

Supplementary Information for

Lactam-Fused Tropolones: A New Tunable, Environmentally Sensitive Fluorophore Class

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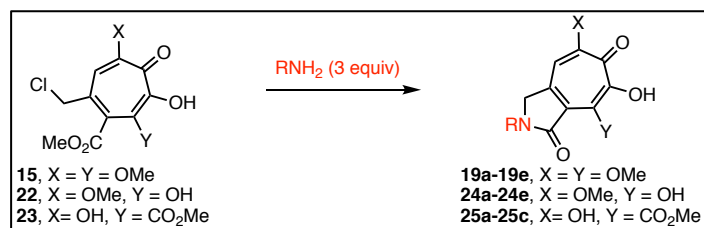
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I. General Information.

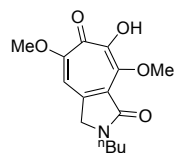
All starting materials and reagents were purchased from commercially available sources and used without further purification. ¹H NMR shifts were measured using the solvent residual peak as the internal standard (CDCl₃ δ 7.26, DMSO-d₆ δ 2.50, CD₃OD δ 3.31, CD₃CN δ 1.94) and reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, bs = broad singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, dd = doublet of doublets, q = quartet, m = multiplet), coupling constant (Hz), integration. ¹³C {¹H} NMR shifts were measured using the solvent residual peak as the internal standard (CDCl₃ δ 77.2, DMSO-d₆ δ 39.5, CD₃OD δ 49.2, CD₃CN δ 118.7 and δ 1.4) and reported as chemical shifts. Infrared (IR) spectral bands are characterized as broad (br), strong (s), medium (m), and weak (w). Mass spectra were recorded on a spectrometer by the electrospray ionization (ESI) technique with a time-of-flight (TOF) mass analyzer. Microwave reactions were performed via the Biotage Initiator EXP US (manufacturer #: 355302) (external IR temperature sensor) in a sealed vessel. Where noted, reaction products were purified via reverse phase chromatography using a Biotage Isolera Prime, with Biotage C18 12g and 30g cartridges in a solvent system of H₂O/MeCN [0.05% TFA].

II. Synthesis and Characterization

Synthesis of Lactam-Fused Tropolones

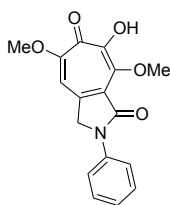


Methyl 5,7-dihydroxy-3,6-dioxo-2-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrocyclohepta[c]pyrrole-4-carboxylate (19a). To a solution of tropolone (**15**) (20.0 mg, 0.069 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (3.0 mL) was added amine



(20.6 μL, 0.208 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 0% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 0-20% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 10-30% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 30- 65% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (14 CV). Product fractions were concentrated to yield **19a** as a light yellow solid (9.8 mg, 49% yield). *Characterization data of 19a are as follows. Melting Point (Mp):* 182-184 °C. **IR (thin film, KBr)** 3462 (br), 3205 (br), 2958 (w), 2933 (w), 2873(w), 1682 (s), 1601 (w), 1558 (m), 1456 (m), 1409 (w), 1379 (w), 1346 (m), 1285 (m), 1237 (s), 1126 (w), 1082 (w), 1060 (w), 950 (w), 844 (w) cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 6.94 (s, 1H), 4.37 – 4.31 (m, 2H), 4.08 (s, 3H), 4.04 (s, 3H), 3.61 – 3.55 (m, 2H), 1.67 – 1.60 (m, 2H), 1.42 – 1.34 (m, 2H), 0.98 – 0.93 (m, 3H). **¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 170.9, 166.6, 160.5, 155.7, 150.5, 138.9, 126.8, 109.8, 62.0, 56.9, 52.3, 42.3, 30.4, 20.2, 13.9. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:** [M + H]⁺ Calc'd for C₁₅H₂₀NO₅⁺: 294.1336. Found: 294.1341.

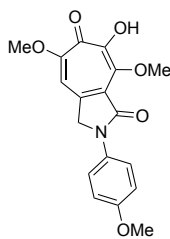
7-Hydroxy-5,8-dimethoxy-2-phenyl-2,3-dihydrocyclohepta[c]pyrrole-1,6-dione (19b). To a



solution of tropolone (**15**) (38.2 mg, 0.132 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.528 mL) was added amine (37.0 mg, 0.529 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera Prime, 30 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 5% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 5-25% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (20 CV); 25-50% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (20 CV). Product fractions were concentrated to yield **19b** as a yellow solid (29.9 mg, 72% yield).

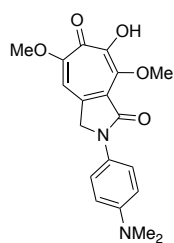
Characterization data of **19b** are as follows. **Mp**: 170-171 °C. IR (thin film, KBr) 3195 (br), 2925 (w), 2853 (w), 1696 (s), 1598 (m), 1559 (m), 1500 (w), 1459 (w), 1383 (m), 1338 (m), 1268 (s), 1224 (m), 1165 (w), 1121 (m), 1063 (w), 952 (w), 900 (w), 808 (w), 758 (w), 718 (w), 691 (w) cm^{-1} . $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.83 – 7.79 (m, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.46 – 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.19 (m, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.01 – 6.99 (m, 1H), 4.81 (s, 2H), 4.12 (s, 3H), 4.09 (s, 3H). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 167.9, 166.8, 158.4, 156.5, 150.4, 147.2, 133.2, 130.2, 120.2, 115.2, 114.3, 61.5, 56.5, 55.0, 53.0. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z**: $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ Calc'd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_5\text{Na}^+$: 336.0842. Found: 336.0845.

Methyl 5,7-dihydroxy-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,6-dioxo-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrocyclohepta[c]pyrrole-4-carboxylate (19c). To a solution of tropolone (**15**) (35.2 mg, 0.122 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (1.22 mL)



was added amine (45.1 mg, 0.366 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 0% MeCN/ H_2O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 0-25% MeCN/ H_2O [0.05% TFA] (16 CV); 25-40% MeCN/ H_2O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV). Product fractions were concentrated to yield **19c** as a yellow solid (40.4 mg, >98% yield). Characterization data of **19c** are as follows. **Mp**: 161-164 °C. IR (thin film, KBr) 3407 (br), 3174 (br), 3008 (w), 2956 (w), 2924 (w), 2853 (w), 1684 (m), 1513 (w), 1441 (w), 1400 (m), 1345 (w), 1275 (m), 1261 (m), 1206 (w), 1122 (w), 1057 (w), 885 (w), 724 (w) cm^{-1} . $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.83 – 7.79 (m, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.46 – 7.41 (m, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.23 – 7.19 (m, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.01 – 6.99 (m, 1H), 4.81 (s, 2H), 4.12 (s, 3H), 4.09 (s, 3H). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.9, 165.2, 160.9, 157.1, 155.7, 150.4, 138.2, 131.6, 126.6, 121.7, 114.5, 109.4, 62.0, 57.1, 55.6, 53.0. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z**: $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calc'd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_6^+$: 344.1129. Found: 344.1131.

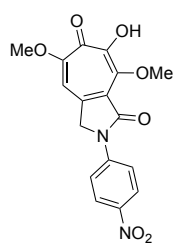
2-(4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)-7-hydroxy-5,8-dimethoxy-2,3-dihydrocyclohepta[c]pyrrole-1,6-



dione (19d). To a solution of tropolone (**15**) (15.3 mg, 0.053 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (1.06 mL) was added amine (21.66 mg, 0.159 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 5% MeCN/ H_2O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 5-20% MeCN/ H_2O [0.05% TFA] (15 CV); 20-50% MeCN/ H_2O [0.05%

TFA] (20 CV). Product fractions were concentrated to yield **19d** as a red solid (17.5 mg, 93% yield). *Characterization data of 19d are as follows.* **Mp:** 190-193 °C. IR (thin film, KBr) 3442 (br), 3241 (br), 2970 (w), 2934 (w), 2850 (w), 2809 (w), 1616 (m), 1555 (m), 1520 (m), 1483 (w), 1444 (m), 1390 (w), 1338 (m), 1267 (s), 1223 (m), 1165 (m), 1065 (w), 946 (w), 902 (w), 812 (m), 768 (w), 731 (w) cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (s, 1H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 4.68 (s, 2H), 4.09 (s, 3H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 2.92 (s, 6H). **¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 170.9, 164.9, 160.7, 155.7, 150.3, 147.9, 138.2, 128.6, 126.9, 121.4, 113.2, 109.5, 61.9, 57.0, 52.9, 40.9. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:** [M + H]⁺ Calc'd for C₁₉H₂₁N₂O₅⁺: 357.1445. Found: 357.1444.

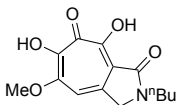
Methyl 5,7-dihydroxy-2-(4-nitrophenyl)-3,6-dioxo-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrocyclohepta[c]pyrrole-4-carboxylate (19e). To a solution of tropolone (**15**) (15.0 mg, 0.052 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1.04 mL)



was added amine (21.5 mg, 0.156 mmol). After stirring at 100 °C for 16 h, the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 0% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 0-10% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 10-50% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (30 CV); 50- 65% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (6 CV). Product fractions were

concentrated to yield **19e** as a light yellow solid (16.3 mg, 87% yield). *Characterization data of 19e are as follows.* **Mp:** 219-222 °C. IR (thin film, KBr) 3412 (br), 3226 (br), 2924 (w), 2852 (w), 1711 (m), 1592 (m), 1559 (w), 1503 (m), 1446 (w), 1375 (w), 1333 (s), 1274 (w), 1222 (w), 1167 (w), 1226 (w), 1058 (w), 805 (w) cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 8.35 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 4.90 (s, 2H), 4.16 (s, 3H), 4.14 (s, 3H). **¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 171.3, 165.8, 161.6, 155.5, 150.0, 144.1, 143.9, 137.8, 125.7, 125.3, 118.4, 108.7, 62.0, 57.3, 52.2. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:** [M + H]⁺ Calc'd for C₁₇H₁₅N₂O₇⁺: 359.0874. Found: 359.0877.

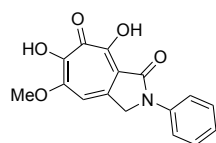
2-butyl-6,8-dihydroxy-5-methoxy-2,3-dihydrocyclohepta[c]pyrrole-1,7-dione (24a). To a



solution of tropolone (**22**) (14.2 mg, 0.052 mmol) in CD₃CN (1.04 mL) was added amine (15.4 μL, 0.156 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 0% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 0-15% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (16 CV); 15-

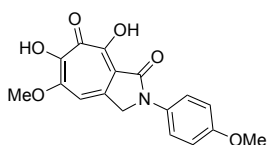
40% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (20 CV); 40-100% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (12 CV). Product fractions were concentrated to yield **24a** as a yellow oil (6.4 mg, 44% yield). *Characterization data of 24a are as follows.* **IR (thin film, KBr)** 3386 (br), 3104 (br), 2960 (w), 2873 (w), 1657 (s), 1516 (w), 1463 (w), 1400 (w), 1384 (w), 1295 (w), 1267 (w), 1172 (w), 1081 (m), 799 (w), 782 (w), 757 (w), 736 (w), 700 (w), 616 (w) cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN)** δ 7.11 (s, 1H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 3.60 – 3.54 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.62 (m, 2H), 1.39 – 1.33 (m, 2H), 0.98 – 0.92 (m, 3H). **¹³C {¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CD₃CN)** δ 207.5, 172.8, 169.0, 162.5, 151.4, 150.7, 140.9, 108.6, 57.7, 53.9, 42.6, 30.8, 30.7, 20.6, 13.9. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:** [M + Na]⁺ Calc'd for ⁺: C₁₄H₁₇NO₅Na⁺: 303.1038 Found: 303.1031

6,8-dihydroxy-5-methoxy-2-phenyl-2,3-dihydrocyclohepta[c]pyrrole-1,7-dione (24b). To a



a solution of tropolone (**22**) (15.7 mg, 0.057 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1.1 mL) was added amine (15.6 μL, 0.171 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 0% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 0-10% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 10-30% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (20 CV); 30- 55% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (8 CV). Product fractions were concentrated to yield **24b** as a yellow solid (13.3 mg, 79% yield). *Characterization data of 24b are as follows.* **Mp:** decomposed at 201 °C. **IR (thin film, KBr)** 3400 (br), 3207 (br), 3064 (w), 2946 (w), 2849 (w), 1693 (s), 1599 (m), 1557 (m), 1500 (w), 1459 (w), 1446 (w), 1384 (m), 1341 (m), 1268 (m), 1226 (m), 1203 (m), 1168 (w), 1123 (m), 1064 (w), 951 (w), 902 (w), 810 (w), 759 (w), 735 (w), 719 (w), 692 (w) cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.79 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.51 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 2H), 4.09 (s, 3H). **¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 170.9, 168.2, 162.4, 150.9, 150.8, 137.5, 137.4, 129.7, 126.3, 119.9, 118.2, 106.2, 57.3, 53.8. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:** [M + Na]⁺ Calc'd for C₁₆H₁₃NO₅Na⁺: 322.0686. Found: 322.0688.

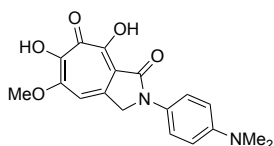
6,8-dihydroxy-5-methoxy-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-dihydrocyclohepta[c]pyrrole-1,7-dione



(**24c**). To a solution of tropolone (**22**) (12.9 mg, 0.047 mmol) in CD₃Cl (0.94 μL) was added amine (17.4 mg, 0.141 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 5% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 5-20% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (14 CV); 20-25% MeCN/H₂O [0.05%

TFA] (5 CV); 25- 35% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (8 CV); 35- 45% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (5 CV); 45- 100% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (8 CV). Product fractions were concentrated to yield **24c** as a brown solid (11.7 mg, 76% yield). *Characterization data of 24c are as follows. Mp:* 152-154 °C. **IR (thin film, KBr)** 3422 (br), 3175 (br), 3008 (w), 2977 (w), 2943(w), 2882 (w), 1671 (s), 1608 (m), 1566 (m), 1499 (w), 1409 (m), 1346 (w), 1295 (m), 1224 (m), 1156 (w), 1102 (w), 1060 (w), 975 (w), 866 (w), 761 (w) cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 4.89 (s, 2H), 4.08 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H). **¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 170.6, 168.2, 162.3, 157.9, 150.9, 137.4, 130.3, 122.0, 118.3, 114.9, 106.3, 57.3, 55.7, 54.2. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:** [M + Na]⁺ Calc'd for C₁₇H₁₅NO₆Na⁺: 352.0792. Found: 352.0793.

2-(4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)-6,8-dihydroxy-5-methoxy-2,3-dihydrocyclohepta[c]pyrrole-1,7-dione (24d). To a solution of tropolone (**22**) (15.3 mg, 0.056 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1.1 mL) was added

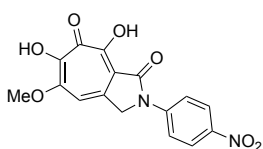


amine (22.9 mg, 0.168 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction

mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera

Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 5% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 5-20% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 20-30% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 30-50% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (20 CV). Product fractions were concentrated to yield **24d** as a dark red solid (13.3 mg, 71% yield). *Characterization data of 24d are as follows. Mp:* 196-199 °C. **IR (thin film, KBr)** 3387 (br), 3180 (br), 2956 (w), 2924 (w), 2853(w), 1680 (s), 1520 (m), 1444 (w), 1400 (m), 1331 (w), 1275 (w), 1260 (w), 1204 (m), 1134 (m), 1069 (w), 801 (w), 750 (w) cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.58 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (s, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 4.86 (s, 2H), 4.08 (s, 3H), 3.01 (s, 3H). **¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 170.3, 168.0, 162.0, 151.1, 151.0, 149.0, 137.4, 126.5, 122.0, 118.6, 112.9, 106.4, 57.2, 54.4, 40.7. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:** [M + H]⁺ Calc'd for C₁₈H₁₉N₂O₅⁺: 343.1288. Found: 343.1293.

6,8-dihydroxy-5-methoxy-2-(4-nitrophenyl)-2,3-dihydrocyclohepta[c]pyrrole-1,7-dione (24e).



To a solution of tropolone (**22**) (16.5 mg, 0.060 mmol) in CD₃Cl (1.2 mL)

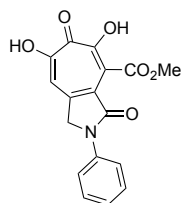
was added amine (24.9 mg, 0.180 mmol). After stirring at 100 °C for 8 h,

the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography

(Biotage Isolera Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 0% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 0-10% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 10-30% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (17 CV); 30- 65%

MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (15 CV). Product fractions were concentrated to yield **24e** as a yellow solid (14.9 mg, 73% yield). *Characterization data of 24e are as follows.* **Mp:** decomposed at 218 °C. IR (thin film, KBr) 3383 (br), 3176 (br), 2956 (w), 2924 (w), 2853(w), 1736 (s), 1700 (m), 1685 (m), 1597 (m), 1504 (w), 1461 (w), 1442 (w), 1400 (m), 1328 (w), 1270 (w), 1242 (w), 1204 (w), 1112 (w), 1054 (w), 747 (w) cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-d₆)** δ 8.34 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 5.03 (s, 2H), 4.05 (s, 3H). **¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 171.5, 168.2, 163.0, 150.8, 150.4, 144.6, 142.9, 137.4, 125.5, 118.9, 117.7, 105.8, 57.4, 53.3. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:** [M + H]⁺ Calc'd for C₁₆H₁₃N₂O₇⁺: 345.0717. Found: 345.0717.

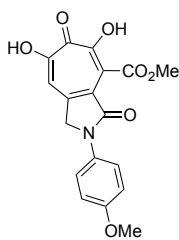
Methyl 5,7-dihydroxy-3,6-dioxo-2-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrocyclohepta[c]pyrrole-4-carboxylate



(25a). To a solution of tropolone (**23**) (15.4 mg, 0.051 mmol) in CD₃Cl (1.02 mL) was added amine (14.0 μL, 0.153 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 0% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 0-10%

MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 10-30% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (14 CV); 30-45% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (8 CV); 45-80% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (8 CV). Product fractions were concentrated to yield **25a** as a yellow solid (9.6 mg, 58% yield). *Characterization data of 25a are as follows.* **Mp:** decomposed at 225 °C. **IR (thin film, KBr)** 3250 (br), 2954 (w), 2926 (w), 2855 (w), 1729 (s), 1698 (s), 1598 (w), 1500 (m), 1445 (w), 1386 (s), 1292 (w), 1270 (m), 1140 (m), 1062 (w), 996 (w), 899 (w) cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.80 – 7.75 (m, 2H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.46 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 4.92 (d, *J* = 17.7 Hz, 1H), 4.83 (d, *J* = 17.7 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (s, 3H). **¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CD₃CN)** δ 170.7, 165.0, 164.9, 159.6, 154.0, 142.2, 138.0, 128.3, 125.6, 124.0, 121.0, 118.6, 113.6, 51.8, 51.4. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:** [M + H]⁺ Calc'd for C₁₇H₁₄NO₆⁺: 328.0816. Found: 328.0819.

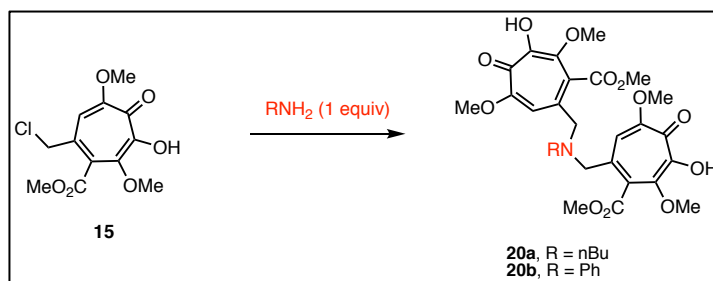
Methyl 5,7-dihydroxy-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,6-dioxo-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrocyclohepta[c]pyrrole-4-carboxylate (25b).



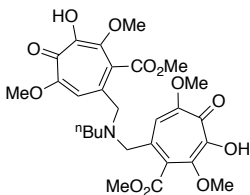
was added amine (35.1 mg, 0.285 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 0% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 0-10% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 10-30% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (20 CV); 30-50% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (15 CV). Product fractions were

concentrated to yield **25b** as a yellow solid (18.8 mg, 55% yield). *Characterization data of 25b are as follows.* **Mp:** decomposed at 212 °C. **IR (thin film, KBr)** 3282 (br), 3023 (w), 2959 (w), 2923 (w), 2850 (w), 1736 (s), 1690 (m), 1613 (w), 1551 (m), 1514 (s), 1455 (w), 1392 (m), 1366 (w), 1299 (w), 1253 (m), 1208 (w), 1139 (w), 1058 (w), 1031 (w), 996 (w), 829 cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.66 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 4.88 (d, *J* = 17.3 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (d, *J* = 17.3 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H). **¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 171.1, 165.8, 165.3, 160.0, 157.4, 155.3, 141.6, 131.2, 127.9, 123.0, 121.8, 114.7, 114.6, 55.7, 53.4, 53.1. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:** [M + Na]⁺ Calc'd for C₁₈H₁₅NO₇Na⁺: 380.0741. Found: 380.0742.

Synthesis of 2:1 Tropolone to Amine Adducts



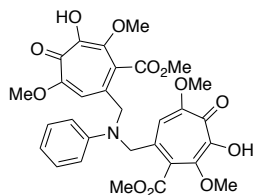
Dimethyl 2,2'-((butylazanediyl)bis(methylene))bis(6-hydroxy-4,7-dimethoxy-5-oxocyclohepta-1,3,6-triene-1-carboxylate) (20a). To a solution of tropolone (**23**) (15.0 mg, 0.050 mmol) in CD₃Cl



(1.0 mL) was added amine (4.9 μL, 0.050 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 0% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 0-20% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 20-30% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 30- 55% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 55-70% MeCN/H₂O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV). Product fractions were concentrated to yield **20a** as a light yellow oil (10.5 mg, 36% yield). *Characterization data of 20a are as follows.* **IR (thin film, KBr)** 3448 (br), 3207 (br), 2997 (w), 2954 (w), 2874 (w), 1733 (s), 1685 (w), 1561 (m), 1460 (w), 1436 (w), 1336 (m), 1217 (w), 1138 (m), 1276 (w), 975 (w), 946 (w), 921 (w), 875 (w), 800 (w), 669 (w) cm⁻¹. **¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 7.36 (M, 2H), 4.00 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 9H), 3.94 (s, 5H), 3.86 (s, 2H), 2.89 – 2.69 (m, 2H), 1.60 – 1.43 (m, 2H), 1.31 – 1.20 (m, 2H), 0.92 – 0.76 (m, 3H). **¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)** δ 169.8, 167.1, 159.2, 155.4, 148.8, 135.7, 116.9, 61.5, 58.8, 57.1, 54.4,

53.2, 20.4, 13.7. **HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z:** $[M + H]^+$ Calc'd for $C_{28}H_{36}NO_{12}^+$: 578.2232. Found: 578.2234.

Dimethyl 2,2'-((phenylazanediyl)bis(methylene))bis(6-hydroxy-4,7-dimethoxy-5-oxocyclohepta-1,3,6-triene-1-carboxylate) (20b). To a solution of tropolone (**23**) (20.0 mg, 0.066



mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (1.3 mL) was added amine (6.0 μ L, 0.066 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction mixture was purified by reverse phase chromatography (Biotage Isolera Prime, 12 g C18 column, solvent gradient: 5% MeCN/ H_2O [0.05% TFA] (3 CV); 5-10% MeCN/ H_2O [0.05% TFA] (10

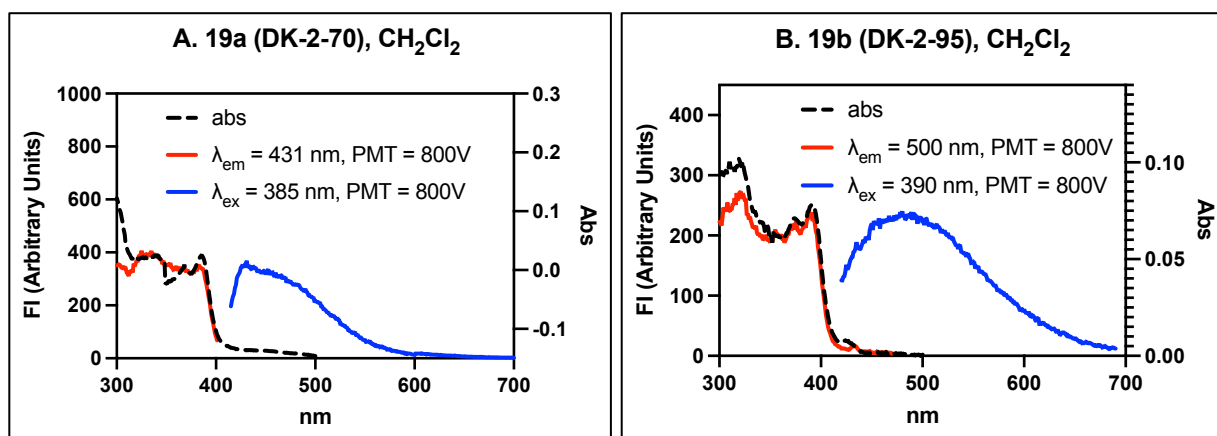
CV); 10-20% MeCN/ H_2O [0.05% TFA] (10 CV); 20- 35% MeCN/ H_2O [0.05% TFA]. Product fractions were concentrated to yield **20b** as a light yellow oil (9.3 mg, 24% yield).

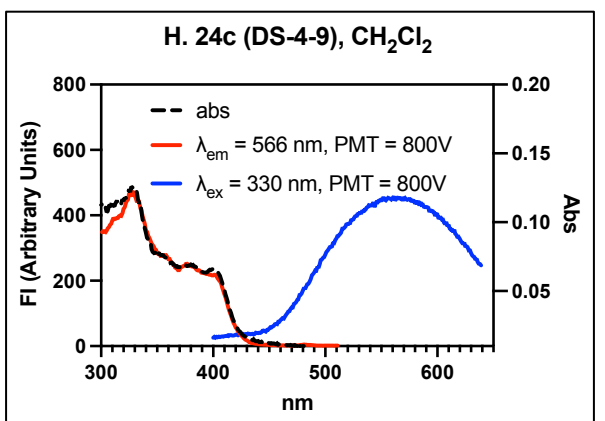
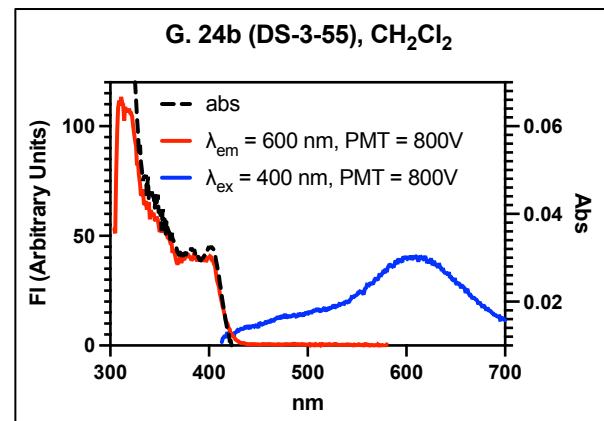
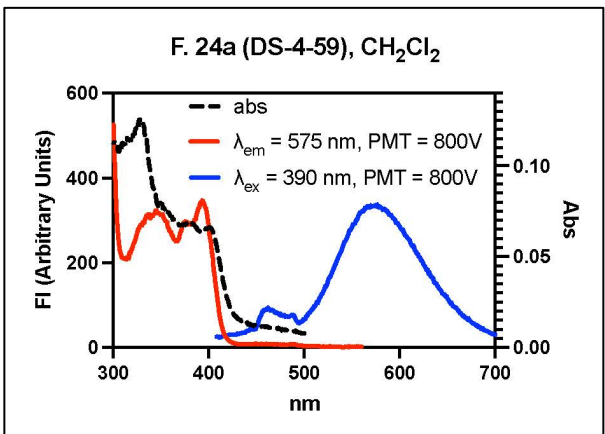
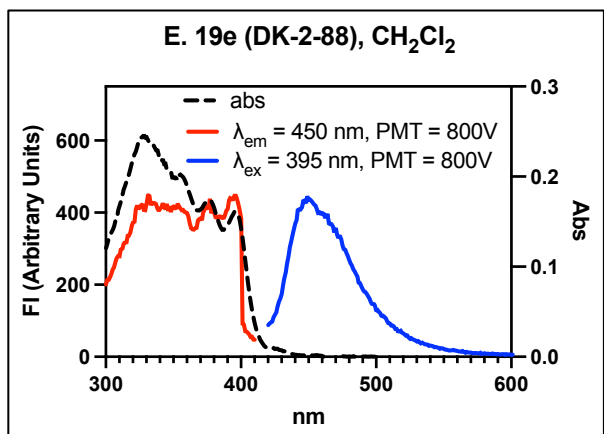
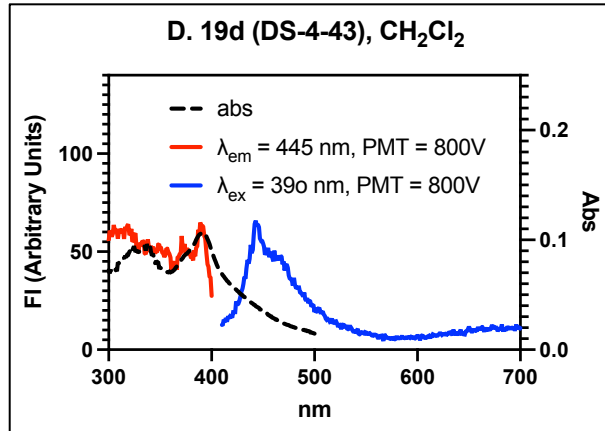
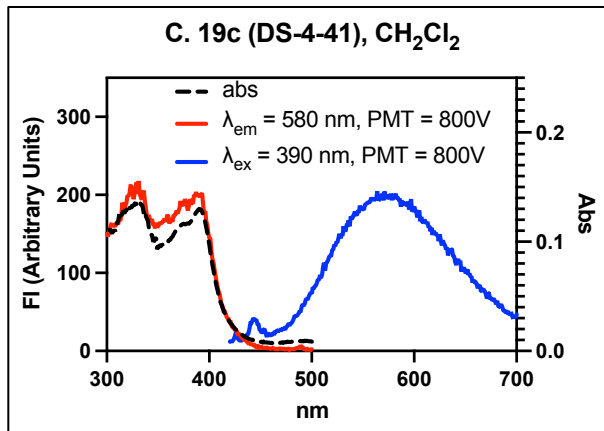
Characterization data of 20b are as follows. IR (thin film, KBr) 3440 (br), 3201 (br), 3063 (w), 2976 (w), 2942 (w), 2843 (w), 1699 (m), 1597 (w), 1561 (m), 1495 (w), 1473 (w), 1458 (w), 1443 (w), 1384 (m), 1333 (m), 1285 (w) 1269 (m), 1222 (m), 1165 (w), 1122 (m), 1063 (w), 948 (w), 900 (w), 808 (w), 765 (w), 730 (w), 718 (w), 691 (w) cm^{-1} . **1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$)** δ 7.25 – 7.23 (m, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.99 (s, 3H), 6.88 – 6.84 (m, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 6.79 – 6.75 (m, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 3H), 4.49 (s, 6H), 3.98 (s, 9H), 3.86 (s, 9H), 3.62 (s, 9H). **$^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR (101 MHz, $CDCl_3$)** δ 167.9, 166.8, 158.4, 156.5, 150.4, 147.2, 133.2, 130.2, 120.2, 115.2, 114.3, 61.5, 56.5, 54.9, 52.9.

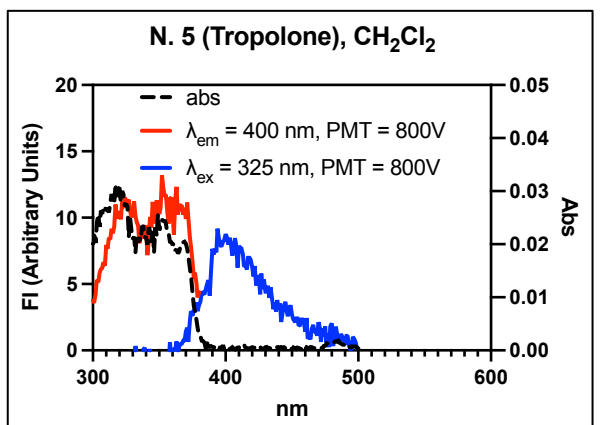
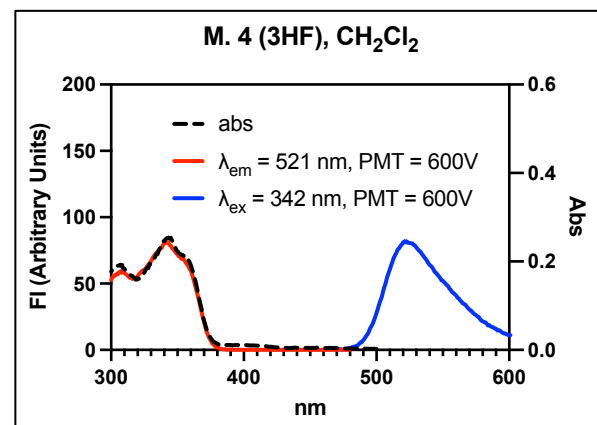
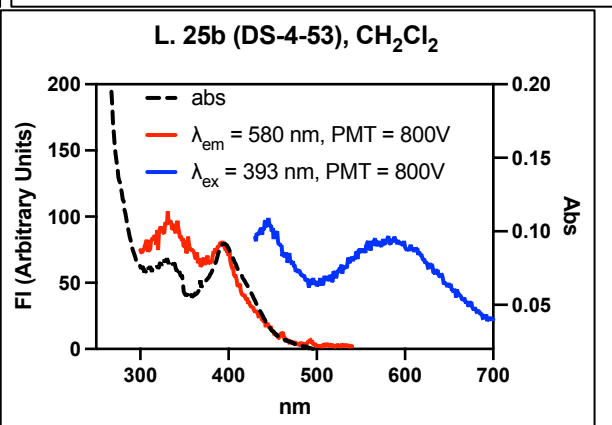
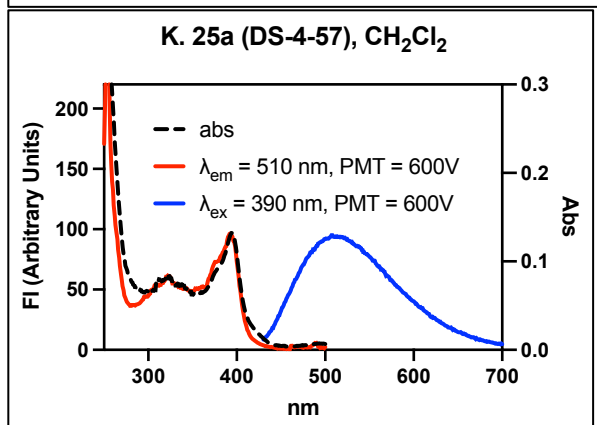
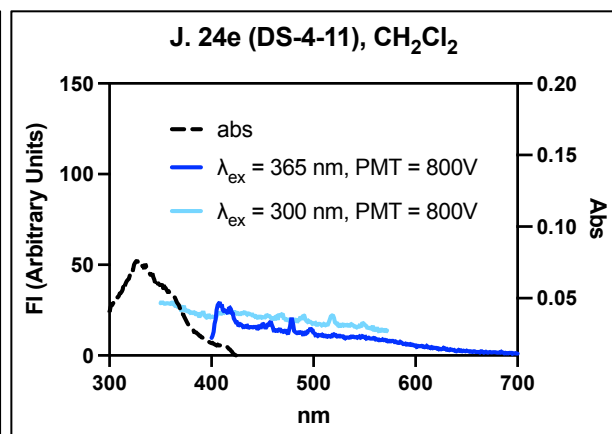
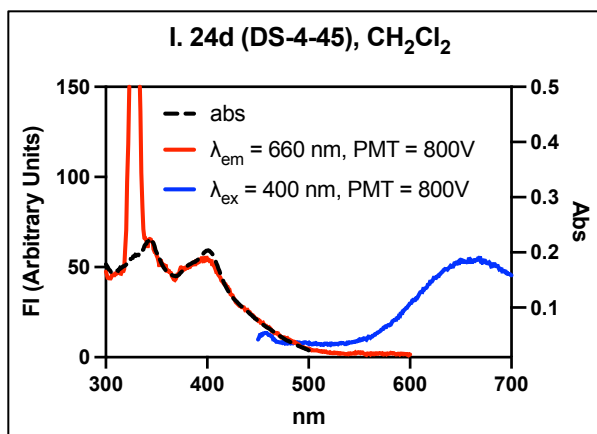
20b converted to lactam **19b** during storage and shipping on two separate occasions, preventing the acquisition of HRMS data.

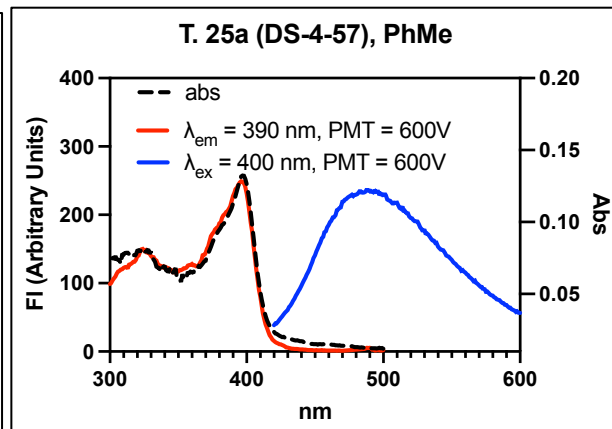
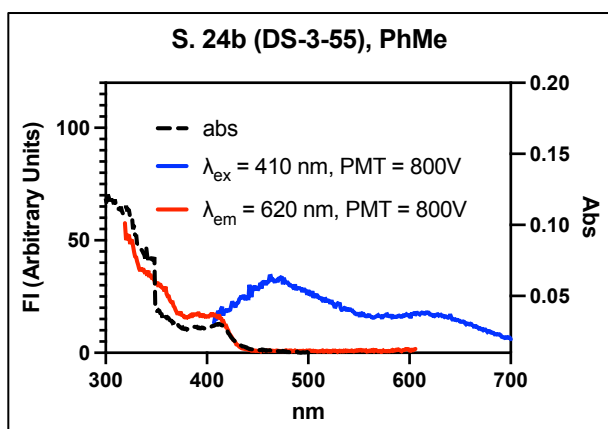
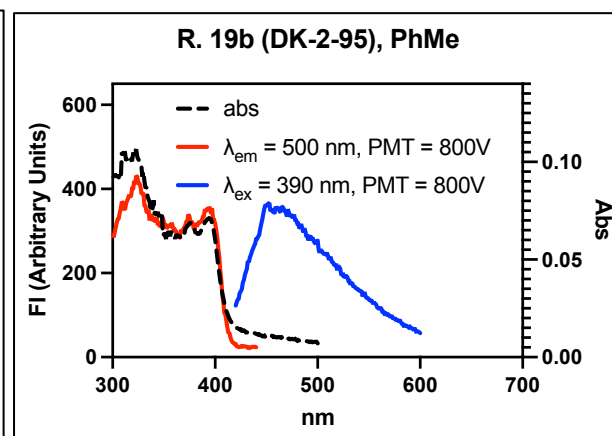
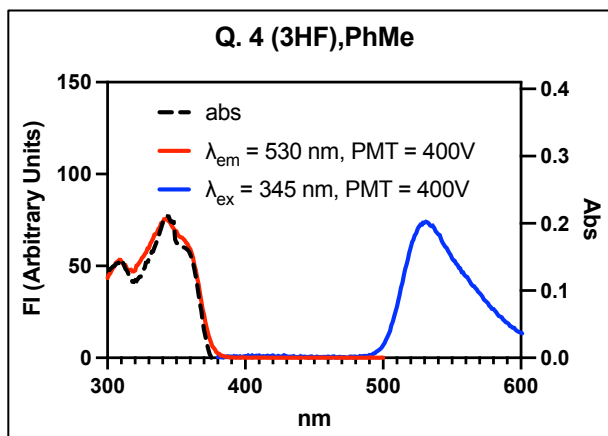
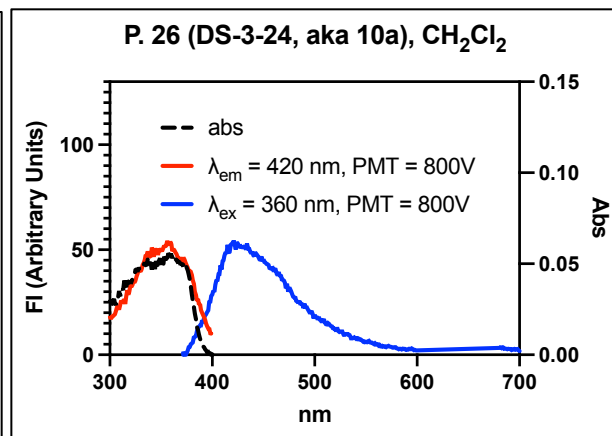
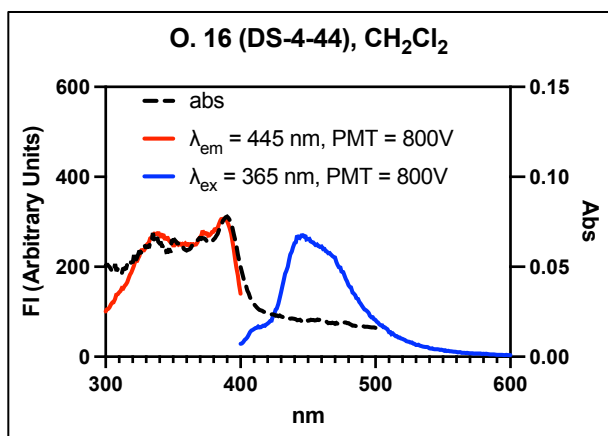
III. Absorbance and Fluorescence Data

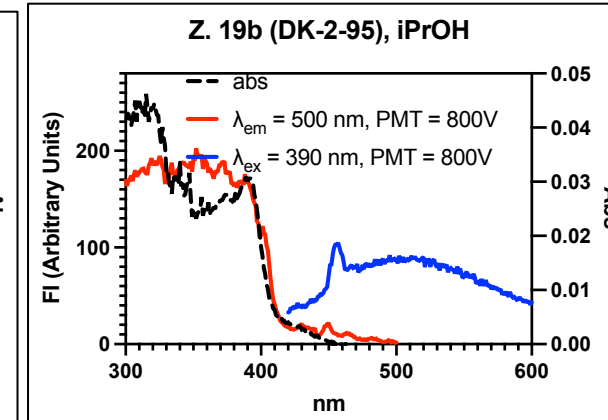
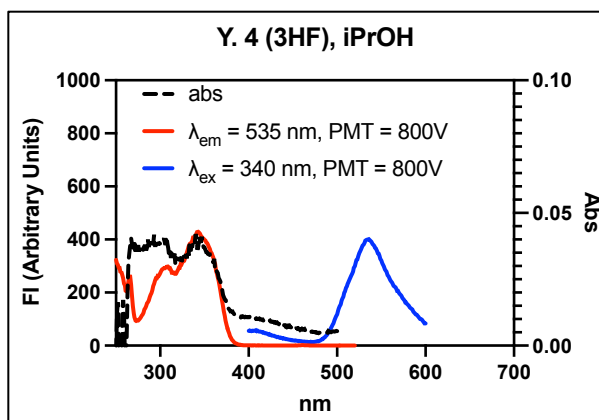
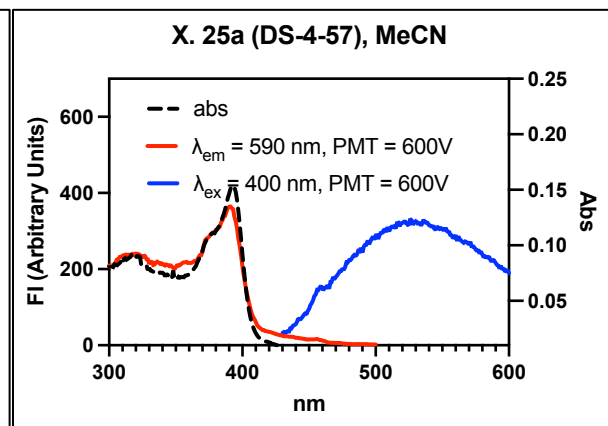
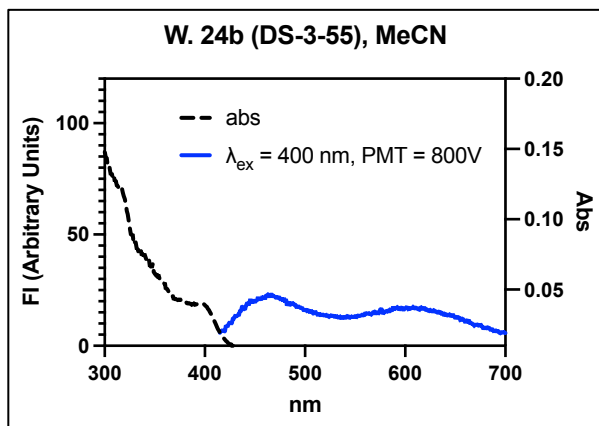
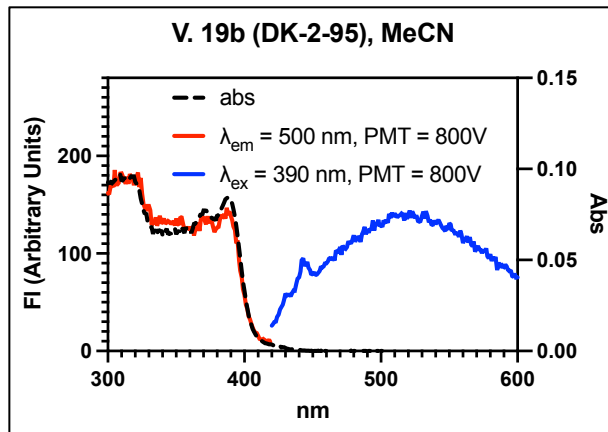
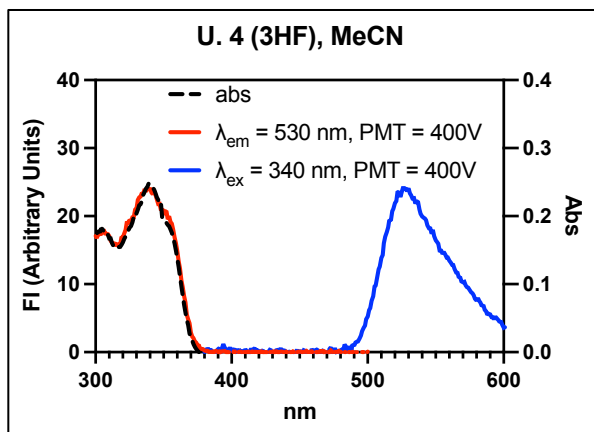
IIIa. Absorbance, Excitation and Emission Spectra Determination. 10 μM solution of samples were prepared by dissolving molecules in DMSO to achieve a final concentration of 10 μM , and further diluting in solvent or buffer by adding 3 μL of DMSO solutions to 3 mL of solvent or buffer. Stock DMSO solutions were stored in freezer when not in use. UV-Vis spectra were obtained on a Cary 100 Bio UV-Visible Spectrophotometer with solutions in a Quartz Spectrophotometer Cell (standard rectangular cell, 10 mm, Vernier Software). Fluorescence Excitation and Emission spectra were obtained on a Cary Eclipse Fluorescence Spectrophotometer (Agilent Technologies), with solutions in a Quartz Fluorometer Cell (Rectangular, 10 mm, Starna Cells, Inc). All samples were collected using a 5 nm excitation and emission slit. The local absorbance maximum with the longest wavelength were used for the excitation unless otherwise described, and are listed on the following spectra. Similarly, PMT detector voltage was varied on a sample-by-sample basis based on fluorescence intensity, and are listed on the spectra below. Upon completing above sequence of experiments, samples were transferred to a 1 dram vial, and photographs used in publication (**Figure 1A**) were taken upon irradiation in a dark room (unless otherwise noted) with a UVGL-58 Handheld UV Lamp (6 Watt, 365 nm).

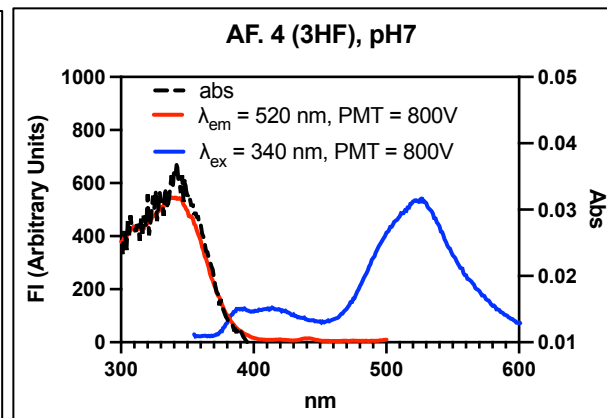
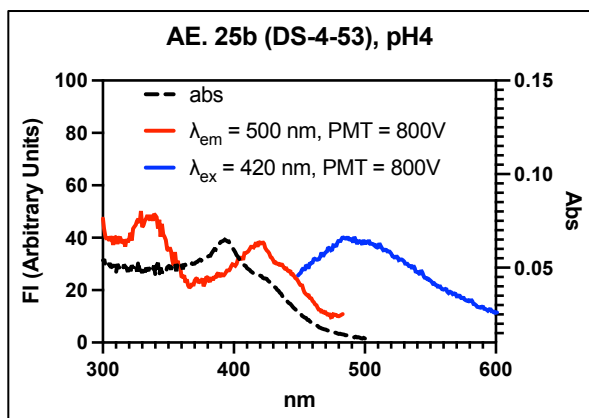
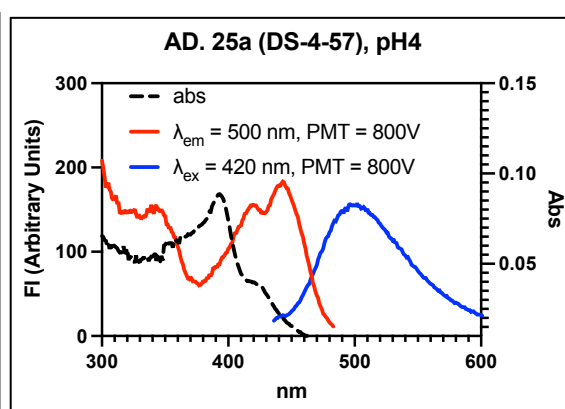
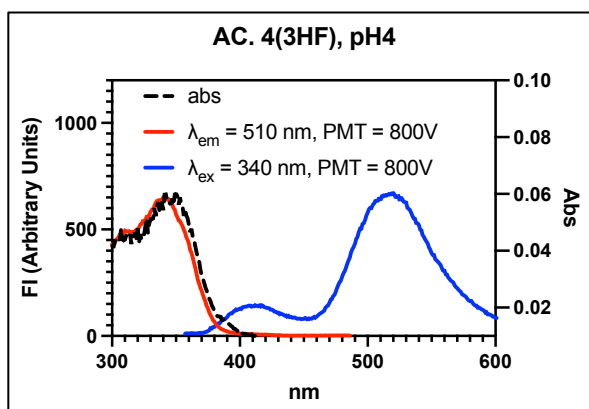
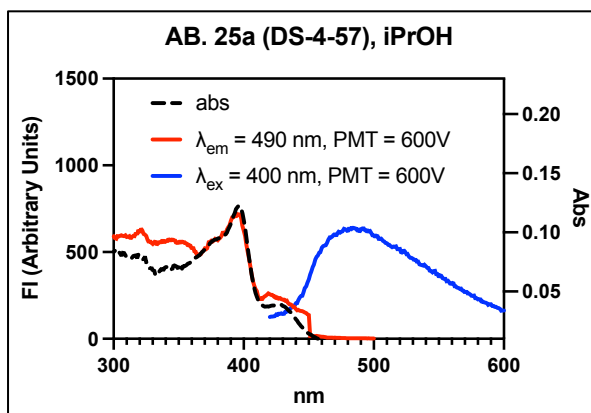
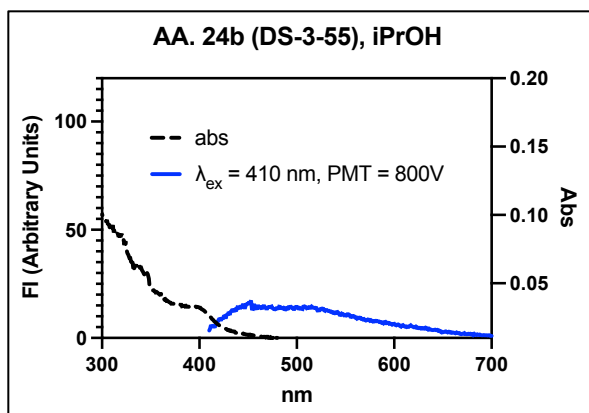


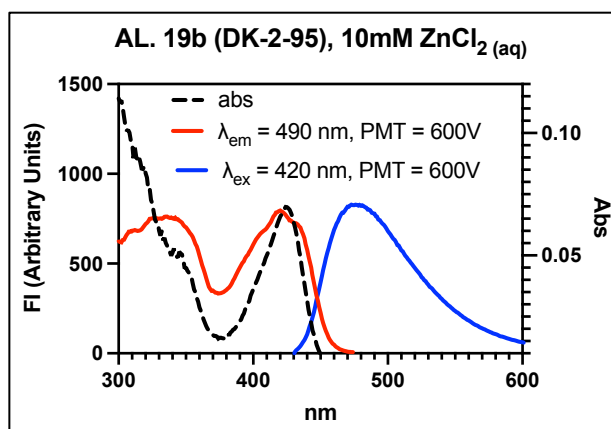
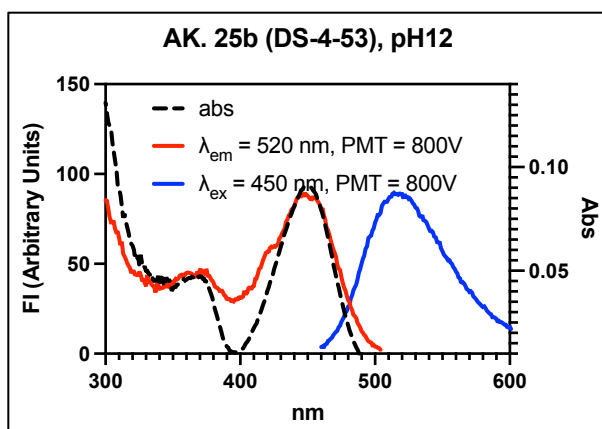
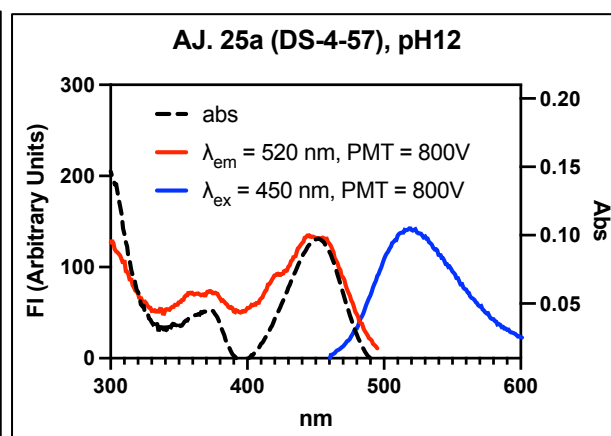
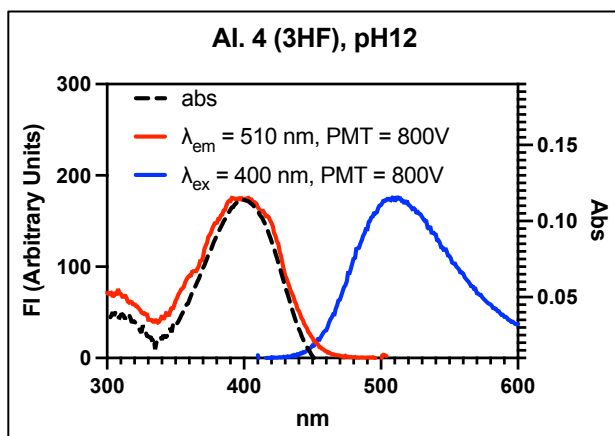
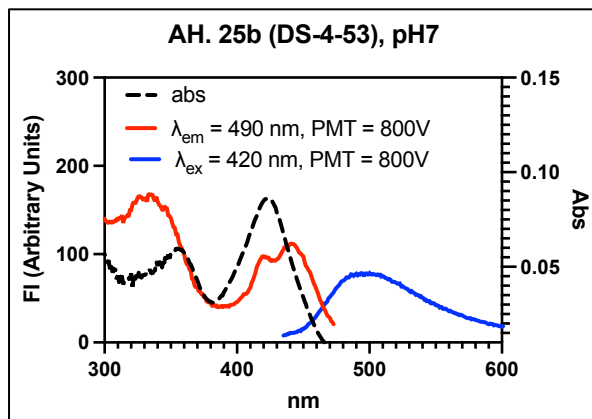
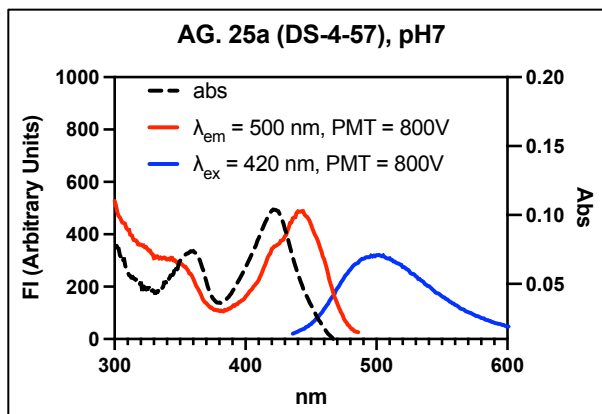


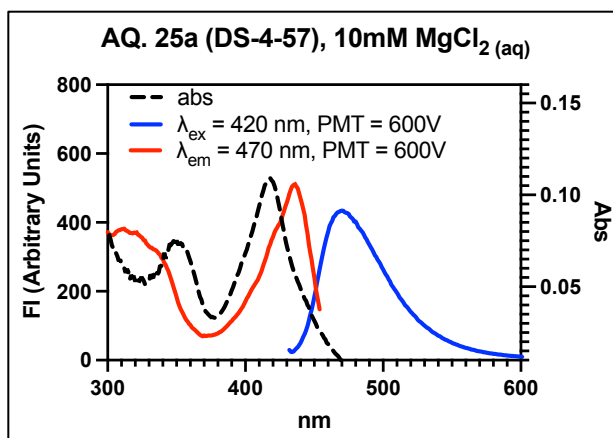
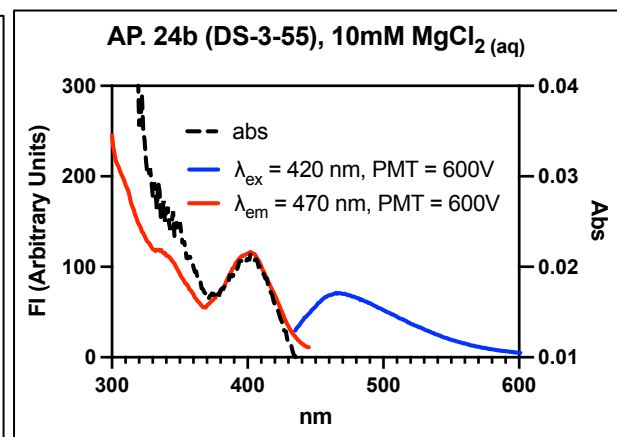
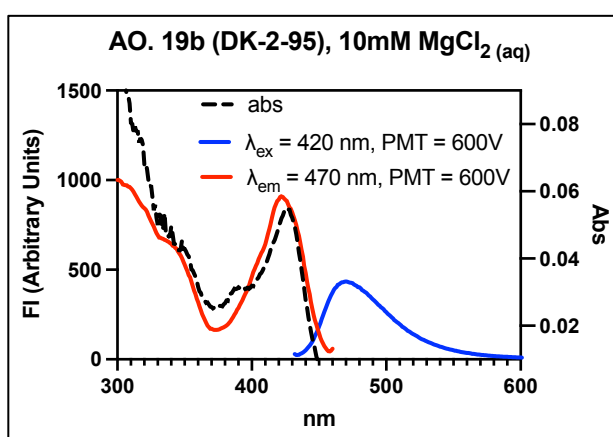
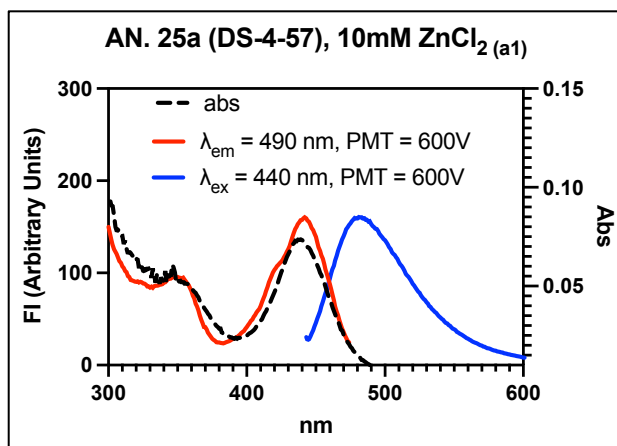
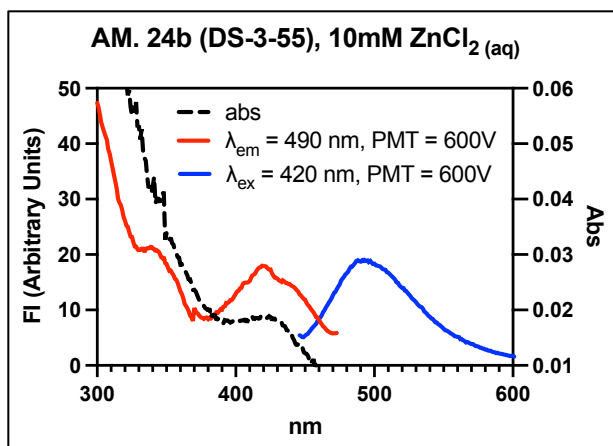




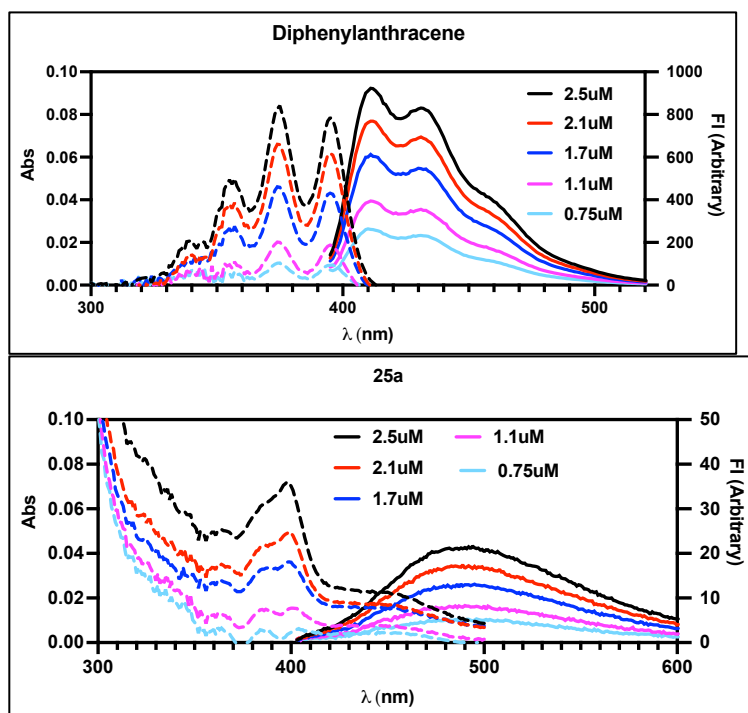






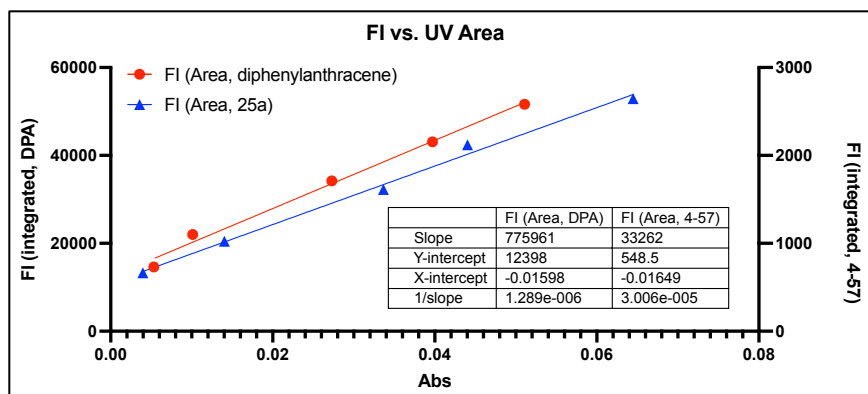


IIIb. Quantum Yield Determination. Absorbance and Emission Spectra ($\lambda_{ex} = 390$ nm, PMV = 500 V) were obtained for 3 mL solutions of **25a** (DS-4-47) in toluene and 2,4-diphenylanthracene in benzene. For **25a**, the beginning concentration was 6.6 μM , and for diphenylanthracene, the beginning concentration was 2.5 μM . Each solution was diluted by to 2.5/3, then subsequently by 2.3/3, 2/3, and 2/3, to obtain concentrations of 5.5 μM , 4.2 μM , 2.8 μM , and 1.9 μM for **25a** and 2.1 μM , 1.6 μM , 1.06 μM , 0.7 μM of diphenylanthracene. Following background subtraction (PhMe or Benzene), the absorbance and emission graphs for each solution follow:



The absorbance of **25a** at 400 nm was plotted against concentration in molar, and the slope provided the molar extinction coefficient ($\epsilon = 33,500 \text{ cm}^{-1}\text{M}^{-1}$).

Integration under the fluorescence curve was plotted against the absorbance value at 390 nm to give the following graphs:



Using the following formula:

$$\Phi_{F, 25a} = \Phi_{F, DPA} * (m_{25a} / m_{DPA}) * (n_{D, PhH} / n_{D, PhMe})$$

Where Φ_F is the quantum yield, m is the slope, and n_D is the solvent refractive index: (benzene = 1.5011; toluene = 1.4969). Using the literature quantum yield of diphenylanthracene in benzene (0.82), and the slopes determined above, a quantum yield for **25a** of 0.035 was determined.

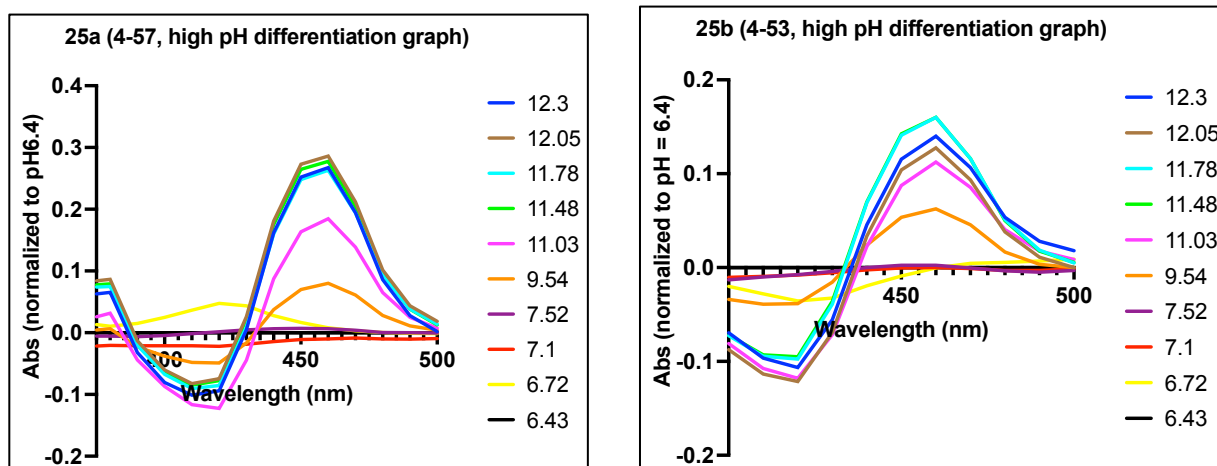
IIIc. UV-Vis-Based pKa Determination.

Stock Solutions of potassium phosphate buffers. 100 mM aqueous phosphate buffers were generated using potassium phosphate monobasic and tribasic salts dissolved in deionized water. The monobasic potassium phosphate solution also contained 200 mM of potassium chloride to maintain constant concentration of potassium ions in solution. The pH of these solutions were 4.4 and 12.3, as determined using an EcoSense pH10a meter. Mixtures of these solutions were created by combining 9:1, 8:2, 7:3, 6:4, 5:5, 4:6, 3:7, 2:8, and 1:9 of the monobasic and tribasic solutions, which provided pHs of 6.0, 6.4, 6.7, 7.1, 7.5, 9.5, 11.0, 11.5, 11.8, and 12.0. Additional points between 4.4 and 6.0 were generated through fine-tuning the lower pH solutions to generate 4.7, 5.3, and 5.6, and for lower pH solutions, monobasic solution was acidified with aqueous HCl to generate aqueous solutions of pH of 1.4, 2.14, 2.72 and 3.13.

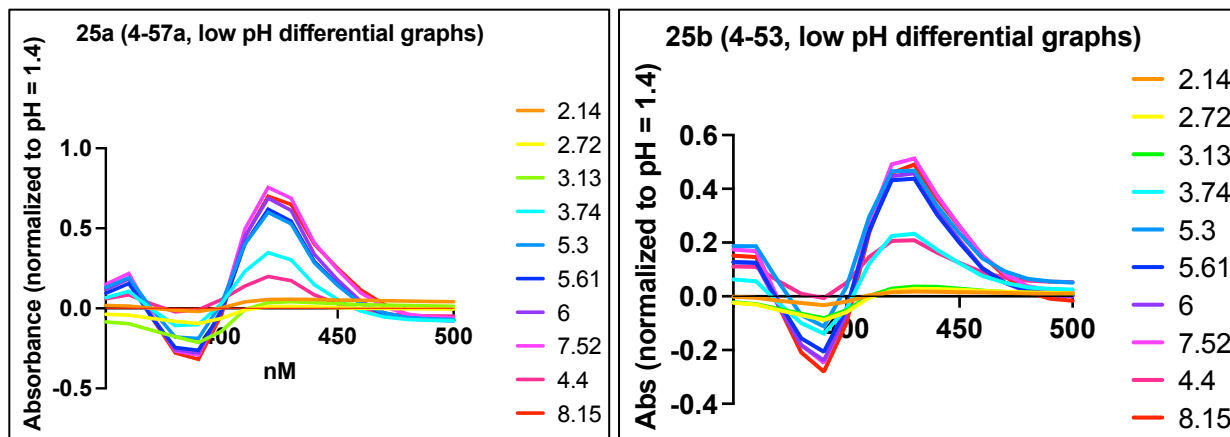
Determination of pKa by UV-Vis. Data was collected on a Syngery H1 microplate reader. 10 μ M of 2.5 mM solutions of **25a (DS-4-57)** and **45b (DS-4-53)** in dmsO were added to 190 μ M of the buffered solutions in a clear 96-well flat bottom plate (Costar, polystyrene) well a final concentration of 125 μ M. For background absorbance, 10 μ M dmsO was added to same set of

phosphate buffers. UV-Vis absorbance from 300 nm to 500 nm was collected. Data was processed by subtracting the background absorbance from that containing tropolones.

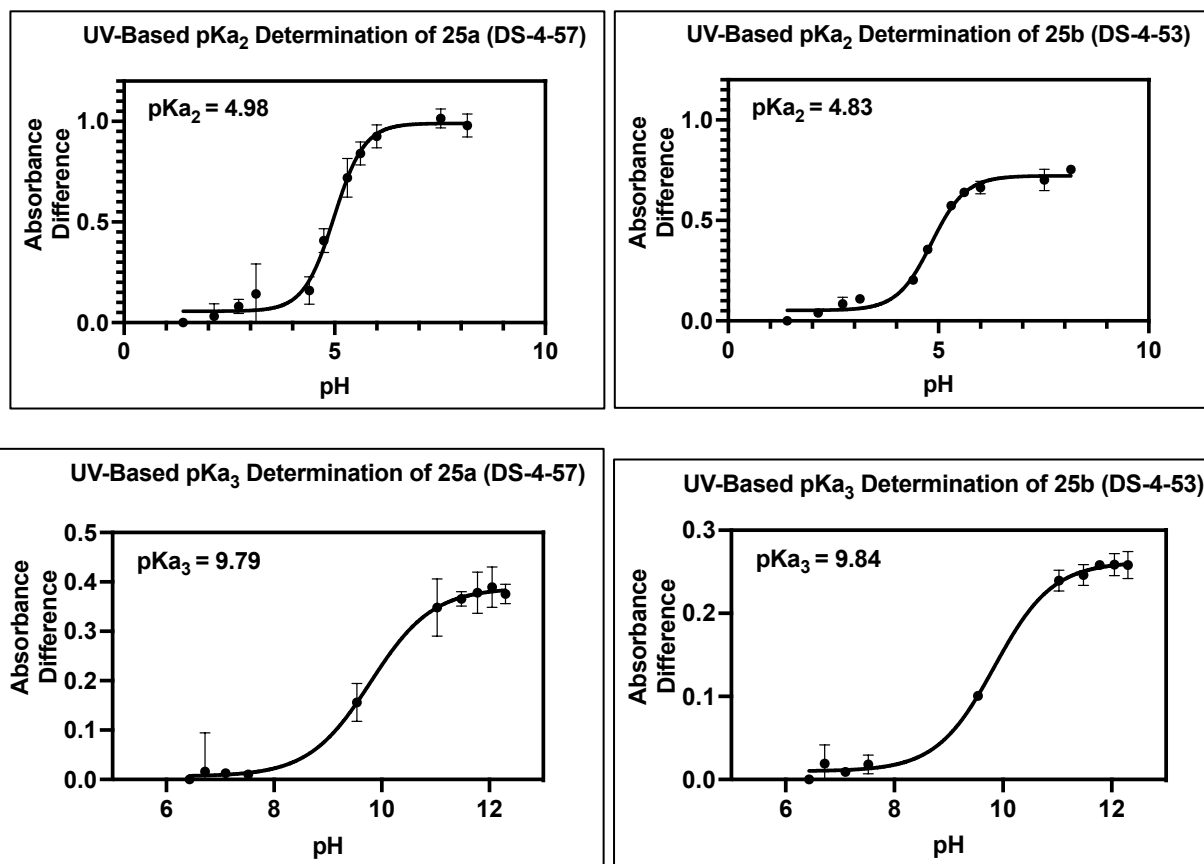
For high pKa, differential spectra were created by subtracting data at pH 6.4 to generate the following graphs:



Similarly, for low pKa, differential spectra were created by subtracting data at pH 1.4 to generate the following graphs:



The above experiments were carried out twice, and from these data, the difference between 460 and 420nm were plotted versus pH to obtain pKa3 and 390 and 420 (4-57) and 390 and 430 (4-53). Data was processed using sigmoidal dose-response to obtain pKa values. Graphs from these experiments are as follows:

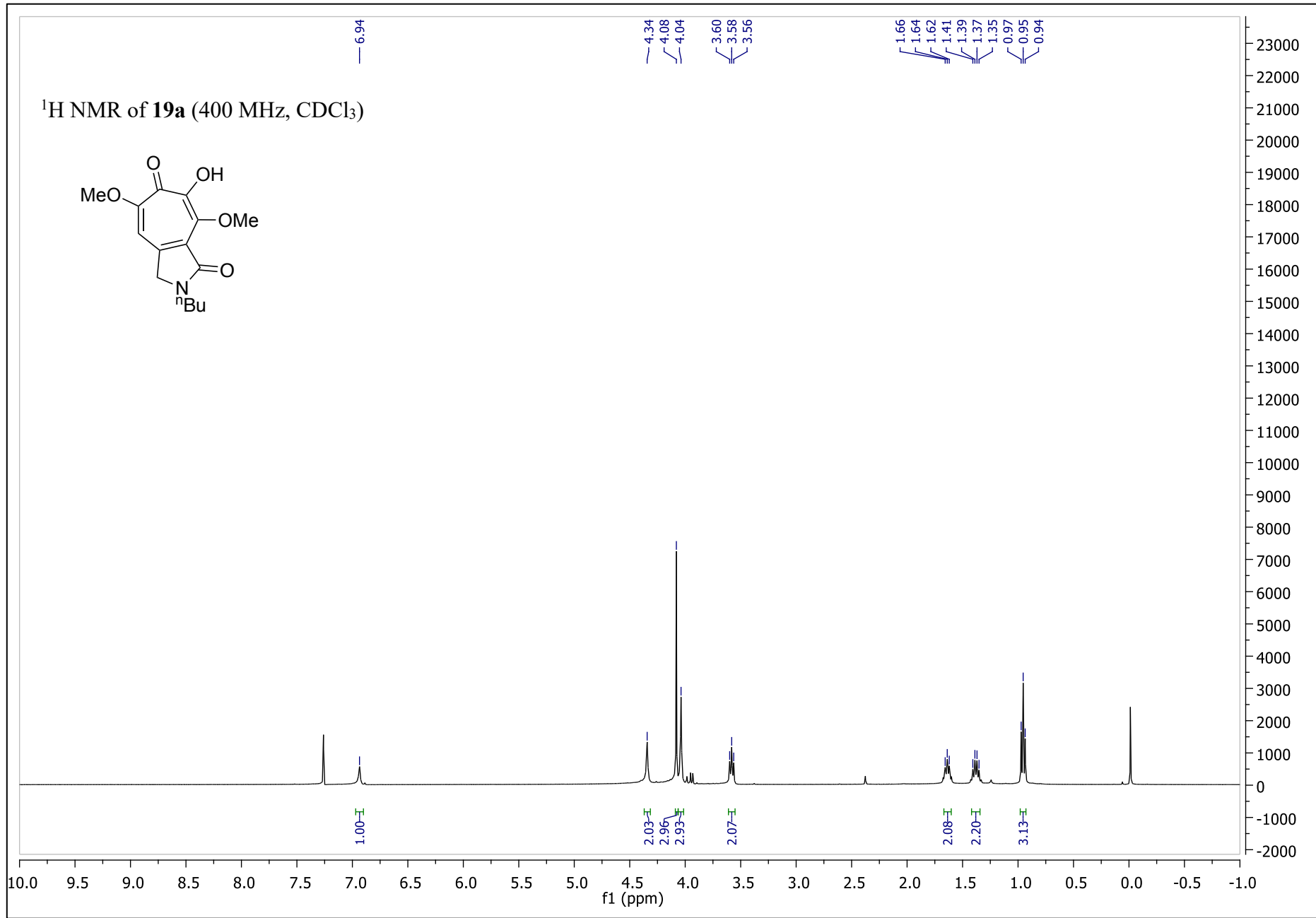


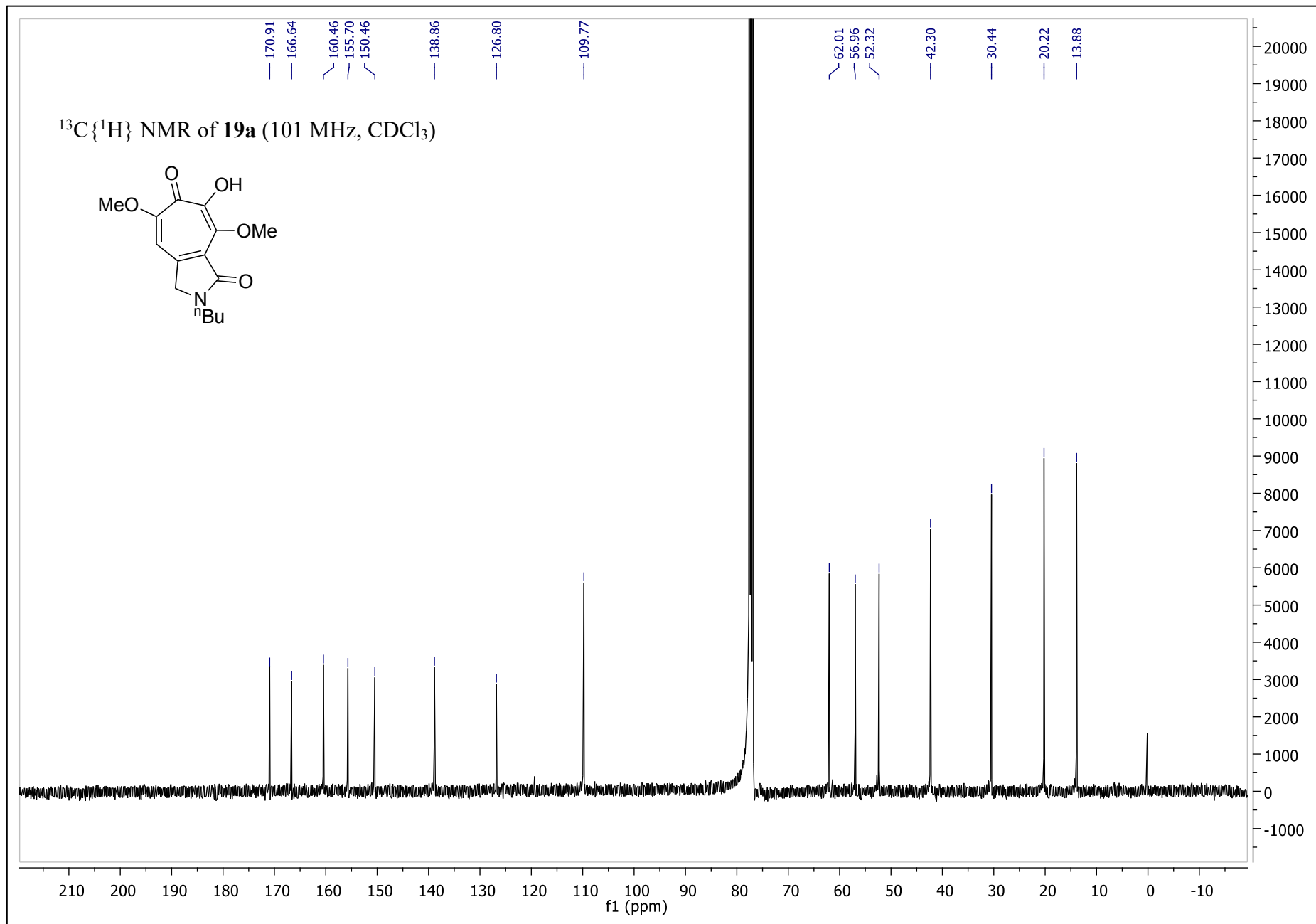
Fluorescence emission versus pH. Immediately following the collection of the UV data described above, fluorescence intensity was recorded at 500 nm following excitation at 450 nm in the same platereader. This data is presented as part of Figure 3B and 3C in the manuscript.

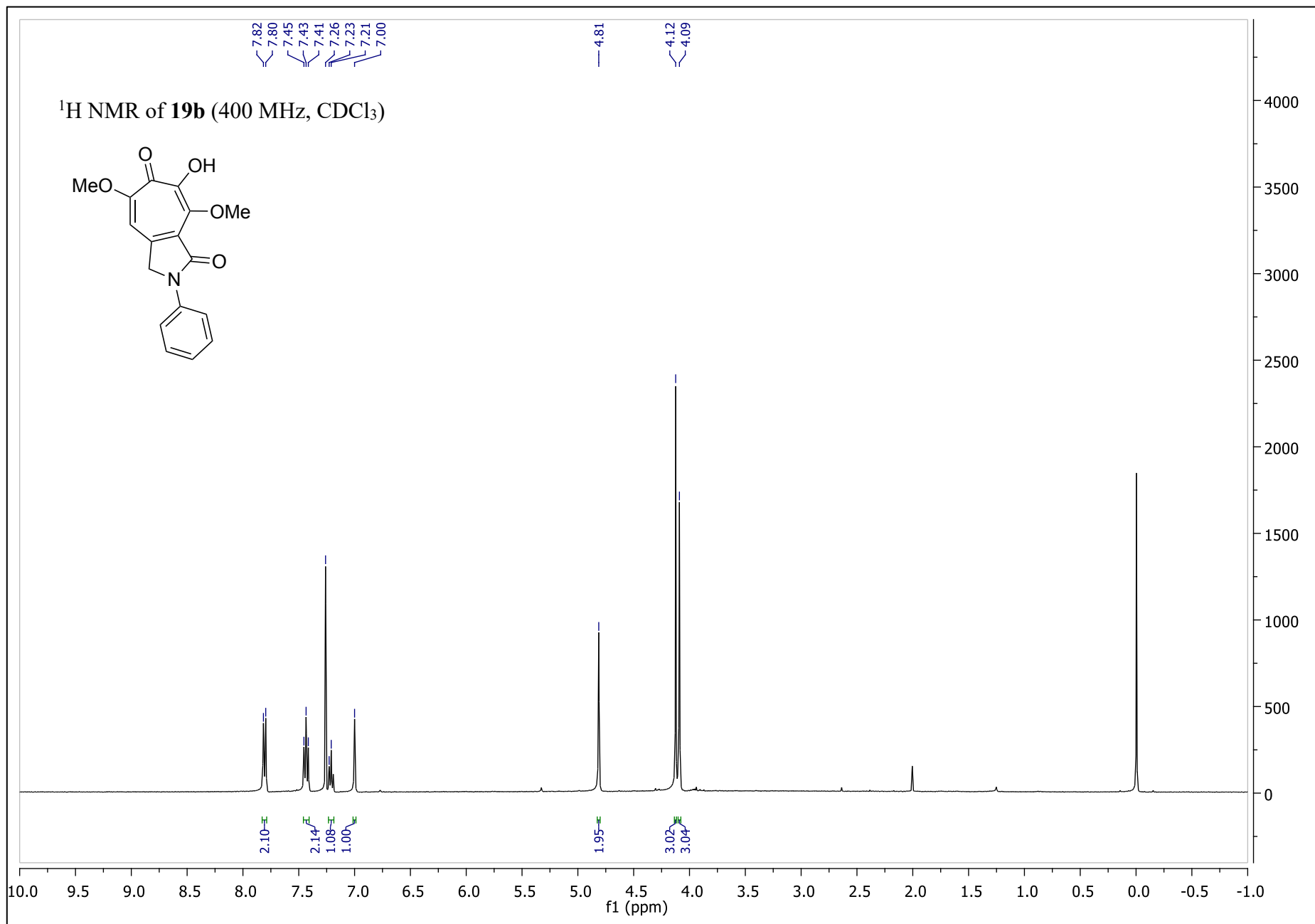
IIIId. Fluorescence of Tropolones in Presence of Metals Across a Dilution Series.

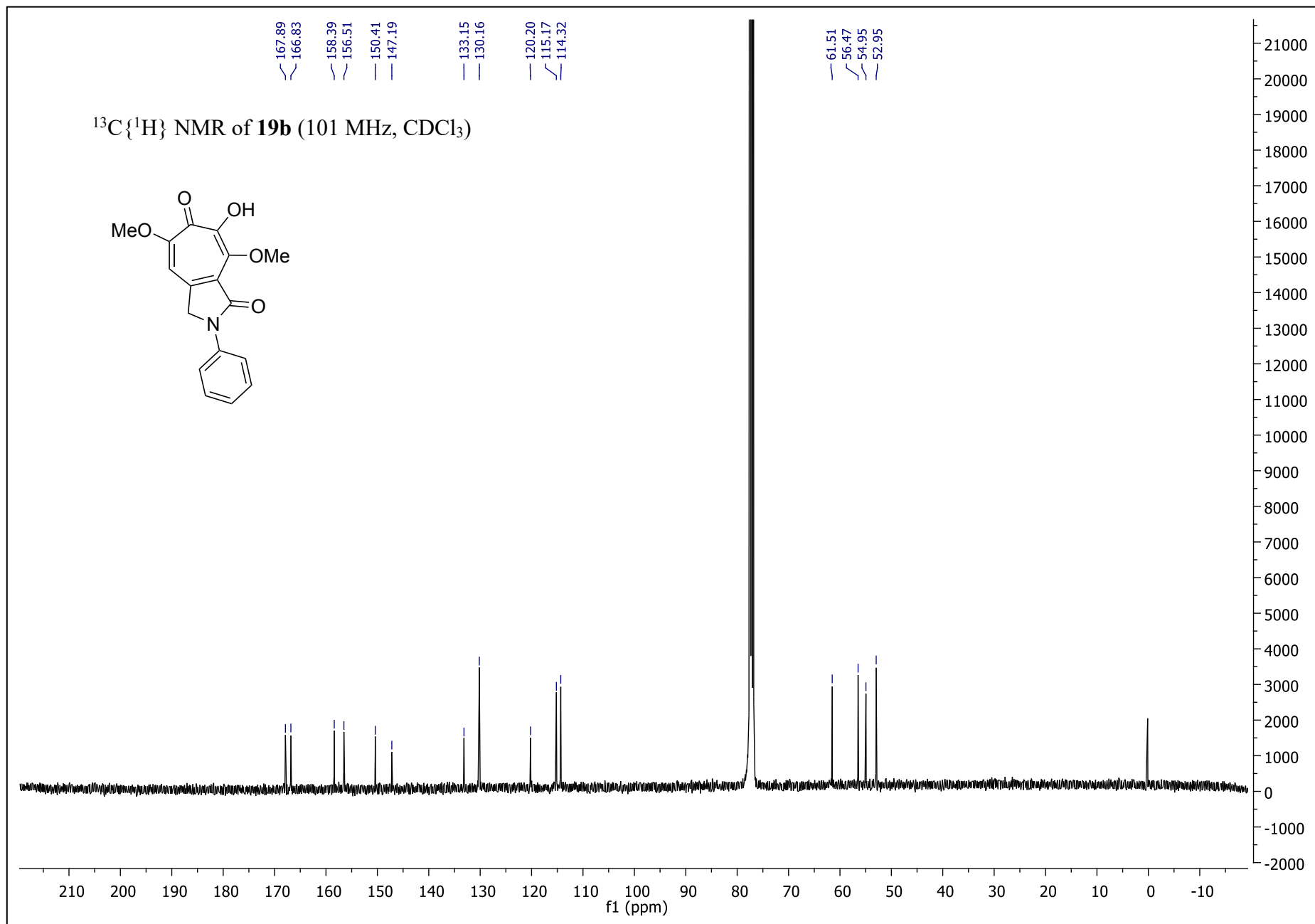
100 mM aqueous solutions of Zinc and Magnesium Chloride were made and diluted by factor of 3 across clear 96-well flat bottom plate (Costar, polystyrene). To accomplish this, 90 μ L deionized water was mixed with 30 μ L metal-containing solution in waterfall format across the plate (1 \rightarrow 11), such that a dilution series was made across 11 of the 12 wells containing 90 μ L of a dilution series of 100 mM, 33 mM, 11 mM, 3.6 mM, 1.2 mM, 0.4 mM, 130 μ M, 44 μ M, 15 μ M, 5 μ M, and 1.7 μ M. The final series of wells contained 90 μ L of deionized water as a blank. Aqueous stock solutions containing 110 μ M **19b**, **24b**, and **25a**, created by dilution of a 10 mM stock solution in dmsO, were added to the wells in duplicate (**19b** across plate series 'c' and 'd', **24b** 'e' and 'f', and **25a** 'g' and 'h'). This provided 10 μ M solutions of tropolones in solutions containing 90 mM, 30 mM, 10 mM, 3.3 mM, 1.1 mM, 0.37 mM, 12 μ M, 40 μ M, 14 μ M, 4.6, and 1.5 μ M

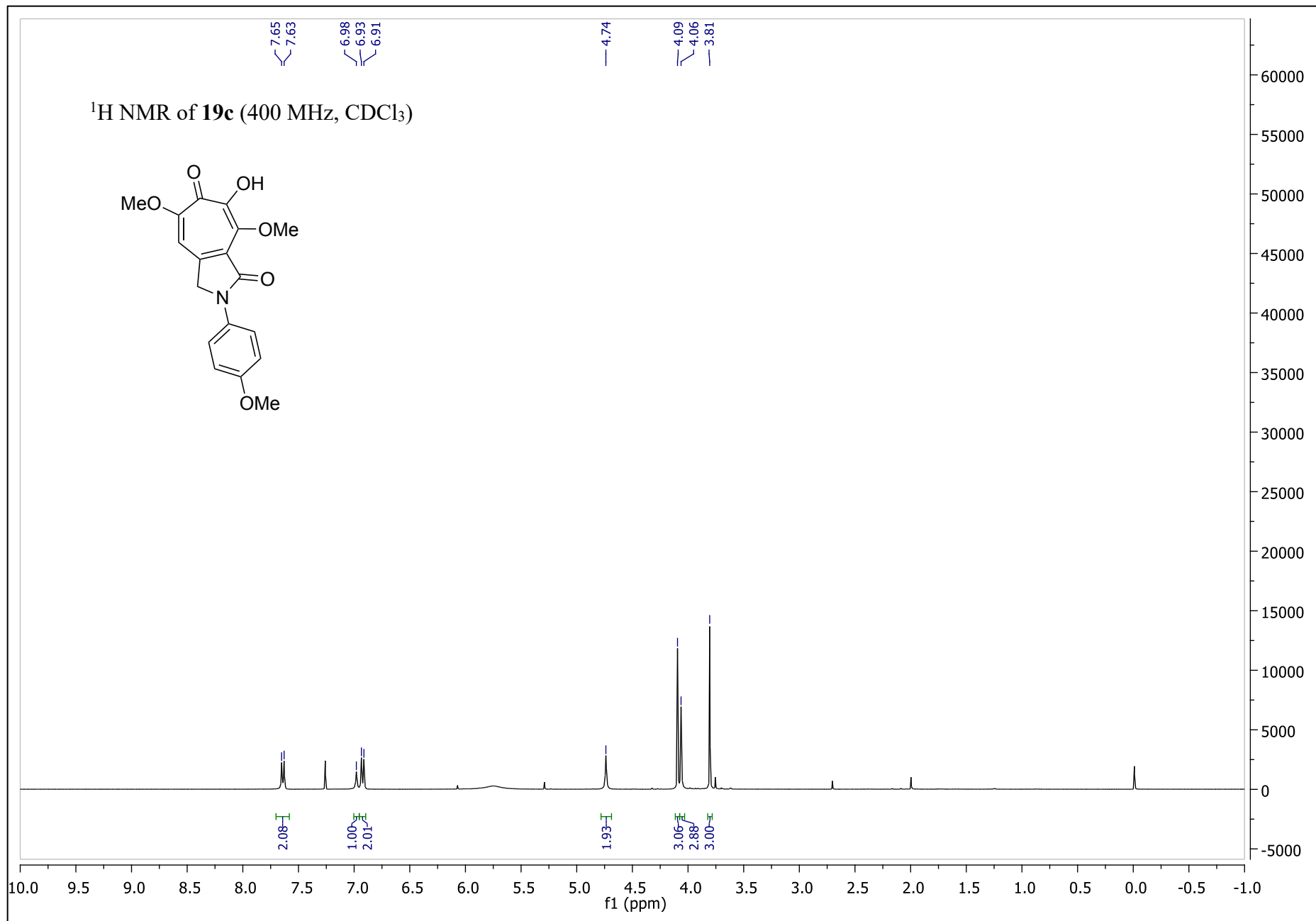
metals, as well as no metal. 10 μ M water was added to plate series 'a' and 'b' for blanks. Fluorescence was recorded on a Syngery H1 microplate reader with excitation wavelength at 420 nm, and reading emission at either 460 nm or 480 nm for magnesium chloride and zinc chloride respectively. Data was processed by first subtracting the average of the background of magnesium or zinc solutions without tropolones from those with same concentration of metal but that contained tropolones. The corrected data series containing metals was then subtracted from that containing no metal. These numbers were inserted as sets of duplicates into Graphpad Prism used to create the data in figure 4C.

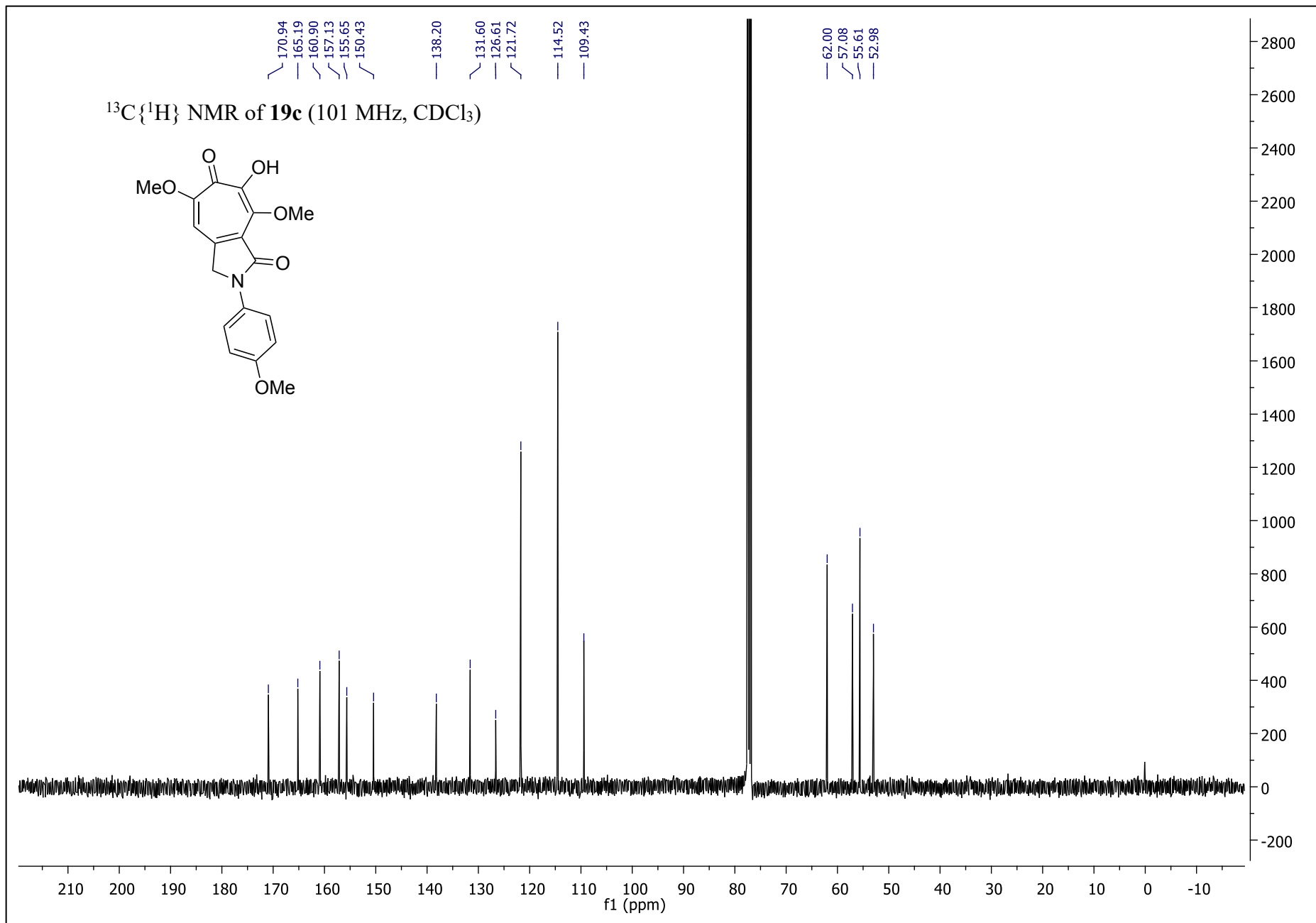




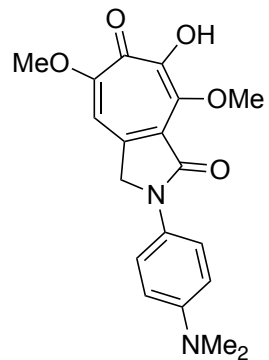








¹H NMR of **19d** (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



7.58
7.56

6.95
6.73
6.71

4.68

4.09
4.05

2.92

2.04

1.00

2.03

2.00

3.05

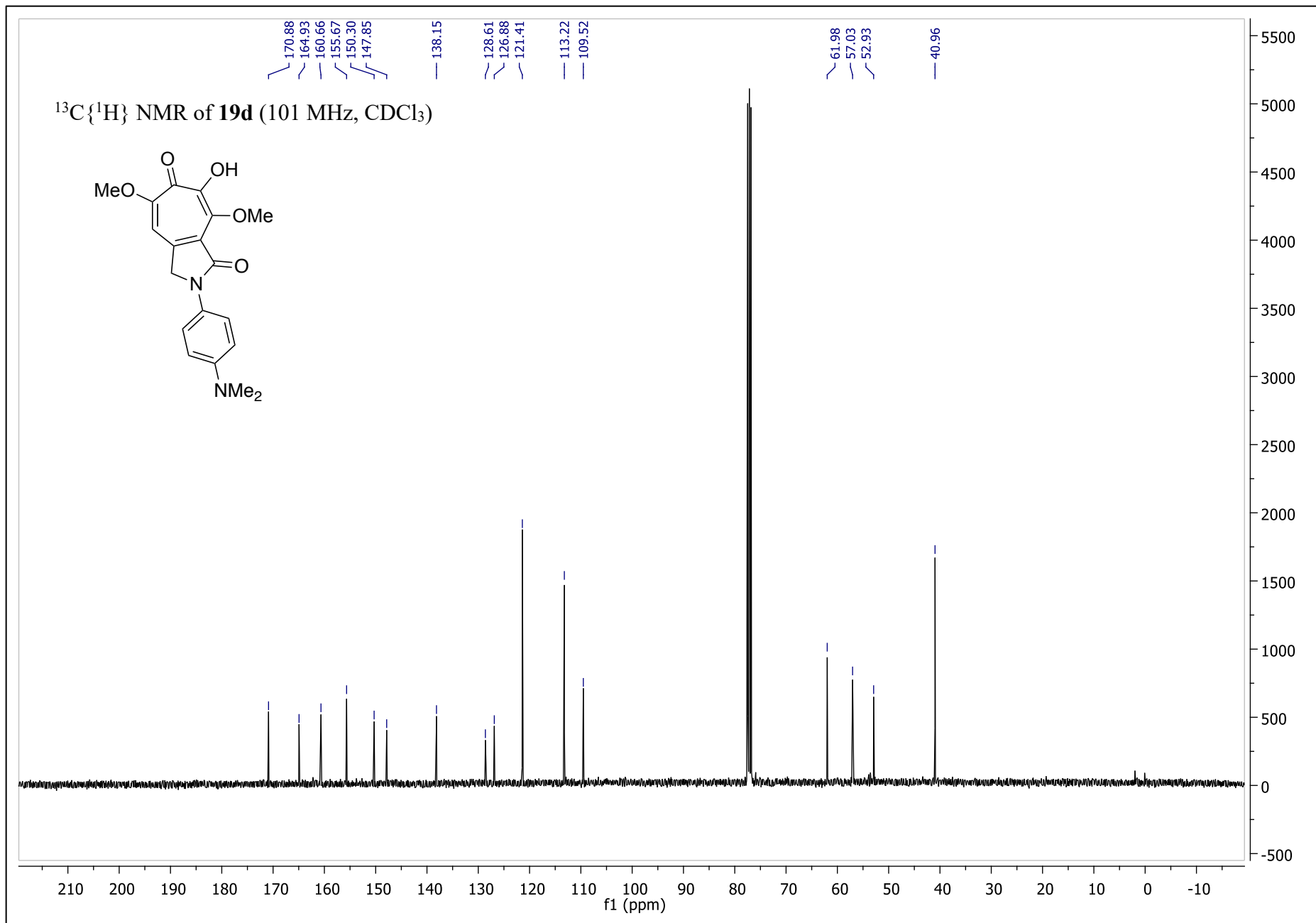
3.05

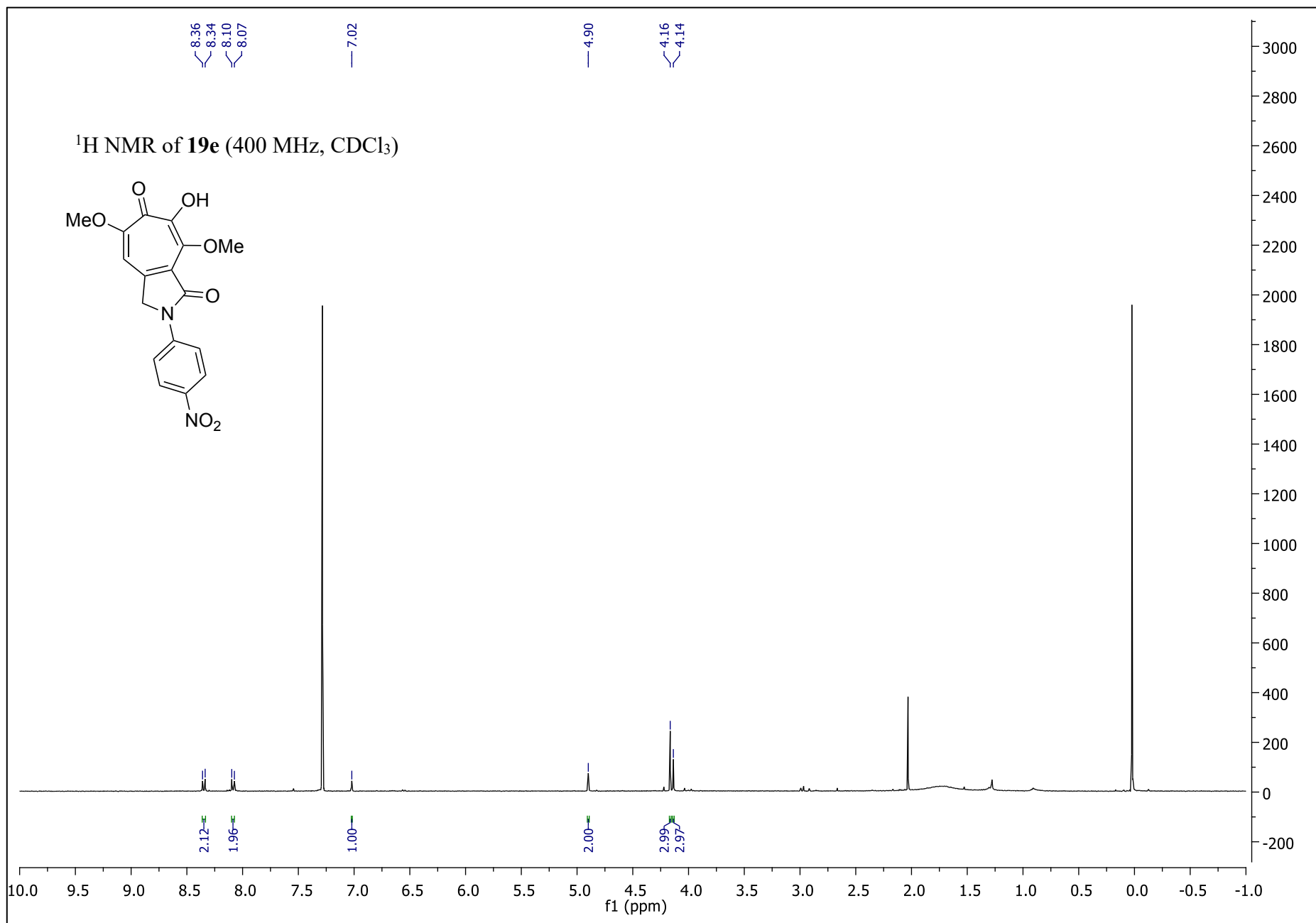
6.10

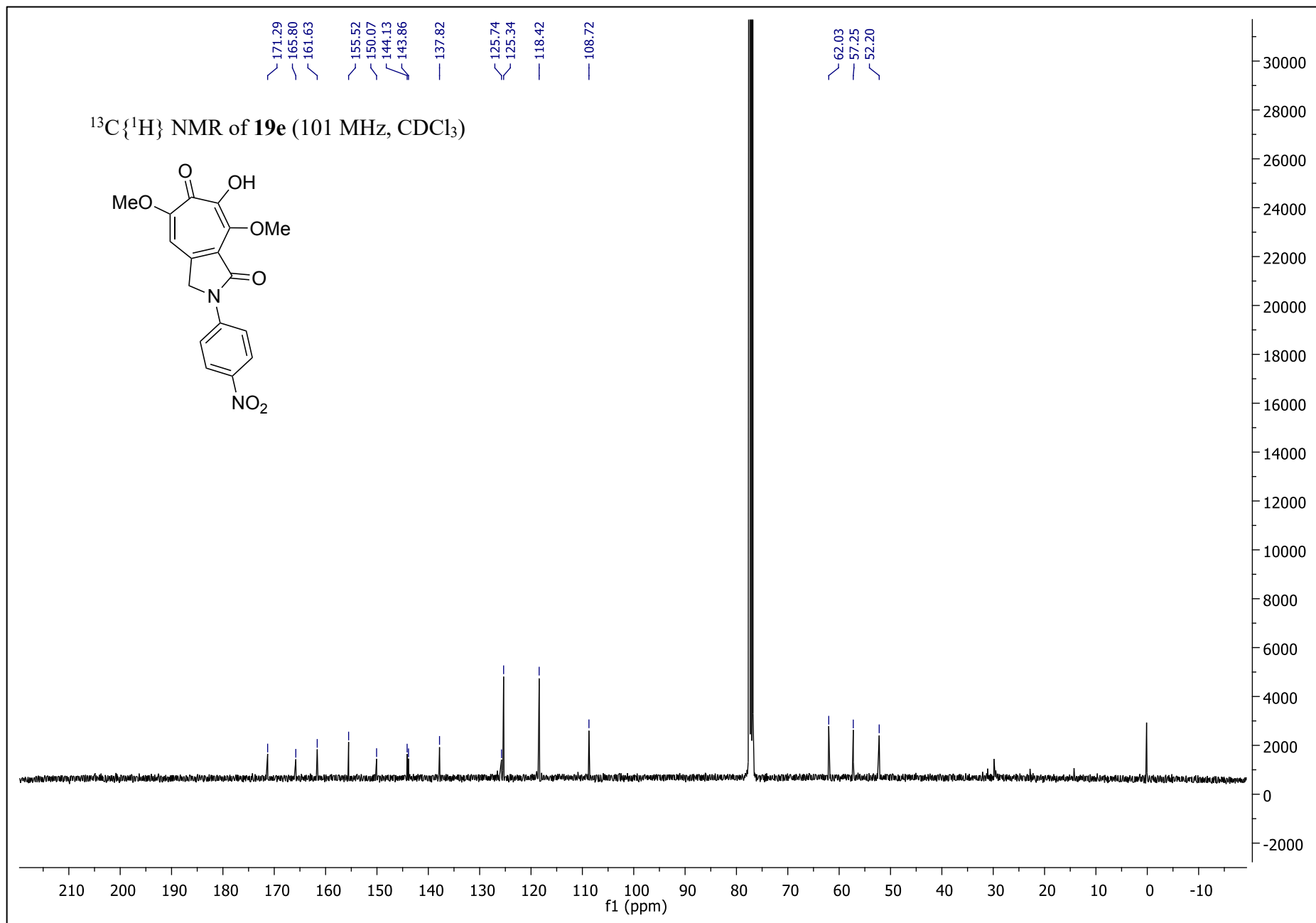
9.5 9.0 8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 -0.5 -1.0

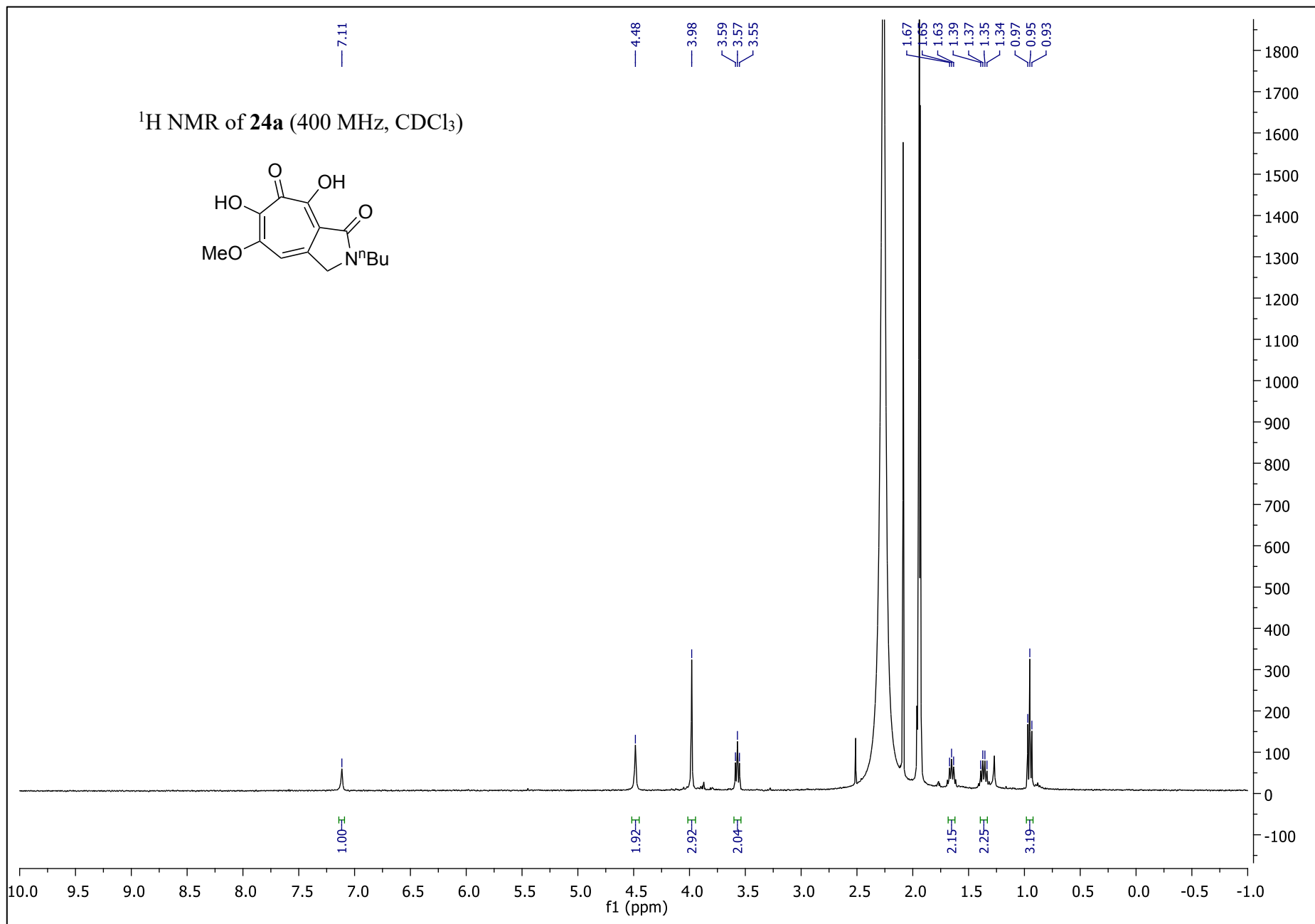
f1 (ppm)

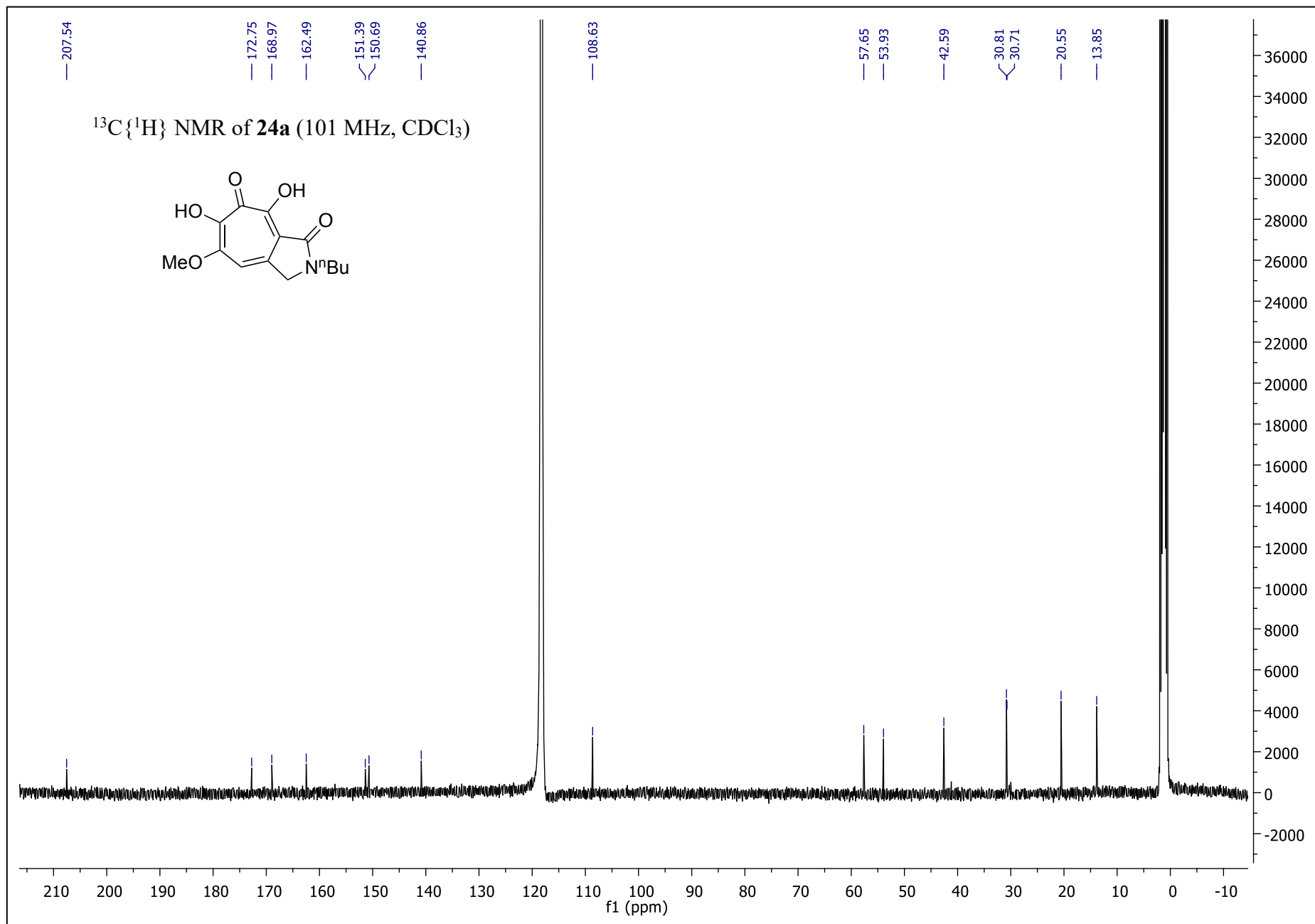
50000
45000
40000
35000
30000
25000
20000
15000
10000
5000
0

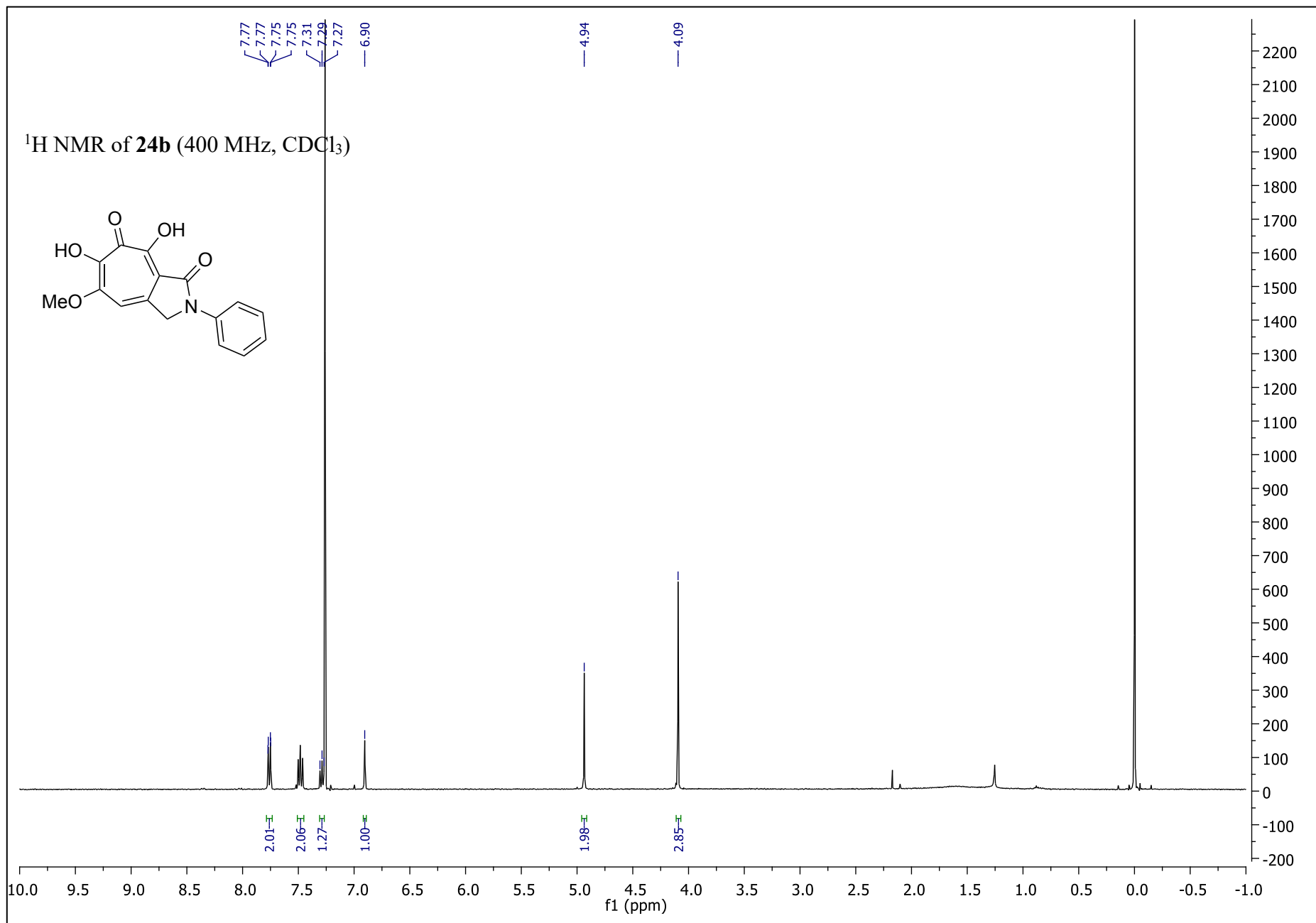


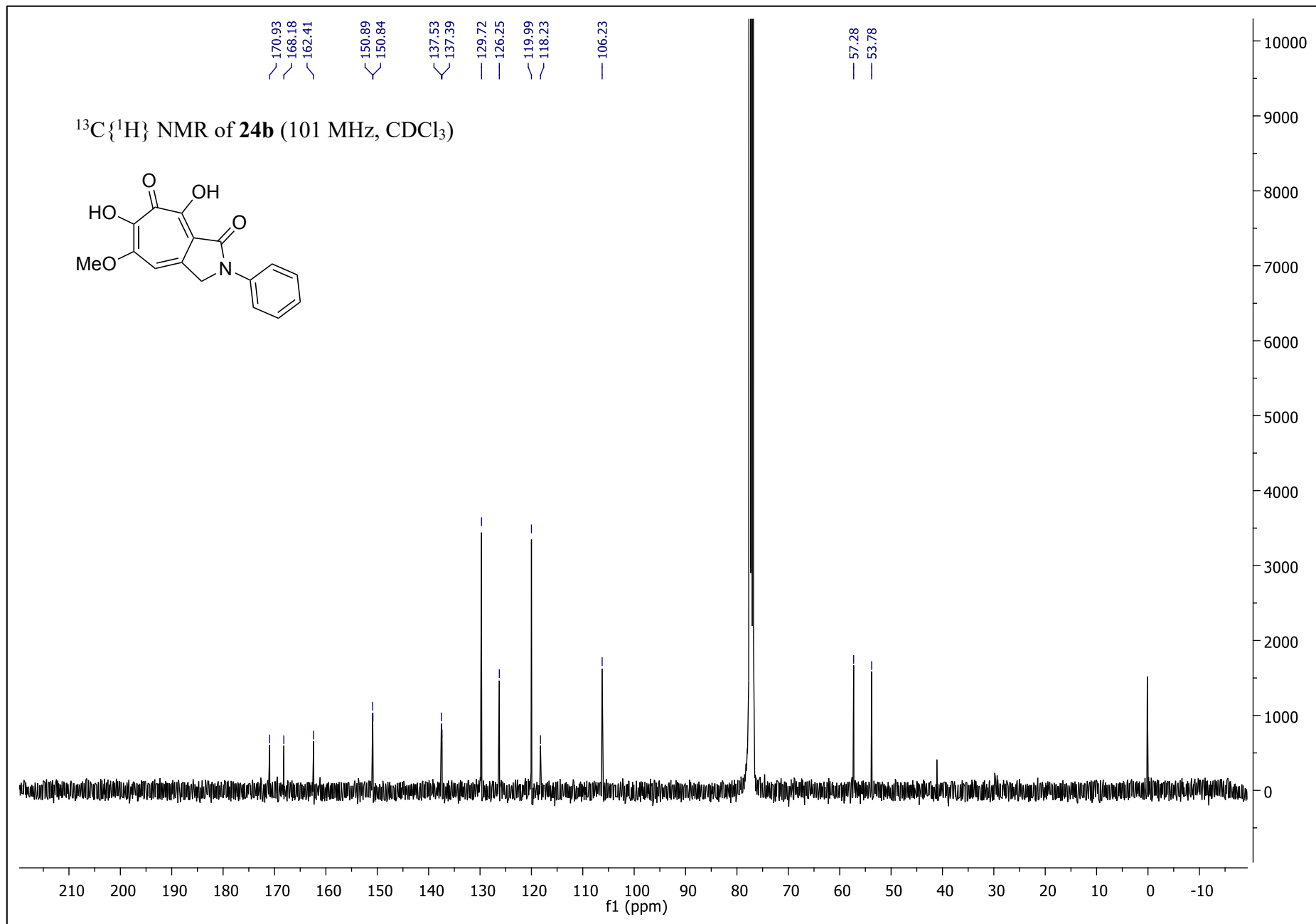


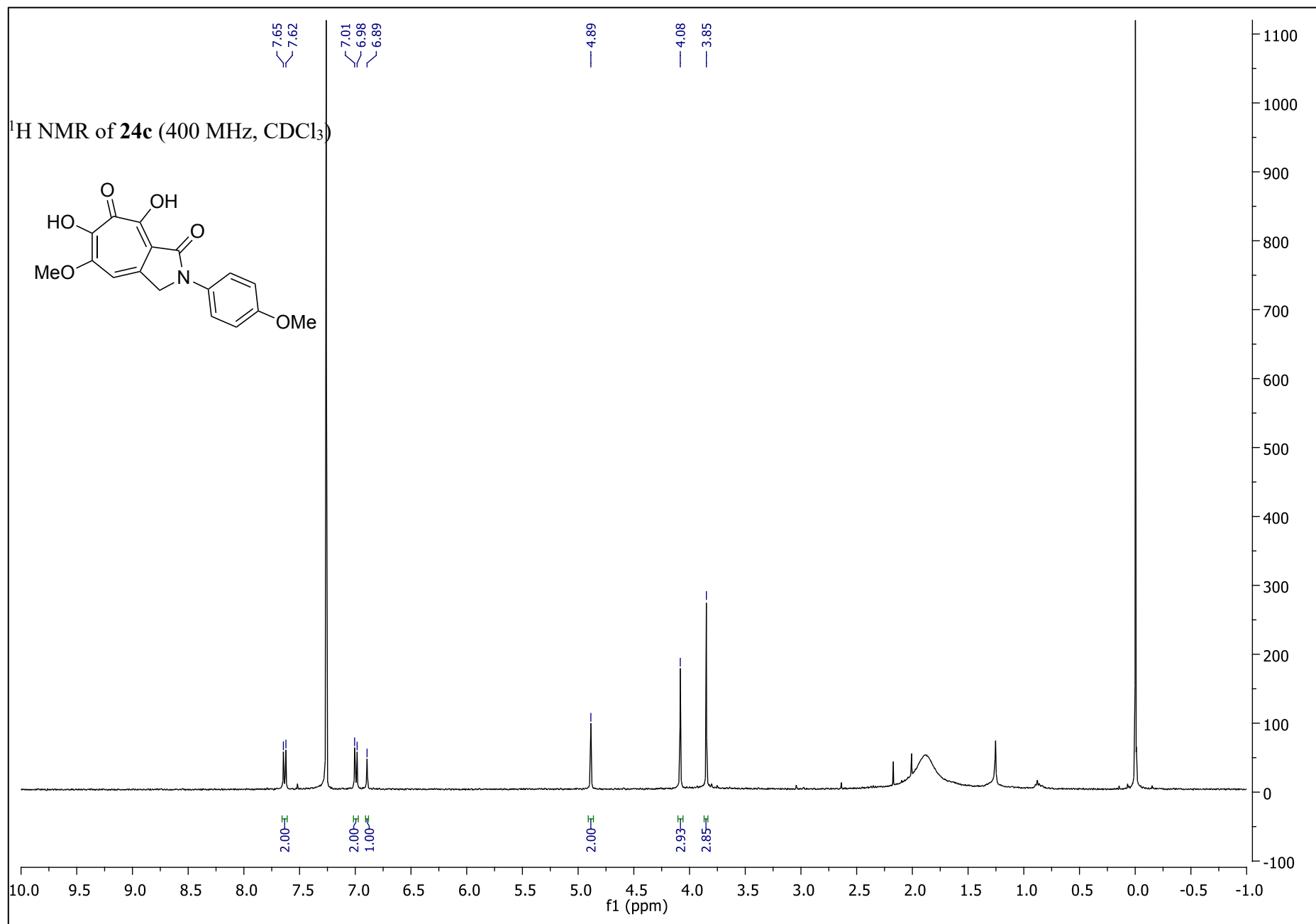


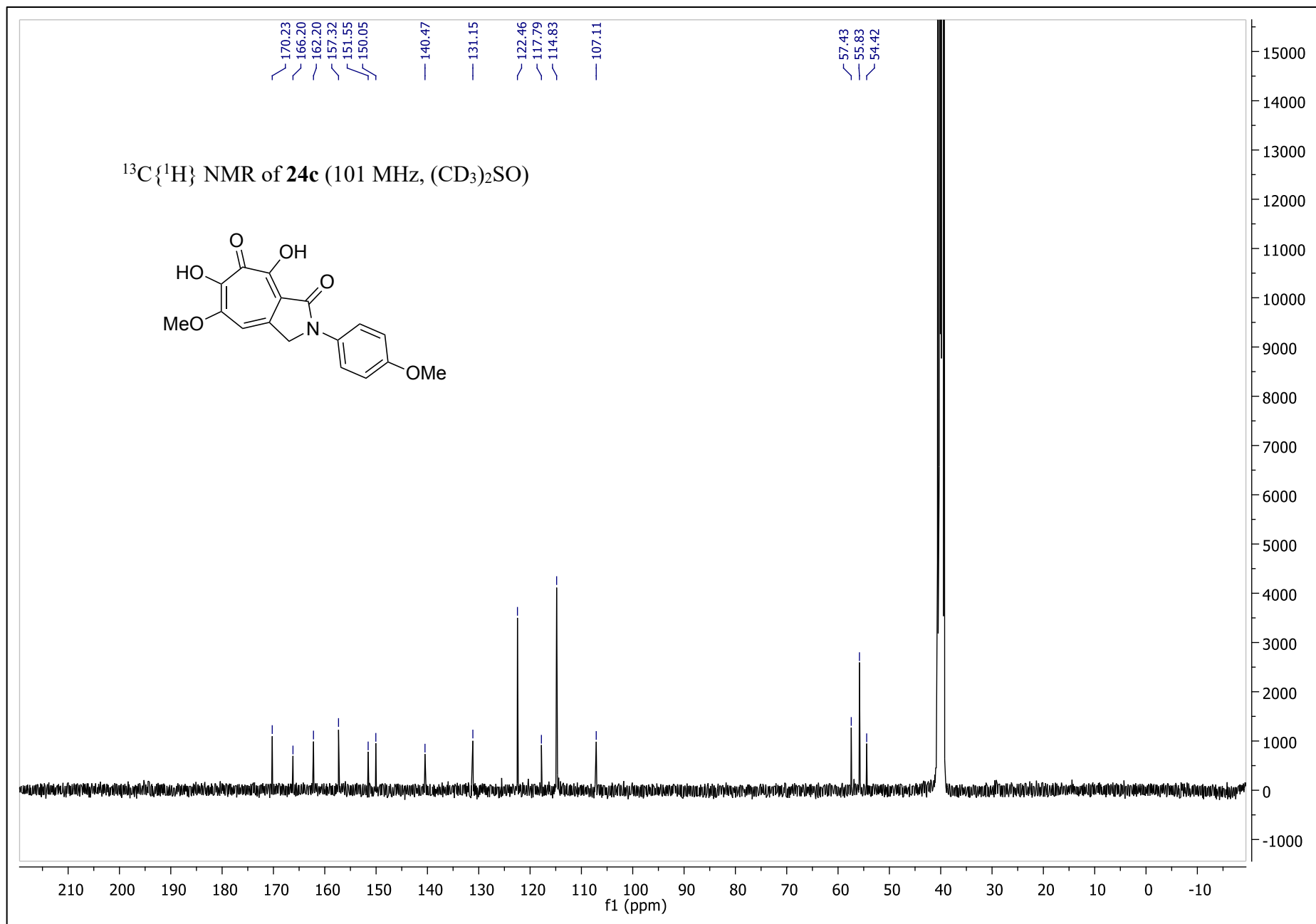


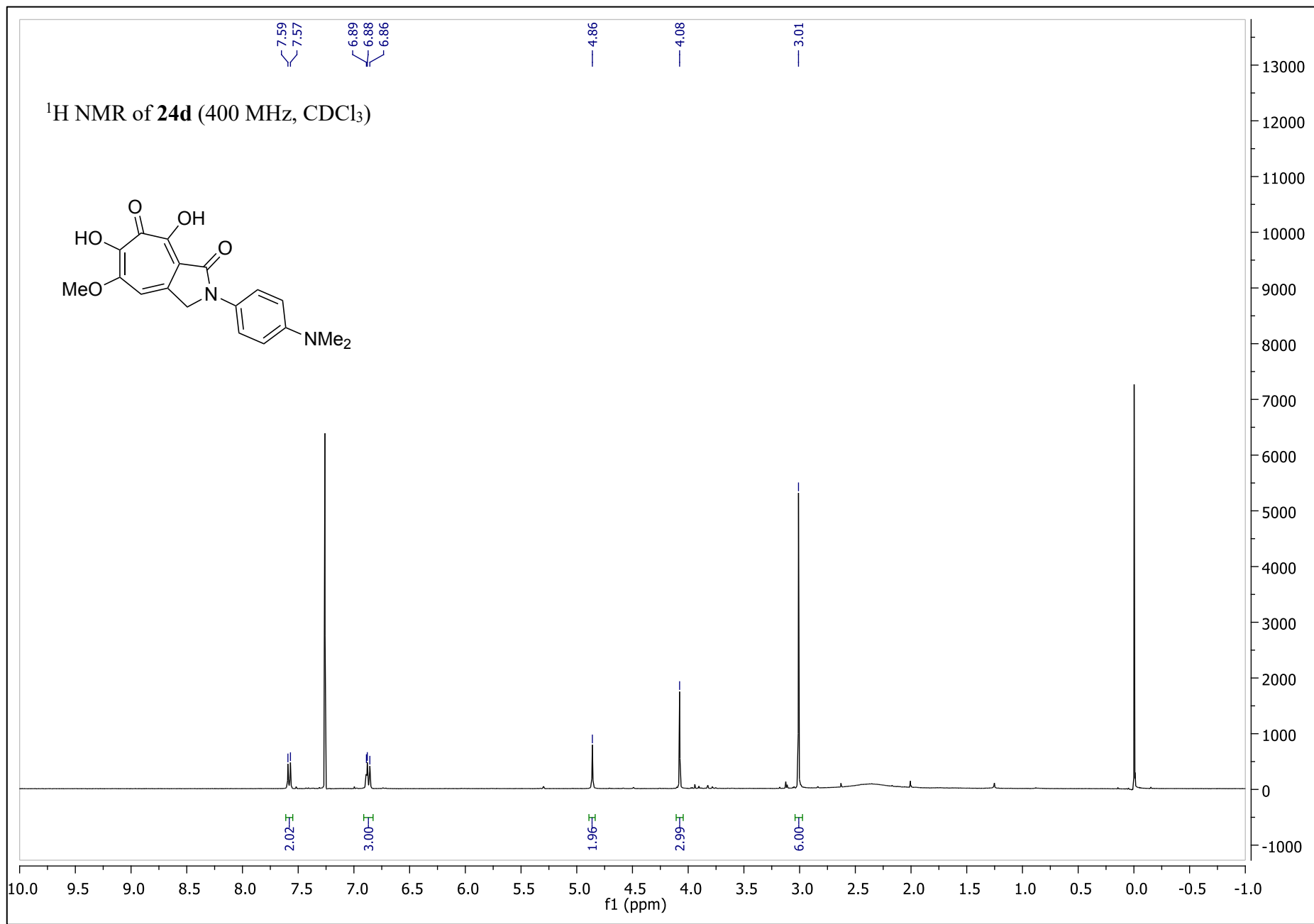


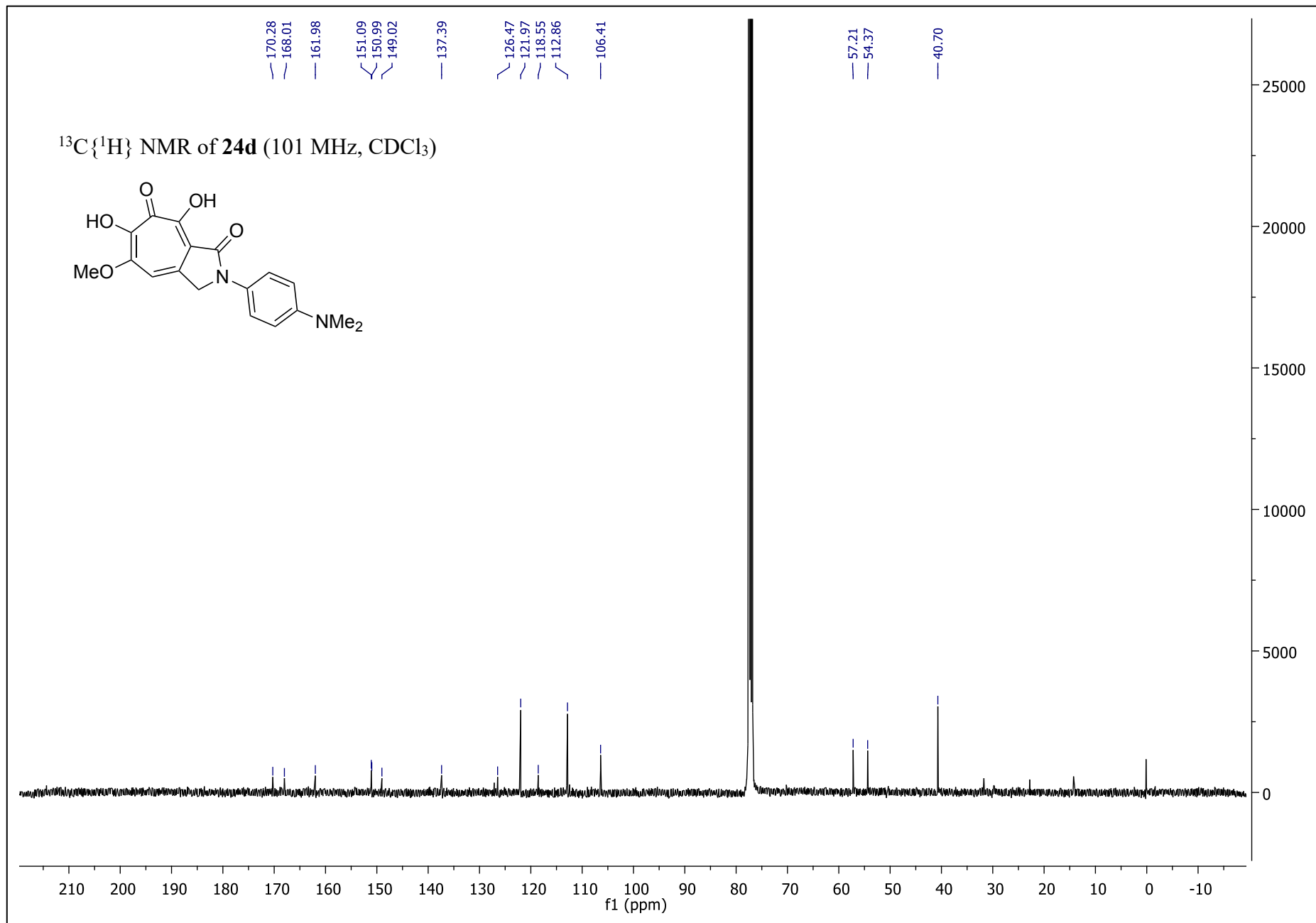


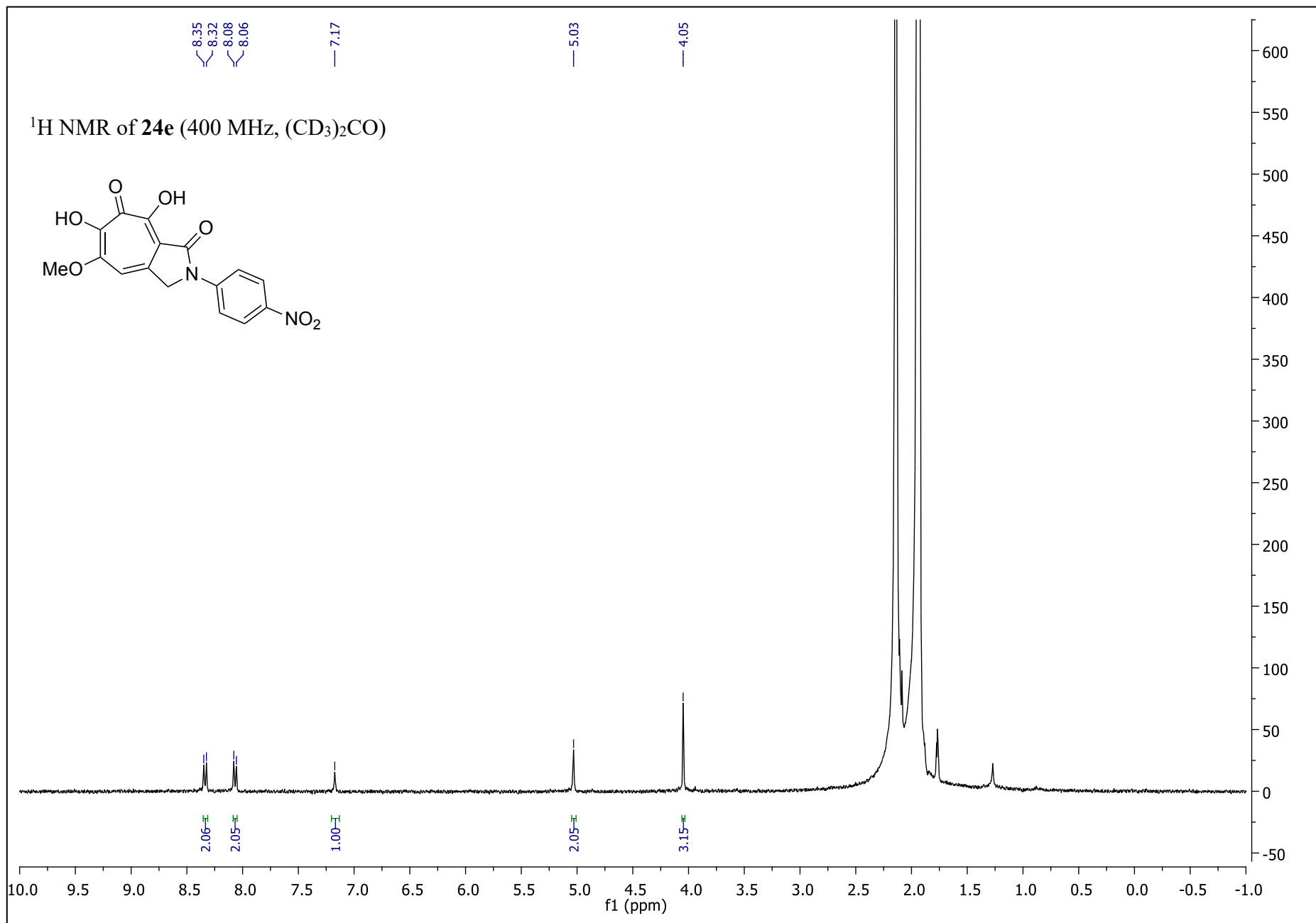


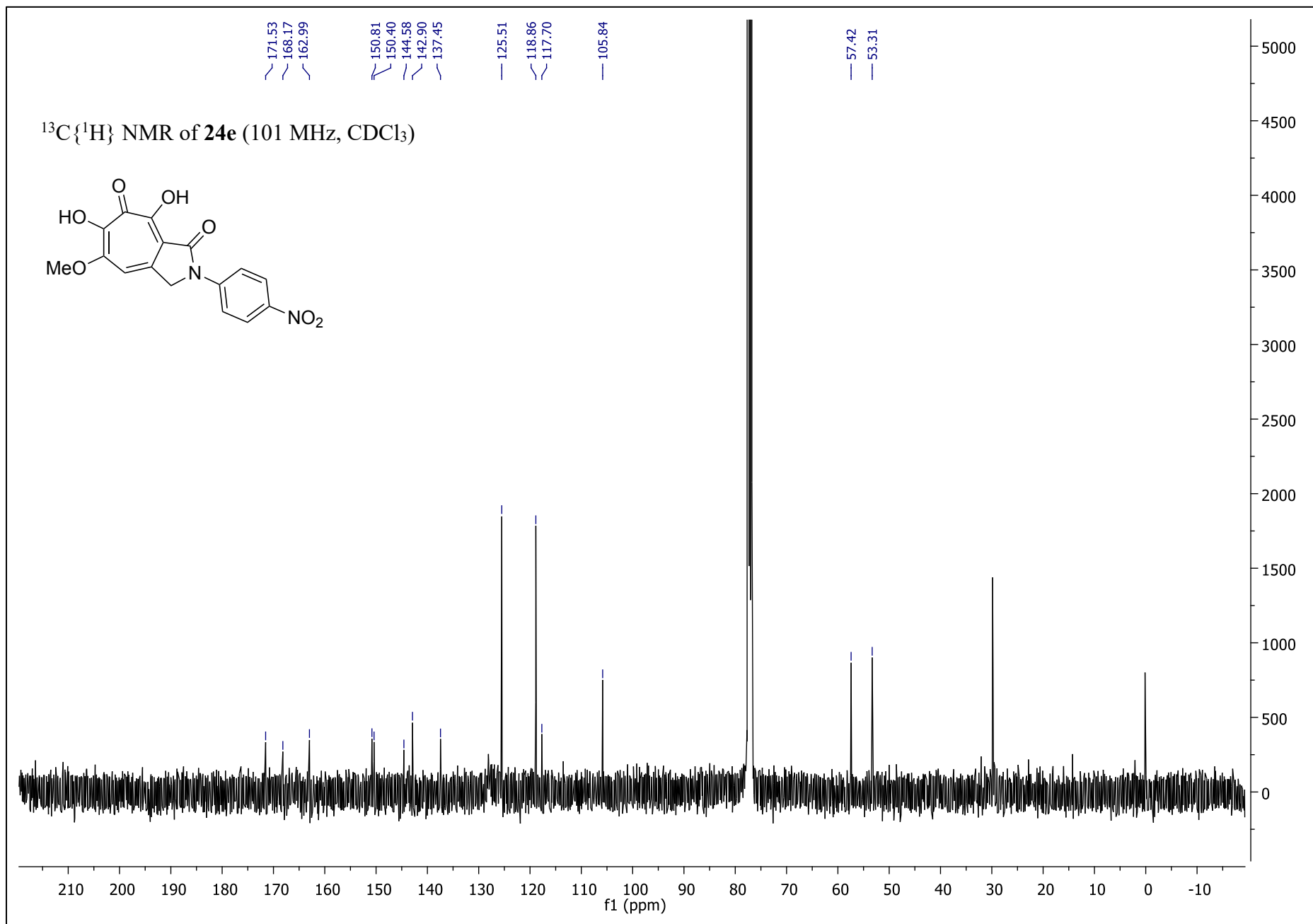


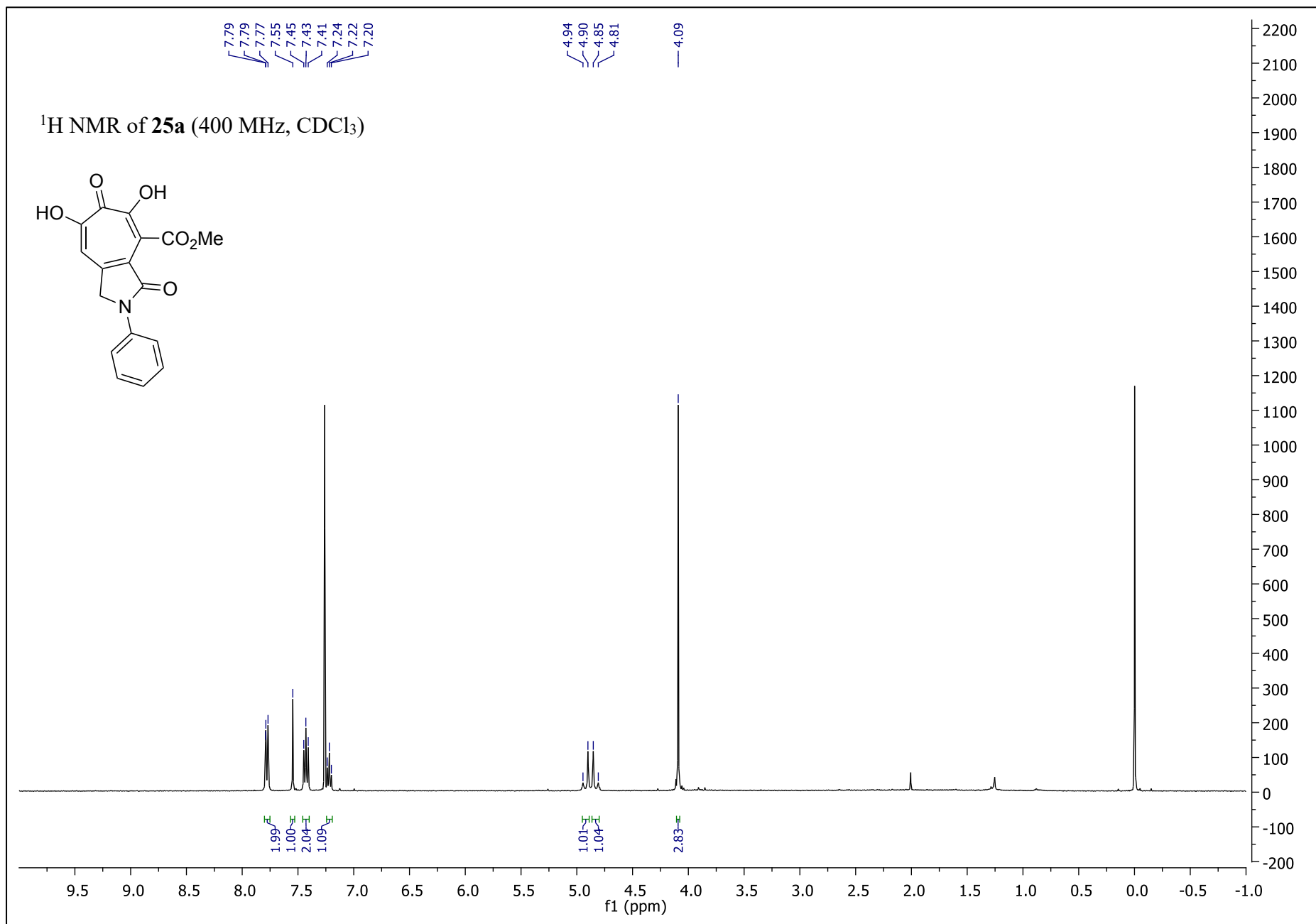


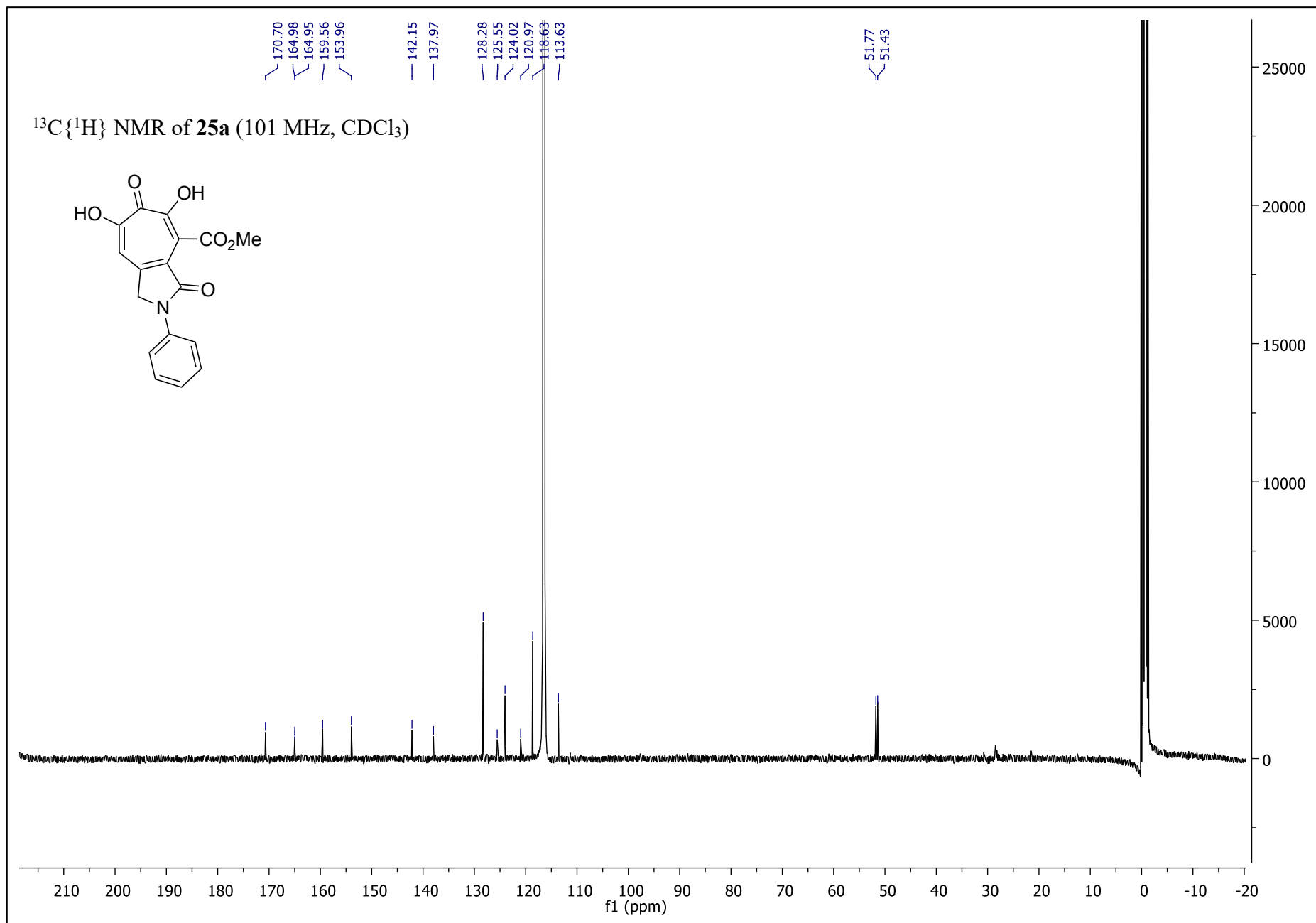


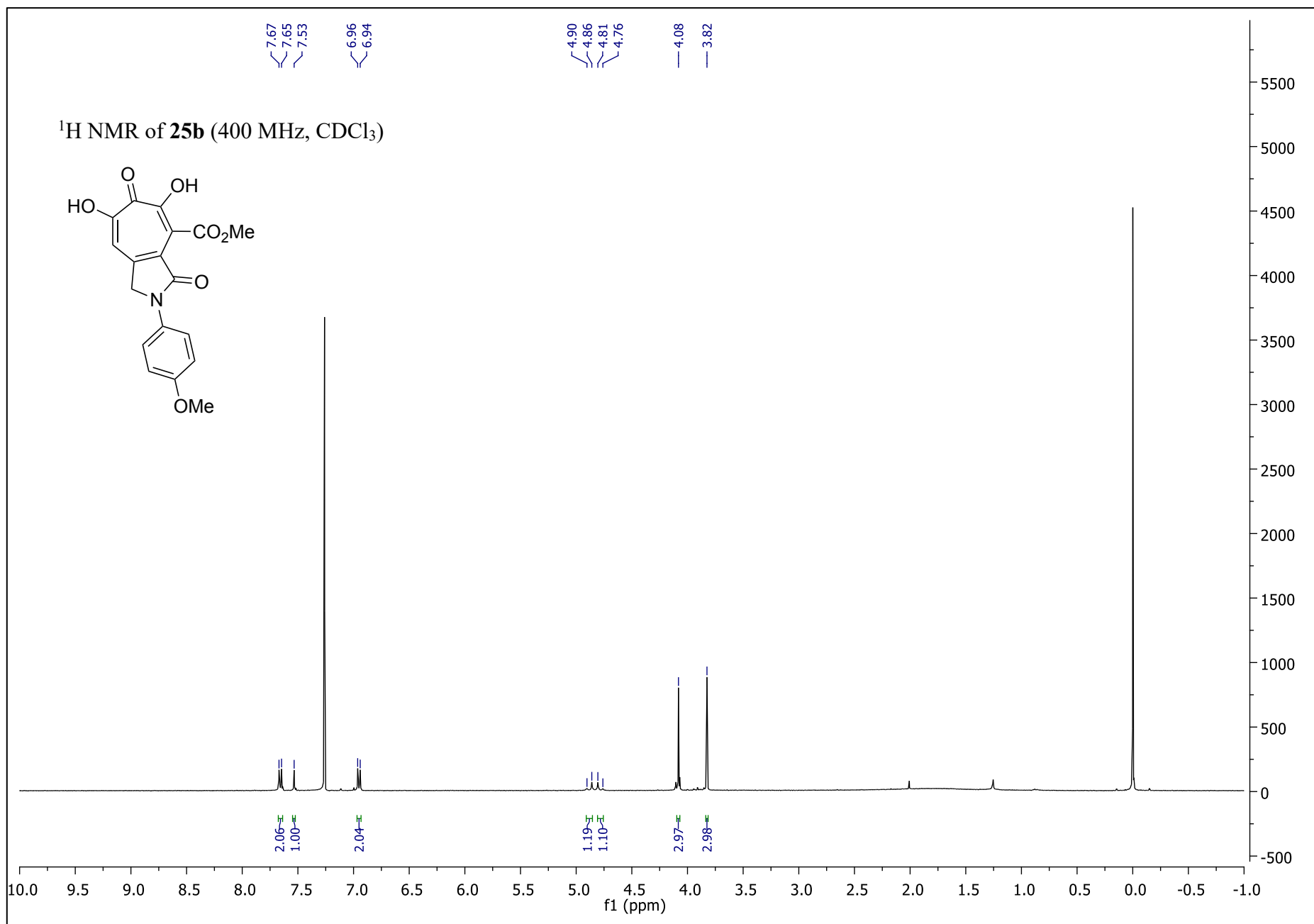




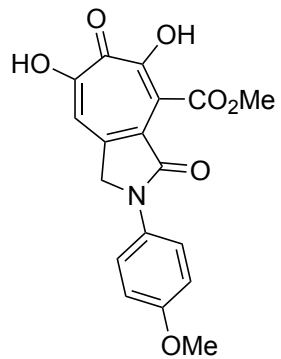








$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR of **25b** (101 MHz, CDCl_3)



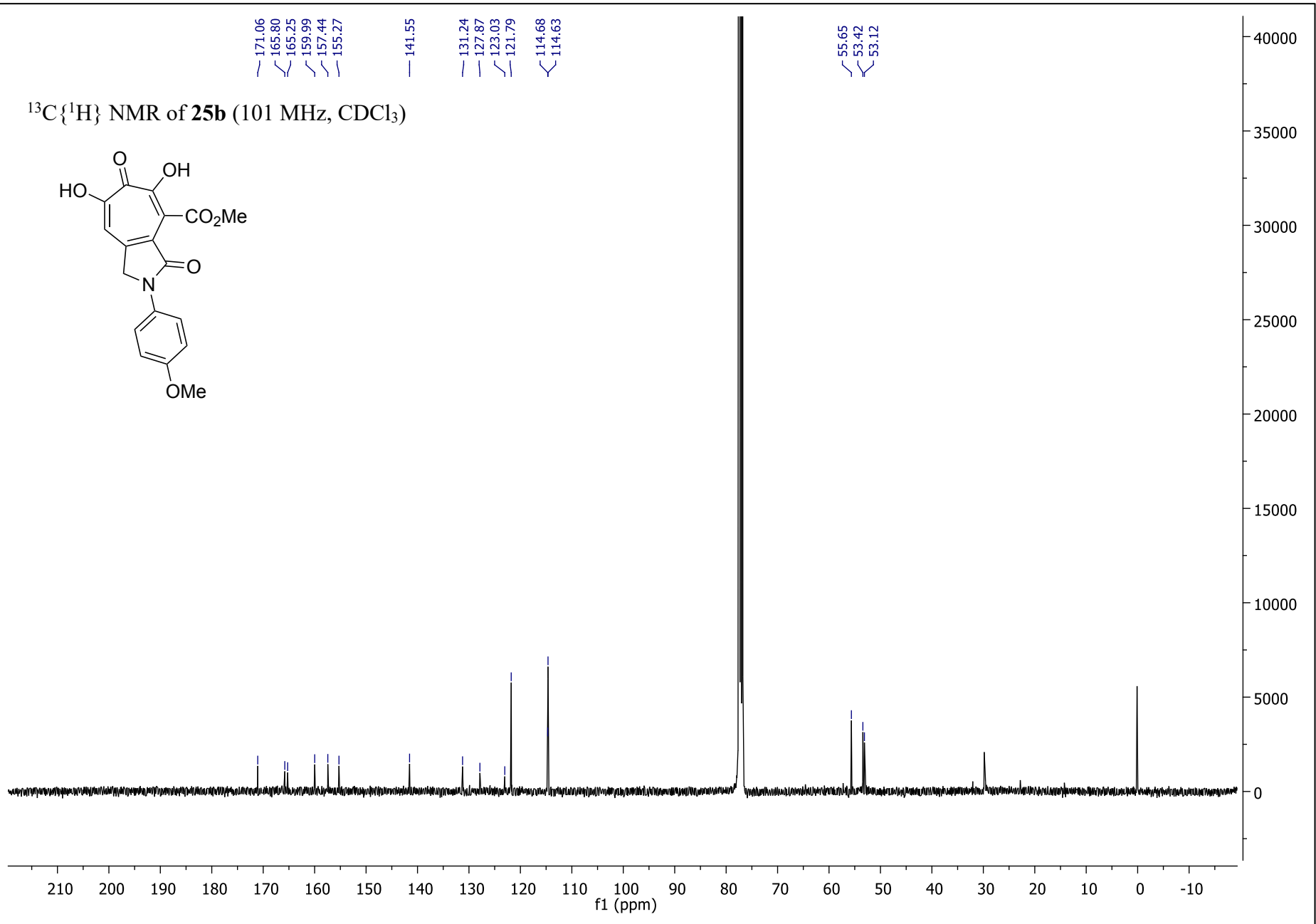
171.06
165.80
165.25
159.99
157.44
155.27

141.55

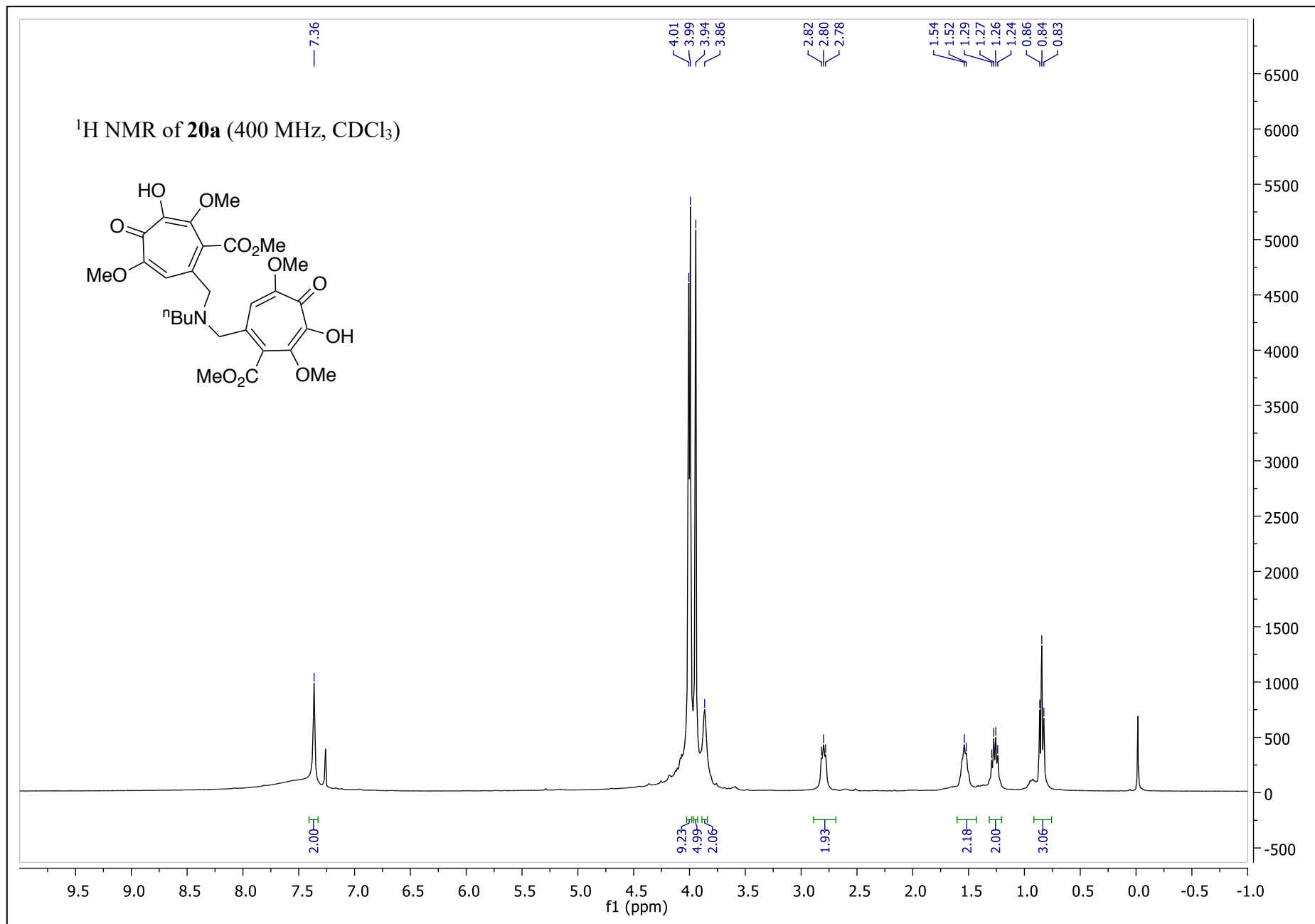
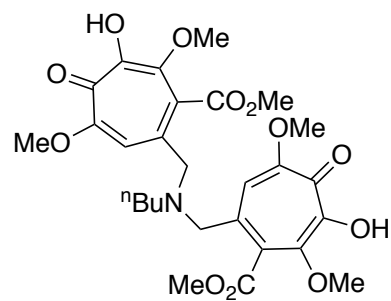
131.24
127.87
123.03
121.79

114.68
114.63

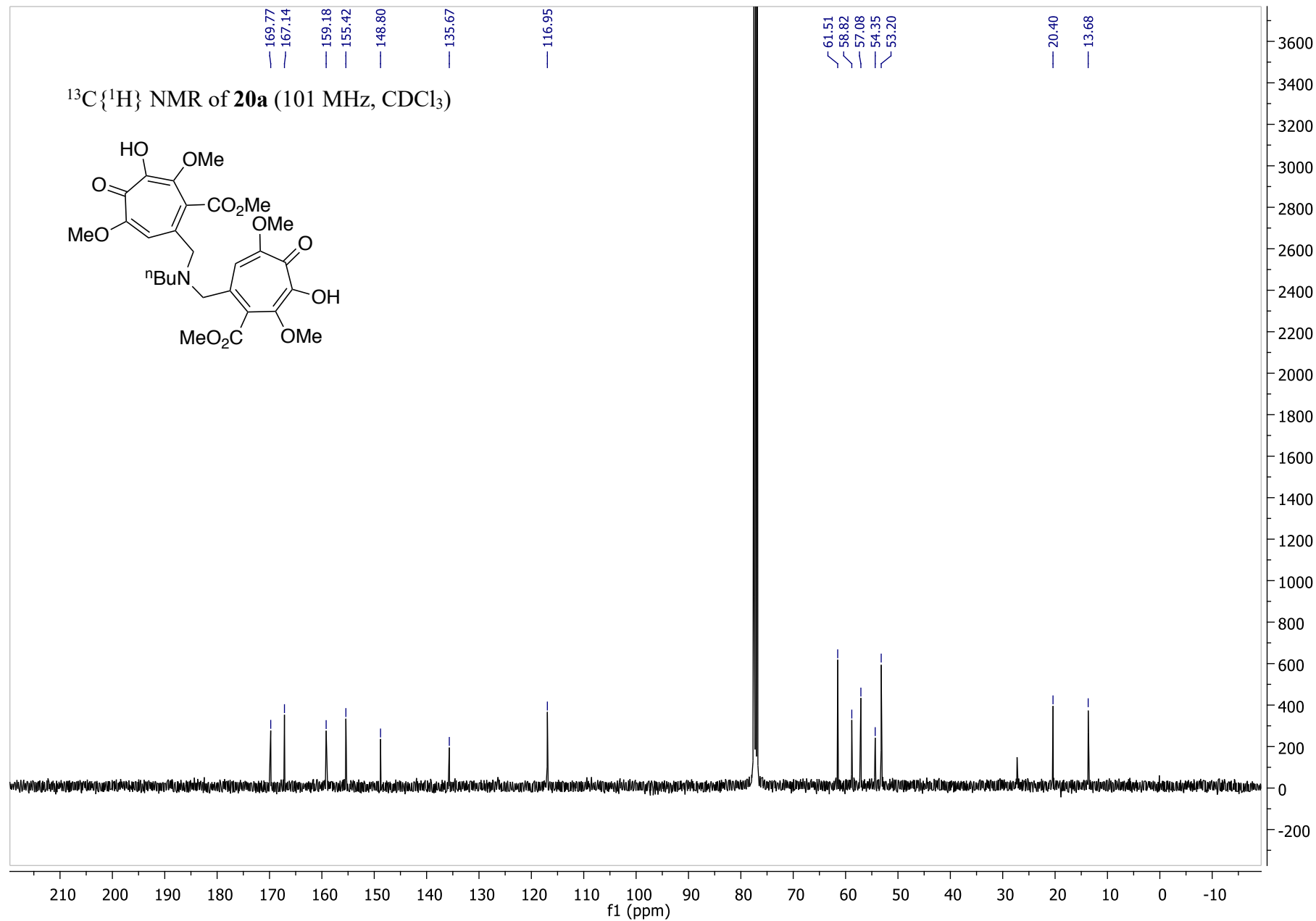
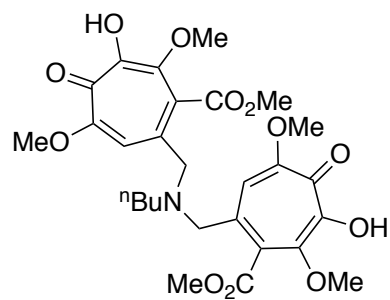
55.65
53.42
53.12

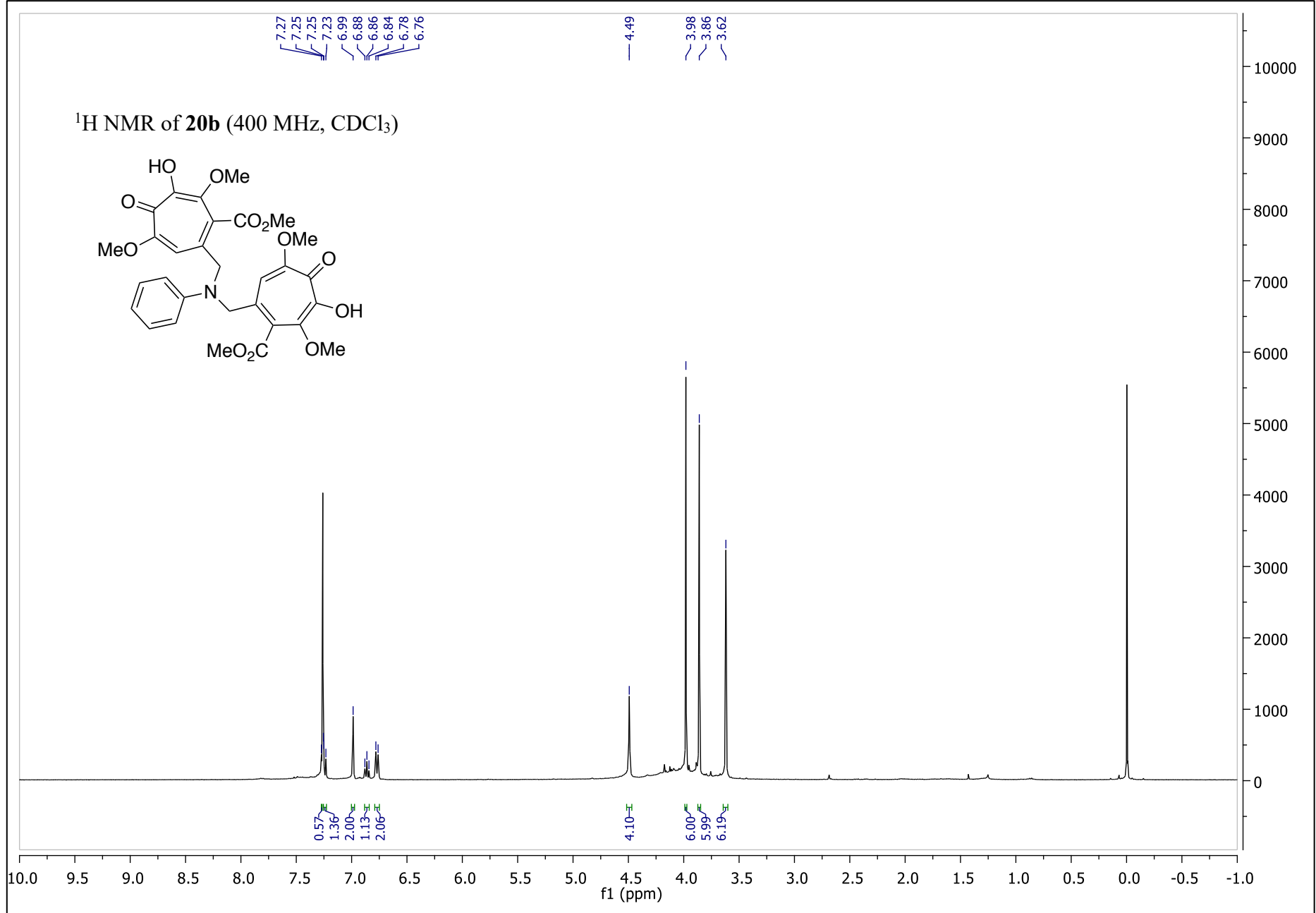


^1H NMR of **20a** (400 MHz, CDCl_3)



$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR of **20a** (101 MHz, CDCl_3)





$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR of **20b** (101 MHz, CDCl_3)

