

# **Solution Structures of the Prototypical 18 kDa Translocator protein ligand, PK 11195, Elucidated with $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Spectroscopy and Quantum Chemistry**

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## **Supporting information**

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**In Vitro Binding Assay.** The binding affinities ( $IC_{50}$  value) of **1a** and **1b** for TSPO were determined in rat brain mitochondrial membranes by competition experiments against [ $^3H$ ]**1a**. Crude mitochondrial membranes were prepared as described previously.<sup>1</sup> Crude preparation (0.8 mL; 0.5 mg protein per/mL) was incubated with [ $^3H$ ]**1a** (0.58 nM; 100  $\mu$ L) and the test compound (added in 100  $\mu$ L) for 90 min at 4 °C. The incubation was ended by rapid filtration through a glass filter paper (Whatman GF/B) that had been pre-soaked in poly(ethyleneimine) (0.3 %), after which the filters were washed three times with ice-cold HEPES buffer (50 mM; 3 mL), using a multi-cell harvester, M-48R. Aquasol-2 scintillator (5 mL) was added and the filter bound radioactivity was counted in a liquid scintillation counter (Beckman Coulter). Non-specific binding was determined in the presence of **1a** (10  $\mu$ M).  $IC_{50}$  values were calculated by non-linear regression (one site competition) on Prism software (Graph-Pad).

**Determination of Energy Barrier with Dynamic  $^1H$ -NMR.** Energy barriers to amide bond rotation in **1a** were calculated according to the method of Shanan-Atidi and Bar-Ali<sup>2</sup> by making use of the relationship:

$$P_A - P_B = \Delta P = [(X^2 - 2)/3]^{3/2} \cdot 1/X$$

where  $P_A$  and  $P_B$  are the population fractions of species A and B and  $X = 2\pi\delta\nu\tau$ , and  $\delta\nu$  is the chemical shift difference between the signals at very slow exchange and  $\tau$  is defined by the relation  $1/\tau = (1/\tau_A) = (1/\tau_B)$  where  $\tau_A$  and  $\tau_B$  are the lifetimes of species A and B, respectively.

The rates of exchange are  $k_A$  and  $k_B$  which obey:

$$k_A = (1/2\tau)(1 - \Delta P) \text{ and } k_B = (1/2\tau)(1 + \Delta P)$$

The free energy of activation can be deduced using Eyring's equation *i.e.*

$$\Delta G_A^\ddagger = RT_c \ln[(k/h\pi)(T_c/d\nu)[X/(1 - \Delta P)]] \text{ and } \Delta G_B^\ddagger = RT_c \ln[(k/h\pi)(T_c/d\nu)[X/(1 + \Delta P)]]$$

The difference between these two is given by:

$$\Delta G = RT_c \ln(P_A/P_B) = RT_c [(1 + \Delta P)/(1 - \Delta P)]$$

When the values of the constants are introduced, the free energies of activation may be calculated in calories per mole as

$$\Delta G_A^\ddagger = 4.575T_c [10.62 + \log(X/(2\pi(1 - \Delta P))) + \log(T_c/d\nu)] \text{ and}$$

$$\Delta G_B^\ddagger = 4.575T_c[10.62 + \log(X/(2\pi(1 + \Delta P))) + \log(T_c/\delta v)]$$

Values of  $\log(X/(2\pi(1 + \Delta P)))$  were obtained for particular values of  $\Delta P$  from the published plot of Shanan-Atidi and Bar-Ali.<sup>2</sup>

## Tables

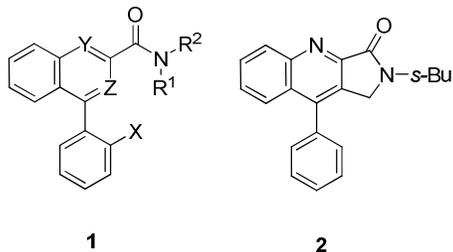
**Table S1. Assignment of  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Chemical Shifts for the *N*-Me, *s*-Bu and Carbonyl Carbons of 1a from Theory [(B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p) in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ] and Experiment ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ).**

Signal	Chemical shift ( $\delta$ ppm)	
	Theory	Experimental
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ( $Z_1$ )	13.32	11.12
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ( $Z_2$ )	13.32	11.04
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ( $E_1$ )	13.14	11.05
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ( $E_2$ )	13.23	10.87
$\text{CHCH}_3$ ( $Z_1$ )	19.01	17.23
$\text{CHCH}_3$ ( $Z_2$ )	19.22	17.31
$\text{CHCH}_3$ ( $E_1$ )	20.34	18.58
$\text{CHCH}_3$ ( $E_2$ )	20.43	18.45
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ( $Z_1$ )	31.48	26.30
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ( $Z_2$ )	31.51	26.30
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ( $E_1$ )	32.39	27.38
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ( $E_2$ )	32.44	27.41
$\text{NCH}_3$ ( $Z_1$ )	32.97	30.50
$\text{NCH}_3$ ( $Z_2$ )	32.87	30.39
$\text{NCH}_3$ ( $E_1$ )	29.20	26.65
$\text{NCH}_3$ ( $E_2$ )	29.29	26.65
$\text{CH}$ ( $Z_1$ )	57.11	50.38
$\text{CH}$ ( $Z_2$ )	57.14	50.58
$\text{CH}$ ( $E_1$ )	65.28	55.57
$\text{CH}$ ( $E_2$ )	64.30	55.75
$\text{CO}$ ( $Z_1$ )	179.54	168.12
$\text{CO}$ ( $Z_2$ )	179.18	168.12
$\text{CO}$ ( $E_1$ )	180.68	168.38
$\text{CO}$ ( $E_2$ )	180.56	168.38

**Table S2. Assignment of  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Chemical Shifts of the *s*-Bu Carbons of 1b from Theory [(B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p) in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ] and Experiment ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ).**

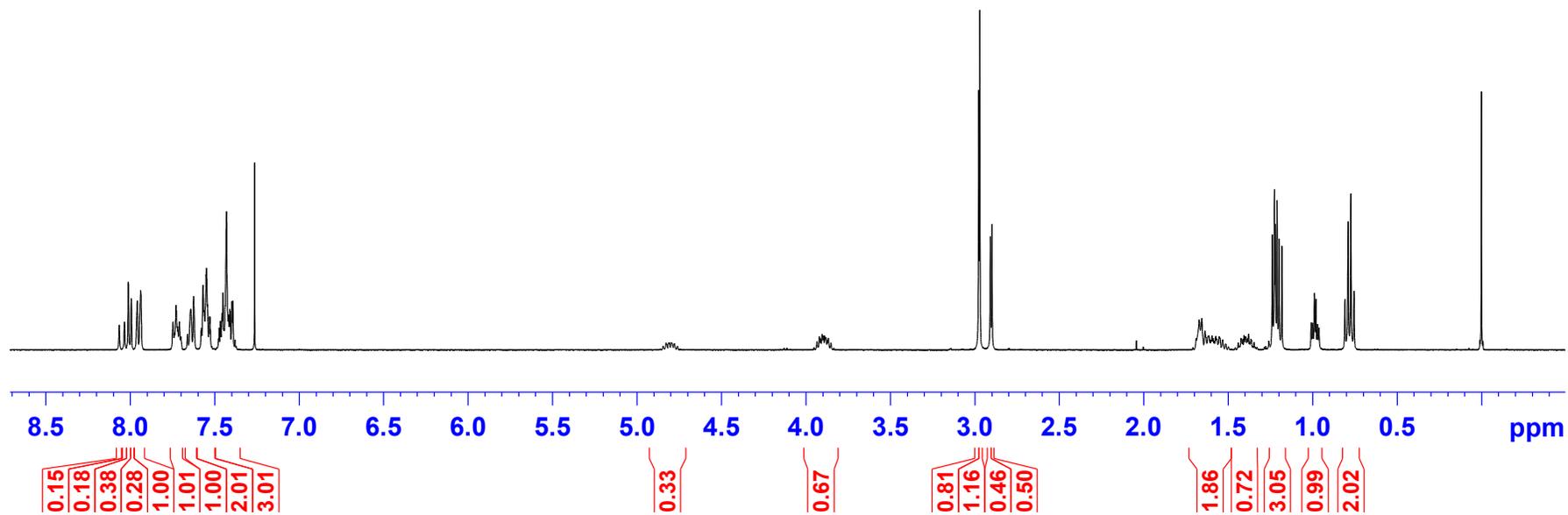
	Chemical shift ( $\delta$ )	
	Theory	Experimental
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ( <i>Z</i> )	13.54	8.65, 8.73
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ( <i>E</i> )	13.27	
$\text{CHCH}_3$ ( <i>Z</i> )	24.52	18.66, 18.71
$\text{CHCH}_3$ ( <i>E</i> )	24.85	
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ( <i>Z</i> )	35.21	27.98, 27.93
$\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ( <i>E</i> )	36.39	
$\text{CH}$ ( <i>Z</i> )	52.52	44.92
$\text{CH}$ ( <i>E</i> )	59.20	

**Table S3. Binding Affinities ( $IC_{50}$  values) for TSPO of *N*-Methyl Tertiary Amido Ligands, their *N*-Desmethyl-secondary Amido Analogs, and of a Conformationally Restrained Analog (**8**).**

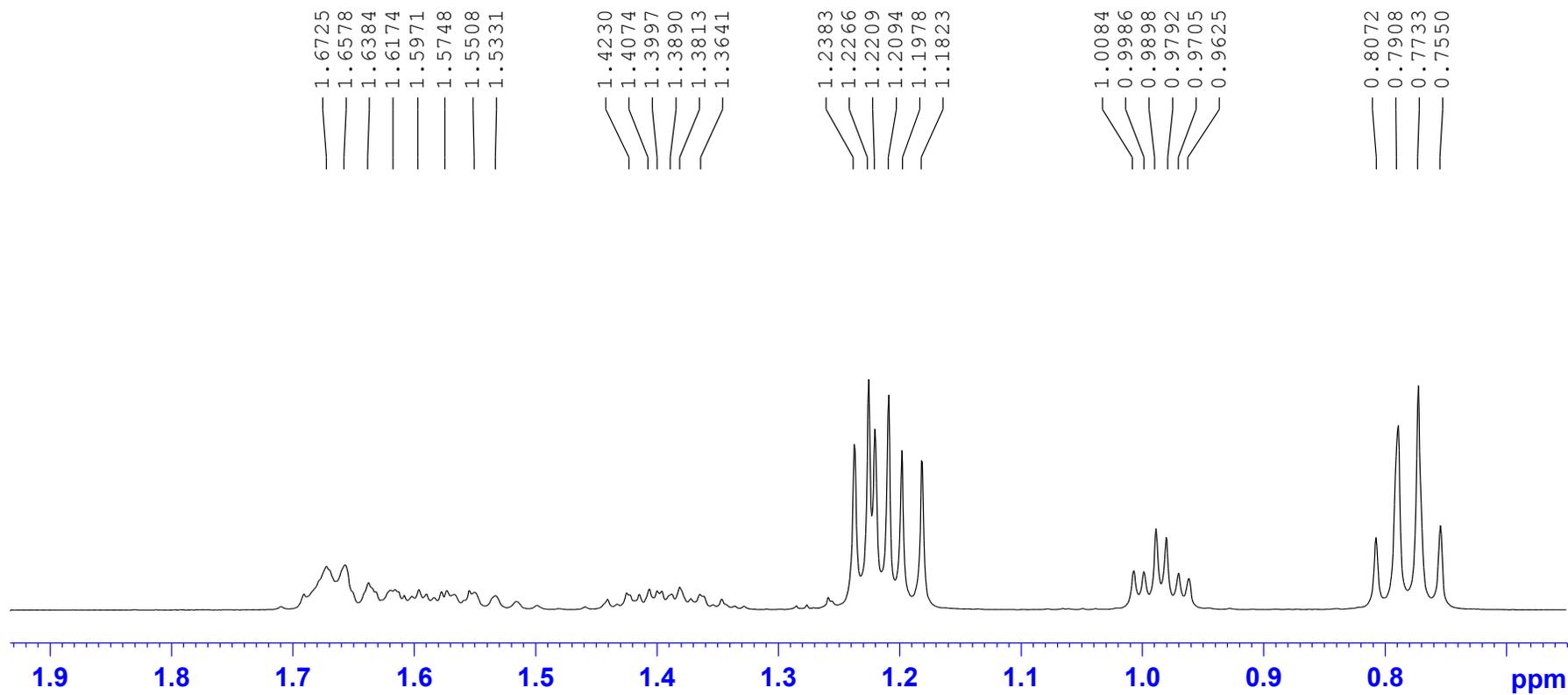


Ligand	X	Y	Z	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	$IC_{50}$ (nM)
<b>1a</b>	Cl	CH	N	Me	<i>s</i> .Bu	0.5
<b>1b<sup>a</sup></b>	Cl	CH	N	H	<i>s</i> .Bu	1,570
<b>1c</b>	H	N	CMe	Me	<i>s</i> .Bu	2.1 <sup>3</sup>
<b>1d</b>	H	N	CMe	H	<i>s</i> .Bu	230 <sup>b</sup>
<b>1<sup>e</sup></b>	Me	N	CMe	Me	Bn	4.6 <sup>4</sup>
<b>1f</b>	Me	N	CMe	H	Bn	10,270 <sup>c</sup>
<b>1g</b>	H	CH	CH	Me	Bn	64 <sup>4</sup>
<b>1g</b>	H	CH	CH	H	Bn	2,700 <sup>4</sup>
<b>8</b>						10,000 <sup>3</sup>

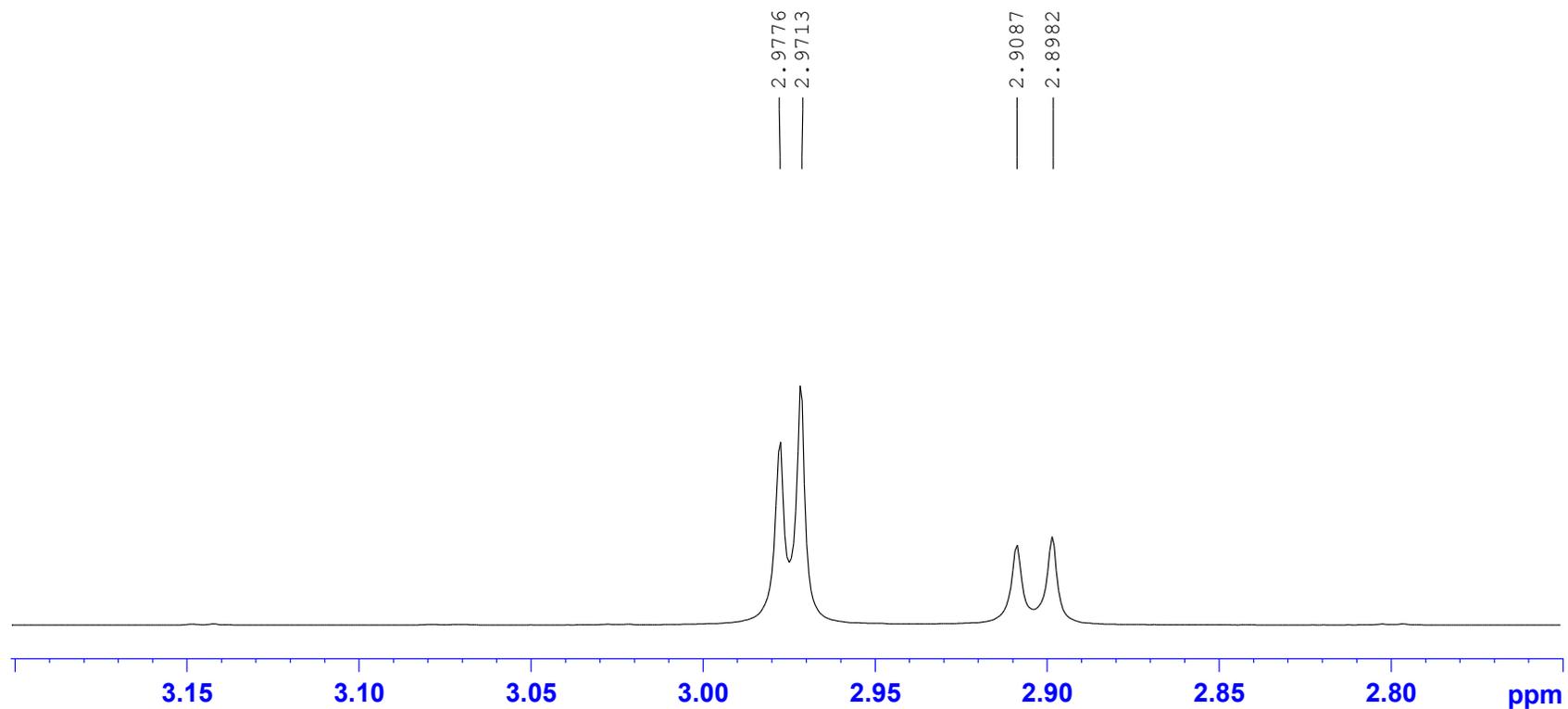
<sup>a</sup>*R*-enantiomer.



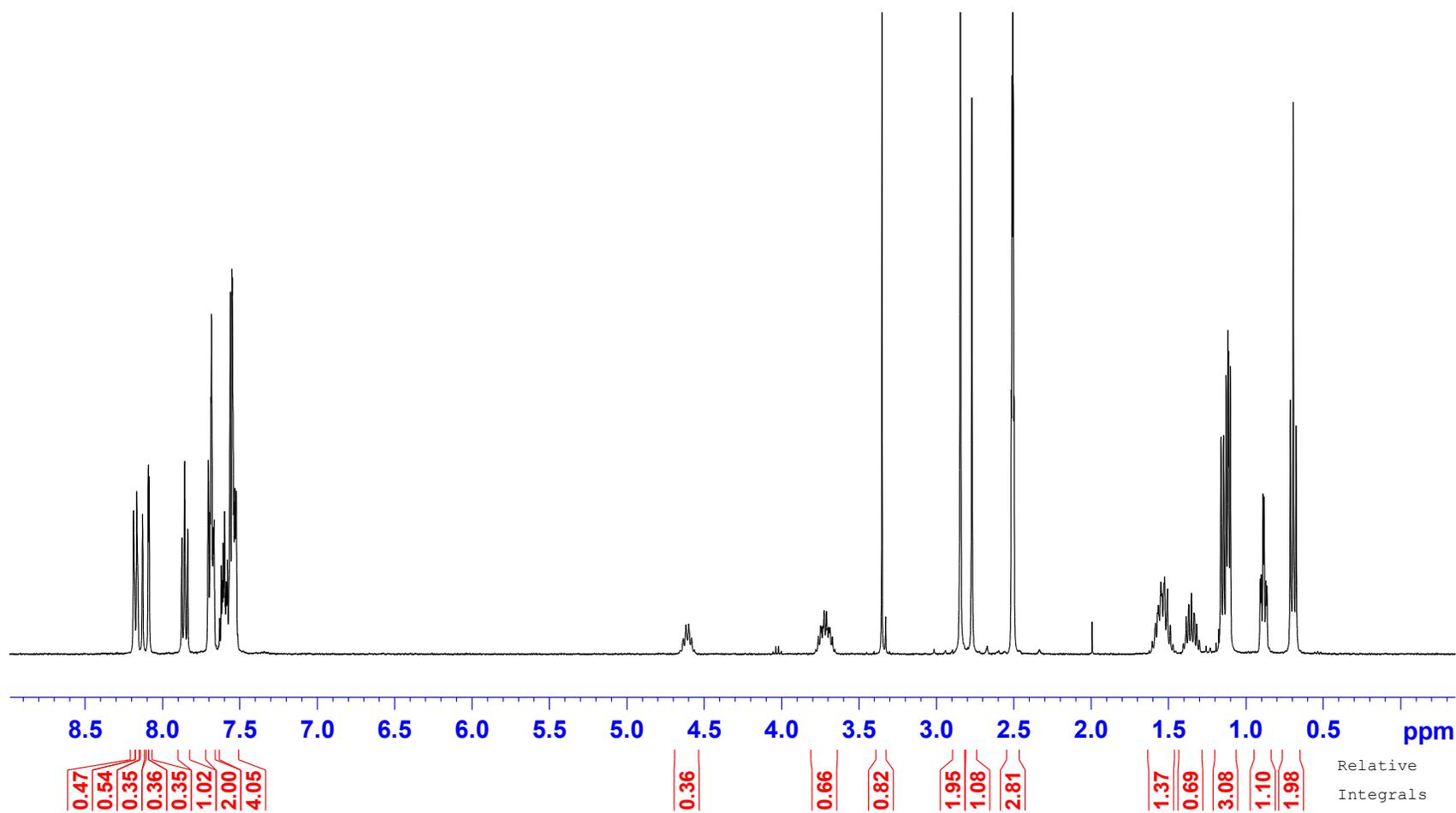
**Figure S1A.** Full  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum of **1a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at  $24\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ .



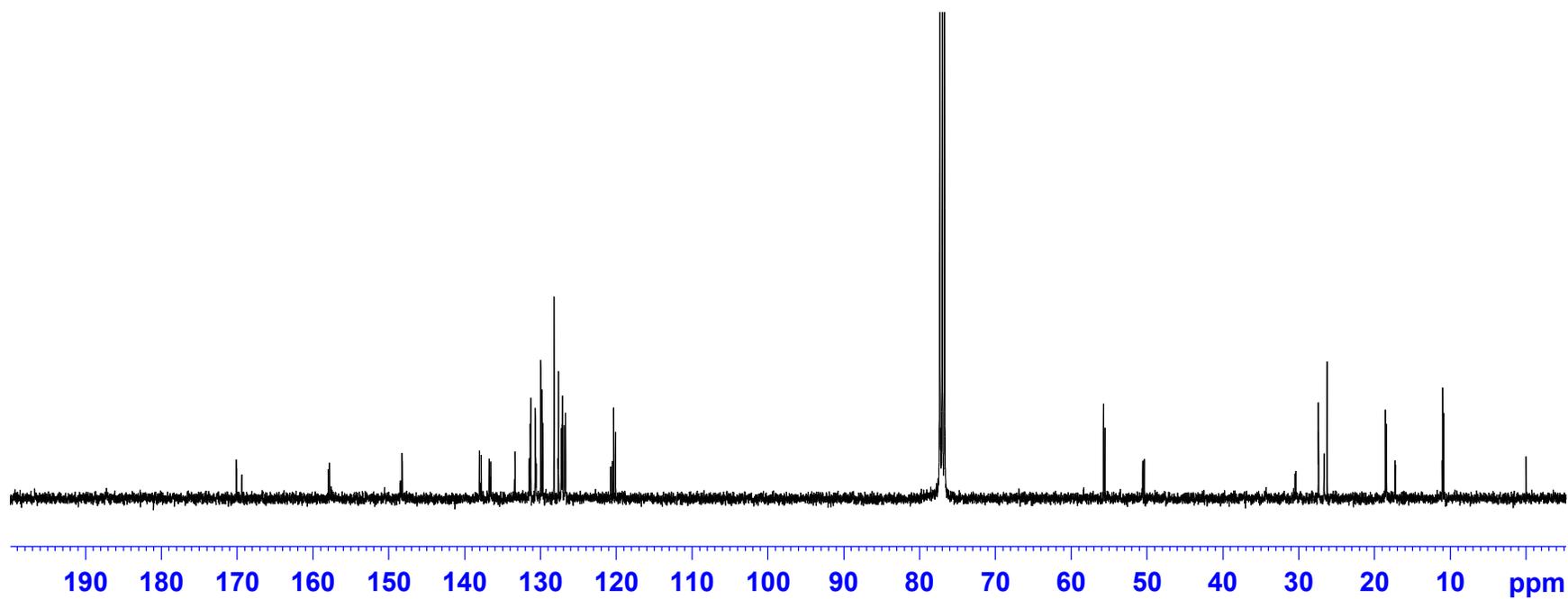
**Figure S1B.** Expanded  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of **1a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at room temperature at high field.



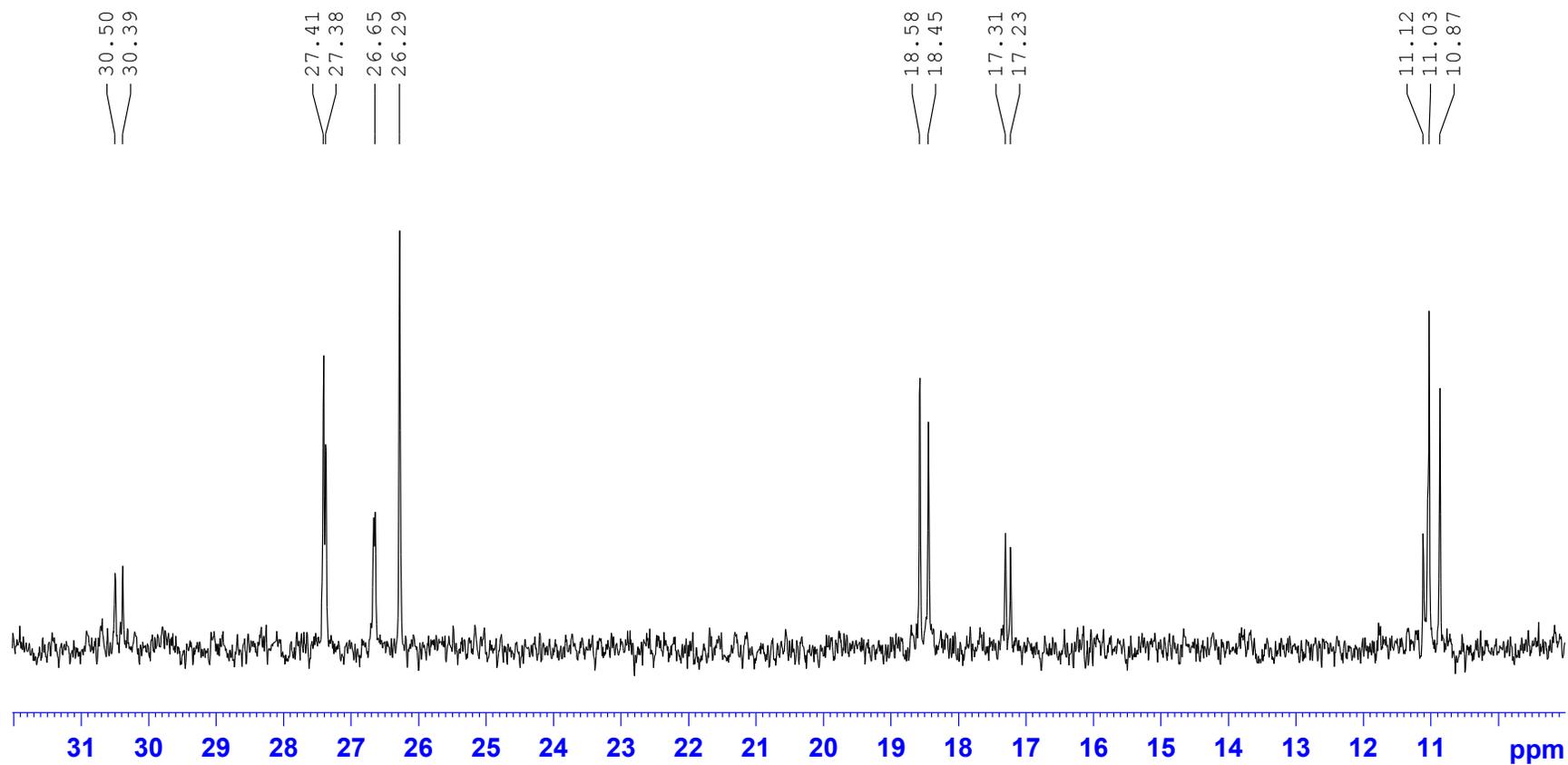
**Figure S1C.** Expanded <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of **1a** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at room temperature at 2.7–3.2 ppm.



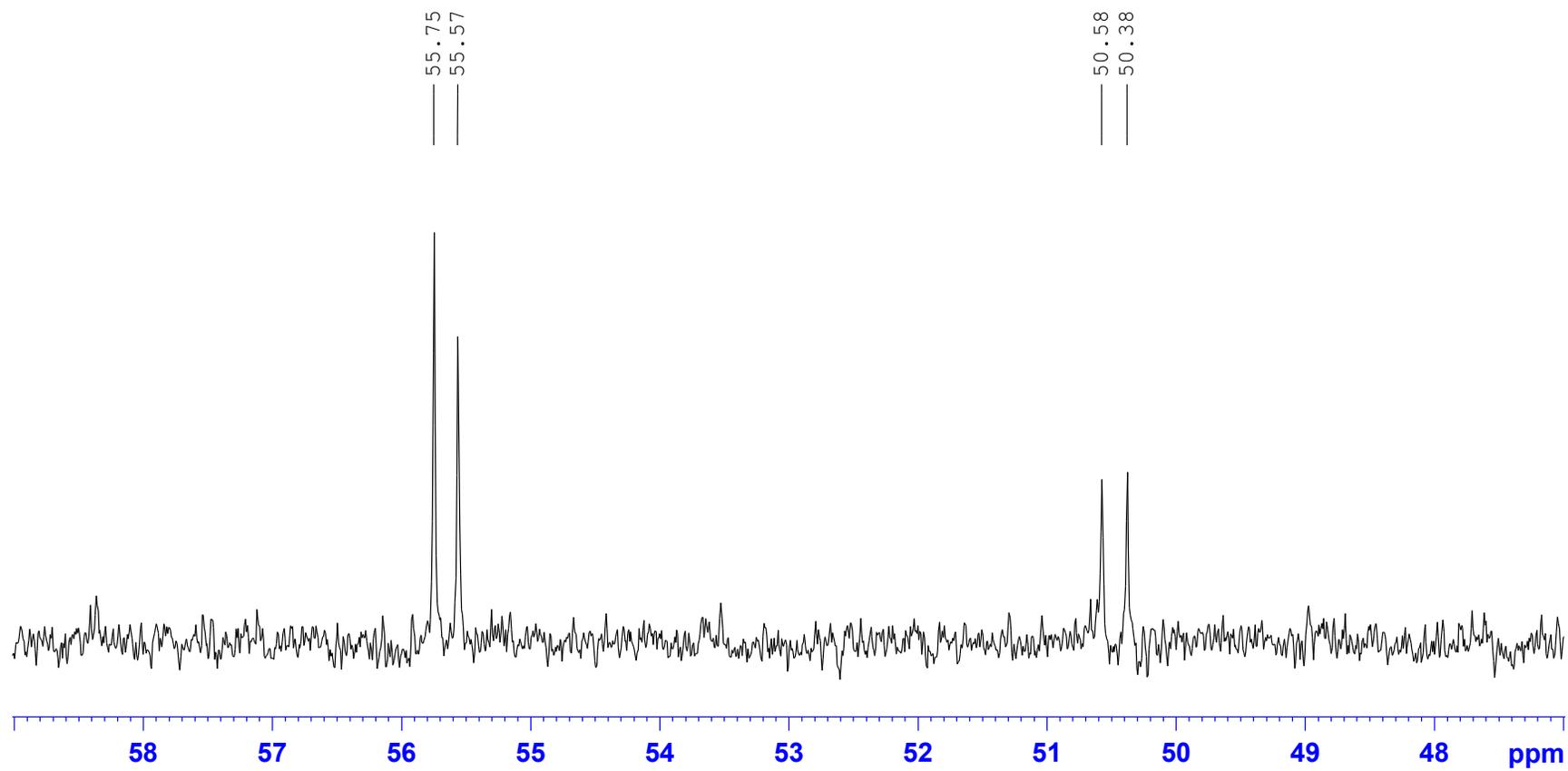
**Figure S2.**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of **1a** in  $d_6$ -DMSO at 24 °C.



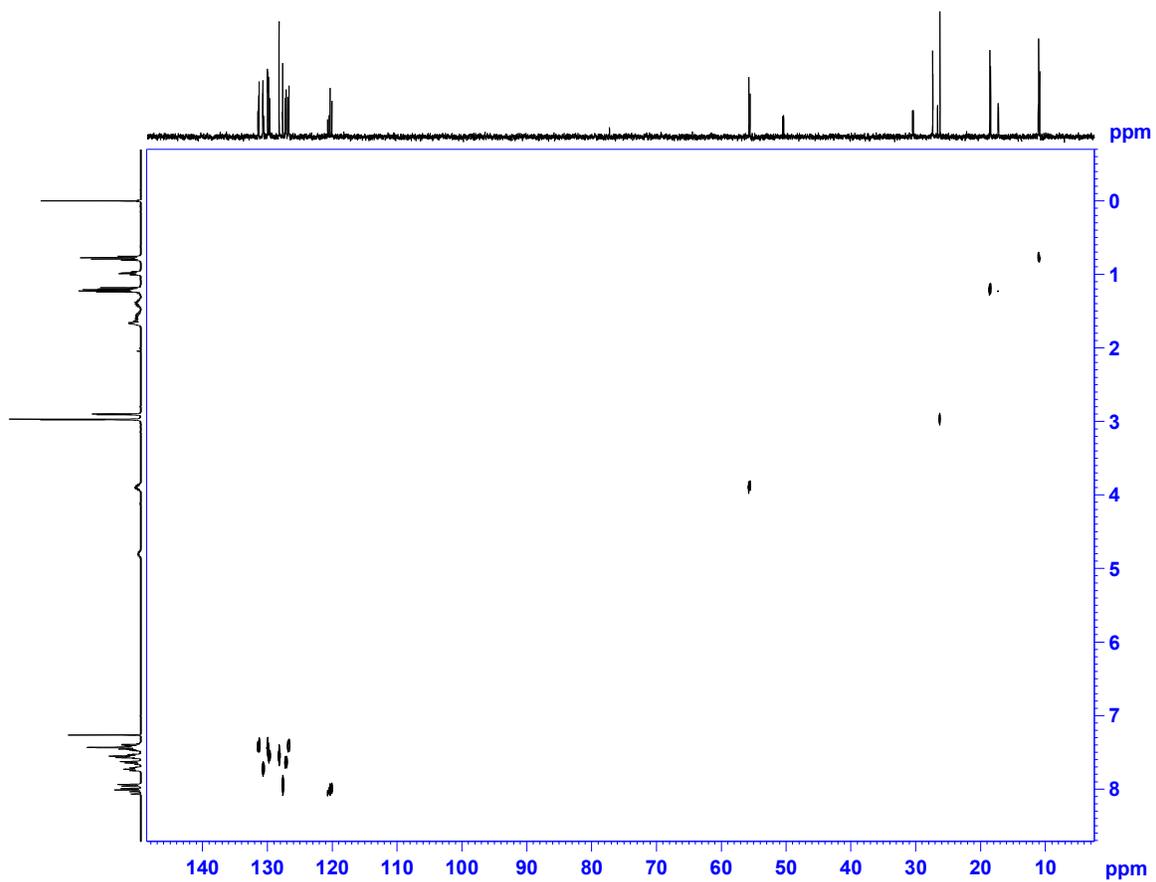
**Figure S3A.** Full  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of **1a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at room temperature.



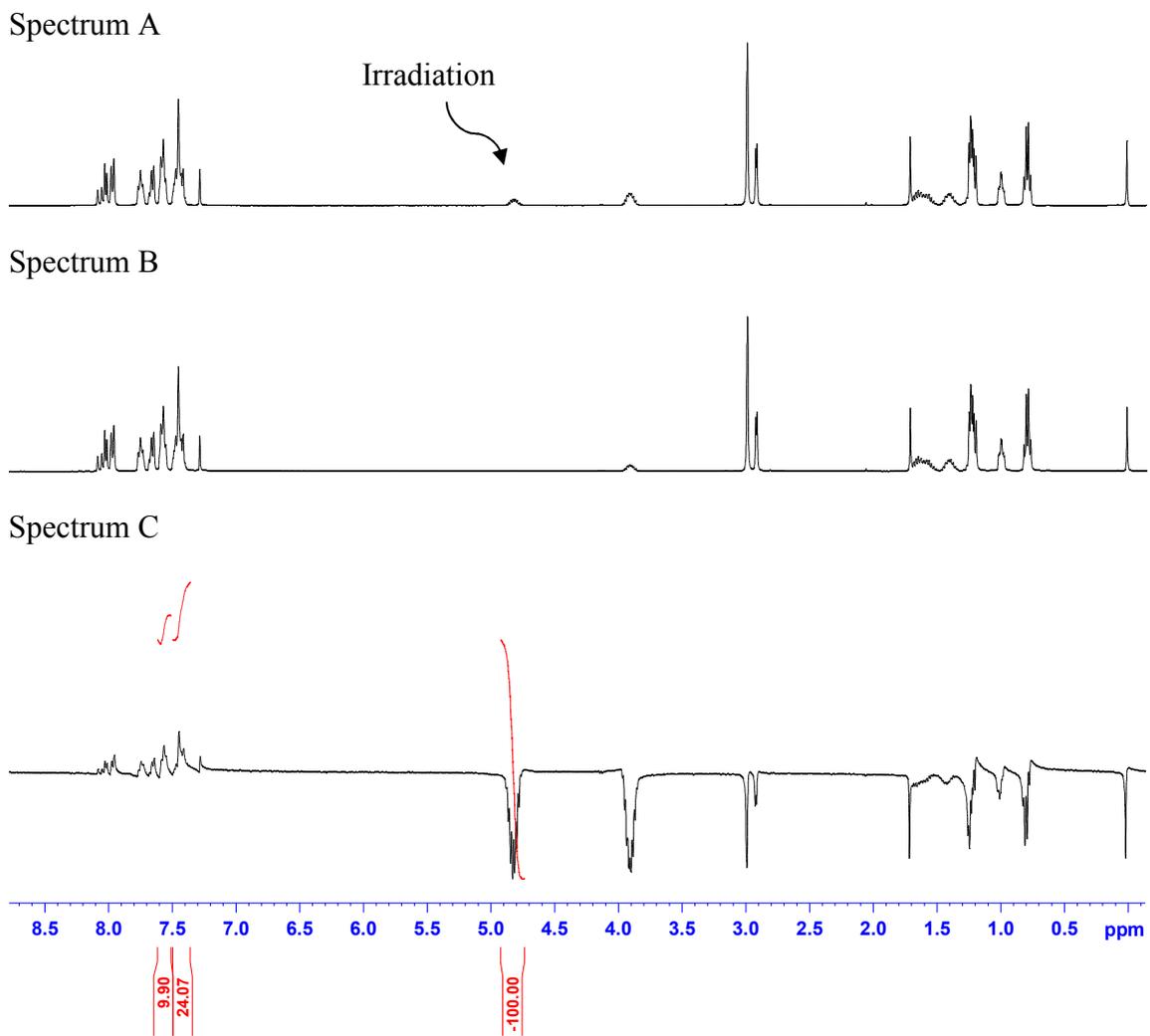
**Figure S3B.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of **1a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at room temperature (9–32 ppm)



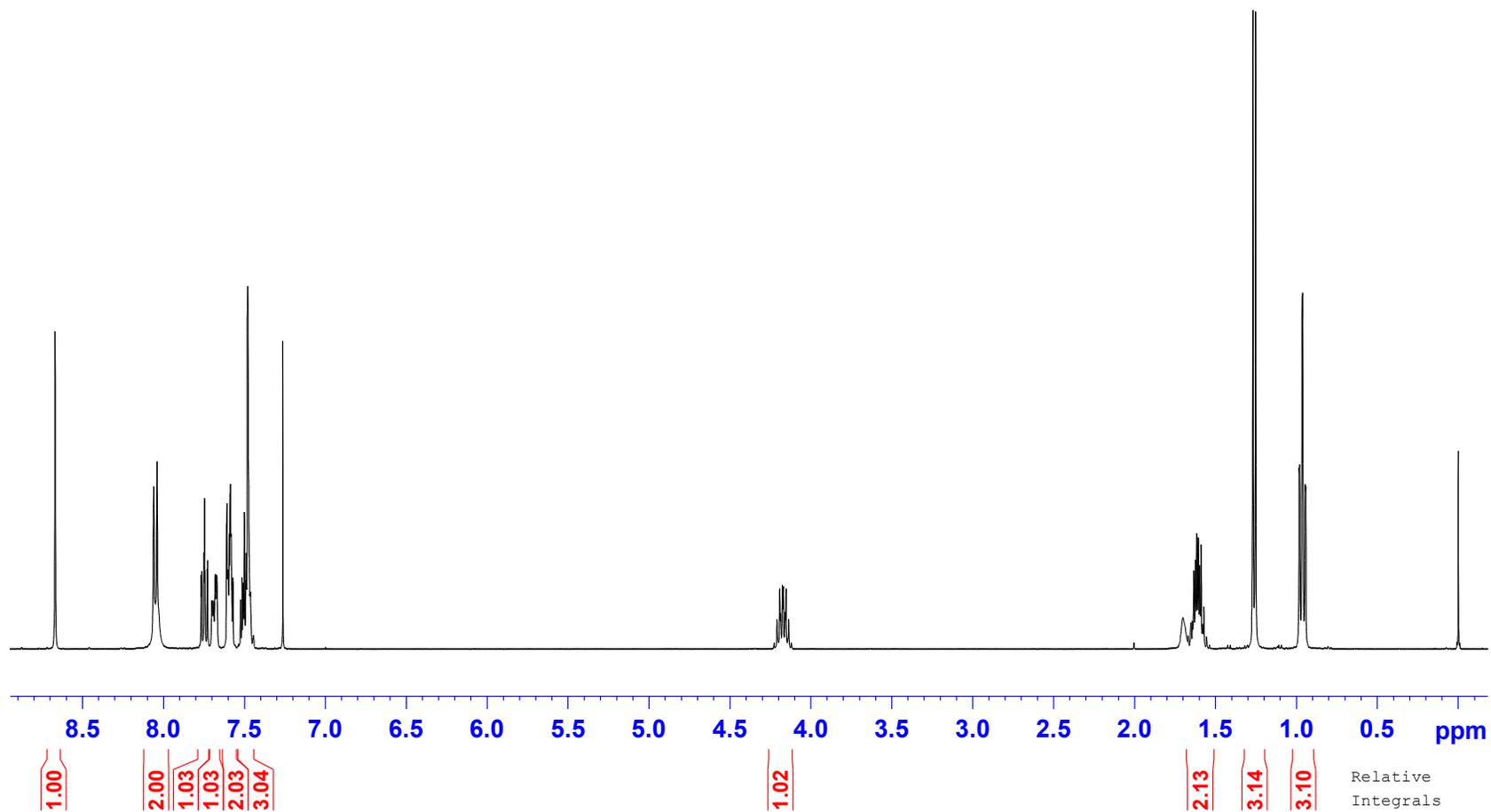
**Figure S3C.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of **1a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at room temperature (45–57 ppm).



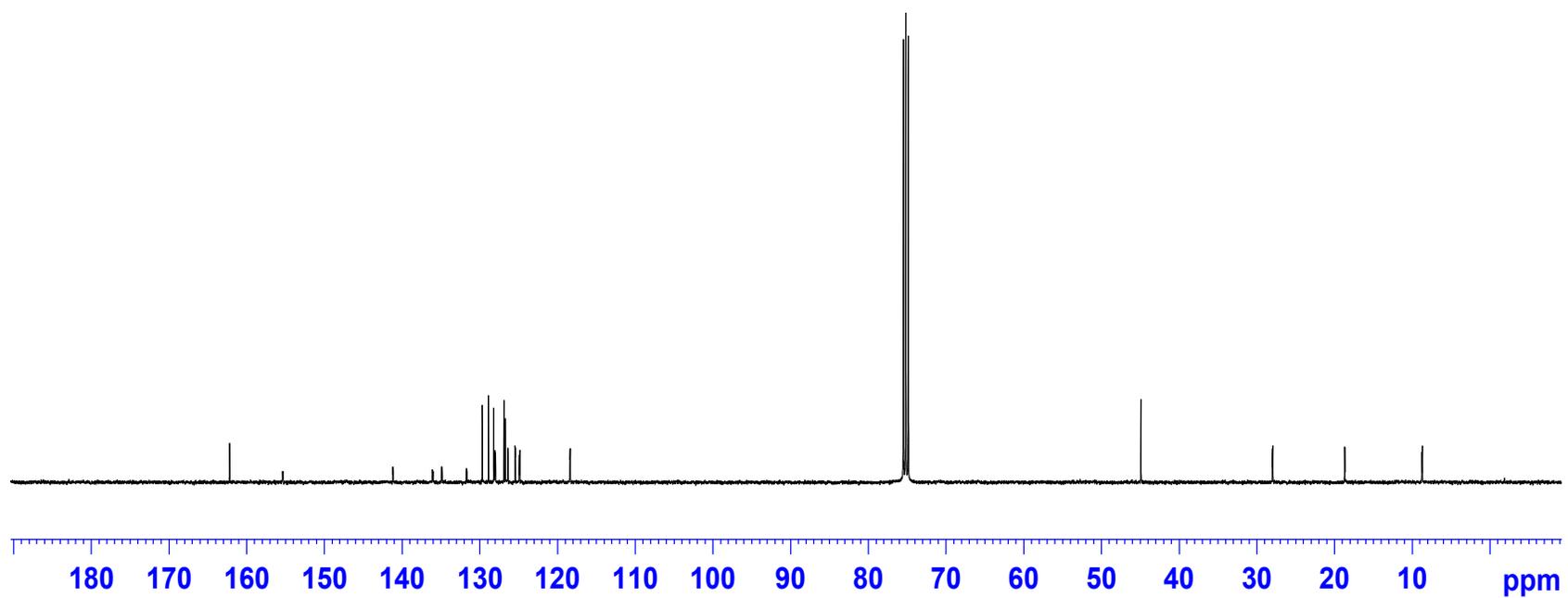
**Figure S4.**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$ -COSY NMR spectrum of **1a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at room temperature.



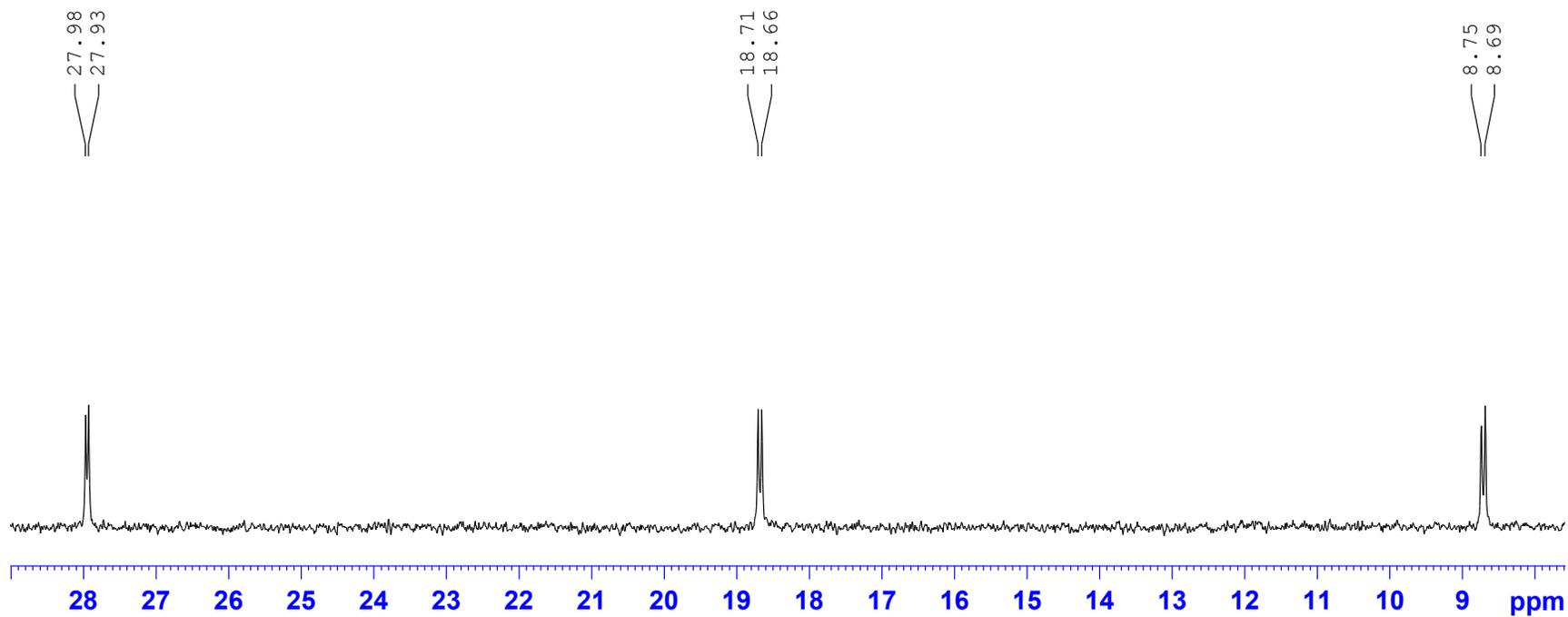
**Figure S5.** NOE spectroscopy of **1a**. Spectrum A:  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  of **1a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ . Spectrum B:  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  of **1a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  after irradiation of *Z* rotamer *s*-butyl C-H signal. Spectrum C: NOE difference spectrum for A and B, showing increase of signals for chlorophenyl ring protons.



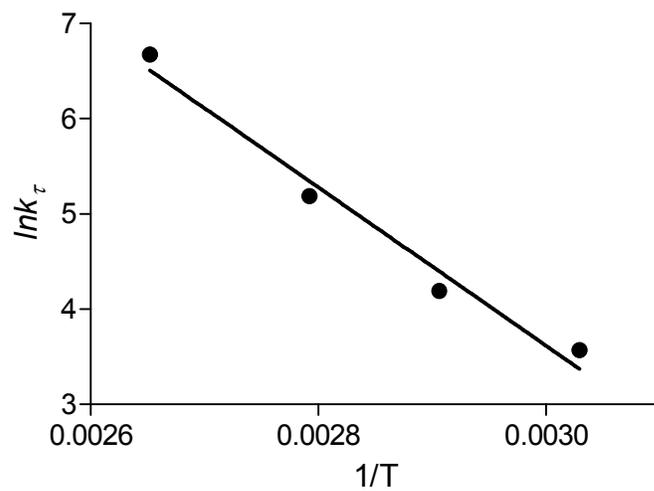
**Figure S6.** Full  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of **1b** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at room temperature.



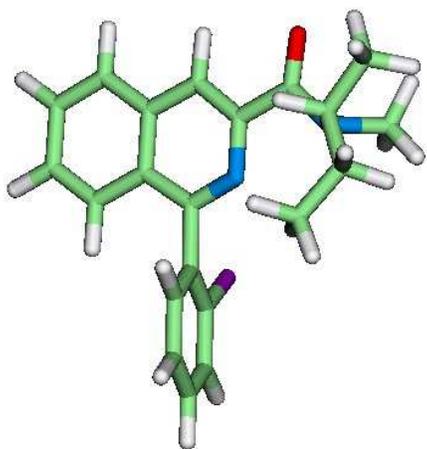
**Figure S7A.** Full  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of **1b** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at room temperature.



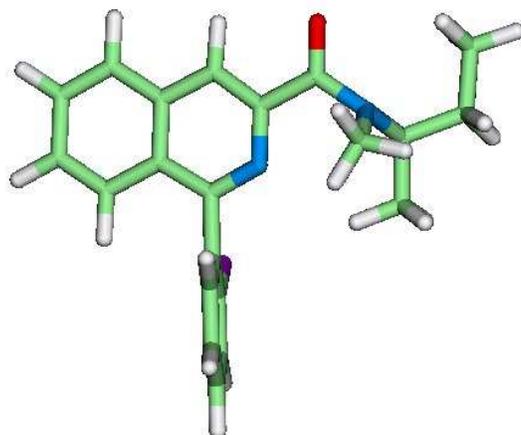
**Figure S7B.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of **1b** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at room temperature, in the range 8–29 ppm.



**Figure S8.** Ln rate of amide bond rotation ( $k_{\tau}$ ; Hz) in **1a** versus inverse of absolute temperature (K).

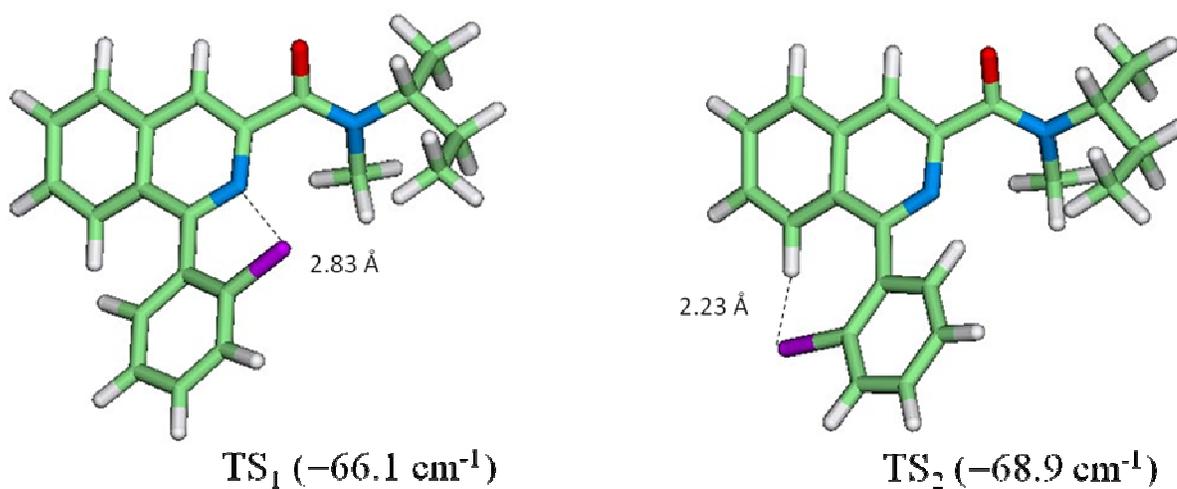


$TS_1$  ( $-92.5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

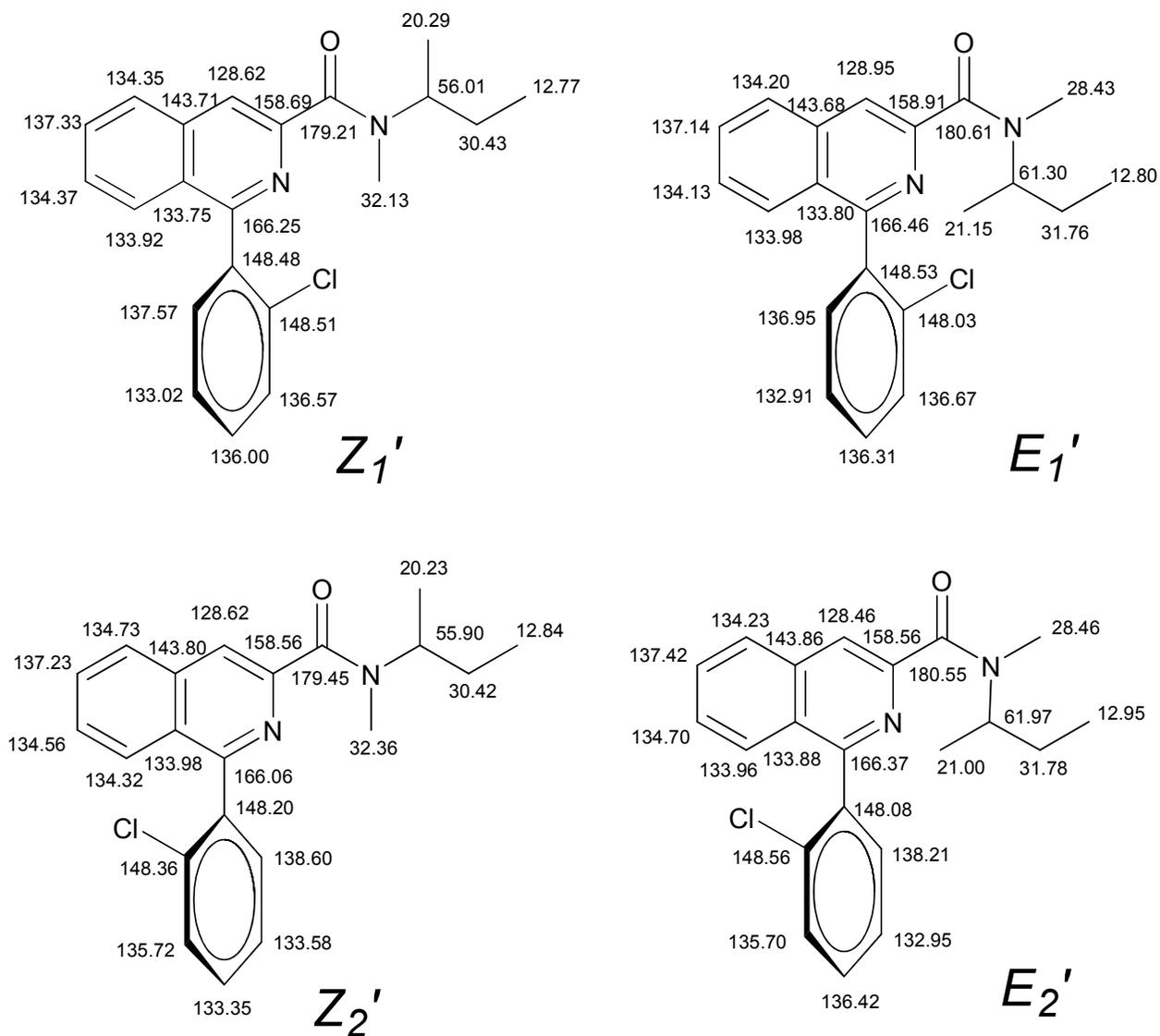


$TS_2$  ( $-101.1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

**Figures S9.** Transition states for the amide bond isomerization of the  $Z_I$  form of **1a**. Geometry was optimized at the B3LYP/6-31G\* level in the solvent reaction field of chloroform. Values in parenthesis represent the imaginary vibrational frequency. Atoms are colored as follows: white, hydrogen; green, carbon; blue, nitrogen; red, oxygen; violet, chlorine.



**Figures S10.** Transition states for the chlorophenyl group rotation of the  $Z_I$  isomer of **1a**. Geometry was optimized at the B3LYP/6-31G\* level in the solvent reaction field of chloroform. The steric clash between the Cl and the isoquinoline nitrogen in  $\text{TS}_1$  and the Cl and the C8-H atom of the isoquinolinyl moiety in  $\text{TS}_2$  are indicated by the dashed lines. Atoms are colored as follows: white, hydrogen; green, carbon; blue, nitrogen; red, oxygen; violet, chlorine.



**Figure S11.** Calculated  $^{13}\text{C}$  chemical shifts for the additional isomers of **1a** ( $Z_1'$ ,  $Z_2'$ ,  $E_1'$ , and  $E_2'$ ) at the level of B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p) in the solvent reaction field of chloroform. These were obtained by rotating  $\phi_3$  in the respective  $Z_1$ ,  $Z_2$ ,  $E_1$ , and  $E_2$  rotamers.

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(2) Shanan-Atidi, H., and Bar-Eli, K. H. (1970) A convenient method for obtaining free energies of activation by the coalescence temperature of an unequal doublet. *J. Phys. Chem.* 74, 961–963.

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