

An Efficient Synthesis of α -Ketoamides via 2-Acyl-5-aminooxazoles by Reacting Acyl Chlorides and α -Isocyanoacetamides

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Experimental section

Commercially available reagents and solvents were used without further purification. Dichloromethane was dried by distillation from P₂O₅ and stored on activated molecular sieves (4 Å). When needed, the reactions were performed in oven-dried glassware under a positive pressure of dry nitrogen.

Melting points were determined in open glass capillary with a Stuart scientific SMP3 apparatus and are uncorrected. All the compounds were checked by IR (FT-IR THERMO-NICOLET AVATAR), ¹H and ¹³C APT (JEOL ECP 300 MHz), and mass spectrometry (Thermo Finnigan LCQ-deca XP-*plus*) equipped with an ESI source and an ion trap detector. Chemical shifts are reported in part per million (ppm). Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (Merck Kieselgel 70-230 mesh ASTM) using the indicated eluants. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on 5 x 20 cm plates with a layer thickness of 0.25 mm (Merck Silica gel 60 F₂₅₄). When necessary they were developed with KMnO₄.

Elemental Analysis (C, H, N) of all the new compounds are within ± 0.4 % of the calculated values unless otherwise noted.

Acyl chloride **1e** was prepared according to the literature.¹

α-Isocyanoacetamides (2 a-g)

α-Isocyanoacetamides (**2 a-g**) were prepared according to literature procedure.² The methylisocyanoacetate is reacted with the amine to give the α-isocyanoacetamide **2 b, d, e, g**; the subsequent alkylation, in the presence of cesium hydroxide, gives the α-substituted α-isocyanoacetamide **2 a, c, f**.³ Experimental data for compounds **2 a**,³ **6b**,² **6c**⁴ have already been reported.

2d

The product precipitates during the reaction and it is filtered off, washed three times with cold diethyl ether, and dried under vacuum overnight to give a brown solid (85%). ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C , CDCl_3) δ 7.38-7.22 (m, 5-H), 6.91 (br s, 1-H), 4.44 (d, $J = 5.8$ Hz, 2-H), 4.12 (s, 2-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C , CDCl_3) δ 161.3, 161.0, 135.8, 127.7, 126.8, 126.7, 44.1, 42.7; m/z 175 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

2e

The product precipitates during the reaction and it is filtered off, washed three times with cold diethyl ether, and dried under vacuum overnight to give a brown solid (91%). ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C , CDCl_3) δ 7.39-7.20 (m, 5-H), 4.56 (s, 2-H), 4.33 (s, 2-H), 2.86 (s, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C , CDCl_3) δ 161.3, 135.0, 128.2, 127.7, 127.1, 125.1, 50.6, 43.5, 33.2; m/z 189 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

2f

The crude of the alkylation reaction is purified by column chromatography using PE/EtOAc 7:3 as eluant to give a yellow oil (76%). ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C , CDCl_3) δ 7.40-7.11 (m, 5-H), 4.63-4.47 (m, 3-H), 2.98 (s, 3-H), 1.60 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C , CDCl_3) δ 165.1, 158.1, 135.6, 134.8, 127.6, 125.7, 51.2, 49.2, 34.3, 18.1; m/z 203 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

2g

The crude material is purified by column chromatography using PE/EtOAc 7:3 as eluant to give a brown solid (98%). ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C , CDCl_3) δ 6.54 (br s, 1-H), 4.12 (s, 2-H), 3.28 (q, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2-H), 1.50 (quint, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2-H), 1.32 (sext, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2-H), 0.90 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C , CDCl_3) δ 161.1, 160.8, 44.1, 38.6, 30.1, 18.8, 12.5; m/z 141 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

General procedure for the preparation of 2-acyl-5-aminooxazoles 5 (a-l):

To a solution of α -isocyanoacetamide (1 eq) in dry dichloromethane, triethylamine (1 eq) is added under nitrogen atmosphere. A solution of acyl chloride (1 eq) in dry dichloromethane is added dropwise in a period of ten minutes and the reaction is stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. The reaction is diluted with dichloromethane and washed with Na_2CO_3 sat. aq. (x 1). The organic phase is dried over sodium sulphate and evaporated. The crude material is then purified by column chromatography by using petroleum ether/EtOAc as eluant to give the 2-acyl-5-aminooxazole.

5a, 1-[5-(4-morpholinyl)-4-(phenylmethyl)-2-oxazolyl]-1-hexanone

The crude material is purified by column chromatography, using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a white solid (75%); IR (neat) 1658, 1605, 1530, 1475, 1280 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.32-7.14 (m, 5-H), 3.94 (s, 1-H), 3.70-3.63 (m, 4-H), 3.22-3.17 (m, 4-H), 2.93 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2-H), 1.70 (quint, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2-H), 1.38-1.28 (m, 4-H), 0.88 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 187.0, 154.4, 150.3, 138.9, 128.6, 128.2, 126.5, 120.5, 66.3, 48.6, 38.0, 32.7, 31.4, 24.1, 22.5, 14.0; Mp = 91-92 $^\circ\text{C}$.

5b, 1-[5-(4-morpholinyl)-4-(phenylmethyl)-2-oxazolyl]-3-phenyl-1-propanone

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a yellow solid (50%); IR (neat) 1658, 1610, 1548, 1492, 1105 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25 $^\circ\text{C}$, CDCl_3) δ 7.30-7.15 (m, 10-H), 3.95 (s, 2-H), 3.68 (br t, 4-H), 3.30 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2-H), 3.23 (br t, 4-H), 3.04 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25 $^\circ\text{C}$, CDCl_3) δ 185.2, 149.5, 149.2, 140.3, 138.3, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.6, 126.0, 125.6, 120.0, 65.8, 48.0, 39.1, 32.2, 29.6.; Mp = 98-99 $^\circ\text{C}$.

5c, 1-[5-(4-morpholinyl)-4-(phenylmethyl)-2-oxazolyl]-1-propanone

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5 as eluant to give a colorless oil (73%); IR (neat) 1658, 1610, 1498, 1483, 1110 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 7.32-7.12 (m, 5-H), 3.93 (s, 2-H), 3.68-3.62 (m, 4-H), 3.22-3.16 (m, 4-H), 2.95 (quart, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2-H), 1.17 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 187.0, 153.8, 149.6, 138.3, 128.1, 127.6, 126.0, 120.1, 65.8, 48.1, 32.1, 30.8, 7.7.

5d, 1-[5-(methyl2-propynylamino)-4-(phenylmethyl)-2-oxazolyl]-1-hexanone

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5 as eluant to give a yellow solid (73%); IR (neat) 3305, 1670, 1610, 1535, 1500, 980 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 7.28-7.12 (m, 5-H), 3.91 (s, 2-H), 3.79 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 2-H), 2.88 (s, 3-H), 2.83 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2-H), 2.23 (t, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1-H), 1.61 (quint, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2-H), 1.25-1.18 (m, 4-H), 0.81-0.77 (br t, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 186.4, 154.0, 149.7, 139.1, 128.3, 127.8, 126.1, 119.3, 77.8, 73.5, 42.3, 37.6, 37.5, 32.2, 31.1, 23.8, 22.1, 13.6.; Mp = 77-78 °C.

5e, 1-[4-methyl-5-[methyl(phenylmethyl)amino]-2-oxazolyl]-3-phenyl-1-propanone

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5 as eluant to give a yellow solid (70%); IR (neat) 1670, 1604, 1540, 1502, 984 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 7.39-7.13 (m, 10-H), 4.46 (s, 1-H), 3.27 (m, 2-H), 3.05 (m, 2-H), 2.97 (s, 3-H), 2.23 (s, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 184.1, 154.7, 148.3, 140.7, 136.3, 128.4, 128.1, 128.0, 127.4, 127.2, 125.6, 114.7, 55.9, 38.9, 37.0, 29.9, 12.5; Mp = 89-90 °C.

5f, 1-[5-[methyl(phenylmethyl)amino]-2-oxazolyl]-1-propanone

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5 as eluant to give a yellow solid (55%); IR (neat) 1672, 1600, 1532, 1483, 1075 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 7.33-7.14 (m, 5-H), 6.09 (s, 1-H), 4.46 (s, 2-H), 2.99-2.84 (m, 5-H), 1.17 (t, J

= 7.4 Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 186.2, 159.1, 135.7, 128.7, 128.5, 127.8, 127.6, 102.4, 54.9, 35.9, 30.9, 8.5; Mp = 70-71 °C.

5g, 3-cyclopentyl-1-[5-[(phenylmethyl)amino]-2-oxazolyl]-1-propanone

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5 as eluant to give a yellow solid (76%). IR (neat) 3282, 1661, 1601, 1521, 1483, 1070 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 7.33-7.23 (m, 5-H), 6.08 (s, 1-H), 5.88 (t, J = 6.0, 1-H), 4.39 (d, J = 6.0, 2-H), 2.89 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2-H), 1.80-1.43 (m, 11-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 186.2, 157.8, 149.3, 136.8, 128.3, 127.3, 126.8, 102.4, 47.4, 39.3, 36.5, 32.0, 30.4, 29.2, 24.7; Mp = 87-88 °C.

5h, 1-[5-[(phenylmethyl)amino]-2-oxazolyl]-1-hexanone

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a yellow solid (73%); IR (neat) 3280, 1659, 1608, 1532, 1469, 1069 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 7.34-7.22 (m, 5-H), 6.07 (s, 1-H), 5.98 (br t, 1-H), 4.38 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2-H), 2.86 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2-H), 1.65 (quint, J = 7.4 Hz, 2-H), 1.36-1.23 (m, 4-H), 0.86 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 186.1, 157.9, 149.3, 136.8, 128.2, 127.3, 126.8, 102.4, 47.4, 37.1, 30.9, 23.9, 21.9, 13.4; Mp = 95-96 °C.

5i, 1-[5-(2-propynylamino)-2-oxazolyl]-1-hexanone

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5 as eluant to give a yellow solid (71%); IR (neat) 3307, 3281, 1660, 1602, 1546, 1495, 1105 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 6.25 (s, 1-H), 6.08 (br t, 1-H), 3.98 (br d, 2-H), 2.85 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2-H), 2.23 (s, 1-H), 1.63 (br quint, J = 7.1 Hz, 2-H), 1.30-1.15 (m, 4-H), 0.83 (br t, 3-H); ^{13}C -

NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl₃) δ 186.9, 157.5, 150.2, 103.6, 77.4, 72.2, 37.5, 33.2, 31.2, 24.2, 22.2, 13.7; Mp = 70-71 °C.

5j, 1-[5-(2-propynylamino)-2-oxazolyl]-1-propanone

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a yellow solid (51%); IR (neat) 1661, 1601, 1521, 1483, 1070 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl₃) δ 6.29 (s, 1-H), 5.31 (br t, 1-H), 4.00 (dd, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2.5 Hz, 2-H), 2.95 (quart, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2-H), 2.29 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1-H), 1.19 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3-H); ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl₃) δ 186.9, 156.6, 149.8, 103.4, 72.2, 33.1, 30.6, 29.2, 7.8; Mp = 99-100 °C.

5k, 3-cyclopentyl-1-[5-(pentylamino)-2-oxazolyl]-1-propanone

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5 as eluant to give a yellow solid (83%); IR (neat) 3315, 1678, 1608, 1520, 1302, 1109 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl₃) δ 6.08 (s, 1-H), 5.41 (br t, 1-H), 3.15 (quart, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2-H), 2.87 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2-H), 1.8-1.0 (m, 15-H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3-H); ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl₃) δ 185.8, 158.2, 149.1, 101.5, 43.2, 39.3, 36.3, 32.0, 30.8, 29.1, 24.6, 19.4, 13.1; Mp = 70-71 °C.

5l, 1-[5-(butylamino)-2-oxazolyl]-1-hexanone

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5 as eluant to give a yellow solid (71%); IR (neat) 3284, 1671, 1602, 1558, 1482, 1100 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl₃) δ 6.06 (s, 1-H), 5.52 (br t, 1-H), 3.14 (quart, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2-H), 2.83 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2-H), 1.68-1.50 (m, 4-H), 1.38-1.14 (m, 6-H), 0.90-0.72 (m, 6-H); ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl₃) δ 185.7, 158.4, 149.2, 101.6, 43.3, 37.0, 31.0, 30.9, 24.1, 22.0, 19.5, 13.4, 13.2; Mp = 89-90 °C.

5m, hexanoic acid, (Z)-1-[5-(4-morpholinyl)-4-(phenylmethyl)-2-oxazolyl]-1-hexenyl ester

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5 as eluant to give a light yellow oil (5%); IR (neat) 3282, 1660, 1600, 1558, 1355, 1052 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 7.28-7.12 (m, 5-H), 6.19 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1-H), 3.78 (s, 2-H), 3.65 (m, 4-H), 2.91 (m, 4-H), 2.53 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2-H), 2.11 (q, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2-H), 1.73 (quint, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2-H), 1.39-1.30 (m, 8-H), 0.89 (m, 6-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 169.4, 151.7 (2C), 139.1, 135.8, 128.6, 128.4, 126.1 (2C), 123.1, 67.1, 48.5, 34.0, 31.9, 31.3, 30.8, 25.4, 24.7, 22.2 (2C), 13.9 (2C).

7, 1-[5-(benzylamino)-1,3-oxazol-2-yl]-2-phenyl-1-butanone

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5 as eluant to give a yellow oil (40%). ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 7.41-7.15 (m, 5-H), 6.10 (s, 1-H), 6.00 (br t, 1-H), 4.68 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1-H), 4.36 (d, $J = 5.8$ Hz, 2-H), 2.13 (m, 1-H), 1.84 (m, 1-H), 0.88 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 186.6, 159.4, 150.5, 139.8, 137.9, 129.4, 129.2, 128.6, 128.3, 128.1, 127.9, 104.1, 54.5, 48.5, 26.8, 12.8; m/z 321 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

General procedure for the preparation of α -ketoamides, 6

To a solution of the 2-acyl-5-aminooxazole **7** in THF, HCl 37 % (100 μL /0.1 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 1 hour. The solvent was evaporated and the reaction was diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with Na_2CO_3 sat. aq. (x 1). The organic phase was dried over sodium sulphate and evaporated. The crude material was then purified by column chromatography by using petroleum ether/EtOAc as eluant to give the α -ketoamide **6**.

6a, N-[2-(4-morpholinyl)-2-oxo-1-(phenylmethyl)ethyl]-2-oxo-heptanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a yellow amorphous solid (61%). IR (neat) 3218, 1680, 1648, 1258, 898, 730 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3 , referred to the main rotamer) δ 7.71 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1-H), 7.35-7.14 (m, 5-H), 5.03 (q, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1-H), 3.58 (d, $J = 10.4$ Hz, 2-H), 3.50-3.31 (m, 4-H), 3.08-2.96 (m, 2-H), 2.95-2.78 (m, 4-H), 1.65-1.50 (br s, 2-H), 1.38-1.18 (br s, 4-H), 0.89 (br t, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3 , referred to the main rotamer) δ 198.2, 169.0, 159.6, 135.8, 129.6, 128.8, 127.5, 66.0, 49.6, 46.0, 42.4, 39.9, 36.8, 31.2, 22.9, 13.9; m/z 383 ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$.

6b, *N*-[2-(4-morpholinyl)-2-oxo-1-(phenylmethyl)ethyl]- α -oxo-benzenebutanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a light yellow oil (55%). IR (neat) 3228, 1682, 1655, 1265, 895, 732, 703 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 7.66 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1-H), 7.27-7.08 (m, 10-H), 4.96 (quart, $J = 6.3$ Hz, 1-H), 3.55-3.46 (m, 2-H), 3.45-3.28 (m, 4-H), 3.19-3.12 (m, 2-H), 2.97-2.91 (m, 2-H), 2.89-2.74 (m, 4-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3 , referred to the main rotamer) δ 196.7, 168.6, 158.9, 140.0, 135.2, 129.2, 128.4, 128.1, 128.0, 127.1, 125.9, 66.0, 49.2, 45.6, 39.5, 38.1, 28.7; m/z 395 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

6c, *N*-[2-(4-morpholinyl)-2-oxo-1-(phenylmethyl)ethyl]-2-oxo-butanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a white amorphous solid (68%). IR (neat) 3229, 1677, 1652, 1256, 890, 710 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3 , referred to the main rotamer) δ 7.71 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1-H), 7.34-7.18 (m, 5-H), 5.03 (quart, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1-H), 3.57 (br d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2-H), 3.49-3.35 (m, 4-H), 3.04-2.83 (m, 6-H), 1.24 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3 , referred to the main rotamer) δ 198.1, 168.6, 159.0, 135.2, 129.1, 128.4, 127.0, 66.0, 49.1, 45.6, 41.9, 30.0, 6.7; m/z 319 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

6d, α -(1,2-dioxoheptyl)amino]-*N*-methyl-*N*-(2-propynyl)-benzenepropanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a white solid (55%). IR (KBr) 1683, 1647, 1265, 1092, 895, 734 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3 , referred to the main rotamer) δ 7.70 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1-H), 7.25-7.11 (m, 5-H), 5.07-4.95 (m, 1-H), 4.10 (dd, J = 17.3/2.5 Hz, 1-H), 3.98 (dd, J = 17.3/2.5 Hz, 1-H), 2.98 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2-H), 2.81-2.72 (m, 2-H), 2.69 (s, 3-H), 2.19 (t, J = 2.5 Hz, 1-H), 1.53 (quint, J = 7.4 Hz, 2-H), 1.30-1.17 (m, 4-H), 0.83 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3 , referred to the main rotamer) δ 197.8, 169.9, 159.2, 135.3, 129.1, 128.3, 126.9, 77.4, 72.1, 50.1, 39.1, 36.4, 36.3, 33.7, 30.9, 22.6, 22.0, 13.6; m/z 365 ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$; Mp = 58 °C.

6e, *N*-[1-methyl-2-[methyl(phenylmethyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl]- α -oxo-benzenebutanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a yellow oil (65%). IR (neat) 1681, 1643, 1496, 1453, 1107, 733, 698 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3 , referred to the main rotamer) δ 7.95 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1-H), 7.30-7.04 (m, 10-H), 4.96-4.82 (m, 1-H), 4.68 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1-H), 4.52 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1-H), 3.29-3.17 (m, 2-H), 2.98-2.90 (m, 5-H), 1.41 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3 , referred to the main rotamer) δ 196.8, 171.1, 158.8, 140.0, 136.0, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.5, 125.8, 50.8, 45.0, 38.0, 34.0, 28.7, 17.9; m/z 375 ($\text{M}+\text{Na}$) $^+$.

6f, *N*-[2-[methyl(phenylmethyl)amino]-2-oxoethyl]-2-oxo-butanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give an orange oil (65%). IR (neat) 1684, 1648, 1496, 1453, 1114, 734, 700 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3 , referred to the main rotamer) δ 7.90 (br s, 1-H), 7.38-7.10 (m, 5-H), 4.59 (s, 1-H), 4.10 (br d, 2-H), 2.98-2.84 (m, 5-H), 1.09 (br t, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C,

CDCl₃, referred to the main rotamer) δ 190.1, 168.0, 160.9, 136.9, 129.4, 128.6, 126.9, 52.0, 41.7, 34.2, 31.0, 7.7; m/z 263 (M+H)⁺.

6g, α -oxo-*N*-[2-oxo-2-[(phenylmethyl)amino]ethyl]-cyclopentanebutanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a yellow solid (67%). IR (KBr) 3246, 2945, 2866, 1723, 1681, 1568, 701 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl₃) δ 7.73 (br t, 1-H), 7.33-7.16 (m, 5-H), 6.73 (br t, 1-H), 4.40 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2-H), 3.96 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2-H), 2.82 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2-H), 1.79-1.64 (m, 2-H), 1.63-1.43 (m, 7-H), 1.15-0.97 (m, 2-H); ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl₃) δ 197.7, 167.3, 160.3, 137.2, 128.3, 127.3, 127.2, 43.2, 42.4, 39.1, 35.7, 32.0, 28.8, 24.7; m/z 315 (M-H)⁻; Mp = 114-115 °C.

6h, 2-oxo-*N*-[2-oxo-2-[(phenylmethyl)amino]ethyl]-heptanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a brown solid (67%). IR (KBr) 3323, 2926, 2859, 1725, 1651, 1232, 741 ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (br t, 1-H), 7.32-7.17 (m, 5-H), 6.78 (br t, 1-H), 4.40 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2-H), 3.96 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2-H), 2.78 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2-H), 1.55 (quint, J = 6.9 Hz, 2-H), 1.36-1.18 (m, 4-H), 0.87 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 3-H); ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl₃) δ 197.6, 167.3, 160.2, 137.2, 128.3, 127.3, 127.2, 43.2, 42.3, 36.3, 30.7, 22.3, 21.9, 13.4; m/z 289 (M-H)⁻; Mp = 113-114 °C.

6i, 2-oxo-*N*-[2-oxo-2-(2-propynylamino)ethyl]-heptanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a white solid (51%). IR (KBr) 1725, 1655, 1236, 1089, 892, 631 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (s, 1-H), 6.77 (s, 1-H), 4.00 (quart, J = 5.22/2.5 Hz, 2-H), 3.96 (d, J = 5.77 Hz, 2-H), 2.88 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2-H), 2.18 (t, J = 2.5 Hz, 1-H), 1.55 (quint, J = 7.1 Hz, 2-H),

1.33-1.17 (m, 4-H), 0.82 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C , CDCl_3) δ 198.7, 168.4, 161.4, 79.7, 72.5, 43.4, 37.5, 31.8, 29.9, 23.4, 23.0, 14.5; m/z 239 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$; Mp = 135-136 $^\circ\text{C}$.

6j, 2-oxo-*N*-[2-oxo-2-(2-propynylamino)ethyl]-butanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give an amorphous yellow solid (50%). IR (neat) 1725, 1655, 1523, 1264, 738, 699 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C , $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$) δ 7.98 (s, 1-H), 7.63 (s, 1-H), 3.90 (dd, $J = 5.5/2.5$ Hz, 2-H), 3.84 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2-H), 2.79 (quart, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2-H), 2.55 (t, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1-H), 0.94 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C , $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$) δ 199.1, 168.2, 161.2, 80.7, 71.8, 42.4, 33.0, 24.0, 7.0; m/z 197 ($\text{M}+\text{H}$) $^+$.

6k, *N*-[2-(butylamino)-2-oxoethyl]- α -oxo-cyclopentanebutanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 7:3 as eluant to give a yellow solid (70%). IR (KBr) 2360, 1733, 1628, 1453, 1178, 749, 698 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C , CDCl_3) δ 7.79 (br t, 1-H), 6.44 (br t, 1-H), 3.94 (d, $J = 5.8$ Hz, 2-H), 3.22 (quart, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 2-H), 2.87 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2-H), 1.79-1.64 (m, 2-H), 1.63-1.16 (m, 11-H), 1.14-0.96 (m, 2-H), 0.87 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C , CDCl_3) δ 197.8, 167.2, 160.3, 42.4, 39.1, 39.0, 35.7, 32.0, 31.0, 28.9, 24.7, 19.6, 13.2; m/z 281 ($\text{M}-\text{H}$) $^-$; Mp = 81-82 $^\circ\text{C}$.

6l, *N*-[2-(butylamino)-2-oxoethyl]-2-oxo-heptanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5 as eluant to give a white solid (51%). IR (KBr) 1670, 1265, 1089, 895, 734, 704 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C , CDCl_3) δ 7.74 (br t, 1-H), 6.29 (br t, 1-H), 3.94 (d, $J = 5.5$ Hz, 2-H), 3.23 (quart, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 2-H), 2.86 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2-H), 1.57 (quint, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2-H), 1.45 (quint, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2-

H), 1.39-1.15 (m, 12-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 197.7, 167.2, 160.3, 42.5, 39.1, 36.4, 31.1, 29.3, 22.4, 22.0, 19.6, 13.7, 13.3; m/z 255 (M-H) $^-$; Mp = 99-100 °C.

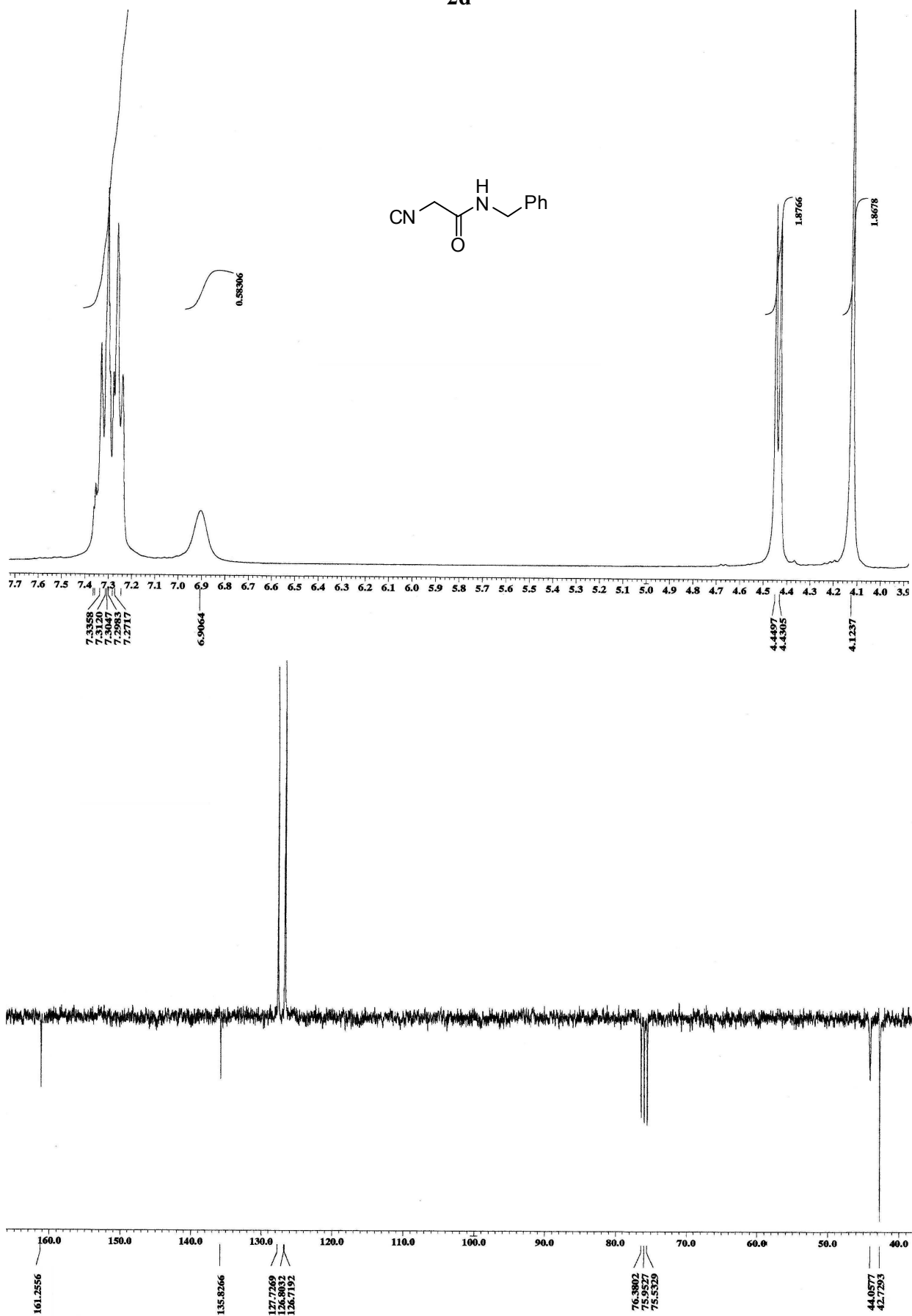
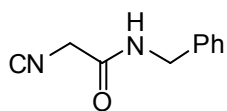
6m, β -ethyl- α -oxo-*N*-[2-oxo-2-[(phenylmethyl)amino]ethyl]- benzenepropanamide

The crude material was purified by column chromatography, by using petroleum ether/EtOAc 9:1 as eluant to give a yellow oil (71%). IR (KBr) 3307, 2927, 1716, 1664, 1522, 1260, 698 cm^{-1} ; ^1H -NMR (300 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 7.57 (br s, 1-H), 7.35-7.14 (m, 10-H), 6.18 (br s, 1-H), 4.58 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1-H), 4.38 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2-H), 3.85 (dd, J = 16.2 Hz, 5.2 Hz, 1-H), 3.77 (dd, J = 16.2 Hz, 5.8 Hz, 1-H), 2.11-1.97 (m, 1-H), 1.86-1.70 (m, 1-H), 0.84 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3-H); ^{13}C -NMR (75 MHz, 25°C, CDCl_3) δ 197.1, 168.2, 161.1, 138.2, 137.4, 129.7, 129.6, 129.5, 128.7, 128.5, 128.2, 53.3, 44.4, 43.7, 25.8, 12.7; m/z 339 (M+H) $^+$.

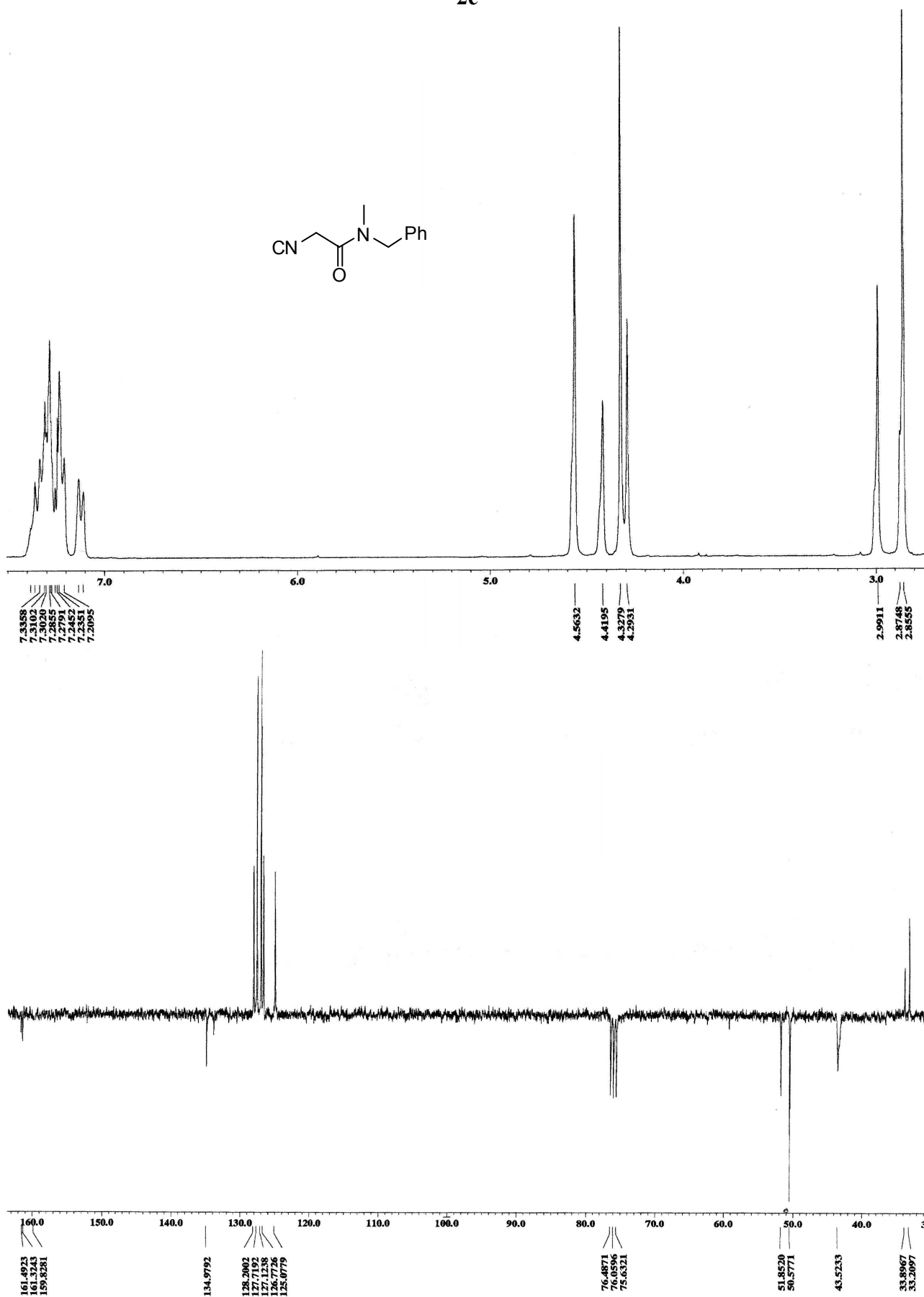
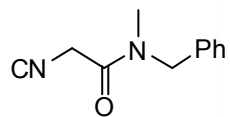
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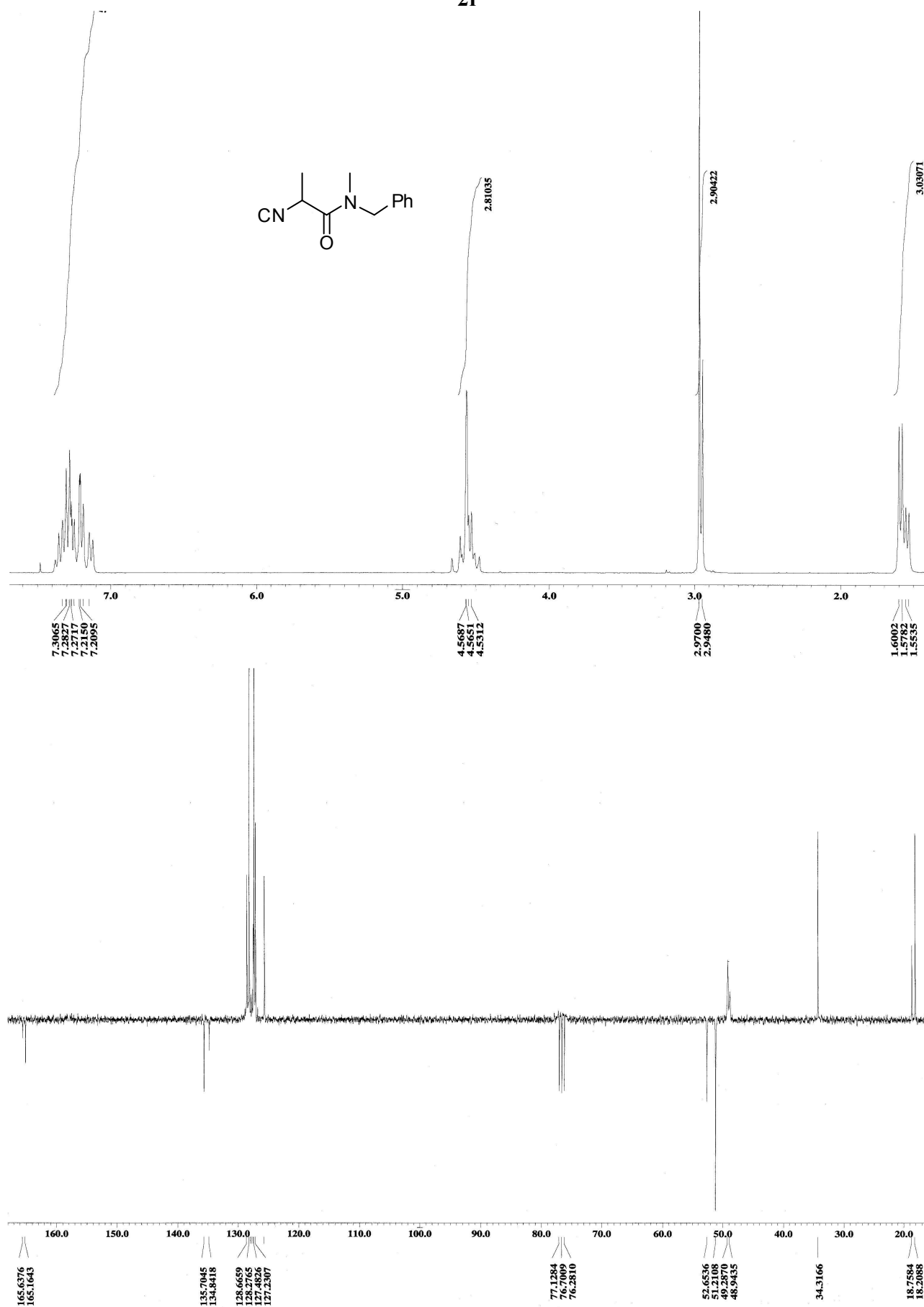
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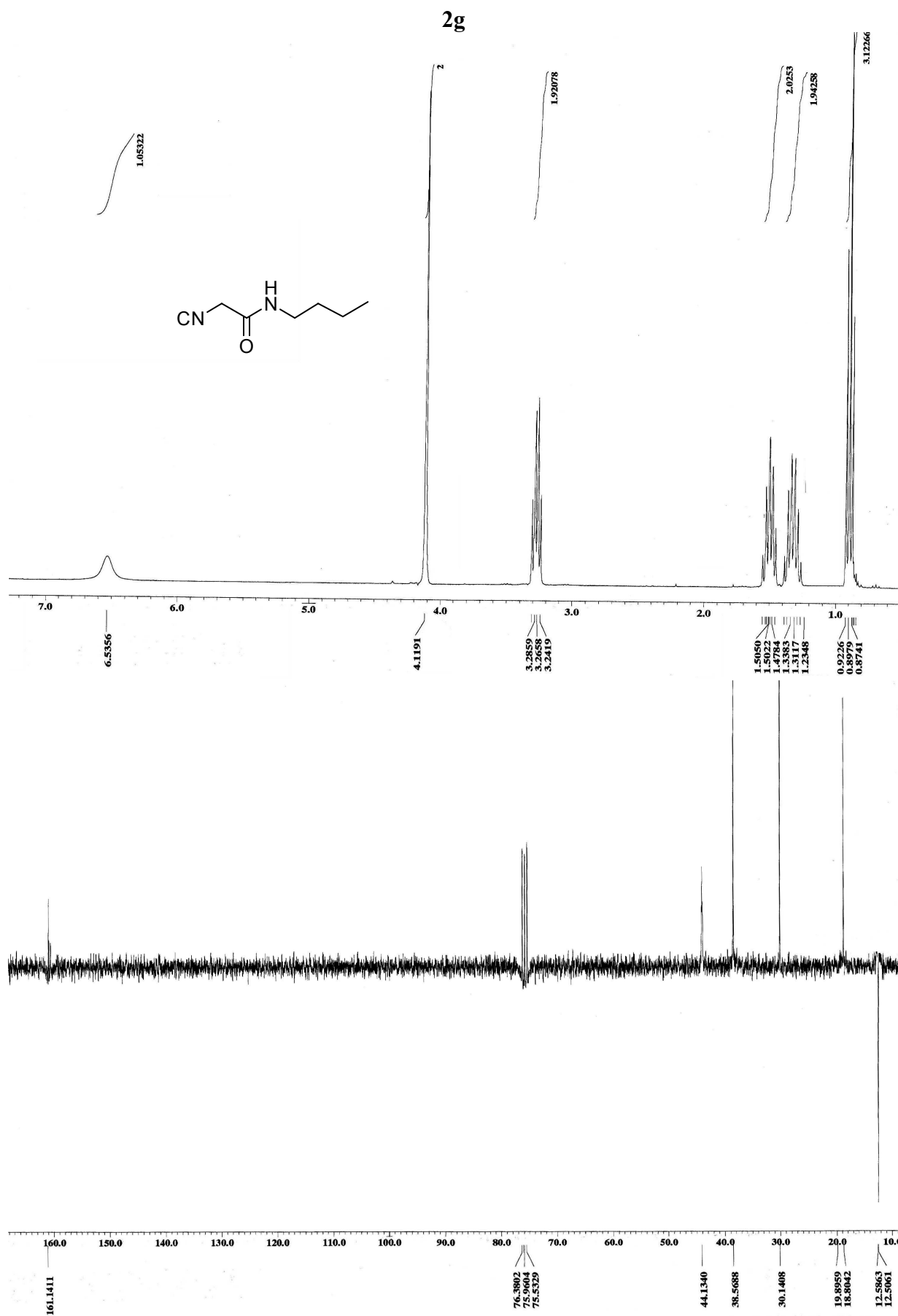


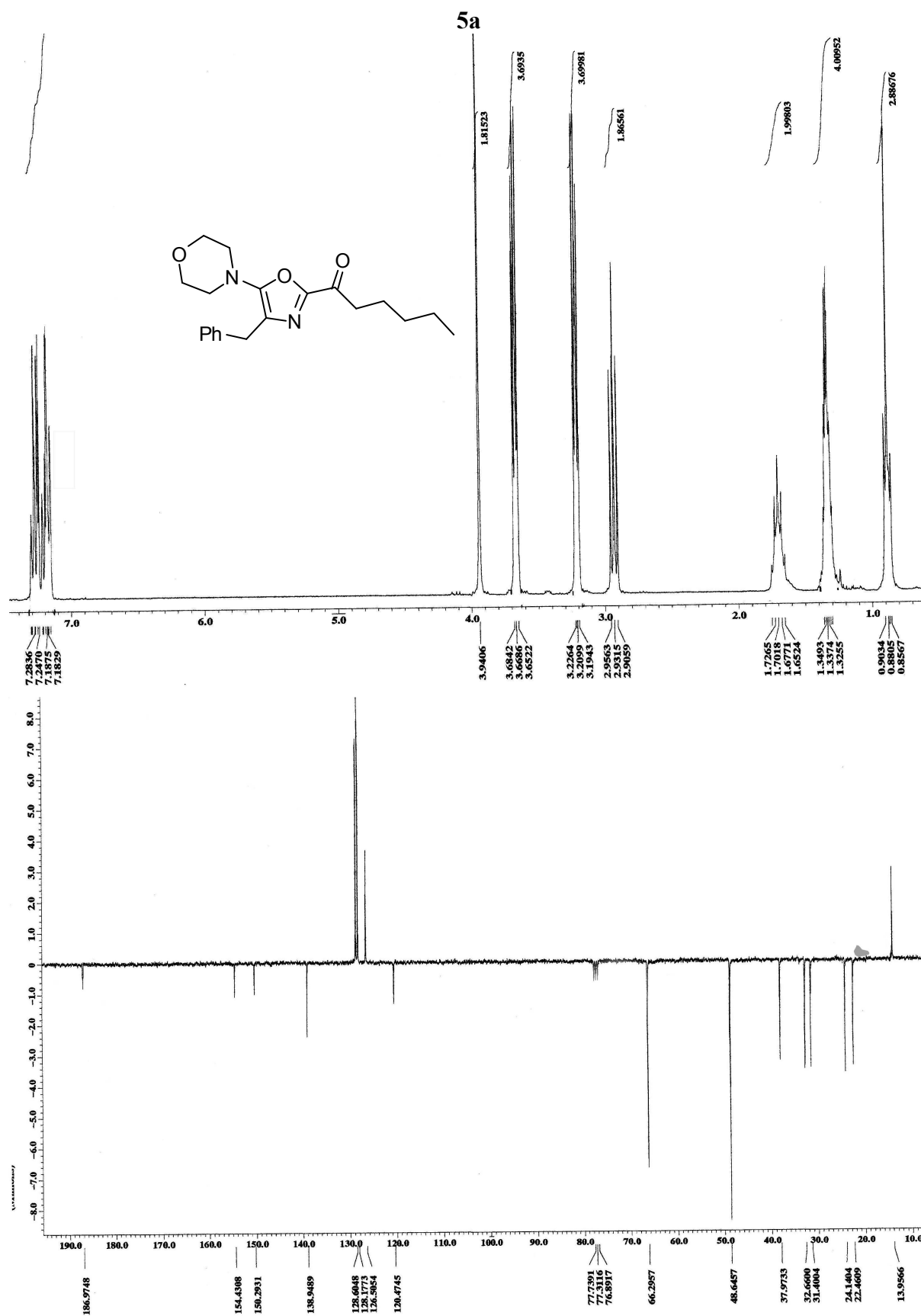
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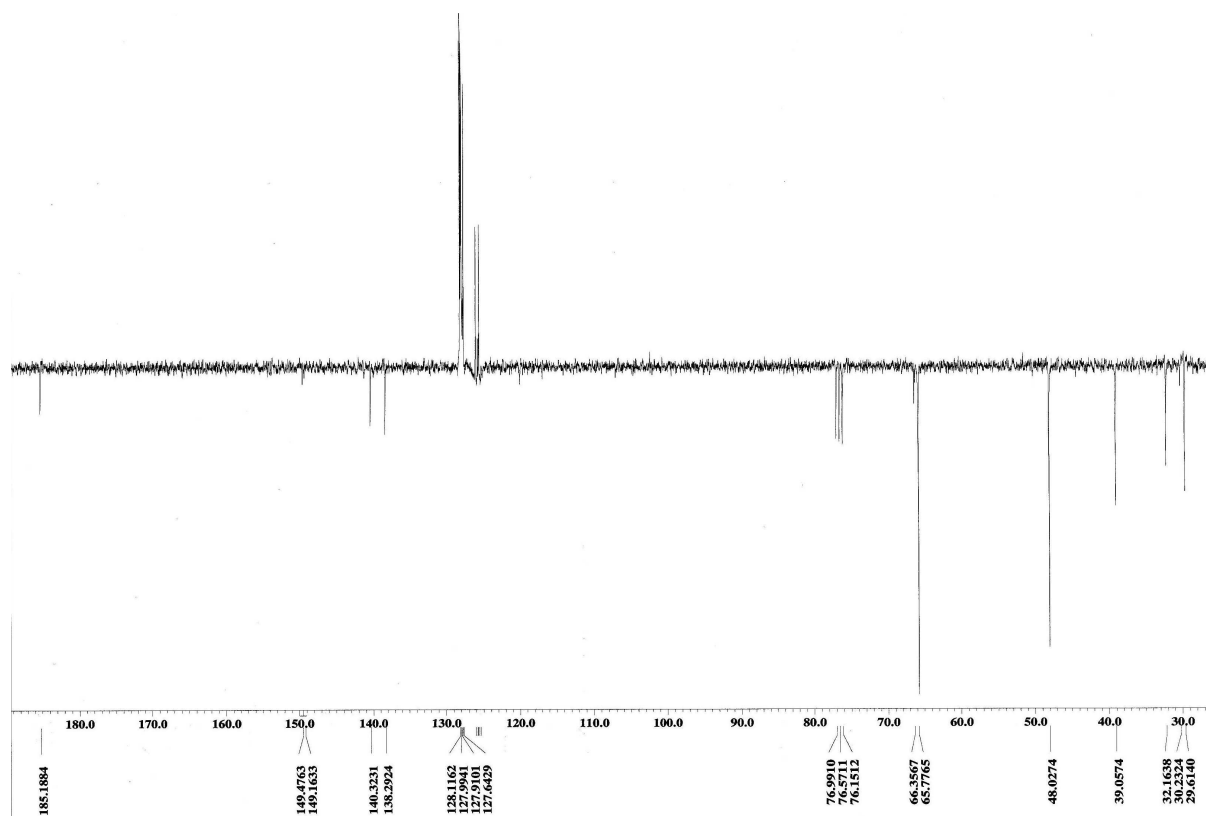
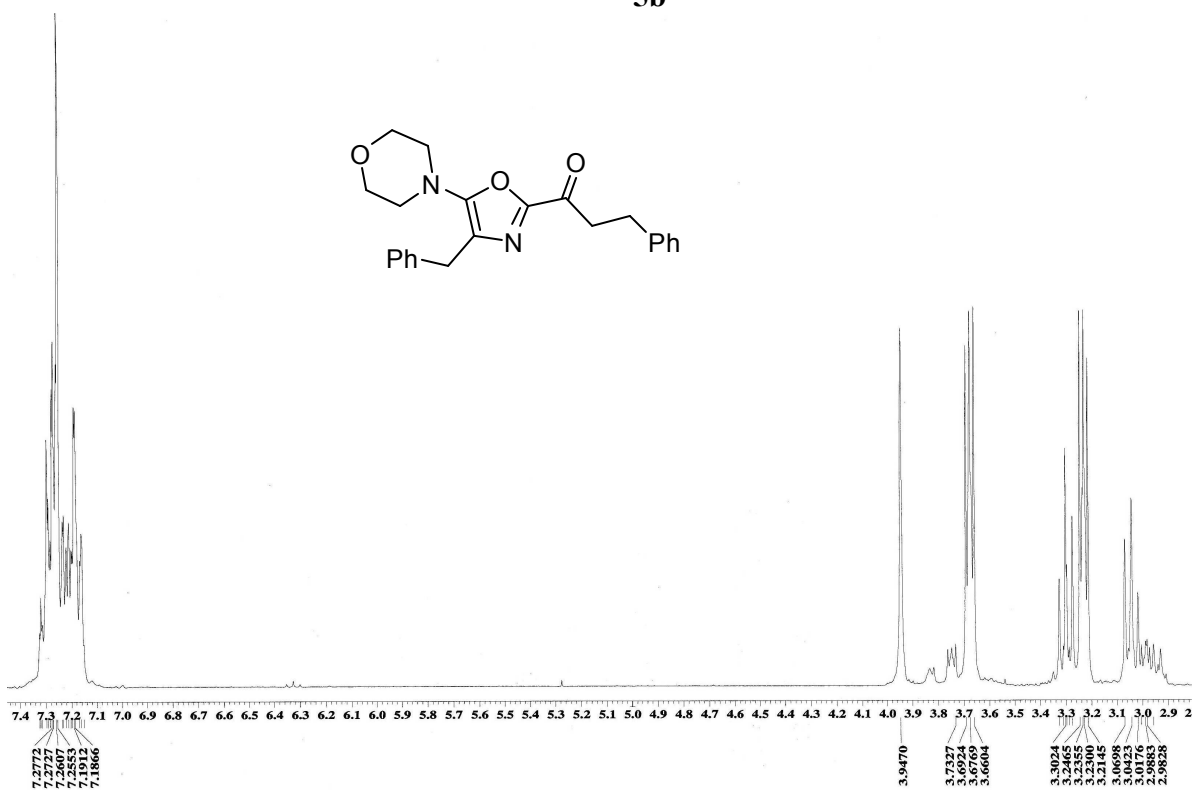
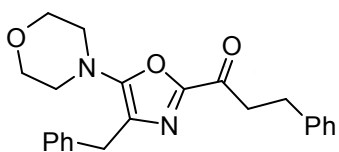
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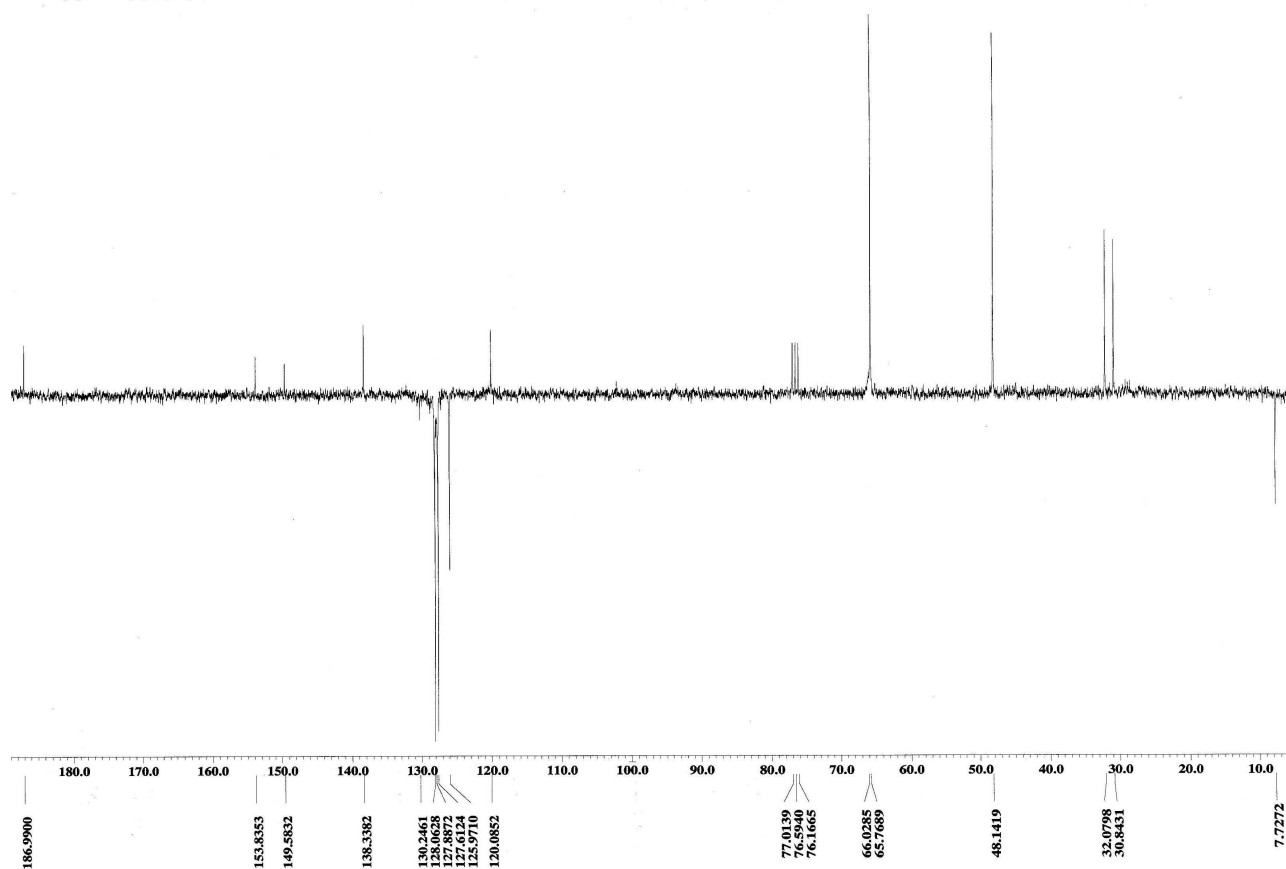
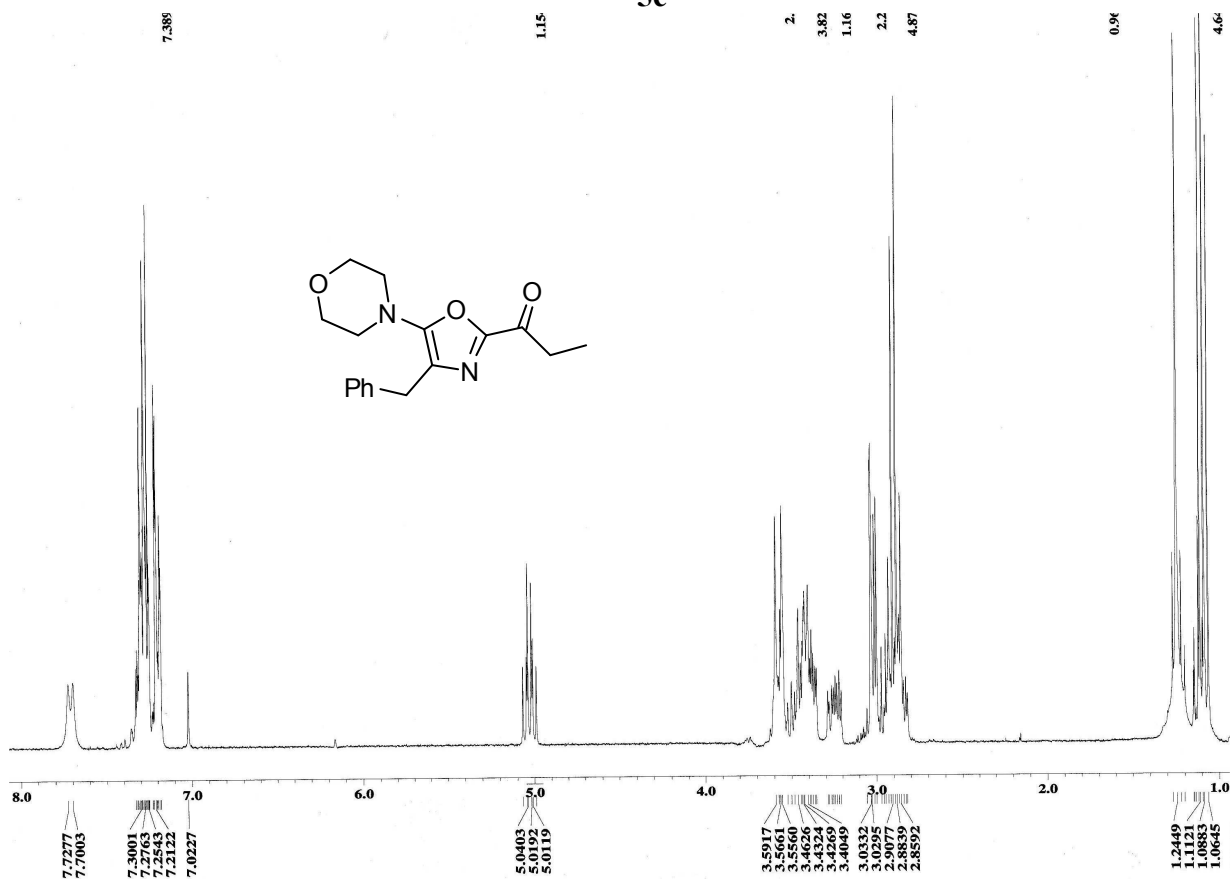
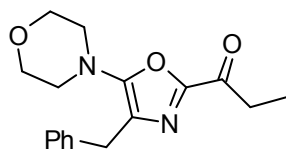




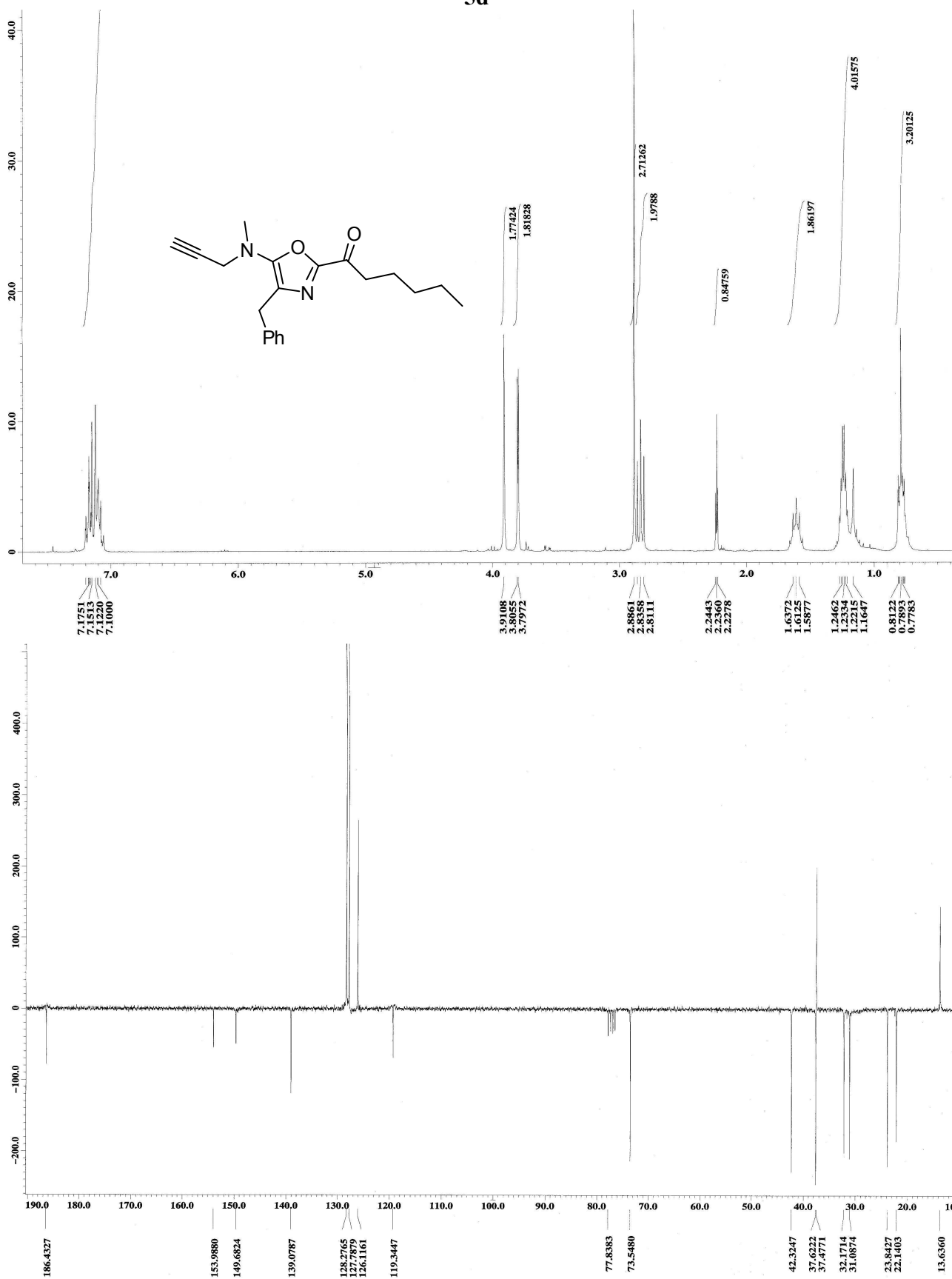
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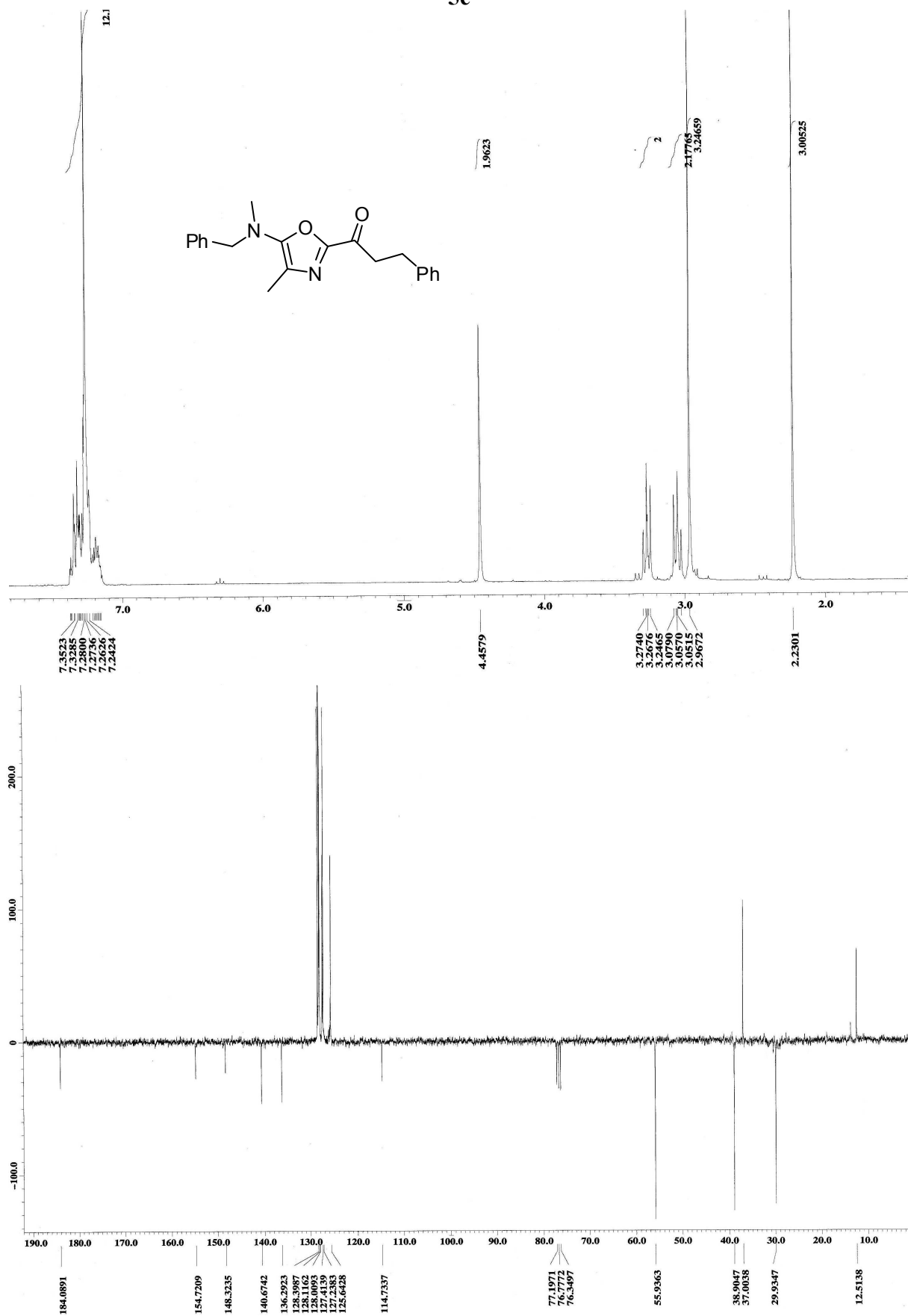
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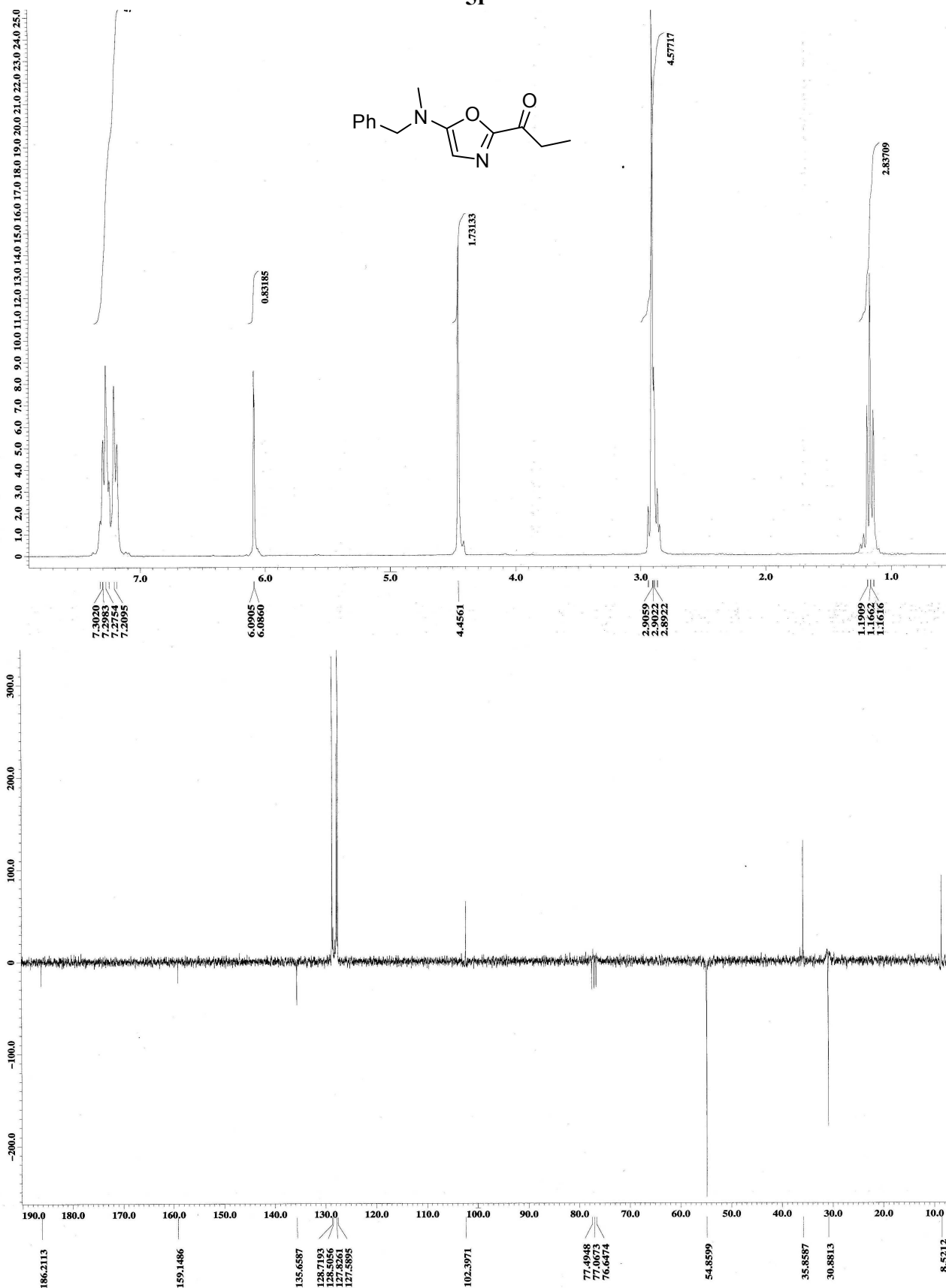
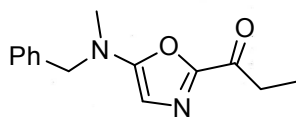
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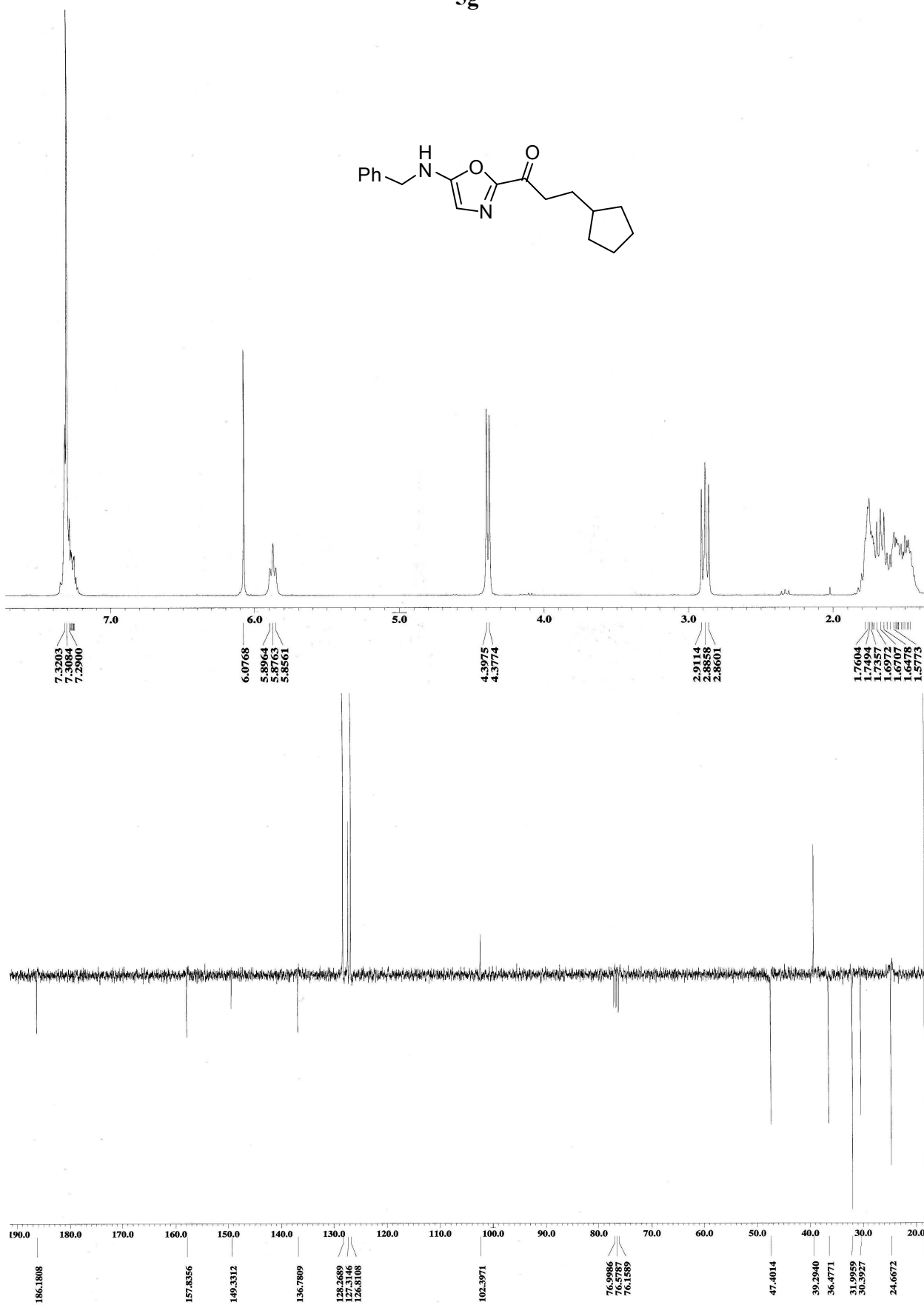
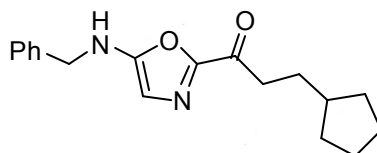
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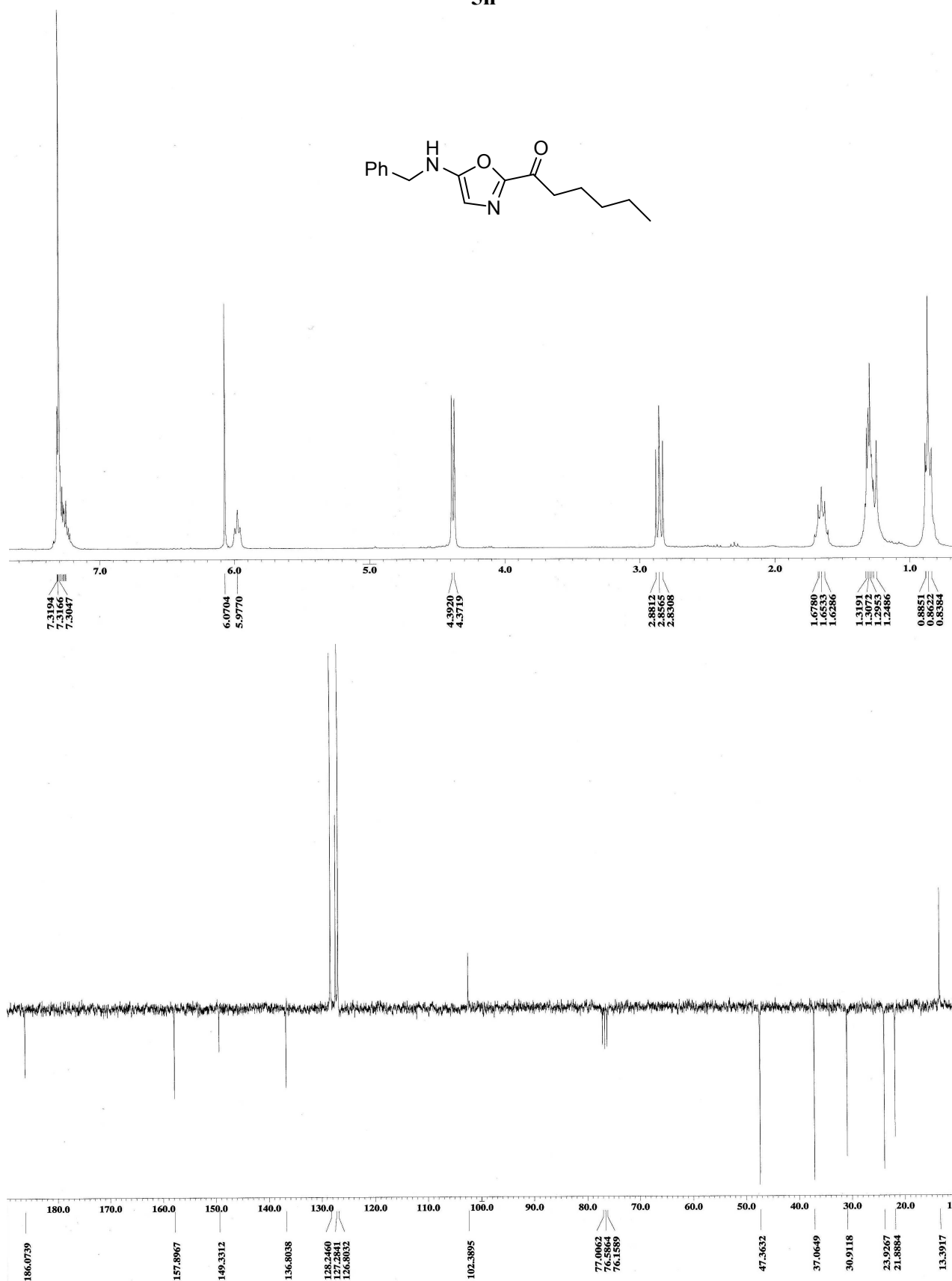
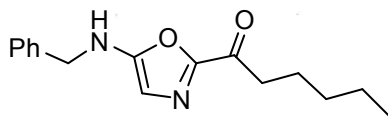
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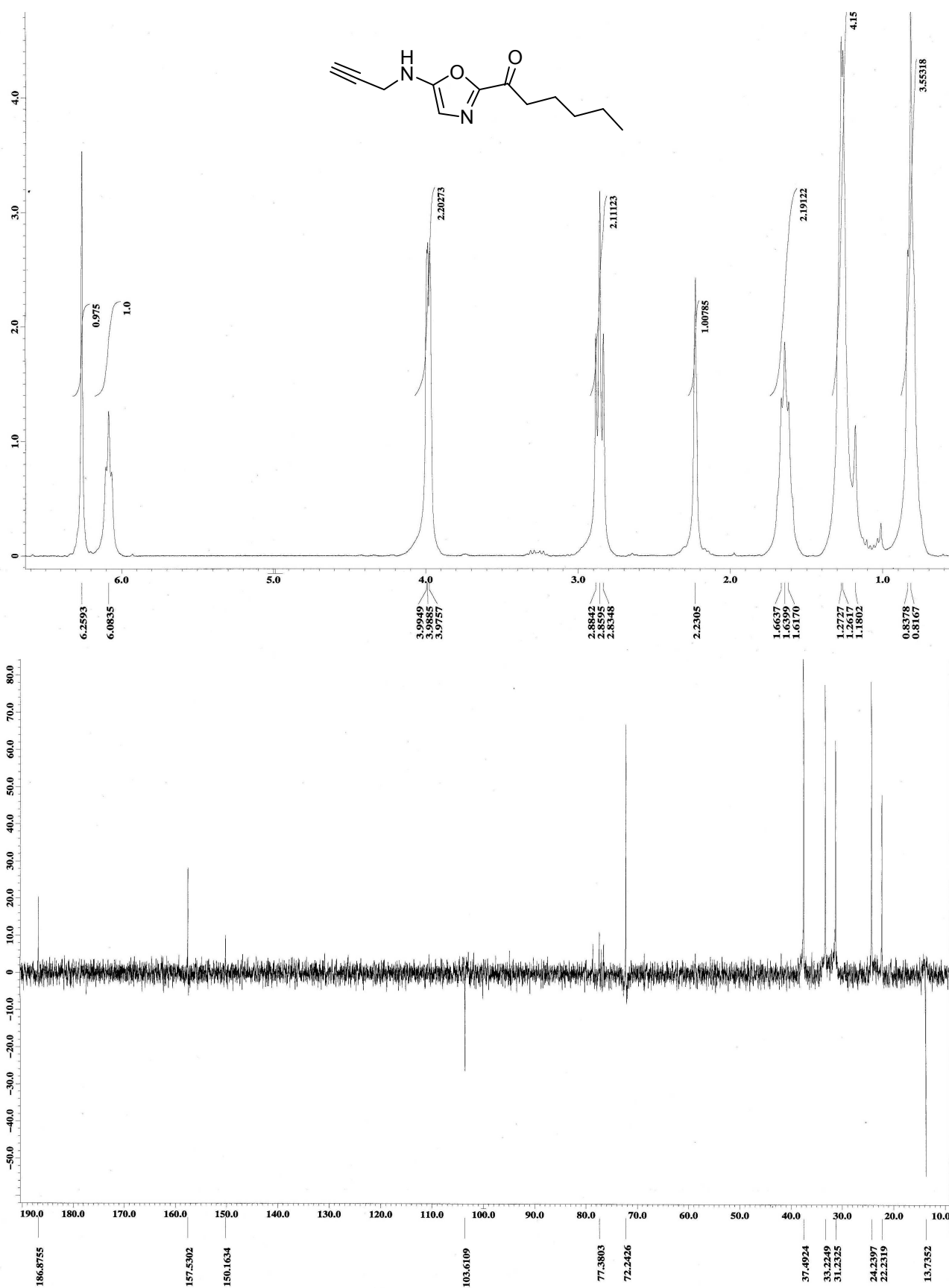
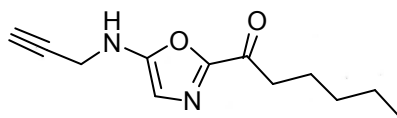
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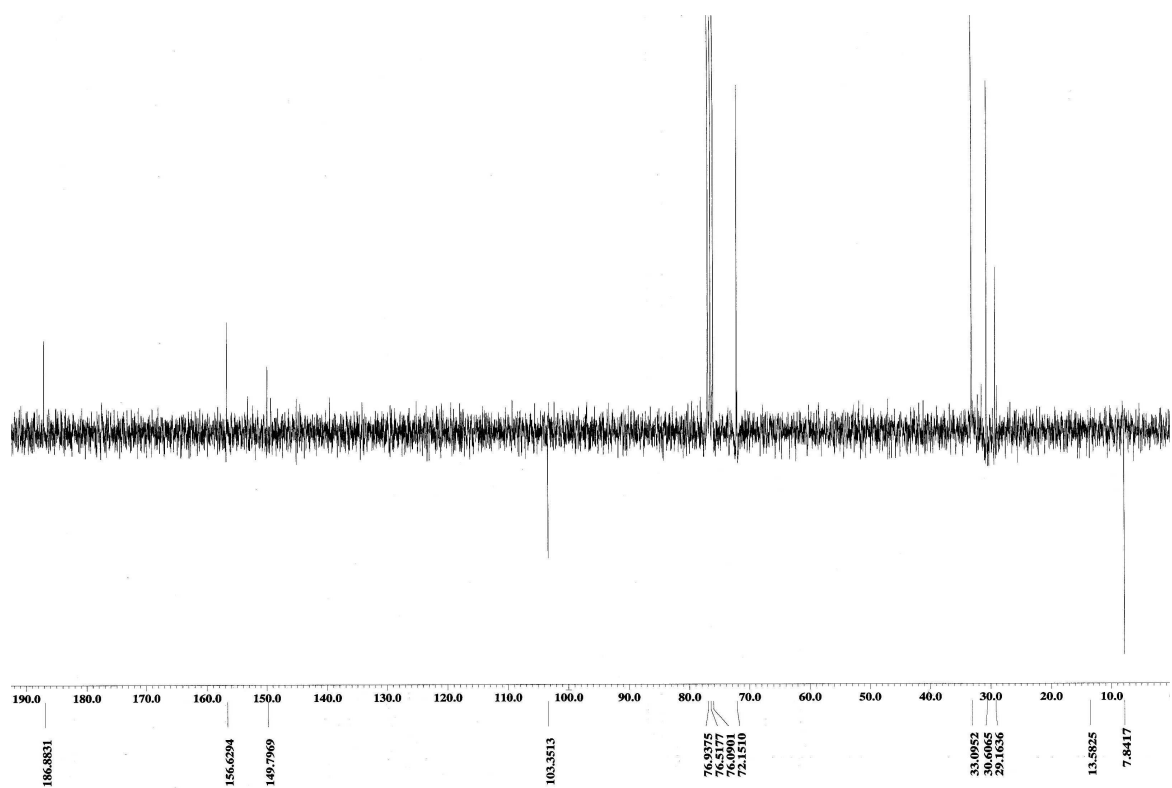
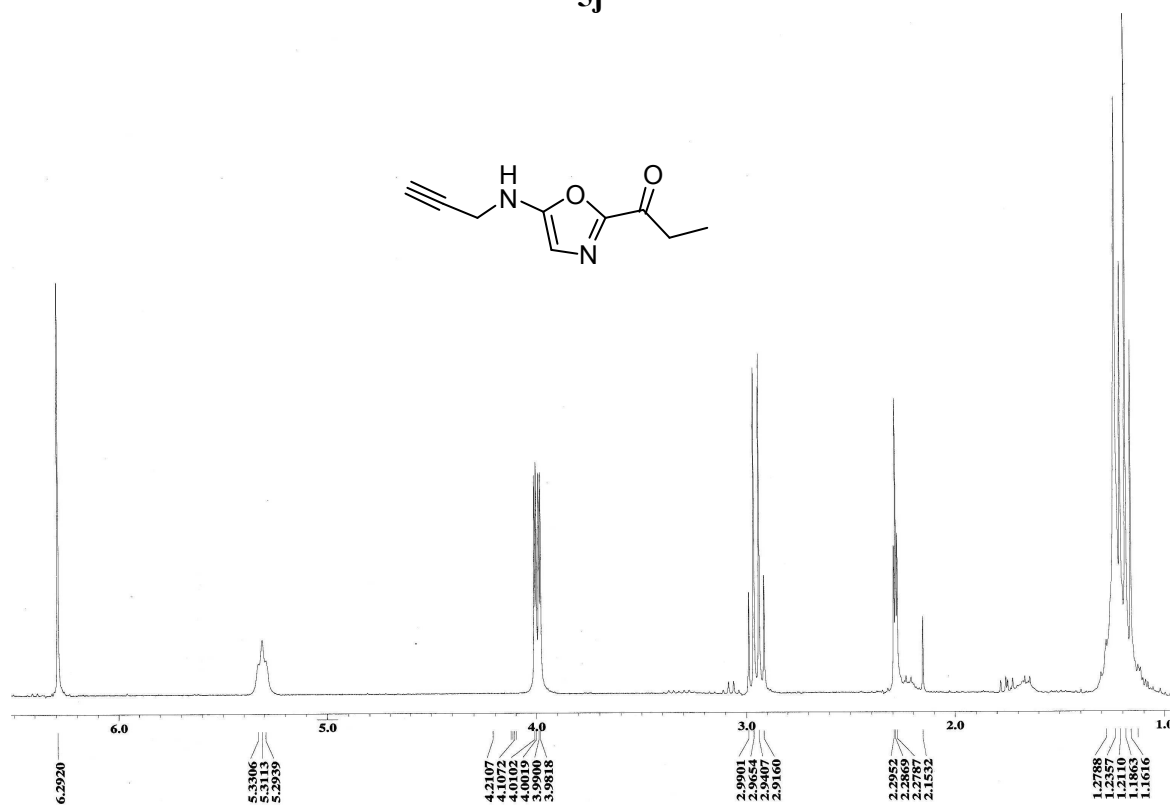
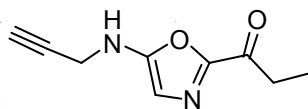
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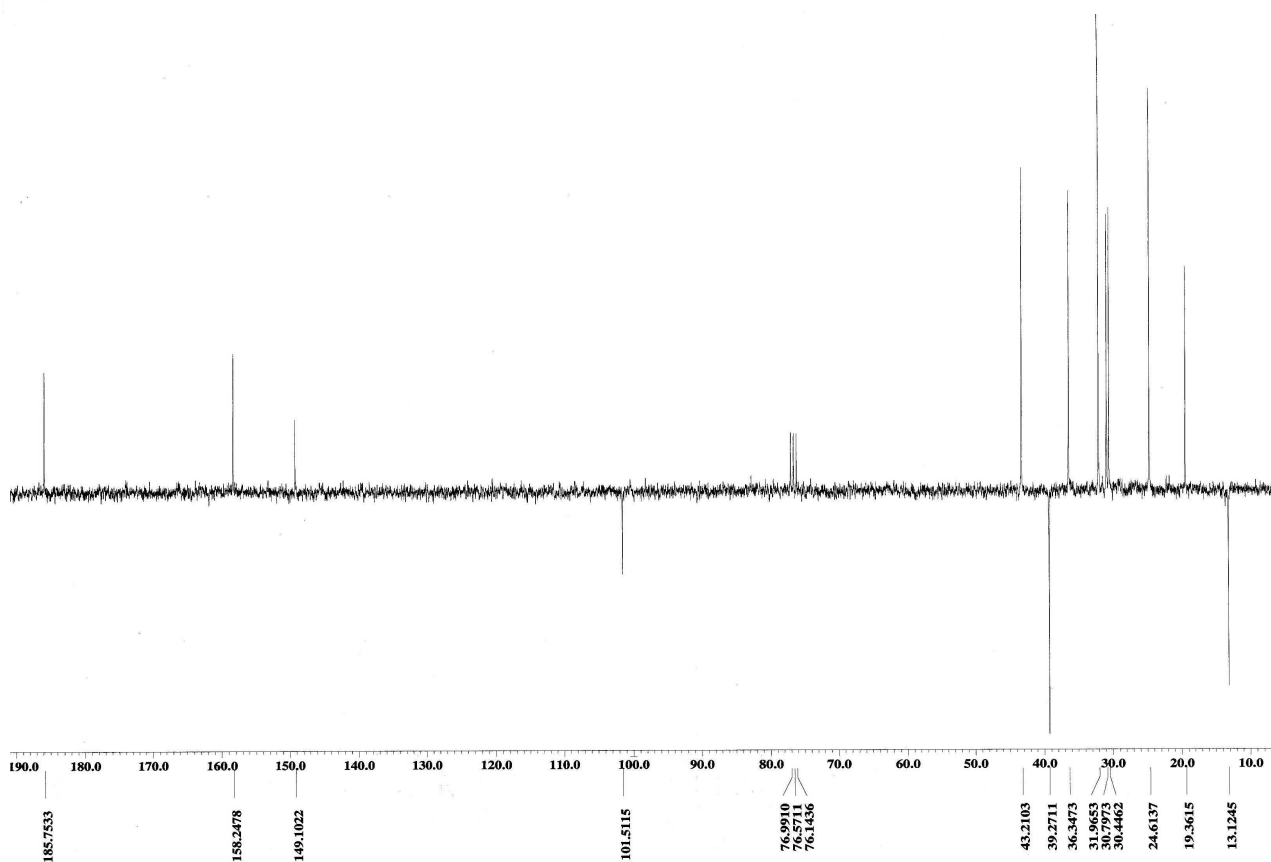
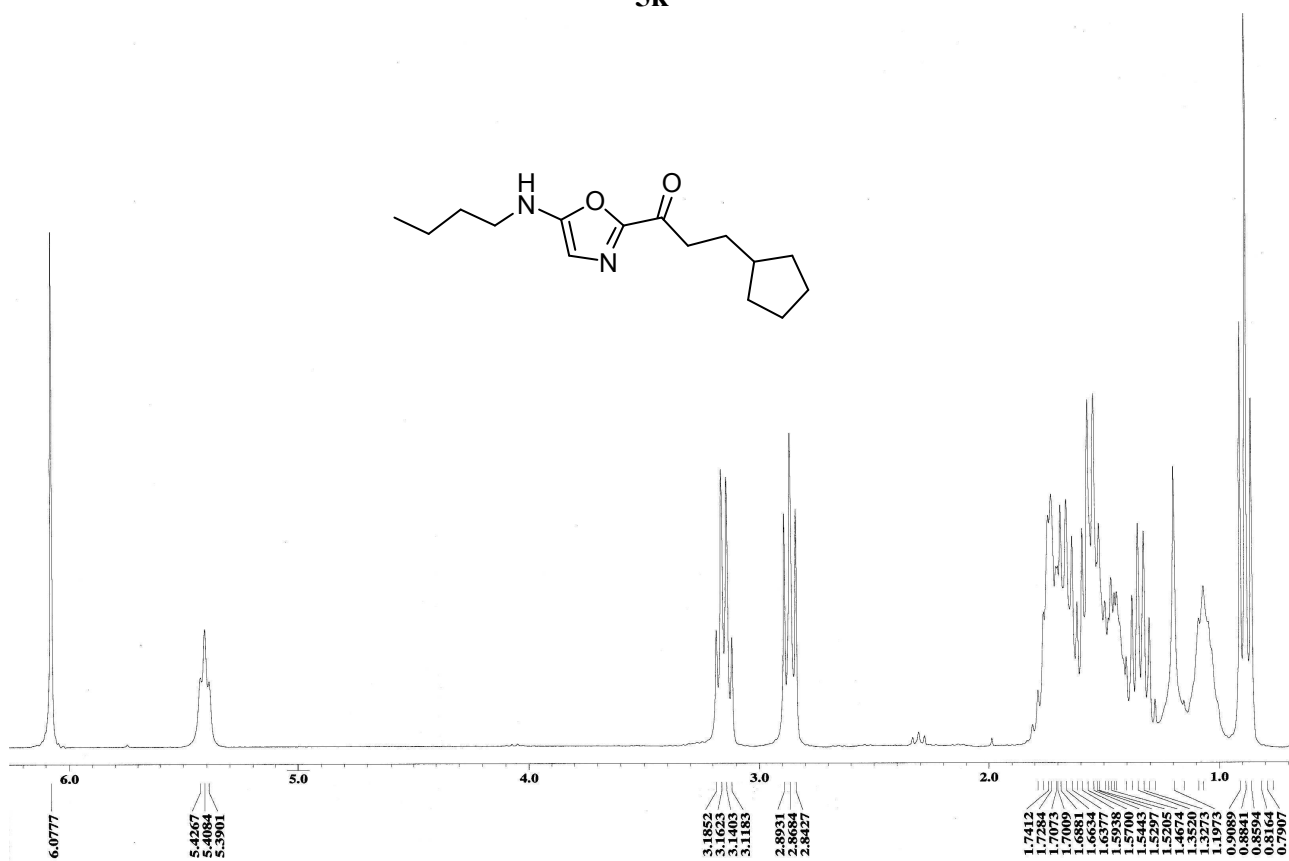
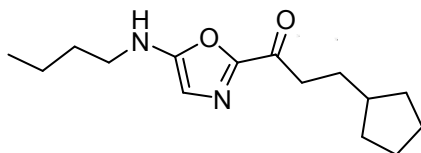
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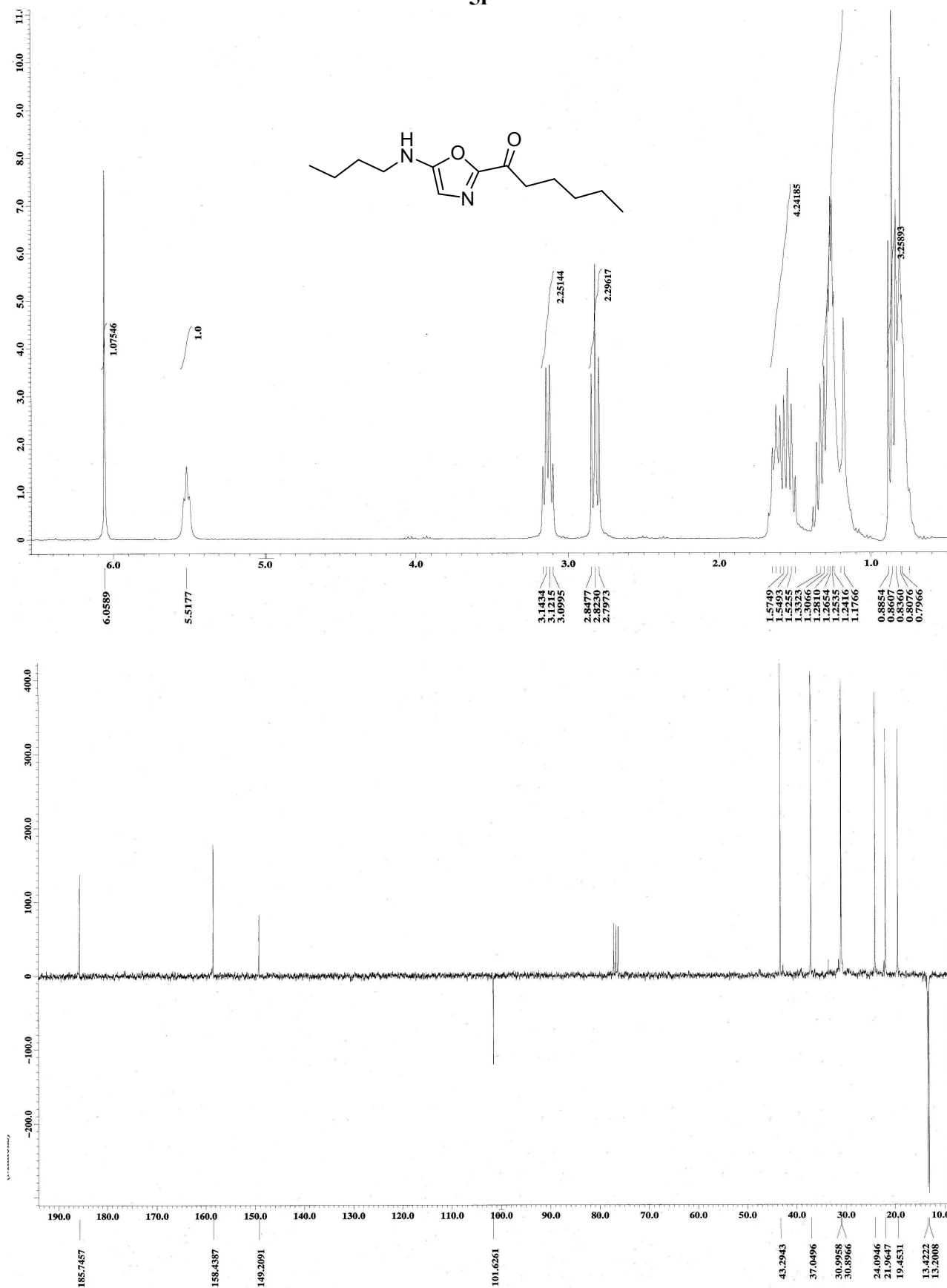
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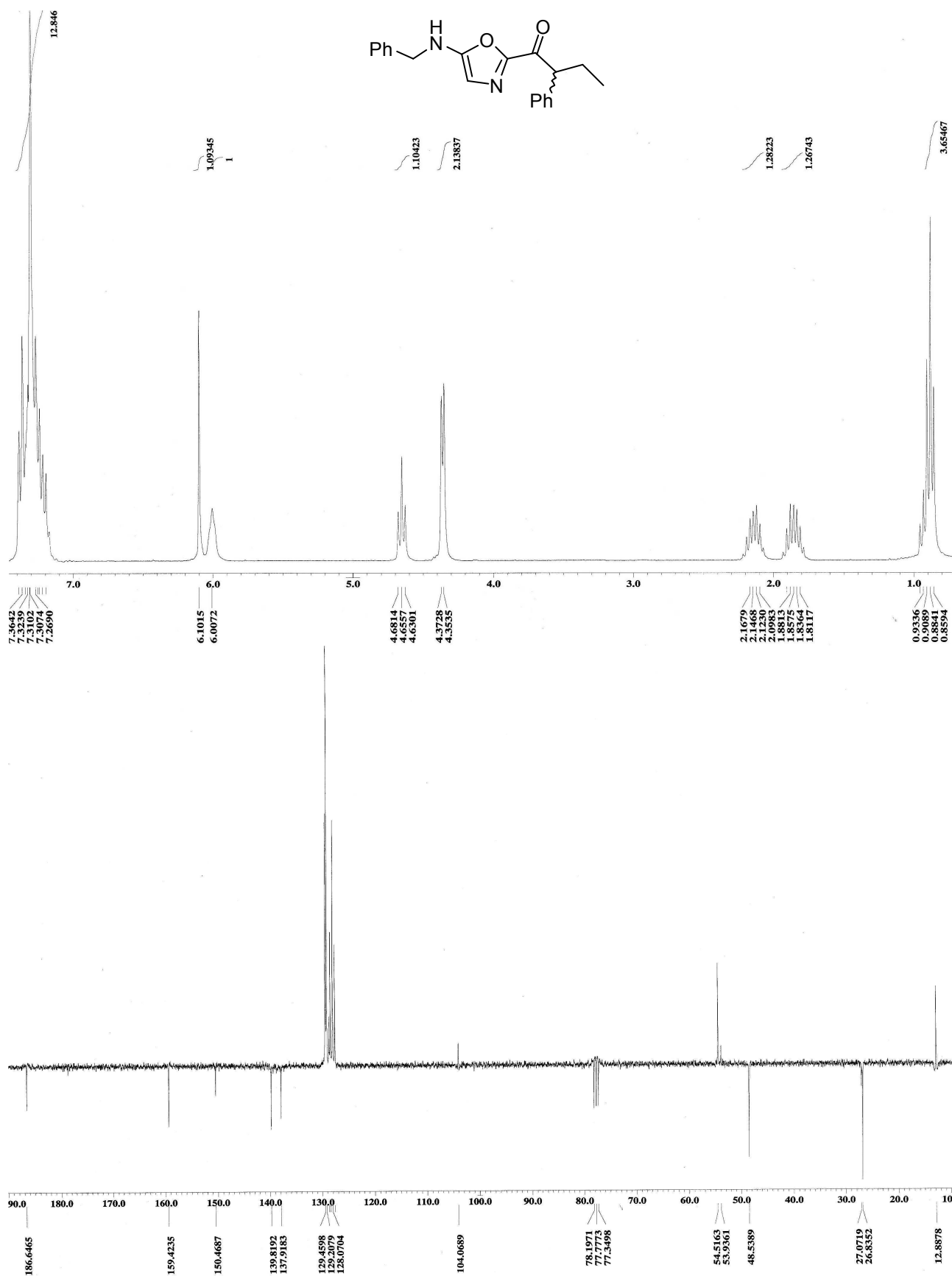
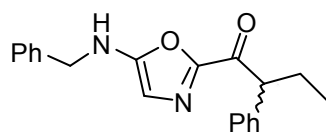
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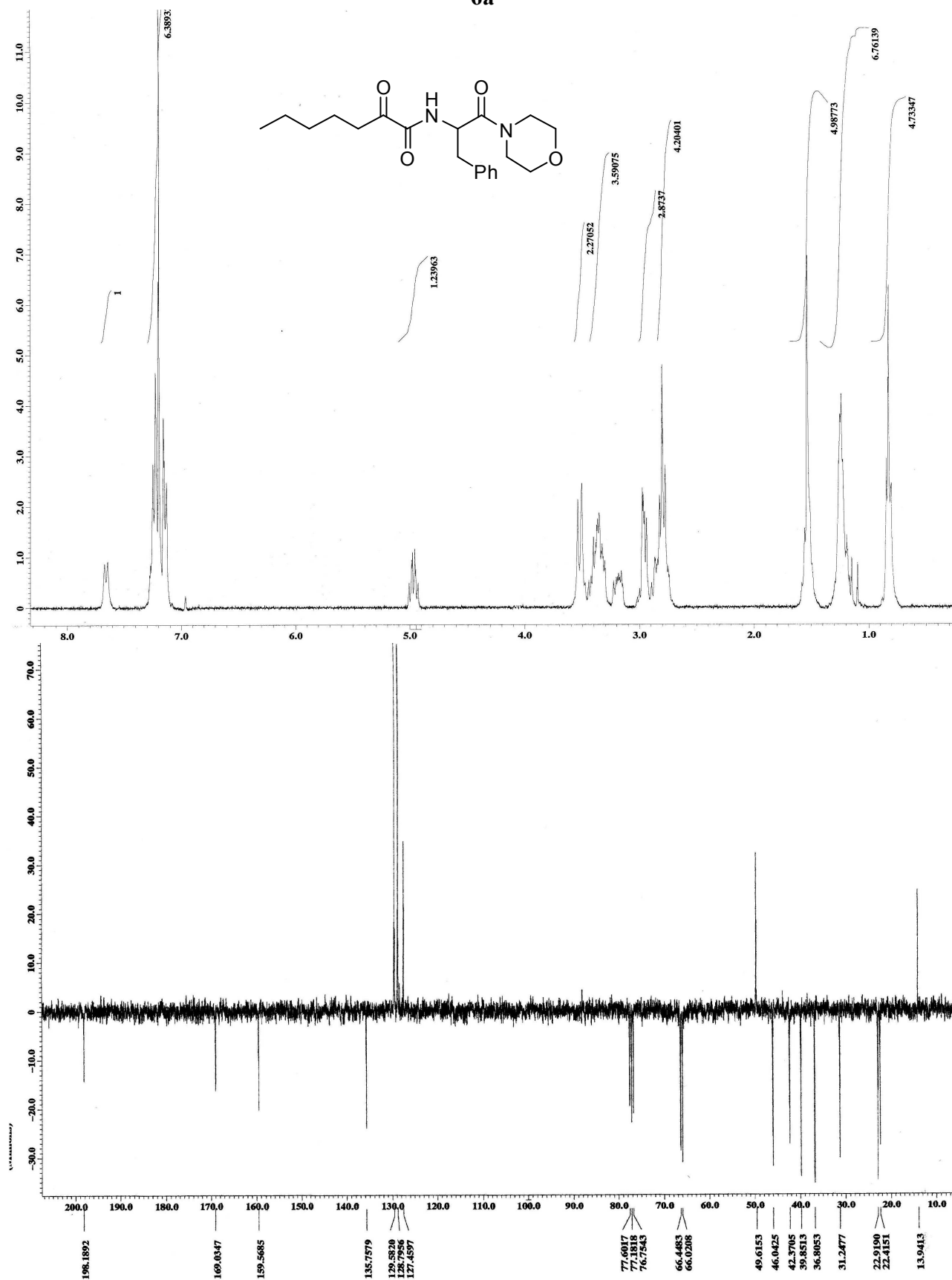
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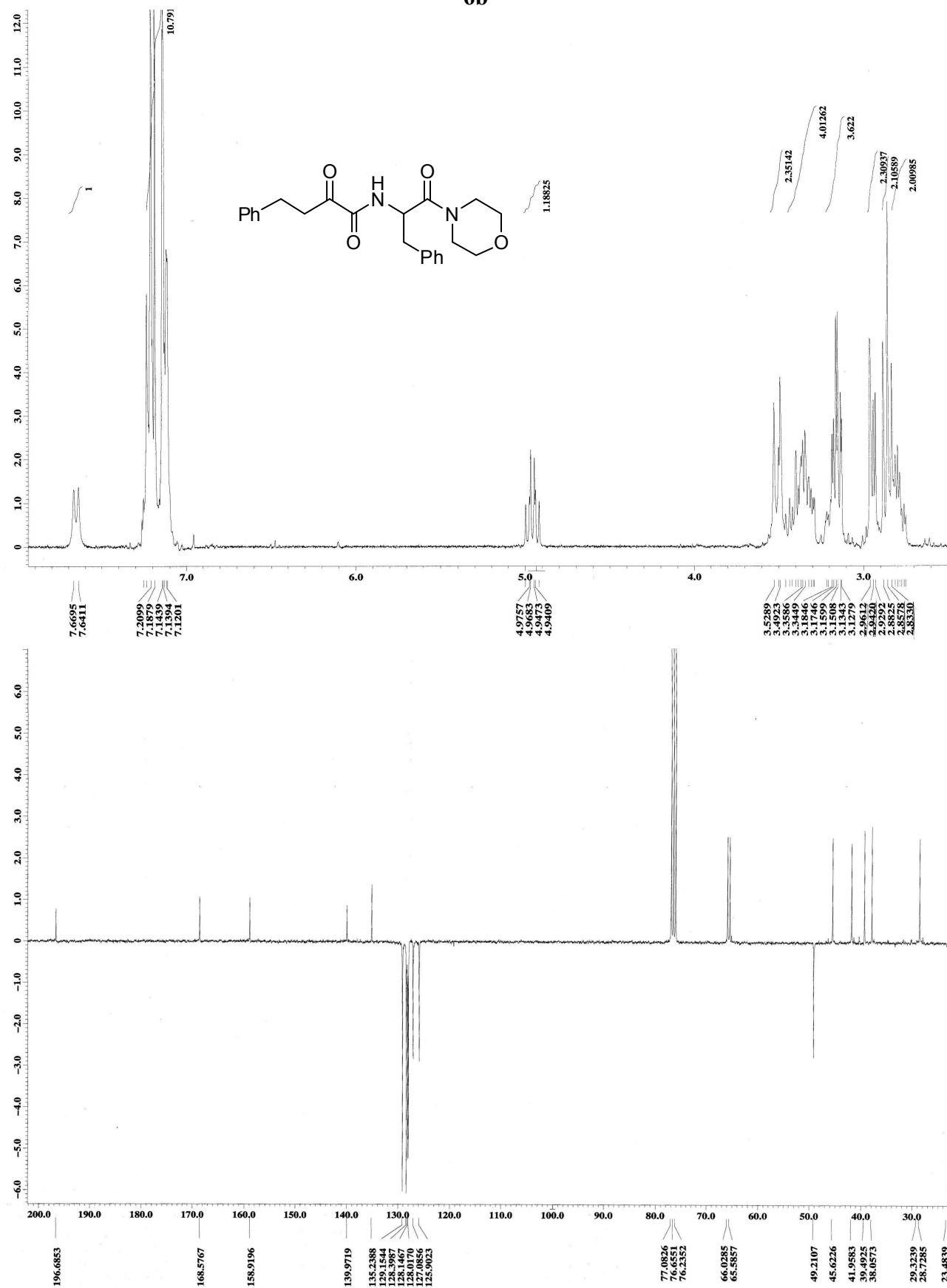
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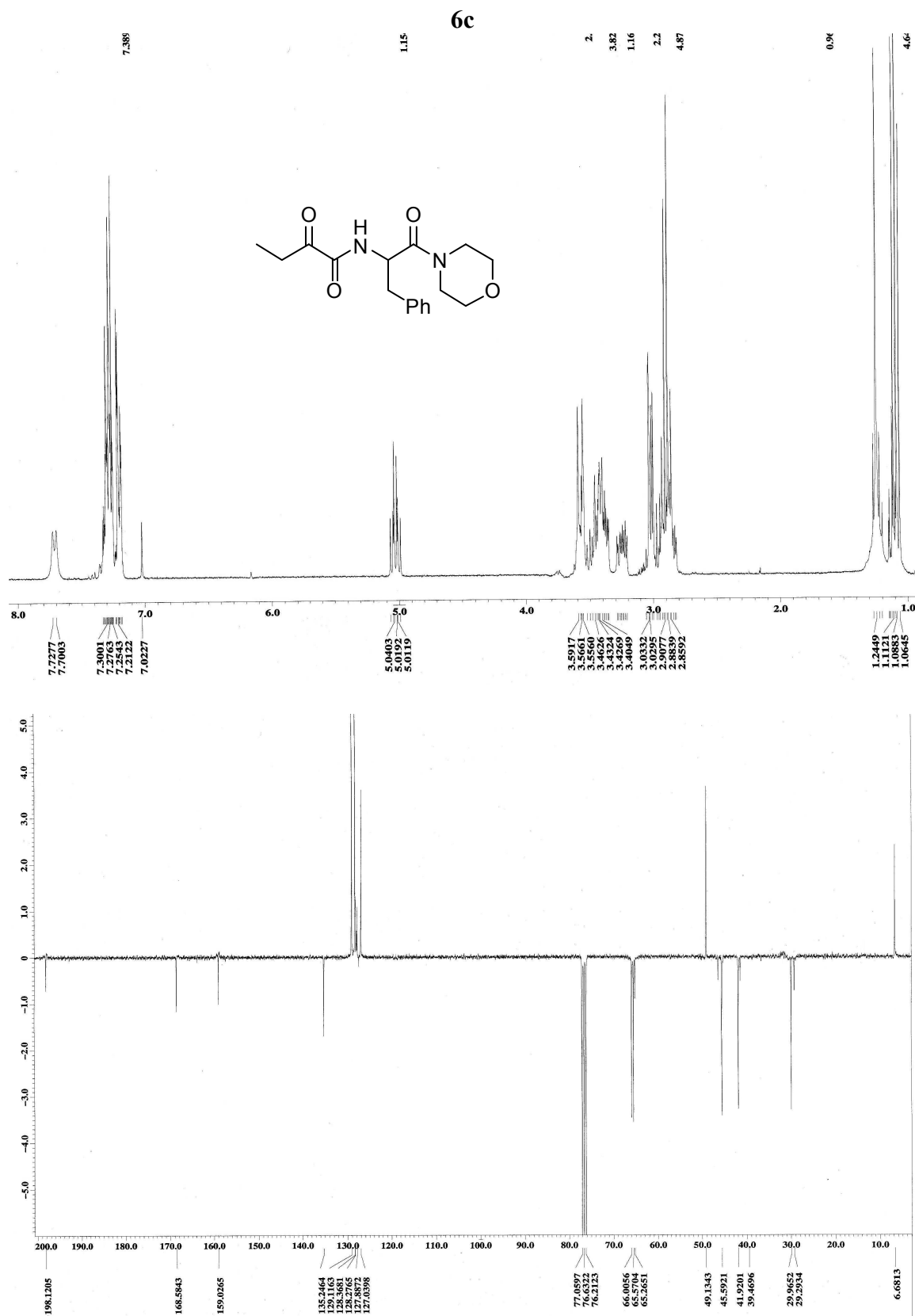


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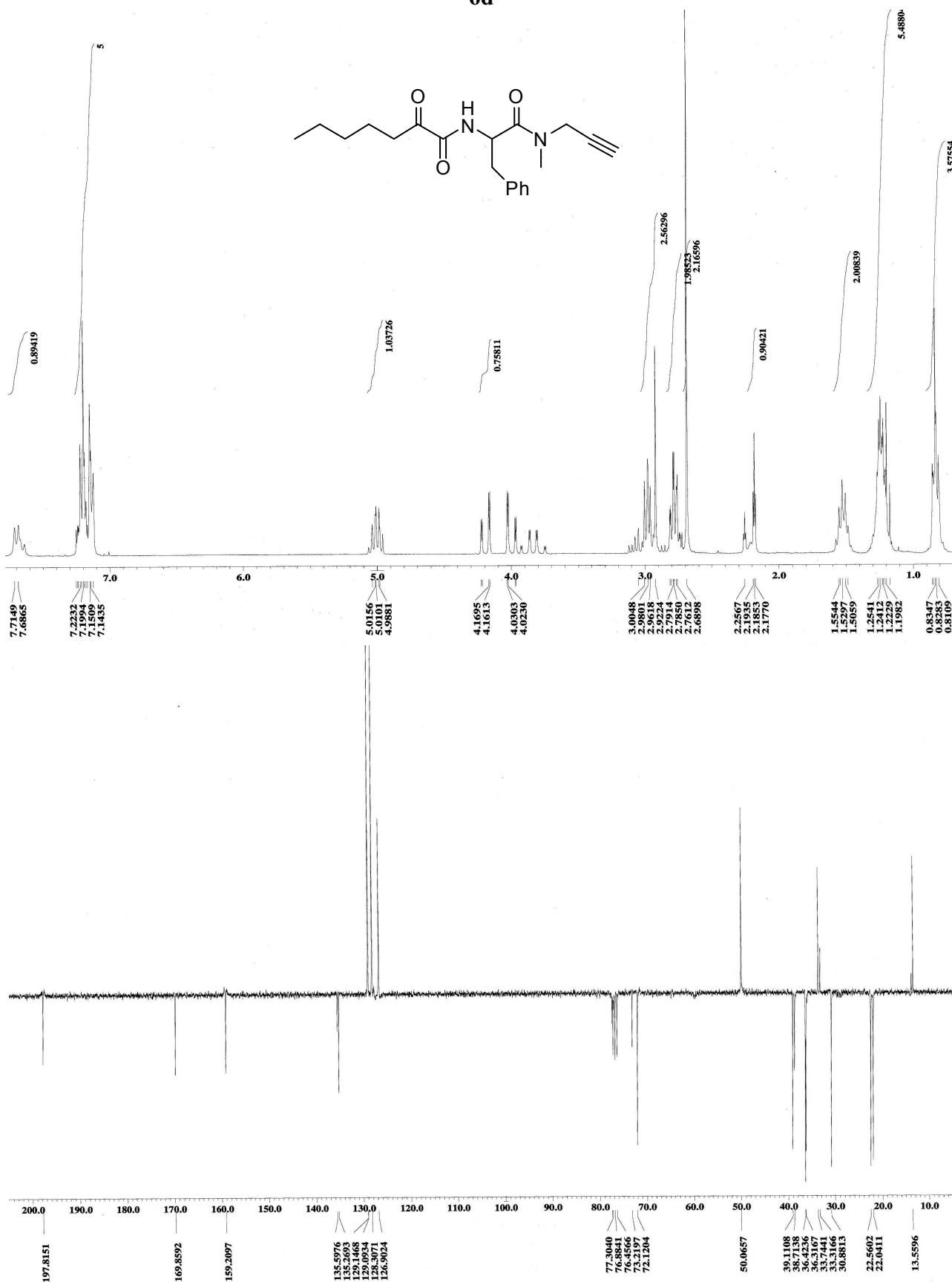
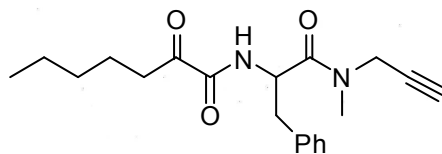


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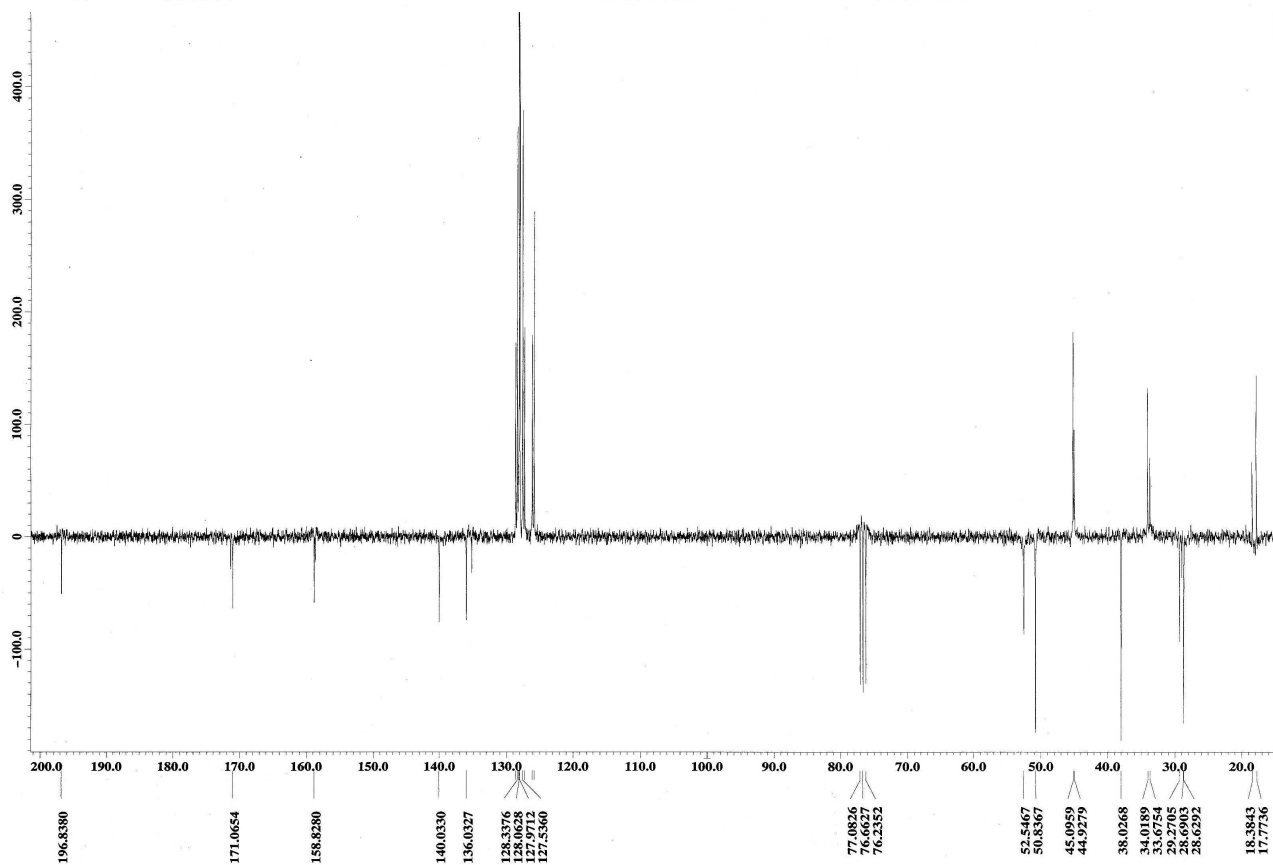
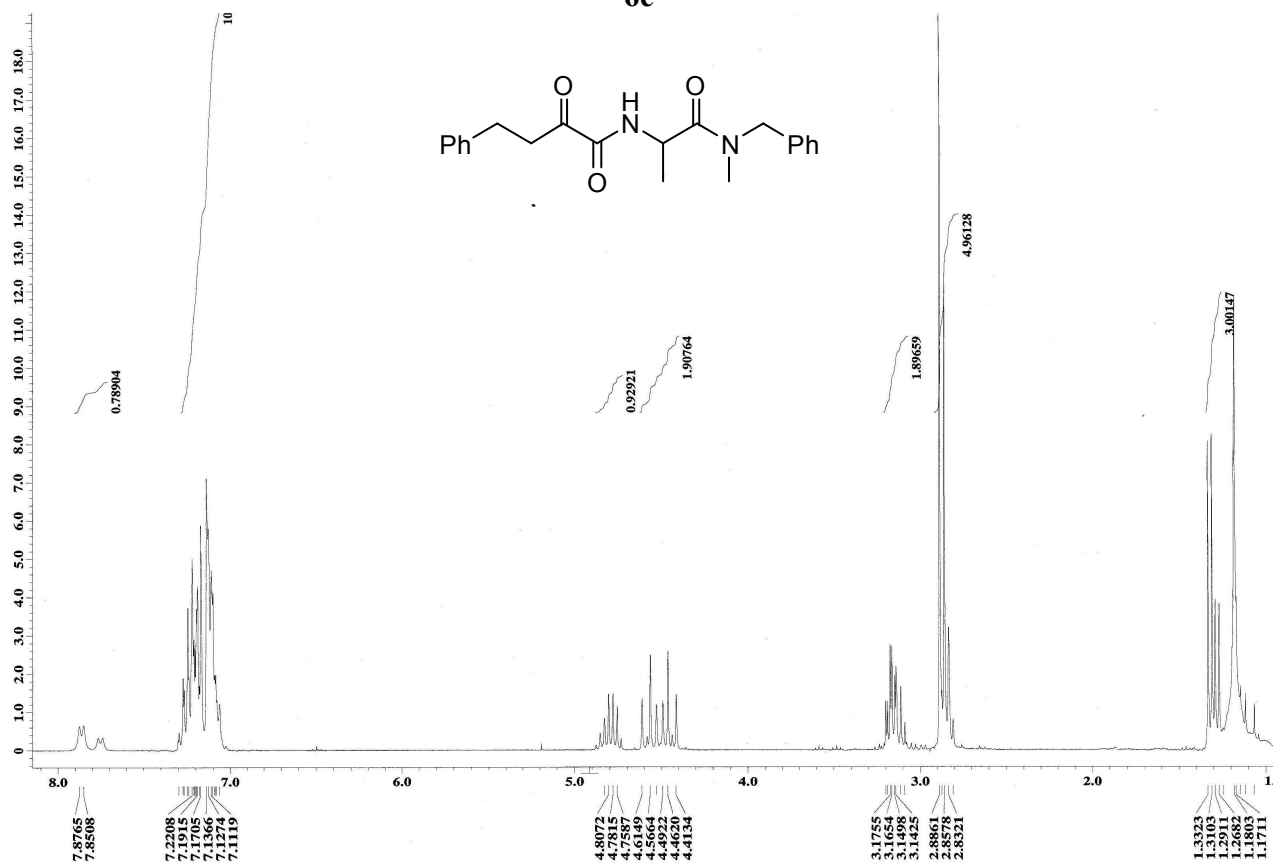
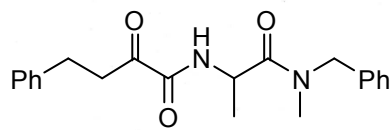




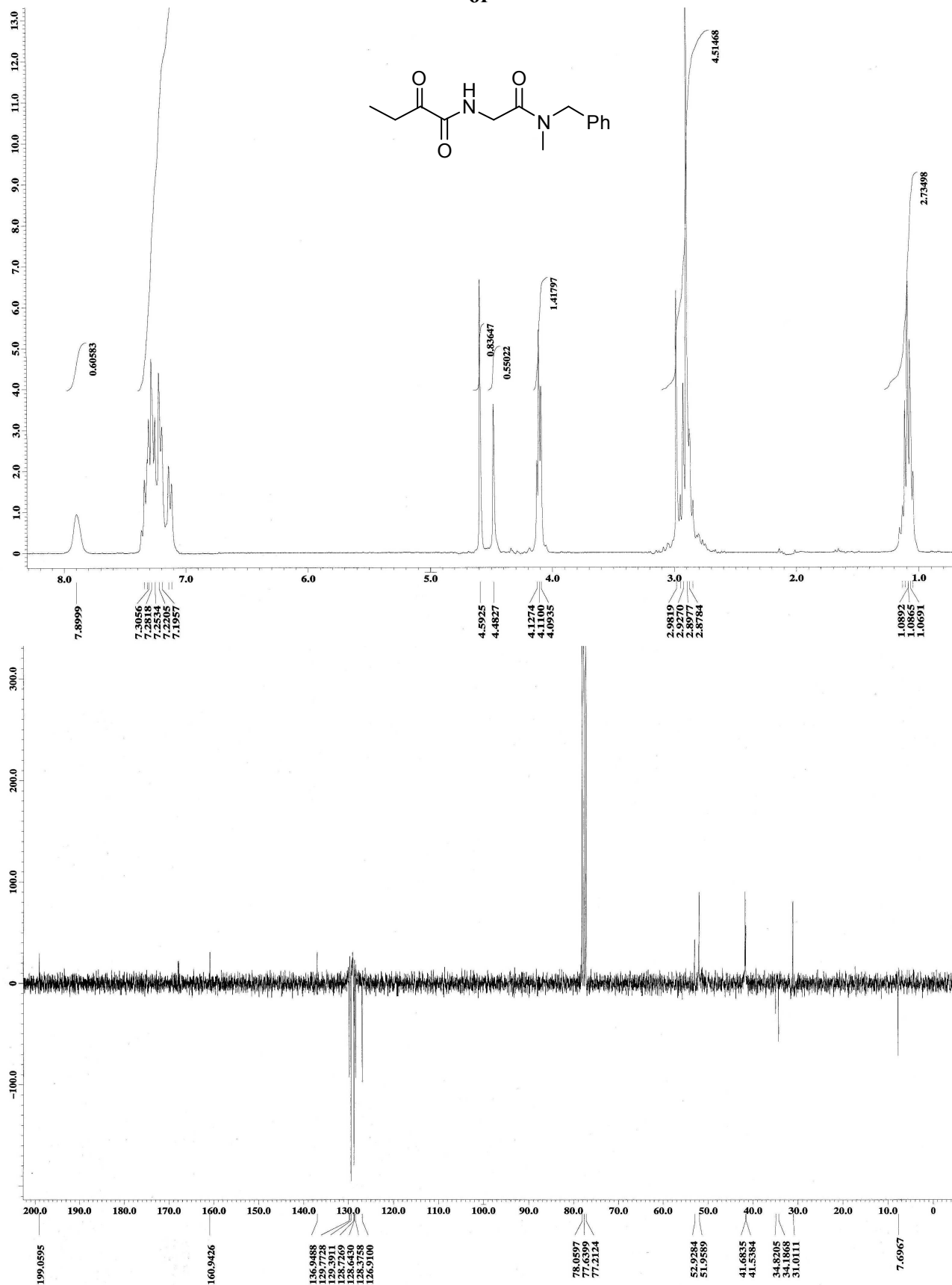
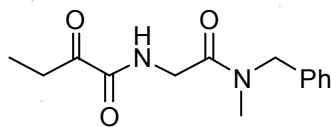
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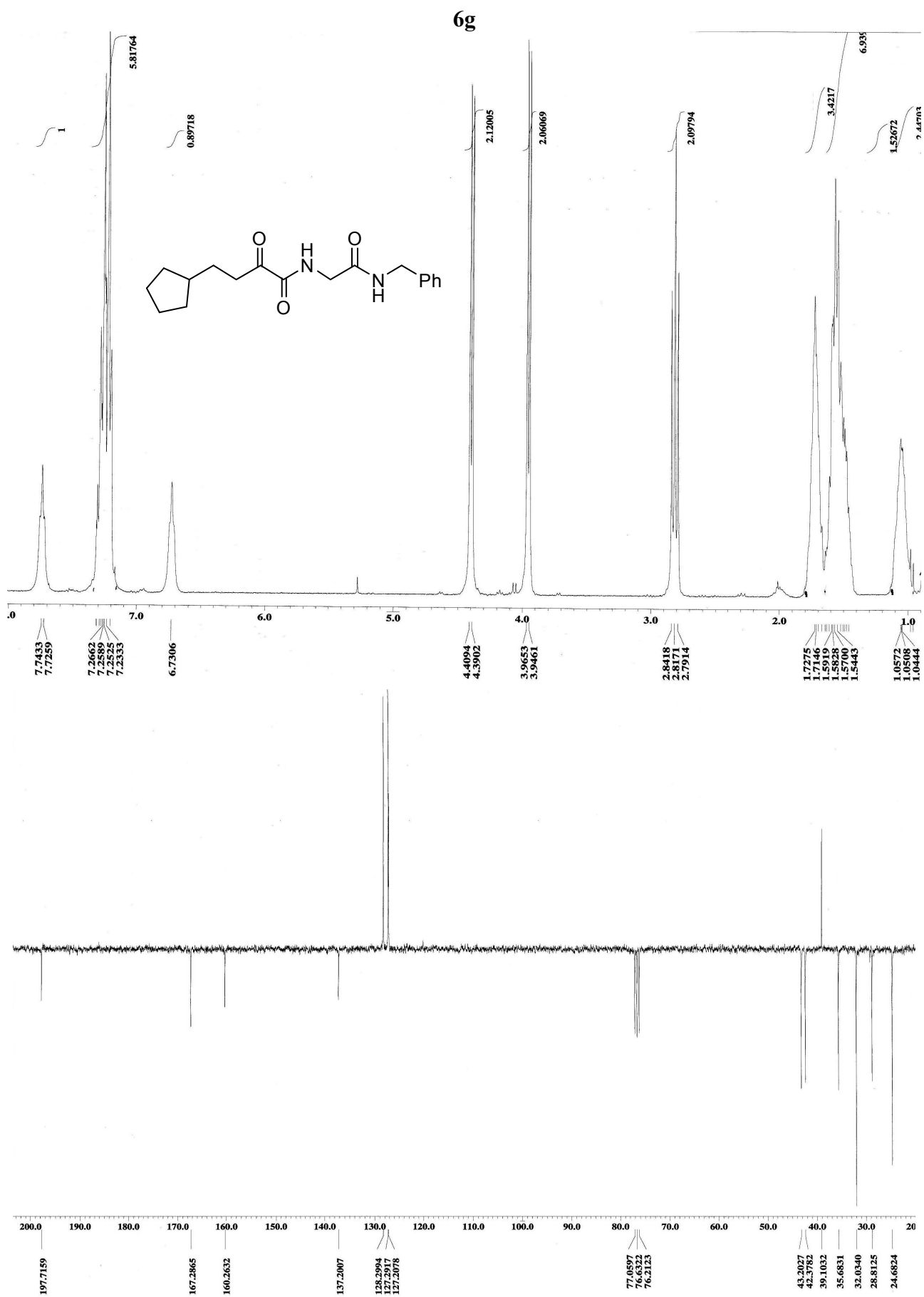


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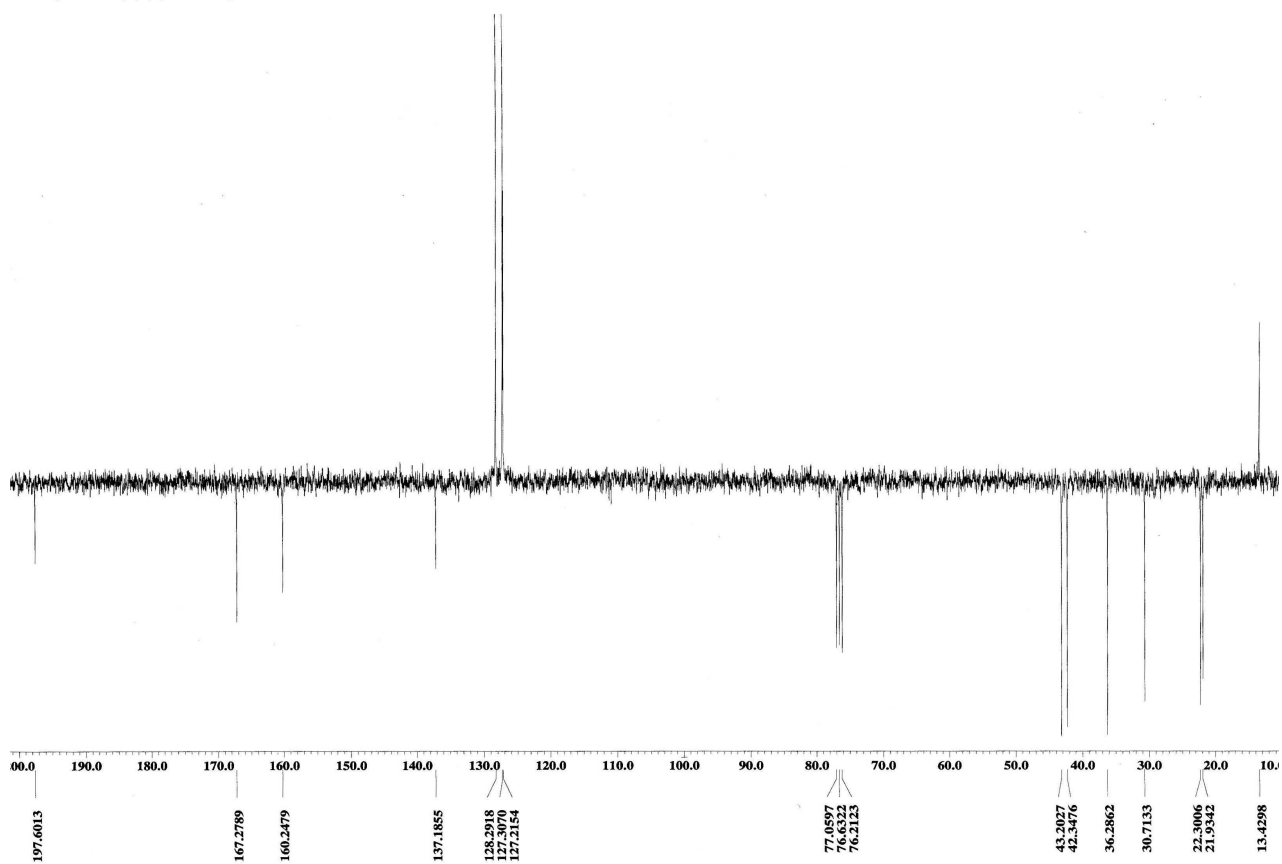
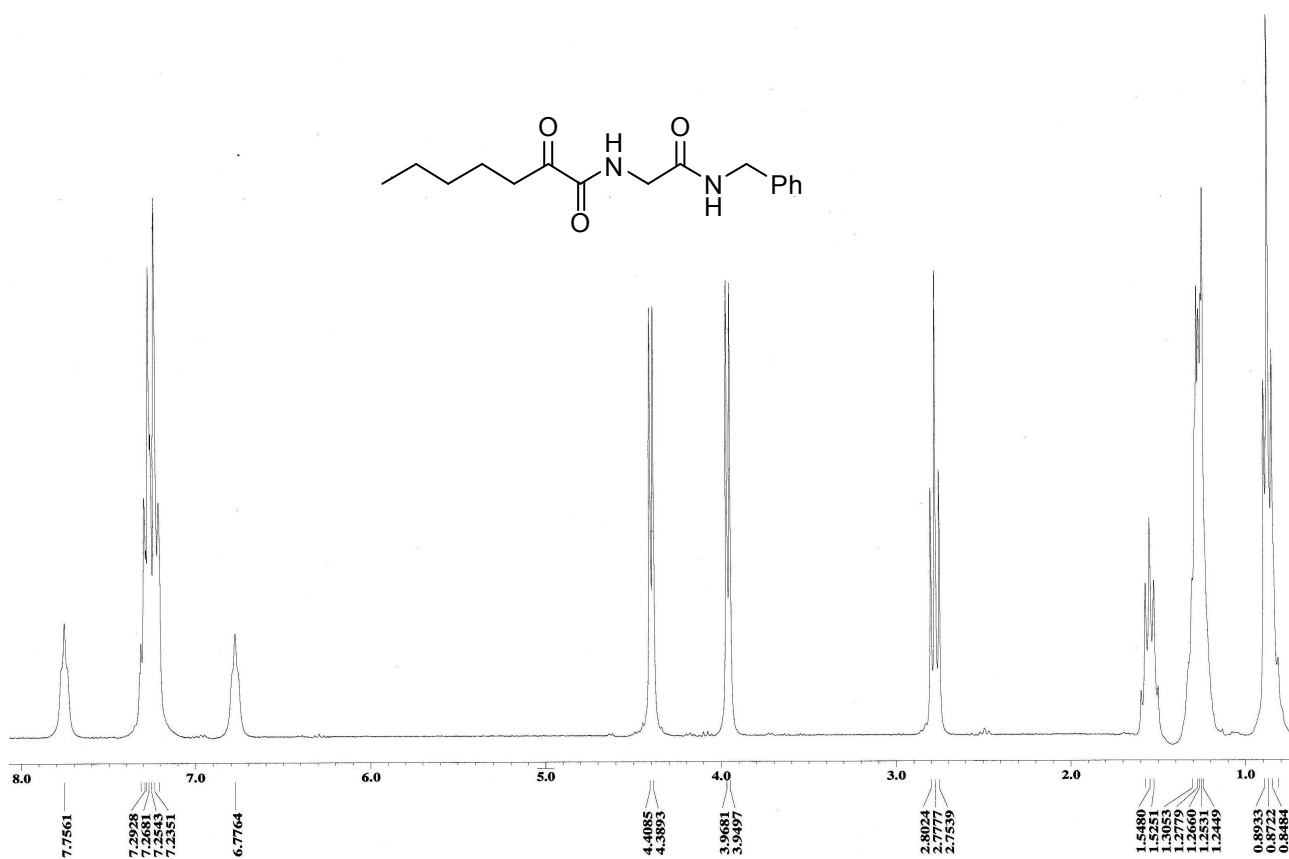
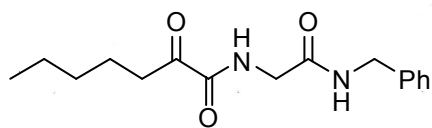


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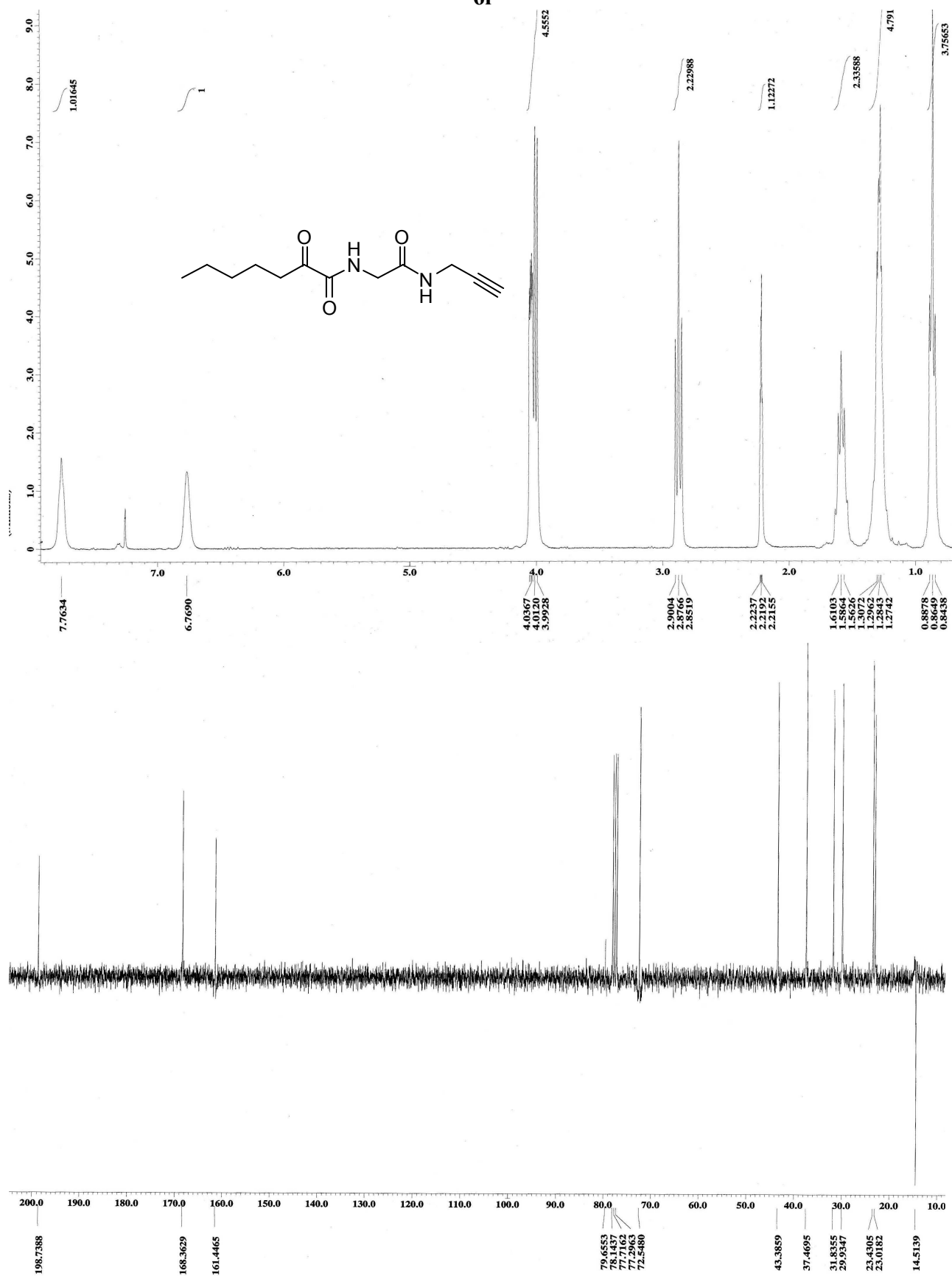




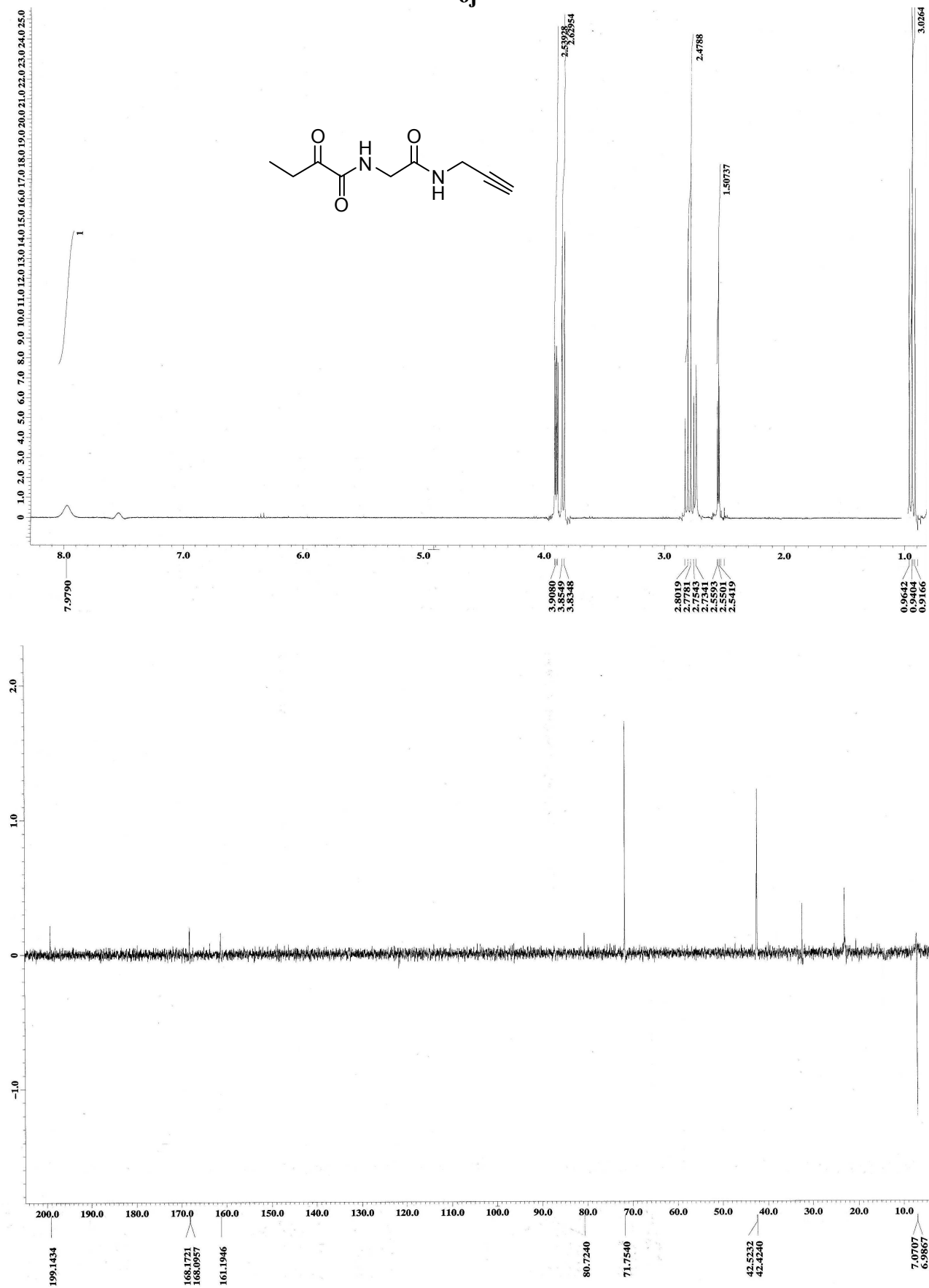
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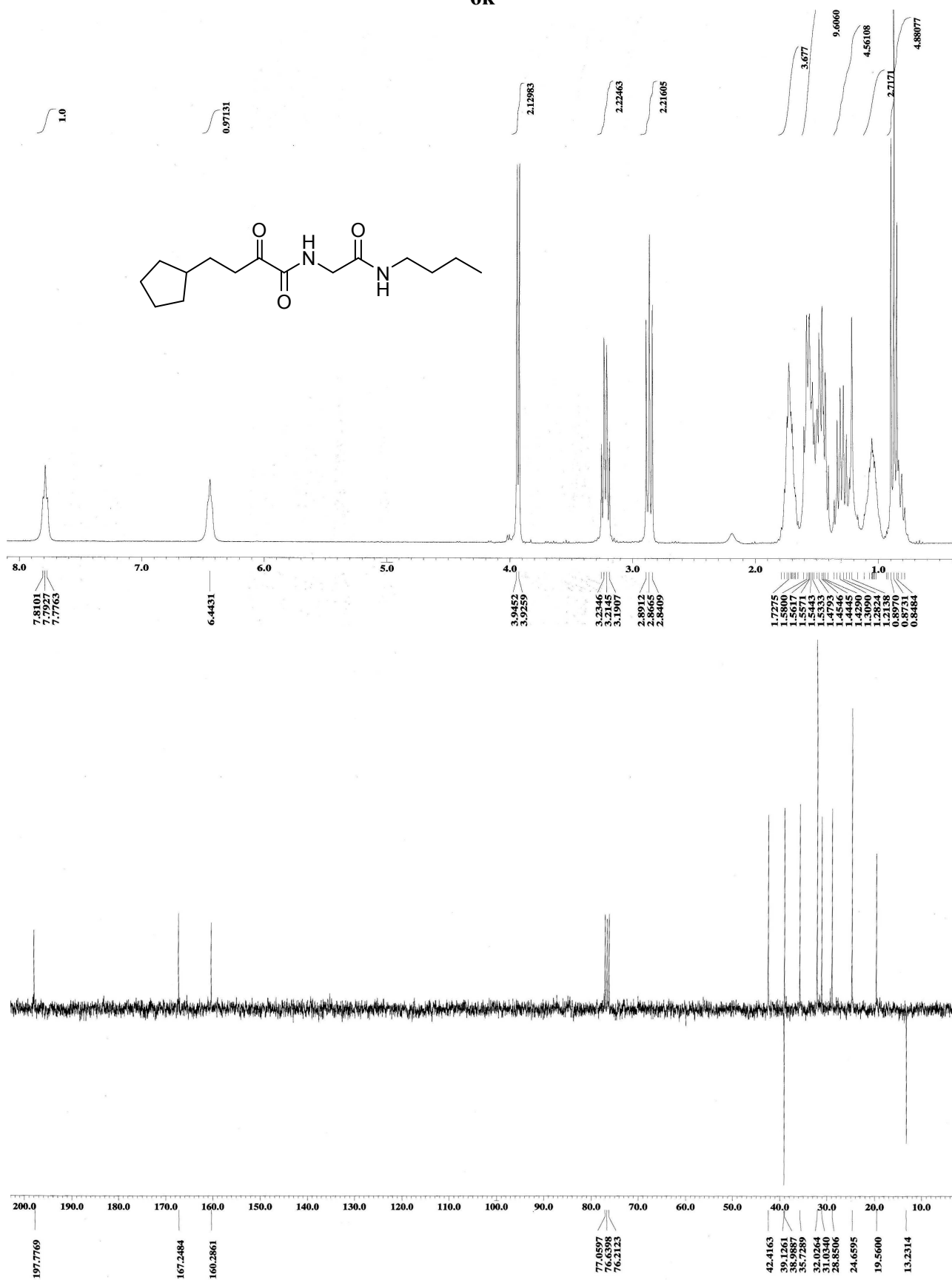
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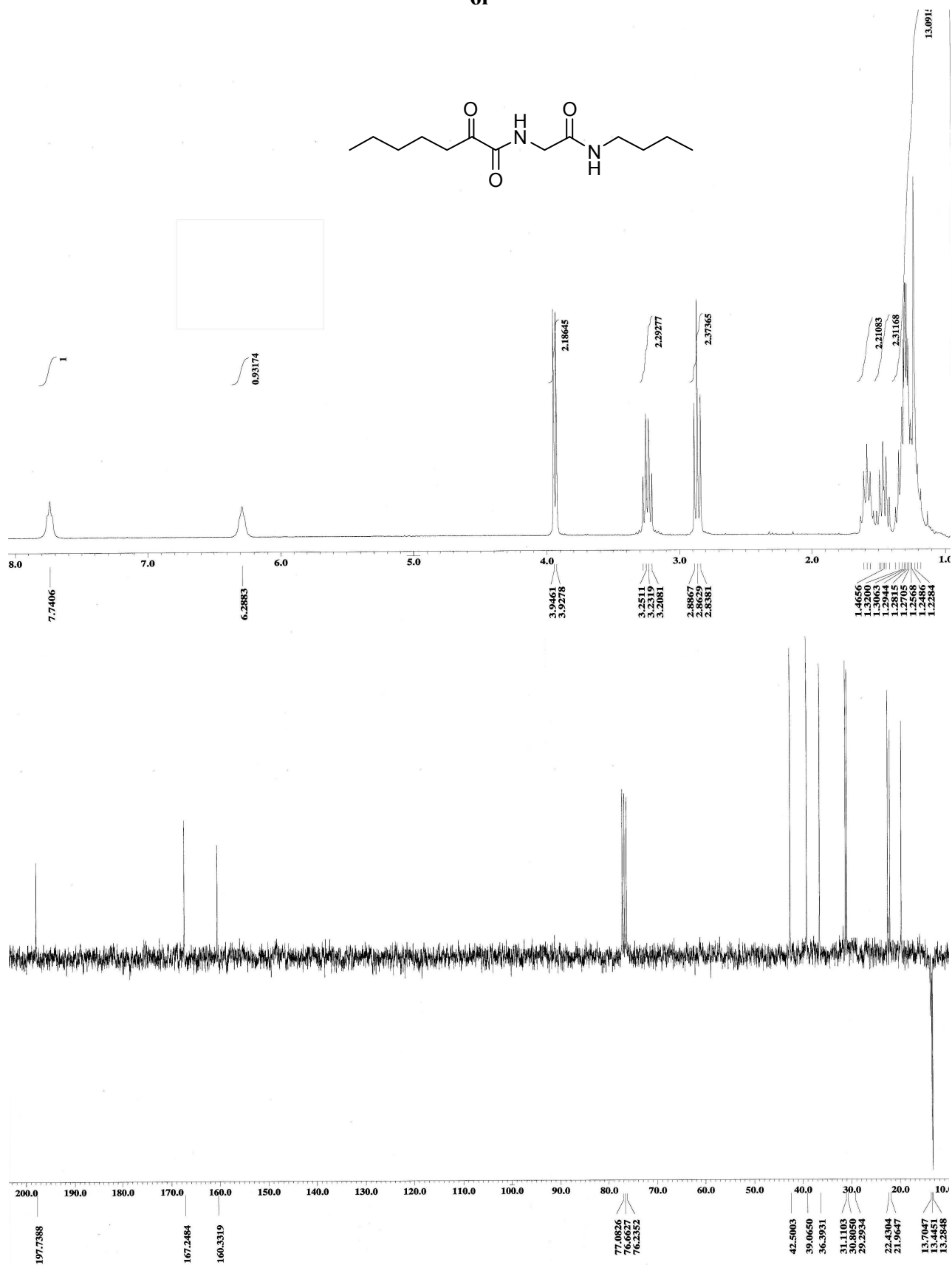
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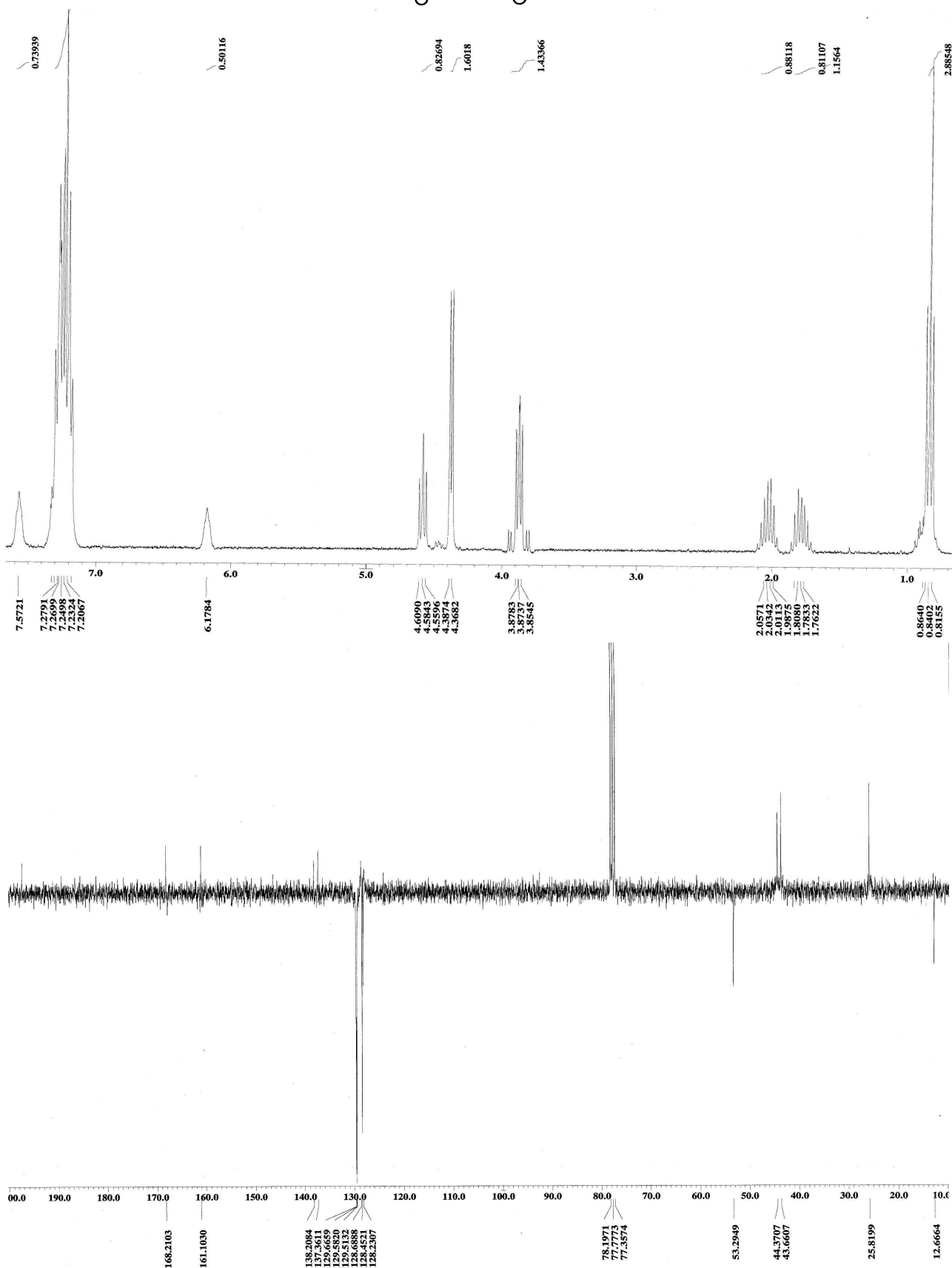
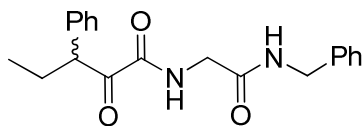
6k



6l



6m



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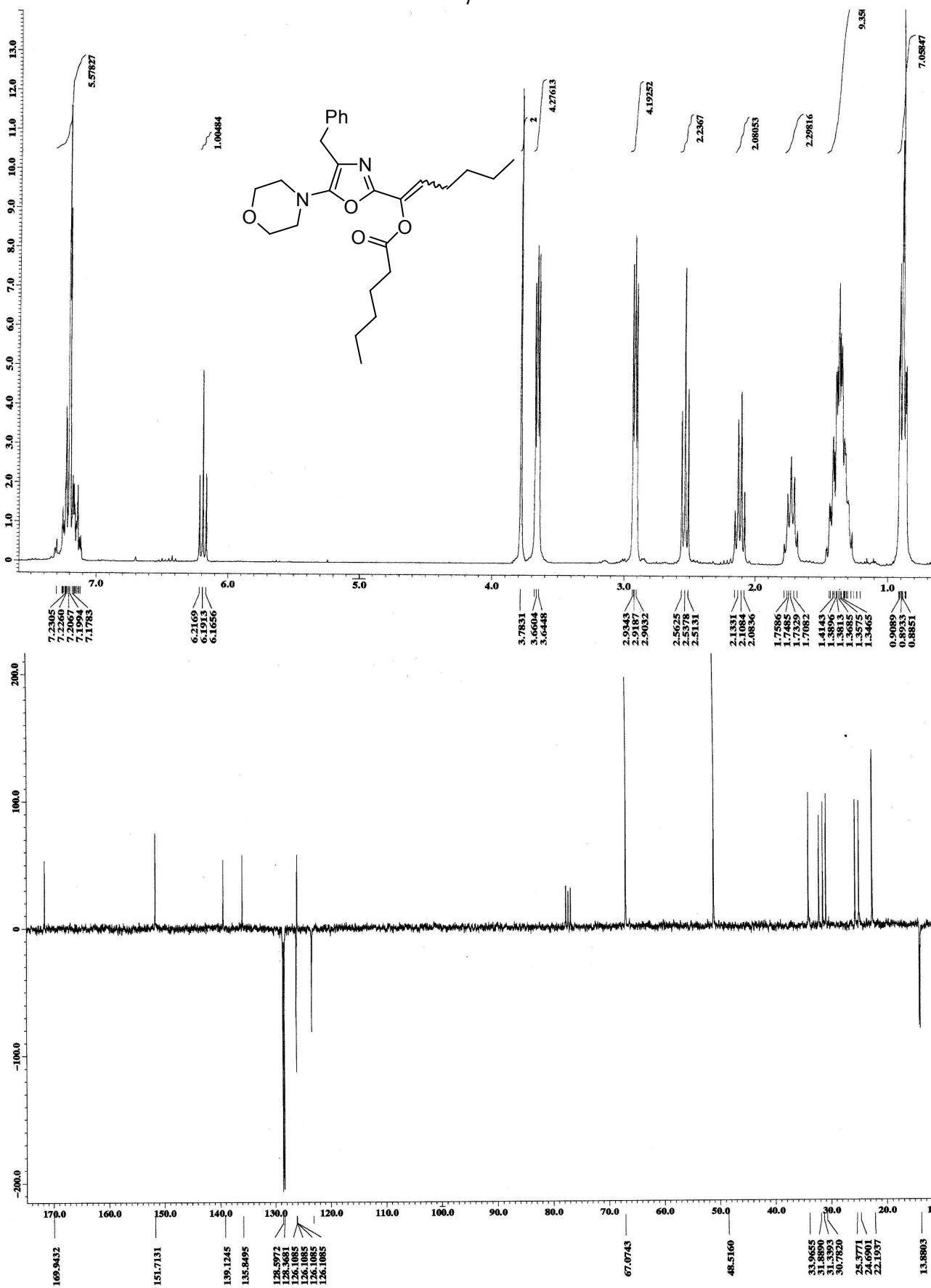


Table of elemental analyses for all target compounds

Compound	Formula	Calculated			Obtained		
		% C	%H	%N	%C	%H	%N
6a	C ₂₀ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₄	66,64	7,83	7,77	66,70	7,91	7,68
6b	C ₂₃ H ₂₆ N ₂ O ₄	70,03	6,64	7,10	69,88	6,49	7,38
6c	C ₁₇ H ₂₂ N ₂ O ₄	64,13	6,96	8,80	64,25	7,05	8,93
6d	C ₂₀ H ₂₆ N ₂ O ₃	70,15	7,65	8,18	70,23	7,48	8,25
6e	C ₂₁ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₃	71,57	6,86	7,95	71,68	6,91	8,05
6f	C ₁₄ H ₁₈ N ₂ O ₃	64,10	6,92	10,68	64,45	7,02	10,79
6g	C ₁₈ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₃	68,33	7,64	8,85	68,51	7,73	8,99
6h	C ₁₆ H ₂₂ N ₂ O ₃	66,18	7,64	9,65	66,25	7,81	9,78
6i	C ₁₂ H ₁₈ N ₂ O ₃	60,49	7,61	11,76	60,31	7,58	11,58
6j	C ₉ H ₁₂ N ₂ O ₃	55,09	6,16	14,28	54,98	6,02	13,98
6k	C ₁₅ H ₂₆ N ₂ O ₃	63,80	9,28	9,92	63,94	9,52	9,81
6l	C ₁₃ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₃	60,91	9,44	10,93	60,88	9,41	10,88
6m	C ₂₀ H ₂₂ N ₂ O ₃	70,98	6,55	8,28	70,75	6,38	8,10