

Cp^{*}Co(III)-Catalyzed C–H Amination/Annulation Cascade of Sulfoxonium Ylides with Anthranils for the Synthesis of Indoloindolones

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1. General Methods

Unless otherwise stated, all commercial reagents and solvents were used without additional purification. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on precoated silica gel 60 F254 plates. Visualization via TLC was achieved by the use of UV light (254 nm). Column chromatography was undertaken on silica gel (100–200 mesh) using a proper eluent system. NMR spectra were recorded in chloroform-d at 300, 400 or 500 MHz for ¹H NMR spectra and 75, 100 or 125 MHz for ¹³C NMR spectra. Chemical shifts are quoted in parts per million referenced to the appropriate solvent peak or 0.0 ppm for tetramethylsilane. The following abbreviations were used to describe peak splitting patterns when appropriate: br = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, dd = doublet of doublet, m = multiplet. Coupling constants, *J*, are reported in hertz. For ¹³C NMR, chemical shifts are reported in parts per million referenced to the center of a triplet at 77.0 ppm of chloroform-d. HRMS spectra were recorded using ESI-TOF techniques. The sulfoxonium ylides¹ and anthranils² were prepared according to the procedure described in the literature.

2. Experimental Procedure of the Optimization Study

To a screw capped vial with a spinvane triangular-shaped Teflon stirbar were added Sulfoxonium ylide **1a** (19.6 mg, 0.10 mmol), Anthranil **2a** (17.9 mg, 0.15 mmol), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Co}(\text{CO})\text{I}_2]$ (4.8 mg, 10 mol %), additive, and solvent (0.6 mL) under N_2 atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 12 h. After indicated time, cooled to room temperature and the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and the celite pad was washed with CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL × 2). Solvents were removed under reduced pressure and crude yield was measured by ^1H NMR using an internal standard (1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane).

Table S1. Optimization of the Co-Catalyzed C–H Functionalization of Sulfoxonium Ylides^a



Entry	Ag(I) salt (20 mol %)	Additive (equiv.)	Solvent	Yield (%) ^b
1	AgSbF_6	-	DCE	n.d.
2	AgSbF_6	NaOAc (2.0)	DCE	n.d.
3	AgSbF_6	KOAc (2.0)	DCE	n.d.
4	AgSbF_6	AcOH (2.0)	DCE	58
5	AgSbF_6	PhCO_2H (2.0)	DCE	48
6	AgSbF_6	PivOH (2.0)	DCE	65
7	AgSbF_6	AdCO_2H (2.0)	DCE	70
8	AgNTf_2	AdCO_2H (2.0)	DCE	62
9	AgOTf	AdCO_2H (2.0)	DCE	54
10 ^c	AgSbF_6	AdCO_2H (2.0)	DCE	91
11 ^c	AgSbF_6	AdCO_2H (1.0)	DCE	89
12 ^c	AgSbF_6	AdCO_2H (1.0)	MeOH	n.d.
13 ^c	AgSbF_6	AdCO_2H (1.0)	Toluene	43
14 ^c	AgSbF_6	AdCO_2H (1.0)	1,4-Dioxane	trace
15 ^{c,d}	-	AdCO_2H (1.0)	DCE	65
16 ^{c,e}	AgSbF_6	AdCO_2H (1.0)	DCE	n.d.
17 ^c	-	AdCO_2H (1.0)	DCE	n.d.

^aReaction conditions: **1a** (0.10 mmol), **2a** (0.15 mmol), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Co}(\text{CO})\text{I}_2]$ (10 mol %), Ag (I) Salt (20 mol %) and additive in solvent (0.6 mL) at 100 °C for 12 h. ^bYields are based on crude ^1H NMR (internal standard: 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane). ^cReaction run at 110 °C. ^dUsing $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Co}(\text{MeCN})_3](\text{SbF}_6)_2$ (10 mol %). ^eWithout $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Co}(\text{CO})\text{I}_2]$. n.d. = not detected. AdCO_2H = 1-Admantanecarboxylic acid

3. H/D Exchange Experiment

Cobalt-Catalyzed H/D Exchange in Sulfoxonium ylide **1b with CD₃COOD as an additive in the absence of **2a**.**

To a dried screw capped vial with a spinvane triangular-shaped Teflon stirbar were added **1b** (21.0 mg, 0.10 mmol), [Cp*Co(CO)I₂] (4.8 mg, 10 mol %), AgSbF₆ (6.8 mg, 20 mol %), CD₃COOD (2.0 equiv) and 1,2-DCE (0.6 mL) under N₂ atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 15 min, cooled to room temperature, filtered through a pad of celite and the celite pad was washed with CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL × 2). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to furnish the product [D]_n-**1b** (16 mg, 81%) and the extents of deuterium incorporation was measured by ¹H NMR analysis.

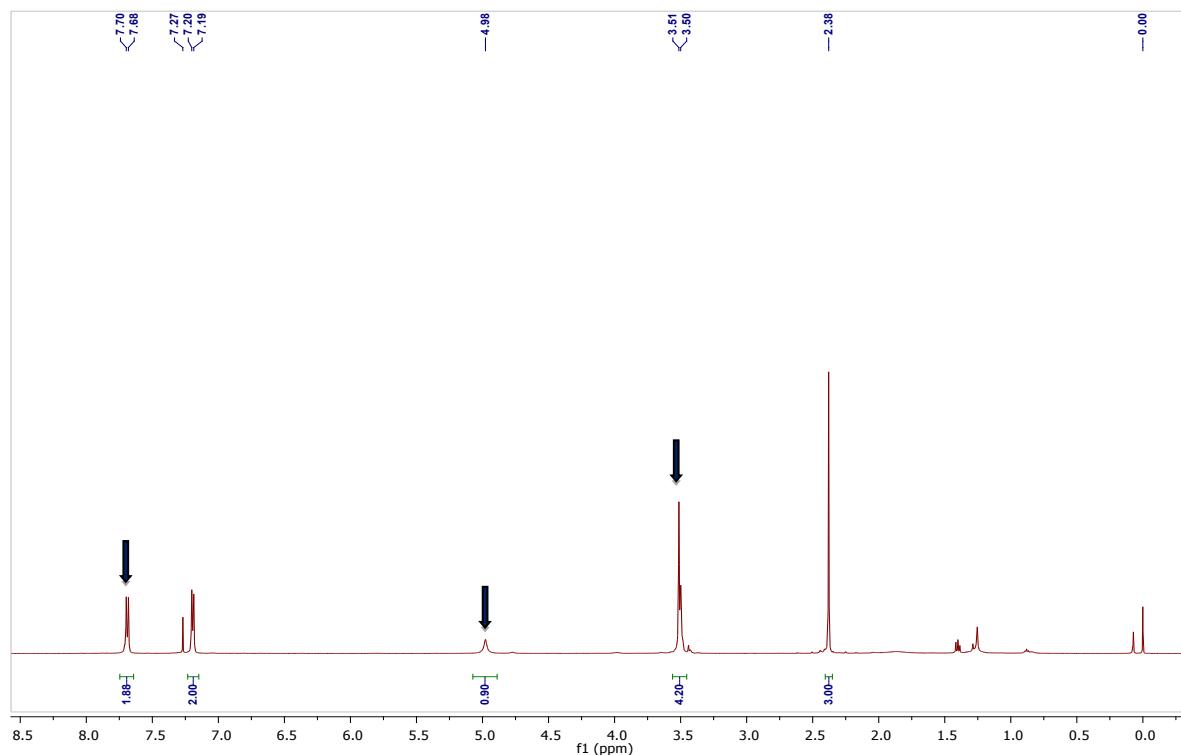
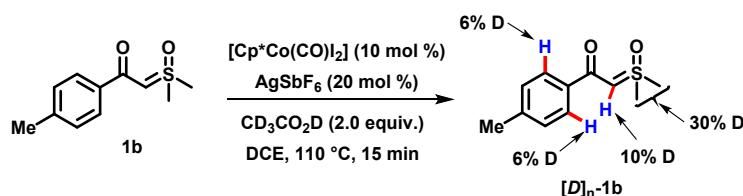


Figure S1. Crude ¹H NMR for H/D exchange experiment of **1b** with CD₃COOD in absence of **2a**

3. H/D Exchange Experiment

Cobalt-Catalyzed H/D Exchange in Sulfoxonium ylide **1k** with CD_3COOD as an additive in the presence of **2a**.

To a dried screw capped vial with a spinvane triangular-shaped Teflon stirbar were added **1k** (63.0 mg, 0.30 mmol), anthranil **2a** (53.6 mg, 0.45 mmol), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Co}(\text{CO})\text{I}_2]$ (14.4 mg, 10 mol %), AgSbF_6 (20.4 mg, 20 mol %), AdCO_2H (54.0 mg, 1.0 equiv), $\text{CD}_3\text{CO}_2\text{D}$ (38.4 mg, 2 equiv) and 1,2-DCE (2.0 mL) under N_2 atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 12 h, cooled to room temperature, filtered through a pad of celite and then washed with EtOAc (10 mL × 3). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to furnish the product $[\text{D}]_n\text{-3ka}$ (27 mg, 38 %) and the extents of deuterium incorporation was measured by ^1H NMR analysis.

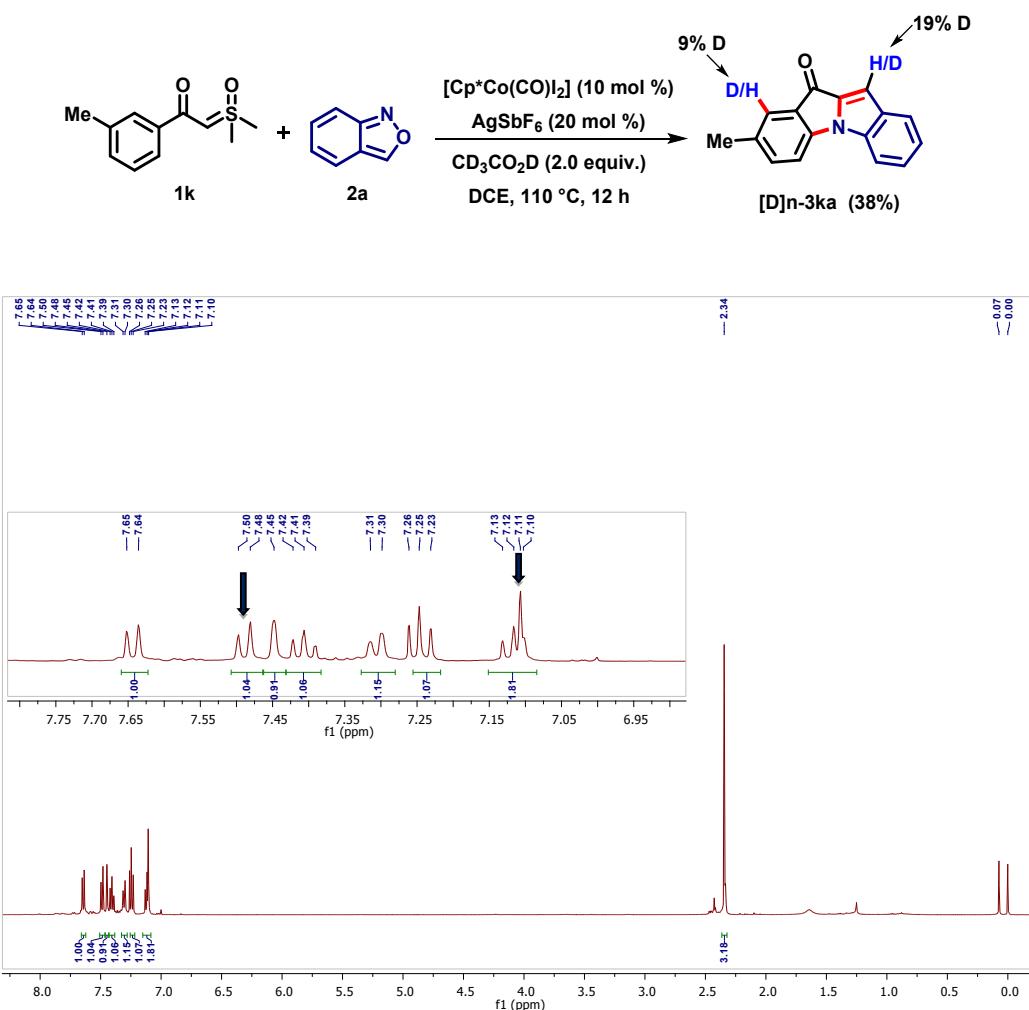
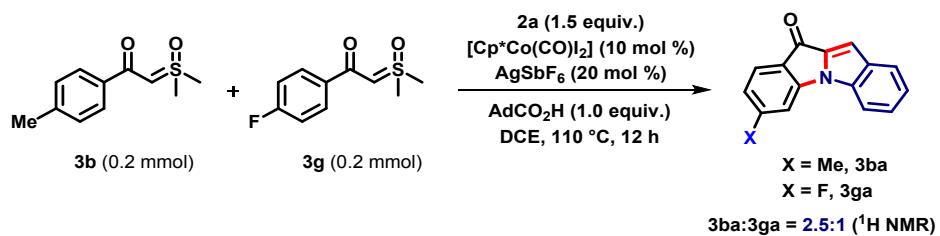


Figure S2. ^1H NMR for H/D exchange experiment of **1k** with CD_3COOD in presence of **2a**

4. Intermolecular Competitive Experiment



To a dried screw capped vial with a spinvane triangular-shaped Teflon stirbar were added **3b** (42.0 mg, 0.20 mmol), **3g** (42.9 mg, 0.20 mmol), anthranil **2a** (35.7 mg, 0.30 mmol), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Co}(\text{CO})\text{I}_2]$ (9.6 mg, 10 mol %), AgSbF_6 (13.6 mg, 20 mol %), AdCO_2H (36.0 mg, 1.0 equiv) and 1,2-DCE (1.2 mL) under N_2 atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred in a pre-heated oil bath at 110 °C for 12 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, filtered through a pad of celite and then the celite pad was washed with CH_2Cl_2 (15 mL × 2). The combined organic layers were removed under reduced pressure. The crude residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel and ratio of the products **3ba** and **3ga** was measured by ^1H NMR analysis which was found to be 2.5:1.

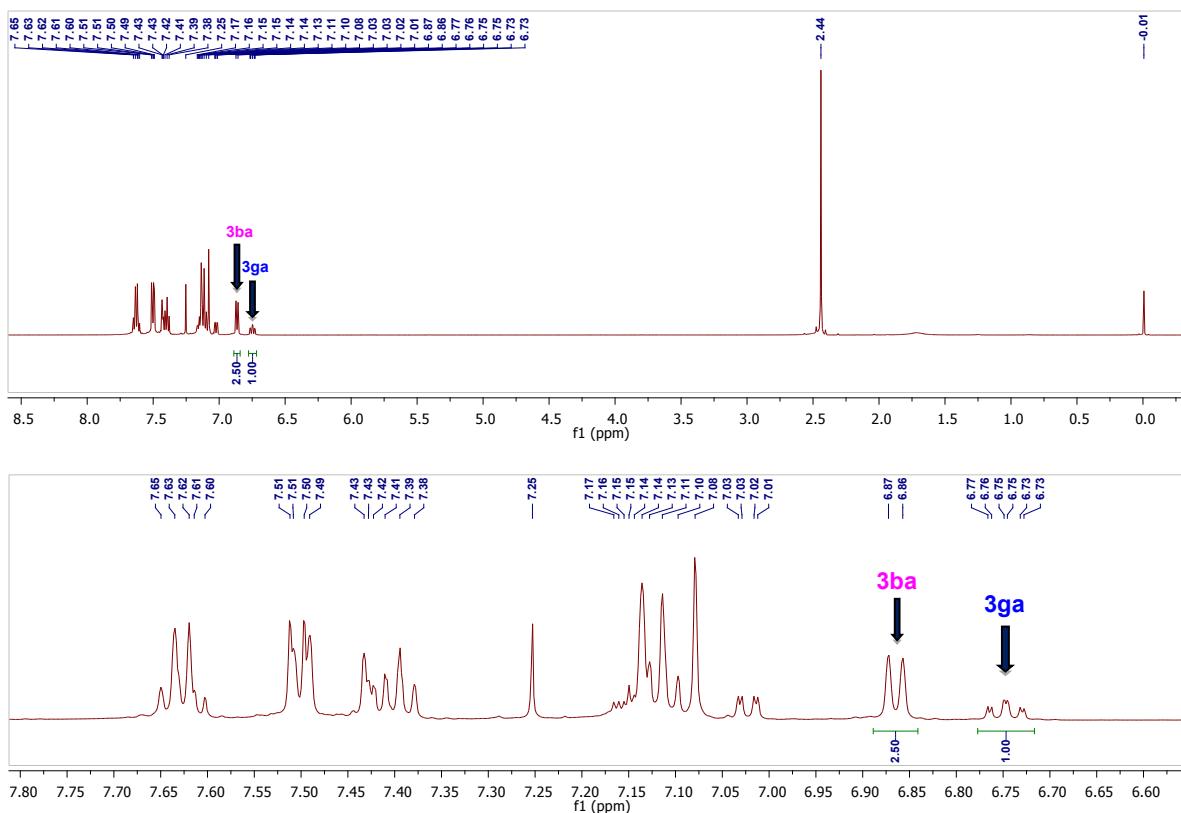
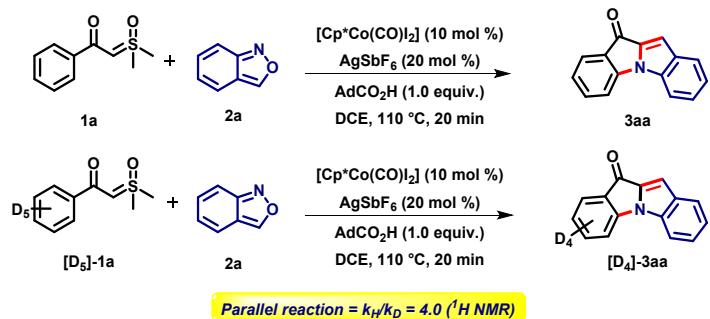


Figure S3. ^1H NMR for intermolecular competitive experiment between **3b** and **3g**

5. Intermolecular Kinetic Isotope Effect Experiments (Scheme 5c)

a) The Parallel Reaction.



Sulfoxonium ylide **1a** (19.6 mg, 0.10 mmol) or Sulfoxonium ylide-*d*₅ **[D5]-1a** (20.1 mg, 0.10 mmol) were added to two separate screw capped vials with spinvane triangular-shaped Teflon stirbar followed by anthranil **2a** (17.9 mg, 0.15 mmol), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Co}(\text{CO})\text{I}_2]$ (4.8 mg, 10 mol %), AgSbF_6 (6.8 mg, 20 mol %), AdCO_2H (18.0 mg, 1.0 equiv) and 1,2-DCE (0.6 mL) under N_2 atmosphere. These two reaction mixtures were stirred side-by-side at 110 °C for 20 min. Then, these two mixtures were rapidly combined and the combined mixture was poured into water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 15 mL). The combined organics were dried (Na_2SO_4), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography to afford the desired **3aa** and **[D4]-3aa**. KIE = 4.0.

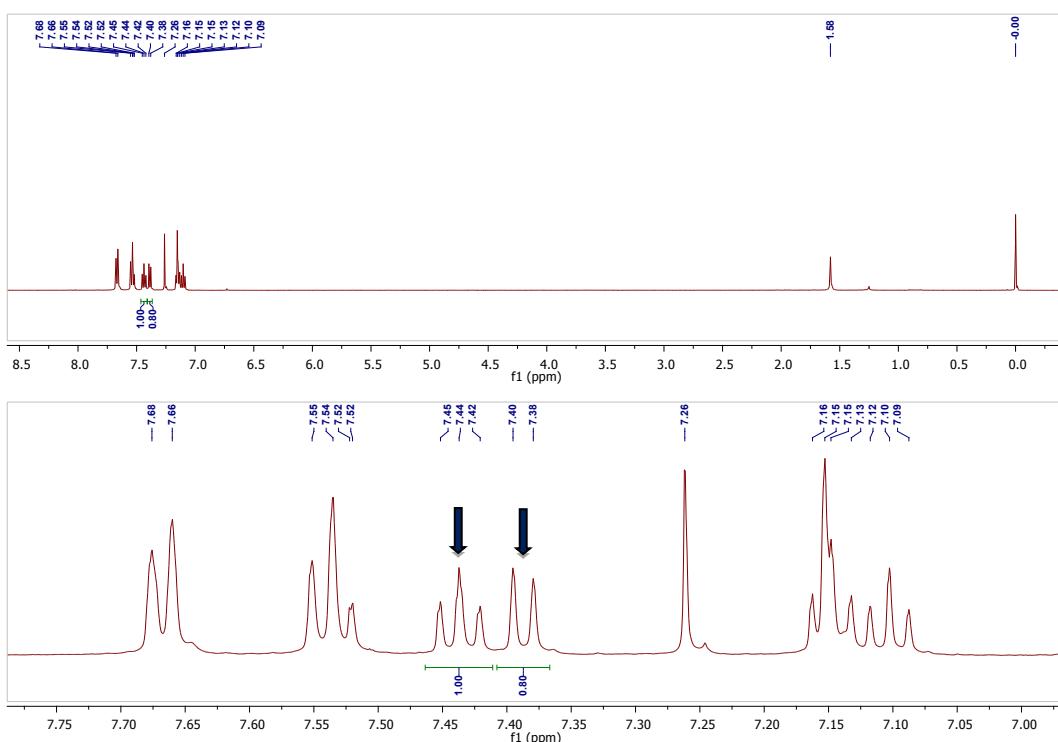
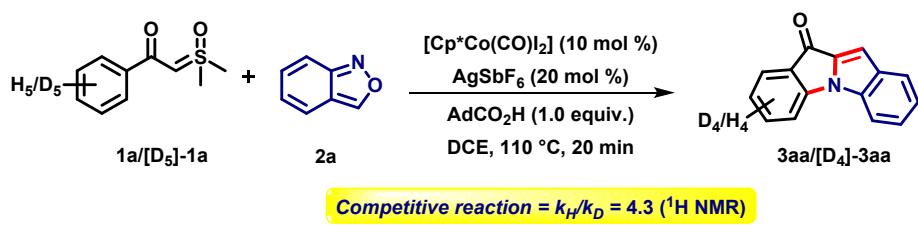


Figure S4. ^1H NMR for KIE Study (Parallel Reactions)

5. Kinetic Isotope Effect Experiments (Scheme 5c)

a) The Competitive Reaction



To a dried screw capped vial with a spinvane triangular-shaped Teflon stirbar were added **1a** (19.6 mg, 0.10 mmol), **[D₅]-1a** (20.1 mg, 0.10 mmol), anthranil **2a** (17.9 mg, 0.15 mmol), $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Co}(\text{CO})\text{I}_2]$ (4.8 mg, 10 mol %), AgSbF_6 (6.8 mg, 20 mol %), AdCO_2H (18.0 mg, 1.0 equiv) and 1,2-DCE (0.6 mL) under N_2 atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated at 110 °C for 20 min. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2×15 mL). The combined organics were dried (Na_2SO_4), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography to afford the desired **3aa** and **[D4]-3aa**. KIE = 4.3.

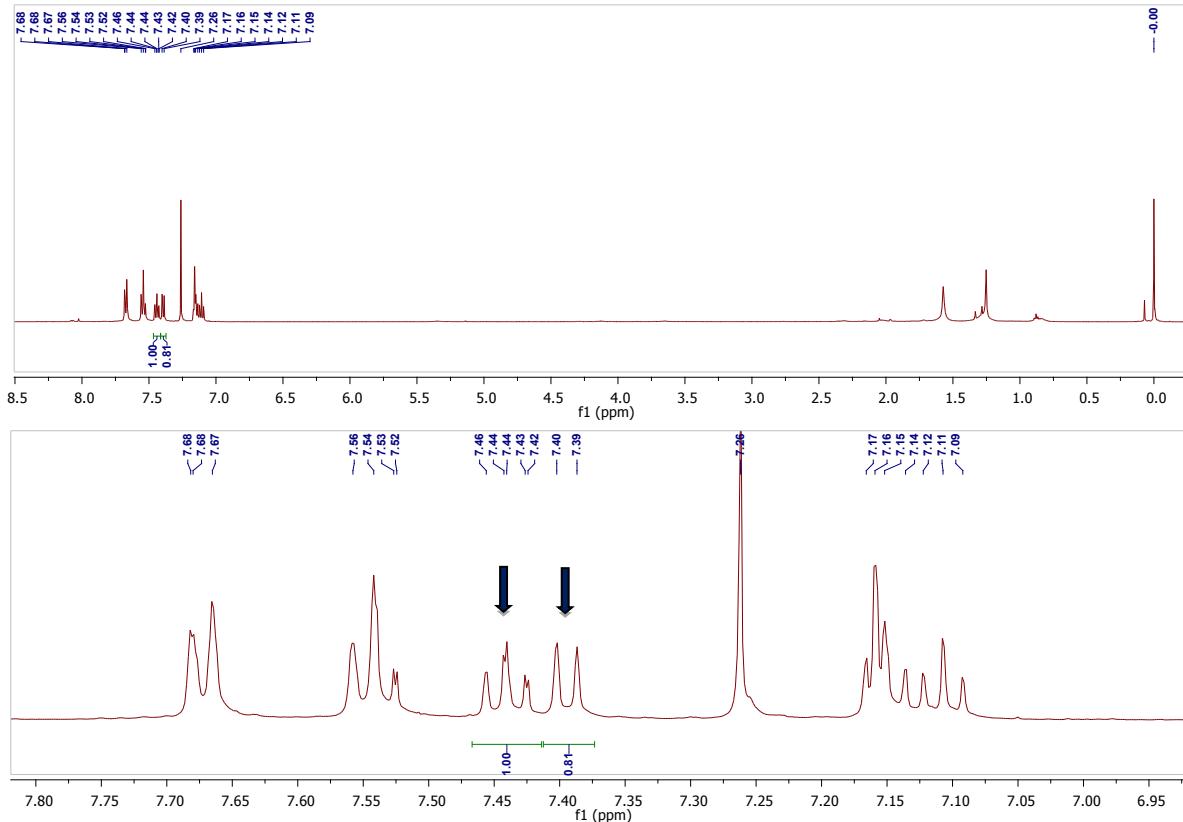


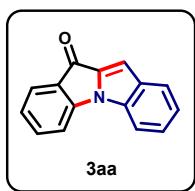
Figure S5. ^1H NMR for KIE Study (Competitive Reaction)

6. General Procedure for the Co-Catalyzed C–H Amination/Annulation Cascade for the Synthesis of Indoloindolones.

To a screw capped seal tube vial with a Teflon stirbar were added sulfoxonium ylide **1** (0.30 mmol), anthranil **2** (0.45 mmol, 1.5 equiv), [Cp^{*}Co(CO)I₂] (14.4 mg, 10 mol %), AdCO₂H (54.0 mg, 1.0 equiv.), and 1,2-DCE (2.0 mL) under N₂ atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 12 h, filtered through a pad of celite and then the celite pad was washed with CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL × 2). The solvents were removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/EtOAc) to give the desired Indoloindolones derivatives.

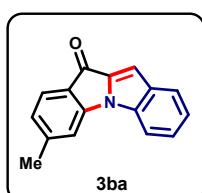
7. Spectroscopic Data of Indoloindolones Obtained in this Study

10*H*-Indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3aa).³



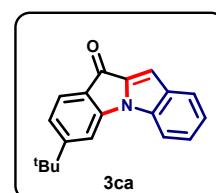
Yellow solid (55.0 mg, 84%); m.p. 160 – 162 °C; **1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.54 – 7.45 (m, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.16 – 7.01 (m, 2H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H); **13C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.6, 145.5, 135.8, 135.5, 134.3, 132.6, 129.4, 128.1, 125.1, 125.0, 123.8, 121.9, 111.3, 108.0.

7-Methyl-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ba).³



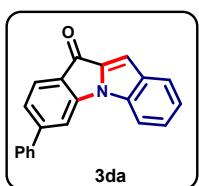
Yellow solid (60.0 mg, 85%); m.p. 175 – 177 °C; **1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.20 – 7.01 (m, 3H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H); **13C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.5, 147.2, 145.9, 136.3, 134.1, 132.6, 127.9, 127.0, 125.0, 124.9, 124.8, 121.8, 112.1, 111.3, 107.6, 22.5.

7-(*tert*-Butyl)-10*H*-Indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ca).



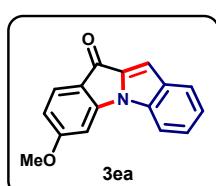
Yellow solid (69.0 mg, 84%); m.p. 147 – 149 °C; **1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 7.20 – 7.01 (m, 3H), 1.40 (s, 9H); **13C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.5, 160.4, 146.0, 136.3, 134.2, 132.5, 127.8, 126.9, 124.9, 124.8, 121.8, 121.0, 111.3, 108.6, 107.5, 35.8, 31.0; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₁₉H₁₇NONa [M+Na]⁺: 298.1208, found: 298.1203.

7-Phenyl-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3da).



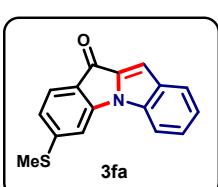
Yellow solid (54.0 mg, 61%); m.p. 149 – 151 °C; **1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.65 (m, 3H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.49 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.31 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19 – 7.12 (m, 2H); **13C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.3, 149.1, 146.2, 140.0, 136.4, 134.3, 132.7, 129.1, 128.8, 128.2, 128.1, 127.3, 125.5, 125.1, 122.9, 122.0, 111.4, 110.2, 108.0; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₂₁H₁₃NONa [M+Na]⁺: 318.0895, found: 318.0889.

7-Methoxy-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ea).³



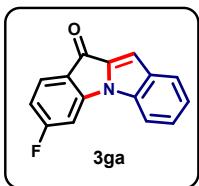
Yellow solid (72.0 mg, 72%); m.p. 186 – 188 °C; **1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (ddd, *J* = 8.2, 7.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (ddd, *J* = 8.0, 7.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H); **13C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 180.5, 166.1, 147.4, 136.9, 134.0, 132.6, 127.7, 126.8, 124.8, 122.5, 121.9, 111.1, 107.9, 107.2, 98.6, 55.9.

7-(methylthio)-10*H*-Indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3fa).



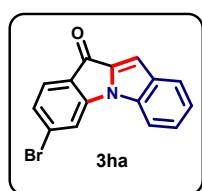
Yellow solid (59.0 mg, 74%); m.p. 187 – 189 °C; **1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (s, 1H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H); **13C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 180.6, 149.5, 145.7, 136.4, 134.0, 132.6, 127.9, 125.9, 125.1, 124.9, 122.0, 119.4, 111.2, 107.8, 107.7, 15.0; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₁₆H₁₁NOSNa [M+Na]⁺: 288.0459, found: 288.0453.

7-Fluoro-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ga).³



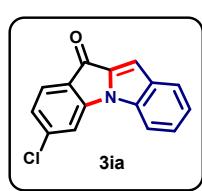
Yellow solid (41.0 mg, 58%); m.p. 203 – 205 °C; **1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.69 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 7.13 (s, 1H), 7.04 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.81 – 6.70 (m, 1H); **13C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 180.0, 167.6 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 255.6 Hz), 147.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 13.1 Hz), 136.3, 134.1, 132.6, 128.3, 127.1 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 11.2 Hz), 125.6, 125.1, 122.4, 111.1, 110.6 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 23.3 Hz), 108.5, 100.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 28.0 Hz).

7-Bromo-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ha).



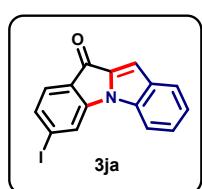
Yellow solid (58.0 mg, 65%); m.p. 204 – 206 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.46 (m, 3H), 7.47 – 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.19 – 7.13 (m, 2H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 180.3, 146.0, 135.8, 134.1, 132.7, 130.1, 128.5, 128.2, 126.9, 126.1, 125.2, 122.5, 114.8, 111.3, 108.9; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₁₅H₈BrNONa [M+Na]⁺: 319.9687, found: 319.9681.

7-Chloro-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ia).³



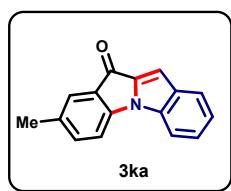
Yellow solid (48.0 mg, 63%); m.p. 217 – 219 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 7.23 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 180.2, 146.1, 141.7, 135.9, 134.1, 132.7, 128.5, 127.8, 126.0, 125.2, 124.0, 122.5, 112.0, 111.3, 108.8.

7-Iodo-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ja).



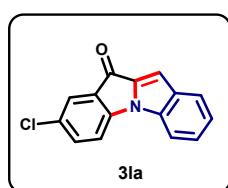
Yellow solid (65.0 mg, 63%); m.p. 199 – 201 °C; **¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.62 (s, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.46 – 7.31 (m, 3H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.15 – 6.99 (m, 2H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 180.6, 145.7, 135.5, 134.1, 133.1, 132.7, 128.8, 128.5, 126.0, 125.2, 122.4, 120.5, 111.4, 108.8, 102.6; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₁₅H₈INONa [M+Na]⁺: 367.9548, found: 367.9542.

8-Methyl-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ka).³



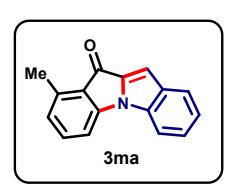
Brick red solid (58.0 mg, 83%); m.p. 129 – 131 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.9, 143.5, 136.0, 135.9, 134.2, 133.7, 132.4, 129.5, 127.9, 125.6, 125.0, 121.7, 111.2, 111.0, 107.6, 20.9.

8-Chloro-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3la).³



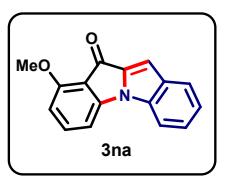
Yellow solid (81.0 mg, 81%); m.p. 203 – 205 °C; **1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.22 – 7.11 (m, 2H); **13C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 180.0, 143.7, 135.7, 134.9, 134.2, 132.5, 130.7, 129.5, 128.5, 125.3, 125.2, 122.3, 112.2, 111.2, 108.9.

9-Methyl-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ma).³



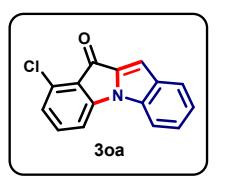
Yellow solid (66.0 mg, 70%); m.p. 158 – 160 °C; **1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (s, 3H); **13C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 182.9, 145.9, 140.8, 136.0, 134.8, 134.0, 132.6, 127.7, 126.5, 126.4, 124.9, 121.8, 111.4, 108.8, 107.0, 17.7.

9-Methoxy-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3na).



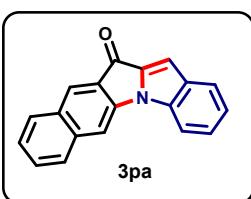
Yellow solid (64.0 mg, 84%); m.p. 163 – 165 °C; **1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (s, 3H); **13C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 179.9, 158.7, 146.8, 137.5, 135.9, 134.1, 132.6, 127.6, 124.8, 121.8, 116.0, 111.3, 107.3, 107.1, 104.0, 56.0; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₁₆H₁₁NO₂Na [M+Na]⁺: 272.0687, found 272.0681.

9-Chloro-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3oa).³



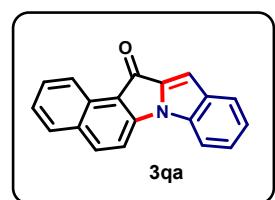
Yellow solid (55.0 mg, 72%); m.p. 208 – 210 °C; **1H NMR 500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.22 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); **13C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 178.7, 146.7, 135.9, 135.6, 134.1, 133.2, 132.7, 128.3, 125.6, 125.2, 122.4, 111.4, 109.7, 108.5.

12*H*-Benzo[*f*]indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-12-one (3pa).



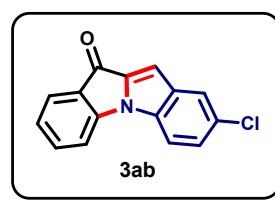
Brick red solid (46.0 mg, 56%); m.p. 218 – 220 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 8.19 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.79 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.15 (m, 2H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.2, 139.7, 137.2, 136.8, 133.9, 132.9, 130.9, 130.3, 129.8, 129.6, 127.9, 126.6, 125.7, 124.9, 122.3, 111.9, 107.4, 106.5; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₁₉H₁₂NO [M+H]⁺: 270.0919, found: 270.0912.

13*H*-Benzo[*e*]indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-13-one (3qa).³



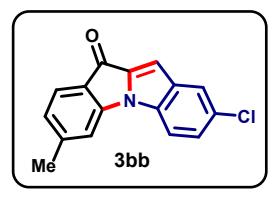
Brick red solid (41.0 mg, 50%); m.p. 197 – 199 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 8.19 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.16 (m, 2H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 182.6, 147.1, 137.3, 136.8, 134.8, 132.9, 130.6, 130.0, 128.6, 128.2, 125.3, 125.1, 123.4, 121.9, 120.3, 111.4, 111.1, 108.8.

2-Chloro-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ab).⁴



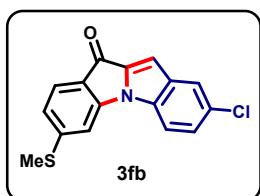
Yellow solid (58.0 mg, 76%); m.p. 199 – 201 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.3, 145.2, 136.6, 135.7, 133.4, 132.4, 129.1, 128.3, 127.5, 125.3, 124.3, 124.2, 112.1, 111.3, 106.9.

2-Chloro-7-methyl-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3bb).



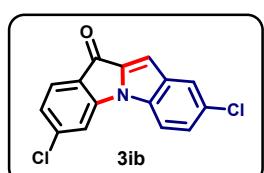
Yellow solid (61.0 mg, 75%); m.p. 188 – 190 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.62 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.1, 147.4, 145.6, 137.1, 133.4, 132.3, 128.1, 127.3, 126.7, 125.1, 124.9, 124.1, 112.10, 112.05, 106.5, 22.5; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₁₆H₁₀ClNONa [M+Na]⁺: 290.0349, found: 290.0343.

2-Chloro-7-(methylthio)-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3fb).



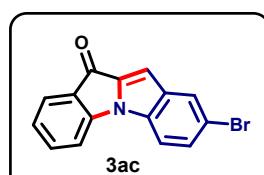
Yellow solid (64.0 mg, 71%); m.p. 159 – 161 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (s, 3H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 180.4, 149.9, 145.5, 137.4, 133.6, 132.2, 128.2, 127.6, 125.7, 125.3, 124.2, 119.7, 112.1, 107.8, 106.7, 15.1; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₁₆H₁₁ClNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 322.0069, found: 322.0063.

2,7-Dichloro-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ib).



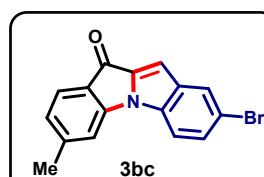
Yellow solid (61.0 mg, 70%); m.p. 229 – 231 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (s, 1H), 7.18 – 7.04 (m, 2H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 179.9, 145.8, 141.9, 136.8, 133.6, 132.3, 128.7, 128.0, 127.5, 126.2, 124.40, 124.38, 112.1, 112.0, 107.7; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₁₅H₇Cl₂NONa [M+Na]⁺: 309.9802, found: 309.9797.

2-Bromo-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ac).⁵



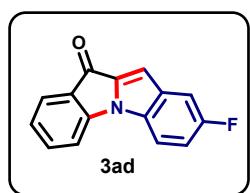
Yellow solid (59.0 mg, 65%); m.p. 197 – 199 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.81 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.3, 145.1, 136.4, 135.7, 134.0, 132.6, 130.8, 129.1, 127.3, 125.3, 124.3, 114.9, 112.5, 111.3, 106.7.

2-Bromo-7-methyl-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3bc).



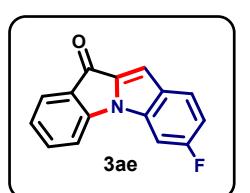
Yellow solid (64.0 mg, 68%); m.p. 208 – 210 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.03 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.1, 147.4, 145.5, 136.9, 133.9, 132.5, 130.6, 127.2, 126.7, 125.1, 124.9, 114.7, 112.5, 112.1, 106.3, 22.5; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₁₆H₁₀BrNONa [M+Na]⁺: 333.9843, found: 333.9837.

2-Fluoro-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ad).⁴



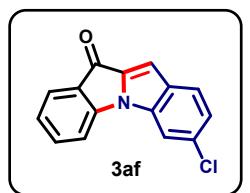
Yellow solid (51.0 mg, 71%); m.p. 244 – 246 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.19 (td, *J* = 9.0, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.14 – 7.04 (m, 2H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.5, 158.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 239.8 Hz), 145.4, 137.0, 135.7, 133.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 10.0 Hz), 130.9, 129.1, 125.4, 124.1, 116.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 26.5 Hz), 112.1 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 9.5 Hz), 111.0, 109.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 23.6 Hz), 107.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 4.9 Hz).

3-Fluoro-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ae).⁴



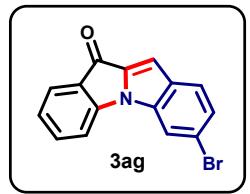
Yellow solid (55.0 mg, 78%); m.p. 242 – 244 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.16 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.90 (t, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.0, 163.4 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 246.9 Hz), 145.1, 136.6 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.3 Hz), 135.5, 134.3 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 12.4 Hz), 129.5, 129.2, 126.2 (d, *J* = 10.7 Hz), 125.3, 124.3, 111.3, 111.1 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 25.1 Hz), 107.9, 98.1 (d, *J* = 27.2 Hz).

3-Chloro-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3af).⁵



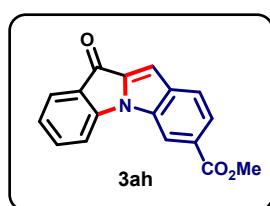
Yellow solid (56.0 mg, 73%); m.p. 197 – 199 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.49 (s, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.17 – 7.05 (m, 3H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.2, 145.0, 136.2, 135.6, 134.2, 134.1, 131.0, 129.2, 125.7, 125.3, 124.3, 122.8, 111.4, 111.3, 107.7.

3-Bromo-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ag).⁵



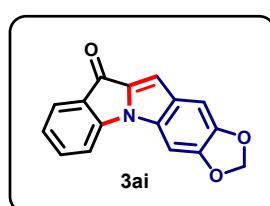
Yellow solid (64.0 mg, 71%); m.p. 195 – 197 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.14 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.2, 144.9, 136.0, 135.6, 134.4, 131.3, 129.2, 125.9, 125.4, 125.3, 124.4, 122.1, 114.3, 111.4, 107.7.

Methyl 10-oxo-10*H*-indolo[1,2-*a*]indole-3-carboxylate (3ah).⁶



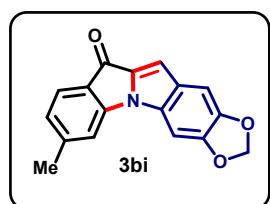
Yellow solid (29.0 mg, 35%); m.p. 210 – 212 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 8.27 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.18 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 4.00 (s, 3H). 8.27 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.20 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 4.00 (s, 3H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 181.6, 167.0, 145.3, 137.9, 135.95, 135.82, 133.5, 129.3, 129.0, 125.4, 124.7, 124.4, 122.6, 113.1, 111.8, 107.1, 52.5.

10*H*-[1,3]Dioxolo[4,5-*f*]indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3ai).



Brick red solid (18.0 mg, 23%); m.p. 168 – 170 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.62 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.03 – 6.90 (m, 3H), 6.02 (s, 2H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 180.5, 150.0, 144.9, 144.5, 134.98, 134.87, 130.6, 129.8, 126.8, 124.9, 123.9, 110.7, 108.6, 102.3, 101.6, 91.9; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₁₆H₁₀NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 264.0661, found: 264.0653.

7-Methyl-10*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*f*]indolo[1,2-*a*]indol-10-one (3bi).



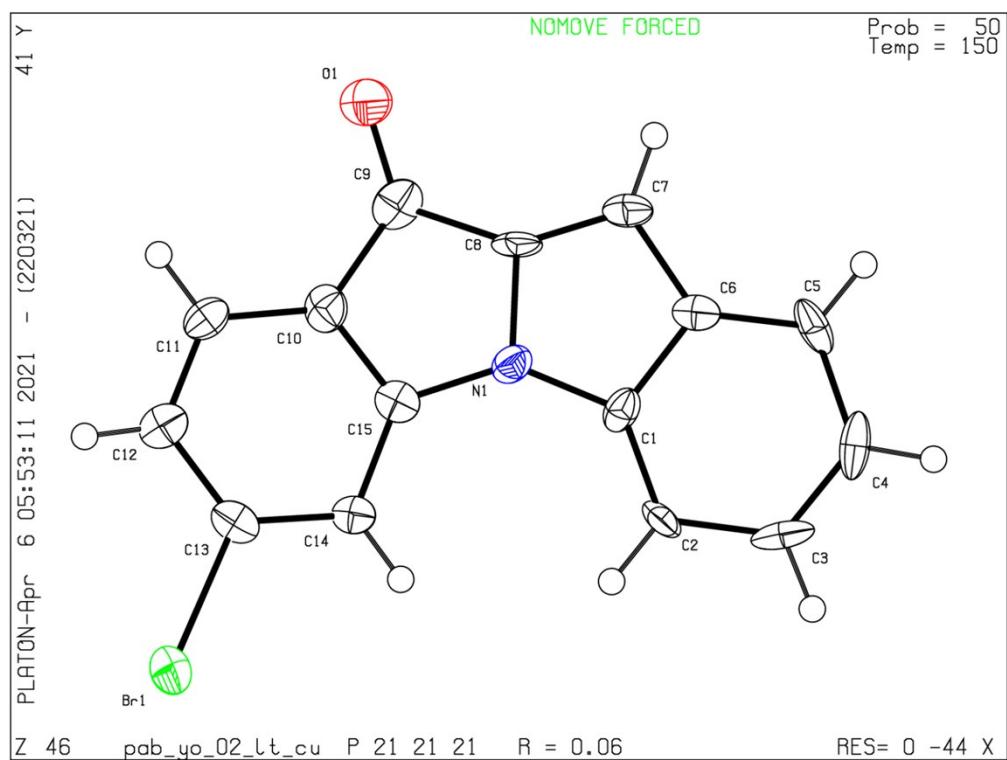
Brick red solid (22.0 mg, 26%); m.p. 194 – 197 °C; **¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 7.03 – 6.91 (m, 3H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (s, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H); **¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 180.5, 149.8, 146.5, 145.4, 144.4, 135.5, 130.5, 127.5, 126.8, 124.8, 124.6, 111.6, 108.2, 102.3, 101.6, 92.0, 22.5; **HRMS (ESI)** m/z calcd. for C₁₇H₁₁NO₃Na [M+Na]⁺: 300.0637, found: 300.0631.

7. References

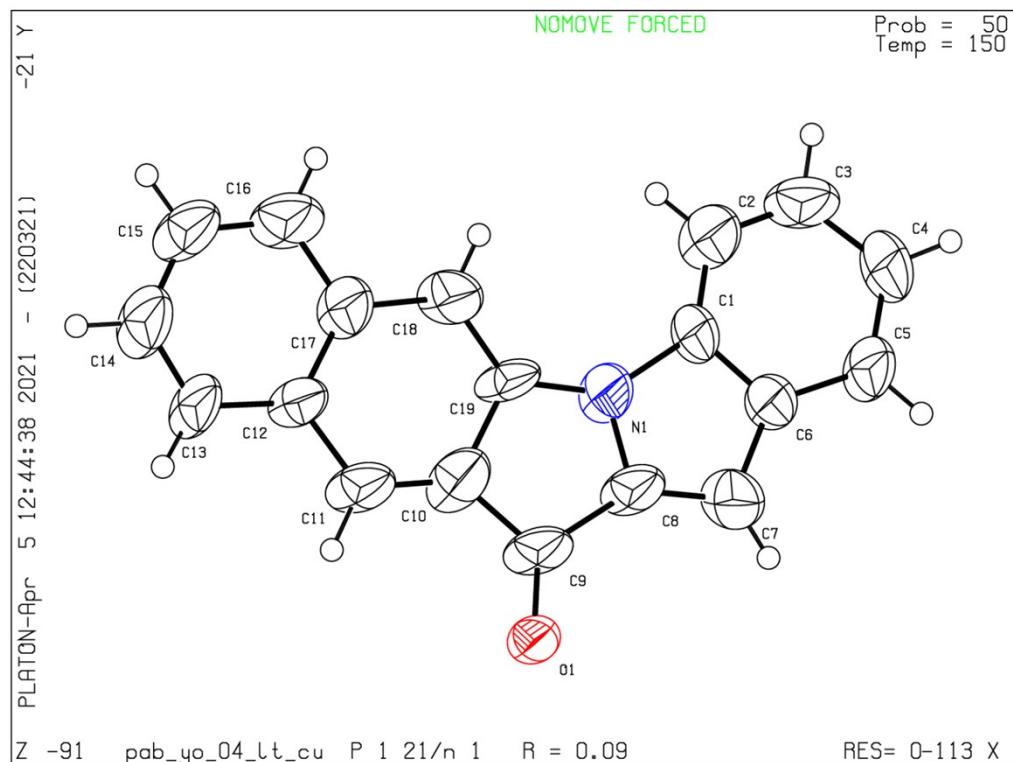
- (1) Vaitla, J.; Bayer, A.; Hopmann, K. H. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2017**, *56*, 4277.
- (2) Chauhan, J.; Fletcher, S. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2012**, *53*, 4951.
- (3) Wu, X.; Xiao, Y.; Sun, S.; Yu, J.-T.; Cheng, J. *Org. Lett.* **2019**, *21*, 6653.
- (4) Liu, M.; Liu, Y.-W.; Xu, H.; Dai, H.-X. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2019**, *60*, 151061.
- (5) Zou, S.; Liu, Y.; Xi, C. *ACS Omega* **2019**, *4*, 18734.

8. X-ray Structures

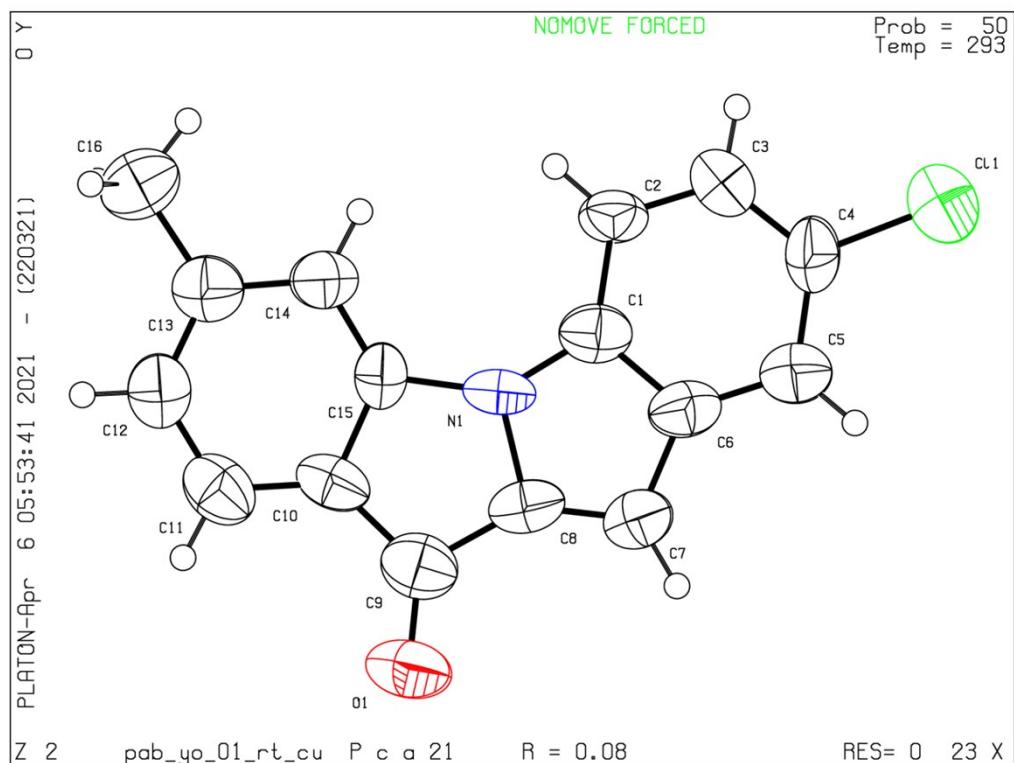
(a) X-ray Structure of **3ha** with 50% ellipsoid probability



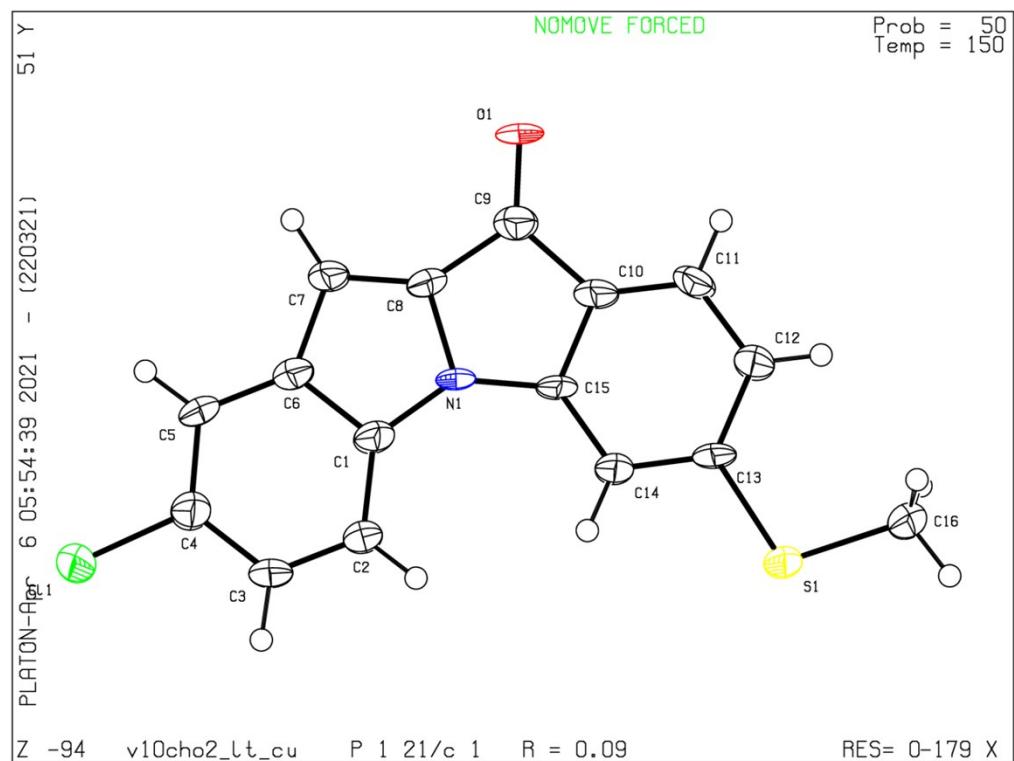
(b) X-ray Structure of **3pa** with 50% ellipsoid probability



(c) X-ray Structure of **3bb** with 50% ellipsoid probability

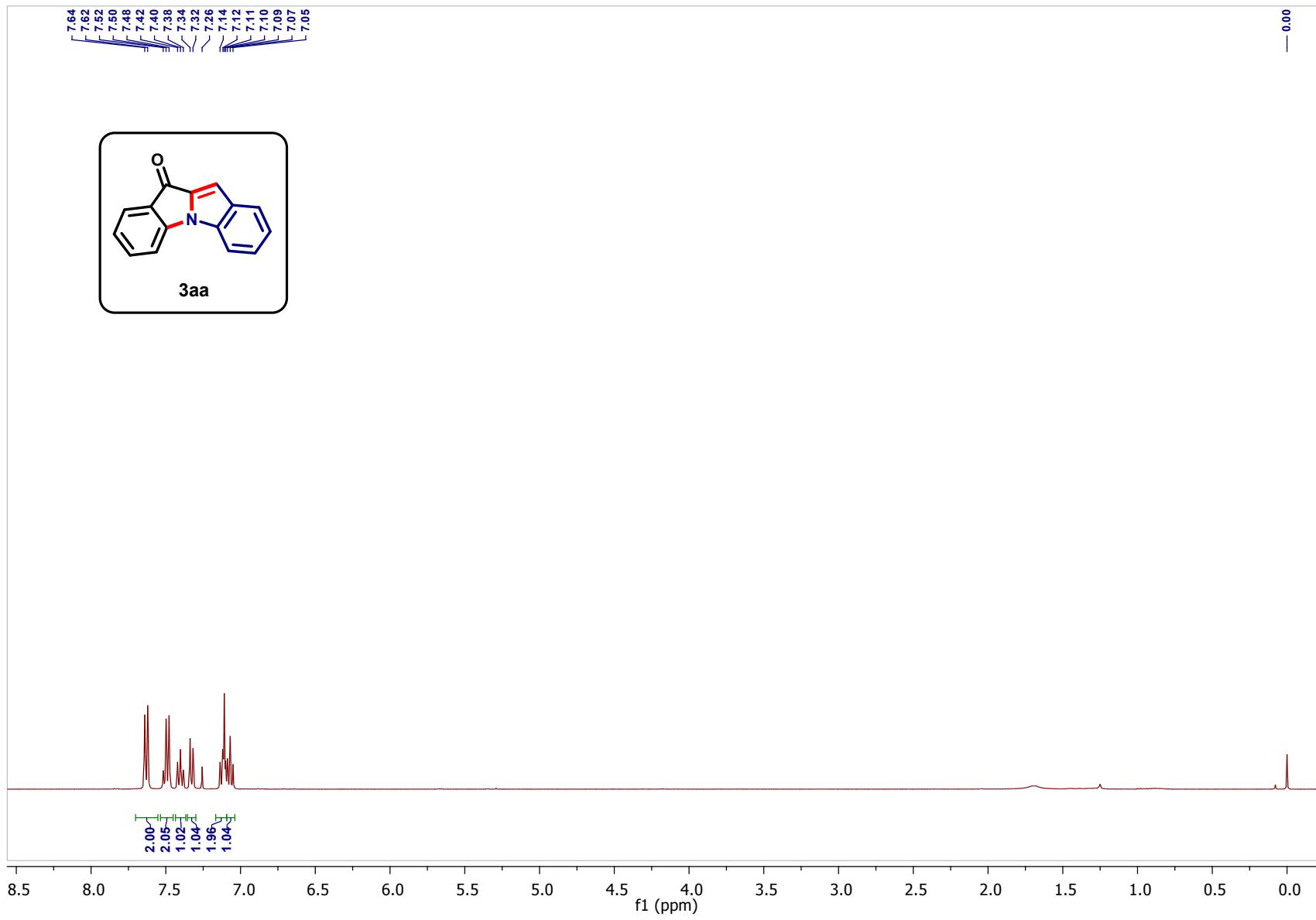


(c) X-ray Structure of **3fb** with 50% ellipsoid probability

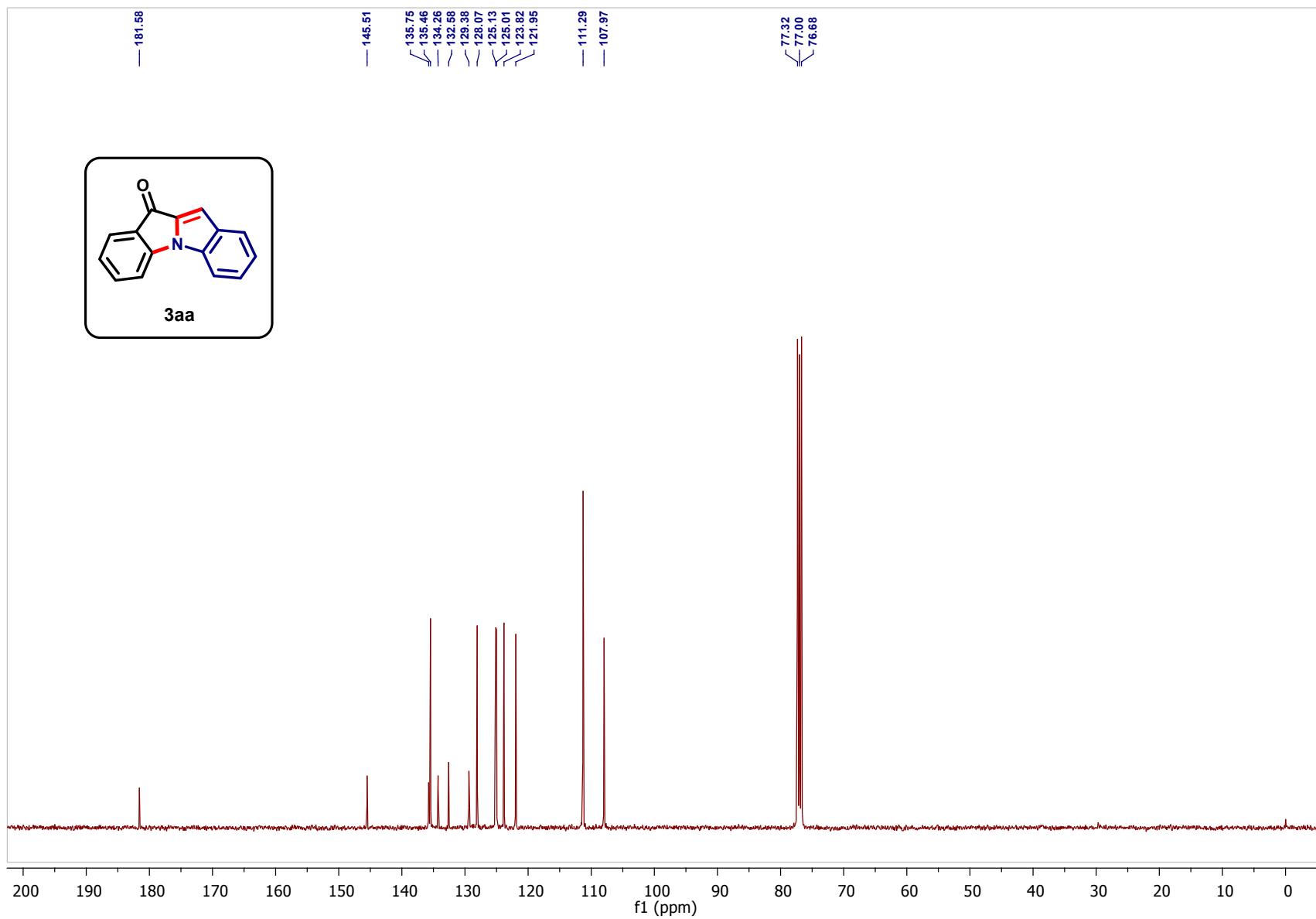


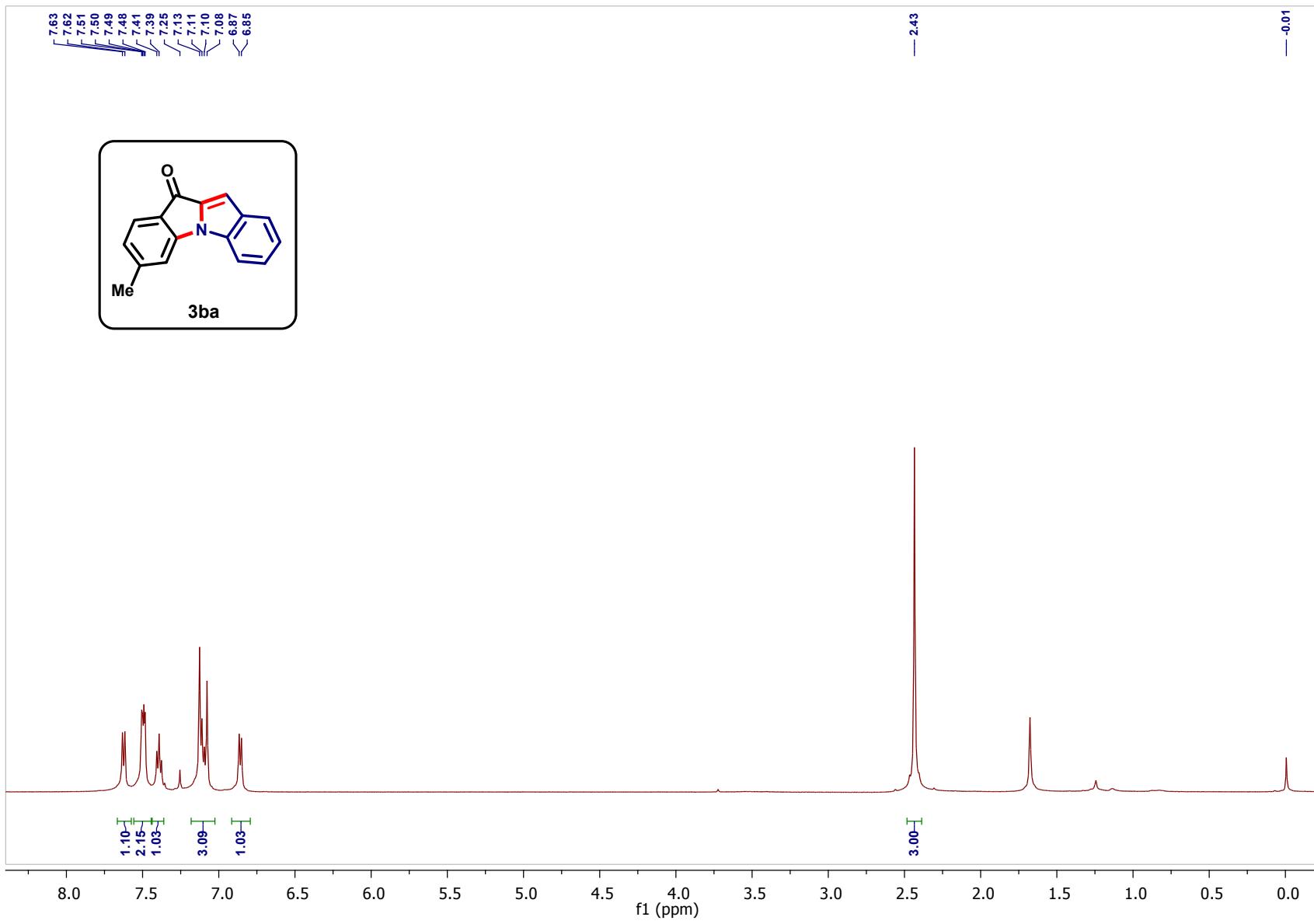
Appendix I

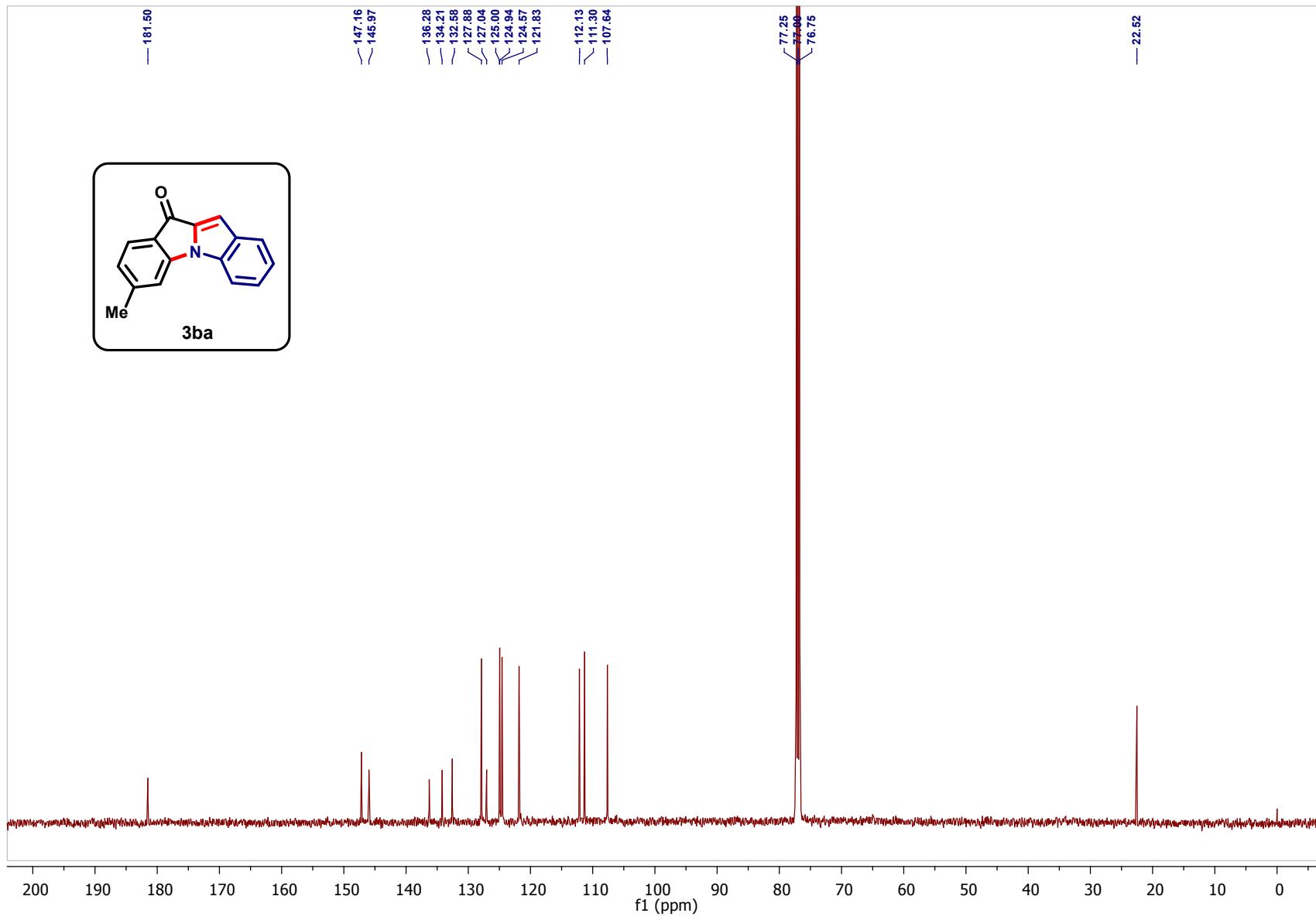
**Spectral Copies of ^1H and ^{13}C NMR of Compounds
Obtained in this Study**

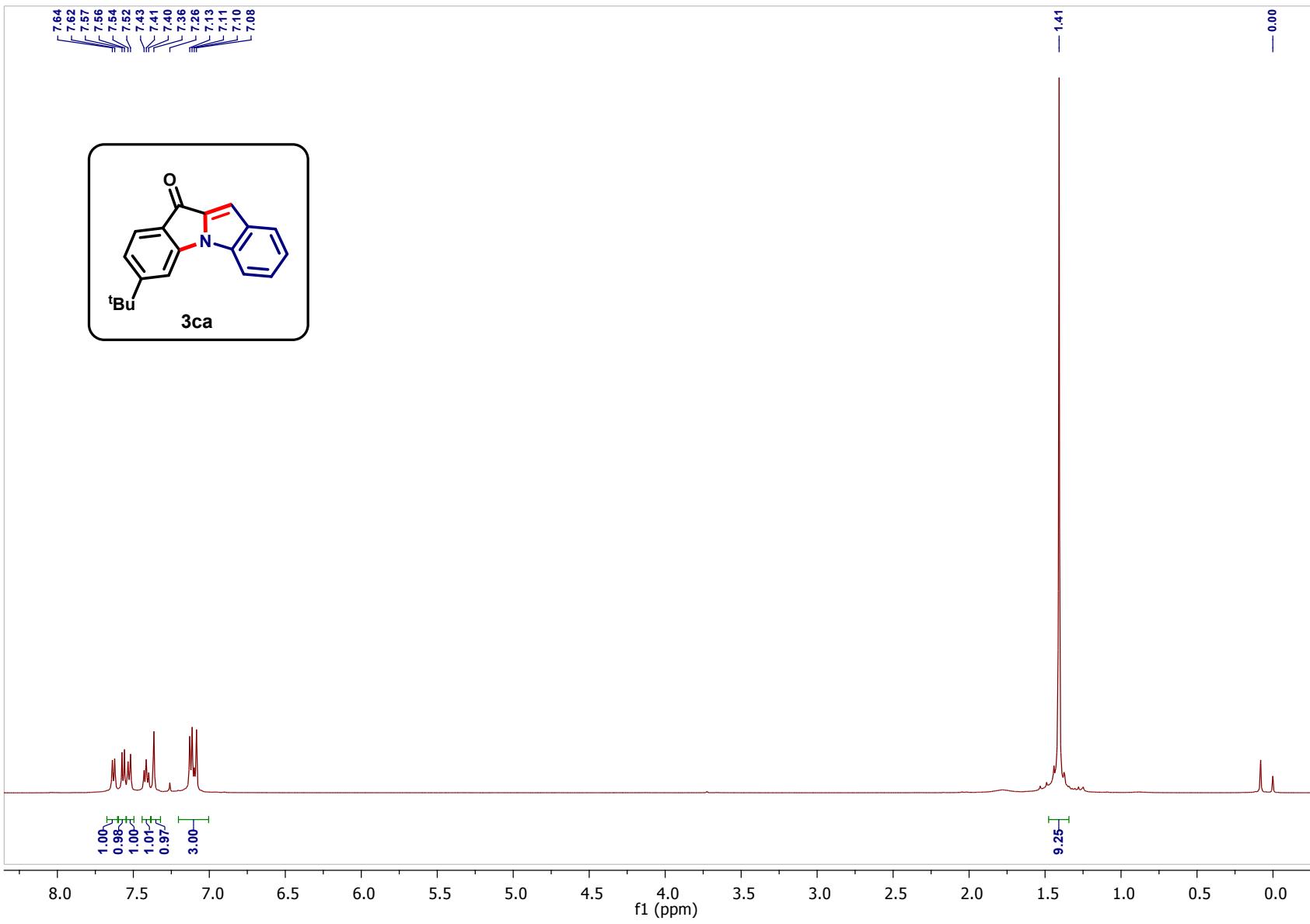


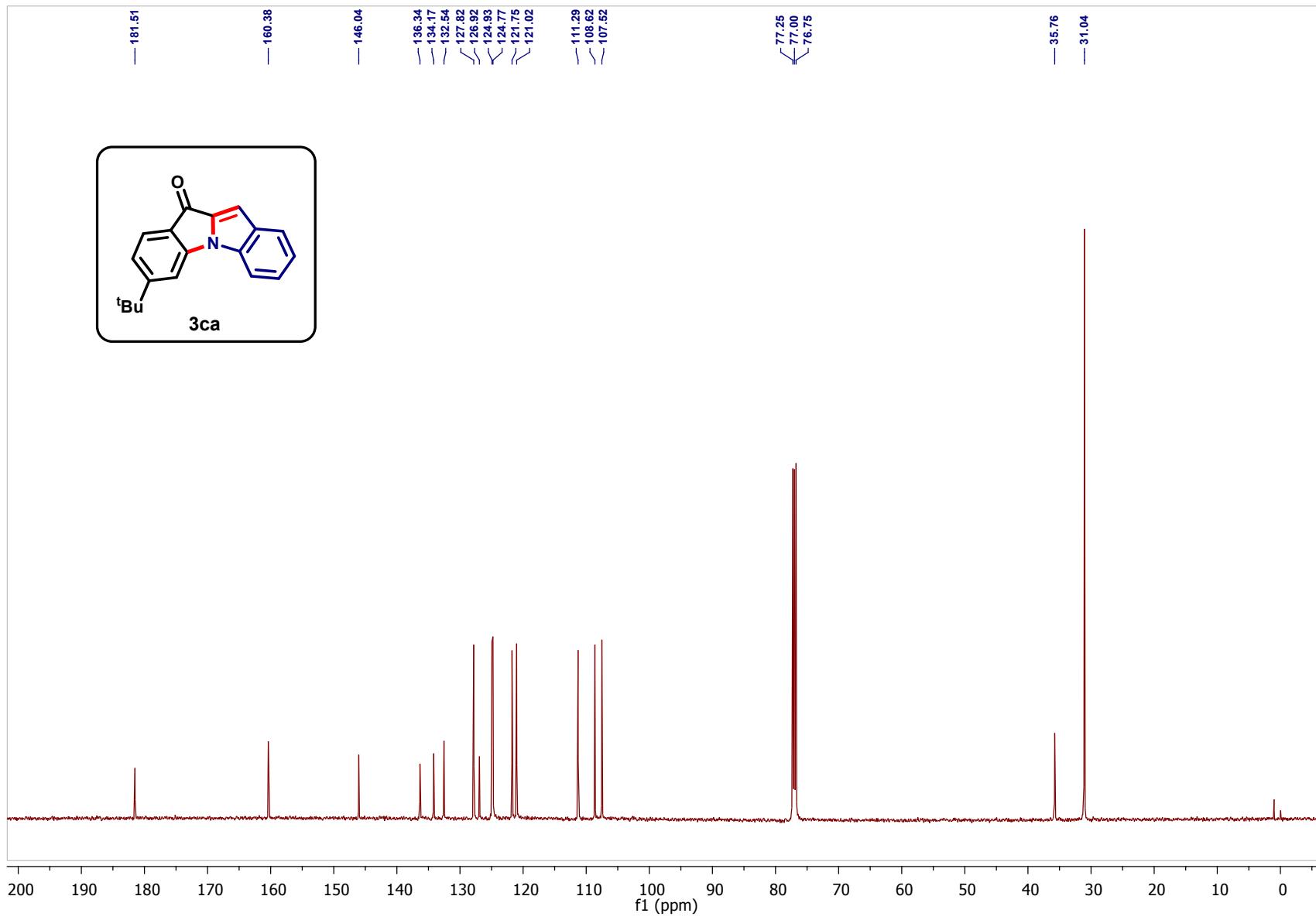
S-22

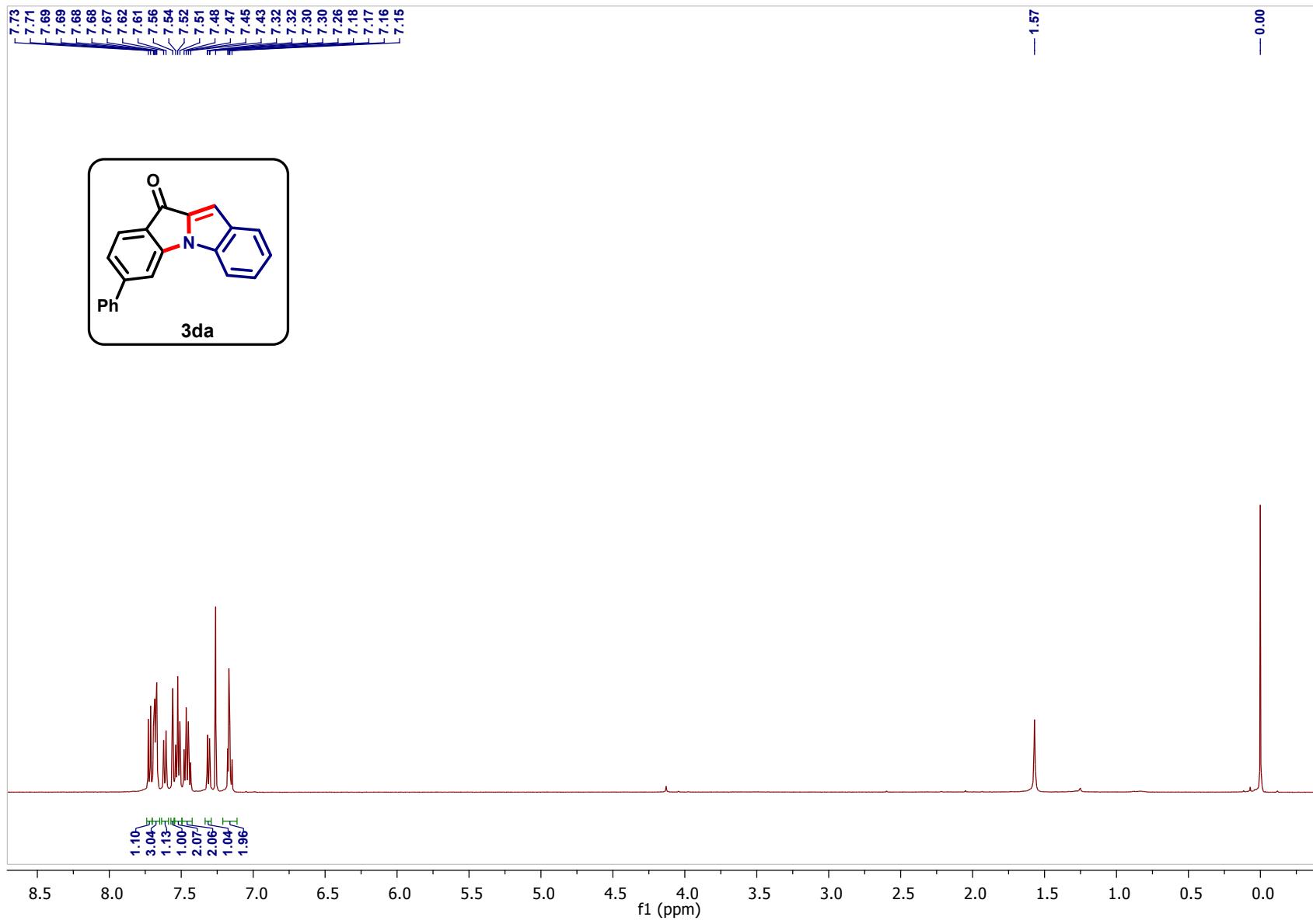


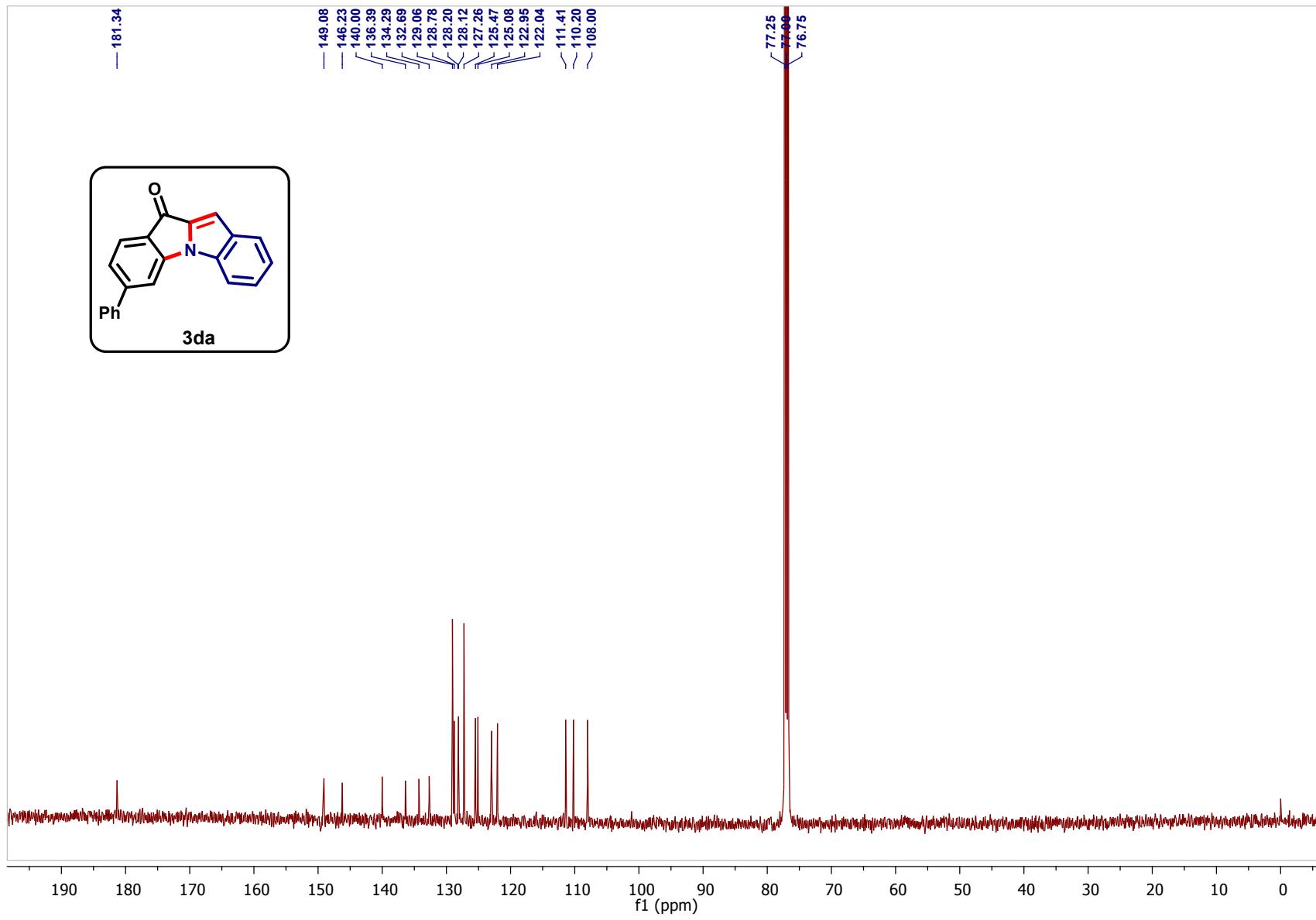




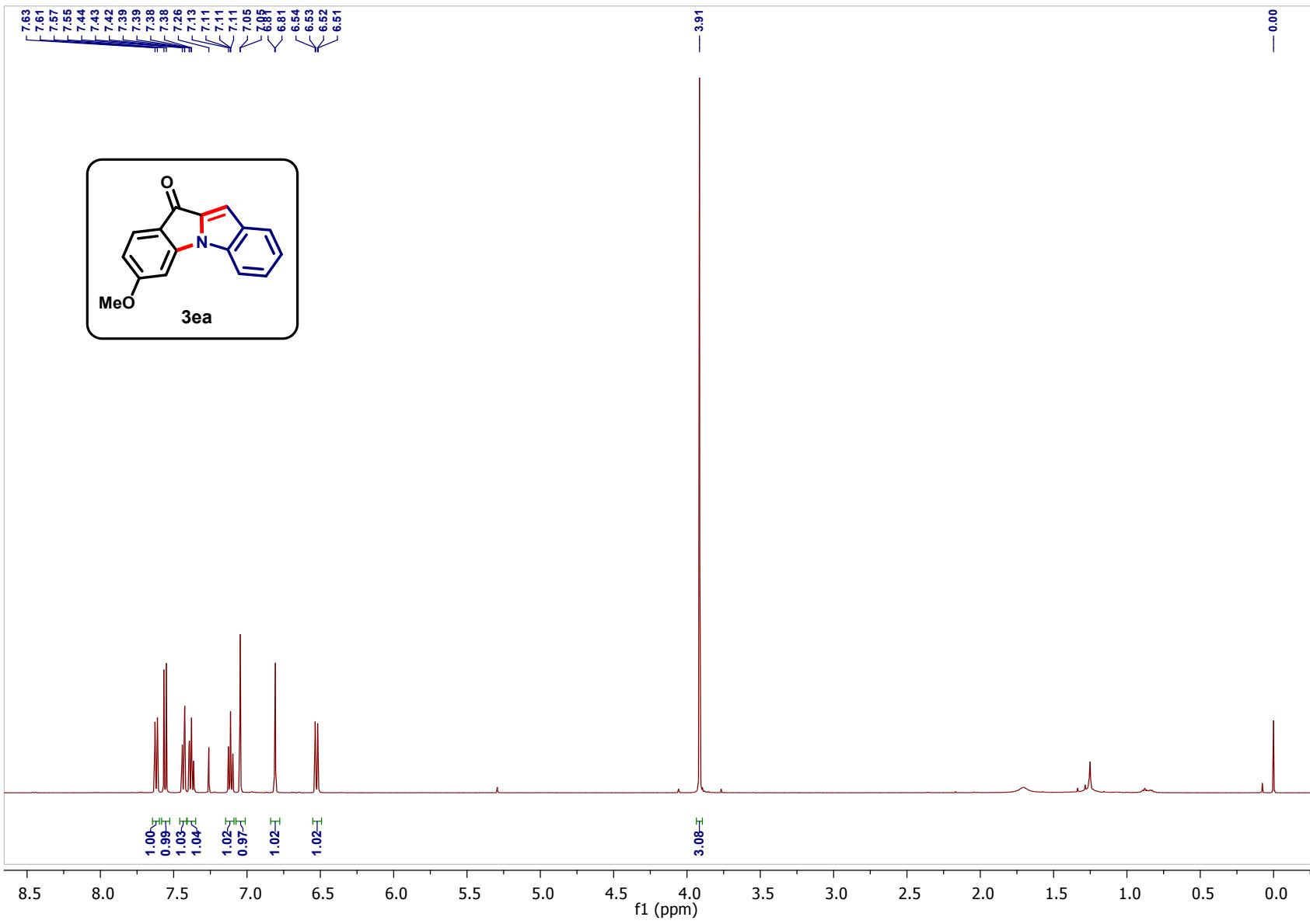


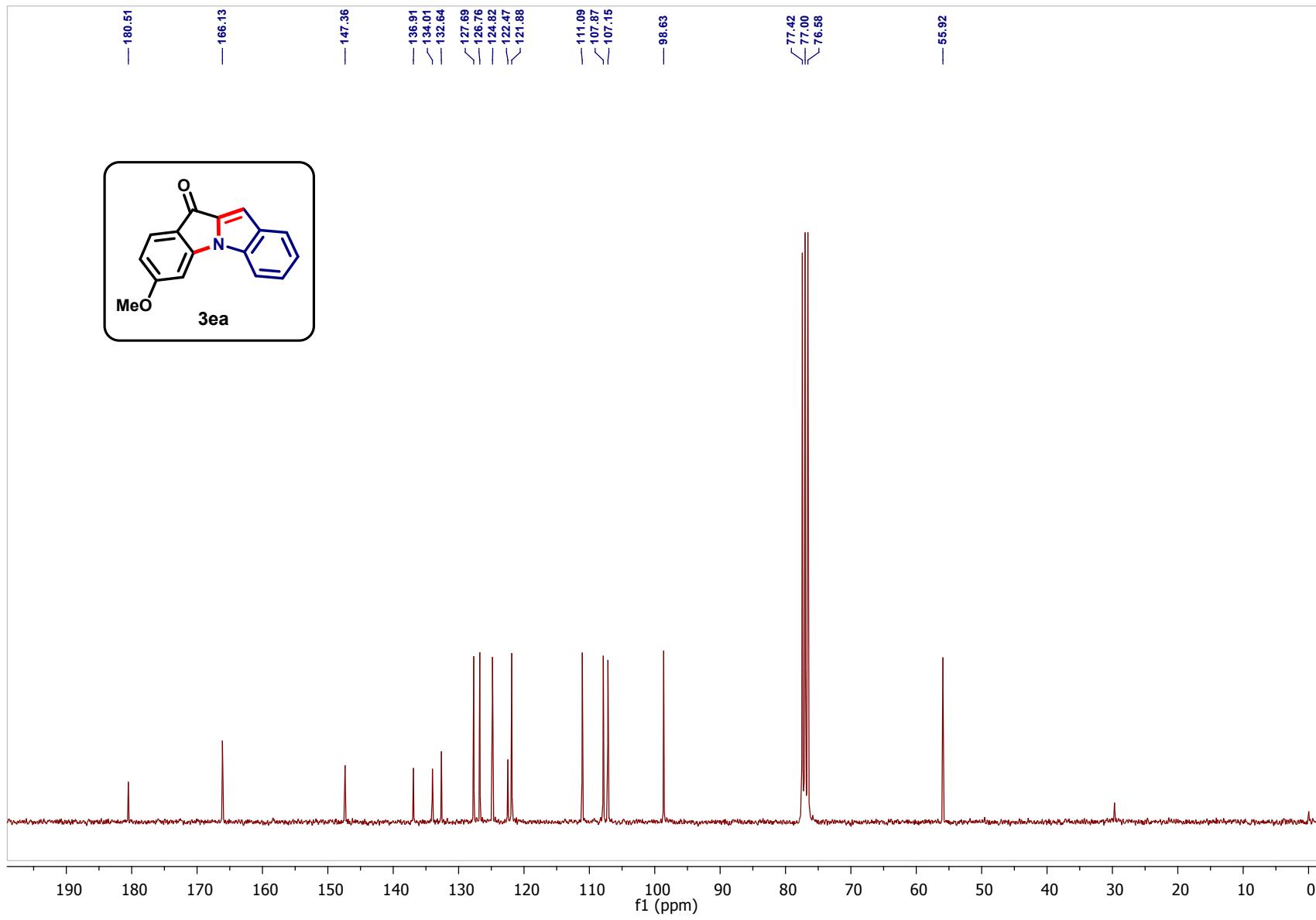




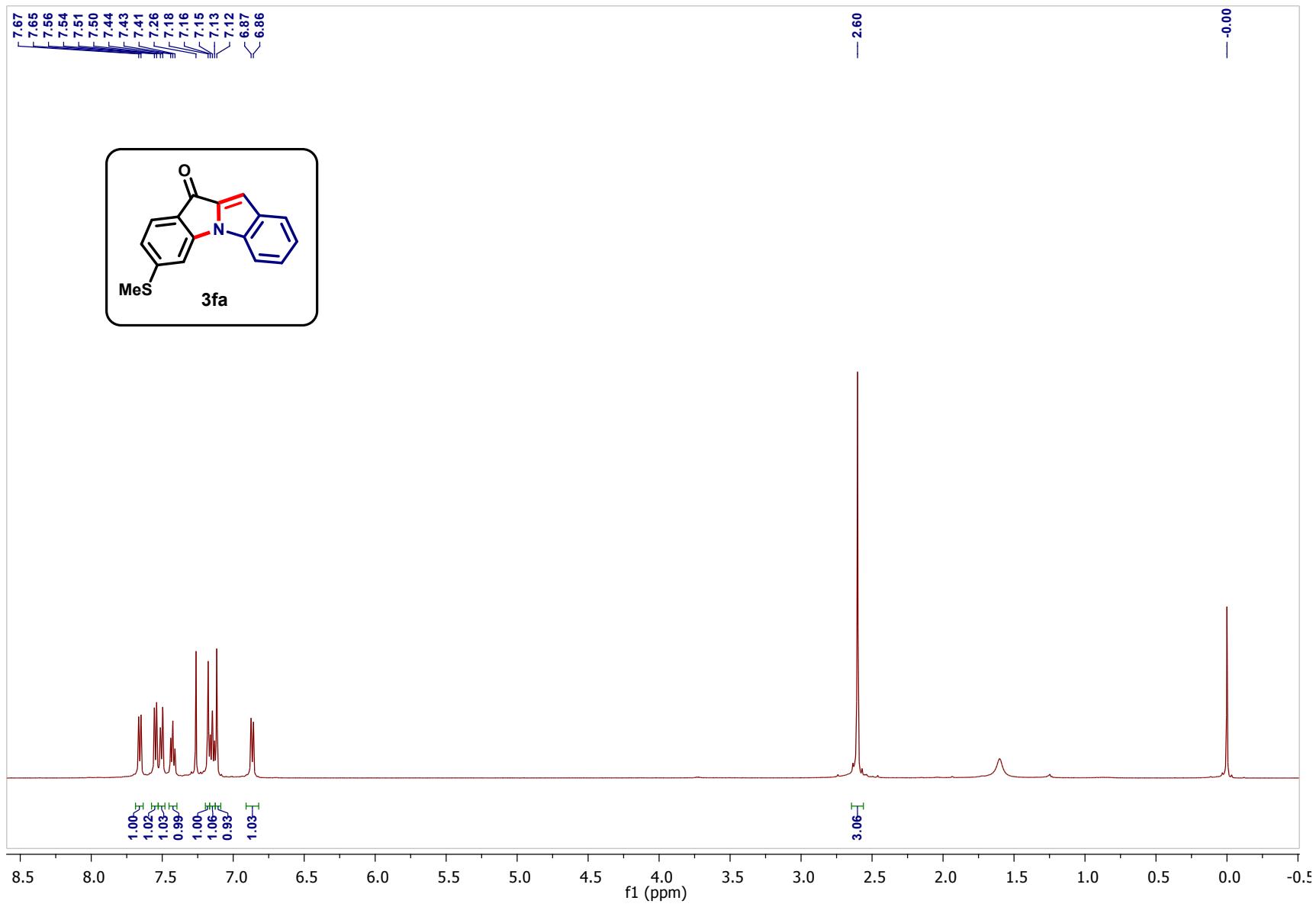


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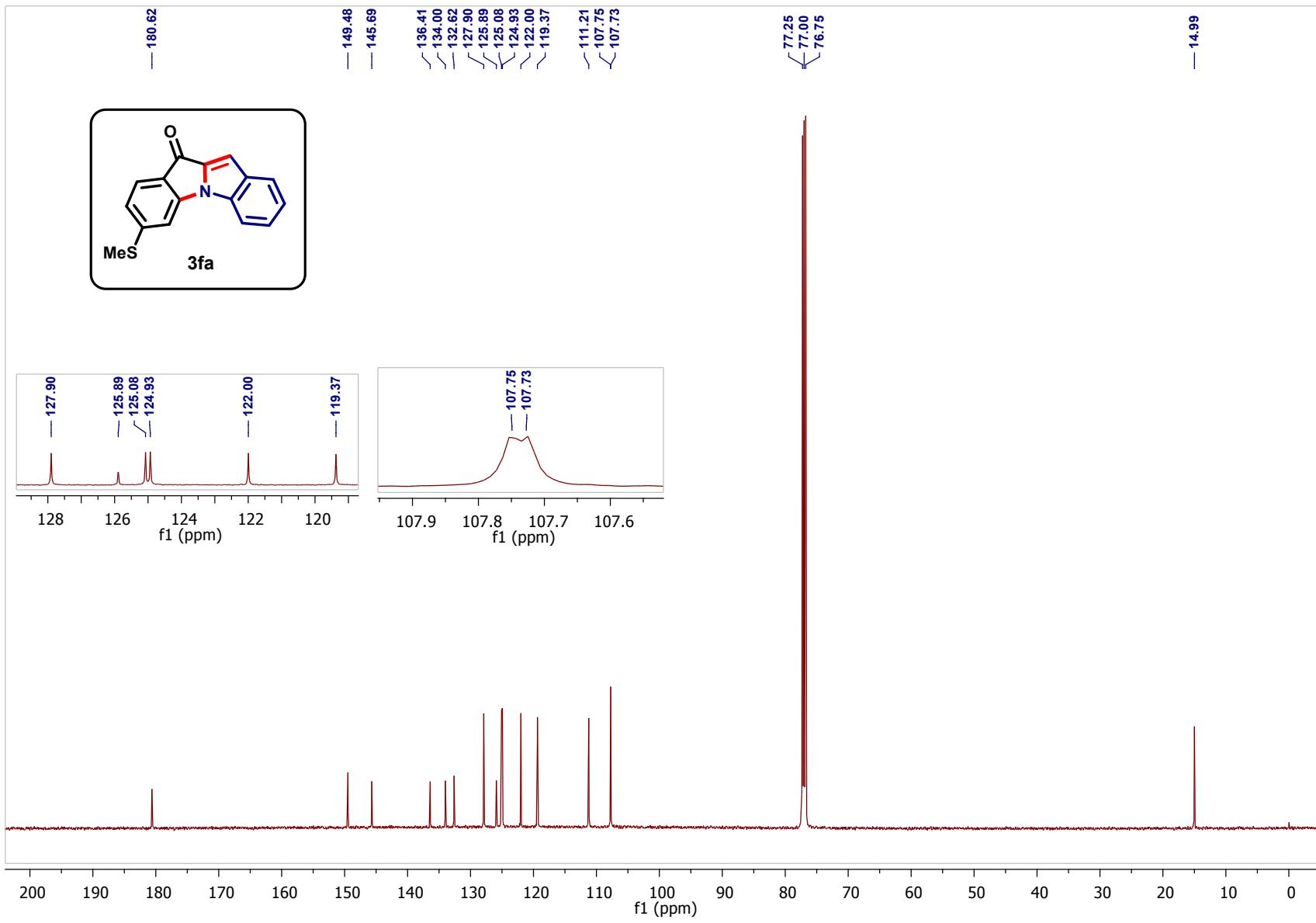


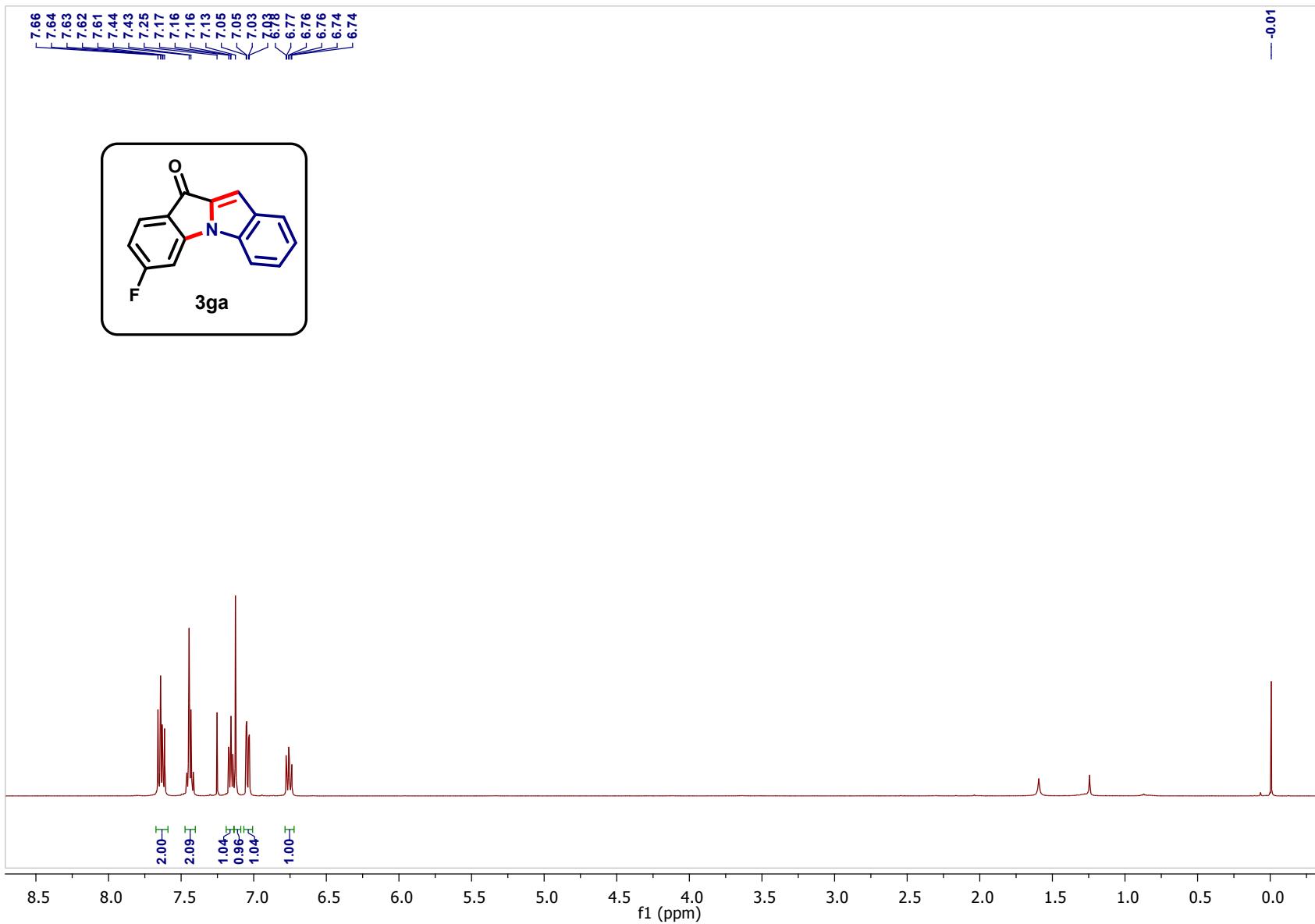


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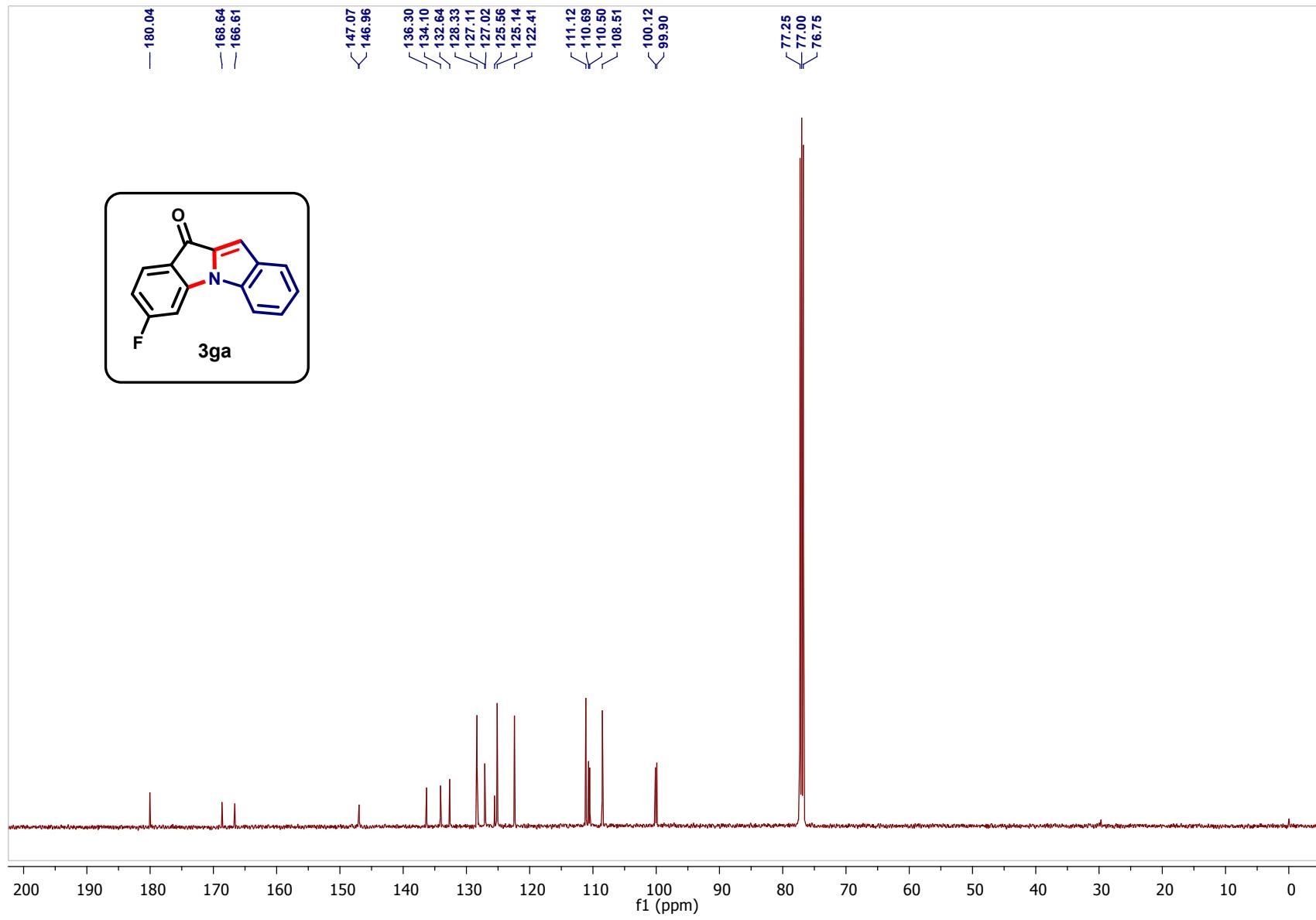


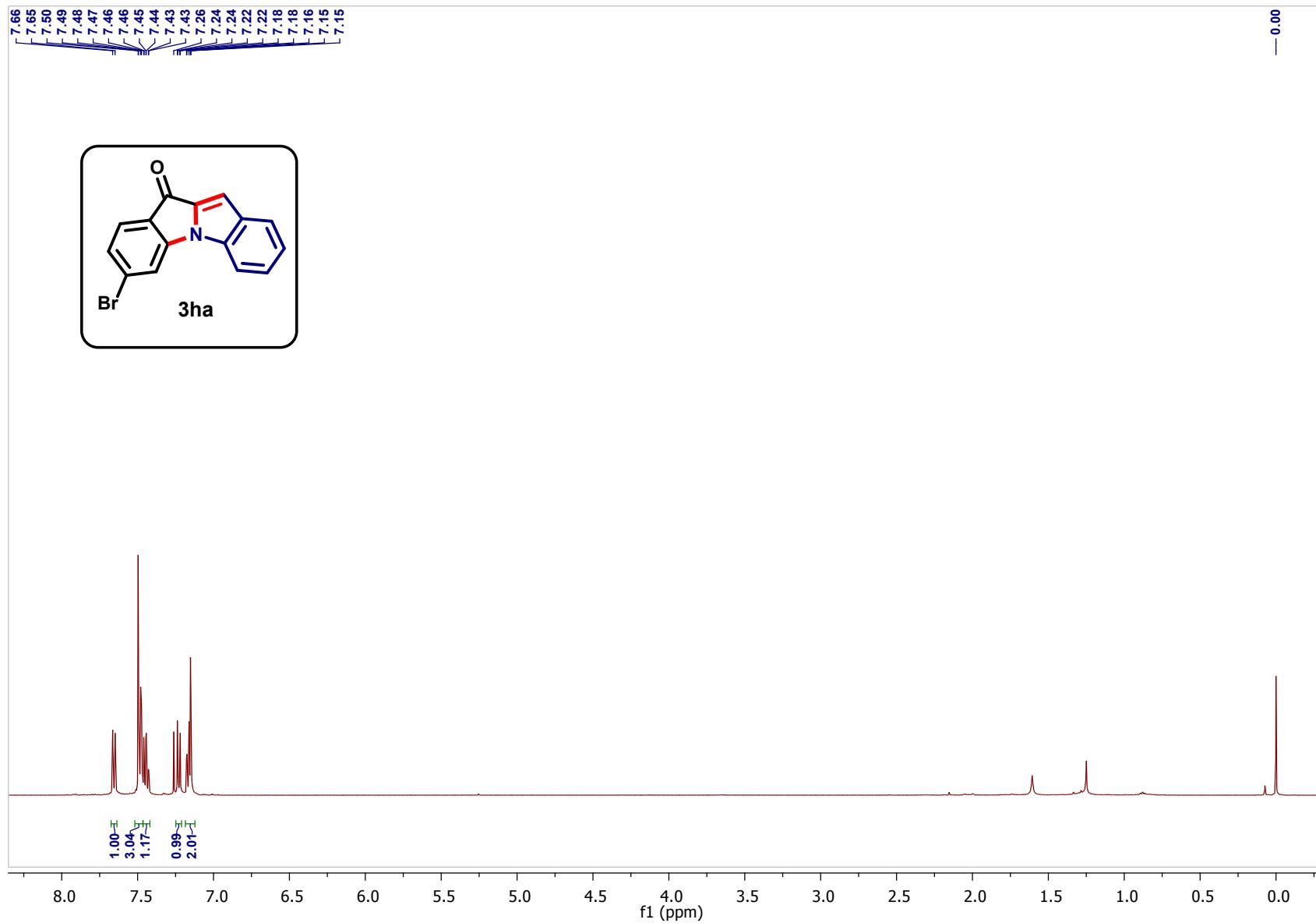
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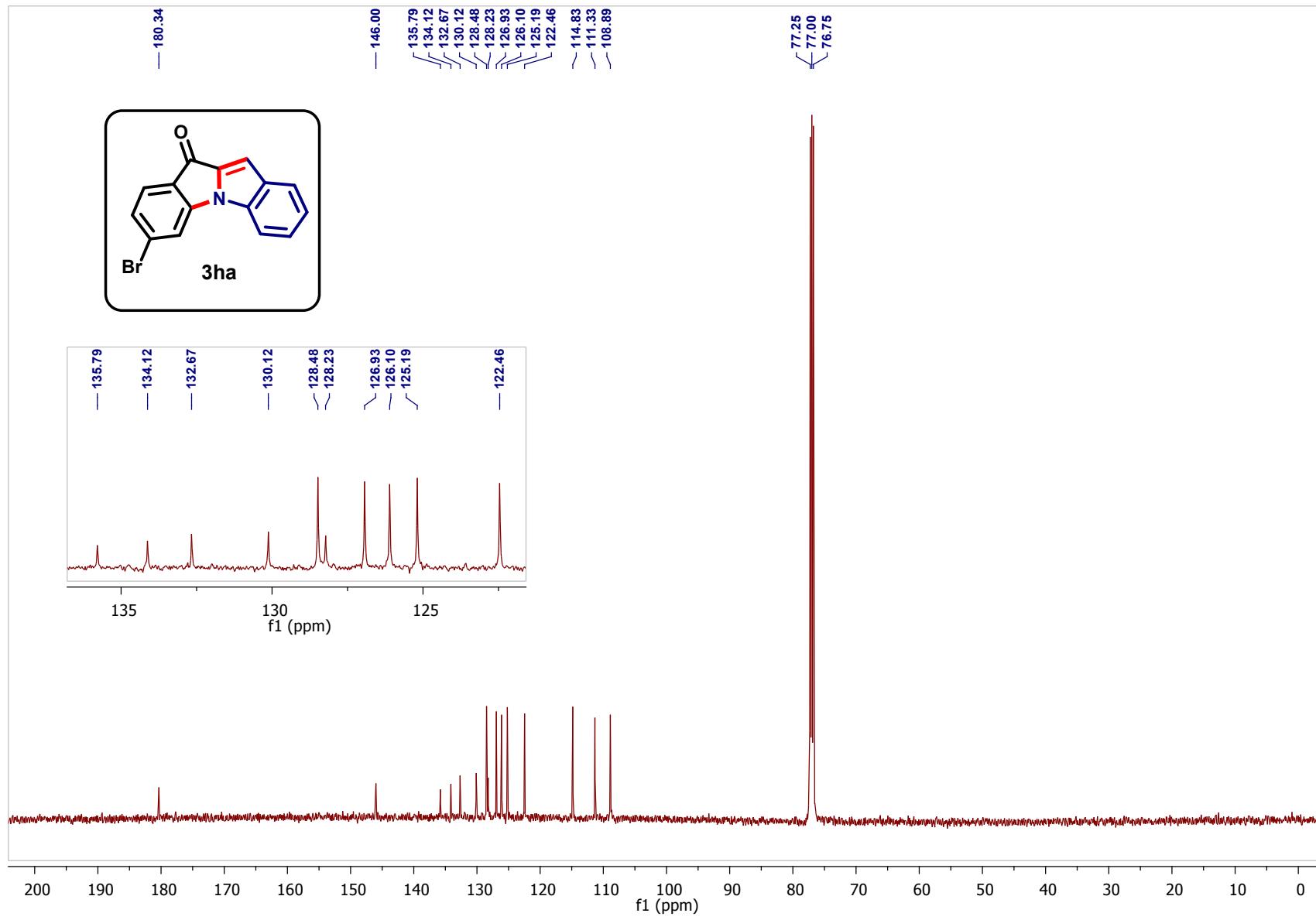


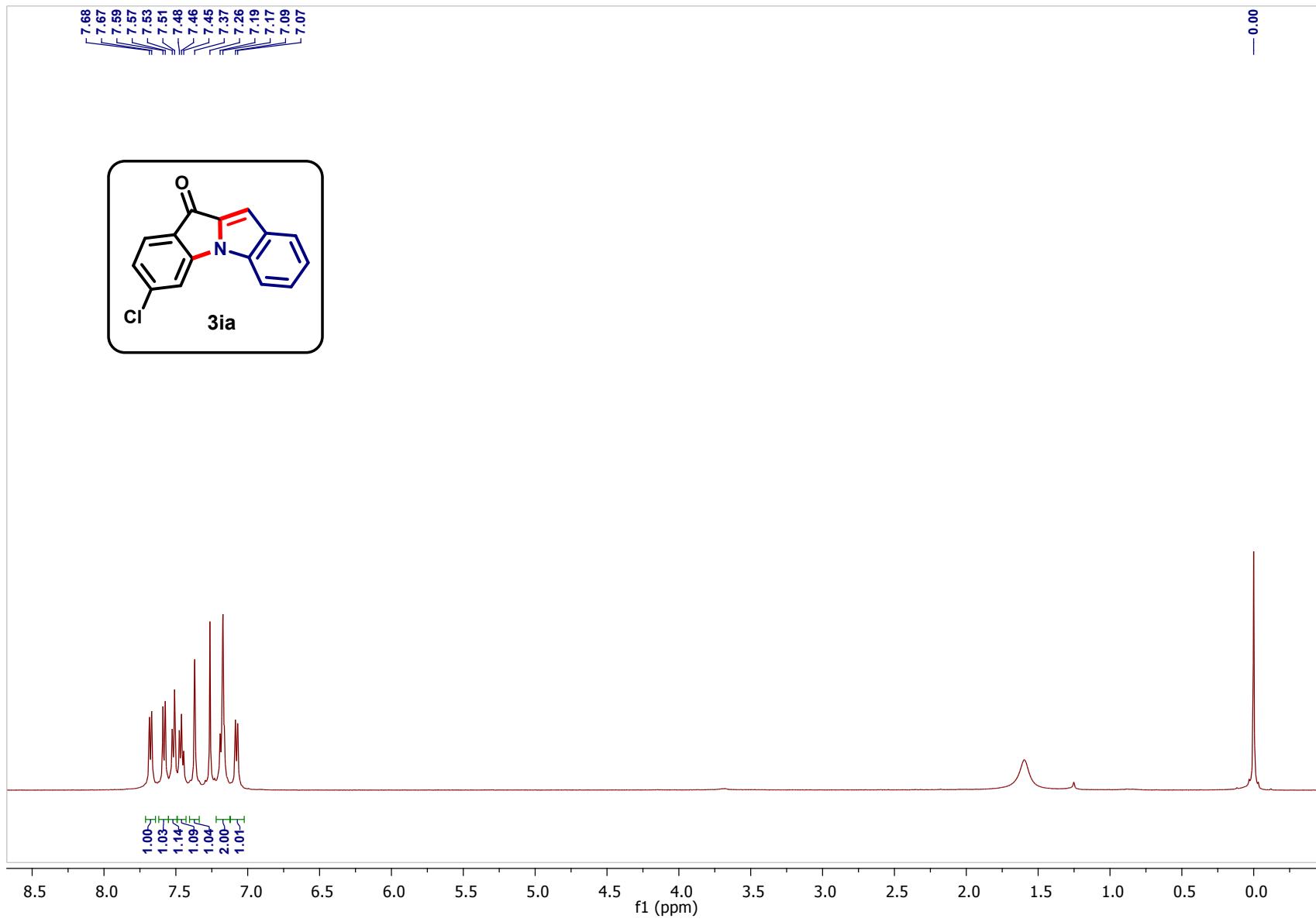


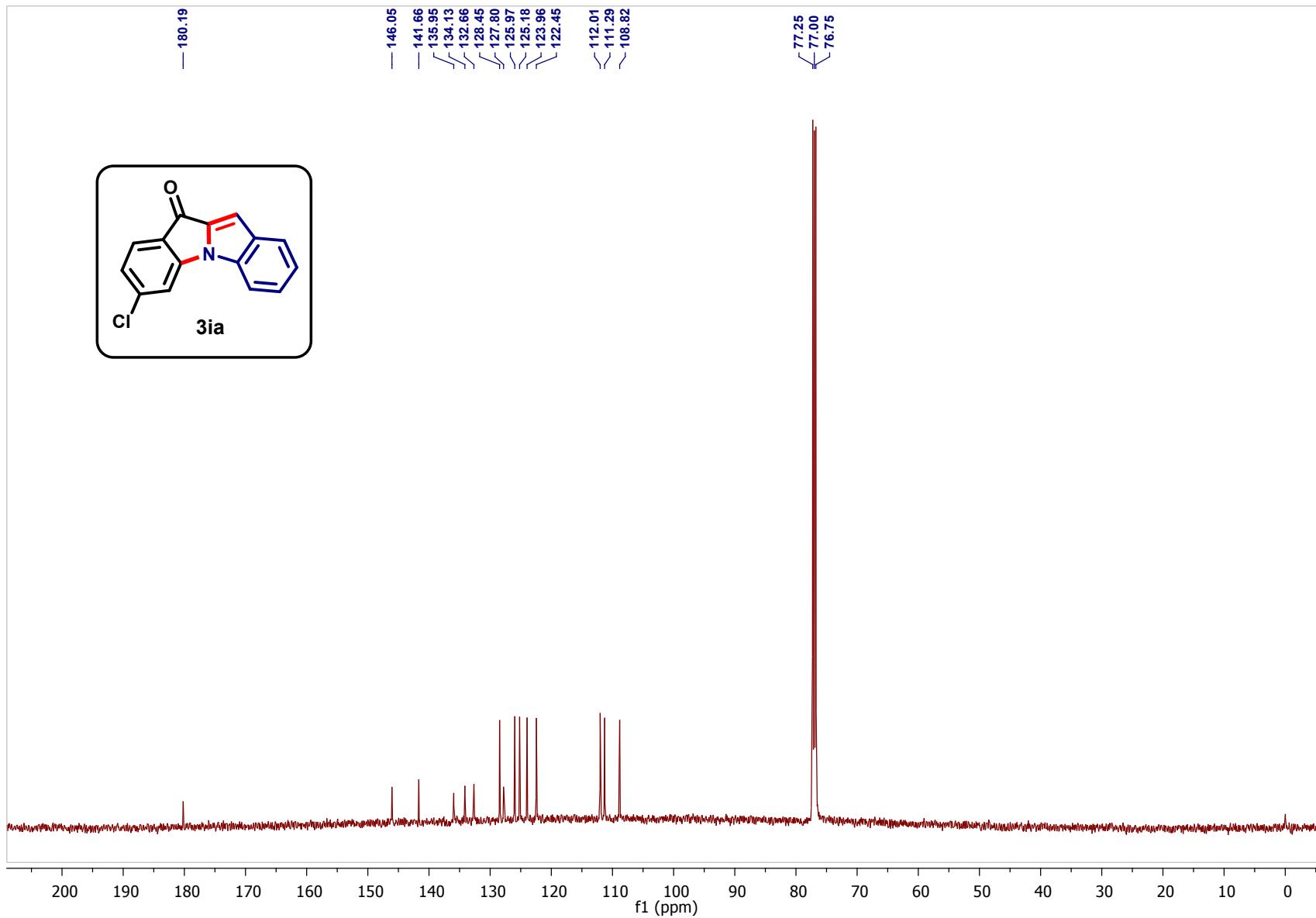
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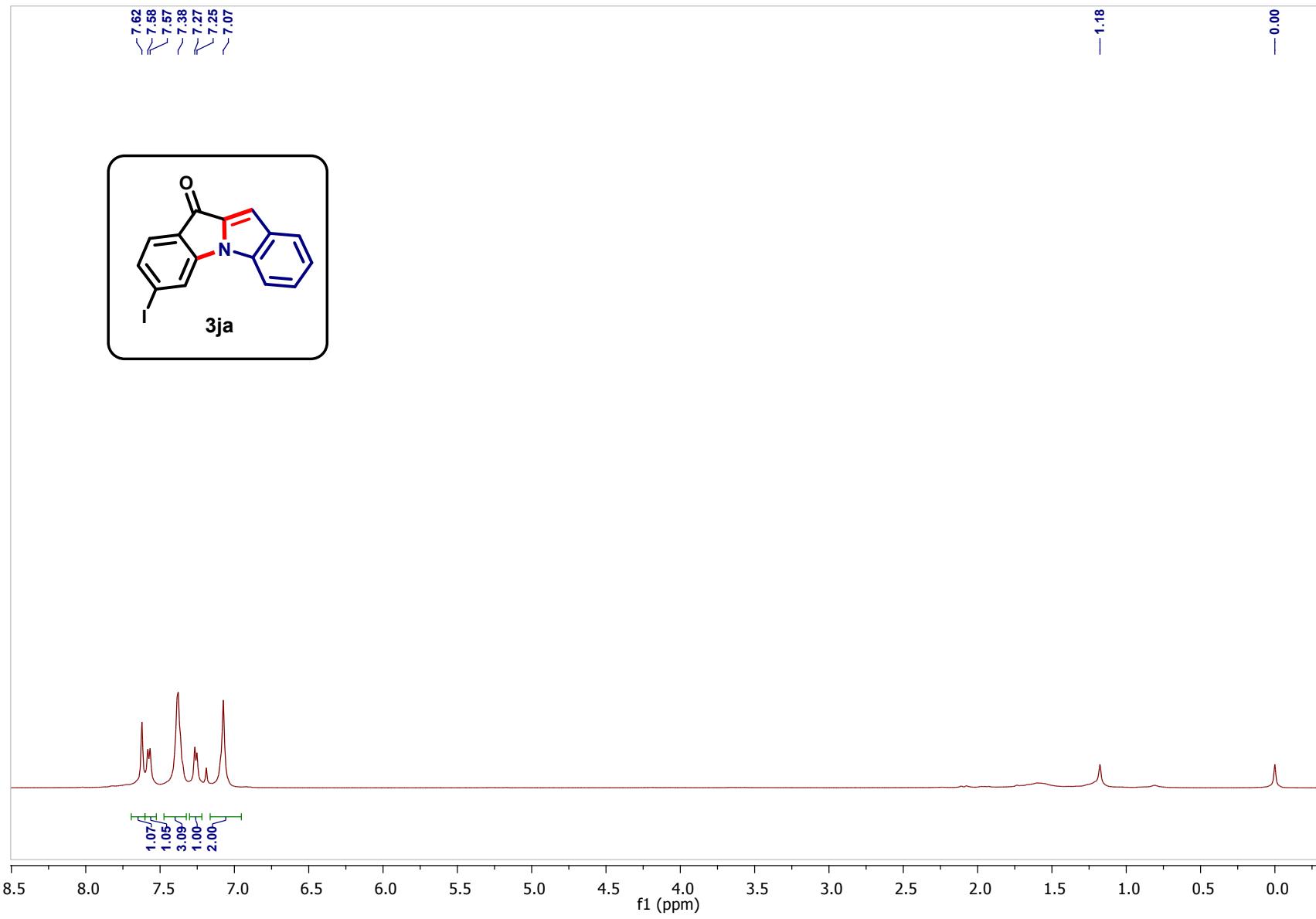




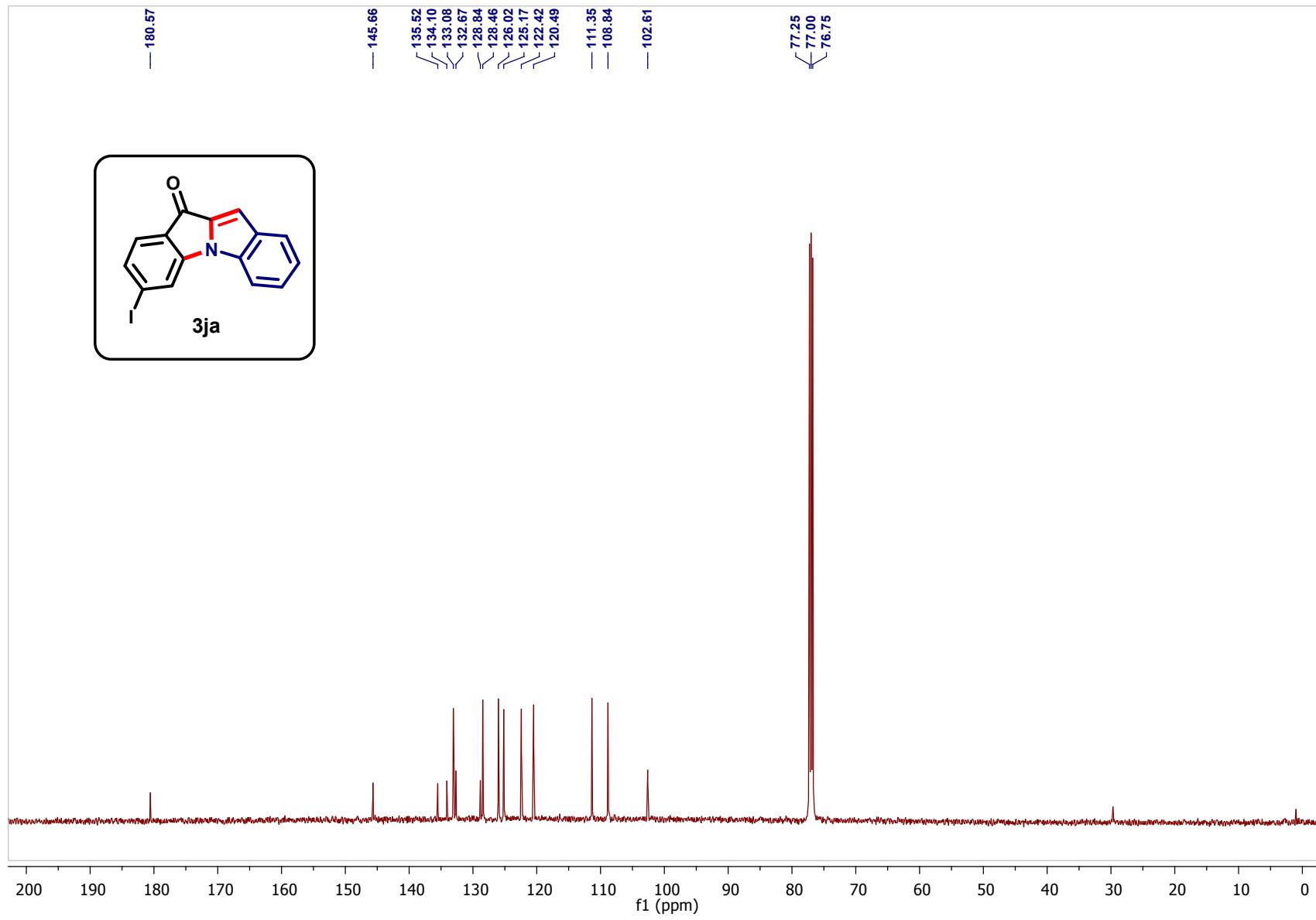


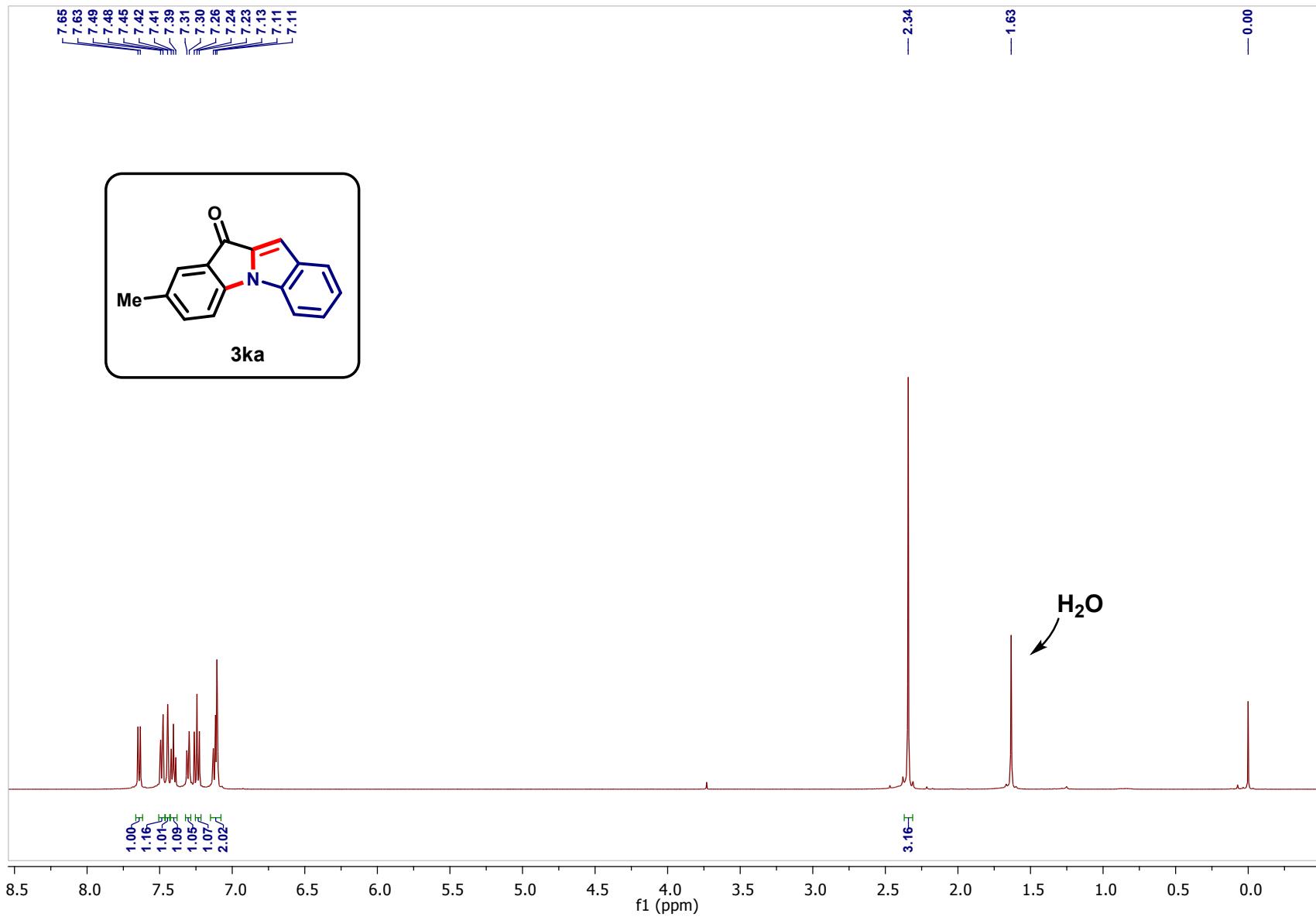




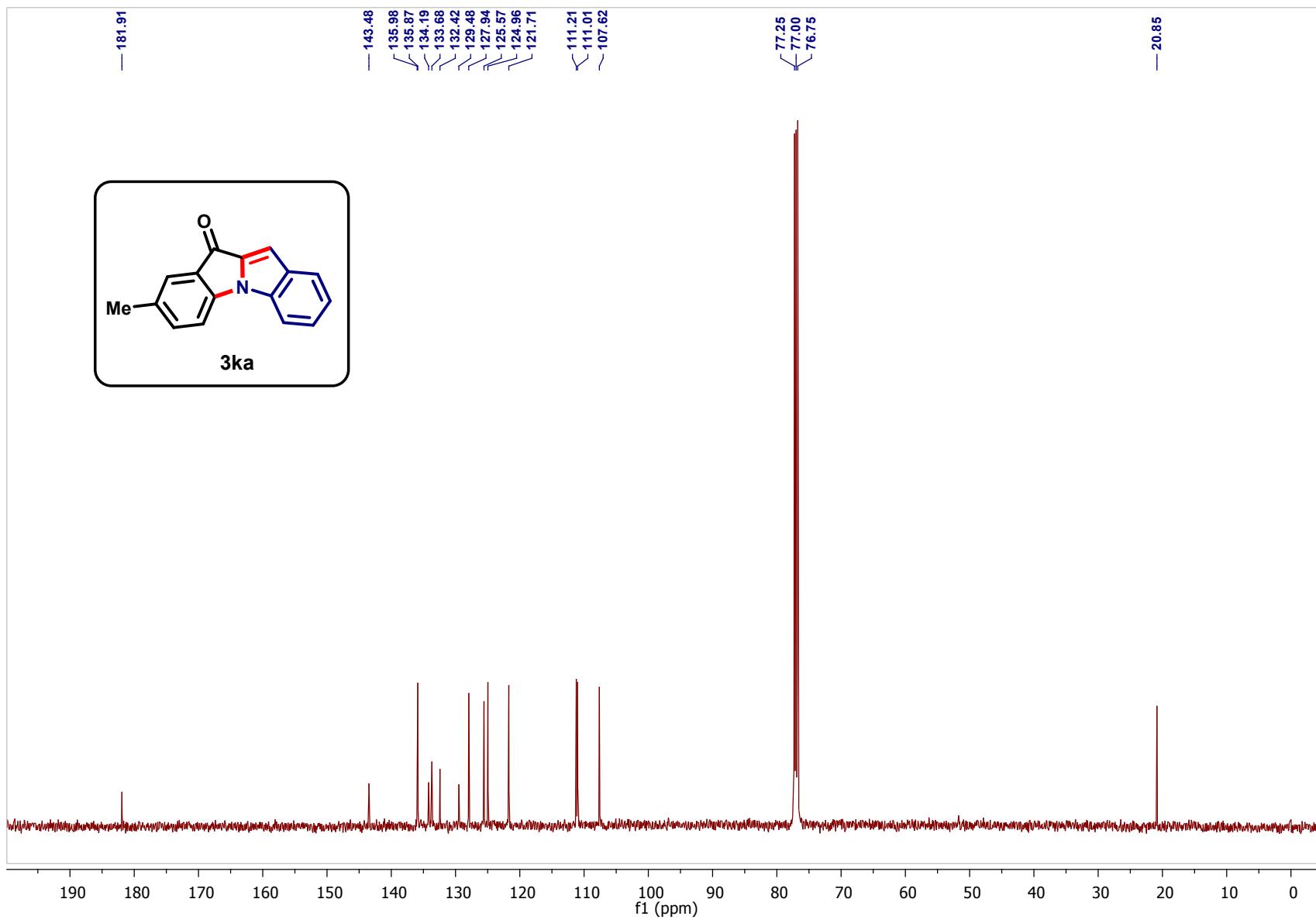
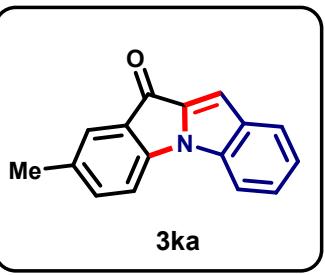


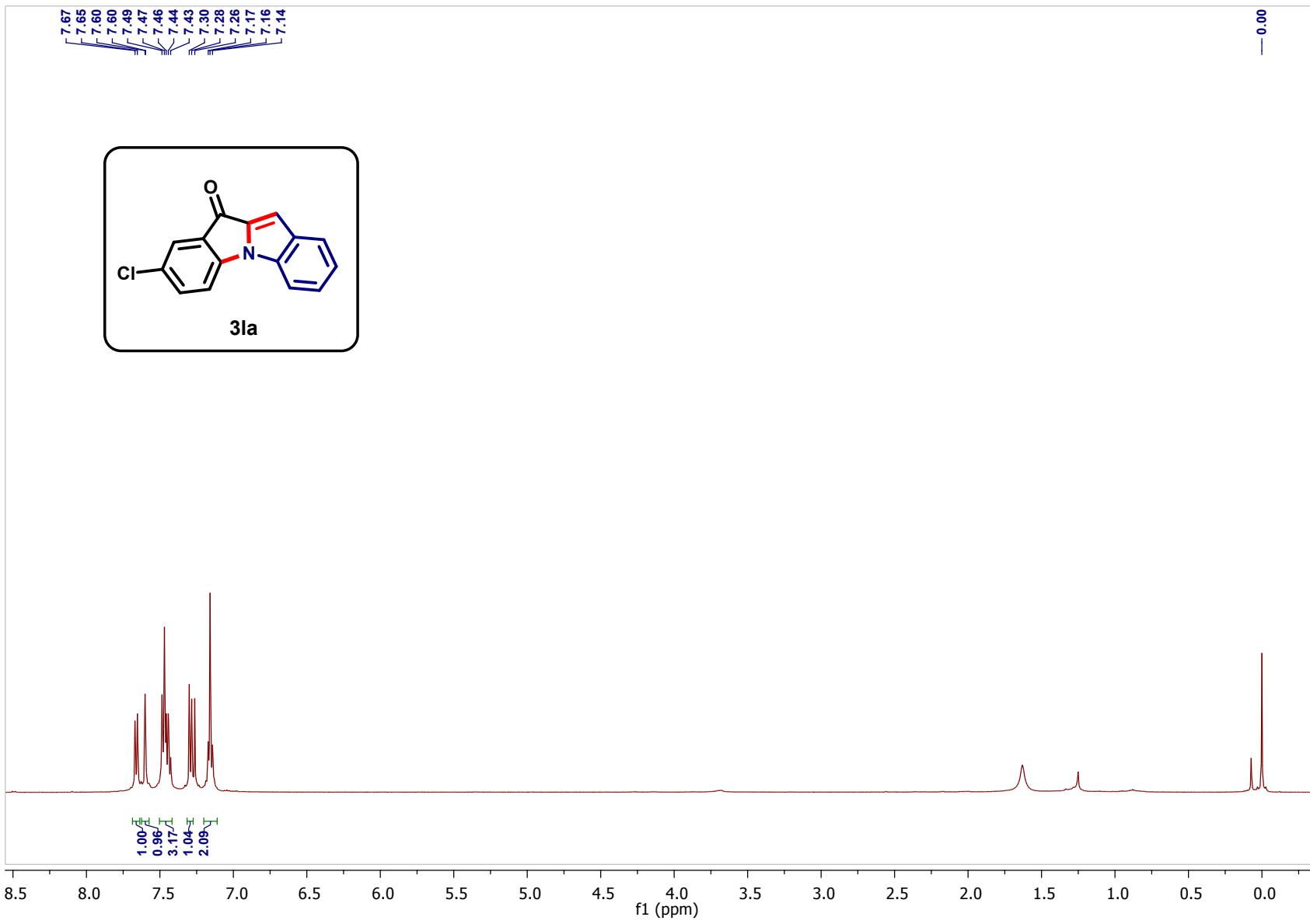
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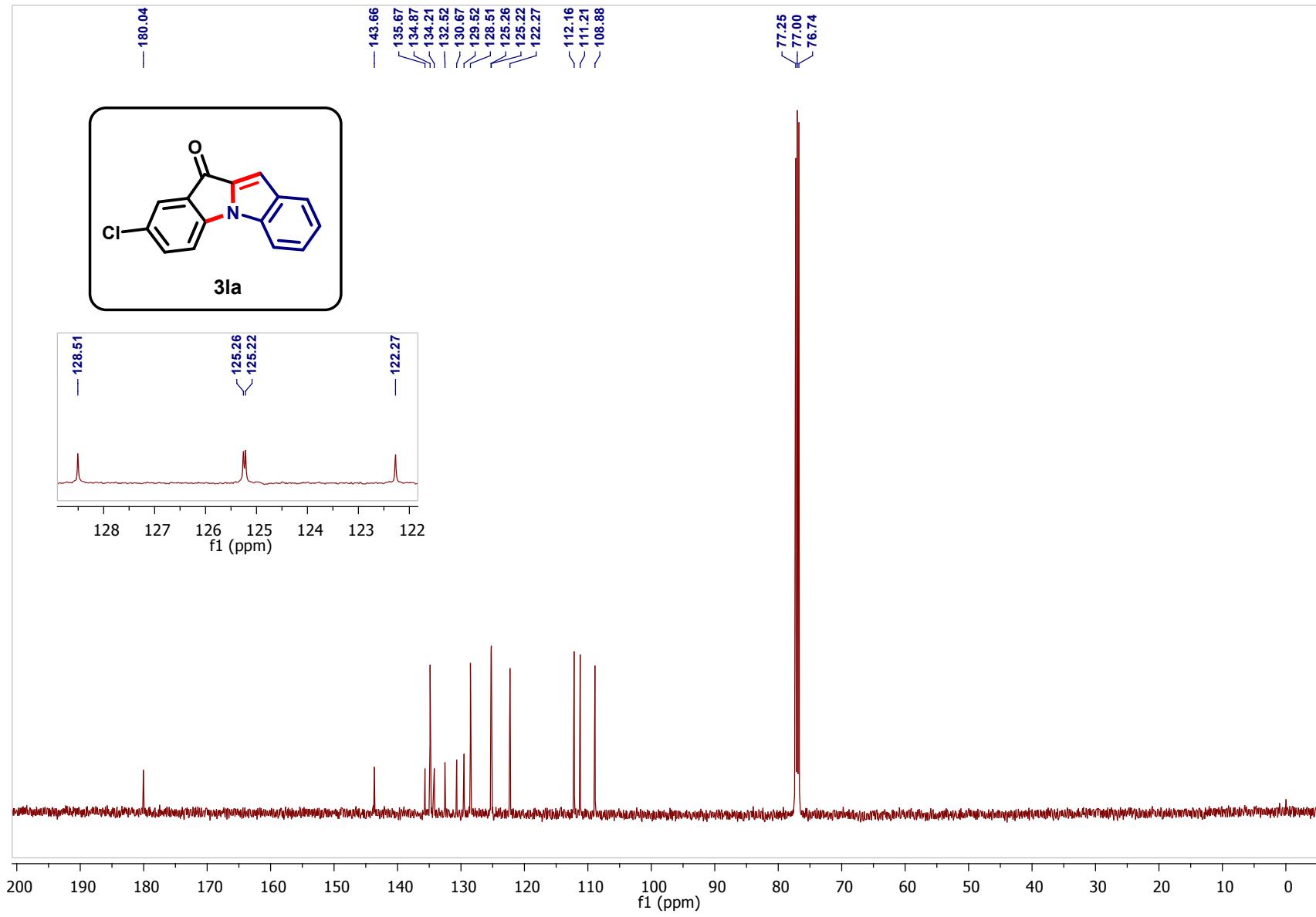


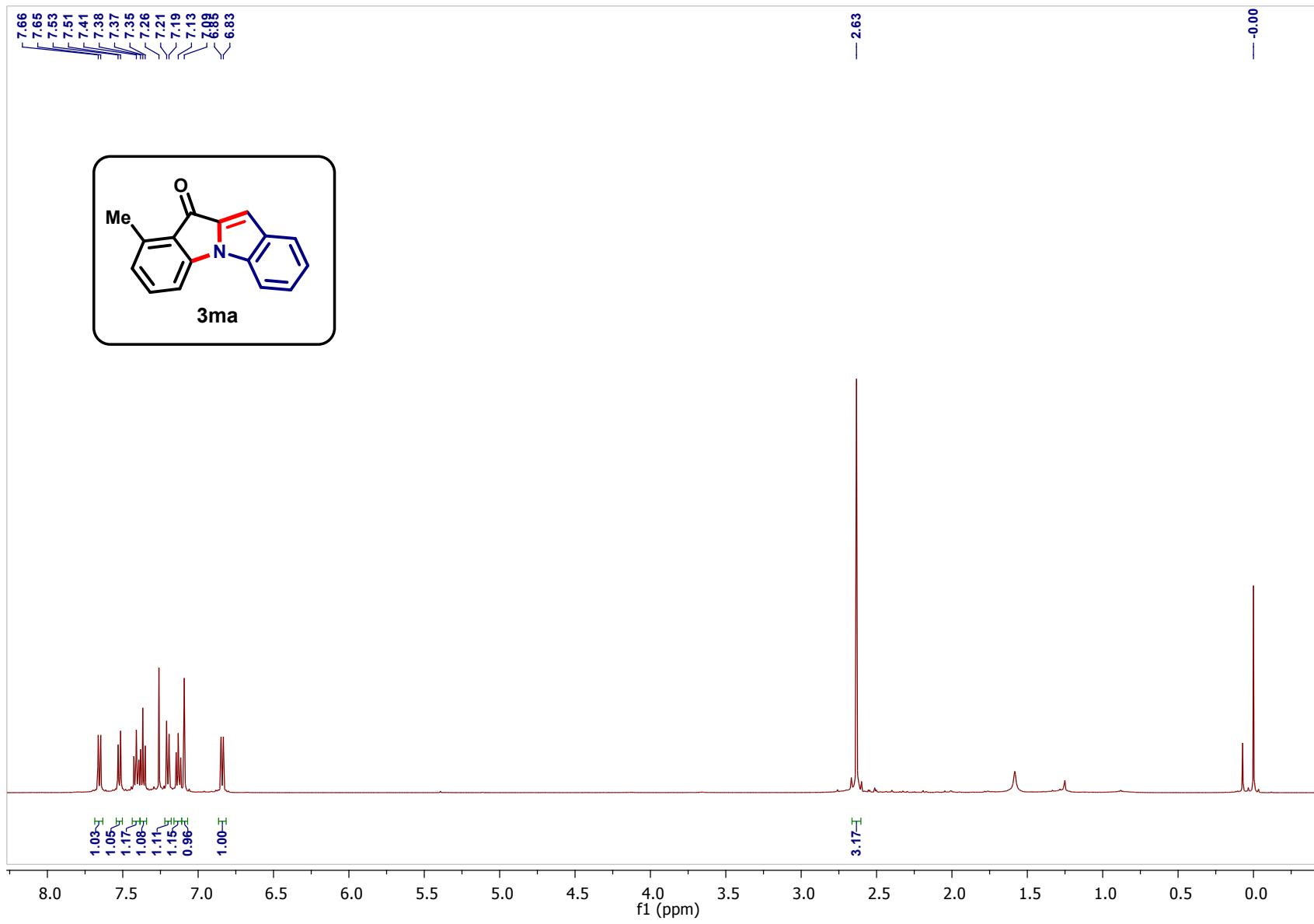


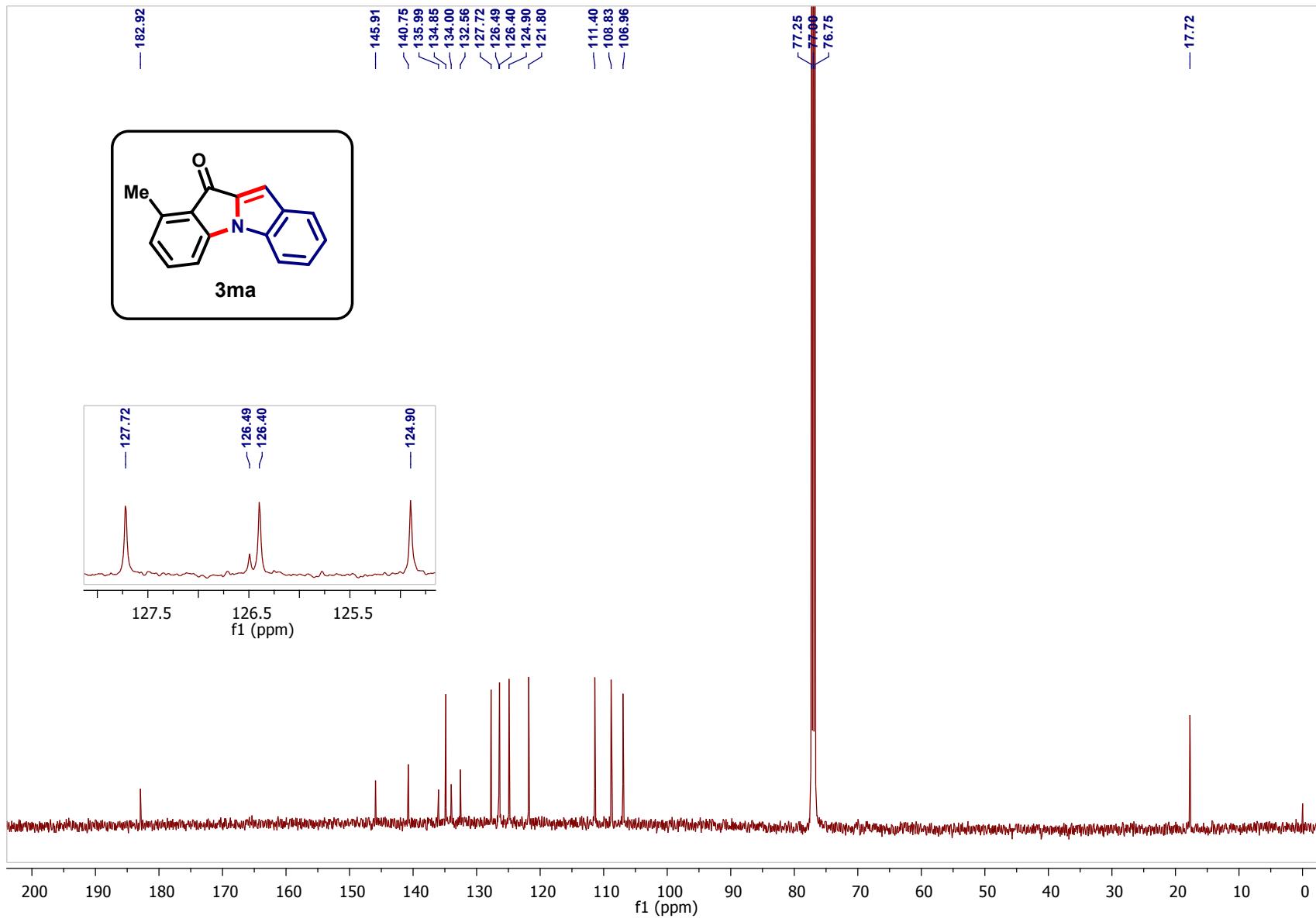
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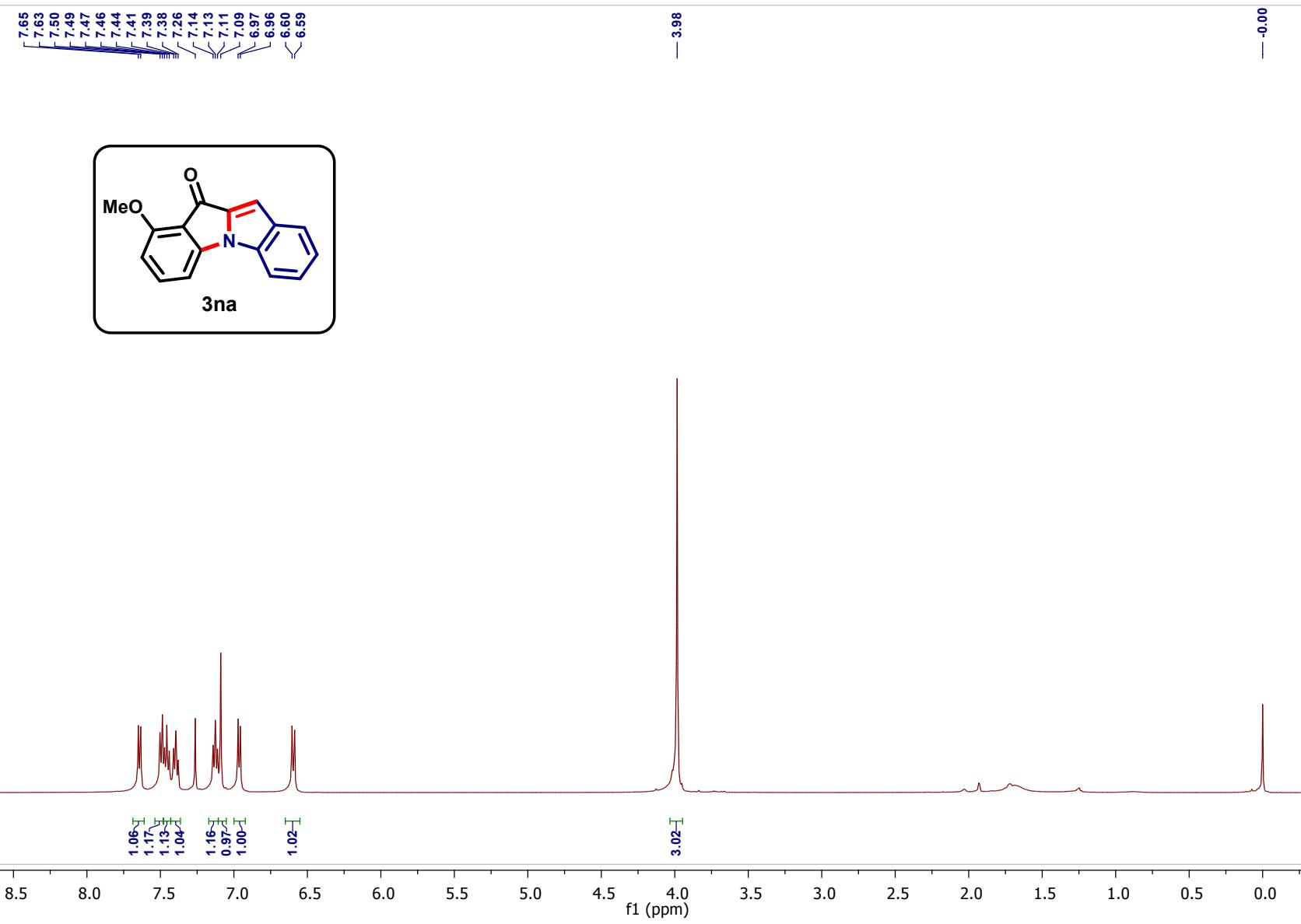


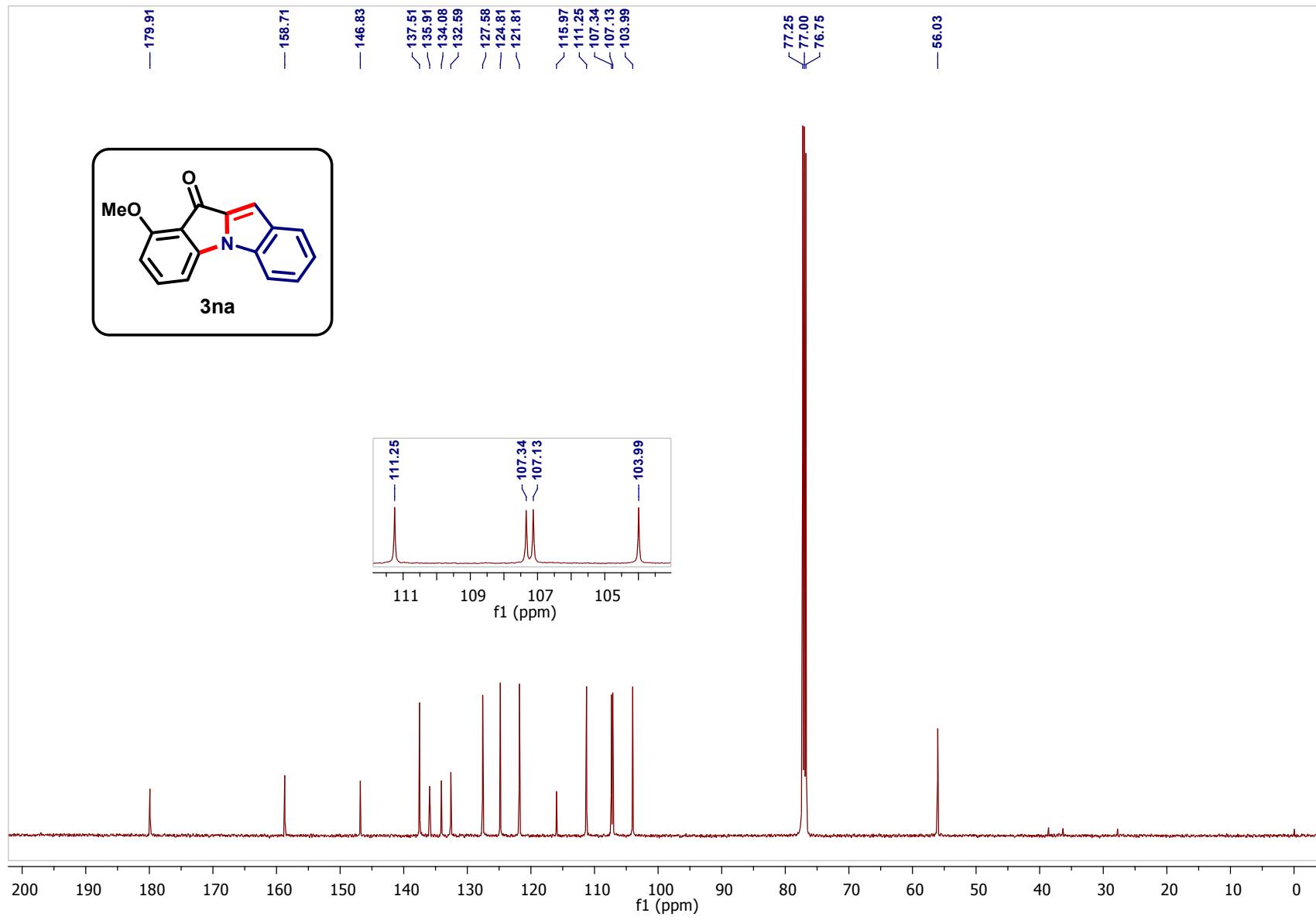


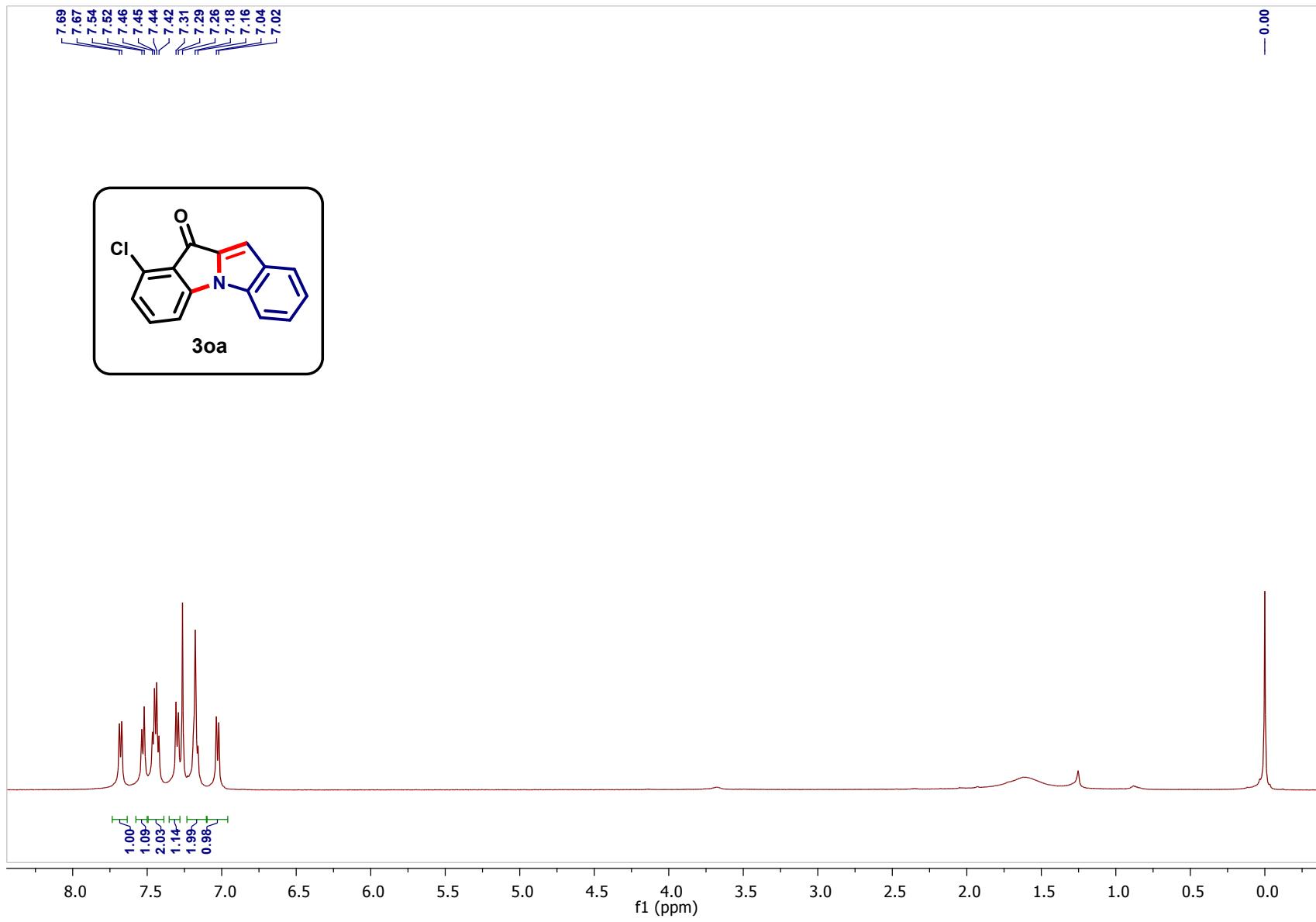


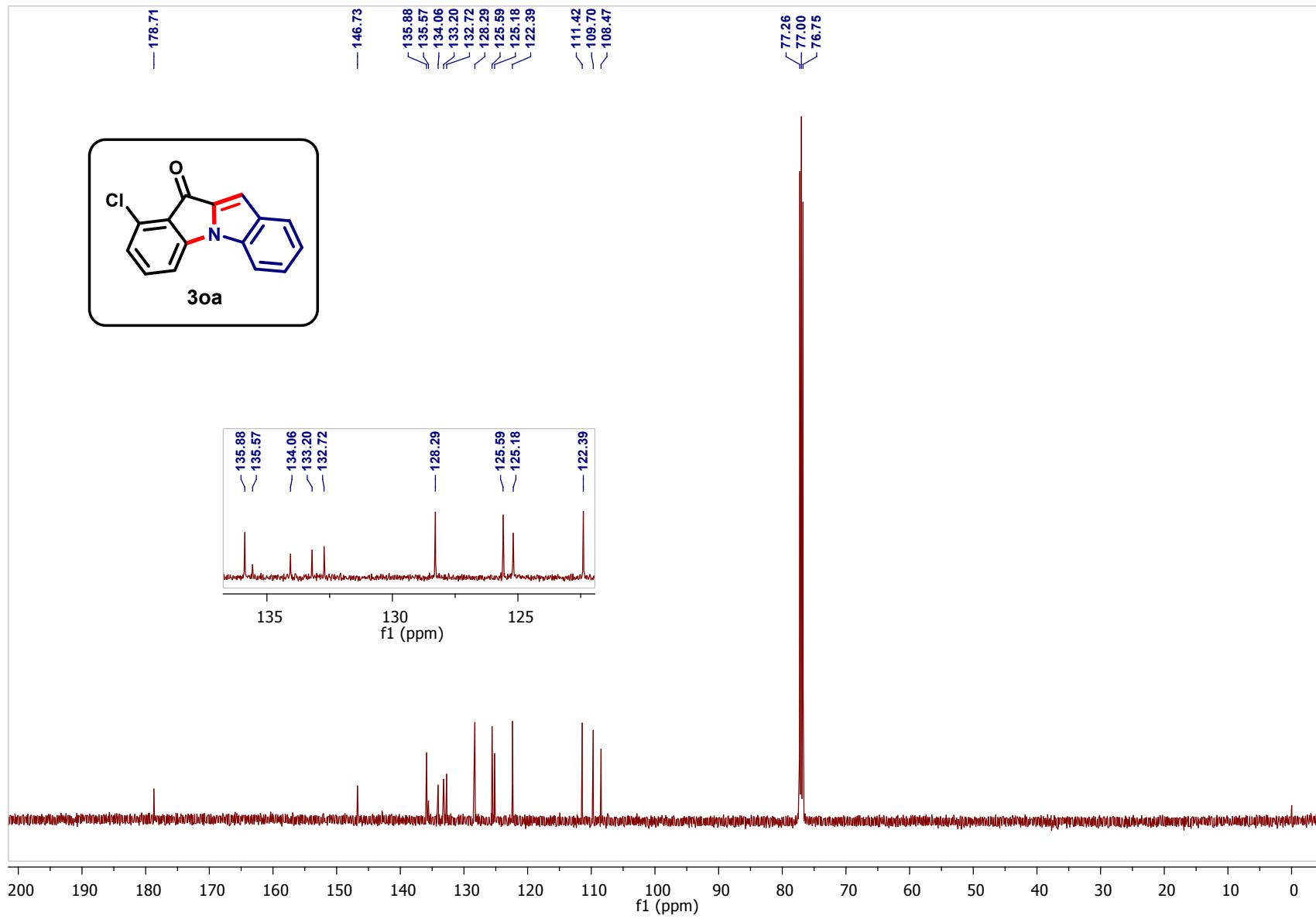






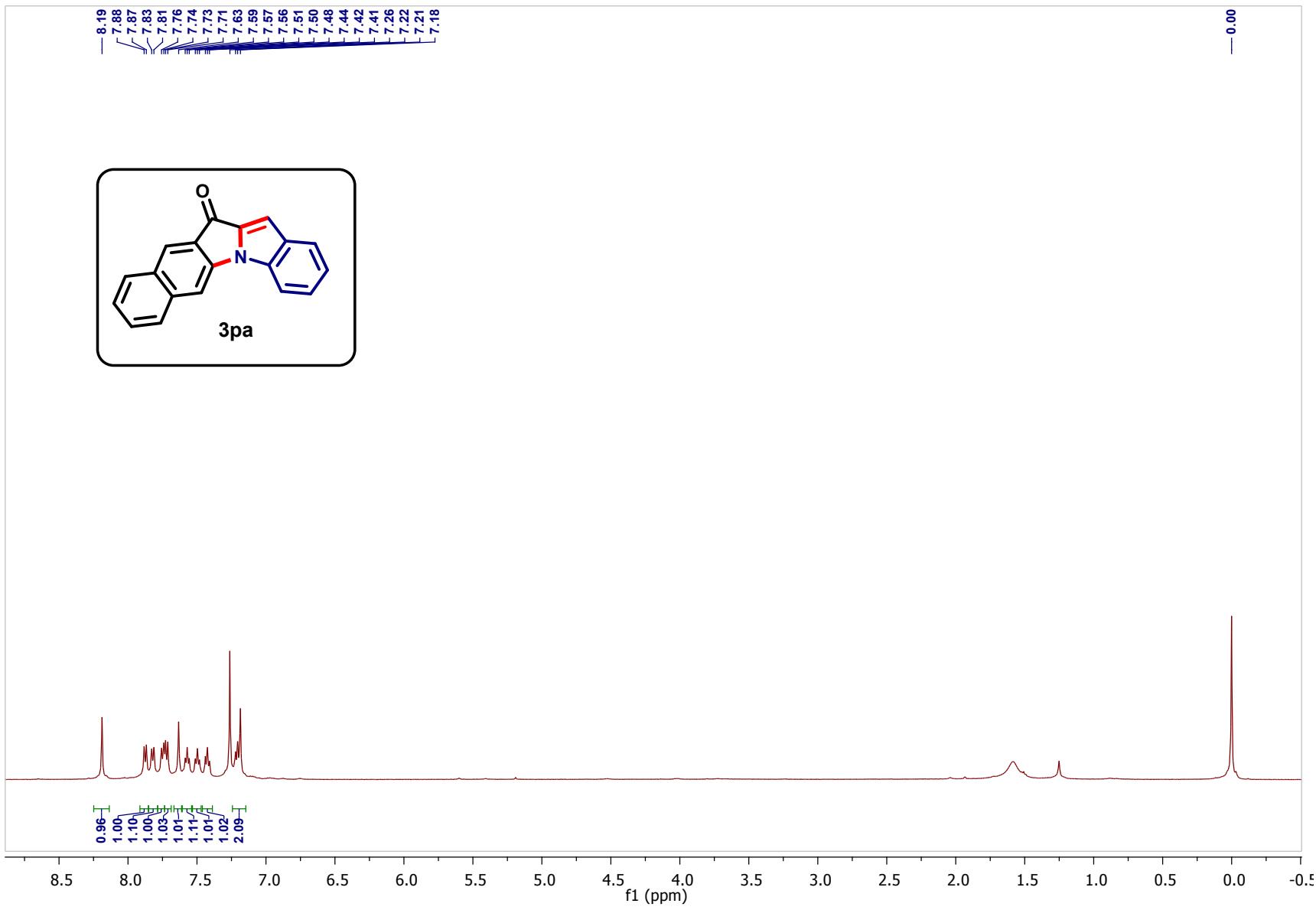
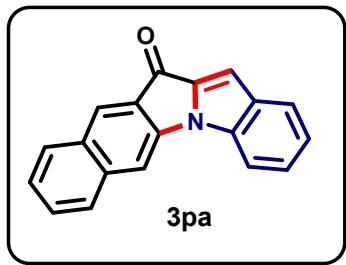


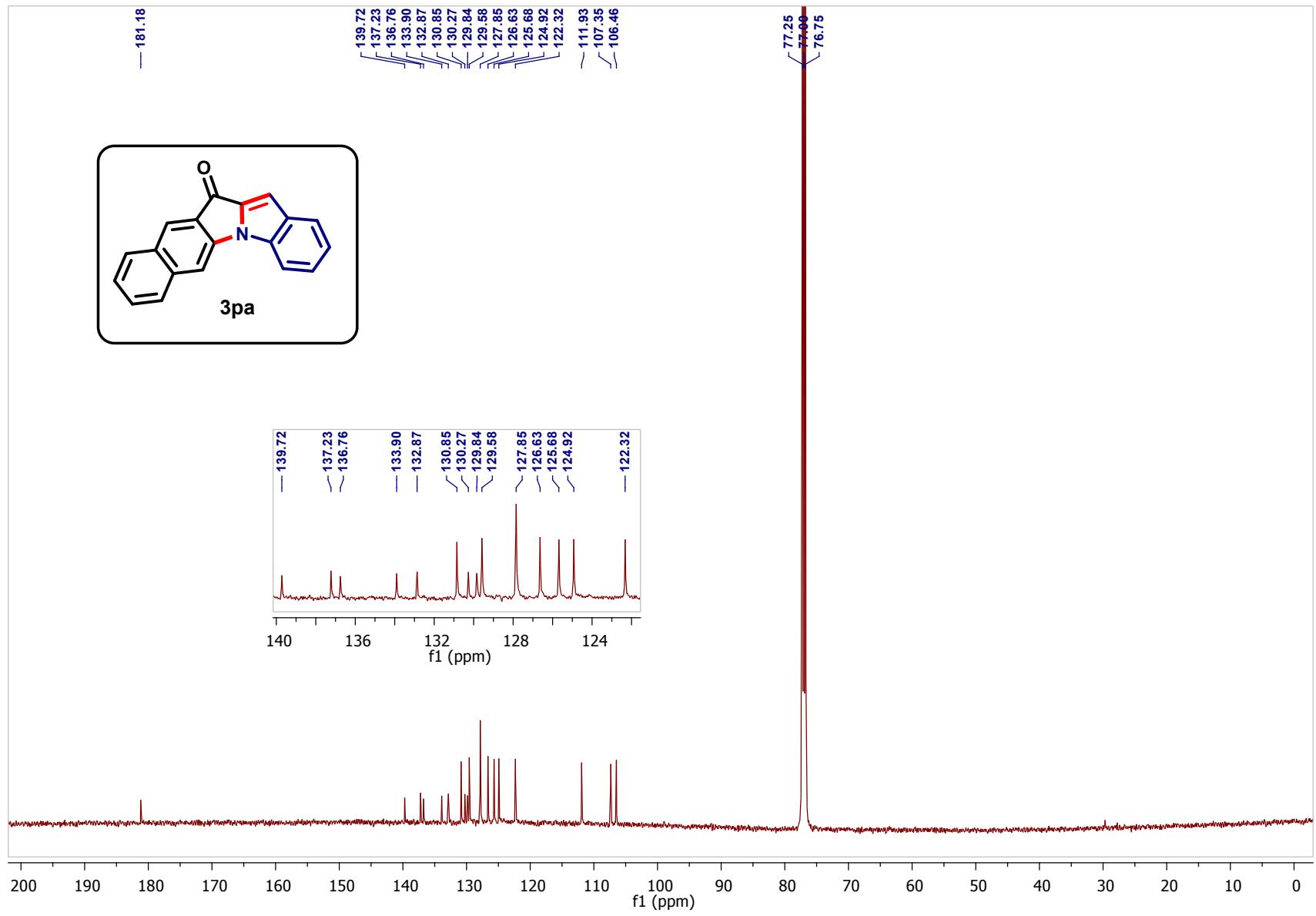


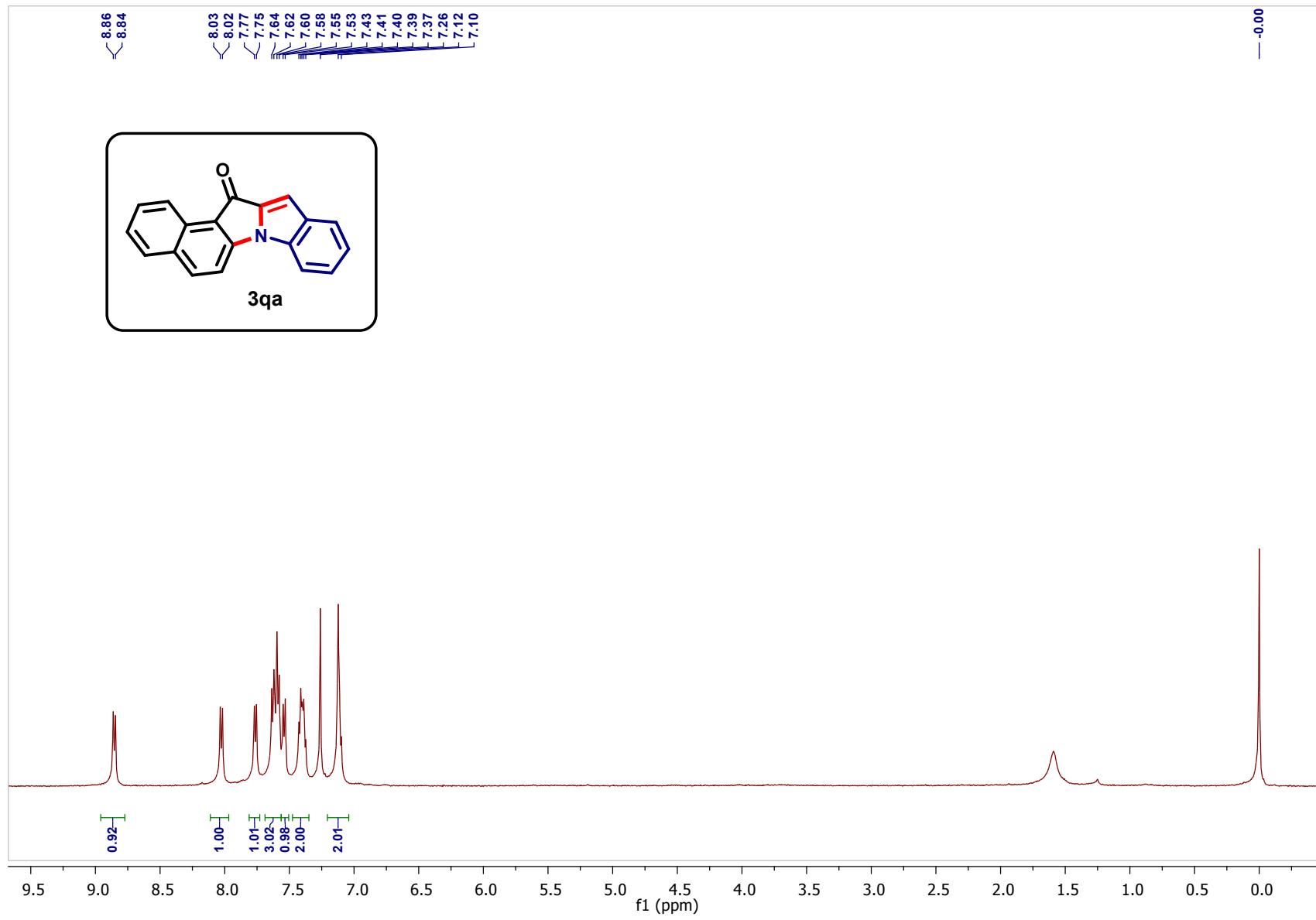


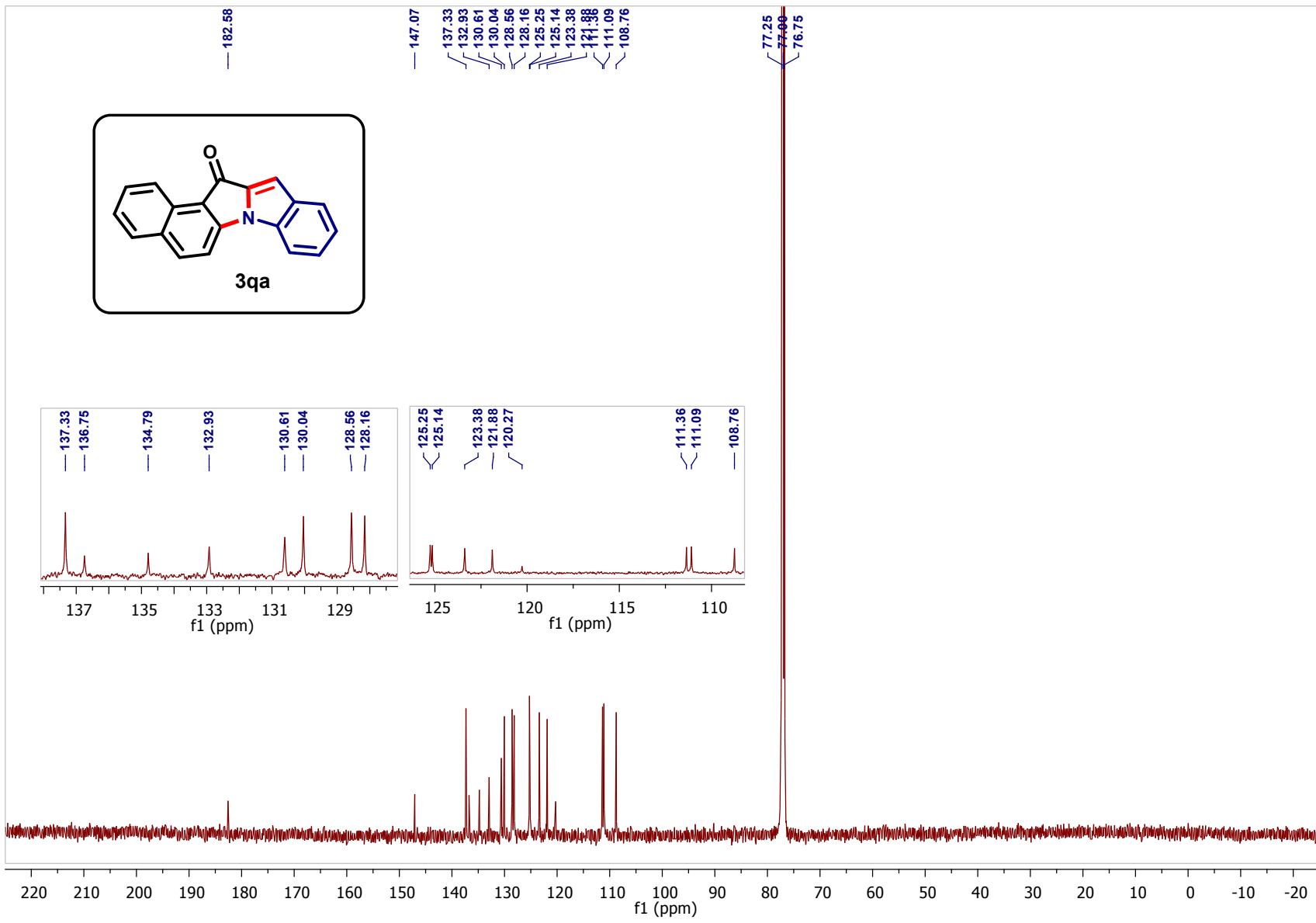
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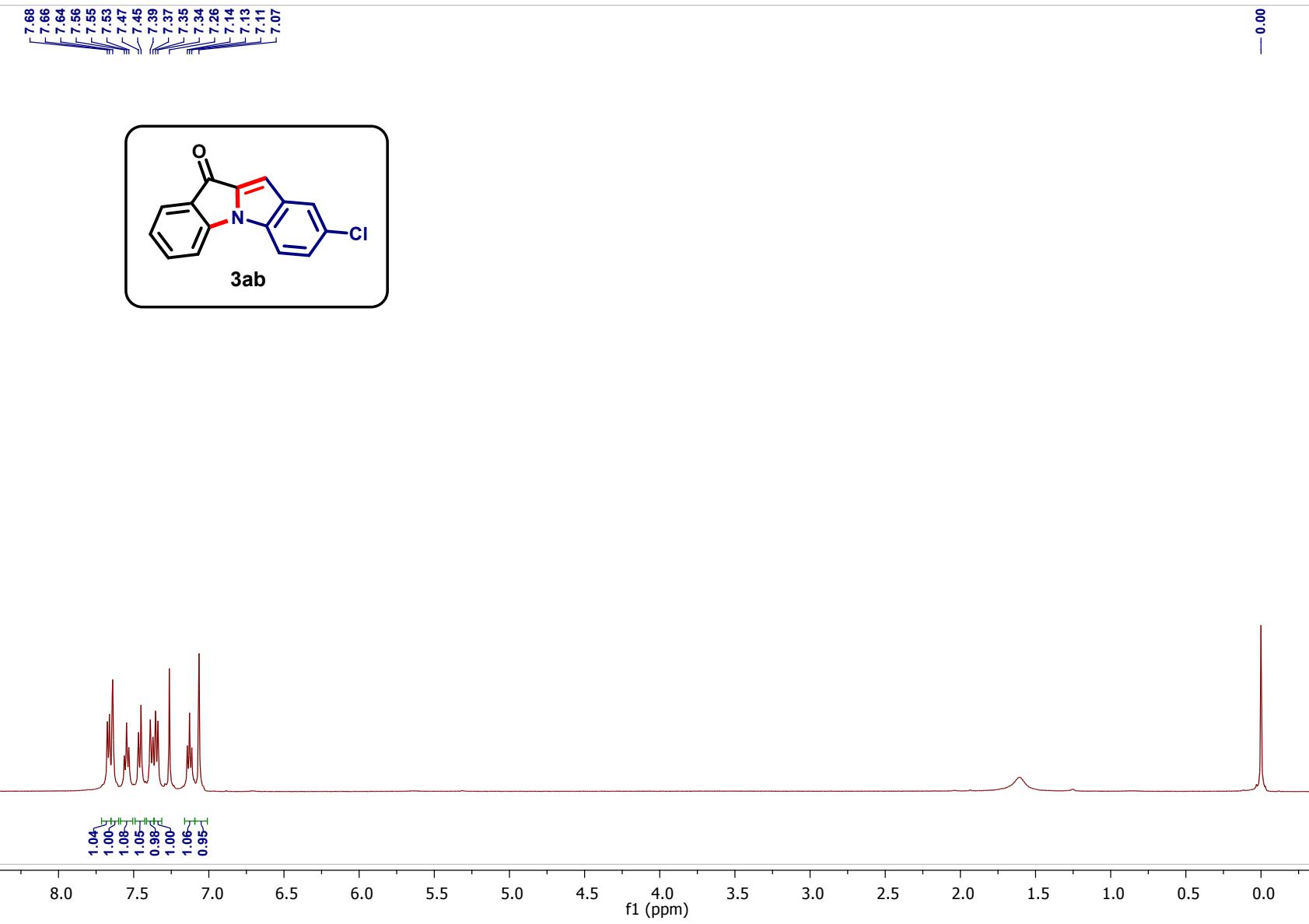
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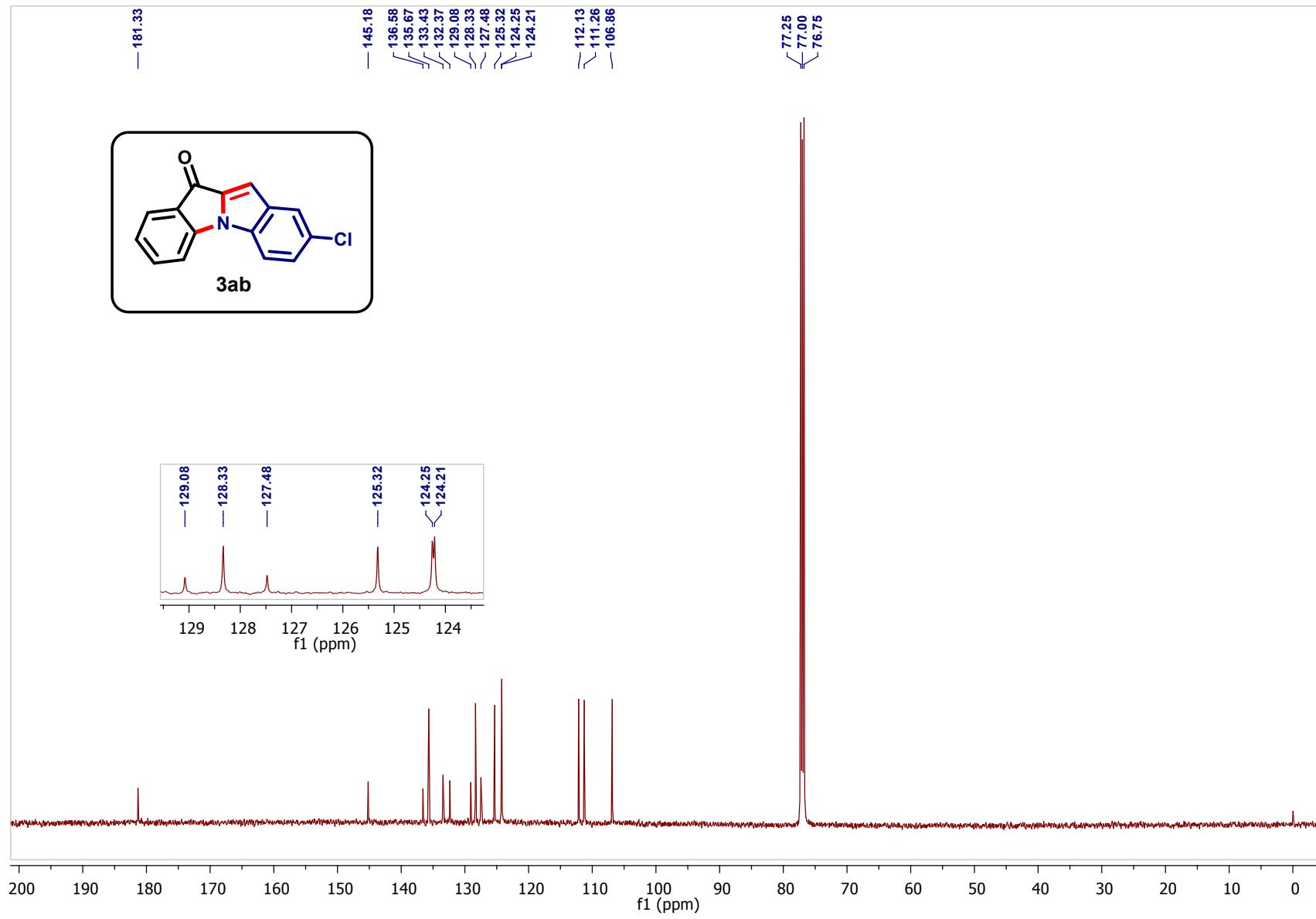


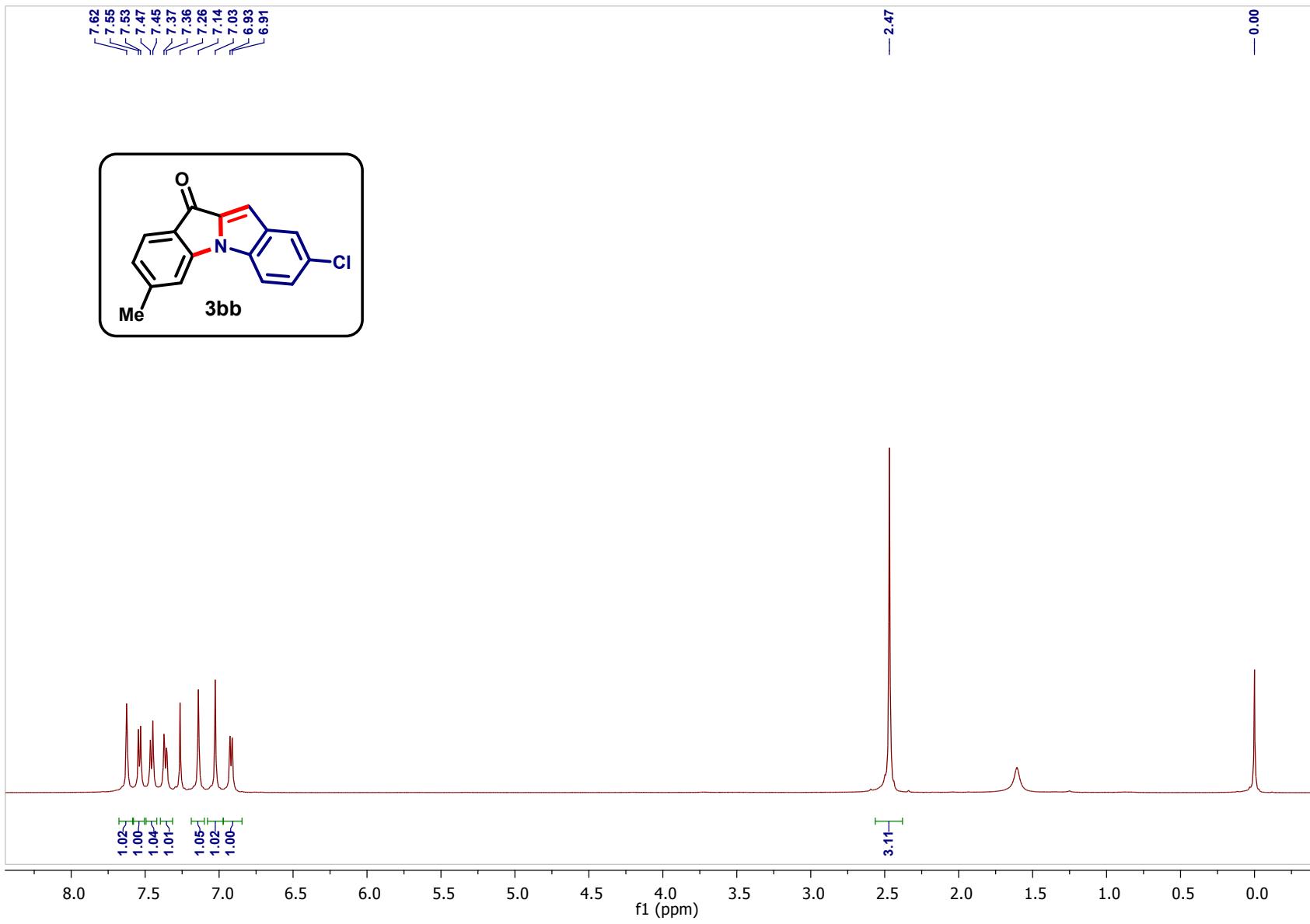


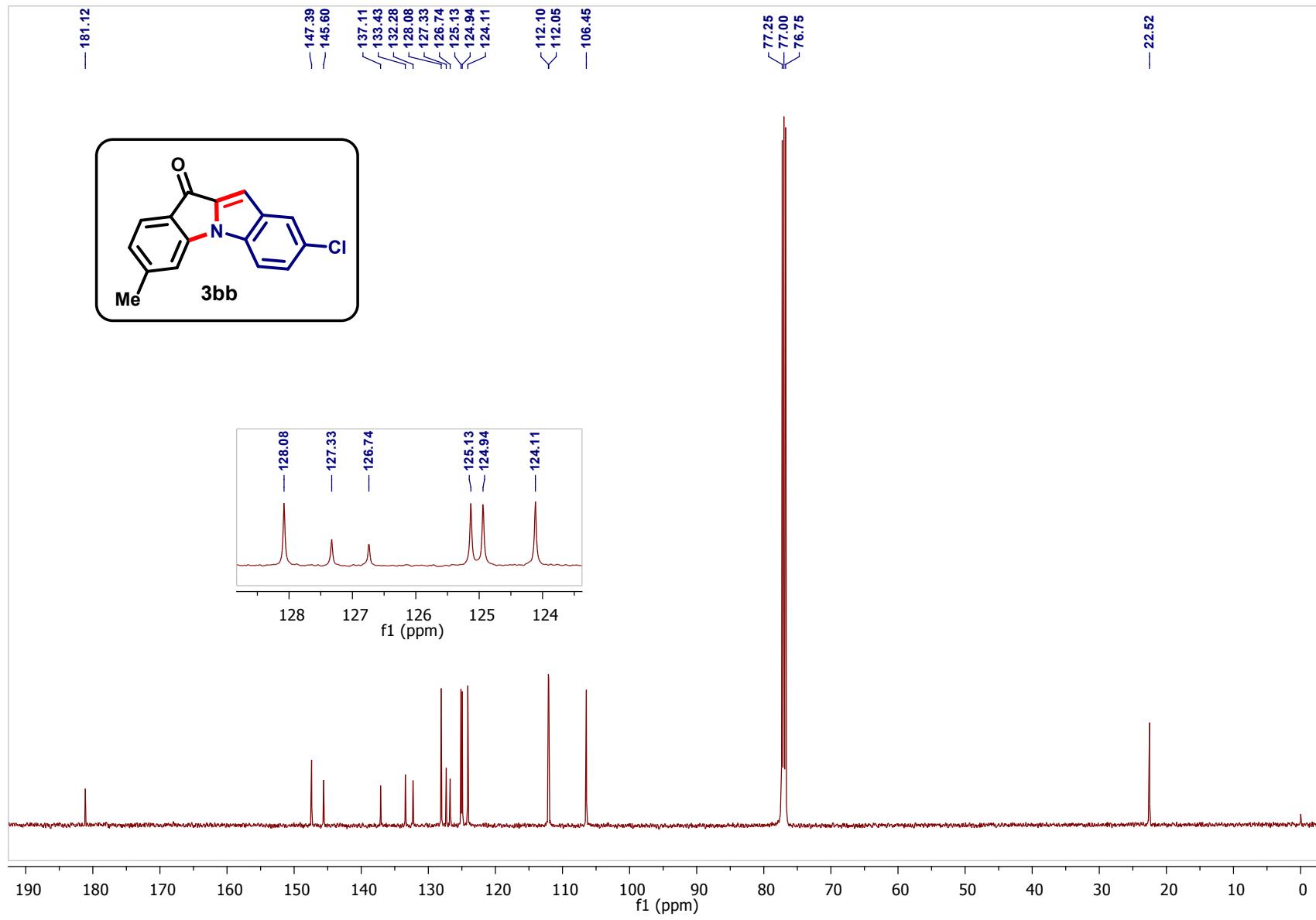


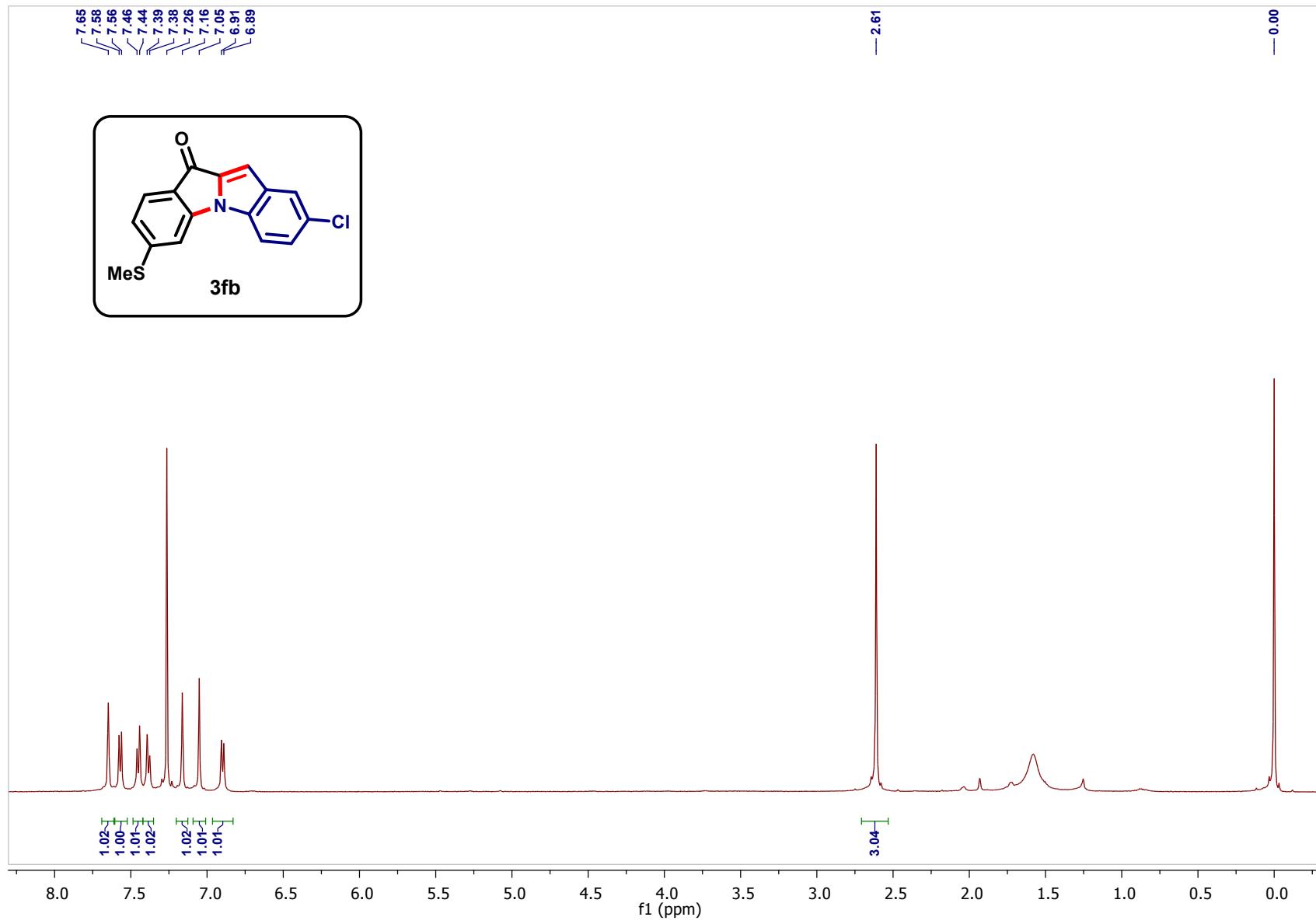




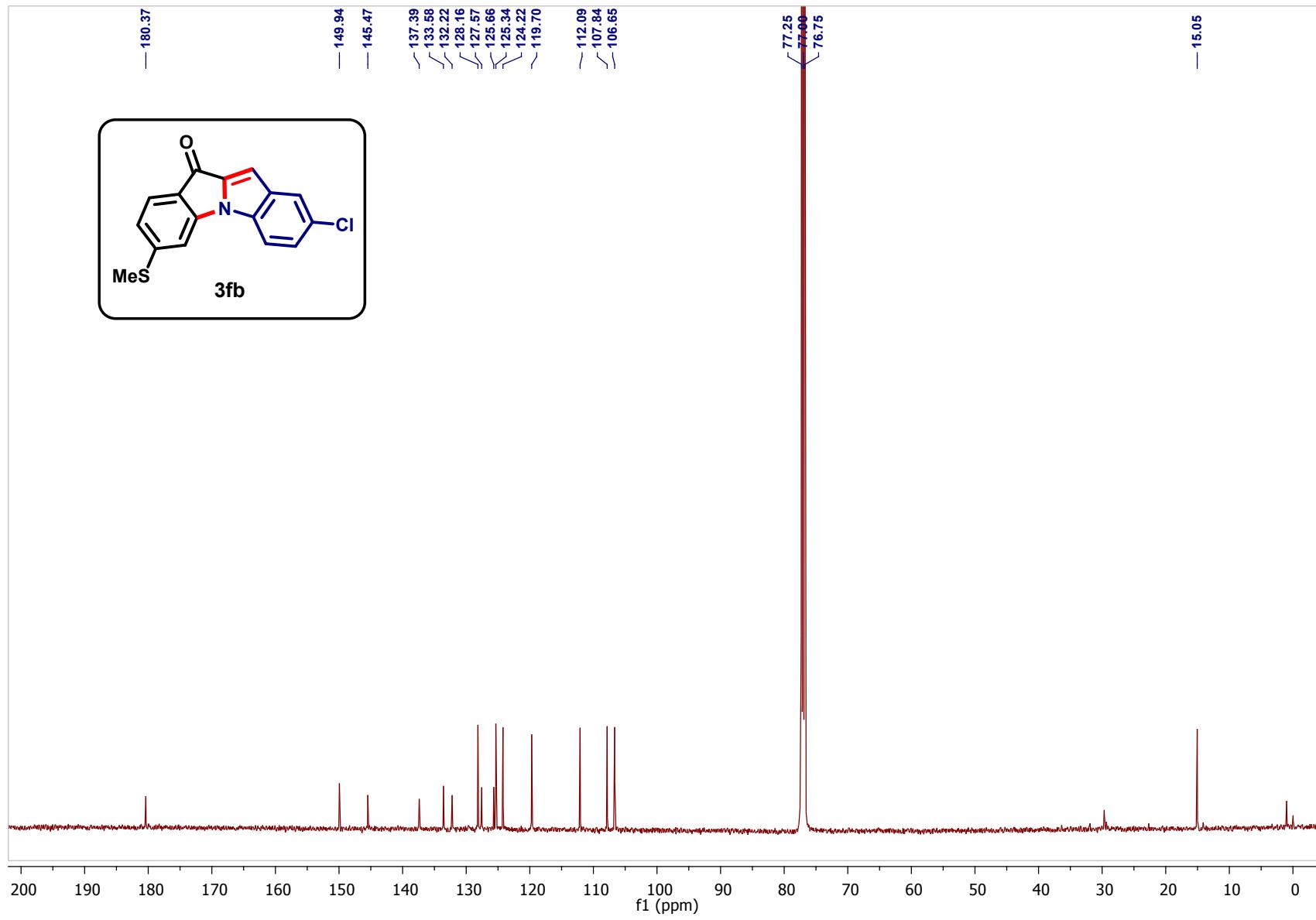


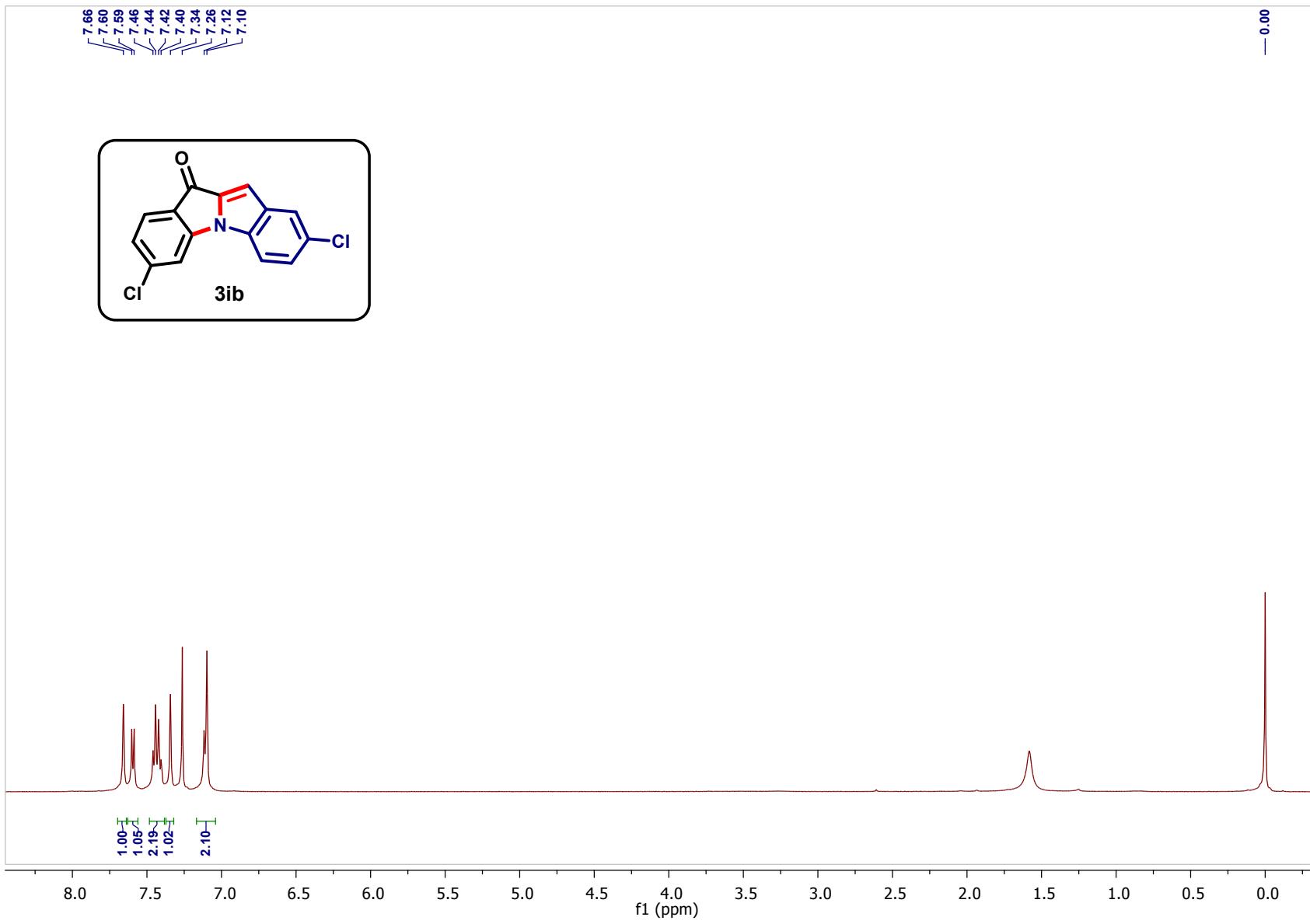


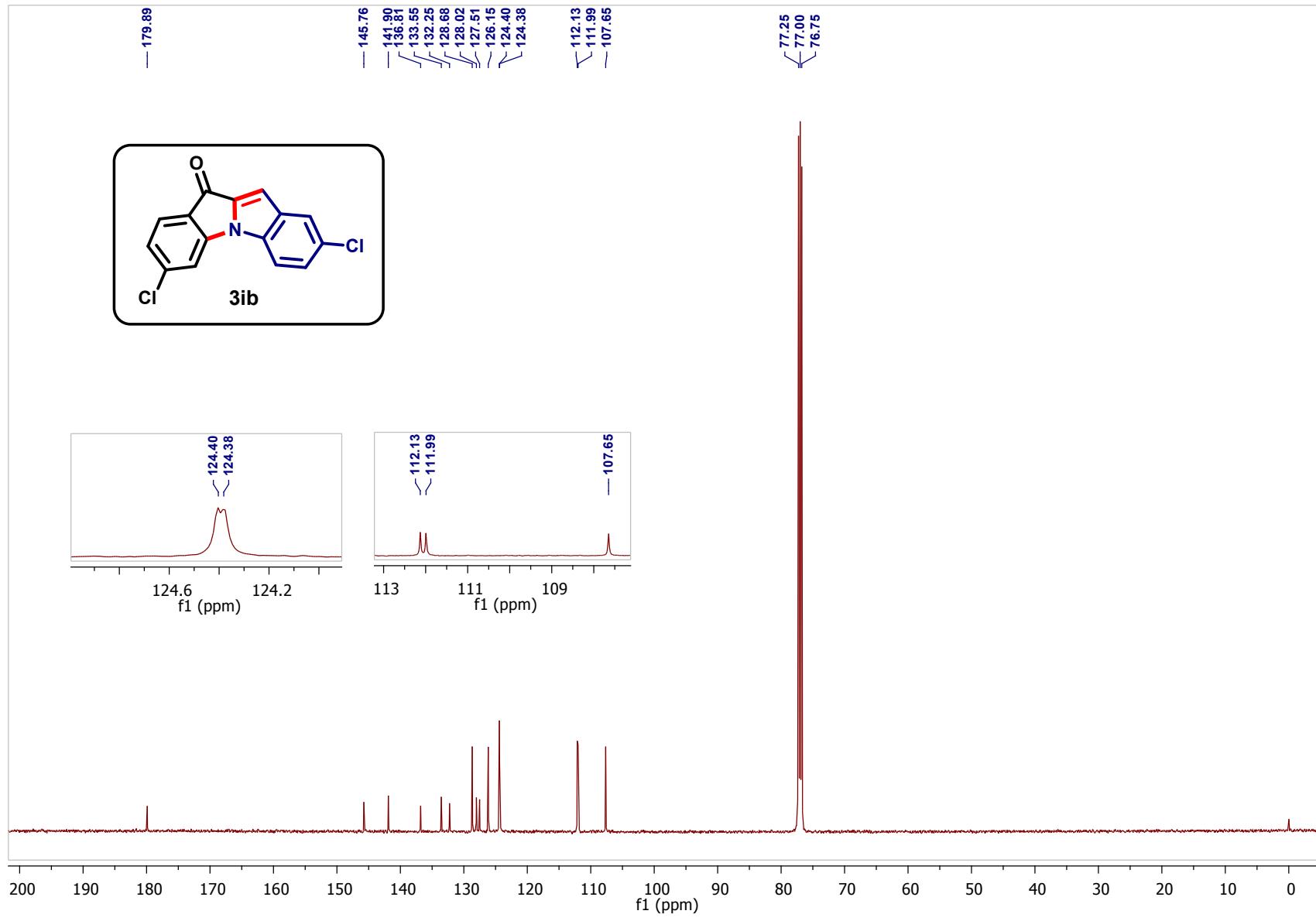


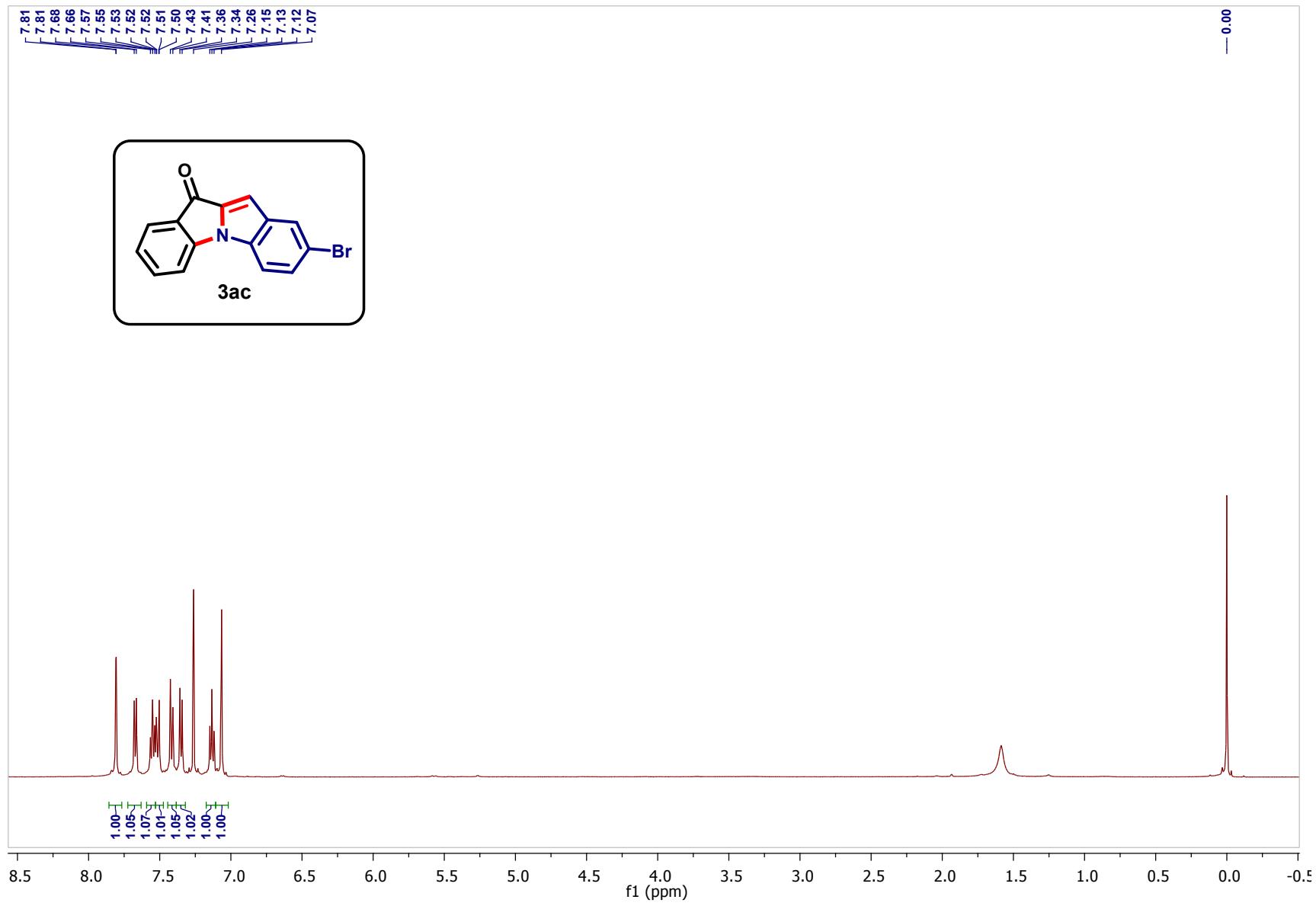


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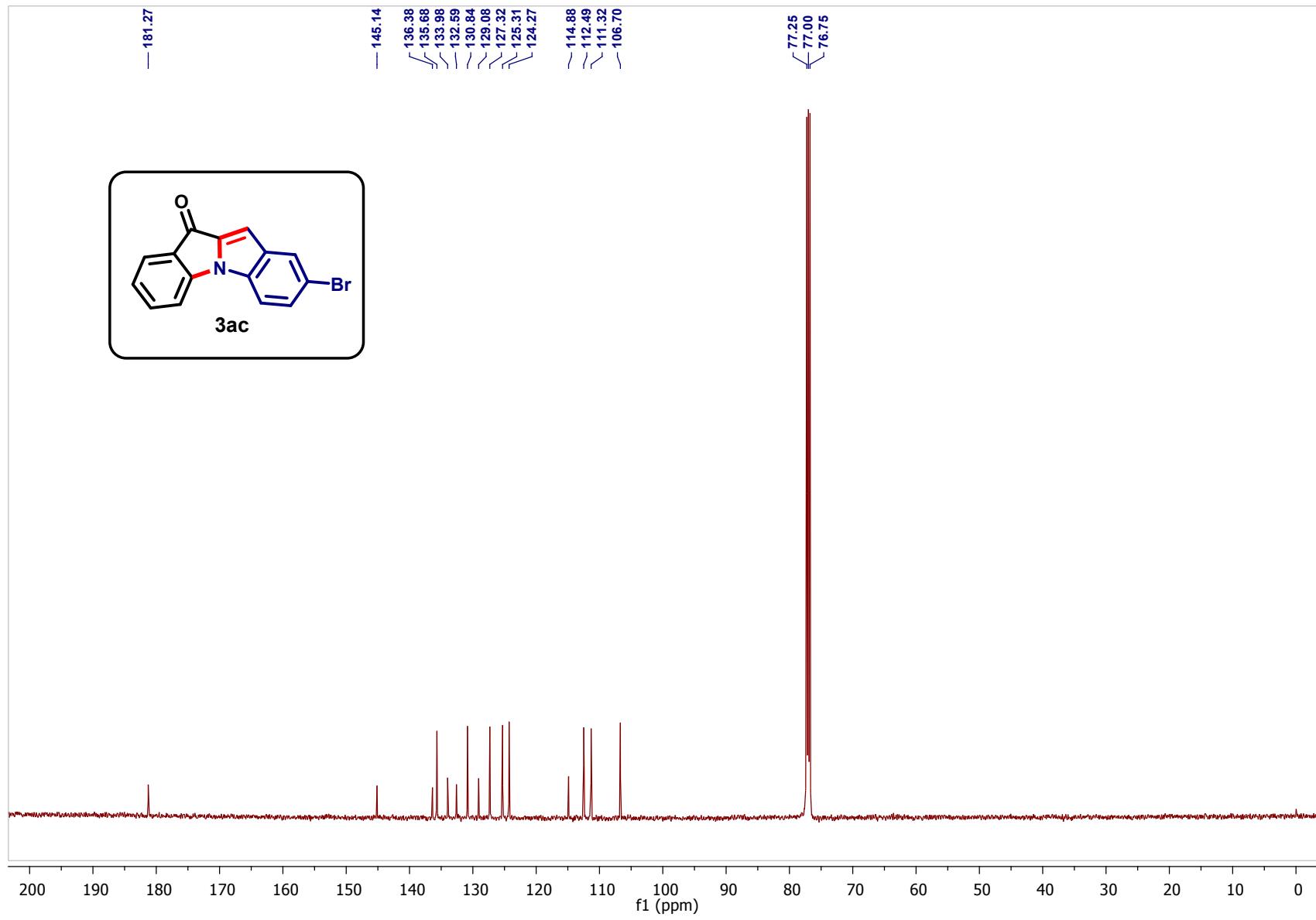


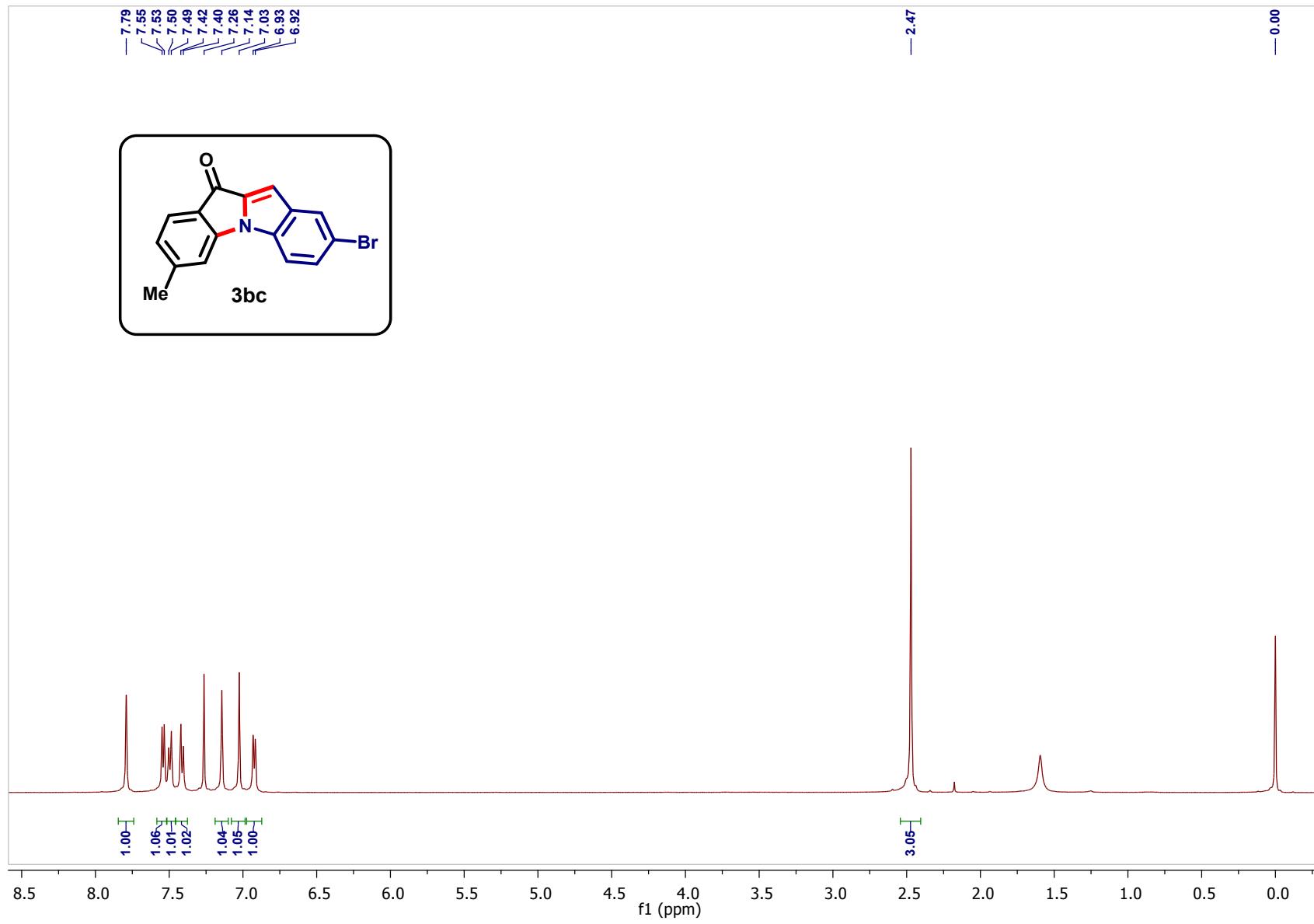


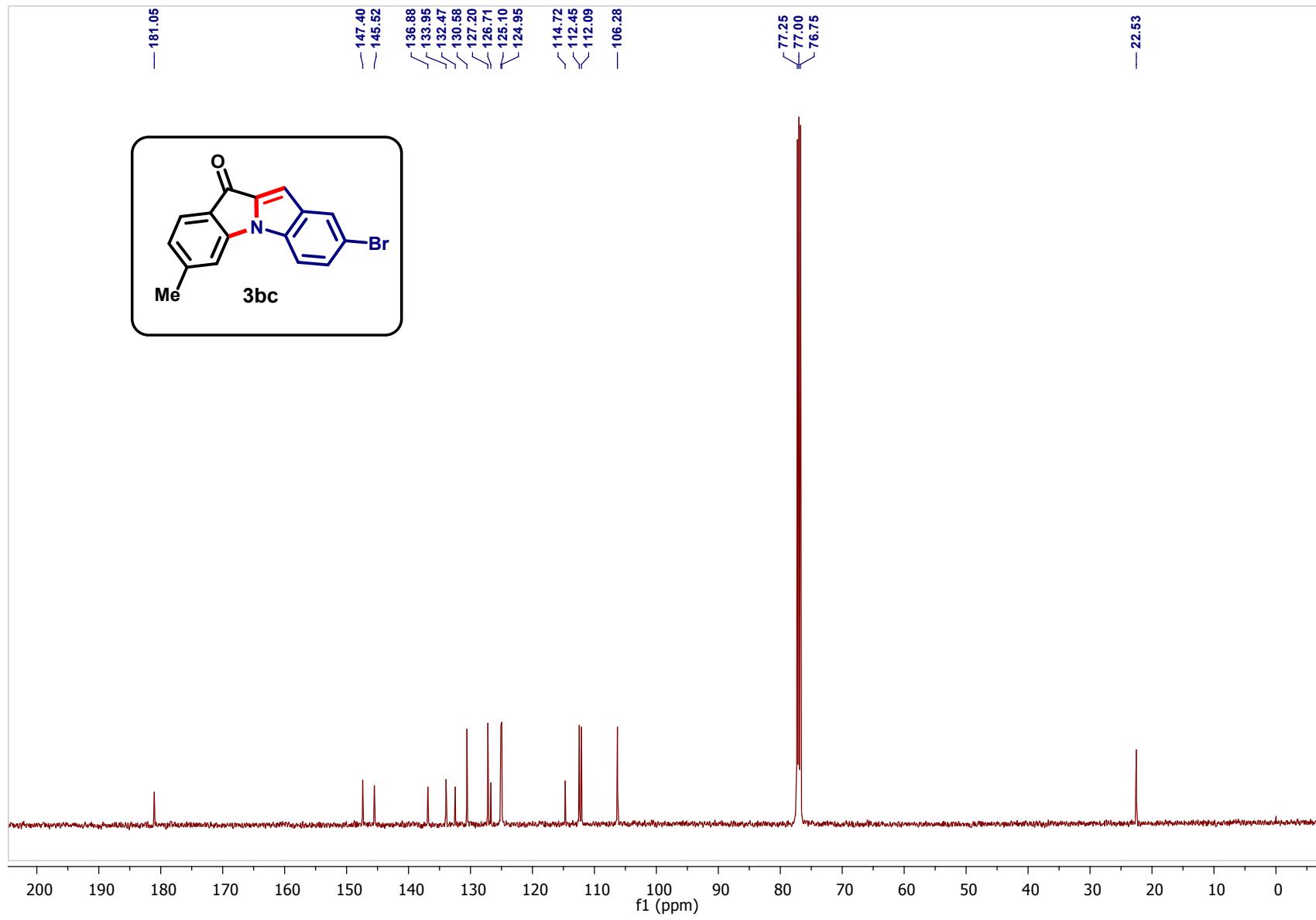


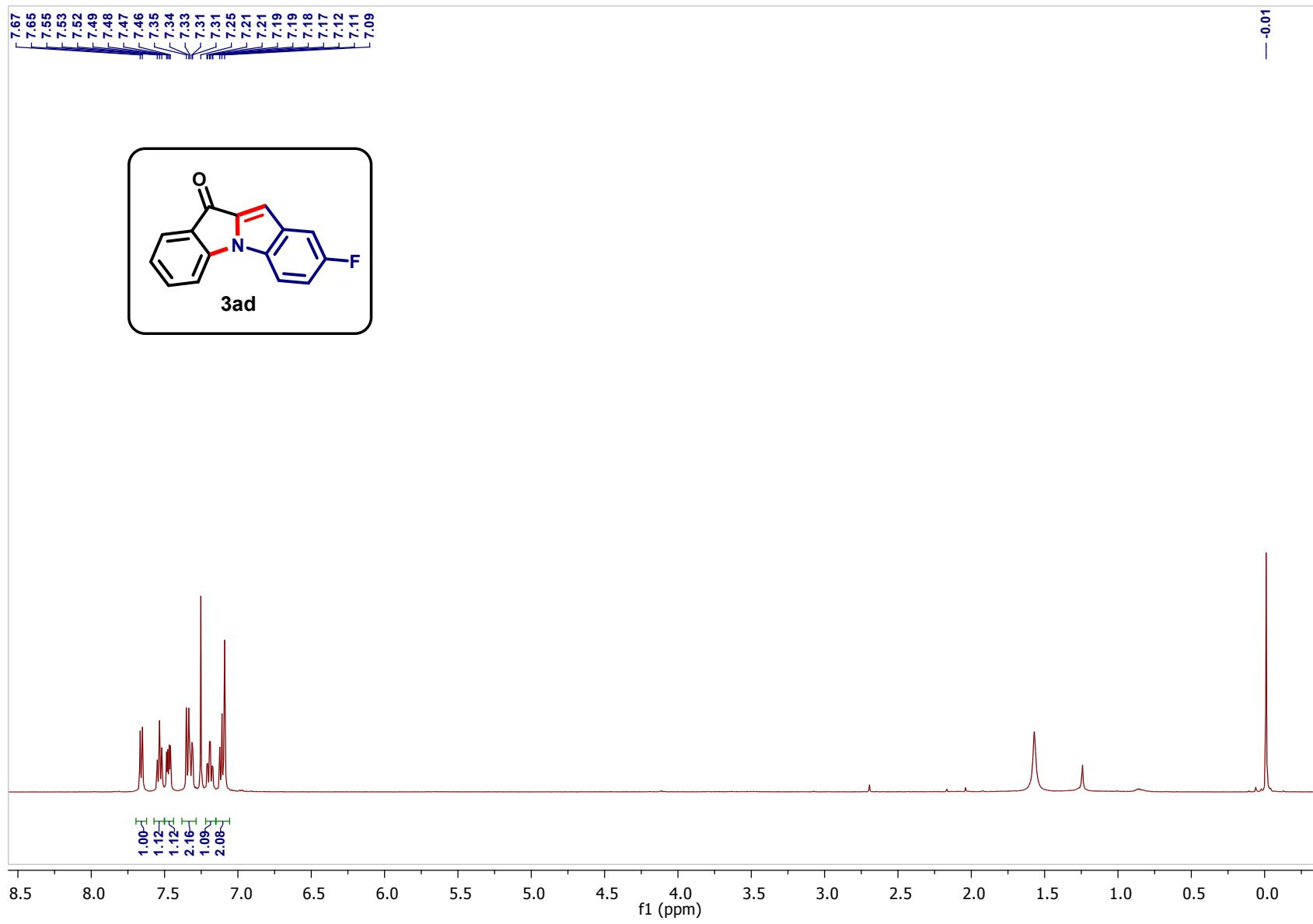


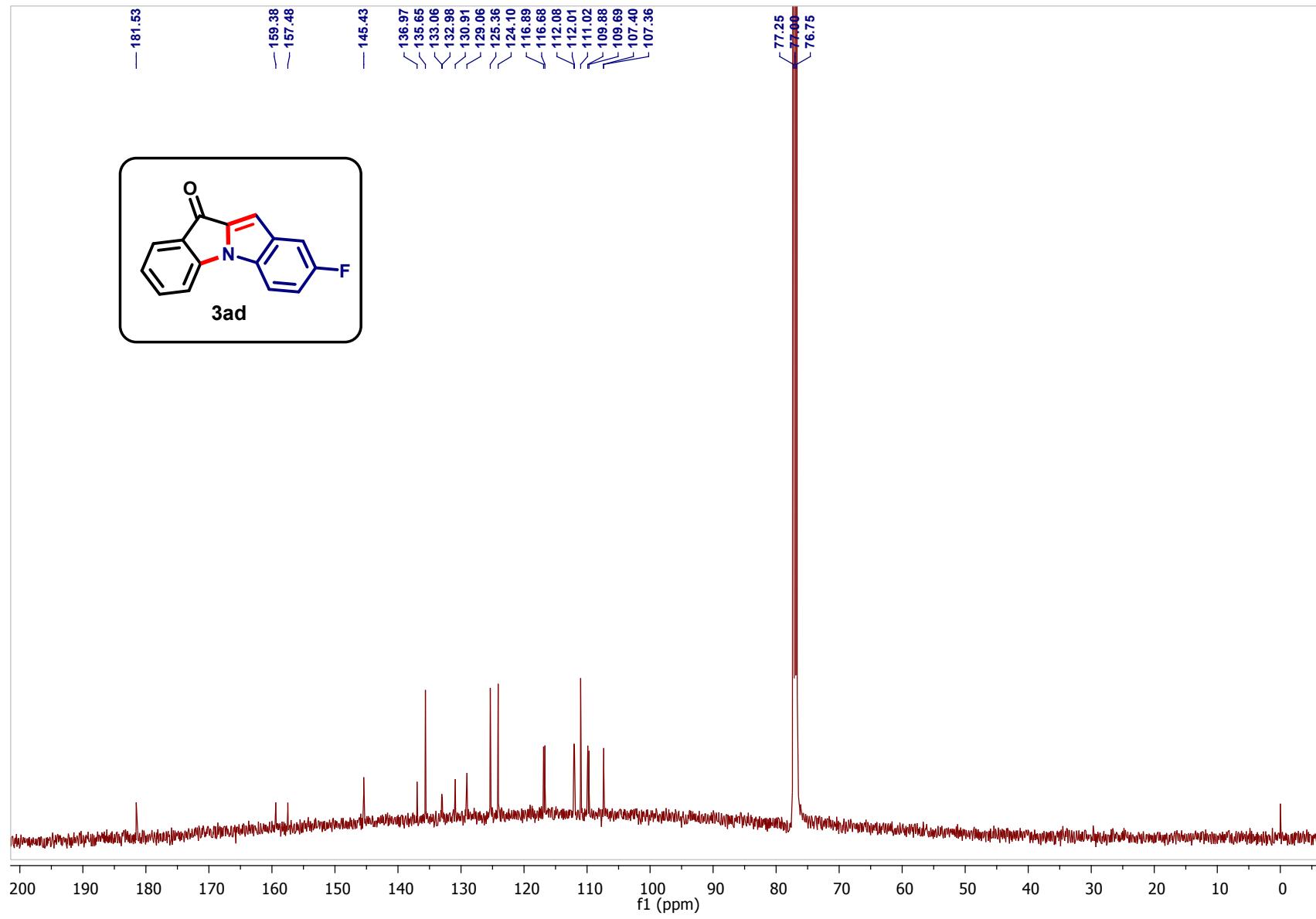
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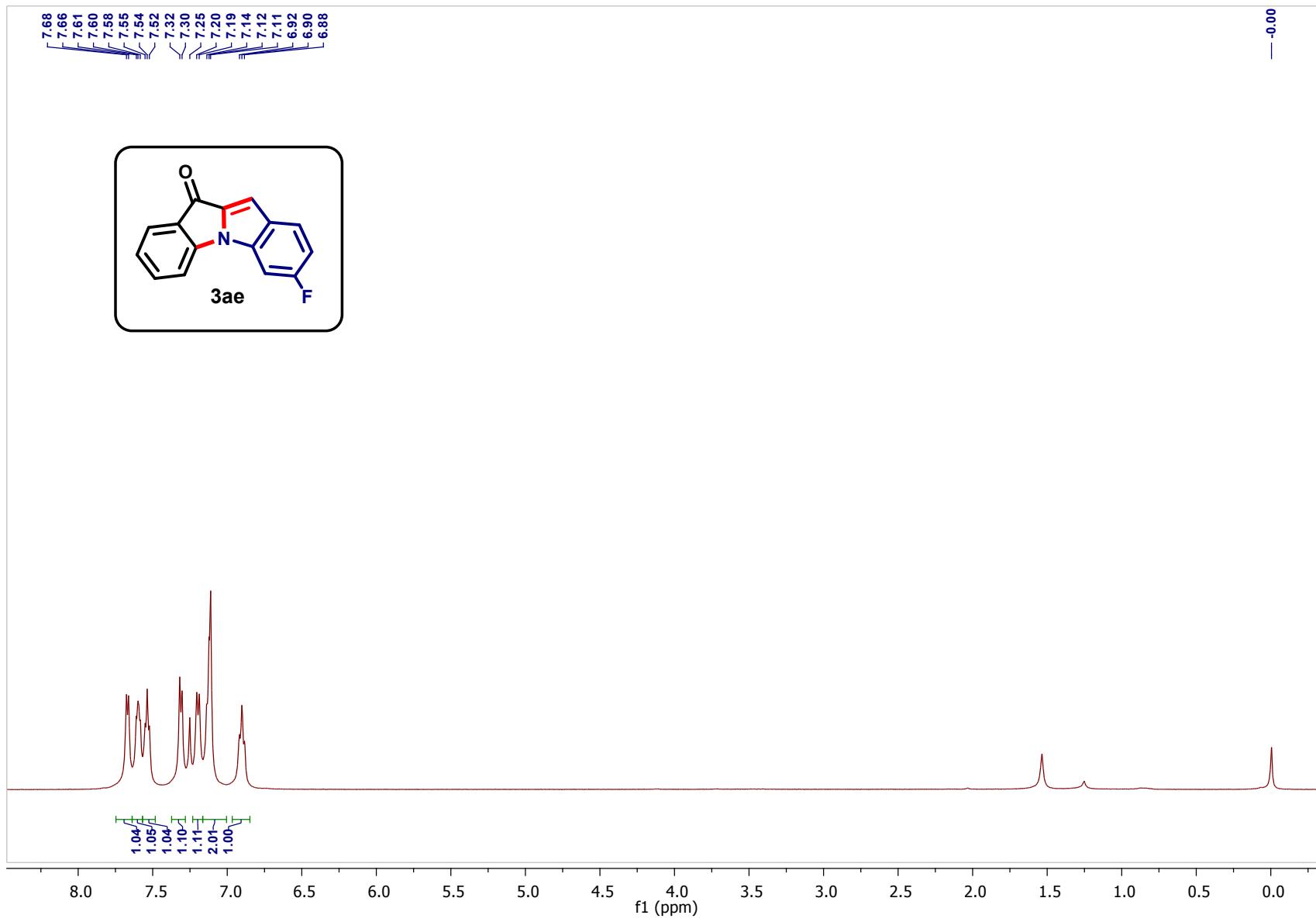




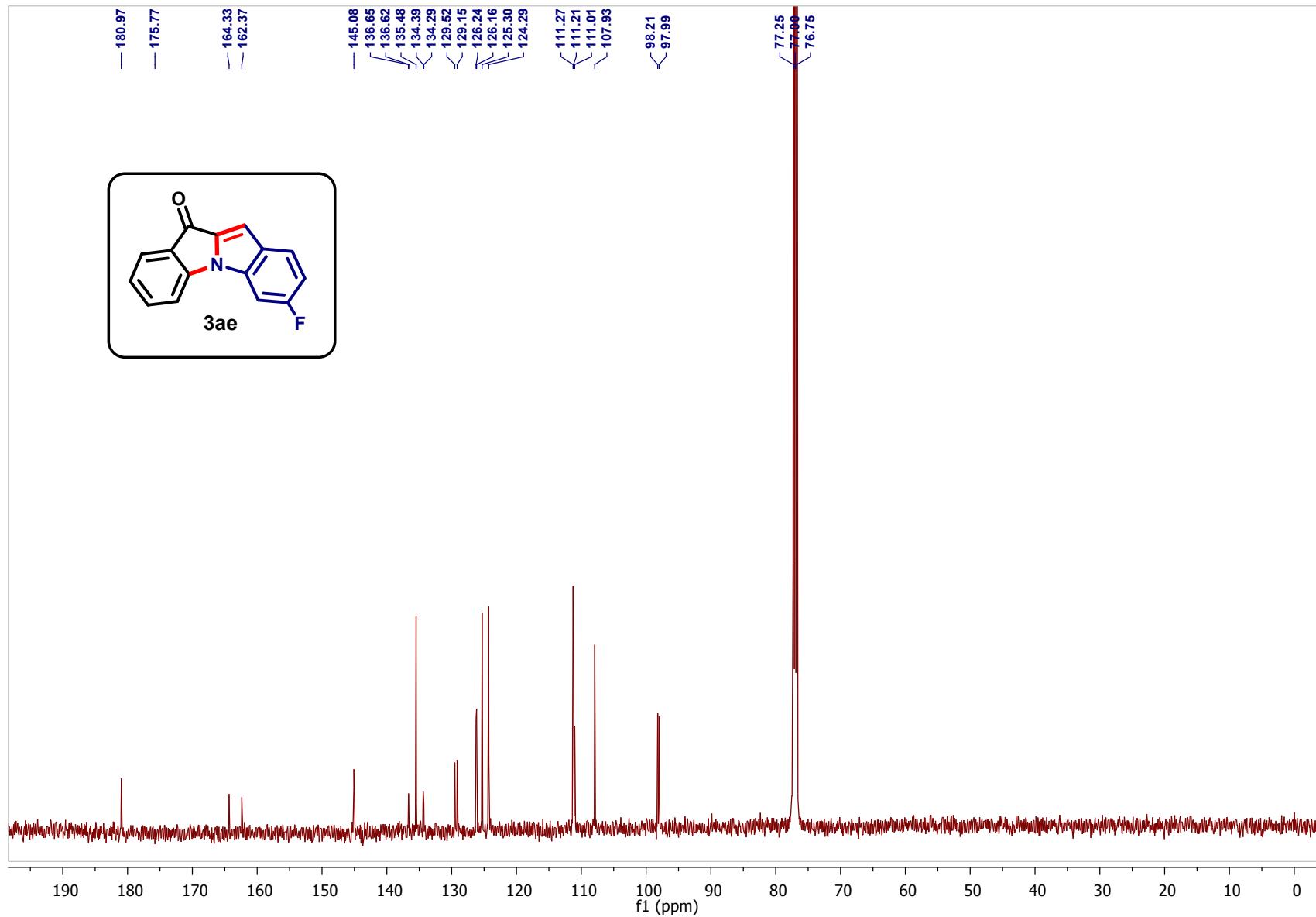


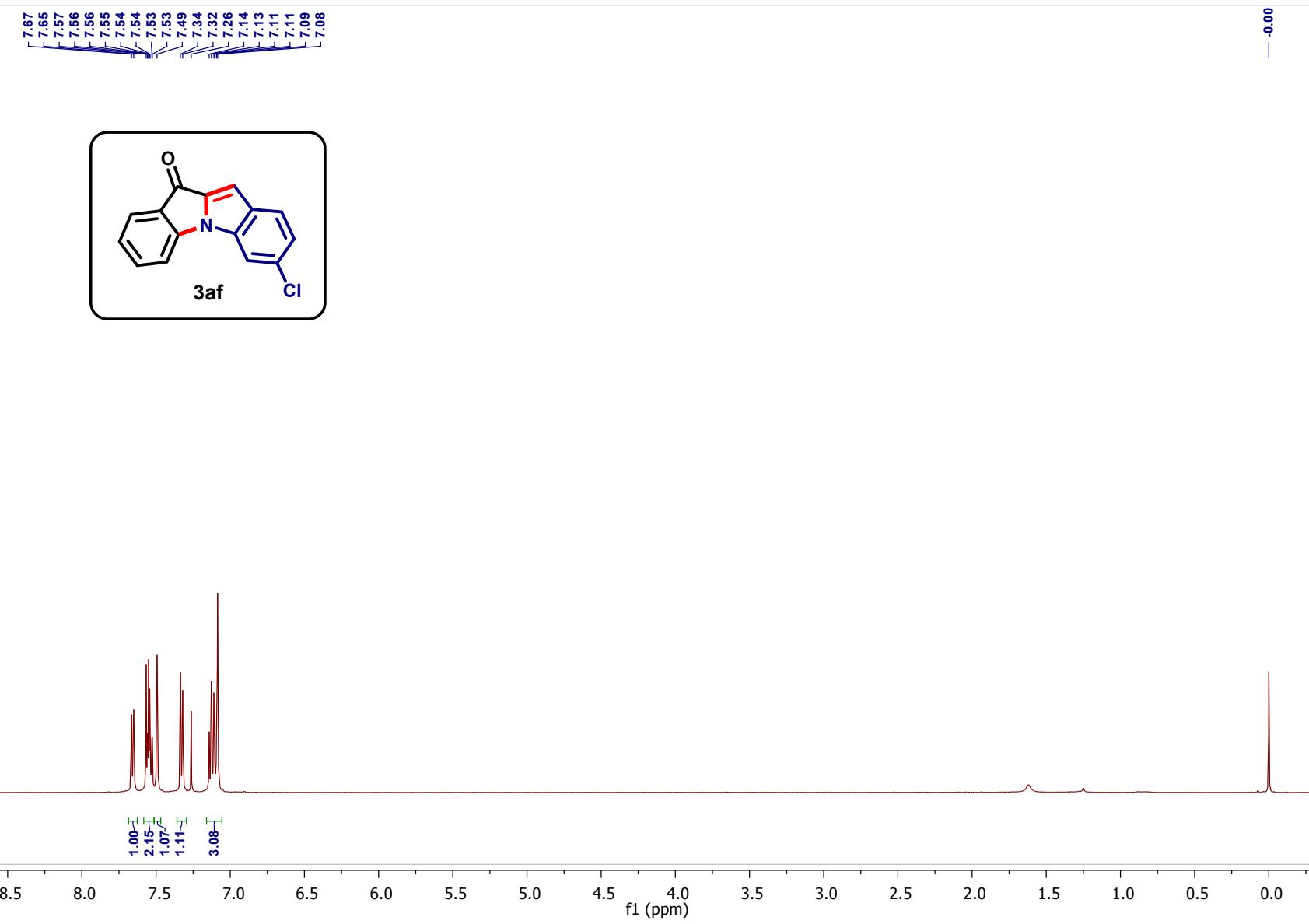




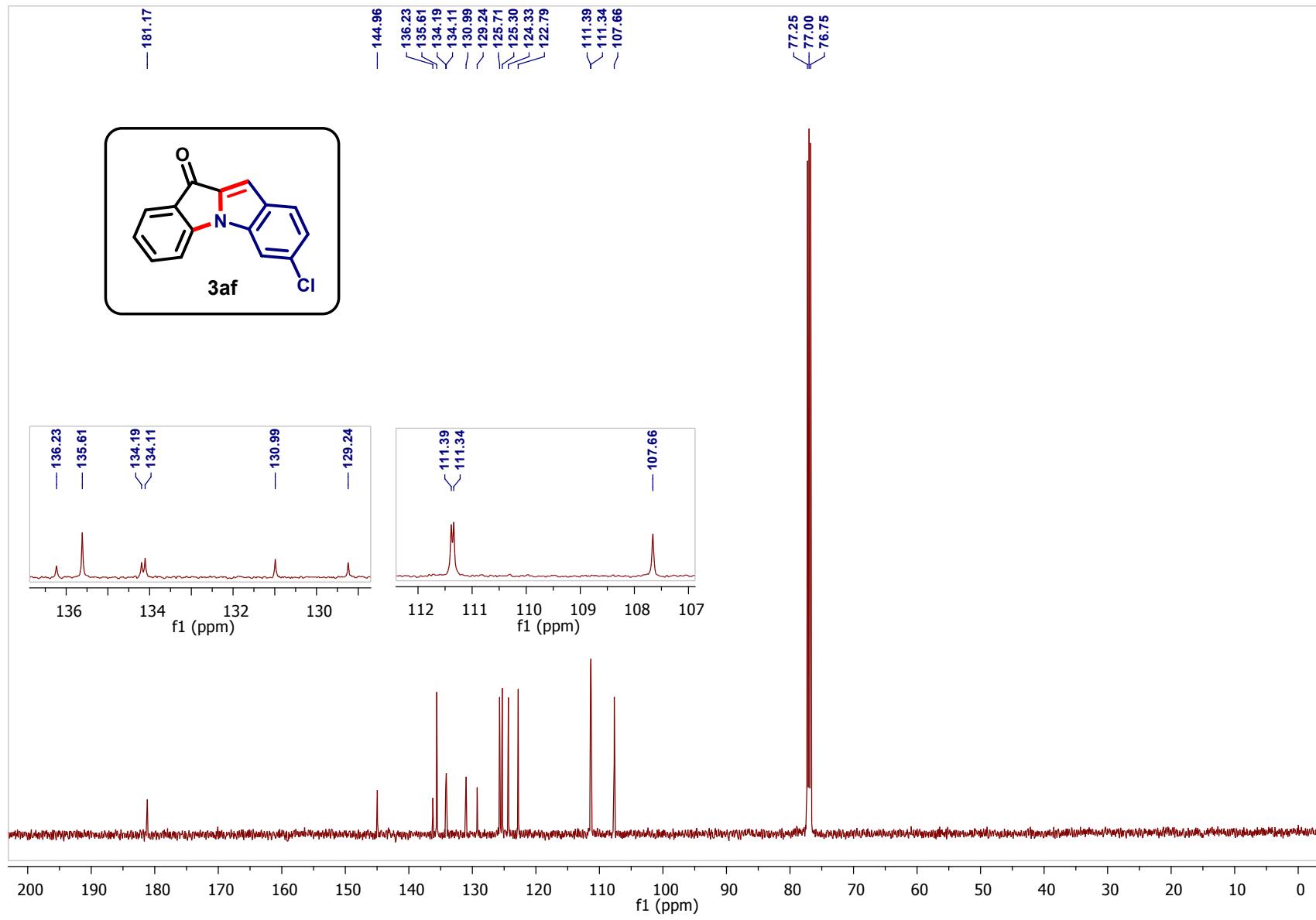


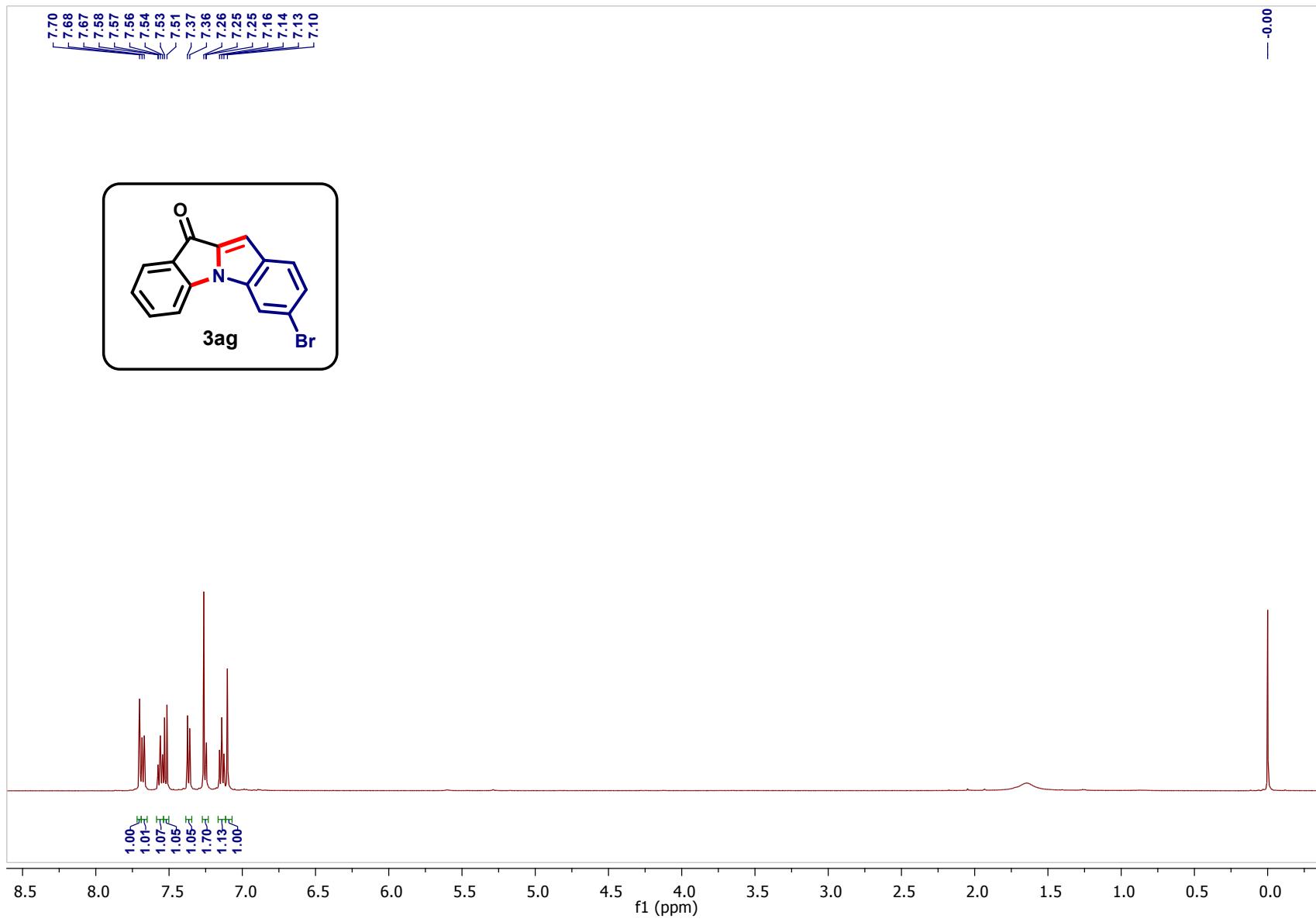
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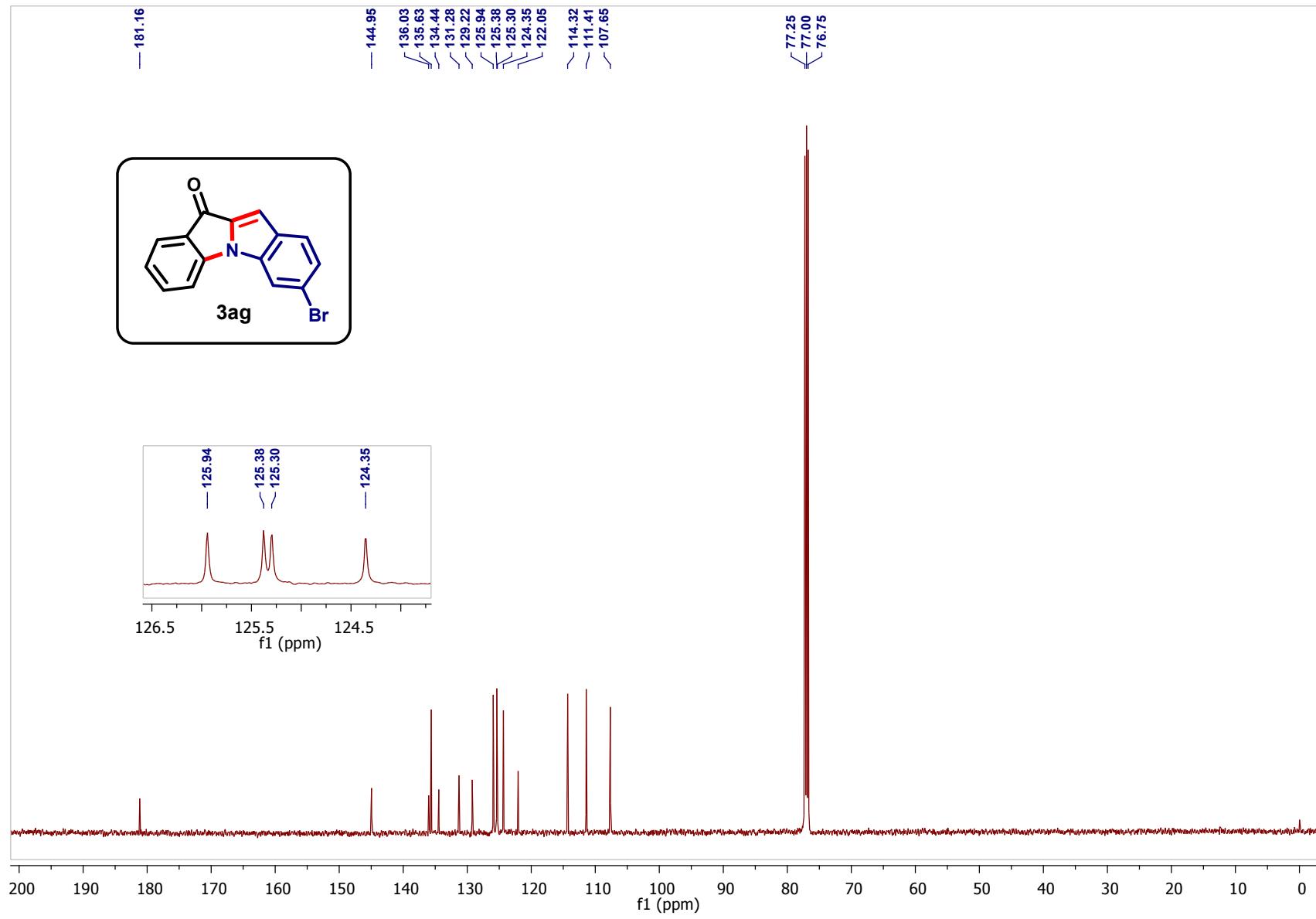


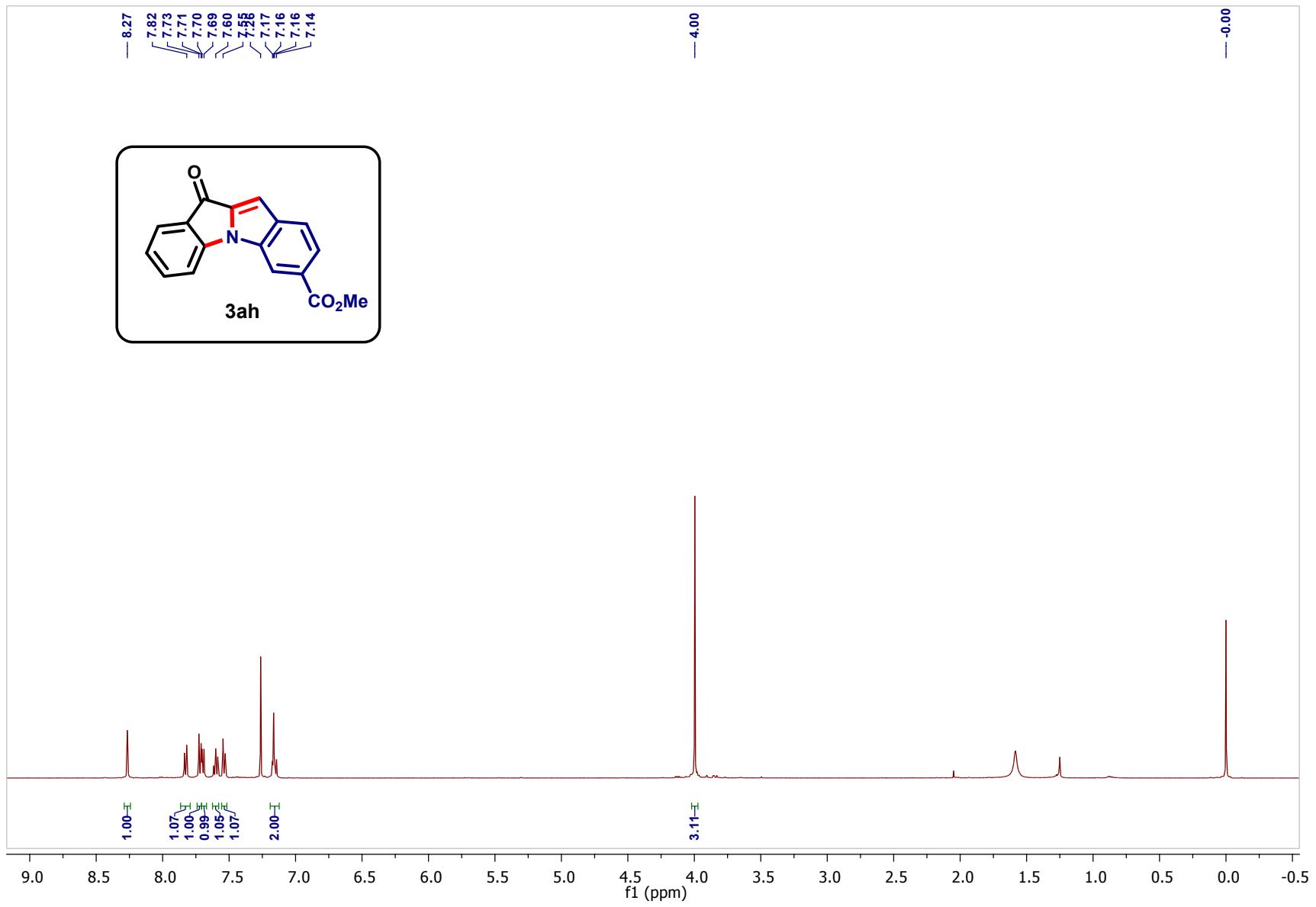


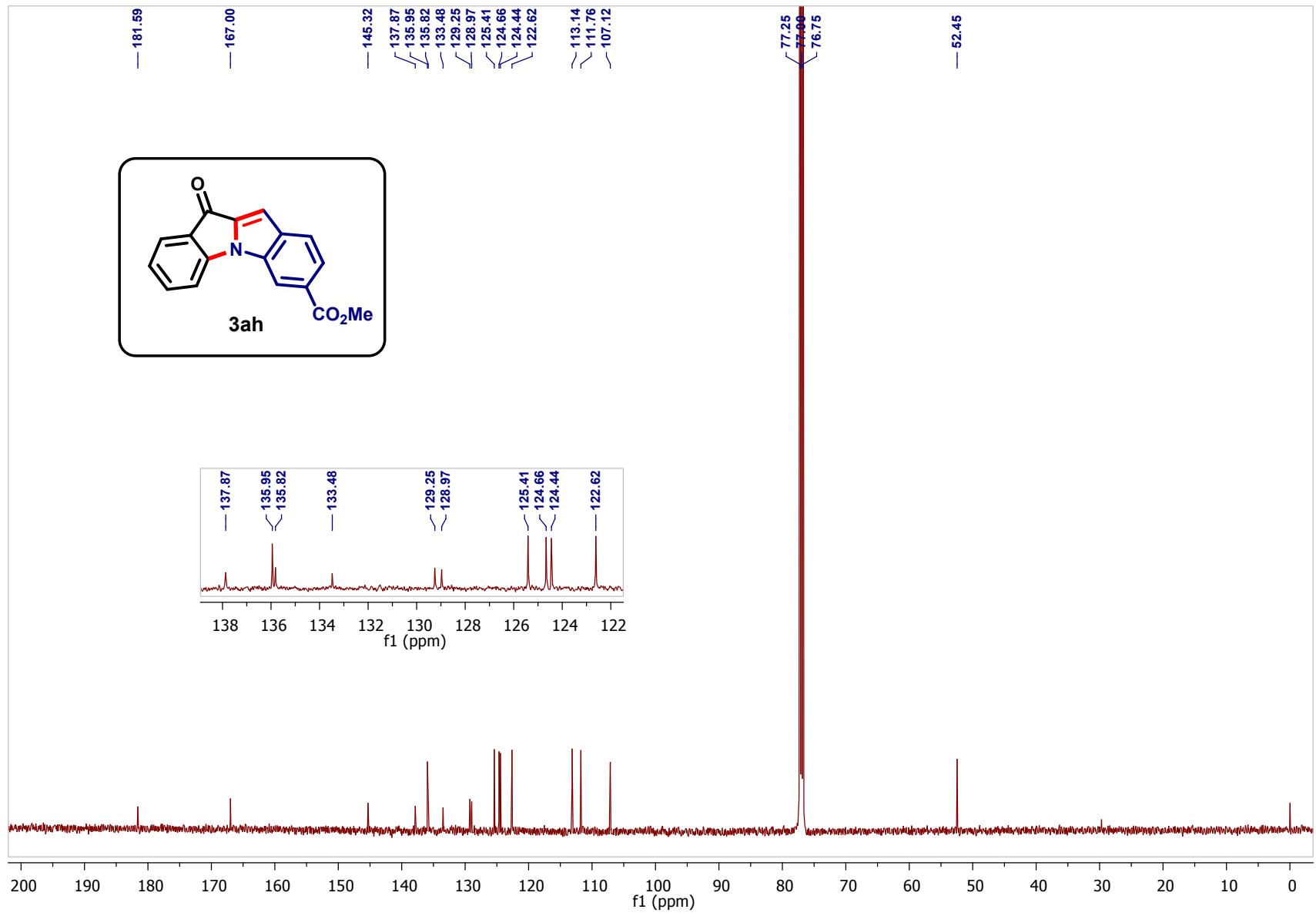
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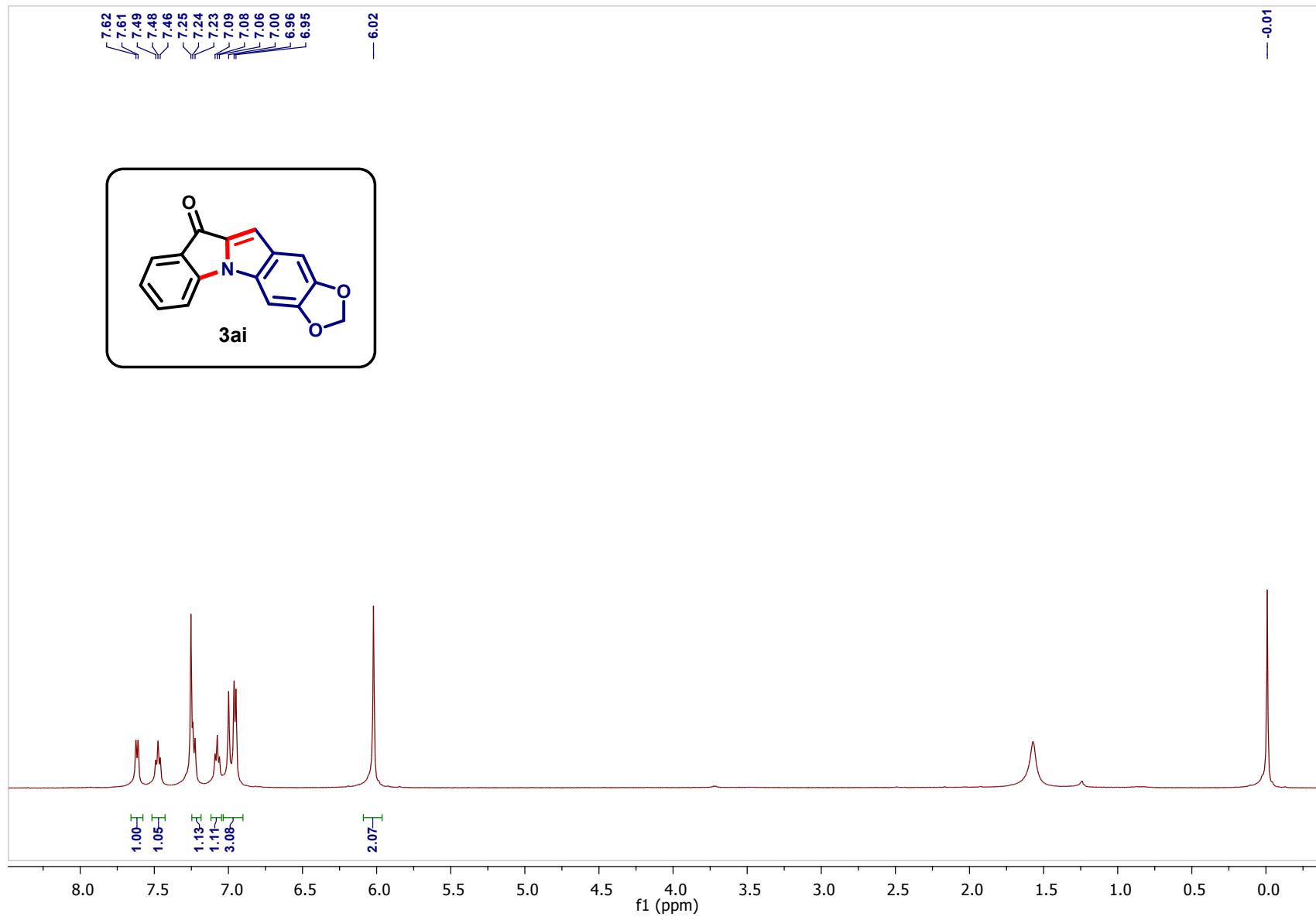


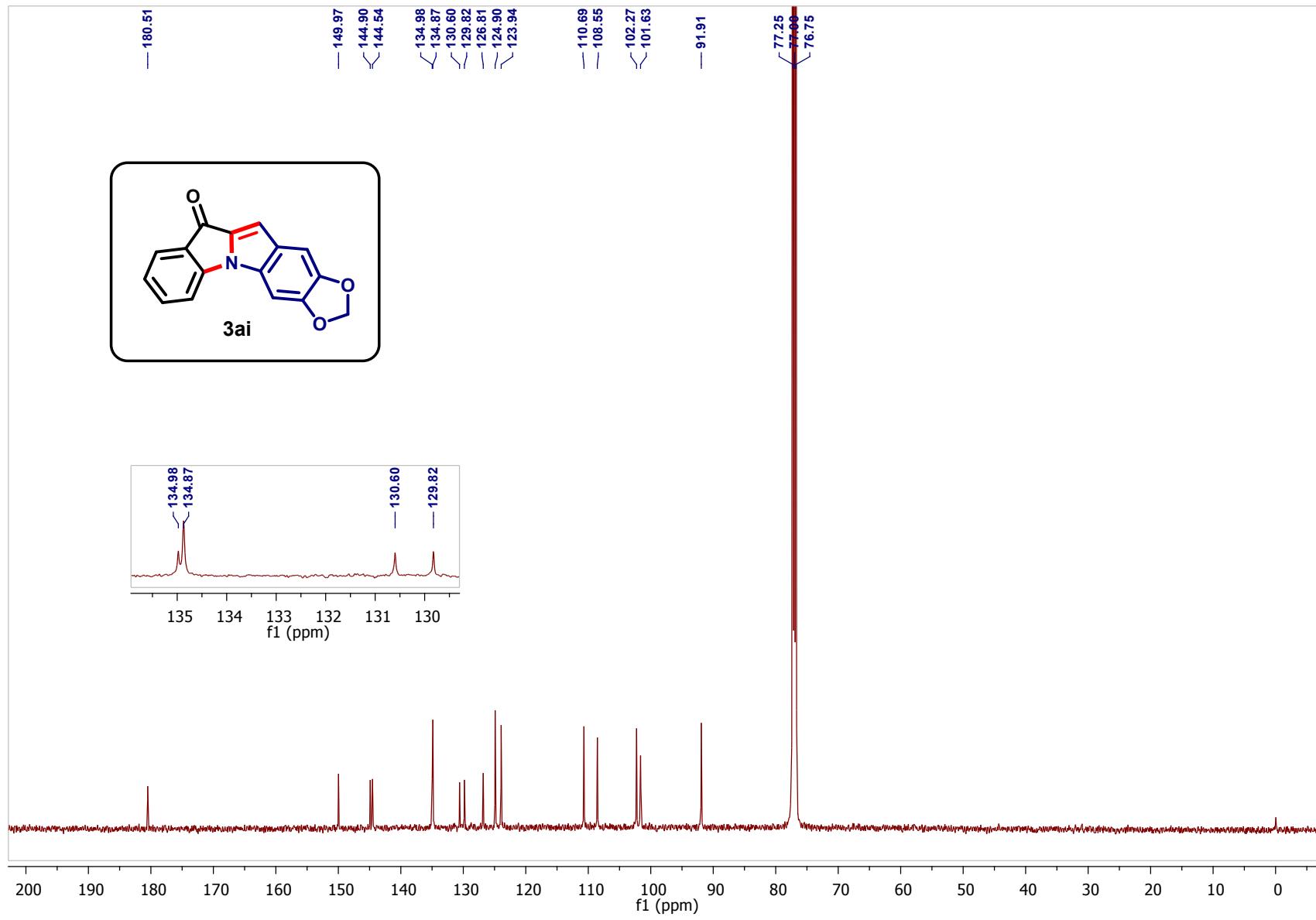


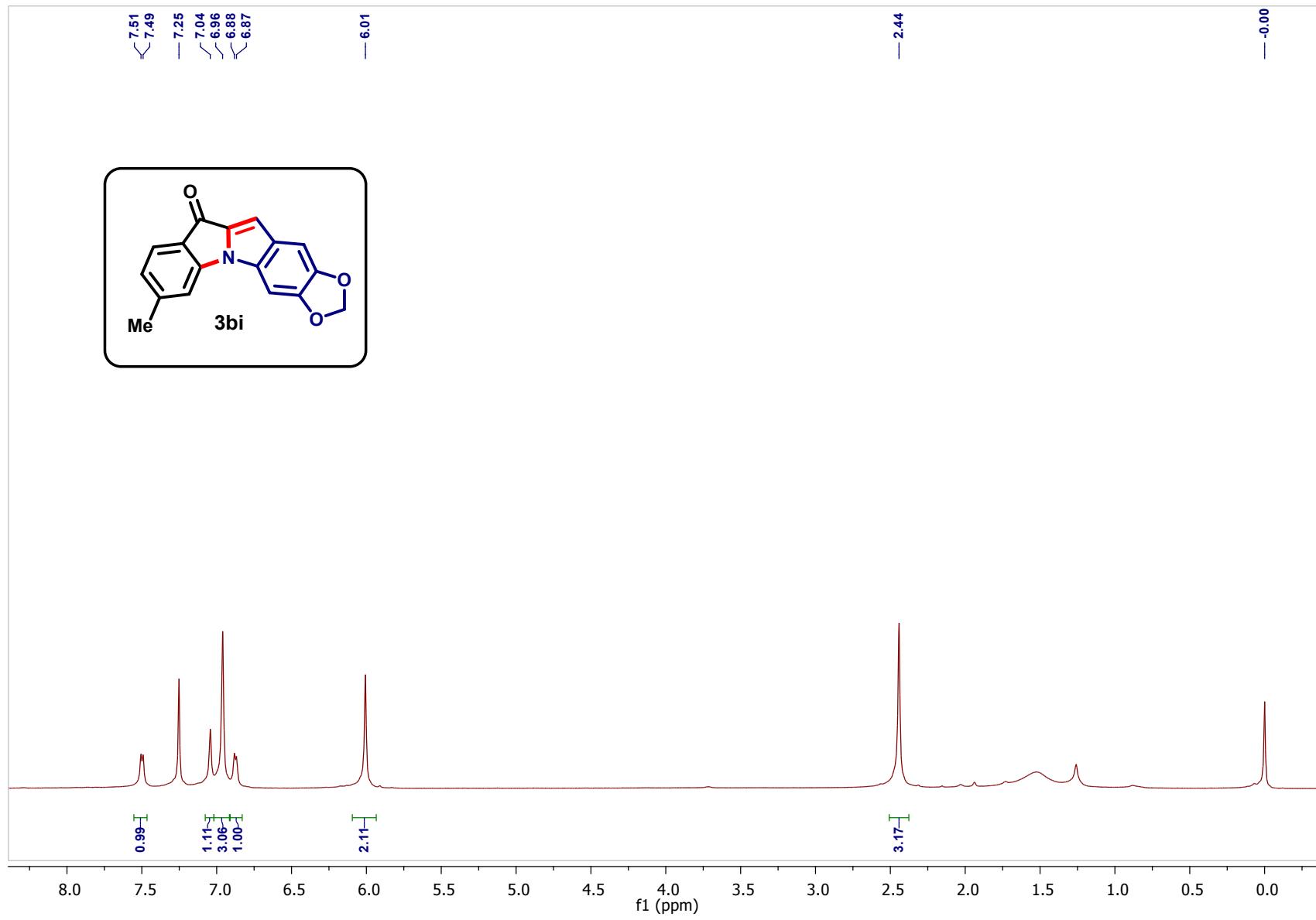












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