

SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR *CHEMICAL COMMUNICATIONS*

Acyclic Diaminocarbenes: Simple, Versatile Ligands for Cross-Coupling Reactions

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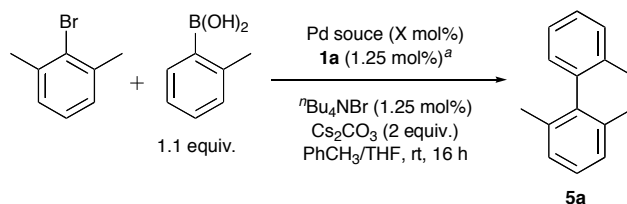
EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES and CHARACTERIZATION DATA

General. THF was dried and distilled over sodium/benzophenone ketal. Toluene and *N,N*-dimethylacetamide (DMA) were dried and distilled over calcium hydride. THF, toluene and DMA were also degassed (freeze-pump-thaw) just prior to use. Cesium carbonate was dried under vacuum (60 °C, 1 mm Hg) just prior to use. Aryl and alkenyl halides in liquid form were distilled prior to use. Methyl acrylate was distilled just prior to use. All other reagents were used as received (Aldrich, Acros, Strem). Silica gel (60 Å, 230-400 mesh) was obtained from Silicycle and used as received. All reactions were performed under an atmosphere of anhydrous nitrogen or argon. Melting points are uncorrected and were measured on a Fisher-Johns melting point apparatus. ¹H and ¹³C NMR were recorded at 300 or 500 MHz and 75 or 125 MHz respectively on a Bruker Spectrospin 300 or 500 MHz spectrometer. Proton chemical shifts were internally referenced to the residual proton resonance in CDCl₃ (δ 7.26). Carbon chemical shifts were internally referenced to the deuterated solvent signals in CDCl₃ (δ 77.00). Infrared spectra were obtained on a Bruker VECTOR22 FT-IR spectrometer. HRMS-CI were performed on a Waters/Micromass GCT time-of-flight mass spectrometer.

All the requisite formamidine salts were prepared as previously described by Alder *et al.*, and without any modifications.¹

Optimization Studies

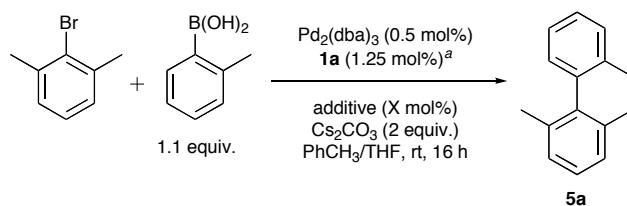
Table 4. Effect of the Nature of the Palladium Source on the Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling of 2-Bromo-1,3-dimethylbenzene with 2-Methylphenylboronic acid using ADC **1a** as Ligand



Entry	Pd source/mol%	Yield/%
1	Pd ₂ (dba) ₃ /0.5	89
2	Pd(OAc) ₂ /1.0	62
3	[Pd(allyl)Cl] ₂ /0.5	80
4	PdCl ₂ (CH ₃ CN) ₂ /1.0	79

^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt

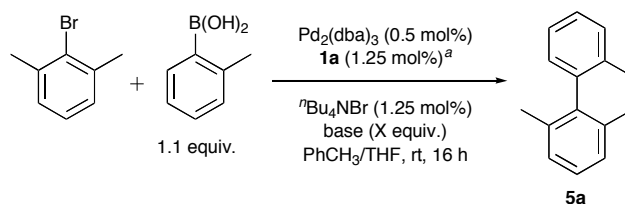
Please note that we found it to be optimal if **1a** was allowed to pre-mix with the palladium catalyst before the addition of the other reagents. We suggest that this observation is due to the fact that once the ADC is bound to the metal center, the resulting catalyst species is more robust and less likely to degrade to palladium black during the course of the reaction. If **1a** was added at the same time as the other reagents, lower conversions were observed probably due to the earlier appearance of palladium black in the reaction mixture.

Table 5. Effect of Additives on the Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling of 2-Bromo-1,3-dimethylbenzene with 2-Methylphenylboronic acid using ADC **1a** as Ligand

Entry	Additive	Mol%	Yield/%
1	none	-	62
2	LiBr	5	65
3	NH_4Br	5	60
4	$^n\text{Bu}_4\text{NBr}$	5	90
5	$^n\text{Bu}_4\text{NI}$	5	89
6	$^n\text{Bu}_4\text{NBr}$	2	90
7	$^n\text{Bu}_4\text{NBr}$	1	84
8	$^n\text{Bu}_4\text{NBr}$	1.25	89

^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt

The use of $^n\text{Bu}_4\text{NBr}$ is preceded in NHC catalyzed Suzuki-Miyaura couplings (see: K. Arentsen, S. Caddick, F. G. N. Cloke, A. P. Herring and P. B. Hitchcock, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2004, **45**, 3511). We found that the use of $^n\text{Bu}_4\text{NBr}$ allowed the palladium catalyst to remain homogenous and soluble for a longer period of time (*i.e.* palladium black formation was delayed until near full conversion was achieved).

Table 6. Effect of the Nature of the Base on the Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling of 2-Bromo-1,3-dimethylbenzene with 2-Methylphenylboronic acid using ADC **1a** as Ligand

Entry	Base	Equiv.	Yield/%
1	none	-	<2%
2	Cs_2CO_3	2.0	89
3	$i\text{Pr}_2\text{NEt}$	2.0	<10
3	CsF	2.0	85
4	KOMe	5.0	78
5	Na_2CO_3	5.0	19
6	NaOH	2.0	<10
7	Cs_2CO_3	1.5	85
8	Cs_2CO_3	1.1	77

^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt

Please note that we tried to deprotonate the formamidine precursor to ADC **1a** with Cs_2CO_3 in one pot but were unsuccessful (see: R. W. Alder, P. R. Allen, M. Murray and A. G. Orpen, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.*, 1996, **35**, 1121). Similar attempts with KO^tBu gave lower yields. Thus, we decided to pre-form ADC **1a** via Alder's procedure using LDA, and then complex it with the palladium catalyst (see General Experimental Details for Table 1, *vide infra*).

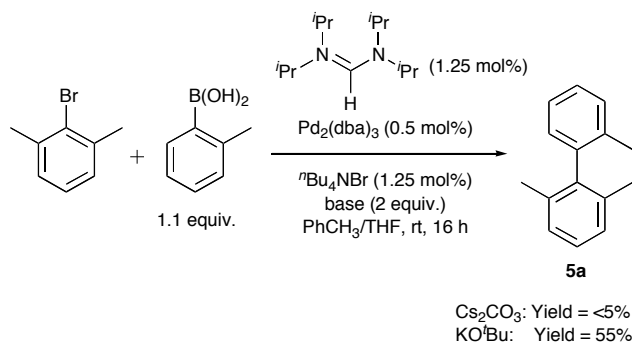
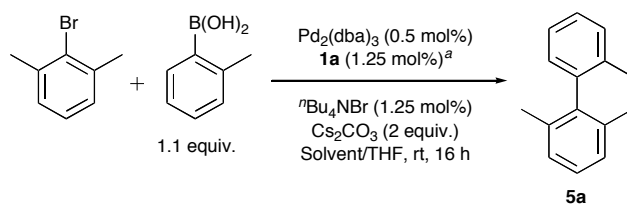


Table 7. Effect of the Solvent on the Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling of 2-Bromo-1,3-dimethylbenzene with 2-Methylphenylboronic acid using ADC **1a** as Ligand

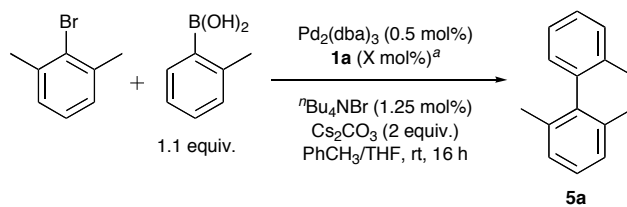


Entry	Solvent	Yield/%
1	THF	70
2	PhCH ₃	89
3	DME	73
4	DMA	80
5	CH ₂ Cl ₂	24
6	benzene	85

^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt

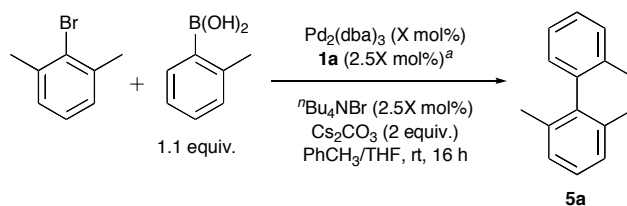
Please note that the THF in the reaction scheme is derived from the deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt precursor to form ADC **1a** *in situ*, which is carried out in THF (see General Procedure for Tables 1-3, *vide infra*). The ratio of solvent:THF is *ca.* 10:1.

Table 8. Effect of Pd:**1a** ratio on the Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling of 2-Bromo-1,3-dimethylbenzene with 2-Methylphenylboronic acid using ADC **1a** as Ligand

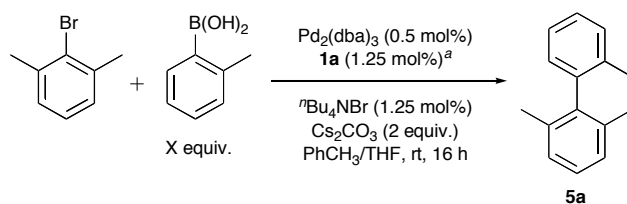


Entry	1a /mol%	Yield/%
1	0.5	43
2	1.0	79
3	1.25	89
4	1.5	85
5	2.0	80
6	4.0	61

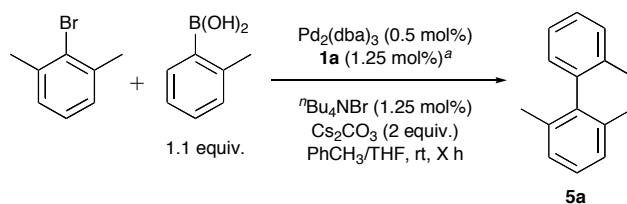
^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt

Table 9. Effect of $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$ loading on the Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling of 2-Bromo-1,3-dimethylbenzene with 2-Methylphenylboronic acid using ADC **1a** as Ligand

Entry	$\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3/\text{mol}\%$	Yield/%
1	1.5	95
2	1.0	90
3	0.5	89
4	0.3	82
5	0.2	59
6	0.1	31

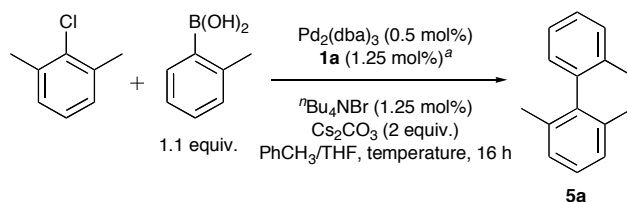
^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt**Table 10.** Effect of the Stoichiometry of the Boronic Acid on the Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling of 2-Bromo-1,3-dimethylbenzene with 2-Methylphenylboronic acid using ADC **1a** as Ligand

Entry	$\text{ArB}(\text{OH})_2/\text{equiv.}$	Yield/%
1	2.0	96
2	1.5	90
3	1.3	89
4	1.2	85
5	1.1	89
6	1.0	81

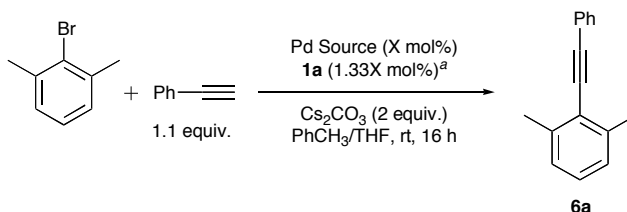
^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt**Table 11.** Effect of Reaction Time on the Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling of 2-Bromo-1,3-dimethylbenzene with 2-Methylphenylboronic acid using ADC **1a** as Ligand

Entry	Time/h	Yield/%
1	1.0	47
2	6.0	70
3	12.0	84
4	16.0	89
5	24.0	88

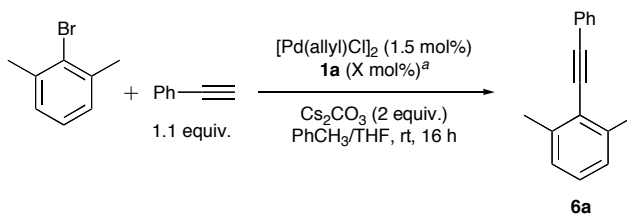
^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt

Table 12. Effect of Temperature on the Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling of 2-Chloro-1,3-dimethylbenzene with 2-Methylphenylboronic acid using ADC **1a** as Ligand

Entry	Temperature/ $^{\circ}\text{C}$	Yield/%
1	rt	22
2	30	47
3	45	81
4	60	87
5	80	95

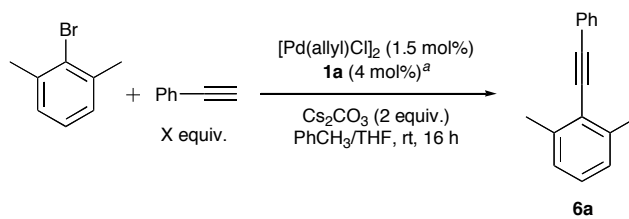
^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt**Table 13.** Effect of the Palladium Source and Loading on the Room Temperature Sonogashira Coupling of Aryl Bromides using Ligand **1a**

Entry	Pd source	Mol%	Yield/%
1	$\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$	1.5	70
2	$\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$	1.5	51
3	$[\text{Pd}(\text{allyl})\text{Cl}]_2$	1.5	80
4	$\text{PdCl}_2(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})_2$	1.5	71
5	$[\text{Pd}(\text{allyl})\text{Cl}]_2$	1.0	65
6	$[\text{Pd}(\text{allyl})\text{Cl}]_2$	0.5	49

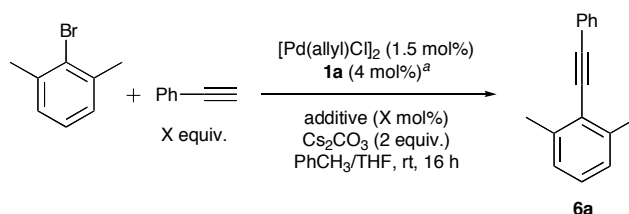
^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt**Table 14.** Effect of the Ratio of $[\text{Pd}(\text{allyl})\text{Cl}]_2$:**1a** on the Room Temperature Sonogashira Coupling of Aryl Bromides using Ligand **1a**

Entry	1a /mol%	Yield/%
1	1.5	49
2	3.0	73
3	4.0	80
4	5.0	81

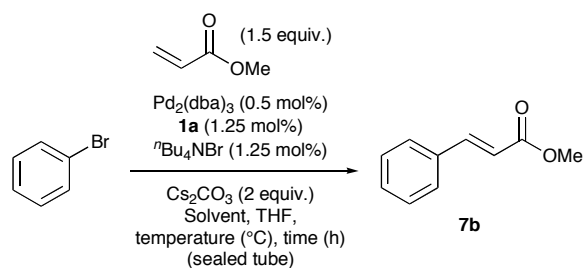
^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt

Table 15. Effect of the Stoichiometry of Alkyne on the Room Temperature Sonogashira Coupling of Aryl Bromides using Ligand **1a**

Entry	Alkyne/equiv.	Yield/%
1	2.0	84
2	1.5	80
3	1.1	81

^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt**Table 16.** Effect of the Additives on the Room Temperature Sonogashira Coupling of Aryl Bromides using Ligand **1a**

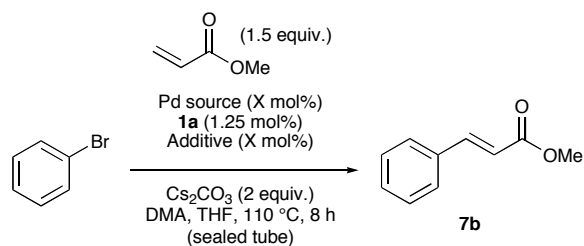
Entry	Additive	Mol %	Yield/%
1	none	-	80
2	<i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr	1.25	80
3	<i>n</i> Bu ₄ NBr	4.0	75

^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt**Table 17.** Effect of Temperature, Time and Solvent on the Heck Reaction of Aryl Bromides Using ADC **1a** as Ligands

Entry	Solvent	Temperature/°C	Time/h	Yield/%
1	PhCH ₃	110	8	39
2	DMF	110	8	73
3	DMA	110	8	78
4	DMA	110	16	80
5	DMA	90	8	62
6	DMA	50	8	17

^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt

Please note that the THF in the reaction scheme is derived from the deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt precursor to form ADC **1a** *in situ*, which is carried out in THF (see General Procedure for Tables 1-3, *vide infra*). The ratio of solvent:THF is *ca.* 10:1.

Table 18. Effect of Palladium Source and Additives on the Heck Reaction of Aryl Bromides Using ADC **1a** as Ligands

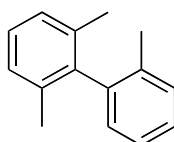
Entry	Palladium Source/mol%	Additive/mol%	Yield/%
1	$\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3/0.5$	None	61
2	$\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3/0.5$	$^n\text{Bu}_4\text{NBr}/1.25$	78
3	$\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3/0.25$	$^n\text{Bu}_4\text{NBr}/0.65$	38
4	$\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2/1.0$	None	22
5	$\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2/1.0$	$^n\text{Bu}_4\text{NBr}/1.25$	32
6	$[\text{Pd}(\text{allyl})\text{Cl}]_2/0.5$	$^n\text{Bu}_4\text{NBr}/1.25$	73
7	$\text{PdCl}_2(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})_2/1.0$	$^n\text{Bu}_4\text{NBr}/1.25$	61

^a Prepared *in situ* via deprotonation of the corresponding formamidine salt

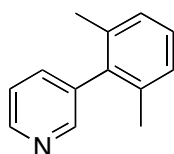
General Procedure for Suzuki Couplings of Aryl Bromides/Chlorides (Tables 1–3)

A 1.25 M solution of carbene **1a** was made as follows²: To a solution of diisopropylaminomethylidene(diisopropyl)ammonium tetrafluoroborate¹ (1.500 g, 5.00 mmol) in anhydrous THF (2.33 mL) cooled to $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ was added a freshly prepared solution of LDA (3.0 M in THF, 1.67 mL, 5.00 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ prior to the next step.

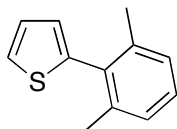
To a solution of $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$ (9.1 mg, 0.010 mmol) in anhydrous THF (0.25 mL) cooled to $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ was added carbene **1a** (1.25 M in THF, 20 μL , 0.025 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, and another 5 min at rt. Anhydrous toluene (2.50 mL) was then added followed by cesium carbonate (1.30 g, 4.00 mmol), tetra-*n*-butylammonium bromide (8.0 mg, 0.025 mmol), aryl/alkenyl halide (2.00 mmol) and boronic acid/ester (2.20 mmol) in that particular order. *For aryl/alkenyl bromides (Table 1)*—the reaction mixture was subsequently stirred for 16 h at rt. *For aryl chlorides (Table 2)*—the reaction was subsequently stirred for 16 h at $45\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. The reaction mixture was next diluted with EtOAc/hexanes (1:1, 30 mL), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was then subjected to silica gel chromatography.

2,2',6-Trimethylbiphenyl (5a)³**5a**

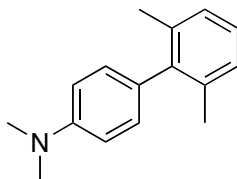
5a isolated as a clear, colorless oil: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 7.32 – 7.25 (3H, m), 7.22 – 7.11 (3H, m), 7.07 – 7.02 (1H, m), 2.00 (3H, s), 1.98 (6H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 141.08, 140.53, 135.84, 135.60, 129.95, 128.83, 127.20, 126.98, 126.89, 126.03, 20.31, 19.37.

3-(2,6-Dimethylphenyl)pyridine (5b)⁴**5b**

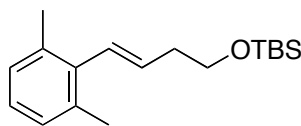
5b isolated as a clear, colorless oil: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 8.47 (1H, d, $J = 3.5\text{ Hz}$), 8.31 (1H, s), 7.50 (1H, dt, $J = 7.5, 2.0\text{ Hz}$), 7.35 (1H, dd, $J = 7.5, 5.0\text{ Hz}$), 7.21 (1H, dd, $J = 8.0, 7.0\text{ Hz}$), 7.13 (2H, d, $J = 7.5\text{ Hz}$), 2.02 (6H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 149.55, 147.61, 137.59, 136.89, 136.14, 127.81, 127.44, 125.84, 123.36, 20.78.

2-(2,6-Dimethylphenyl)thiophene (5c)**5c**

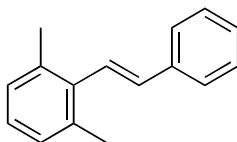
5c isolated as a clear, colorless oil: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 7.40 (1H, dd, $J = 5.0, 1.0$ Hz), 7.24 – 7.10 (4H, m), 6.85 (1H, dd, $J = 3.0, 1.0$ Hz), 2.18 (6H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 141.31, 138.42, 134.04, 128.04, 127.22, 127.02, 126.23, 125.26, 20.78; IR (film) ν 3141, 3066, 3021, 2953, 2922, 2855, 1582, 1463, 1441, 1377, 1253, 1237, 1194, 1039, 951, 848, 830, 771, 731, 695 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (CI) m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{S}$ (M^+) 188.0660, found 188.0654.

(2',6'-Dimethylbiphenyl-4-yl)dimethylamine (5d)**5d**

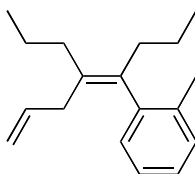
5d isolated as a clear, colorless crystalline solid: m.p. = 75–77 °C (CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 7.18 – 7.11 (3H, m), 7.05 (2H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 6.82 (2H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 3.02 (6H, s), 2.10 (6H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 149.07, 141.99, 136.80, 129.69, 129.09, 127.14, 126.54, 112.35, 40.60, 20.99; IR (KBr) ν 3156, 2918, 2852, 2794, 1830, 1612, 1524, 1465, 1441, 1376, 1340, 1223, 1193, 1165, 1123, 1096, 1060, 1030, 946, 822, 767 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (CI) m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}$ (MH^+) 226.1596, found 226.1599

(E)-tert-Butyl[4-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)but-3-enyloxy]dimethylsilane (5e)**5e**

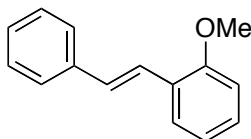
5e isolated as a clear, colorless oil: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 7.03 – 7.00 (3H, m), 6.39 (1H, d, $J = 16.0$ Hz), 5.69 (1H, dt, $J = 16.0, 7.0$ Hz), 3.77 (2H, t, $J = 7.0$ Hz), 2.47 (2H, dq, $J = 7.0, 1.0$ Hz), 2.30 (6H, s), 0.92 (9H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 137.56, 135.93, 132.25, 129.19, 127.56, 126.18, 63.11, 37.14, 25.95, 20.93, 18.33, 5.28; IR (film) ν 3111, 2954, 2929, 2857, 1670, 1471, 1379, 1361, 1255, 1097, 1006, 971, 940, 836, 768 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (CI) m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{31}\text{OSi}$ (MH^+) 291.2144, found 291.2137.

1,3-Dimethyl-2-[(*E*)-2-phenyl-1-ethenyl]benzene (5f)⁵**5f**

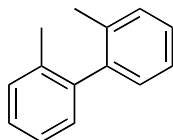
5f isolated as a clear, colorless crystalline solid: m.p. = 33-35 °C (CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.52 (2H, q, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.39 (2H, d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.37 – 7.26 (1H, m), 7.13 (1H, d, *J* = 16.5 Hz), 7.12 – 7.08 (3H, m), 6.62 (1H, d, *J* = 16.5 Hz), 2.39 (6H, s); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 137.67, 137.02, 136.31, 134.04, 128.73, 127.94, 127.64, 127.01, 126.77, 126.35, 21.13.

1-(1,2-Diisopropylpenta-1,4-dienyl)-2-methylbenzene (5g)**5g**

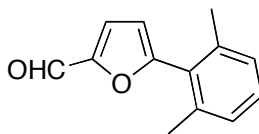
5g isolated as a clear, colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 7.20 – 7.09 (3H, m), 6.95 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.0, 1.5 Hz), 5.67 – 5.58 (1H, m), 4.92 – 4.83 (2H, m), 2.52 – 2.39 (3H, m), 2.31 – 2.23 (1H, m), 2.18 (3H, s), 2.12 – 2.02 (2H, m), 1.57 – 1.45 (2H, m), 1.42 – 1.23 (2H, m), 0.99 (3H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 0.89 (3H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 142.92, 137.14, 136.40, 135.32, 133.50, 129.74, 129.37, 126.13, 125.08, 114.95, 37.47, 35.66, 32.30, 21.85, 21.44, 19.42, 14.31 (one overlap); IR (film) ν 3120, 3059, 3014, 2959, 2871, 1677, 1635, 1485, 1455, 1378, 1119, 1092, 1042, 910, 767, 758, 733 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₈H₂₆ (M⁺) 242.2035, found 242.2038.

1-Methoxy-2-[(*E*)-2-phenyl-1-ethenyl]benzene (5h)⁶**5h**

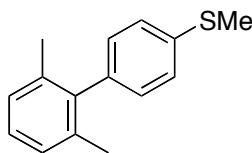
5h isolated as a clear, colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 7.61 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz), 7.55 (2H, d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.50 (1H, d, *J* = 16.5 Hz), 7.36 (2H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.28 – 7.23 (2H, m), 7.13 (1H, d, *J* = 16.5 Hz), 6.98 (1H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 6.91 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 3.90 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 156.91, 137.96, 129.09, 128.64, 128.56, 127.33, 126.55, 126.44, 126.40, 123.49, 120.73, 110.93, 55.51; HRMS (CI) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₅H₁₄O (M⁺) 210.1045, found 210.1054.

2,2'-Dimethylbiphenyl (5i)⁷**5i**

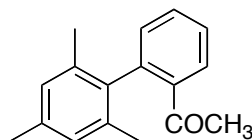
5i isolated as a clear, colorless oil: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 7.38 – 7.30 (6H, m), 7.23 – 7.20 (2H, m), 2.17 (6H, s); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 141.55, 135.73, 129.76, 129.23, 127.11, 125.50, 19.79.

5-(2,6-Dimethylphenyl)furan-2-carbaldehyde (5j)**5j**

5j isolated as a clear, colorless crystalline solid: m.p. = 143-145 °C (CHCl₃) ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ 9.67 (1H, s), 7.36 (1H, d, *J* = 3.5 Hz), 7.24 (1H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.11 (2H, d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 6.52 (1H, *J* = 3.5 Hz), 2.12 (6H, s); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ 177.56, 158.90, 152.29, 138.23, 129.64, 129.22, 127.70, 121.96, 112.49, 20.43; IR (KBr) ν 3102, 2965, 2847, 1666, 1640, 1526, 1468, 1384, 1278, 1231, 1172, 1023, 964, 922, 812, 771 cm⁻¹; HRMS (CI) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₃H₁₂O₂ (M⁺) 200.0837, found 200.0836.

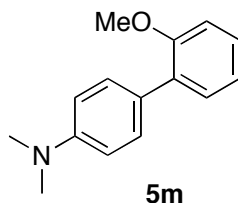
2,6-Dimethyl-4'-methylsulfanylbiphenyl (5k)**5k**

5k isolated as a white solid: m.p. = 48-50 °C (CHCl₃) ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.41 – 7.33 (2H, m), 7.24 – 7.09 (5H, m), 2.57 (3H, s), 2.09 (6H, s); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 141.14, 137.77, 136.47, 136.12, 129.50, 127.26, 127.03, 126.49, 20.81, 15.73; IR (KBr) ν 3115, 3056, 2917, 2853, 1870, 1675, 1464, 1438, 1388, 1183, 1164, 1109, 1090, 964, 822, 77, 753 cm⁻¹; HRMS (CI) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₅H₁₆S (M⁺) 228.0973, found 228.0975.

1-(2',4',6'-Trimethylbiphenyl-3-yl)ethanone (5l)**5l**

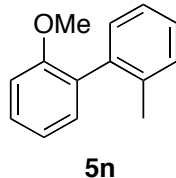
5l isolated as a clear, colorless oil: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 7.94 (1H, dt, $J = 8.0, 1.0$ Hz), 7.75 (1H, t, $J = 1.5$ Hz), 7.52 (1H, t, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.36 (1H, dt, $J = 7.5, 1.5$ Hz), 6.96 (2H, s), 2.61 (3H, s), 2.34 (3H, s), 1.99 (6H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 198.20, 145.51, 137.85, 137.32, 137.05, 135.78, 134.14, 129.33, 128.73, 128.19, 126.53, 26.70, 20.99, 20.72; IR (film) ν 3120, 3040, 2919, 1686, 1613, 1599, 1579, 1474, 1433, 1356, 1286, 1230, 1034, 851, 799, 704 cm^{-1} HRMS (CI) m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}$ (M^+) 238.1358, found 238.1361.

(2'-Methoxybiphenyl-4-yl)dimethylamine (5m)



5m isolated as a yellow solid: m.p. = 45-46 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ (CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 7.45 (2H, dd, $J = 9.0, 2.0$ Hz), 7.32 (1H, dd, $J = 7.5, 2.0$ Hz), 7.26 (1H, dt, $J = 8.5, 1.5$ Hz), 7.04 – 6.94 (2H, m), 6.80 (2H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 3.82 (3H, s), 2.99 (6H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 156.44, 149.51, 130.75, 130.42, 130.13, 127.51, 126.62, 120.72, 112.17, 111.05, 55.46, 40.61; IR (KBr) ν 3062, 2932, 2833, 1678, 1613, 1526, 1489, 1462, 1353, 1297, 1261, 1239, 1198, 1166, 1120, 1057, 1029, 947, 819, 803, 752 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (CI) m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}$ (M^+) 227.1310, found 227.1313.

2-Methoxy-2'-methylbiphenyl (5n)⁸

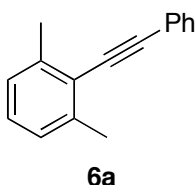


5n isolated as a clear, colorless crystalline solid: m.p. = 42-44 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ (CHCl_3) ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 7.34 – 7.26 (6H, m), 7.01 (2H, d, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 3.89 (3H, s), 2.33 (3H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 158.48, 141.52, 135.44, 134.33, 130.27, 130.22, 129.88, 126.95, 125.74, 113.45, 55.22, 20.53 (two overlap).

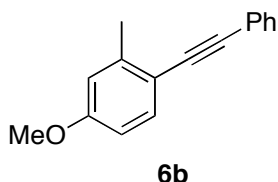
General Procedure for Sonogashira Couplings of Aryl Bromides (Table 4)

A 1.25 M solution of carbene **1a** was made as follows¹: To a solution of diisopropylaminomethylidene(diisopropyl)ammonium tetrafluoroborate² (1.500 g, 5.00 mmol) in anhydrous THF (2.33 mL) cooled to $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ was added a freshly prepared solution of LDA (3.0 M in THF, 1.67 mL, 5.00 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ prior to the next step.

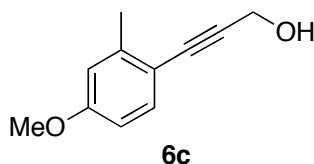
To a solution of $[\text{Pd}(\text{allyl})\text{Cl}]_2$ (5.5 mg, 0.015 mmol) in anhydrous THF (0.25 mL) cooled to $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ was added carbene **1a** (1.25 M in THF, 32 μL , 0.04 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, and then for 5 min at rt. Anhydrous toluene (1.00 mL) was then added followed by cesium carbonate (652 mg, 2.00 mmol), aryl bromide (1.00 mmol) and acetylene (1.10 mmol) in that particular order. The reaction mixture was subsequently stirred for 16 h at rt. The mixture was then diluted with Et_2O (20 mL), filtered through celite, and the filtrate concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was purified by silica gel chromatography.

2,6-Dimethyl-1-(phenylethynyl)benzene (6a)⁹

6a isolated as a clear, colorless oil: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 7.61 – 7.55 (2H, m), 7.43 – 7.34 (3H, m), 7.20 – 7.08 (3H, m), 2.56 (6H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 140.23, 131.37, 128.34, 128.07, 127.45, 126.67, 123.79, 122.92, 97.80, 87.10, 21.11.

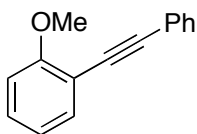
3-Methyl-4-(phenylethynyl)anisole (6b)¹⁰

6b isolated as a white solid: m.p. = $78\text{--}79\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ (CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 7.56 (2H, d, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.47 (1H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 7.42 – 7.32 (3H, m), 6.81 (1H, d, $J = 2.5$ Hz), 6.75 (1H, dd, $J = 8.5, 2.5$ Hz), 3.83 (3H, s), 2.54 (3H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 159.50, 141.94, 133.11, 131.29, 128.27, 127.80, 123.80, 115.23, 115.06, 111.19, 91.89, 88.34, 55.17, 20.99.

3-(4-Methoxy-2-methylphenyl)prop-2-yn-1-ol (6c)

6c isolated as a clear, colorless oil: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 7.33 (1H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 6.73 (1H, d, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 6.67 (1H, dd, $J = 8.5, 2.5$ Hz), 4.52 (2H, s), 3.79 (3H, s), 2.41 (3H, s), 1.71 (1H, br s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 159.66, 142.09, 133.45, 115.04, 114.59, 111.21, 89.56, 84.59, 55.20, 51.81, 20.90; IR (film) ν 3424, 2213, 1643, 1497, 1234, 1163, 1120, 1039 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (CI) m/z calcd. for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ (M^+) 176.0837, found 176.0837.

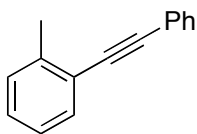
2-(Phenylethynyl)anisole (**6d**)¹¹



6d

6d isolated as a clear, colorless oil: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 7.62 (2H, dd, $J = 8.0, 1.5$ Hz), 7.56 (1H, dd, $J = 7.5, 1.5$ Hz), 7.41–7.31 (4H, m), 6.98 (1H, t, $J = 7.5$ Hz), 6.93 (1H, d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 3.94 (3H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 159.81, 133.47, 131.56, 129.70, 128.17, 128.03, 123.45, 120.38, 112.28, 110.57, 93.34, 85.67, 55.69.

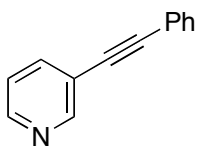
2-(Phenylethynyl)toluene (**6e**)¹²



6e

6e isolated as a clear, colorless oil: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 300 MHz) δ 7.60 – 7.50 (3H, m), 7.41 – 7.33 (3H, m), 7.26 – 7.16 (3H, m), 2.54 (3H, s); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ 140.15, 131.80, 131.48, 129.43, 128.32, 128.28, 128.14, 125.55, 123.50, 122.98, 93.31, 88.30, 20.73.

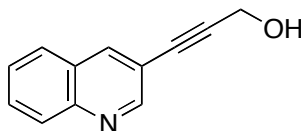
3-(Phenylethynyl)pyridine (**6f**)⁹



6f

6f isolated as a white solid: m.p. = 48–50 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ (CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ 8.77 (1H, d, $J = 1.0$ Hz), 8.53 (1H, dd, $J = 4.5, 1.0$ Hz), 7.79 (1H, dt, $J = 8.0, 2.0$ Hz), 7.57 – 7.52 (2H, m), 7.38 – 7.33 (3H, m), 7.28 (1H, dd, $J = 8.0, 5.0$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ 152.10, 148.42, 138.30, 131.56, 128.69, 128.33, 122.92, 122.36, 120.32, 92.53, 85.83.

3-Quinolin-3-ylprop-2-yn-1-ol (**6g**)¹³



6g

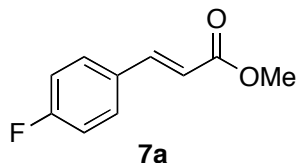
6g isolated as a white solid: m.p. = 121-123 °C (CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 500 MHz) δ 8.78 (1H, d, *J* = 1.5 Hz), 8.33 (1H, s), 7.98 (1H, d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 7.85 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.74 (1H, dt, *J* = 8.0, 1.5 Hz), 7.59 (1H, t, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 4.76 (2H, s) (OH not detected); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 75 MHz) δ 152.75, 147.36, 140.34, 131.77, 129.15, 129.04, 128.81, 128.75, 118.57, 92.85, 82.15, 51.17.

General Procedure for Heck Couplings of Aryl Bromides (Equation 1)

A 1.25 M solution of carbene **1a** was made as follows¹: To a solution of diisopropylaminomethylidene(diisopropyl)ammonium tetrafluoroborate² (1.500 g, 5.00 mmol) in anhydrous THF (2.33 mL) cooled to -20 °C was added a freshly prepared solution of LDA (3.0 M in THF, 1.67 mL, 5.00 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at -20 °C prior to the next step.

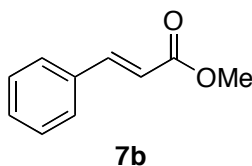
A solution of Pd₂(dba)₃ (9.1 mg, 0.010 mmol) in anhydrous THF (0.25 mL) in a sealed tube equipped with a septa was cooled to -20 °C. To this solution was added carbene **1a** (1.25 M in THF, 20 μ L, 0.025 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at -20 °C, and another 5 min at rt. Anhydrous *N,N*-dimethylacetamide (2.50 mL) was then added followed by cesium carbonate (1.30 g, 4.00 mmol), tetra-*n*-butylammonium bromide (8.1 mg, 0.025 mmol), aryl bromide (2.00 mmol) and methyl acrylate (270 μ L, 3.00 mmol) in that particular order. The septa was then removed and the tube sealed. The sealed tube was subsequently heated at 110 °C for 8 h. After cooling to room temperature, the contents of the tube were diluted with Et₂O (25 mL) and washed with H₂O (25 mL). The organic phase was dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford a yellow oil. The desired cross-coupled product was isolated by silica gel chromatography.

Methyl *trans*-4-Fluorocinnamate (**7a**)¹⁴



7a isolated as a clear, colorless crystalline solids: m.p. = 48-49 °C (CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.61 (1H, d, *J* = 16.0 Hz), 7.49 – 7.39 (2H, m), 7.07 – 6.95 (2H, m), 6.32 (1H, d, *J* = 16.0 Hz), 3.75 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 166.24 (d, *J* = 126 Hz), 162.08, 143.34, 130.48, 129.79 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 117.40, 115.86 (d, *J* = 22 Hz), 51.51.

Methyl *trans*-Cinnamate (**7b**)¹⁵

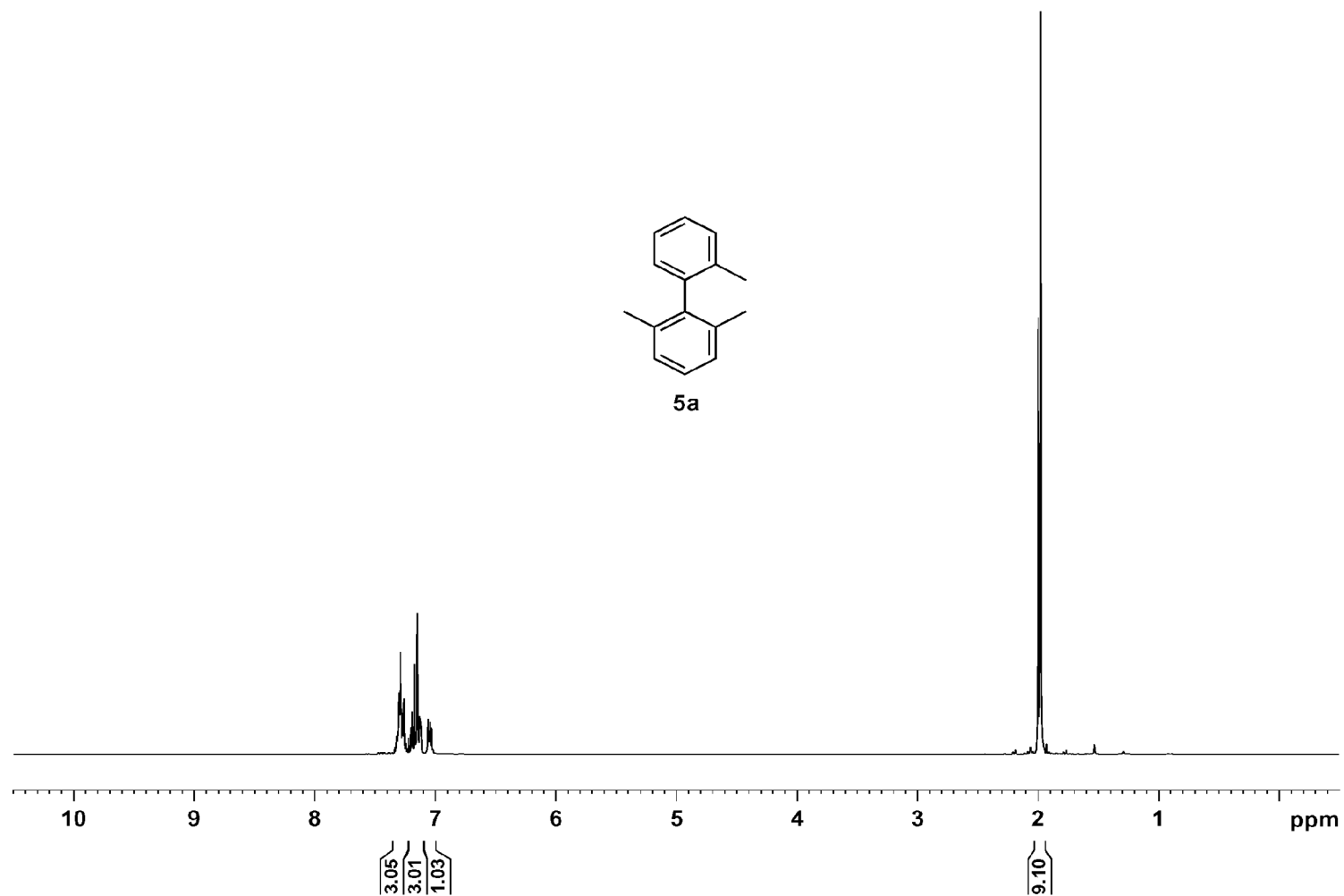
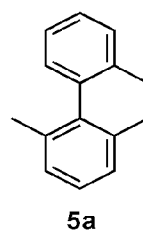


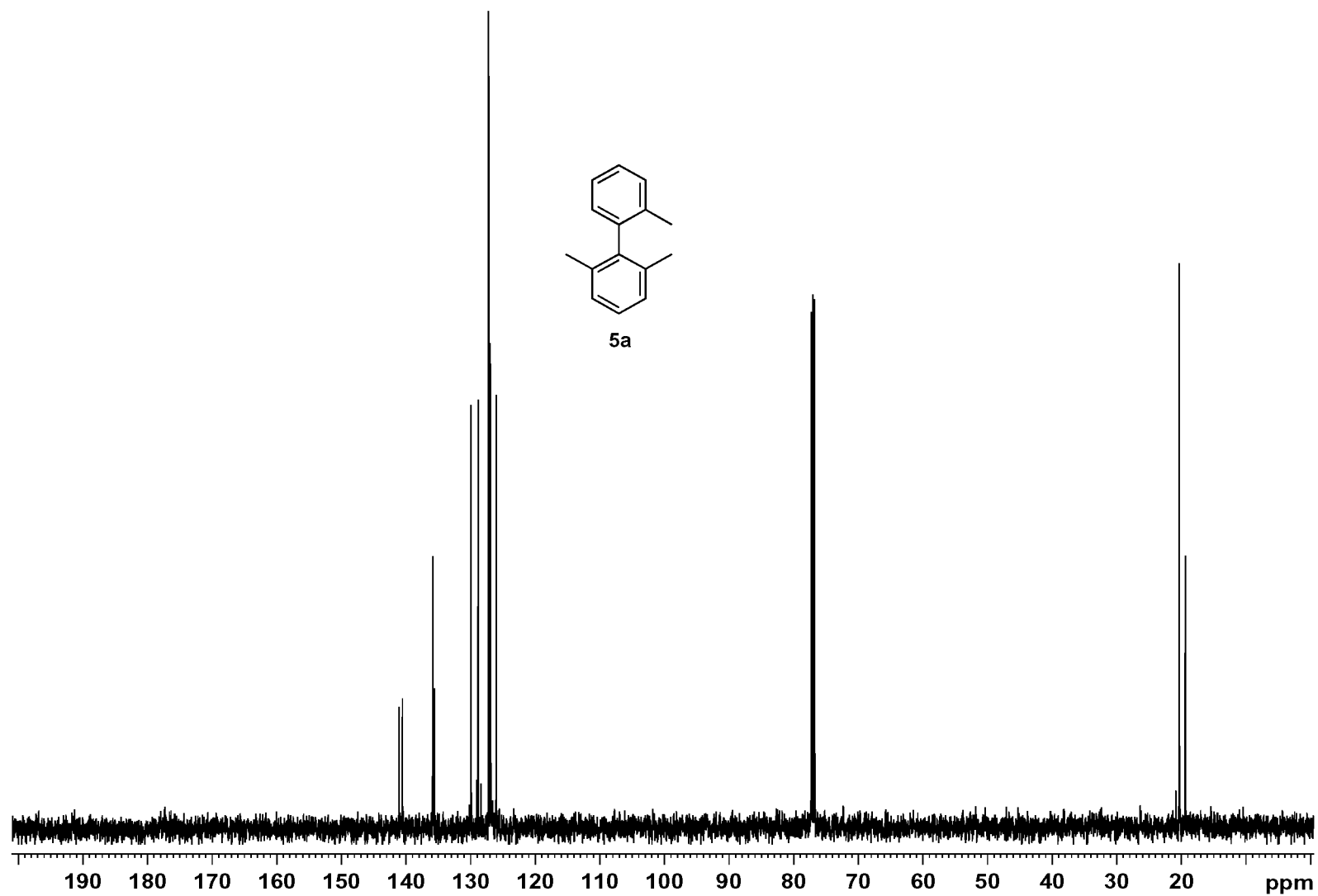
7b isolated as a clear, colorless crystalline solid: m.p. = 37-38 °C (CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 7.68 (1H, d, *J* = 16.0 Hz), 7.52 – 7.44 (2H, m), 7.39 – 7.30 (3H, m), 6.43 (1H, d, *J* = 16.0 Hz), 3.78 (3H, s); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 167.33, 144.79, 134.32, 130.22, 128.82, 128.00, 117.74, 51.60.

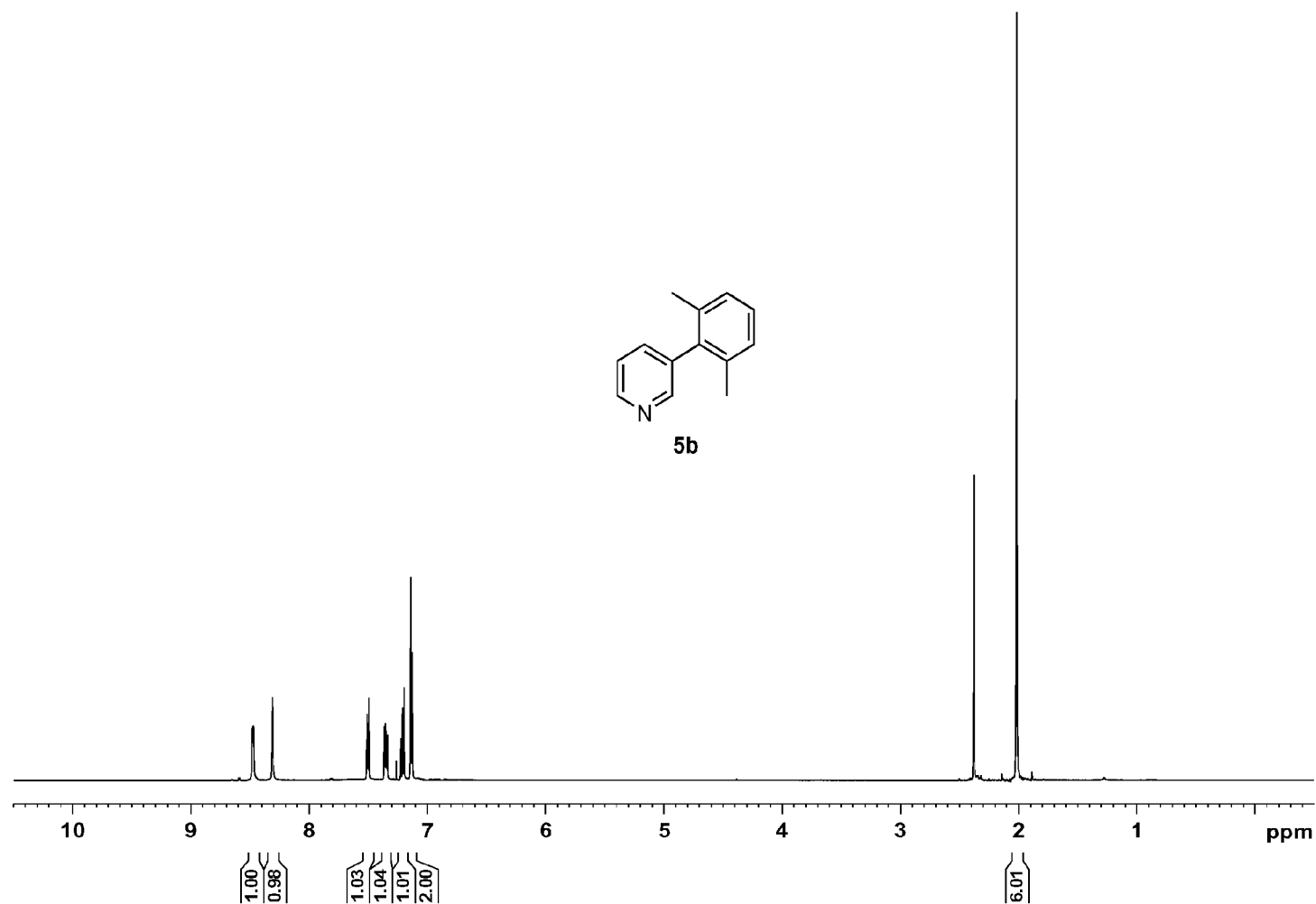
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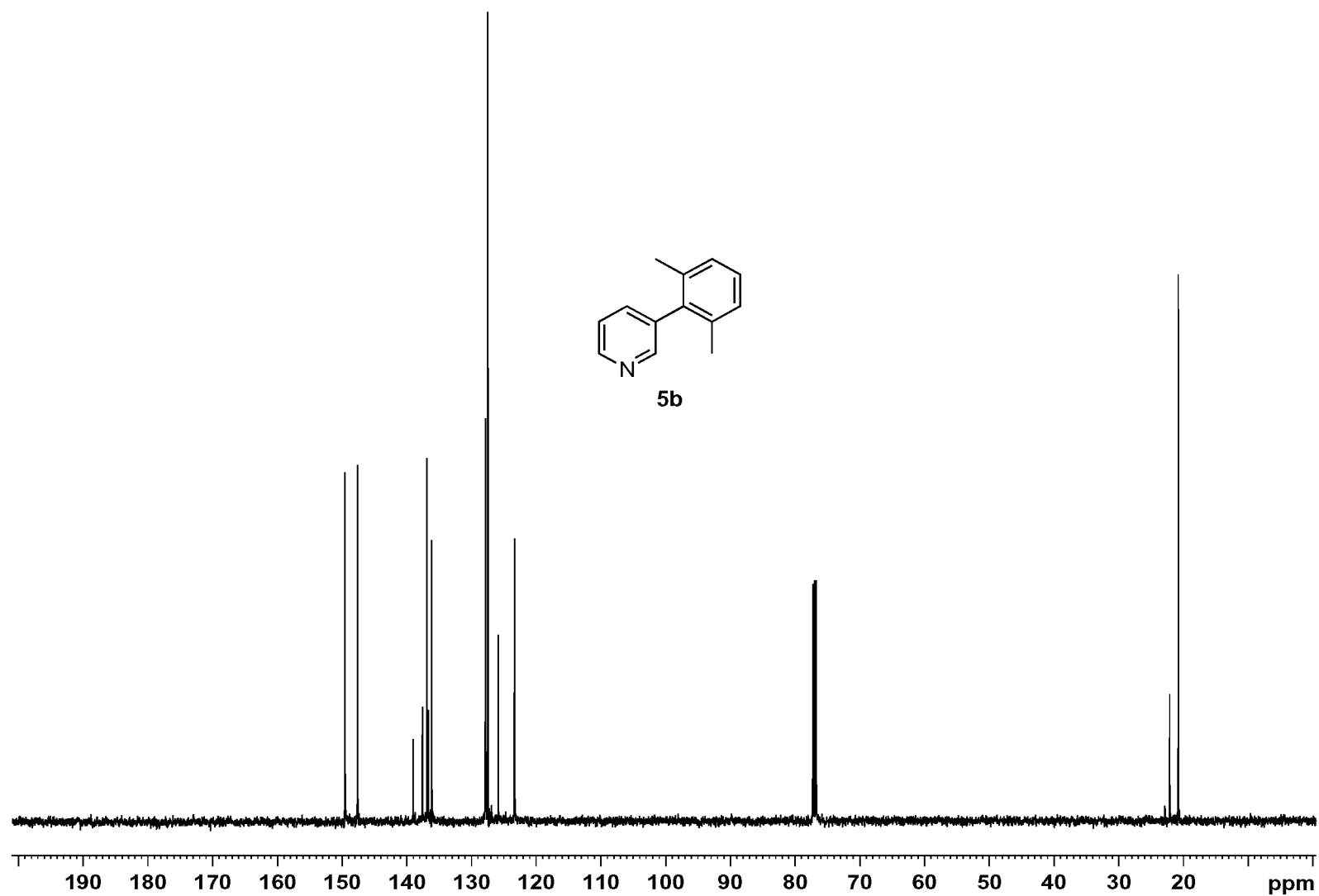
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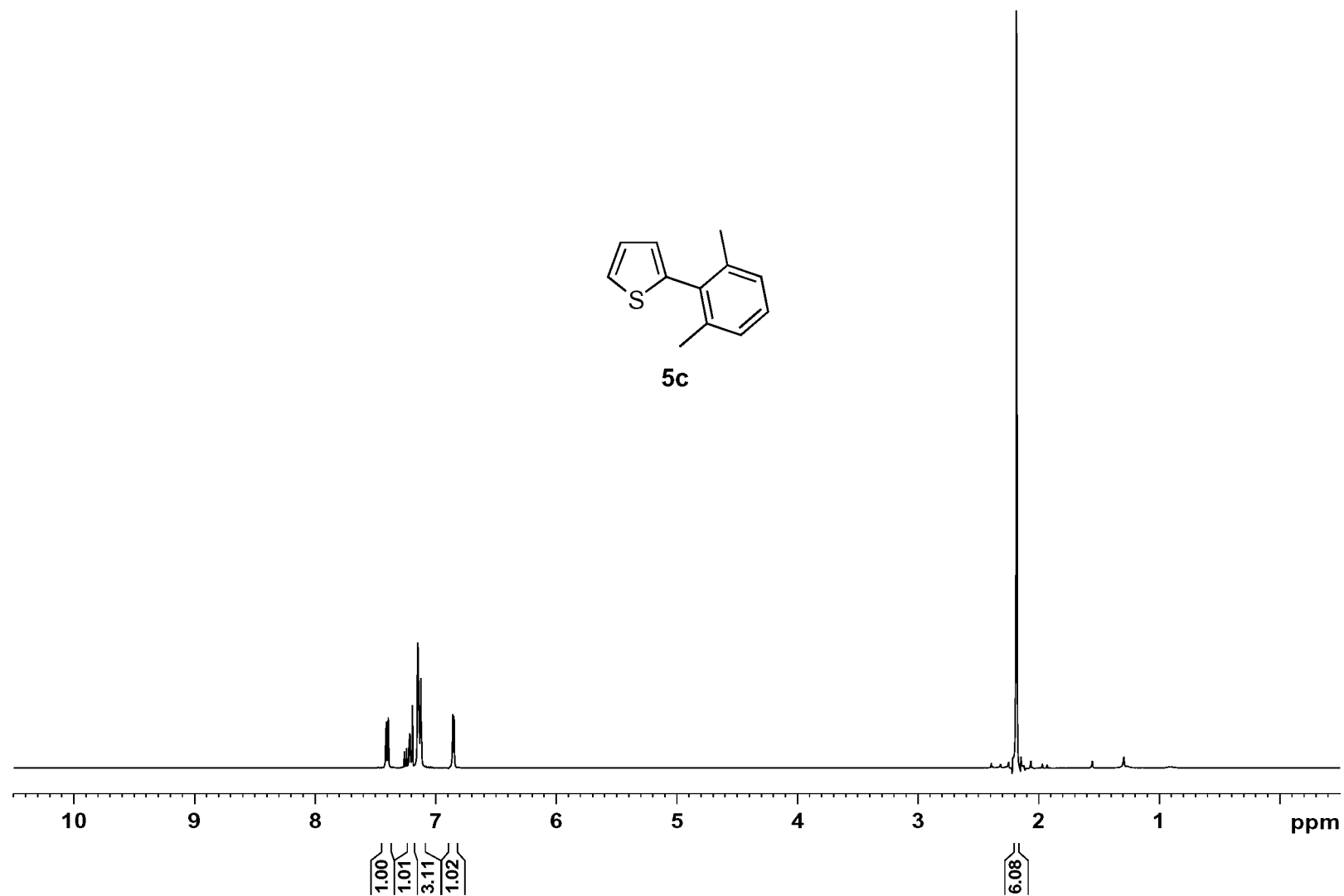
^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of All Products

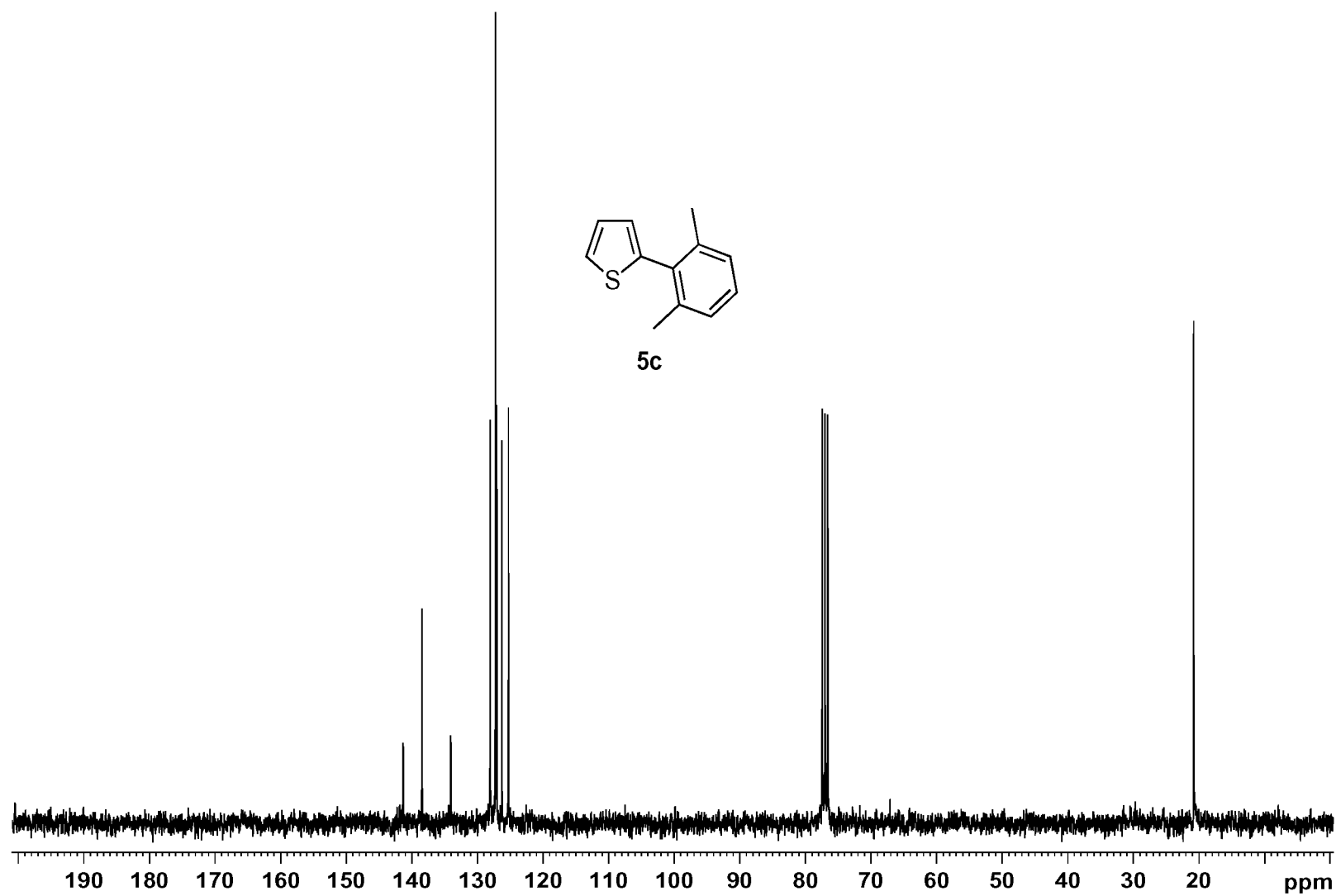


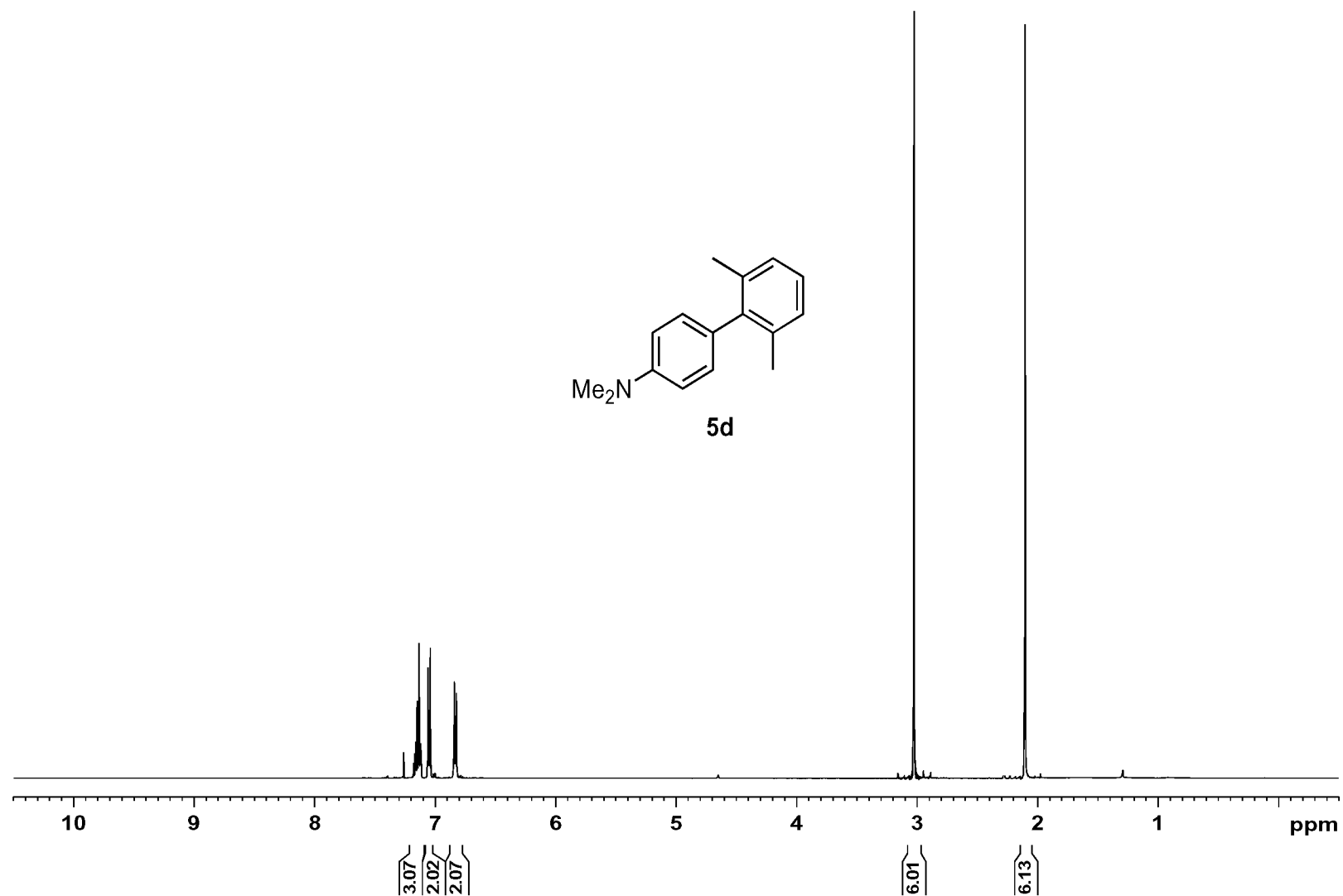


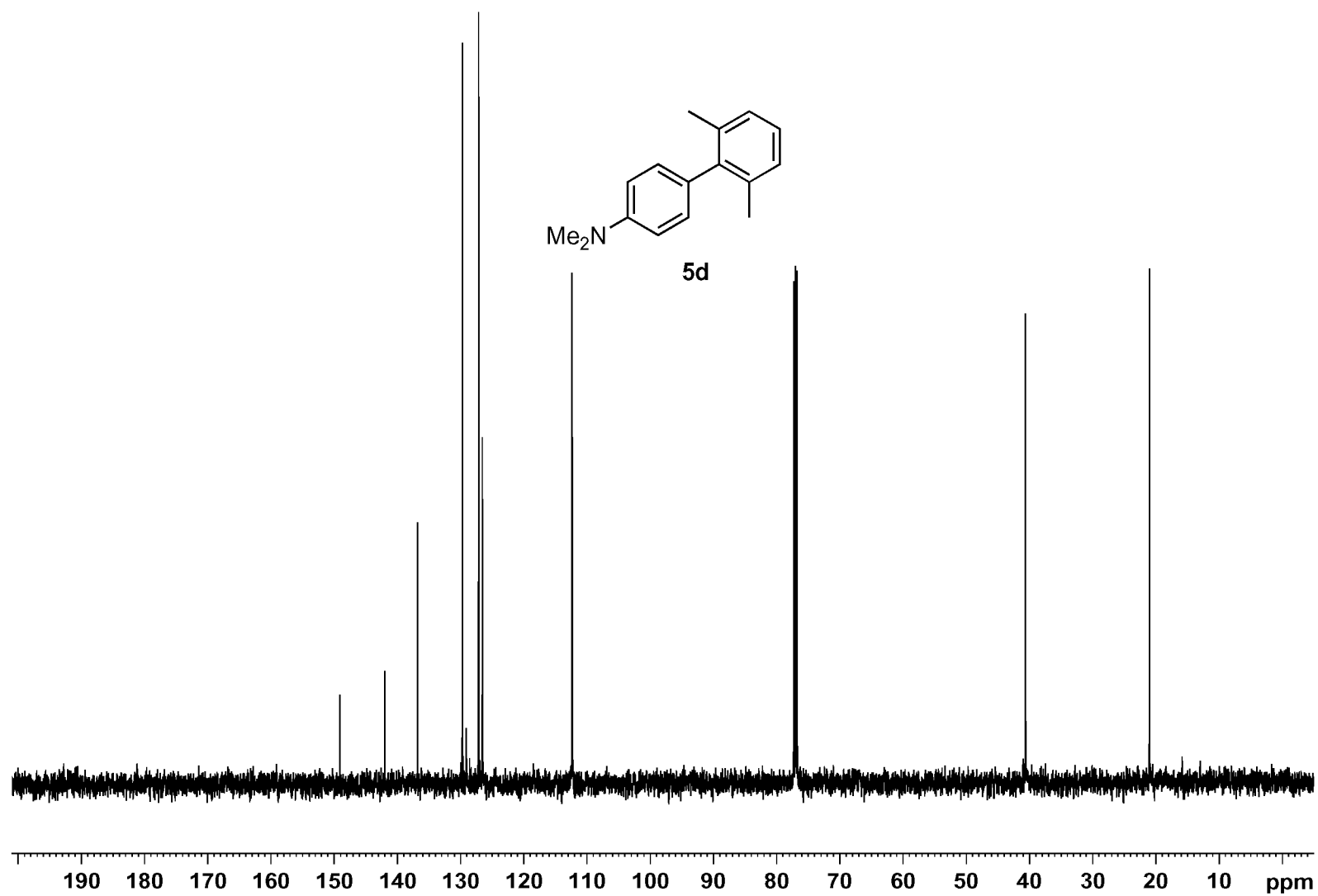


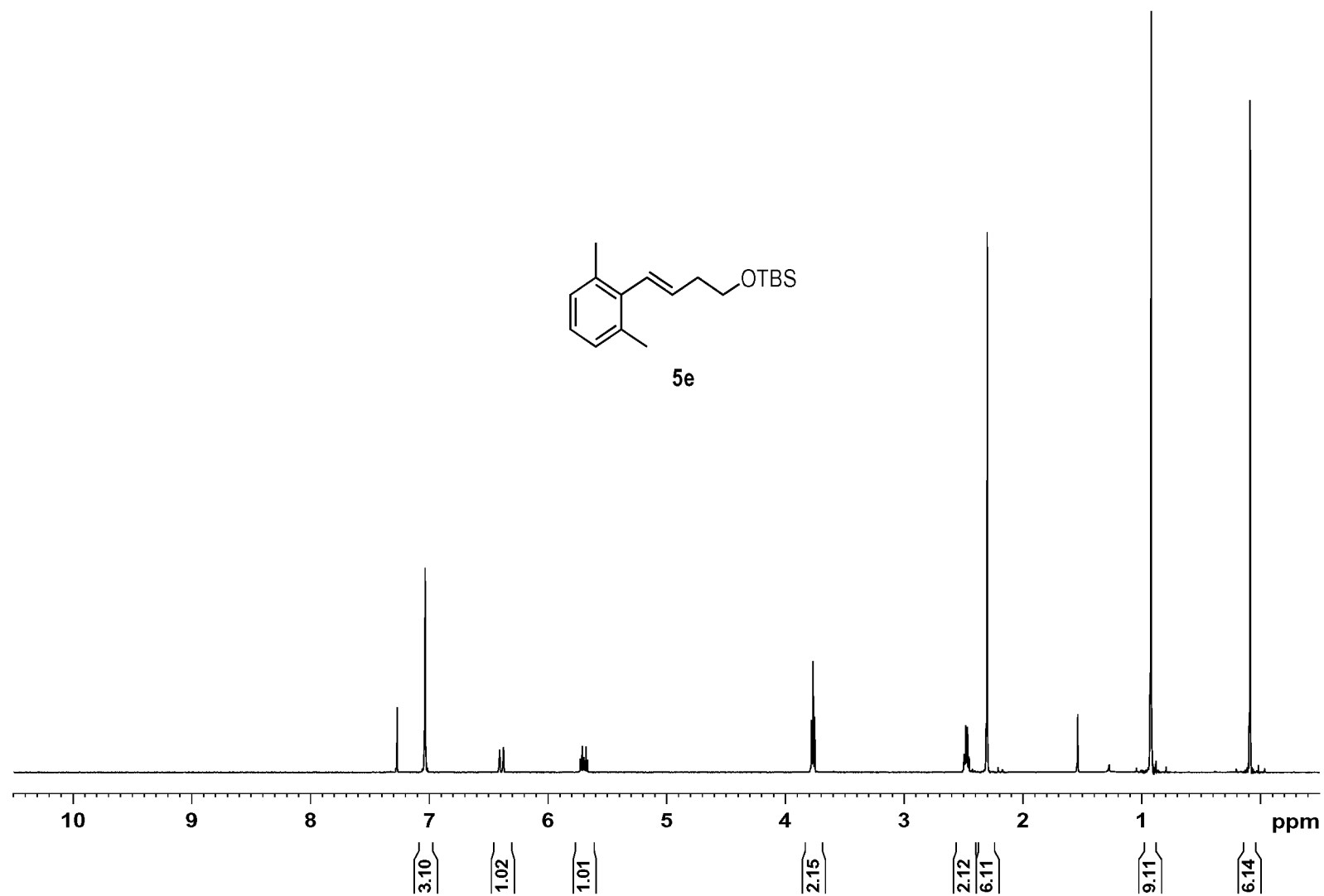


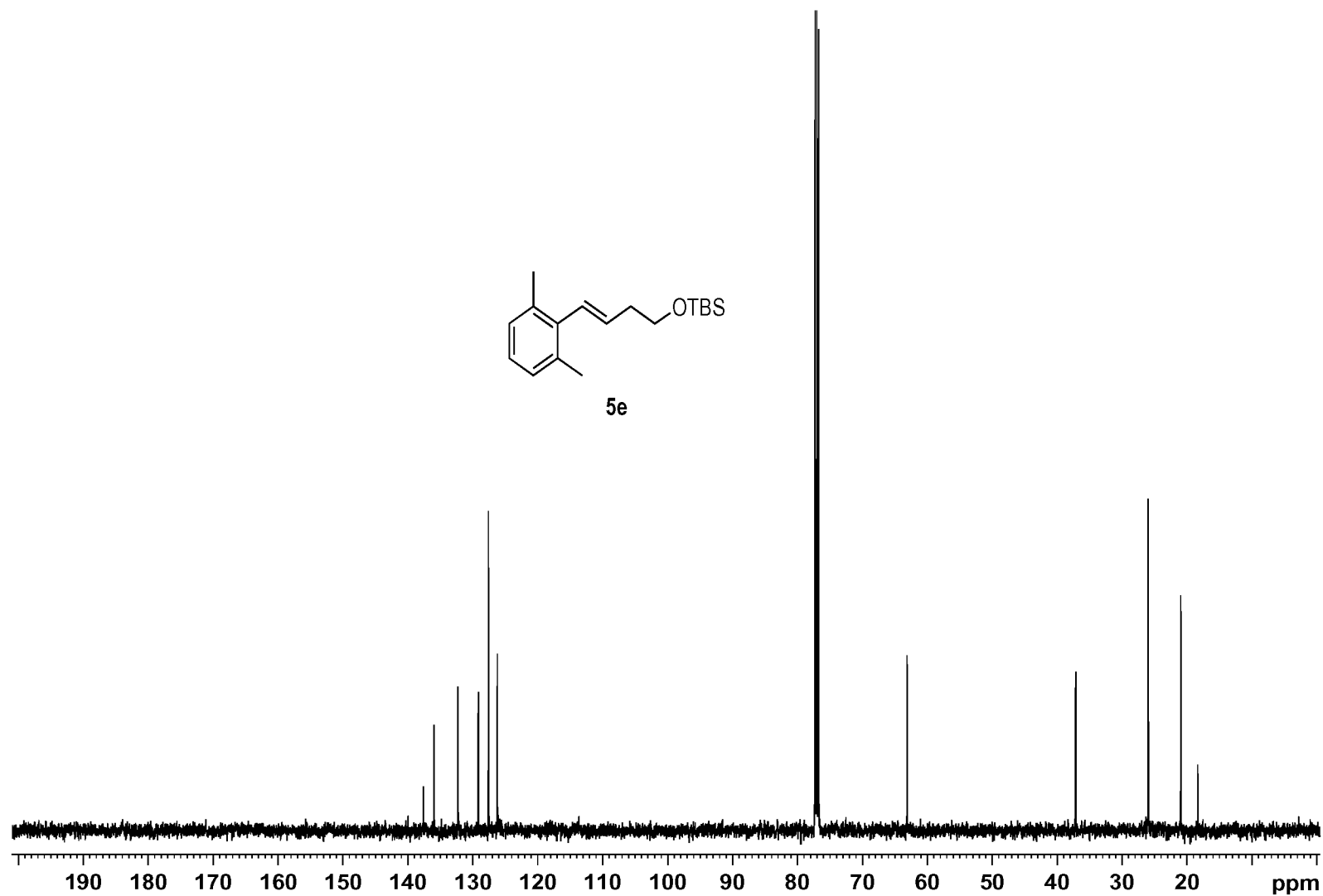


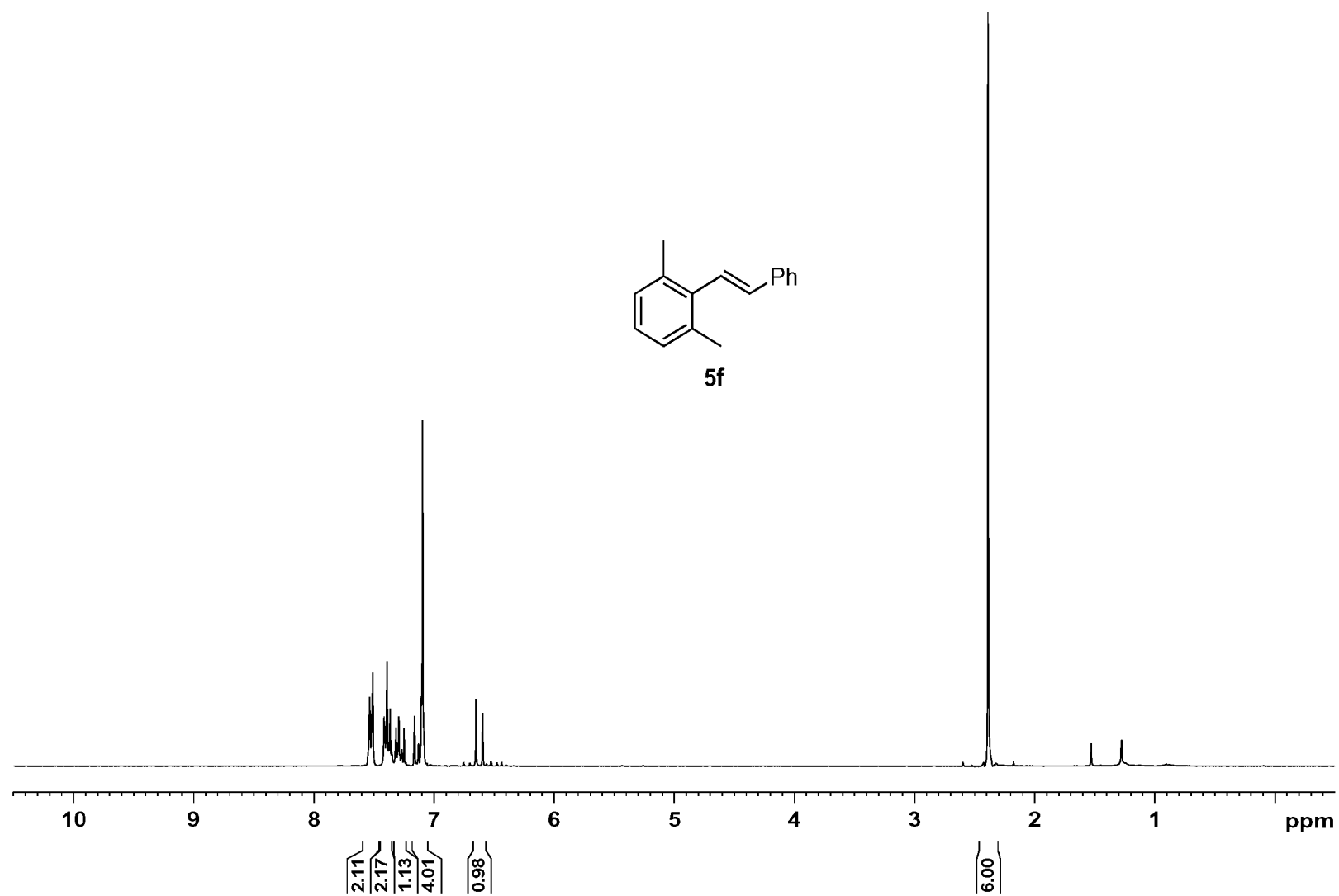


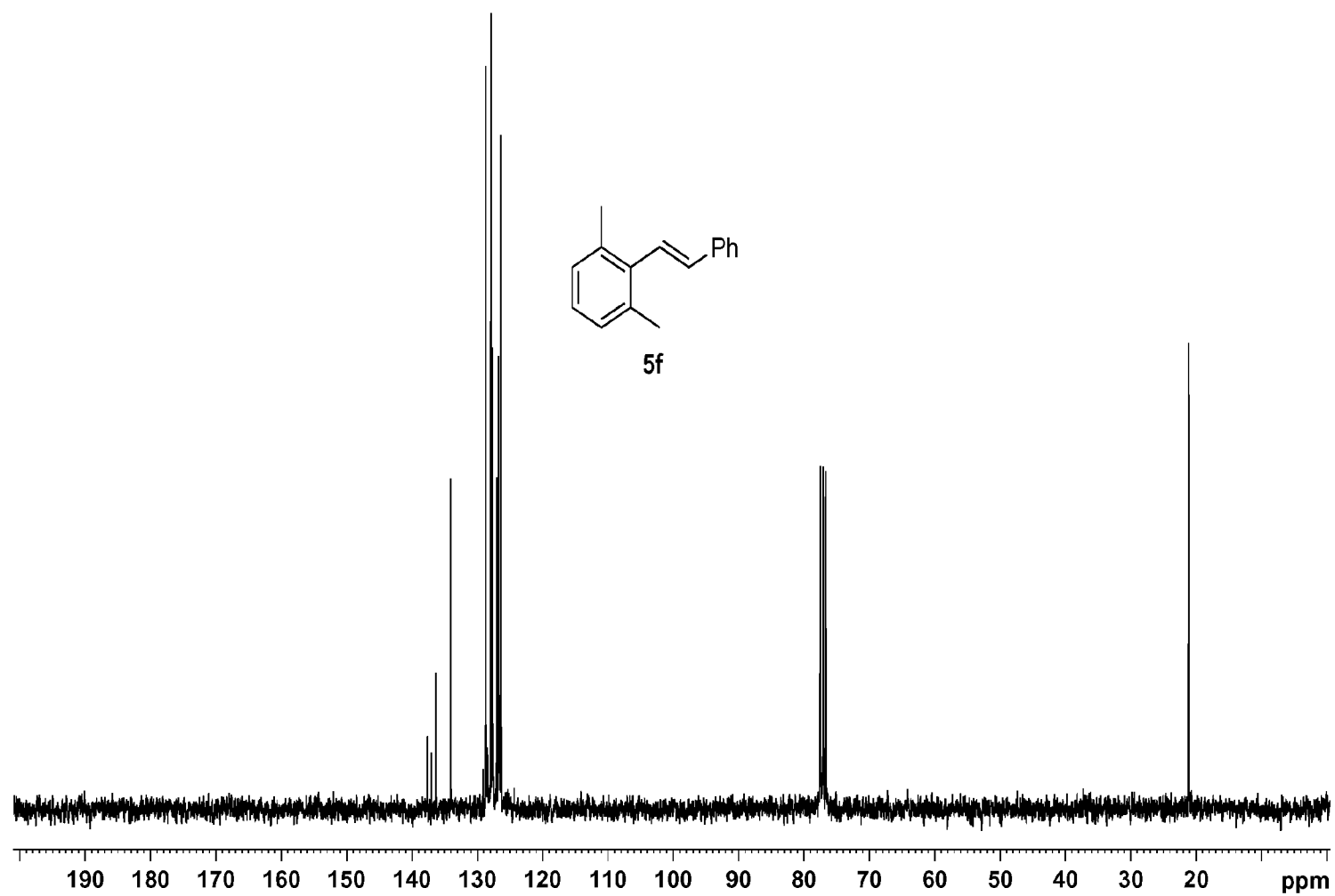


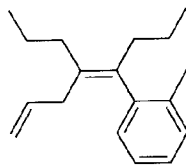




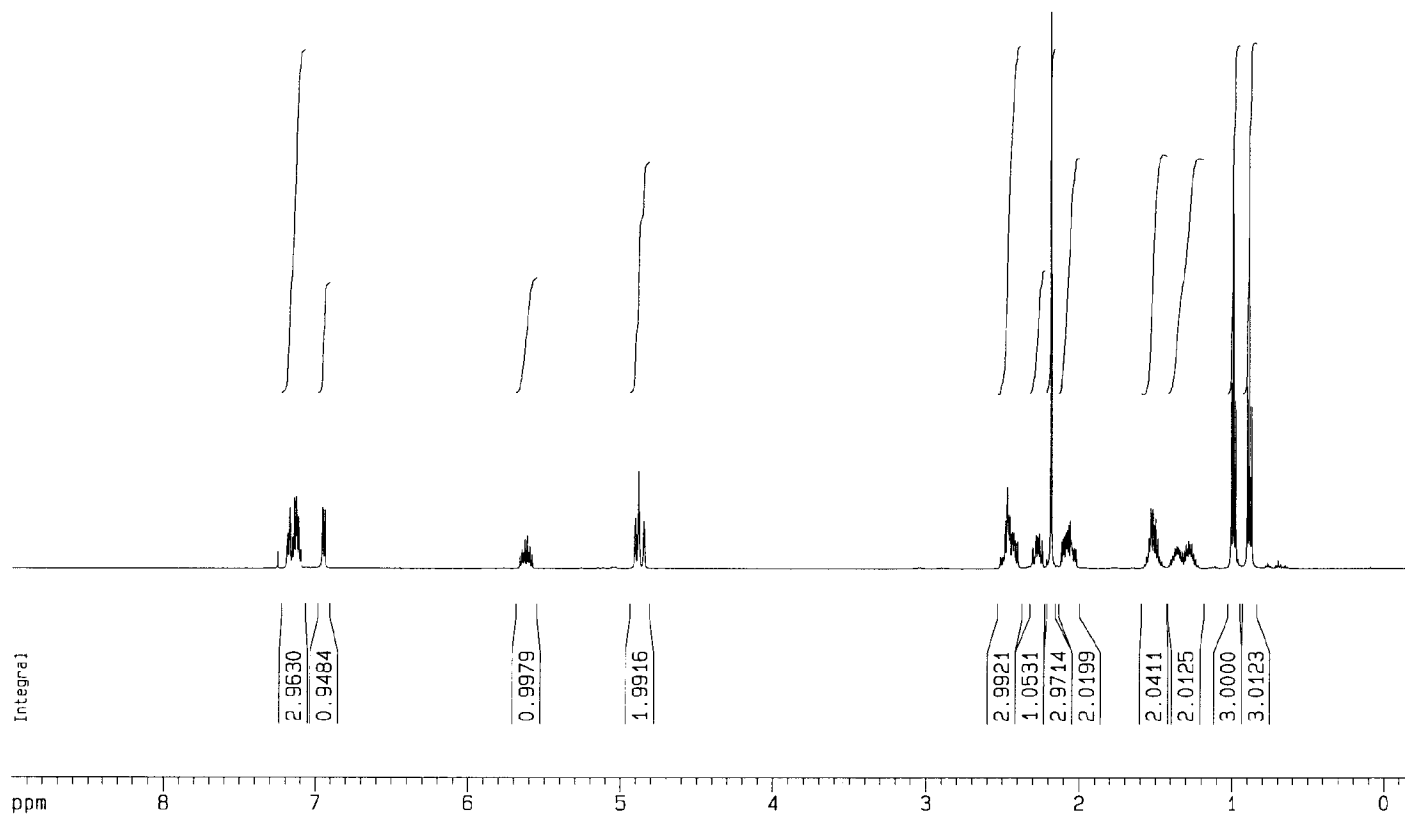








5g

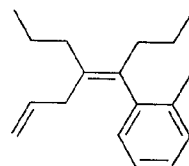
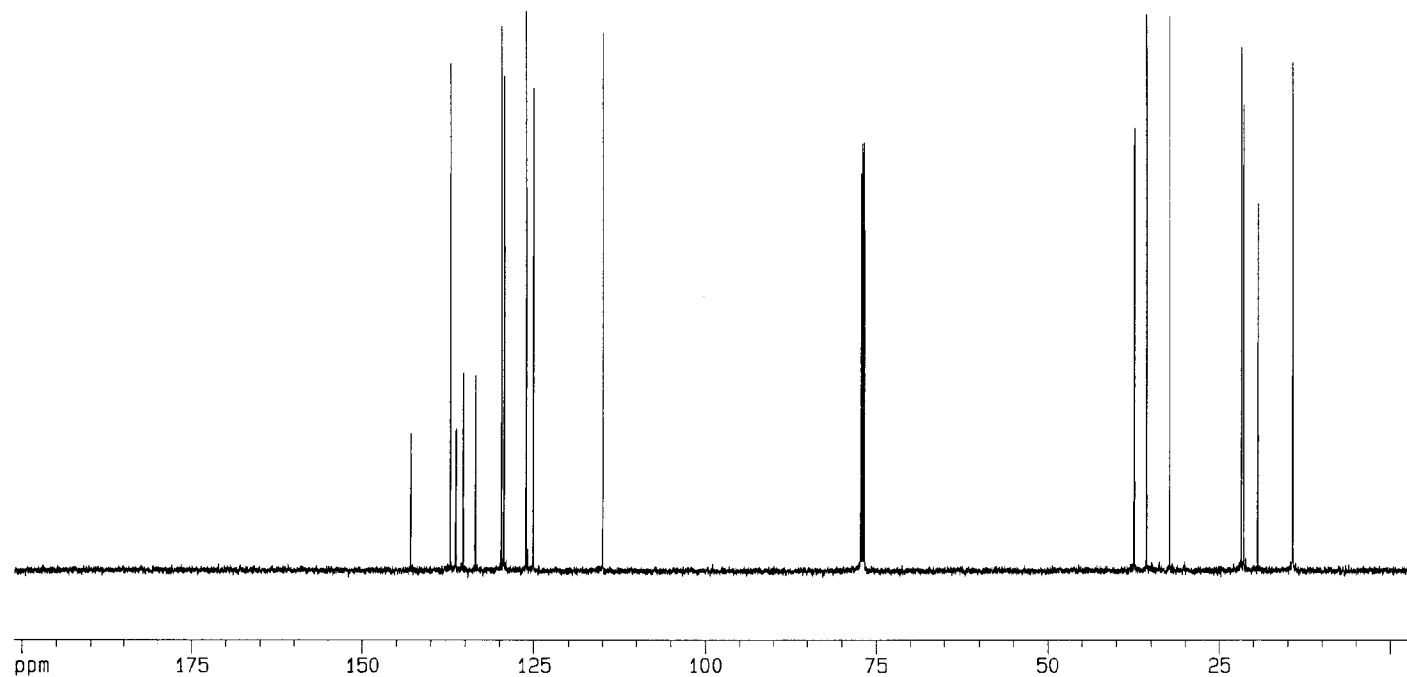


F2 - Acquisition Parameters
 Date_ 20040520
 Time 16.17
 INSTRUM spect
 PROBHD 5 mm QNP 1H
 PULPROG zg
 TD 32768
 SOLVENT CDCl3
 NS 4
 DS 0
 SWH 5208.333 Hz
 FIDRES 0.158946 Hz
 AQ 3.1457779 sec
 RG 32
 DW 95.000 usec
 DE 4.50 usec
 TE 300.0 K
 D1 2.00000000 sec

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
 NUC1 1H
 P1 10.00 usec
 PL1 0.00 dB
 SF01 500.1320118 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters
 SI 16384
 SF 500.1300181 MHz
 WDW EM
 SSB 0
 LB 0.30 Hz
 GB 0
 PC 1.00

1D NMR plot parameters
 CX 20.00 cm
 F1P 9.000 ppm
 F1 4501.08 Hz
 F2P -0.214 ppm
 F2 -107.03 Hz
 PPMCM 0.45069 ppm/cm
 HZCM 230.40584 Hz/cm

**5g**

F2 - Acquisition Parameters

Date_ 20040520
 Time 15.35
 INSTRUM spect
 PROBD 5 mm QNP 1H
 PULPROG zgdc
 TD 238090
 SOLVENT Aceton
 NS 136
 DS 0
 SWH 39682.539 Hz
 FIDRES 0.166670 Hz
 AQ 2.9999640 sec
 RG 2048
 DW 12.600 usec
 DE 7.50 usec
 TE 300.0 K
 D1 4.0000000 sec
 d11 0.0300000 sec

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
 NUC1 13C
 P1 8.20 usec
 PL1 0.00 dB
 SF01 125.7735214 MHz

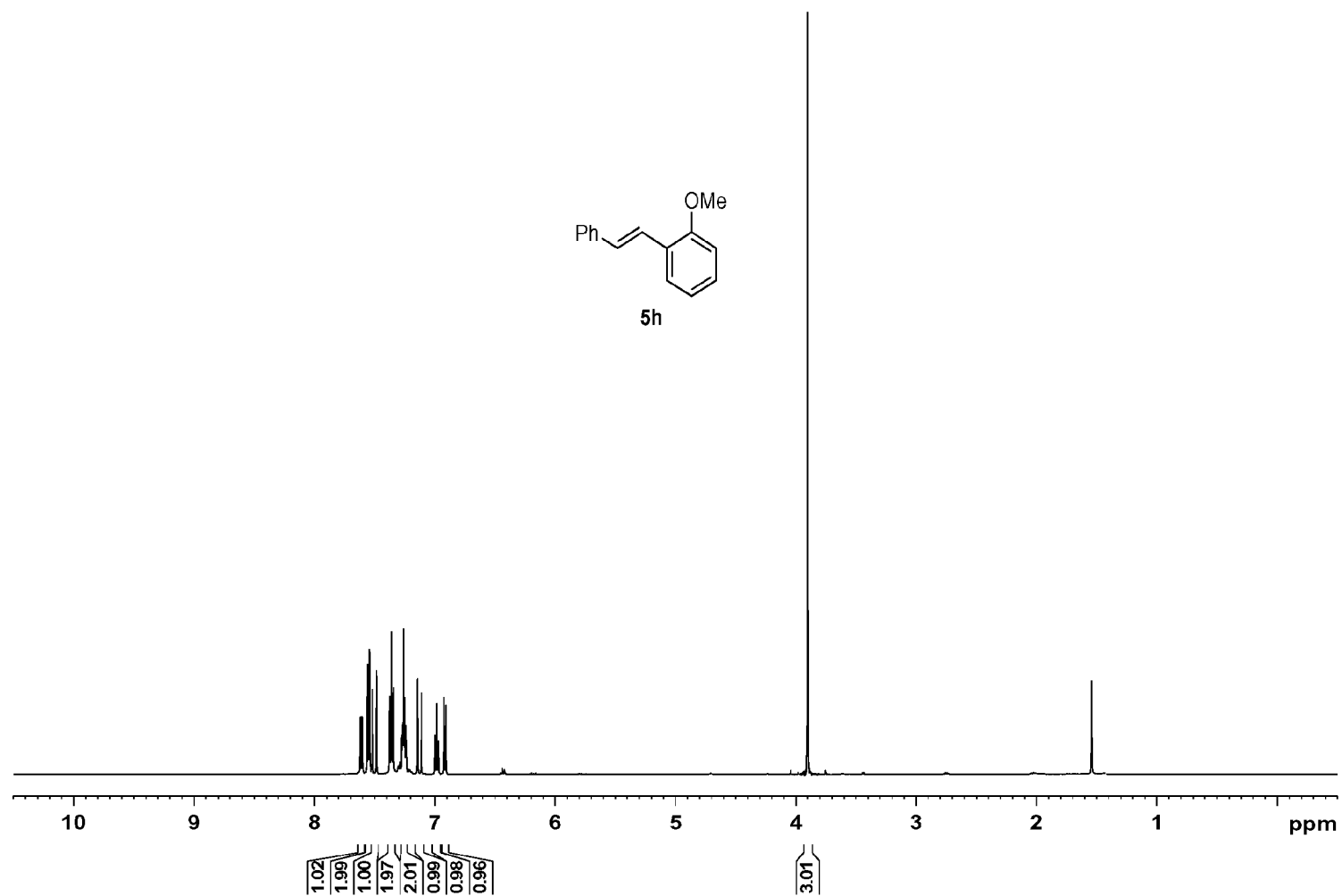
===== CHANNEL f2 =====
 CPDPRG2 waltz16
 NUC2 1H
 PCPD2 90.00 usec
 PL2 120.00 dB
 PL12 19.00 dB
 SF02 500.1338000 MHz

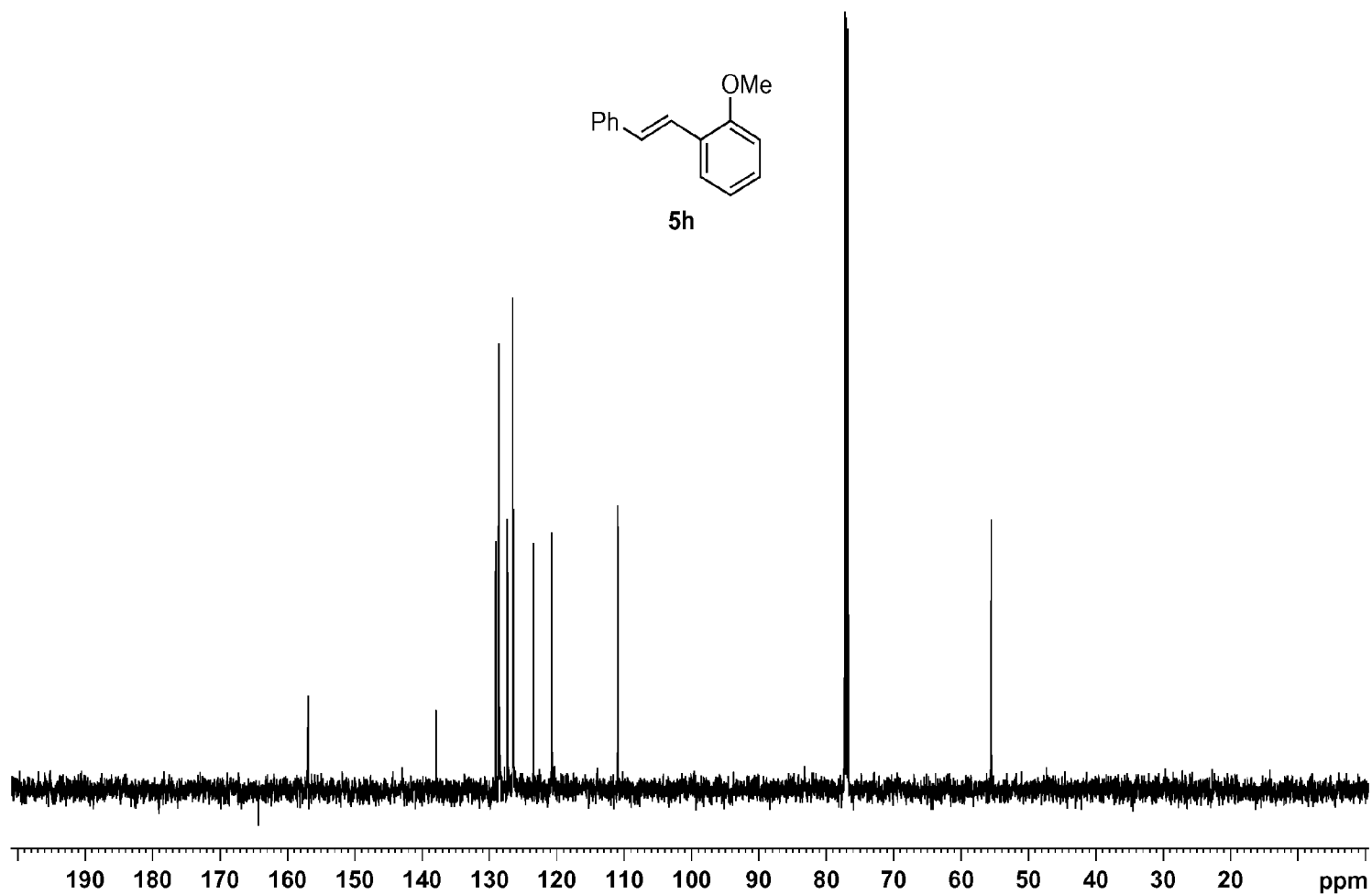
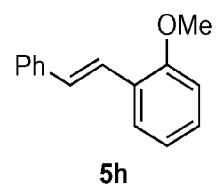
F2 - Processing parameters

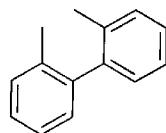
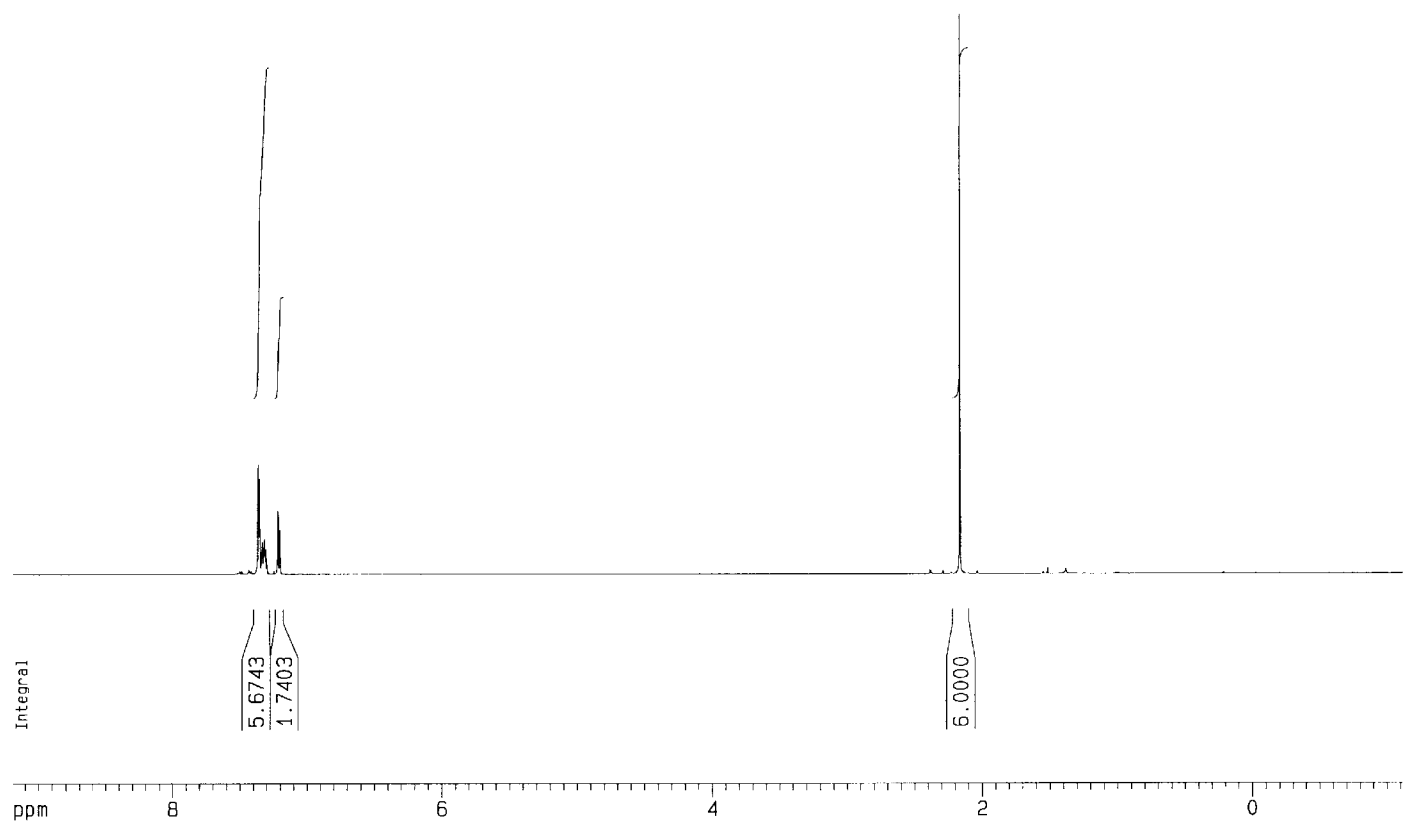
SI 32768
 SF 125.7577946 MHz
 WDW EM
 SSB 0
 LB 1.00 Hz
 GB 0
 PC 1.40

1D NMR plot parameters

CX 20.00 cm
 F1P 201.122 ppm
 F1 25292.62 Hz
 F2P -4.160 ppm
 F2 -523.16 Hz
 PPMCM 10.26409 ppm/cm
 HZCM 1290.78894 Hz/cm





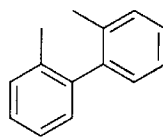
**5i**

F2 - Acquisition Parameters
Date_ 20040517
Time 15.59
INSTRUM spect
PROBHD 5 mm GNP 1H
PULPROG zg
TD 32768
SOLVENT CDCl3
NS 4
DS 0
SWH 5208.333 Hz
FIDRES 0.158946 Hz
AQ 3.1457779 sec
RG 16
DW 95.000 usec
DE 4.50 usec
TE 300.0 K
D1 2.0000000 sec

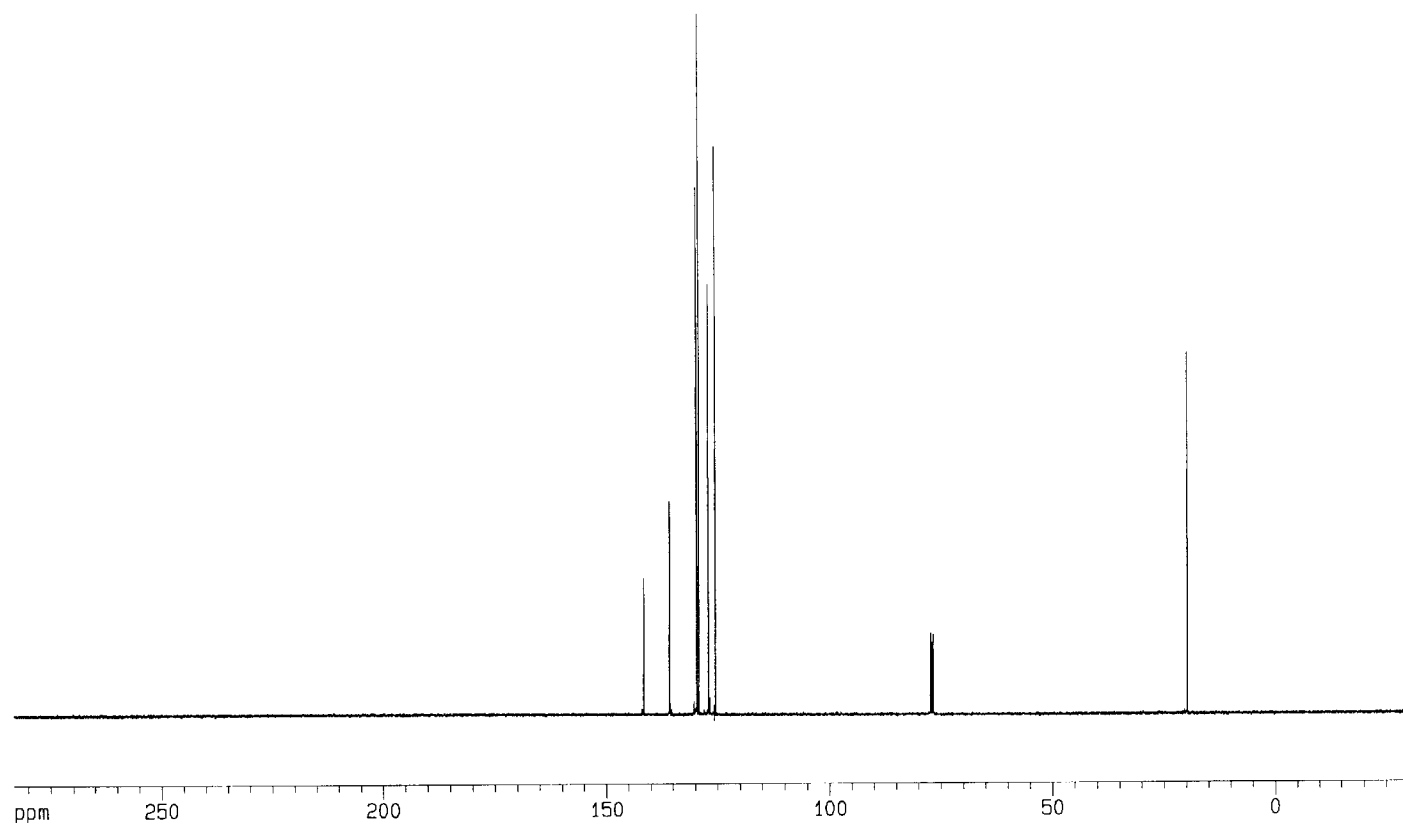
===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1 1H
P1 10.00 usec
PL1 0.00 dB
SF01 500.1320118 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters
SI 16384
SF 500.1300181 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
LB 0.30 Hz
GB 0
PC 1.00

1D NMR plot parameters
CX 20.00 cm
F1P 9.193 ppm
F1 4597.89 Hz
F2P -1.221 ppm
F2 -610.44 Hz
PPMCM 0.52070 ppm/cm
HZCM 260.41666 Hz/cm



5i



F2 - Acquisition Parameters

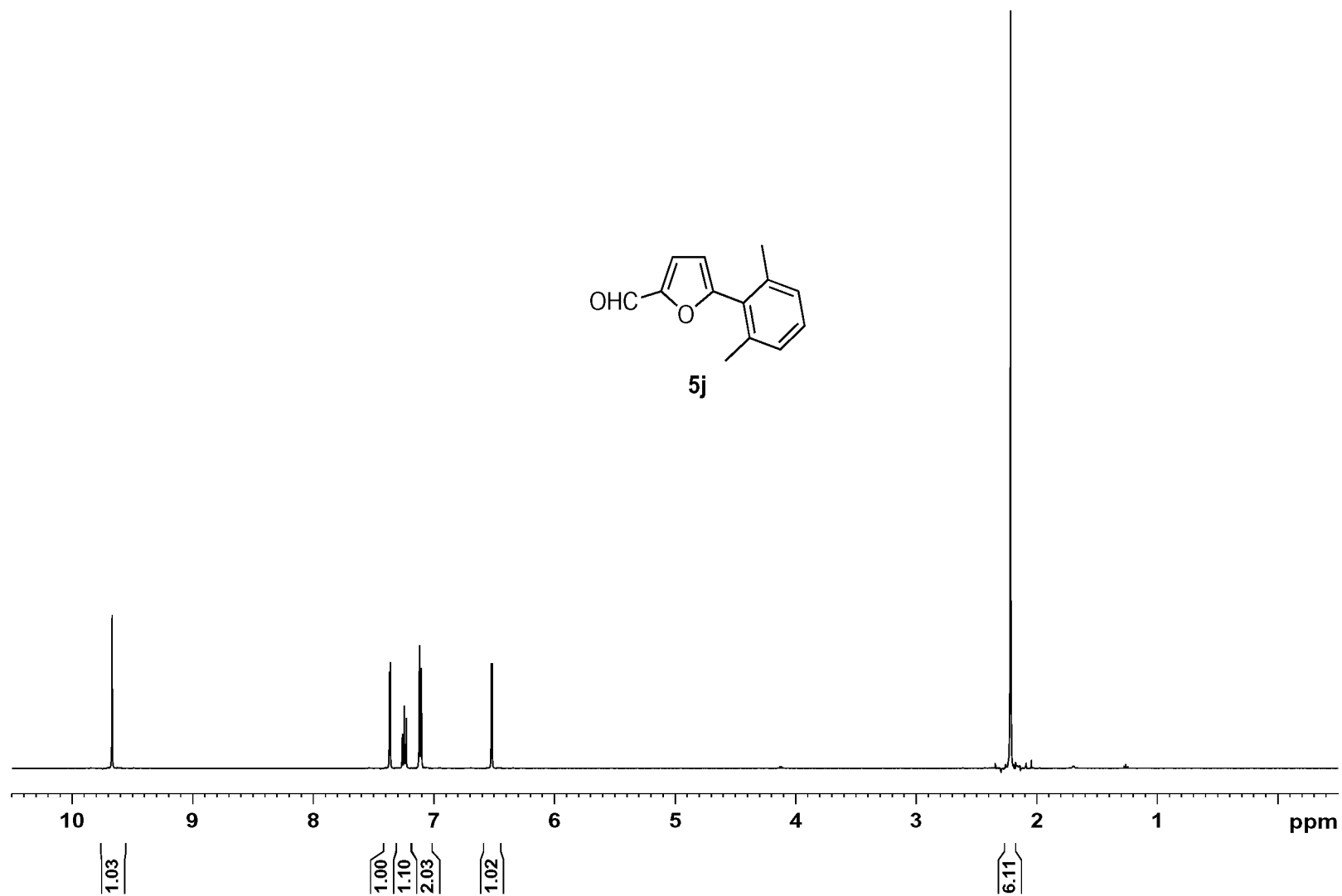
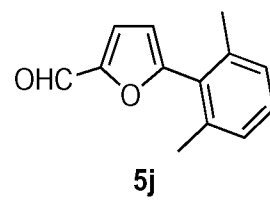
Date_ 20040517
Time 16.06
INSTAUM spect
PROBHD 5 mm QNP 1H
PULPROG zgdc
TD 238090
SOLVENT Aceton
NS 24
DS 0
SWH 39682.539 Hz
FIDRES 0.166670 Hz
AQ 2.9999840 sec
RG 4096
DW 12.600 usec
DE 7.50 usec
TE 300.0 K
D1 4.00000000 sec
d11 0.03000000 sec

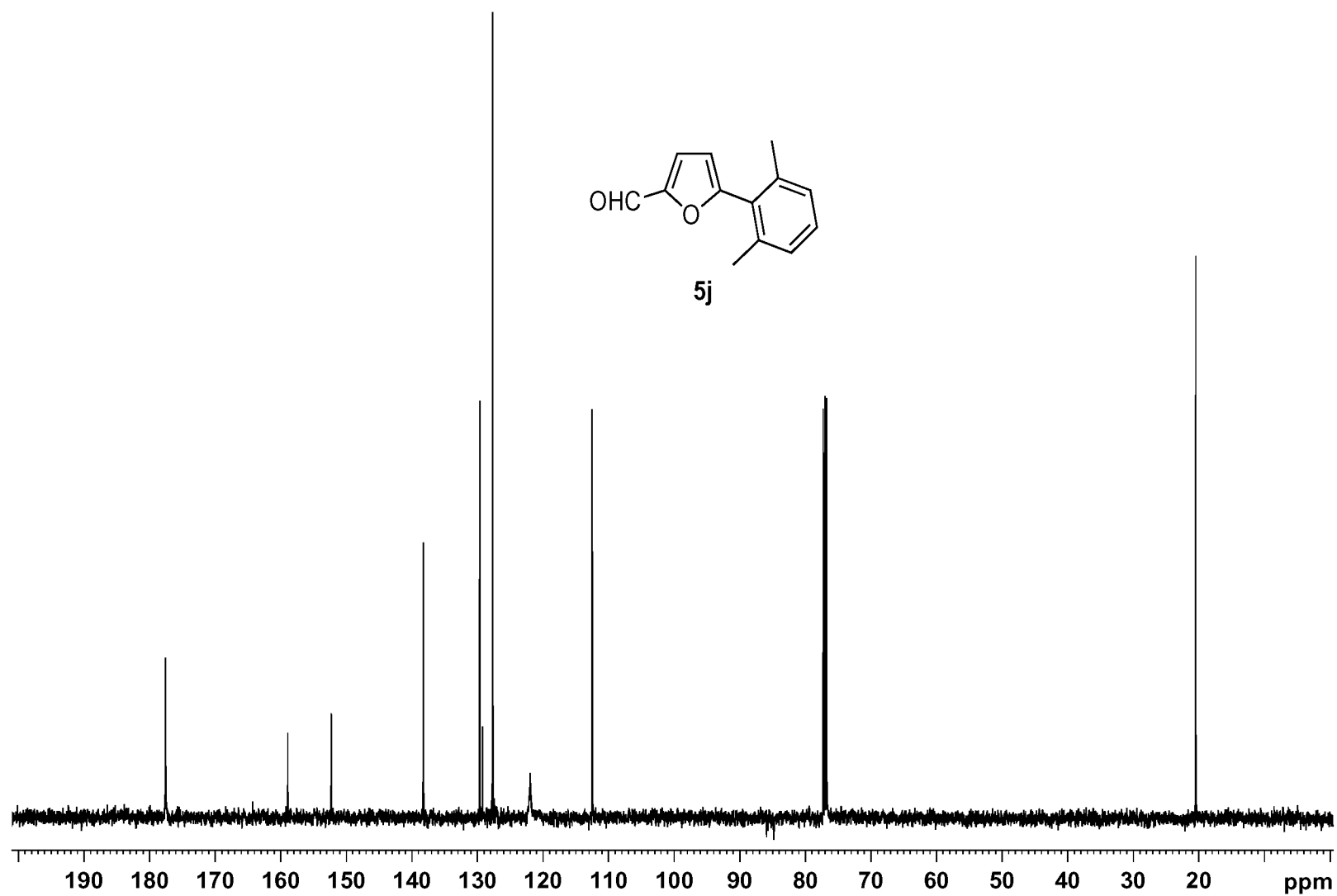
===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1 13C
P1 8.20 usec
PL1 0.00 dB
SF01 125.7736214 MHz

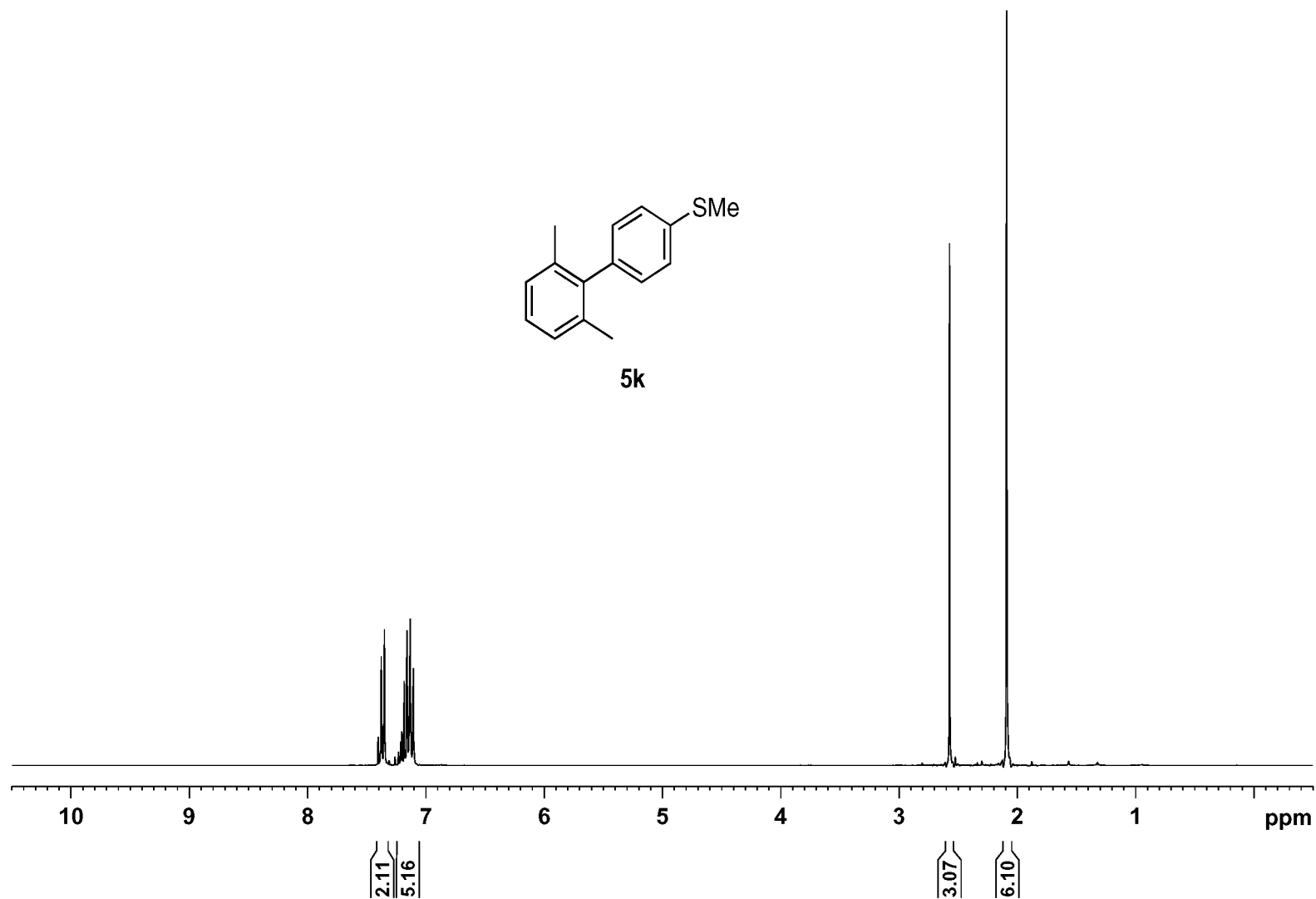
===== CHANNEL f2 =====
CPDPRG2 waltz16
NUC2 1H
PCPD2 90.00 usec
PL2 120.00 dB
PL12 19.00 dB
SF02 500.1338000 MHz

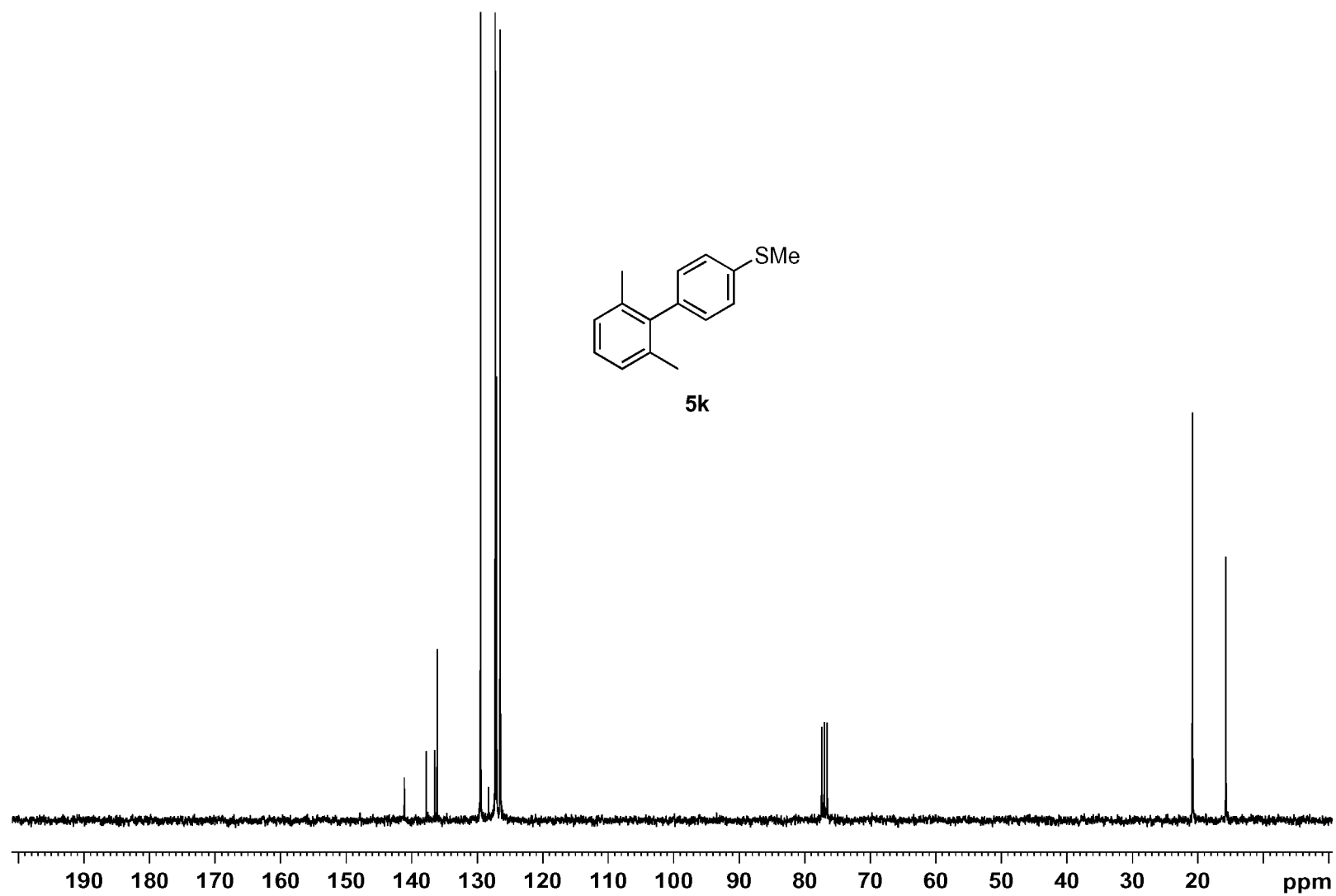
F2 - Processing parameters
SI 32768
SF 125.7578116 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
LB 1.00 Hz
GB 0
PC 1.40

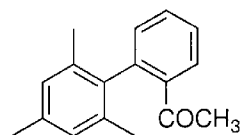
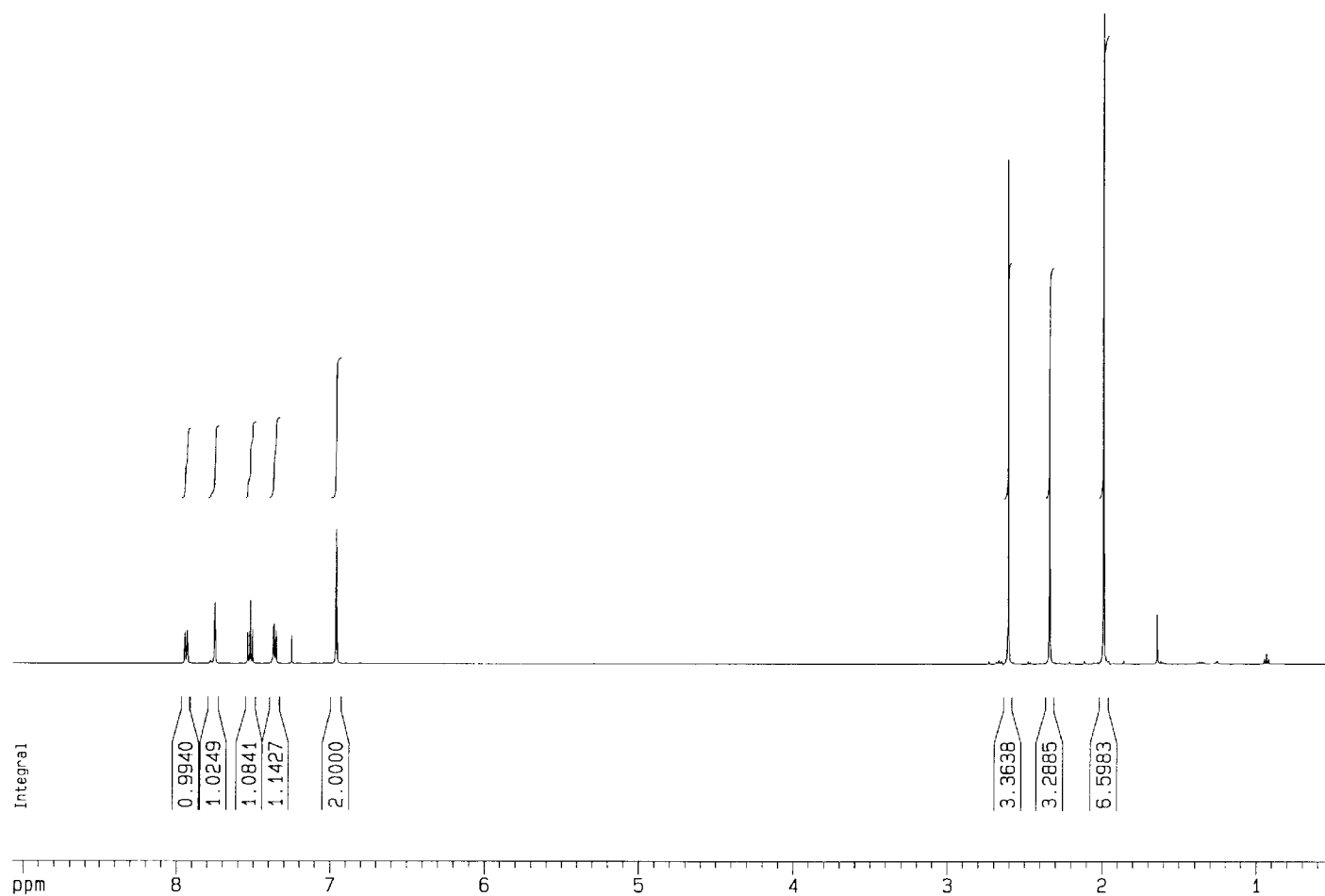
1D NMR plot parameters
CX 20.00 cm
F1P 283.491 ppm
F1 35651.14 Hz
F2P -32.057 ppm
F2 -4031.40 Hz
PPMCM 15.77737 ppm/cm
HZCM 1984.12708 Hz/cm









**5l**

F2 - Acquisition Parameters

Date_ 20040524
Time 18.00
INSTRUM spect
PROBHD 5 mm GNP 1H
PULPROG zg
TD 32768
SOLVENT CDCl3
NS 4
DS 0
SWH 5208.333 Hz
FIDRES 0.158946 Hz
AQ 3.1457779 sec
RG 64
DW 96.000 usec
DE 4.50 usec
TE 300.0 K
D1 2.00000000 sec

===== CHANNEL f1 =====

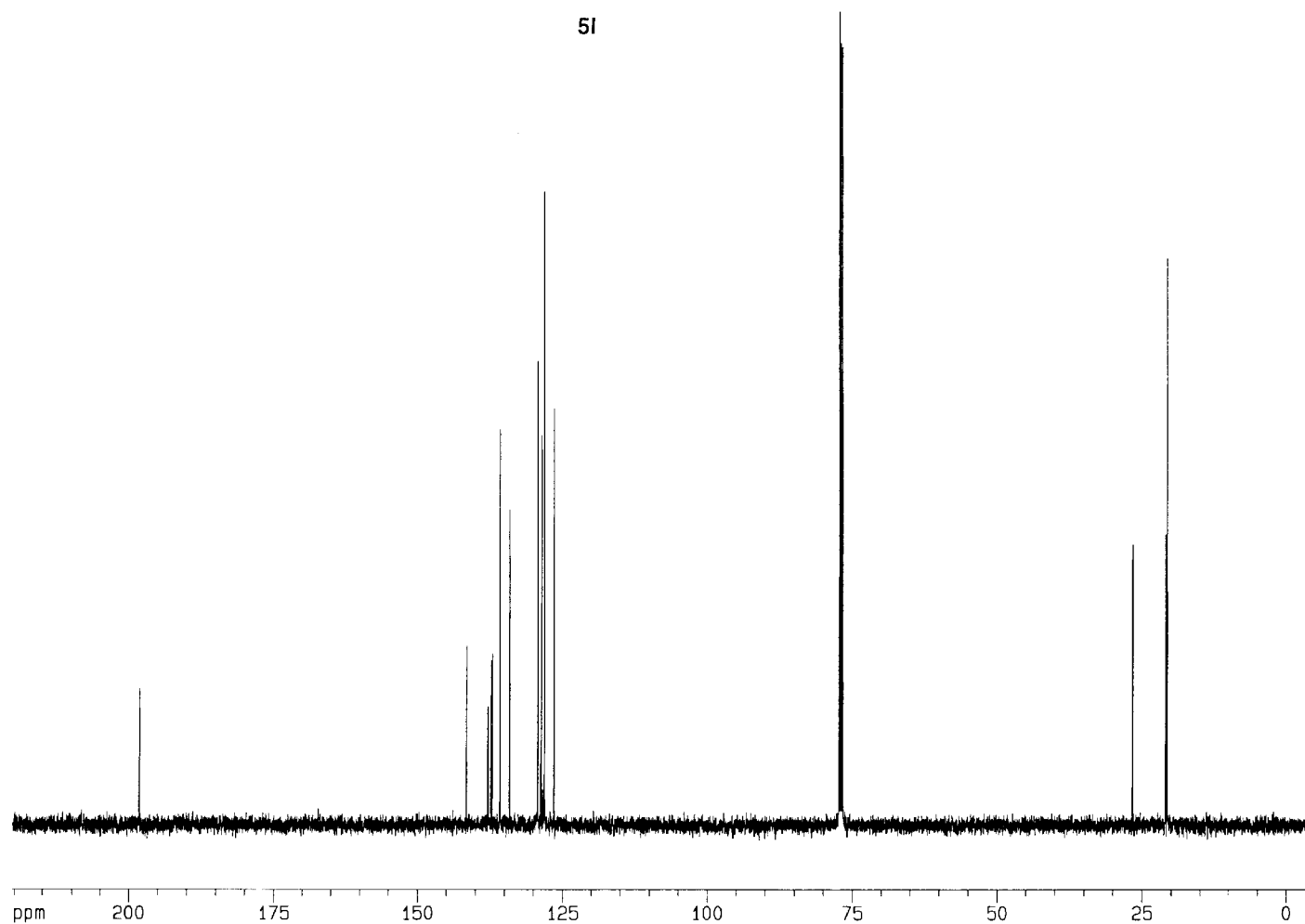
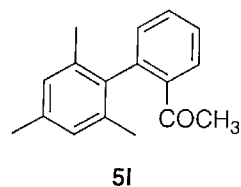
NUC1 1H
P1 10.00 usec
PL1 0.00 dB
SF01 500.132018 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters

SI 16384
SF 500.1300181 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
LB 0.30 Hz
GB 0
PC 1.00

1D NMR plot parameters

CX 20.00 cm
F1P 9.070 ppm
F1 4536.09 Hz
F2P 0.471 ppm
F2 235.46 Hz
PPMCM 0.42995 ppm/cm
HZCM 215.03154 Hz/cm



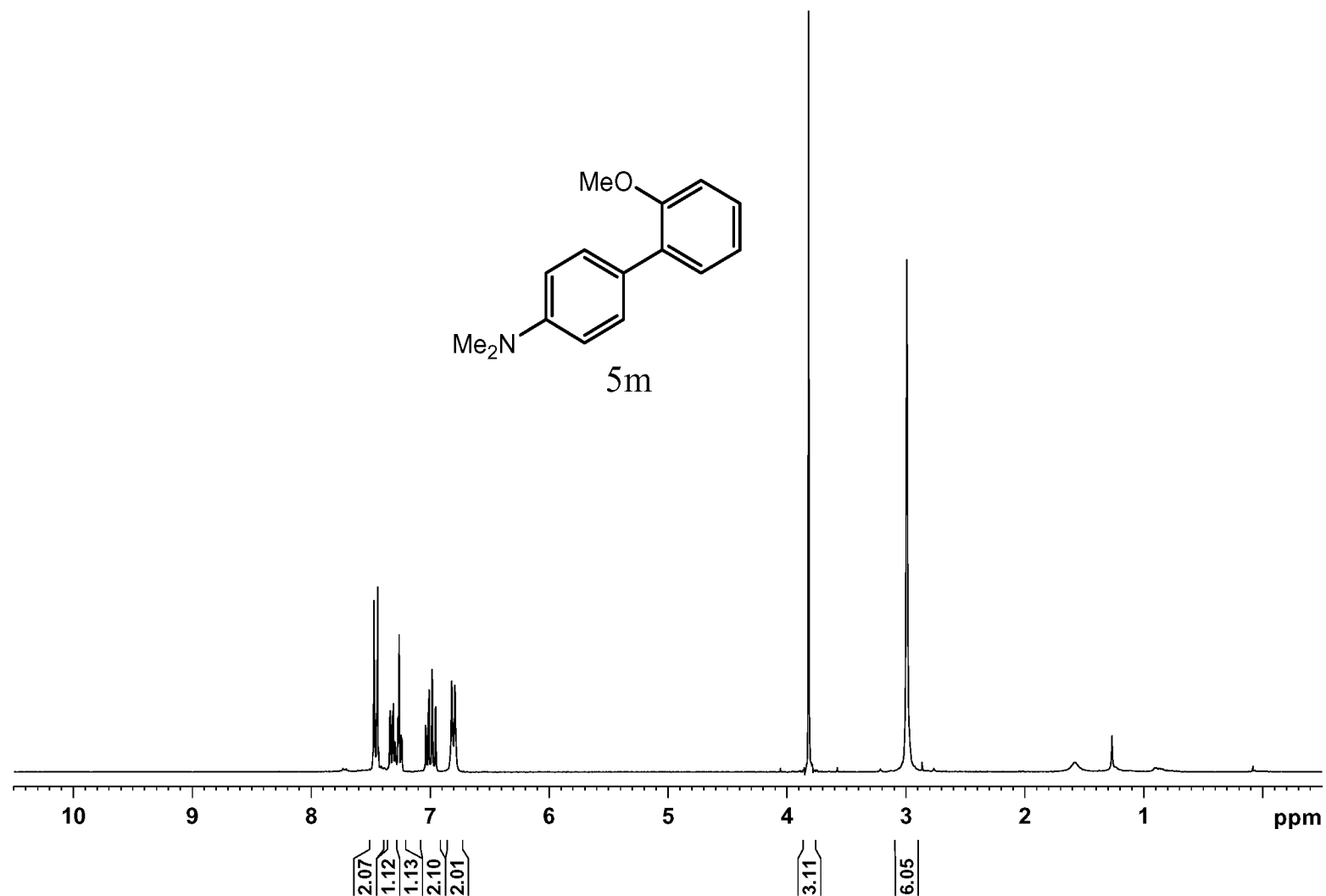
F2 - Acquisition Parameters
 Date_ 20040524
 Time 18.15
 INSTRUM spect
 PROBHD 5 mm QNP 1H
 PULPROG zgdc
 TD 238090
 SOLVENT Aceton
 NS 60
 DS 0
 SWH 39682.539 Hz
 FIDRES 0.166670 Hz
 AQ 2.9999840 sec
 RG 2048
 DW 12.600 usec
 DE 7.50 usec
 TE 300.0 K
 D1 4.00000000 sec
 d11 0.03000000 sec

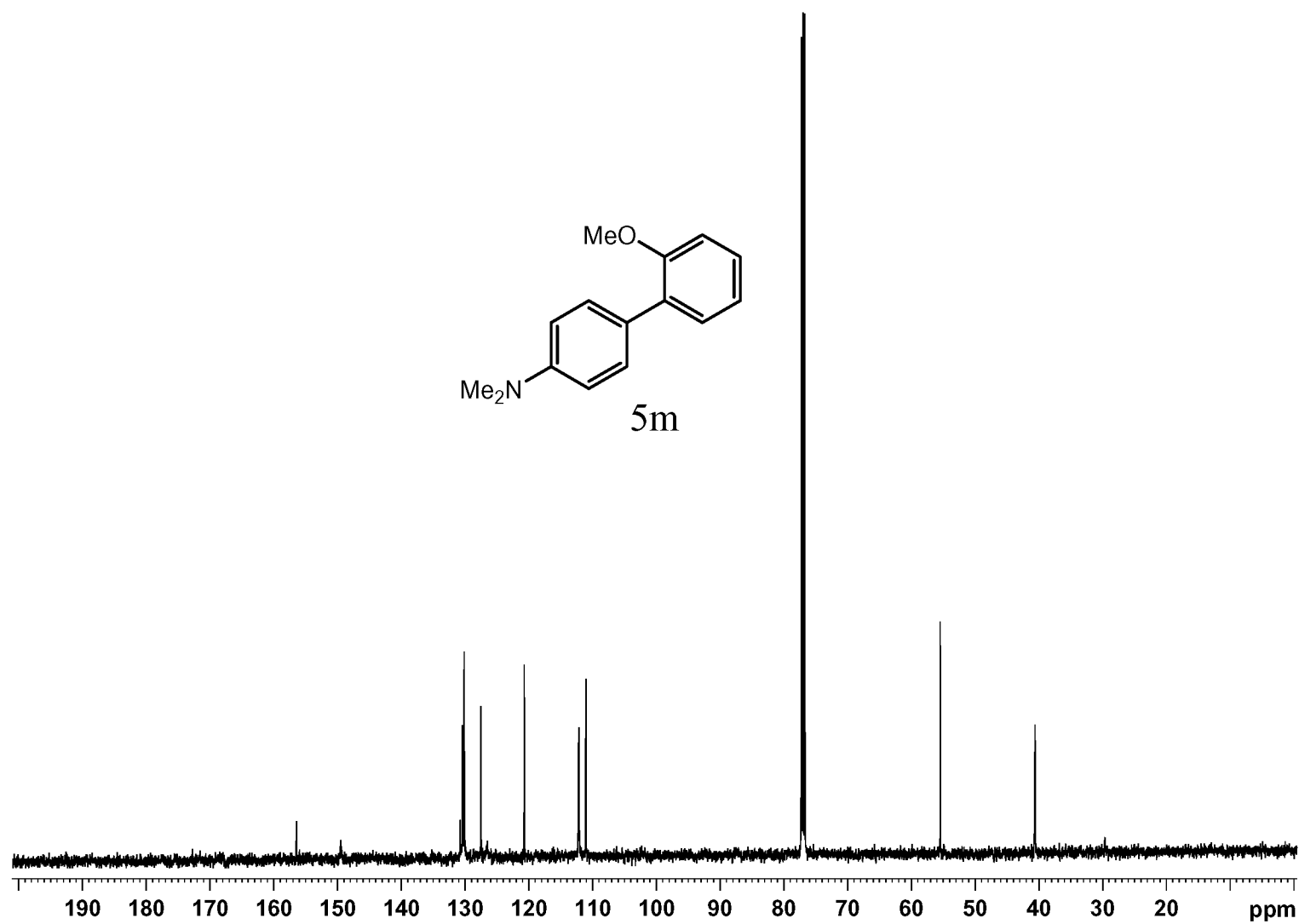
===== CHANNEL f1 =====
 NUC1 13C
 P1 8.20 usec
 PL1 0.00 dB
 SF01 125.7736214 MHz

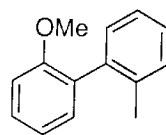
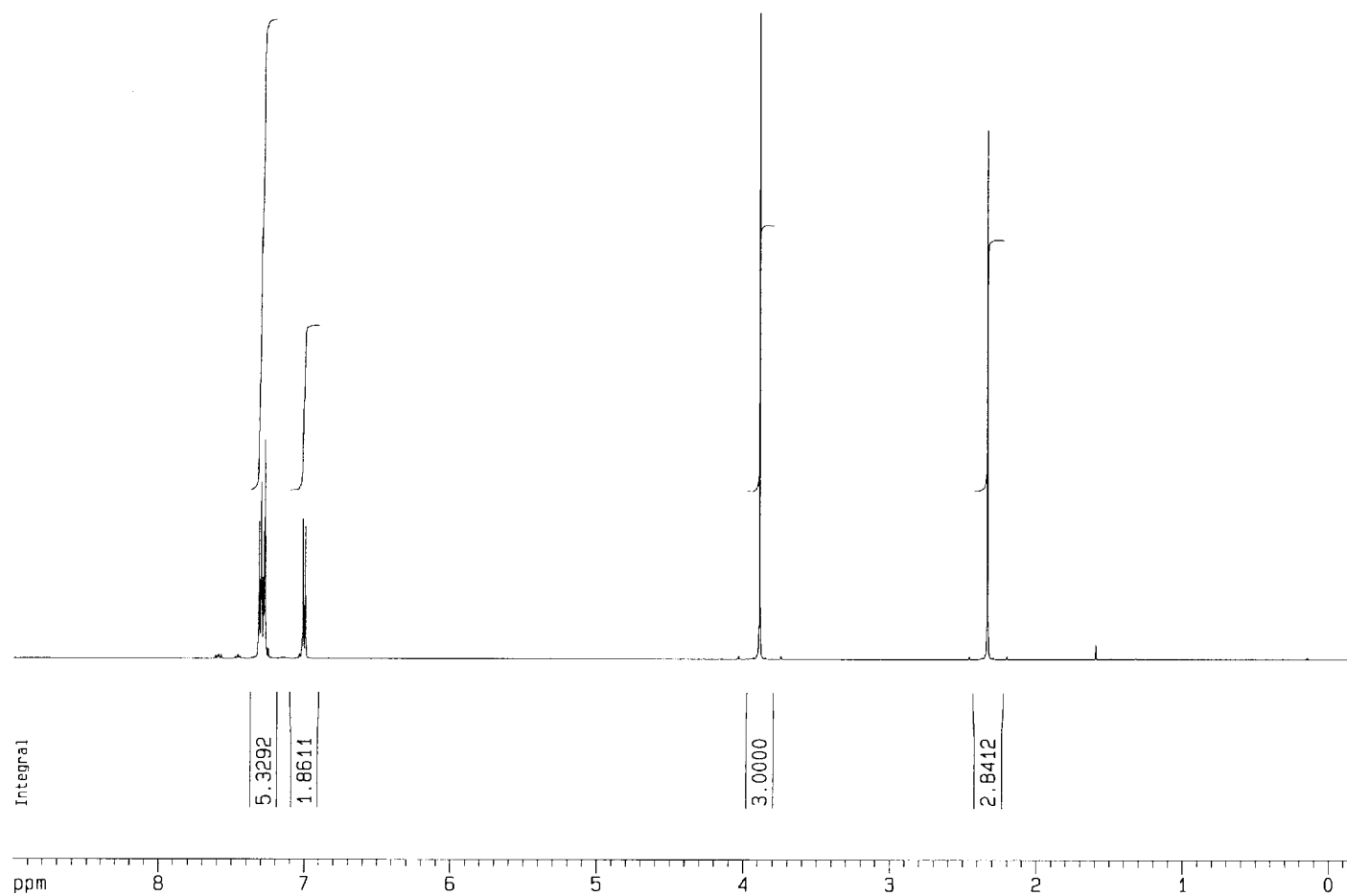
===== CHANNEL f2 =====
 CPOPRG2 waltz16
 NUC2 1H
 PCPD2 90.00 usec
 PL2 120.00 dB
 PL12 19.00 dB
 SF02 500.1338000 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters
 SI 32768
 SF 125.7577970 MHz
 WDW EM
 SSB 0
 LB 1.00 Hz
 GB 0
 PC 1.40

1D NMR plot parameters
 CX 20.00 cm
 F1P 220.262 ppm
 F1 27699.67 Hz
 F2P -5.352 ppm
 F2 -673.11 Hz
 PPMCM 11.28072 ppm/cm
 HZCM 1418.63867 Hz/cm





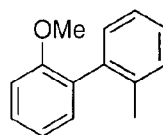
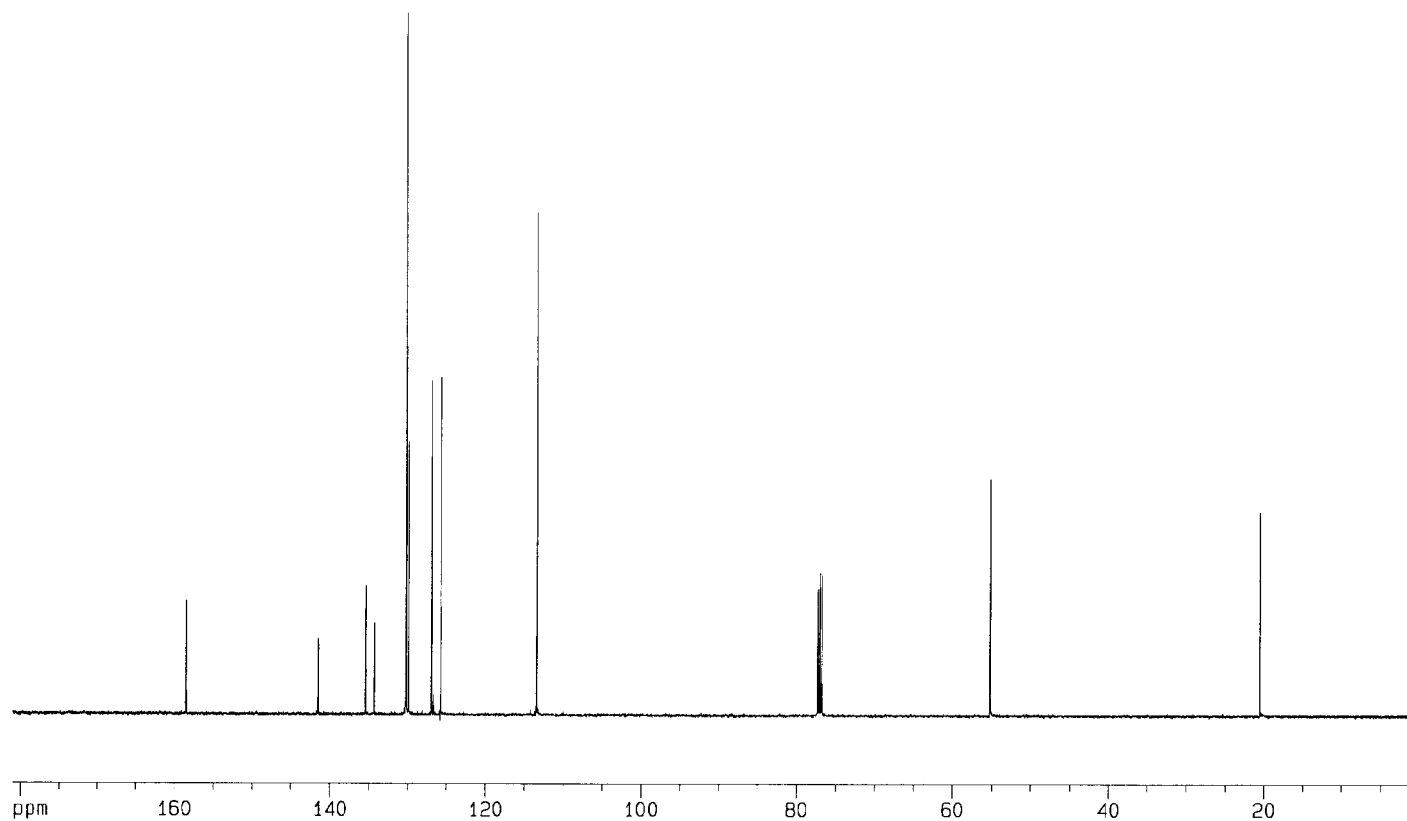
**5n**

F2 - Acquisition Parameters
 Date_ 20040518
 Time 19.32
 INSTRUM spect
 PROBHD 5 mm QNP 1H
 PULPROG zg
 TD 32768
 SOLVENT CDCl₃
 NS 4
 DS 0
 SWH 5208.333 Hz
 FIDRES 0.158946 Hz
 AQ 3.1457779 sec
 RG 32
 DW 96.000 usec
 DE 4.50 usec
 TE 300.0 K
 D1 2.00000000 sec

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
 NUC1 1H
 P1 10.00 usec
 PL1 0.00 dB
 SF01 500.1320118 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters
 SI 16384
 SF 500.1300181 MHz
 WDW EM
 SSB 0
 LB 0.30 Hz
 GB 0
 PC 1.00

1D NMR plot parameters
 CX 20.00 cm
 F1P 9.000 ppm
 F1 4501.08 Hz
 F2P -0.214 ppm
 F2 -107.03 Hz
 PPMCM 0.46069 ppm/cm
 HZCM 230.40584 Hz/cm

**5n**

Current Data Parameters

NAME haploindole
EXPNO 624
PROCNO 1

F2 - Acquisition Parameters

Date_ 20040518
Time 19.40
INSTRUM spect
PROBHD 5 mm QNP 1H
PULPROG zgdc
TD 238090
SOLVENT Aceton
NS 60
DS 0
SWH 39682.539 Hz
FIDRES 0.166670 Hz
AQ 2.9999640 sec
RG 2048
DW 12.600 usec
DE 7.50 usec
TE 300.0 K
D1 4.00000000 sec
d11 0.03000000 sec

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1 13C
P1 0.20 usec
PL1 0.00 dB
SF01 125.7736214 MHz

===== CHANNEL f2 =====
CPDPRG2 waltz16
NUC2 1H
PCPD2 90.00 usec
PL2 120.00 dB
PL12 19.00 dB
SF02 500.1338000 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters

SF 32768
SF 125.7578019 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
LB 1.00 Hz
GB 0
PC 1.40

1D NMR plot parameters

CX 20.00 cm
F1P 180.927 ppm
F1 22753.04 Hz
F2P 0.151 ppm
F2 18.95 Hz
PPMCM 9.03884 ppm/cm
HZCM 1136.70471 Hz/cm

