

Supporting Information

Pd(II)-Catalyzed Intramolecular Oxidative Heck Dearomative Reaction: Approach to Thiazloes Fused Pyrrolidinones with a C2-Azaquaternary Center

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1. General Information

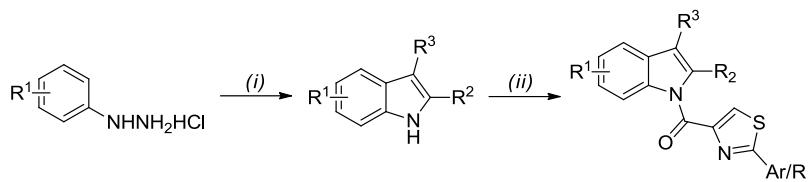
Melting point (m.p.) was measured on a microscopic melting point apparatus. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were collected on BRUKER AV-300 (300MHz) spectrometer using CDCl₃ as solvent. Chemical shifts of ¹H NMR were recorded in parts per million (ppm, δ) relative to tetramethylsilane (δ = 0.00 ppm) with the solvent resonance as an internal standard (CDCl₃: δ = 7.26 ppm). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift in ppm (δ), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, brs = broad singlet, m = multiplet), coupling constant (Hz), and integration. Chemical shifts of ¹³C NMR were reported in ppm with the solvent as the internal standard (CDCl₃: δ = 77.0 ppm). Infrared spectra (IR) were recorded on a Thermo Scientific iS10 FT/IR spectrometer; absorptions are reported in reciprocal centimeters. High Resolution Mass measurement was performed on Agilent QTOF 6520 mass spectrometer with electron spray ionization (ESI) as the ion source.

2. Materials

Palladium(II) catalysts, oxidants and additives are commercially available. Unless otherwise indicated, all other reagents and solvents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification.

3. Experimental Section

3.1 General procedure for the synthesis of *N*-acylindole



Scheme S1. Preparation of *N*-acylindole substrates.

Reaction Conditions: (i) Ketone, AcOH, 100 °C; (ii) substituted thiazole-4-carbonyl chloride, 55% NaH, DMF, 0 °C to r.t., overnight

As shown in **Scheme S1**, *N*-acylindole substrates were synthesized from corresponding phenylhydrazine hydrochlorides as starting materials *via* Fisher indole synthesis followed by a *N*-acylation according to literatures.^{1,2}

The suspension of substituted phenylhydrazine hydrochloride (40 mmol) in AcOH (40 mL) was heated in 50 °C for half an hour, then butan-2-one (80 mmol, 2 equiv) was added in one portion and the reaction mixture was refluxed for 3 hours. After cooling to room temperature, AcOH was removed under vacum and the residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and concentrated *in vacuo* to give gray residue, which was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the 2,3-disubstituted indoles.

To the suspension of NaH (55% dispersion in mineral oil, 1.2 equiv) in 10 mL anhydrous DMF (fresh distilled from CaH₂) under argon, 2,3-disubstituted indoles (10 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (5 mL) was added slowly at 0 °C. Then the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for half an hour at room temperature. Substituted thiazole-4-carbonyl chloride (10 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (5~10 mL) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight and quenched by adding 10 mL 1 N HCl solution. DMF was removed under vacum and the residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and concentrated *in vacuo* to give dark residue, which was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the *N*-acylindole.

3.2 General Procedure for the Synthesis of the Thiazole Fused Indolines

A reaction tube was charged with *N*-acylindole **1** (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), Pd(OAc)₂ (0.05 mmol, 10 mol %), AgOAc (1 mmol, 2 equiv) and CH₃CN/DMSO (3.96 mL/0.04 mL). The reaction mixture was vigorously stirred at 130 °C (oil temperature) under air for 15 hours. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate and filtered through a Cetile pad. The filtrate was washed with water and brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and concentrated *in vacuo* to give dark residue, which was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford the products **2**.

3.3 Gram-scale reaction of compound **1e**

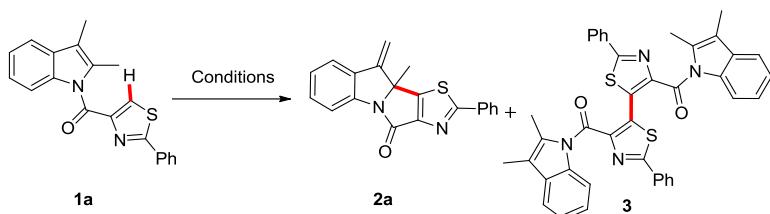
A reaction tube was charged with **1e** (6 mmol, 2.17 g, 1 equiv), Pd(OAc)₂ (0.6 mmol, 135 mg, 10 mol %), AgOAc (12 mmol, 2.0 g, 2 equiv) and CH₃CN/DMSO (48 mL, 99:1, v/v). The reaction mixture was vigorously stirred at 130 °C (oil temperature) under air for 20 hours. After cooling to room temperature, diluted with ethyl acetate and filtered through a Cetile pad. The filtrate was

concentrated *in vacuo* directly to give dark residue, which was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford 1.55 g faint yellow solid in 72% yield.

A reaction tube was charged with **1e** (6 mmol, 2.17 g, 1 equiv), Pd(OAc)₂ (0.3 mmol, 68 mg, 5 mol %), AgOAc (12 mmol, 2.0 g, 2 equiv) and CH₃CN/DMSO (48 mL, 99:1, *v/v*). The reaction mixture was vigorously stirred at 130 °C (oil temperature) under air for 24 hours. After cooling to room temperature, diluted with ethyl acetate and filtered through a Cetile pad. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* directly to give dark residue, which was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to afford 1.16 g faint yellow solid in 54% yield.

3.4 The effect of the ratios of CH₃CN/DMSO on the reaction

Table S1 Screening the ratio of CH₃CN/DMSO ^a

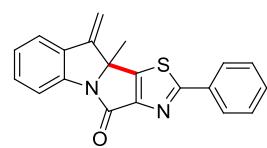


Entry	Pd(OAc) ₂ (mol %)	Solvent (mL, v/v)	Yield(%) ^b (2a/3)
1	10	CH ₃ CN:DMSO(1.6:0.4)	55/20
2	10	CH ₃ CN:DMSO(1.8:0.2)	74/10
3	10	CH ₃ CN:DMSO(1.98:0.02)	77/8
4	10	CH ₃ CN:DMSO:AcOH(1.9:0.05:0.05)	55/3
5	10	CH ₃ CN:DMSO:PivOH(1.9:0.05:0.05)	52/21
6	10	CH₃CN:DMSO(3.96:0.04)	86(84^c)/7

^aReaction conditions: **1a** (0.5 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (10 mol %) and AgOAc (1 mmol) in solvent under air at 130 °C for 15 h. ^b ¹H NMR yields using dibromomethane (δ = 4.80) as an internal standard. ^c Isolated yield.

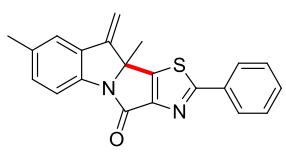
3.5 Characterization of the Title Compounds

10a-methyl-10-methylene-2-phenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2a)



Faint yellow solid, m.p. 138-140 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.58 - 7.32 (m, 5H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.63 (s, 1H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 1.82 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.7, 164.0, 154.6, 153.3, 146.2, 142.1, 133.0, 131.9, 131.3, 130.7, 129.2, 127.1, 125.0, 121.9, 117.5, 104.4, 72.5, 30.4 ppm; IR (KBr) 1717, 1460, 1400, 1331, 1295, 1129, 890, 788, 745, 693 cm⁻¹; HRMS(ESI) calcd for [C₂₀H₁₄N₂OS+H]⁺ 331.0900, found 331.0906.

8,10a-dimethyl-10-methylene-2-phenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2b)



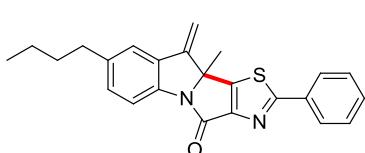
Faint yellow solid, m.p. 178-180 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.00 (dd, $J = 6.4, 3.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, $J = 4.9, 1.7$ Hz, 3H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.20 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.61 (s, 1H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.81 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.0, 163.5, 153.9, 152.8, 145.8, 139.4, 134.2, 132.5, 131.3, 131.0, 130.7, 128.6, 126.5, 121.7, 116.7, 103.5, 72.1, 29.8, 20.7 ppm; IR (KBr) 3126, 1717, 1647, 1478, 1400, 1326, 1287, 892, 759, 686 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 345.1056, found 345.1064.

8-ethyl-10a-methyl-10-methylene-2-phenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2c)



Faint yellow solid, m.p. 121-123 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.00 (dd, $J = 6.5, 3.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.23 (dd, $J = 8.1, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 2.65 (q, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 1.81 (s, 3H), 1.24 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.5, 164.0, 154.5, 153.3, 146.4, 141.2, 140.1, 133.0, 131.9, 131.2, 130.5, 129.1, 127.0, 121.0, 117.3, 104.0, 72.7, 30.3, 28.7, 15.8 ppm; IR (KBr) 3132, 1717, 1647, 1478, 1400, 1326, 1287, 1141, 892, 759, 686 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 359.1213, found 359.1220.

8-butyl-10a-methyl-10-methylene-2-phenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2d)



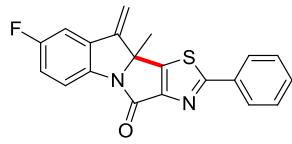
Colorless oil; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.08 – 7.93 (m, 2H), 7.63 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 3H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 7.22 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 2.61 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 1.82 (s, 3H), 1.65 – 1.54 (m, 2H), 1.43 – 1.29 (m, 3H), 0.93 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.5, 164.0, 154.5, 153.3, 146.4, 140.1, 139.9, 133.0, 131.8, 131.2, 131.0, 129.1, 127.0, 121.5, 117.2, 103.9, 72.7, 35.4, 33.8, 30.3, 22.3, 13.9 ppm; IR (KBr) 3133, 2924, 2853, 1715, 1441, 1400, 1336, 1154, 875, 809, 694, 640 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 387.1526, found 387.1533.

8-methoxy-10a-methyl-10-methylene-2-phenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2e)



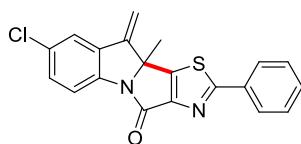
Faint yellow solid, m.p. 152-154 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.00 (dd, $J = 6.4, 3.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, $J = 7.0, 3.7$ Hz, 3H), 7.10 – 6.89 (m, 2H), 5.61 (s, 1H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 1.81 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.6, 164.2, 157.6, 154.3, 153.4, 146.4, 136.0, 133.0, 133.0, 131.3, 129.2, 127.0, 118.3, 116.8, 106.8, 104.6, 72.9, 55.89, 30.3 ppm; IR (KBr) 3127, 2924, 2853, 1718, 1481, 1460, 1400, 1277, 1218, 1063, 809, 762, 728, 686 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}+\text{Na}]^+$ 383.0849, found 383.0840.

8-fluoro-10a-methyl-10-methylene-2-phenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2f)



Faint yellow solid, m.p. 94-96 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.02 (dd, $J = 6.4, 3.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.68 (dd, $J = 8.6, 4.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, $J = 5.0, 1.7$ Hz, 3H), 7.21 – 7.04 (m, 2H), 5.64 (s, 1H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 1.84 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.9, 164.1, 162.2, 159.0, 154.5, 153.2, 145.9, 138.3, 133.6, 133.5, 132.9, 131.4, 129.3, 127.1, 126.9, 118.7, 118.6, 117.8, 117.5, 109.0, 108.7, 105.9, 73.0, 30.3 ppm; IR (KBr) 3128, 2924, 2854, 1717, 1481, 1400, 1318, 1153, 1087, 903, 818, 757, 684 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{13}\text{FN}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 349.0805, found 349.0810.

8-chloro-10a-methyl-10-methylene-2-phenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2g)



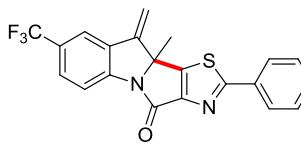
Faint yellow solid, m.p. 151-153 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.01 (dd, $J = 6.4, 2.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.40 (m, 4H), 7.35 (dd, $J = 8.4, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.65 (s, 1H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 1.82 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.9, 163.7, 154.5, 153.1, 145.4, 140.6, 133.4, 132.8, 131.4, 130.6, 130.6, 129.2, 127.0, 122.0, 118.5, 105.8, 72.8, 30.3 ppm; IR (KBr) 3126, 1717, 1647, 1464, 1400, 1328, 1149, 889, 759, 686 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClN}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 365.0510, found 365.0517.

8-bromo-10a-methyl-10-methylene-2-phenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2h)



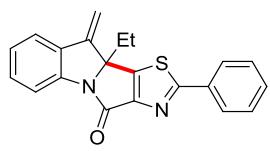
Faint yellow solid, m.p. 143-145 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.05 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.67 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.48 (tt, $J = 6.2, 3.0$ Hz, 4H), 5.65 (s, 1H), 5.25 (s, 1H), 1.82 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.9, 163.7, 154.6, 153.1, 145.2, 141.1, 133.8, 133.5, 132.8, 131.4, 129.2, 127.1, 125.0, 118.9, 118.1, 106.0, 72.7, 30.4 ppm; IR (KBr) 3126, 1717, 1637, 1464, 1400, 1328, 1133, 889, 817, 759, 686 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrN}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 409.0005, found 409.0006.

10a-methyl-10-methylene-2-phenyl-8-(trifluoromethyl)-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2i)



Faint yellow solid, m.p. 81-83 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.08 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.82 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 5.76 (d, $J = 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.33 (d, $J = 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 1.85 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 175.1, 163.5, 155.0, 152.9, 145.2, 144.6, 132.8, 132.4, 131.5, 129.3, 128.0, 127.9, 127.5, 127.1, 126.0, 122.4, 119.2, 119.1, 118.1, 117.5, 106.5, 72.9, 30.5 ppm; IR (KBr) 3127, 1721, 1615, 1400, 1340, 1329, 1269, 1134, 889, 833, 761, 678 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 399.0773, found 399.0780.

10a-ethyl-10-methylene-2-phenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2j)



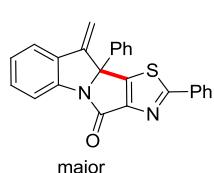
Faint yellow solid, m.p. 99-101 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.03 – 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.72 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.40 (m, 4H), 7.35 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.12 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.67 (s, 1H), 5.18 (s, 1H), 2.07 (ddt, $J = 21.3, 14.0, 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 0.88 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.6, 164.3, 153.8, 153.1, 145.2, 142.6, 132.9, 132.5, 131.3, 130.6, 129.2, 127.0, 124.8, 121.6, 117.3, 104.8, 76.0, 35.6, 8.2 ppm; IR (KBr) 2966, 2930, 1721, 1646, 1600, 1463, 1380, 1273, 1128, 883, 836, 765, 751, 688, 650 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 345.1056, found 345.1062.

6-phenyl-3,4-dihydrothiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[2,1-k]carbazol-8(2H)-one (2k)



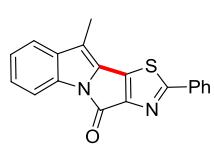
Brown solid, m.p. 129-131 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.06 – 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.75 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.37 (m, 4H), 7.30 (d, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.09 (td, $J = 7.5, 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.26 (dd, $J = 6.5, 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.66 – 2.60 (m, 2H), 2.24 – 1.87 (m, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.9, 168.6, 157.1, 152.9, 144.2, 138.4, 132.9, 131.3, 130.3, 129.4, 129.2, 127.1, 124.7, 120.5, 119.1, 116.6, 76.7, 72.9, 35.8, 22.5, 15.1 ppm. IR(KBr) 2938, 1728, 1593, 1461, 1440, 1129, 751, 689 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 357.1056, found 357.1054.

10-methylene-2,10a-diphenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2l)



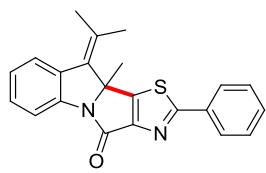
Faint yellow solid, m.p. 203-205 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.70 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 0.21H), 8.17 – 7.86 (m, 2.4H), 7.76 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.62-7.54 (m, 2.7H), 7.61-7.23 (m, 11.9H), 7.11 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.78 (s, 1H), 5.45 (s, 1H), 2.50 (s, 0.62H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 175.1, 165.8, 163.9, 160.8, 154.2, 153.2, 146.3, 145.0, 142.1, 140.4, 139.8, 136.6, 133.4, 132.8, 132.4, 131.8, 131.3, 131.0, 130.8, 130.4, 129.8, 129.1, 129.0, 128.6, 127.4, 127.0, 126.3, 125.4, 125.3, 124.1, 121.8, 121.0, 118.6, 117.5, 115.7, 107.5, 77.0, 11.9 ppm. IR(KBr) 2939, 2902, 2857, 1687, 1442, 1364, 1190, 1132, 841, 759, 687 cm^{-1} . HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 393.1056, found 393.1053.

10-methyl-2-phenyl-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2m)



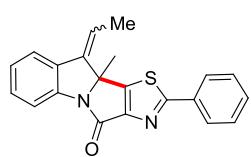
Brown solid, m.p. 224-226 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.99 (dd, $J = 6.6, 2.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.42 (m, 3H), 7.31 (dd, $J = 8.0, 3.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.10 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 172.0, 156.5, 155.0, 137.3, 134.9, 133.9, 132.9, 131.1, 130.0, 129.2, 128.1, 126.8, 123.5, 120.7, 118.8, 112.6, 10.0 ppm. IR(KBr) 2909, 1721, 1443, 1331, 1136, 806, 760, 742 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 317.0743, found 317.0742.

10a-methyl-2-phenyl-10-(propan-2-ylidene)-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2n)



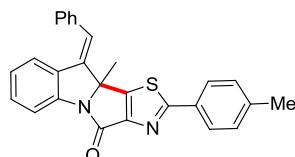
Faint yellow solid, m.p. 154–156 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.01 (dd, $J = 6.7, 2.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.38 (m, 3H), 7.28 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.15 – 7.05 (m, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.81 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 173.8, 162.5, 154.4, 154.0, 140.7, 133.4, 132.9, 131.8, 131.2, 129.5, 129.1, 128.3, 127.0, 125.4, 124.5, 117.0, 73.3, 28.7, 24.5, 22.4 ppm; IR (KBr) 2927, 1711, 1461, 1441, 1392, 1337, 1300, 748, 729, 686, 632 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 359.1213, found 359.1217.

10-ethylidene-10a-methyl-2-phenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2o)



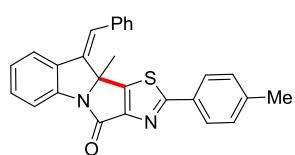
$Z/E = 1.3:1$, inseparable. Faint yellow solid, m.p. 159–161 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.00 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 3.7H), 7.72 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.60 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.27 (m, 9H), 7.17–7.06 (m, 2H), 6.11 (q, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 5.76 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 0.8H), 2.10 (d, 7.3Hz, 3H), 2.05 (d, 7.3Hz, 2.5H), 1.83 (s, 3H), 1.77(s, 2.5H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.3, 174.2, 163.4, 163.3, 154.9, 153.9, 153.8, 153.2, 141.9, 140.3, 138.0, 137.4, 132.9, 132.8, 132.7, 132.1, 131.1, 131.1, 129.4, 129.2, 129.0, 126.8, 125.4, 124.7, 120.4, 119.8, 117.4, 116.9, 116.4, 72.8, 71.8, 30.3, 28.5, 14.8, 14.0 ppm. IR(KBr) 2975, 2918, 2857, 1718, 1462, 763, 688 cm^{-1} . HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 345.1056, found 345.1059.

(E)-10-benzylidene-10a-methyl-2-phenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (E-2p)



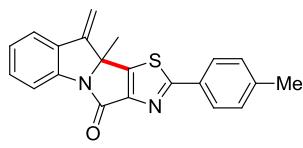
White solid, m.p. 171–173 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.92 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 – 7.25 (m, 9H), 6.91 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.91 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.9, 163.6, 154.6, 153.4, 142.8, 141.9, 139.3, 135.8, 130.7, 130.6, 130.4, 129.9, 128.8, 128.4, 128.1, 127.1, 125.0, 124.4, 123.6, 117.8, 73.3, 30.6, 21.6 ppm. IR(KBr) 2923, 2852, 1716, 1461, 1299, 1144, 812, 750, 707 cm^{-1} . HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 421.1369, found 421.1366.

(Z)-10-benzylidene-10a-methyl-2-phenyl-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (Z-2p)



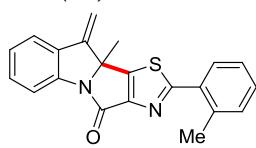
White solid, m.p. 184–186 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.74 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.46 (m, 3H), 7.41 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.20 – 7.14 (m, 4H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.03 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 175.1, 162.8, 154.0, 151.4, 141.5, 140.5, 139.0, 135.9, 133.5, 130.4, 130.3, 129.7, 129.3, 129.0, 128.3, 126.8, 124.9, 122.4, 121.3, 117.1, 72.4, 31.8, 21.6 ppm. IR(KBr) 2922, 2853, 1715, 1458, 1151, 1118, 750, 729 cm^{-1} . HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 421.1369, found 421.1365.

10a-methyl-10-methylene-2-(*p*-tolyl)-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2q)



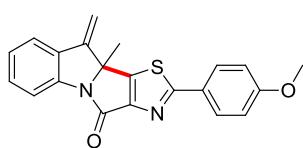
Faint yellow solid, m.p. 168-170 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.89 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.14 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.63 (s, 1H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 1.81 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.9, 164.0, 154.3, 153.2, 146.4, 142.2, 141.8, 131.9, 130.7, 130.4, 129.9, 127.0, 124.9, 121.9, 117.6, 104.4, 72.5, 30.4, 21.6 ppm; IR (KBr) 3126, 1715, 1646, 1462, 1401, 1332, 1292, 1128, 1004, 889, 772, 745, 662 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 345.1046, found 345.1056.

10a-methyl-10-methylene-2-(*o*-tolyl)-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2r)



Faint yellow solid, m.p. 218-220 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.74 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.49 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.44 - 7.23 (m, 4H), 7.15 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.65 (s, 1H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 2.63 (s, 3H), 1.84 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.2, 164.1, 155.4, 152.9, 146.4, 142.3, 137.3, 132.2, 131.9, 131.8, 130.8, 130.5, 130.3, 126.3, 124.9, 121.9, 117.6, 104.4, 72.5, 30.5, 21.7 ppm; IR (KBr) 2812, 2858, 1717, 1643, 1600, 1462, 1295, 1129, 890, 774, 766, 745, 694, 656 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 345.1056, found 345.1053.

2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-10a-methyl-10-methylene-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2s)



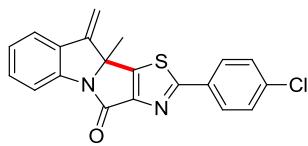
Faint yellow solid, m.p. 126-128 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.94 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 5.18 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 1.81 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.6, 164.1, 162.2, 154.0, 153.1, 146.4, 142.2, 131.9, 130.7, 128.7, 125.9, 124.9, 121.9, 117.6, 114.6, 104.3, 72.5, 55.6, 30.4 ppm; IR(KBr) 3138, 2920, 1714, 1607, 1573, 1461, 1291, 1257, 1127, 884, 835, 772, 671 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}+\text{H}]^+$ 361.1005, found 361.1011.

2-(4-fluorophenyl)-10a-methyl-10-methylene-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2t)



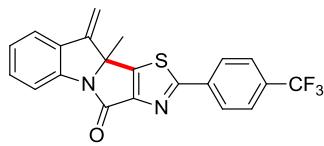
Faint yellow solid, m.p. 87-89 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.01 (dd, $J = 6.4, 2.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.68 (dd, $J = 8.6, 4.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd, $J = 7.3, 3.8$ Hz, 3H), 7.23 – 7.04 (m, 2H), 5.64 (s, 1H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 1.83 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 174.9, 164.1, 162.3, 159.0, 154.6, 153.2, 146.0, 138.4, 133.6, 133.0, 131.4, 129.3, 127.2, 118.7, 118.6, 117.8, 117.5, 109.0, 108.7, 105.8, 73.0, 30.4 ppm; IR (KBr) 3126, 1720, 1647, 1475, 1400, 1327, 1265, 1139, 862, 806, 766, 688 cm^{-1} ; HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{13}\text{FN}_2\text{OS}+\text{H}]^+$ 349.0805, found 349.0801.

2-(4-chlorophenyl)-10a-methyl-10-methylene-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2u)



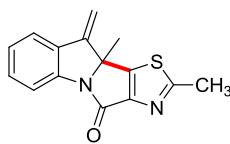
Faint yellow solid, m.p. 142-144 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 13.0, 7.6 Hz, 3H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (s, 1H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 1.83 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.2, 163.7, 154.7, 153.4, 146.1, 142.0, 137.4, 131.8, 131.4, 130.8, 129.5, 128.2, 125.0, 121.9, 117.5, 104.5, 72.5, 30.4 ppm; IR(KBr) 3132, 2920, 2850, 1713, 1602, 1462, 1400, 1293, 1225, 1127, 1093, 1081, 897, 823, 732, 628 cm⁻¹; HRMS(ESI) calcd for [C₂₀H₁₃ClN₂OS+H]⁺ 365.0510, found 365.0504.

10a-methyl-10-methylene-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2v)



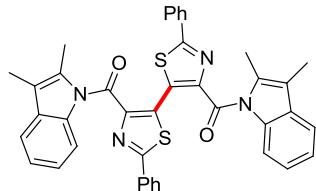
Faint yellow solid, m.p. 101-103 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.12 – 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 5.66 (s, 1H), 5.22 (s, 1H), 1.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.5, 163.5, 155.3, 153.6, 146.0, 141.9, 136.0, 132.9, 132.4, 132.0, 131.7, 130.7, 129.1, 127.3, 126.2, 126.1, 125.5, 125.1, 121.9, 117.5, 104.6, 72.5, 30.3 ppm; IR (KBr) 3125, 1721, 1615, 1463, 1400, 1340, 1328, 1269, 1115, 1054, 889, 833, 760, 687 cm⁻¹; HRMS(ESI) calcd for [C₂₁H₁₃F₃N₂OS+H]⁺ 399.0773, found 399.0767.

2,10a-dimethyl-10-methylene-10,10a-dihydro-4H-thiazolo[5',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (2w)



Faint yellow solid, m.p. 99-101 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 10.9, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (s, 1H), 5.13 (s, 1H), 2.82 (s, 3H), 1.77 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.7, 163.8, 155.4, 146.4, 142.2, 132.0, 130.8, 124.9, 121.9, 117.6, 104.3, 72.5, 30.4, 20.3 ppm; IR (KBr) 3108, 2924, 2854, 2360, 1714, 1601, 1395, 882, 739, 709 cm⁻¹; HRMS(ESI) calcd for [C₁₅H₁₂N₂OS+H]⁺ 269.0743, found 269.0750.

(2,2'-diphenyl-[5,5'-bithiazole]-4,4'-diyl)bis((2,3-dimethyl-1H-indol-1-yl)methanone) (3)



Yellow solid, m.p. 218-220 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83 – 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.21 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.8, 162.7, 136.3, 132.5, 132.3, 131.5, 131.3, 129.2, 127.9, 127.0, 124.1, 123.5, 118.0, 116.7, 115.1, 13.1, 8.9 ppm; IR(KBr) 3233, 2962, 2922, 2850, 1685, 1670, 1618, 1221, 818, 754, 684, 614 cm⁻¹; HRMS(ESI) calcd for [C₄₀H₃₀N₄O₂S₂+H]⁺ 663.1883, found 663.1882.

10a-methyl-10-methylene-10a-dihydro-4H-thieno[2',3':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]indol-4-one (4)

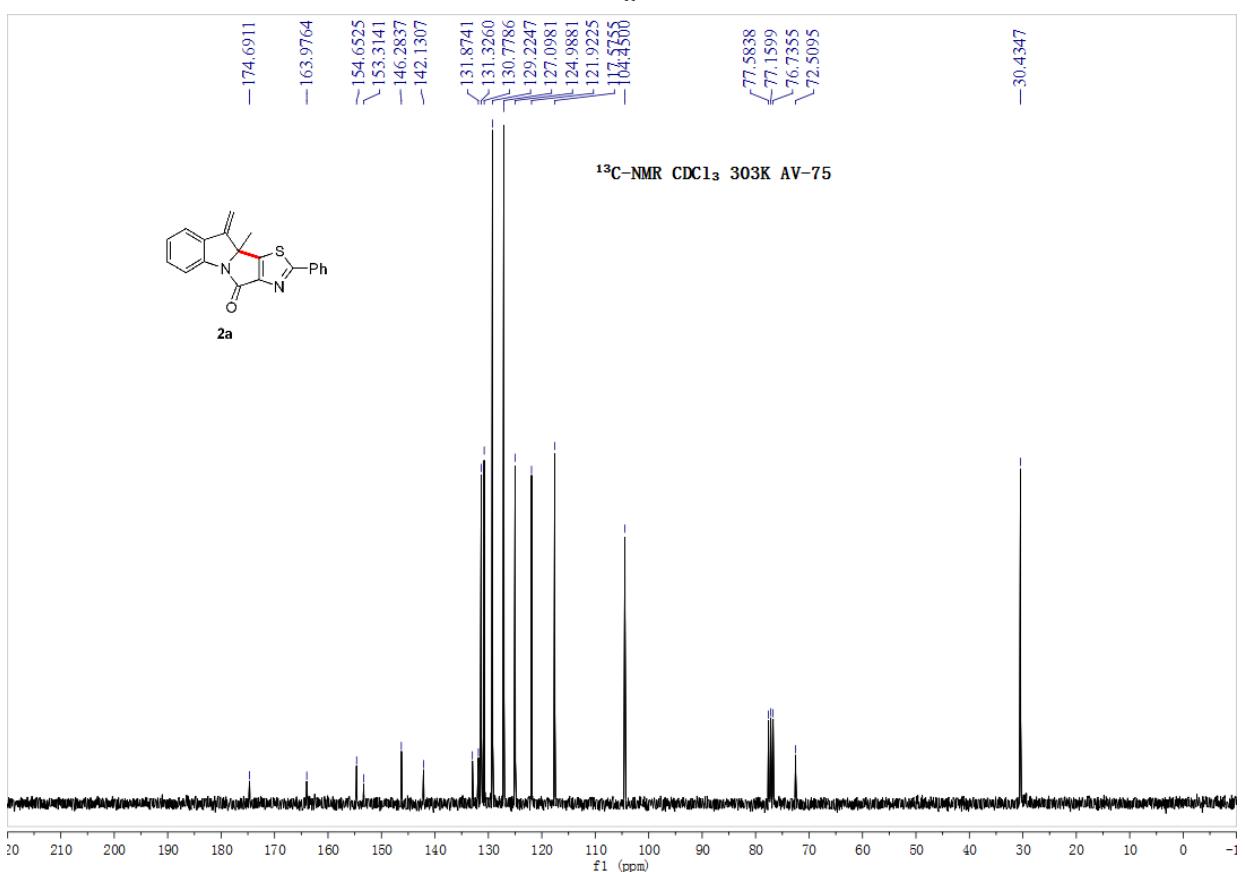
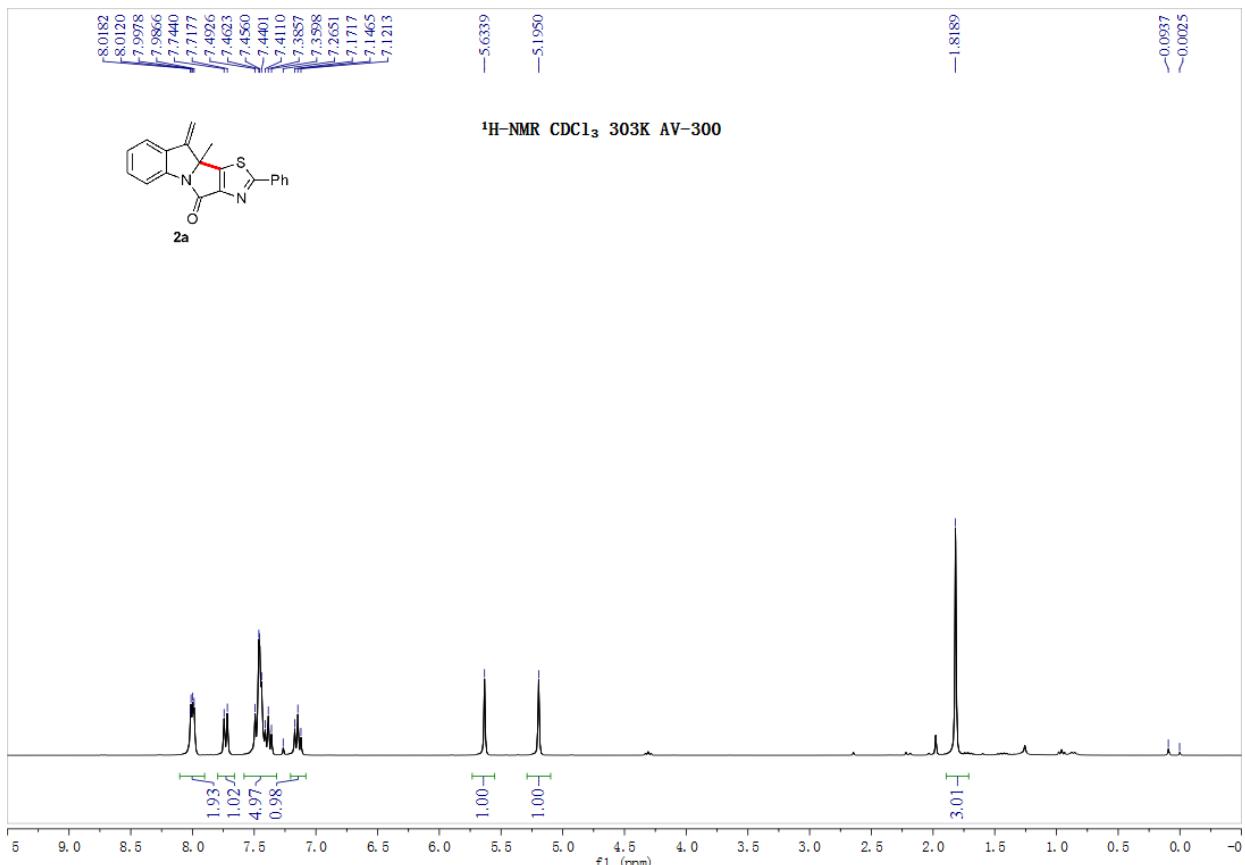


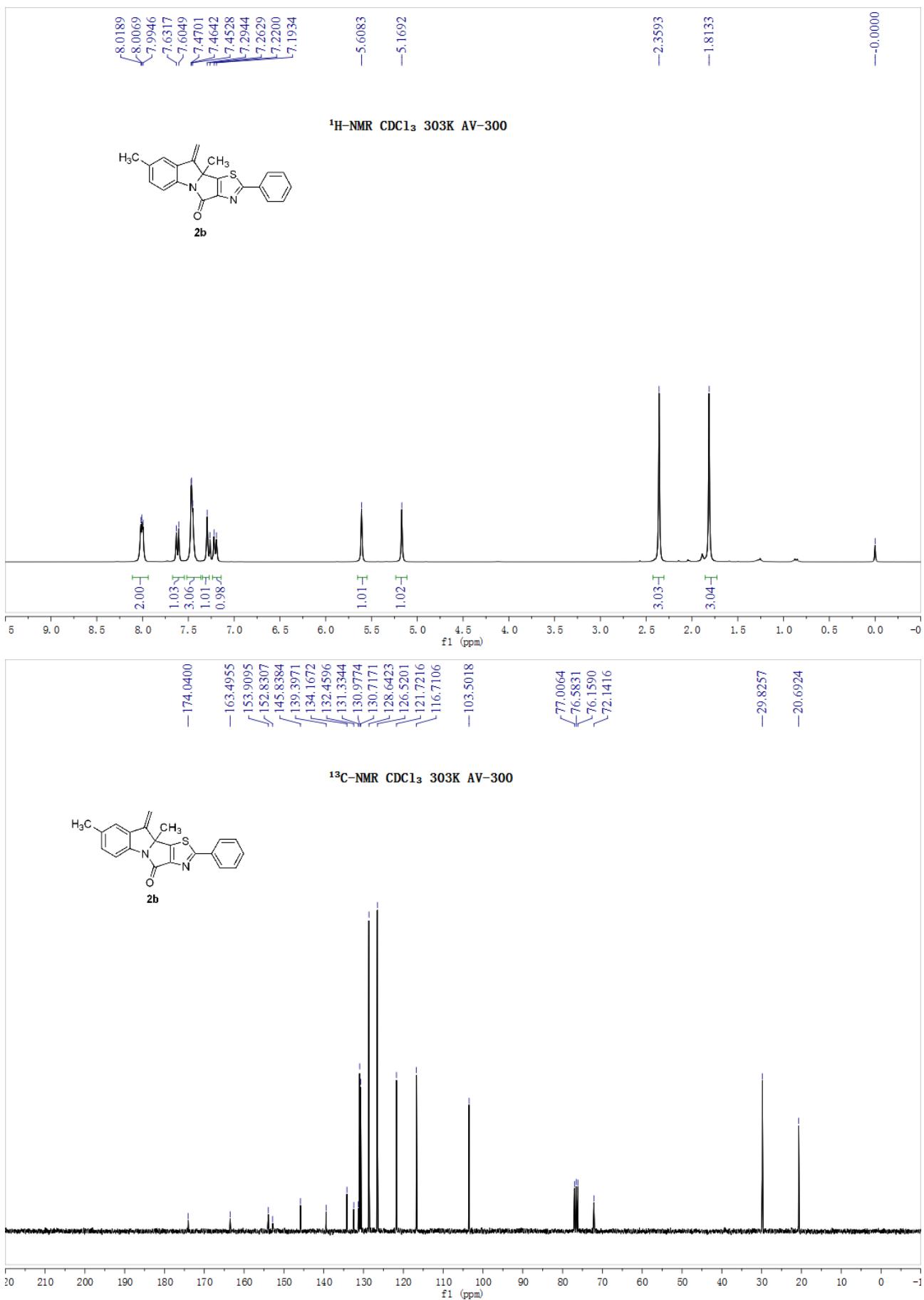
Brown solid, m.p. 102-104 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (d, *J* = 0.7 Hz, 1H), 5.22 (d, *J* = 0.7 Hz, 1H), 1.78 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.2, 161.1, 146.8, 142.3, 138.8, 132.1, 130.8, 130.4, 124.6, 121.8, 120.8, 117.2, 103.9, 73.7, 30.6 ppm. IR(KBr) 2918, 2853, 1670, 1458, 1387, 1327, 810, 746, 620 cm⁻¹; HRMS(ESI) calcd for [C₁₅H₁₁NOS+H]⁺ 254.0634, found 254.0633.

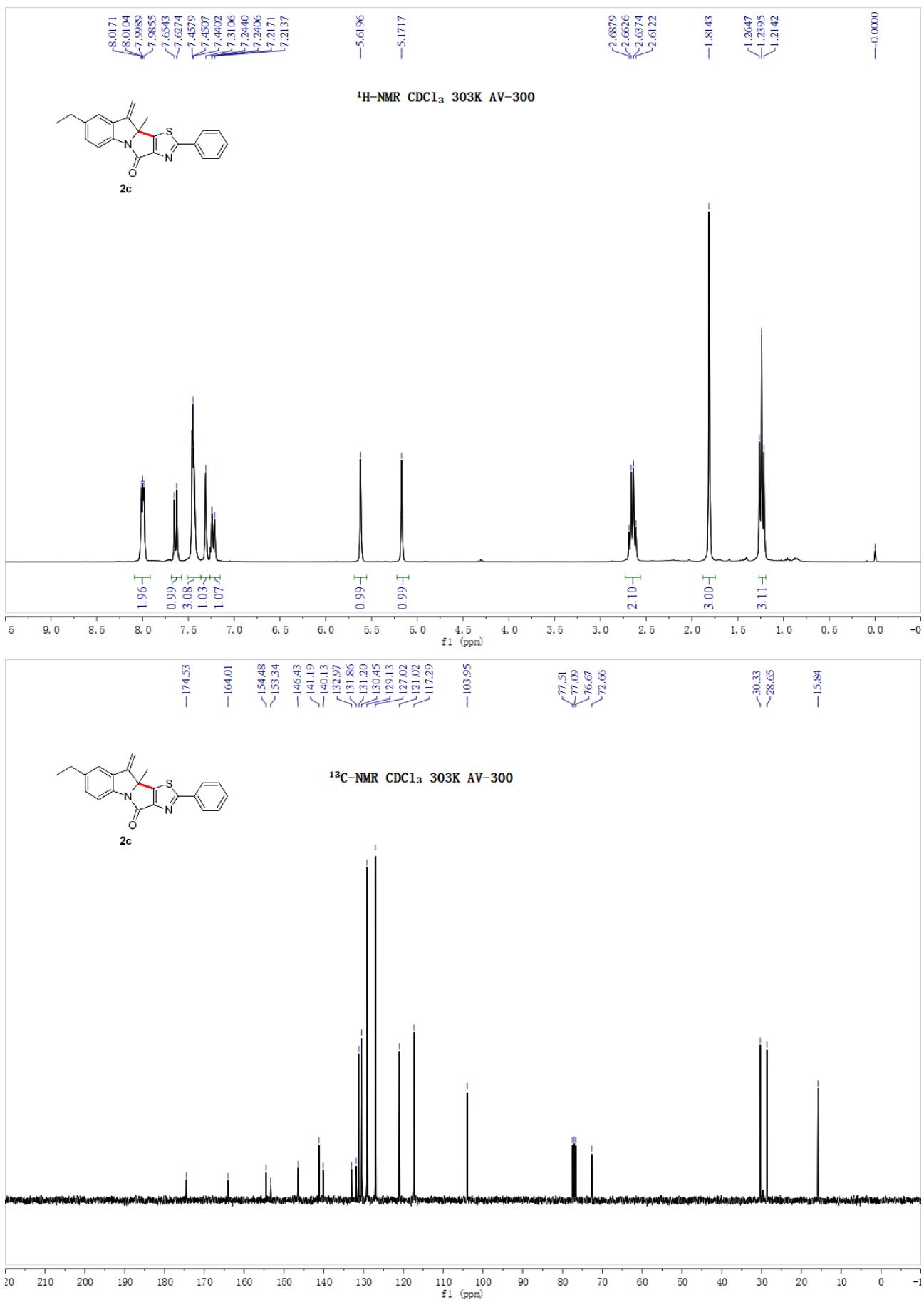
References

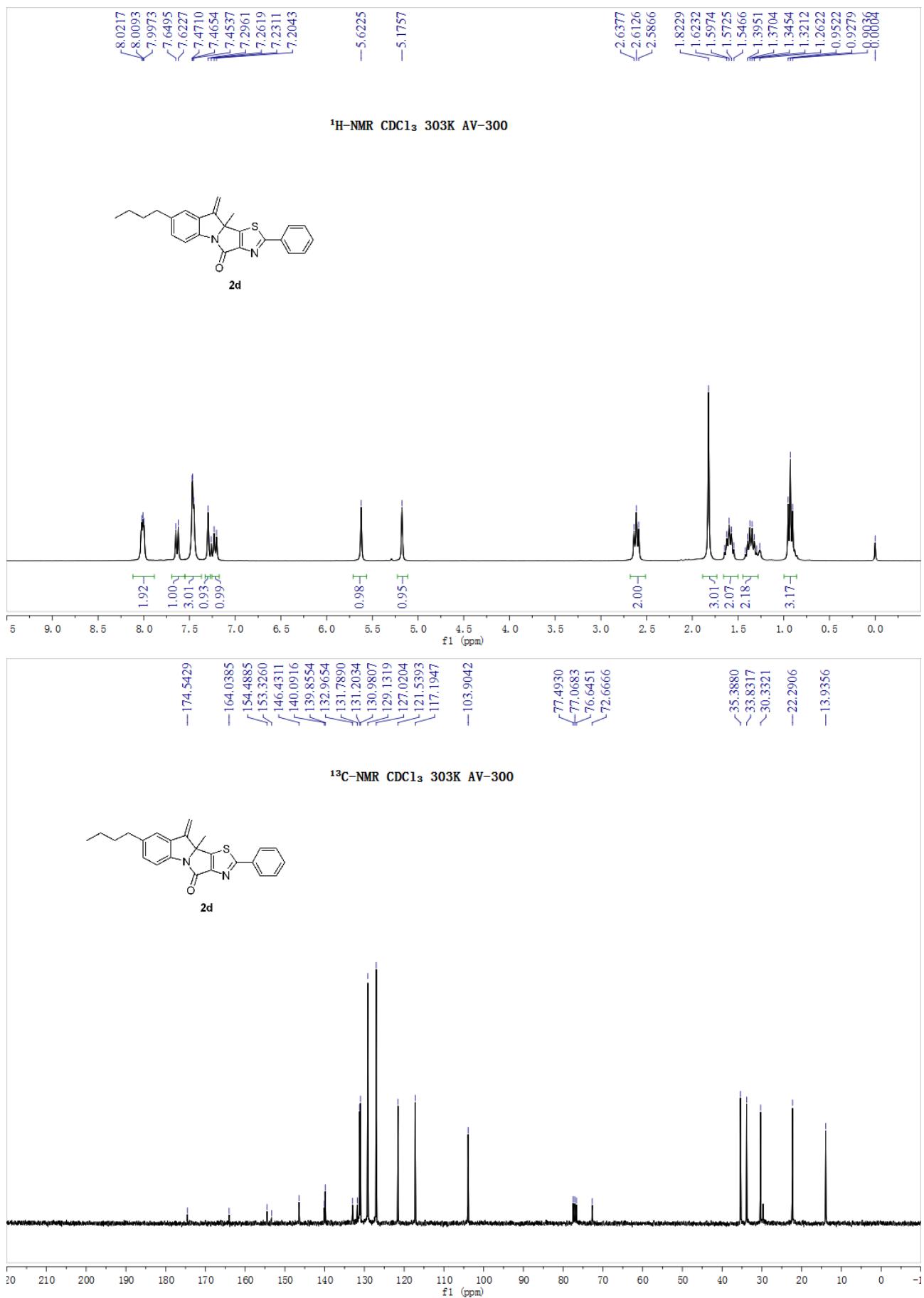
1. For examples of Fisher indole synthesis, see: (a) H. Illy and L. Funderburk, *J. Org. Chem.* 1968, **33**, 4283-4285; (b) P. Fludzinski, L. A. Wittenarer, K. W. Schenck and M. L. Cohen, *J. Med. Chem.* 1986, **29**, 2415-2418; (c) K. G. Liu, A. J. Robichaud, J. R. Lo, J. F. Mattes and Y. Cai, *Org. Lett.* 2006, **8**, 5769-5771.
2. For acylation on NH of indole, see: (a) E. V. Angerer and J. Strohmeier, *J. Med. Chem.* 1987, **30**, 131-136; (b) B. Saroja and P. C. Srinivasan, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1984, **25**, 5429-5430; (c) J. H. Markgraf, A. A. Dowst, L. A. Hensley, C. E. Jakobsche, C. J. Kaltner, P. J. Webb and P. W. Zimmerman, *Tetrahedron* 2005, **61**, 9102-9110.

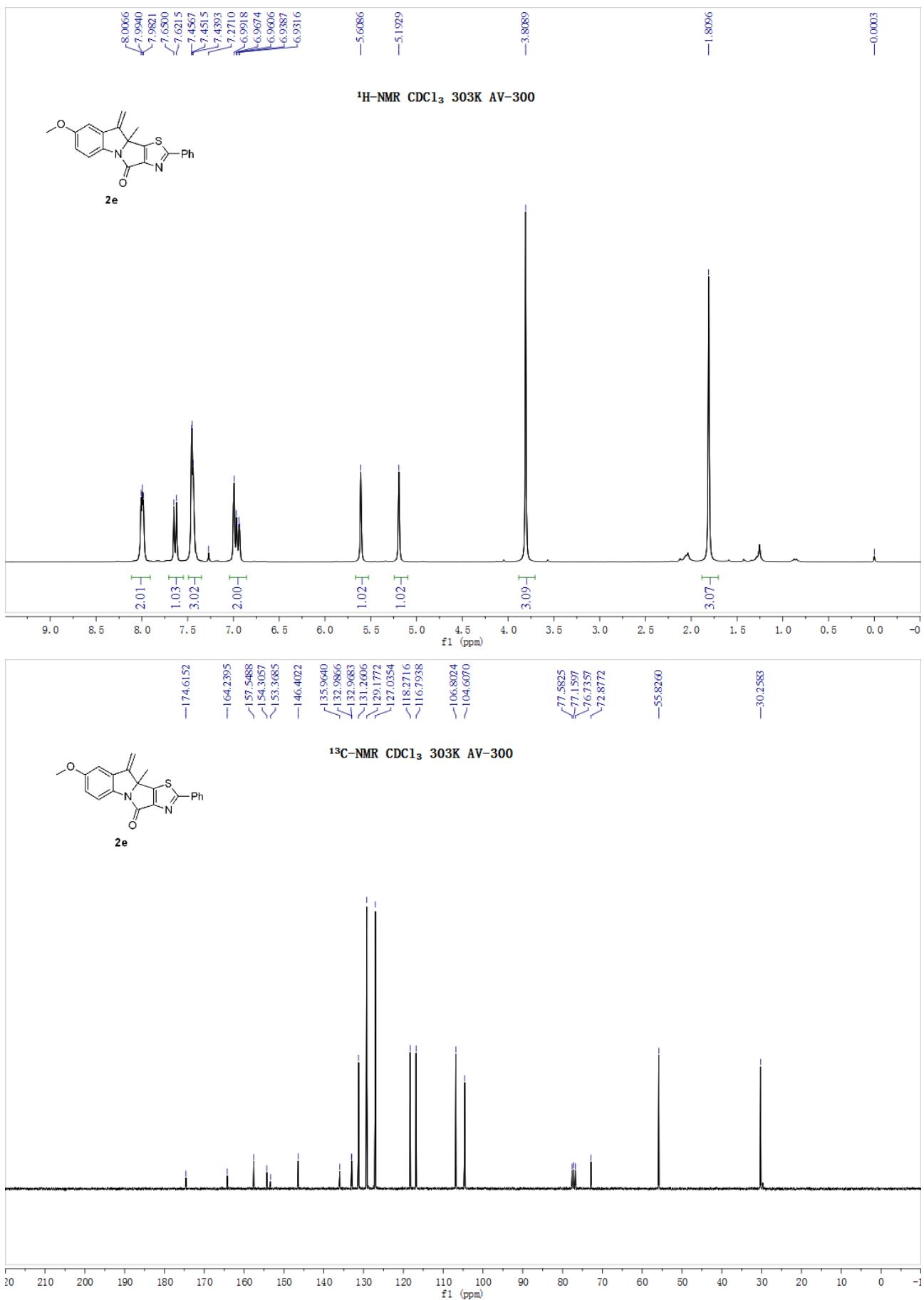
¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR Spectra of Title Compounds

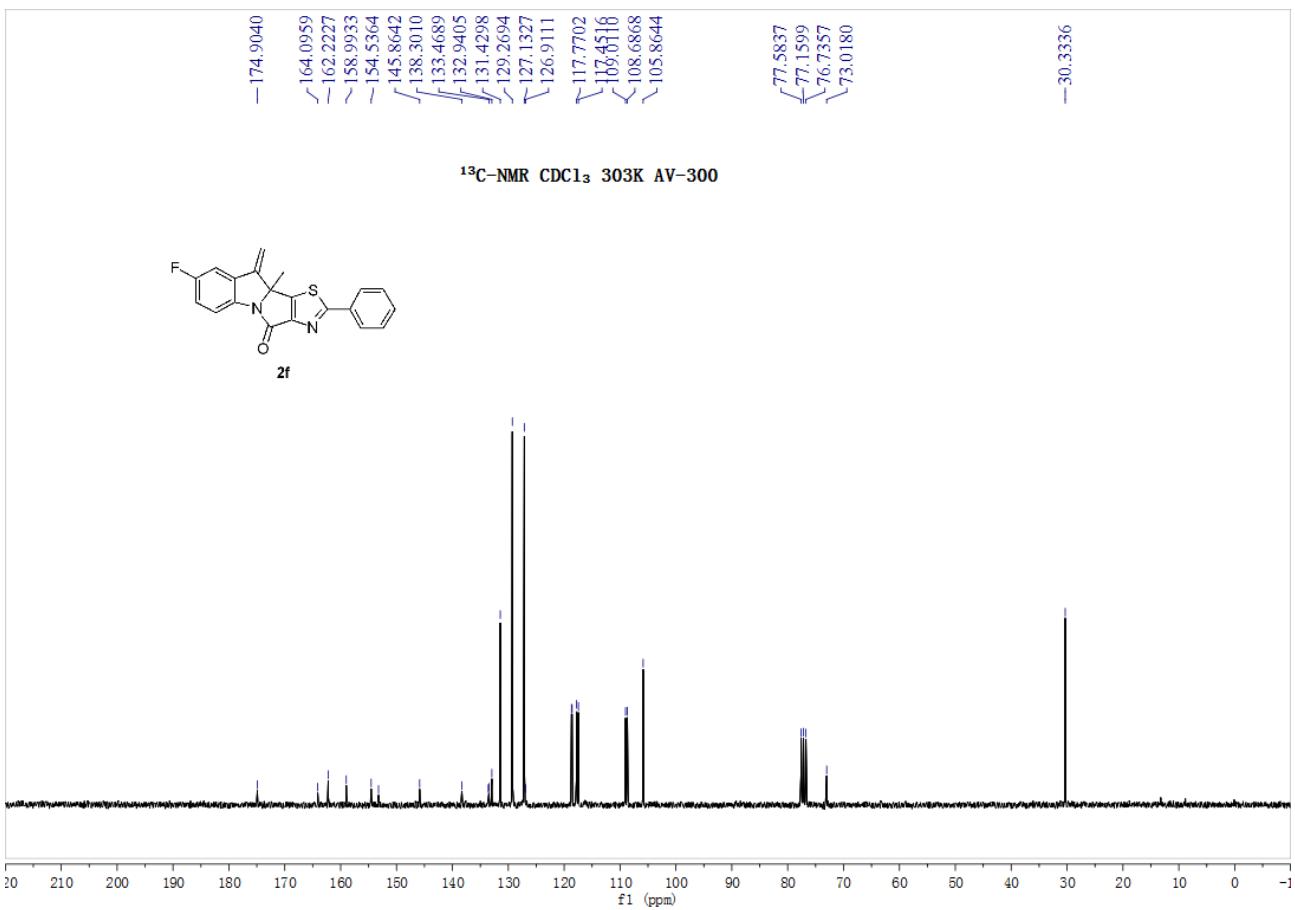
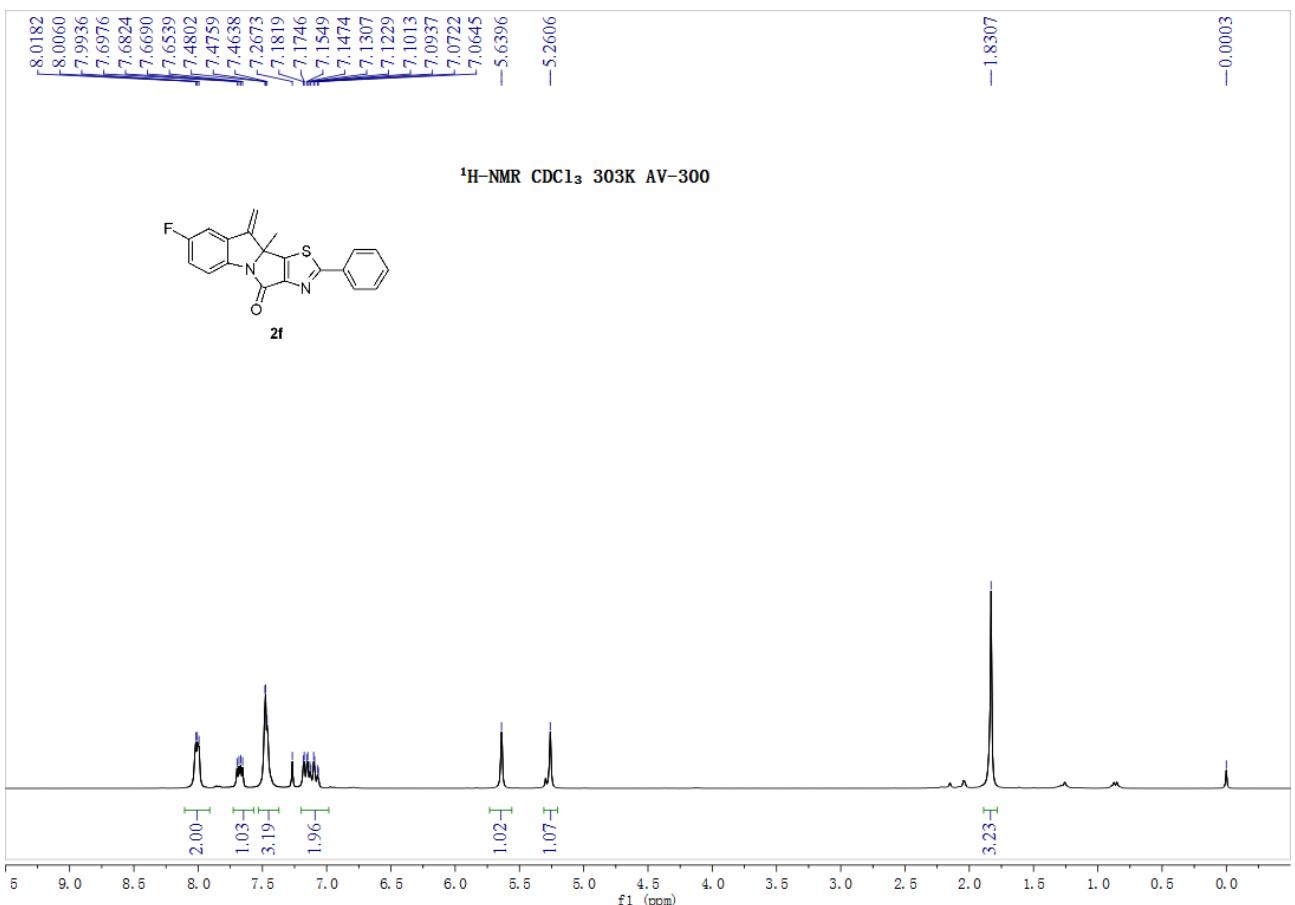


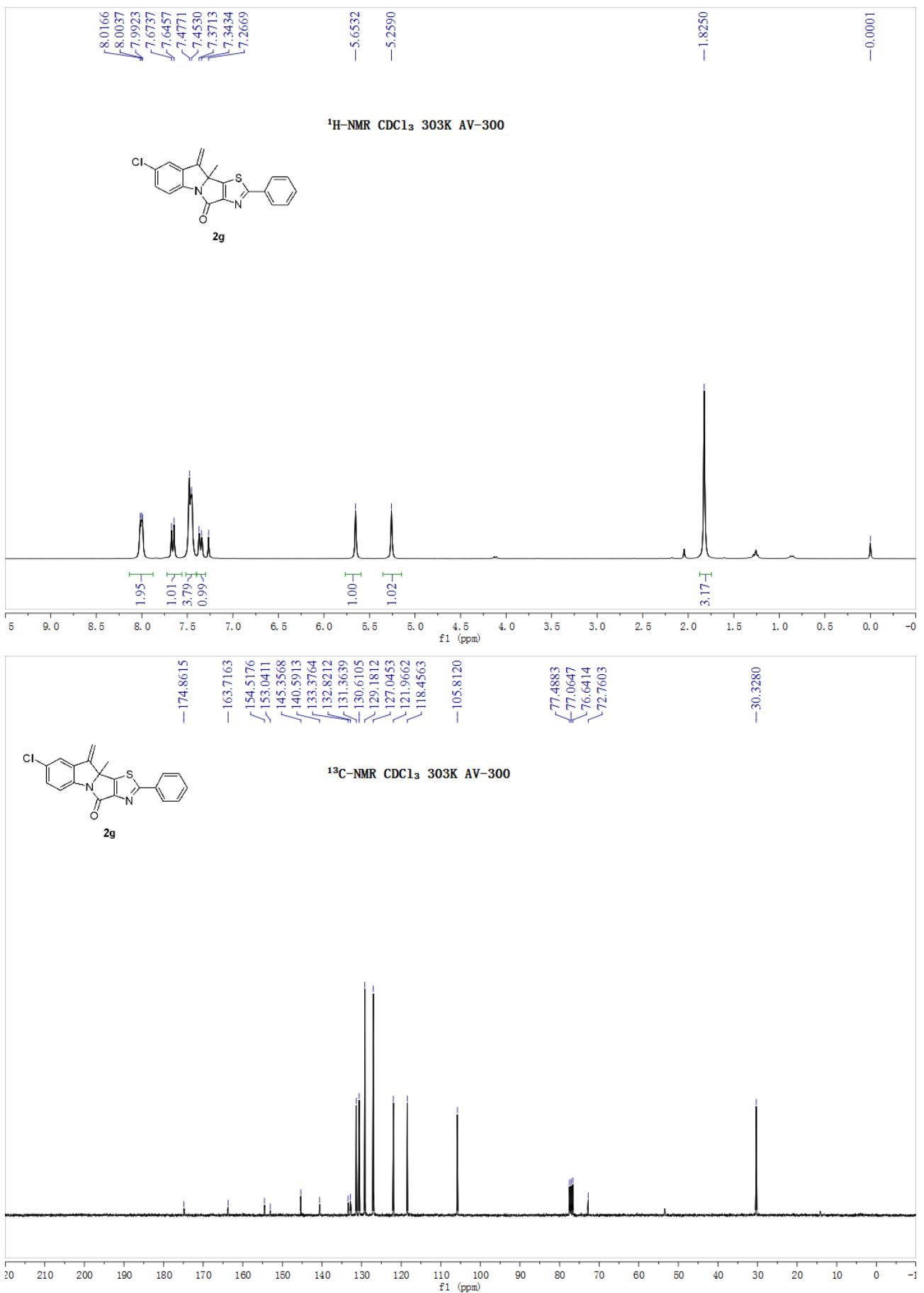


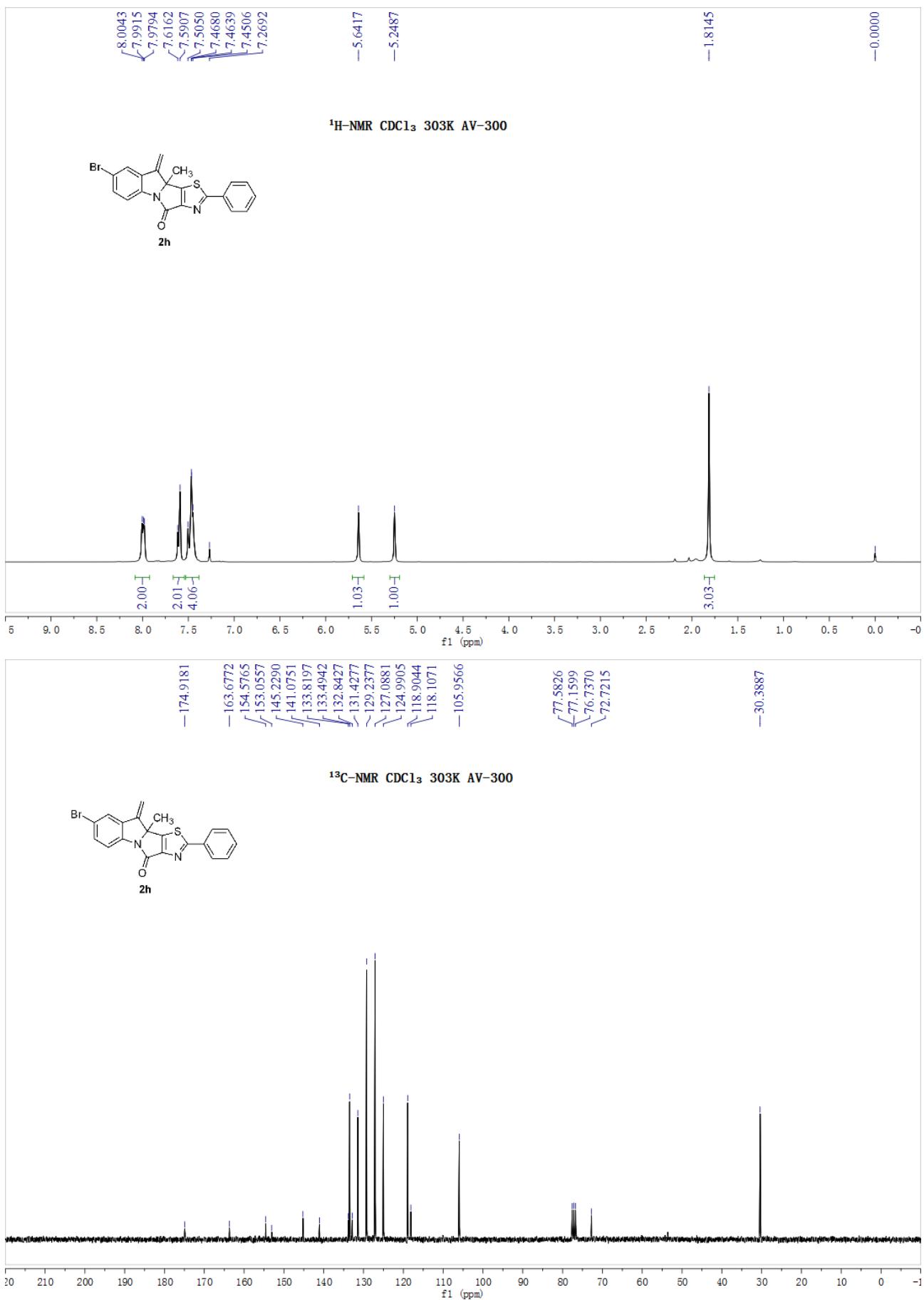


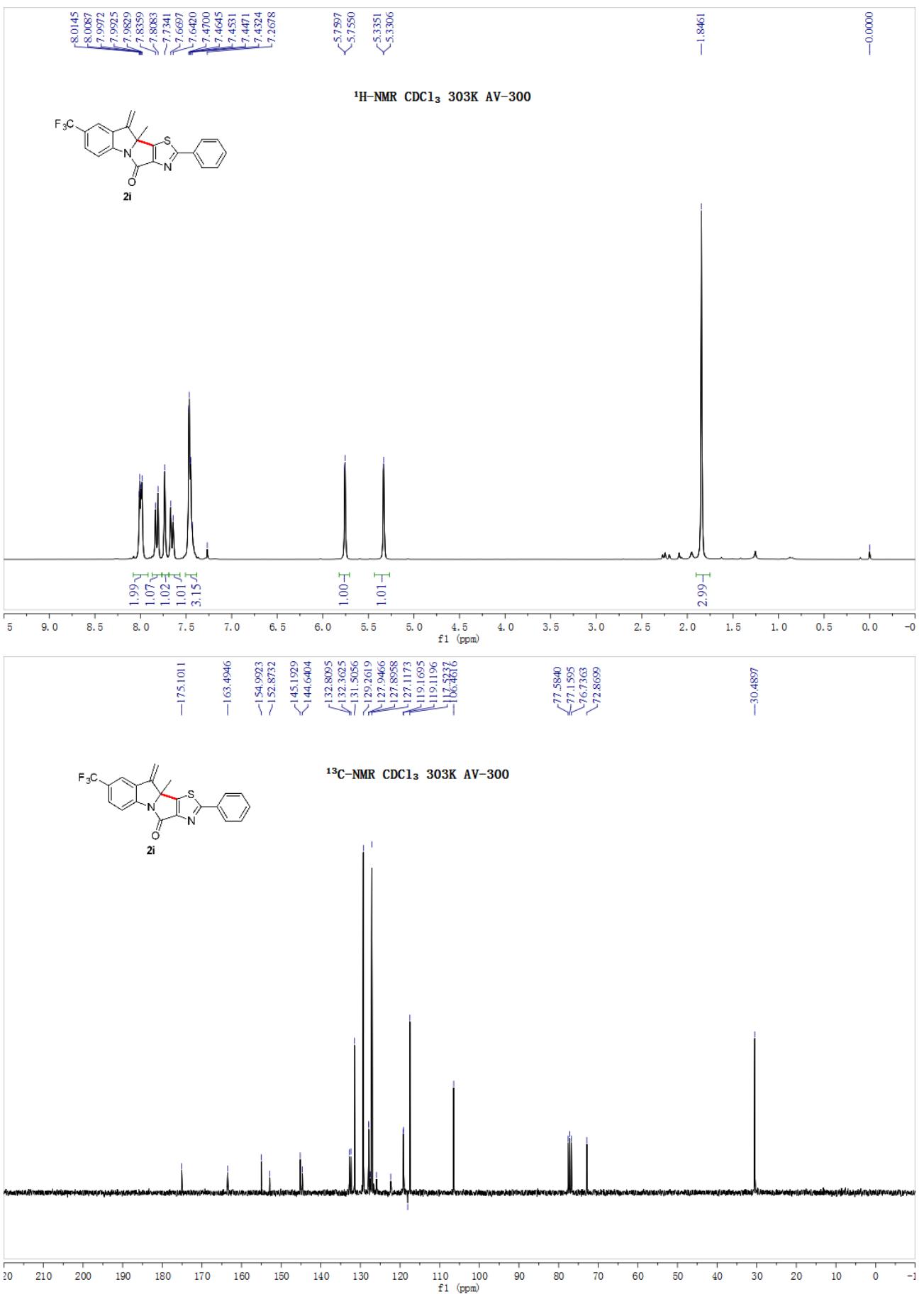


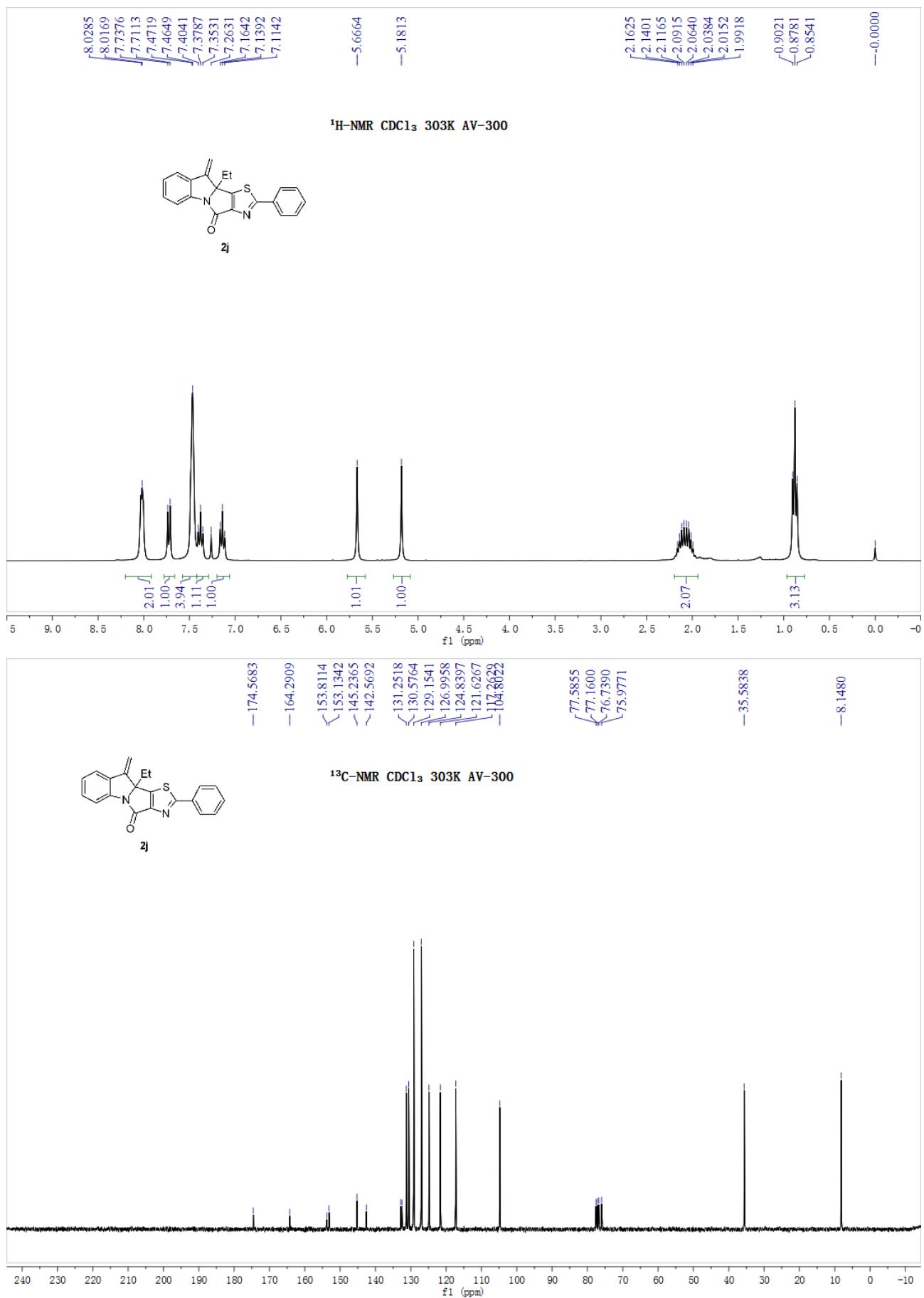


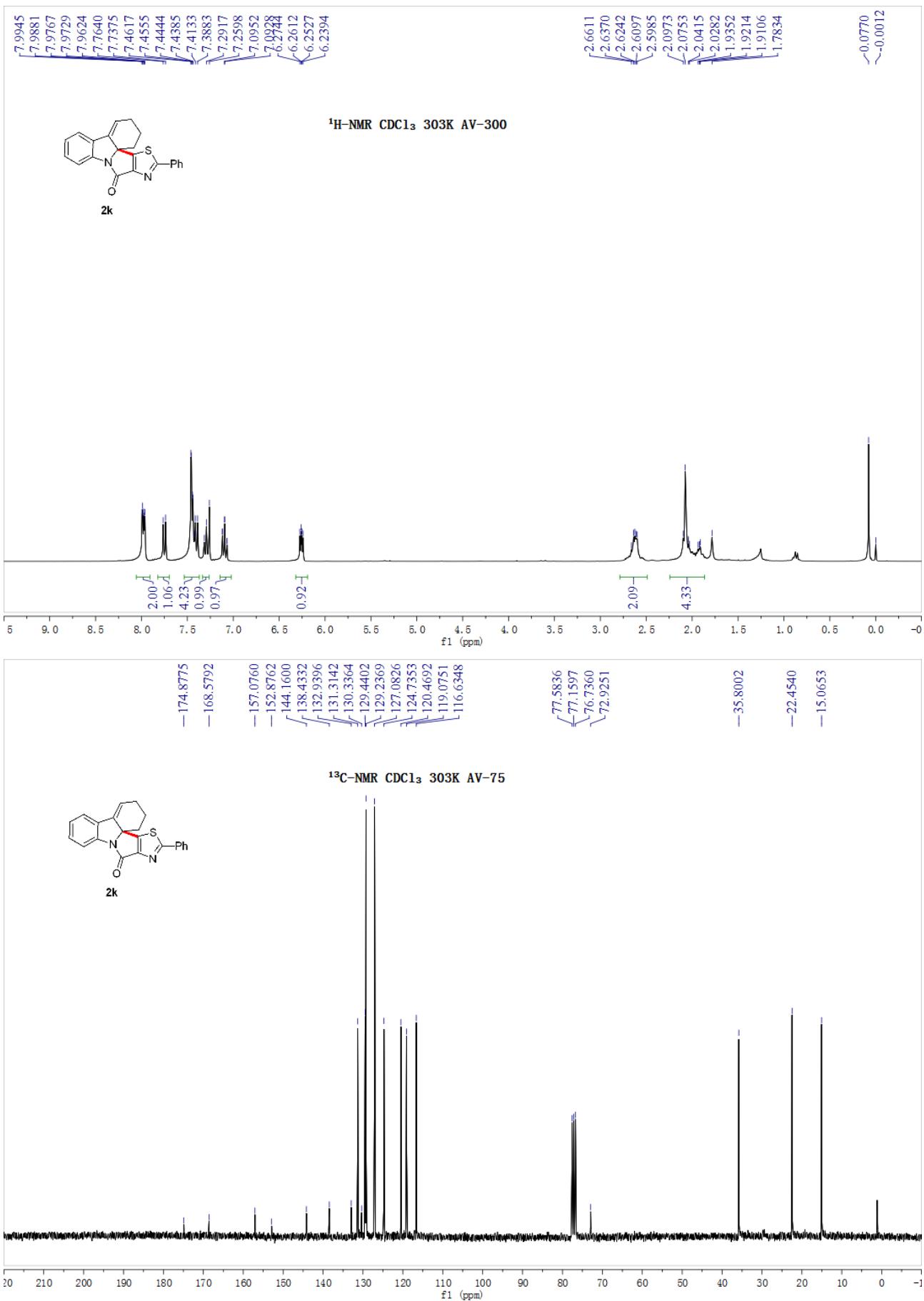


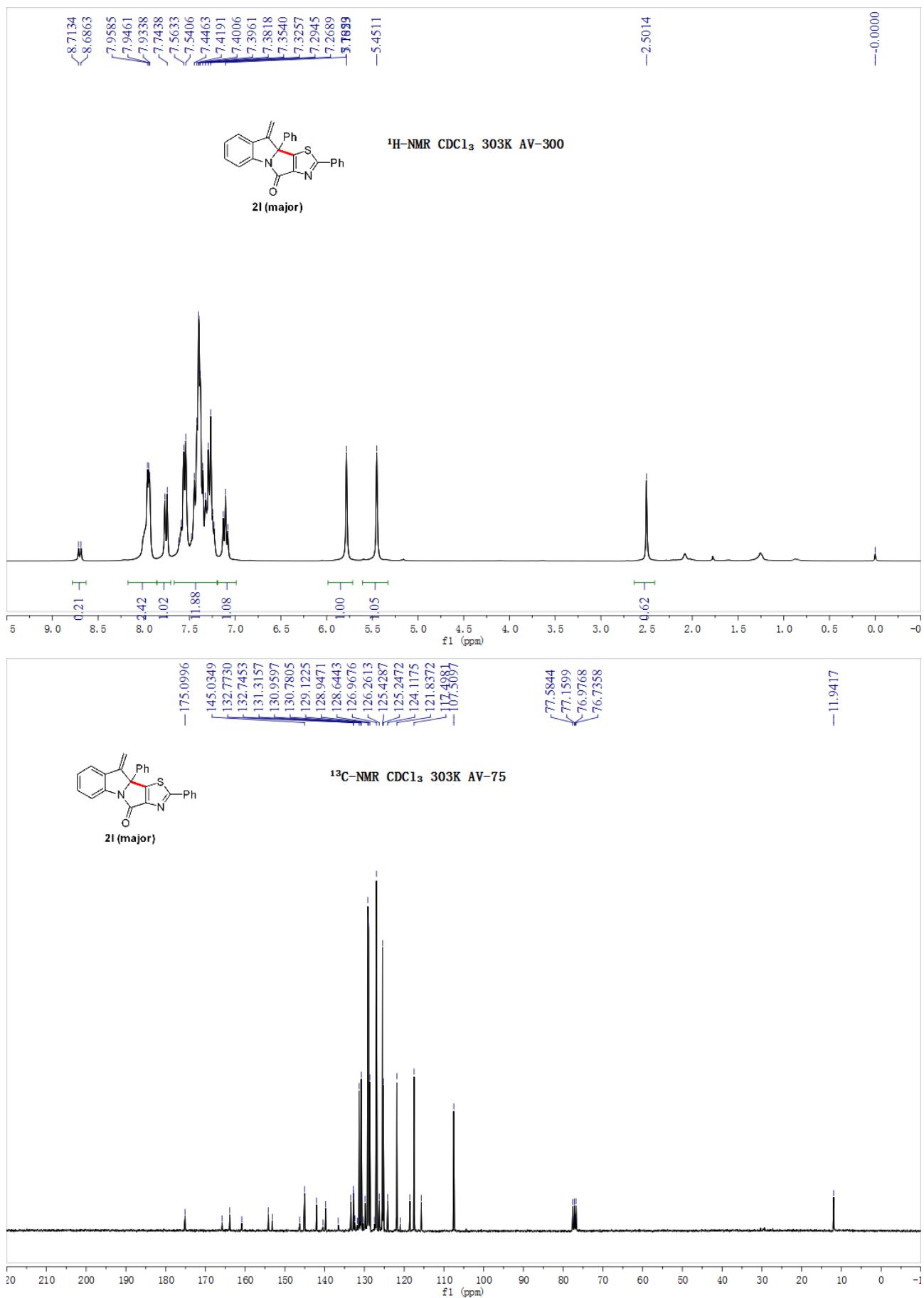


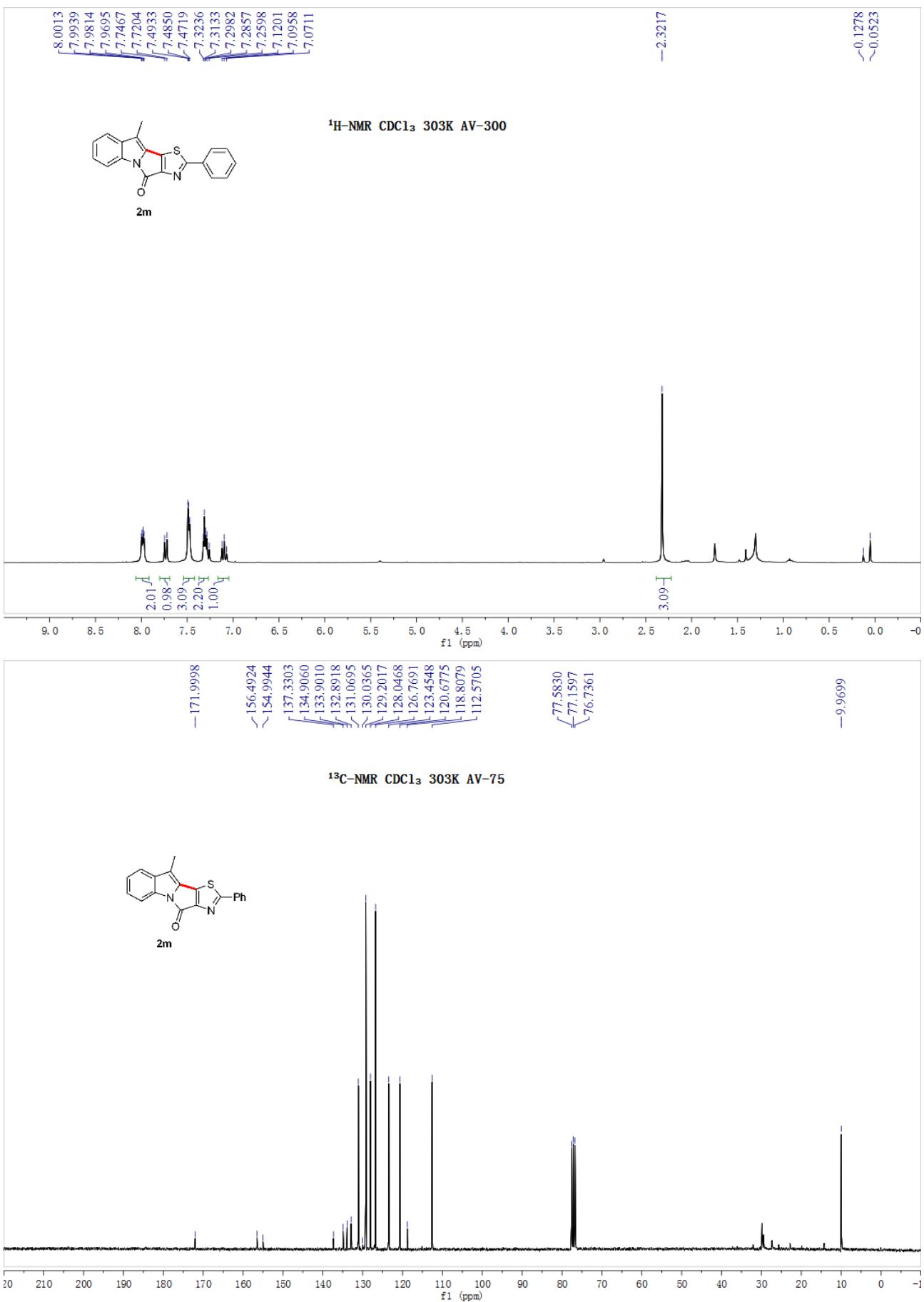


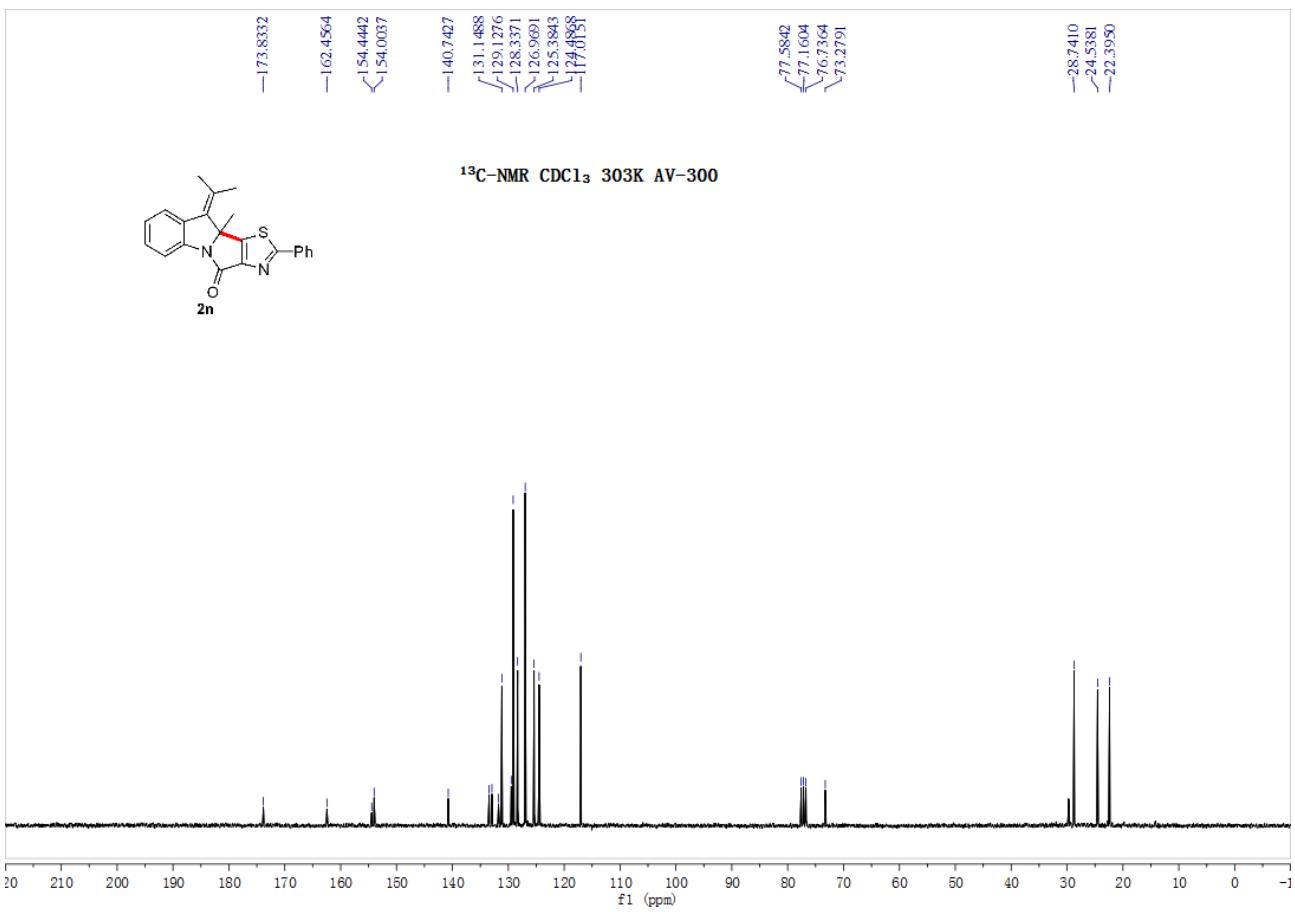
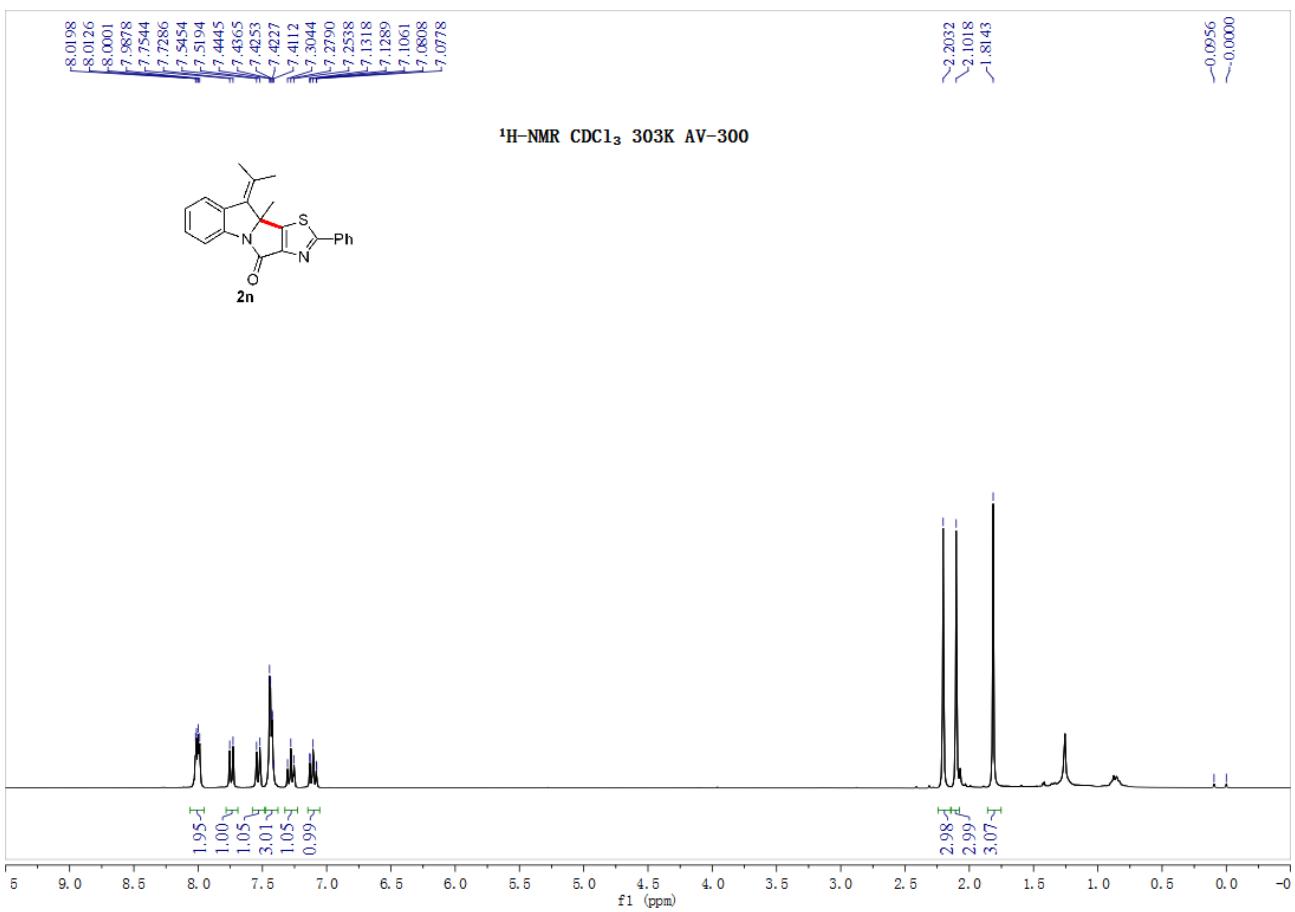


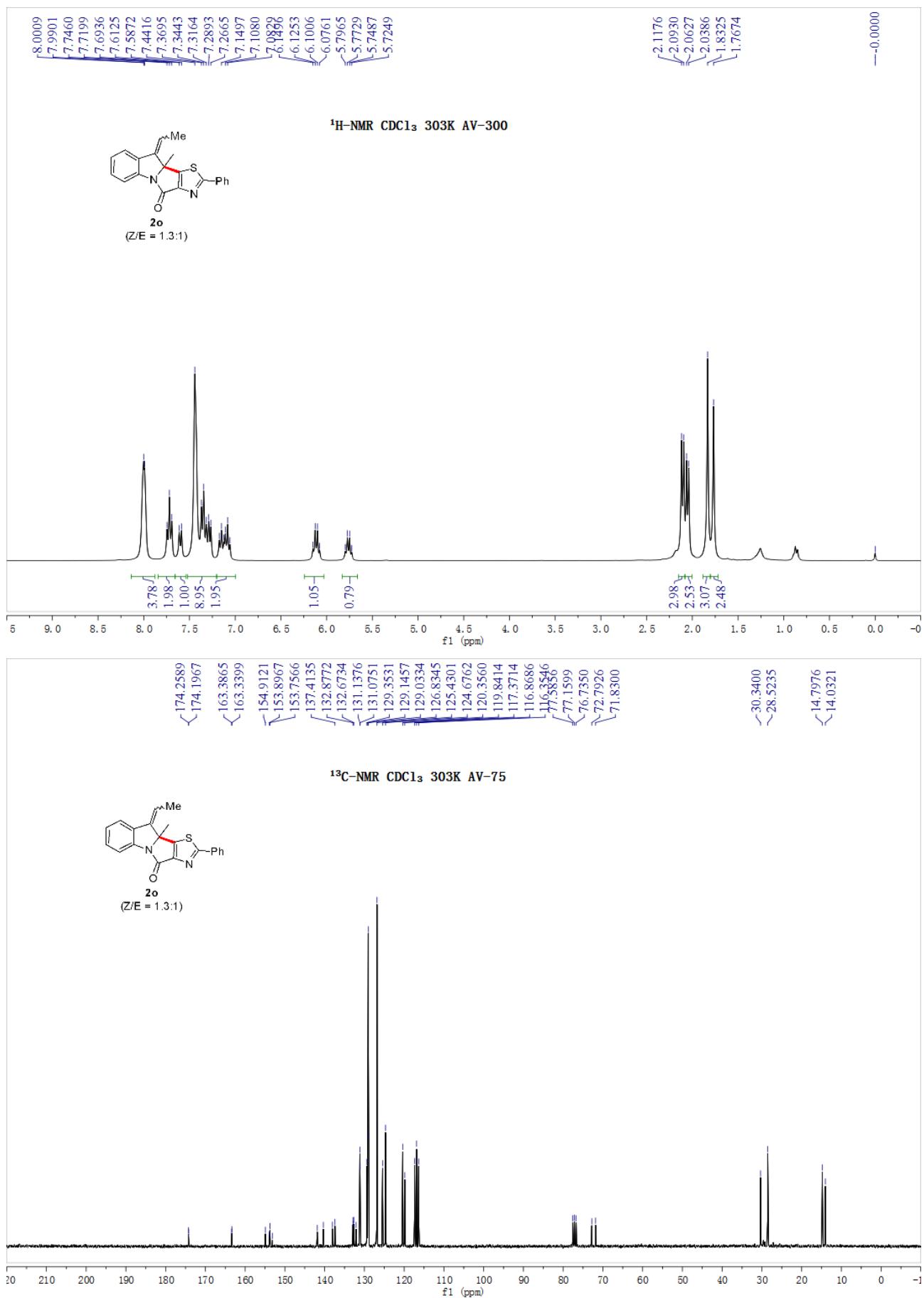


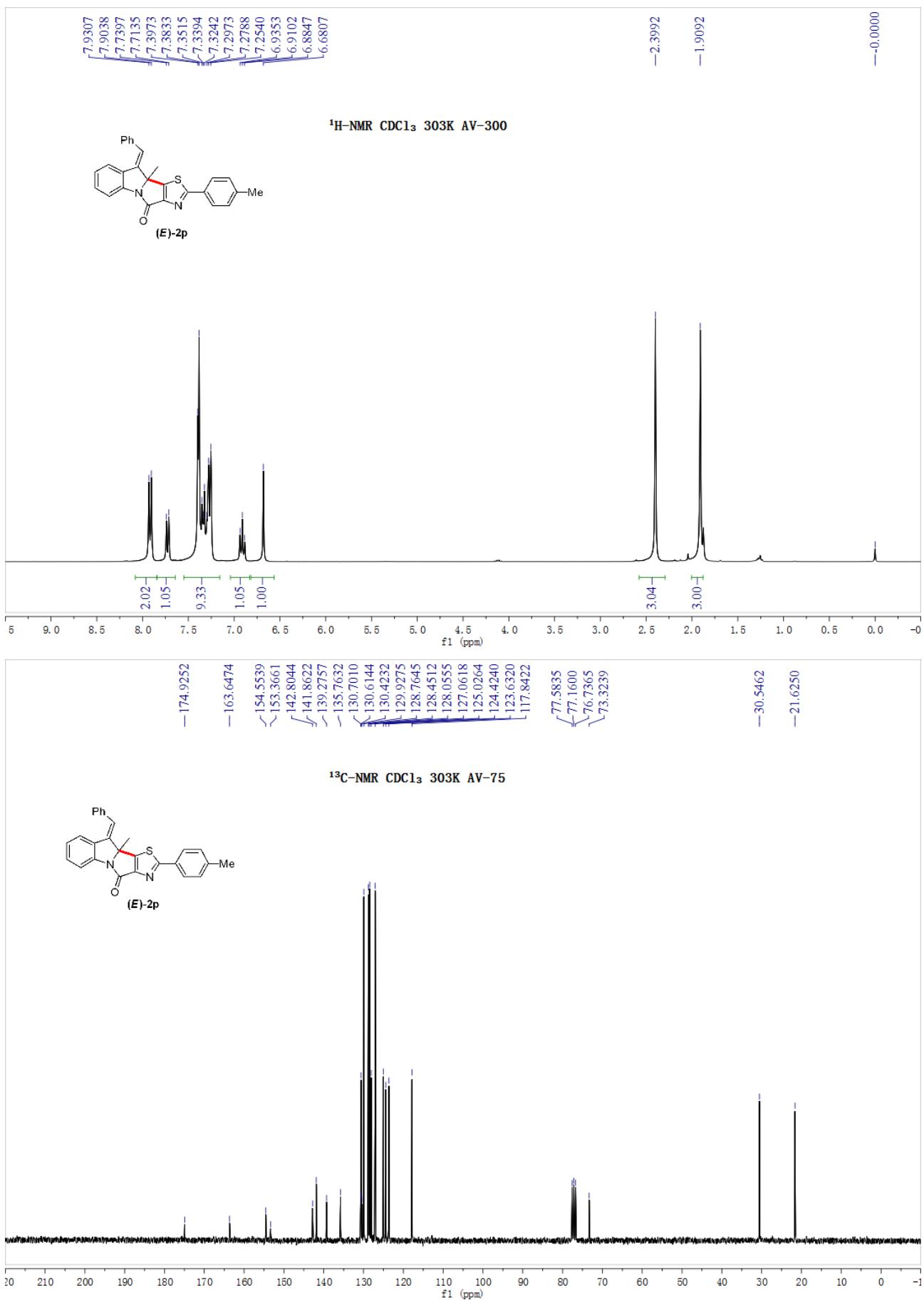


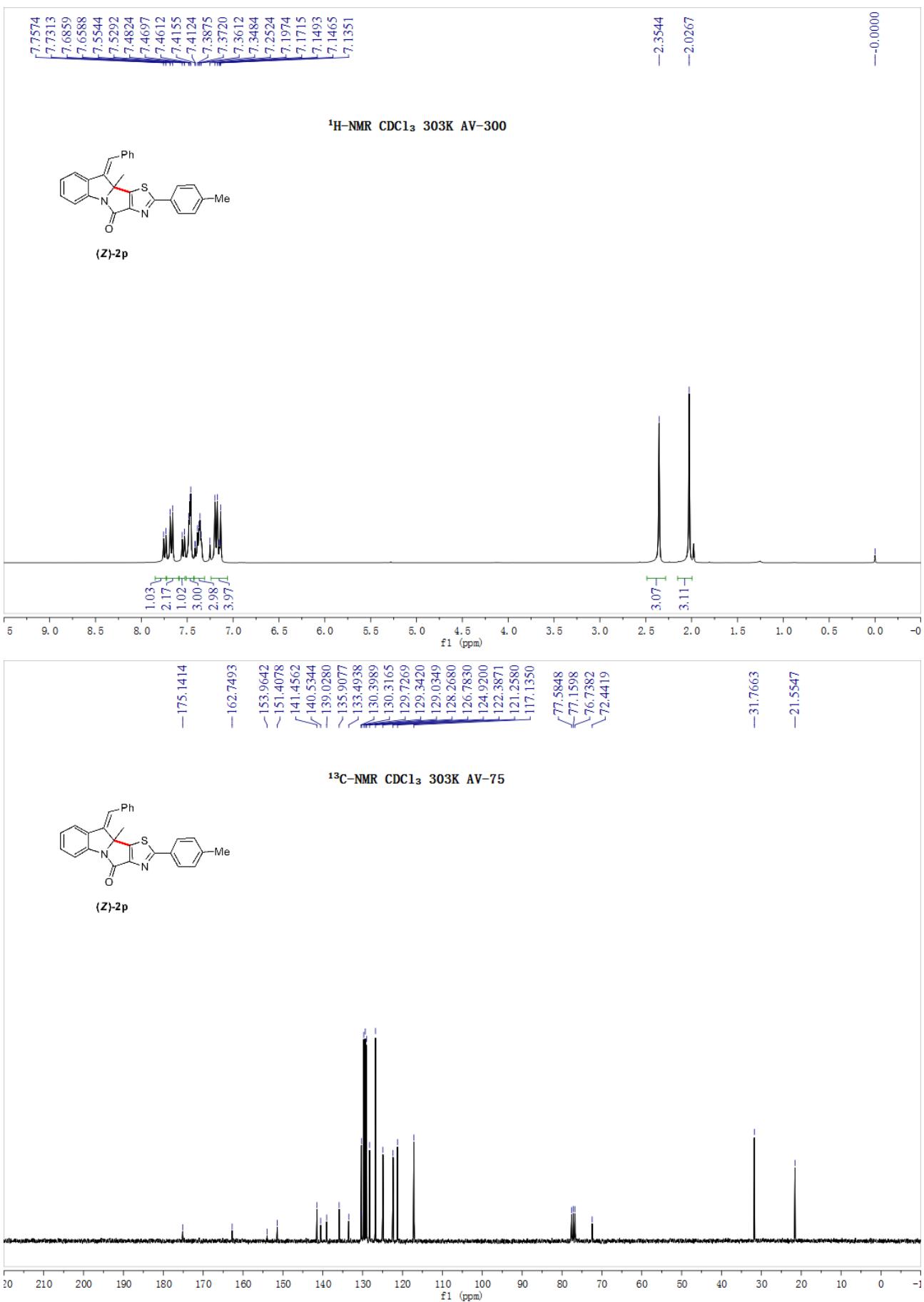


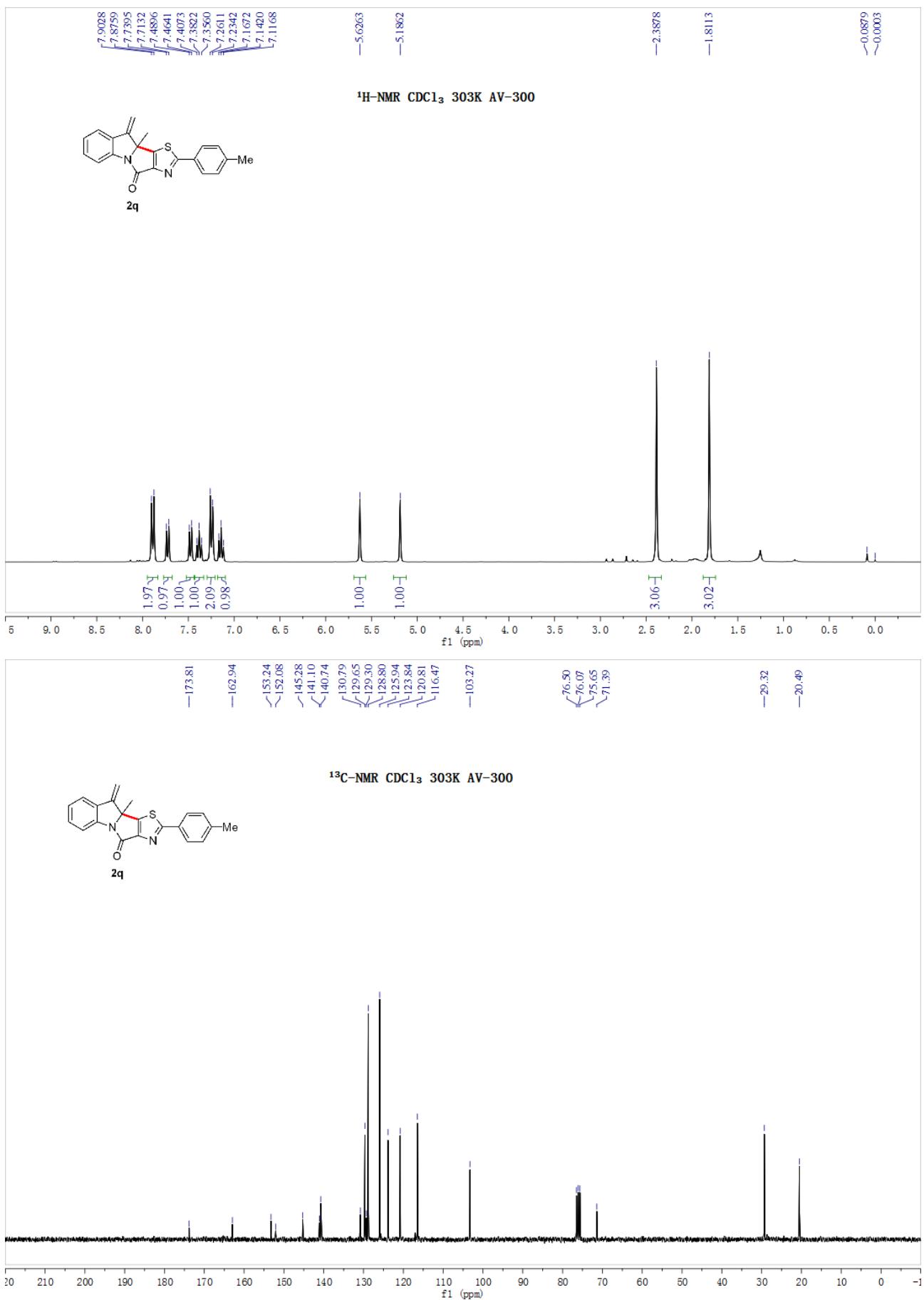


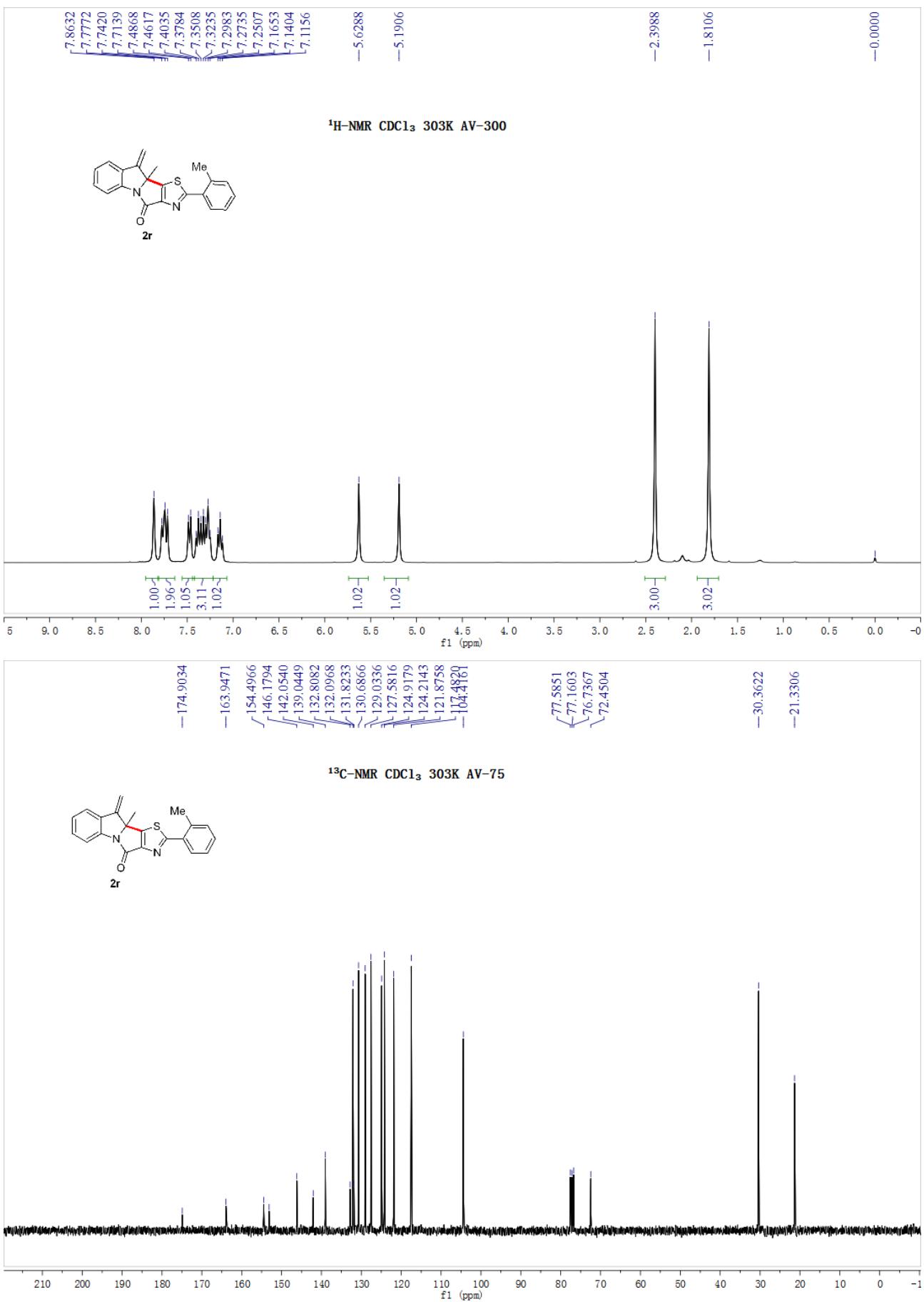


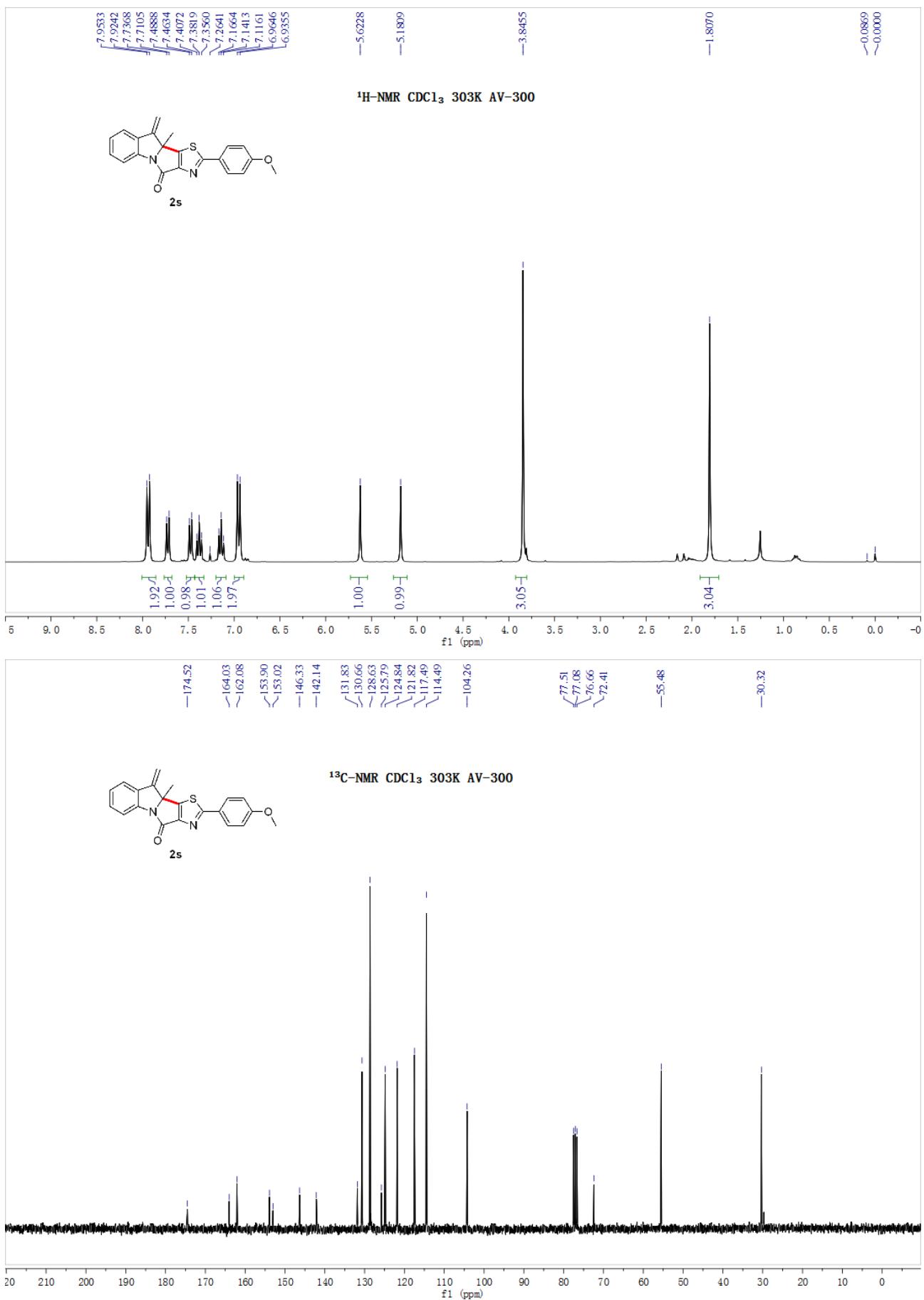


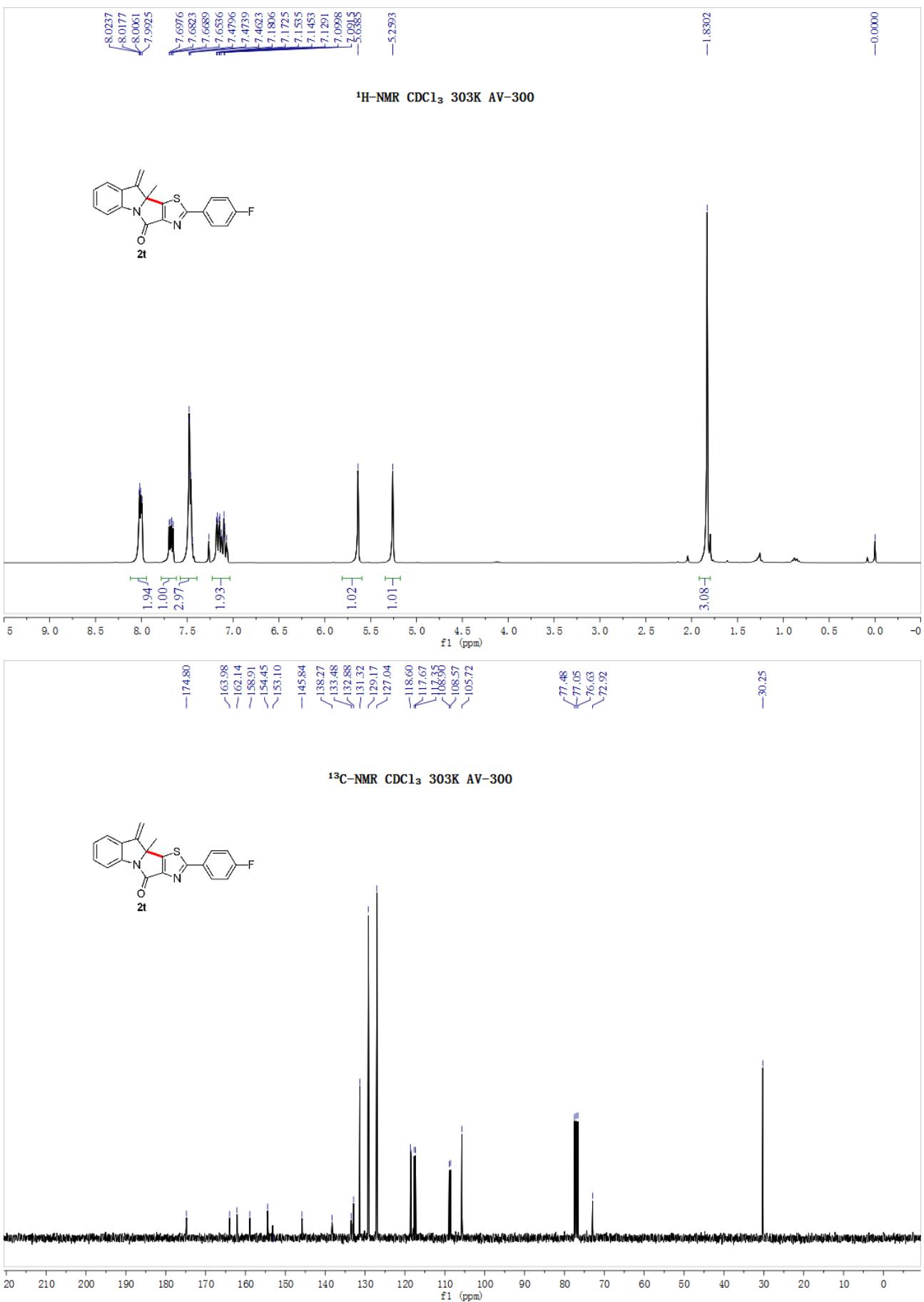


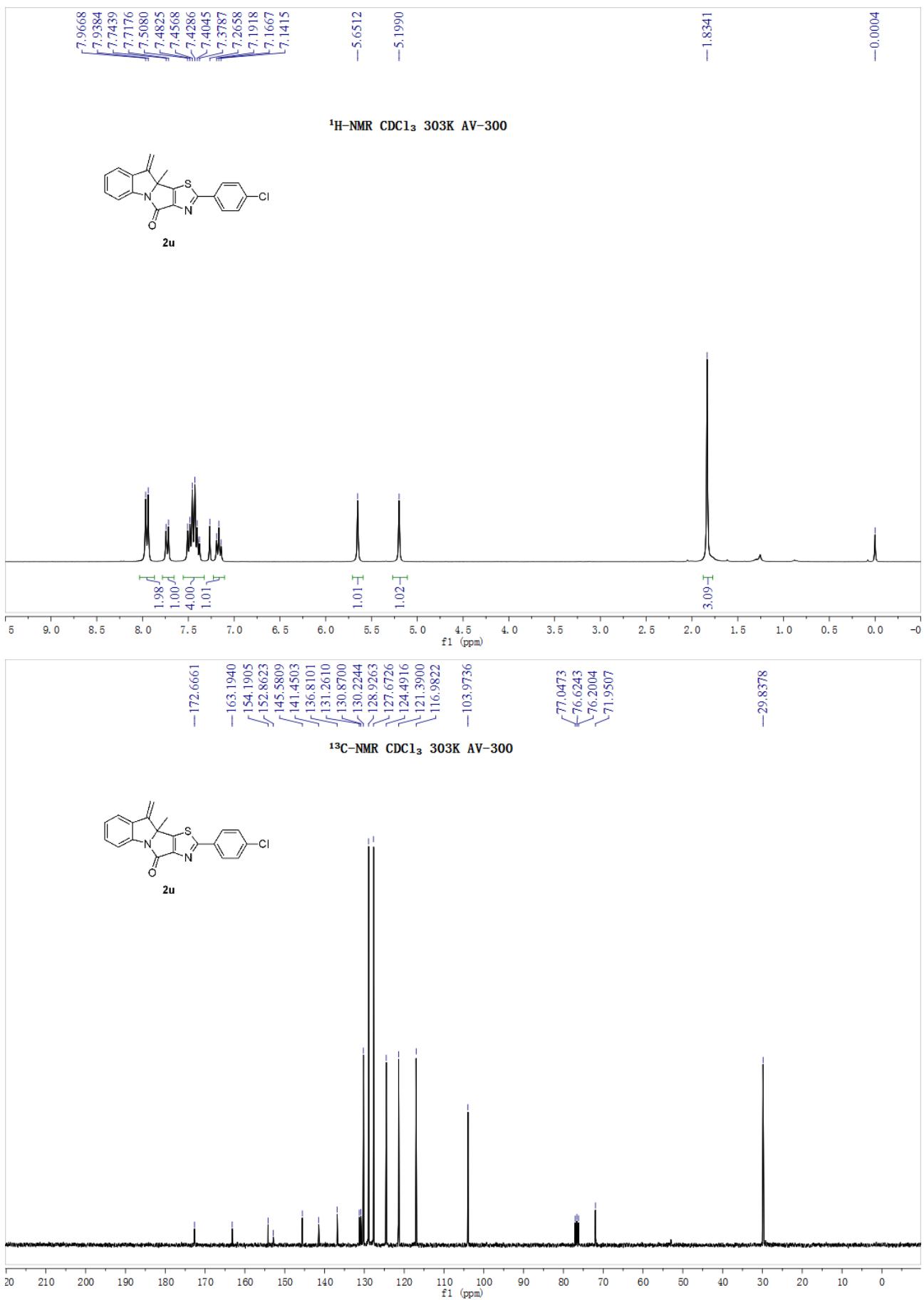


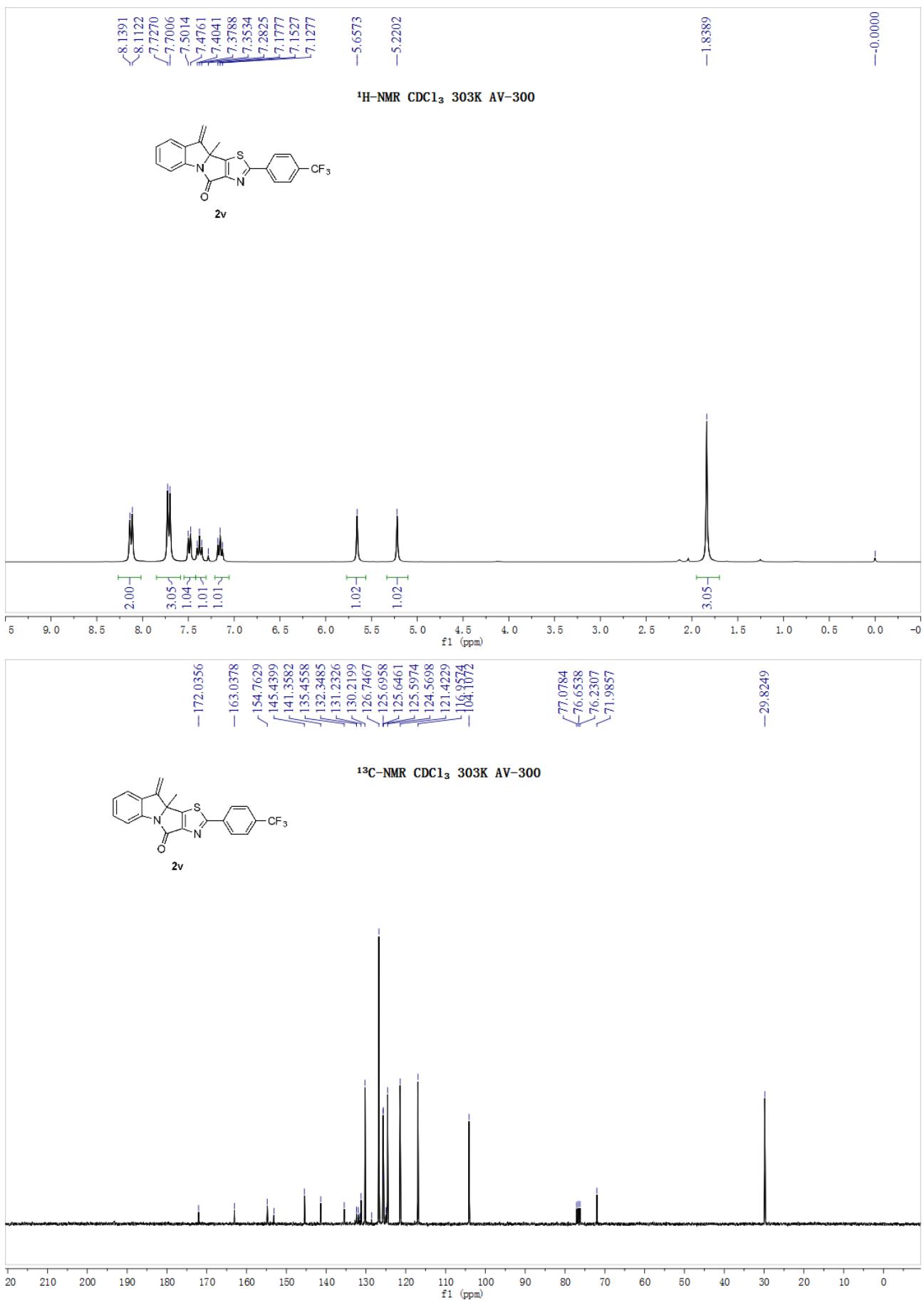


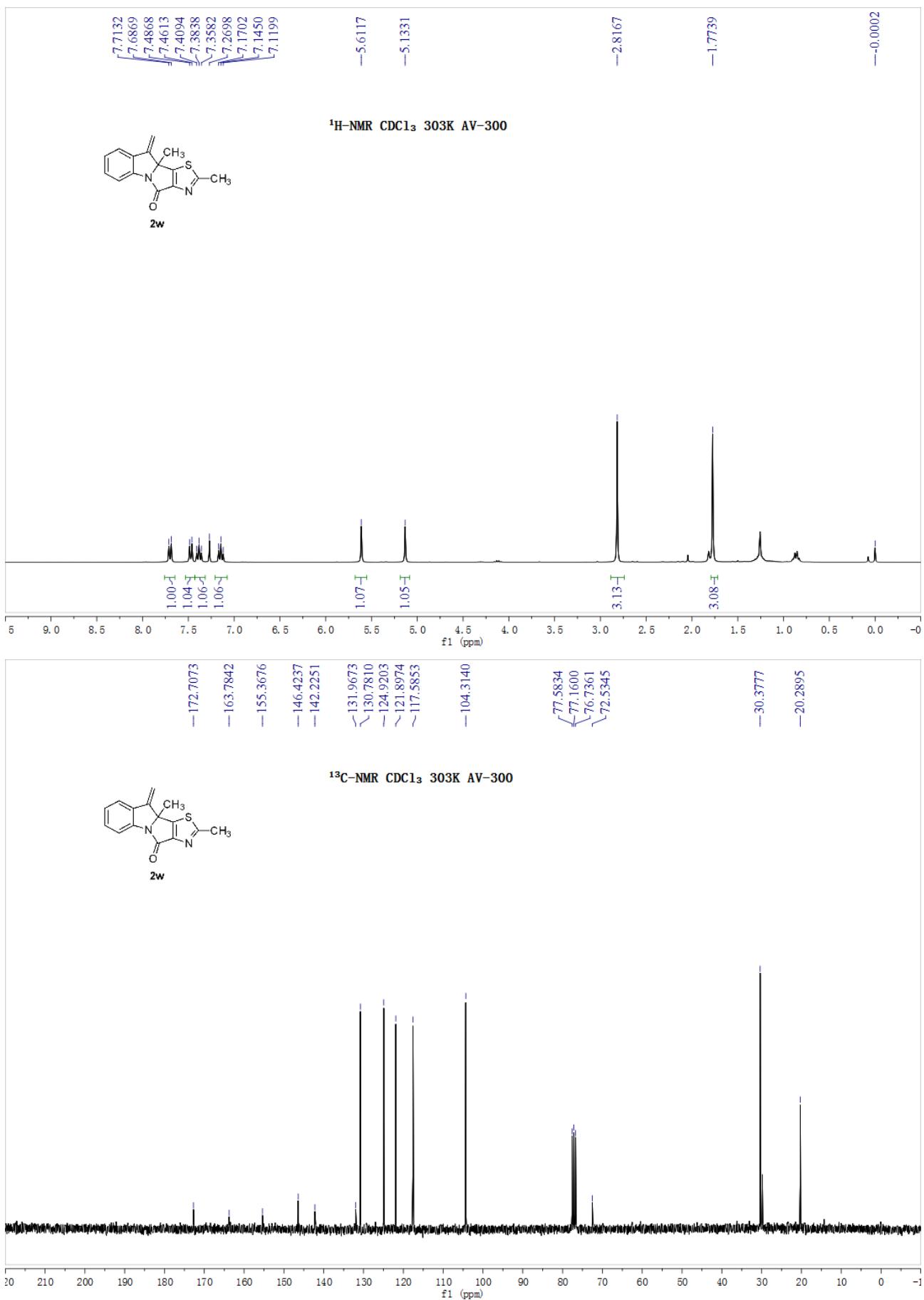


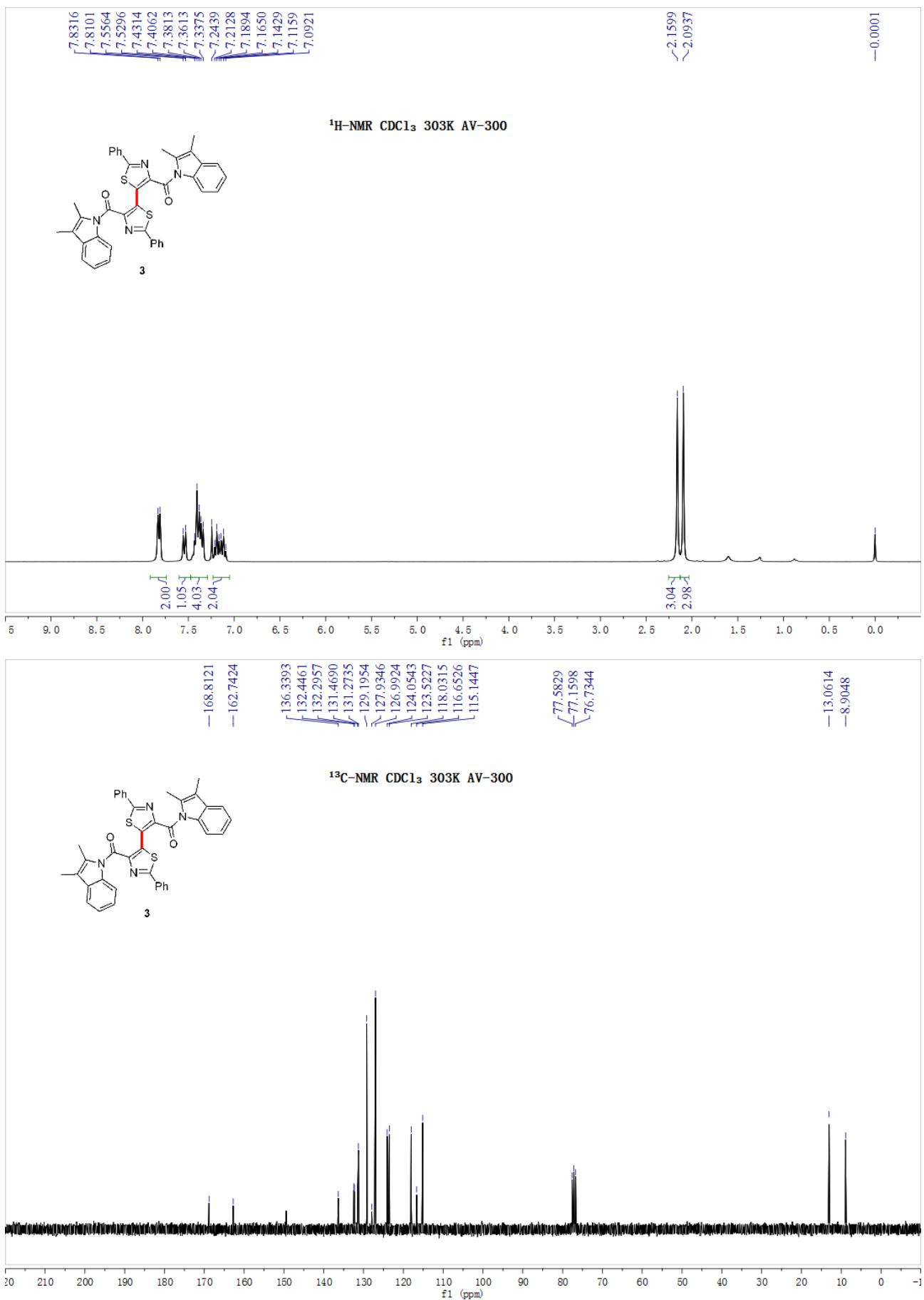


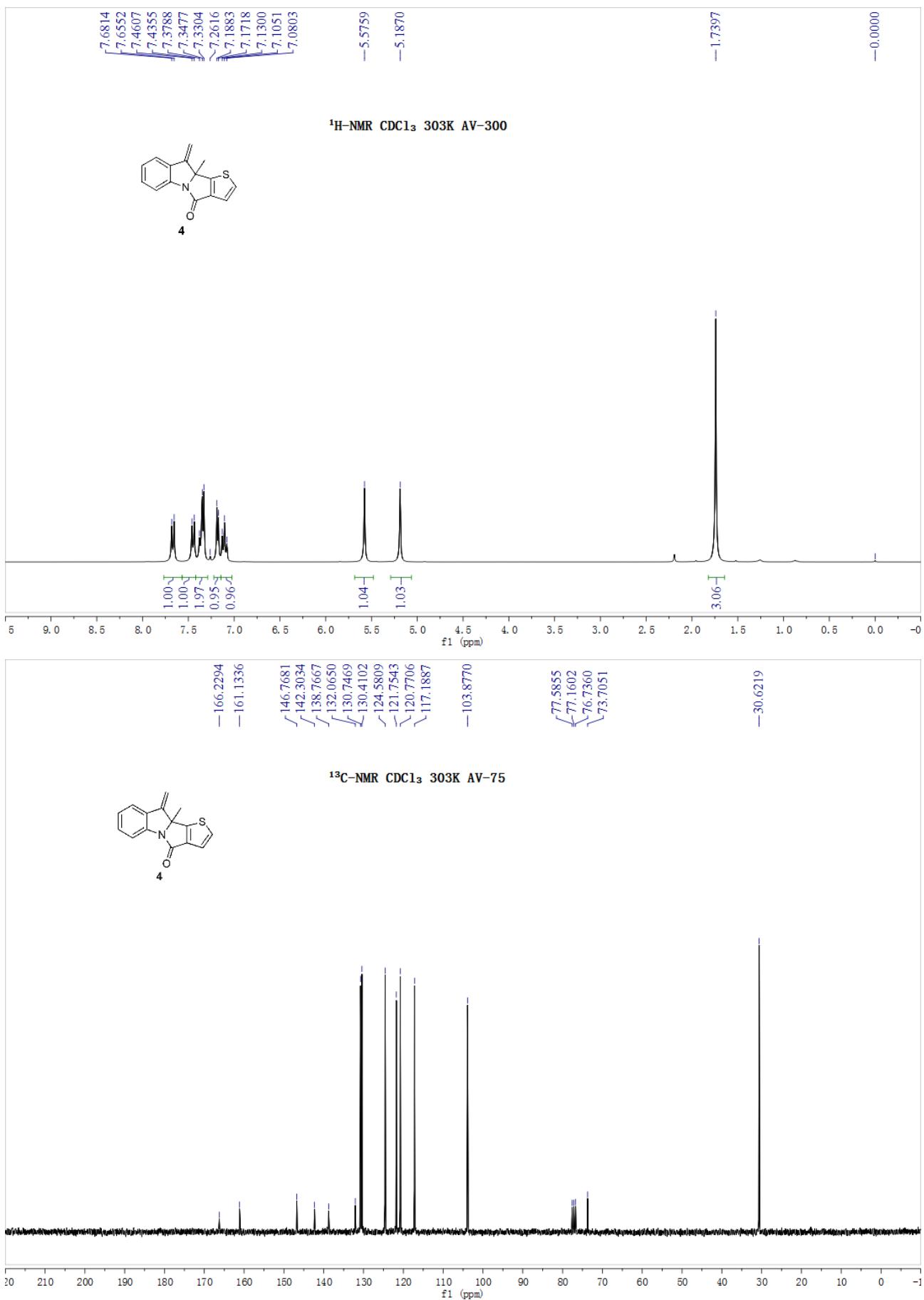












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