

**A Benzene-bridged Divanadium Complex-Early Transition  
Metal Catalyst for Alkenes Alkylarylation with  $\text{PhI}(\text{O}_2\text{CR})_2$   
via Decarboxylation**

Lei Zhang,<sup>\*a</sup> Hongfei Zhou,<sup>a</sup> Shaokun Bai<sup>a</sup> and Shaodan Li<sup>\*b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Hebei Key Laboratory of Organic Functional Molecules, College of Chemistry and Material Science, Hebei Normal University, Shijiazhuang 050024, China

<sup>b</sup> College of Resources and Environment Science, Hebei Normal University, Shijiazhuang 050024, China

*E-mail: [zhanglsd@hebtu.edu.cn](mailto:zhanglsd@hebtu.edu.cn); [lishaodan@hebtu.edu.cn](mailto:lishaodan@hebtu.edu.cn)*

## Table of contents

1. General Information.....	S1
2. Substrate Preparation .....	S2
2.1 Preparation of ( $\mu$ - $\eta^6$ : $\eta^6$ -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> )[V(Nacnac)] <sub>2</sub> .....	S2
2.2 Preparation of <i>N, N</i> -disubstituted methacrylamides .....	S4
2.3 Preparation of hypervalent iodine(III) reagents .....	S5
3. V-Catalyzed Alkylarylation of Alkenes to Access Indolinones .....	S6
3.1 Screening of Reaction Parameters .....	S6
3.2 General Procedure to Access Indolinones.....	S7
3.3 Characterization Data for Indolinones .....	S7
4. Mechanism Studies .....	S21
4.1 A Radical Trapping Experiment with TEMPO.....	S21
4.2 Competition Experiments of Alkenes .....	S23
5. References.....	S25
6. Spectra of Products .....	S27

## 1. General Information

All air-sensitive reactions and product manipulations were carried out under an atmosphere of dry dinitrogen with rigid exclusion of air and moisture using standard Schlenk or cannula techniques, or in a glove box. All organic solvents were freshly distilled from sodium benzophenone ketyl immediately prior to use. (Nacnac)VCl<sub>2</sub> (**1**) [nacnac<sup>-</sup> = [ArNC(Me)]<sub>2</sub>CH, Ar = 2,6-*i*-Pr<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>],<sup>1</sup> KC<sub>8</sub>,<sup>2</sup> (μ-η<sup>6</sup>:η<sup>6</sup>-C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)[V(Nacnac)]<sub>2</sub> (**2b**),<sup>3</sup> were prepared according to the literature reports. All other commercial available chemicals were used as received unless otherwise noted. TLC analysis was performed on pre-coated, glass-backed silica gel plates and visualized with UV light. Flash column chromatography was performed on silica gel (200-300 mesh). <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C spectra were recorded on WIPM-NMR-400, Bruker 300AV or 500AV spectrometers. All chemical shifts are quoted in parts per million downfield from tetramethylsilane and are referenced to the residue protons of the deuterated solvents (CDCl<sub>3</sub>: 7.26 ppm <sup>1</sup>H and 77.16 ppm <sup>13</sup>C). Abbreviations are used in the description of NMR data as follows: chemical shift (δ, ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), coupling constant (*J*, Hz). Infrared spectra were recorded in KBr pellets on Thermo Fisher iS50 spectrometer, and elemental analyses were performed using a Vario EL III analyzer. Melting points (M.p.) were measured on an X-6 melting point apparatus and were uncorrected.

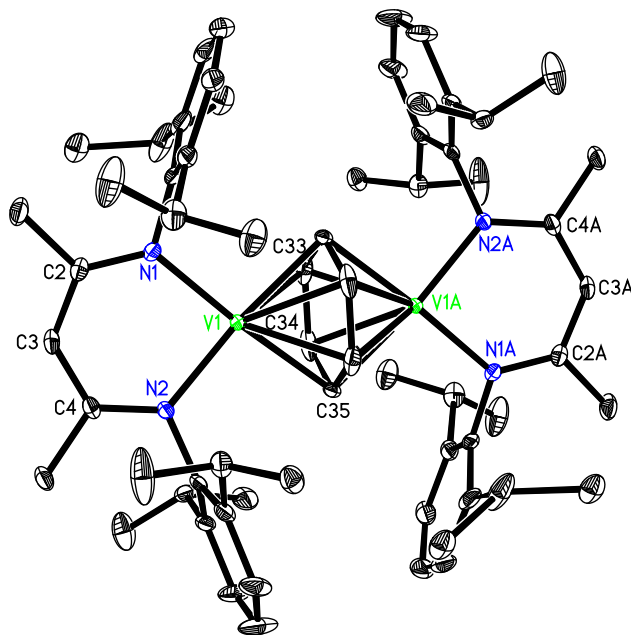
## 2. Substrate Preparation

### 2.1 Preparation of $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$

$\text{KC}_8$  (1.11 g, 8.2 mmol) was added to a  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$  (20 mL) solution of  $(\text{Nacnac})\text{VCl}_2$  (**1**; 2.00 g, 3.7 mmol) with stirring at room temperature. After this solution was stirred two days at room temperature, the solvent was removed. The residue was extracted with *n*-hexane (15 mL  $\times$  3) and filtered through Celite. The volume of the filtrate was reduced to 15 mL, brown crystals of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$  (**2a**) were isolated when this solution was kept at  $-20\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for three days. Yield: 1.33 g (71%). M.p.:  $238\text{-}240\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  (dec.). IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2961(m), 2931(m), 2866(m), 1619(m), 1535(m), 1460(m), 1436(m), 1364(m), 1382(m), 1316(m), 1259(s), 1174(m), 1095(s), 1018(s), 797(s). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{64}\text{H}_{88}\text{N}_4\text{V}_2$ : C, 75.71; H, 8.74, N, 5.52. Found: C, 75.65; H, 8.77, N, 5.55.

Alternatively, we can also obtain the brown crystal of **2a** suitable for single-crystal X-ray diffraction from the benzene solution of **2b**. Catalyst **2a** was unambiguously confirmed by X-ray single-crystal diffraction analysis (**Figure S1**).

**Figure S1.** X-ray structure of catalyst **2a**



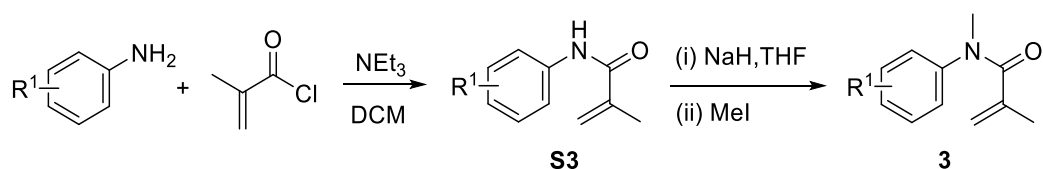
**Table S1** Crystal data and experiment parameters for complex **2a**

Compound	<b>2a</b>
Formula	C <sub>64</sub> H <sub>88</sub> N <sub>4</sub> V <sub>2</sub>
Fw	1015.26
crystal system	monoclinic
space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>n</i>
<i>a</i> (Å)	14.2394(4)
<i>b</i> (Å)	13.5889(3)
<i>c</i> (Å)	15.0927(4)
$\alpha$ (deg)	90
$\beta$ (deg)	106.363(3)
$\gamma$ (deg)	90
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	2802.12(13)
<i>Z</i>	2
$\rho_{\text{calc}}$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.203
$\mu$ /mm <sup>-1</sup>	3.105
radiation	CuK $\alpha$
size (mm)	0.20 × 0.20 × 0.20
<i>F</i> (000)	1092
2 $\theta$ range (deg)	3.771 to 71.696
reflns collected	11321
indep. reflns ( <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> )	5383 (0.0291)
data/restr/paras	5383/220/353
abscorr ( <i>T</i> <sub>max</sub> , <i>T</i> <sub>min</sub> )	1.00, 0.93
<i>R</i>	0.044
<i>R</i> <sub>w</sub>	0.103
<i>R</i> <sub>all</sub>	0.049
Gof	1.031
CCDC	2025708

## 2.2 Preparation of *N,N*-disubstituted methacrylamides

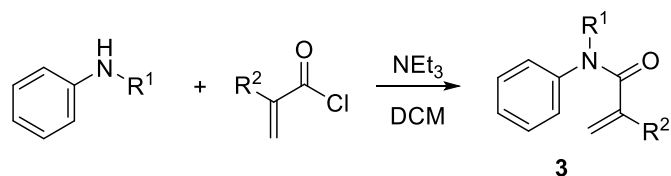
All the substrates **3** were prepared according to the known literature,<sup>4</sup> which are known compounds and their NMR spectral data are in agreement with the literature values.<sup>5</sup>

*General procedure A for amides synthesis:*



Methacryloyl chloride (1.2 equiv., 6.0 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of aniline derivative (1.0 equiv, 5.0 mmol) and NEt<sub>3</sub> (1.2 equiv, 6.0 mmol) in DCM (10.0 mL) at 0 °C. The temperature was allowed to rise to ambient temperature, and then the mixture was stirred at the same temperature overnight. Saturated Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution was added and the resultant reaction mixture was extracted with DCM. The combined organic phases were washed with 2N HCl, water, brine, and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. Volatiles were removed in vacuo and the crude mixture purified by column chromatography. THF (10 mL) solution of amide **S3** (5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was slowly added into the THF (10 mL) suspension of NaH (60% in mineral oil, 0.24 g, 6.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) at 0 °C. After stirring for 15 min, CH<sub>3</sub>I (7.0 mmol, 1.4 equiv.) was added and the mixture was stirred until completion at RT (monitored by TLC). After distilled water was carefully added, the mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. Volatiles were removed in vacuo and the crude mixture purified by column chromatography.

*General procedure B for amides synthesis:*

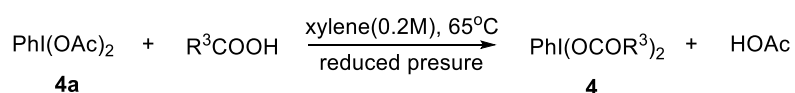


The appropriate acid chloride (1.2 equiv., 6.0 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of aniline derivative (1.0 equiv, 5.0 mmol) and NEt<sub>3</sub> (1.2 equiv, 6.0 mmol) in

DCM (10.0 mL) at 0 °C, then the mixture was stirred at r.t. overnight. Saturated Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution was added and the resultant reaction mixture was extracted with DCM. The combined organic phases were washed with 2M HCl, brine, water and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. Volatiles were removed in vacuo and the crude mixture purified by column chromatography.

### 2.3 Preparation of hypervalent iodine(III) reagents

HIR **2a** is commercially available and is used as received. Other HIRs **2** were prepared according to the known literature.<sup>6,7</sup>

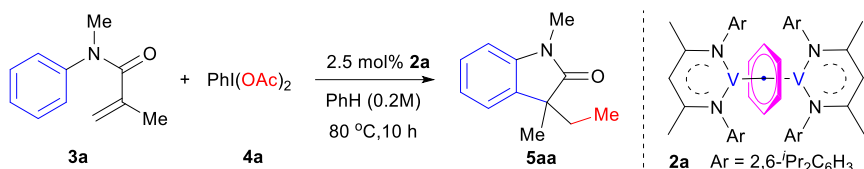


In a typical procedure, PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (10 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and indicated acid (22 mmol, 2.2 eq.) were dissolved with xylene (50 mL, 0.2 M) in a round-bottom flask, and then the flask was heated to 65 °C with a rotary evaporator under reduced pressure (about 30-50 Torr.) using a diaphragm pump. When the xylene was removed, product **4** was obtained as a white solid or a viscous oil after wash with petroleum ether (PE), filtered and dried in vacuum, which then could be used directly in the following reaction.

### 3. V-Catalyzed Alkylarylation of Alkenes to Access Indolinones

#### 3.1 Screening of Reaction Parameters

Table S2 Screening of Reaction Parameters<sup>a</sup>

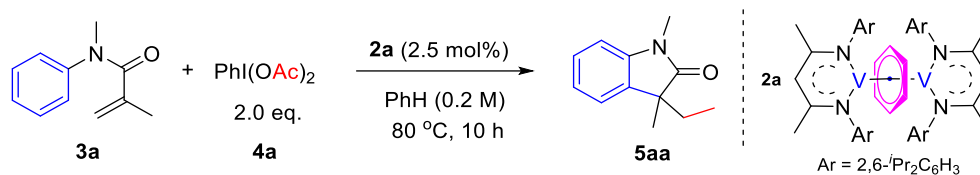


entry	variations of standard conditions	yield of <b>3ag</b> (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	<b>2b</b> instead of <b>2a</b> , and PhMe instead of PhH	58
2	<b>2b</b> instead of <b>2a</b>	82
2	none	87 (80) <sup>c</sup>
3	<b>1</b> instead of <b>2a</b>	66
4	5 instead of 2.5 mol% of <b>2a</b>	81
5	1.3 instead of 2.5 mol% of <b>2a</b>	75
6	Without <b>2a</b>	0
7	PhMe instead of PhH	67
8	PhCl instead of PhH	61
9	MeCN instead of PhH	39
10	Et <sub>2</sub> O instead of PhH	22
11	THF instead of PhH	27
12	1,4-dioxane instead of PhH	68
13	DME instead of PhH	63
14	MTBE instead of PhH	74
15	6 h instead of 10 h	72
16	12 h instead of 10 h	84
17	0.4 M instead of 0.2 M	71
18	0.1 M instead of 0.2 M	69
19	1.0 instead of 2.0 eq. of <b>4a</b>	43
20	3.0 instead of 2.0 eq. of <b>4a</b>	87
21	100 °C instead of 80 °C	85
22	50 °C instead of 80 °C	22
23	r.t. instead of 80 °C	0

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: **3a** (0.2 mmol), **4a** (0.4 mmol), **2a** (2.5 mol %), PhH (1.0 mL), 80 °C, 10 h. <sup>b</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR yields with 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard. <sup>c</sup> Isolated yield on a 0.5 mmol scale.



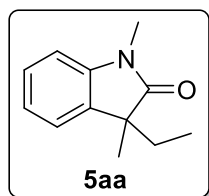
### 3.2 General Procedure to Access Indolinones



A flame-dried Teflon-screw-capped tube was equipped with a magnetic stir bar.  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6\text{)[V(Nacnac)]}_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3a** (87.5 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI(OAc)}_2$  **4a** (378.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) were added into the reaction vessel under nitrogen atmosphere. Then, the Teflon cap was screwed up and the reaction mixture was stirred in an oil bath (80 °C) for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, the solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was pre-absorbed on silica gel and purified by flash column chromatography affording product **5aa** as colorless oil.

### 3.3 Characterization Data for Indolinones

#### 3-ethyl-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one<sup>8</sup> (**5aa**)

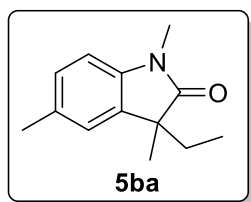


According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6\text{)[V(Nacnac)]}_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3a** (87.5 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI(OAc)}_2$  **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5aa** as colorless oil in 80% isolated yield.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.29-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 1.98-1.86 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.70 (m, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 0.58 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  180.86, 143.58, 134.04, 127.72, 122.61, 122.51, 107.92, 49.04, 31.56, 26.16, 23.41, 8.94.

### 3-ethyl-1,3,5-trimethylindolin-2-one<sup>8</sup> (**5ba**)



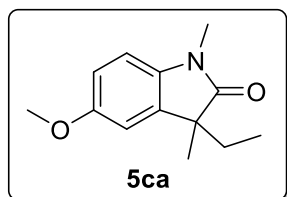
According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-(4-methylphenyl)methacrylamide **3b** (94.5 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{OAc})_2$  **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL)

was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ba** as colorless oil in 71% isolated yield.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.05 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.96-1.87 (m, 1H), 1.79-1.70 (m, 1H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 0.58 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 180.80, 141.23, 134.11, 131.97, 127.91, 123.49, 107.62, 49.10, 31.57, 26.18, 23.47, 21.26, 8.98.

### 3-ethyl-5-methoxy-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one<sup>8</sup> (**5ca**)



According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-(4-methoxyphenyl)methacrylamide **3c** (102.5 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{OAc})_2$  **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and

PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ca** as colorless oil in 80% isolated yield.

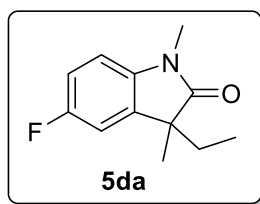
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.76-6.69 (m, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 1.94-1.85 (m, 1H), 1.75-1.66 (m, 1H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 0.56 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 180.39, 156.09, 137.12, 135.43, 111.51, 110.37, 108.05, 55.82, 49.44, 31.55, 26.18, 23.46, 8.92.

### 3-ethyl-5-fluoro-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one<sup>8</sup> (**5da**)

According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-(4-fluorophenyl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide **3d** (96.5 mg, 0.5

mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{OAc})_2$  **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C



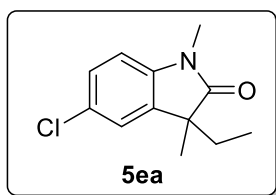
for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5da** as colorless oil in 78% isolated yield.

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )**  $\delta$  6.97-6.89 (m, 2H), 6.76-6.73 (m, 1H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 1.97-1.88 (m, 1H), 1.78-1.69 (m, 1H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 0.58 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H)

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )**  $\delta$  180.39, 158.27 (d,  $J = 238.8$  Hz), 139.47, 135.80 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz), 113.91 (d,  $J = 23.3$  Hz), 110.91 (d,  $J = 24.3$  Hz), 108.33 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz), 49.55, 31.50, 26.26, 23.32, 8.86.

**$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (471 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):** -121.04.

#### 5-chloro-3-ethyl-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one<sup>8</sup> (**5ea**)



According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})_2]$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide **3e** (104.5 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{OAc})_2$  **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH

(2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ea** as colorless oil in 76% isolated yield.

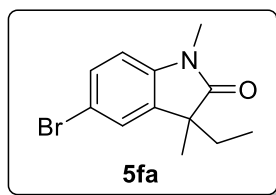
**$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )**  $\delta$  7.24 (dd,  $J = 8.4, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.76 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 1.98-1.89 (m, 1H), 1.79-1.70 (m, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 0.59 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )**  $\delta$  180.31, 142.20, 135.84, 127.97, 127.68, 123.23, 108.86, 49.40, 31.54, 26.31, 23.37, 8.94.

#### 5-bromo-3-ethyl-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one<sup>8</sup> (**5fa**)

According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})_2]$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-(4-bromophenyl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide **3f** (127 mg, 0.5

mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{OAc})_2$  **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C

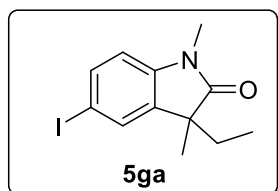


for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5fa** as colorless oil in 80% isolated yield.

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )**  $\delta$  7.37 (dd,  $J = 8.0, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d,  $J = 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 1.96-1.87 (m, 1H), 1.78-1.69 (m, 1H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 0.58 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )**  $\delta$  180.13, 142.64, 136.17, 130.56, 125.92, 115.24, 109.37, 49.32, 31.51, 26.25, 23.34, 8.91

### 3-ethyl-5-iodo-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one<sup>8</sup> (**5ga**)



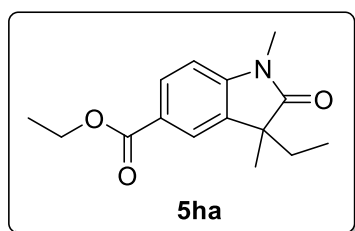
According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-(4-iodophenyl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide **3g** (150 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{OAc})_2$  **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5

mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ga** as colorless oil in 82% isolated yield.

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )**  $\delta$  7.58 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 6.62 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 1.96-1.88 (m, 1H), 1.78-1.69 (m, 1H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 0.59 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )**  $\delta$  180.00, 143.36, 136.58, 131.51, 110.02, 85.16, 49.19, 31.54, 26.22, 23.37, 8.95.

### ethyl 3-ethyl-1,3-dimethyl-2-oxindoline-5-carboxylate<sup>9</sup> (**5ha**)



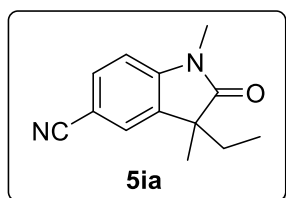
According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), ethyl 4-[methyl(2-methyl-1-oxoprop-2-enyl)amino]benzoate

**3h** (123.5 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{OAc})_2$  **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ha** as light yellow oil in 74% isolated yield.

$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.01 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 6.85 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.36 (q,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 1.99-1.90 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.76 (m, 1H), 1.39 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H), 0.56 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H)

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  181.10, 166.67, 147.69, 133.94, 130.54, 124.84, 123.83, 107.41, 60.98, 48.96, 31.51, 26.36, 23.36, 14.52, 8.92.

### 3-ethyl-1,3-dimethyl-2-oxoindoline-5-carbonitrile<sup>9</sup> (**5ia**)



According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})_2]$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-(4-cyanophenyl)-*N*,2-dimethyl-2-propenamide **3i** (100.2 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{OAc})_2$  **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and

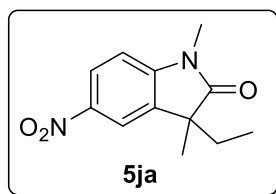
PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ia** as white solid in 77% isolated yield.

**M.p.:** 100-102°C.

$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.59 (dd,  $J = 8.0, 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 1.98-1.89 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.73 (m, 1H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 0.58 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  180.41, 147.47, 135.08, 133.25, 125.98, 119.42, 108.37, 105.62, 48.91, 31.45, 26.40, 23.16, 8.83.

### 3-ethyl-1,3-dimethyl-5-nitroindolin-2-one<sup>9</sup> (**5ja**)



According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})_2]$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-(4-nitrophenyl)methacrylamide **3j** (110.1 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{OAc})_2$  **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH

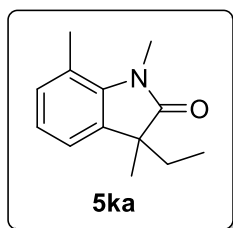
(2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ja** as yellow solid in 73% isolated yield.

**M.p.:** 101-103°C.

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 8.26 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (s, 1 H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1 H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 2.04-1.95 (m, 1H), 1.89-1.80 (m, 1H), 1.41 (s, 3H), 0.61 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3 H)

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 180.84, 149.32, 143.61, 134.91, 125.33, 118.59, 107.51, 49.19, 31.52, 26.64, 23.23, 8.90.

### 3-ethyl-1,3,7-trimethylindolin-2-one<sup>9</sup> (**5ka**)



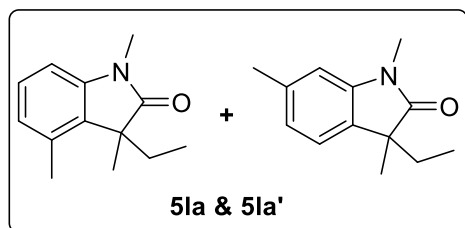
According to the general procedure, a mixture of ( $\mu$ - $\eta^6$ : $\eta^6$ -C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)[V(Nacnac)]<sub>2</sub> **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-(2-methylphenyl)methacrylamide **3k** (94.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL)

was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ka** as colorless oil in 70% isolated yield.

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.00-6.92 (m, 3H), 3.49 (s, 3H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 1.96-1.87 (m, 1H), 1.77-1.68 (m, 1H), 1.32 (s, 3H), 0.56 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 181.55, 141.34, 134.68, 131.42, 122.41, 120.51, 119.51, 48.32, 31.86, 29.49, 23.91, 19.17, 8.96.

### 3-ethyl-1,3,4-trimethylindolin-2-one & 3-ethyl-1,3,6-trimethylindolin-2-one<sup>9</sup> (**5la** & **5la'**)



According to the general procedure, a mixture of ( $\mu$ - $\eta^6$ : $\eta^6$ -C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)[V(Nacnac)]<sub>2</sub> **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-(2-methylphenyl)methacrylamide

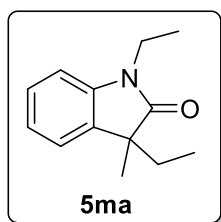
**3l** (94.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was

stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded the mix compound (**5la & 5la'**) as colorless oil in 83% isolated yield, mixture was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, ratio = 1.7:1.

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 0.5H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 0.5H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (s, 0.5H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 3.19 (s, 1.7H), 2.39 (s, 1.7H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.03-1.98 (m, 2H), 1.94-1.85 (m, 0.5H), 1.79-1.69 (m, 0.5H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 1.7H), 0.59 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1.7H), 0.48 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 181.17, 180.77, 143.85, 143.65, 137.72, 134.22, 131.06, 130.40, 127.57, 125.04, 122.94, 122.35, 108.89, 105.70, 50.25, 48.80, 31.53, 29.48, 26.22, 26.11, 23.47, 22.17, 21.85, 18.17, 9.29, 8.94.

### 1,3-diethyl-3-methylindolin-2-one<sup>10</sup> (**5ma**)



According to the general procedure, a mixture of ( $\mu$ - $\eta^6$ : $\eta^6$ -C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)[V(Nacnac)]<sub>2</sub> **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-ethyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3m** (94.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was

stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ma** as colorless oil in 69% isolated yield.

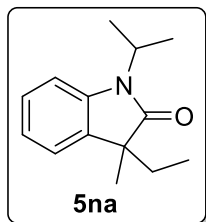
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.30-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.06 (m, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.90-3.82 (m, 1H), 3.78-3.69 (m, 1H), 2.01-1.92 (m, 1H), 1.84-1.75 (m, 1H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.60 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 180.33, 142.60, 134.21, 127.61, 122.73, 122.23, 108.03, 48.84, 34.51, 31.61, 23.42, 12.83, 8.84.

### 3-ethyl-1-isopropyl-3-methylindolin-2-one<sup>10</sup> (**5na**)

According to the general procedure, a mixture of ( $\mu$ - $\eta^6$ : $\eta^6$ -C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)[V(Nacnac)]<sub>2</sub> **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-isopropyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3n** (101.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h.

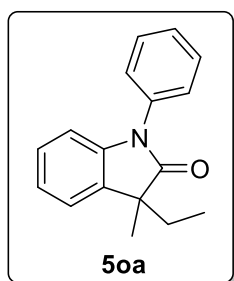
After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5na** as colorless oil in 81% isolated yield



**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.06-7.01 (m, 2H), 4.67 (hept, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.97-1.89 (m, 1H), 1.78-1.69 (m, 1H), 1.48 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 3H), 1.46 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 3H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 0.55 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 180.39, 142.14, 134.42, 127.34, 122.76, 121.89, 109.67, 48.55, 43.49, 31.86, 23.58, 19.63, 19.46, 8.78.

### 3-ethyl-3-methyl-1-phenylindolin-2-one<sup>9</sup> (**5oa**)



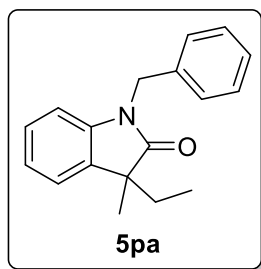
According to the general procedure, a mixture of (μ-η<sup>6</sup>:η<sup>6</sup>-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)[V(Nacnac)]<sub>2</sub> **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N,N*-diphenylmethacrylamide **3o** (118.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction,

removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5oa** as colorless oil in 84% isolated yield

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.41-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.11-7.07 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.09-2.00 (m, 1H), 1.89-1.81 (m, 1H), 1.47 (s, 3H), 0.71 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 180.19, 143.47, 134.78, 133.74, 129.60, 127.93, 127.60, 126.63, 122.96, 122.88, 109.22, 49.06, 32.13, 23.69, 8.98.

### 1-benzyl-3-ethyl-3-methylindolin-2-one<sup>10</sup> (**5pa**)



According to the general procedure, a mixture of (μ-η<sup>6</sup>:η<sup>6</sup>-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)[V(Nacnac)]<sub>2</sub> **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-benzyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3p** (125.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction,

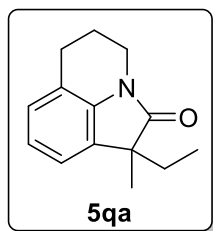


removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5pa** as colorless oil in 80% isolated yield

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.33-7.30 (m, 4H), 7.26-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.99 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.85 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 2.06-1.98 (m, 1H), 1.88-1.80 (m, 1H), 1.41 (s, 3H), 0.64 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 180.93, 142.68, 136.30, 134.00, 128.82 (2C), 127.64, 127.61, 127.36 (2C), 122.69, 122.53, 109.04, 49.06, 43.74, 31.59, 23.88, 9.17.

### 1-Ethyl-1-methyl-5,6-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,2,1-*ij*]quinolin-2(4*H*)-one<sup>11</sup> (**5qa**)



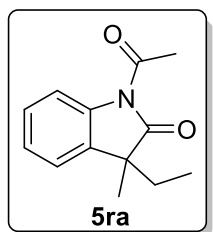
According to the general procedure, a mixture of ( $\mu$ - $\eta^6$ : $\eta^6$ -C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)[V(Nacnac)]<sub>2</sub> **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-*N*-methacryloylquinoline **3q** (100.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL)

was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5qa** as colorless oil in 77% isolated yield

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.00-6.91(m, 3H), 3.70 (t, 2H, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 2.77 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.01-1.96 (m, 2H), 1.93-1.84 (m, 1H), 1.80-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 0.63 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 179.65, 139.24, 132.51, 126.45, 121.86, 120.47, 119.89, 50.32, 38.72, 31.25, 24.72, 22.97, 21.39, 8.98.

### 1-acetyl-3-ethyl-3-methylindolin-2-one<sup>12</sup> (**5ra**)



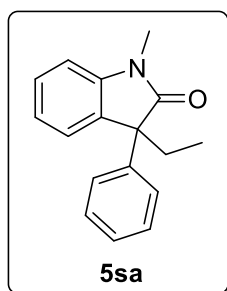
According to the general procedure, a mixture of ( $\mu$ - $\eta^6$ : $\eta^6$ -C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)[V(Nacnac)]<sub>2</sub> **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-acetyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3r** (101.6 mg, 0.5 mmol), PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred

at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ra** as colorless oil in 52% isolated yield.

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 8.24 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.17 (m, 2H), 2.69 (s, 3H), 2.04-1.95 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.76 (m, 1H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 0.64 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 181.80, 171.09, 139.73, 132.96, 128.17, 125.34, 122.33, 116.57, 49.50, 32.66, 26.79, 24.41, 8.99.

### 3-ethyl-1-methyl-3-phenylindolin-2-one<sup>13</sup> (**5sa**)



According to the general procedure, a mixture of ( $\mu$ - $\eta^6$ : $\eta^6$ -C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)[V(Nacnac)]<sub>2</sub> **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*,2-diphenylacrylamide **3s** (118.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> **4a** (322.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography

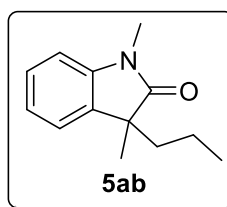
afforded **5sa** as white solid in 75% isolated yield.

**M.p.:** 77-79 °C.

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.35-7.19 (m, 7H), 7.09 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 2.45- 2.36 (m, 1H), 2.26-2.17 (m, 1H), 0.66 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 178.72, 144.24, 140.36, 132.19, 128.59, 128.22, 127.31, 127.08, 124.90, 122.68, 108.30, 57.43, 31.00, 26.43, 9.15.

### 1,3-dimethyl-3-propylindolin-2-one<sup>14</sup> (**5ab**)



According to the general procedure, a mixture of ( $\mu$ - $\eta^6$ : $\eta^6$ -C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)[V(Nacnac)]<sub>2</sub> **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3a** (87.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), PhI(O<sub>2</sub>CEt)<sub>2</sub> **4b** (350.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was

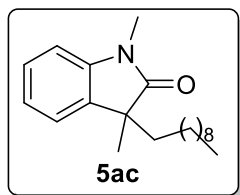
stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ab** as colorless oil in 76% isolated yield.

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)** δ 7.28-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, *J*

= 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 1.93-1.83 (m, 1H), 1.75-1.65 (m, 1H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 1.06-0.95 (m, 1H), 0.91-0.82 (m, 1H), 0.77 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  180.96, 143.44, 134.42, 127.67, 122.58, 122.49, 107.92, 48.61, 40.89, 26.17, 23.84, 17.94, 14.24.

### 3-decyl-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one<sup>14</sup> (**5ac**)

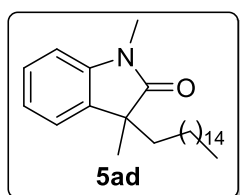


According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3a** (87.5 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{O}_2\text{CC}_9\text{H}_{19})_2$  **4c** (546.0 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ac** as colorless oil in 80% isolated yield.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.27-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.16 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 1.92-1.85 (m, 1H), 1.75-1.68 (m, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 1.29-1.14 (m, 14H), 0.86 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 5H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  180.97, 143.44, 134.44, 127.65, 122.55, 122.49, 107.93, 48.54, 38.65, 31.98, 29.85, 29.64, 29.62, 29.41, 29.36, 26.18, 24.56, 23.89, 22.76, 14.21.

### 3-hexadecyl-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one<sup>14</sup> (**5ad**)

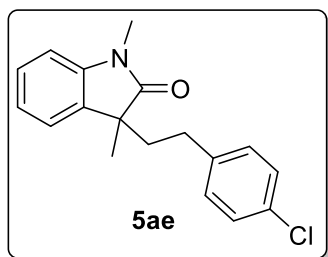


According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3a** (87.5 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{O}_2\text{CC}_{15}\text{H}_{31})_2$  **4d** (714.4 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ad** as colorless oil in 75% isolated yield.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.29-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.16 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.09-7.03 (m, 1H), 6.83 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 1.93-1.83 (m, 1H), 1.76-1.66 (m, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 1.25-1.14 (m, 28H), 0.88 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  181.05, 143.46, 134.49, 127.68, 122.59, 122.53, 107.97, 48.59, 38.67, 32.06, 29.88, 29.82, 29.79, 29.73, 29.69, 29.68, 29.49, 29.44, 26.22, 24.58, 23.91, 22.82, 14.25.

### 3-(4-chlorophenethyl)-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one<sup>15a</sup> (**5ae**)



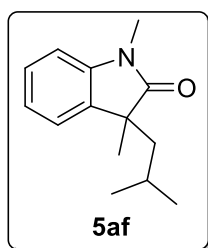
According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3a** (87.5 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{O}_2\text{CR})_2$  (R = 4-Chlorobenzyl) **4e** (543.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h.

After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ae** as colorless oil in 63% isolated yield.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.32-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.07 (m, 4H), 6.93 (d,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 2.31-2.19 (m, 2H), 2.14-1.93 (m, 2H), 1.38 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  180.30, 143.49, 139.87, 133.64, 131.67, 129.77, 128.39, 128.03, 122.75, 122.58, 108.18, 48.40, 40.09, 30.51, 26.24, 24.13.

### 3-isobutyl-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one<sup>10</sup> (**5af**)



According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3a** (87.5 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{O}_2\text{C}^i\text{Pr})_2$  **4f** (378.2 mg, 1.0 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal

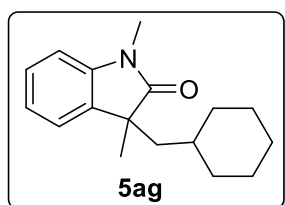
of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5af** as colorless oil in 77% isolated yield.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.28-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.16 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 1.92 (dd,  $J$  = 14.0, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 1.76 (dd,  $J$  = 14.0, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 1.32 (s, 3H), 1.28-1.22 (m, 1H), 0.65 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz,

3H), 0.60 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  181.12, 143.25, 134.26, 127.63, 122.86, 122.39, 108.00, 48.12, 46.80, 26.22, 26.19, 25.58, 24.17, 22.89.

### 3-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one<sup>10</sup> (**5ag**)



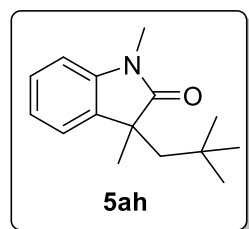
According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3a** (87.5 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{O}_2\text{CR})_2$  (R = Cyclohexyl) **4g** (687.5 mg, 1.5 mmol) and

PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ag** as colorless oil in 82% isolated yield.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.28-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.16 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.07-7.04 (m, 1H), 6.84 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 1.93 (dd,  $J = 14.0, 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 1.73 (dd,  $J = 14.0, 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 1.52-1.45 (m, 3H), 1.36-1.31 (m, 4H), 1.22-1.19 (m, 1H), 1.00-0.73 (m, 6H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  181.26, 143.19, 134.51, 127.61, 122.80, 122.43, 108.04, 47.96, 45.51, 34.83, 34.56, 33.63, 26.30, 26.24, 26.19 (2C), 26.12.

### 1,3-dimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one<sup>10,16</sup> (**5ah**)



According to the general procedure, a mixture of  $(\mu\text{-}\eta^6\text{:}\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)[\text{V}(\text{Nacnac})]_2$  **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3a** (87.5 mg, 0.5 mmol),  $\text{PhI}(\text{O}_2\text{C}^t\text{Bu})_2$  **4h** (609.1 mg, 1.5 mmol) and PhH (2.5 mL) was

stirred at 80 °C for 24 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ah** as white solid in 73% isolated yield.

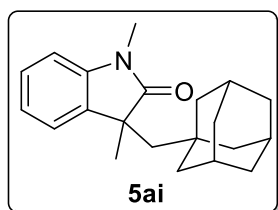
**M.p.:** 76-78 °C.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.28-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.03 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 2.16 (d,  $J = 14.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.86 (d,  $J = 14.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.29

(s, 3H), 0.61 (s, 9H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 181.14, 142.95, 134.30, 127.64, 123.97, 122.09, 108.13, 50.89, 47.50, 31.88, 30.92(3C), 28.39, 26.35.

### 3-(1-adamantan-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one<sup>10</sup> (**5ai**)



According to the general procedure, a mixture of ( $\mu$ - $\eta^6$ : $\eta^6$ -C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)[V(Nacnac)]<sub>2</sub> **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylmethacrylamide **3a** (87.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), PhI(O<sub>2</sub>CR)<sub>2</sub> (R = 1-adamantyl) **4i** (562.1 mg, 1.0 mmol) and

PhH (2.5 mL) was stirred at 80 °C for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, removal of the solvent in vacuo, column chromatography afforded **5ai** as white solid in 69% isolated yield.

**M.p.:** 108-110 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.28-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 1.99 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.73 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 4H), 1.50 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 3H), 1.37 (d, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 3H), 1.27 (s, 3H), 1.22-1.14 (m, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 181.22, 142.69, 134.75, 127.56, 123.64, 122.07, 108.04, 52.09, 46.69, 43.39 (3C), 36.77 (3C), 33.96, 28.68, 28.62 (3C), 26.34.

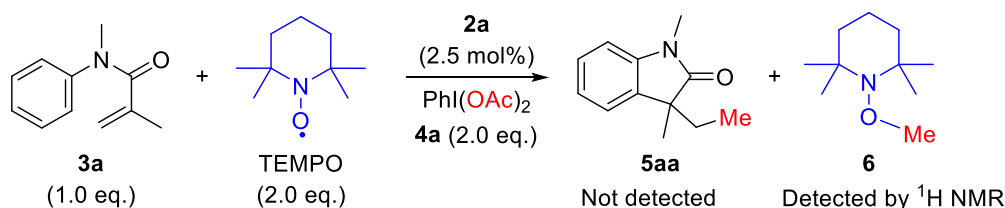
## 4. Mechanism Studies

### 4.1 A Radical Trapping Experiment with TEMPO

We further conducted mechanistic experiments to probe insights on this alkylarylation reaction. Firstly, the control experiment was initially carried out with 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine-1-oxyl (TEMPO) under the standard conditions (Scheme S1). As a result, the transformation was completely prohibited. Instead, 1-methoxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine **6**<sup>7,17</sup> as the adduct formed by TEMPO and methyl radical was detected by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrometer (Figure S2), which implied a radical decarboxylation pathway might operate in this reaction.

Notably, because of the Csp<sup>3</sup>-H bond in toluene is more susceptible to radicals than aromatic Csp<sup>2</sup>-H bonds, we detect some hypothesis products in our reactions (via mass spectrometry). The spectrums are shown in Figures S3-4, suggesting that the hypothesis products were formed as those reported<sup>15</sup> in oxidative benzylarylation of **3a** with toluene (Figures S3) or in the oxidative alkylarylation of **3a** with THF (Figures S4).

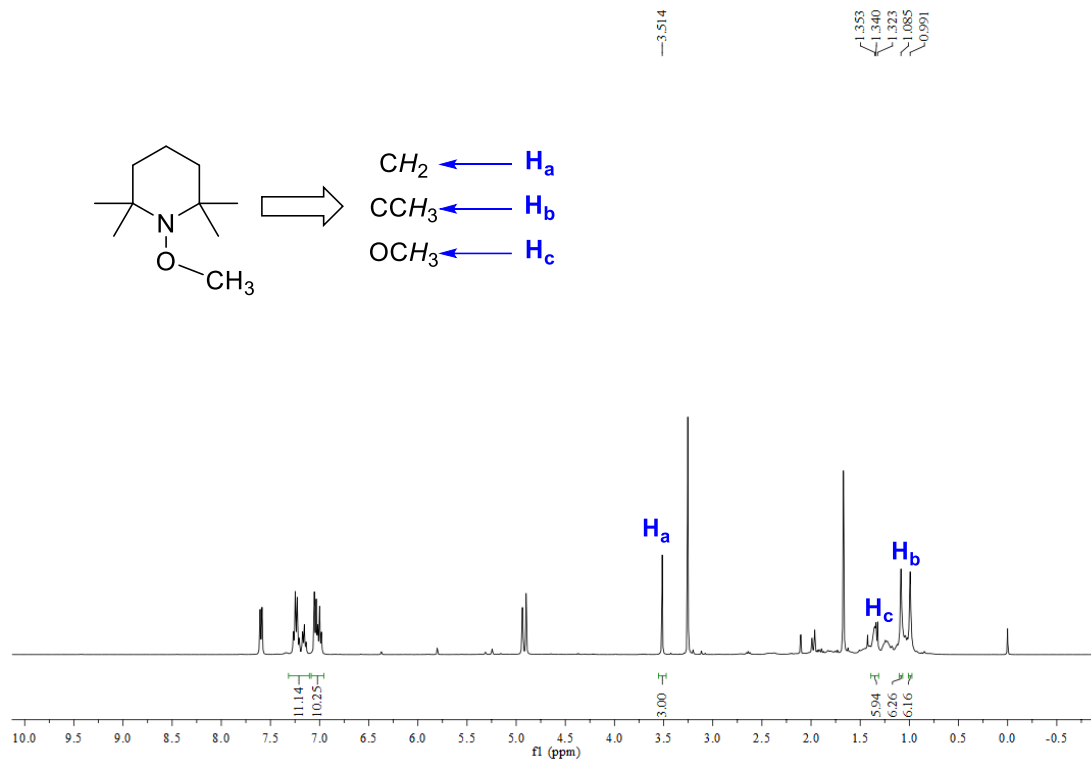
**Scheme S1.** A radical trapping experiment with TEMPO



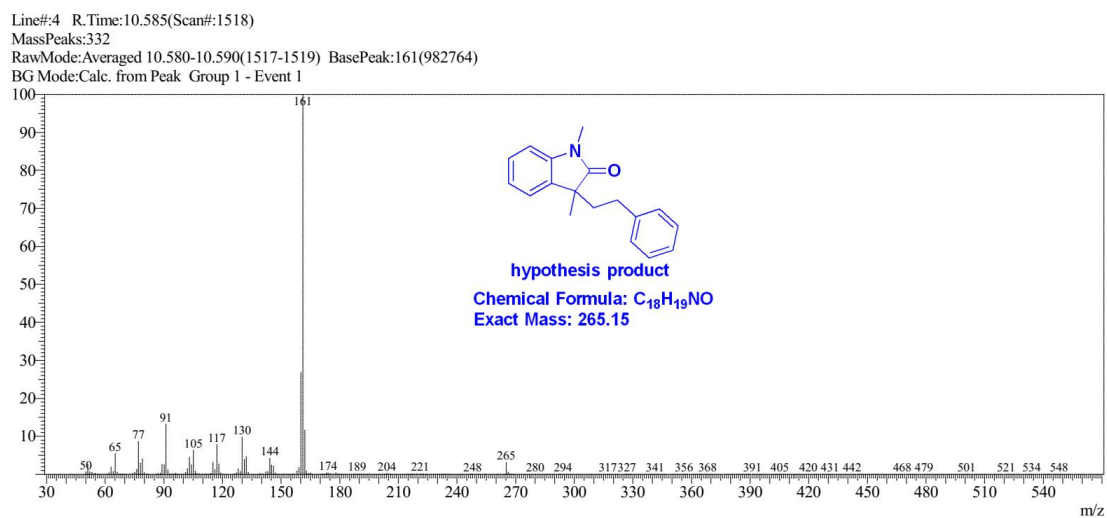
*Experimental Details:* A flame-dried Teflon-screw-capped tube was equipped with a magnetic stir bar. **2a** (12.7 mg, 0.0125 mmol), alkene **3a** (87.5 mg, 0.5 mmol), PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> **4a** (322.0 mg, 1.0 mmol), TEMPO (156.2 mg, 1.0 mmol), and PhH (2.5 mL) were added into the reaction vessel under nitrogen. Then, the Teflon cap was screwed up and the reaction mixture was stirred in an oil bath (80 °C) for 10 h. After completion of the reaction, the solvent was removed in vacuo. The crude reaction mixture was analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. As a result, no indolinone **5aa** was observed. Instead, 1-methoxy-2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine **6**<sup>7,17</sup> as the adduct formed by

TEMPO and methyl radical was detected by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrometer.

**Figure S2.** Crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of the reaction outlined in **Scheme S1**

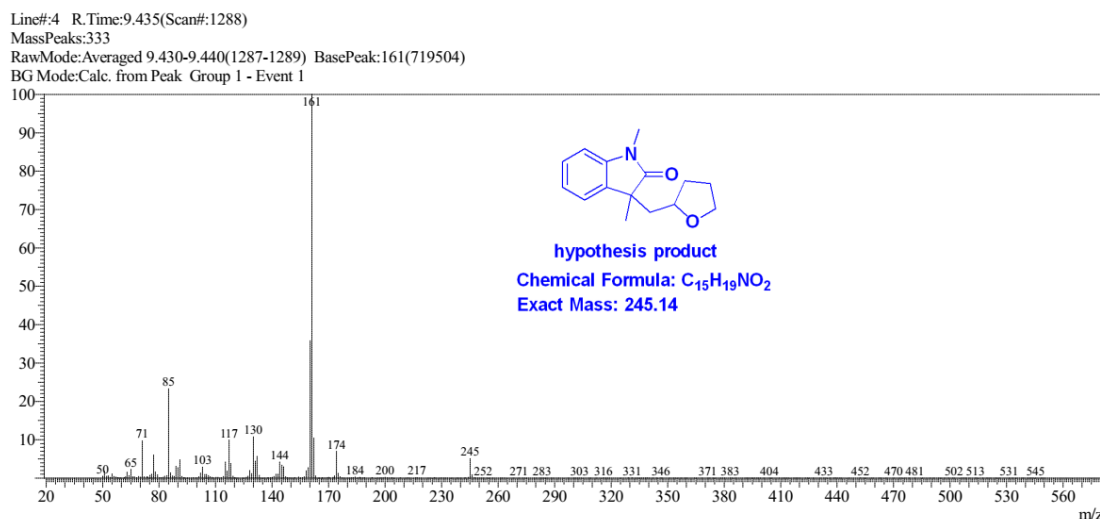


**Figure S3.** spectrum of the hypothesis product for toluene





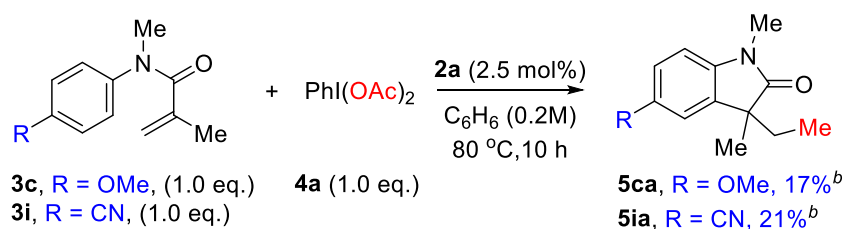
**Figure S4.** spectrum of the hypothesis product for THF



## 4.2 Competition Experiments of Alkenes

Next, we examined competition experiments between alkenes **3c** and **3i**, bearing an electro-donating methoxy and electro-withdrawing cyano group respectively, with HIR **4a** (Scheme S2). It turned out that the yields of the corresponding indolinones **5ca** and **5ia** were 17% and 21%, respectively (Figure S5). This result implied that the intramolecular cyclization process might occur through a radical rather than cationic mechanism.

**Scheme S2.** Competition experiments of alkenes

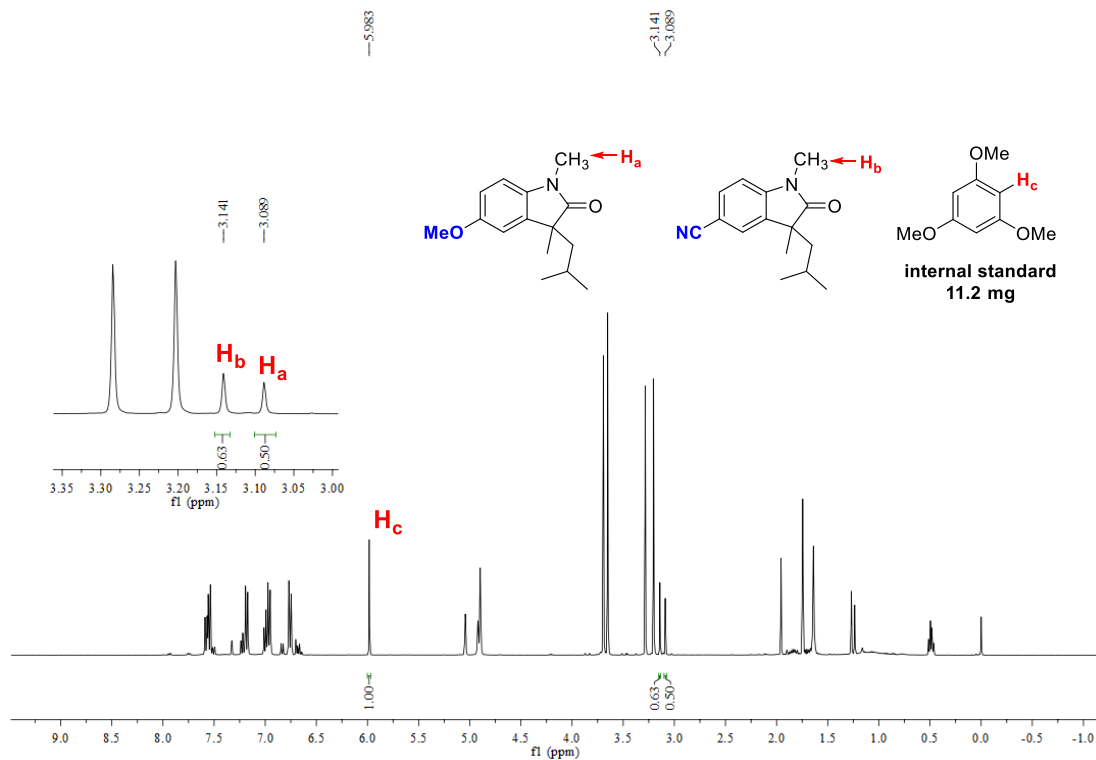


<sup>a</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture.

*Experimental Details:* A flame-dried Teflon-screw-capped tube was equipped with a magnetic stir bar. **2a** (5.1 mg, 0.005 mmol), alkenes **3c** (41.1 mg, 0.2 mmol), **3i** (40.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> **4a** (64.4 mg, 0.2 mmol) and C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (1.0 mL) were added into the reaction vessel under nitrogen. Then, the Teflon cap was screwed up and the reaction mixture was stirred in an oil bath (80 °C) for 10 h. After completion of the

reaction, the solvent was removed in vacuo. The crude reaction mixture was analyzed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR with 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as internal standard.

**Figure S5.** Crude  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of the reaction outlined in **Scheme S2**

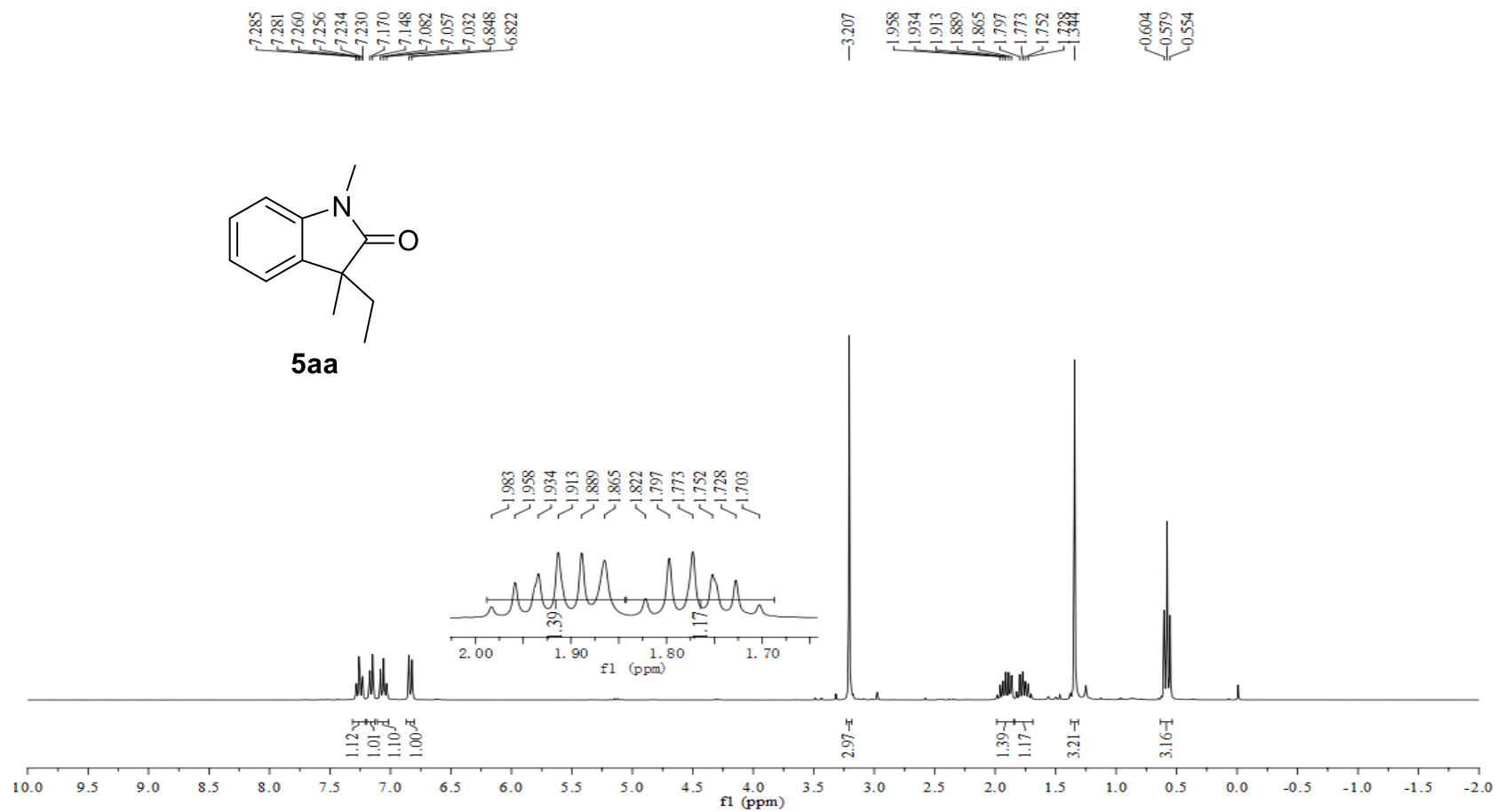


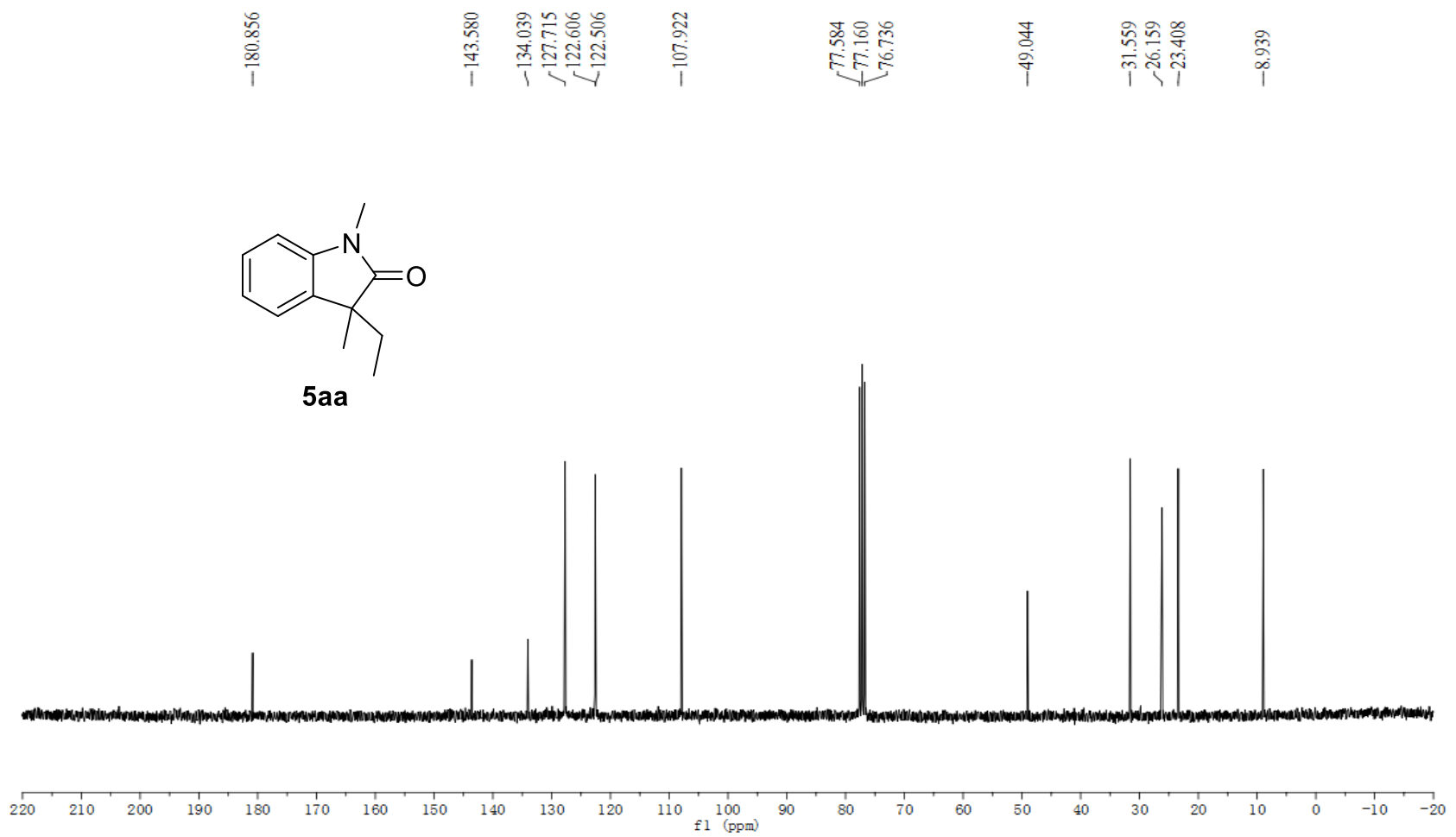
## 5. References

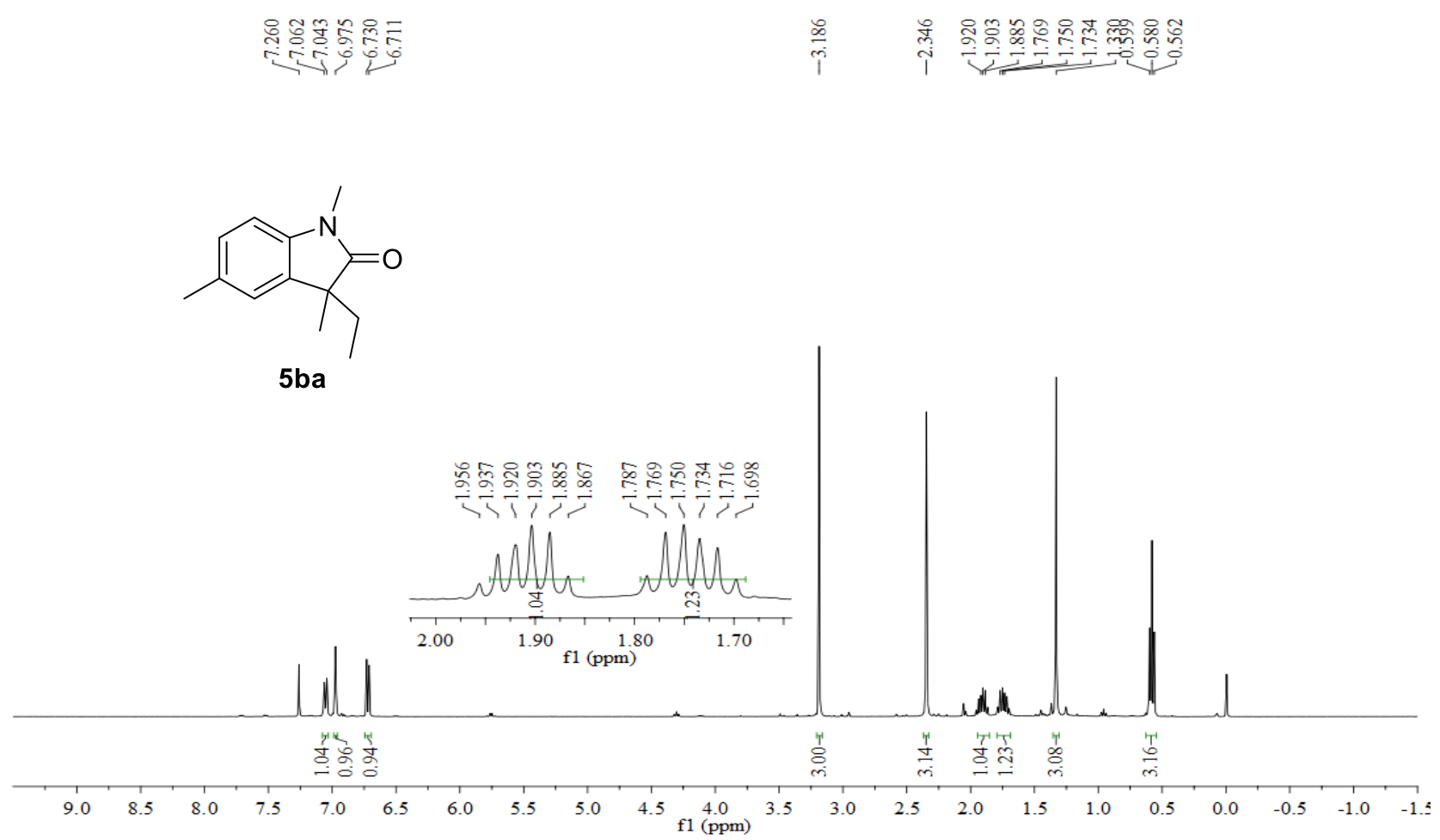
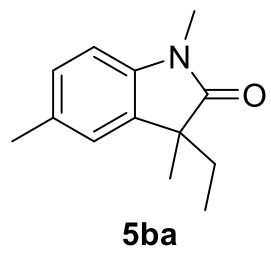
- [1] Budzelaar, P. H. M.; Bart van Oort, A.; Guy Orpen, A. *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.*, **1998**, 1485-1494.
- [2] Schwindt, M. A.; Lejon, T.; Hegedus, L. S. *Organometallics* **1990**, *9*, 2814-2819.
- [3] Tsai, Y.-C.; Wang, P.-Y.; Lin, K.-M.; Chen, S.-A.; Chen, J.-M. *Chem. Commun.*, **2008**, 205-207.
- [4] (a) Ackermann, L.; Lygin, A. V.; Hofmann, N. *Org. Lett.* **2011**, *13*, 3278-3281. (b) Mu, X.; Wu, T.; Wang, H.-Y.; Guo, Y.-L.; Liu, G. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 878-881. (c) Jiang, Y.-Y.; Dou, G.-Y.; Xu, K.; Zeng, C.-C. *Org. Chem. Front.* **2018**, *5*, 2573-2577. (d) Zhang, T.; Chen, B.; Wang, W.; Zhang, Q.; Wang, P.; Wan, W.; Deng, H.; Hao, J.; Jiang, H. *Asian. J. Org. Chem.* **2019**, *8*, 671-674.
- [5] (a) Nishio, T.; Koyama, H.; Sasaki, D.; Sakamoto, M. *Helv. Chim. Acta* **2005**, *88*, 996-1003. (b) Fabry, D. C.; Stodulski, M.; Hoerner, S.; Gulder, T. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2012**, *18*, 10834-10838. (c) Lu, K.; Han, X.-W.; Yao, W.-W.; Luan, Y.-X.; Wang, Y.-X.; Chen, H.; Xu, X.-T.; Zhang, K.; Ye, M. *ACS Catal.* **2018**, *8*, 3913-3917. (d) Cao, Y.; Zhao, H.; Zhang-Negrerie, D.; Du, Y.; Zhao, K. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2016**, *358*, 3610-3615.
- [6] Mocci, F.; Uccheddu, G.; Frongia, A.; Cerioni, G. *J. Org. Chem.* **2007**, *72*, 4163-4168.
- [7] Y. Wang, L. Zhang, Y.-H. Yang, P. Zhang, Z.-T. Du, C. Wang, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2013**, *135*, 18048-18051.
- [8] Xu, Z.-B.; Yan, C.-X.; Liu, Z.-Q. *Org. Lett.* **2014**, *16*, 5670-5673.
- [9] Dai, Q.; Yu, J.; Jiang, Y.; Guo, S.; Yang, H.; Cheng, J. *Chem. Commun.*, **2014**, *50*, 3865-3867.
- [10] Xie, J.; Xu, P.; Li, H.; Xue, Q.; Jin, H.; Cheng, Y.; Zhu, C. *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, *49*, 5672-5674.
- [11] Ratushnyy, M.; Kvasovs, N.; Sarkar, S.; Gevorgyan, V. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2020**, *59*, 10316-10320.

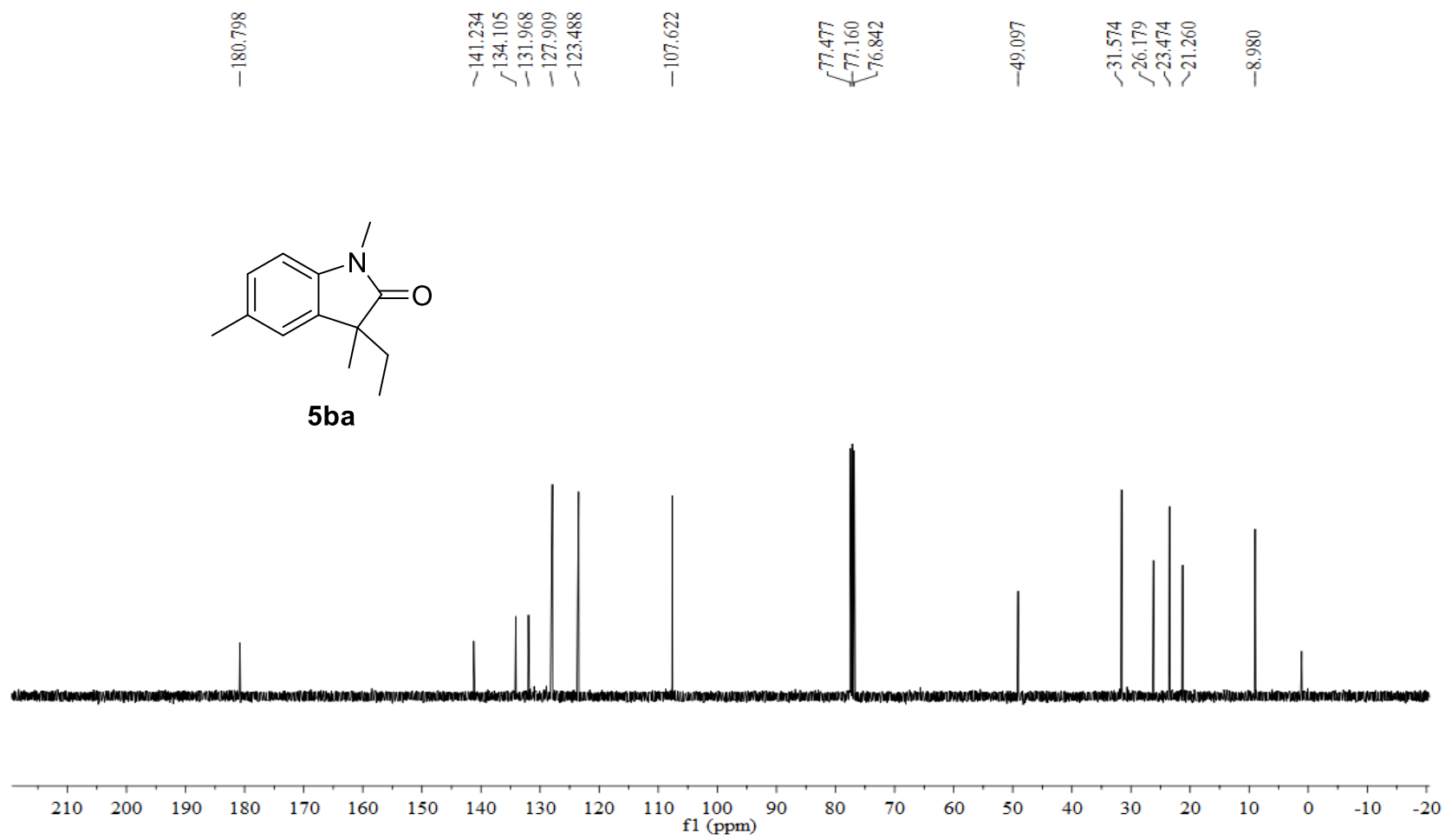
- [12] Xu, Z.; Jia, R.; Ma, Z.; Cao, S.; Shen, L.; Ji, H. *Synlett* **2019**, 30, A-E.
- [13] Beyer, A.; Buendia, J.; Bolm, C. *Org. Lett.* **2012**, 14, 3948-3951.
- [14] Pan, C.; Fu, Y.; Ni, Q.; Yu, J.-T. *J. Org. Chem.* **2017**, 82, 5005-5010.
- [15] (a) Zhou, S.-L.; Guo, L.-N.; Wang, H.; Duan, X.-H. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2013**, 19, 12970-12973. (b) Wei, W.-T.; Zhou, M.-B.; Fan, J.-H.; Liu, W.; Song, R.-J.; Liu, Y.; Hu, M.; Xie, P.; Li, J.-H. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, **2013**, 52, 3638-3641.
- [16] Wu, T.; Zhang, H.; Liu, G. *Tetrahedron*, **2012**, 68, 5229-5233.
- [17] (a) Anderson, J. E.; Casarini, D.; Corrie, J. E. T.; Lunazzi, L. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans 2.* **1993**, 1299-1304. (b) Hammill, C. L.; Noble, B. B.; Norcott, P. L.; Ciampi, S.; Coote, M. L. *J. Phys. Chem. C* **2019**, 123, 5273-5281.

## 6. Spectra of Products

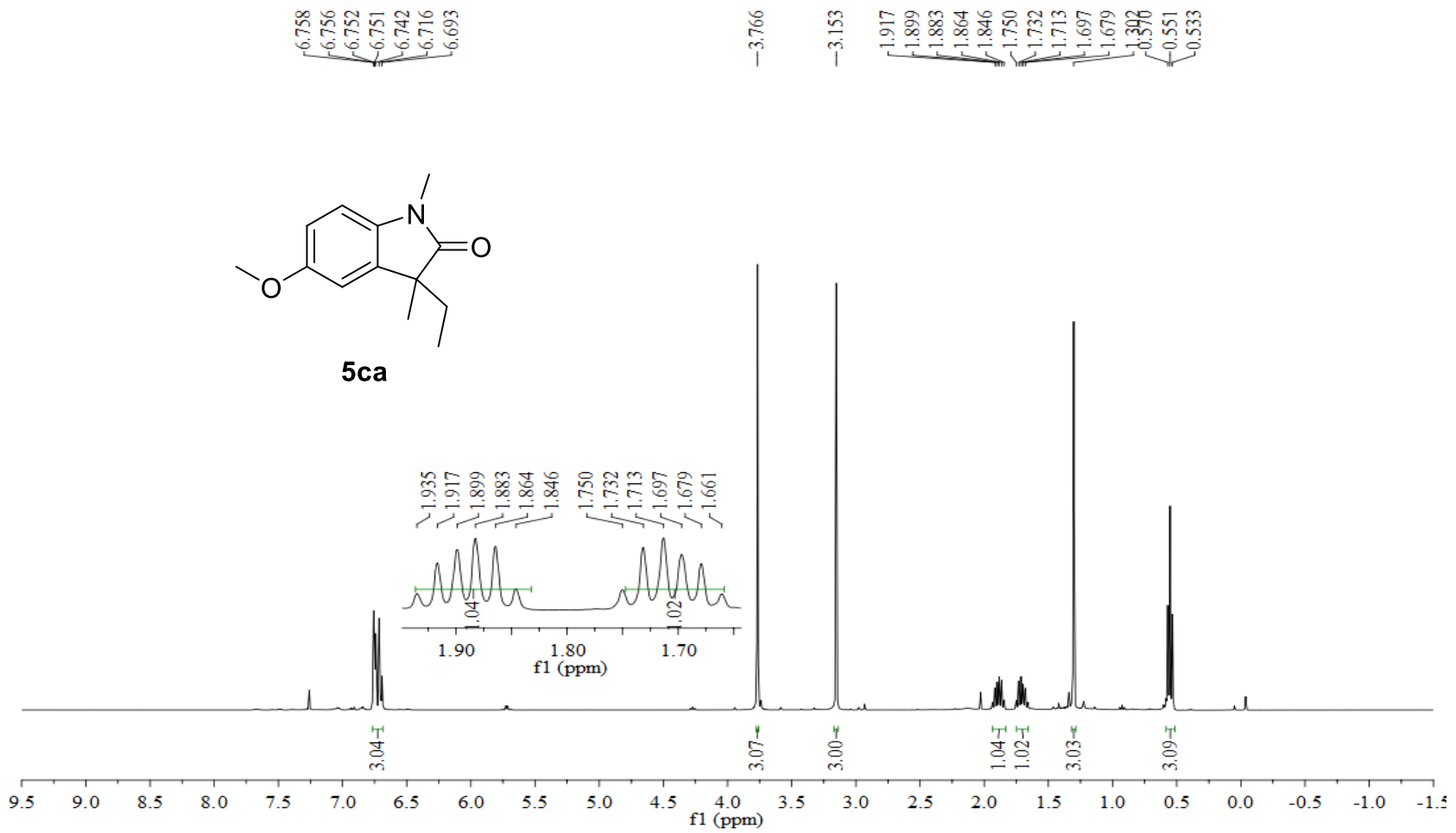


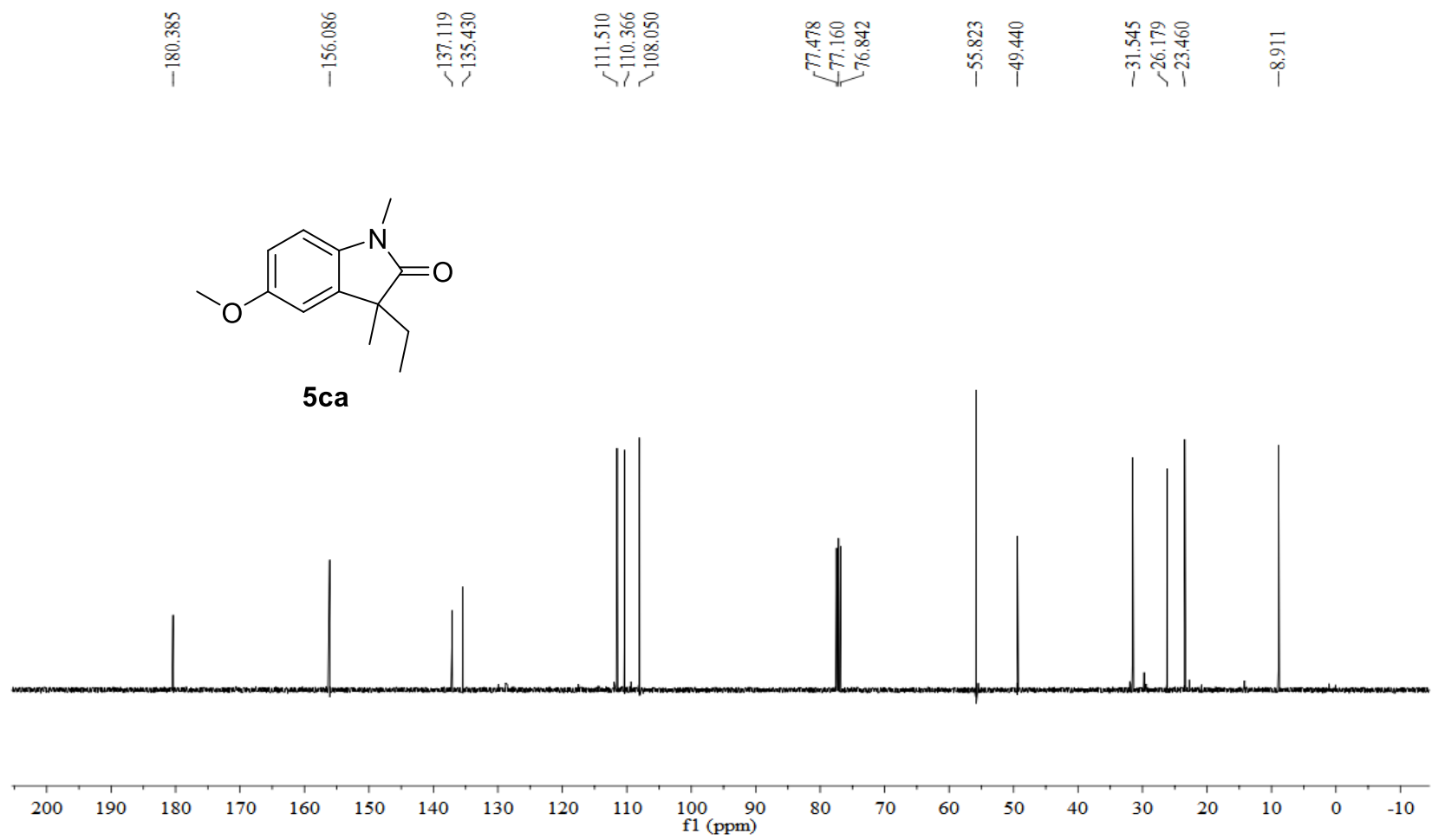


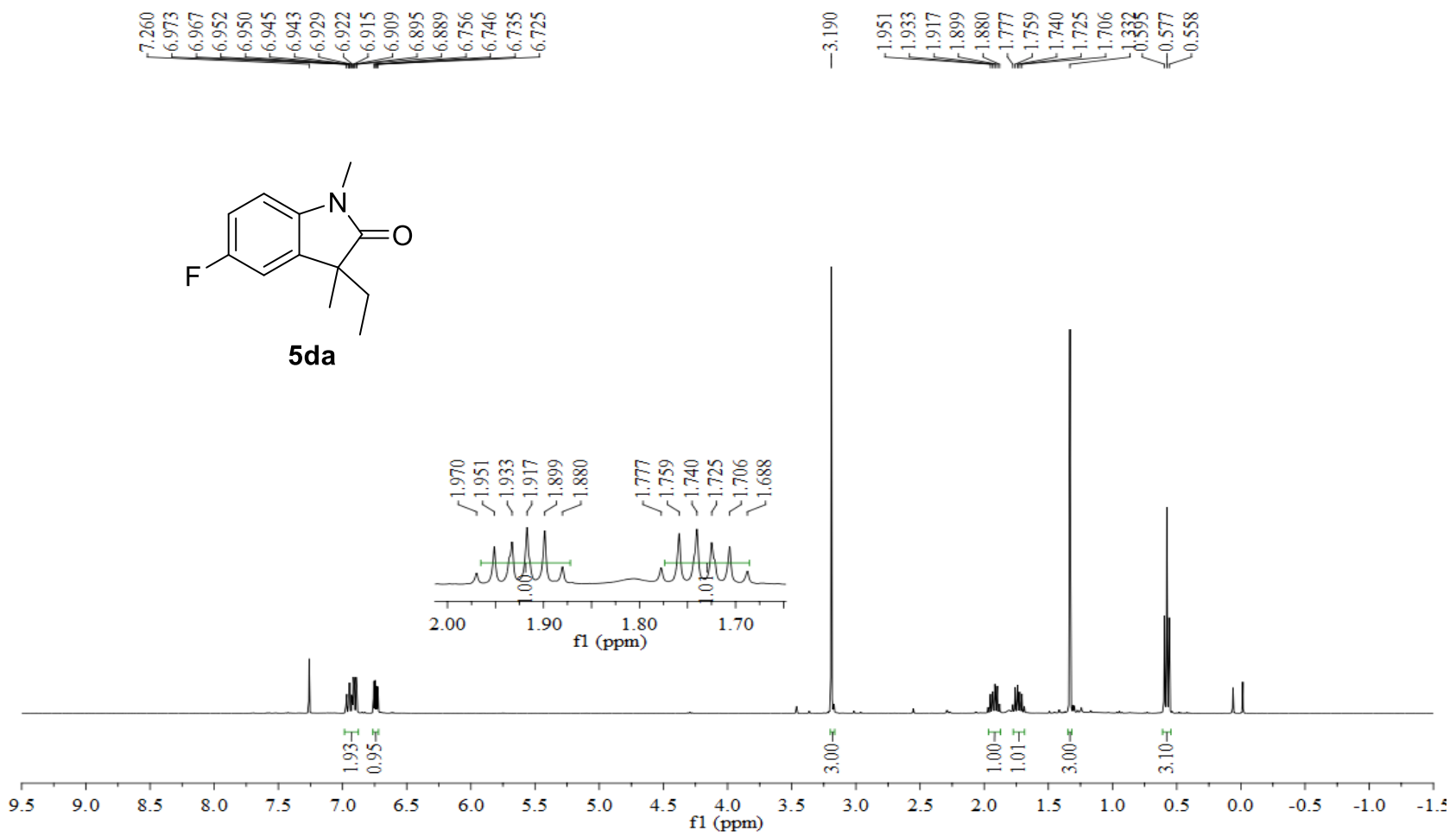


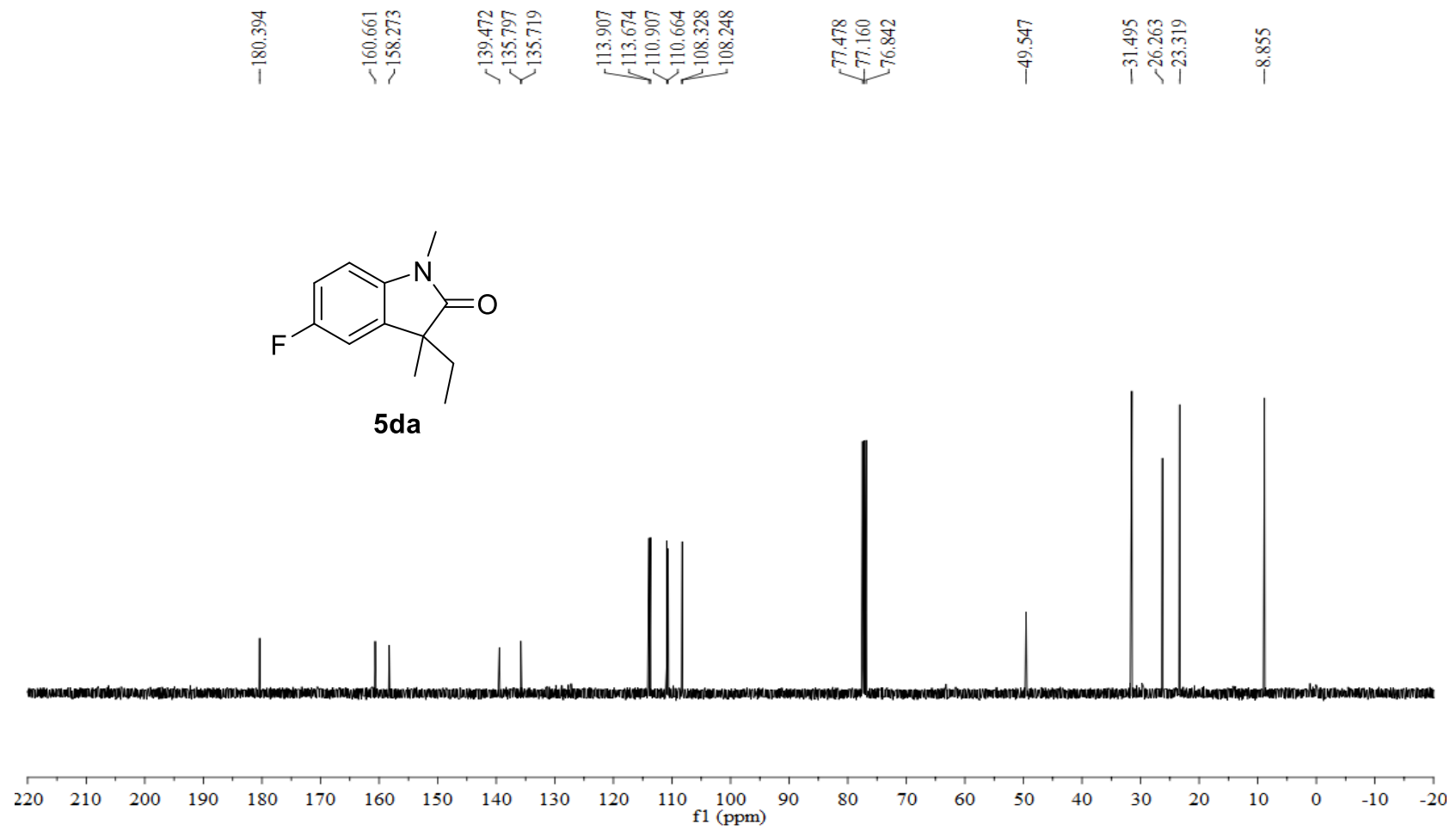


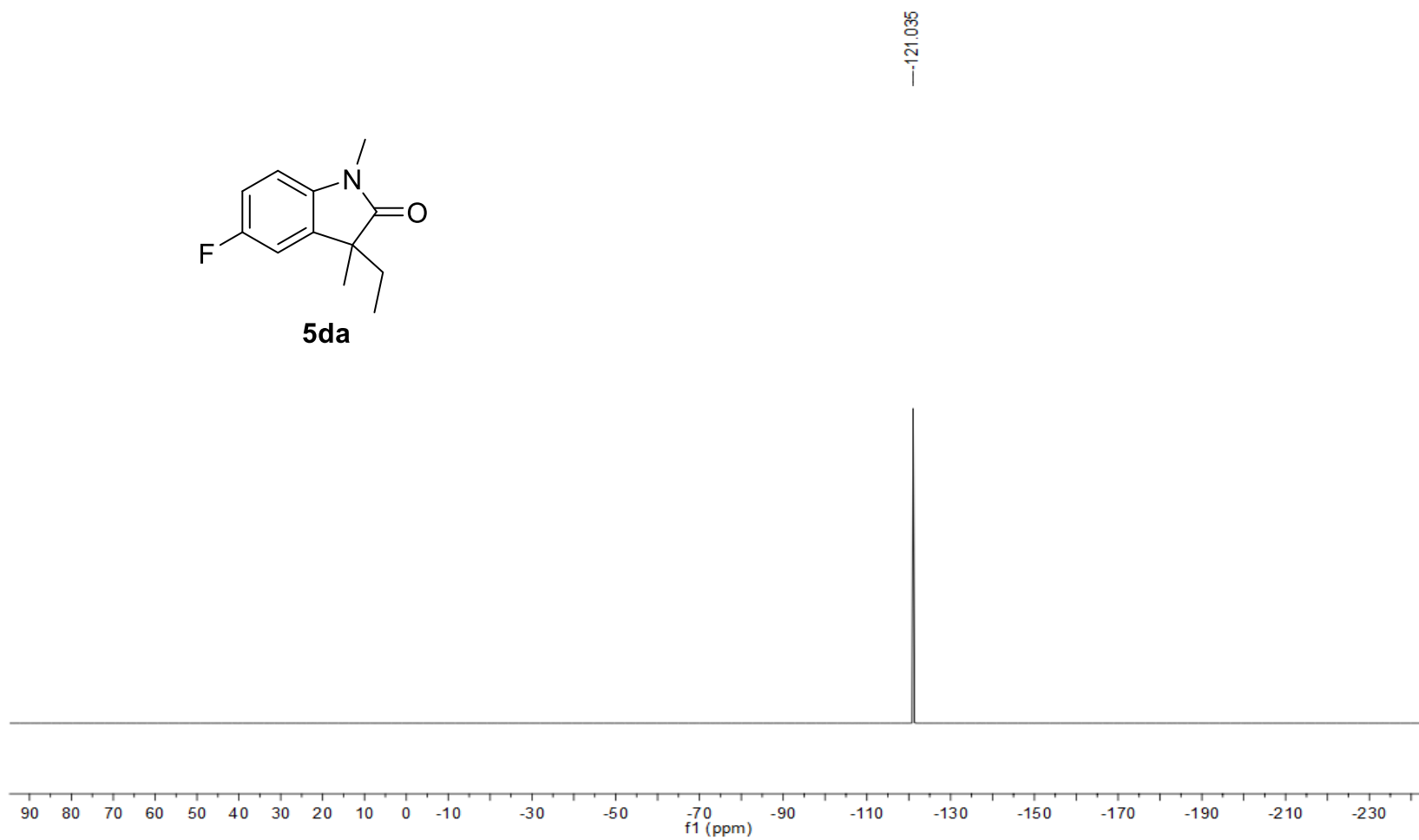
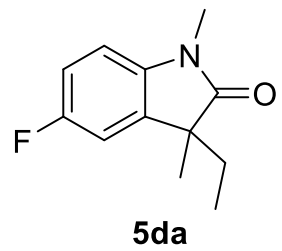






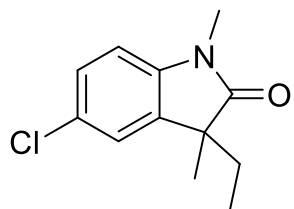




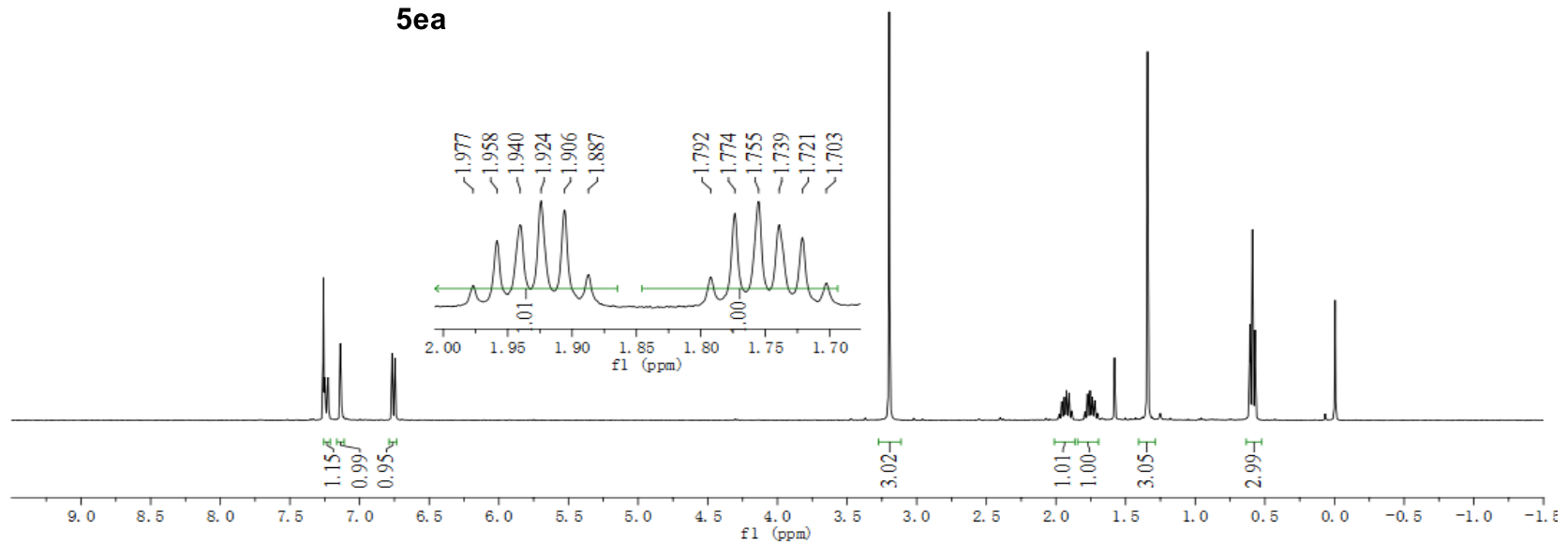


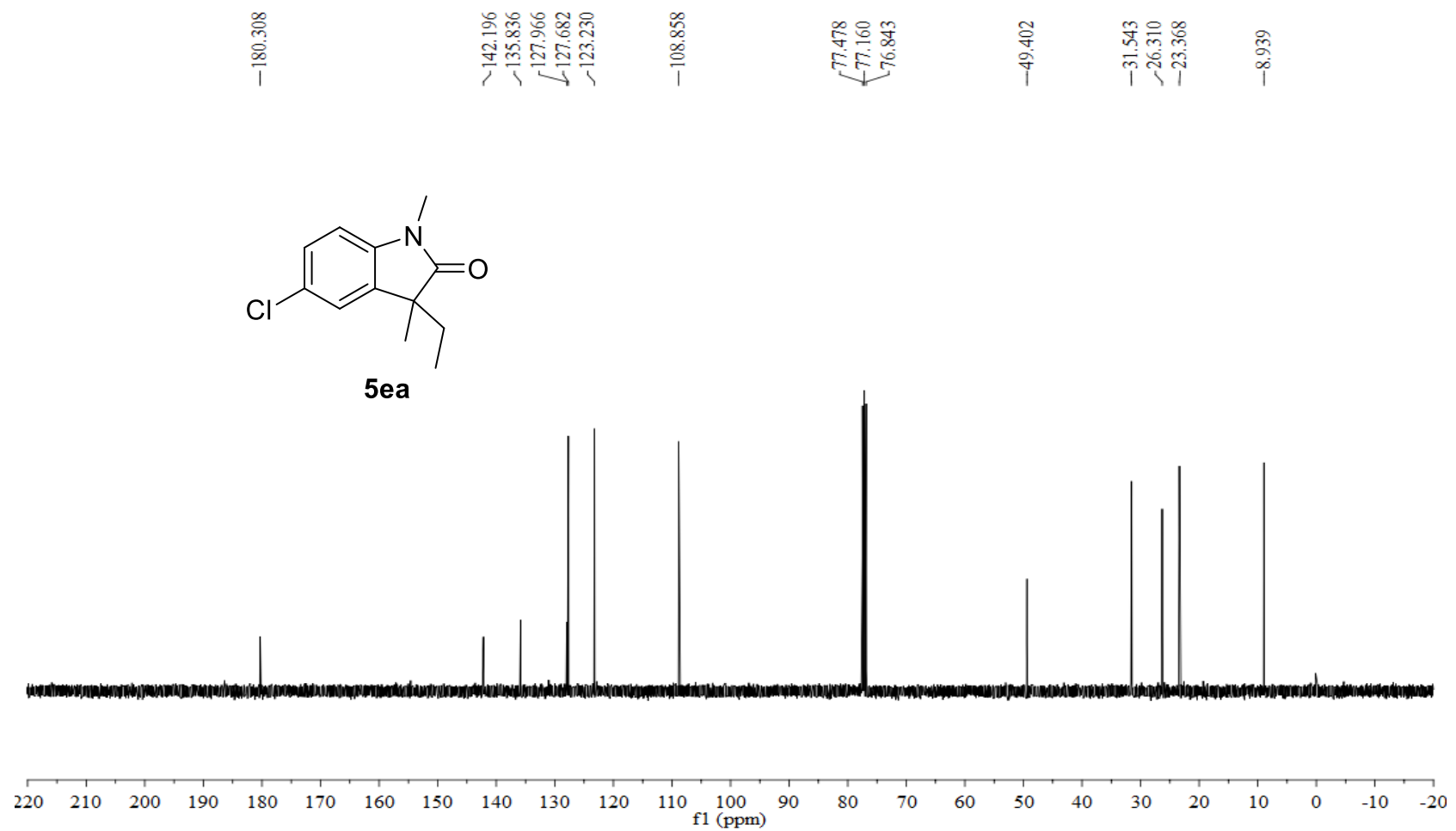
7.260  
7.251  
7.246  
7.230  
7.225  
7.138  
7.133  
6.767  
6.746

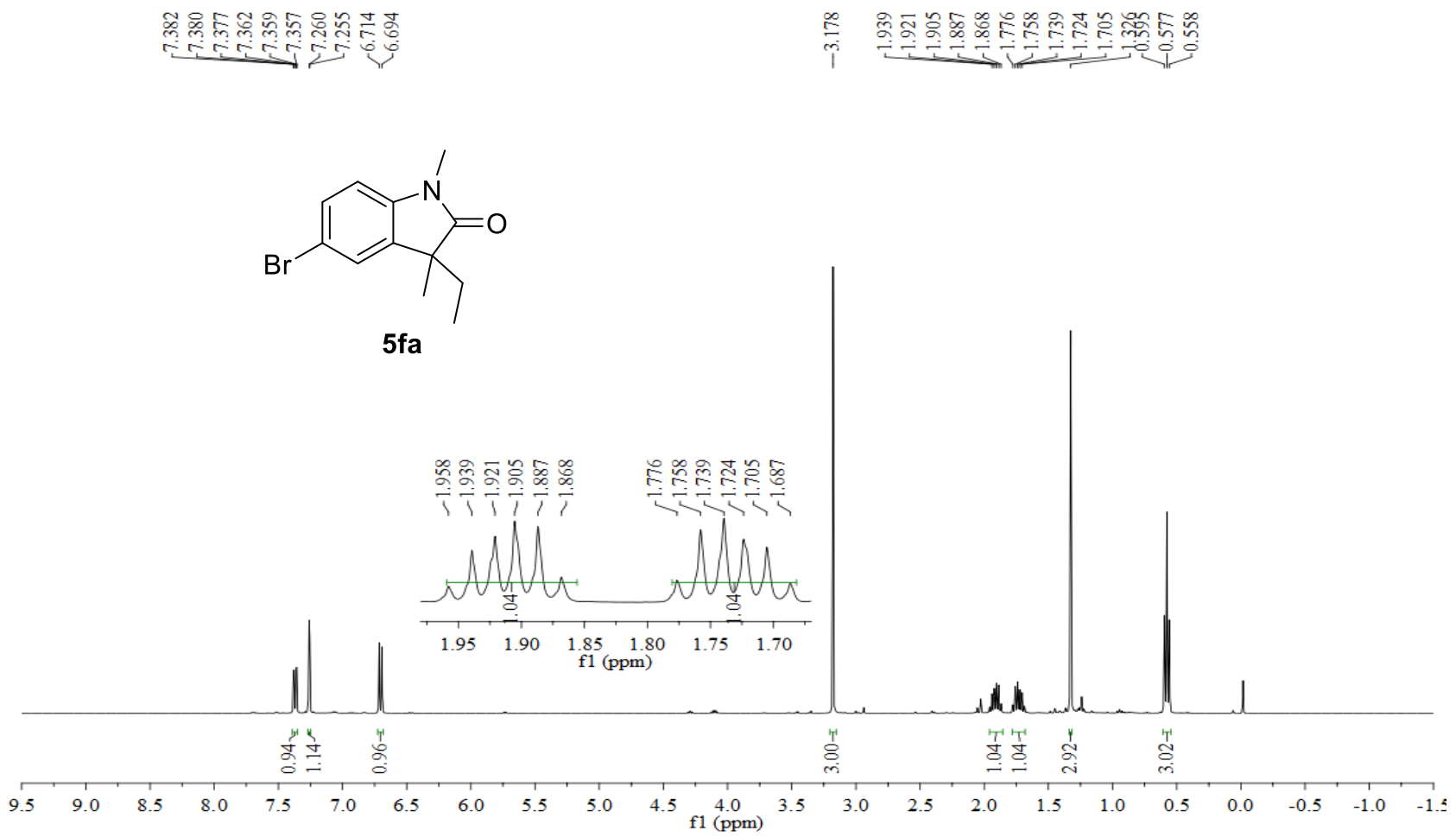
3.197  
1.958  
1.940  
1.924  
1.906  
1.887  
1.792  
1.774  
1.755  
1.739  
1.721  
1.342  
0.807  
0.589  
0.570



**5a**









—180.129

—142.642  
—136.173  
—130.557  
—125.918

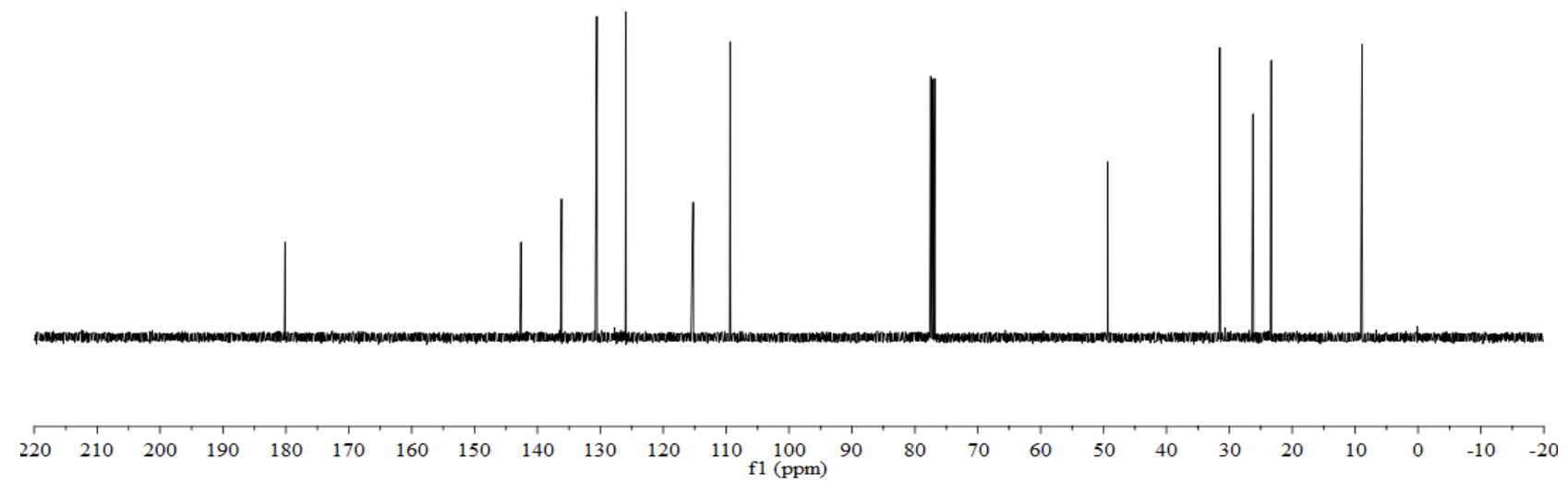
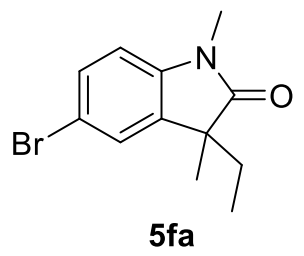
—115.243  
—109.368

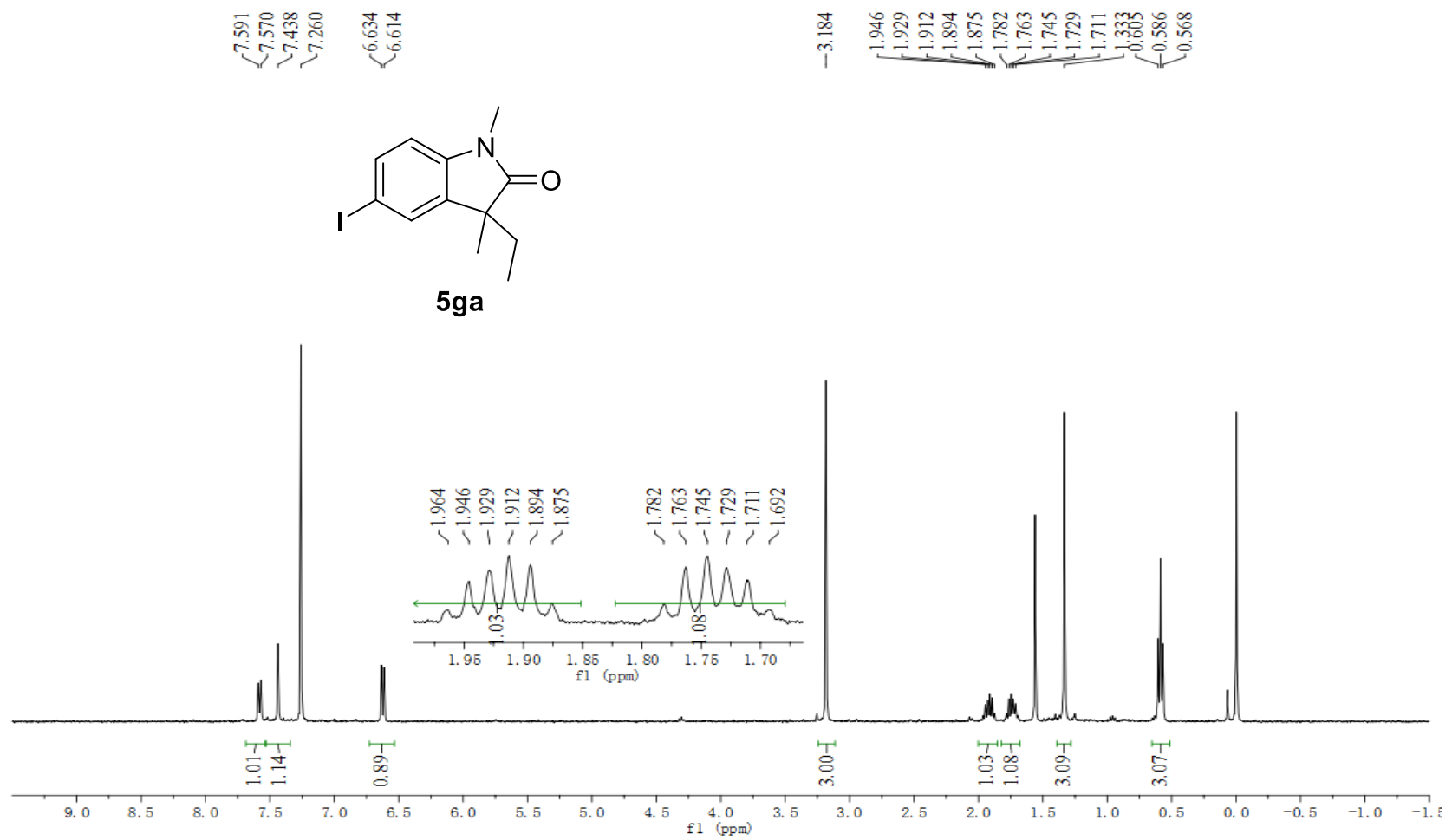
77.479  
77.160  
76.843

—49.321

—31.508  
—26.247  
—23.339

—8.913





—179.996

~143.364

~136.581

~131.505

—110.016

~85.156

~77.478

~77.160

~76.842

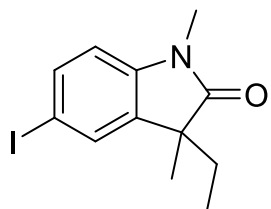
—49.186

—31.535

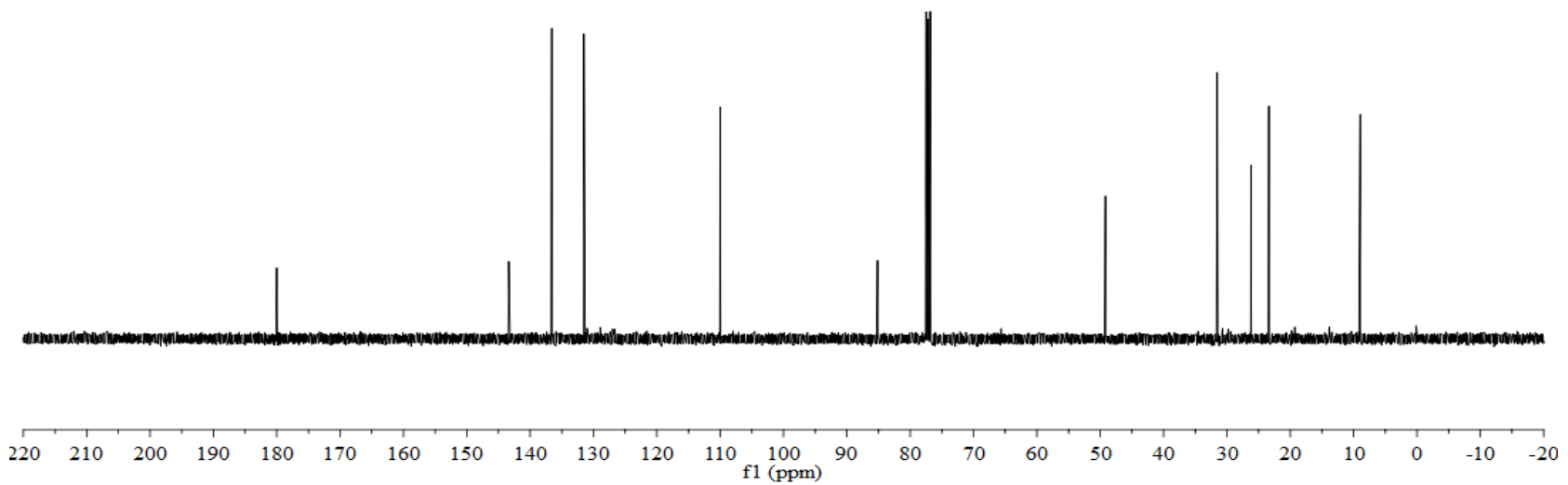
~26.221

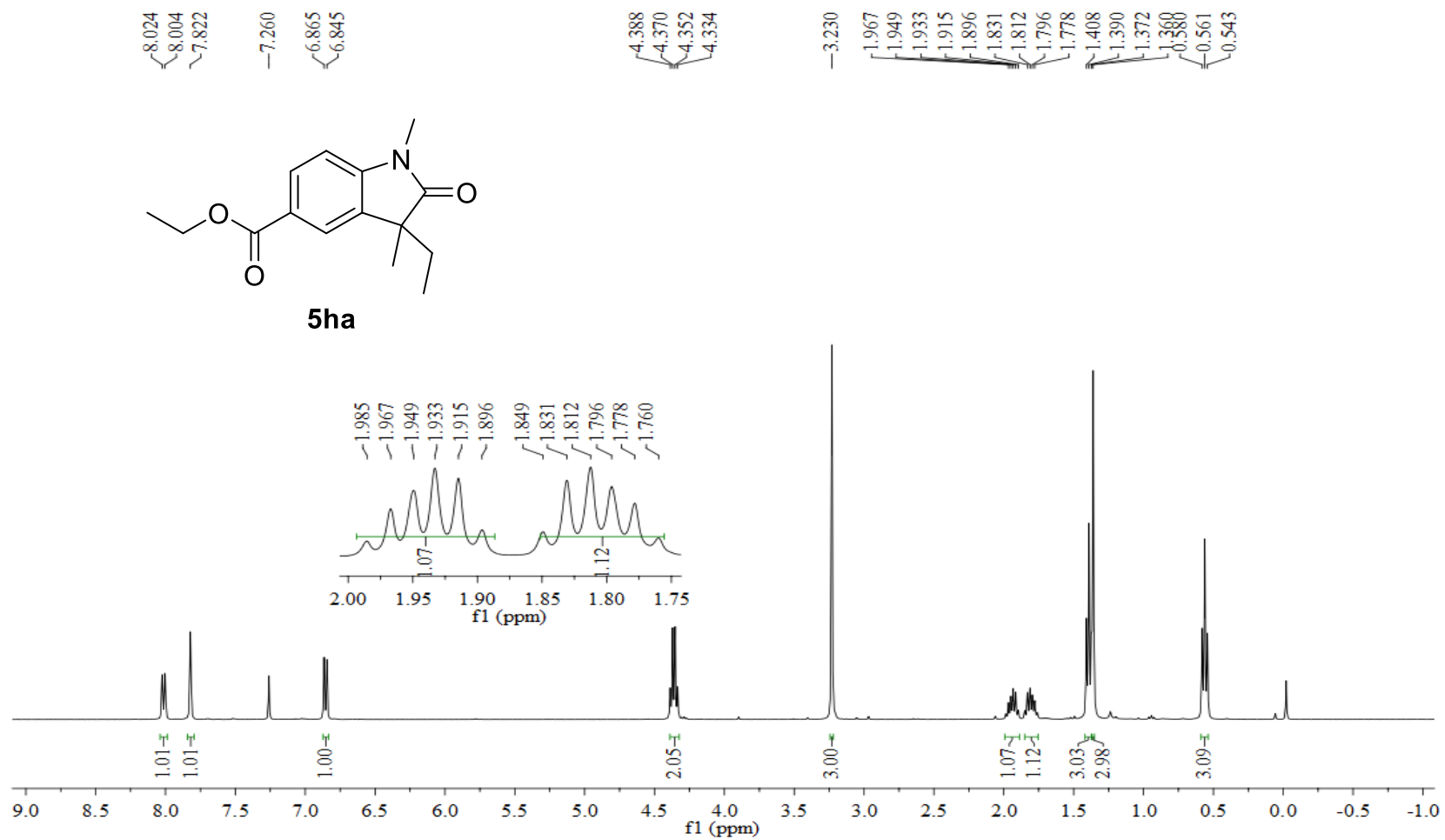
—23.367

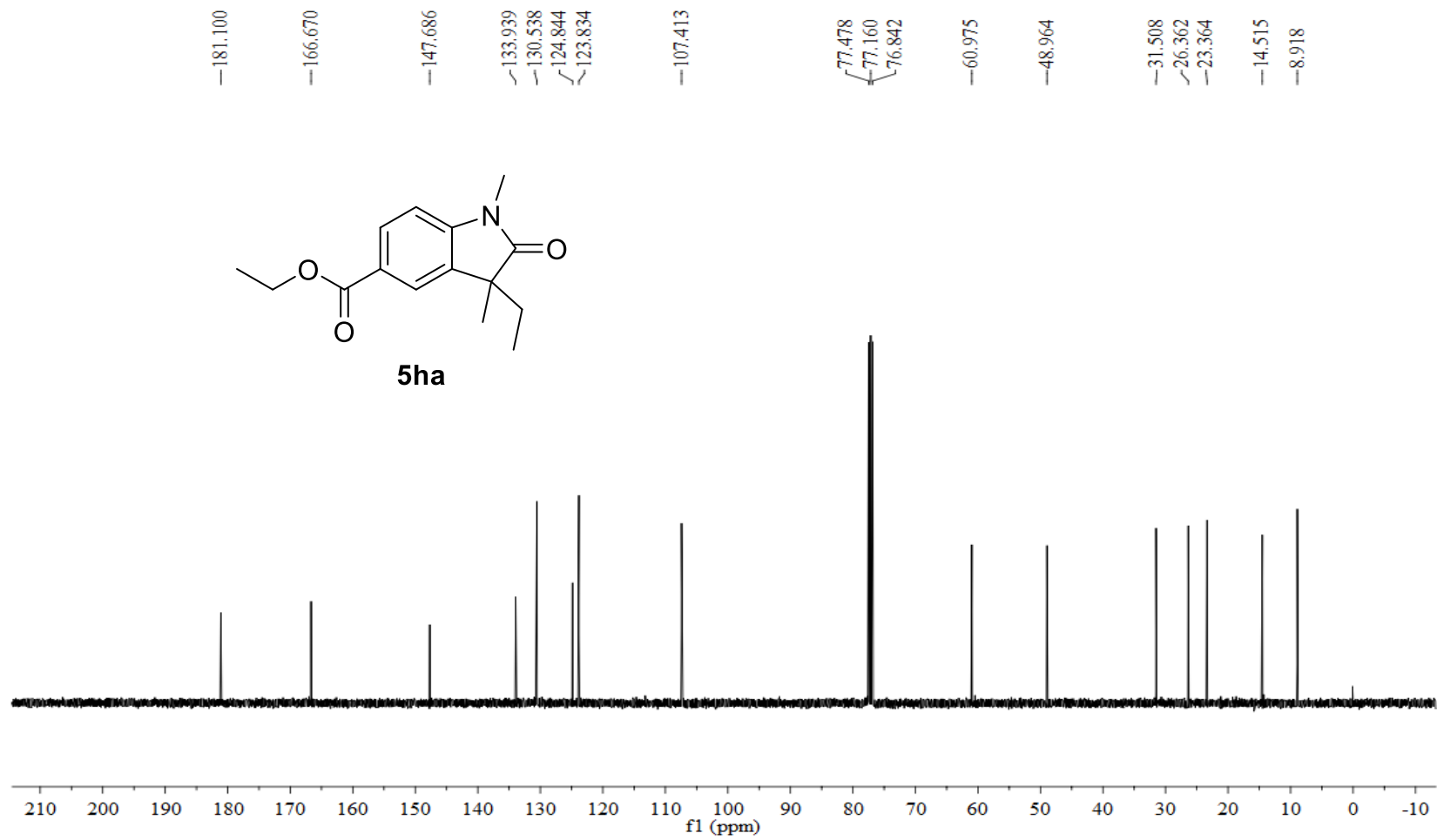
—8.952

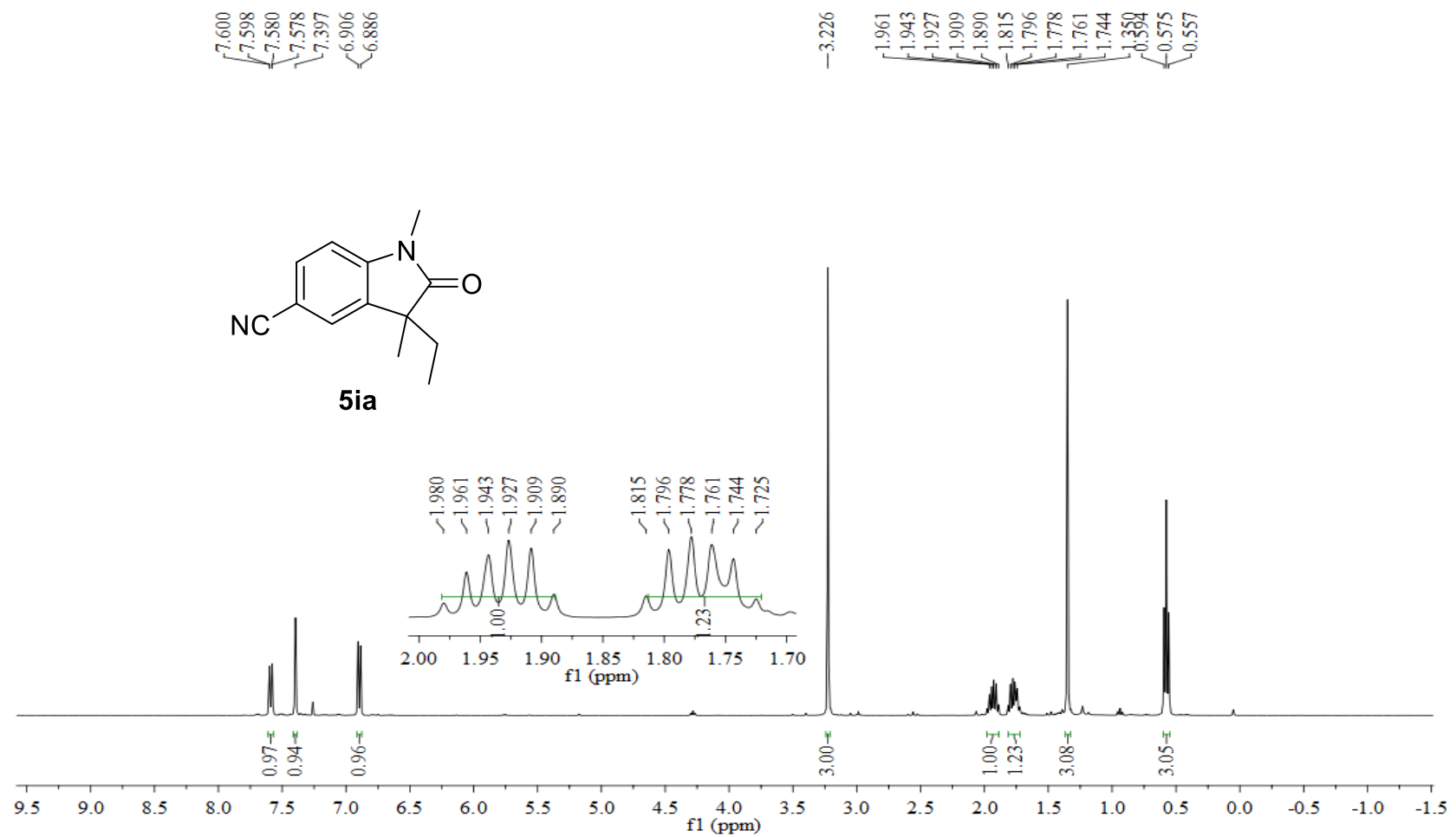


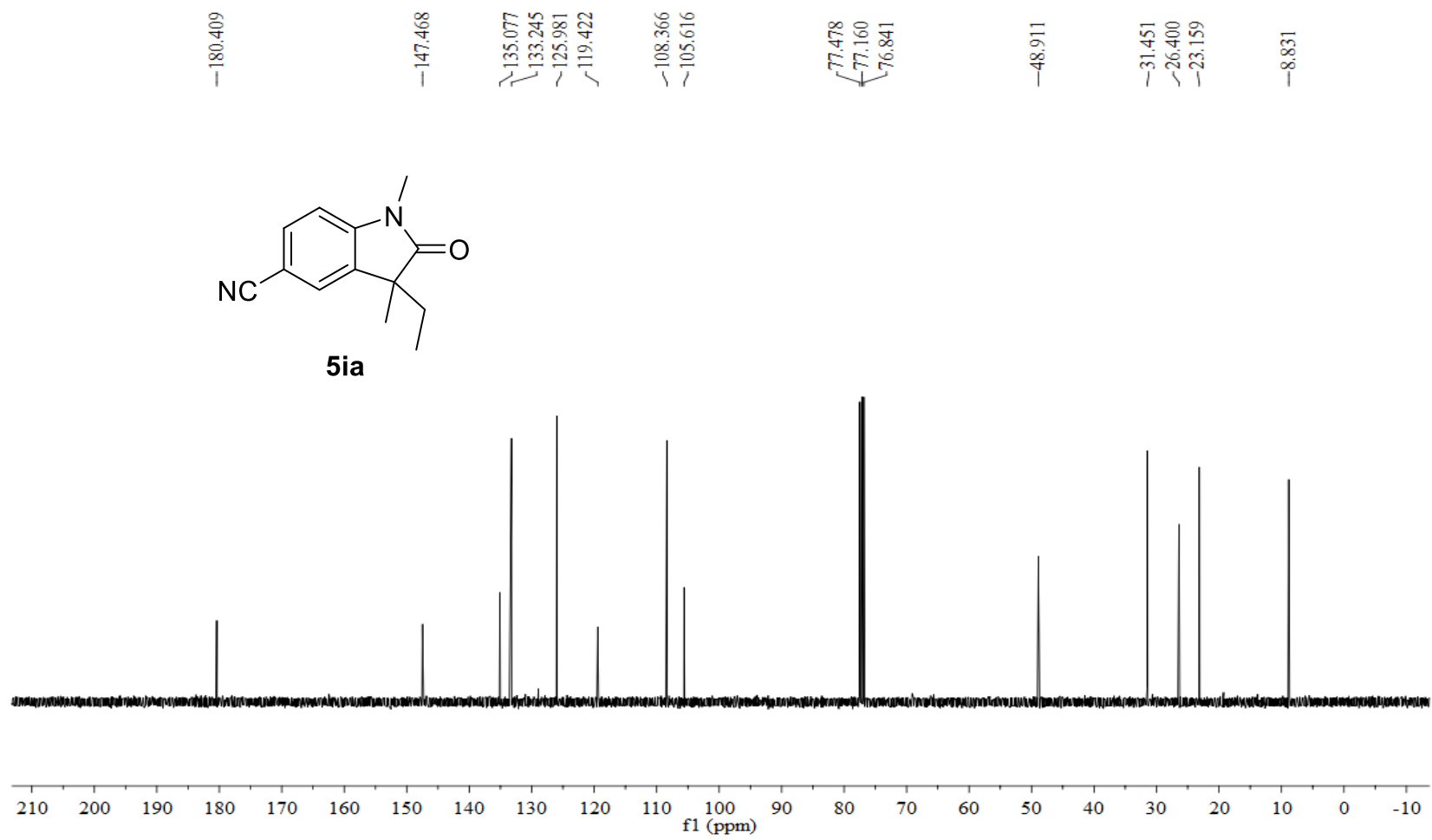
**5ga**

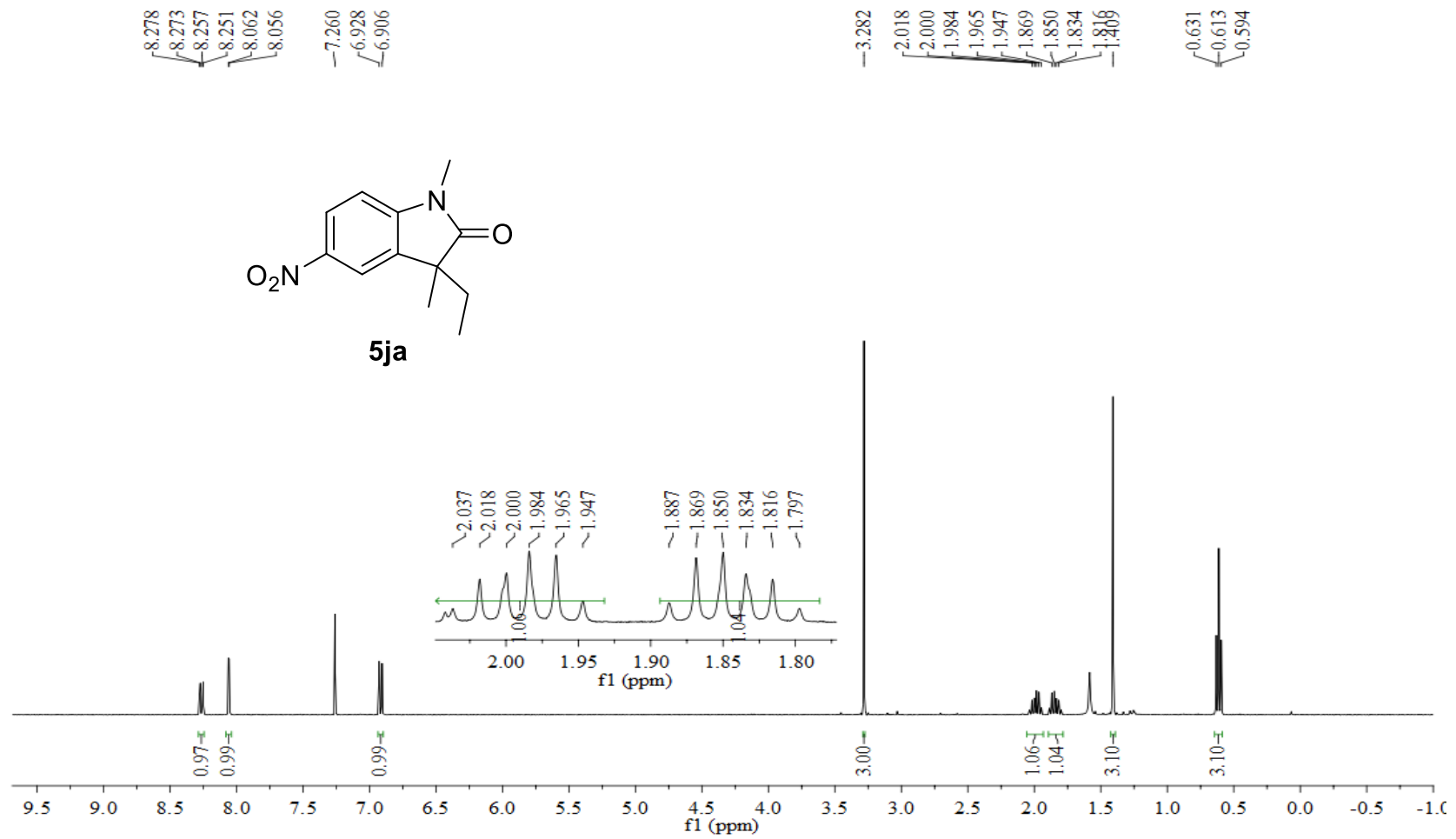




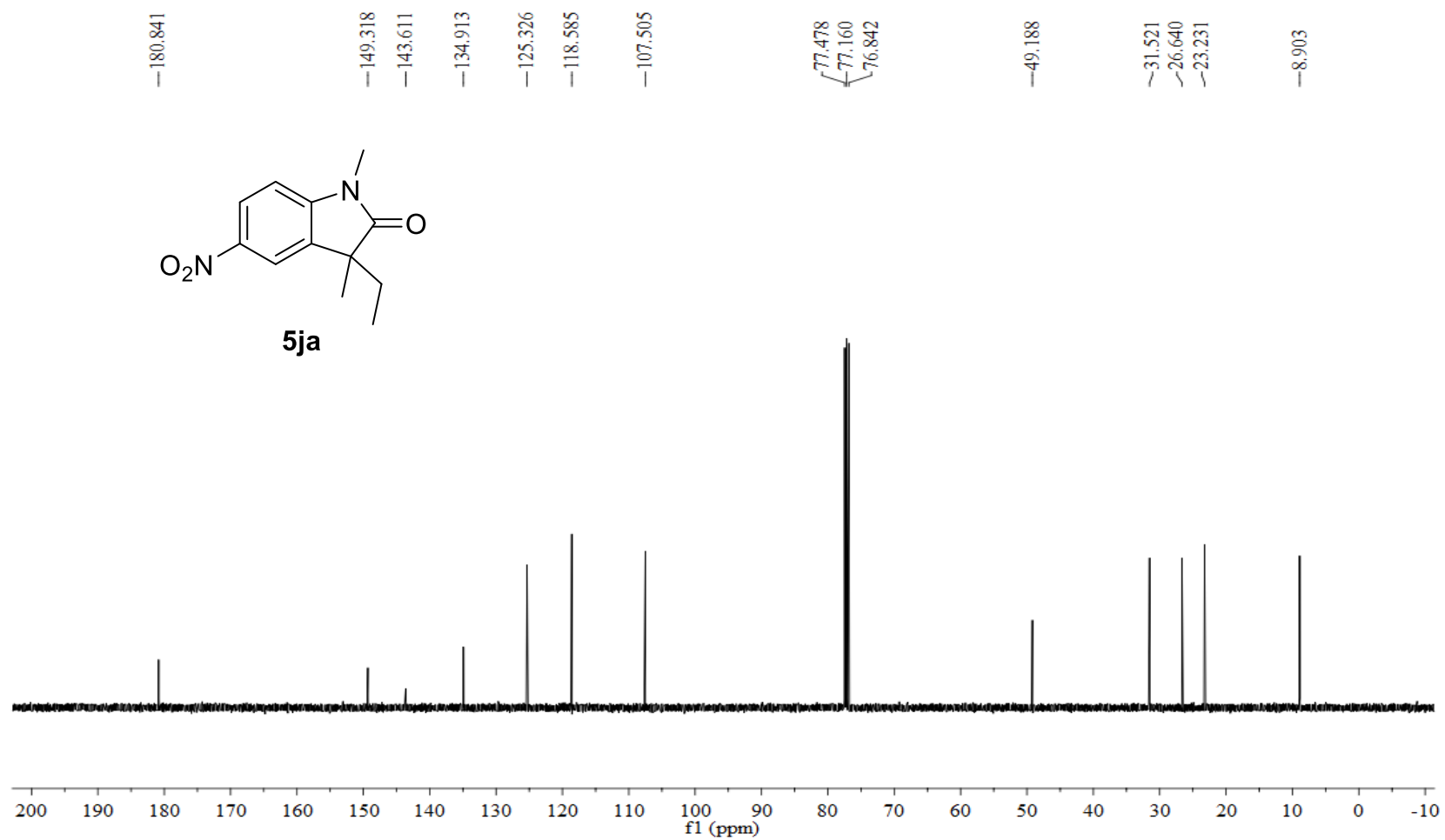


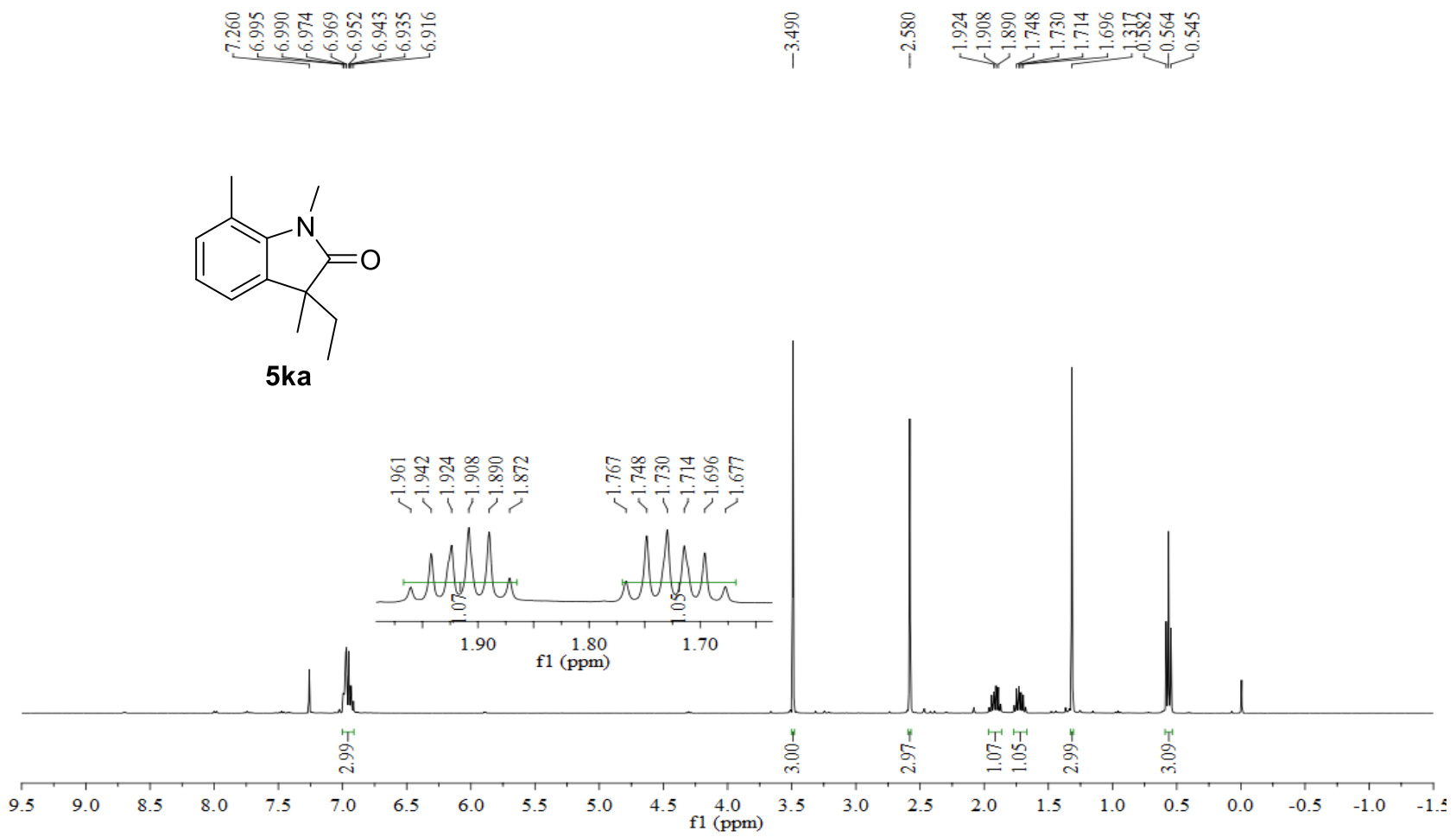


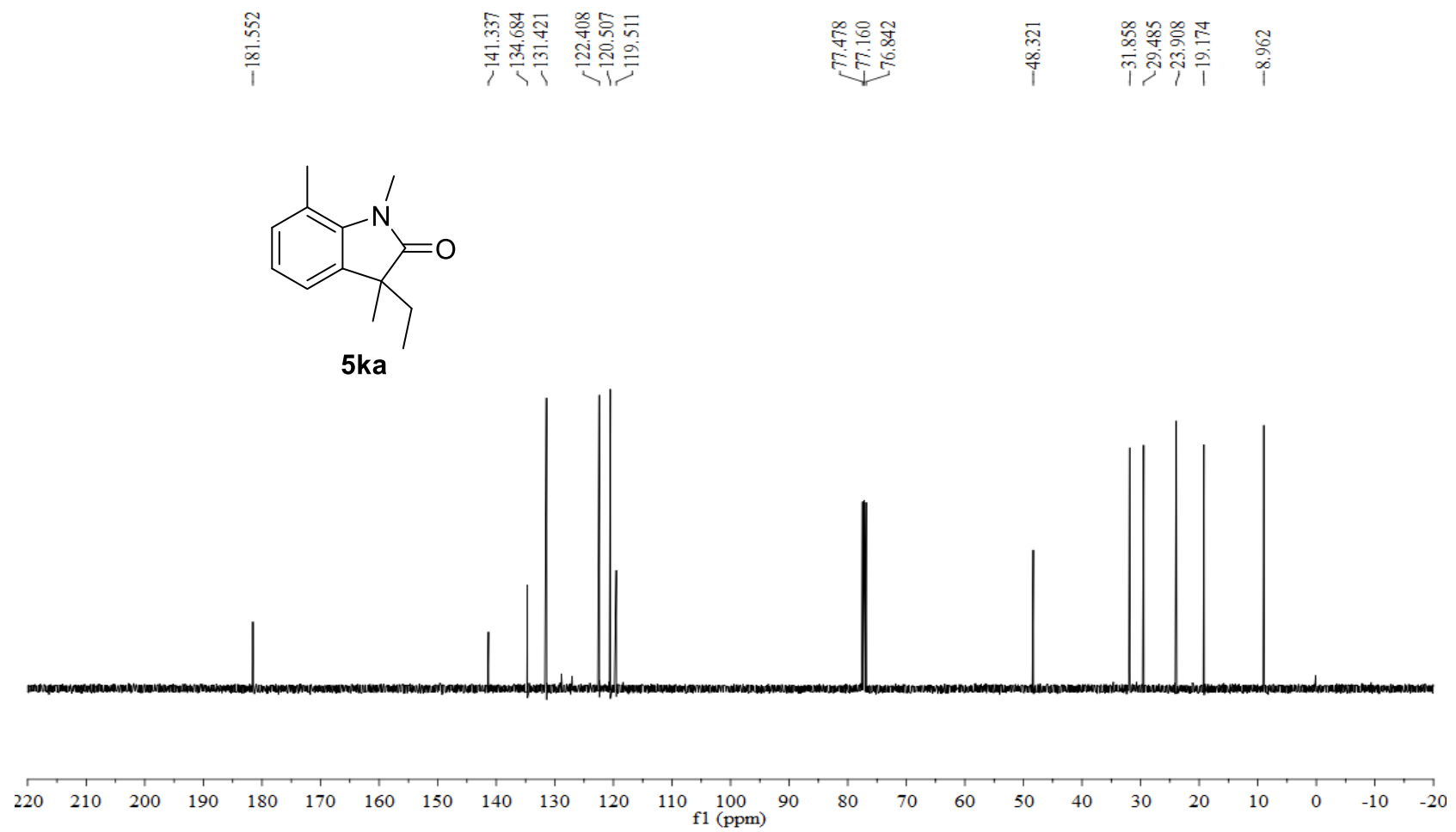


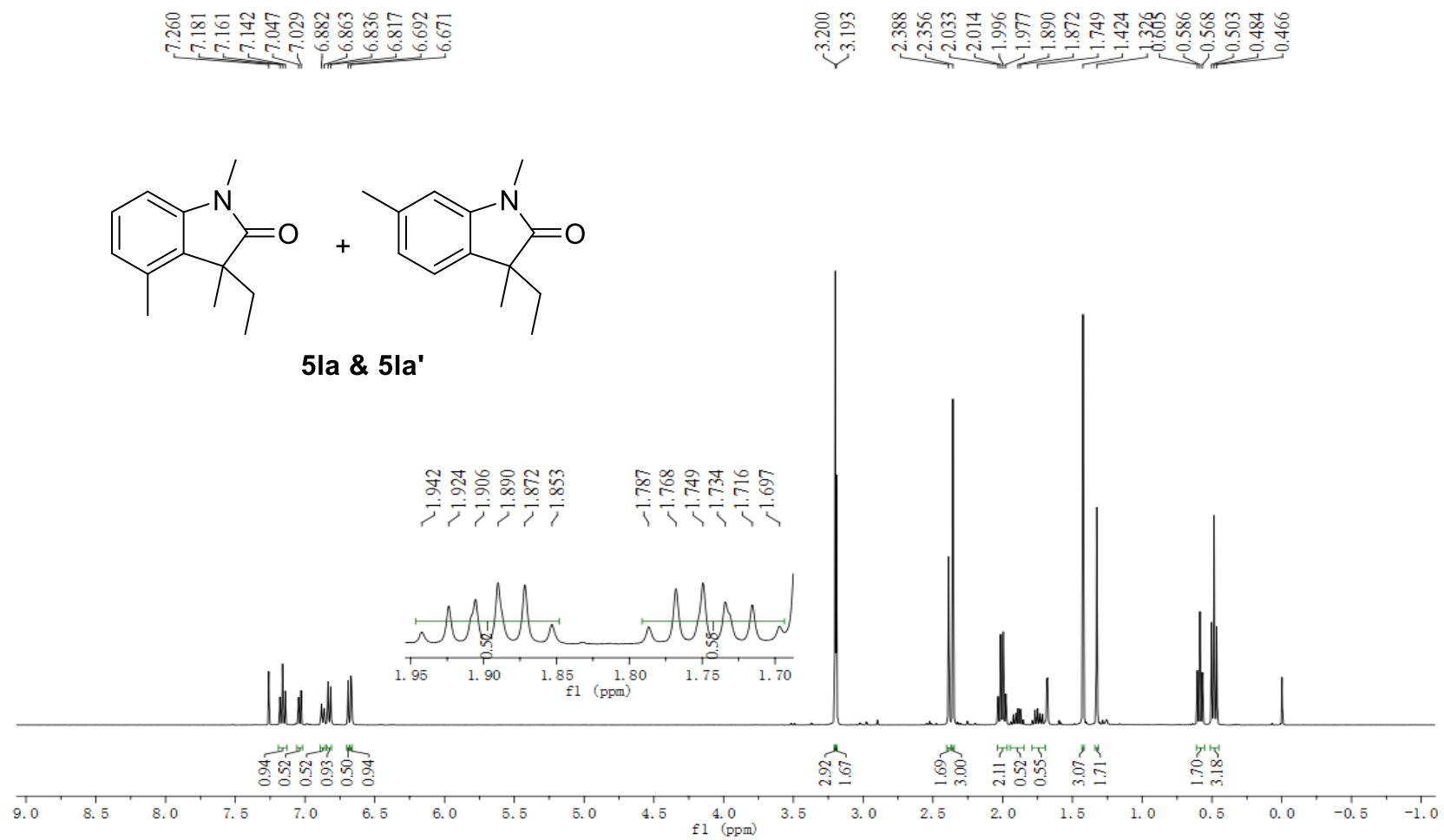


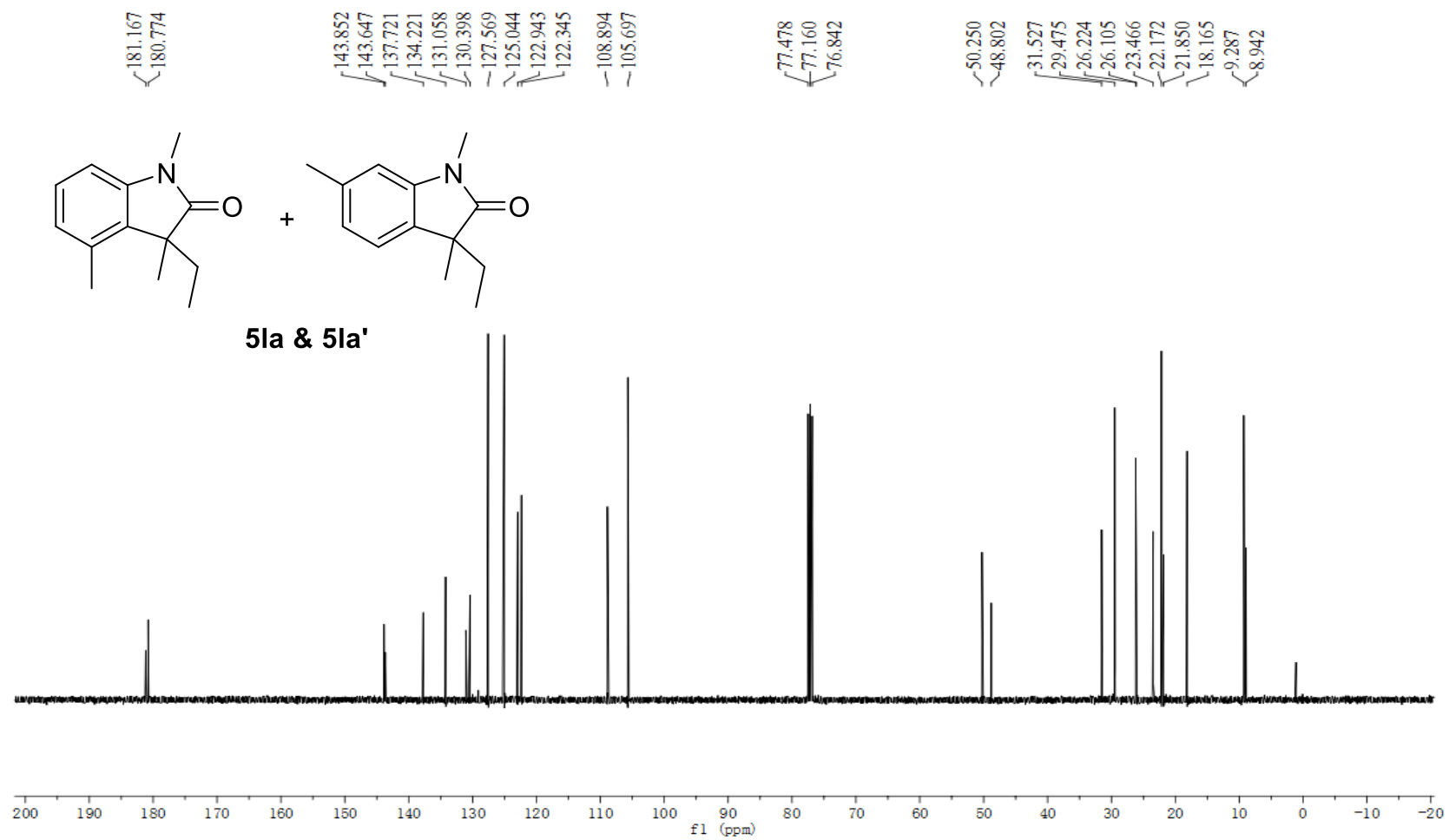


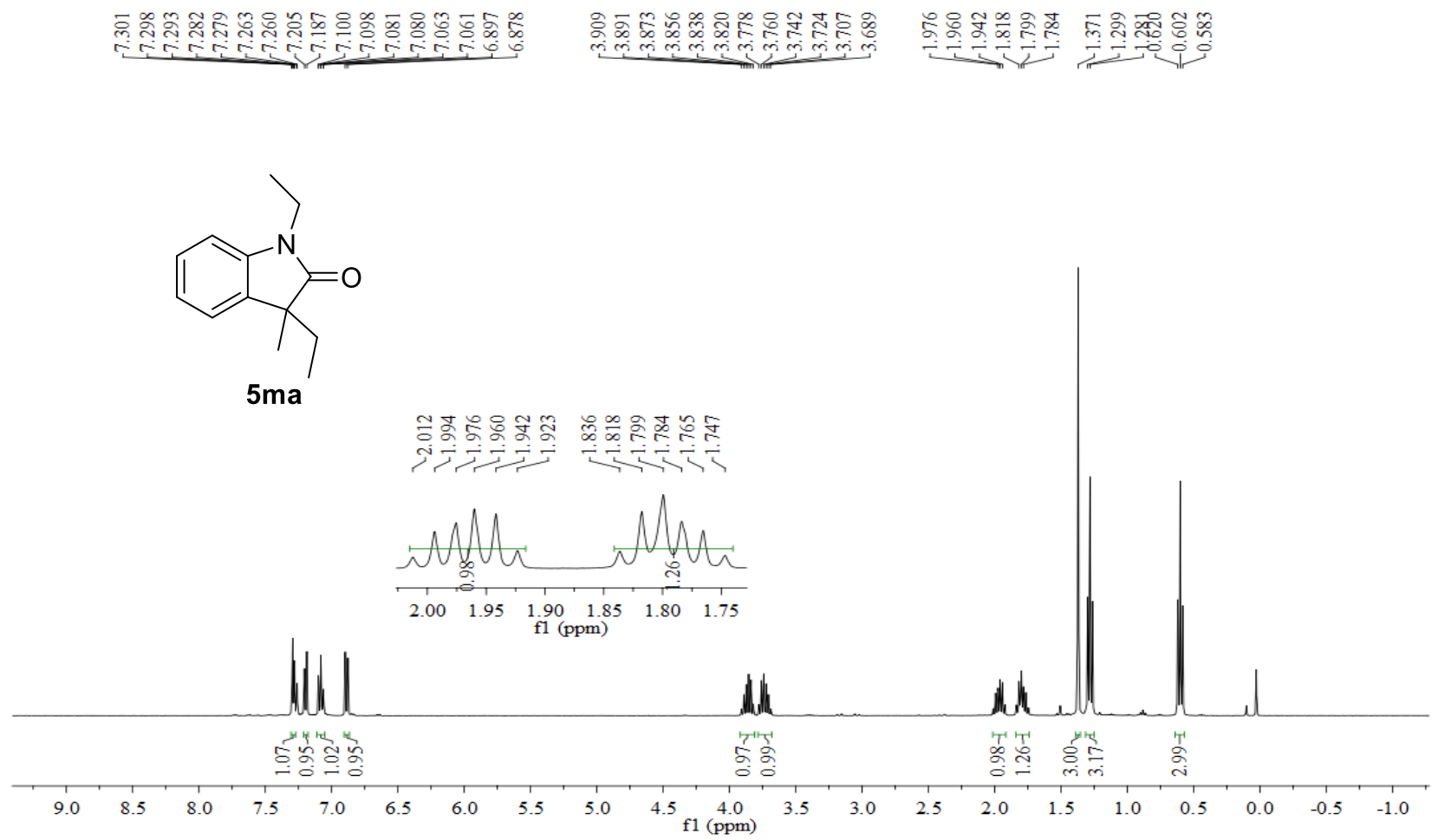


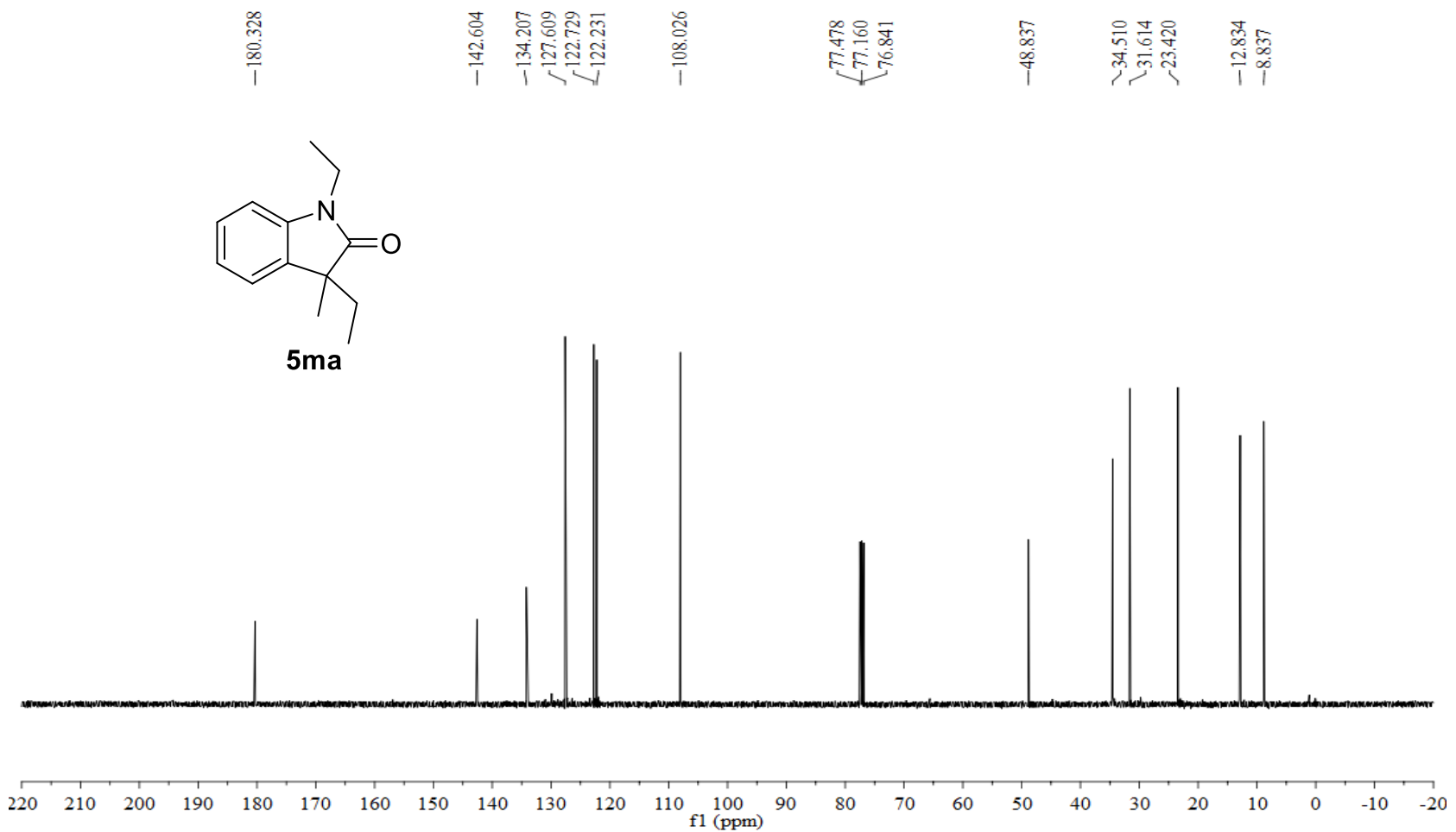
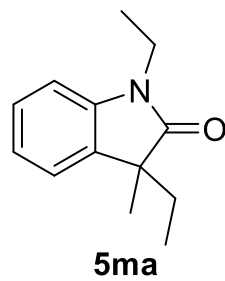


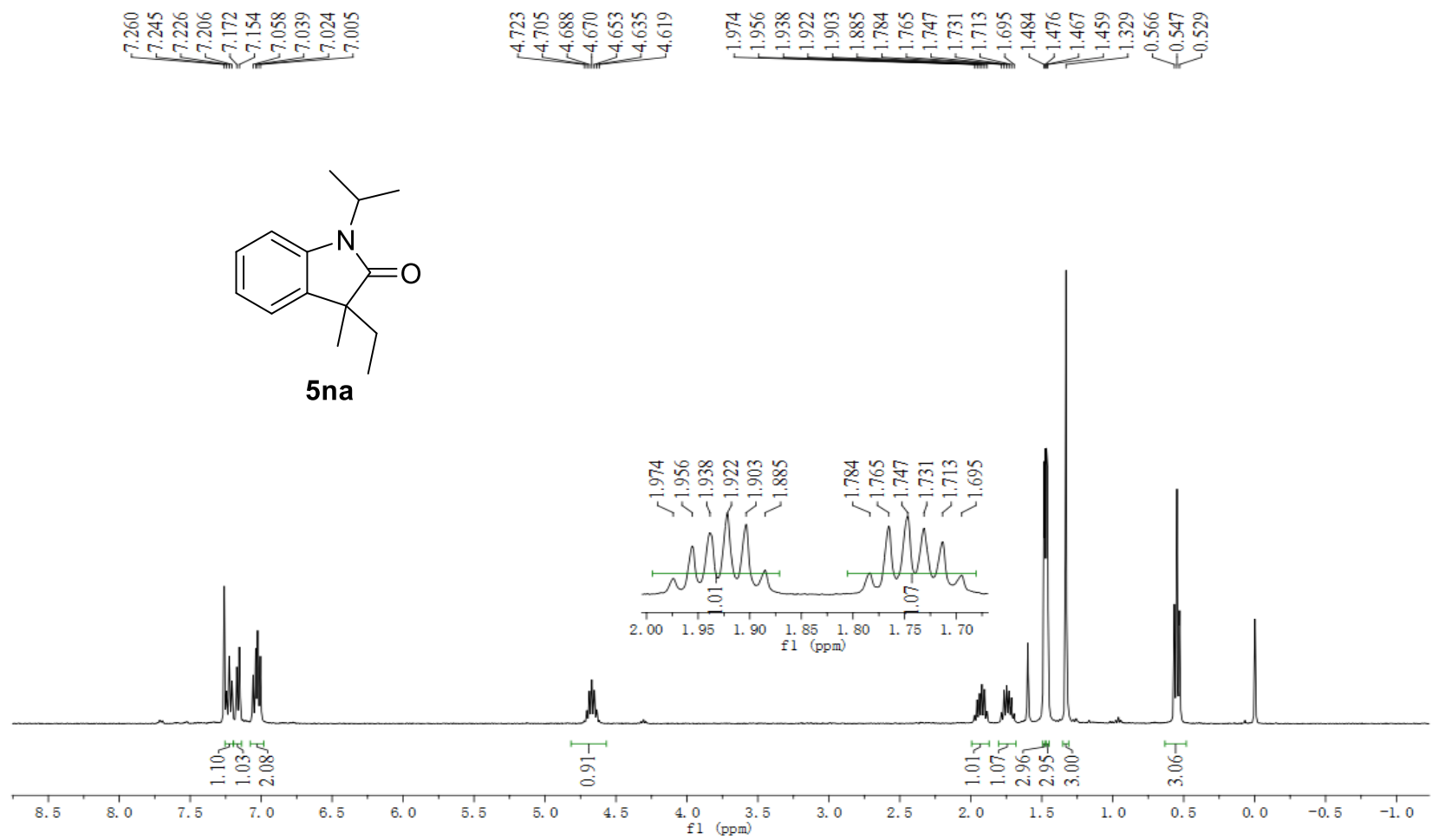




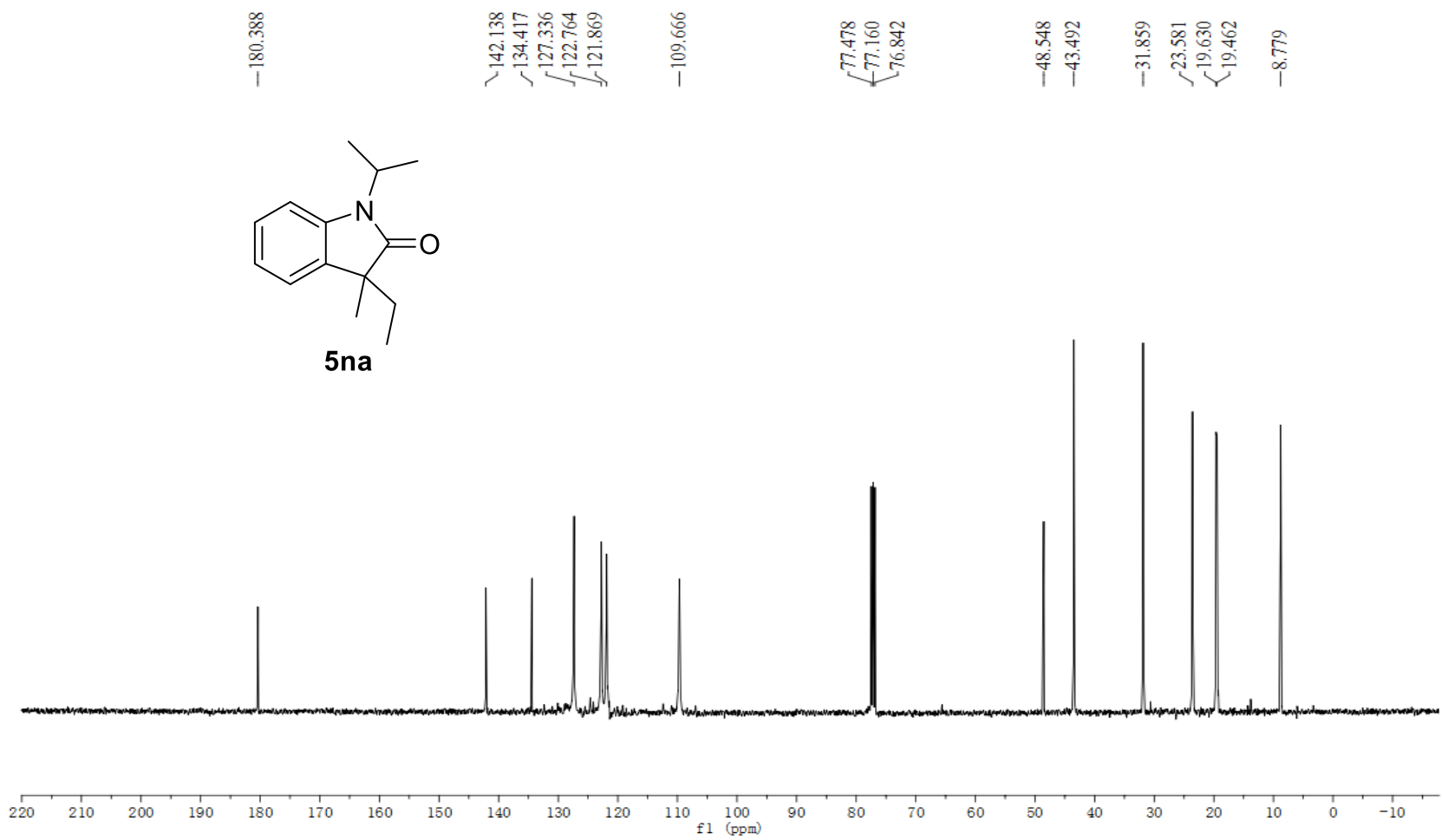


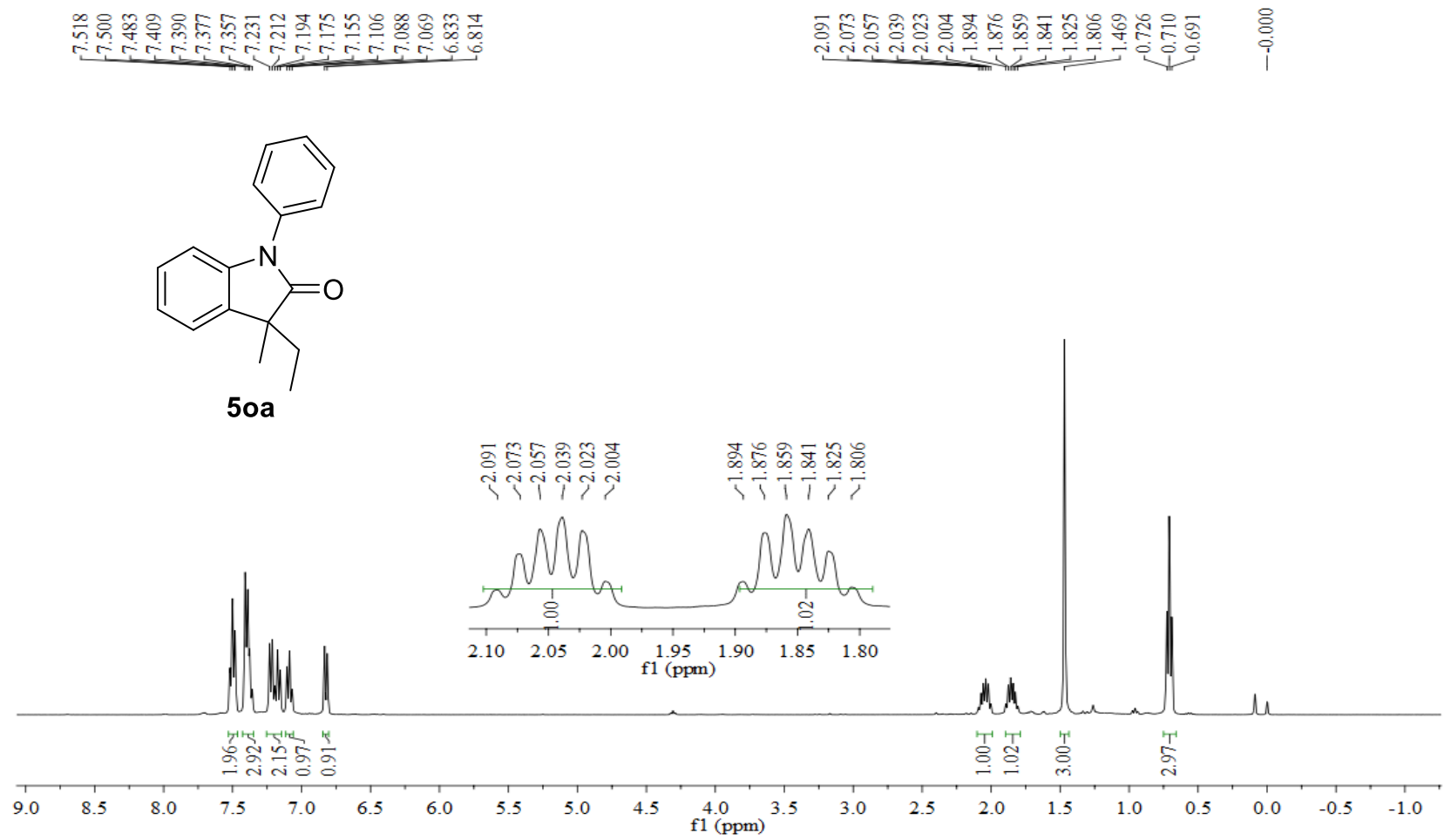


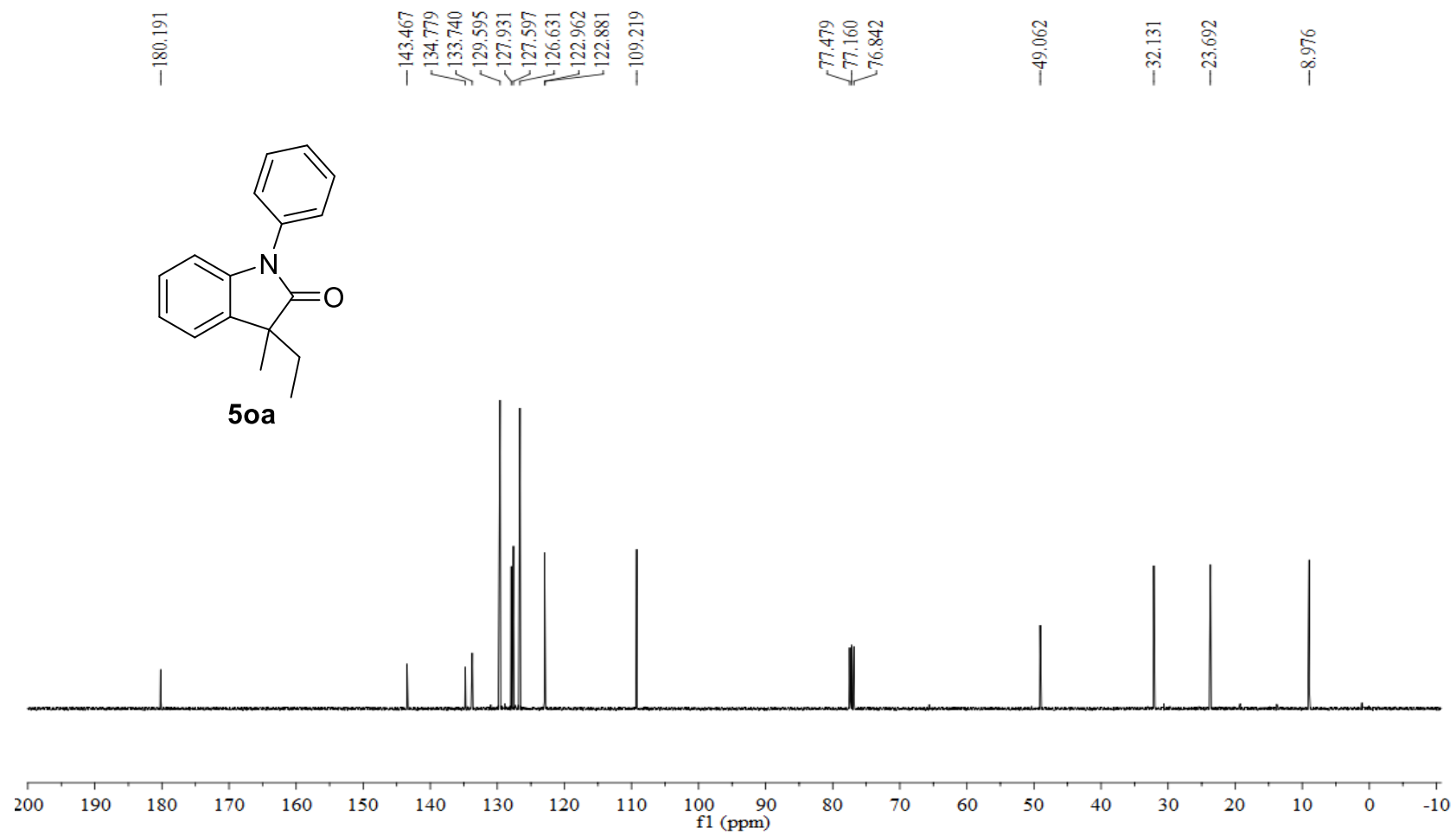


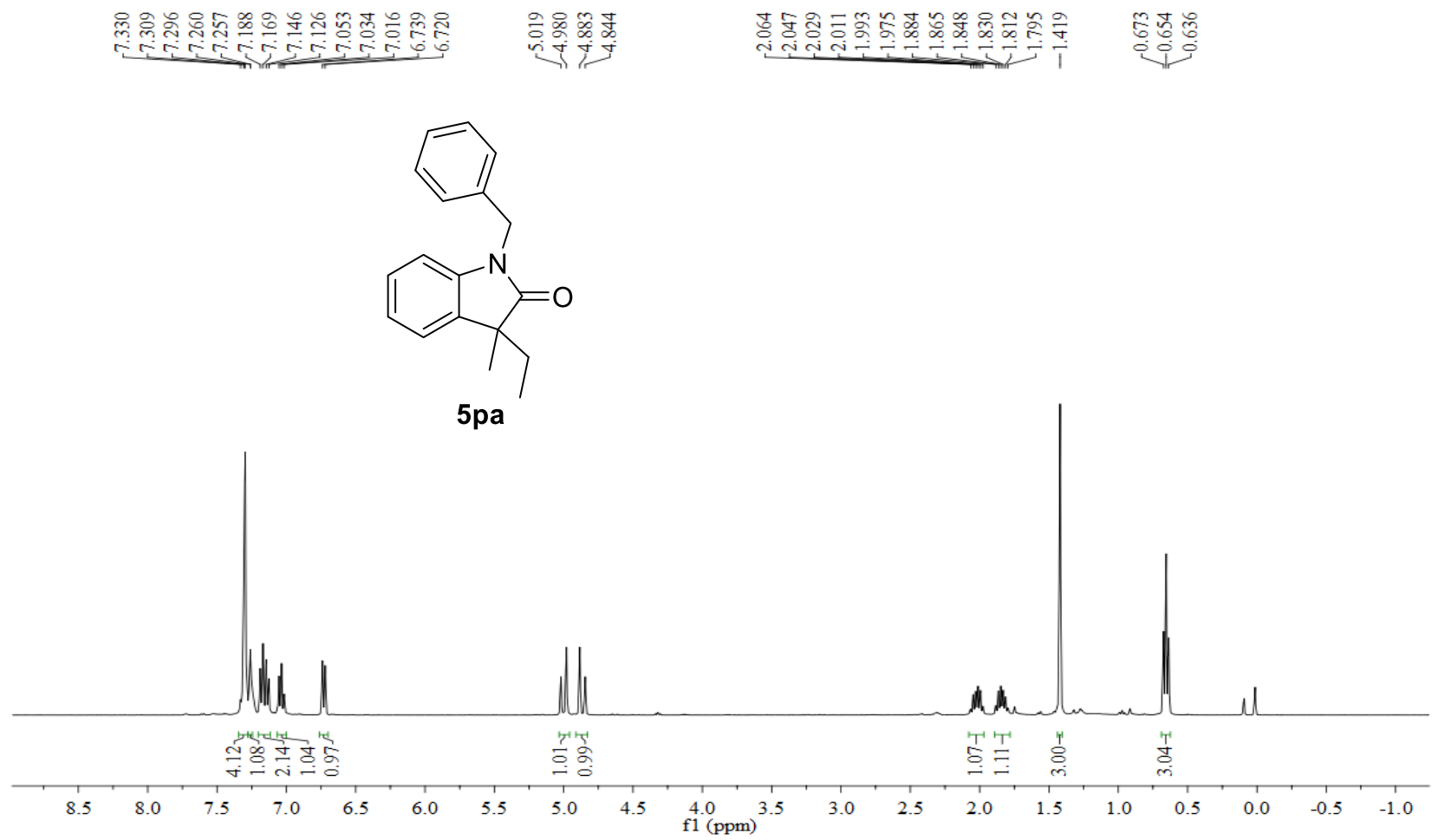


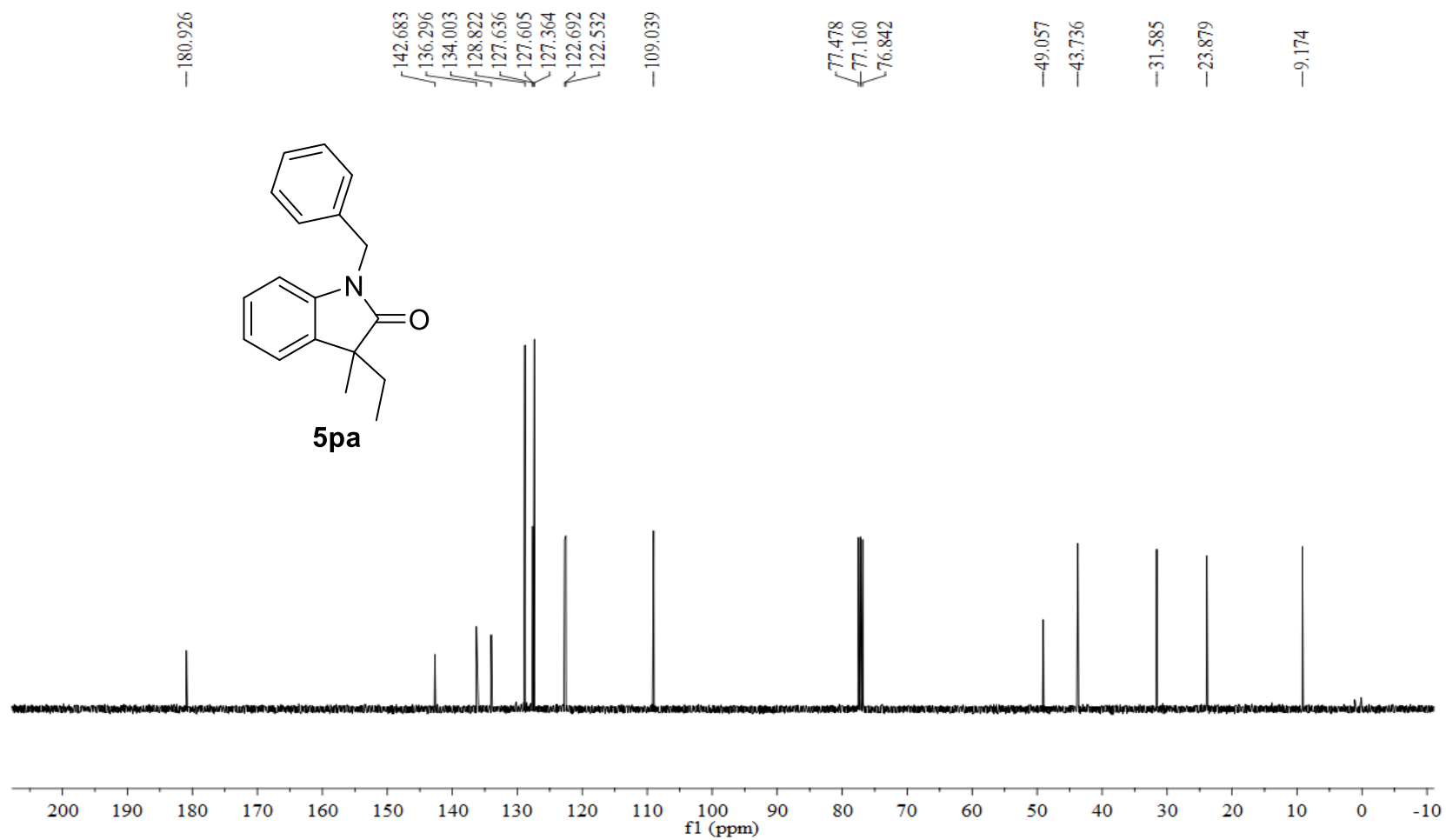


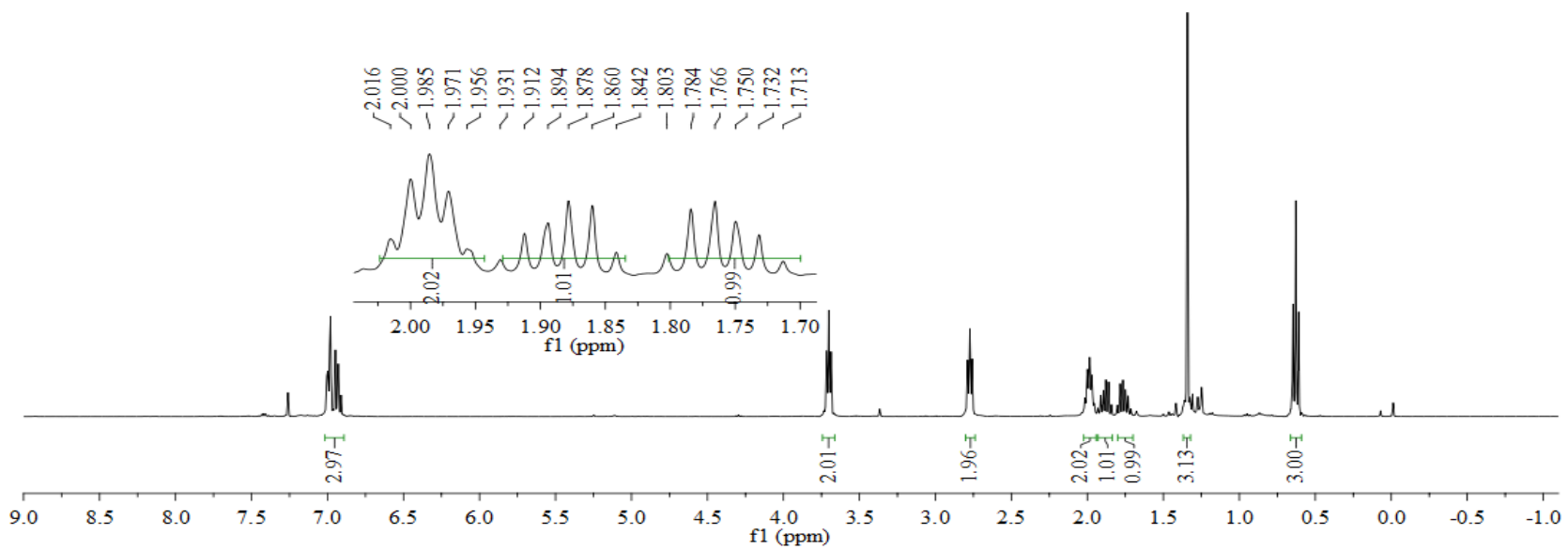


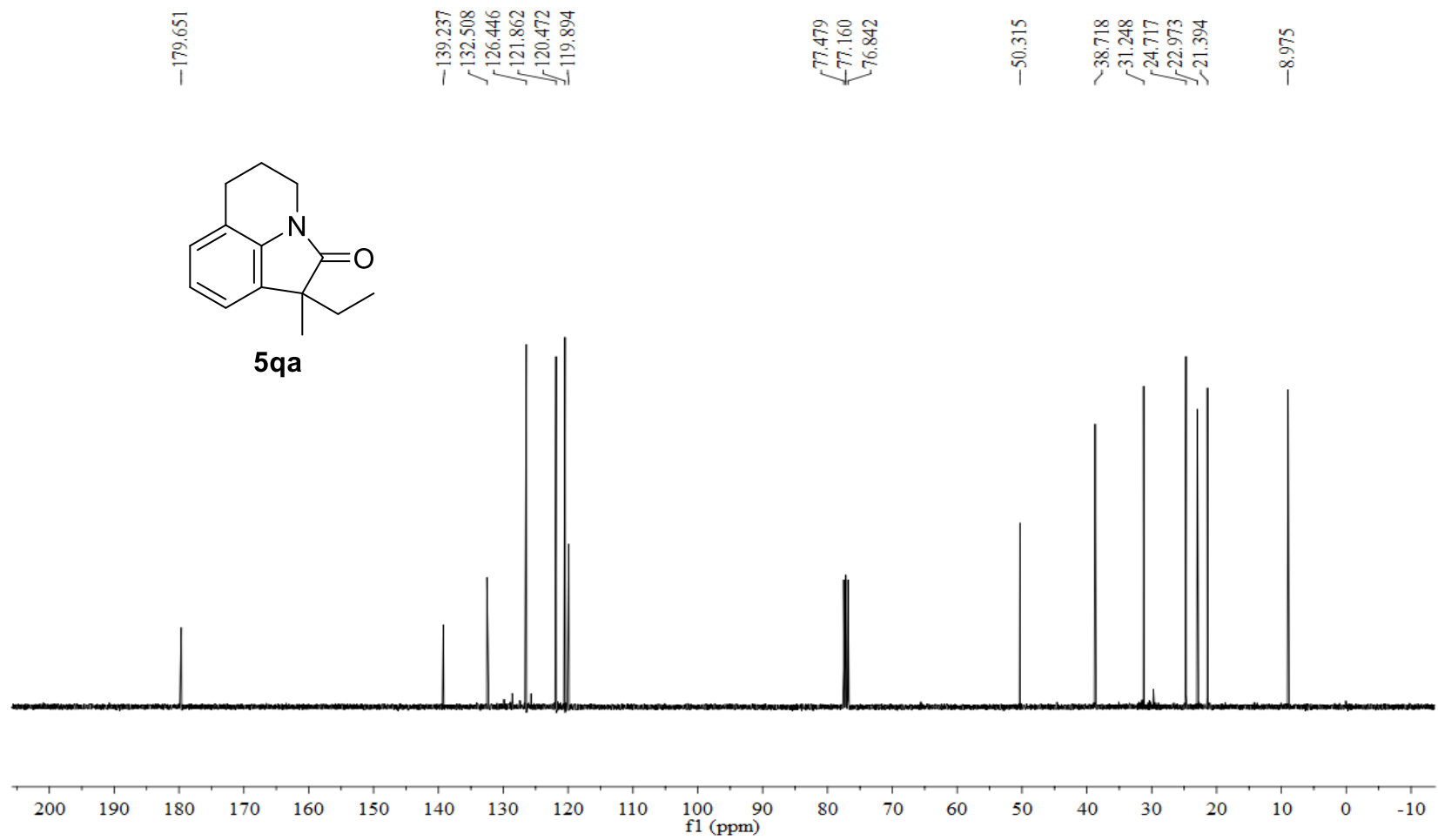


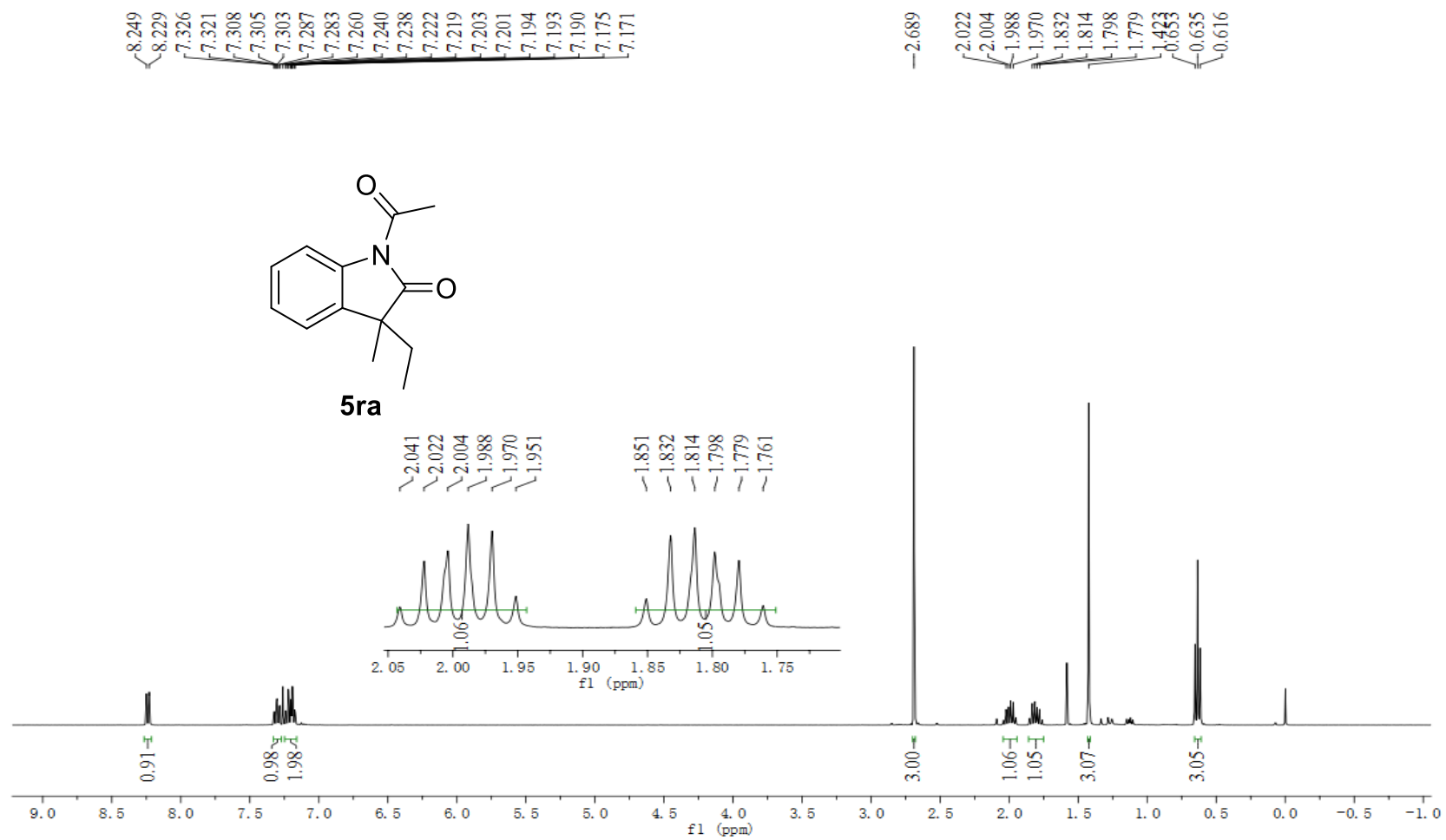














-181.801

-171.091

139.729

132.964

128.168

125.335

122.327

116.573

77.478

77.160

76.842

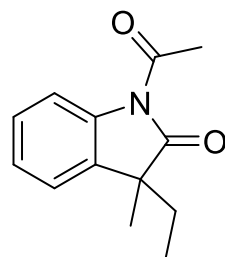
-49.502

-32.658

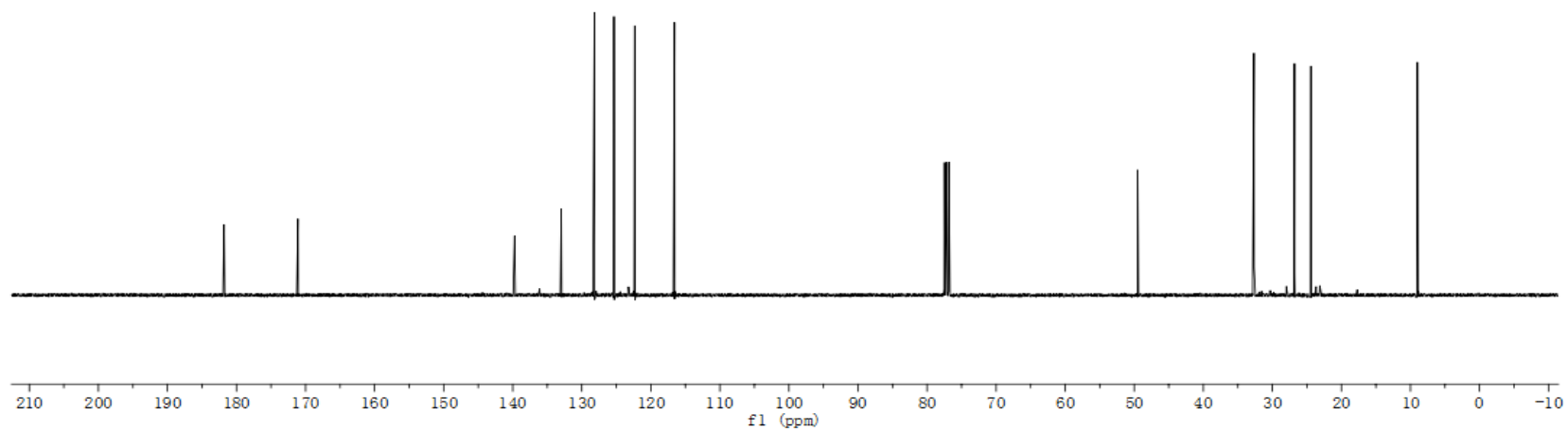
-26.786

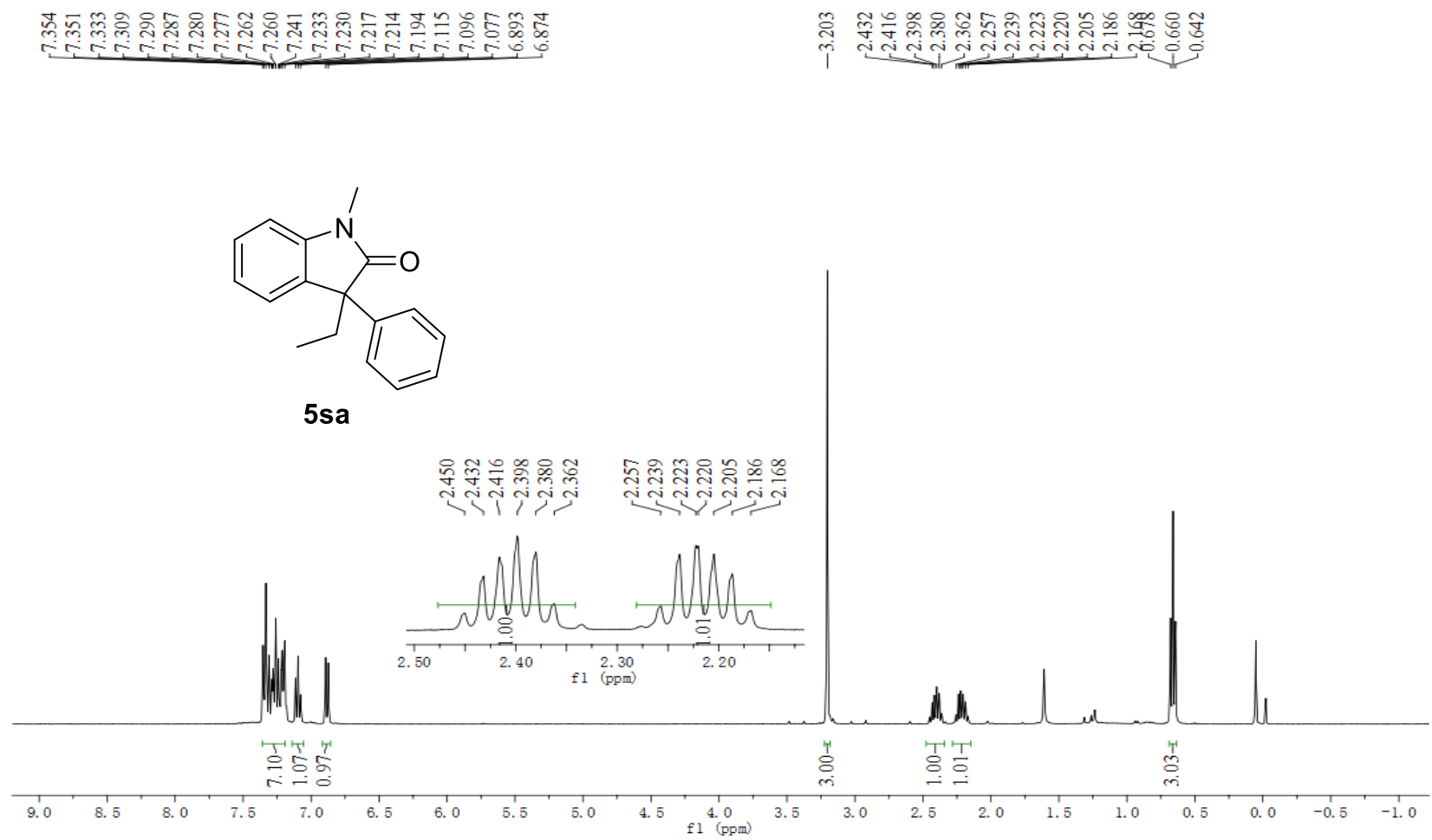
-24.413

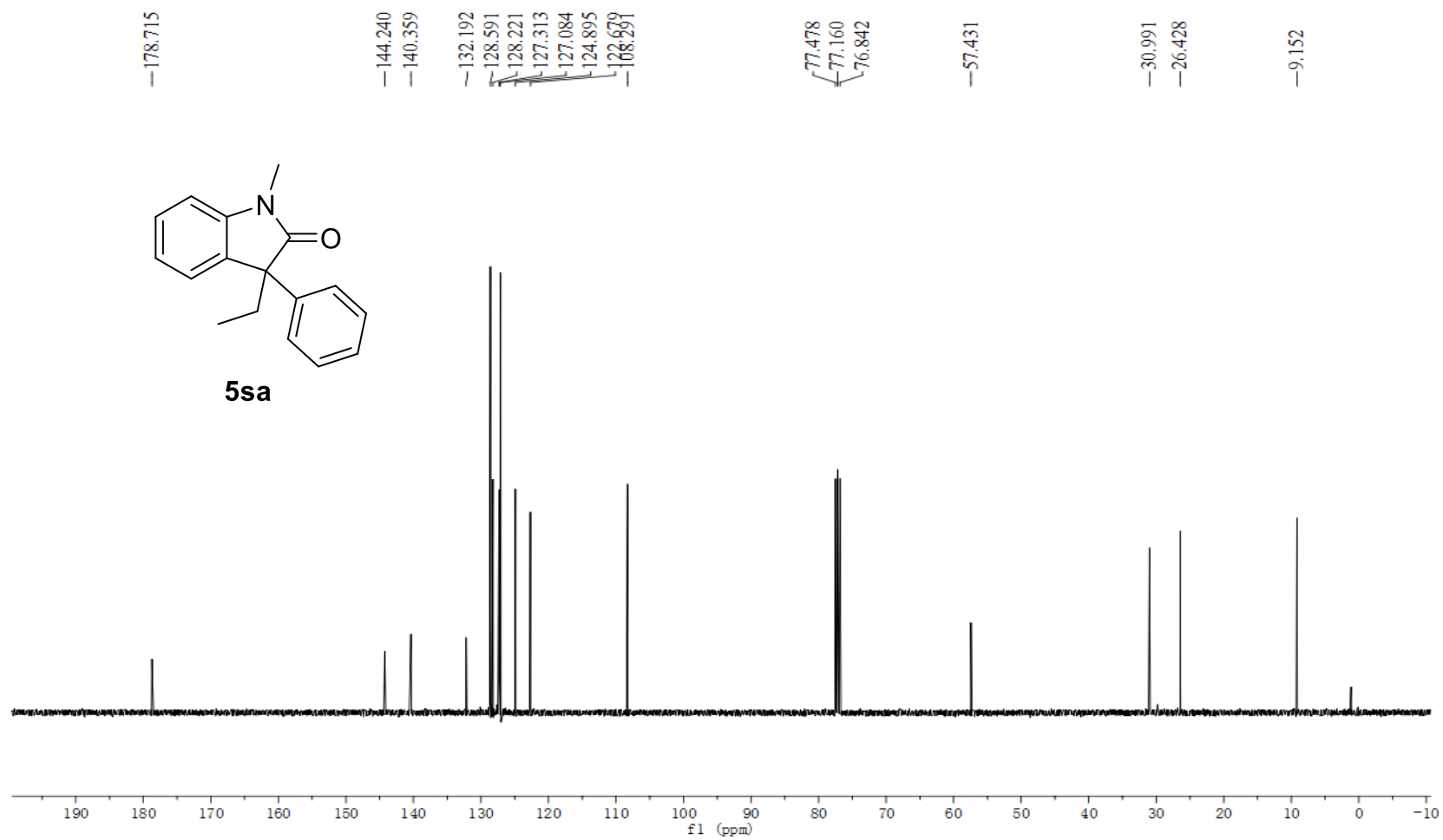
-8.988



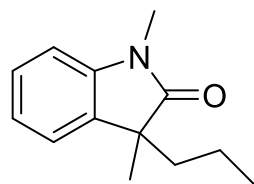
5ra





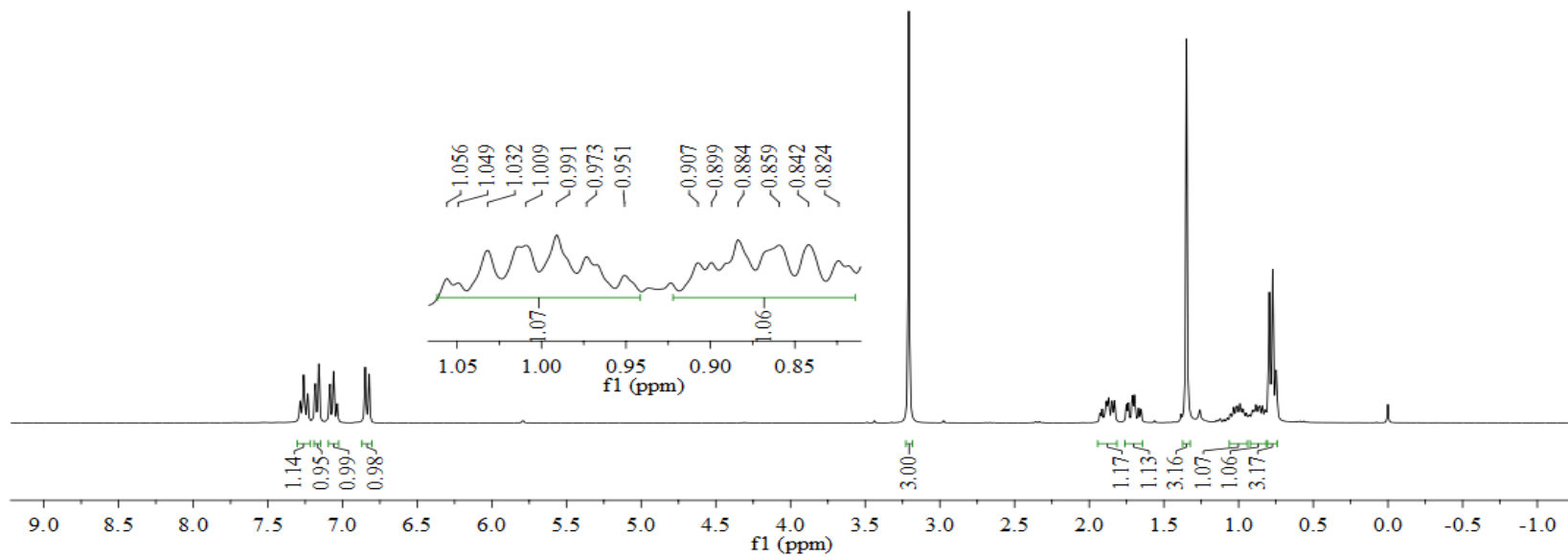


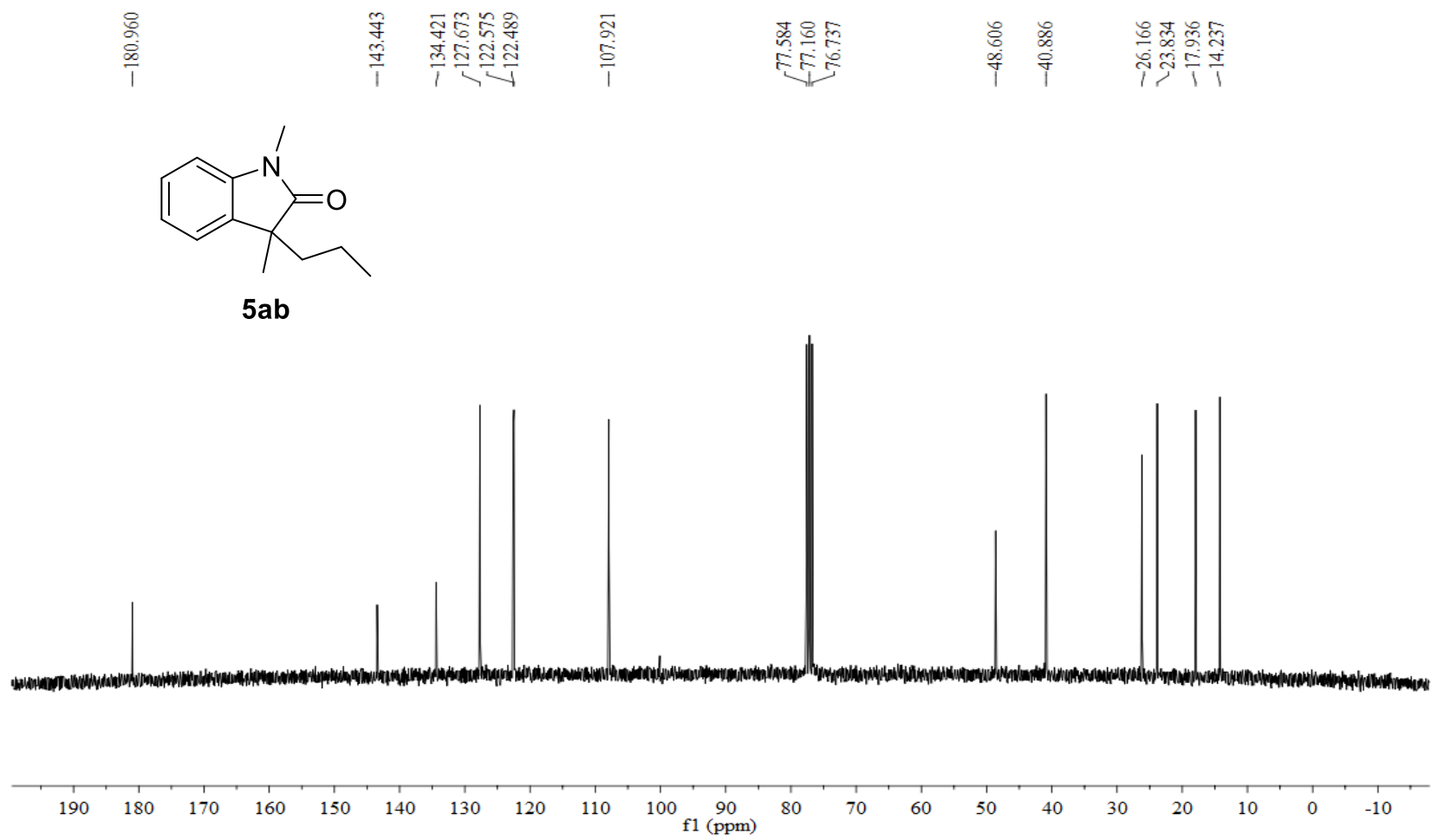
7.282  
7.260  
7.232  
7.182  
7.159  
7.084  
7.060  
7.035  
6.847  
6.822

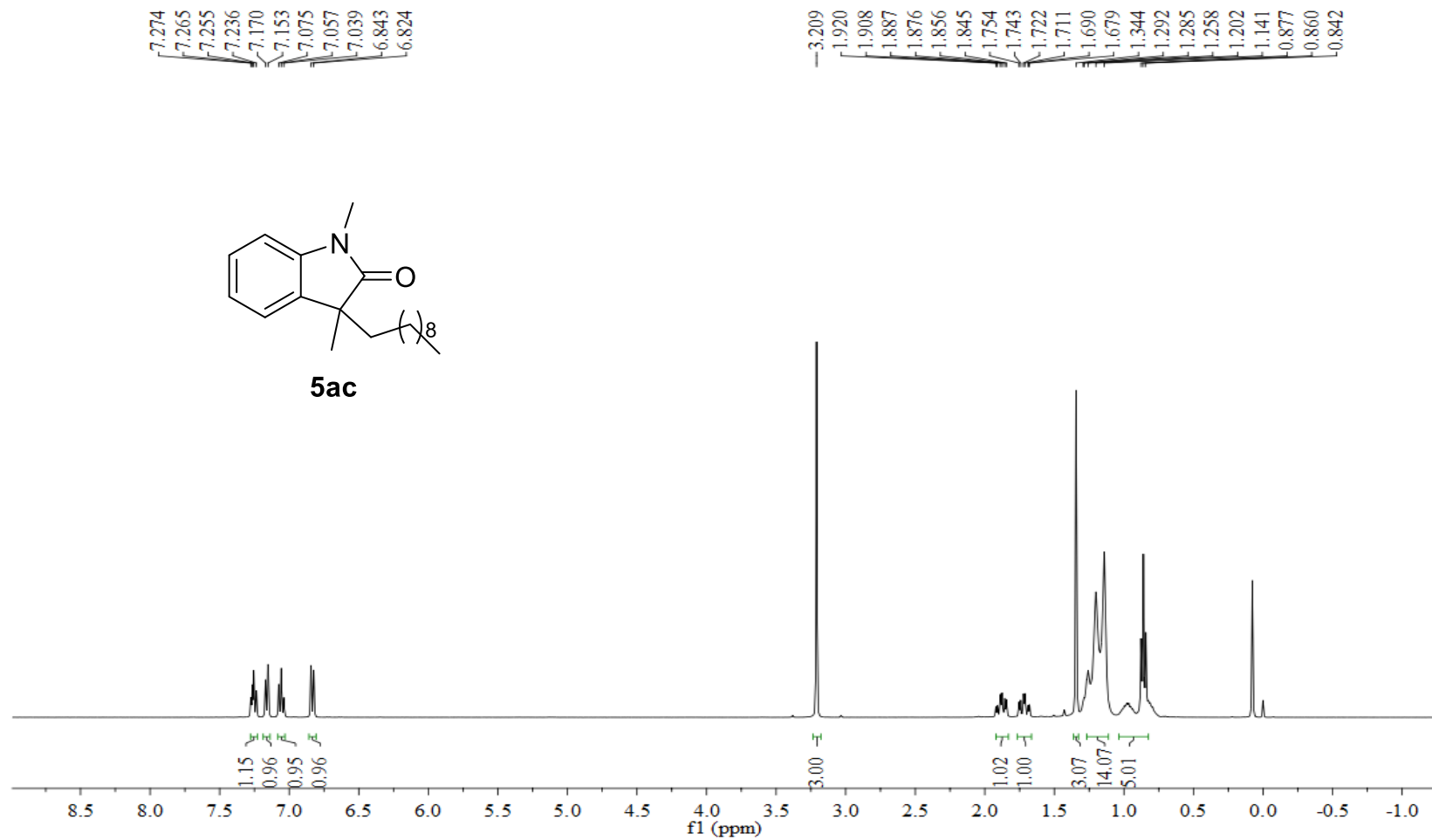


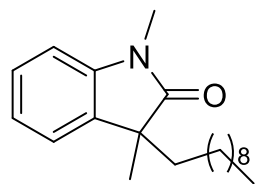
5ab

3.208  
1.913  
1.885  
1.870  
1.847  
1.831  
1.751  
1.738  
1.712  
1.697  
1.668  
1.653  
1.349  
1.032  
1.009  
-0.991  
-0.973  
-0.899  
-0.884  
-0.859  
-0.842  
-0.824  
-0.794  
-0.771  
-0.749

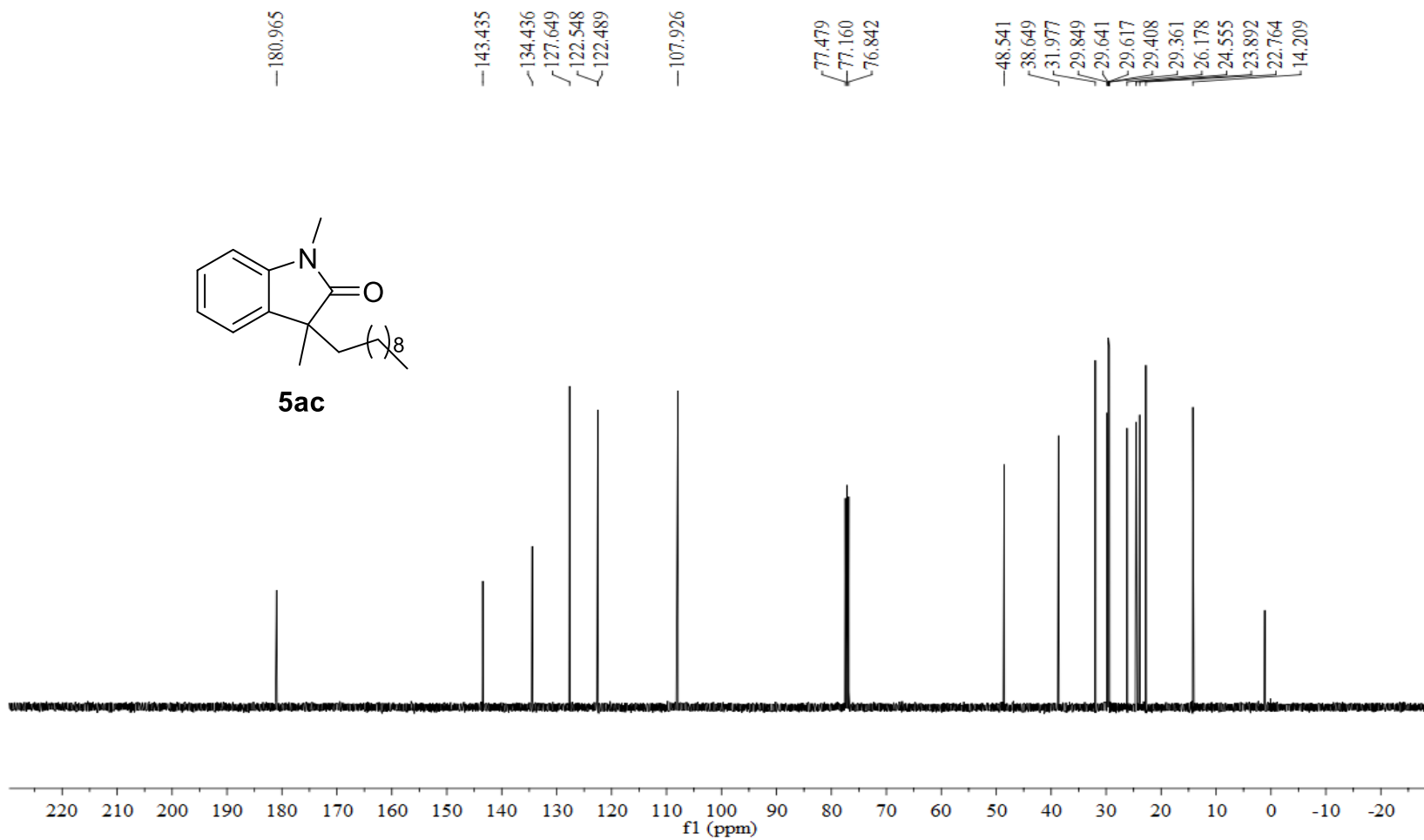


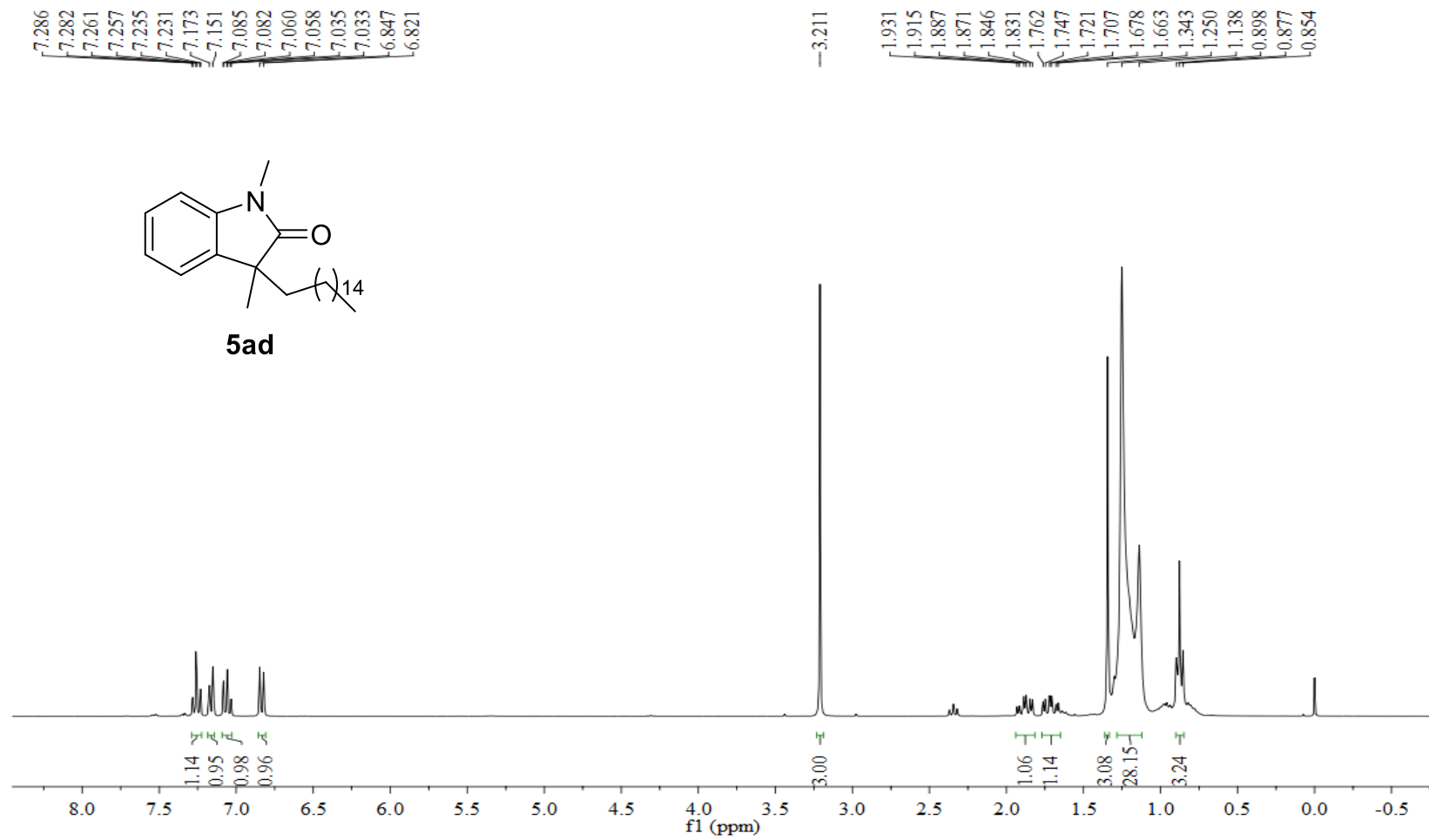




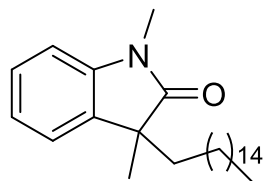


**5ac**

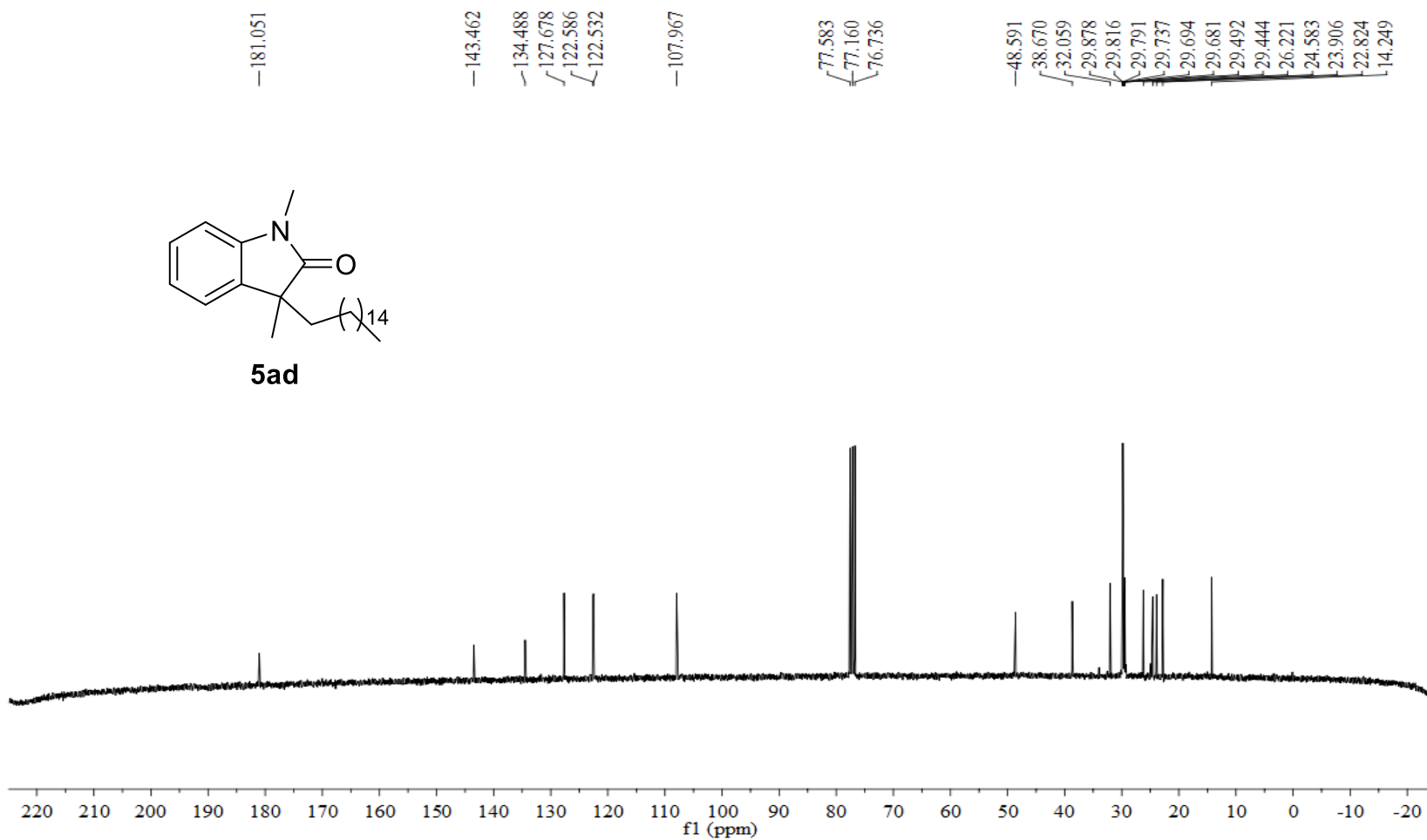


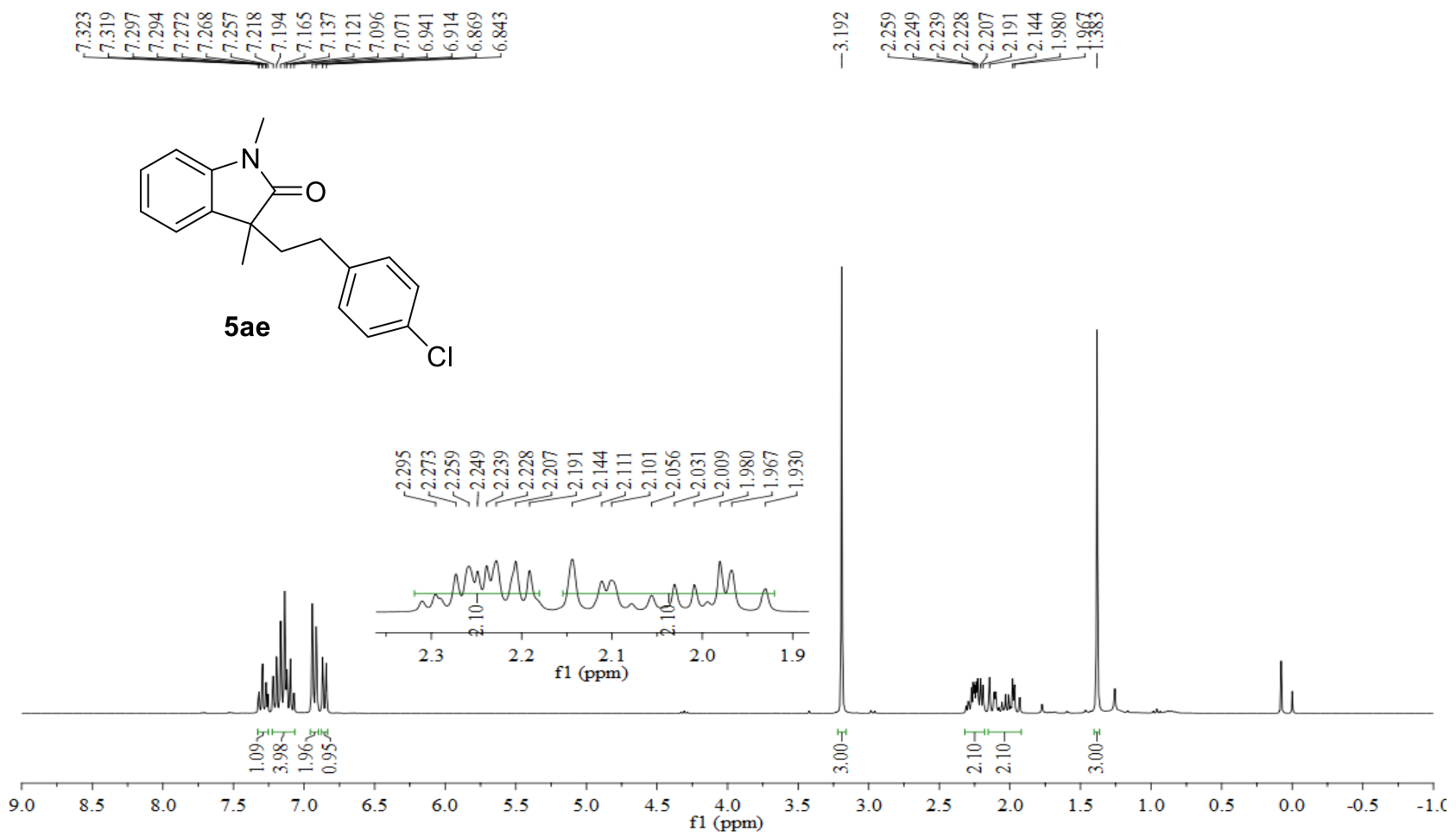


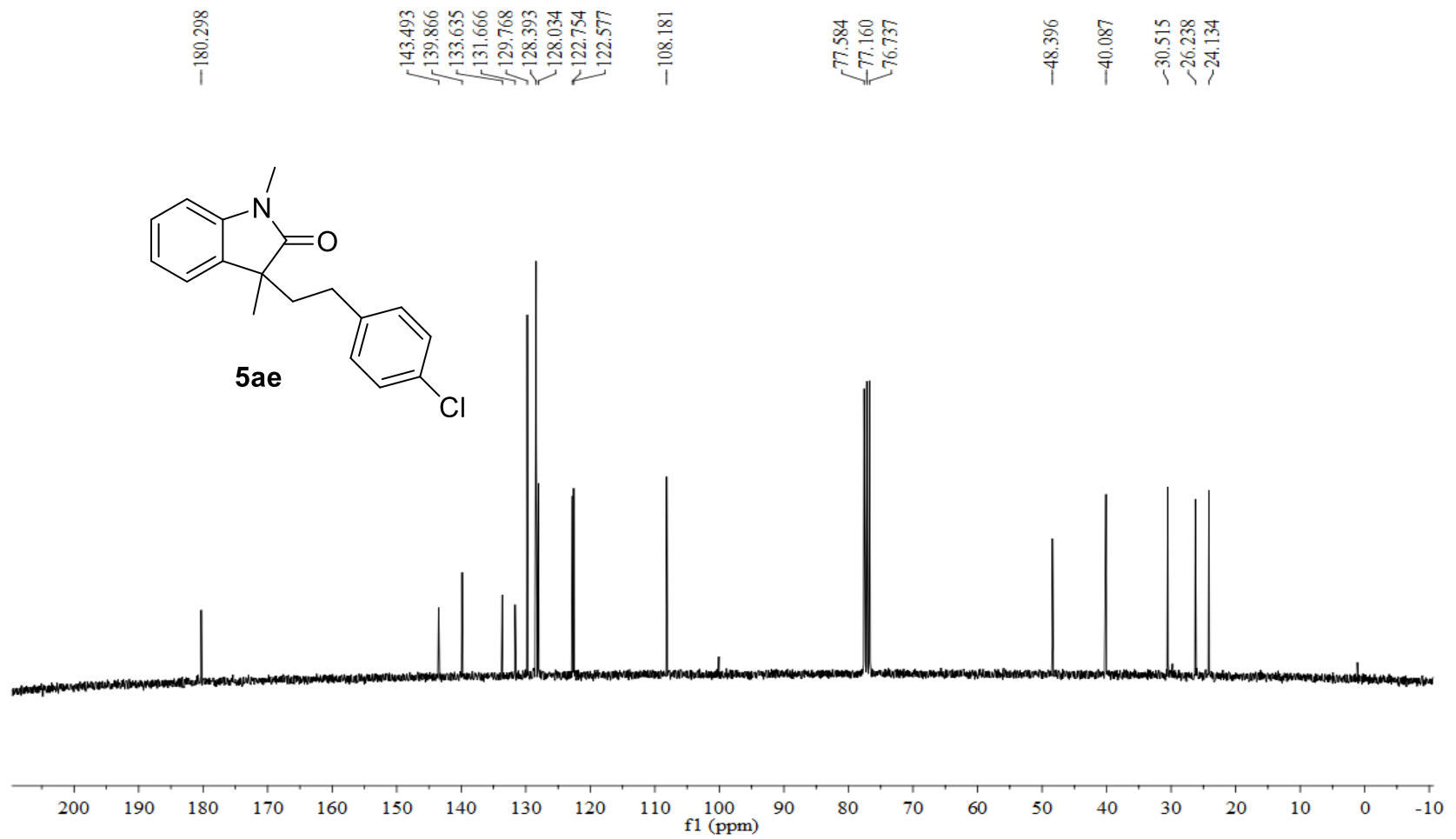


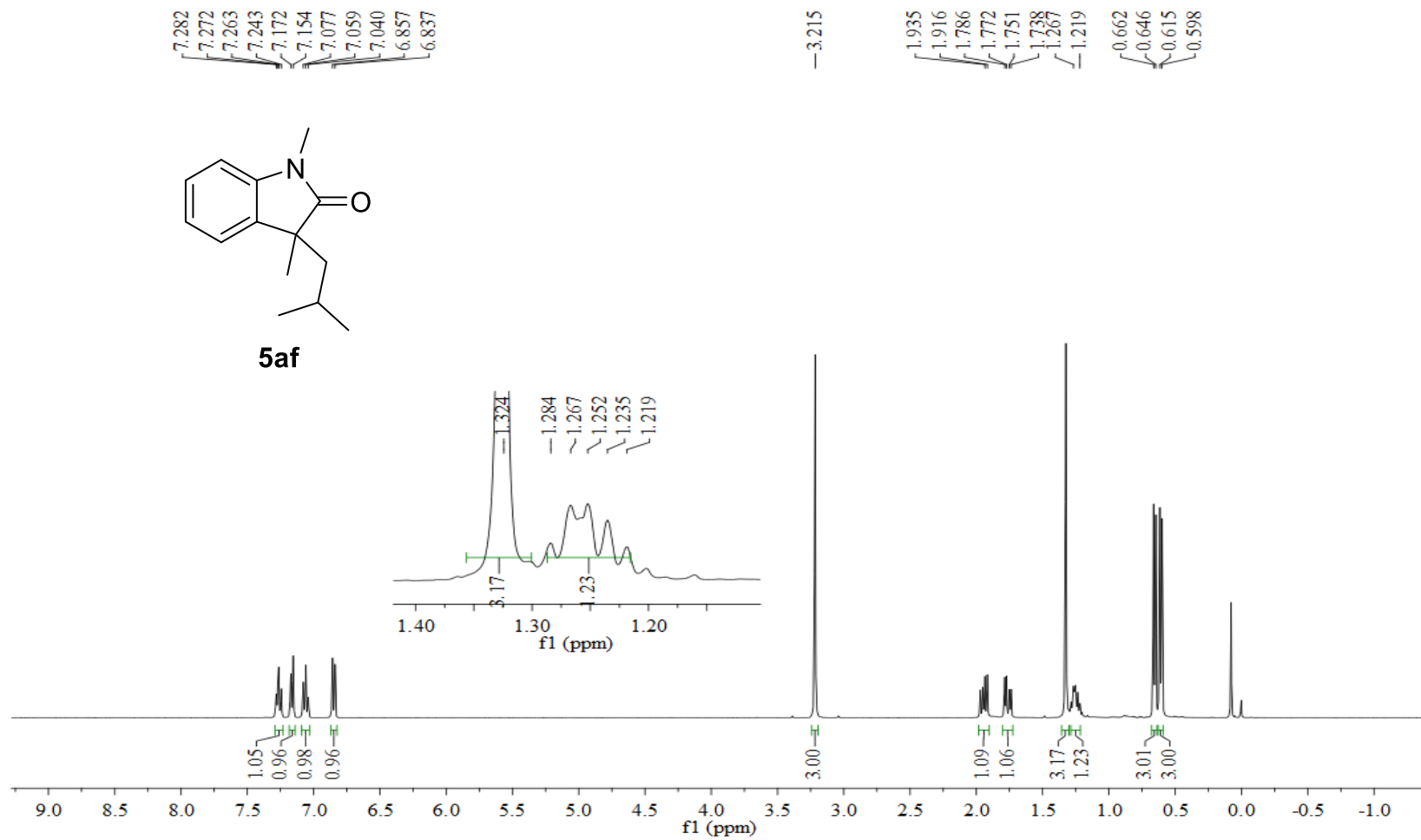


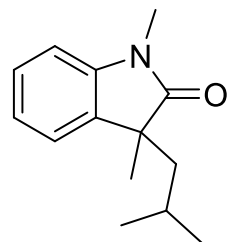
**5ad**











5af

