

Synthesis of Ureas in the Bio-alternative Solvent Cyrene

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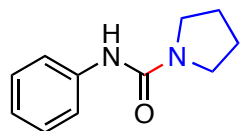
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I. General Experimental Information

Unless otherwise indicated, all commercially available reagents and solvents were used directly from the supplier without further purification. ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR and ^{19}F NMR were recorded at ambient temperature in CDCl_3 (7.27 ppm). Chemical shift values are expressed as parts per million (ppm) and J values are in Hertz. Splitting patterns are indicated as s: singlet, d: doublet, t: triplet, q: quartet or combination, br.s broad singlet or m: multiplet. The melting points reported are uncorrected. All reactions were performed in 5 mL microwave vials with Teflon coated caps. In addition to the amines **5** outlined below, the following amines proved incompatible with the reaction conditions: aniline, benzylamine, proline·HCl, indole, imidazole, 2,5-dimethyl pyrrole, pyrrole and pipercolic acid.

II. Preparation of Ureas 6a-u

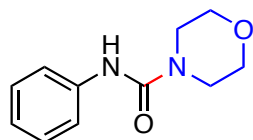


N-Phenylpyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (**6a**)¹

Method A: To a stirred solution of pyrrolidine (42 μL , 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 °C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μL , 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give *N*-phenylpyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (**6a**, 76 mg, 80%), as a white solid.

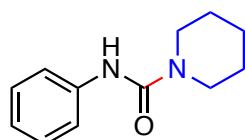
Method B: To a stirred solution of pyrrolidine (42 μL , 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 °C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μL , 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. Water (25 mL) and EtOAc (25 mL) were added. The organic layer was dried over MgSO_4 (10.0 g), filtered with the aid of EtOAc (10 mL). Silica gel (100 mg) was added and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (100 g; EtOAc:hexane, 9:1) to give *N*-phenylpyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (**6a**, 92 mg, 97%), as a white solid.

mp. (°C) 133-134 [Lit.¹ 133-134]; IR (neat): 3292, 2971, 2871, 1639, 1532, 1438, 1373, 1239, 759 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 1.92-1.94 (m, 4H), 3.42-3.45 (m, 4H), 6.29 (br. s, 1H), 6.98-7.01 (m, 1H), 7.24-2.28 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.42 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 25.5, 45.7, 119.5, 122.6, 128.7, 139.2, 153.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+$ 191.1184; found 191.1179.



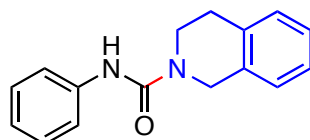
***N*-Phenylmorpholine-4-carboxamide (6b)**

To a stirred solution of morpholine (43 μ L, 0.50 mmol) in Cyrene (0.1 M) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4b**, 55 μ L, 0.50 mmol). The resultant mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the precipitate was filtered and washed with water. The residue was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate to give *N*-phenylmorpholine-4-carboxamide (**6b**, 61 mg, 64%) as a white solid. mp. ($^{\circ}$ C) 157-158 [Lit.² 159-160] IR (ν /cm⁻¹): 3251, 3052, 2917, 2857, 1631, 1526; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.45 (t, J = 5.0 Hz, 4H), 3.70 (t, J = 4.7 Hz, 4H), 6.52 (bs, 1 H), 7.03-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.29 (m, 2 H), 7.33-7.35 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 44.2, 66.4, 120.2, 123.3, 128.8, 138.6, 155.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for [C₁₁H₁₅N₂O₂]: 207.1134, Observed: 207.1131.



***N*-Phenylpiperidine-1-carboxamide (6c)**

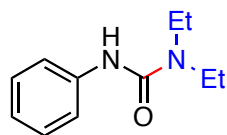
To a stirred solution of piperidine (49 μ L, 0.50 mmol) in Cyrene (0.1 M) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μ L, 0.50 mmol). The resultant mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the precipitate was filtered and washed with water. The residue was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate to give *N*-phenylpiperidine-1-carboxamide (**6c**, 62 mg, 61%) as a white solid. MP ($^{\circ}$ C): 170-172 [Lit.⁷ 171-172 $^{\circ}$ C]; IR (ν /cm⁻¹): 3284, 2924, 2854, 2359, 1626, 1533; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.61-1.63 (m, 6H), 3.44-3.46 (m, 4H), 6.33 (bs, 1H), 6.99-7.03 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.36 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 24.6, 25.9, 45.5, 119.9, 123.0, 129.1, 139.4, 155.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for [C₁₂H₁₇N₂O]⁺: 205.1341, Observed: 205.1335.



***N*-Phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-2(1H)-carboxamide (6d)**

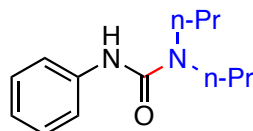
To a stirred solution of 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (63 μ L, 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μ L, 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give *N*-phenyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline-2(1H)-carboxamide (**6d**, 103 mg, 82 %) as a white solid. mp. ($^{\circ}$ C) 134–

135 [Lit.³ 143-144]; IR (neat): 3316, 3030, 2917, 1627, 1594, 1525, 1444 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 2.91 (t, $J = 5.9$ Hz, 2 H), 3.72 (t, $J = 5.9$ Hz, 2H), 4.65 (s, 2H), 6.51 (bs, 1H), 7.01-7.04 (m, 1H), 7.12-7.21 (m, 4 H), 7.26-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.39 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 29.0, 41.5, 45.7, 120.0, 123.1, 126.3, 126.5, 126.8, 128.3, 128.8, 133.0, 134.9, 138.9, 154.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+$ 253.1335; found 253.1335.



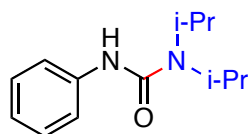
1,1-Diethyl-3-phenylurea (6e)

To a stirred solution of diethylamine (52 μL , 0.50 mmol) in Cyrene (0.1 M) at 0 $^\circ\text{C}$ was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μL , 0.50 mmol). The resultant mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the precipitate was filtered and washed with water. The residue was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate to give 1,1-diethyl-3-phenylurea (**6e**, 92 mg, 96%). as a white solid. mp. ($^\circ\text{C}$) 79-81 [Lit.⁷ 84-85]; IR (neat): 2981, 2361, 1752, 1635, 1529 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 1.23 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 6H), 3.37 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 4H), 6.55 (bs, 1H), 7.07-7.11 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.30 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 13.5, 42.0, 121.3, 124.1, 128.9, 137.8, 155.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+$ 193.1335; found 193.1335.



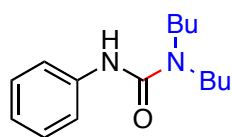
3-Phenyl-1,1-dipropylurea (6f)

To a stirred solution of dipropylamine (69 μL , 0.50 mmol) in Cyrene (0.1 M) at 0 $^\circ\text{C}$ was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μL , 0.50 mmol). The resultant mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the precipitate was filtered and washed with water. The residue was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate to give 1,1-dipropyl-3-phenylurea (**6f**, 49 mg, 44%). as a white solid. mp. ($^\circ\text{C}$) 70-72 [Lit.⁴ 71]; IR (neat): 3314, 2953, 2871, 2362, 1634 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 0.93 (t, $J = 11.8$ Hz, 6H), 1.64 (sex, $J = 9.4$ Hz, 4 H), 3.25 (t, $J = 9.4$ Hz, 4 H), 6.36 (bs, 1 H), 6.97-7.01 (m, 1 H), 7.23-7.27 (m, 2 H), 7.36-7.38 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 11.4, 21.8, 49.4, 119.8, 122.7, 128.7, 139.3, 155.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+$ 221.1648; found 221.648.



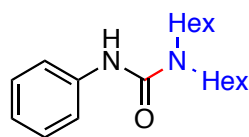
1,1-Diisopropyl-3-phenylurea (6g)

To a stirred solution of diisopropylamine (70 μ L, 0.50 mmol) in Cyrene (0.1 M) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μ L, 0.50 mmol). The resultant mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the precipitate was filtered and washed with water. The residue was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate to give 1,1-diisopropyl-3-phenylurea (**6g**, 68 mg, 62%), as a white solid. mp. ($^{\circ}$ C) 119-121 [Lit.⁵ 113-115]; IR (neat): 3313, 2954, 2871, 1634 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 1.29 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 12 H), 3.94 (sept, J = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 6.31 (bs, 1H), 6.96-6.99 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.37 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 21.5, 45.5, 119.7, 122.5, 128.7, 139.4, 154.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+$ 221.1648; found 221.1648.



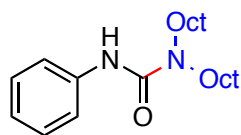
1,1-Dibutyl-3-phenylurea (**6h**)

To a stirred solution of dibutyl amine (84 μ L, 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μ L, 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give 1,1-dibutyl-3-phenylurea (**6h**, 112 mg, 90%) as a white solid. mp. ($^{\circ}$ C) 81–82 [Lit.⁶ 81-82]; IR (neat): 3292, 2957, 2928, 2870, 1633, 1596, 1501, 1444, 1317, 1241, 1221 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 0.93 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 6H), 1.33 (sext, J = 7.3 Hz, 4H), 1.53-1.59 (m, 4H), 3.24-3.27 (m, 4H), 6.50 (br. s, 1H), 6.96-6.99 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.25 (m, 2H) 7.37-7.39 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 13.9, 20.0, 30.6, 47.2, 60.3, 119.7, 122.5, 128.5, 139.3, 154.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+$ 249.1961; found 249.1962.



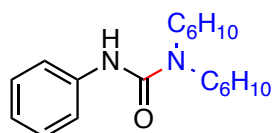
1,1-Dihexyl-3-phenylurea (**6i**)

To a stirred solution of dihexylamine (117 μ L, 0.50 mmol) in Cyrene (0.1 M) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μ L, 0.50 mmol). The resultant mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the precipitate was filtered and washed with water. The residue was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate to give 1,1-dihexyl-3-phenylurea (**6i**, 136 mg, 89%), as a yellow solid. mp. ($^{\circ}$ C) 62-63; IR (neat): 3310, 2925, 2855, 1626, 1530 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 0.87-0.96 (m, 6 H), 1.30 (bs, 12 H), 1.56-1.60 (m, 4H), 3.26 (t, J = 9.5 Hz, 4H), 6.43 (bs, 1H), 6.96-7.00 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.38 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 14.0, 22.6, 26.6, 28.6, 31.6, 47.7, 119.8, 122.6, 128.7, 139.4, 154.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+$ 305.2587; found 305.2588.



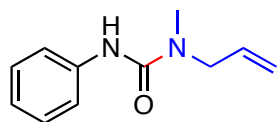
1,1-Dioctyl-3-phenylurea (**6j**)

To a stirred solution of dioctylamine (150 μ L, 0.50 mmol) in Cyrene (0.1 M) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μ L, 0.50 mmol). The resultant mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the precipitate was filtered and washed with water. The residue was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate to give 1,1-dioctyl-3-phenylurea (**6j**, 108 mg, 56%), as a white solid. mp. ($^{\circ}$ C) 242-244; IR (neat): 3322, 2923, 2853, 1636, 1595, 1498 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 0.86-0.89 (m, 6H), 1.26-1.31 (m, 20H), 1.58-1.61 (m, 4H), 3.26 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 4H), 6.33 (bs, 1H), 6.98-7.01 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.38 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 14.0, 22.6, 27.0, 28.6, 29.2, 29.3, 31.7, 47.7, 119.7, 122.6, 128.7, 139.3, 154.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{41}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+$ 361.3213; found 361.3211.



1,1-Dicyclohexyl-3-phenylurea (**6k**)

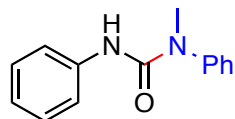
To a stirred solution of dicyclohexylamine (99 μ L, 0.50 mmol) in Cyrene (0.1 M) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μ L, 0.50 mmol). The resultant mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the precipitate was filtered and washed with water. The residue was dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate to give 1,1-dicyclohexyl-3-phenylurea (**6k**, 131 mg, 87%), as a white solid. mp. ($^{\circ}$ C) 173-175 [Lit.⁷ 167-168]; IR (neat): 3321, 2924, 2850, 1627 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 1.07-1.17 (m, 2H), 1.24-1.38 (m, 4H), 1.64-1.84 (m, 14H), 3.43-3.50 (m, 2H), 6.33 (bs, 1 H), 6.96-6.99 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.36 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 25.5, 26.4, 31.9, 55.4, 119.6, 122.4, 128.7, 139.4, 154.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+$ 301.2274; found 301.2275.



1-Allyl-1-methyl-3-phenylurea (**6l**)³

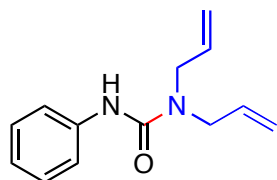
To a stirred solution of 1-allylmethylamine (48 μ L, 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μ L, 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give 1-allyl-1-methyl-3-phenylurea (**6l**, 68

mg, 71%), as a white solid. mp. (°C) 73-75 [Lit.⁸ 73-76]; IR (neat): 3308, 1644, 1524, 1237, 1203, 991, 913, 747, 692 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 3.01 (s, 3H), 3.97 (dt, *J* = 5.3 Hz, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 5.26 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.27-5.29 (m, 1H), 5.83-5.91 (m, 1H), 6.38 (br. s, 1H) 7.00-7.03 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.36 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 34.6, 51.6, 117.0, 120.0, 122.9, 128.8, 133.5, 139.2, 155.5; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* Calcd for [C₁₁H₁₄N₂ONa]⁺ 213.0998; found 213.0991.



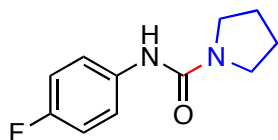
1-Methyl-1,3-diphenylurea (**6m**)⁴

To a stirred solution of *N*-methylaniline (54 μL, 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 °C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μL, 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give 1-methyl-1,3-diphenylurea (**6m**, 112 mg, 99%), as a white solid. mp. (°C) 100–101 [Lit.⁵ 97-99]; IR (neat): 3364, 3039, 1646, 1594, 1523, 1494, 1436 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 3.34 (s, 3H), 6.26 (br. s, 1H), 6.97-7.00 (m, 1H), 7.21-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.46-7.50 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 37.2, 119.2, 122.8, 127.4, 127.8, 128.7, 130.3, 138.8, 142.8, 154.3; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* Calcd for [C₁₄H₁₅N₂O]⁺ 227.1179; found 227.1179.



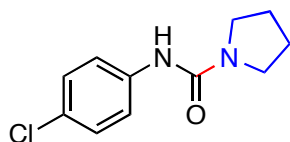
1,1-Diallyl-3-phenylurea (**6n**)⁹

To a stirred solution of diallyl amine (62 μL, 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 °C was added phenyl isocyanate (**4a**, 55 μL, 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give 1,1-diallyl-3-phenylurea (**6n**, 108 mg, 99%) as a clear oil. IR (neat): 3351, 2980, 1639, 1597, 1532, 1443 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 3.95-3.97 (m, 4H), 5.25-5.31 (m, 4H), 5.85-5.92 (m, 2H), 6.51 (br. S, 1H), 6.99-7.02 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.34 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 49.8, 117.3, 119.6, 122.9, 128.8, 134.1, 139.2, 155.5; HRMS (ESI): *m/z* Calcd for [C₁₃H₁₇N₂O]⁺ 217.1335; found 217.1344.



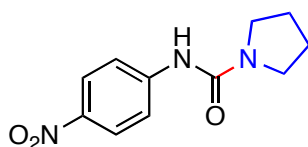
***N*-(4-Fluorophenyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (6o)**

To a stirred solution of pyrrolidine (43 μ L, 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 °C was added 4-fluorophenyl isocyanate (57 μ L, 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give *N*-(4-fluorophenyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (**6o**, 89 mg, 86%) as a white solid. mp. (°C) 137-138; IR (neat): 3278, 2966, 2871, 1631, 1506, 1414 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 1.96-1.99 (m, 4H), 3.44-3.47 (m, 4H), 6.09 (bs, 1H), 6.95-6.99 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.36 (m, 2H); HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{FN}_2\text{O}^+]$ 231.0904; found 231.0902.



***N*-(4-Chlorophenyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (6p)¹**

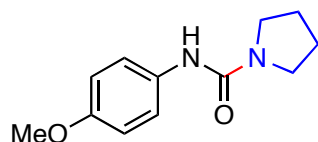
To a stirred solution of 4-chlorophenyl isocyanate (76.7 mg, 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 °C was added pyrrolidine (42 μ L, 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give *N*-(4-chlorophenyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (**6p**, 97 mg, 86%) as a white solid. mp. (°C) 165-167; IR (neat): 3292, 2957, 2928, 2870, 1633, 1596, 1501, 1444, 1317, 1241, 1221 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) 1.96-1.98 (m, 4H), 3.44-3.46 (m, 4H), 6.18 (br. s, 1H), 7.21-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.38 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 25.6, 45.8, 120.7, 127.6, 128.8, 137.8, 153.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}^+]$ 225.0789; found 225.0788.



***N*-(4-Nitrophenyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (6q)**

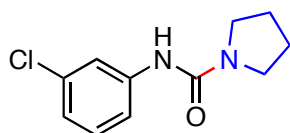
To a stirred solution of 4-nitrophenyl isocyanate (82 mg, 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 °C was added pyrrolidine (42 μ L, 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The

residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give *N*-(4-nitrophenyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (**6q**, 83 mg, 70%) as a yellow solid. mp. (°C) 185-187 [Lit.¹⁰ 185-186]; IR (neat): 3366, 3338, 2927, 2881, 17.32, 1657, 1596, cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500MHz) δ 1.99-2.20 (m, 4H), 3.48-3.51 (m, 4H), 6.51 (bs, 1H), 7.58-7.60 (m, 2H), 8.16-8.18 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 25.6, 46.0, 118.0, 125.2, 142.4, 145.4, 152.6; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* Calcd for [C₁₁H₁₄N₃O₃]⁺ 236.1030; found 236.1031.



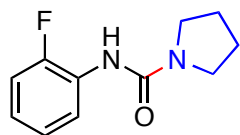
***N*-(4-Methoxyphenyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (**6r**)¹**

To a stirred solution of pyrrolidine (42 μL, 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 °C was added 4-methoxyphenyl isocyanate (65 μL, 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give *N*-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (**6r**, 56 mg, 51%) as a white solid. mp. (°C) 111-112 [Lit.¹ 111-113]; IR (neat): 3329, 2965, 1639, 1597, 1509, 1411 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500MHz) δ 1.92-1.95 (m, 4H), 3.41-3.43 (m, 4H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 6.13 (bs, 1H), 6.80-6.83 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.31 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 25.5, 45.7, 55.4, 113.9, 121.8, 132.2, 154.4, 155.5; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* Calcd for [C₁₂H₁₇N₂O₂]⁺ 221.1285; found 221.1287.



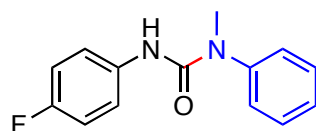
***N*-(3-Chlorophenyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (**6s**)**

To a stirred solution of pyrrolidine (43 μL, 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 °C was added 3-chlorophenyl isocyanate (65 μL, 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give *N*-(3-chlorophenyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (**6s**, 103 mg, 92%) as a white solid. mp. (°C) 138-140; IR (neat): 3305, 3275, 2980, 2878, 1651, 1586 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 1.95-1.98 (m, 4H), 3.43-3.46 (m, 4H), 6.22 (bs, 1H), 6.96-6.98 (m, 1H), 7.16-7.19 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.53 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 25.5, 45.8, 117.2, 119.3, 122.6, 129.7, 134.4, 140.4, 153.4; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* Calcd for [C₁₁H₁₃ClN₂O₂Na]⁺ 247.0609; found 247.0616.



***N*-(2-Fluorophenyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (6t)**

To a stirred solution of pyrrolidine (43 μ L, 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C was added 2-fluorophenyl isocyanate (56 μ L, 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give *N*-(2-fluorophenyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxamide (**6t**, 43 mg, 41%) as a pale yellow solid. mp. ($^{\circ}$ C) 61-62; IR (neat): 3269, 2965, 2870, 1645 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 1.95-1.98 (m, 4H), 3.46-3.48 (m, 4H), 6.41 (bs, 1H), 6.89-6.94 (m, 1H), 7.00-7.09 (m, 2H), 8.18-8.28 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 25.5, 45.7, 114.4, 120.9, 122.2, 124.4, 127.8, 151.2, 153.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{FN}_2\text{ONa}]^+$ 231.0904; found 231.0903.



3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1-methyl-1-phenylurea (6u)¹¹

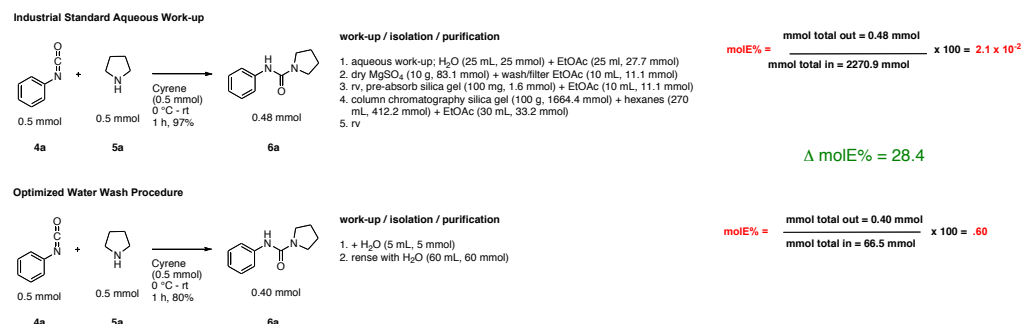
To a stirred solution of 1-methylaniline (54 μ L, 0.5 mmol) in Cyrene (0.5 mL, 1 M) at 0 $^{\circ}$ C was added 4-fluorophenyl isocyanate (57 μ L, 0.5 mmol). The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. over 1 h. Water (5 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed by Buchner filtration and the filtrate was washed with water (60 mL). The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-methyl-1-phenylurea (**6u**, 79 mg, 65%) as a white solid. mp. ($^{\circ}$ C) 109-110; IR (neat): 3352, 3045, 1644, 1595, 1525, 1491, 1442, 848 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 3.34 (s, 3H), 6.18 (br. s, 1H), 6.90-6.95 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.51 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 37.2, 115.2, 121.1, 127.4, 130.3, 134.7, 142.7, 154.4, 159.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd for $[\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{13}\text{FN}_2\text{ONa}]^+$ 267.0904; found 267.0904.

III. Molar Efficiency Calculations

Molar efficiency calculations were calculated using the method of Watson *et al.*¹² in which:
 molar efficiency (Mol. E%) = [moles product / moles starting material + additives + catalysts + solvents] x 100

The Mol. E% was calculated for each step of the process and the total molar efficiency (molE_{total}) is the multiplication of these values.

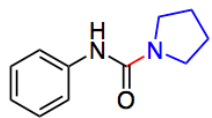
Molar Efficiency Calculations



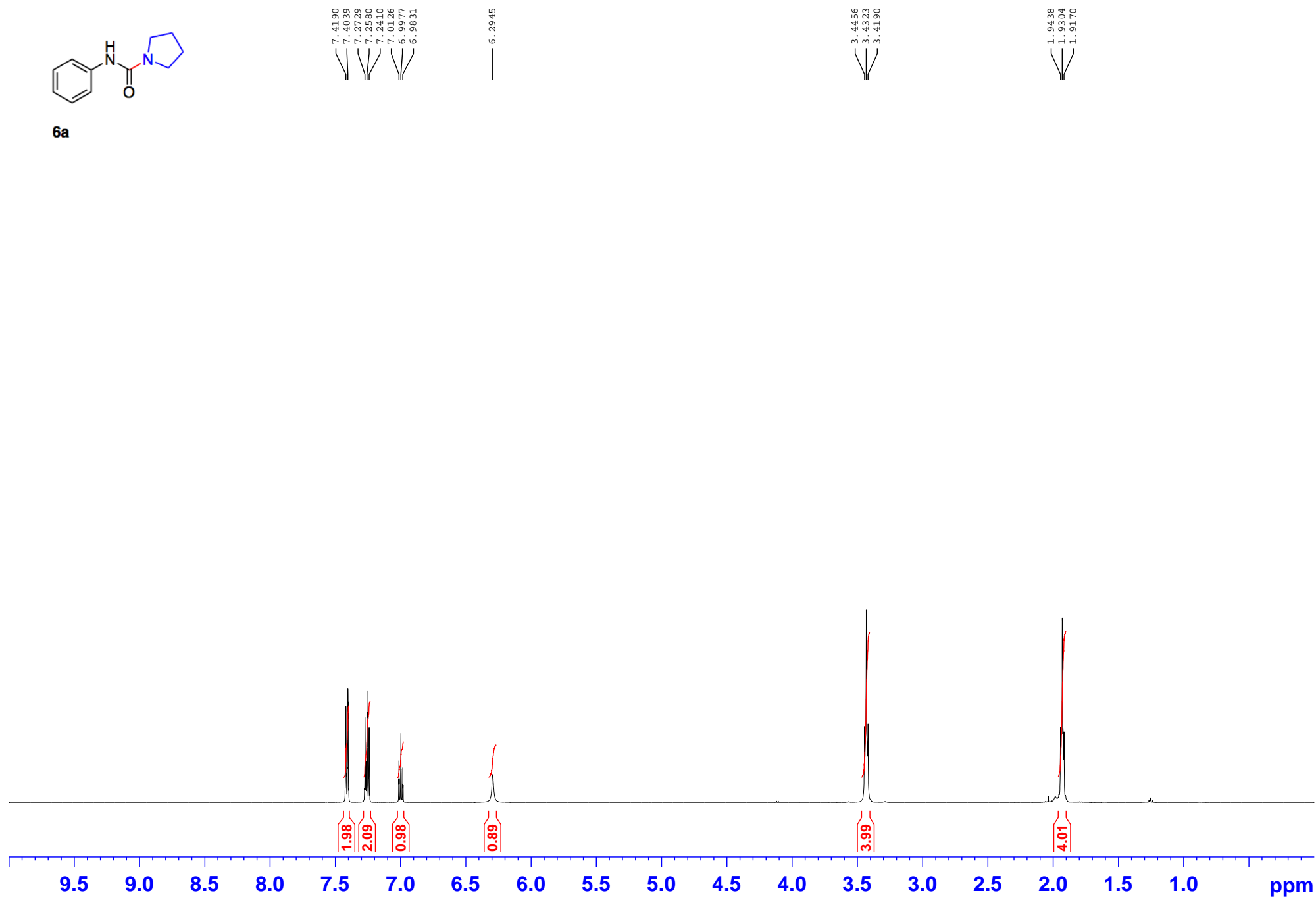
Thus, the approach presented in this report amounts to a 28-fold increase in molar efficiency vs. an industrial standard method of urea isolation and purification.

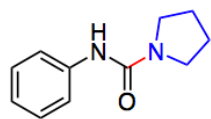
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- ¹² McGonagle, F. I.; Sneddon, H. F.; Jamieson, C.; Watson, A. J. B. *ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.* **2014**, **2**, 523-532.



6a





6a

153.9290

139.2115

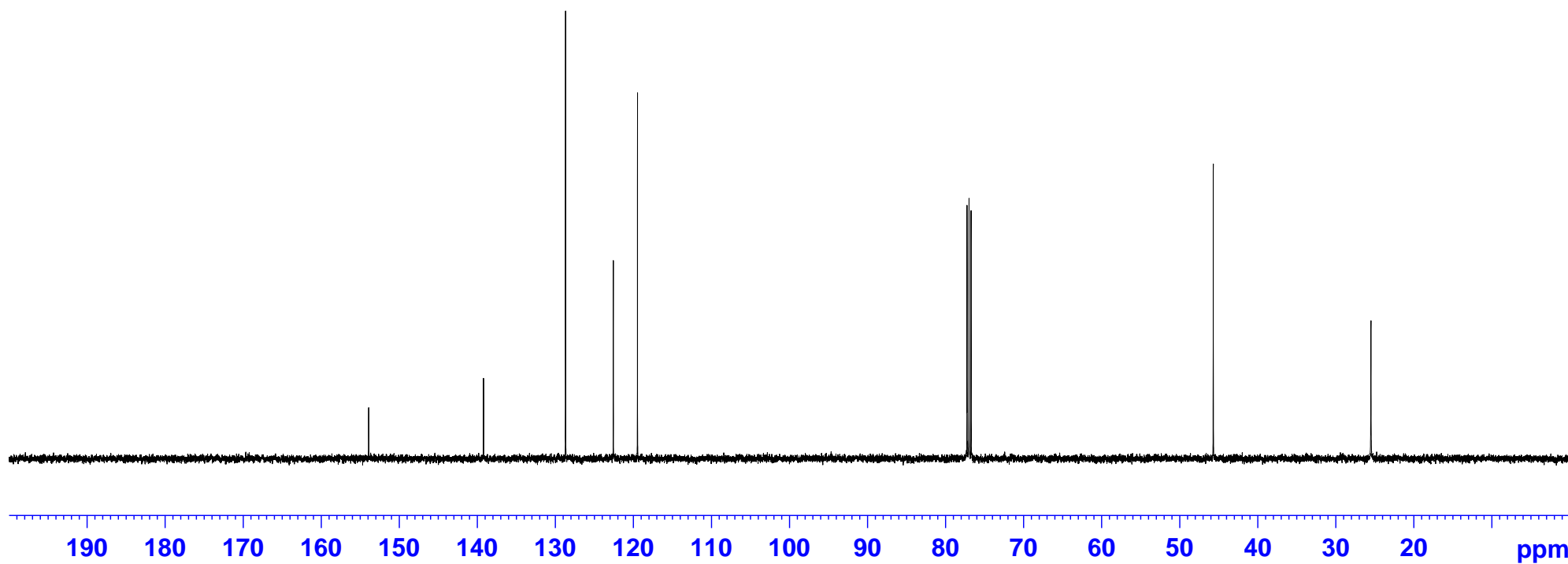
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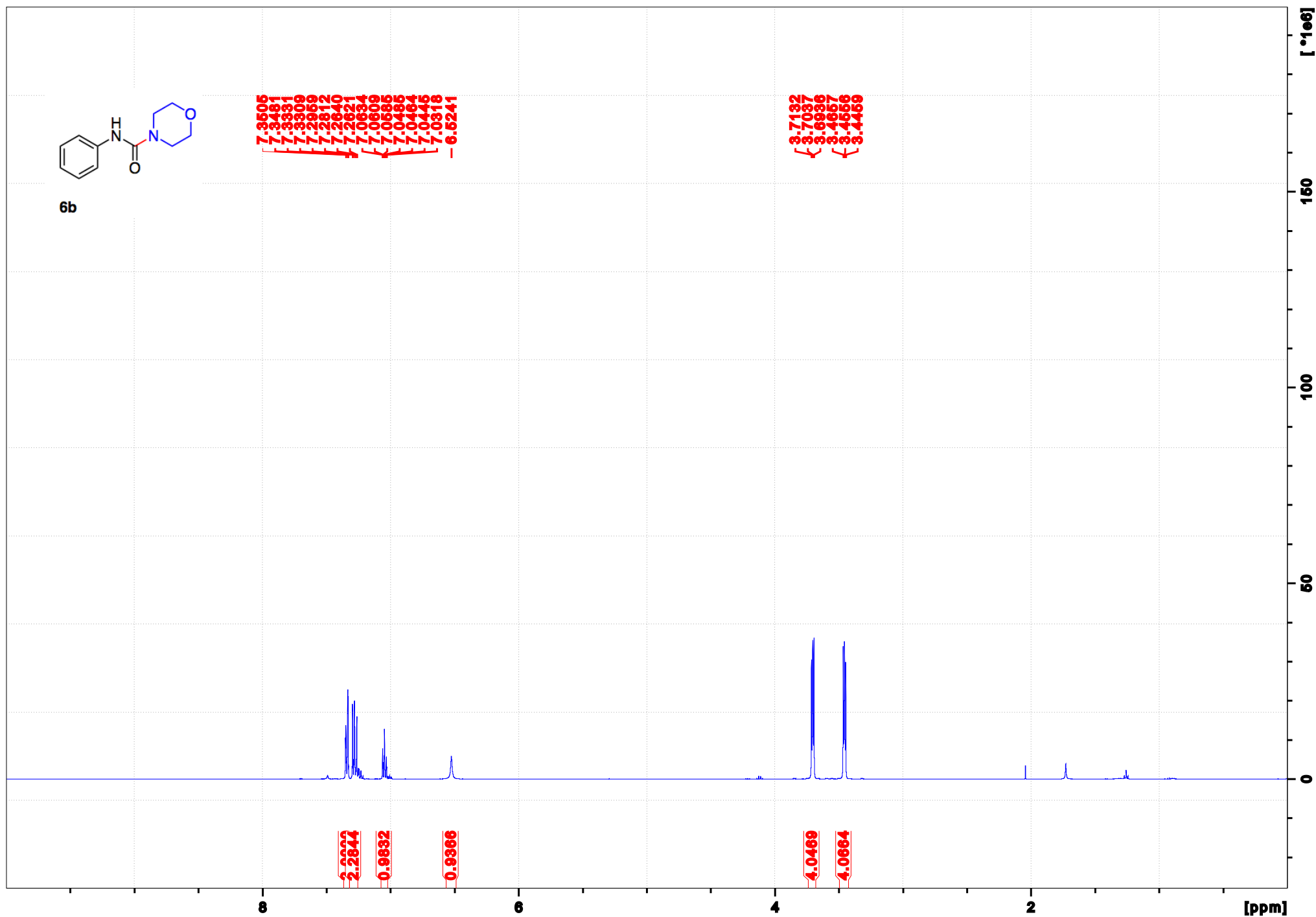
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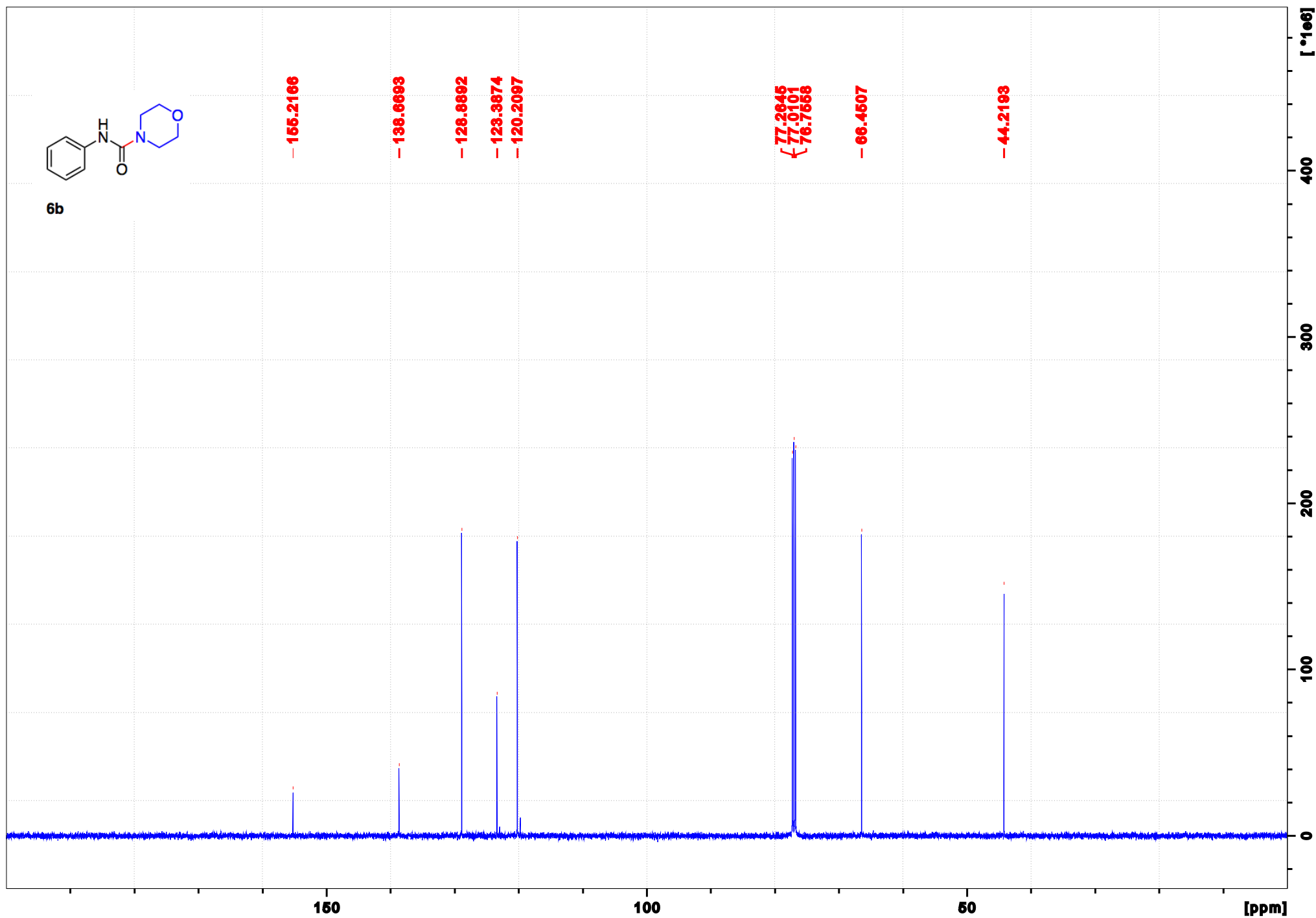
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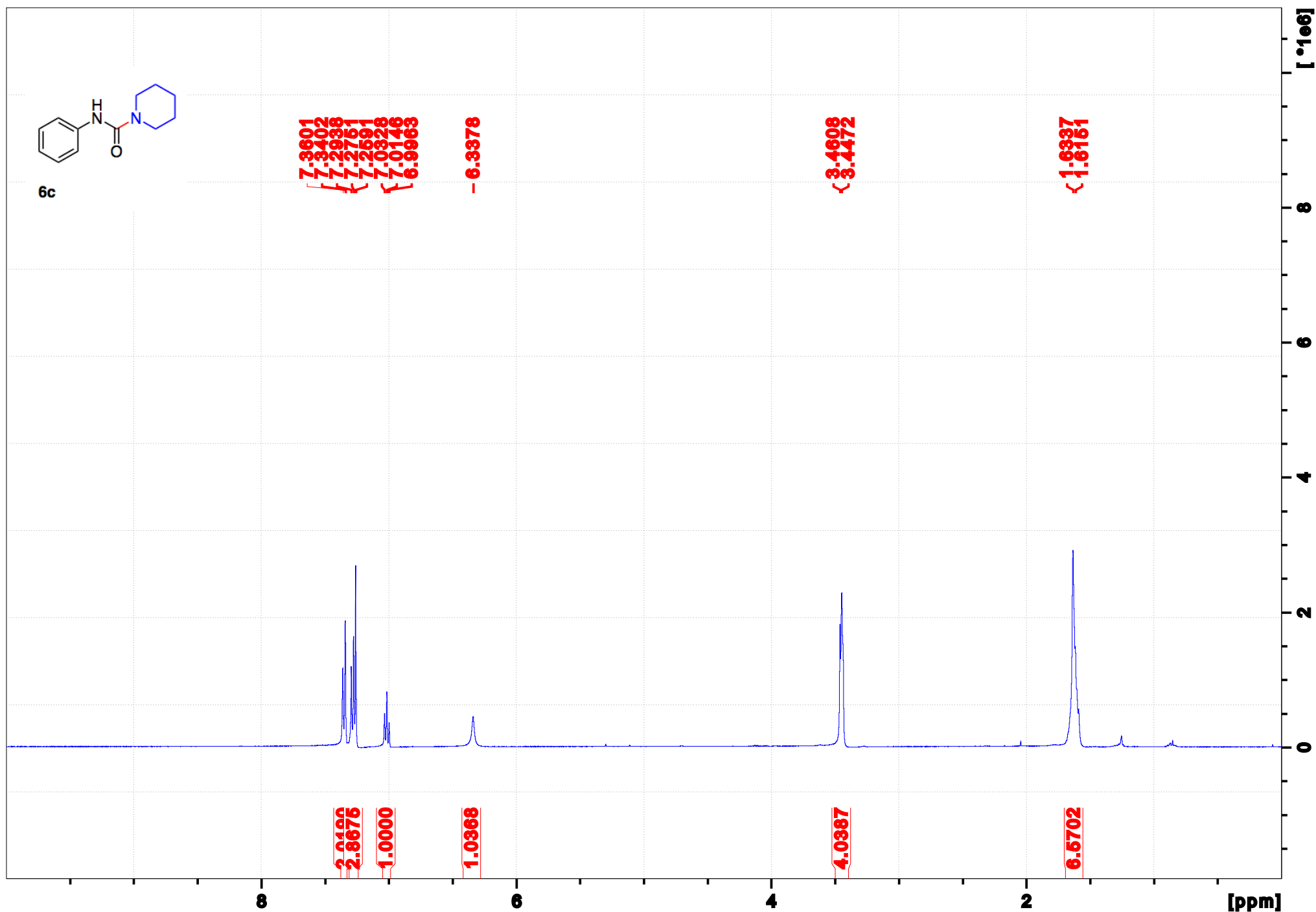
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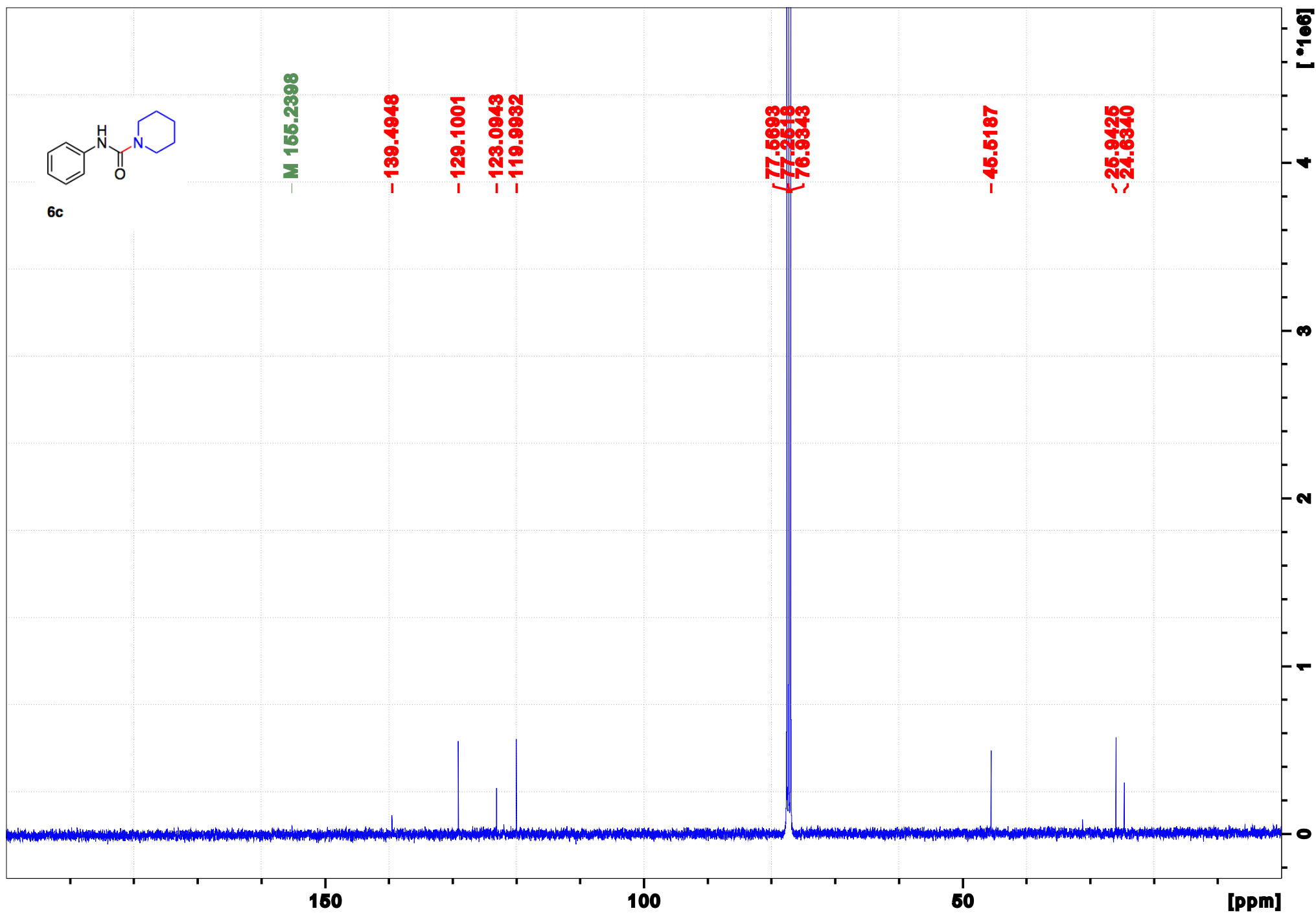


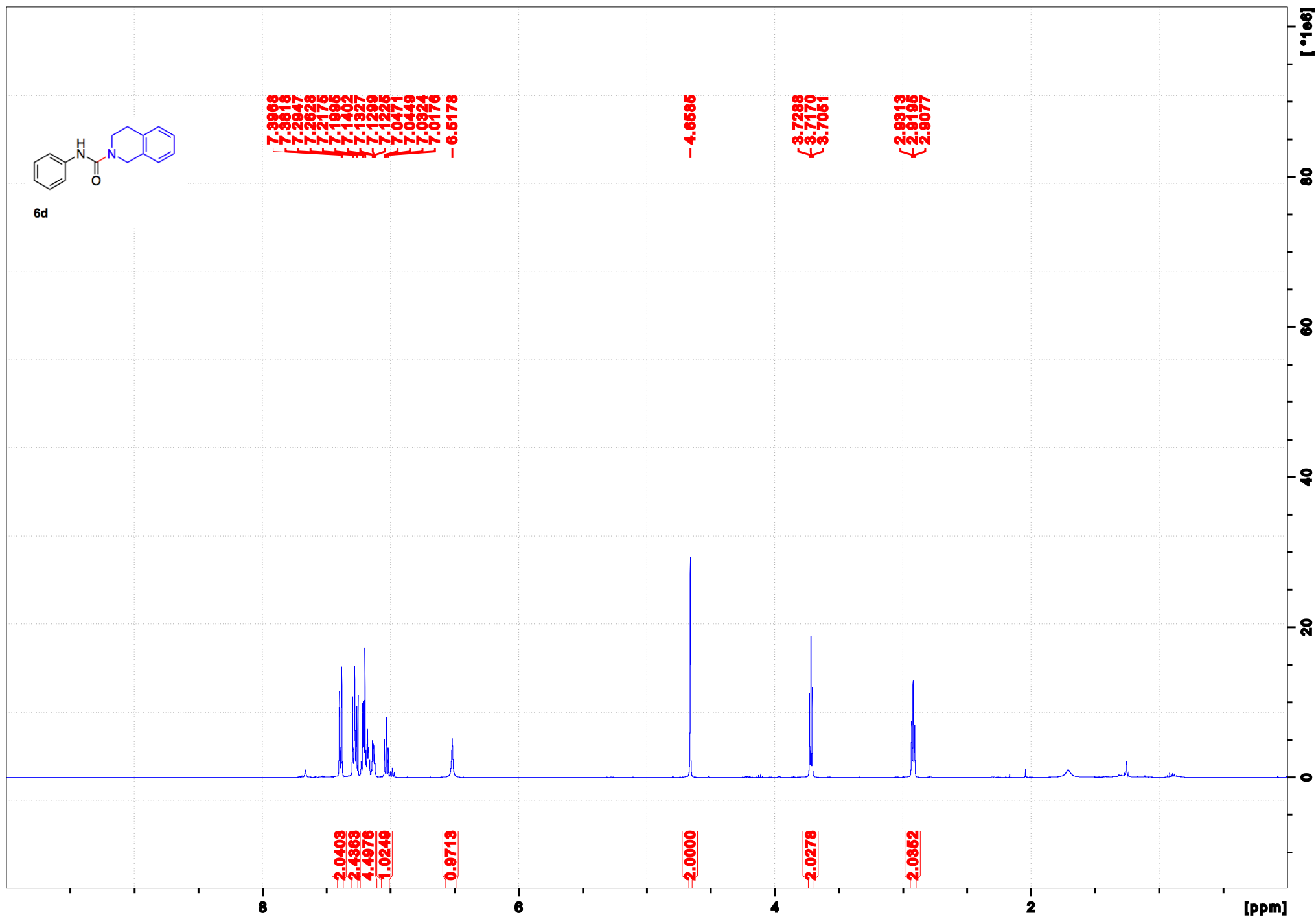


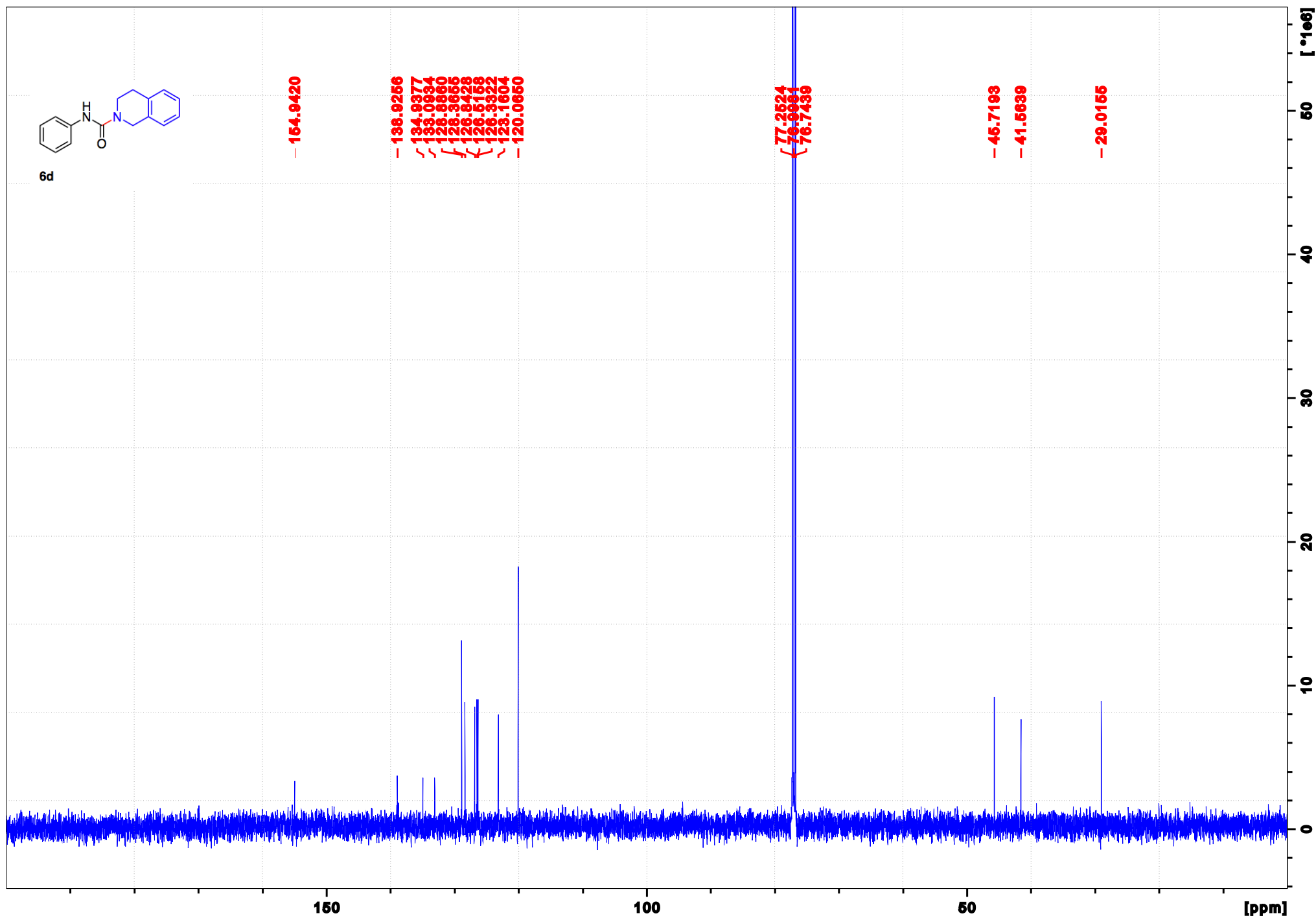


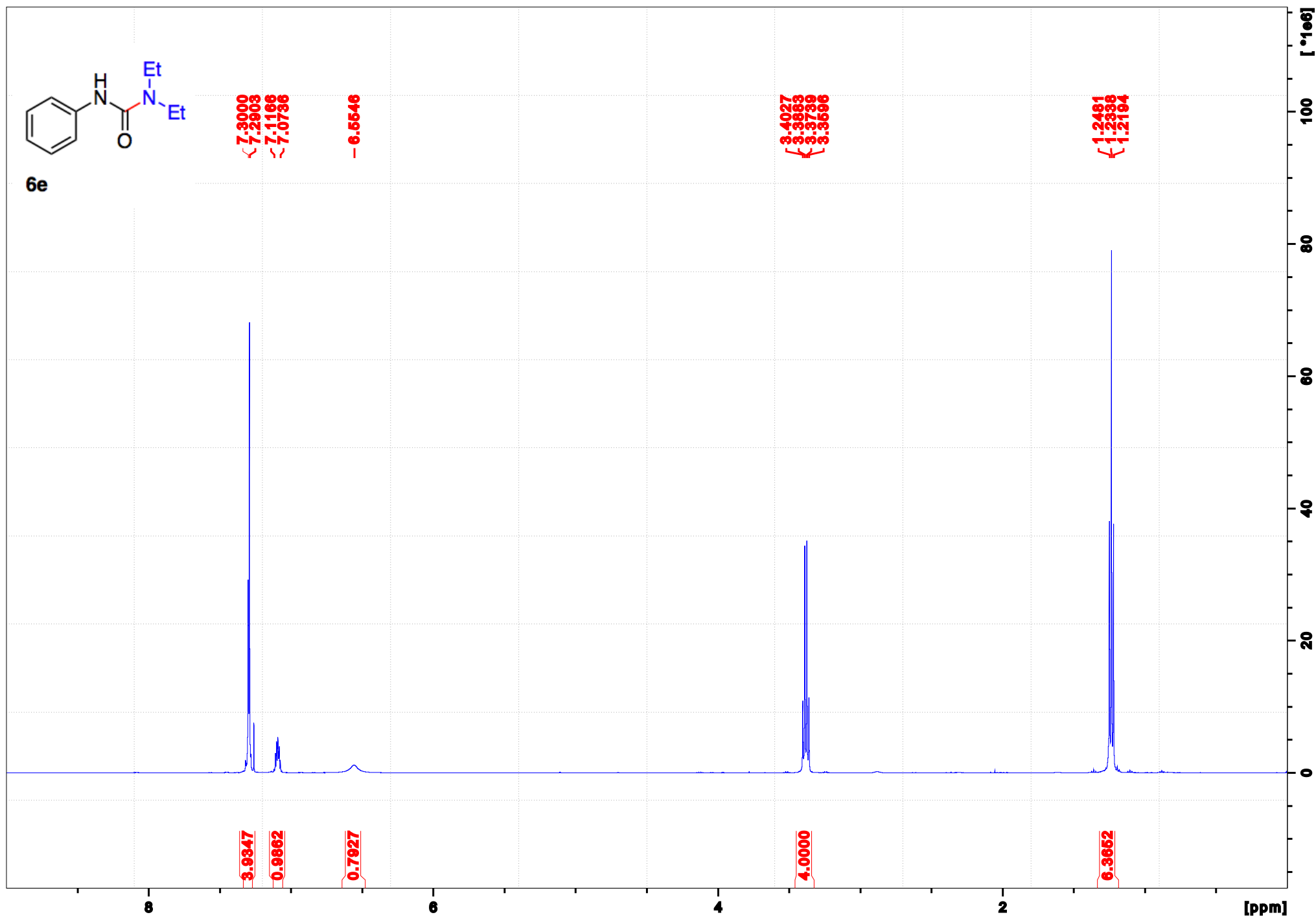
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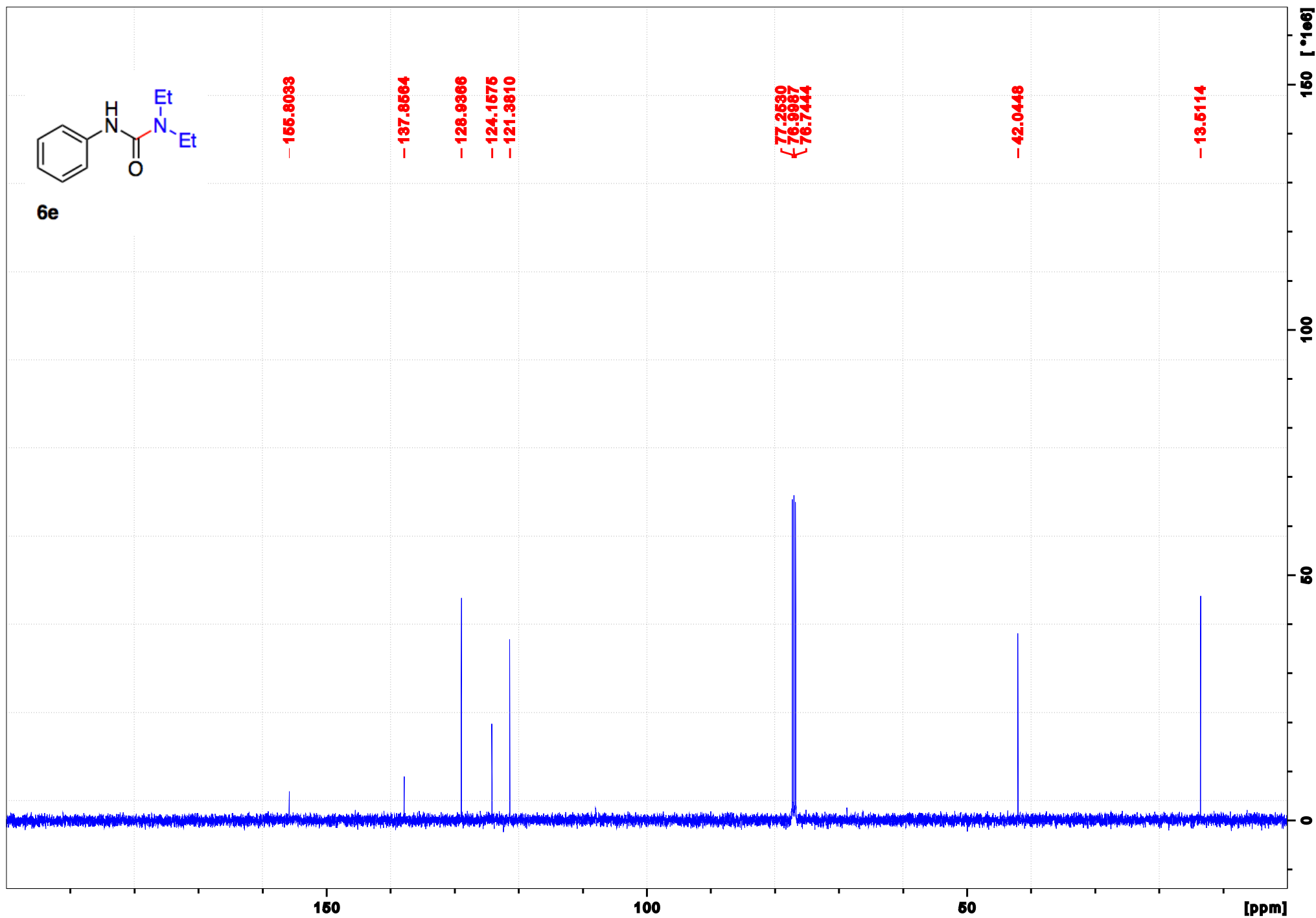


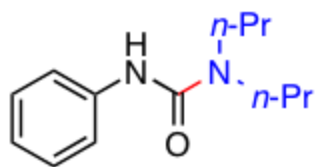












6f

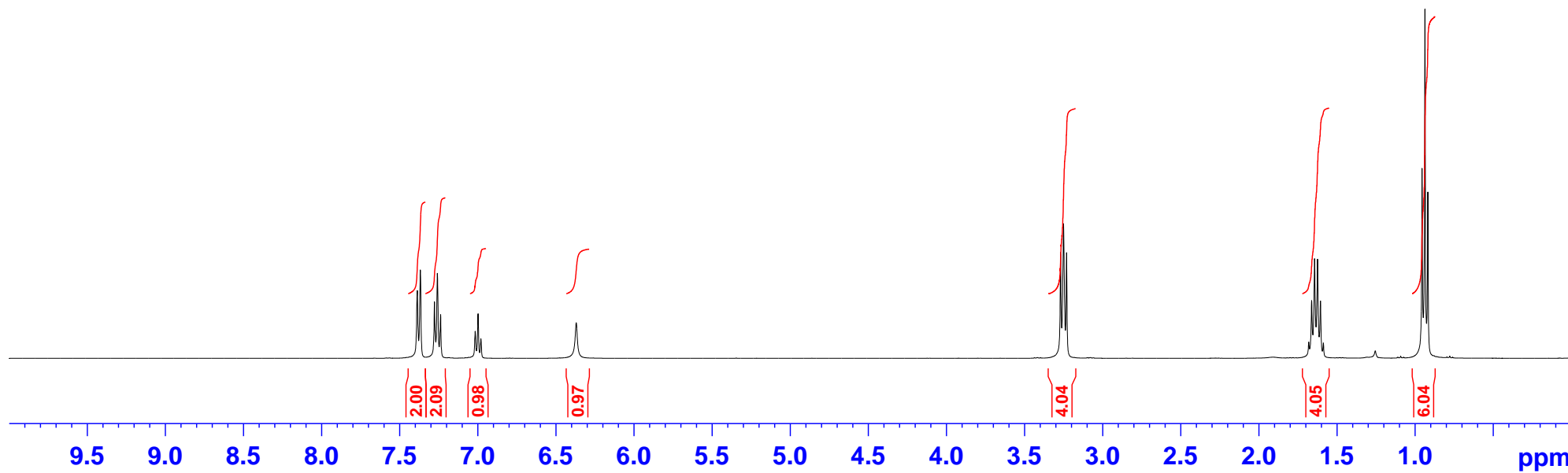
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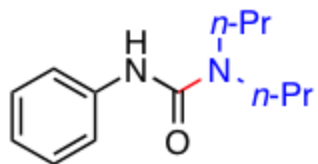
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6f

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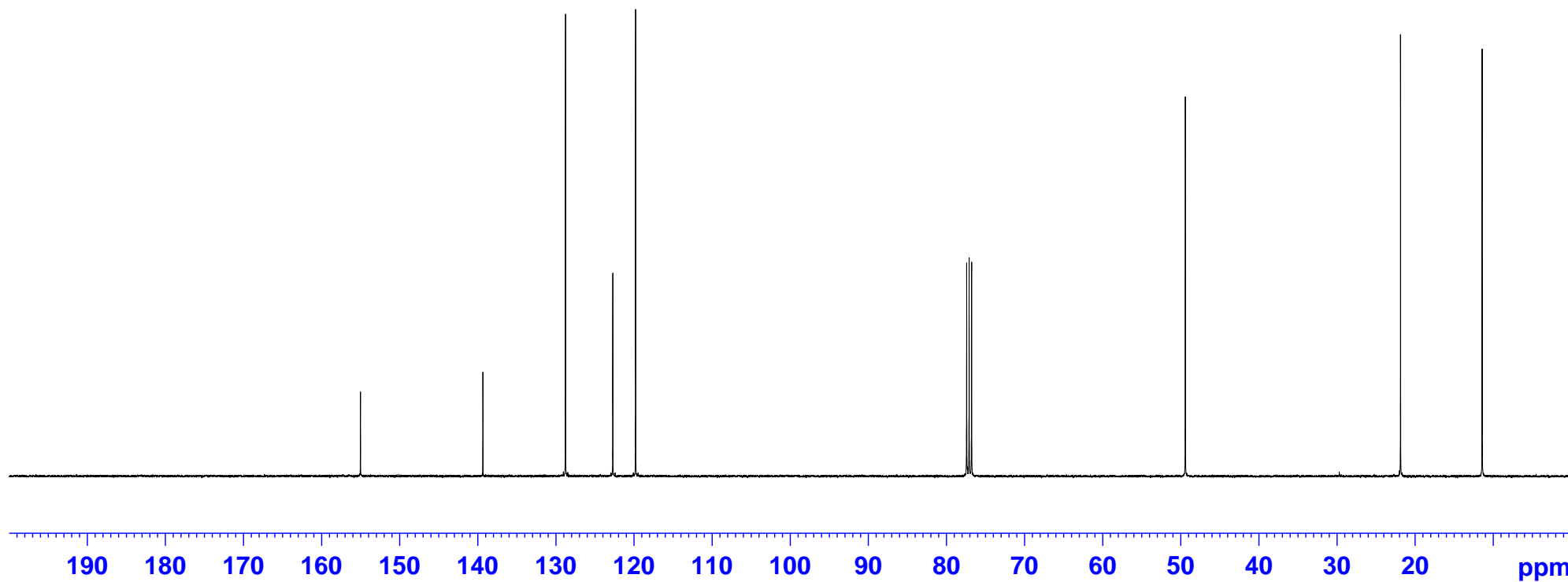
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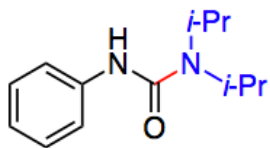
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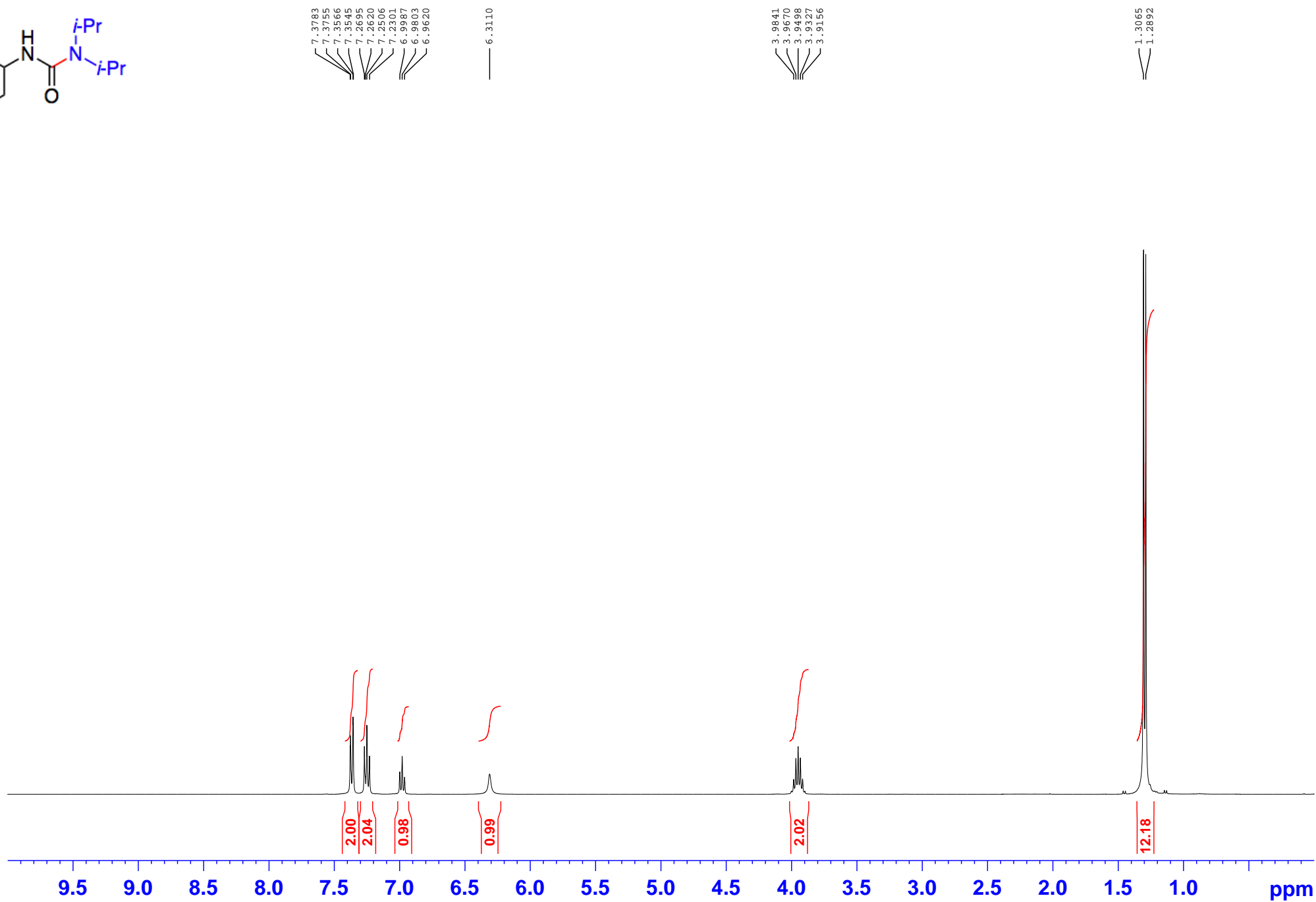
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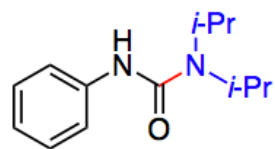
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6g





6g

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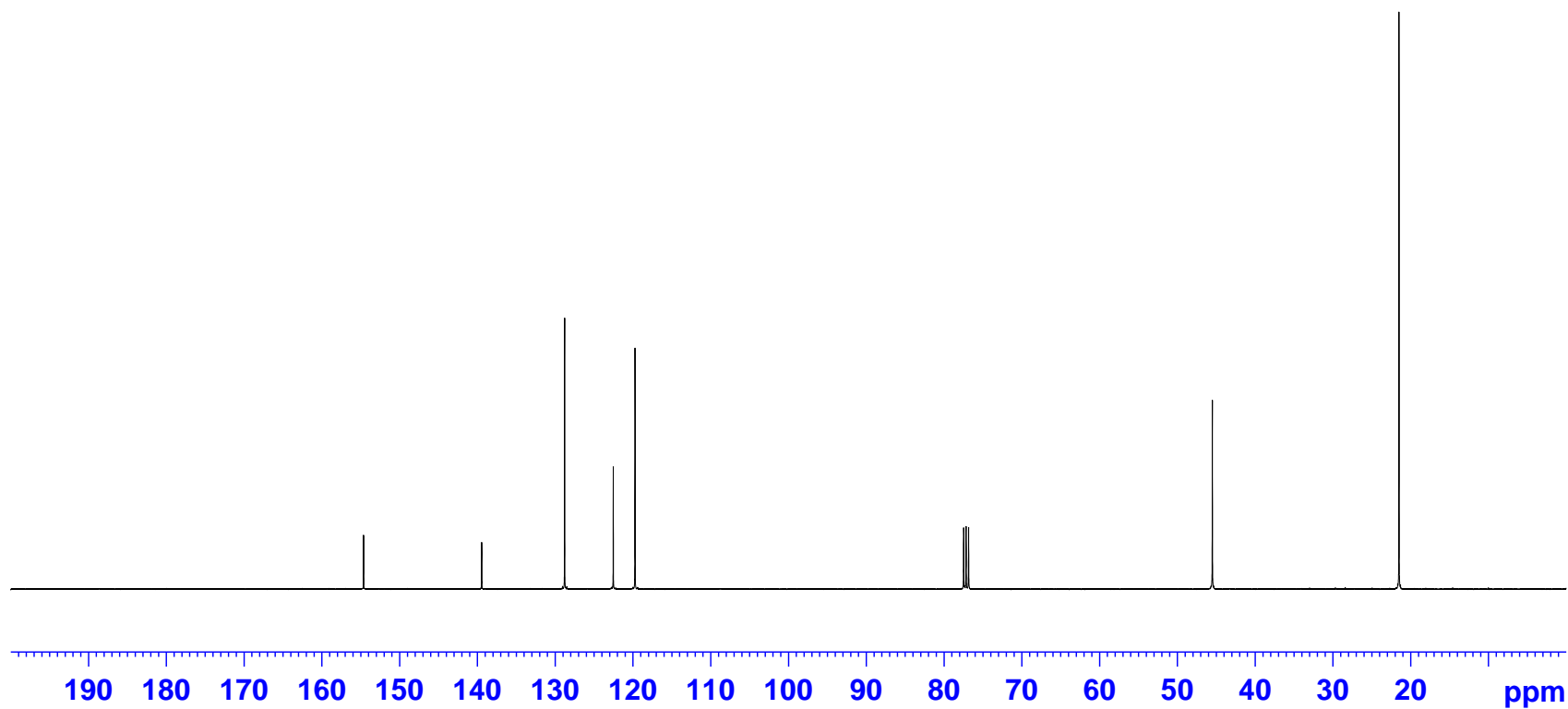
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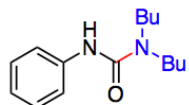
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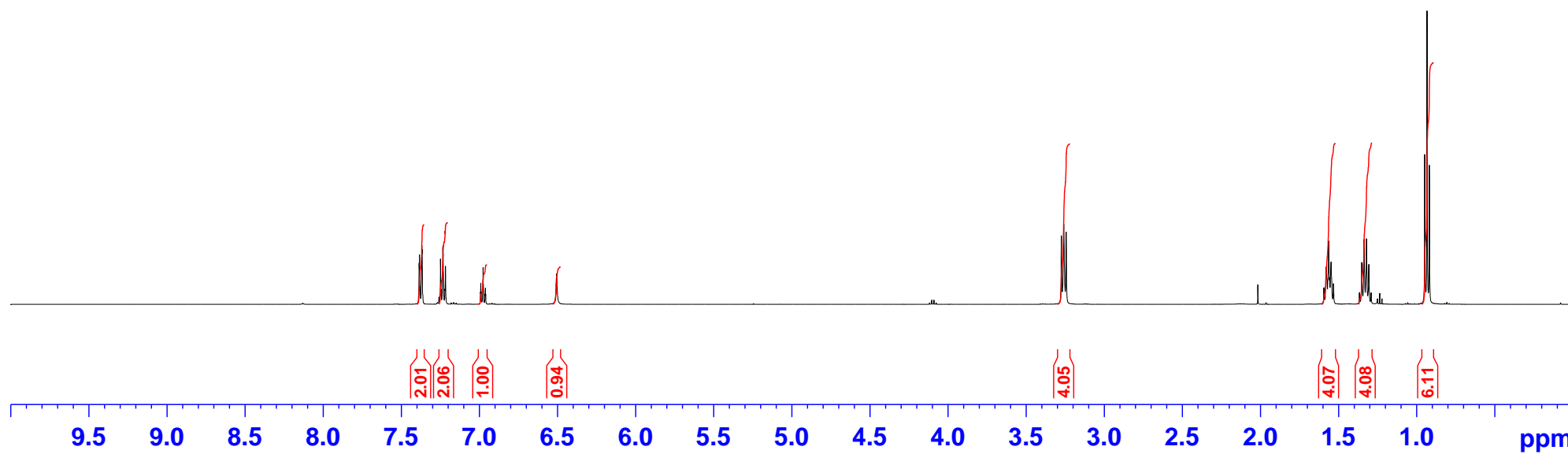
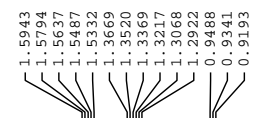
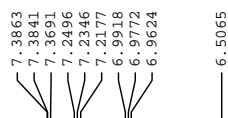
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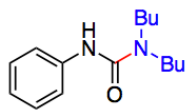
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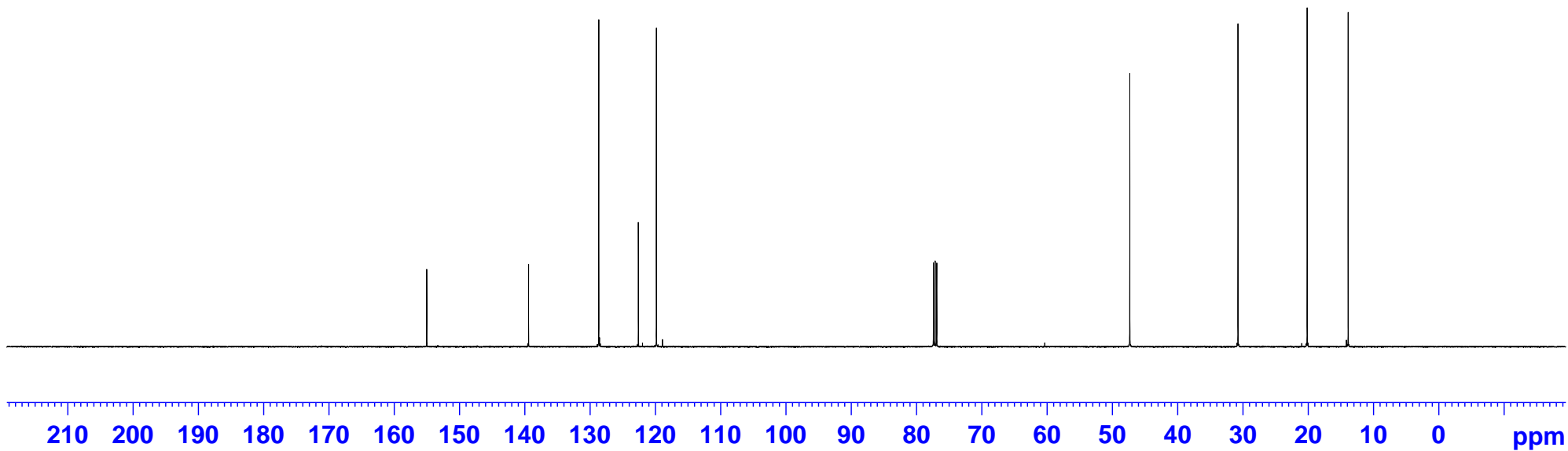


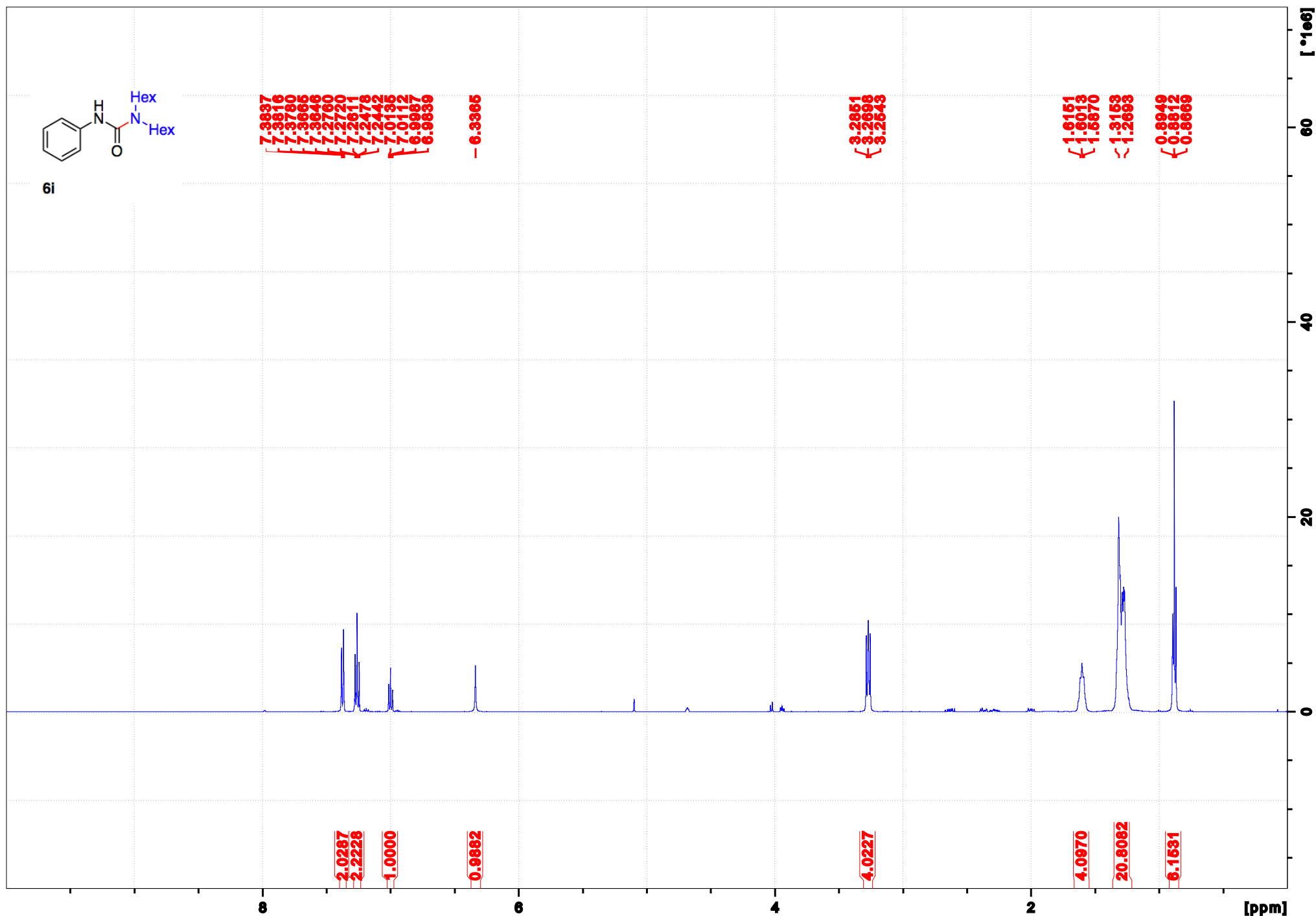
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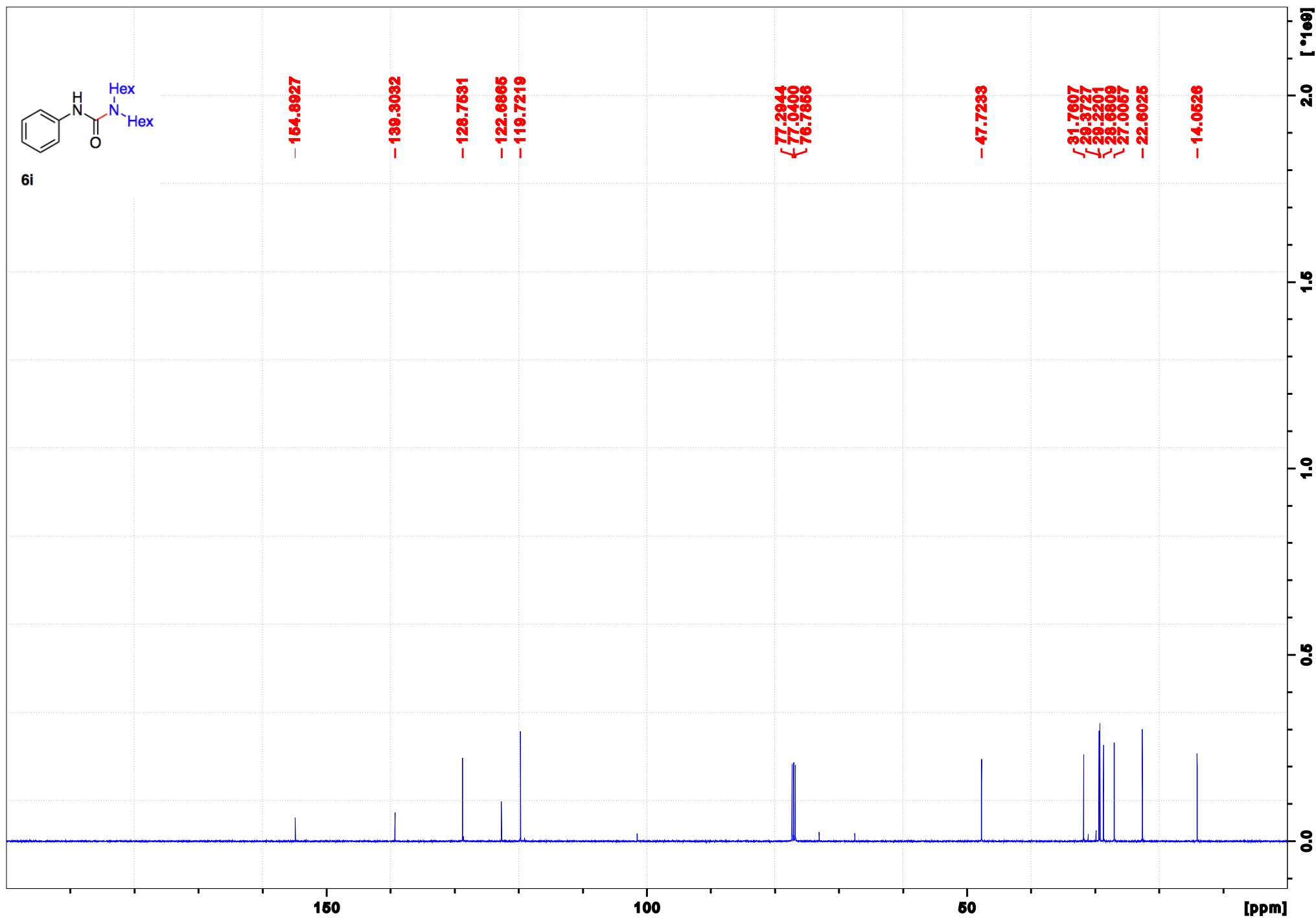




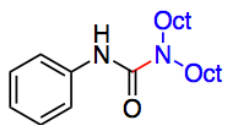
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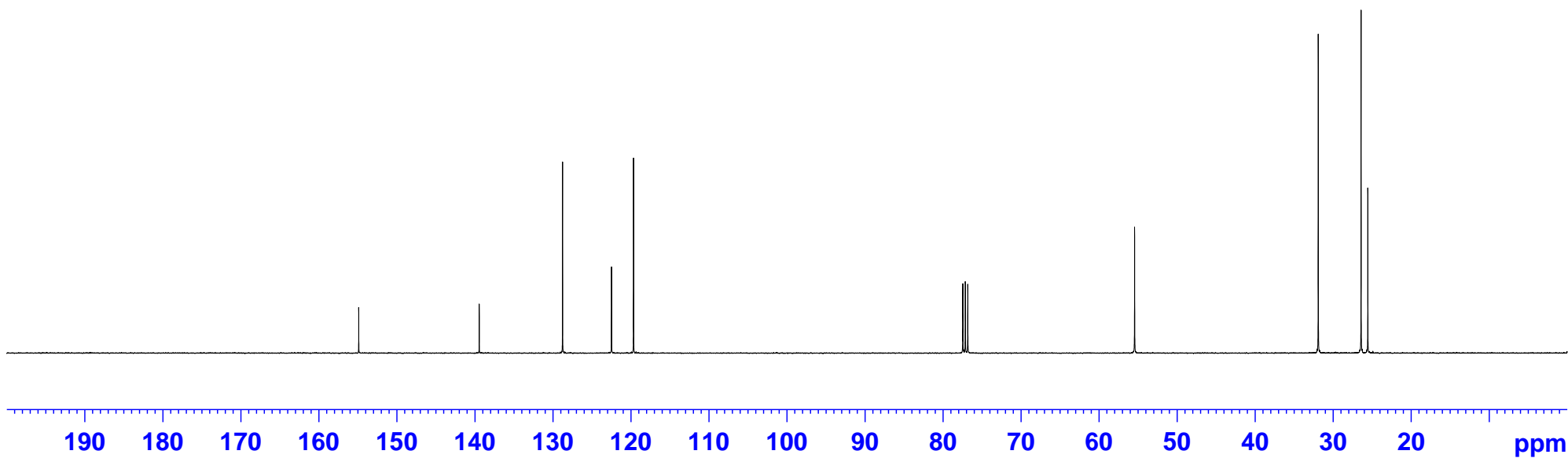


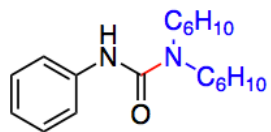




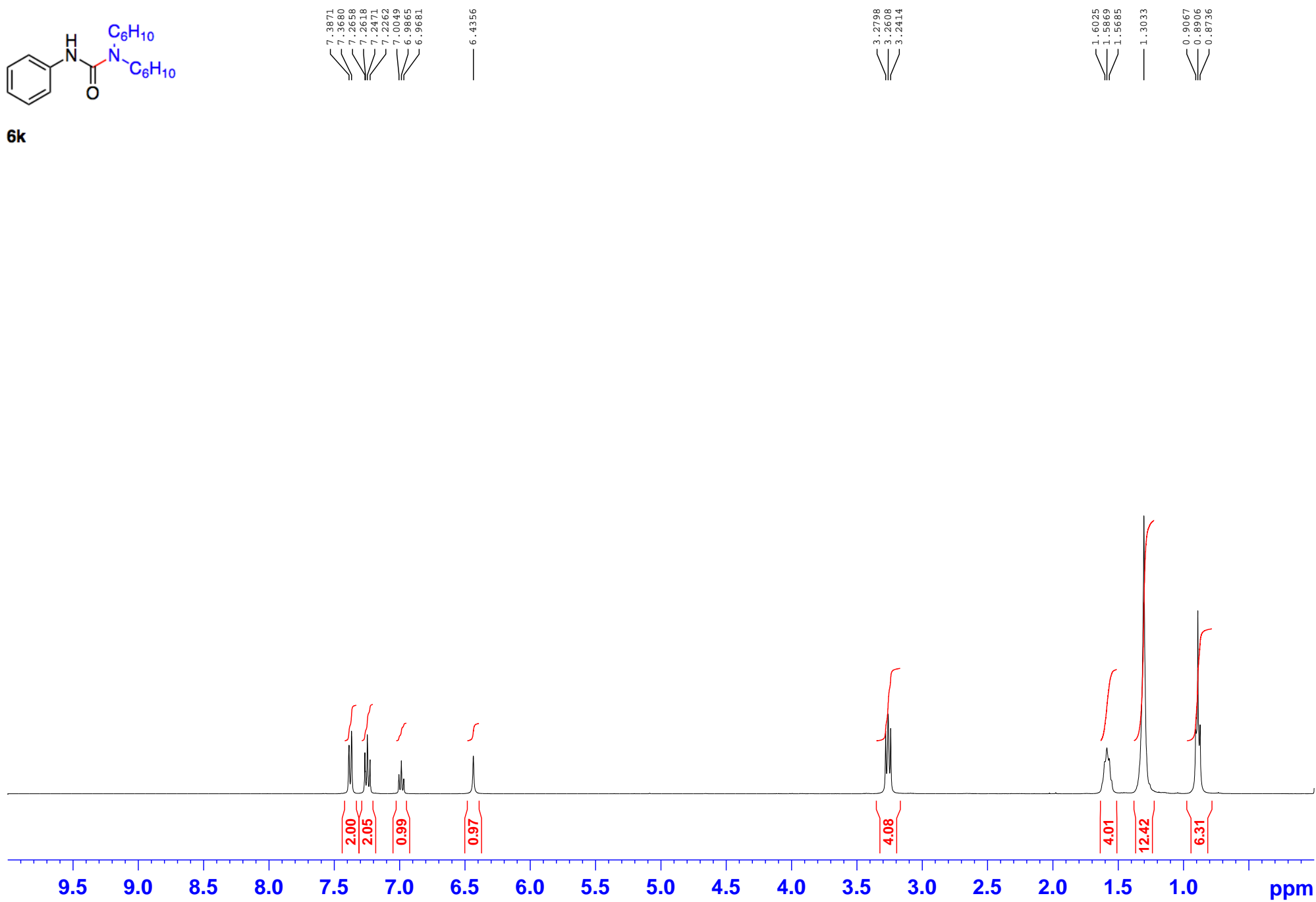


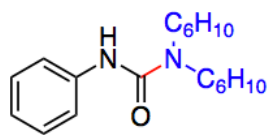
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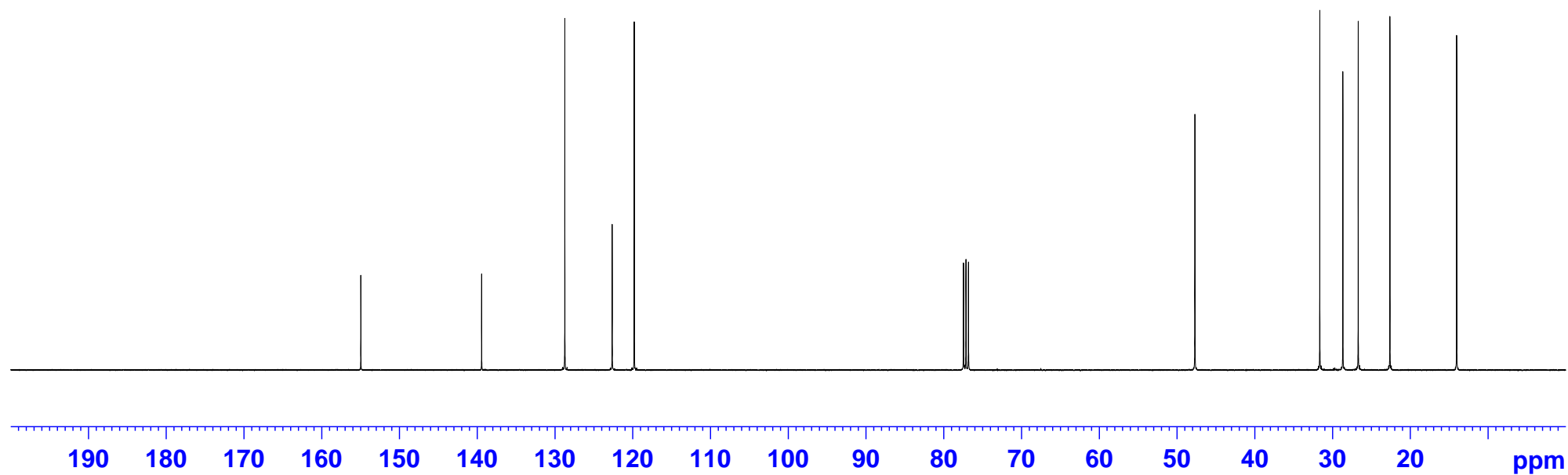


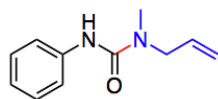
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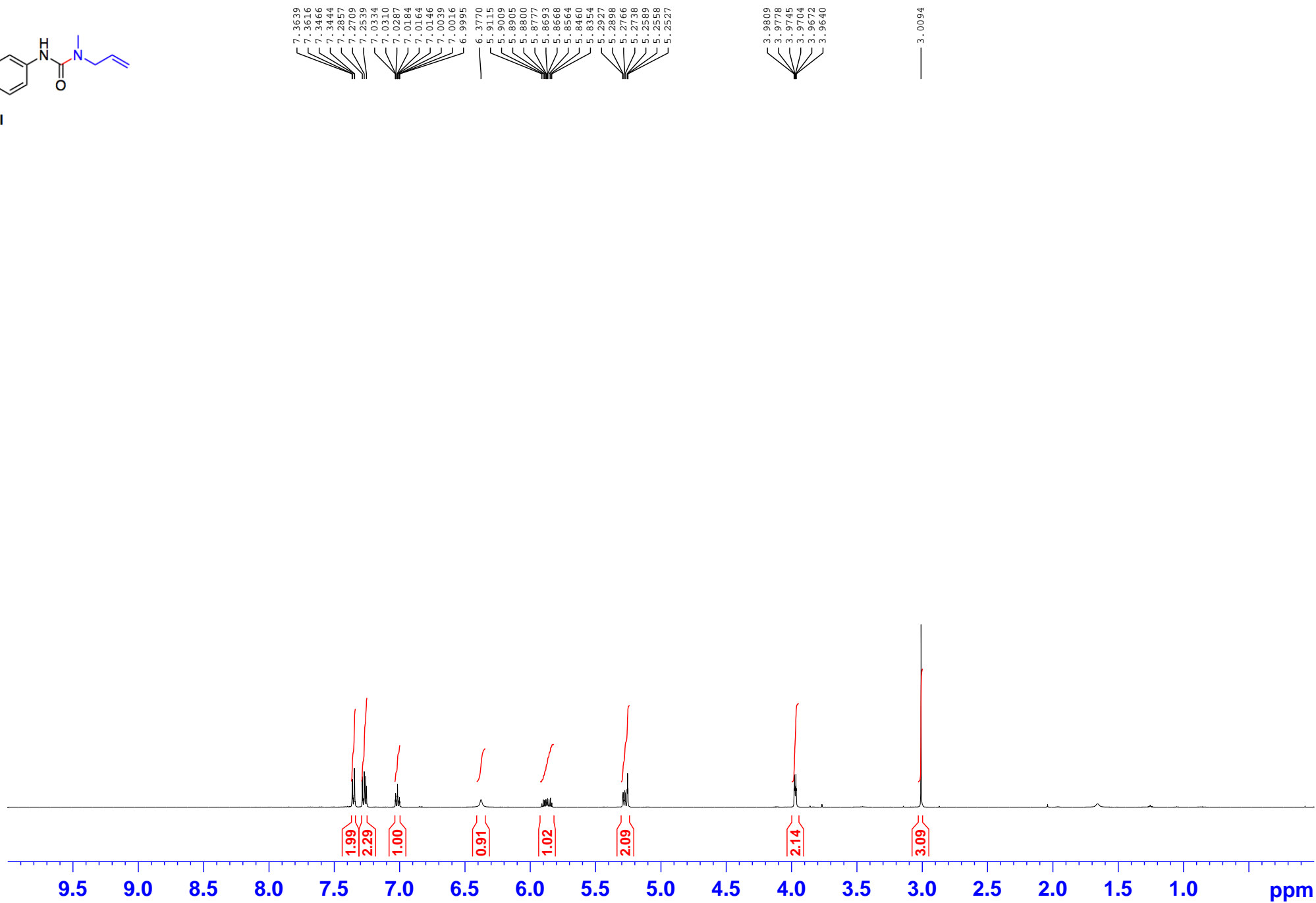


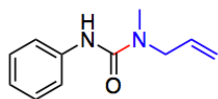
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6l





6l

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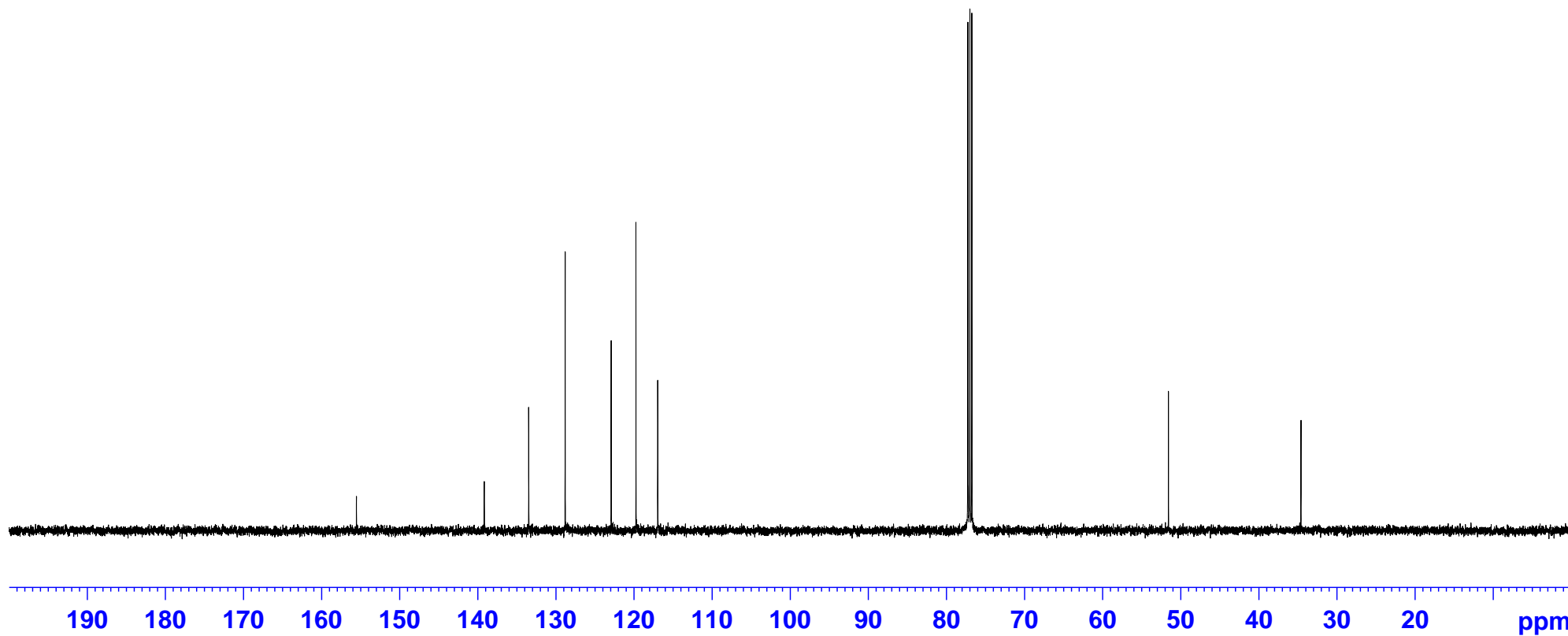
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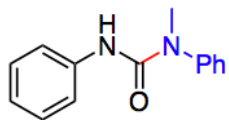
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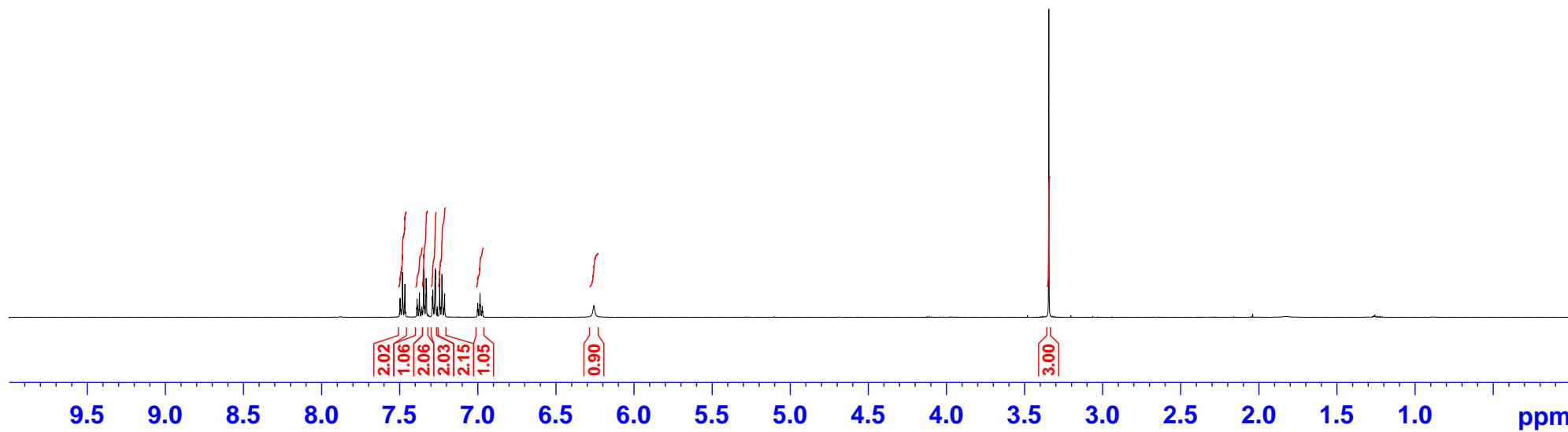
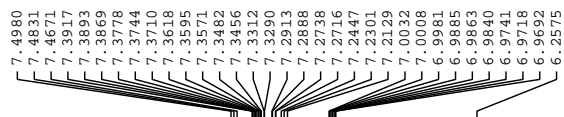
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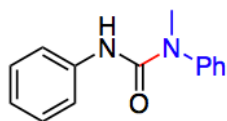
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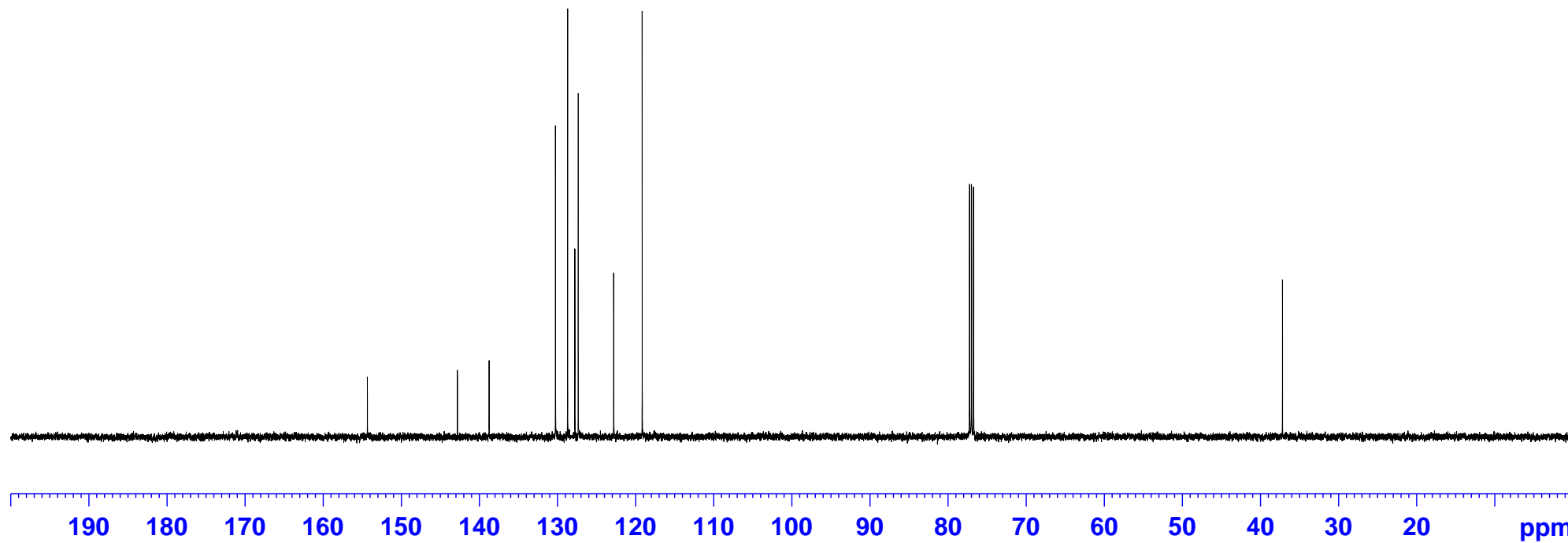


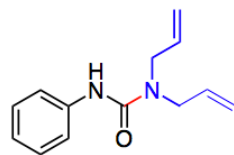
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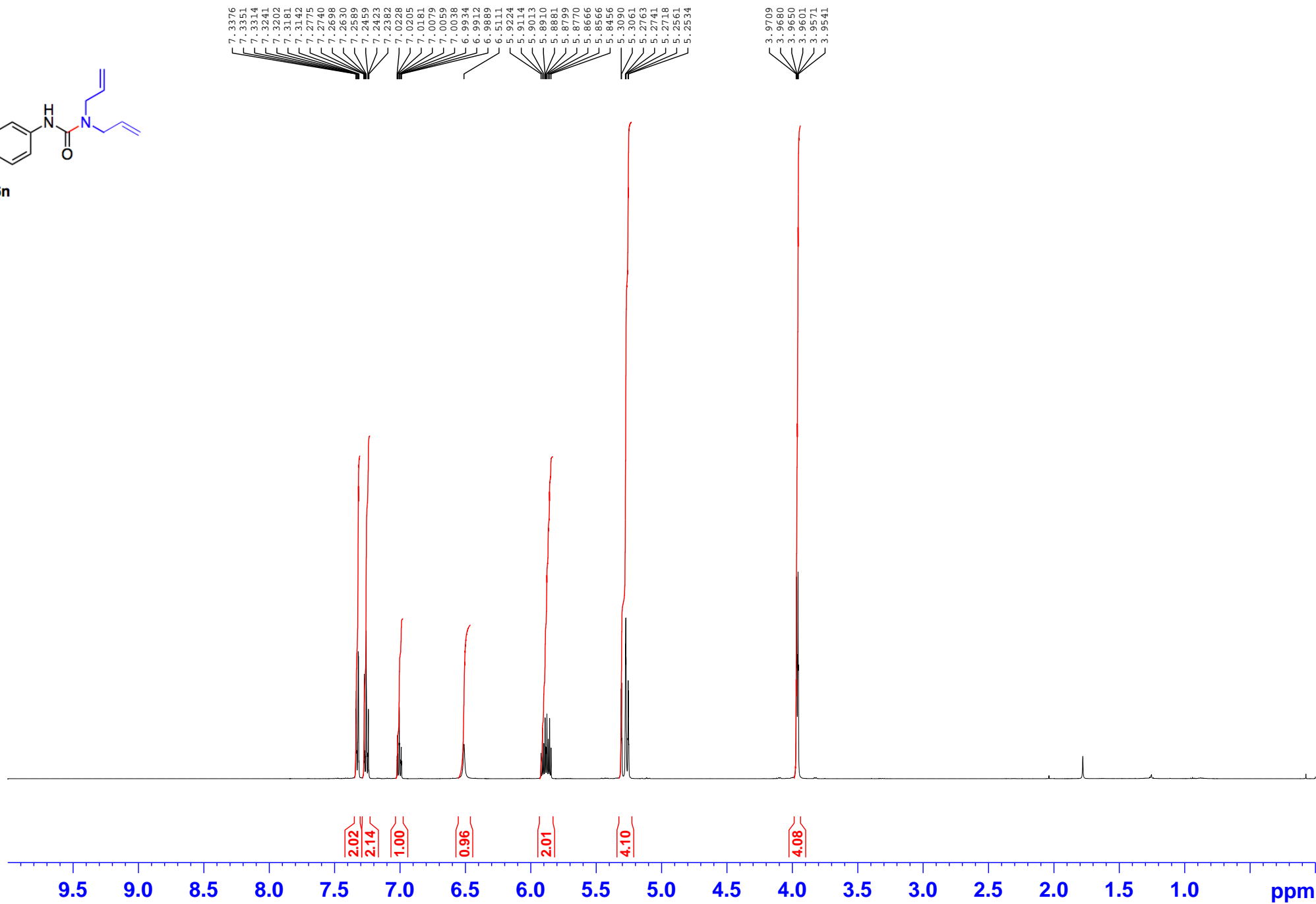


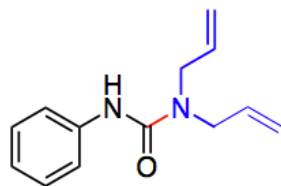
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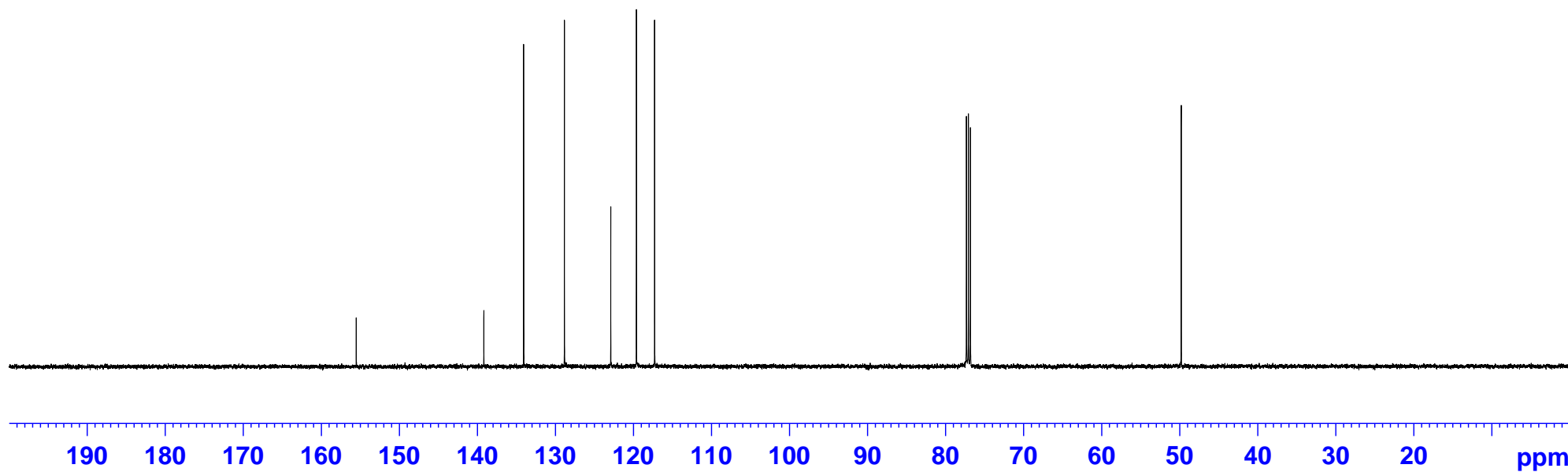


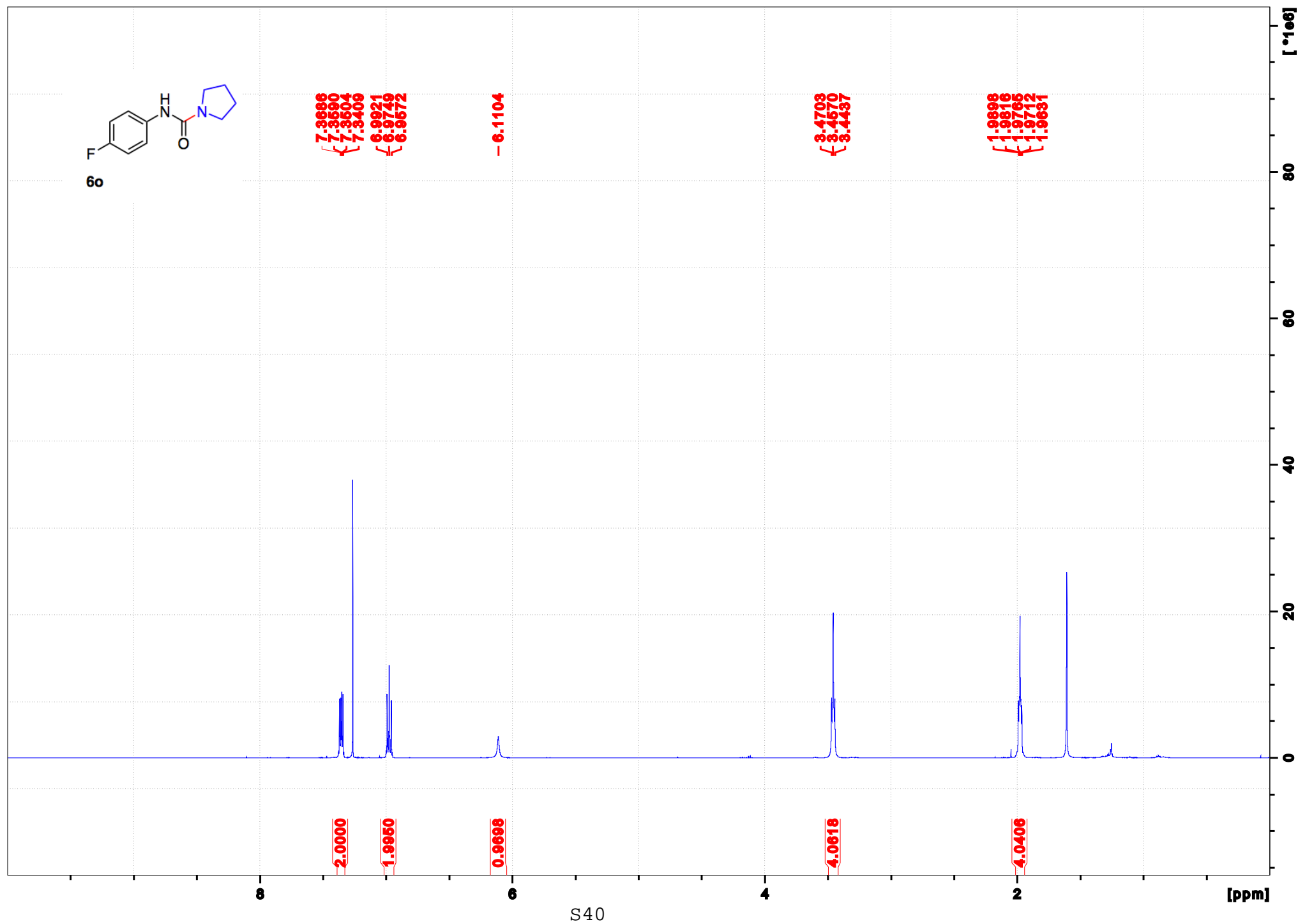
6n

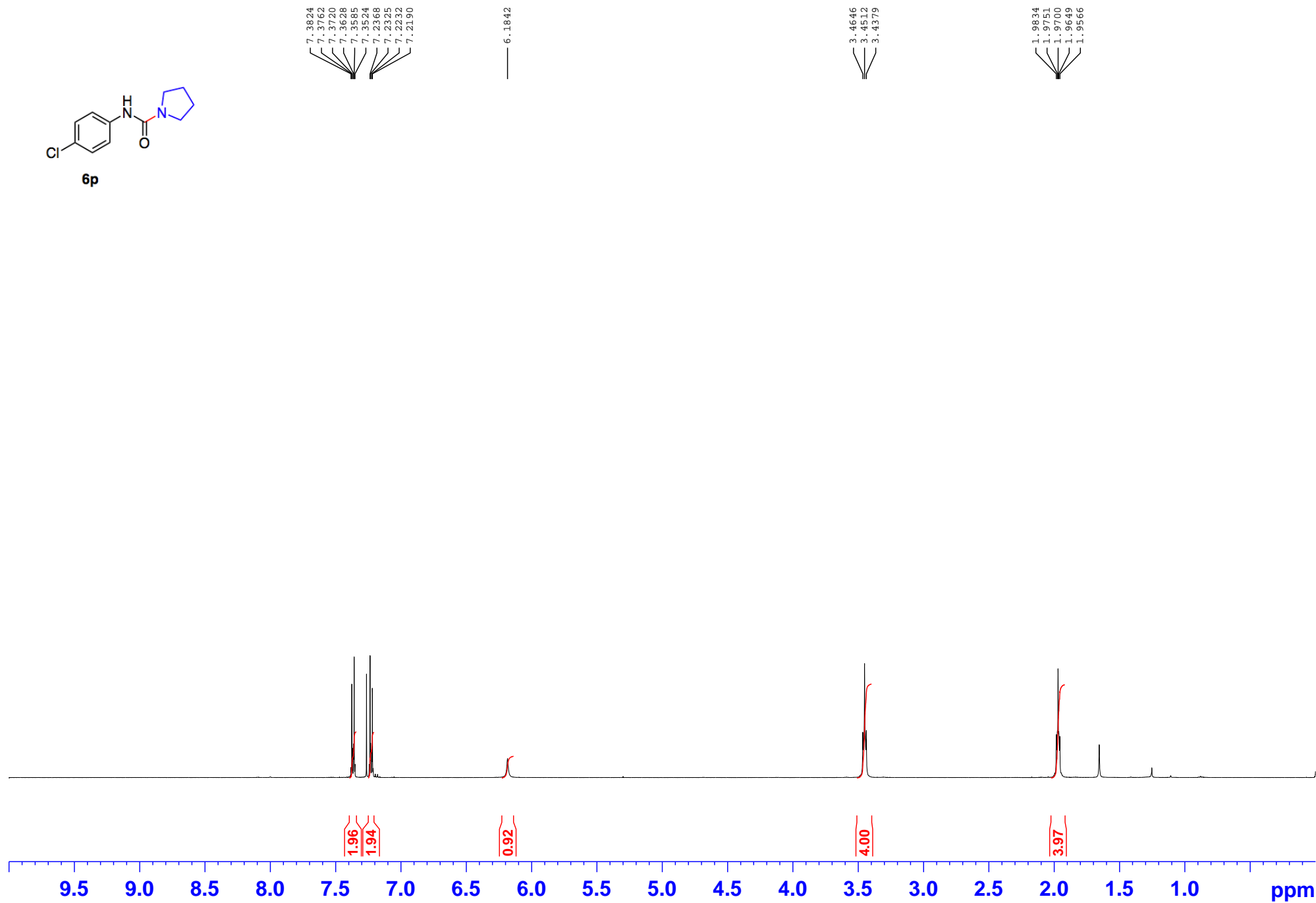
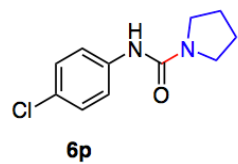


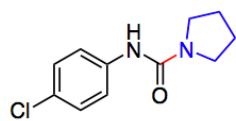


6n









6p

153.6662

137.8424

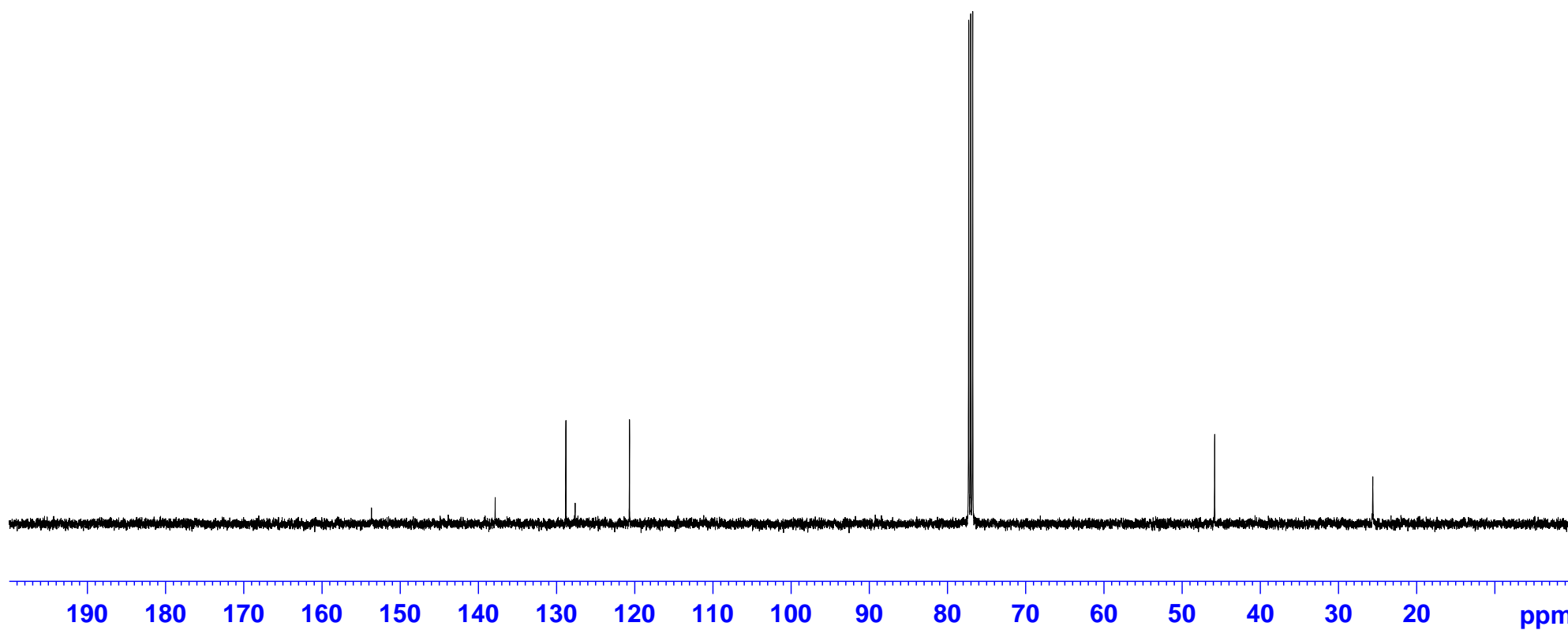
128.8008

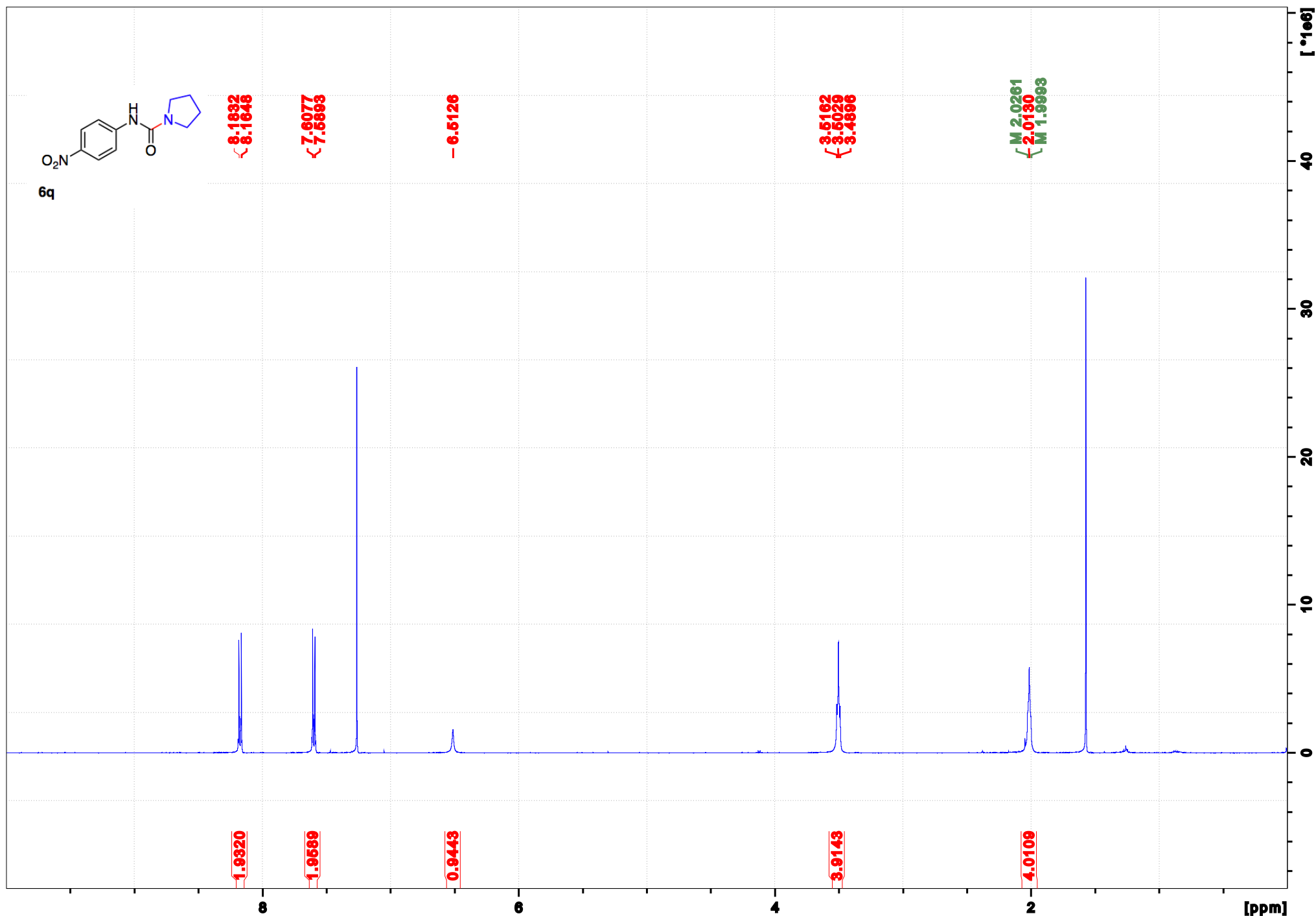
127.6152

120.6652

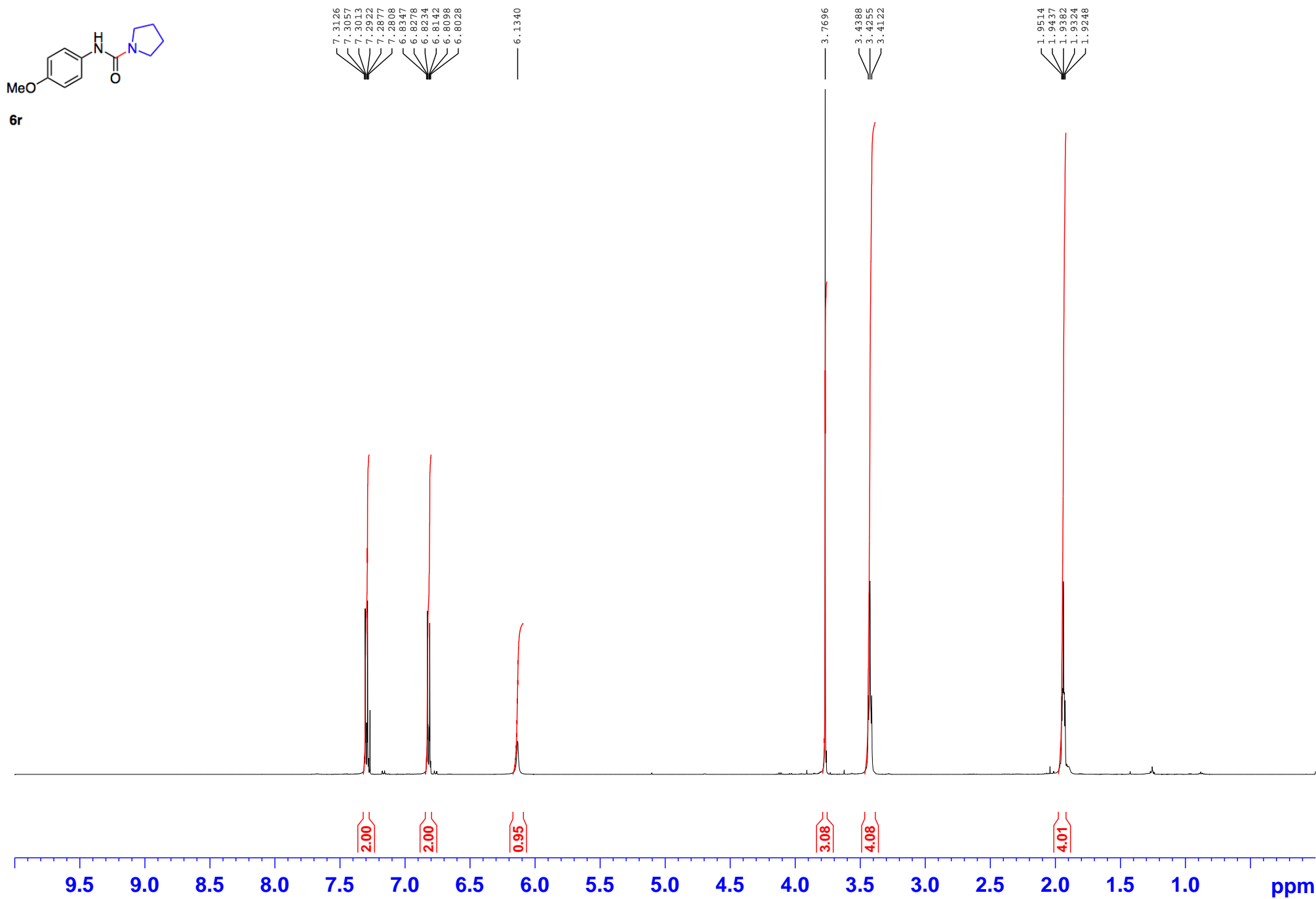
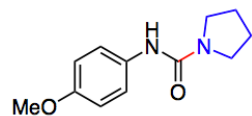
45.8330

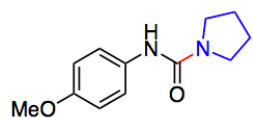
25.6119



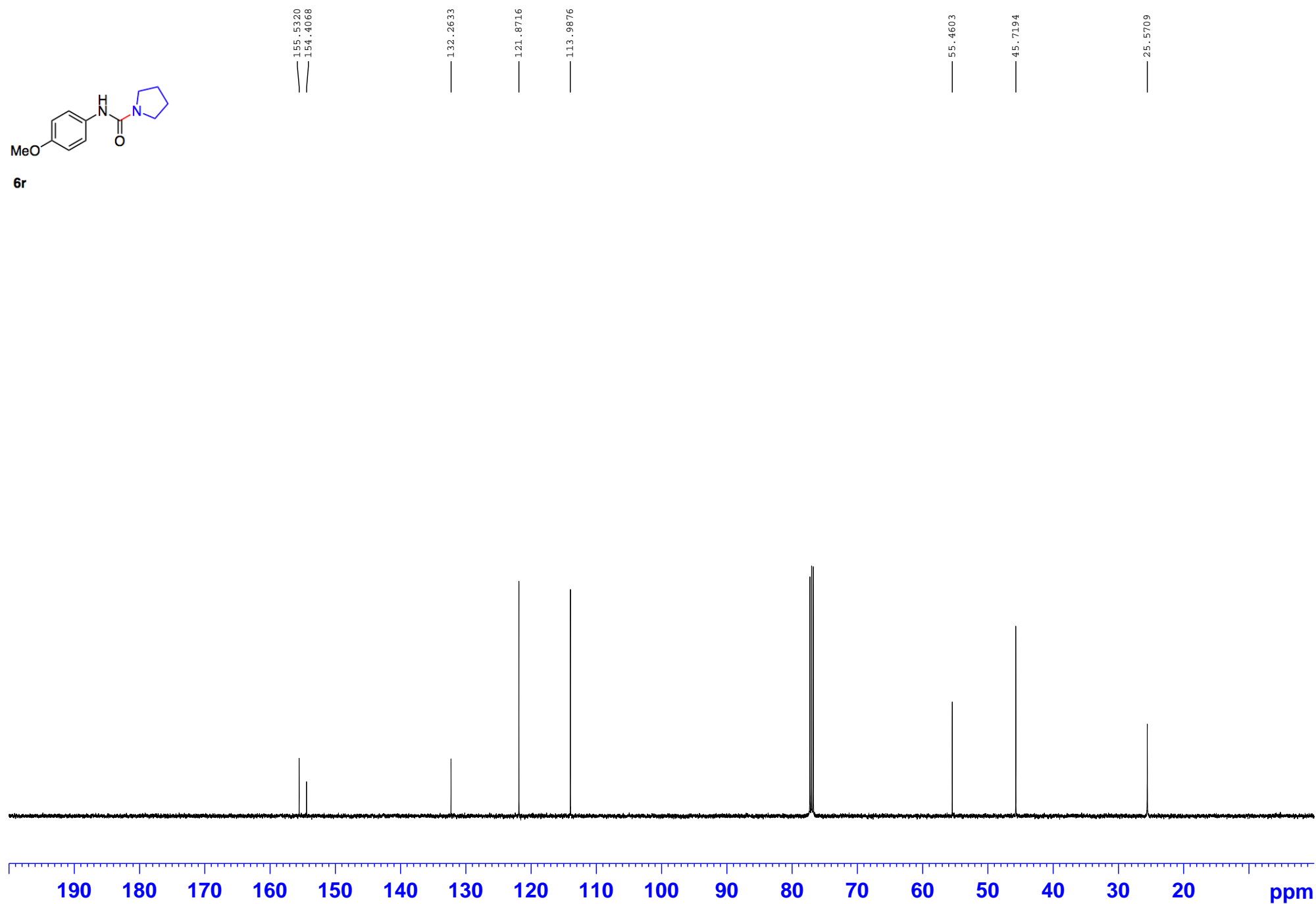


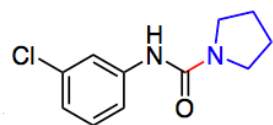
S43



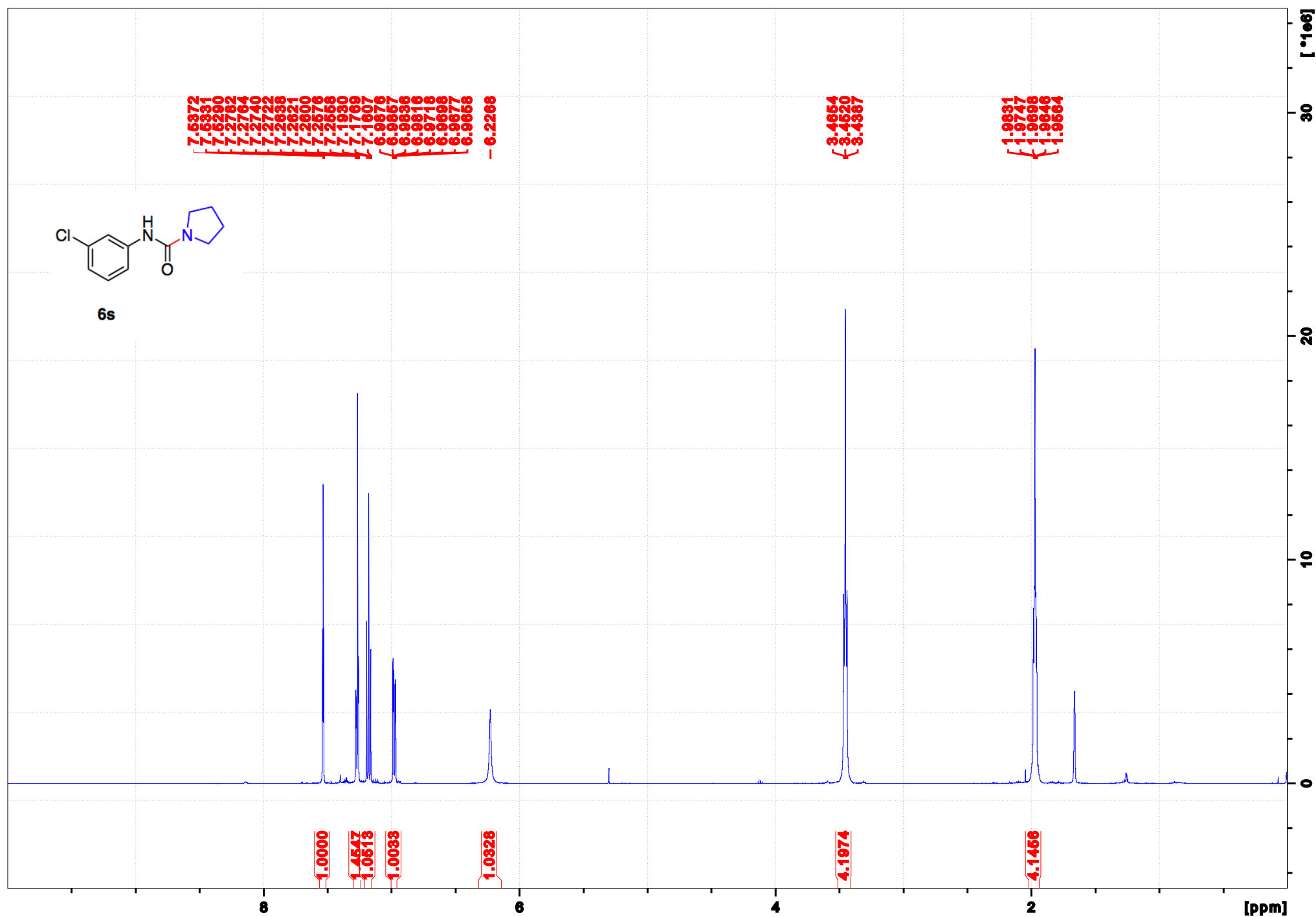


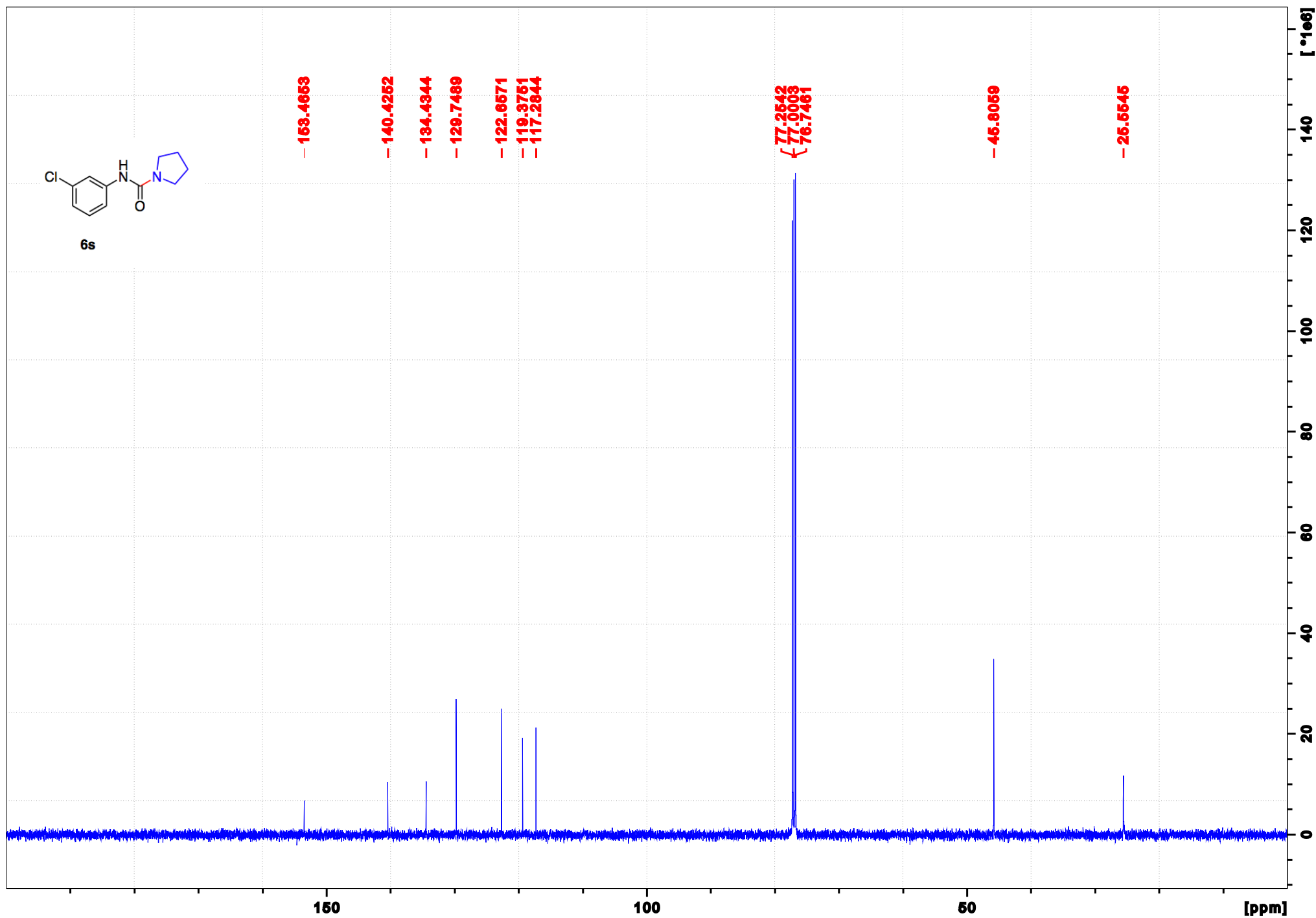
6r

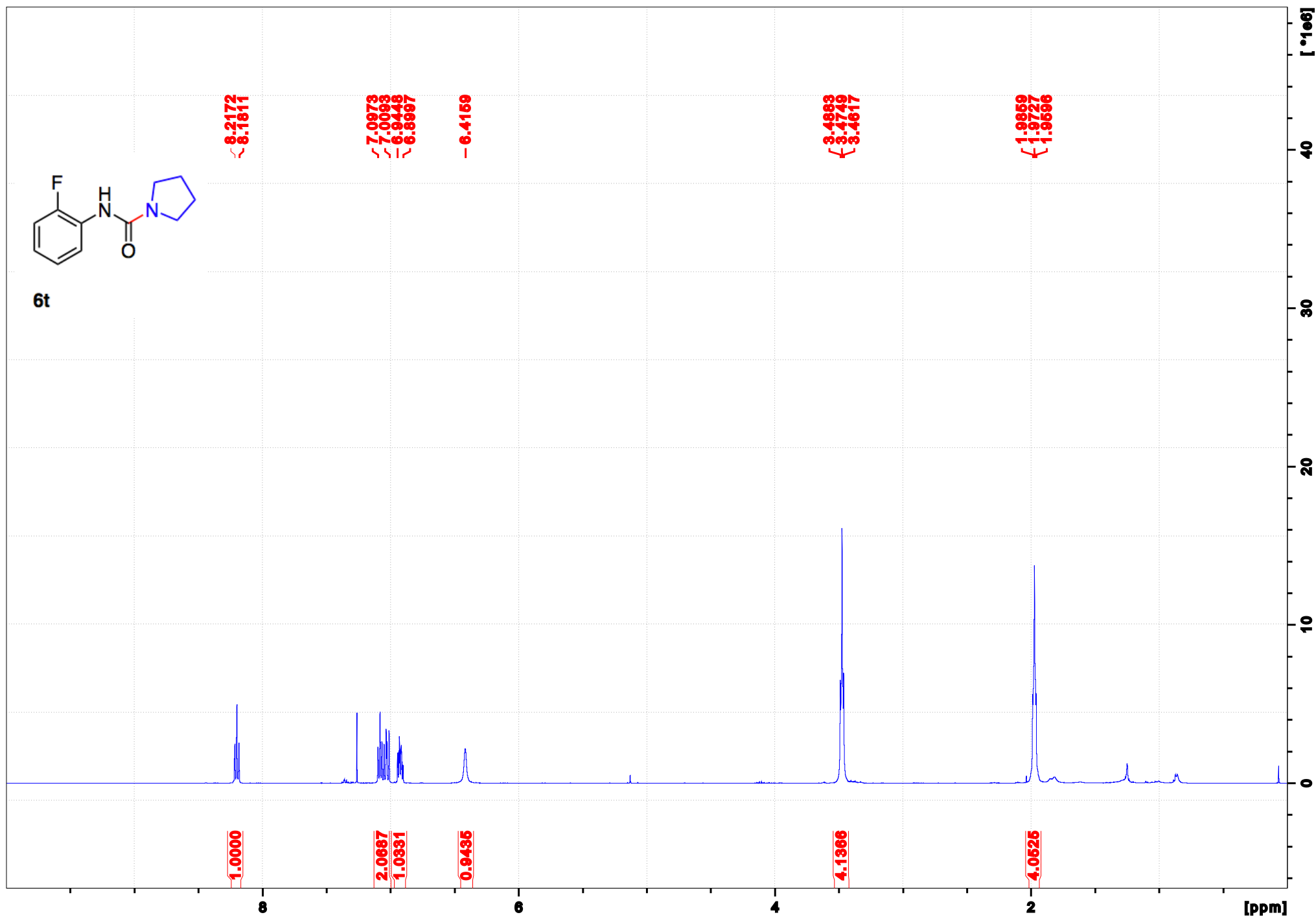


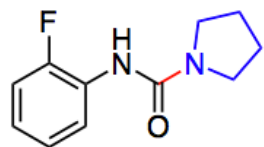


6s









6t

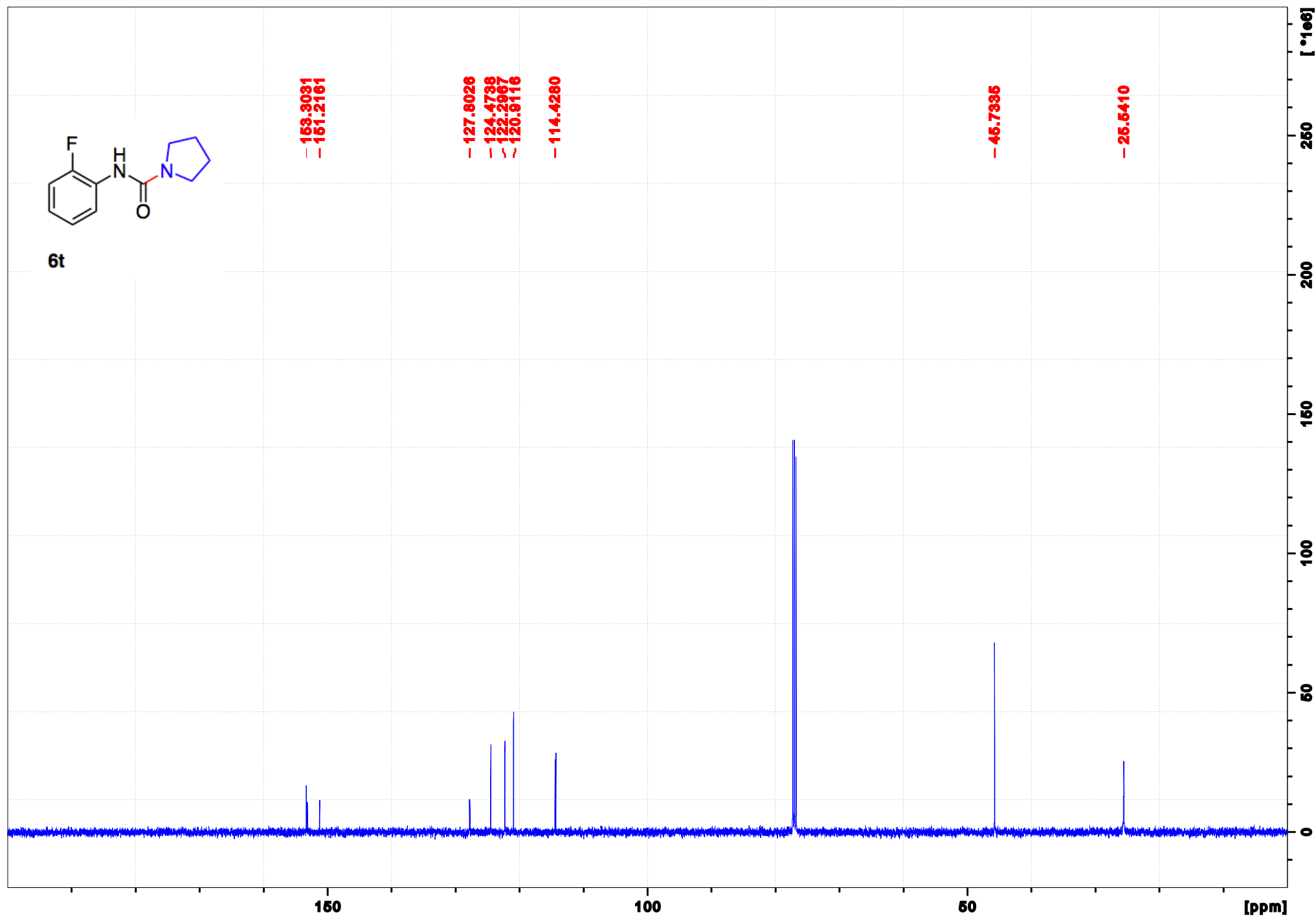
163.3031
161.2161

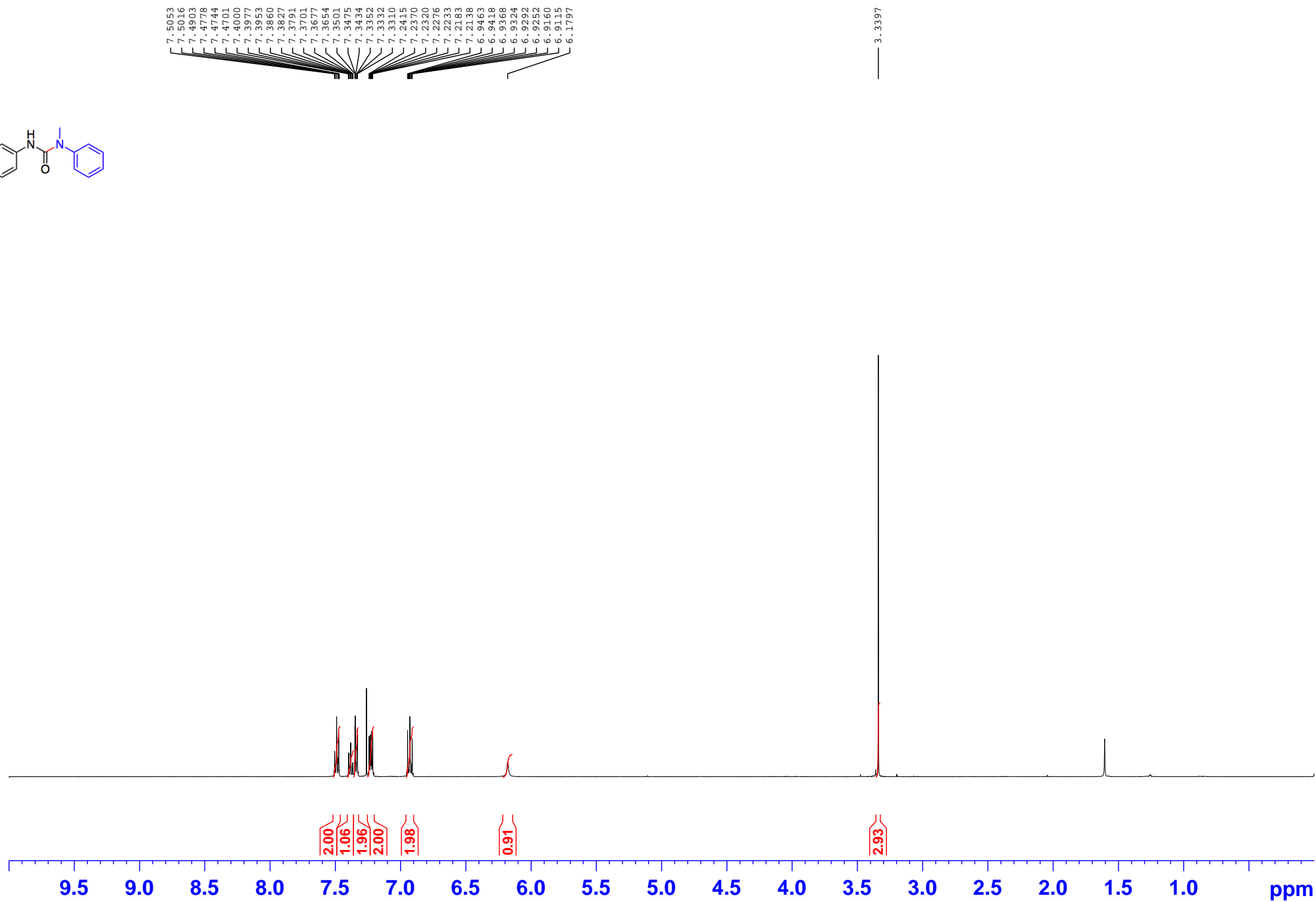
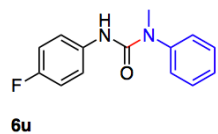
127.8026
124.4738
122.2967
120.9116

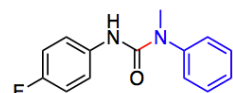
114.4280

45.7335

25.5410







6u

— 159.6784

— 154.4913

— 142.7821

— 134.7339

— 130.3631

— 127.9307

— 127.4446

— 121.1279

— 115.2251

— 37.2572

250 [°1e6]

200

150

100

50

0

150

S51

100

50

[ppm]