

Electronic Supplementary Information

for

Synthesis of α -Functionalized α -Indol-3-yl Carbonyls through Direct S_N Reactions of Indol-3-yl α -Acyloins

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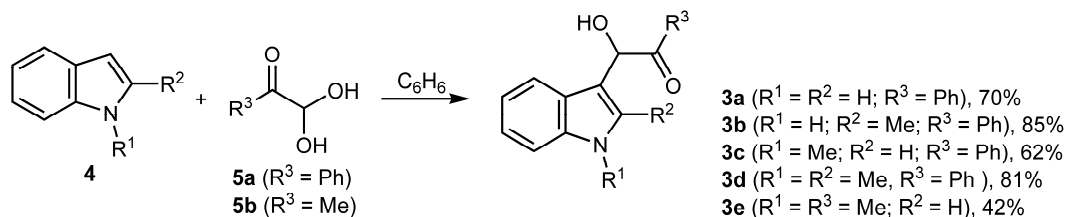
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General considerations:

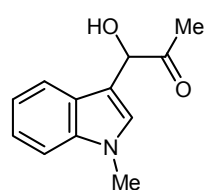
All reactions involving air sensitive compounds were carried out under a N₂ atmosphere (99.99%). All glassware was oven-dried (120 °C), evacuated and purged with nitrogen. All common reagents and solvents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without any further purification. Solvents were dried by standard methods. Hexane and ethyl acetate were purchased as extra pure grade reagents and used as received. TLC was performed on aluminum-backed plates coated with silica gel 60 with F₂₅₄ indicator; the chromatograms were visualized under ultraviolet light and/or by staining with a Ce/Mo reagent and subsequent heating. R_f values are reported on silica gel. Flash column chromatography was carried out on silica gel 60, 230-240 mesh. Deactivated silica gel was obtained by stirring with an aqueous K₂HPO₄ solution for 3 h and subsequent filtration and drying at 140 °C for 3 days. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded at 300 or 400 MHz. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm using the residual solvent peak as reference. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s: singlet, bs: broad singlet, d: doublet, t: triplet, at: apparent triplet, dd: doublet of doublets, dt: doublet of triplets, ddd: doublet of doublet of doublets, m: multiplet), coupling constant (*J* in Hz), and integration. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 75.4 MHz or 100.6 MHz using broadband proton decoupling and chemical shifts are reported in ppm using residual solvent peaks as reference and the multiplicities were determined by DEPT experiments. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Micromass Autospec spectrometer equipped with a magnetic sector ion analyzer using EI at 70eV. Melting points were measured on a Gallenkamp apparatus using open capillary tubes and are uncorrected. GC-MS and low resolution mass spectra (LRMS) measurements were recorded on an Agilent 6890N/5973 Network GC System, equipped with a HP-5MS column.

Synthesis of α -acyloins **3**:



Acyloins **3a-d** were prepared by reaction of phenyl glyoxal (5 mmol) with the corresponding indole (5 mmol) in benzene following a reported procedure.^[1] Acyloin **3e** was prepared in the same way from pyruvic aldehyde (**5b**) (1.5 mL of a 40% w/w aqueous solution, 10 mmol) and *N*-methylindole (**4c**) (1.31 g, 10 mmol) in benzene (20 mL) at r.t. for 16 h. Characterization data for acyloins **3a-d** have been previously reported.^{1,2}

Spectroscopic and characterization data for new α -acyloin **3e**:



1-Hydroxy-1-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)propan-2-one (3e): White foam; yield = 42% (0.85 g); $R_f = 0.20$ (hexane/EtOAc, 2:1); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 2.08 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 4.40 (bs, 1H), 5.35 (s, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 7.12–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.52–7.60 (m, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ

(ppm) = 25.0 (CH_3), 32.5 (CH_3), 73.2 (CH), 109.5 (CH), 110.9 (C), 118.9 (CH), 119.6 (CH), 122.9 (CH), 125.6 (C), 128.6 (CH), 137.1 (C), 208.2 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 203 (M^+ , 13), 158 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_2$: 203.0946, found: 203.0945.

General procedure for the synthesis of α -(indol-3-yl) carbonyl compounds **6-9**:

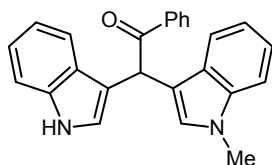
PTSA (5 mol%, 9 mg) was added to a solution of the corresponding α -acyloin **3** (1 mmol) and nucleophile (1 mmol for the synthesis of **6-8**, 1.1 mmol of *p*-nitroaniline for the synthesis of **9**) in MeCN (2 mL). The resulting reaction mixture was stirred until the final product precipitates or the starting acyloin was consumed as determined by TLC (0.25–16 h). In the first case, the precipitated product was isolated in pure form by simple filtration, whereas in the last case, the crude mixture was quenched with aqueous NaOH (0.5 M) and extracted with DCM (3 \times 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated at reduced

¹ S. P. Ivonin, A. V. Lapandin, A. A. Anishchenko, V. G. Shtamburg, *Synth. Commun.*, 2004, **34**, 451.

² L. Guanghui, C. Xu, Z. Yang, L. Weijian, H. Li, W. Yong, *Chem. Res. Chin. Univ.*, 2016, **32**, 212.

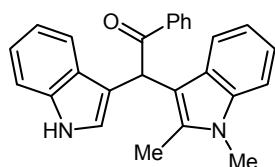
pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (deactivated in the case of **7f,g**) using mixtures of hexane and EtOAc as eluents to obtain the corresponding α -(indol-3-yl) carbonyl compounds derivatives **6-9** in the yields reported in Tables 1-2 or Schemes 3-4.

Spectroscopic and characterization data for compounds 6–9:



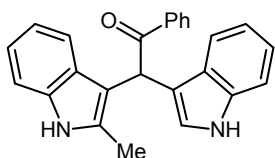
2-(1*H*-Indol-3-yl)-2-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone (6ac):

Brown solid; yield = 92% (335 mg); mp = 204–206 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 3.71 (s, 3H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 6.96–7.02 (m, 1H), 7.09–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.19–7.24 (m, 1H), 7.25–7.28 (m, 1H), 7.28–7.33 (m, 1H), 7.34–7.39 (m, 1H), 7.42–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.52–7.57 (m, 1H), 7.59–7.64 (m, 2H), 8.12 (s, 1H), 8.14–8.20 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 32.9 (CH_3), 42.0 (CH), 109.5 (CH), 111.4 (CH), 112.7 (C), 114.6 (C), 119.14 (CH), 119.29 (CH), 119.3 (CH), 119.8 (CH), 121.9 (CH), 122.3 (CH), 124.0 (CH), 126.7 (C), 127.2 (C), 128.7, (2 \times CH), 128.9 (2 \times CH), 133.0 (CH), 136.6 (C), 137.1 (C), 137.4 (C), 198.8 (C) one aromatic carbon peak was missing due to overlapping; LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 364 (M^+ , 3), 259 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}$: 364.1576, found: 364.1577.



2-(1,2-Dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone (6ad):

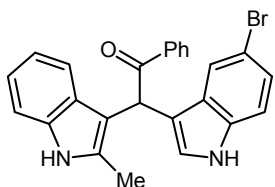
Violet solid; yield = 86% (325 mg); mp = 105–107 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$): δ (ppm) = 2.40 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 6.43 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (dd, J = 2.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.00–7.10 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.19 (m, 2H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28–7.43 (m, 4H), 7.44–7.51 (m, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 8.04–8.10 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$): δ (ppm) = 11.0 (CH_3), 29.7 (CH_3), 42.6 (CH), 107.5 (C), 108.8 (CH), 111.4 (CH), 114.8 (C), 119.05 (CH), 119.1 (CH), 119.4 (CH), 119.6 (CH), 120.8 (CH), 122.1 (CH), 127.1 (C), 127.3 (C), 128.6 (2 \times CH), 128.7 (2 \times CH), 132.7 (CH), 134.6 (C), 136.6 (C), 136.9 (C), 137.4 (C), 198.1 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 378 (M^+ , 3), 273 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}$: 378.1732, found: 378.1730.



2-(1*H*-Indol-3-yl)-2-(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone (6ba):

Yellow solid; yield = 99% (361 mg); mp = 220–222 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 2.24 (s, 3H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 7.8

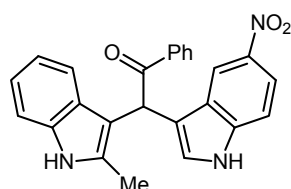
Hz, 1H), 7.05–7.19 (m, 3H), 7.21–7.24 (m, 1H), 7.33–7.41 (m, 4H), 7.44–7.50 (m, 1H), 7.60–7.65 (m, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 8.04–8.09 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 12.4 (CH₃), 42.4 (CH), 108.2 (C), 110.5 (CH), 111.5 (CH), 114.3 (C), 118.9 (CH), 119.0 (CH), 119.6 (CH), 119.7 (CH), 121.2 (C), 122.1 (CH), 124.3 (CH), 127.0 (C), 128.2 (C), 128.6 (2 × CH), 128.7 (2 × CH), 132.8 (CH), 132.9 (CH), 135.3 (C), 136.6 (C), 137.3 (C), 198.4 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 364 (M⁺, 2), 259 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₅H₂₀N₂O: 364.1576, found: 364.1581.



2-(5-Bromo-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone (6be):

White solid; yield = 93% (412 mg); mp = 152–154 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 2.30 (s, 3H), 6.28 (s, 1H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 7.00–7.12

(m, 3H), 7.14–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.44–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 8.02–8.10 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 12.4 (CH₃), 42.3 (CH), 108.0 (C), 110.5 (CH), 112.9 (CH), 113.0 (CH), 114.0 (C), 118.9 (CH), 119.8 (CH), 121.4 (CH), 121.5 (CH), 124.9 (CH), 125.7 (CH), 127.9 (C), 128.7 (4 × CH), 132.7 (C), 133.0 (C), 135.26 (C), 135.35 (C), 136.9 (C), 198.1 (C), one aromatic carbon peak was missing due to overlapping; LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 444 [(M+2)⁺, 3], 442 (M⁺, 2); 339 (99) 337 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₈H₁₄BrN₂ (M–C₇H₅O)⁺: 337.0340, found, 337.0339.

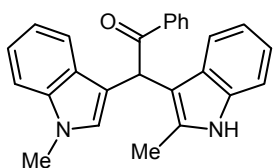


2-(2-Methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-(5-nitro-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone (6bf):

Yellow solid; yield = 91% (373 mg); mp = 145–147 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, (CD₃)₂SO): δ (ppm) = 2.40 (s, 3H), 6.69 (s, 1H), 6.85–6.98 (m, 2H),

7.10 (s, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (at, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.46–7.56 (m, 3H), 7.97 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 8.42 (s, 1H), 10.98 (s, 1H), 11.57 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, (CD₃)₂SO): δ (ppm) = 11.9 (CH₃), 41.5 (CH), 106.8 (C), 110.7 (CH), 112.0 (CH), 116.5 (CH), 116.6 (CH), 116.7 (C), 118.3 (CH), 118.7 (CH), 120.3 (CH), 126.3 (C), 127.3 (C), 128.2 (CH), 128.4 (2 × CH), 128.6 (2 × CH), 132.8 (CH), 133.4 (C), 135.4 (C), 136.8 (C),

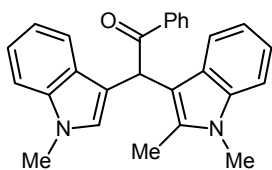
139.7 (C), 140.2 (C), 198.0 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 409 (M^+ , 2), 304 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $C_{25}H_{19}N_3O_3$: 409.1426, found: 409.1429.



2-(1-Methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone

(6cb): Yellow solid; yield = 90% (340 mg); mp = 201–203 °C; 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) = 2.40 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 6.44 (s, 1H), 6.80 (s,

1H), 7.05–7.19 (m, 3H), 7.21–7.47 (m, 3H), 7.48–7.55 (m, 3H), 7.48–7.58 (m, 1H), 7.66–7.73 (m, 1H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 8.09–8.16 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ (ppm) = 12.4 (CH_3), 32.8 (CH_3), 42.3 (CH), 108.3 (C), 109.5 (CH), 110.4 (CH), 112.8 (C), 118.9 (CH), 119.1 (CH), 119.7 (CH), 121.2 (CH), 121.7 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 128.1 (CH), 128.6 (2 \times CH), 128.7 (2 \times CH), 128.8 (CH), 132.75 (C), 132.77 (C), 135.3 (C), 137.2 (C), 137.4 (C), 198.3 (C), one aromatic carbon peak was missing due to overlapping; LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 378 (M^+ , 4), 260 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $C_{26}H_{22}N_2O$: 378.1732, found: 378.1733.

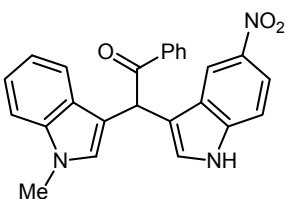


2-(1,2-Dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-

phenylethanone (6cd): Yellow solid; yield = 98% (384 mg); mp =

197–199 °C; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) = 2.42 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s,

3H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 7.01–7.10 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.30 (m, 4H), 7.34–7.42 (m, 3H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.05–8.09 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100.6 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) = 11.0 (CH_3), 29.7 (CH_3), 32.9 (CH_3), 42.6 (CH), 107.7 (C), 108.8 (CH), 109.5 (CH), 113.2 (C), 119.07 (CH), 119.09 (CH), 119.2 (CH), 119.4 (CH), 120.8 (CH), 121.7 (CH), 127.2 (C), 127.5 (C), 128.6 (2 \times CH), 128.7 (2 \times CH), 128.9 (CH), 132.7 (CH), 134.5 (C), 136.9 (C), 137.4 (C), 198.1 (C), one aromatic carbon peak was missing due to overlapping; LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 392 (M^+ , 3), 287 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $C_{27}H_{24}N_2O$: 392.1889, found: 392.1889.

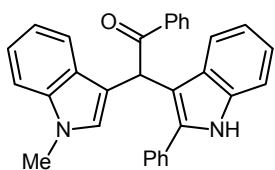


2-(1-Methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-(5-nitro-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone

(6cf): Yellow solid; yield = 90% (368 mg); mp = 170–172 °C; 1H NMR (300

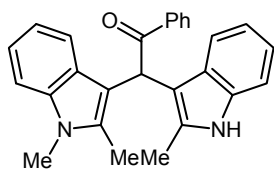
MHz, $(CD_3)_2SO$) δ (ppm) = 3.68 (s, 3H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.96–7.04 (m, 1H), 7.08–7.14 (m, 1H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44–7.60 (m,

5H), 7.63 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.98 (dd, $J = 9.0, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.18–8.26 (m, 2H), 8.63 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 11.73 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$) δ (ppm) = 32.4 (CH_3) 41.1 (CH), 109.9 (CH), 111.7 (C), 112.1 (CH), 116.1 (C), 116.6 (2 \times CH), 118.9 (CH), 119.2 (CH), 121.4 (CH), 125.9 (C), 126.6 (C), 128.5 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 128.8 (2 \times CH), 133.2 (CH), 136.2 (C), 136.8 (C), 139.6 (C), 140.4 (C), 197.8 (C), one aromatic carbon peak was missing due to overlapping; LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 409 (M^+ , 3), 304 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$: 409.1426, found: 409.1428.



2-(1H-Indol-3-yl)-2-(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone (6cg):

White solid; yield = 95% (418 mg); mp = 240–242 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$): δ (ppm) = 3.69 (s, 3H), 6.40 (s, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 6.89–6.98 (m, 2H), 7.05 (at, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.10–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.24 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.39–7.51 (m, 8H), 7.61 (ad, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 11.54 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$): δ (ppm) = 32.4 (CH_3), 42.6 (CH), 107.7 (C), 109.8 (CH), 111.5 (CH), 112.6 (C), 118.7 (2 \times CH), 119.2 (CH), 120.3 (CH), 121.2 (CH), 121.5 (CH), 126.8 (CH), 127.4 (CH), 127.9 (2 \times CH), 128.2 (2 \times CH), 128.5 (2 \times CH), 129.0 (2 \times CH), 132.3 (C), 132.8 (C), 136.0 (C), 136.2 (C), 136.3 (C), 136.9 (C), 196.8 (C), two aromatic carbon peaks were missing due to overlapping; LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 440 (M^+ , 2), 335 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}$: 440.1889, found: 440.1889.

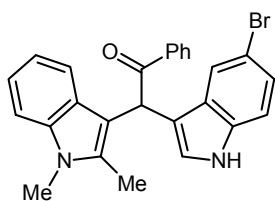


2-(1,2-Dimethyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-(2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-

phenylethanone (6db): Yellow foam; yield = 89% (352 mg); $R_f = 0.25$

(hexane/EtOAc, 5:1); ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 2.05 (s, 3H),

2.24 (s, 3H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 6.94–7.04 (m, 2H), 7.07 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.10–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.24 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.41 (m, 4H), 7.43–7.52 (m, 1H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 8.05–8.16 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 10.9 (CH_3), 12.6 (CH_3), 29.6 (CH_3), 43.3 (CH), 108.8 (CH), 108.9 (C), 110.4 (CH), 118.5 (CH), 118.6 (CH), 118.7 (CH), 119.2 (CH), 119.4 (CH), 120.6 (CH), 120.9 (CH), 127.7 (C), 128.6 (2 \times CH), 128.7 (2 \times CH), 132.6 (C), 132.7 (C), 132.8 (C), 134.4 (C), 135.1 (C), 136.6 (C), 137.2 (C), 199.3 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 392 (M^+ , 3), 287 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}$: 392.1889, found: 392.1890.



2-(5-Bromo-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-(1,2-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-

phenylethanone (6de): White solid; yield = 85% (388 mg); mp = 231–233

°C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, (CD₃)₂SO): δ (ppm) = 2.41 (s, 3H), 3.59 (s, 3H),

6.55 (s, 1H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (at, *J* = 7.5 Hz,

1H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (ad, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.47–7.54

(m, 3H), 8.02–8.07 (m, 2H), 11.01 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, (CD₃)₂SO) δ (ppm) = 10.4 (CH₃),

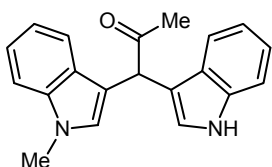
29.4 (CH₃), 41.6 (CH), 106.9 (C), 109.2 (CH), 110.9 (C), 113.3 (C), 113.4 (CH), 118.5 (CH), 118.8

(CH), 120.2 (CH), 121.3 (CH), 123.3 (CH), 126.0 (CH), 126.4 (C), 128.3 (2 × CH), 128.5 (2 × CH),

128.7 (C), 132.7 (CH), 134.8 (C), 135.0 (C), 136.3 (C), 136.9 (C), 197.9 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z*

(%) 458 [(*M*+2)⁺, 5], 456 (*M*⁺, 5), 353 (100), 351 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₆H₂₁BrN₂O:

456.0837, found: 456.0836.



1-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)propan-2-one (6ea): White

foam; yield = 70% (211 mg); *R_f* = 0.25 (hexane/EtOAc, 4:1); ¹H NMR (300

MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 2.33 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 6.93 (s,

1H), 7.03–7.06 (m, 1H), 7.08–7.14 (m, 2H), 7.16–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.28–7.37 (m, 2H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.9

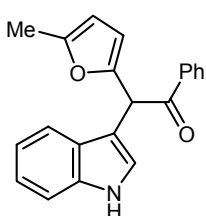
Hz, 2H), 8.13 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) = 29.0 (CH₃), 32.8 (CH₃), 48.1 (CH),

109.5 (CH), 111.5 (CH), 111.9 (C), 113.4 (C), 119.2 (CH), 119.2 (2 × CH), 119.7 (CH), 121.9 (CH),

122.3 (CH), 123.5 (CH), 126.8 (C), 127.3 (C), 128.2 (CH), 136.5 (C), 137.2 (C), 207.6 (C); LRMS

(70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 302 (*M*⁺, 2), 259 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₀H₁₈N₂O: 302.1419, found:

302.1412.



2-(1*H*-Indol-3-yl)-2-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)-1-phenylethanone (7a): Yellow solid;

yield = 73% (230 mg); mp = 146–148 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) =

2.55 (s, 3H), 5.88 (dd, *J* = 2.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 5.97 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.27 (s, 1H),

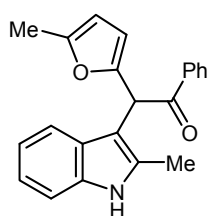
7.07 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (ddd, *J* = 7.6, 7.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.18–7.24 (m, 1H),

7.32–7.44 (m, 3H), 7.48–7.54 (m, 1H), 7.64–7.67 (m, 1H), 8.03–8.09 (m, 2H), 8.24 (s, 1H); ¹³C

NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 13.8 (CH₃), 44.8 (CH), 106.5 (CH), 109.5 (CH), 111.3 (C),

111.5 (CH), 118.9 (CH), 120.0 (CH), 122.5 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 126.5 (C), 128.7 (2 × CH), 129.0 (2 ×

CH), 133.1 (CH), 136.4 (C), 150.8 (C), 151.8 (C), 196.4 (C), one aromatic carbon peak was missing due to overlapping; LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 315 (M^+ , 3), 210 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $C_{21}H_{17}NO_2$: 315.1259, found: 315.1259.

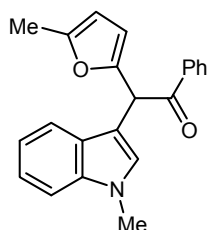


2-(2-Methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)-1-phenylethanone (7b):

Yellow solid; yield = 69% (227 mg); mp = 80–82 °C; 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$):

δ (ppm) = 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 5.88–5.96 (m, 2H), 6.15 (s, 1H), 7.09–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.29–7.31 (m, 1H), 7.33–7.41 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.50 (m, 1H), 7.63–7.70

(m, 1H), 7.95–8.03 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) = 12.4 (CH_3), 13.7 (CH_3), 45.0 (CH), 106.2 (C), 106.3 (CH), 109.6 (CH), 110.5 (CH), 118.6 (CH), 119.9 (CH), 121.4 (CH), 127.8 (C), 128.5 (2 \times CH), 128.6 (2 \times CH), 132.9 (CH), 133.2 (C), 135.3 (C), 136.6 (C), 150.6 (C), 151.7 (C), 196.4 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 329 (M^+ , 2), 224 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $C_{22}H_{19}NO_2$: 329.1416, found: 329.1414.

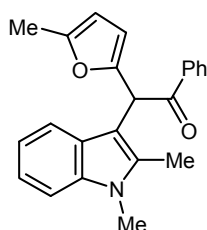


2-(1-Methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)-1-phenylethanone (7c):

Yellow solid; yield = 81% (266 mg); mp = 154–156 °C; 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$):

δ (ppm) = 2.29 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 5.89–5.92 (m, 1H), 6.02 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 7.13–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.23–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.41

(ddd, J = 8.3, 2.3, 0.9 Hz, 2H), 7.49–7.55 (m, 1H), 7.65–7.70 (m, 1H), 8.06–8.11 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) = 13.8 (CH_3), 32.9 (CH_3), 44.6 (CH), 106.5 (CH), 109.4 (CH), 109.5 (CH), 109.7 (C), 119.0 (CH), 119.5 (CH), 122.0 (CH), 126.9 (C), 128.5 (CH), 128.6 (2 \times CH), 128.9 (2 \times CH), 133.1 (CH), 136.4 (C), 137.2 (C), 151.1 (C), 151.7 (C), 196.2 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 329 (M^+ , 3), 224 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $C_{22}H_{19}NO_2$: 329.1416, found: 329.1417.

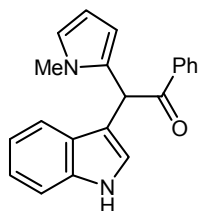


2-(1,2-Dimethyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)-1-phenylethanone (7d):

Yellow foam; yield = 65% (223 mg); mp = 112–114 °C; 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$):

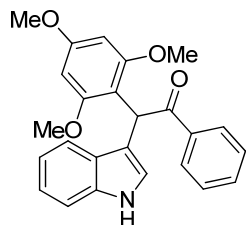
δ (ppm) = 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 5.89–5.90 (m, 1H), 5.93 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 7.07–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.31–7.35 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.47 (m, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.95–8.03 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4

MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 10.9 (CH₃), 13.8 (CH₃), 29.7 (CH₃), 45.2 (CH), 105.6 (C), 106.3 (CH), 108.8 (CH), 109.6 (CH), 118.7 (CH), 119.6 (CH), 121.0 (CH), 126.8 (C), 128.5 (2 \times CH), 128.6 (2 \times CH), 132.8 (CH), 134.9 (C), 136.6 (C), 136.8 (C), 150.9 (C), 151.6 (C), 196.2 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 343 (M⁺, 2), 238 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₃H₂₁NO₂: 343.1572, found: 343.1568.



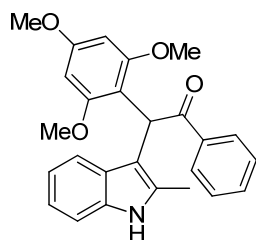
2-(1H-Indol-3-yl)-2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)-1-phenylethanone (7e): Yellow foam; yield = 50% (157 mg); mp = 144–146 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 3.51 (s, 3H), 5.91–5.94 (m, 1H), 6.07 (dd, J = 3.6, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.21 (s, 1H), 6.63–6.67 (m, 1H), 6.83 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (ddd, J = 8.0, 7.1, 1.1 Hz,

1H), 7.15–7.22 (m, 1H), 7.32 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.38–7.46 (m, 2H), 7.49–7.57 (m, 2H), 8.01–8.08 (m, 2H), 8.23 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 34.2 (CH₃), 43.8 (CH), 107.0 (CH), 109.5 (CH), 111.5 (CH), 112.5 (C), 118.8 (CH), 119.8 (CH), 122.3 (CH), 122.9 (CH), 124.5 (CH), 126.5 (C), 128.7 (2 \times CH), 128.8 (2 \times CH), 129.7 (C), 133.1 (CH), 136.5 (C), 136.7 (C), 197.2 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 314 (M⁺, 3), 209 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₁H₁₈N₂O: 314.1419, found: 314.1417.



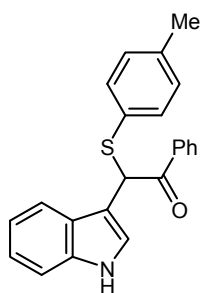
2-(1H-Indol-3-yl)-1-phenyl-2-(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)ethanone (7f): White foam; yield = 51% (205 mg); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 3.71 (s, 6H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 6.05 (s, 2H), 6.27 (s, 1H), 6.95 (s, 1H), 7.05–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.33 (m, 3H), 7.36–7.43 (m, 1H), 7.64 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.81–7.90 (m,

2H), 8.07 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 41.7 (CH), 55.2 (CH₃), 55.6 (2 \times CH₃), 91.0 (2 \times CH), 111.0 (C), 111.3 (CH), 113.1 (C), 118.9 (CH), 119.2 (CH), 121.2 (CH), 124.3 (CH), 127.6 (C), 127.9 (2 \times CH), 128.0 (2 \times CH), 131.7 (CH), 136.1 (C), 137.6 (C), 158.0 (2 \times C), 160.3 (C), 199.7 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 401 (M⁺, 2), 296 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₅H₂₃NO₄: 401.1627, found, 401.1622.



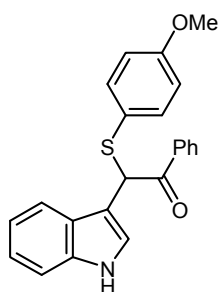
2-(2-Methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-phenyl-2-(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)ethanone (7g): White foam; yield = 38% (158 mg); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 2.24 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 6H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 6.07 (s, 2H), 6.21 (s, 1H), 6.98–7.04 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.24–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.35–7.42 (m, 1H), 7.52 (d, J

= 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.86–7.81 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): 12.6 (CH_3), 42.3 (CH), 55.3 (CH_3), 55.6 (2 \times CH_3), 91.1 (2 \times CH), 109.5 (C), 110.0 (C), 110.4 (CH), 119.1 (CH), 119.5 (CH), 128.08 (2 \times CH), 128.12 (2 \times CH), 129.1 (C), 131.8 (CH), 132.7 (C), 135.2 (C), 137.6 (C), 158.3 (2 \times C), 160.3 (C), 198.7 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 415 (M^+ , 9), 310 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_4$: 415.1784, found, 415.1779.



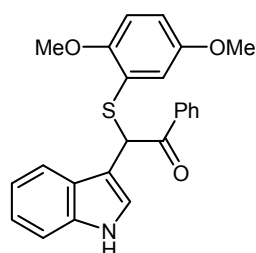
2-(1H-Indol-3-yl)-1-phenyl-2-(p-tolylthio)ethanone (8a): White solid; yield = 87% (311 mg); mp = 113–115 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 2.29 (s, 3H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.18–7.27 (m, 4H), 7.32–7.42 (m, 3H), 7.51 (at, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.82–7.86 (m, 1H), 8.02 (ad, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 8.39 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 21.2 (CH_3),

51.4 (CH), 110.0 (C), 111.7 (CH), 119.0 (CH), 120.1 (CH), 122.5 (CH), 125.0 (CH), 126.0 (C), 128.6 (2 \times CH), 128.8 (2 \times CH), 129.6 (2 \times CH), 130.4 (C), 133.2 (CH), 134.0 (2 \times CH), 136.1 (C), 136.3 (C), 138.3 (C), 194.9 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 357 (M^+ , 4), 234 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{19}\text{NOS}$: 357.1187, found: 357.1185.



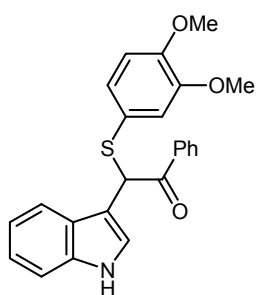
2-(1H-Indol-3-yl)-2-((4-methoxyphenyl)thio)-1-phenylethanone (8b): Brown solid; yield = 83% (310 mg); R_f = 0.25 (hexane/EtOAc, 6:1); ^1H NMR (300 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$): δ (ppm) = 3.73 (s, 3H), 6.45 (s, 1H), 6.73–6.81 (m, 2H), 7.06–7.26 (m, 4H), 7.29 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37–7.56 (m, 4H), 7.90 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.08–8.12 (m, 1H), 10.27 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$): δ (ppm) =

52.9 (CH_3), 55.5 (CH), 110.4 (C), 112.4 (CH), 114.9 (2 \times CH), 120.1 (CH), 120.2 (CH), 122.6 (CH), 125.3 (C), 126.4 (CH), 127.0 (C), 129.3 (2 \times CH), 129.5 (2 \times CH), 133.7 (CH), 137.0 (2 \times CH), 137.1 (C), 137.5 (C), 160.8 (C), 195.1 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 373 (M^+ , 3), 234 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$: 373.1136, found: 373.1136.



2-((2,5-Dimethoxyphenyl)thio)-2-(1H-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone (8c): White foam; yield = 76% (307 mg); R_f = 0.25 (hexane/EtOAc, 4:1); ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 3.52 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 6.71–6.74 (m, 2H), 6.82 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H),

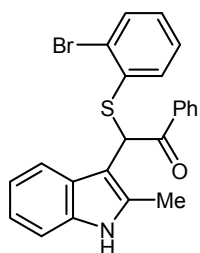
7.14–7.21 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.39 (m, 3H), 7.43–7.50 (m, 1H), 7.79–7.85 (m, 1H), 7.96–8.01 (m, 2H), 8.61 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 49.2 (CH), 55.6 (CH₃), 56.2 (CH₃), 109.9 (C), 111.7 (CH), 111.8 (CH), 114.6 (CH), 118.9 (CH), 119.1 (CH), 120.0 (CH), 122.4 (CH), 123.6 (C), 124.7 (CH), 126.1 (C), 128.5 (2 × CH), 128.7 (2 × CH), 133.1 (CH), 136.1 (C), 136.4 (C), 153.1 (C), 153.3(C), 195.5 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 387 [(M–O)⁺, 25], 282 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₄H₂₁NO₂S (M–O)⁺: 387.1293, found: 387.1295.



2-((3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)thio)-2-(1H-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone (8d):

Orange oil; yield = 75% (303 mg); *R_f* = 0.34 (hexane/EtOAc, 5:1); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 3.48 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 6.14 (s, 1H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.17–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.31–7.44 (m, 3H), 7.51 (at, *J* = 7.3

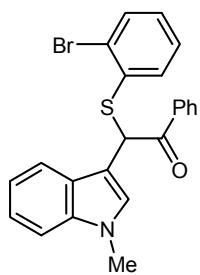
Hz, 1H), 7.78–7.83 (m, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 8.43 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 51.3 (CH₃), 55.6 (CH₃), 55.9 (CH₃), 109.9 (C), 111.1 (CH), 111.5 (CH), 118.3 (CH), 119.1 (CH), 120.1 (CH), 122.6 (CH), 124.2 (C), 125.2 (CH), 126.2 (C), 128.4 (CH), 128.7 (2 × CH), 128.8 (2 × CH), 133.2 (CH), 136.1 (C), 136.2 (C), 148.3 (C), 149.6 (C), 194.9 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 387 [(M–O)⁺, 19], 282 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₄H₂₁NO₂S (M–O)⁺: 387.1293, found: 387.1294.



2-((2-Bromophenyl)thio)-2-(2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone (8e):

Black solid; yield = 78% (340 mg); mp = 99–101 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 2.21 (s, 3H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 6.95–7.05 (m, 2H), 7.06–7.13 (m, 3H), 7.16–7.21 (m, 1H), 7.31 (at, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 5.9, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.90–7.94

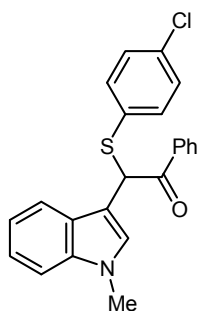
(m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 12.0 (CH₃), 52.8 (CH), 105.7 (C), 110.5 (CH), 119.0 (CH), 120.3 (CH), 121.7 (CH), 127.1 (C), 127.6 (CH), 128.66 (2 × CH), 128.70 (2 × CH), 128.9 (C), 129.2 (CH), 133.0 (CH), 133.2 (CH), 134.1 (C), 135.3 (C), 135.6 (C), 135.7 (CH), 135.9 (C), 194.4 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 435 [(M+2)⁺, 3], 437 (M⁺, 3), 248 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₃H₁₈BrNOS: 435.0292, found: 435.0291.



2-((2-Bromophenyl)thio)-2-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone (8f):

Orange solid; yield = 86% (375 mg); mp = 129–131 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 3.67 (s, 3H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 7.00–7.09 (m, 2H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 7.21 (ddd, *J* = 7.8, 6.6, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.31 (m, 3H), 7.37 (at, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (at, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55–7.59 (m, 1H), 7.80–7.86 (m, 1H), 7.98–8.04 (m, 2H);

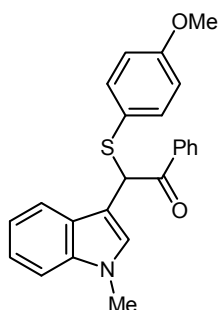
¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 33.0 (CH₃), 50.1 (CH), 107.7 (C), 109.7 (CH), 119.1 (CH), 120.0 (CH), 122.3 (CH), 126.6 (C), 126.8 (C), 127.8 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 128.7 (2 × CH), 128.8 (2 × CH), 129.3 (CH), 133.1 (CH), 133.3 (CH), 135.9 (C), 136.2 (C), 137.2 (C), 194.4 (C), one aromatic carbon peak was missing due to overlapping; LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 435 [(*M*+2)⁺, 1], 437 (*M*⁺, 1), 248 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₃H₁₈BrNOS: 435.0292, found: 435.0293.



2-((4-Chlorophenyl)thio)-2-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone (8g):

White solid; yield = 89% (349 mg); mp = 114–116 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 3.67 (s, 3H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 7.14–7.28 (m, 5H), 7.28–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.36–7.44 (m, 2H), 7.48–7.55 (m, 1H), 7.77–7.83 (m, 1H), 7.98–8.03 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 32.9 (CH₃), 51.1 (CH), 108.0 (C), 109.7 (CH), 119.0 (CH), 119.9 (CH), 122.3 (CH), 126.4 (C), 128.7 (2 × CH),

128.8 (2 × CH), 128.9 (2 × CH), 129.4 (CH), 132.7 (C), 133.3 (CH), 134.2 (C), 135.0 (2 × CH), 135.9 (C), 137.1 (C), 194.3 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 393 [(*M*+2)⁺, 1], 391 (*M*⁺, 3), 248 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₃H₁₈ClNOS: 391.0798, found: 391.0799.

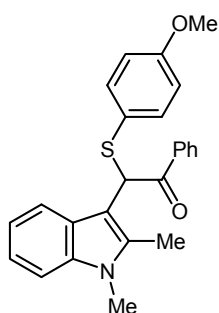


2-((4-Methoxyphenyl)thio)-2-(1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylethanone (8h):

Yellow solid; yield = 87% (337 mg); mp = 145–147 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 6.72–6.78 (m, 2H), 7.06 (s, 1H), 7.20–7.27 (m, 3H), 7.28–7.33 (m, 2H), 7.40 (at, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (at, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.80–7.84 (m, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C

NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 32.8 (CH₃), 51.3 (CH), 55.3 (CH₃), 108.4 (C), 109.5 (CH), 114.2 (2 × CH), 119.0 (CH), 119.7 (CH), 122.1 (CH), 124.2 (C), 126.6 (CH), 128.6 (2 × CH), 128.7 (2 × CH), 129.4 (C), 133.0 (CH), 136.2 (C), 136.8 (2 × CH), 136.9 (C), 160.1 (C), 194.6 (C); LRMS

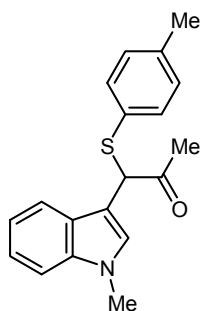
(70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 387 (M^+ , 1), 139 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $C_{17}H_{16}NOS$: ($M-C_7H_5O$) $^+$, 282.0953, found: 282.0951.



2-(1,2-Dimethyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-((4-methoxyphenyl)thio)-1-phenylethanone

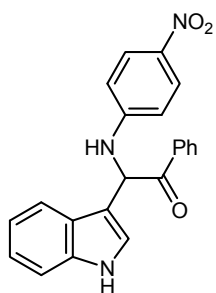
(8i): White solid; yield = 75% (301 mg); mp = 213–215 °C; 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) = 2.11 (s, 3H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 6.03 (s, 1H), 6.68–6.74 (m, 2H), 7.08–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.18–7.23 (m, 3H), 7.25–7.31 (m, 2H), 7.37–7.43 (m, 1H), 7.69–7.74 (m, 1H), 7.85–7.90 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) = 10.2 (CH_3), 29.6 (CH_3), 55.3 (CH_3), 56.1 (CH), 105.7 (C),

108.8 (CH), 114.1 (2 \times CH), 119.1 (CH), 119.7 (CH), 121.1 (CH), 125.2 (C), 126.0 (C), 128.4 (2 \times CH), 128.5 (2 \times CH), 132.9 (CH), 135.5 (C), 136.1 (C), 136.8 (2 \times CH), 159.9 (C), 195.2 (C), one aromatic carbon peak was missing due to overlapping; LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 401 (M^+ , 1), 262 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $C_{18}H_{18}NOS$ ($M-C_7H_5O$) $^+$: 296.1109, found: 296.1108.



1-(1-Methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-(p-tolylthio)propan-2-one (8j): Yellow foam; yield = 73% (225 mg); R_f = 0.30 (hexane/EtOAc, 5:1); 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) = 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 5.29 (s, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 7.12–7.15 (m, 2H), 7.21 (ddd, J = 8.0, 6.5, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27–7.37 (m, 4H), 7.71–7.75 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) = 21.1 (CH_3), 26.8

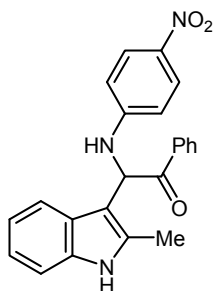
(CH_3), 32.8 (CH_3), 56.0 (CH), 107.9 (C), 109.5 (CH), 119.1 (CH), 119.7 (CH), 122.2 (CH), 126.6 (C), 128.4 (CH), 129.7 (2 \times CH), 130.2 (C), 133.0 (2 \times CH), 137.0 (C), 138.0 (C), 203.3 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 309 (M^+ , 2), 186 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $C_{19}H_{19}NOS$: 309.1187, found: 309.1187.



2-(1H-Indol-3-yl)-2-((4-nitrophenyl)amino)-1-phenylethanone (9a): Yellow

foam; yield = 65% (241 mg); R_f = 0.25 (hexane/EtOAc, 2:1); 1H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) = 6.05 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 6.56–6.67 (m, 2H), 7.15–7.28 (m, 3H), 7.31–7.44 (m, 3H), 7.47–7.56 (m, 1H), 7.73–7.81 (m, 1H), 7.95–8.09 (m, 4H), 8.44 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ (ppm) =

55.1 (CH), 111.0 (CH), 111.96 (CH), 112.03 (CH), 113.5 (C), 118.8 (CH), 120.9 (CH), 123.1 (CH), 124.7 (CH), 125.4 (C), 126.4 (CH), 126.5 (CH), 128.8 (2 × CH), 128.9 (2 × CH), 133.9 (CH), 134.5 (C), 136.5 (C), 138.4 (C), 151.8 (C), 195.3 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 266 [(M-C₇H₅O)⁺, 100]; HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₅H₁₂N₃O₂ (M-C₇H₅O)⁺: 266.0930, found: 266.0930.

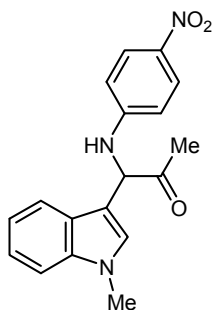


2-(2-Methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-((4-nitrophenyl)amino)-1-phenylethanone (9b):

Yellow solid; yield = 88% (339 mg); mp = 95–97 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃):

δ (ppm) = 2.46 (s, 3H), 6.21–6.33 (m, 2H), 6.56 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.09–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.35 (at, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (at, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.92–8.01 (m, 4H), 8.18 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) =

12.5 (CH₃), 54.9 (CH), 105.7 (C), 111.1 (CH), 112.0 (2 × CH), 117.7 (CH), 120.6 (CH), 121.9 (CH), 126.4 (2 × CH), 126.7 (C), 128.4 (2 × CH), 128.7 (2 × CH), 133.7 (CH), 134.1 (C), 134.8 (C), 135.3 (C), 138.1 (C), 151.7 (C), 194.6 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 280 [(M-C₇H₅O)⁺, 100]; HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₆H₁₄N₃O₂ (M-C₇H₅O)⁺: 280.1086, found: 280.1081.



1-(1-Methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-((4-nitrophenyl)amino)propan-2-one (9c):

Slightly contaminated with *p*-nitroaniline. Yellow foam; yield = 67% (217 mg); R_f

= 0.25 (hexane/EtOAc, 4:1); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 2.20 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 5.40 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 6.22 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 6.49–6.56 (m, 2H), 7.13 (s, 1H), 7.17–7.38 (m, 3H), 7.67 (dt, J = 7.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.94–7.98 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 26.7 (CH₃), 33.2 (CH₃), 59.5

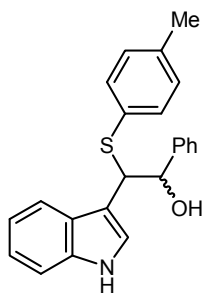
(CH), 109.0 (C), 110.2 (CH), 112.1 (2 × CH), 118.7 (CH), 120.4 (CH), 122.7 (CH), 126.1 (C), 126.3 (2 × CH), 128.4 (CH), 137.5 (C), 138.4 (C), 151.4 (C), 203.1 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 323 (M⁺, 5), 280 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₈H₁₇N₃O₃: 323.1270, found: 323.1271.

General procedure for the synthesis of tryptophol derivatives 10:

To a stirred solution of the corresponding α -(indol-3-yl) carbonyl compound derivative **7-9** (0.5 mmol) in MeOH (5 mL), NaBH₄ (0.6 mmol) was added portionwise at 0 °C. After 1 h at room temperature the crude mixture was quenched with a saturated solution of NH₄Cl (5 mL) and

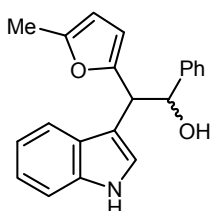
extracted with DCM (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated at reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography using mixtures of hexane and EtOAc as eluents to obtain the corresponding tryptophol derivatives **10** in the yields reported in Scheme 5.

Spectroscopic and characterization data for compounds **10**



2-(1*H*-Indol-3-yl)-1-phenyl-2-(*p*-tolylthio)ethanol (10a): Generated and isolated as a ca. 2:1 mixture of diastereoisomers. Yellow solid; yield = 78% (140 mg); mp = 151–153 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 2.29 (s, 3H, one diast), 2.32 (s, 3H, one diast), 3.02 (bs, 1H, one diast), 3.64 (bs, 1H, one diast), 4.71 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, one diast), 4.84 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H, one diast), 5.08 (d, *J*

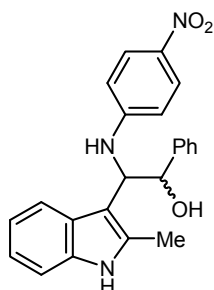
= 8.4 Hz, 1H, one diast), 5.12 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H, one diast), 6.63 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H, one diast), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, one diast), 7.06–7.12 (m, 7H), 7.13–7.23 (m, 10H), 7.23–7.29 (m, 3H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H, one diast), 7.69 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, one diast), 7.87 (s, 1H, one diast), 8.07 (s, 1H, one diast); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 21.2 (CH₃), 21.3 (CH₃), 54.2 (CH), 56.4 (CH), 74.4 (CH), 75.1 (CH), 111.29 (CH), 111.32 (CH), 111.4 (C), 113.63 (C), 119.3 (CH), 119.5 (CH), 119.76 (CH), 119.79 (CH), 122.3 (CH), 123.5 (CH), 124.5 (CH), 126.3 (C), 126.6 (2 × CH), 126.9 (C), 127.0 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 127.7 (CH), 128.0 (2 × CH), 128.1 (2 × CH), 129.6 (2 × CH), 129.9 (2 × CH), 131.2 (C), 133.1 (2 × CH), 133.7 (2 × CH), 136.0 (C), 136.1 (C), 137.79 (C), 137.82 (C), 140.9 (C), 141.2 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 252 [(M–C₇H₇O)⁺, 100]; HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₆H₁₄NS (M–C₇H₇O)⁺: 252.0847, found: 252.0847.



2-(2-Methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-(5-methylfuran-2-yl)-1-phenylethanol (10b):

Generated as ca. 4:1 mixture of diastereoisomers. The major one could be isolated and characterized. Yellow solid; yield = 80% (132 mg); mp = 165–167 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 2.13 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.32 (bs, 1H), 4.40 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (dd, *J* = 3.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.07–7.28 (m, 8H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 11.9 (CH₃), 13.7 (CH₃), 46.3 (CH), 75.2 (CH), 106.0 (CH), 107.3 (C), 107.8 (CH), 110.5

(CH), 119.6 (CH), 120.1 (CH), 121.3 (CH), 126.6 (2 × CH), 127.5 (CH), 127.9 (C), 128.1 (2 × CH), 134.0 (C), 135.5 (C), 142.9 (C), 150.5 (C), 152.8 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 224 [(M-C₇H₇O)⁺, 100]; HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₅H₁₄NO (M-C₇H₇O)⁺: 224.1075, found: 224.1072.



2-(2-Methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-2-((4-nitrophenyl)amino)-1-phenylethanol (10c):

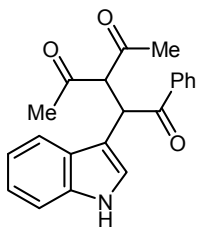
Generated as ca. 2:1 mixture of diastereoisomers. The major one could be isolated and characterized. Yellow solid; yield = 81% (157 mg); mp = 184–186 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 1.90 (s, 3H), 2.35 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (dd, J = 6.1, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 5.28 (at, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H),

6.42 (ad, J = 9.2 Hz, 2H), 6.98–7.17 (m, 4H), 7.22–7.35 (m, 4H), 7.62 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.87–7.96 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 11.8 (CH₃), 57.7 (CH), 77.3 (CH), 105.8 (C), 110.8 (CH), 111.8 (2 × CH), 119.0 (CH), 120.1 (CH), 121.6 (CH), 126.2 (2 × CH), 126.5 (2 × CH), 127.4 (C), 128.3 (CH), 128.5 (2 × CH), 134.2 (C), 135.4 (C), 138.1 (C), 140.2 (C), 152.6 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 280 [(M-C₇H₇O)⁺, 100]; HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₆H₁₄N₃O₂ (M-C₇H₇O)⁺: 280.1086, found: 280.1088.

General procedure for the synthesis of tricarbonyl compounds 11:

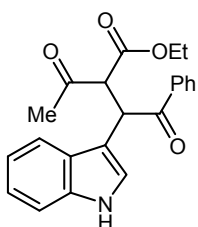
Cu(OTf)₂ (10 mol%, 36 mg) was added to a solution of the corresponding α -acyloin **3** (1 mmol) and the corresponding 1,3-dicarbonyl compound (1 mmol) in toluene (4 mL) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred until the alcohol was consumed as determined by TLC. The crude reaction mixture was quenched with aqueous NaOH (0.5M) and extracted with EtOAc (3 × 10 mL), and the combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated at reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on deactivated silica gel using mixtures of hexane and EtOAc as eluents to obtain the corresponding tricarbonyl compounds **11** in the yields reported in Table 3.

Spectroscopic and characterization data for compounds 11:



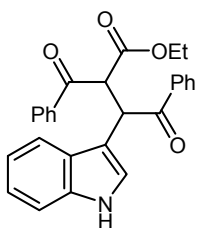
3-Acetyl-2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylpentane-1,4-dione (11a): Yellow solid; yield = 90% (300 mg); mp = 159–161 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 1.88 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 5.04 (d, *J* = 11.1 Hz, 1H), 5.67 (d, *J* = 11.1 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.12–7.19 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.32 (m, 3H), 7.39 (at, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H),

7.71–7.75 (m, 1H), 7.93–7.96 (m, 2H), 8.28 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 30.4 (CH₃), 31.6 (CH₃), 45.5 (CH), 70.3 (CH), 109.3 (C), 111.7 (CH), 119.0 (CH), 120.5 (CH), 122.7 (CH), 124.2 (C), 125.8 (C), 128.5 (2 × CH), 128.8 (2 × CH), 133.1 (CH), 135.9 (CH), 136.5 (C), 197.8 (C), 202.3 (C), 204.0 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 333 (M⁺, 6), 186 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₁H₁₉NO₃: 333.1365, found: 333.1360.



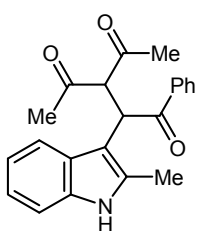
Ethyl 2-acetyl-3-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-4-oxo-4-phenylbutanoate (11b): Isolated as a ca. 1.1:1 mixture of diastereoisomers. Yellow foam; yield = 68% (247 mg); R_f = 0.25 (hexane/EtOAc, 2:1); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 0.92 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, one diast), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.93 (s, 3H, one diast), 2.41 (s, 3H,

one diast), 3.88 (m, 2H, one diast), 4.19 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, one diast), 4.79 (d, *J* = 11.1 Hz, 1H, one diast), 4.91 (d, *J* = 11.2 Hz, 1H, one diast), 5.66–5.79 (m, 1H, both diast), 7.01 (s, 1H, one diast), 7.03–7.06 (m, 2H, both diast), 7.16–7.21 (m, 4H, both diast), 7.28–7.35 (m, 6H, both diast), 7.39–7.46 (m, 2H, both diast), 7.78–7.85 (m, 2H), 7.98–8.06 (m, 4H), 8.50–8.58 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 13.6 (CH₃), 14.0 (CH₃), 29.7 (CH₂), 32.1 (CH₂), 44.3 (CH), 44.6 (CH), 61.3 (CH), 61.6 (CH₂), 61.8 (CH₂), 63.7 (CH), 108.9 (C), 109.5 (C), 111.5 (CH), 111.6 (CH), 119.1 (CH), 119.2 (CH), 120.1 (CH), 120.4 (CH), 122.4 (CH), 122.6 (CH), 124.1 (CH), 124.4 (CH), 125.8 (C), 126.1 (C), 128.47 (2 × CH), 128.50 (2 × CH), 128.8 (4 × CH), 133.0 (2 × CH), 135.9 (C), 136.37 (C), 136.42 (C), 168.2 (C), 168.6 (C), 197.8 (C), 197.9 (C), 202.1 (C), 203.9 (C), one aromatic carbon peak was missing due to overlapping; LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 363 (M⁺, 10), 170 (100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₂H₂₁NO₄: 363.1471, found: 363.1470.



Ethyl 2-benzoyl-3-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-4-oxo-4-phenylbutanoate (11c): Isolated as a ca. 1:1 mixture of diastereoisomers. White solid; yield = 80% (340 mg); mp = 149–151 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 0.76 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, one diast), 1.12 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, one diast), 3.67–3.80 (m, 2H, one diast), 4.13 (q, *J*

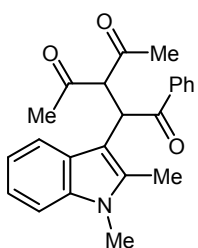
= 7.1 Hz, 2H, one diast), 5.48 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H, one diast), 5.69 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H, one diast), 5.92 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H, one diast), 5.99 (d, J = 10.9 Hz, 1H, one diast), 6.95 (s, 1H, one diast), 7.07–7.10 (m, 3H), 7.16–7.20 (m, 3H), 7.26–7.33 (m, 5H), 7.38–7.45 (m, 2H), 7.48 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (at, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 8.01–8.05 (m, 4H), 8.14 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 8.45 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 13.6 (CH_3), 14.0 (CH_3), 44.9 (CH), 45.4 (CH), 56.2 (CH), 59.1 (CH), 61.6 (CH_2), 61.8 (CH_2), 109.4 (C), 109.7 (C), 111.2 (CH), 111.5 (CH), 119.1 (CH), 119.4 (CH), 120.2 (CH), 120.3 (CH), 122.3 (CH), 122.5 (CH), 124.2 (CH), 126.0 (C), 126.3 (C), 128.2 (CH), 128.5 (2 \times CH), 128.7 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 128.9 (2 \times CH), 129.0 (2 \times CH), 133.0 (2 \times CH), 133.2 (CH), 133.8 (CH), 136.0 (C), 136.04 (C), 136.1 (C), 136.2 (C), 136.5 (C), 136.9 (C), 168.7 (C), 168.9 (C), 193.9 (C), 196.0 (C), 197.7 (C), 198.2 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 425 (M^+ , 13), 105 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_4$: 425.1627, found: 425.1626.



3-Acetyl-2-(2-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylpentane-1,4-dione (11d): White

solid; yield = 93% (323 mg); mp = 143–145 °C; ^1H and ^{13}C NMR were consistent with the formation of rotamers; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$): δ (ppm) = 1.77 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 2.35 (bs, 3H), 5.13 (bs, 1H), 5.42 (bs, 1H), 6.89–6.96 (m, 2H), 7.08–7.23 (m, 1H), 7.34–7.47 (m, 4H), 7.85 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 10.97 (s, 1H); ^{13}C

NMR (100.6 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$): δ (ppm) = 11.1 (CH_3), 29.7 (CH_3), 31.0 (bs, CH_3), 44.1 (bs, CH), 66.0 (bs, CH), 102.1 (CH), 110.4 (CH), 117.4 (bs, C), 118.7 (CH), 120.1 (CH), 126.0 (bs, C), 127.6 (2 \times CH), 127.8 (C), 128.2 (2 \times CH), 128.5 (C), 132.5 (CH), 133.5 (bs, C), 134.9 (bs, C), 135.3 (C), 135.4 (CH), 201.6 (C), 203.3 (C), one aromatic carbon peak was missing due to overlapping; LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 347 (M^+ , 9), 200 (100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_3$: 347.1521, found: 347.1520.



3-Acetyl-2-(1,2-dimethyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-1-phenylpentane-1,4-dione (11e):

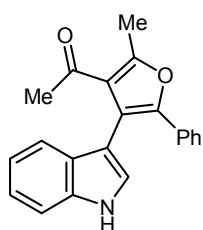
White solid; yield = 76% (274 mg); mp = 147–149 °C; ^1H and ^{13}C NMR were consistent with the formation of rotamers; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 1.82 (bs, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.47 (bs, 3H), 3.53 (bs, 3H), 5.29 (bs, 1H), 5.58 (bs, 1H), 7.04–7.17 (m, 3H), 7.24–7.32 (m, 2H), 7.35–7.42 (m, 1H), 7.64 (bs, 1H),

7.90 (ad, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 10.7 (CH_3), 29.8 (CH_3), 30.6 (bs, CH_3), 32.6 (bs, CH_3), 46.4 (bs, CH), 67.2 (bs, CH), 103.5 (CH), 109.0 (CH), 118.8 (bs, C), 119.9 (CH), 121.1 (CH), 126.1 (bs, C), 128.4 (2 \times CH), 128.5 (2 \times CH), 132.8 (CH), 134.9 (bs, C), 136.3 (bs, C), 136.9 (bs, C), 198.0 (bs, C), 201.4 (C), 203.4 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 361 (M^+ , 20), 214 (100); HRMS (EI $^+$) calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_3$: 361.1678, found: 361.1680.

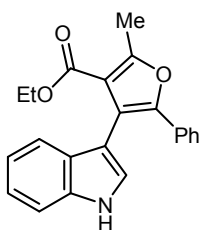
General procedure for the synthesis of furanylindoles **12** and **13**:

$\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ (10 mol%, 36 mg) was added to a solution of the corresponding α -acyloin **3** (1 mmol) and dicarbonyl compound (1 mmol) in toluene (4 mL) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred for 2 h. Then, PTSA (10 mol%, 9 mg) was added and the reaction was heated at 50 $^\circ\text{C}$ until the corresponding intermediate tricarbonyl derivative **11** was consumed as determined by TLC. The crude reaction mixture was quenched with aqueous NaOH (0.5M) and extracted with DCM (3 \times 15 mL), and the combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated at reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on deactivated silica gel using mixtures of hexane and EtOAc as eluents to obtain the corresponding furanylindoles **12** and **13** in the yields reported in Schemes 7 and 8.

Spectroscopic and characterization data for compounds **12** and **13**:



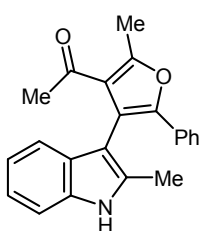
1-(4-(1H-Indol-3-yl)-2-methyl-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)ethanone (12a): Yellow solid; yield = 80% (253 mg); mp = 151–153 $^\circ\text{C}$; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 1.85 (s, 3H), 2.70 (s, 3H), 7.09–7.19 (m, 5H), 7.24–7.30 (m, 1H), 7.37–7.47 (m, 4H), 8.43 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm) = 14.9 (CH_3), 30.1 (CH_3), 108.5 (C), 111.5 (CH), 113.3 (C), 119.8 (CH), 120.5 (CH), 122.7 (CH), 123.8 (CH), 125.2 (2 \times CH), 125.5 (C), 127.3 (CH), 127.9 (C), 128.3 (2 \times CH), 130.6 (C), 136.3 (C), 148.6 (C), 157.8 (C), 197.0 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 315 (M^+ , 100); HRMS (EI $^+$) calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_2$: 315.1259, found: 315.1259.



Ethyl 4-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methyl-5-phenylfuran-3-carboxylate (12b): Brown

solid; yield = 67% (231 mg); mp = 179–181 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 0.85 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 2.72 (s, 3H), 4.01 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (at, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.11–7.23 (m, 5H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.38–7.48 (m, 3H),

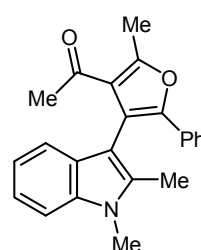
8.27 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 13.7 (CH₃), 14.5 (CH₃), 59.9 (CH₂), 108.5 (C), 111.1 (CH), 114.4 (C), 116.6 (C), 119.8 (CH), 120.3 (CH), 122.1 (CH), 123.9 (CH), 125.5 (2 × CH), 127.3 (CH), 127.9 (C), 128.3 (2 × CH), 130.8 (C), 136.2 (C), 148.6 (C), 158.4 (C), 164.4 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 345 (M⁺, 100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₂H₁₉NO₃: 345.1365, found: 345.1368.



1-(2-Methyl-4-(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)ethanone (12c):

Yellow solid; yield = 90% (296 mg); mp = 128–130 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 1.84 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.72 (s, 3H), 7.07 (ddd, *J* = 7.9, 7.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.12–7.23 (m, 4H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35–7.42 (m,

3H), 8.29 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 12.2 (CH₃), 14.9 (CH₃), 29.7 (CH₃), 105.5 (C), 110.6 (CH), 113.1 (C), 119.1 (CH), 120.4 (CH), 121.9 (CH), 124.8 (2 × CH), 125.2 (C), 127.2 (CH), 128.5 (2 × CH), 129.0 (C), 130.8 (C), 133.0 (C), 135.8 (C), 148.5 (C), 158.1 (C), 196.9 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 329 (M⁺, 100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₂H₁₉NO₂: 329.1416, found: 329.1417.



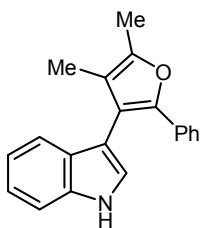
1-(4-(1,2-Dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-2-methyl-5-phenylfuran-3-yl)ethanone

(12d): Yellow solid; yield = 84% (288 mg); mp = 181–183 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz,

CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 1.78 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.71 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 7.02–7.10 (m, 1H), 7.12–7.21 (m, 3H), 7.22–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H),

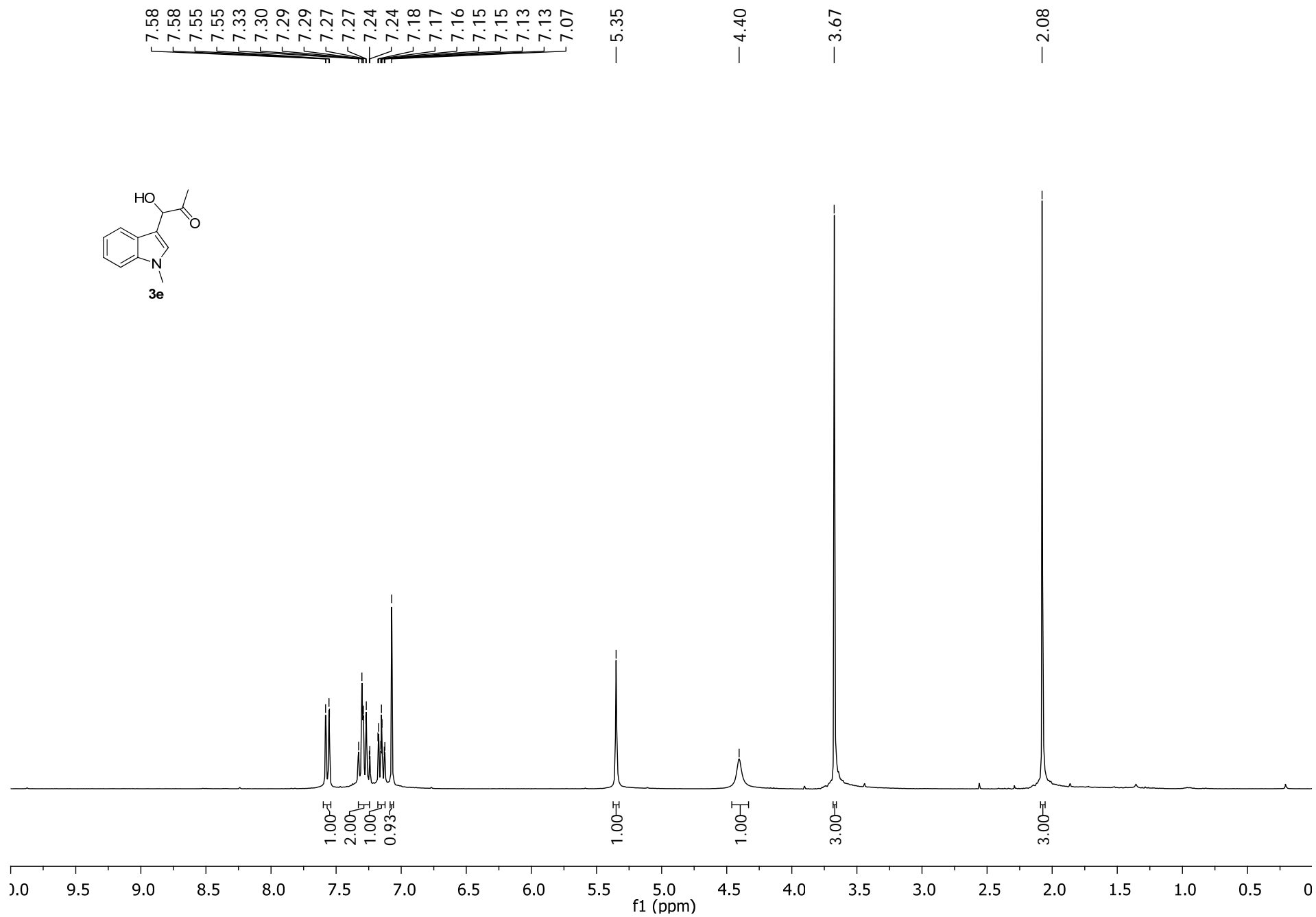
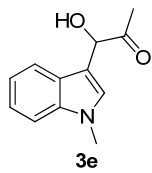
7.34–7.41 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm) = 11.0 (CH₃), 14.9

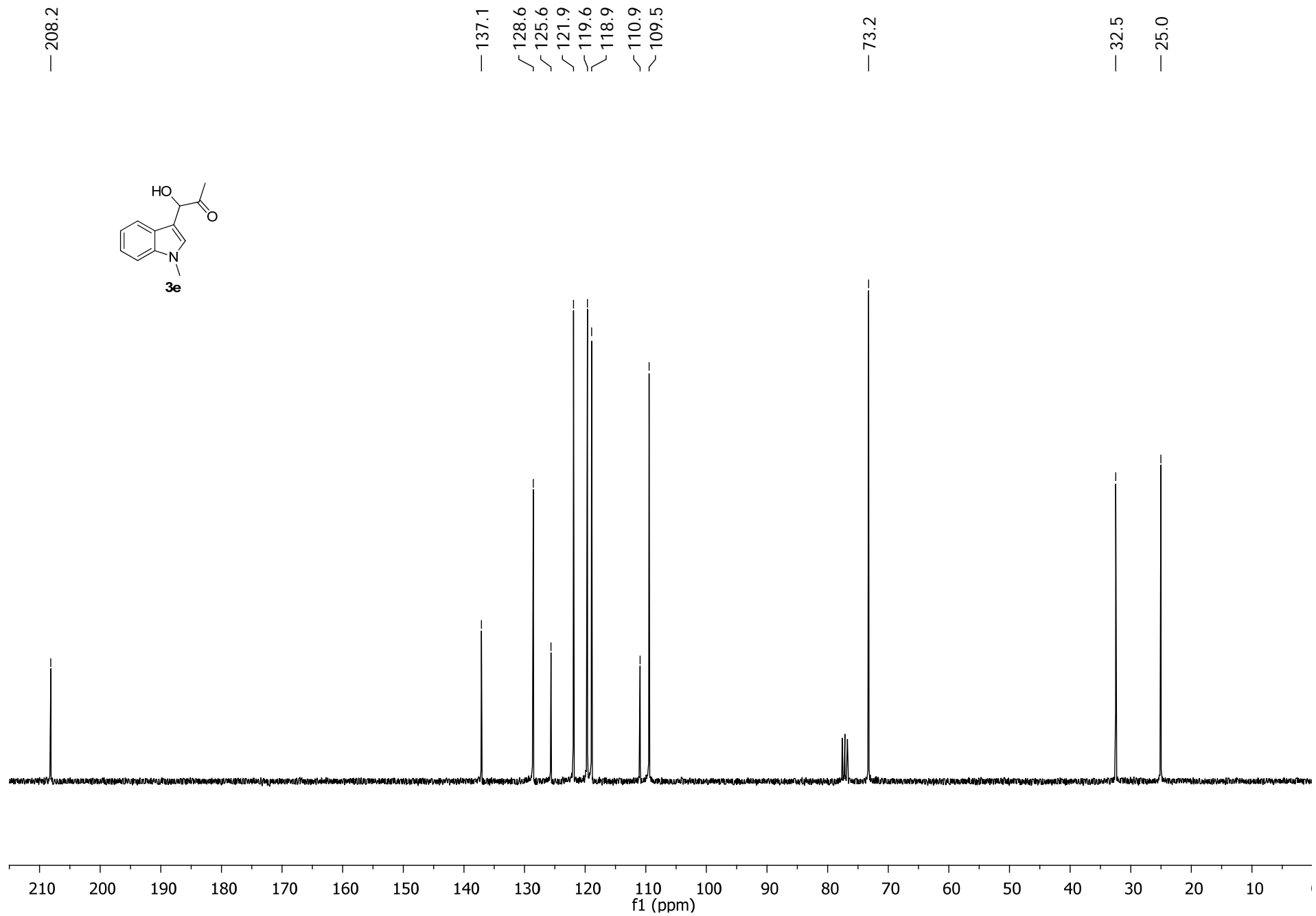
(CH₃), 29.8 (CH₃), 30.0 (CH₃), 104.8 (C), 109.0 (CH), 113.6 (C), 119.2 (CH), 120.1 (CH), 121.5 (CH), 124.8 (2 × CH), 125.4 (C), 127.2 (CH), 128.1 (C), 128.5 (2 × CH), 131.0 (C), 134.9 (C), 137.3 (C), 148.5 (C), 158.0 (C), 196.8 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): *m/z* (%) 343 (M⁺, 100); HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₃H₂₁NO₂: 343.1572, found: 343.1574.



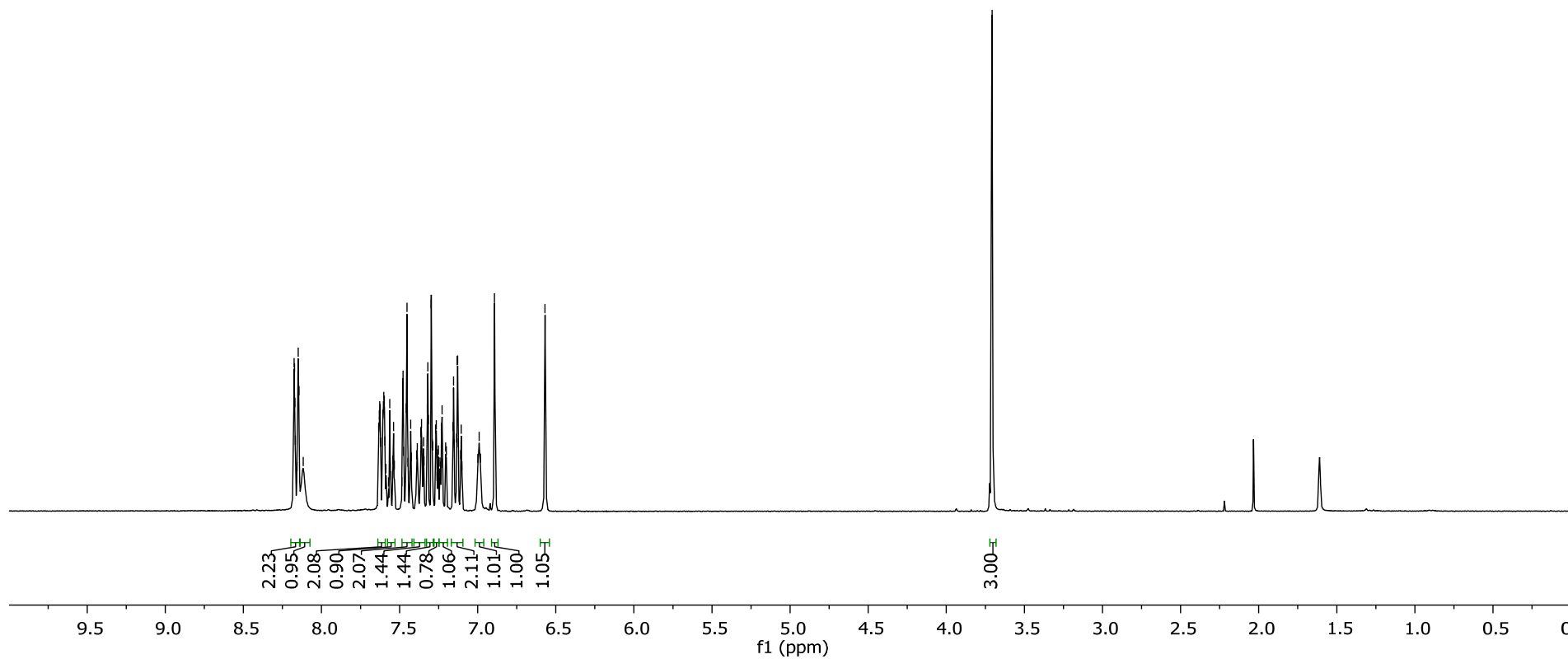
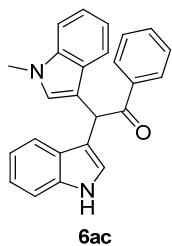
3-(4,5-Dimethyl-2-phenylfuran-3-yl)-1H-indole (13): Yellow solid; yield = 58% (166 mg); mp = 116–118 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 1.86 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 7.06–7.21 (m, 5H), 7.26 (at, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 8.21 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) = 9.1 (CH_3), 12.0 (CH_3), 109.5 (C), 111.2 (CH), 116.5 (C), 118.1 (C), 119.9 (CH), 120.6 (CH), 122.3 (CH), 123.3 (CH), 124.8 (2 \times CH), 126.3 (CH), 127.1 (C), 128.2 (2 \times CH), 131.9 (C), 136.3 (C), 146.6 (C), 147.1 (C); LRMS (70 eV, EI): m/z (%) 287 (M^+ , 100); HRMS (EI^+) calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}$: 287.1310, found: 287.1310.

^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of characterized compounds

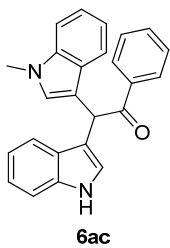




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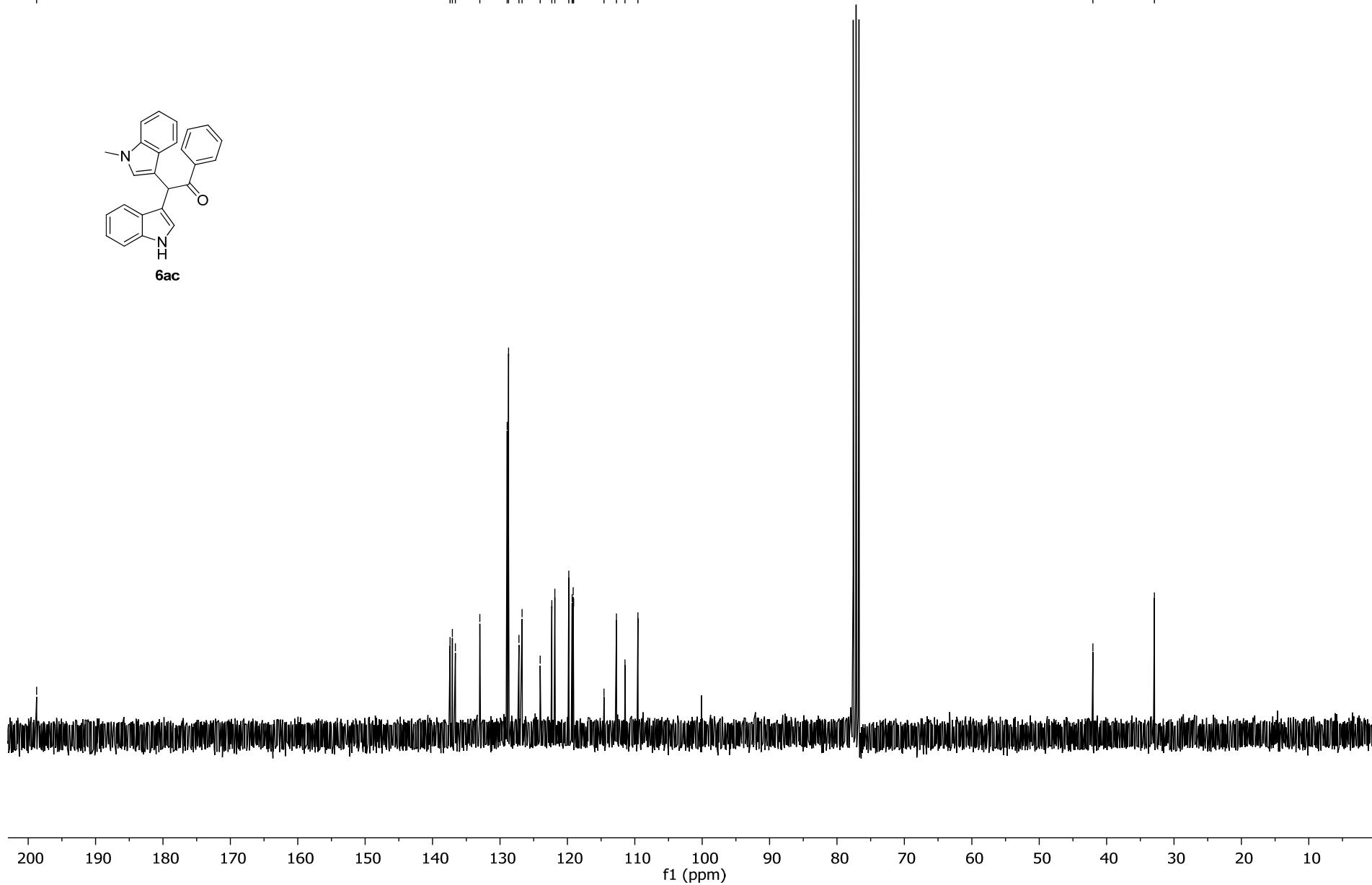
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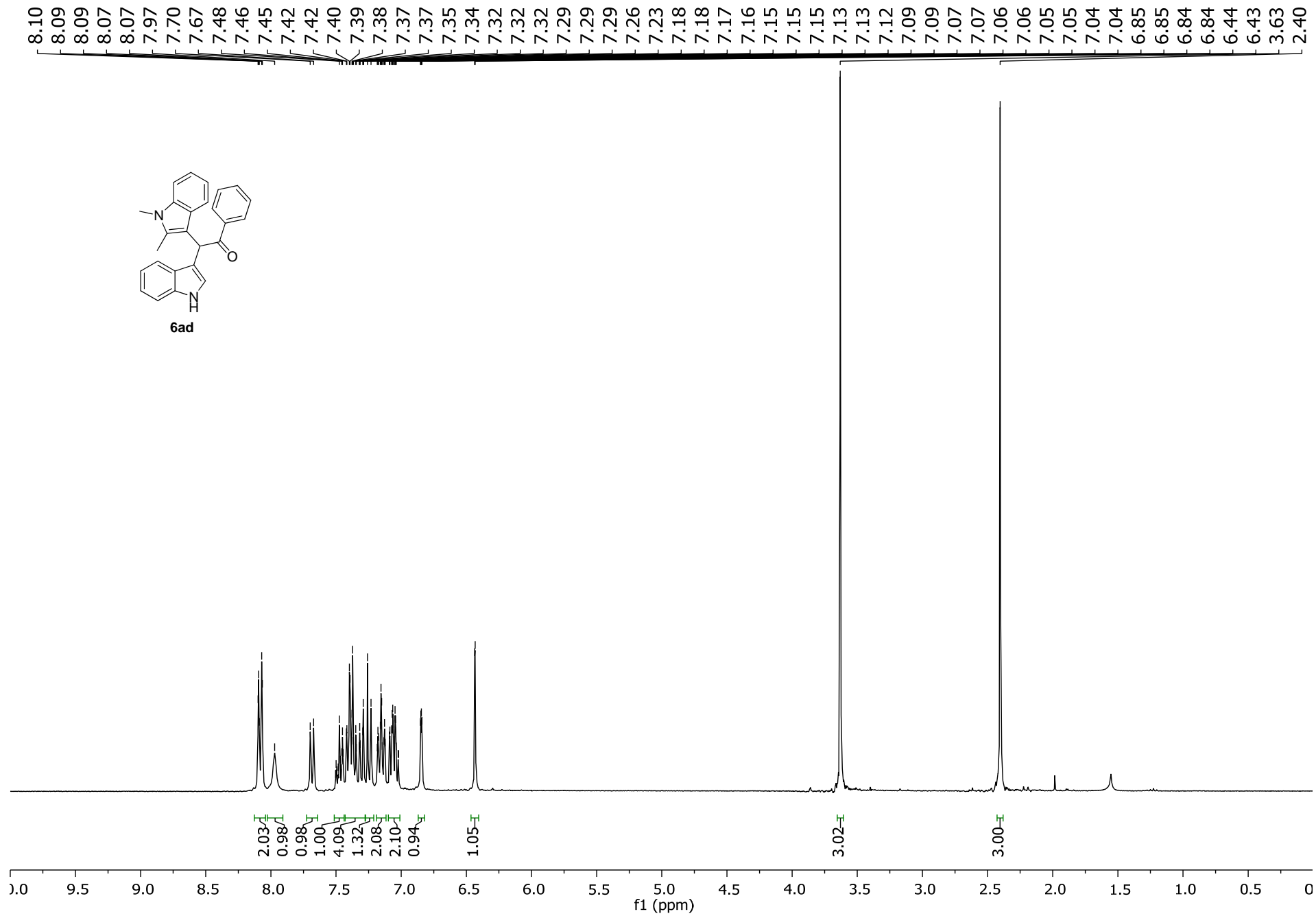


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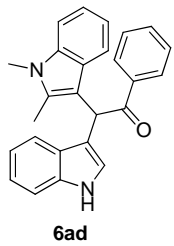
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— 198.1

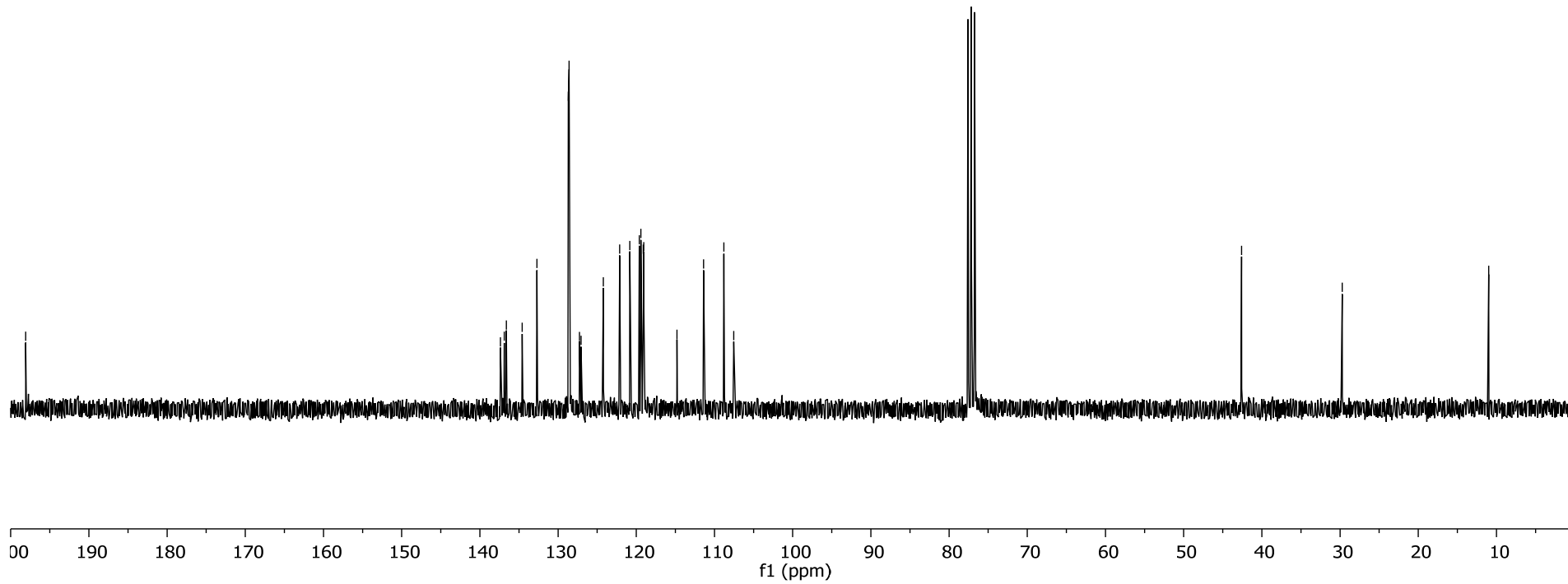


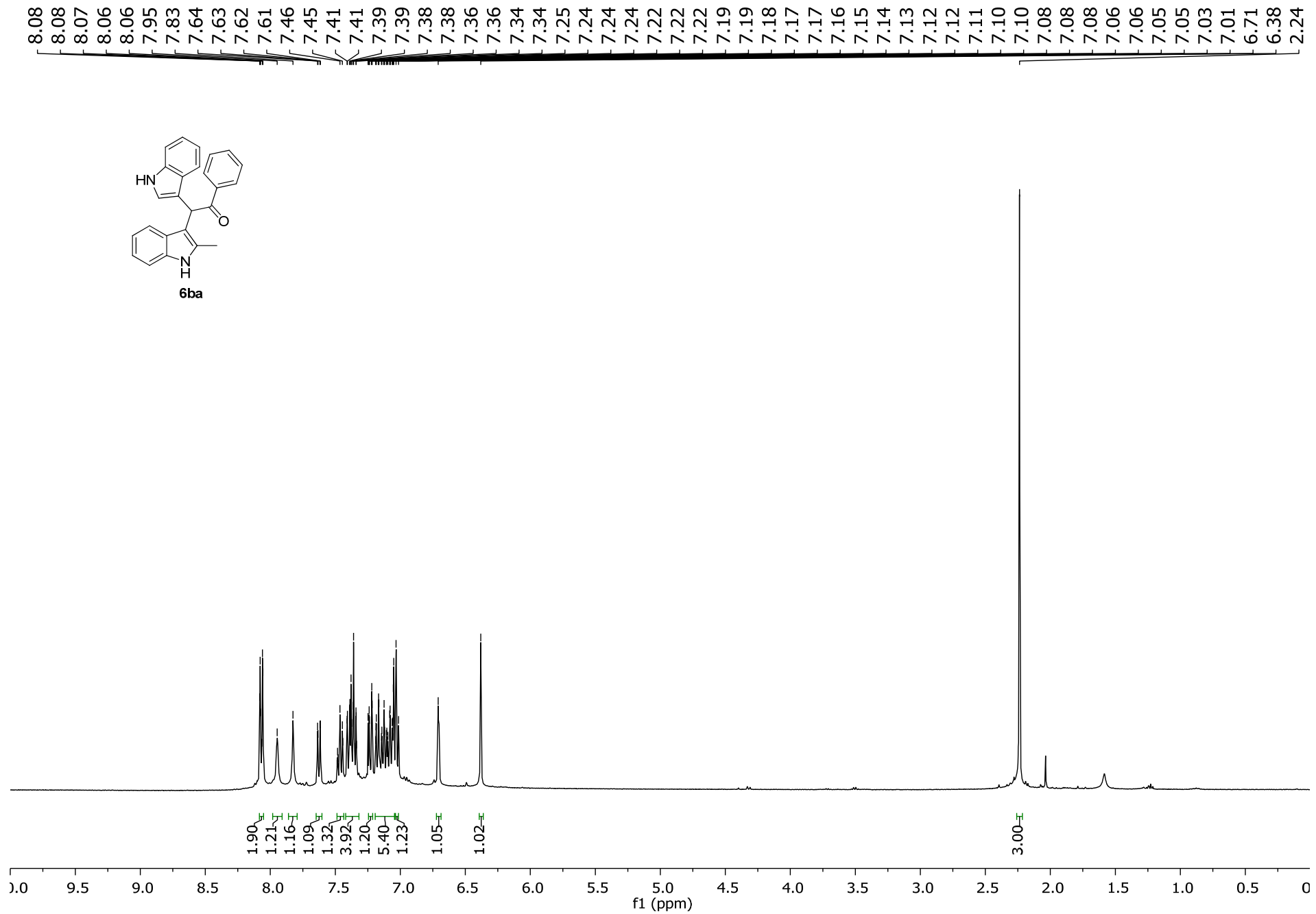
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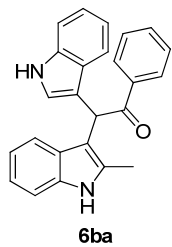
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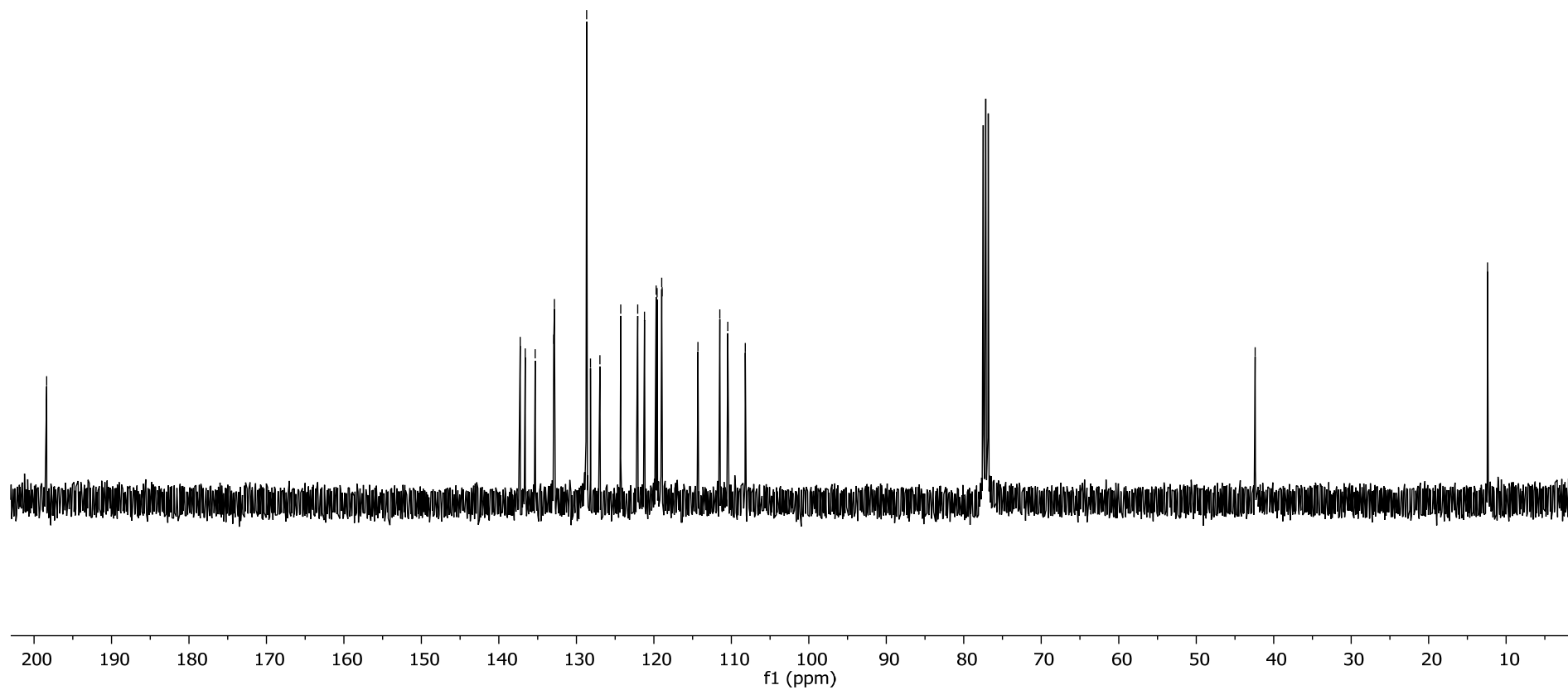
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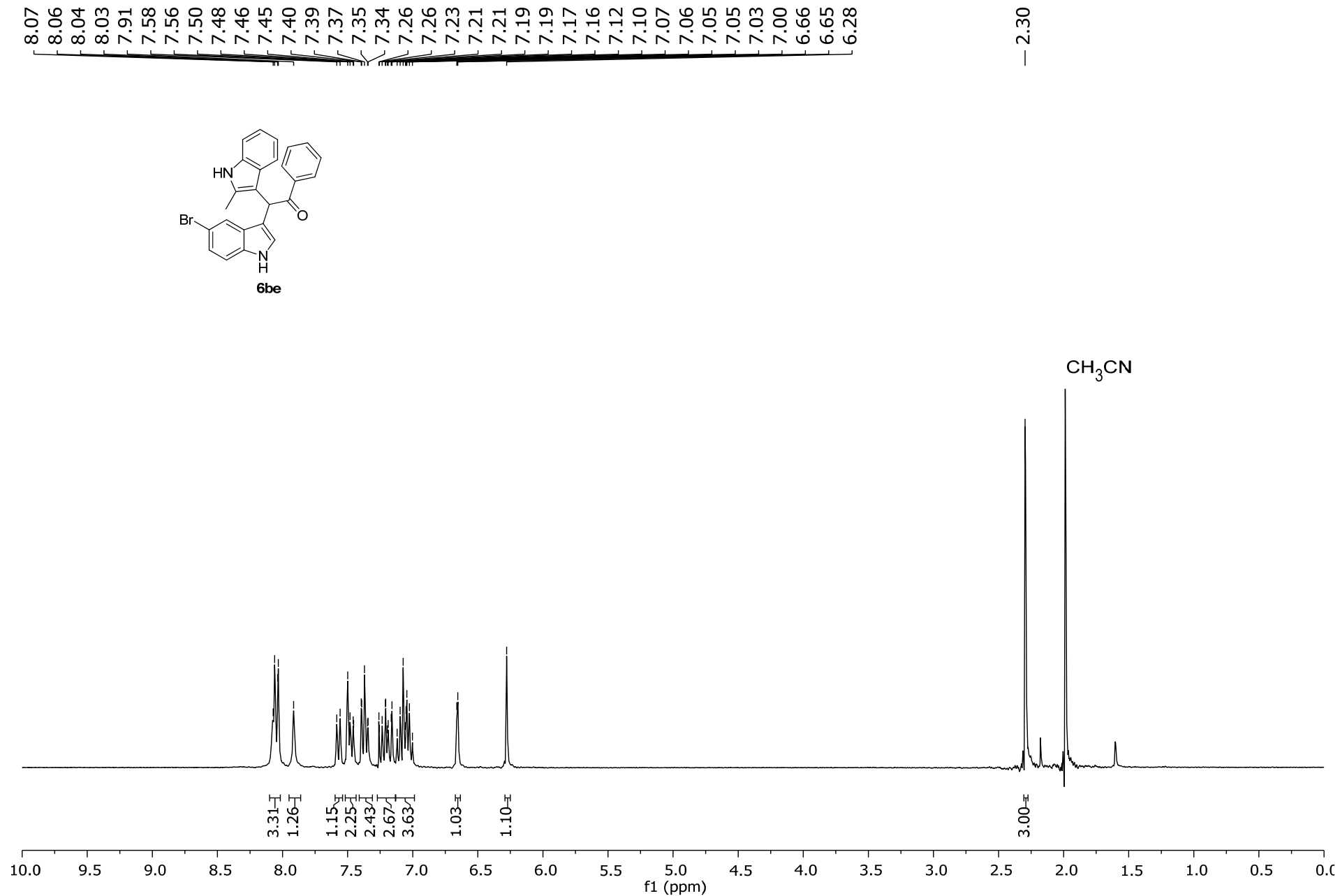


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— 42.4

— 12.4



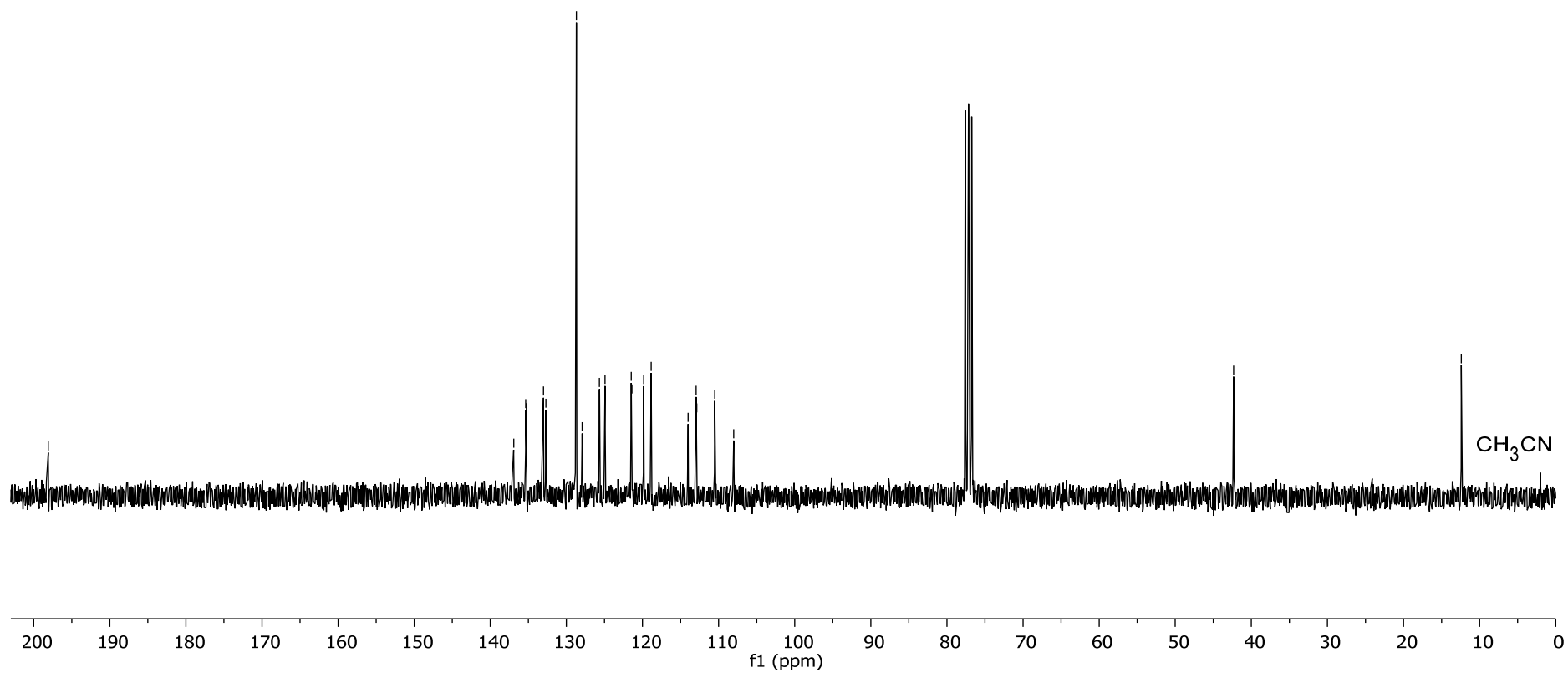
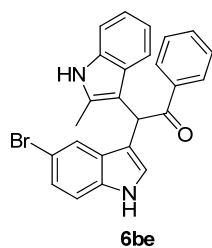


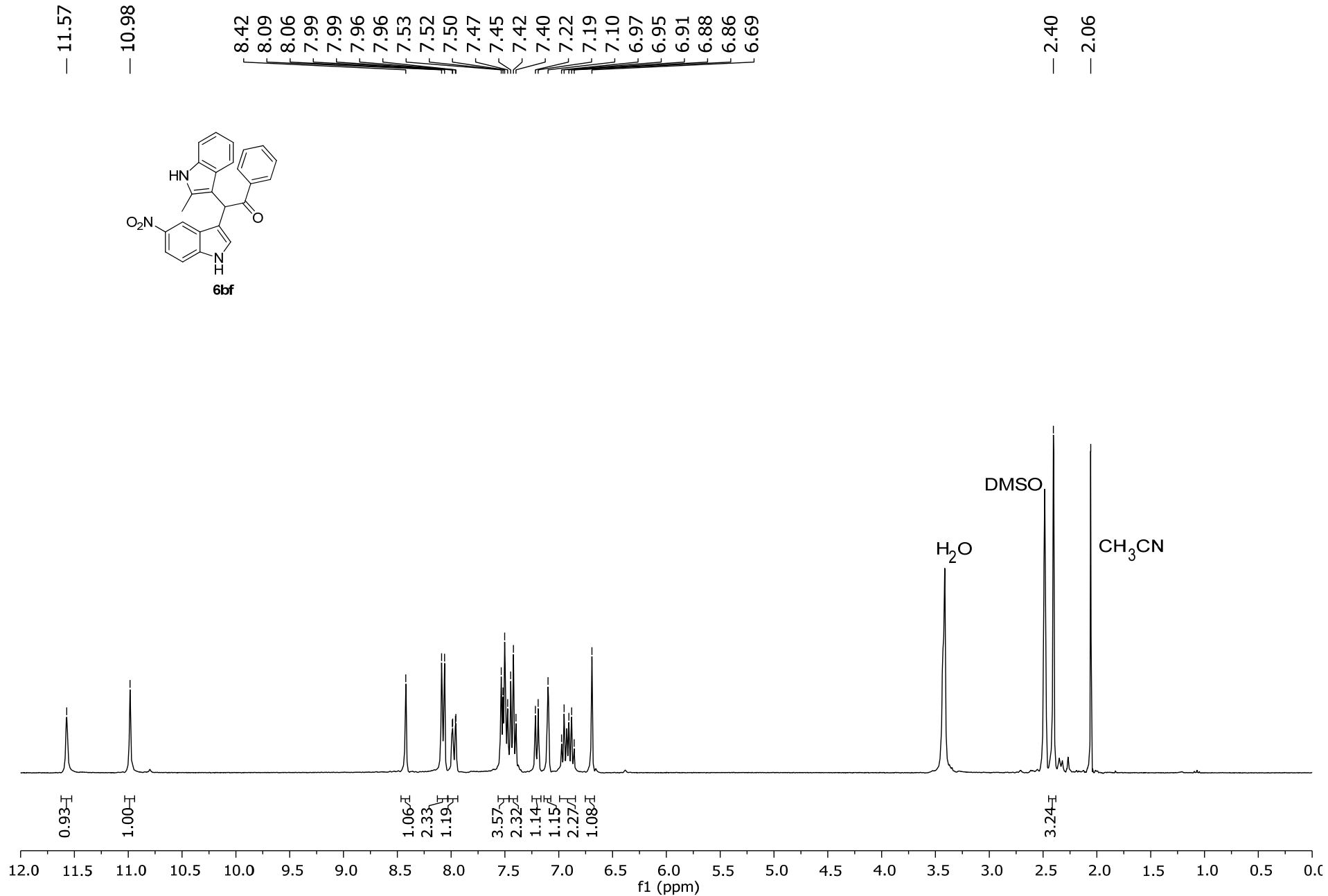
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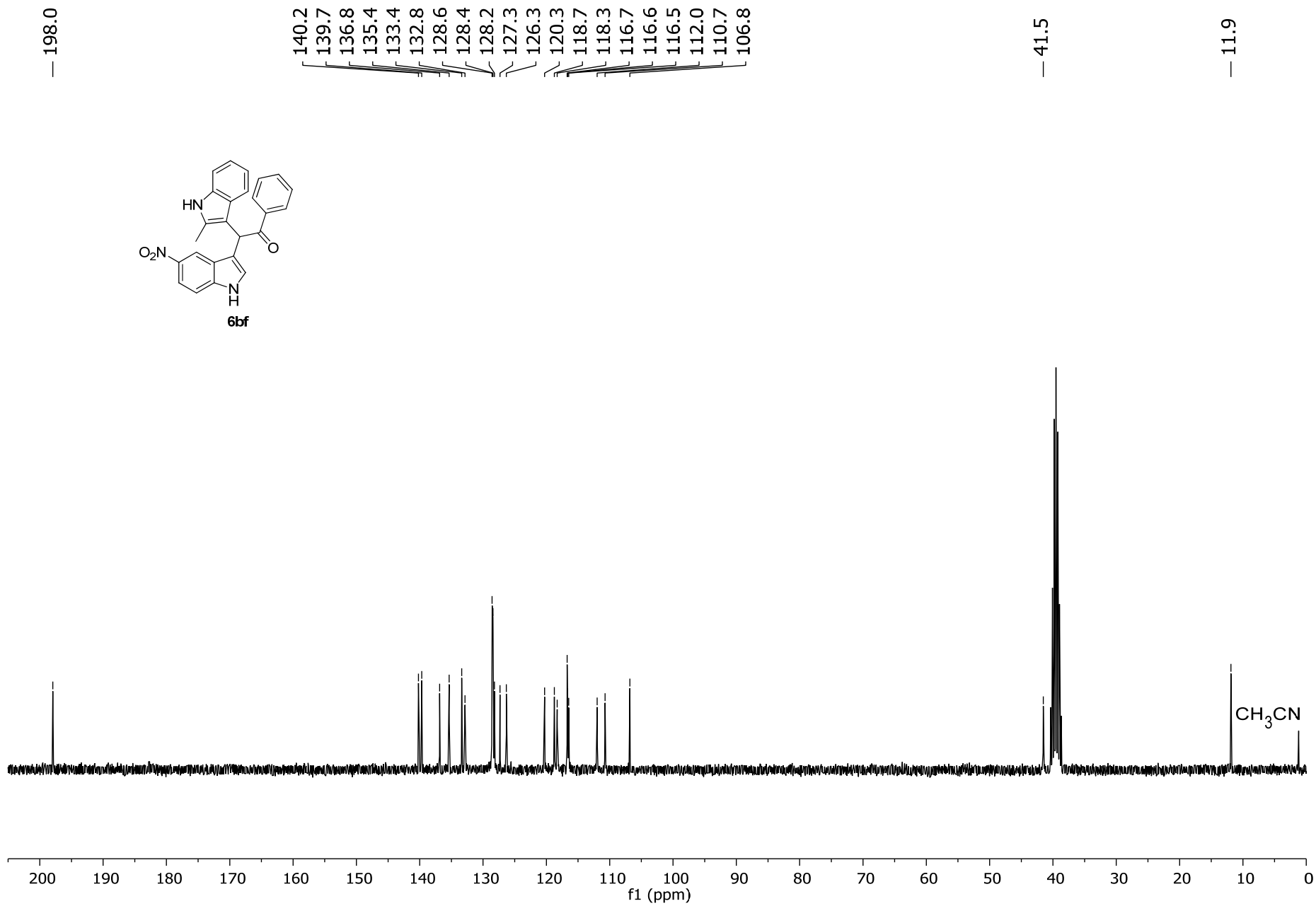
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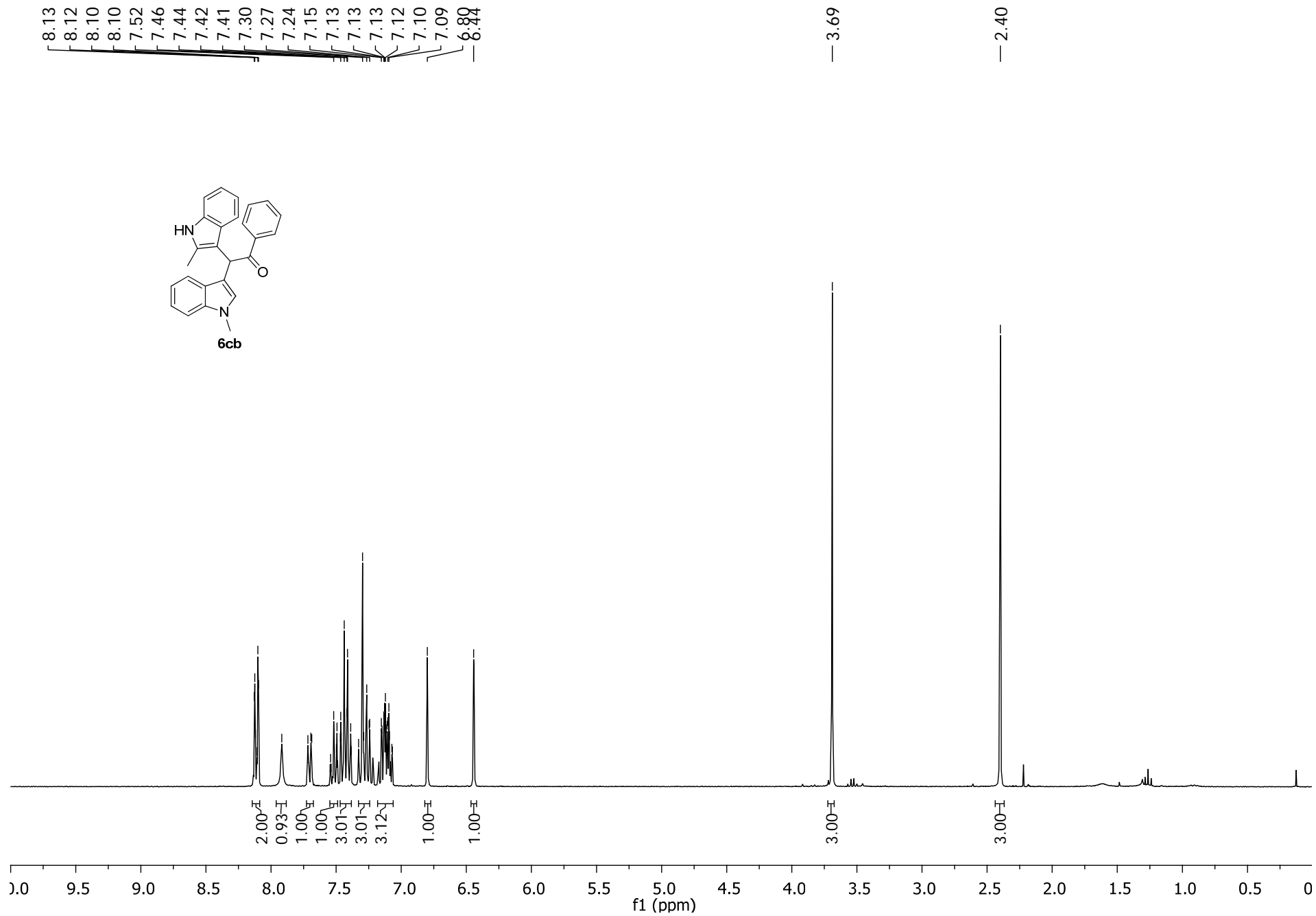
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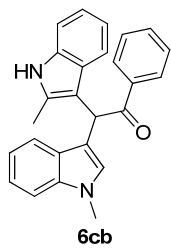








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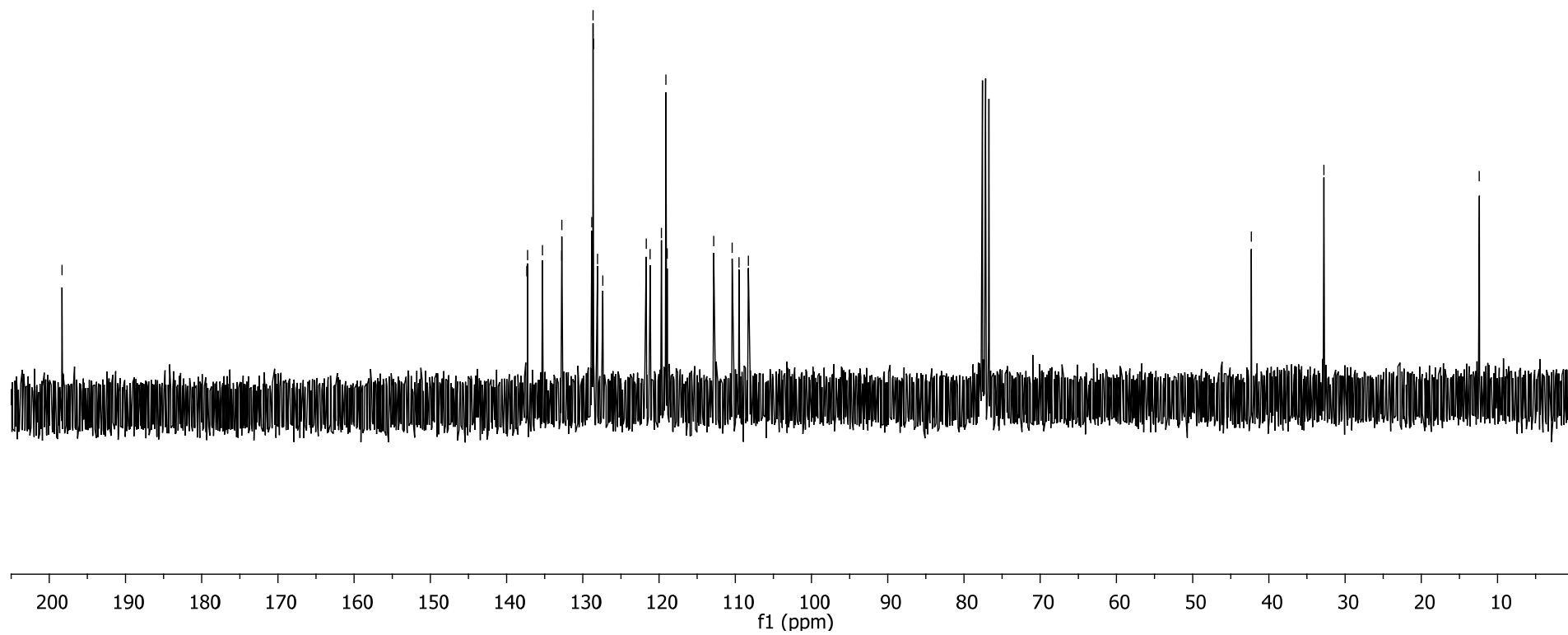


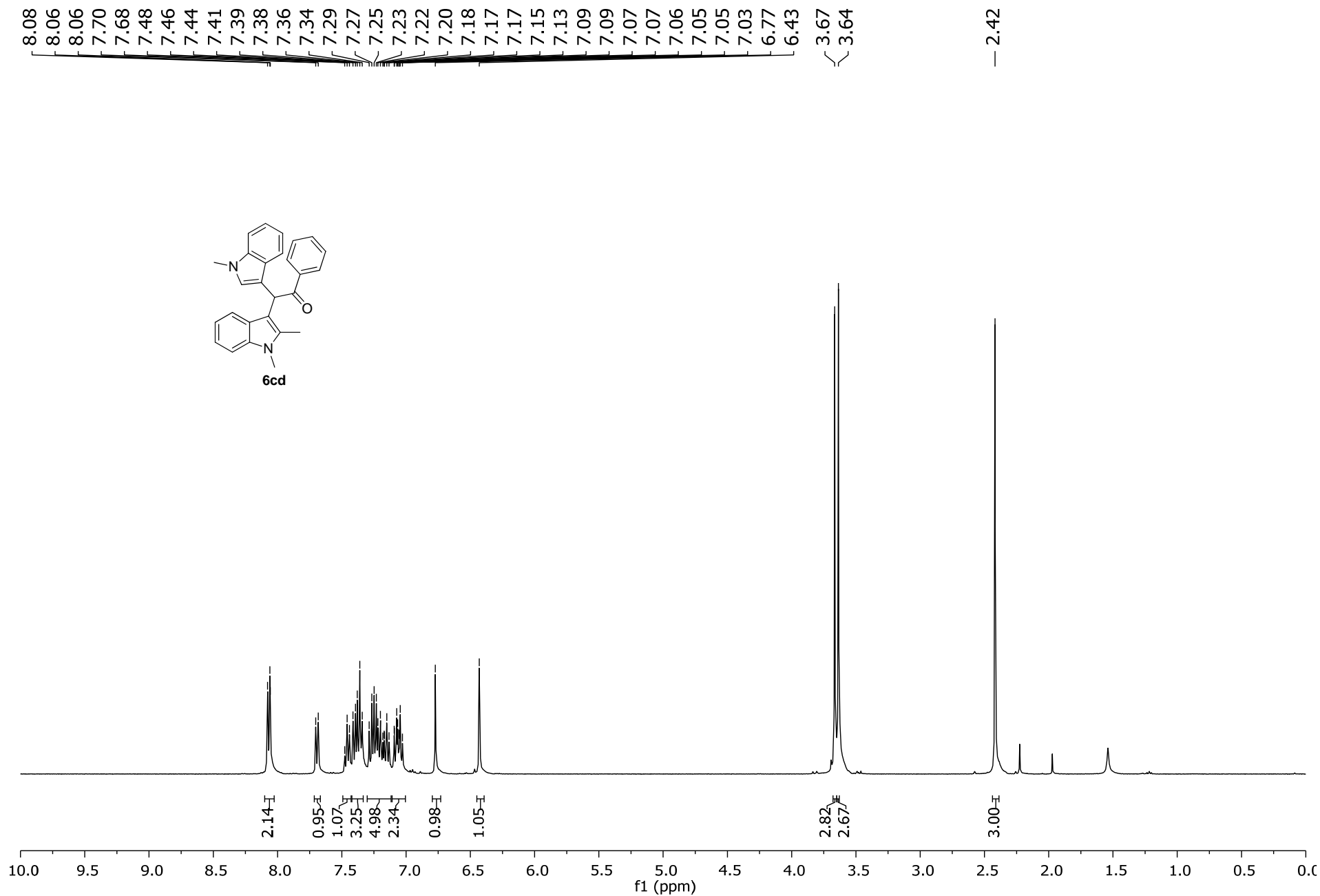
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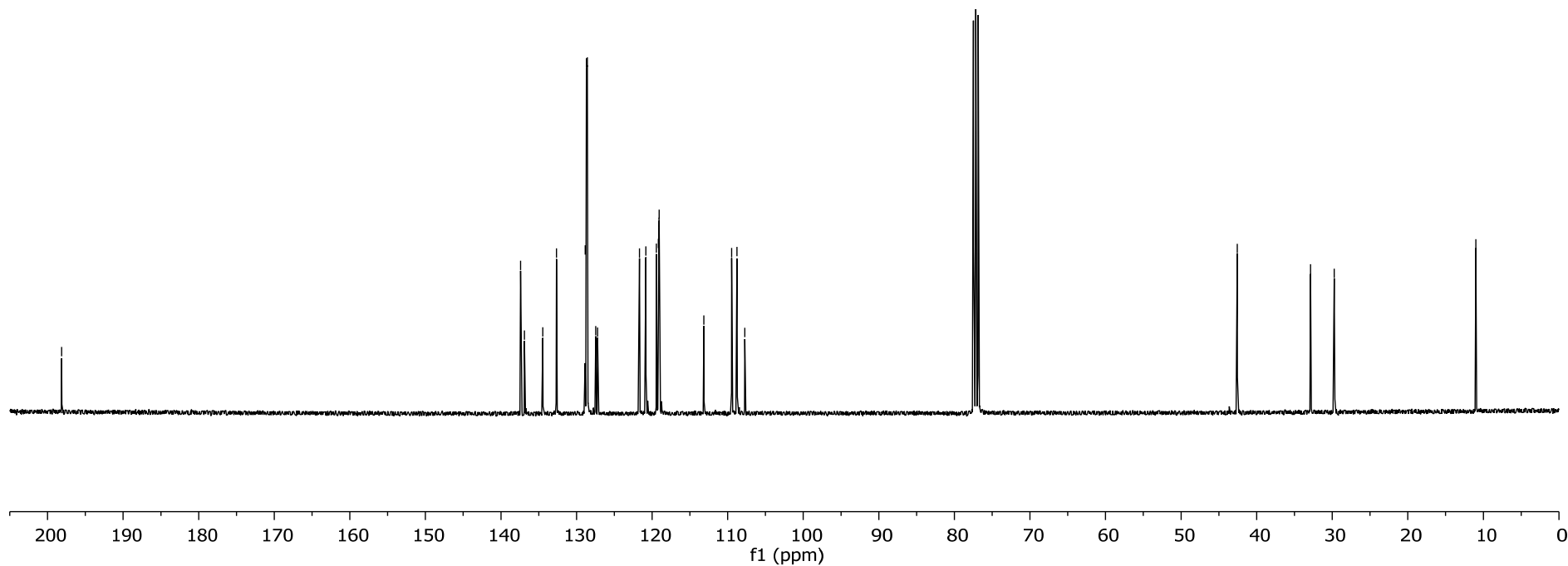
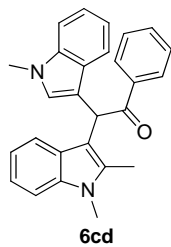
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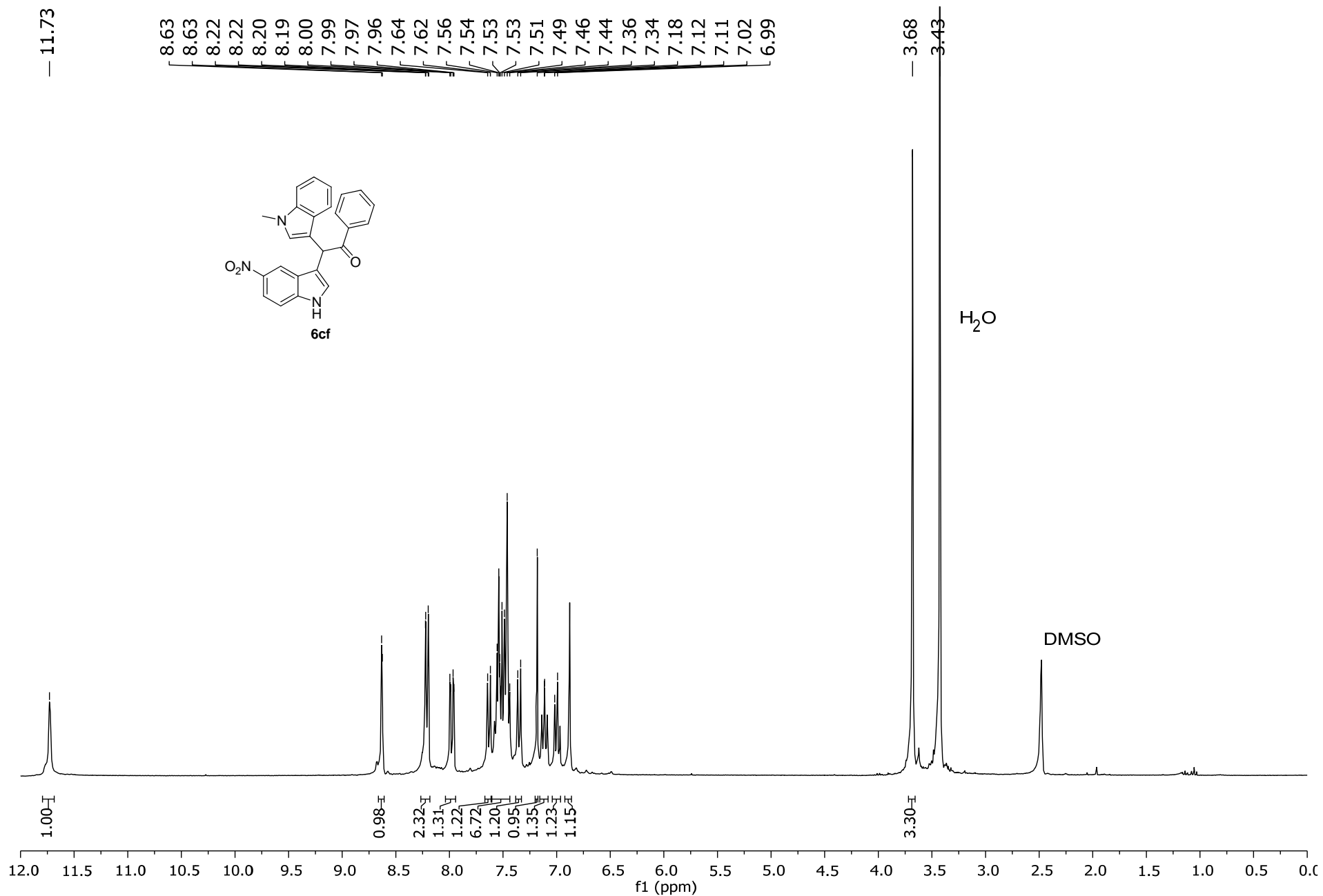
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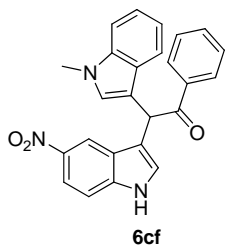
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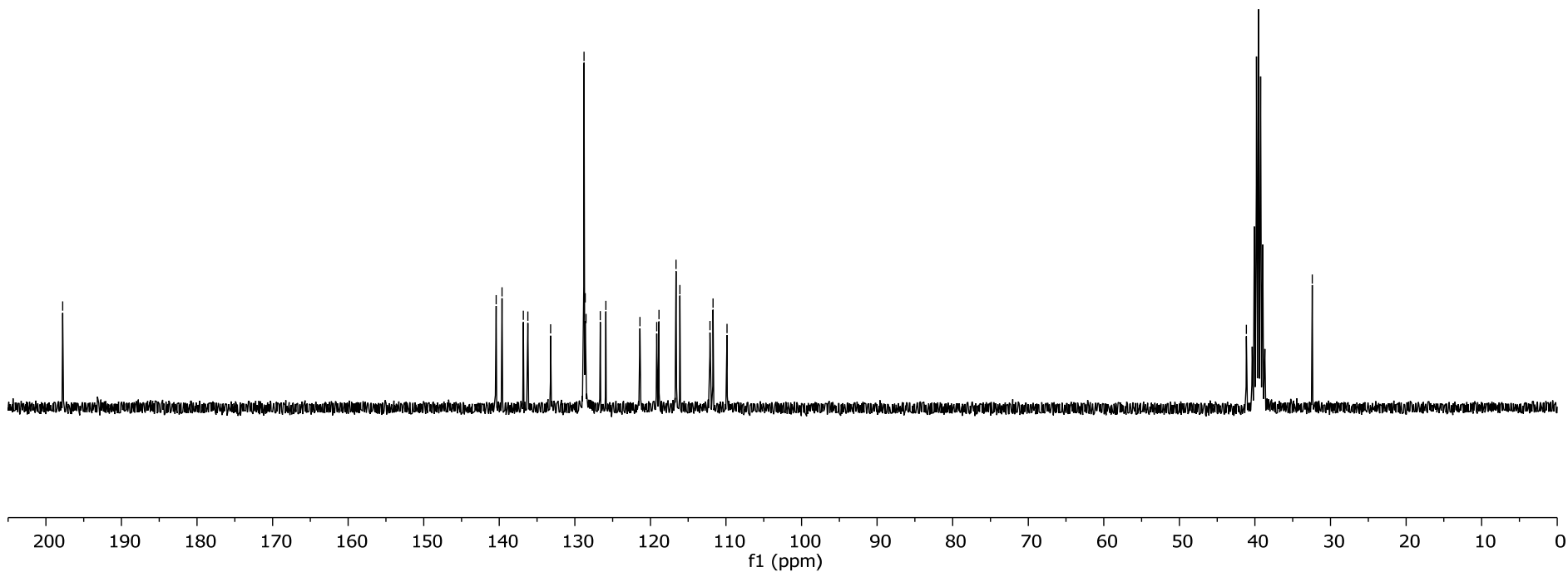
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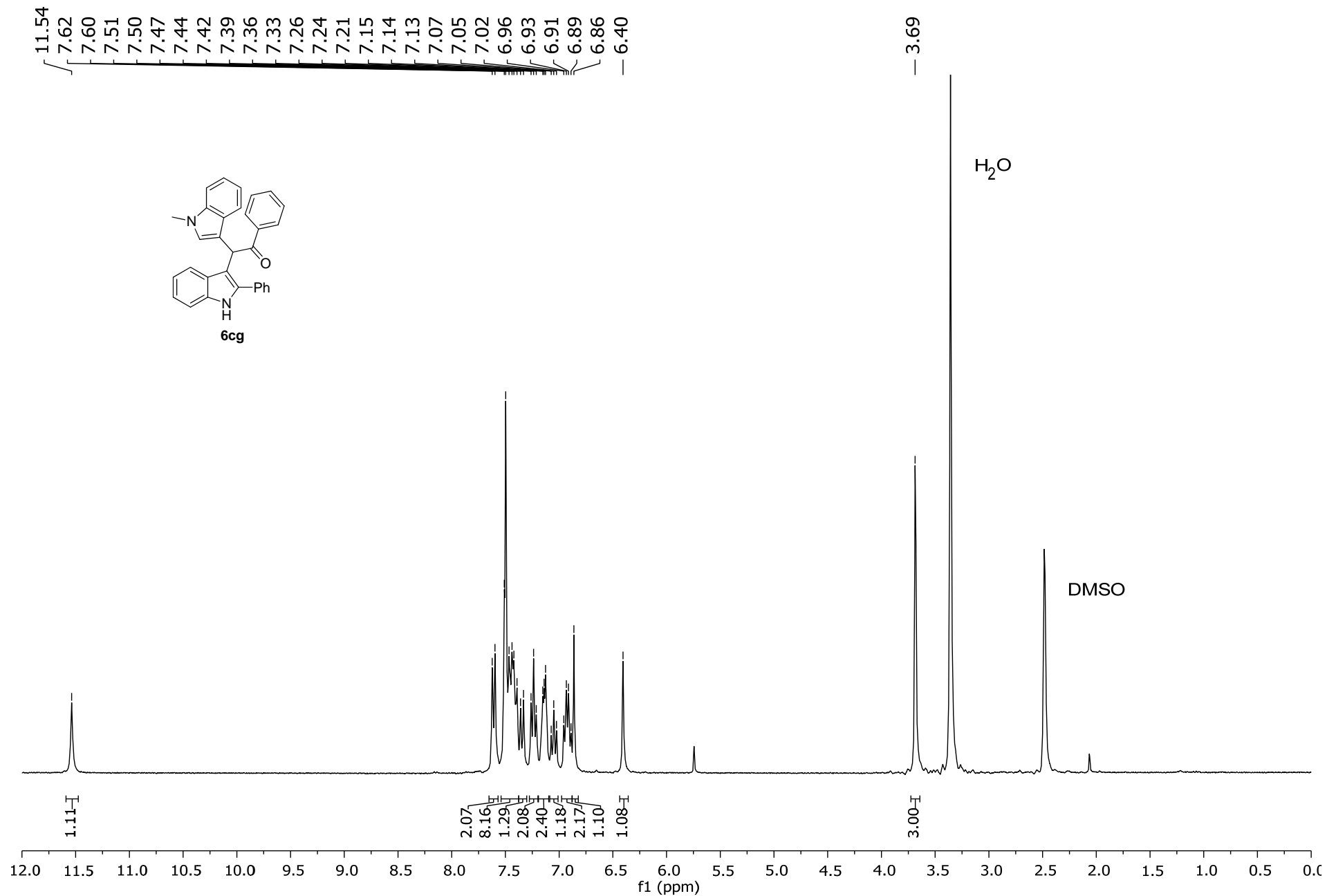


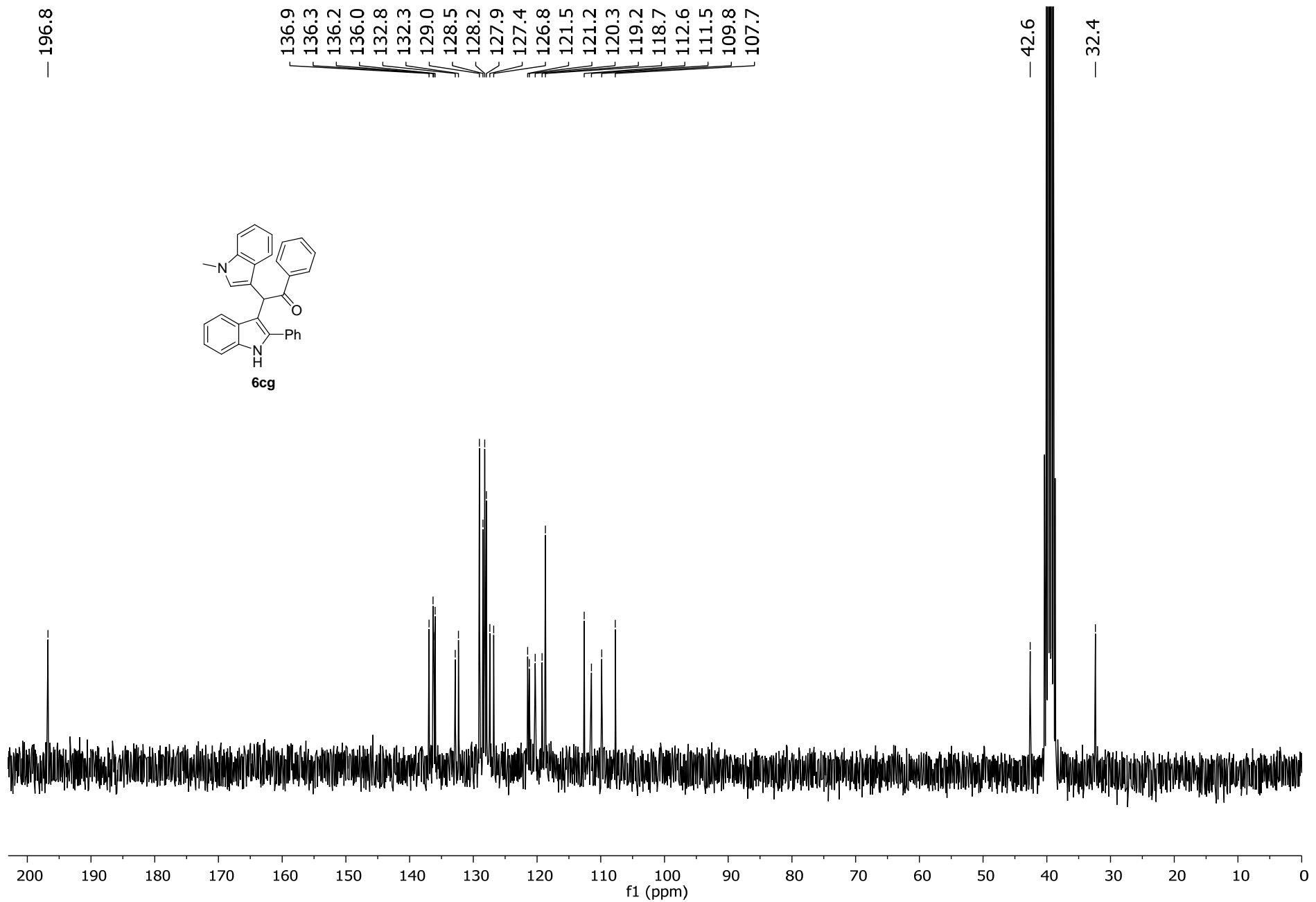
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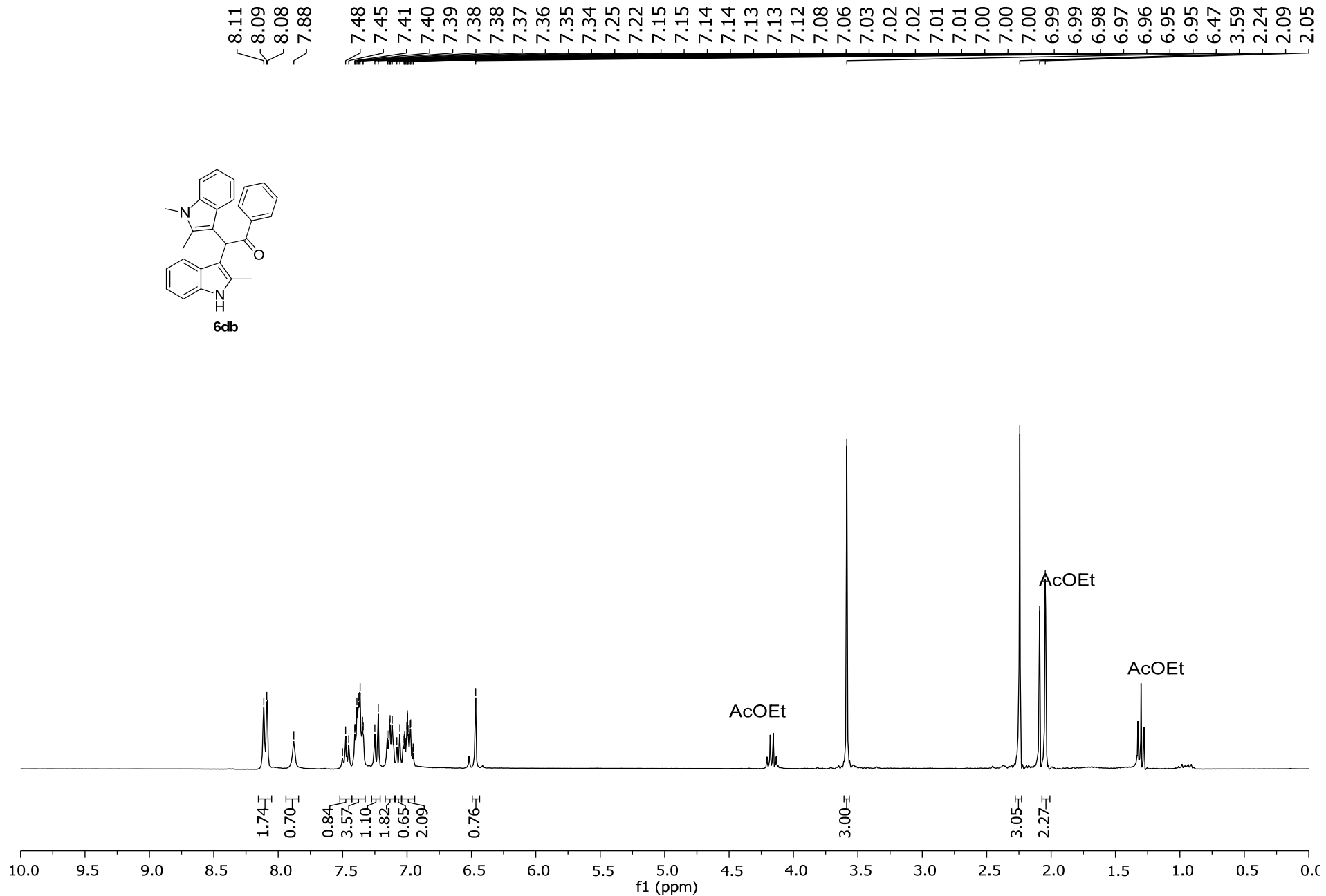
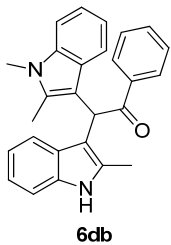
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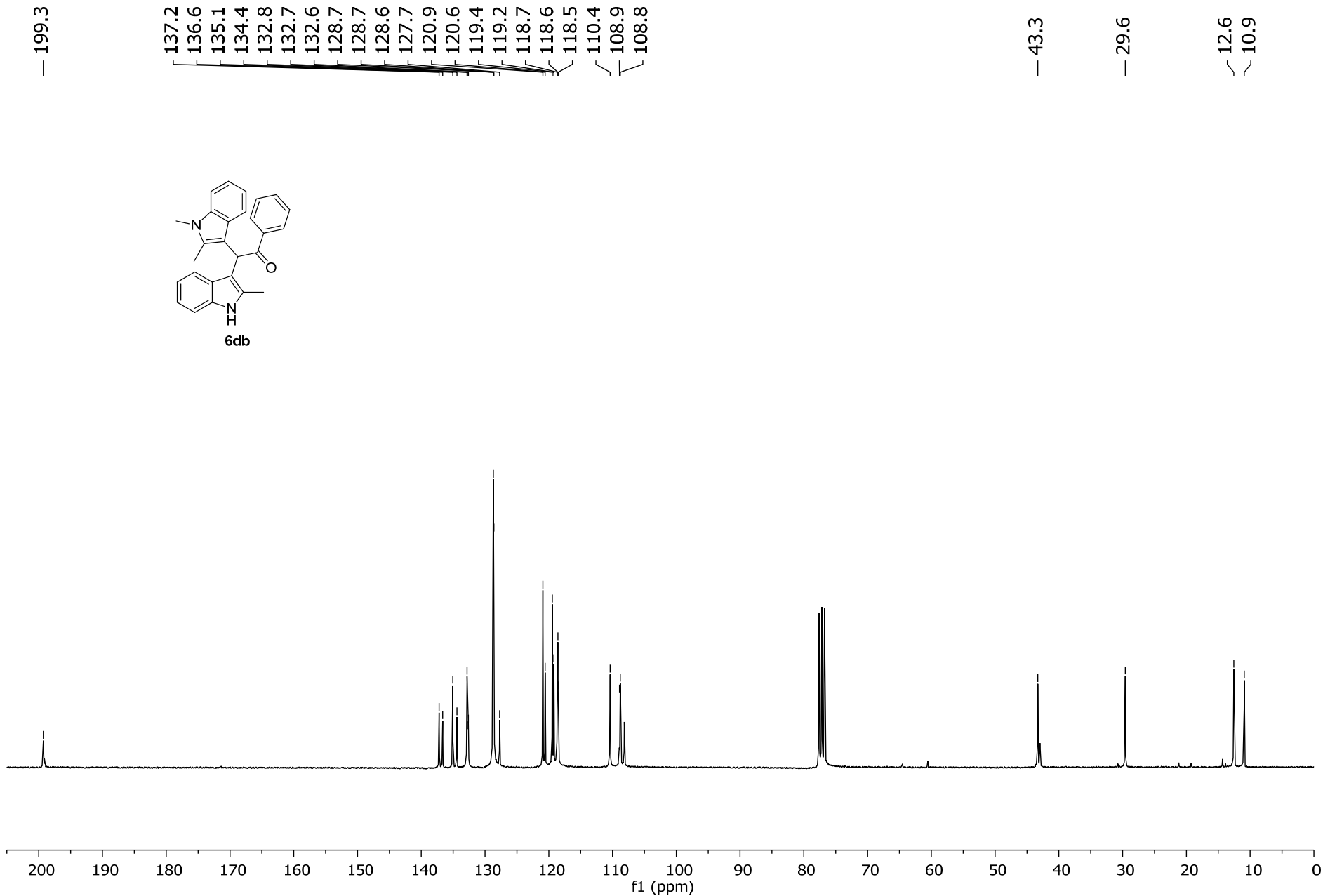
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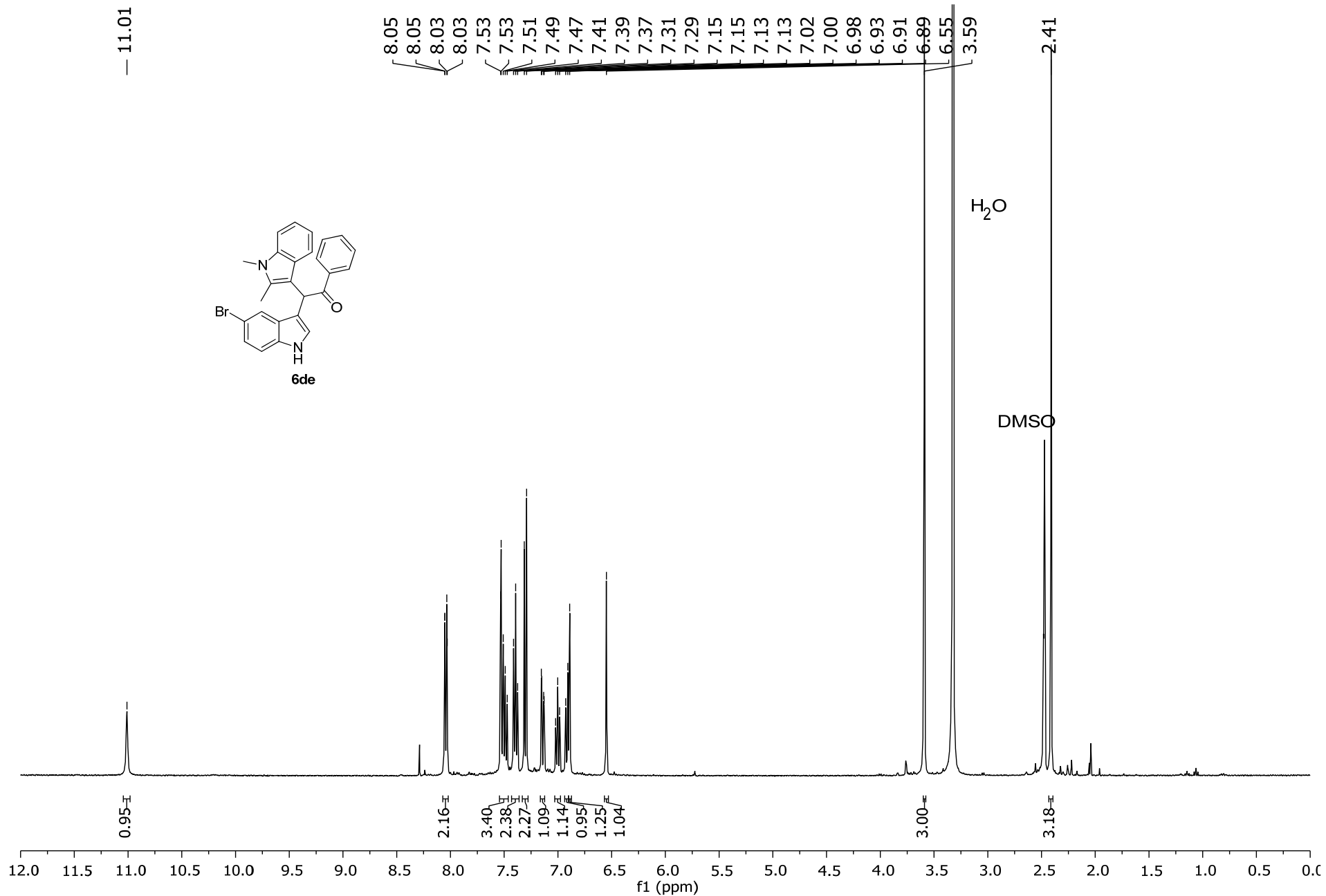


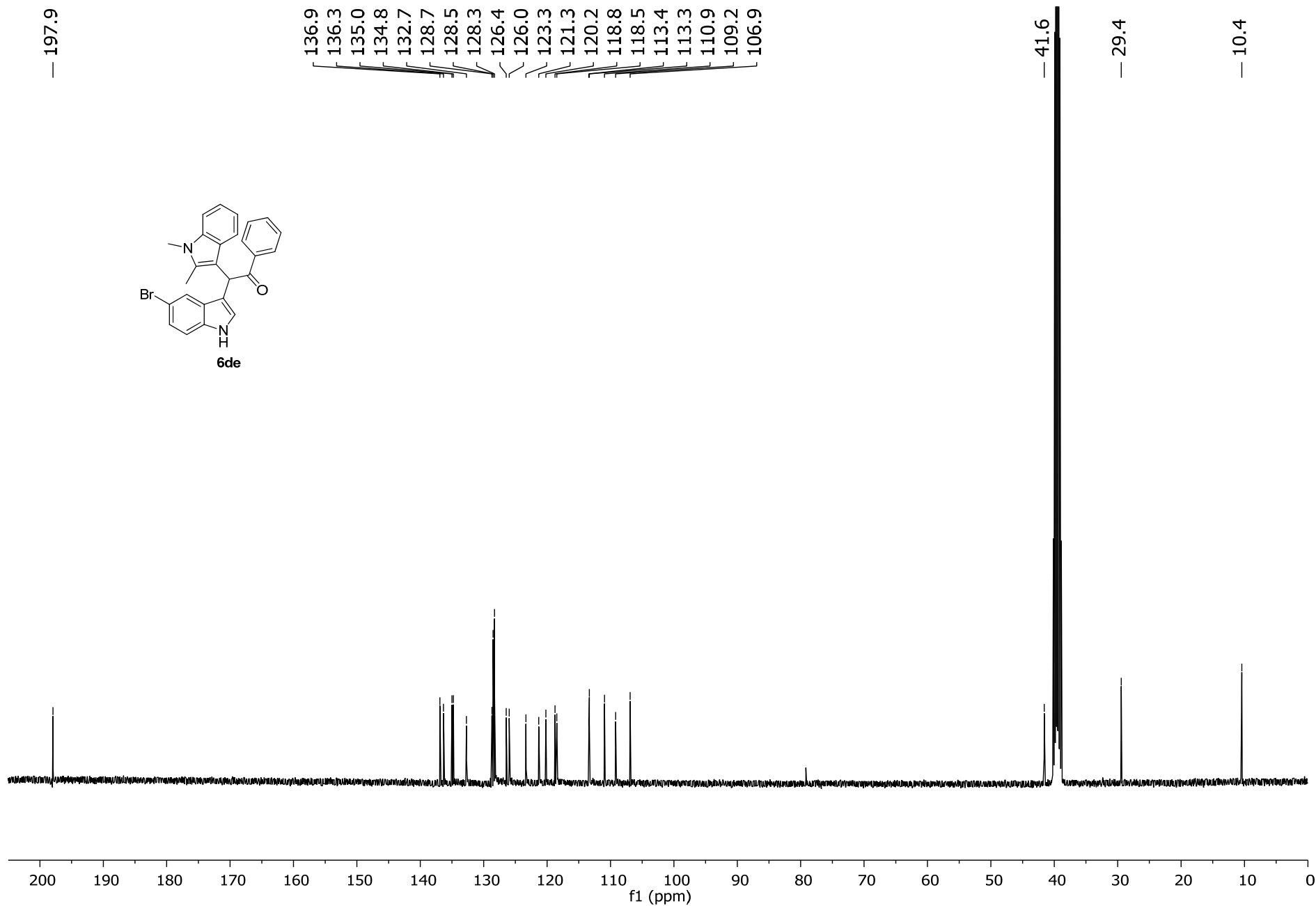
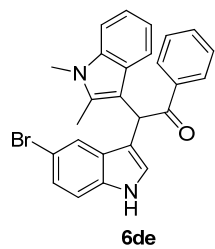


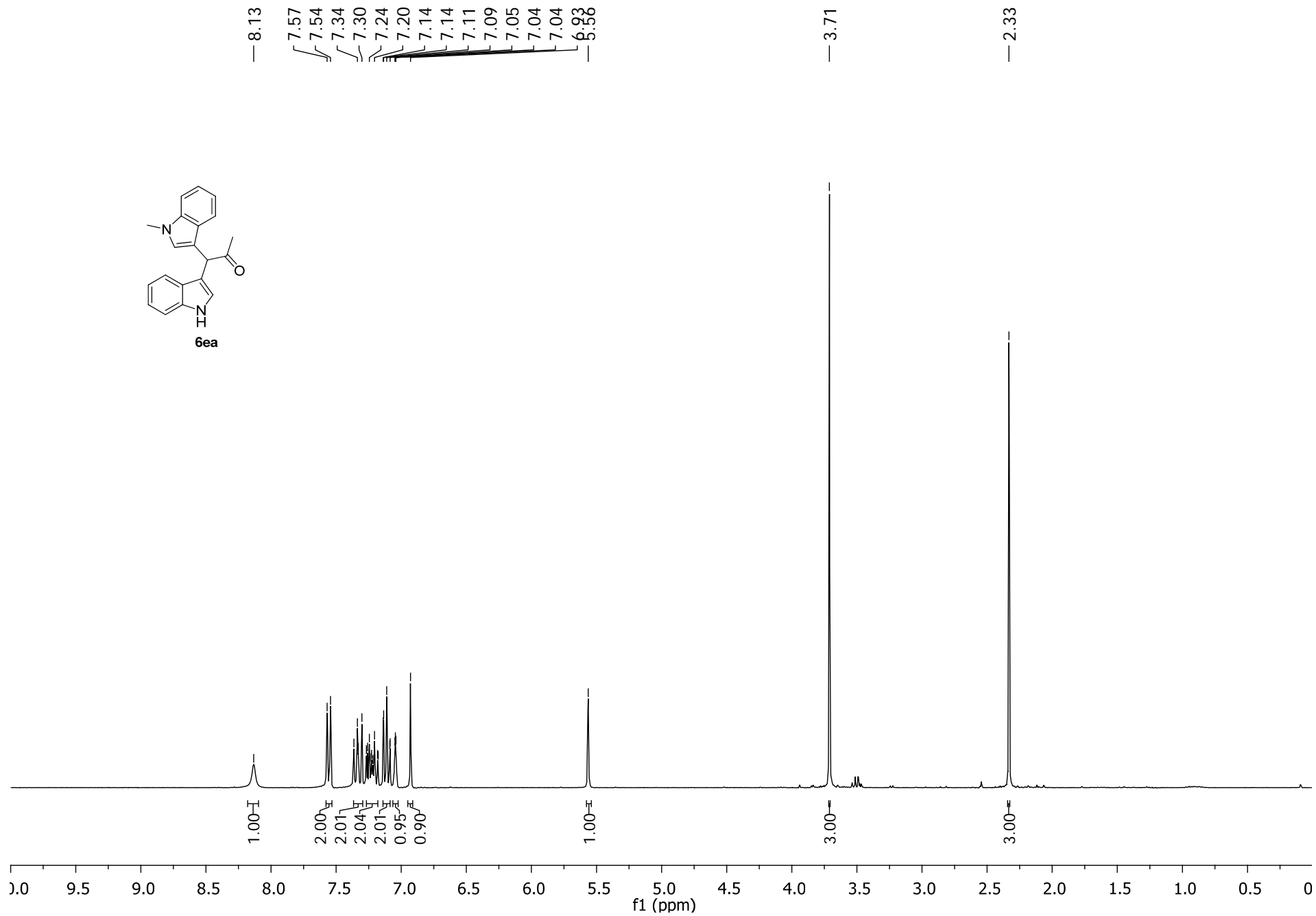
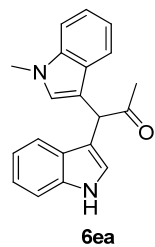




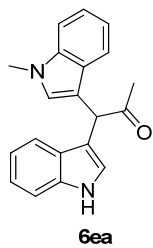








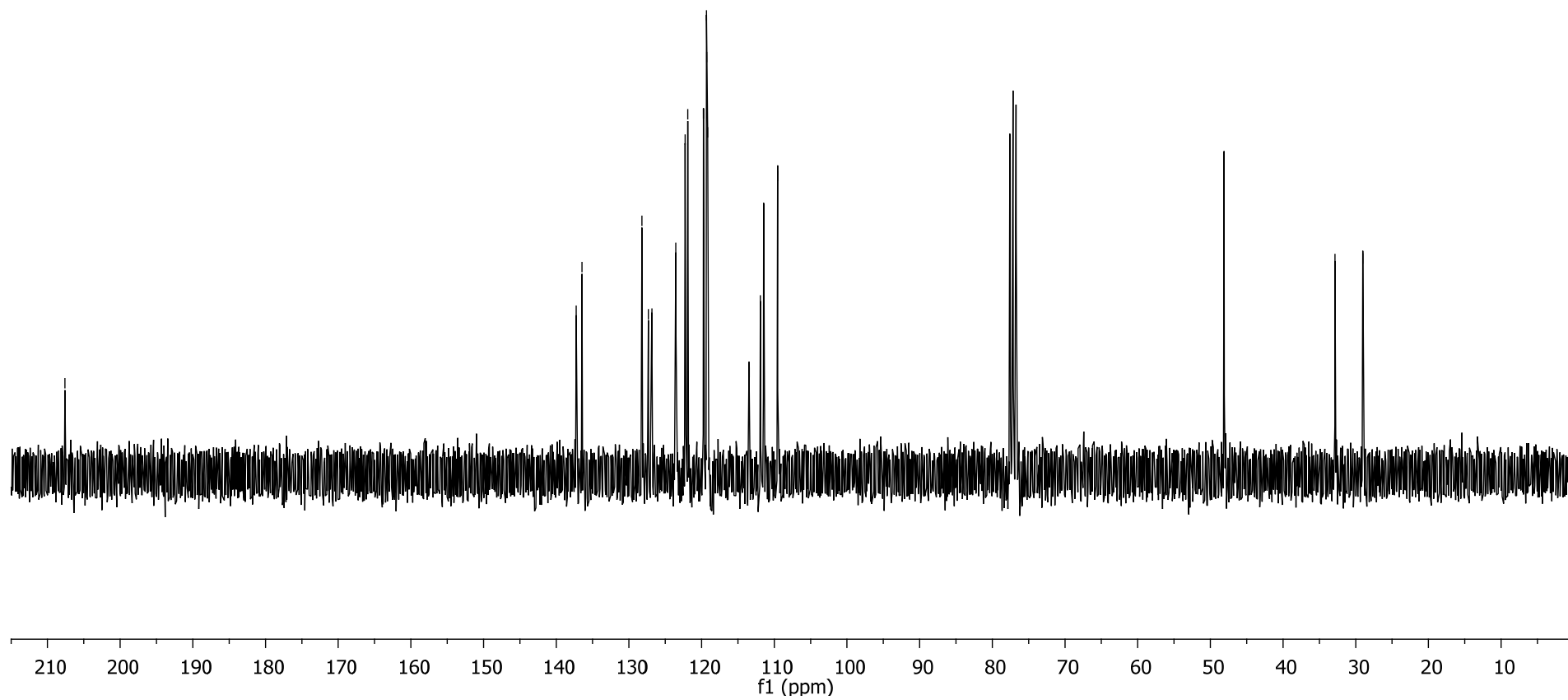
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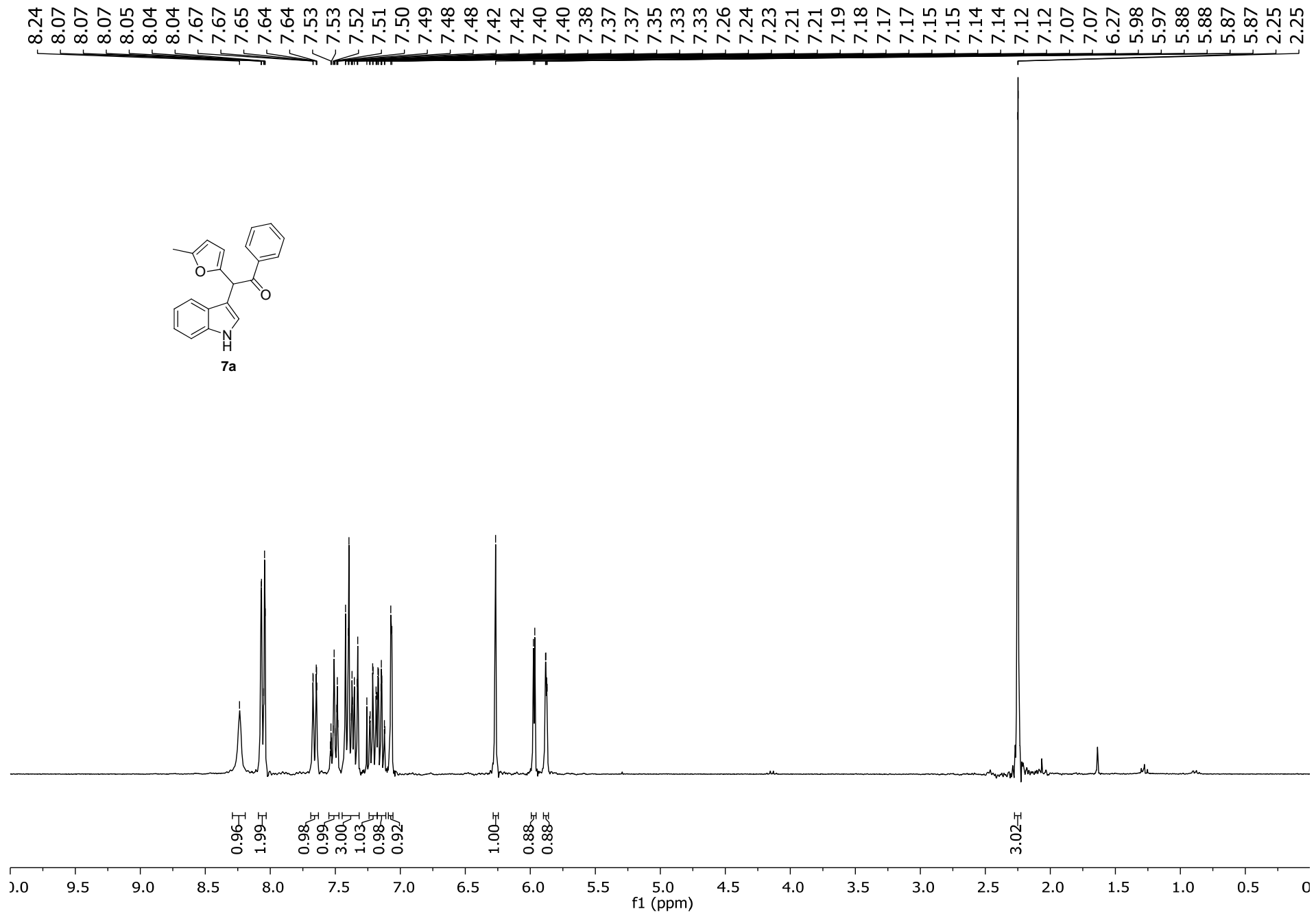


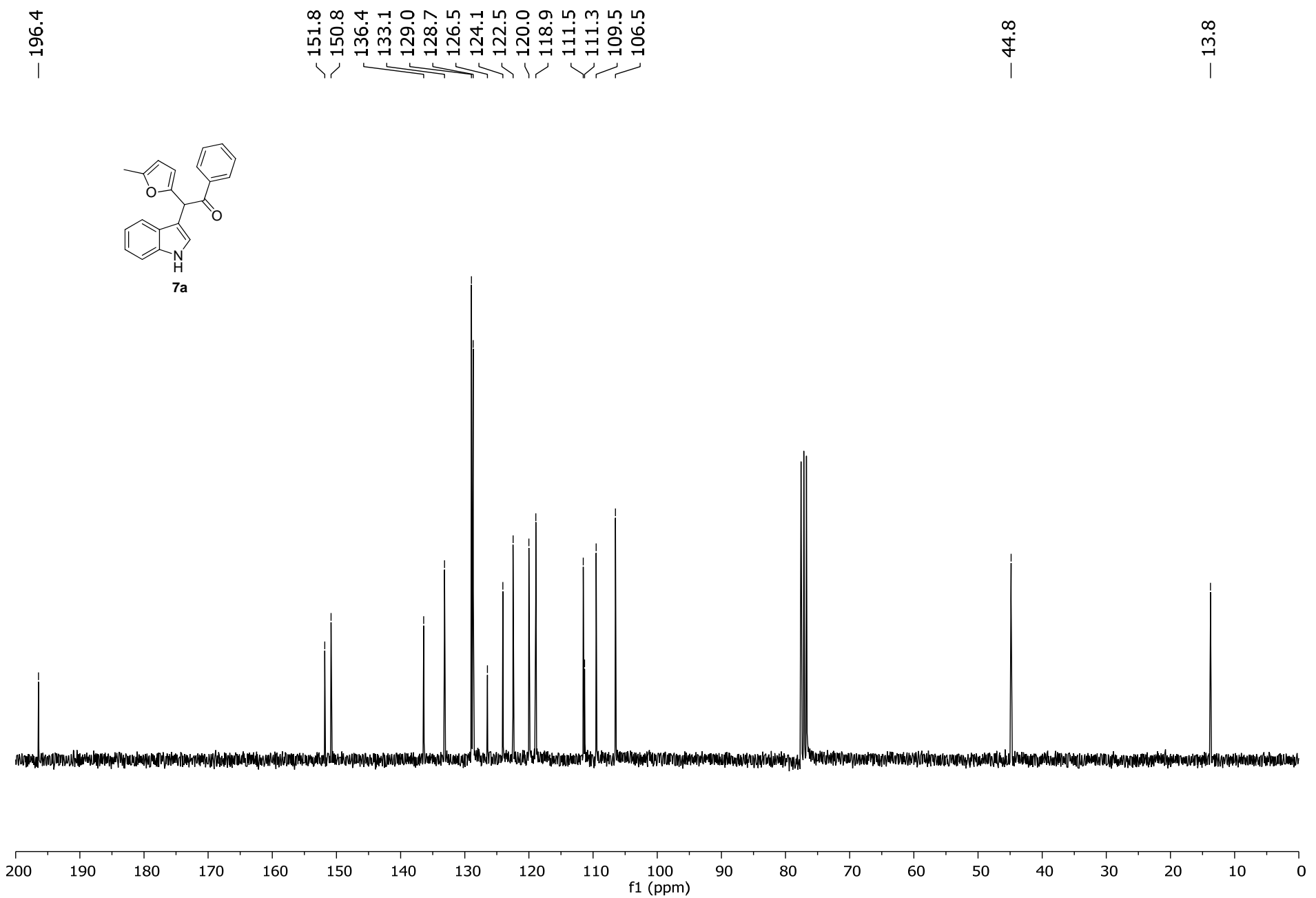
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— 29.0

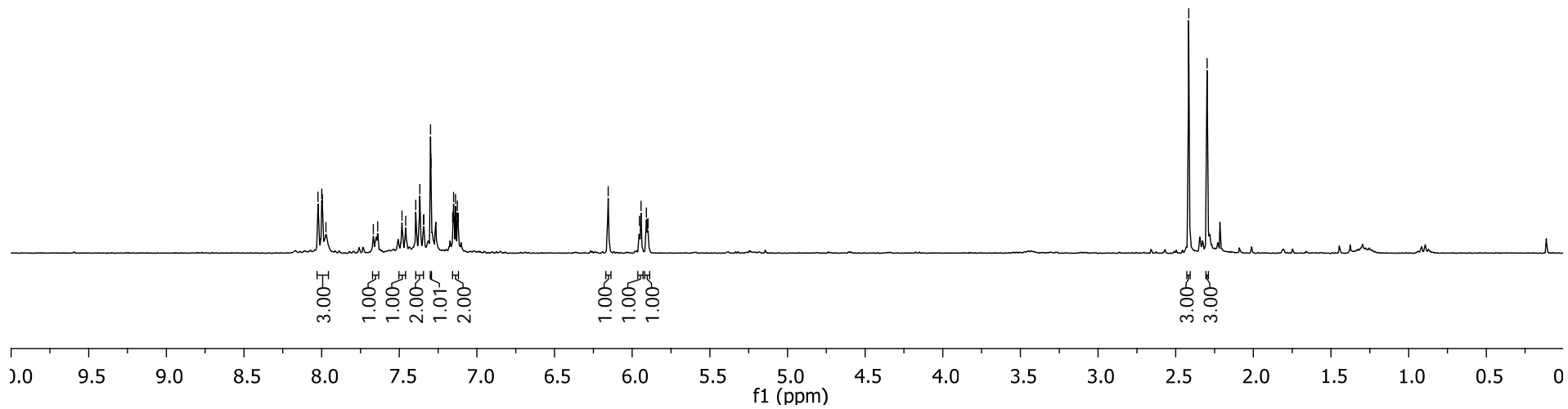
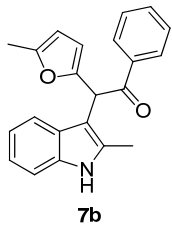






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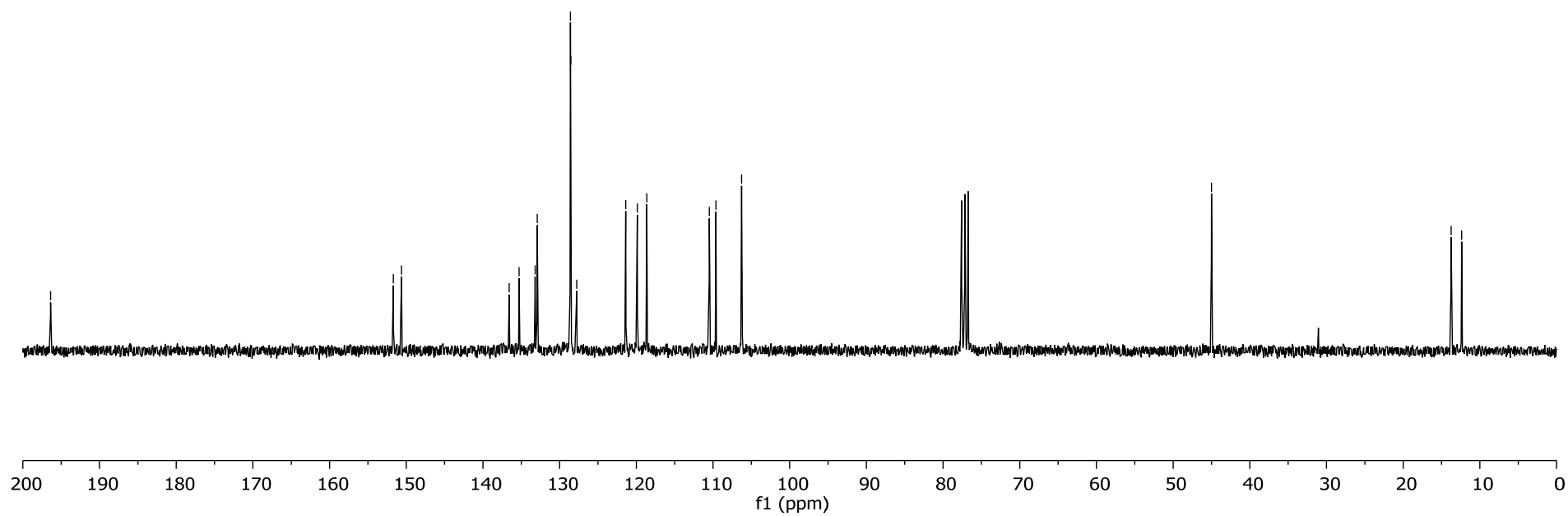
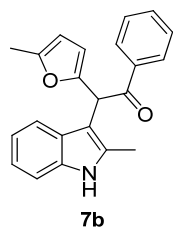


— 196.4

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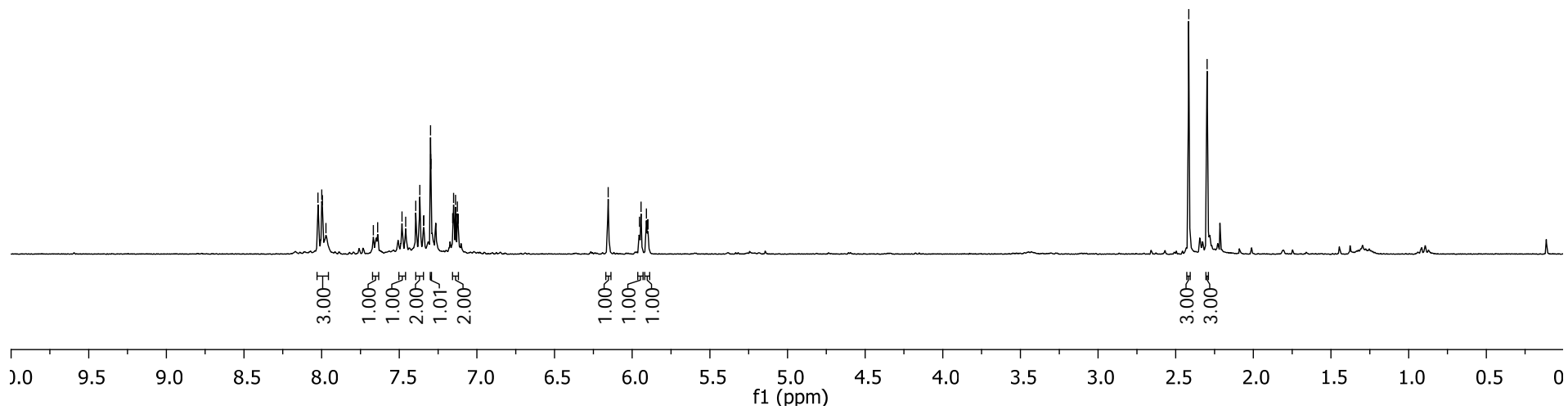
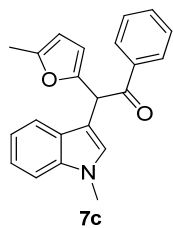
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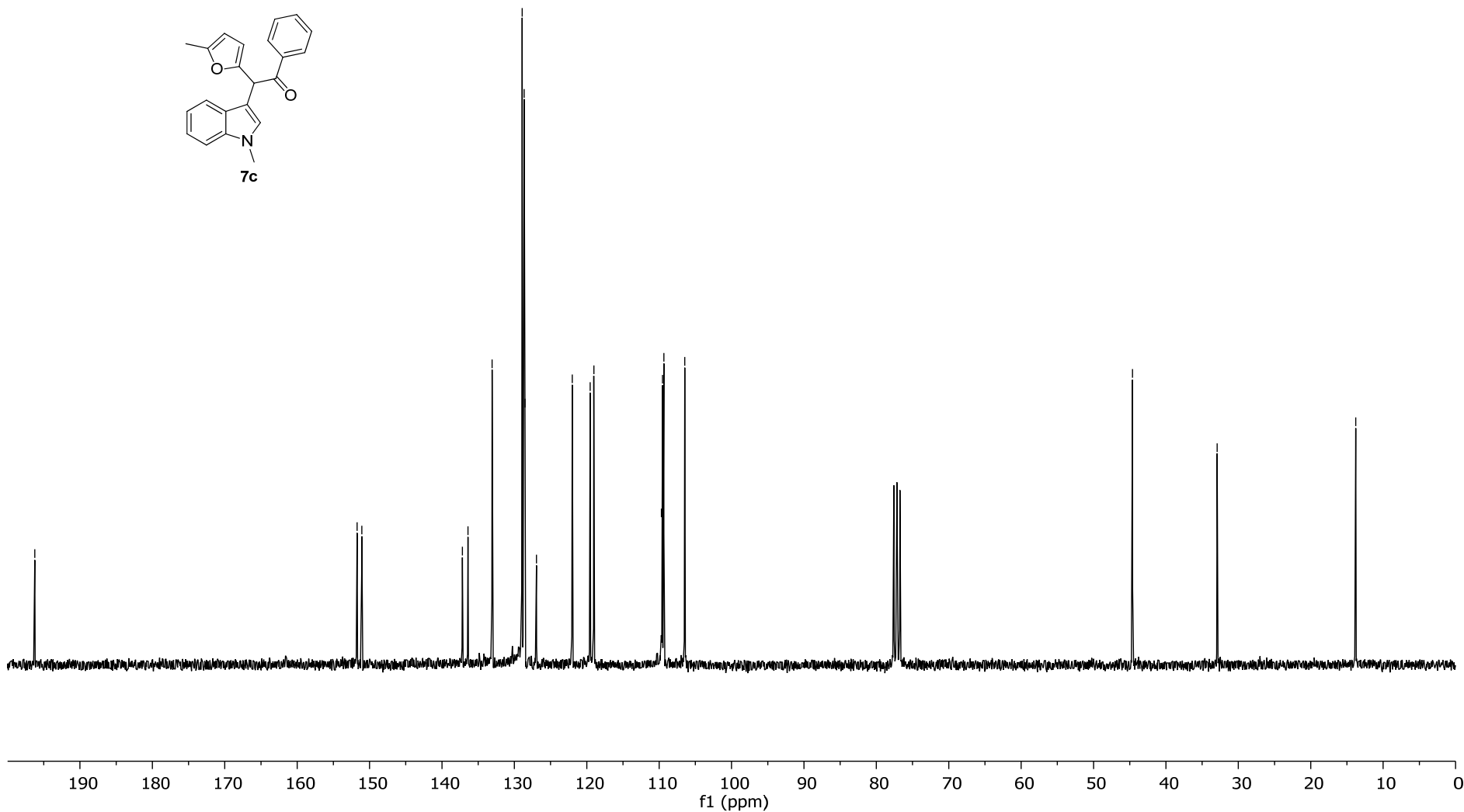
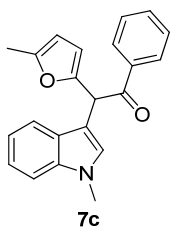
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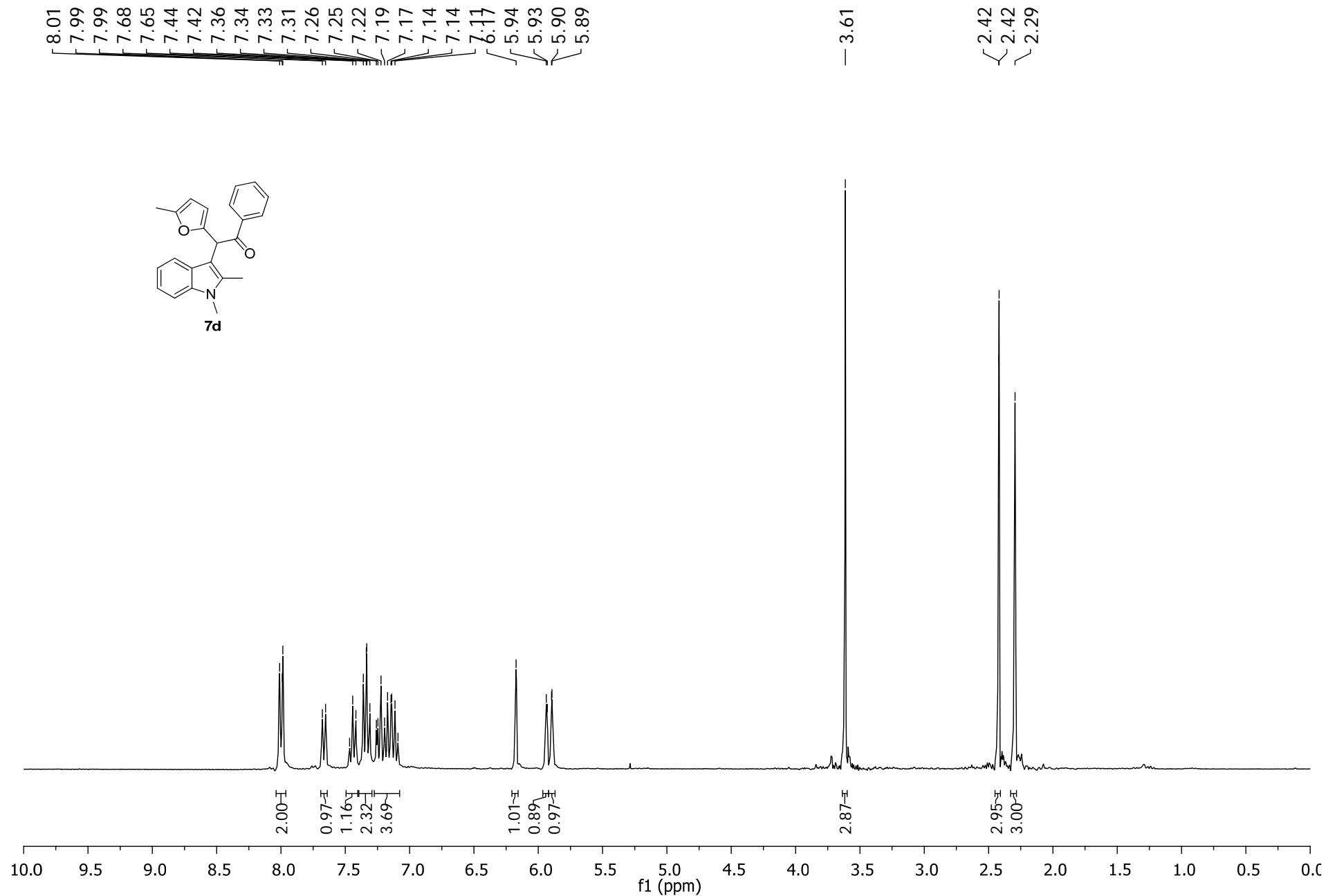
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— 44.6

— 32.9

— 13.8





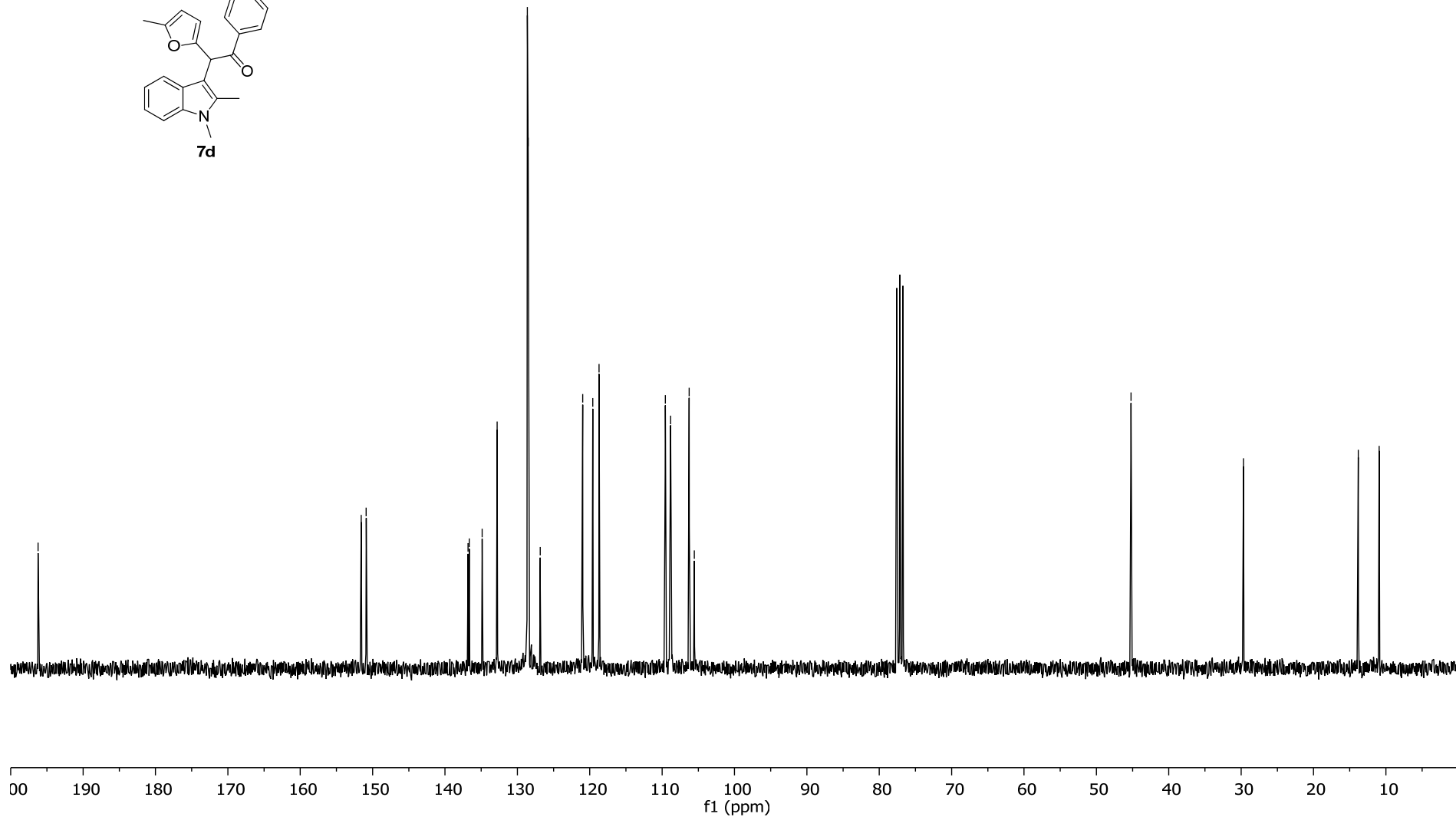
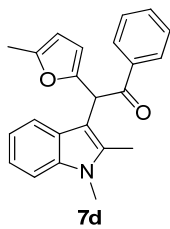
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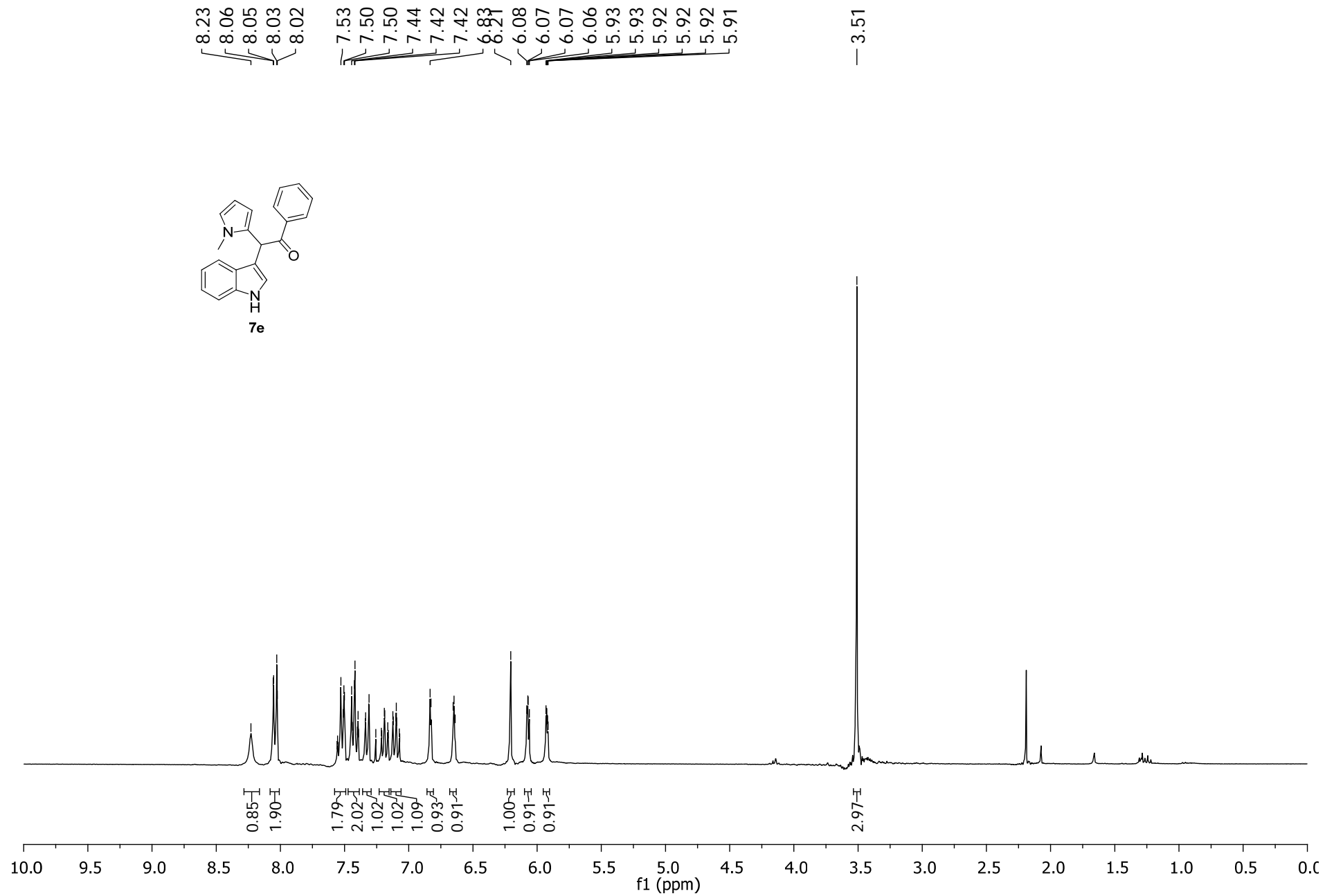
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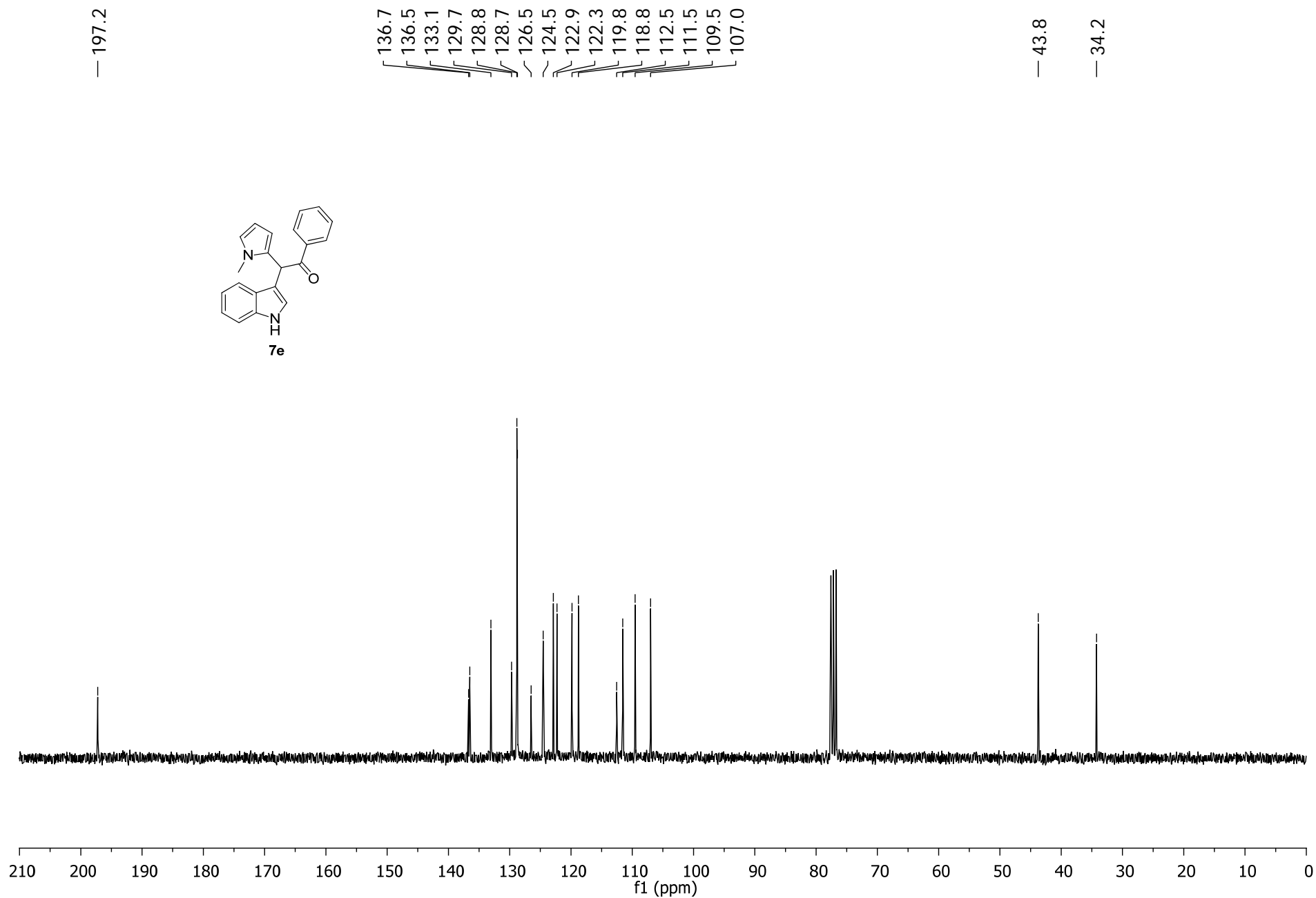
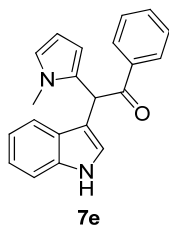
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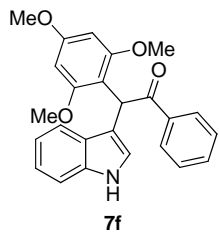
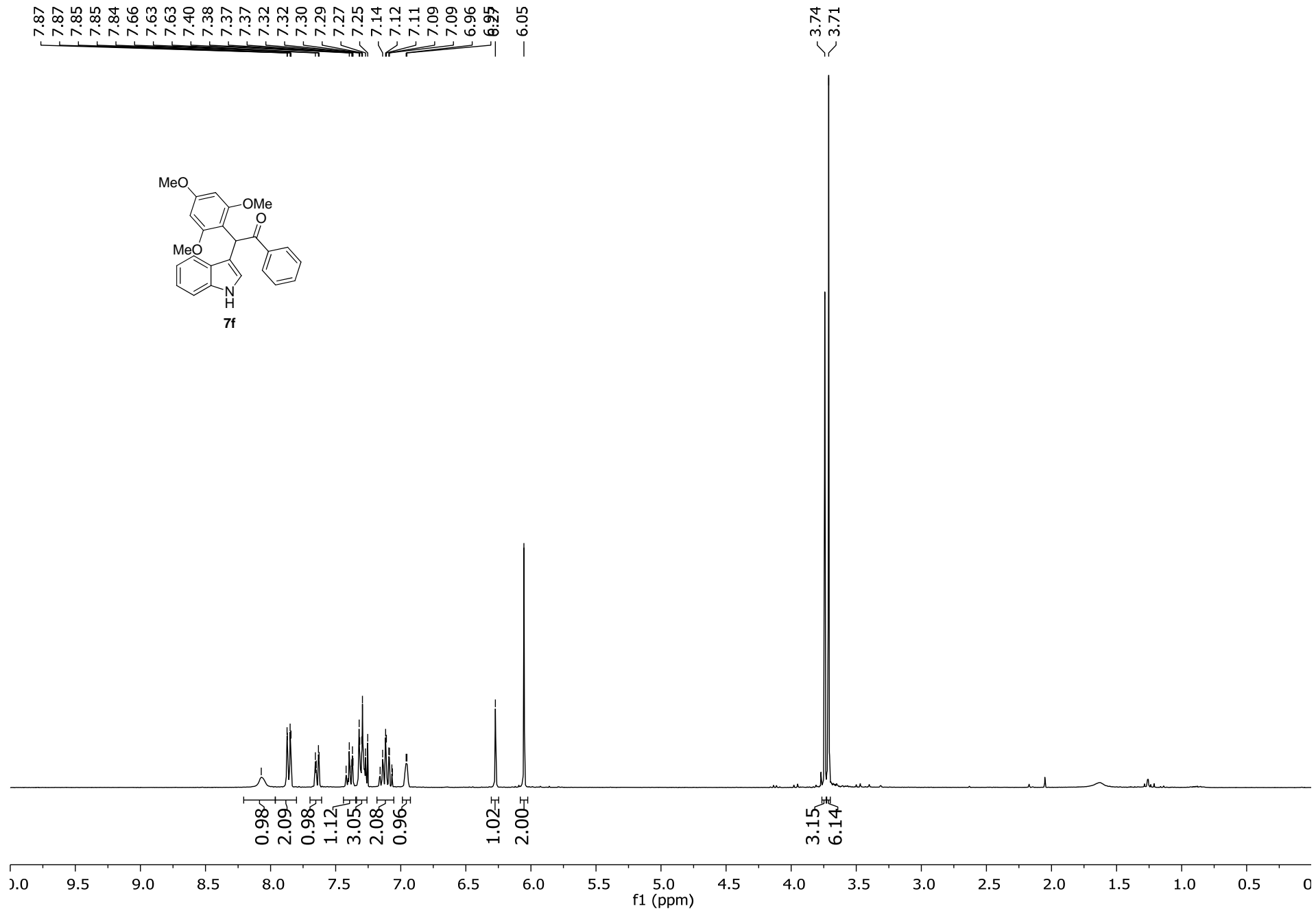
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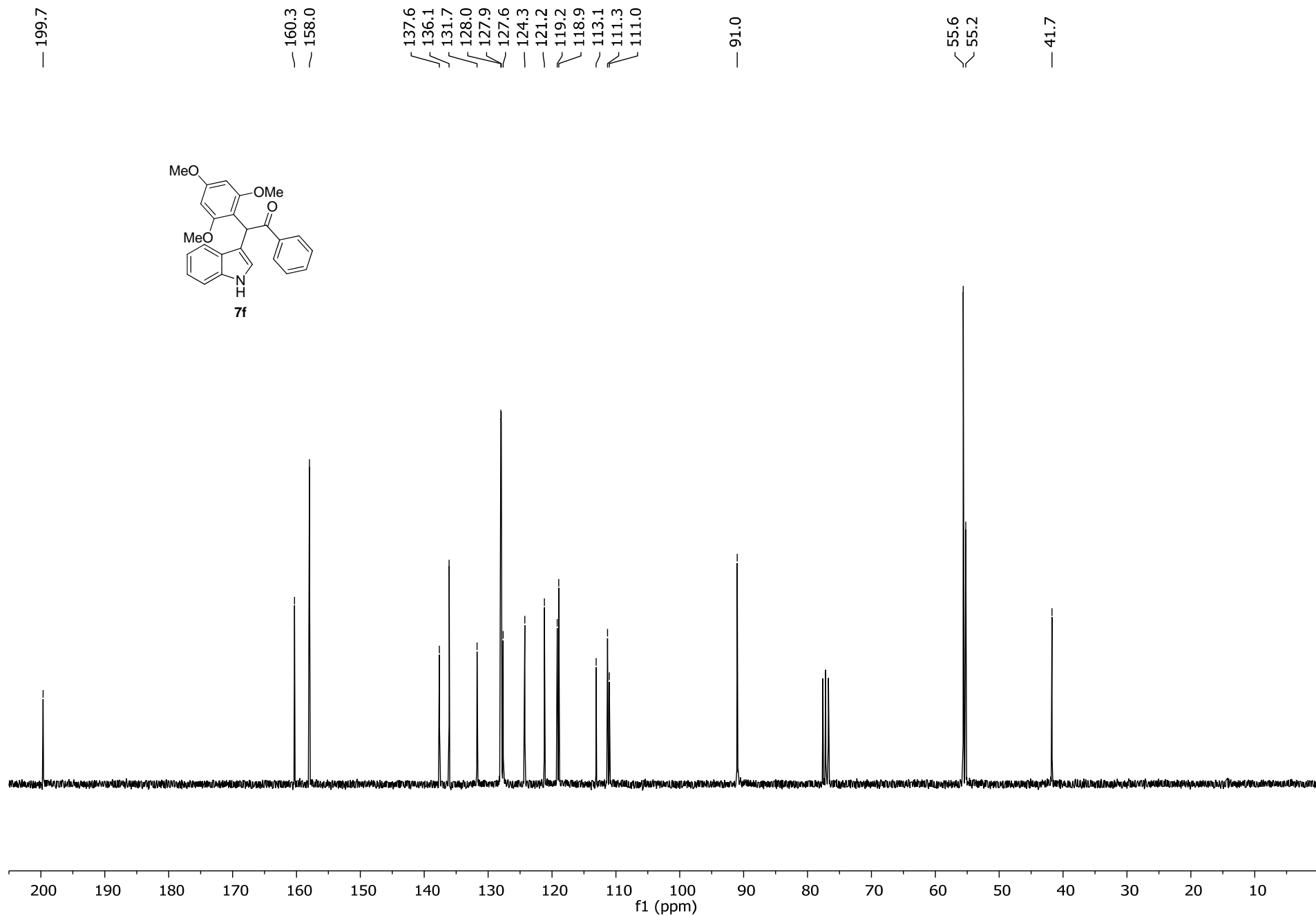
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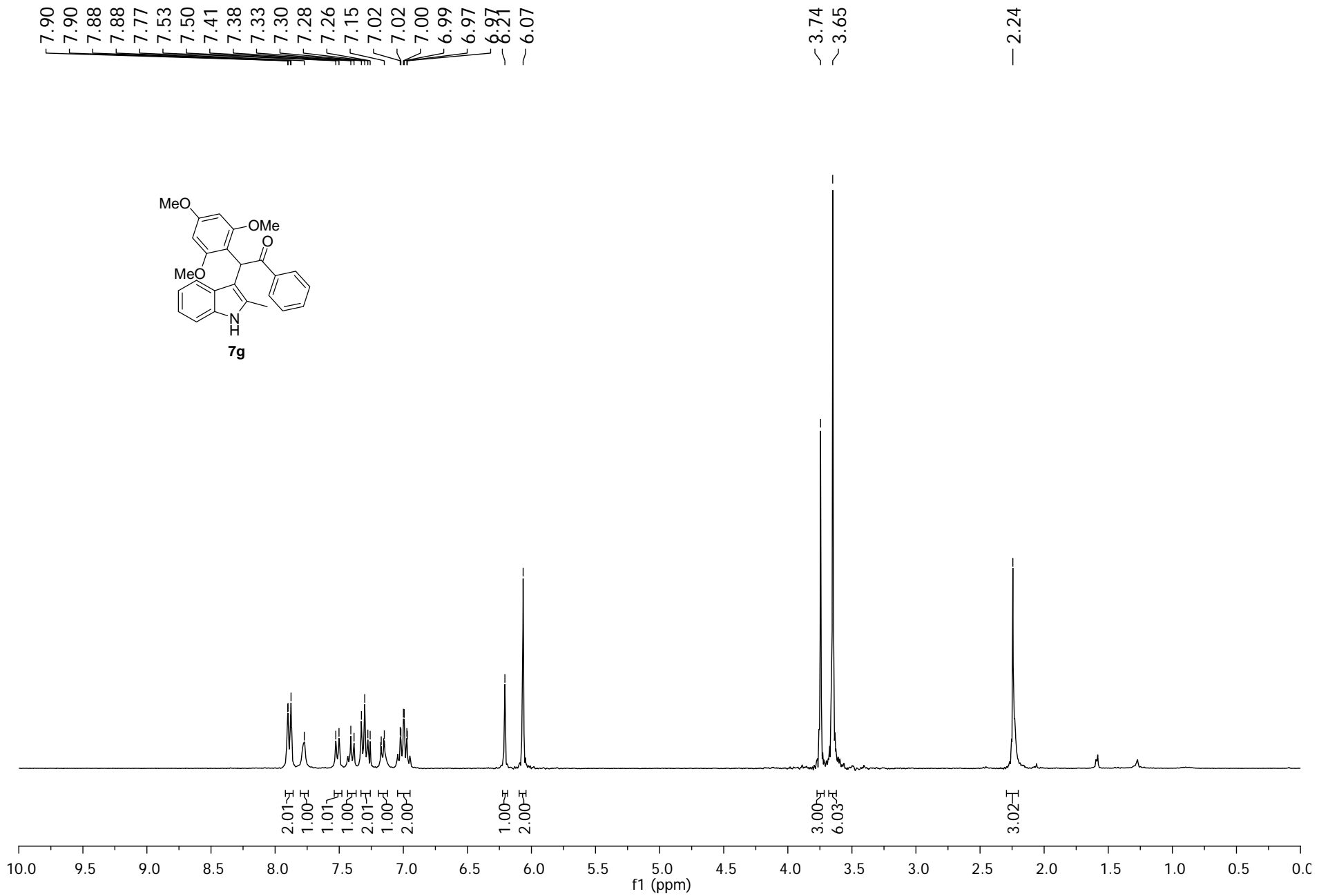


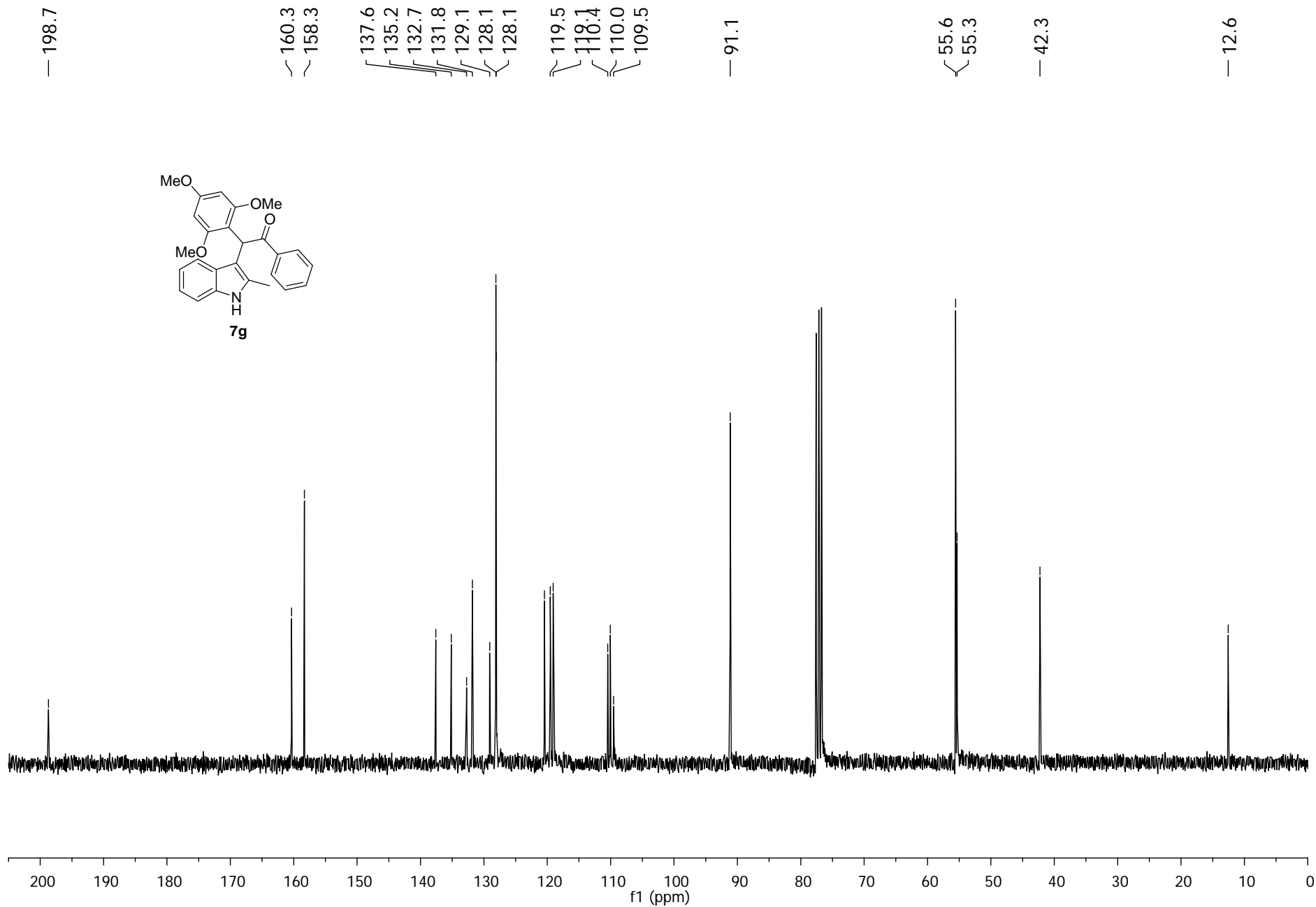


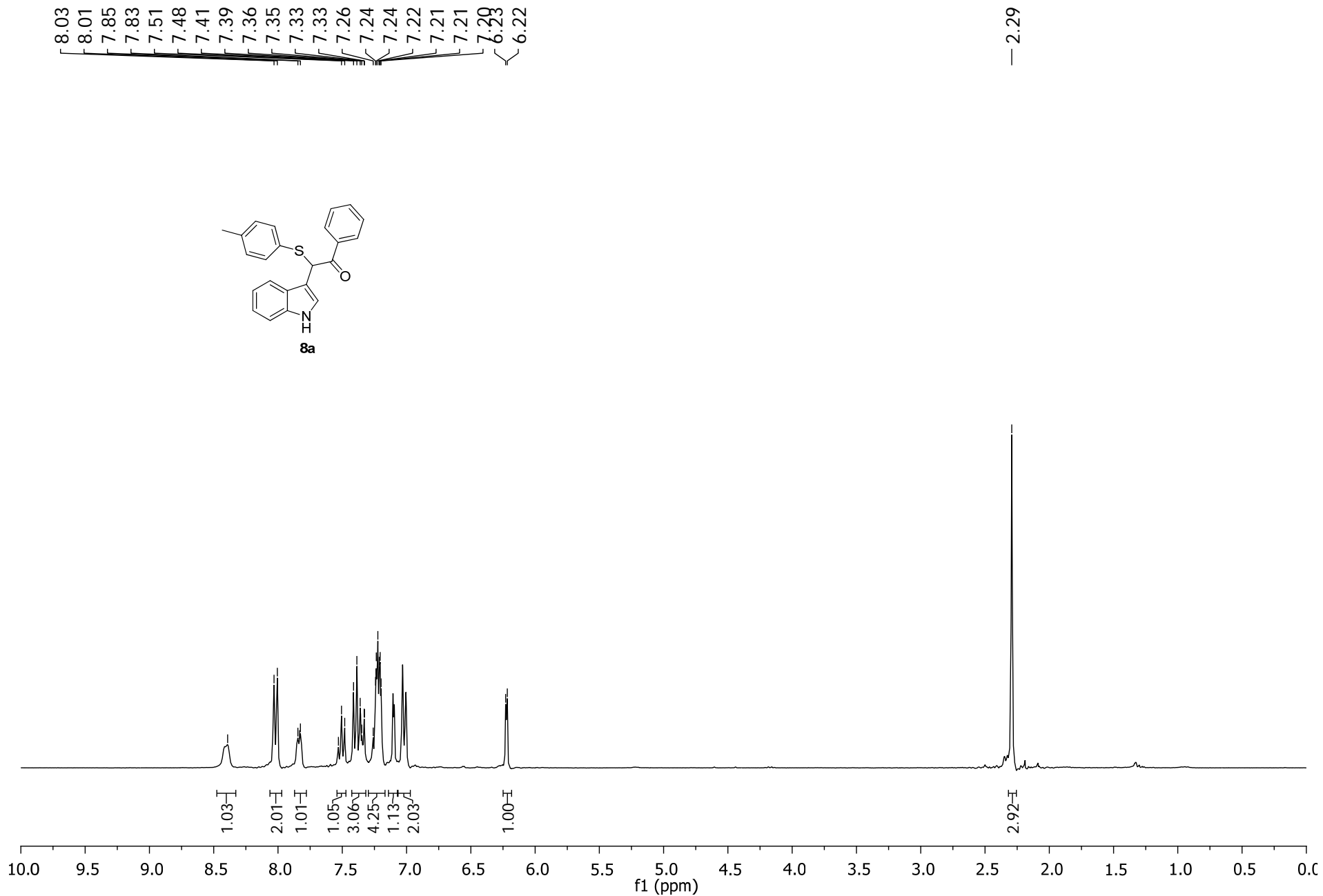


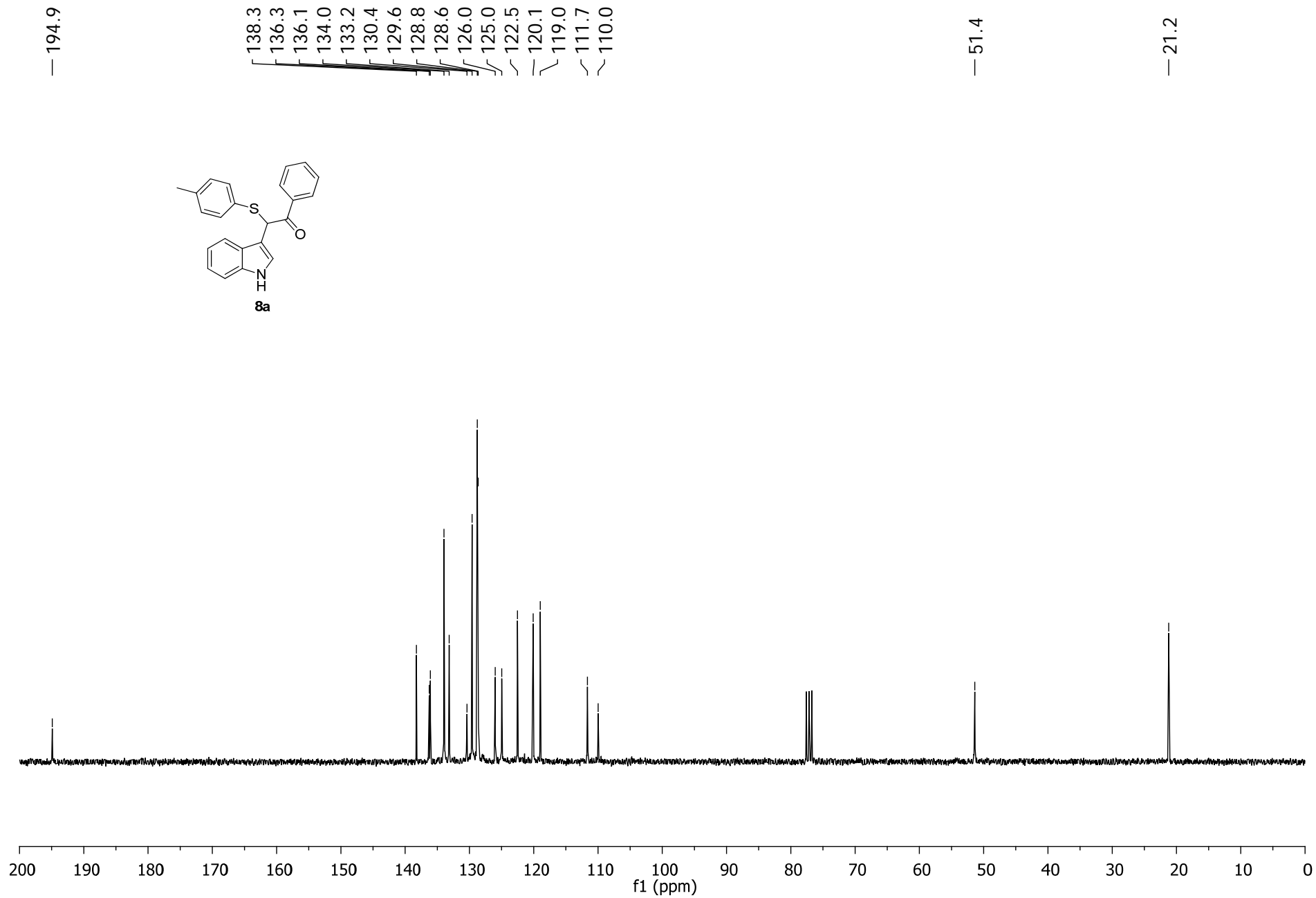


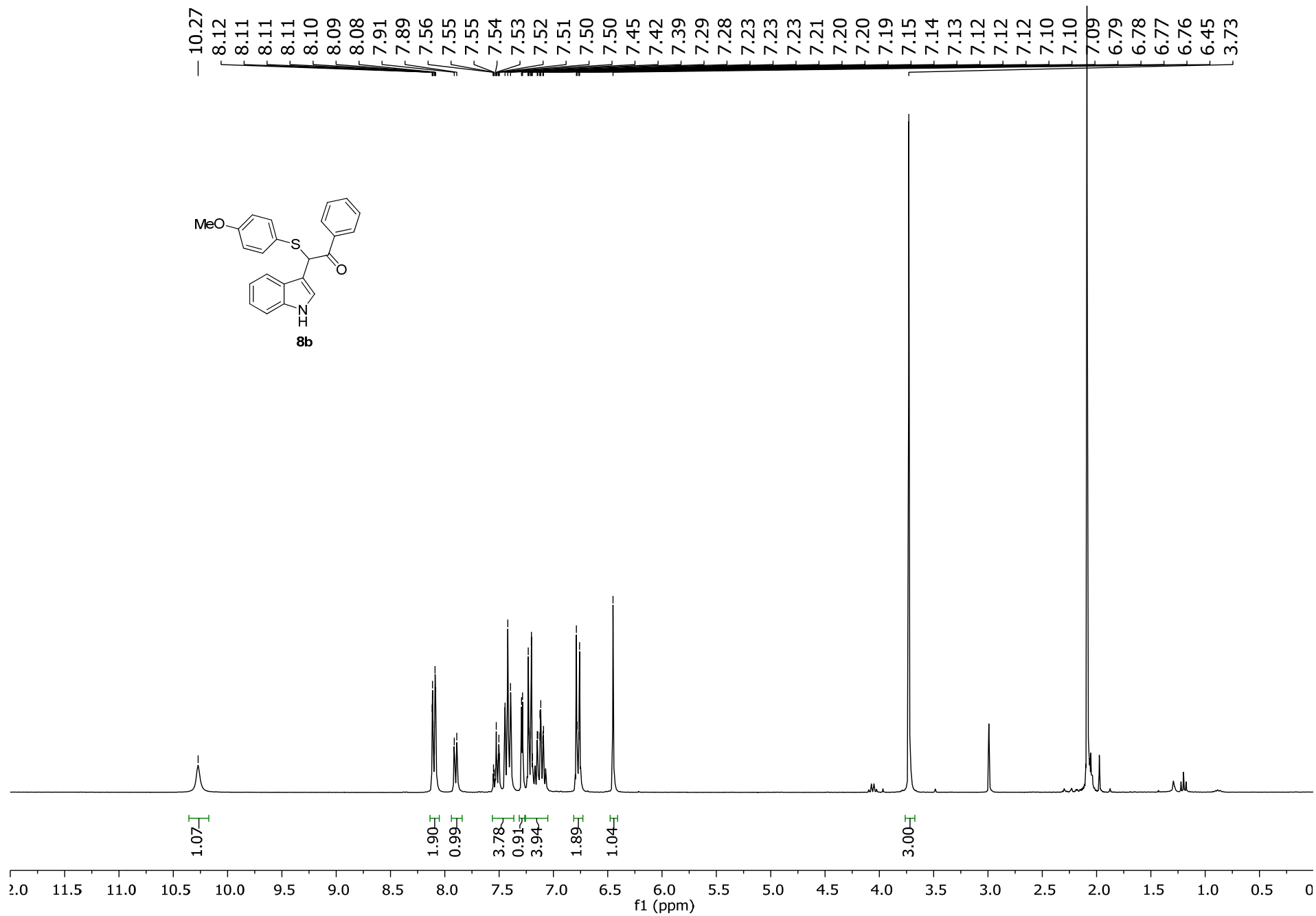


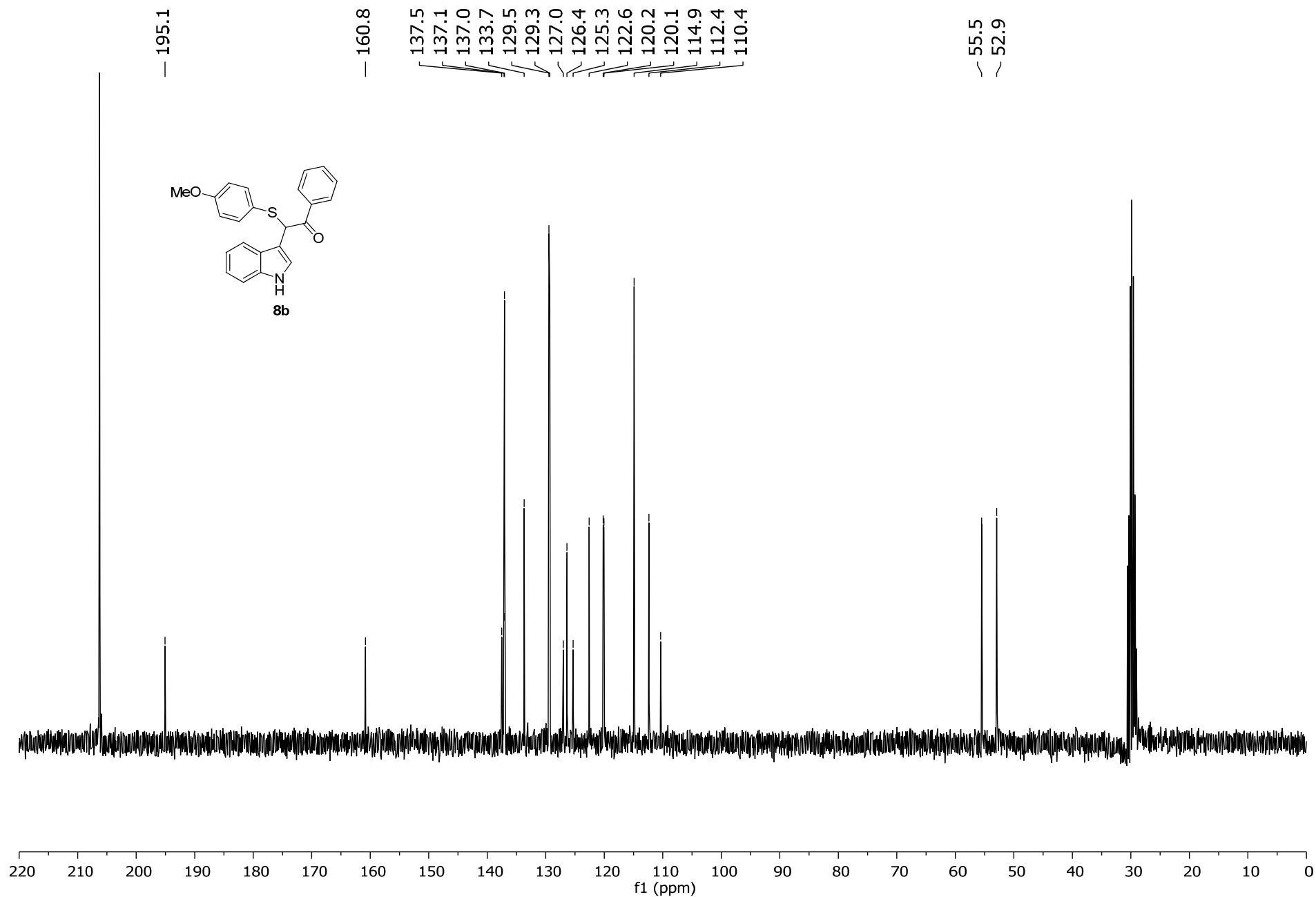


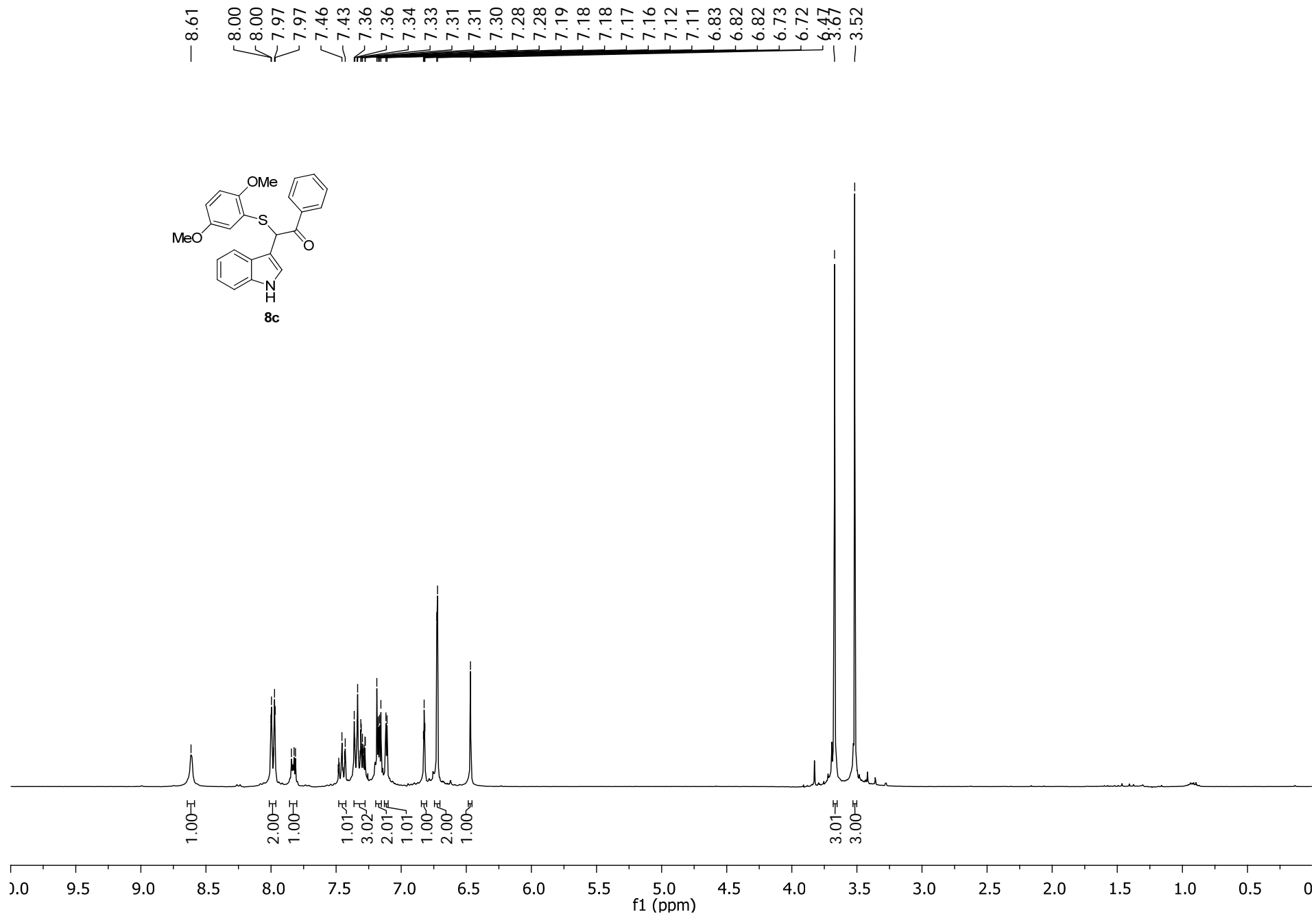
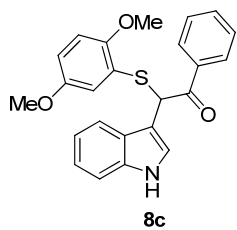


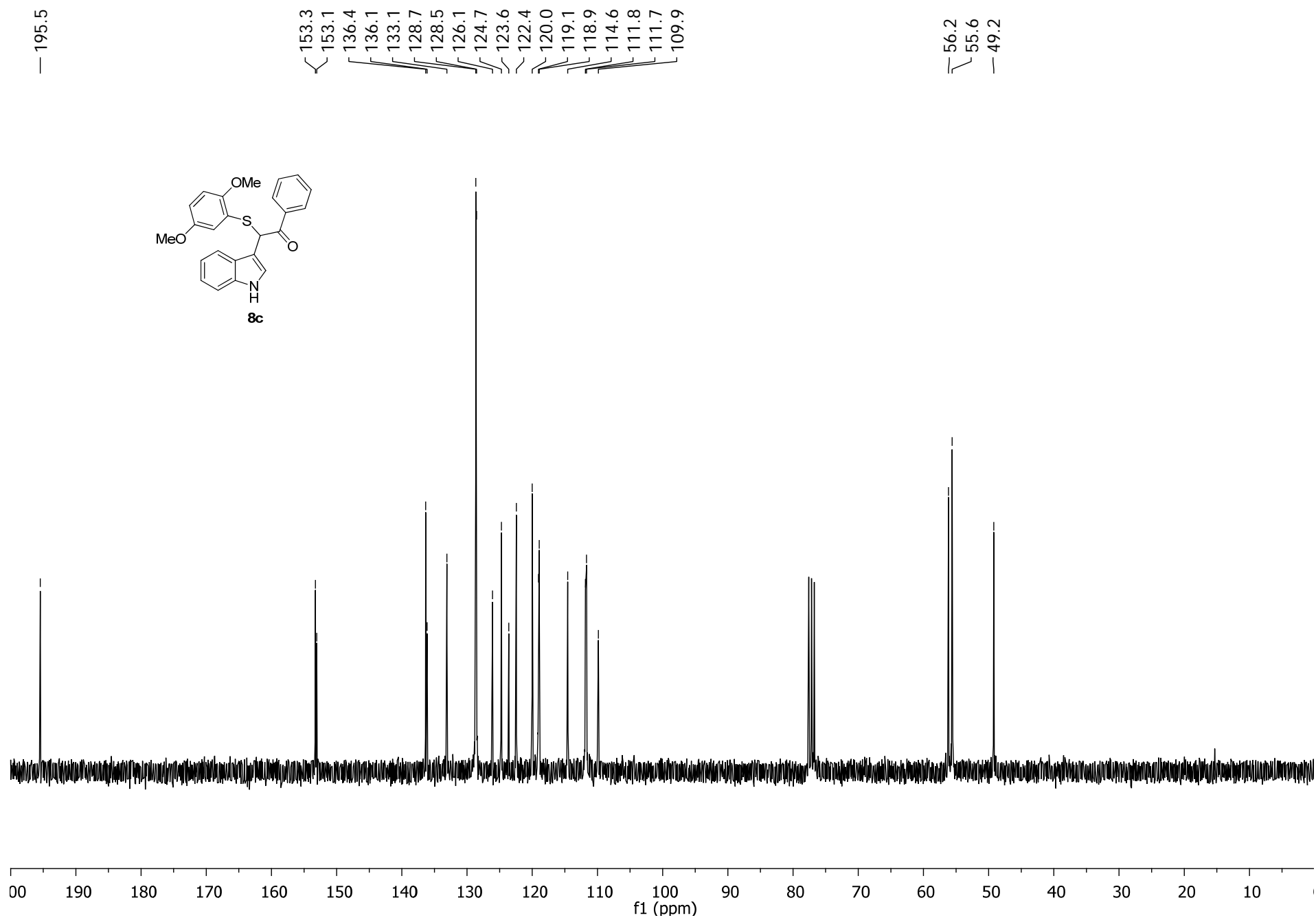


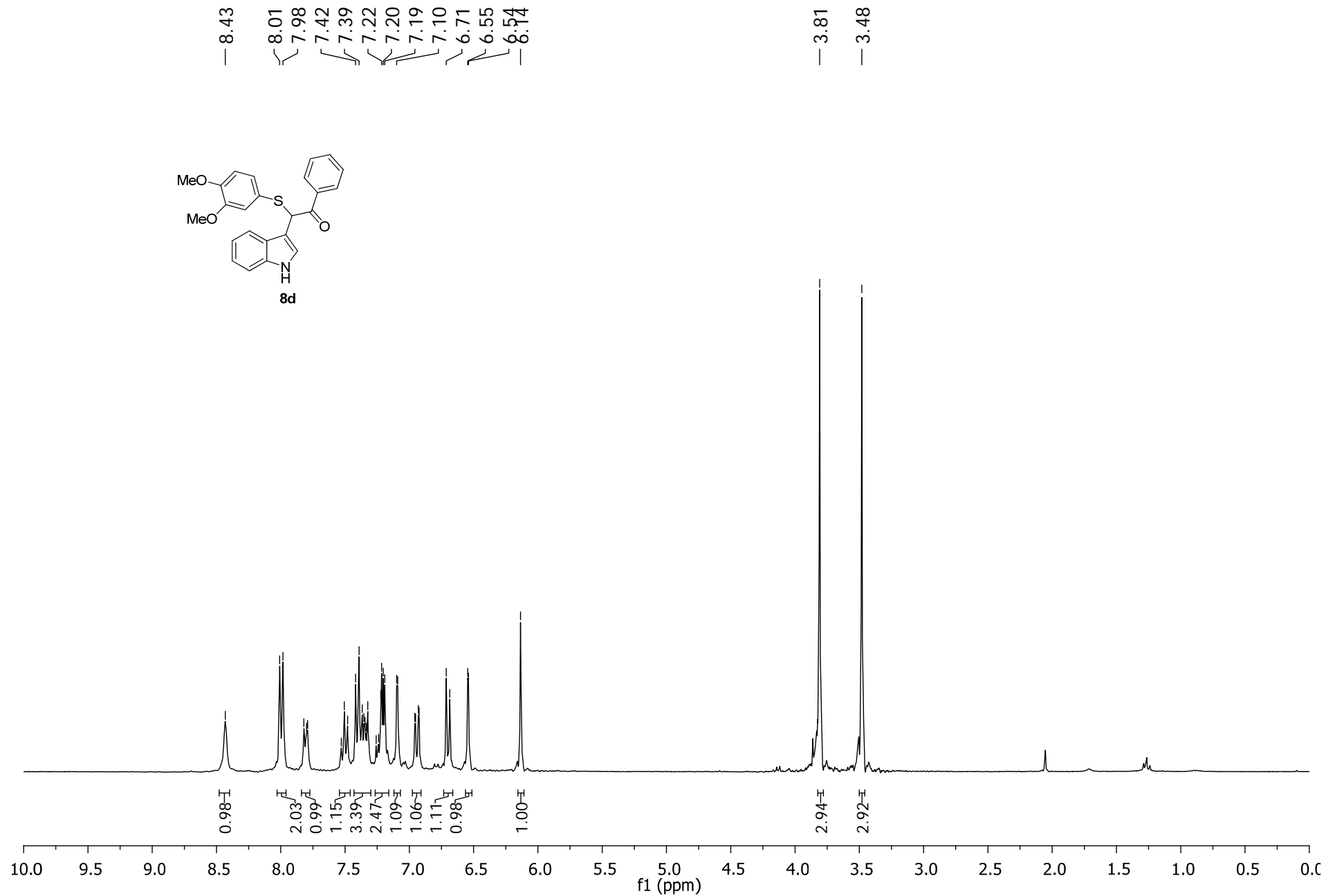


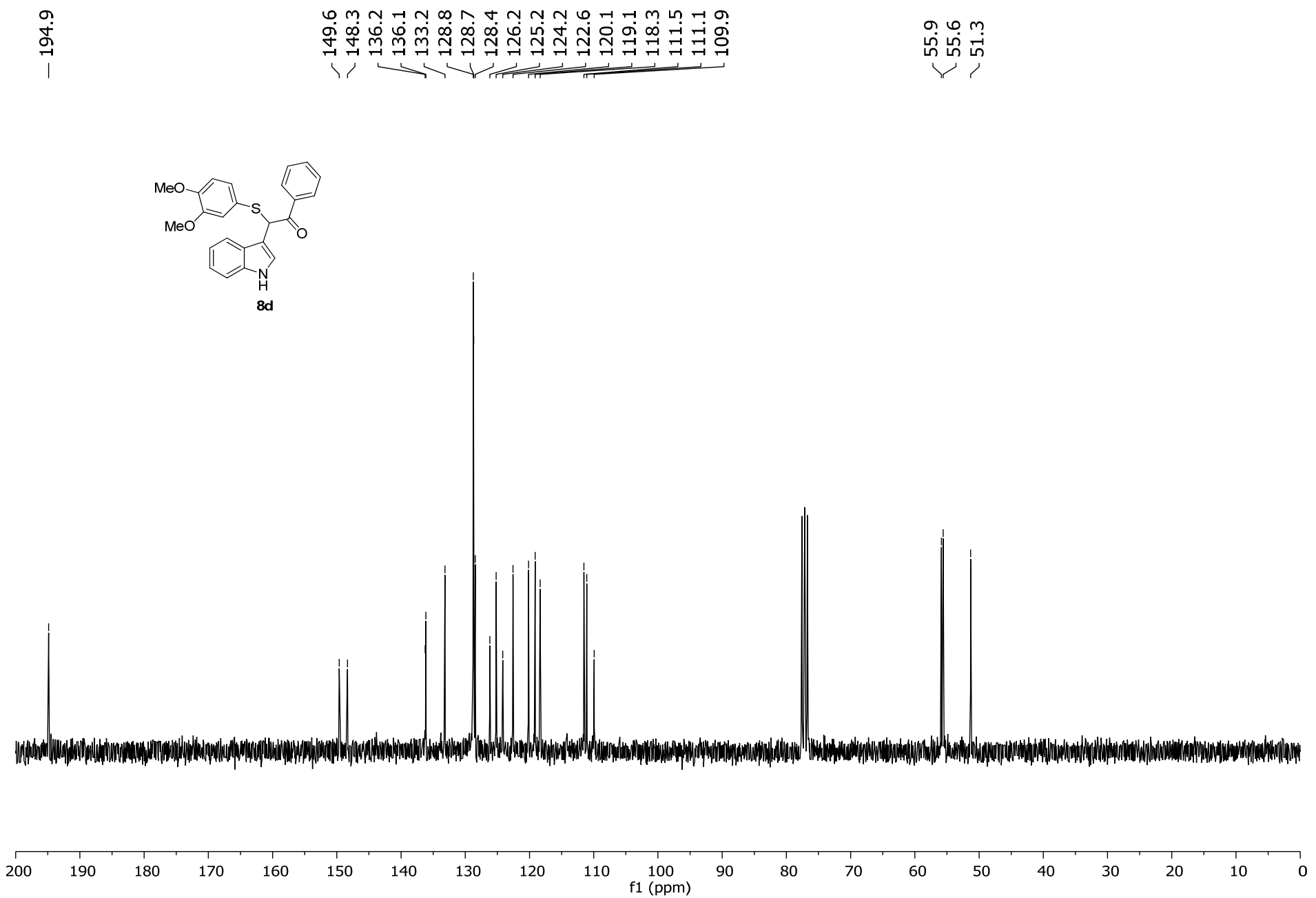


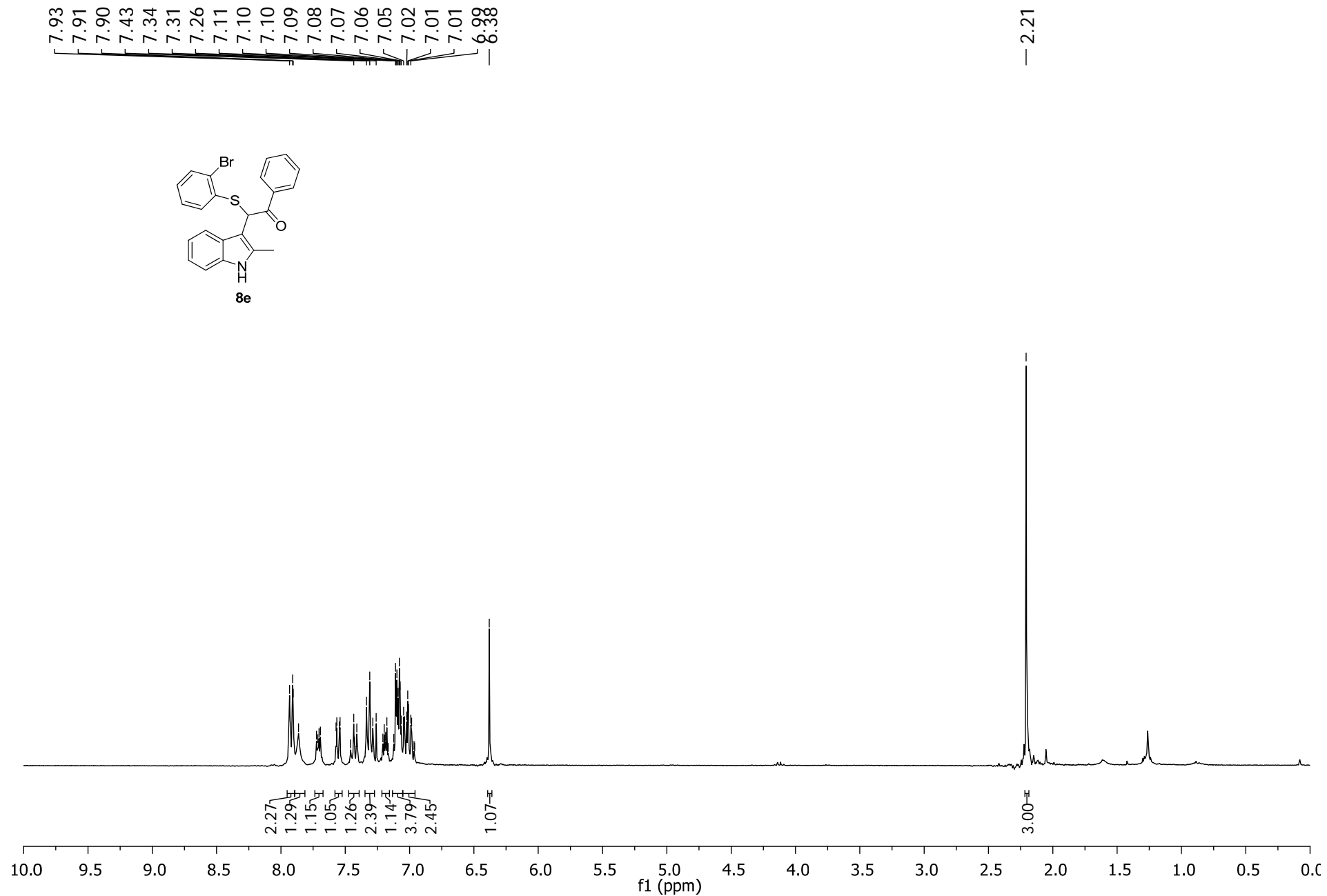


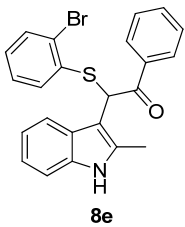
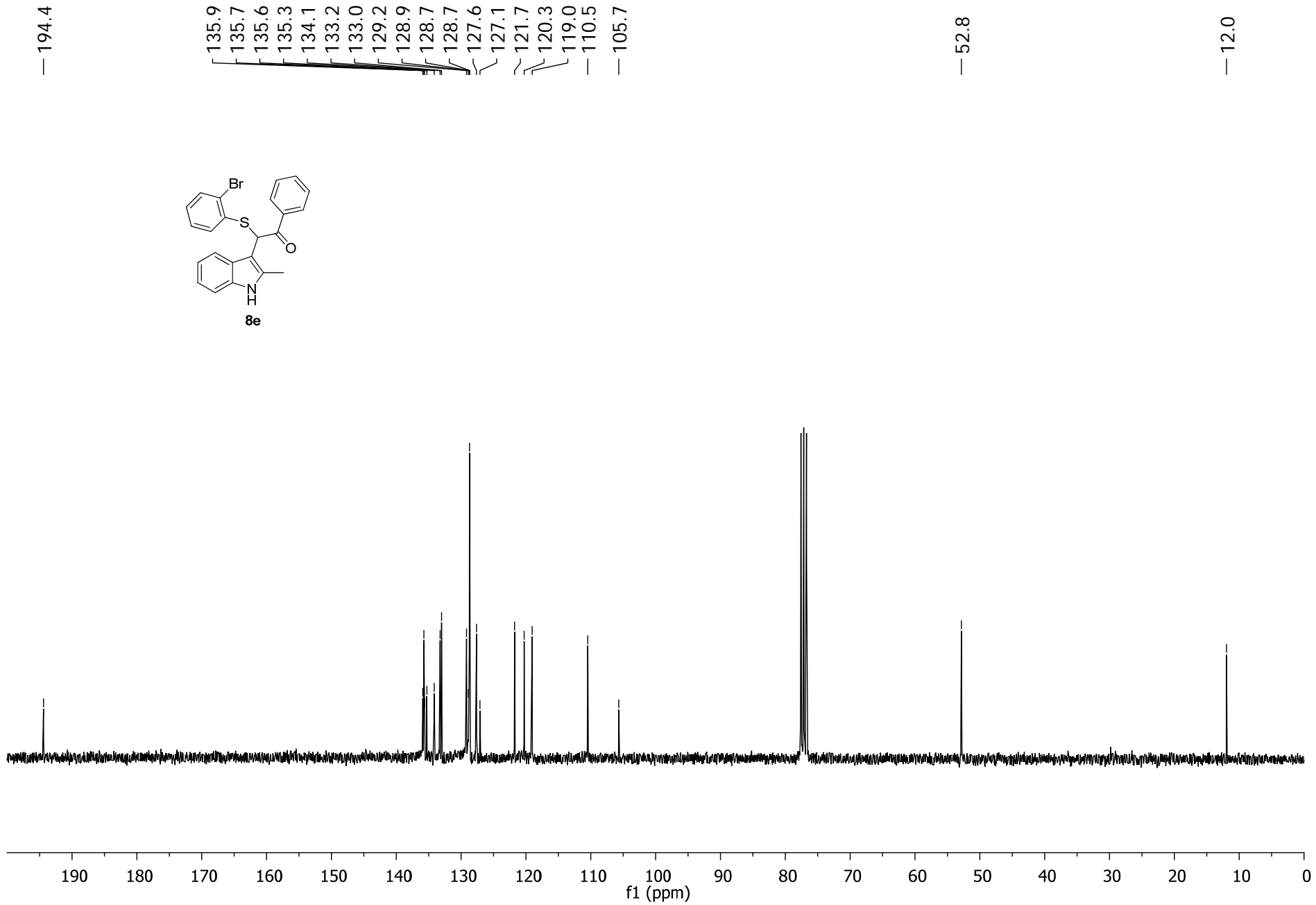


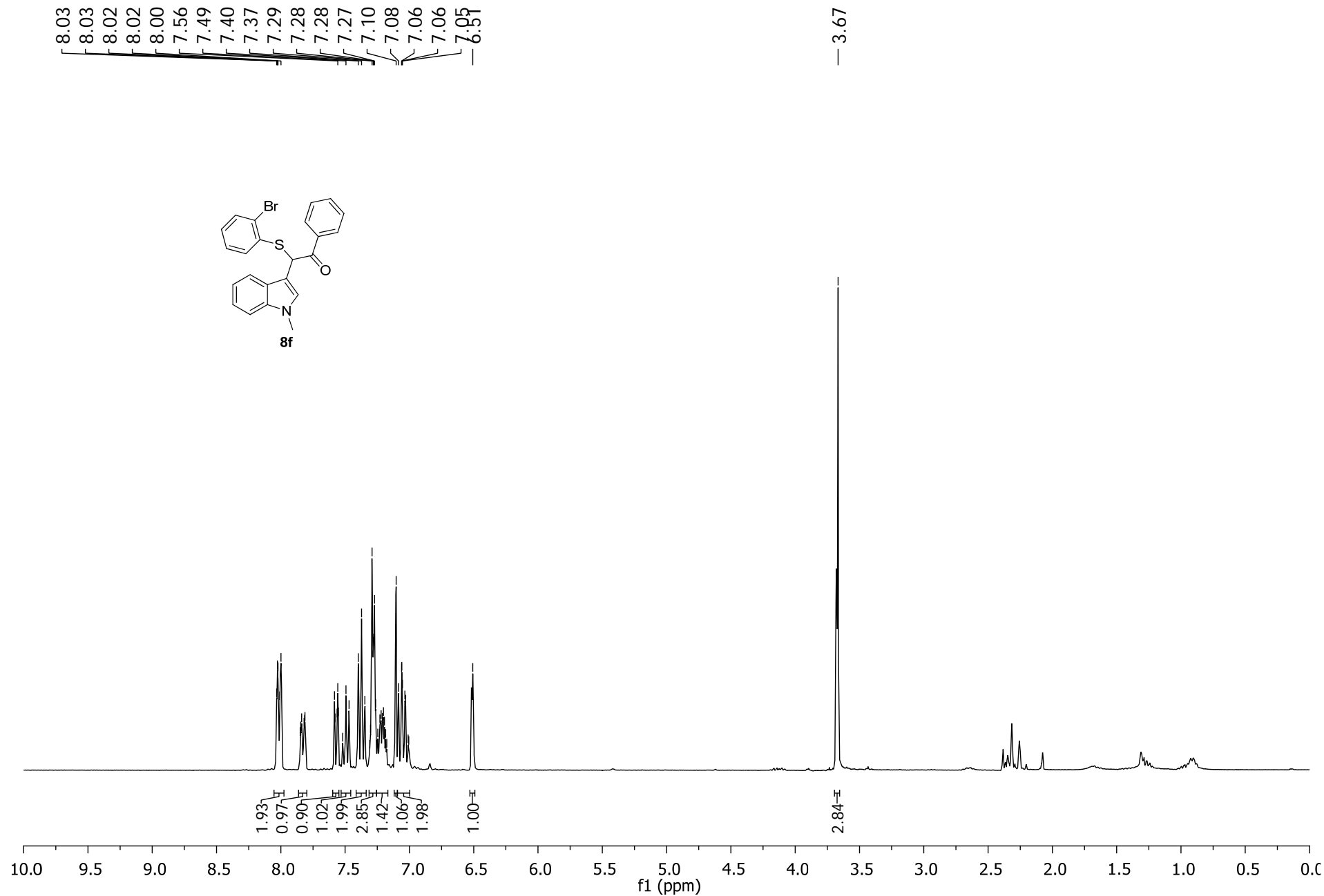


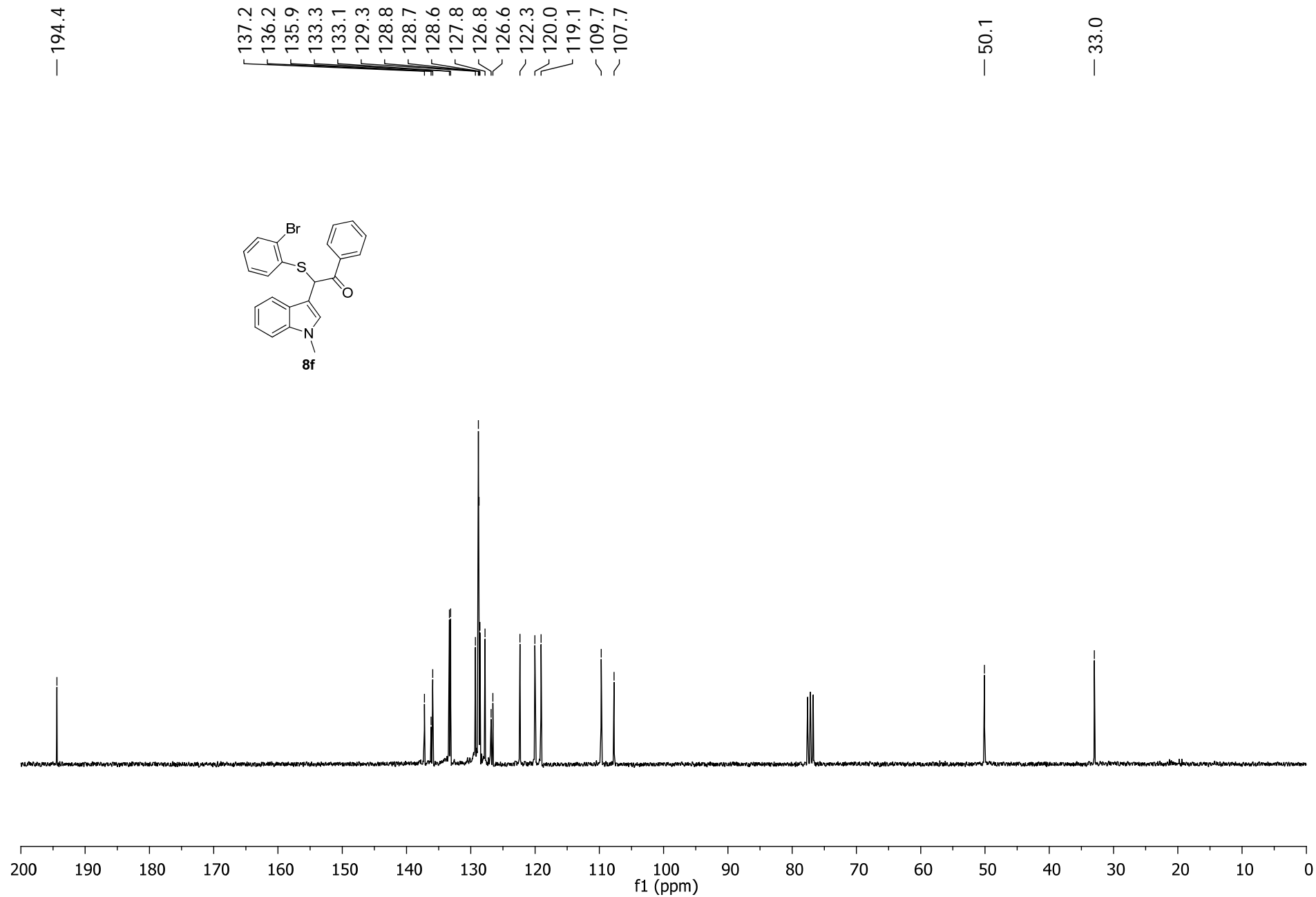


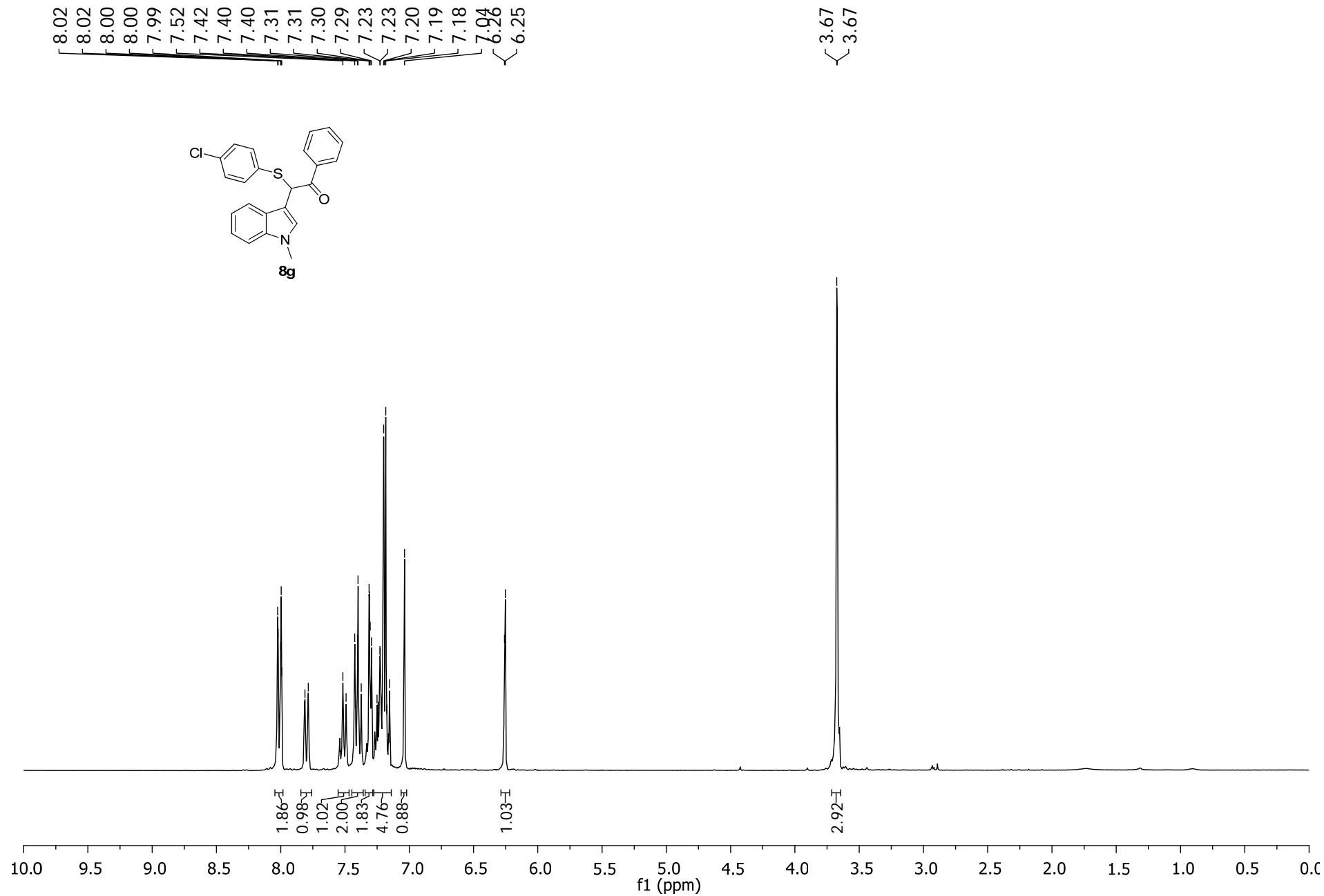


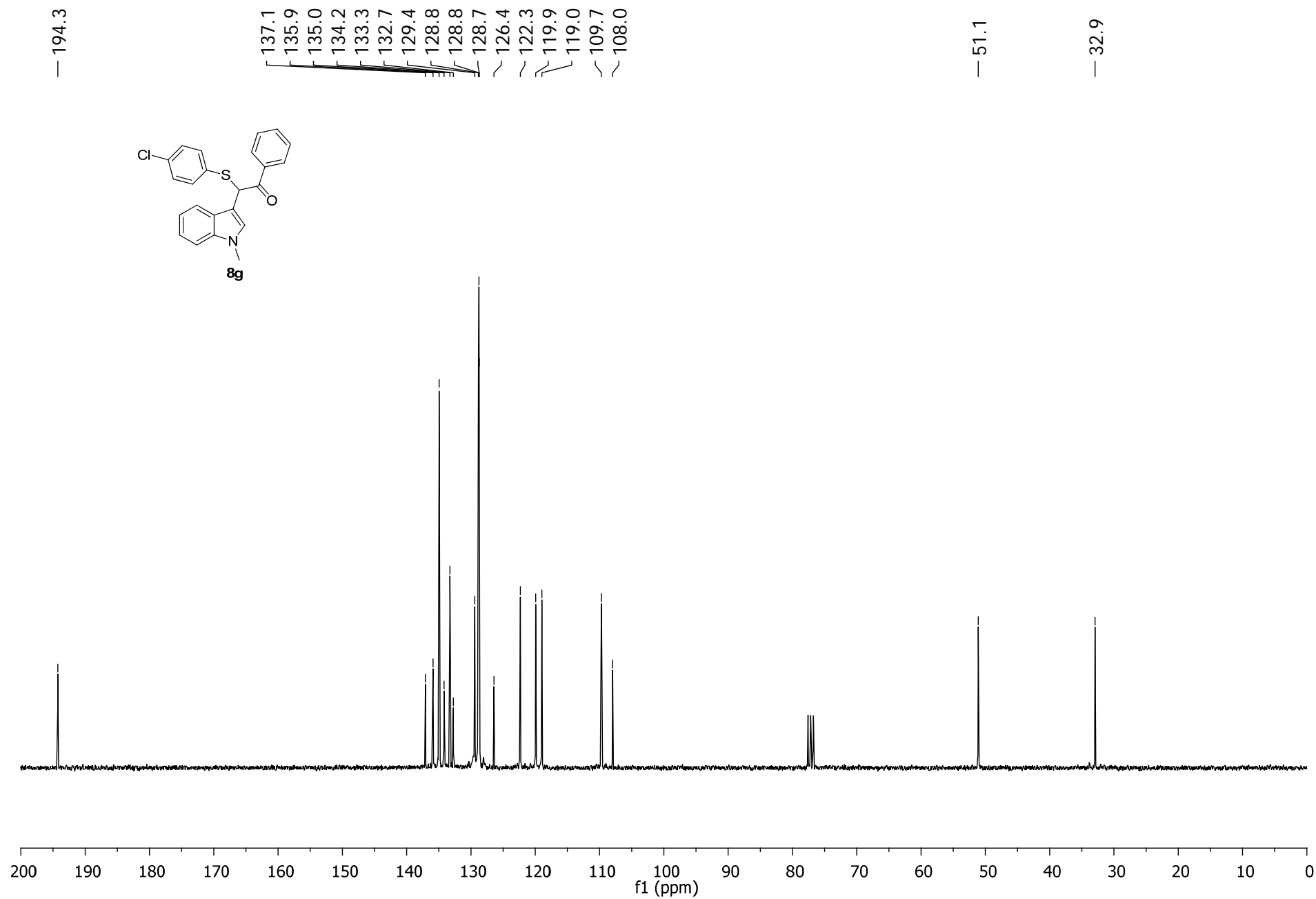


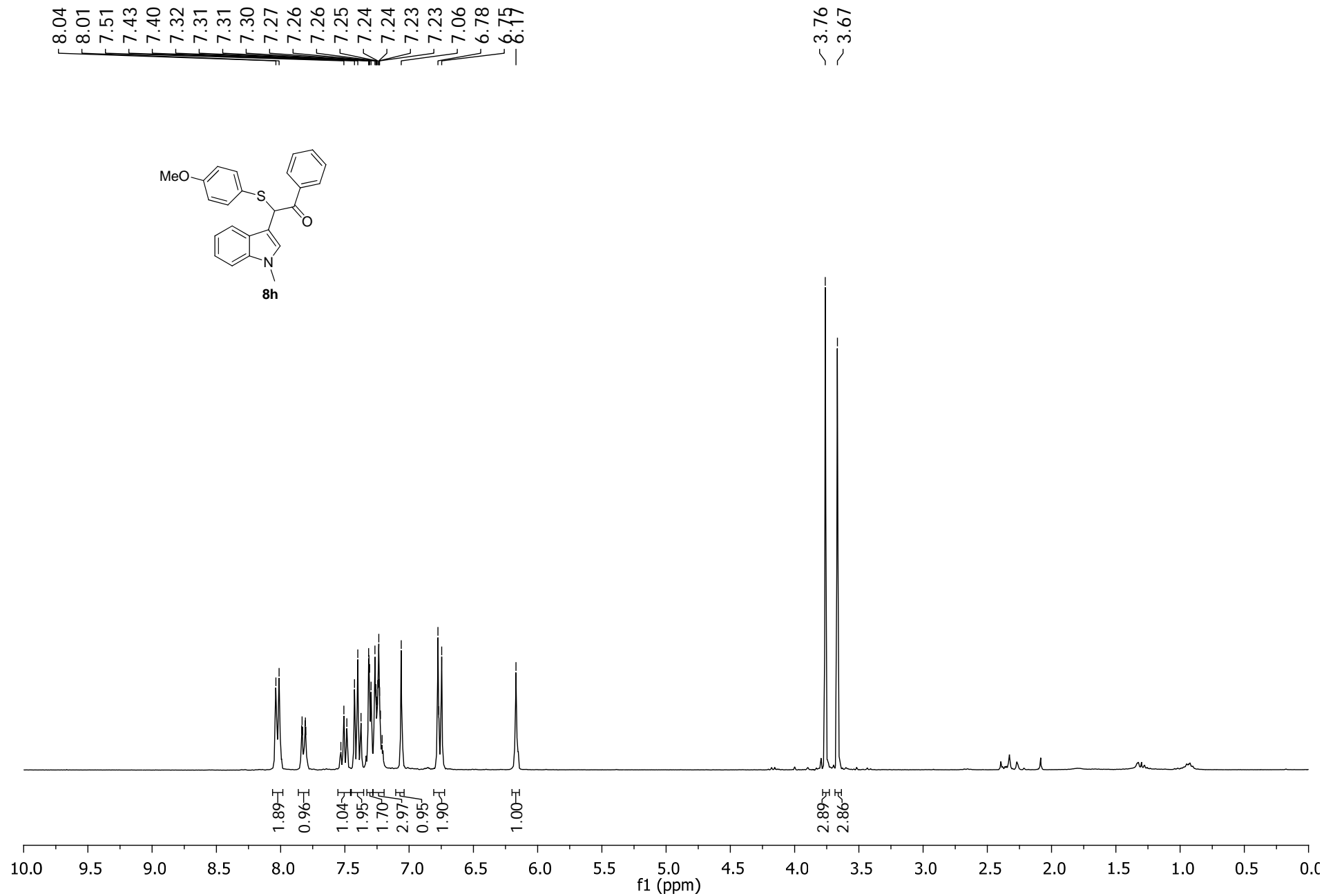


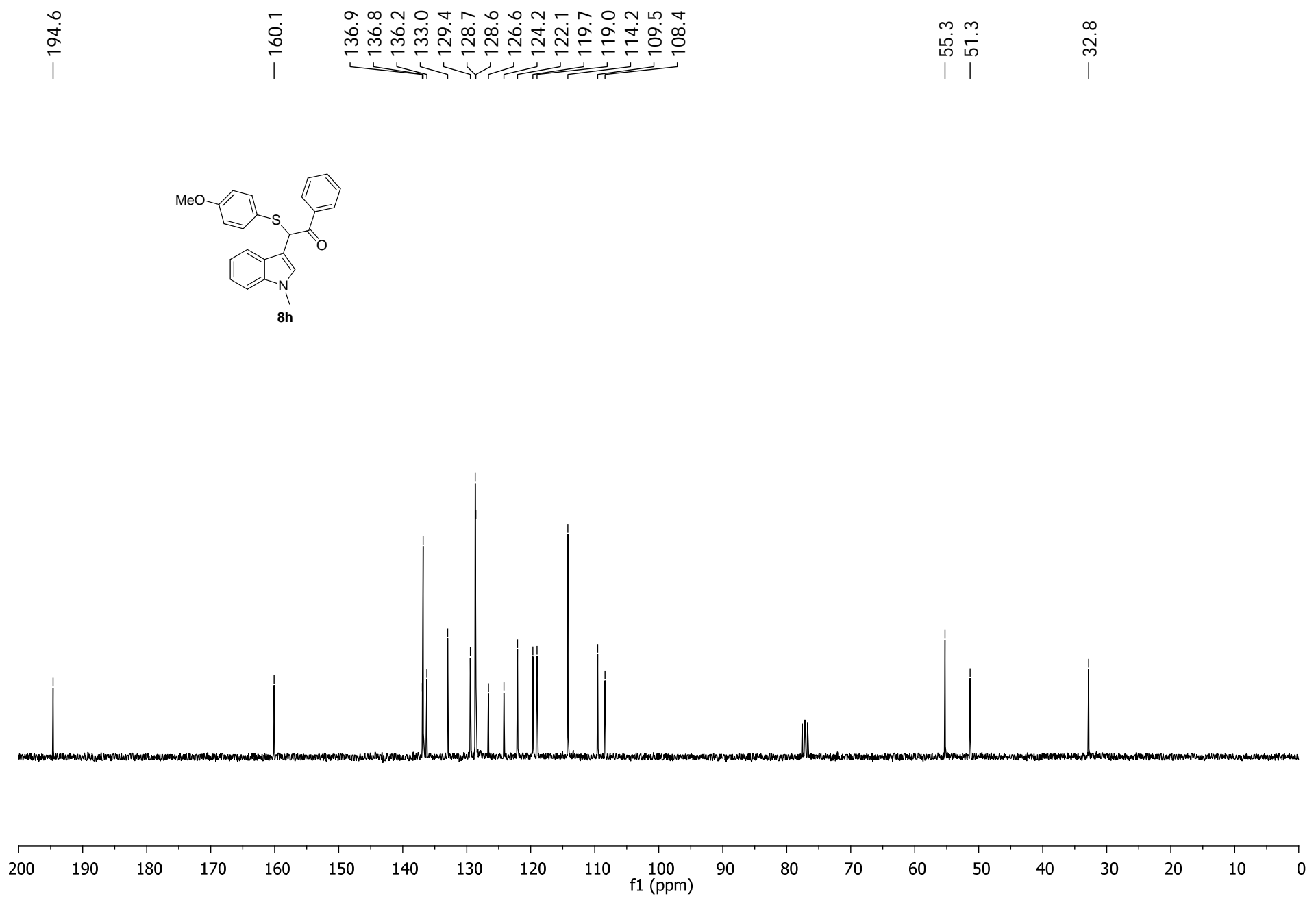
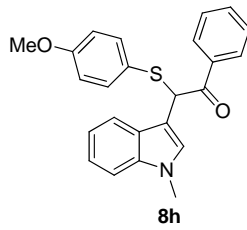


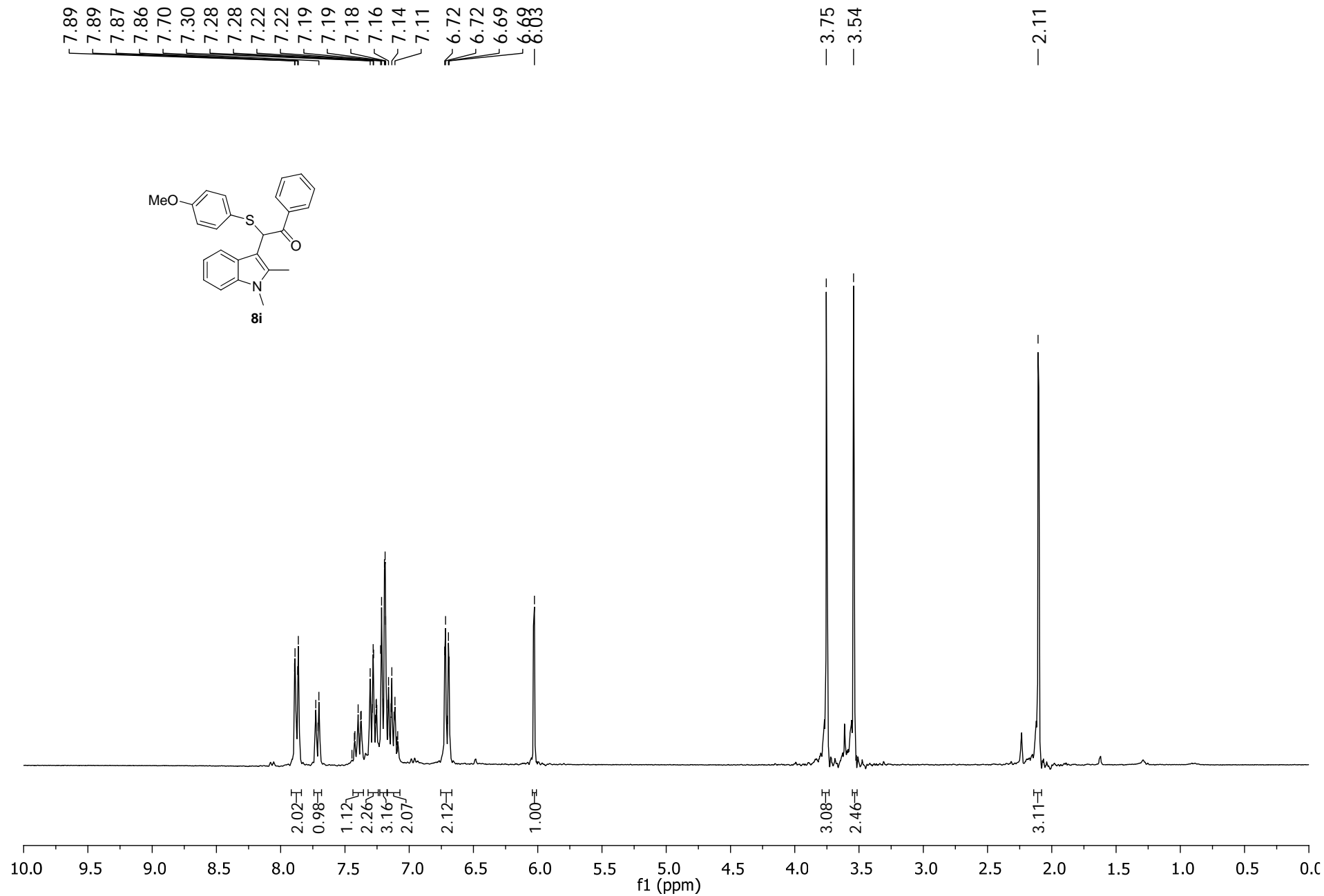


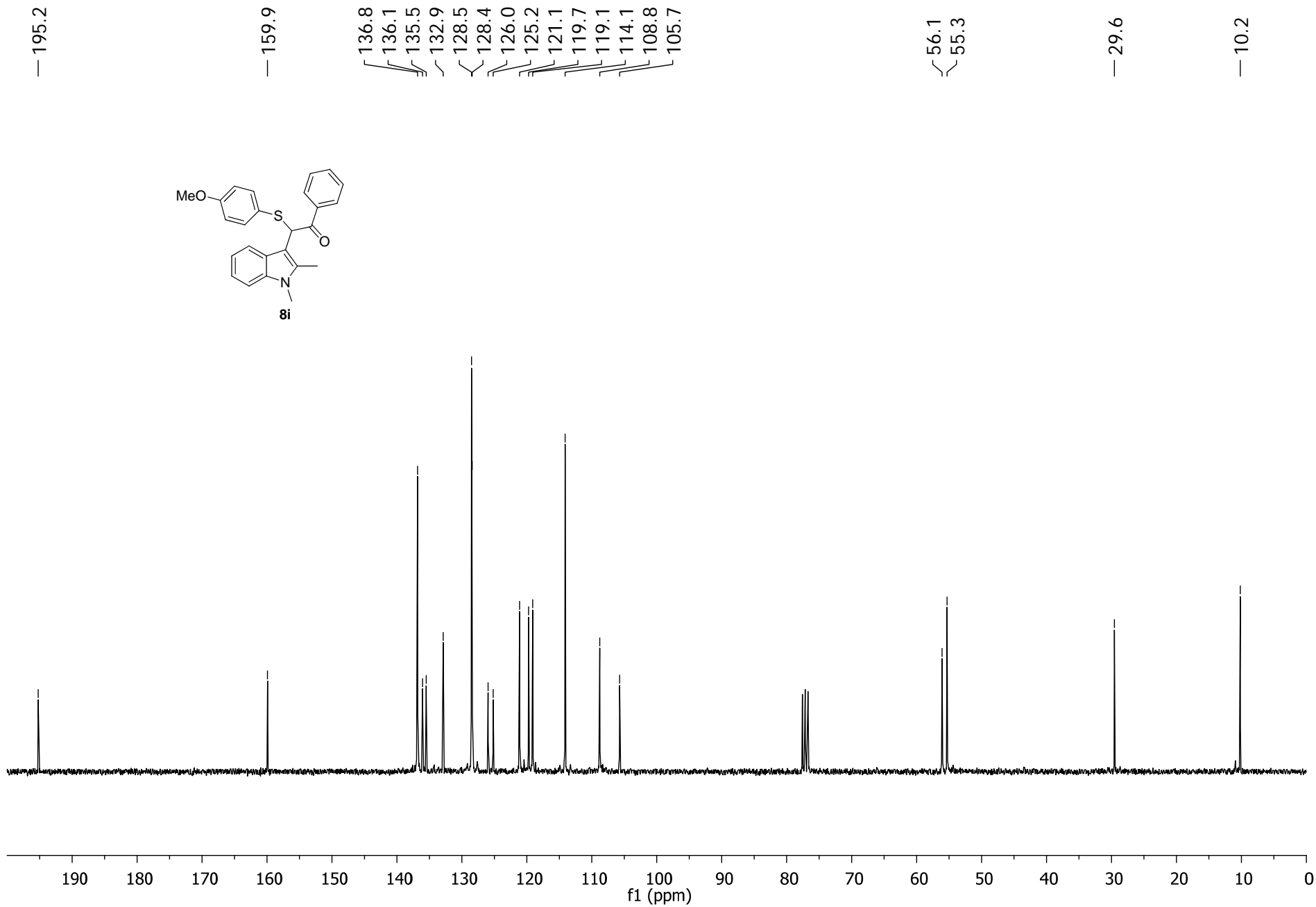


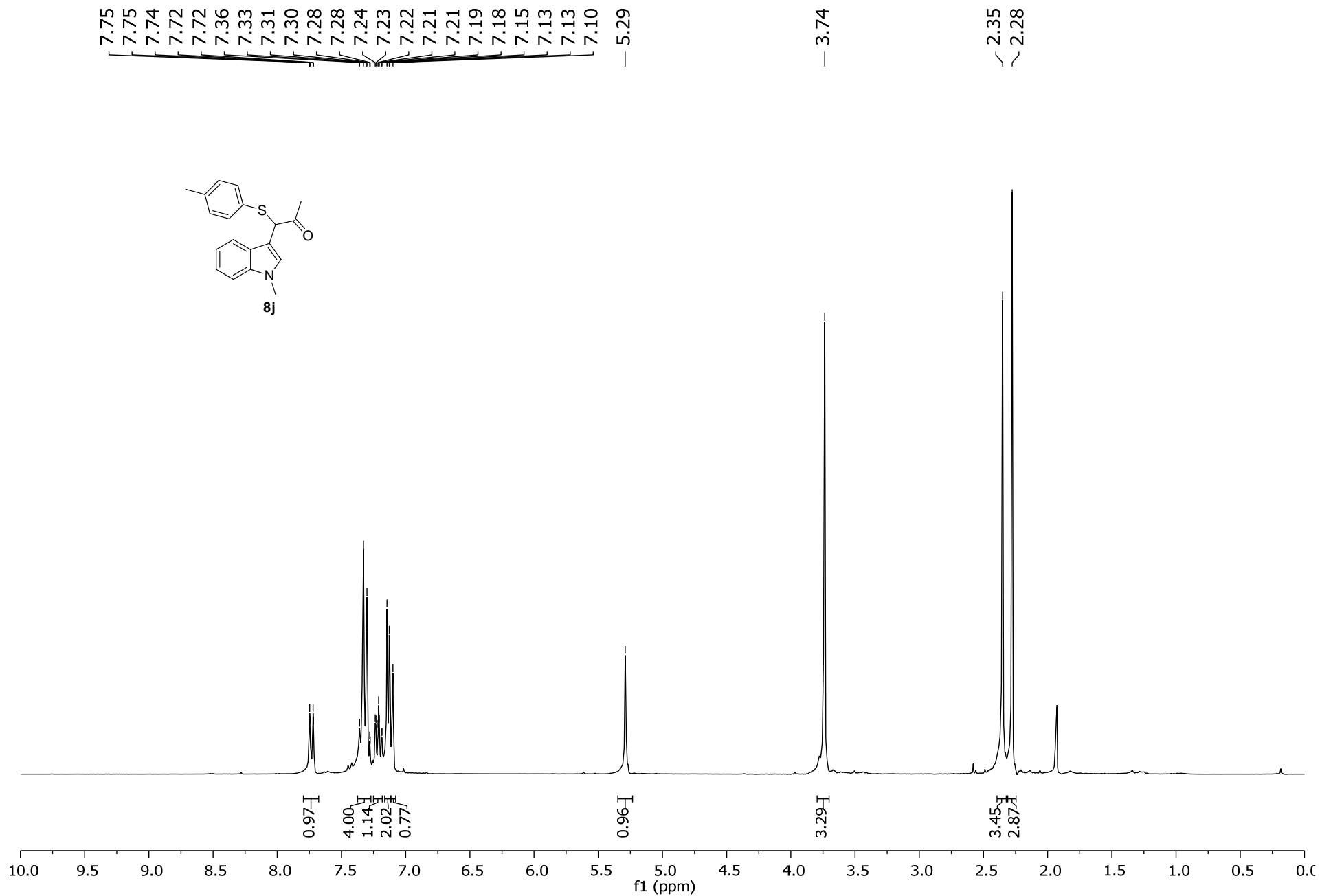




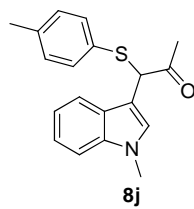








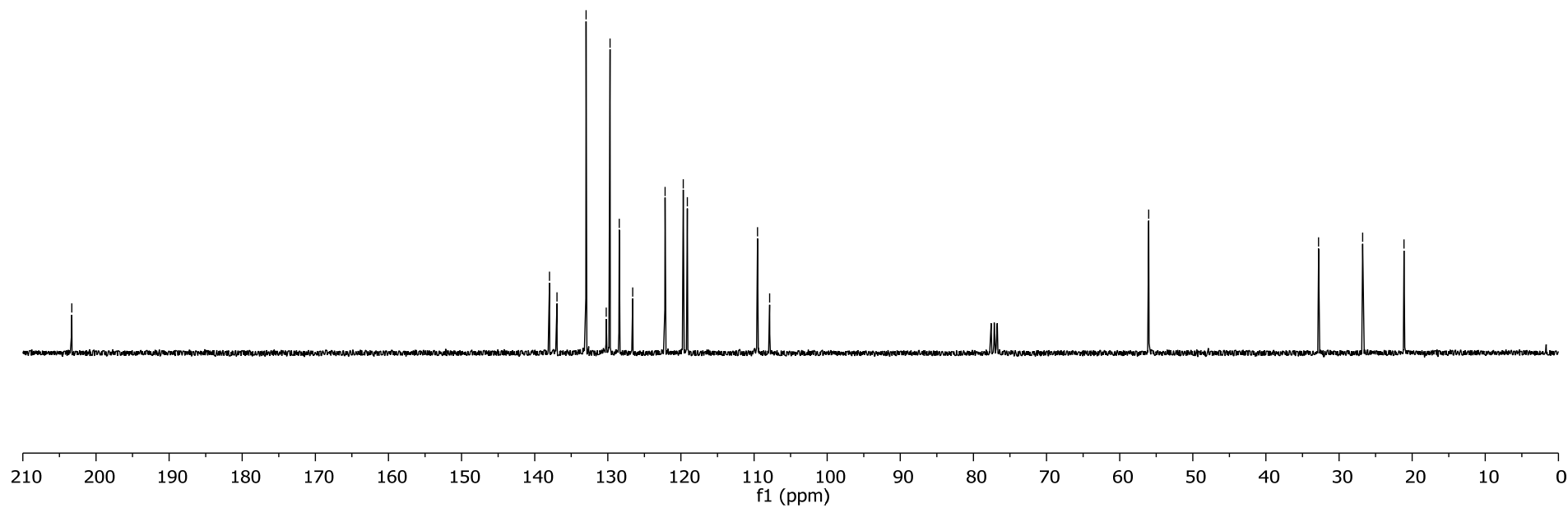
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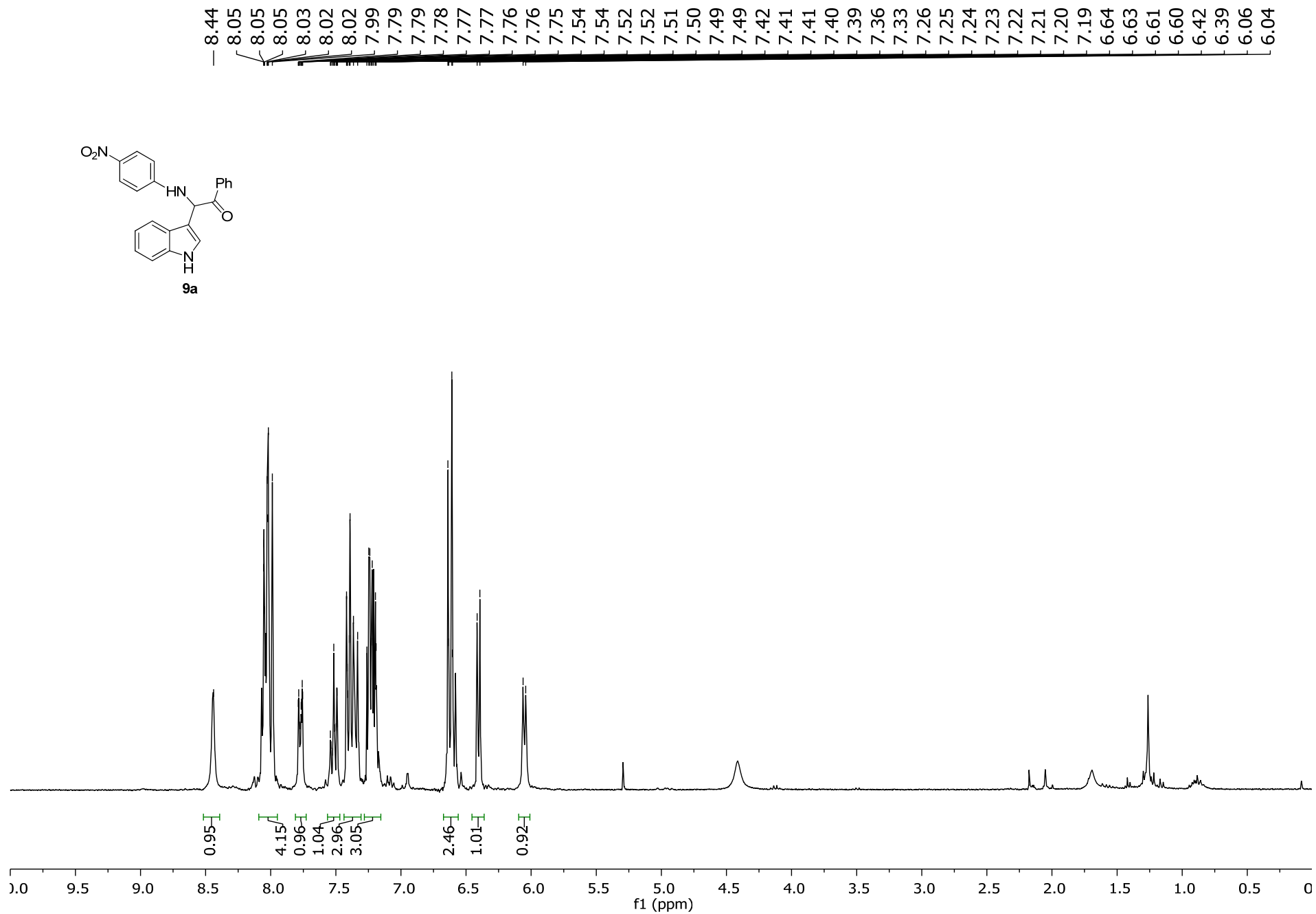
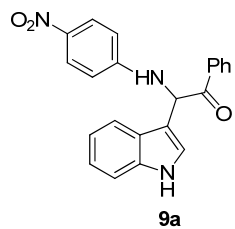


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— 56.0

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26.8
21.1

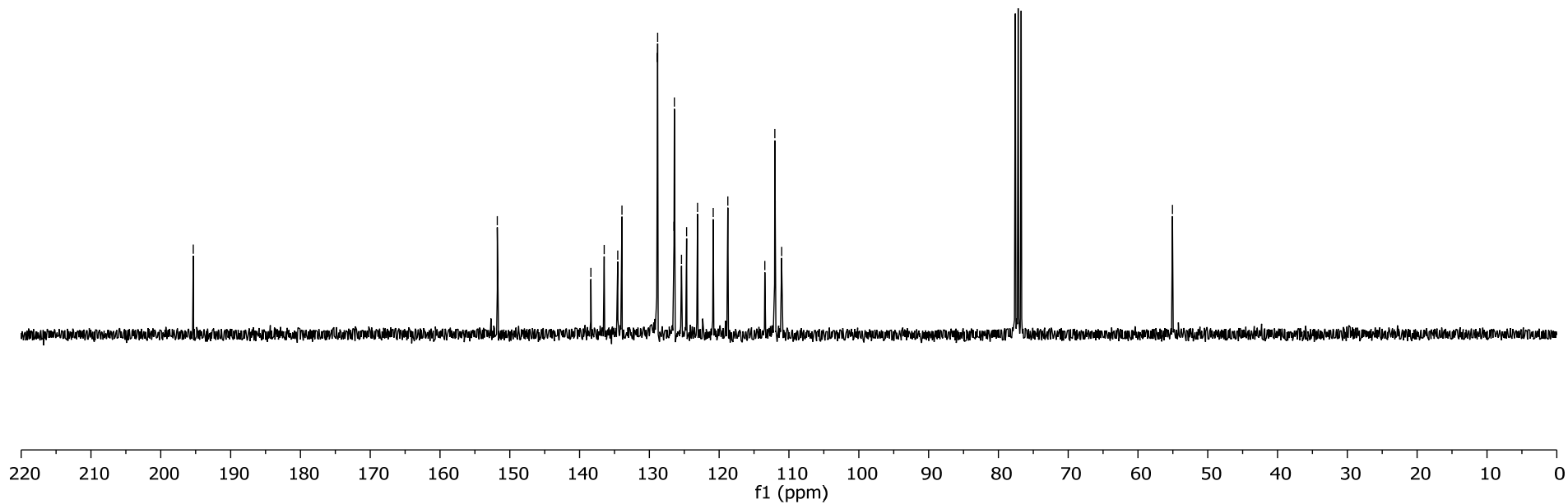
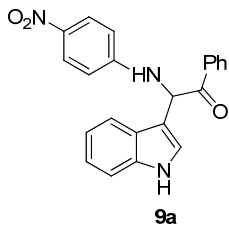


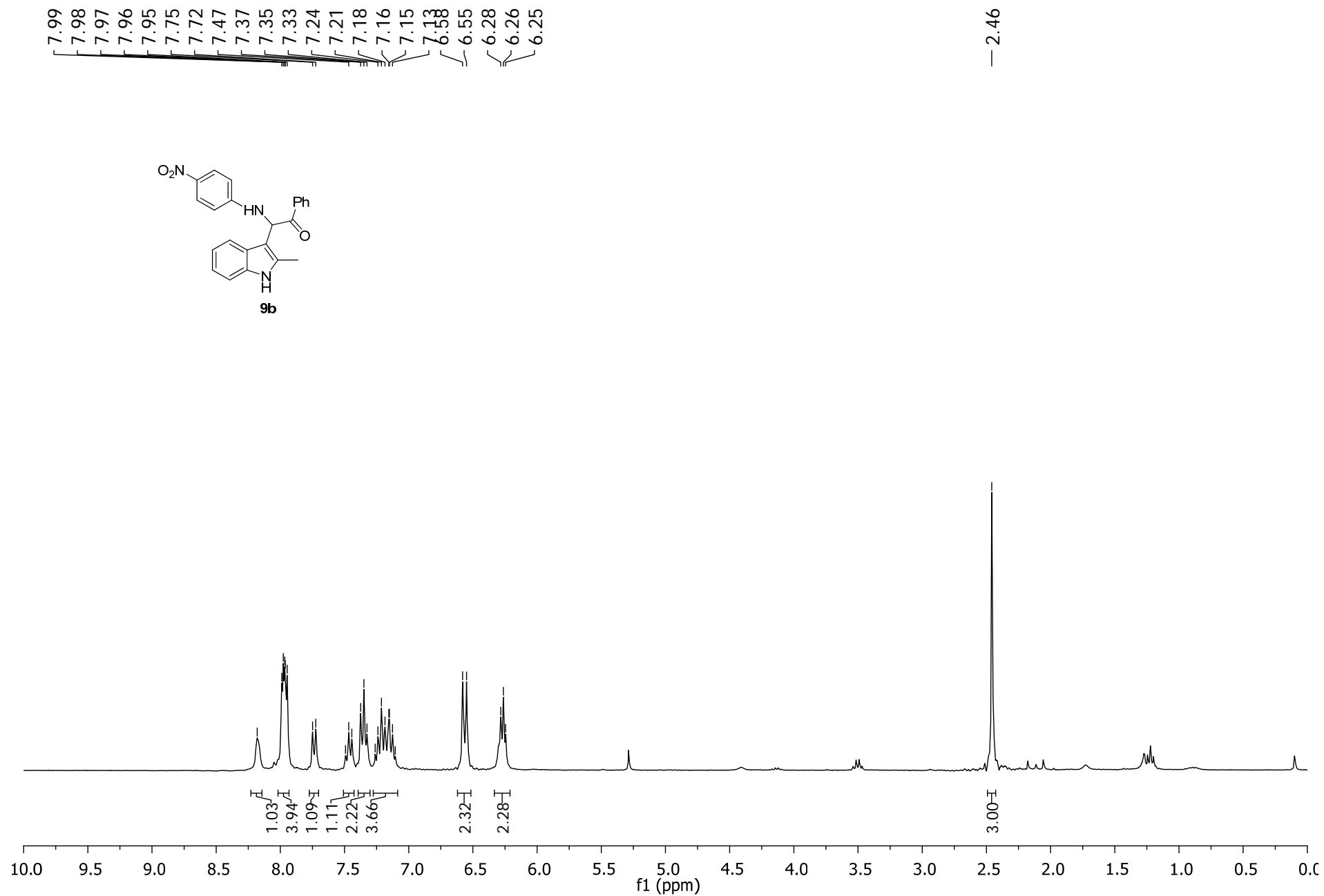


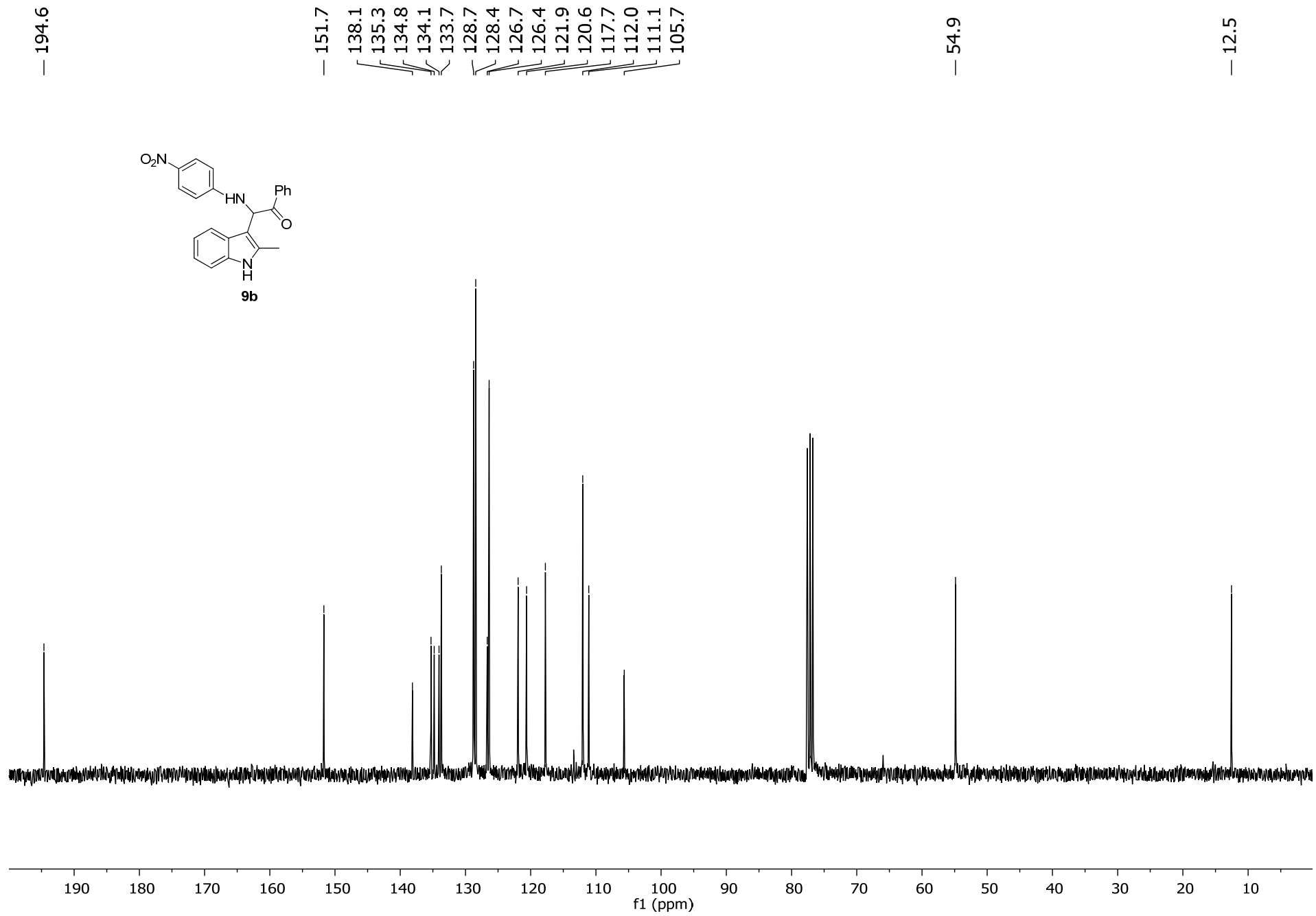
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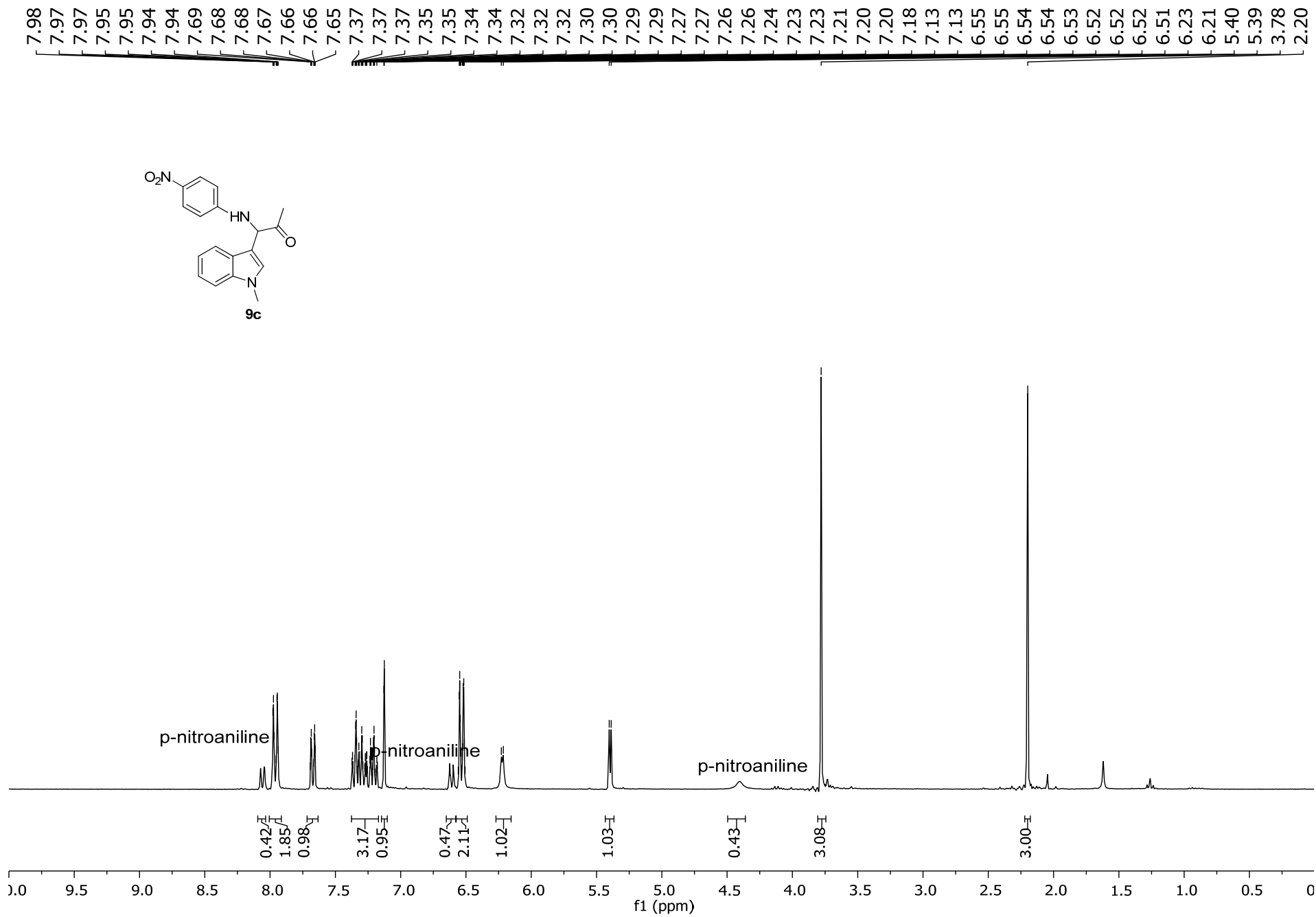
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— 138.4
— 136.5
— 134.5
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— 128.9
— 128.8
— 126.5
— 126.4
— 125.4
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— 111.0

— 55.1









— 203.1

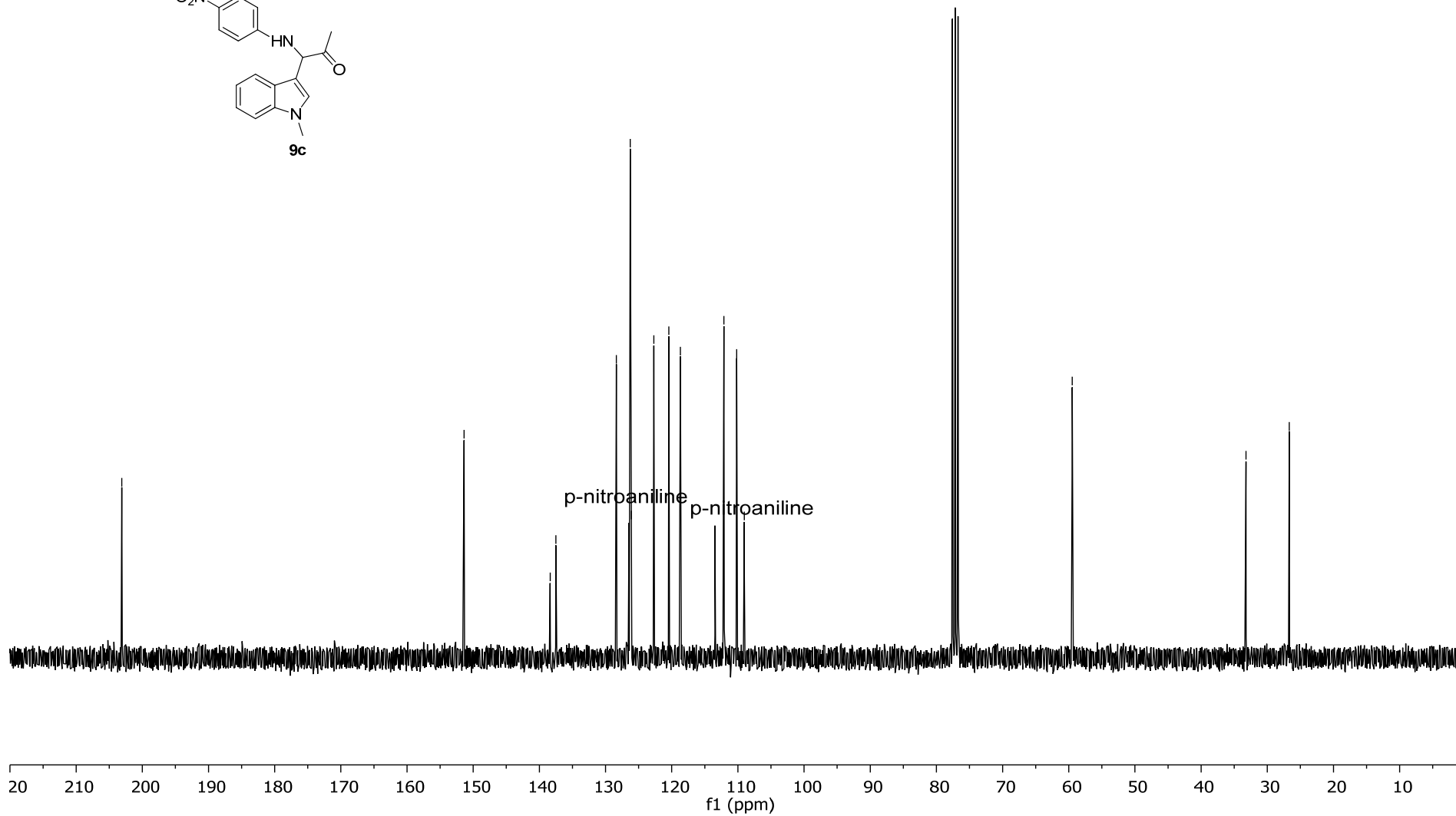
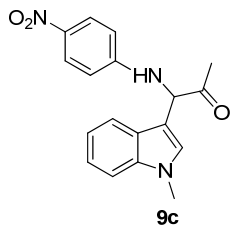
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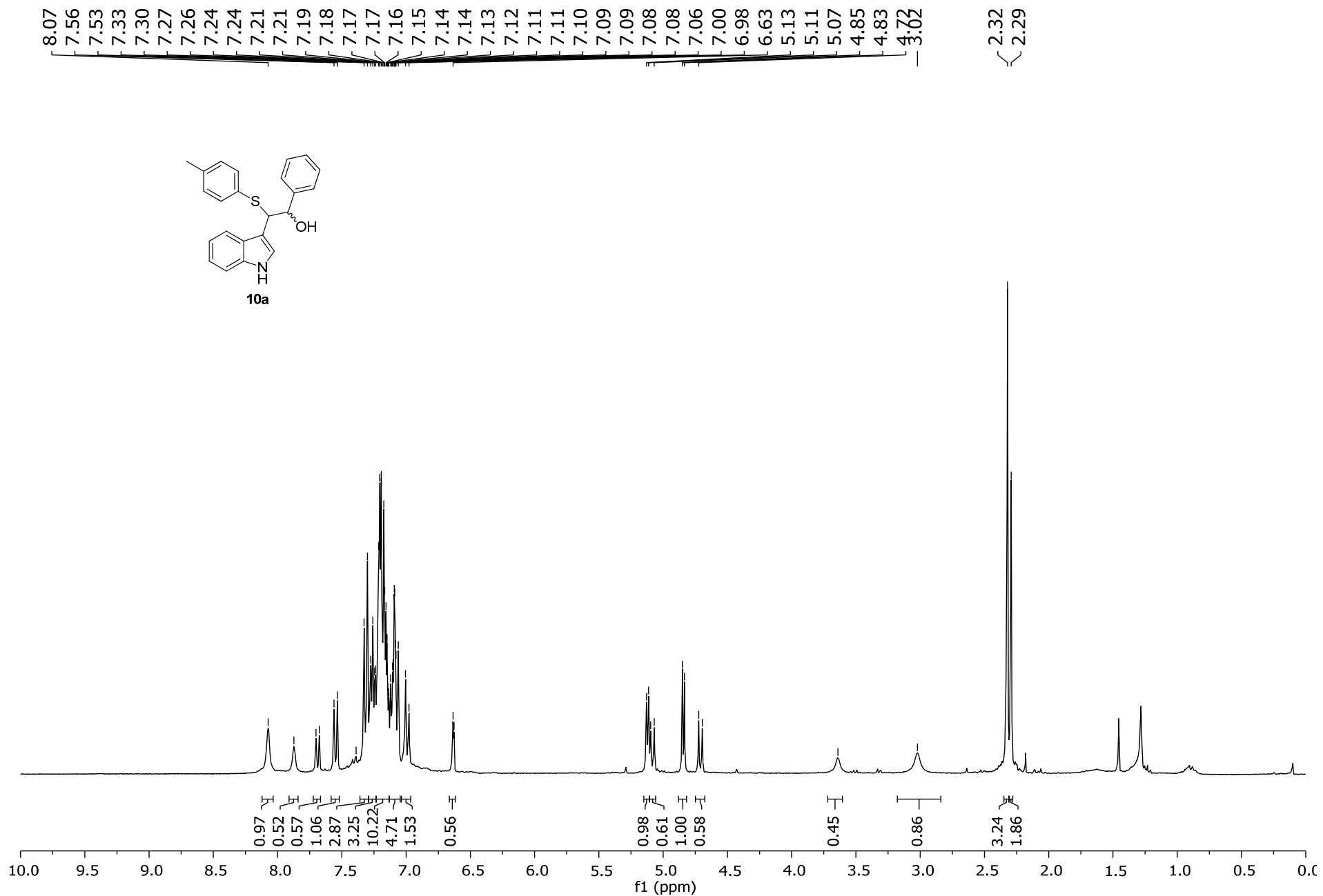
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— 59.5

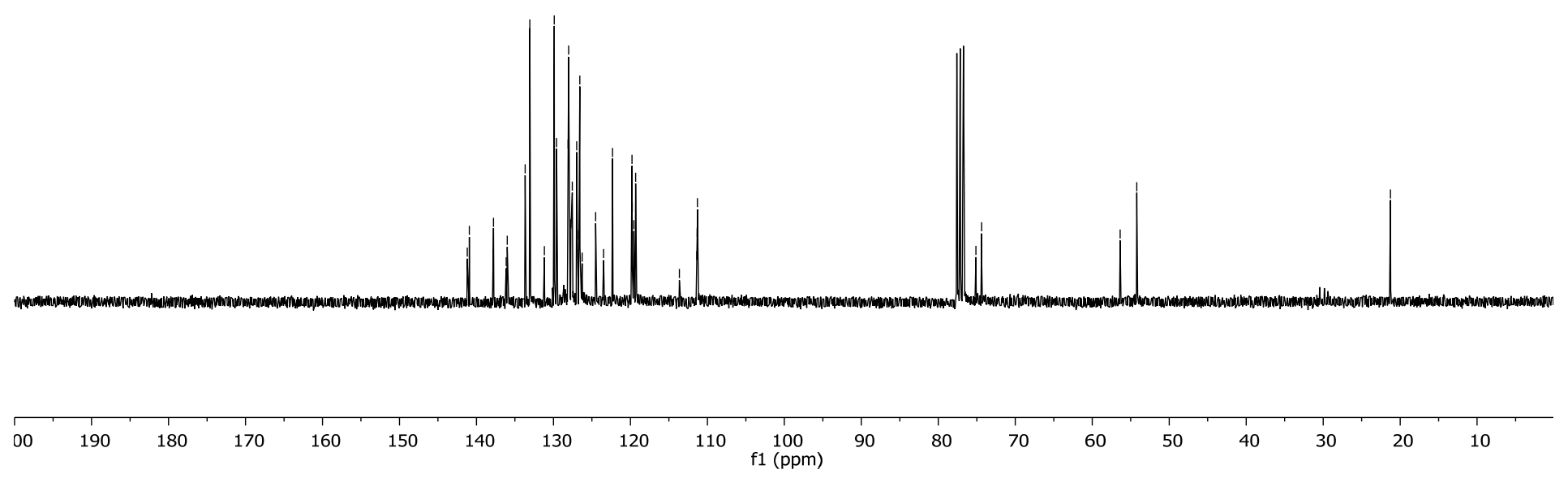
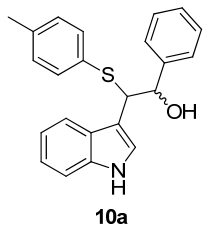
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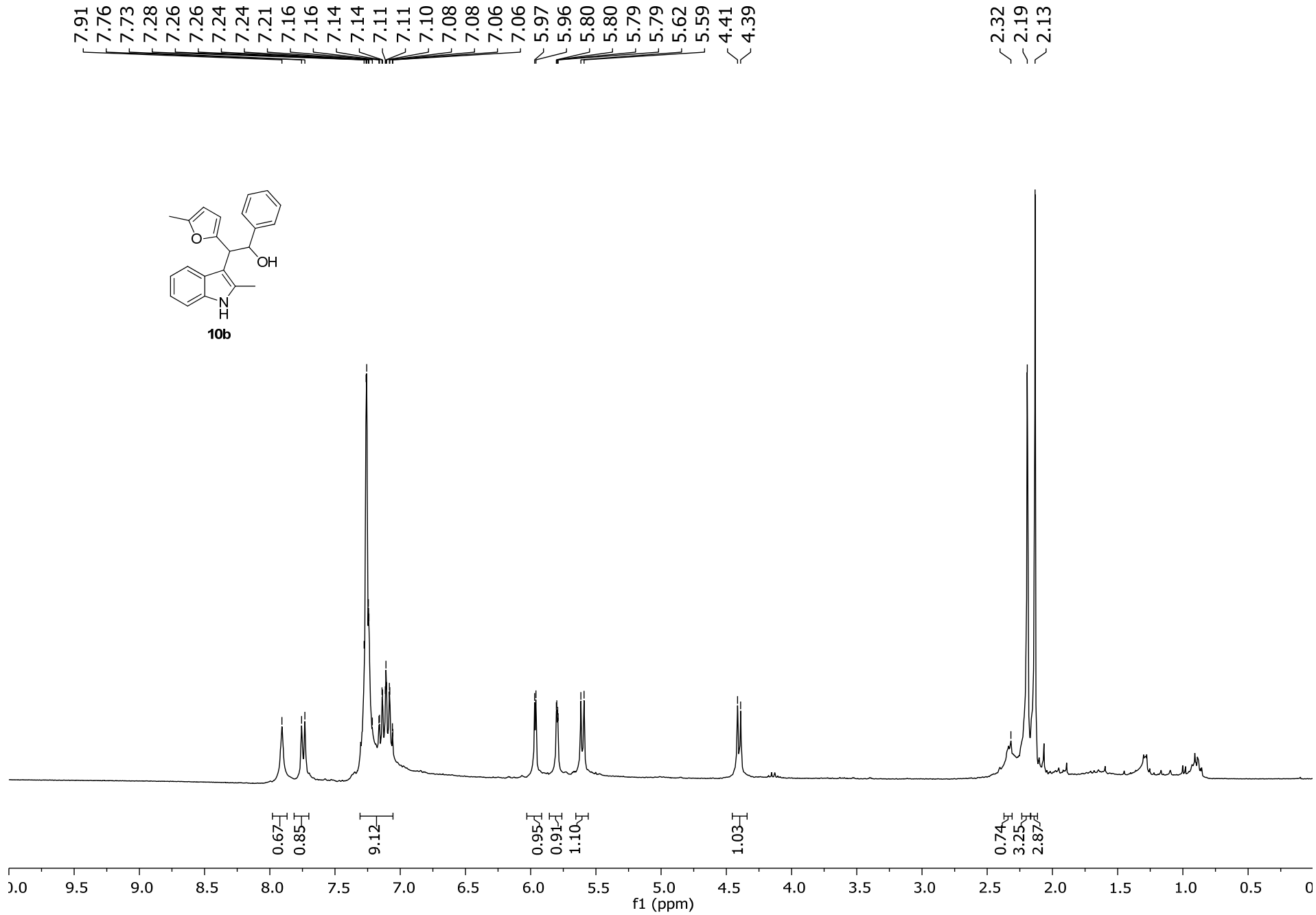
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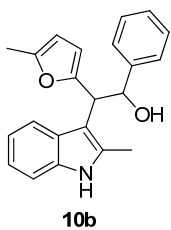




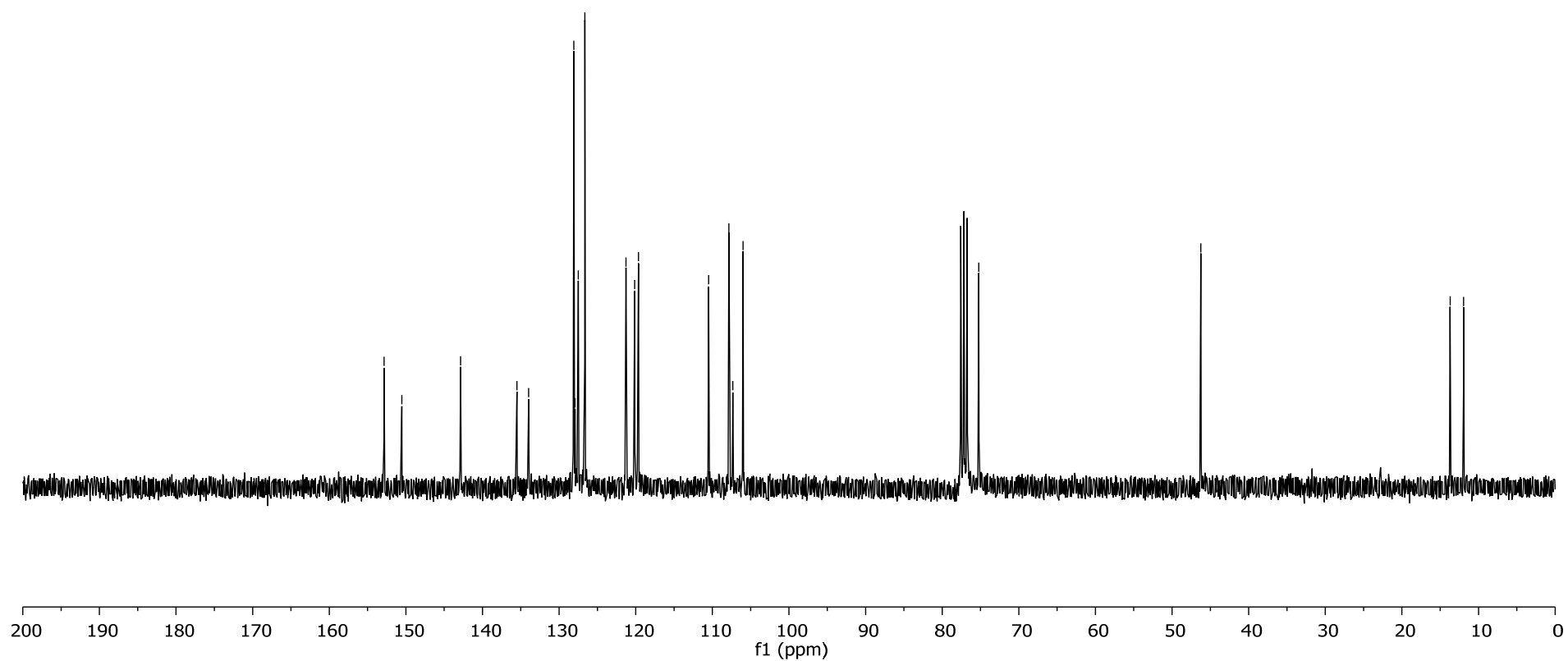
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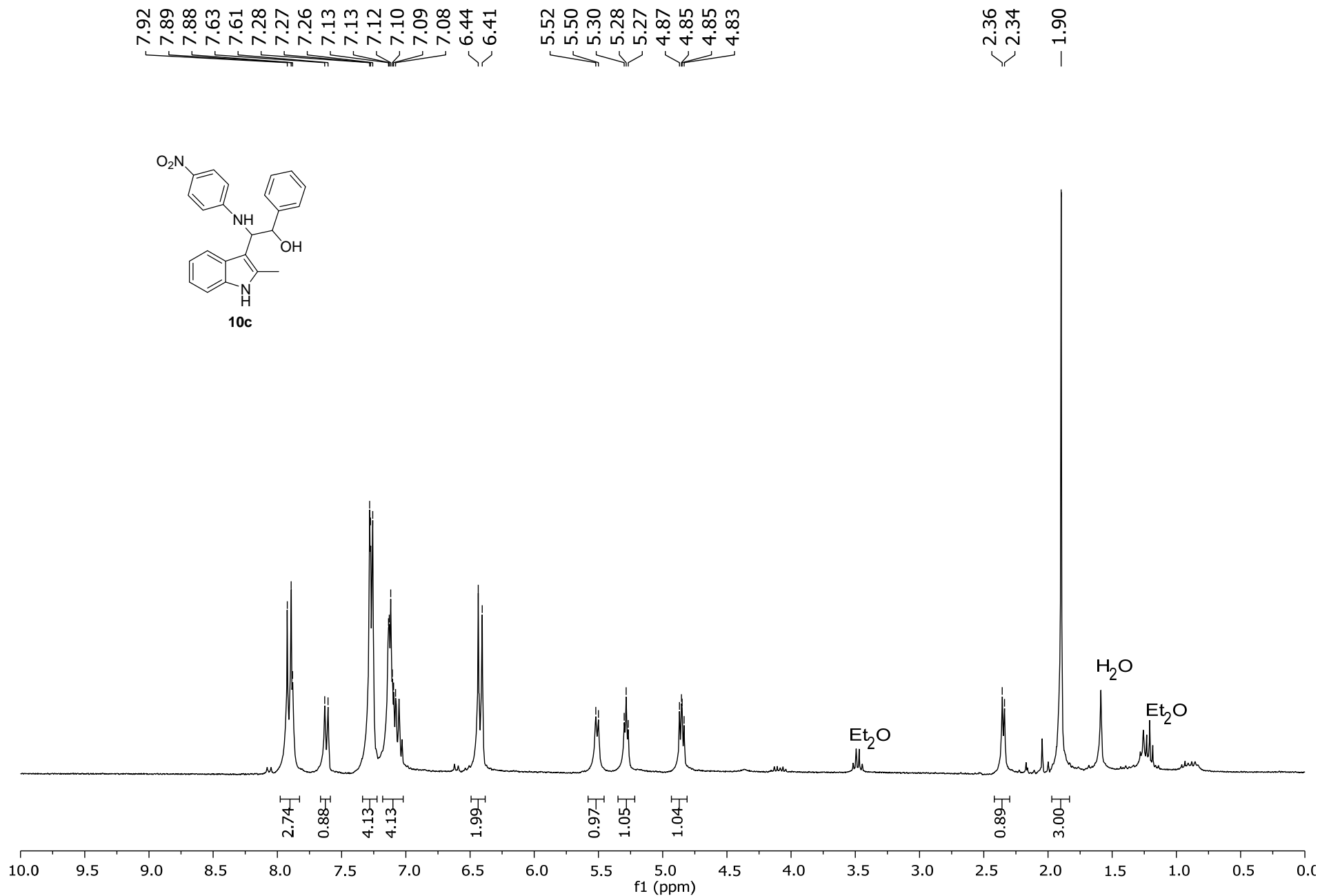


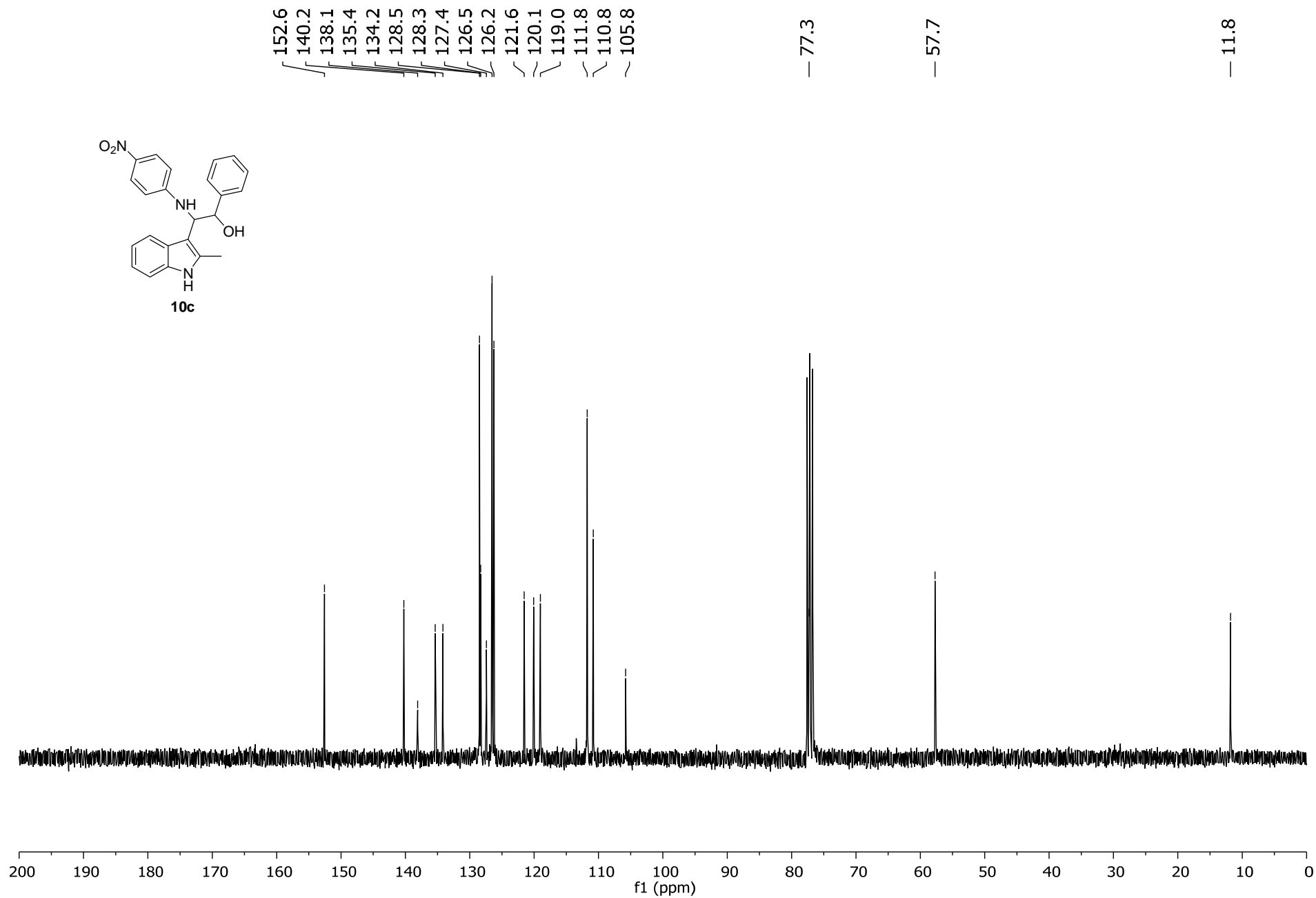
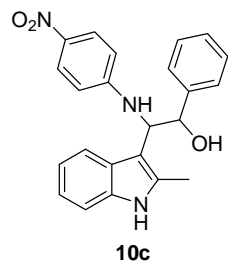


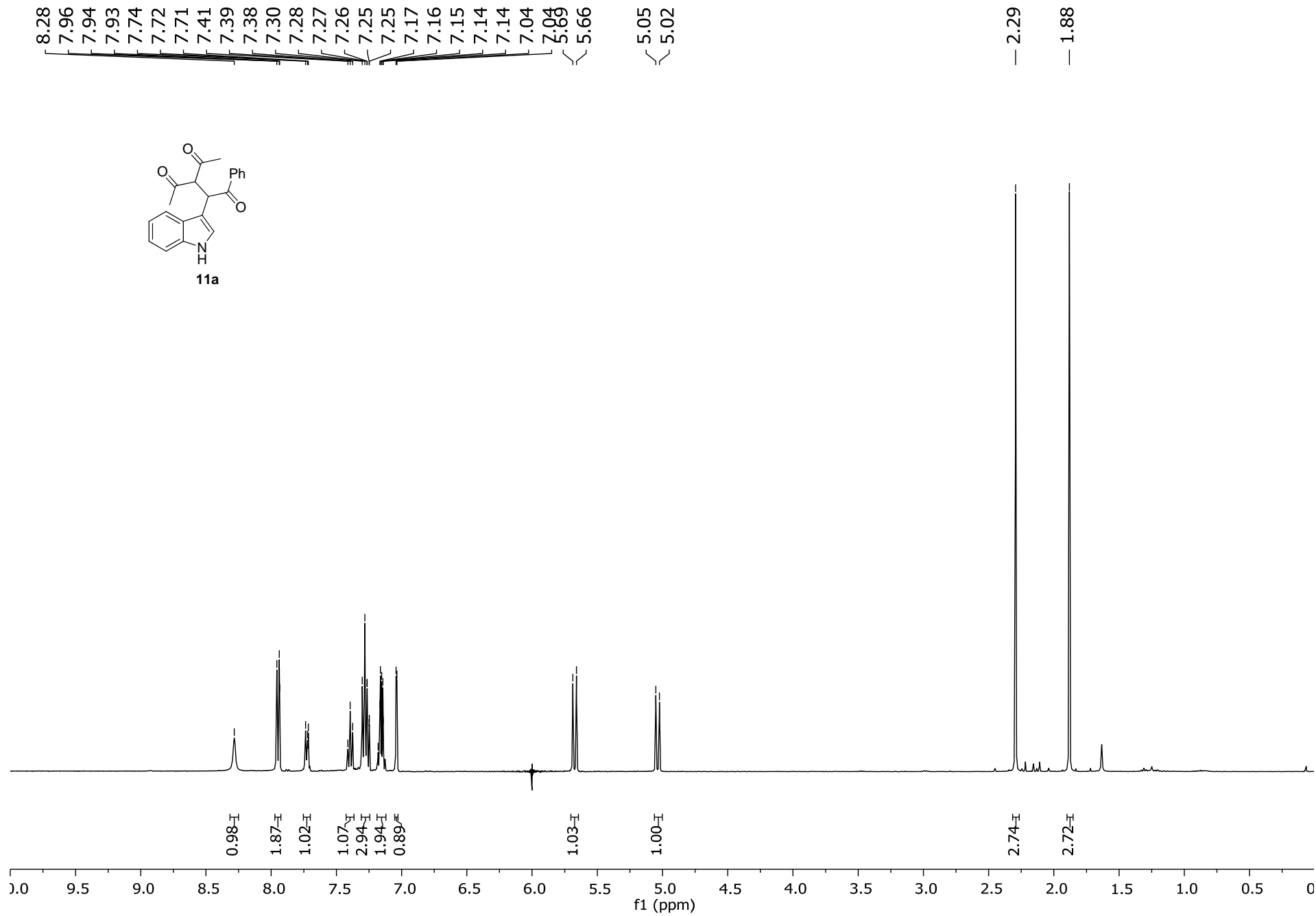


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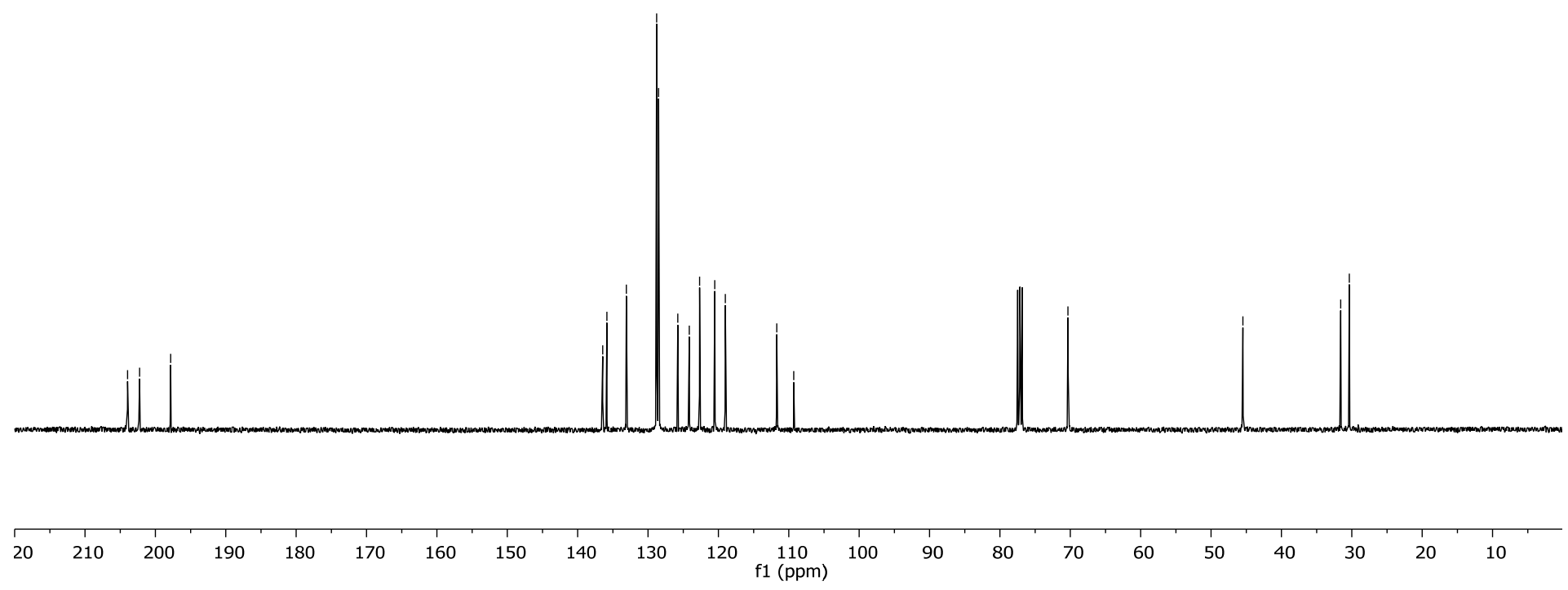
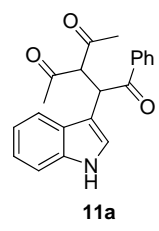
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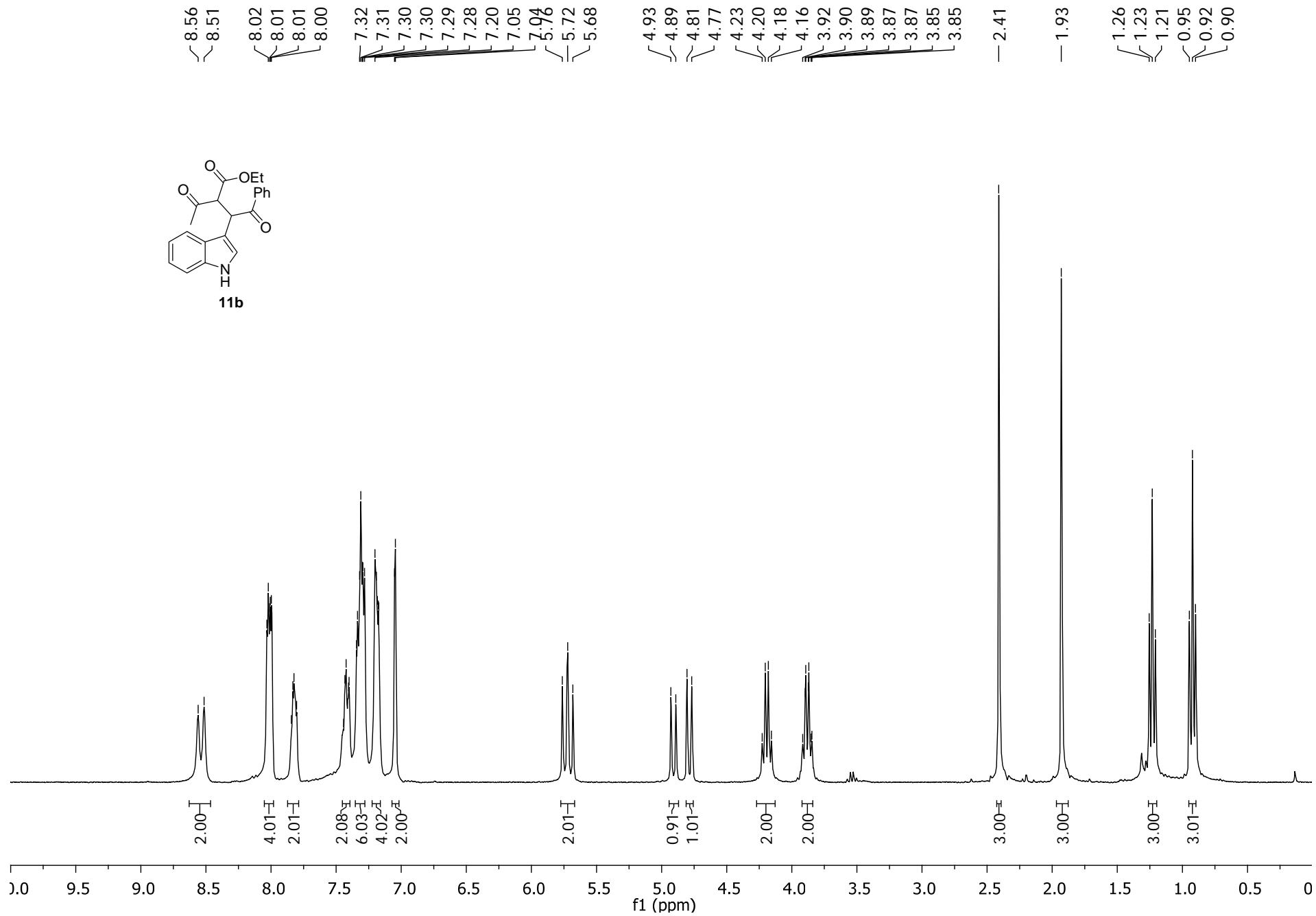
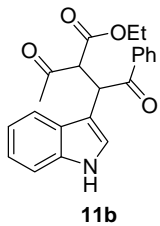
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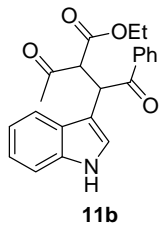
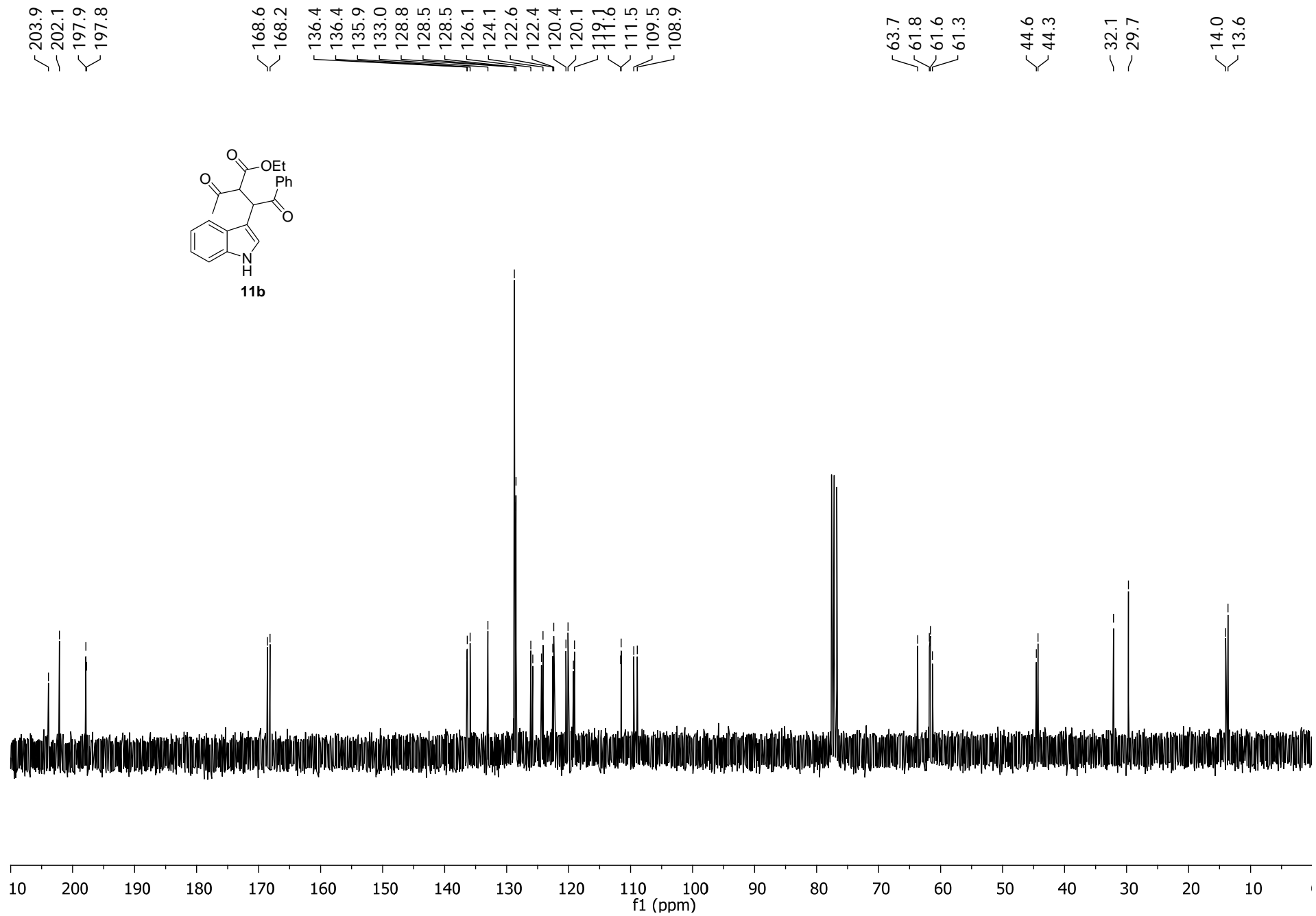
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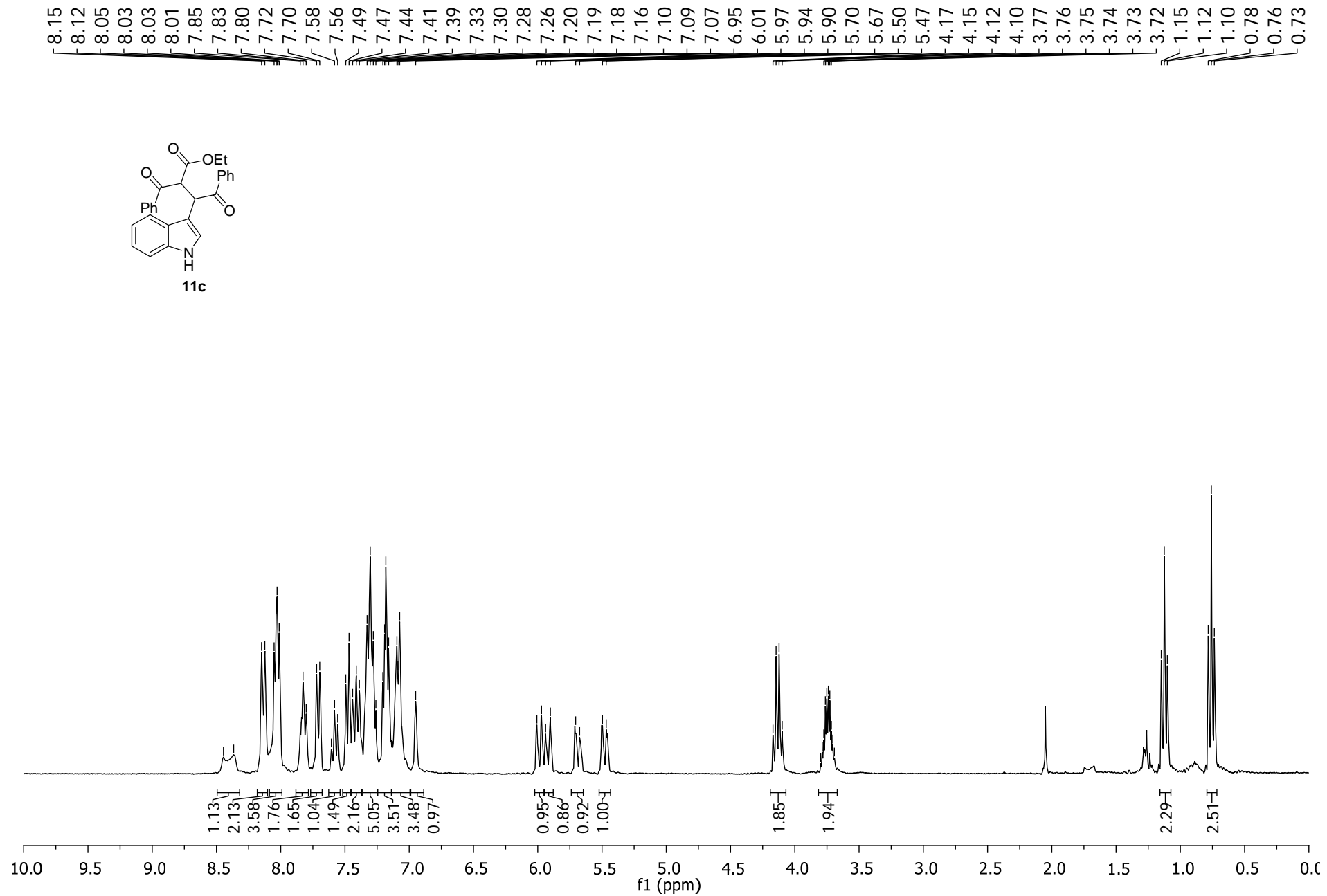
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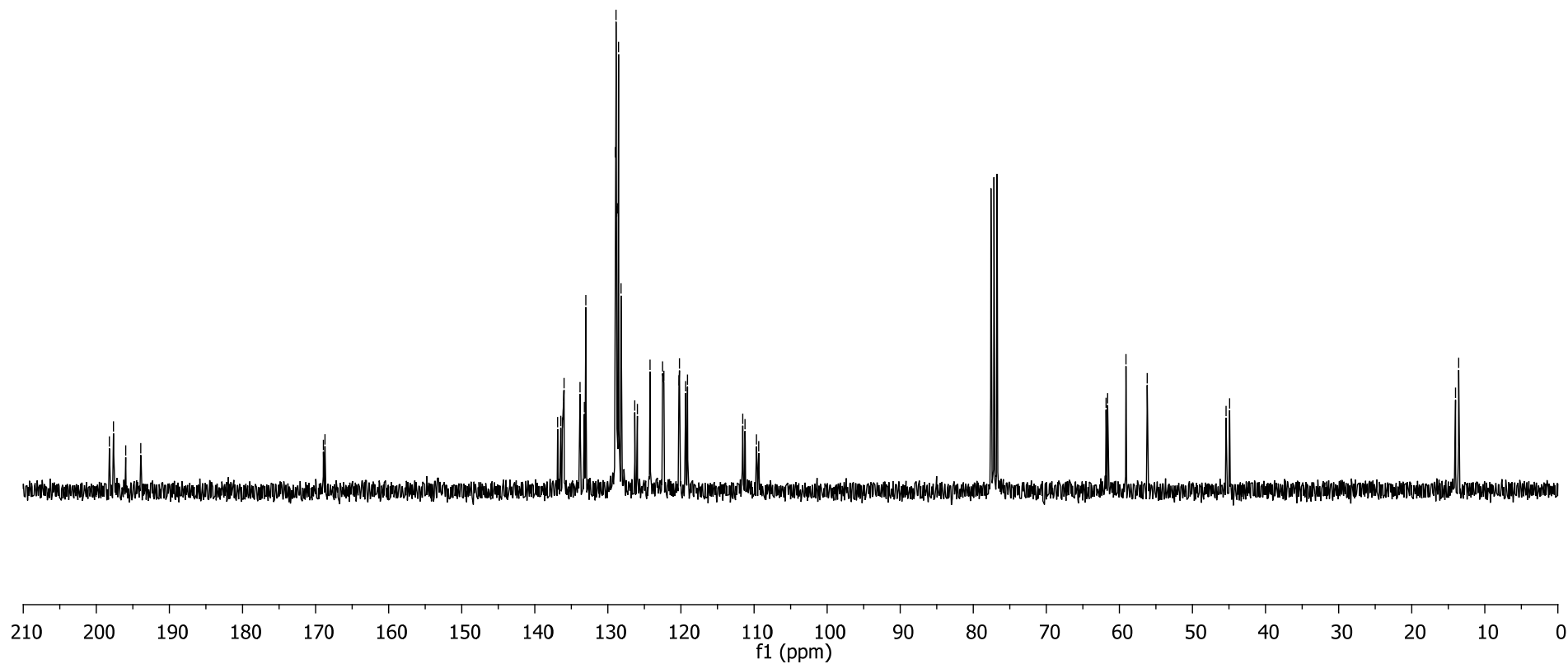
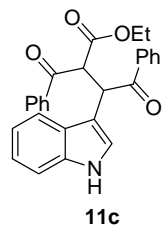
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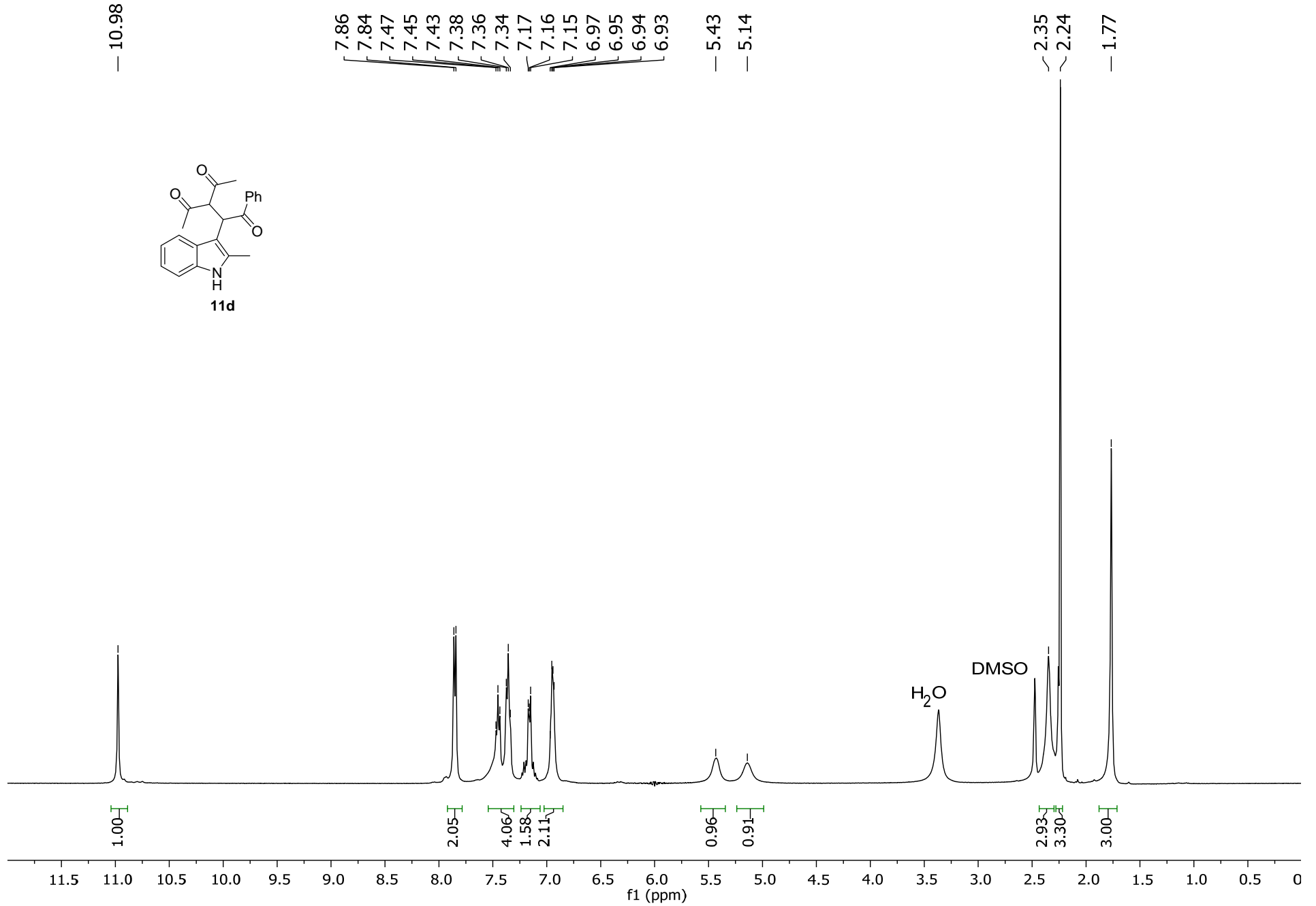
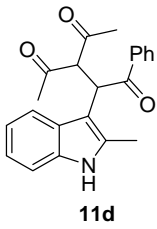
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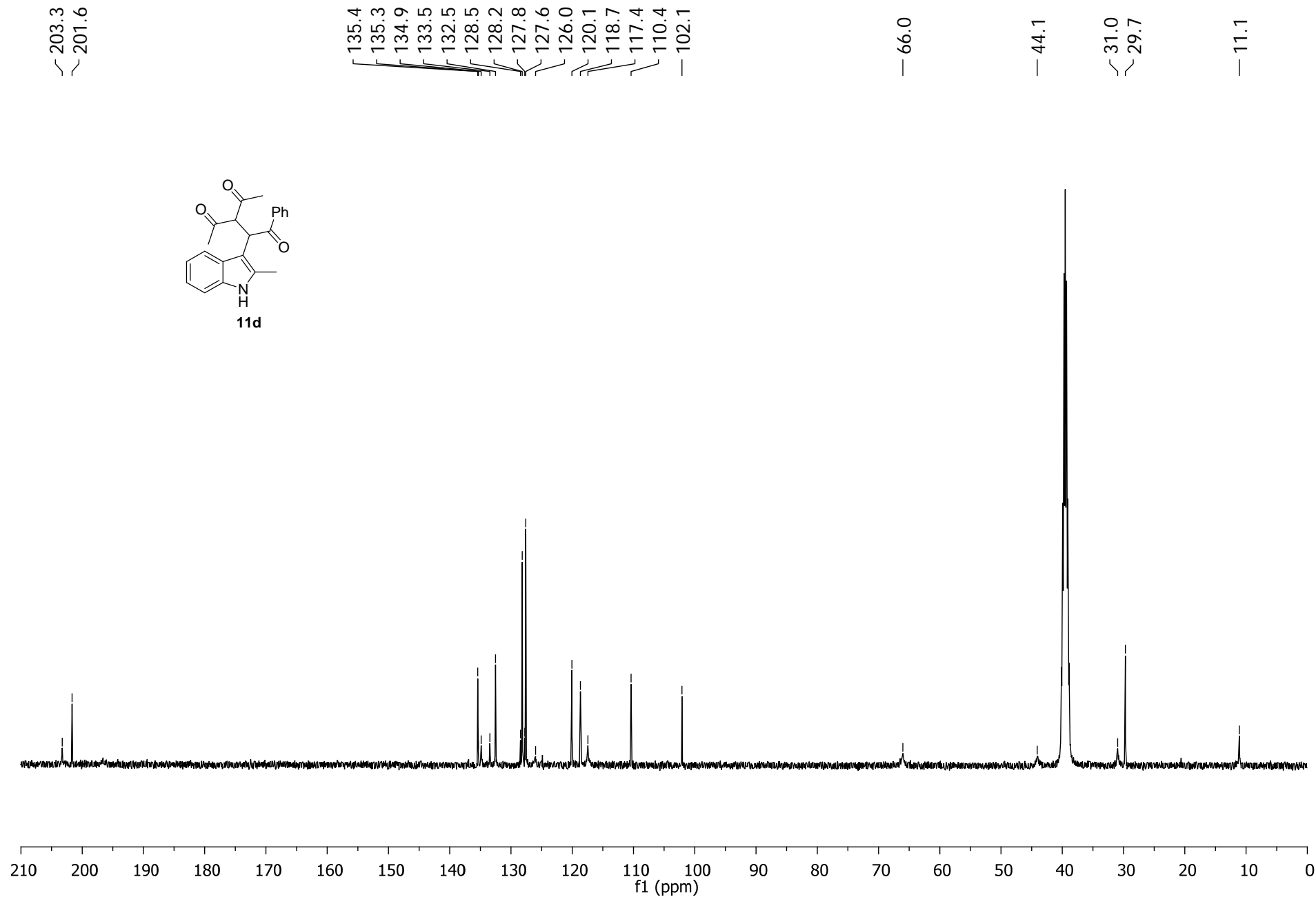
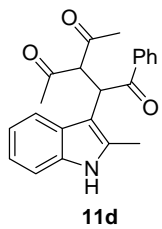
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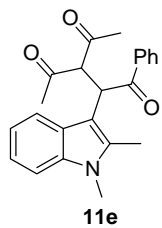
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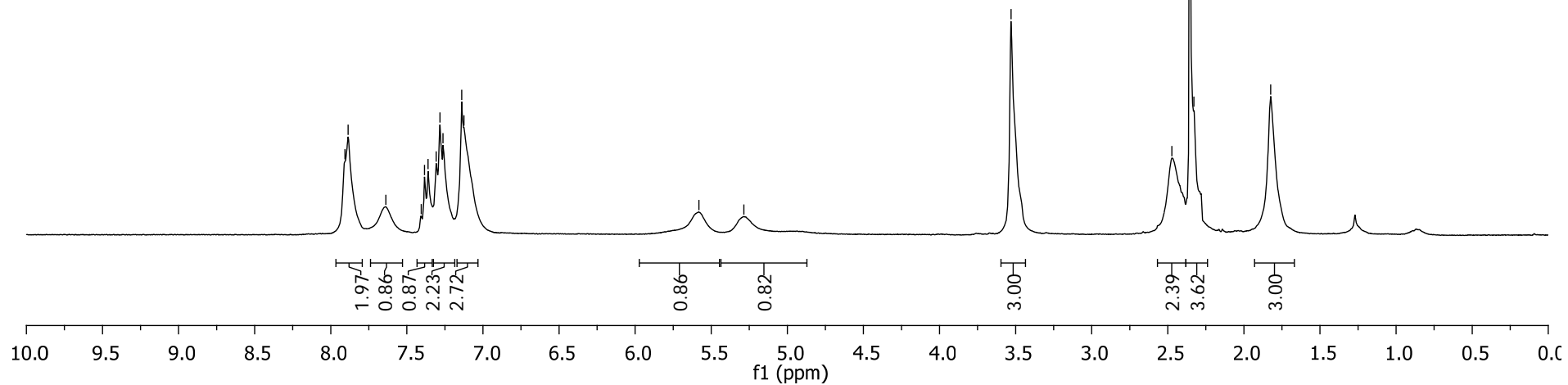
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— 5.29

— 3.53

— 2.47
— 2.33

— 1.82



203.4
201.4
197.6

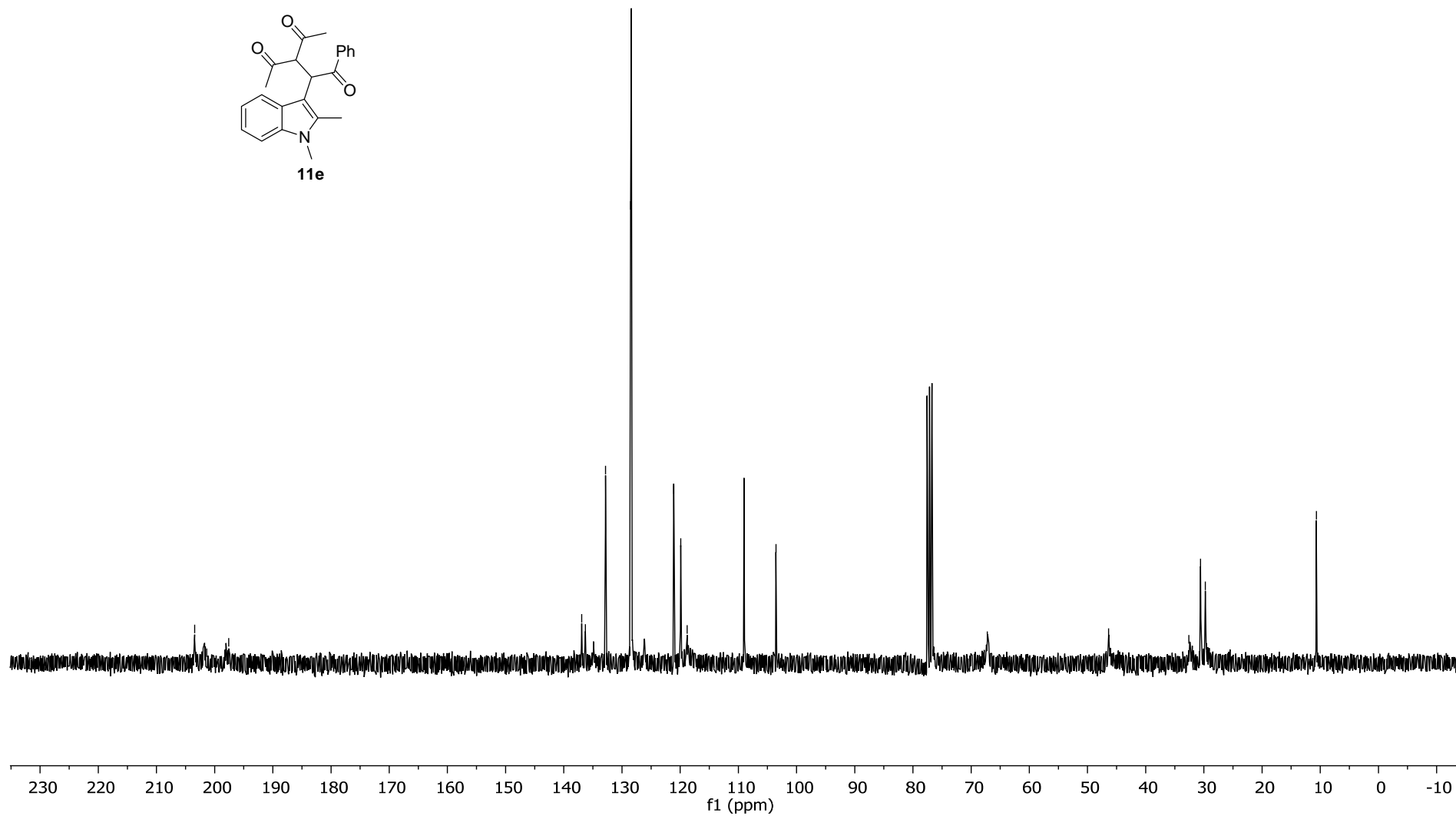
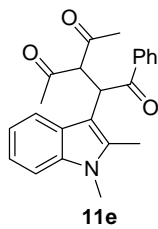
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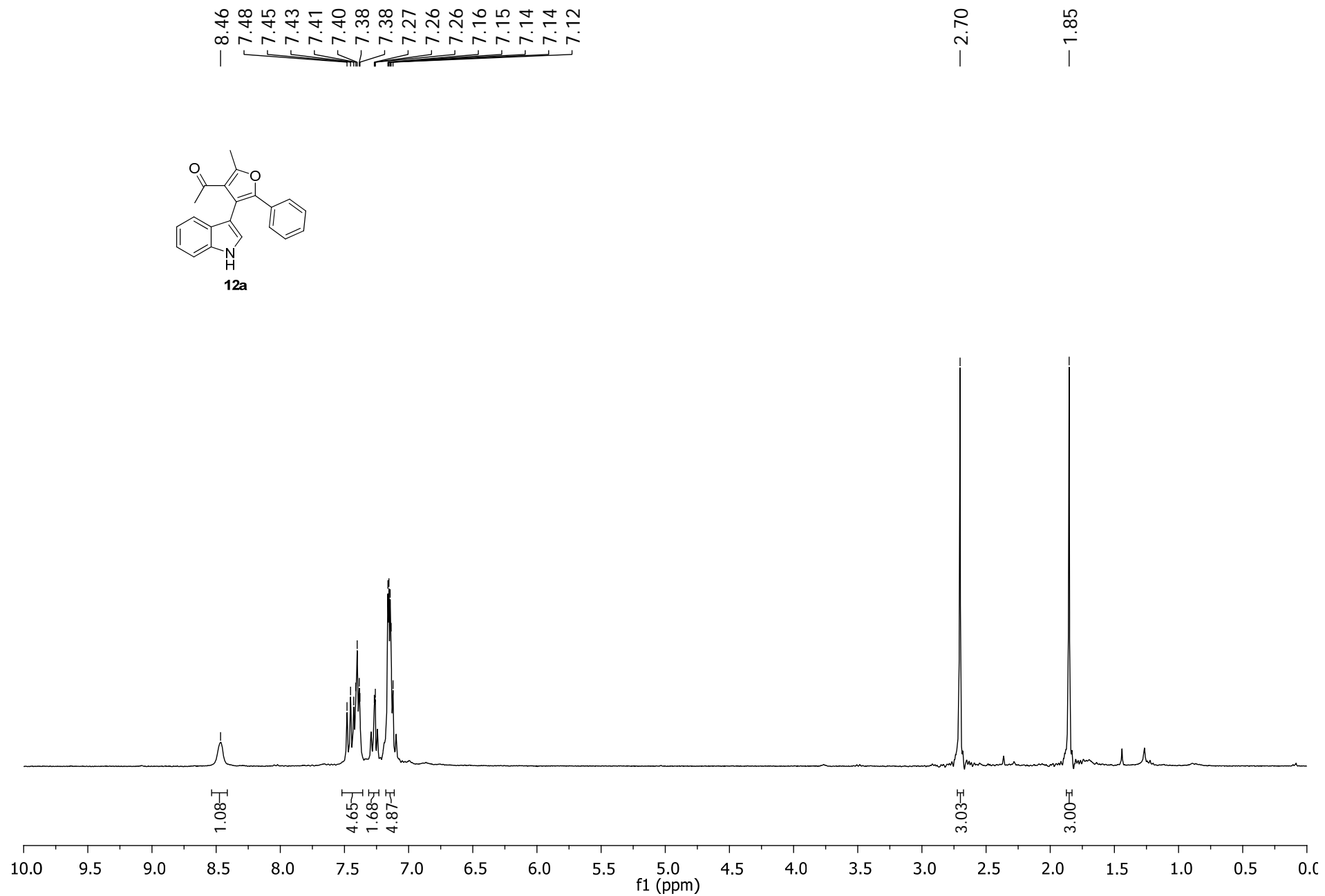
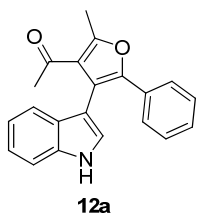
67.2

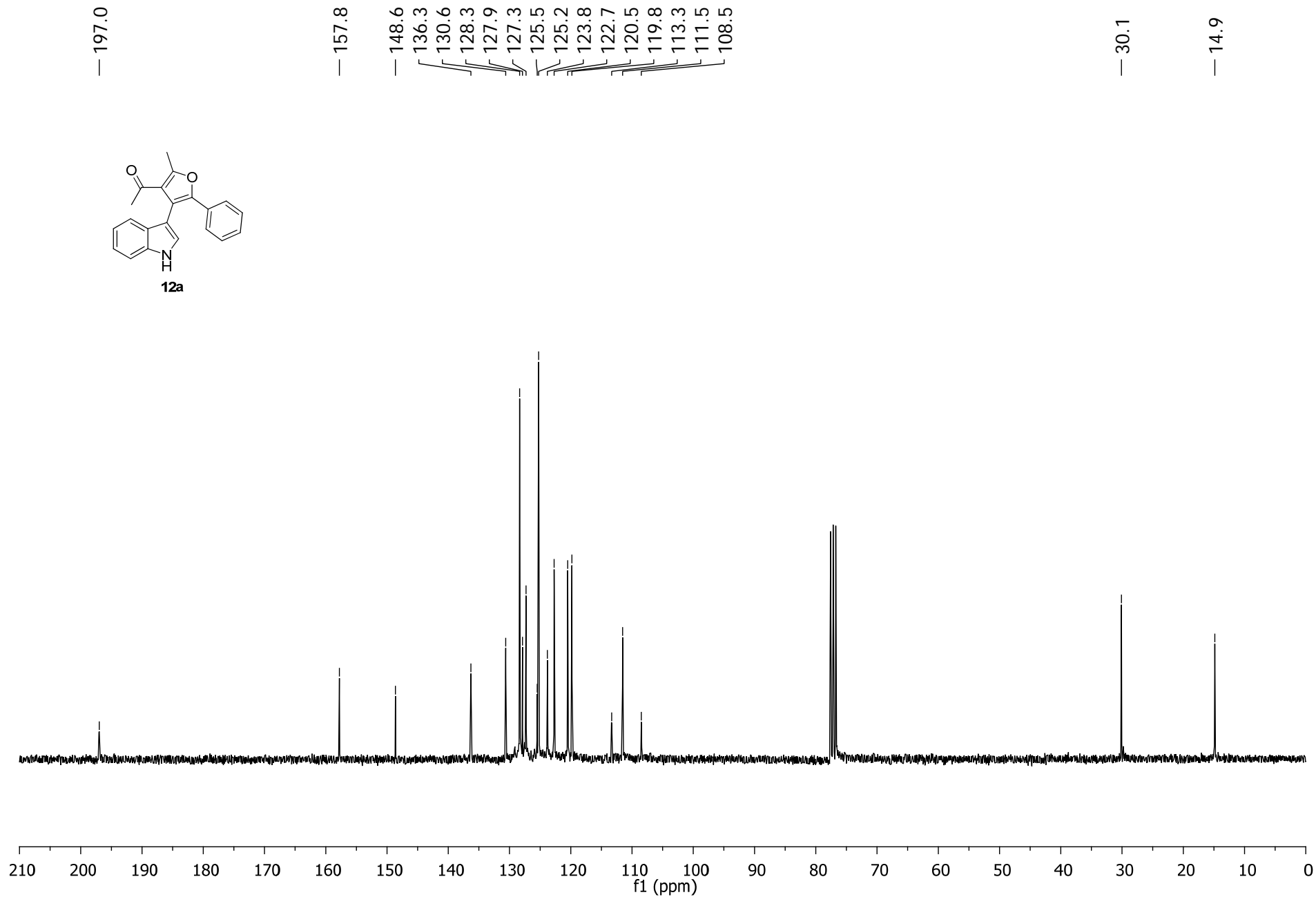
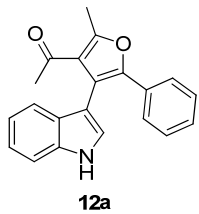
46.4

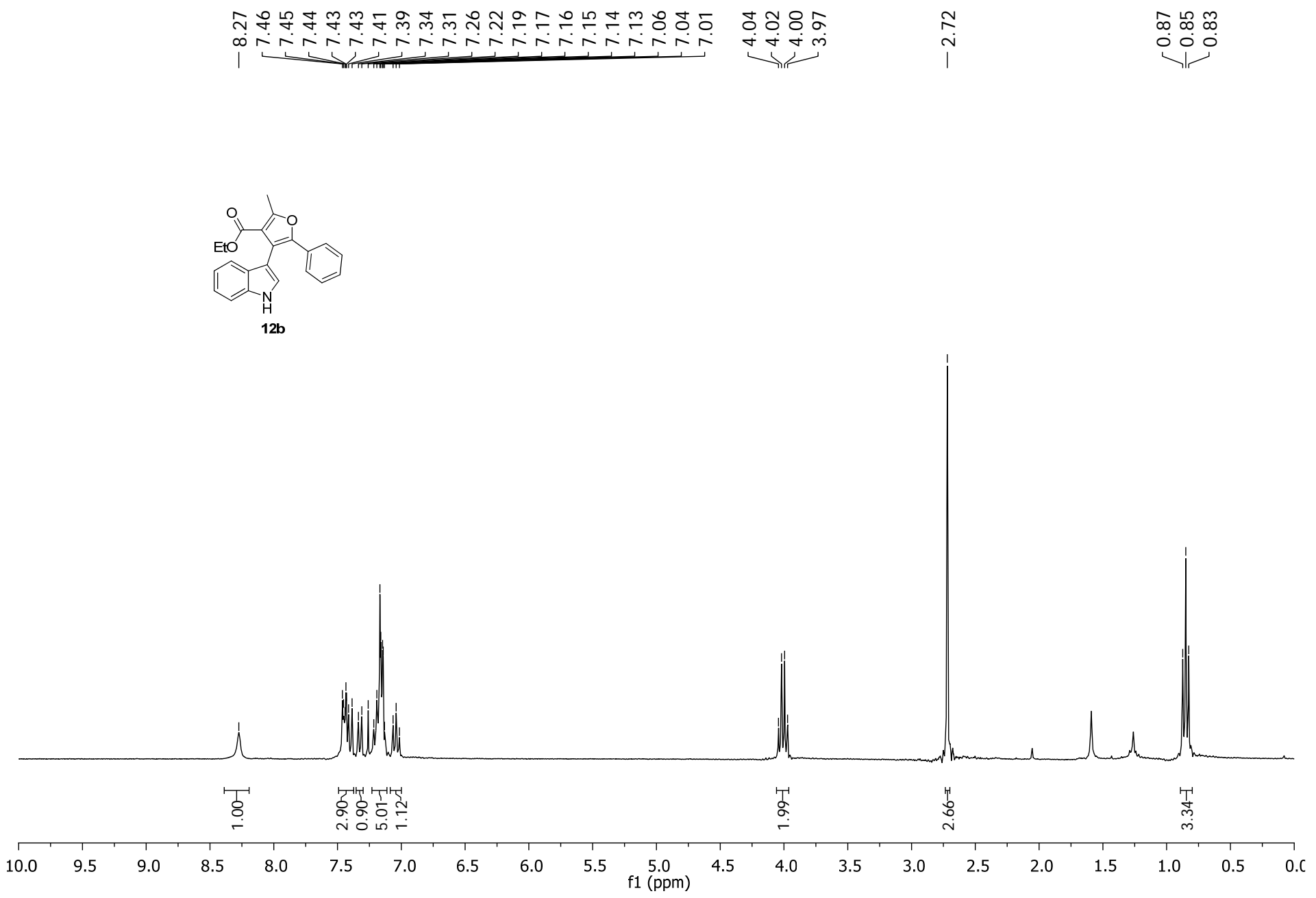
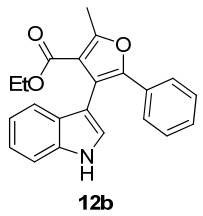
32.6
30.6
29.8

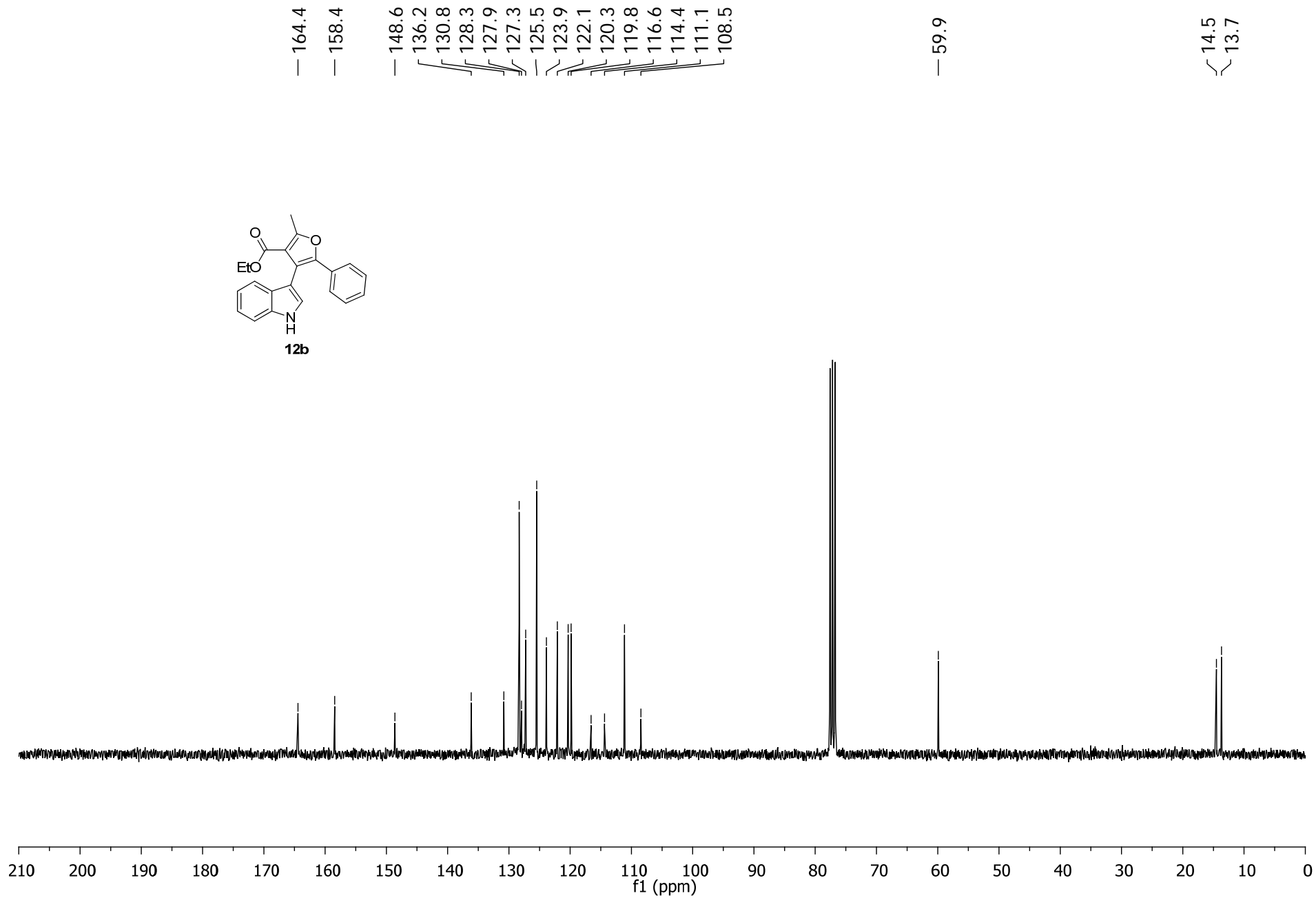
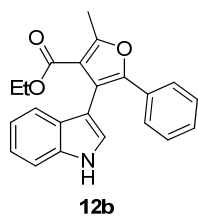
10.7

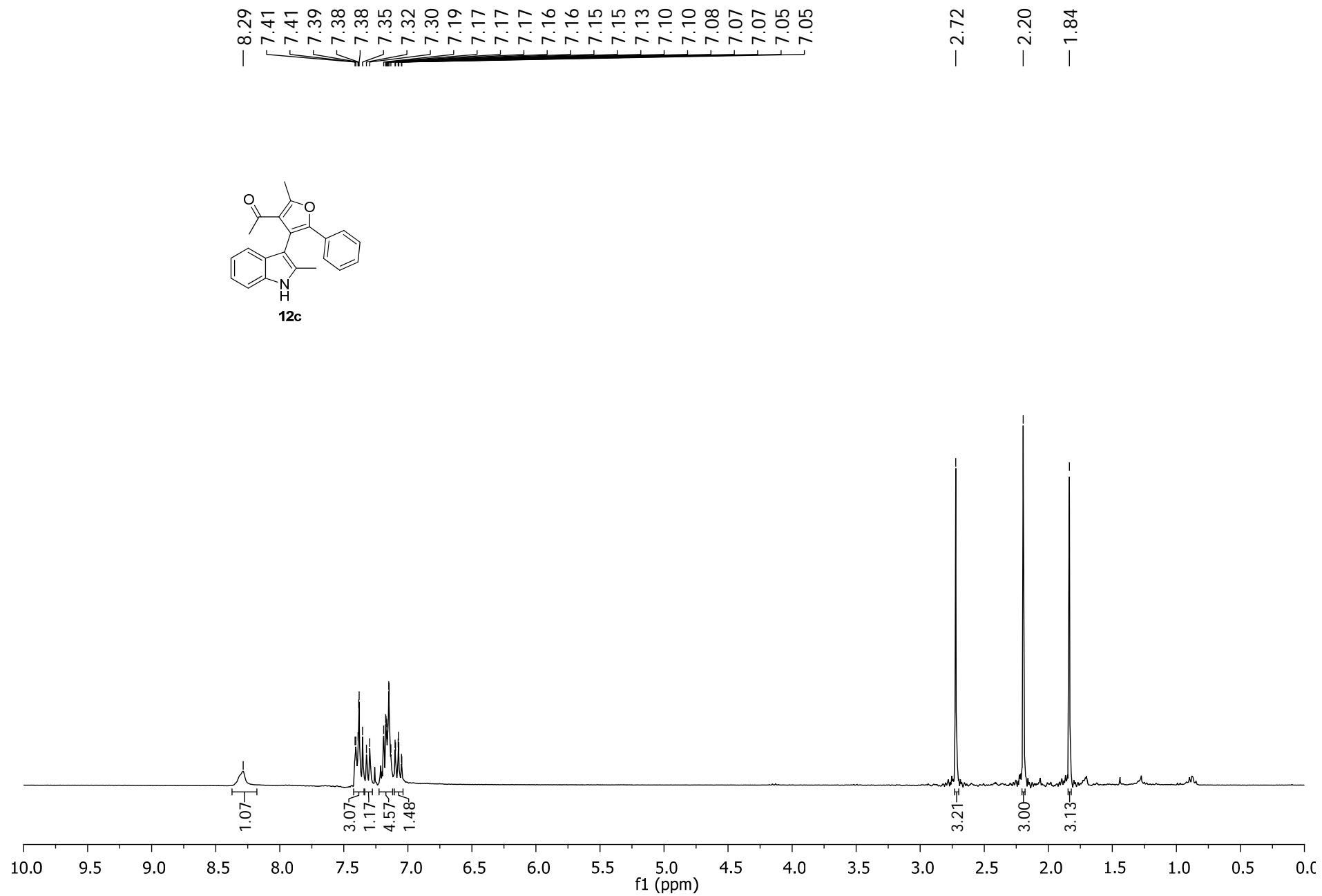
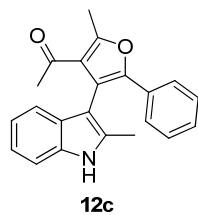












— 196.9

— 158.1

— 148.5

135.8

133.0

130.8

129.0

128.5

127.2

125.2

124.8

121.9

120.4

119.1

113.1

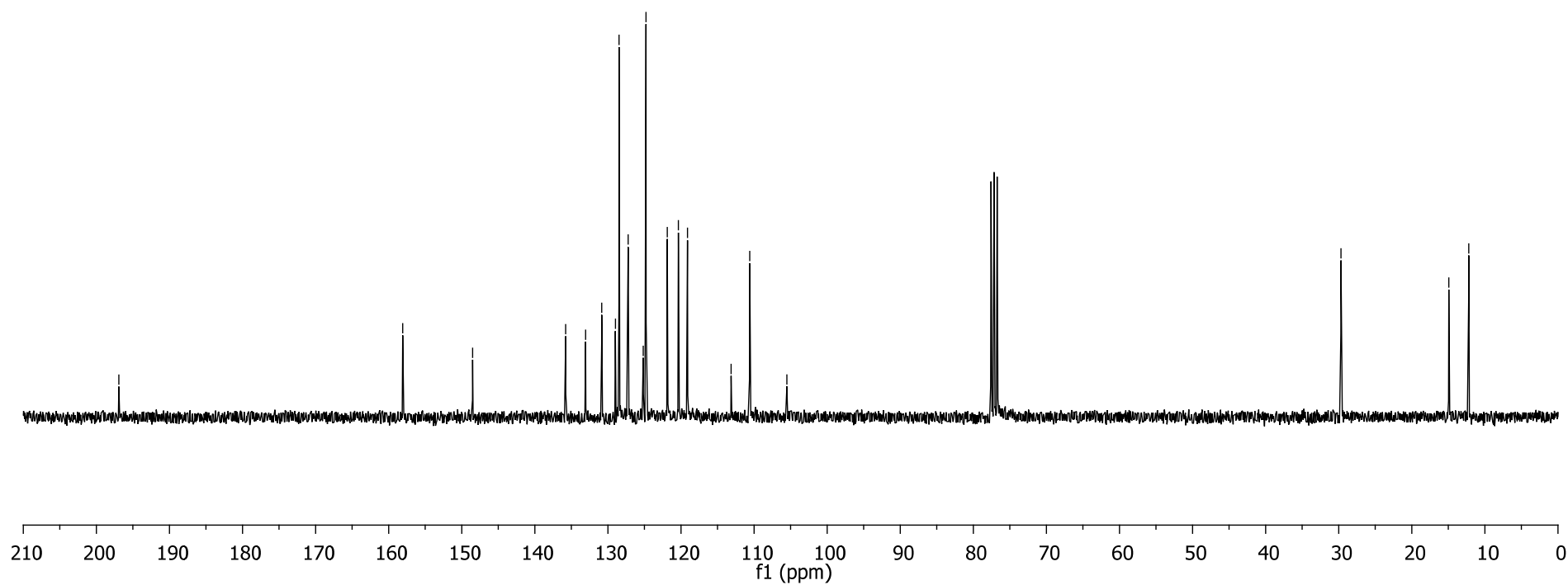
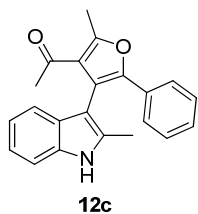
110.6

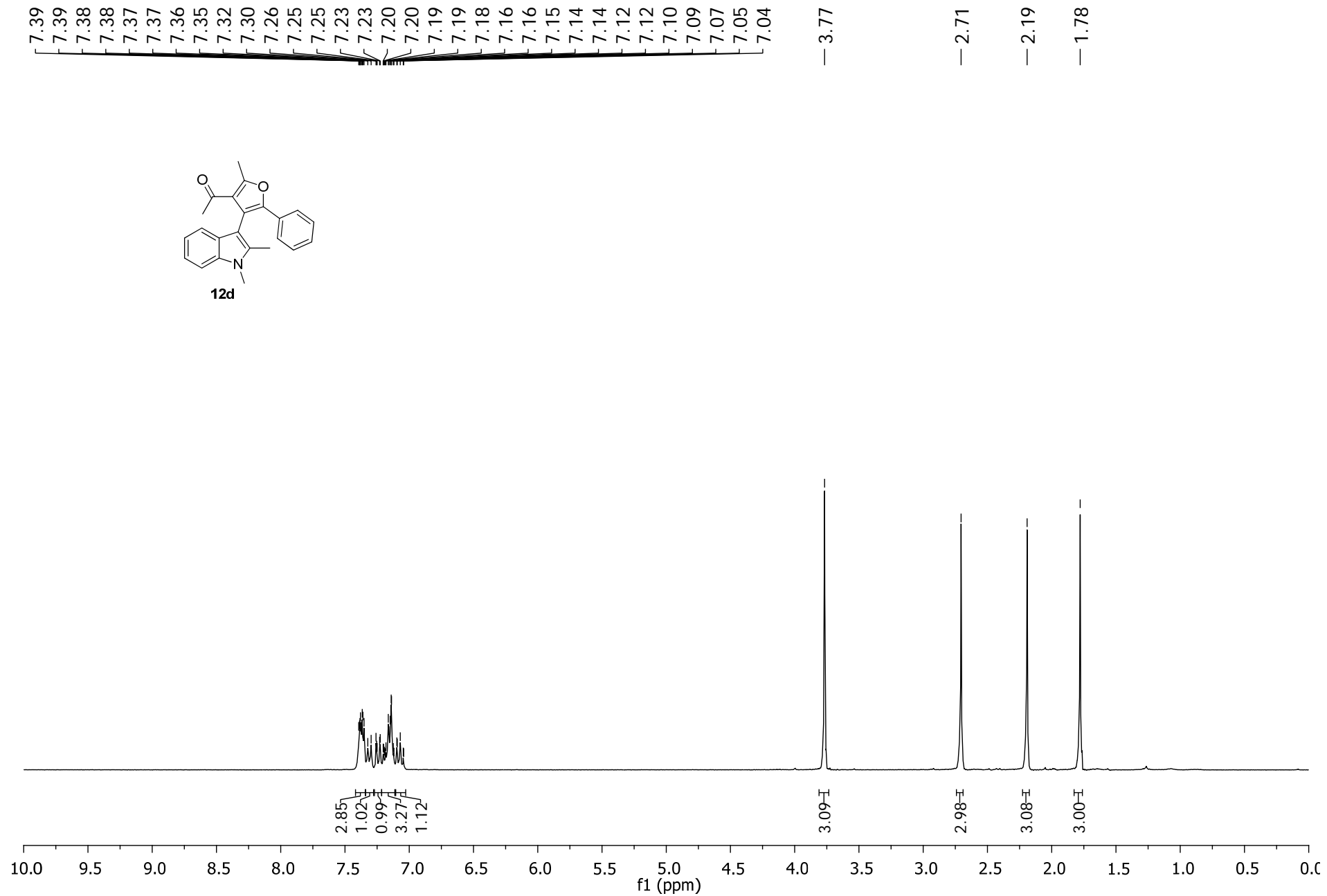
105.5

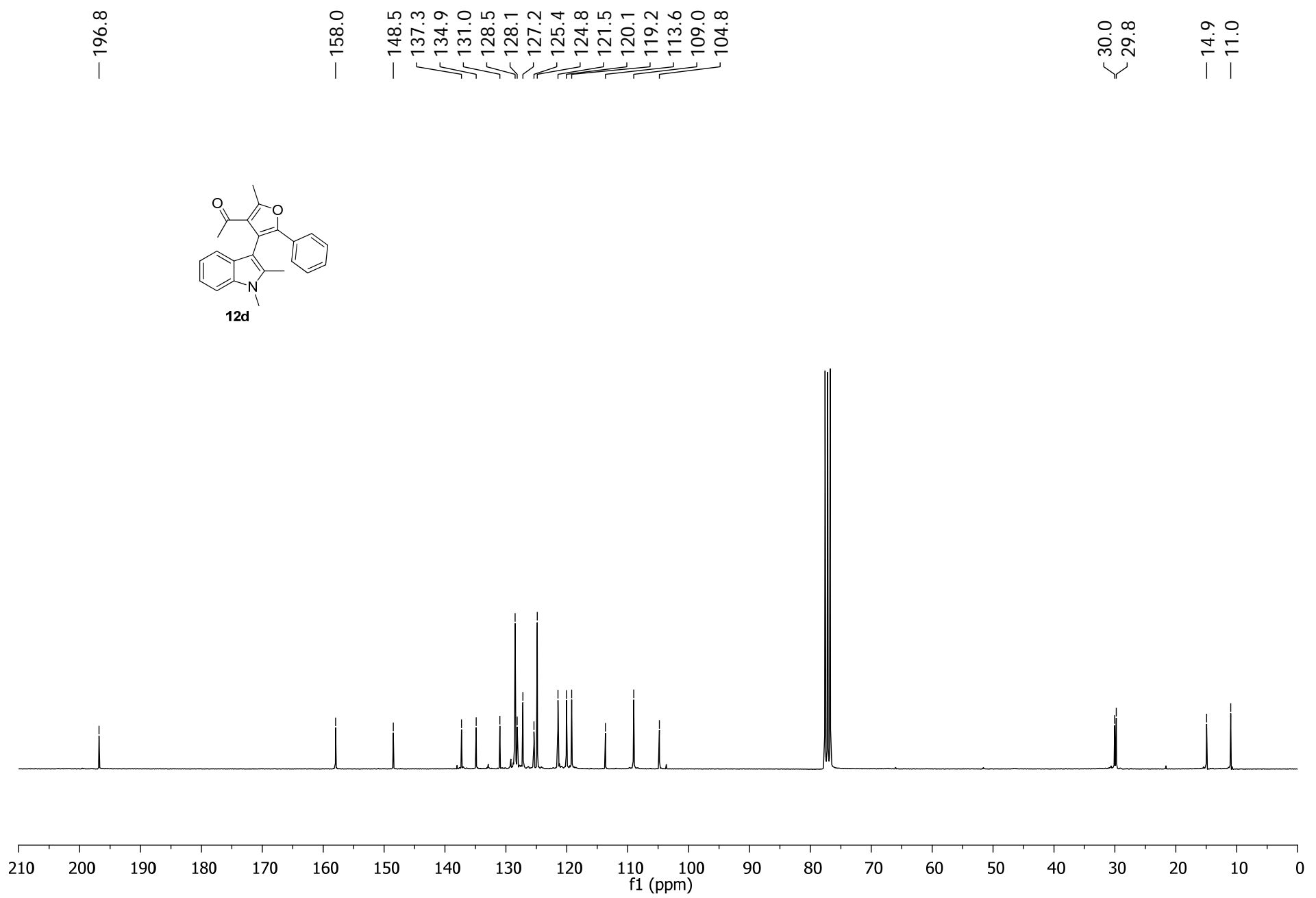
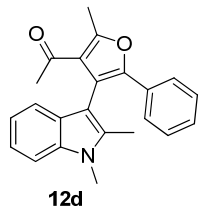
— 29.7

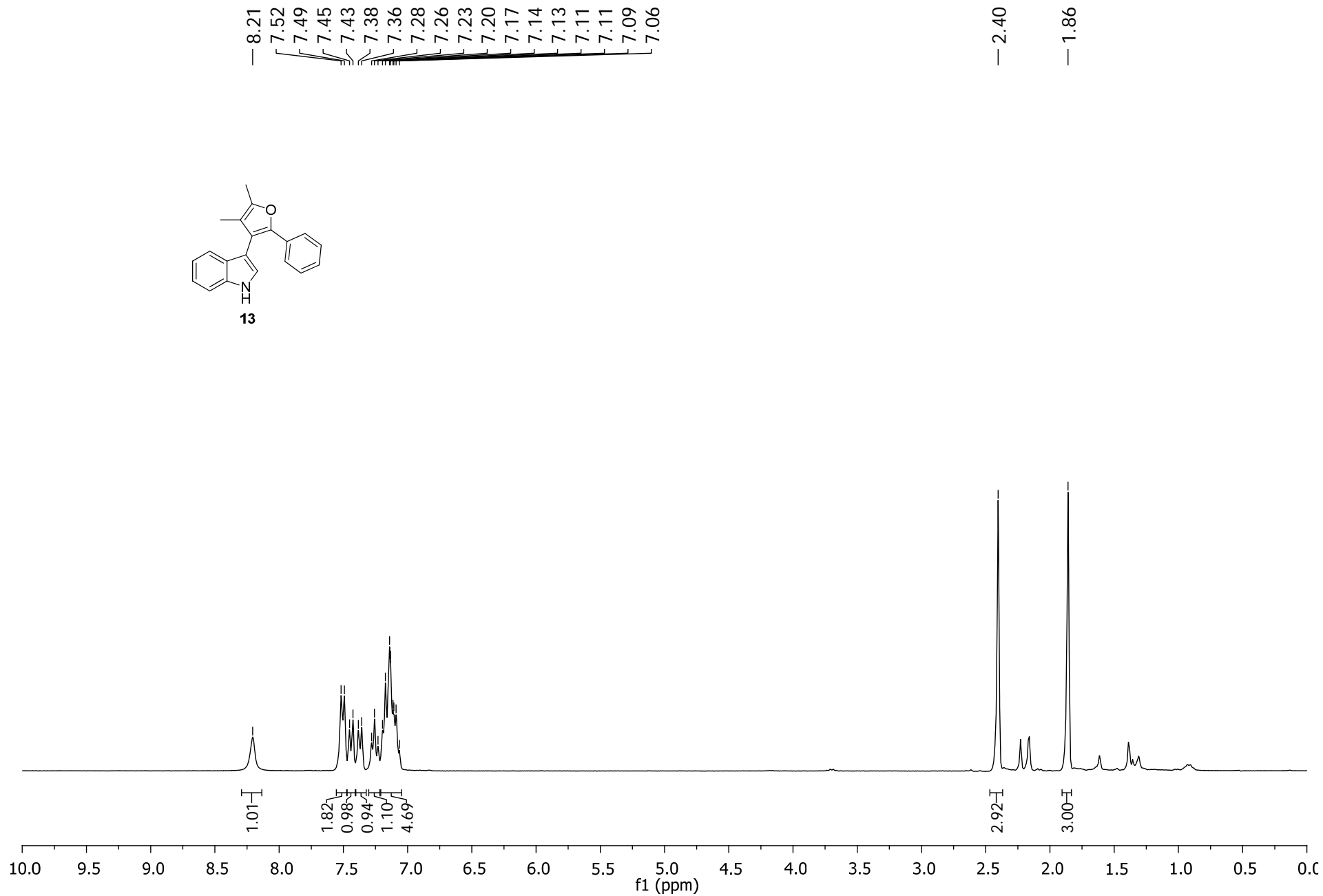
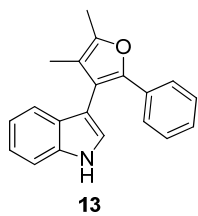
~ 14.9

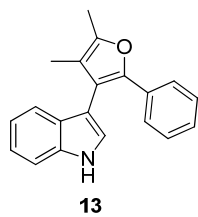
~ 12.2











147.1
146.6
136.3
131.9
128.2
127.1
126.3
124.8
123.3
122.3
120.6
119.9
118.1
116.5
111.2
109.5

12.0
9.1

