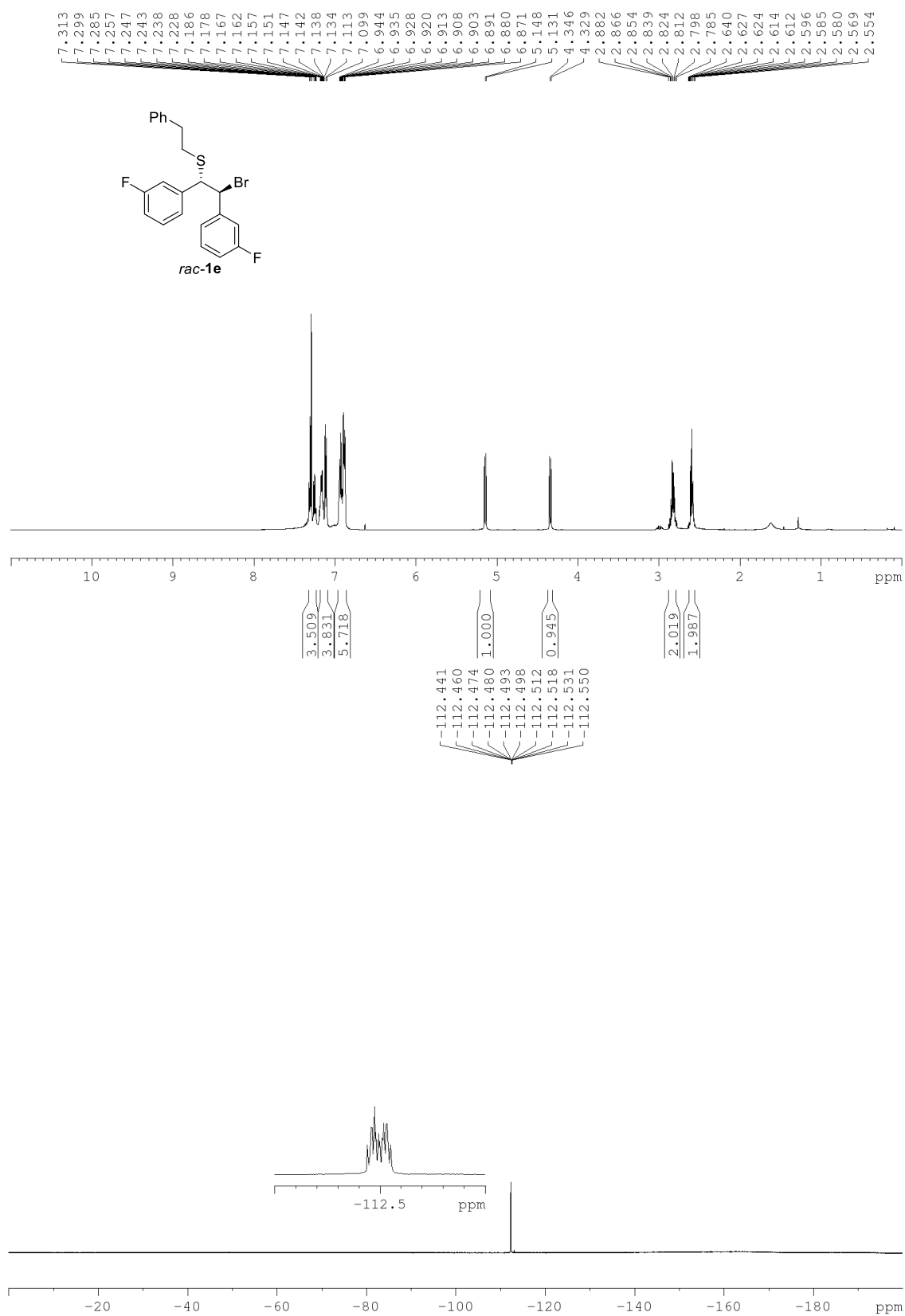


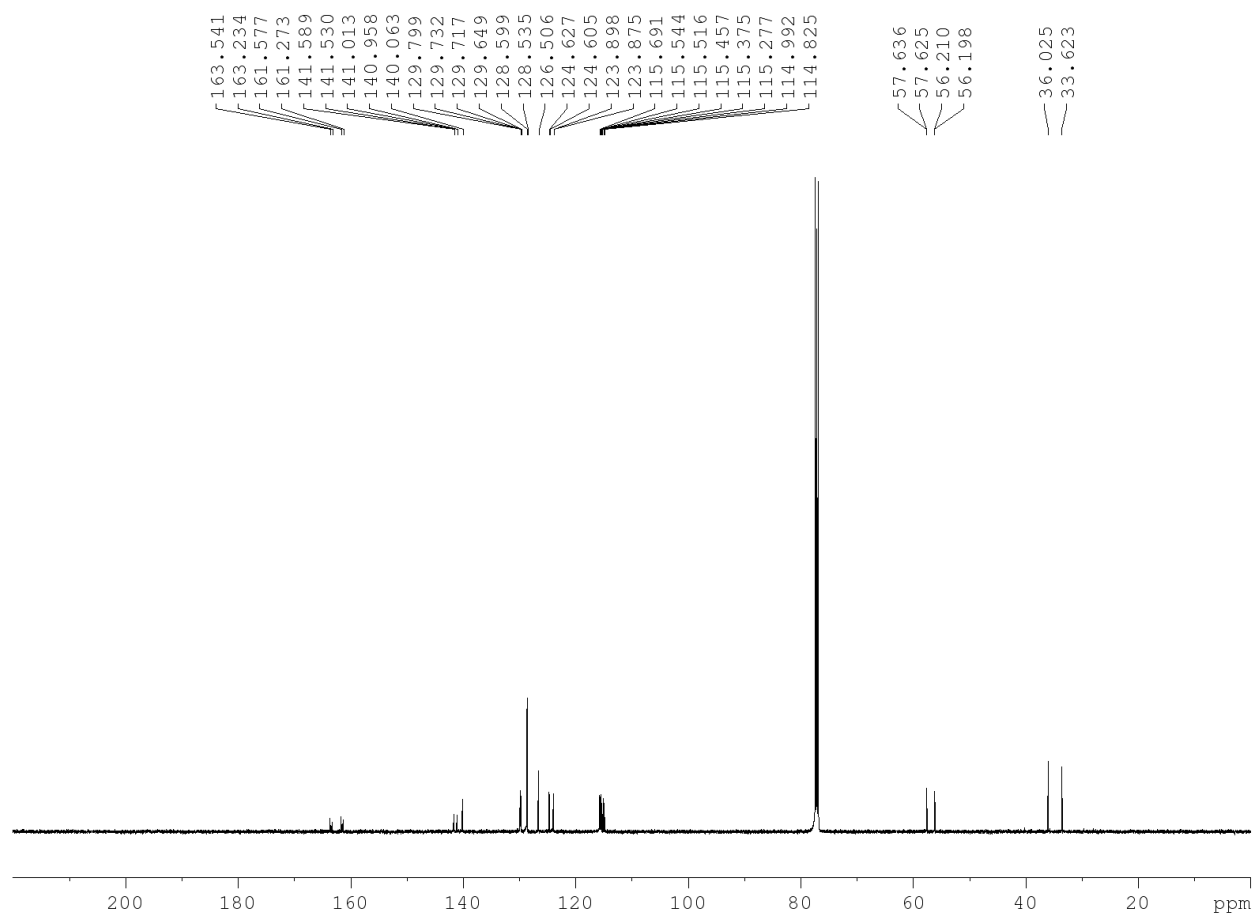


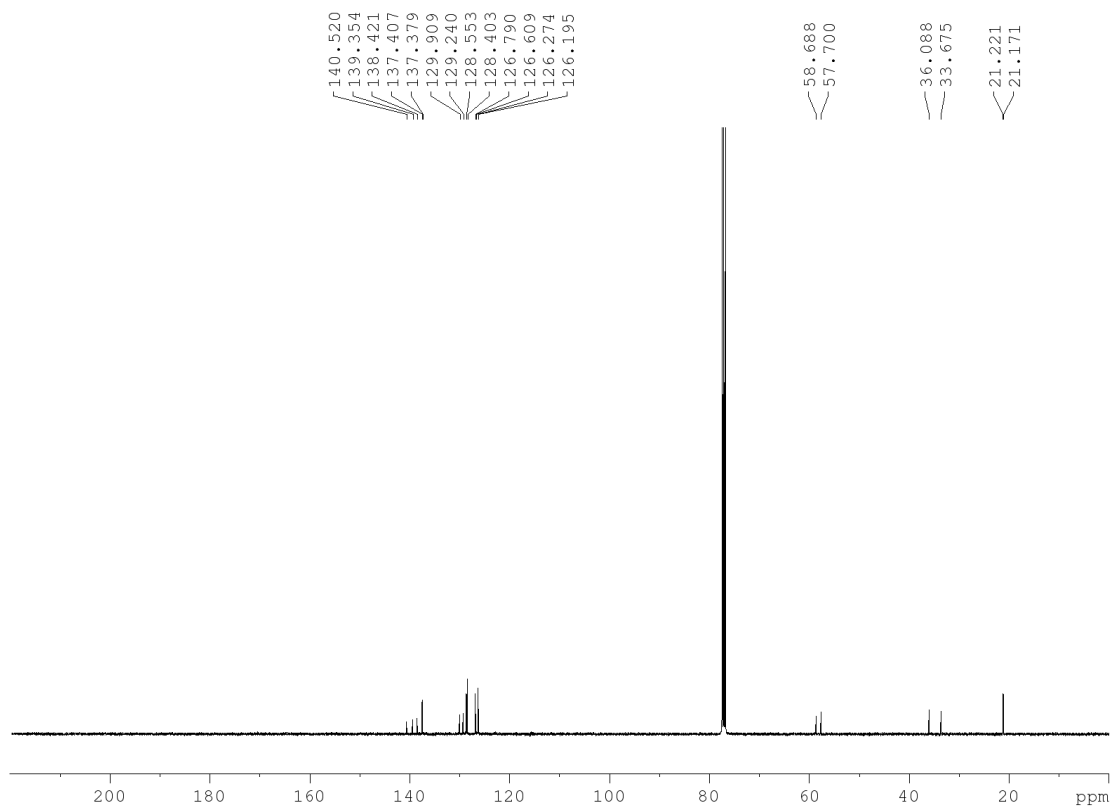
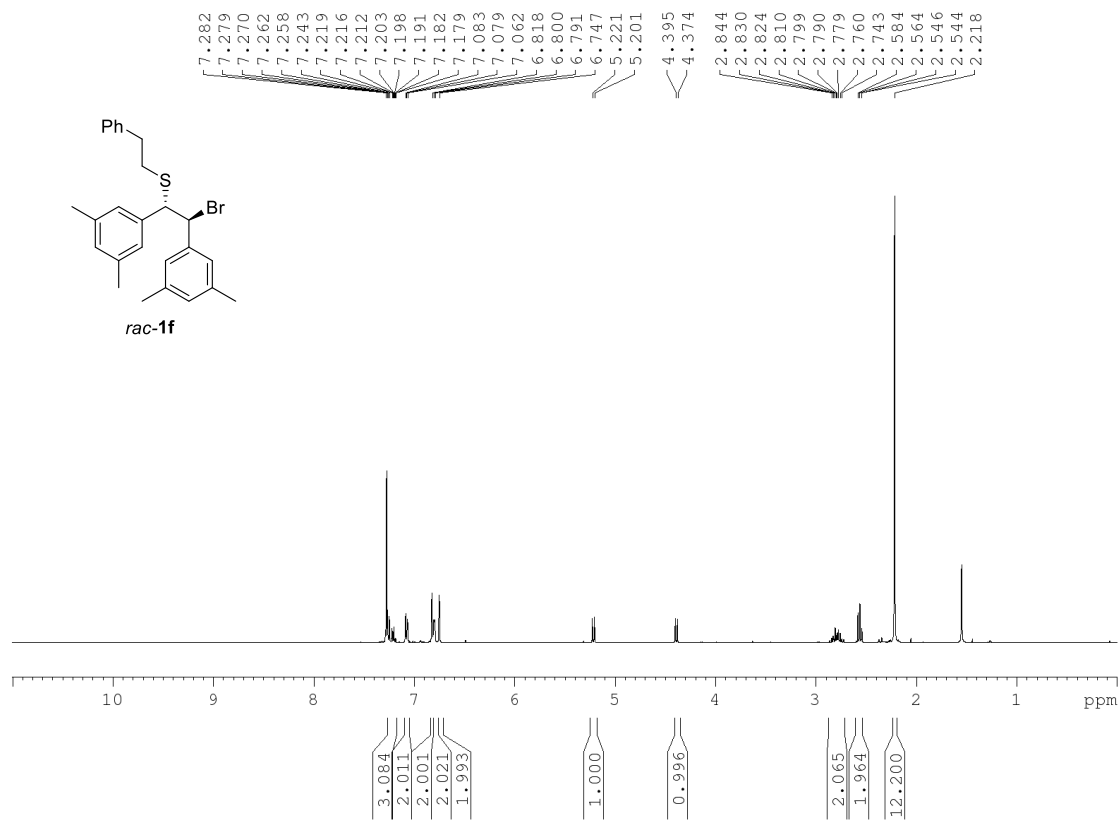


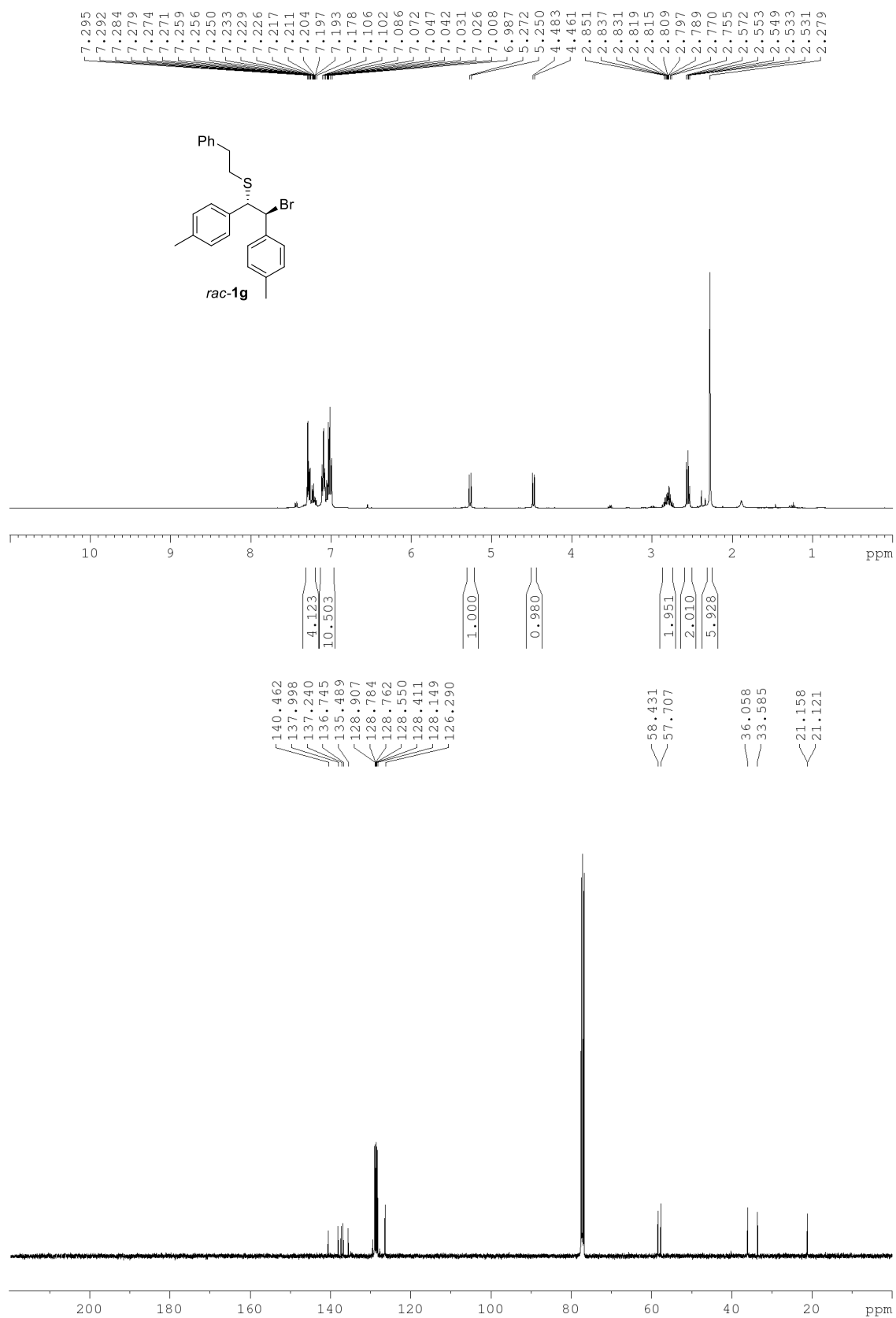


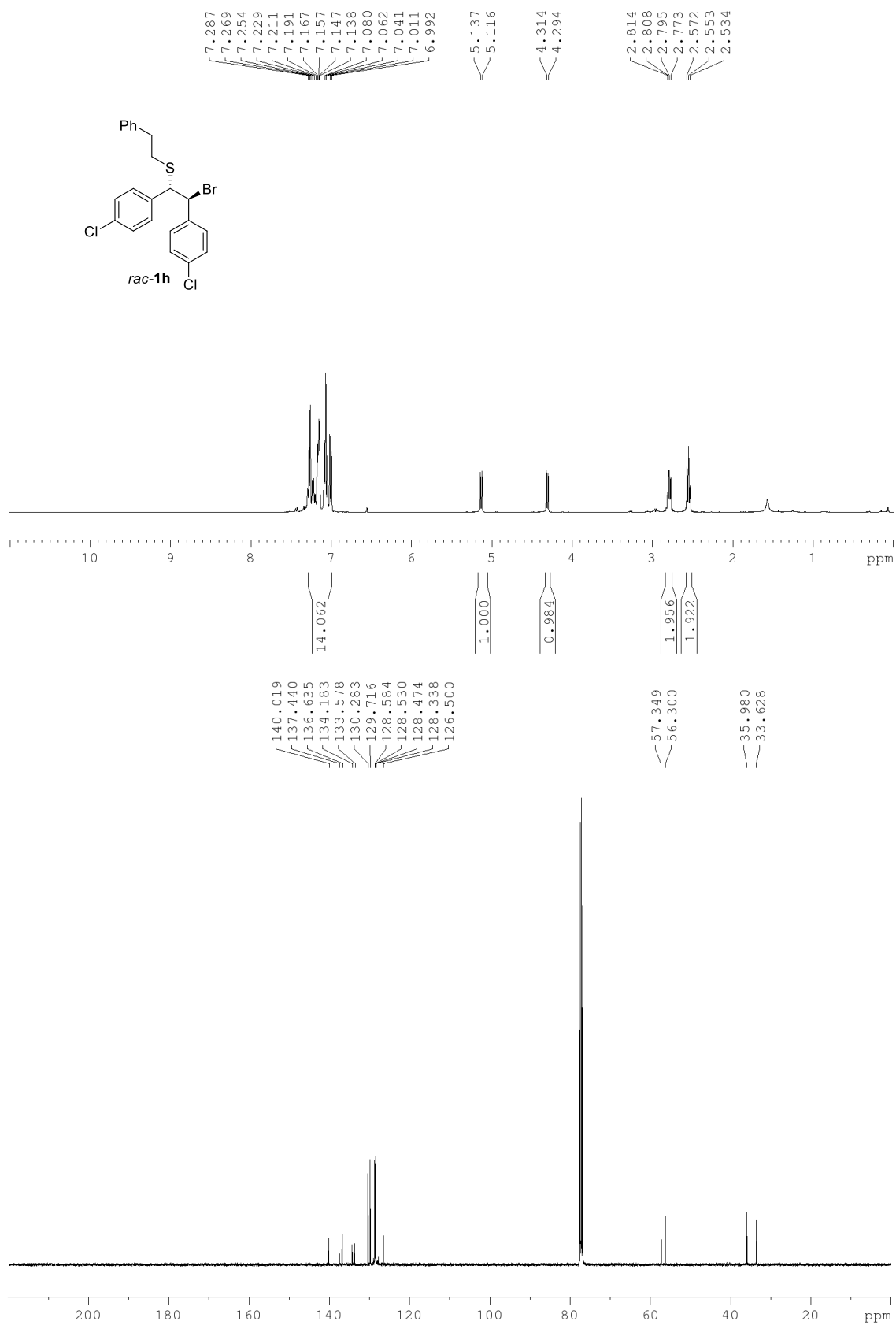


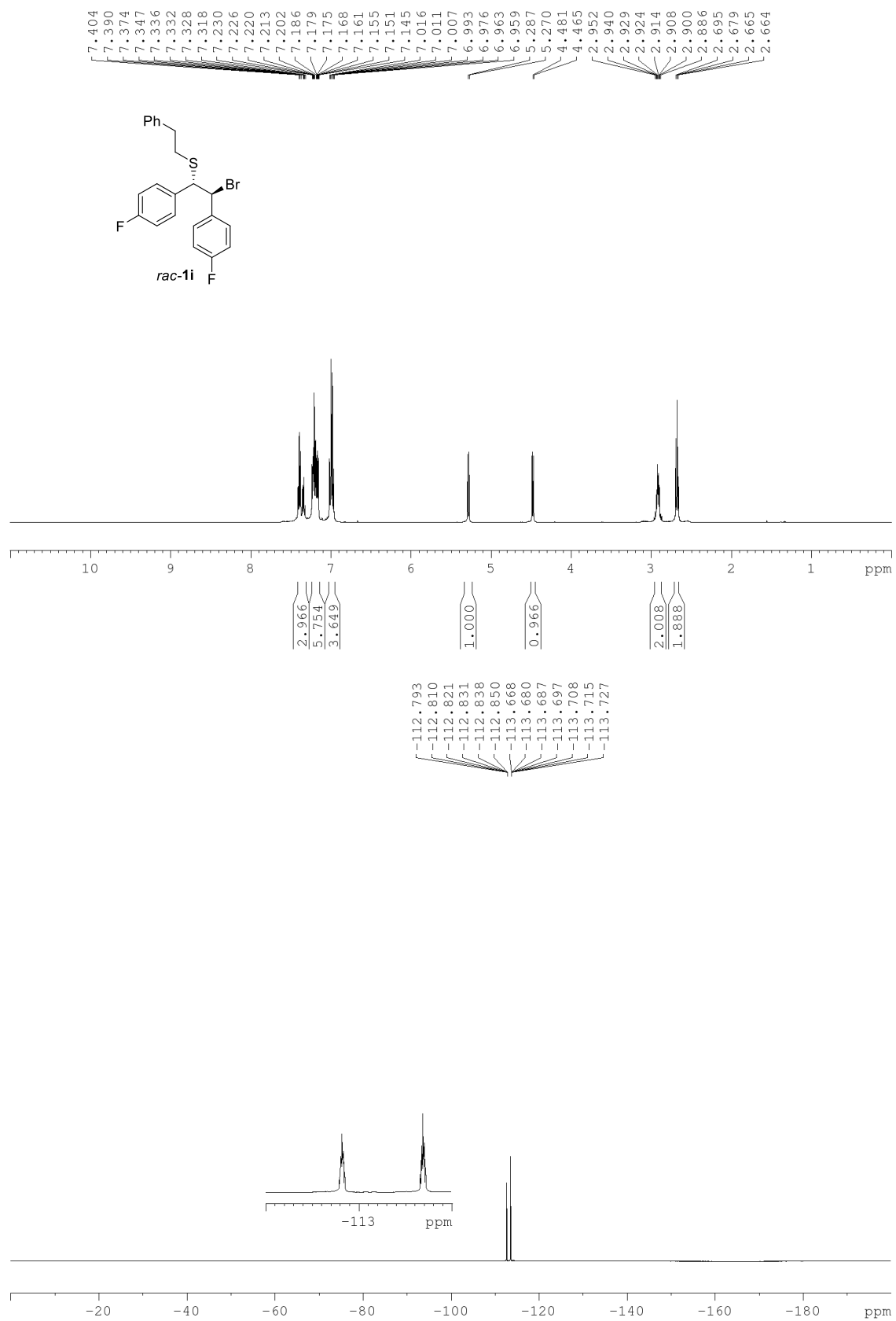


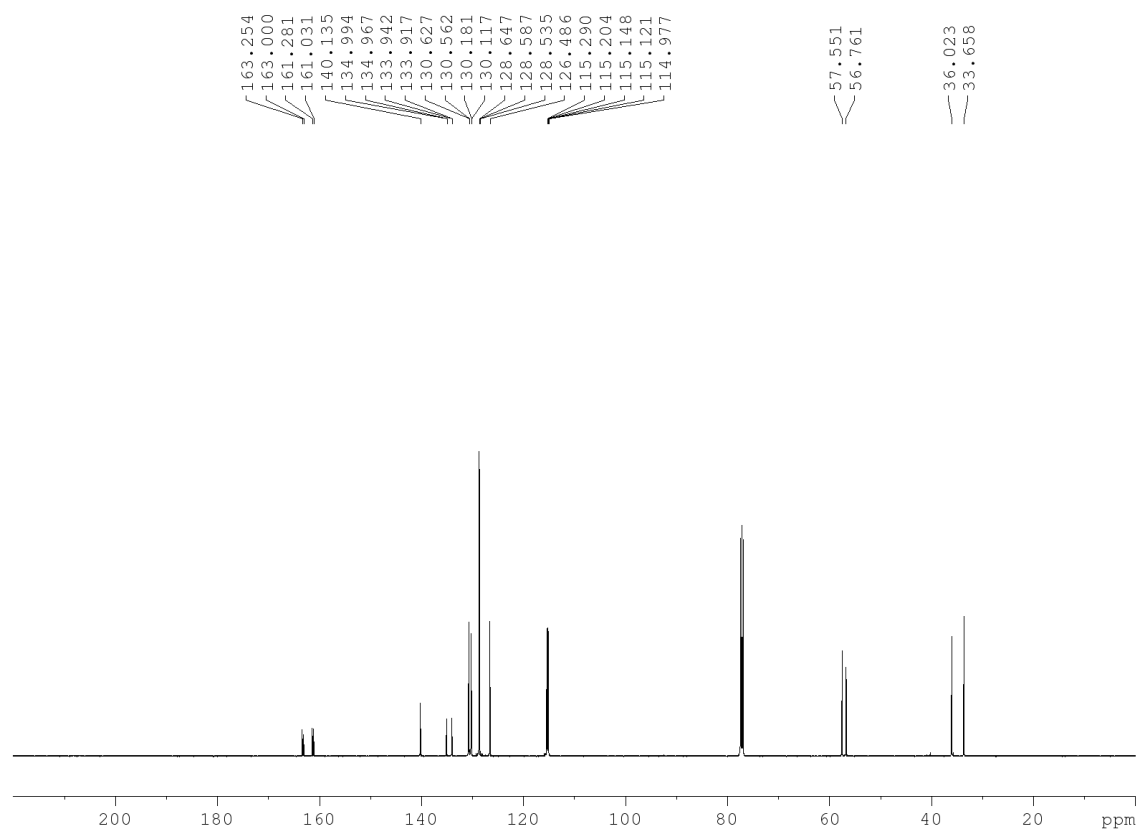


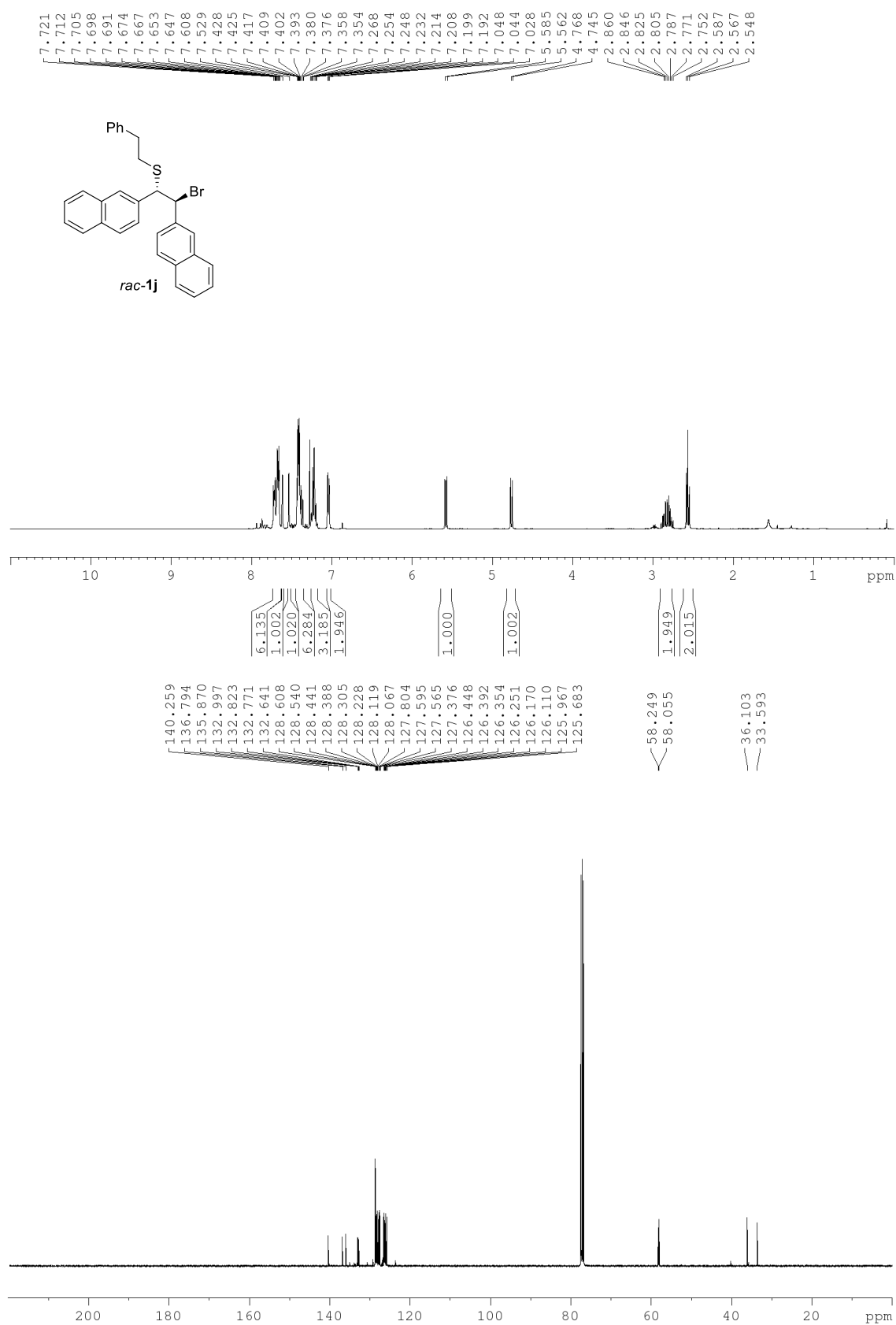


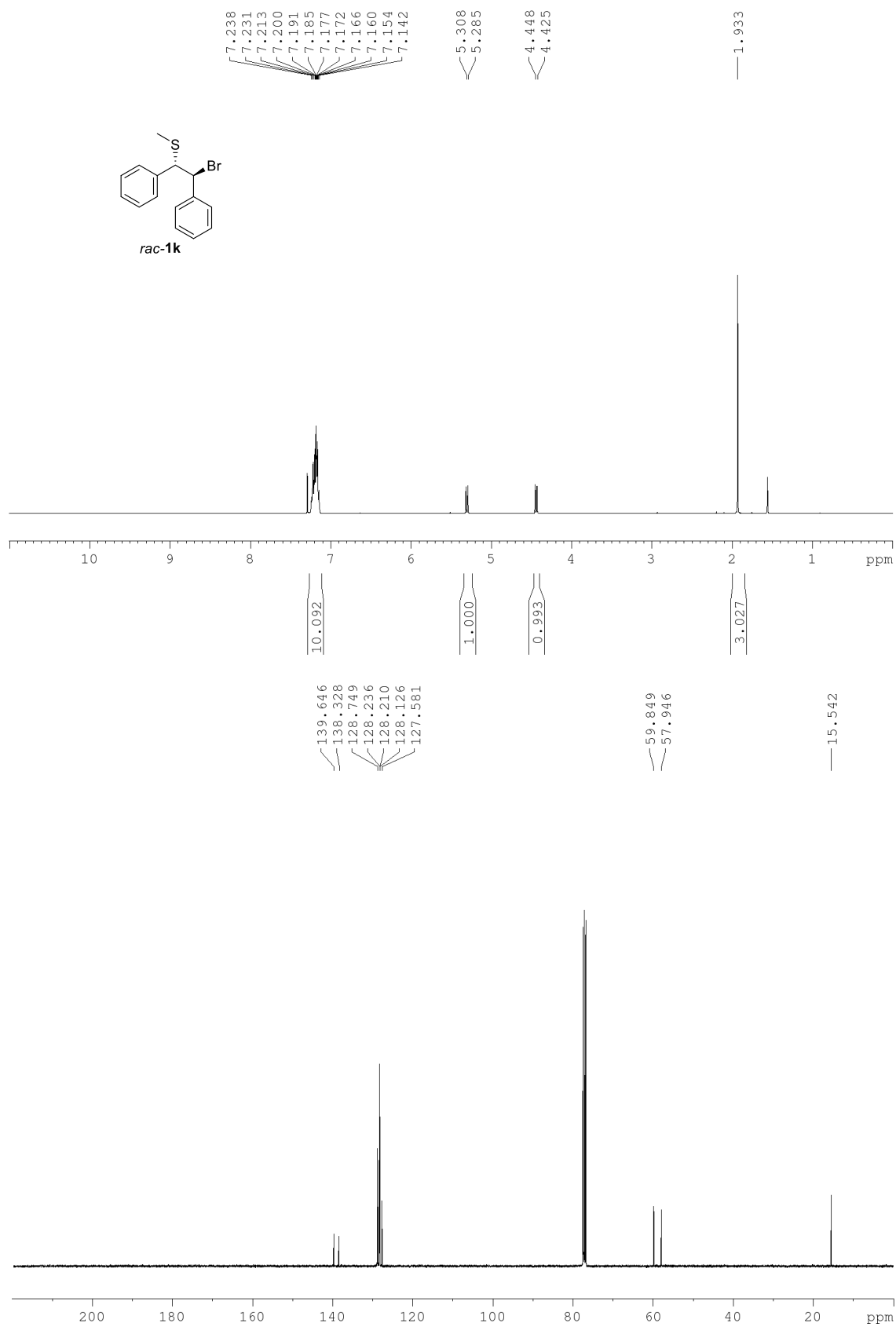


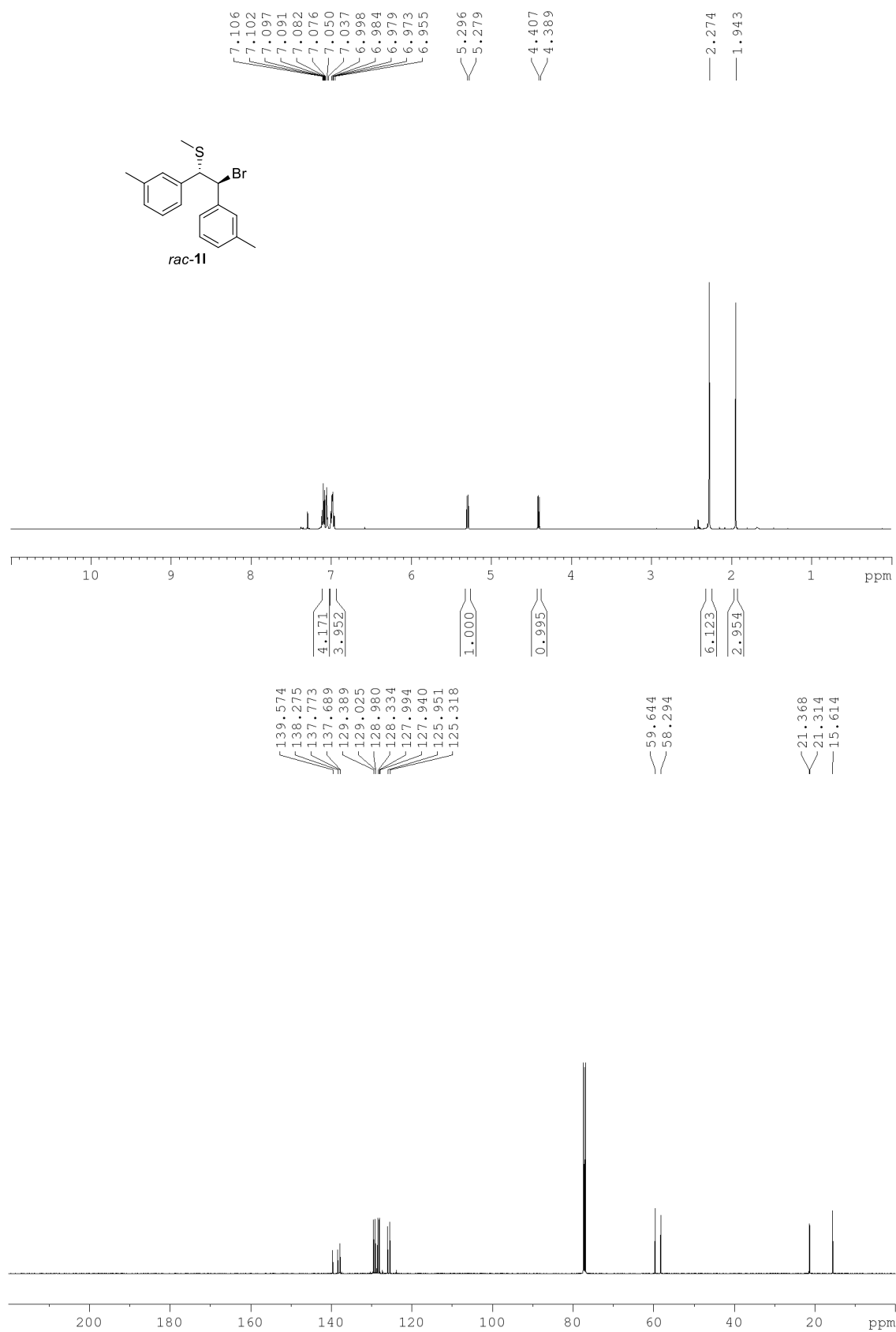




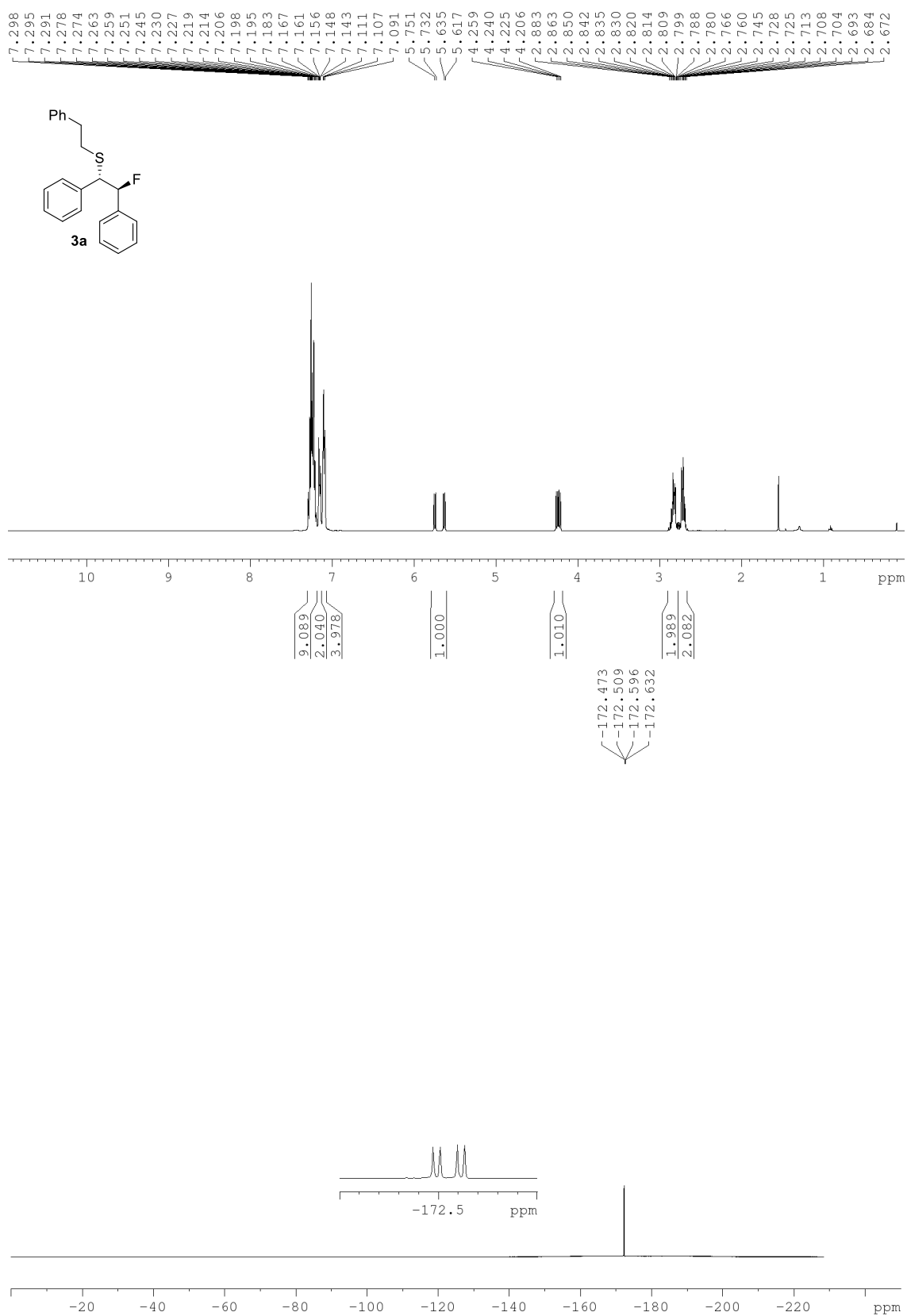


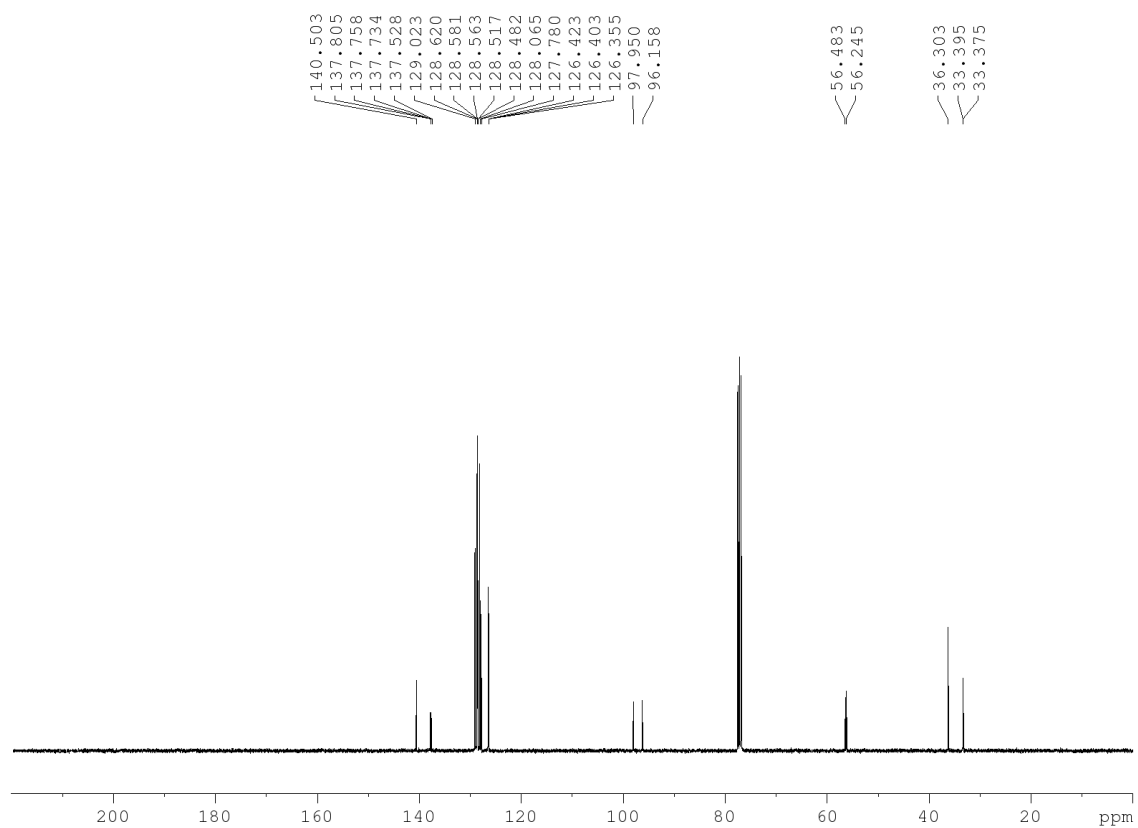


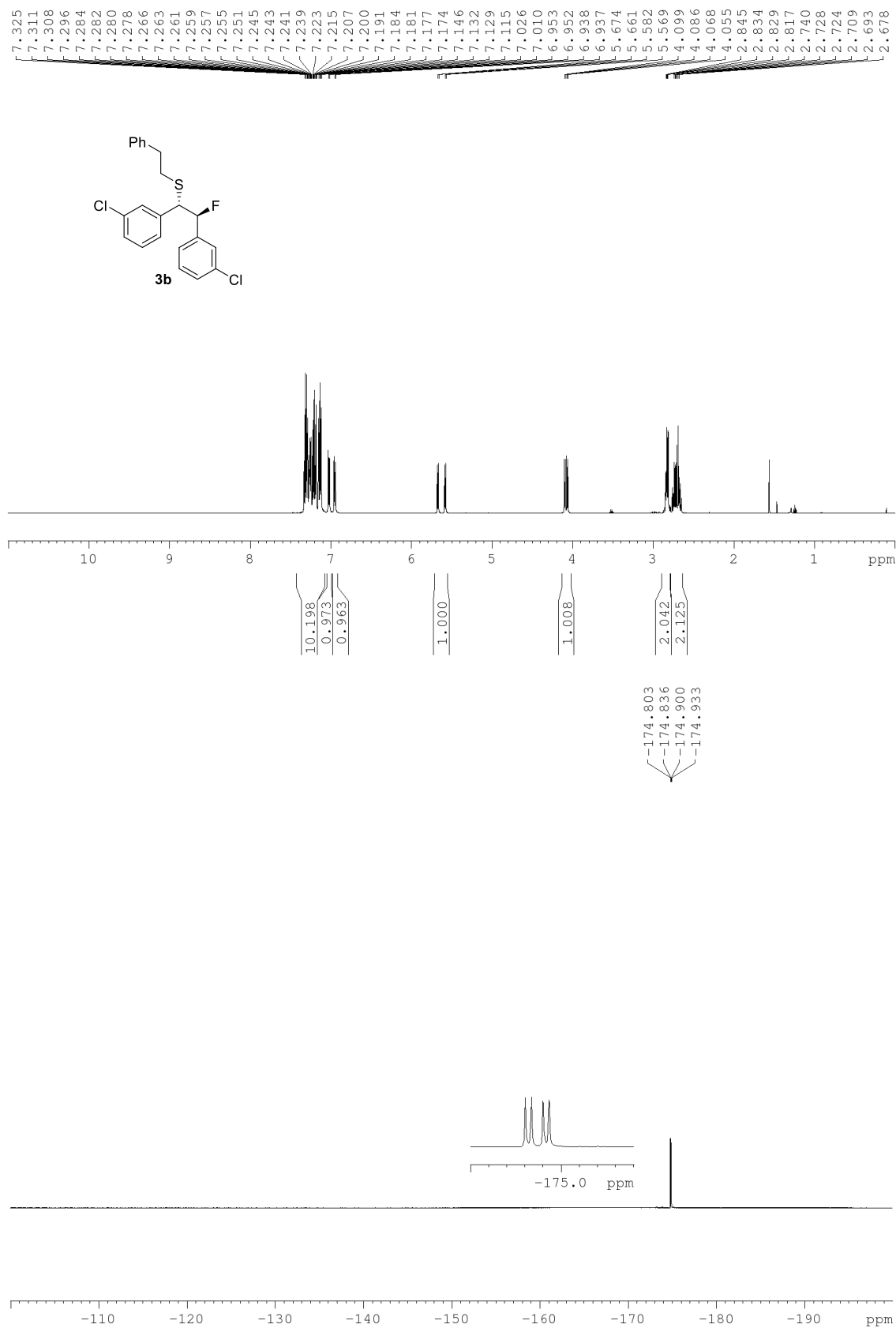


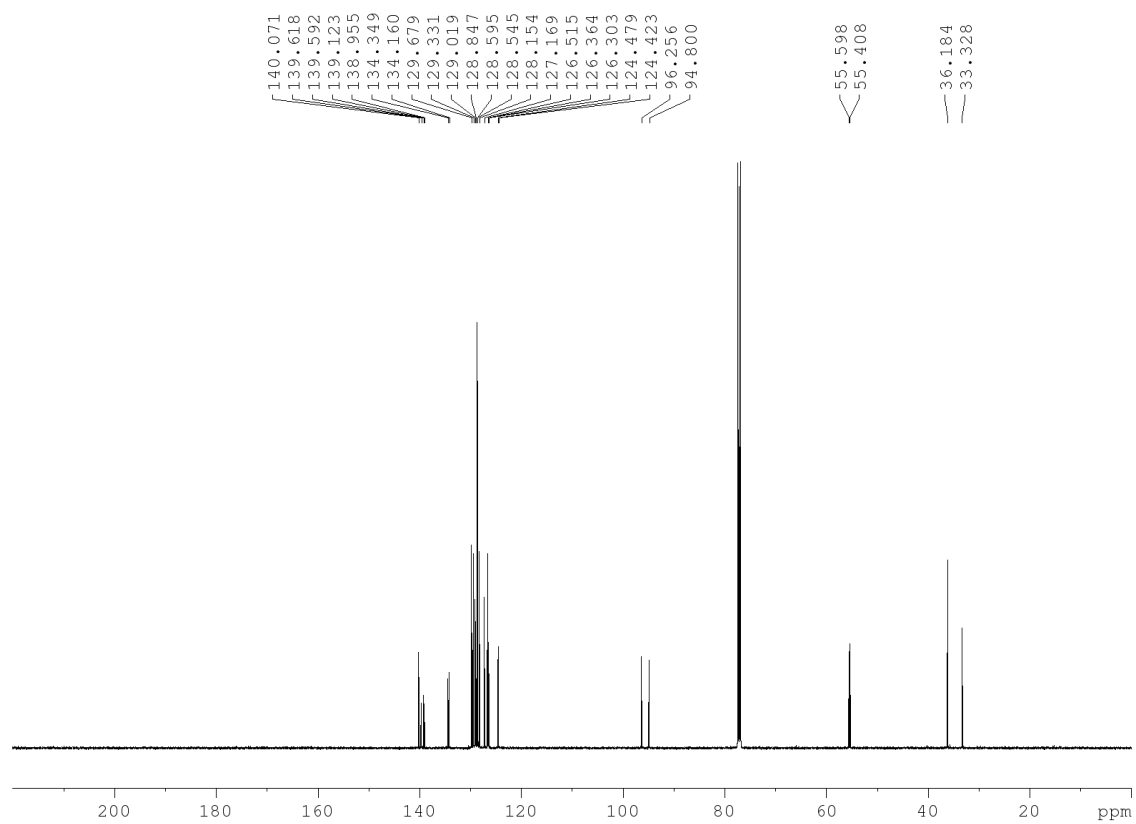


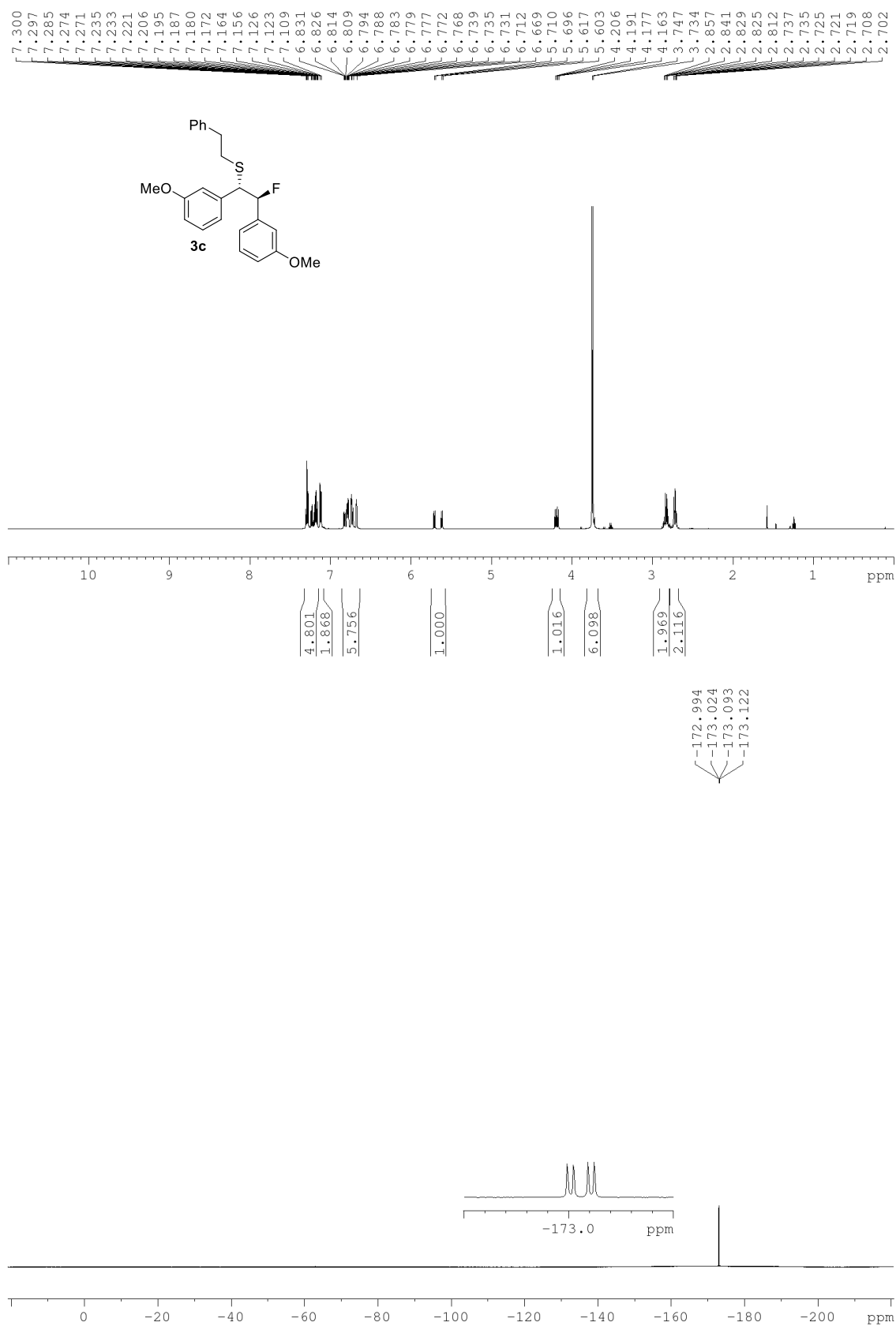
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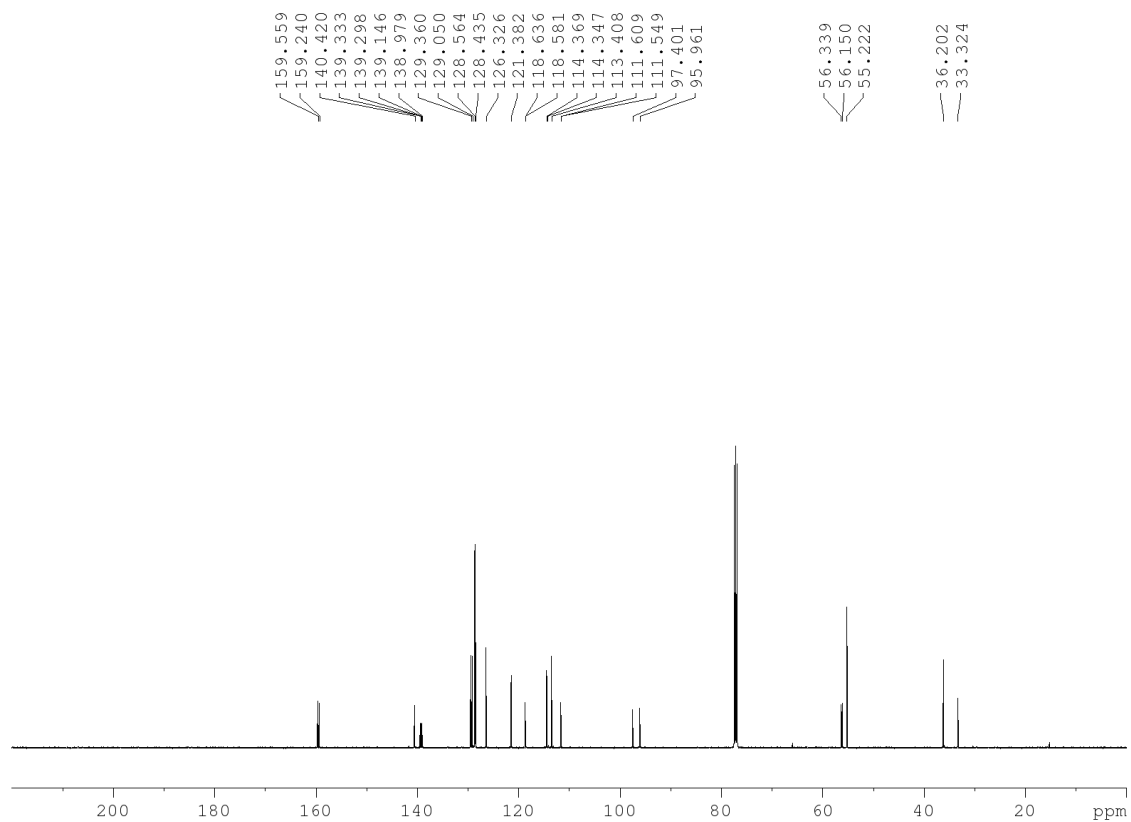


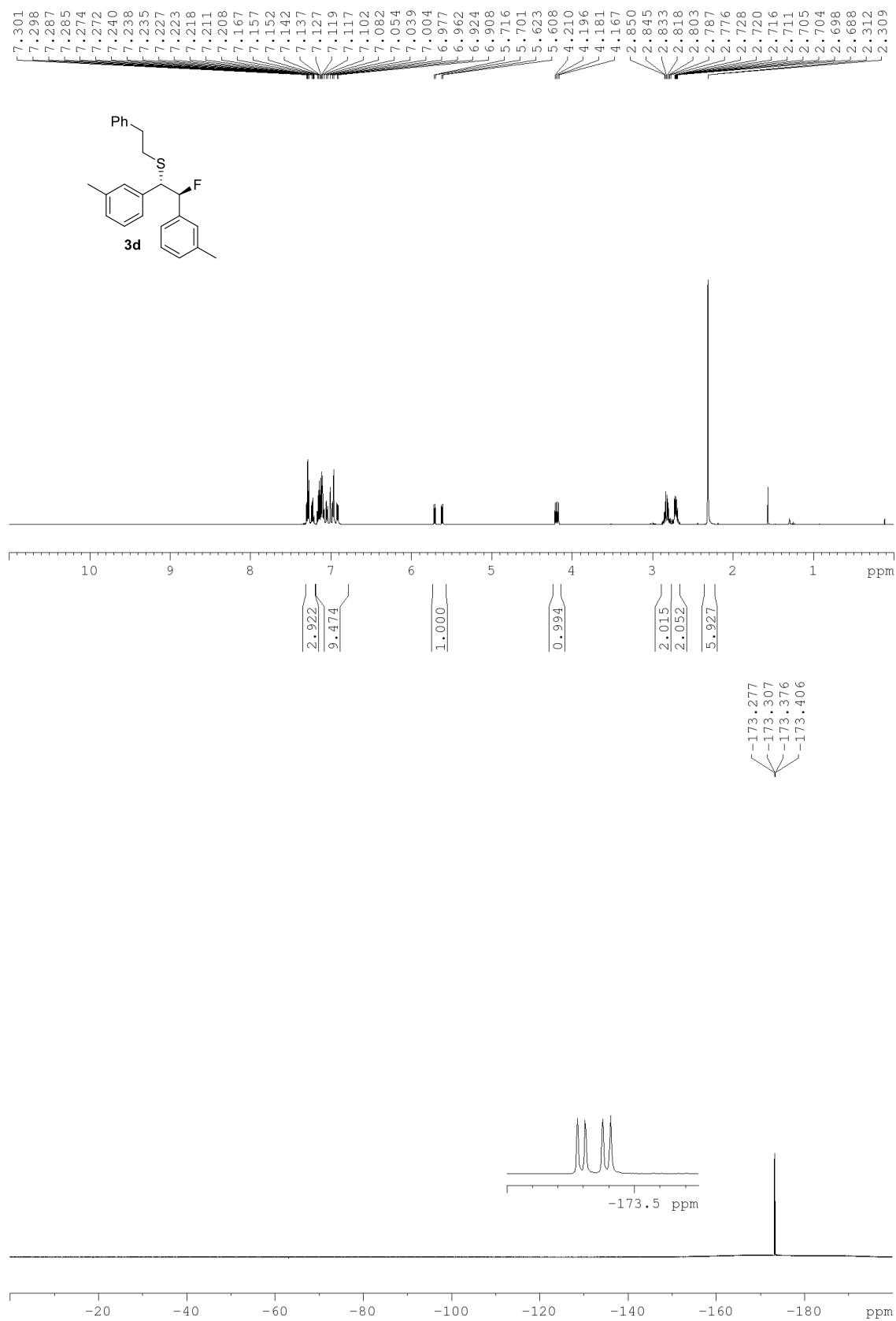


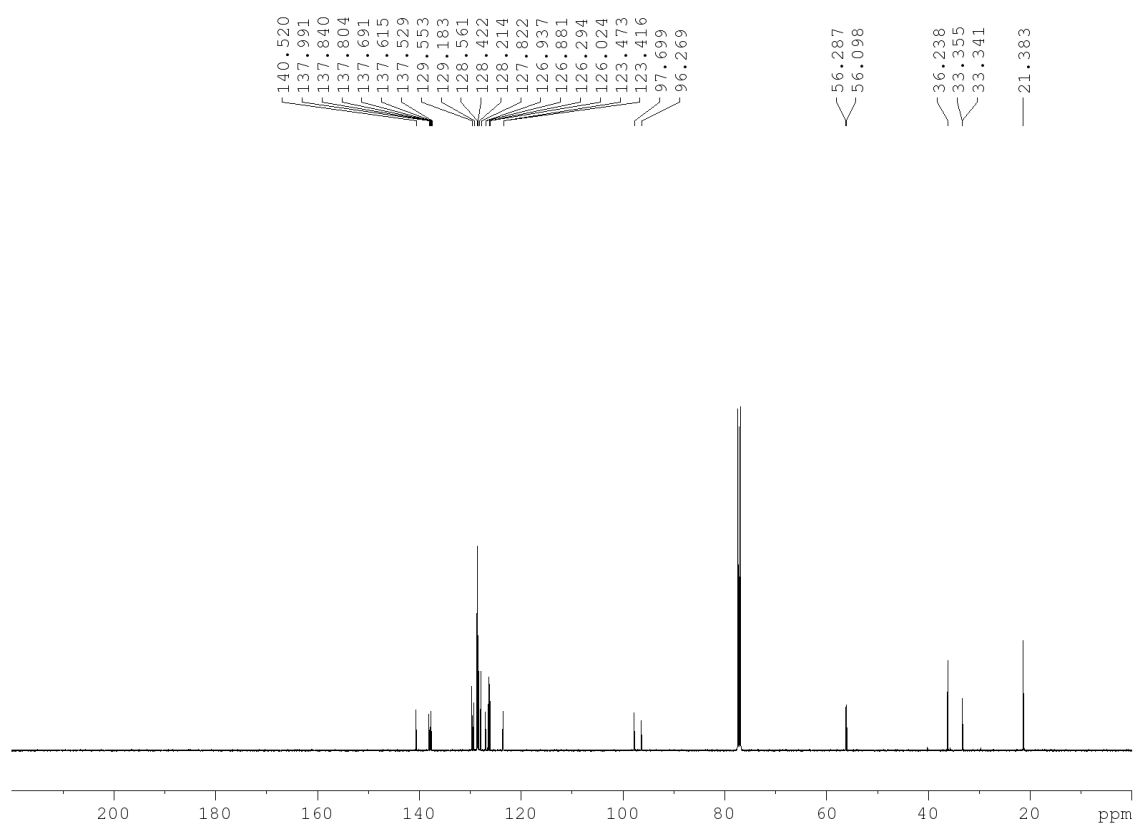


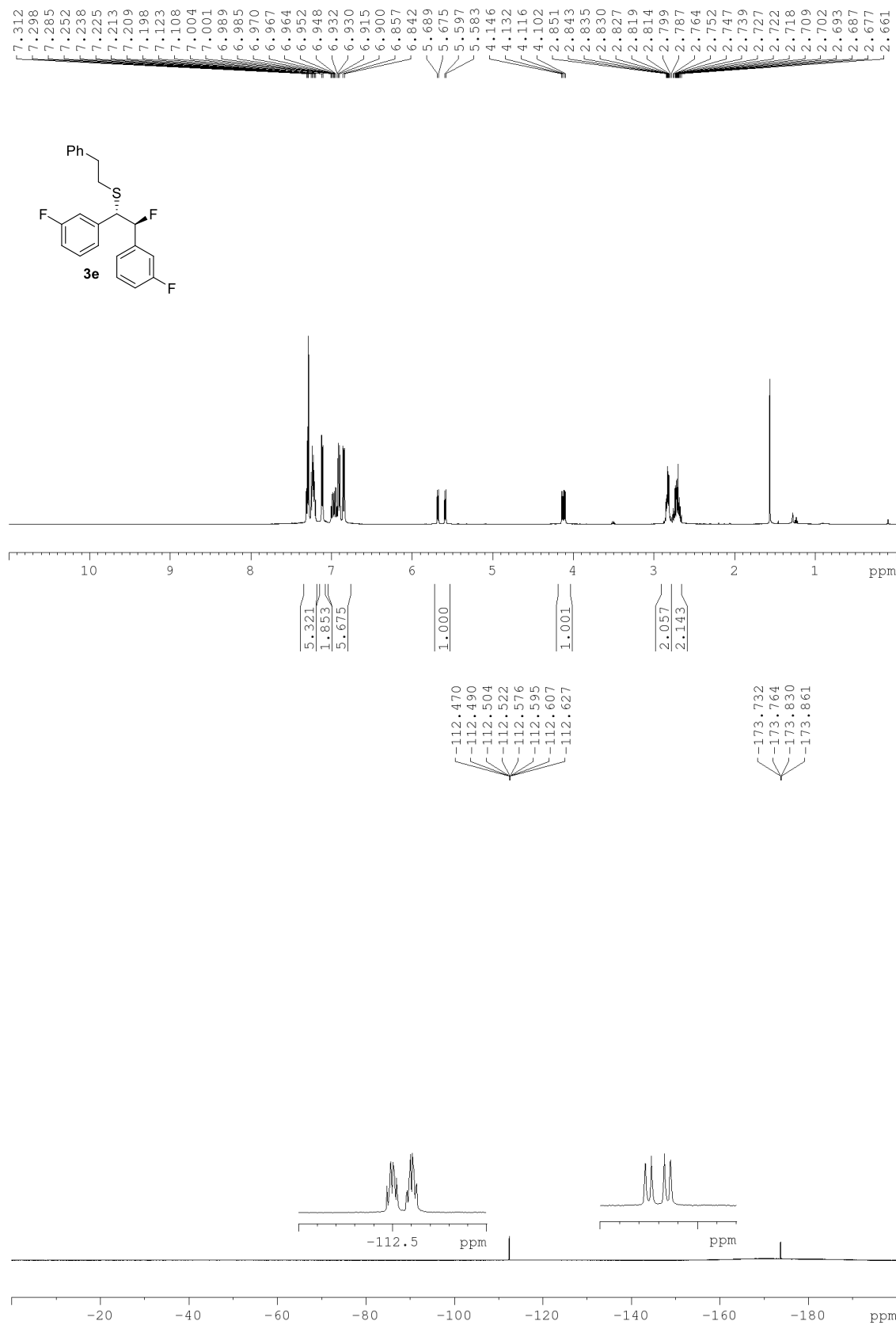


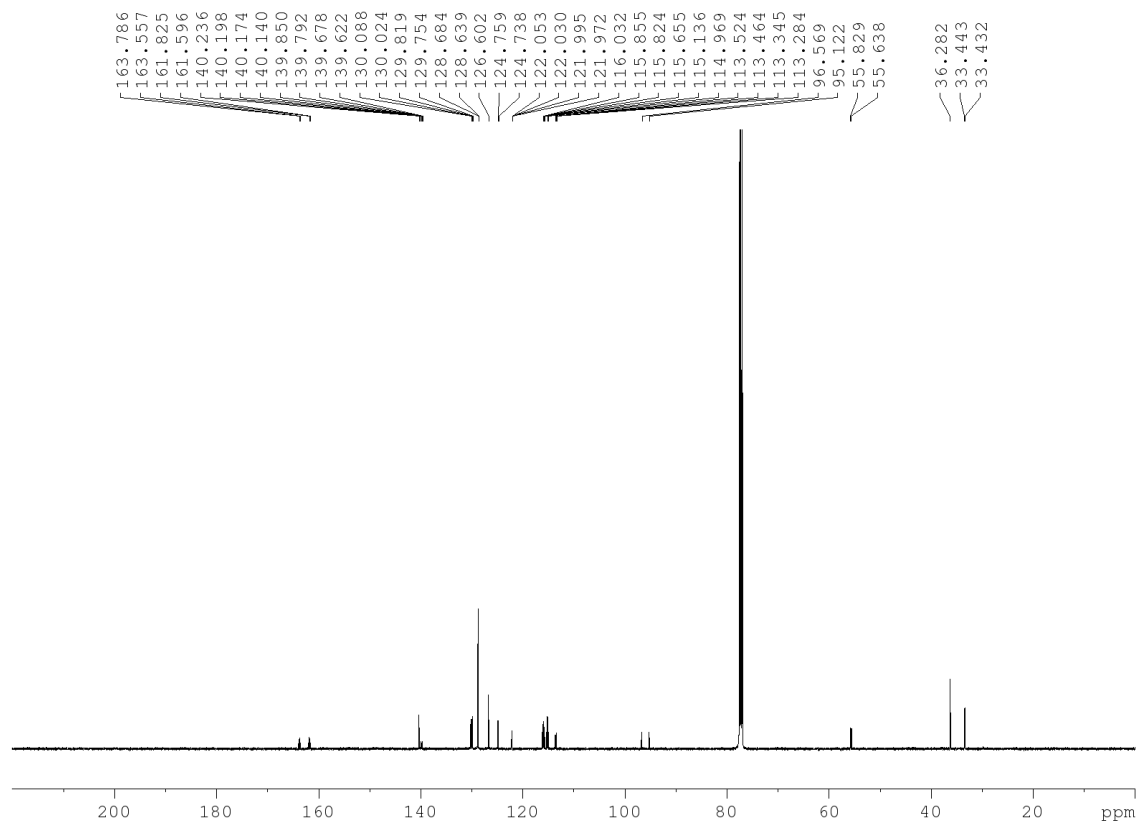


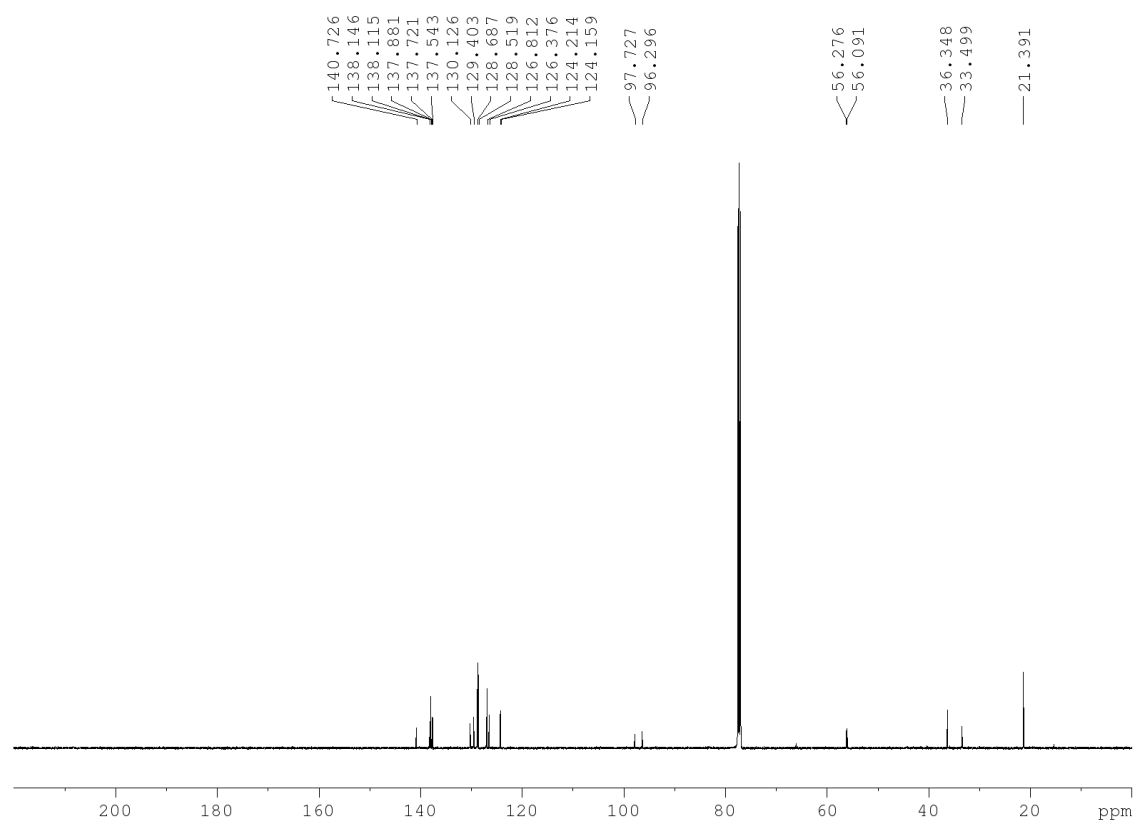


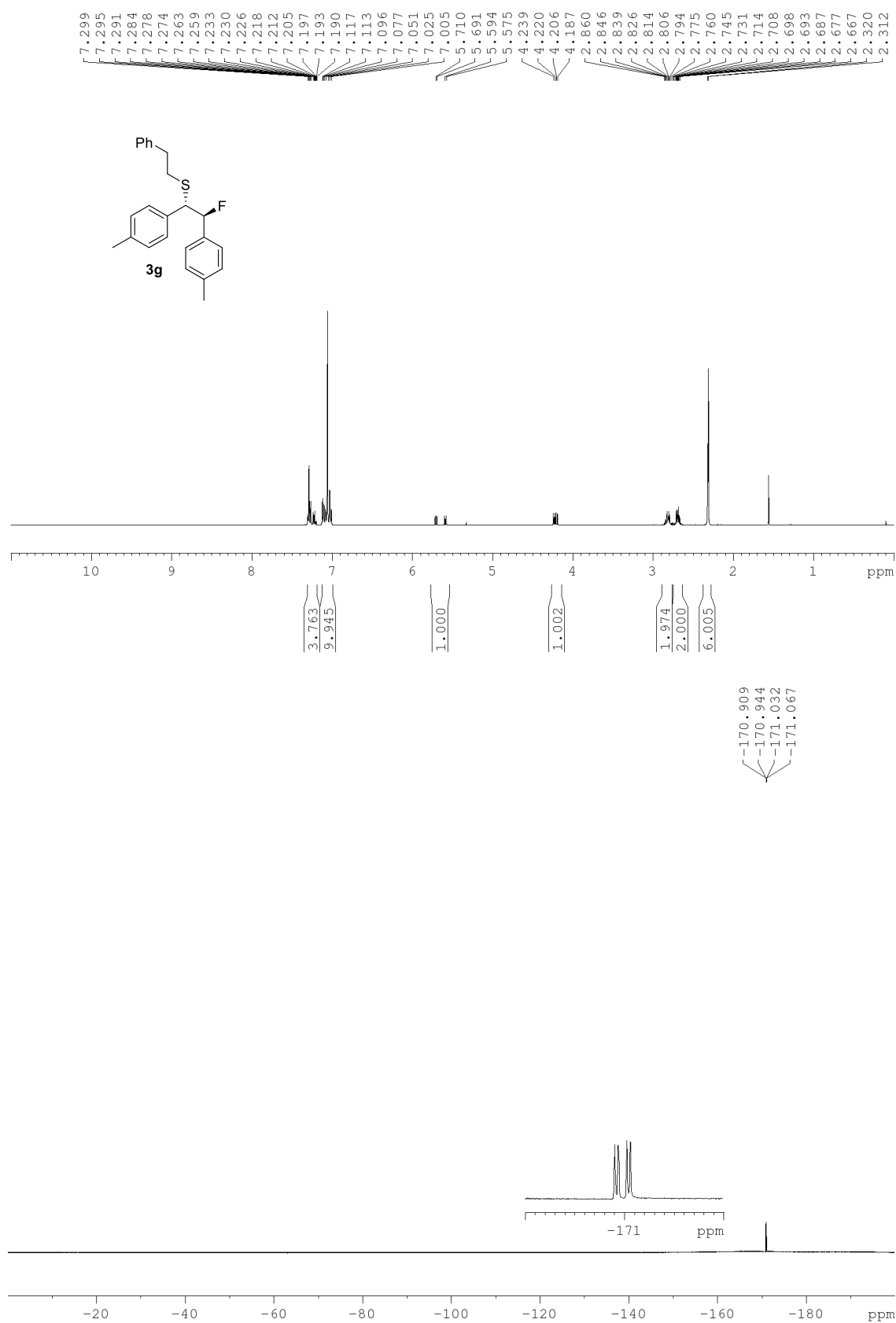


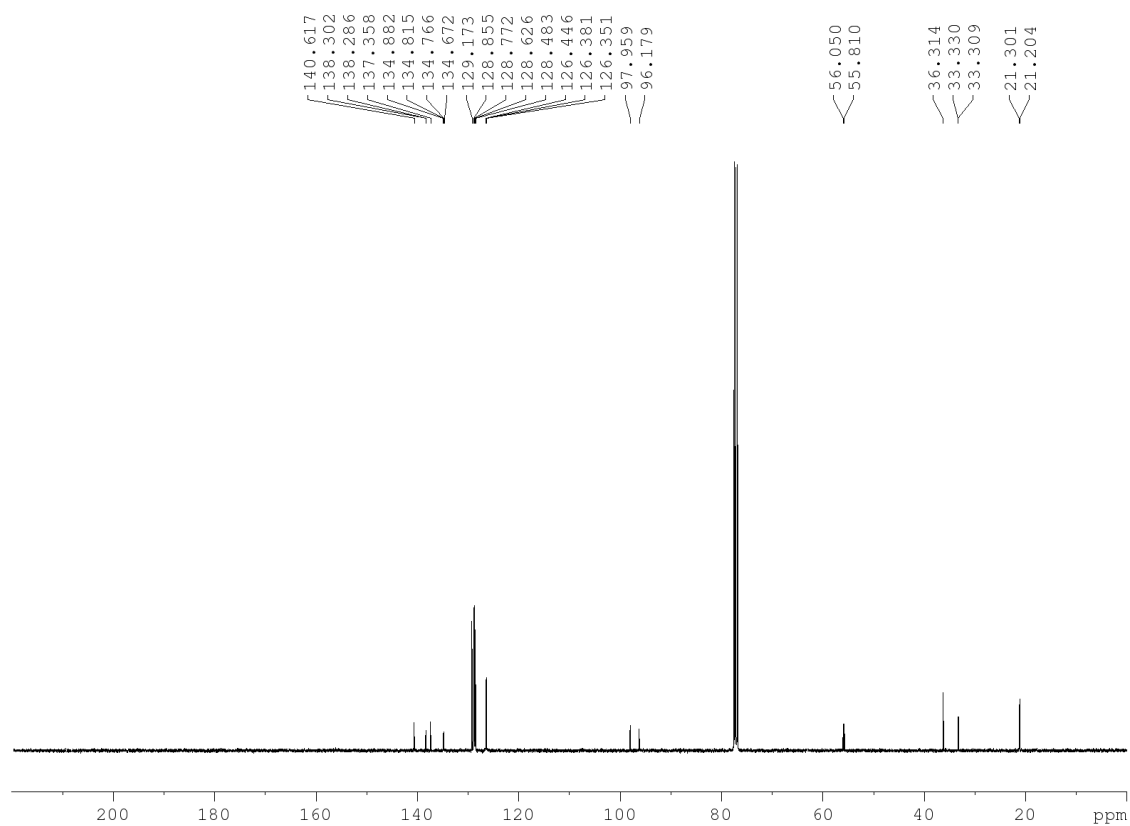


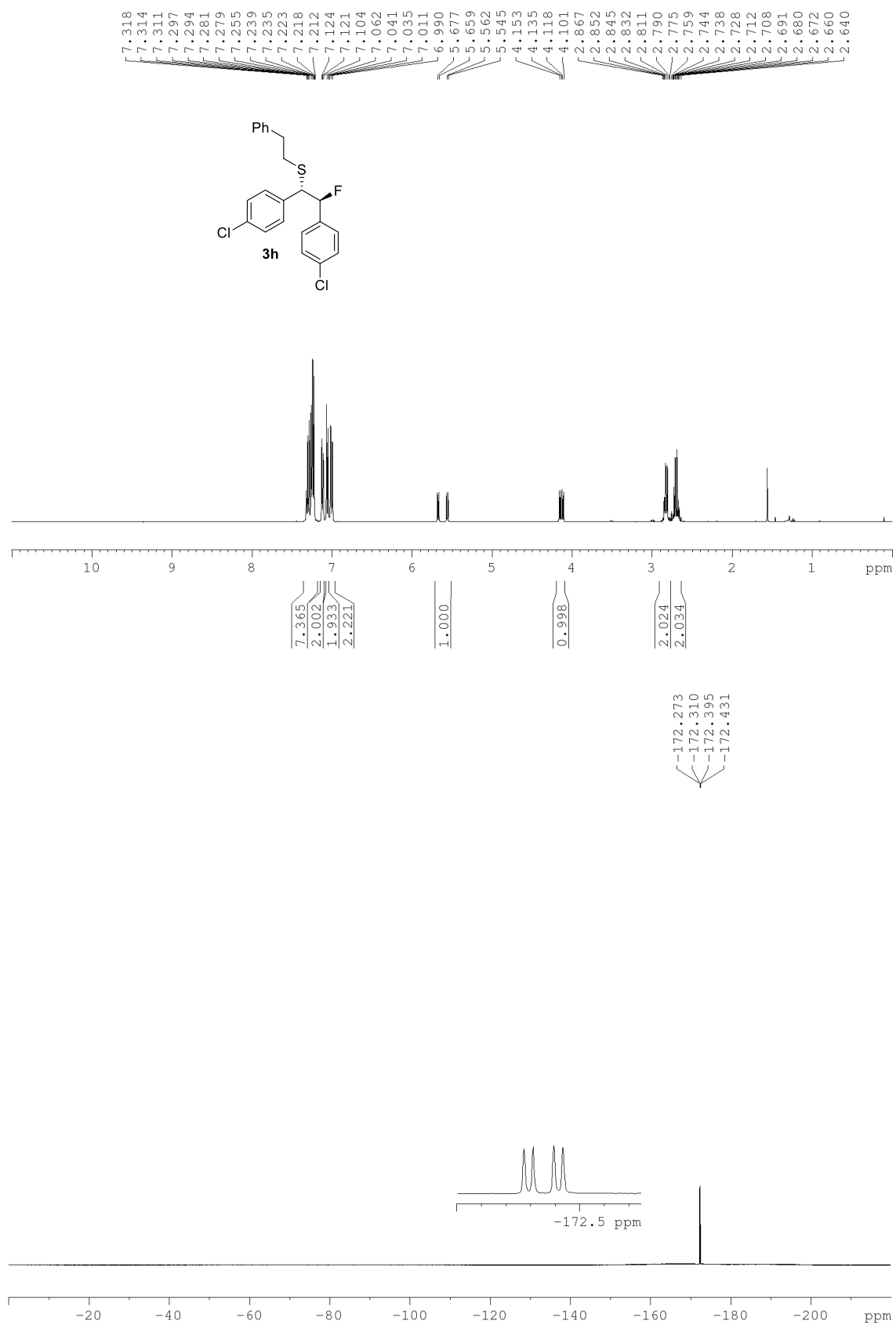


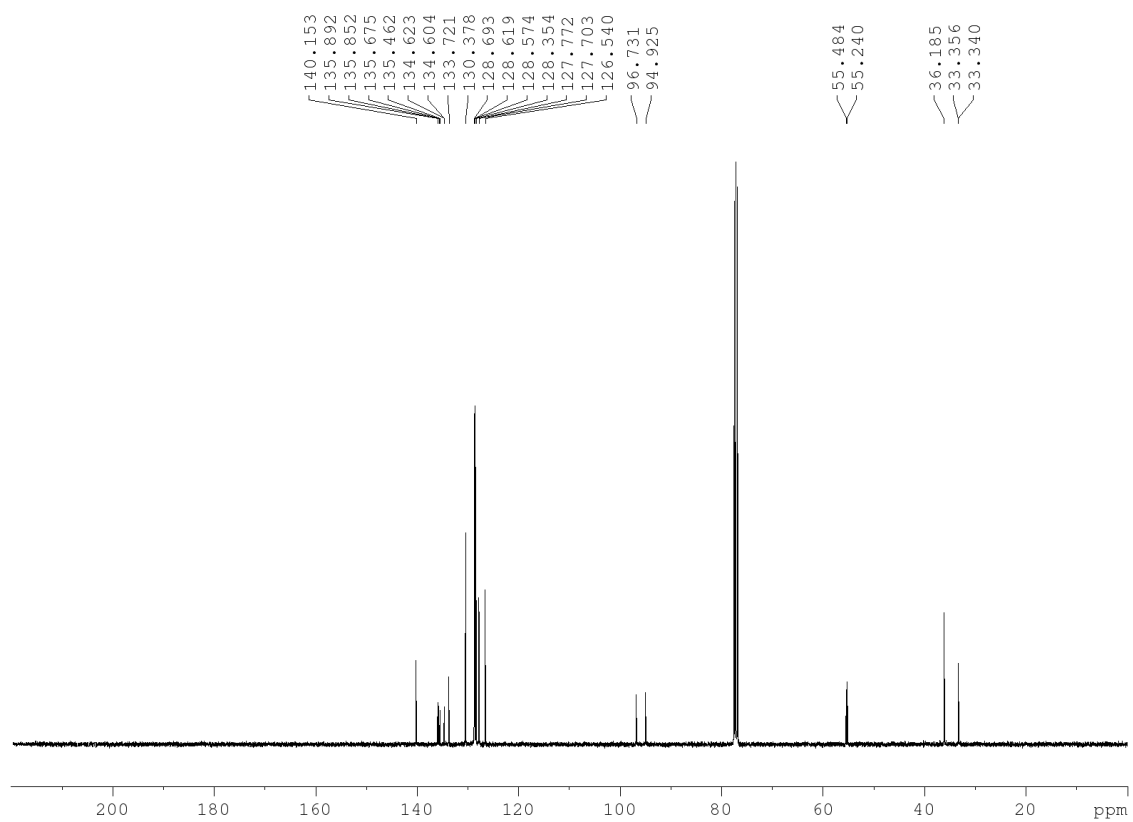


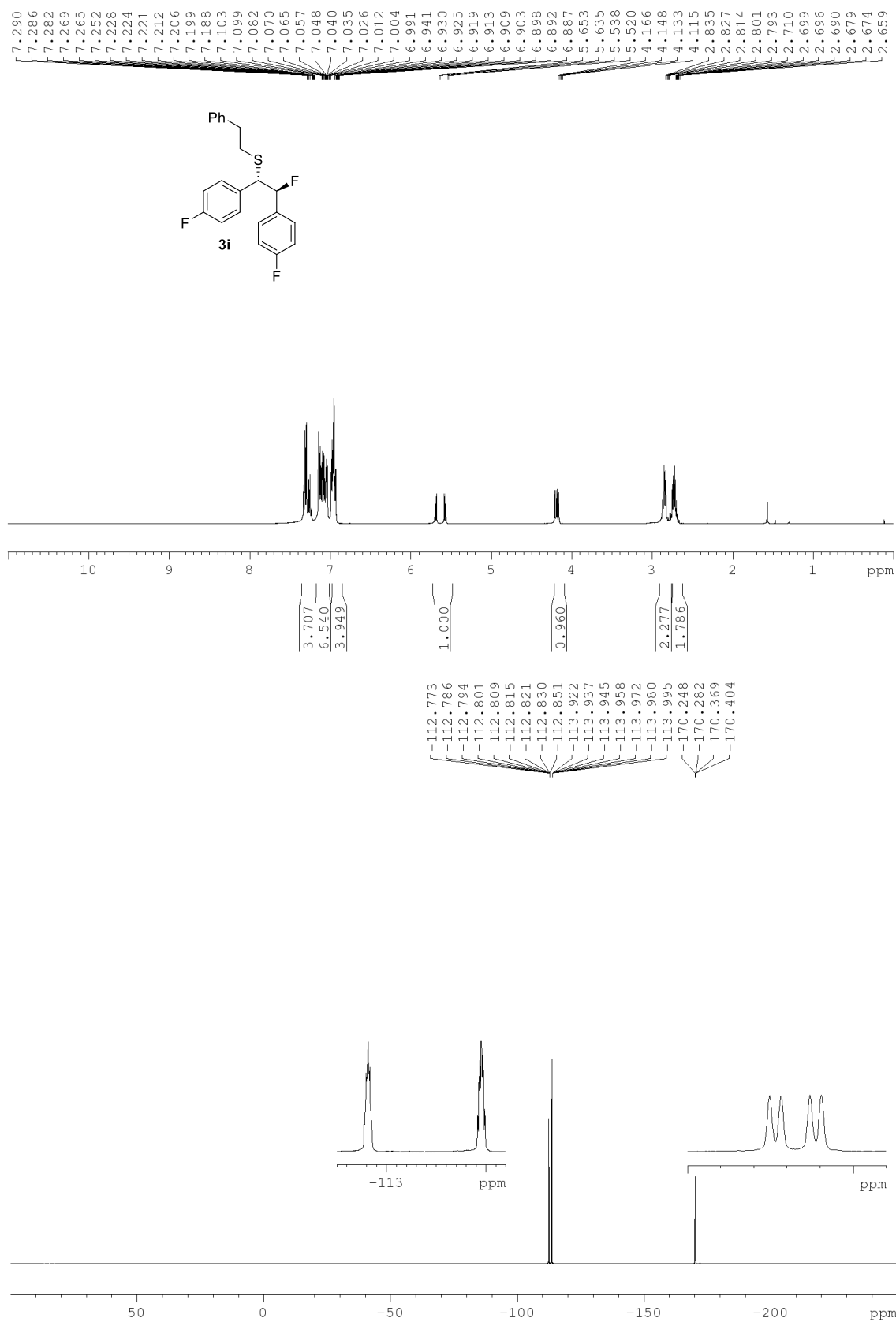


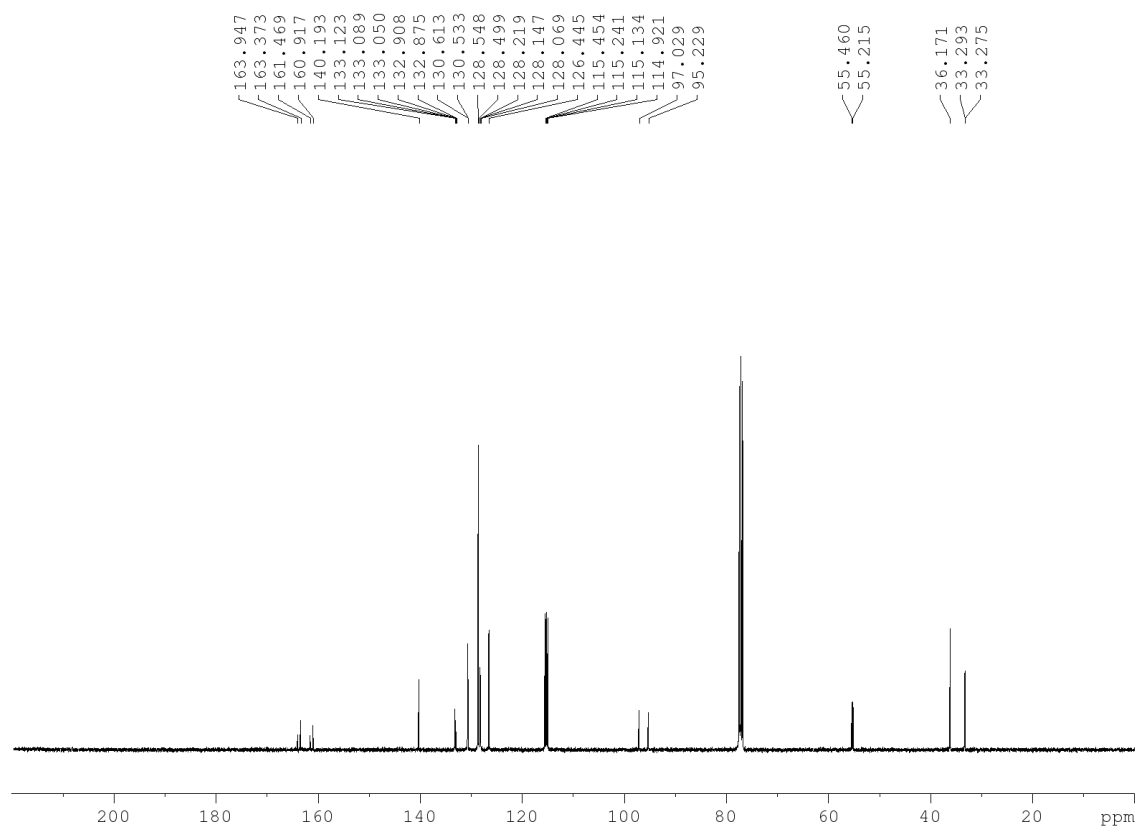




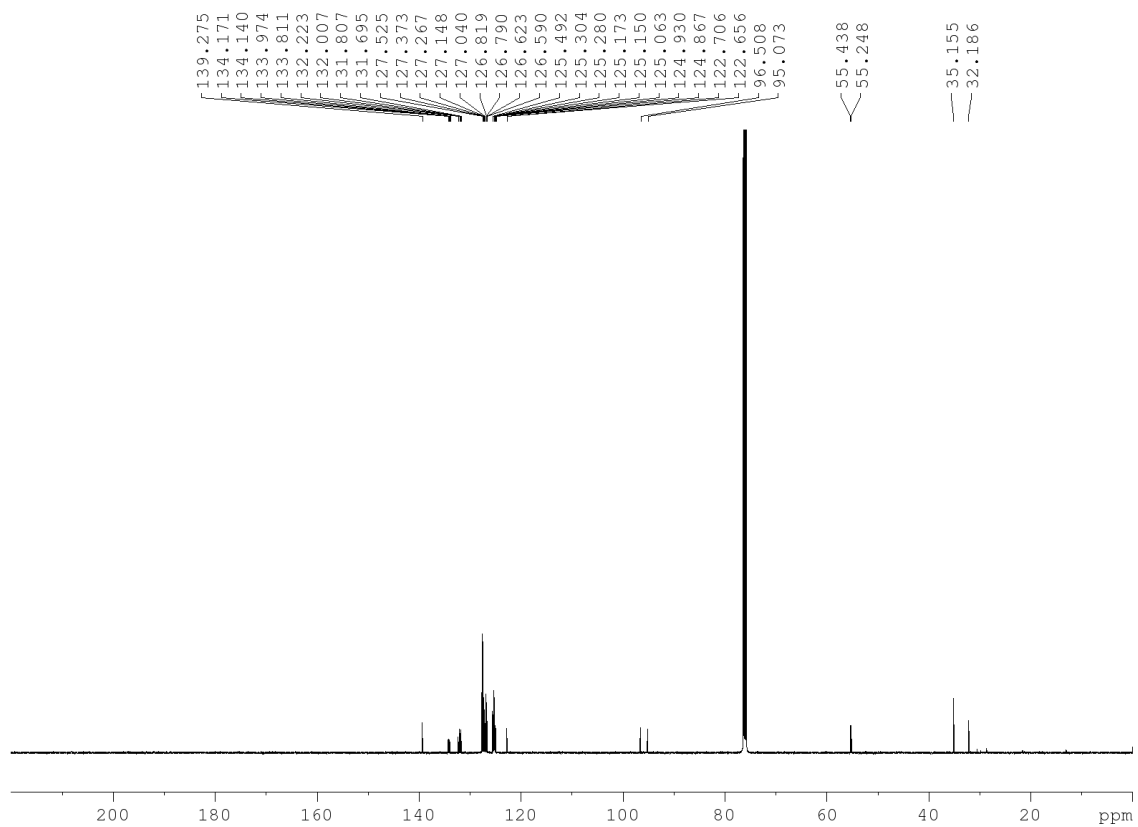


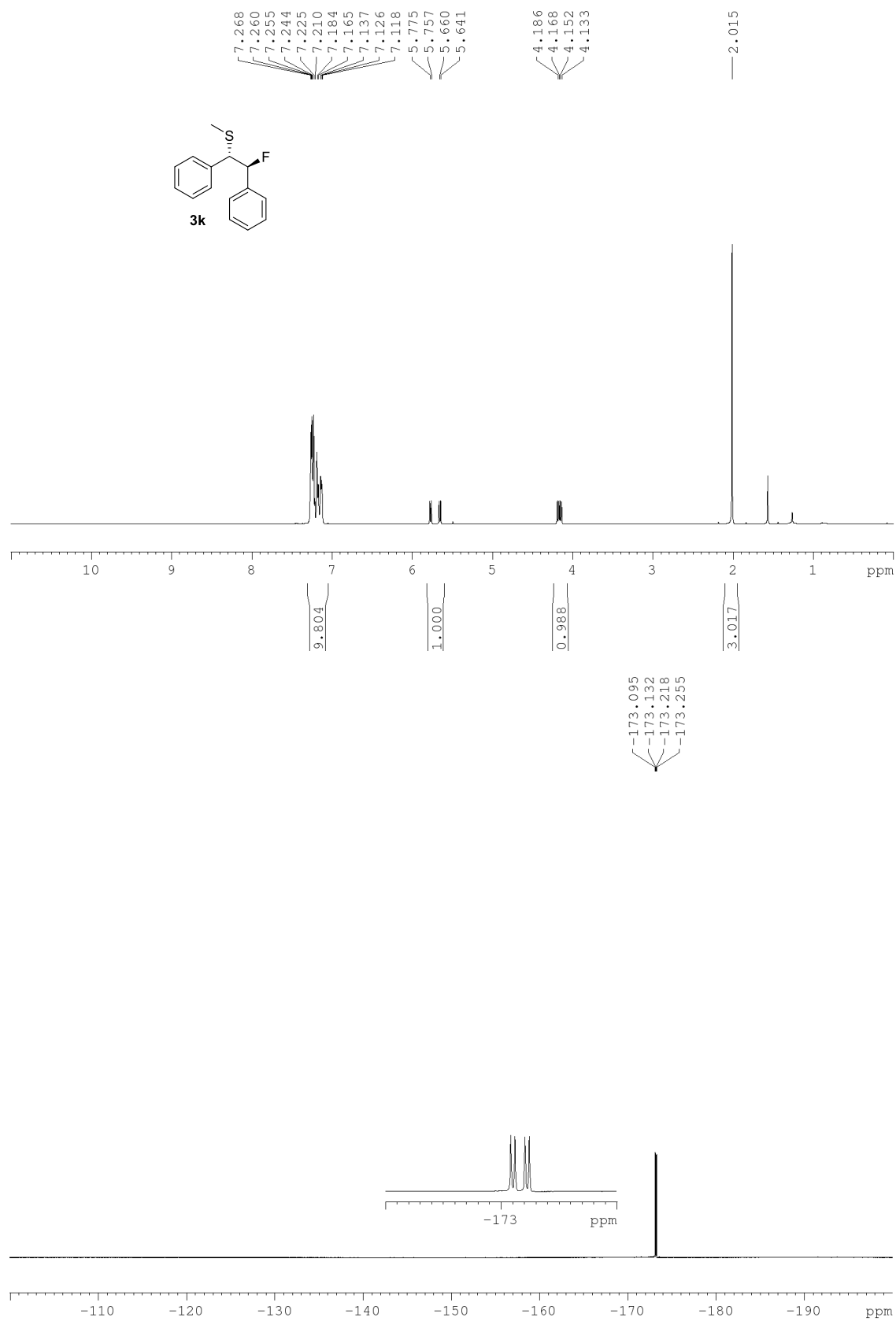


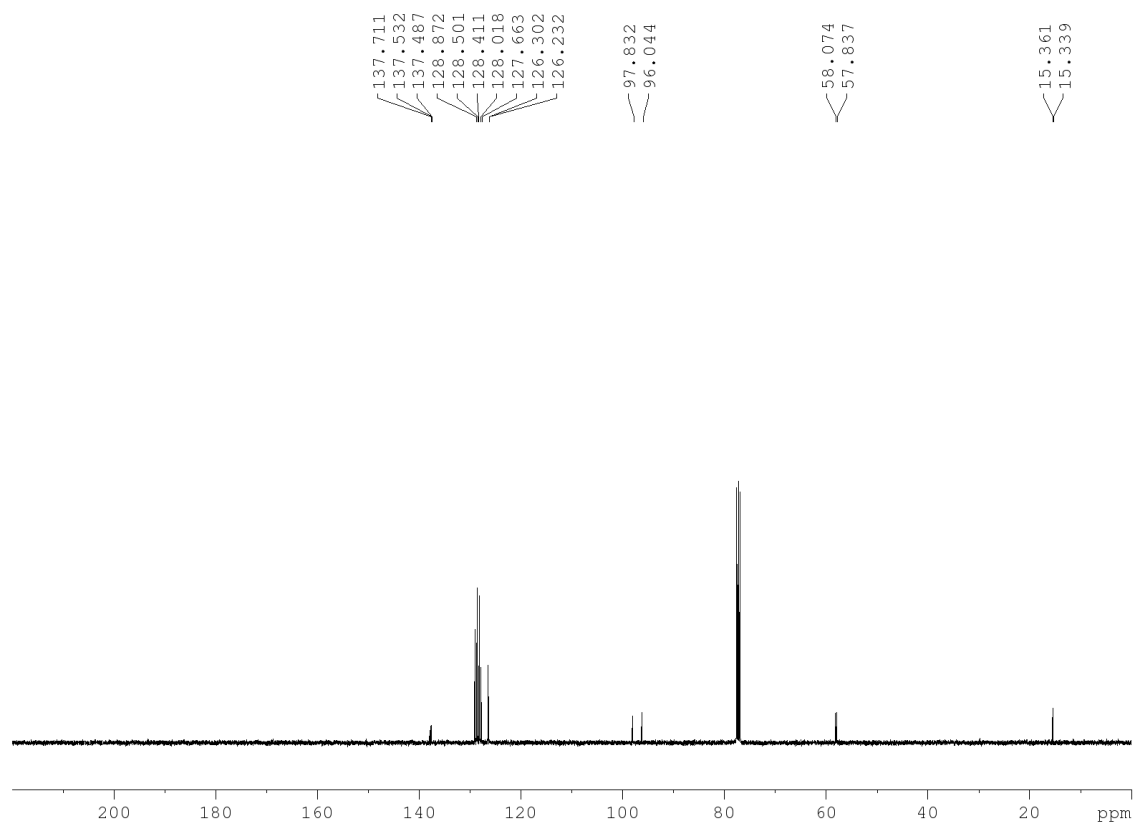




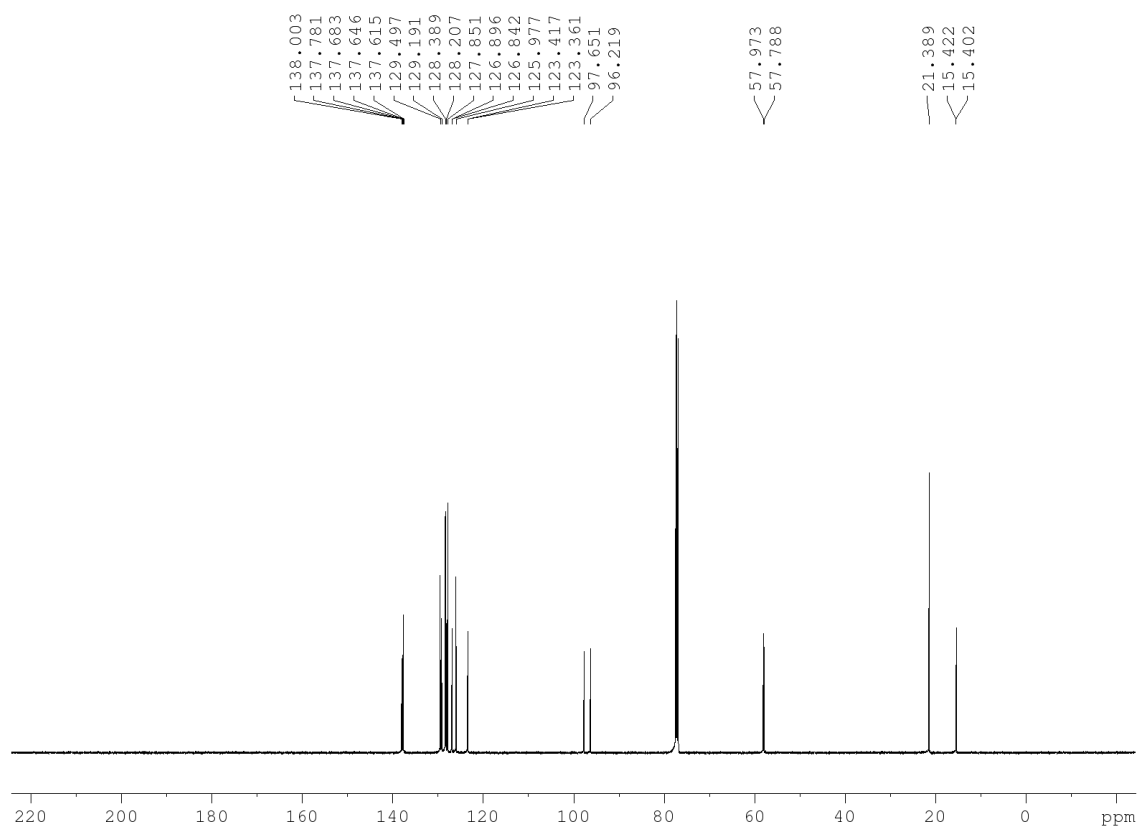


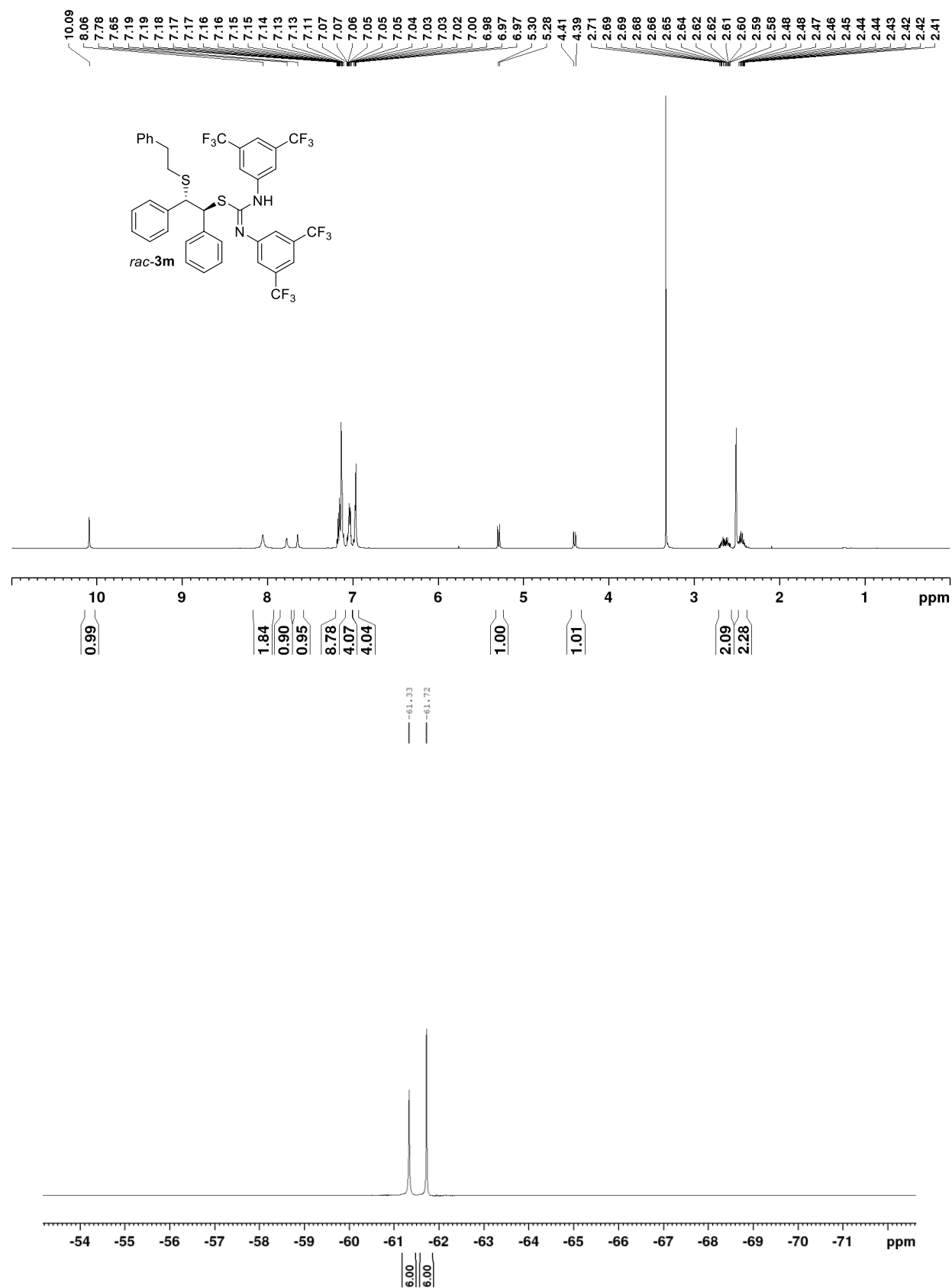


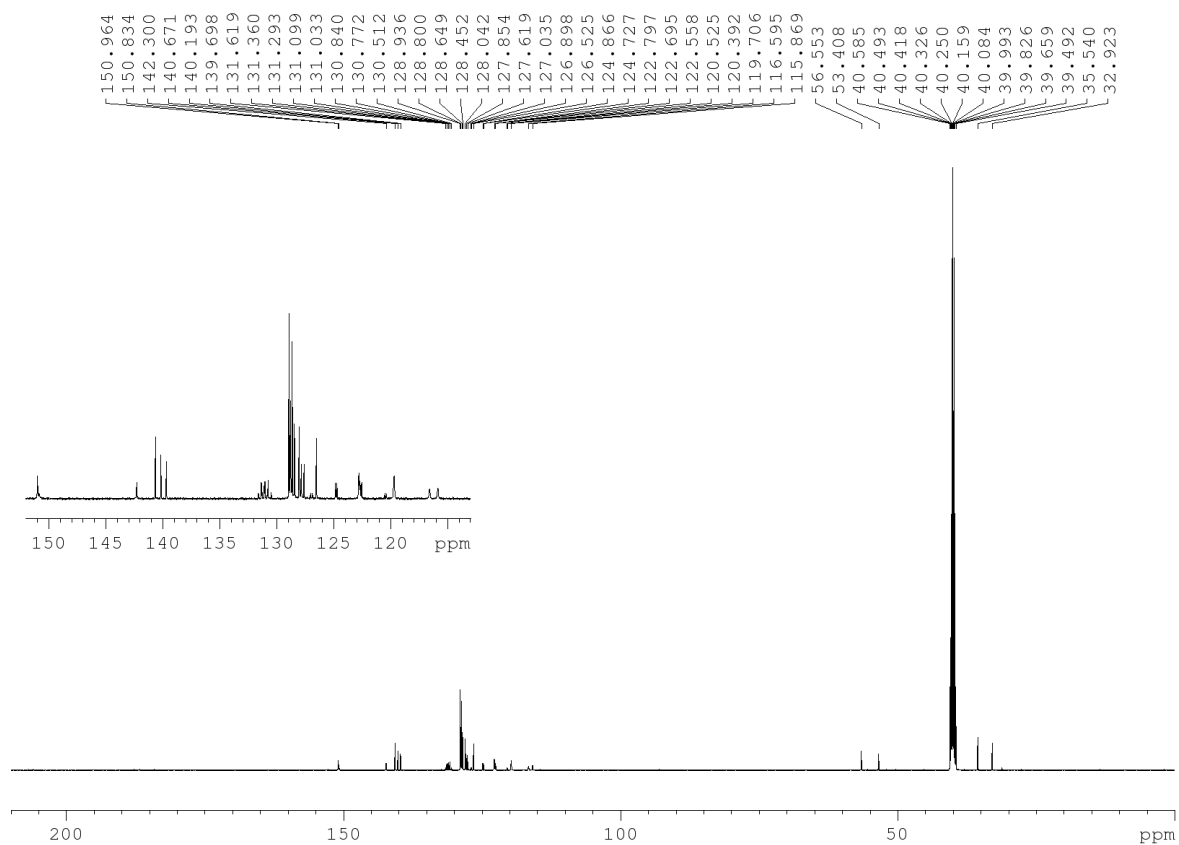




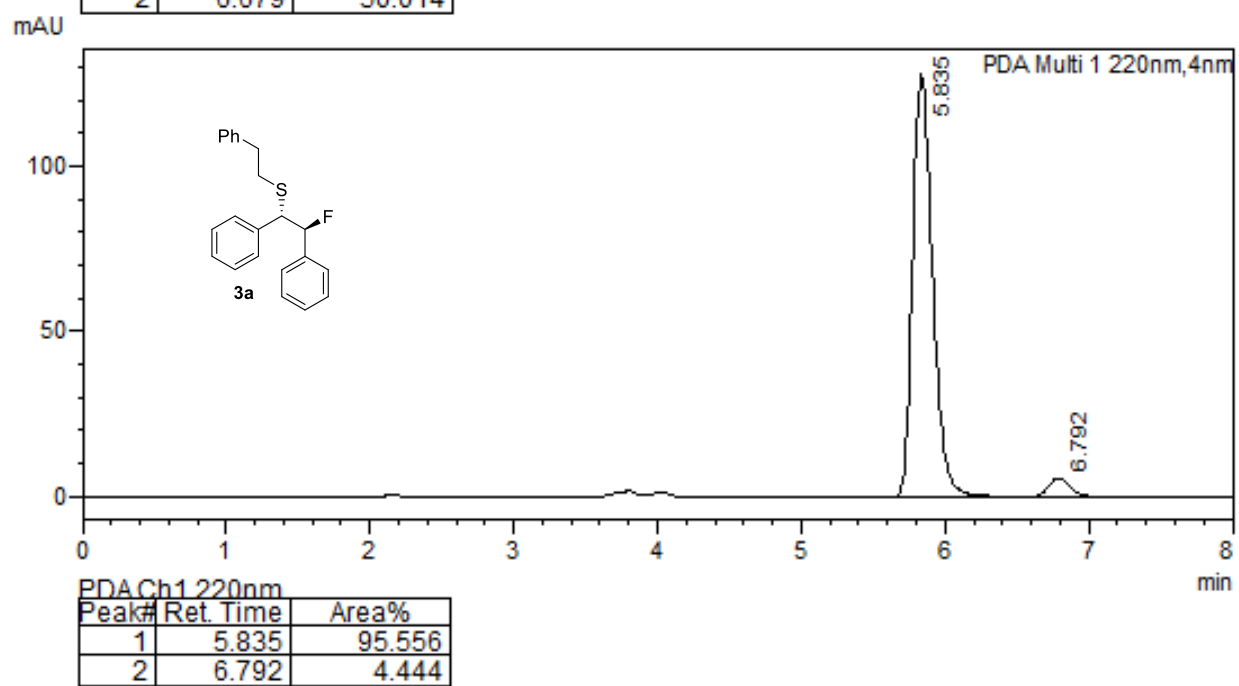
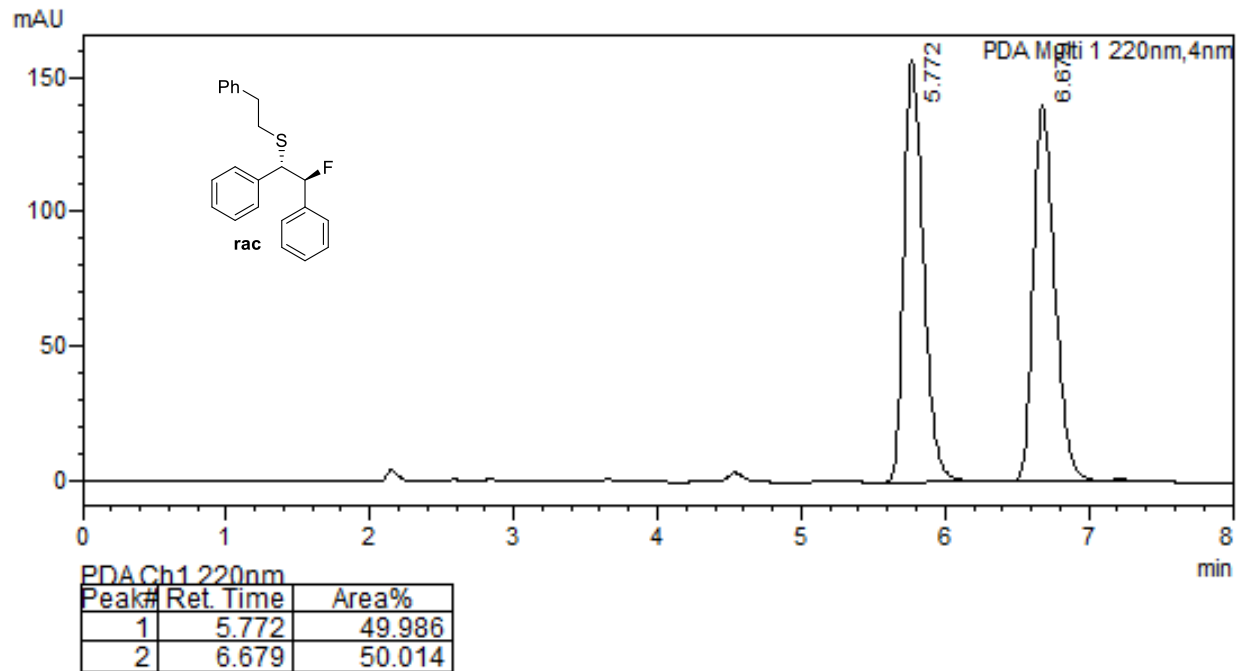


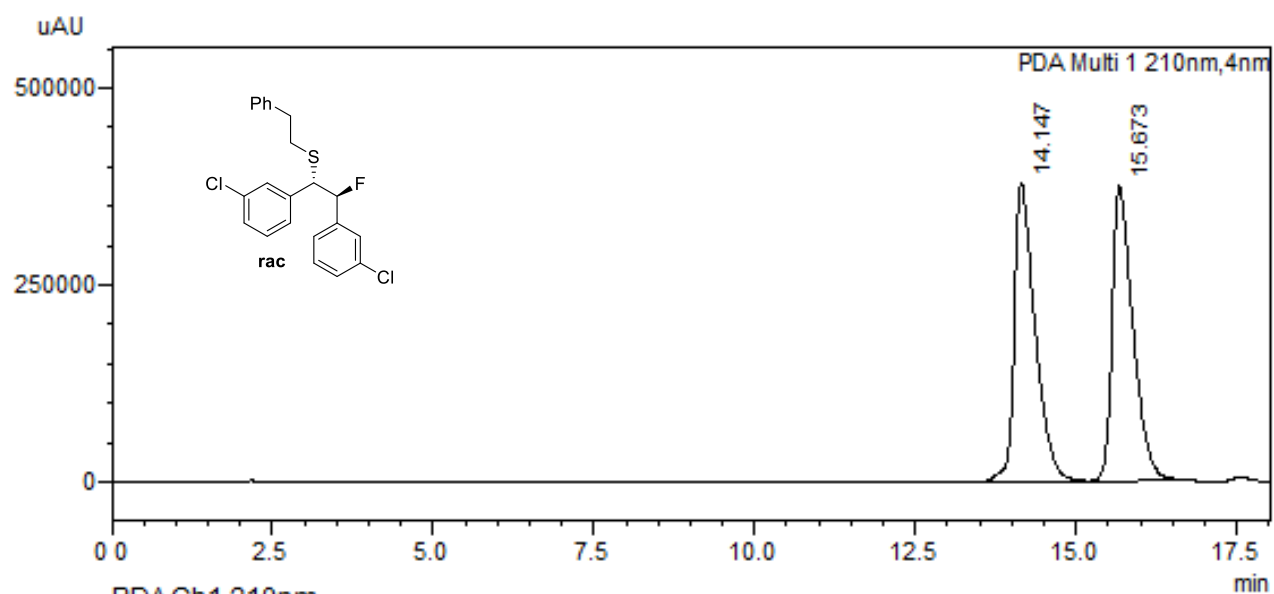






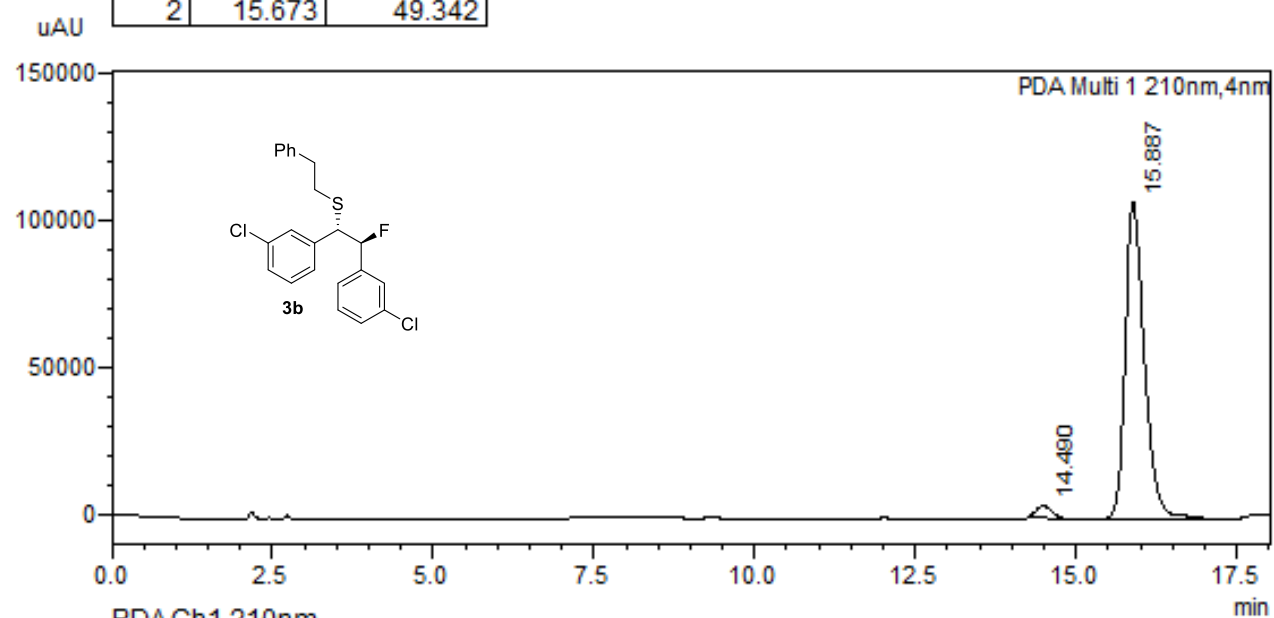
Copies of HPLC traces





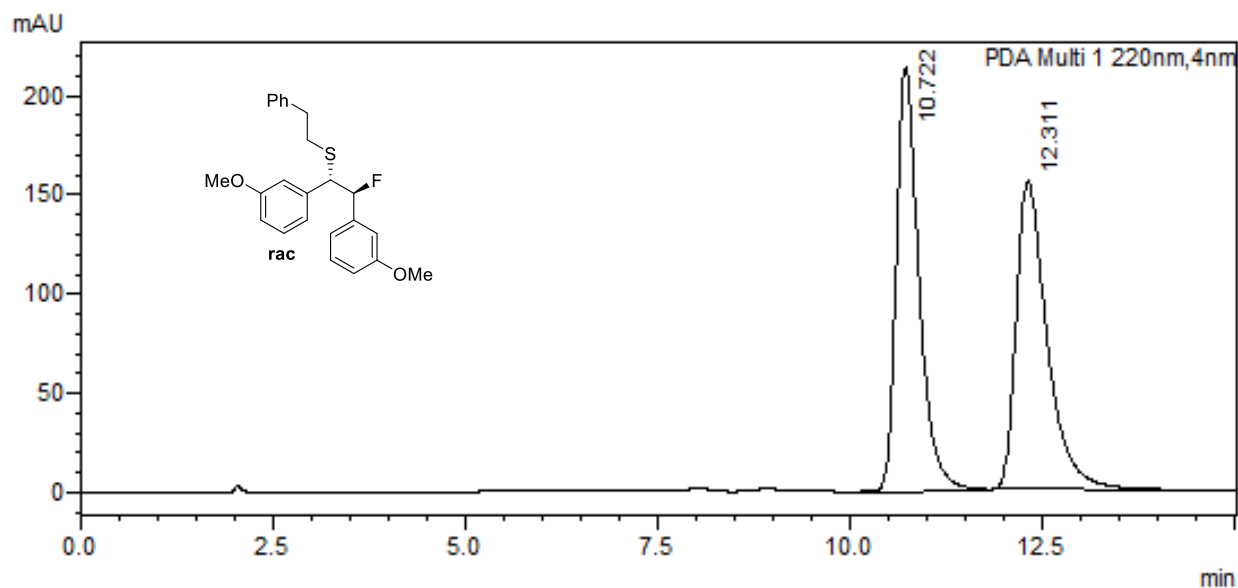
PDACh1 210nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	14.147	50.658
2	15.673	49.342

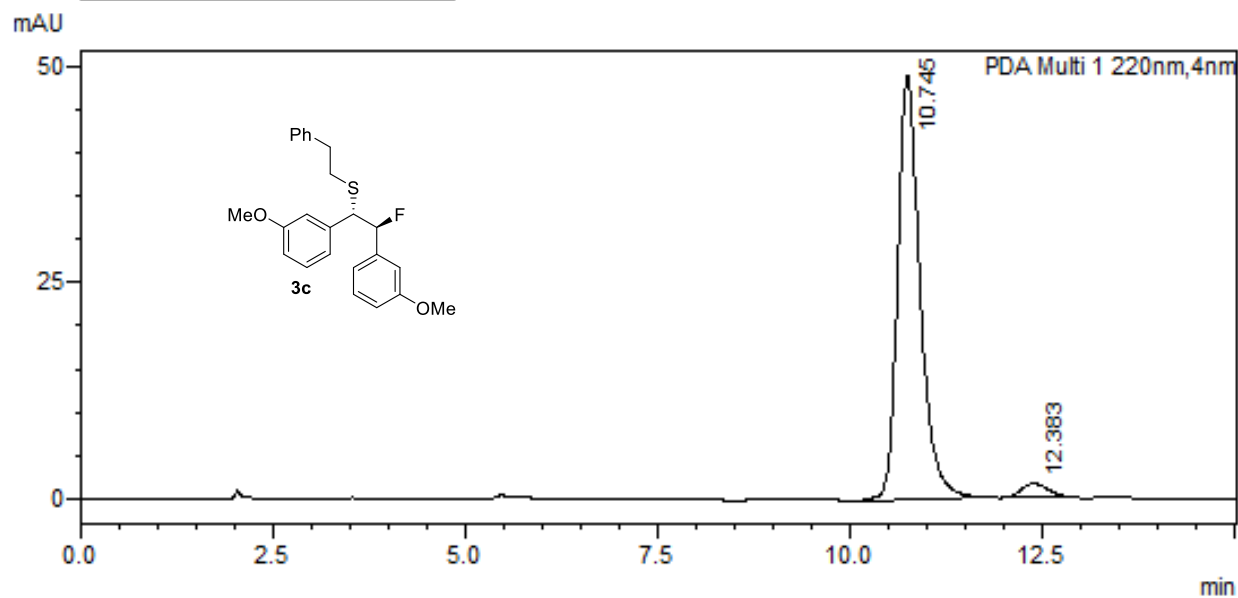


PDACh1 210nm

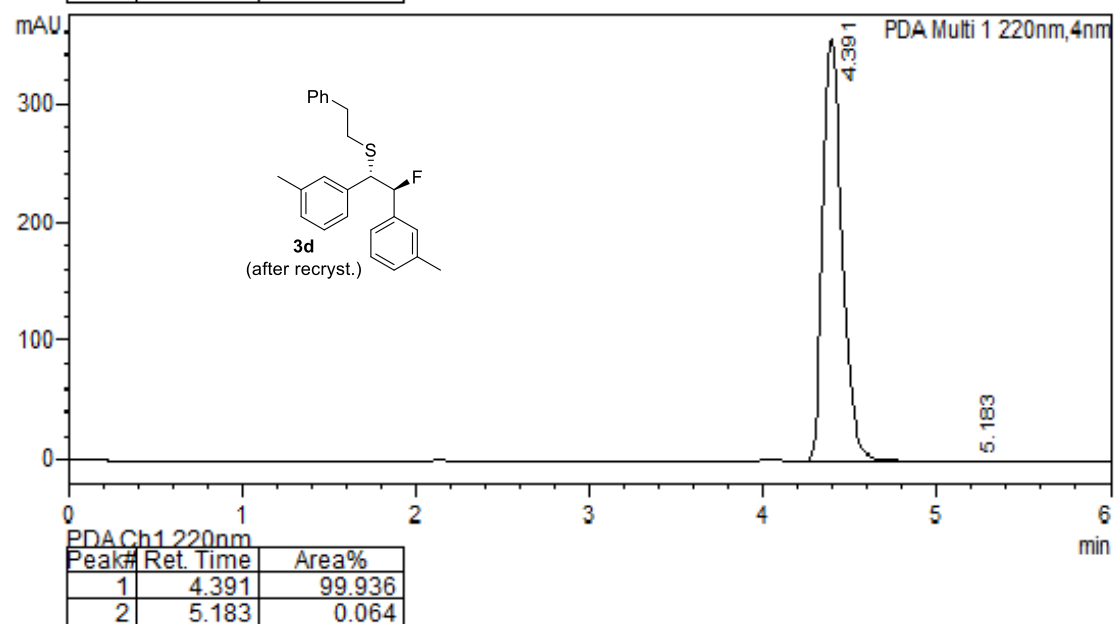
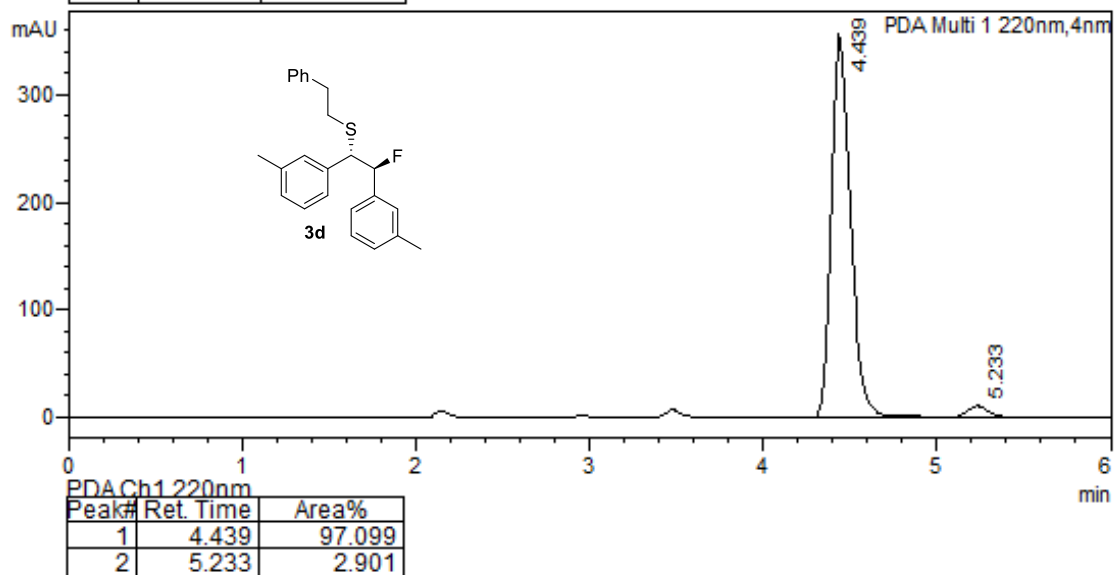
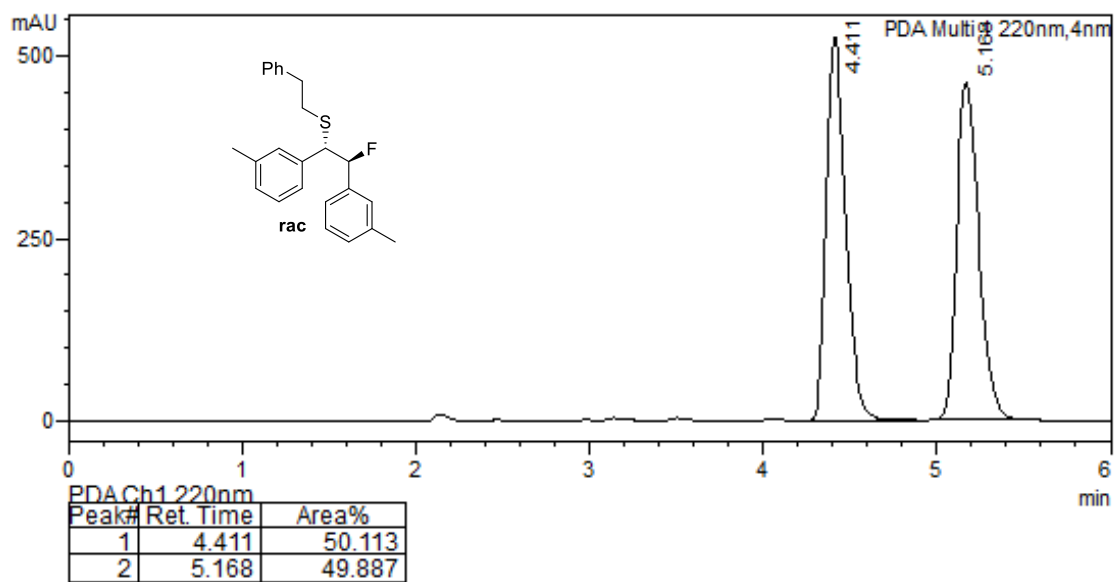
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	14.490	3.065
2	15.887	96.935

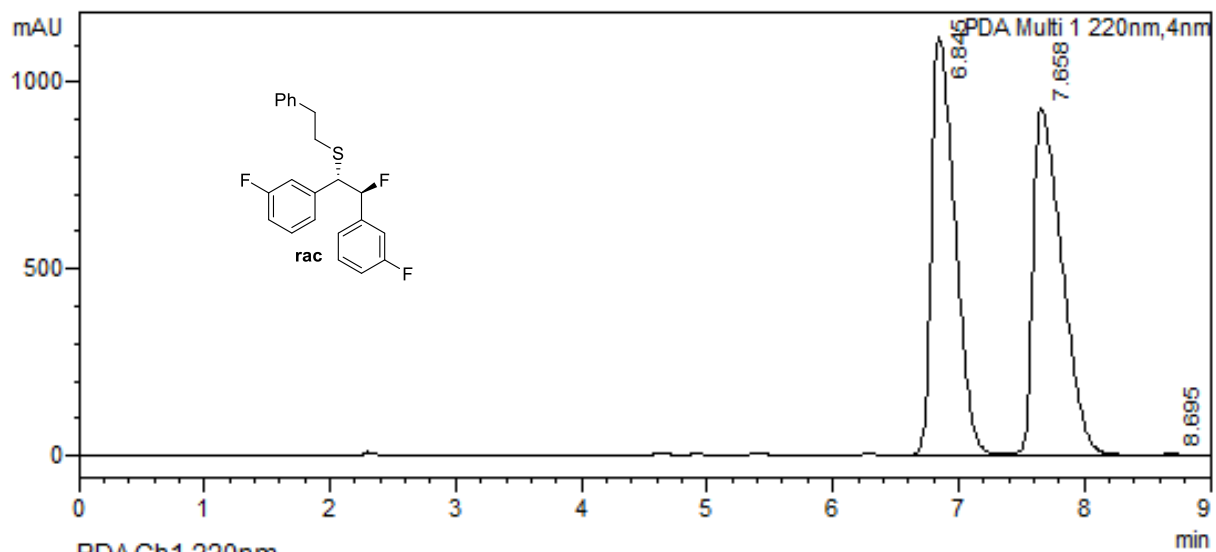


PDA Ch1 220nm		
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	10.722	50.227
2	12.311	49.773



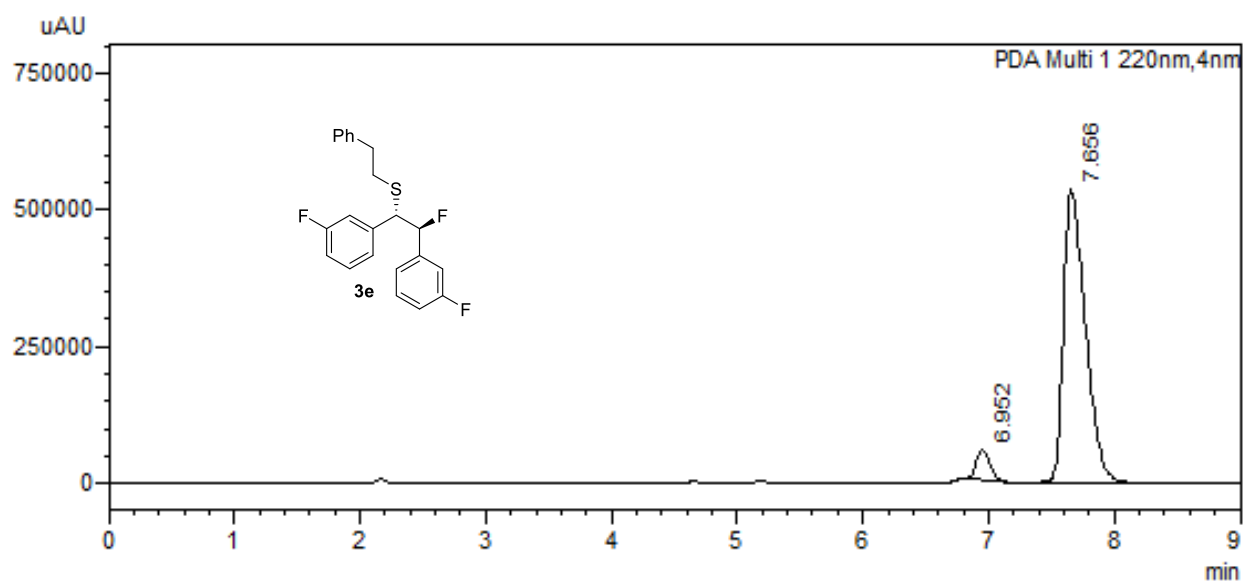
PDA Ch1 220nm		
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	10.745	96.092
2	12.383	3.908





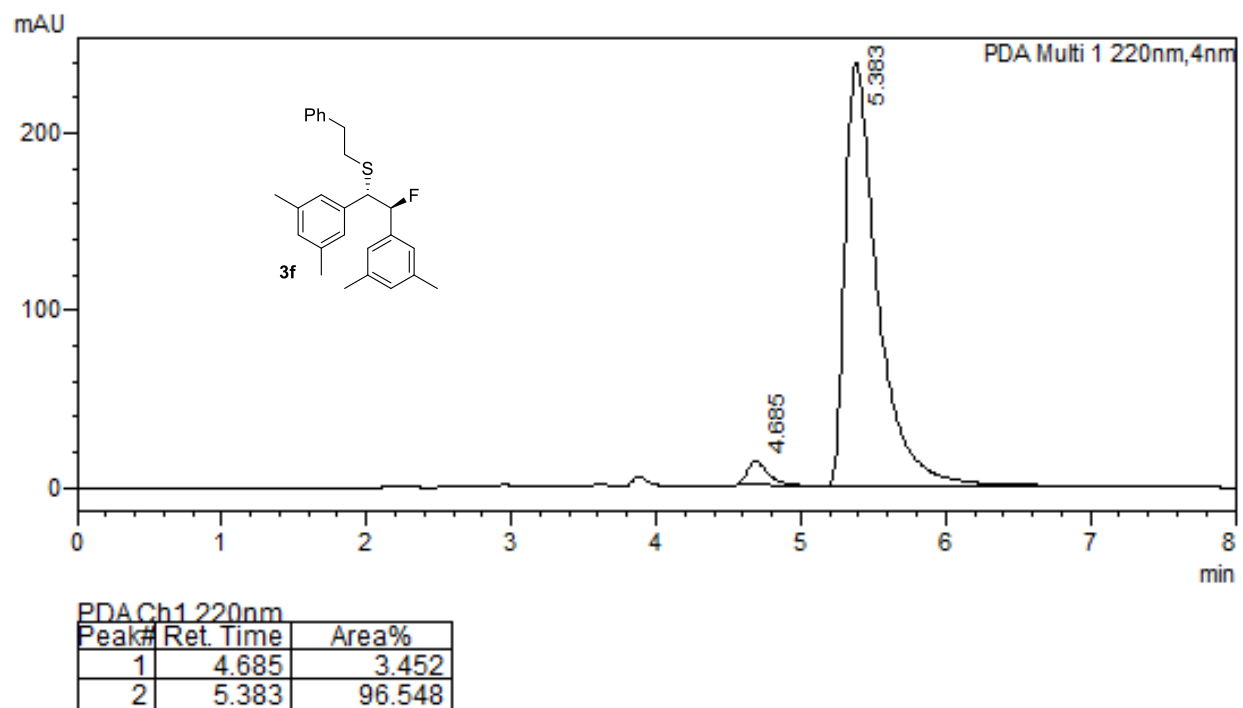
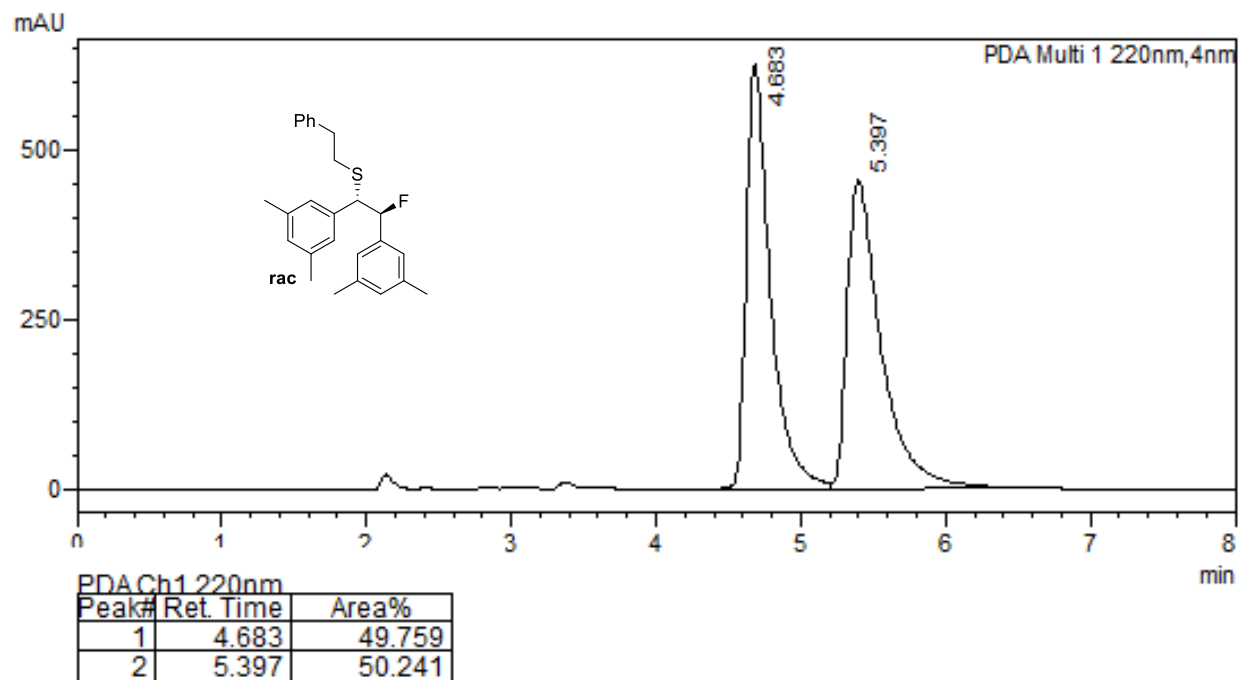
PDA Ch1 220nm

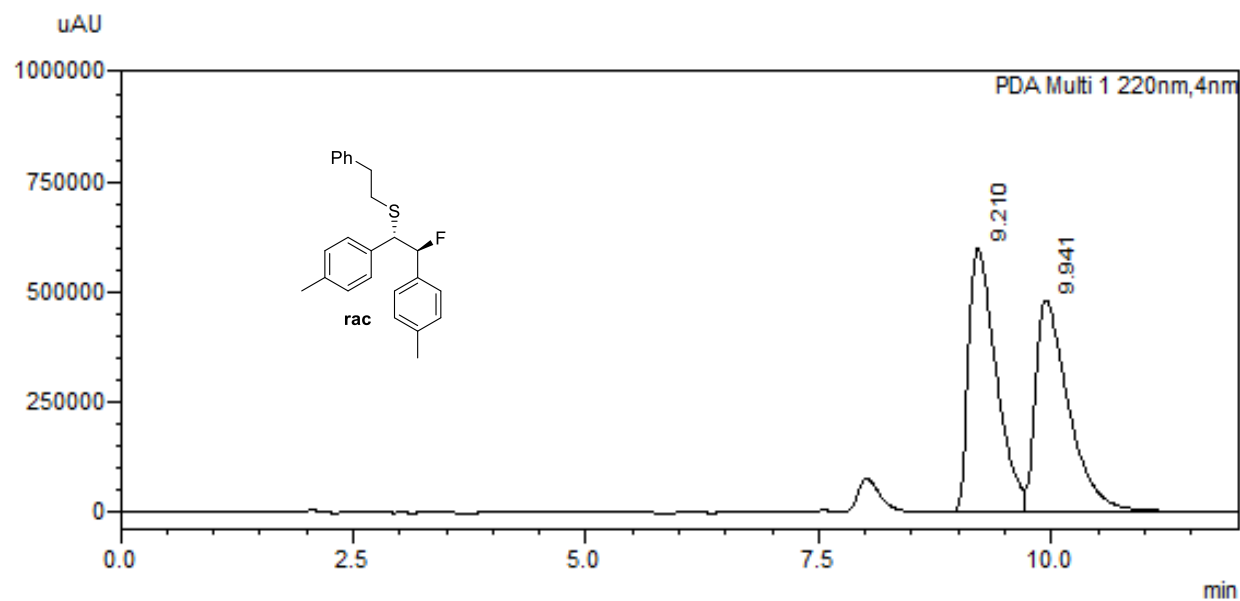
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	6.845	49.336
2	7.658	50.601



PDA Ch1 220nm

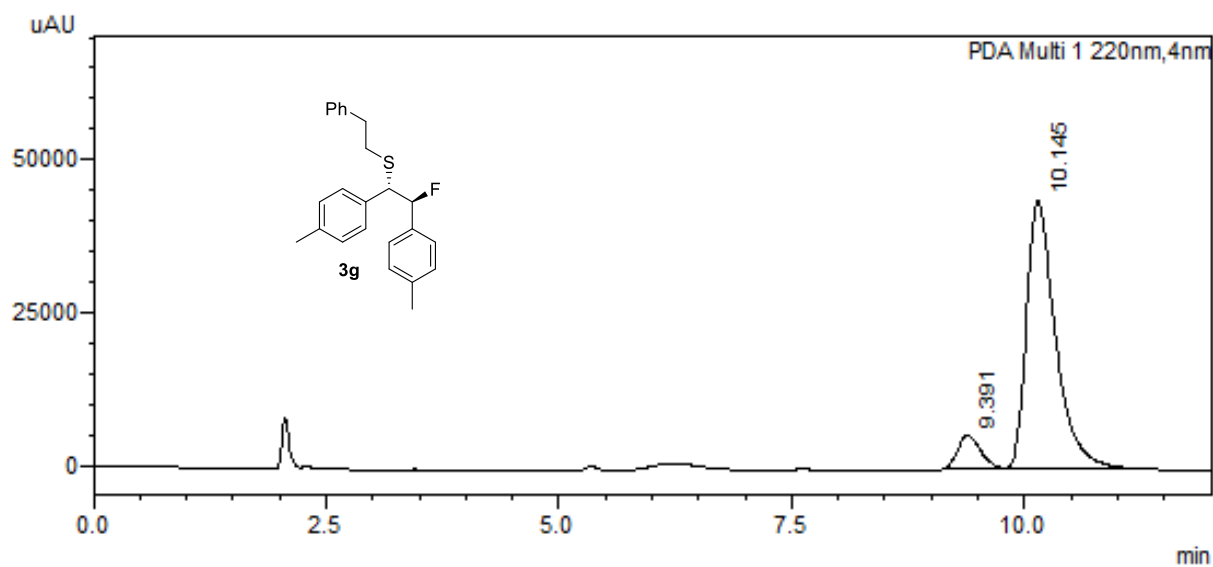
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	6.952	5.947
2	7.656	94.053





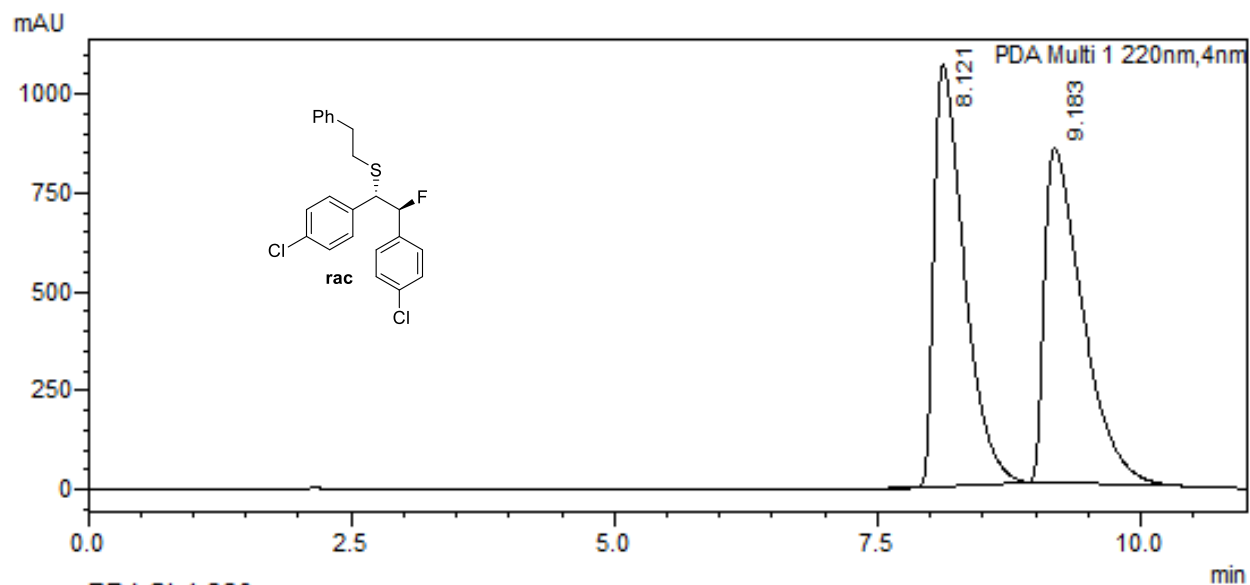
PDA Ch1 220nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	9.210	50.641
2	9.941	49.359



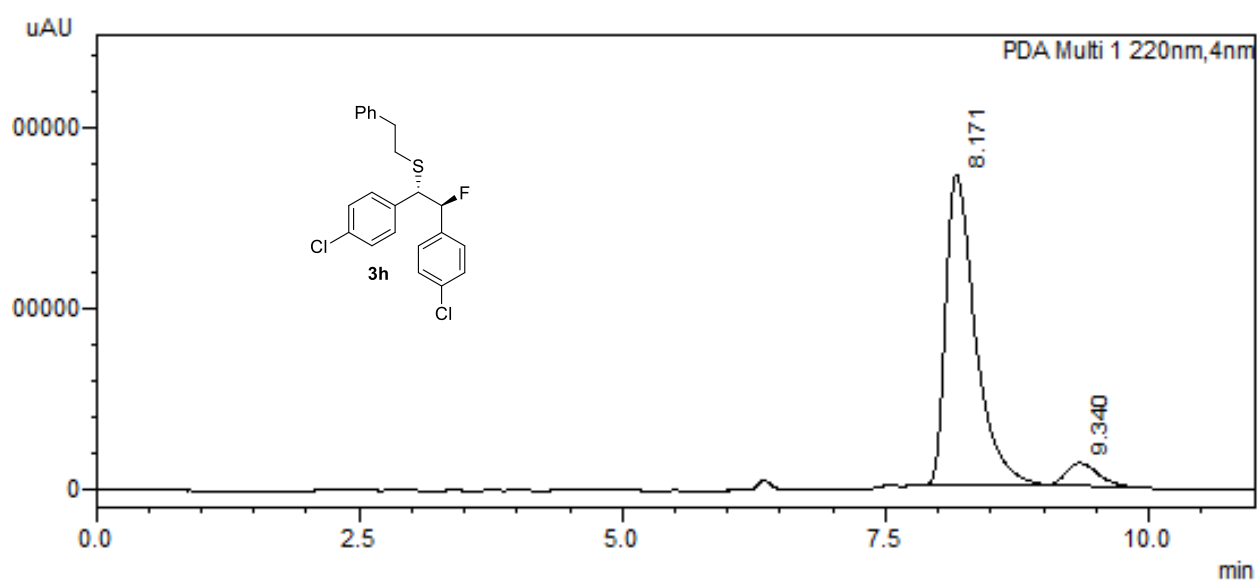
PDA Ch1 220nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	9.391	8.937
2	10.145	91.063



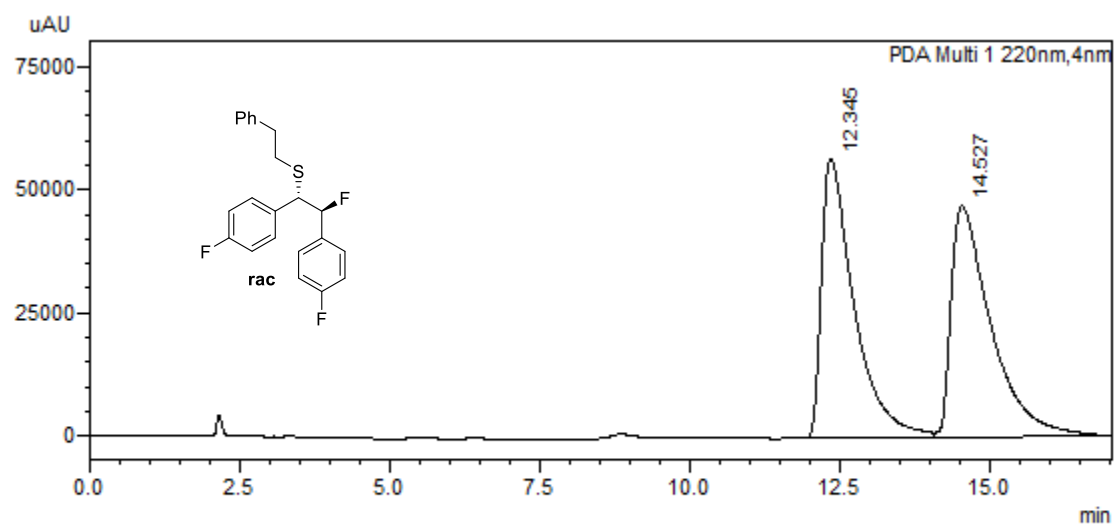
PDA Ch1 220nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	8.121	50.185
2	9.183	49.815



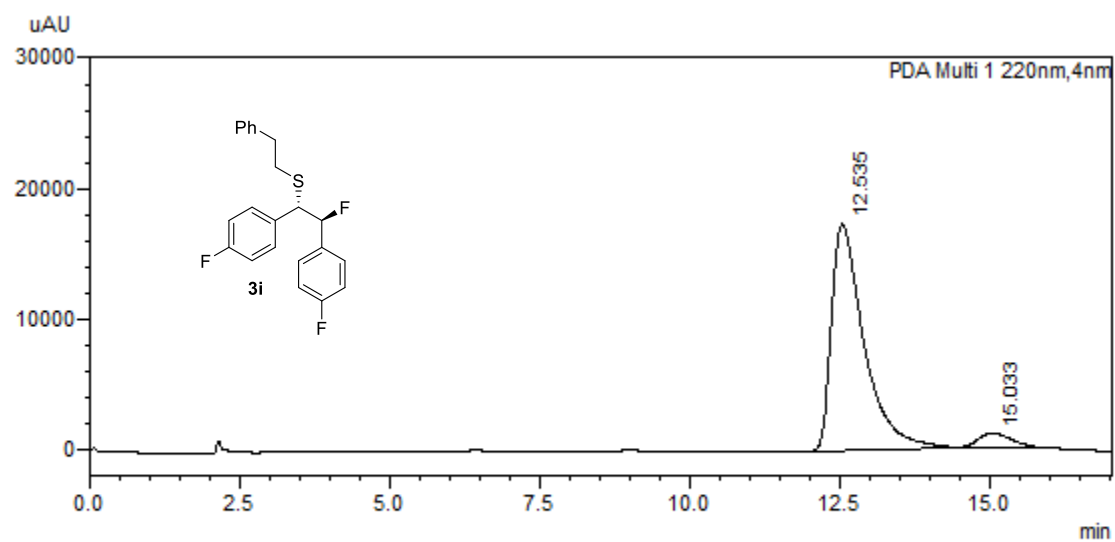
PDA Ch1 220nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	8.171	93.009
2	9.340	6.991



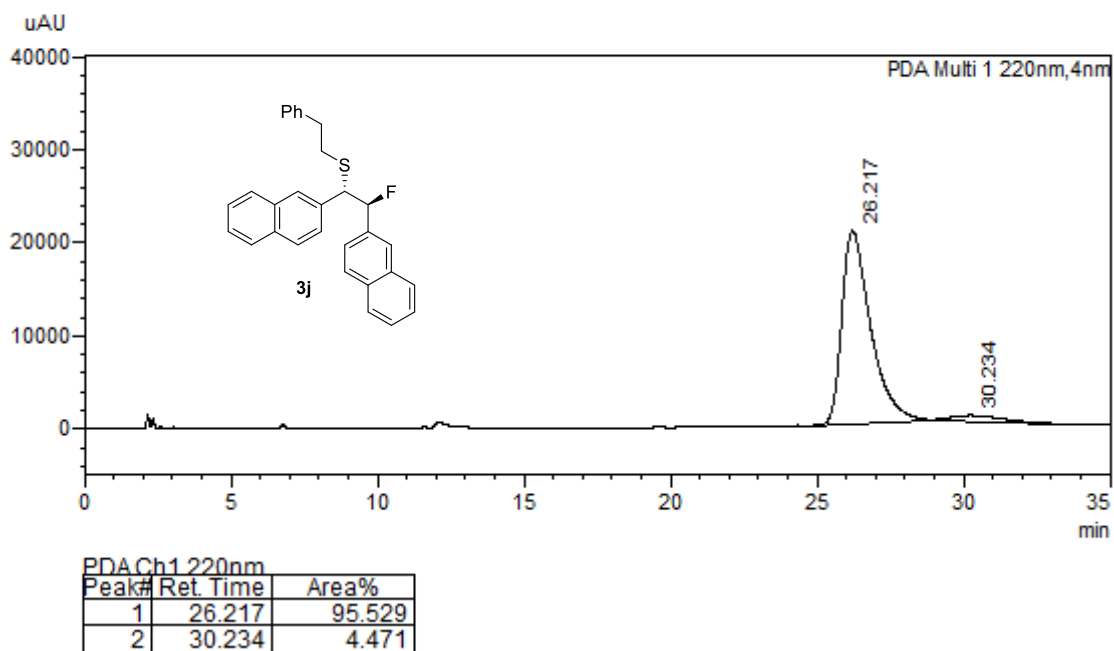
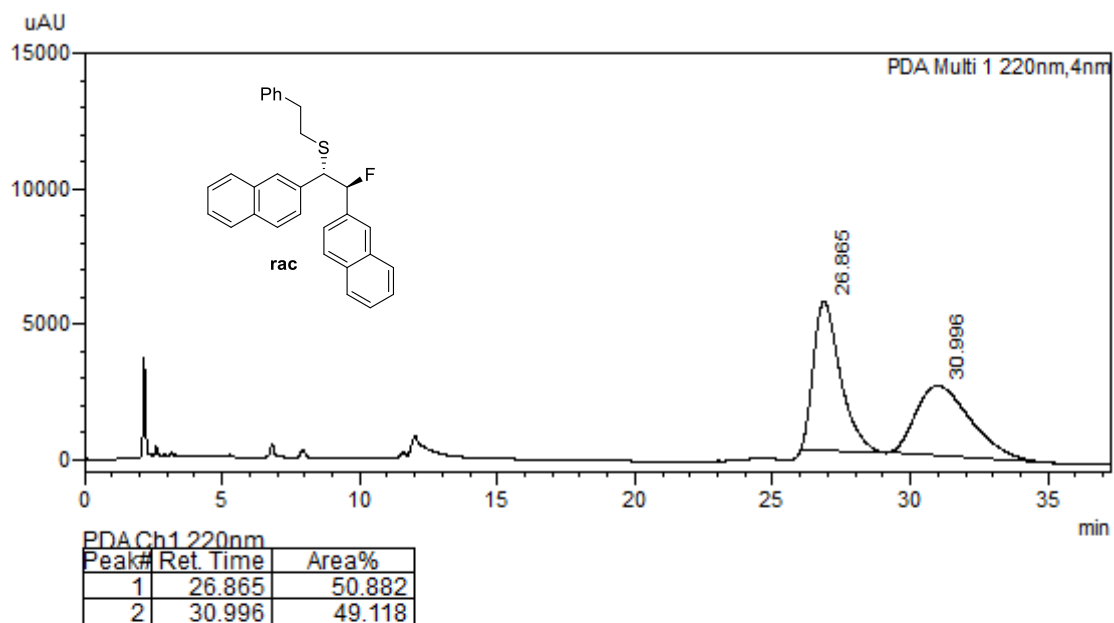
PDA Ch1 220nm

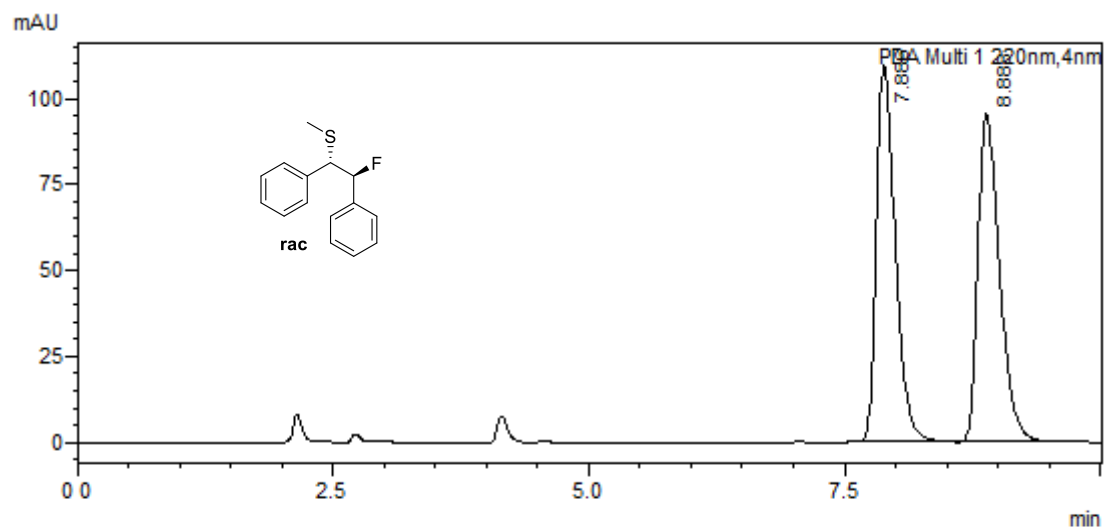
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	12.345	49.809
2	14.527	50.191



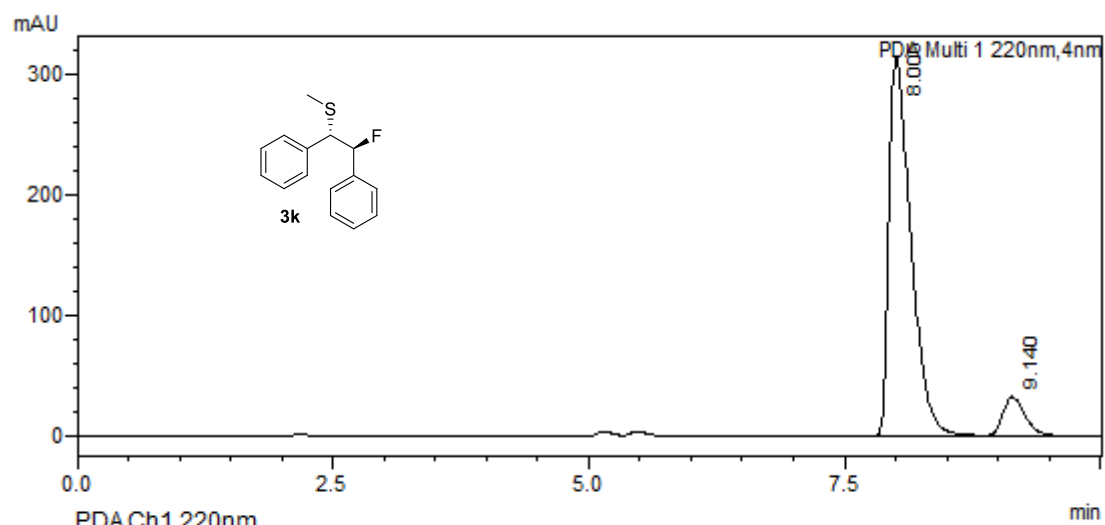
PDA Ch1 220nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	12.535	93.895
2	15.033	6.105

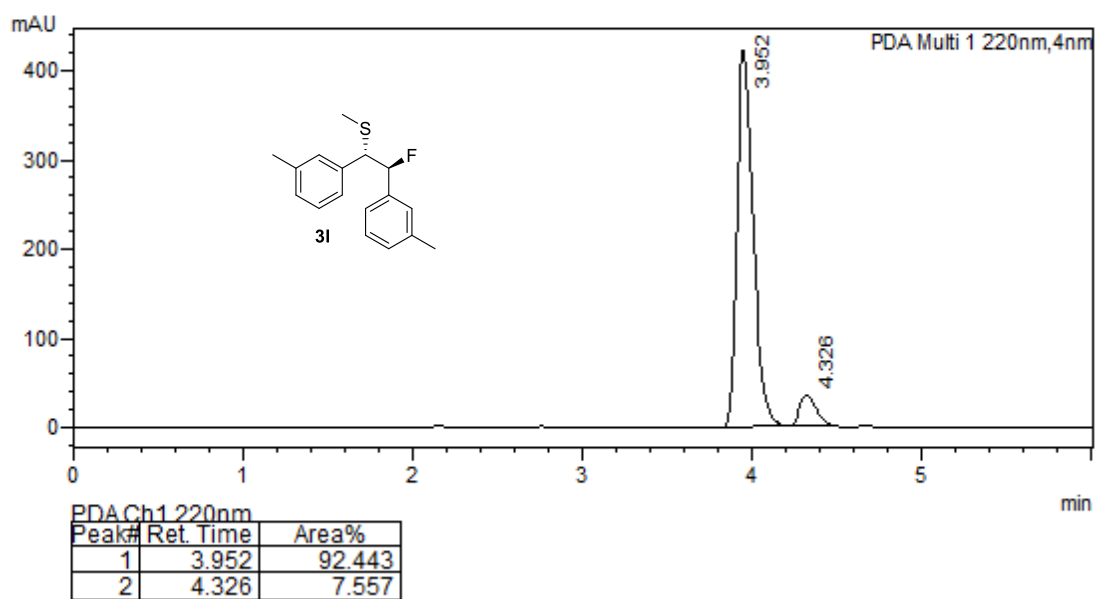
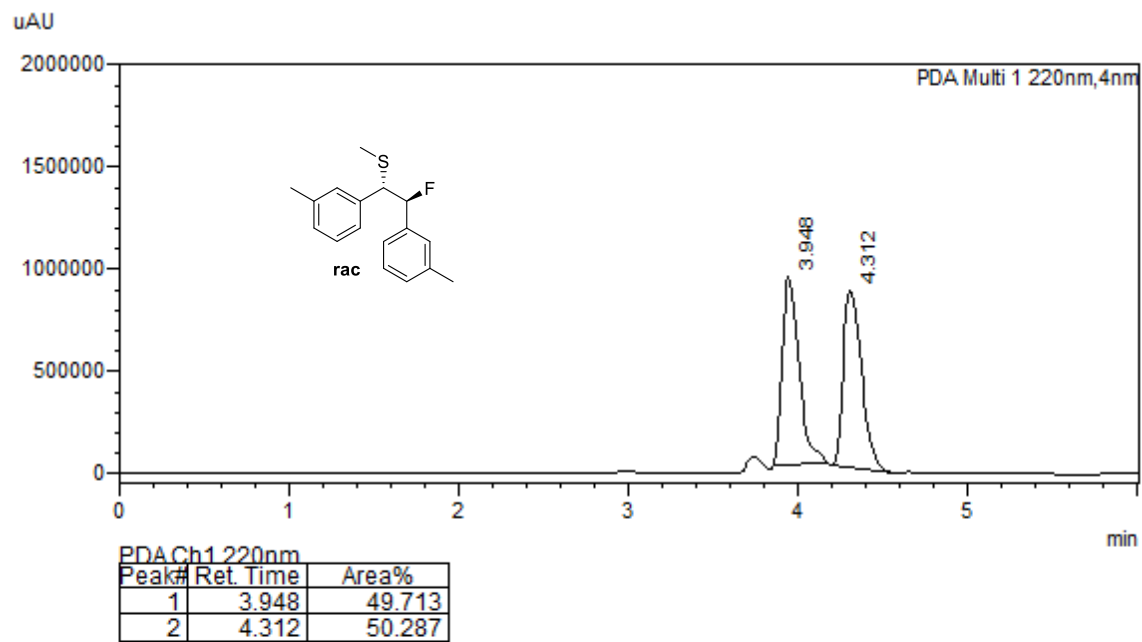




PDA Ch1 220nm		
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	7.886	50.177
2	8.888	49.823



PDA Ch1 220nm		
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area%
1	8.005	90.988
2	9.140	9.012



X-ray Analysis

Data were reduced using CrysAlisPro, solved using SuperFlip (98) and refined using CRYSTALS (99, 100). The Flack x parameter (101, 102) was refined in each case. Bayesian analysis of the Bijvoet pairs was also carried out using all the data used in the refinement (103). This gave the Hooft y parameter, the P2 probability (the likely-hood that the hand is correct given the crystal was enantiopure), and the P3 probability (the likely-hood that the hand is correct given the crystal was enantiopure or racemic).

Crystallographic Data for TBAF·4h complex

Table S29. Crystal data and structure refinement for TBAF·4h complex.

Empirical formula	C ₅₇ H ₆₄ F ₁₃ N ₅ O ₂	
Formula weight	1098.14	
Temperature	150 K	
Wavelength	1.54184 Å	
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	
Space group	P 21 21 21	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 10.22990(10) Å	$\alpha = 90^\circ$
	b = 21.55920(10) Å	$\beta = 90^\circ$
	c = 25.00480(10) Å	$\gamma = 90^\circ$
Volume	5514.77(6) Å ³	
Z	4	
Density (calculated)	1.323 Mg/m ³	
Absorption coefficient	0.951 mm ⁻¹	
F(000)	2296	
Crystal size	0.28 x 0.25 x 0.21 mm ³	
Theta range for data collection	4.088 to 76.391°.	
Index ranges	-12 ≤ h ≤ 12, -27 ≤ k ≤ 27, -31 ≤ l ≤ 31	
Reflections collected	164650	
Independent reflections	11531 [R(int) = 0.046]	
Completeness to theta = 76.391°	99.9 %	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	0.82 and 0.70	

Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F^2
Data / restraints / parameters	11531 / 456 / 751
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.0039
Final R indices [$I > 2\sigma(I)$]	$R1 = 0.0504$, $wR2 = 0.1438$
R indices (all data)	$R1 = 0.0511$, $wR2 = 0.1451$
Absolute structure parameter	0.000(16)
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.63 and -0.49 e. \AA^{-3}

Table S30. Hydrogen bonds for TBAF·**4h** complex [\AA and $^\circ$].

D-H...A	d(D-H)	d(H...A)	d(D...A)	$\angle(\text{DHA})$
C(46)-H(461)...O(3)	0.94	2.18	2.795(4)	122
C(81)-H(812)...O(33)#1	0.99	2.34	3.225(4)	148
C(87)-H(871)...O(33)#1	0.96	2.41	3.313(4)	157

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1 -x,y-1/2,-z+1/2

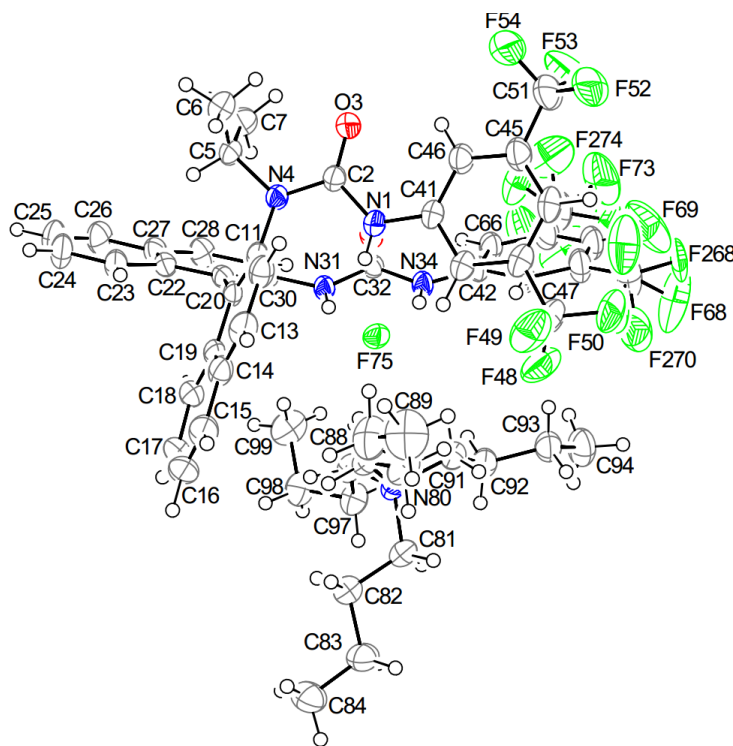


Figure S32. Crystal structure of TBAF·**4h** complex.

Crystallographic Data for 3d

Table S31. Crystal data and structure refinement for **3d**.

Empirical formula	C ₂₄ H ₂₅ F S	
Formula weight	364.53	
Temperature	150 K	
Wavelength	1.54184 Å	
Crystal system	Monoclinic	
Space group	P 21	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 11.4021(3) Å	α = 90°.
	b = 7.21710(10) Å	β = 108.519(3)°.
	c = 12.6576(3) Å	γ = 90°.
Volume	987.66(4) Å ³	
Z	2	
Density (calculated)	1.226 Mg/m ³	
Absorption coefficient	1.547 mm ⁻¹	
F(000)	388	
Crystal size	0.28 x 0.22 x 0.15 mm ³	
Theta range for data collection	3.683 to 76.429°.	
Index ranges	-14 ≤ h ≤ 14, -9 ≤ k ≤ 9, -15 ≤ l ≤ 15	
Reflections collected	22206	
Independent reflections	4088 [R(int) = 0.033]	
Completeness to theta = 76.429°	99.6 %	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	0.79 and 0.66	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²	
Data / restraints / parameters	4088 / 1 / 236	
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.0056	
Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0317, wR2 = 0.0839	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0318, wR2 = 0.0841	
Absolute structure parameter	0.007(3)	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.35 and -0.20 e.Å ⁻³	



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