

Electronic Supplementary Information for

## Regiospecific [2 + 2] Photocyclodimerization of *trans*-4-Styrylpyridines Templated by Cucurbit[8]uril

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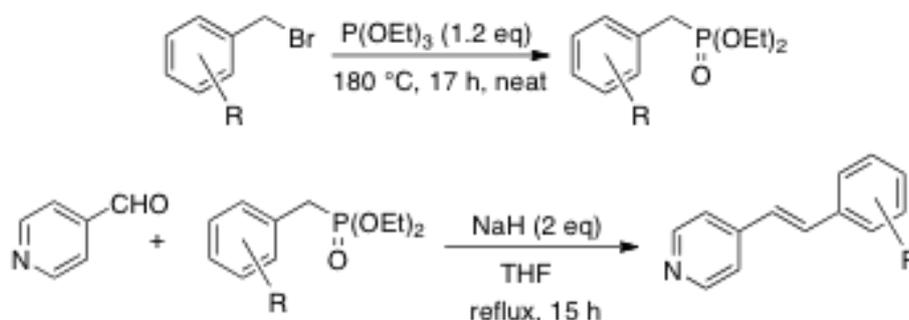
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### Contents:

1. Experimental procedure and spectral data for *trans*-4-styrylpyridines 1a–1f (S2–3)
2. Determination of *syn* and *anti* stereochemistry of photocyclodimerization products by <sup>1</sup>H NMR chemical shifts (S3)
3. Determination of HH and HT orientation of photocyclodimerization products by mass spectrometry (S4)
4. Experimental procedure and spectral data for the photocyclodimerization products of 1b–1f (S5–7)
5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of photocyclodimerization products of 1b–1d (S8–18)

## 1. Experimental procedure and spectral data for *trans*-4-styrylpyridines 1a–1f



**Scheme S1.** Synthesis of **1a-1f** by Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction.

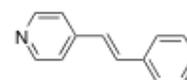
### General procedure for the preparation of 1a-1f

A mixture of 0.04 mol corresponding benzyl bromide (or chloride) and 0.048 mol triethyl phosphite was heated at 180 °C for 17 h. After excess triethyl phosphite was removed by evaporation under reduced pressure, the residue was dissolved in dry THF and used without further purification.

To 0.08 mol sodium hydride dissolved in dry THF, the above obtained phosphonic diester was added dropwise for 30 min. 4-pyridinecarboxaldehyde (0.04 mol) was dissolved in THF separately and added dropwise to the reaction mixture for 30 min. The mixture was refluxed for 15 h. After sodium hydride was quenched by adding methanol, solvents were removed by evaporation. The residue was dissolved ethyl acetate, washed with 2 × water and saturated NaCl solution, dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, and concentrated by vacuum evaporation. The crude product was purified by open column chromatography (eluent: hexane–ethyl acetate (1:1)) and recrystallization.

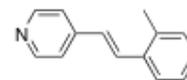
#### *trans*-4-Styrylpyridine (**1a**)

White crystals; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.38 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H).



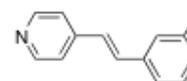
#### *trans*-4-[2-(2-Methylphenyl)vinyl]pyridine (**1b**)

White crystals; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.58 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.63-7.59 (m, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 3H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H).



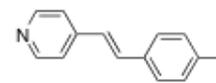
#### *trans*-4-[2-(3-Methylphenyl)vinyl]pyridine (**1c**)

White crystals; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.57 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H).



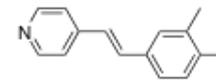
***trans*-4-[2-(4-Methylphenyl)vinyl]pyridine (1d)**

White crystals;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.56 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 16.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d,  $J = 16.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H).



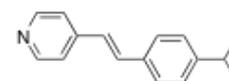
***trans*-4-[2-(3,4-Dimethylphenyl)vinyl]pyridine (1e)**

White crystals;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.57 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d,  $J = 16$  Hz, 1H), 7.38 (d,  $J = 16$  Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d,  $J = 16$  Hz, 1H), 2.31 (s, 6H).



***trans*-4-[2-(4-Isopropylphenyl)vinyl]pyridine (1f)**

White crystals;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.58 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 16.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d,  $J = 16$  Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d,  $J = 16.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.38 (s, 6H), 1.65-1.61 (m, 1H).



## 2. Determination of *syn* and *anti* stereochemistry by $^1\text{H}$ NMR chemical shifts

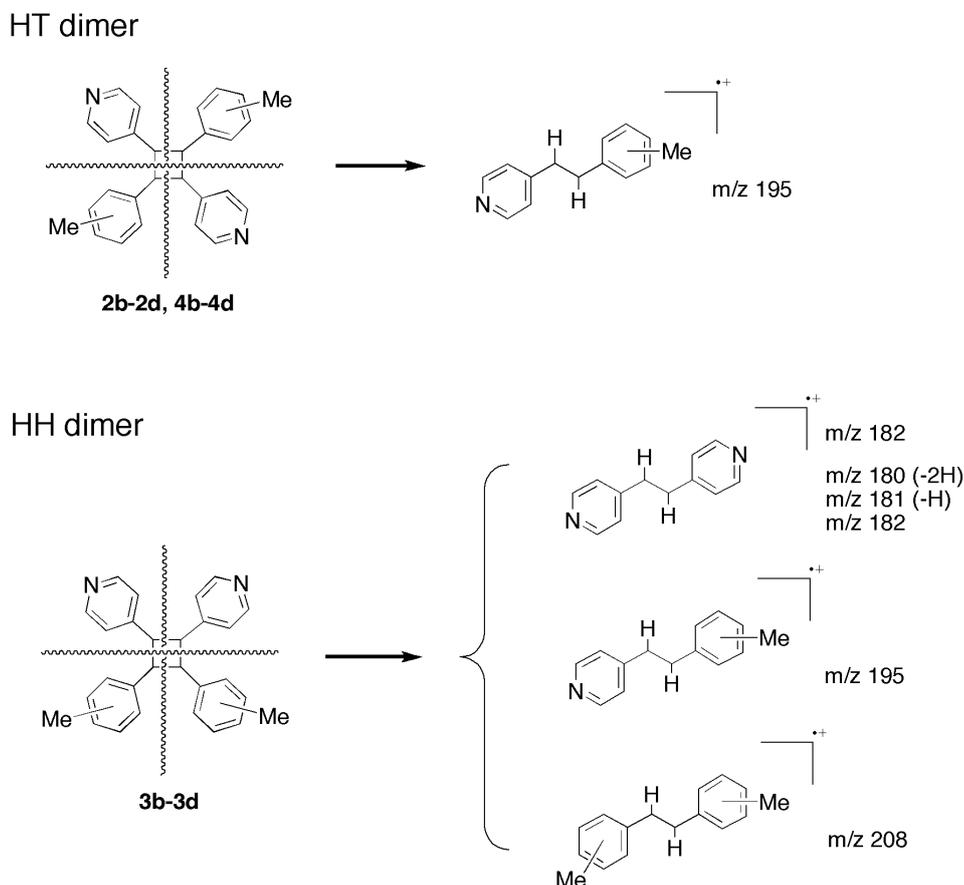
The methine protons for *syn* dimers appear at higher field than those of *anti* dimers. In addition, the  $\text{H}_a$  protons for the pyridine ring of *syn* dimers appear at lower field than those of *anti* dimers. The stereochemistry of these dimers was determined on the basis of these observations.

**Table S1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR chemical shifts (ppm) for methine and  $\text{H}_a$  protons of the photocyclodimerization products**

	$^1\text{H}$ NMR chemical shift (ppm)	
	methine	$\text{H}_a$
<b>2a</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HT)	4.46	8.35
<b>2b</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HT)	4.49–4.56	8.33
<b>2c</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HT)	4.39, 4.45	8.35
<b>2d</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HT)	4.37, 4.45	8.34
<b>3a</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HH)	4.48	8.40
<b>3b</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HH)	4.41, 4.62	8.39
<b>3c</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HH)	4.45, 4.39	8.38
<b>3d</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HH)	4.39, 4.41	8.37
<b>4a</b> ( <i>anti</i> -HT)	3.57, 3.67	8.52
<b>4b</b> ( <i>anti</i> -HT)	3.78, 3.93	8.48
<b>4c</b> ( <i>anti</i> -HT)	3.58, 3.73	8.51
<b>4d</b> ( <i>anti</i> -HT)	3.57, 3.69	8.50

### 3. Determination of HH and HT orientation by mass spectrometry

The characteristic fragment peak of  $m/z$  208 was observed for the HH dimers, which enables to distinguish between HH and HT dimers.



**Table S2. Relative intensities of the mass fragment peaks for the photocyclodimerization products**

	$m/z$ 180 (%)	$m/z$ 181 (%)	$m/z$ 182 (%)	$m/z$ 195 (%)	$m/z$ 208 (%)
<b>2b</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HT)	81	12	1	100	1
<b>2c</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HT)	90	14	2	100	2
<b>2d</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HT)	78	12	2	100	2
<b>3b</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HH)	90	15	2	100	15
<b>3c</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HH)	62	10	2	100	13
<b>3d</b> ( <i>syn</i> -HH)	72	16	5	100	52
<b>4b</b> ( <i>anti</i> -HT)	41	5	1	100	2
<b>4c</b> ( <i>anti</i> -HT)	34	6	1	100	5
<b>4d</b> ( <i>anti</i> -HT)	72	12	3	100	7

## 4. Experimental procedure and spectral data for the photocyclodimerization products of 1b–1f

### General procedure for the irradiation of 1b-1f

A solution of 0.0579 mmol of corresponding alkene in 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of MeOH containing various amounts of HCl was irradiated with a 450 W high-pressure mercury lamp for 15 h. After the irradiation, solvent was evaporated to give a crude product, which was neutralized with 2 M NaOH aq. and extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The organic layer was dried over anhydrous  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and the solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* to give a neutralized reaction mixture. The product ratio was determined by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy. The mixture was separated by column chromatography on silica gel employing hexane-ethyl acetate as an eluent solvent.

### Irradiation of 1b

The products were photodimers **2b**, **3b**, **4b**, **6b** and *cis*-isomer **5b**. **6b** was afforded when the reaction was carried out at 1.480 mol/L.

#### ***syn* head-to-tail dimer of 1b (2b)**

Yellow crystals; mp 178.5-179.8  $^\circ\text{C}$ ; IR (KBr) 3025, 2955, 1597, 1554, 1489, 1459, 1415, 994, 828, 802, 773, 754, 575, 546  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.33 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 4H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.13 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.07 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 4H), 4.56-4.49 (m, 4H), 2.16 (s, 6H); MS  $m/z$  391 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 0.38 %), 196 (18), 195 (100), 194 (61), 181 (12), 180 (81); HRMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2$  390.2096, found 390.2059.

#### ***syn* head-to-head dimer of 1b (3b)**

Yellow crystals; mp 176.5-177.0  $^\circ\text{C}$  IR (KBr) 3025, 2949, 1599, 1556, 1491, 1462, 993, 815, 753, 730, 561  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.39 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 4H), 7.14 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.09-7.02 (m, 6H), 7.00 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 4H), 4.62-4.61 (m, 2H), 4.41-4.40 (m, 2H), 2.15 (s, 6H); MS  $m/z$  390 ( $\text{M}^+$ , 0.94 %), 208 (15), 196 (36), 195 (100), 194 (51), 181 (15), 180 (90), 178 (10); HRMS calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2$  390.2096, found 390.2086.

#### ***anti* head-to-tail dimer of 1b (4b)**

Pale yellow crystals; mp 181.1-182.5  $^\circ\text{C}$ ; IR (KBr) 3019, 2956, 2926, 1599, 1557, 1493, 1462, 1412, 993, 799, 746, 720, 649, 539  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.48 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.64 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H),

7.18 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 6H), 3.93 (t,  $J = 9.7$  Hz, 2H), 3.78 (t,  $J = 9.7$  Hz, 2H), 2.04 (s, 6H); MS  $m/z$  391 ( $M^+$ , 0.55 %), 390 (1.4), 196 (27), 195 (100), 194 (29), 180 (41); HRMS calcd for  $C_{28}H_{26}N_2$  390.2096, found 390.2053.

#### ***anti* head-to-head dimer of 1b (6b)**

Pale yellow crystals; mp 226.5-227.0 °C IR (KBr) 3025, 1599, 1557, 1491, 1463, 1413, 993, 759, 723, 545  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  8.53 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 4H), 7.61 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 4H), 7.14 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 3.87-3.83 (m, 4H), 1.92 (s, 6H); MS  $m/z$  391 ( $M^+$ , 1.2 %), 390 (2.4), 209 (9), 208 (49), 196 (22), 195 (100), 194 (25), 193 (19), 181 (7), 180 (30), 178 (11); HRMS calcd for  $C_{28}H_{26}N_2$  390.2096, found 390.2117.

#### ***cis*-4-[2-(2-Methylphenyl)vinyl]pyridine (5b)**

Pale yellow oil;  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  8.38 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.07-7.04 (m, 2H), 6.95 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d,  $J = 12.1$  Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d,  $J = 12.1$  Hz, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H).

#### **Irradiation of 1c**

The products were photodimers **2c**, **3c**, **4c** and *cis*-isomer **5c**.

#### ***syn* head-to-tail dimer of 1c (2c)**

Pale yellow crystals; mp 64.0-64.8°C; IR (KBr) 3438, 3052, 1599, 1555, 1492, 1414, 1220, 994, 789, 702, 552  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  8.35 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 4H), 7.06 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 4H), 6.91 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 4H), 4.45 (t,  $J = 9.2$  Hz, 2H), 4.39 (t,  $J = 9.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.22 (s, 6H); MS  $m/z$  390 ( $M^+$ , 0.94 %), 196 (50), 195 (100), 194 (77), 181 (14), 180 (90); HRMS calcd for  $C_{28}H_{26}N_2$  390.2096, found 390.2113.

#### ***syn* head-to-head dimer of 1c (3c)**

Yellow crystals; mp 128.3-129.5 °C; IR (KBr) 3025, 2924, 1600, 1556, 1491, 1419, 994, 841, 815, 795, 764, 701, 690, 544  $cm^{-1}$ ;  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  8.38 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 4H), 7.04 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 4H), 6.90 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.86 (m, 4H), 4.45 (m, 2H), 4.39-4.38 (m, 2H), 2.21 (s, 6H); MS  $m/z$  390 ( $M^+$ , 1.1 %), 208 (13), 196 (42), 195 (100), 194 (72), 193 (13), 181 (10), 180 (62), 178 (13), 152 (13); HRMS calcd for  $C_{28}H_{26}N_2$  390.2096, found 390.2113.

***anti* head-to-tail dimer of 1c (4c)**

white crystals; mp 152.5-153.8 °C; IR (KBr) 3027, 2917, 1601, 1552, 1498, 1490, 1460, 1414, 992, 809, 801, 794, 770, 699, 560, 530 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.51 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 4H), 7.25 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 4H), 7.12 (s, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 4H), 3.73 (t, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 2H), 3.58 (t, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 6H); MS *m/z* 390 (M<sup>+</sup>, 1.2 %), 196 (22), 195 (100), 194 (32), 180 (34); HRMS calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub> 390.2096, found 390.2078.

***cis*-4-[2-(3-Methylphenyl)vinyl]pyridine (5c)**

Pale yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.45 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 6.47 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H).

**Irradiation of 1d**

The products were photodimers **2d**, **3d**, **4d** and *cis*-isomer **5d**.

***syn* head-to-tail dimer of 1d (2d)**

Yellow crystals; mp 82.2-83.0 °C IR (KBr) 3028, 2924, 1598, 1557, 1515, 1417, 817, 533 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.34 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 4H), 6.98-6.95 (m, 12H), 4.45-4.44 (m, 2H), 4.37 (m, 2H), 2.23 (s, 6H); MS *m/z* 390 (M<sup>+</sup>, 0.39 %), 196 (46), 195 (100), 194 (61), 181 (12), 180 (78), 152 (17); HRMS calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub> 390.2096, found 390.2076.

***syn* head-to-head dimer of 1d (3d)**

Yellow crystals; mp 94.5-95.3 °C IR (KBr) 3027, 2921, 1600, 1557, 1515, 1415, 1264, 817, 543 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.37 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 4H), 7.00-6.95 (m, 12H), 4.42-4.41 (m, 2H), 4.39-4.38 (m, 2H), 2.24 (s, 6H); MS *m/z* 391 (M<sup>+</sup>, 0.63 %), 390 (1.4), 389 (1.3), 208 (52), 196 (51), 195 (100), 194 (60), 181 (16), 180 (72), 179 (11); HRMS calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub> 390.2096, found 390.2141.

***anti* head-to-tail dimer of 1d (4d)**

Yellow crystals; mp 152.8-153.2 °C; IR (KBr) 3024, 2921, 1596, 1555, 1515, 1413, 993, 828, 809, 531 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.50 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 4H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 4H), 3.69 (t, *J* = 10 Hz, 2H), 3.57 (t, *J* = 10 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 6H); MS *m/z* 390 (M<sup>+</sup>, 0.65 %), 389 (0.55), 196 (38), 195

(100), 194 (53), 180 (72); HRMS calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub> 390.2096, found 390.2117.

***cis*-4-[2-(4-Methylphenyl)vinyl]pyridine (5d)**

Pale yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.45 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 12.2 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 12.1 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H).

## 5. $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectra of photocyclodimerization products of 1b–1d

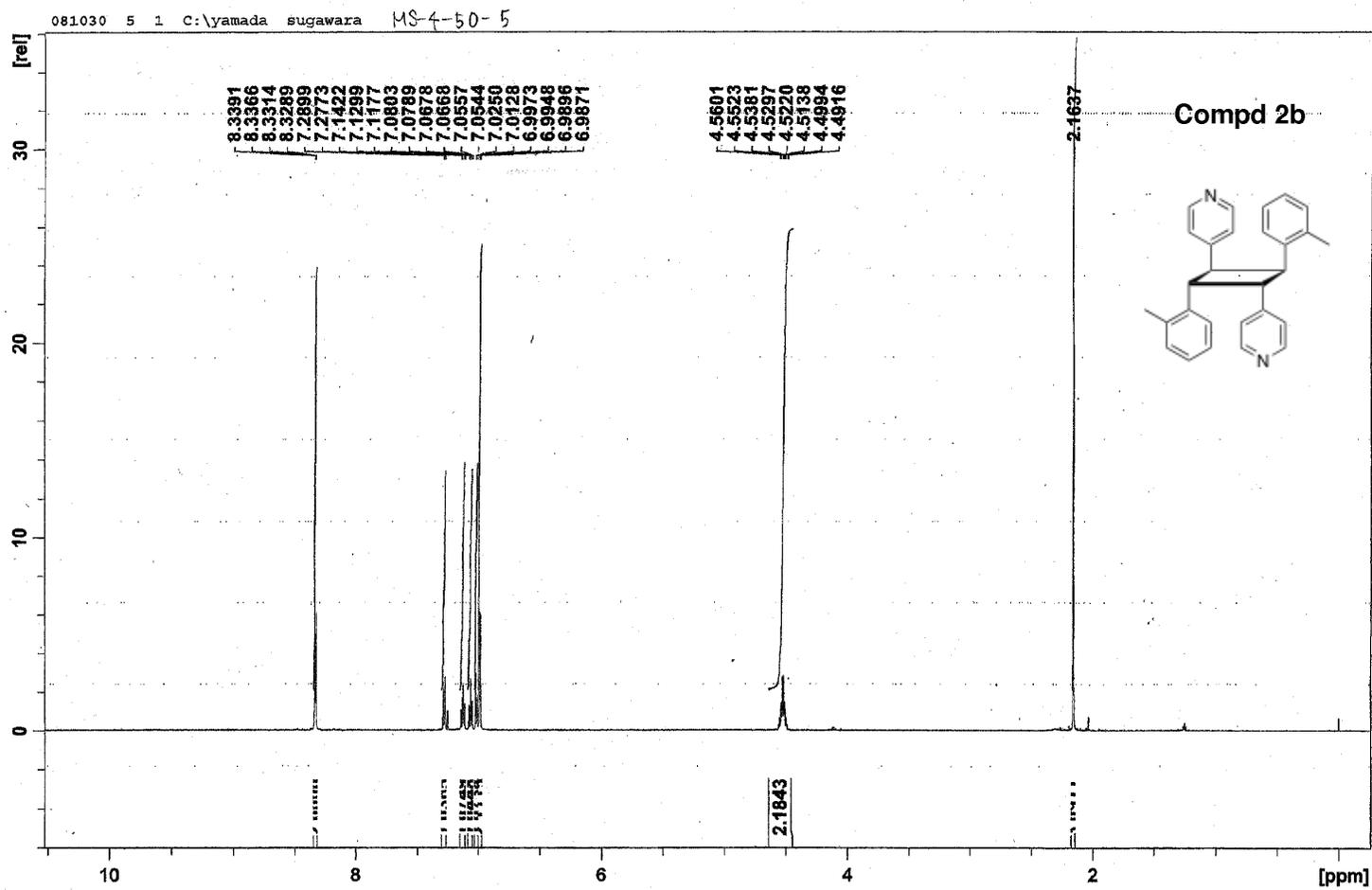


Figure S1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of 2b.

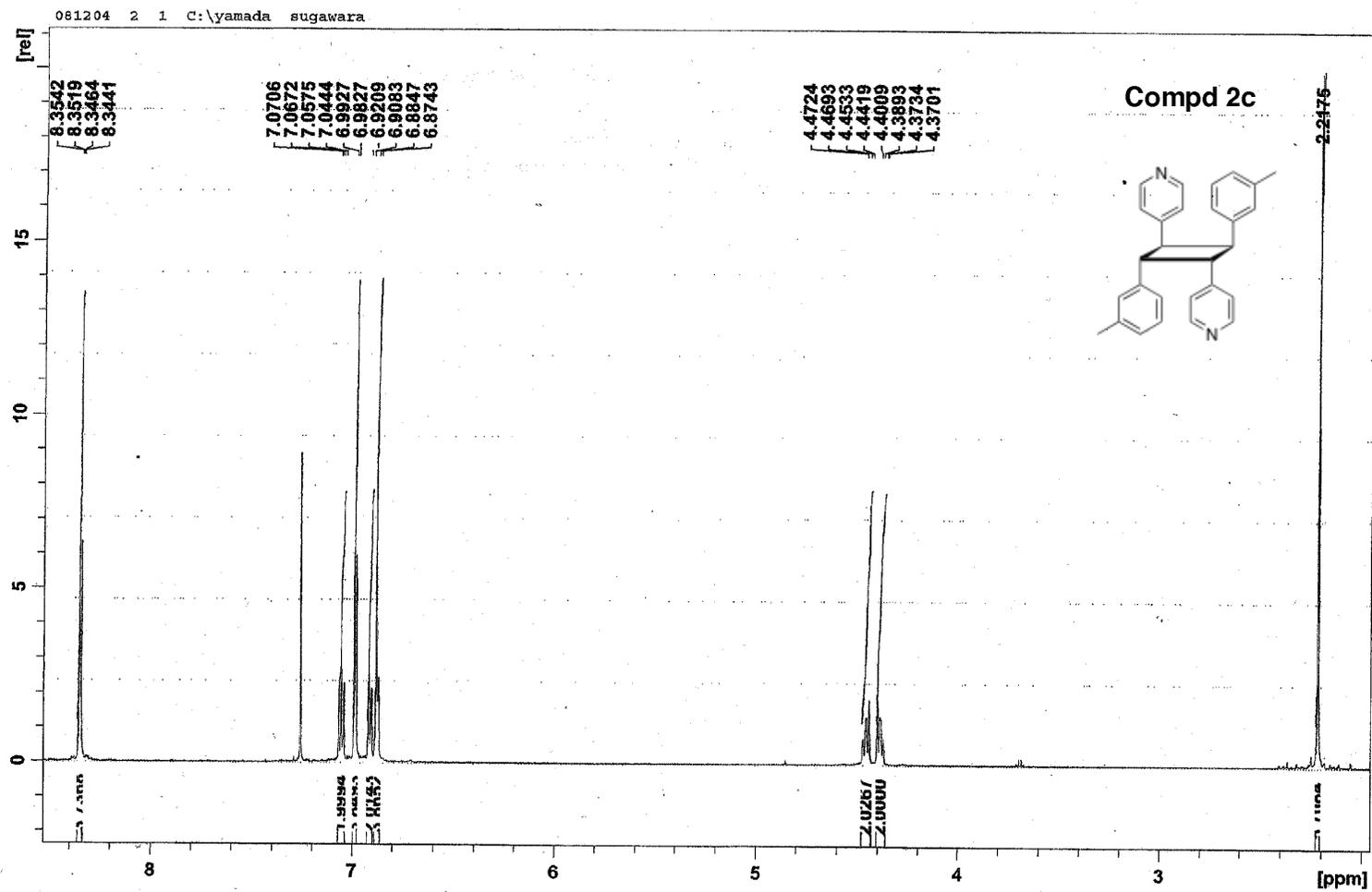
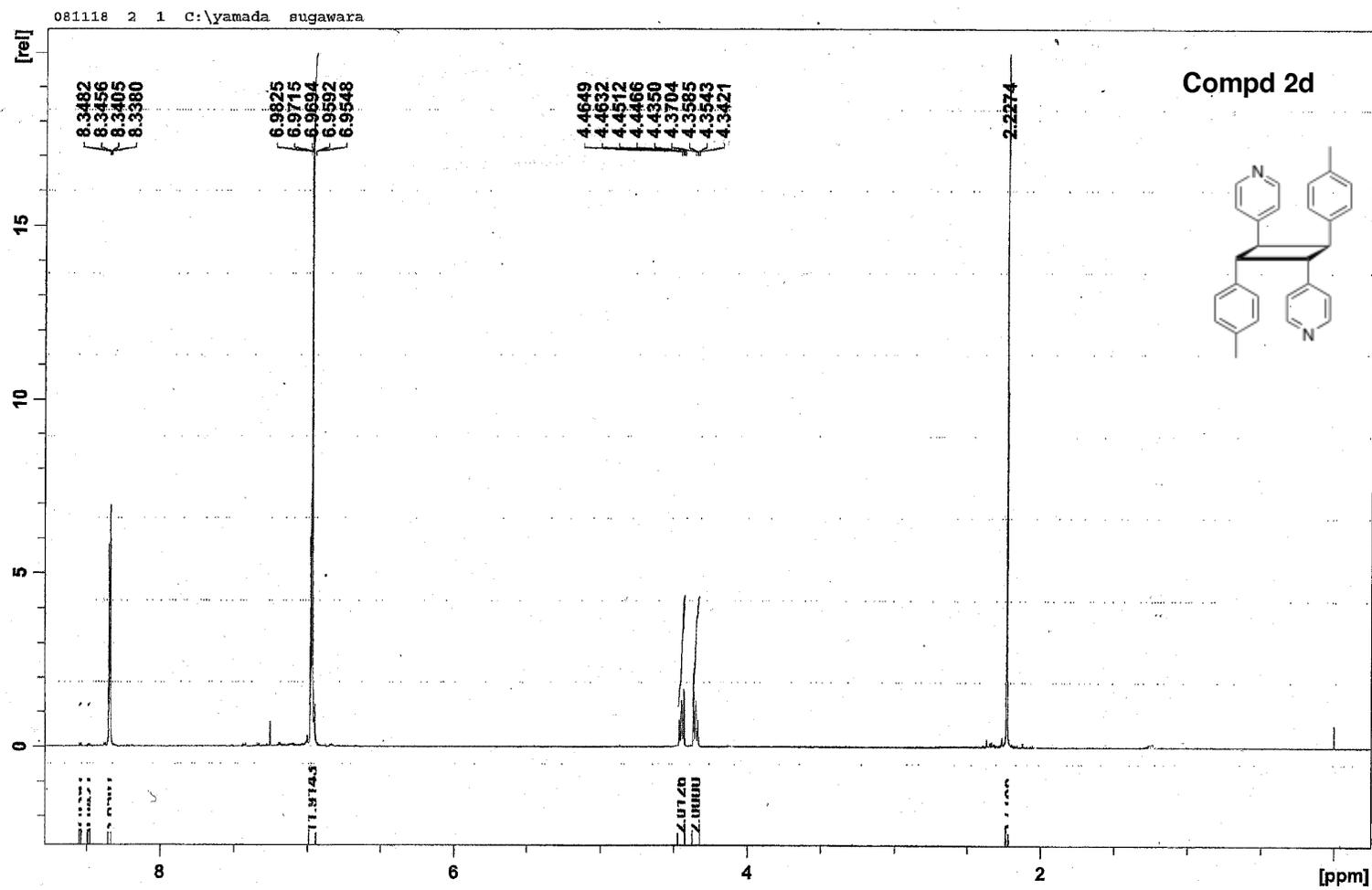


Figure S2.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of 2c.



Figur

e S3.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of 2d.

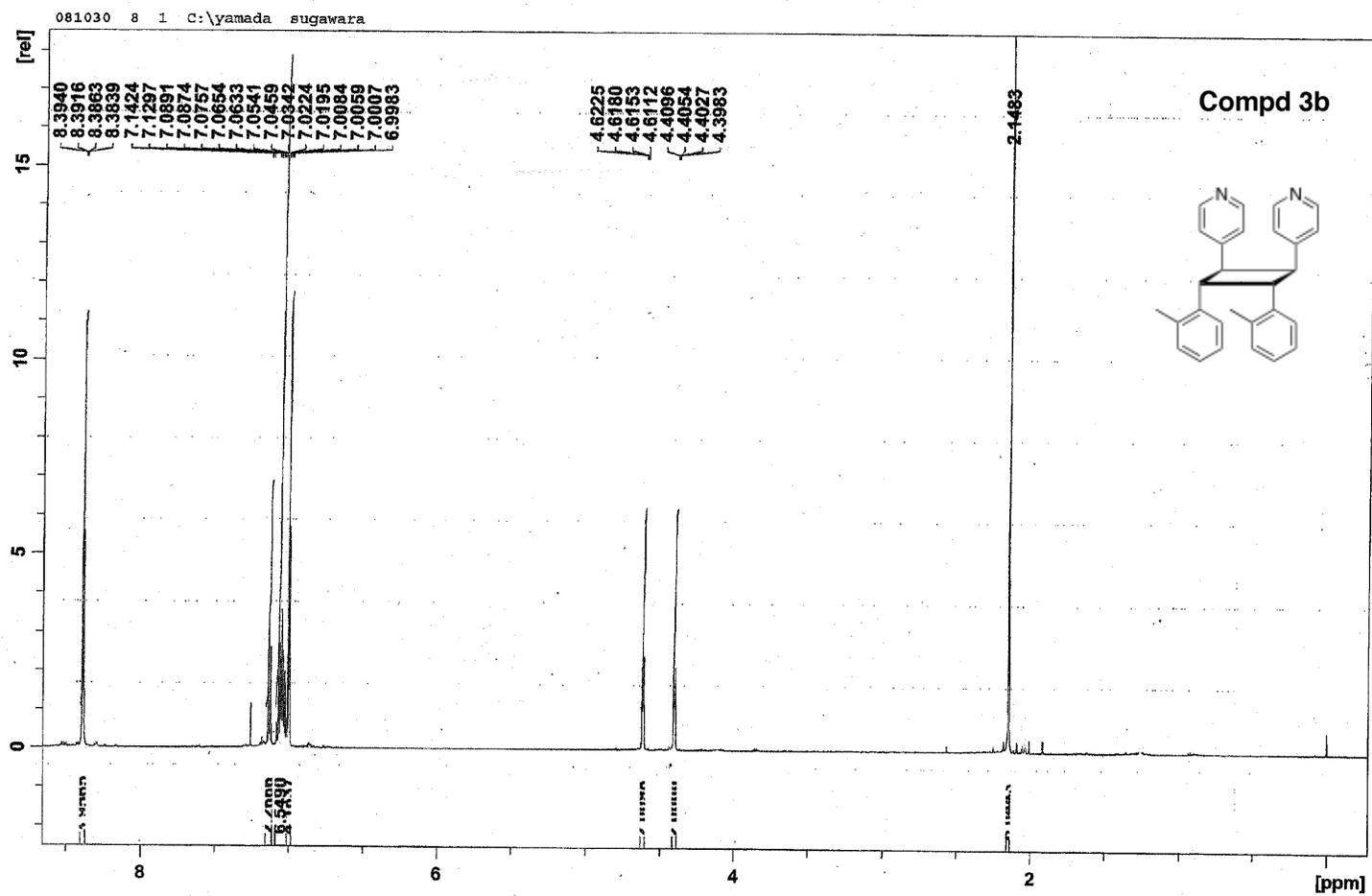


Figure S4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of 3b.



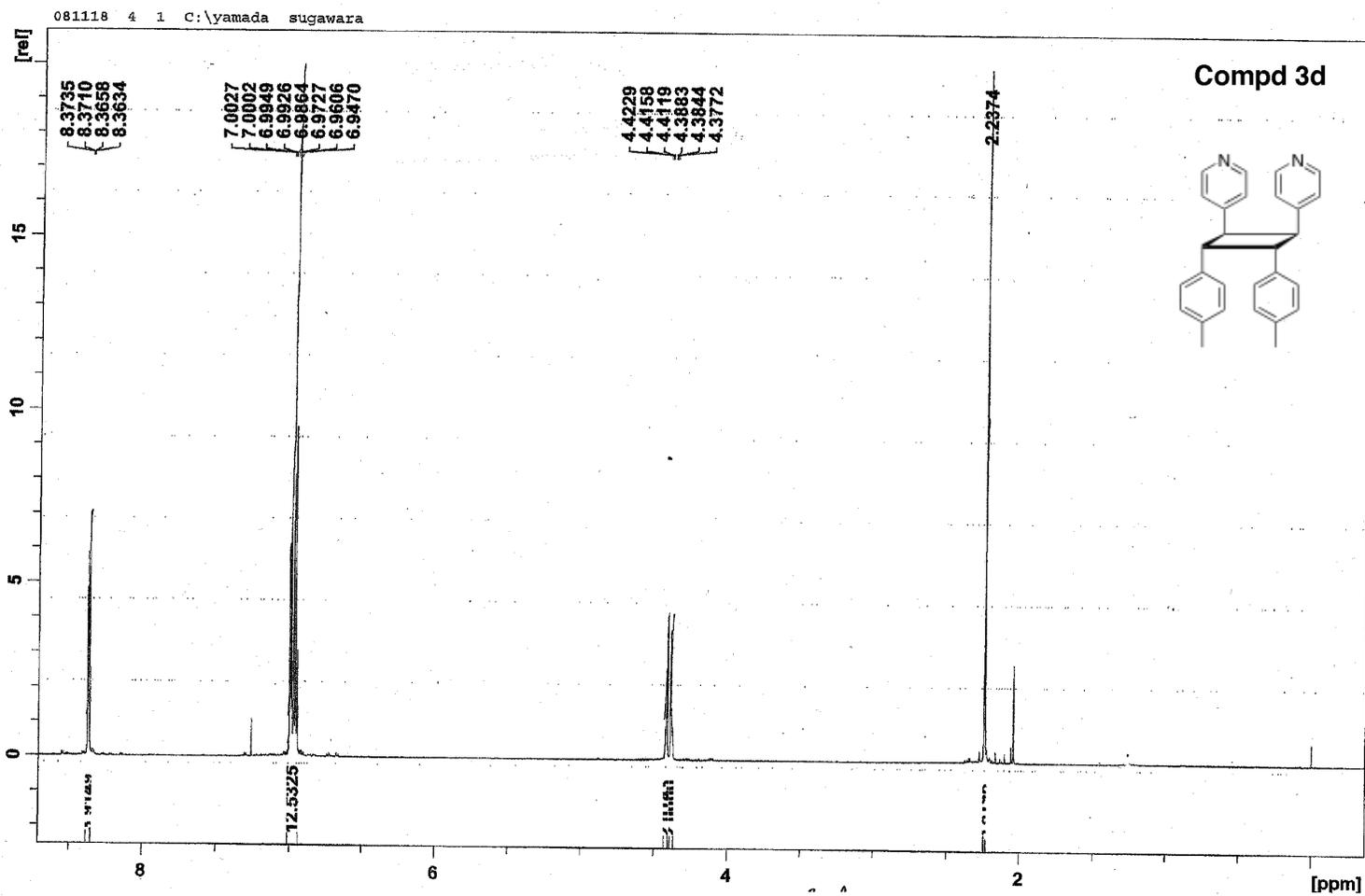


Figure S6.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of 3d.

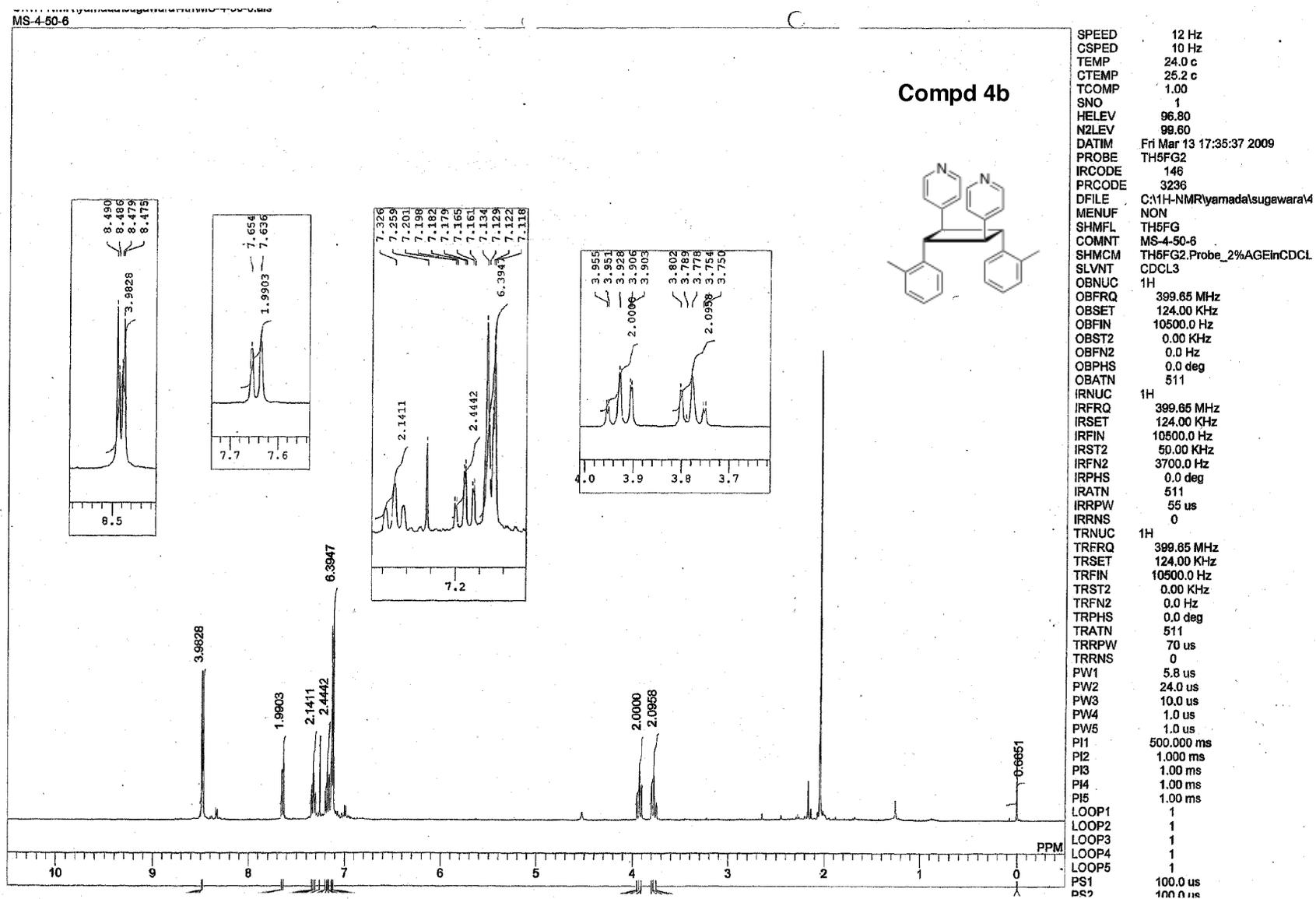
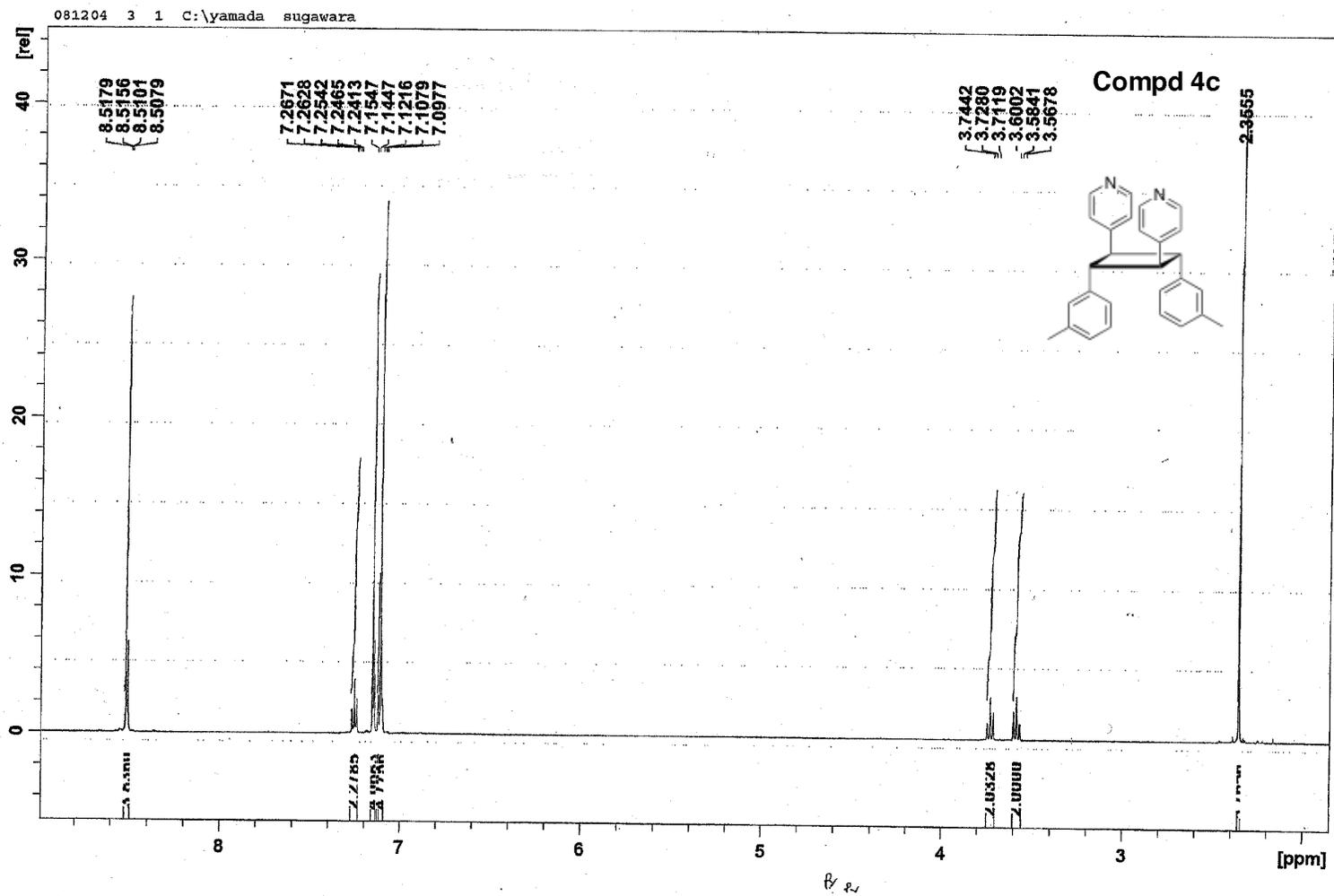


Figure S7. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of 4b.



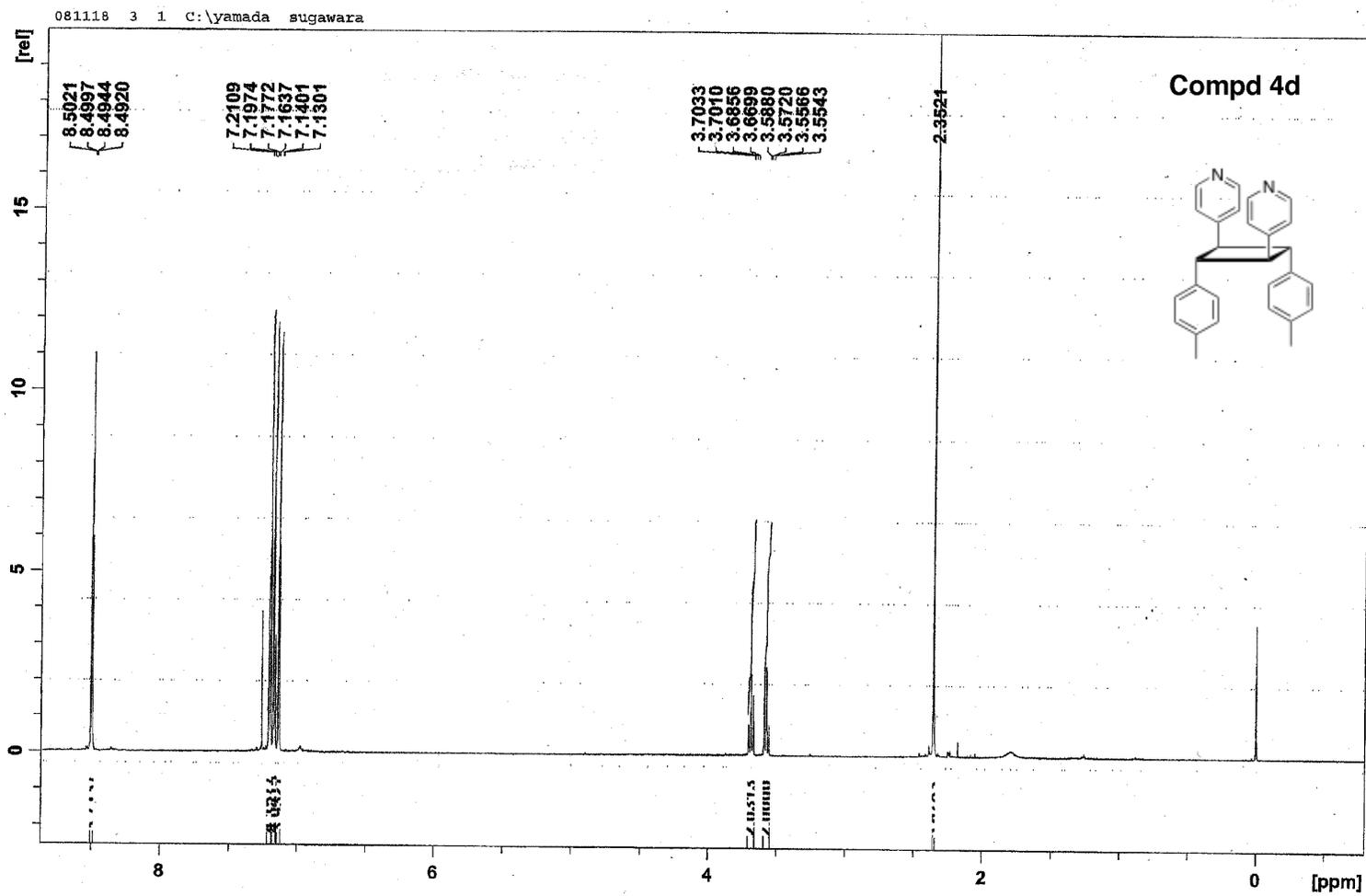


Figure S9.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of 4d.

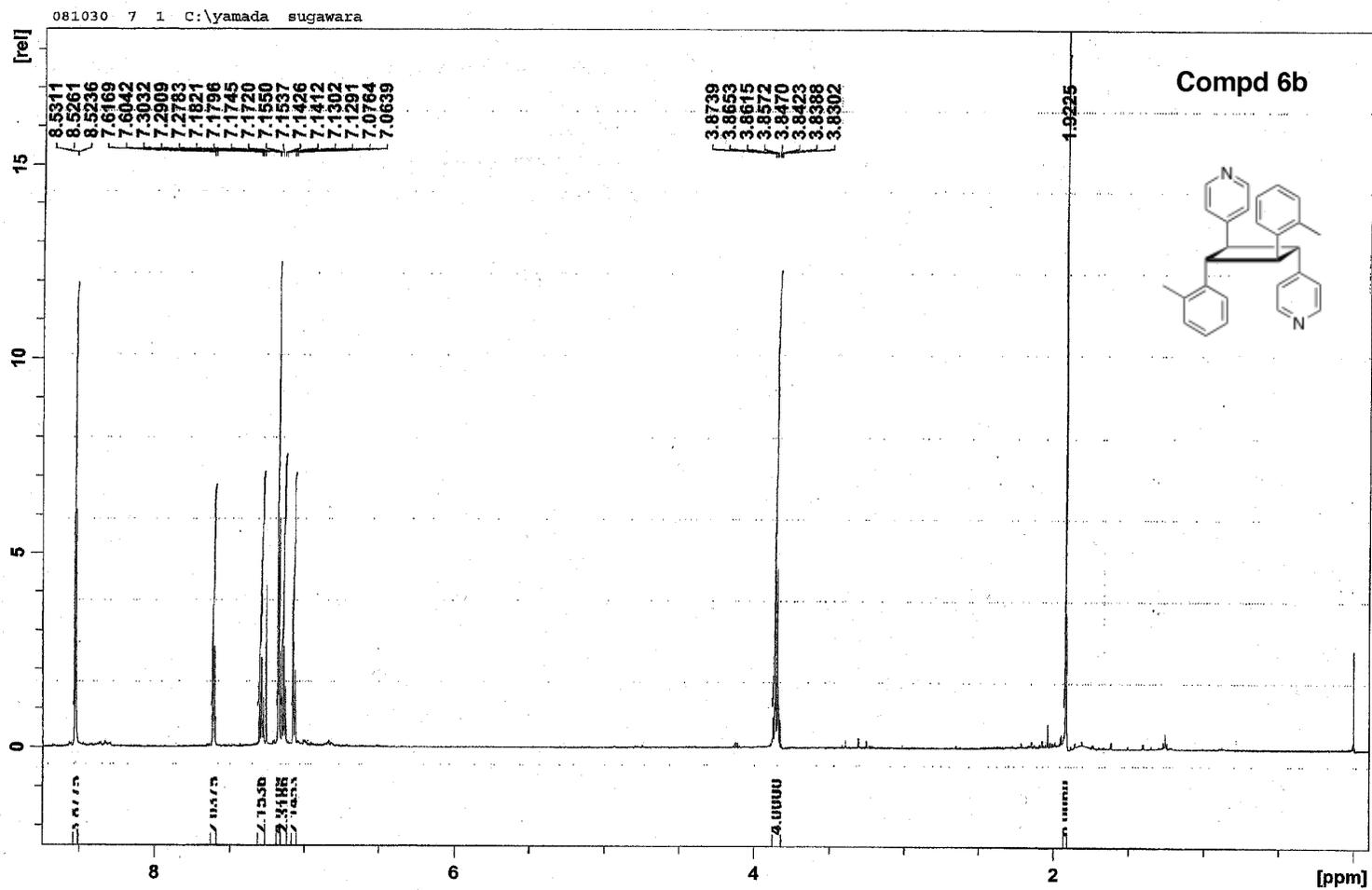


Figure S10.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of 6b.

