

Cover page for Supporting Information

Manuscript Title:

Skeletal rearrangement of all-carbon spiro skeletons mediated by Lewis acid

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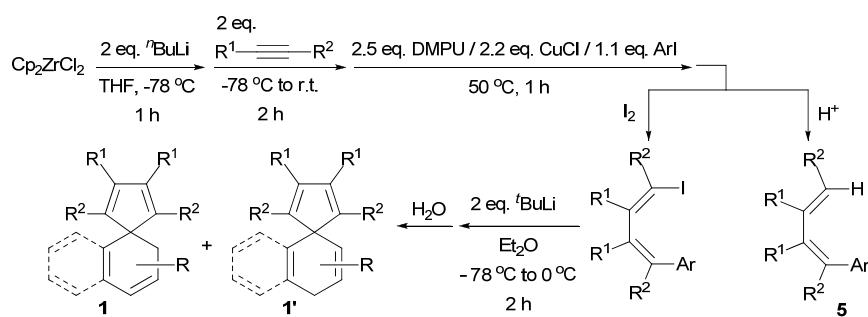
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1) Experimental details and characterization data

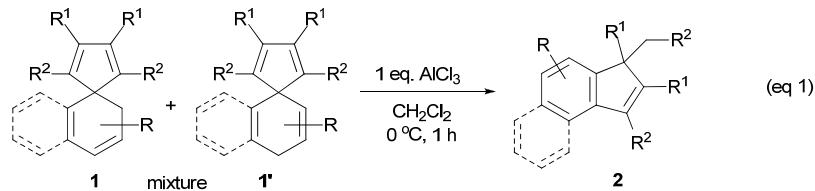
General Methods

All reactions were conducted under a slightly positive pressure of dry, prepurified nitrogen using standard Schlenk line techniques when appropriate. Unless otherwise noted, all starting materials were commercially available and were used without further purification. Dichloromethane were refluxed and distilled from calcium hydride under nitrogen atmosphere. Aluminum trichloride was purified by sublimation under ambient pressure. Spiro compounds **1**¹ and 1-aryl-1,3-diene compounds **5**² were prepared according to the literature (Scheme 1). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 300 and 75.4 MHz, respectively, in CDCl₃ at room temperature unless stated otherwise.

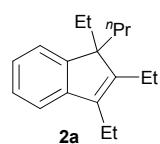


Scheme 1

A typical procedure for synthesis of indene derivatives **2** from spiro compounds **1**



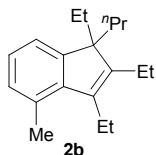
As showed in eq 1, to a solution of a mixture of **1** and **1'** (1 mmol in total) in dichloromethane (5 mL) was added AlCl₃ (133 mg, 1 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. After quenching with water, the mixture was extracted with hexane. The extract was washed with brine and dried over MgSO₄. The solvent was then evaporated in vacuo and the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane) to afford the product **2**.



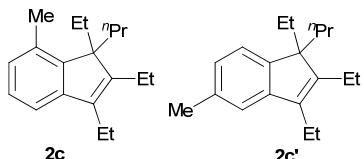
2a: Colorless liquid, isolated yield 80% (194 mg); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, Me₄Si): δ

0.28 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H, CH₃), 0.54-0.58 (m, 1H, CH₂), 0.68 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H, CH₃), 0.72-0.78 (m, 1H, CH₂), 1.13 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.16 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.64-1.88 (m, 4H, CH₂), 2.24 (qd, $J = 7.5, 1.5$ Hz, 2H, CH₂), 2.53 (q, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H, CH₂), 7.08-7.20 (m, 4H, CH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, Me₄Si): δ 7.97 (1 CH₃), 13.92 (1 CH₃), 13.99 (1 CH₃), 14.46 (1 CH₃), 16.83 (1 CH₂), 18.21 (1 CH₂), 18.68 (1 CH₂), 30.25 (1 CH₂), 40.00 (1 CH₂), 58.67 (1 quart C), 117.89 (1 CH), 120.92 (1 CH), 123.76 (1 CH), 125.90 (1 CH), 139.56 (1 quart C), 145.89 (1 quart C), 147.28 (1 quart C), 149.63 (1 quart C); HRMS(ESI) calcd for [C₁₈H₂₆]H⁺: 243.2107; found 243.2102.

Similar results can be obtained by using the pure **1a** or **1a'** as the starting material. In the case of **1a**, indene **2a** can be obtained in 92% isolated yield (223 mg); for **1a'**, indene **2a** can be obtained in 71% isolated yield (172 mg).

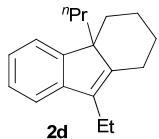


2b: Colorless liquid, isolated yield 64% (164 mg); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, Me₄Si): δ 0.26 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H, CH₃), 0.47-0.58 (m, 1H, CH₂), 0.67 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 3H, CH₃), 0.72-0.82 (m, 1H, CH₂), 1.13 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.16 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.62-1.83 (m, 4H, CH₂), 2.23 (qd, $J = 7.5, 1.5$ Hz, 2H, CH₂), 2.55 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.66 (q, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H, CH₂), 6.90-7.02 (m, 3H, CH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, Me₄Si): δ 7.90 (1 CH₃), 14.08 (1 CH₃), 14.45 (1 CH₃), 15.39 (1 CH₃), 16.75 (1 CH₂), 18.03 (1 CH₂), 19.80 (1 CH₃), 20.22 (1 CH₂), 30.58 (1 CH₂), 40.37 (1 CH₂), 57.77 (1 quart C), 118.76 (1 CH), 123.72 (1 CH), 129.10 (1 quart C), 129.25 (1 CH), 141.35 (1 quart C), 143.40 (1 quart C), 147.69 (1 quart C), 150.55 (1 quart C); HRMS(ESI) calcd for [C₁₉H₂₈]H⁺: 257.2264; found 257.2260.

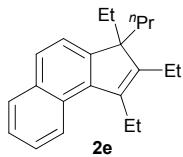


2c and **2c'**: Colorless liquid, isolated yield 73% (187 mg); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, Me₄Si) for a mixture of two isomers: δ 0.22-0.32 (m, 3H, CH₃), 0.50-0.62 (m, 1H, CH₂), 0.68 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H, CH₃), 0.72-0.83 (m, 1H, CH₂), 1.10-1.19 (m, 6H, CH₃), 1.60-1.85 (m, 4H, CH₂),

2.17-2.26 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.37 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.51 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 6.81-7.13 (m, 3H, CH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, Me₄Si) for one isomer: δ 8.04 (1 CH₃), 13.93 (1 CH₃), 14.01 (1 CH₃), 14.48 (1 CH₃), 16.90 (1 CH₂), 18.24 (1 CH₂), 18.65 (1 CH₂), 21.64 (1 CH₃), 30.22 (1 CH₂), 40.00 (1 CH₂), 58.29 (1 quart C), 118.77 (1 CH), 120.71 (1 CH), 124.46 (1 CH), 135.27 (1 quart C), 139.43 (1 quart C), 146.08 (1 quart C), 146.68 (1 quart C), 147.66 (1 quart C); for the other isomer: δ 7.94 (1 CH₃), 14.11 (1 CH₃), 14.43 (1 CH₃), 16.92 (1 CH₂), 17.74 (1 CH₂), 18.70 (1 CH₂), 18.78 (1 CH₃), 27.35 (1 CH₂), 30.91 (1 CH₃), 37.22 (1 CH₂), 60.27 (1 quart C), 115.56 (1 CH), 126.01 (1 CH), 126.38 (1 CH), 138.07 (1 quart C), 139.60 (1 quart C), 145.72 (1 quart C), 146.32 (1 quart C), 147.10 (1 quart C); HRMS(ESI) calcd for [C₁₉H₂₈]H⁺: 257.2264; found 257.2258.



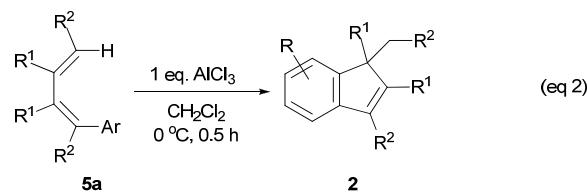
2d: Colorless liquid, isolated yield 54% (130 mg); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, Me₄Si): δ 0.48-0.57 (m, 1H, CH₂), 0.69 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 0.92-1.09 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.13 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.60-2.08 (m, 7H, CH₂), 2.12-2.19 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.51 (qd, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 2.68-2.74 (m, 1H, CH₂), 7.07-7.13 (m, 1H, CH), 7.20-7.28 (m, 3H, CH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, Me₄Si): δ 14.31 (1 CH₃), 14.62 (1 CH₃), 16.53 (1 CH₂), 18.02 (1 CH₂), 21.96 (1 CH₂), 24.00 (1 CH₂), 28.47 (1 CH₂), 36.22 (1 CH₂), 37.72 (1 CH₂), 53.22 (1 quart C), 118.42 (1 CH), 120.93 (1 CH), 123.38 (1 CH), 125.97 (1 CH), 133.87 (1 quart C), 145.03 (1 quart C), 147.74 (1 quart C), 152.91 (1 quart C); HRMS(ESI) calcd for [C₁₈H₂₄]H⁺: 241.1951; found 241.1947.



2e: Colorless liquid, isolated yield 59% (172 mg); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, Me₄Si): δ 0.22 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 0.44-0.47 (m, 1H, CH₂), 0.65 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 0.71-0.74 (m, 1H, CH₂), 1.17 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.76-1.92 (m, 4H, CH₂), 2.31-2.34 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.97 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 7.33-7.46 (m, 3H, CH), 7.65 (d, *J* =

8.4 Hz, 1H, CH), 7.86 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.5 Hz, 1H, CH), 8.37 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H, CH); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3 , Me_4Si): δ 7.75 (1 CH_3), 14.04 (1 CH_3), 14.41 (1 CH_3), 14.81 (1 CH_3), 16.58 (1 CH_2), 18.19 (1 CH_2), 21.09 (1 CH_2), 29.89 (1 CH_2), 39.61 (1 CH_2), 58.27 (1 quart C), 119.88 (1 CH), 123.86 (1 CH), 124.00 (1 CH), 124.78 (1 CH), 125.21 (1 CH), 128.17 (1 quart C), 129.04 (1 CH), 133.56 (1 quart C), 140.07 (1 quart C), 141.56 (1 quart C), 148.14 (1 quart C), 148.94 (1 quart C); HRMS(ESI) calcd for $[\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{28}]^{\text{H}^+}$: 293.2264; found 293.2264.

A typical procedure for synthesis of indene derivatives **2** from **5**

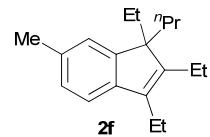


As showed in eq 2, to a solution of **5** (1 mmol) in dichloromethane (5 mL) was added AlCl_3 (133 mg, 1 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 0.5 h. After quenching with water, the mixture was extracted with hexane. The extract was washed with brine and dried over MgSO_4 . The solvent was then evaporated in vacuo and the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane) to afford the product **2**.

2a: Isolated yield 85% (206 mg).

2b: Isolated yield 60% (154 mg).

2c: Isolated yield 78% (200 mg).



2f: Colorless liquid, isolated yield 92% (236 mg); ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3 , Me_4Si): δ 0.29 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 0.49-0.63 (m, 1H, CH_2), 0.68 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 0.72-0.84 (m, 1H, CH_2), 1.12 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.15 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H, CH_3), 1.60-1.84 (m, 4H, CH_2), 2.22 (qd, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 2H, CH_2), 2.37 (s, 3H CH_3), 2.50 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, CH_2), 6.95-7.08 (m, 3H, CH); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3 , Me_4Si): δ 8.03 (1 CH_3), 13.99 (2 CH_3), 14.47 (1 CH_3), 16.85 (1 CH_2), 18.16 (1 CH_2), 18.72 (1 CH_2), 21.58 (1 CH_3), 30.30 (1 CH_2), 40.07

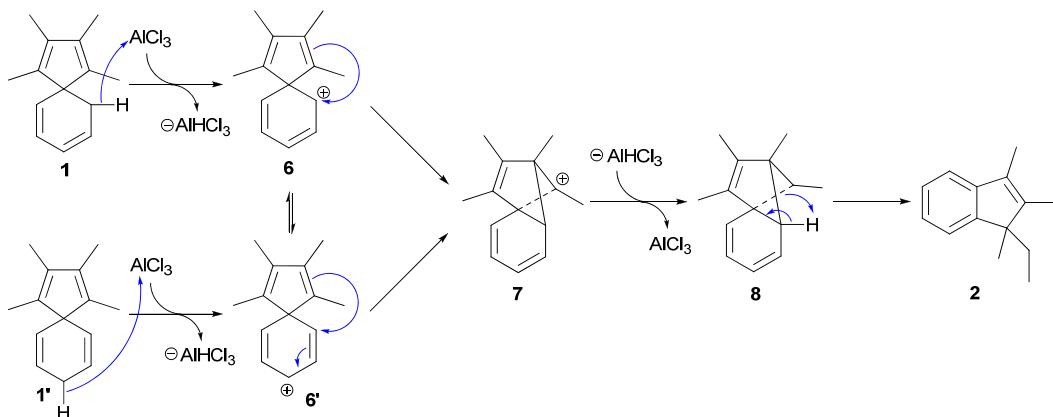
(1 CH₂), 58.47 (1 quart C), 117.49 (1 CH), 121.97 (1 CH), 126.47 (1 CH), 133.18 (1 quart C), 139.37 (1 quart C), 143.33 (1 quart C), 146.20 (1 quart C), 149.91 (1 quart C); HRMS(ESI) calcd for [C₁₉H₂₈]H⁺: 257.2264; found 257.2260.

References

1. (a) Z. Wang and Z. Xi, *Synlett*, 2006, 1275; (b) L. Liu, Z. Wang, F. Zhao and Z. Xi, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2007, **72**, 3484.
2. T. Takahashi, W. Sun, C. Xi, H. Ubayama and Z. Xi, *Tetrahedron*, 1998, **54**, 715.

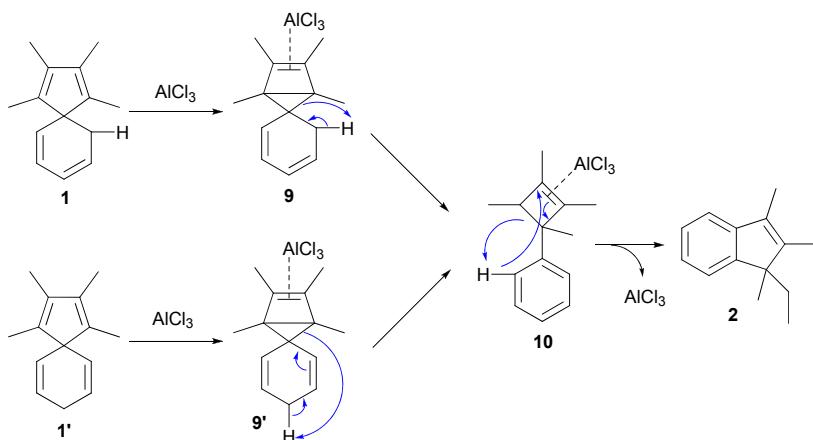
2) Discussion on mechanisms

Alternative mechanism 1 (Scheme 2): Carbon cation species **6** and **6'** can be generated from AlCl₃ by abstracting hydride from C–H bond.¹ Therefore, an alternative pathway including hydride transfer is displayed as shown in scheme 2. Cationic intermediate **6**, obtained by removing hydride to AlCl₃, would undergo rearrangement to form intermediate **7**. The new cation **7** will accept the hydride to give intermediate **8**, which would successively rearrange into the final product **2** via ring-opening proton transfer process.



Scheme 2

Alternative mechanism 2 (Scheme 3): As shown in Scheme 3, poly-cyclic species **9** and **9'**, generated through Lewis-acid-mediated [2+2] cyclization,² can further undergo ring-opening reaction of the three-membered ring, leading to intermediate **10**. Formation of **10** is probably because of aromatization as the driving force. Promoted by AlCl₃, the four-membered ring can be cleaved to form the final product **2** via proton transfer.



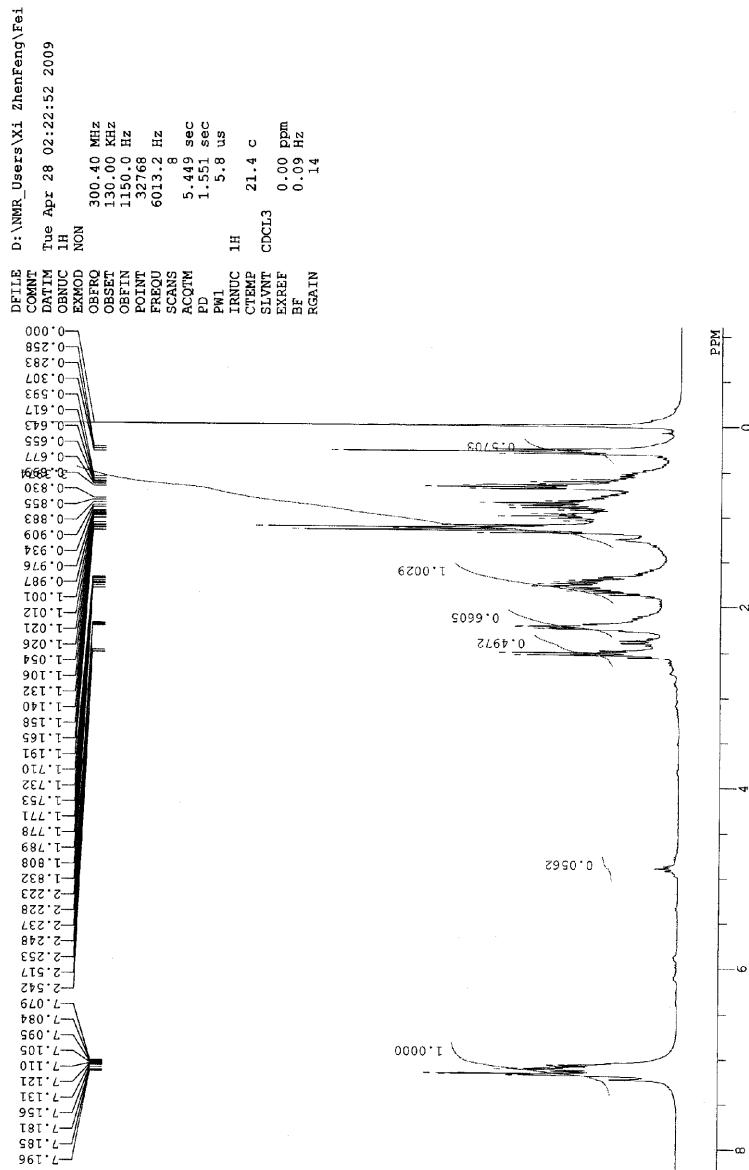
Scheme 3

Reference

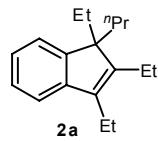
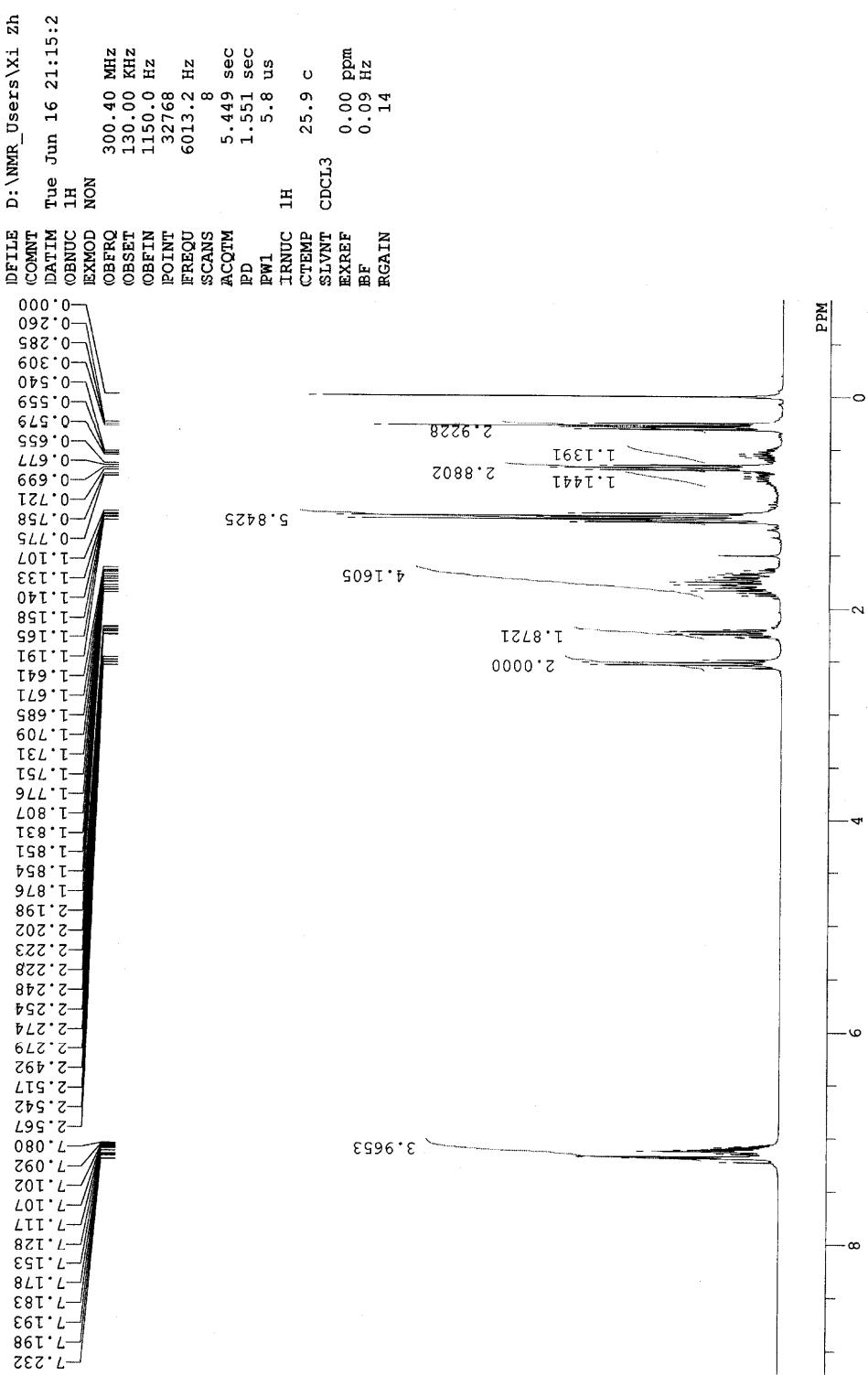
1. K. Kakiuchi, M. Ue, H. Tsukahara, T. Shimizu, T. Miyao, Y. Tobe, Y. Odaira, M. Yasuda and K. Shima, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1989, **111**, 3707.
2. J. B. Koster, G. J. Timmermans and H. van Bekkum, *Synthesis*, 1971, 139.

***in-situ* ^1H NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture of **1a** indicating the formation of **5a**.**

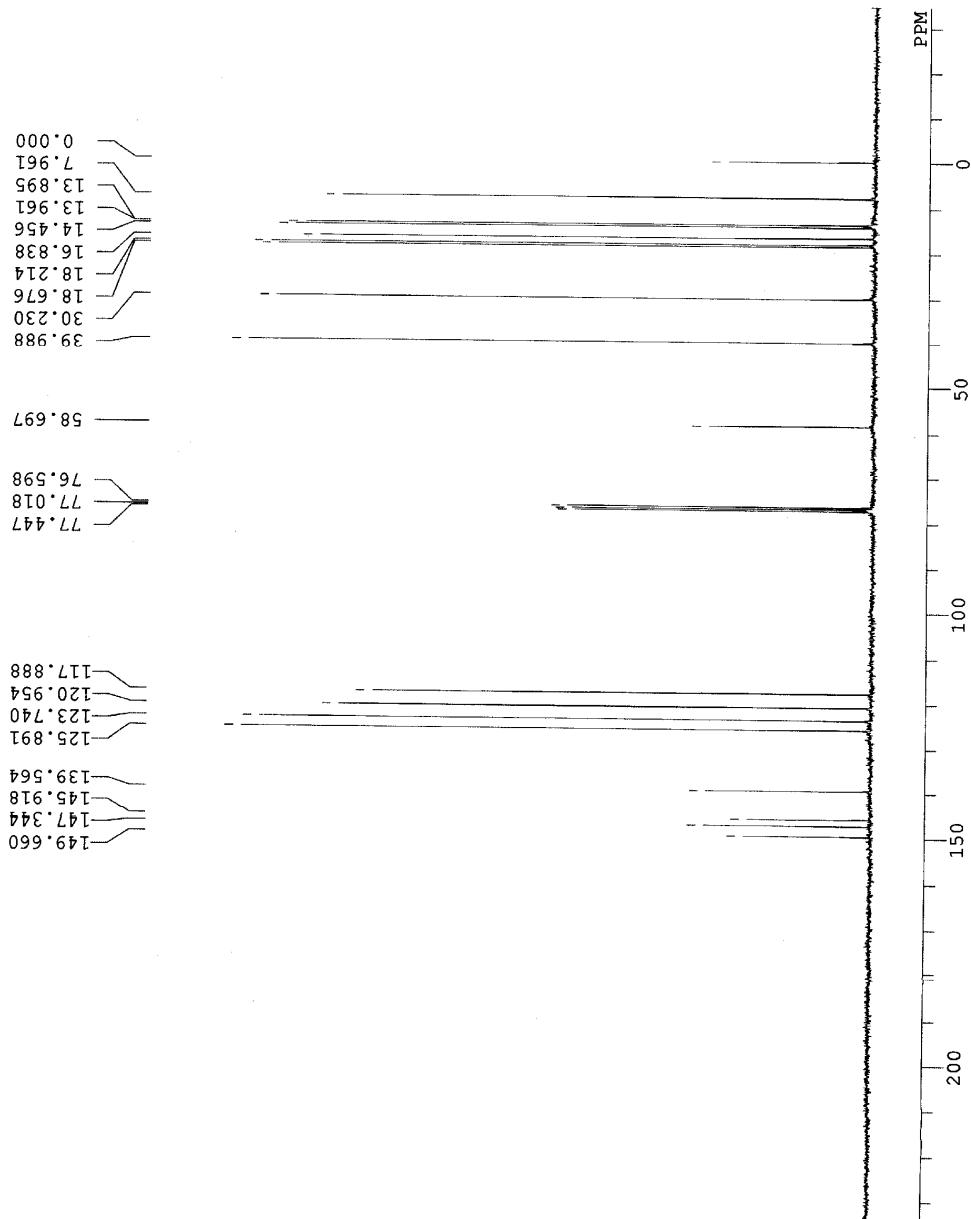
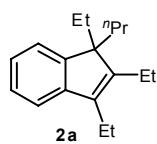
The formation of **5a** was more clearly verified upon quenching of the reaction mixture before it completed. At this stage, compounds **5a** and **2a** were both observed.

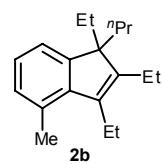
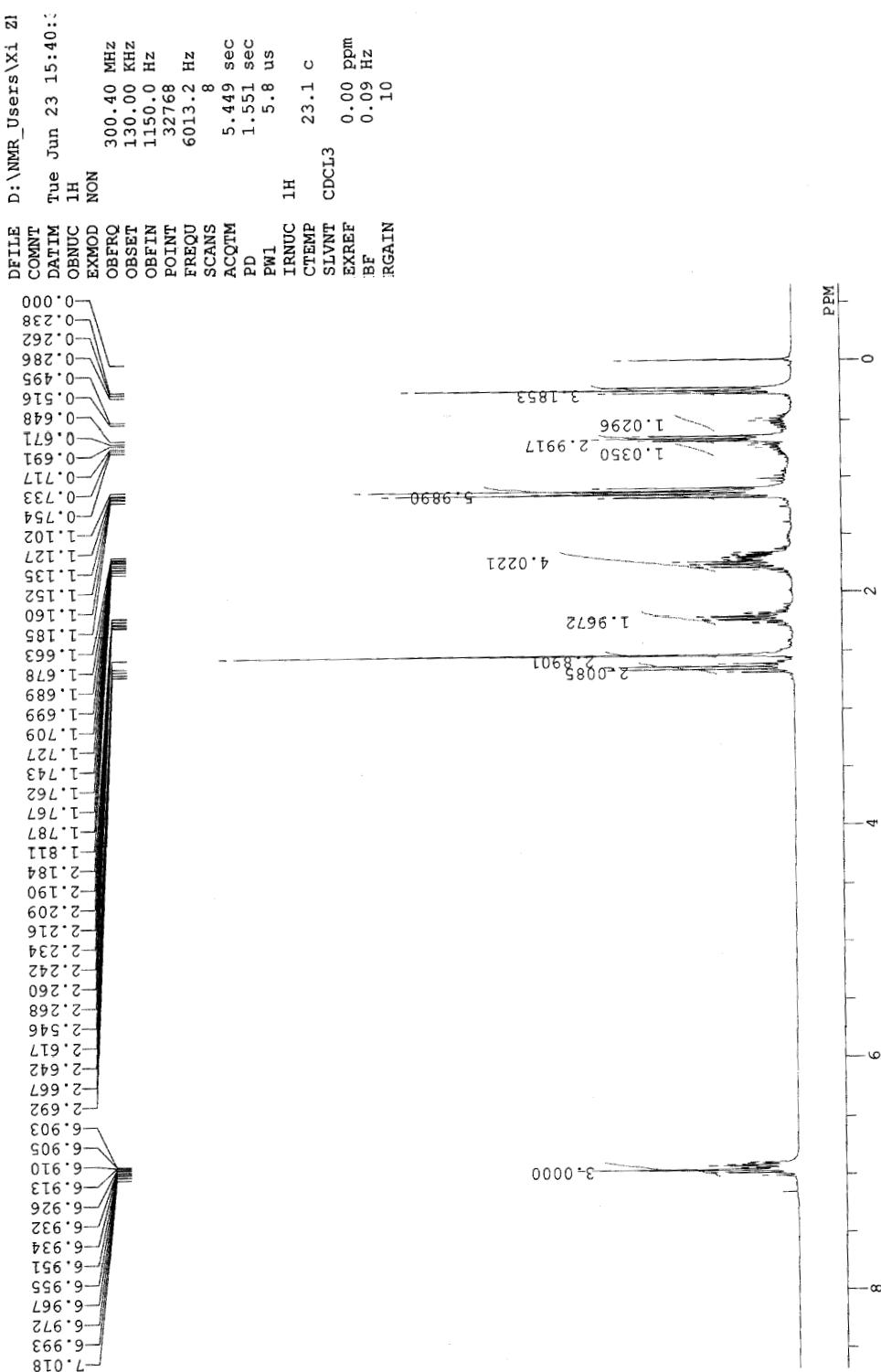


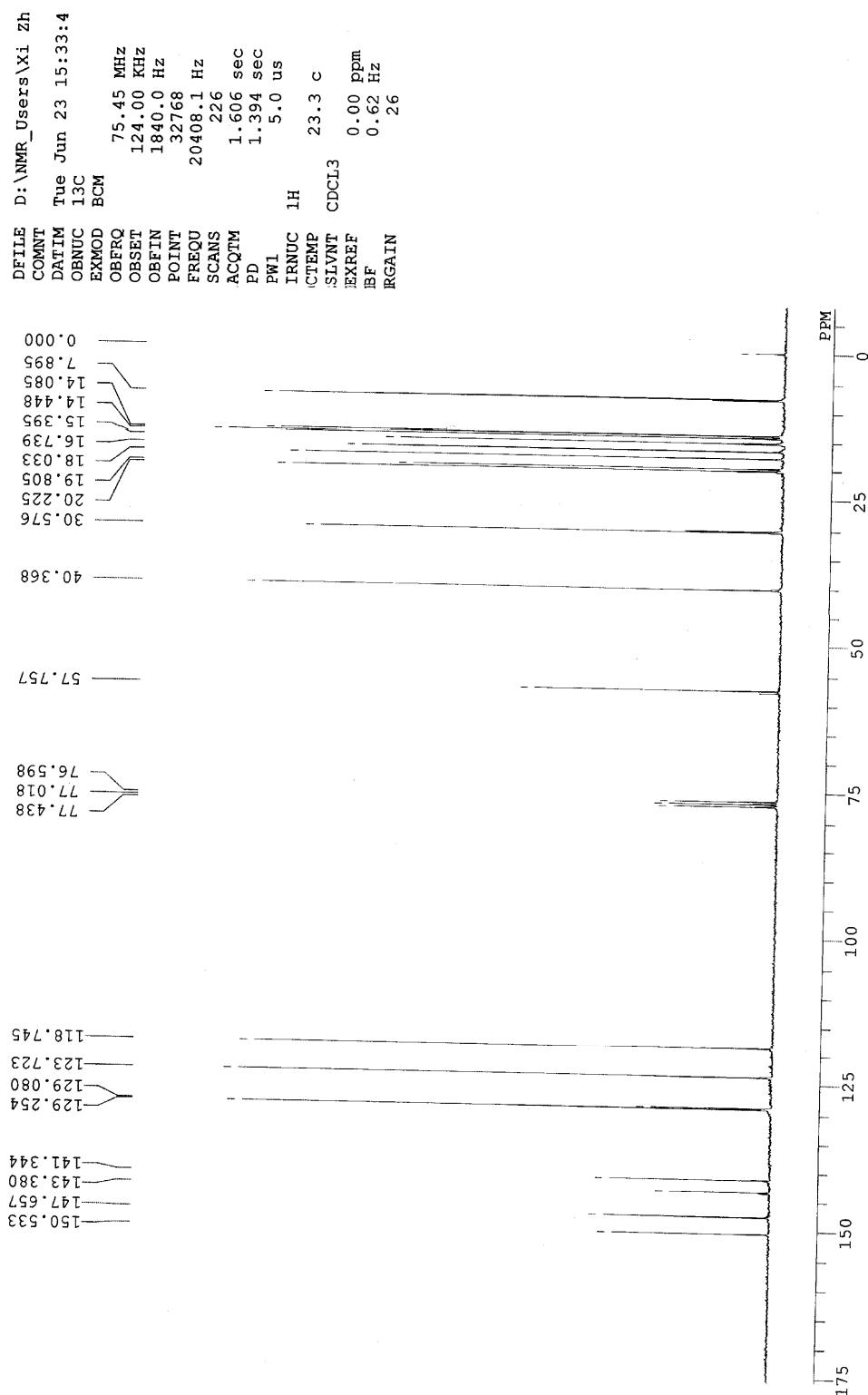
3) Copies of ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra for all new compounds

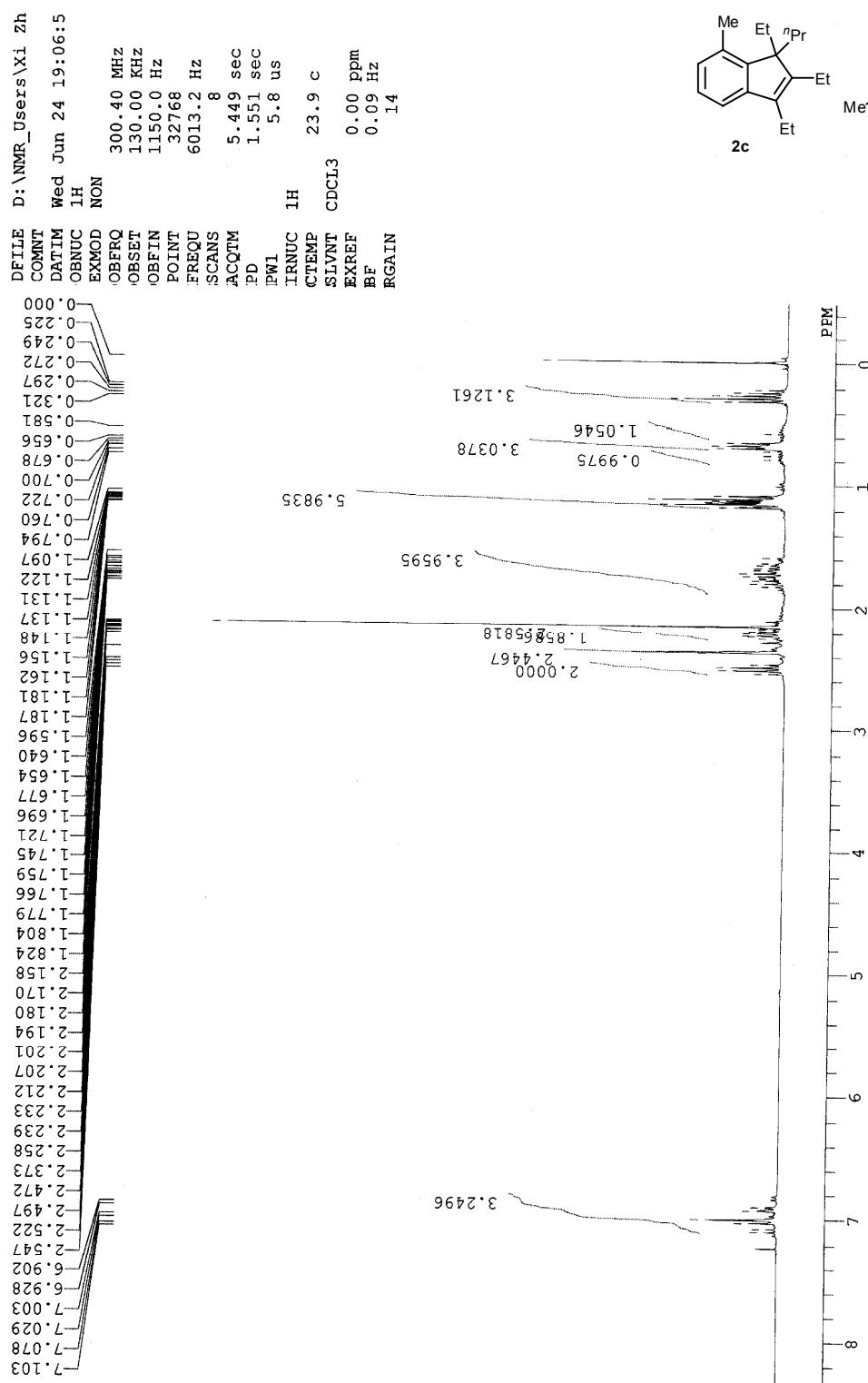


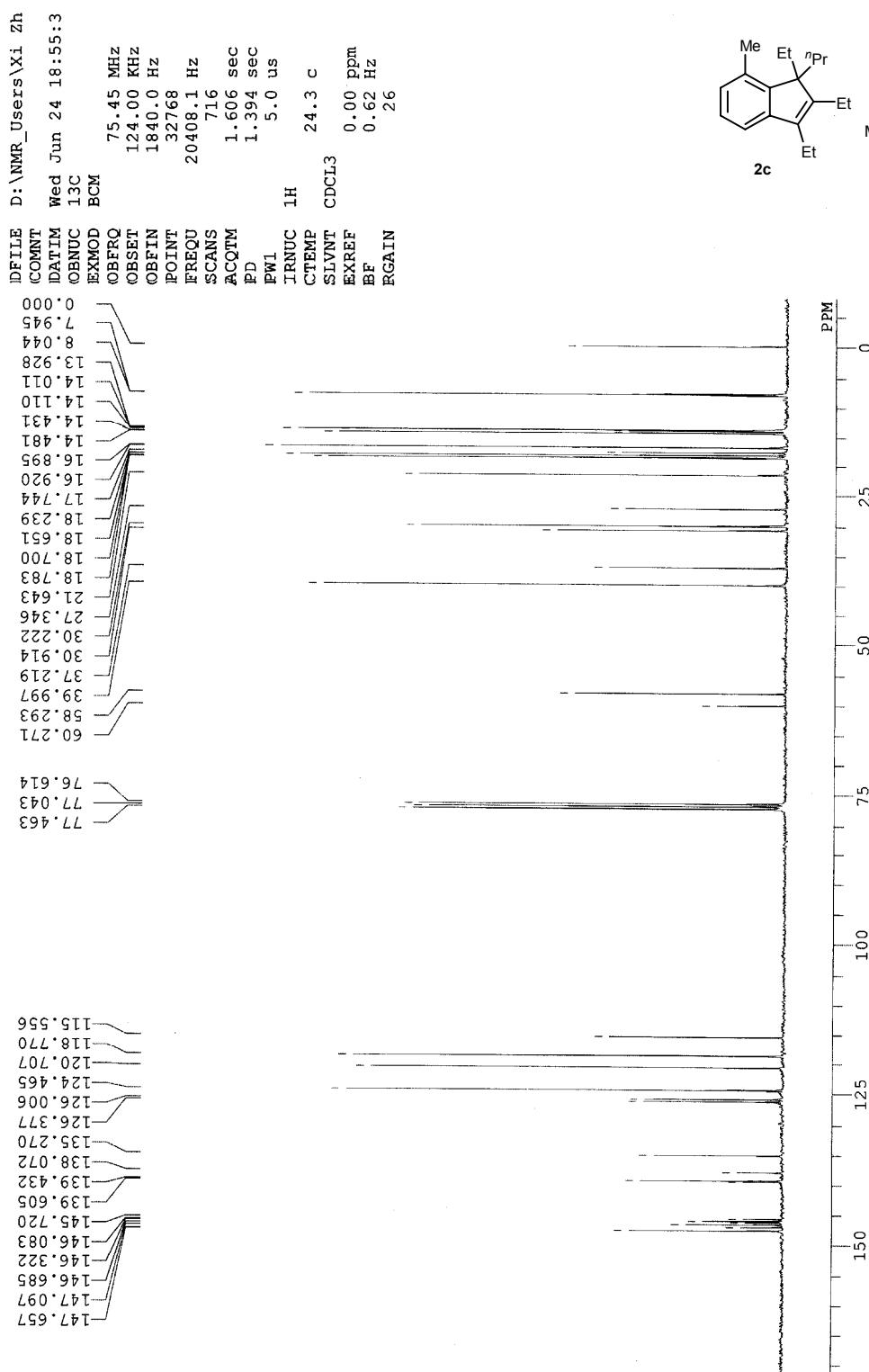
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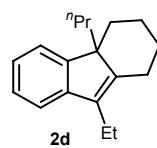
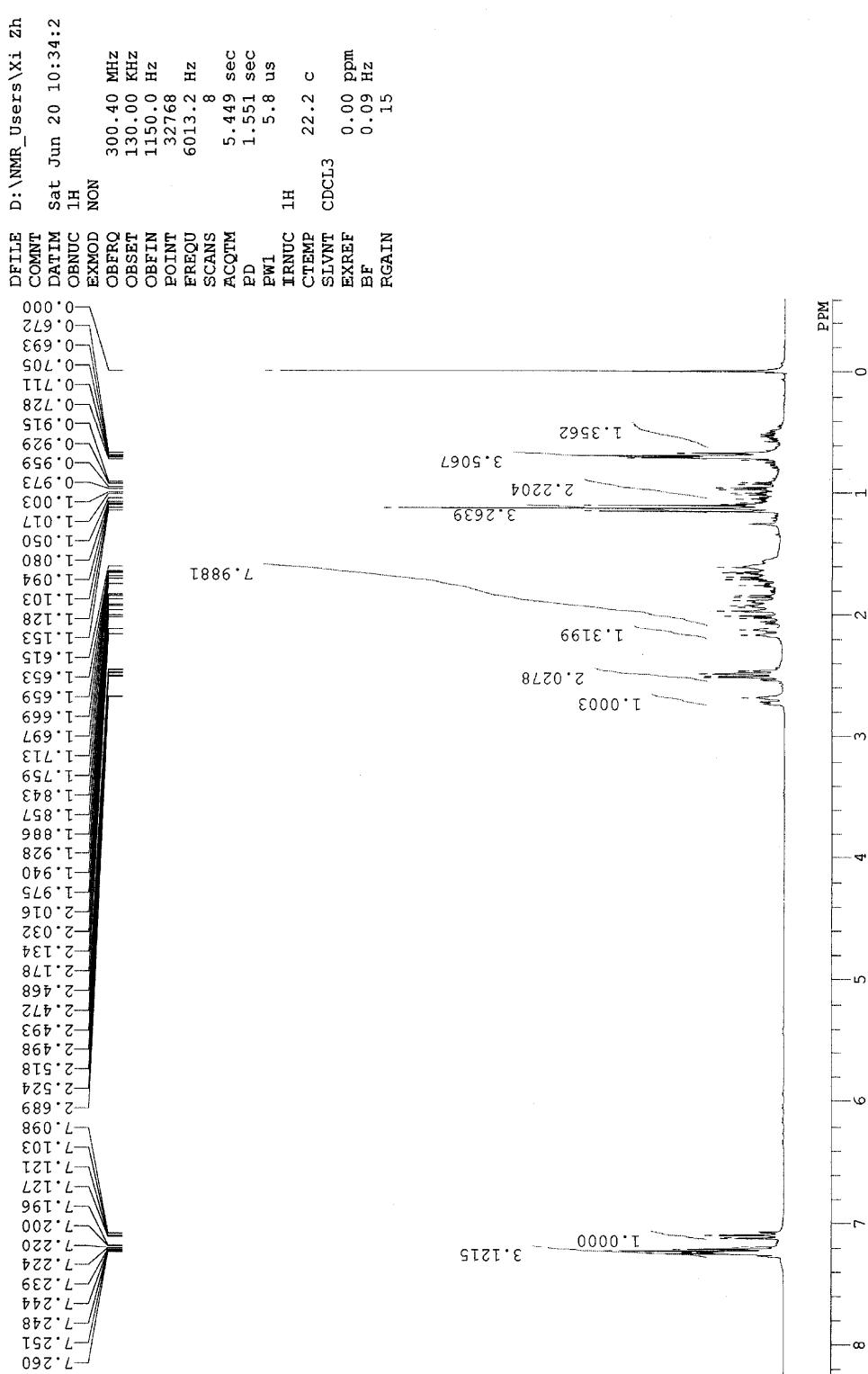




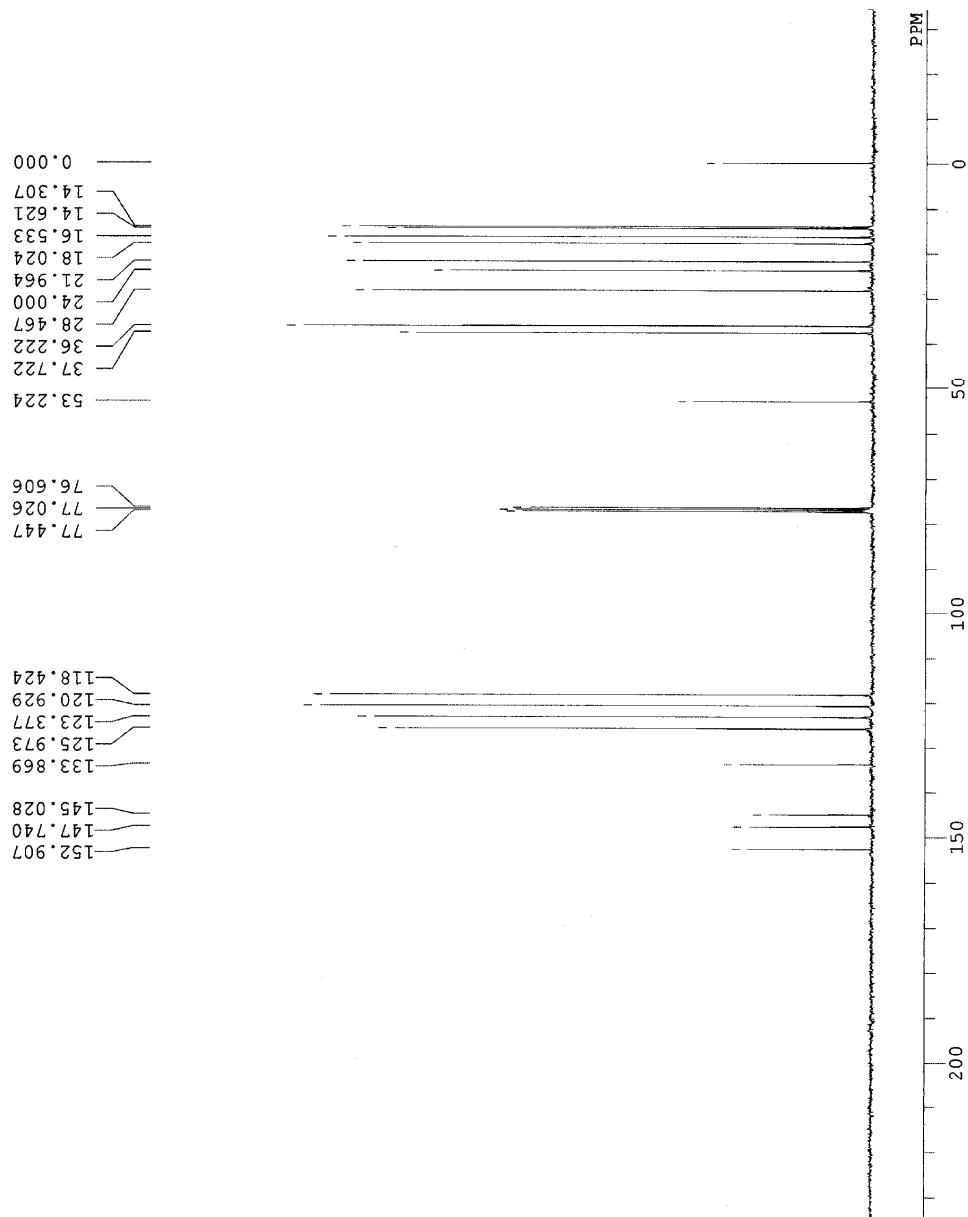
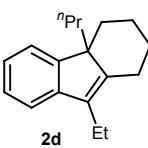


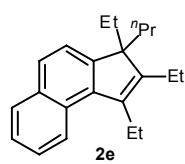
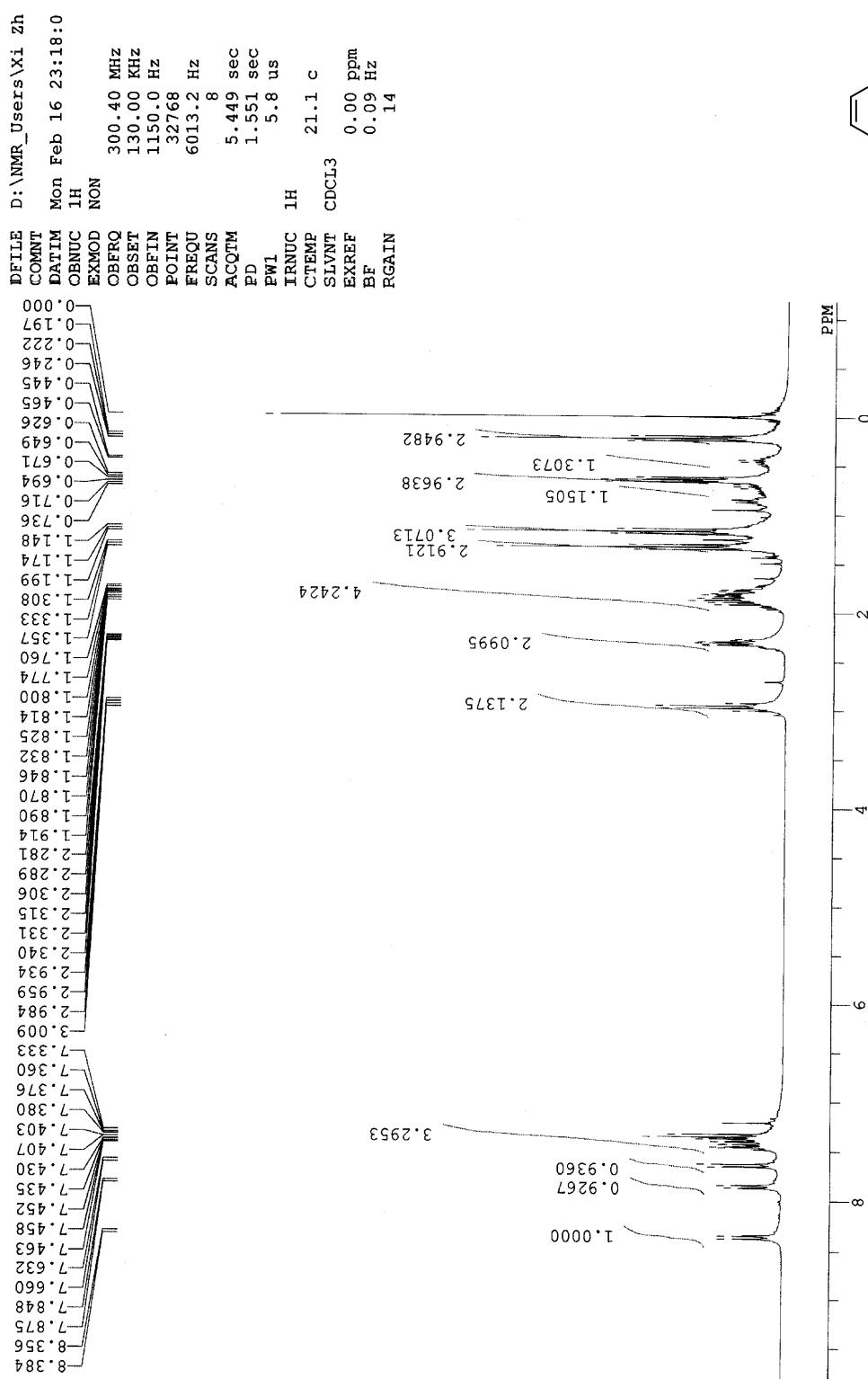




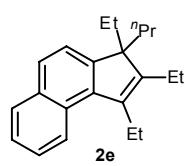
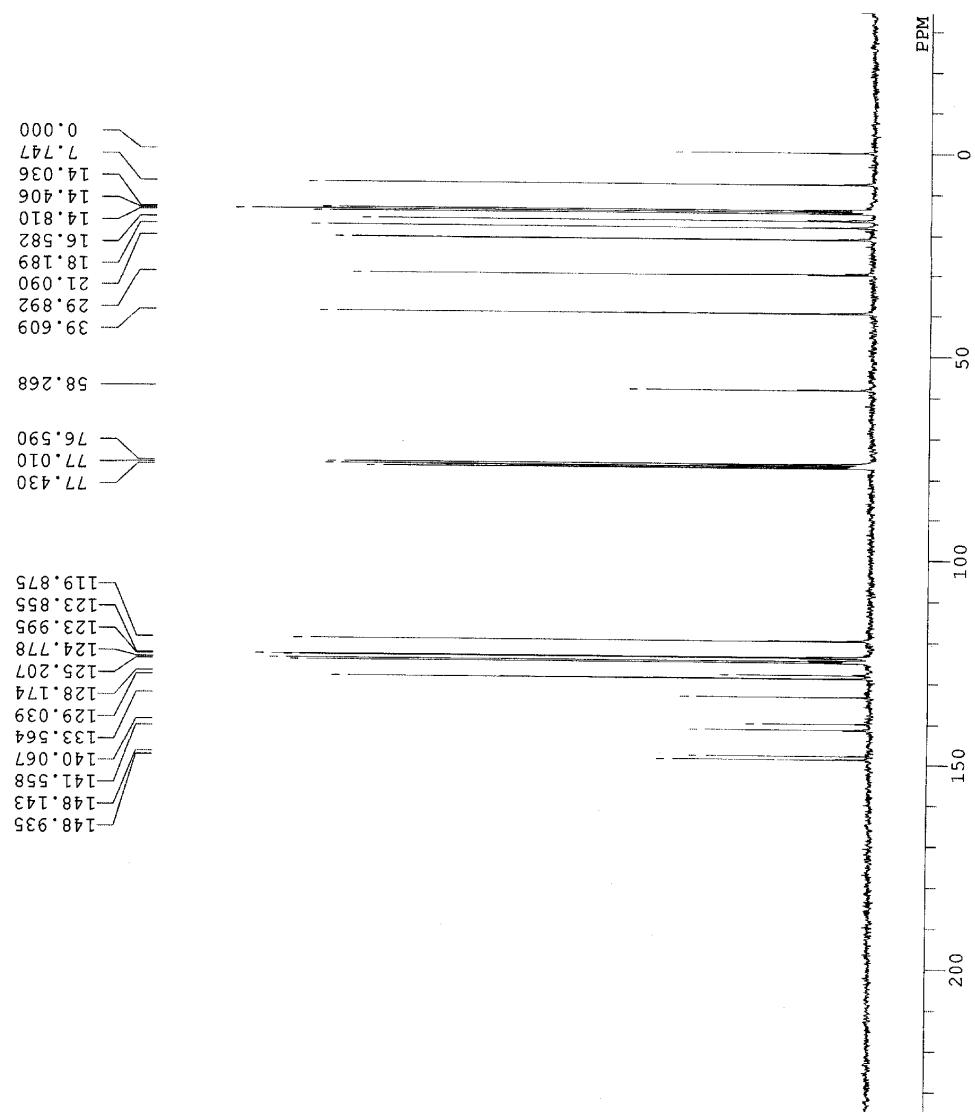


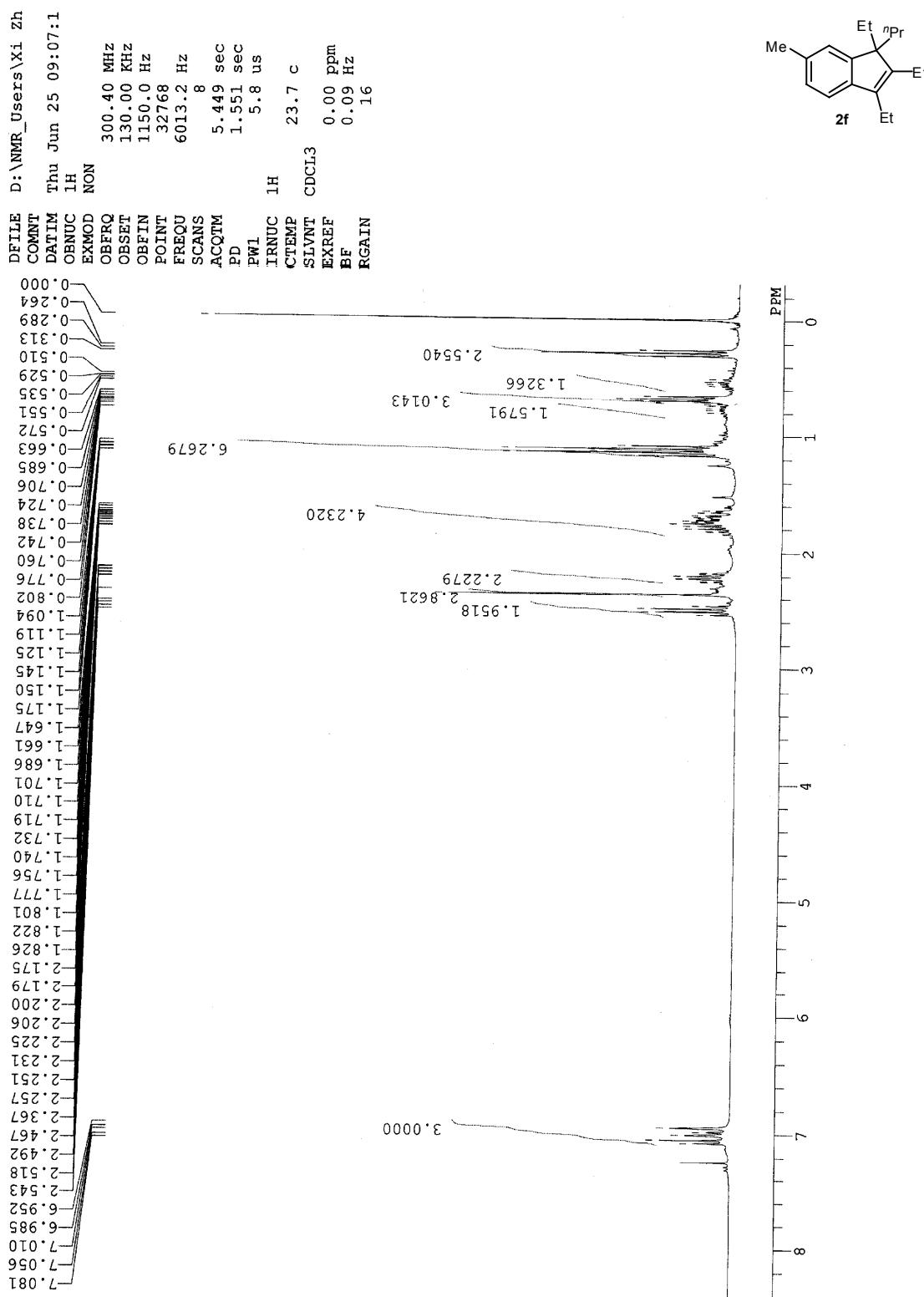
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