

Unexpected synthesis of aziridines under Cu(I) catalyzed Kinugasa conditions assisted by microwaves irradiation

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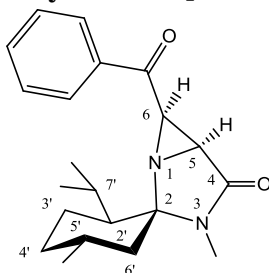
Experimental Section

General methods: Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on aluminum sheets coated with silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ (Merck). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded using a Bruker DRX400 spectrometer with the residual solvent as the internal standard. The chemical shifts are expressed on the δ scale in parts per million (ppm). The following abbreviations are used to explain the observed multiplicities: s, singlet; d, doublet; dd, doublet of doublets; ddd, doublet of doublet of doublets; t, triplet; m, multiplet; br, broad. NMR solvents were purchased from Eurisotop (Saint Aubin, France). MS (ESI) data were recorded in the positive mode using a Bruker MicrOTOF-Q II spectrometer. Structure elucidation was deduced from 1D and 2D NMR spectroscopy which allowed signal assignments based on COSY and HSQC correlations and by X-ray diffraction analysis.

General Procedure: Reaction of nitron 1 with alkynes.

In a Biotage Initiator 5-mL vial, CuI (100 mg) was suspended in anhydrous DMF (1 mL). The vial was flushed with argon and Et₃N (3 eq, 1.26 mmol, 127 mg), then alkyne (4eq, 1.68 mmol) was added. The solution was stirred for 10 min at 0°C and nitron 1 (1 eq, 0.42 mmol, 100 mg) in anhydrous DMF (1 mL) was added. The vial was sealed with a septum cap and was irradiated by microwaves at 100°C. TLC monitoring (EtOAc/PE 5/5) showed full conversion after 2 h. The crude mixture was dissolved in biphasic mixture (EtOAc/H₂O, 50 mL, 1/1). The aqueous layer was separated and then extracted with EtOAc (3×10 mL). The organic layers were combined and washed with brine (2×30 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, concentrated and purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (EtOAc/PE 1/3) to provide aziridines 3-4.

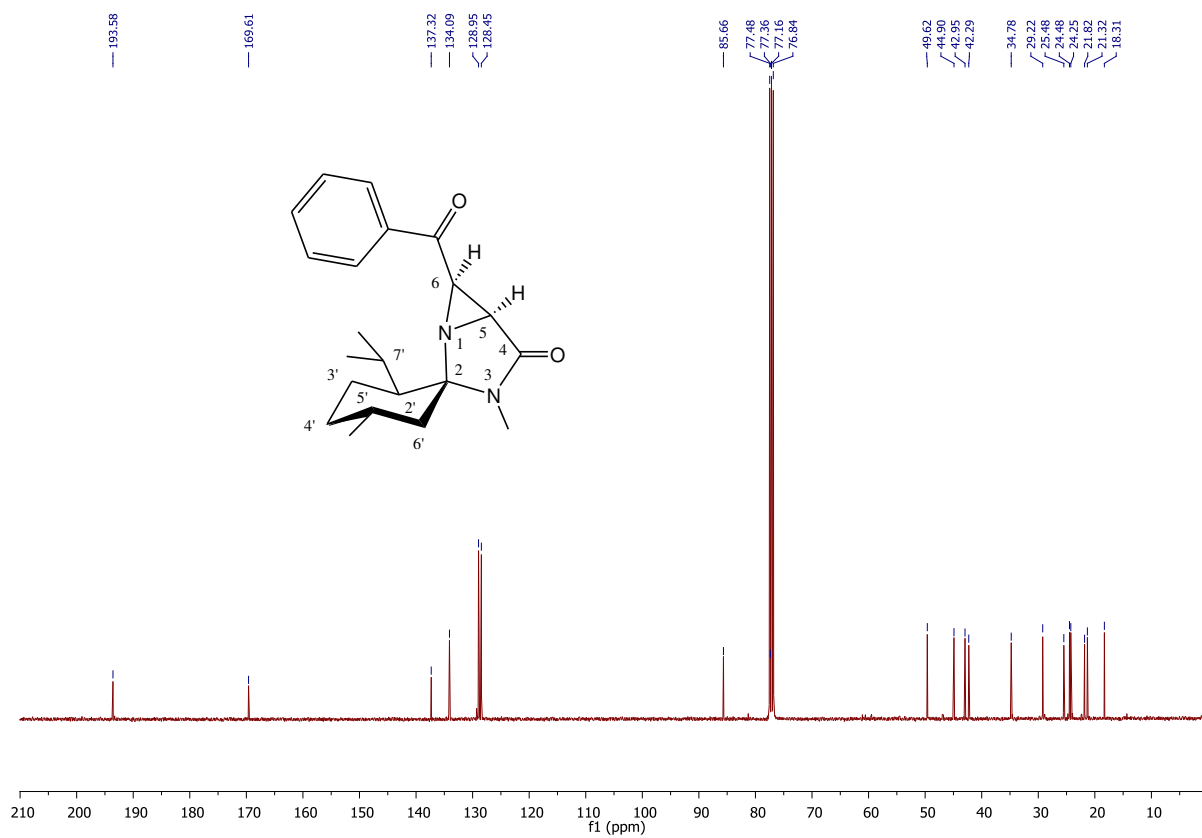
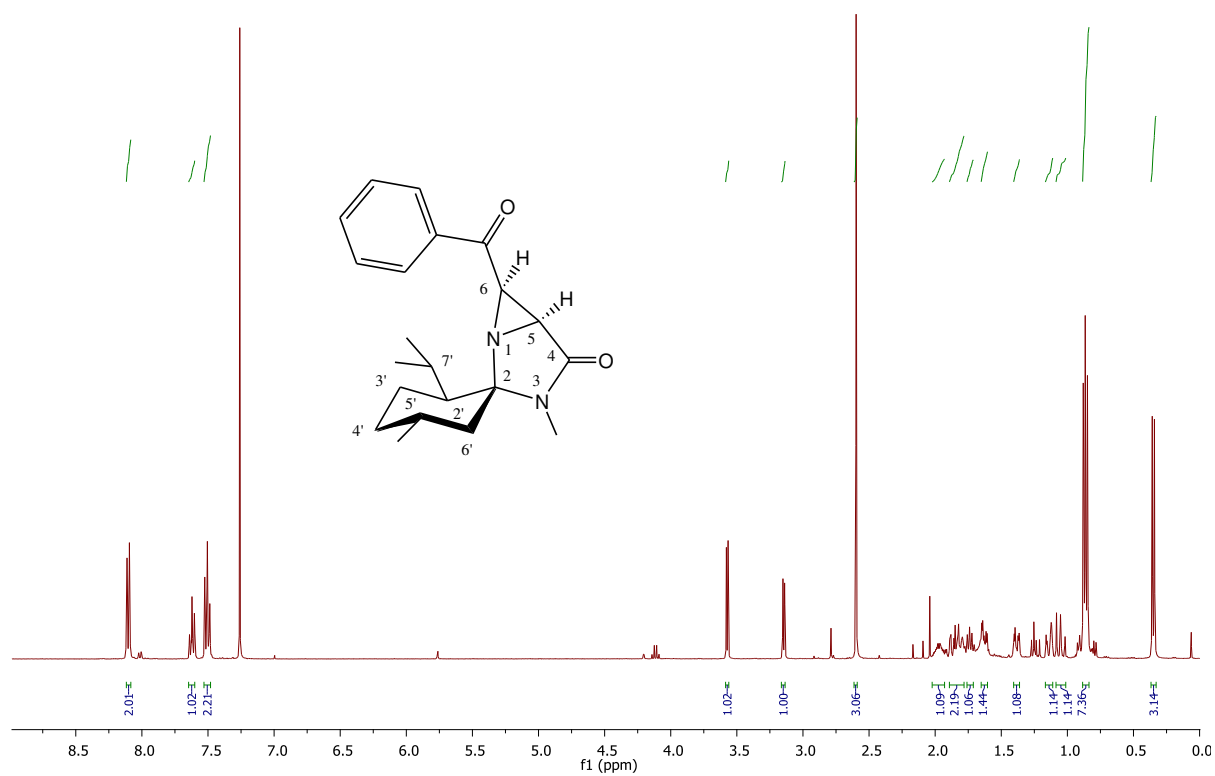
(1'R,2'S,5S,5'R,6R)-6-benzoyl-2'-isopropyl-3,5'-dimethyl-1,3-diazaspiro[bicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2,1'-cyclohexan]-4-one (4a)



Obtained as a white solid (75 mg, 52%) following general procedure: alkyne 2a (171 mg).

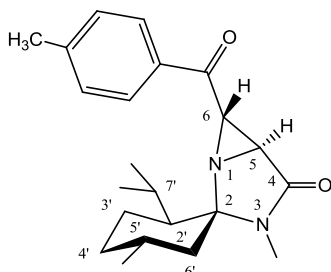
(4a) White solid ; M.p. 182–183°C (Et₂O); R_f = 0.46 (EtOAc/PE, 5/5); [α]_D²⁰ = -85.7 (c = 0.2, CH₂Cl₂); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 0.34 (d, 3H, J = 6.6 Hz, CH₃), 0.85 (d, 3H, J = 5.84 Hz, CH₃), 0.86 (d, 3H, J = 5.92 Hz, CH₃), 0.89-0.92 (m, 1H), 1.05 (t, 1H, J_{gem} = 12.1 Hz), 1.11-1.16 (m, 1H), 1.38 (ddd, 1H, J = 9.0 Hz, J = 3.4 Hz, J = 1.1 Hz), 1.62 (dq, 1H, J = 10.2, J = 7.8, J = 4.7 Hz), 1.69-1.73 (m, 1H), 1.78-1.79 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.89 (m, 1H), 1.91-2.02 (m, 1H), 2.59 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.14 (d, 1H, J = 5.1 Hz), 3.57 (d, 1H, J = 5.1 Hz), 7.47-7.52 (m, 2H, Harom), 7.62 (tt, 1H, J = 6.1 Hz, J = 4.2 Hz, J = 1.3 Hz, Harom), 8.07-8.15 (m, 2H, Harom); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 18.3, 21.3, 21.8, 24.2, 24.5, 25.5 (NCH₃), 29.2,

34.8, 42.3, 42.9, 44.9, 49.6, 85.7, 128.4, 128.9, 134.1, 137.3, 169.6 (C=O), 193.6(C=O);
HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{21}H_{29}N_2O_2[M+H]^+$ 341.2224; found 341.2228.

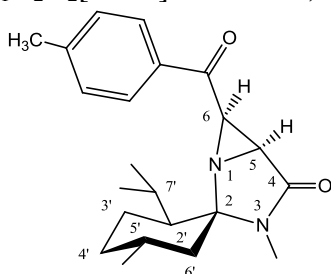


(1'R,2'S,5S,5'R,6S)-2'-isopropyl-3,5'-dimethyl-6-(4-methylbenzoyl)-1,3-diazaspiro[bicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2,1'-cyclohexan]-4-one (3b) and (1'R,2'S,5S,5'R,6R)-2'-isopropyl-3,5'-dimethyl-6-(4-methylbenzoyl)-1,3-diazaspiro[bicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2,1'-cyclohexan]-4-one (4b)

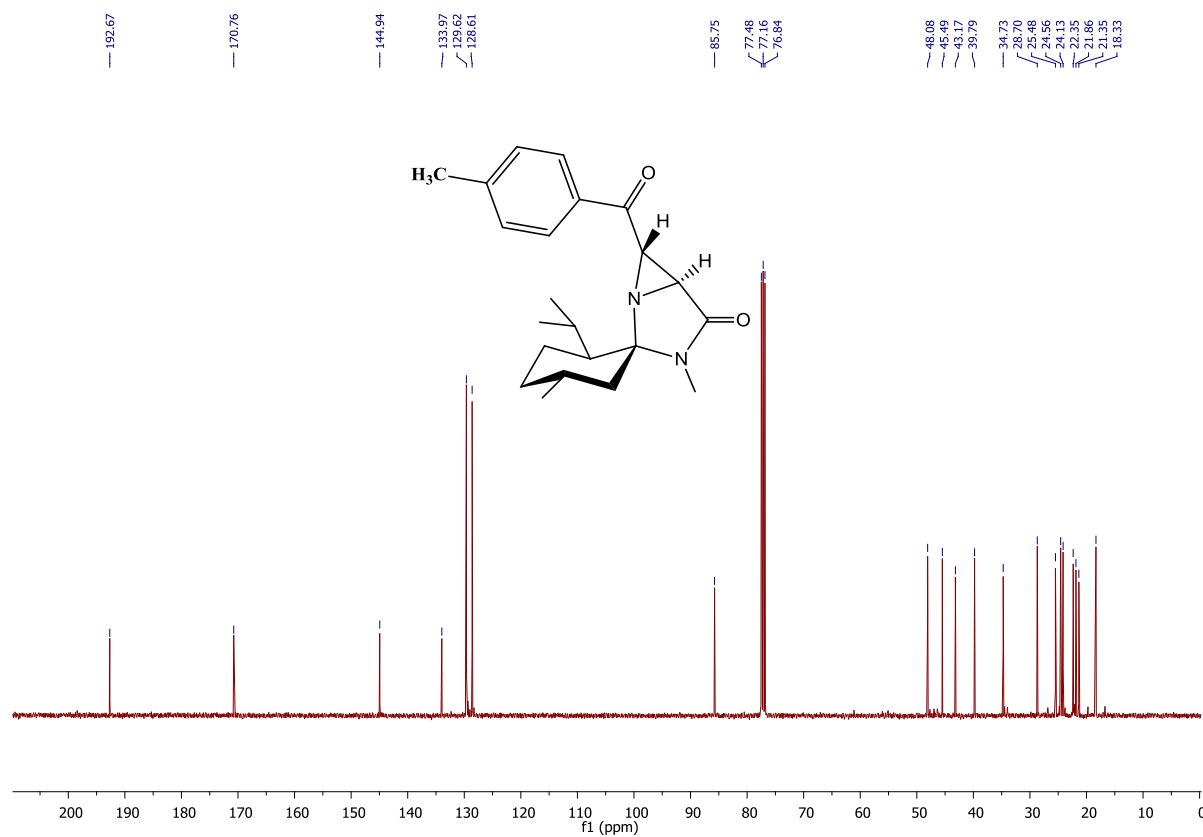
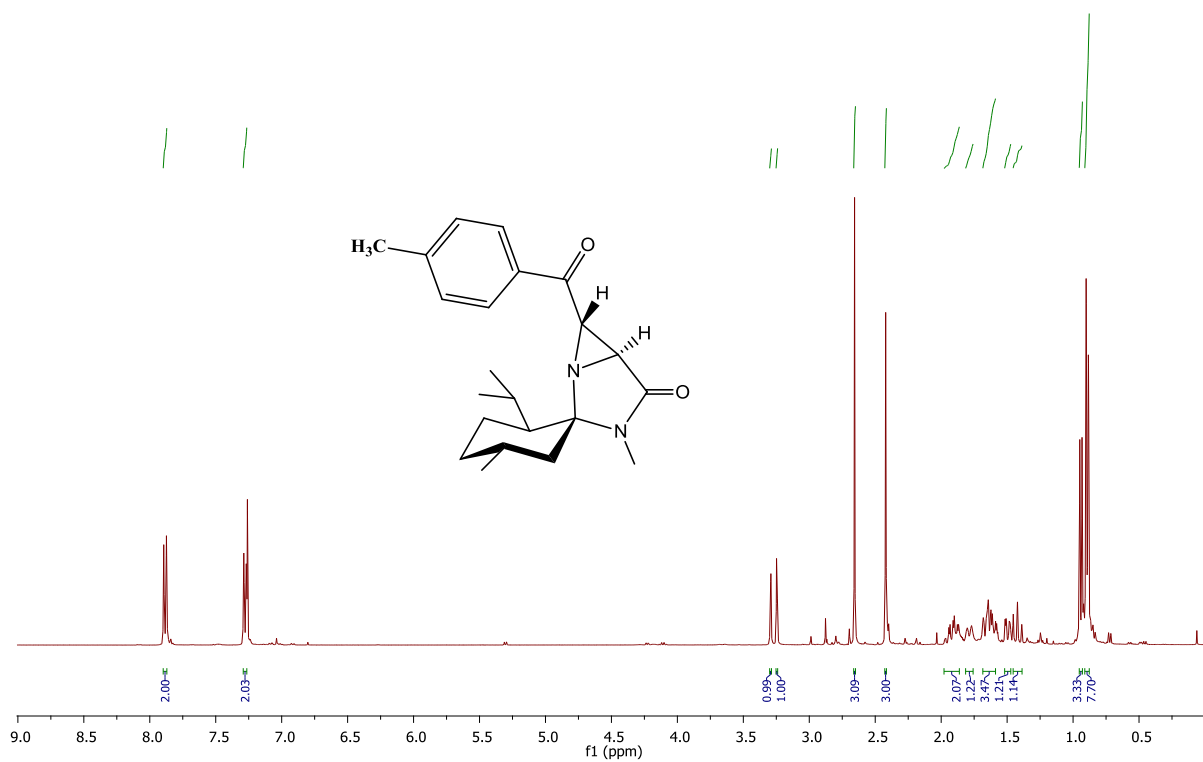
Compounds **3b** (47 mg, 13%) and **4b** (190 mg, 53%) were obtained following general procedure: alkyne **2b** (194 mg).

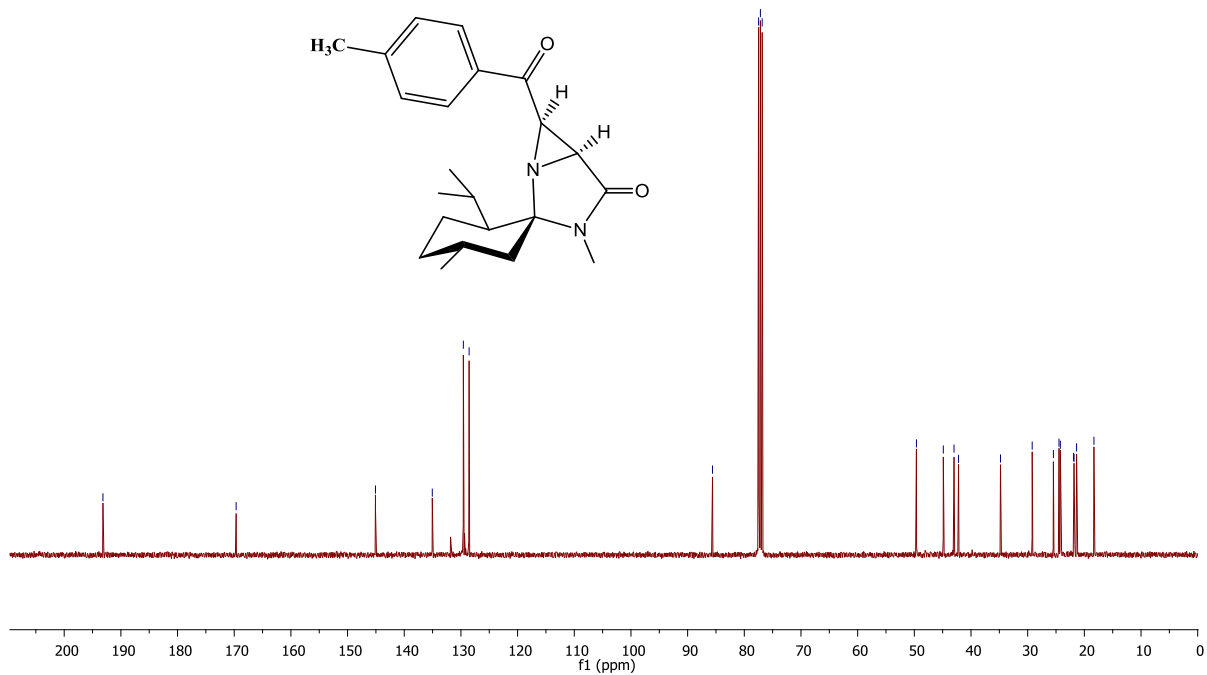
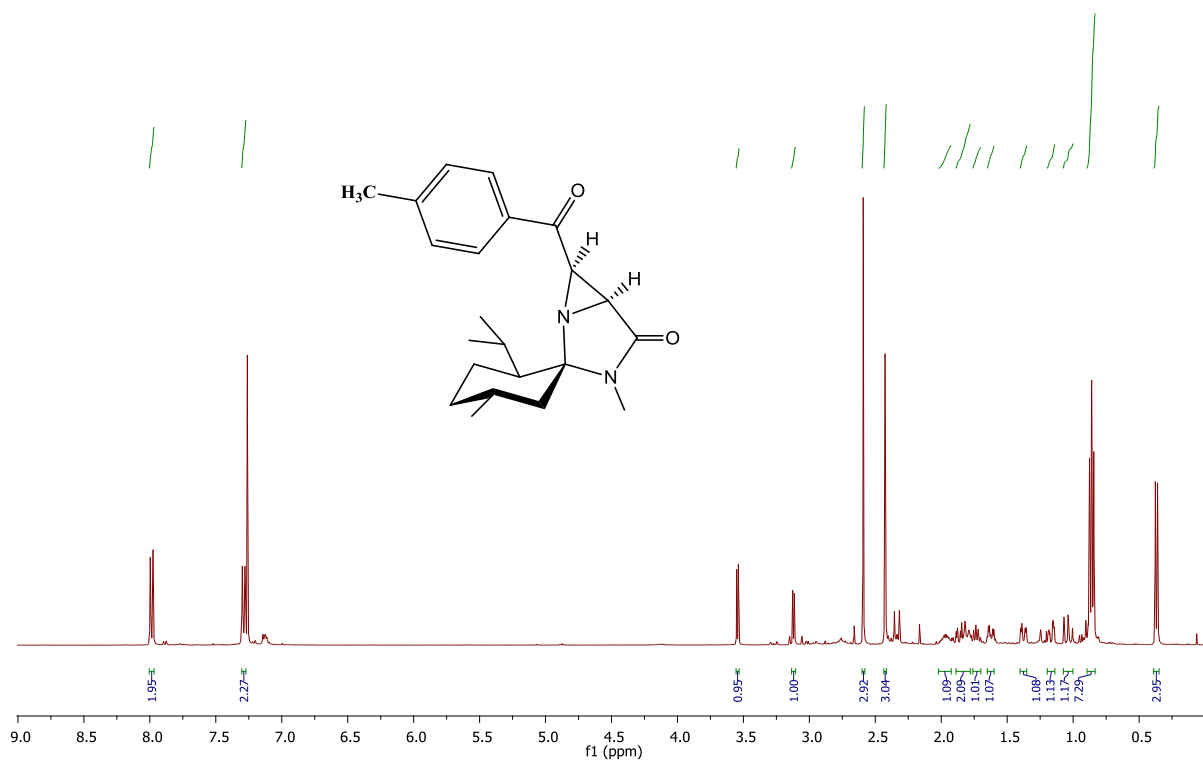


(3b) Yellow amorphous solid; $R_f = 0.56$ (EtOAc/PE, 5/5); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +100.0$ ($c = 0.2$, CH_2Cl_2); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 0.87$ (d, 6H, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 2 CH_3), 0.93 (d, 3H, $J = 6.8$ Hz, CH_3), 0.94-0.96 (m, 1H), 1.05 (t, 1H, $J_{\text{gem}} = 12.8$ Hz), 1.48-1.52 (m, 1H), 1.61-1.66 (m, 3H), 1.77-1.80 (m, 1H), 1.89-1.92 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H, CH_3), 2.65 (s, 3H, NCH_3), 3.24 (d, 1H, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 3.30 (d, 1H, $J = 1.7$ Hz), 7.27 (d, 2H, $J = 8.0$ Hz, Harom), 7.88 (d, 2H, $J = 8.2$ Hz, Harom); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 18.3$, 21.3, 21.9, 22.3, 24.1, 24.6, 25.5 (NCH_3), 28.7, 34.7, 39.8, 43.2, 45.5, 48.1, 85.7, 128.6, 129.6, 134.0, 145.0, 170.8 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 192.7 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$); HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 355.2380; found 355.2378.



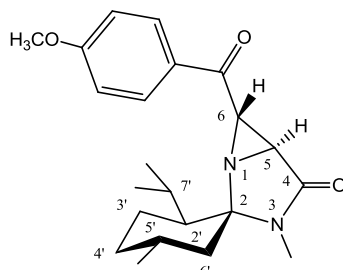
(4b) White solid; M.p. 177–178°C (Et_2O); $R_f = 0.42$ (EtOAc/PE, 5/5); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -9.8$ ($c = 0.7$, CH_2Cl_2); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 0.36$ (d, 3H, $J = 6.6$ Hz, CH_3), 0.85 (d, 3H, $J = 6.6$ Hz, CH_3), 0.87 (d, 3H, $J = 6.3$ Hz, CH_3), 0.90-0.96 (m, 1H), 1.03 (t, 1H, $J_{\text{gem}} = 13.4$ Hz), 1.14-1.19 (m, 1H), 1.38 (ddd, 1H, $J = 9.1$ Hz, $J = 3.4$ Hz, $J = 1.1$ Hz), 1.59-1.65 (m, 1H), 1.68-1.75 (m, 1H), 1.79-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.93-2.00 (m, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H, CH_3), 2.59 (s, 3H, NCH_3), 3.14 (d, 1H, $J = 5.1$ Hz), 3.56 (d, 1H, $J = 5.1$ Hz), 7.27-7.30 (m, 2H, Harom), 7.98-8.00 (m, 2H, Harom); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 18.3$, 21.4 (CH_3), 21.8, 21.9, 24.2, 24.5, 25.5 (NCH_3), 29.2, 34.8, 42.2, 43.0, 44.9, 49.6, 85.6, 128.6, 129.6, 135.0, 145.1, 169.7 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 193.2 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$); HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 355.2380; found 355.2371.





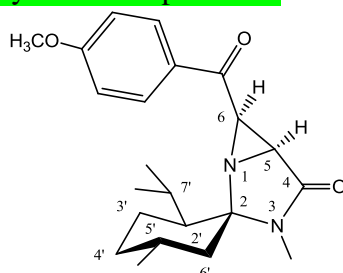
(1'R,2'S,5S,5'R,6S)-2'-isopropyl-6-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-3,5'-dimethyl-1,3-diazaspiro[bicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2,1'-cyclohexan]-4-one (3c) and (1'R,2'S,5S,5'R,6R)-2'-isopropyl-6-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-3,5'-dimethyl-1,3-diazaspiro[bicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2,1'-cyclohexan]-4-one (4c)

Compounds **3c** (80 mg, 21%) and **4c** (194 mg, 52%) were obtained following general procedure: alkyne **2c** (221 mg).

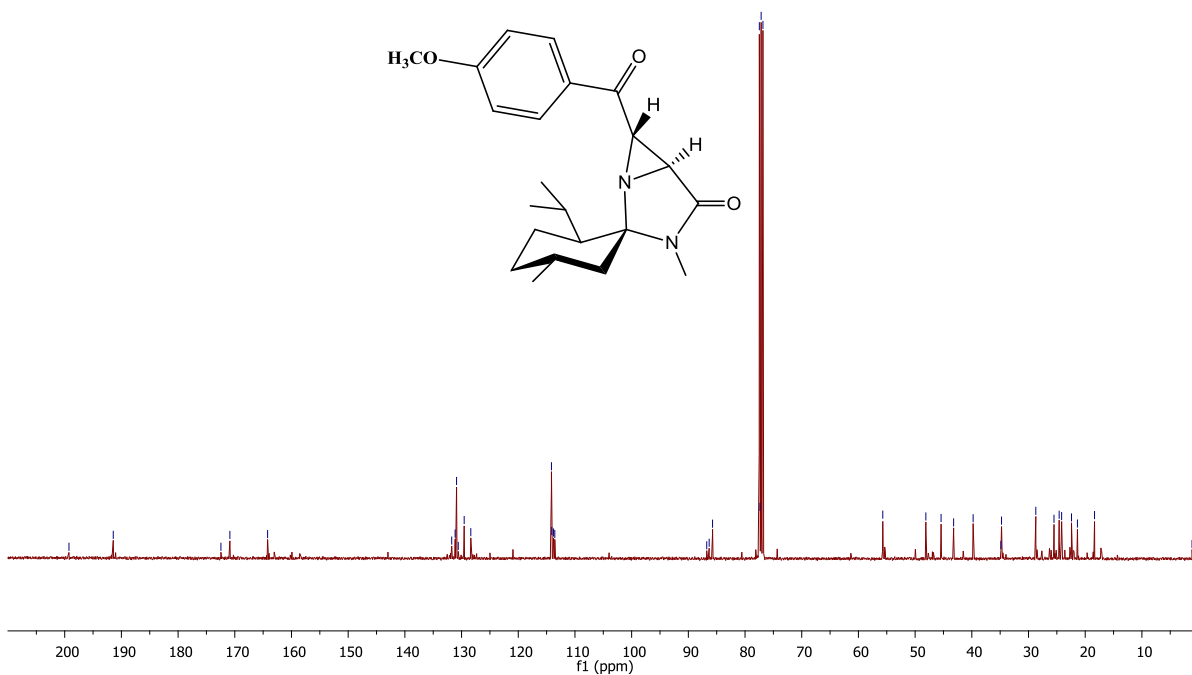
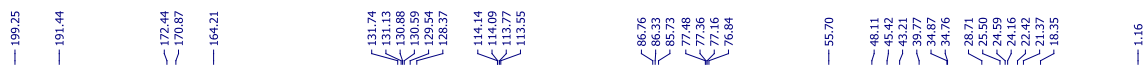
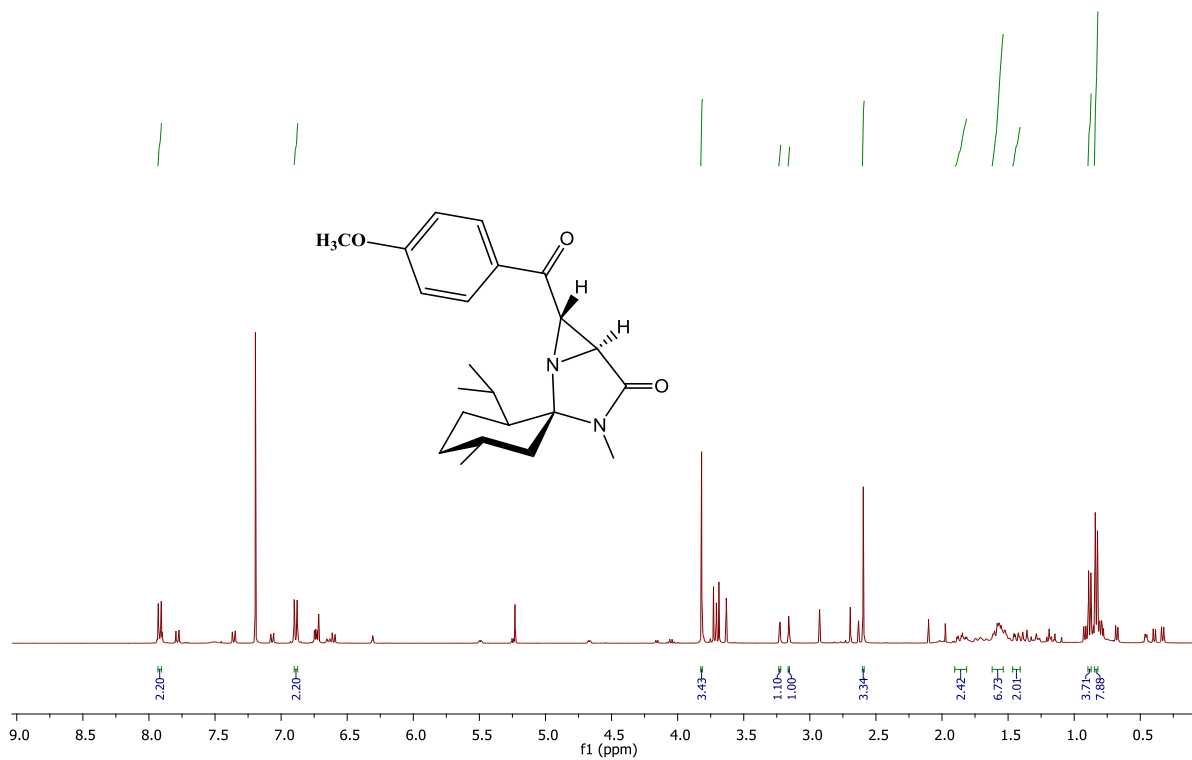


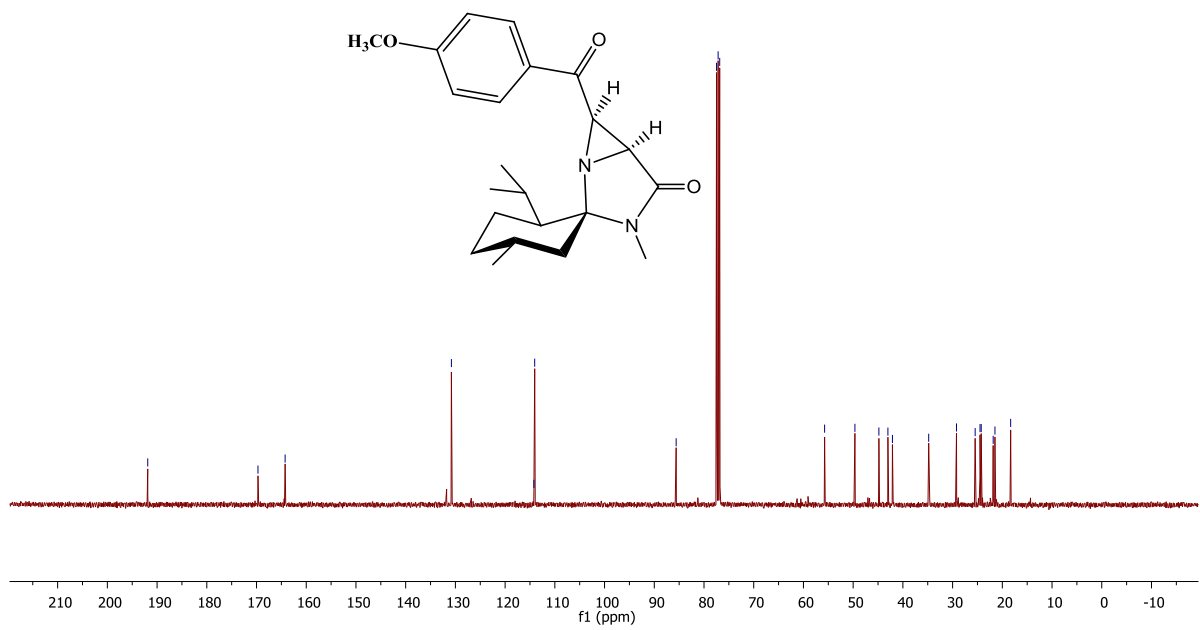
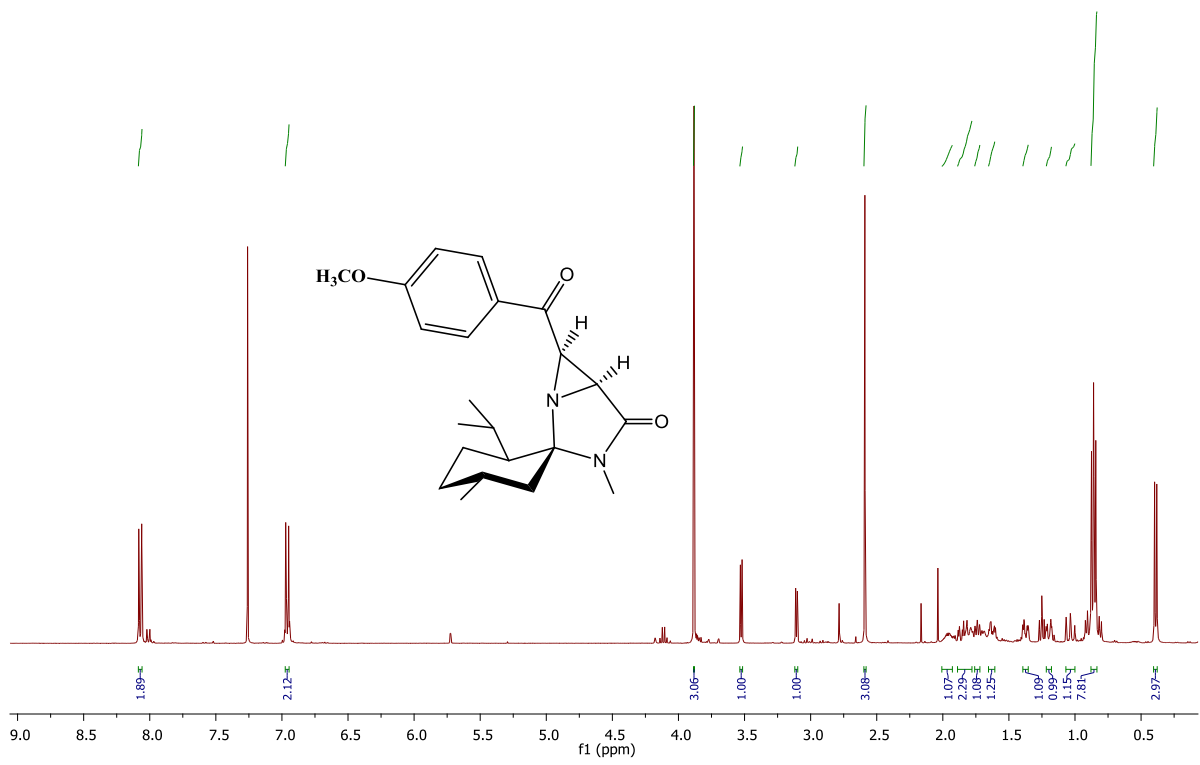
(3c)* Yellow amorphous solid; $R_f = 0.38$ (EtOAc/PE, 5/5); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 0.90$ (d, 6H, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 2 CH_3), 0.94 (d, 3H, $J = 6.8$ Hz, CH_3), 0.96-0.99 (m, 1H), 1.21-1.27 (m, 1H), 1.50 (ddd, 1H, $J = 8.8$ Hz, $J = 3.5$ Hz, $J = 1.1$ Hz), 1.59-1.65 (m, 3H), 1.76-1.79 (m, 3H), 2.66 (s, 3H, NCH_3), 3.22 (d, 1H, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 3.29 (d, 1H, $J = 1.8$ Hz), 3.88 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 6.95 (dt, 2H, $J = 8.9$ Hz, $J = 2.8$ Hz, H-arom), 7.98 (dt, 2H, $J = 8.9$ Hz, $J = 3.2$ Hz, H-arom). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 18.3, 21.4, 22.4, 24.2, 24.6, 25.5$ (NCH_3), 28.7, 34.8, 39.8, 43.2, 45.4, 48.1, 55.7 (OCH_3), 85.7, 114.1, 130.7, 131.0, 164.1, 170.7 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 191.3 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$); HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 371.2320; found 371.2317.

* Compound **3c** is contaminated by unknown products.



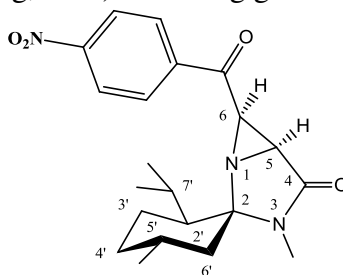
(4c) White solid; M.p. 165–166°C (Et_2O); $R_f = 0.28$ (EtOAc/PE, 5/5); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -6.1$ ($c = 0.8$, CH_2Cl_2); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 0.39$ (d, 3H, $J = 6.6$ Hz, CH_3), 0.85 (d, 3H, $J = 6.7$ Hz, CH_3), 0.86 (d, 3H, $J = 6.2$ Hz, CH_3), 0.89-0.92 (m, 1H), 1.03 (t, 1H, $J_{\text{gem}} = 13.3$ Hz), 1.18-1.23 (m, 1H), 1.37 (ddd, 1H, $J = 9.0$ Hz, $J = 3.4$ Hz, $J = 1.1$ Hz), 1.59-1.64 (m, 1H), 1.70-1.77 (m, 1H), 1.81-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.91-2.01 (m, 1H), 2.58 (s, 3H, NCH_3), 3.11 (d, 1H, $J = 5.1$ Hz), 3.52 (d, 1H, $J = 5.2$ Hz), 3.88 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 6.95 (dt, 2H, $J = 9$ Hz, $J = 2.7$ Hz, Harom), 8.07 (dt, 2H, $J = 9$ Hz, $J = 2.9$ Hz, Harom); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 18.3, 21.5, 21.8, 24.2, 24.5, 25.5$ (NCH_3), 29.2, 34.8, 42.1, 43.0, 44.8, 49.6, 55.7 (OCH_3), 85.6, 114.1, 130.7, 130.8, 164.2, 169.7 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 191.9 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$); HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_3[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 393.2149; found 393.2140.



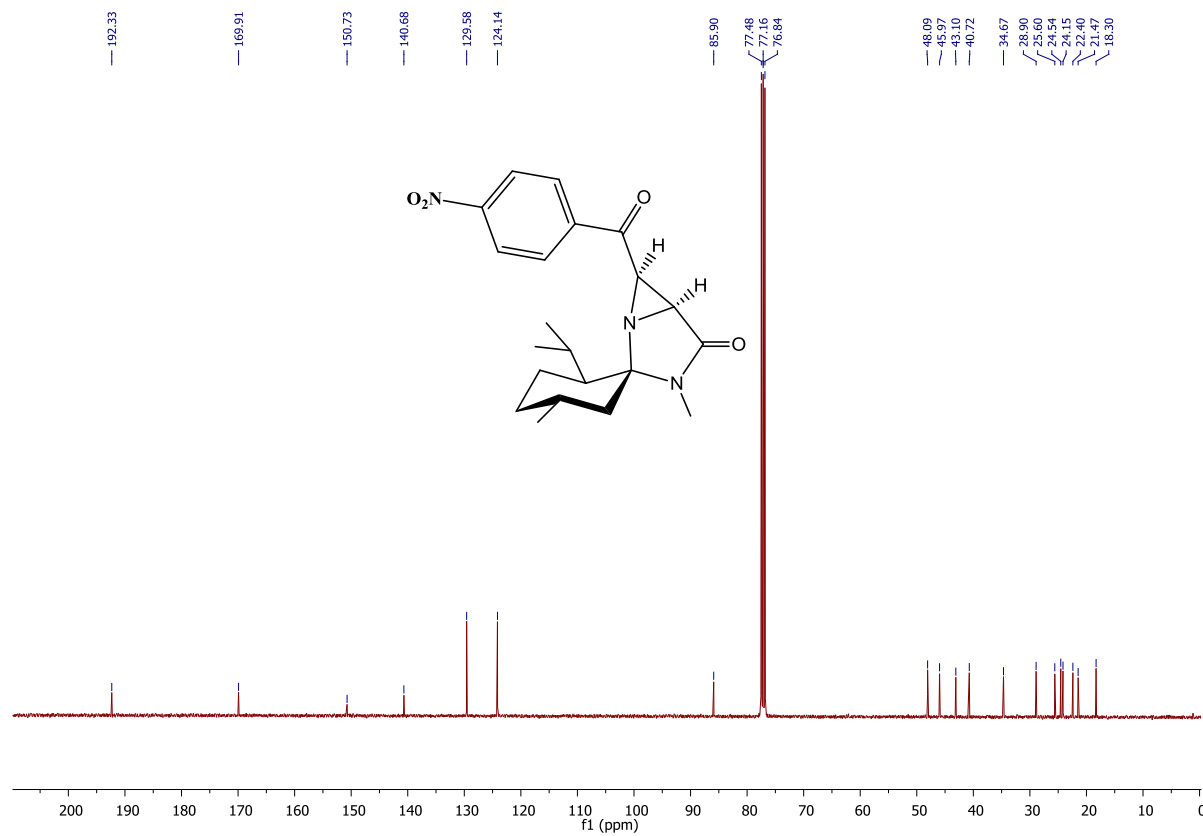
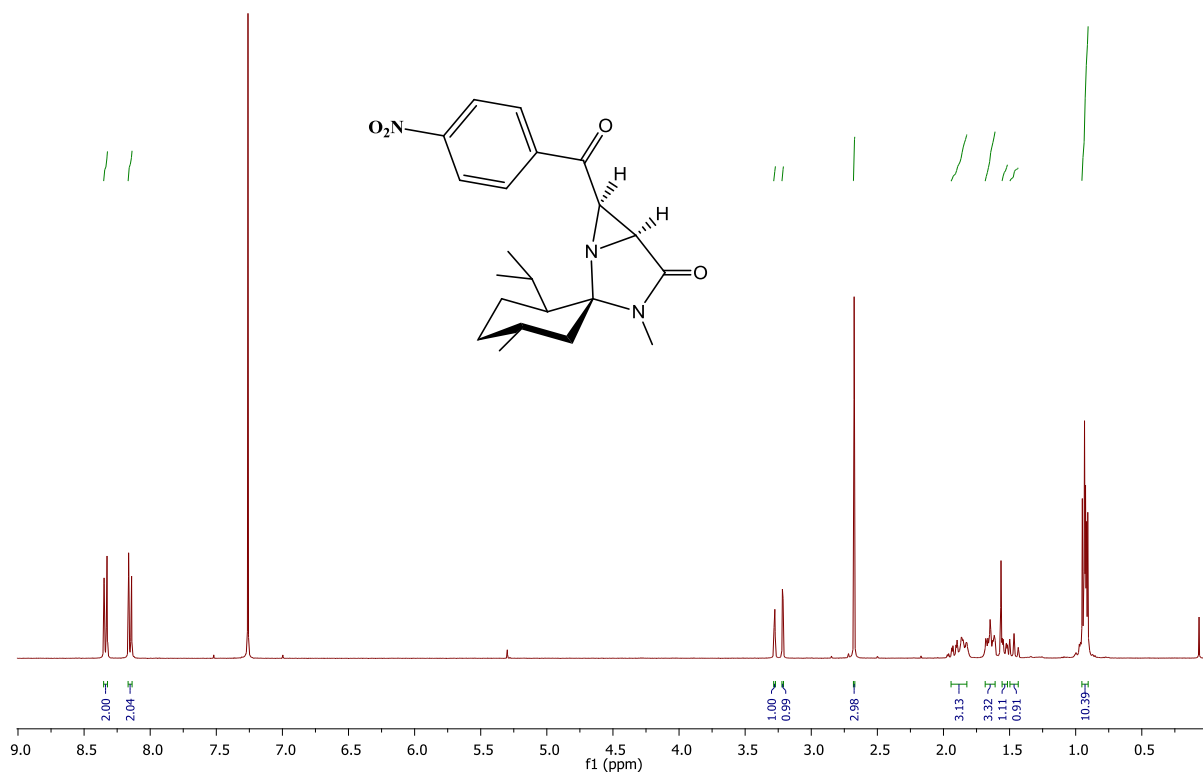


(1'R,2'S,5S,5'R,6R)-2'-isopropyl-3,5'-dimethyl-6-(4-nitrobenzoyl)-1,3-diazaspiro[bicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2,1'-cyclohexan]-4-one (4d)

Obtained as a yellow solid (157 mg, 64%) following general procedure: alkyne **2d** (277 mg).

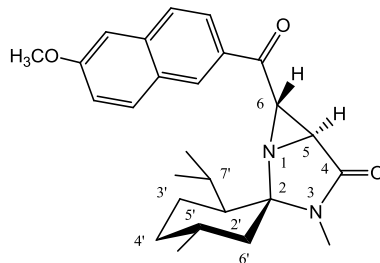


(4d) Yellow solid; M.p. 188–189°C (Et₂O); R_f = 0.56 (EtOAc/PE, 5/5); [α]_D²⁰ = +50.0 (c = 0.3, CH₂Cl₂); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 0.91 (d, 3H, J = 4.1 Hz, CH₃), 0.92 (d, 3H, J = 3 Hz, CH₃), 0.94 (d, 3H, J = 6.6 Hz, CH₃), 0.96-1.00 (m, 1H), 1.46 (t, 1H, J_{gem} = 12.9 Hz), 1.53 (ddd, 1H, J = 9.0 Hz, J = 3.4 Hz, J = 1.2 Hz), 1.62-1.67 (m, 3H), 1.82-1.96 (m, 3H), 2.67 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.21 (d, 1H, J = 2.0 Hz), 3.28 (d, 1H, J = 1.7 Hz), 8.15 (dt, 2H, J = 9.0 Hz, J = 2.2 Hz, Harom), 8.34 (dt, 2H, J = 8.9 Hz, J = 2.2 Hz, Harom); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 18.3, 21.5, 22.4, 24.1, 24.5, 25.6 (NCH₃), 28.9, 34.7, 40.7, 43.1, 46.0, 48.1, 85.9, 124.1, 129.6, 140.7, 150.7, 169.9 (C=O), 192.3 (C=O); HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₁H₂₈N₃O₄[M+H]⁺ 386.2074; found 386.2074.

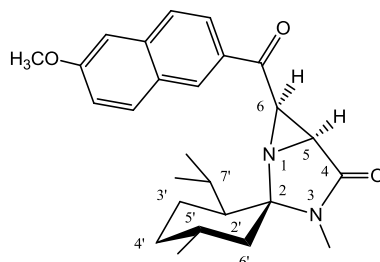


(1'R,2'S,5S,5'R,6S)-2'-isopropyl-6-(6-methoxy-2-naphthoyl)-3,5'-dimethyl-1,3-diazaspiro[bicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2,1'-cyclohexan]-4-one (3e) and (1'R,2'S,5S,5'R,6R)-2'-isopropyl-6-(6-methoxy-2-naphthoyl)-3,5'-dimethyl-1,3-diazaspiro[bicyclo[3.1.0]hexane-2,1'-cyclohexan]-4-one (4e)

Compounds **3e** (50 mg, 12%) and **4e** (215 mg, 51%) were obtained following general procedure: alkyne **2e** (305 mg).



(3e) Yellow amorphous solid; $R_f = 0.54$ (EtOAc/PE, 5/5); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +17.1$ ($c = 1.4, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 0.90$ (d, 3H, $J = 2.0$ Hz, CH_3), 0.91 (d, 3H, $J = 2.4$ Hz, CH_3), **0.93-0.95** (m, 1H), 0.97 (d, 3H, $J = 6.9$ Hz, CH_3), 1.46 (t, 1H, $J_{\text{gem}} = 12.9$ Hz), 1.50 - 1.54 (ddd, 1H, $J = 9.0$ Hz, $J = 3.5$ Hz, $J = 1.3$ Hz), 1.59 - 1.65 (m, 1H), 1.76 - 1.80 (m, 1H), 1.73 - 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.86 - 2.00 (m, 2H), 2.69 (s, 3H, NCH_3), 3.35 (d, 1H, $J = 1.8$ Hz), 3.38 (d, 1H, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 3.94 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 7.16 (d, 1H, $J = 2.4$ Hz, Harom), 7.19 - 7.22 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.9$ Hz, $J = 2.5$ Hz, Harom), 7.76 - 7.79 (d, 1H, $J = 8.7$ Hz, Harom), 7.83 (d, 1H, $J = 8.9$ Hz, Harom), 7.99 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.6$ Hz, $J = 1.8$ Hz, Harom), 8.46 (d, 1H, $J = 1.3$ Hz, Harom); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 18.4$, 21.4 , 22.5 , 24.1 , 24.6 , 25.5 (NCH_3), 28.7 , 34.7 , 40.0 , 43.2 , 45.6 , 48.1 , 55.6 (OCH_3), 85.8 , 106.0 , 120.2 , 124.7 , 127.6 , 127.8 , 130.3 , 131.3 , 131.9 , 137.7 , 160.3 , 170.8 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 192.6 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$); HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 421.2486; found 421.2484.



(4e) Amorphous solid; $R_f = 0.34$ (EtOAc/PE, 5/5); $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -40.0$ ($c = 0.3, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 0.18$ (d, 3H, $J = 6.6$ Hz, CH_3), 0.87 (d, 3H, $J = 1.8$ Hz, CH_3), 0.88 (d, 3H, $J = 1.6$ Hz, CH_3), **0.91-0.92** (m, 1H), 1.03 (t, 1H, $J_{\text{gem}} = 13.2$ Hz, H-6'a), 1.20 - 1.23 (m, 1H), 1.39 (ddd, 1H, $J = 8.9$ Hz, $J = 3.4$ Hz, $J = 1.1$ Hz, H-2'), 1.62 - 1.67 (m, 1H, H-3'a), 1.73 - 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.85 - 1.96 (m, 1H), 1.98 - 2.02 (m, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H, NCH_3), 3.16 (d, 1H, $J = 5.1$ Hz, H-5), 3.69 (d, 1H, $J = 5.1$ Hz, H-6), 3.95 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 7.15 (d, 1H, $J = 2.4$ Hz, H-arom), 7.20 - 7.23 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.9$ Hz, $J = 2.5$ Hz, Harom), 7.78 (d, 1H, $J = 8.7$ Hz, Harom), 7.86 (d, 1H, $J = 9.0$ Hz, Harom), 8.05 (dd, 1H, $J = 8.6$ Hz, $J = 1.8$ Hz, Harom), 8.59 (d, 1H, $J = 1.4$ Hz, Harom); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 18.3$, 21.2 , 21.9 , 24.2 , 24.5 , 25.5 (NCH_3), 29.3 , 34.8 , 42.2 , 43.2 , 44.8 , 49.7 , 55.6 (OCH_3), 85.7 , 106.0 , 120.3 , 124.4 , 127.5 , 127.8 , 130.4 , 131.4 , 133.0 , 137.8 , 160.3 , 169.7 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$), 193.0 ($\text{C}=\text{O}$); HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_3[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ 443.2305; found 443.2291.

