

Palladium-Catalyzed Direct C-H Thiolation of 2-Pyridyl Sulfoxide with Disulfides

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Instrumentation and Chemicals: ^1H NMR (500 MHz) and ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz) spectra were taken on a Bruker Avance 500 MHz NMR spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in parts per million, relative to chloroform at 7.26 ppm for ^1H and relative to CDCl_3 at 77.0 ppm for ^{13}C in CDCl_3 . Data for ^1H NMR are reported as follows: chemical shift (ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet; bs = broad singlet; d = doublet; bd = broad doublet, t = triplet; bt = broad triplet; q = quartet; m = multiplet), coupling constants, J , in (Hz), and integration. Data for ^{13}C NMR was reported in terms of chemical shift (ppm). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained by using a TOF analyzer in ESI mode. X-ray data were taken at 273K with a Bruker APEX-II CCD single crystal diffractometer by using graphite monochromated Mo-K α radiation (0.71073 Å). Data integration was done using SAINT.¹ Intensities for absorption were corrected using SADABS.² TLC analysis were performed on commercial Aluminum TLC plate, silica gel coated with fluorescent indicator F254. Silica gel (Merk 100-200 mesh and 230-400 mesh) was used for column chromatography. Unless otherwise noted, materials obtained from commercial suppliers were used without further purification. Thiophenol, 2-bromopyridine, ceric ammonium nitrate (CAN) and 2,3-Dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone (DDQ) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich or TCI India. Dichloromethane (DCM) was distilled over CaH_2 and stored under nitrogen. All the reactions were performed in an oven-dried glass reaction tube (capacity 15 mL) procured from the Sigma-Aldrich India (catalogue No. Z181099).

Experimental Procedures and Characterization Data:

General procedure for the synthesis of 2-(arylsulfinyl)pyridines⁴

Preparation of **1a** is representative. Benzenethiol (500 mg, 4.5 mmol), 2-bromopyridine (711 mg, 4.5 mmol, 1 equiv), K_2CO_3 (1.25 mg, 9 mmol, 2 equiv), and DMSO (5 mL) were taken in an oven-dried round bottom flask. The resulting solution was stirred at 110 °C for 20 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with DCM (3 x 20 mL). The organic layer was separated, dried over Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated under vacuum. The crude residue was purified using column chromatography on silica gel (Hexane/EtOAc = 9/1) to provide 2-(phenylthio)pyridine. The 2-(phenylthio)pyridine (500 mg, 2.7 mmol) was transferred to another 100 mL flask containing CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL). The reaction flask was cooled to 0 °C. The subsequent oxidation was done by the slow addition of *m*-CPBA (465 mg, 2.7 mmol, 1 equiv) and the reaction mixture was stirred for 3-4 h at 0 °C to room

temperature. Then, saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO₃ was added and stirred for 30 minutes. Extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 20 mL), the organic layer was separated, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under vacuum. The crude residue was purified by using column chromatography on silica gel to provide corresponding product 2-(phenylsulfinyl)pyridine (**1a**) as a white solid; yield: 470 mg (85%).

General procedure for the synthesis of 1,2-diphenyldisulfane⁶

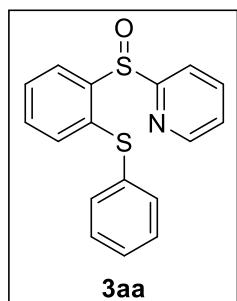
Procedure for **2a** is representative. DDQ (500 mg, 2.25 mmol) was added to an ice-cooled solution of benzenethiol (500 mg, 4.5 mmol) in dichloromethane (10.0 mL). The reaction mixture stirred for 20 min at 0 °C and monitored by TLC analysis. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and directly purified by chromatography column on silica gel to provide corresponding product 1,2-diphenyldisulfane (**2a**) as a white solid; yield: 450 mg (46 %).

General procedure for 2-pyridyl sulfoxide directed Pd-catalyzed *o*-C-H thiolation of arenes:

Preparation of **3aa** is representative. An oven-dried glass reaction tubes (capacity 15 mL) procured from the Sigma-Aldrich India (catalogue No. Z181099) was charged with aryl 2-pyridyl sulfoxide (**1a**, 102 mg, 0.5 mmol), phenyl disulfide (**2a**, 220 mg, 1.0 mmol, 2 equiv), Cerium (IV) ammonium nitrate [(NH₄)₂Ce(NO₃)₆] (320 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), and Pd(OAc)₂ (11 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol %) and then DCM (2.5 mL) was added under atmospheric air. The reaction tube was closed with a screw cap. Later on, the reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 24 h before it was allowed to reach room temperature. The reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with DCM (3 x 10 mL). The organic layer was separated, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under vacuum. The crude residue was purified using column chromatography on silica gel (Hexane/EtOAc = 4/1) to provide 2-((2-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (**3aa**) as a yellow solid; yield: 100 mg (64%).

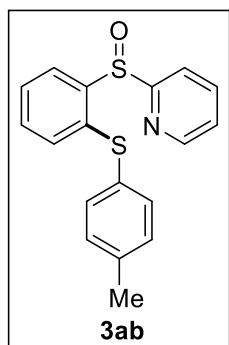
Compounds **1a**,⁴ **1b**,⁴ **1c**,^{5a} **1d**,⁴ **1e**,⁵ **1f**,^{5b} **1g**,⁴ **2a**,^{6,7} **2b**,⁶⁻⁹ **2c**,¹⁰ **2d**,⁸ **2e**,^{6,7,9} **2f**,¹¹ **2g**,¹² **2h**,⁶⁻⁸ **2i**,⁶ **2j**,⁸⁻⁹ **5**,¹³ **6**,¹⁴ **7**,¹⁵ and **1a-d**¹⁷ are previously reported and showed the identical spectra according to the literature.

2-((2-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3aa)



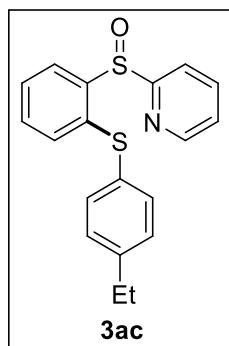
Light yellow solid. yield 100 mg (64%). mp 66–67 °C. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ = 8.57 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (t, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29–7.25 (m, 6H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ = 165.1, 149.9, 145.9, 137.8, 135.4, 135.0, 133.6, 131.5, 130.6, 129.2, 128.6, 127.2, 125.6, 124.6, 120.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{NOS}_2^+$: 312.0511; found: 312.0512.

2-((2-(*p*-tolylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3ab)



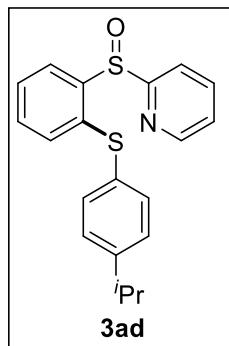
Brown liquid; yield 44 mg (27%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ = 8.58 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ = 165.4, 150.0, 145.0, 137.9, 137.8, 136.6, 132.6, 131.9, 131.5, 131.3, 130.1, 128.0, 125.5, 124.6, 120.4, 29.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{NOS}_2^+$: 326.0668; found: 326.0671.

2-((2-((4-ethylphenyl)thio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3ac)



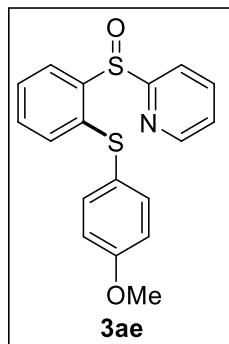
Yellow liquid; yield 50 mg (41%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ = 8.57 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.33–7.25 (m, 3H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.63 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.23 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ = 165.3, 149.9, 145.0, 144.1, 137.8, 136.4, 132.7, 131.7, 131.5, 128.9, 128.1, 125.5, 124.6, 120.4, 28.4, 15.3 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{NOS}_2^+$: 340.0824; found: 340.0823.

2-((2-((4-isopropylphenyl)thio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3ad)



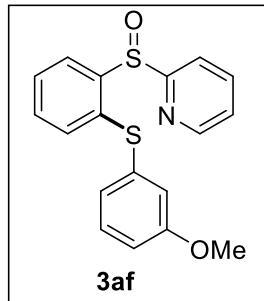
Yellow liquid; yield 94 mg (53%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ = 8.57 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 2.92–2.84 (m, 1H), 1.34 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ = 165.3, 149.9, 148.6, 145.2, 137.8, 136.1, 132.9, 131.6, 131.49, 131.48, 128.1, 127.5, 125.5, 124.6, 120.4, 33.7, 23.8 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{NOS}_2^+$: 354.0981; found: 354.0982.

2-((2-((4-methoxyphenyl)thio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3ae)



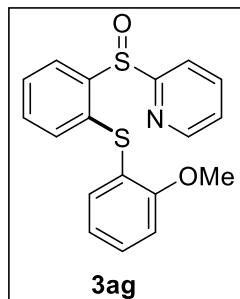
Brown solid; yield 52 mg (30%); mp 101–102 °C. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ = 8.60 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.91–7.84 (m, 2H), 7.37–7.27 (m, 5H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz) δ = 165.3, 159.9, 150.0, 138.2, 137.9, 134.9, 131.5, 131.1, 127.4, 125.4, 124.7, 124.4, 120.2, 115.1 (2C), 55.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2\text{S}_2^+$: 342.0617; found: 342.0621.

2-((2-((3-methoxyphenyl)thio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3af)



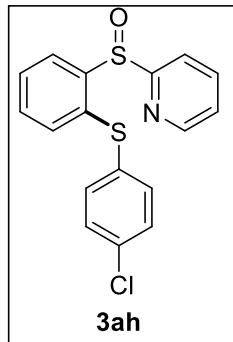
Brown liquid; yield 76 mg (44%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ = 8.59–8.53 (m, 1H), 8.02–7.93 (m, 2H), 7.81 (td, J = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41–7.33 (m, 2H), 7.30–7.24 (m, 1H), 7.18 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.83–6.76 (m, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz) δ = 160.1(2C), 150.1 (2C), 137.9, 136.8, 134.7, 134.0, 131.7, 130.1, 128.9, 125.7, 124.8, 122.8, 120.5, 115.7, 113.2, 55.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2\text{S}_2^+$: 342.0617; found: 342.0618.

2-((2-((2-methoxyphenyl)thio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3ag)



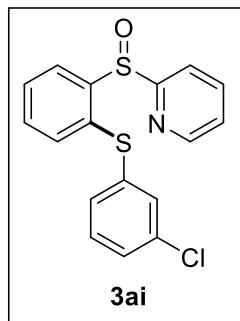
Yellow liquid; yield 38 mg (22%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ = 8.53 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.20 (m, 2H), 6.94 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (dd, J = 8.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (td, J = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ = 165.1, 157.3, 150.0, 146.4, 137.7, 134.1, 134.0, 131.50, 131.46, 128.7, 125.5, 124.6, 123.8, 121.2, 120.6, 111.0, 55.9 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2\text{S}_2^+$: 342.0617; found: 342.0618.

2-((2-((4-chlorophenyl)thio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3ah)



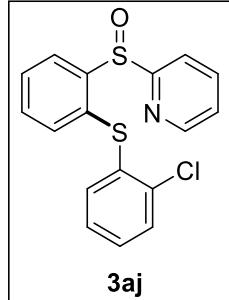
Yellow liquid; yield 92 mg (52%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ = 8.54 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.6, 1H), 7.38 (td, J = 7.5, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.35–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz) δ = 165.1, 149.9, 146.2, 137.9, 134.4, 134.2, 133.9, 133.3, 131.8, 131.6, 129.4, 129.0, 125.7, 124.7, 120.3 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClNO}_2\text{S}_2^+$: 346.0122; found: 346.0121.

2-((2-((3-chlorophenyl)thio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3ai)



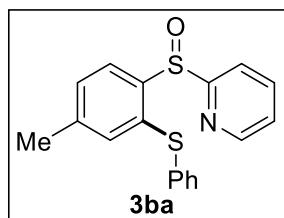
Yellow liquid; yield 112 mg (64%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ = 8.52 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.26 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.18–7.16 (m, 2H), 7.07–7.03 (m, 2H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz) δ = 165.0, 149.9, 147.0, 138.1, 137.9, 135.0, 134.9, 132.9, 131.9, 130.1, 129.6, 129.1, 127.5, 127.0, 125.9, 124.8, 120.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClNO}_2$: 346.0122; found: 346.0123.

2-((2-((2-chlorophenyl)thio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3aj)



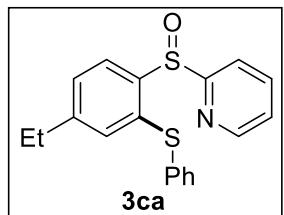
Yellow liquid; yield 52 mg (30%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ = 8.51 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (td, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (td, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (td, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.25–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.12 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (td, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ = 164.6, 150.1, 147.3, 137.6, 135.4, 135.1, 133.5, 132.1, 131.8, 130.5, 129.8, 129.7, 127.8, 127.2, 126.1, 124.7, 121.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClNO}_2$: 346.0122; found: 346.0123.

2-((4-methyl-2-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3ba)



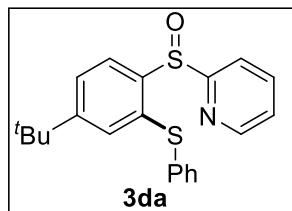
Yellow liquid; yield 42 mg (26%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ = 8.53 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.30–7.18 (m, 7H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz) δ = 165.2, 149.9, 142.9, 142.4, 137.8, 135.6, 134.4, 134.2, 130.2, 129.9, 129.1, 127.0, 125.7, 124.6, 120.4, 21.2 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{NOS}_2^+$: 326.0668; found: 326.0667.

2-((4-ethyl-2-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3ca)



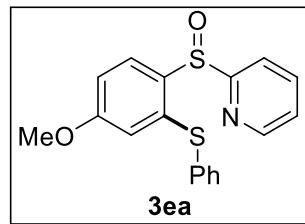
Yellow liquid; yield 86 mg (51%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ = 8.52 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (td, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.15 (m, 8H), 2.58 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.13 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz) δ = 165.3, 149.9, 148.5, 143.2, 137.8, 135.8, 134.2, 133.5, 130.1, 129.1, 128.8, 126.9, 125.8, 124.6, 120.4, 28.5, 15.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{NOS}_2^+$: 340.0824; found: 340.0829.

2-((4-(*tert*-butyl)-2-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3da)



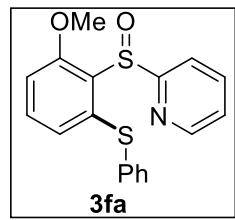
Brown liquid; yield 74 mg (40%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ = 8.54 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27–7.21 (m, 4H), 7.21–7.14 (m, 2H), 1.21 (s, 9H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz) δ = 165.1, 155.3, 149.9, 143.1, 137.7, 135.9, 133.6, 131.5, 129.7, 129.1, 126.8, 126.3, 125.6, 124.6, 120.5, 35.0, 30.9 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H]⁺ Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{22}\text{NOS}_2^+$: 368.1137; found: 368.1138.

2-((4-methoxy-2-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3ea)



Brown liquid; yield 52 mg (30%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ = 8.57 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.36–7.24 (m, 6H), 6.92 (dd, J = 6.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz) δ = 162.1, 159.4, 149.9, 137.8, 137.5, 136.5, 134.7, 131.3, 129.3, 127.7, 127.6, 124.5, 120.2, 117.8, 114.6, 55.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H]⁺ Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2\text{S}_2^+$: 342.0617; found: 342.0618.

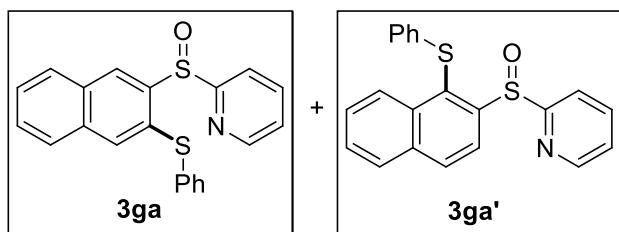
2-((2-methoxy-6-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3fa)



Yellow liquid; yield 28 mg (16%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ = 8.51 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (td, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd, J = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.40–7.32 (m, 3H), 7.30–7.23 (m, 2H), 6.68 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.60 (s, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz) δ = 164.8, 159.3, 149.1, 143.2, 136.6, 133.7, 133.50, 133.48, 130.2, 129.4, 128.3, 123.5, 122.9, 121.6, 110.3, 56.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H]⁺ Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2\text{S}_2^+$: 342.0617; found: 342.0618.

2-((3-(phenylthio)naphthalen-2-yl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3ga) +

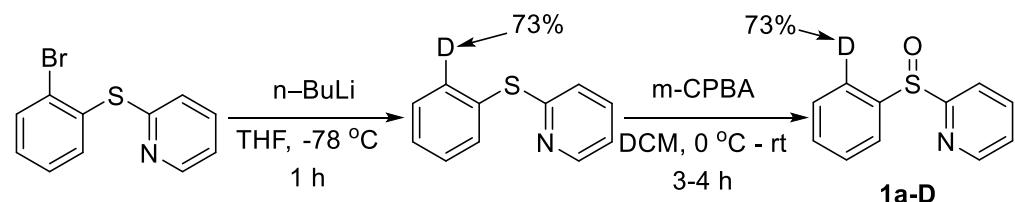
2-((1-(phenylthio)naphthalen-2-yl)sulfinyl)pyridine (3ga')



Yellow solid; yield 76 mg (molar ration of **3ga**:**3ga'** = 1:0.4, calculated by ^{13}C NMR; 42%); mp 130–131 °C. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ = 8.59 (s, 1H), 8.51 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 8.45 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (s, 2H), 8.02–.96 (m, 2H), 7.94–7.88 (m, 3H), 7.76–7.71 (m, 3H), 7.58–7.48 (m, 5H), 7.24–7.17 (m, 5H), 7.13–7.10 (m, 4H), 7.06 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 101 MHz) δ = 165.1, 164.7, 150.0, 148.6, 143.5, 137.7, 136.5, 136.2, 135.3, 135.2, 134.7, 134.3, 132.7, 131.9, 129.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.6, 127.5, 126.8, 126.7, 126.6, 126.5, 125.6, 124.8, 124.6, 121.3, 120.8, 120.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H] $^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{16}\text{NOS}_2^+$: 362.0668; found: 362.0671.

Mechanistic study experiments:

Synthesis of 2-((phenyl-2-d)sulfinyl)pyridine (1a-d)¹⁷

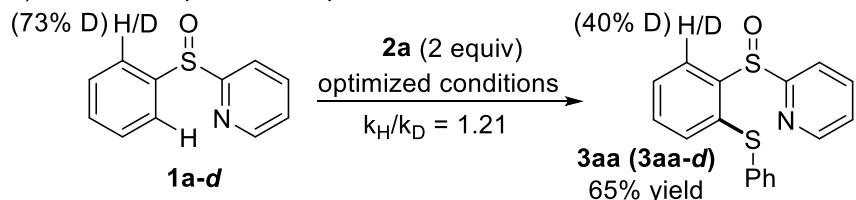


To a solution of 2-[(2-bromophenyl)thio]pyridine (900 mg, 3.37 mmol) in dry THF (10 mL), cooled to -78 °C and under nitrogen atmosphere, was added dropwise a 1.6 M solution of n-BuLi in hexanes (430 mg, 6.74 mmol, 2 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h then quenched with D_2O (7 mL). The reaction was allowed to reach room temperature and stirred for an extra 20 min. The reaction mixture was then diluted with H_2O (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic phase was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography (n-hexane–EtOAc 4:1) gave the deuterated product as a colorless oil; yield: 500 mg (79%). This product was oxidized in

the presence of *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (1 equiv) to give 2-((phenyl-2-d)sulfinyl)pyridine (**1a-d**) as a white solid; yield: 292 mg (55%).

Kinetic Isotope Effect (KIE) Experiment:

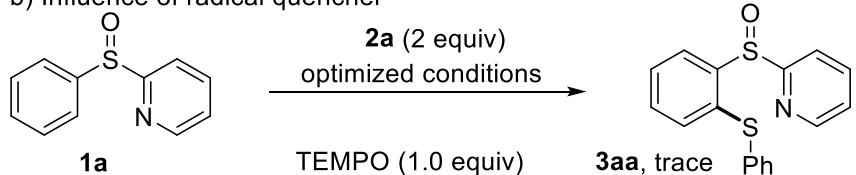
a) Kinetic isotopic effect experiment



The thiolation reaction was performed according to the general procedure, in a oven-dried glass reaction tube, 2-((phenyl-2-d)sulfinyl)pyridine (**1a-d**) (50 mg, 0.25 mmol), phenyl disulfide (**2a**, 110 mg, 0.5 mmol, 2 equiv), Cerium (IV) ammonium nitrate $[(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{Ce}(\text{NO}_3)_6]$ (160 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.2 equiv), and $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (6 mg, 0.03 mmol, 10 mol %) were dissolved in DCM (2.5 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 24 h before it was allowed to reach room temperature. The reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with DCM (3 x 10 mL). The organic layer was separated, dried over Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated under vacuum. The crude residue was purified using column chromatography on silica gel (Hexane/EtOAc = 4/1) to provide 2-((2-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine [**3aa** (**3aa-d**)] as a yellow solid; yield: 60 mg (76%). ^1H NMR (see at NMR spectra section) analysis of the isolated mixture of **3aa** and (**3aa-d**) showed an average of 40% deuterium content at 8.01–7.97 ppm, indicating an intramolecular kinetic isotopic effect ($k_{\text{H}}/k_{\text{D}}$) of 1.21.

Reaction with TEMPO:

b) Influence of radical quencher

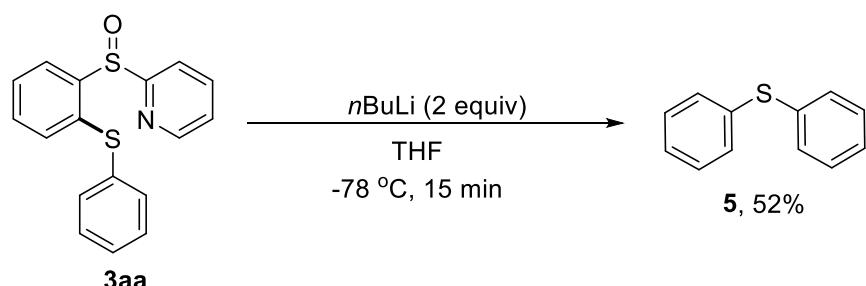


Deuterium Scrambling Experiment:

The thiolation reaction was performed according to the general procedure, in an oven-dried glass reaction tubes was charged with aryl 2-pyridyl sulfoxide (1a, 50 mg, 0.25 mmol), Cerium (IV) ammonium nitrate $[(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{Ce}(\text{NO}_3)_6]$ (160 mg, 0.37 mmol, 1.2 equiv), and

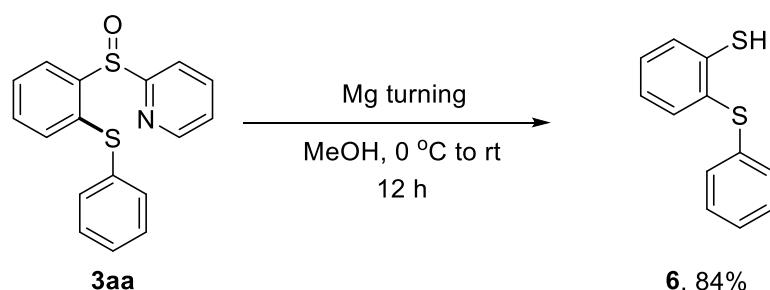
Pd(OAc)₂ (6 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol %), DCM (2.5 mL) and then D₂O (0.02 mL, 1.25 mmol, 5 equiv) was added under atmospheric air. The reaction tube was closed with a screw cap. Later, the reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 24 h before it was allowed to reach room temperature. The reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with DCM (3 x 5 mL). The organic layer was separated, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under vacuum. The ¹H NMR analysis of the reaction mixture indicated that no incorporation in **1a**.

Diphenylsulfane (**5**)⁵



To a solution of 2-((2-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (**3aa**) (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) in dry THF (3.5 mL), cooled at –78 °C under nitrogen atmosphere, was added a 1.6 M solution of BuLi in hexane (0.4 mL, 0.64 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at –78 °C for 15 min before a saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl was added. The two phases were separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (2 x 5 mL). The combined organic phase was dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography (hexane) to give diphenylsulfane (**5**) as colourless oil; yield: 30 mg (52%).

2-(phenylthio)benzenethiol (**6**)⁵

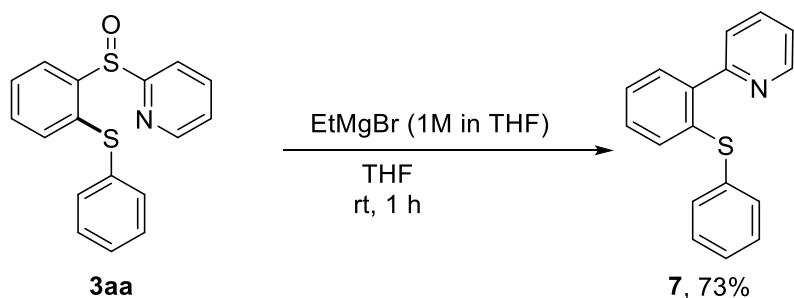


A suspension of the 2-((2-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (**3aa**) (156 mg, 0.5 mmol) and Mg (243 mg, 10 mmol) in MeOH (5 mL) was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h, and then at room temperature until consumption of the starting material (monitored by TLC monitoring). The

mixture was diluted with EtOAc (10 mL) and filtered through Celite. The filtrate was successively washed with aqueous saturated solution of NaHCO₃ (10 mL) and brine (10 mL), then dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography to give the 2-(phenylthio)benzenethiol (**6**).

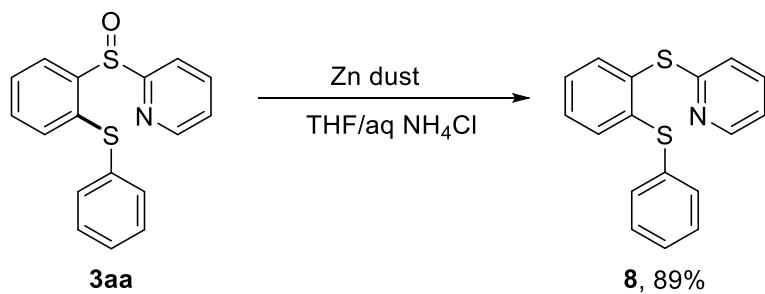
White solid; yield 92 mg (84%); mp 120–121 °C. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ = 7.49 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.20 (m, 4H), 7.16 (td, J = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ = 140.4, 135.8, 135.0, 131.6, 129.34, 129.29, 129.2, 127.0, 126.6, 126.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H]⁺ Calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{S}_2^+$: 219.0297; found: 219.0298.

2-(2-(phenylthio)phenyl)pyridine (7)¹⁶



To a solution of the 2-((2-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (**3aa**) (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added EtMgBr (47 mg, 1.1 equiv) drop wise. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h before cautiously adding sat. aq. NH₄Cl (10 mL) and extracting with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (MgSO₄) before concentrating under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) to give 2-(2-(phenylthio)phenyl)pyridine (**7**) as yellow liquid; yield: 62 mg (73%).

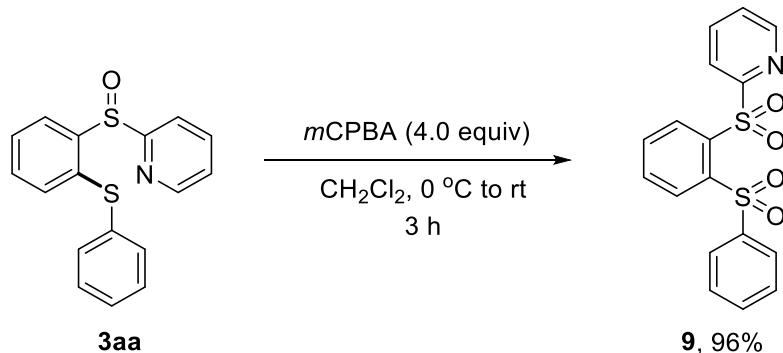
2-((2-(phenylthio)phenyl)thio)pyridine (8)⁵



A suspension of 2-((2-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (**3aa**) (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) and Zn dust (775 mg, 74 equiv, 11.84 mmol) in a 1:1 mixture of THF/sat. aq NH₄Cl (5 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The mixture was diluted with EtOAc (5 mL) and filtered through a pad of Celite. The filtrate was washed with sat. aq solution of NaCl, dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 9:1) to give 2-((2-(phenylthio)phenyl)thio)pyridine (**8**).

Yellow solid; yield 42 mg (89%); mp 77–78 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ = 8.45 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.44–7.42 (m, 2H), 7.38–7.33 (m, 3H), 7.24 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.04–7.00 (m, 2H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H) ppm. ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz) δ = 160.1, 149.7, 144.3, 136.7, 136.6, 133.8, 133.3, 130.0, 129.6, 129.5, 129.3, 128.3, 126.6, 121.4, 120.1 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (*m/z*): [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₄NS₂⁺: 296.0562; found: 296.0561.

2-((2-(phenylsulfonyl)phenyl)sulfonyl)pyridine (**9**)⁴



To a solution of 2-((2-(phenylthio)phenyl)sulfinyl)pyridine (**3aa**) (35 mg, 0.11 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 0 °C, was added *m*CPBA (77% wt, 80 mg, 0.44 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h, during which time the temperature was slowly allowed to raise from 0 °C to room temperature. Then, saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO₃ was added and stirred for 30 minutes. Extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 20 mL), the organic layer was separated, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography (hexane:EtOAc 7:3) to give the 2-((2-(phenylsulfonyl)phenyl)sulfonyl)pyridine (**9**).

Colourless solid; yield 38 mg (96%); mp 194–195 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz) δ = 8.67 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.53 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 8.32 (d, *J* =

8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.01–7.98 (m, 3H), 7.90–7.85 (m, 2H), 7.60–7.57 (m, 1H), 7.53–7.46 (m, 3H) ppm. ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ = 159.6, 149.3, 141.4, 140.7, 137.61, 137.59, 134.5, 134.2, 133.7, 133.4, 132.9, 128.8, 128.2, 126.8, 121.9 ppm. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): [M+H]⁺ Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_4\text{S}_2^+$: 360.0359; found: 360.0358.

X-ray Crystallographic Analysis

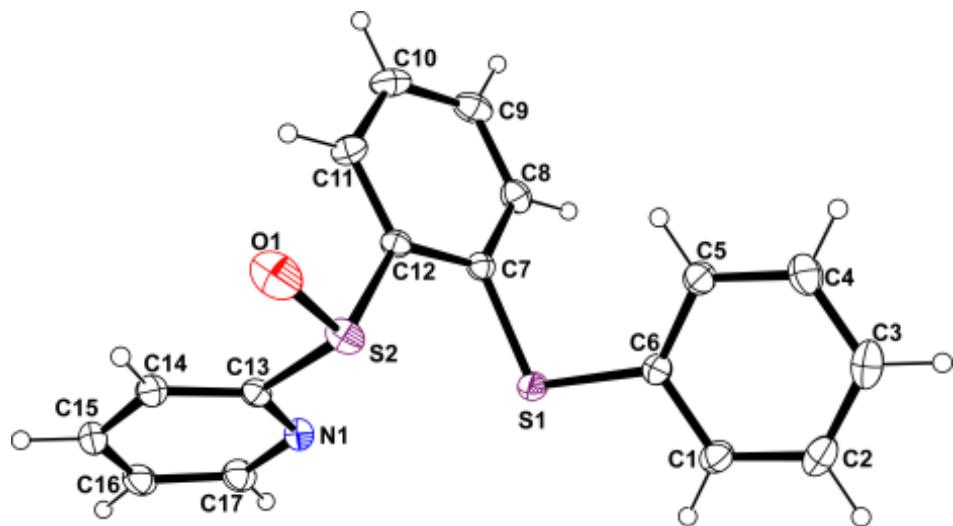


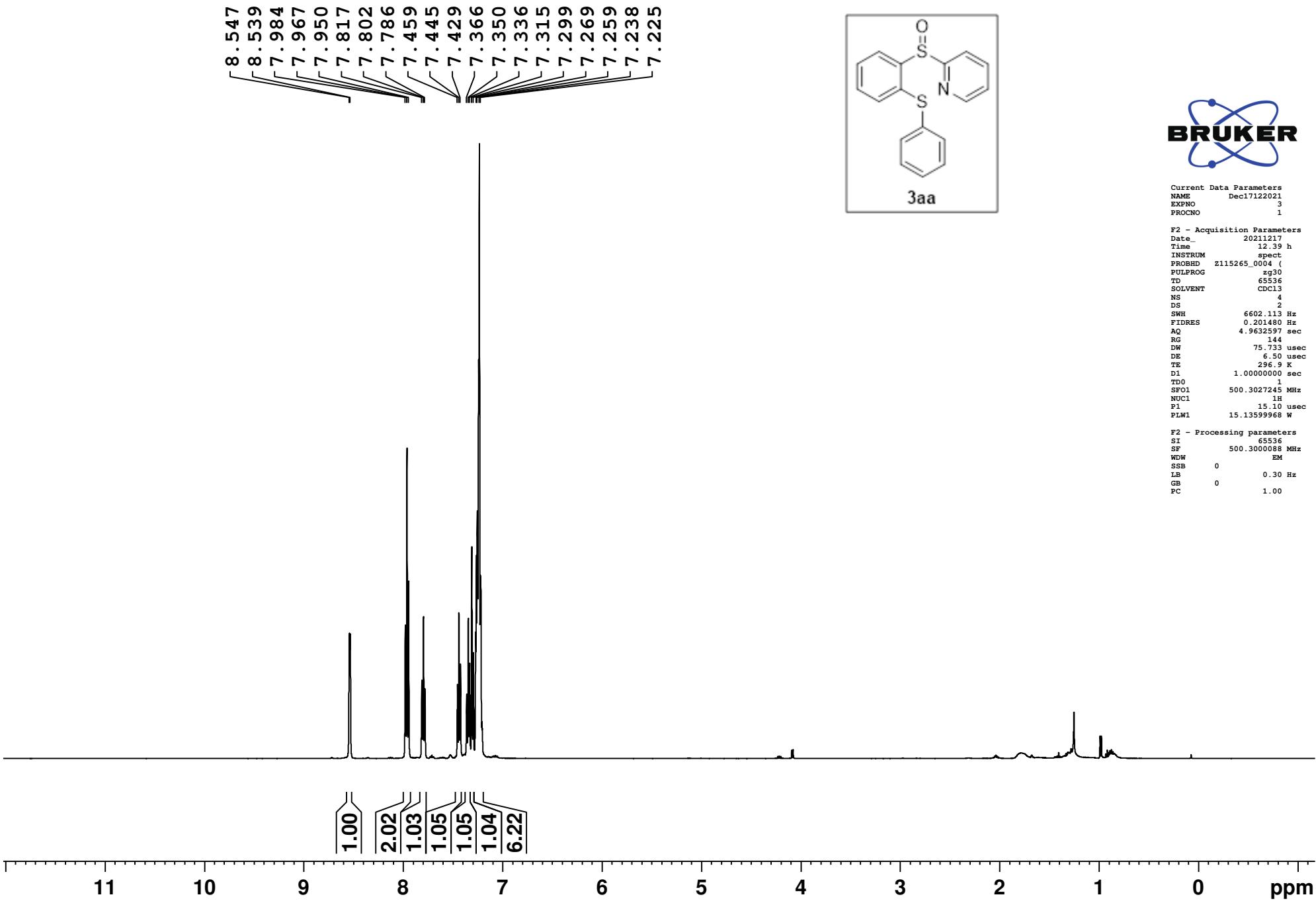
Figure S1. Molecular structure of compound **3aa** thermal ellipsoids is set at 30% probability and hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity.

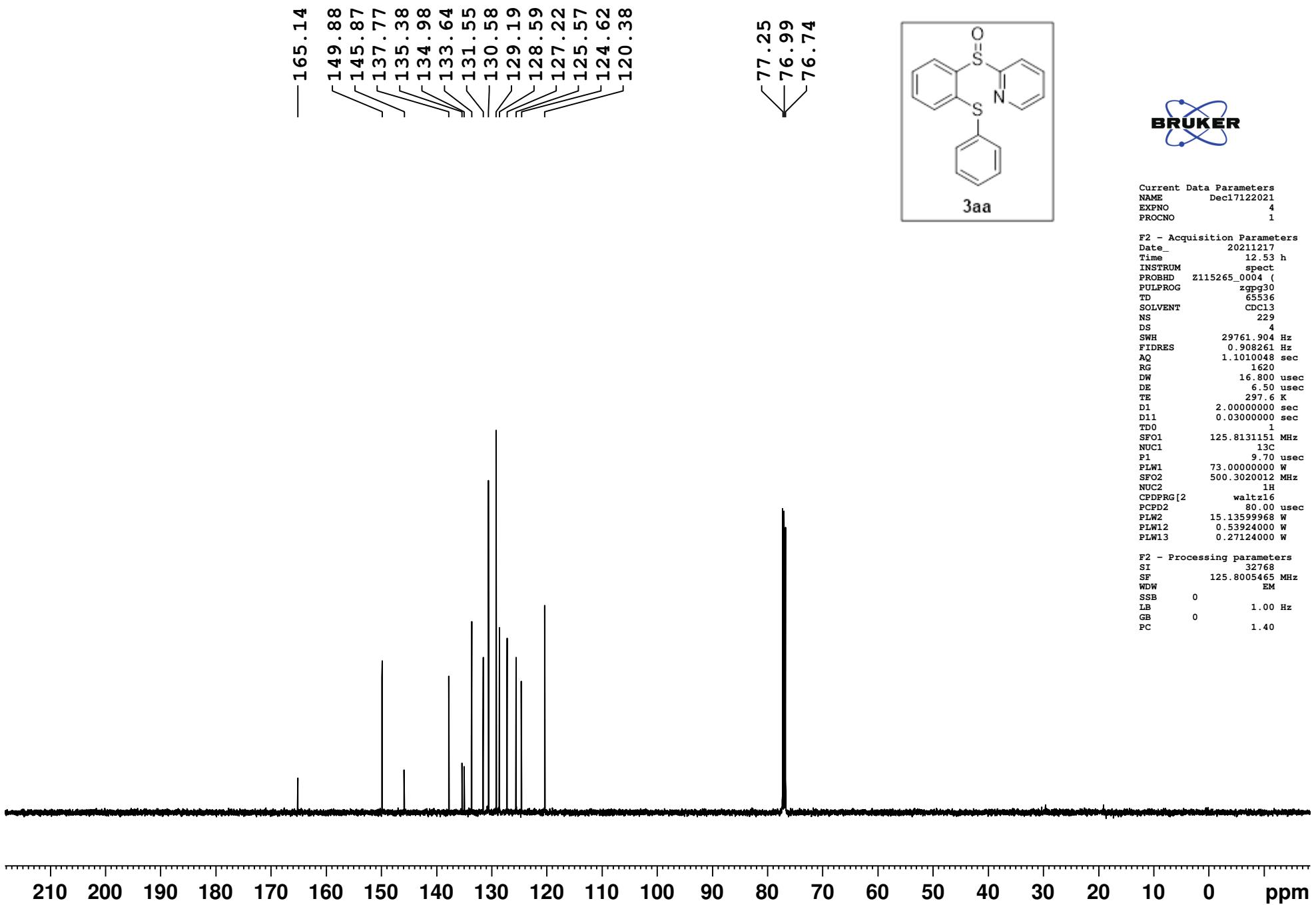
Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinements for **3aa**.

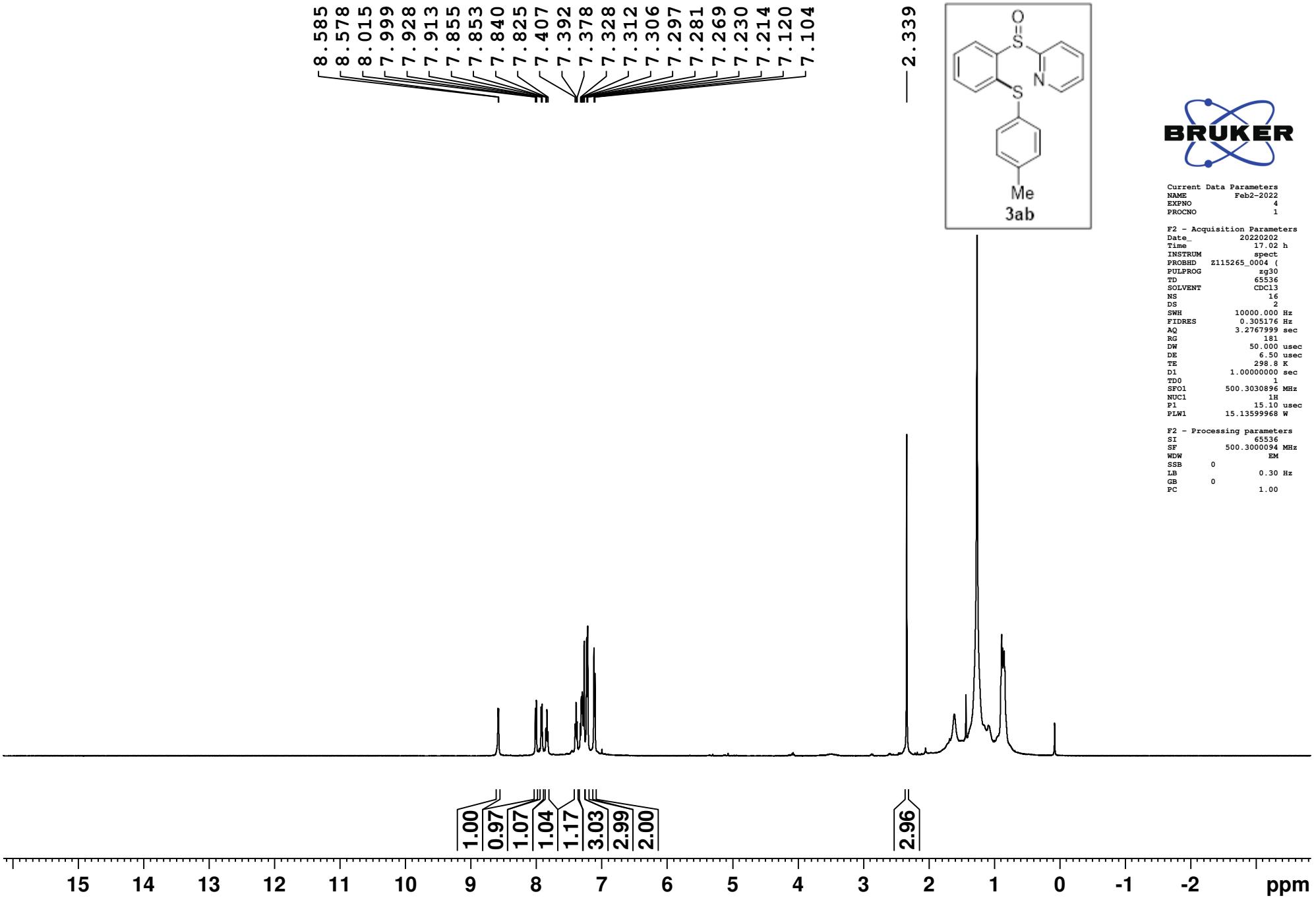
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<i>b</i>	7.1655(9) Å
<i>c</i>	14.941(2) Å
α	90°
β	96.041(5)°
γ	90°
Volume	1487.7(4) Å ³
<i>Z</i>	4
Density (calcd.)	1.390 Mg/m ³
Completeness	0.998
GOF (all data)	1.080
<i>R</i> ₁ (<i>I</i> >2 <i>σ</i> (<i>I</i>))	0.0366
<i>wR</i> ₂ (all data)	0.1006
CCDC No.	2166274

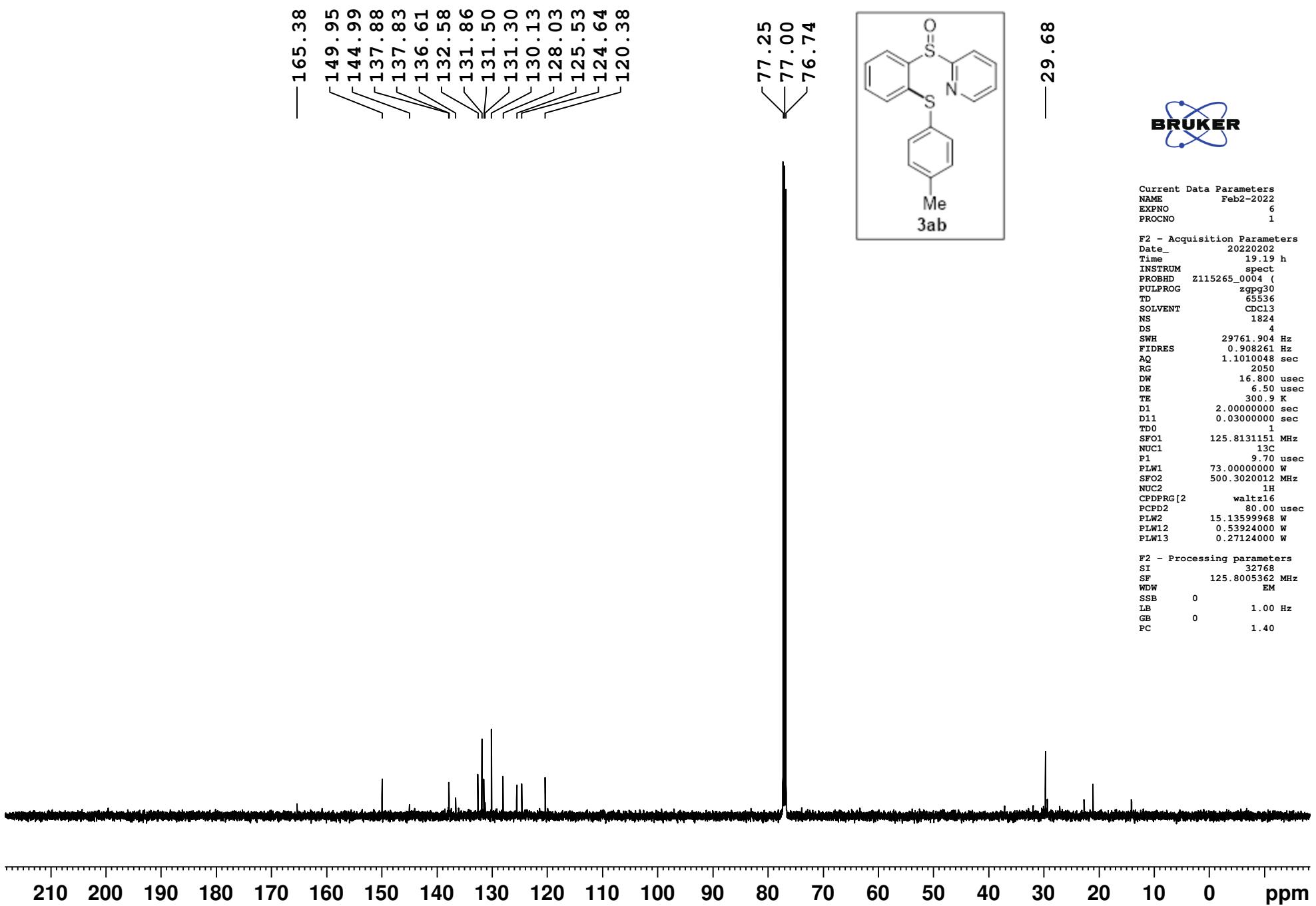
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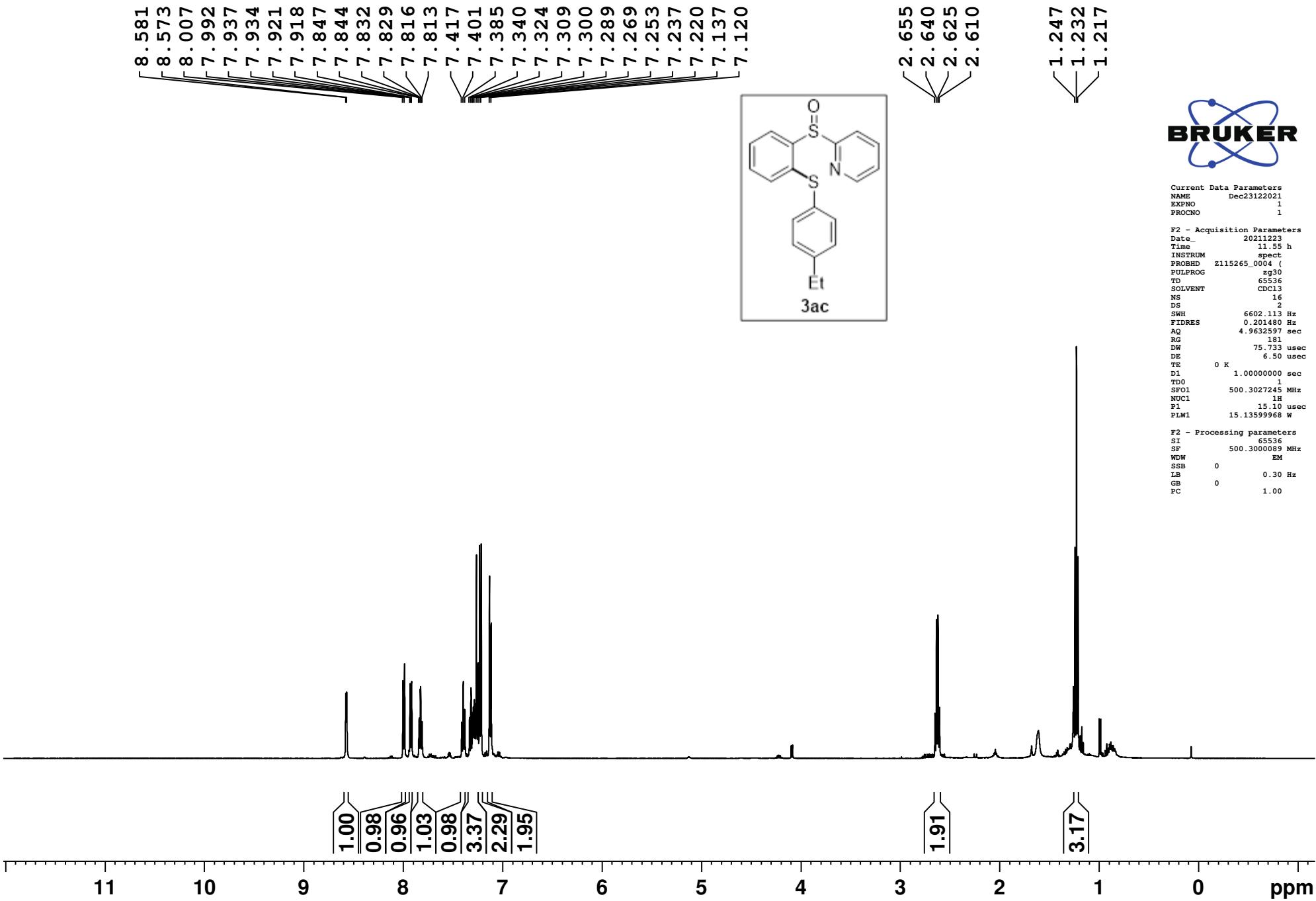
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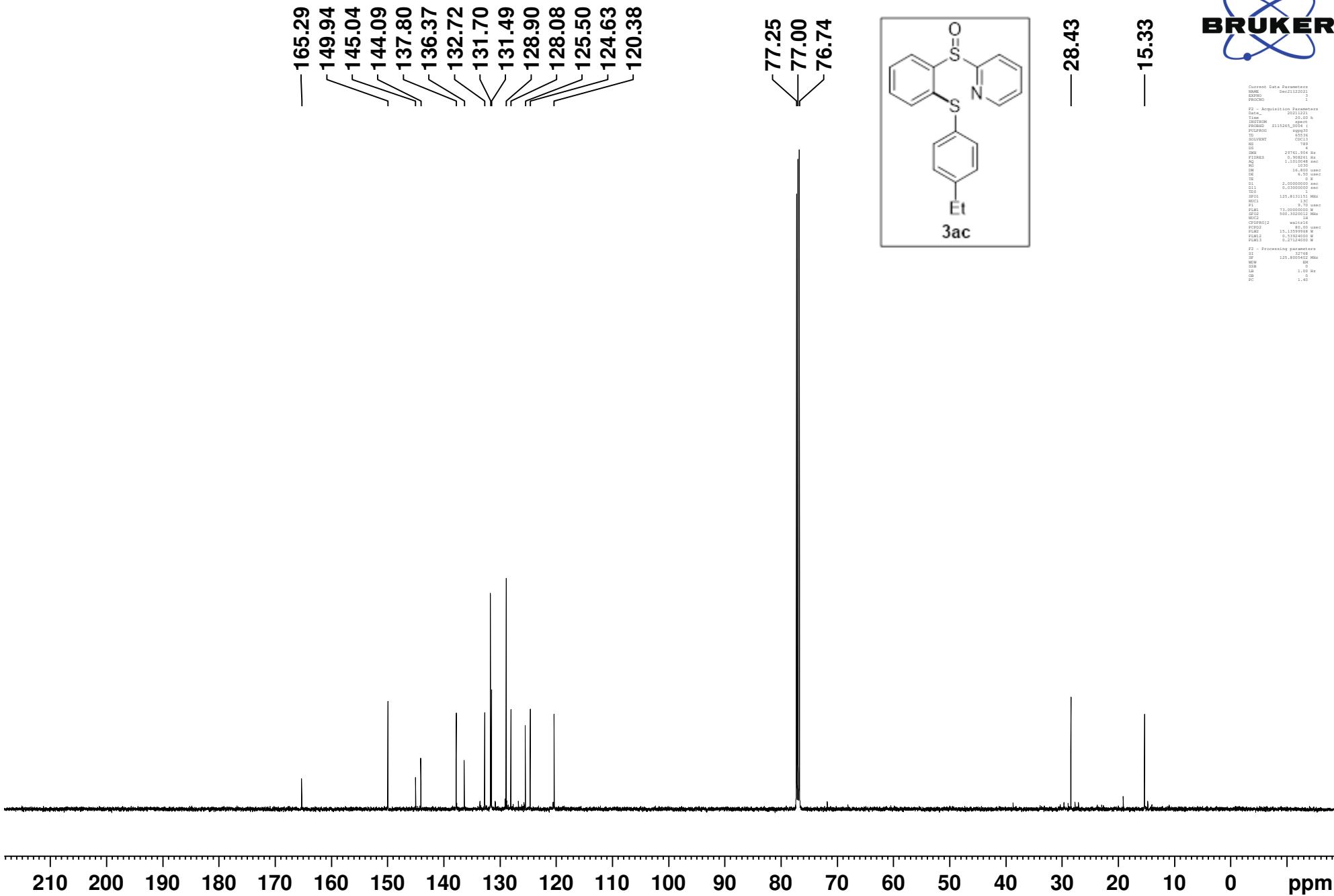








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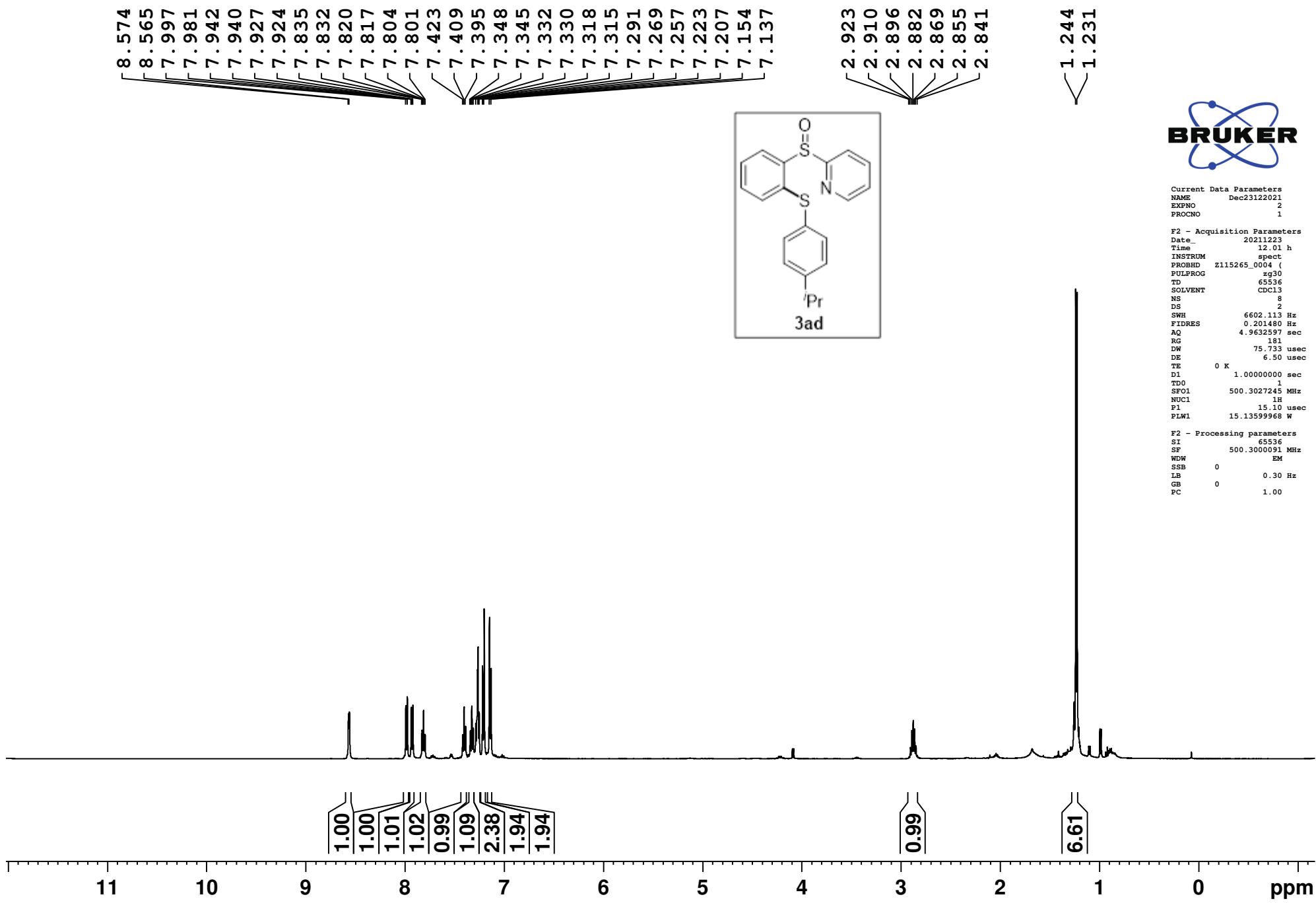
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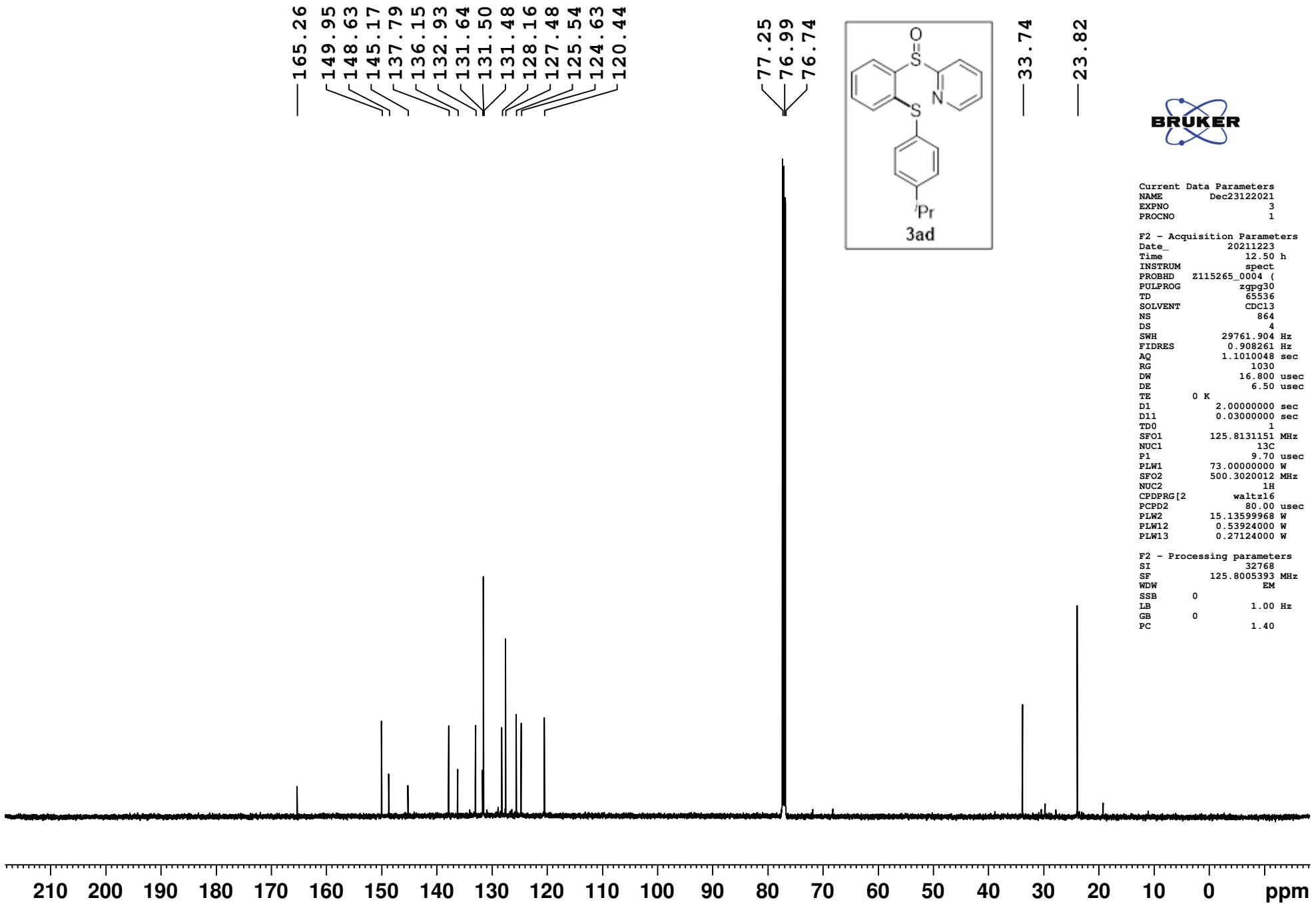
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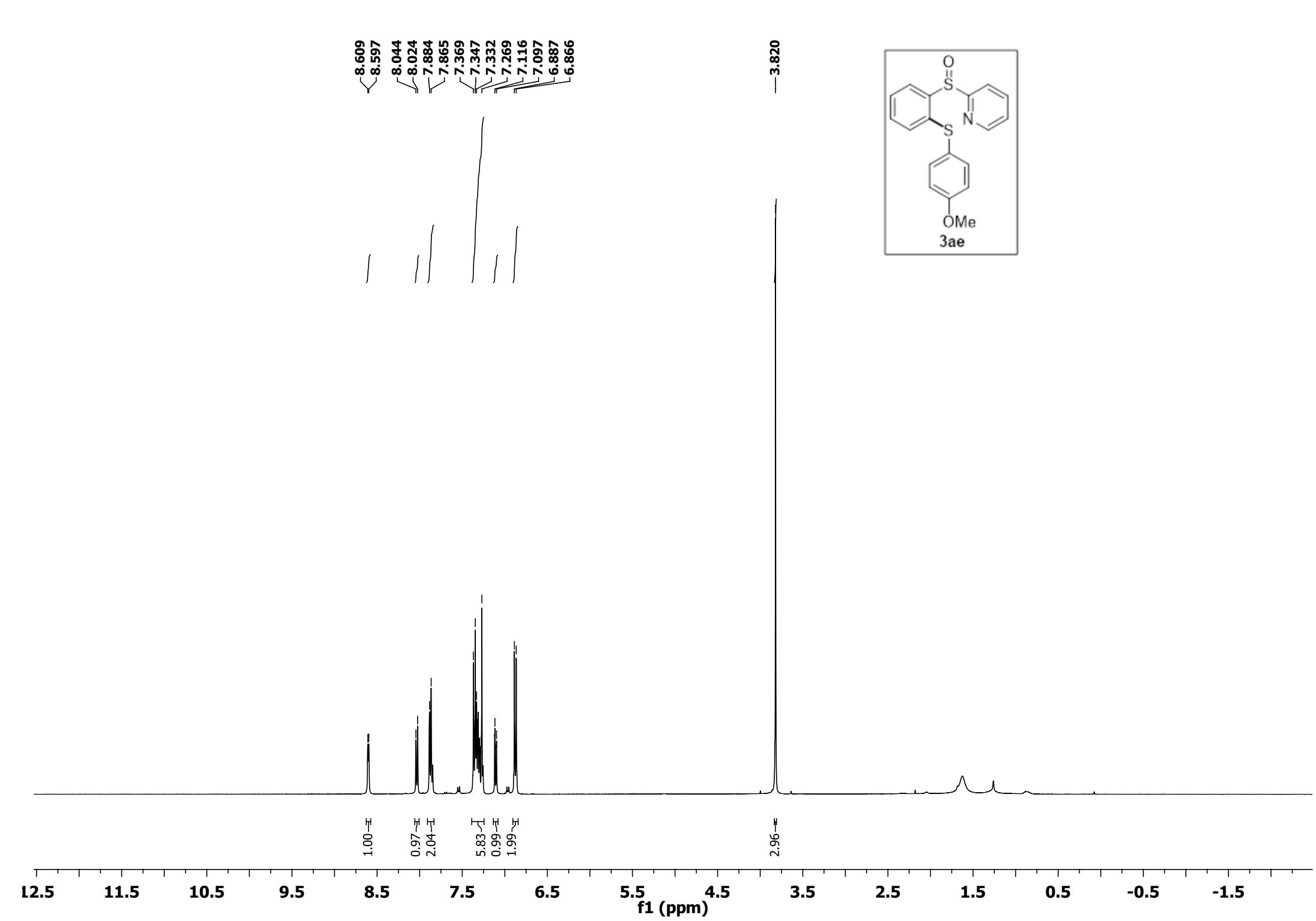
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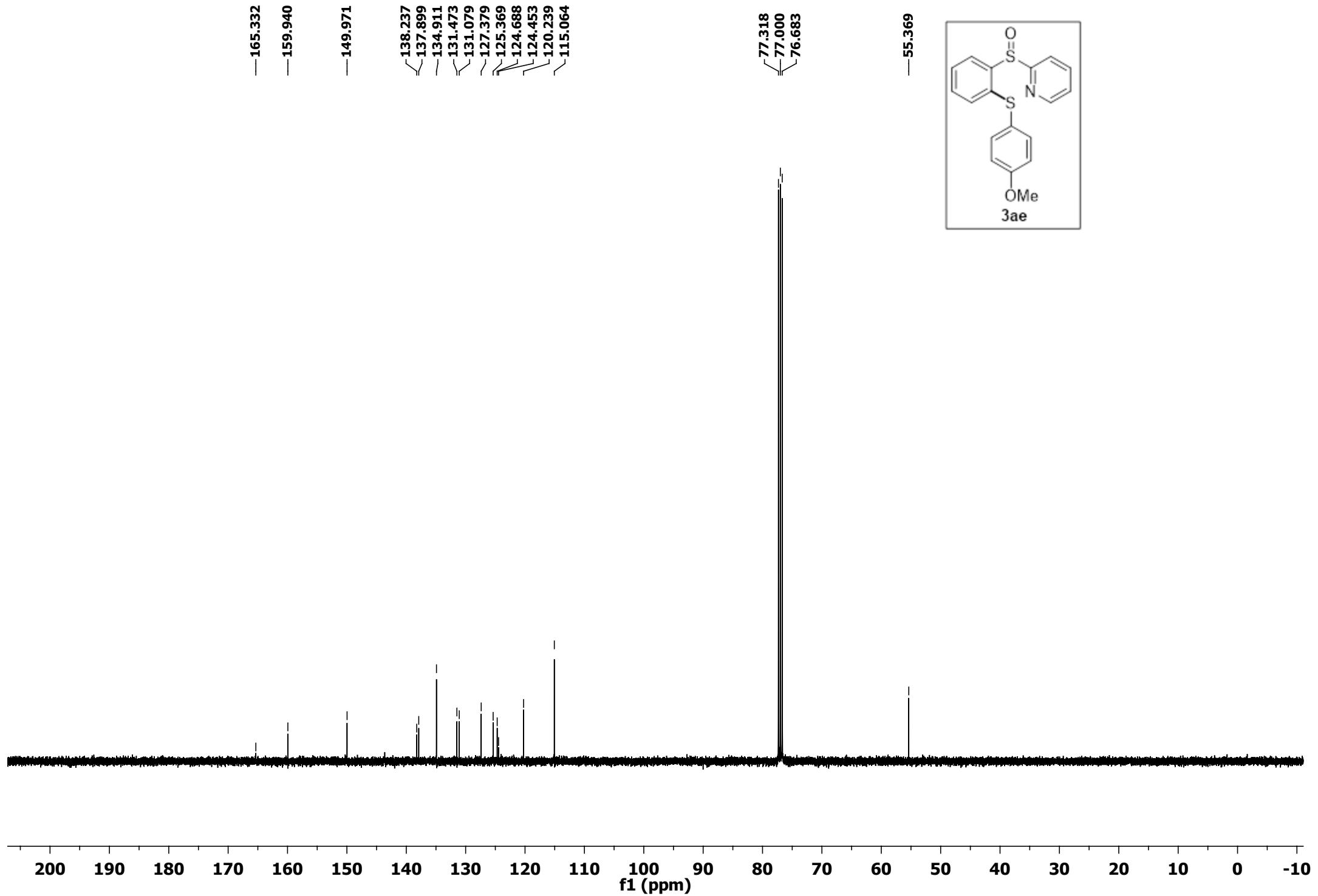
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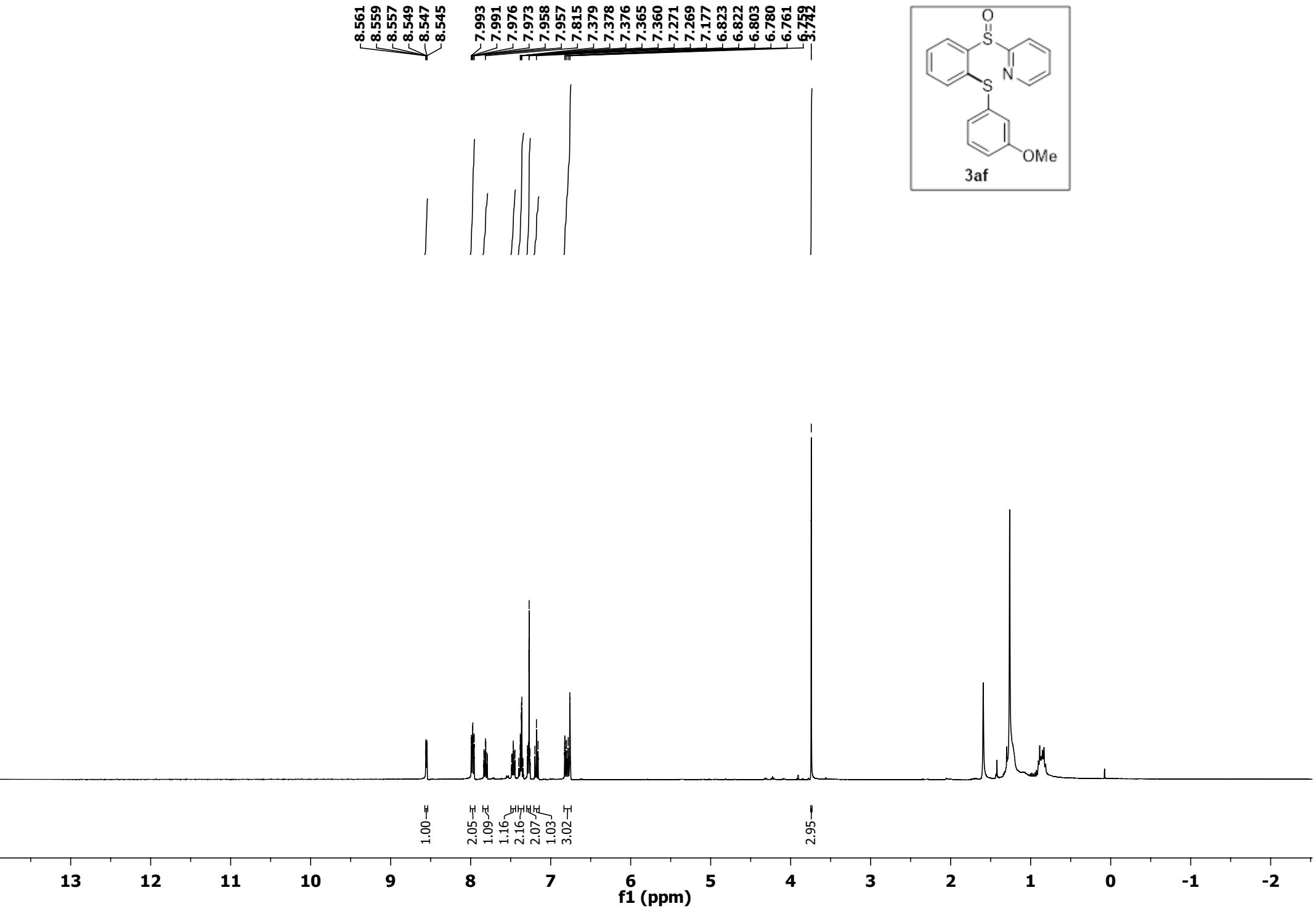
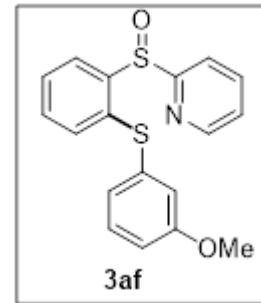
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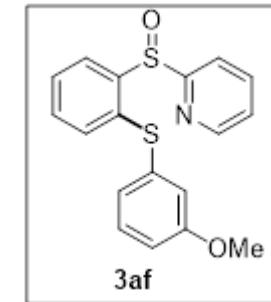
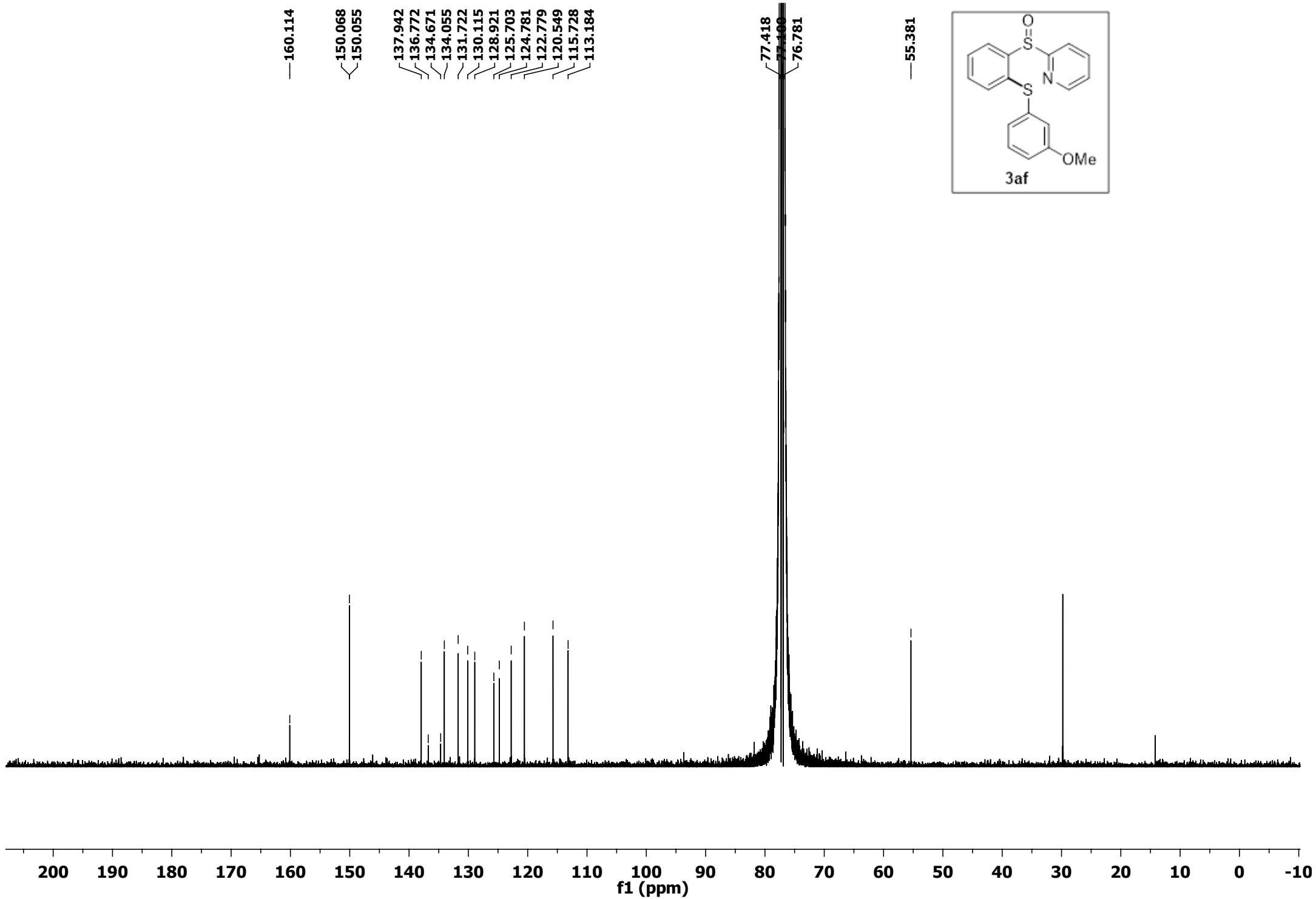
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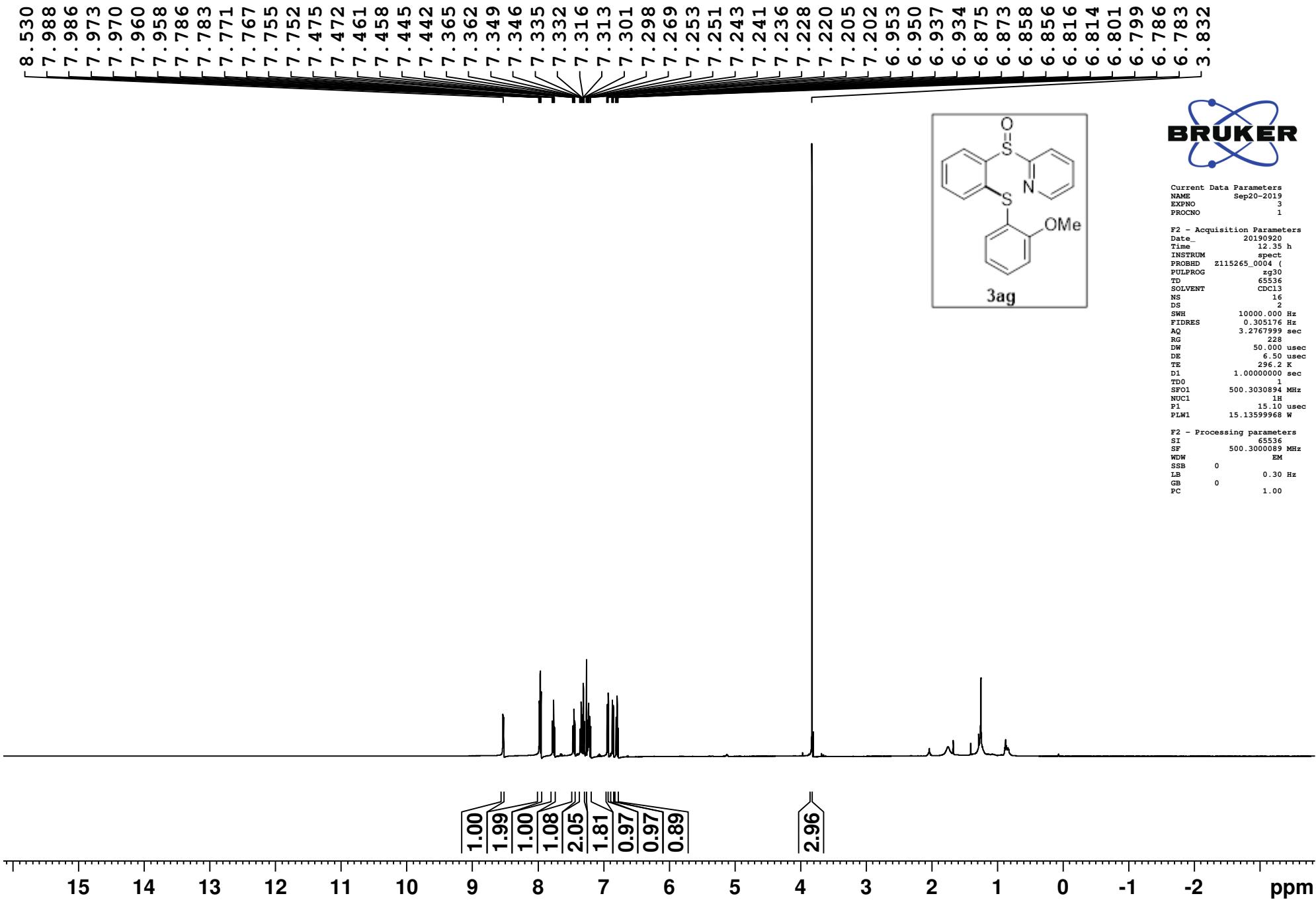




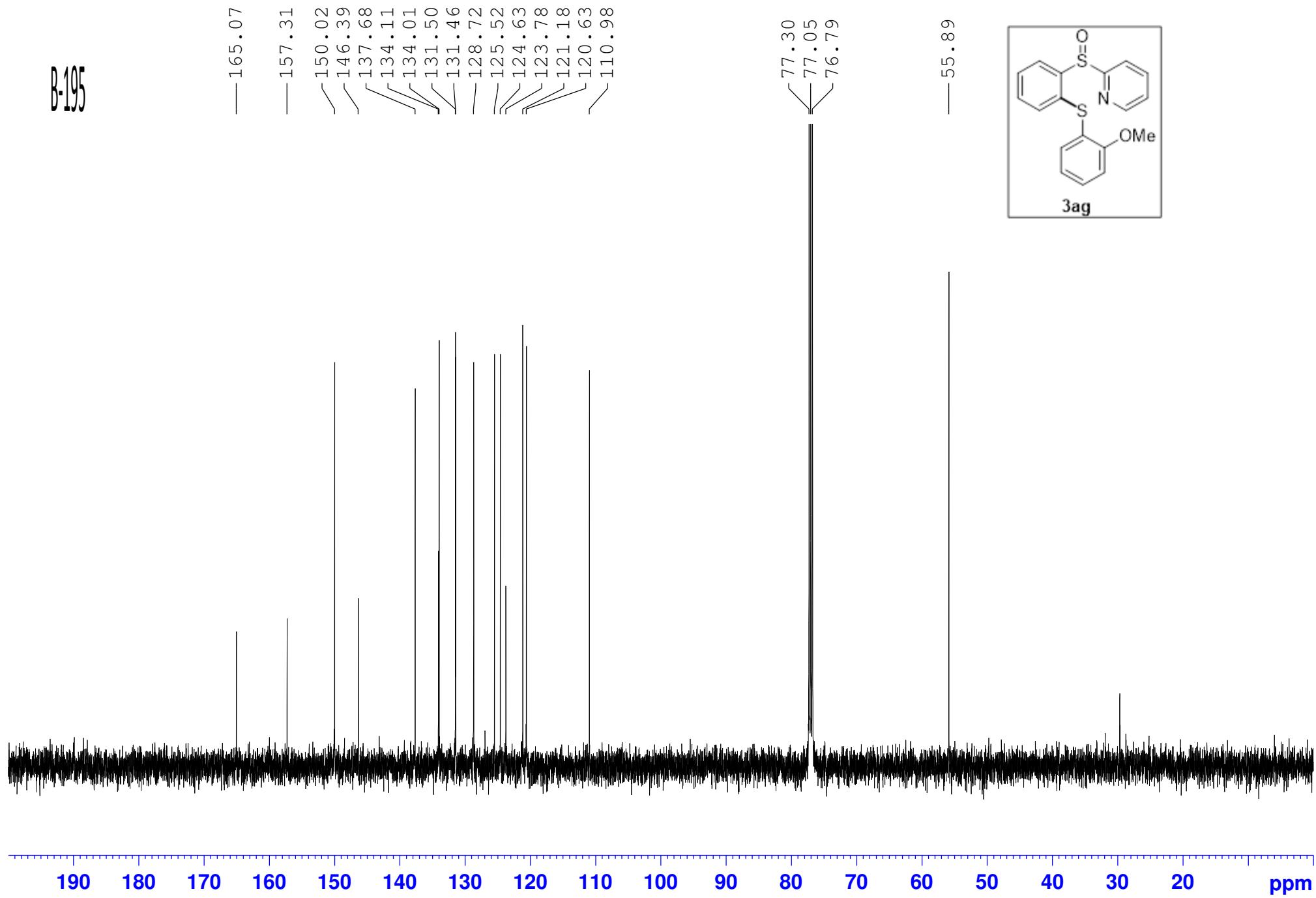


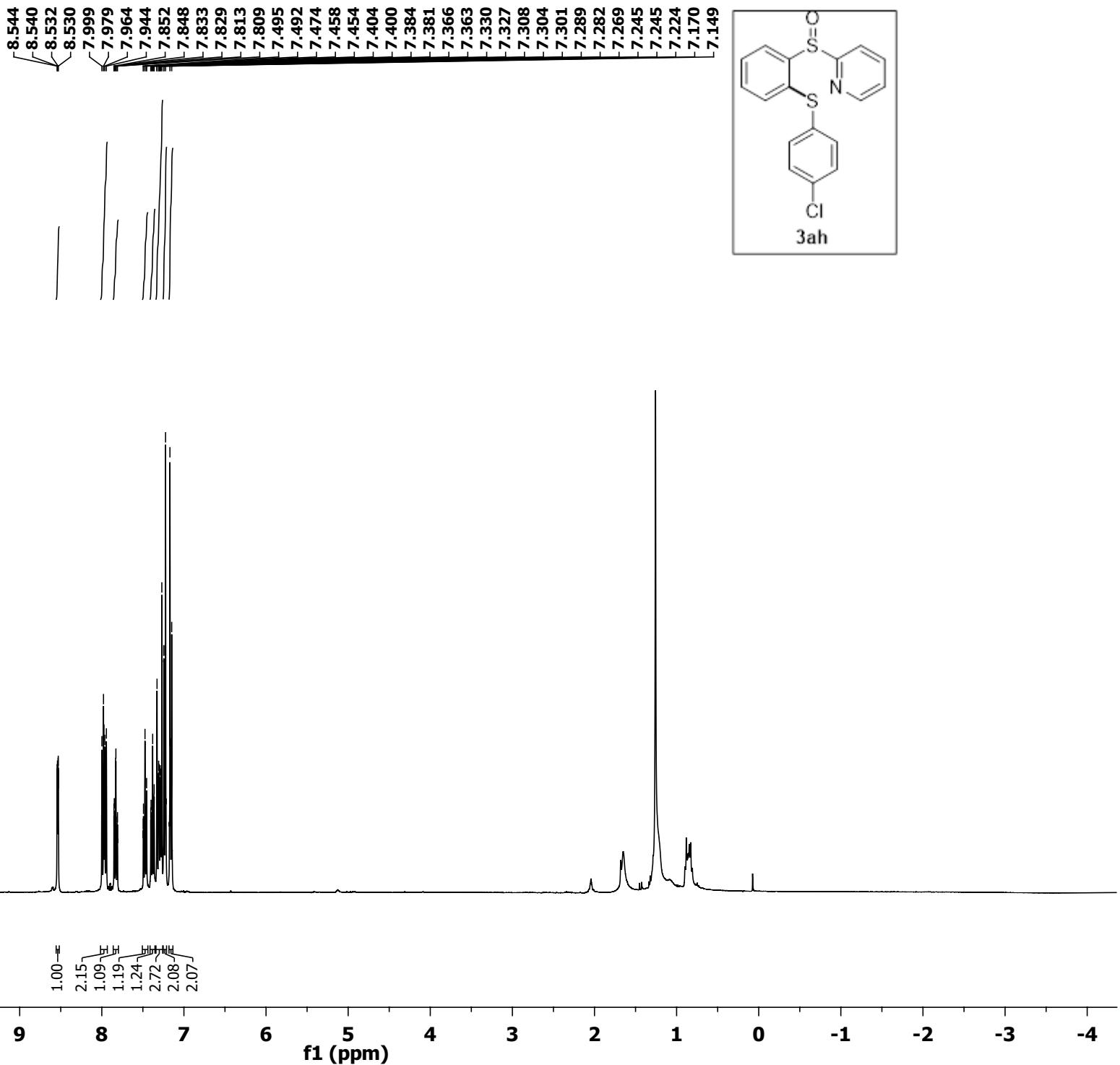


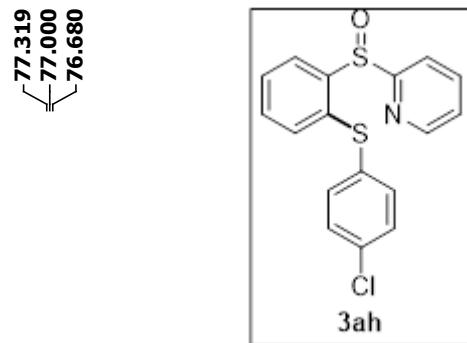
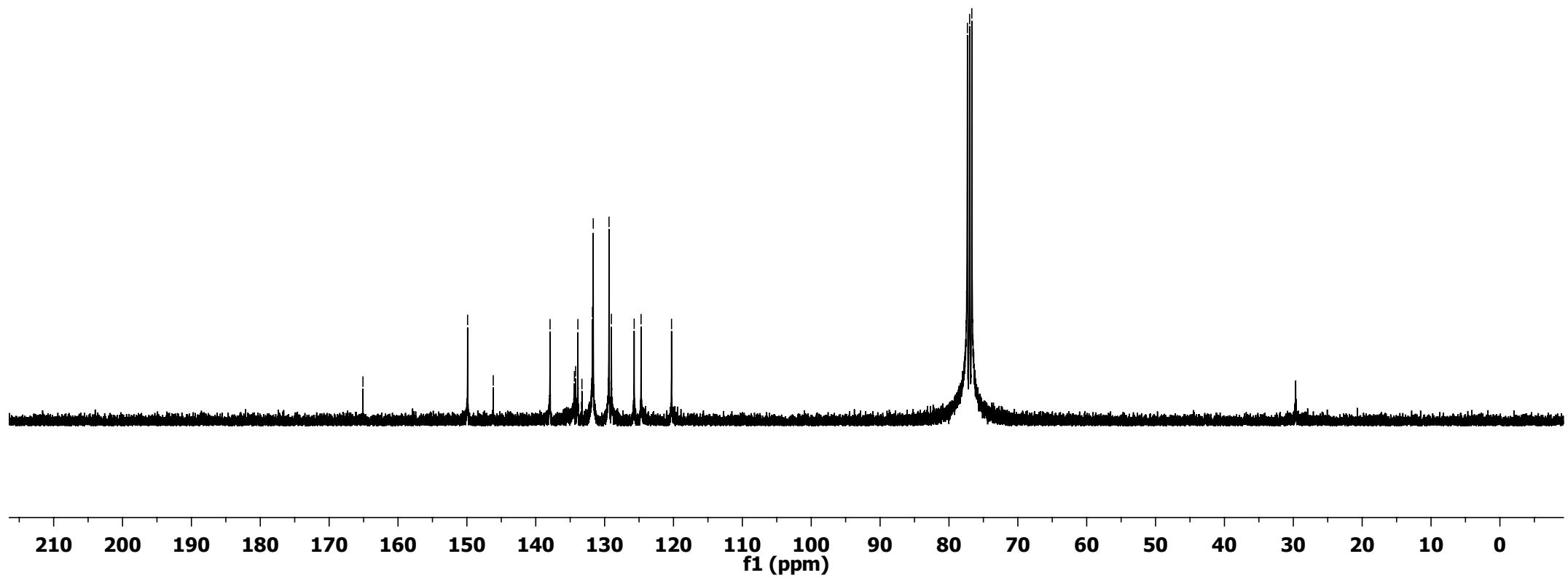


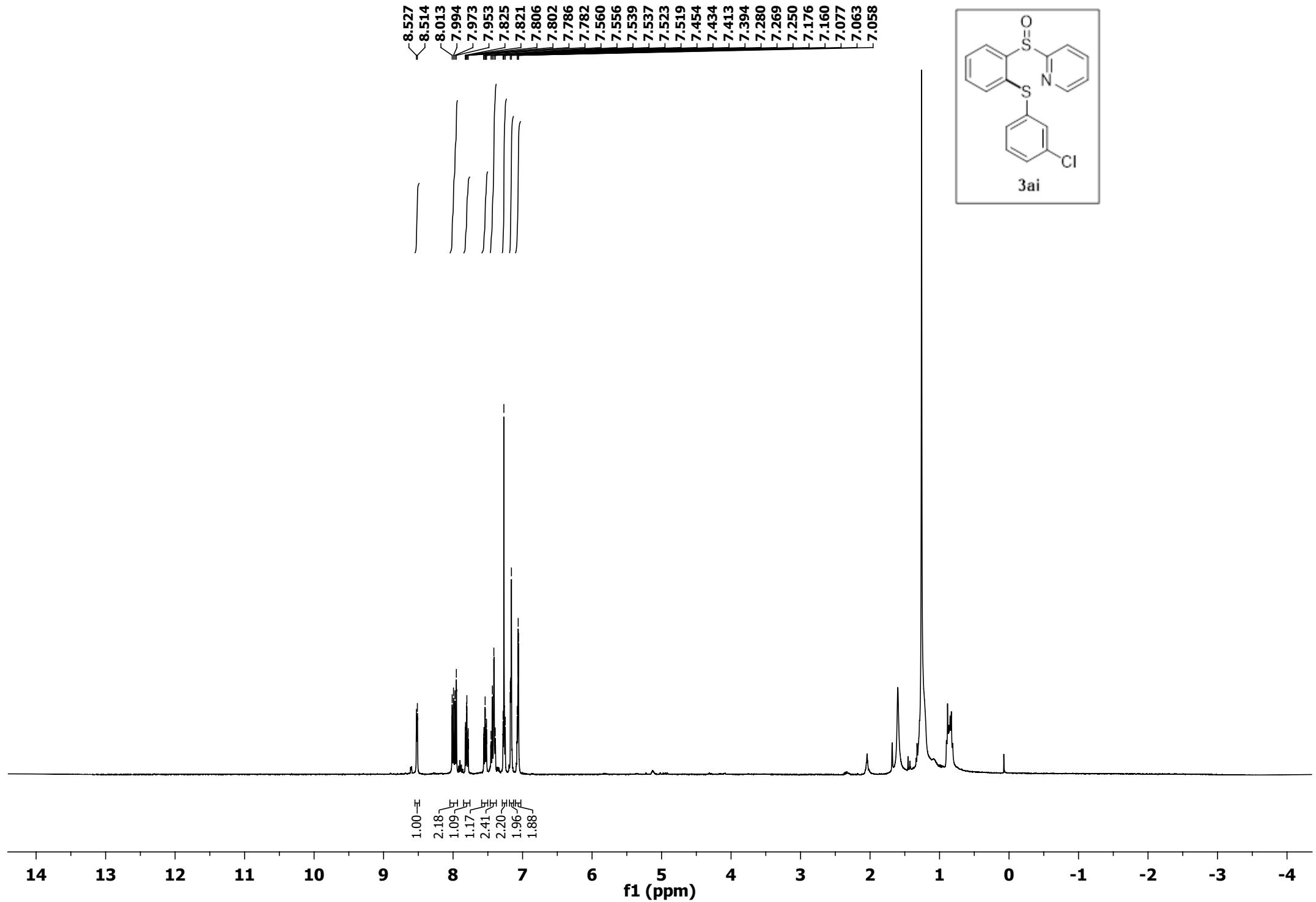


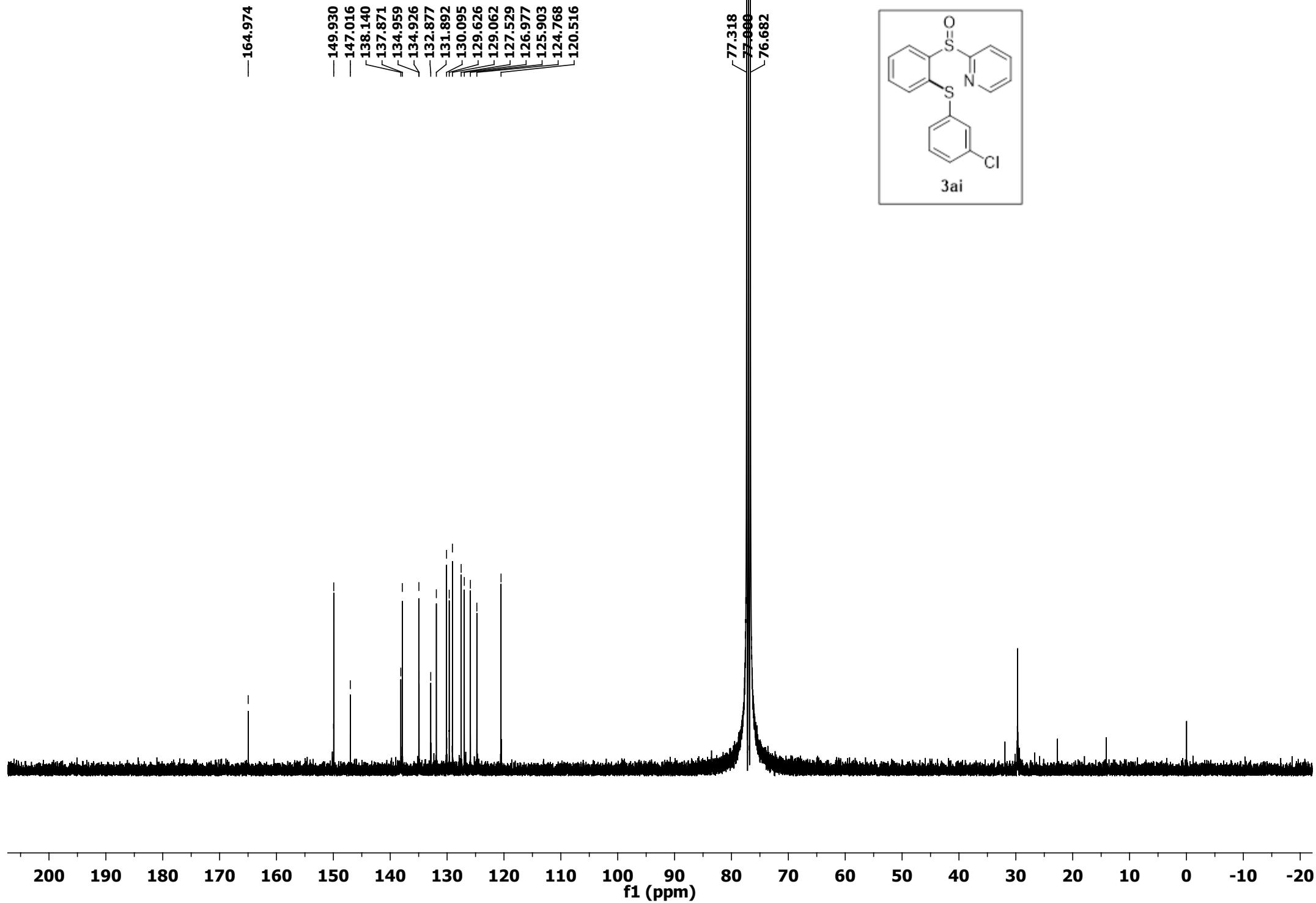
B-195

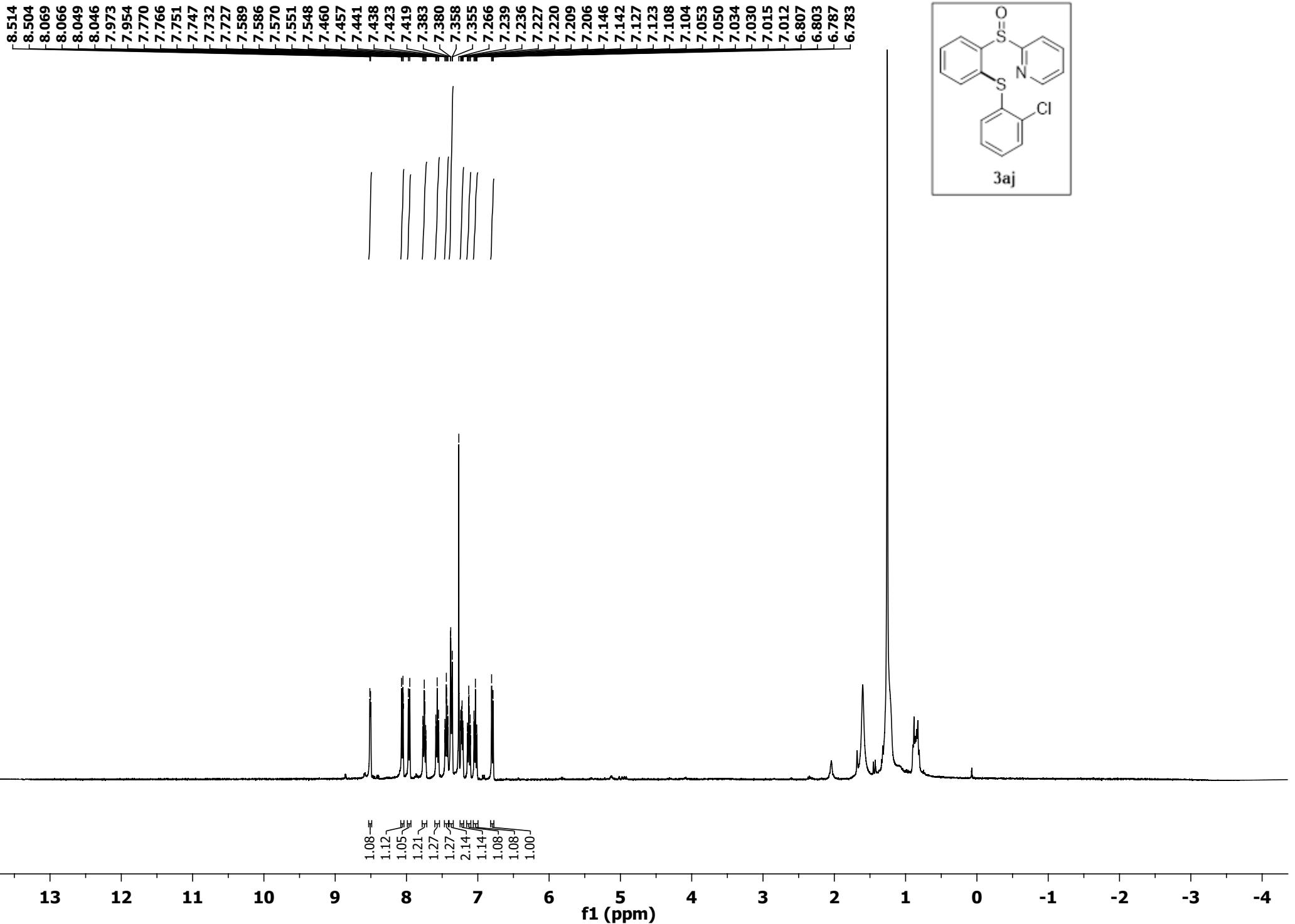


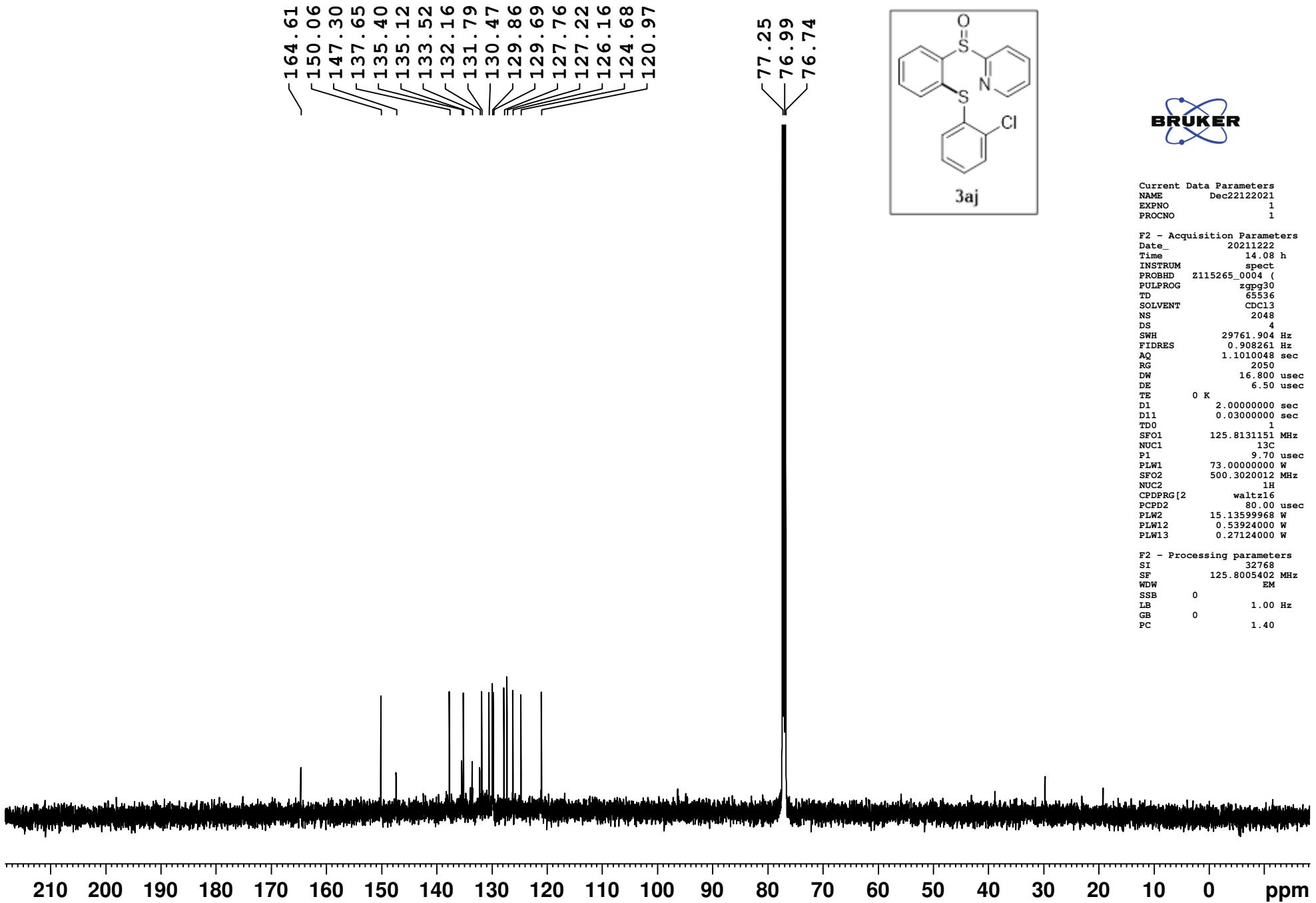


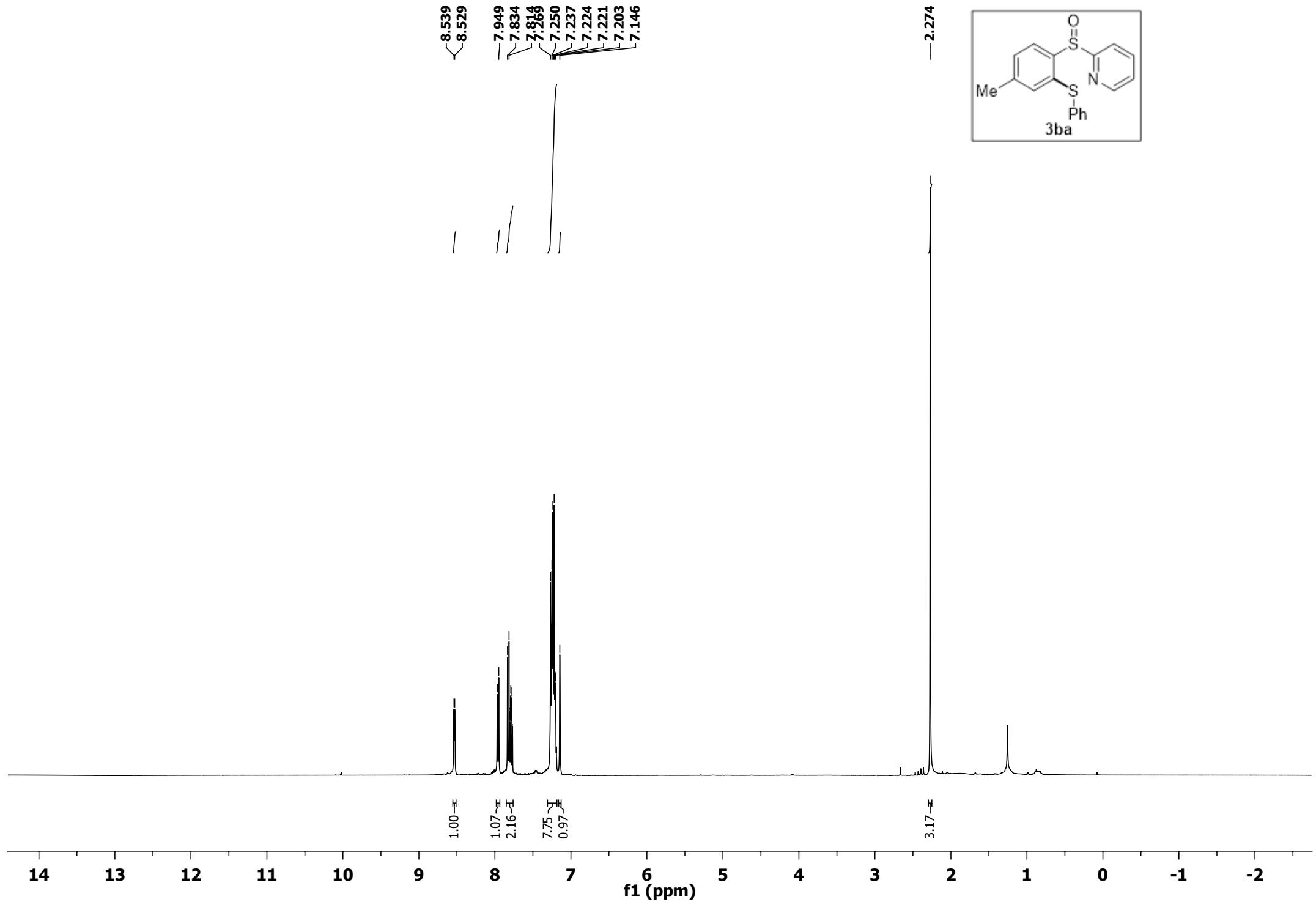


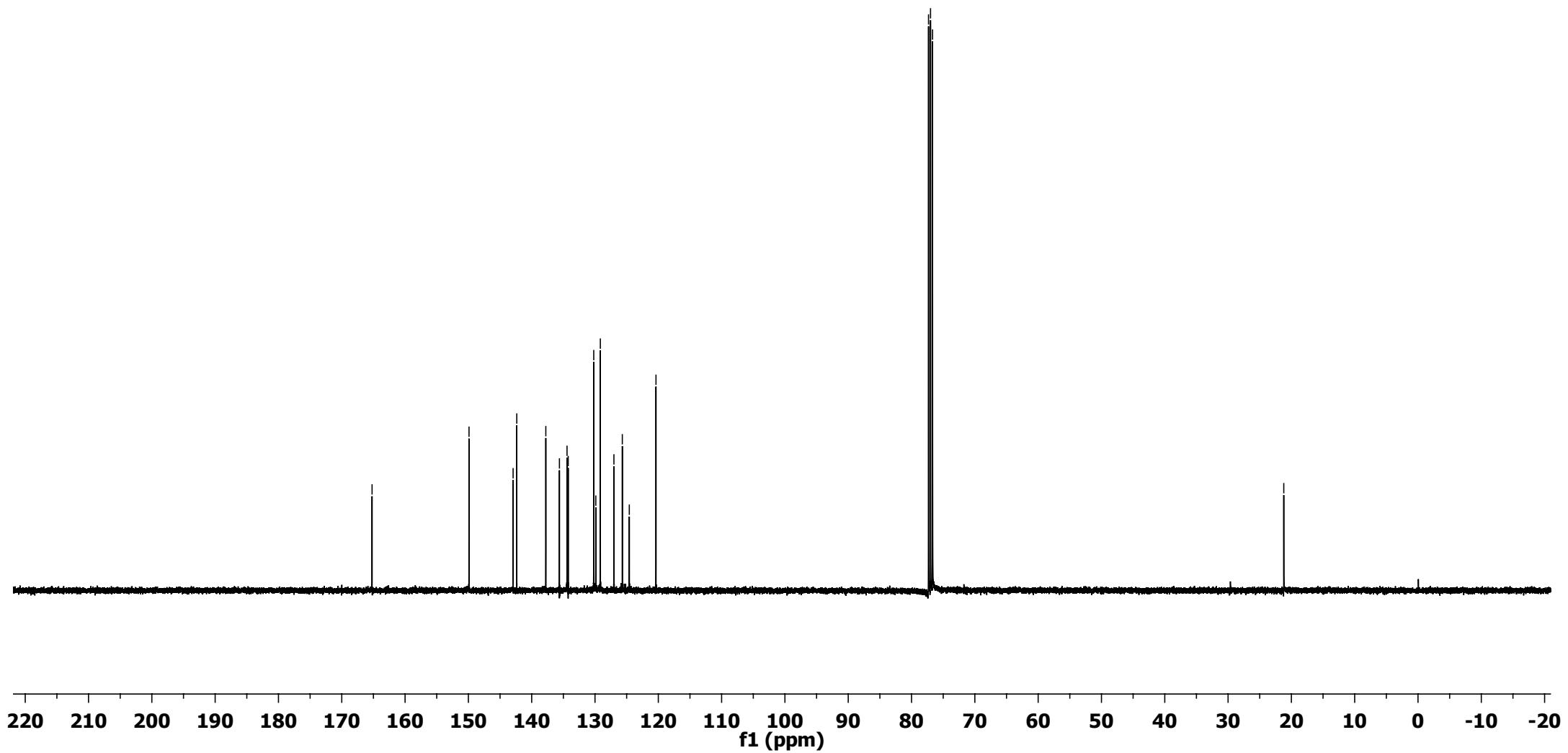


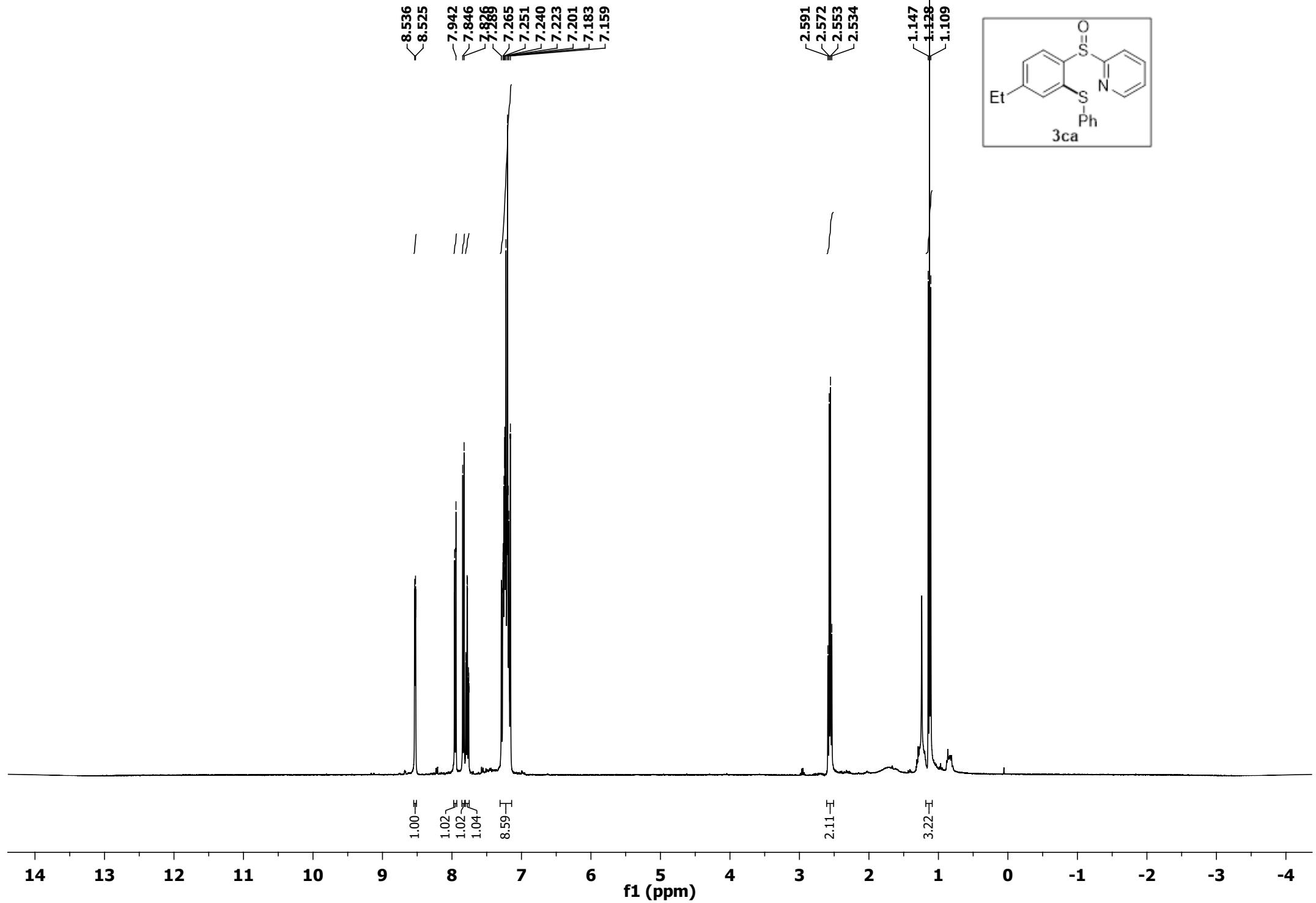


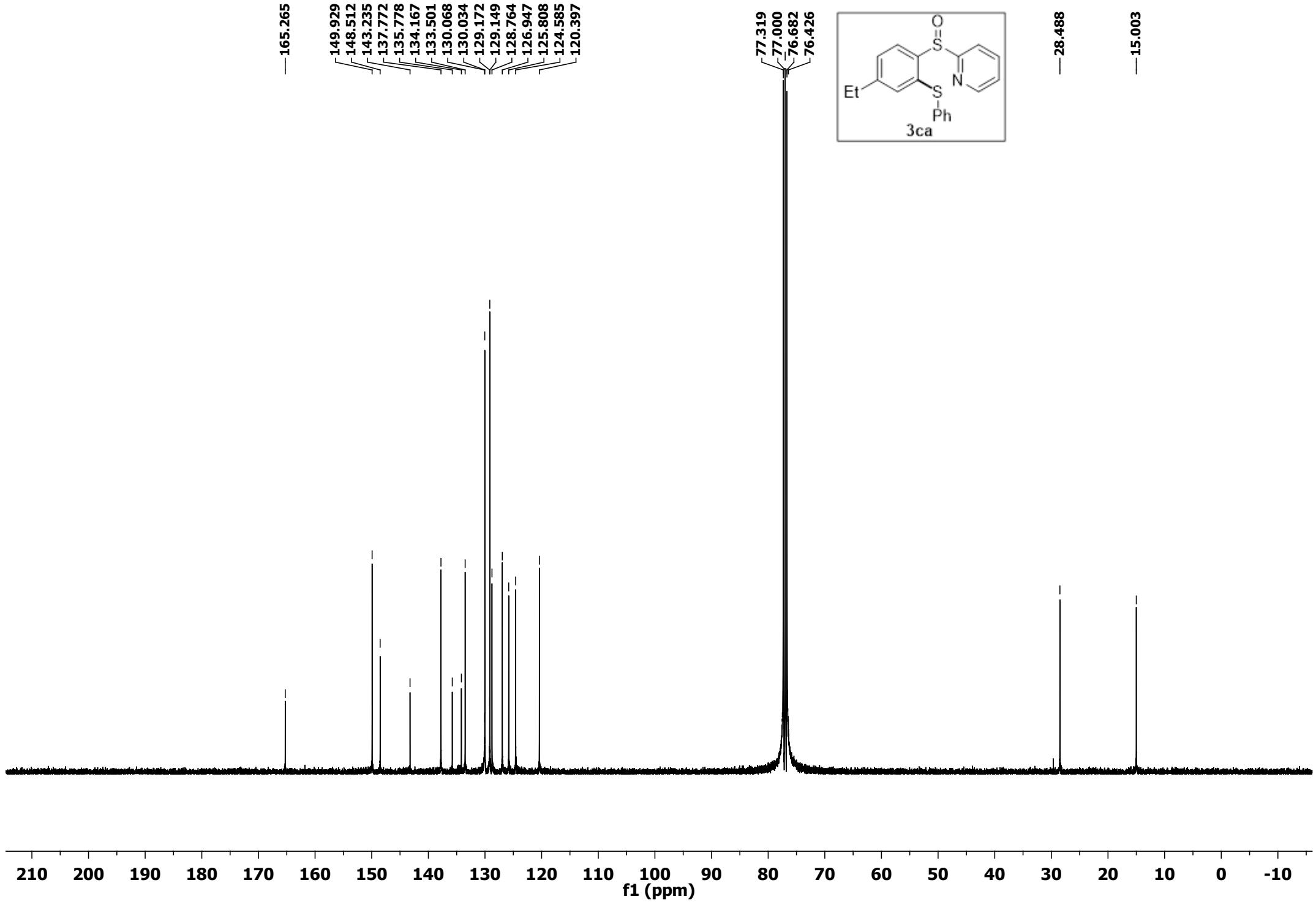


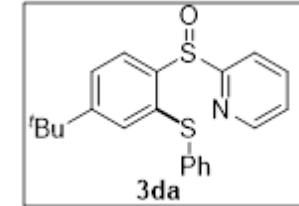












-1.211

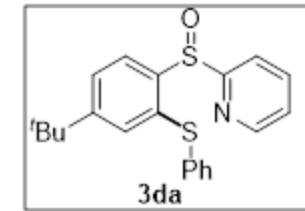
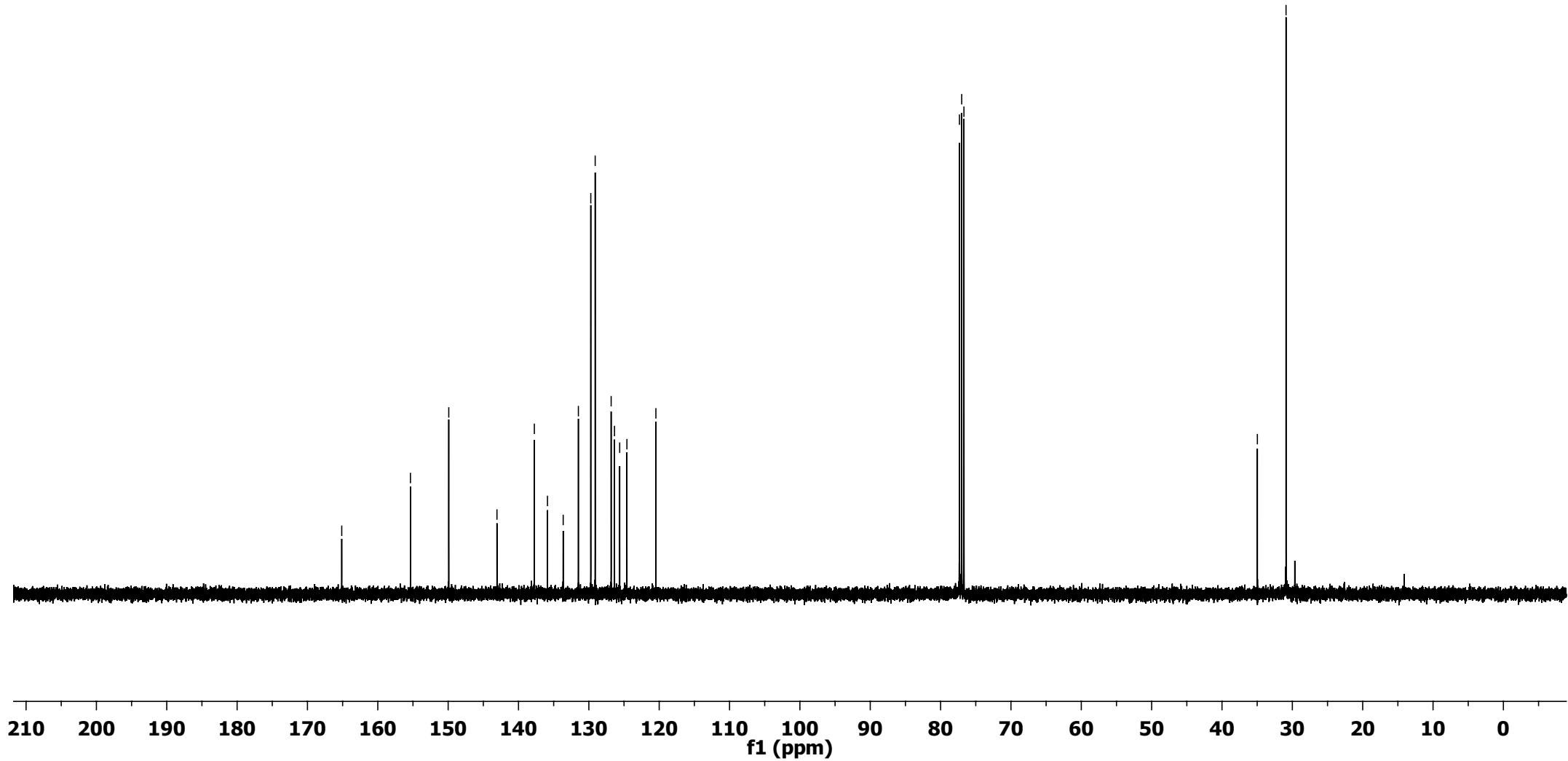
9.68— π

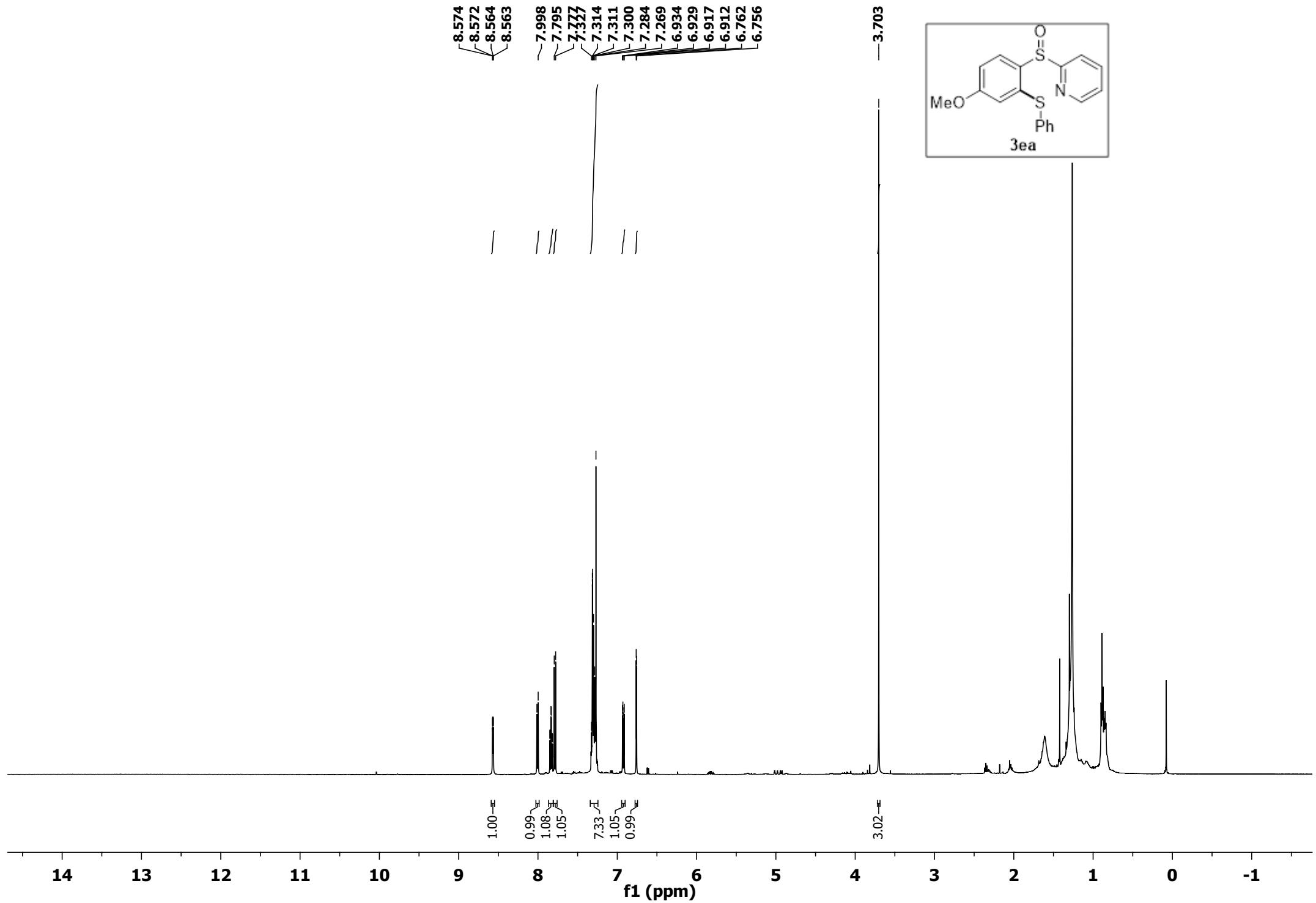
f1 (ppm)

1.00— π
1.17
1.04
1.11
1.19
1.01
6.09

8.547
8.537
7.975
7.956
7.868
7.847
7.809
7.805
7.790
7.786
7.771
7.767
7.495
7.490
7.474
7.470
7.366
7.362
7.269
7.268
7.248
7.239
7.228
7.196
7.192
7.175

14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0 -1 -2 -3 -4





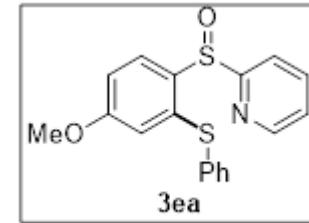
—162.077
—159.396

—149.944

137.785
137.528
136.531
135.301
134.716
131.343
129.349
127.718
127.613
124.527
120.195
117.840
114.582

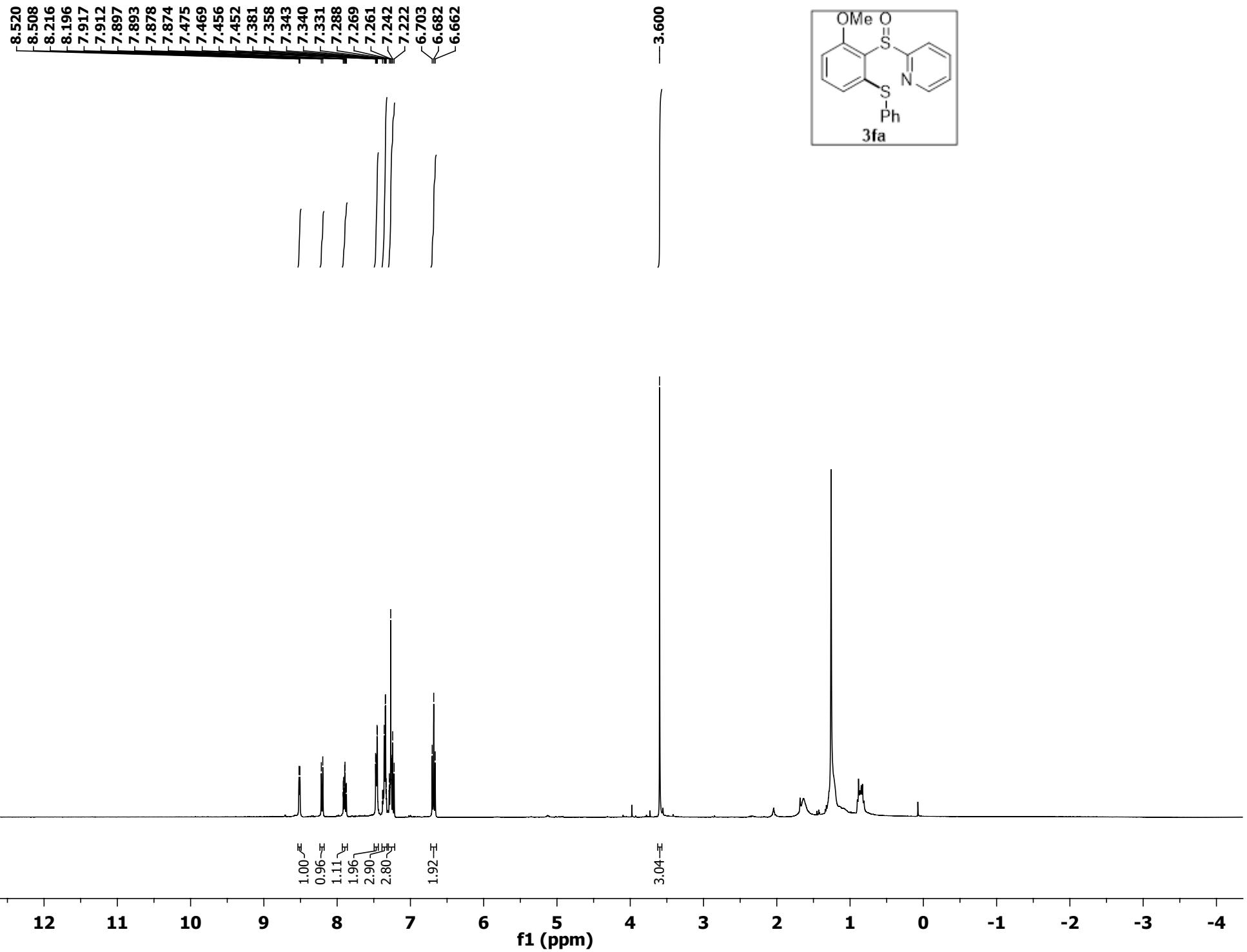
77.318
77.066
76.682

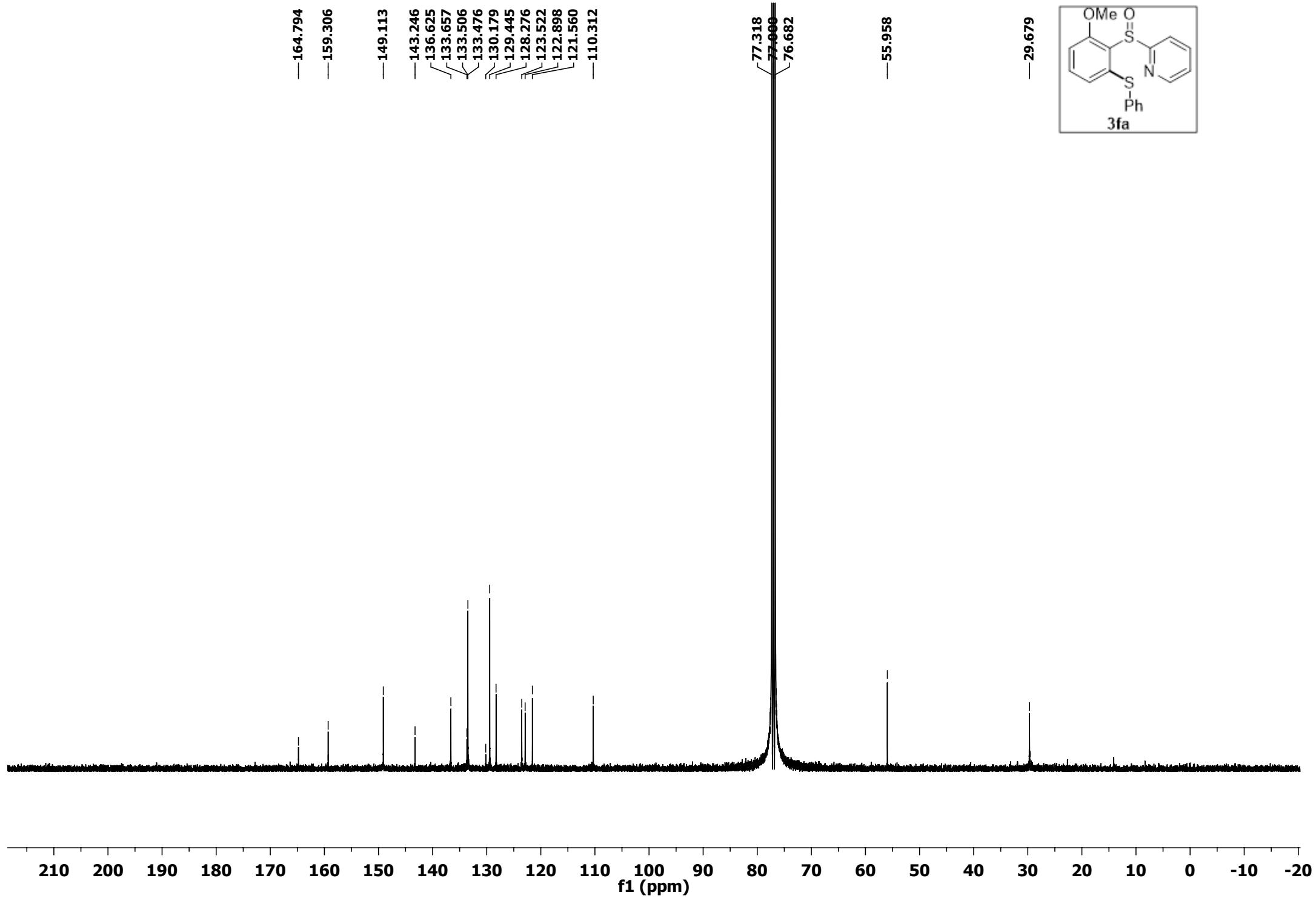
—55.494

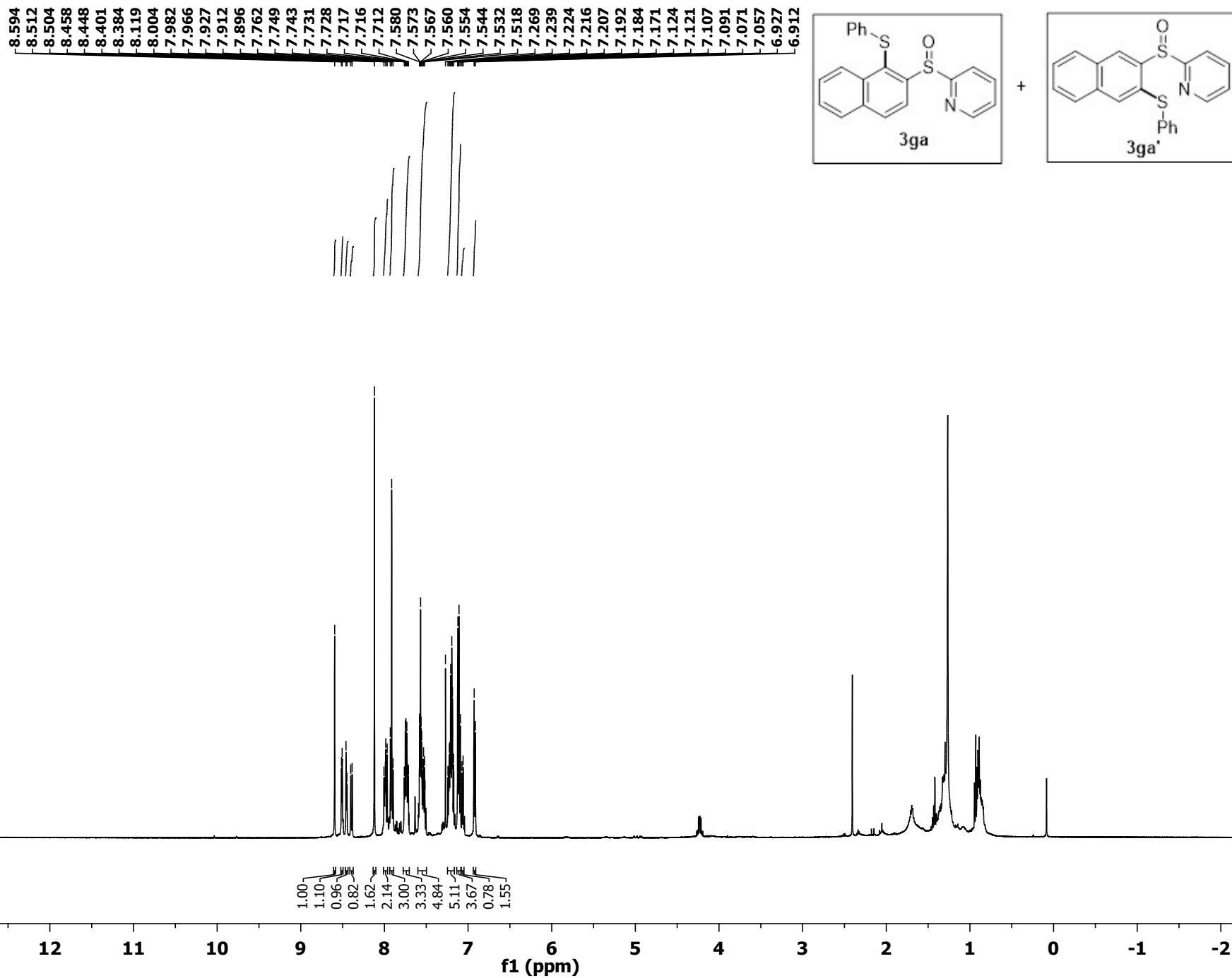


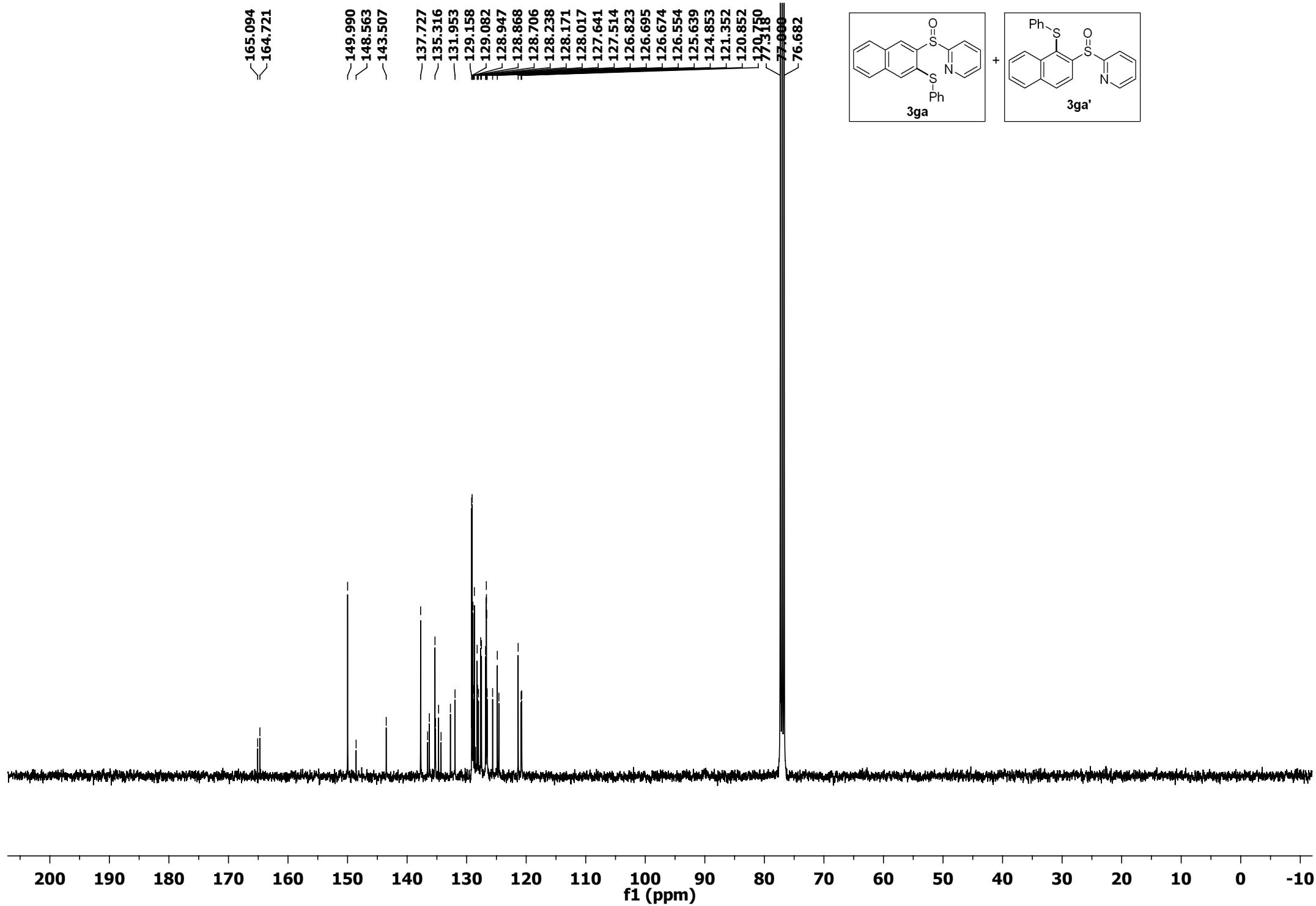
200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10

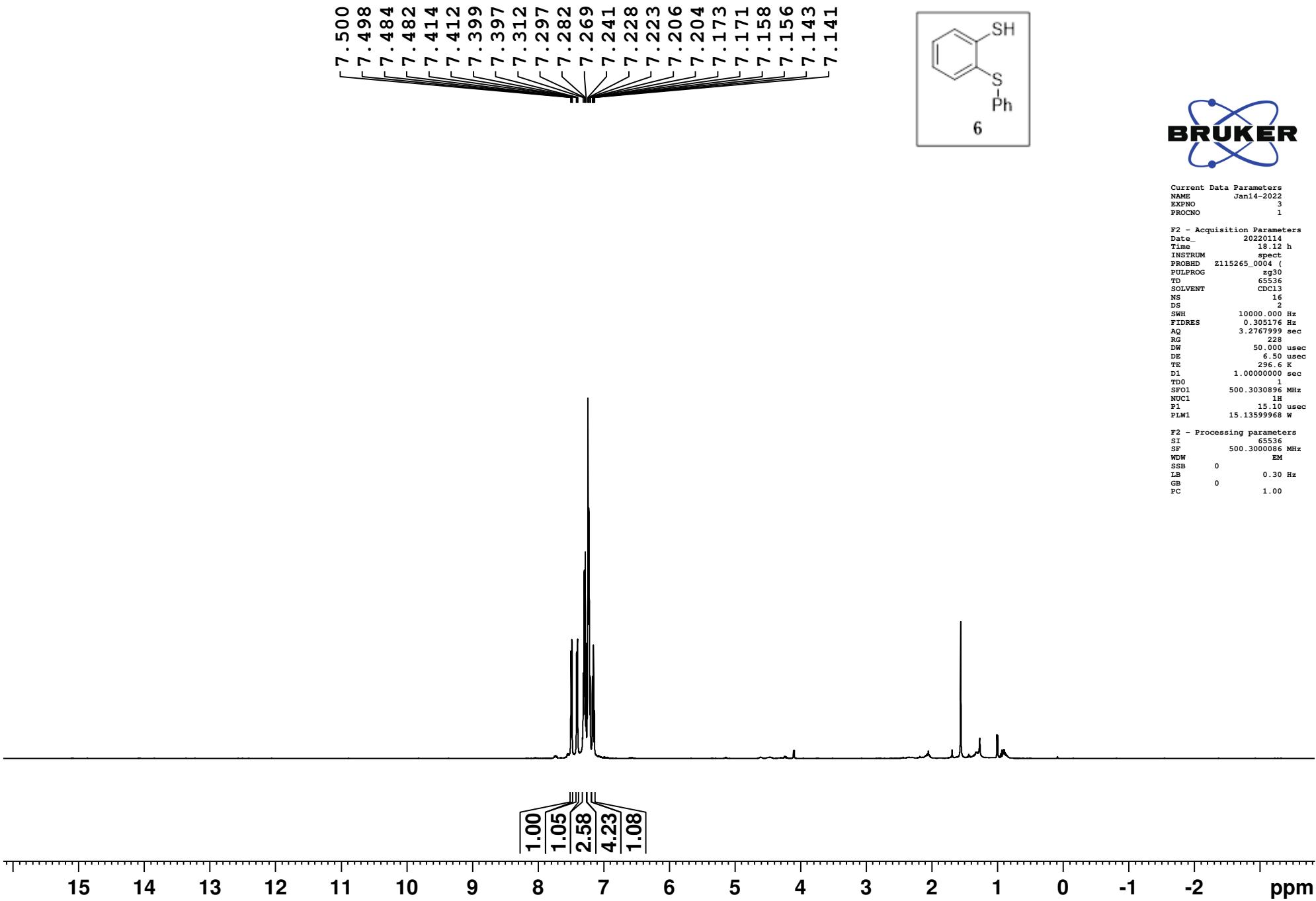
f1 (ppm)

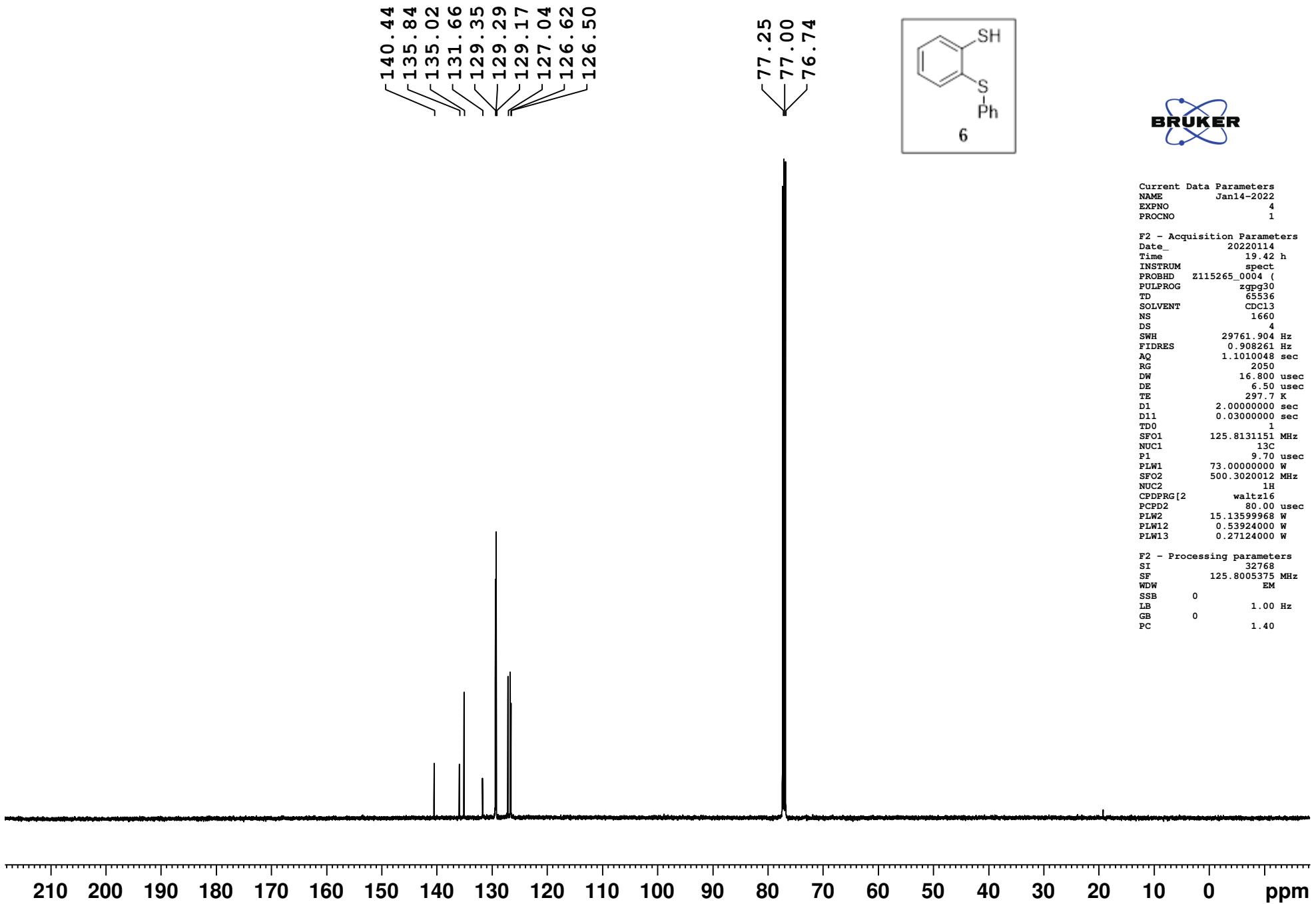


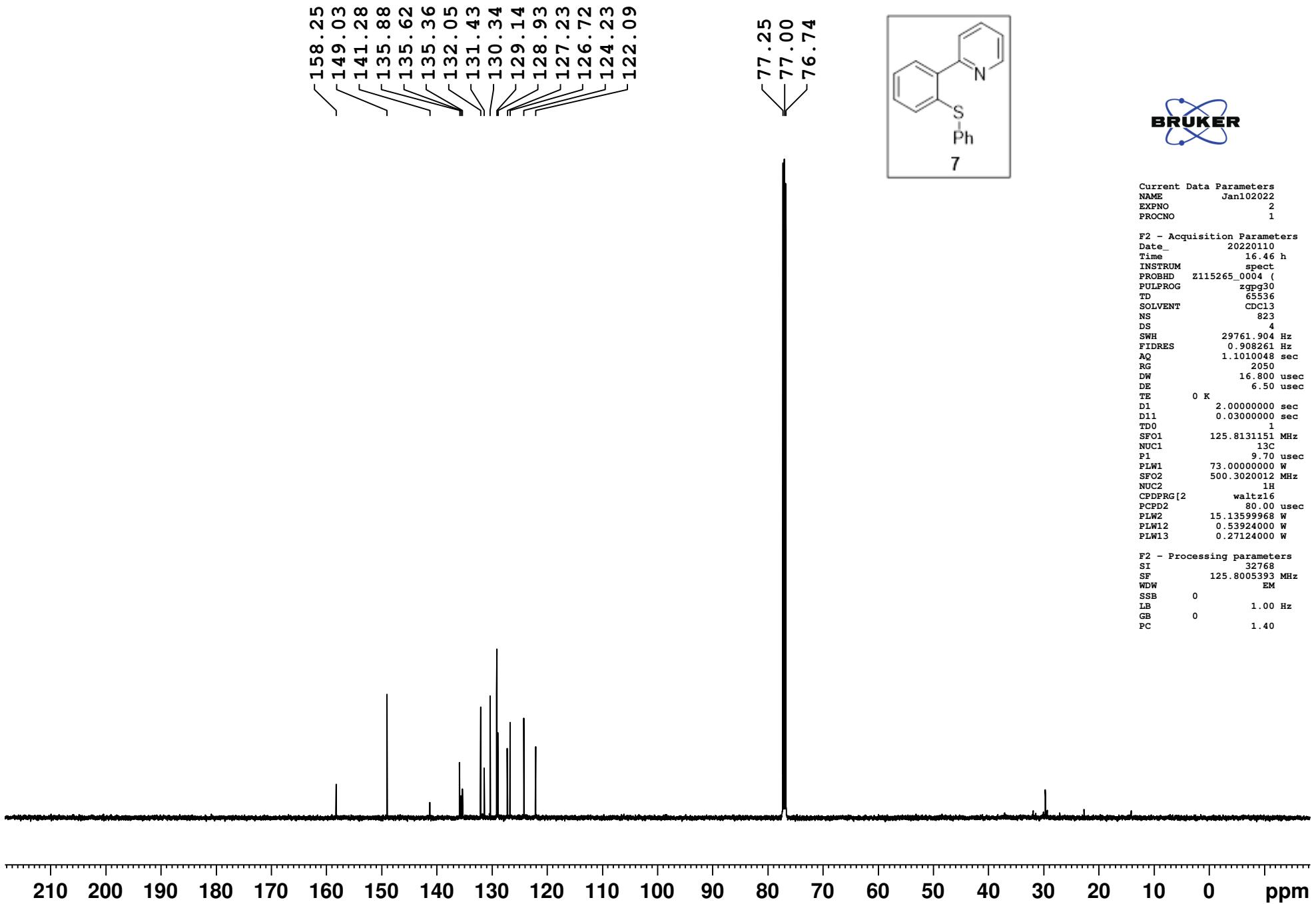


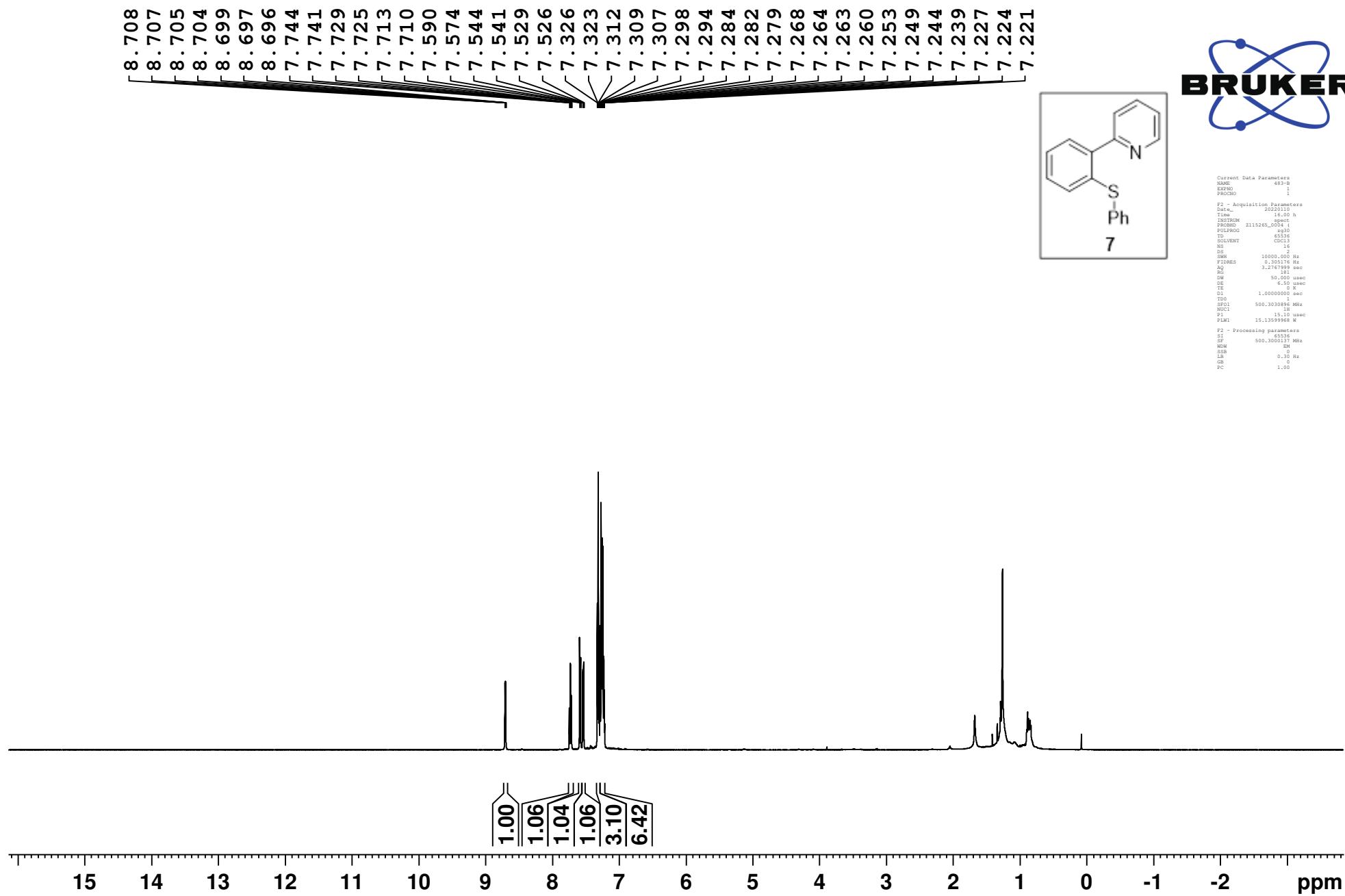


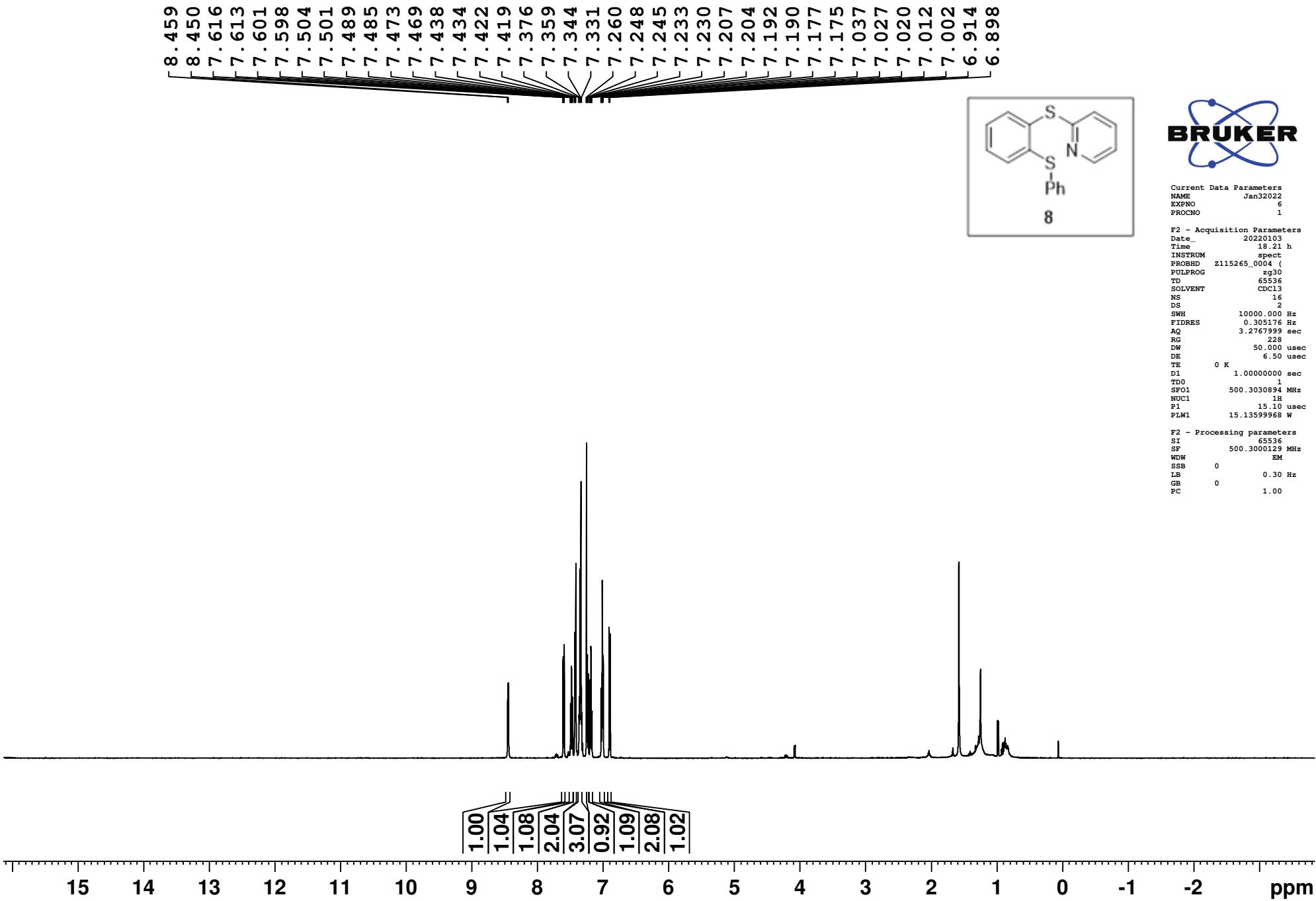


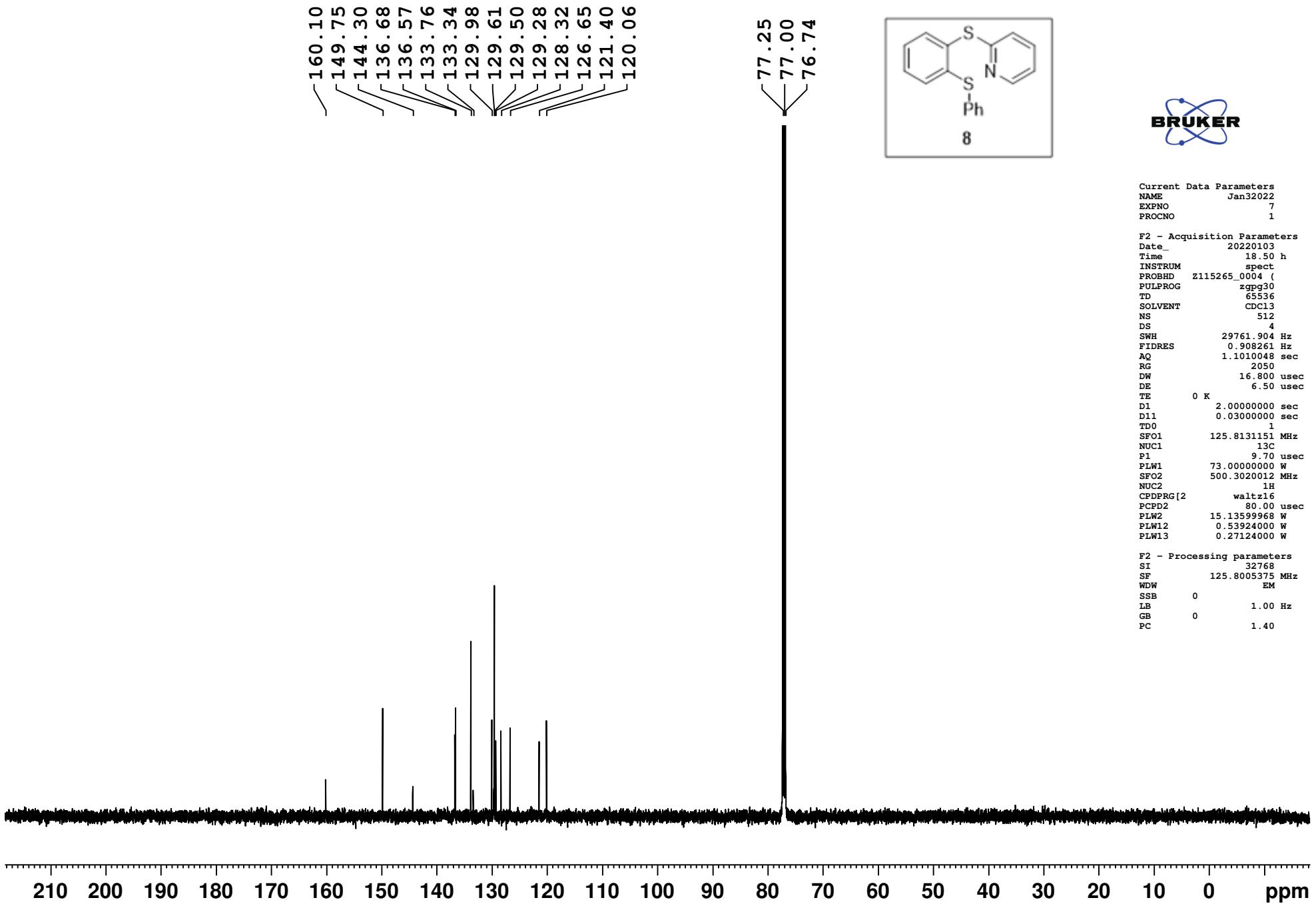


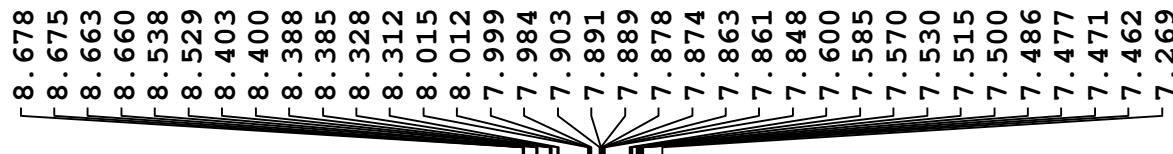








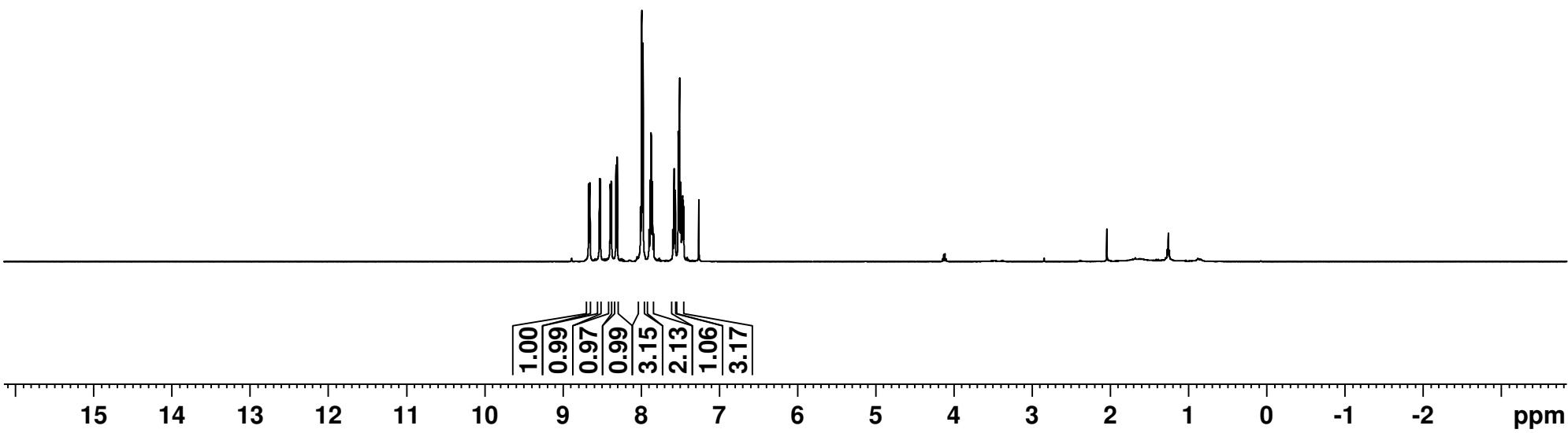


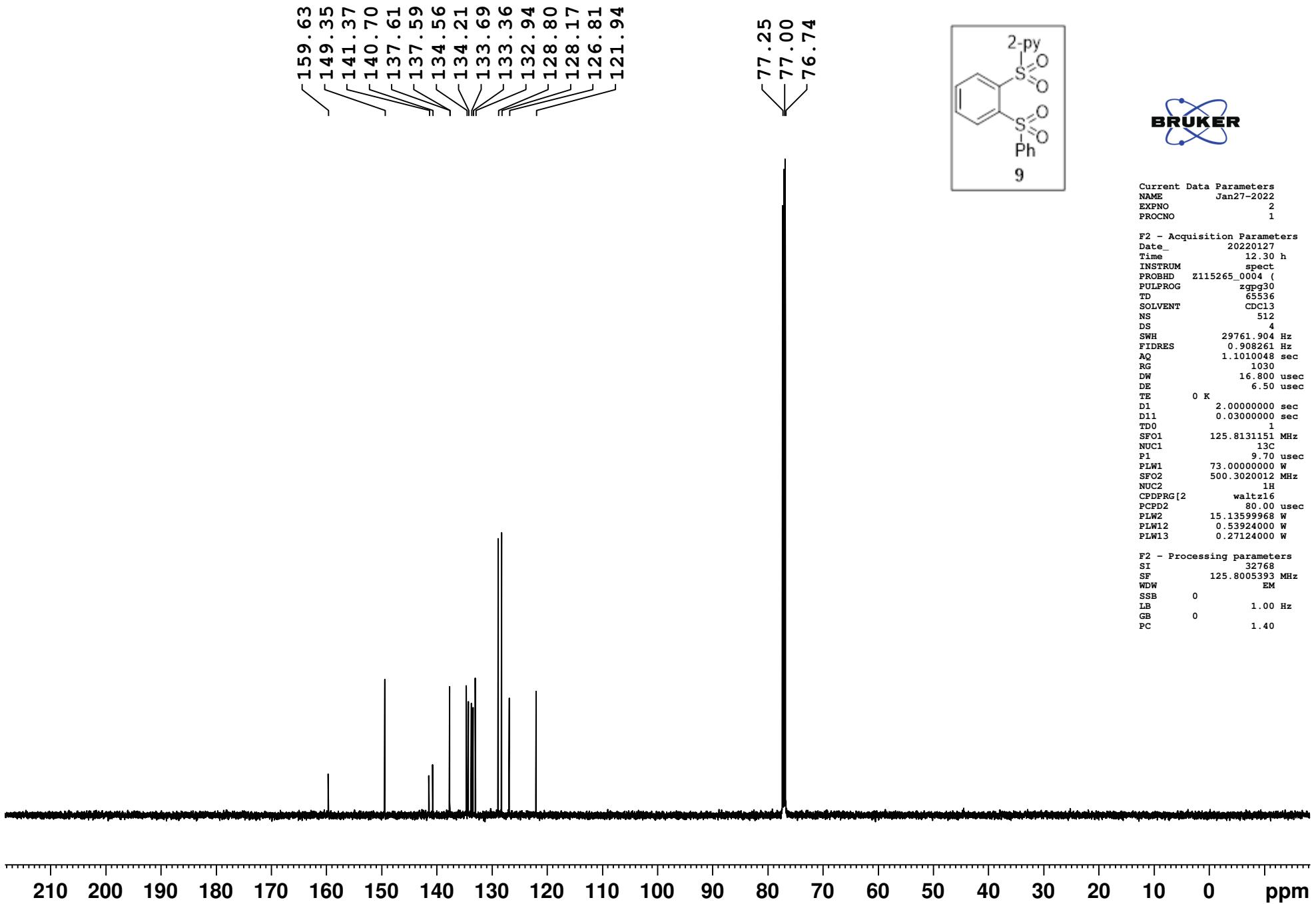


Current Data Parameters
 NAME Jan27-2022
 EXPNO 1
 PROCNO 1

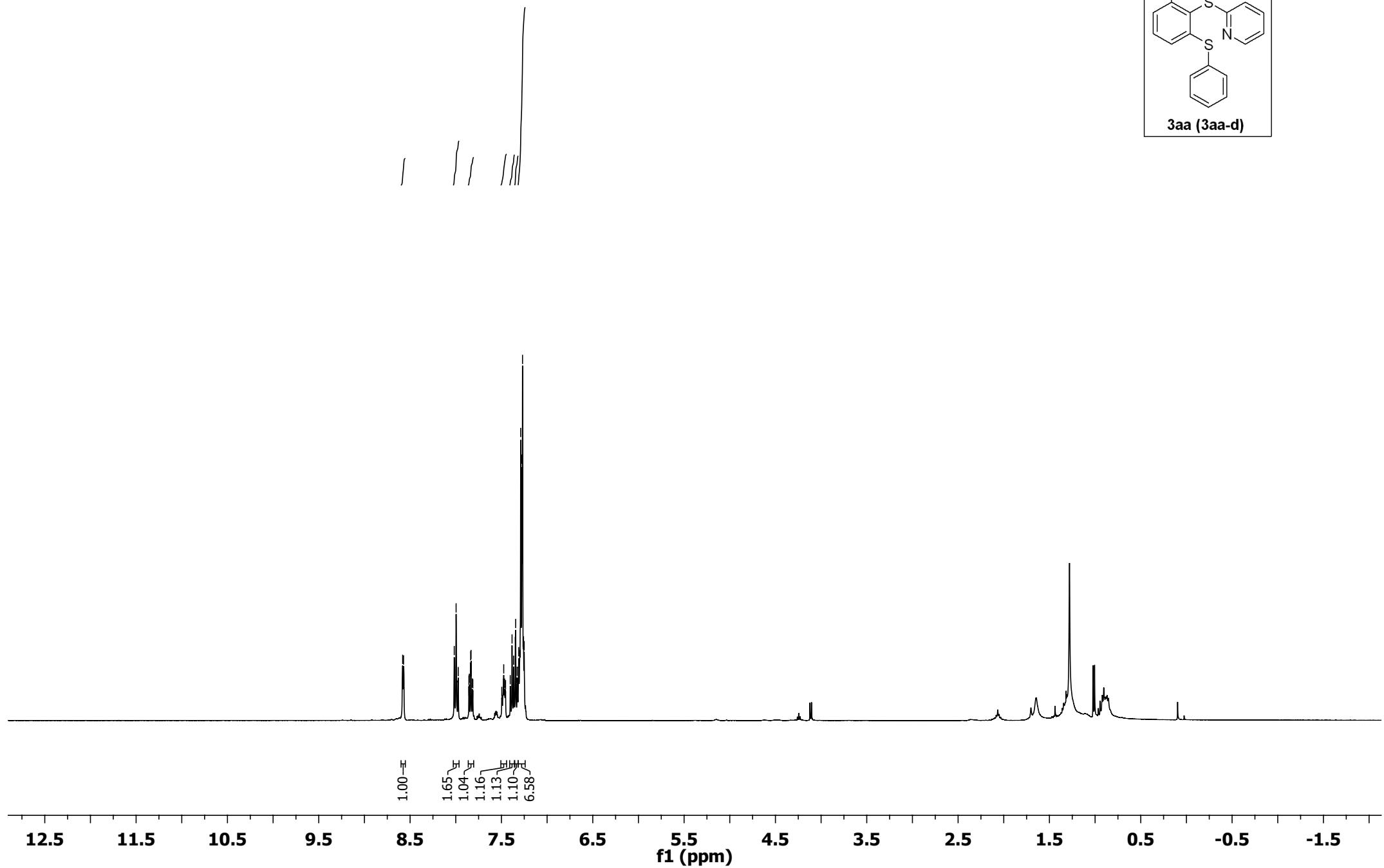
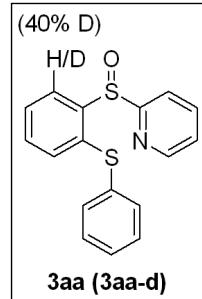
F2 - Acquisition Parameters
 Date 20220127
 Time 12.00 h
 INSTRUM spect
 PROBHD Z115265_0004 (zg30)
 PULPROG 65536
 TD 65536
 SOLVENT CDCl3
 NS 8
 DS 2
 SWH 10000.000 Hz
 FIDRES 0.305176 Hz
 AQ 3.2767999 sec
 RG 256
 DW 50.000 usec
 DE 6.50 usec
 TE 0 K
 D1 1.00000000 sec
 TDO 1
 SF01 500.3030896 MHz
 NUC1 H
 P1 15.10 usec
 PLW1 15.13599968 W

F2 - Processing parameters
 SI 65536
 SF 500.3000086 MHz
 WDW EM
 SSB 0
 LB 0.30 Hz
 GB 0
 PC 1.00





8.582
8.572
8.017
7.996
7.973
7.856
7.852
7.837
7.833
7.817
7.813
7.496
7.475
7.464
7.455
7.403
7.384
7.366
7.344
7.328
7.310
7.289
7.276
7.269
7.258
7.251



MB-MY-1-186; 17-08-2018

