

Oxidative Cycloaddition and Cross-Coupling Processes on Unactivated Benzene Derivatives

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I. General information and materials

Unless otherwise indicated, ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded at 300 and 75 MHz, respectively, in CDCl_3 solutions. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm on the δ scale. Multiplicities are described as s (singlet), d (doublet), dd, ddd, etc. (doublet of doublets, doublet of doublets of doublets, etc.), t (triplet), q (quartet), p (pentuplet), m (multiplet), and further qualified as app (apparent) br (broad) c (complex). Coupling constants, J , are reported in Hz. IR spectra (cm^{-1}) were recorded from thin films. Mass spectra (m/e) were measured in the electrospray (ESI) mode.

II. Experimental procedures

General procedure for the formation of cycloadduct 11:

A solution of hypervalent iodine (0.32 mmol, 1.6 equiv.) in $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{CHOH}$ ("HFIP", 0.35 ml) was added dropwise on 30 second to a vigorously stirred solution of phenol **9** (0.20 mmol, 1 equiv.) and the corresponding aromatic compound (10 equiv.) in HFIP/DCM (2:1; ml) at -4°C . The mixture was then stirred for 30 seconds and quenched with NaHCO_3 . The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted with EtOAc. The organic phases were dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane to give the corresponding cycloaddition product **11**.

4a-iodo-8-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-4a,9b-dihydrodibenzo[b,d]furan (11a-g or 12a): Pale yellow oil: 0.032 mmol, 14.8 mg, 34-51% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.94 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.69 – 7.54 (m, 4H), 7.49 (s, 1H), 6.91 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.73 – 6.66 (m, 2H), 6.02 (dd, $J = 9.6, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.82 (dd, $J = 9.6, 6.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.36 (dd, $J = 11.3, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.35 (d, $J = 11.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.40 – 3.33 (m, 2H), 3.08 – 3.00 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.3, 139.3, 133.9, 133.3, 129.5, 128.9, 128.2, 128.1, 126.9, 126.6, 121.9, 109.8, 101.15, 81.3, 58.0, 49.9, 28.5; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{IO}_3\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 465.0016; found: 465.0011.

4a-iodo-8-(2-(propylsulfonyl)ethyl)-4a,9b-dihydrodibenzo[b,d]furan (11h): Pale yellow oil: 0.037 mmol, 16.2 mg, 55% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.04 (dd, $J = 8.2, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.79 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.70 (dd, $J = 6.1, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.05 (dd, $J = 9.6, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.84 (dd, $J = 9.6, 6.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.39 (dd, $J = 11.2, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.40 (d, $J = 11.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.25 – 3.09 (m, 4H), 2.91 – 2.84 (m, 2H), 1.92 – 1.79 (sx, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 1.04 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.5, 133.3, 129.7, 129.1, 128.3, 126.9, 126.8, 121.9, 110.0, 101.2, 81.4, 55.2, 54.7, 49.9, 27.9, 16.0, 13.3; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{20}\text{IO}_3\text{S}$ (M+H) $^+$: 431.0172; found: 431.0171.

4a-iodo-8-(2-((4-methoxyphenyl)sulfonyl)ethyl)-4a,9b-dihydrodibenzo[b,d]furan (11i): Pale yellow oil: 0.048 mmol, 24.0 mg, 48% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.85 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.01 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dd, $J = 6.2, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.02 (dd, $J = 9.6, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.82 (dd, $J = 9.6, 6.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.36 (dd, $J = 11.2, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, $J = 11.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.37 – 3.30 (m, 2H), 3.04 – 2.97 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.9, 157.2, 133.2, 130.8, 130.4, 129.6, 128.9, 128.0, 126.8, 126.1, 121.9, 114.7, 109.8, 101.2, 81.3, 58.3, 55.8, 49.9, 28.7; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{20}\text{IO}_4\text{S}$ (M+H) $^+$: 495.0121; found: 495.014.

4a-iodo-8-(2-((4-nitrophenyl)sulfonyl)ethyl)-4a,9b-dihydrodibenzo[b,d]furan (11j): Pale yellow oil: 0.071 mmol, 36.4 mg, 41% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.34 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 8.07 (dd, $J = 7.5, 5.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.66 (dd, $J = 10.9, 4.9$ Hz, 2H), 6.00 (dd, $J = 9.6, 4.3$ Hz, 1H), 5.81 (dd, $J = 9.6, 6.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.36 (dd, $J = 11.4, 4.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.33 (d, $J = 11.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.45 (dd, $J = 9.4, 6.5$ Hz, 2H), 3.07 (dd, $J = 9.4, 6.6$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.4, 150.9, 145.0, 133.3, 129.7, 129.1, 128.6, 128.2, 126.7, 126.4, 124.5, 122.0, 109.9, 100.7, 81.4, 57.9, 49.8, 28.5; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{INO}_5\text{S}$ (M+H) $^+$: 509.9867; found: 509.9878.

2-((2-(5a-iodo-5a,9a-dihydrodibenzo[b,d]furan-2-yl)ethyl)sulfonyl)benzo[d]thiazole (11k): Pale yellow oil: 0.019 mmol, 10.2 mg, 45% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.21 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.68 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 6.98 (dd, $J = 8.2, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.66 (dd, $J = 6.1, 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.00 (dd, $J = 9.6, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.81 (dd, $J = 9.6, 6.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.28 (dd, $J = 11.3, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.26 (d, $J = 11.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.81 (td, $J = 7.2, 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.24 – 3.16 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 166.0, 157.4, 152.8, 137.0, 133.2, 129.2, 128.9, 128.2, 128.1, 127.8, 126.8, 126.7, 125.7, 122.5,

121.9, 109.8, 101.1, 81.3, 56.4, 49.8, 28.4; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $C_{21}H_{17}INO_3S_2$ (M+H)⁺: 521.9689; found: 521.9692.

General procedure for the formation of cycloadduct **12**:

A solution of bis(*tert*-butylcarbonyloxy)iodobenzene (0.32 mmol, 1.6 equiv.) in $(CF_3)_2CHOH$ ("HFIP", 0.35 ml) was added dropwise on 30 second to a vigorously stirred solution of phenol **9** (0.20 mmol, 1 equiv.) and the corresponding aromatic compound (2.00 mmol, 10.0 equiv.) in HFIP/DCM (2:1; ml) at -4 °C. The mixture was then stirred for 30 seconds and quenched with $NaHCO_3$. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted with EtOAc. The organic phases were dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane to give the corresponding cycloaddition product **12**.

4a-iodo-9b-methyl-8-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-4a,9b-dihydrodibenzo[b,d]furan (**12b**):

Pale yellow oil: 0.019 mmol, 9.2 mg, 54% yield; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.94 (dd, $J = 5.3, 3.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.70 – 7.53 (m, 4H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 6.90 (dd, $J = 8.1, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.56 (dd, $J = 6.3, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.57 (dd, $J = 6.3, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.16 (d, $J = 11.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, $J = 10.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.41 – 3.33 (m, 2H), 3.08 – 3.00 (m, 2H), 1.92 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 157.3, 139.3, 133.9, 133.8, 131.3, 129.5, 129.4, 128.9, 128.7, 128.2, 126.5, 122.7, 109.7, 97.1, 85.3, 58.1, 50.3, 28.5, 20.6; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $C_{21}H_{20}IO_3S$ (M+H)⁺: 479.0172; found: 479.0165.

9b-ethyl-4a-iodo-8-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-4a,9b-dihydrodibenzo[b,d]furan (**12c**):

Pale yellow oil: 0.020 mmol, 9.9 mg, 47% yield; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.94 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.69 – 7.53 (m, 4H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.57 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.18 (d, $J = 10.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.31 (d, $J = 10.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.41 – 3.32 (m, 2H), 3.08 – 3.00 (m, 2H), 2.41 – 2.19 (m, 2H), 1.12 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 157.4, 139.3, 136.7, 133.9, 133.8, 129.5, 129.4, 128.8, 128.7, 128.2, 126.7, 121.0, 109.7, 97.7, 84.4, 58.1, 50.4, 28.5, 27.1, 11.7; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $C_{22}H_{22}IO_3S$ (M+H)⁺: 493.0329; found: 493.0319.

4a-iodo-9b-isopropyl-8-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-4a,9b-dihydrodibenzo[b,d]furan (**12d**):

Pale yellow oil: 0.015 mmol, 7.7 mg, 40% yield; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.96 (s, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.70 – 7.55 (m, 5H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 6.89 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz,

1H), 6.63 (dd, $J = 6.5, 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.62 (d, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 1H), 5.22 (d, $J = 10.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.24 (d, $J = 10.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.39 – 3.30 (m, 2H), 3.07 – 3.00 (m, 2H), 2.56 (h, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.14 (dd, $J = 6.8, 2.0$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.6, 140.7, 139.3, 134.0, 133.9, 129.5, 129.4, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 126.8, 120.5, 109.7, 98.3, 83.4, 58.1, 50.6, 32.1, 28.6, 21.9, 21.1; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{24}\text{IO}_3\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 507.0485; found: 507.0489.

tert-butyl((5a-iodo-2-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-5a,9a-dihydrodibenzo[b,d]furan-9a-yl)methoxy)dimethylsilane (12e): Pale yellow oil: 0.014 mmol, 8.8 mg, 35% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.94 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.71 – 7.53 (m, 4H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 6.93 – 6.87 (m, 1H), 6.67 (dd, $J = 9.3, 4.8$ Hz, 2H), 5.81 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.25 (d, $J = 10.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.31 (s, 2H), 3.41 – 3.32 (m, 2H), 3.09 – 2.99 (m, 2H), 0.91 (s, 9H), 0.09 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.4, 139.3, 137.8, 134.0, 133.9, 133.5, 129.5, 129.5, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 128.2, 126.7, 121.2, 109.7, 99.3, 81.7, 63.9, 58.1, 50.3, 28.5, 26.0, 18.5, -5.2, -5.3; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{34}\text{IO}_4\text{SSi}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 609.0986; found: 609.0978.

4a-iodo-8-(3-(phenylsulfonyl)propyl)-4a,9b-dihydrodibenzo[b,d]furan (12f): Pale yellow oil: 0.013 mmol, 6.2 mg, 31% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.89 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.69 – 7.52 (m, 4H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.69 (dd, $J = 6.1, 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.06 (dd, $J = 9.7, 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.85 (dd, $J = 9.6, 6.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.34 (dd, $J = 11.1, 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, $J = 10.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.09 (dd, $J = 8.7, 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.69 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 2.04 (dq, $J = 11.3, 7.1$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.0, 139.4, 133.8, 133.3, 132.0, 129.4, 129.0, 128.2, 127.8, 127.0, 126.8, 121.8, 109.6, 102.0, 81.1, 55.6, 49.8, 33.8, 24.7; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{20}\text{IO}_3\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 479.0172; found: 479.0182.

8-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-4a,9b-dihydrodibenzo[b,d]furan (12g): Pale yellow oil: 0.041 mmol, 14.2 mg, 40% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.92 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.70 – 7.52 (m, 4H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.83 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.12 (dd, $J = 9.8, 5.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.97 – 5.88 (m, 2H), 5.77 (dd, $J = 9.7, 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 5.42 (dd, $J = 12.1, 4.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.17 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.33 (dd, $J = 10.4, 6.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.99 (dd, $J = 10.4, 6.3$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.4, 139.3, 133.9, 130.1, 129.8, 129.4, 128.2, 128.1, 127.6, 126.5, 124.6, 121.3, 121.2, 110.0, 78.7, 58.1, 40.8, 28.4; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_3\text{SNa}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 361.0869; found: 361.0860.

10-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-6a,11b-dihydronaphtho[2,1-b]benzofuran (12h): Pale yellow oil: 0.095 mmol, 37.1 mg, 72% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.89 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.68 – 7.49 (m, 5H), 7.38 – 7.19 (m, 4H), 7.07 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.87 – 6.79 (m, 2H), 6.72 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.85 – 5.76 (m, 2H), 4.64 (d, $J = 10.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.33 – 3.23 (m, 2H), 2.98 – 2.89 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 157.2, 139.2, 133.8, 132.7, 130.6, 130.5, 129.8, 129.6, 129.4, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 128.0, 127.7, 124.6, 124.5, 110.0, 81.4, 58.0, 43.7, 28.3; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_3\text{SNa}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 411.1025; found: 411.1028.

2-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-6,11-dihydro-6,11-[1,2]benzenodibenzo[b,e]oxepine (13):

A solution of bis(*tert*-butylcarbonyloxy)iodobenzene (0.17 mmol, 1.6 equiv.) in $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{CHOH}$ (“HFIP”, 0.35 ml) was added dropwise on 30 second to a vigorously stirred solution of phenol **9** (0.11 mmol, 1 equiv.) and the anthracene (0.55 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) in HFIP/DCM (2:1; ml) at -4 °C. The mixture was then stirred for 30 seconds and quenched with NaHCO_3 . The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted with EtOAc. The organic phases were dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane to afford **13** in 58% yield (0.034 mmol, 14.8 mg). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.85 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.62 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.53 – 7.42 (m, 5H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 6.93 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.71 (dd, $J = 8.4, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 5.88 (s, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.51 (s, 1H), 3.33 – 3.24 (m, 2H), 2.95 – 2.87 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 151.7, 144.8, 139.3, 134.8, 133.7, 129.3, 129.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 128.1, 127.5, 127.4, 124.5, 120.3, 78.8, 57.8, 52.3, 28.0; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_3\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 439.1362; found: 439.1353.

7-(2-((4-methoxyphenyl)sulfonyl)ethyl)-3a,8b-dihydrofuro[3,2-b]benzofuran (14):

A solution of bis(*tert*-butylcarbonyloxy)iodobenzene (0.08 mmol, 1.6 equiv.) in $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{CHOH}$ (“HFIP”, 0.35 ml) was added dropwise on 30 second to a vigorously stirred solution of phenol **9i** (0.05 mmol, 1 equiv.) and the furan (0.75 mmol, 15.0 equiv.) in TFE at -25 °C. After completion the reaction was quenched with NaHCO_3 . The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted with EtOAc. The organic phases were dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane to afford **14** in 95% yield (0.047 mmol, 16.8 mg). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.83 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, $J = 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 3H), 6.76 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.97 (s, 2H), 5.28 (t, $J = 2.3$ Hz, 1H),

3.89 (s, 3H), 3.35 – 3.27 (m, 2H), 3.02 – 2.95 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.9, 158.5, 151.3, 131.7, 131.5, 130.6, 130.4, 130.1, 126.3, 125.4, 114.6, 111.2, 100.2, 89.4, 85.1, 58.2, 55.8, 28.5; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_5\text{SNa}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 381.0767; found: 381.0779.

General procedure for the formation of cycloadduct 17: A solution of bis(*tert*-butylcarbonyloxy)iodobenzene (0.22 mmol, 1.6 equiv.) in $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{CHOH}$ (“HFIP”, 0.35 ml) was added dropwise on 30 second to a vigorously stirred solution of sulfonamide **15** (0.14 mmol, 1 equiv.) and the corresponding aromatic compound (0.70 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) in HFIP/DCM (2:1; ml) at $-4\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. The mixture was then stirred for 30 seconds and quenched with NaHCO_3 . The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted with EtOAc. The organic phases were dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane to give the corresponding cycloaddition product **17**.

10-methyl-7-(methylsulfonyl)-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazole (17a): Pale yellow oil: 0.074 mmol, 23.3 mg, 61% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.38 – 7.27 (m, 4H), 7.05 (dd, $J = 14.5, 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 6.43 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 5.83 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.53 (dt, $J = 9.8, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, $J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.94 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 137.6, 135.0, 135.0, 131.6, 130.7, 129.2, 128.8, 128.1, 128.1, 127.9, 126.5, 125.3, 116.2, 64.0, 43.9, 37.7, 21.1; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 312.1058; found: 312.1051.

7-(ethylsulfonyl)-10-methyl-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazole (17b): Pale yellow oil: 0.081 mmol, 26.4 mg, 59% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.32 (dd, $J = 9.1, 6.7$ Hz, 4H), 7.07 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 6.41 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.84 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.53 (dt, $J = 9.8, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.18 – 3.08 (m, 2H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 1.38 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 137.8, 134.7, 134.4, 131.6, 130.7, 129.3, 129.2, 128.6, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.1, 125.2, 115.4, 64.0, 45.9, 44.0, 21.1, 8.2; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 326.1209; found: 326.1207.

10-methyl-7-tosyl-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazole (17c): Pale yellow oil: 0.030 mmol, 11.7 mg, 32% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.59 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.18

(m, 4H), 7.14 – 6.99 (m, 4H), 6.55 (s, 1H), 6.38 (d, $J = 9.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.86 (dd, $J = 9.8, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 5.39 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.80 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 144.0, 138.0, 135.9, 135.9, 135.3, 131.6, 130.8, 129.9, 129.2, 129.1, 128.5, 128.0, 127.8, 127.8, 127.2, 127.1, 124.8, 118.1, 63.8, 43.4, 21.7, 21.2; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 388.1369; found: 388.1374.

7-(isopropylsulfonyl)-10-methyl-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazole (17d): Pale yellow oil: 0.032 mmol, 11.0 mg, 38% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.38 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.06 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 6.41 (d, $J = 9.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.86 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 5.51 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.63 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.40 (h, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.45 – 1.37 (m, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.4, 134.1, 133.7, 131.7, 129.3, 129.1, 128.5, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 127.5, 125.2, 114.7, 64.4, 54.0, 43.9, 21.1, 17.2, 16.8; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 340.1366; found: 340.1358.

7-(benzylsulfonyl)-10-methyl-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazole (17e): Pale yellow oil: 0.048 mmol, 18.5 mg, 45% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.38 – 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.26 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.19 (t, $J = 6.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.00 (dd, $J = 9.8, 4.2$ Hz, 2H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 6.30 (dd, $J = 9.9, 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.69 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.96 (dt, $J = 10.1, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.40 (d, $J = 2.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.92 (d, $J = 10.1$ Hz, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 137.4, 134.9, 134.2, 131.8, 130.8, 130.7, 129.2, 129.2, 129.0, 128.6, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.3, 125.2, 114.7, 64.7, 57.3, 43.2, 21.2; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 388.1369; found: 388.1381.

10-chloro-7-(methylsulfonyl)-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazole (17f): Pale yellow oil: 0.043 mmol, 14.3 mg, 51% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.41 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.18 (ddd, $J = 8.5, 2.0, 0.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.12 – 7.06 (m, 1H), 6.93 – 6.88 (m, 1H), 6.45 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.83 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.55 (dt, $J = 9.8, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.65 (d, $J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.98 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.7, 137.0, 130.7, 130.6, 130.3, 130.1, 129.8, 129.1, 128.8, 128.5, 128.4, 128.1, 127.4, 125.9, 125.1, 117.1, 64.1, 43.8, 38.3; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_2\text{SClNa}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 354.0326; found: 354.0320.

10-isopropyl-7-(methylsulfonyl)-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazole (17g): Pale yellow oil: 0.023 mmol, 7.8 mg, 52% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.40 – 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.07

(d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 2H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 6.43 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.85 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.53 (dt, $J = 9.9, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.65 (d, $J = 9.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.95 (s, 3H), 2.79 (h, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 1.15 (dd, $J = 6.9, 3.8$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 146.0, 137.8, 134.8, 131.7, 130.8, 129.2, 128.9, 128.1, 128.1, 128.0, 127.7, 126.5, 122.8, 116.1, 63.9, 43.9, 37.9, 33.9, 24.4, 24.0; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 340.1366; found: 340.1361.

7-(methylsulfonyl)-10-propyl-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazole (17h): Pale yellow oil: 0.061 mmol, 20.7 mg, 51% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.39 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.05 (dd, $J = 12.8, 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 6.43 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.84 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.53 (dt, $J = 9.8, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.64 (d, $J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.95 (s, 3H), 2.51 – 2.43 (m, 2H), 1.53 (sx, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 0.89 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 139.9, 137.8, 134.9, 131.6, 130.7, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 128.1, 127.9, 126.5, 124.6, 116.1, 64.0, 43.9, 37.8, 37.8, 24.8, 14.0; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 340.1366; found: 340.1368.

7-(methylsulfonyl)-10-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazole (17i): Pale yellow oil: 0.016 mmol, 7.6 mg, 54% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.88 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.68 – 7.49 (m, 5H), 7.39 – 7.28 (m, 5H), 7.08 (dd, $J = 5.7, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 6.42 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.81 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.52 (dt, $J = 9.9, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.60 (d, $J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.29 – 3.20 (m, 3H), 2.99 – 2.91 (m, 2H), 2.95 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 139.2, 139.0, 135.6, 134.3, 134.0, 131.2, 130.6, 129.5, 129.2, 129.0, 128.7, 128.4, 128.2, 128.0, 126.2, 124.7, 116.3, 64.0, 57.6, 43.8, 38.2, 28.4; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_4\text{SNa}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 488.0961; found: 488.0957.

(7-(methylsulfonyl)-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazol-10-yl)methanol (17j): Pale yellow oil: 0.064 mmol, 21.0 mg, 53% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.44 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.21 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.43 (d, $J = 9.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.84 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 5.56 (d, $J = 9.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.66 (d, $J = 9.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.56 (s, 2H), 2.97 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 190.9, 139.5, 137.8, 135.4, 131.8, 131.3, 130.6, 129.3, 128.9, 128.3, 128.3, 128.0, 127.8, 126.2, 123.7, 118.4, 116.0, 65.0, 60.6, 43.8, 38.1; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_3\text{SNa}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 350.0821; found: 350.0811.

2-(7-(methylsulfonyl)-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazol-10-yl)ethanol (17k): Pale yellow oil: 0.042 mmol, 14.2 mg, 62% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.44 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 3H), 7.12 (dd, $J = 7.3, 3.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 6.47 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.88 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.58 (dt, $J = 9.9, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.69 (d, $J = 9.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.81 (t, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 2H), 3.01 (s, 3H), 2.79 (t, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.5, 135.5, 135.3, 131.4, 130.7, 130.1, 129.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.2, 128.2, 128.0, 126.3, 125.5, 125.3, 116.2, 64.0, 63.7, 43.8, 38.8, 38.1; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_3\text{SNa}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 364.0978; found: 364.0972.

10-(2-((tert-butyldimethylsilyloxy)ethyl)-7-(methylsulfonyl)-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazole (17l): Pale yellow oil: 0.048 mmol, 21.8 mg, 52% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.37 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.29 (dd, $J = 9.0, 4.2$ Hz, 3H), 7.09 – 7.03 (m, 2H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 6.42 (dd, $J = 9.9, 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.83 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.53 (dt, $J = 9.8, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.63 (d, $J = 9.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.71 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 2H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 2.69 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 2H), 0.81 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 10H), -0.12 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 138.2, 136.7, 134.9, 131.5, 130.7, 129.4, 129.2, 128.8, 128.2, 128.1, 127.9, 126.5, 125.6, 121.2, 116.1, 64.4, 64.0, 43.9, 39.1, 37.7, 26.0, 18.4, -5.3, -5.4; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{33}\text{NO}_3\text{SNa}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 478.1843; found: 478.1850.

7-(methylsulfonyl)-10-(trimethylsilyl)-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazole (17m): Pale yellow oil: 0.038 mmol, 14.2 mg, 43% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.47 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.40 – 7.31 (m, 3H), 7.08 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.44 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.86 (dd, $J = 9.9, 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.54 (dt, $J = 10.0, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.67 (d, $J = 10.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 0.19 – 0.15 (m, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 140.6, 136.6, 134.0, 133.9, 131.6, 130.7, 129.3, 129.2, 129.0, 128.1, 128.0, 126.1, 115.1, 63.7, 43.8, 38.4, -0.9; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_2\text{SSi}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 370.1292; found: 370.1299.

10-isopropyl-7-(methylsulfonyl)-7,11b-dihydro-6aH-benzo[c]carbazol-5-yl methanesulfonate (18) and 4-(N-(4-isopropylphenyl)methylsulfonamido)naphthalen-1-yl methanesulfonate (19) :

A solution of bis(*tert*-butylcarbonyloxy)iodobenzene (0.08 mmol, 1.6 equiv.) in $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{CHOH}$ (“HFIP”, 0.2 ml) was added dropwise on 30 second to a vigorously stirred solution of sulfonamide **15a** (10.7 mg, 0.05 mmol, 1 equiv.) and the O-Mesyl-Naphthol (0.35 mmol, 7.0 equiv.) in HFIP/DCM (2:1; ml) at -4 °C. The mixture was then stirred for 30 seconds and

quenched with NaHCO₃. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted with EtOAc. The organic phases were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane to afford **18** and **19** in 72% yield (0.036 mmol, 15.6 mg) as a 1:1.2 ratio. **18**: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48 – 7.33 (m, 5H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 5.93 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 5.70 (dd, *J* = 9.8, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 2.99 (s, 3H), 2.80 (p, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.16 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 3H), 1.14 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.1, 145.9, 137.5, 133.7, 133.0, 129.8, 129.2, 128.3, 126.9, 123.4, 122.8, 115.8, 114.5, 63.3, 43.8, 38.3, 38.1, 33.9, 24.4, 24.0. HRMS (ESI): Calc. for C₂₁H₂₄NO₅S₂ (M+H)⁺: 434.1090; found: 434.1083.

19: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36 (dd, *J* = 7.1, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.68 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 2.86 (p, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.19 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.9, 145.6, 138.7, 136.3, 133.8, 128.6, 128.4, 128.1, 127.7, 127.4, 125.9, 124.4, 122.1, 118.2, 40.1, 38.4, 33.7, 24.0. HRMS (ESI): Calc. for C₂₁H₂₃NO₅S₂Na (M+Na)⁺: 456.0910; found: 456.0913.

(9s,10s)-10-(N-p-tolylmethylsulfonamido)-9,10-dihydroanthracen-9-yl pivalate (20) :

A solution of bis(*tert*-butylcarbonyloxy)iodobenzene (0.096 mmol, 1.6 equiv.) in (CF₃)₂CHOH (“HFIP”, 0.2 ml) was added dropwise on 30 second to a vigorously stirred solution of sulfonamide **15a** (11.1 mg, 0.060 mmol, 1 equiv.) and the anthracene (0.299 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) in HFIP/DCM (2:1; ml) and Na₂CO₃ at -4 °C. The mixture was then stirred for 30 seconds and quenched with NaHCO₃. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted with EtOAc. The organic phases were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane to afford **20** in 46% yield (0.027 mmol, 12.1 mg). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.81 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 6.16 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 5.52 (s, 1H), 3.00 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.2, 139.7, 138.4, 133.2, 131.9, 131.7, 129.7, 129.4, 128.5, 128.5, 125.2, 66.4, 60.3, 41.1, 39.1, 27.4, 21.3. HRMS (ESI): Calc. for C₂₇H₃₀NO₄S (M+H)⁺: 464.1890; found: 464.1882.

General procedure for the formation of coupling product 5:

Trifluoroacetic acid (0.55 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) was added to a solution of cycloaddition product **21** (0.11 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in DCM at room temperature and the solution was heated at 40 °C. After completion, the solution was evaporated under reduced pressure and purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane to give the corresponding coupling product **5**.

2'-iodo-5-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-ol (5a): Pale yellow oil: 0.032 mmol, 15.0 mg, 97% yield; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 – 7.92 (m, 3H), 7.67 – 7.54 (m, 3H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (ddd, *J* = 15.8, 8.0, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.41 – 3.32 (m, 2H), 3.06 – 2.98 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.2, 141.5, 139.9, 139.2, 133.9, 131.3, 131.0, 130.3, 130.1, 129.8, 129.5, 129.4, 128.9, 128.3, 116.4, 100.6, 57.9, 28.1; IR ν (cm⁻¹) 3418, 1634, 1511, 1446, 1306, 1149; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for C₂₀H₁₈IO₃S (M+H)⁺: 465.0016; found: 465.0013.

2'-iodo-5'-methyl-5-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-ol (5b): Pale yellow oil: 0.051 mmol, 24.5 mg, 91% yield; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.67 – 7.53 (m, 3H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.41 – 3.33 (m, 2H), 3.05 – 2.97 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.2, 141.2, 139.6, 139.2, 139.1, 133.9, 131.8, 131.3, 131.2, 130.3, 129.7, 129.5, 129.4, 128.3, 116.3, 96.3, 57.9, 28.1, 21.0; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for C₂₁H₂₃INO₃S (M+NH₄)⁺: 496.0438; found: 496.0416.

5'-ethyl-2'-iodo-5-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-ol (5c): Pale yellow oil: 0.041 mmol, 20.0 mg, 98% yield; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.94 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.67 – 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98 – 6.91 (m, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.71 (s, 1H), 3.41 – 3.33 (m, 2H), 3.05 – 2.98 (m, 2H), 2.62 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.2, 145.4, 141.2, 139.8, 139.2, 133.9, 131.4, 130.6, 130.3, 130.0, 129.7, 129.5, 129.4, 128.3, 116.3, 96.5, 57.9, 28.4, 28.1, 15.4; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for C₂₂H₂₂IO₃S (M+H)⁺: 493.0329; found: 493.0324.

2'-iodo-5'-isopropyl-5-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-ol (5d): Pale yellow oil: 0.059 mmol, 29.7 mg, 90% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.95 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.67 – 7.57 (m, 4H), 7.12 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.05 (dd, $J = 8.3, 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.42 – 3.34 (m, 2H), 3.06 – 2.97 (m, 2H), 2.94 – 2.83 (m, 1H), 1.23 (t, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 151.2, 150.2, 141.2, 139.8, 139.1, 137.5, 134.0, 131.5, 130.3, 129.7, 129.5, 129.4, 129.3, 128.8, 128.6, 128.3, 116.3, 96.6, 57.9, 33.8, 28.1, 23.9, 23.9; IR ν (cm^{-1}) 3426, 1509, 1446, 1306, 1149; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{24}\text{IO}_3\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 507.0485; found: 507.0493.

5-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-ol (5e): Pale yellow oil: 0.082 mmol, 27.7 mg, 97% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.93 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.67 – 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.50 – 7.37 (m, 5H), 7.02 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 6.87 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.42 – 3.33 (m, 2H), 3.06 – 2.97 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 151.5, 139.2, 136.8, 133.9, 130.2, 129.7, 129.5, 129.4, 129.1, 129.0, 128.6, 128.2, 128.2, 116.4, 57.9, 28.1; IR ν (cm^{-1}) 3425, 1446, 1305, 1149; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{36}\text{NaO}_6\text{S}_2$ ($2\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 699.1846; found: 699.1823.

2'-iodo-5-(2-((4-methoxyphenyl)sulfonyl)ethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-ol (5f): Pale yellow oil: 0.025 mmol, 12.3 mg, 87% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.00 – 7.95 (m, 1H), 7.85 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.43 (dt, $J = 7.5, 3.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.08 (ddd, $J = 15.7, 7.9, 1.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.38 – 3.30 (m, 2H), 3.05 – 2.95 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 164.0, 151.2, 141.6, 139.9, 131.3, 131.0, 130.5, 130.3, 130.1, 129.8, 129.6, 128.9, 128.4, 116.4, 114.7, 100.6, 58.2, 55.9, 28.3; IR ν (cm^{-1}) 3418, 1594, 1497, 1262, 1144; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{20}\text{IO}_4\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 495.0121; found: 495.0116.

2-(naphthalen-1-yl)-4-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)phenol (5g): Pale yellow oil: 0.030 mmol, 11.5 mg, 98% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.92 (dd, $J = 5.3, 3.2$ Hz, 4H), 7.63 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 5H), 7.49 (dd, $J = 8.5, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.12 (dd, $J = 8.3, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.42 – 3.35 (m, 2H), 3.09 – 3.01 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.3, 139.3, 134.1, 133.9, 133.7, 131.8, 131.0, 129.5, 129.5, 129.2, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 127.0, 126.8, 126.6, 125.9, 125.6, 116.2, 57.9, 28.1; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_3\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{NH}_4$) $^+$: 406.1471; found: 406.1453.

N-(4-methyl-2-(naphthalen-1-yl)phenyl)ethanesulfonamide (5h): Pale yellow oil: 0.074 mmol, 24.0 mg, 97% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.95 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.62 – 7.46 (m, 5H), 7.41 (dd, $J = 7.0, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, $J = 8.3, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.83 (q, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 0.80 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 135.0, 134.8, 134.0, 132.6, 132.1, 131.8, 131.6, 130.0, 129.2, 128.9, 127.6, 127.2, 126.7, 125.8, 125.2, 120.8, 46.1, 20.9, 7.9; IR ν (cm^{-1}) 3357, 1498, 1333, 1153; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 326.1209; found: 326.1203.

N-(2-(naphthalen-1-yl)-4-propylphenyl)methanesulfonamide (5i): Pale yellow oil: 0.051 mmol, 17.2 mg, 83% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.95 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.46 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, $J = 8.3, 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.69 (s, 3H), 2.67 – 2.59 (m, 2H), 1.68 (sx, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 0.97 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 139.8, 135.0, 134.1, 132.7, 131.8, 131.7, 131.5, 129.4, 129.2, 128.9, 127.7, 127.2, 126.7, 125.8, 125.1, 120.9, 39.4, 37.4, 24.6, 13.9; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 340.1366; found: 340.1359.

N-(4-isopropyl-2-(naphthalen-1-yl)phenyl)methanesulfonamide (5j): Pale yellow oil: 0.105 mmol, 35.8 mg, 97% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.96 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.45 (m, 2H), 7.40 (dd, $J = 7.0, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, $J = 8.4, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 2.95 (h, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.69 (s, 3H), 1.27 (d, $J = 1.8$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 146.0, 135.1, 134.1, 132.7, 131.8, 131.7, 129.6, 129.2, 128.9, 127.7, 127.4, 127.2, 126.7, 125.8, 125.1, 121.0, 39.5, 33.7, 24.1; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 340.1366; found: 340.1352.

N-(4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-2-(naphthalen-1-yl)phenyl)methanesulfonamide (5k): Pale yellow oil: 0.016 mmol, 5.5 mg, 76% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.96 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.55 (ddd, $J = 7.6, 6.5, 5.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, $J = 3.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.40 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.20 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.01 (s, 1H), 3.91 (t, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 2H), 2.91 (t, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 2H), 2.72 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 135.7, 134.6, 134.1, 133.5, 132.1, 131.9, 131.7, 130.0, 129.4, 129.0, 127.8, 127.3, 126.8, 125.8, 125.0, 120.9, 63.6, 39.6, 38.6; IR ν (cm^{-1}) 3349, 1496, 1329, 1155; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{19}\text{NNaO}_3\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 364.0978; found: 364.0968.

4-(methylsulfonamido)-3-(naphthalen-1-yl)phenethyl 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate (5l): Pale yellow oil: 0.038 mmol, 16.5 mg, 79% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.97 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.50 – 7.32 (m, 5H), 7.19 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.59 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.09 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.73 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 134.2, 133.1, 132.1, 131.9, 131.7, 129.9, 129.6, 129.0, 127.7, 127.4, 126.9, 125.8, 124.9, 120.7, 68.2, 39.6, 34.1; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{F}_3\text{NNaO}_4\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 460.0801; found: 460.0795.

N-(2-(naphthalen-1-yl)-4-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)phenyl)methanesulfonamide (5m): Pale yellow oil: 0.011 mmol, 5.0 mg, 94% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.94 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 4H), 7.72 – 7.63 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.51 (m, 4H), 7.44 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.98 (s, 1H), 3.44 – 3.36 (m, 2H), 3.15 – 3.06 (m, 2H), 2.71 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 139.2, 134.4, 134.0, 132.0, 131.6, 131.4, 129.6, 129.6, 129.4, 129.1, 128.3, 127.7, 127.4, 126.9, 125.8, 124.8, 120.8, 57.5, 39.7, 28.2; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_4\text{S}_2$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 466.1141; found: 466.1133.

General procedure for the formation of coupling product 23:

A solution of bis(*tert*-butylcarbonyloxy)iodobenzene (0.17 mmol, 1.6 equiv.) in $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{CHOH}$ (“HFIP”, 0.35 ml) was added dropwise on 30 second to a vigorously stirred solution of sulfamide **22** (0.11 mmol, 1 equiv.) and naphthalene (0.55 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) in HFIP/DCM (2:1; ml) at -4 °C. The mixture was then stirred for 30 seconds and quenched with NaHCO_3 . The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted with EtOAc. The organic phases were dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane to give the corresponding coupling product **23**.

N-(4-methyl-2-(naphthalen-1-yl)phenyl)pyrrolidine-1-sulfonamide (23a): Pale yellow oil: 0.035 mmol, 12.9 mg, 55% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.37 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.57 – 7.48 (m, 3H), 7.46 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), 3.36 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 4H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.72 – 1.65 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 140.2, 138.2, 135.9, 135.1, 132.0, 129.7, 128.9, 128.4, 128.0, 127.1, 126.4, 125.6, 125.5, 123.8, 49.0, 25.8, 21.0; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 367.1475; found: 367.1471.

N-(4-ethyl-2-(naphthalen-1-yl)phenyl)pyrrolidine-1-sulfonamide (23b): Pale yellow oil: 0.057 mmol, 21.6 mg, 64% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.38 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.58 – 7.45 (m, 5H), 7.11 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 3.36 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 4H), 2.58 (q, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 1.71 – 1.64 (m, 4H), 1.17 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 142.2, 140.3, 138.2, 135.1, 132.1, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 128.1, 127.1, 126.4, 125.6, 125.5, 123.8, 49.0, 28.4, 25.8, 15.5; IR ν (cm^{-1}) 1595, 1506, 1343, 1156; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 403.1451; found: 403.1431.

N-(4-isopropyl-2-(naphthalen-1-yl)phenyl)pyrrolidine-1-sulfonamide (23c): Pale yellow oil: 0.031 mmol, 12.4 mg, 54% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.39 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.59 – 7.45 (m, 5H), 7.13 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 3.35 (t, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 4H), 2.92 – 2.76 (m, 1H), 1.71 – 1.63 (m, 4H), 1.18 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 146.8, 140.3, 138.2, 135.1, 132.1, 128.9, 128.4, 128.0, 127.1, 126.4, 125.6, 125.5, 123.8, 49.0, 33.7, 25.8, 24.0. IR ν (cm^{-1}) 1498, 1343, 1156; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 395.1788; found: 395.1797.

N-(4-chloro-2-(naphthalen-1-yl)phenyl)pyrrolidine-1-sulfonamide (23d): Pale yellow oil: 0.054 mmol, 21.0 mg, 81% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.27 – 8.21 (m, 1H), 7.92 – 7.79 (m, 4H), 7.58 – 7.48 (m, 3H), 7.48 – 7.40 (m, 3H), 7.23 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 3.33 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 4H), 1.72 – 1.66 (m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 141.5, 137.4, 135.1, 131.9, 131.1, 129.5, 129.4, 129.2, 128.6, 128.7, 127.4, 126.6, 125.8, 125.6, 123.5, 49.0, 25.8. HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{19}\text{ClKN}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{K}$) $^+$: 425.0487; found: 425.0466.

N-(2-(naphthalen-1-yl)-4-(trimethylsilyl)phenyl)pyrrolidine-1-sulfonamide (23e): Pale yellow oil: 0.056 mmol, 23.7 mg, 52% yield; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.32 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.90 – 7.82 (m, 3H), 7.52 (q, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 4H), 7.43 (q, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 4H), 3.37 (s, 4H), 1.72 – 1.65 (m, 4H), 0.21 (s, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 143.3, 137.7, 137.3, 135.1, 134.2, 132.2, 129.1, 128.4, 128.4, 127.2, 126.5, 125.6, 123.8, 123.5, 49.0, 25.8, -1.0; IR ν (cm^{-1}) 1592, 1499, 1347, 1157; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{56}\text{N}_4\text{NaO}_4\text{S}_2\text{Si}$ ($2\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$: 871.3174; found: 871.3148.

Diethyl 8-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-1,4,4a,9b-tetrahydro-1,4-pidiazanodibenzo[b,d]furan-10,11-dicarboxylate (26) :

To a solution of **12a** (36.7 mg, 0.079 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in benzene (1.0 ml) was added DEAD (0.094 mmol, 1.2 equiv.). The reaction was heated at 60°C and the reaction was followed by TLC. After completion, the mixture was rapidly purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane and the residue was treated with LiOH in THF/H₂O (1:1) at 40°C. After 24h, the reaction was quenched with NH₄Cl. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase extracted with EtOAc. The organic phases were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane to afford **26** in 59 % yield (0.047 mmol, 29.5 mg). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.72 – 7.64 (m, 1H), 7.63 – 7.50 (m, 3H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 6.55 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (s, 1H), 5.20 – 5.00 (m, 2H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 4.34 – 4.10 (m, 4H), 3.39 – 3.29 (m, 2H), 3.07 – 2.96 (m, 2H), 1.35 – 1.22 (m, 7H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.2, 157.2, 139.2, 133.9, 129.8, 129.5, 128.2, 125.4, 109.8, 80.7, 63.4, 63.2, 58.0, 54.4, 51.0, 28.4, 14.6, 14.5; HRMS (ESI): Calc. for C₂₆H₂₇IN₂O₇S (M+H)⁺: 638.0578; found: 638.0568.

10-methyl-7-(methylsulfonyl)-6,6a,7,11b-tetrahydro-5H-benzo[c]carbazole (27) :

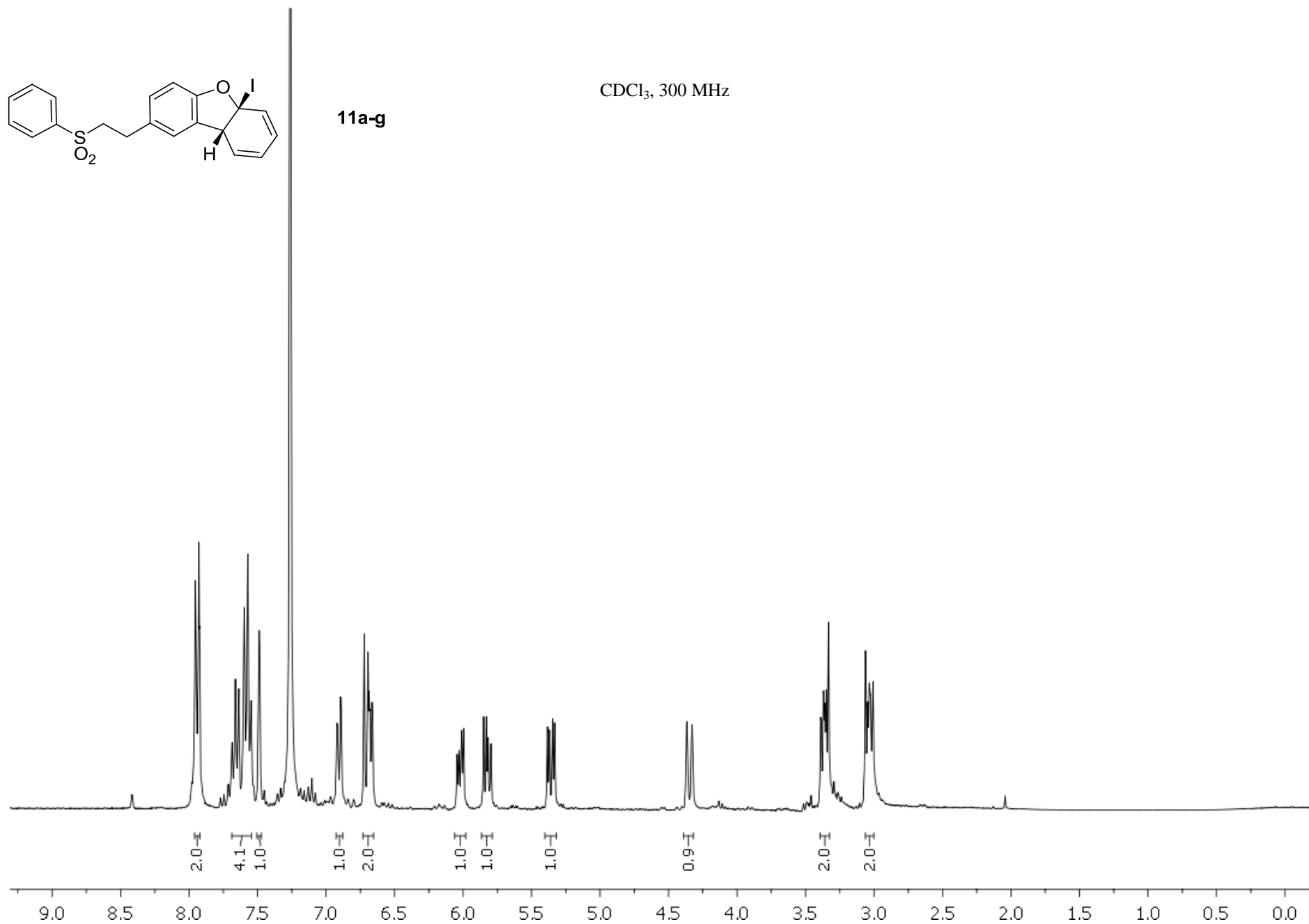
To a solution of **17a** (23.2 mg, 0.075 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in MeOH (2.0 mL) was added Pd/C (0.0038mmol, 0.05 equiv.). The mixture was stirred at room temperature and the reaction was followed by Mass Spectroscopy. After completion the mixture was filtered through Celite and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane to afford **28** in 66% yield (0.049 mmol, 15.4 mg). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.21 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 4.81 – 4.71 (m, 2H), 2.93 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 2.69 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.38 – 2.26 (m, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.03 – 1.89 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.7, 138.2, 135.0, 134.6, 134.4, 129.3, 129.0, 128.8, 127.0, 126.7, 125.9, 115.2, 63.1, 44.9, 36.4, 29.8, 26.2, 21.1. HRMS (ESI): Calc. for C₁₈H₂₀NO₂S (M+H)⁺: 314.1209; found: 314.1211.

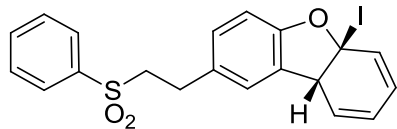
10-methyl-7-(methylsulfonyl)-6,6a,7,11b-tetrahydro-5H-benzo[c]carbazole-5,6-diol (28) :

To a solution of **17a** (18.7 mg, 0.060 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in THF (1.5 mL) was added OsO₄ (0.012 mmol, 0.2 equiv.) and NMO (0.120 mmol, 2.0 equiv.). The mixture was stirred at room temperature and the reaction was followed by TLC. After completion, Na₂S₂O₃ was

added, followed by Celite and EtOAc. The mixture was stirred during 30 minutes, filtered through Celite and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography with a mixture of ethyl acetate/hexane to afford **28** in 60% yield (0.036 mmol, 12.5 mg). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.46 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.03 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 4.85 (t, $J = 9.9$ Hz, 1H), 4.81 – 4.74 (m, 2H), 4.01 (dd, $J = 7.4, 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.97 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 137.6, 135.5, 135.0, 134.2, 133.1, 130.0, 129.4, 129.2, 129.0, 127.9, 125.3, 117.2, 70.9, 69.5, 65.3, 44.7, 37.0, 21.2. HRMS (ESI): Calc. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}_4\text{S}$ ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$: 346.1108; found: 346.1102.

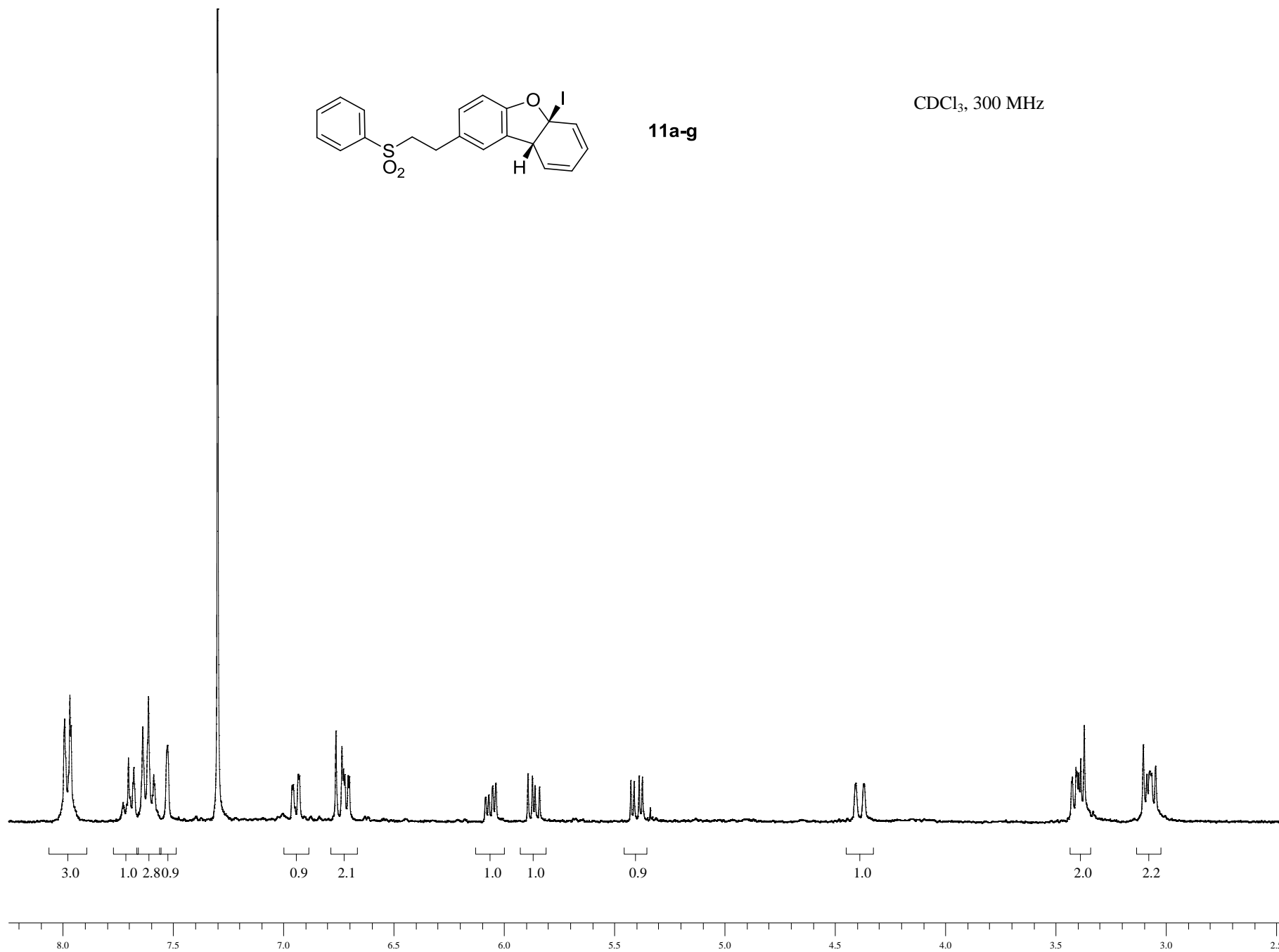
III. Copies of ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra

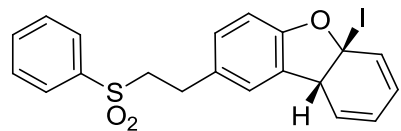




11a-g

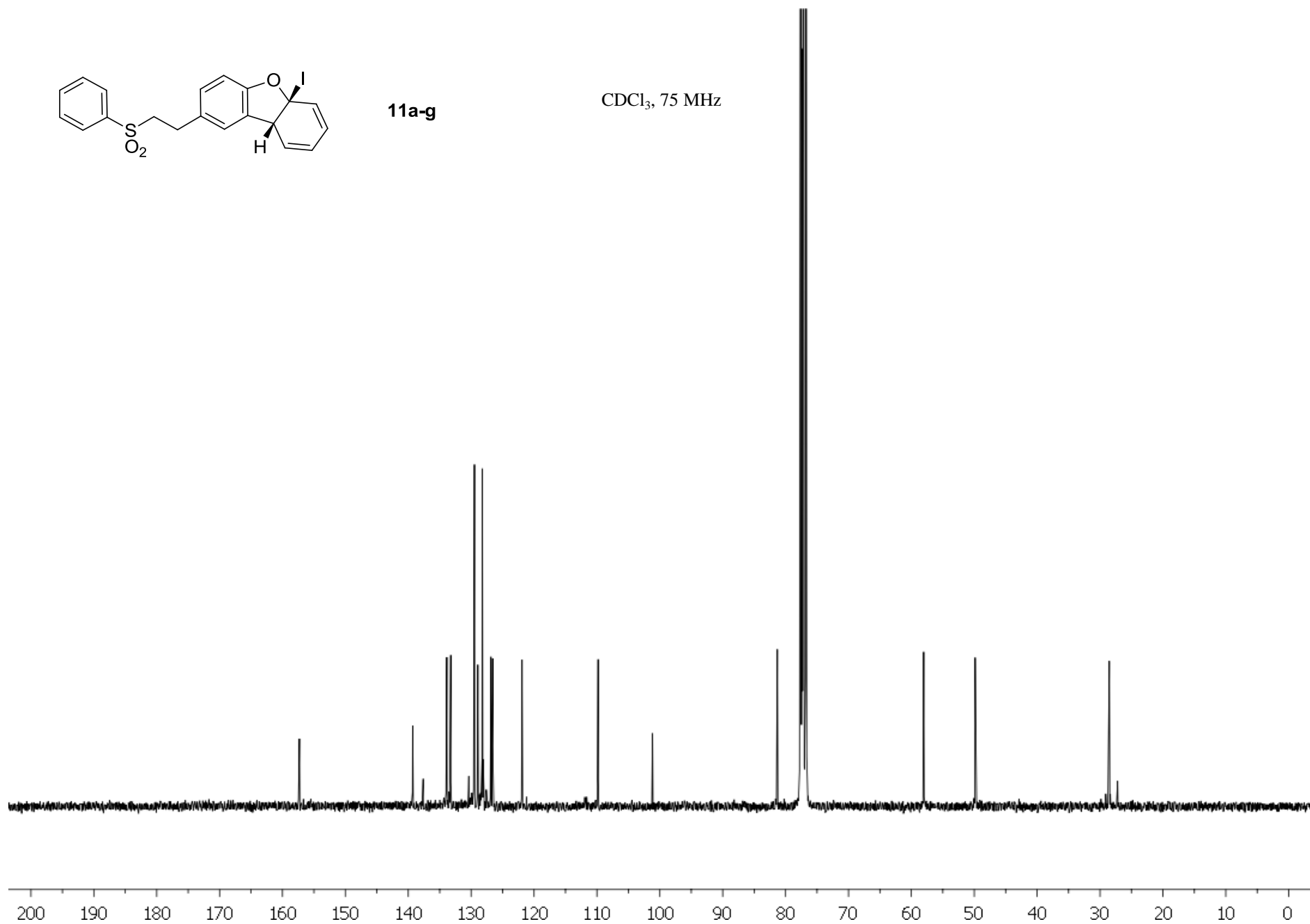
CDCl₃, 300 MHz

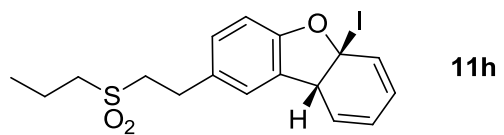




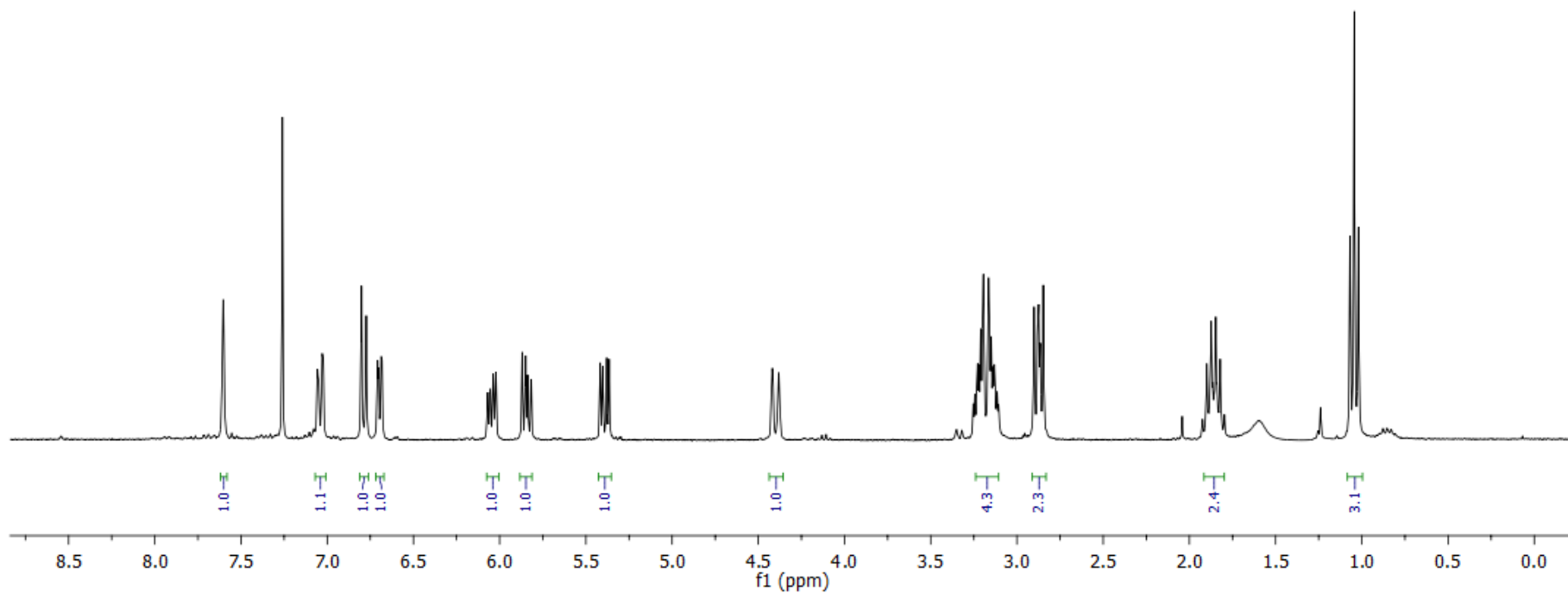
11a-g

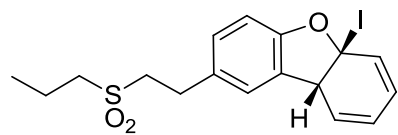
CDCl₃, 75 MHz





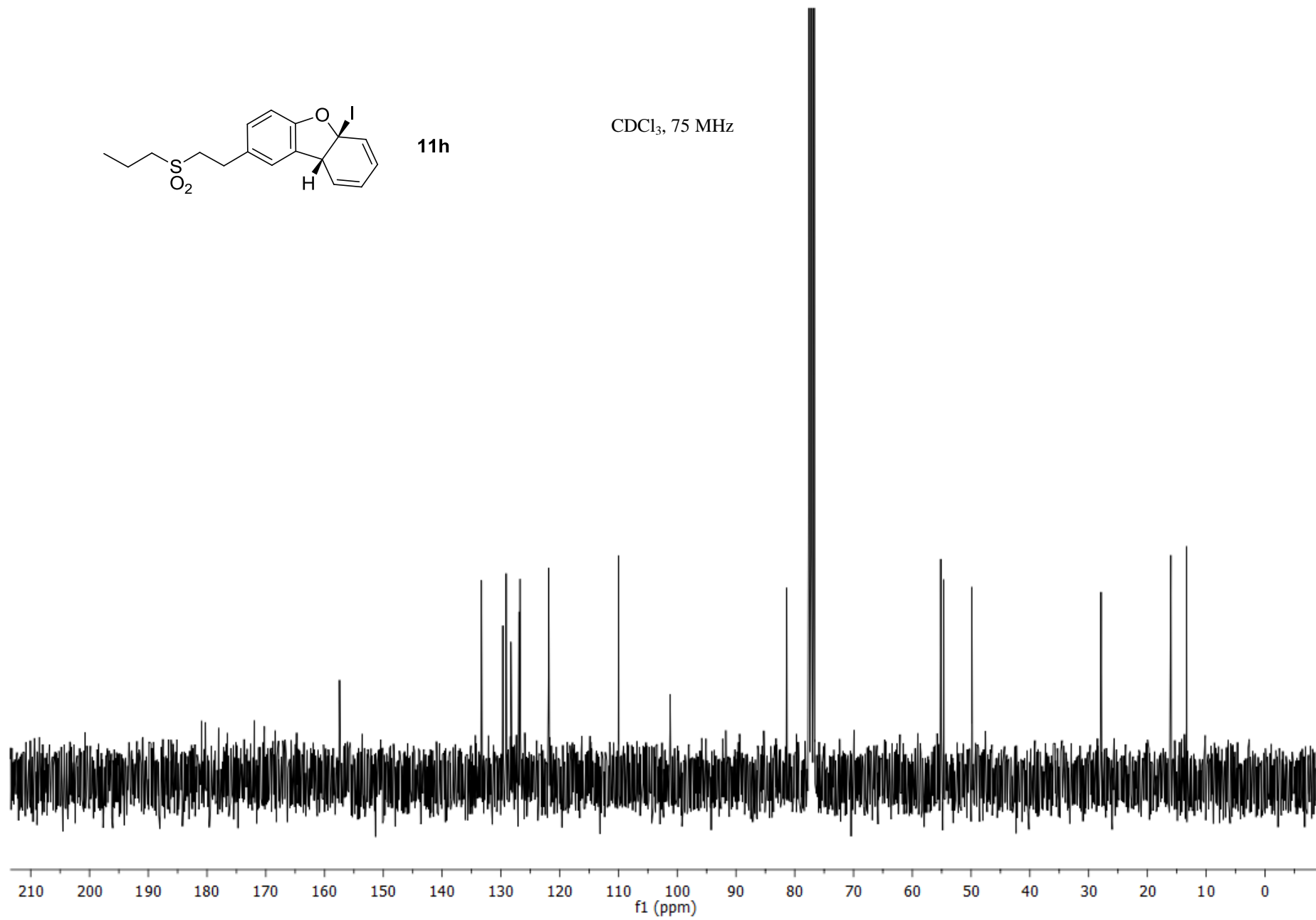
CDCl₃, 300 MHz

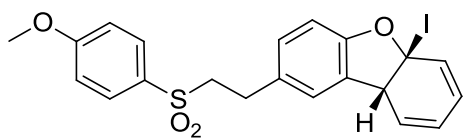




11h

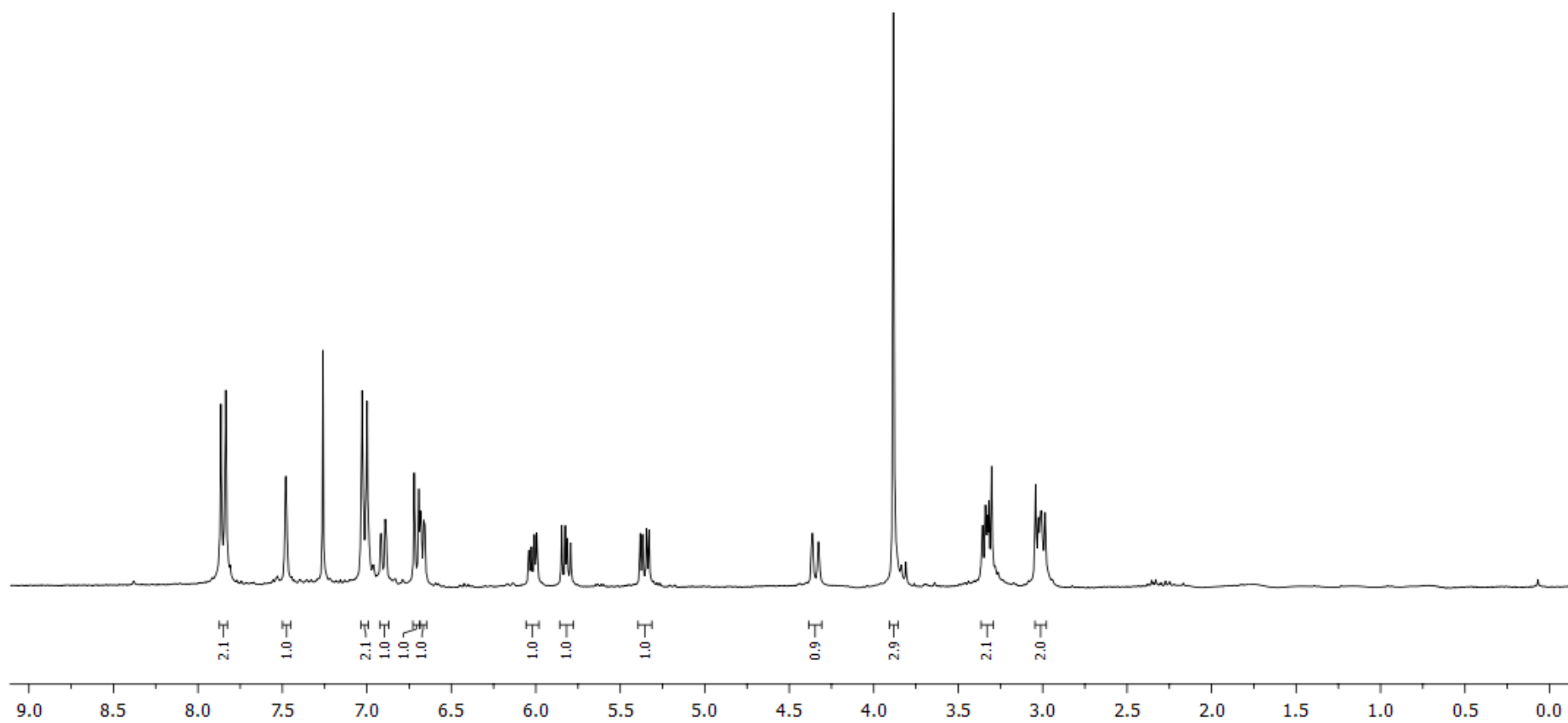
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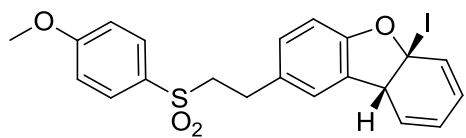




11i

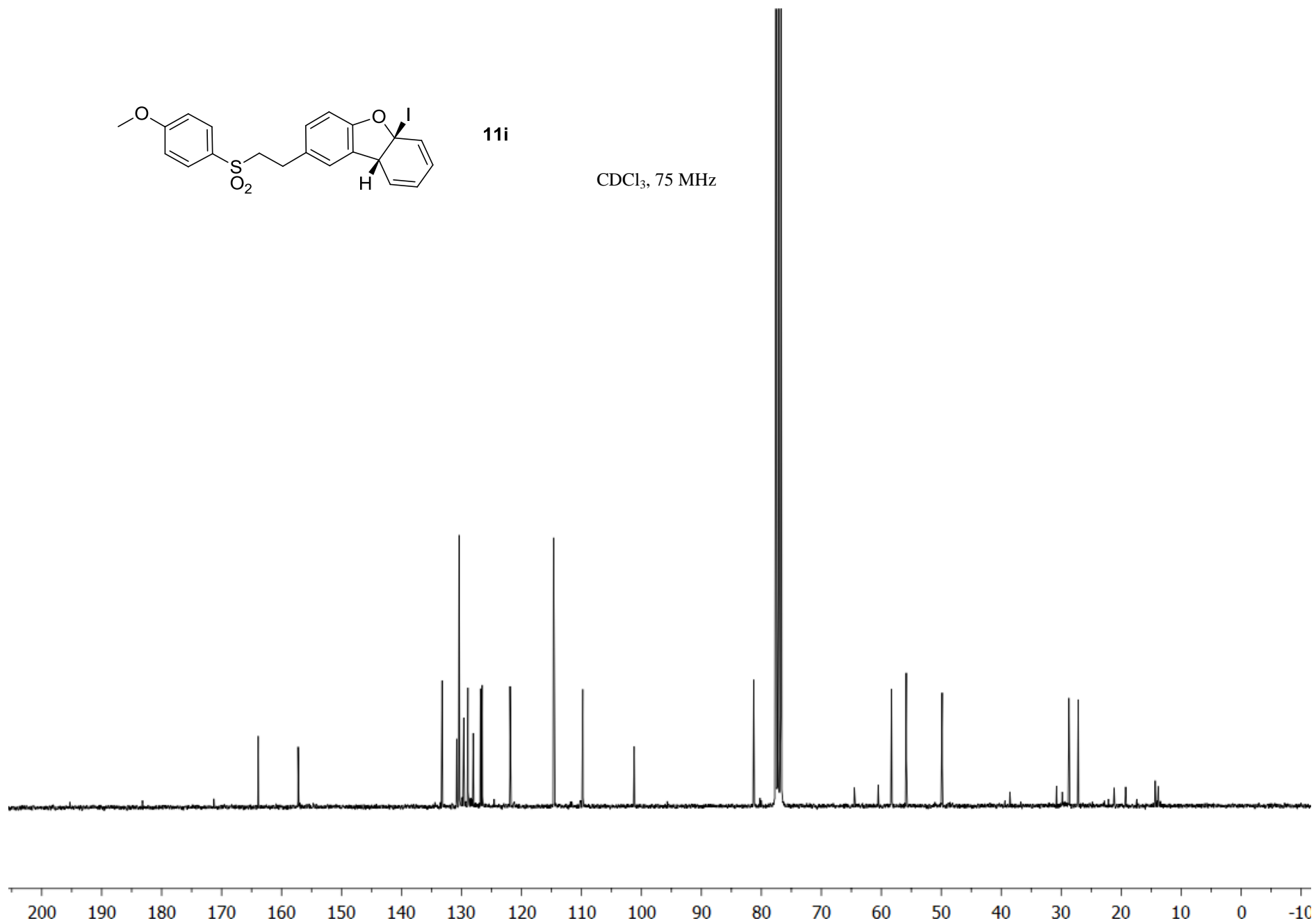
CDCl₃, 300 MHz

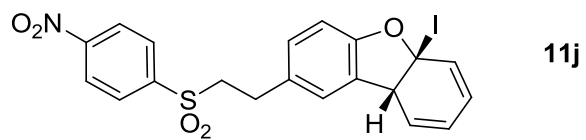




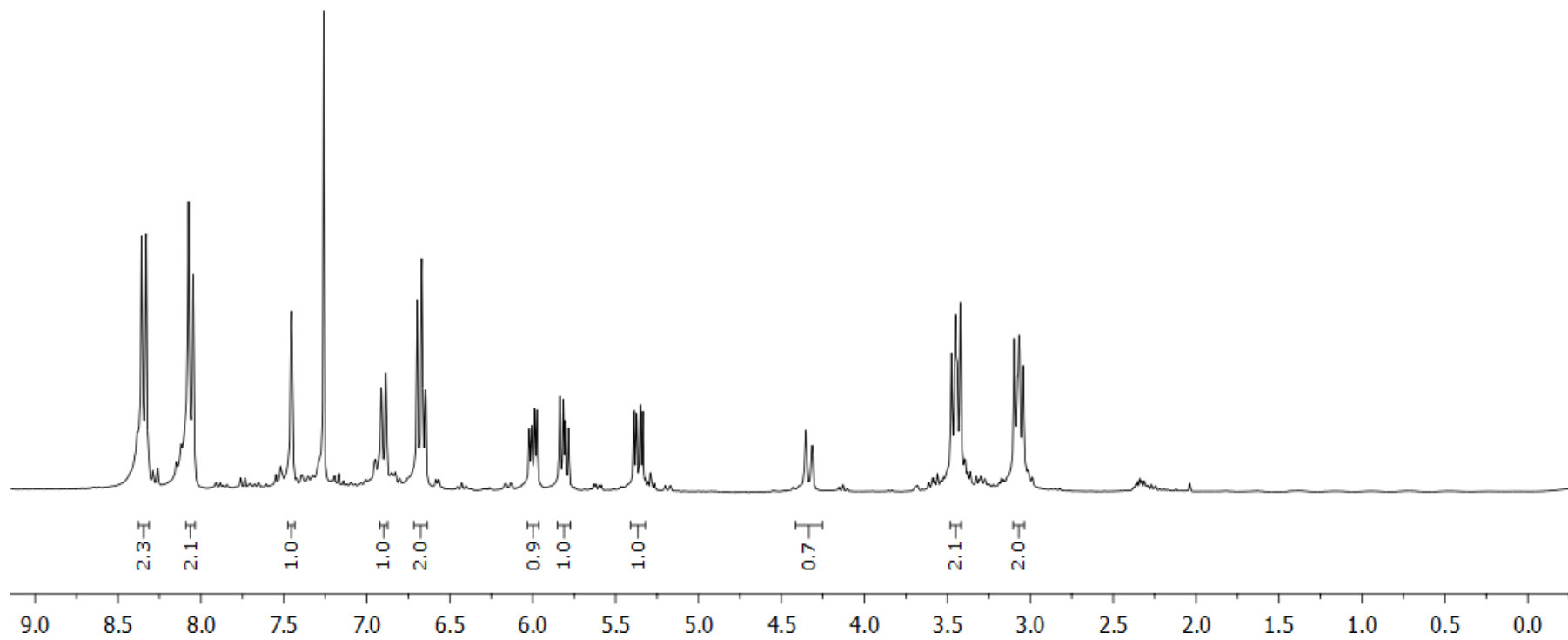
11i

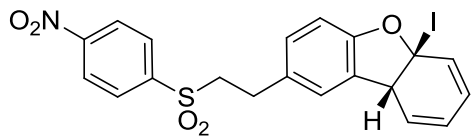
CDCl₃, 75 MHz





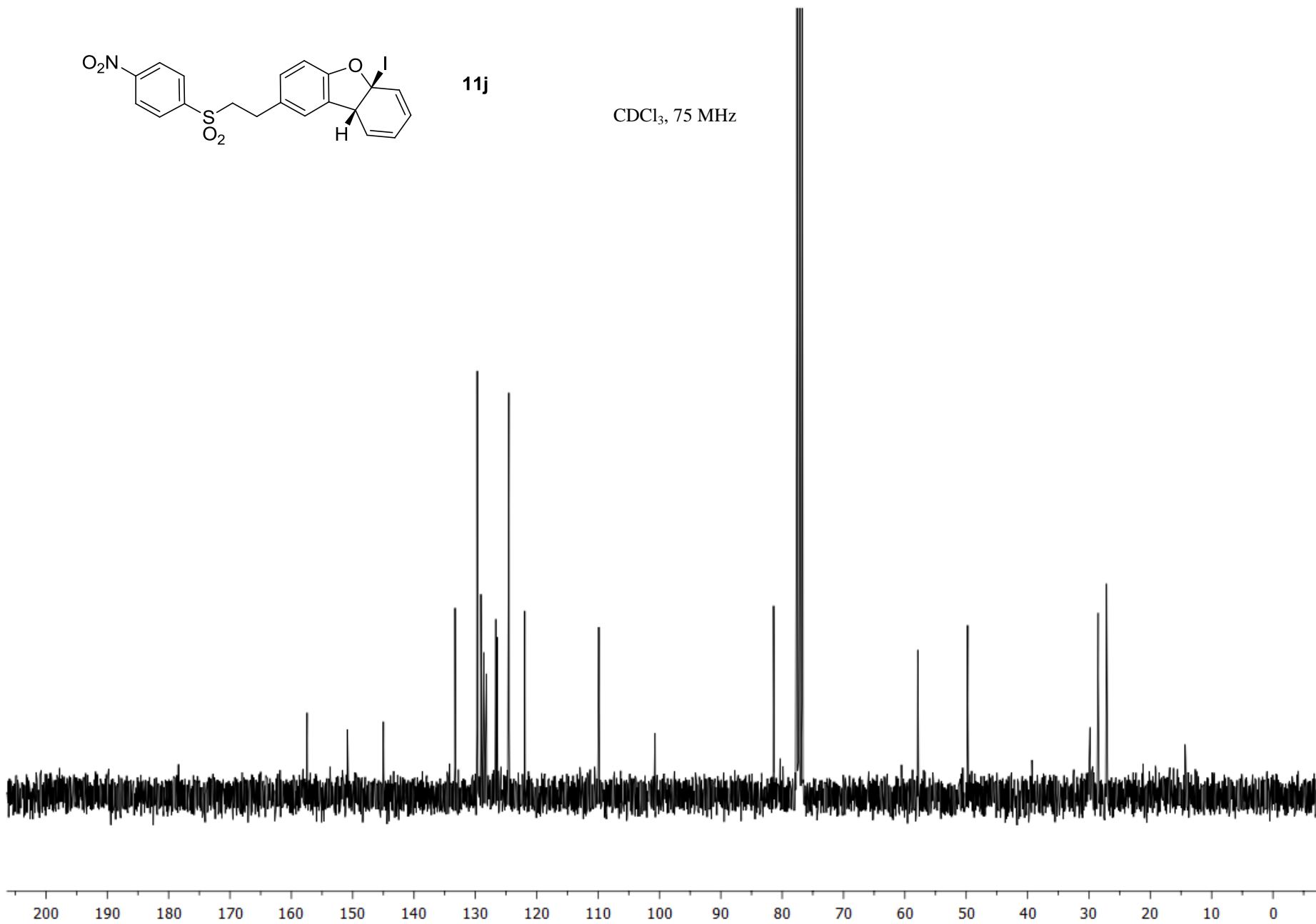
CDCl₃, 300 MHz

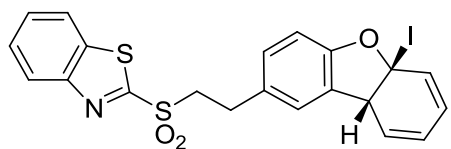




11j

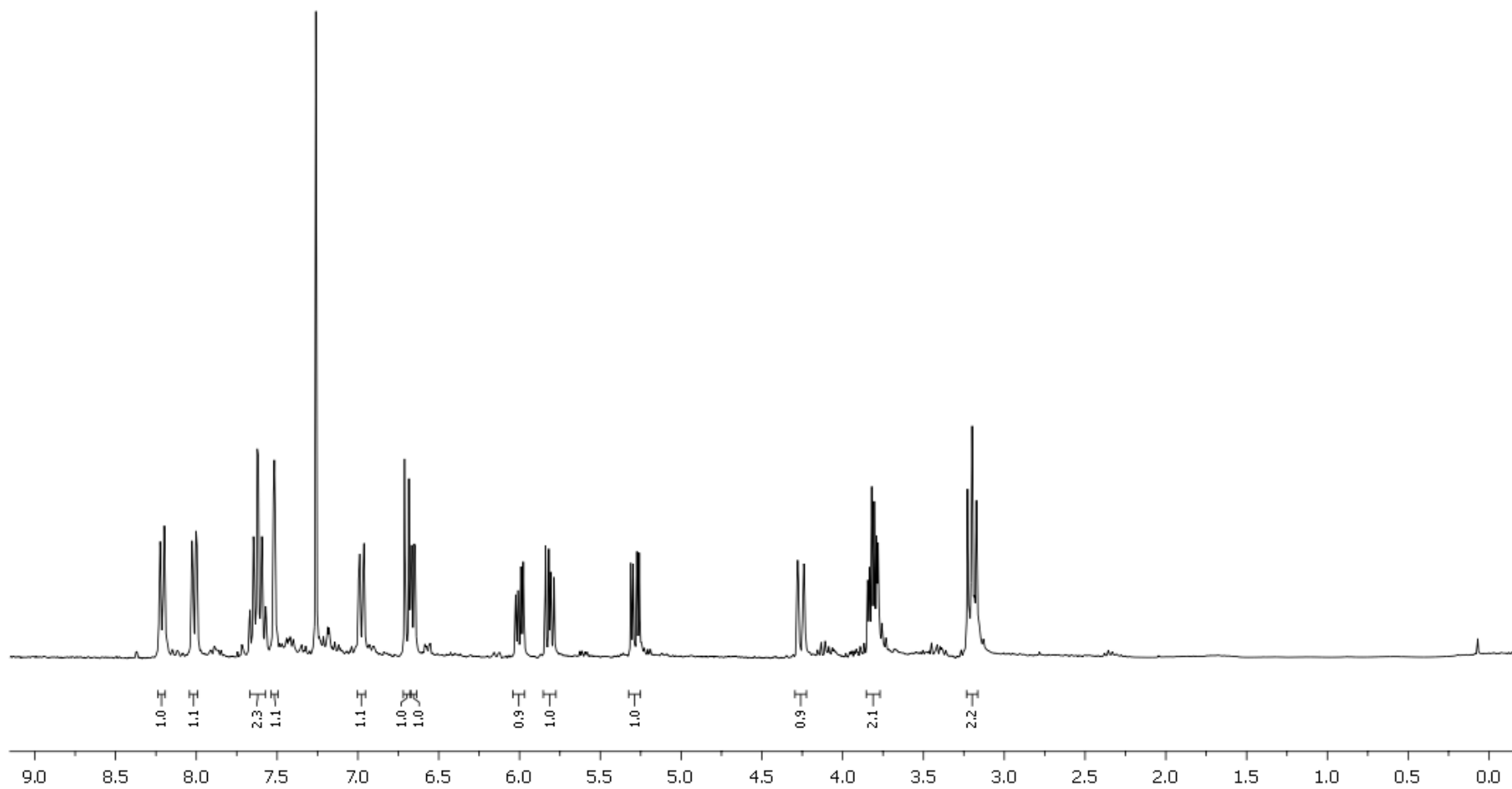
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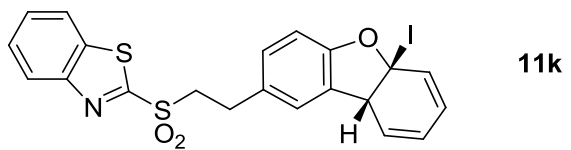




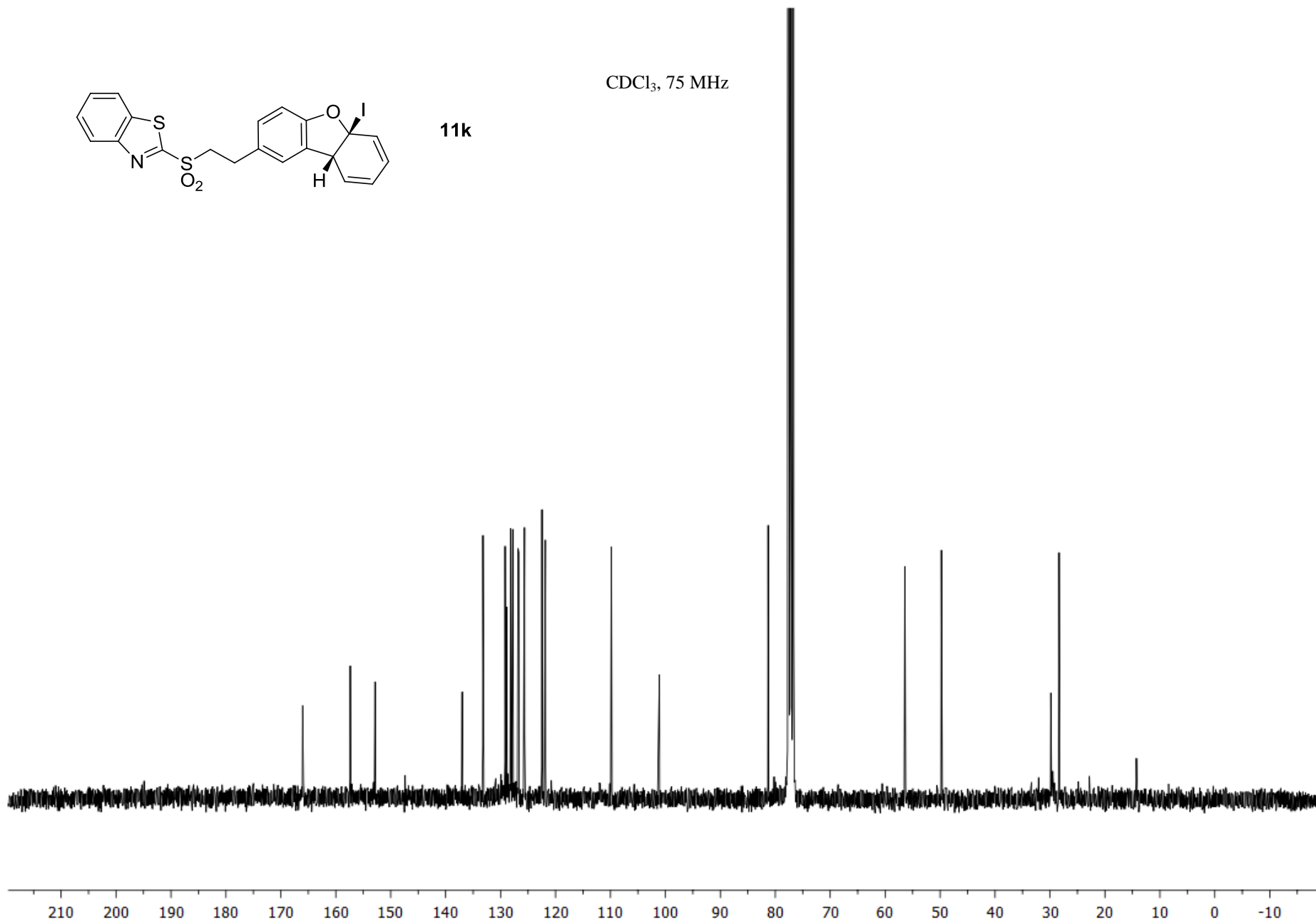
11k

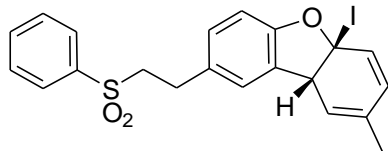
CDCl₃, 300 MHz





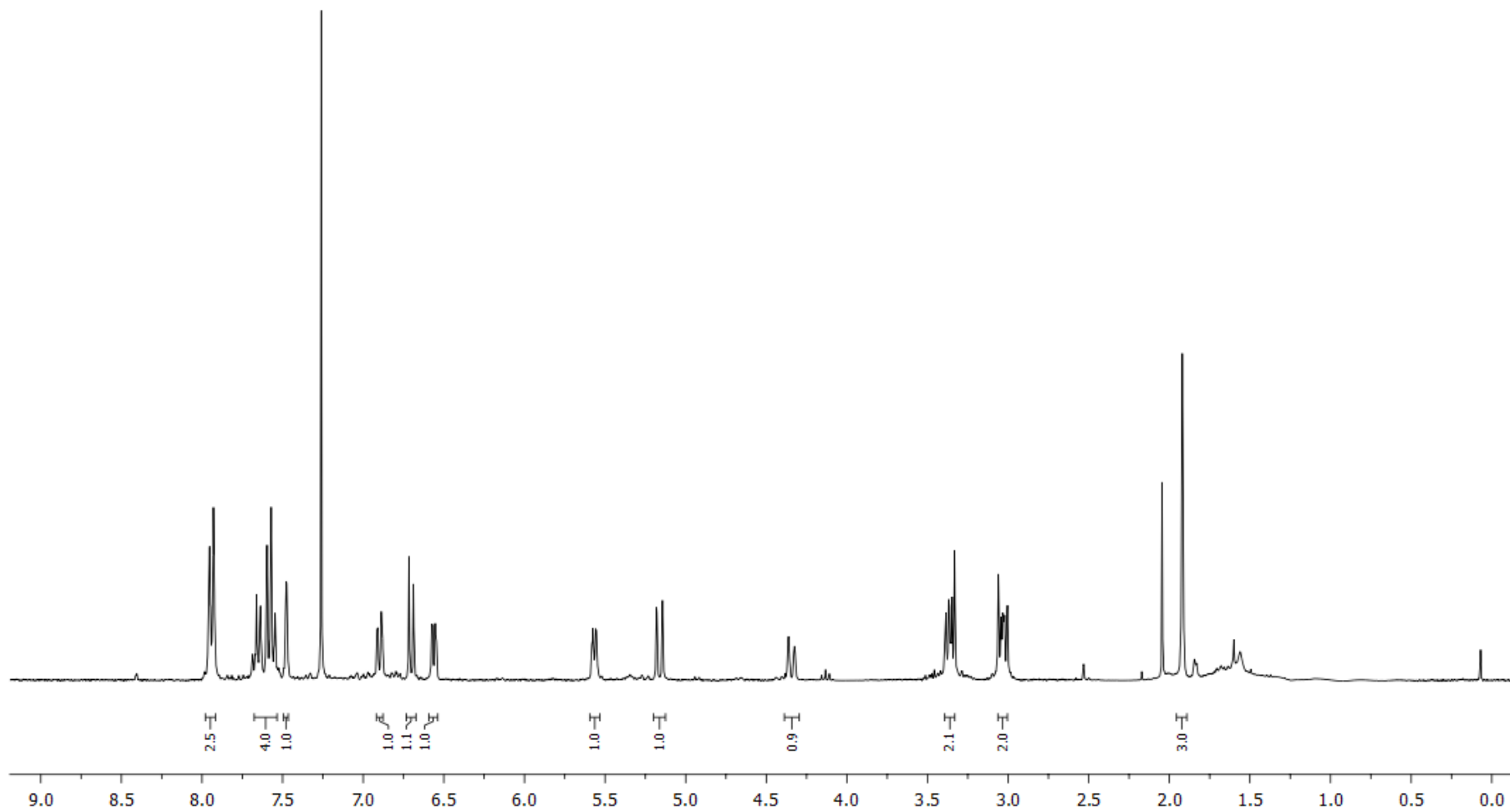
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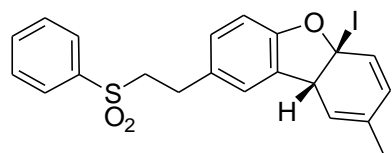




12b

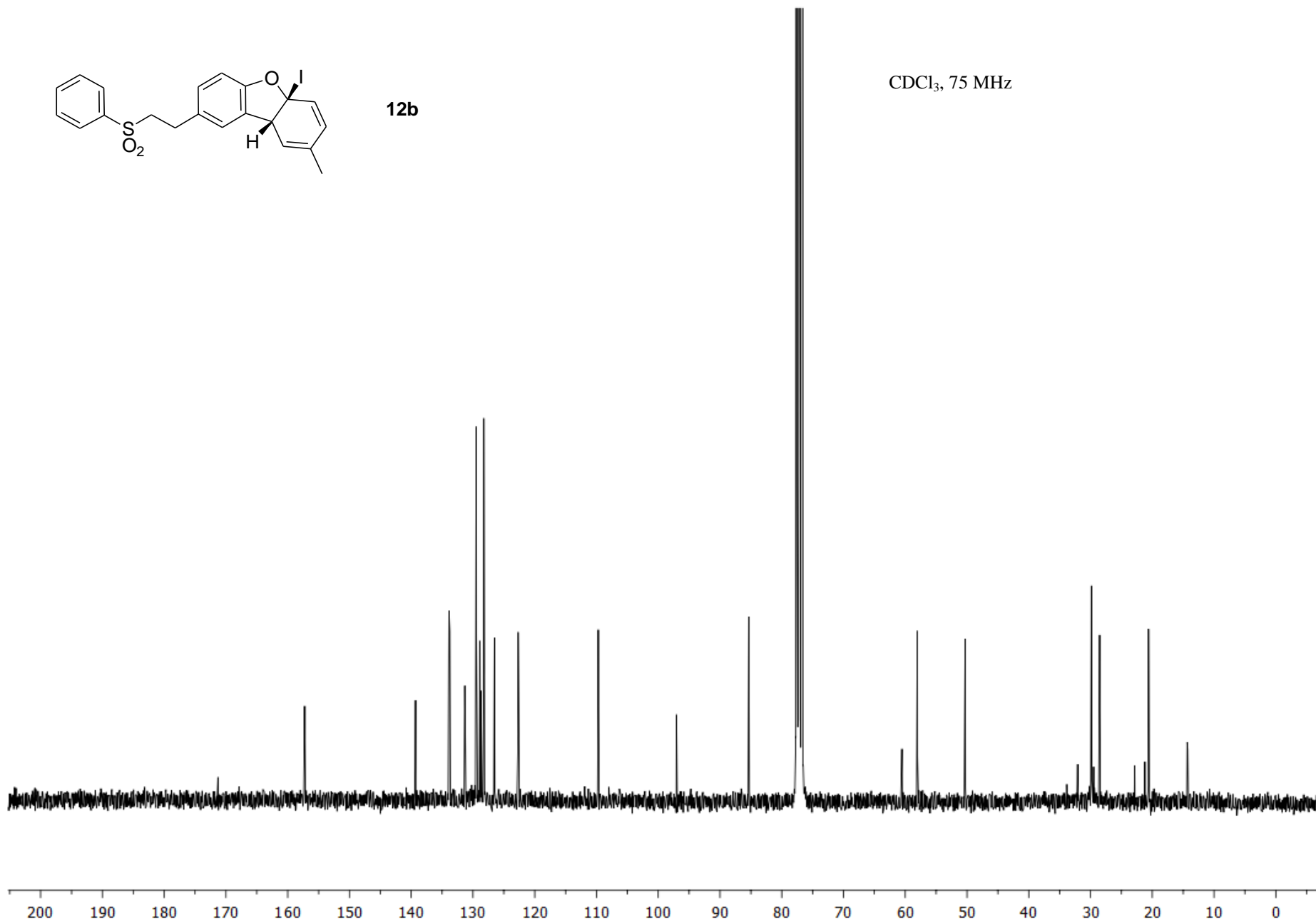
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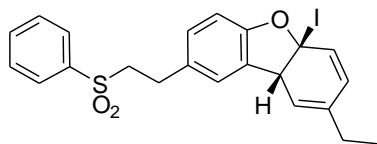




12b

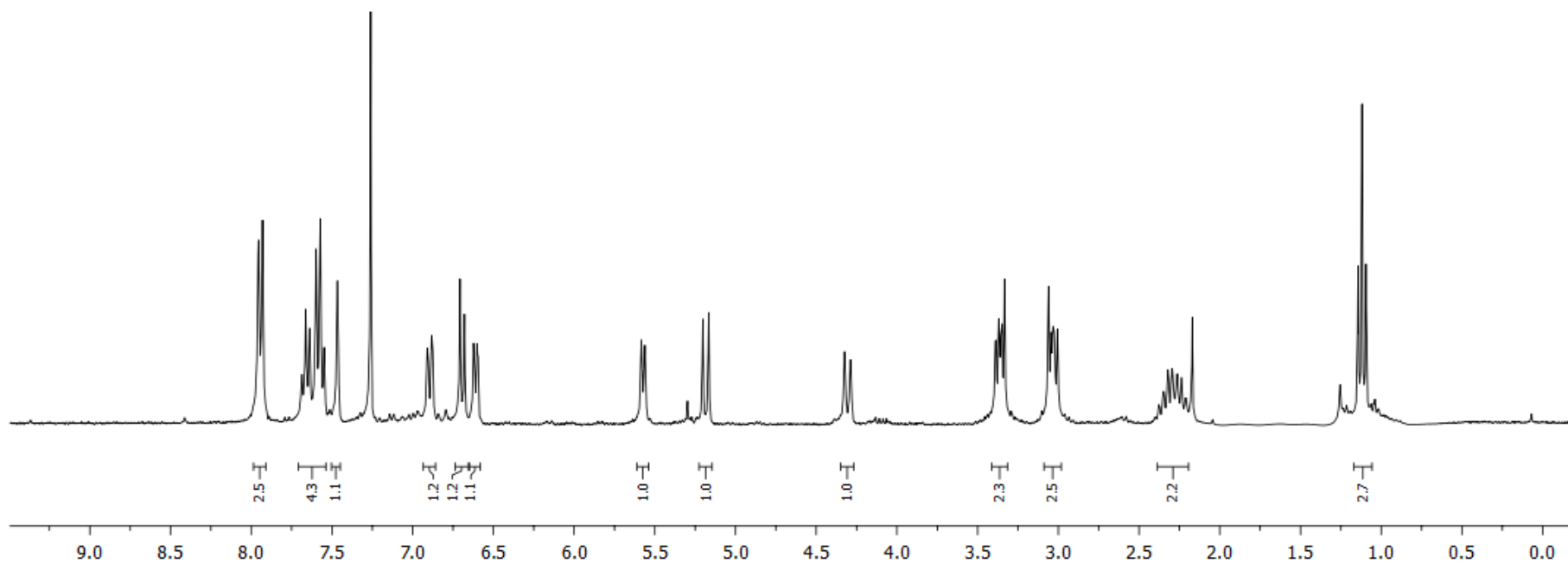
CDCl₃, 75 MHz

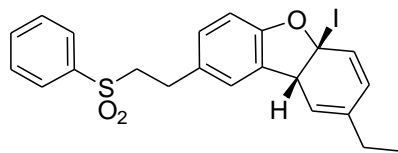




12c

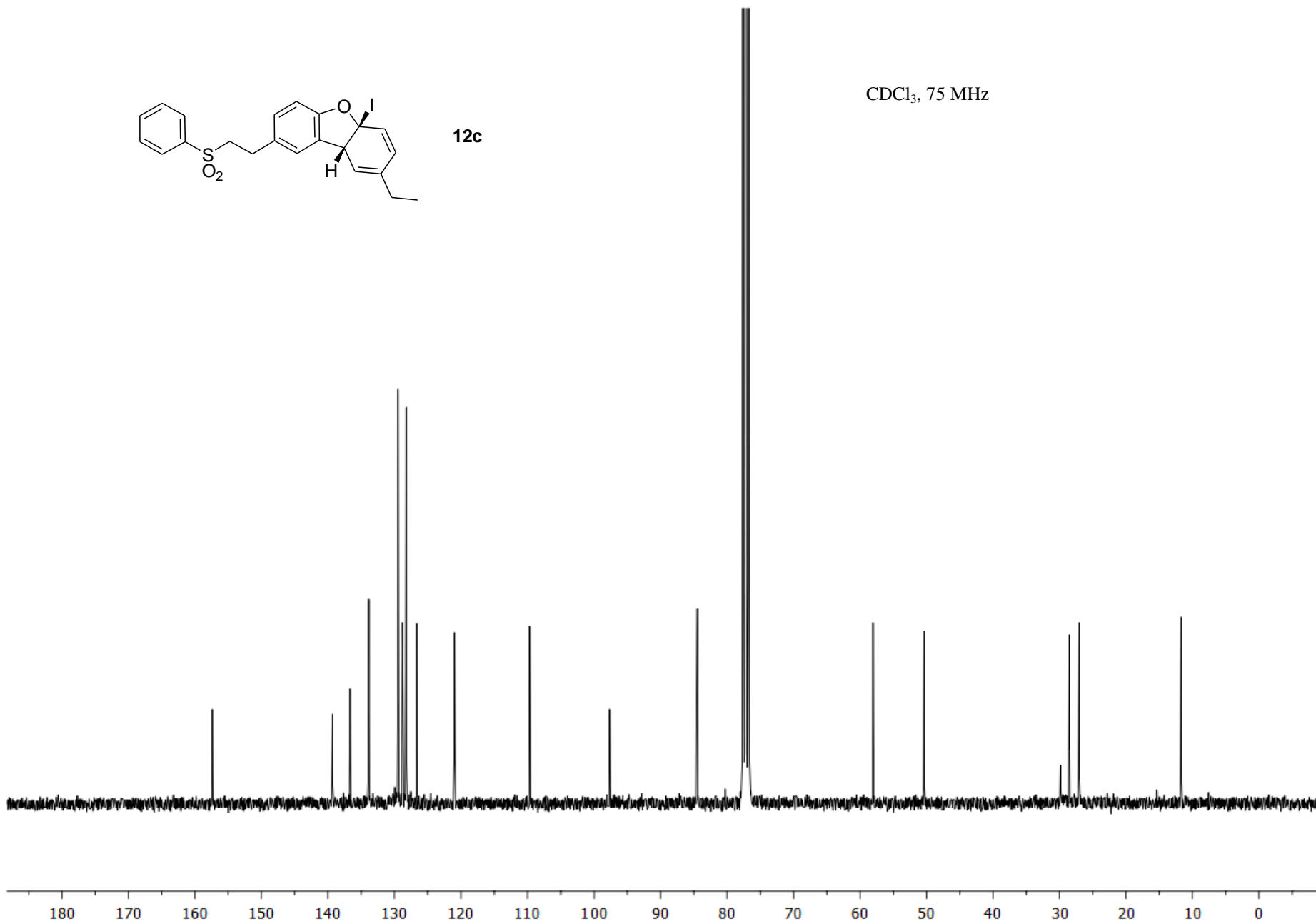
CDCl₃, 300 MHz

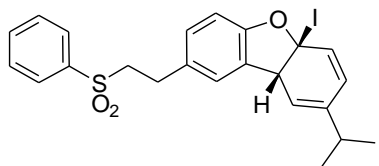




12c

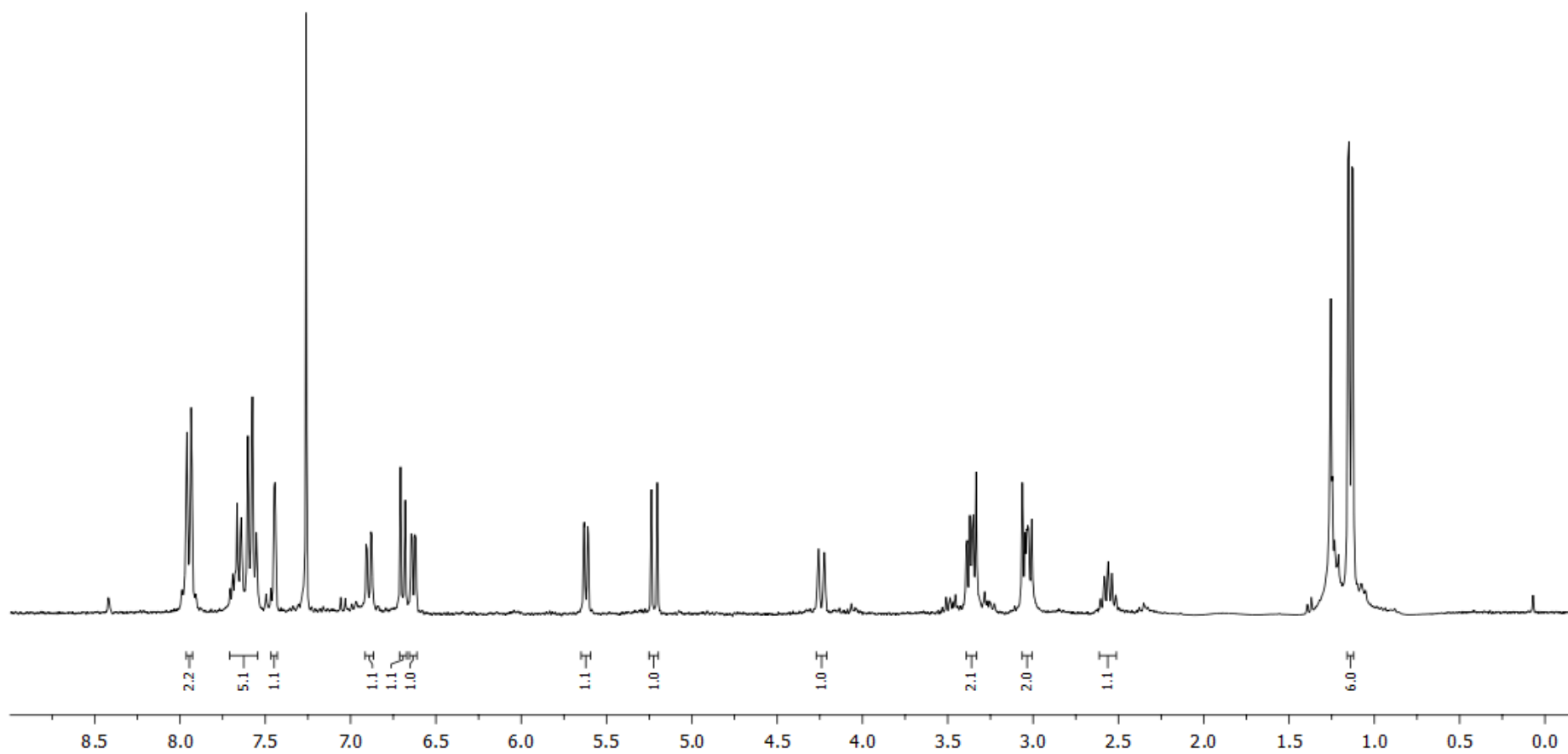
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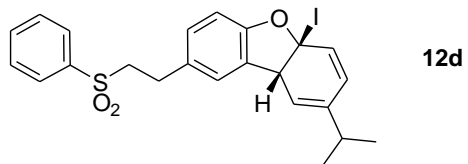




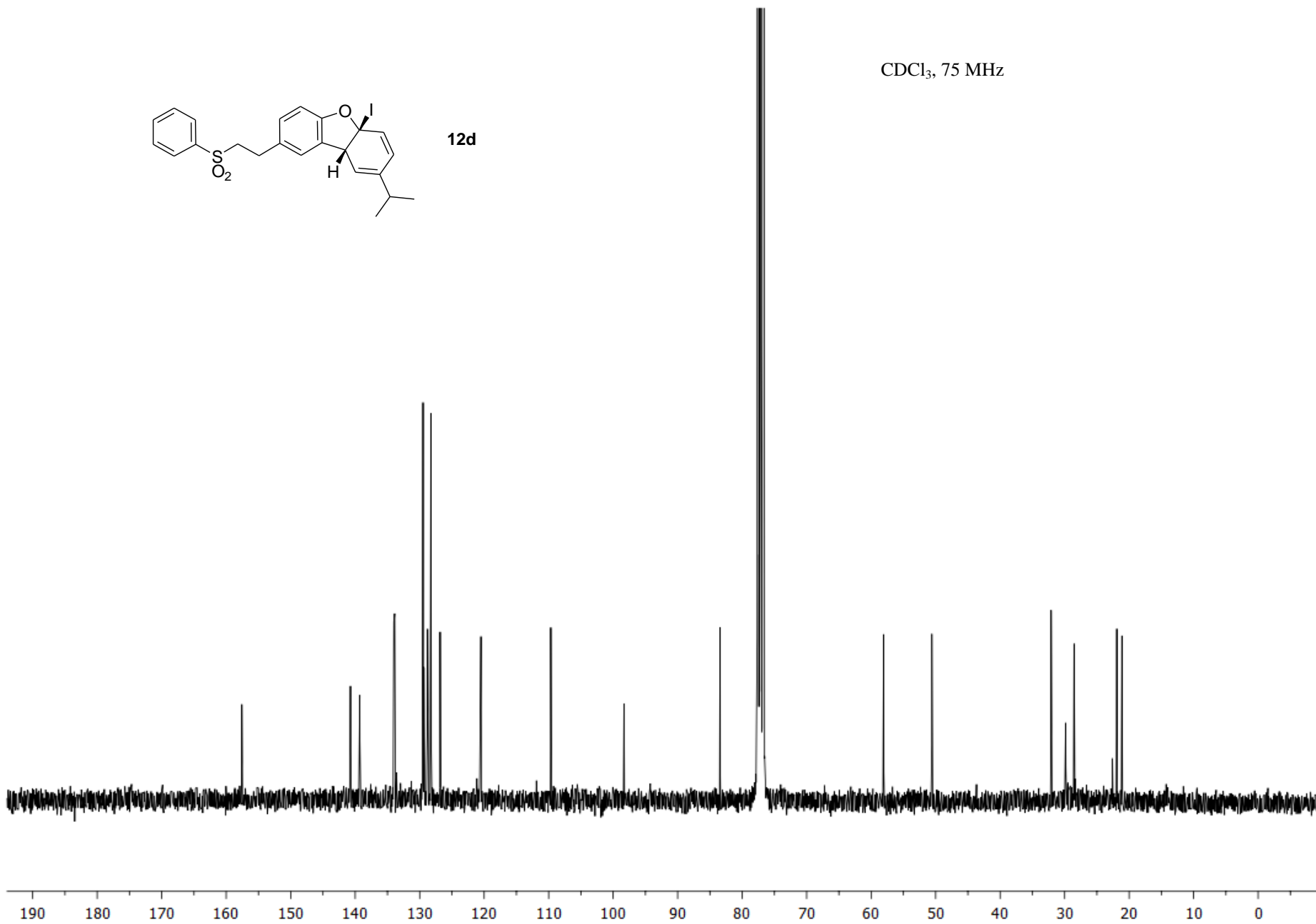
12d

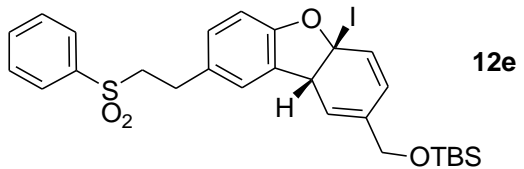
CDCl₃, 300 MHz



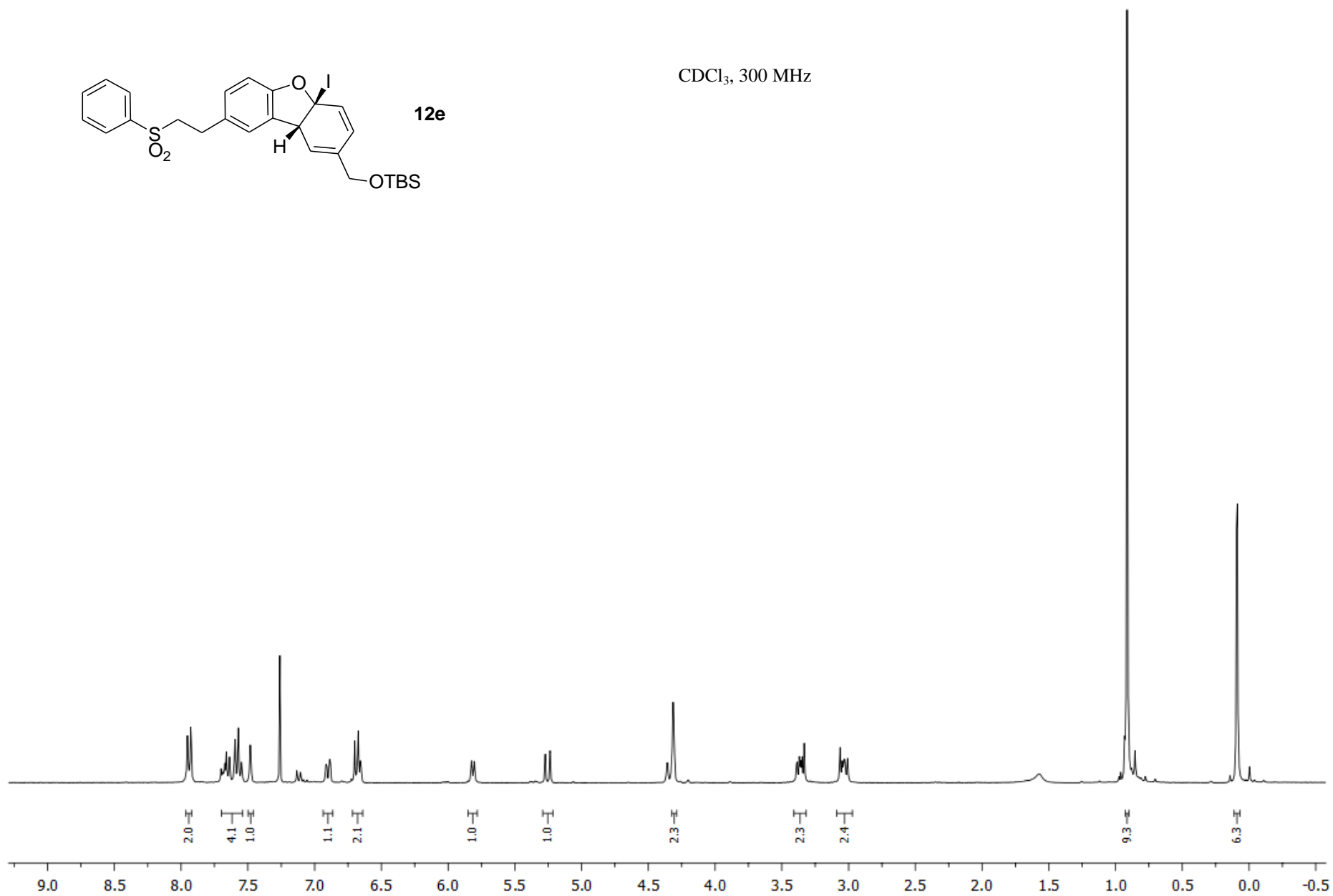


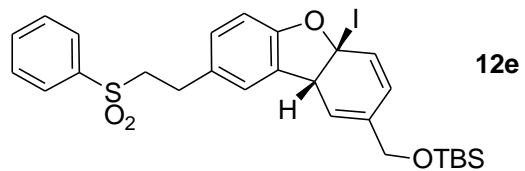
CDCl₃, 75 MHz



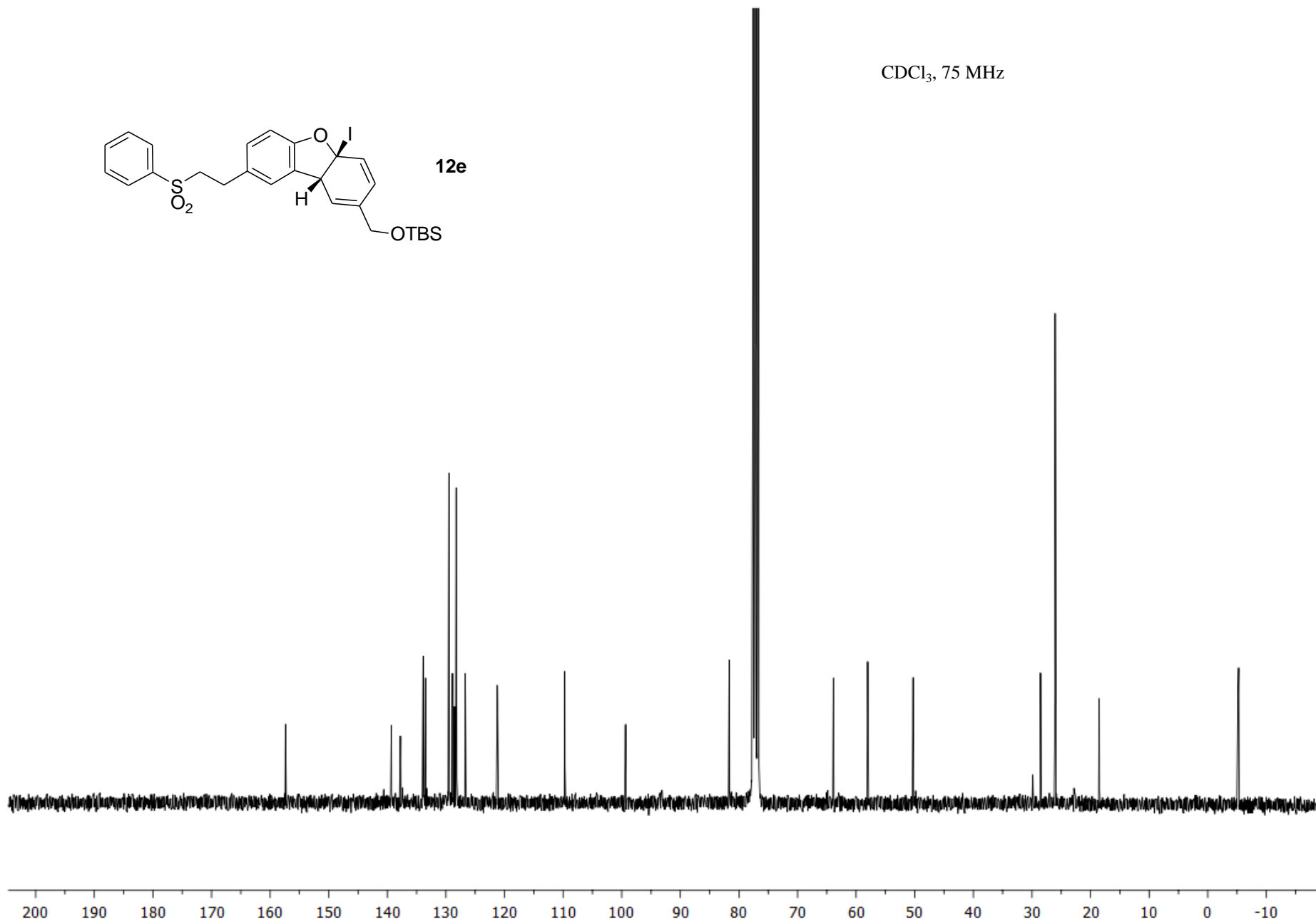


CDCl₃, 300 MHz

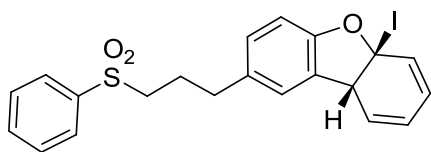




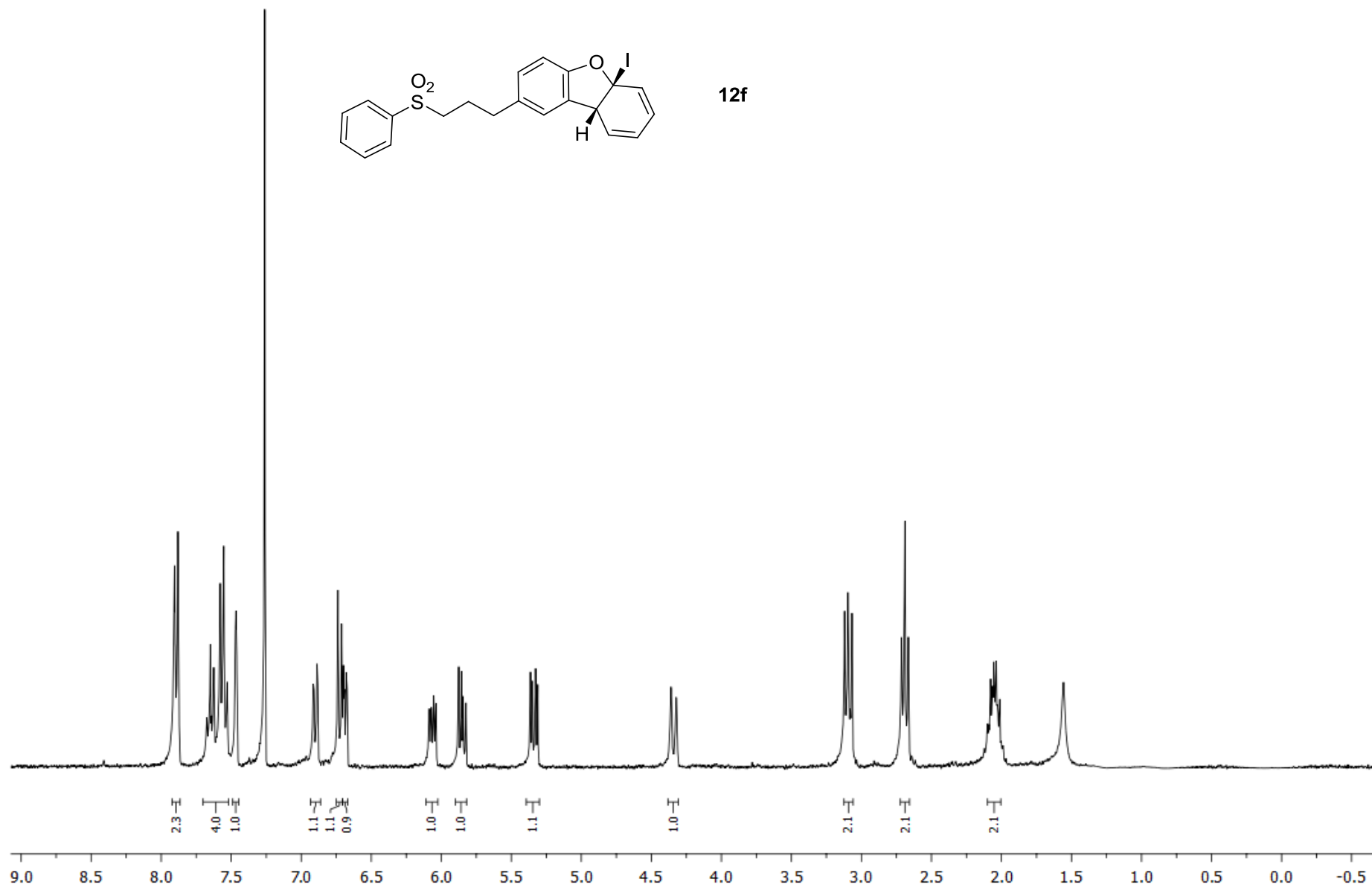
CDCl₃, 75 MHz

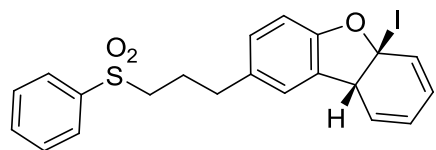


CDCl₃, 300 MHz



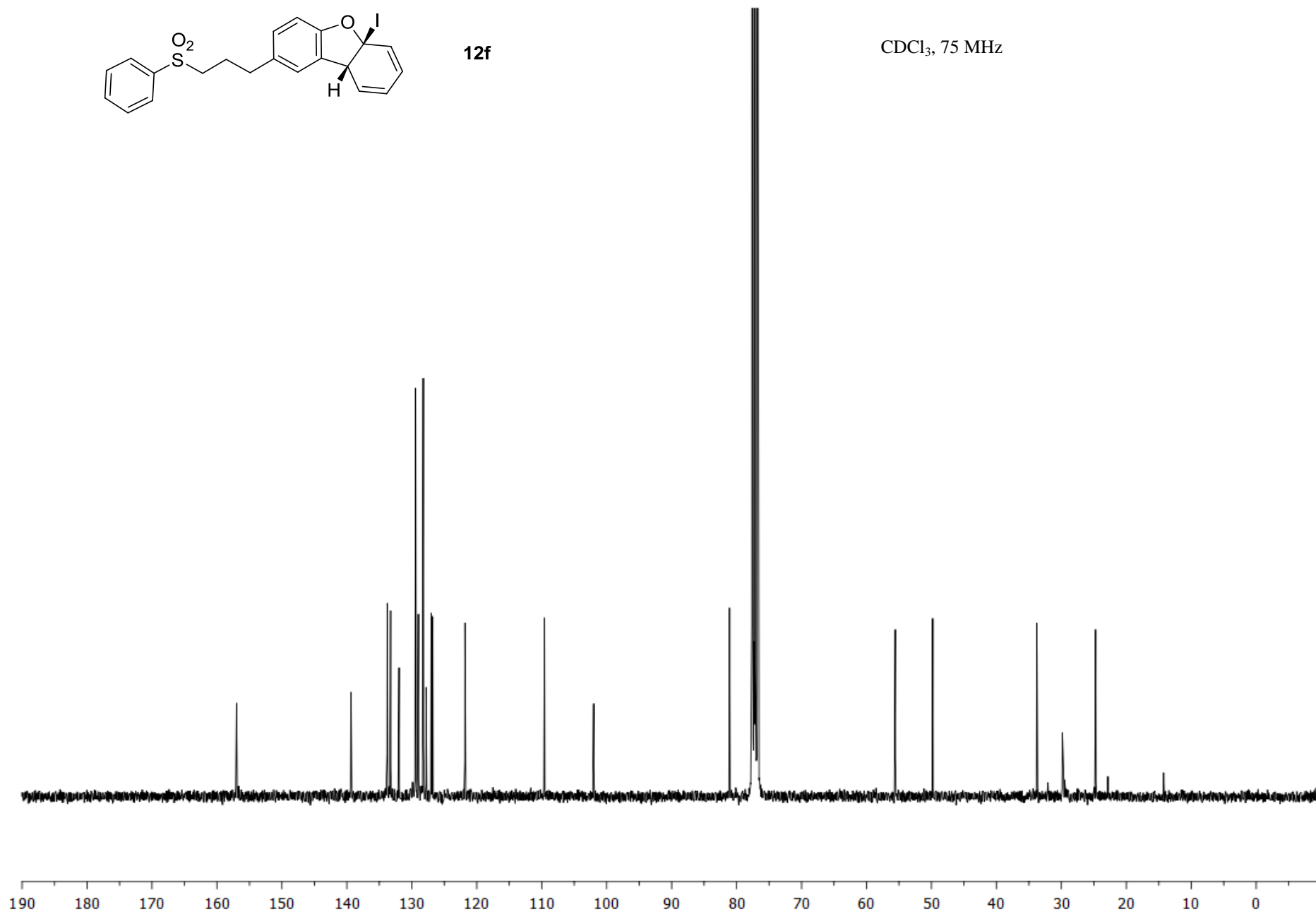
12f



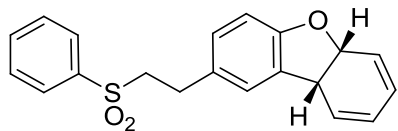


12f

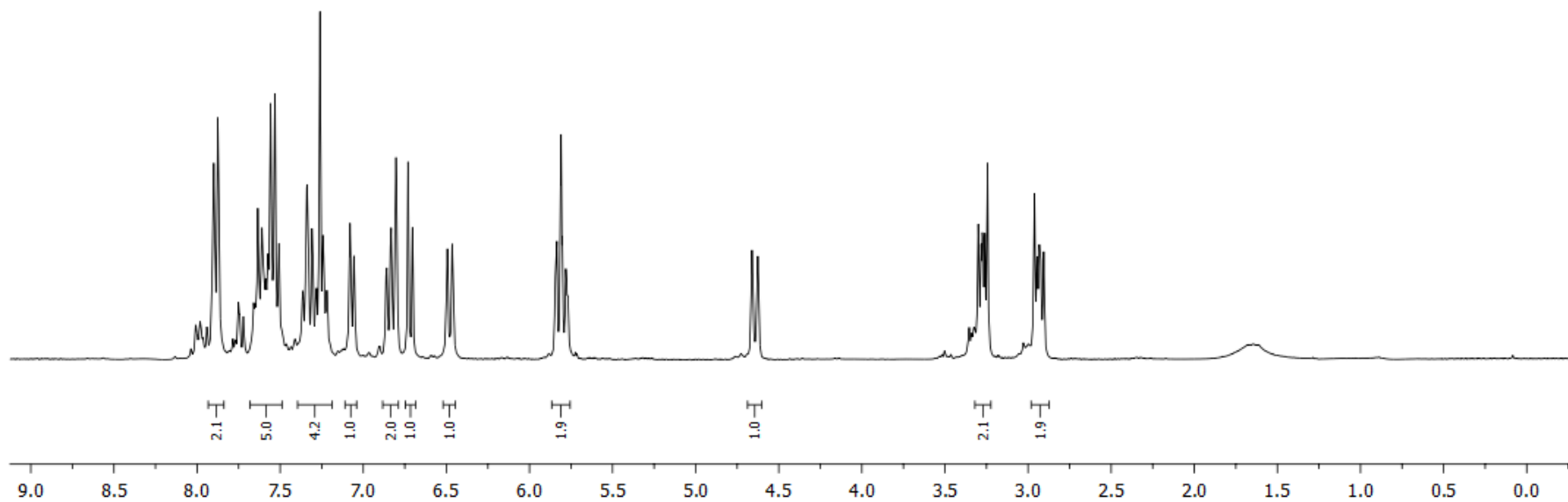
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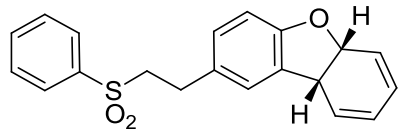


CDCl₃, 300 MHz



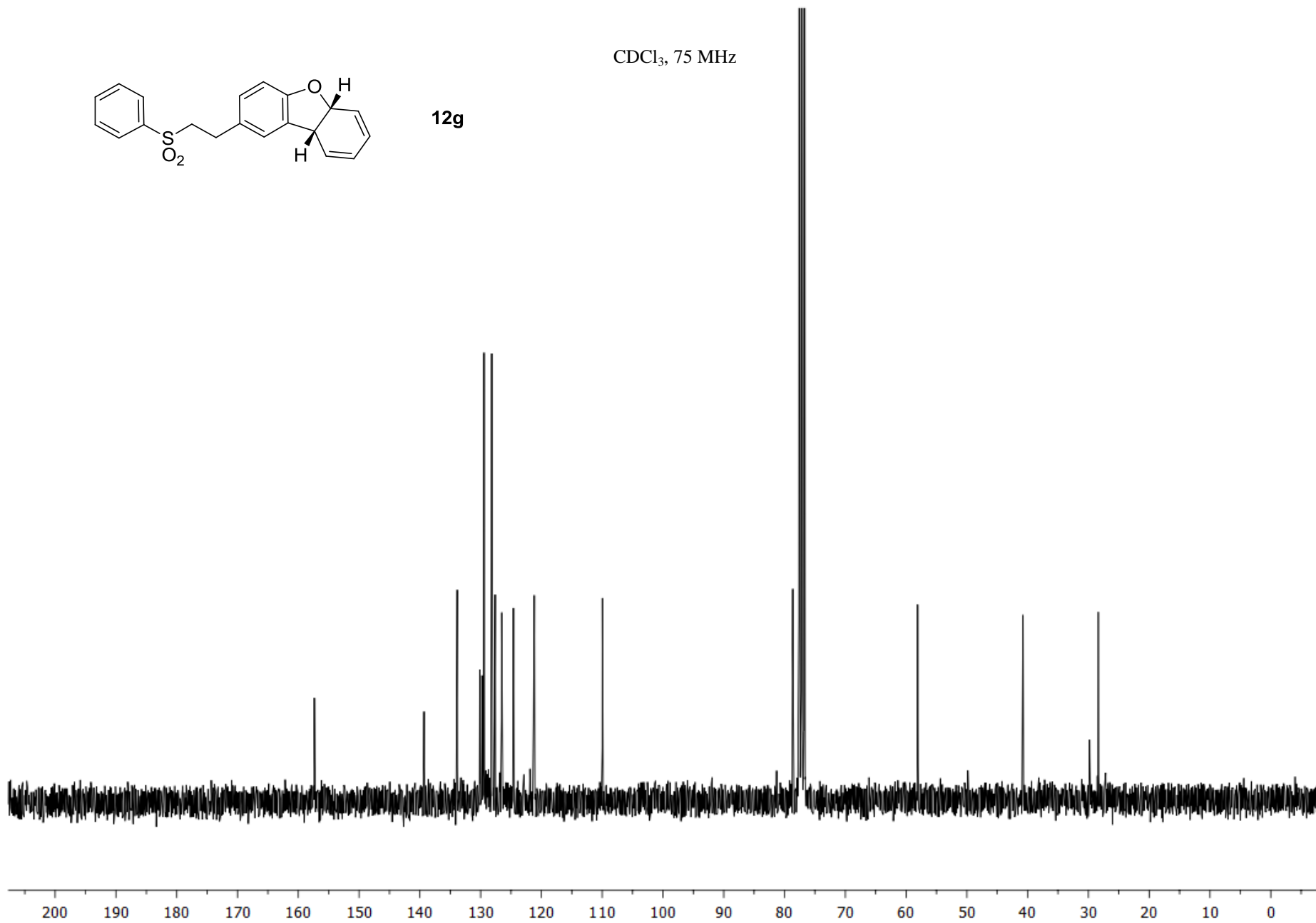
12g



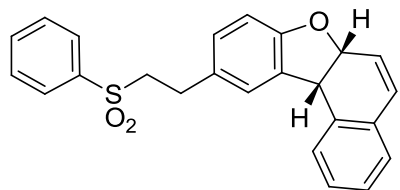


12g

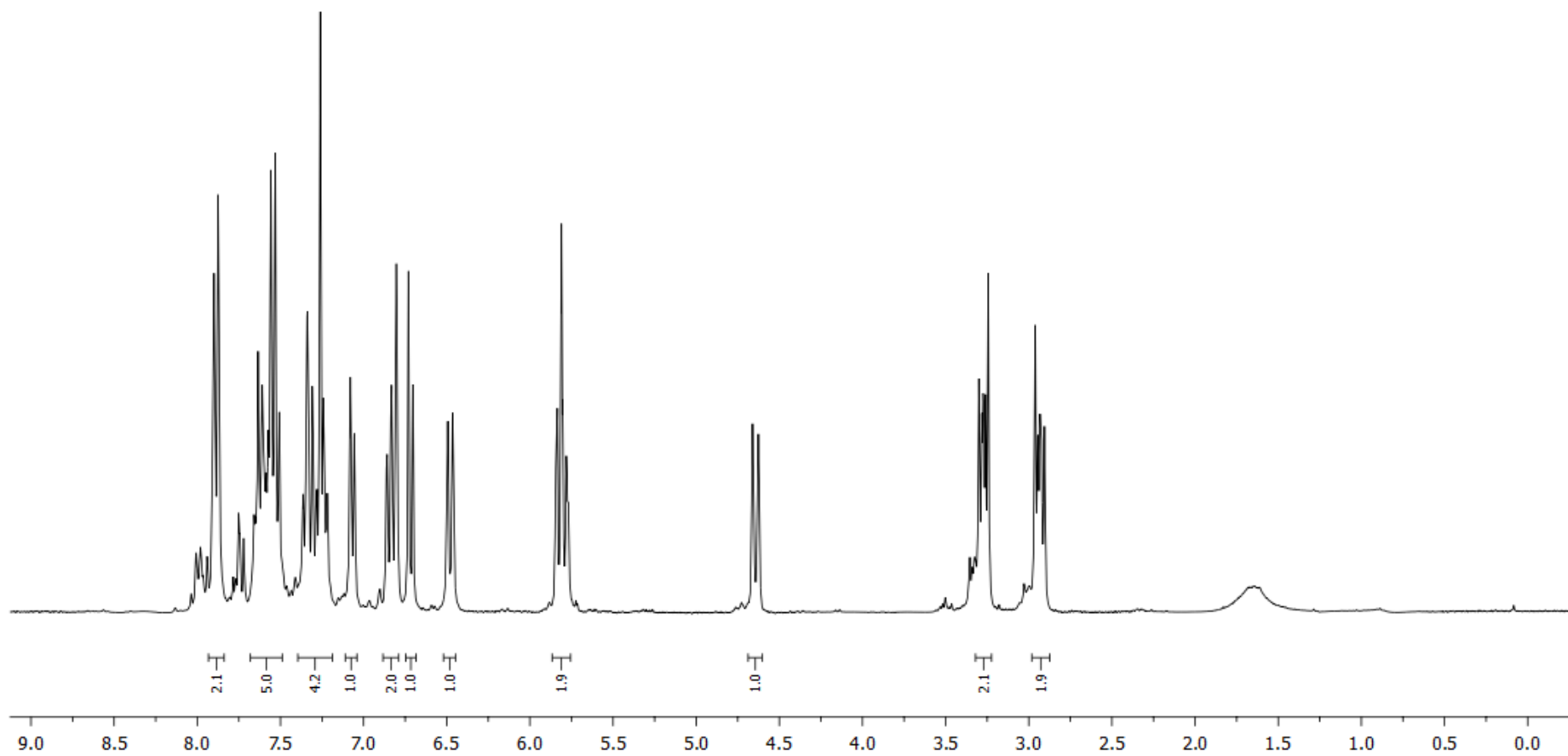
CDCl₃, 75 MHz

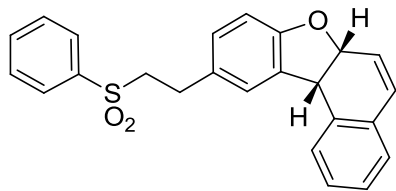


CDCl₃, 300 MHz



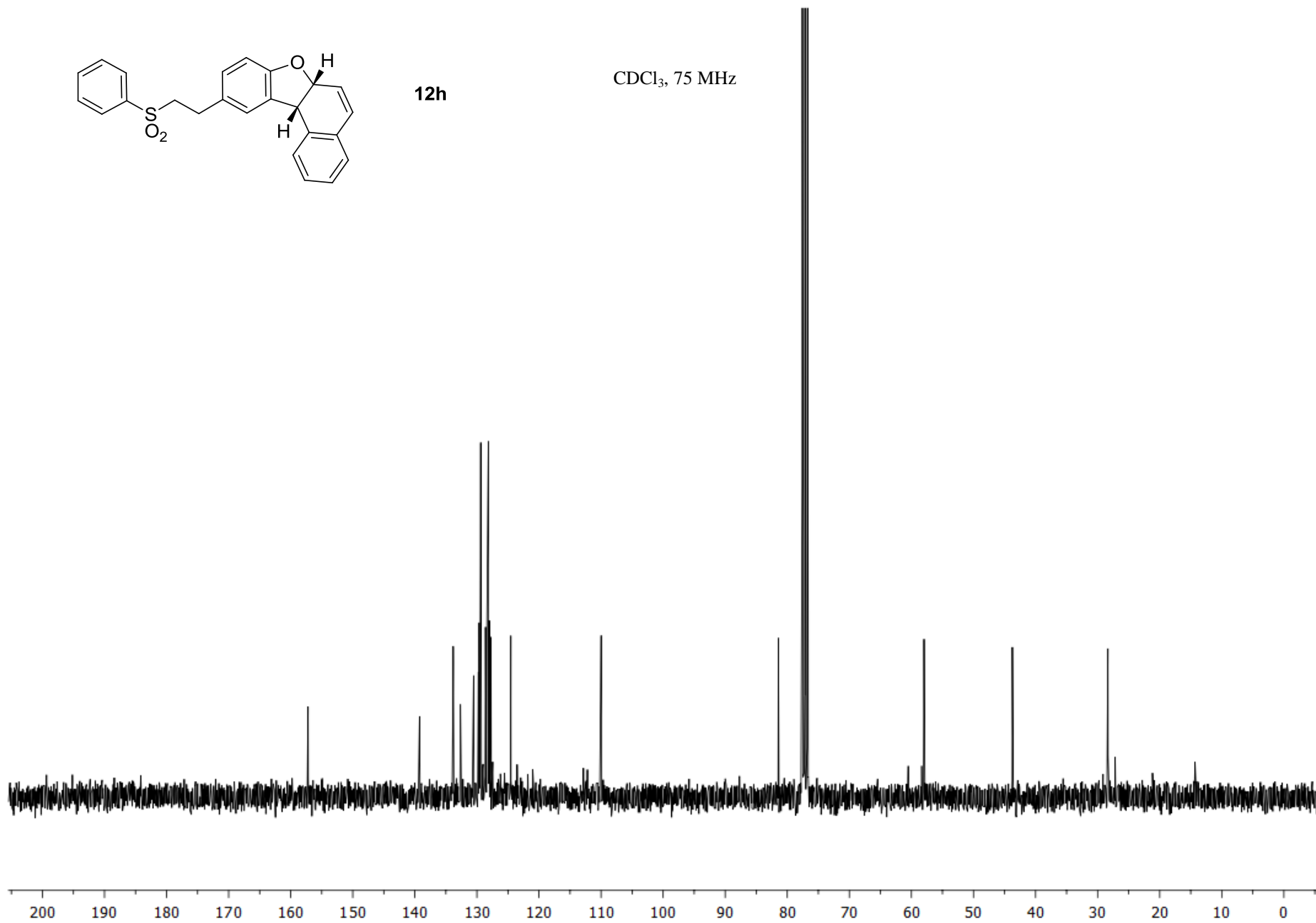
12h



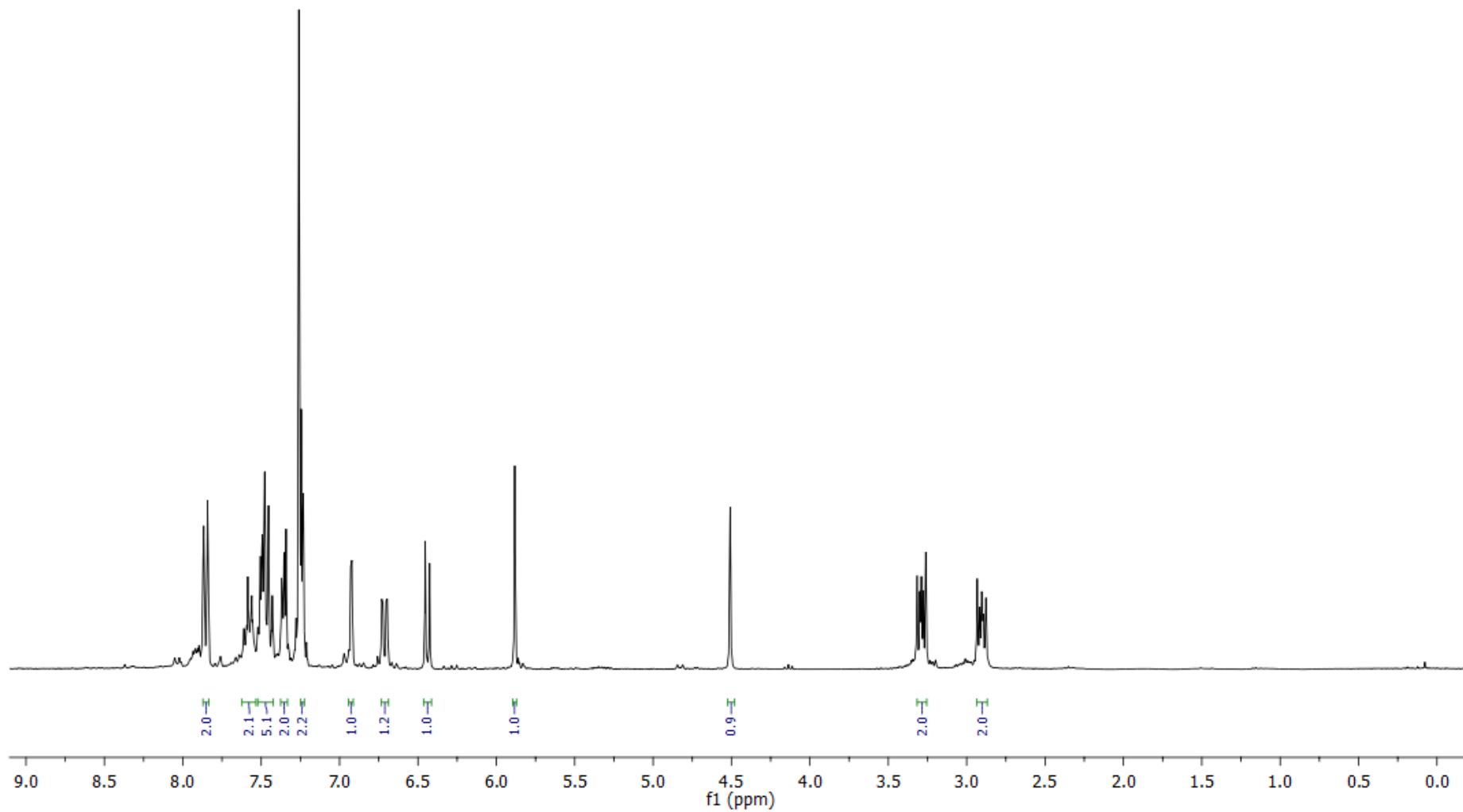
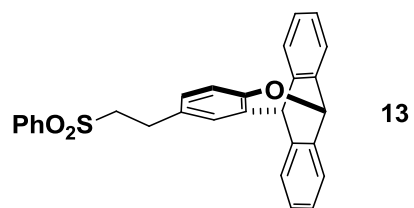


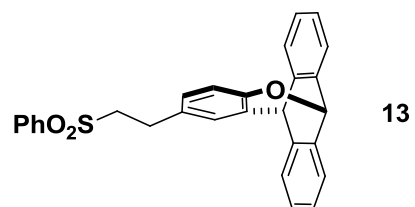
12h

CDCl₃, 75 MHz

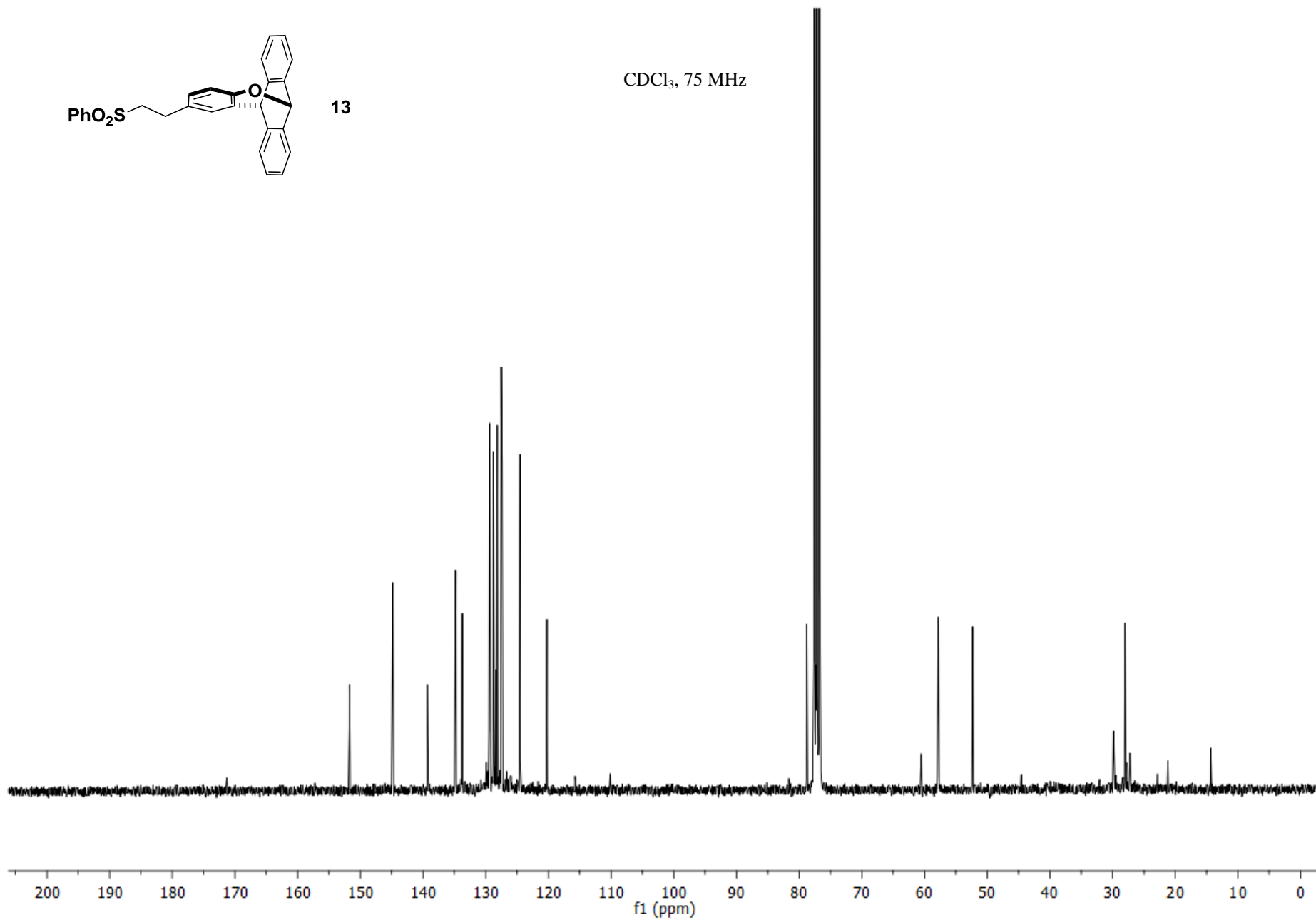


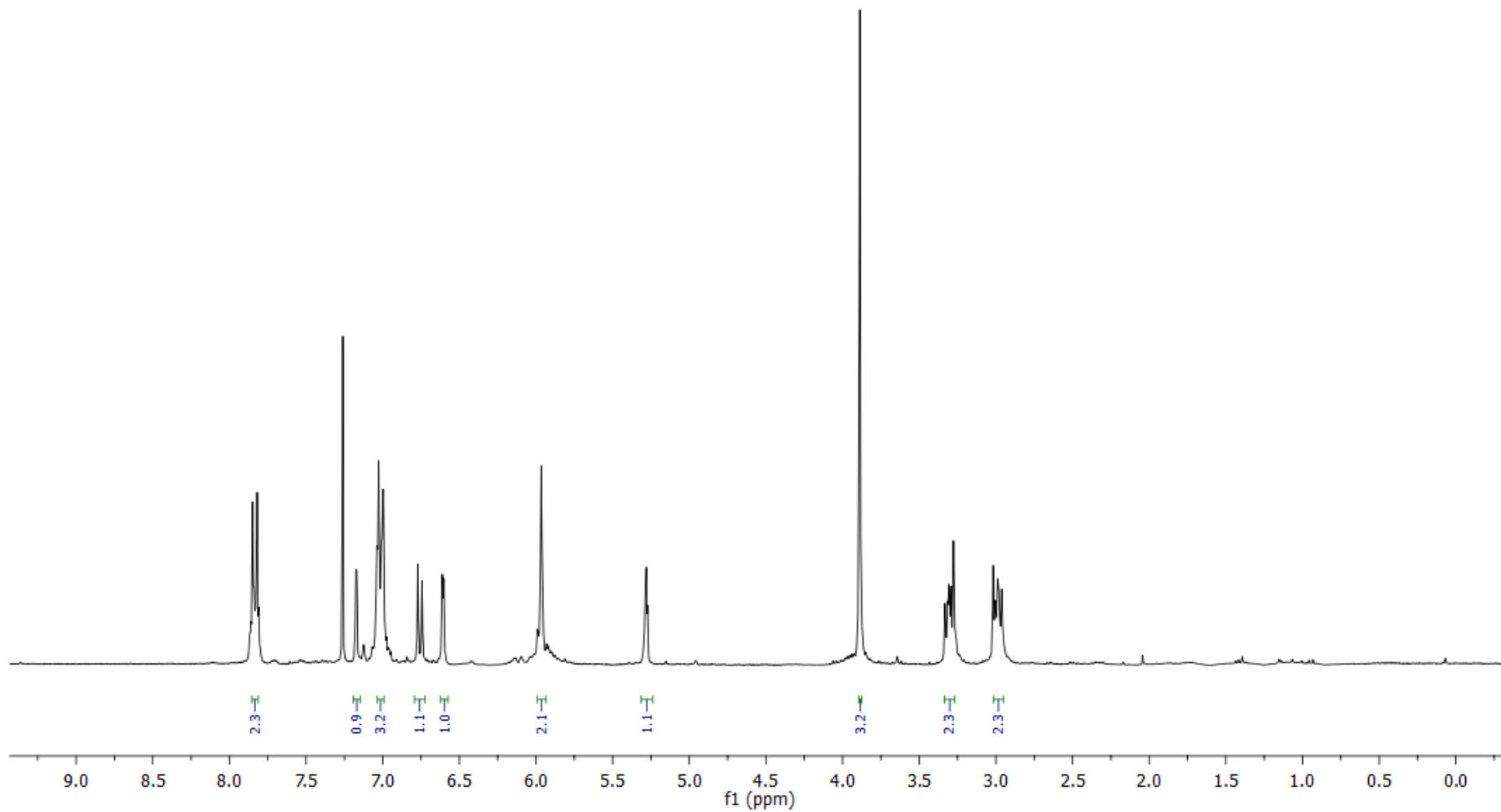
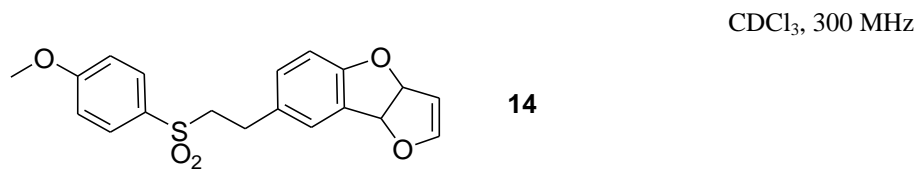
CDCl₃, 300 MHz

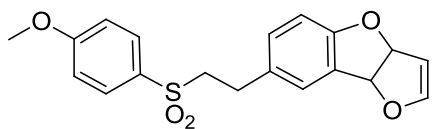




CDCl₃, 75 MHz

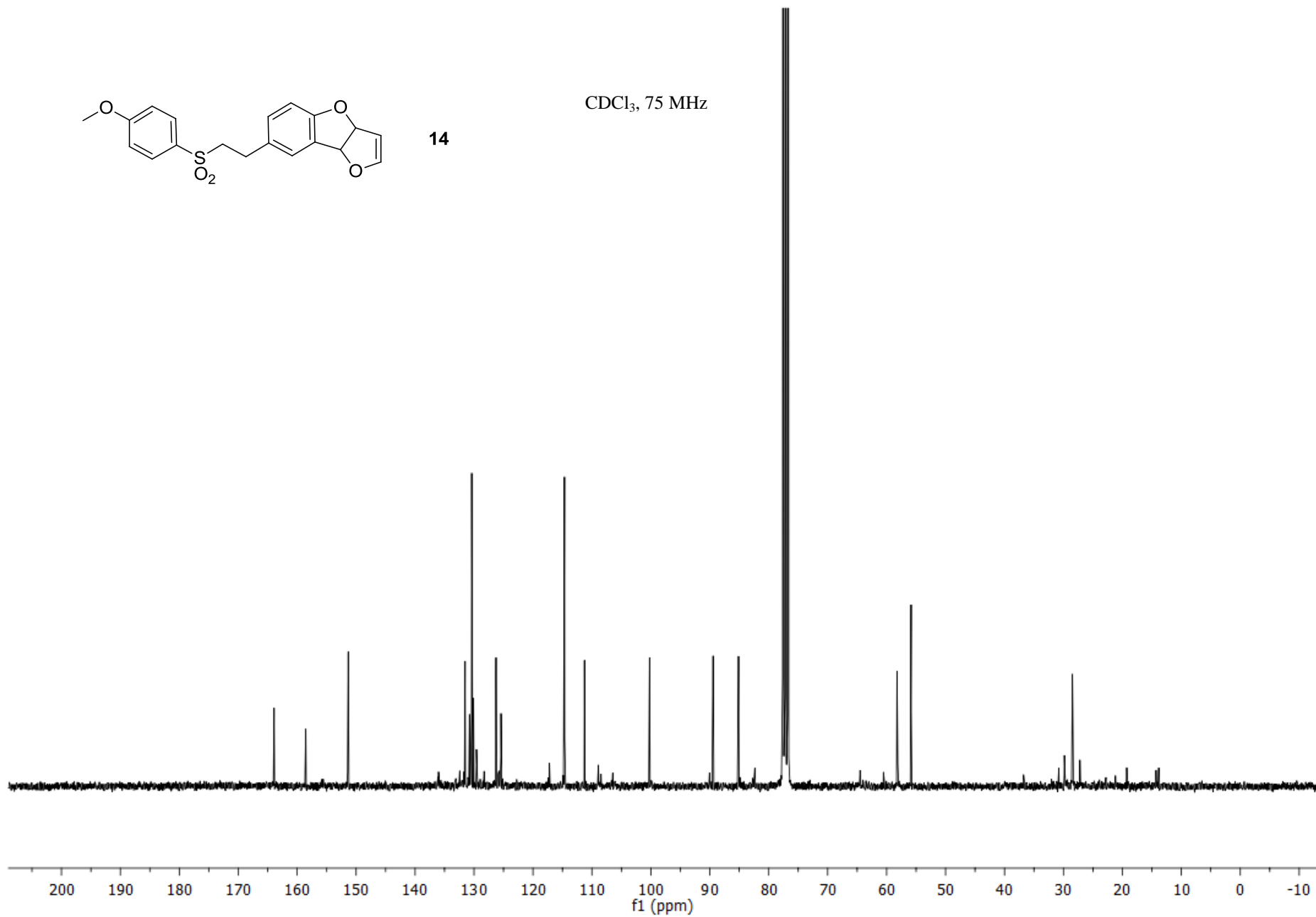


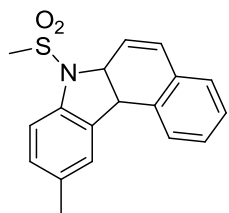




14

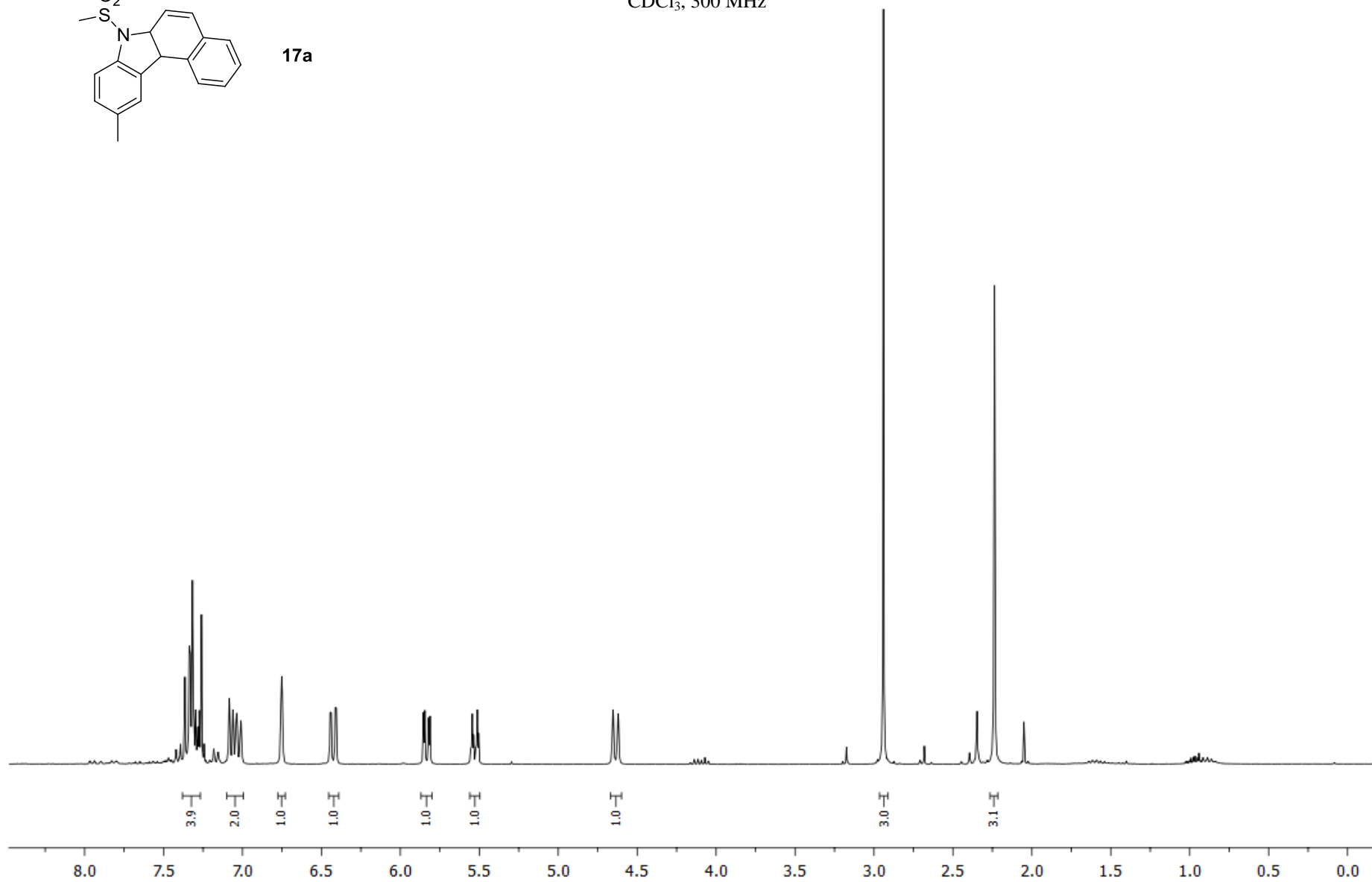
CDCl₃, 75 MHz

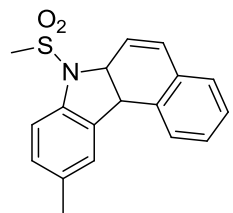




17a

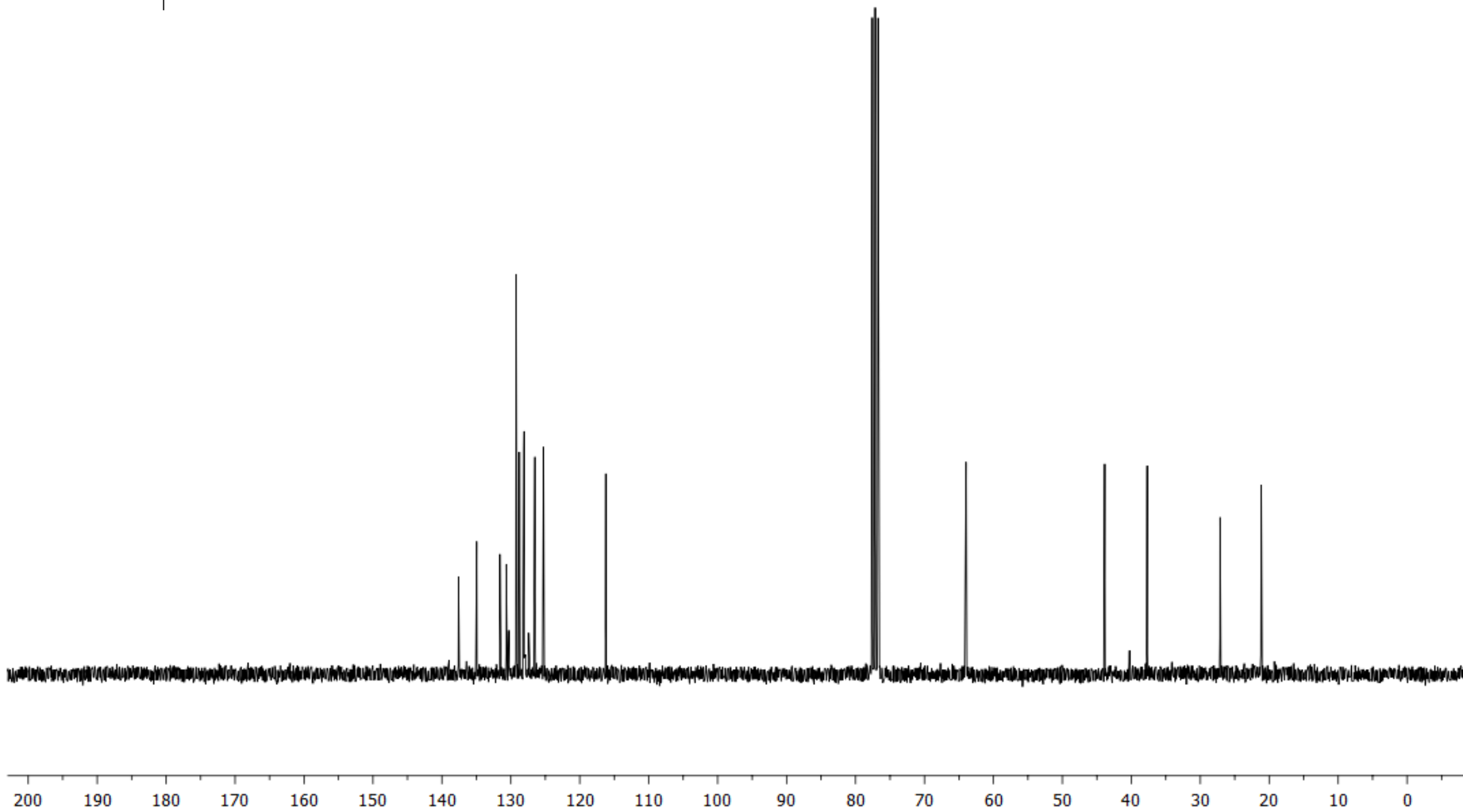
CDCl₃, 300 MHz



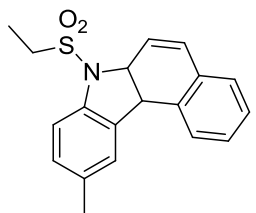


17a

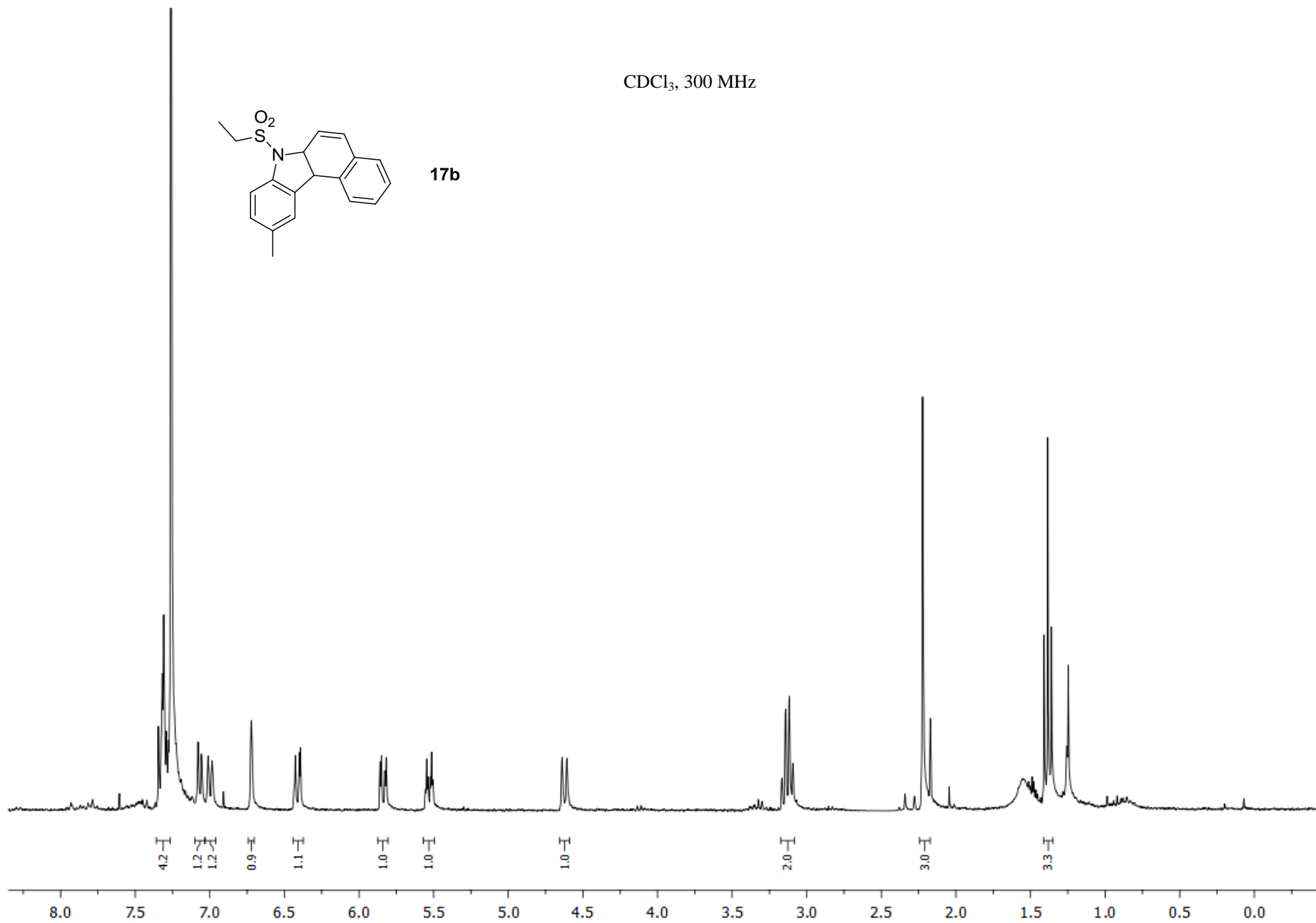
CDCl₃, 75 MHz

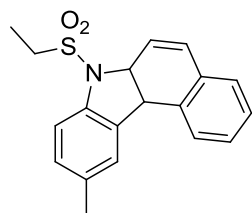


CDCl₃, 300 MHz



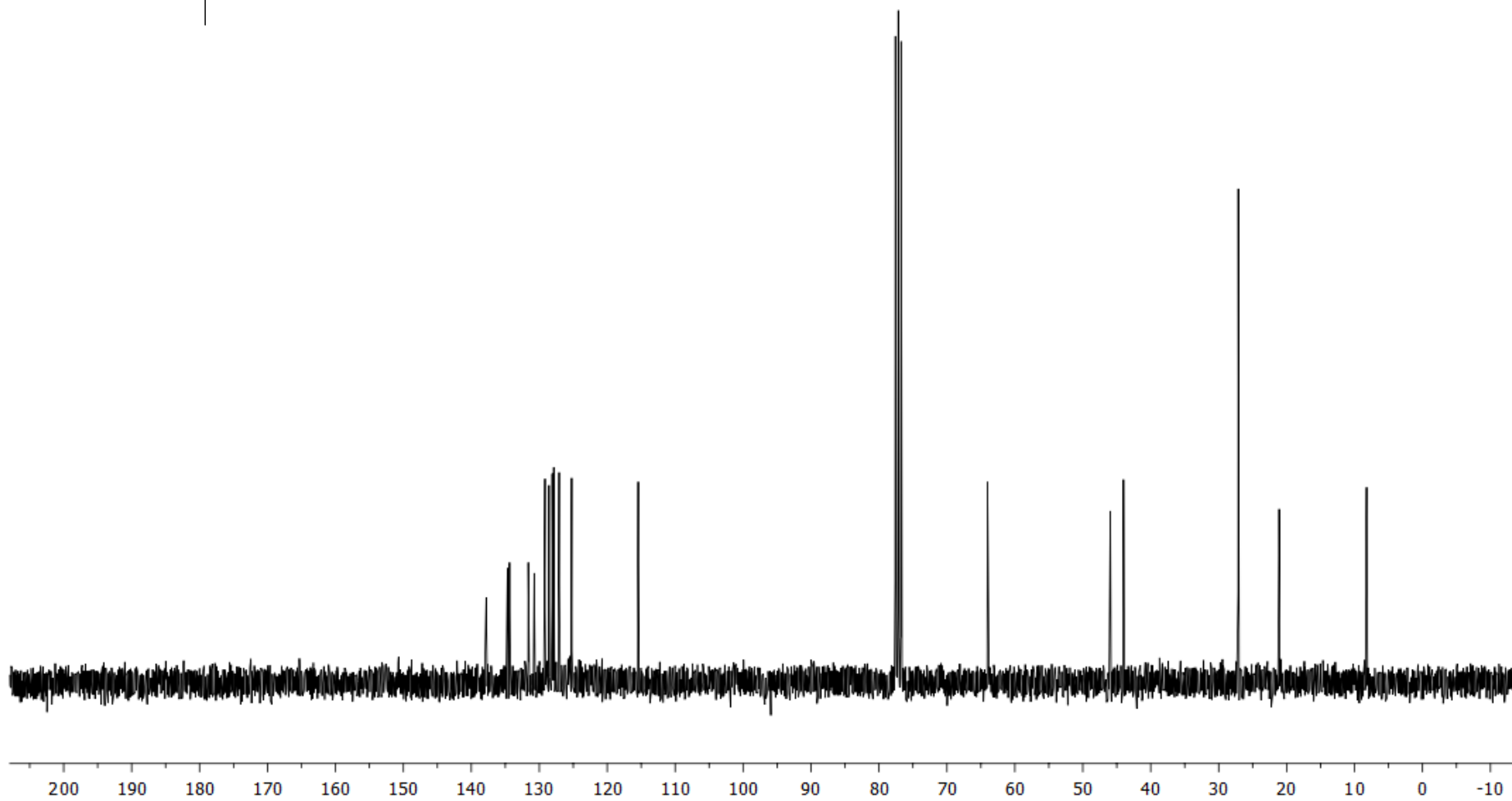
17b

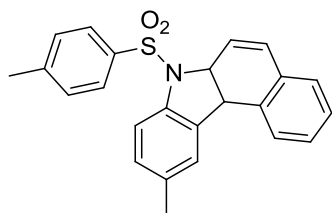




17b

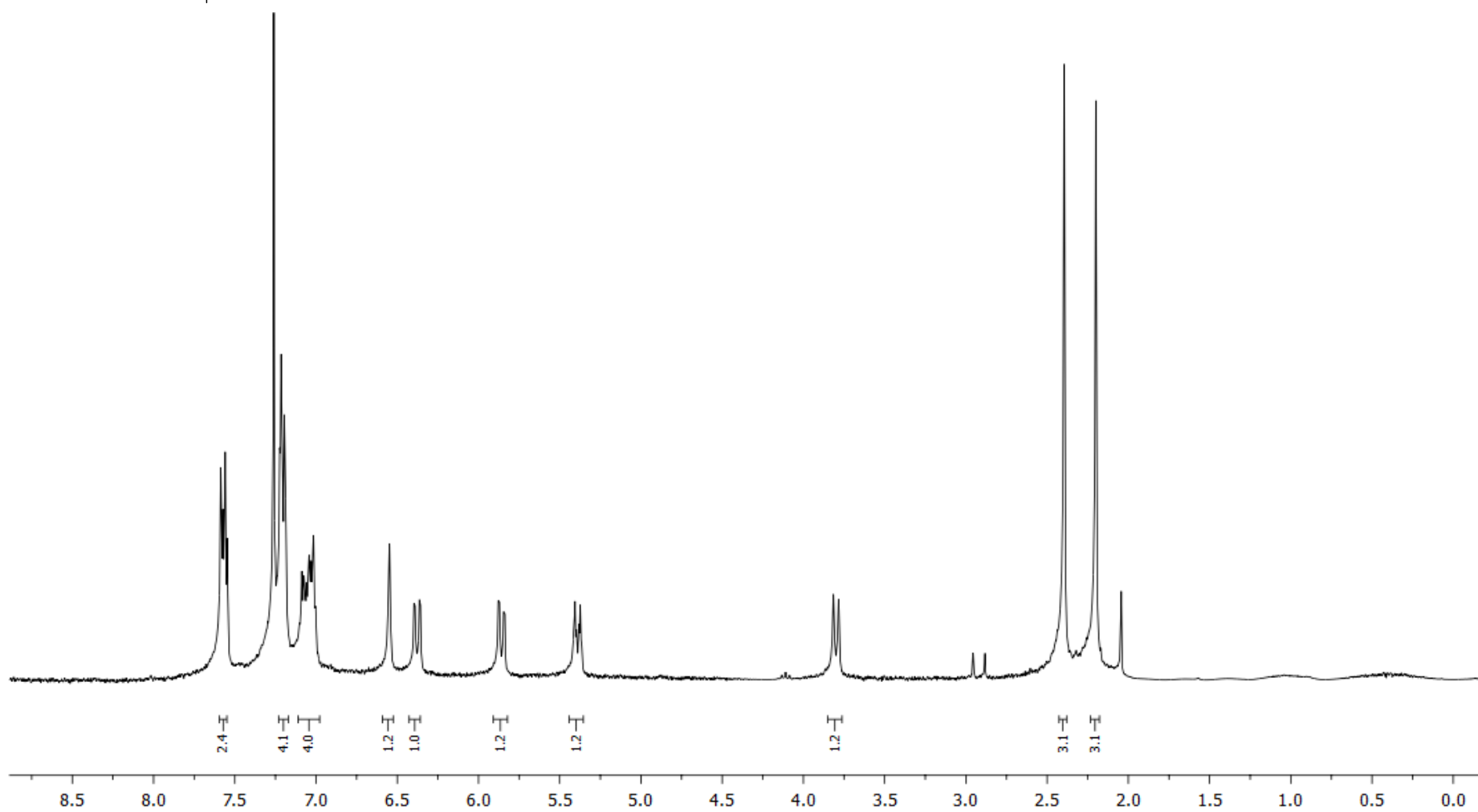
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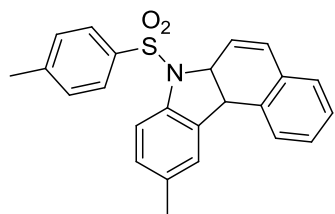




17c

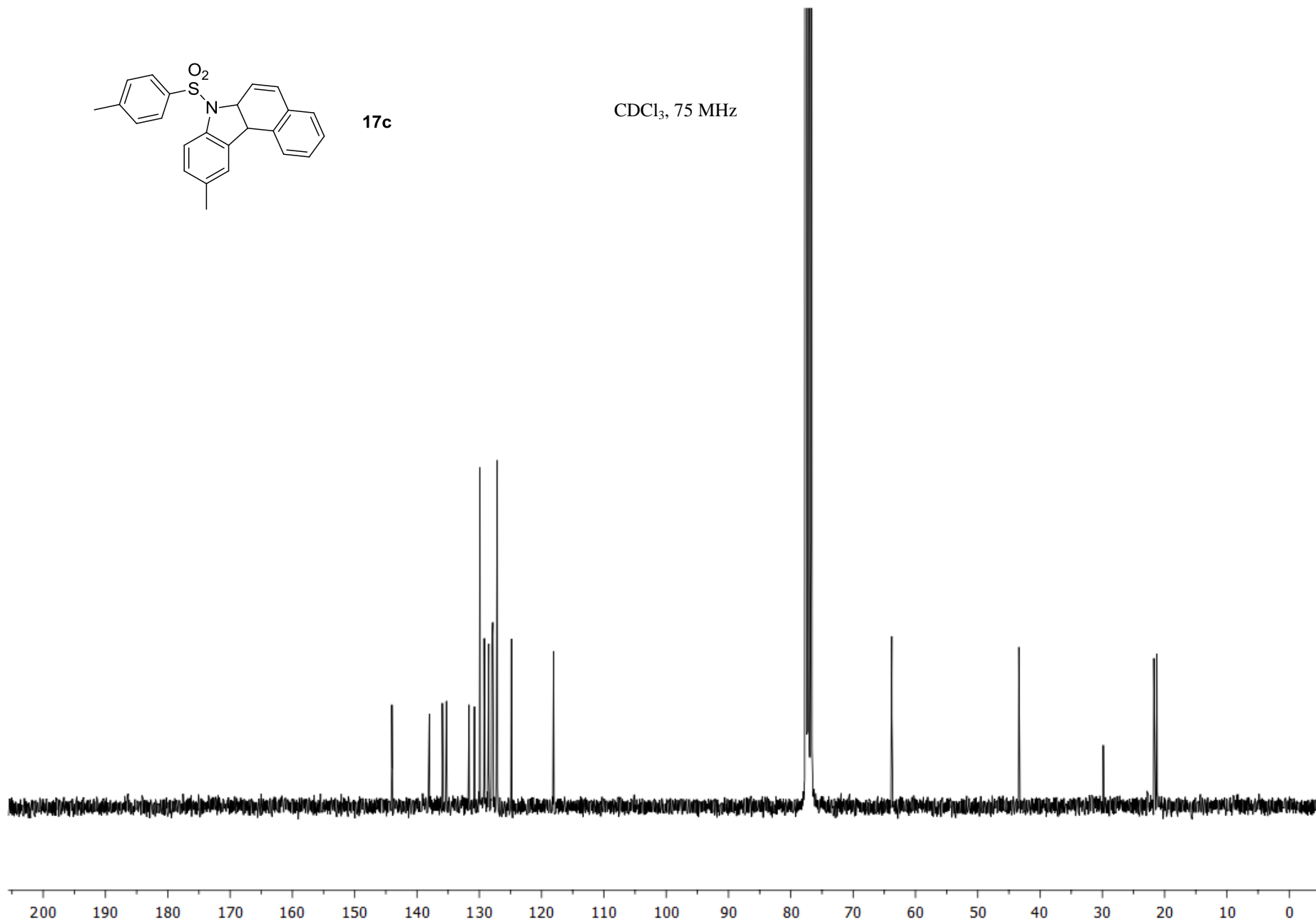
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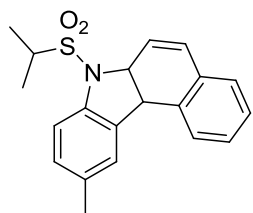




17c

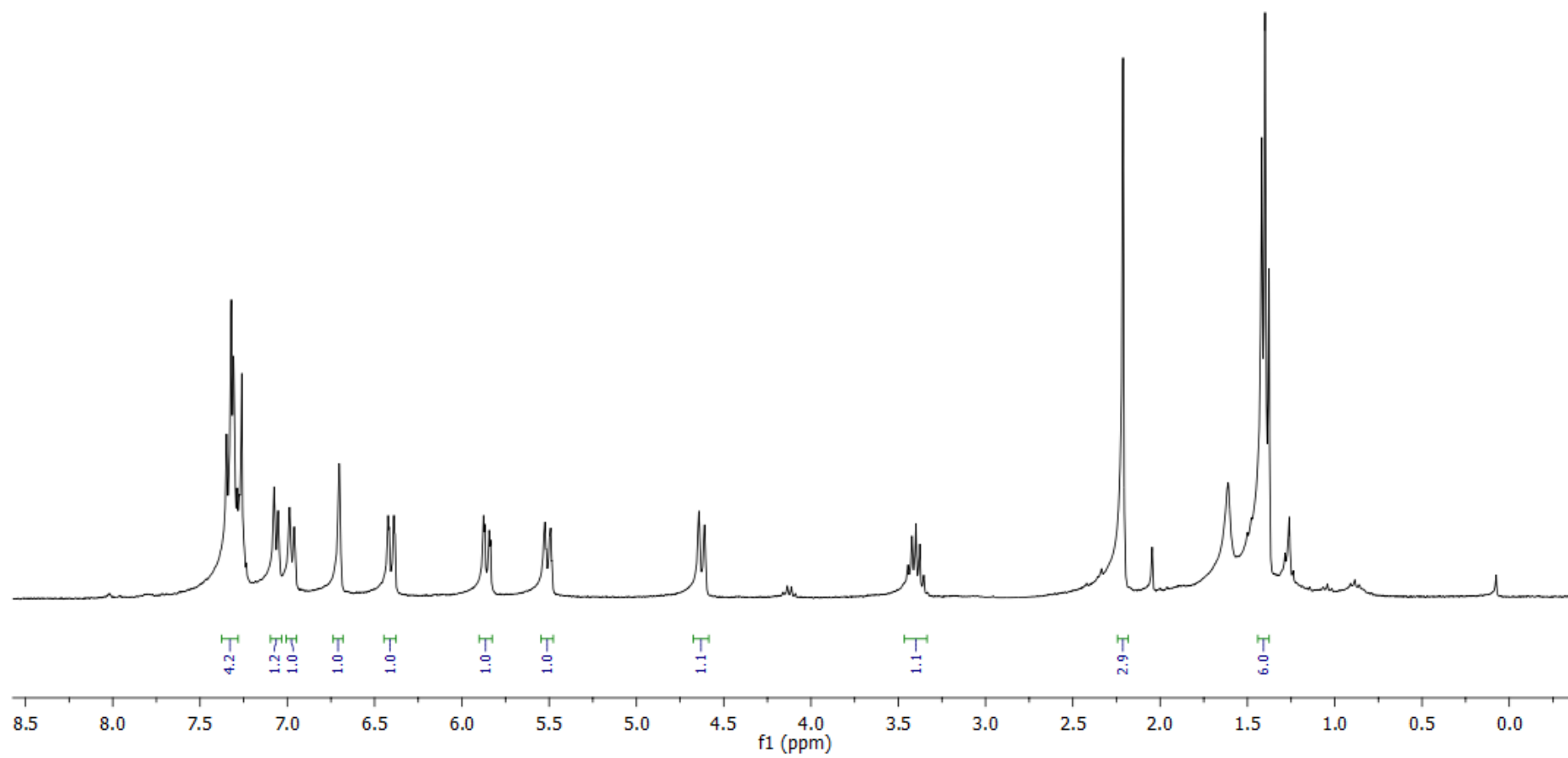
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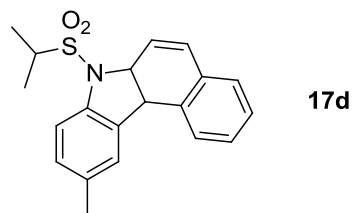




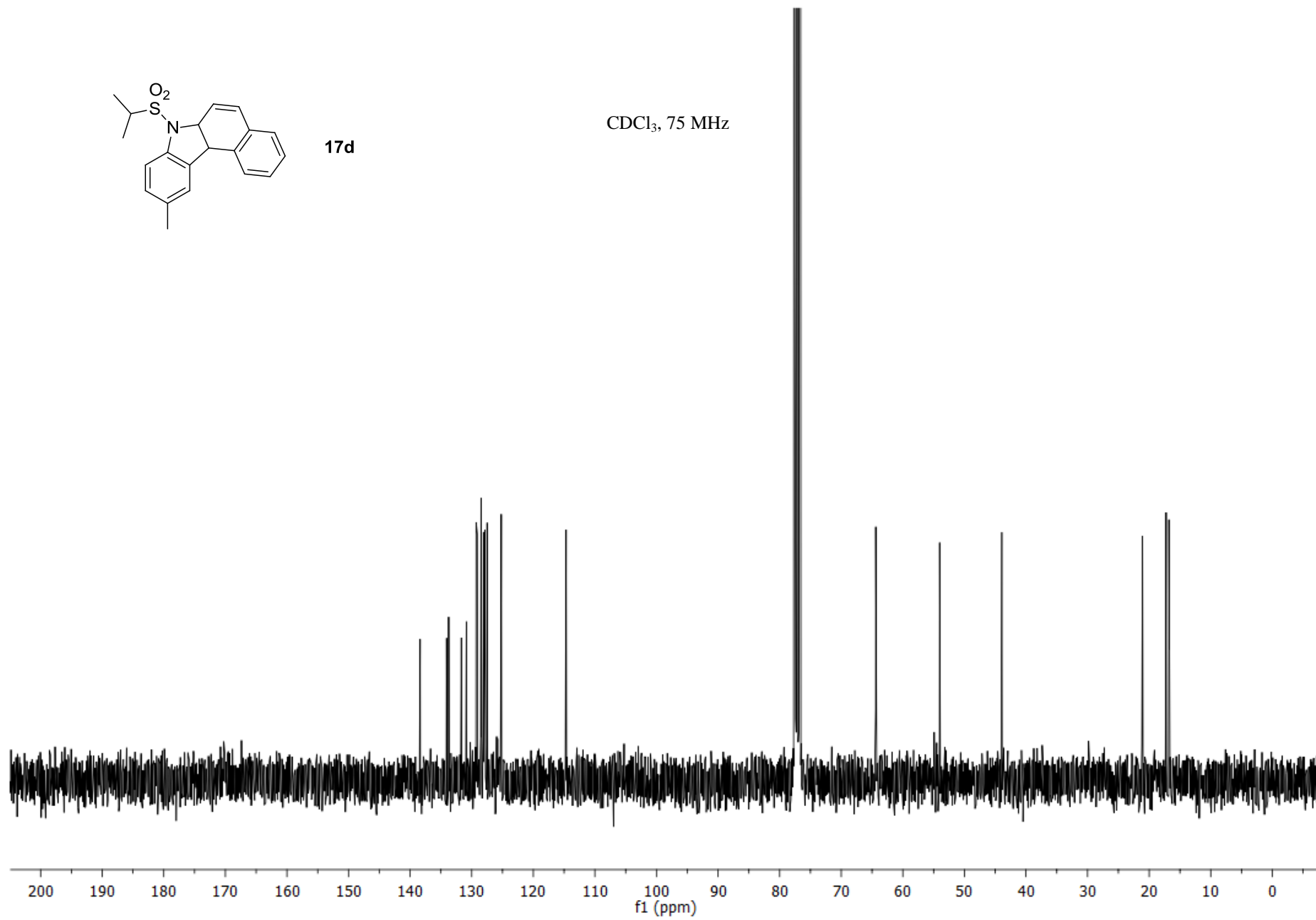
17d

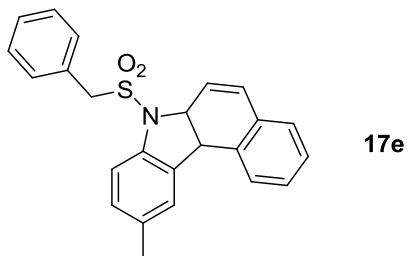
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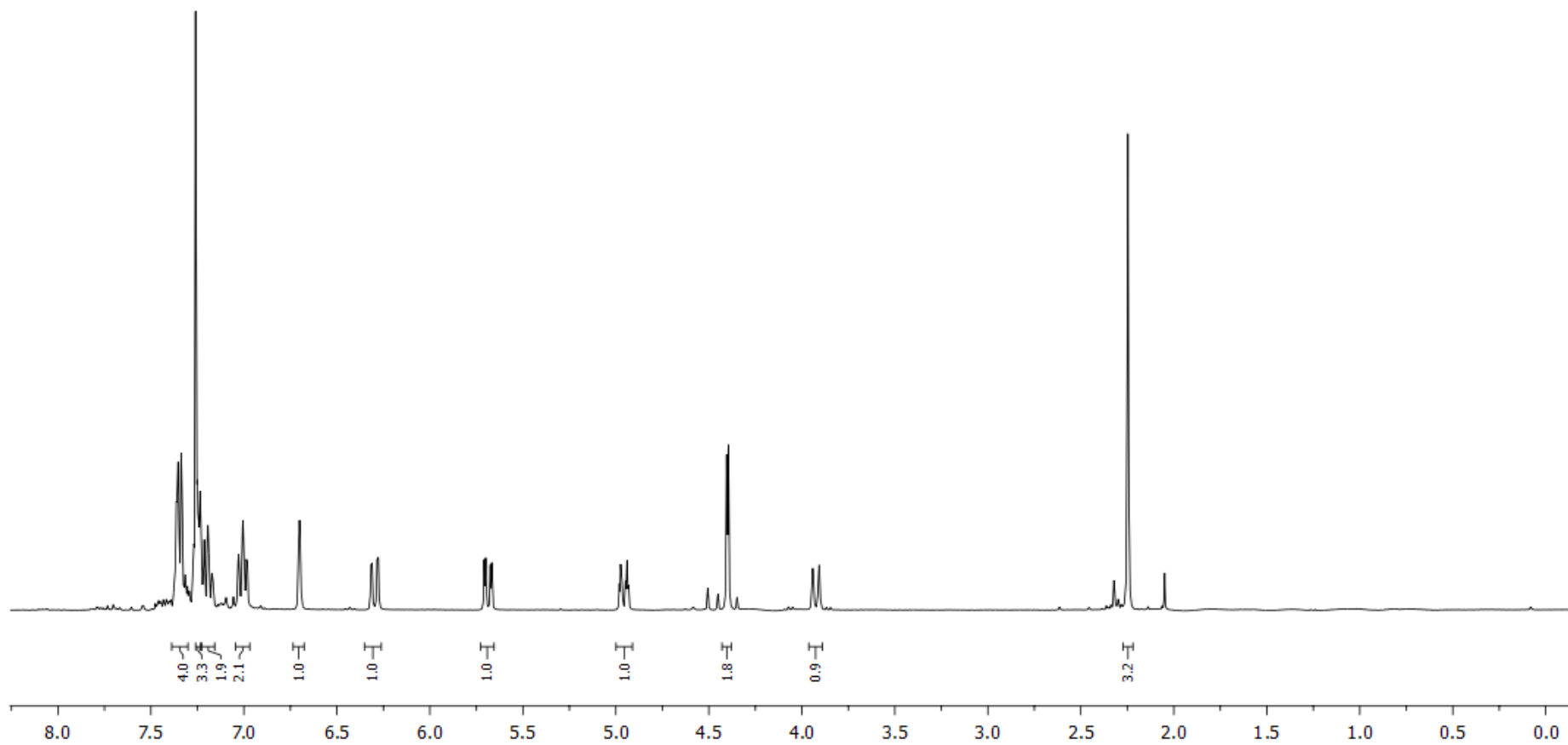


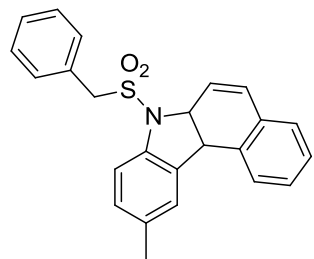
CDCl₃, 75 MHz





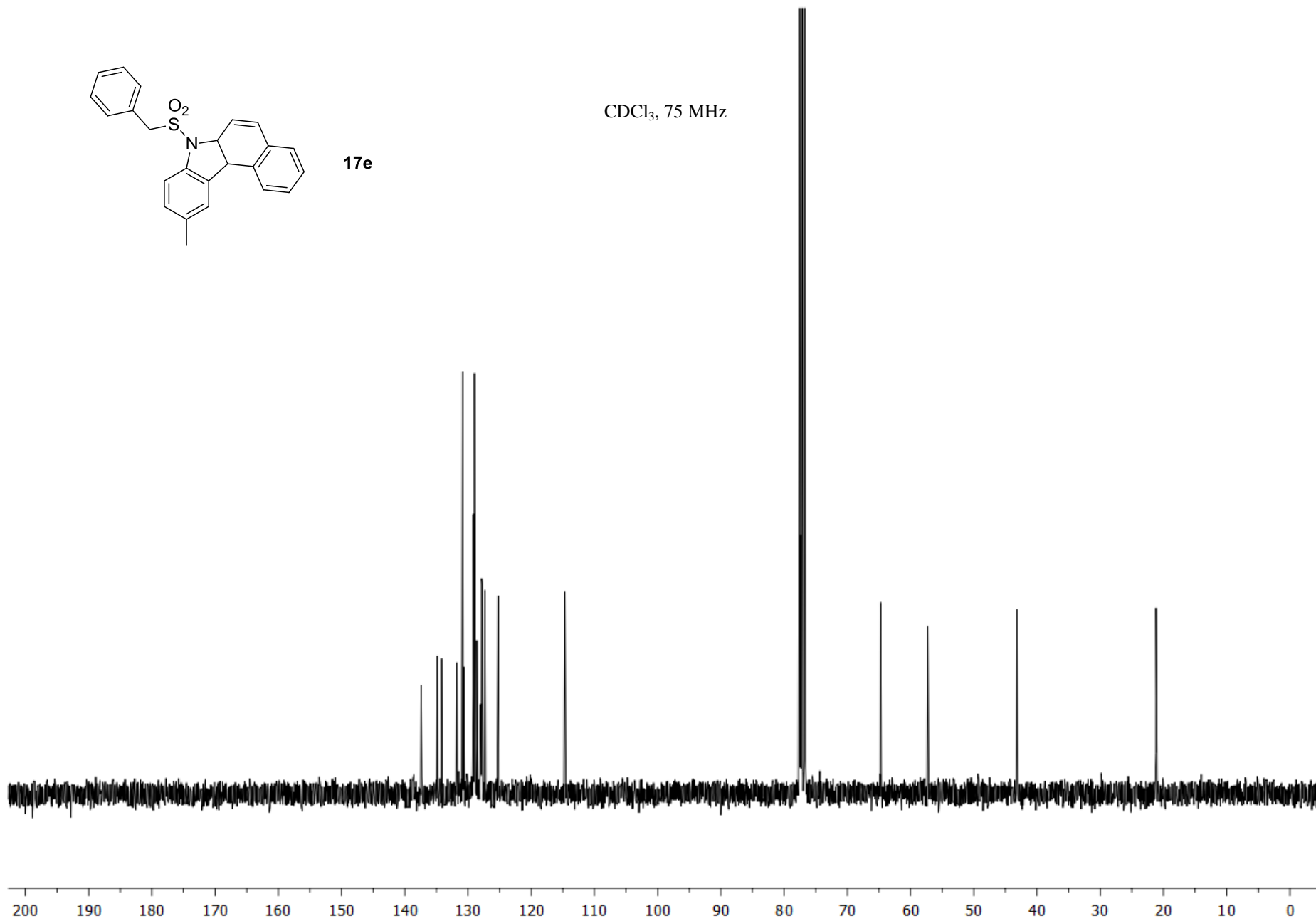
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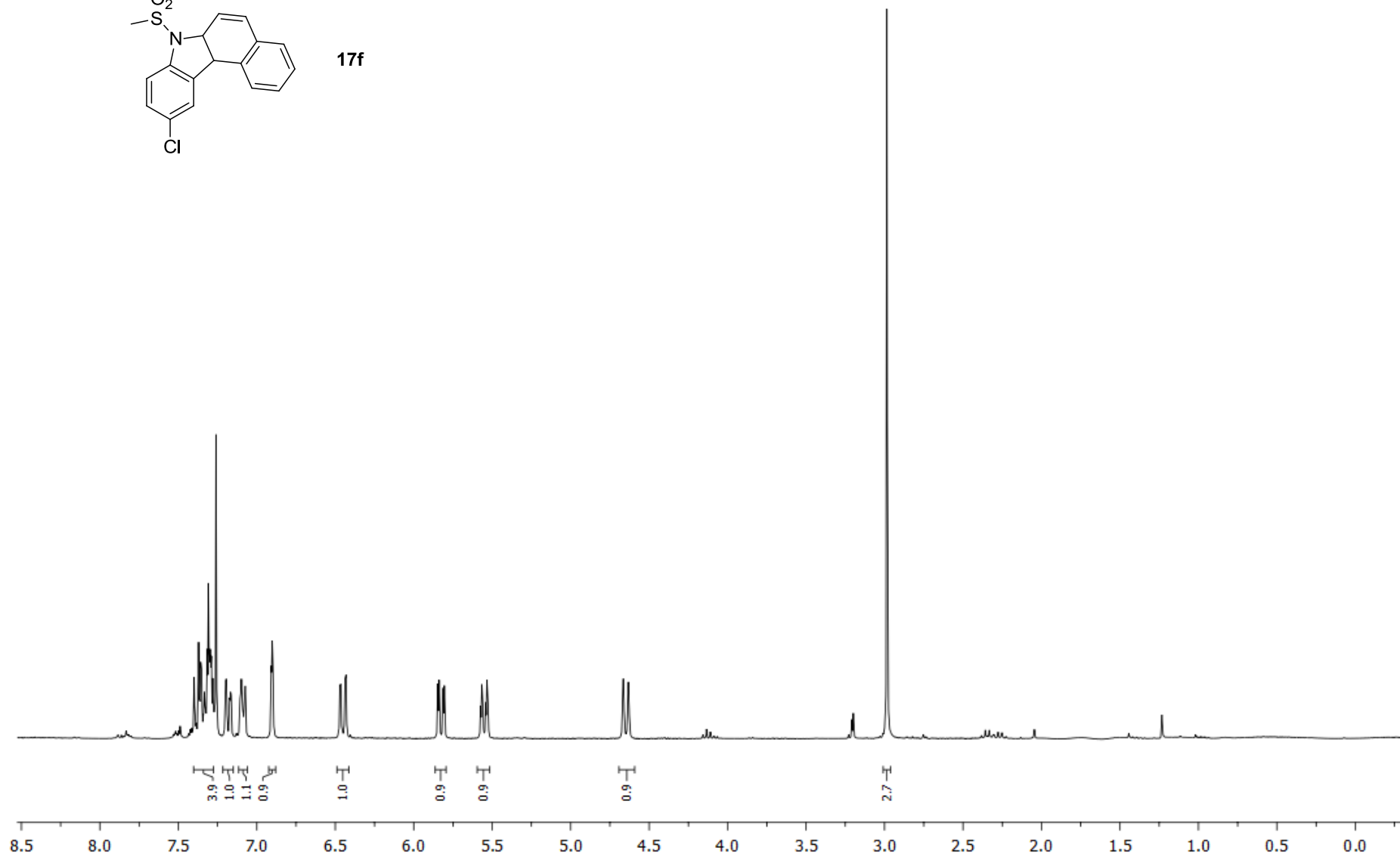
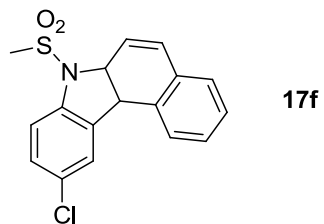


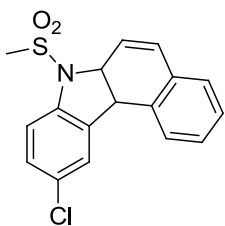
17e

CDCl₃, 75 MHz



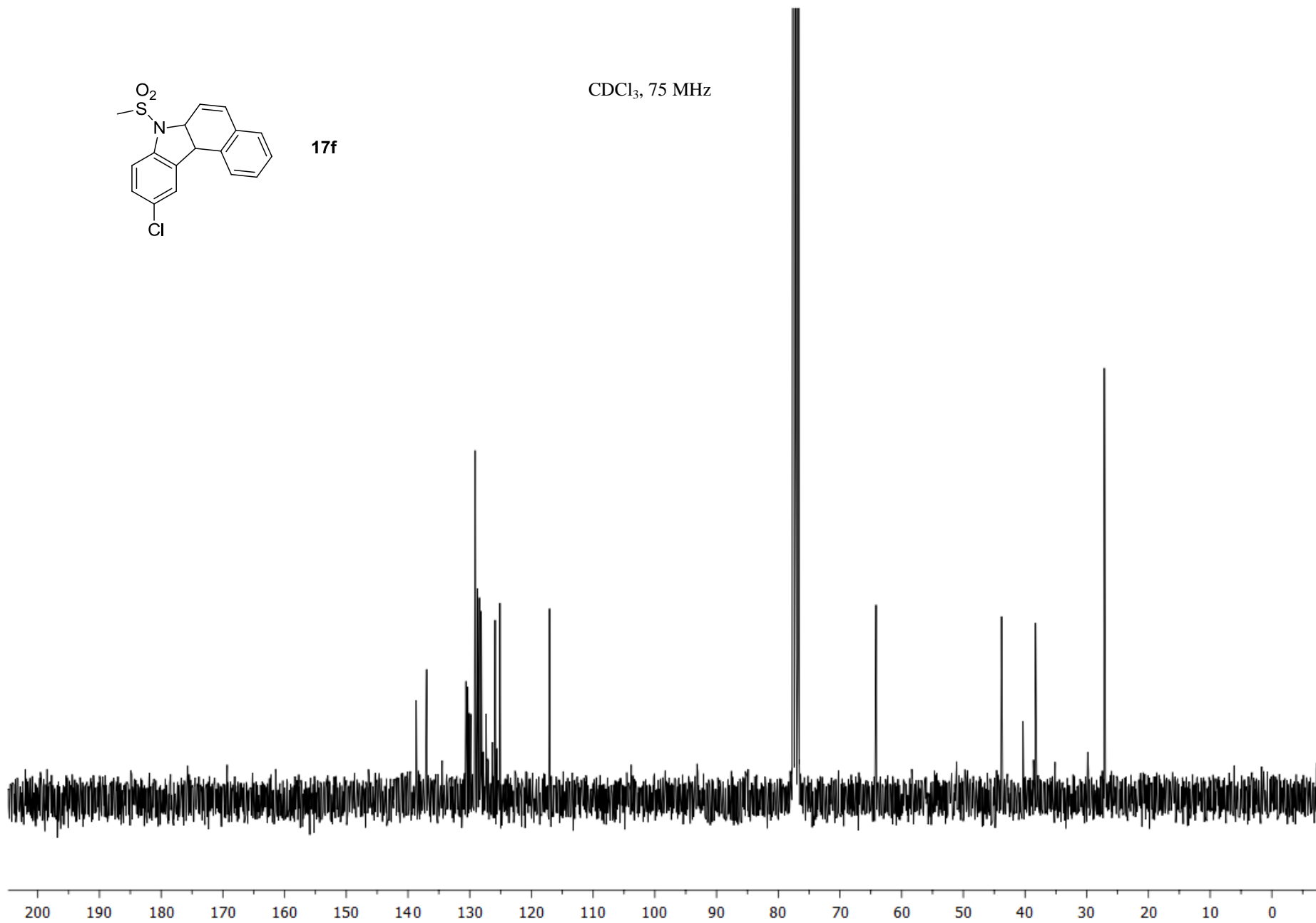
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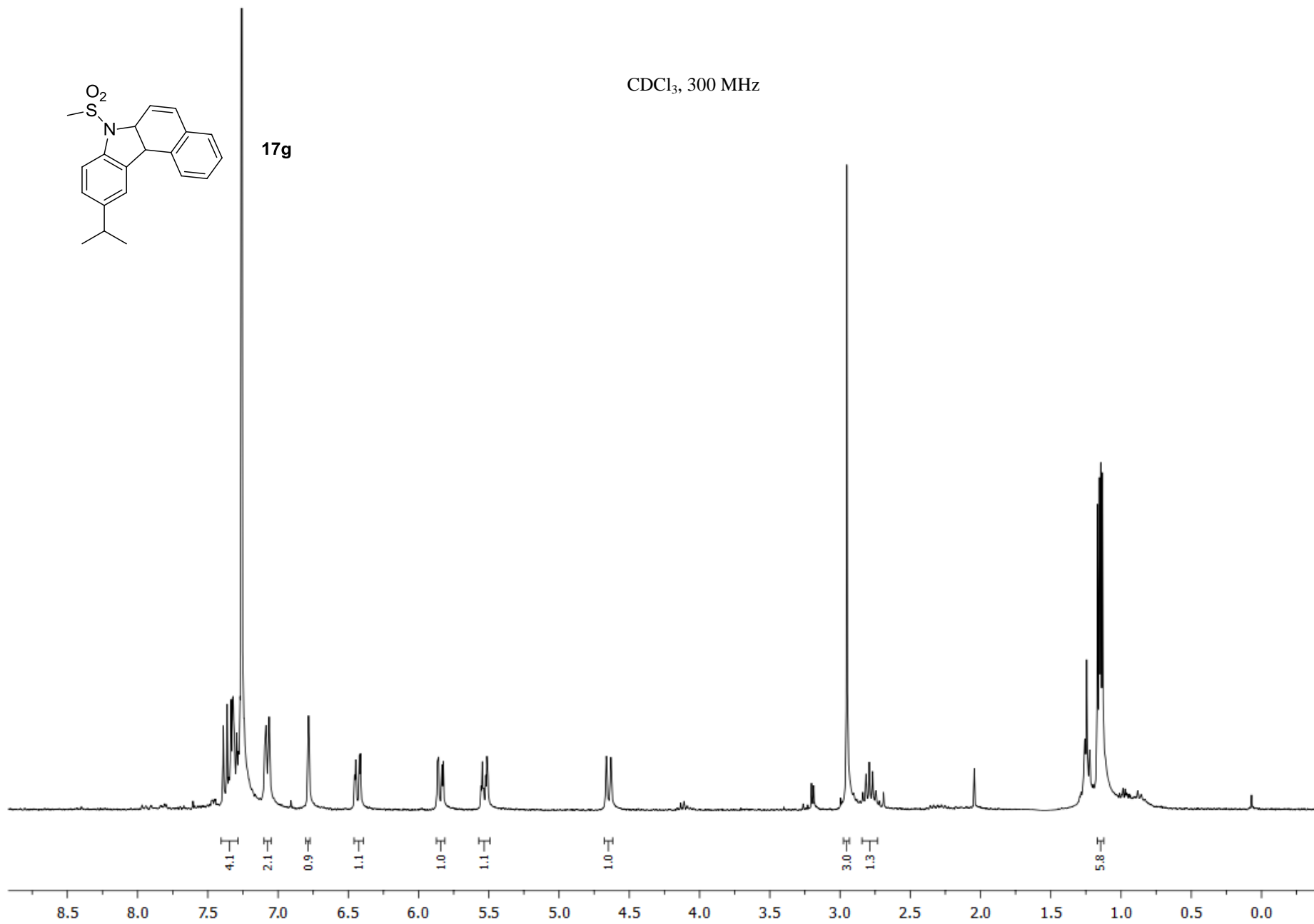


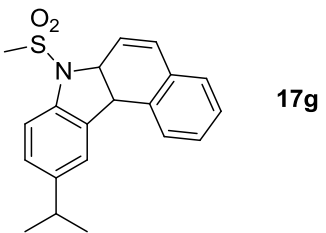


17f

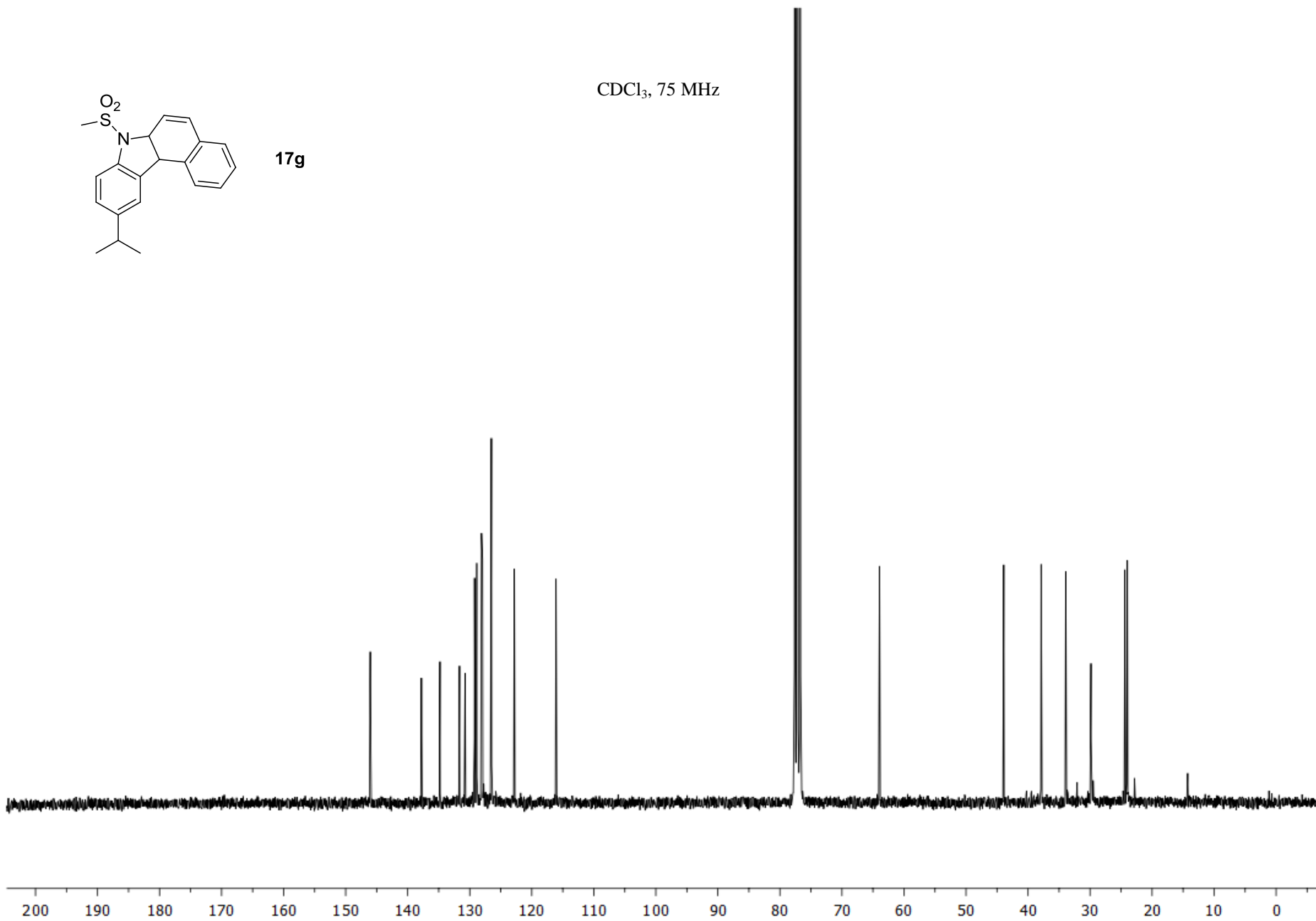
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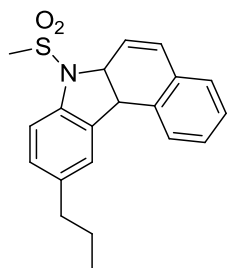






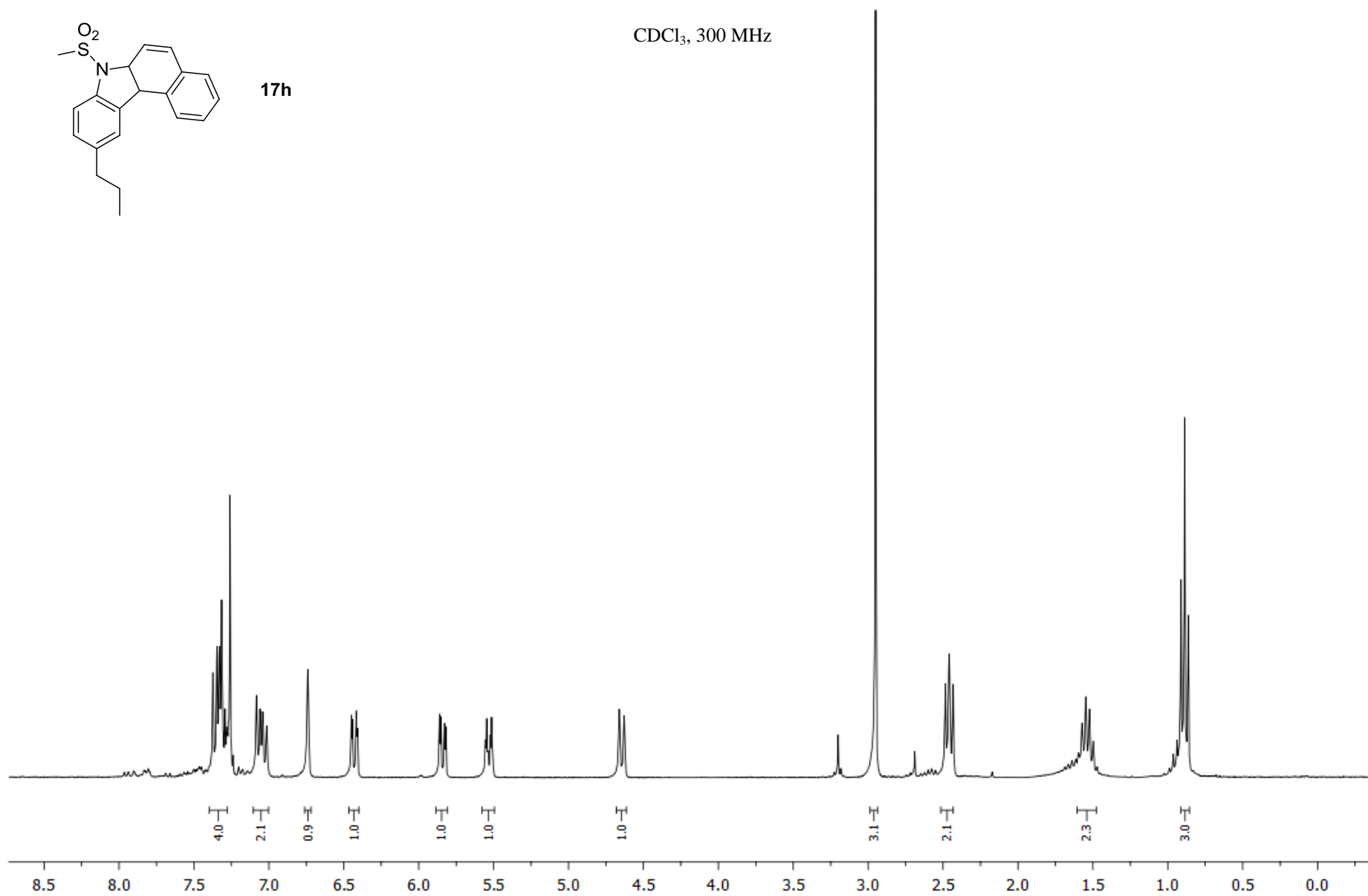
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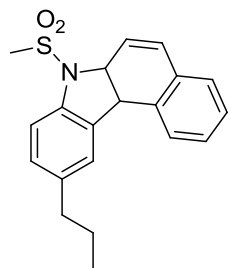




17h

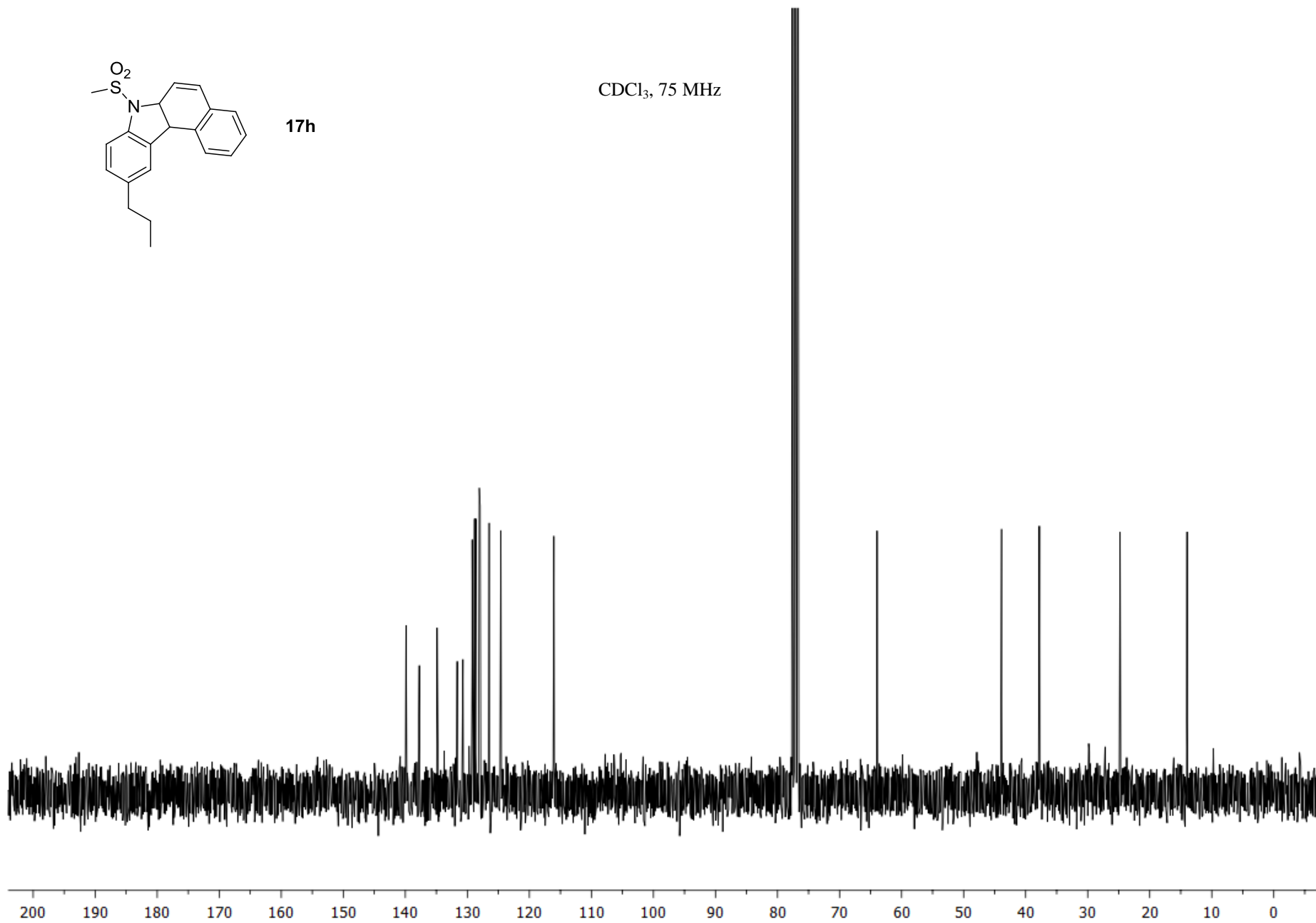
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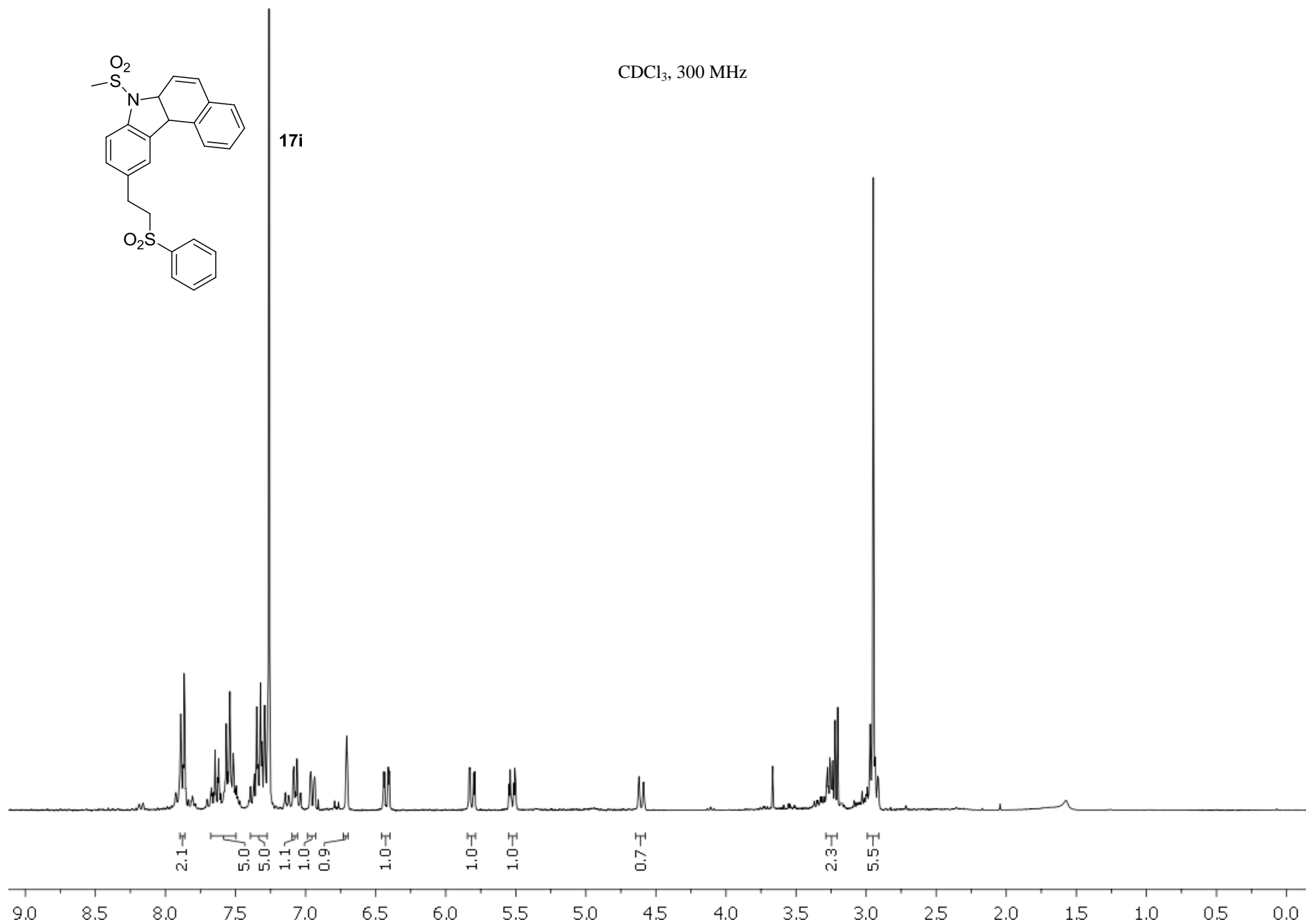


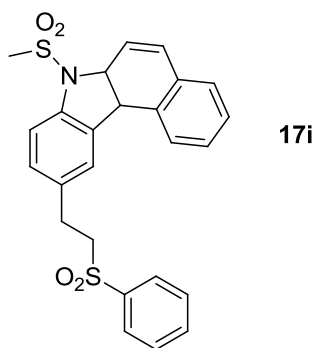


17h

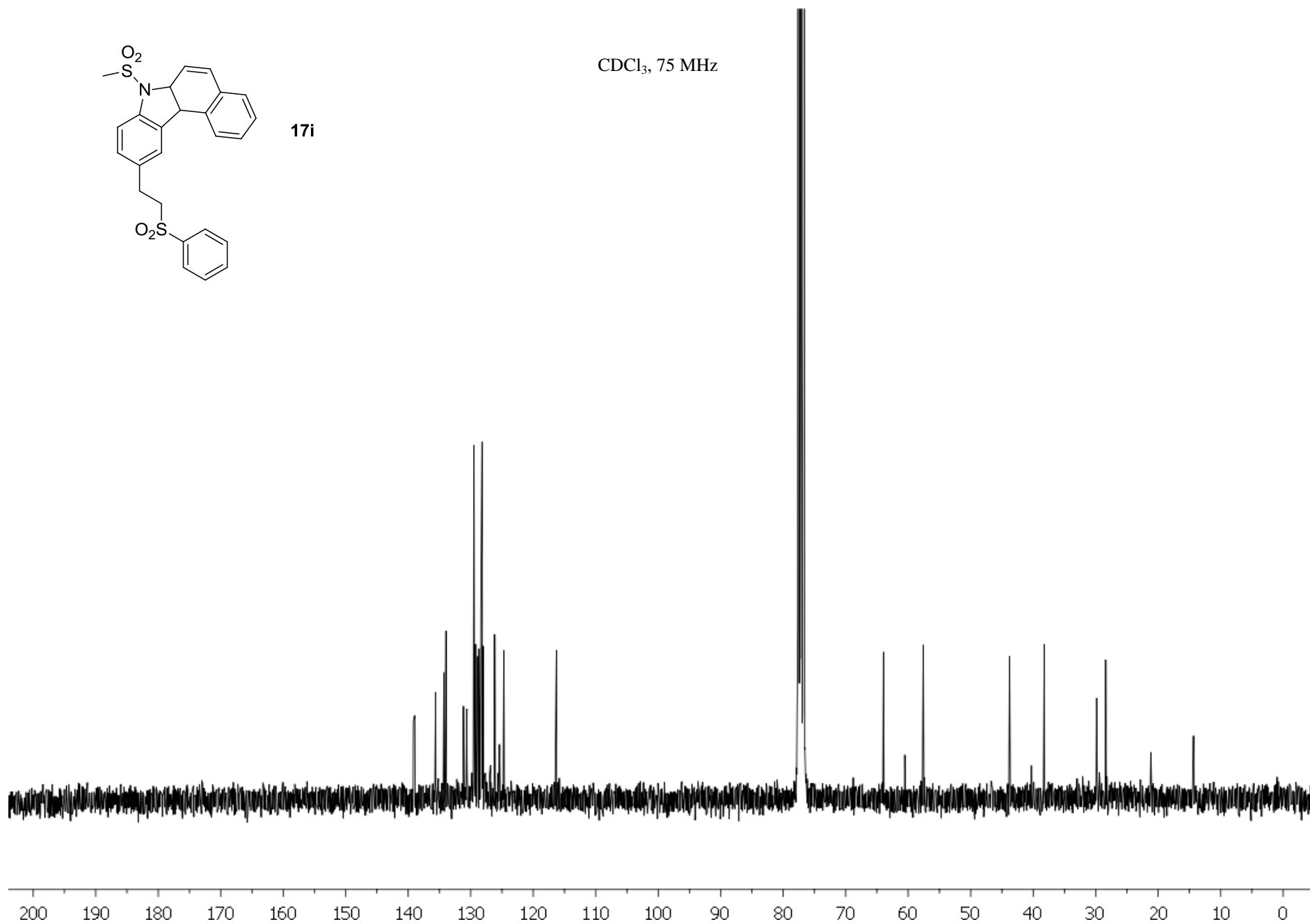
CDCl₃, 75 MHz



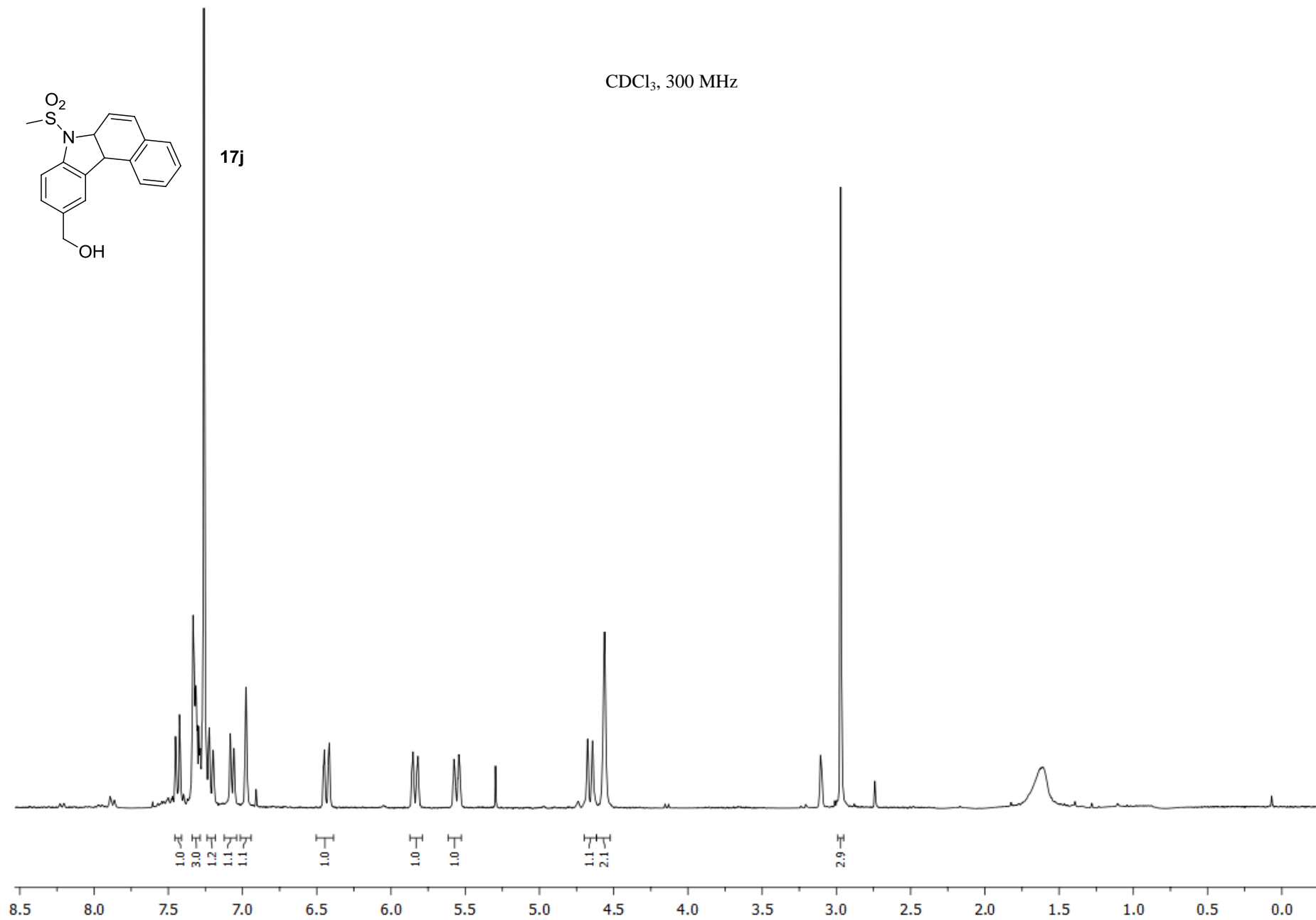


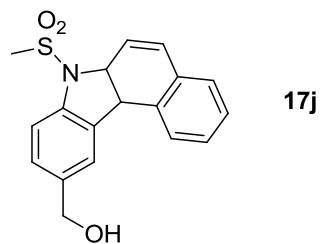


CDCl₃, 75 MHz

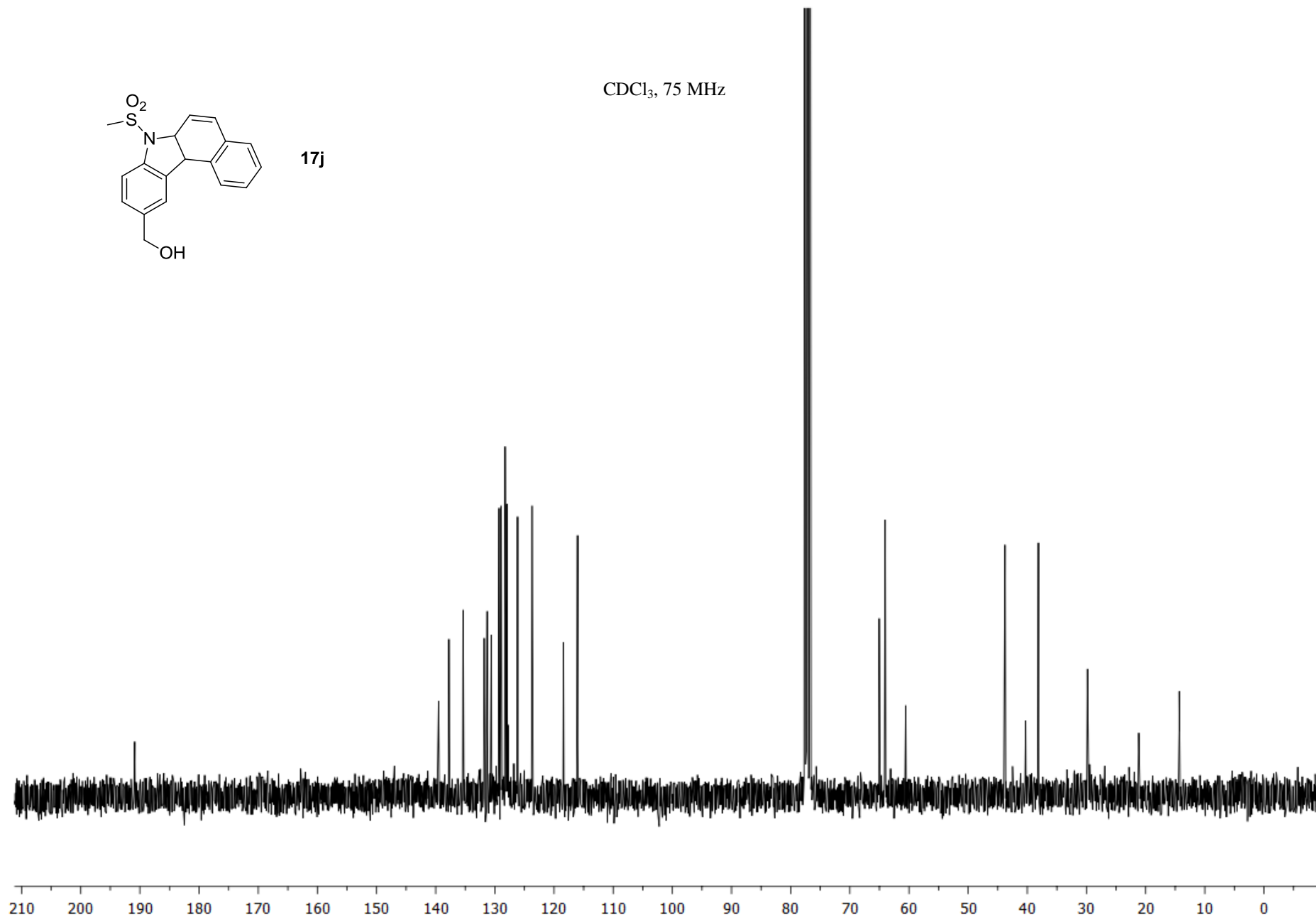


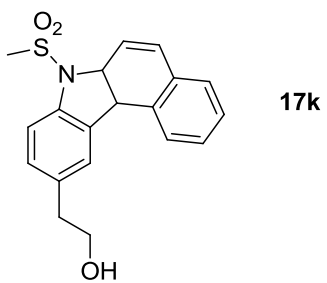
CDCl₃, 300 MHz



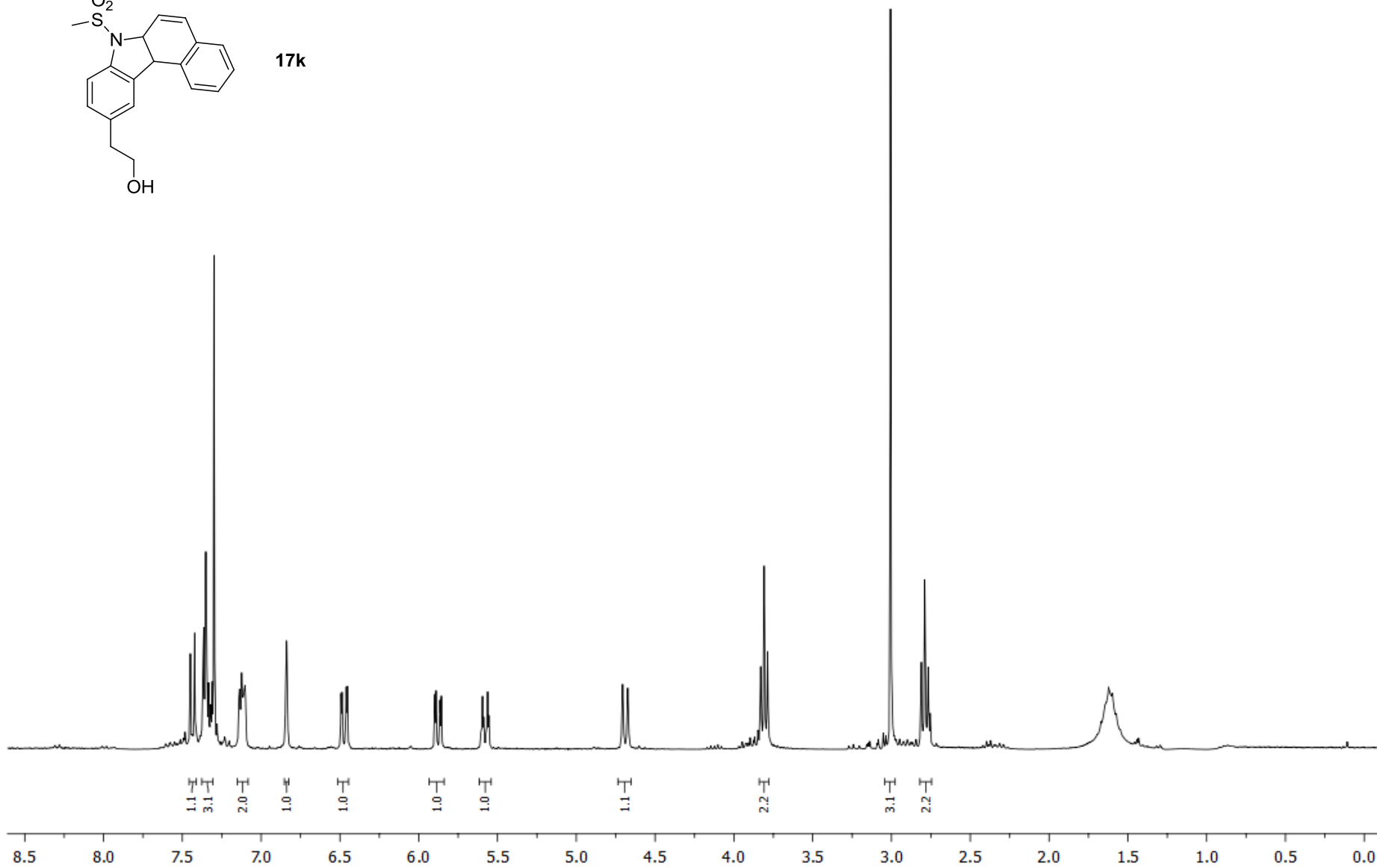


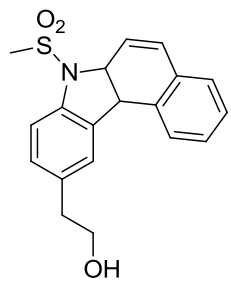
CDCl₃, 75 MHz





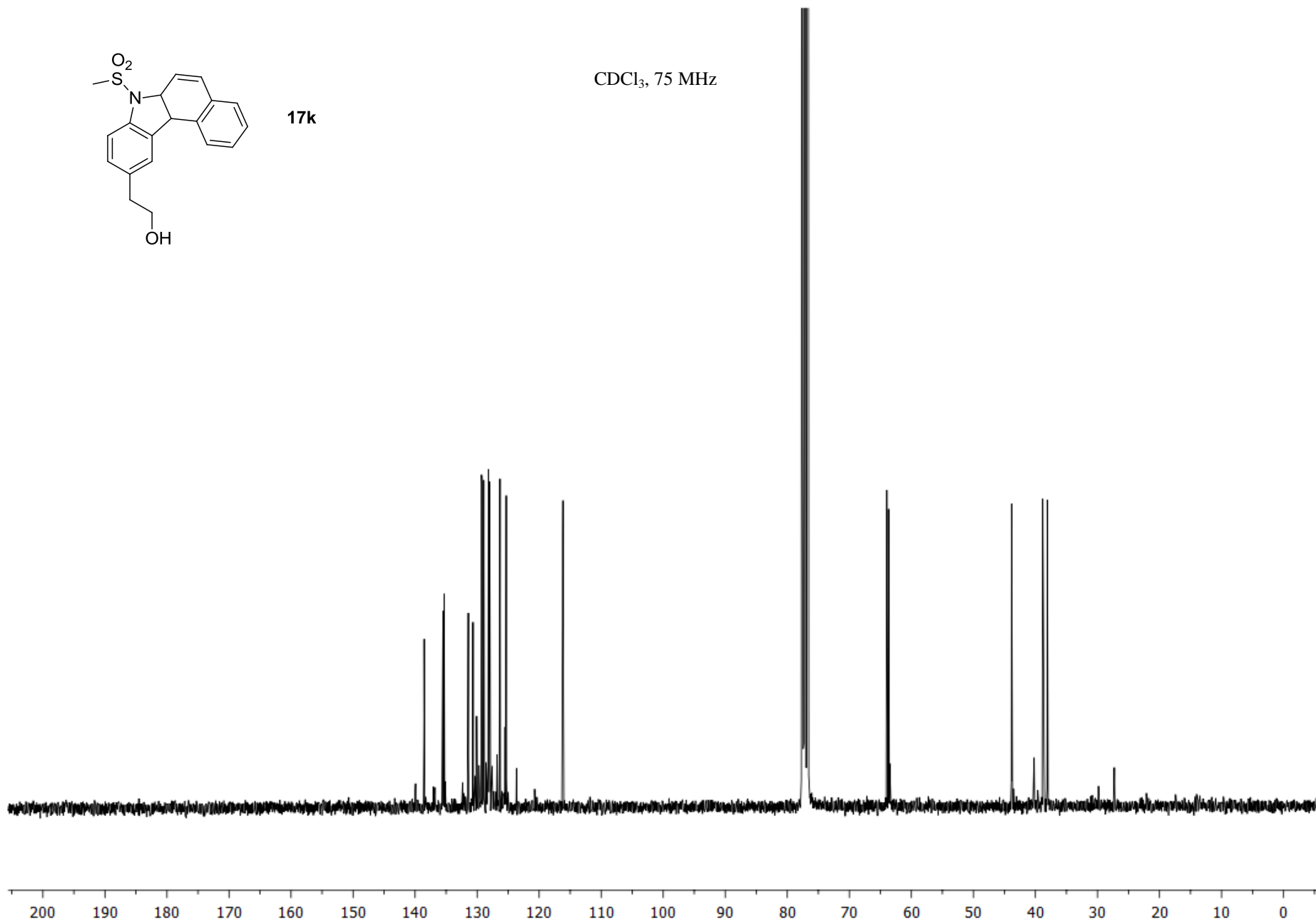
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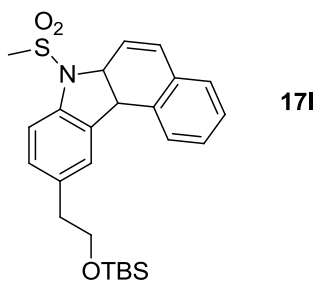




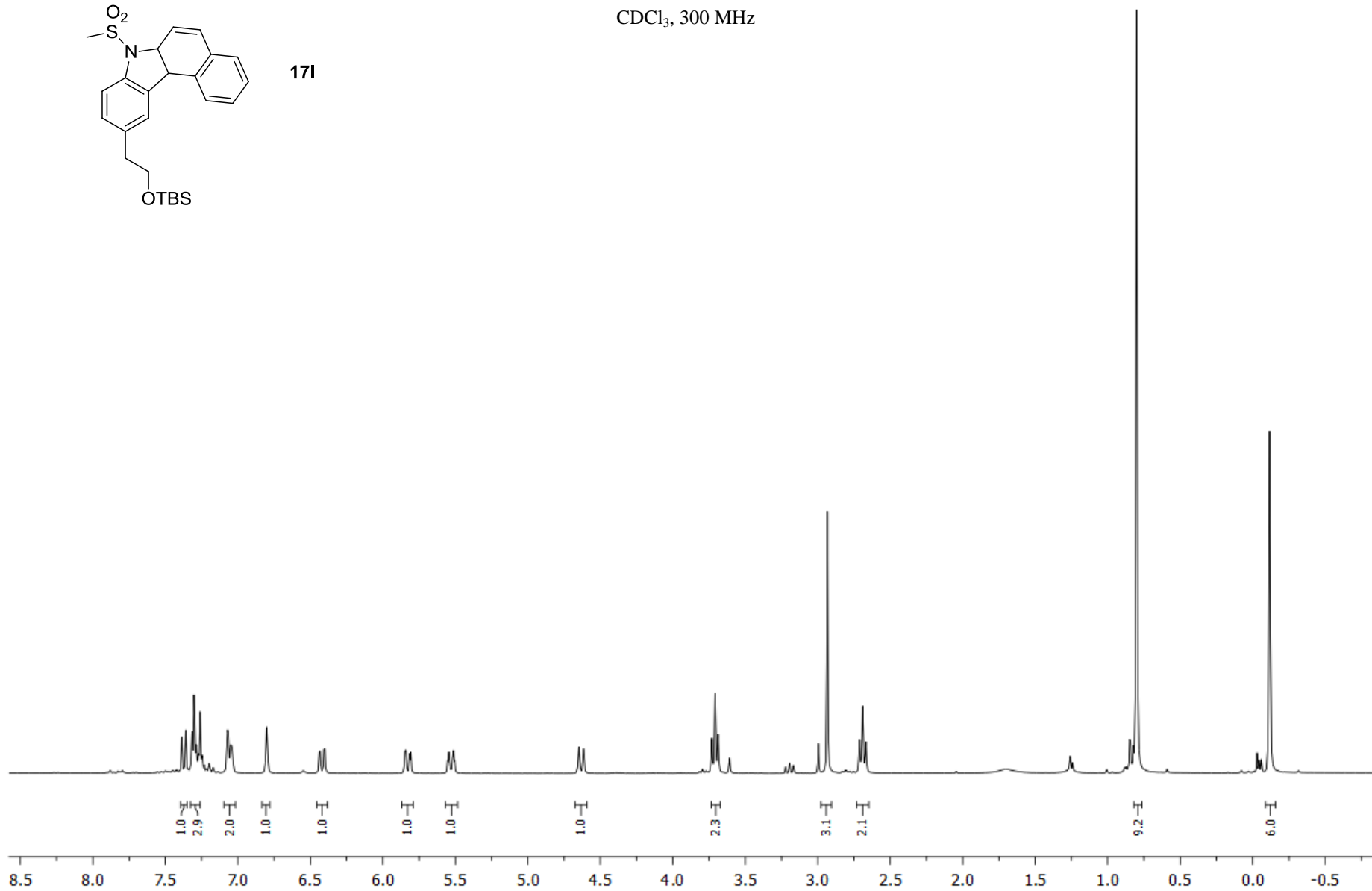
17k

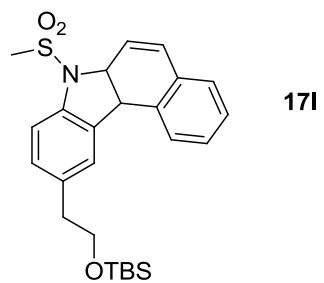
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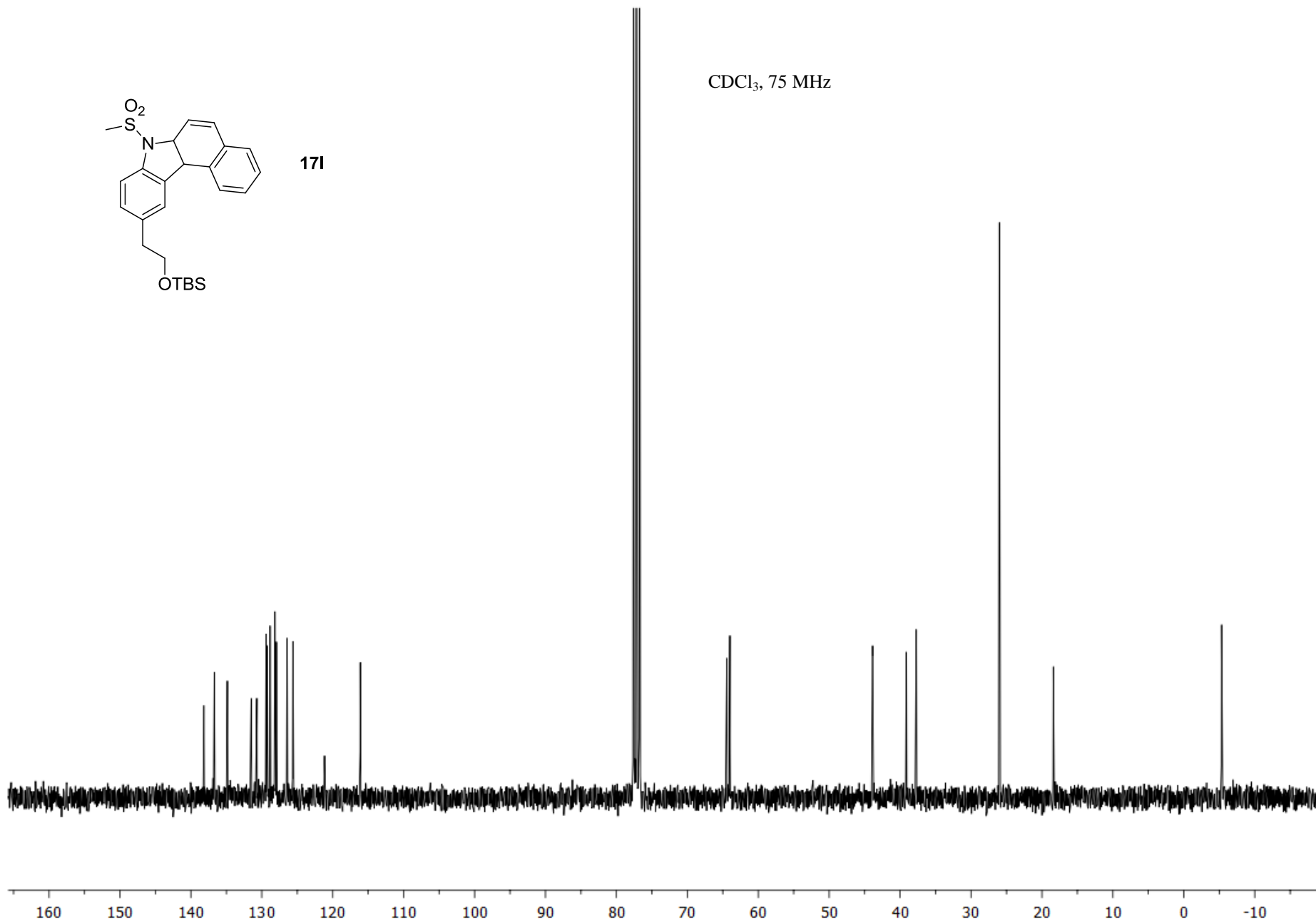


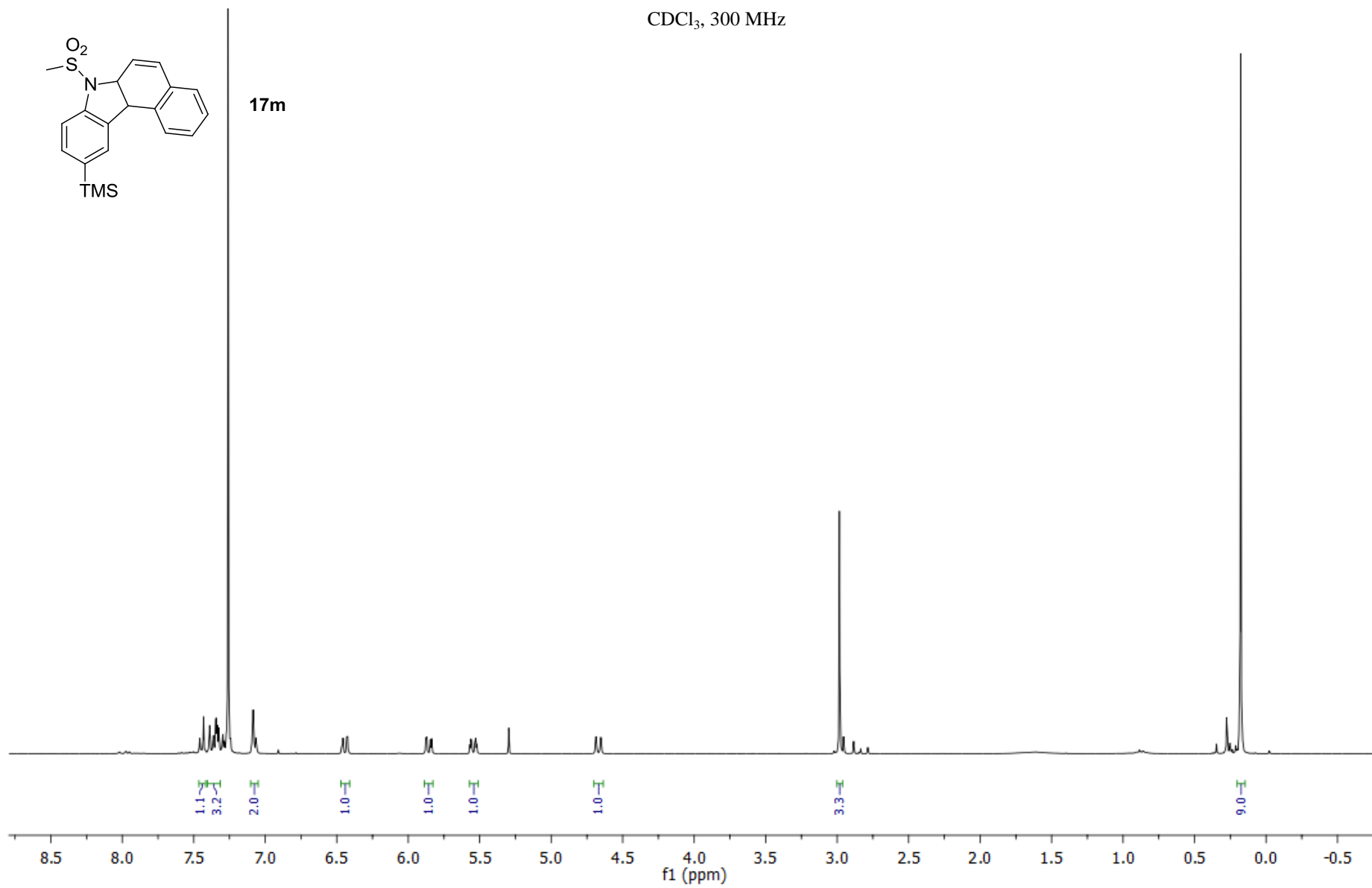
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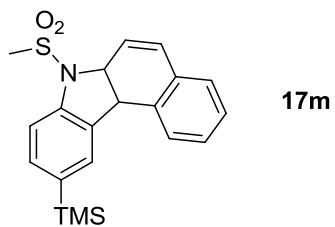




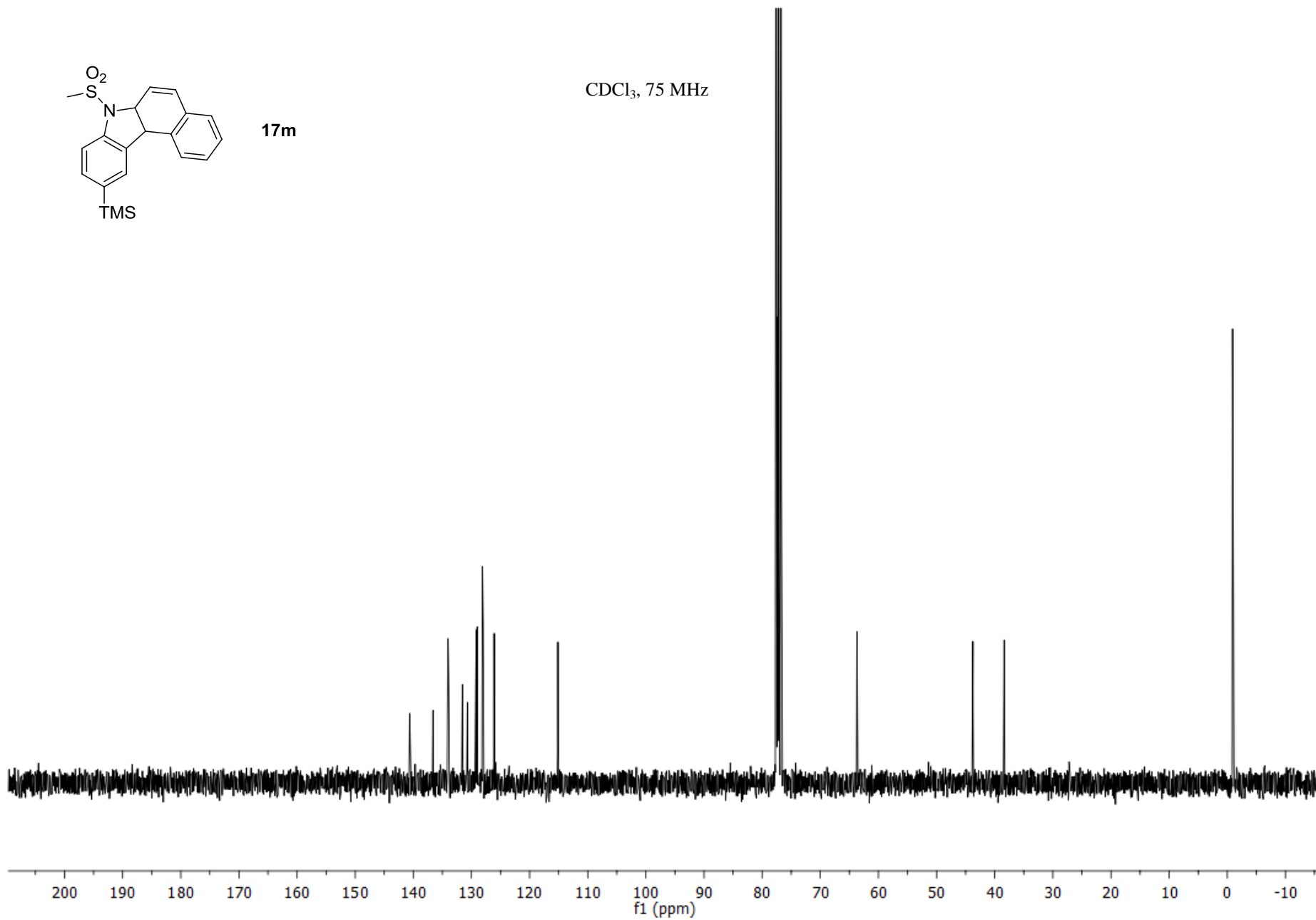
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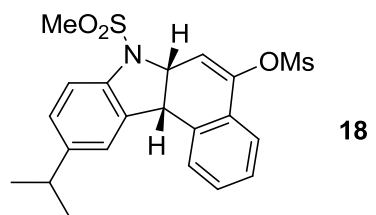




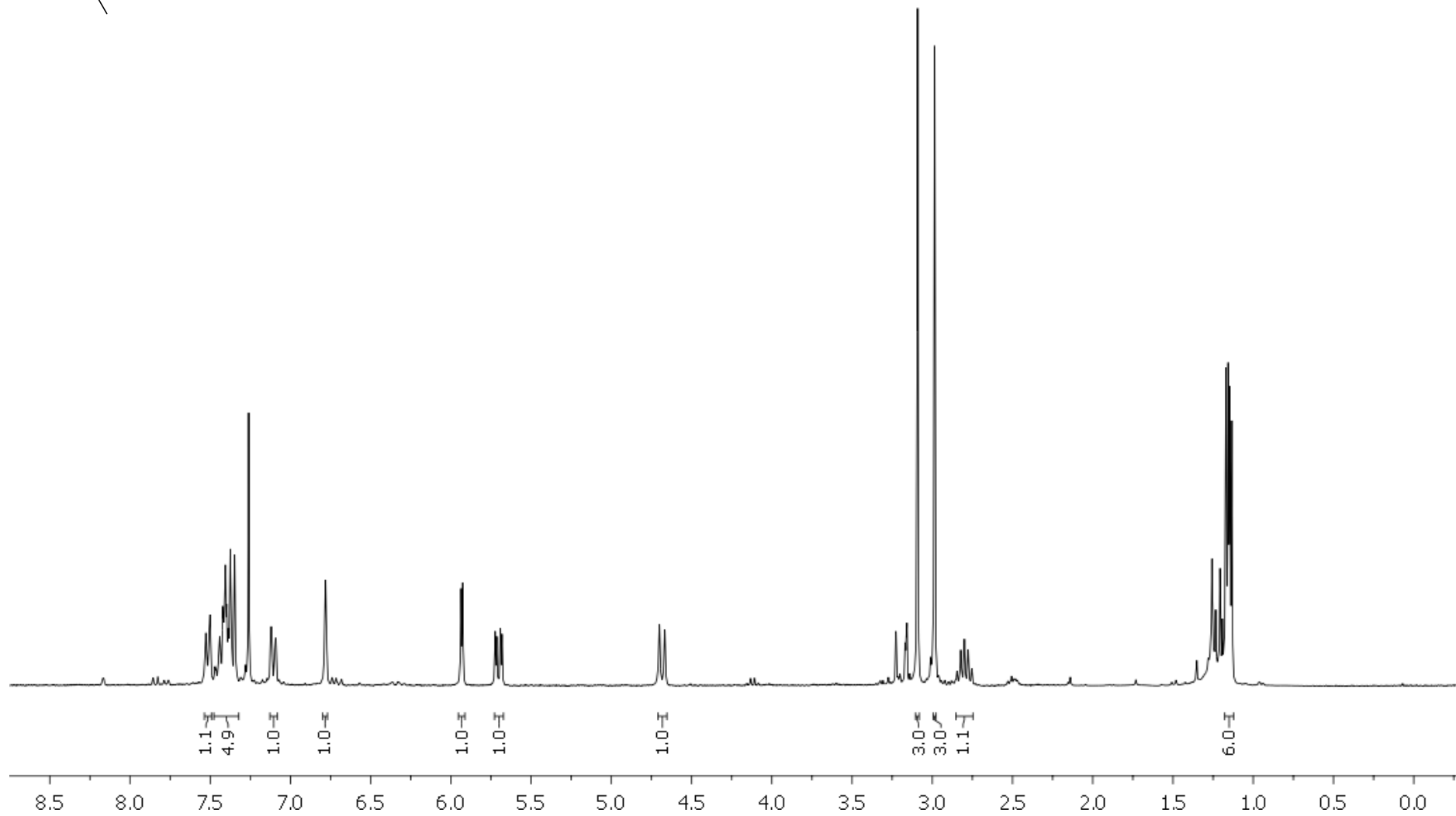
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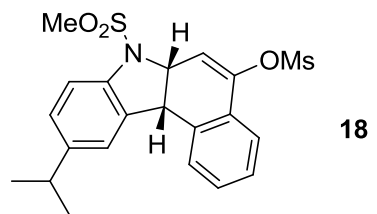


CDCl₃, 300 MHz

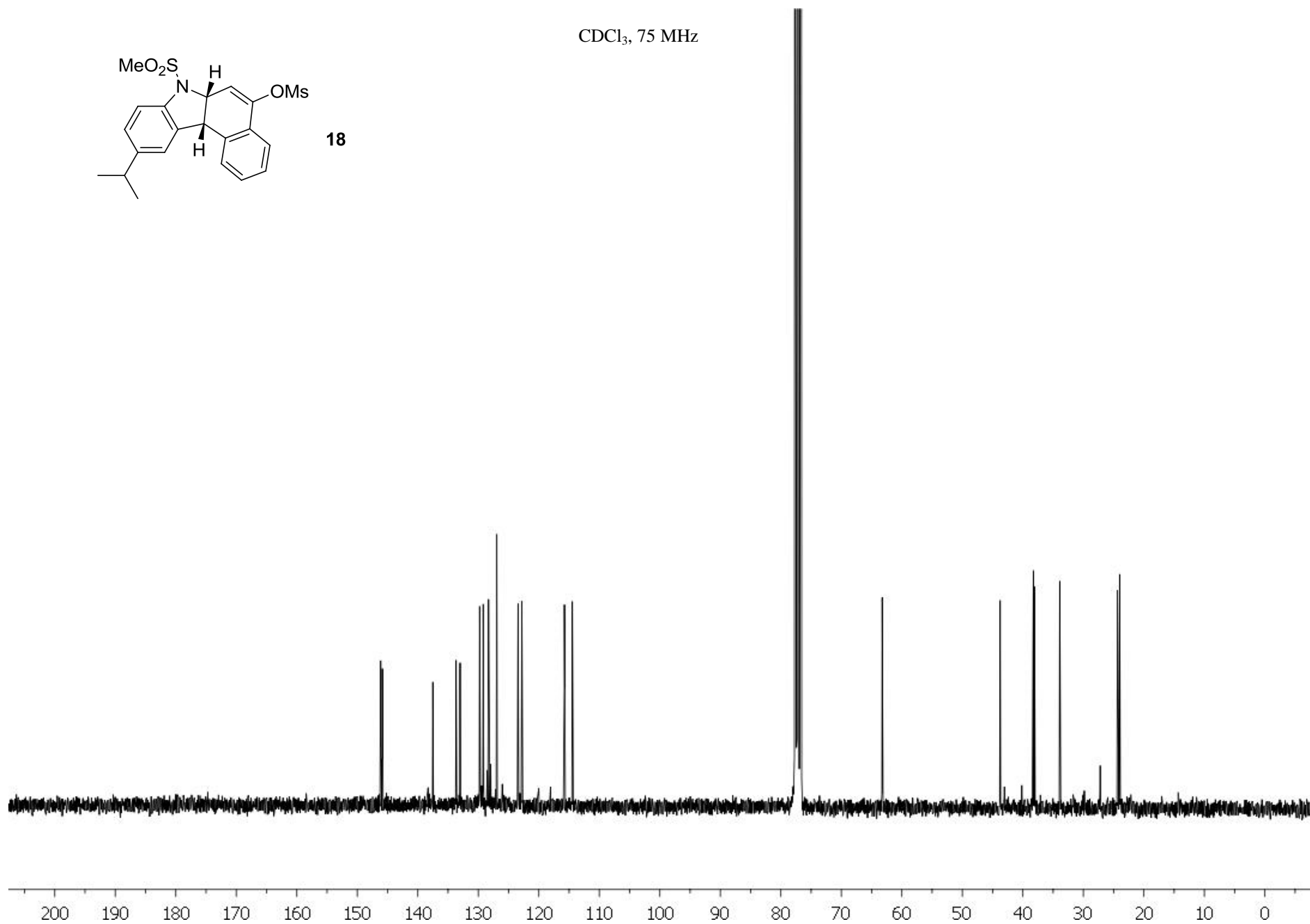


18

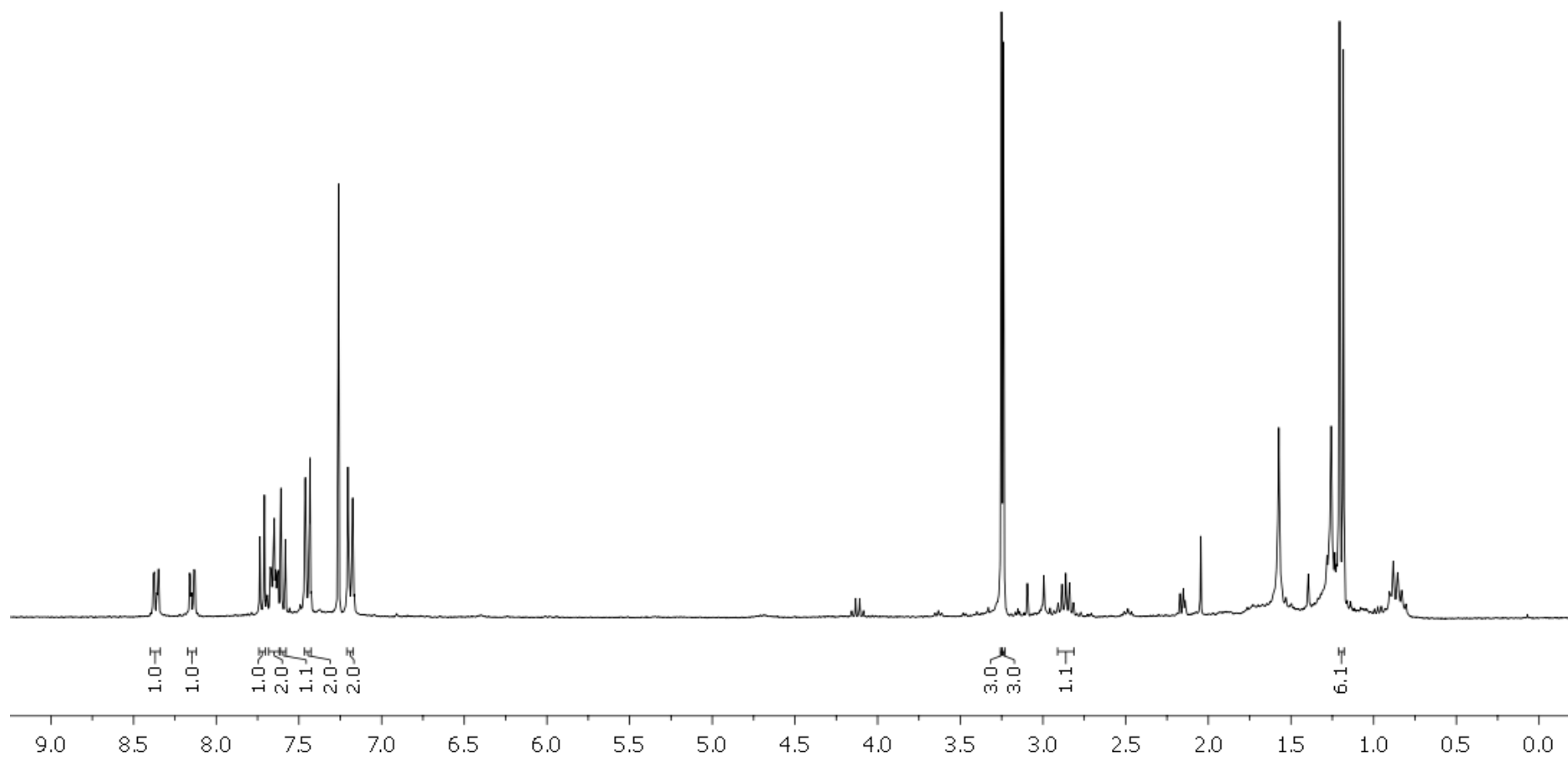
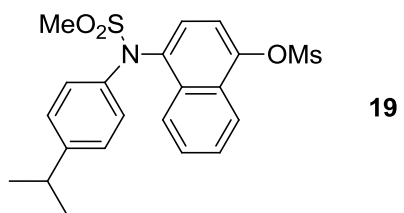




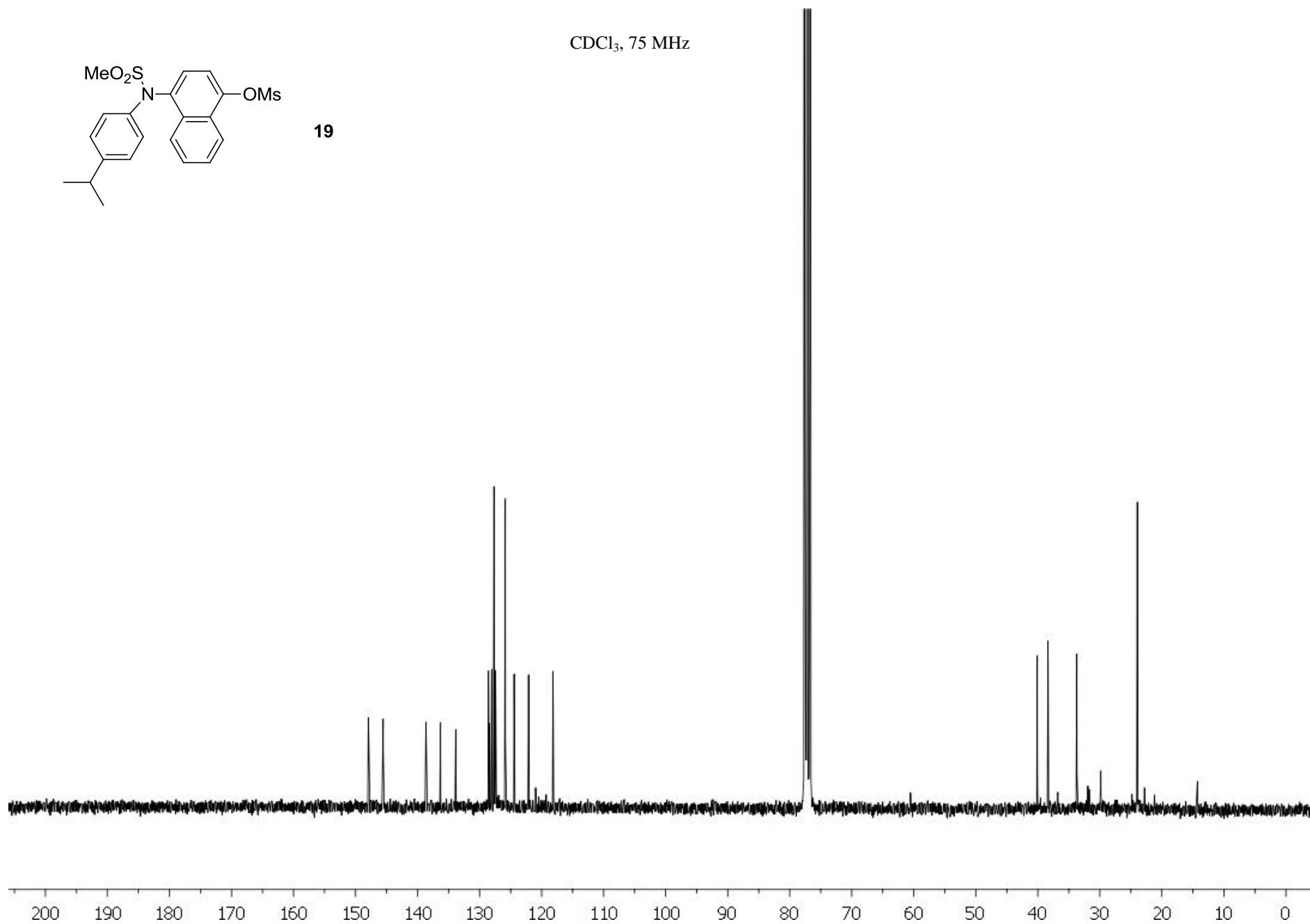
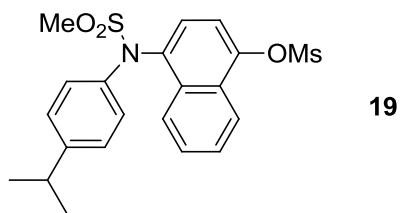
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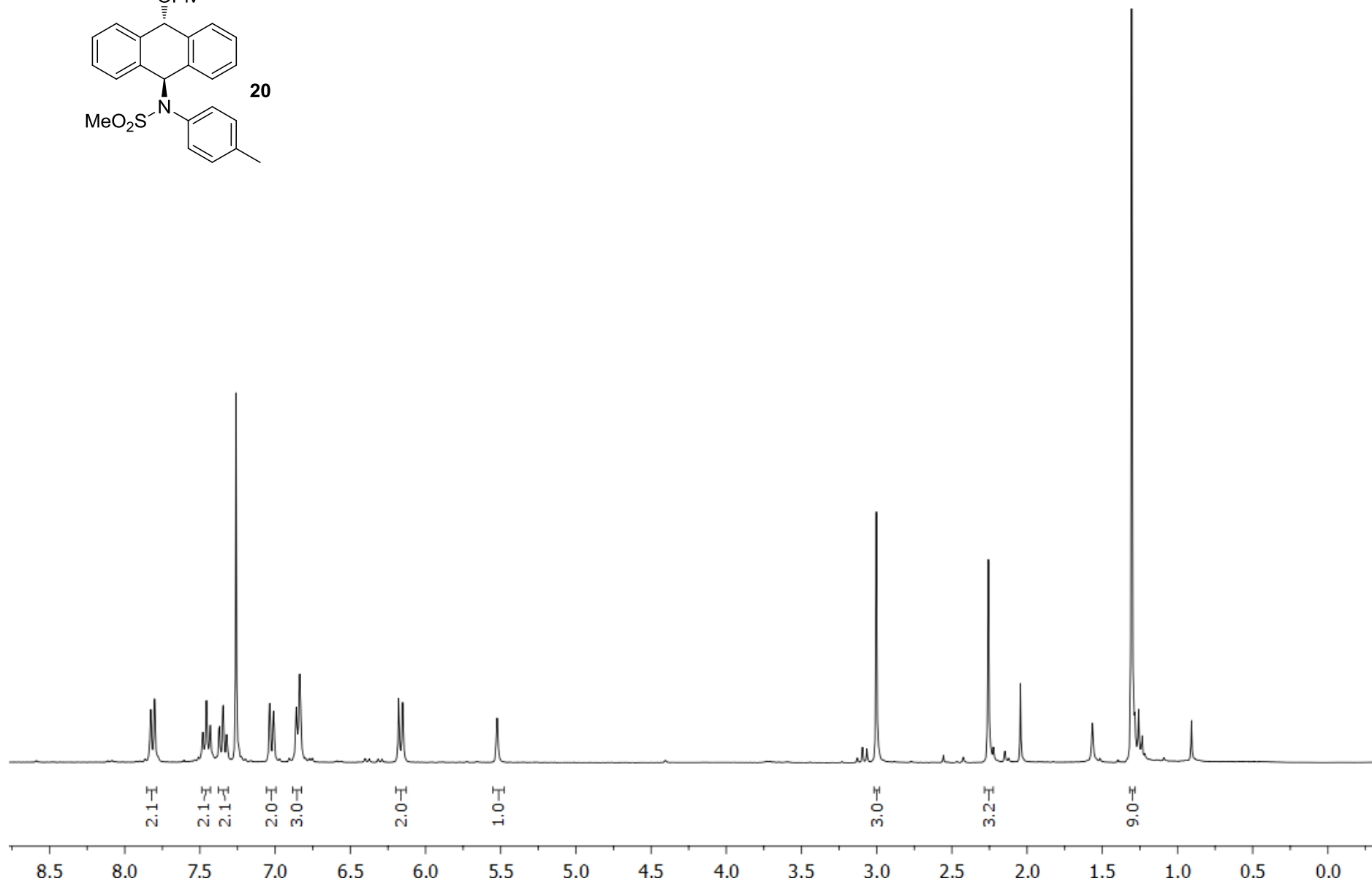
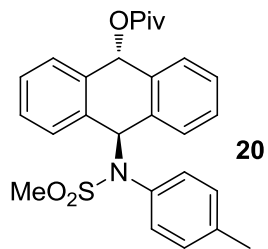
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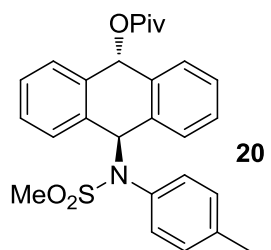


CDCl₃, 75 MHz

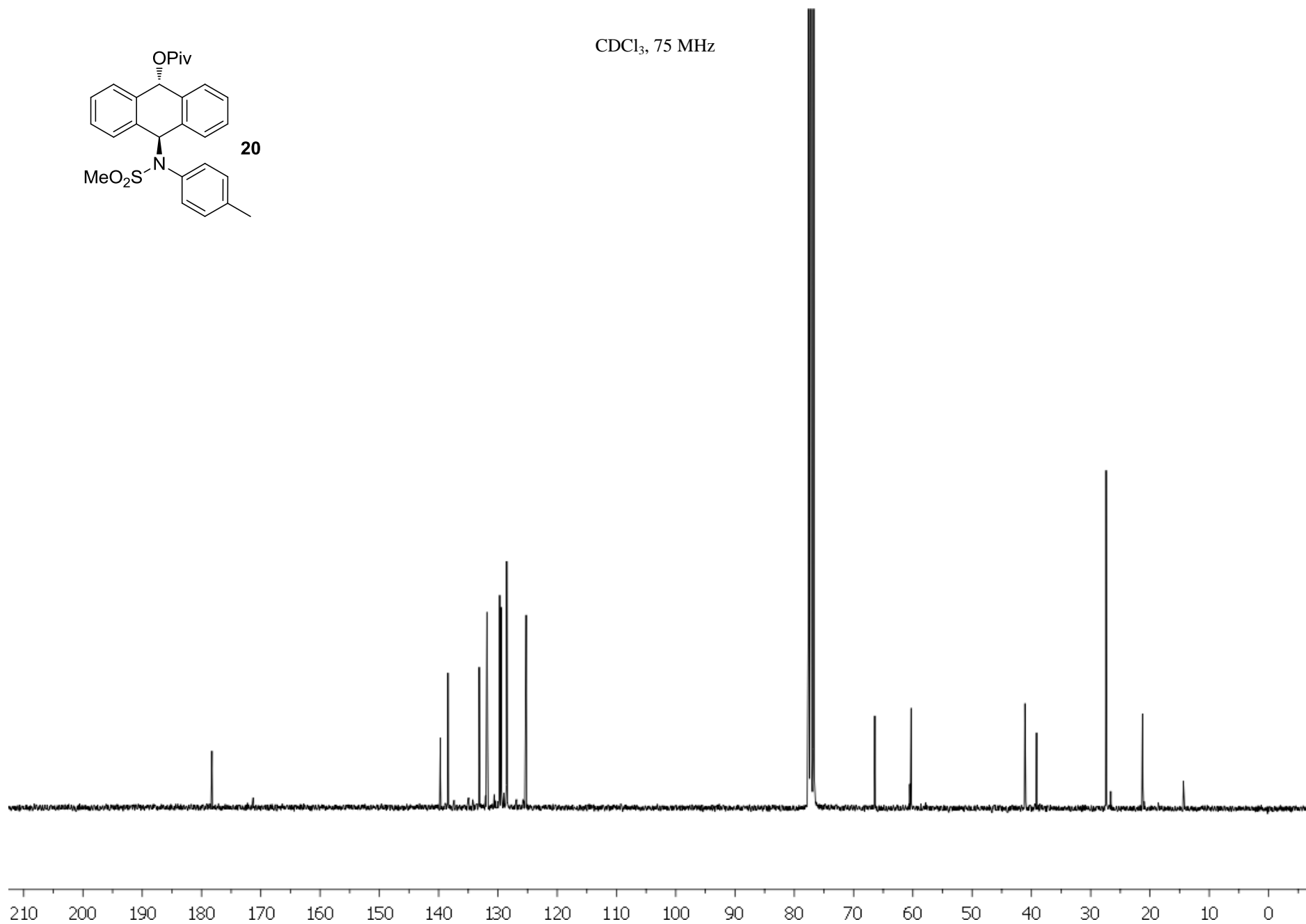


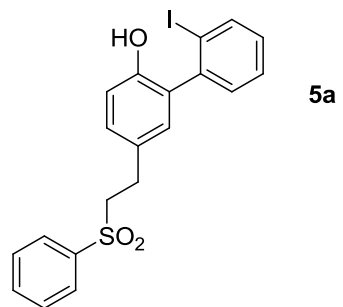
CDCl₃, 300 MHz



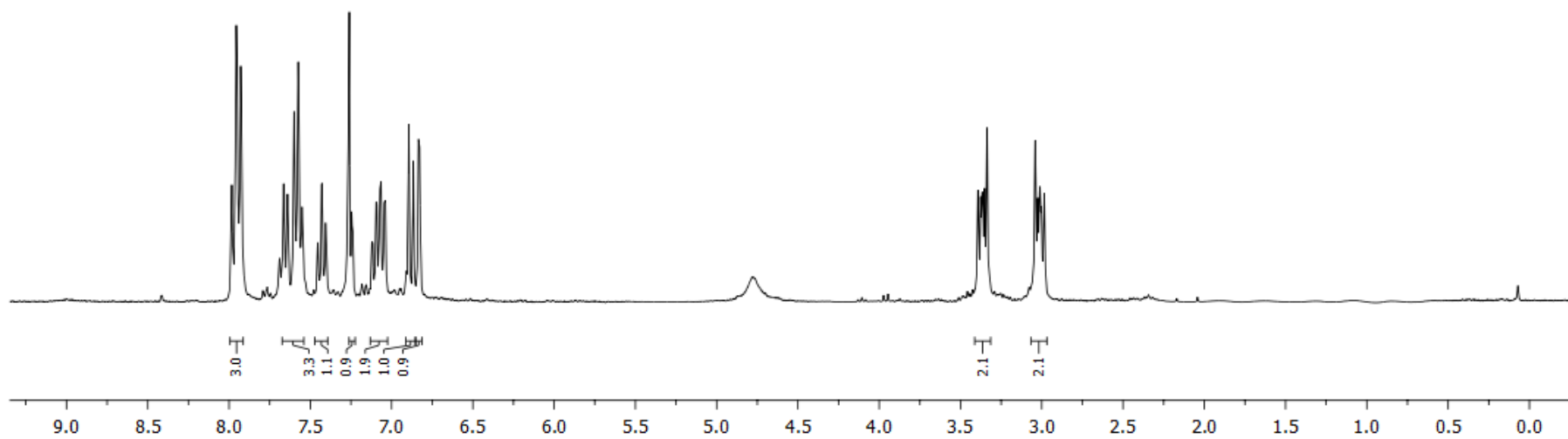


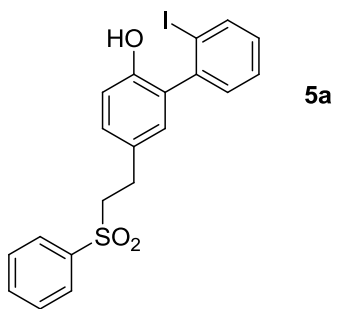
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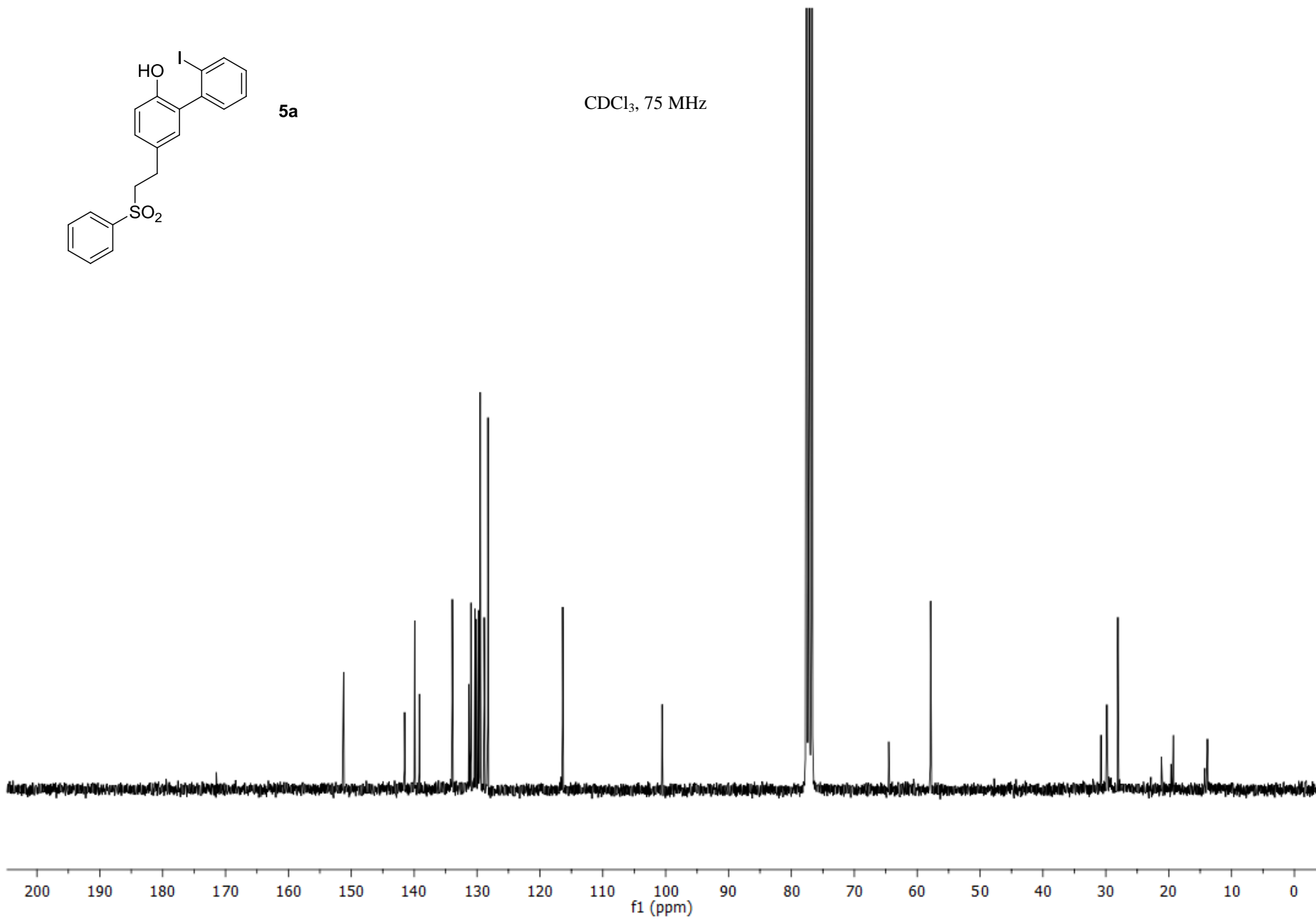


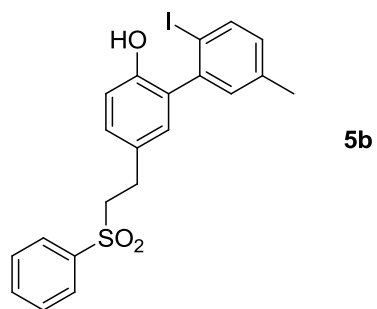
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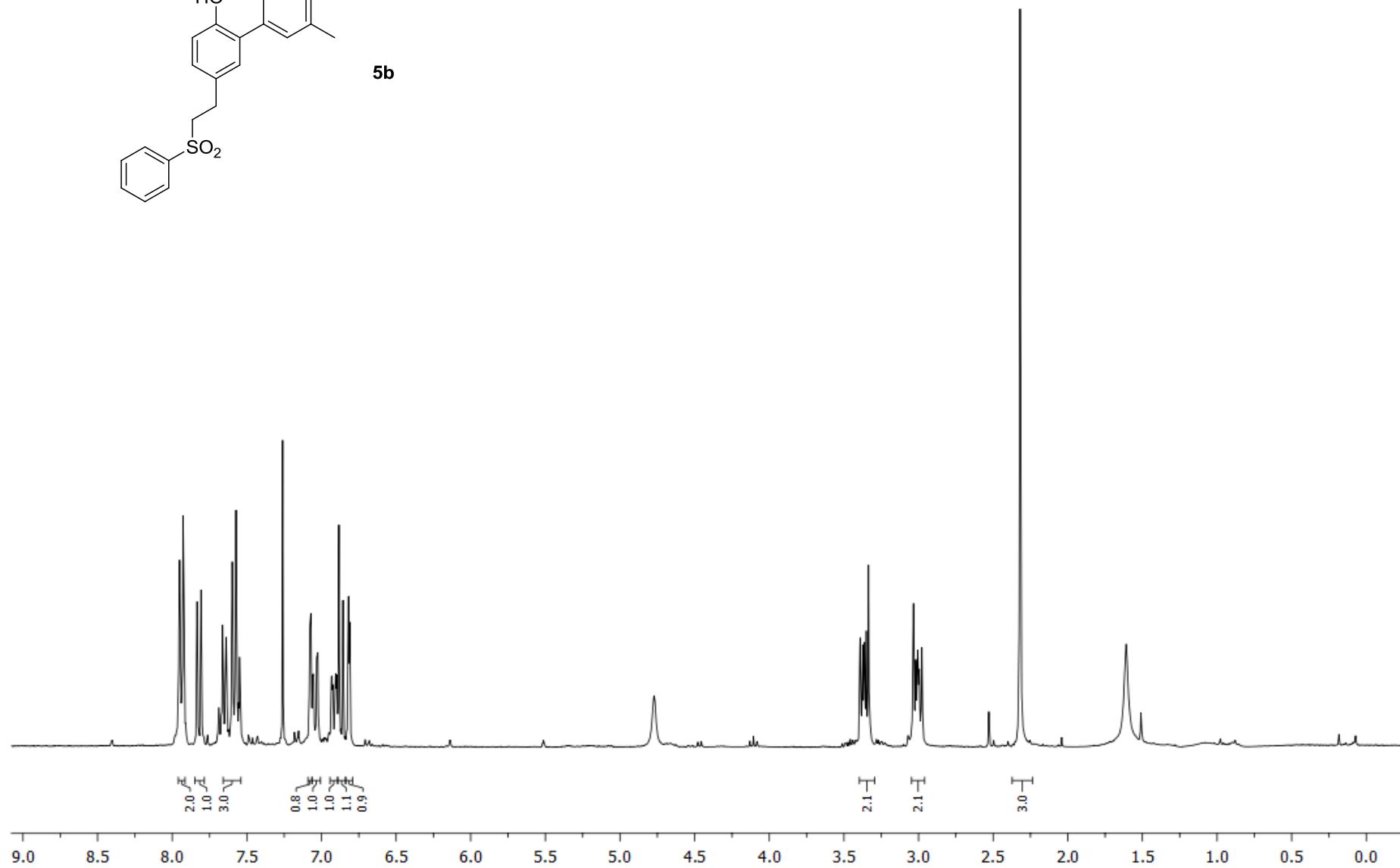


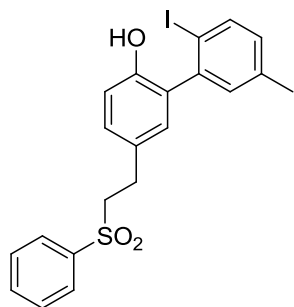
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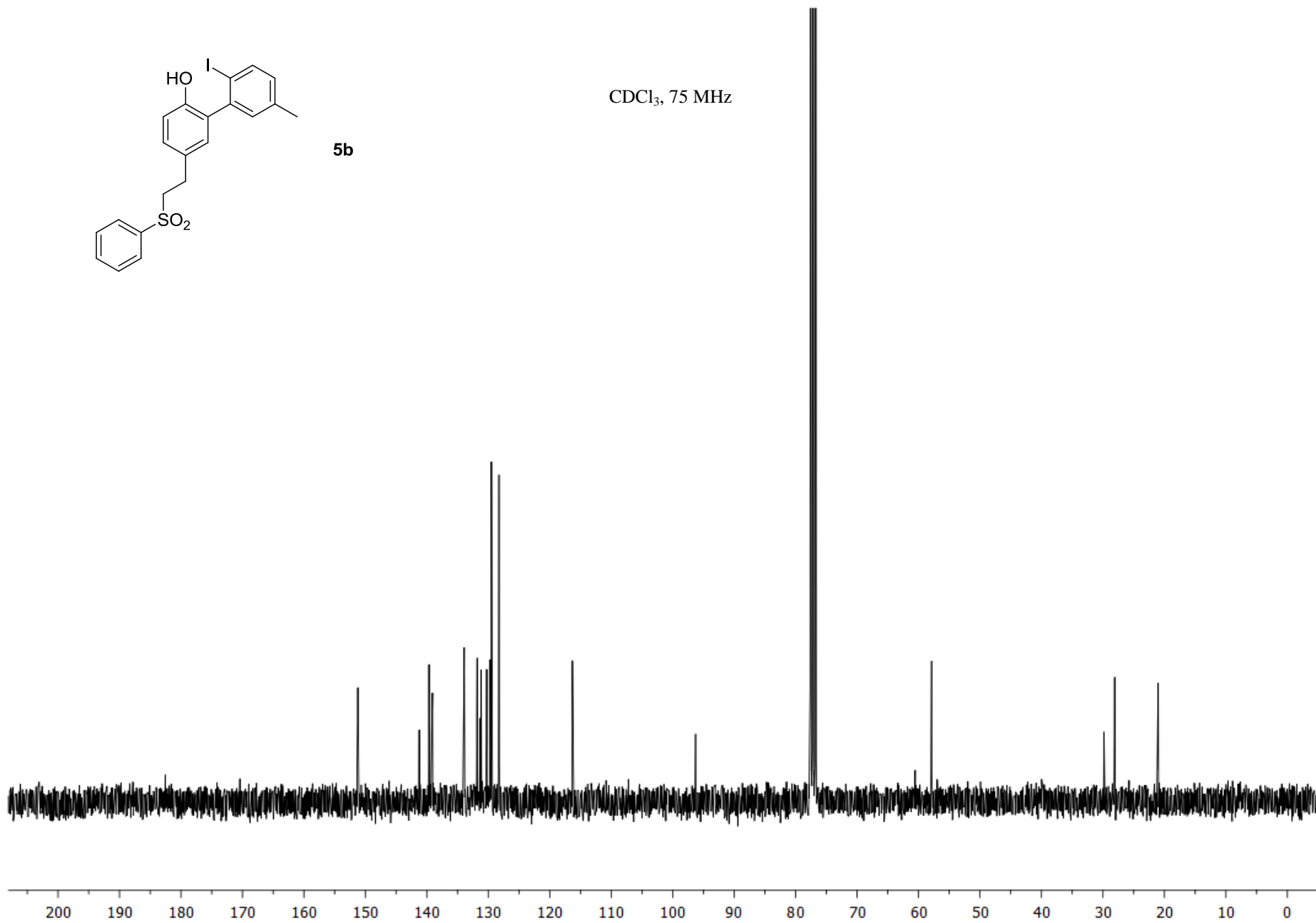
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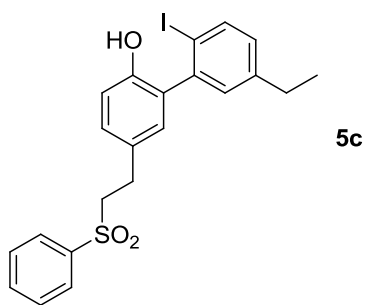


5b

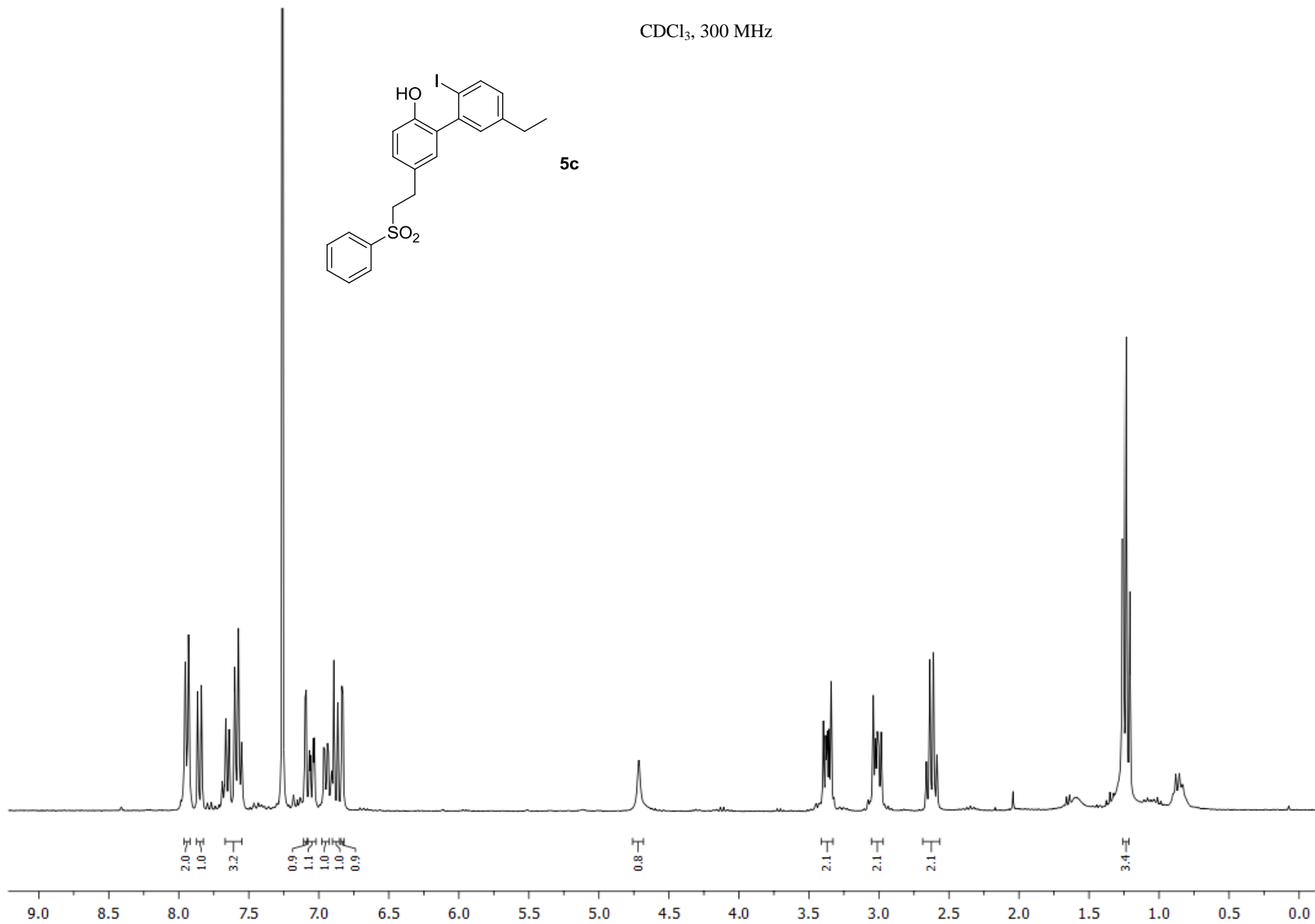
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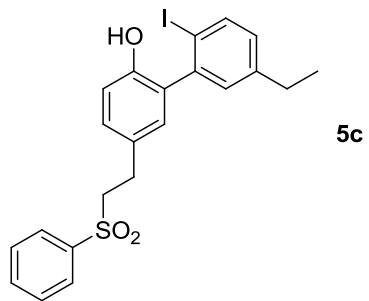


CDCl₃, 300 MHz

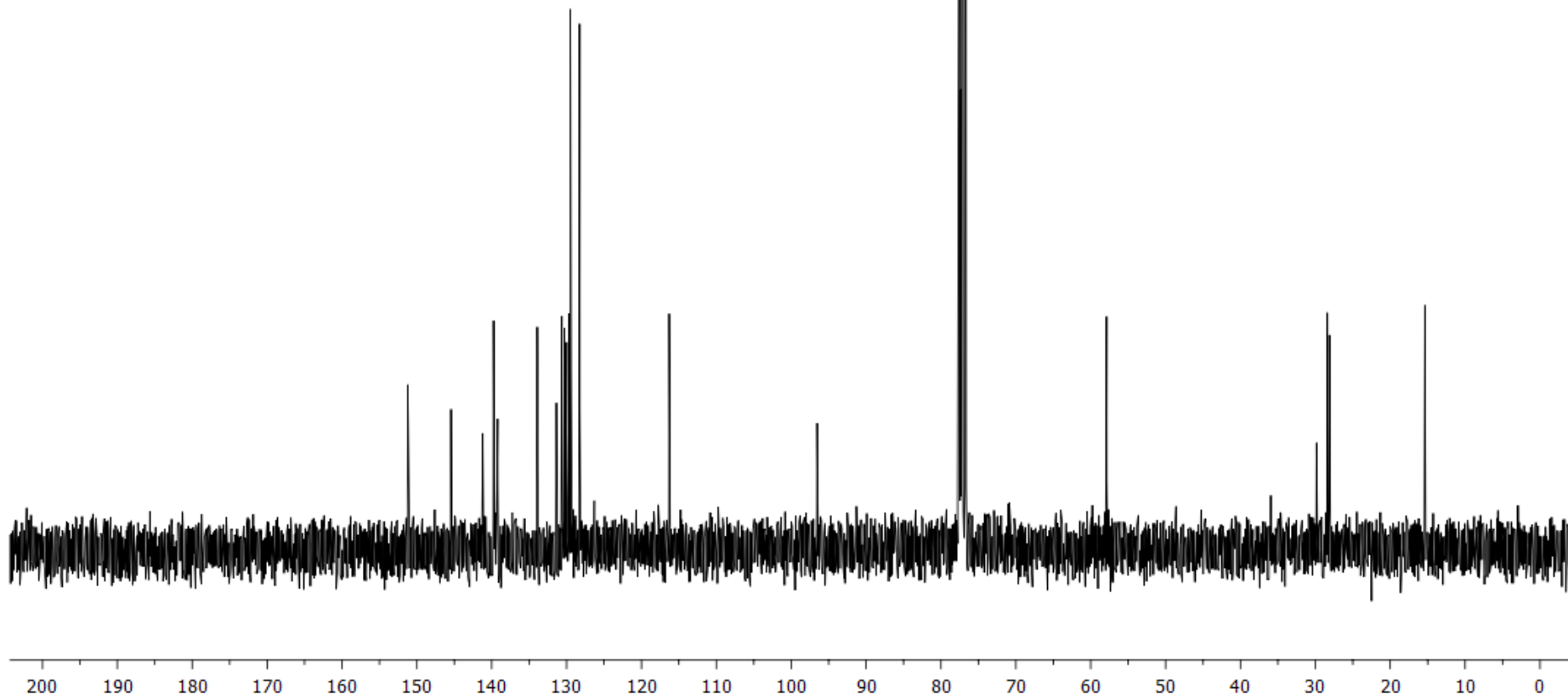


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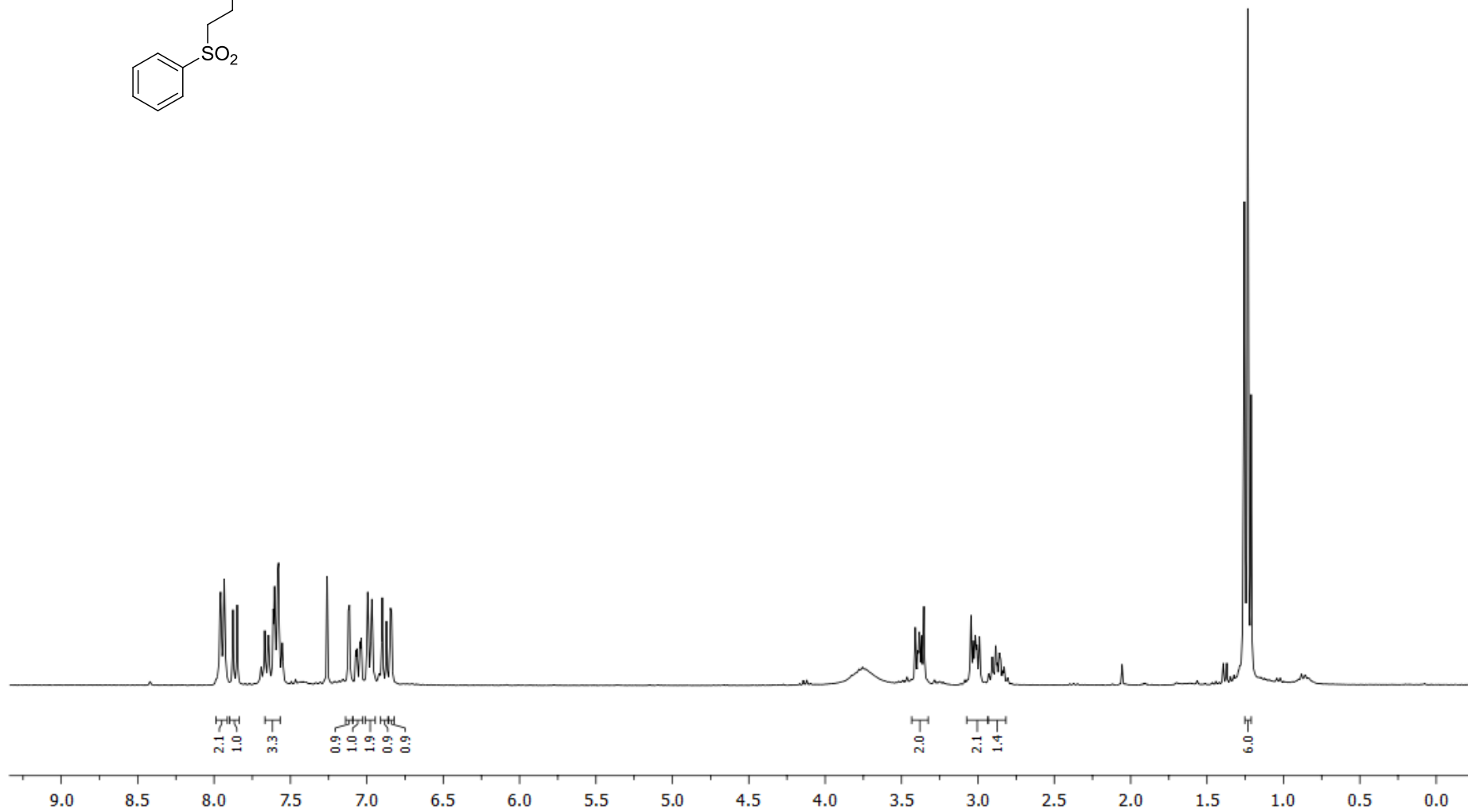
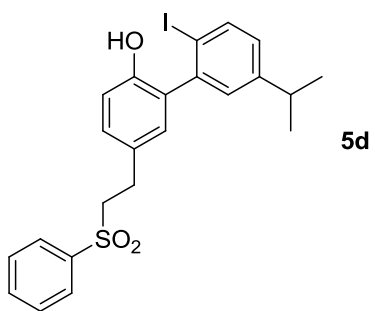


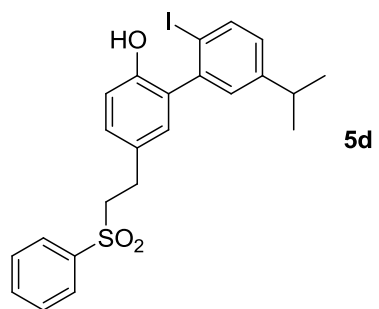


CDCl₃, 75 MHz

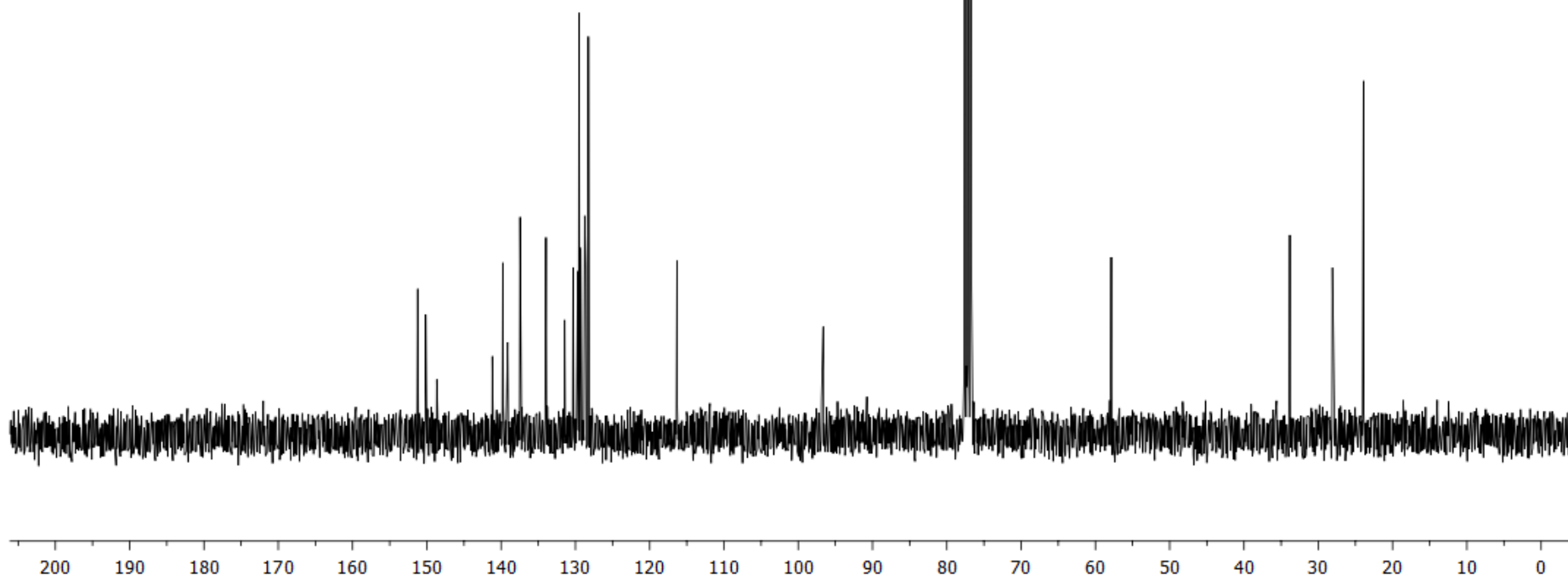


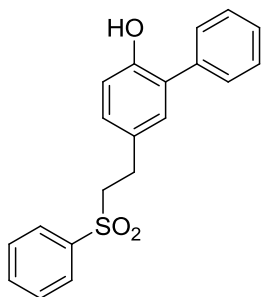
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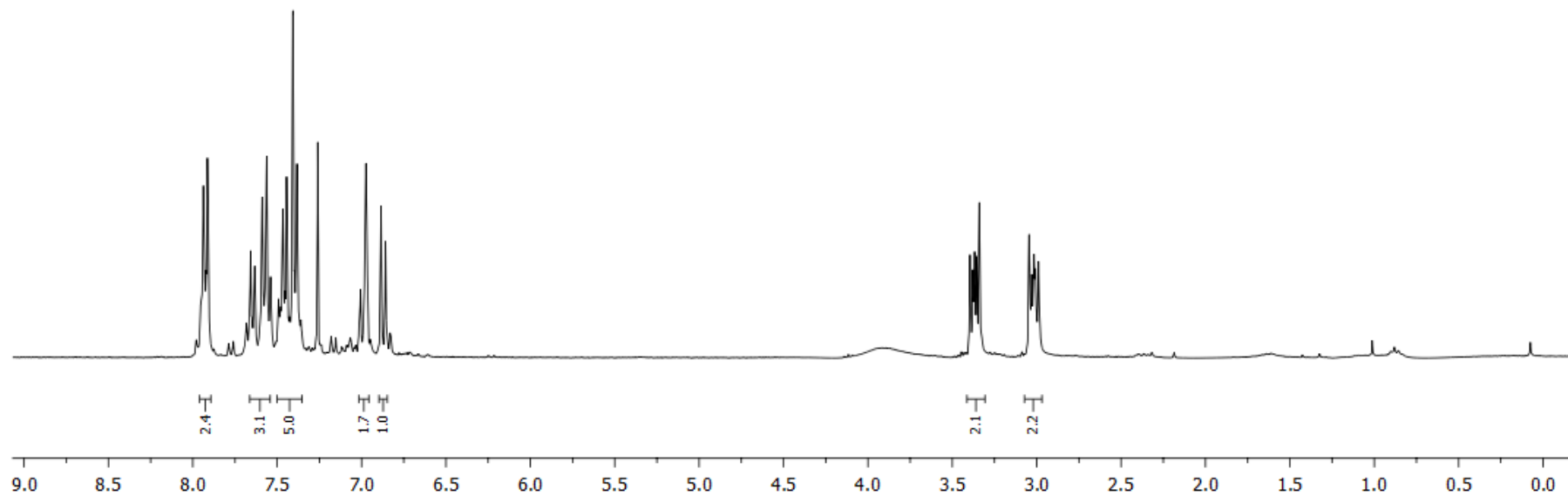
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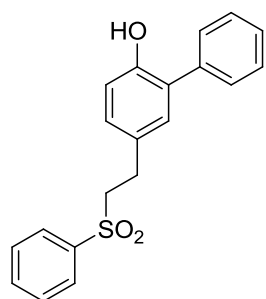




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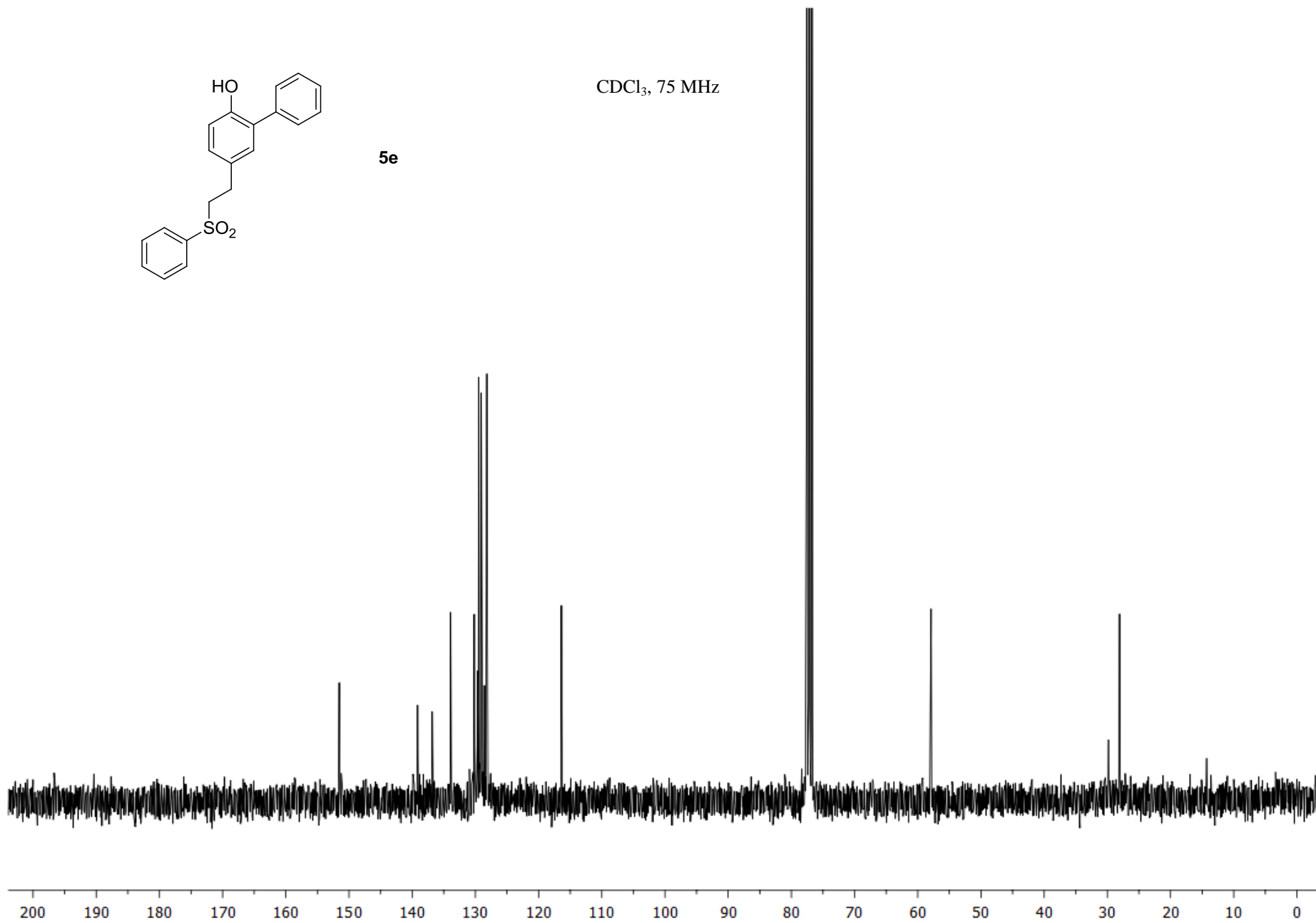
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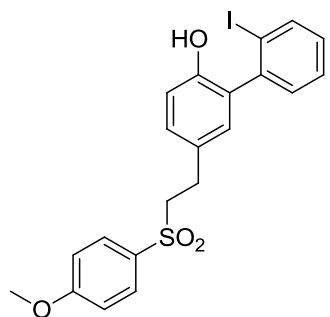


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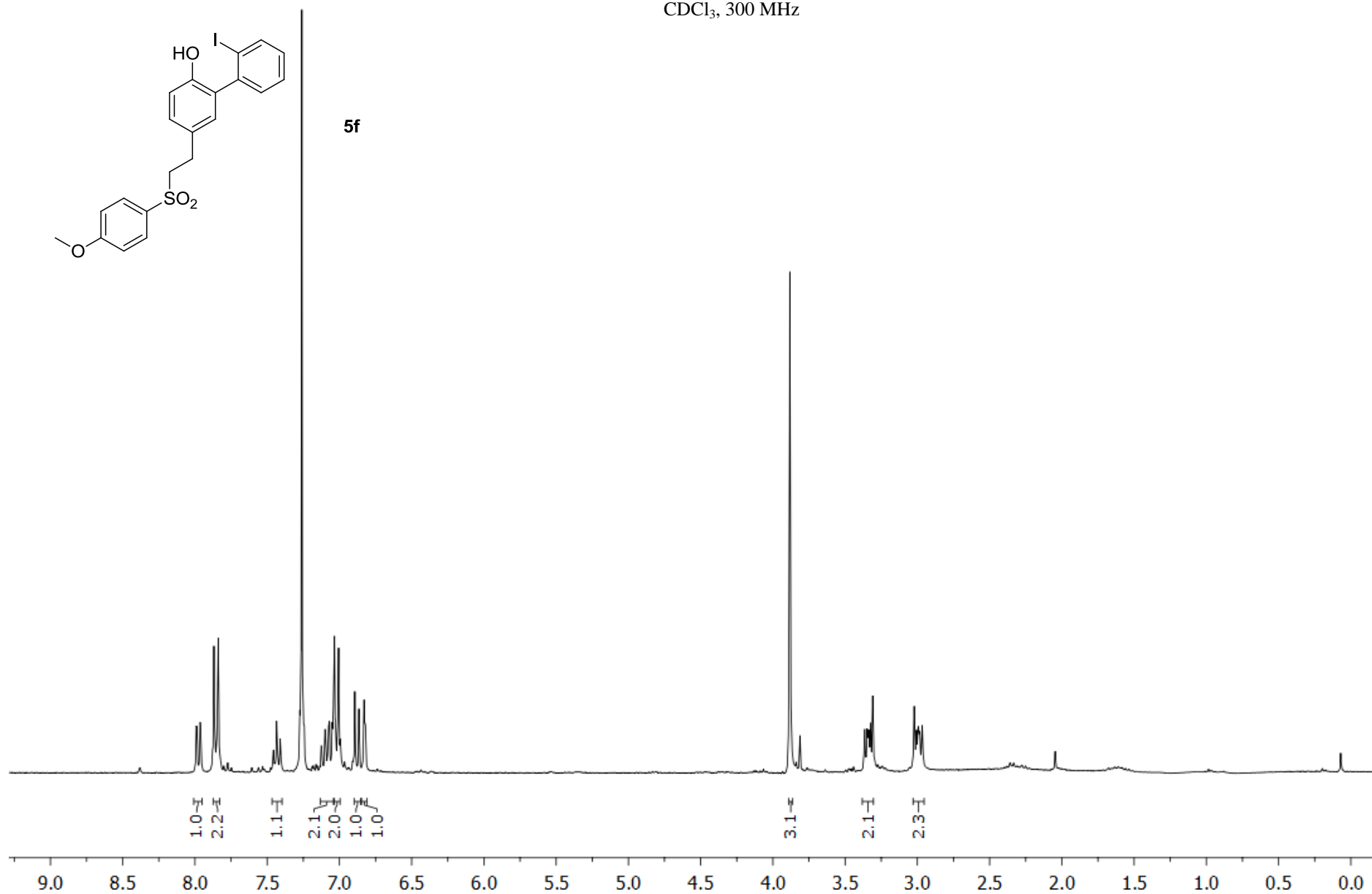
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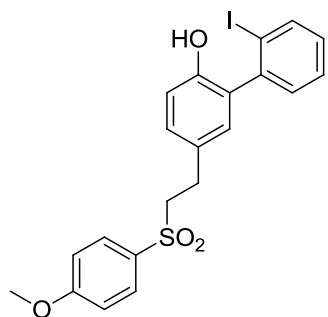
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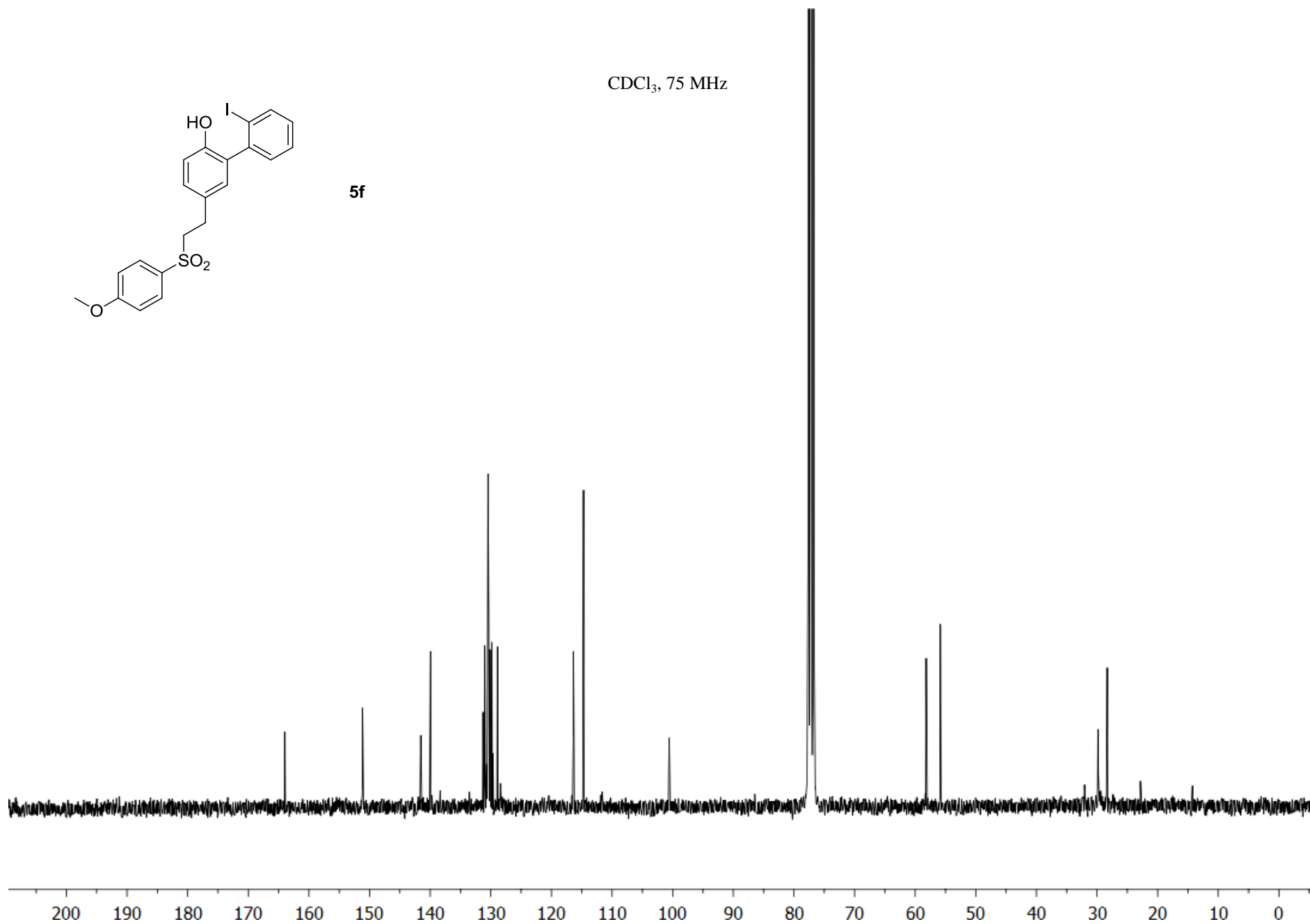
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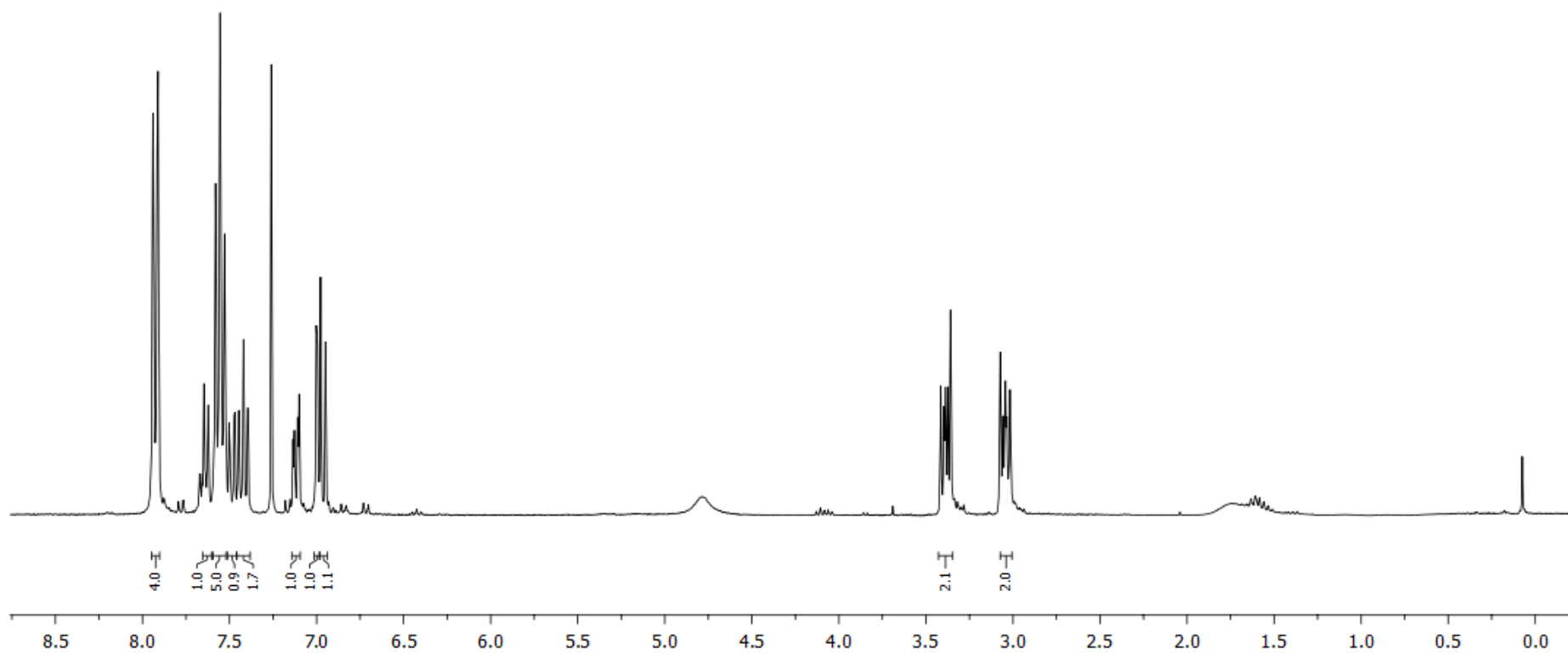
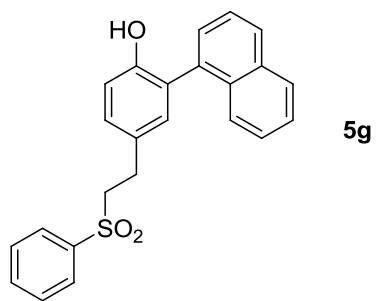
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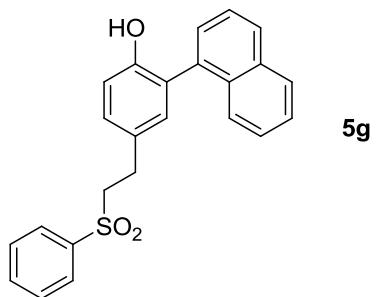


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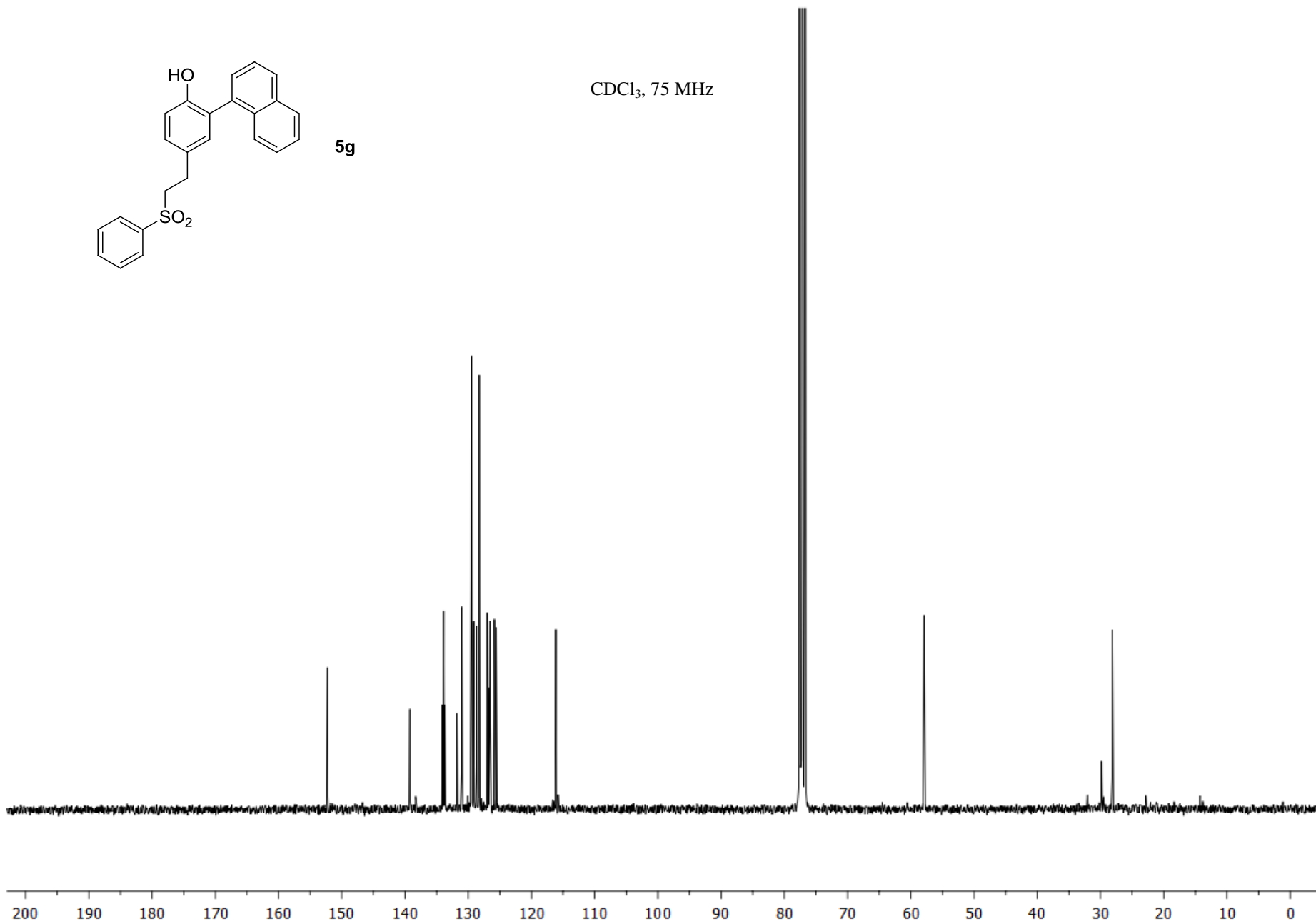


CDCl₃, 300 MHz

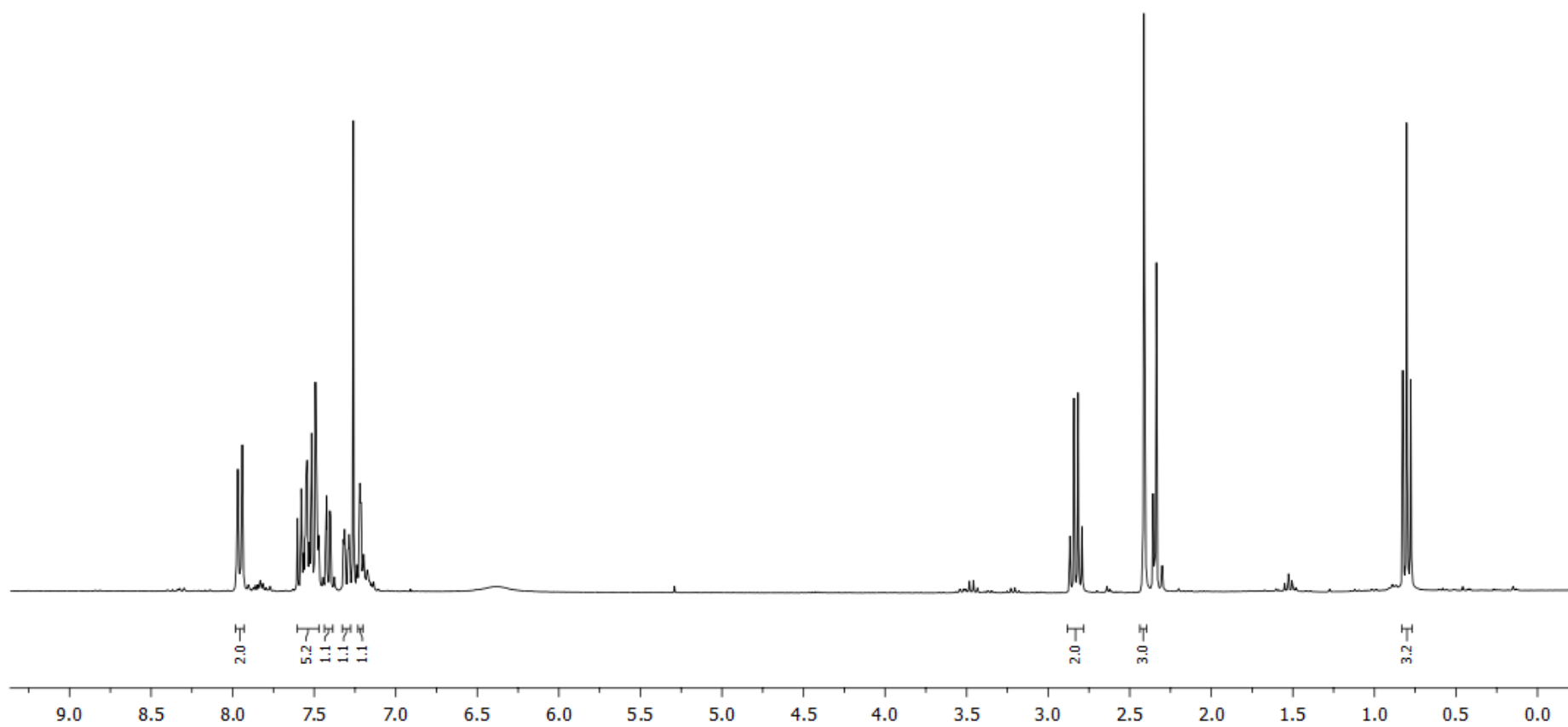
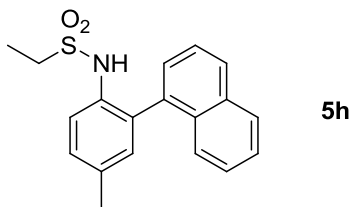


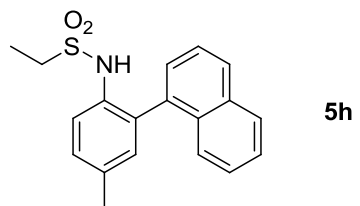


CDCl₃, 75 MHz

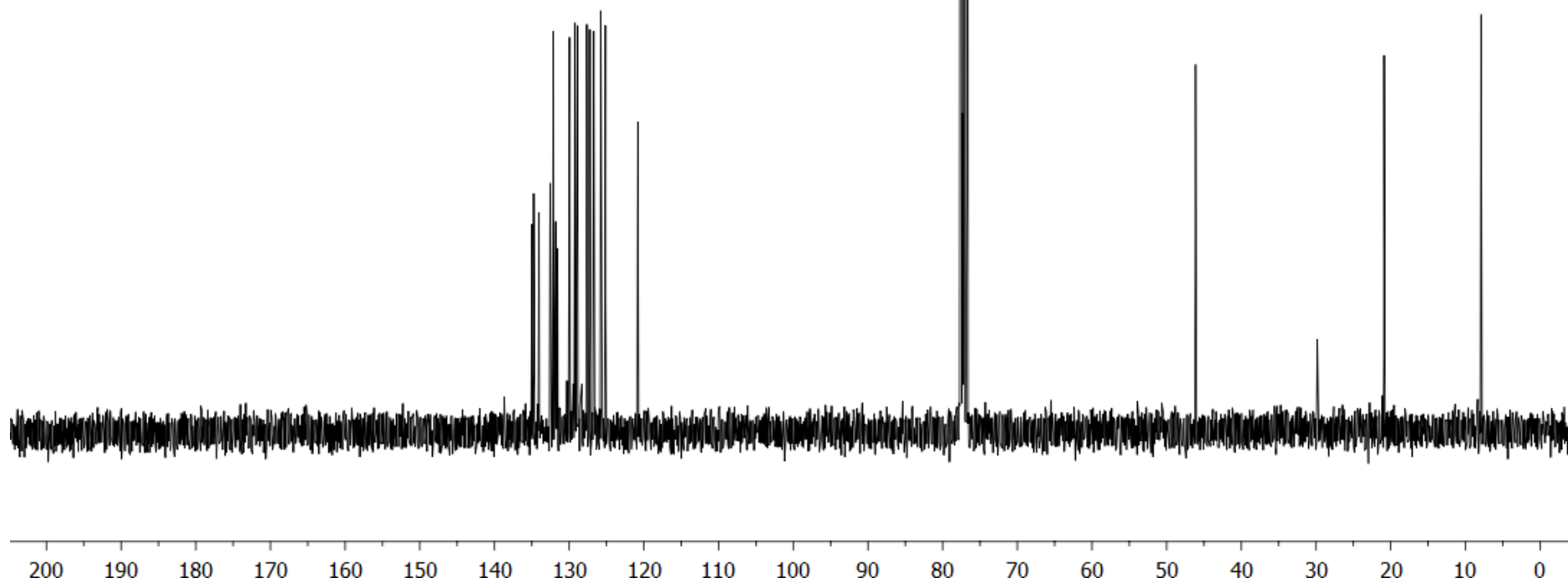


CDCl₃, 300 MHz

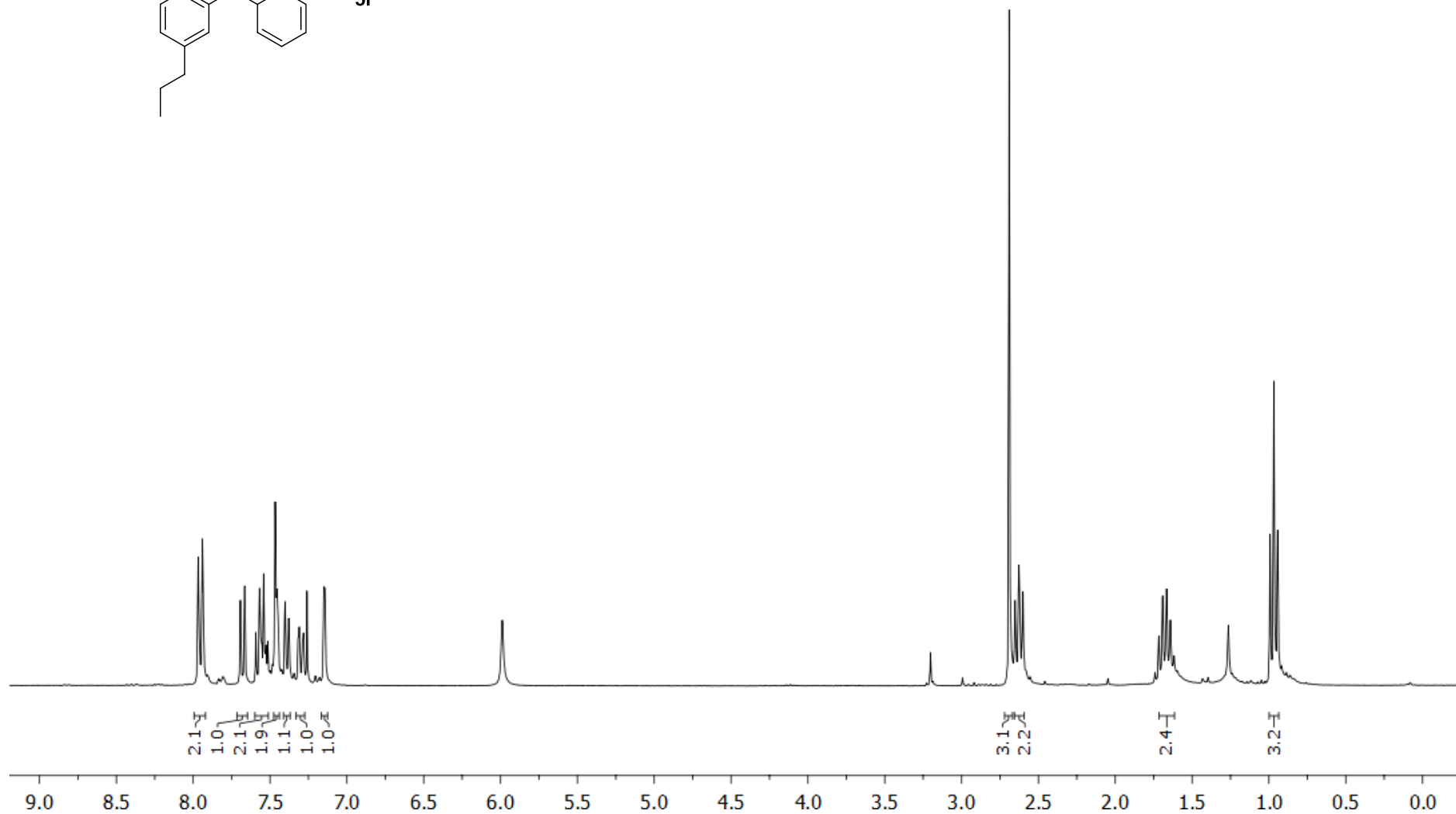
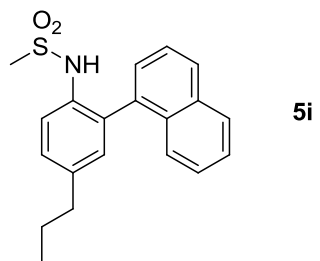


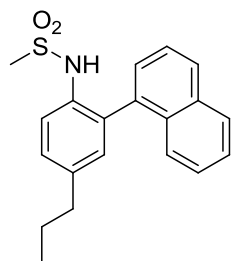


CDCl₃, 75 MHz



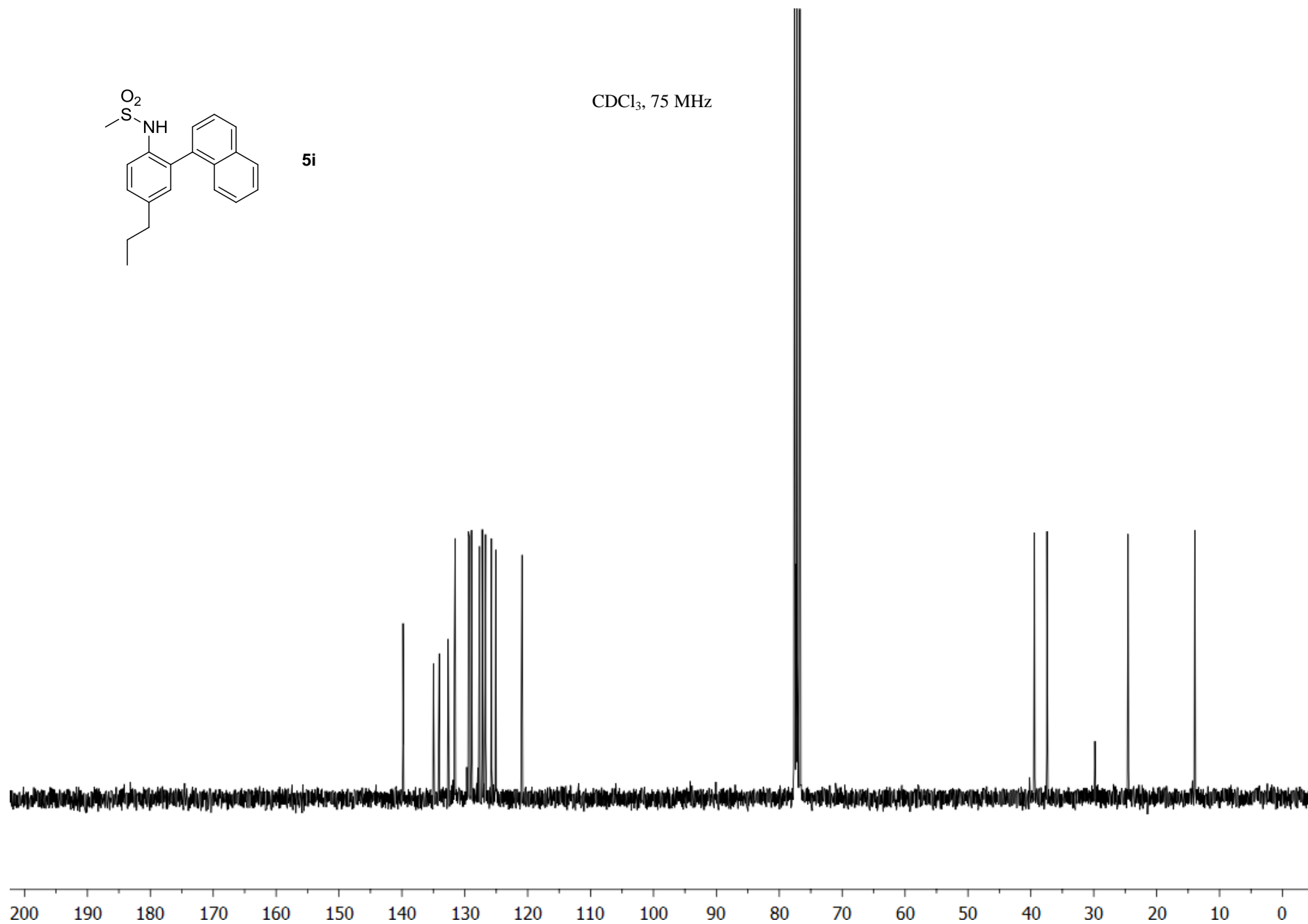
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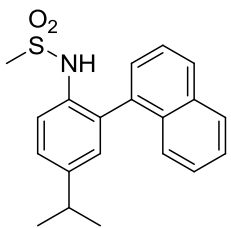




5i

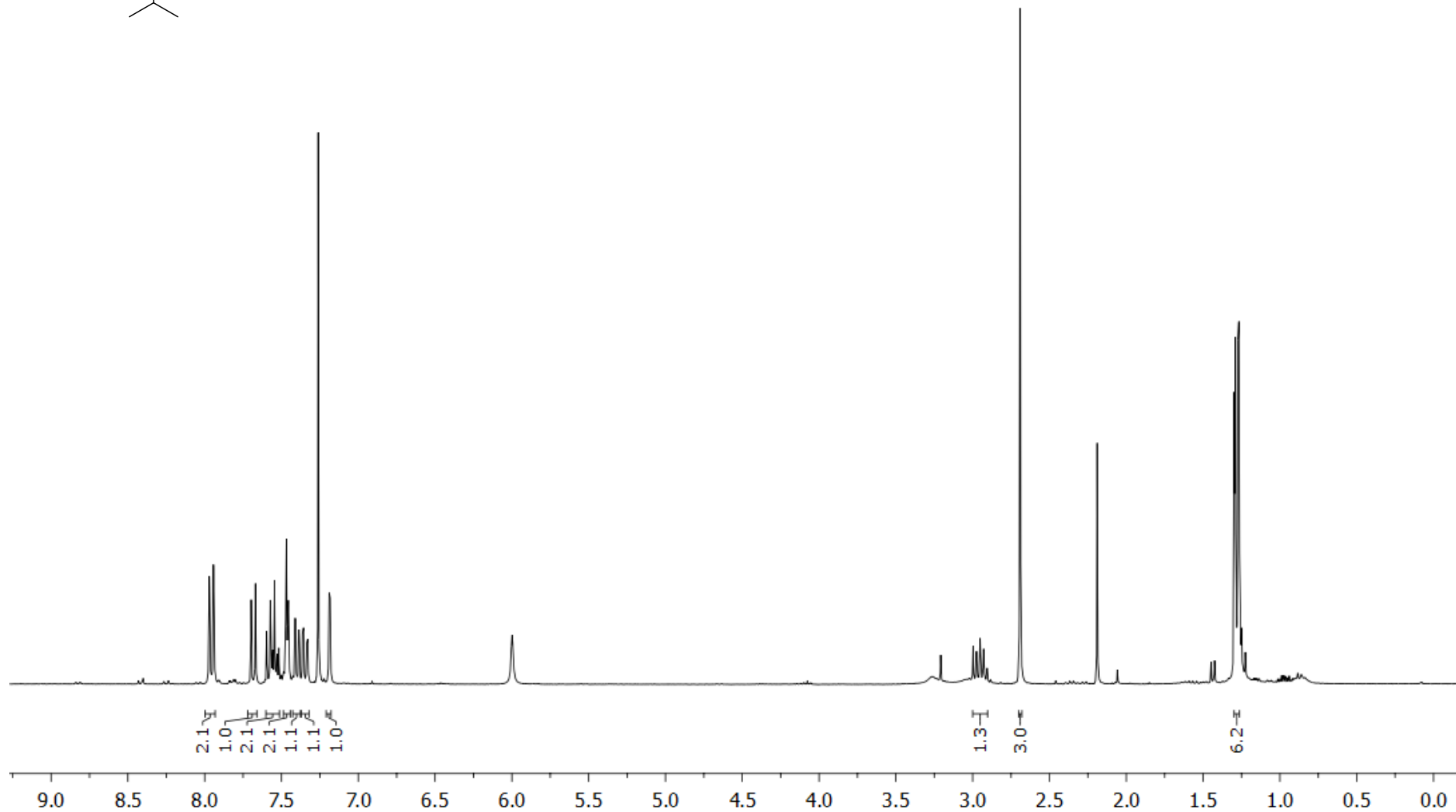
CDCl₃, 75 MHz

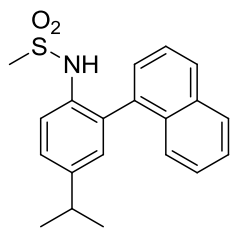




5j

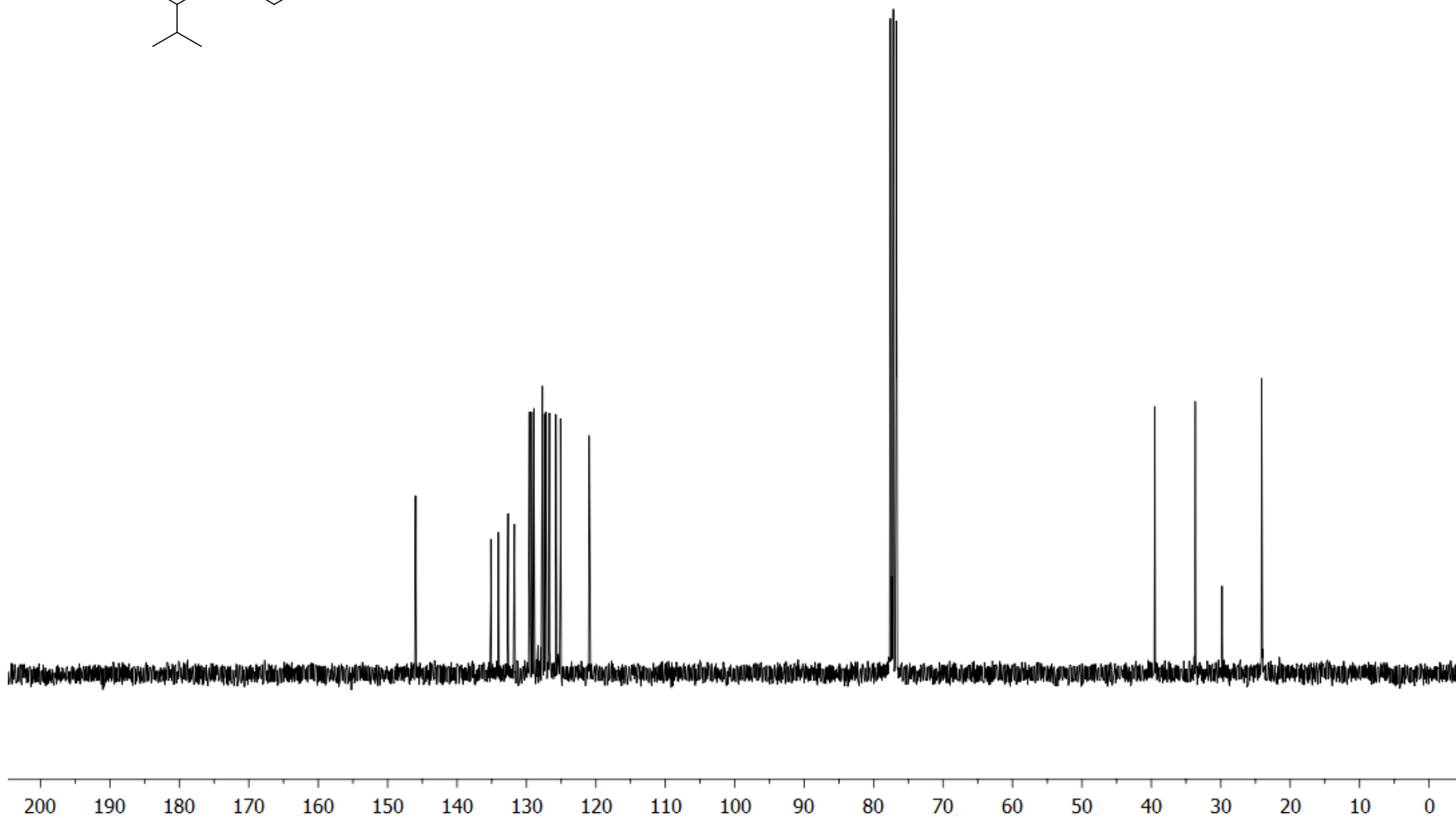
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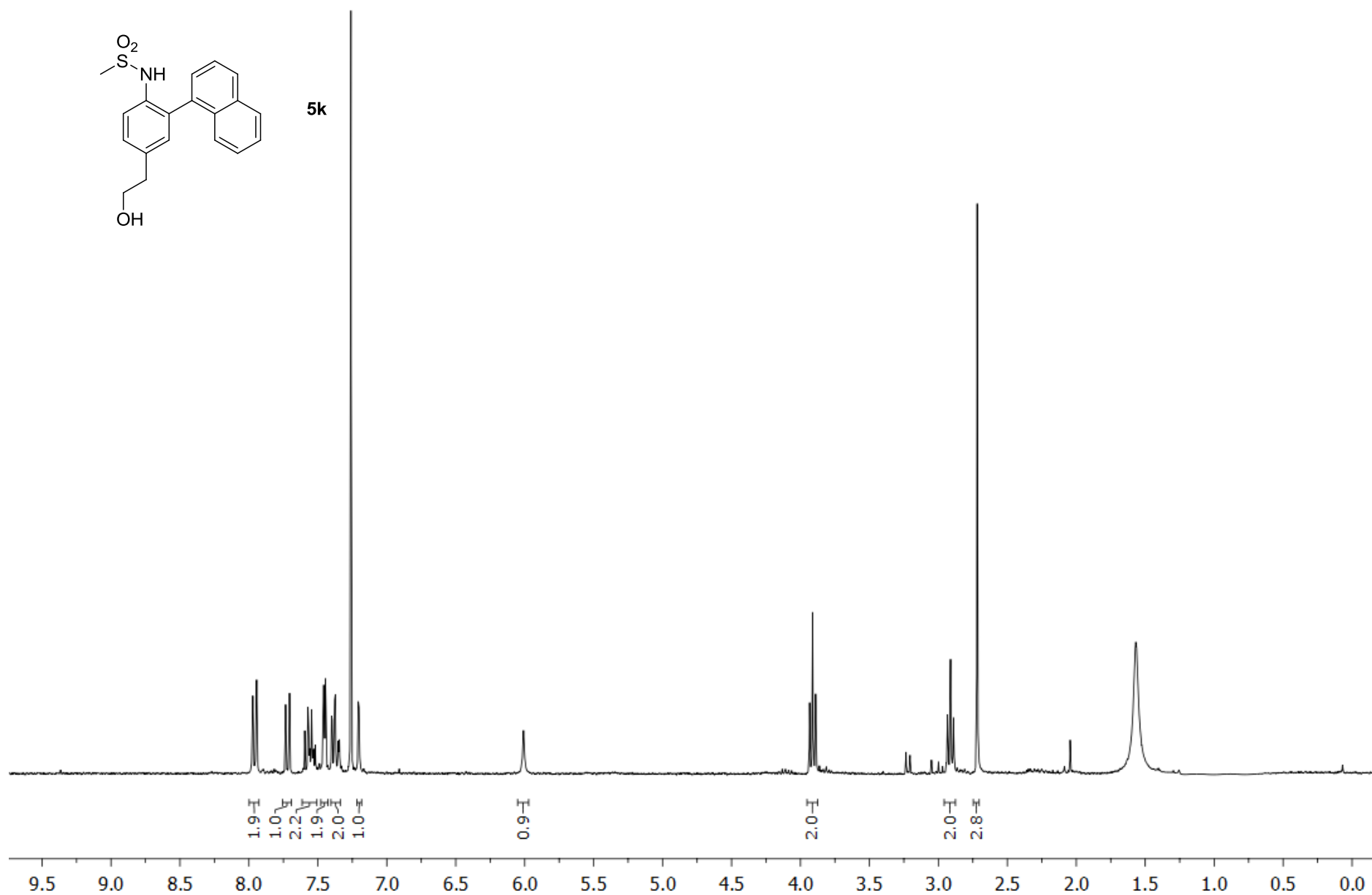


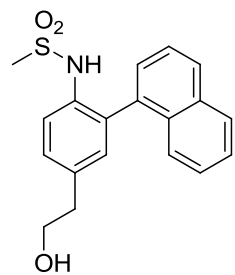
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CDCl₃, 75 MHz



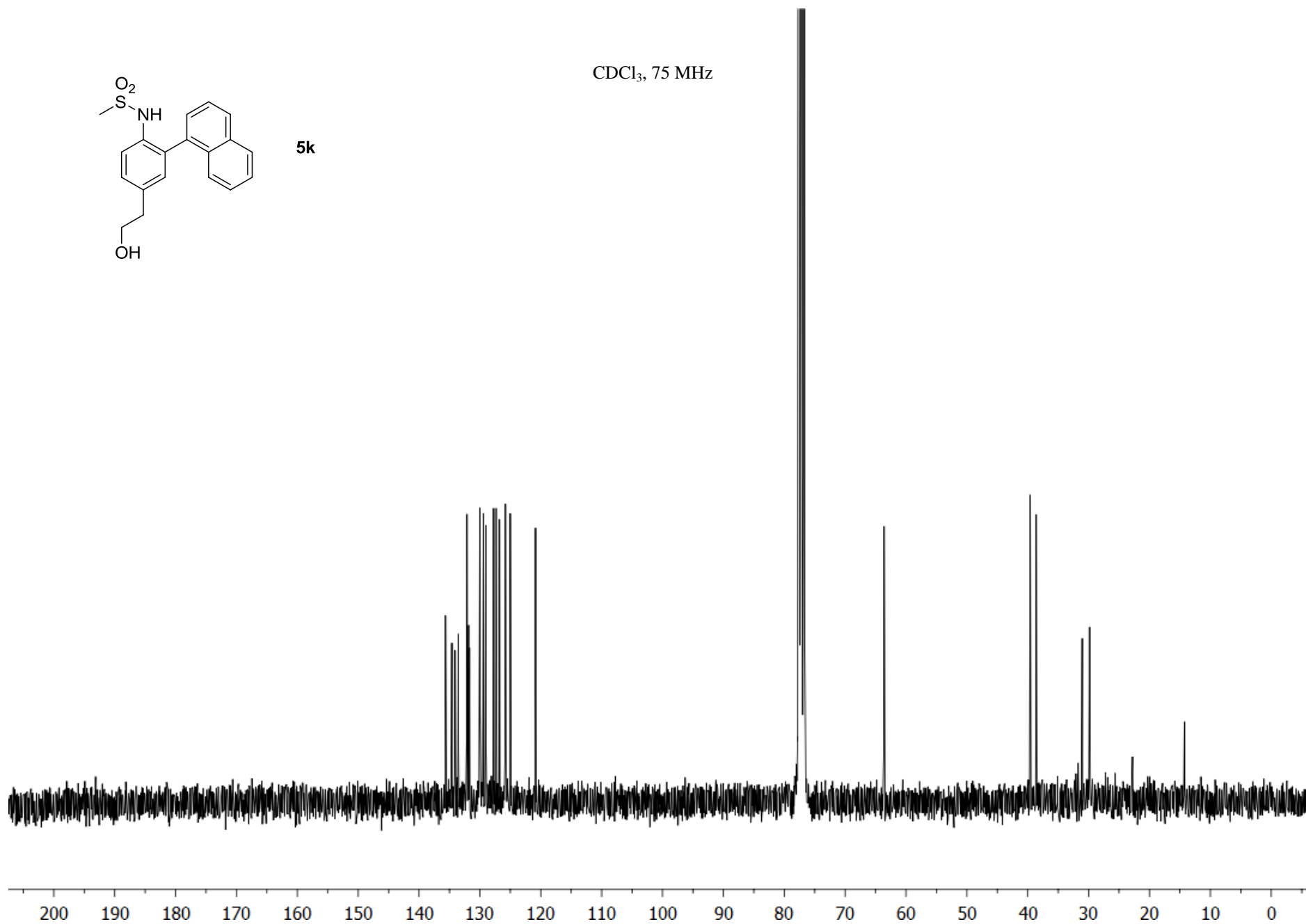
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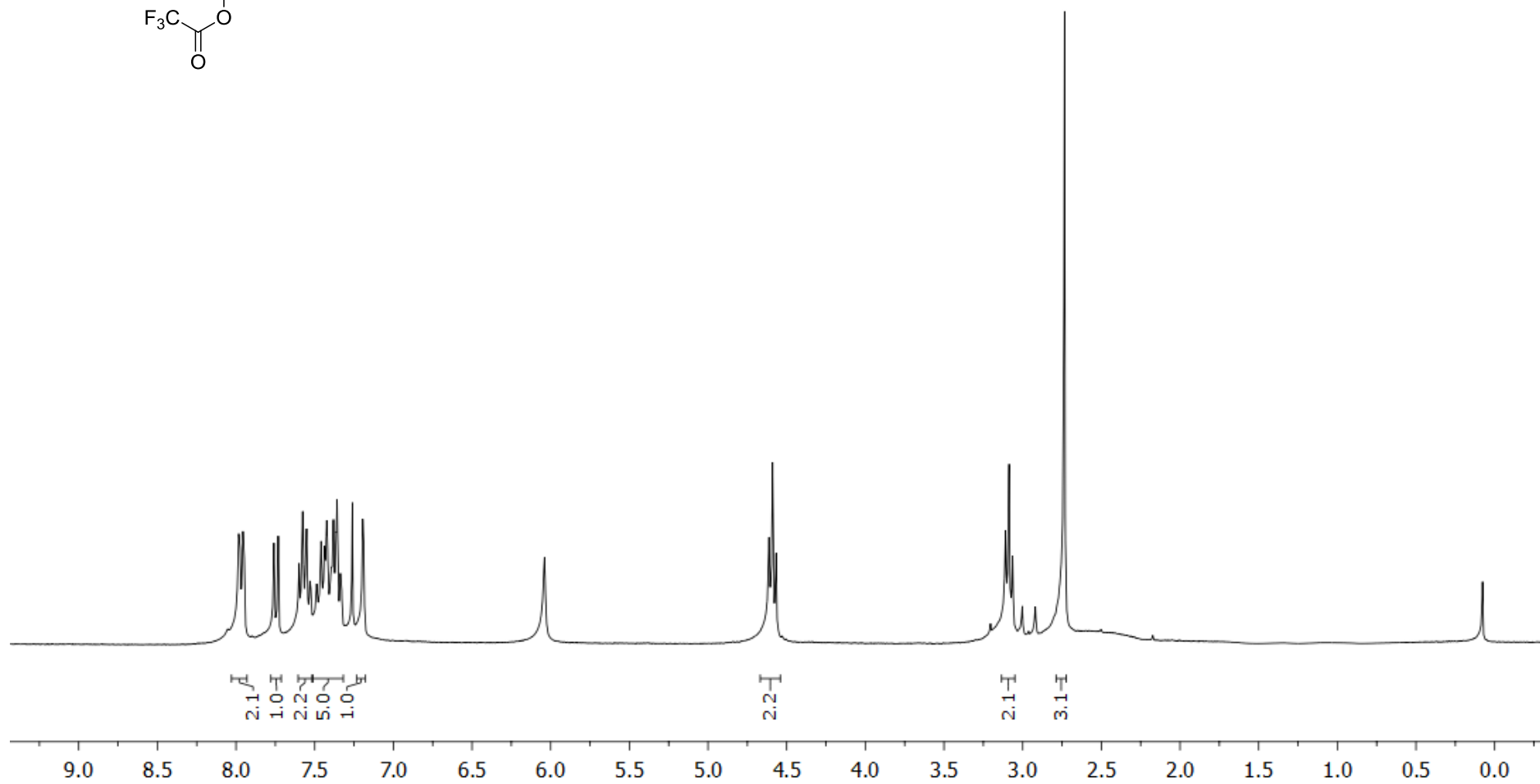
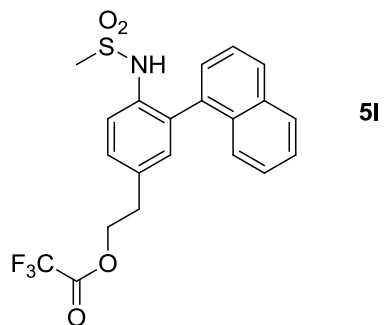


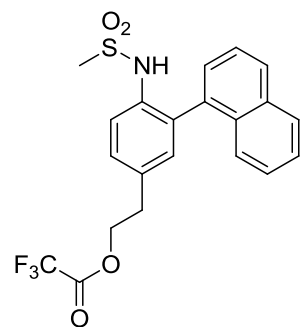
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CDCl₃, 75 MHz



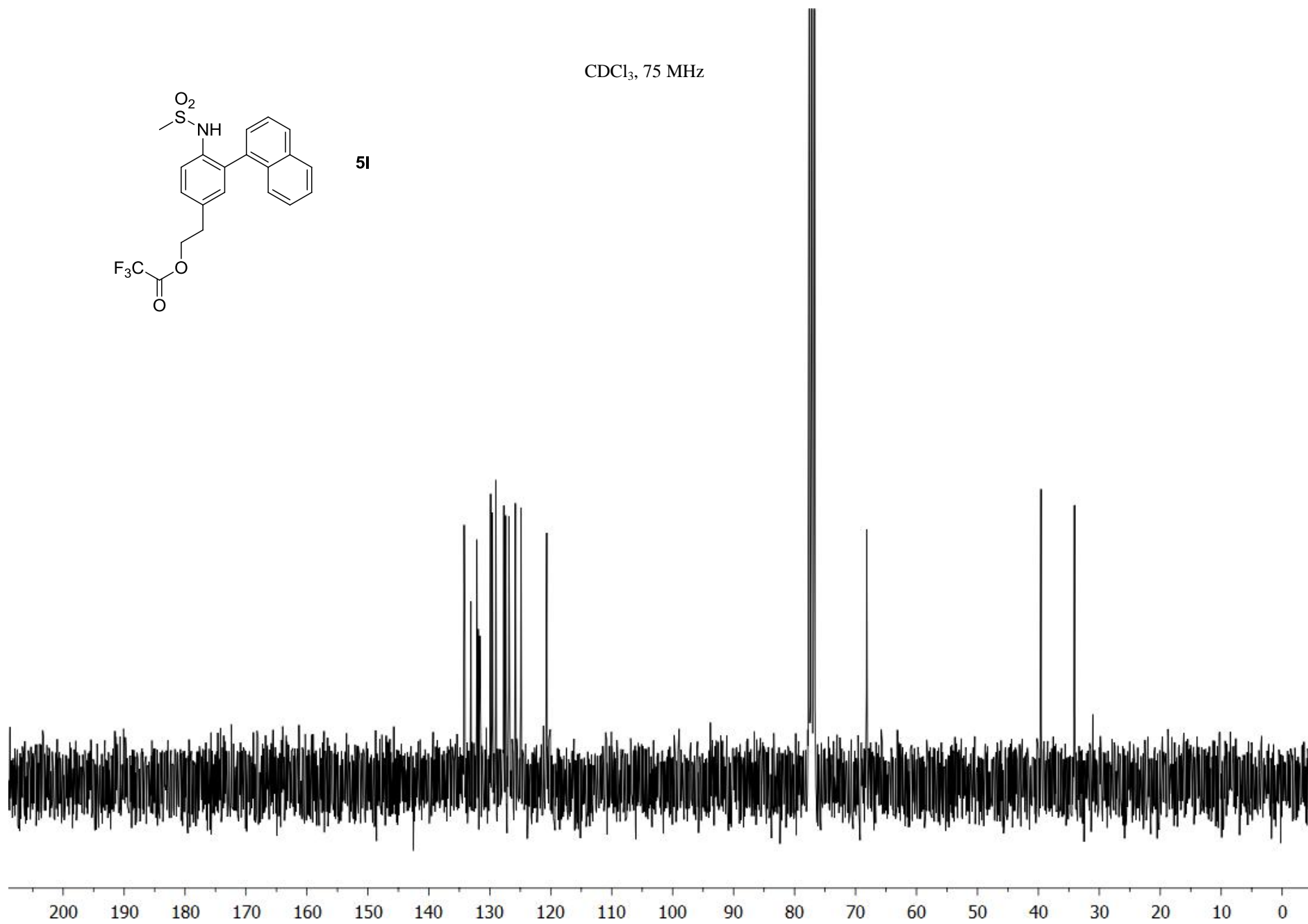
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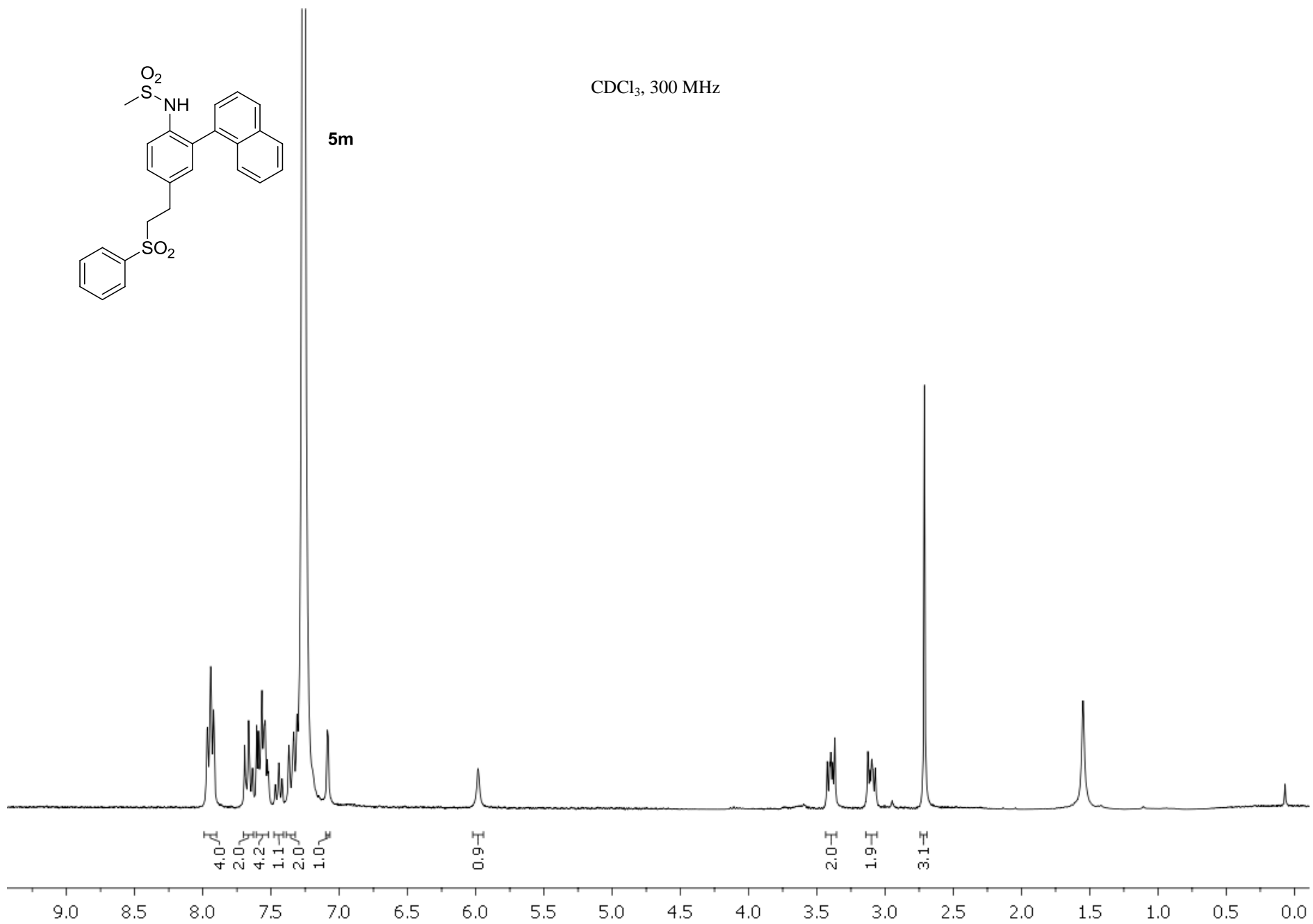




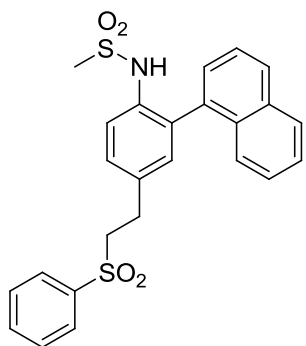
51

CDCl₃, 75 MHz

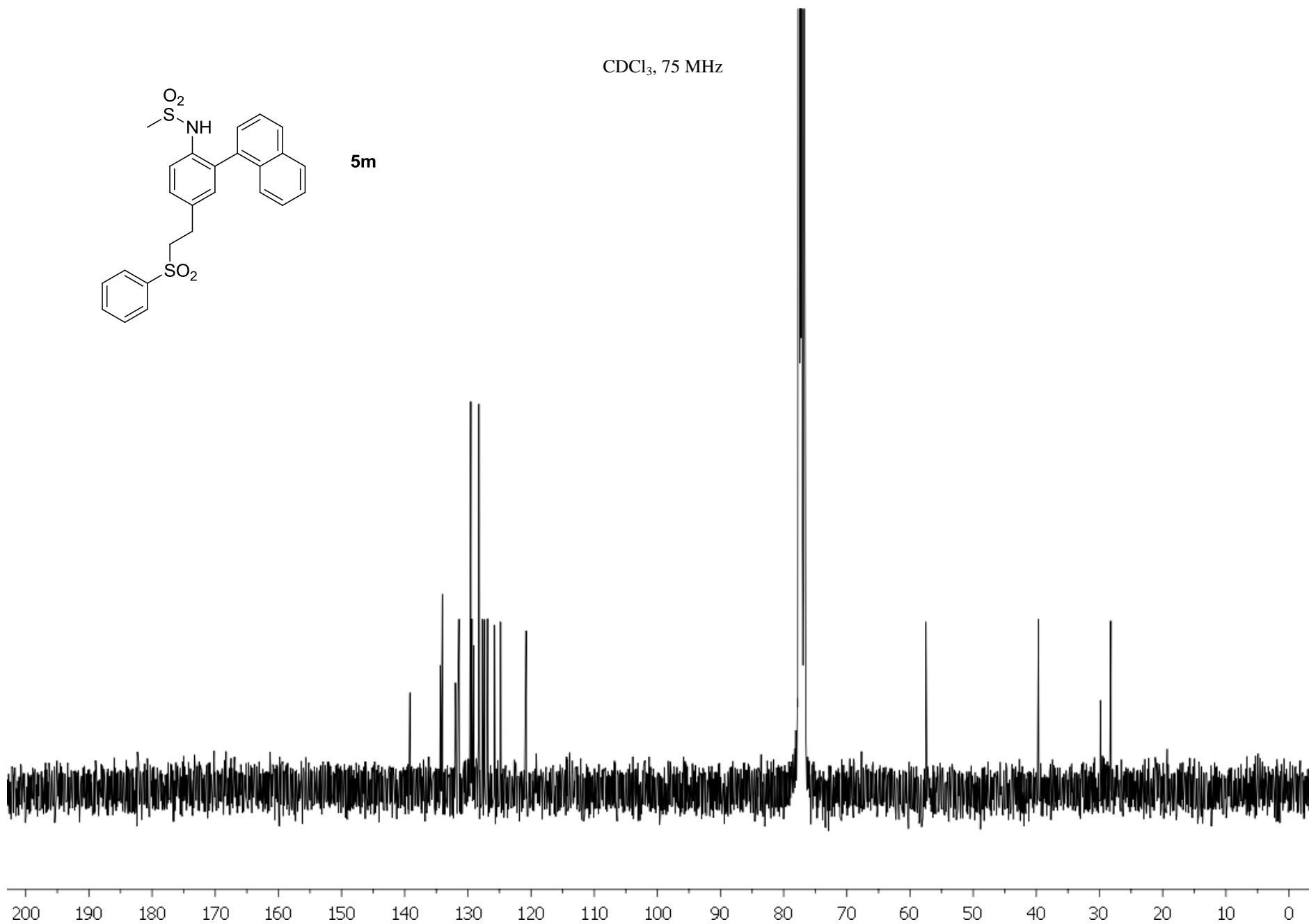




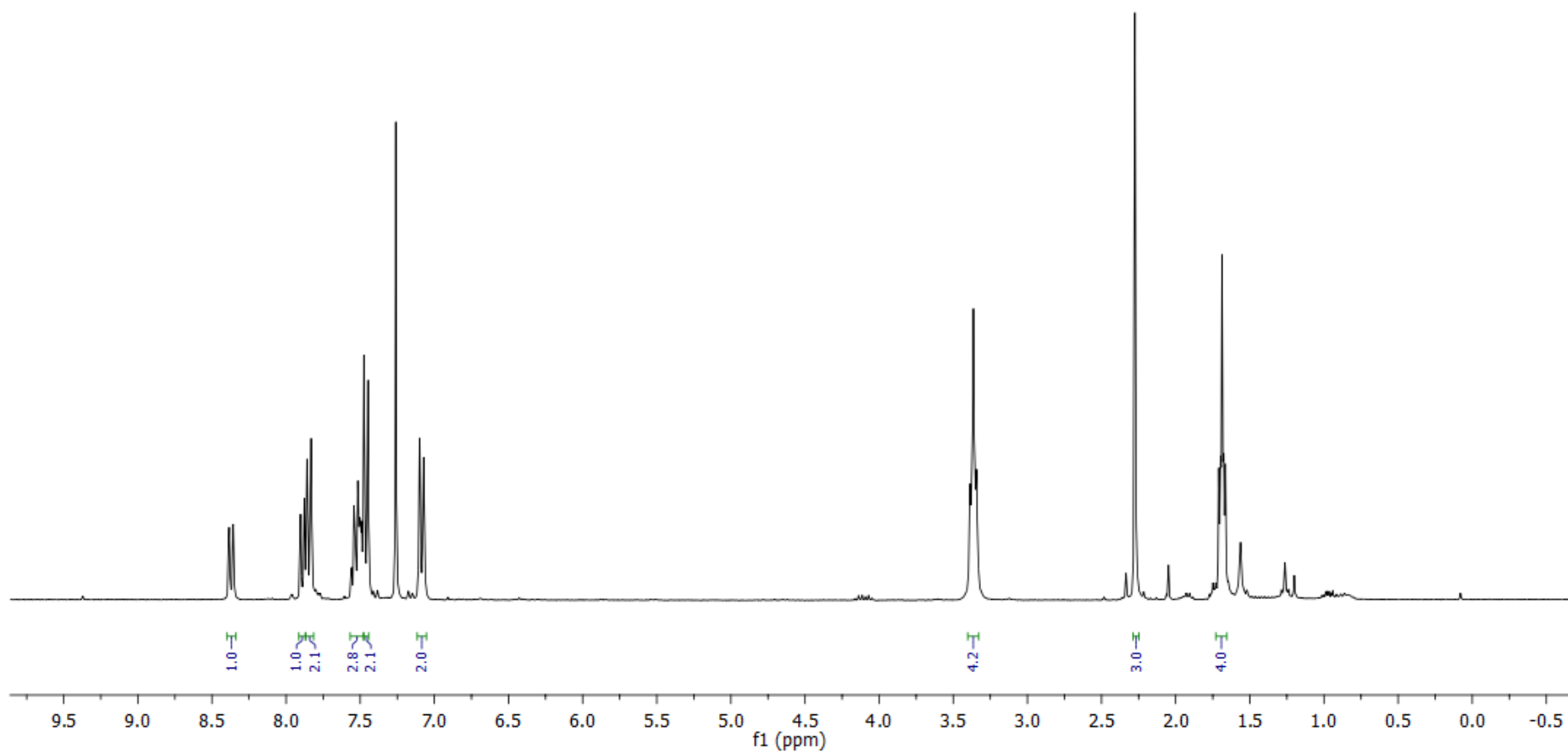
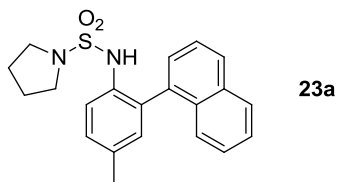
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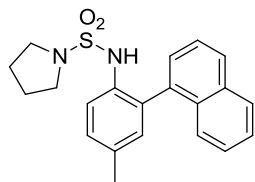


5m



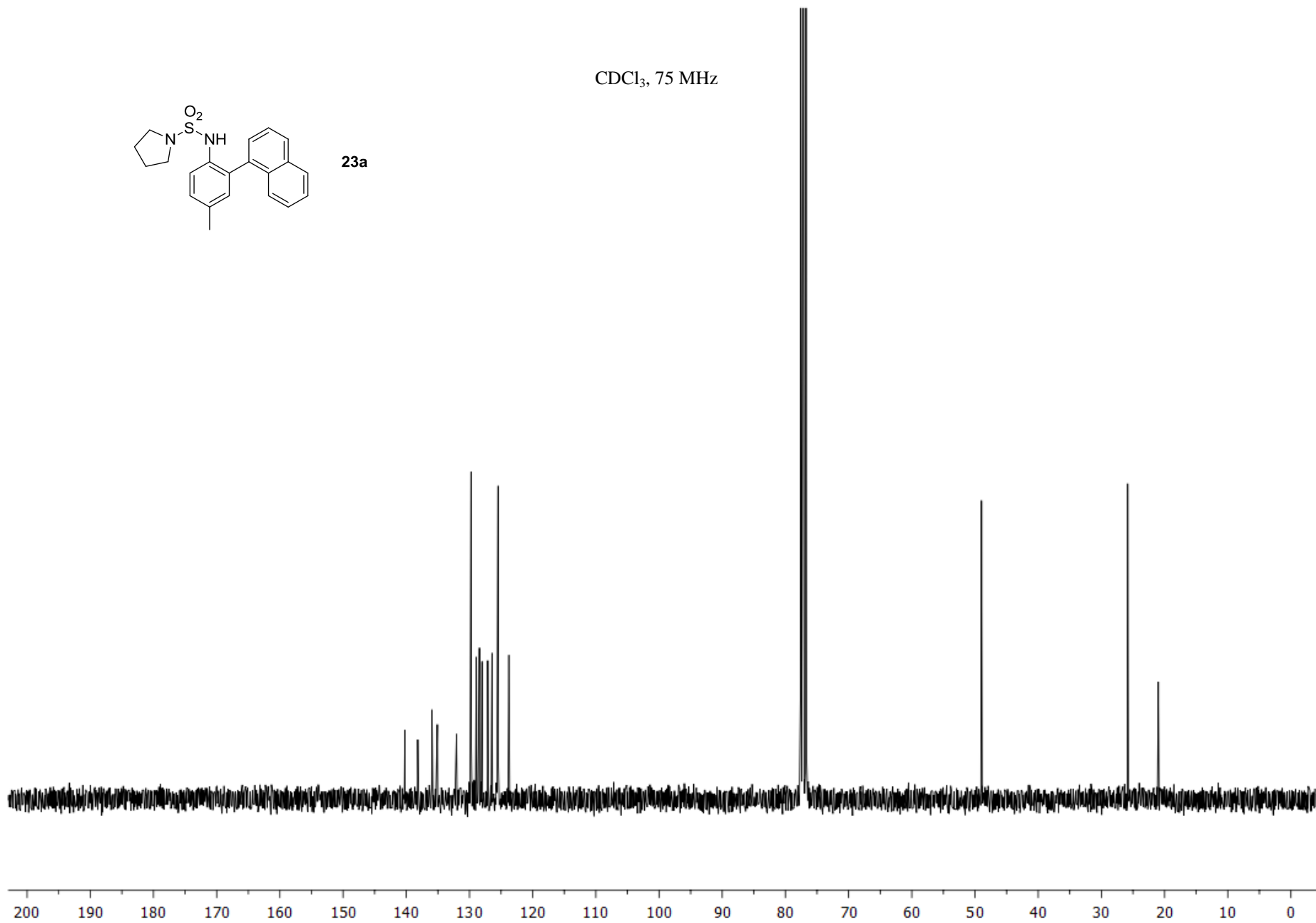
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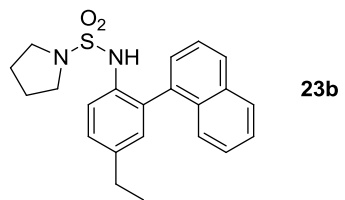




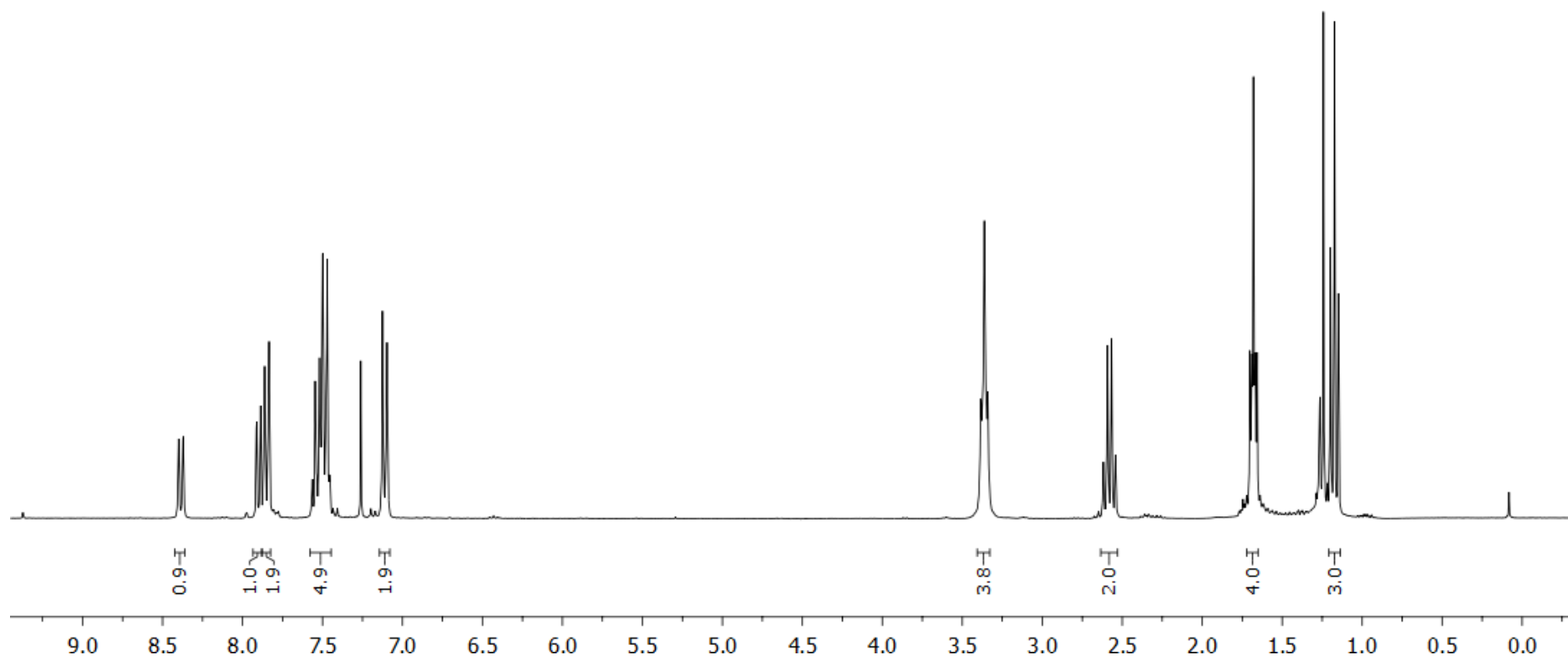
23a

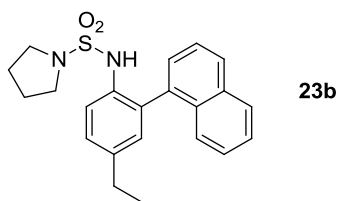
CDCl₃, 75 MHz



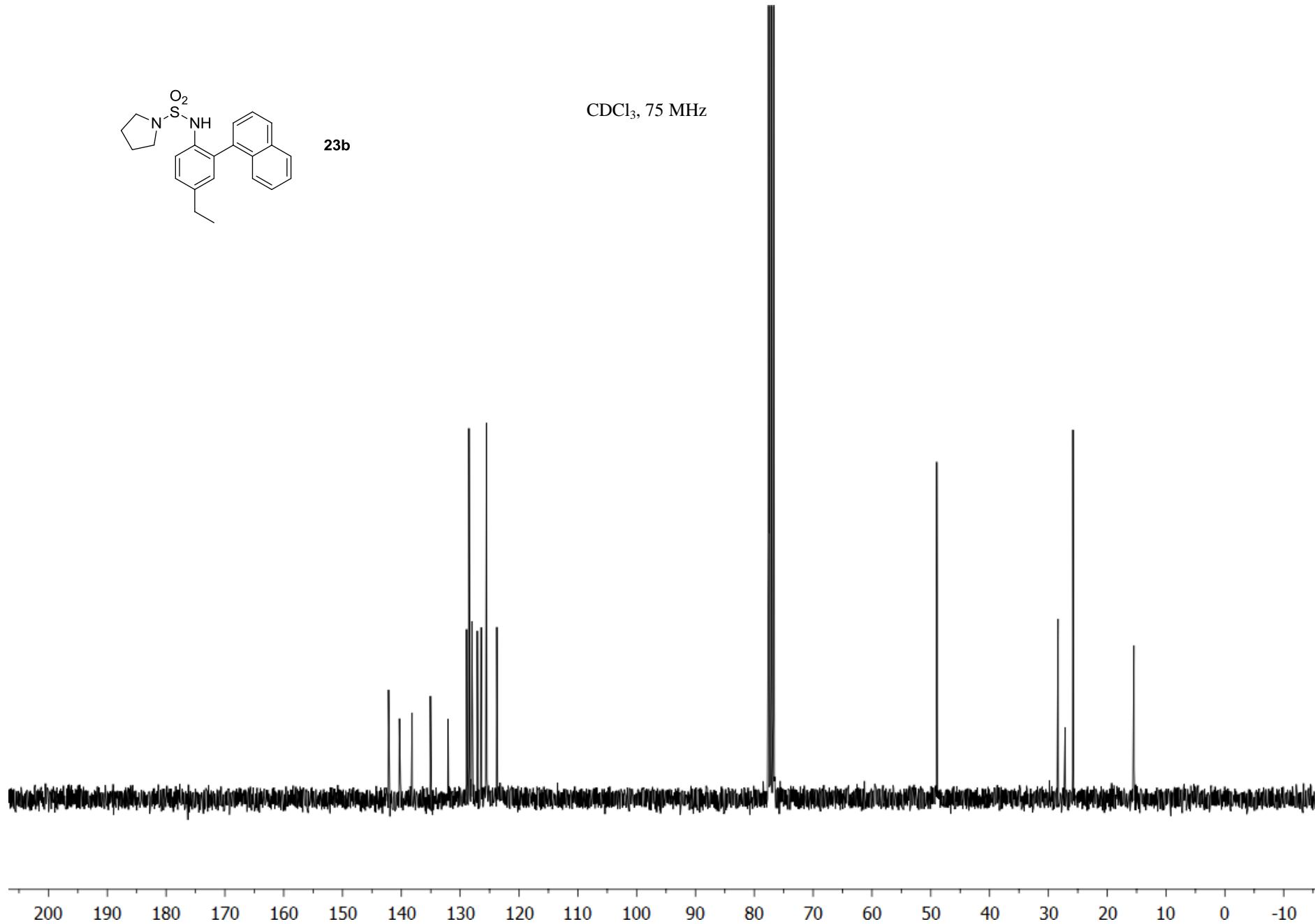


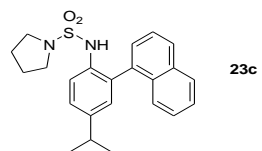
CDCl₃, 300 MHz



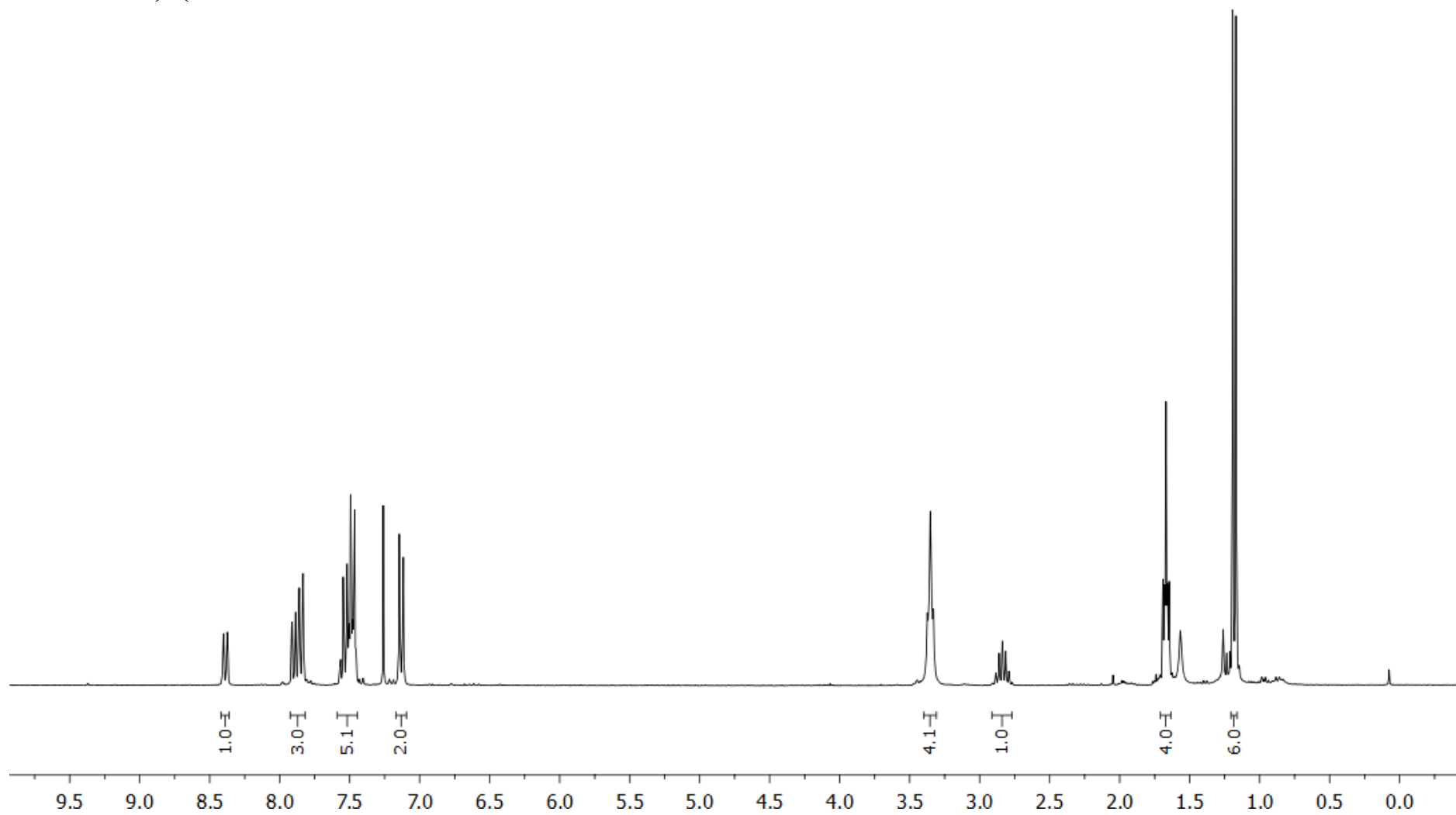


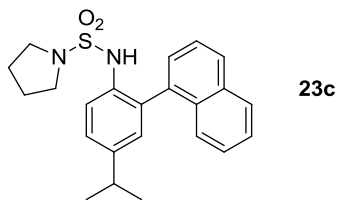
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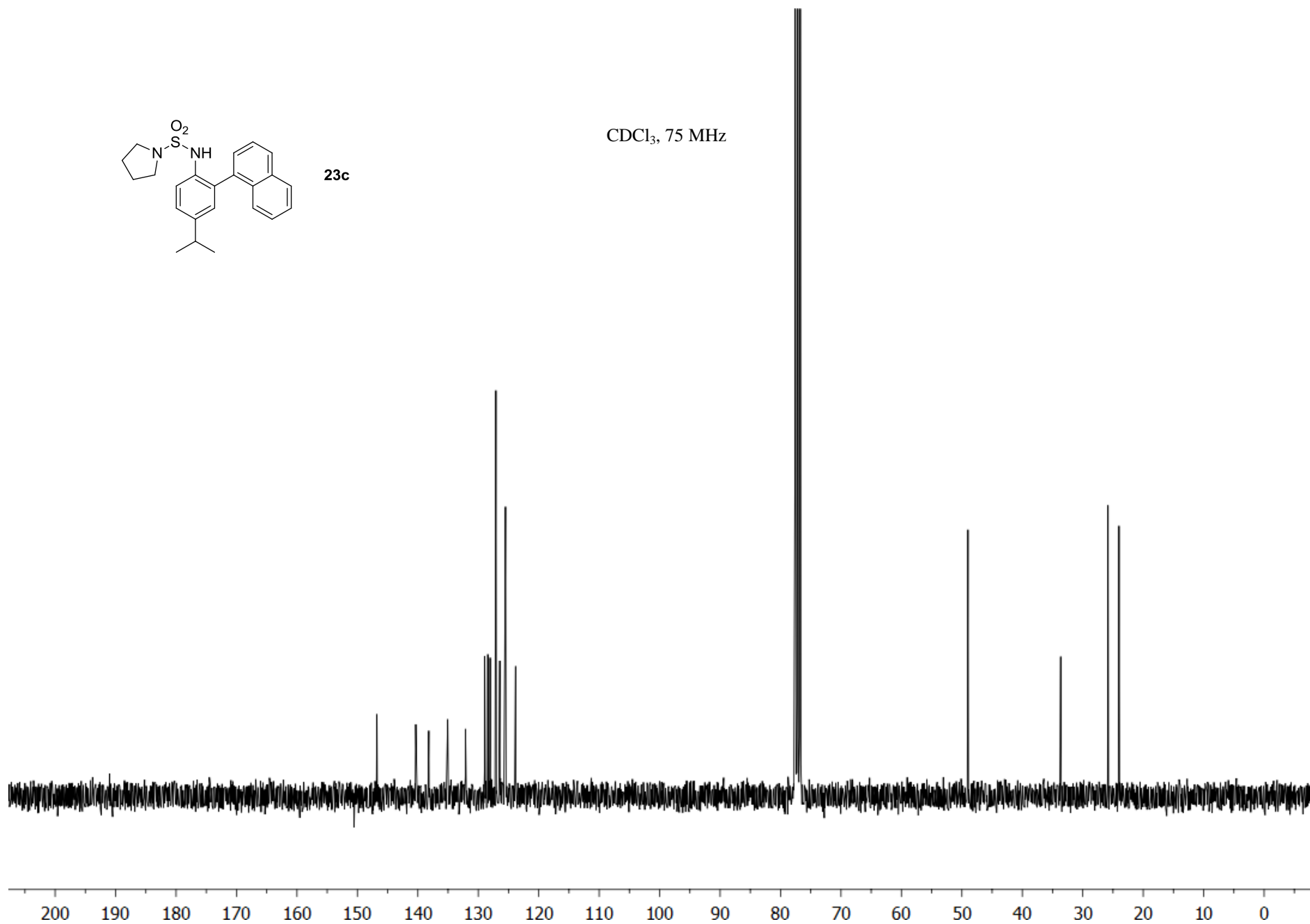


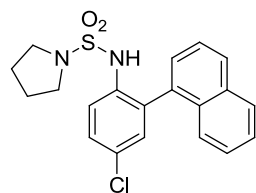
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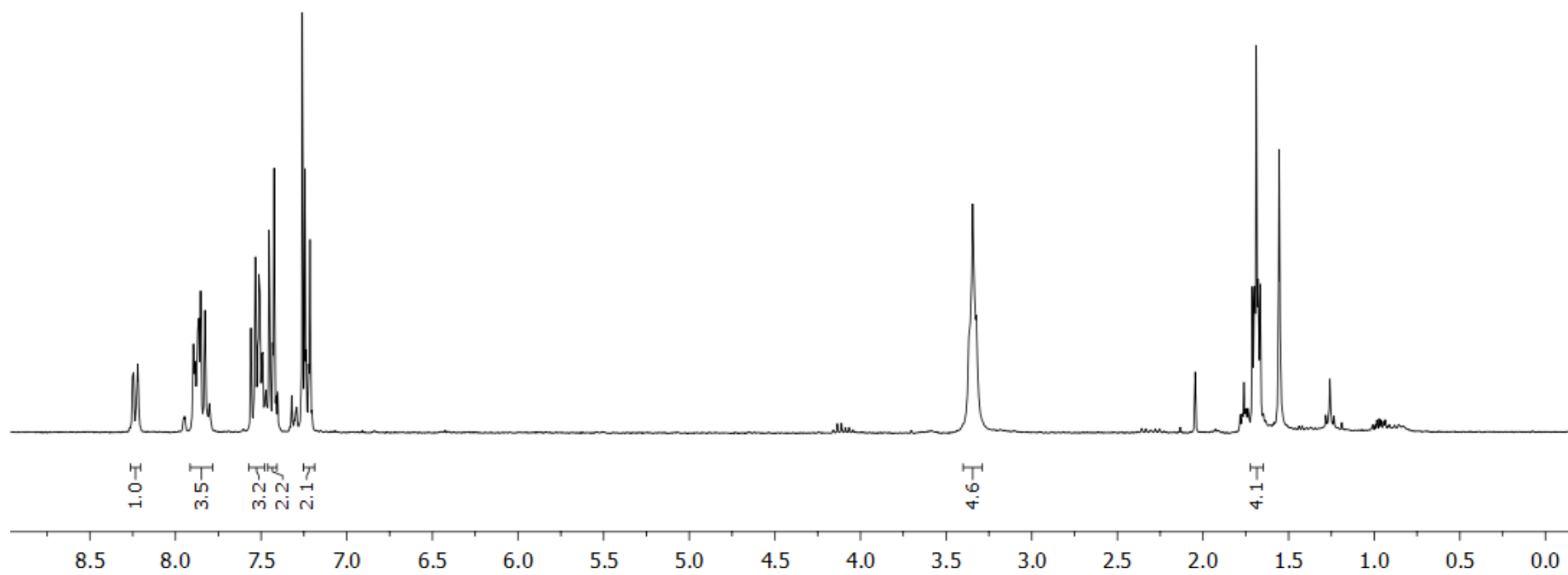
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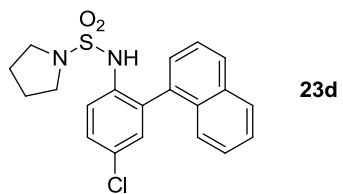




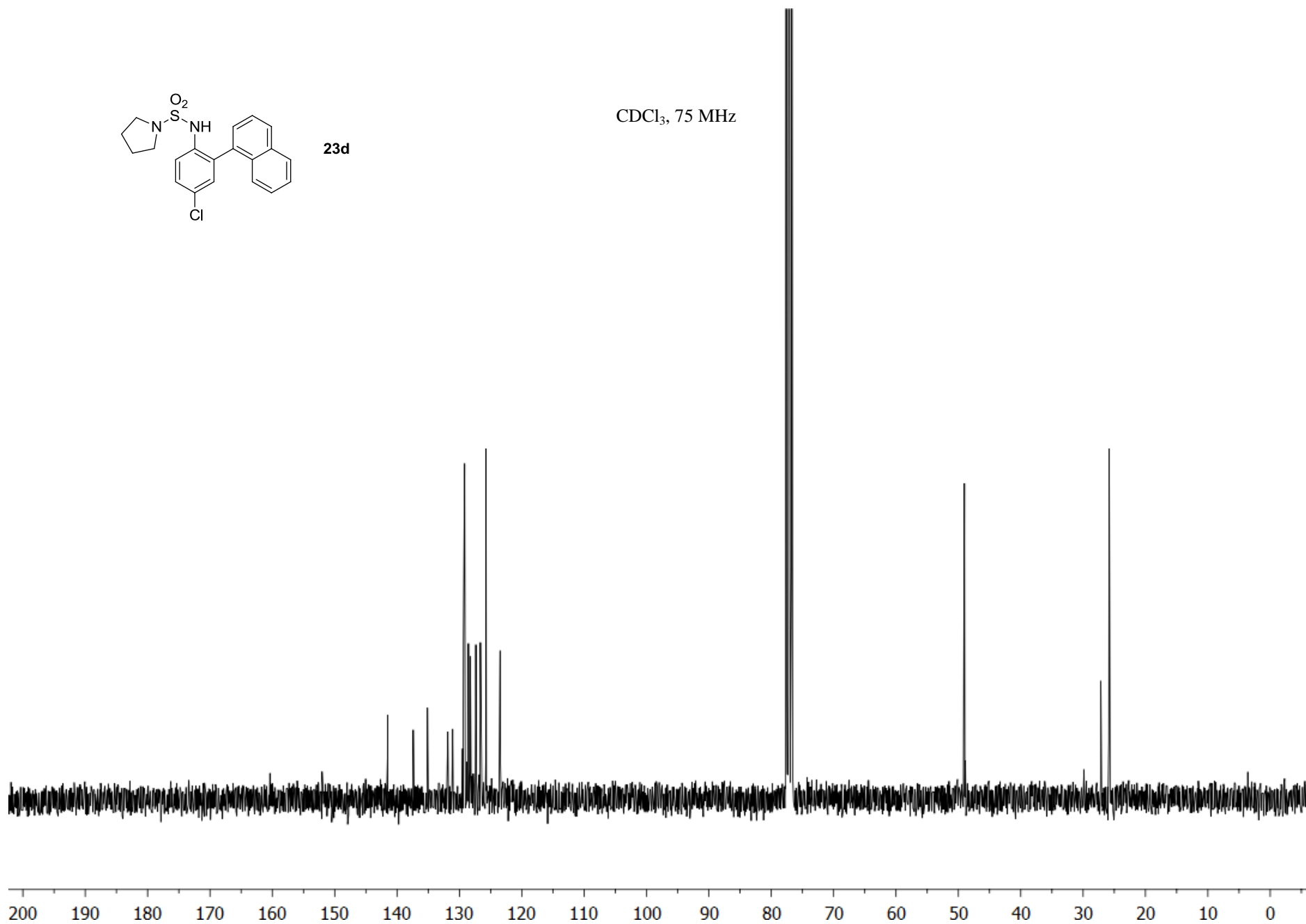
23d

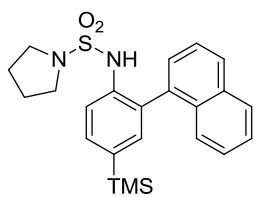
CDCl₃, 300 MHz





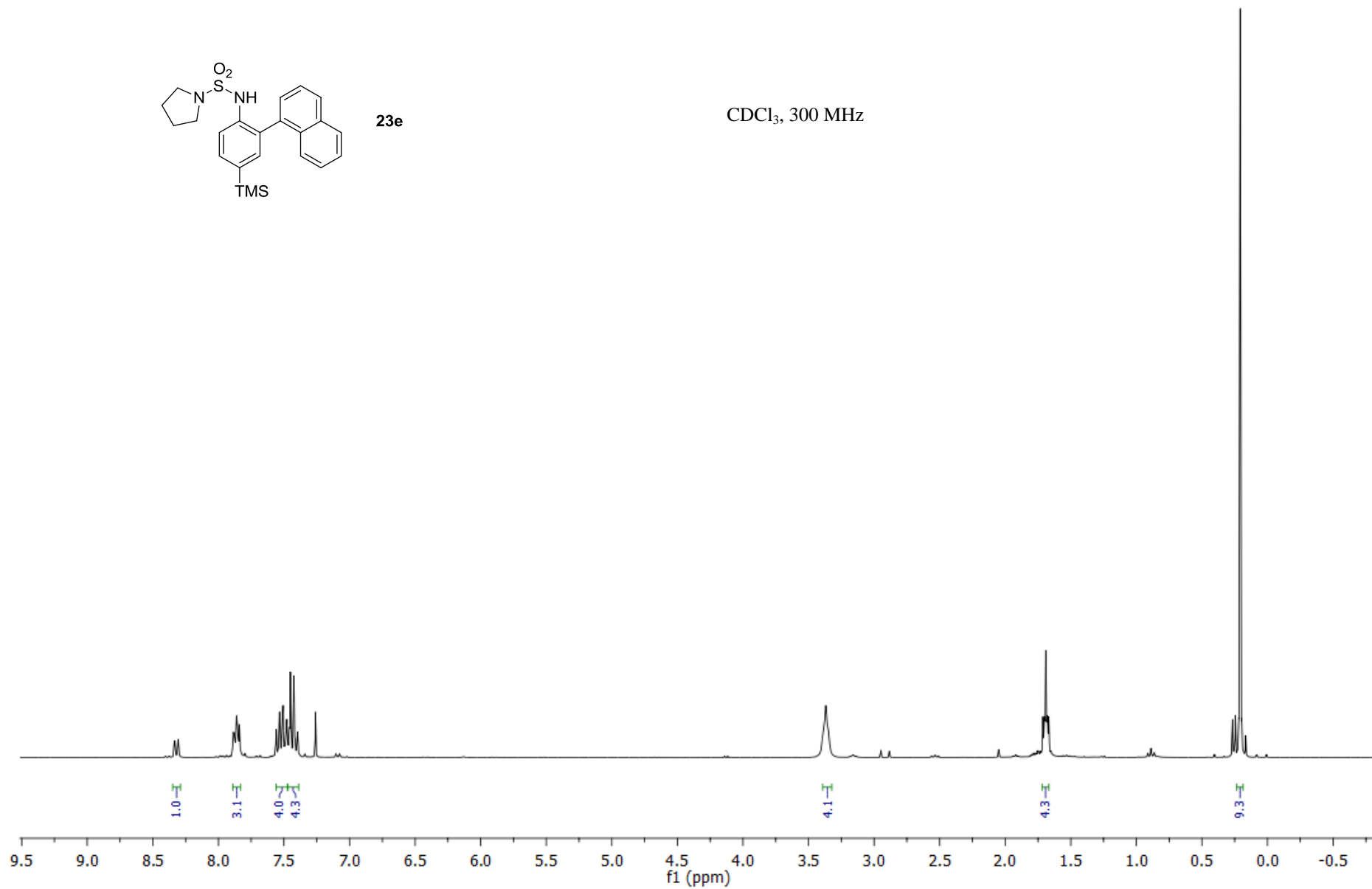
CDCl₃, 75 MHz

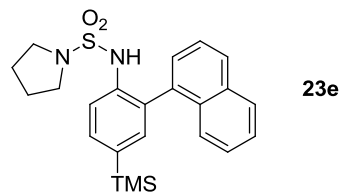




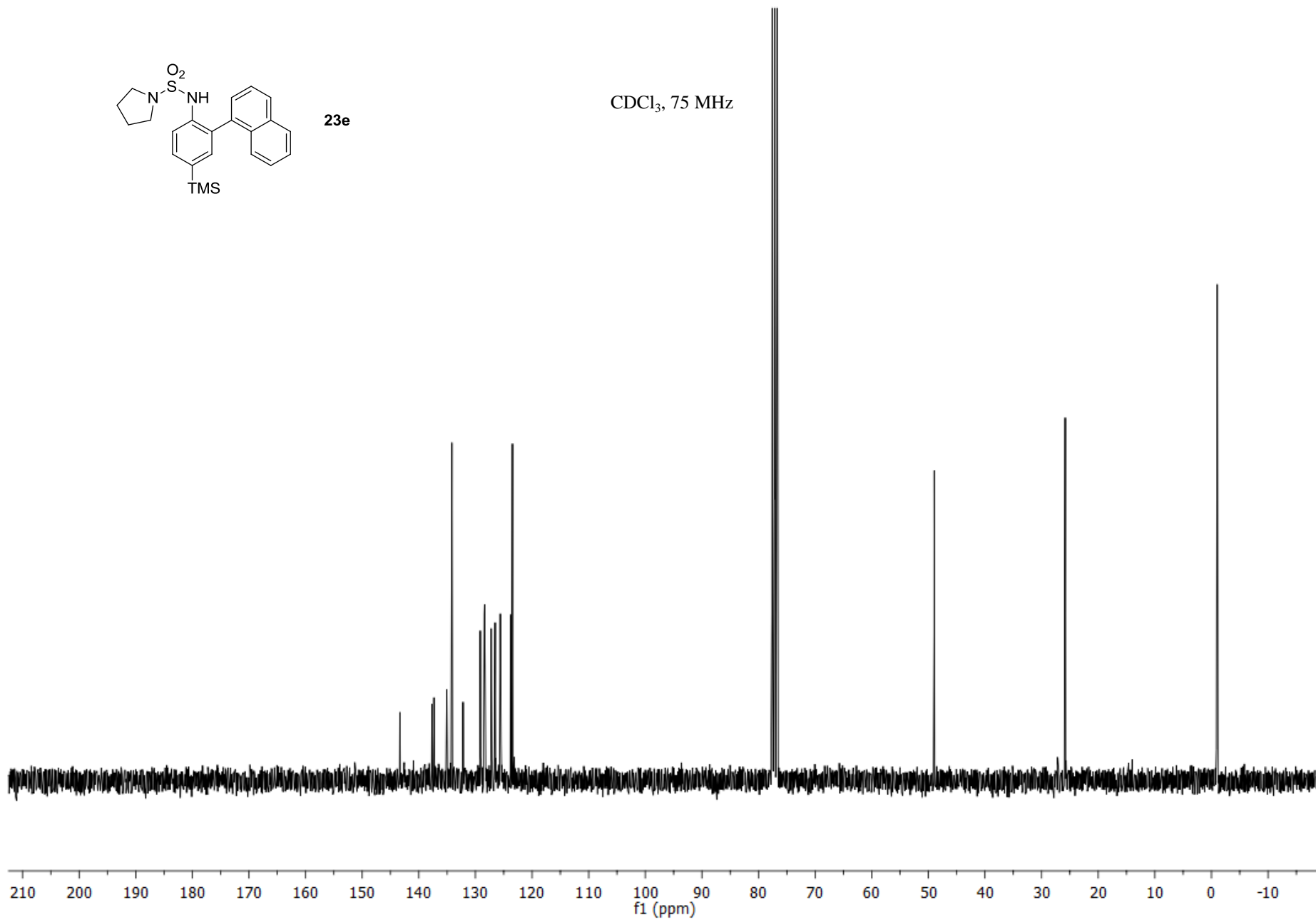
23e

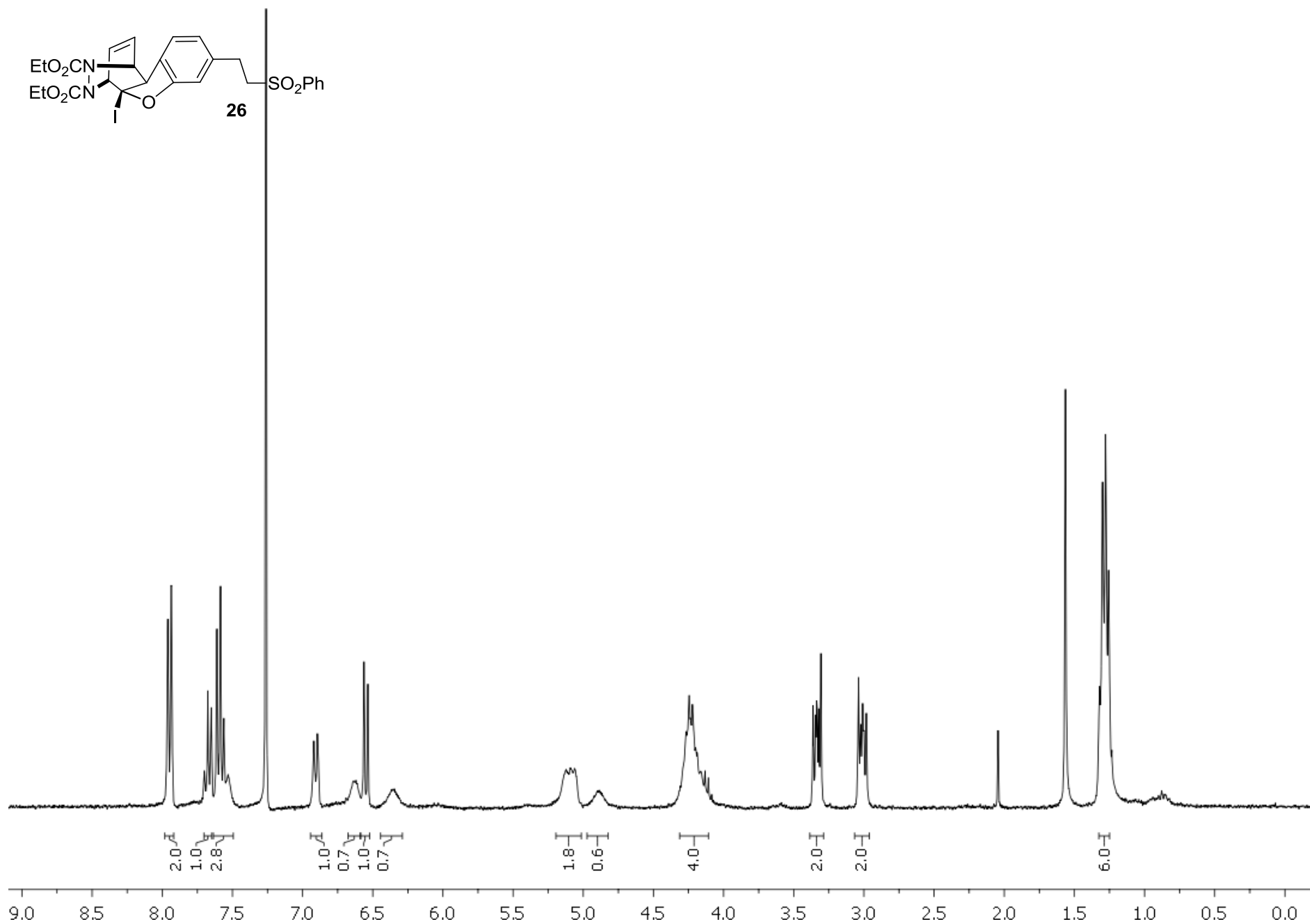
CDCl₃, 300 MHz



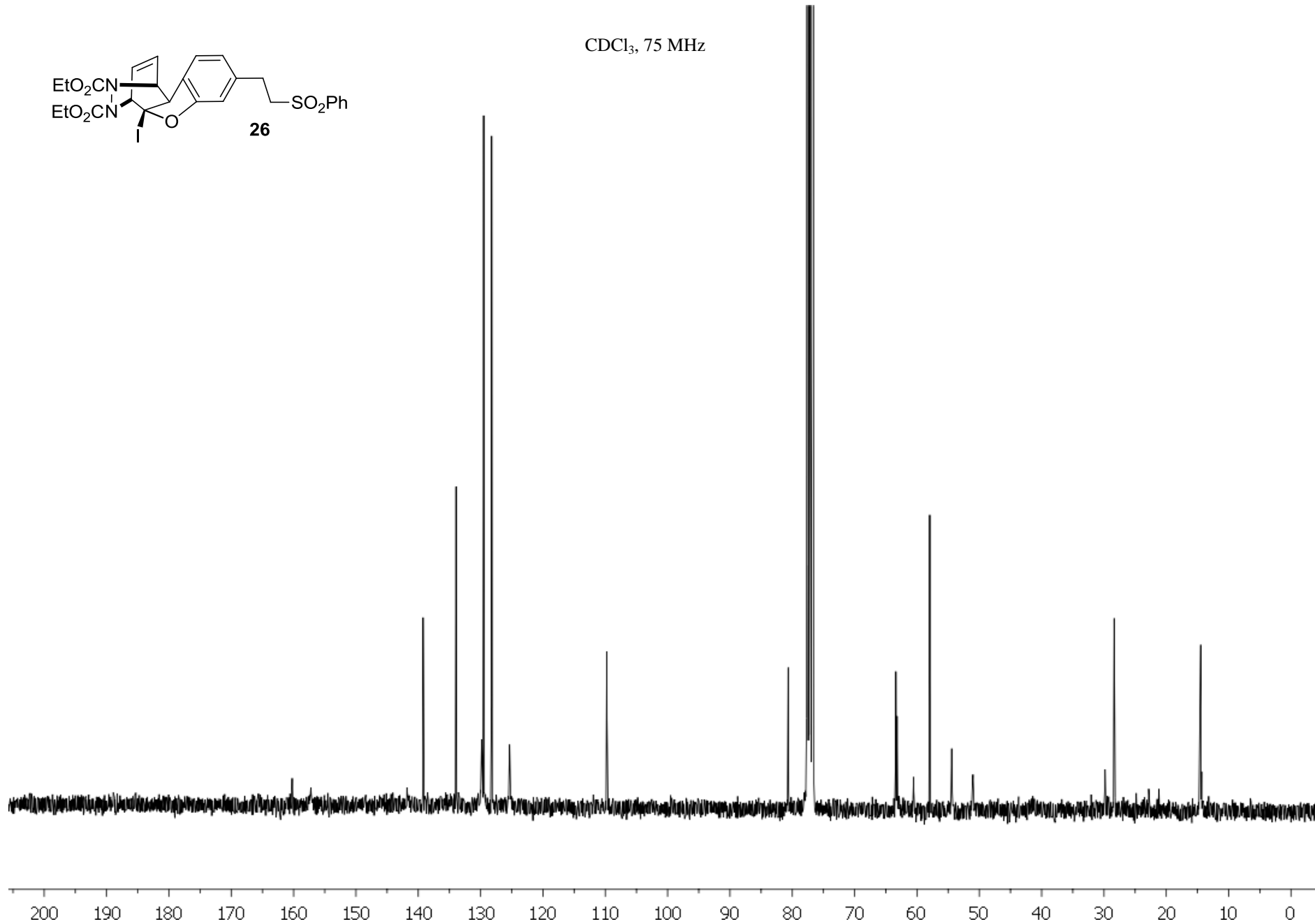
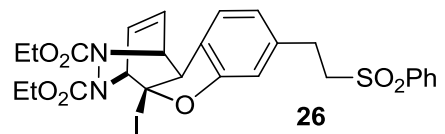


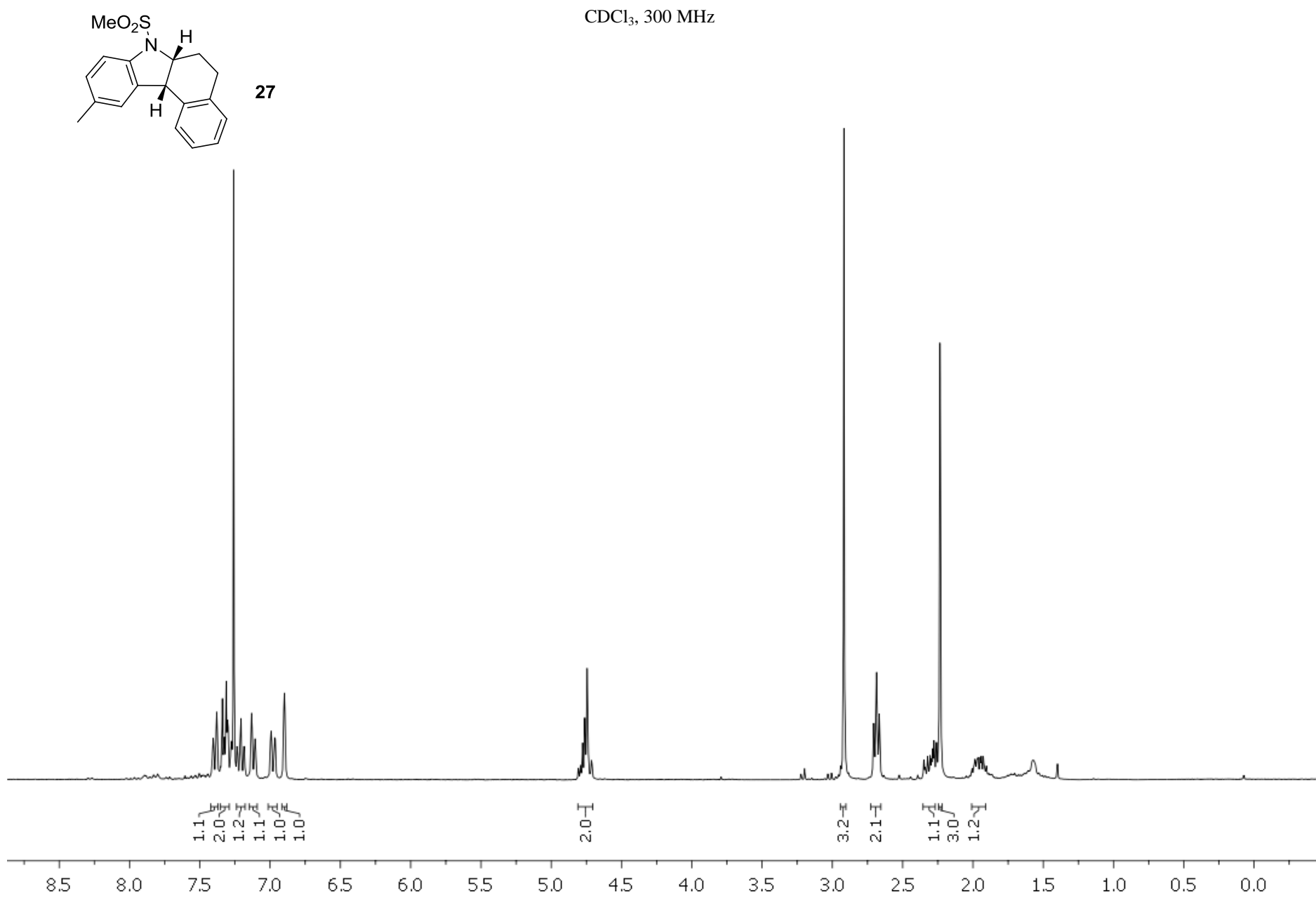
CDCl₃, 75 MHz

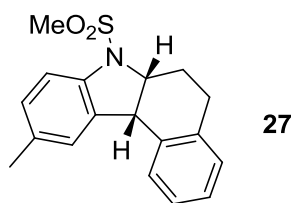




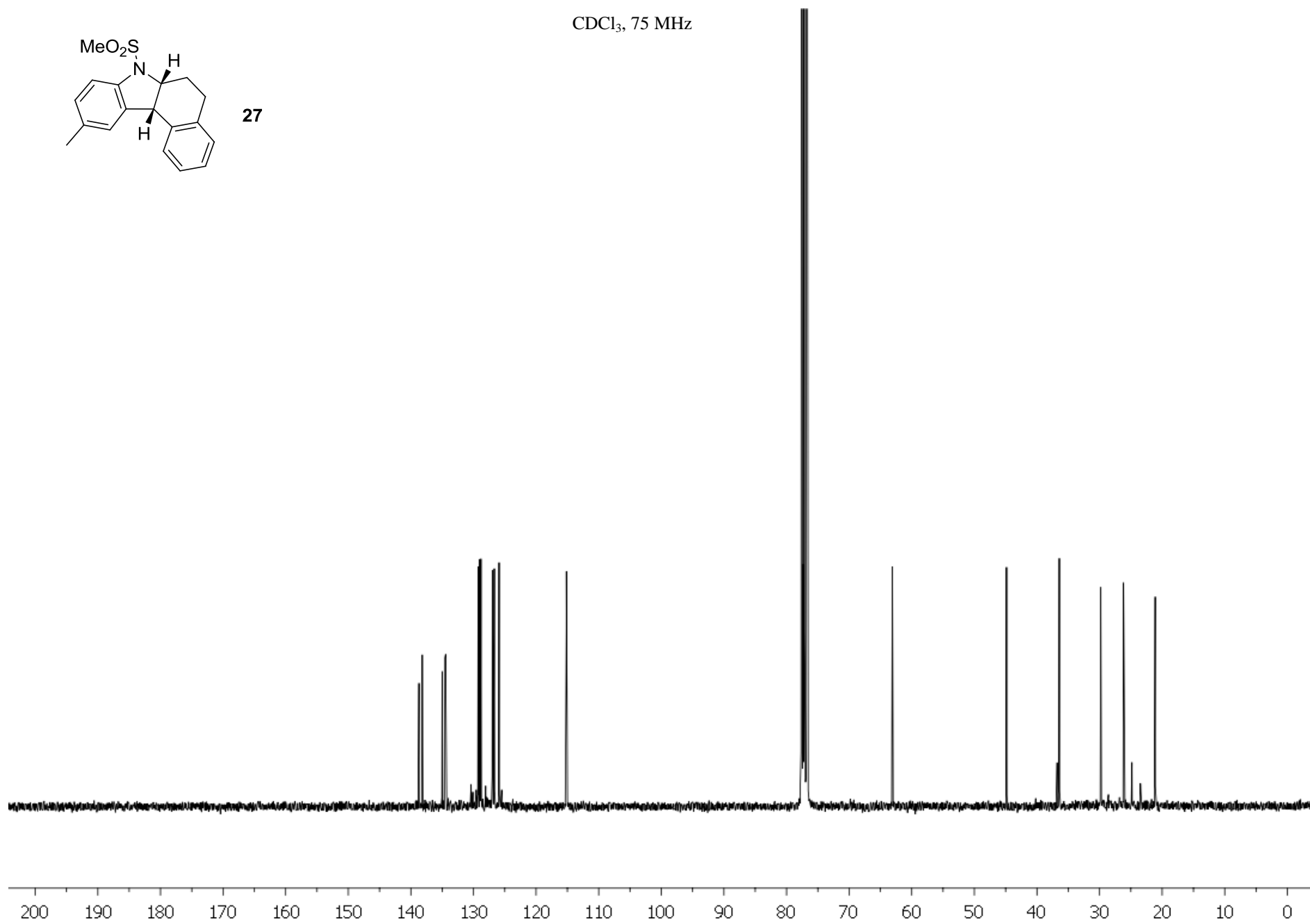
CDCl₃, 75 MHz

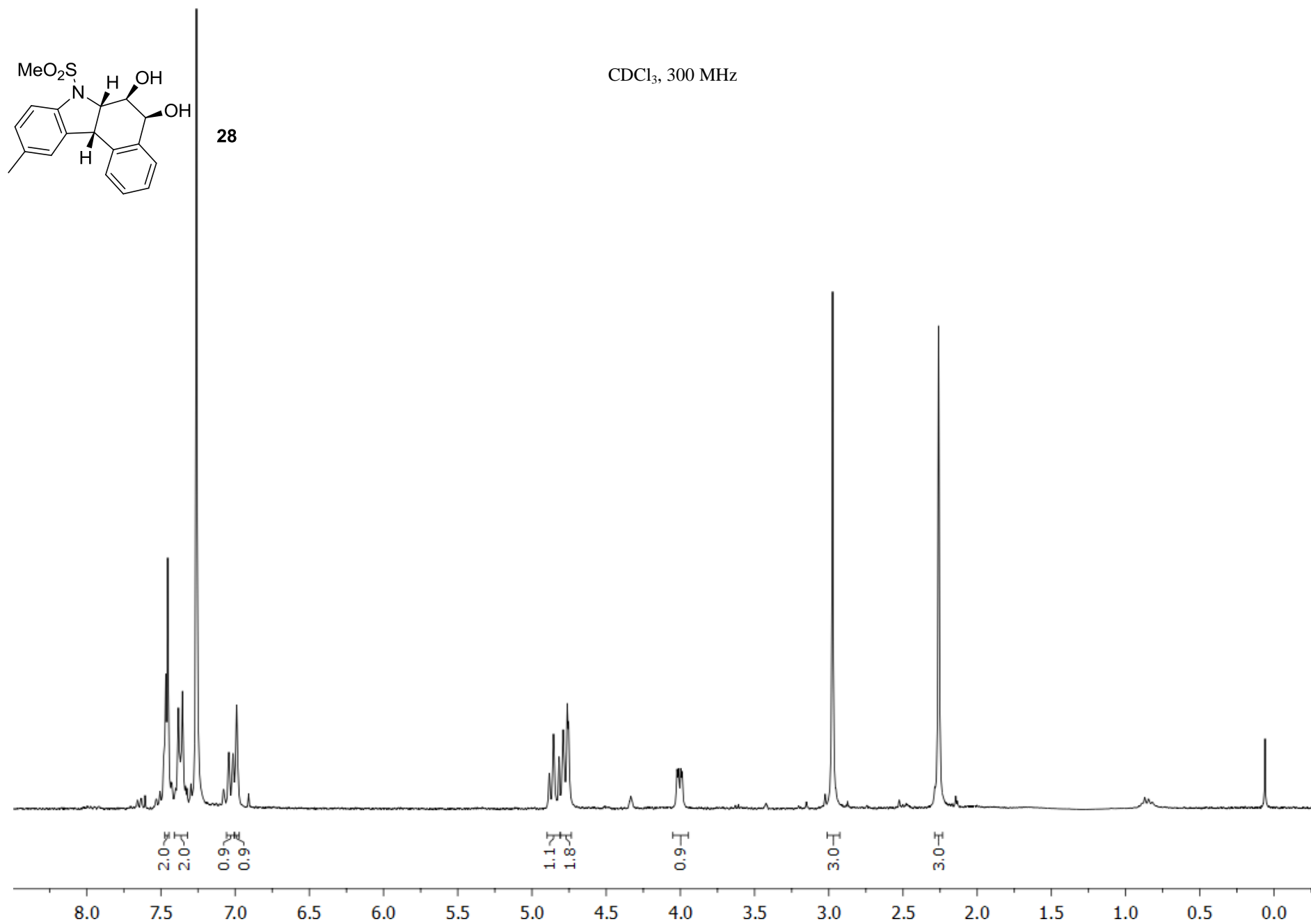


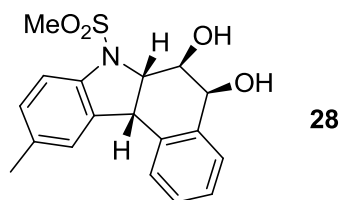




CDCl₃, 75 MHz







CDCl₃, 75 MHz

