

Ruthenium(II)-catalyzed C–H olefination of indoles with alkynes: facile construction of tetrasubstituted alkenes under aqueous conditions

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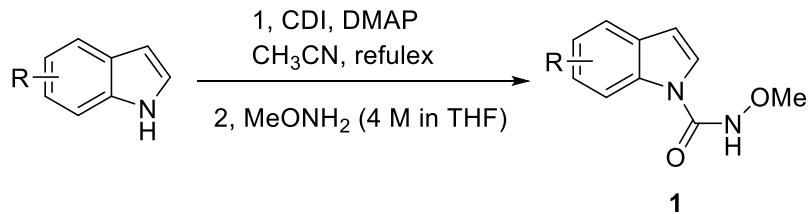
General methods

Unless noted, all commercial reagents and solvents were used without further purification. Melting points were recorded on a RY-1 microscopic melting apparatus and uncorrected. NMR spectra were recorded in DMSO on 400 MHz or 500 MHz spectrometers. ^1H NMR chemical shifts (δ) are reported in parts per million relative to tetramethylsilane (0 ppm) or residual DMSO (2.50 ppm). ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts are reported relative to the center line signal of the DMSO multiplet at 39.5 ppm. The following abbreviations are used for multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, dd = doublet of doublets, and m = multiplet. Mass spectra were obtained on an Ultima Global spectrometer with an ESI source. The X-ray single-crystal diffraction was performed on Saturn 724+ instrument. Silica gel (200–300 mesh) for column chromatography and silica GF254 for TLC were produced by Qingdao Marine Chemical Company (China).

Preparation of the starting materials

Preparation of substrates 1

The *N*-methoxy-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamides **1** were prepared according to previously described methods.^[1]

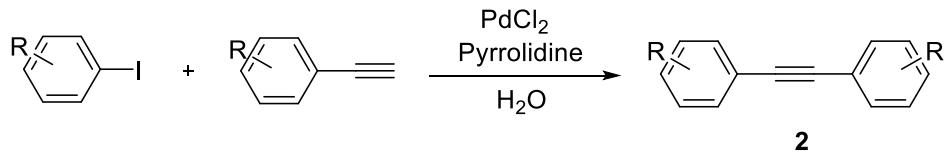


Preparation of MeONH₂ solution: To a 100 mL round bottle charged with a stirring bar was added MeONH₂·HCl (80.0 mmol) and THF (20 mL). To the system was then added sodium hydroxide (powder, 1.0 equiv). The system was then stirred at room temperature for about 3 h until the system became clear.

Preparation of *N*-methoxy-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamides: To a 100 mL round bottle charged with stirring bar, was added indole (5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 1, 1'-carbonyldiimidazole (CDI, 7.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP, 5.0 mol %). Then anhydrous acetonitrile (20 mL) was added to the bottle under the protection of nitrogen. The system was refluxed at 85 °C for 10 h. After cooled to room temperature, MeONH₂ solution (4 M in THF, 2 equiv) was added and then stirred at 80 °C for another 6 h (when most of indole was consumed as detected by TLC). After cooled to room temperature, the solvents were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica chromatography to afford the corresponding *N*-methoxy-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamides **1a–1w**.

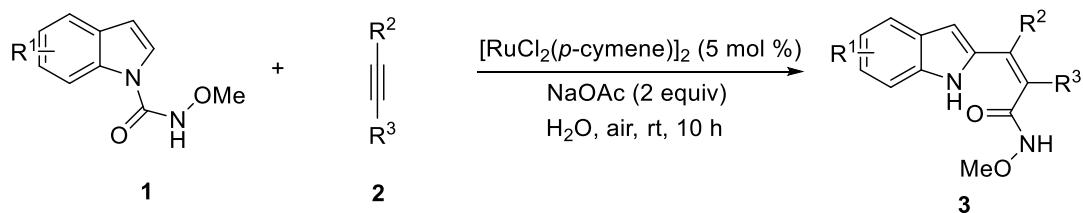
Preparation of substrates 2

The alkynes **2** were prepared according to previously described methods.^[2]



To a 100 mL round bottle charged with a stirring bar was added iodobenzene (2.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), PdCl_2 (2.0 mol %), H_2O (2.5 mL) and pyrrolidine (10 mmol, 5.0 equiv). The system was stirred at 50 °C for 5 min. To the system was then added terminal alkyne (2.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv). The system was then stirred at 50 °C for 12 h. After cooled to room temperature, the reaction mixture was then extracted with DCM, and the extract was dried over MgSO_4 . The solvents were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica chromatography to afford the corresponding alkynes **2b-2j**, **2l-2n**, **2p**.

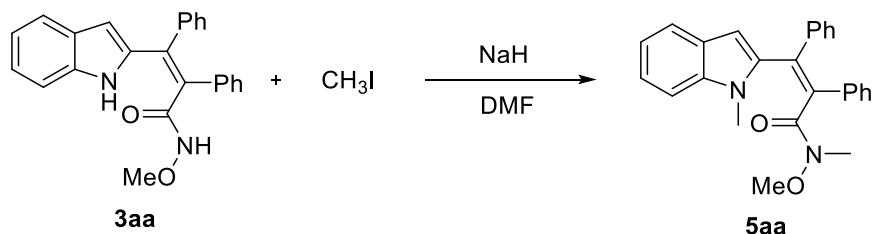
General procedure for the synthesis of compounds **3**



To a solution of *N*-methoxy-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamides **1** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), alkynes **2** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in H_2O (1.0 mL) was added $[\text{RuCl}_2(\text{p-cymene})]_2$ (5.0 mol %). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 h. After filtration, the residual solids were purified by silica chromatography to afford the products **3**.

General procedure for the synthesis of compounds **5aa**

The compounds **5aa** was prepared according to previously described methods.^[3]



To a solution of NaH (60% dispersion oil in mineral oil, 3.0 mmol, 3.0 equiv) in DMF at 0 °C was added (*Z*)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide **3aa** (1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature. The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C and was added methyl iodide (2.4 mmol, 2.4 equiv) dropwise. The mixture was stirred at room tempearture for 3 h. The crude reaction mixture was treated with saturated NH_4Cl solution (10 mL) and the aqueous phase was extracted with diethyl ether (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over MgSO_4 and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica chromatography to afford the product **5aa** (81%, 0.32 g) as a yellow solid.

References

- [1] W. J. Kong, X. G. Chen, M. M. Wang, H. X. Dai, and J. Q. Yu, *Org. Lett.*, 2018, **20**, 284.
- [2] B. Liang, M. Dai, J. Chen and Z. Yang, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2005, **70**, 391.
- [3] A. Acharya, D. Anumandla, and C. S. Jeffrey, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2015, **137**, 14858.

Molecular structure and crystallographic data of 5aa

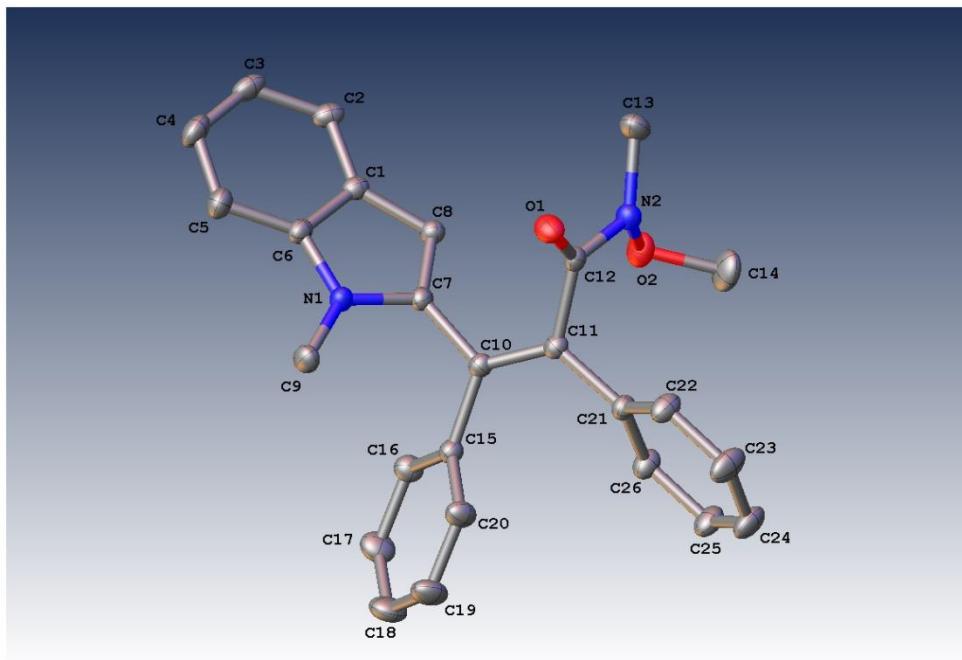


Figure S1. X-ray crystal structure

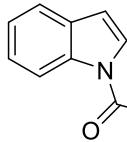
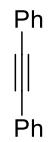
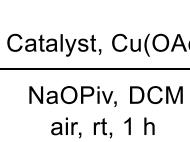
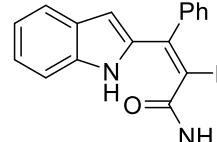
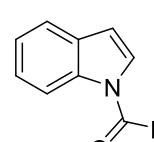
Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement

Empirical formula	C ₂₆ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₂		
CCDC number	1883916		
Formula weight	396.47		
Temperature	170.00(10) K		
Wavelength	1.54184 Å		
Crystal system	Triclinic		
Space group	P -1		
Unit cell dimensions	a = 9.7780(2) Å	b = 10.6122(2) Å	c = 11.1756(2) Å
			α = 103.0430(10)°. β = 104.128(2)°. γ = 92.353(2)°.
Volume	1089.87(4) Å ³		
Z	2		
Density (calculated)	1.208 Mg/m ³		
Absorption coefficient	0.607 mm ⁻¹		
F(000)	420		

Crystal size	0.321 x 0.311 x 0.201 mm ³
Theta range for data collection	4.206 to 75.299°.
Index ranges	-12<=h<=12, -12<=k<=13, -13<=l<=13
Reflections collected	12136
Independent reflections	4259 [R(int) = 0.0164]
Completeness to theta = 67.684°	99.0 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	1.00000 and 0.79521
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²
Data / restraints / parameters	4259 / 0 / 274
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.066
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0395, wR2 = 0.1026
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0430, wR2 = 0.1067
Extinction coefficient	n/a
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.248 and -0.174 e.Å ⁻³

Optimization of reaction conditions

Catalyst^{a,b}

				
1a	2a		3aa	4
Entry	Catalyst		3aa	4
1	[RuCl ₂ (<i>p</i> -cymene)] ₂		43%	13%
2	[Cp*RhCl ₂] ₂		35%	9%
3	[Cp*IrCl ₂] ₂		trace	-
4 ^c	Cp*Co(CO)I ₂		n.r	-
5 ^c	RuCl ₂ (PPh ₃) ₃		n.r	-
6 ^c	Ru(OAc) ₂ (PPh ₃) ₂		n.r	-
7 ^d	[RuCl ₂ (<i>p</i> -cymene)] ₂		27%	8%
8	none		n.r	-

^aConditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), **2a** (0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv), catalyst (5.0 mol %), Cu(OAc)₂ (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NaOPiv (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv), DCM (1.0 mL), air, rt, 1 h. ^bIsolated yields.

^cCatalyst (10.0 mol %). ^d[RuCl₂(*p*-cymene)]₂ (2.5 mol %).

Oxidant^{a,b}

$\text{1a} + \text{2a} \xrightarrow[\text{air, rt, 1 h}]{[\text{RuCl}_2(p\text{-cymene})]_2, \text{Oxidant, NaOPiv, DCM}} \text{3aa} + \text{4}$

Entry	Oxidant	3aa	4
1	Cu(OAc)_2	43%	13%
2	AgOAc	38%	16%
3	Co(OAc)_2	trace	-
4	<i>m</i> -CPBA	49%	14%
5	$\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$	41%	11%
6	none	54%	12%

^aConditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), **2a** (0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv), $[\text{RuCl}_2(p\text{-cymene})]_2$ (5.0 mol %), Oxidant (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NaOPiv (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv), DCM (1.0 mL), air, rt, 1 h. ^bIsolated yields.

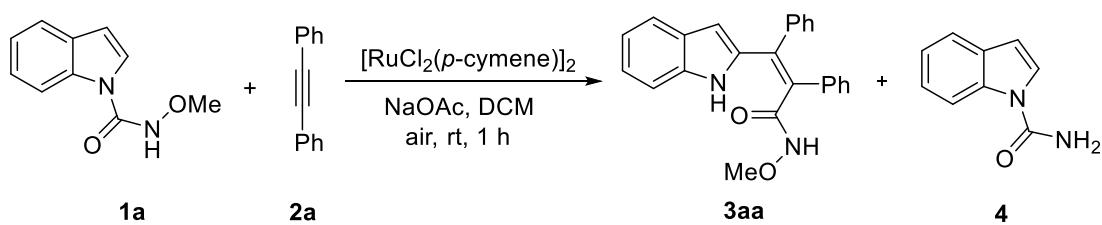
Base^{a,b}

$\text{1a} + \text{2a} \xrightarrow[\text{air, rt, 1 h}]{[\text{RuCl}_2(p\text{-cymene})]_2, \text{Base, DCM}} \text{3aa} + \text{4}$

Entry	Base	3aa	4
1	NaOPiv	54%	12%
2	Na_2CO_3	49%	11%
3	NaOAc	76%	14%
6	KOAc	71%	14%
7	CsOAc	65%	13%
6	<i>t</i> -BuOK	33%	8%
7	DABCO	43%	10%
8	Et_3N	41%	10%
9 ^c	NaOAc	54%	9%
10	none	trace	-

^aConditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), **2a** (0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv), $[\text{RuCl}_2(p\text{-cymene})]_2$ (5.0 mol %), Base (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv), DCM (1.0 mL), air, rt, 1 h. ^bIsolated yields. ^cNaOAc (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv).

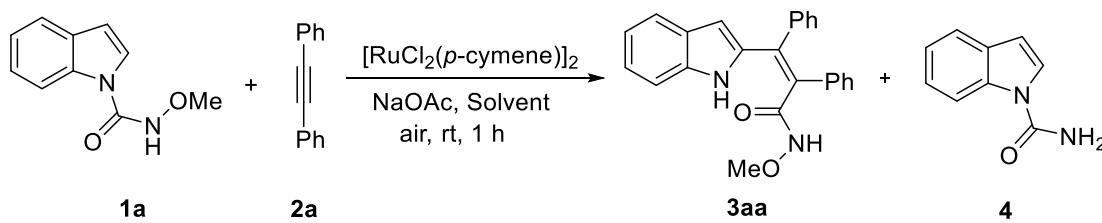
Proportion^{a,b}



Entry	1a/2a	3aa	4
1	0.1 mmol/0.15 mmol	76%	14%
2	0.1 mmol/0.12 mmol	76%	13%
3	0.1 mmol/0.1 mmol	77%	13%
4	0.15 mmol/0.1 mmol	73%	16%

^aConditions: $[\text{RuCl}_2(\text{p-cymene})]_2$ (5.0 mol %), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv), DCM (1.0 mL), air, rt, 1 h. ^bIsolated yields.

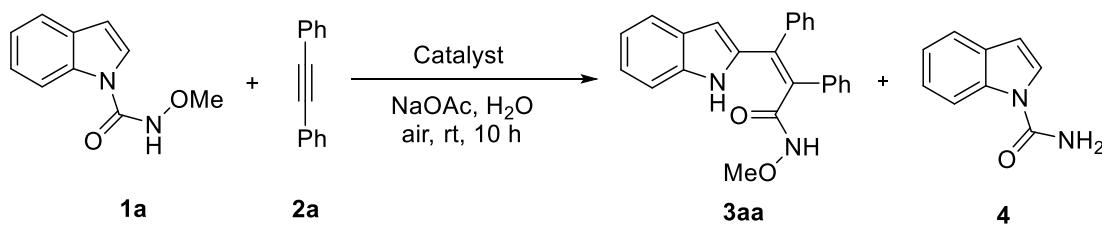
Solvent^{a,b}



Entry	Solvent	3aa	4
1	DCM	77%	13%
2	DCE	52%	12%
3	THF	49%	11%
4	DMF	35%	15%
5	Dioxane	63%	12%
6	Toluene	41%	13%
7	MeOH	73%	14%
8^c	H₂O	87%	-

^aConditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), **2a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), $[\text{RuCl}_2(\text{p-cymene})]_2$ (5.0 mol %), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv), Solvent (1.0 mL), air, rt, 1 h. ^bIsolated yields. ^cReaction time: 10 h.

Complementary^{a,b}



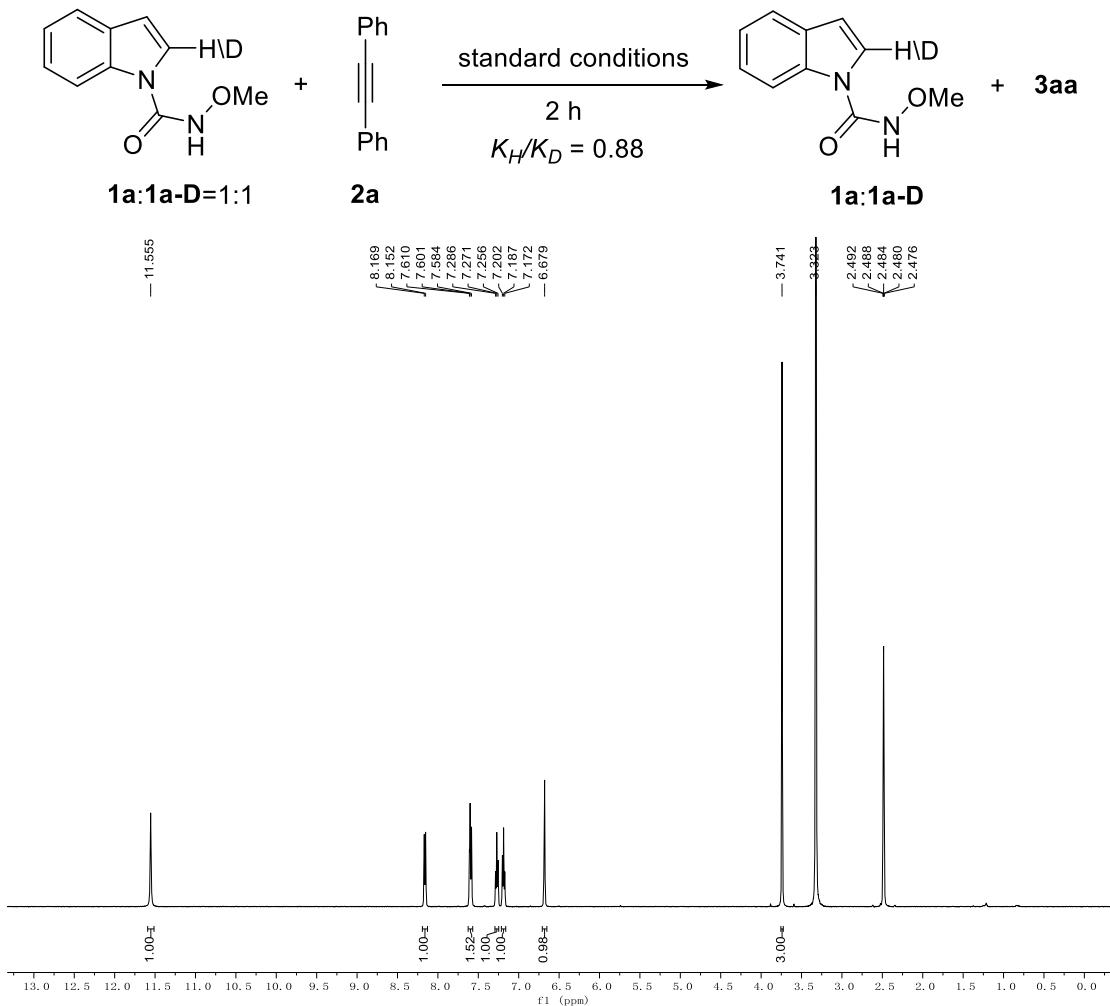
Entry	Catalyst	3aa	4
1	[RuCl ₂ (<i>p</i> -cymene)] ₂	87%	-
2 ^c	Ru(O ₂ CMe) ₂ (<i>p</i> -cymene)	82%	-
3 ^c	Ru(O ₂ CMes) ₂ (<i>p</i> -cymene)	79%	-

^aConditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), **2a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), Catalyst (5.0 mol %), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv), H₂O (1.0 mL), air, rt, 10 h. ^bIsolated yields. ^cCatalyst (10.0 mol %).

Control experiments

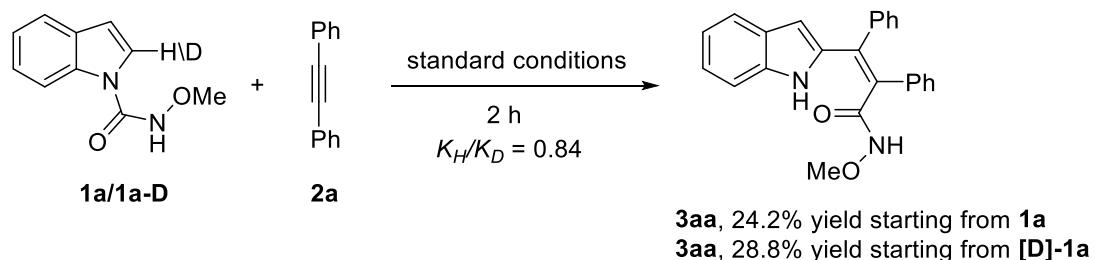
Kinetic Isotope Effect (KIE) study

The intermolecular competition



An equimolar mixture of **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and **1a-D** (95% D, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were allowed to react with **2a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in H₂O (1.0 mL) in the presence of [RuCl₂(*p*-cymene)]₂ (5.0 mol %), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv). The reaction was stirred at room temperature and stopped after 2 h. After filtration, the starting materials were isolated by using column chromatography. A mixture of the starting materials was analyzed by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. A Kinetic isotopic effect of this reaction was determined to be $K_H/K_D = 0.88$ (0.48/0.52*0.95)

Two parallel reactions

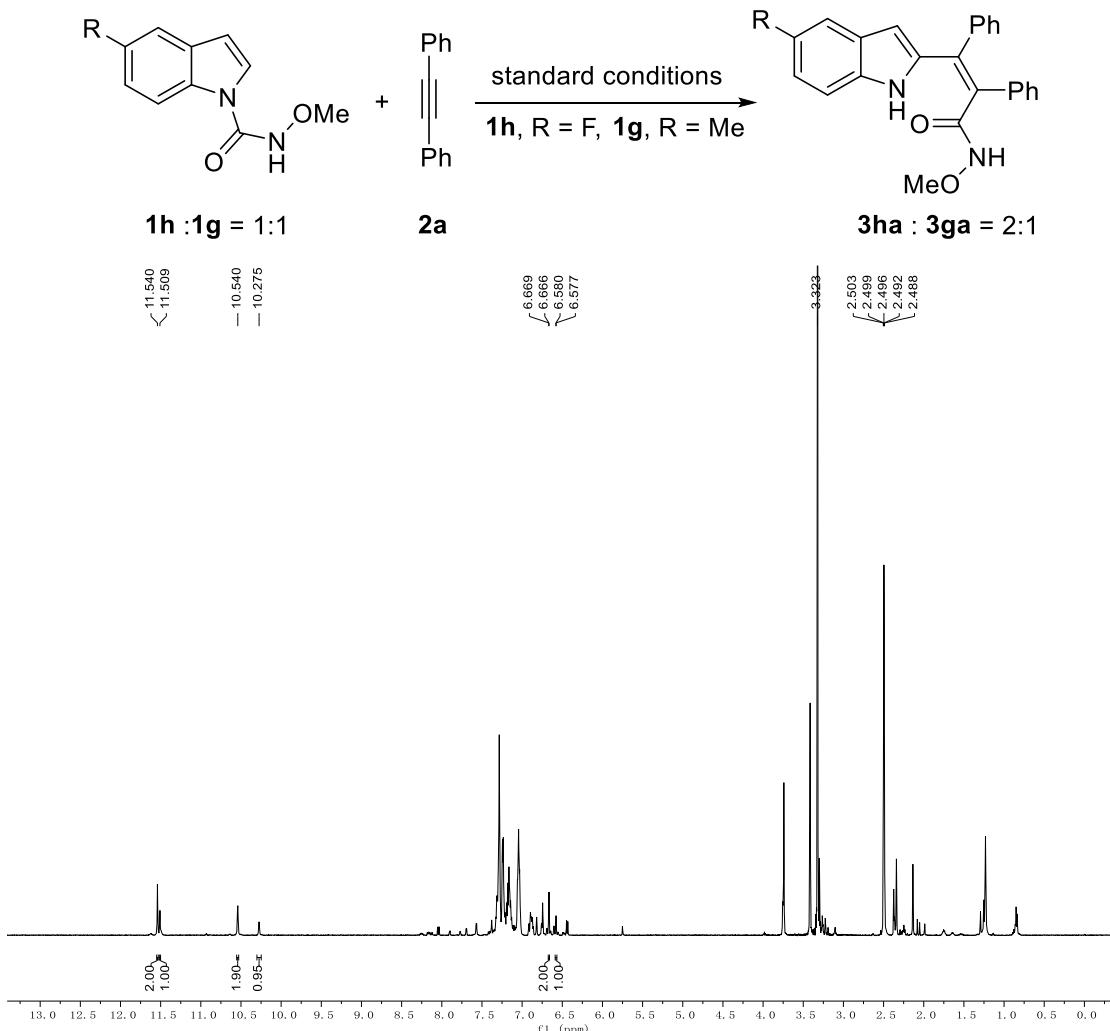


To a solution of *N*-methoxy-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamide **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), alkyne **2a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in H₂O (1.0 mL) was added [RuCl₂(*p*-cymene)]₂ (5.0 mol %). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. After filtration, the residual solids were purified by silica chromatography to afford the product **3aa** (24.2%, 8.9 mg).

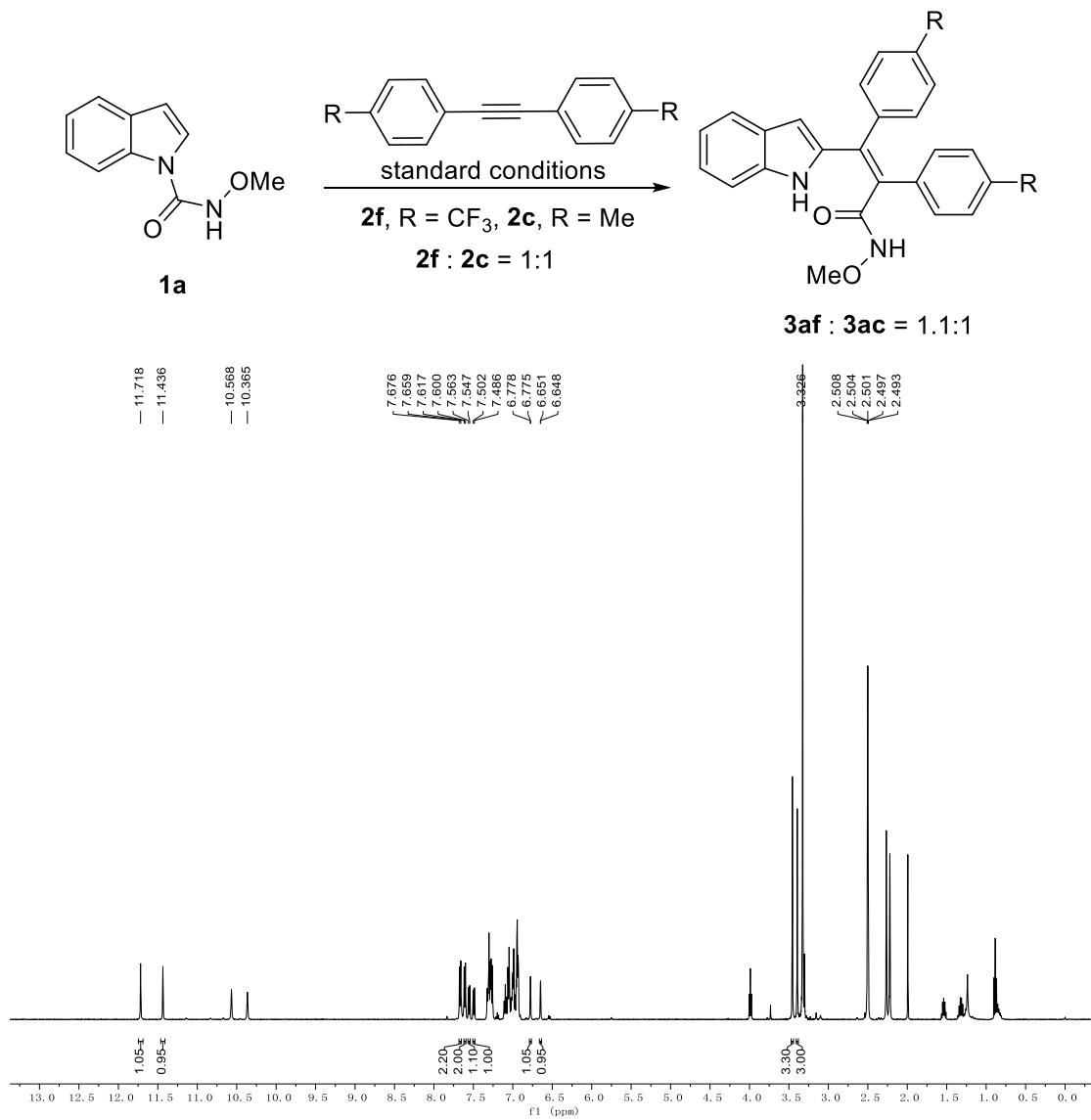
To a solution of *N*-methoxy-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamide **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), alkyne **2a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in H₂O (1.0 mL) was added [RuCl₂(*p*-cymene)]₂ (5.0 mol %). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. After filtration, the residual solids were purified by silica chromatography to afford the product **3aa** (28.8%, 10.6 mg).

A kinetic isotopic effect of these two reactions was determined to be $K_H/K_D = 0.84$.

Competitive experiments

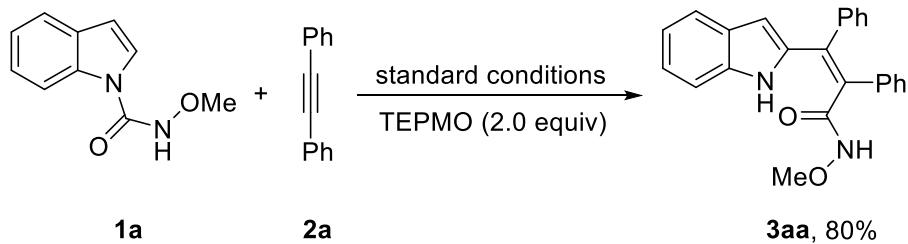


An equimolar mixture of **1h** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and **1g** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were allowed to react with **2a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in H₂O (1.0 mL) in the presence of [RuCl₂(*p*-cymene)]₂ (5.0 mol %), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 h. After filtration, the ratio of **3ha** and **3ga** of the same crude mixture was determined to be 2:1 by ¹H NMR.

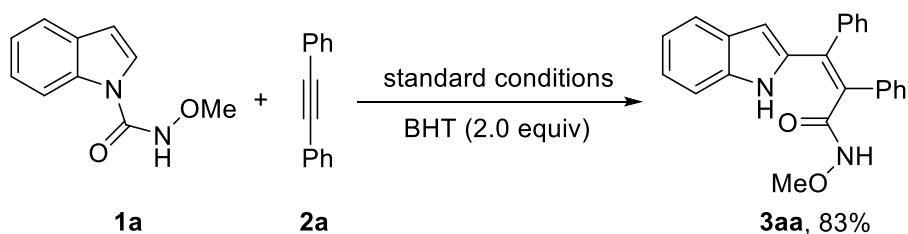


An equimolar mixture of **2f** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and **2c** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were allowed to react with **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in H₂O (1.0 mL) in the presence of [RuCl₂(*p*-cymene)]₂ (5.0 mol %), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 h. After filtration, the ratio of **3af** and **3ac** of the same crude mixture was determined to be 1.1:1 by ¹H NMR.

Radical inhibition experiments

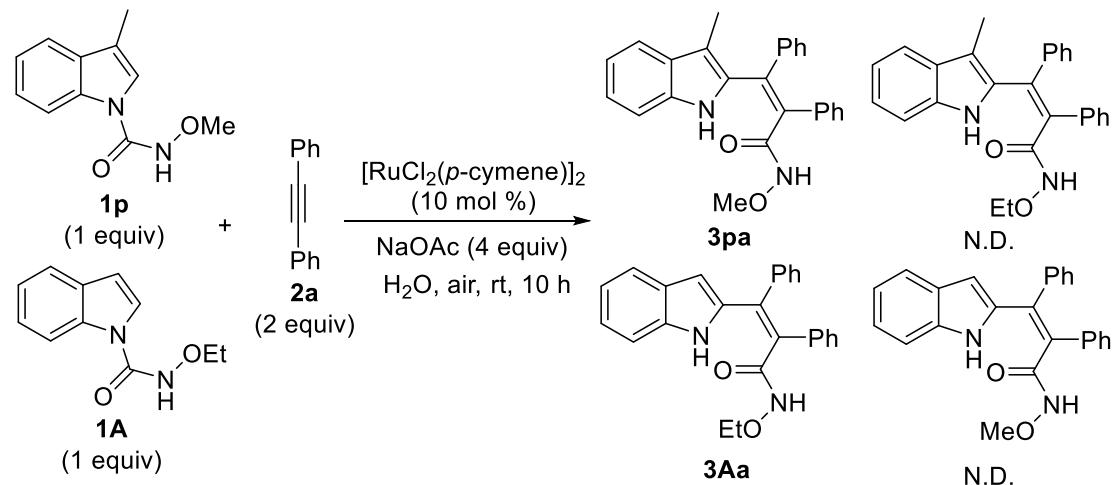


To a solution of *N*-methoxy-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamide **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), alkyne **2a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), $[\text{RuCl}_2(p\text{-cymene})]_2$ (5.0 mol %), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in H_2O (1.0 mL) was added TEMPO (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 h. After filtration, the residual solids were purified by silica chromatography to afford the product **3aa** (80%).



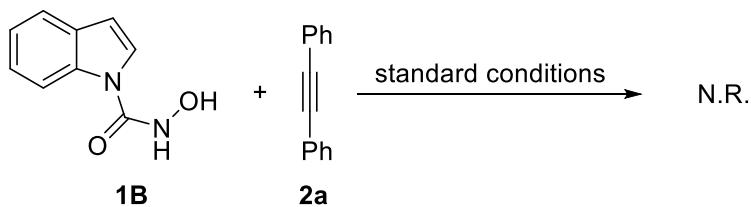
To a solution of *N*-methoxy-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamide **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), alkyne **2a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), $[\text{RuCl}_2(p\text{-cymene})]_2$ (5.0 mol %), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in H_2O (1.0 mL) was added BHT (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 h. After filtration, the residual solids were purified by silica chromatography to afford the product **3aa** (83%).

Directing group migration process study

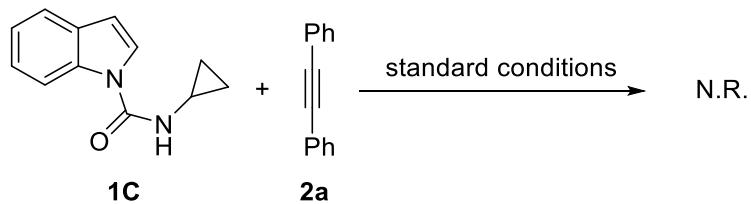


An equimolar mixture of **1p** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and **1A** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were allowed to react with **2a** (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in H_2O (2.0 mL) in the presence of $[\text{RuCl}_2(p\text{-cymene})]_2$ (10.0 mol %), NaOAc (0.4 mmol, 4.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 h. After the reaction was completed, only two products **3pa** and **3Aa** were observed in the system (detected by TLC).

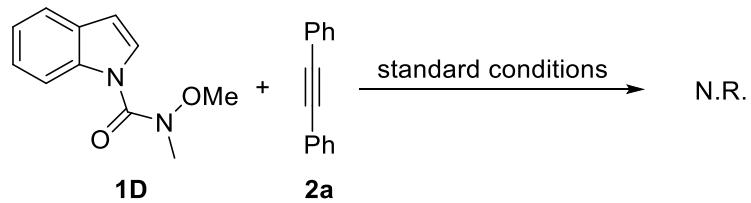
Unsuccessful directing group study



To a solution of *N*-hydroxy-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamide **1B** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), alkyne **2a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in H₂O (1.0 mL) was added [RuCl₂(*p*-cymene)]₂ (5.0 mol %). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 h, but no reaction occurred in the system.

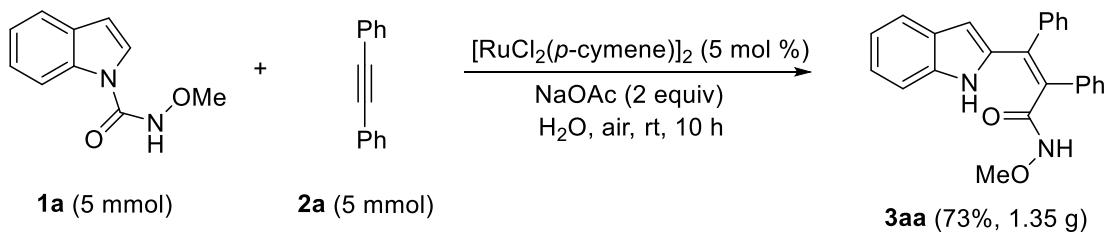


To a solution of *N*-cyclopropyl-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamide **1C** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), alkyne **2a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in H₂O (1.0 mL) was added [RuCl₂(*p*-cymene)]₂ (5.0 mol %). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 h, but no reaction occurred in the system.



To a solution of *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamide **1D** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), alkyne **2a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NaOAc (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in H₂O (1.0 mL) was added [RuCl₂(*p*-cymene)]₂ (5.0 mol %). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 h, but no reaction occurred in the system.

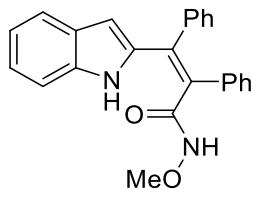
Gram scale synthesis of **3aa**



To a solution of *N*-methoxy-1*H*-indole-1-carboxamides **1a** (5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), alkyne **2a** (5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), NaOAc (10.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in H₂O (25.0 mL) was added [RuCl₂(*p*-cymene)]₂ (5.0 mol %). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 h. After filtration, the residual solids were purified by silica chromatography to afford the product **3aa** (73%, 1.35 g) as a white solid.

Characterization of products

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (**3aa**)



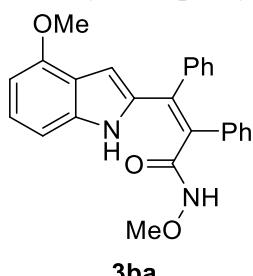
3aa: a white solid. Yield: 87% (32 mg). Mp: 208-210 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.53 (s, 1H), 10.44 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.7 Hz, 3H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 7.08 – 7.03 (m, 5H), 6.99 – 6.95 (m, 1H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.42 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.5, 139.0, 137.6, 137.4, 137.3, 135.3, 134.6, 131.0, 129.6, 128.5, 128.3, 128.0, 127.7, 122.3, 120.6, 119.7, 112.1, 104.4, 62.8.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₄H₂₀N₂O₂Na, 391.1422, Found: 391.1418.

(Z)-3-(4-methoxy-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (**3ba**)



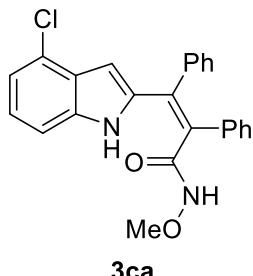
3ba: a light yellow solid. Yield: 75% (30 mg). Mp: 218-220 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.52 (s, 1H), 10.40 (s, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.7 Hz, 3H), 7.14 (dt, *J* = 11.5, 6.8 Hz, 3H), 7.02 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 6.96 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.43 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.5, 153.1, 139.0, 138.6, 137.6, 135.7, 135.1, 134.0, 130.9, 129.5, 128.4, 128.4, 128.2, 127.5, 123.2, 118.7, 105.4, 101.8, 99.5, 62.7, 55.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₅H₂₂N₂O₃Na, 421.1528, Found: 421.1526.

(Z)-3-(4-chloro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (**3ca**)



3ca: a white solid. Yield: 77% (31 mg). Mp: 200-202 °C.

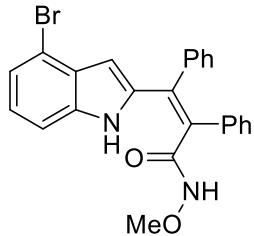
¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.59 (s, 1H), 10.86 (s, 1H), 7.28 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24

(dd, $J = 5.1, 1.8$ Hz, 3H), 7.19 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 7.04 (dt, $J = 4.1, 2.2$ Hz, 5H), 7.03 – 7.02 (m, 1H), 6.76 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.43 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.1, 138.6, 138.3, 138.0, 137.4, 135.7, 134.5, 130.9, 129.5, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 127.8, 126.5, 124.5, 123.0, 119.1, 111.2, 102.1, 62.6.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₄H₁₉N₂O₂NaCl, 425.1033, Found: 425.1028.

(Z)-3-(4-bromo-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3da)



3da

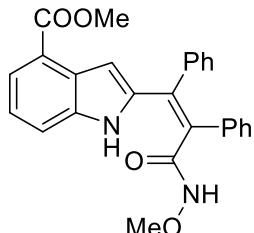
3da: a white solid. Yield: 81% (36 mg). Mp: 192–194 °C.

^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.60 (s, 1H), 10.89 (s, 1H), 7.34 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, $J = 5.0, 1.7$ Hz, 3H), 7.22 – 7.16 (m, 4H), 7.06 (td, $J = 6.5, 5.7, 2.7$ Hz, 4H), 7.00 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.46 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.1, 138.6, 138.2, 137.5, 137.4, 135.7, 134.5, 130.9, 129.5, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 127.8, 123.4, 122.2, 113.5, 111.7, 103.8, 62.6.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₄H₁₉N₂O₂NaBr, 469.0528, Found: 469.0526.

Methyl (Z)-2-(3-(methoxyamino)-3-oxo-1,2-diphenylprop-1-en-1-yl)-1*H*-indole-4-carboxylate (3ea)



3ea

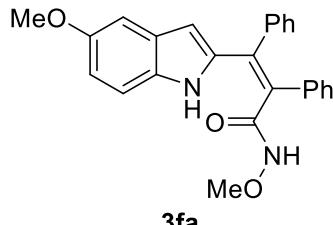
3ea: a light yellow solid. Yield: 82% (35 mg). Mp: 198–200 °C.

^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.57 (s, 1H), 10.90 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, $J = 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, $J = 5.0, 1.6$ Hz, 3H), 7.19 (dt, $J = 10.6, 7.1$ Hz, 4H), 7.08 – 7.04 (m, 4H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.41 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 167.0, 165.5, 139.3, 138.4, 137.6, 137.0, 135.4, 134.4, 130.4, 129.1, 128.1, 128.1, 127.9, 127.3, 126.7, 122.5, 121.0, 120.1, 116.8, 104.7, 62.1, 51.6.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₆H₂₂N₂O₄Na, 449.1477, Found: 449.1476.

(Z)-3-(5-methoxy-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3fa)



3fa

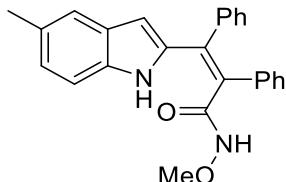
3fa: a light yellow solid. Yield: 85% (34 mg). Mp: 218–220 °C.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.52 (s, 1H), 10.25 (s, 1H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 4H), 7.19 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 7.08 – 7.02 (m, 4H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.45 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.5, 154.0, 139.1, 137.8, 137.7, 135.3, 134.2, 132.6, 131.0, 129.6, 128.5, 128.3, 128.3, 127.6, 112.9, 104.3, 101.8, 62.9, 55.7.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₅H₂₂N₂O₃Na, 421.1528, Found: 421.1528.

(Z)-3-(5-methyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3ga)



3ga

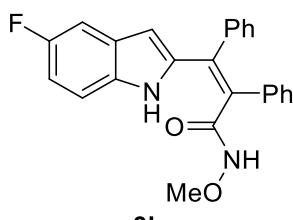
3ga: a white solid. Yield: 86% (33 mg). Mp: 216–218 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.50 (s, 1H), 10.26 (s, 1H), 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.23 – 7.20 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.17 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.05 – 6.99 (m, 4H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (s, 1H), 3.40 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.4, 139.0, 137.6, 137.3, 135.7, 135.3, 134.3, 130.9, 129.5, 128.4, 128.4, 128.2, 128.2, 128.0, 127.5, 123.9, 119.9, 111.8, 103.9, 62.8, 21.6.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₅H₂₂N₂O₂Na, 405.1579, Found: 405.1575.

(Z)-3-(5-fluoro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3ha)



3ha

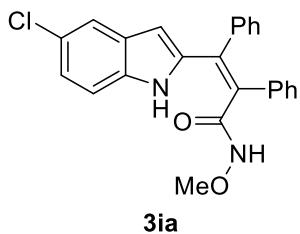
3ha: a light yellow solid. Yield: 78% (30 mg). Mp: 204–206 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.53 (s, 1H), 10.53 (s, 1H), 7.28 (td, *J* = 9.8, 9.4, 3.5 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 3H), 7.15 (q, *J* = 10.2, 8.4 Hz, 3H), 7.03 (dt, *J* = 8.1, 4.2 Hz, 4H), 6.88 (td, *J* = 9.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.68 – 6.63 (m, 1H), 3.40 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.2, 157.4 (d, *J* = 231.4 Hz), 139.2, 138.8, 137.4, 135.0 (d, *J* = 24.8 Hz), 134.0, 130.9, 129.5, 128.5, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 127.7, 113.0, 110.4 (d, *J* = 25.6 Hz), 104.9, 104.8, 104.3, 62.8.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₄H₁₉N₂O₂NaF, 409.1328, Found: 409.1328.

(Z)-3-(5-chloro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3ia)



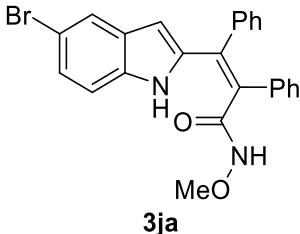
3ia: a white solid. Yield: 84% (34 mg). Mp: 202–204 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.53 (s, 1H), 10.63 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 4.9, 1.5 Hz, 3H), 7.18 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 7.04 – 6.99 (m, 5H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 171.0, 143.8, 143.5, 142.2, 140.5, 140.2, 139.5, 135.7, 134.3, 133.8, 133.4, 133.3, 133.2, 132.6, 128.9, 127.0, 124.4, 114.8, 108.7, 67.6.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₄H₁₉N₂O₂NaCl, 425.1033, Found: 425.1028.

(Z)-3-(5-bromo-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3ja)



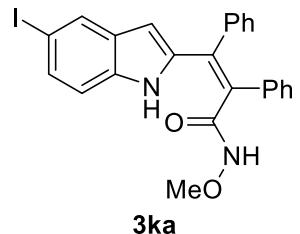
3ja: a white solid. Yield: 83% (37 mg). Mp: 190–192 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.53 (s, 1H), 10.65 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.7 Hz, 3H), 7.14 (ddd, *J* = 6.7, 5.3, 3.2 Hz, 4H), 7.04 – 6.99 (m, 4H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.2, 138.8, 138.7, 137.4, 135.9, 135.4, 134.7, 130.9, 129.7, 129.5, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7, 124.7, 122.6, 114.0, 112.1, 103.7, 62.8.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₄H₁₉N₂O₂NaBr, 469.0528, Found: 469.0528.

(Z)-3-(5-iodo-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3ka)



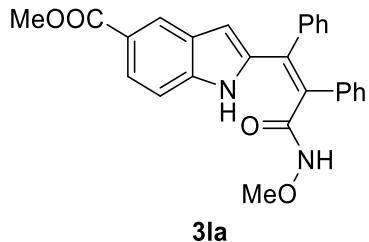
3ka: a light yellow solid. Yield: 81% (40 mg). Mp: 168–170 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.53 (s, 1H), 10.63 (s, 1H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.30 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.22 (dt, *J* = 5.7, 3.0 Hz, 3H), 7.15 (td, *J* = 9.0, 4.4 Hz, 4H), 7.04 – 7.00 (m, 4H), 6.62 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.2, 138.7, 138.3, 137.4, 136.2, 135.4, 134.7, 130.9, 130.7, 130.1, 129.5, 128.8, 128.5, 128.5, 128.3, 127.7, 114.5, 103.4, 83.4, 62.8.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₄H₁₉N₂O₂NaI, 517.0389, Found: 517.0389.

Methyl (*Z*)-2-(3-(methoxyamino)-3-oxo-1,2-diphenylprop-1-en-1-yl)-1*H*-indole-5-carboxylate (3la)



3la

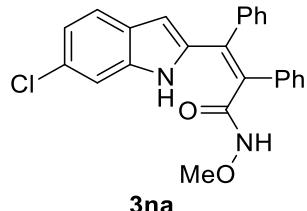
3la: a light yellow solid. Yield: 77% (33 mg). Mp: 198–200 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.59 (s, 1H), 10.93 (s, 1H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 7.73 – 7.69 (m, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.19 (td, *J* = 9.5, 9.1, 4.5 Hz, 3H), 7.08 – 7.03 (m, 4H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 167.1, 165.7, 139.3, 138.7, 138.2, 136.9, 135.2, 134.2, 130.4, 129.1, 128.1, 128.1, 127.9, 127.3, 127.0, 122.7, 122.7, 120.7, 111.5, 104.9, 62.3, 51.6.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₆H₂₂N₂O₄Na, 449.1477, Found: 449.1481.

(*Z*)-3-(6-chloro-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3na)



3na

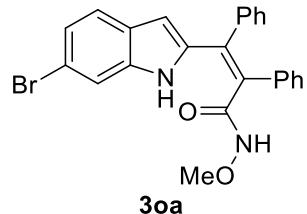
3na: a white solid. Yield: 82% (33 mg). Mp: 204–206 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.55 (s, 1H), 10.57 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (s, 1H), 7.25 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.16 (p, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 6.99 – 6.96 (m, 1H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 3.40 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 165.8, 138.3, 138.0, 137.1, 137.0, 134.7, 134.3, 130.4, 129.1, 128.1, 128.1, 127.9, 127.3, 126.3, 126.2, 121.5, 119.6, 111.1, 103.9, 62.3.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₄H₁₉N₂O₂NaCl, 425.1033, Found: 425.1028.

(*Z*)-3-(6-bromo-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3oa)



3oa

3oa: a white solid. Yield: 81% (36 mg). Mp: 188–190 °C.

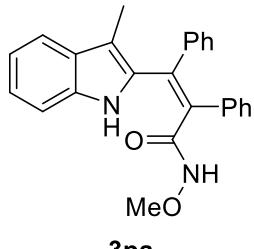
¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.58 (s, 1H), 10.60 (s, 1H), 7.53 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.26 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.7 Hz, 3H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 7.11 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.09 – 7.03 (m, 4H), 6.75 – 6.66 (m, 1H), 3.42 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.3, 138.7, 138.4, 138.1, 137.4, 135.3, 134.8, 131.0, 129.6,

128.6, 128.6, 128.4, 127.8, 127.0, 122.6, 122.4, 114.9, 114.6, 104.5, 62.8.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₄H₁₉N₂O₂NaBr, 469.0528, Found: 469.0519.

(Z)-3-(3-methyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3pa)



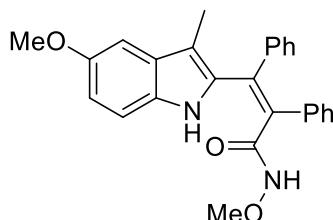
3pa: a light yellow solid. Yield: 92% (35 mg). Mp: 212–214 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.14 (s, 1H), 10.33 (s, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.20 (m, 3H), 7.19 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (dt, *J* = 6.9, 4.0 Hz, 3H), 3.11 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 165.3, 138.9, 136.8, 136.7, 136.1, 135.2, 134.1, 129.8, 129.3, 128.2, 128.1, 127.9, 127.5, 127.3, 121.5, 118.3, 118.3, 111.1, 109.9, 62.1, 9.3.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₅H₂₂N₂O₂Na, 405.1579, Found: 405.1576.

(Z)-3-(5-methoxy-3-methyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3qa)



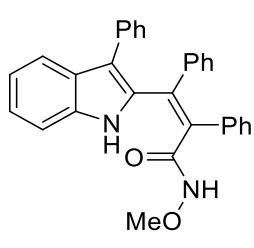
3qa: a light yellow solid. Yield: 70% (29 mg). Mp: 220–222 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.10 (s, 1H), 10.14 (s, 1H), 7.20 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 7.7 Hz, 4H), 7.17 – 7.14 (m, 3H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.12 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 165.5, 153.0, 139.1, 137.0, 136.5, 135.4, 134.9, 131.3, 129.9, 129.3, 128.6, 128.2, 127.9, 127.6, 127.4, 111.9, 111.8, 109.9, 100.0, 62.3, 55.3, 9.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₆H₂₄N₂O₃Na, 435.1685, Found: 435.1690.

(Z)-3-(3-phenyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3ra)



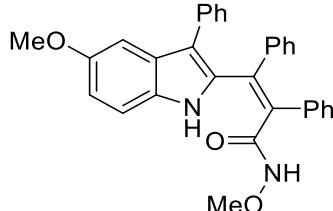
3ra: a light yellow solid. Yield: 43% (19 mg). Mp: 210–212 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.01 (s, 1H), 10.96 (s, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 7.1 Hz, 3H), 7.16 – 7.08 (m, 4H), 7.04 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (q, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 3H), 6.85 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 3.14 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 165.3, 138.3, 137.6, 136.9, 136.0, 135.2, 134.6, 134.1, 129.9, 129.1, 128.6, 128.2, 127.9, 127.5, 126.5, 125.5, 122.0, 119.6, 118.7, 115.5, 111.7, 62.5.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₃₀H₂₄N₂O₂Na, 467.1735, Found: 467.1731.

(Z)-3-(5-methoxy-3-phenyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3sa)



3sa

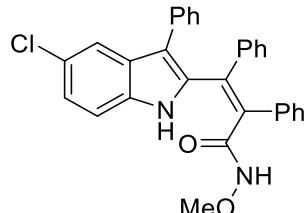
3sa: a light yellow solid. Yield: 48% (23 mg). Mp: 226–228 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 10.99 (s, 1H), 10.79 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.18 (m, 5H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 6.96 (q, *J* = 6.1, 5.6 Hz, 3H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.82 – 6.78 (m, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.17 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 165.8, 154.4, 138.7, 137.8, 137.3, 135.7, 135.2, 131.6, 130.4, 129.6, 129.0, 128.7, 128.4, 127.9, 127.2, 125.8, 115.9, 112.9, 112.7, 100.7, 63.0, 55.7.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₃₁H₂₆N₂O₃Na, 497.1841, Found: 497.1841.

(Z)-3-(5-chloro-3-phenyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3ta)



3ta

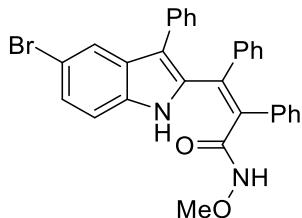
3ta: a light yellow solid. Yield: 46% (22 mg). Mp: 218–220 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.24 (s, 1H), 11.10 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.29 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.20 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 6.90 – 6.86 (m, 2H), 3.19 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 165.6, 138.5, 137.2, 136.3, 135.2, 134.9, 134.3, 130.4, 129.6, 129.1, 128.8, 128.6, 128.2, 128.1, 126.3, 124.8, 122.4, 118.2, 115.7, 113.9, 63.0.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₃₀H₂₃N₂O₂NaCl, 501.1346, Found: 501.1345.

(Z)-3-(5-bromo-3-phenyl-1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3ua)



3ua

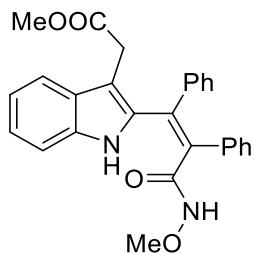
3ua: a light yellow solid. Yield: 44% (23 mg). Mp: 216–218 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.20 (s, 1H), 11.04 (s, 1H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (q, *J* = 6.3, 5.9 Hz, 3H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.15 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 165.6, 138.5, 137.1, 136.1, 135.2, 135.1, 134.2, 130.4, 129.6, 129.1, 128.7, 128.5, 128.1, 128.0, 126.2, 124.9, 121.2, 115.6, 114.3, 112.7, 62.9.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₃₀H₂₃N₂O₂NaBr, 545.0841, Found: 545.0848.

Methyl (Z)-2-(2-(3-(methoxyamino)-3-oxo-1,2-diphenylprop-1-en-1-yl)-1H-indol-3-yl)acetate (3va)



3va

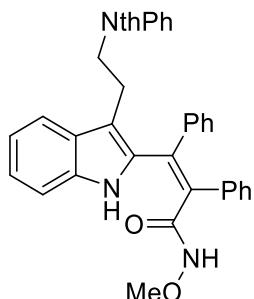
3va: a white solid. Yield: 73% (32 mg). Mp: 218–220 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.07 (s, 1H), 10.72 (s, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 3H), 7.19 (s, 3H), 7.14 – 7.08 (m, 3H), 7.06 – 6.98 (m, 3H), 3.68 (s, 2H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 172.3, 165.4, 138.5, 137.1, 136.7, 136.1, 135.7, 134.8, 130.1, 129.4, 128.2, 127.9, 127.8, 127.6, 127.6, 121.8, 118.9, 118.6, 111.4, 107.3, 62.2, 51.6, 29.8.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₇H₂₄N₂O₄Na, 463.1634, Found: 463.1632.

(Z)-3-(3-(2-(1,3-dioxoisindolin-2-yl)ethyl)-1H-indol-2-yl)-N-methoxy-2,3-diphenylacrylamide (3wa)



3wa

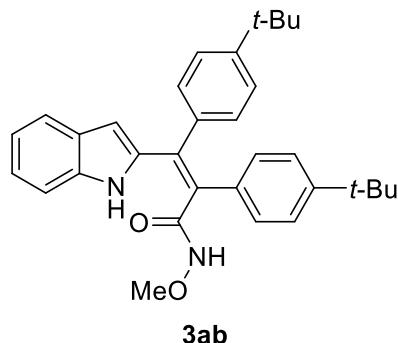
3wa: a light yellow solid. Yield: 72% (39 mg). Mp: 220-222 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.07 (s, 1H), 10.46 (s, 1H), 7.87 – 7.81 (m, 4H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (dt, *J* = 13.0, 6.9 Hz, 3H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 16.5, 7.1 Hz, 3H), 7.09 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 7.01 (dd, *J* = 12.4, 7.5 Hz, 3H), 3.82 – 3.76 (m, 2H), 3.05 (s, 3H), 3.02 (s, 2H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 167.7, 165.3, 138.6, 137.3, 136.9, 136.3, 134.9, 134.7, 134.3, 131.7, 129.9, 129.3, 128.2, 127.8, 127.6, 127.5, 127.4, 122.9, 121.7, 118.7, 118.3, 111.5, 111.2, 62.1, 38.0, 23.8.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₃₄H₂₇N₃O₄Na, 564.1899, Found: 564.1900.

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-bis(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)acrylamide (3ab)



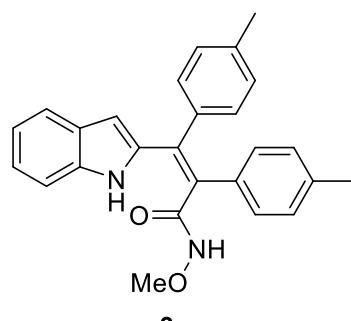
3ab: a white solid. Yield: 73% (35 mg). Mp: 158-160 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.45 (s, 1H), 10.42 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 18.3, 8.4 Hz, 5H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 1.25 (s, 9H), 1.23 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 166.2, 150.1, 149.4, 137.2, 136.8, 135.8, 134.3, 134.1, 133.9, 130.1, 128.8, 127.5, 124.7, 124.6, 121.6, 120.0, 119.1, 111.6, 103.7, 62.3, 34.3, 34.2, 31.0, 30.9.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₃₂H₃₆N₂O₂Na, 503.2674, Found: 503.2677.

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-di-p-tolylacrylamide (3ac)



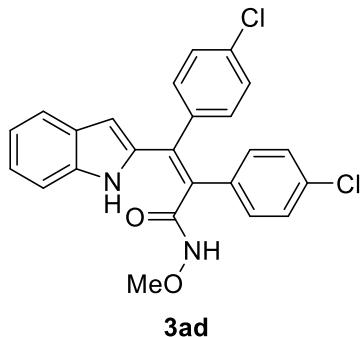
3ac: a white solid. Yield: 76% (30 mg). Mp: 168-170 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.44 (s, 1H), 10.38 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 3H), 7.01 (q, *J* = 9.6, 7.9 Hz, 3H), 6.97 – 6.94 (m, 4H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 166.2, 137.2, 137.0, 136.8, 136.4, 135.8, 134.4, 134.1, 133.7, 130.4, 129.0, 128.7, 127.5, 121.6, 120.0, 119.1, 111.6, 103.7, 62.2, 20.7.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₆H₂₄N₂O₂Na, 419.1735, Found: 419.1736.

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)acrylamide (3ad)



3ad

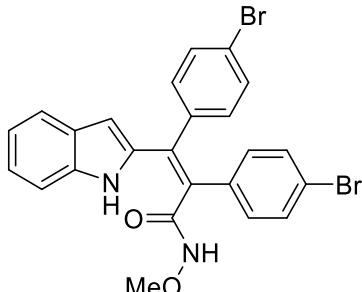
3ad: a light yellow solid. Yield: 80% (35 mg). Mp: 188-190 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.58 (s, 1H), 10.49 (s, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.08 – 7.03 (m, 5H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 165.5, 137.1, 136.9, 136.1, 135.6, 134.3, 133.0, 132.7, 132.4, 132.0, 130.9, 128.3, 127.4, 122.1, 120.2, 119.3, 111.6, 104.2, 62.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₄H₁₈N₂O₂NaCl₂, 459.0643, Found: 459.0633.

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-bis(4-bromophenyl)acrylamide (3ae)



3ae

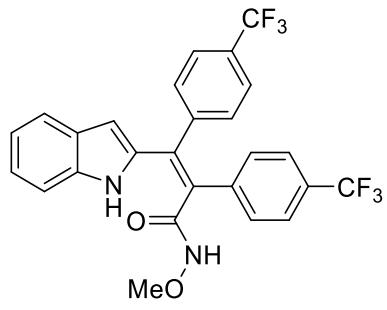
3ae: a light yellow solid. Yield: 80% (42 mg). Mp: 198-200 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.63 (s, 1H), 10.54 (s, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (q, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 5H), 6.78 – 6.72 (m, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 165.9, 137.9, 137.4, 136.7, 136.6, 134.8, 133.5, 133.2, 131.8, 131.7, 127.9, 122.6, 122.0, 121.1, 120.7, 119.8, 112.1, 104.7, 62.9.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₄H₁₈N₂O₂NaBr₂, 546.9633, Found: 546.9634.

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-bis(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylamide (3af)



3af

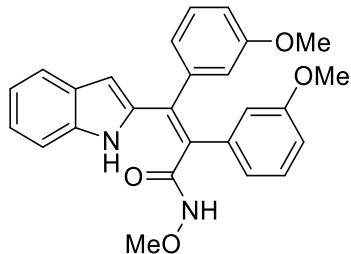
3af: a light yellow solid. Yield: 81% (41 mg). Mp: 188–190 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.72 (s, 1H), 10.57 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.82 – 6.76 (m, 1H), 3.47 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 165.6, 142.7, 141.5, 137.6, 136.2, 135.7, 134.1, 131.9, 130.5, 127.9, 127.1 (q, *J* = 252.0 Hz), 125.8, 125.7, 125.7, 122.8, 120.9, 119.9, 112.2, 105.1, 62.9.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₆H₁₈N₂O₂NaF₆, 527.1170, Found: 527.1163.

(Z)-3-(1H-indol-2-yl)-N-methoxy-2,3-bis(3-methoxyphenyl)acrylamide (3ag)



3ag

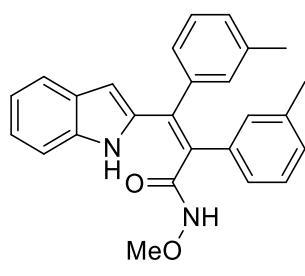
3ag: a white solid. Yield: 89% (38 mg). Mp: 186–188 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.50 (s, 1H), 10.41 (s, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.85 – 6.81 (m, 1H), 6.74 – 6.71 (m, 1H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 3H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.43 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 165.8, 158.8, 158.7, 139.9, 138.4, 136.8, 136.5, 134.7, 133.9, 129.2, 129.1, 127.5, 122.7, 121.8, 121.2, 120.1, 119.2, 116.0, 114.5, 113.4, 113.0, 111.6, 103.8, 62.3, 54.9, 54.8.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₆H₂₄N₂O₄Na, 451.1634, Found: 451.1634.

(Z)-3-(1H-indol-2-yl)-N-methoxy-2,3-di-*m*-tolylacrylamide (3ah)



3ah

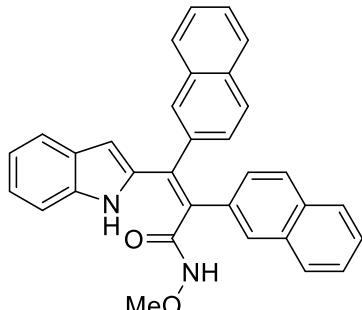
3ah: a white solid. Yield: 88% (35 mg). Mp: 188-190 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.44 (s, 1H), 10.40 (s, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (td, *J* = 9.2, 7.6, 5.1 Hz, 3H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (s, 2H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 166.5, 139.0, 137.5, 137.4, 137.4, 137.3, 137.2, 135.1, 134.6, 131.3, 129.9, 128.9, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 127.9, 126.8, 122.1, 120.5, 119.6, 112.0, 104.2, 62.7, 21.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₆H₂₄N₂O₂Na, 419.1735, Found: 419.1734.

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2,3-di(naphthalen-2-yl)acrylamide (3ai)



3ai

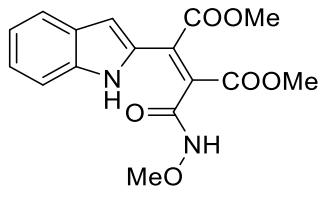
3ai: a yellow solid. Yield: 85% (40 mg). Mp: 186-188 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.66 (s, 1H), 10.51 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.75 – 7.68 (m, 6H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.85 – 6.80 (m, 1H), 3.48 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 166.1, 137.0, 136.2, 135.1, 134.9, 134.2, 132.7, 132.6, 132.4, 131.8, 129.9, 128.5, 128.0, 127.8, 127.6, 127.4, 126.4, 126.3, 126.2, 121.9, 120.1, 119.2, 111.6, 104.2, 62.3.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₃₂H₂₄N₂O₂Na, 491.1735, Found: 491.1731.

Dimethyl 2-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-3-(methoxycarbamoyl)maleate (3ak)



3ak

3ak: an orange solid. Yield: 66% (22 mg). Mp: 170-172 °C.

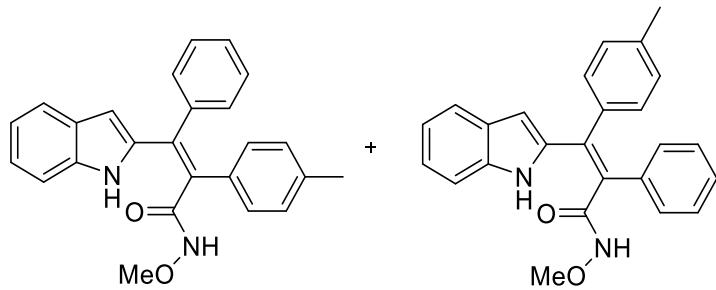
¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.79 (s, 1H), 11.04 (s, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (s, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 166.8, 164.0, 161.5, 138.5, 129.0, 127.7, 124.9, 122.6, 121.7, 120.9, 112.9, 108.2, 63.1, 53.5, 53.2.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₁₆H₁₆N₂O₆Na, 355.0906, Found: 355.0910.

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-3-phenyl-2-(*p*-tolyl)acrylamide (**3al**)

(E)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2-phenyl-3-(*p*-tolyl)acrylamide (**3al'**)



3al+3al' (52:48)

3al+3al': a white solid. Yield: 92% (35 mg). Mp: 170–174°C.

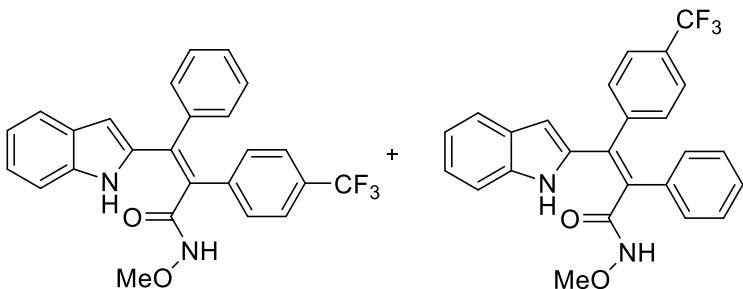
¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.51 (s, 0.52H), 11.50 (s, 0.48H), 10.42 (s, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.10 – 7.04 (m, 4H), 6.99 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (s, 0.52H), 6.67 (s, 0.48H), 3.42 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 1.56H), 2.23 (s, 1.44H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 166.1, 166.1, 138.7, 137.3, 137.0, 136.8, 136.5, 135.6, 134.6, 134.2, 134.1, 133.7, 130.5, 129.1, 129.0, 128.7, 128.6, 128.1, 127.7, 127.5, 127.1, 121.7, 120.0, 119.1, 111.6, 103.8, 103.8, 62.3, 20.8, 20.7.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₅H₂₂N₂O₂Na, 405.1579, Found: 405.1582.

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-3-phenyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylamide (**3am**)

(E)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2-phenyl-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylamide (**3am'**)



3am+3am' (3:2)

3am+3am': a light yellow solid. Yield: 83% (36 mg). Mp: 184–188 °C.

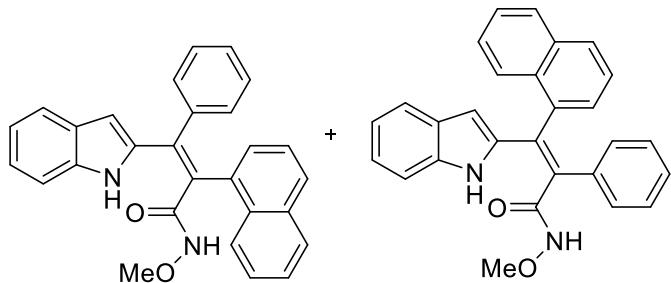
¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.67 (s, 0.57H), 11.64 (s, 0.38H), 10.54 (s, 0.57H), 10.53 (s, 0.38H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 0.80H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1.20H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 0.60H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 0.40H), 7.31 – 7.17 (m, 5H), 7.09 (t, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 3H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (s, 0.40H), 6.74 (s, 0.60H), 3.46 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 165.6, 165.5, 142.9, 141.6, 137.9, 137.0, 136.9, 136.6, 136.4, 136.1, 135.3, 133.5, 132.5, 131.4, 130.5, 129.9, 129.1, 128.2, 127.6, 127.4, 125.0, 124.1 (q, *J* = 272.8 Hz), 124.0 (q, *J* = 271.7 Hz), 122.1, 122.0, 120.2, 119.3, 111.7, 111.6, 104.3, 104.1, 62.4.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₅H₁₉N₂O₂NaF₃, 459.1296, Found: 459.1293.

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2-(naphthalen-1-yl)-3-phenylacrylamide (**3an**)

(E)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-3-(naphthalen-1-yl)-2-phenylacrylamide (**3an'**)



3an+3an' (11:1)

3an+3an': a yellow solid. Yield: 81% (34 mg). Mp: 182–186 °C.

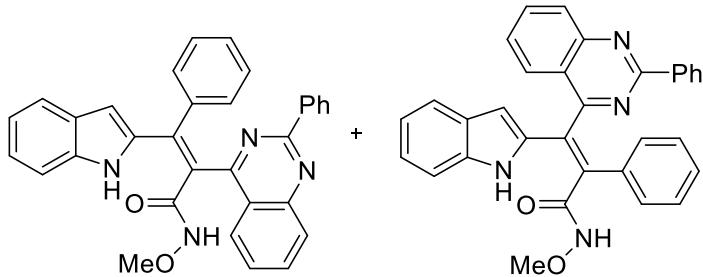
¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.73 (s, 0.88H), 11.53 (s, 0.08H), 10.64 (s, 0.08H), 10.25 (s, 0.88H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 0.08H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 0.88H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 0.99H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 0.88H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 0.09H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 0.08H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 0.08H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.88H), 7.45 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 0.88H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0.08H), 7.00 – 6.91 (m, 7H), 6.77 (s, 0.08H), 6.75 (s, 0.88H), 3.52 (s, 2.75H), 3.34 (s, 0.25H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 166.35, 137.5, 137.5, 137.1, 136.1, 133.6, 132.3, 129.0, 128.7, 128.4, 128.2, 127.6, 126.7, 126.2, 125.9, 125.7, 122.2, 120.5, 119.7, 112.1, 103.2, 62.9.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₈H₂₂N₂O₂Na, 441.1579, Found: 441.1581.

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-3-phenyl-2-(2-phenylquinazolin-4-yl)acrylamide (**3ao**)

(E)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2-phenyl-3-(2-phenylquinazolin-4-yl)acrylamide (**3ao'**)



3ao+3ao' (2:1)

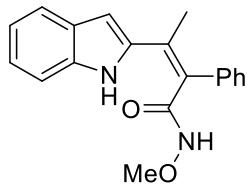
3ao+3ao': a yellow solid. Yield: 70% (35 mg). Mp: 198–202 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 12.05 (s, 0.64H), 11.75 (s, 0.32H), 10.95 (s, 0.33H), 10.56 (s, 0.66H), 8.57 – 8.53 (m, 0.67H), 8.49 – 8.45 (m, 1.34H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 0.66H), 8.06 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 0.33H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 0.66H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 0.33H), 7.89 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 0.68H), 7.85 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 0.34H), 7.62 – 7.52 (m, 5H), 7.24 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 7.13 – 6.97 (m, 7H), 6.95 (s, 0.66H), 6.88 (s, 0.33H), 3.68 (s, 2H), 3.47 (s, 1H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 166.9, 166.7, 165.0, 164.3, 159.1, 158.8, 150.7, 140.8, 138.1, 137.5, 137.3, 136.8, 136.7, 136.3, 135.6, 134.5, 134.4, 134.3, 130.8, 130.7, 130.0, 129.9, 129.6, 128.6, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 127.6, 127.5, 127.3, 126.5, 126.4, 122.4, 122.3, 121.5, 120.5, 120.4, 119.5, 119.5, 111.9, 111.5, 105.4, 103.4, 62.6, 62.3.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₃₂H₂₄N₄O₂Na, 519.1797, Found: 519.1796.

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-3-methyl-2-phenylacrylamide (3ap)



3ap

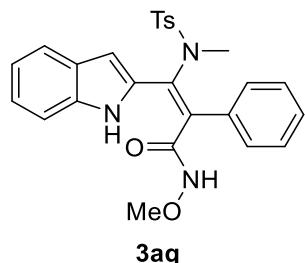
3ap: a white solid. Yield: 82% (25 mg). Mp: 204-206 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.26 (s, 1H), 11.00 (s, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 7.09 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 3.42 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 166.1, 137.2, 137.1, 136.3, 133.2, 129.1, 128.6, 128.3, 127.7, 127.5, 121.6, 120.0, 119.2, 111.2, 101.7, 62.2, 18.7.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₁₉H₁₈N₂O₂Na, 329.1266, Found: 329.1269.

(E)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-3-((*N*,4-dimethylphenyl)sulfonamido)-2-phenylacrylamide (3aq)



3aq

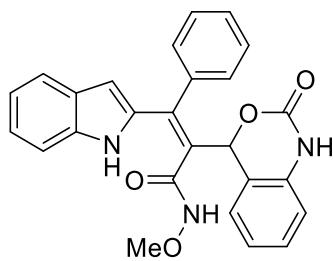
3aq: a white solid. Yield: 67% (32 mg). Mp: 222-224 °C.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.36 (s, 1H), 10.53 (s, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 5.5 Hz, 5H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 6.99 (dd, *J* = 14.7, 7.6 Hz, 3H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 163.9, 143.0, 136.4, 135.6, 134.8, 133.9, 133.2, 132.7, 128.9, 128.4, 128.3, 127.8, 127.0, 126.9, 122.1, 120.2, 119.2, 111.6, 104.8, 62.3, 37.4, 20.9.

HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₆H₂₅N₃O₄NaS, 498.1463, Found: 498.1465.

(Z)-3-(1*H*-indol-2-yl)-*N*-methoxy-2-(2-oxo-1,4-dihydro-2*H*-benzo[d][1,3]oxazin-4-yl)-3-phenylacrylamide (3ar)



3ar

3ar: a white solid. Yield: 73% (32 mg). Mp: 228-230 °C.

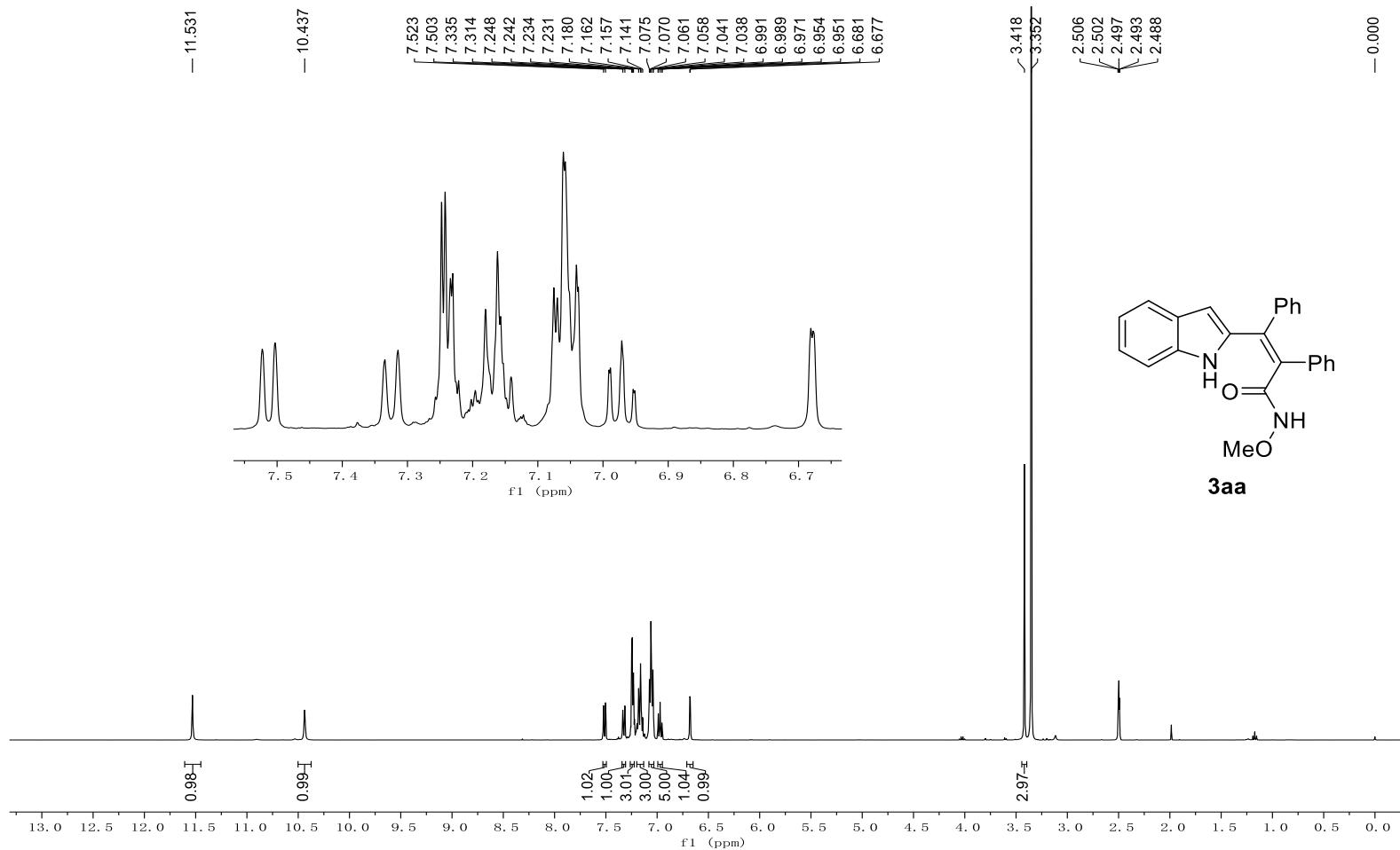
¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.52 (s, 1H), 10.62 (s, 1H), 10.22 (s, 1H), 7.46 (dt, *J* = 18.8,

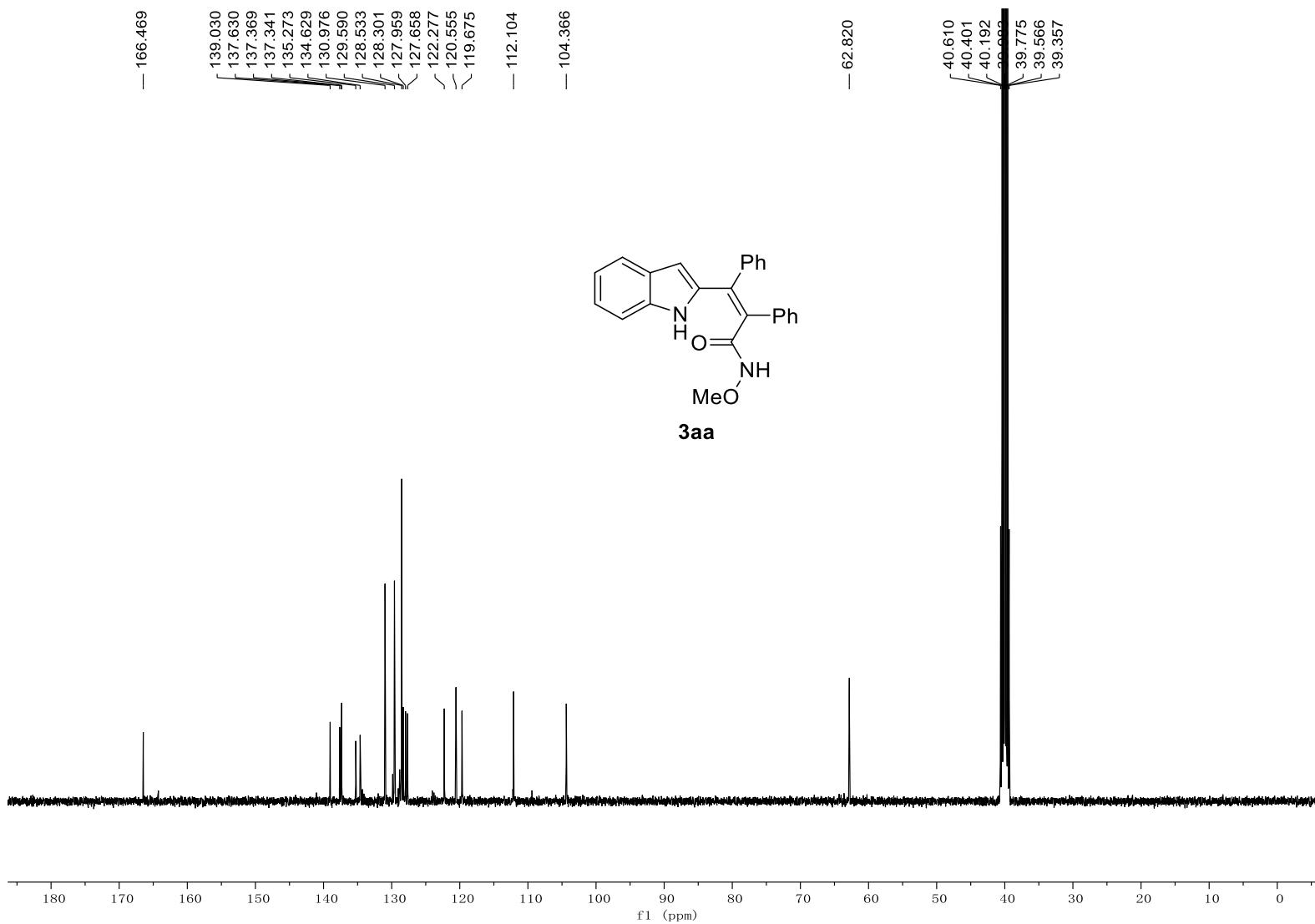
7.5 Hz, 6H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (dt, J = 10.2, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.94 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 6.14 (s, 1H), 3.23 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 164.1, 150.2, 141.2, 136.5, 136.3, 134.9, 131.8, 129.3, 128.8, 128.7, 127.8, 127.2, 125.0, 122.5, 121.6, 119.9, 119.1, 118.8, 113.8, 111.8, 103.9, 76.8, 62.5.

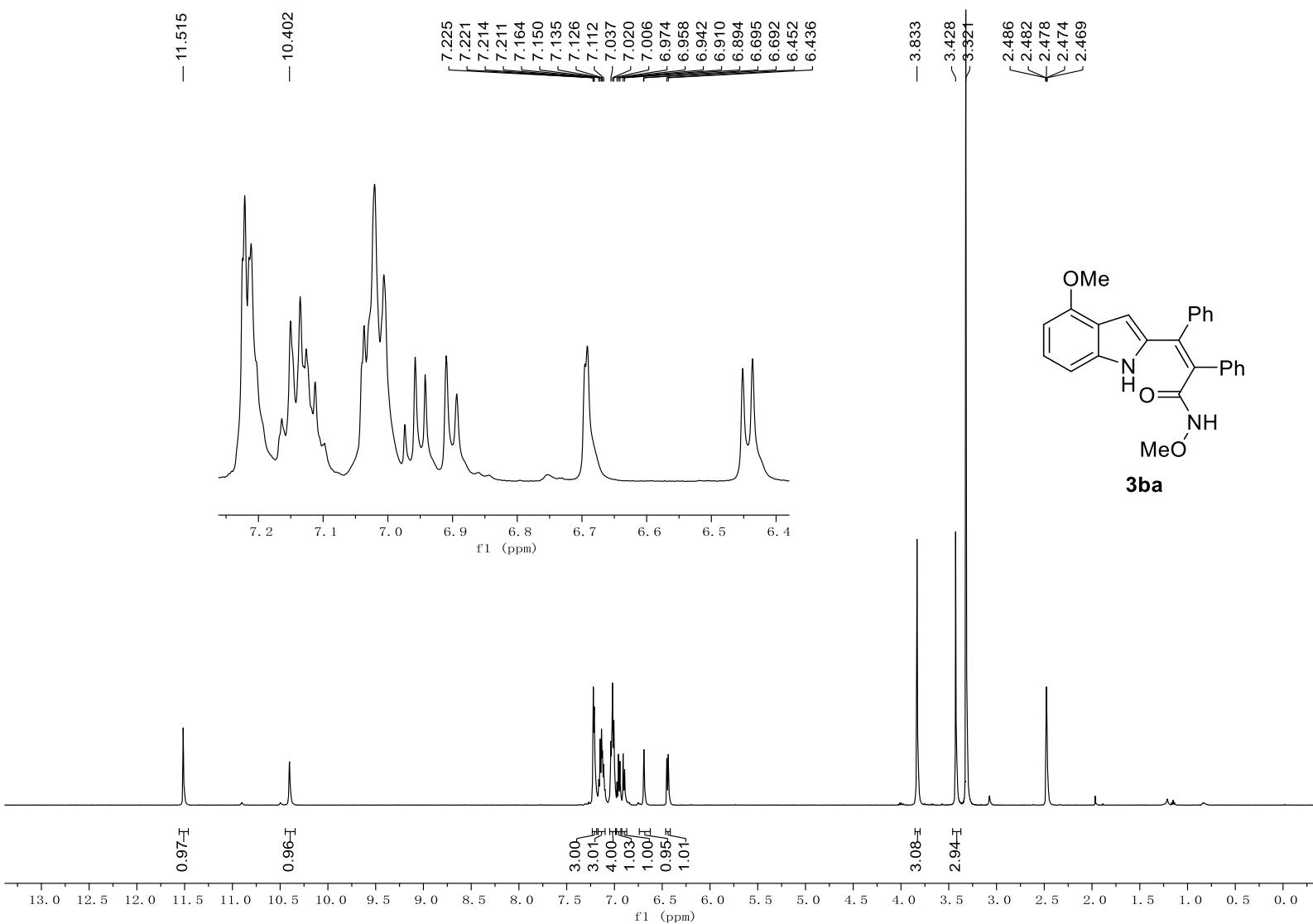
HRMS (ESI-TOF, [M + Na]⁺): For C₂₆H₂₁N₃O₄Na, 462.1430, Found: 462.1436.

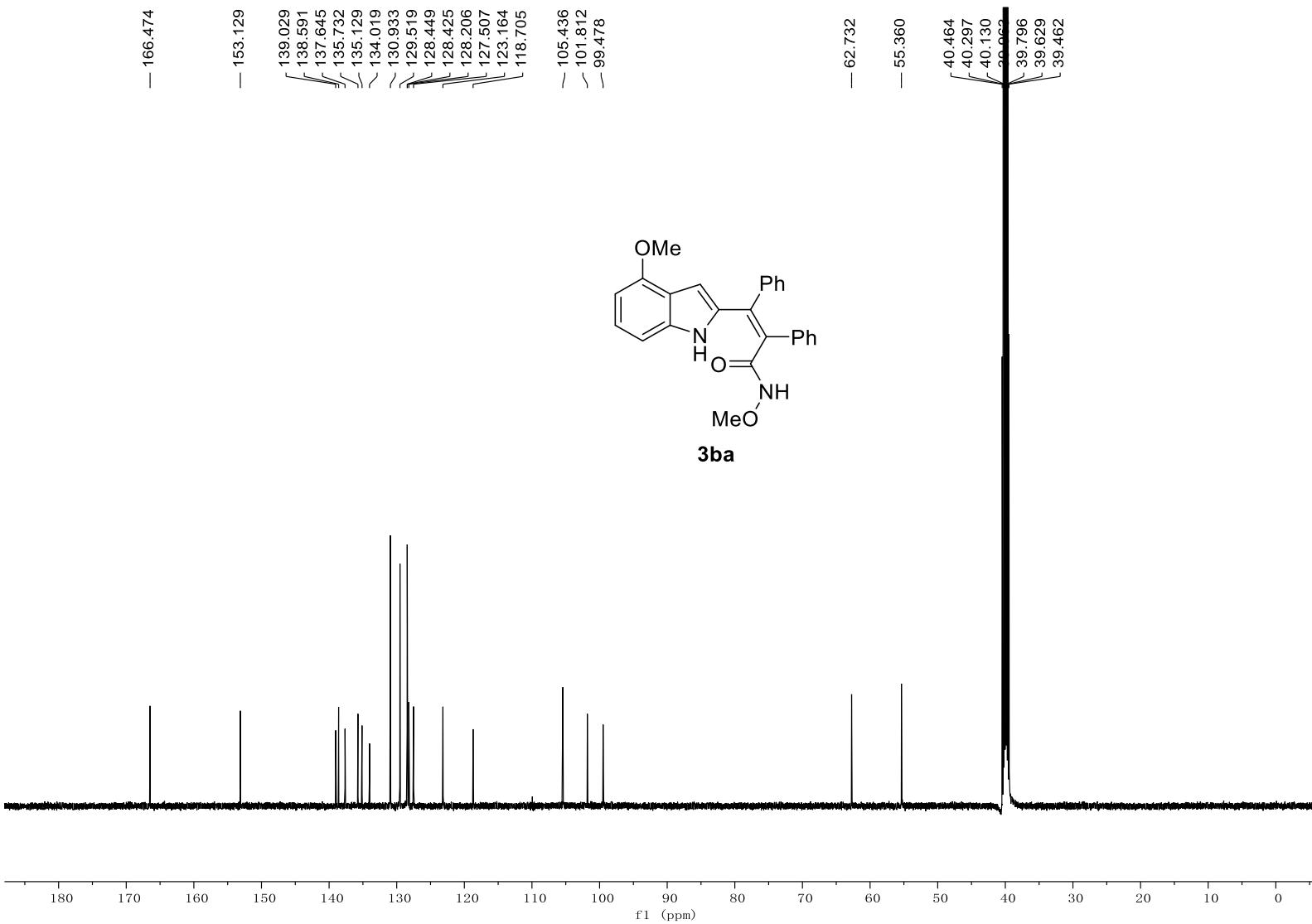
NMR spectra for products

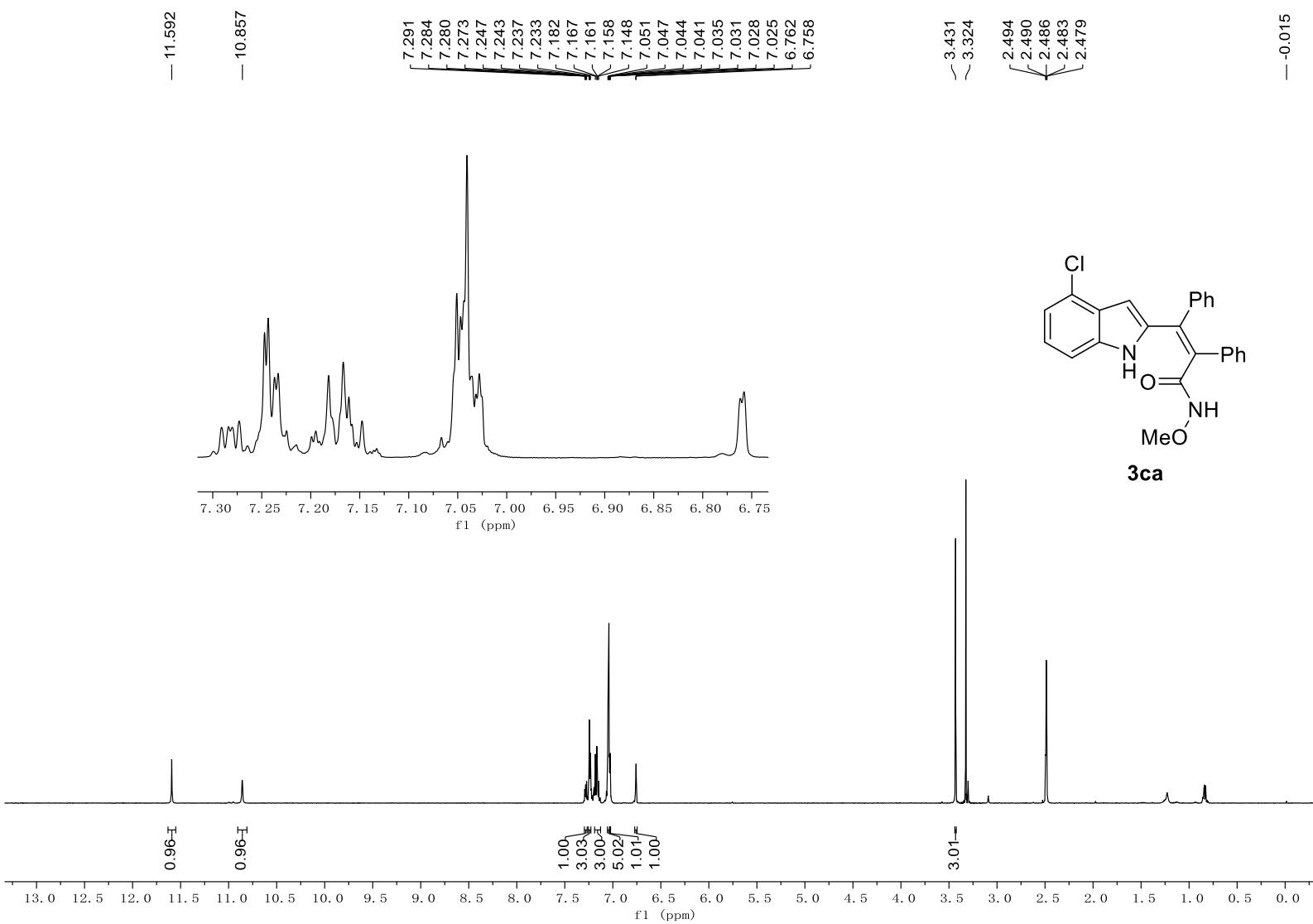


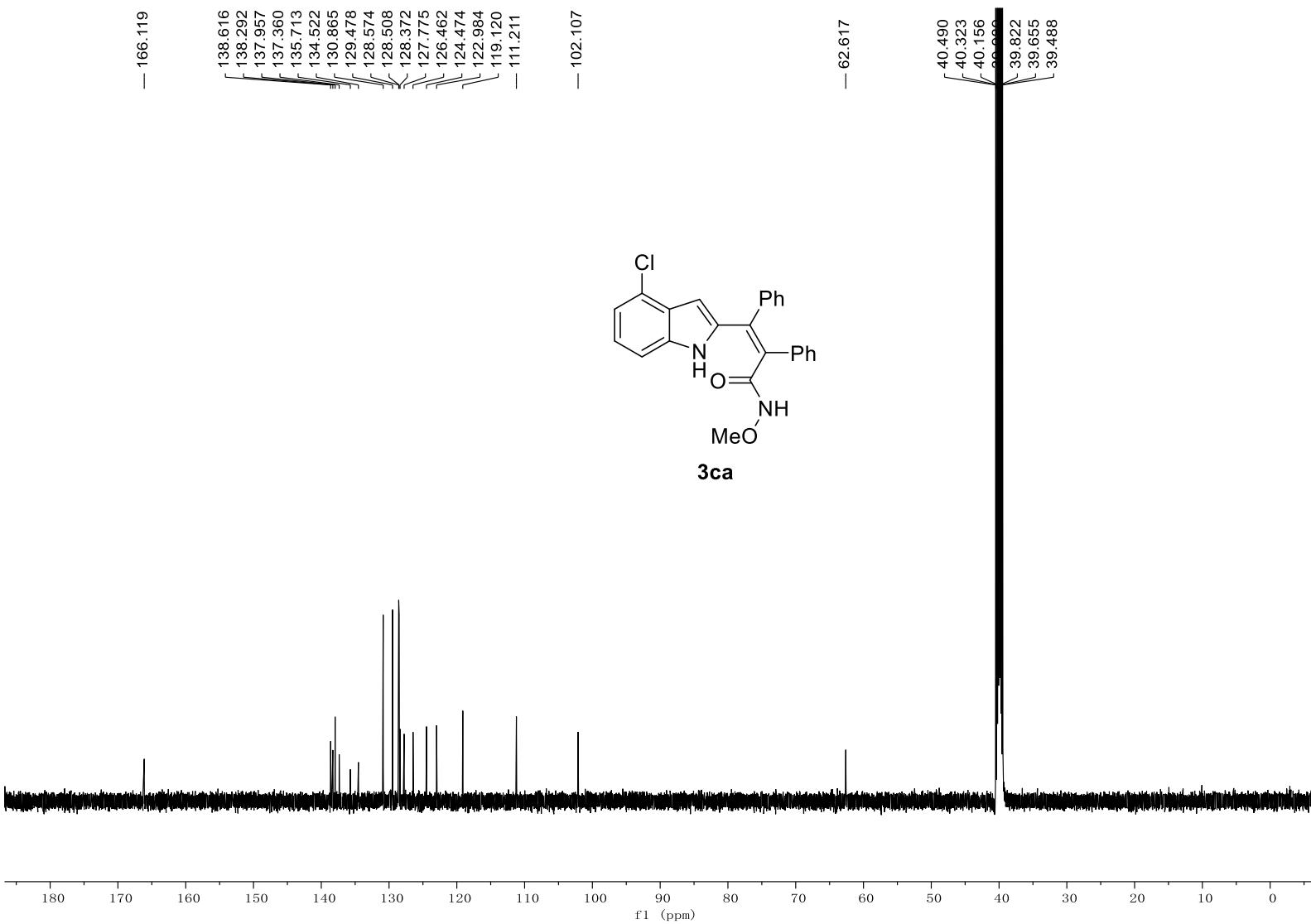


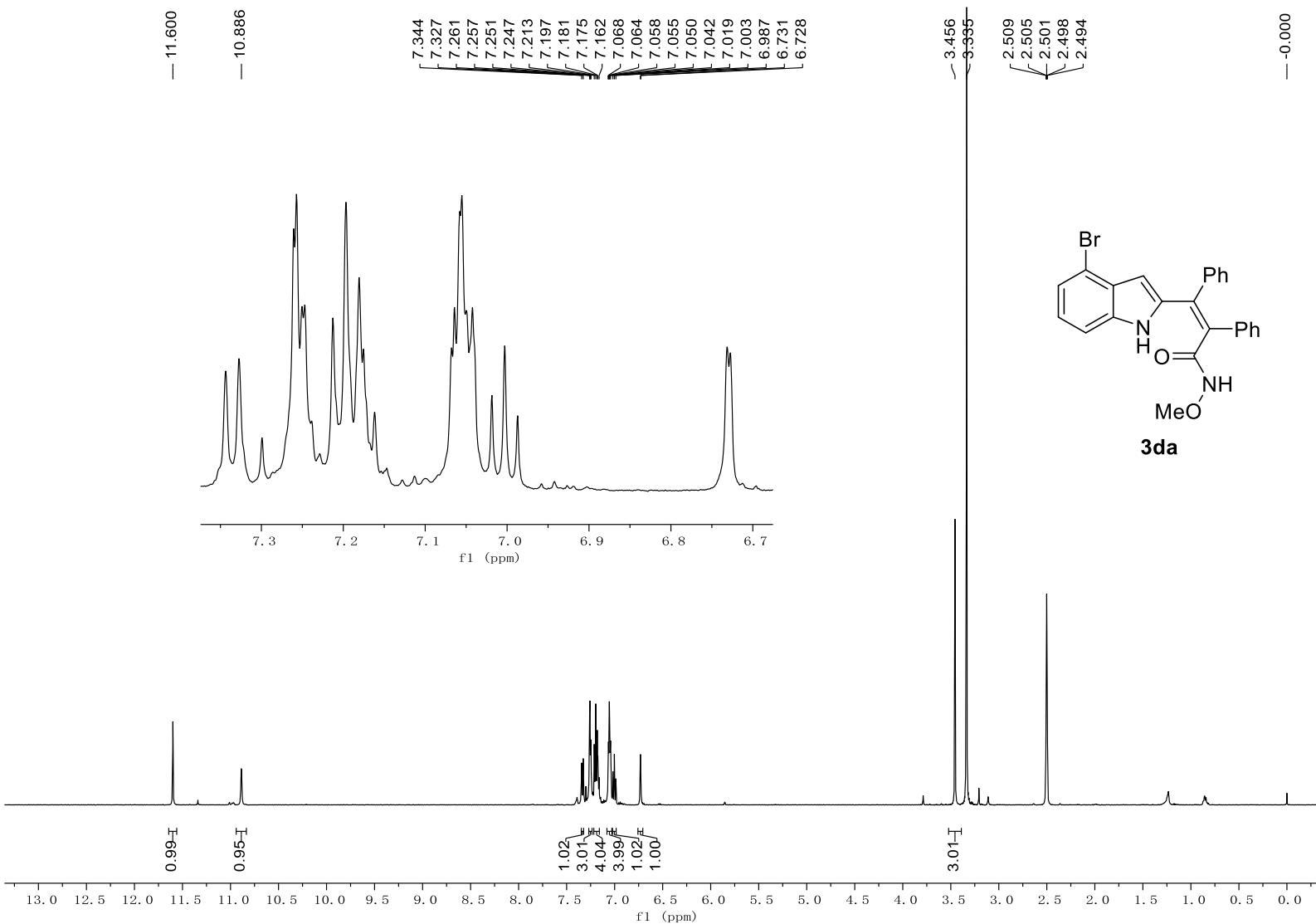
3aa

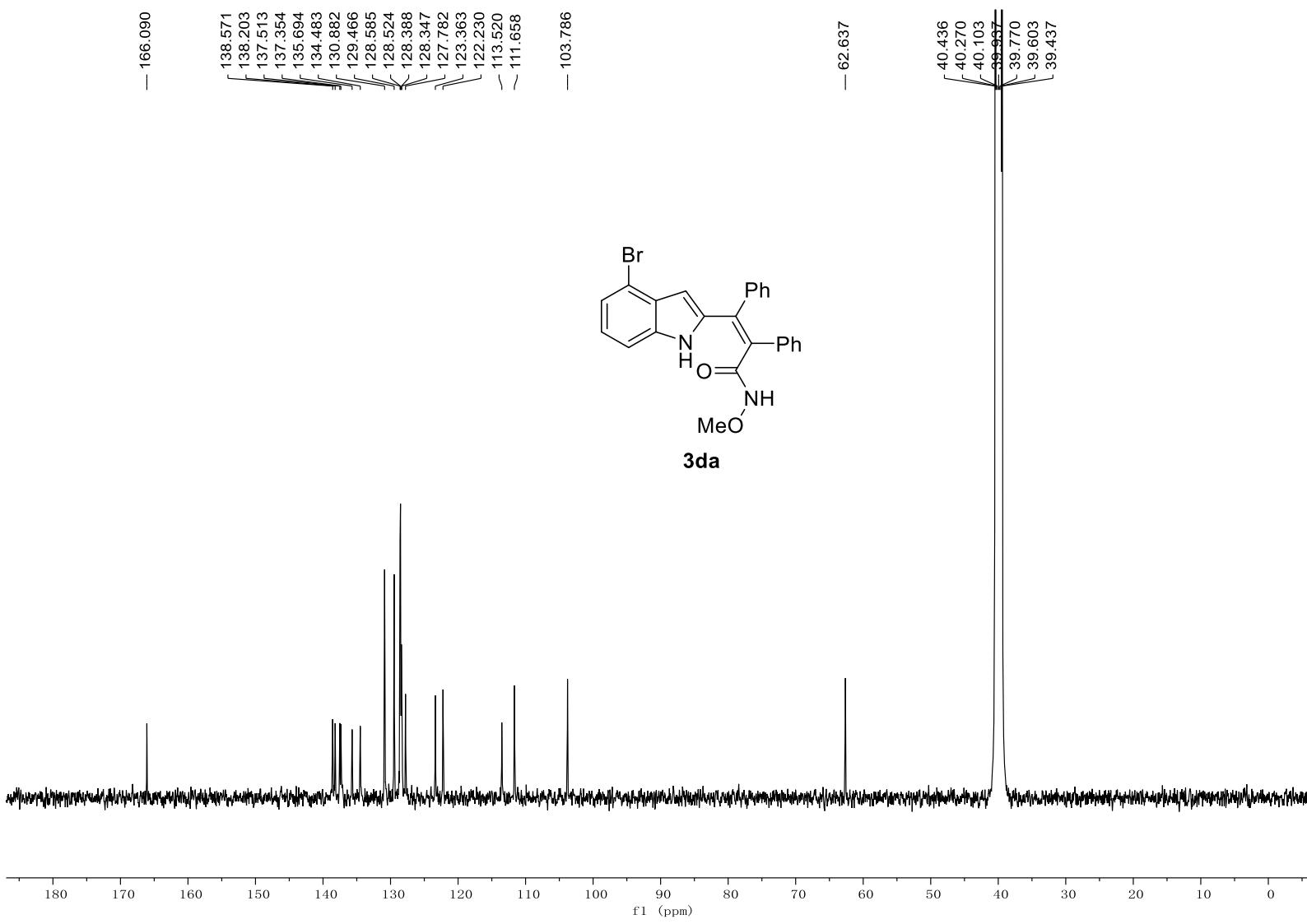


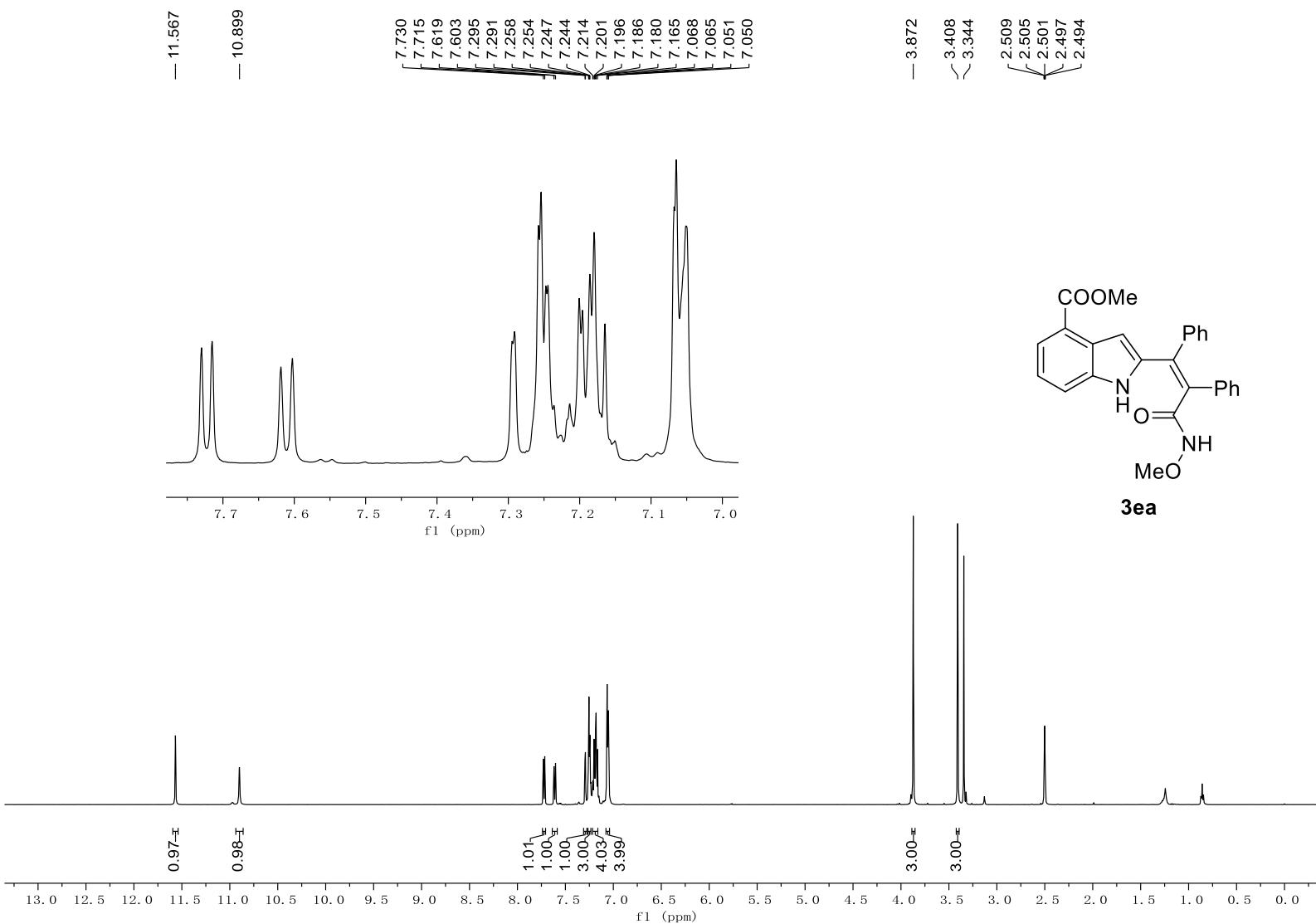


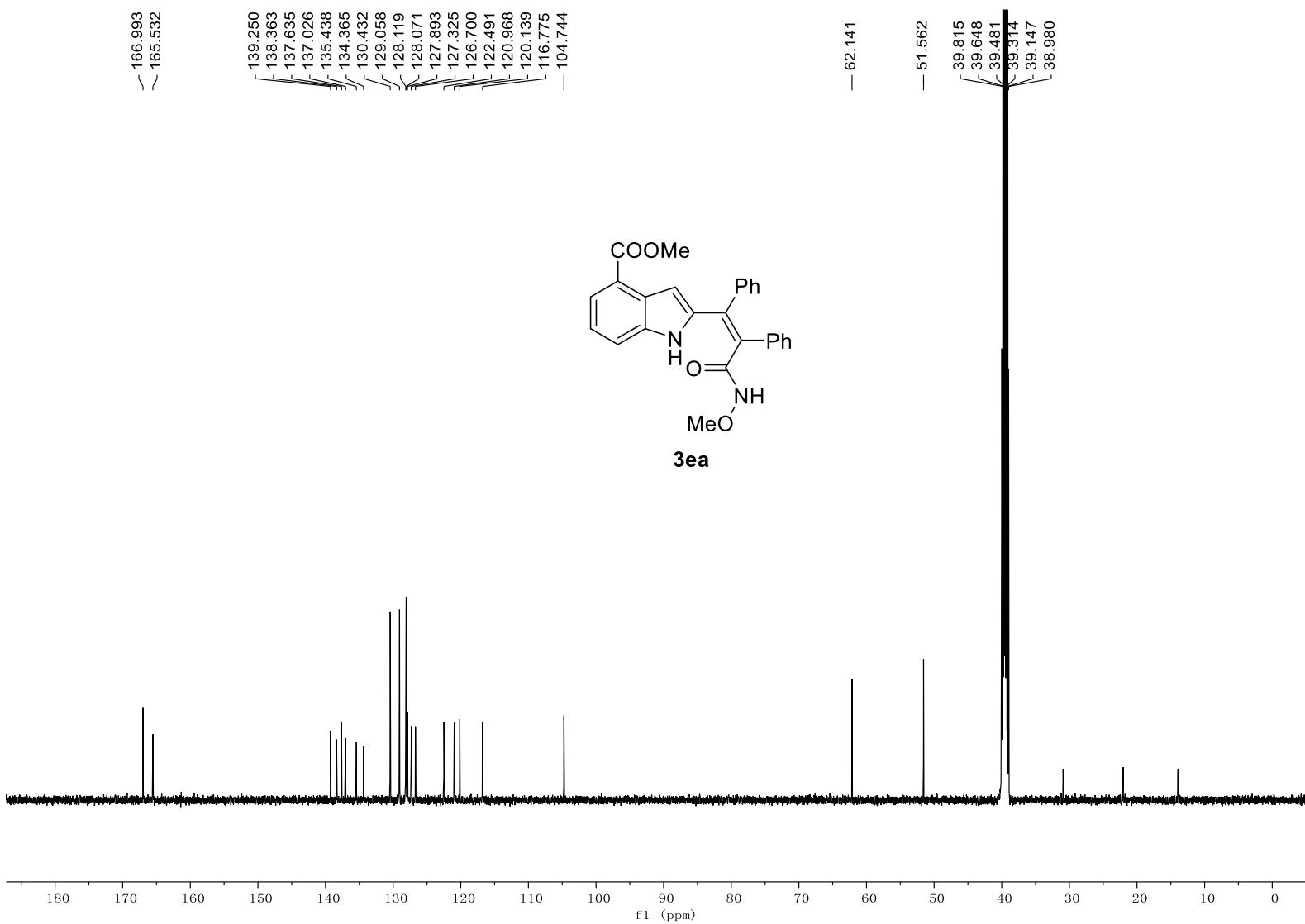


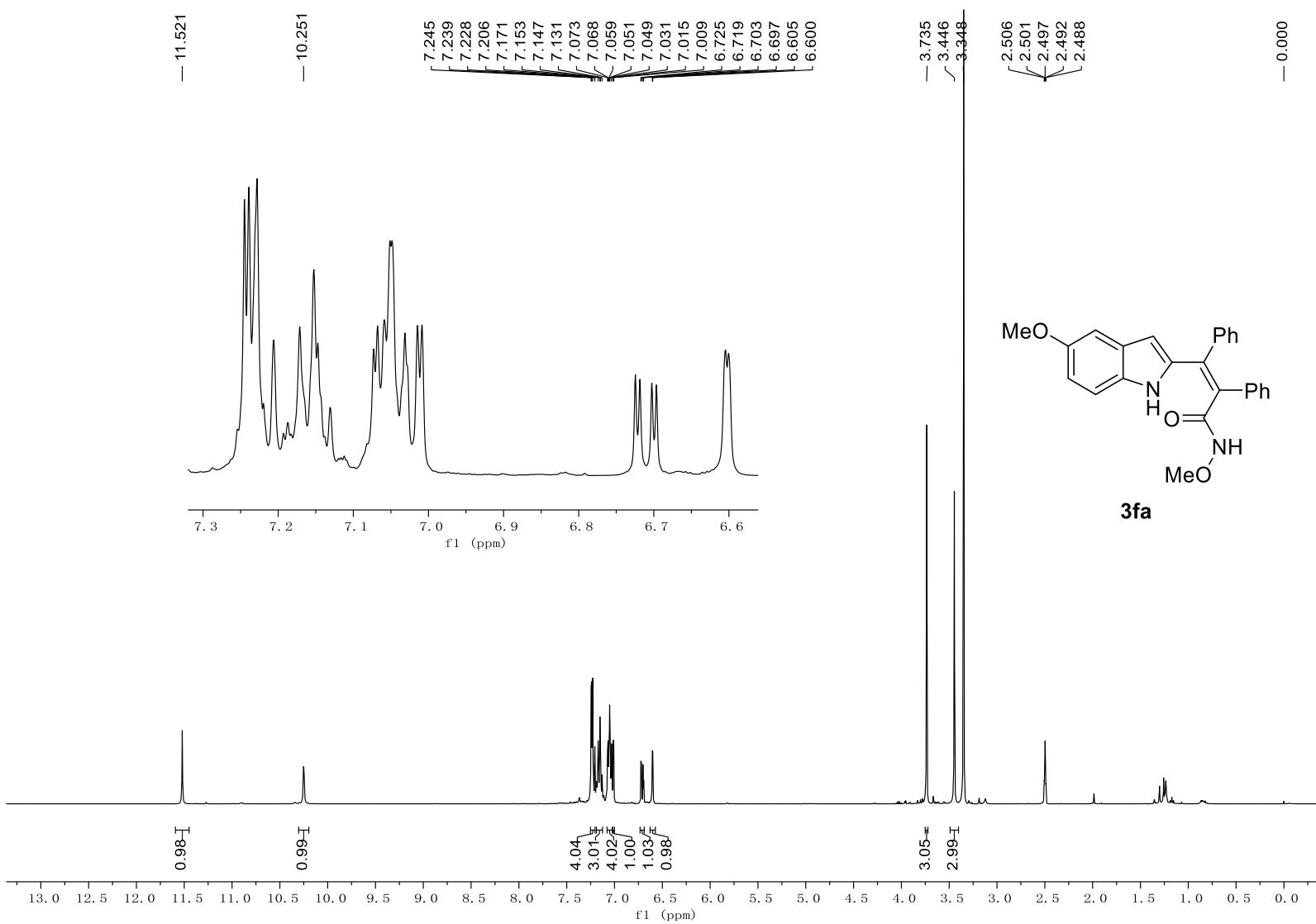


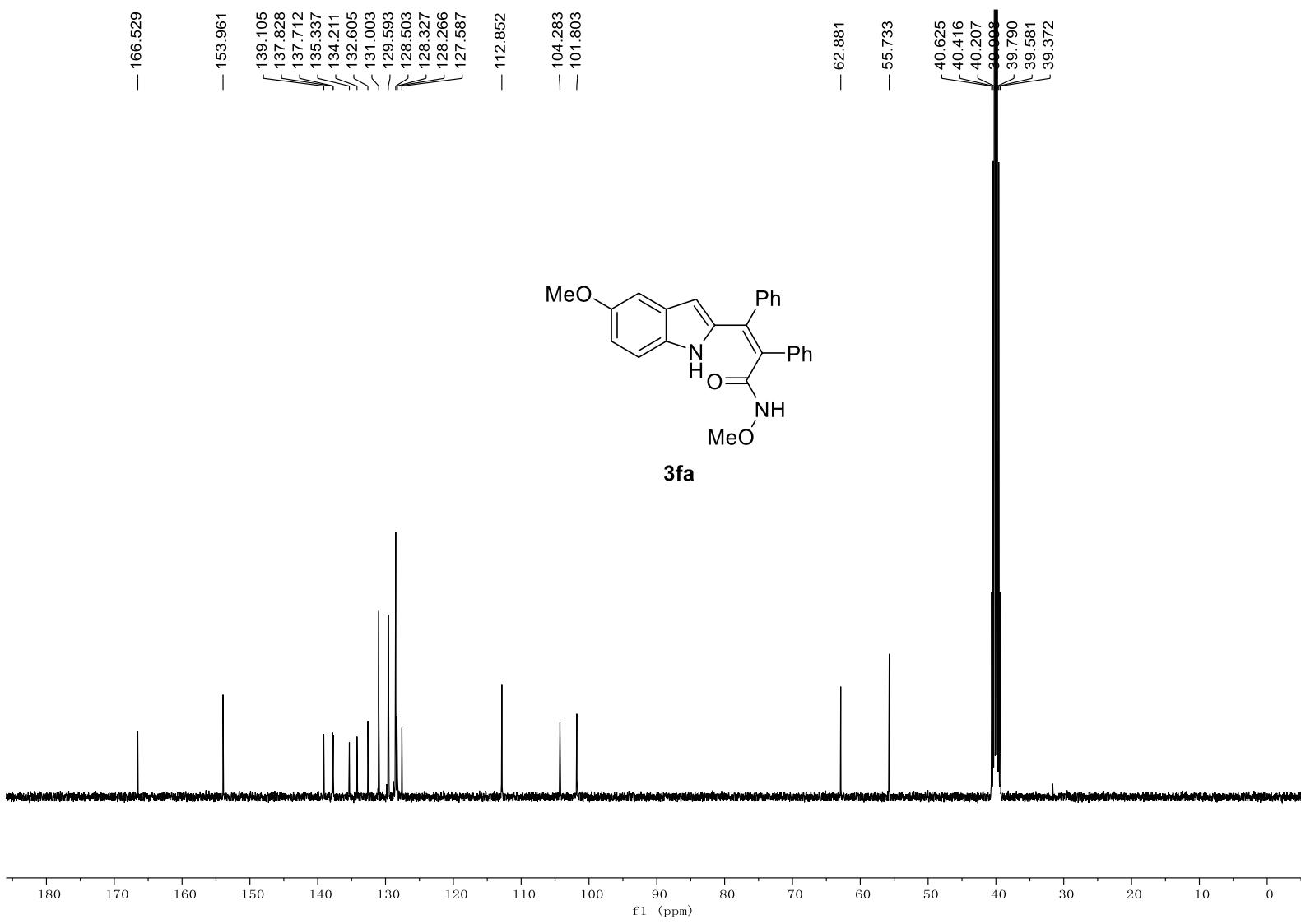


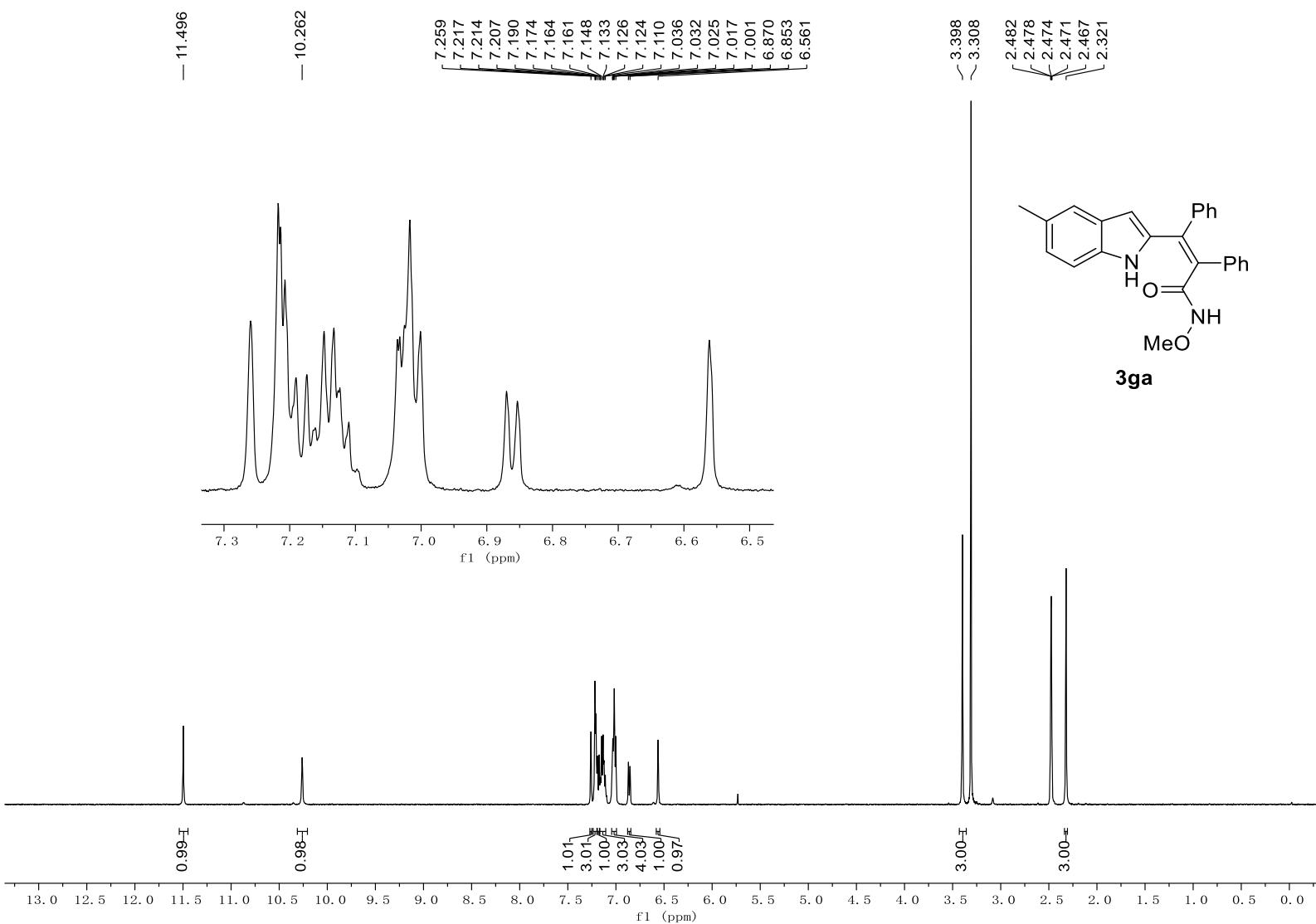


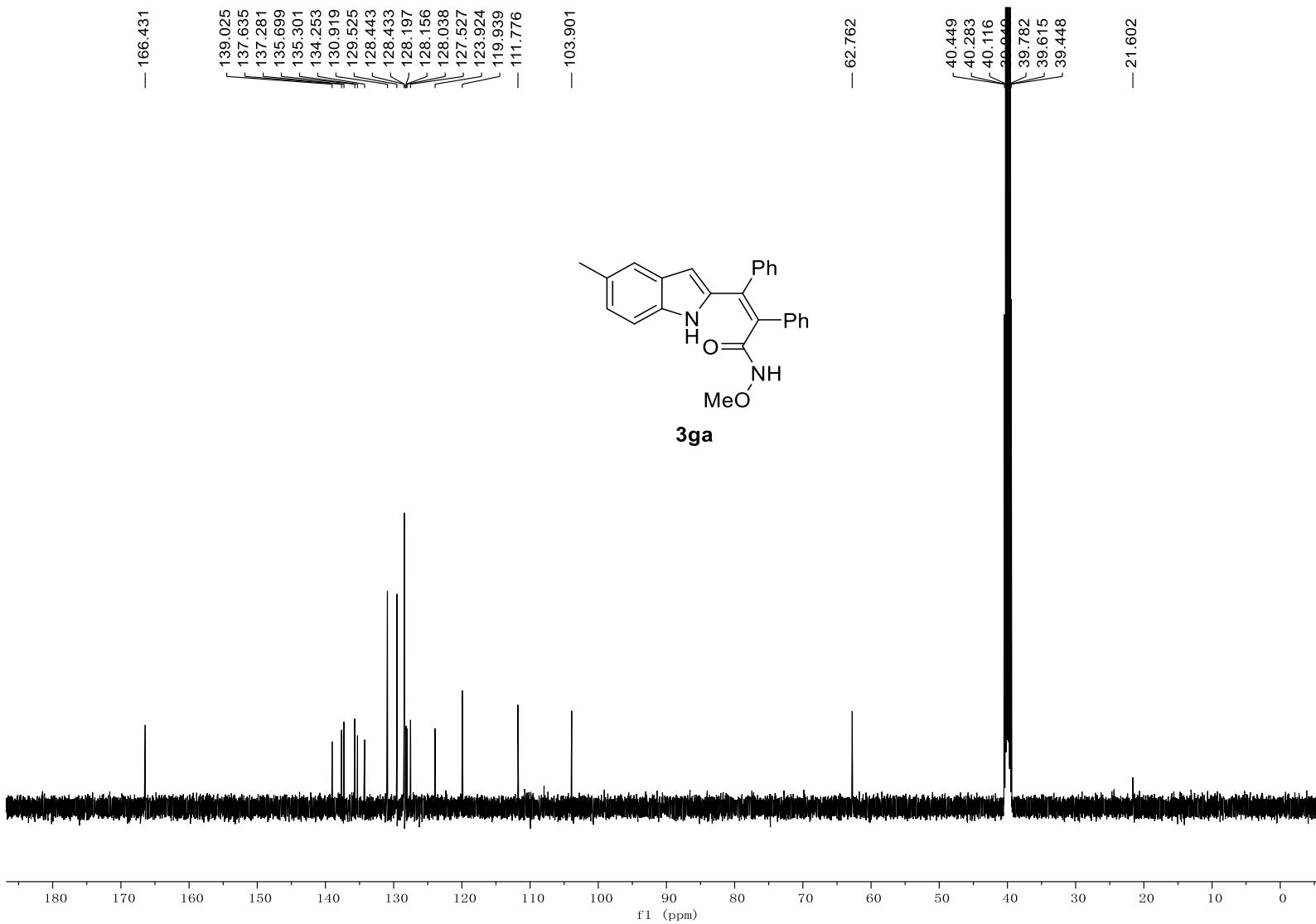


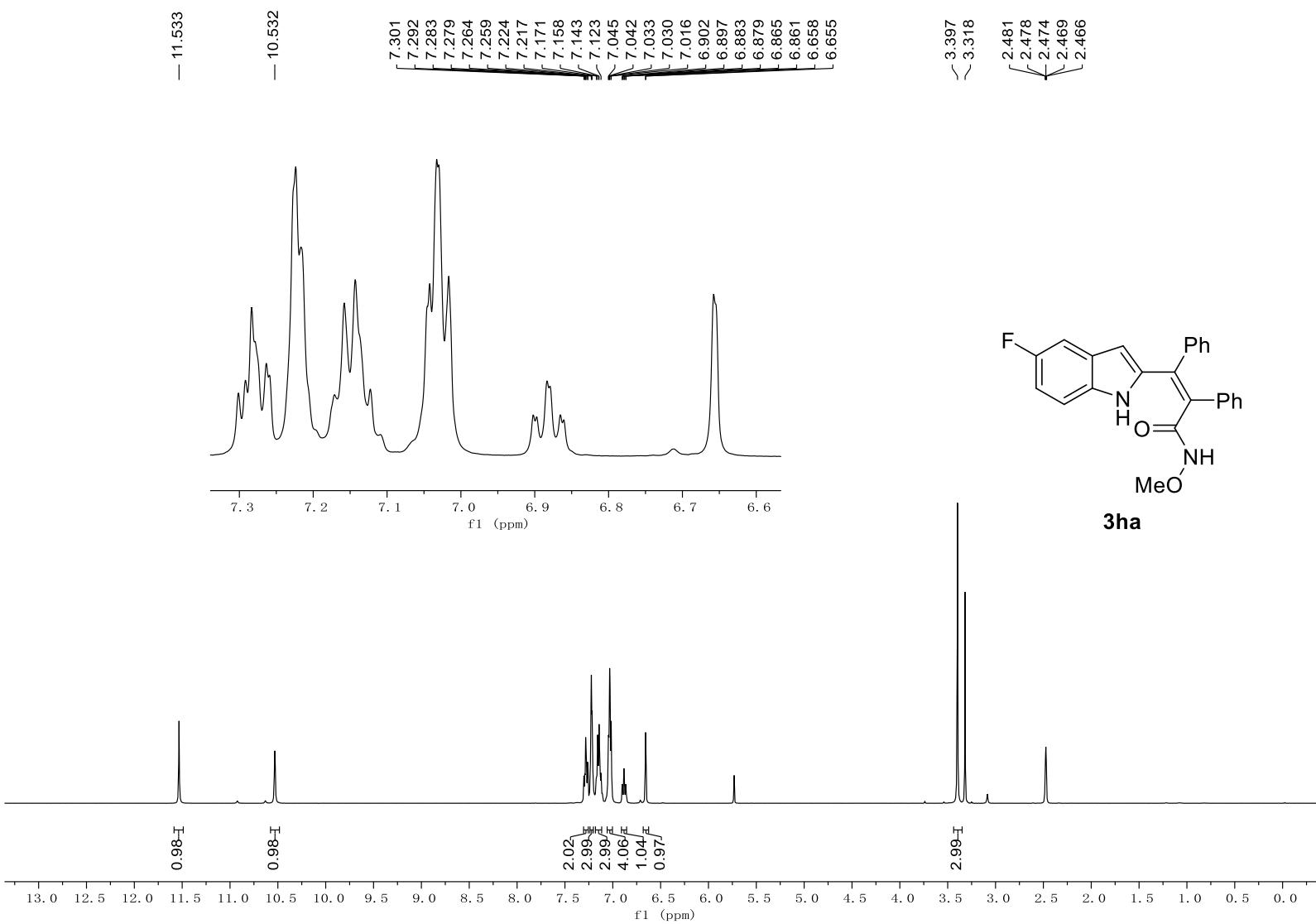


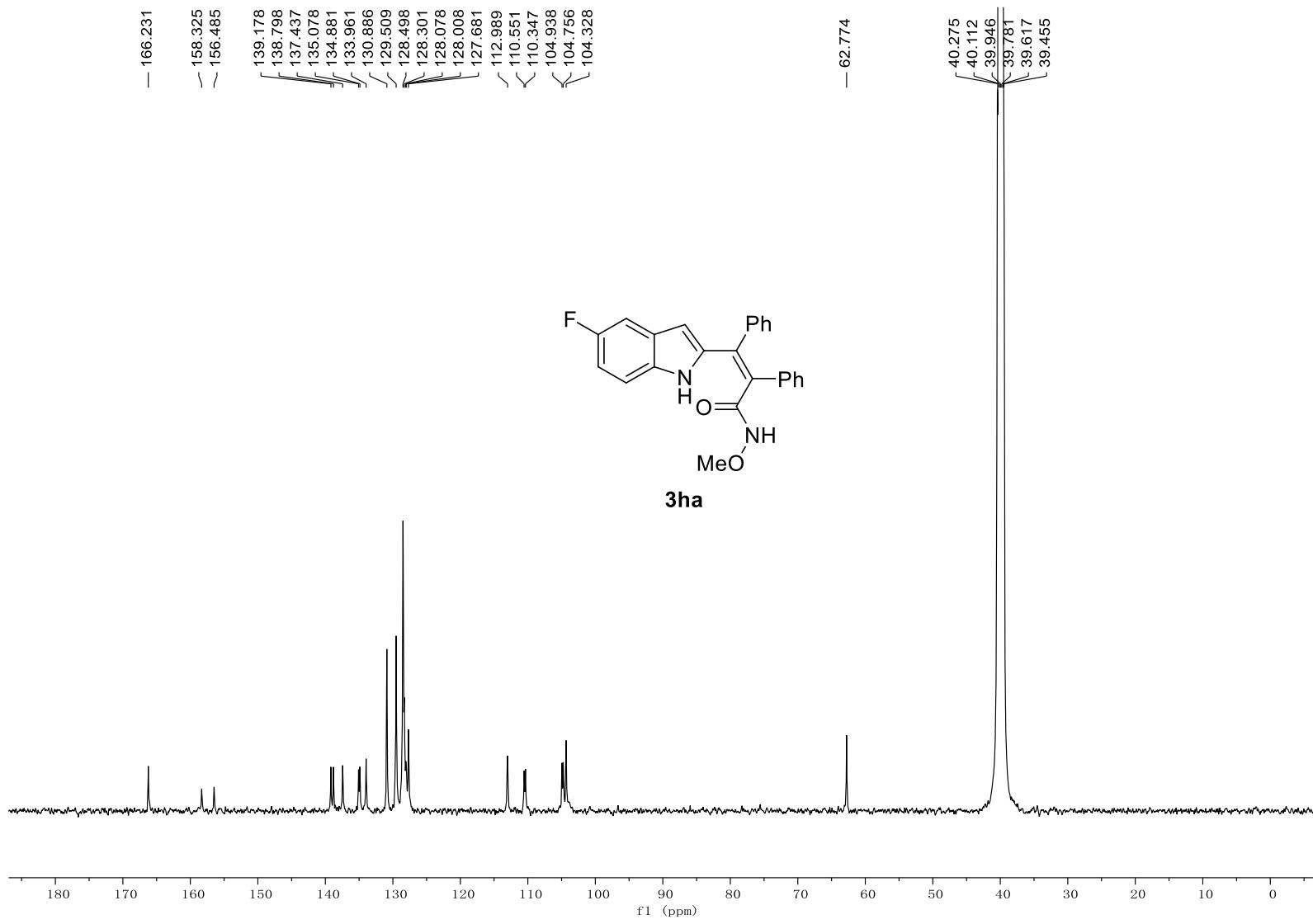


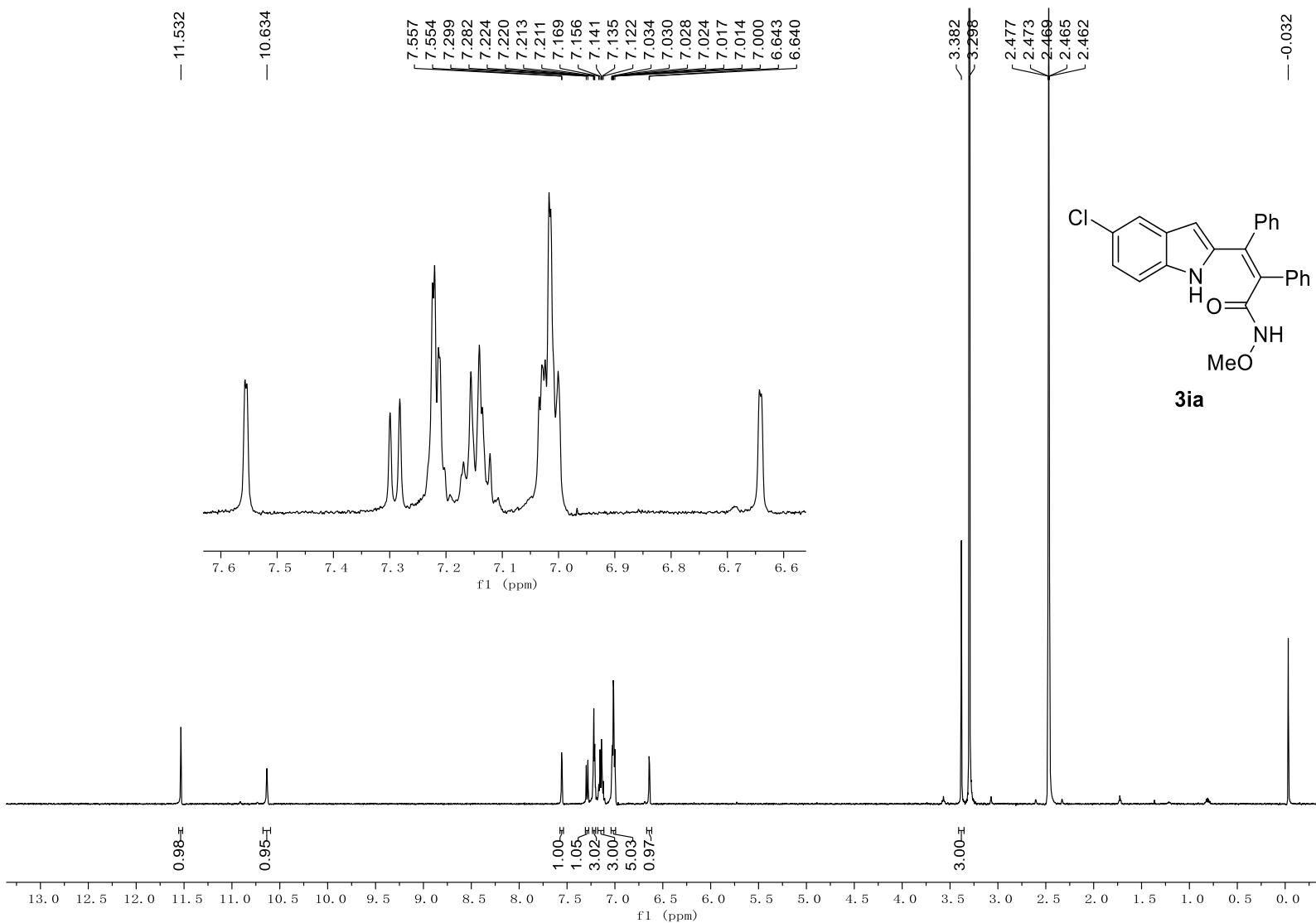


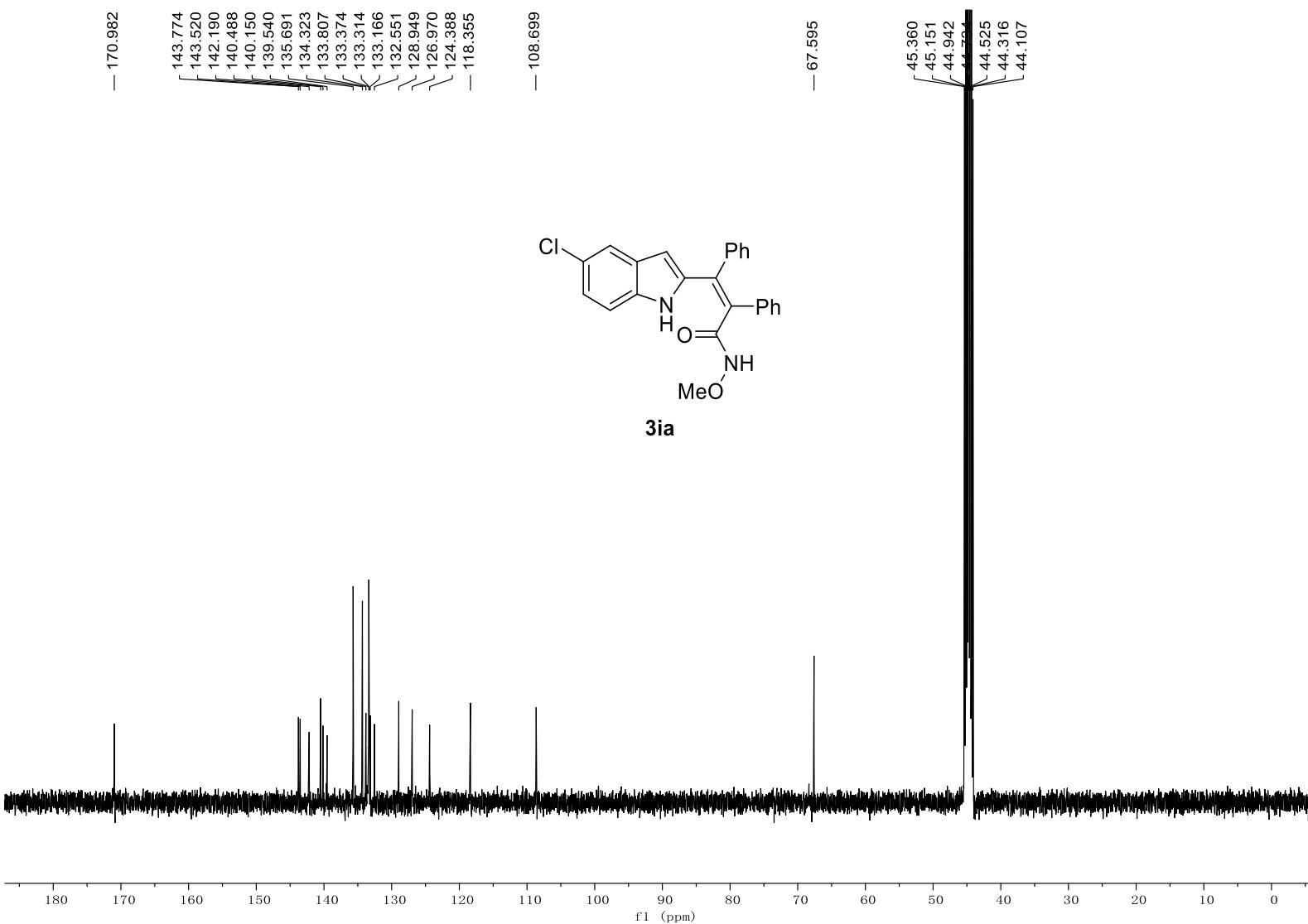


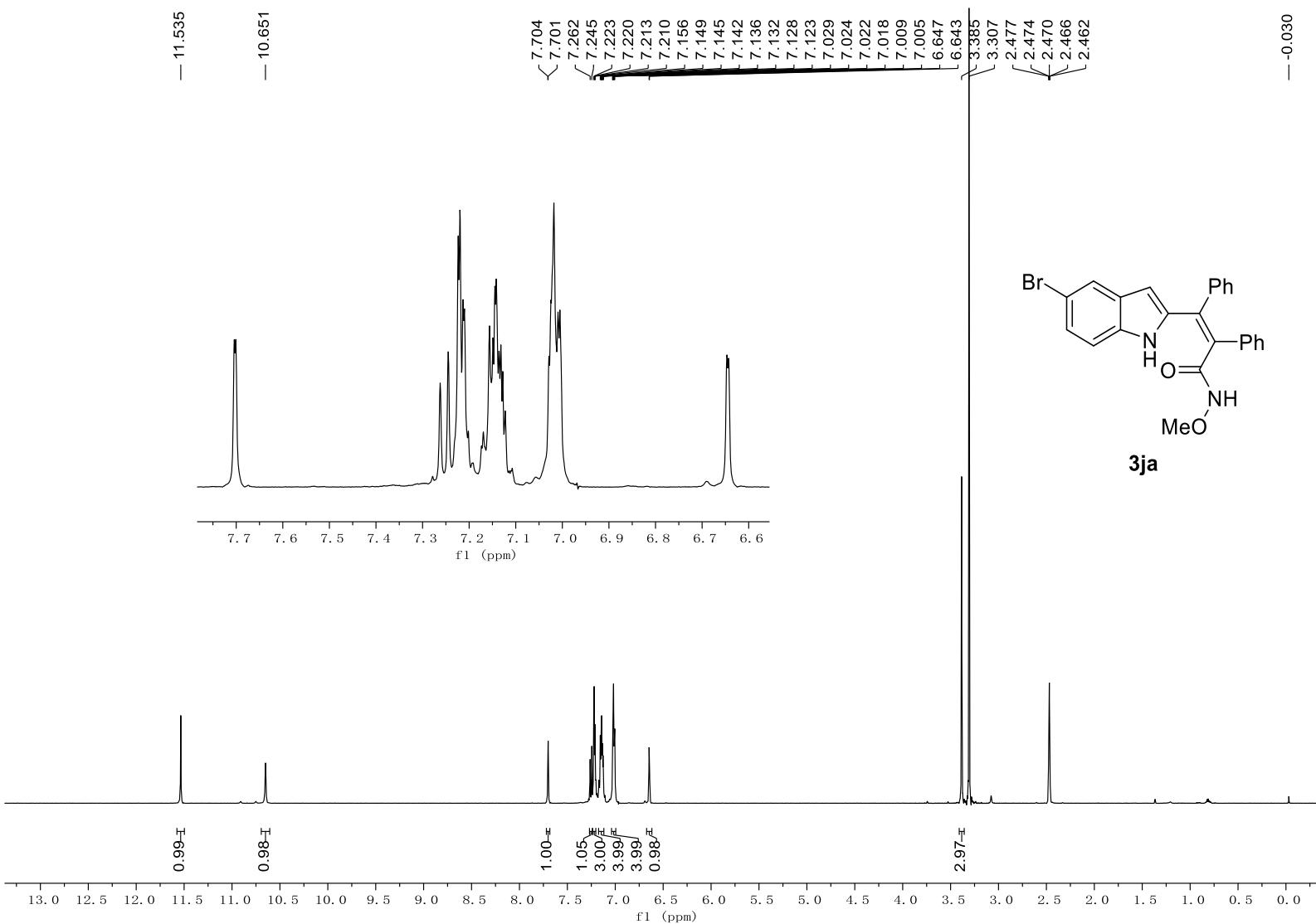


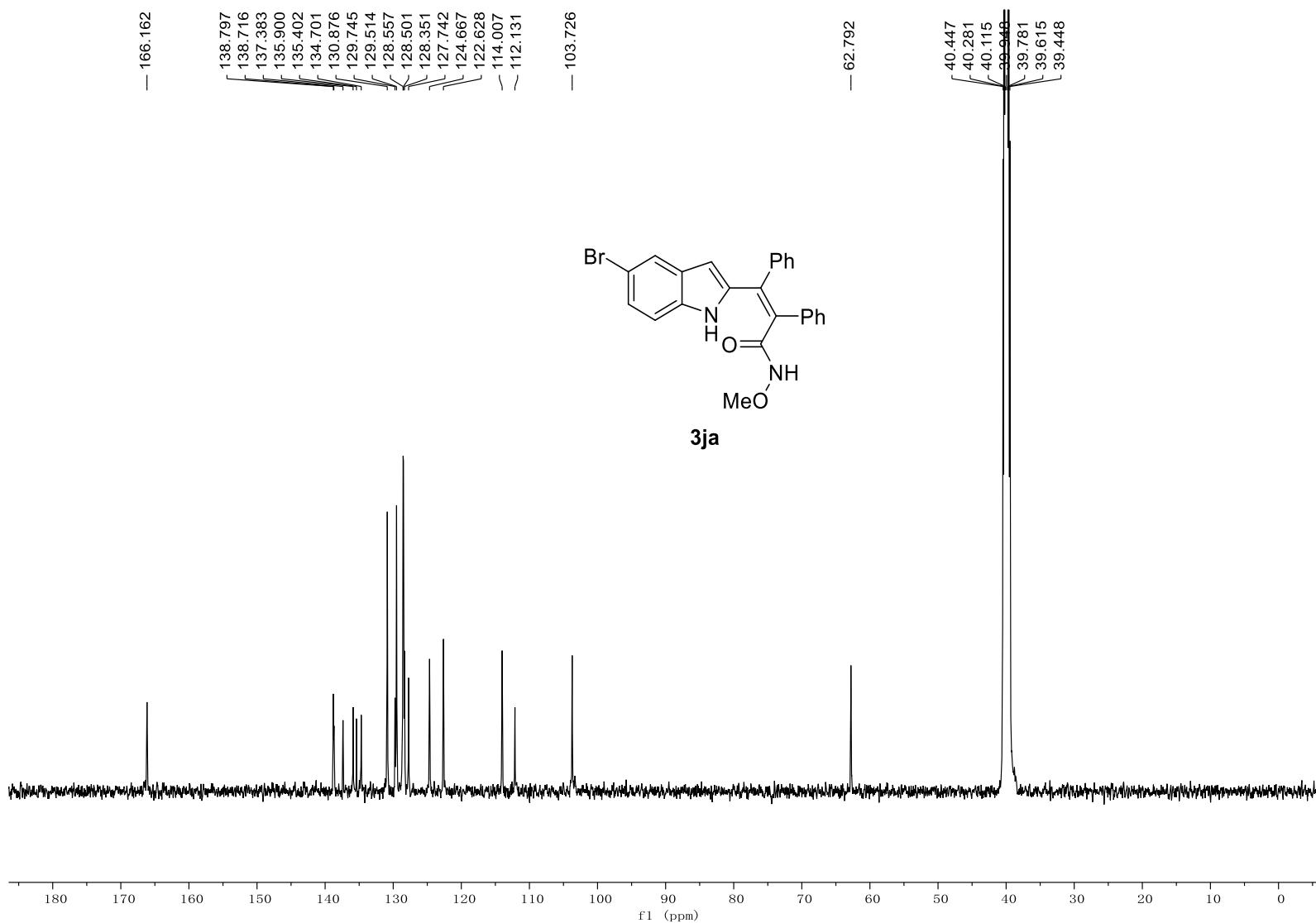


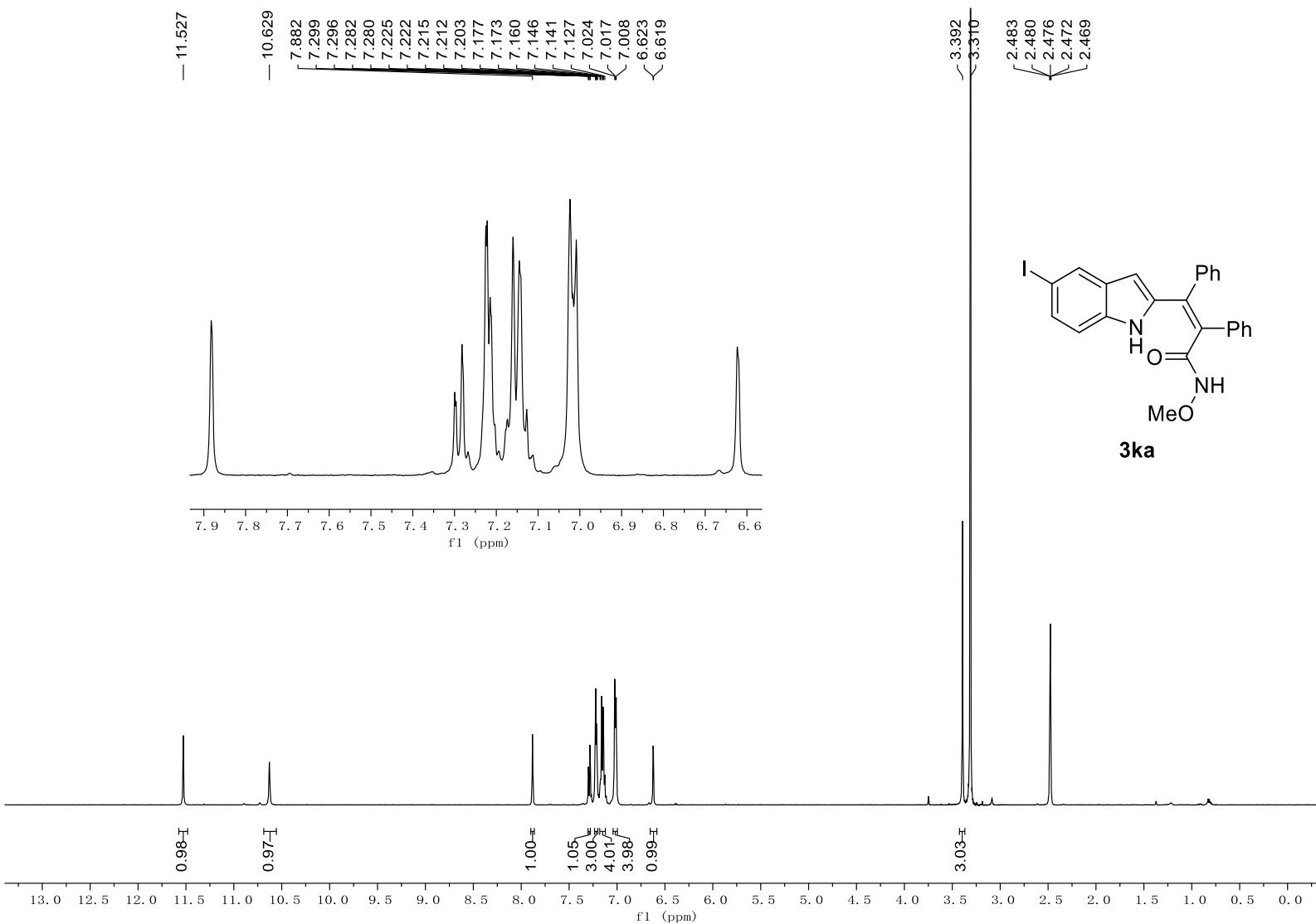


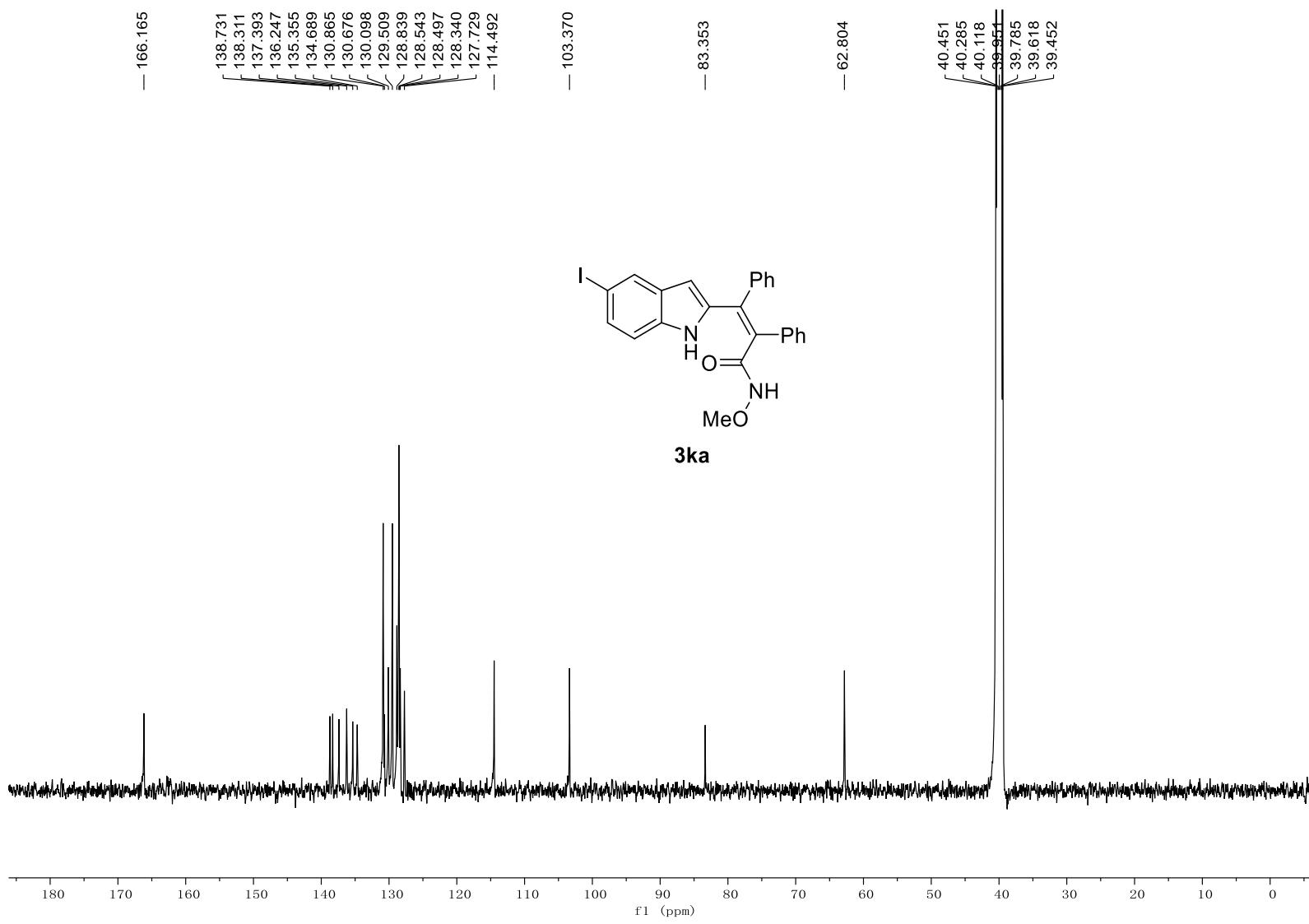


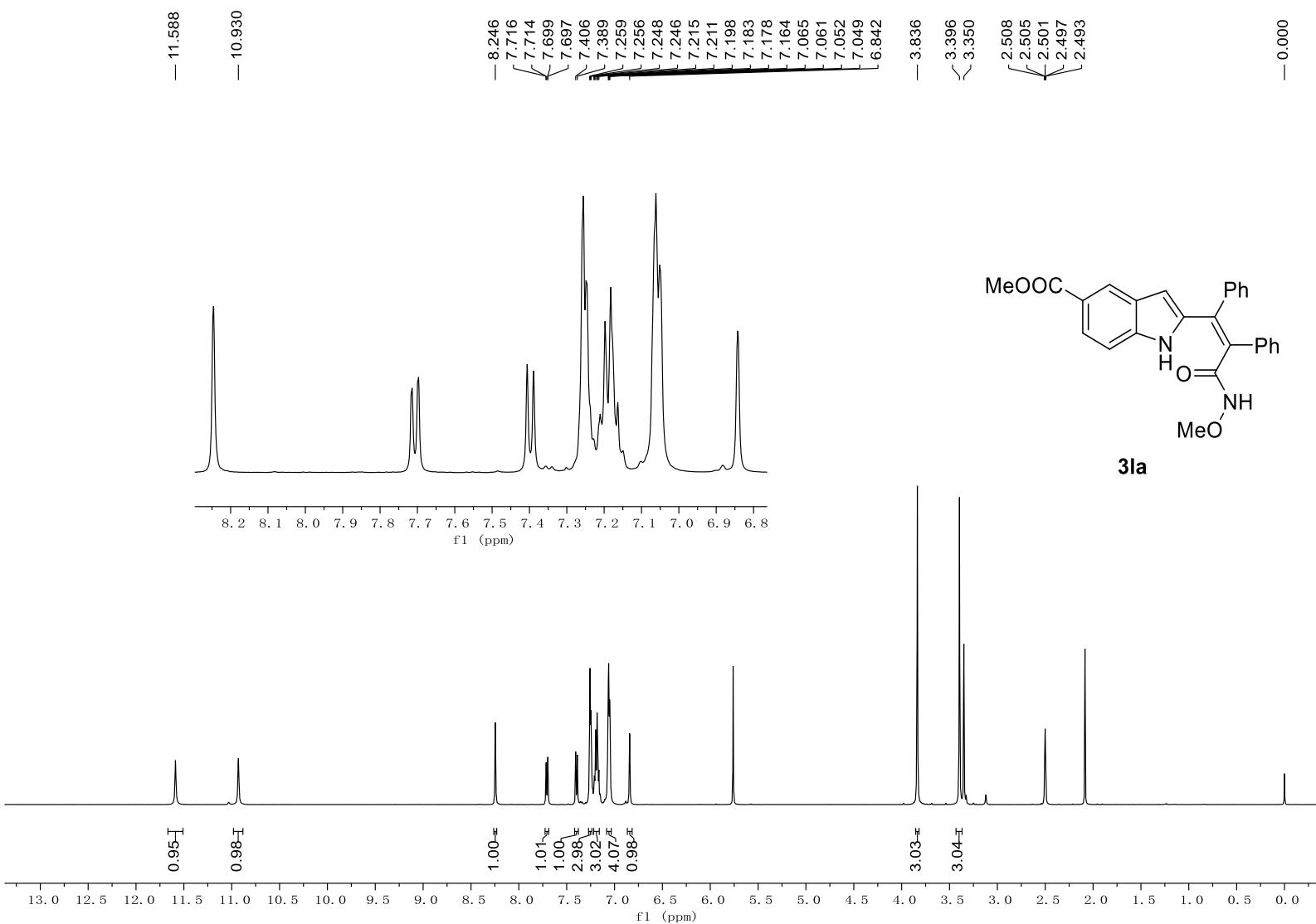


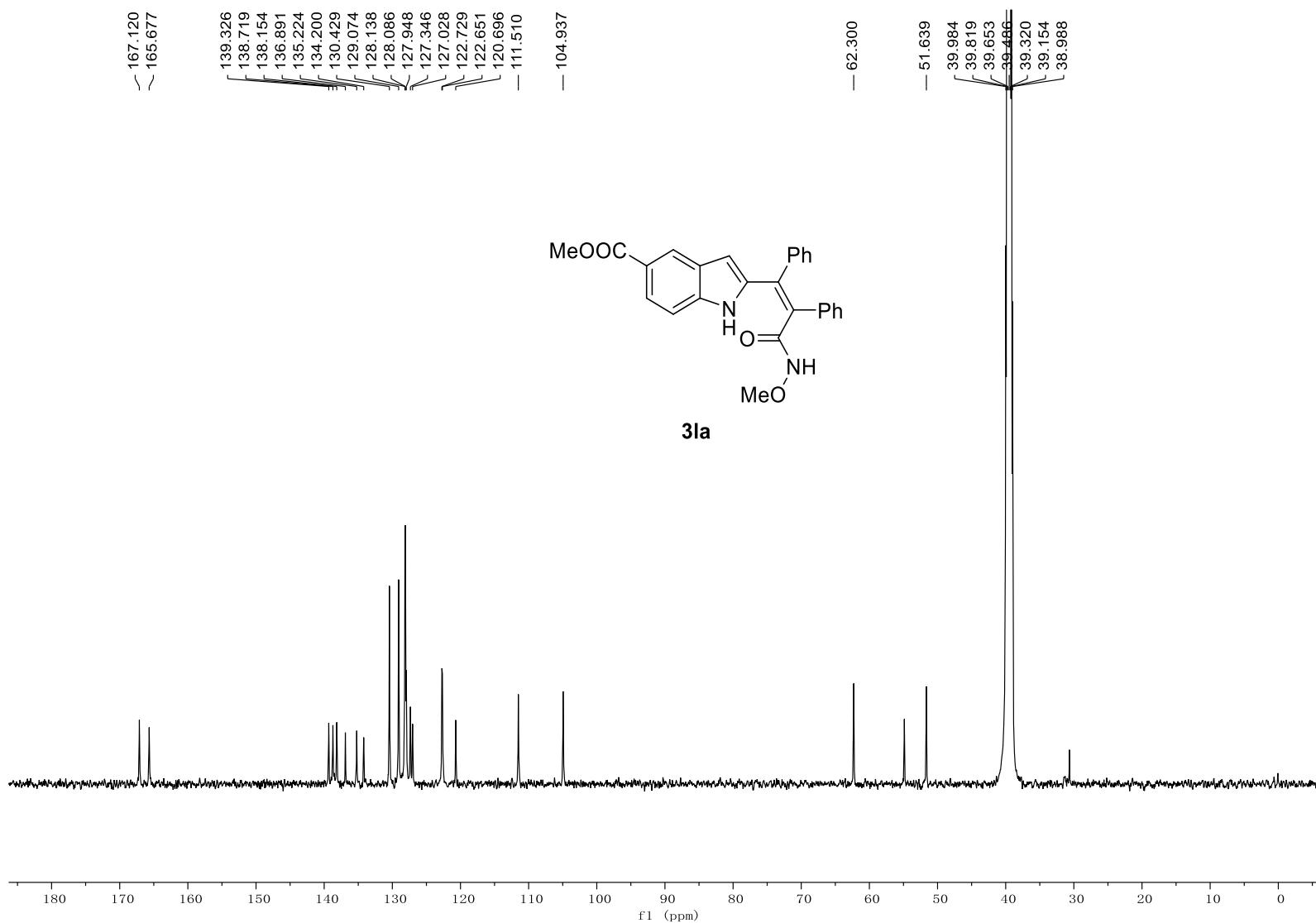


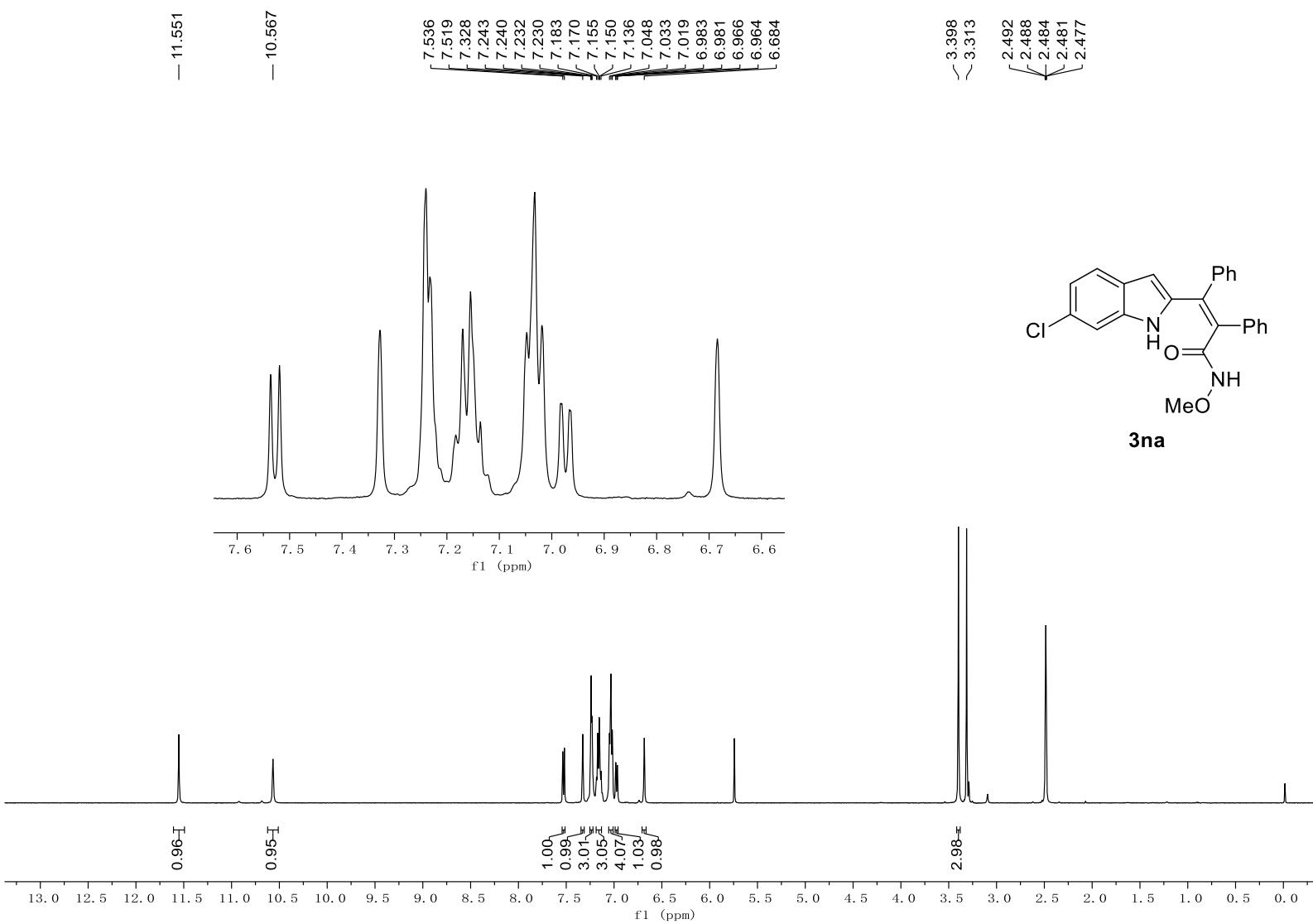


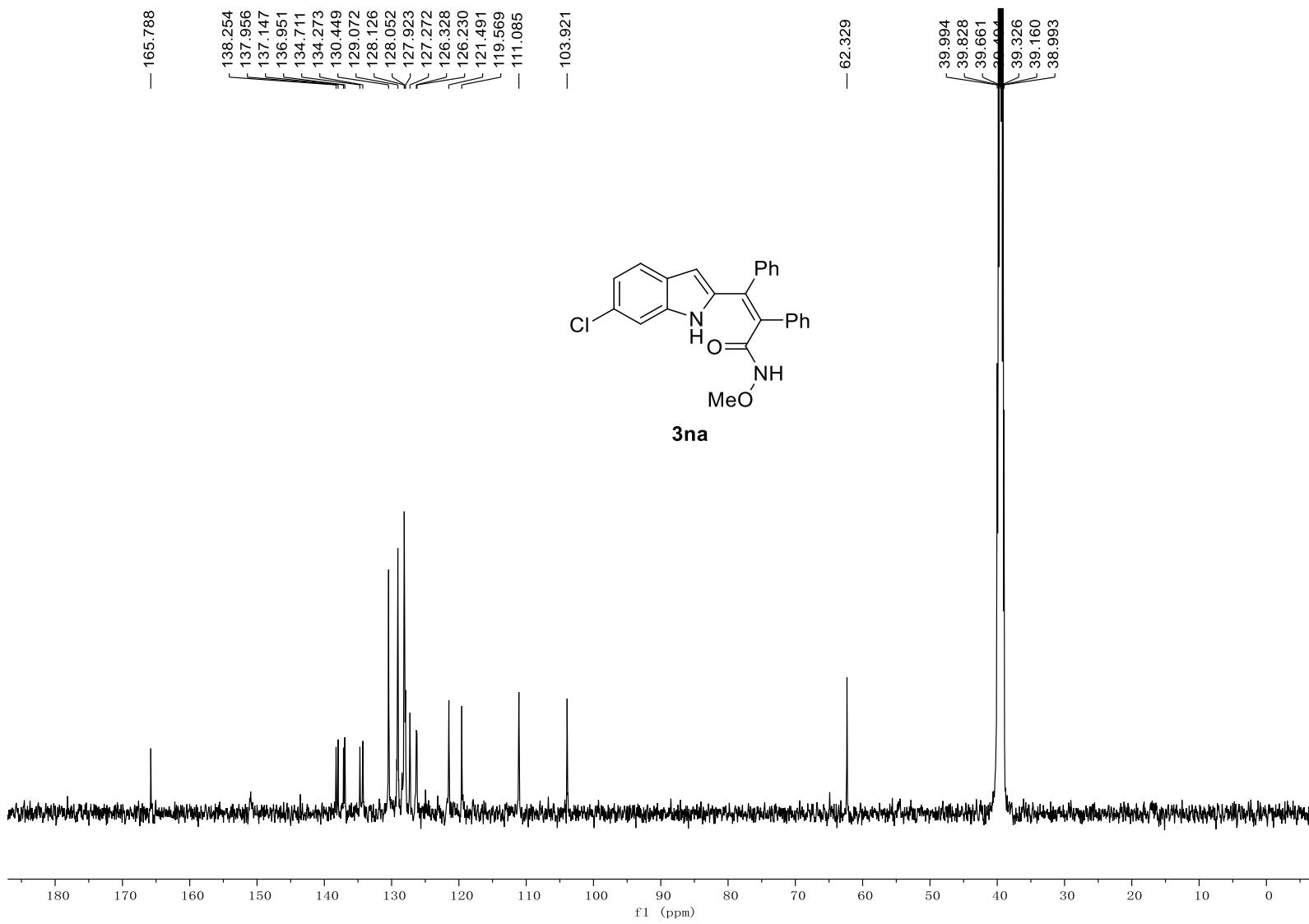


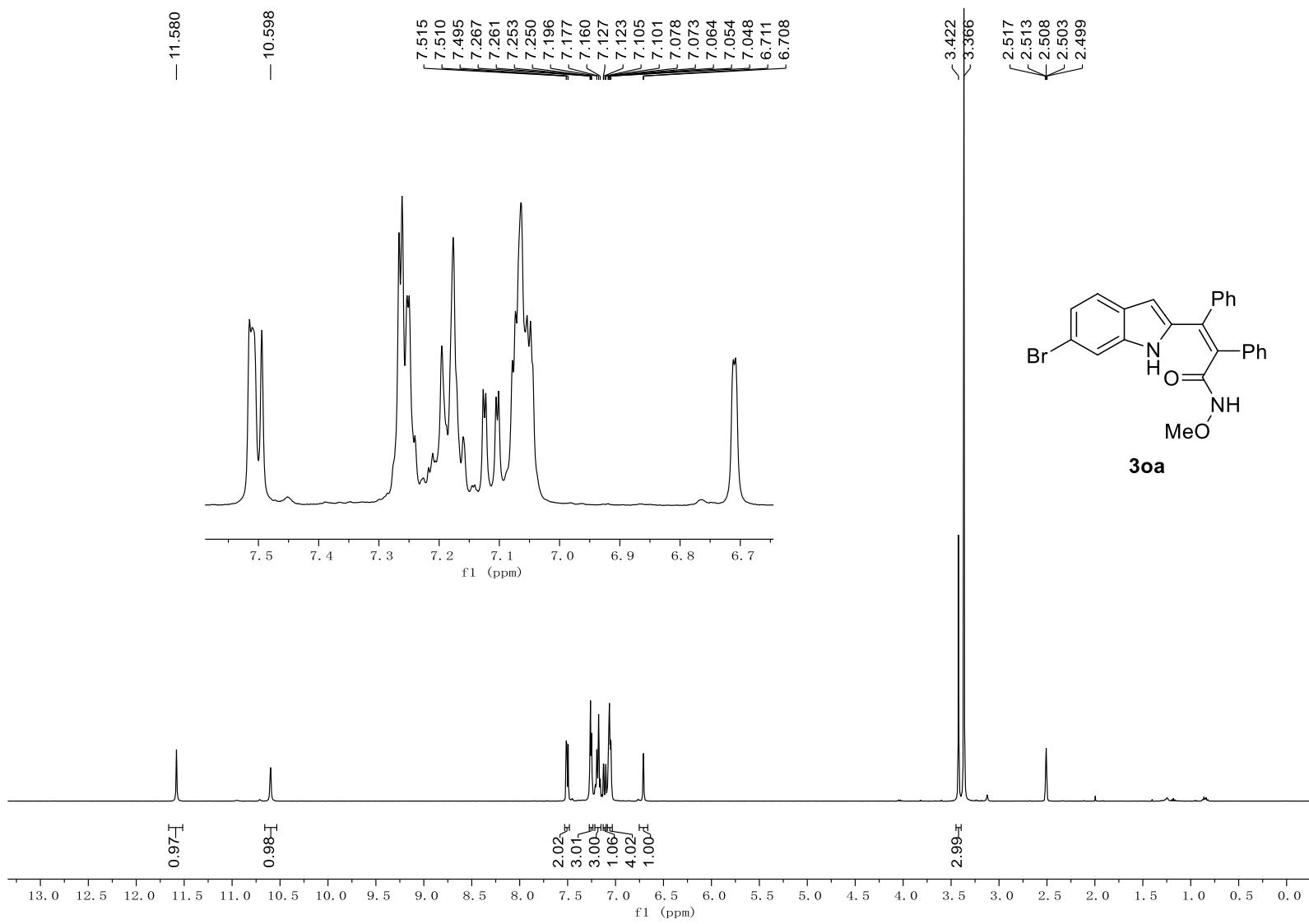


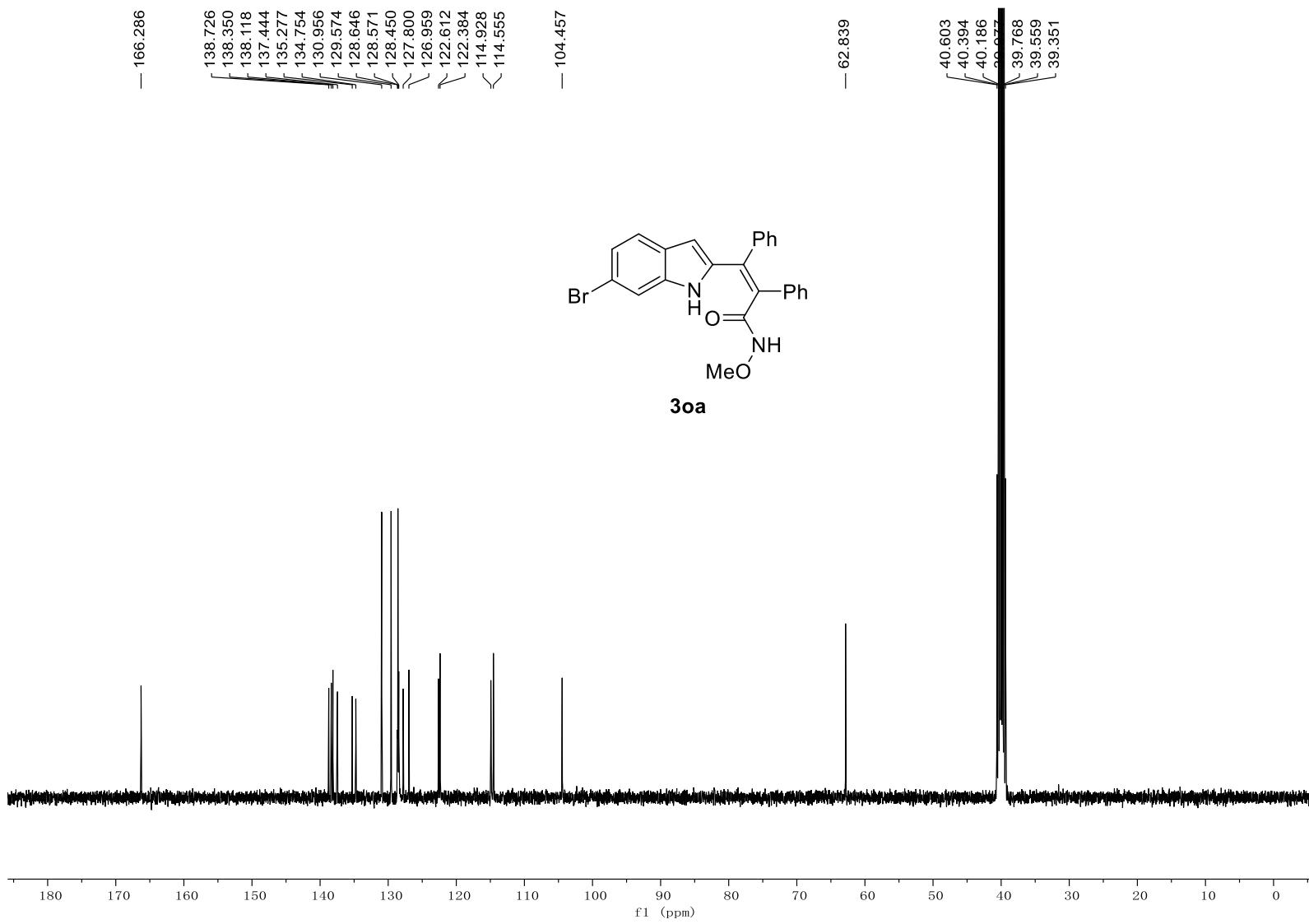


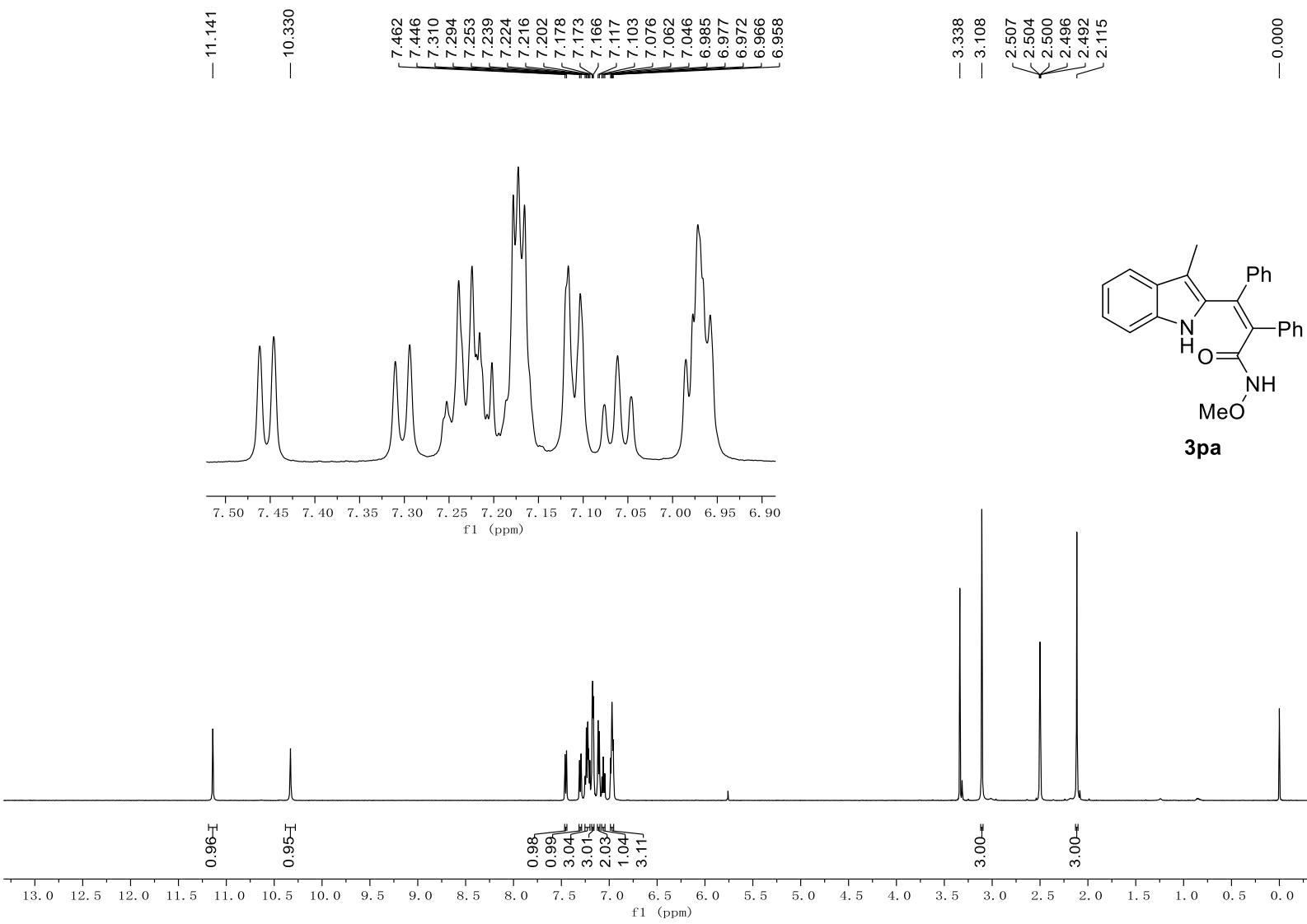


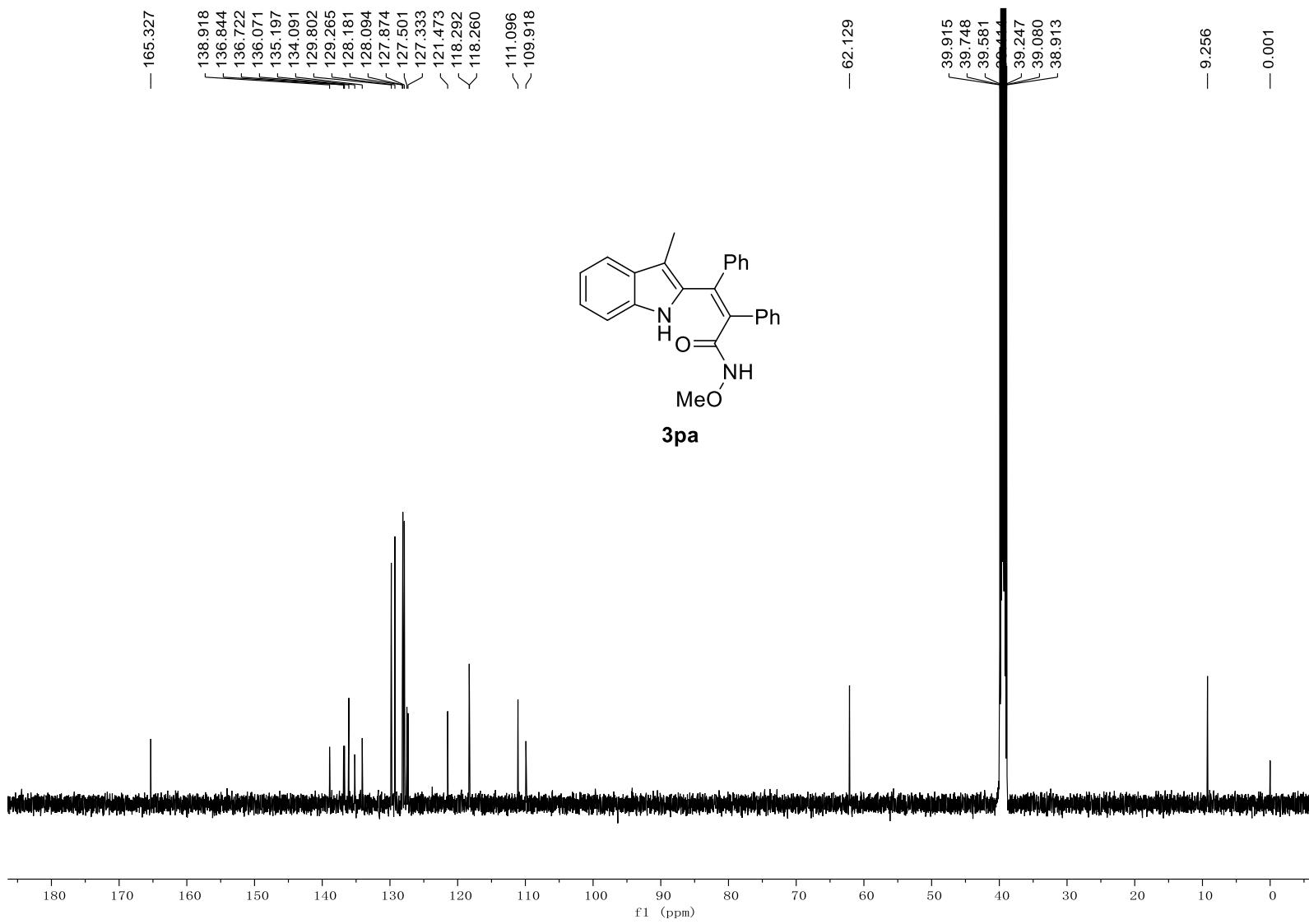


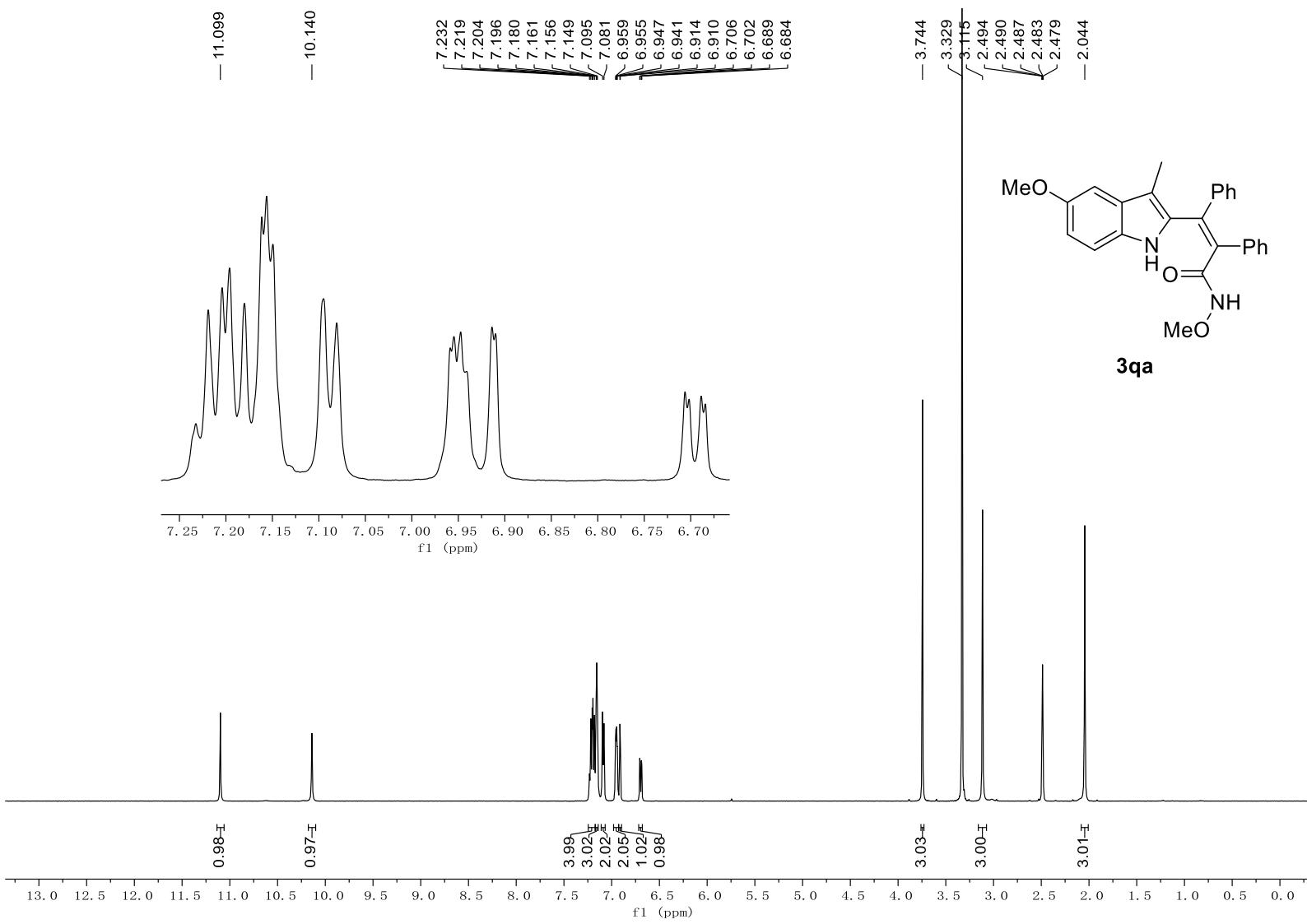


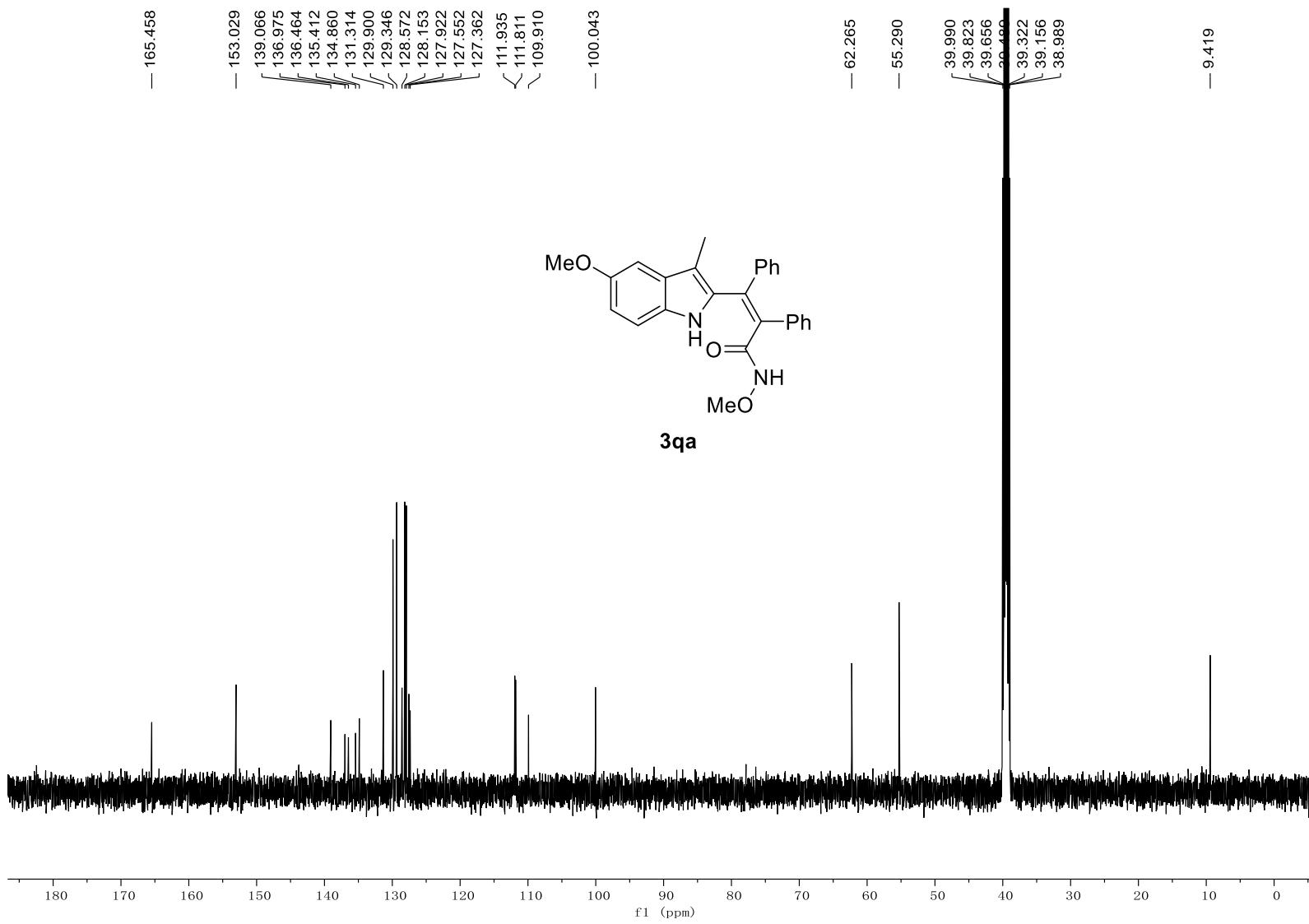


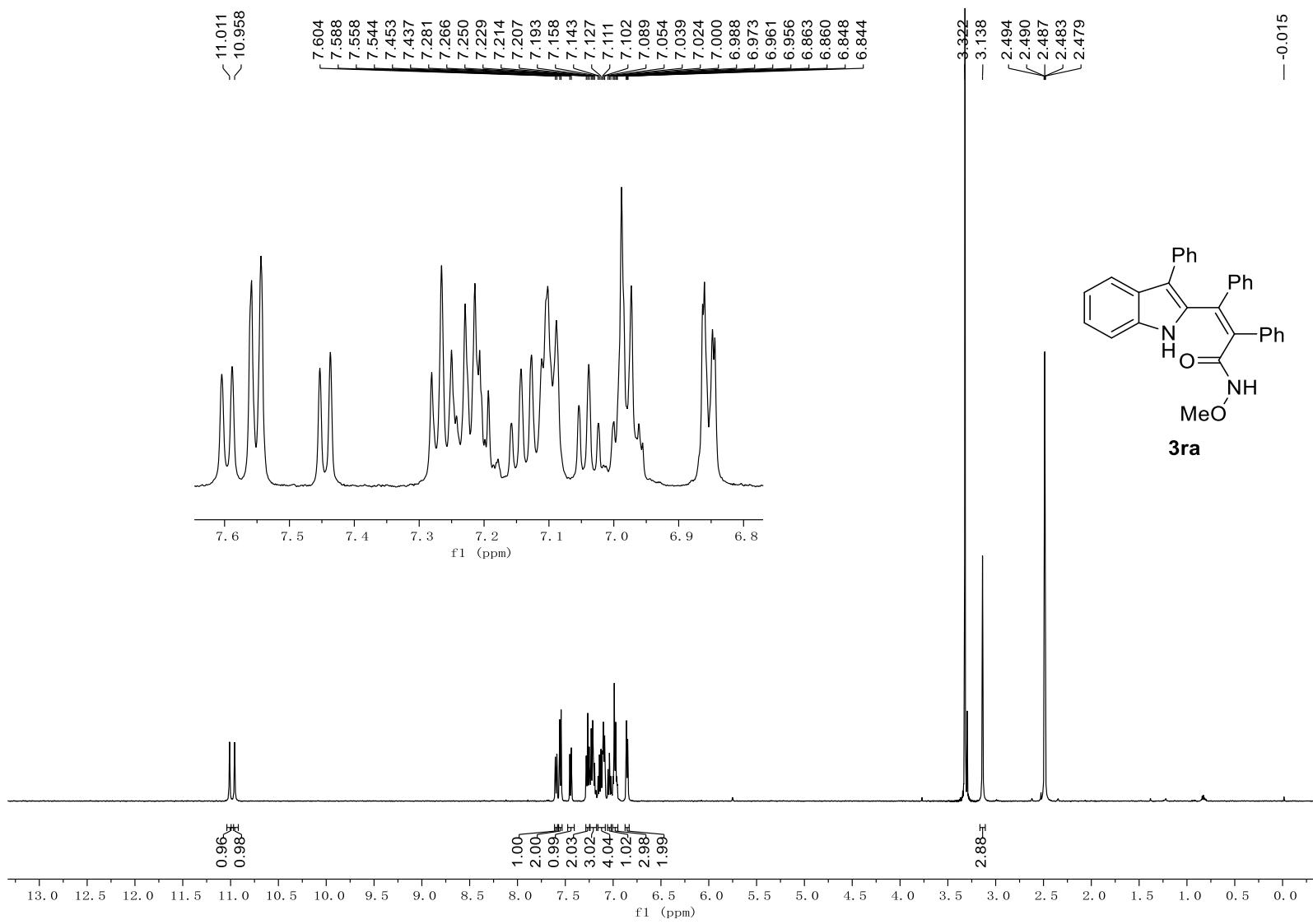


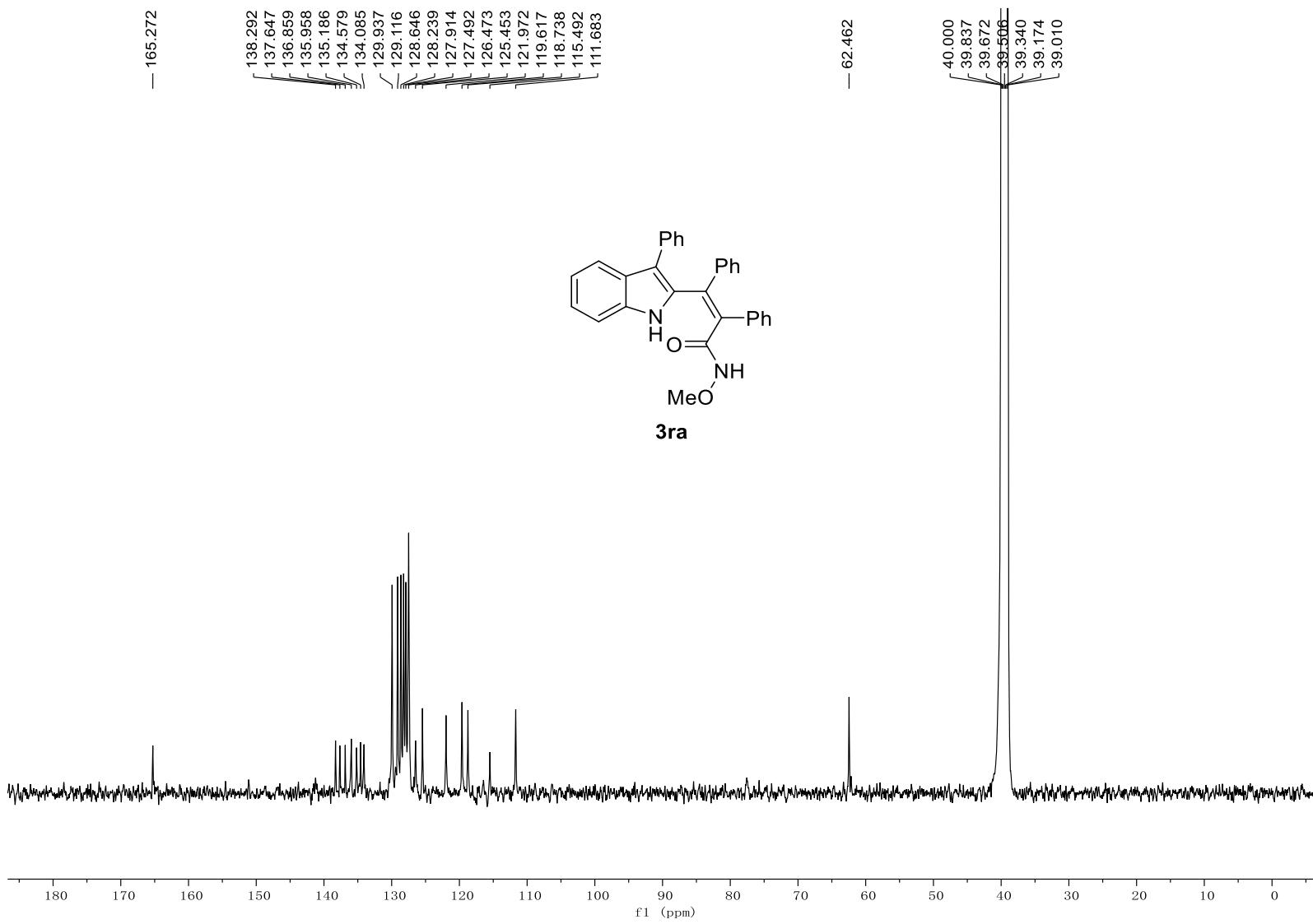


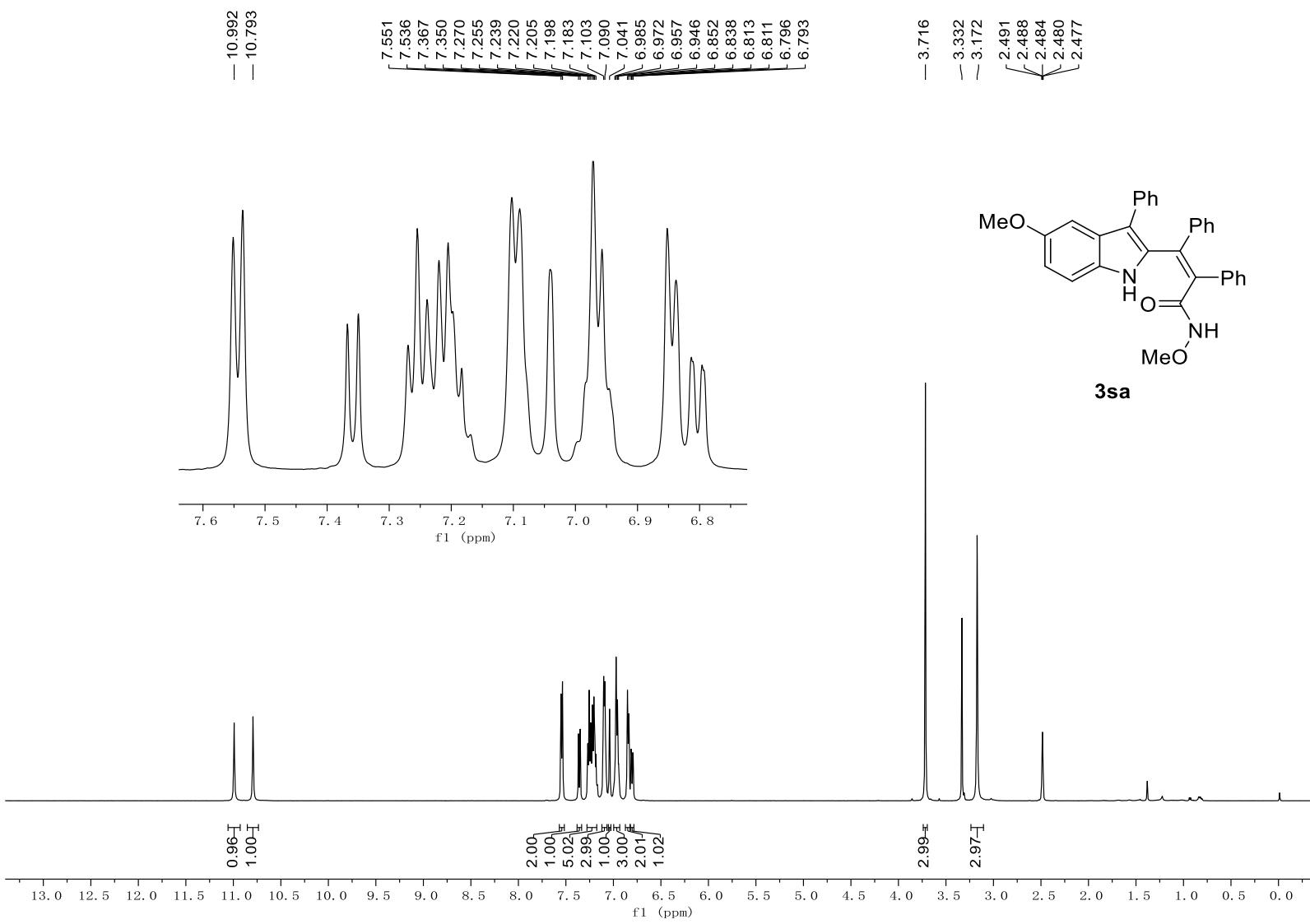


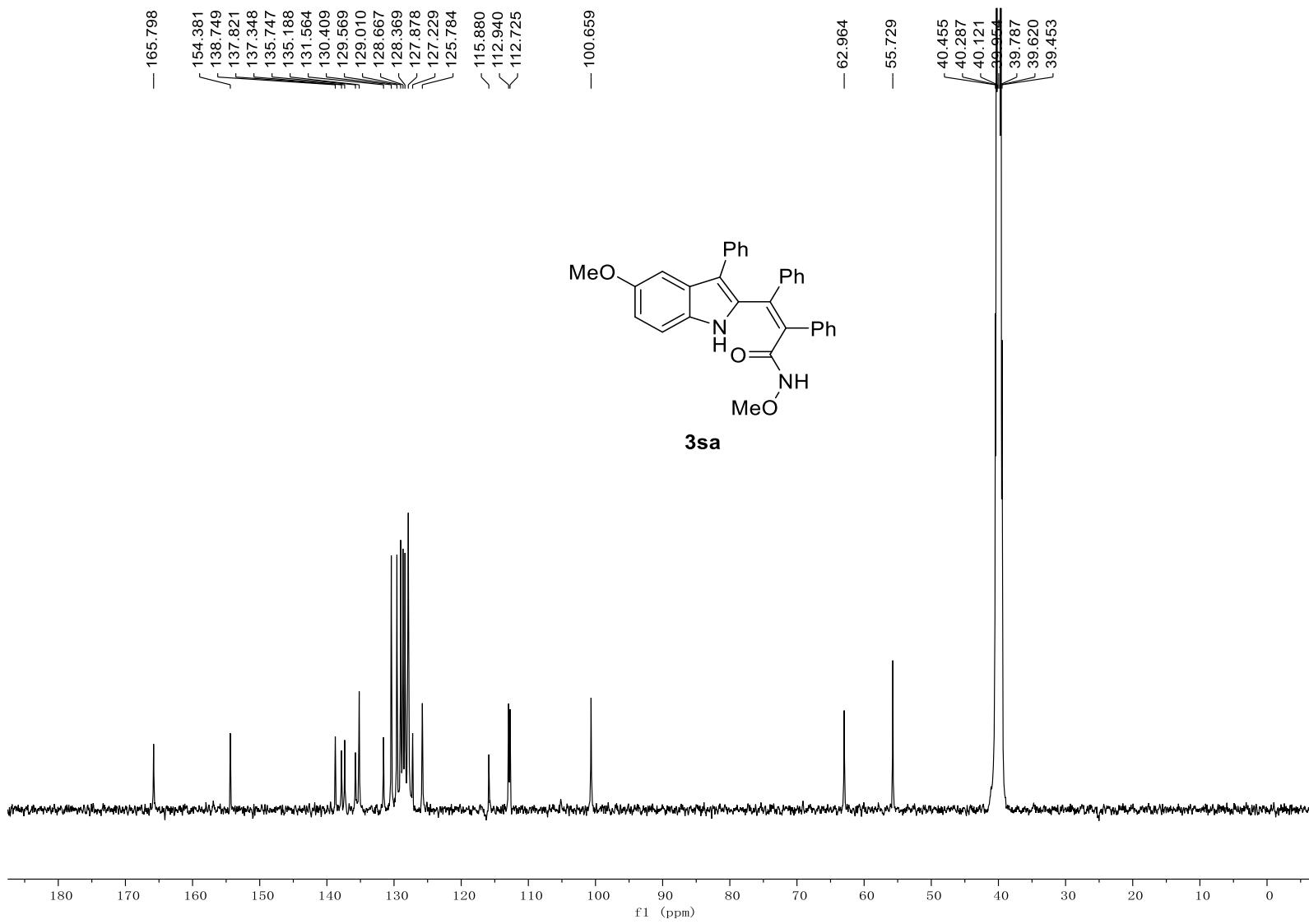


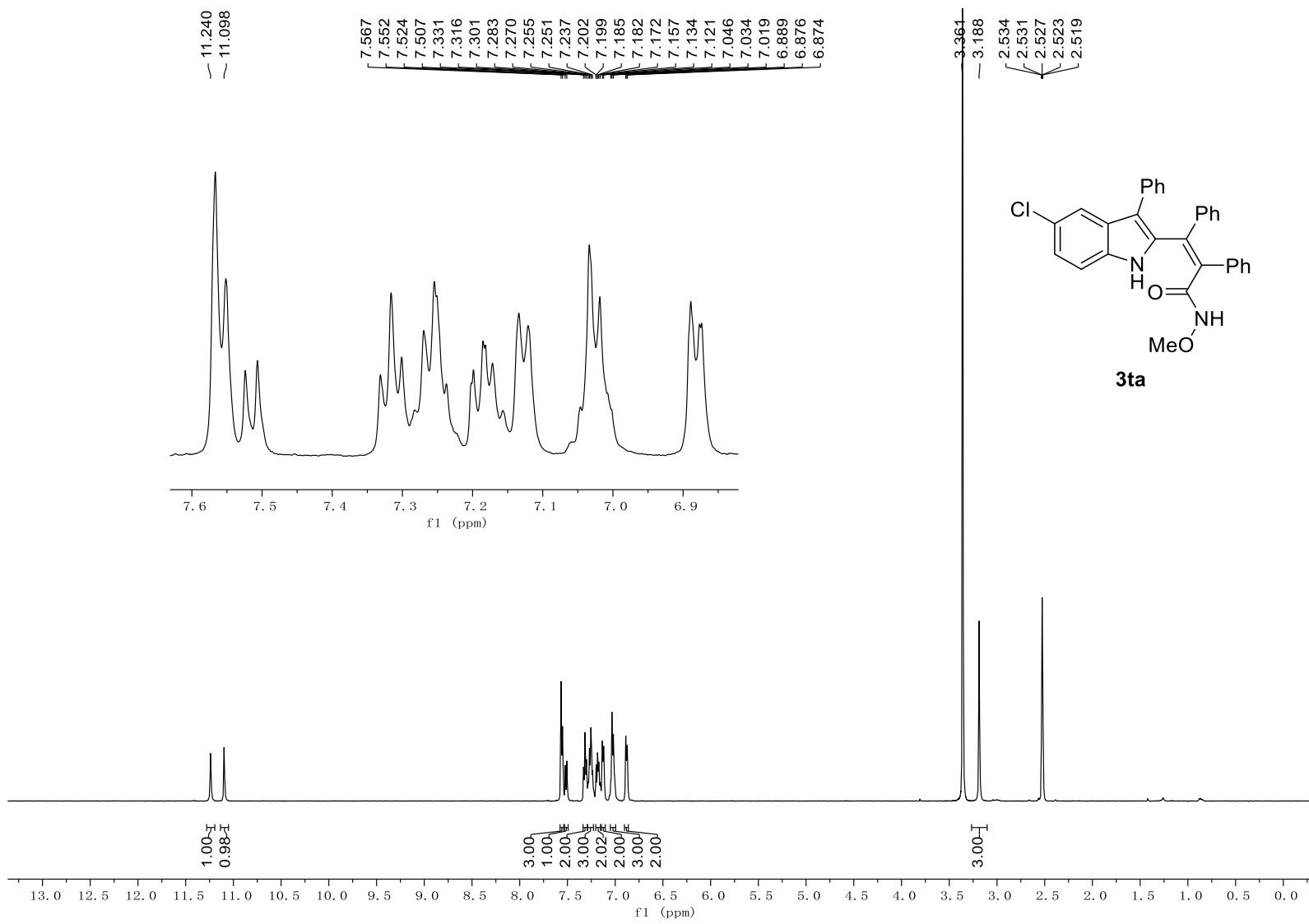


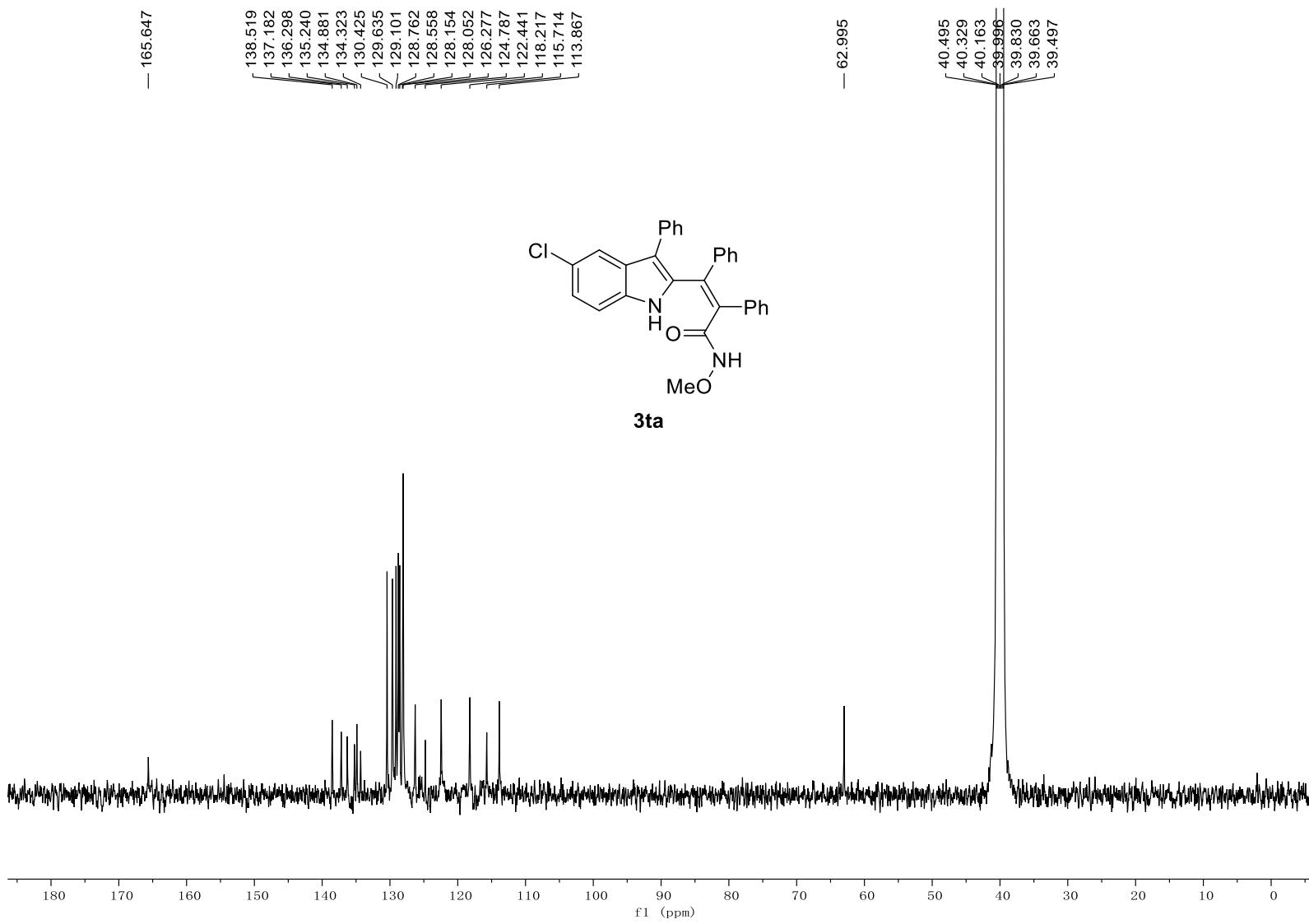


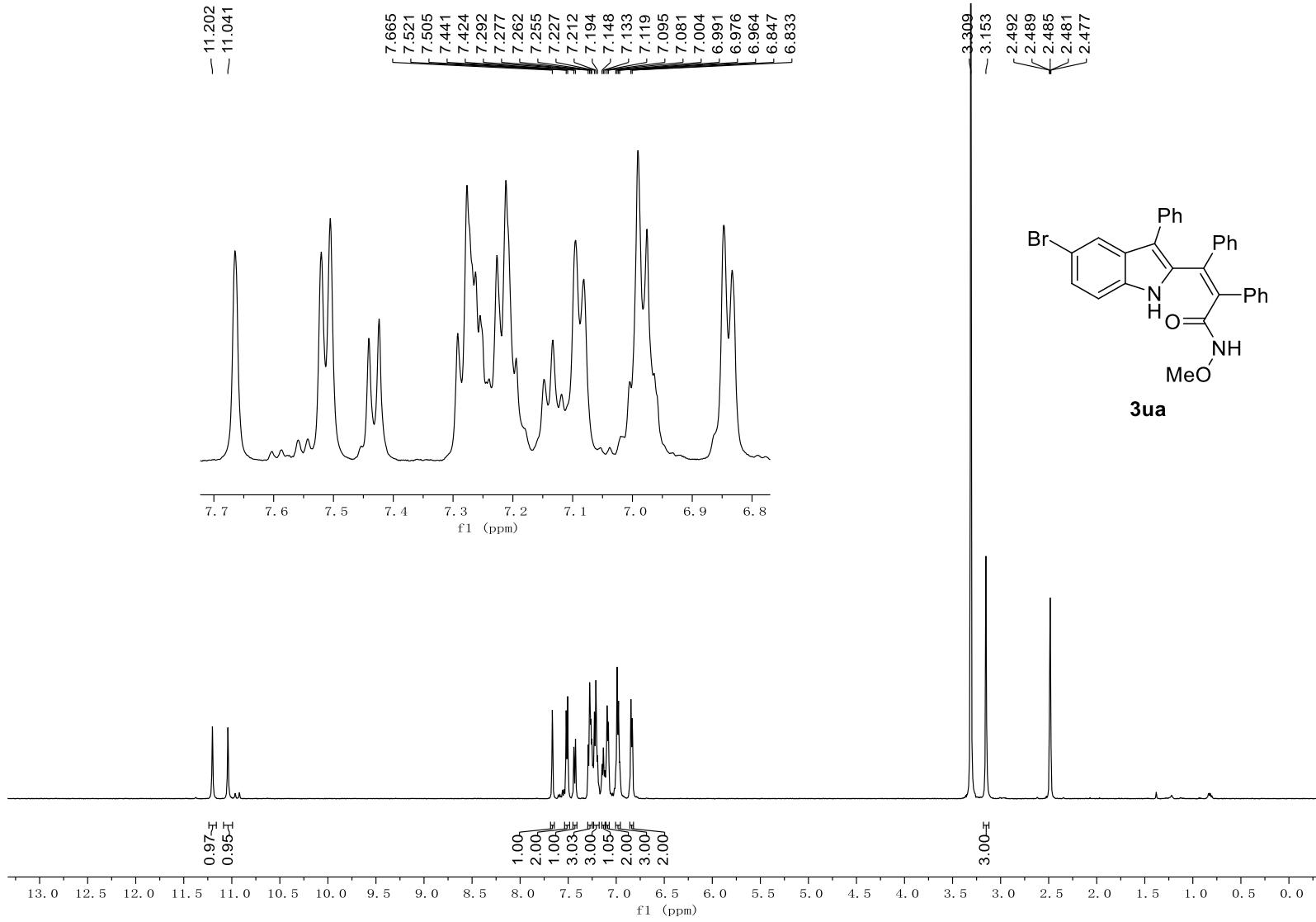


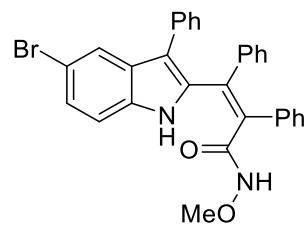
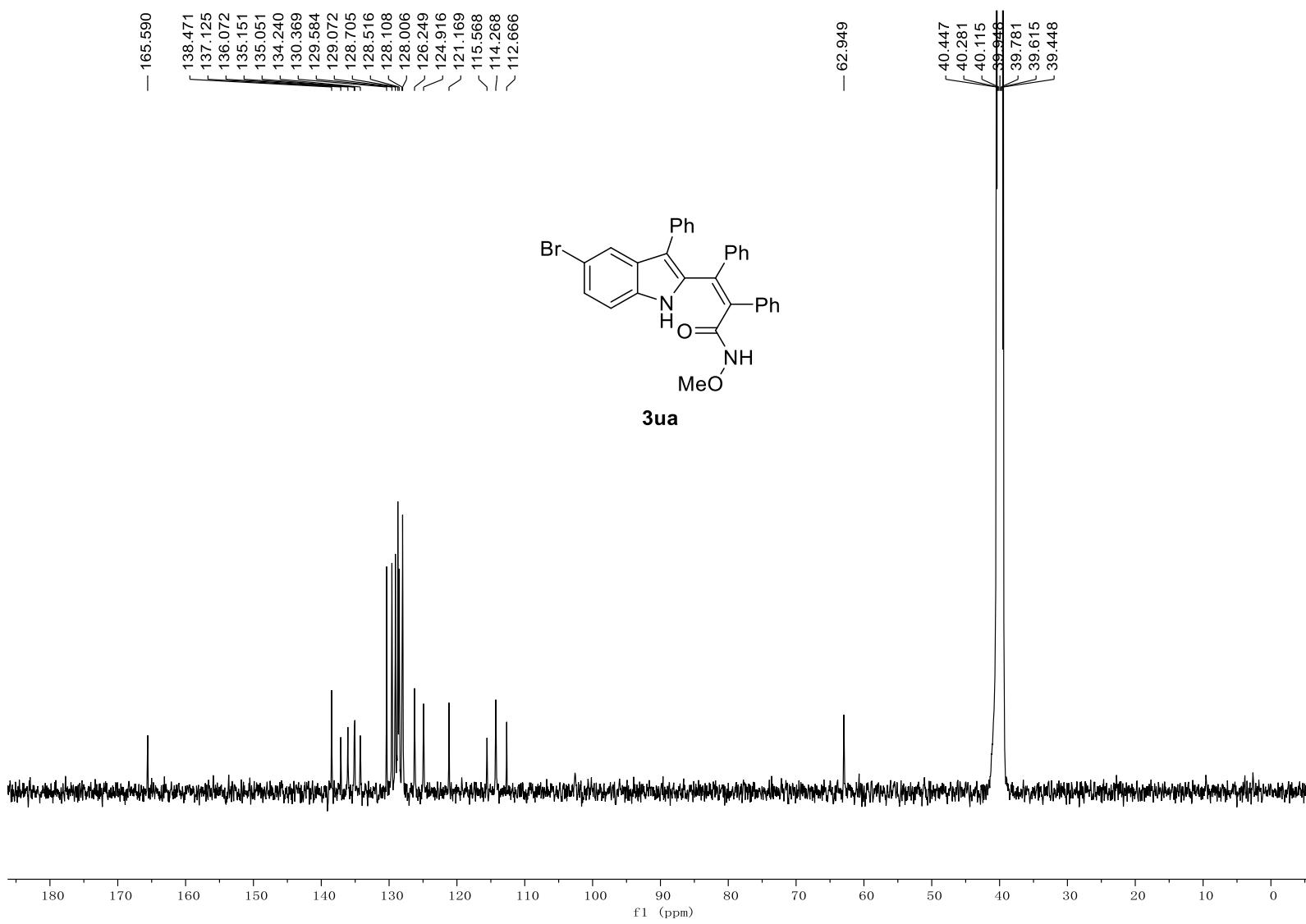




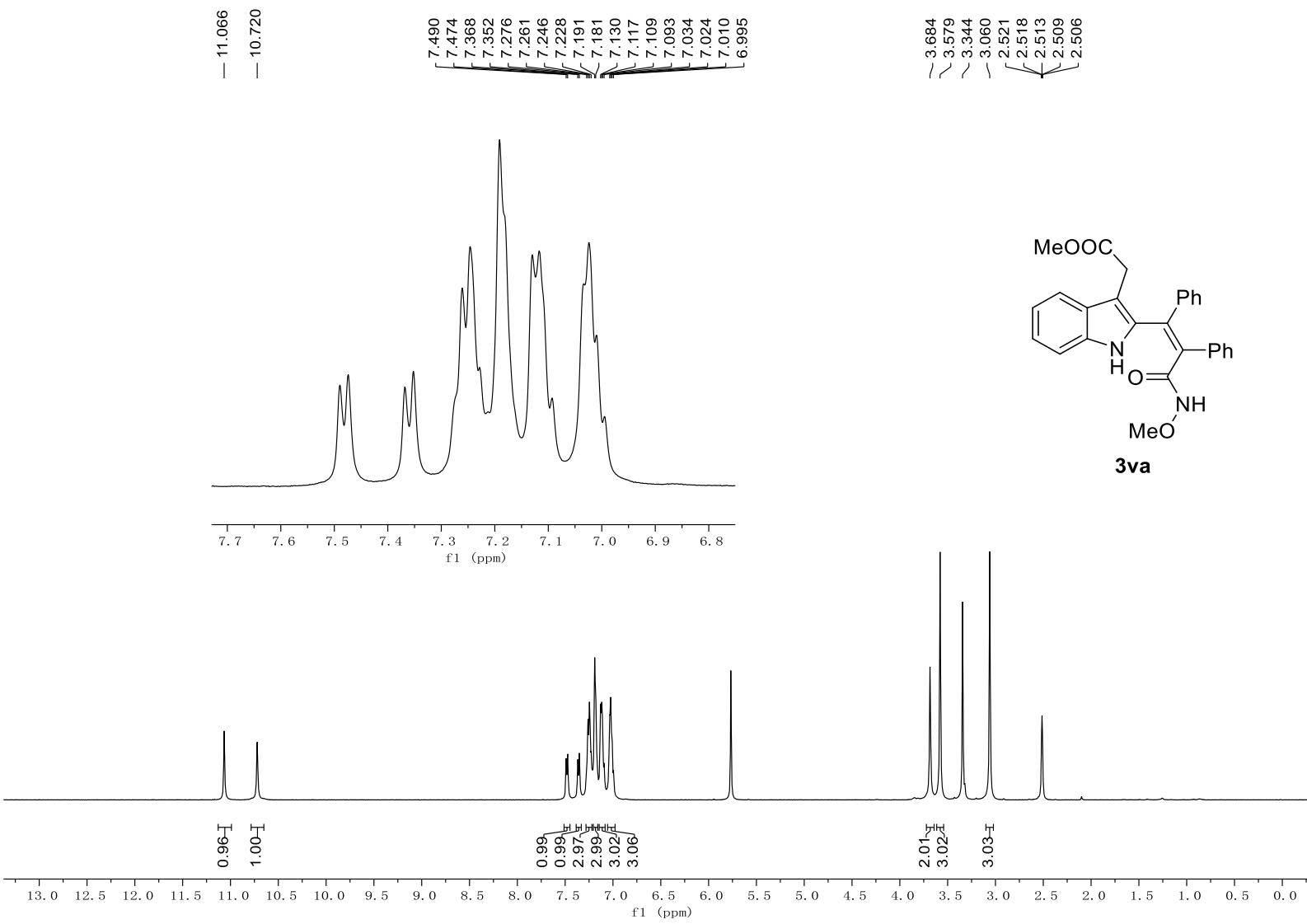


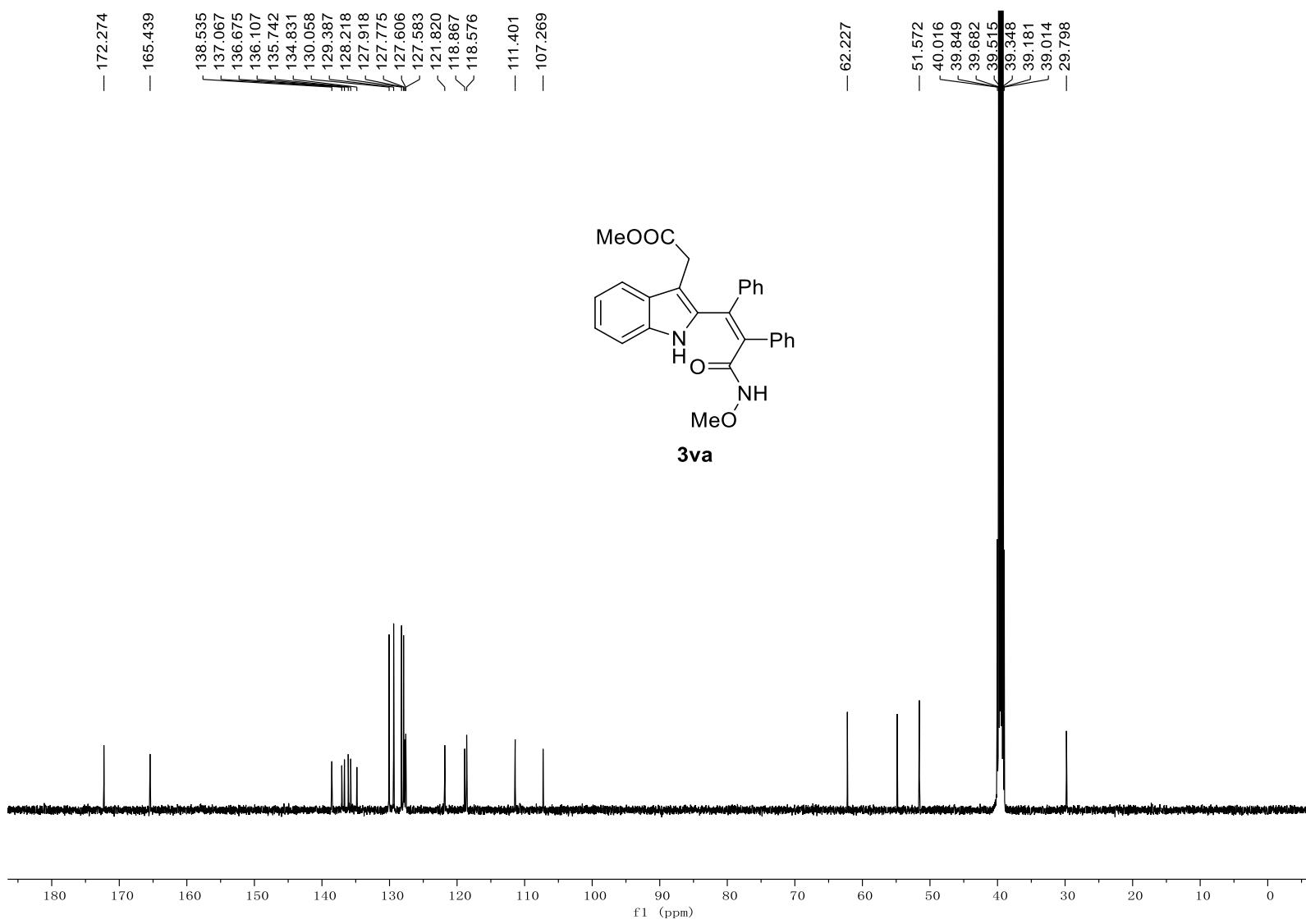


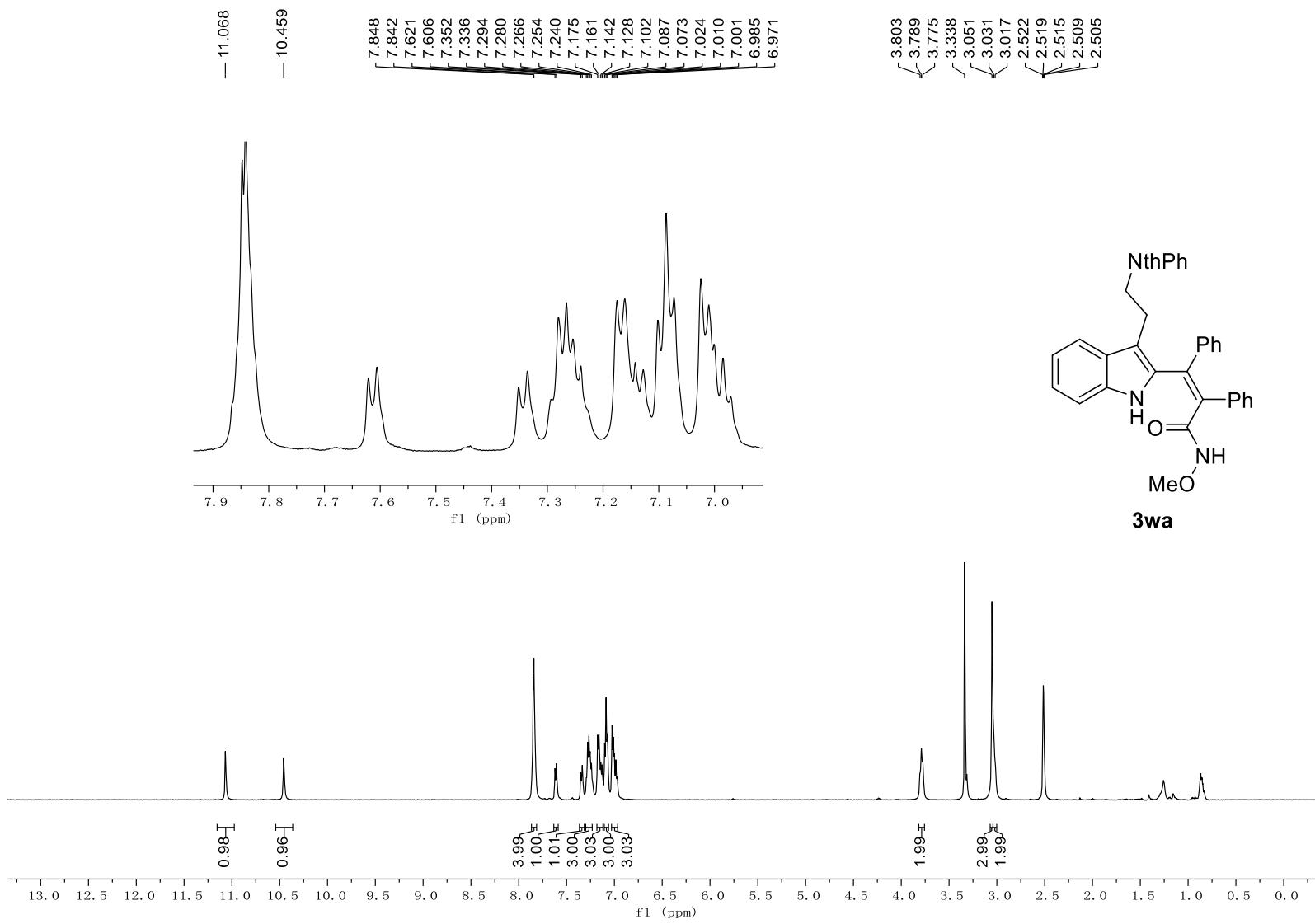


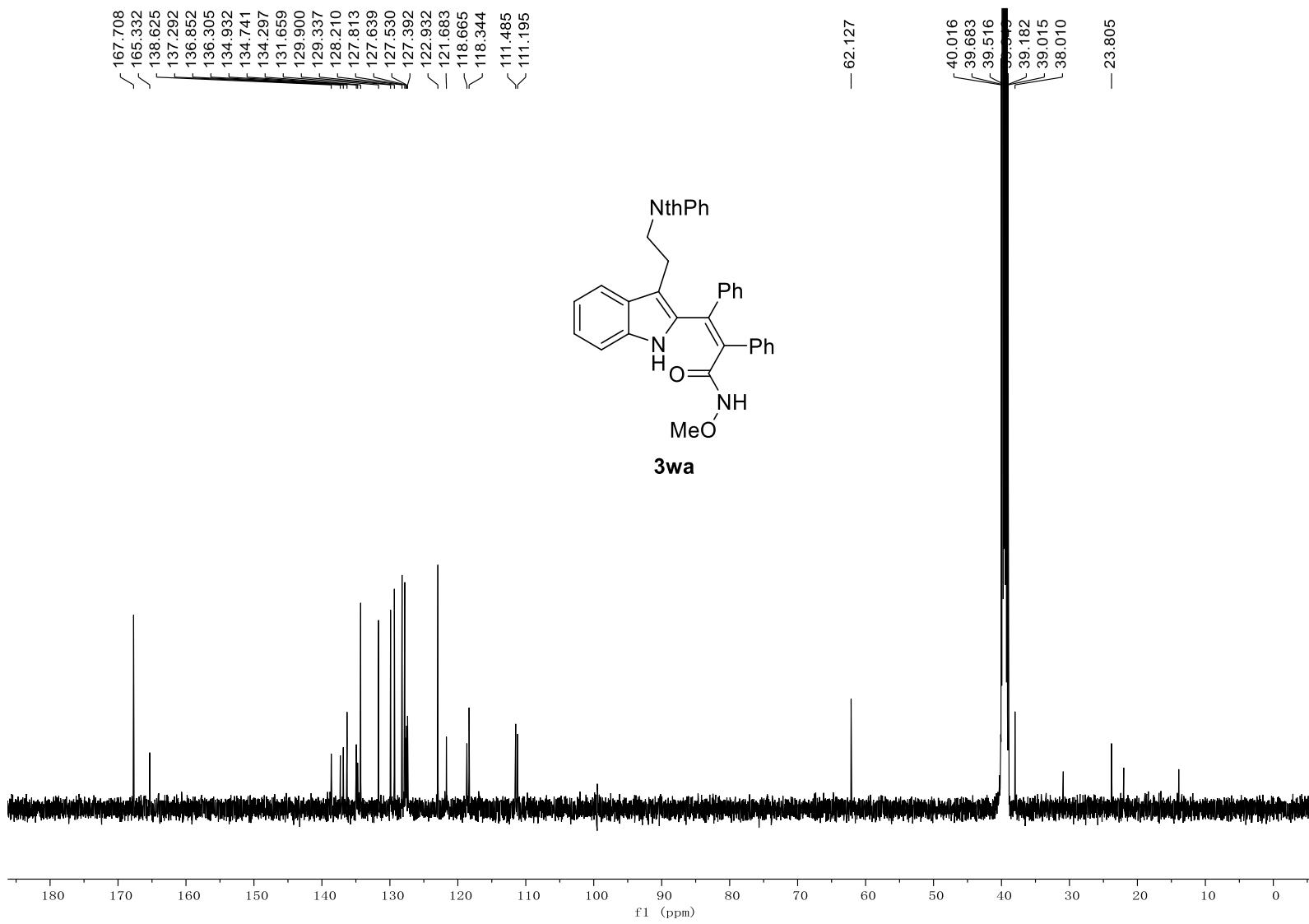


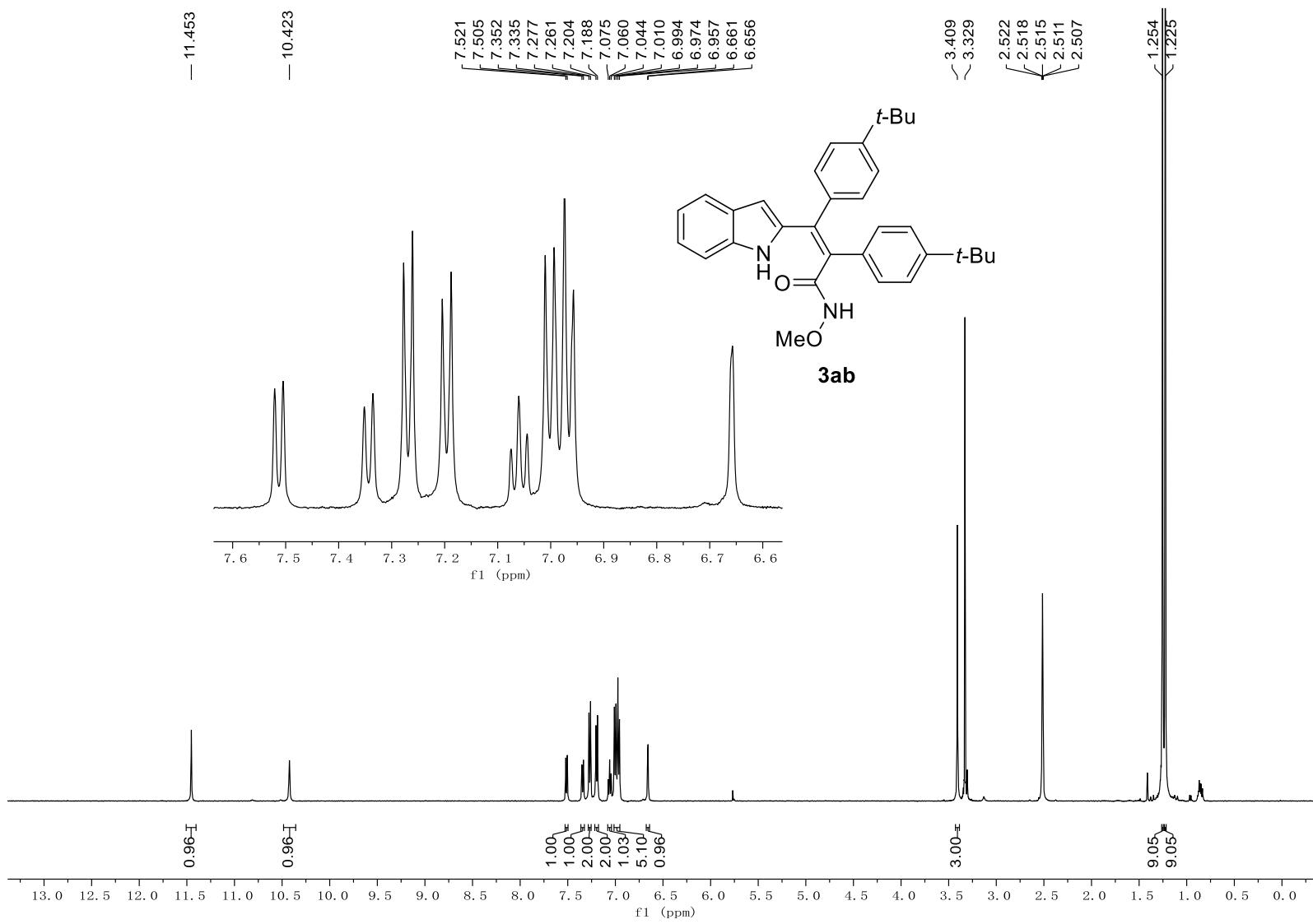
3ua

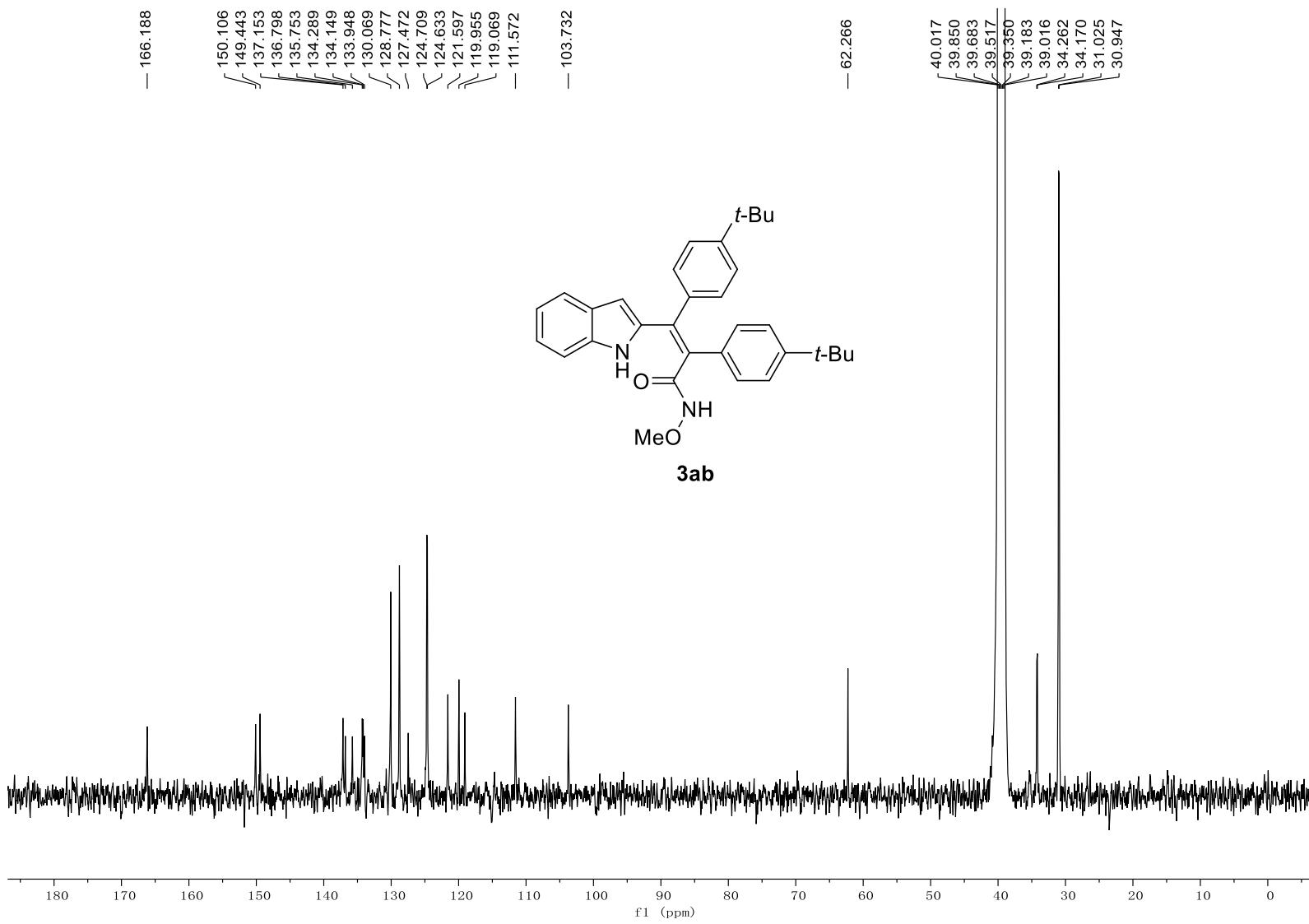


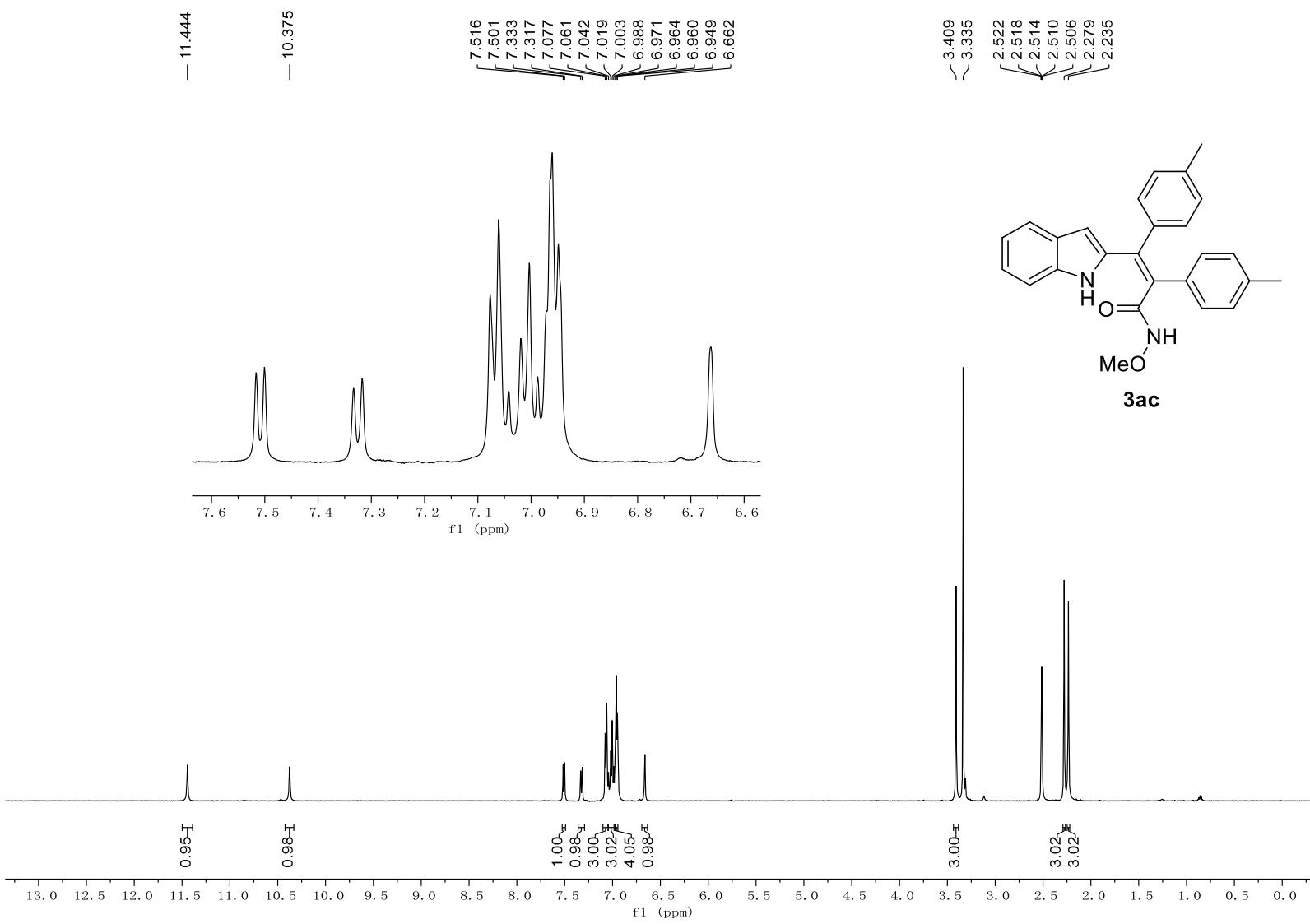


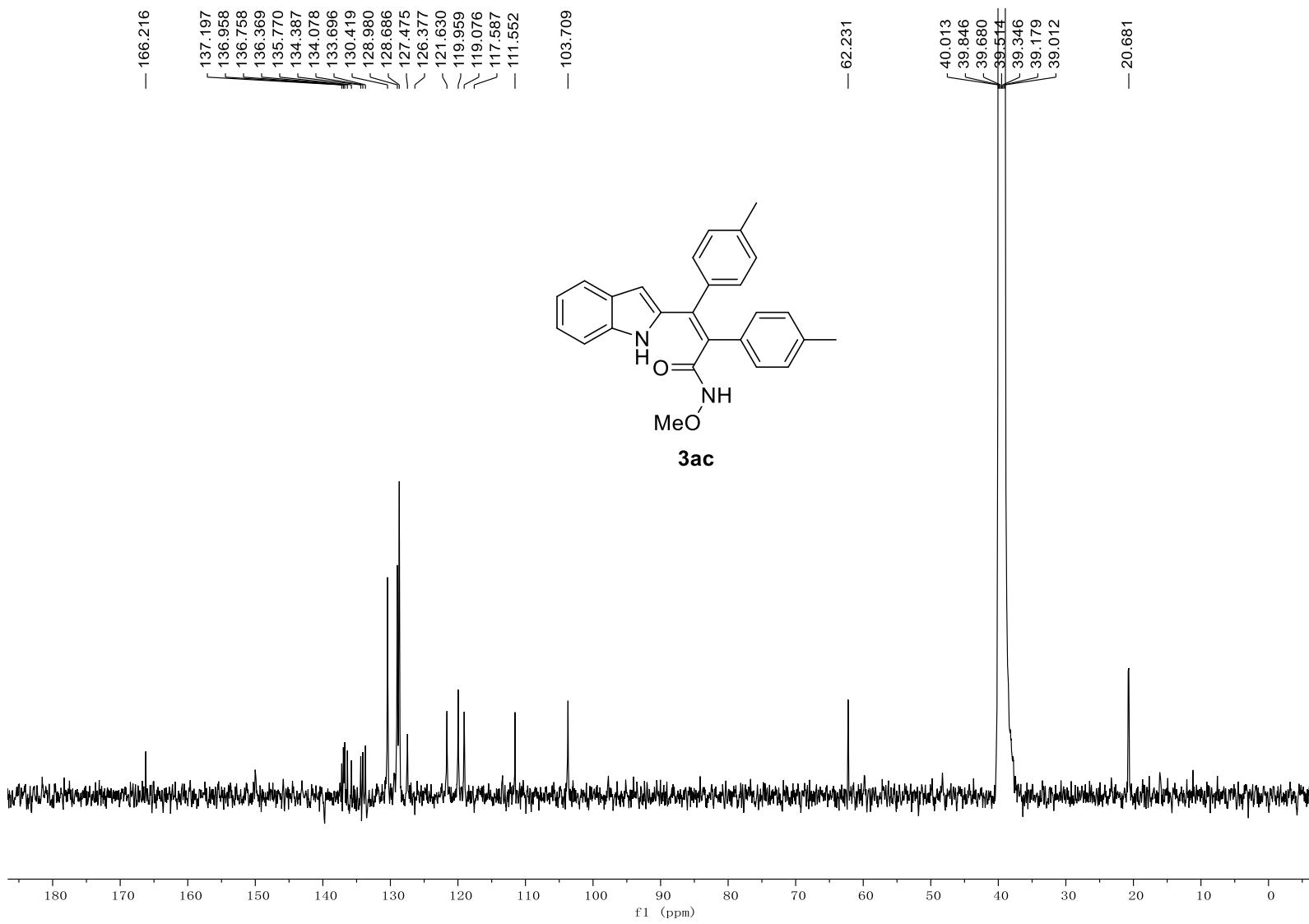


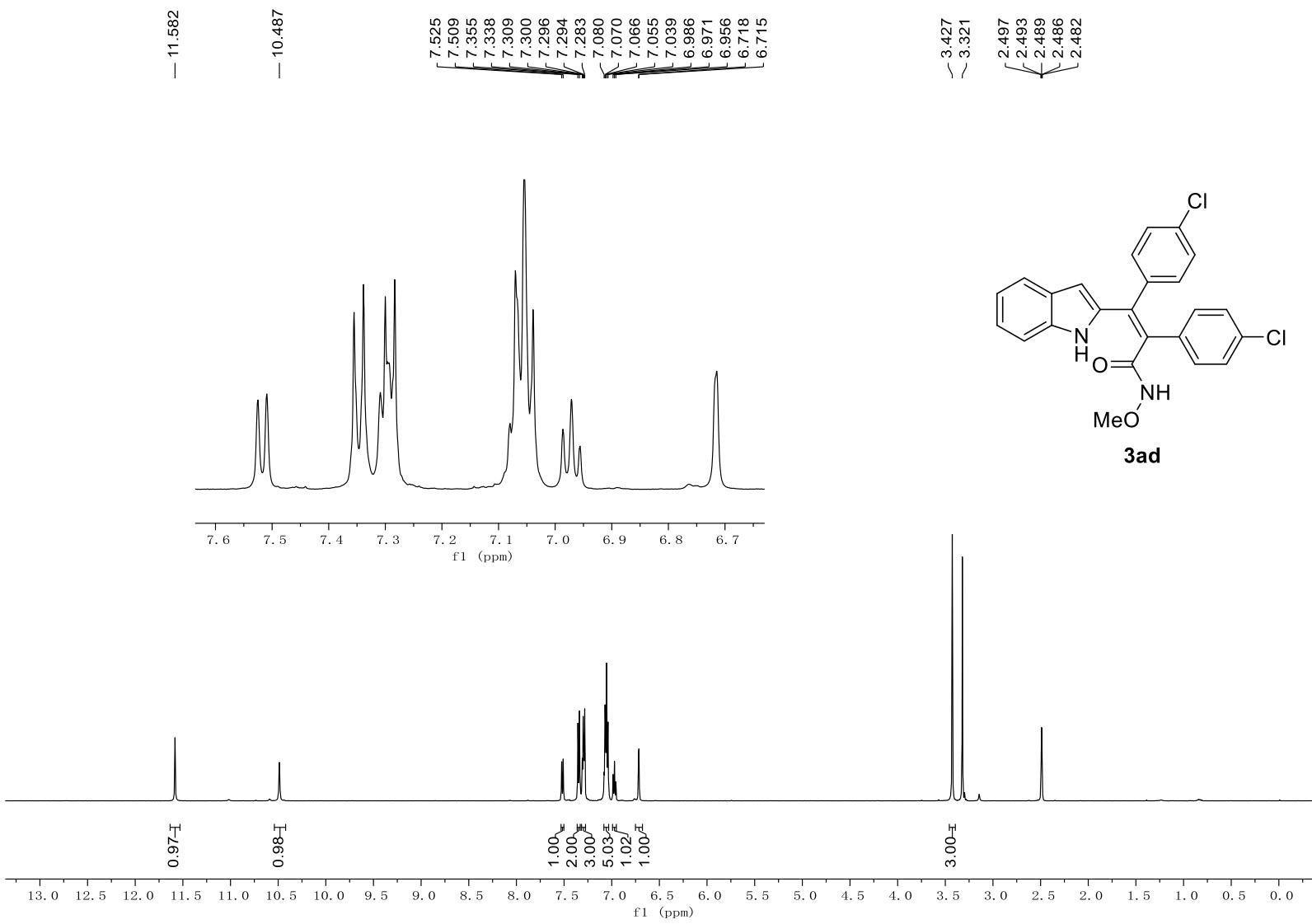


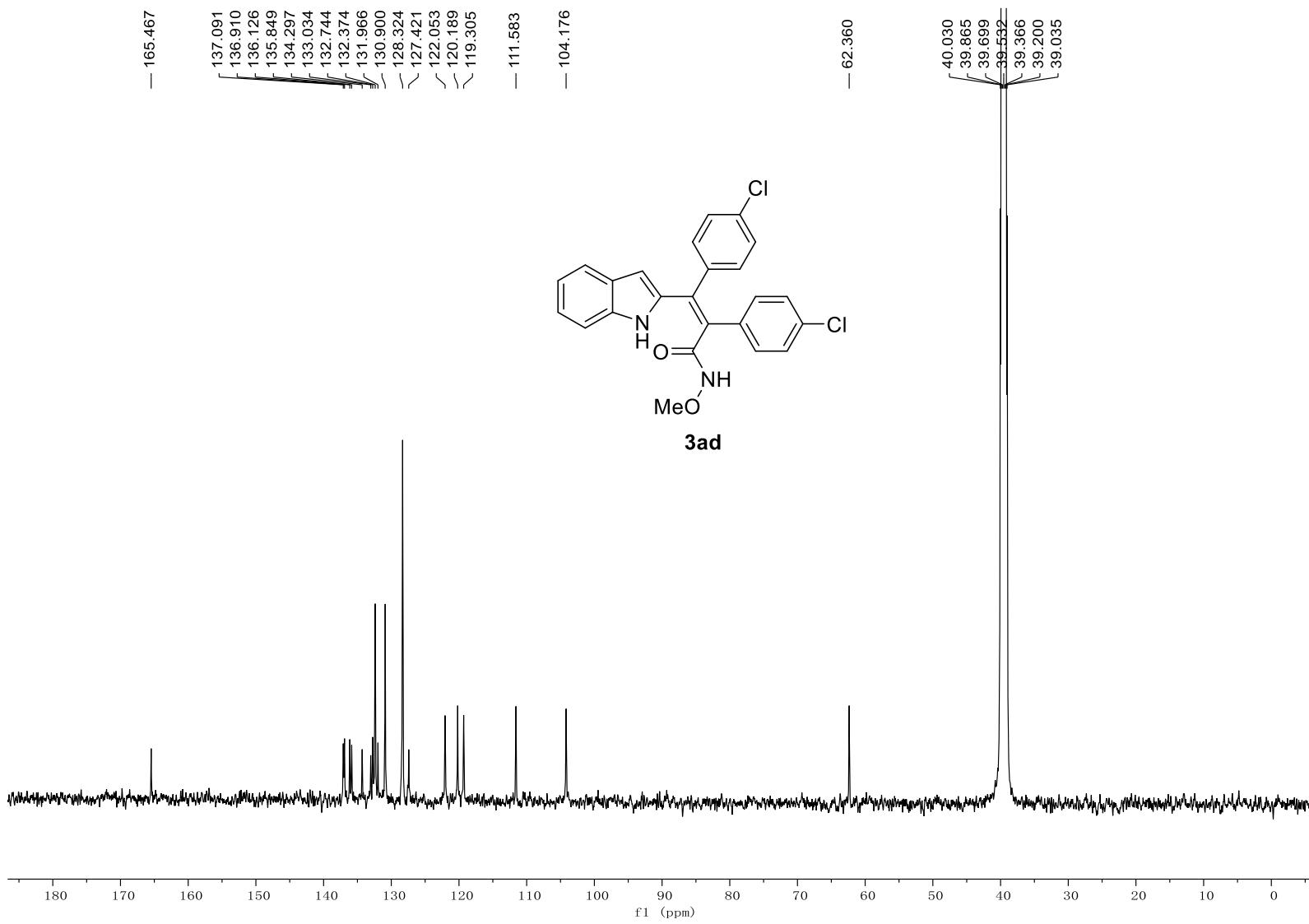




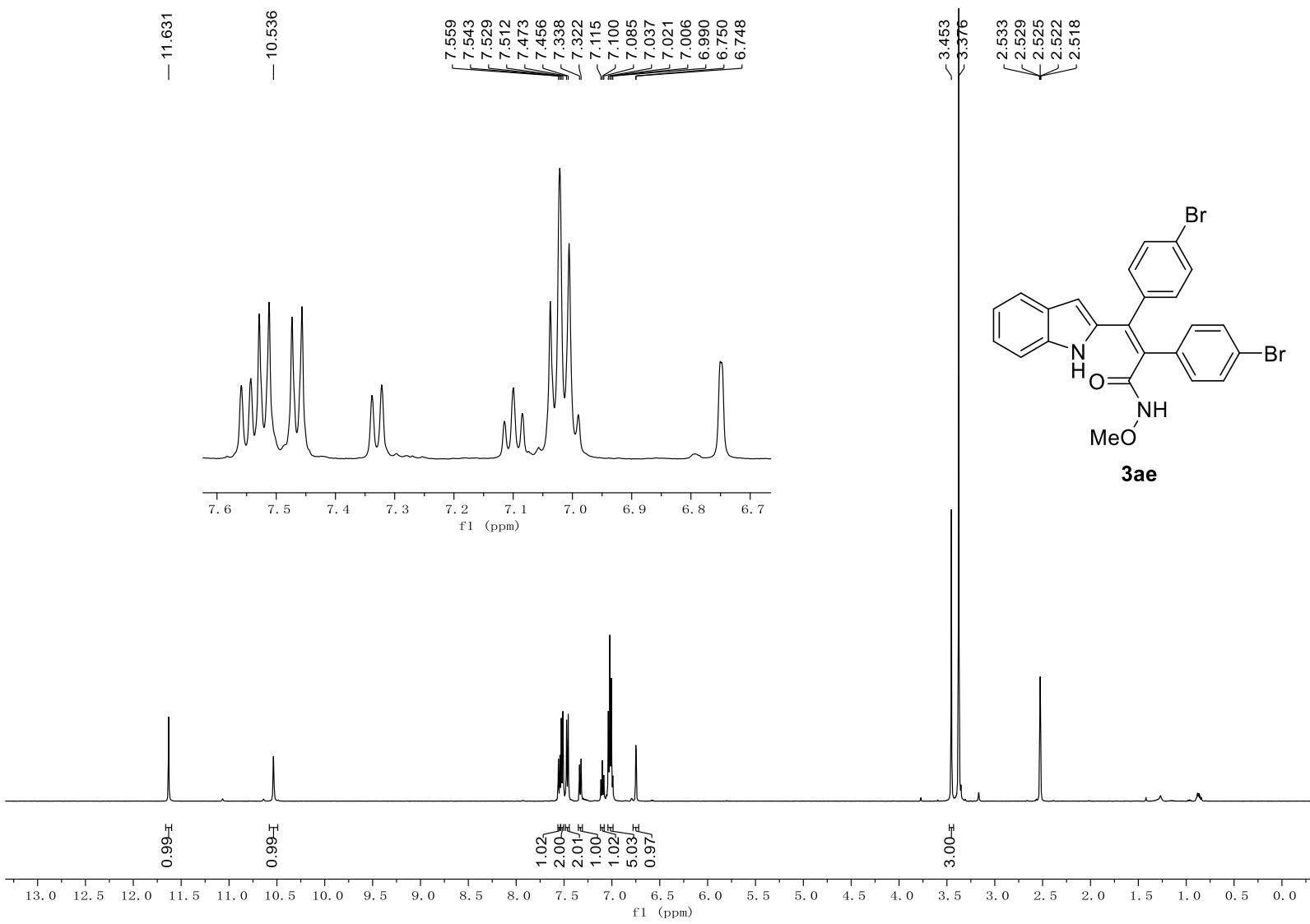


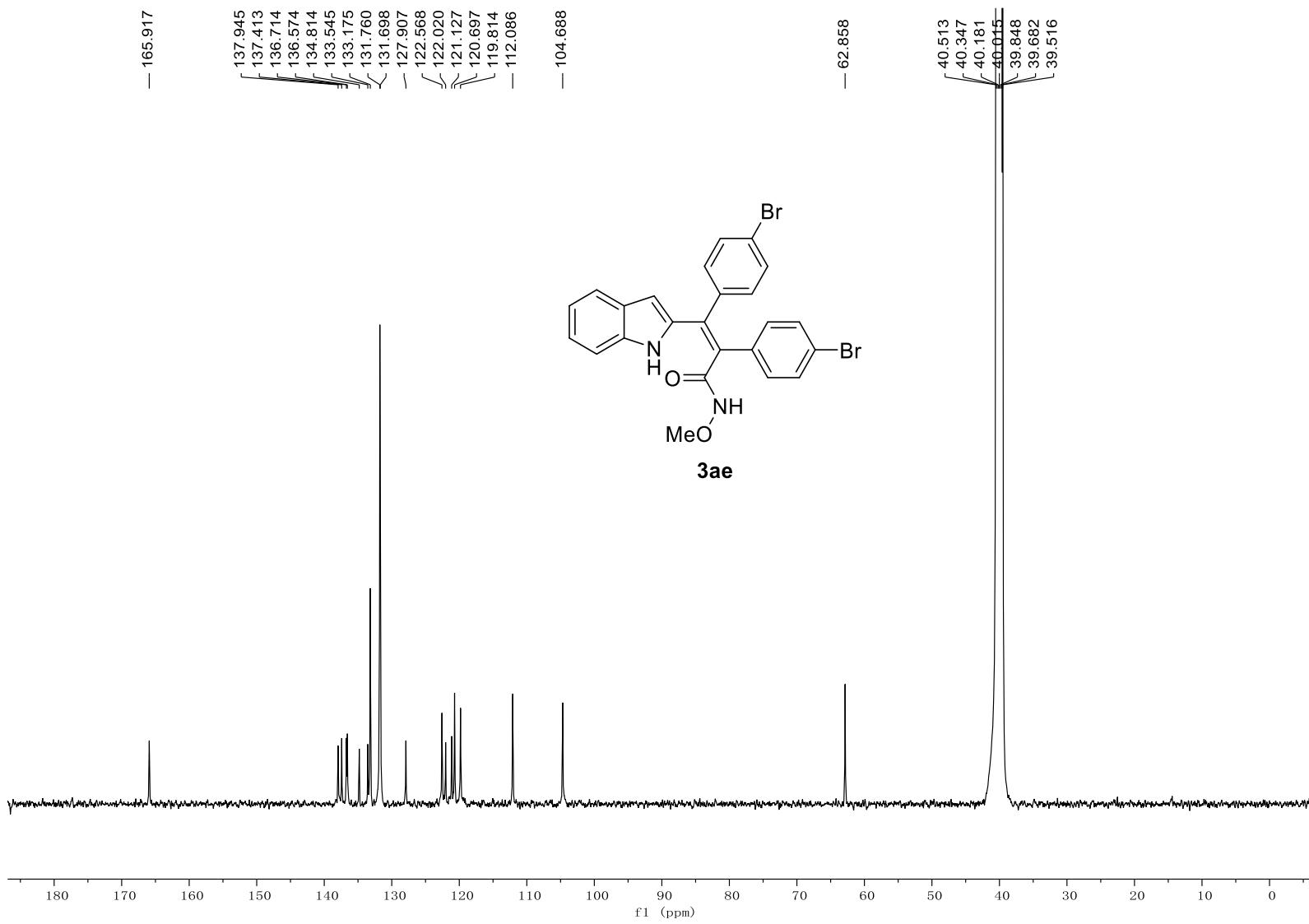




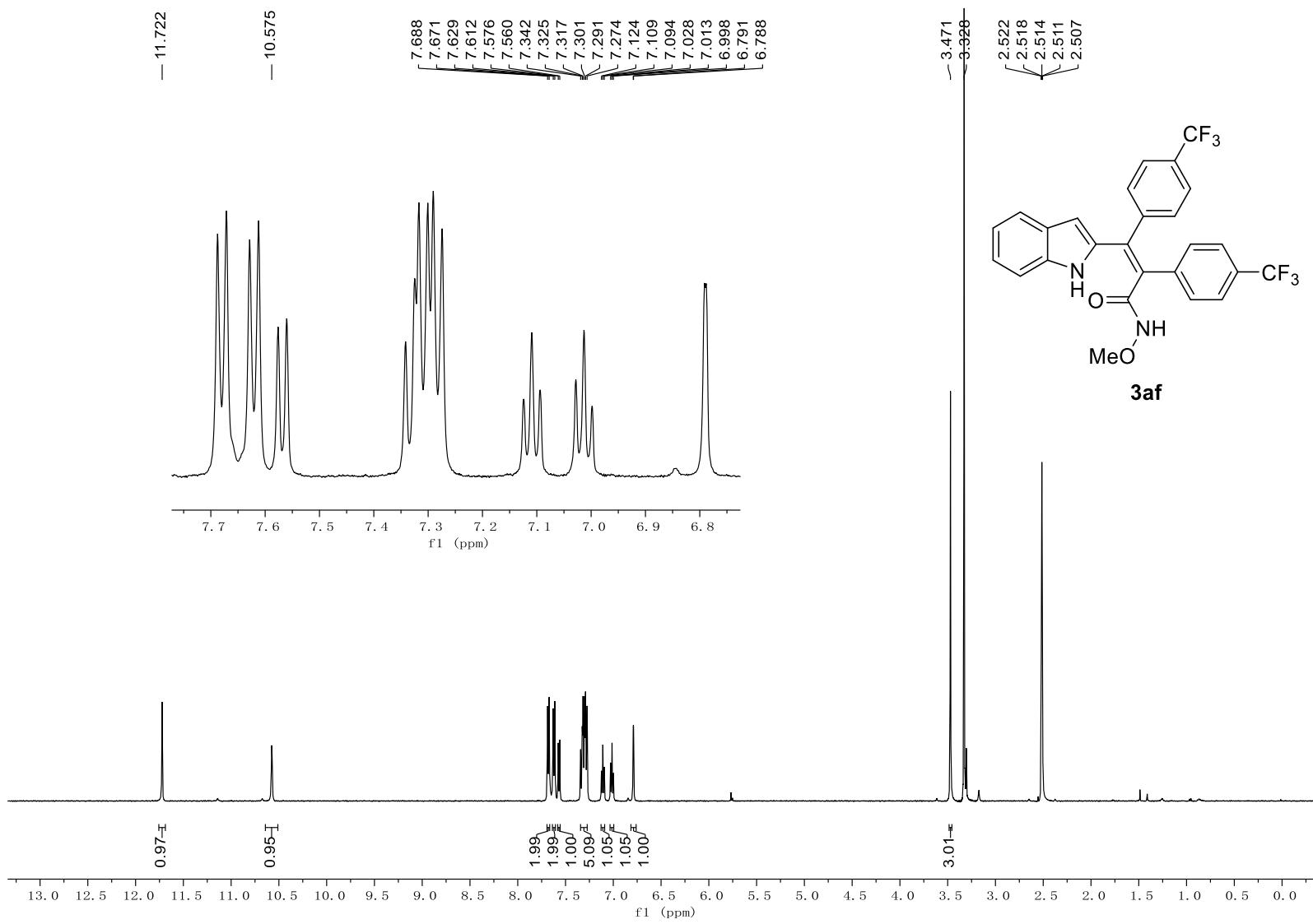


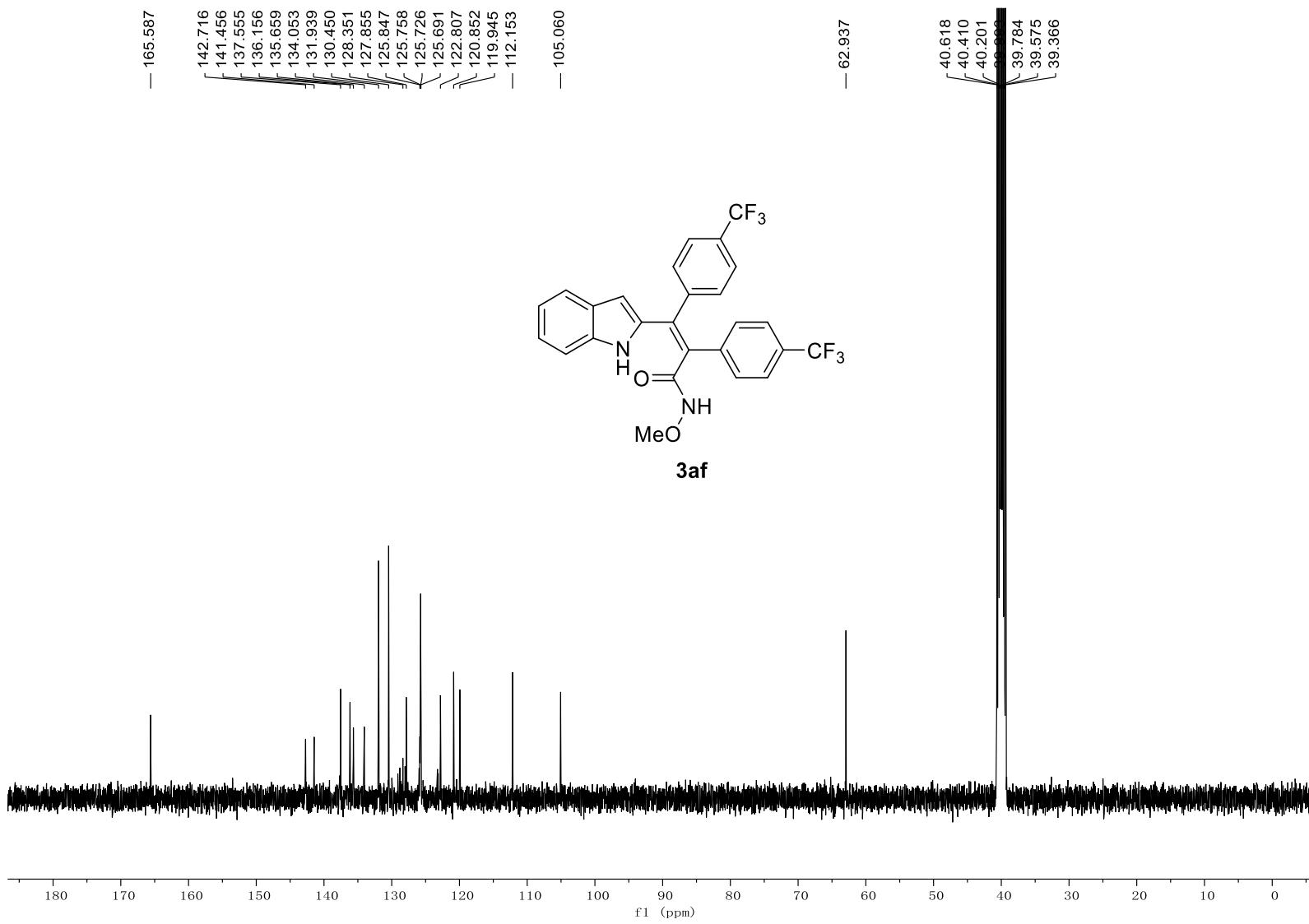
3ad

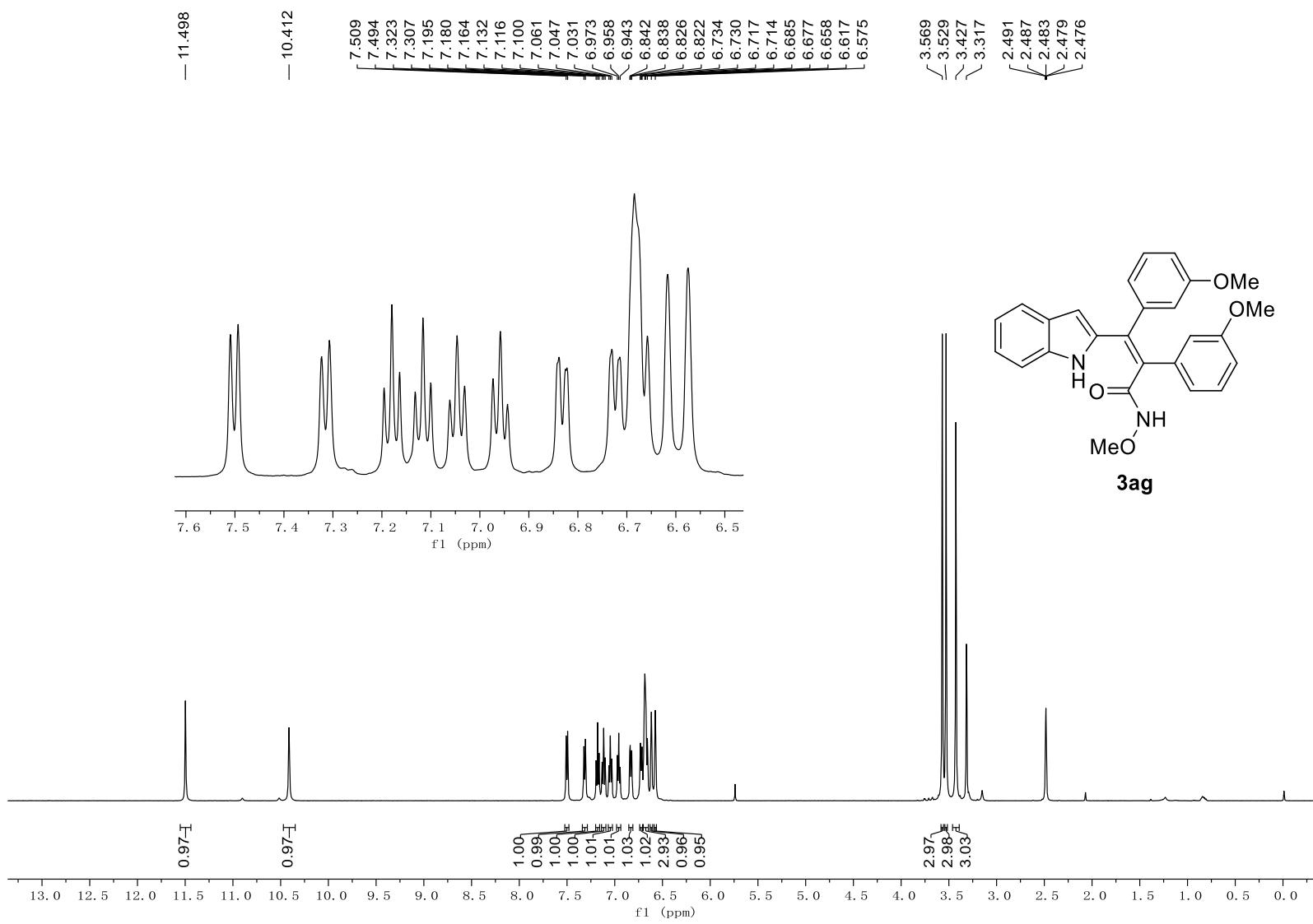


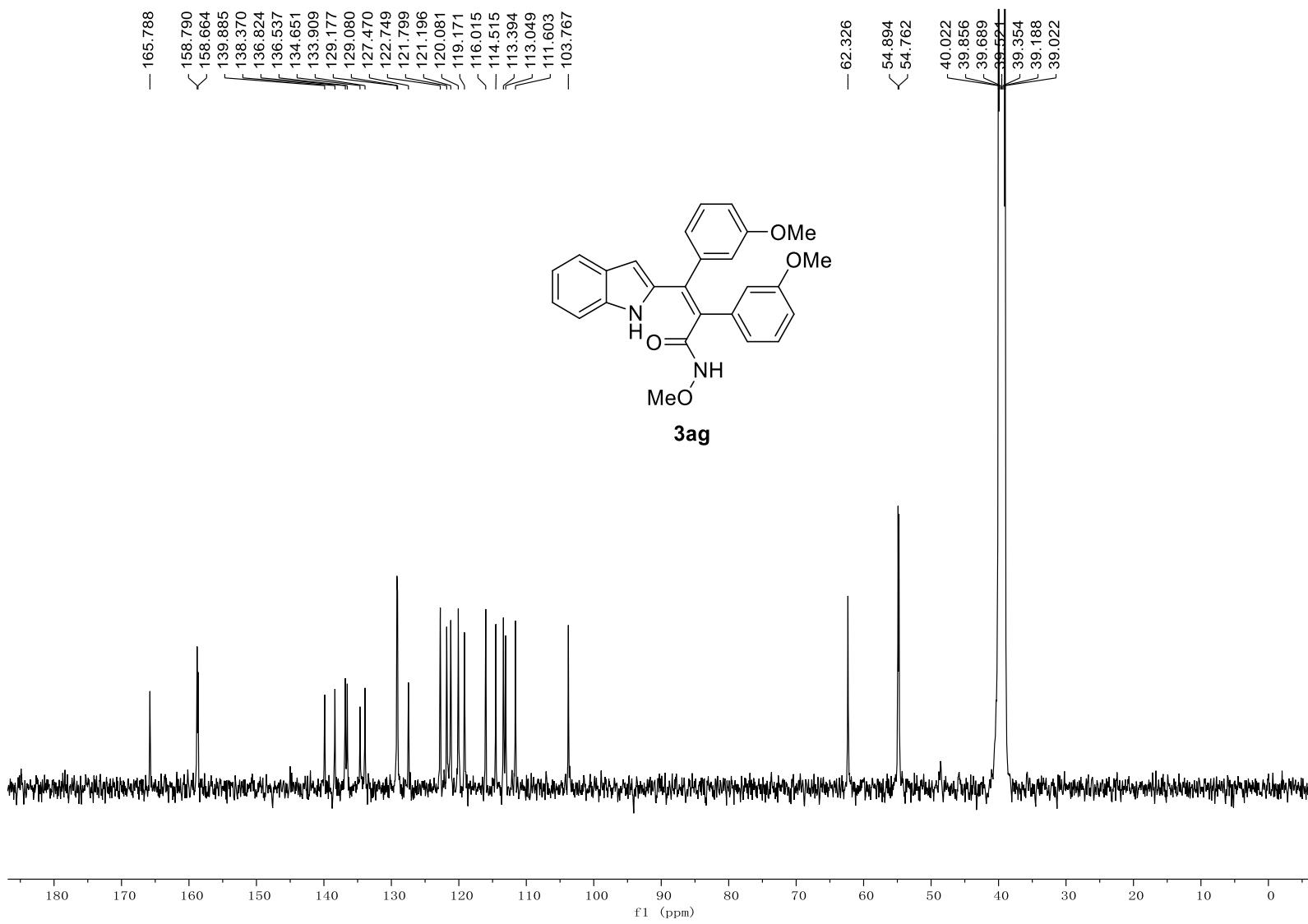


3ae









3ag

