

Supporting information

Asymmetric Synthesis of Chiral Primary Amines by Transfer Hydrogenation of *N*-(*tert*-Butanesulfinyl)ketimines

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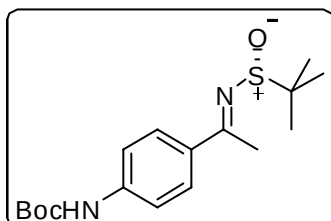
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1. General information

All glassware was dried in an oven at 100 °C and cooled to room temperature under argon before use. All reactions were carried out under an argon atmosphere. All starting materials needed for the synthesis of imines **1** and *ent*-**1**, [RuCl₂(*p*-cymene)]₂, (1*S*,2*R*)-1-amino-2-indanol (**3**), (1*R*,2*S*)-1-amino-2-indanol (*ent*-**3**) and *t*-BuOK were commercially available and were used as received. Commercially available 4 Å molecular sieves were dried in a Kugelrohr distillation apparatus at 120 °C under vacuum for 5h before use. Commercially available anhydrous isopropanol was used as solvent in all the transfer hydrogenation reactions. Column chromatography was performed with silica gel 60 of 230–400 mesh. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on precoated silica gel plates; detection was done by UV₂₅₄ light and staining with phosphomolybdic acid (solution of 1 g of phosphomolybdic acid in 24 mL of absolute ethanol); *R_f* values are given under these conditions. When mentioned, an *R_f* value measured on deactivated silica gel means that the TLC plate was eluted with a mixture of 5% triethylamine in hexane and dried before applying the sample. Melting points (mp) are uncorrected. Unless otherwise stated, NMR samples were prepared using CDCl₃ as solvent. The internal references used for NMR spectra were tetramethylsilane (TMS) for ¹H NMR and CDCl₃ for ¹³C NMR; chemical shifts are given in δ (ppm) and coupling constants (*J*) in Hz. Mass spectra (EI) were obtained at 70 eV. The HRMS (EI) were performed by the Technical Services of the University of Alicante. HPLC analyses were performed at 25 °C.

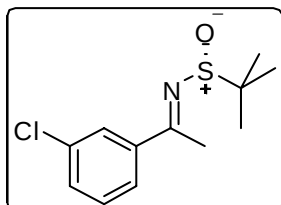
2. Synthesis of imines **1** and *ent*-**1**

N-(*tert*-butanesulfinyl)imines **1** and *ent*-**1** were prepared by reaction of (*R*)-*tert*-butanesulfinamide (for **1**) or (*S*)-*tert*-butanesulfinamide (for *ent*-**1**) with the corresponding ketones, according to a literature procedure.¹ Imines **1a**,² **1b**,² **1c**,³ **1d**,⁴ **1e**,⁵ **1g**,² **1i**,⁶ **1j**,² **1k**,⁶ **1l**,¹ **1m**,⁷ **1n**,⁷ **1o**,² **1q**,⁸ and *ent*-**1a**⁶ were identified by comparison of their ¹H NMR spectra with the previously reported data. The corresponding physical, spectroscopic and analytical data for imines **1f**, **1h**, **1p** and *ent*-**1r** follow.



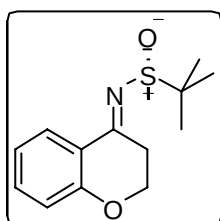
***tert*-Butyl (R)-4-[1-(*tert*-butanesulfinylimino)ethyl]phenyl carbamate (**1f**).** Yellow solid; mp not determined (decomposes); *R_f* 0.63 (hexane/ethyl acetate: 1/1); [α]_D²⁰ +38.0 (*c* 1.3, CH₂Cl₂); IR (KBr) 3240, 3052, 1718, 1594, 1265, 1155 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.31 (9H, s), 1.52 (9H, s), 2.72 (3H, s), 7.05 (1H, br s), 7.45, 7.85 (2H each, 2 d, *J* = 8.6 Hz each); ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 19.6, 22.4, 28.2, 57.1, 81.0, 117.5, 128.5, 132.8, 142.0, 152.3, 175.8; *m/z* (DIP)

282 (M⁺ - C₄H₈, 18%), 281 (34), 231 (63), 228 (33), 226 (42), 219 (43), 193 (26), 162 (46), 134 (21), 131 (71), 119 (98), 70 (23), 69 (100), 44 (22); HRMS: M⁺ - C₄H₈ found 282.1036, C₁₃H₁₈N₂O₃S requires 282.1038.



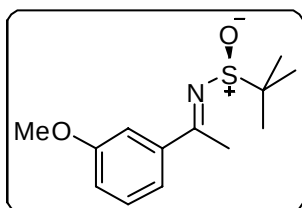
(R)-N-[1-(3-Chlorophenyl)ethylidene]-2-methylpropane-2-sulfinamide (1h**).**⁹ Yellow oil; *R_f* 0.56 (hexane/ethyl acetate: 1/1); [α]_D²⁰ +12.0 (*c* 1.0, CH₂Cl₂); IR (neat) 3070, 1605, 1564, 1071 cm⁻¹; ¹H-RMN (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.33 (9H, s), 2.76 (3H, s), 7.37 (1H, t, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.46, 7.75 (1H each, 2 d, *J* = 7.8 Hz each), 7.85 (1H, s); ¹³C-RMN (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 19.7, 22.5, 57.7, 125.3, 127.3, 129.7, 131.5, 134.6, 140.4, 174.7; *m/z* (DIP)

257 (M⁺, <1%), 201 (25), 157 (52), 139 (21), 109 (33), 71 (20), 70 (20), 57 (75), 43 (100), 41 (25).



(R)-N-(Chroman-4-ylidene)-2-methylpropane-2-sulfinamide (1p**).** Red oil; *R_f* 0.54 (hexane/ethyl acetate: 1/1); [α]_D²⁰ -71.0 (*c* 1.3, CHCl₃); IR (neat) 3069, 1591, 1079 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.33 (9H, s), 3.27 (1H, ddd, *J* = 17.4, 7.3, 4.2 Hz), 3.51 (1H, ddd, *J* = 17.4, 8.6, 4.8 Hz), 4.29-4.40 (2H, m), 6.92

(1H, dd, $J = 8.4, 1.1$ Hz), 6.98 (1H, dt, $J = 7.6, 1.1$ Hz), 7.33 (1H, dt, $J = 8.4, 1.7$ Hz), 8.00 (1H, dd, $J = 7.6, 1.7$ Hz); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 22.6, 30.7, 57.9, 65.5, 118.0, 121.1, 121.3, 126.9, 134.2, 159.2, 169.6; m/z (DIP) 251 (M^+ , <1%), 195 (94), 147 (100), 119 (36), 57 (22); HRMS: M^+ found 251.0969, $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ requires 251.0980.



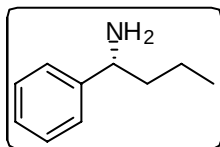
(S)-N-[1-(3-Methoxyphenyl)ethylidene]-2-methylpropane-2-sulfonamide (*ent*-1r). White solid; mp 65-66 °C; R_f 0.48 (hexane/ethyl acetate: 1/1); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20}$ -6.0 (c 1.8, CH_2Cl_2); IR (KBr) 3069, 1608, 1575, 1287, 1068 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.32 (9H, s), 2.76 (3H, s), 3.84 (3H, s), 7.04 (1H, d, $J = 8.3$ Hz), 7.34 (1H, t, $J = 8.3$ Hz), 7.36-7.47 (2H, m); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 19.8, 22.4, 55.3, 57.4, 112.4, 117.3, 119.7, 129.4, 140.1, 159.5, 176.1; m/z (DIP) 253 (M^+ , <1%), 197 (15), 149 (23), 148 (13), 70 (18), 57 (15), 43 (100); HRMS: M^+ found 253.1112, $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_2\text{S}$ requires 253.1137.

3. General procedure for the asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of imines **1**

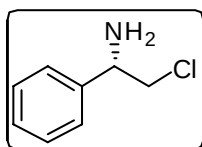
A mixture of $[\text{RuCl}_2(p\text{-cymene})]_2$ (28 mg, 0.045 mmol), the ligand **3** (14 mg, 0.09 mmol), 4 Å molecular sieves (0.5 g) and anhydrous *i*-PrOH (2 mL) was heated up to 90 °C (oil bath temperature) for 20 min. During this heating period, the initially orange reaction mixture turned into a dark red colour. The reaction was then cooled to 40 °C and a solution of the imine **1** (0.9 mmol) in *i*-PrOH (9 mL) and *t*-BuOK (2.25 mL of a 0.1 M solution in *i*-PrOH, 0.225 mmol) were successively added. After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was passed through a small column of silica gel, the column was washed with ethyl acetate and the combined organic phases were evaporated to give a residue that was directly submitted to the desulfinylation step.

4. General procedure for the removal of the sulfinyl group. Isolation of amines **2a-2e**, **2g-2q** and *ent*-2

The crude mixture of the transfer hydrogenation reaction was dissolved in a 1.5 M solution of HCl in methanol (4 mL; prepared by dropwise addition of SOCl_2 to methanol at 0 °C) and stirred overnight at room temperature. Then, the solvent was evaporated, a 2 M aqueous HCl solution (5 mL) was added and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3×5 mL). The organic layers were discarded. The aqueous layer was basified with a buffer solution of NH_3 (1 M) / NH_4Cl (1 M) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3×10 mL). The combined organic phases were dried (Na_2SO_4). After filtration and evaporation of the solvent, pure amines **2a-2e**, **2g-2q** and *ent*-2 were obtained in the yields indicated in Table 2. Amines **2a**, *ent*-2a and **2b**, which are commercially available, were identified by comparison of their spectroscopic data (^1H and ^{13}C NMR) with authentic samples. The corresponding physical and spectroscopic data for amines **2c-2e**, **2g-2q** and *ent*-2r follow.

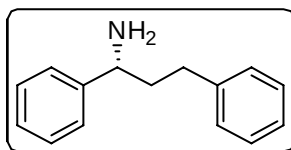


(R)-1-Phenylbutan-1-amine (2c).¹⁰ Yellow oil; R_f 0.62 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20}$ +26.0 (c 1.1, EtOH, 99% ee) {literature¹¹ $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20}$ for *ent*-2c = -2.3 (c 1.0, EtOH, 11% ee)}; IR (neat) 3362, 3288, 3060, 1600, 1452 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.90 (3H, t, $J = 7.3$ Hz), 1.15-1.43 (2H, m), 1.58-1.72 (4H, m), 3.88 (1H, t, $J = 6.9$ Hz), 7.19-7.36 (5H, m); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.0, 19.7, 41.8, 56.0, 126.3, 126.8, 128.4, 146.7; m/z 149 (M^+ , 4%), 132 (40), 117 (75), 115 (43), 106 (100), 103 (73), 91 (28), 77 (45), 51 (27).

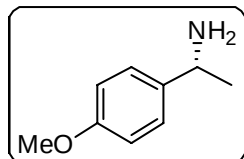


(S)-2-Chloro-1-phenylethanamine (2d).¹² Brown oil; R_f 0.38 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20}$ +26.0 (c 0.8, EtOH, 99% ee) {literature¹² $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20}$ +9.1 (c 1.0, EtOH, 32% ee)}; IR (neat) 3383, 3269, 3030, 1587, 1455, 1121 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.83 (2H, br s), 3.55 (1H, dd, $J = 10.7, 9.0$ Hz),

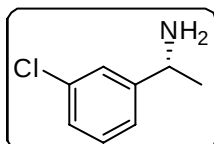
3.71 (1H, dd, $J = 10.7, 3.8$ Hz), 4.24 (1H, dd, $J = 9.0, 3.8$ Hz), 7.26-7.41 (5H, m); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 51.7, 57.2, 126.6, 128.0, 128.6, 141.8; m/z 155 (M^+ , <1%), 106 (100), 104 (15), 79 (27), 77 (21).



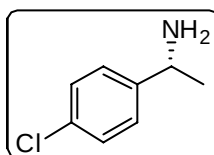
(R)-1,3-Diphenylpropan-1-amine (2e).¹³ White solid; mp 54 °C; R_f 0.55 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +6.0$ (c 0.5, CHCl_3 , 98% ee) {literature¹³ $[\alpha]_D^{25} +9.1$ (c 0.5, CHCl_3 , 97% ee)}; IR (KBr) 3362, 3296, 3026, 1602, 1494, 1453 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.62 (2H, br s), 2.01 (2H, m), 2.50-2.70 (2H, m), 3.91 (1H, t, $J = 6.9$ Hz), 7.13-7.21 (3H, m), 7.23-7.36 (7H, m); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 32.8, 41.0, 55.7, 125.8, 126.4, 127.0, 128.3, 128.5, 141.9, 146.2; m/z 211 (M^+ , <1%), 106 (100), 91 (10), 79 (12).



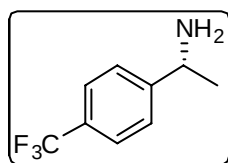
(R)-1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)ethanamine (2g).¹⁴ Colorless oil; R_f 0.17 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +23.5$ (c 0.9, CHCl_3 , 95% ee) {literature¹⁴ $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ for *ent*-**2g** = -23.0 (c 0.88, CHCl_3 , 90% ee)}; IR (neat) 3359, 3285, 1610, 1513, 1248 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.36 (3H, d, $J = 6.6$ Hz), 1.87 (2H, br s), 3.79 (3H, s), 4.07 (1H, q, $J = 6.6$ Hz), 6.87, 7.26 (2H each, 2 d, $J = 8.6$ Hz each); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 25.6, 50.7, 55.3, 113.8, 126.7, 139.7, 158.4; m/z 151 (M^+ , 6%), 136 (100), 109 (15).



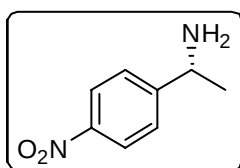
(R)-1-(3-Chlorophenyl)ethanamine (2h).¹⁵ Colorless oil; R_f 0.36 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +27.5$ (c 1.2, CHCl_3 , >99% ee) {literature¹⁵ $[\alpha]_D^{21}$ for *ent*-**2h** -12.6 (neat, 80% ee)}; IR (neat) 3368, 3286, 3060, 1596, 1571, 1431, 1079 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.36 (3H, d, $J = 6.6$ Hz), 1.59 (2H, br s), 4.09 (1H, q, $J = 6.6$ Hz), 7.16-7.27 (3H, m), 7.35 (1H, s); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 25.6, 50.9, 123.9, 125.9, 126.9, 129.7, 134.2, 149.8; m/z 155 (M^+ , 2%), 142 (31), 140 (100), 138 (13), 77 (22), 75 (11).



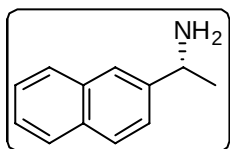
(R)-1-(4-Chlorophenyl)ethanamine (2i).¹⁶ Colorless oil; R_f 0.33 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +31.0$ (c 1.2, CHCl_3 , >99% ee) {literature¹⁶ $[\alpha]_D^{20} +18.9$ (c 1.0, CHCl_3 , 92% ee)}; IR (neat) 3365, 3285, 3046, 1590, 1491, 1093 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.35 (3H, d, $J = 6.7$ Hz), 1.56 (2H, br s), 4.10 (1H, q, $J = 6.7$ Hz), 7.24-7.31 (4H, m); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 25.7, 50.6, 127.1, 128.5, 132.2, 146.1; m/z 155 (M^+ , 3%), 142 (25), 140 (100), 139 (14), 138 (31), 137 (11), 77 (23), 75 (18), 51 (10).



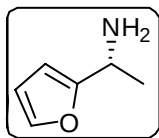
(R)-1-[4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl]ethanamine (2j).¹⁷ Colorless oil; R_f 0.31 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +20.0$ (c 1.0, MeOH, 99% ee) {literature¹⁸ $[\alpha]_D^{24}$ for *ent*-**2j** = -13.0 (c 1.95, MeOH, 60% ee)}; IR (neat) 3360, 3231, 3070, 1619, 1462, 1326, 1124 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.40 (3H, d, $J = 6.6$ Hz), 1.67 (2H, br s), 4.19 (1H, q, $J = 6.6$ Hz), 7.47, 7.59 (2H each, 2 d, $J = 8.2$ Hz each); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 25.7, 51.0, 122.4, 125.4, 126.1, 129.1, 151.6 (ArC); m/z 189 (M^+ , <1%), 187 (27), 174 (100), 172 (90), 145 (33), 105 (28), 77 (22).



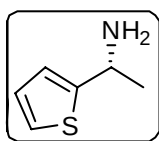
(R)-1-(4-Nitrophenyl)ethanamine (2k).¹⁴ Yellow oil; R_f 0.20 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +10.5$ (c 1.0, CHCl_3 , 97% ee) {literature¹⁴ $[\alpha]_D^{24}$ for *ent*-**2k** = -16.0 (c 0.76, CHCl_3 , 96% ee)}; IR (neat) 3370, 3215, 3075, 1597, 1516, 1346 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.40 (3H, d, $J = 6.7$ Hz), 1.64 (2H, br s), 4.26 (1H, q, $J = 6.7$ Hz), 7.54, 8.17 (2H each, 2 d, $J = 8.8$ Hz each); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 25.7, 50.8, 123.6, 126.6, 146.7, 155.1; m/z 166 (M^+ , <1%), 151 (100), 105 (30), 104 (13).



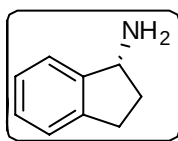
(R)-1-(2-Naphthyl)ethanamine (2l).¹⁹ White solid; mp 74-75 °C; R_f 0.40 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +23.0$ (c 2.0, EtOH, 98% ee) {literature¹⁹ $[\alpha]_D^{25} +19.9$ (c 2.5, EtOH, 94% ee)}; IR (KBr) 3361, 3290, 3054, 1599, 1573, 1468 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.47 (3H, d, $J = 6.6$ Hz), 1.65 (2H, br s), 4.28 (1H, q, $J = 6.6$ Hz), 7.40-7.52 (3H, m), 7.77 (1H, s), 7.79-7.84 (3H, m); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 25.6, 51.4, 123.7, 124.5, 125.5, 126.0, 127.6, 127.7, 128.2, 132.6, 133.5, 145.1; m/z 171 (M^+ , 18%), 157 (14), 156 (100), 129 (45), 128 (29), 127 (19).



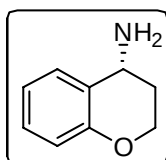
(R)-1-(2-Furyl)ethanamine (2m).²⁰ Yellow oil; R_f 0.35 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +25.5$ (c 1.1, EtOH, 99% ee) {literature²⁰ $[\alpha]_D^{20} +22.7$ (c 1.0, EtOH, 92% ee)}; IR (neat) 3368, 3290, 3113, 1600, 1149 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.42 (3H, d, $J = 6.7$ Hz), 1.62 (2H, br s), 4.07 (1H, q, $J = 6.7$ Hz), 6.09 (1H, d, $J = 3.2$ Hz), 6.29 (1H, dd, $J = 3.2, 1.4$ Hz), 7.31-7.34 (1H, m); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 22.0, 45.0, 103.2, 109.9, 141.1, 160.2; m/z 111 (M^+ , 29%), 110 (11), 109 (29), 96 (100), 95 (14), 94 (47), 82 (19), 80 (18), 69 (28), 65 (18), 54 (18).



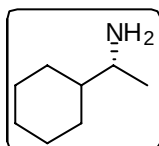
(R)-1-(2-Thienyl)ethanamine (2n).²¹ Colorless oil; R_f 0.50 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +18.5$ (c 1.0, MeOH, 97% ee) {literature²¹ $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ for *ent*-**2n** -13.0 (c 5.0, MeOH)}; IR (neat) 3363, 3290, 3102, 3070, 1592, 1444, 1371, 1308 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.48 (3H, d, $J = 6.6$ Hz), 1.65 (2H, br s), 4.37 (1H, q, $J = 6.6$ Hz), 6.88-6.96 (2H, m), 7.17 (1H, dd, $J = 5.0, 0.9$ Hz); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 26.3, 47.3, 122.0, 123.3, 126.5, 152.8; m/z 127 (M^+ , 22%), 126 (15), 112 (100), 111 (17), 110 (56), 109 (18), 85 (41), 84 (11), 66 (11), 58 (12).



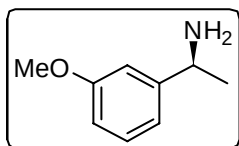
(R)-2,3-Dihydro-1H-inden-1-amine (2o).²² Brown oil; R_f 0.58 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20} -22.0$ (c 1.2, CHCl_3 , 93% ee) {literature²² $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ for *ent*-**2o** +20.0 (c 1.0, CHCl_3 , 96% ee)}; IR (neat) 3368, 3284, 1477, 1216 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-RMN}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.57-1.80 (1H, m), 1.77 (2H, br s), 2.42-2.54, 2.72-2.86, 2.88-3.00 (1H each, 3 m), 4.34 (1H, t, $J = 7.3$ Hz), 7.13-7.36 (5H, m); $^{13}\text{C-RMN}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 30.0, 37.3, 57.2, 123.2, 124.6, 126.4, 127.1, 143.0, 147.4; m/z 133 (M^+ , 9%), 132 (100), 118 (35), 117 (87), 116 (75), 115 (90).



(R)-Chroman-4-amine (2p).²³ Orange oil; R_f 0.36 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20} +13.5$ (c 1.6, CHCl_3 , 98% ee); $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ for *N*-acetyl **2p**²⁴ +58.0 (c 0.5, CHCl_3 , 98% ee) {literature²³ $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ for *N*-acetyl *ent*-**2p** = -55.2 (c 0.36, CHCl_3 , 87% ee)}; IR (neat) 3360, 3291, 3063, 1581, 1488, 1226 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.62 (2H, br s), 1.77-1.87, 2.09-2.19 (1H each, 2 m), 4.02 (1H, t, $J = 5.3$ Hz), 4.14-4.33 (2H, m), 6.81 (1H, d, $J = 7.7$ Hz), 6.90, 7.14 (1H each, 2 t, $J = 7.7$ Hz each), 7.29 (1H, d, $J = 7.7$ Hz); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 32.1, 44.9, 62.7, 116.8, 120.3, 126.6, 128.3, 128.7, 154.2; m/z 149 (M^+ , 20%), 148 (19), 132 (66), 131 (67), 121 (100), 93 (28), 77 (23), 66 (21), 51 (16).



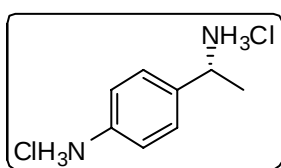
(R)-1-Cyclohexylethanamine (2q).²⁵ Colorless oil; R_f 0.16 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20} -1.1$ (c 2.0, CHCl_3 , 69% ee) {literature²⁵ $[\alpha]_D^{24}$ for *ent*-**2q** +2.1 (c 1.1, CHCl_3 , >99% ee)}; IR (neat) 3362, 3287, 1603, 1449, 1372 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.88-1.04 (2H, m), 1.03 (3H, d, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 1.07-1.27 (4H, m), 1.30 (2H, br s), 1.59-1.83 (5H, m), 2.66 (1H, quintet, $J = 6.3$ Hz); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 20.7, 26.2, 26.3, 26.5, 28.7, 28.9, 45.3, 51.4; m/z 127 (M^+ , 10%), 126 (22), 112 (67), 95 (80), 82 (32), 81 (37), 79 (29), 77 (25), 70 (34), 69 (20), 68 (25), 67 (100), 65 (21), 56 (50), 55 (99), 54 (59), 53 (54), 51 (22).



(S)-1-(3-Methoxyphenyl)ethanamine (*ent*-2r).²⁶ Colorless oil; R_f 0.26 (ethyl acetate, deactivated silica gel); $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ -25.8 (c 2.1, CHCl_3 , >99% ee) {literature²⁶ $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -26.8 (c 1.15, CHCl_3 , 85% ee)}; IR (neat) 3361, 3292, 3048, 1600, 1486, 1260, 1042 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.37 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 1.83 (2H, br s), 3.79 (3H, s), 4.07 (1H, q, J = 6.6 Hz), 6.77 (1H, d, J = 8.3 Hz), 6.87-6.93 (2H, m), 7.23 (1H, t, J = 8.3 Hz); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 25.4, 51.1, 54.9, 111.1, 111.8, 117.8, 129.2, 149.4, 159.5; m/z 151 (M^+ , 9%), 136 (100), 109 (17).

5. Synthesis of amine 2f · 2HCl

A 2 M solution of HCl in Et_2O (10 mL, 20 mmol) was added to the crude mixture of the asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of imine **1f** and the mixture was stirred overnight. After filtration, the white solid was washed with Et_2O (3×10 mL) and dried, affording a 97% yield of the **2f** dihydrochloride.



(R)-1-(4-Aminophenyl)ethanamine dihydrochloride (2f · 2HCl).²⁷ Brownish solid; $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ +6.0 (c 0.6, MeOH, 98% ee); IR (KBr) 3500-2500, 1600, 1518, 1385, 1225 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -RMN (300 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 1.62 (3H, d, J = 6.8 Hz), 4.56 (1H, q, J = 6.8 Hz), 7.51, 7.67 (2H each, 2 d, J = 8.5 Hz each); ^{13}C -RMN (75 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 20.6, 51.7, 124.9, 129.8, 133.1, 140.5.

6. Determination of the enantiomeric excesses of amines 2 and *ent*-2

Benzoyl chloride (64 μL , 0.55 mmol; for the benzoylation of amine **2f**, 128 μL , 1.1 mmol were used) was added to a solution of amine **2** or *ent*-2 (0.5 mmol) and triethylamine (90 μL , 0.65 mmol; for the benzoylation of amine **2f**, 360 μL , 2.6 mmol were used) in CHCl_3 (10 mL) at 0 °C. After stirring for 4 h at room temperature, the organic phase was washed with a 2 M aqueous HCl solution (3×5 mL) and the aqueous layers were discarded. The organic phase was washed with brine (2×5 mL) and then dried (Na_2SO_4). After filtration and evaporation of the solvent, the expected benzamides were purified by column chromatography (silica gel, hexane/ethyl acetate). These benzamides were analyzed by HPLC on a ChiralCel OD-H column using a 254 nm UV detector, 10% *i*-PrOH in hexane as eluent and a flow rate of 0.5 mL/min. The major enantiomer was the one with lower retention time in all cases, except for amines *ent*-2a and *ent*-2r. The racemic amines were prepared by reaction of the corresponding ketones with a solution of NH_3 in EtOH following a literature procedure,¹⁷ and were benzoylated as described above. The retention times of the two enantiomers of all the benzamides are collected in Table 1.

TABLE 1. HPLC retention times of the two enantiomers of the *N*-benzoyl amines

Amine	Retention time of <i>N</i> -benzoyl 2 (min)	Retention time of <i>N</i> -benzoyl <i>ent</i> -2 (min)
2a	32	49
2b	18	30
2c	17	29
2d	33	64
2e	59	78
2f	29 ^a	35 ^a
2g	33	49

2h	25	44
2i	24	40
2j	24	41
2k	78	103
2l	33	96
2m	18	23
2n	22	34
2o	27	44
2p	26	34
2q	13	20
2r	32	72

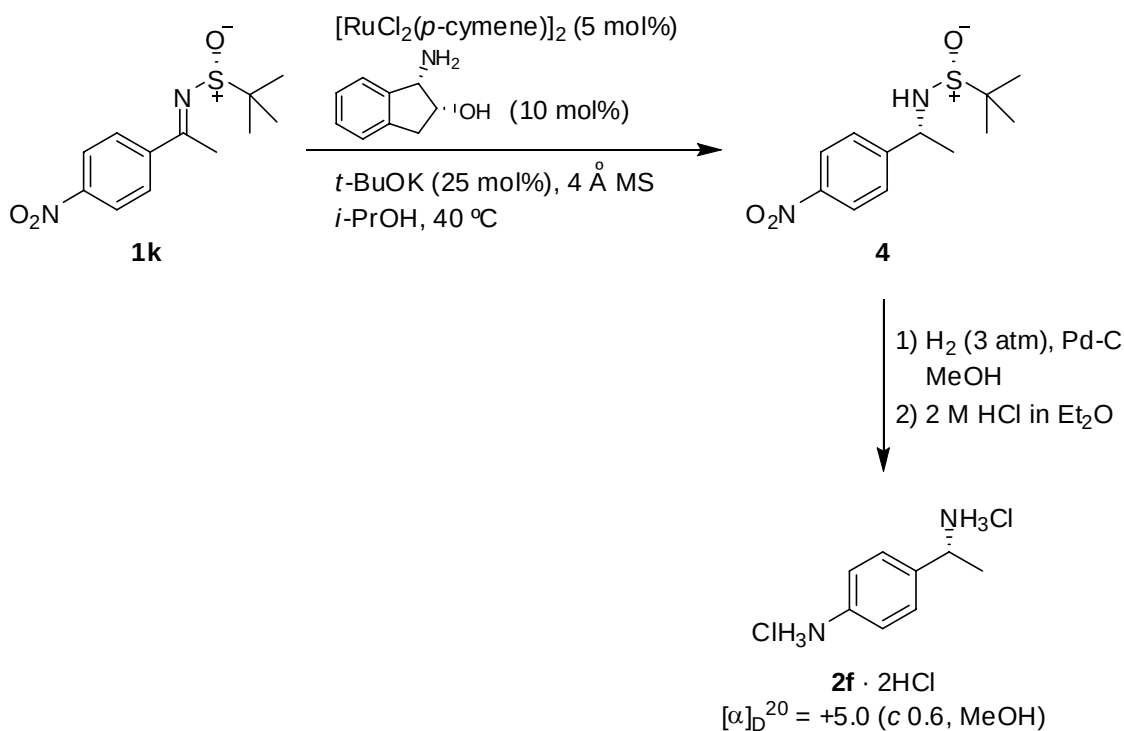
^a Both amino groups of amine **2f** were benzoylated. The retention times correspond to the dibenzamide enantiomers.

The enantiomeric excesses obtained are collected in Table 2 of the article. The absolute configuration of the major enantiomer of amines **2a-2e**, **2g-2q** and *ent-2* was determined by comparison of the sign of their specific rotation with the data reported in the literature. The absolute configuration of amine **2f** was determined as described below.

7. Determination of the absolute configuration of amine **2f**

The (*R*) absolute configuration of the major enantiomer of amine **2f** was tentatively assigned according to the order of elution of its two benzoylated enantiomers in the HPLC analysis by analogy to the rest of the benzamides. Since the specific rotation of either amine **2f** or its hydrochloride had not been reported, we decided to prepare this amine by another route in order to confirm its absolute configuration. We had observed that the asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of imine **1k** led to sulfinamide **4** with (*R*) absolute configuration (Scheme 1). The crude mixture of this reaction (459 mg, 1.7 mmol) dissolved in MeOH (10 mL) was treated with hydrogen gas (3 atm) in the presence of Pd-C (30 mg) at room temperature during 6 h in order to reduce the nitro group to an amino group. After filtration to remove the Pd-C, solvent was evaporated and the resulting residue was directly submitted to the desulfinylation reaction with a solution of HCl in Et₂O as described above, giving amine **2f** dihydrochloride. The specific rotation of this product was $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +5.0$ (*c* 0.6, MeOH), which matches with the value measured for the product obtained in the reaction of entry 6 in Table 2 of the article (see section 5 above), thus confirming the (*R*) absolute configuration of the latter.

SCHEME 1. Another route to prepare amine 2f

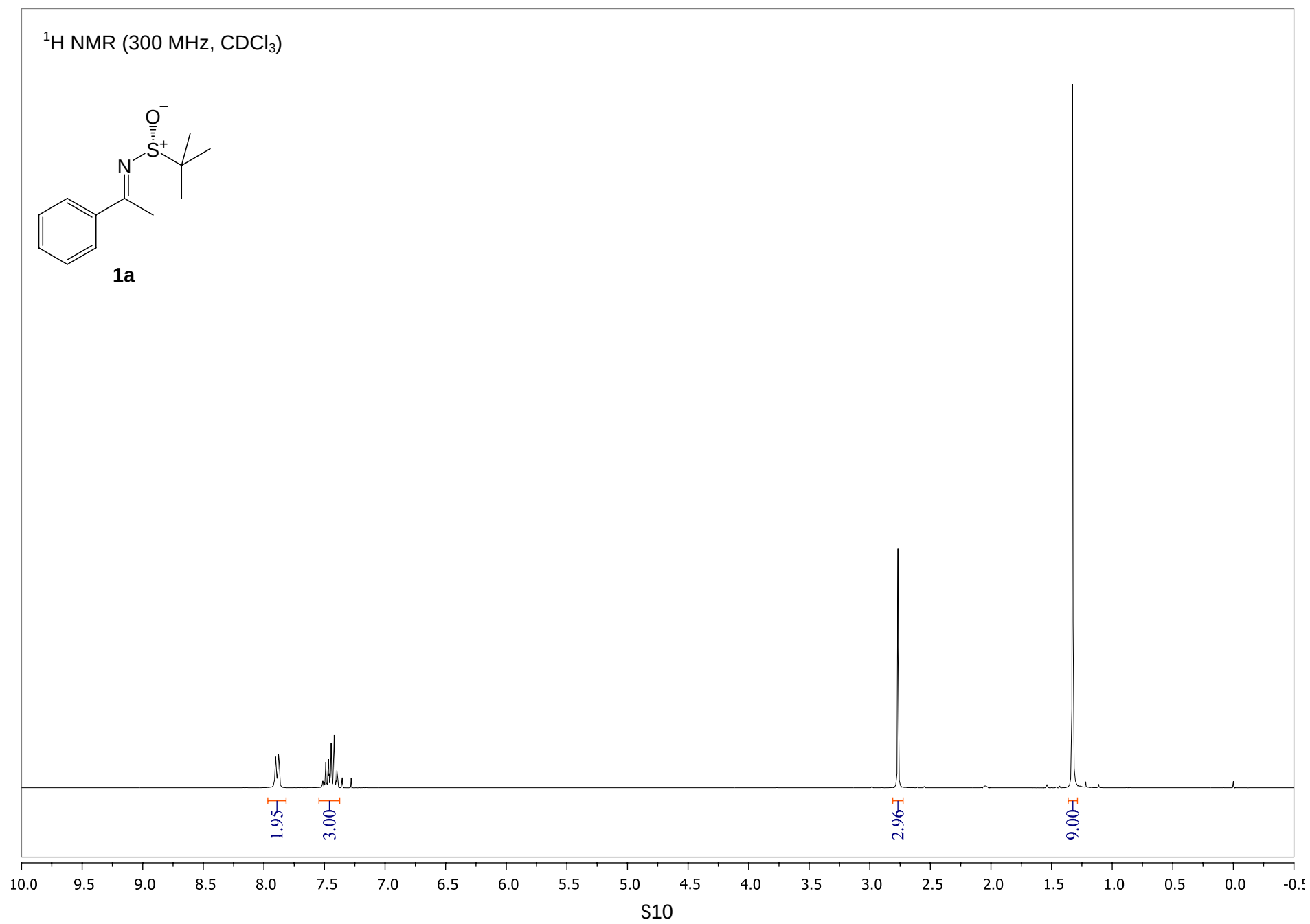


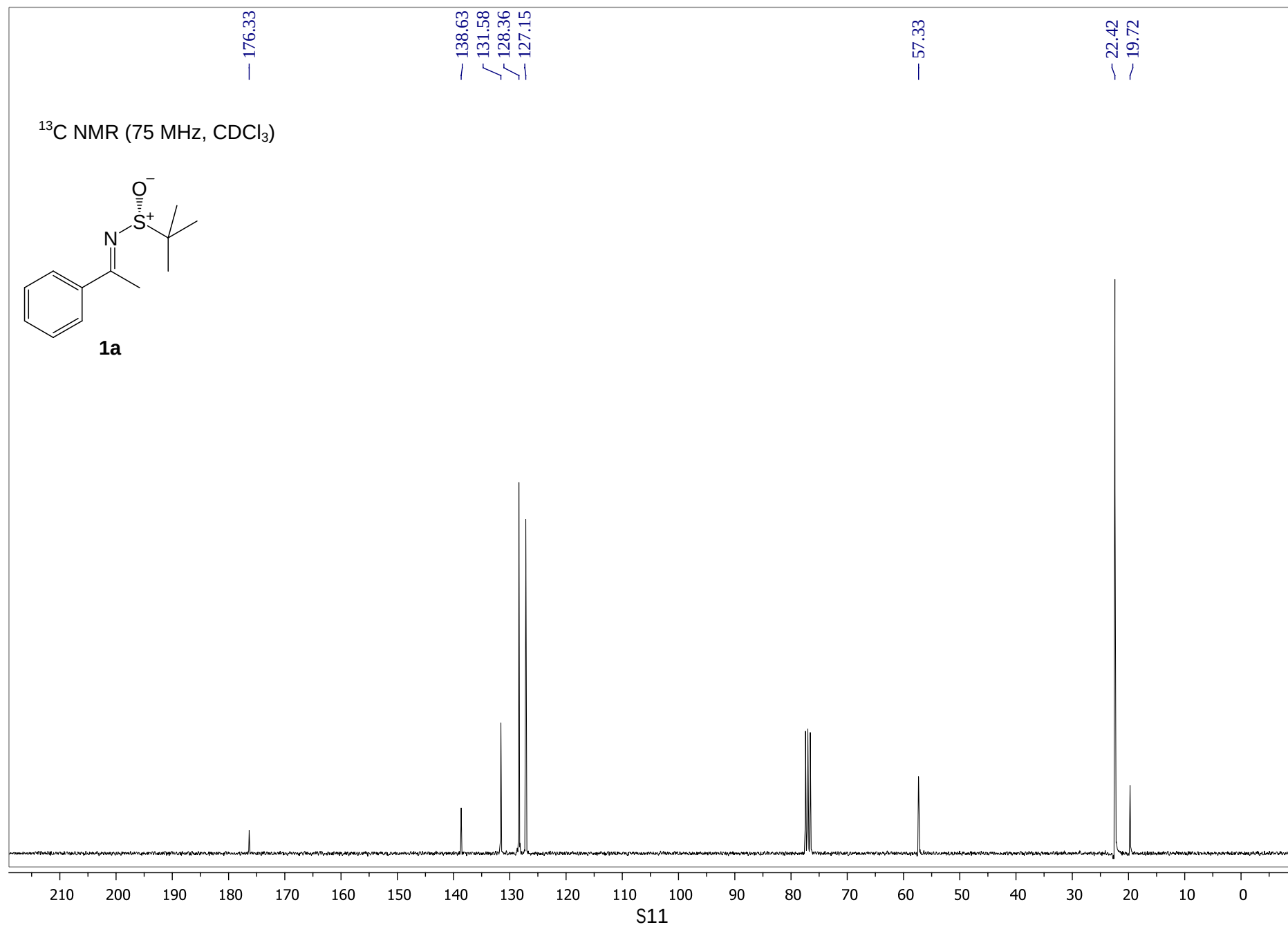
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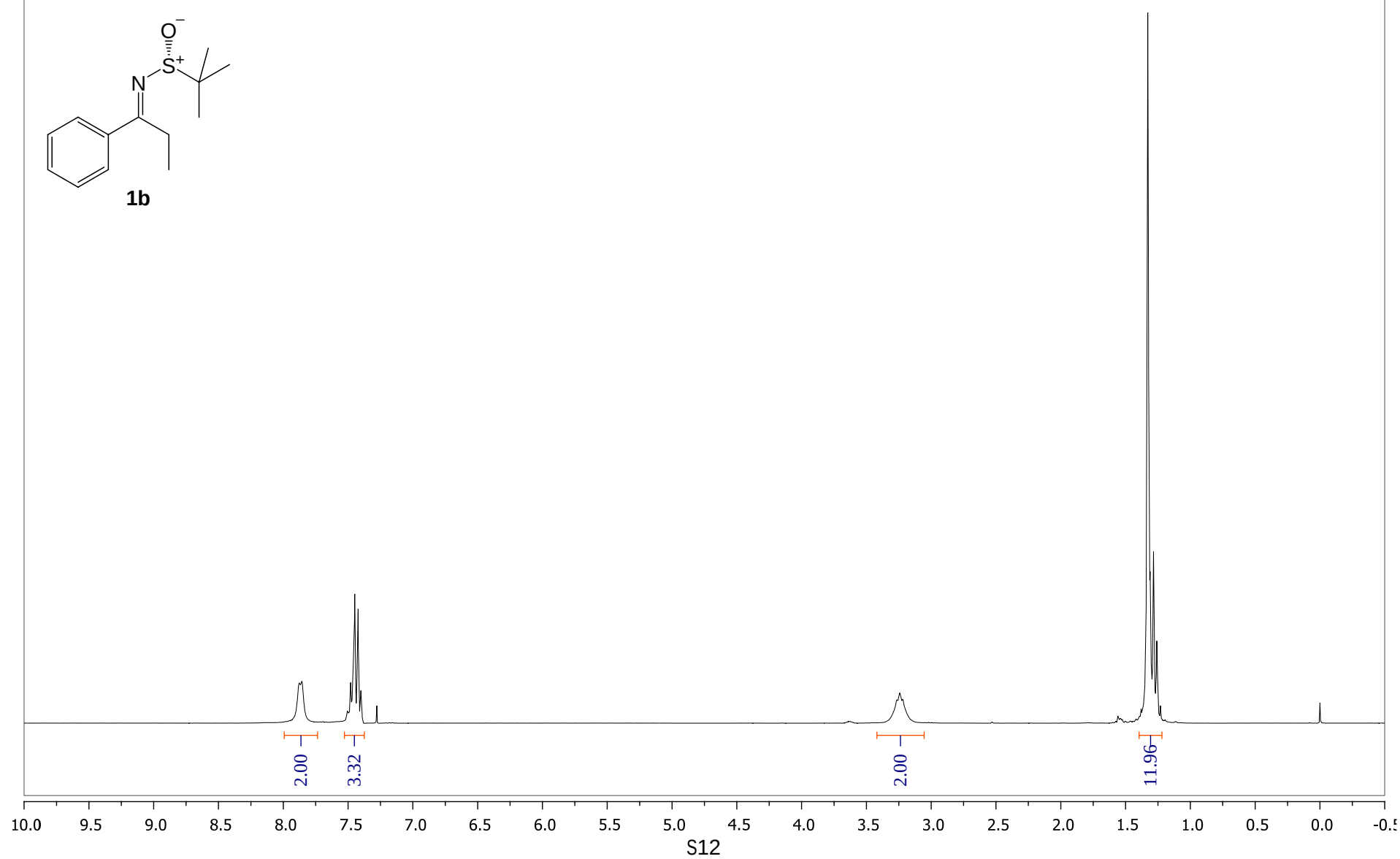
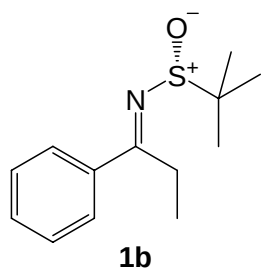
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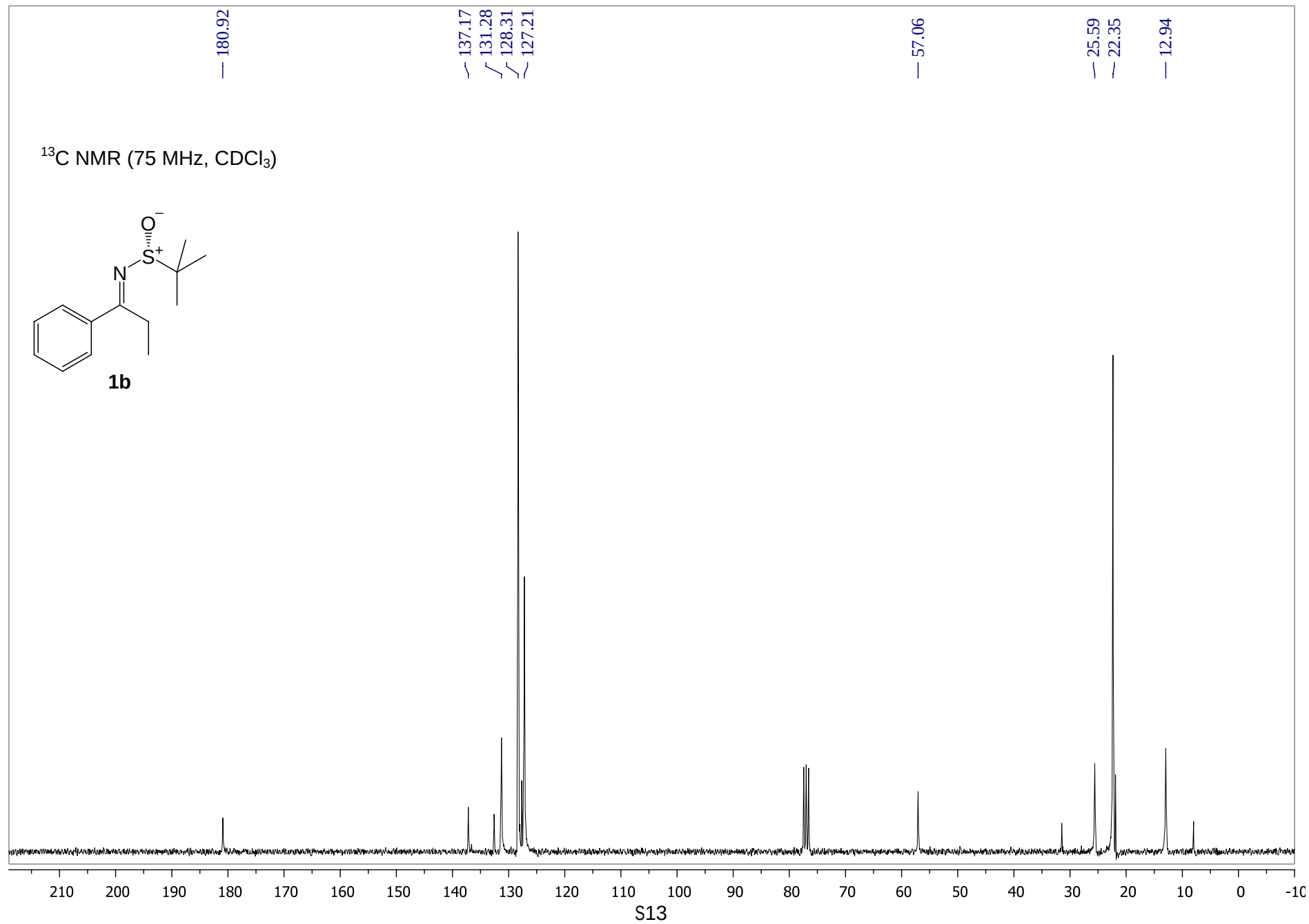
9. NMR spectra



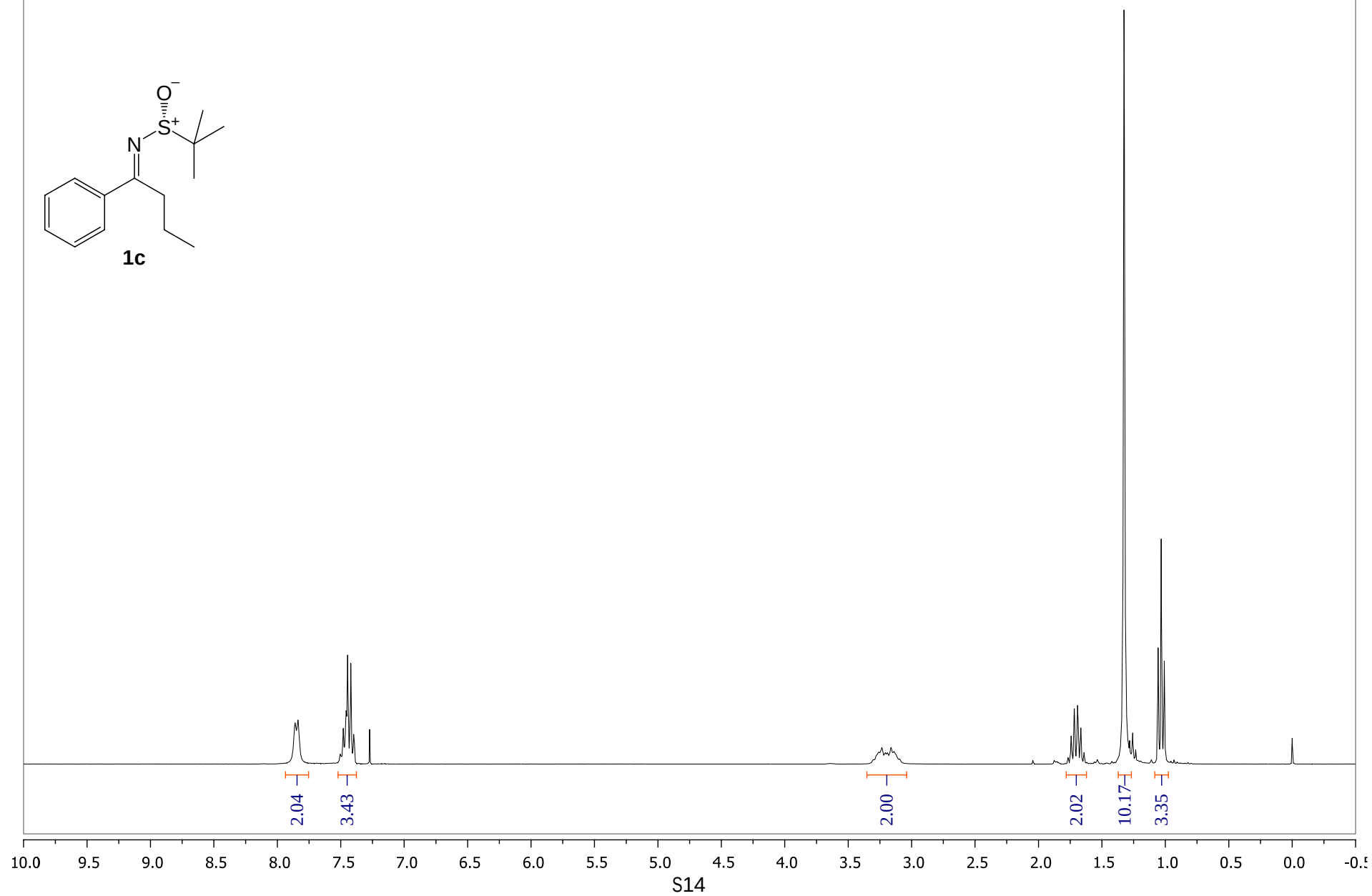
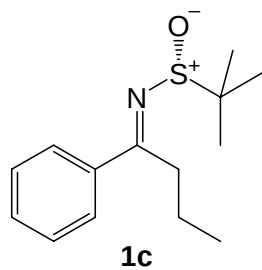


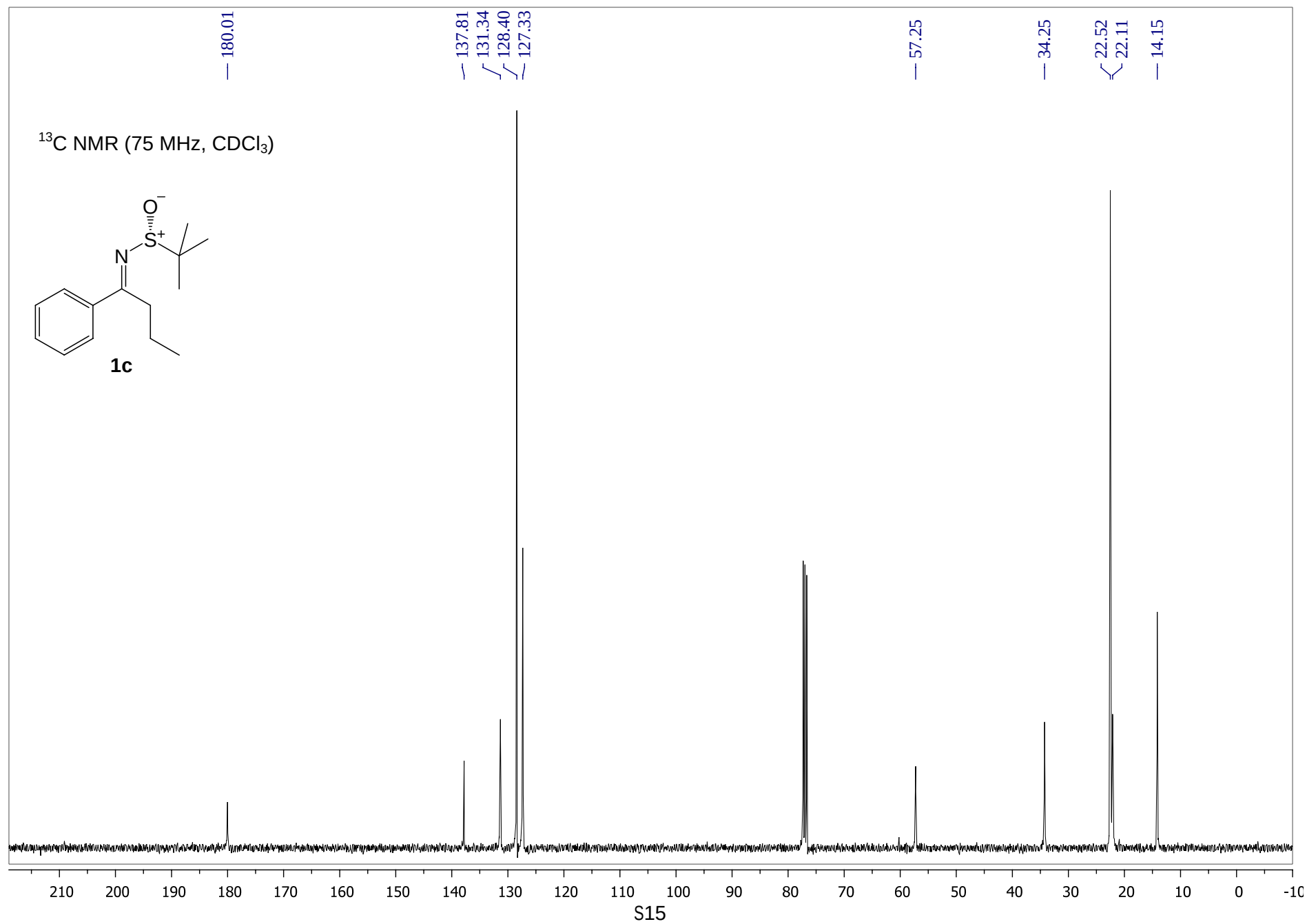
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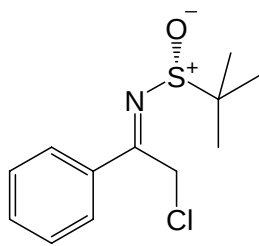


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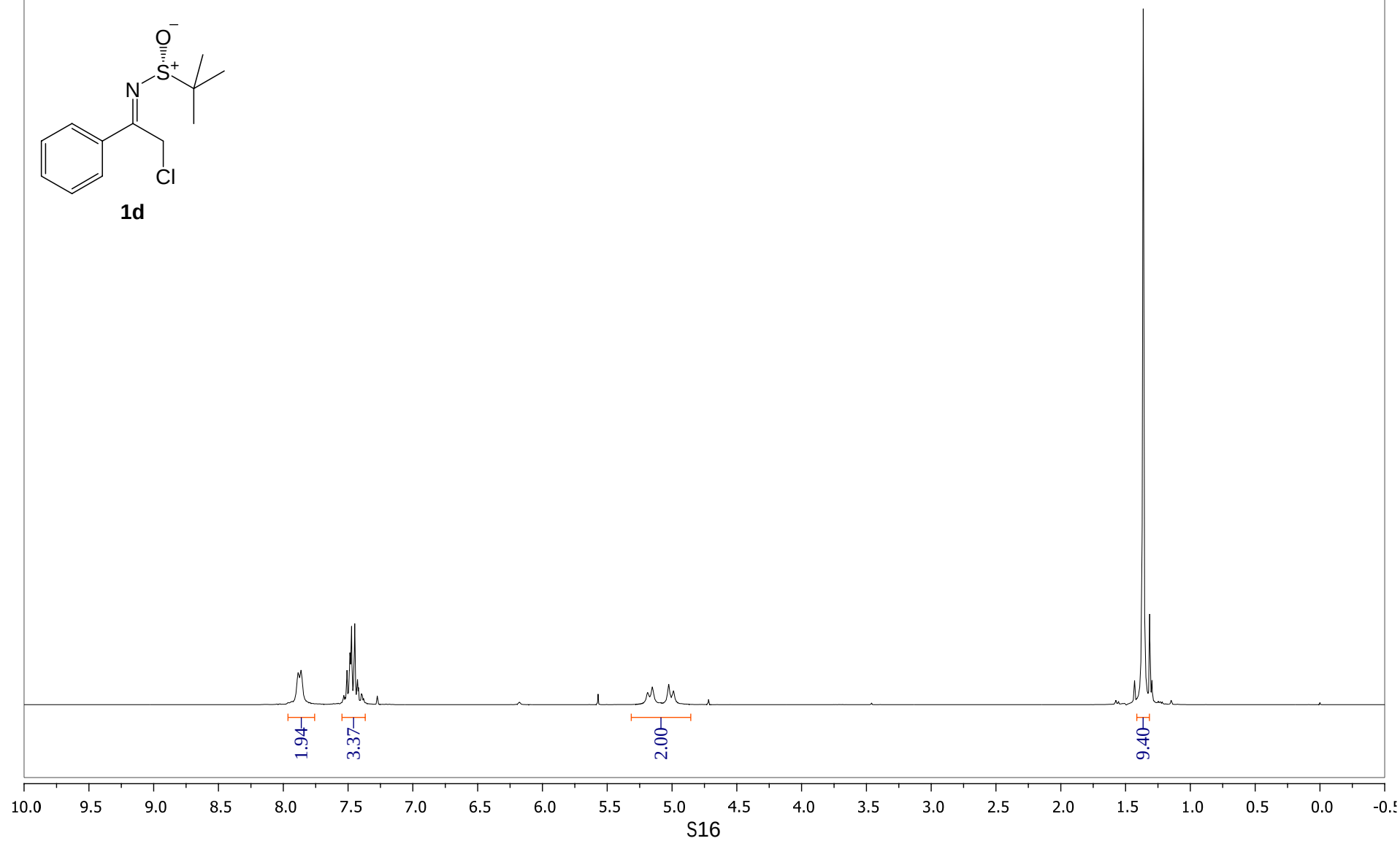


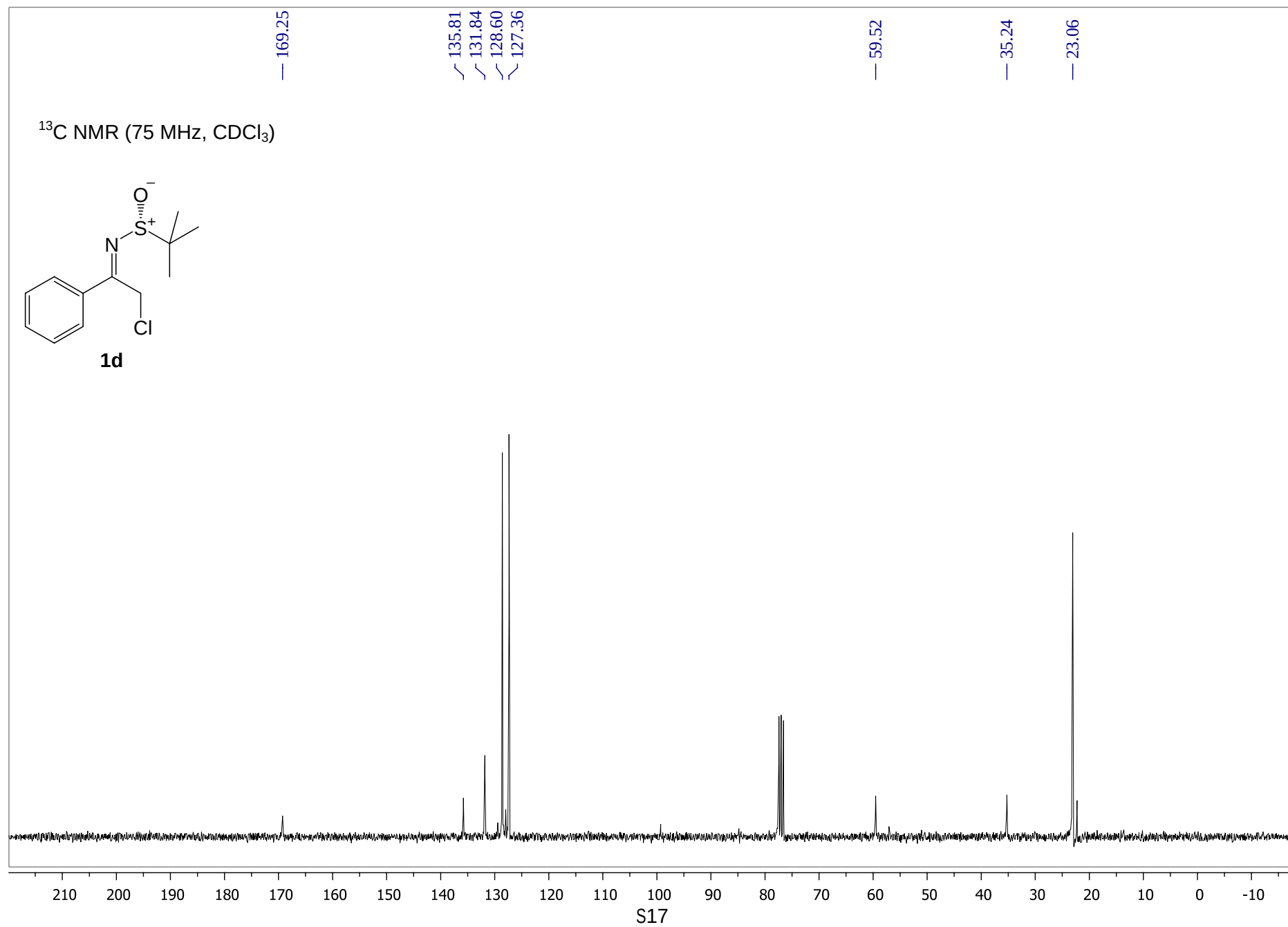


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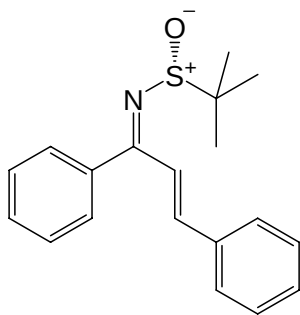


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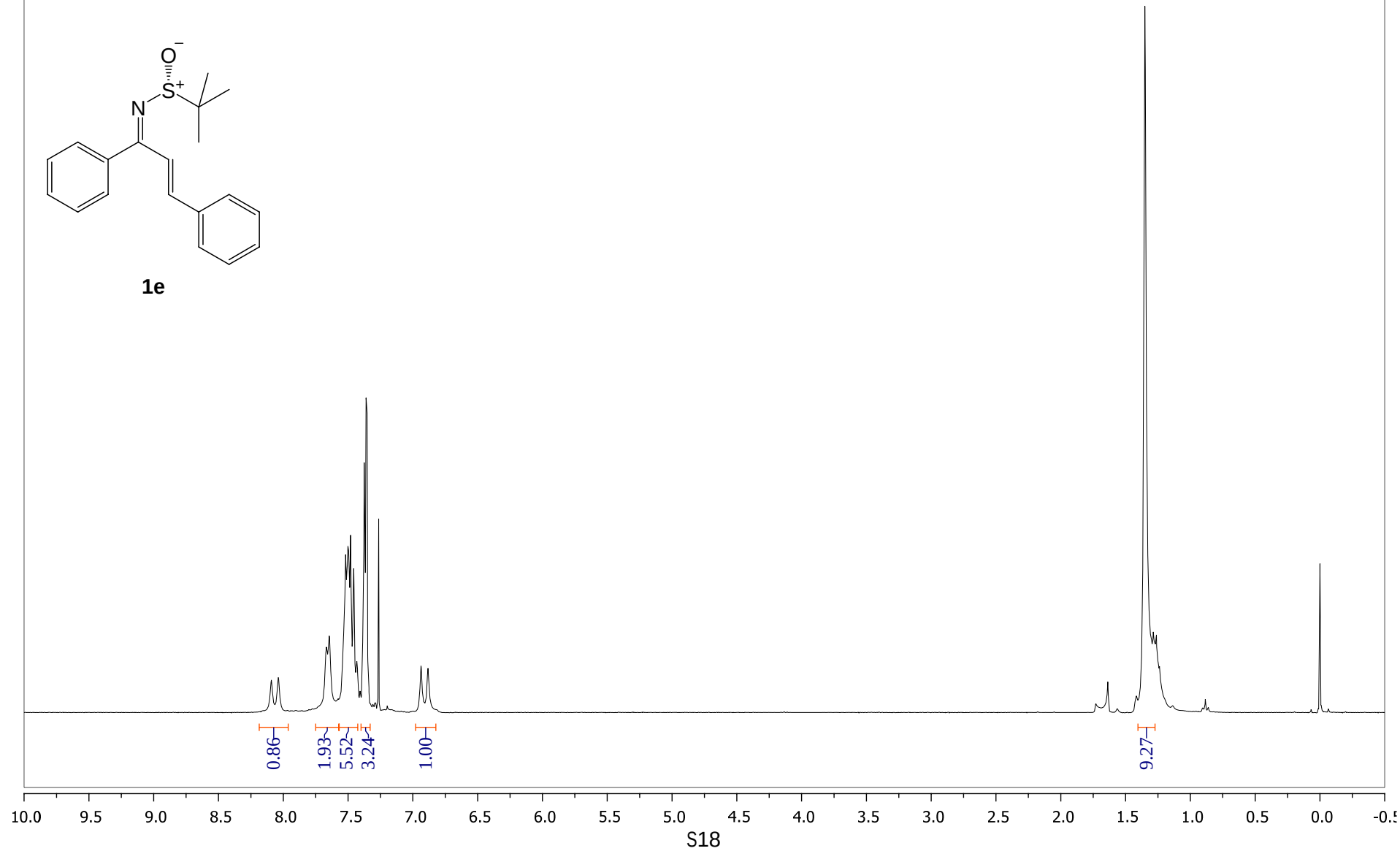


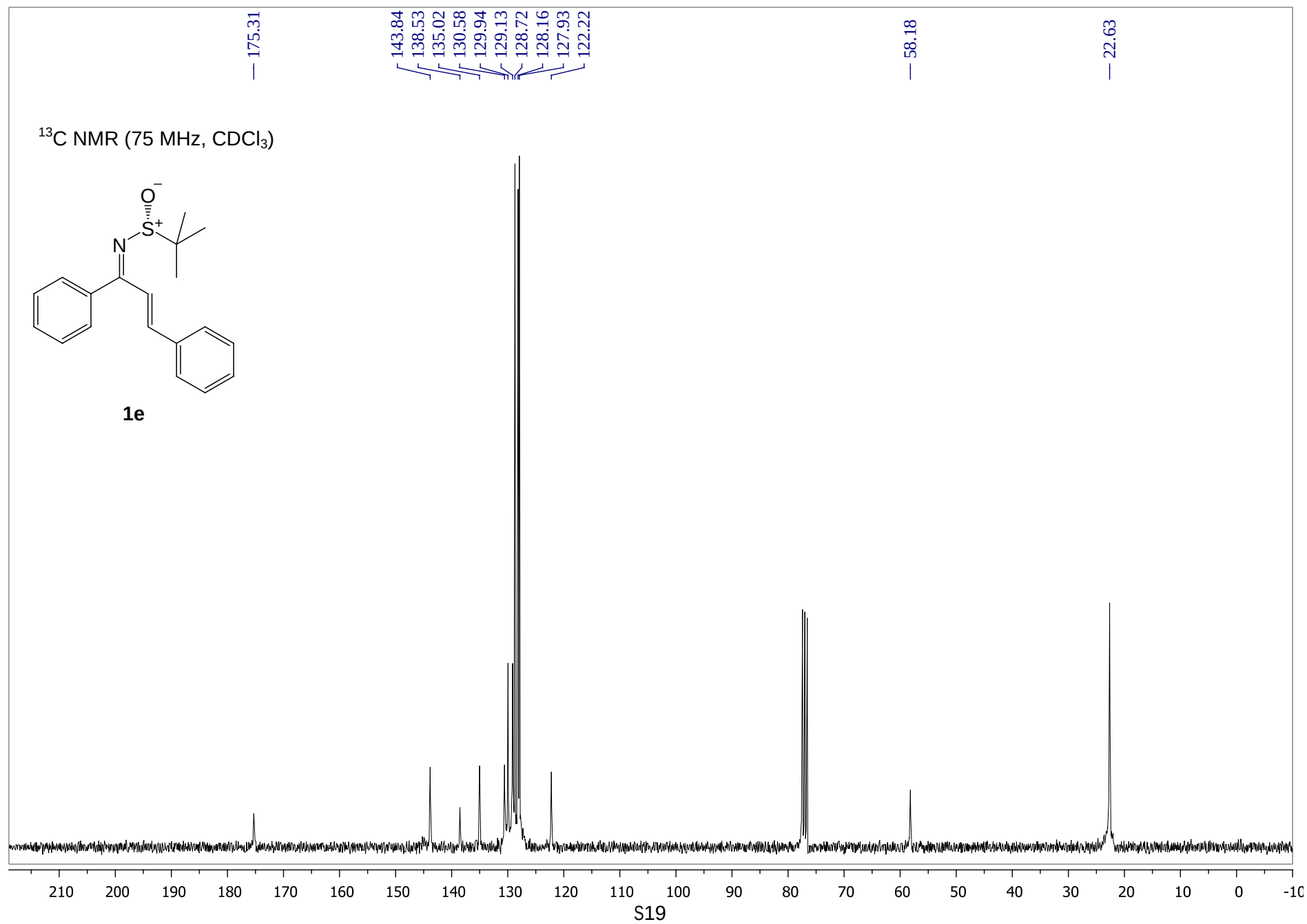


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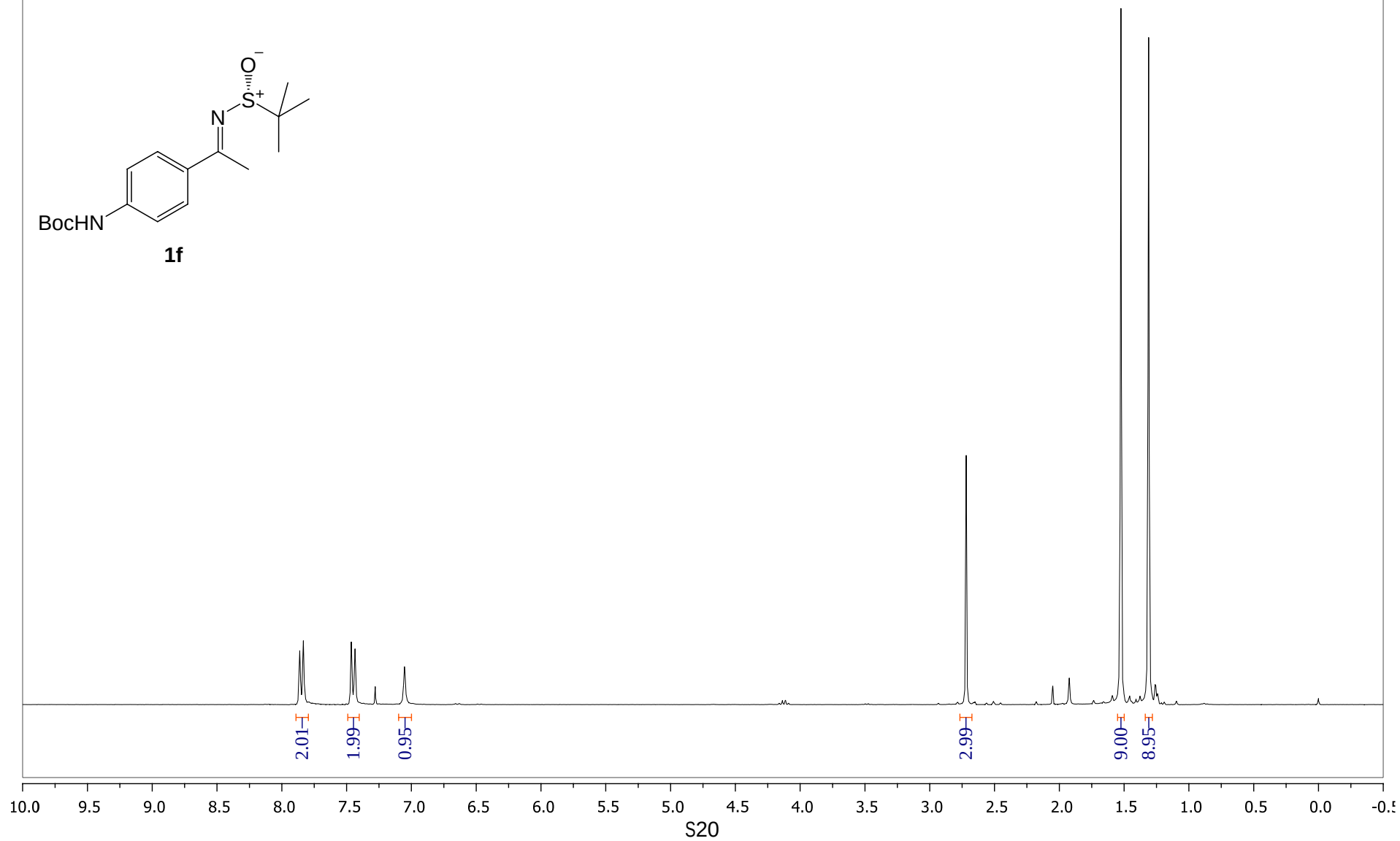
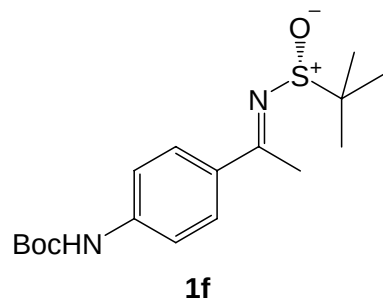


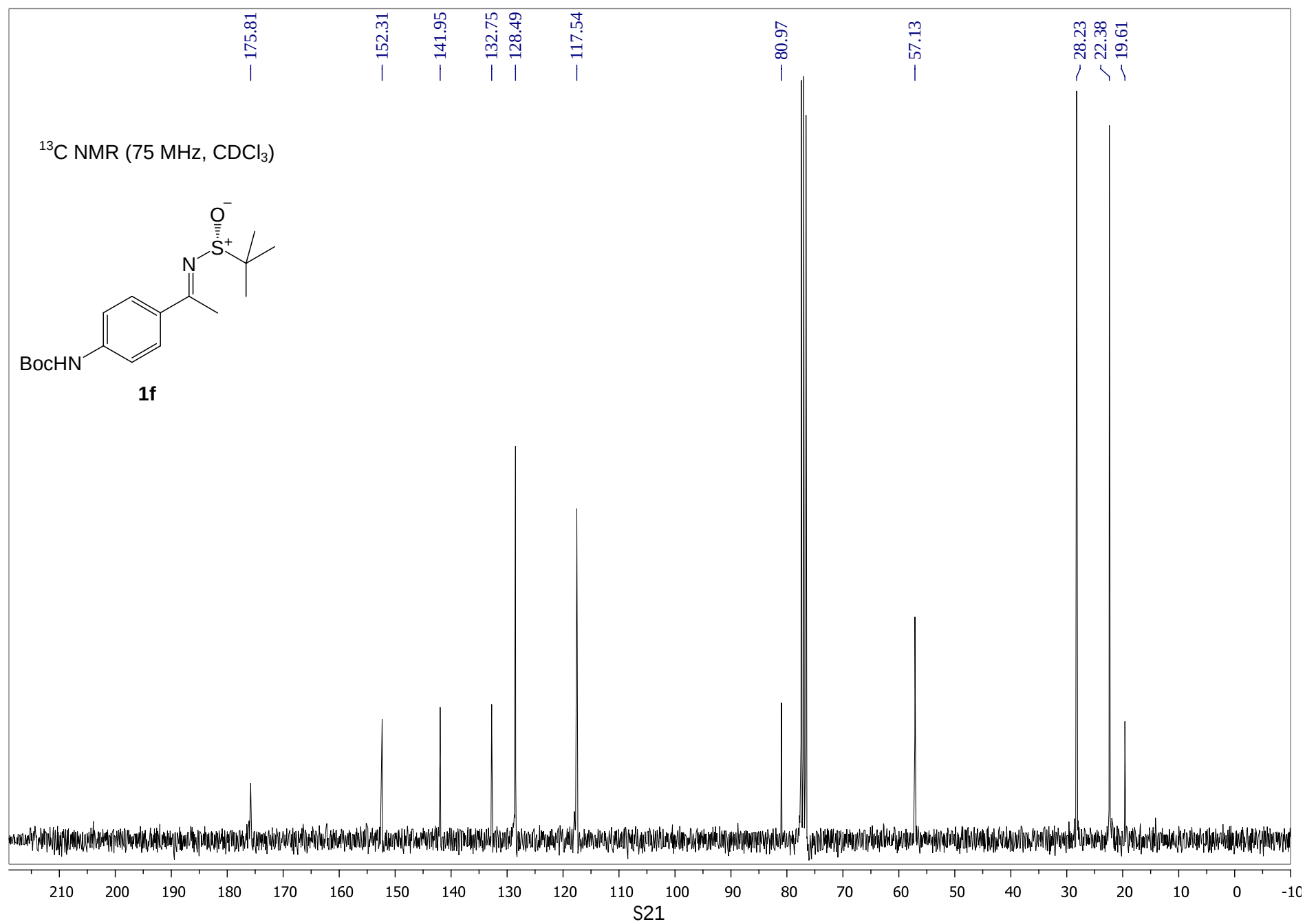
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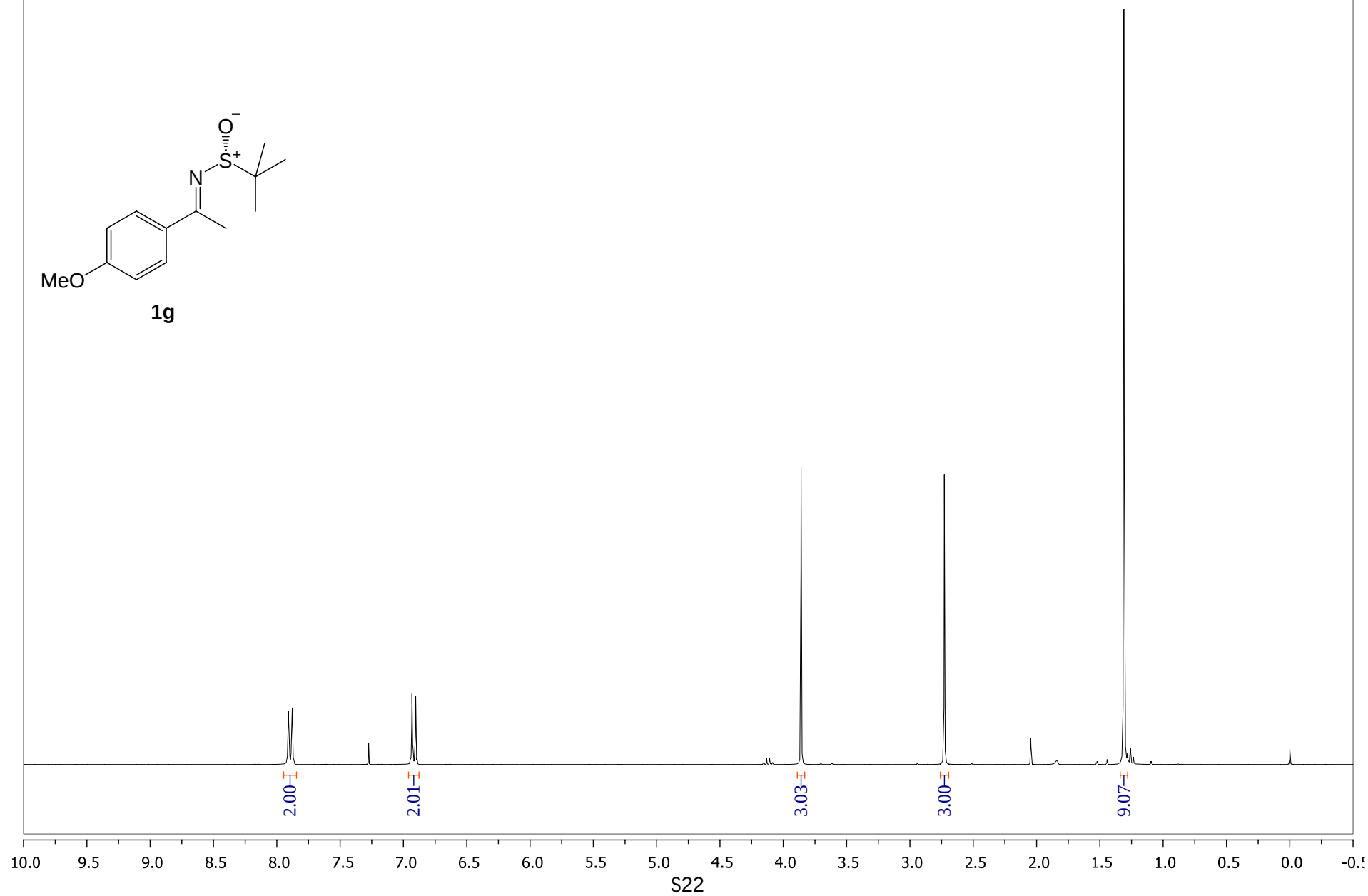
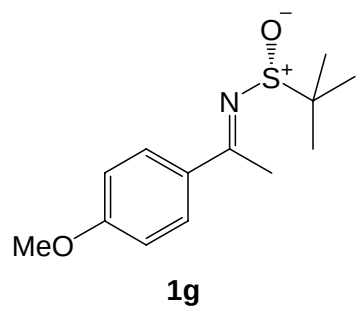


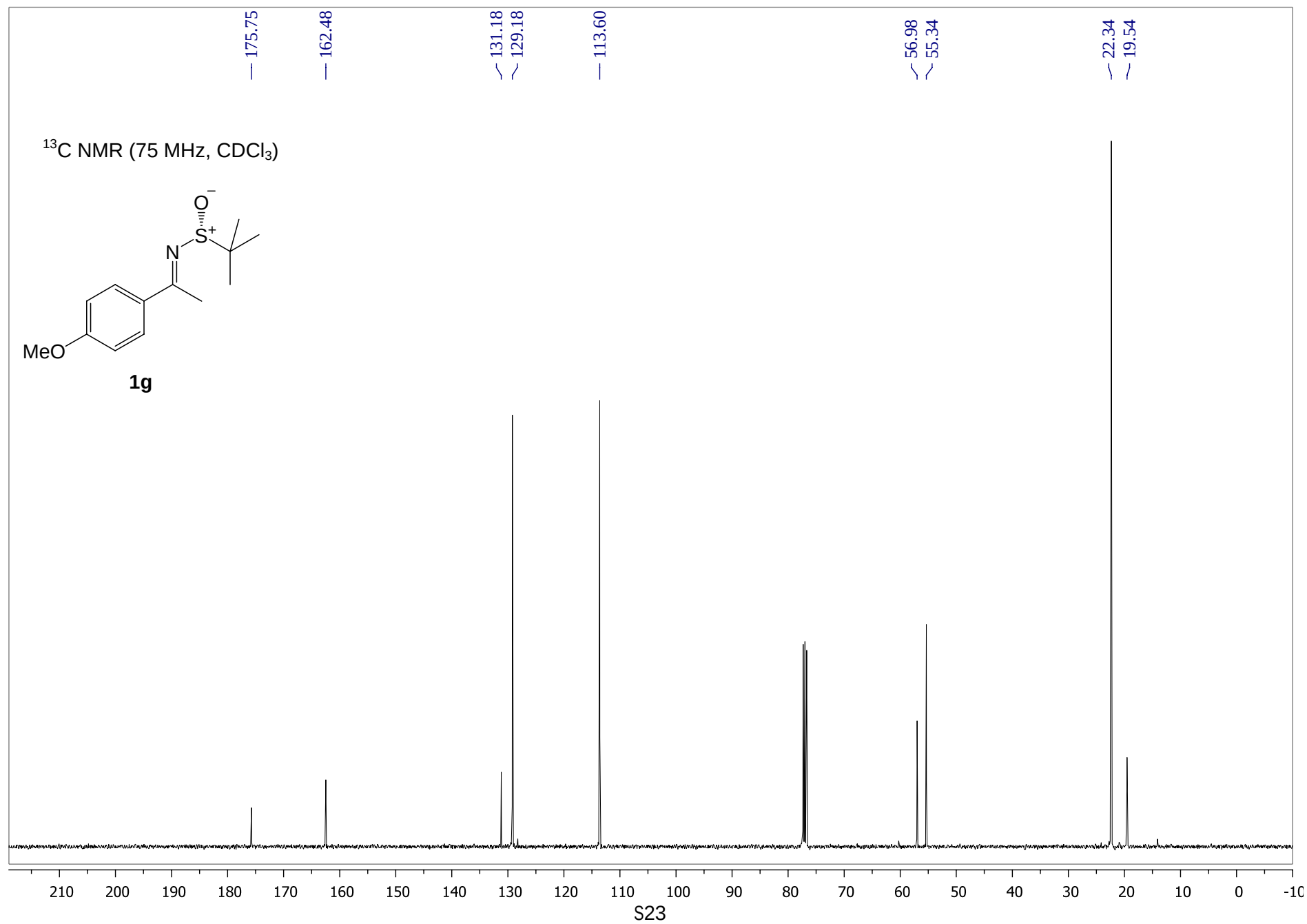
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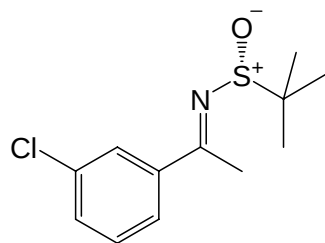


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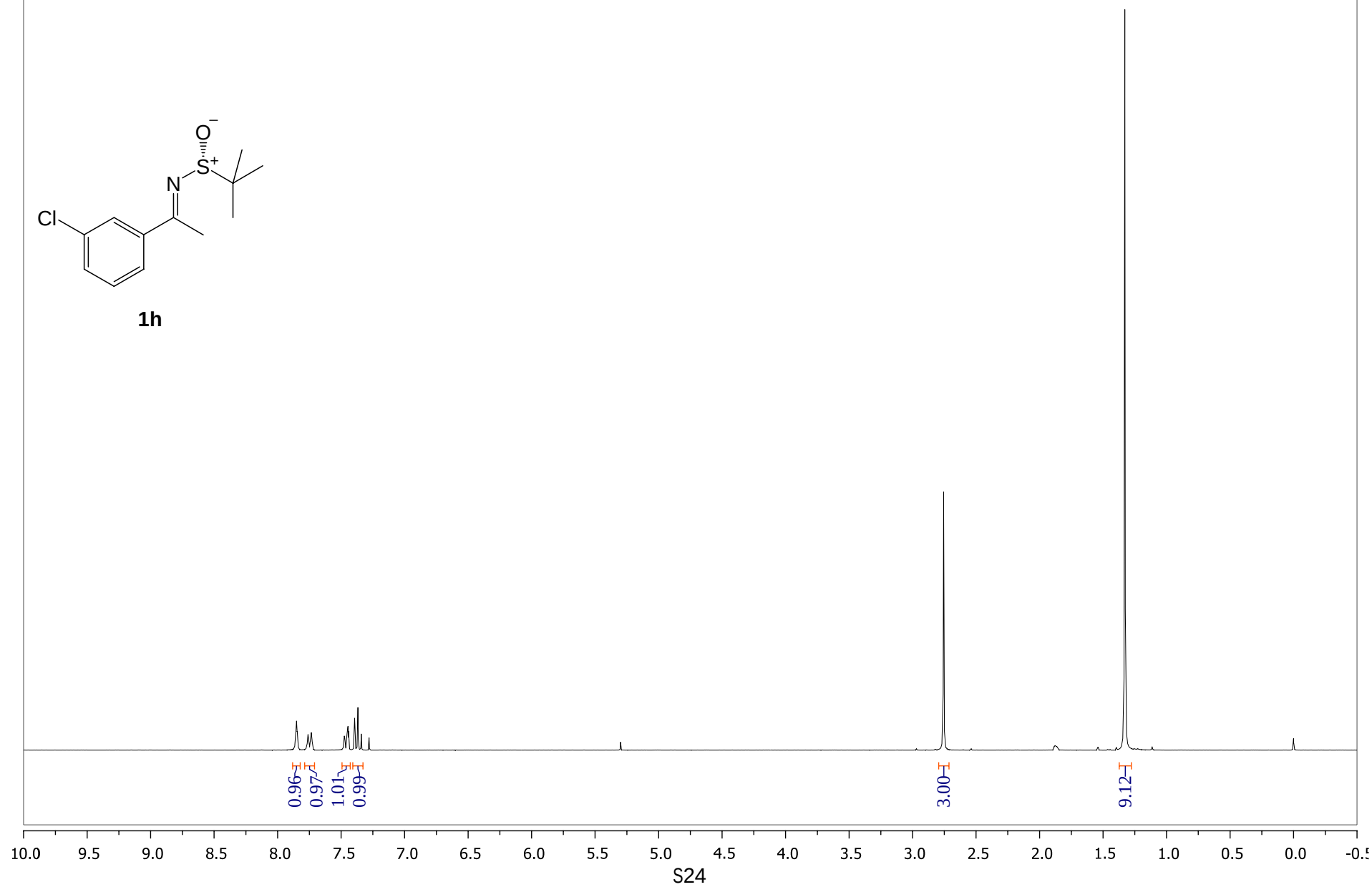


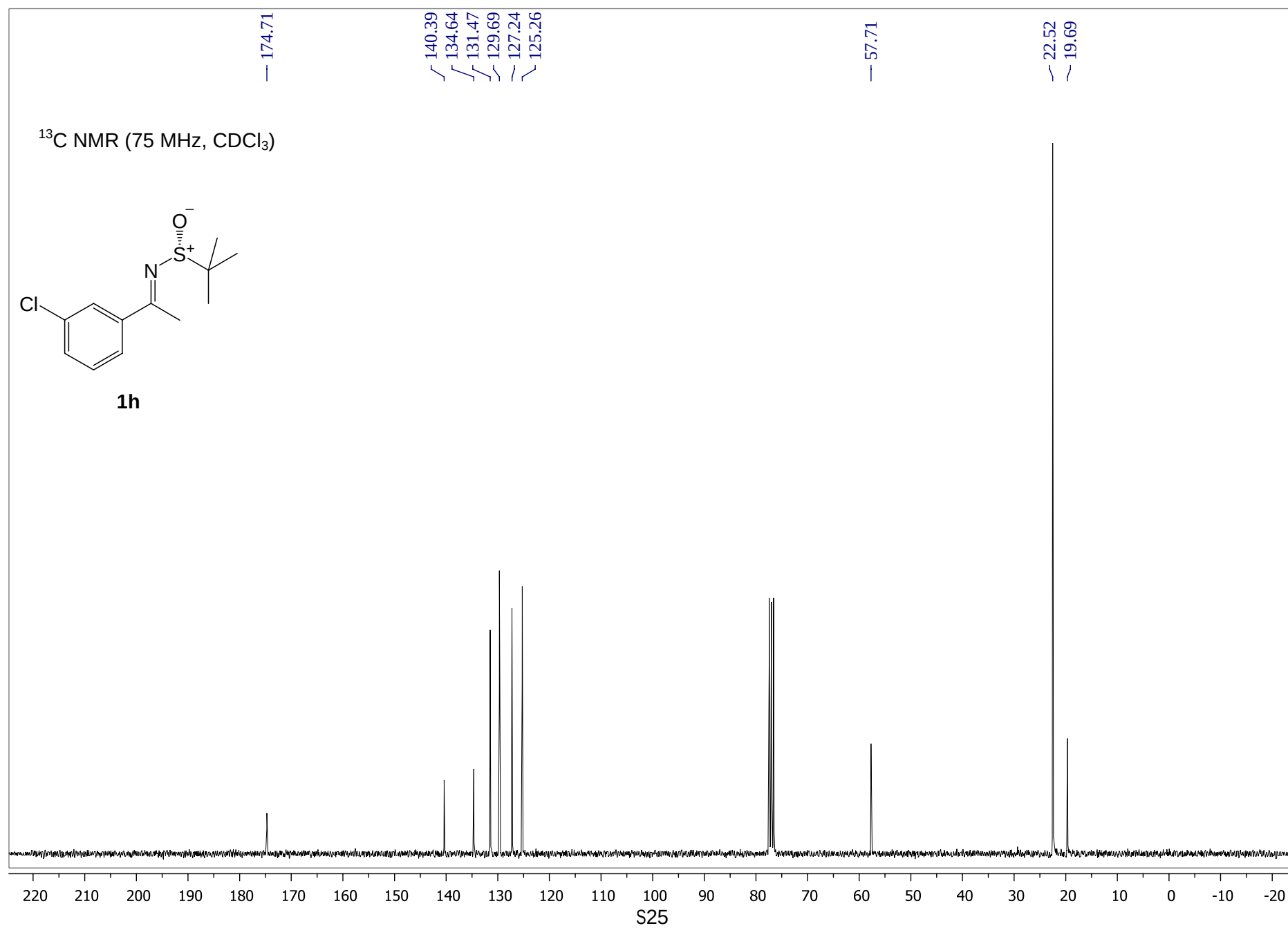


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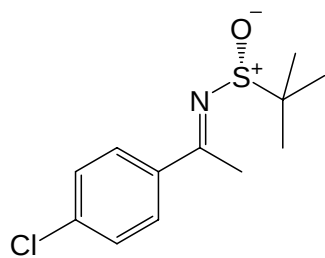


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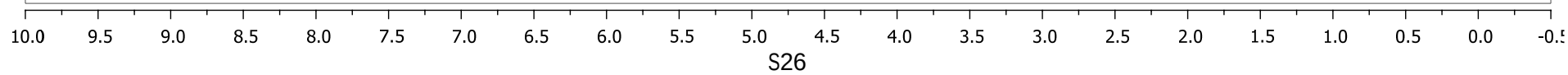


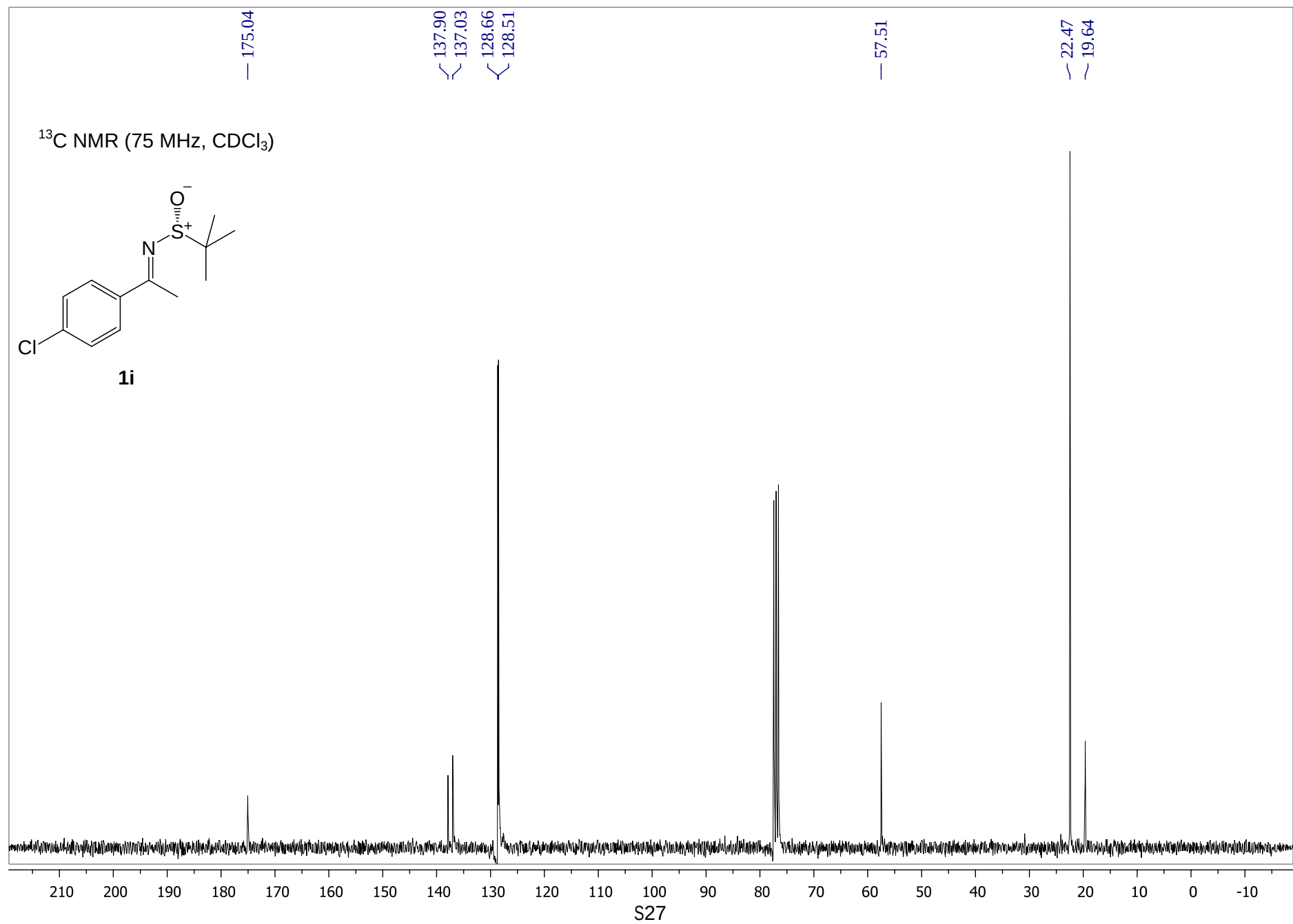


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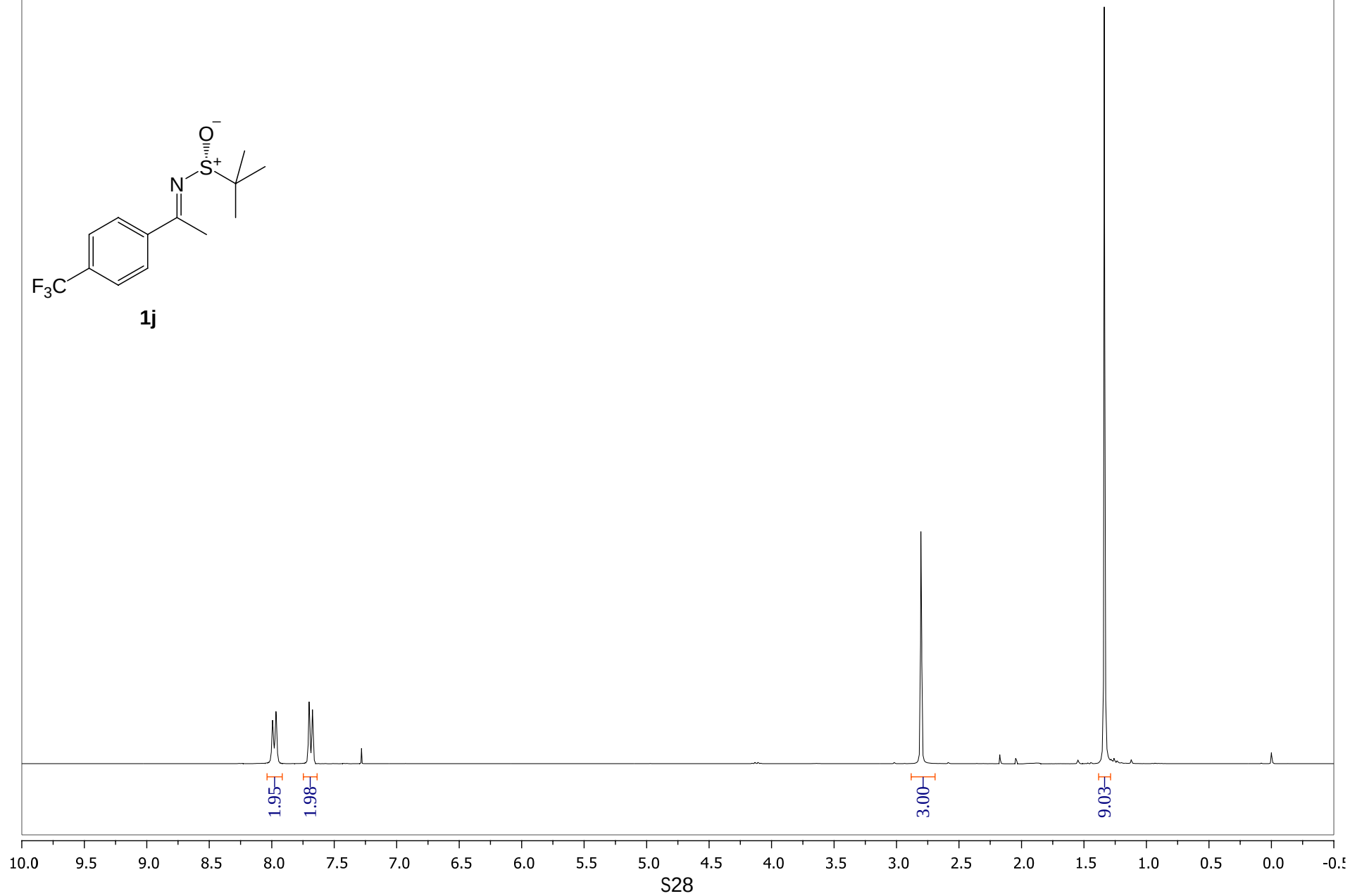
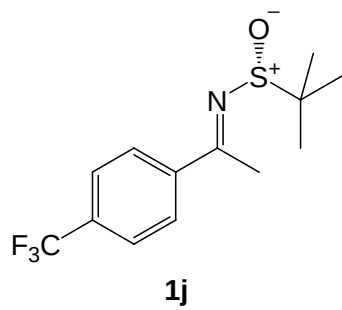


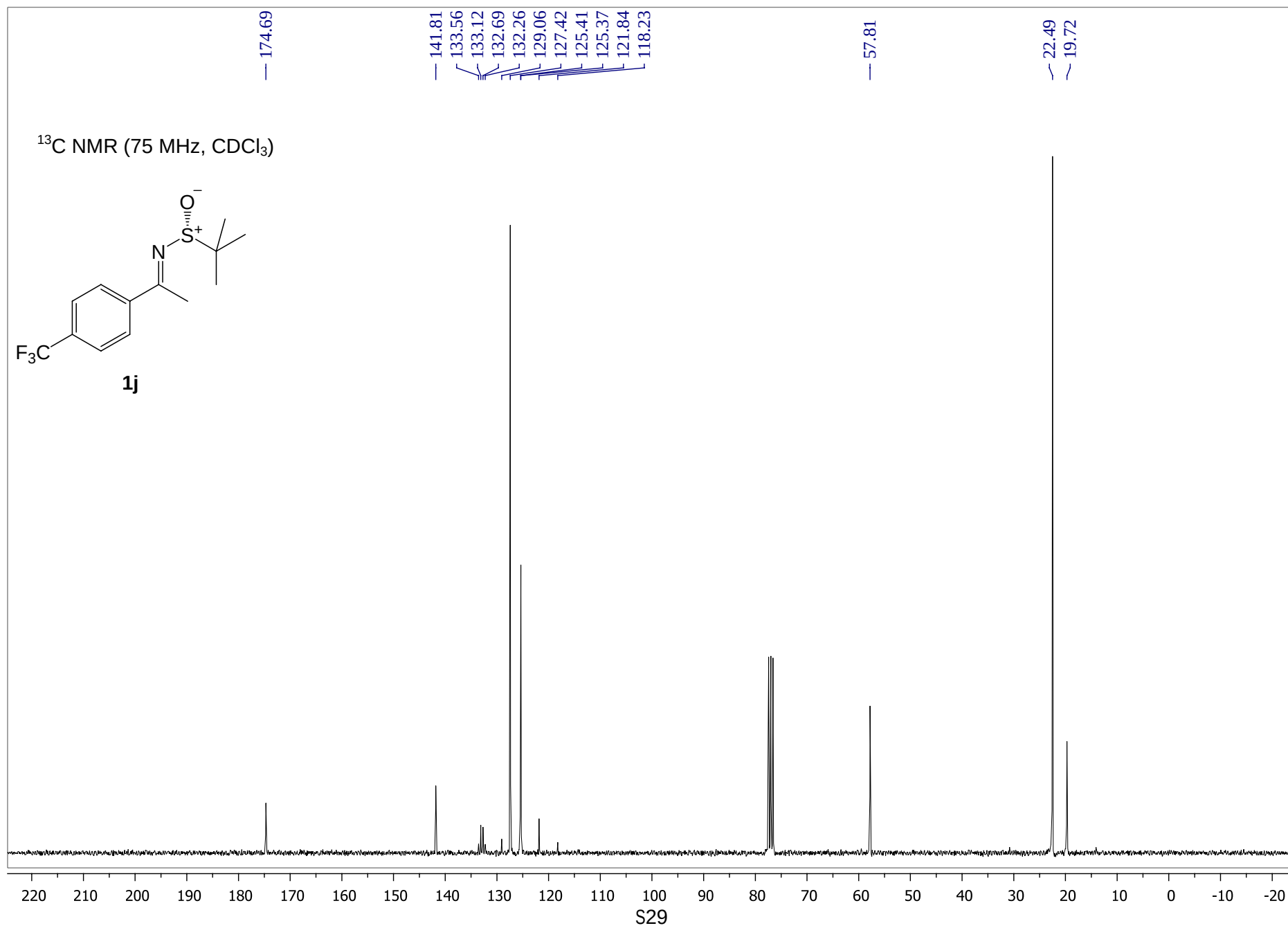
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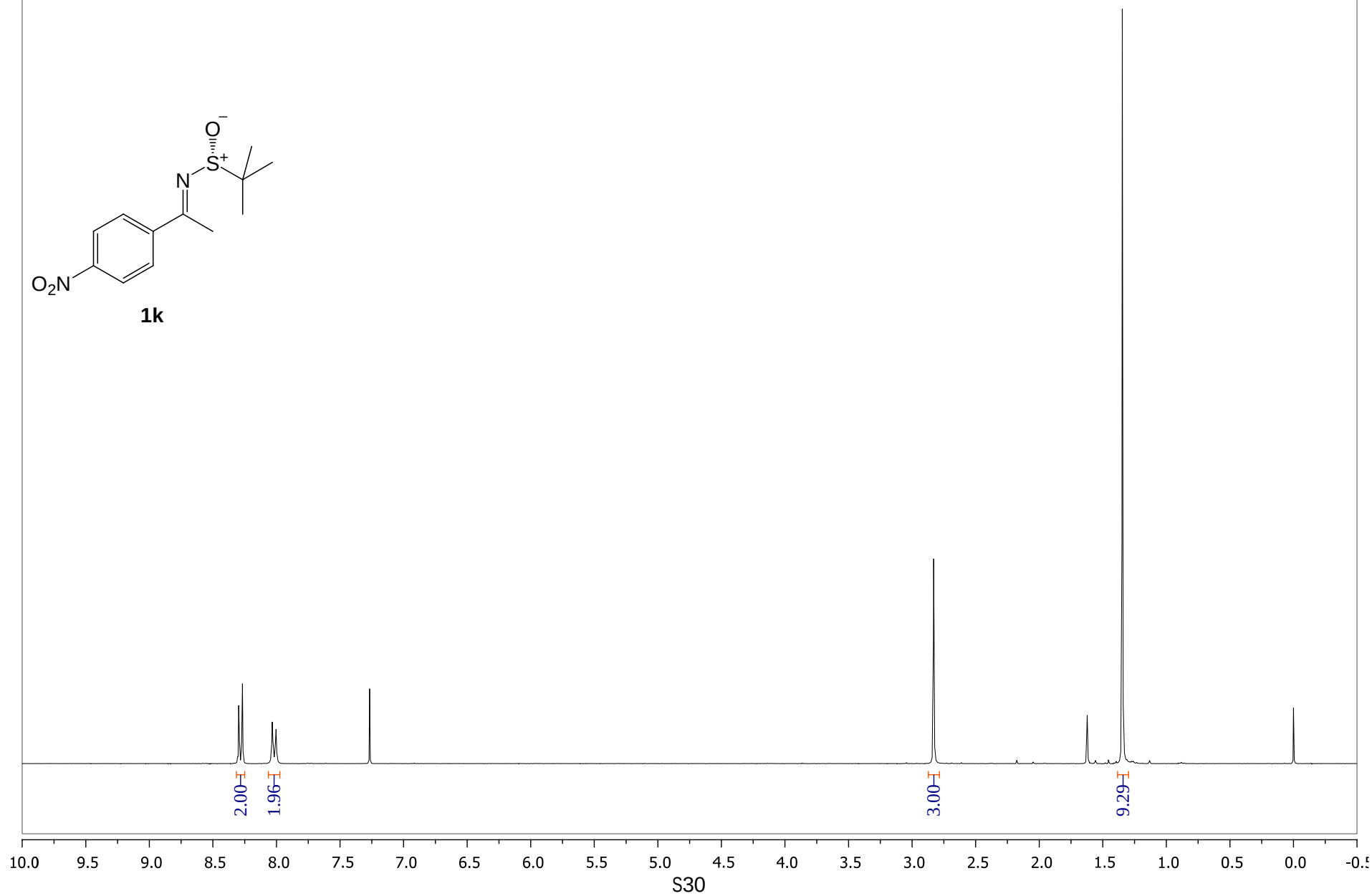
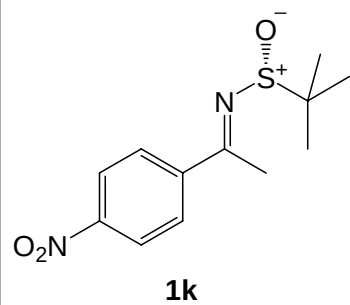


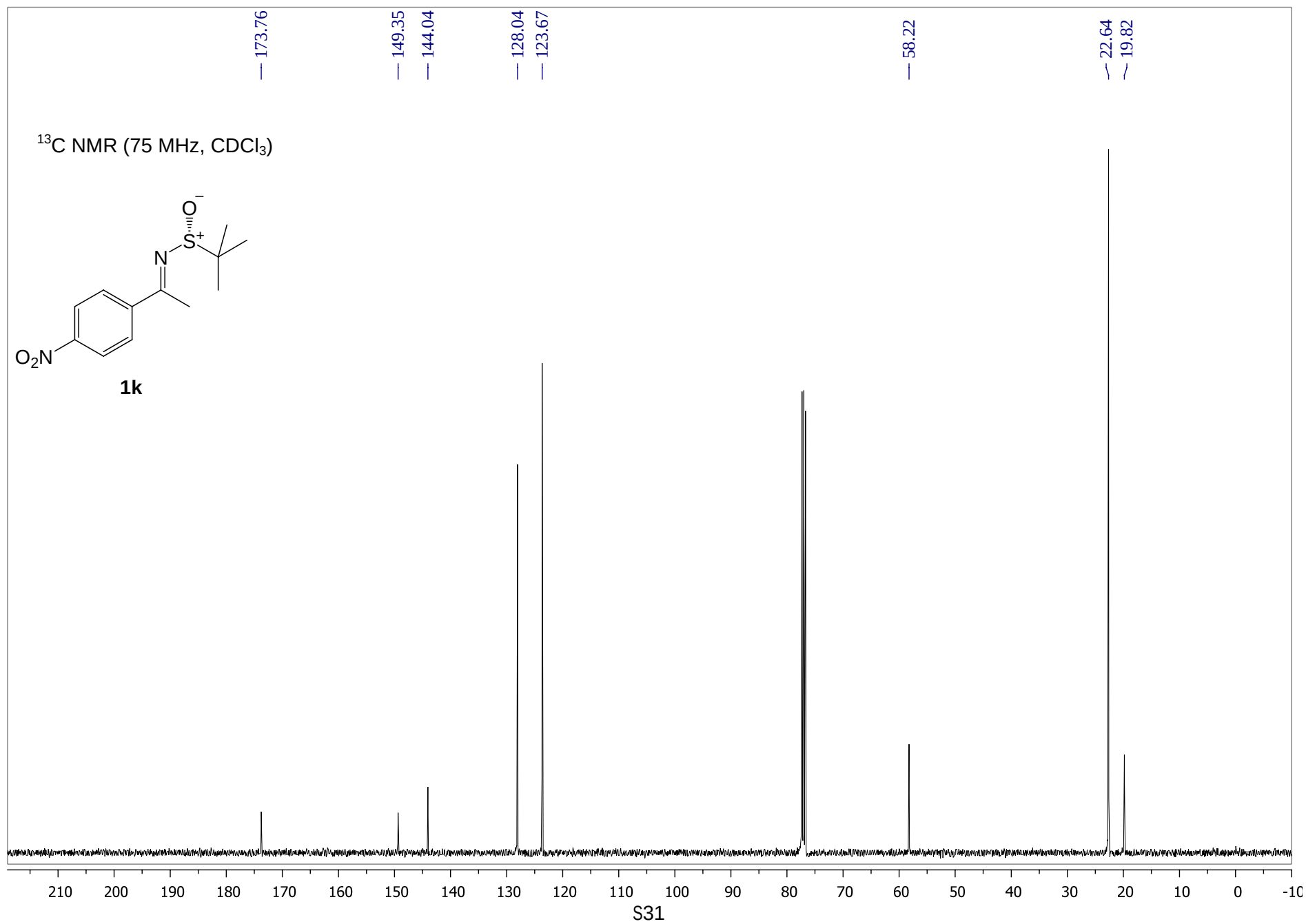
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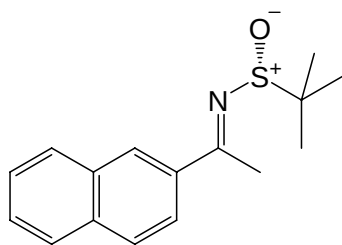


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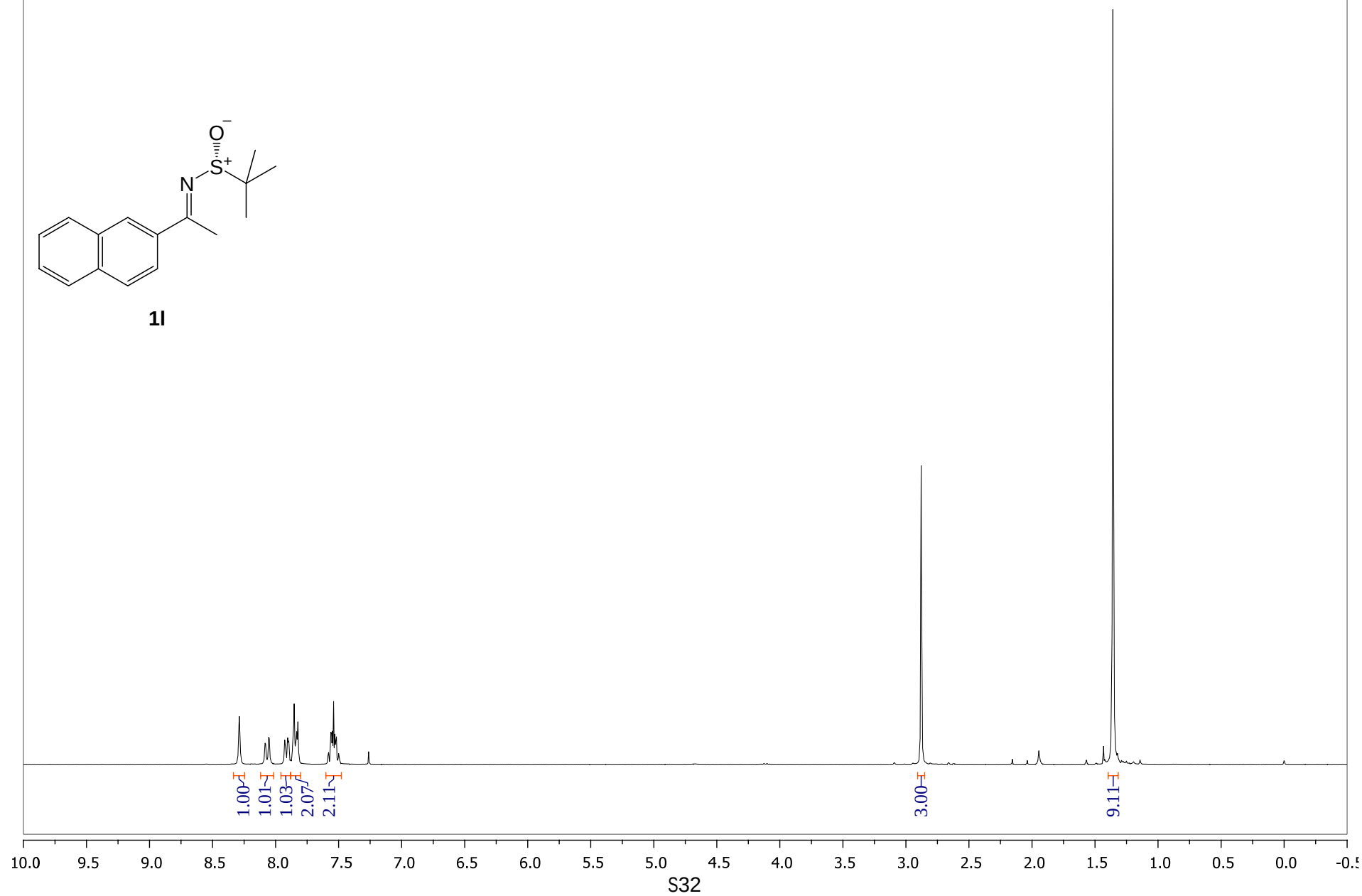


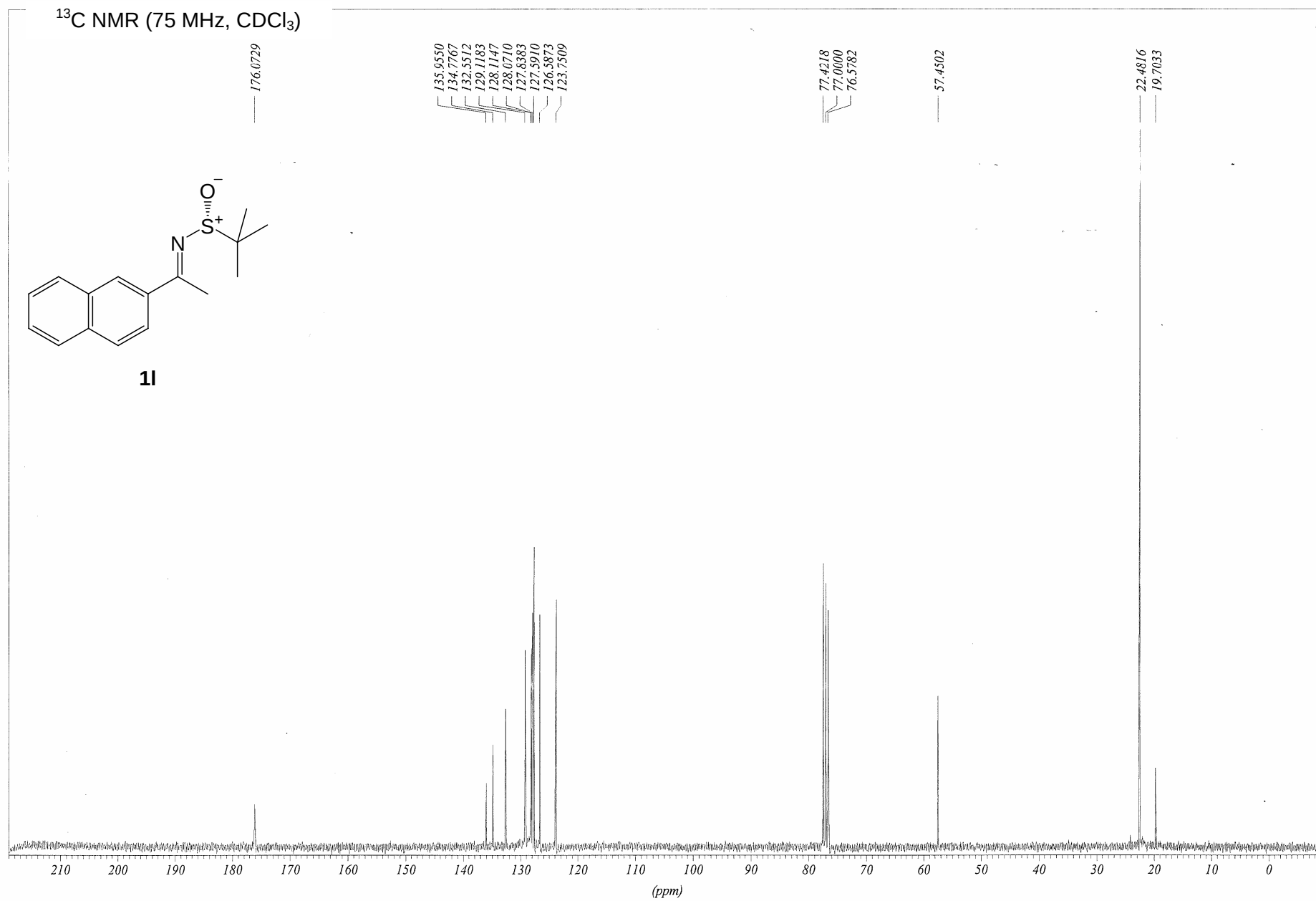


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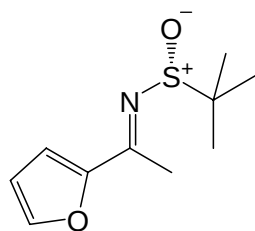


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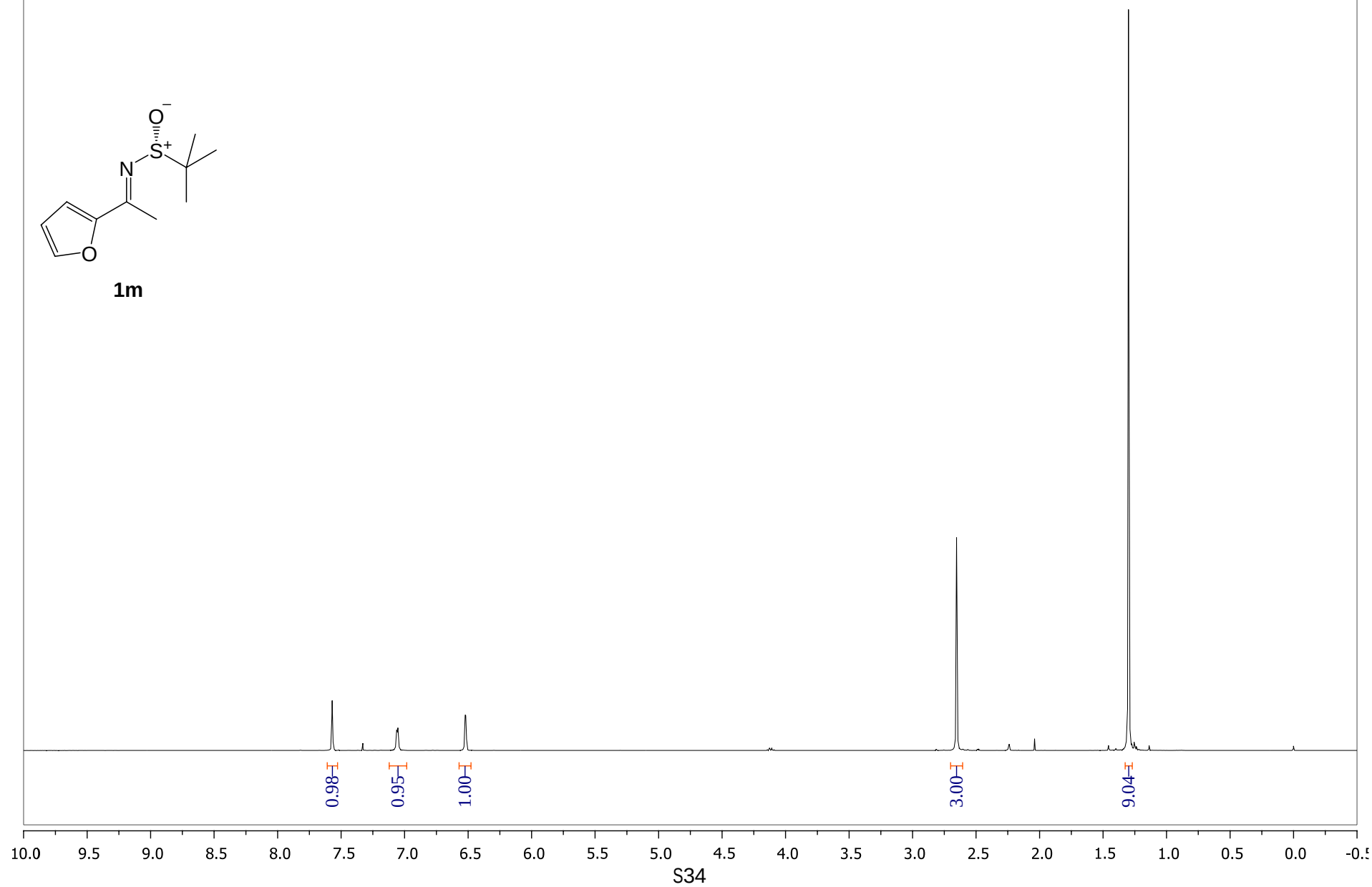


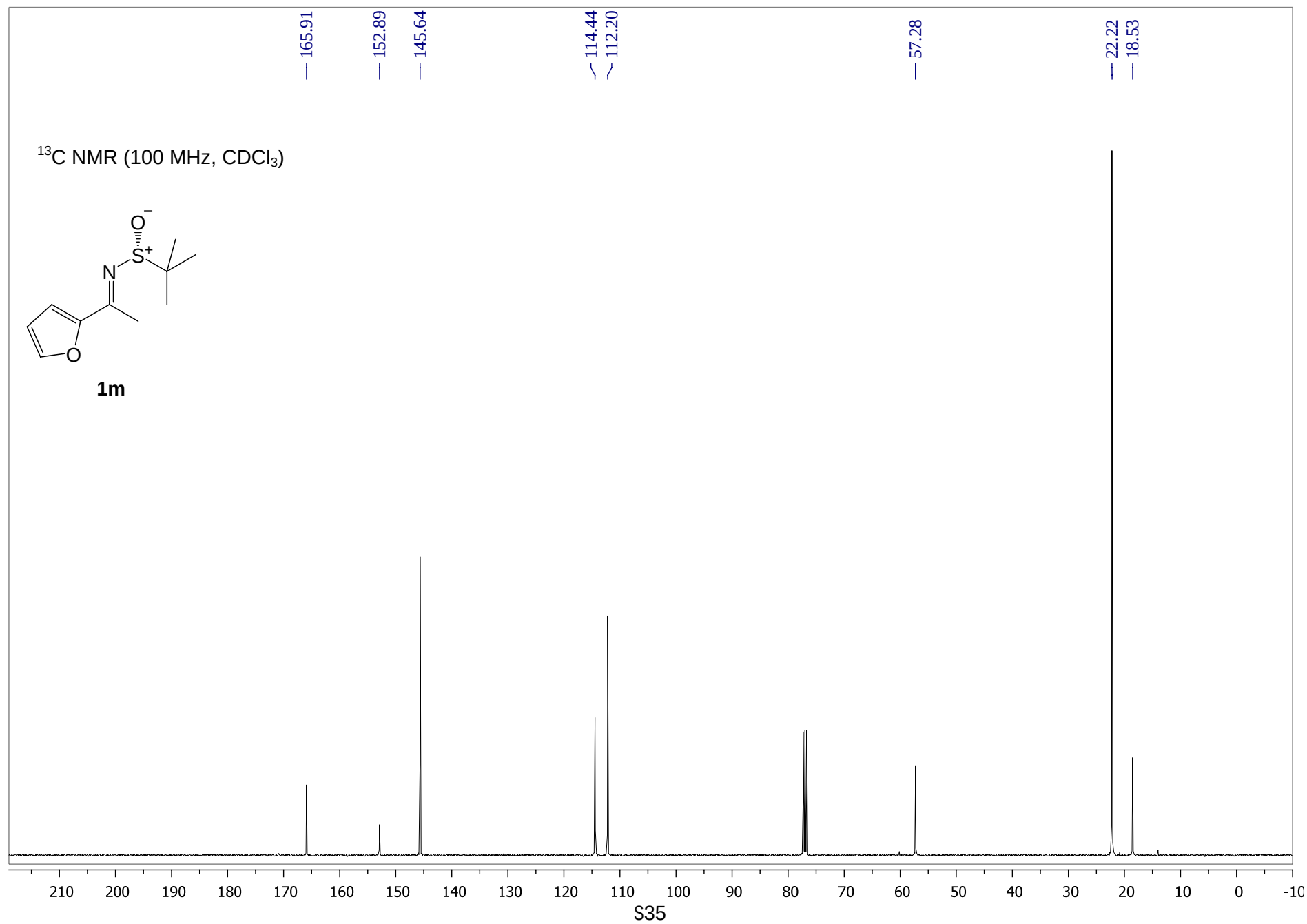


¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

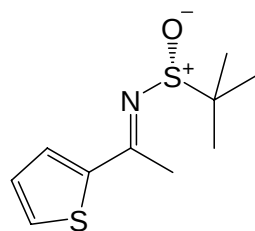


1m

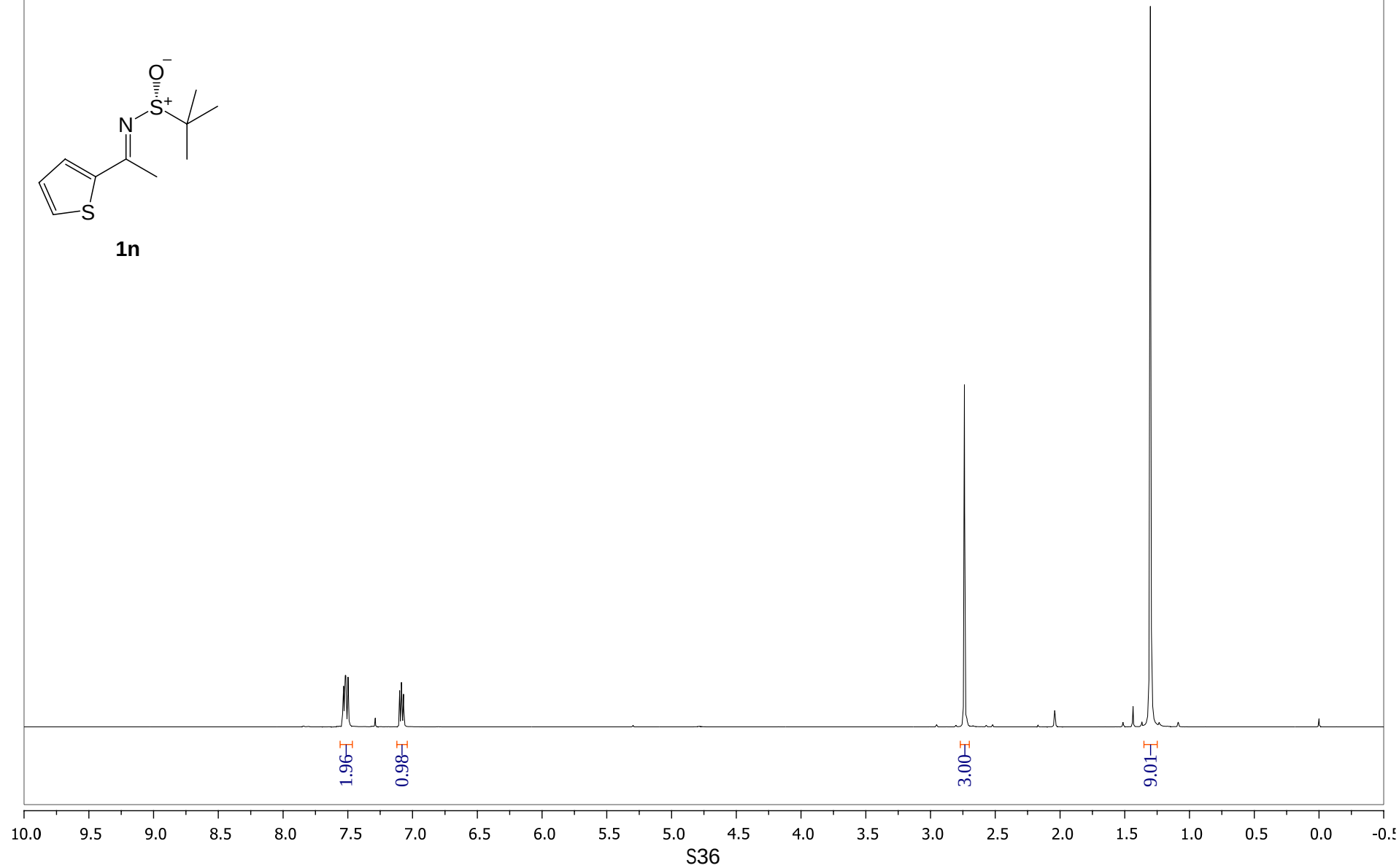


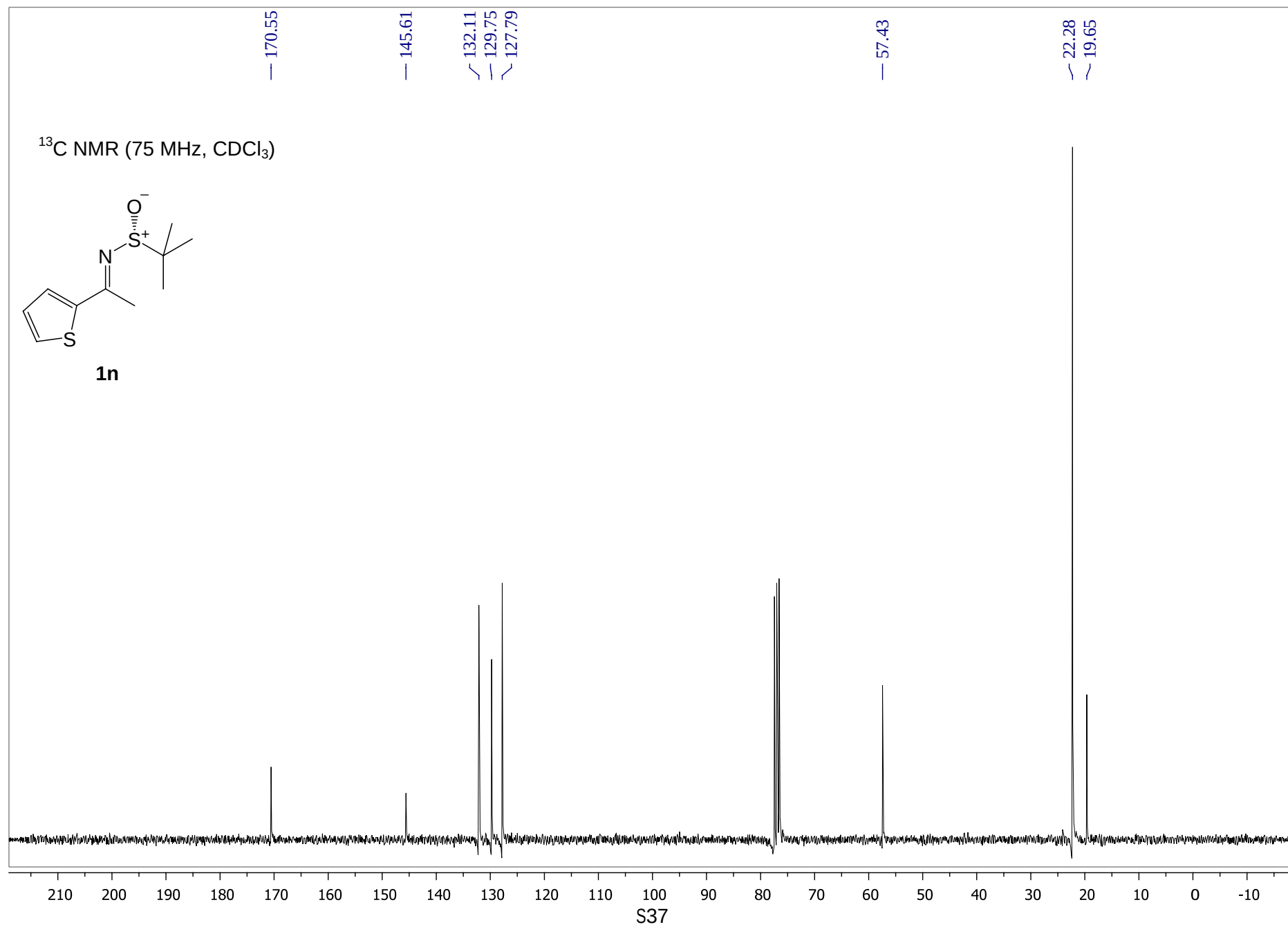


¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

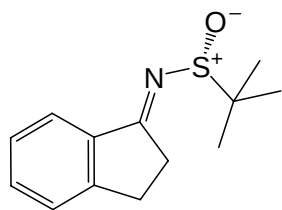


1n

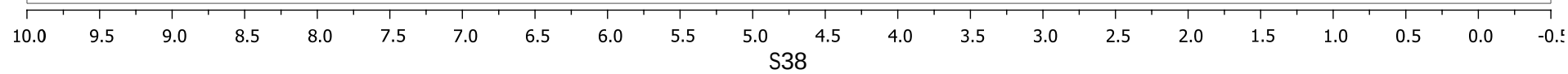


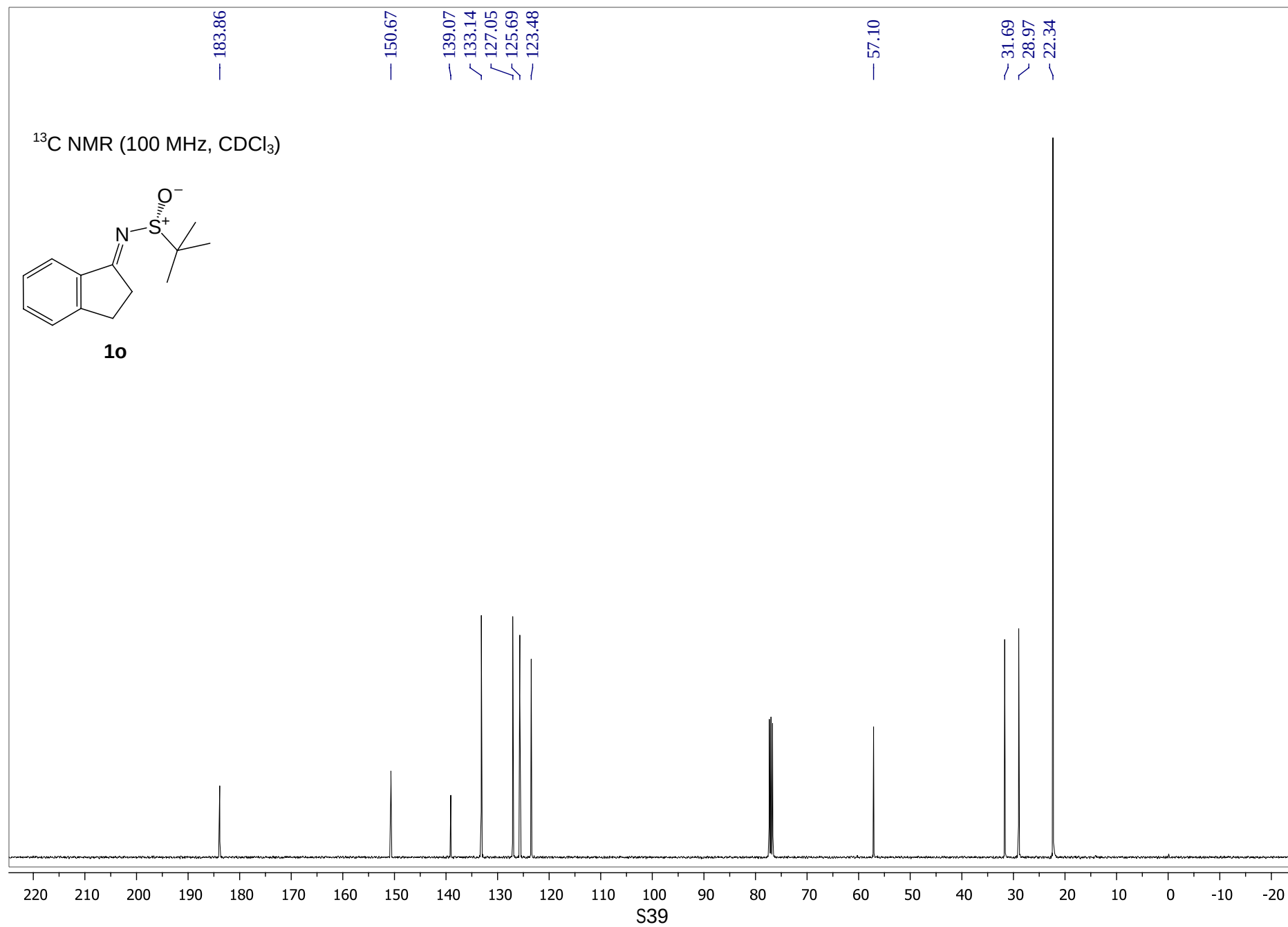


¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

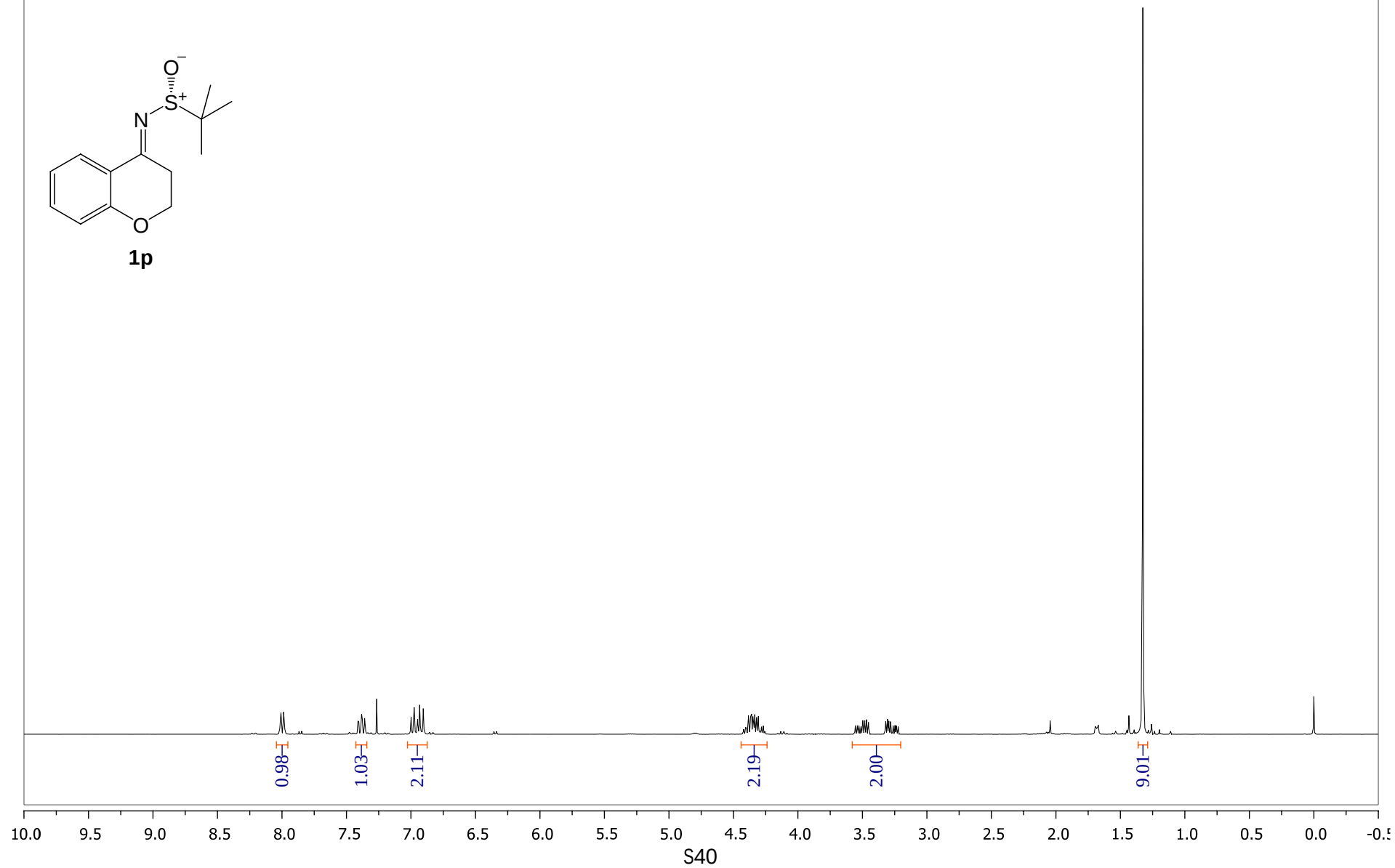
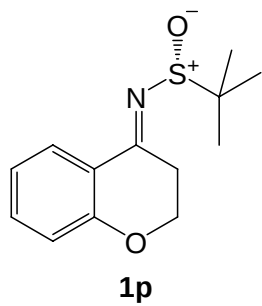


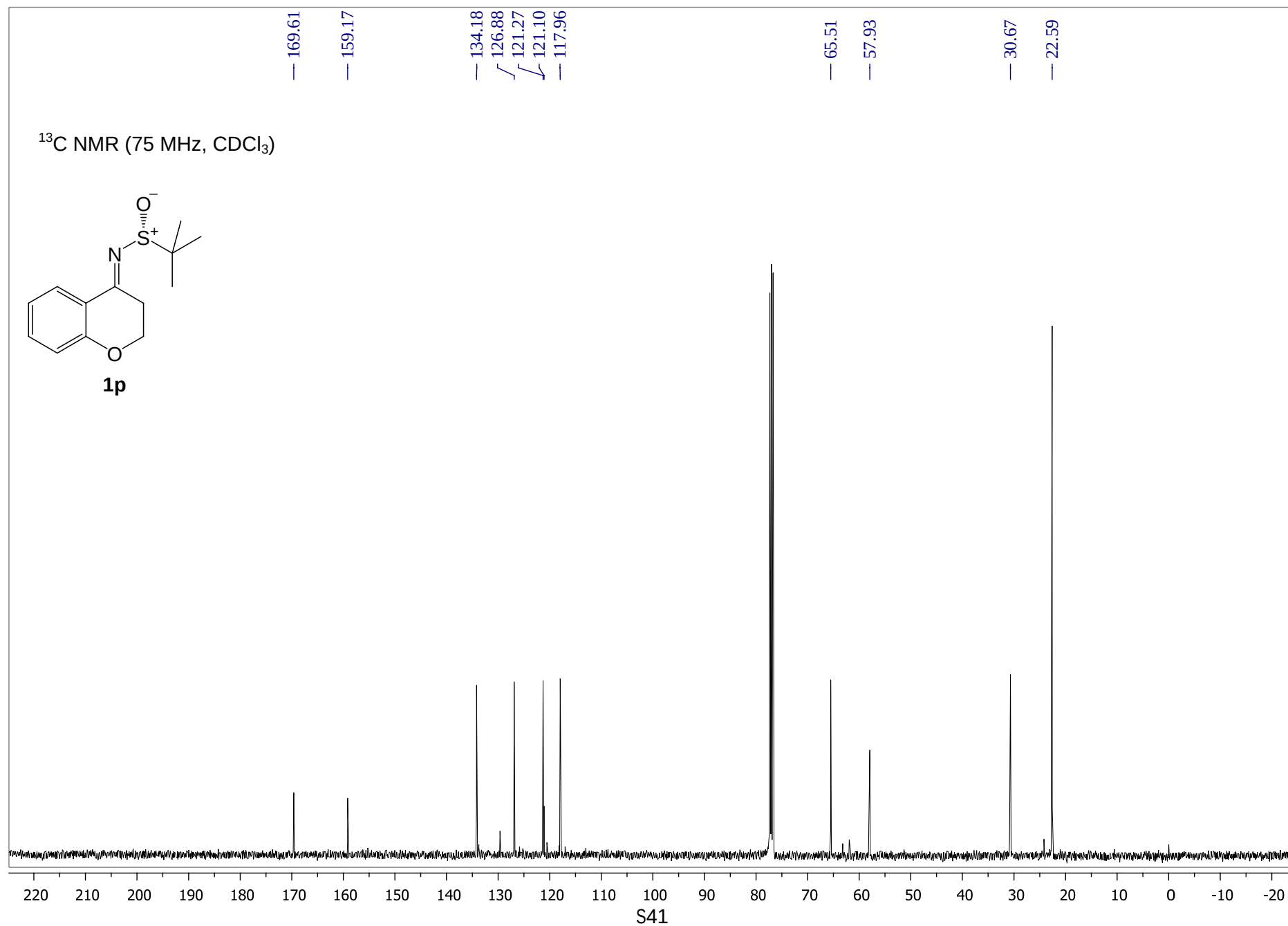
1o



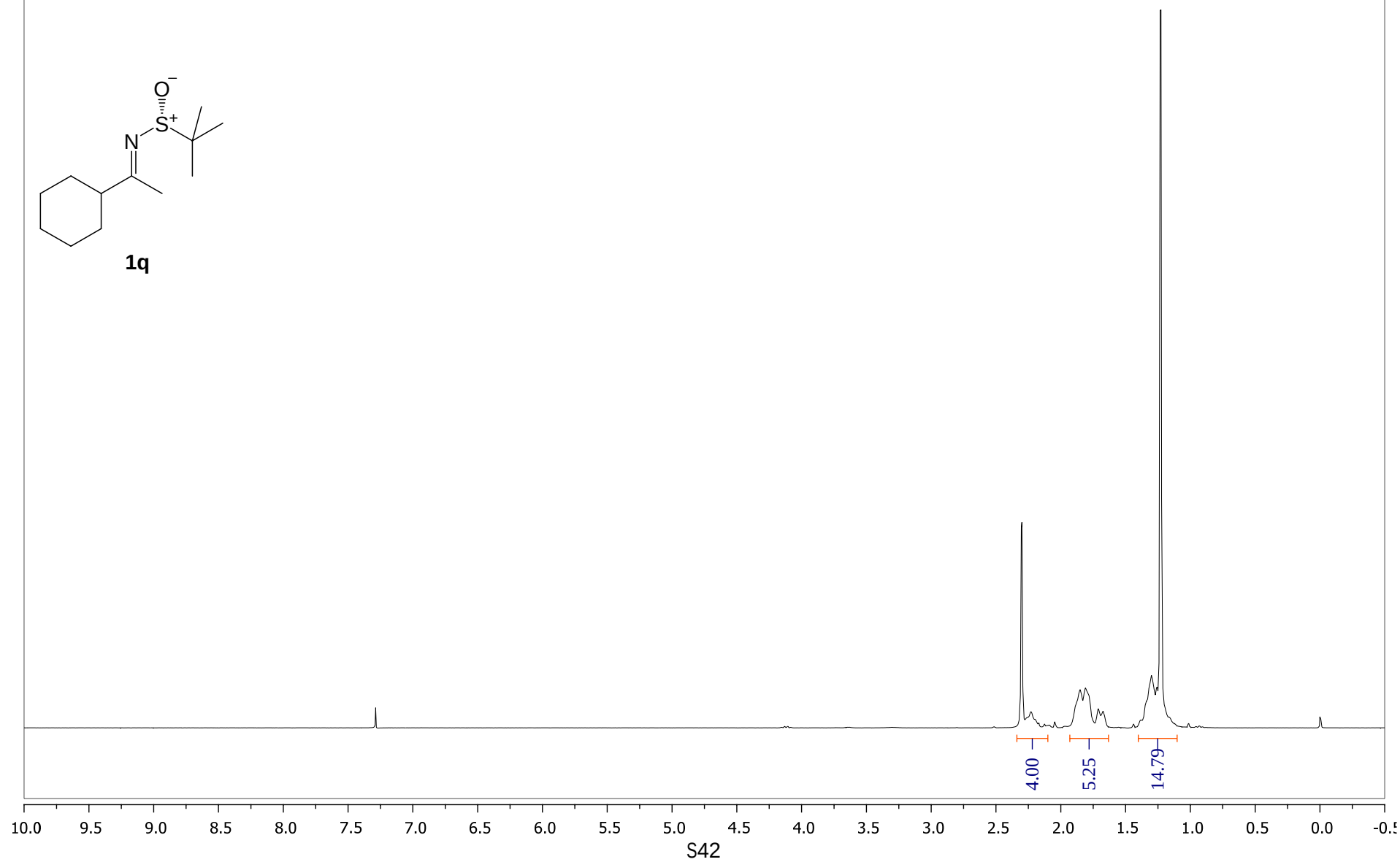
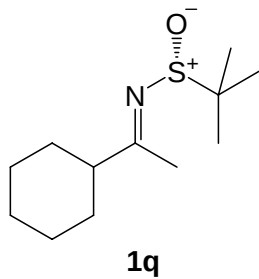


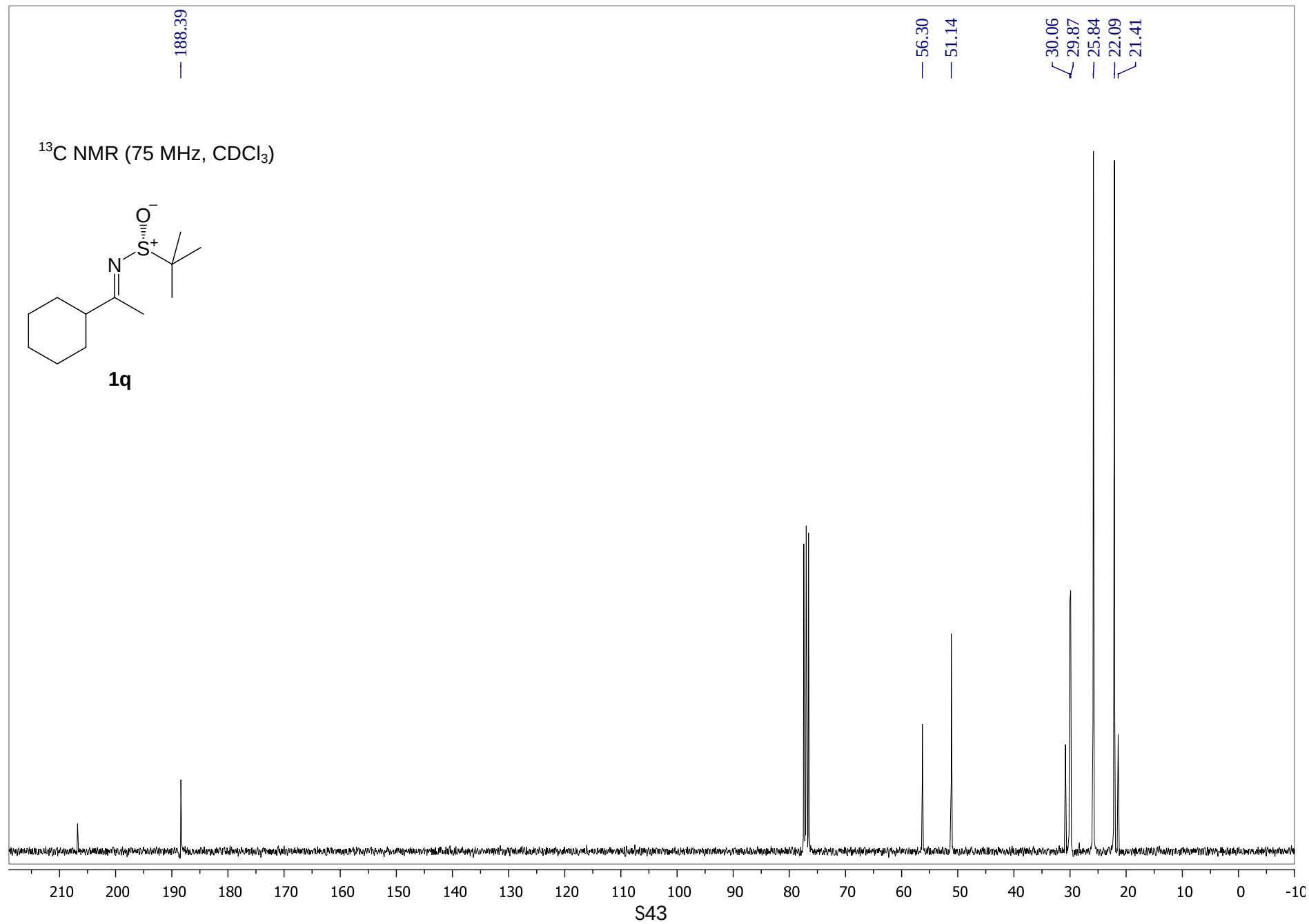
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)



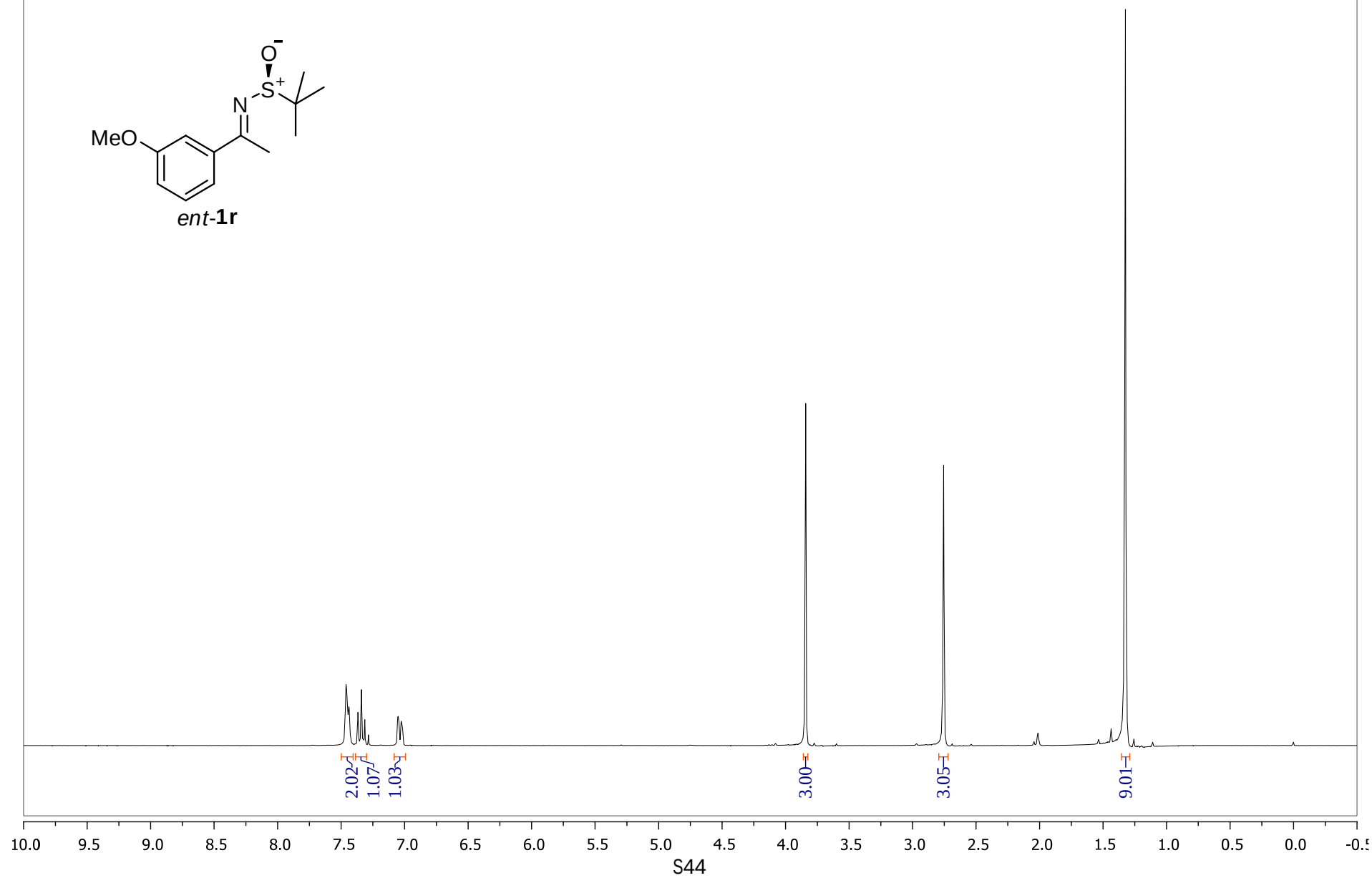
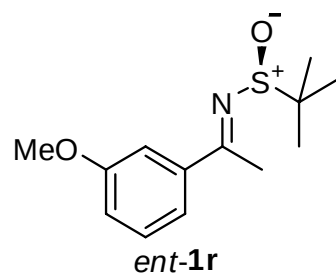


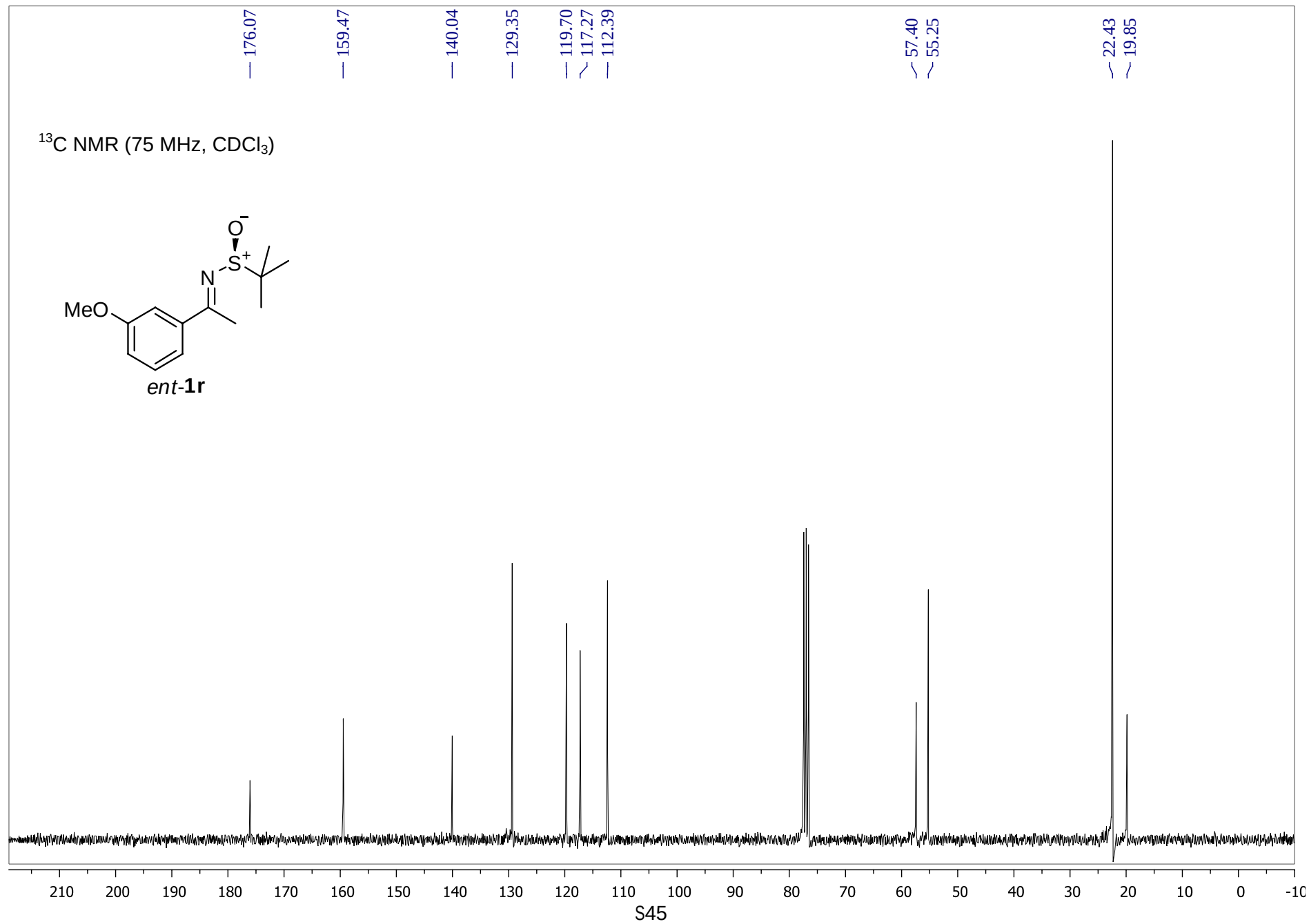
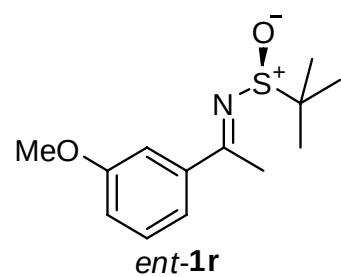
^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)



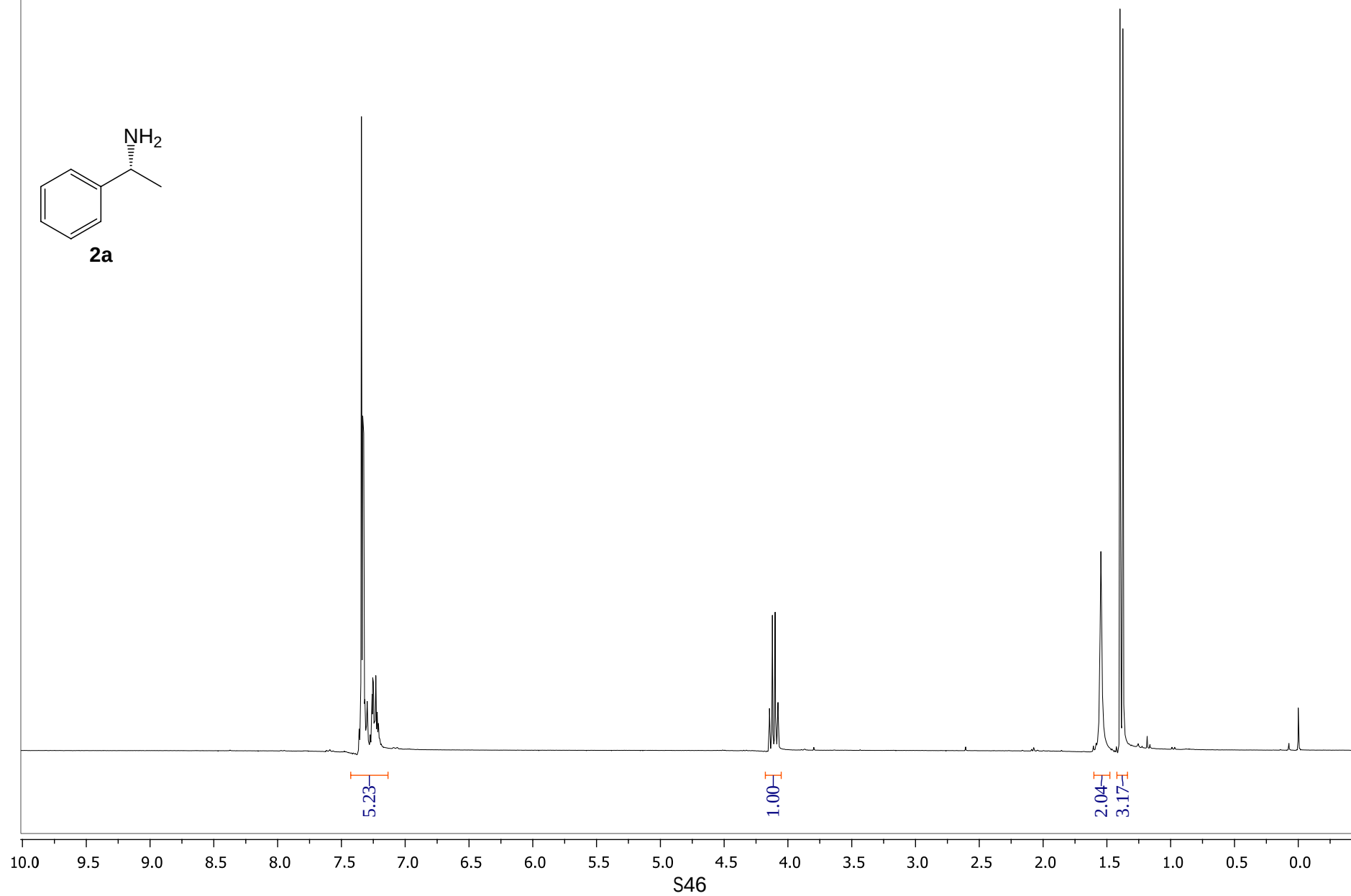
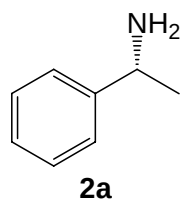


^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)

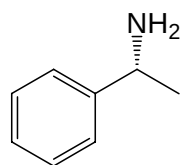




^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)



^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3)



2a

— 147.66

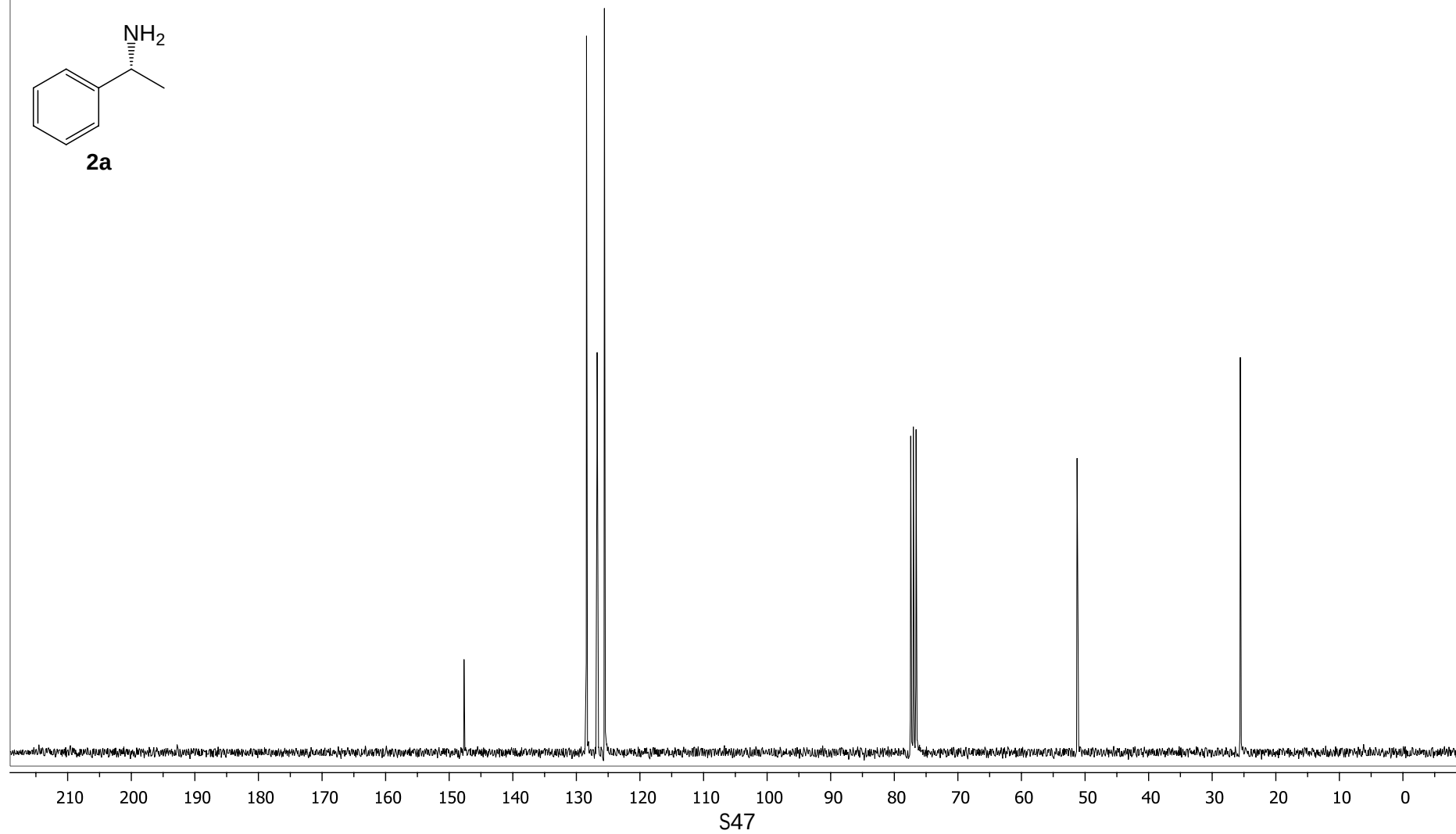
128.41

126.73

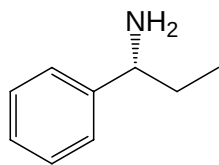
125.60

— 51.25

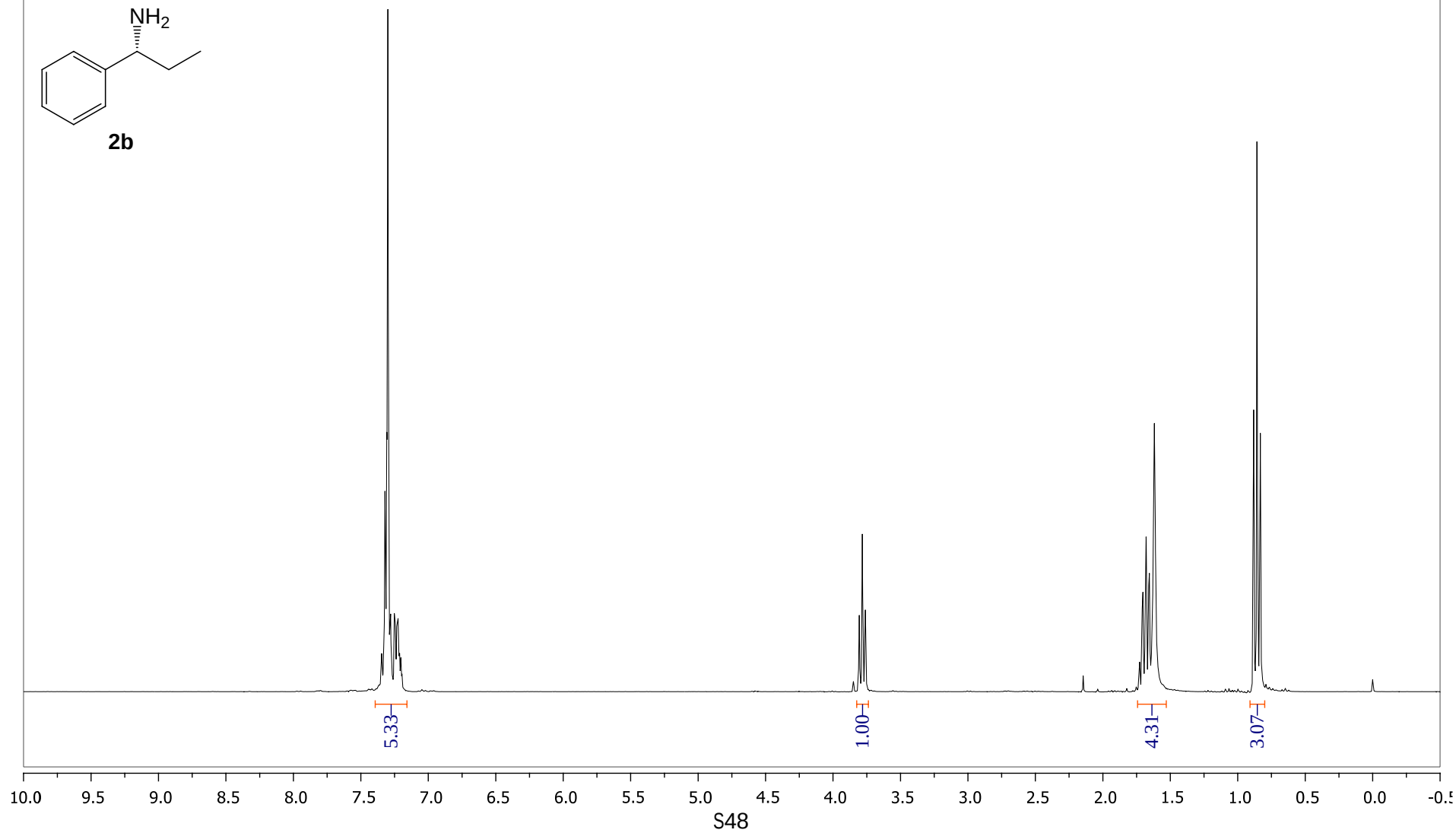
— 25.59

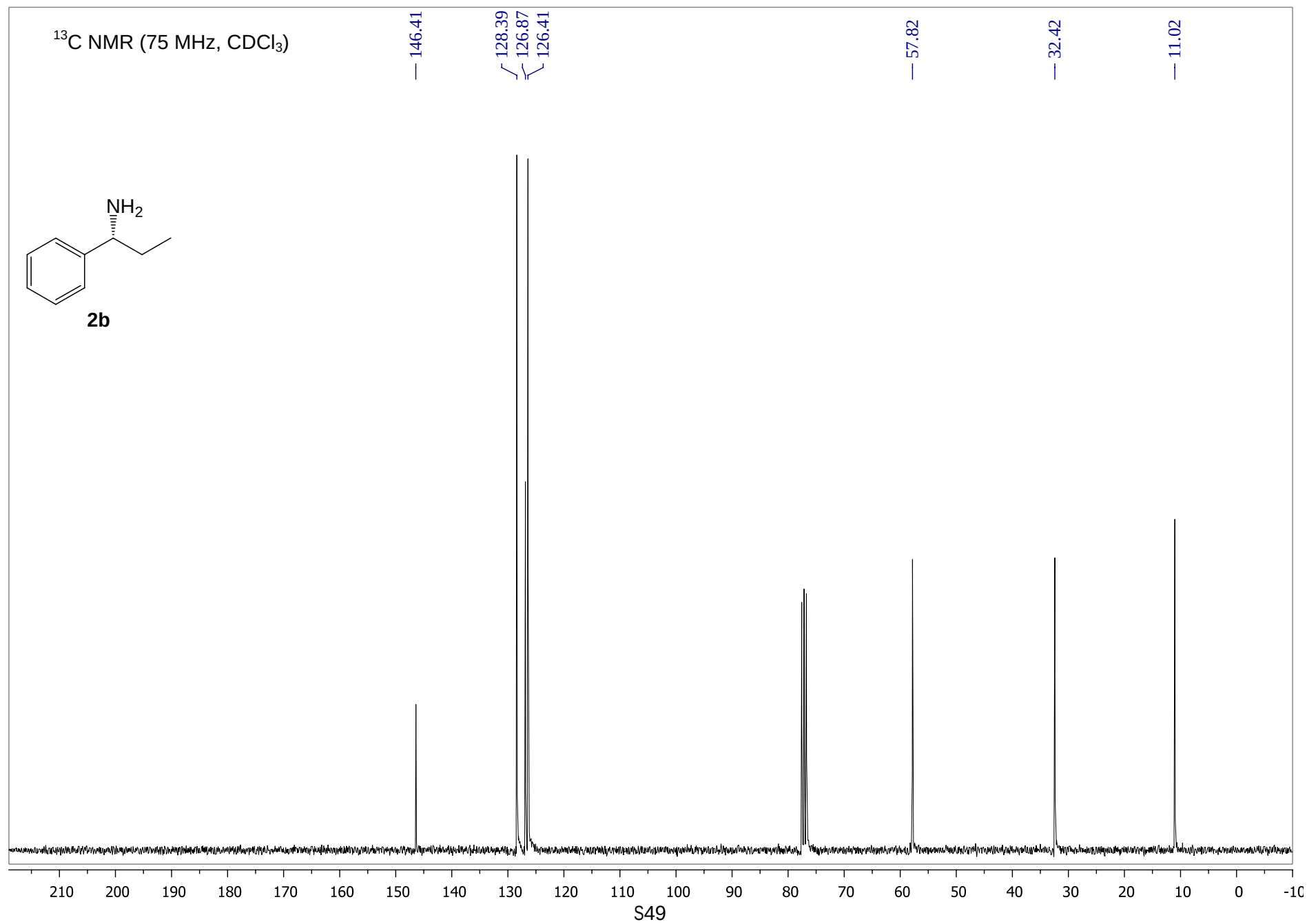


^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)

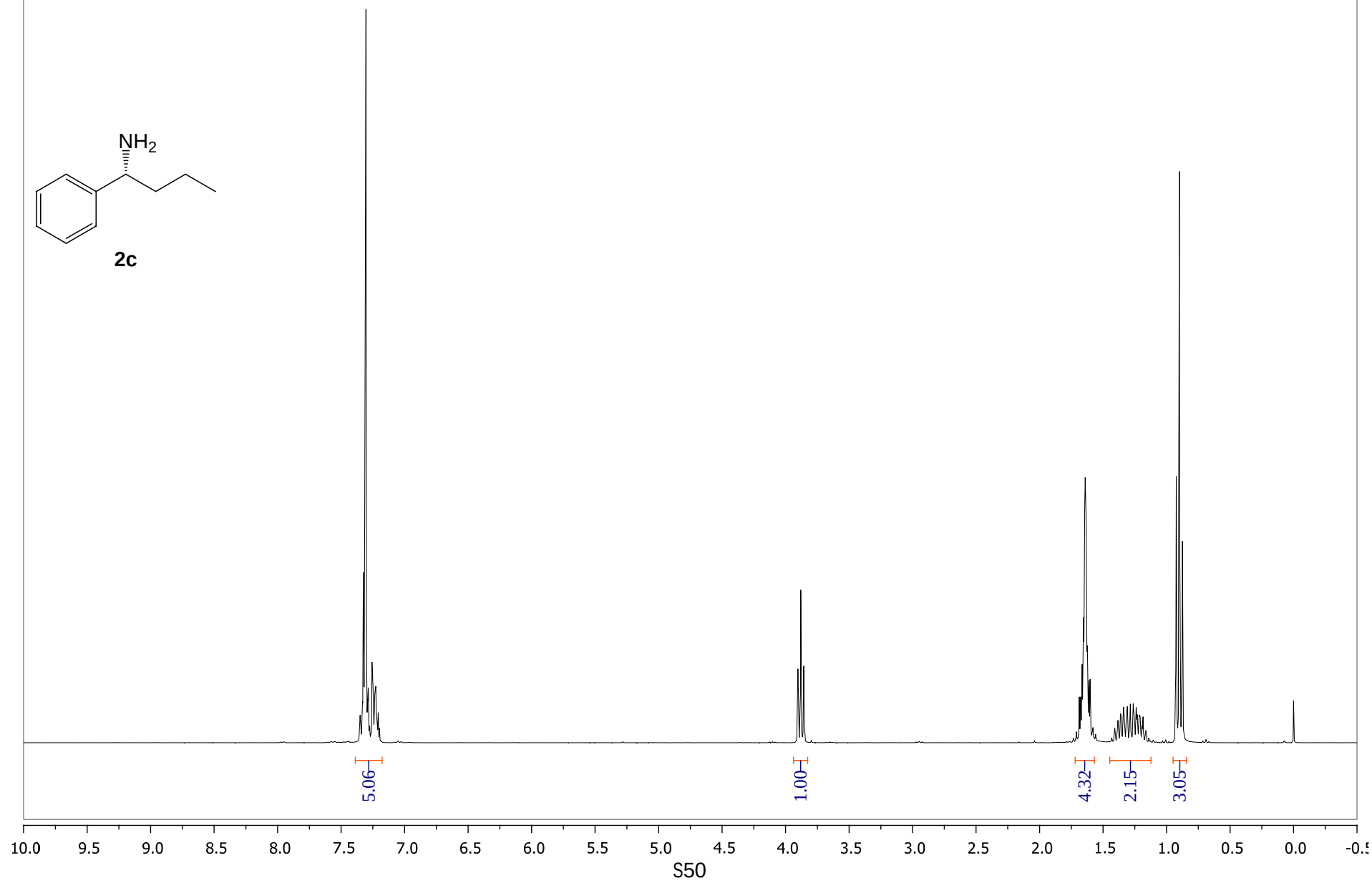
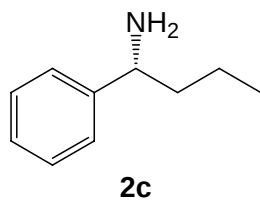


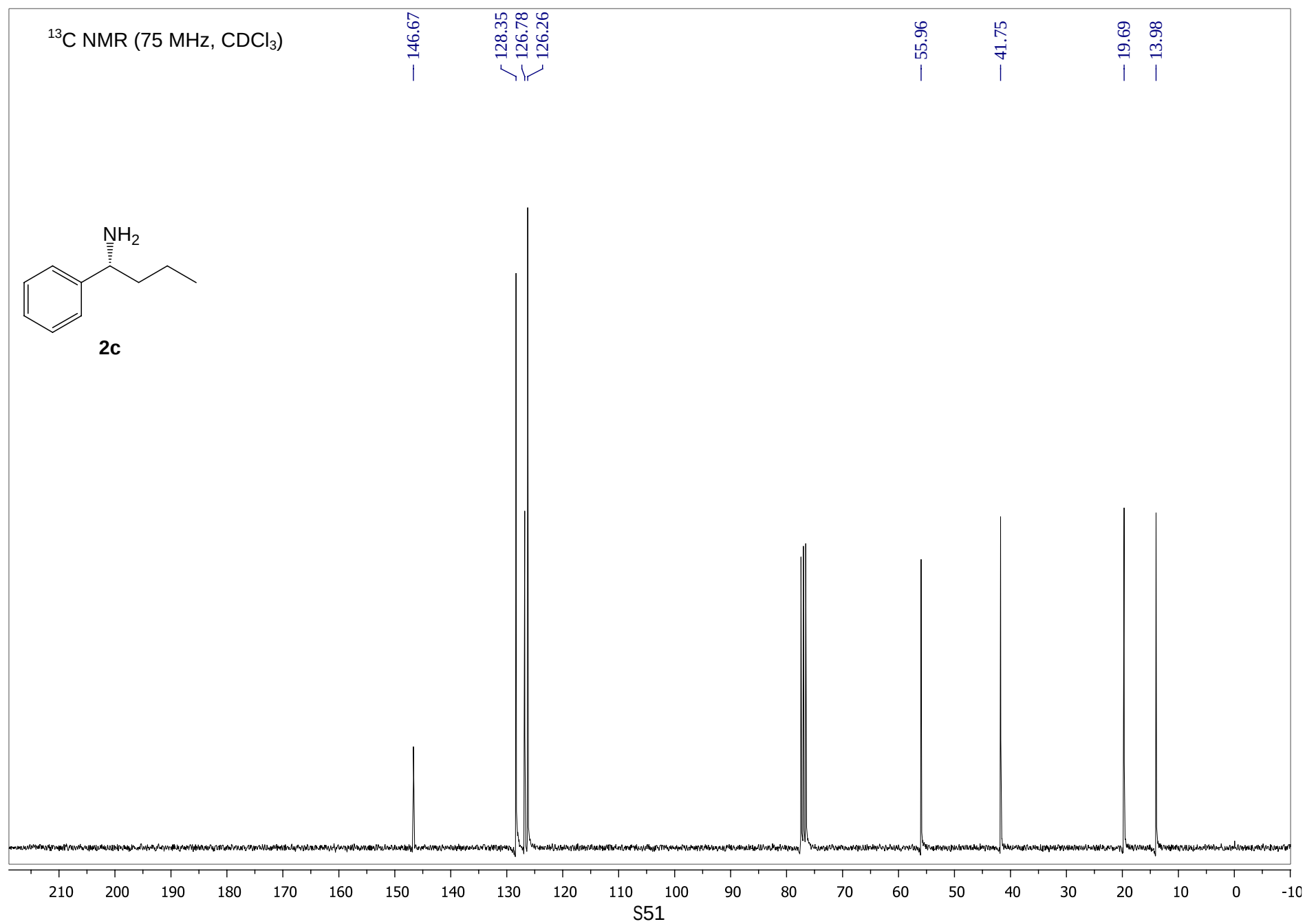
2b



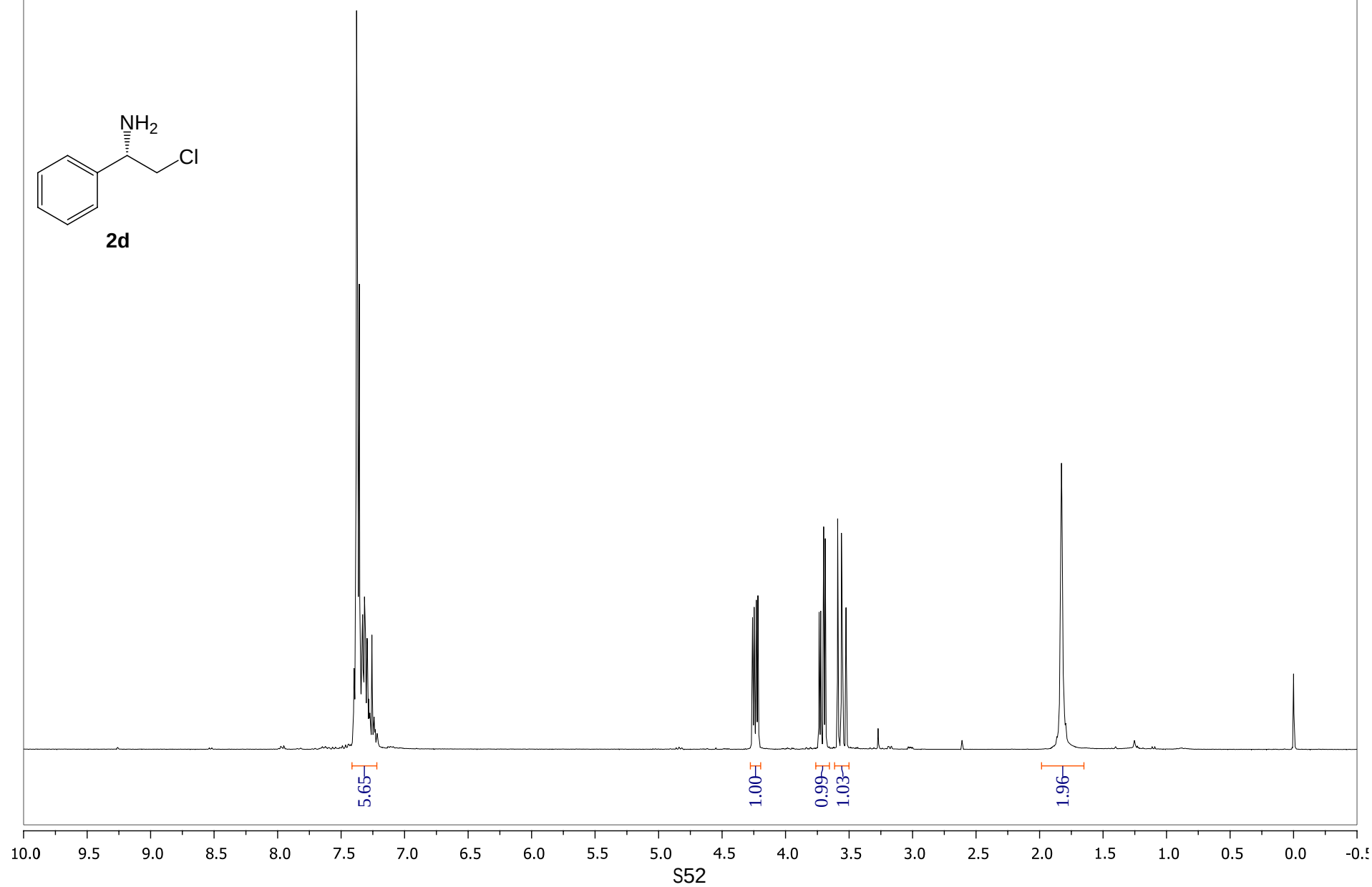
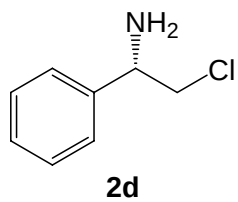


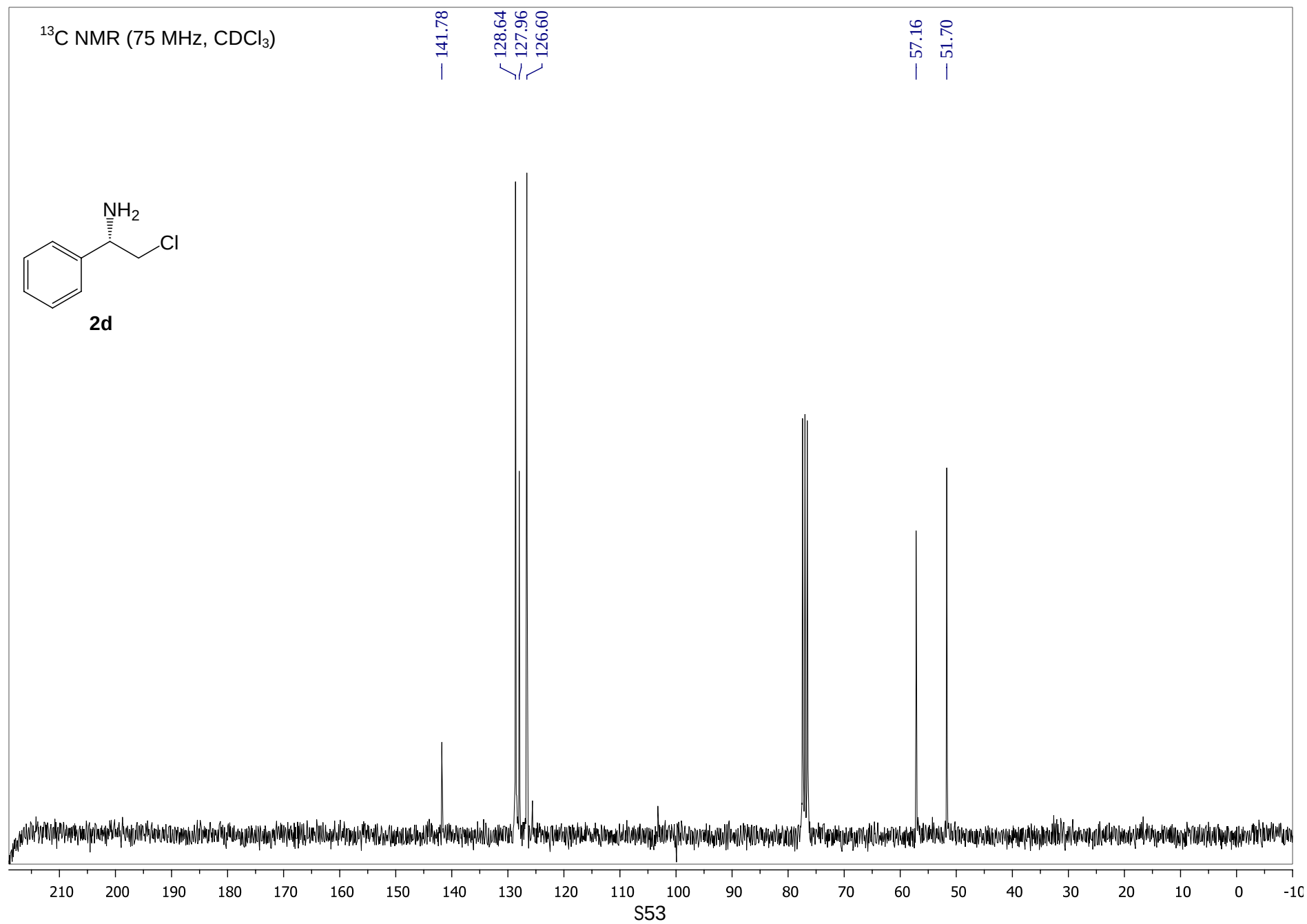
^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)



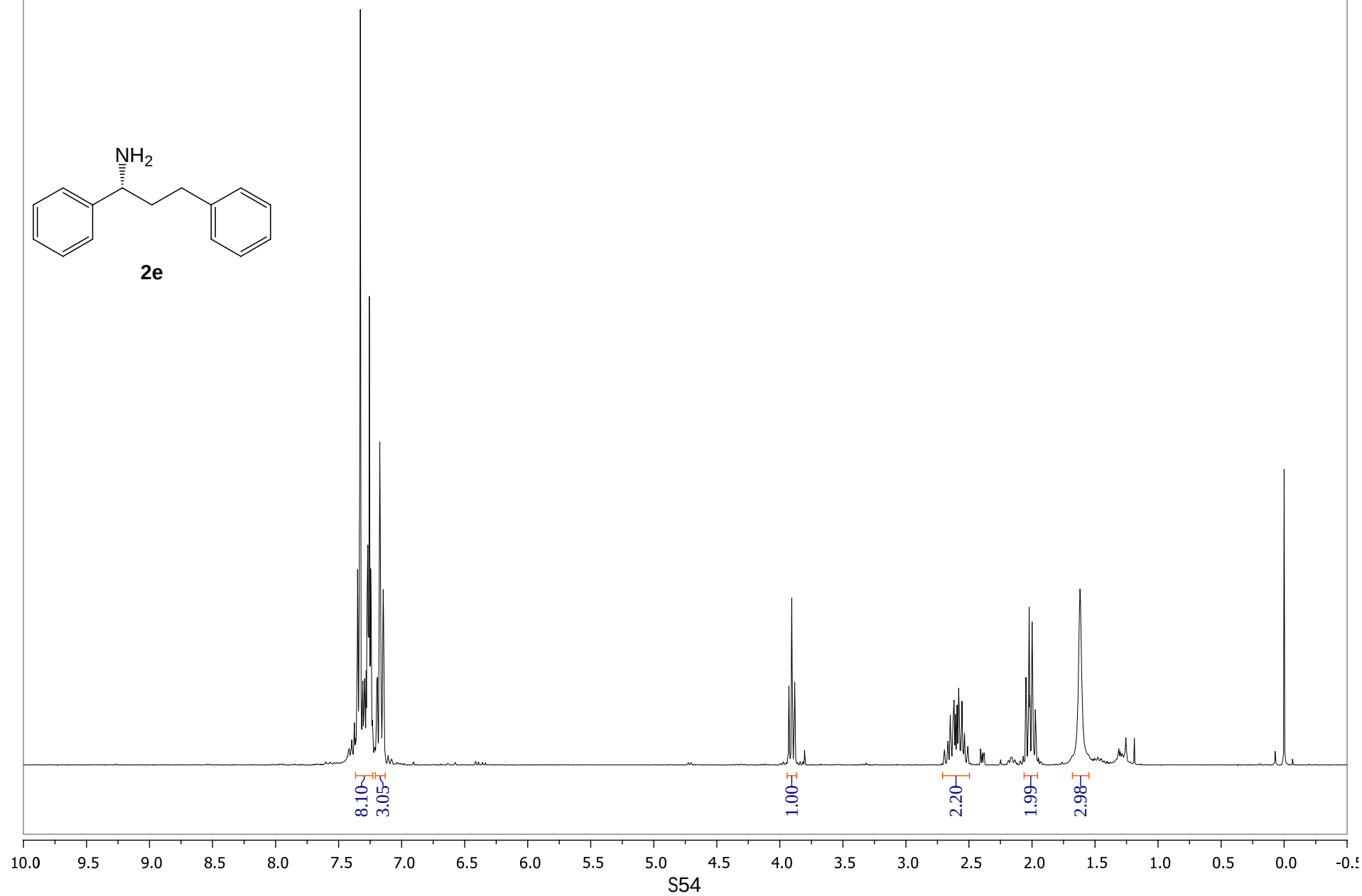
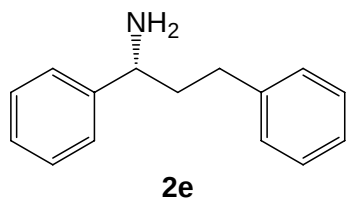


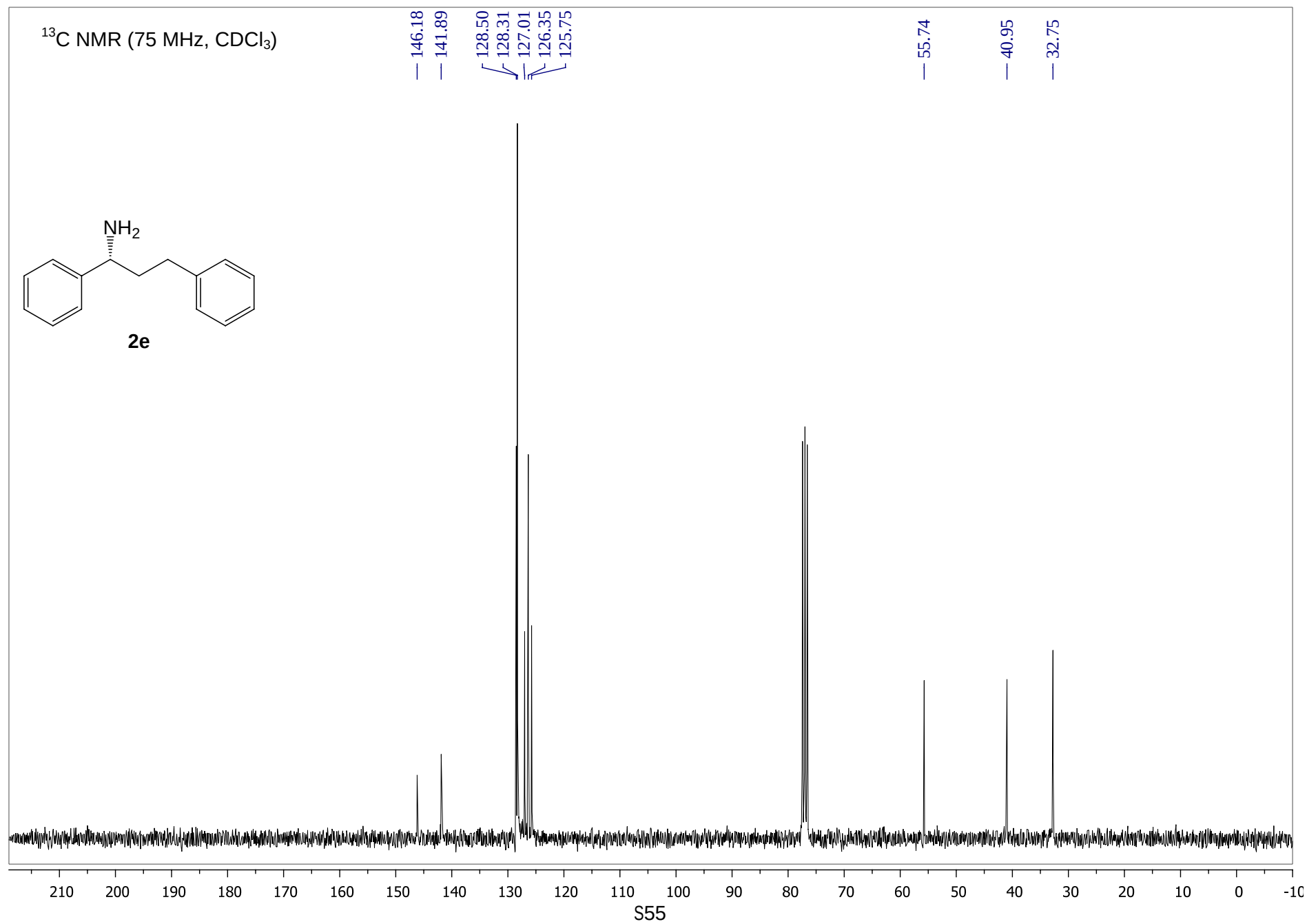
^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)



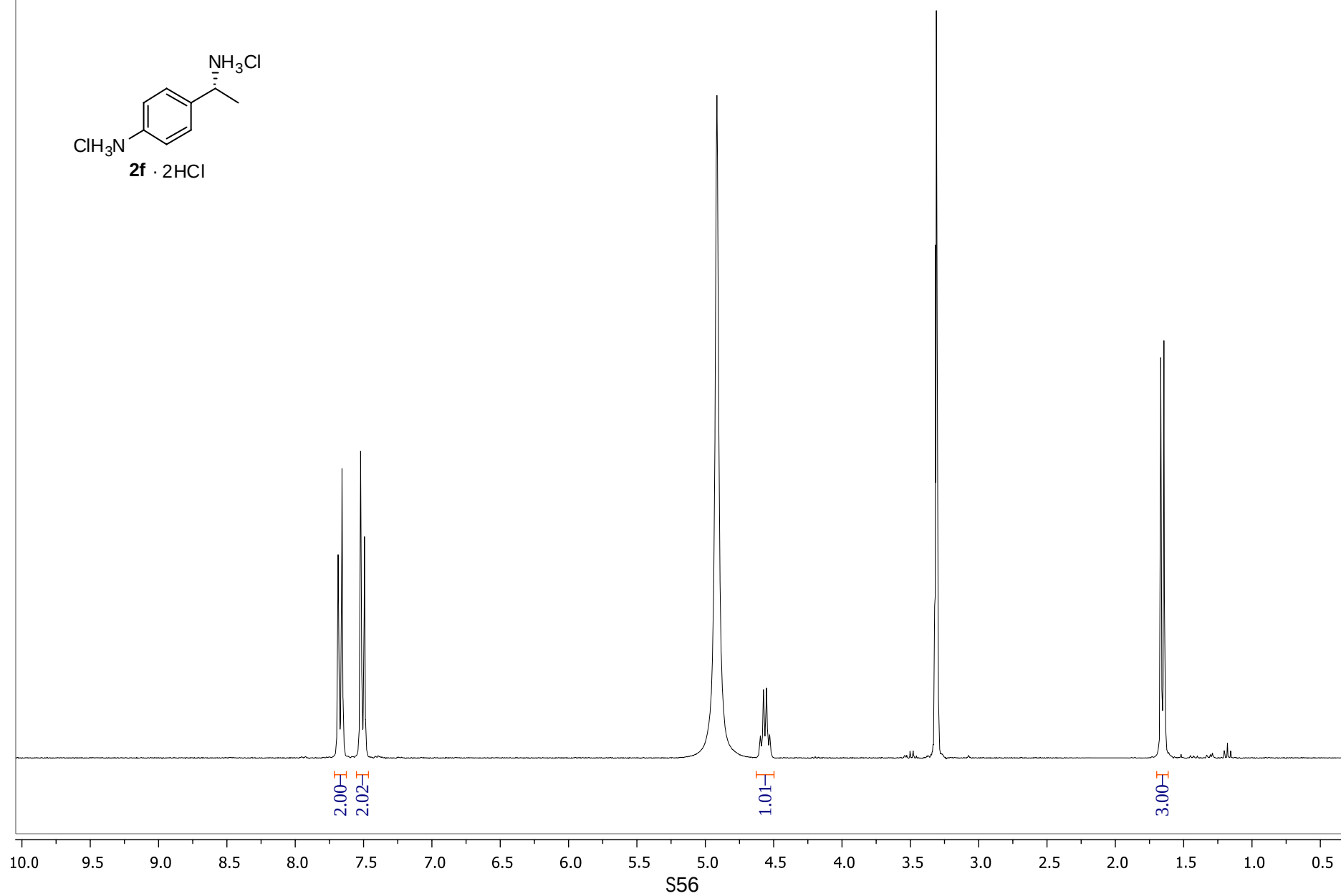
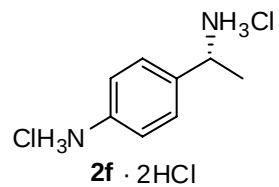


^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)

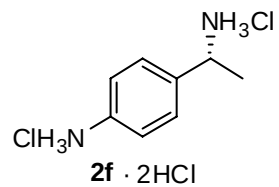




^1H NMR (300 MHz, CD_3OD)



^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CD_3OD)



140.52

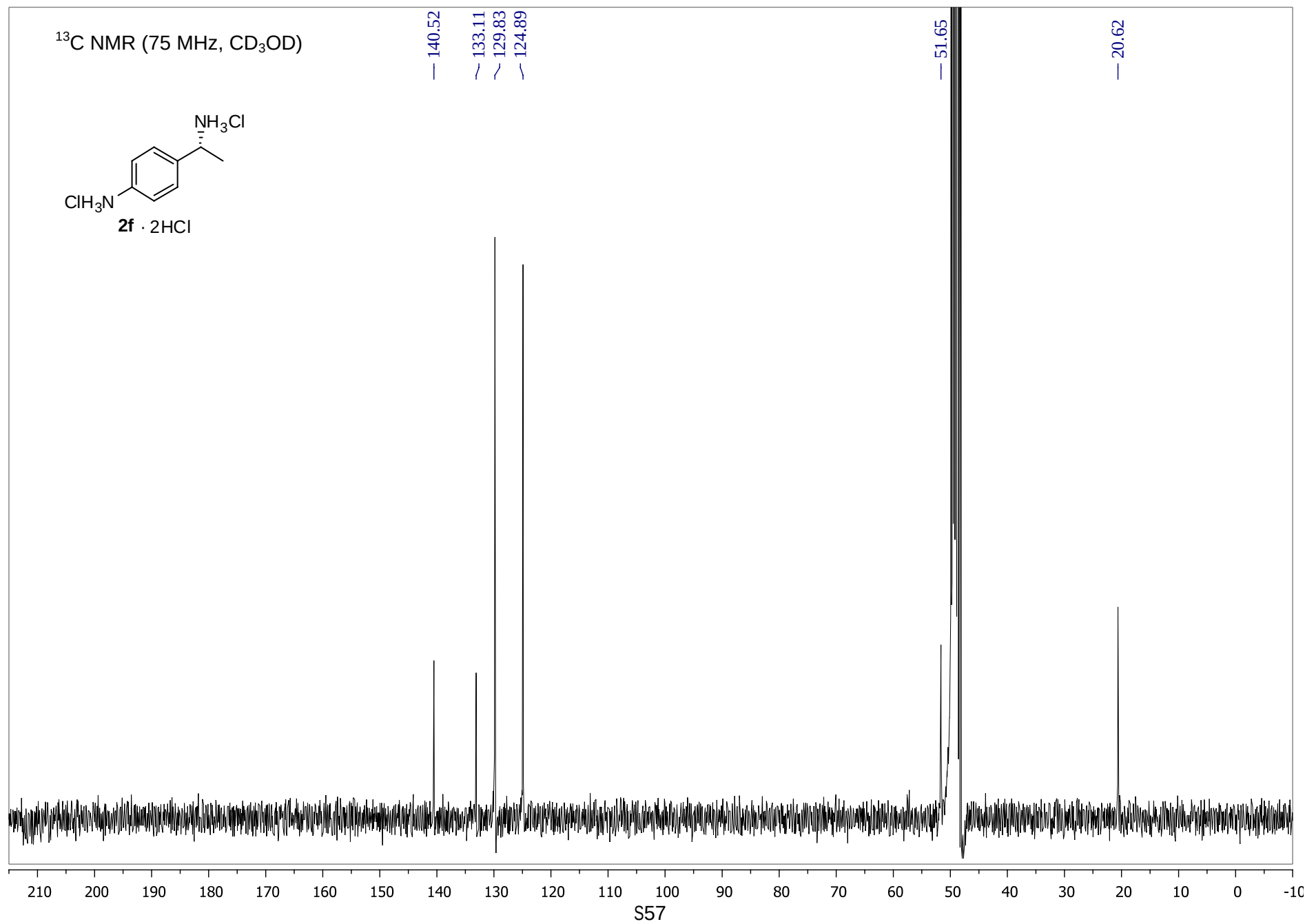
133.11

129.83

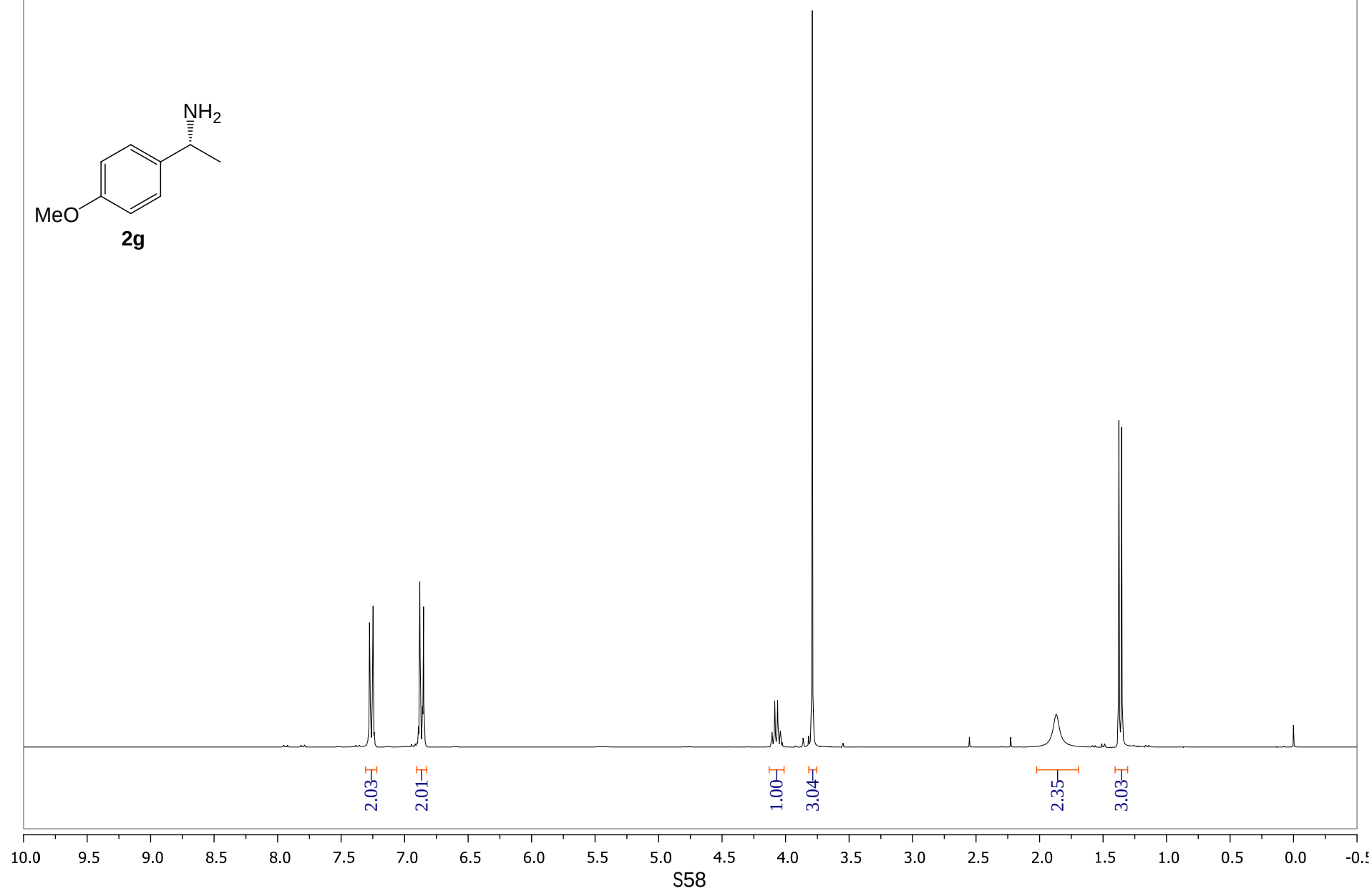
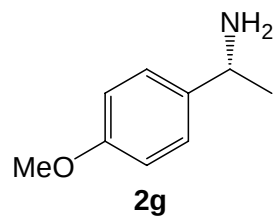
124.89

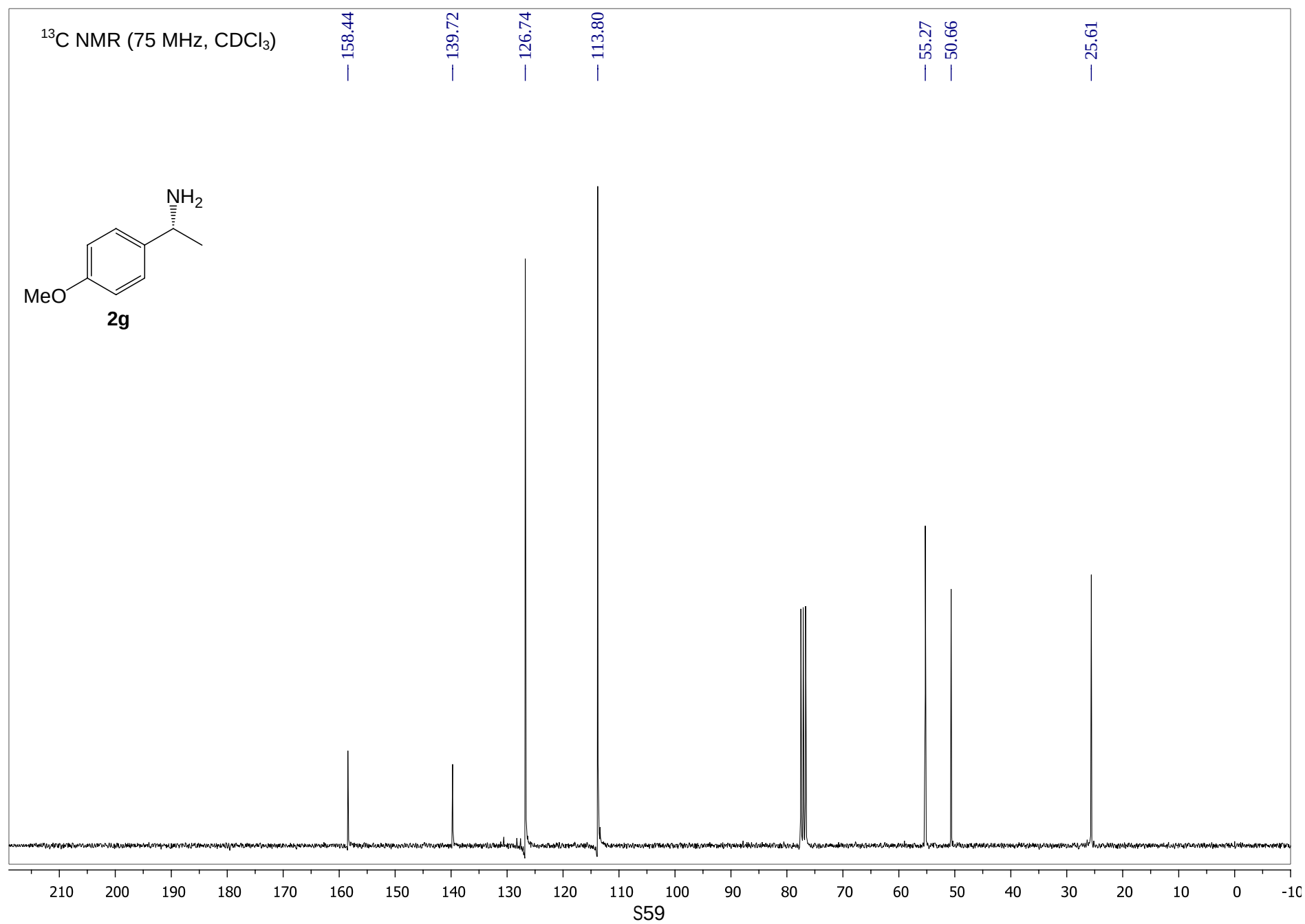
51.65

20.62

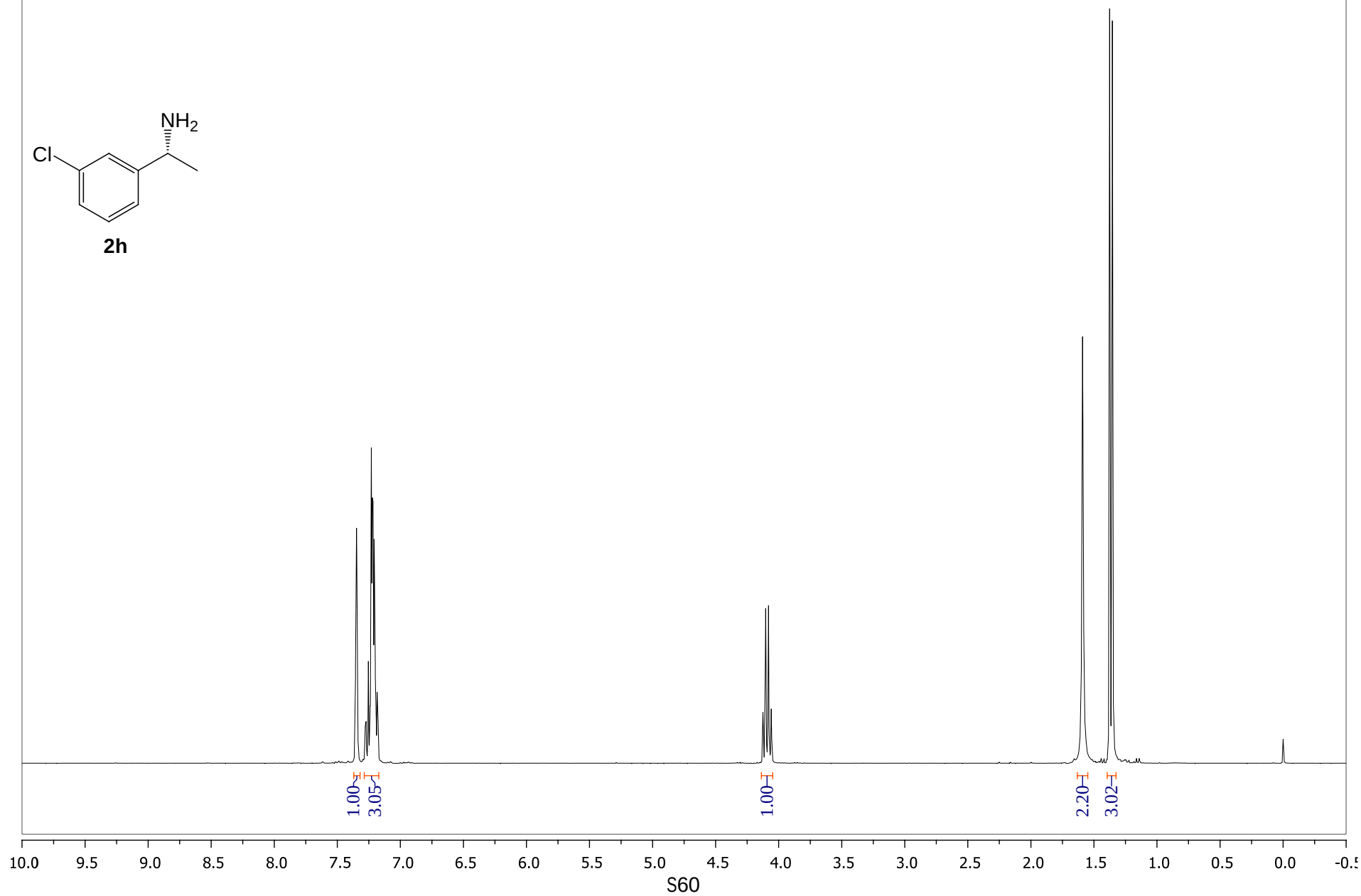
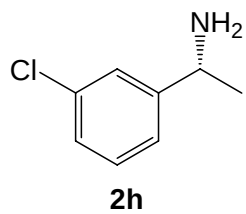


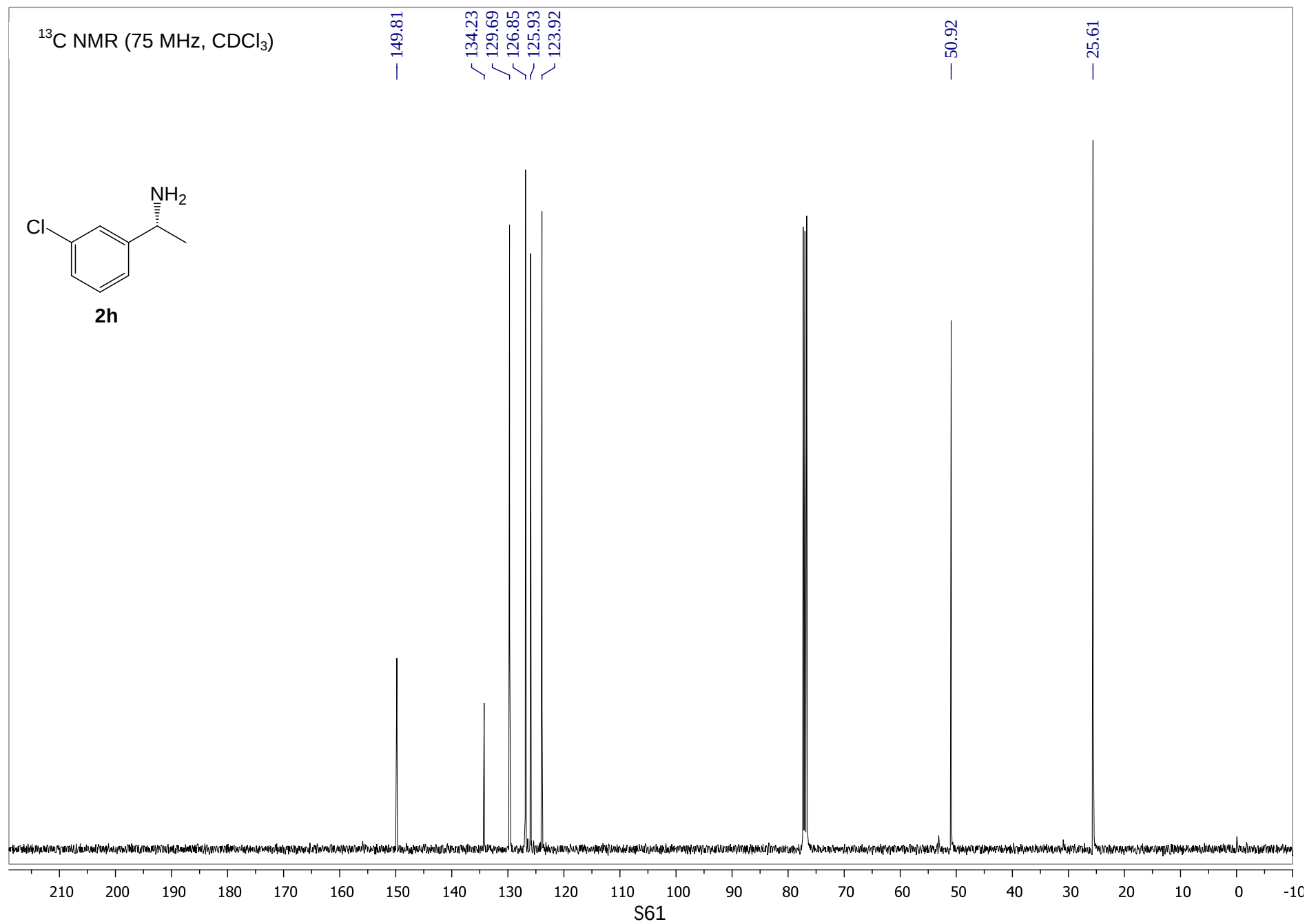
^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)



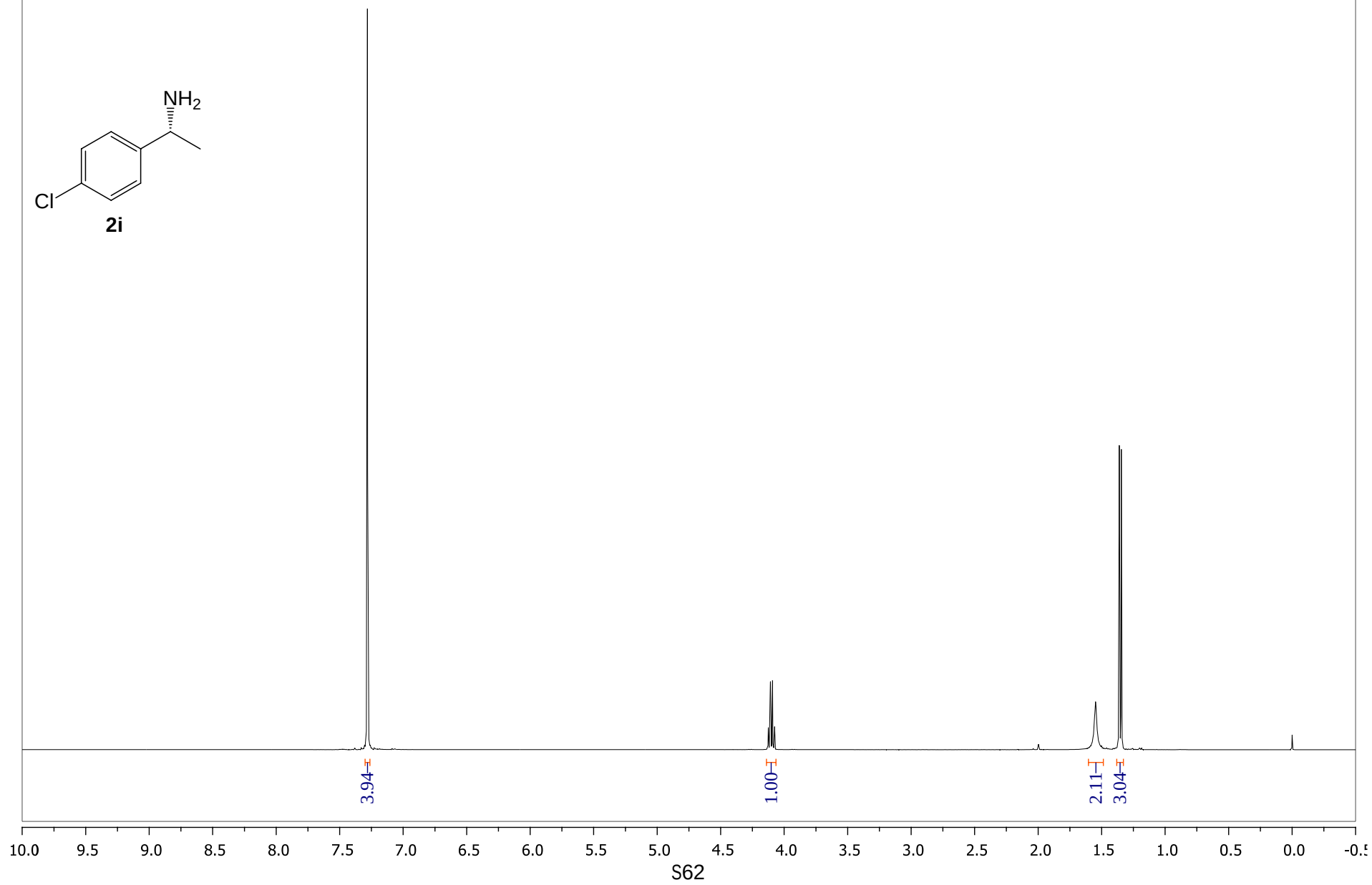
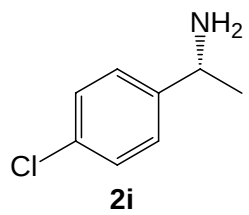


^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)

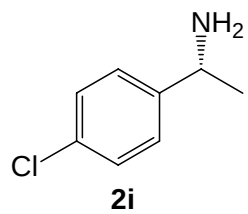




^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3)



^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3)



— 146.09

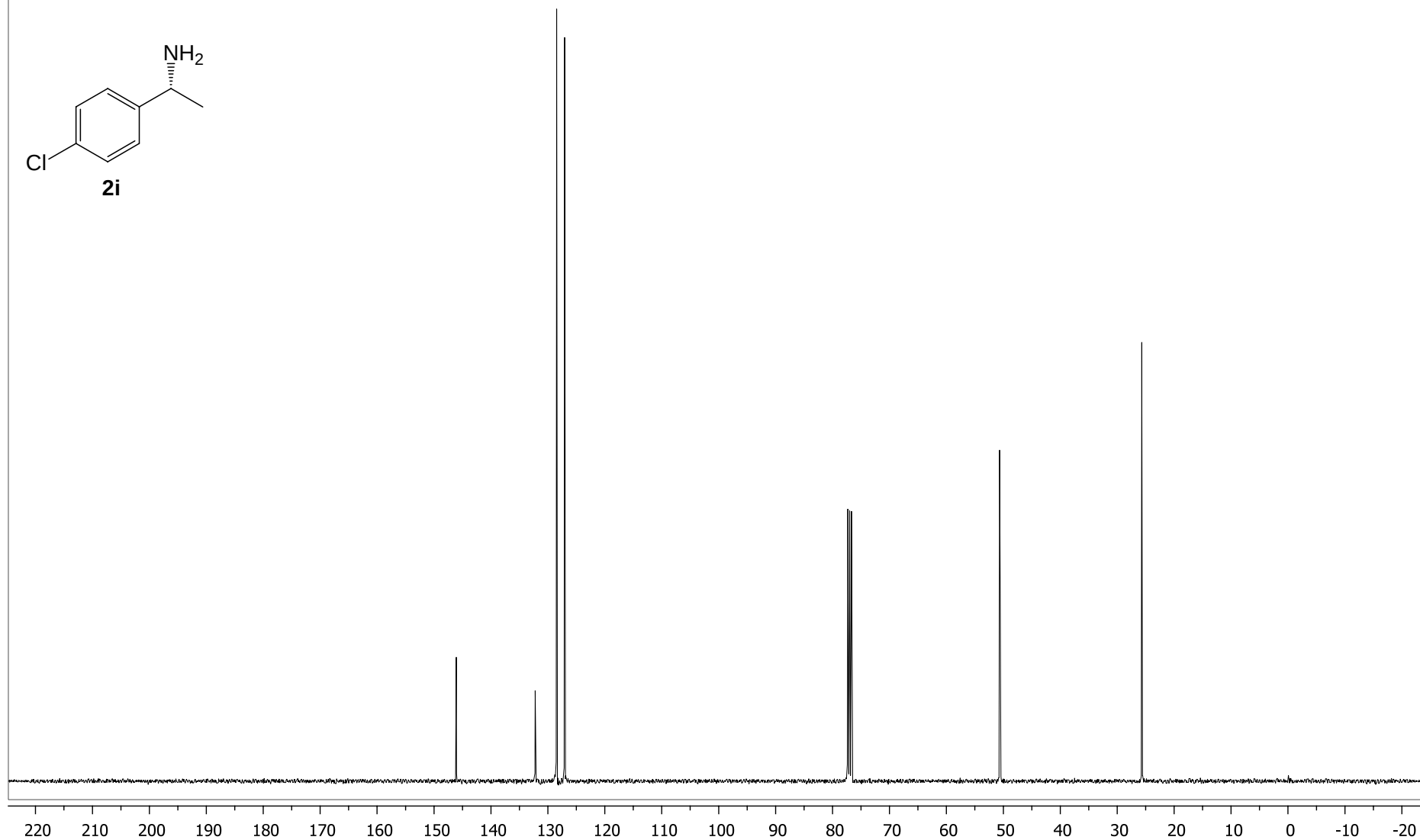
— 132.24

— 128.45

— 127.07

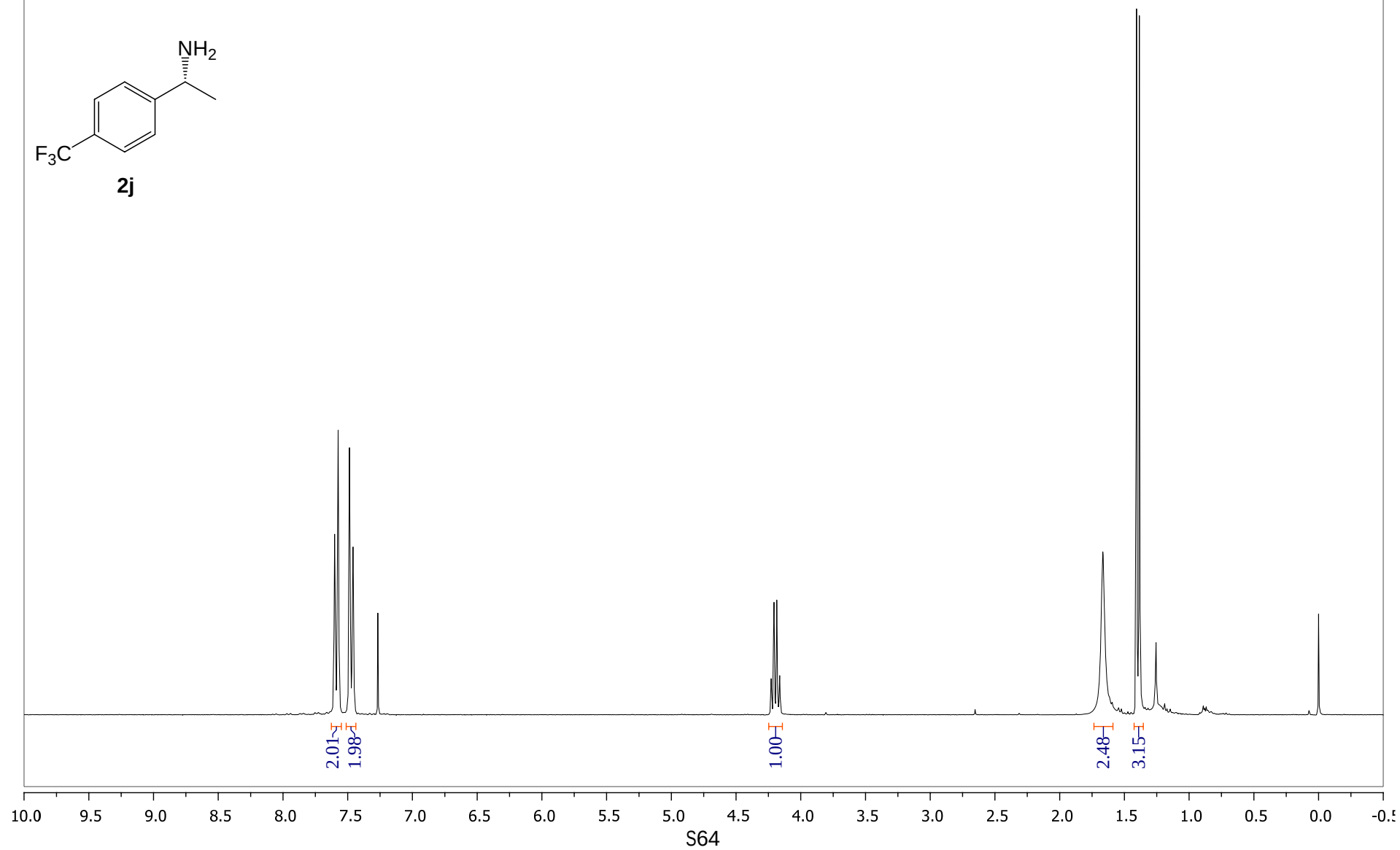
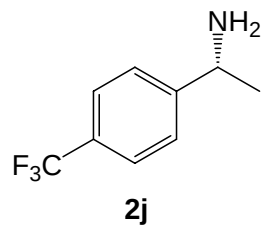
— 50.65

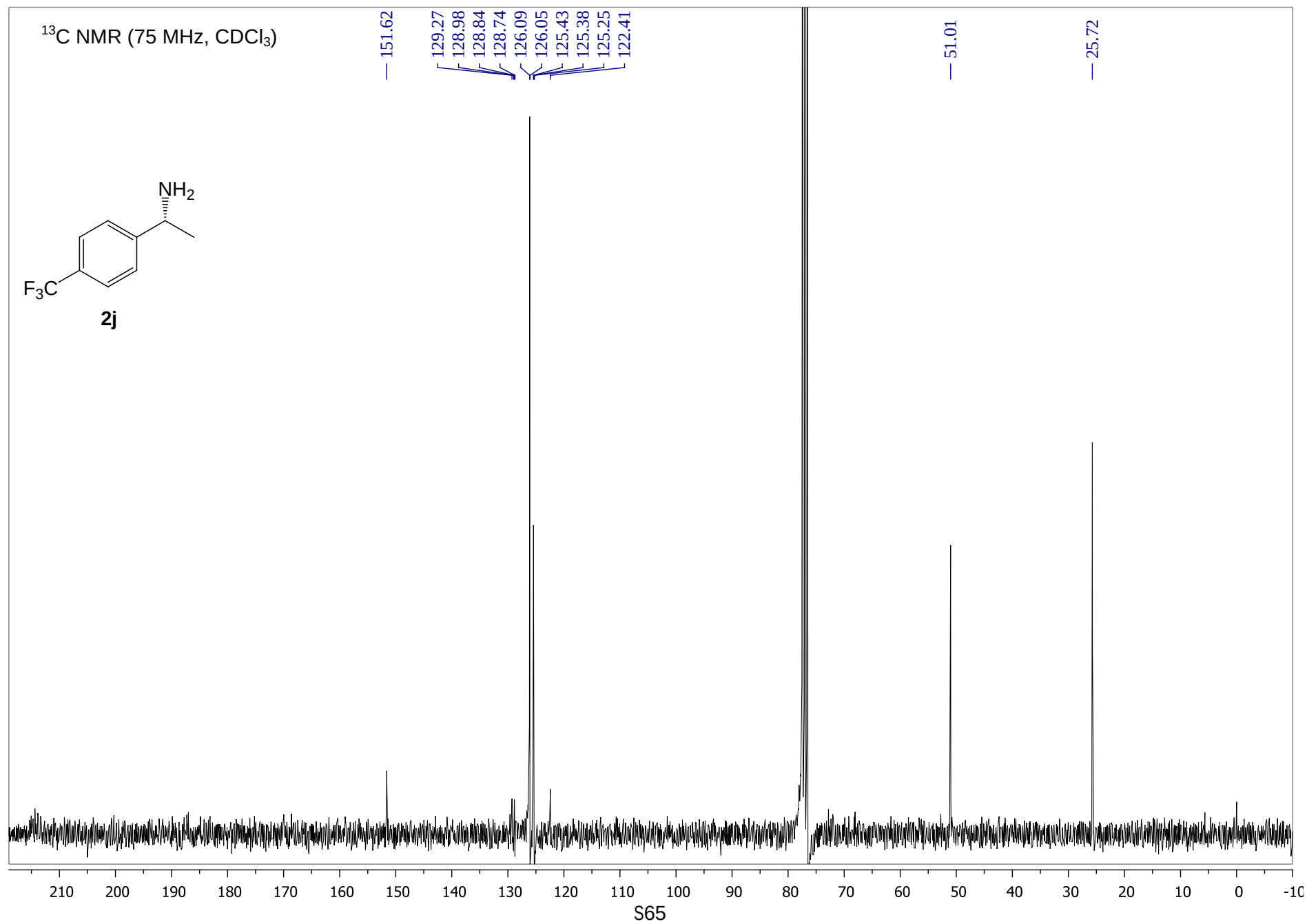
— 25.68



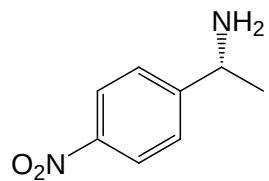
S63

^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)

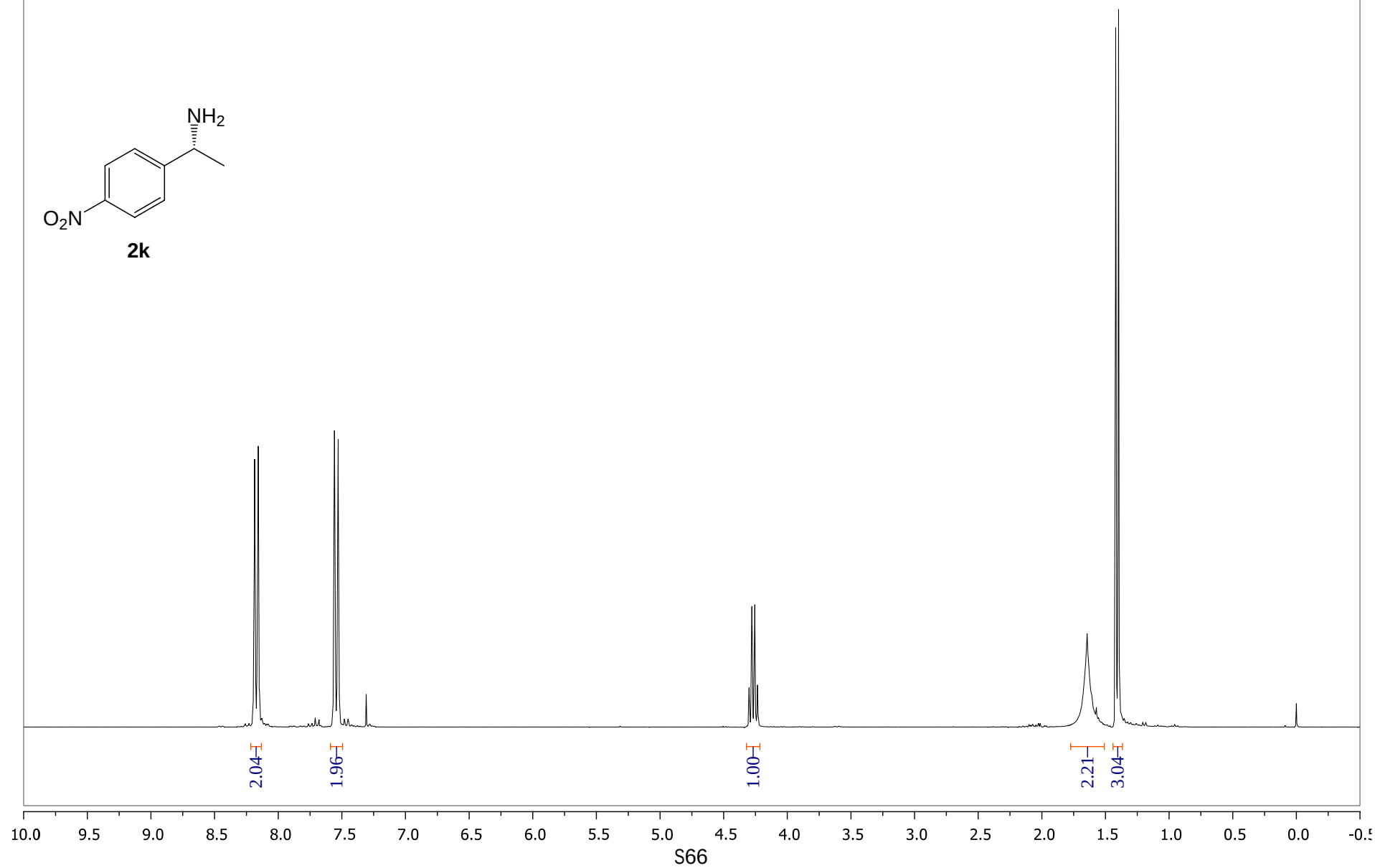


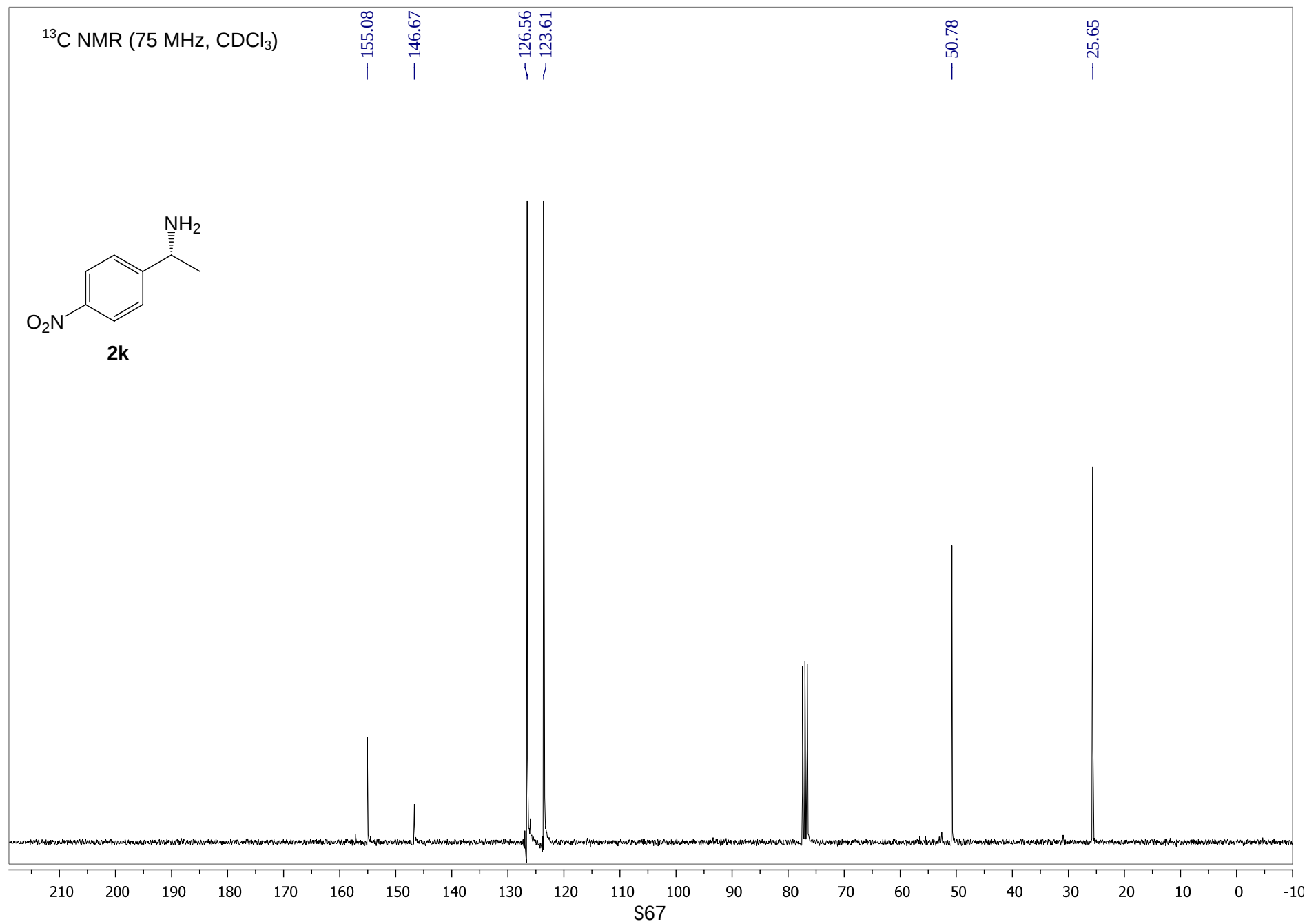


^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)

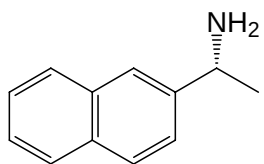


2k

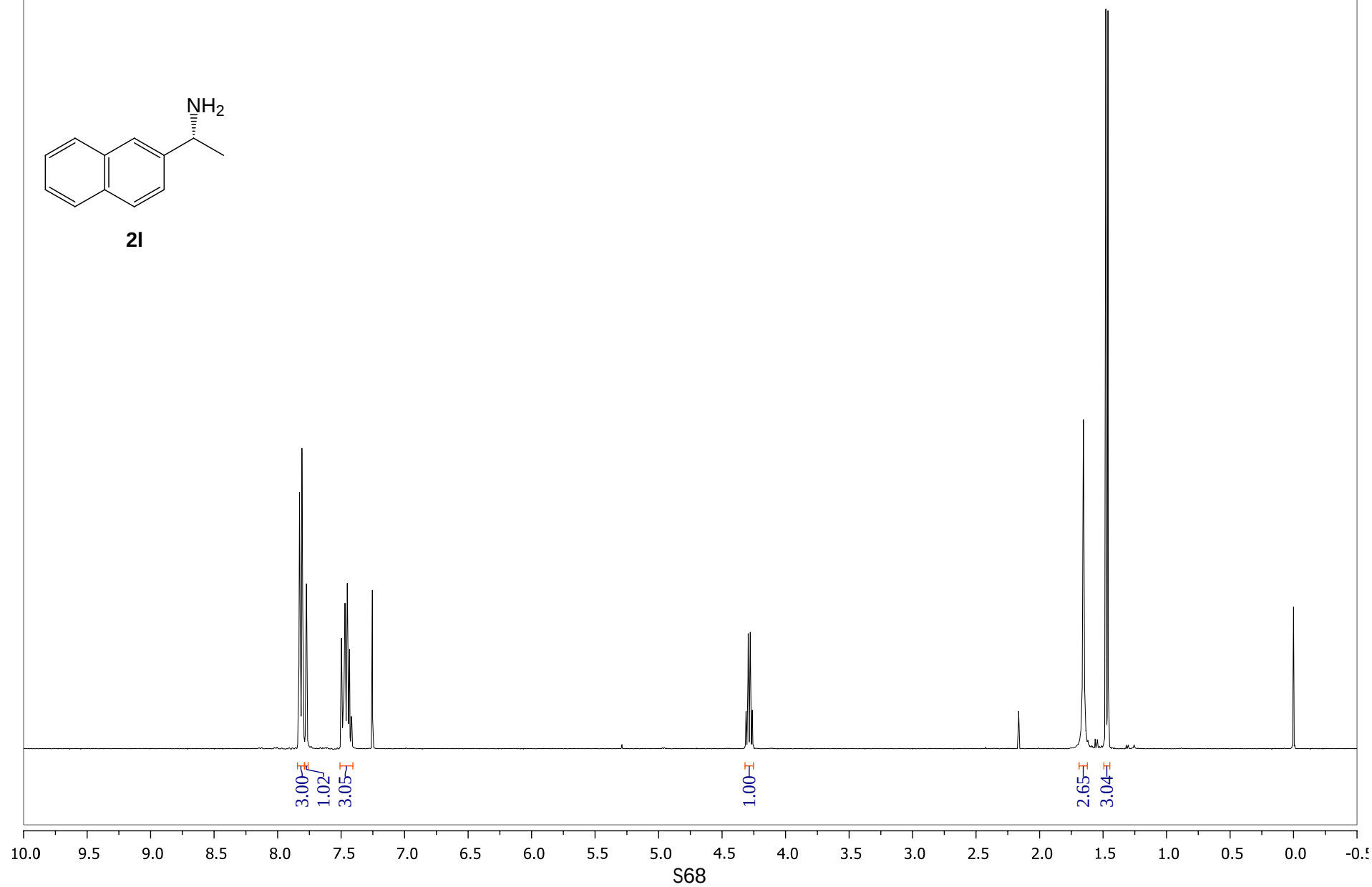


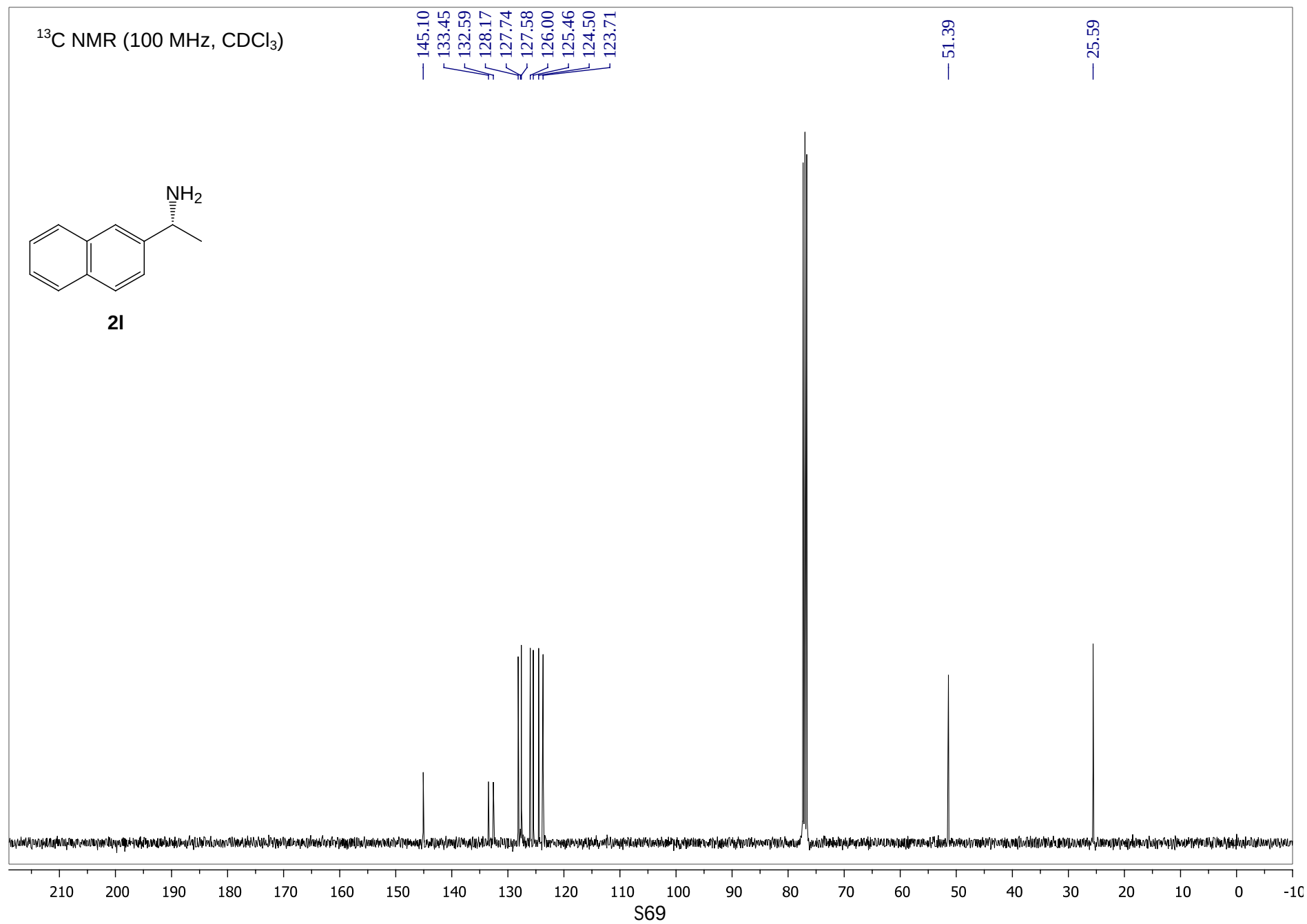


^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3)

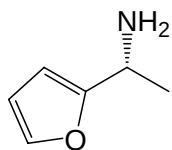


2l

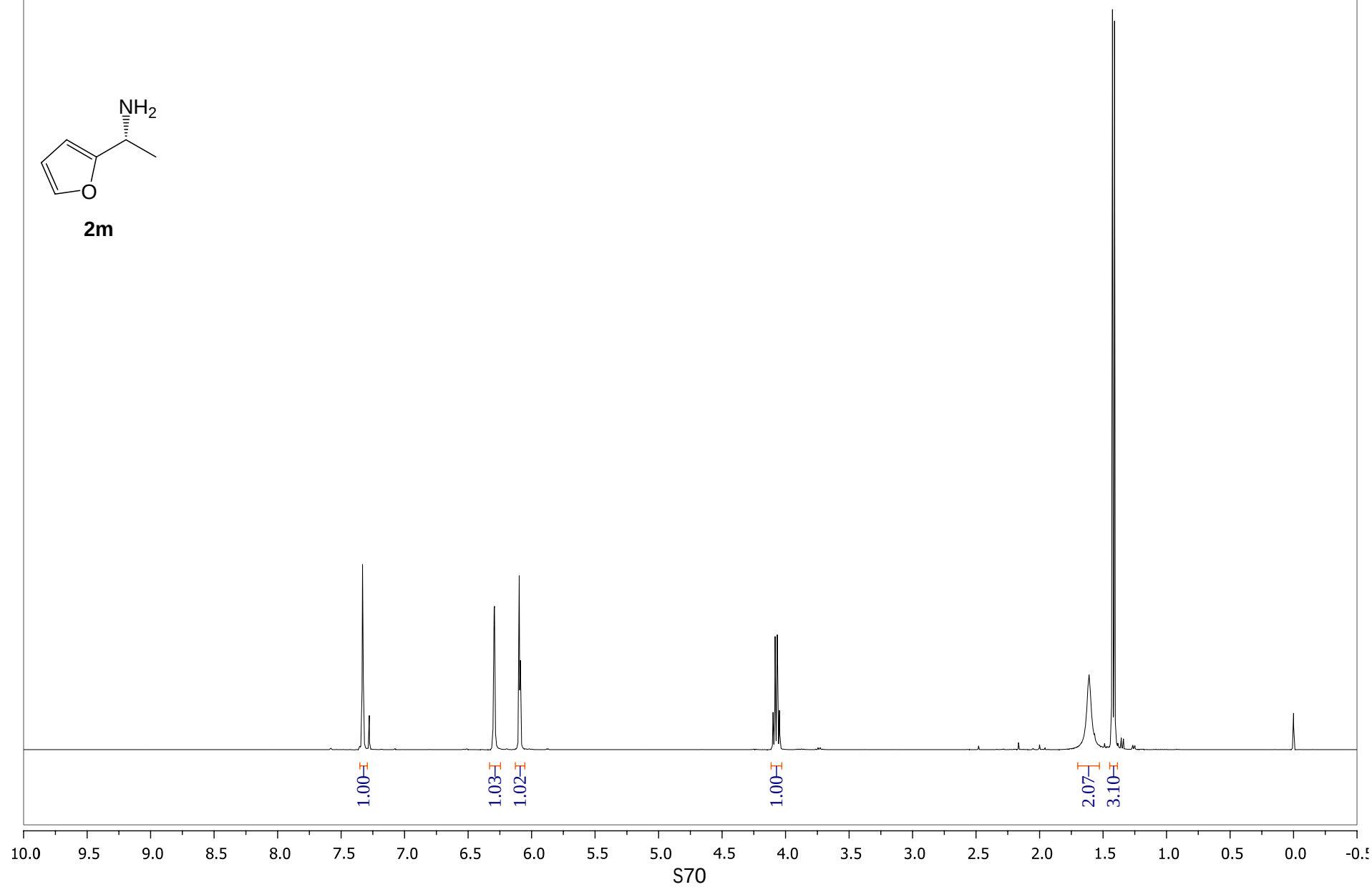


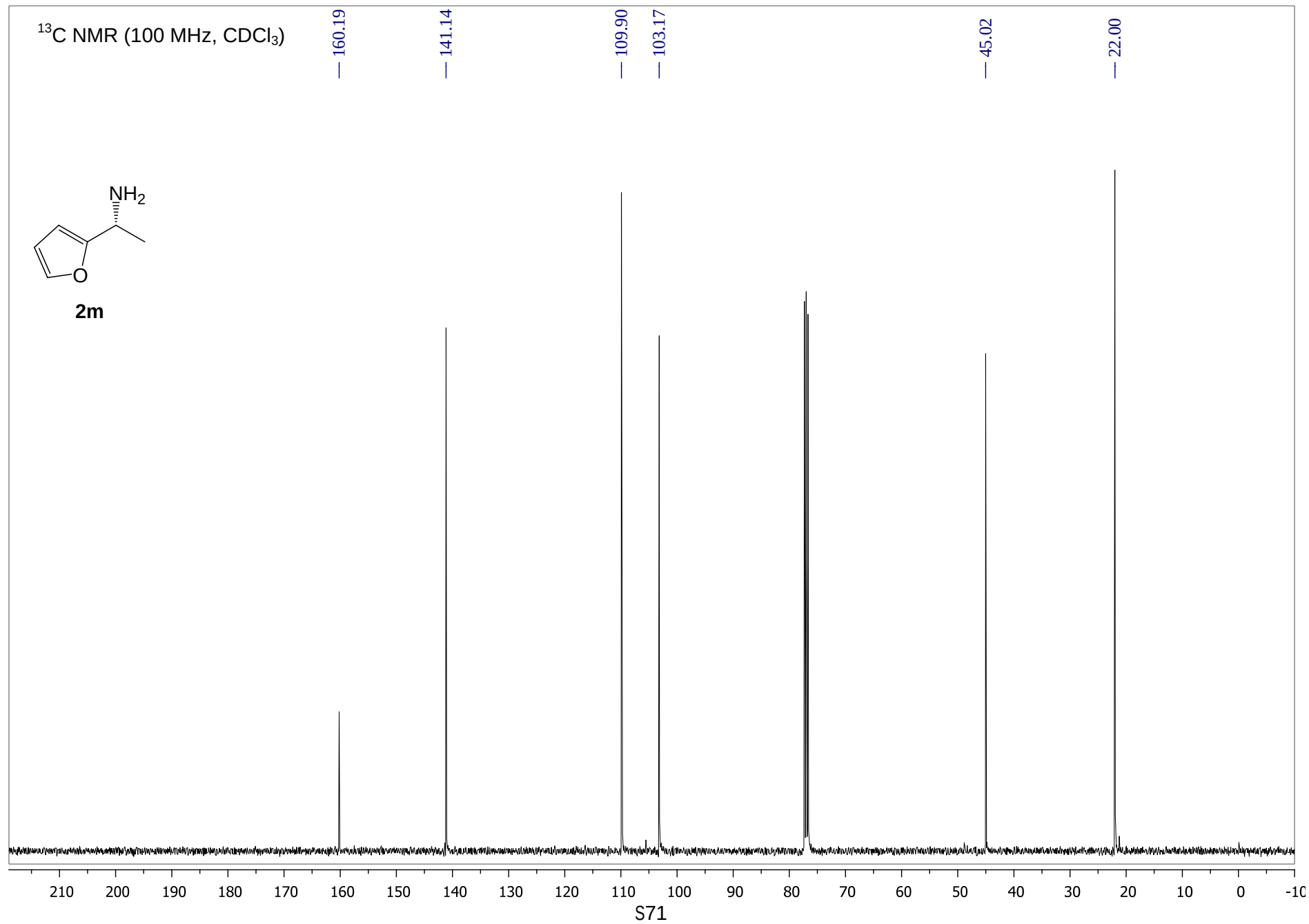


^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3)

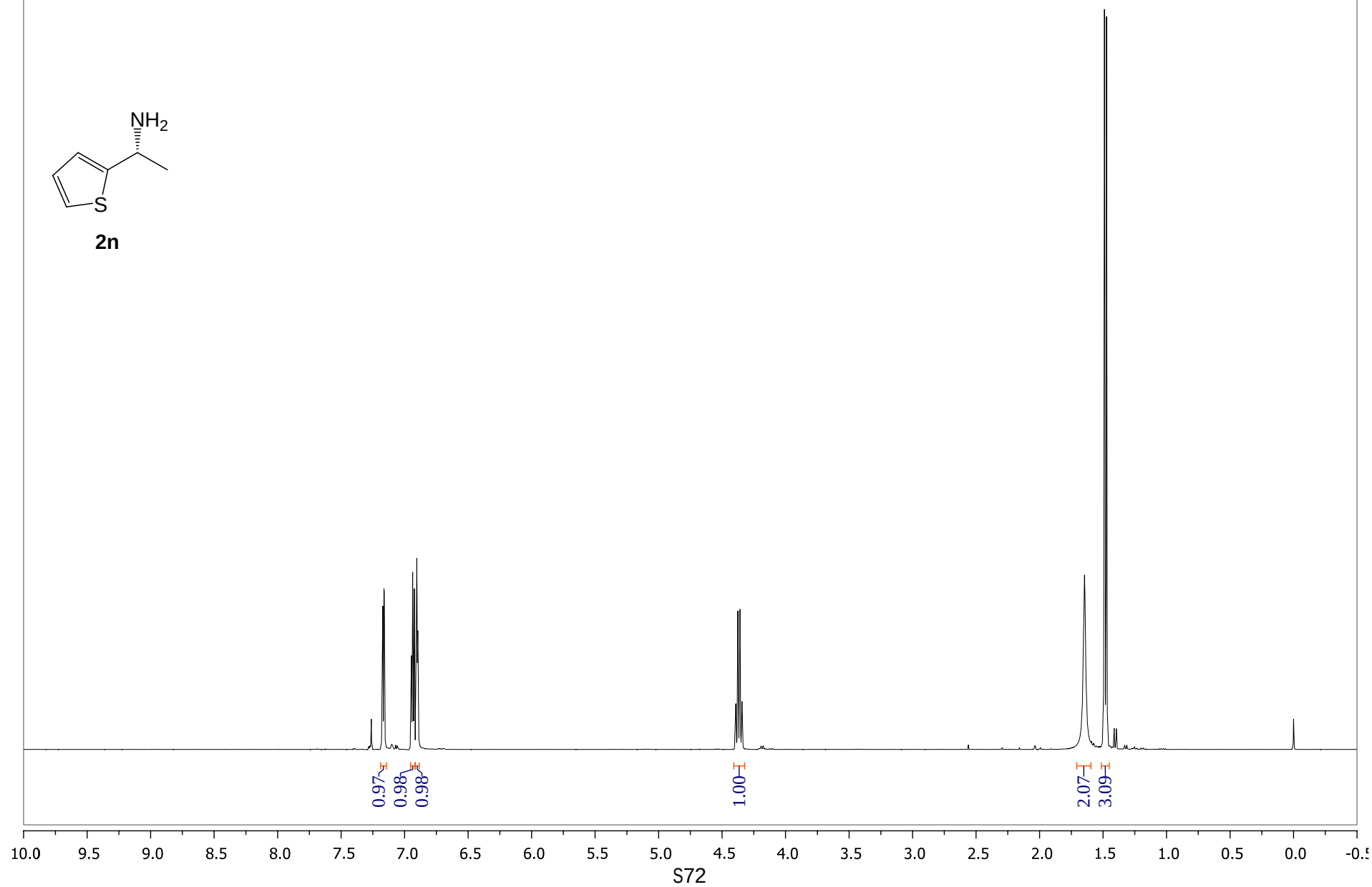
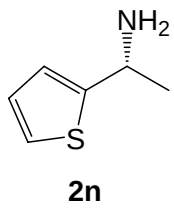


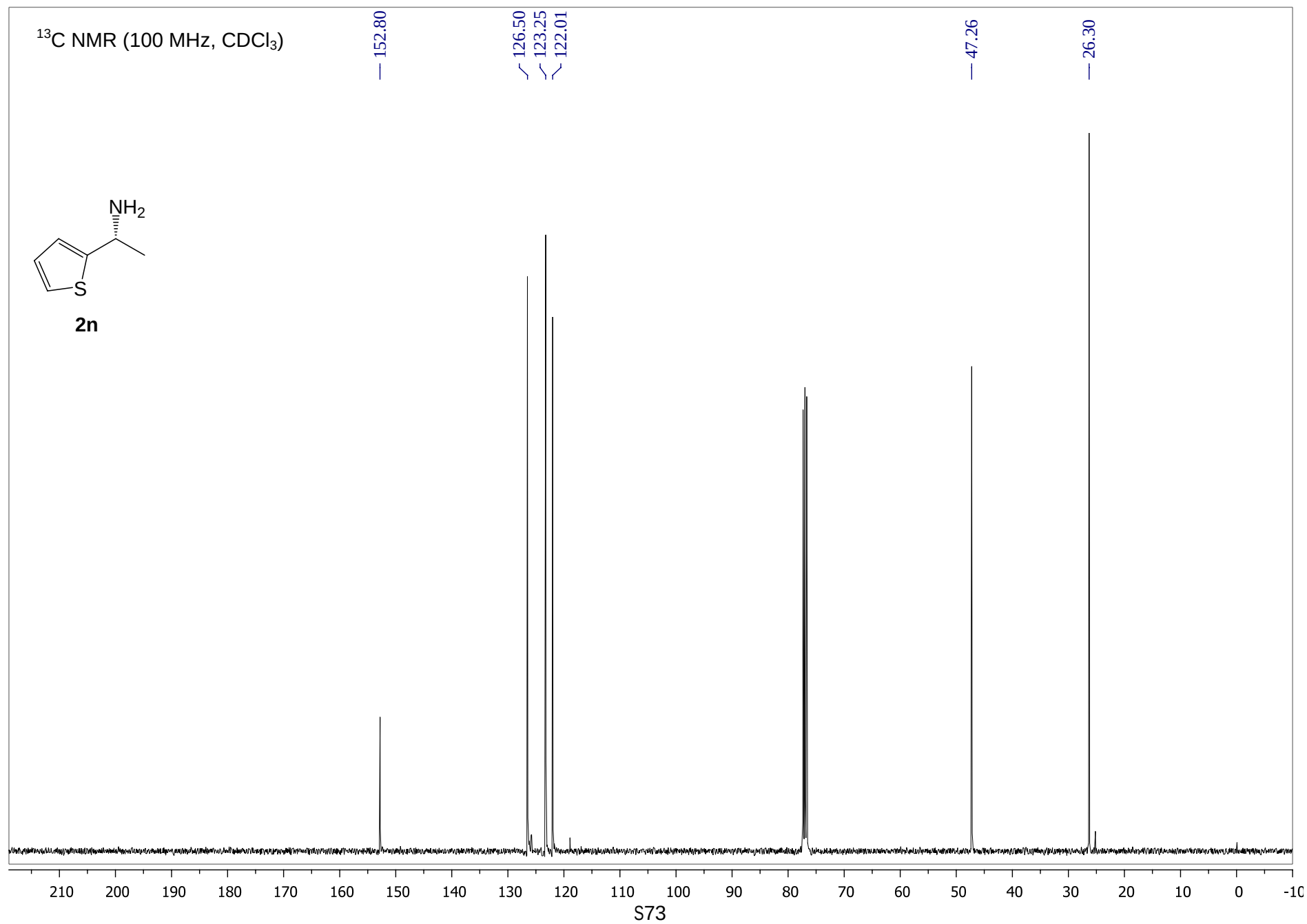
2m



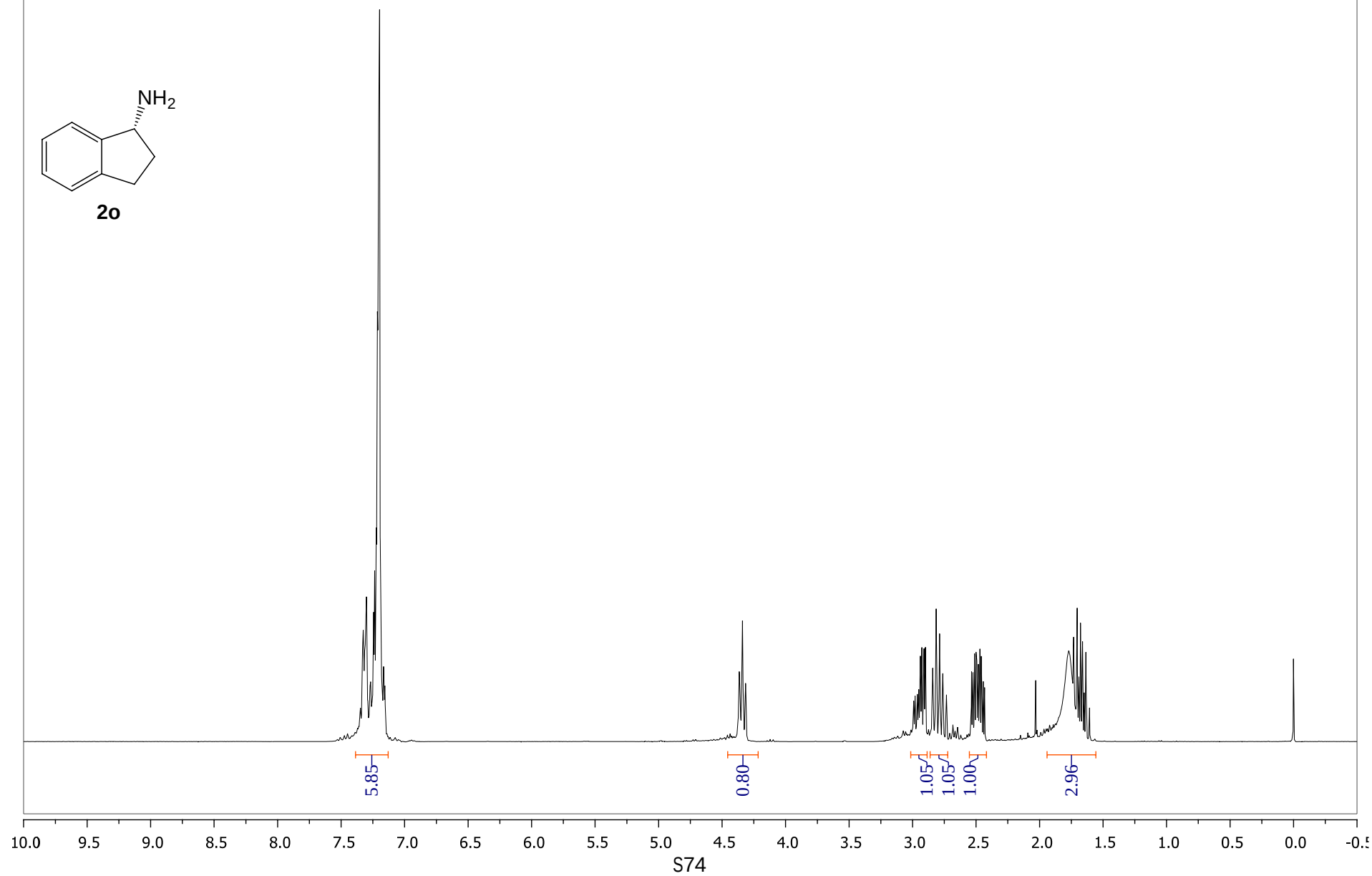
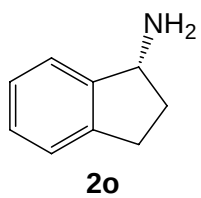


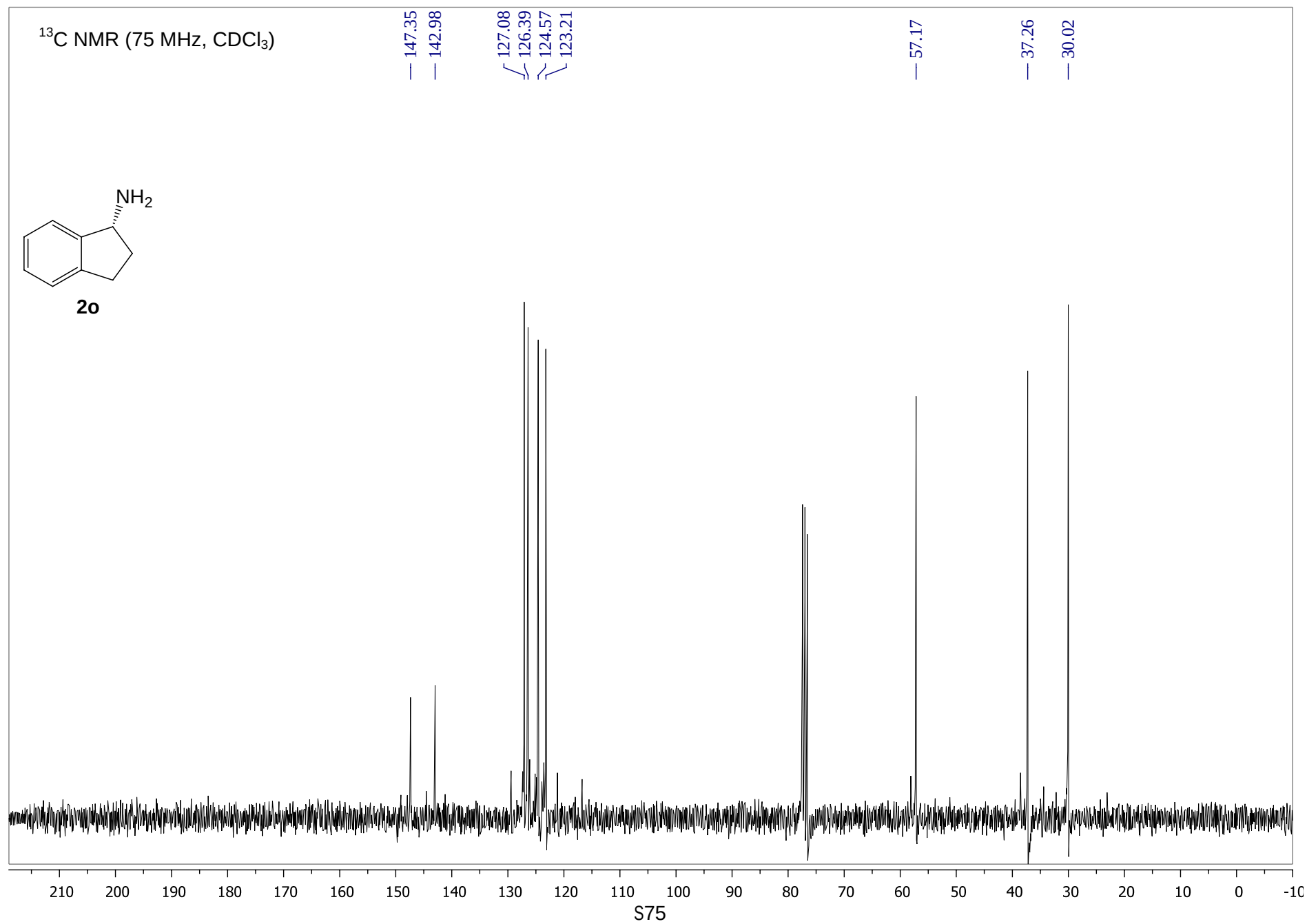
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



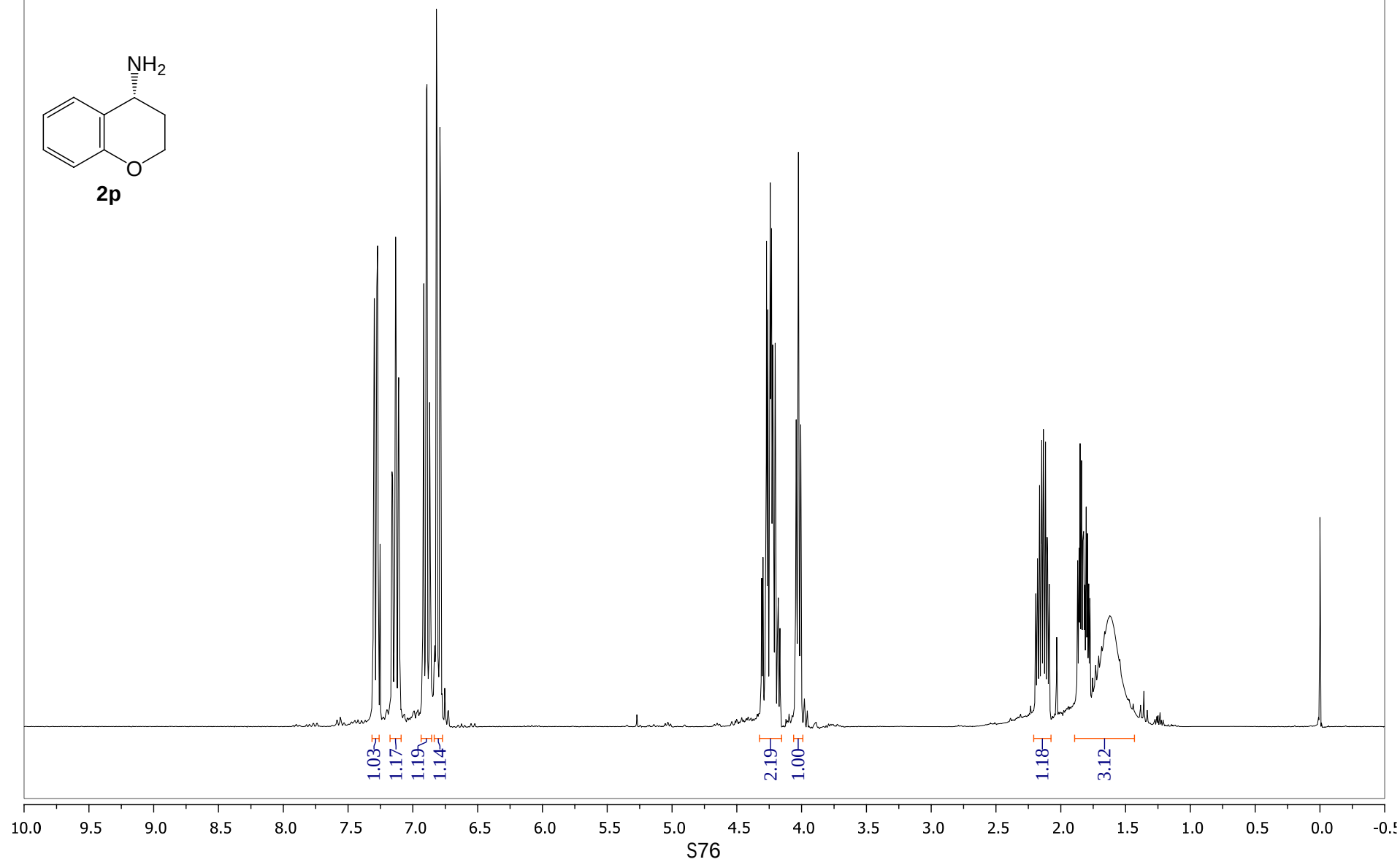
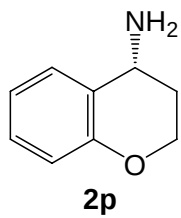


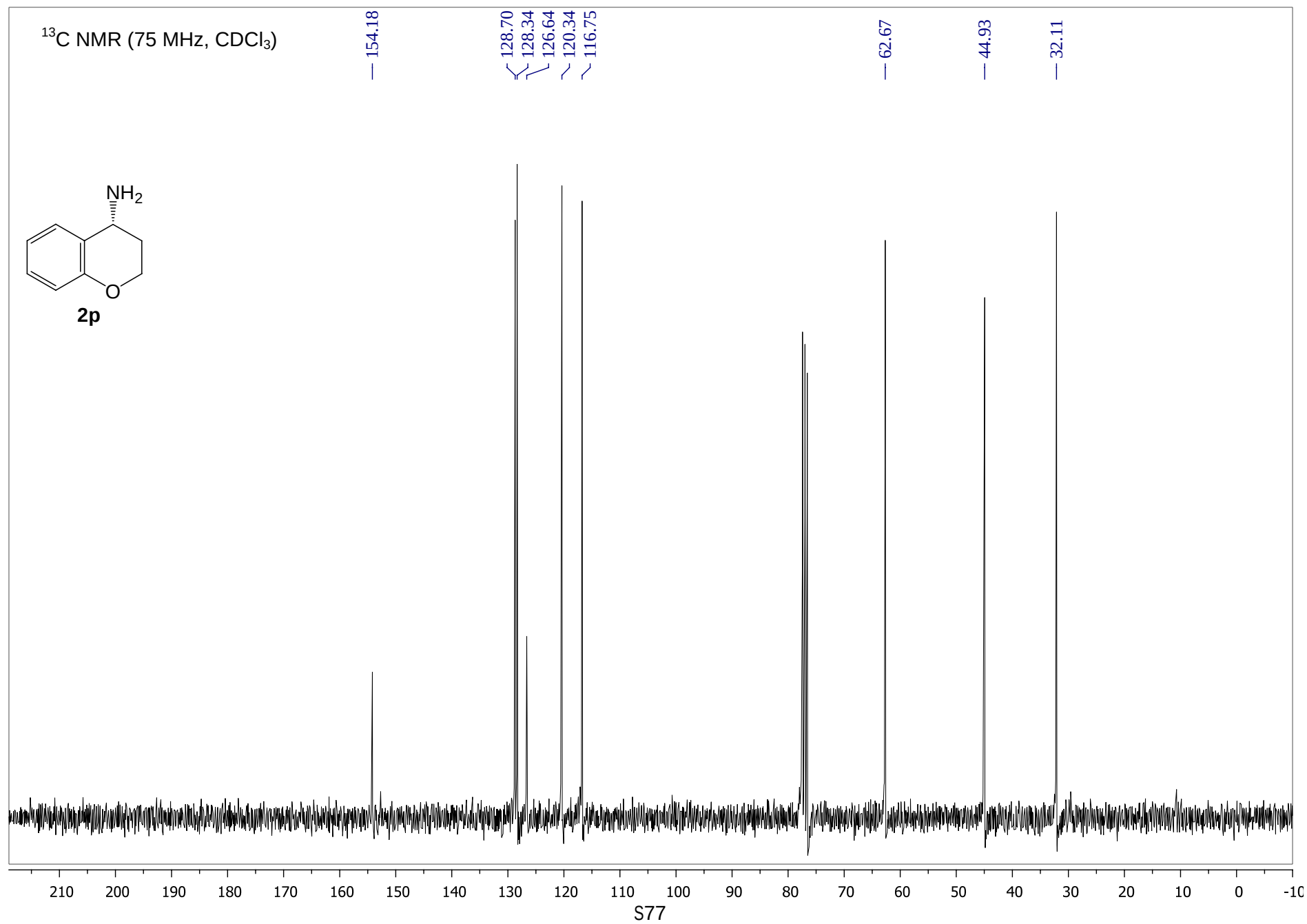
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)



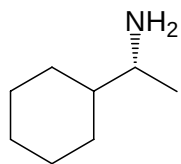


^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)

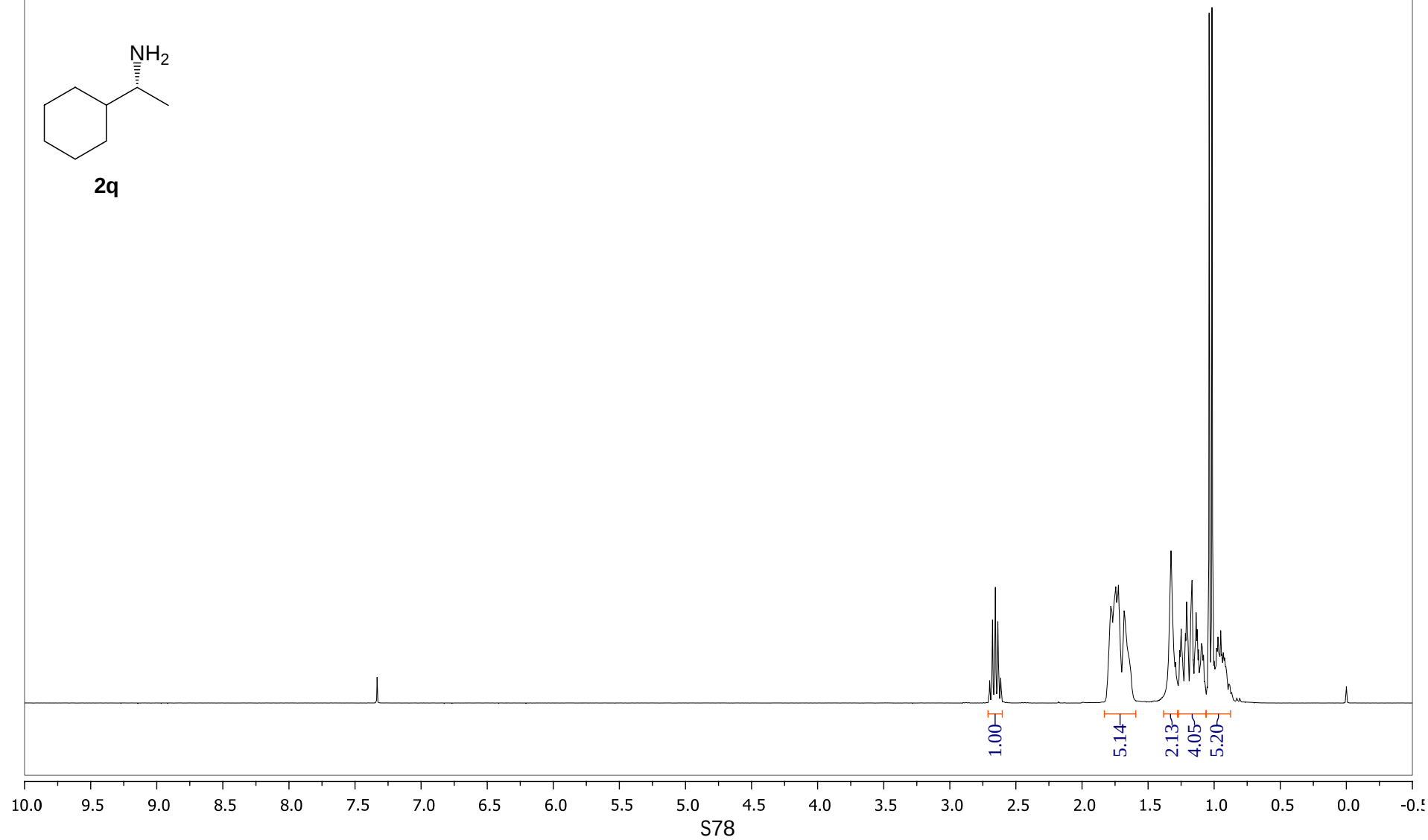




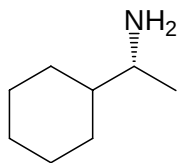
^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)



2q

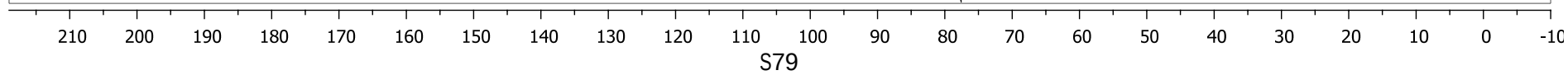


¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃)



2q

— 51.40
— 45.28
28.90
28.70
26.45
26.27
26.22
20.68



^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3)

