

Supporting Information for

**A Direct and Versatile Access to α,α -Disubstituted 2-Pyrrolidinyl-methanols by
 SmI_2 -Mediated Reductive Coupling**

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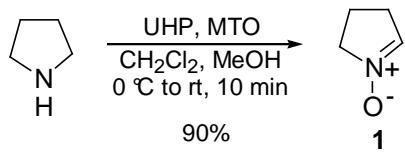
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General

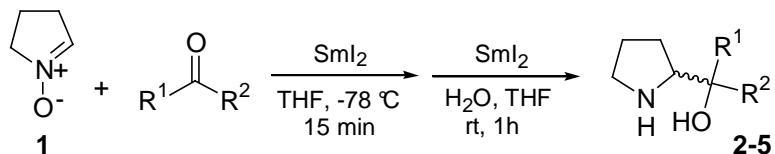
Reactions were performed under a positive pressure of dry argon in oven-dried glassware equipped with a magnetic stir bar. Standard inert atmosphere techniques were used in handling all air and moisture sensitive reagents. THF was freshly distilled from sodium and CH_2Cl_2 from CaH_2 . Purchased reagents were used without purification. Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) using commercial aluminum-backed silica gel plates. TLC spots were viewed under ultraviolet light and by heating the plate after treatment with either a 0.5% solution of ninhydrine in 3% ethanolic acetic acid or a 2% solution of potassium permanganate in 7% aqueous sodium carbonate; *N,N*-disubstituted hydroxylamines were detected with 1% triphenyl tetrazolium chloride (TTC) in ethanol (red color). Products were purified by gravity column chromatography on Silica Gel 60 (70-230 mesh). Melting points were determined in capillary tubes and are uncorrected. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on a Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectrometer equipped with an ATR (Attenuated Total Reflection) device and are reported in reciprocal centimeters (cm^{-1}). Chemical shifts for ^1H spectra are values downfield from tetramethylsilane in CDCl_3 (δ 0.00), CD_3OD or $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$ and are reported as follows: chemical shift (ppm), multiplicity, integration, and coupling constants (Hz).

1-Pyrroline-N-oxide¹ (**1**)



To a stirred suspension of methyltrioxorhenium (MTO) (0.012 g, 0.05 mmol, 0.5% mol equiv) and urea hydrogen peroxide (UHP) (6.8 g, 70.0 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (200 mL) 5 mL of MeOH was added at room temperature. Within 15 min the yellow color appeared, the reaction mixture was cooled in an ice bath and pyrrolidine (0.71 g, 10.0 mmol) was added in one portion, the yellow color disappeared. The ice bath was removed and another portion of MTO (0.012 g, 0.05 mmol) was added at room temperature, the colour of reaction mixture turned pale yellow. The excess of UHP was filtered off, CH_2Cl_2 and MeOH were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (100 mL), a solid substance was filtered off, and the filtrate was washed with 10% aqueous solution of $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ (2×10 mL), brine, dried over Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH_2Cl_2 -MeOH, 9:1) to afford **1** (0.77 g, 90%) as colourless oil. The product was found to be unstable, but it could be stored for several days as a 0.5 M solution in THF at 5 °C under Ar atmosphere. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 2.22-2.32 (m, 2H), 2.73-2.78 (m, 2H), 3.95-4.01 (m, 2H), 6.89-6.92 (m, 1H).

General procedure for the synthesis of α,α -disubstituted-2-pyrrolidinyl-methanols **2-5** (Method A)

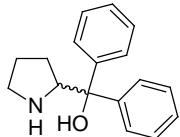


To a stirred and carefully deoxygenated solution of the nitrone **1** (60 mg, 0.7 mmol) and aromatic ketone (0.5 mmol) in 5 mL of dry THF, a 0.1 M solution of SmI_2 (11.0 mL, 1.1 mmol) was added at -78°C under argon. After 15 min degassed water (36 μL , 2.0 mmol) and a second portion of SmI_2 solution (14.0 mL, 1.4 mmol) were added and the reaction mixture was allowed to reach room temperature. After 1 hour, a saturated solution of $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ (5 mL), a 1M NaOH solution (15 mL) and EtOAc (20 mL) were added. After extraction the organic phase was washed with brine,

¹ Ballistreri, F. P.; Chiacchio, U.; Rescifina, A.; Tomaselli, G. A.; Toscano, R. M. *Tetrahedron* **1992**, *48*, 8677.

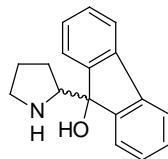
dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and concentrated. Column chromatography using $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{-MeOH-EtNMe}_2$ (89:10:1) yielded racemic products **2-5**.

(\pm)-Diphenyl-pyrrolidin-2-yl-methanol² (2) (105 mg, 83%) was obtained from benzophenone



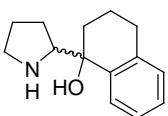
(91 mg, 0.5 mmol) as a colourless oil, which solidified upon standing; mp 80-81 °C (lit.² 82-83 °C). IR (neat): 700, 750, 1445, 1490, 1595, 2870, 2955, 3055, 3340, 3360 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 1.52-1.76 (m, 4H), 2.90-3.06 (m, 2H), 4.25 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.13-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.31 (m, 4H), 7.48-7.58 (m, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 25.5, 26.3, 46.7, 64.5, 77.1, 125.5 (2 C), 125.9 (2 C), 126.3, 126.4, 127.9(2C), 128.2(2C), 145.4, 148.2.

(\pm)-9-Pyrrolidin-2-yl-9*H*-fluoren-9-ol (3) (60 mg, 48%) was obtained from fluorenone (90 mg,



0.5 mmol) as a white solid. Crystals were obtained via recrystallization from MeOH; mp 189-190 °C. IR (neat): 725, 765, 845, 1420, 1445, 1585, 1605, 2865, 3035, 2965, 3270, 3310 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (300 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$): δ = 0.72-0.86 (m, 1H), 1.19-1.44 (m, 3H), 2.67-2.81 (m, 2H), 3.61 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.36 (m, 4H), 7.48-7.51 (m, 1H), 7.69-7.75 (m, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (300 MHz, $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$): δ = 25.2, 26.3, 46.4, 65.5, 82.8, 119.2, 119.5, 123.8, 125.9, 126.9, 127.2, 128.0, 128.1, 139.3, 139.9, 147.8, 149.3. MS (ES^+): m/z (%) = 252 (100) [$\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$, 234 (27) [$\text{M} + \text{H} - \text{H}_2\text{O}]^+$. Anal. Calcd (%) for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}$: C, 81.25; H, 6.82; N, 5.58. Found: C, 81.39; H, 6.84; N, 5.77.

(\pm)-1-Pyrrolidin-2-yl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-ol³ (4) (90 mg, 83%) was obtained from



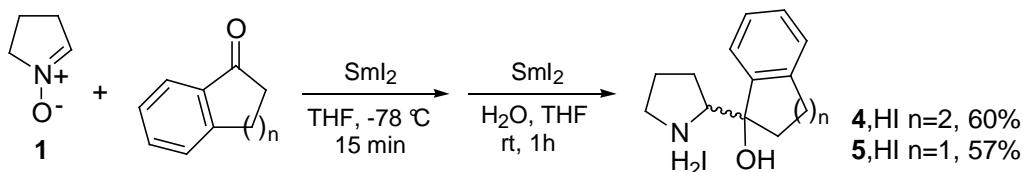
tetralone (73 mg, 0.5 mmol) as a colourless oil, which solidified upon standing; mp 71-72 °C (lit.³ 66 °C, CHCl_3). IR (neat): 745, 815, 930, 1030, 1125, 1190, 1455, 1485, 2870, 2940, 3320 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 1.41-1.49 (m, 1H), 1.55-1.59 (m, 1H), 1.60-1.90 (m, 5H), 1.98-2.04 (m, 1H), 2.78-2.83 (m, 3H), 2.93-2.99 (m, 2H), 3.48 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.03-7.06 (m, 1H), 7.11-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.64-7.67 (m, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 19.2, 26.4, 26.5, 28.9, 35.3, 46.7, 64.8, 72.0, 125.5, 126.6, 126.8, 128.5, 137.0, 140.8. MS (ES^+): m/z (%) = 218 (100) [$\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$, 200 (48) [$\text{M} + \text{H} - \text{H}_2\text{O}]^+$. Anal. Calcd (%) for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}$: C, 77.38; H, 8.82; N, 6.45. Found: C, 77.00; H, 8.95; N, 6.22.

² Corey, E. J.; Bakshi, R. K.; Shibata, S.; Chen, C.-P.; Singh, V. K. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1987**, *109*, 7925.

³ Seebach, D.; Wykypiel, W. *Synthesis*, **1979**, *6*, 423.

(\pm)-1-Pyrrolidin-2-yl-indan-1-ol (5) (mixture of diastereomers, 89 mg, 88%) was obtained from indanone (66 mg, 0.5 mmol) as a colourless oil. Pure major diastereomer (*unlike*) (54 mg, 53%) was obtained after additional chromatography CH₂Cl₂-MeOH-EtNMe₂ (94:5:1) as a colorless oil. IR (neat): 725, 760, 880, 1065, 1290, 1400, 1460, 1475, 2865, 2940, 3320 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 1.63-1.79 (m, 4H), 2.06-2.17 (m, 1H), 2.26-2.34 (m, 1H), 2.77-3.18 (m, 6H), 3.35-3.40 (m, 1H), 7.16-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.38-7.41 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (300 MHz, (CDCl₃): δ = 26.3, 26.4, 29.3, 39.4, 46.9, 64.6, 83.5, 124.2, 124.7, 126.4, 128.0, 143.5, 145.5. MS (ES⁺): *m/z* (%) = 204 (95) [M + H]⁺, 186 (100) [M + H - H₂O]⁺. HRMS: *m/z* [M + H] calcd for C₁₃H₁₈NO: 204.1388; found: 204.1381.

General procedure for the synthesis of the iodohydrates of 4, 5



The same procedure as for products **2-5**, but after completion of the reaction (1 hour), 5 mL of water was added, and the mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature under argon. Products **4,HI** and **5,HI** were extracted with ether and purified by column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂-MeOH, 90:10). Carefully degassed water and freshly distilled solvents were used during the work up and purification procedures to avoid any degradation of iodohydrates.

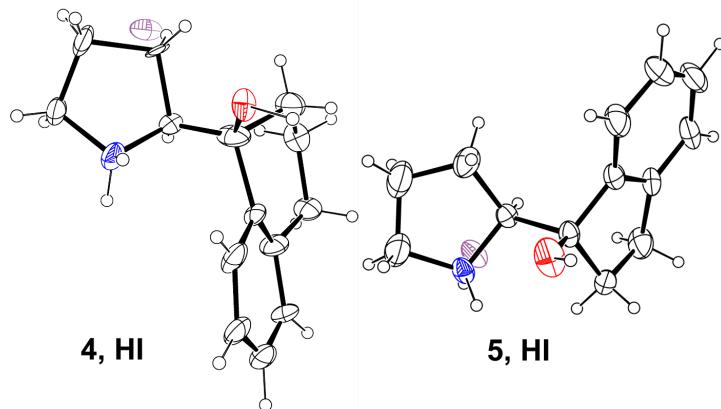
(\pm)-1-Pyrrolidin-2-yl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-naphthalen-1-ol iodohydrate (**4,HI**) (104 mg, 60%)

4,HI was obtained from tetralone (73 mg, 0.5 mmol) as a pale yellow oil. White crystals precipitated from concentrated chloroformic solution; mp 190-193 °C. IR (neat): 735, 760, 880, 1020, 1190, 1280, 1370, 1450, 1545, 2680, 2720, 2915, 2950, 3375 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD): δ = 1.62-1.72 (m, 1H), 1.83-2.13 (m, 6H), 2.19-2.33 (m, 1H), 2.86-2.91 (m, 2H), 3.28-3.42 (m, 3H), 3.92 (dd, *J*₁ = 10.7 Hz, *J*₂ = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.15 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.61-7.66 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD): δ = 20.1, 25.1, 26.8, 29.1, 36.0, 47.1, 66.9, 71.2, 126.8, 127.6, 129.0, 130.1, 138.3, 140.7. MS (ES⁺): *m/z* (%) = 218 (100) [M + H]⁺, 200 (48) [M + H - H₂O]⁺. Anal. Calcd (%) for C₁₄H₂₀INO: C, 48.71; H, 5.84; N, 4.06. Found: C, 49.01; H, 6.01; N, 4.07.

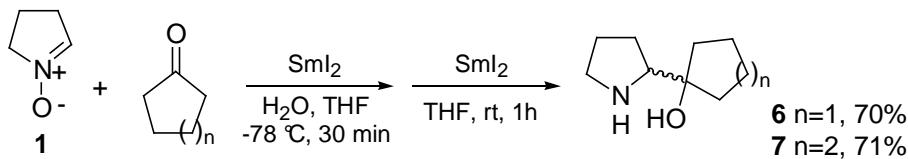
(\pm)-1-Pyrrolidin-2-yl-indan-1-ol iodohydrate (5**,HI) (mixture of diastereomers, 95 mg, 57%)**

was obtained from indanone (66 mg, 0.5 mmol) as a pale yellow oil. Pure major diastereomer (*unlike*) (60 mg, 36%) precipitated from concentrated chloroformic solution of diastereomer mixture as white crystals; mp 178-180 °C. IR (neat): 720, 755, 835, 955, 1110, 1210, 1275, 1370, 1450, 1470, 1545, 2735, 2950, 2980, 3380 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD): δ = 1.89-2.01 (m, 2H), 2.04-2.14 (m, 1H), 2.15-2.31 (m, 2H), 2.37-2.45 (m, 1H), 2.94-2.99 (m, 2H), 3.26-3.42 (m, 3H), 3.73 (dd, J_1 = 10.1 Hz, J_2 = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.23-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.41-7.45 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (300 MHz, CD₃OD): δ = 25.4, 26.4, 29.6, 40.7, 47.3, 66.8, 82.1, 125.2, 126.2, 127.9, 130.1, 144.4, 145.1. MS (ES⁺): m/z (%) = 204 (95) [M + H]⁺, 186 (100) [M + H - H₂O]⁺. Anal. Calcd (%) for C₁₃H₁₈INO: C, 47.14; H, 5.48; N, 4.23. Found: C, 47.36; H, 5.75; N, 4.22.

The relative configurations of **4**,HI and **5**,HI were determined by X-ray crystallography:



General procedure for the synthesis of α,α -disubstituted-2-pyrrolidinyl-methanols **6,**7** (method B)**



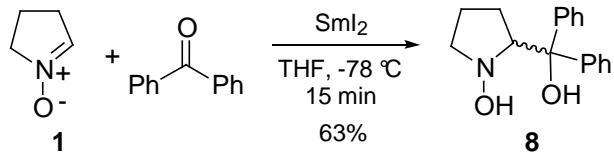
To a stirred and carefully deoxygenated solution of the nitrone **1** (60 mg, 0.7 mmol), aliphatic ketone (0.5 mmol) and degassed water (90 μ L, 5.0 mmol) in 5 mL of dry THF, a 0.1 M solution of SmI₂ (11.0 mL, 1.1 mmol) was added at -78 °C under argon. After 30 min a second portion of SmI₂ solution (14.0 mL, 1.4 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was allowed to reach room temperature. After 1 hour, a saturated solution of Na₂S₂O₃ (5 mL), a 1M NaOH solution (15

mL) and EtOAc (20 mL) were added. After extraction the organic phase was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated. Column chromatography using CH₂Cl₂-MeOH-EtNMe₂ (78:20:2) yielded racemic products **6** or **7**.

(±)-1-Pyrrolidin-2-yl-cyclopentanol (6)⁴ (54 mg, 70%) was obtained from cyclopentanone (42 mg, 0.5 mmol) as a colourless oil, which solidified upon standing; mp 45-47 °C (for (*S*)-enantiomer lit.⁴ 34 °C). IR (neat): 910, 990, 1065, 1090, 1380, 1425, 2830, 2865, 2935, 2955, 3280 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 1.44-1.85 (m, 12H), 2.75 (br. s., 2H, NH, OH), 2.94-3.01 (m, 2H), 3.07-3.12 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 24.1 (2 C), 25.9, 26.3, 36.2, 40.0, 46.9, 66.2, 81.8.

(±)-1-Pyrrolidin-2-yl-cyclohexanol (7)⁴ (60 mg, 71%) was obtained from cyclohexanone (49 mg, 0.5 mmol) as a colourless oil, which solidified upon standing; mp 51-53 °C (for (*S*)-enantiomer lit.⁴ 54 °C). IR (neat): 960, 980, 1040, 1260, 1400, 1445, 2850, 2920, 3295, 3425 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 1.18-1.32 (m, 3H), 1.51-1.70 (m, 11H), 2.60 (br. s., 2H, NH, OH), 2.90-3.04 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 21.9, 22.0, 25.0, 25.9, 26.0, 33.9, 37.2, 46.7, 65.9, 70.6.

(±)-2-(Hydroxy-diphenyl-methyl)-pyrrolidin-1-ol (8)

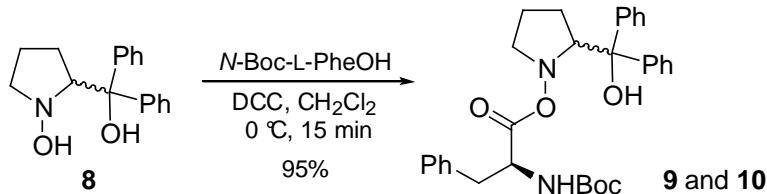


To a stirred and carefully deoxygenated solution of the nitrone **1** (60 mg, 0.7 mmol) and benzophenone (91 mg, 0.5 mmol) in dry THF, a 0.1 M solution of SmI₂ (11.0 mL, 1.1 mmol) was added at -78 °C under argon. After 15 min, saturated solutions of Na₂S₂O₃ (5 mL), NaHCO₃ (5 mL) and EtOAc (20 mL) were added at -78 °C. After extraction the organic phase was washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated. Column chromatography using pentane-EtOAc (4:1) yielded racemic **8** (85 mg, 63%) as a white solid, crystals were obtained via recrystallization from EtOH, mp 126-128 °C. IR (neat): 700, 740, 1000, 1035, 1170, 1385, 1450, 1490, 1595, 2950, 2970, 3065, 3415 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 1.59-1.76 (m, 3H), 1.79-1.91 (m, 1H), 2.89-2.97 (m, 1H), 3.15-3.20 (m, 1H), 4.15 (dd, J₁ = 9.2 Hz, J₂ = 6.5 Hz, 1H),

⁴ Reiners, L.; Wilken, J., Martens. *J. Tetrahedron: Asymmetry*, **1995**, 6, 3063.

7.12-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.31 (m, 4H), 7.47-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.62-7.65 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 21.4 (2 C), 59.0, 74.0, 77.9, 125.5 (2 C), 126.0 (2 C), 126.5, 126.6, 128.1 (4 C), 145.3, 147.2. MS (ES $^+$): m/z (%) = 292 (100) [$\text{M} + \text{Na}$] $^+$, 270 (73) [$\text{M} + \text{H}$] $^+$, 252 (45) [$\text{M} + \text{H} - \text{H}_2\text{O}$] $^+$. Anal. Calcd (%) for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_2$: C, 75.81; H, 7.11; N, 5.20. Found: C, 76.05; H, 7.31; N, 5.09.

Acylation of *N*-hydroxy-pyrrolidine **8**: preparation of diastereoisomeric **9** and **10**.



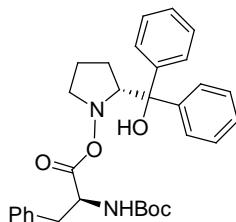
A solution of **8** (269 mg, 1.0 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) was added to a solution of *N*-Boc-L-PheOH (318 mg, 1.2 mmol) and DCC (247 mg, 1.2 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) at 0 °C. After 30 min, the urea was filtered off and the filtrate was concentrated. Column chromatography using pentane-EtOAc (4:1) yielded a mixture (1:1) of diastereomers **9** and **10** (490 mg, 95%) as a colourless oil. The diastereomers **9** (217 mg, 84%, first eluted) and **10** (194 mg, 75%) were separated by column chromatography (pentane-EtOAc, 9:1). Separation by recrystallization was also possible: 980 mg of a 1:1 mixture of **9** and **10** were dissolved in 10 mL of a refluxing mixture of pentane and EtOAc (4:1). On cooling, 150 mg (31 % yield) of pure **9** fell out. The mother liquor was concentrated, then recrystallized in 5 mL of the same solvent. 100 mg (20 % yield) of pure **10** crystallized.

(S)-2-tert-Butoxycarbonylamino-3-phenyl-propionic acid (S)-2-(hydroxy-diphenyl-methyl)-pyrrolidin-1-yl ester (9) white solid, crystals were obtained via recrystallization from pentane-

EtOAc, mp 127-128 °C. IR (neat): 705, 745, 1060, 1155, 1345, 1490, 1705, 1755, 2925, 2980, 3445 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 1.45 (s, 9H), 1.68-1.84 (m, 4H), 2.63-2.86 (m, 3H), 3.30-3.34 (m, 1H), 3.65-3.70 (m, 1H), 4.31-4.35 (m, 1H), 4.49 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.02-7.05 (m, 2H), 7.06-7.15 (m, 2H), 7.19-7.27 (m, 7H), 7.47-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.54-7.58 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 19.8, 24.6, 28.4 (3 C), 38.5, 52.9, 56.6, 71.4, 77.2, 79.6, 125.1 (2 C), 125.8 (2 C), 126.5, 126.7, 126.8, 127.8 (2 C), 128.1 (2 C), 128.3 (2 C), 129.4 (2 C), 136.1, 145.4, 146.4, 154.3, 170.6. MS (ES $^+$): m/z (%) = 539 (28) [$\text{M} + \text{Na}$] $^+$, 517 (77) [$\text{M} + \text{H}$] $^+$, 499 (34) [$\text{M} +$

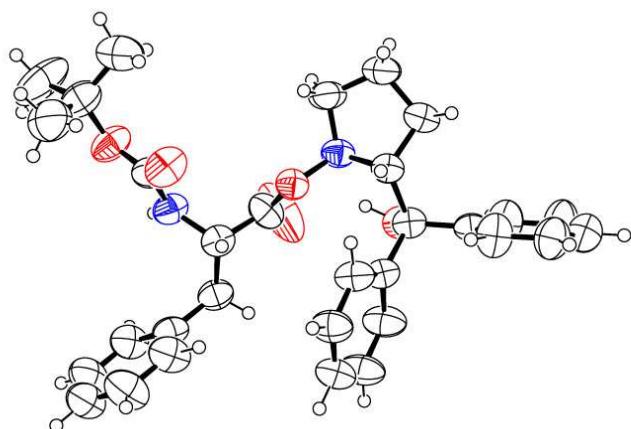
$\text{H} - \text{H}_2\text{O}]^+$, 234 (100). HRMS: m/z [M + Na] calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5\text{Na}$: 539.2522; found: 539.2516.

(S)-2-tert-Butoxycarbonylamino-3-phenyl-propionic acid (*R*)-2-(hydroxy-diphenyl-methyl)-pyrrolidin-1-yl ester (10) white solid, crystals were obtained via recrystallization from pentane-



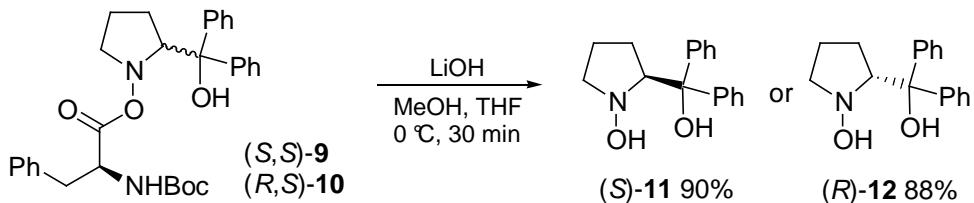
EtOAc, mp 133-134 °C. IR (neat): 695, 750, 1140, 1495, 1700, 1745, 2895, 2935, 2975, 3060, 3400 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 1.38 (s, 9H), 1.75-1.87 (m, 4H), 2.27-2.43 (m, 2H), 2.93-3.01 (m, 1H), 3.38-3.43 (m, 1H), 3.83-3.90 (m, 1H), 4.39-4.50 (m, 2H), 6.98-7.01 (m, 2H), 7.06-7.15 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.27 (m, 7H), 7.47-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.61-7.64 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 20.5, 25.3, 28.2 (3 C), 37.0, 53.2, 57.2, 71.6, 76.8, 79.9, 125.3 (2 C), 126.0 (2 C), 126.5, 126.6, 126.7, 127.9 (2 C), 128.0 (2 C), 128.3 (2 C), 129.3 (2 C), 136.2, 145.5, 146.7, 154.7, 170.4. MS (ES^+): m/z (%) = 539 (61) [$\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$, 517 (100) [$\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$, 499 (21) [$\text{M} + \text{H} - \text{H}_2\text{O}]^+$. HRMS: m/z [M + Na] calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5\text{Na}$: 539.2522; found: 539.2517.

The absolute configuration of **10** was determined by X-ray crystallography:



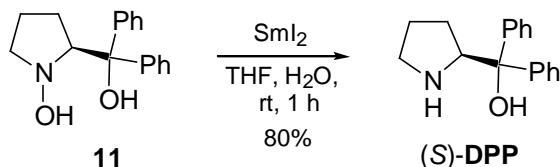
10

Hydrolysis of **9** and **10**



A 1M methanolic solution of LiOH (0.4 mL, 0.4 mmol) was added to a solution of **9** (103 mg, 0.2 mmol) in THF (5 mL) at 0 °C. After 30 min, the reaction mixture was diluted with H₂O (10 mL) and EtOAc (15 mL). After extraction, the organic phase was washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated. Column chromatography using pentane-EtOAc (4:1) yielded (*S*)-2-(hydroxy-diphenyl-methyl)-pyrrolidin-1-ol **11**⁵ (48 mg, 90%, $[\alpha]_D^{20} +23.7$, (*c* 2.2, CHCl₃), 97% ee) as a colourless oil, which solidified upon standing. The same procedure for diastereomer **10** yielded (*R*)-2-(hydroxy-diphenyl-methyl)-pyrrolidin-1-ol **12** (47 mg, 88%, $[\alpha]_D^{20} -24.8$, (*c* 2.2, CHCl₃), 96% ee) as a colorless oil, which solidified upon standing. The enantiomeric purity of **11** and **12** was determined by chiral HPLC on a Daicel Chiraldapak AD-RH column, 4.6 x 100 mm, eluent acetonitrile/water 70/30, 0.9 mL/min, retention time for (*S*)-**11** 6.83 min and for (*R*)-**12** 4.23 min.

Reduction of (+)-(S)-2-(hydroxy-diphenyl-methyl)-pyrrolidin-1-ol **11** to (-)-(S)-DPP.



To a stirred and carefully deoxygenated solution of the product **11** (27 mg, 0.1 mmol) and degassed water (9 μL, 0.5 mmol) in 1 mL of dry THF, a 0.1 M solution of SmI₂ (2.5 mL, 0.25 mmol) was added at r.t. under argon. After 1 hour, a saturated solution of Na₂S₂O₃ (1 mL), a 1M NaOH solution (5 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL) were added. After extraction the organic phase was washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated affording 20 mg (80%) of crude (*S*)-DPP as a colourless oil. The sample was identical to commercial (*S*)-DPP. $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ of the crude material was −44.2, (*c* 1.3, MeOH) (lit.⁶ $[\alpha]_D^{20} -54.3$ (*c* 0.261, MeOH) and lit.⁷ $[\alpha]_D^{20} -58.8$, (*c* 3.0, MeOH)).

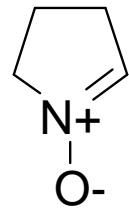
⁵ O’Neil, I. A.; Cleator, E.; Tapolczay, D. J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2001**, *42*, 8247.

⁶ Mathre, D. J.; Jones, T. K.; Xavier, L. C.; Blacklock, T. J.; Reamer, R. A.; Mohan, J. J.; Jones, E. T. T.; Hoogsteen, K.; Baum, M. W.; Grabowski, E. J. J. *J. Org. Chem.* **1991**, *56*, 751.

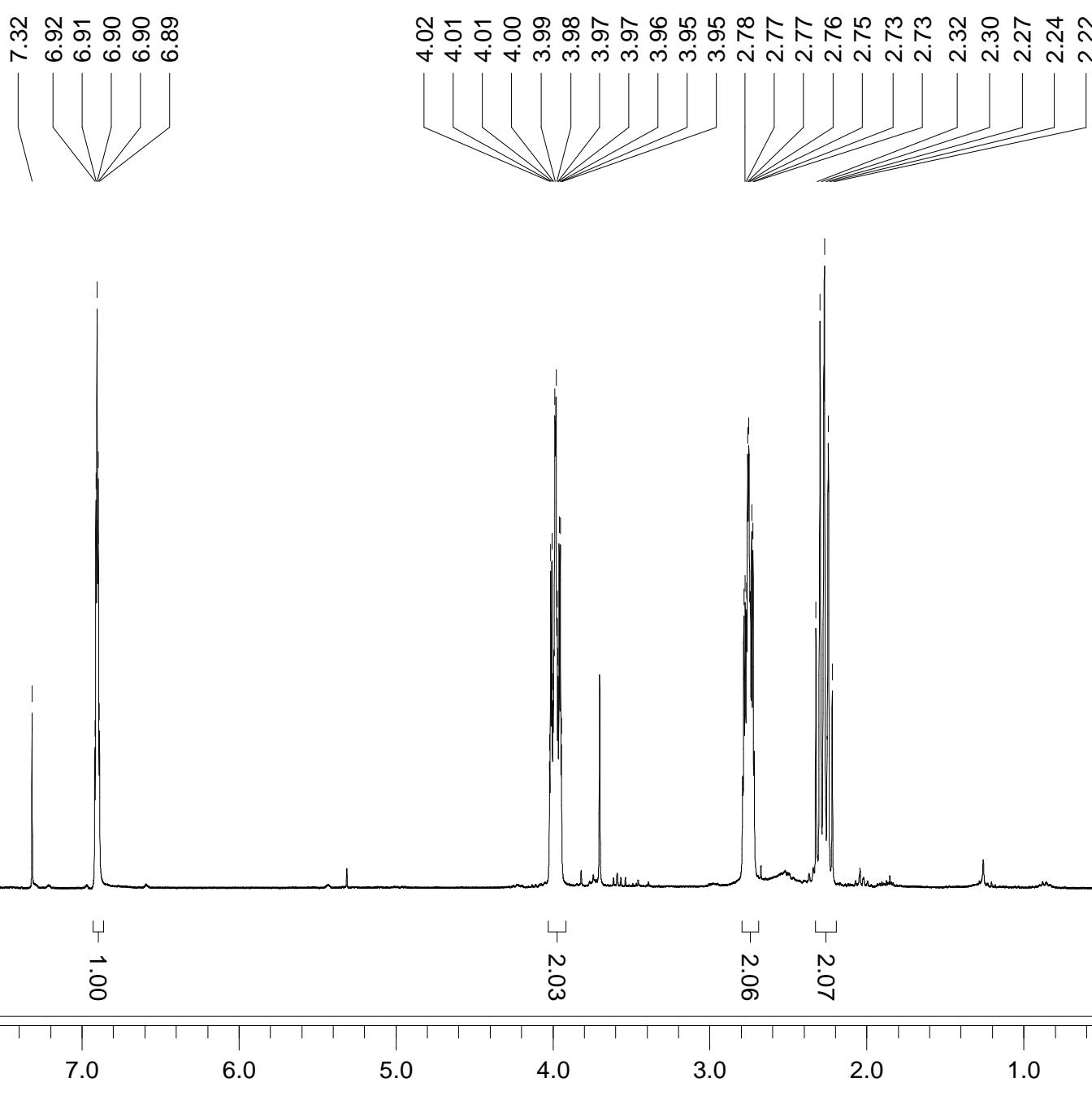
⁷ Corey, E. J.; Bakshi, R. K.; Shibata, S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1987**, *109*, 5551.

product 1

S10

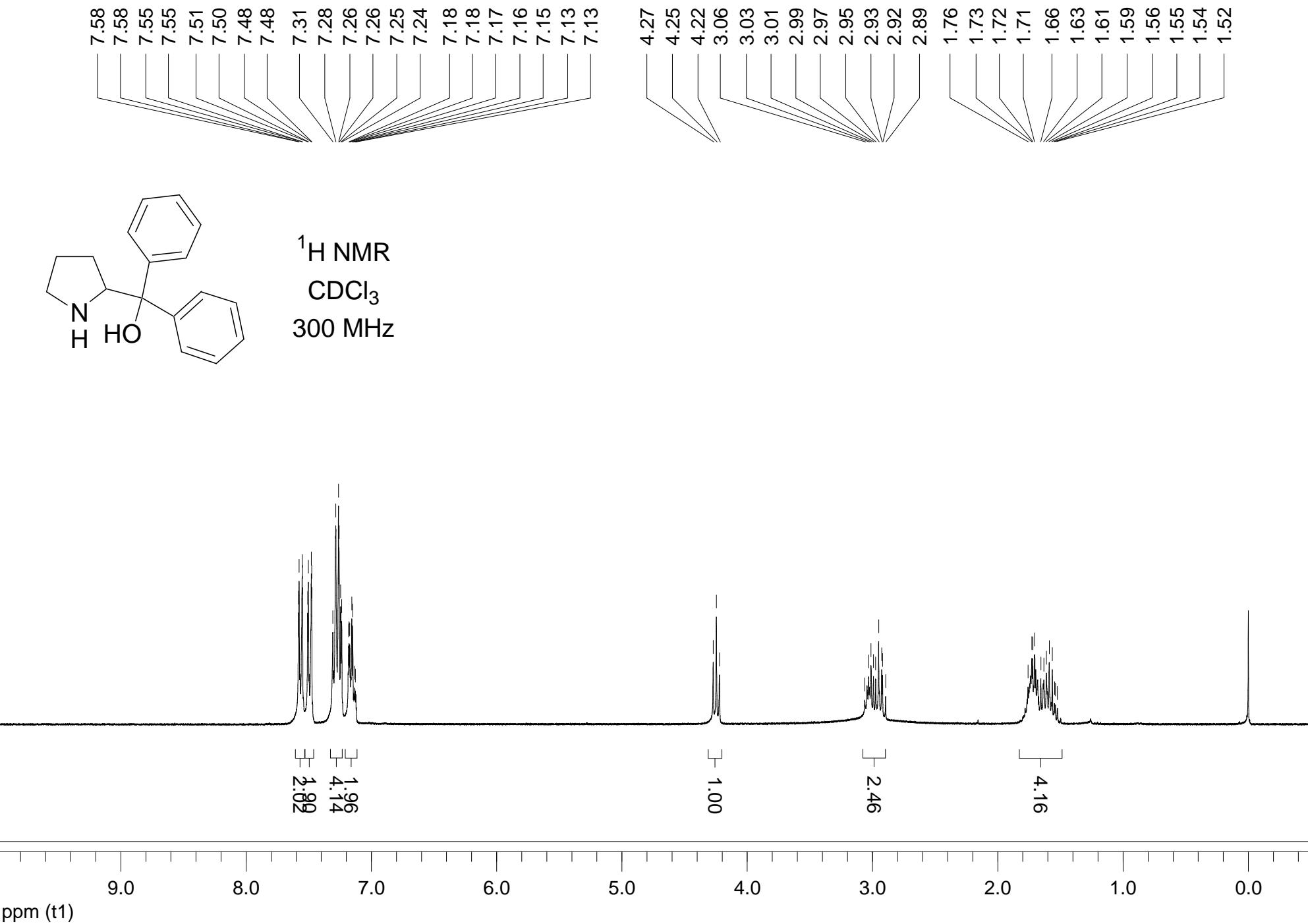


^1H NMR
 CDCl_3
300 MHz

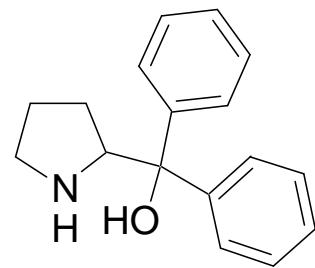


product 2

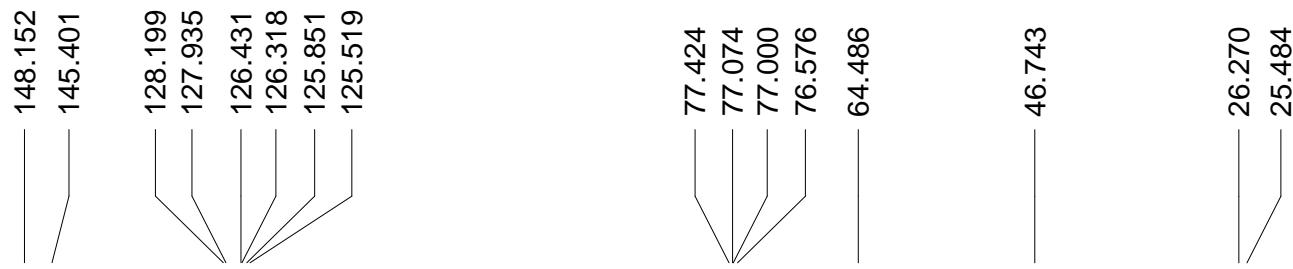
S11



product 2

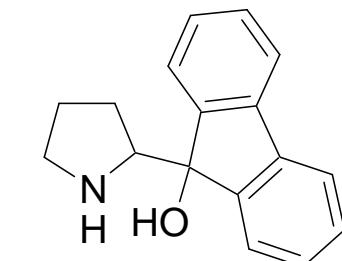


^{13}C NMR
 CDCl_3
75.5 MHz

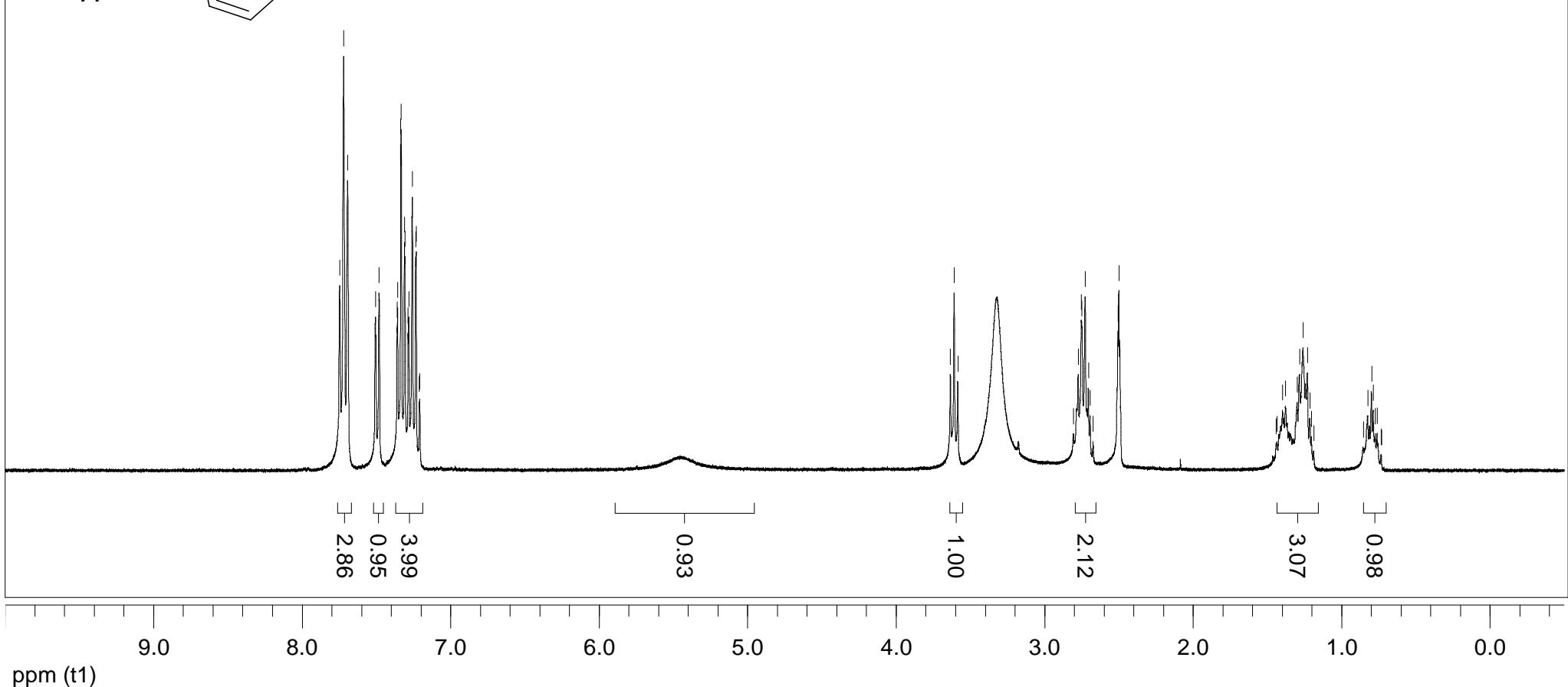
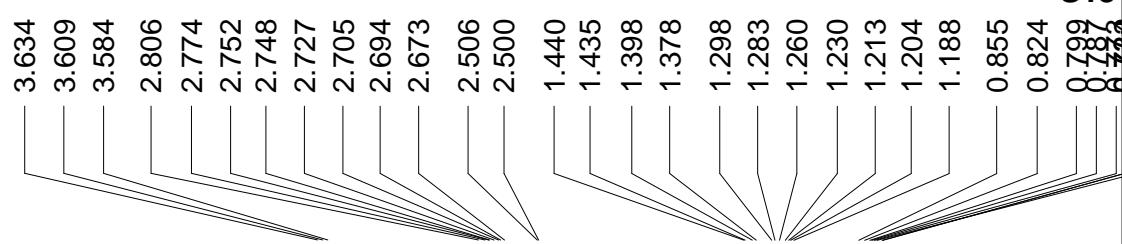
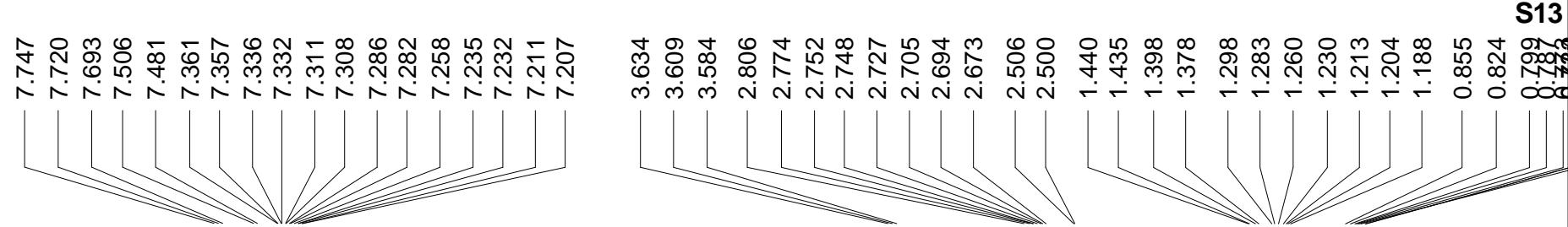


S12

product 3

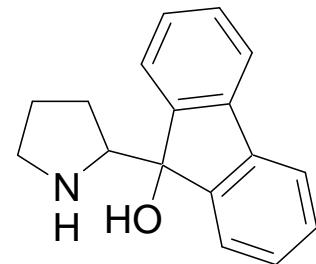


^1H NMR
 $\text{D}_6\text{-DMSO}$
300 MHz

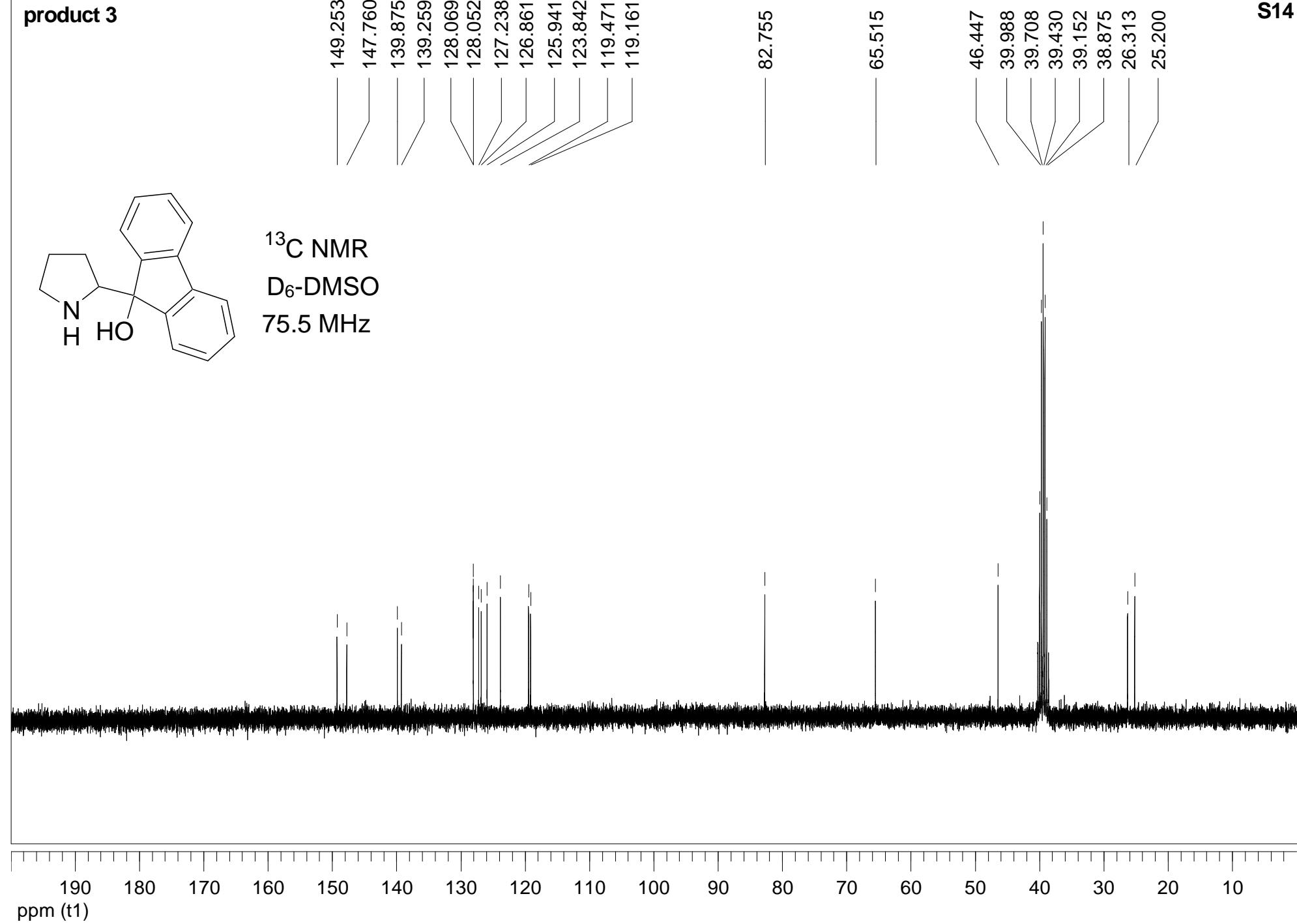


S13

product 3

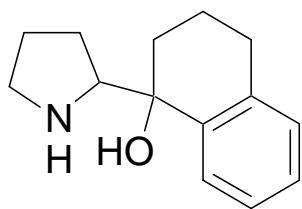
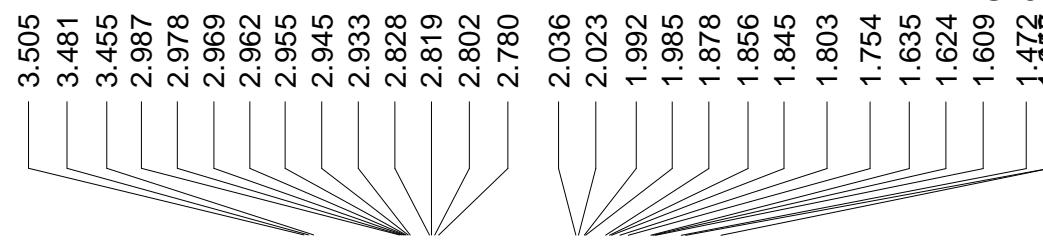
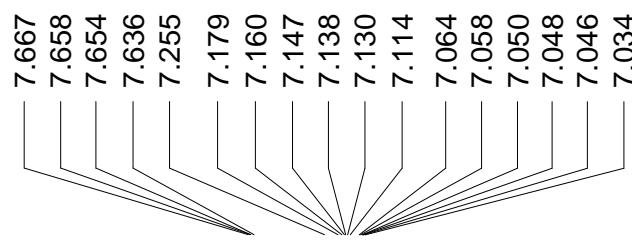


¹³C NMR
D₆-DMSO
75.5 MHz

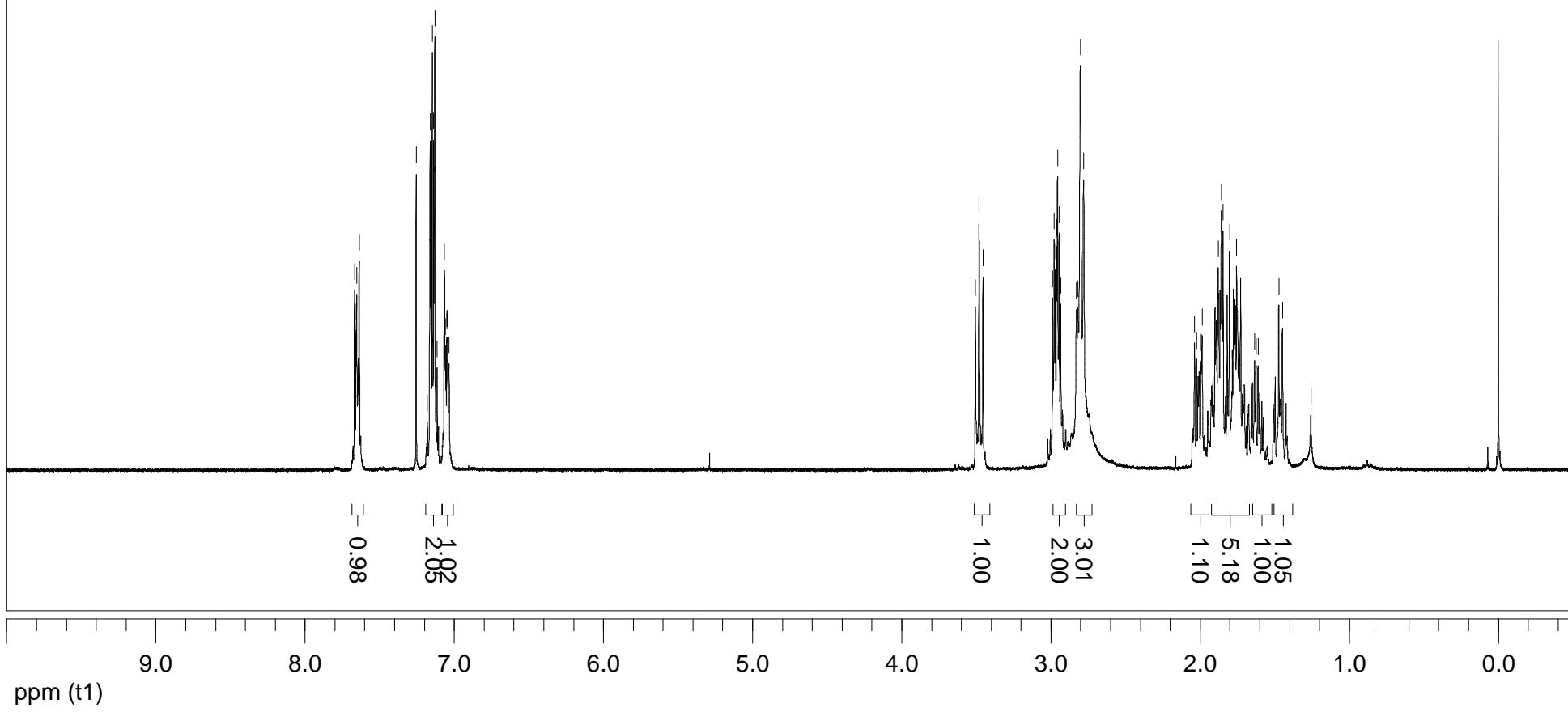


S14

product 4

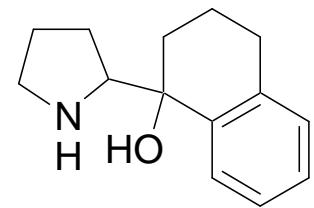


¹H NMR
CDCl₃
300 MHz

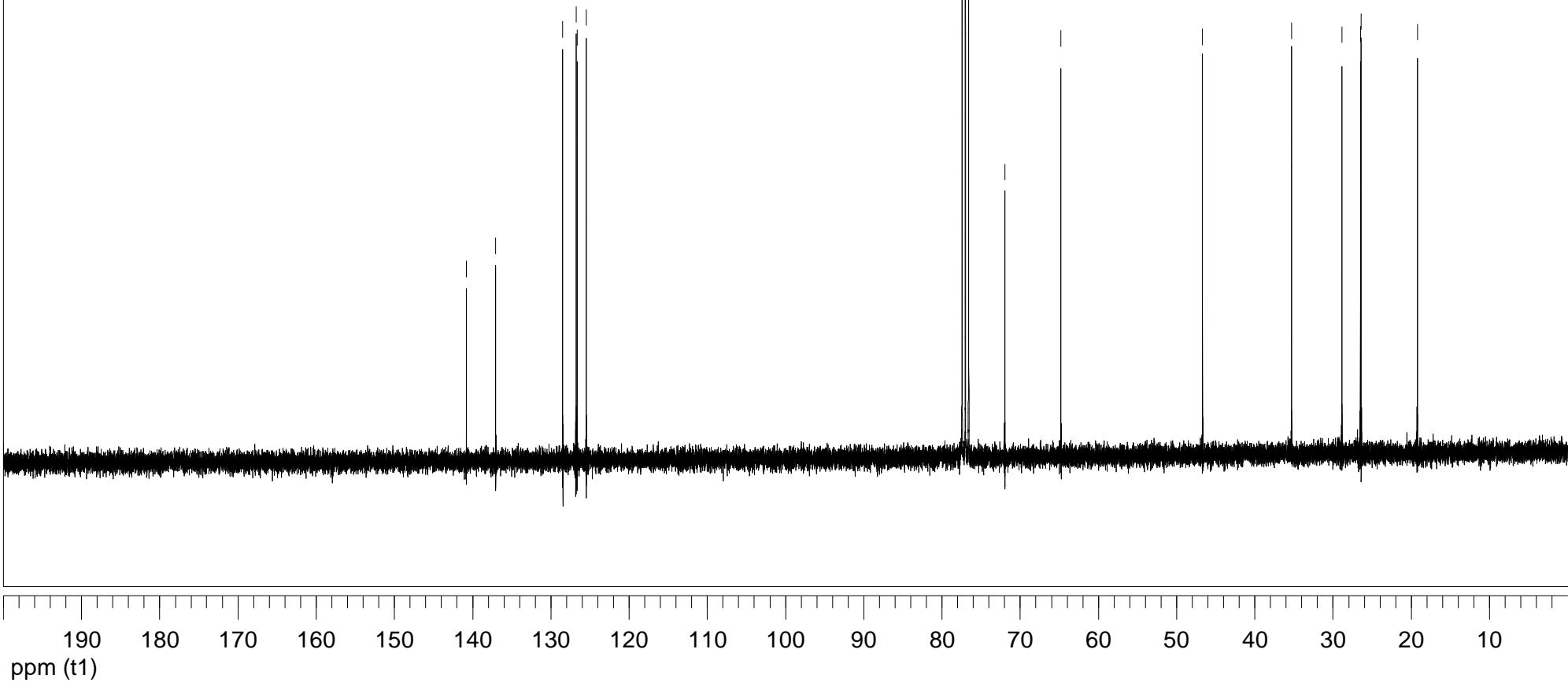
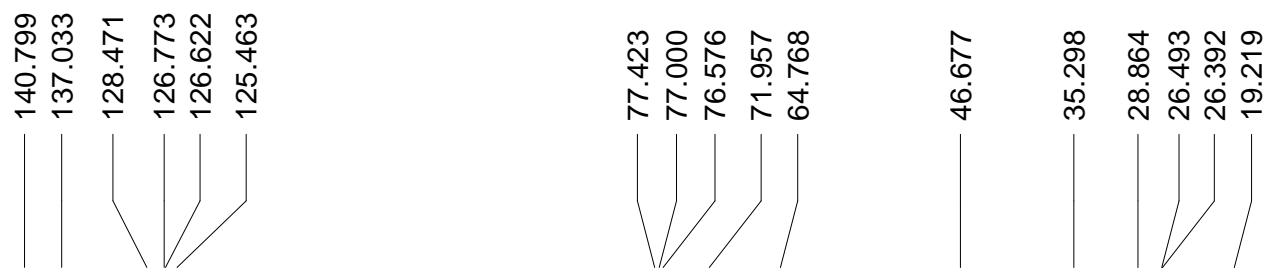


product 4

S16

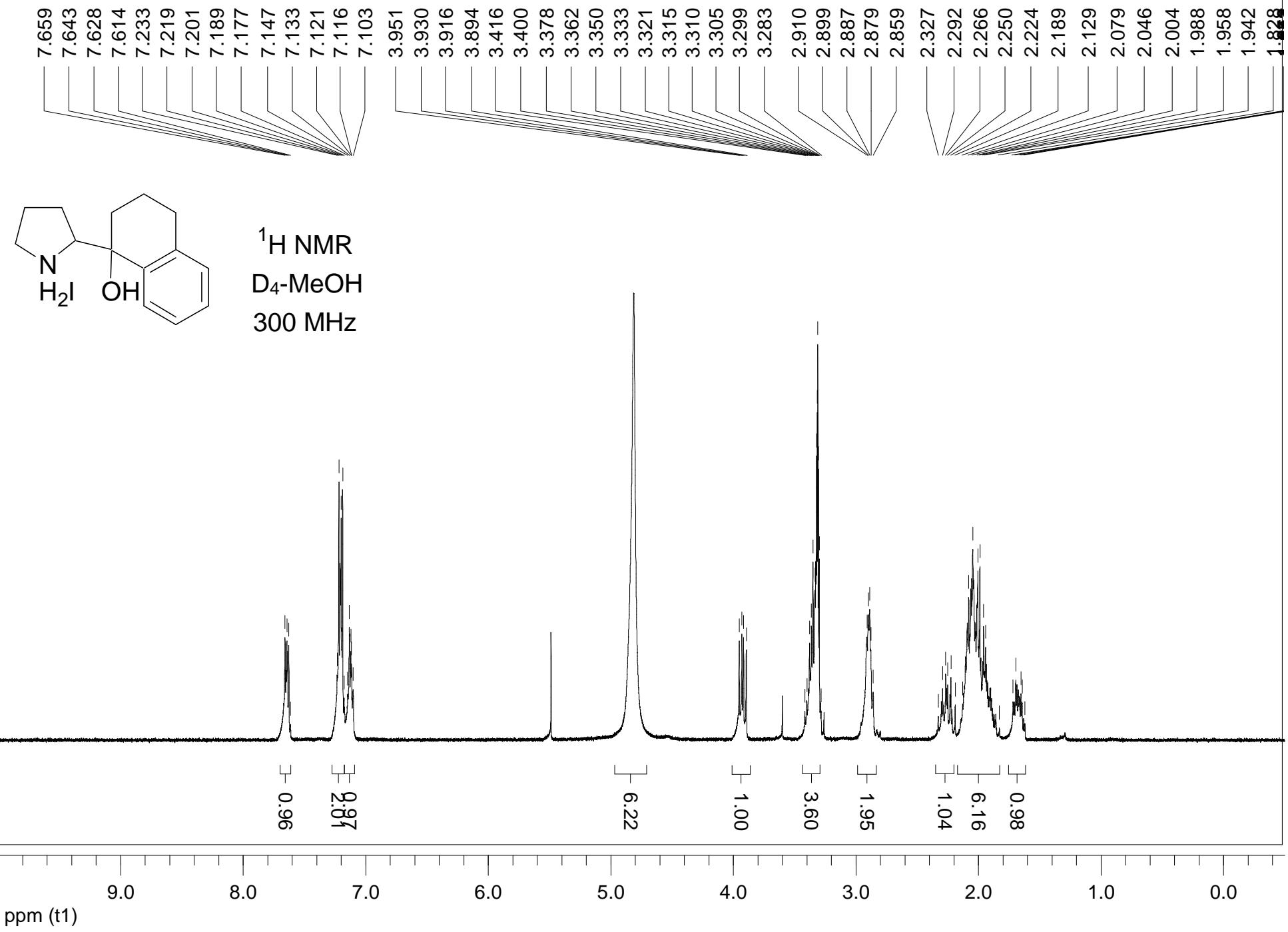


¹³C NMR
CDCl₃
75.5 MHz

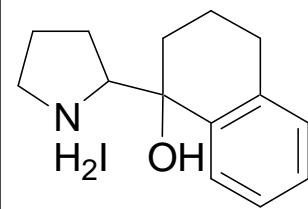


product 4,HI

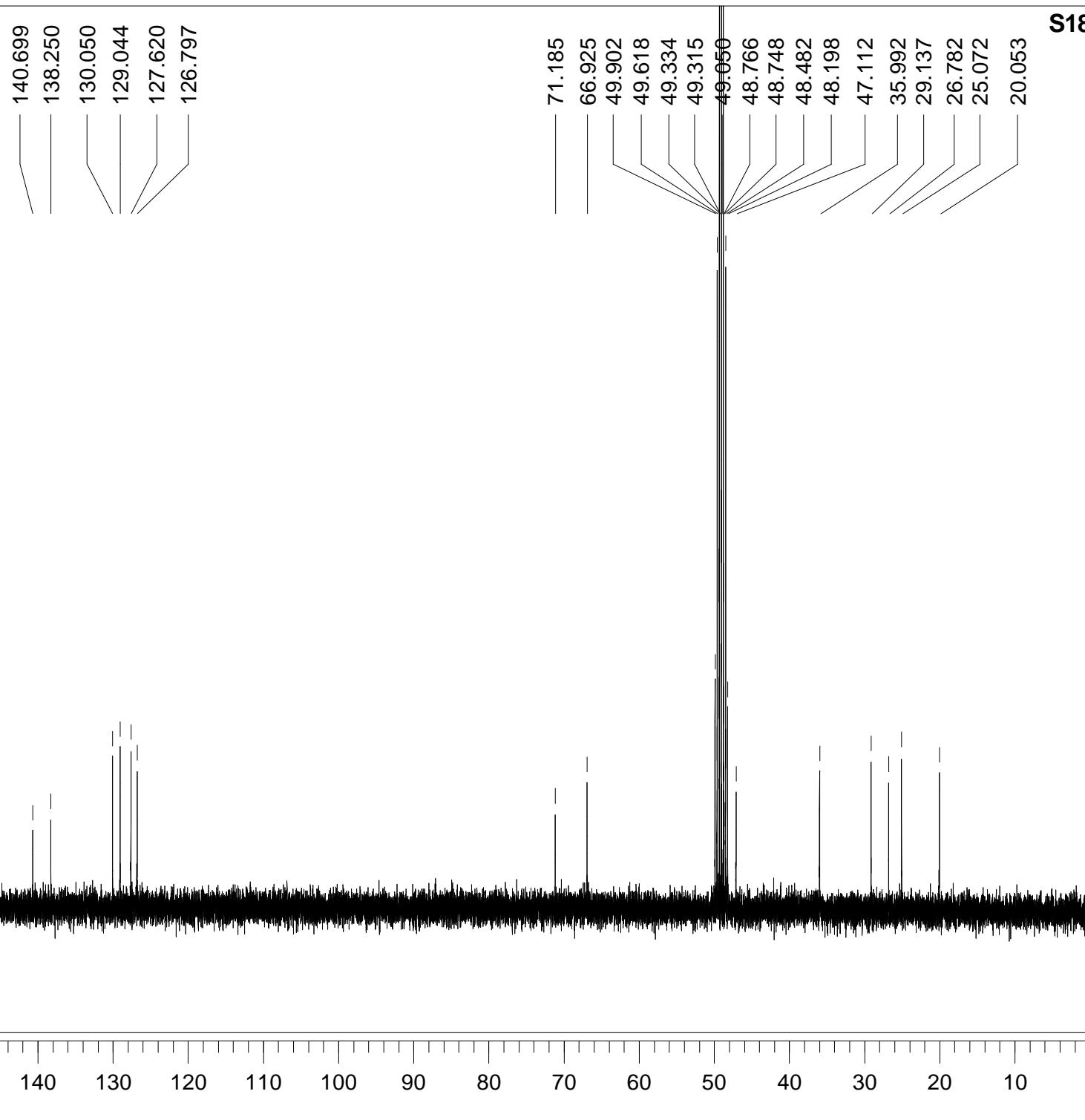
S17



product 4,HI

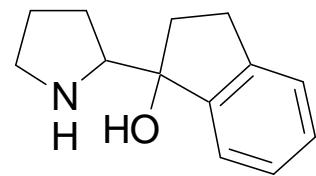


^{13}C NMR
 $\text{D}_4\text{-MeOH}$
75.5 MHz

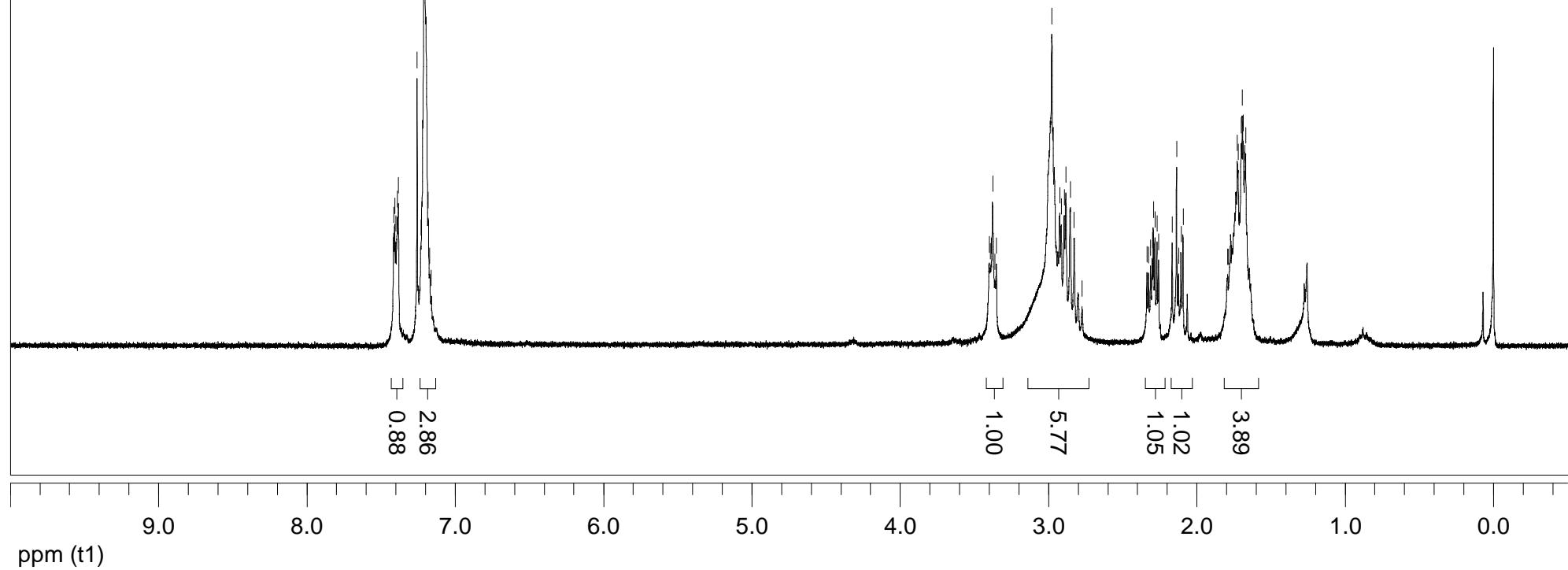


product 5

S19

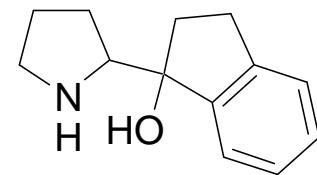


¹H NMR
CDCl₃
300 MHz

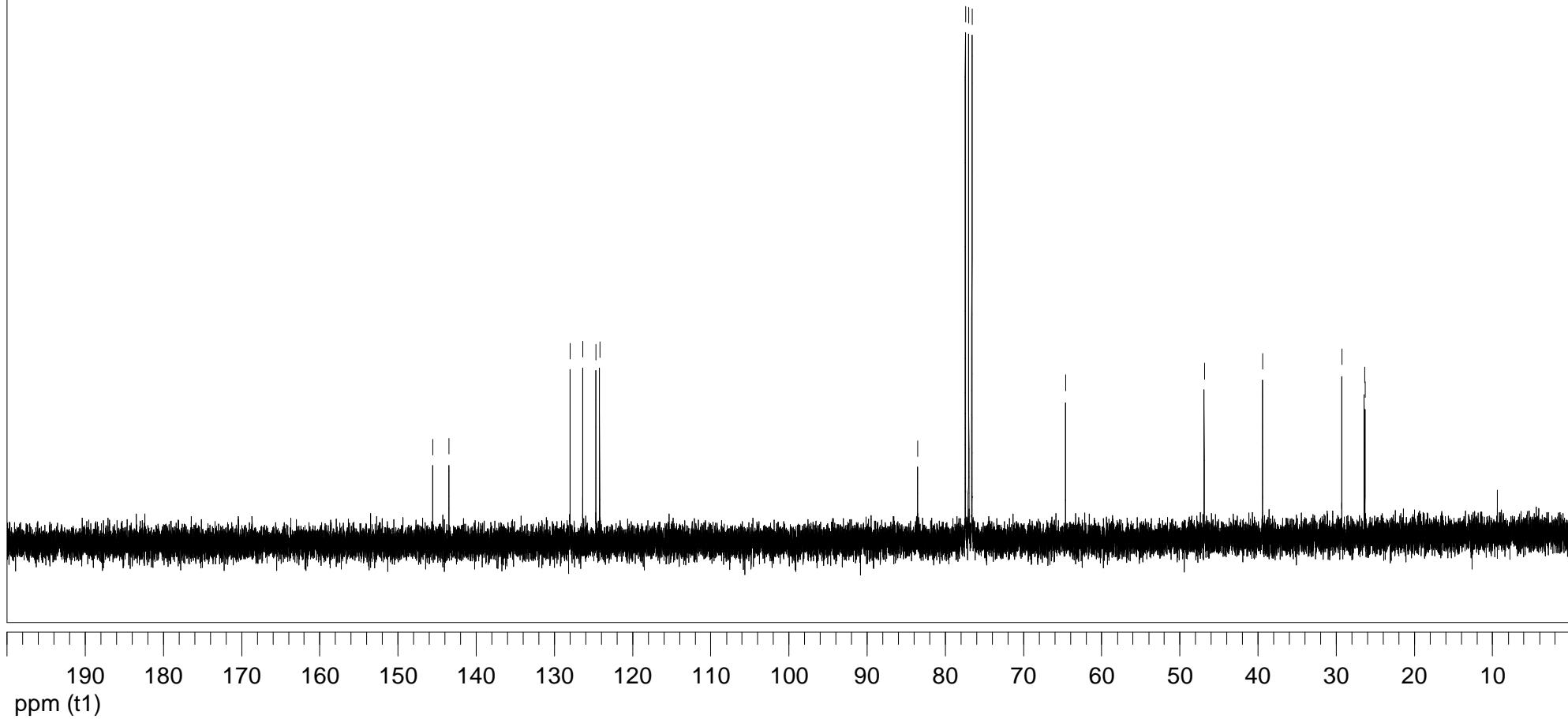


product 5

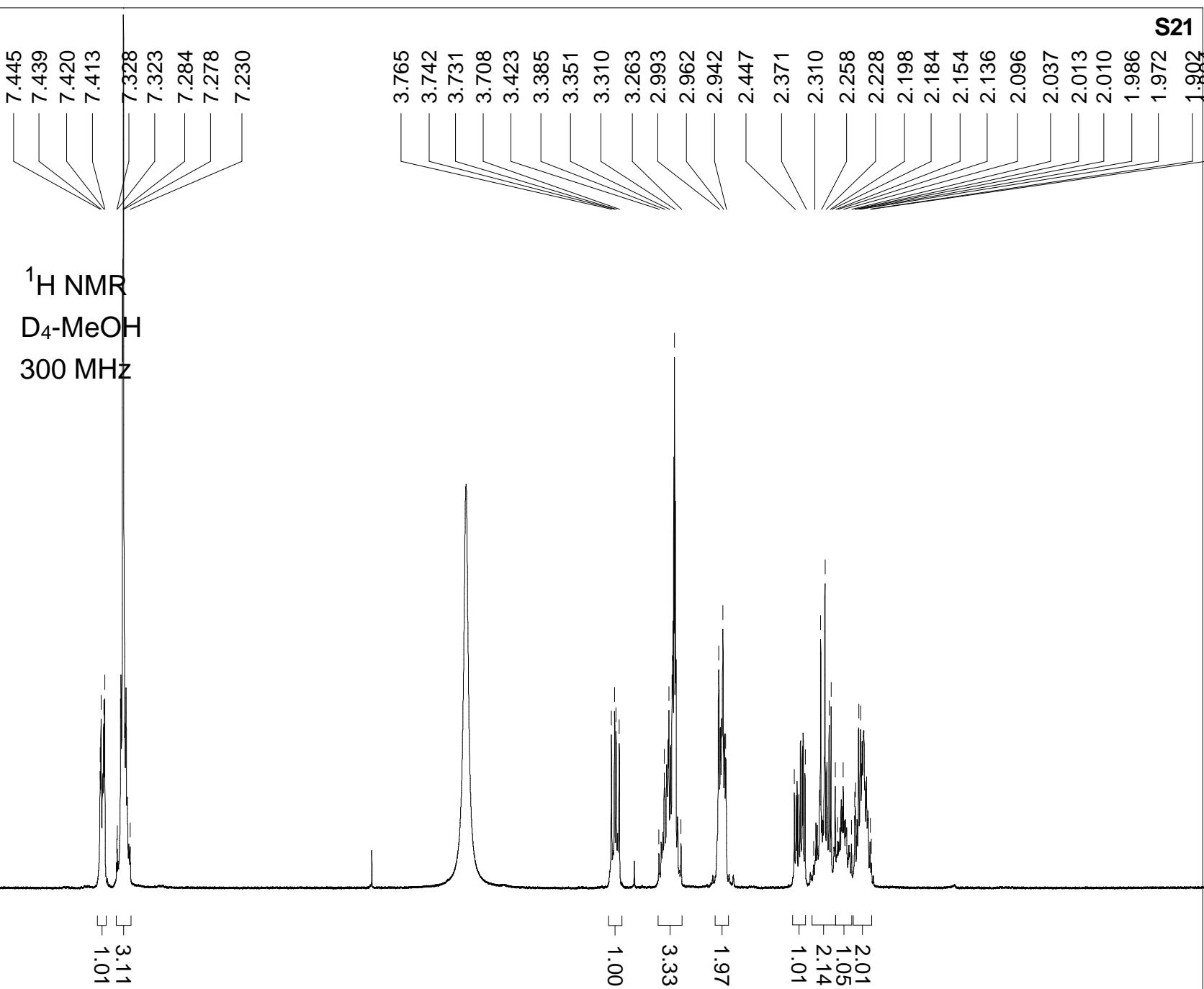
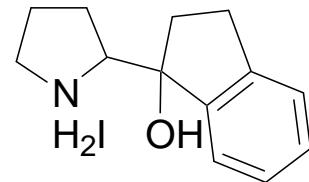
S20



^{13}C NMR
 CDCl_3
75.5 MHz



product 5,HI



S21

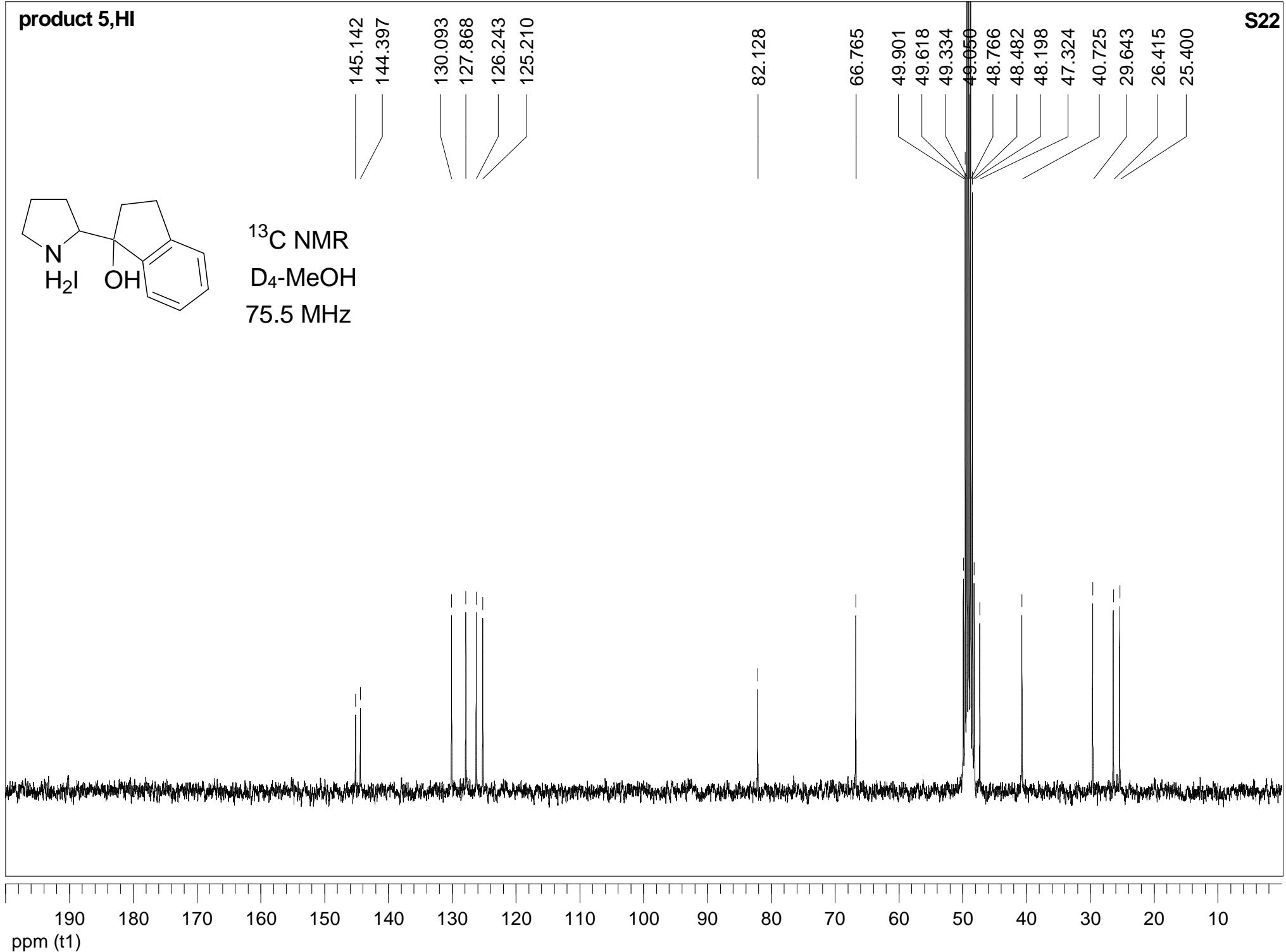
1.902

product 5,HI

S22

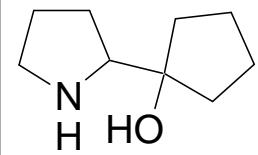


^{13}C NMR
 $\text{D}_4\text{-MeOH}$
75.5 MHz

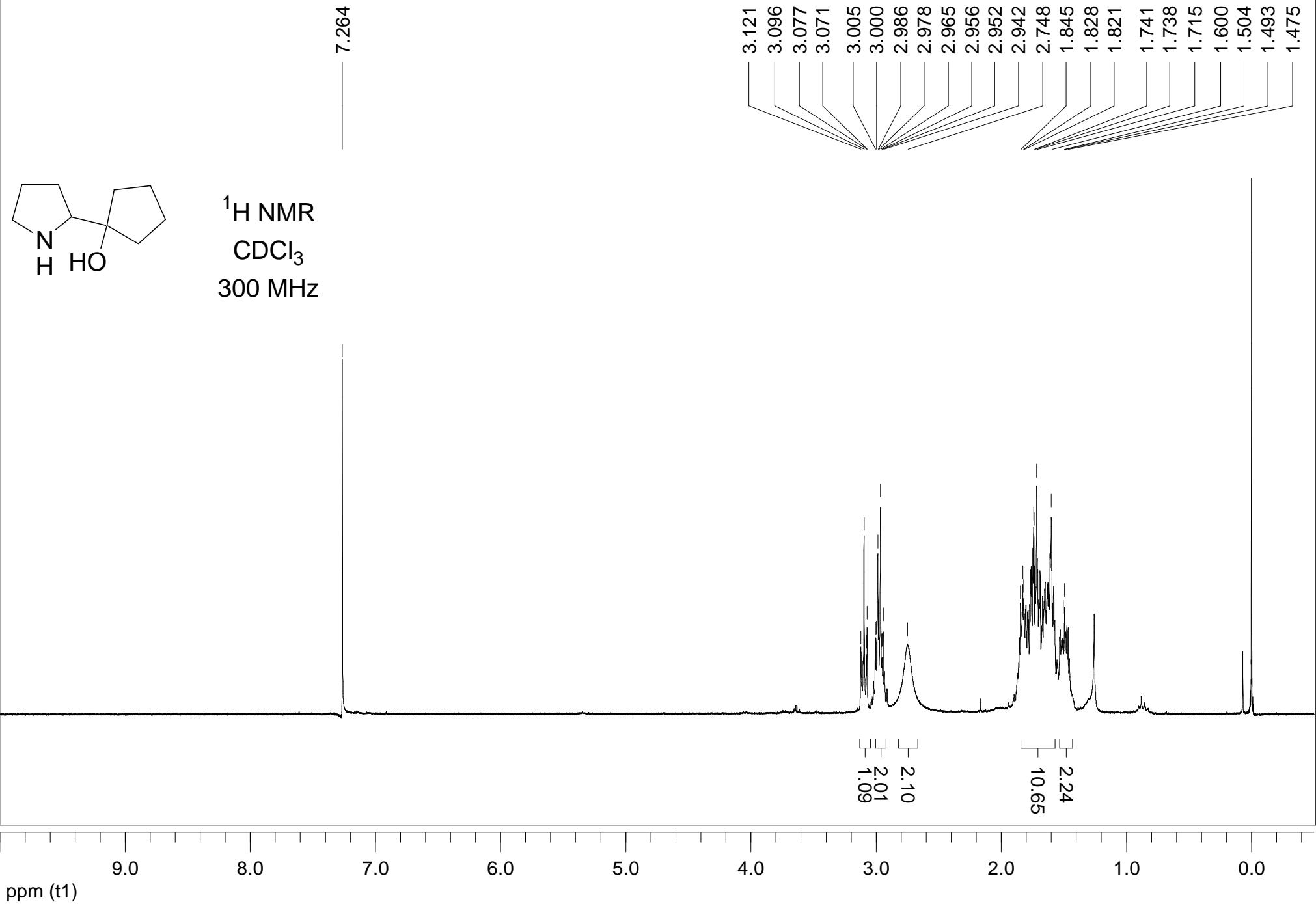


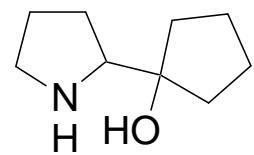
product 6

S23

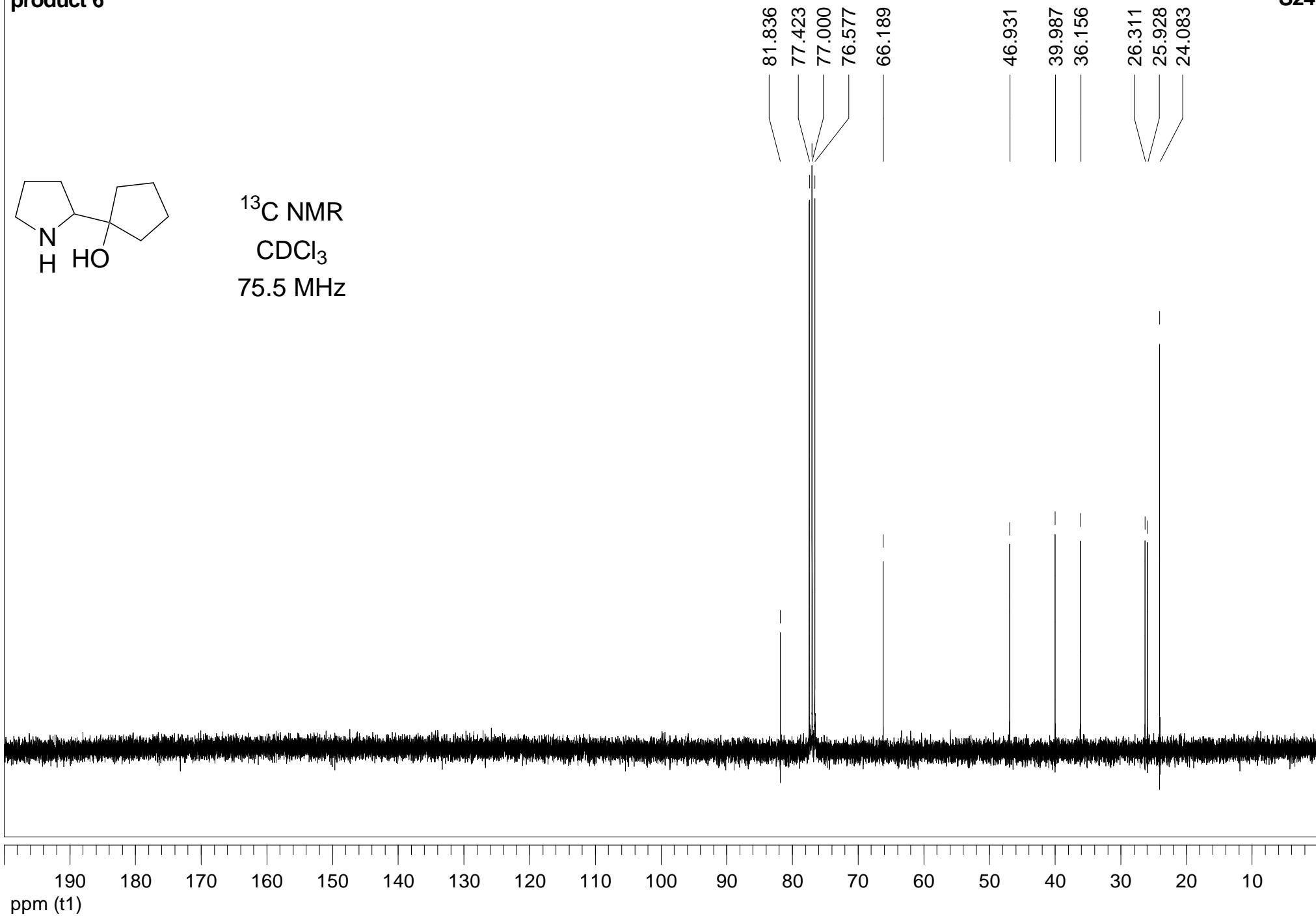


¹H NMR
CDCl₃
300 MHz



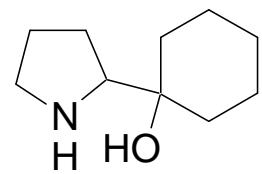


^{13}C NMR
 CDCl_3
75.5 MHz



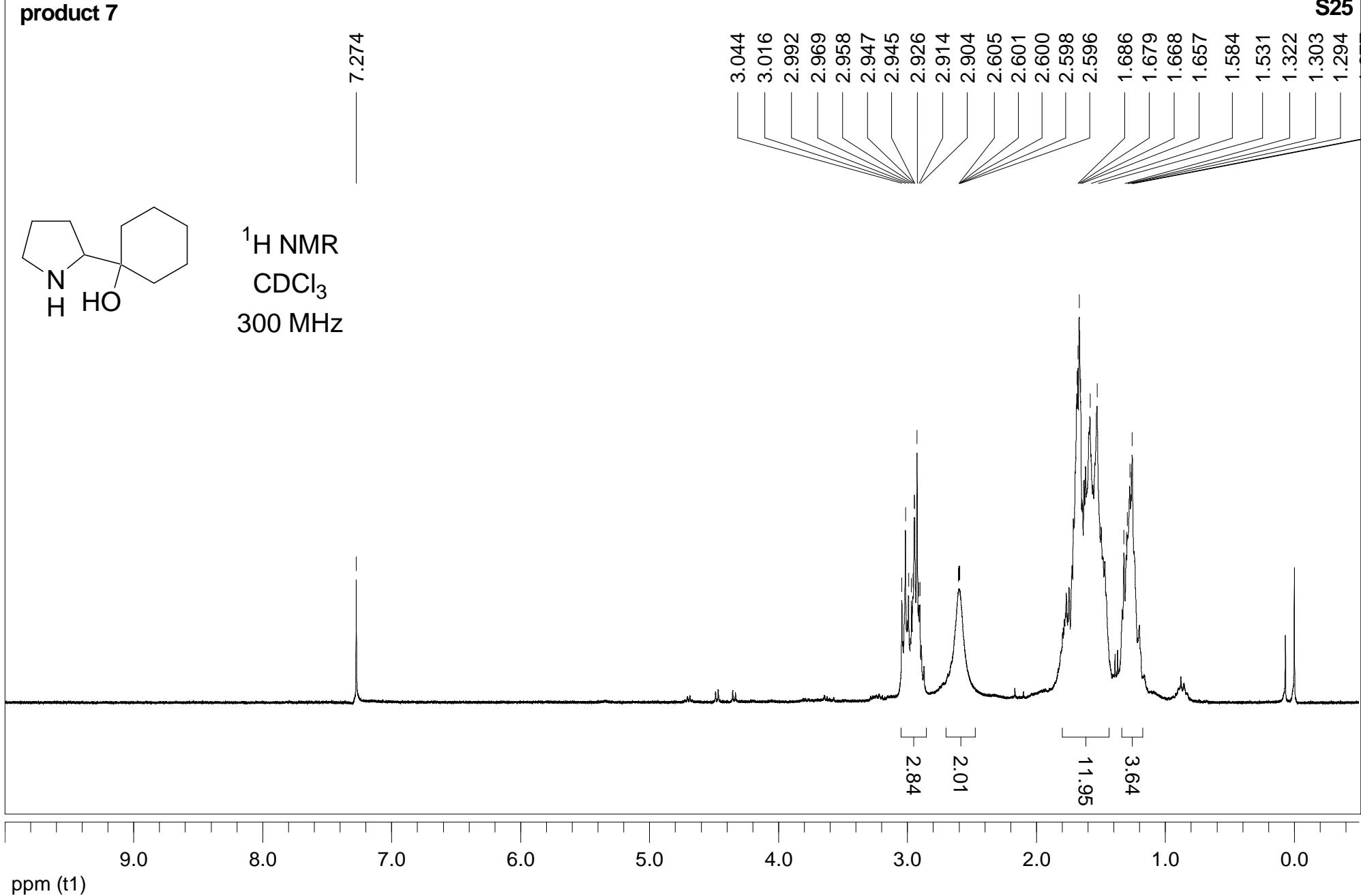
product 7

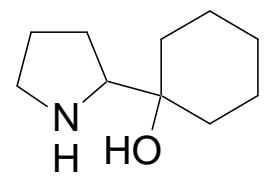
S25



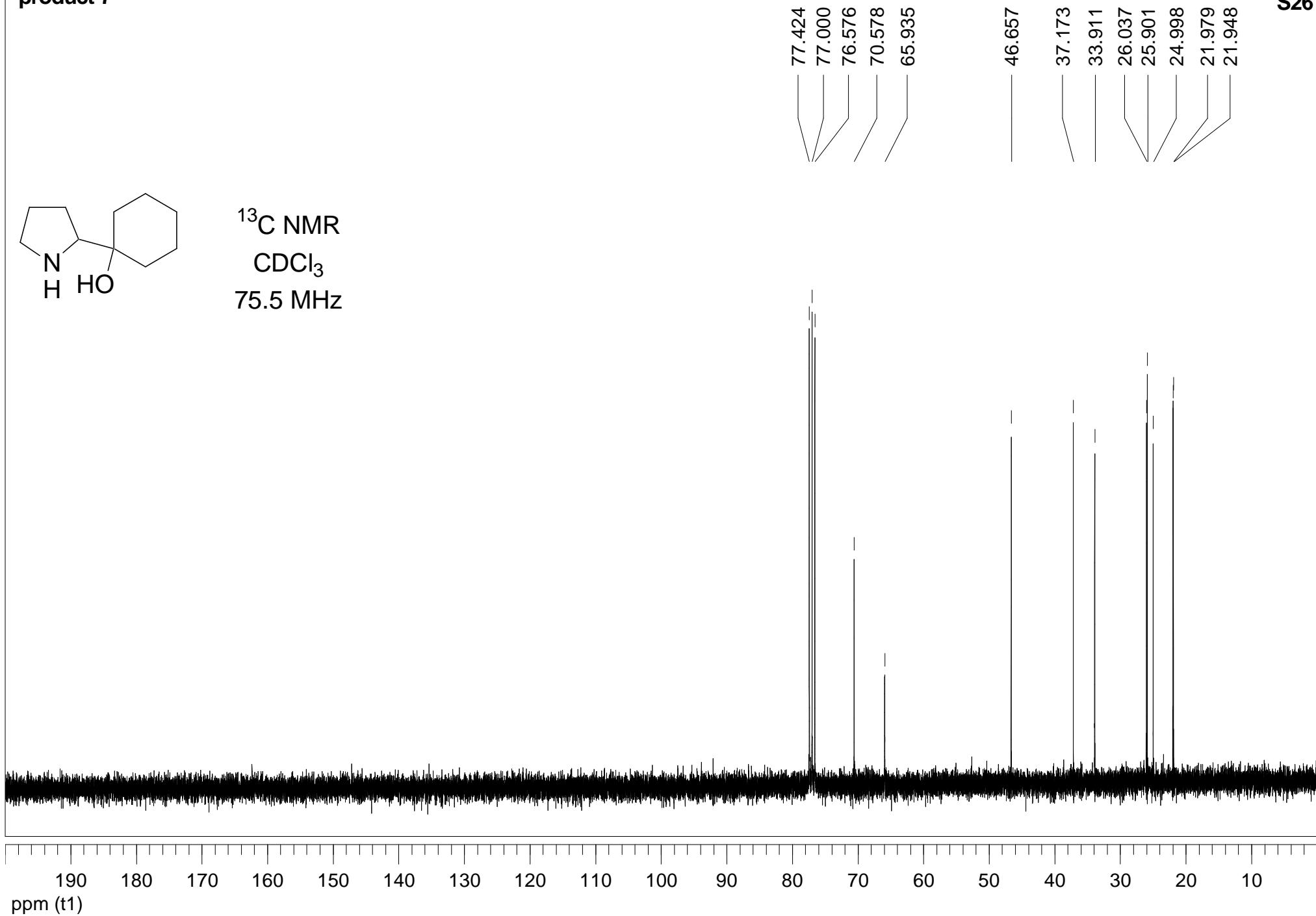
¹H NMR
CDCl₃
300 MHz

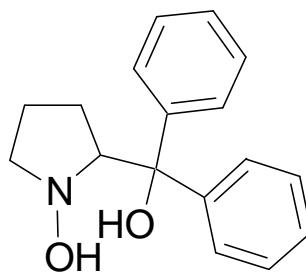
7.274



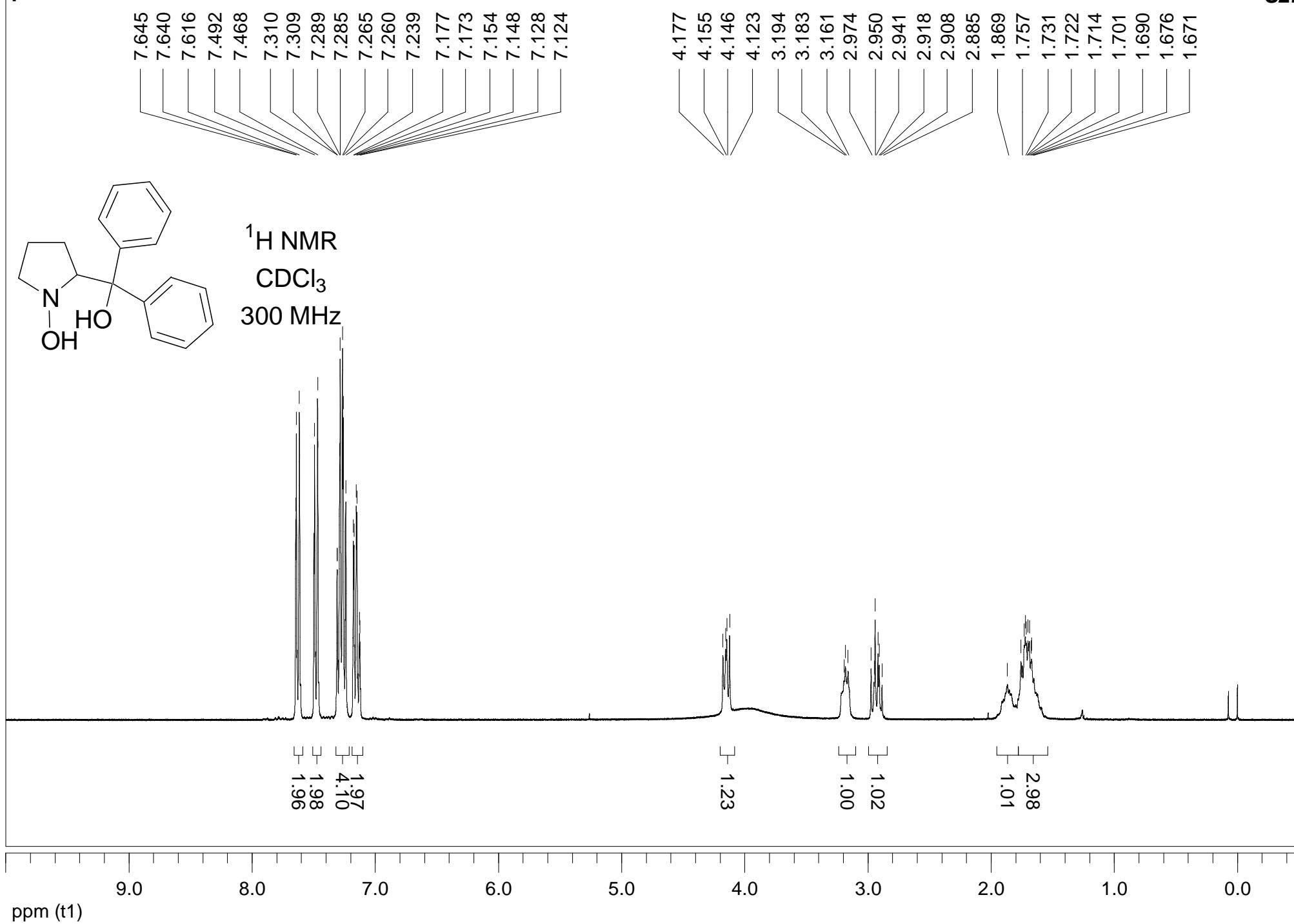


¹³C NMR
CDCl₃
75.5 MHz

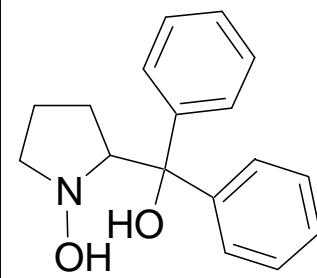




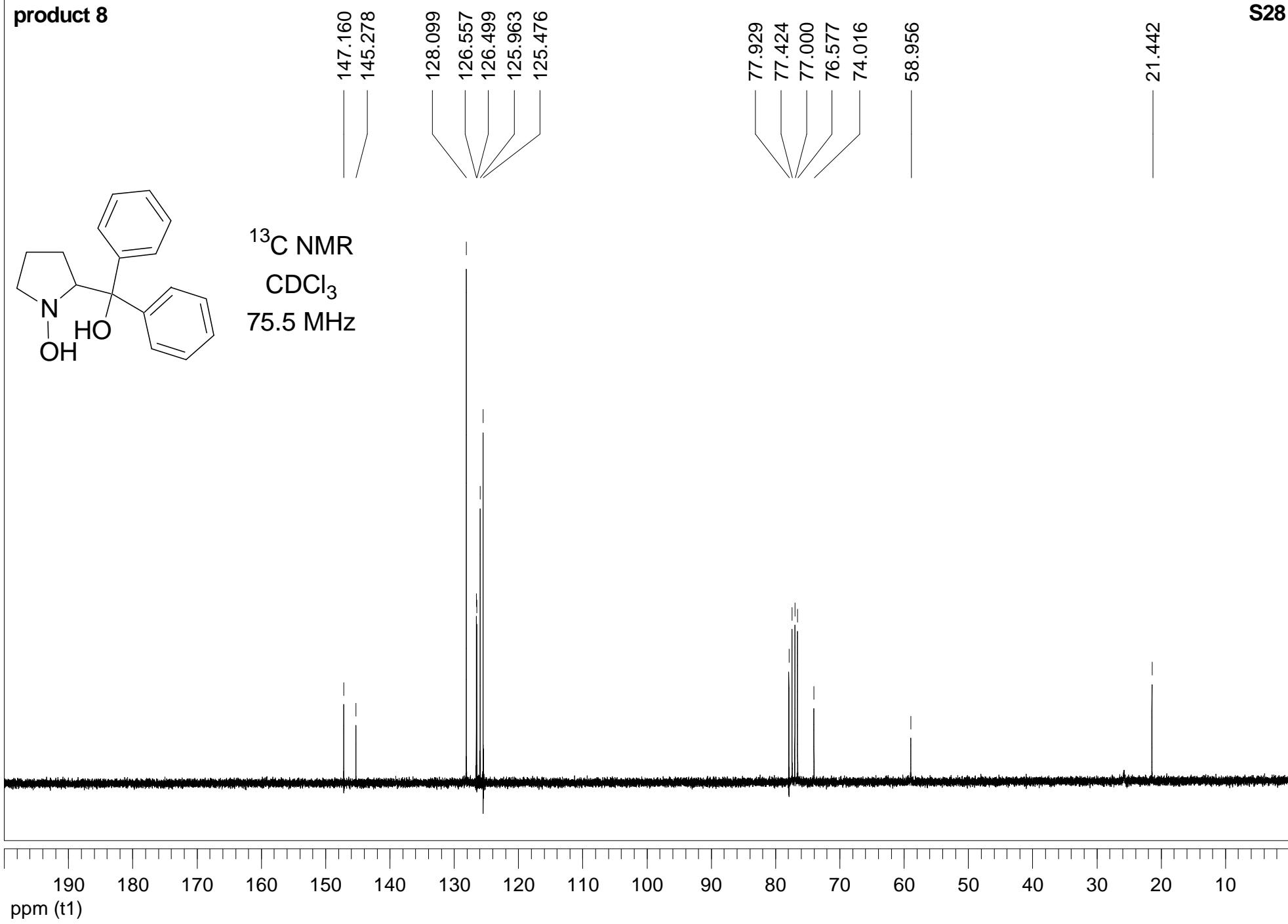
¹H NMR
CDCl₃
300 MHz



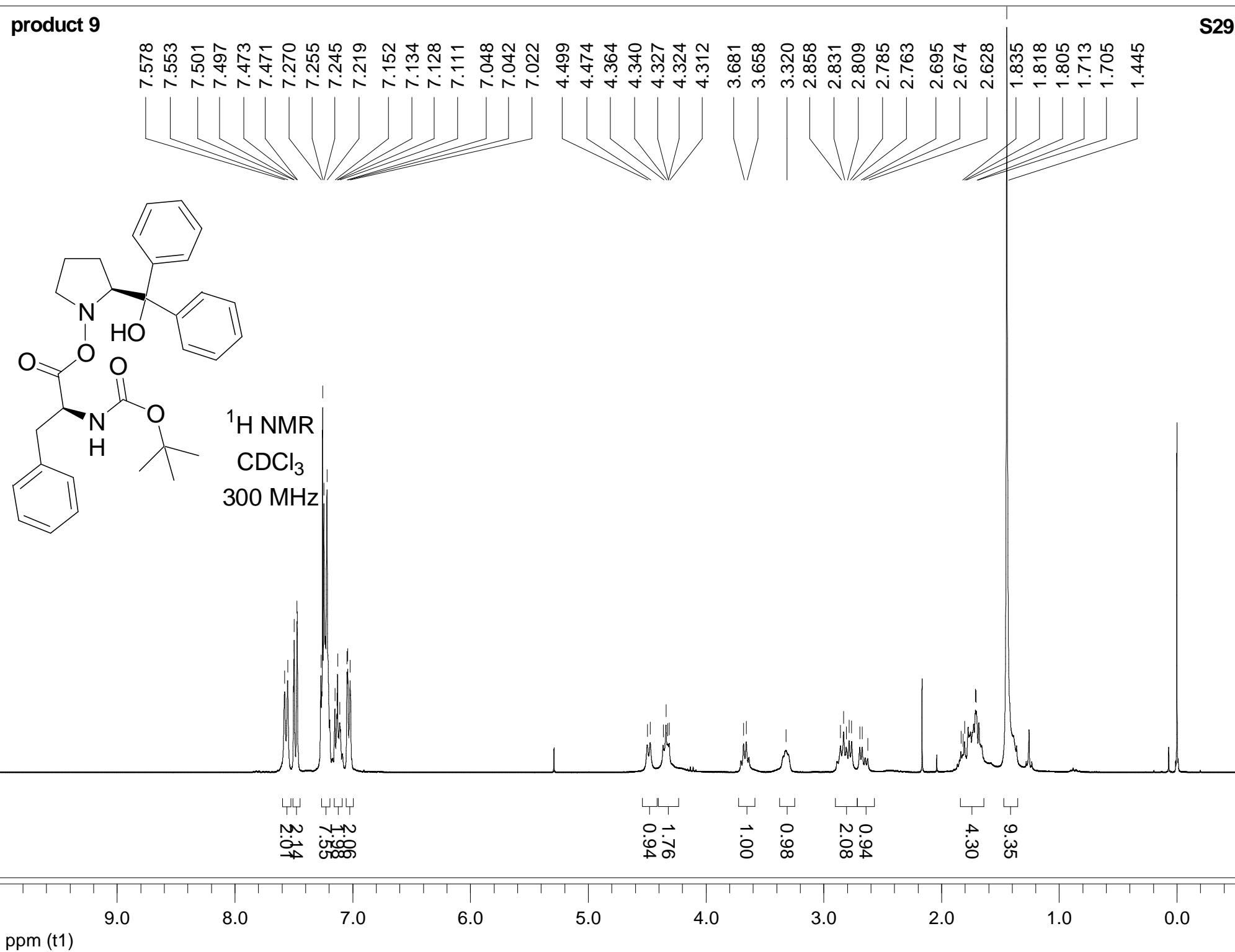
product 8



^{13}C NMR
 CDCl_3
75.5 MHz

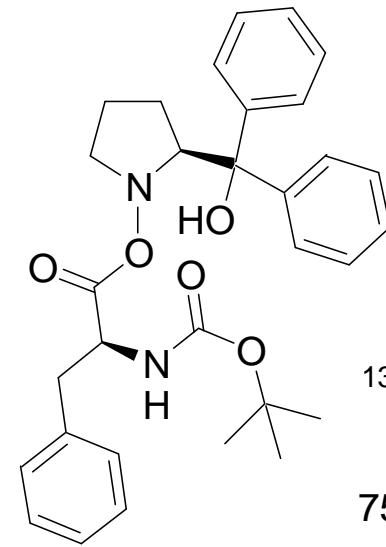


S28

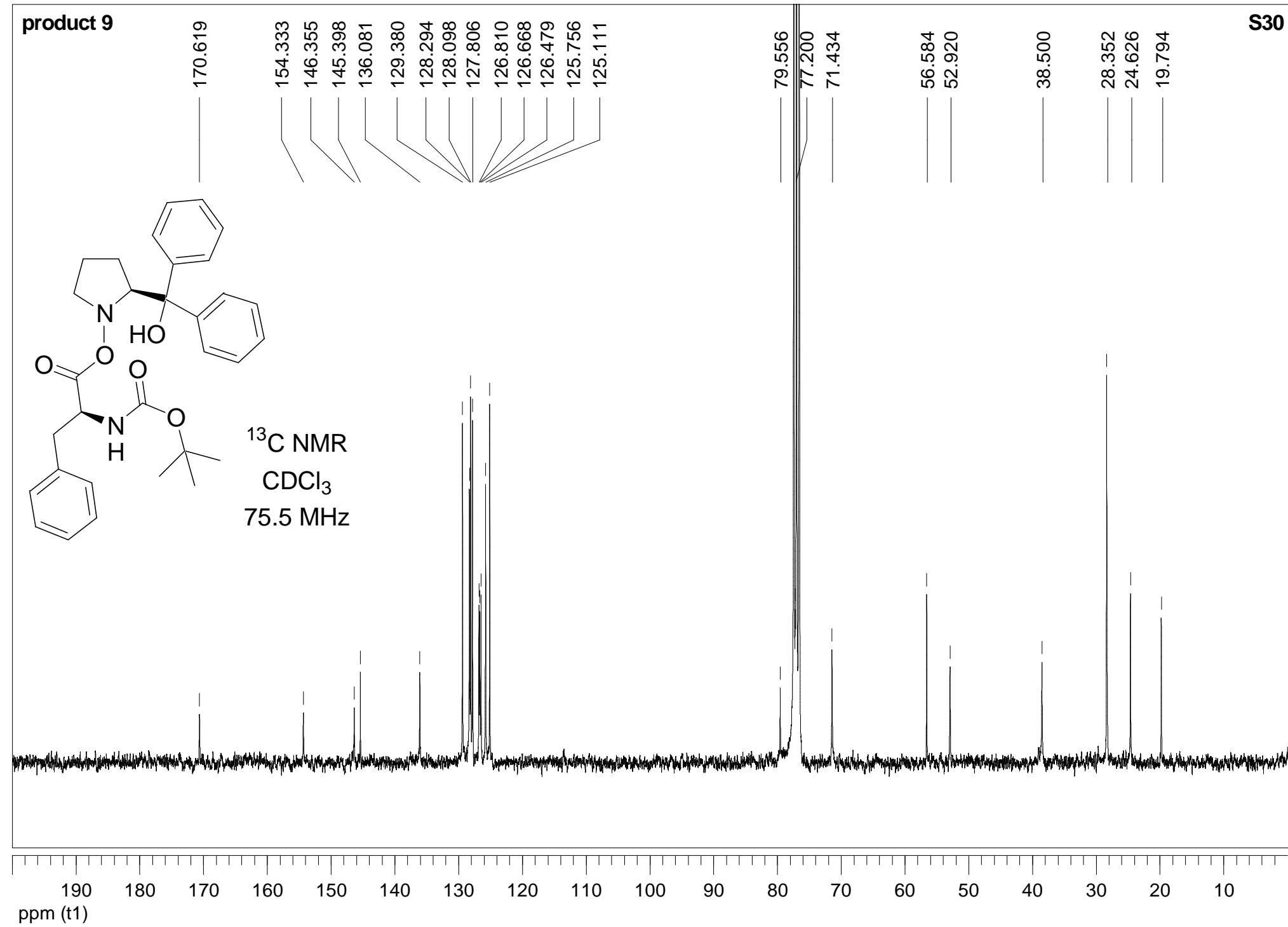


product 9

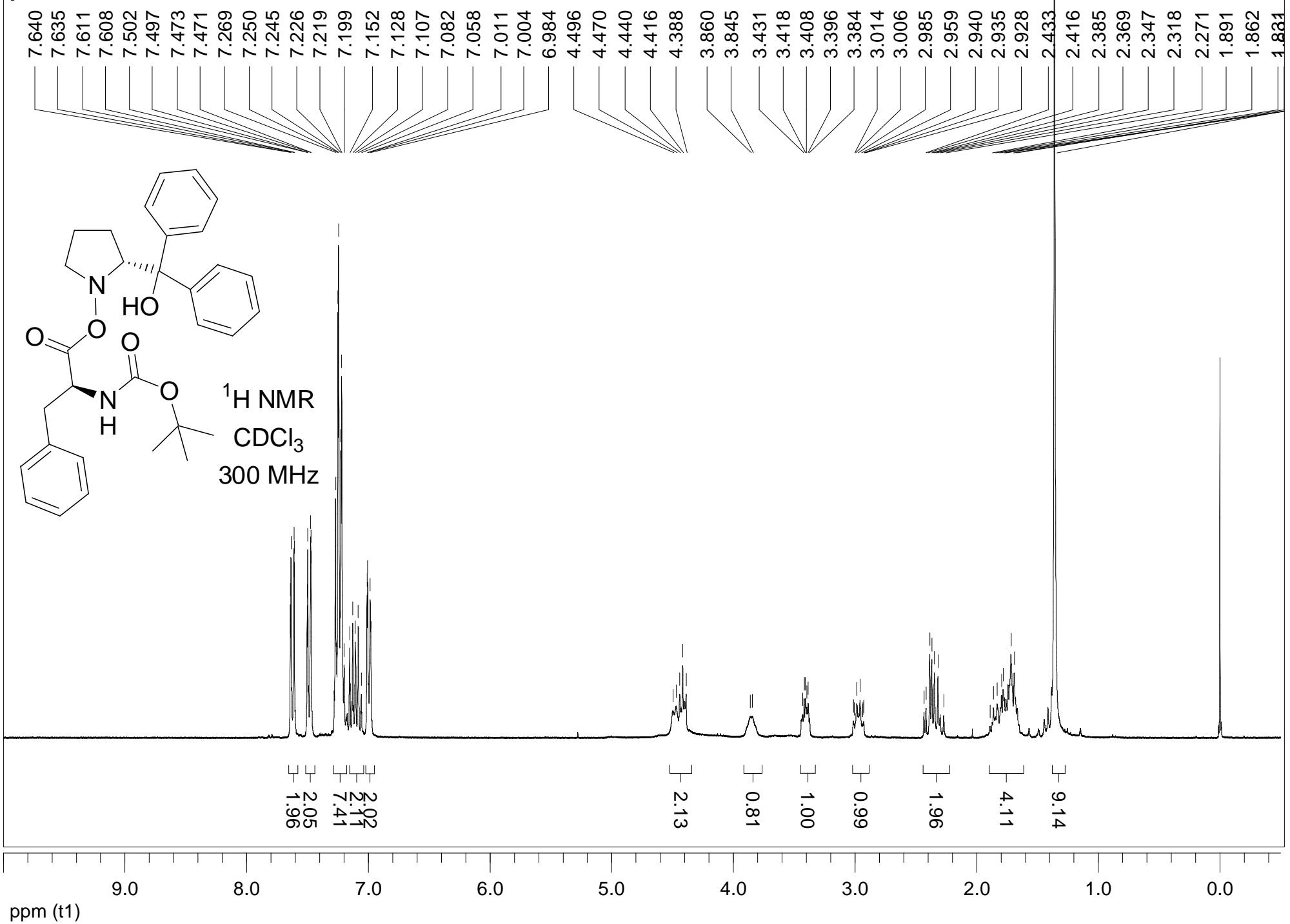
S30



^{13}C NMR
 CDCl_3
75.5 MHz

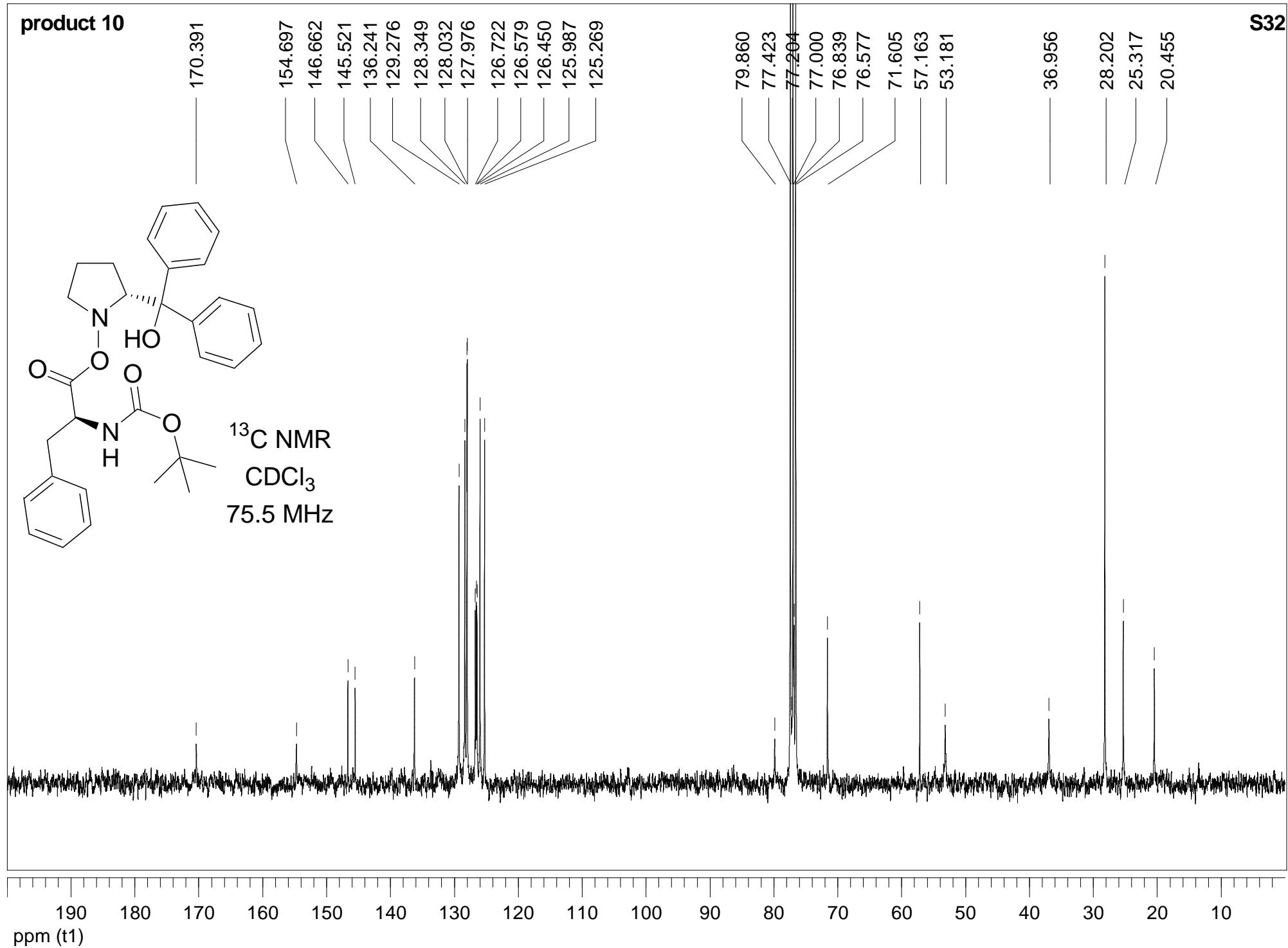


product 10

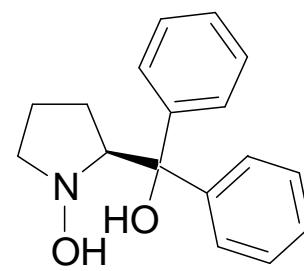


product 10

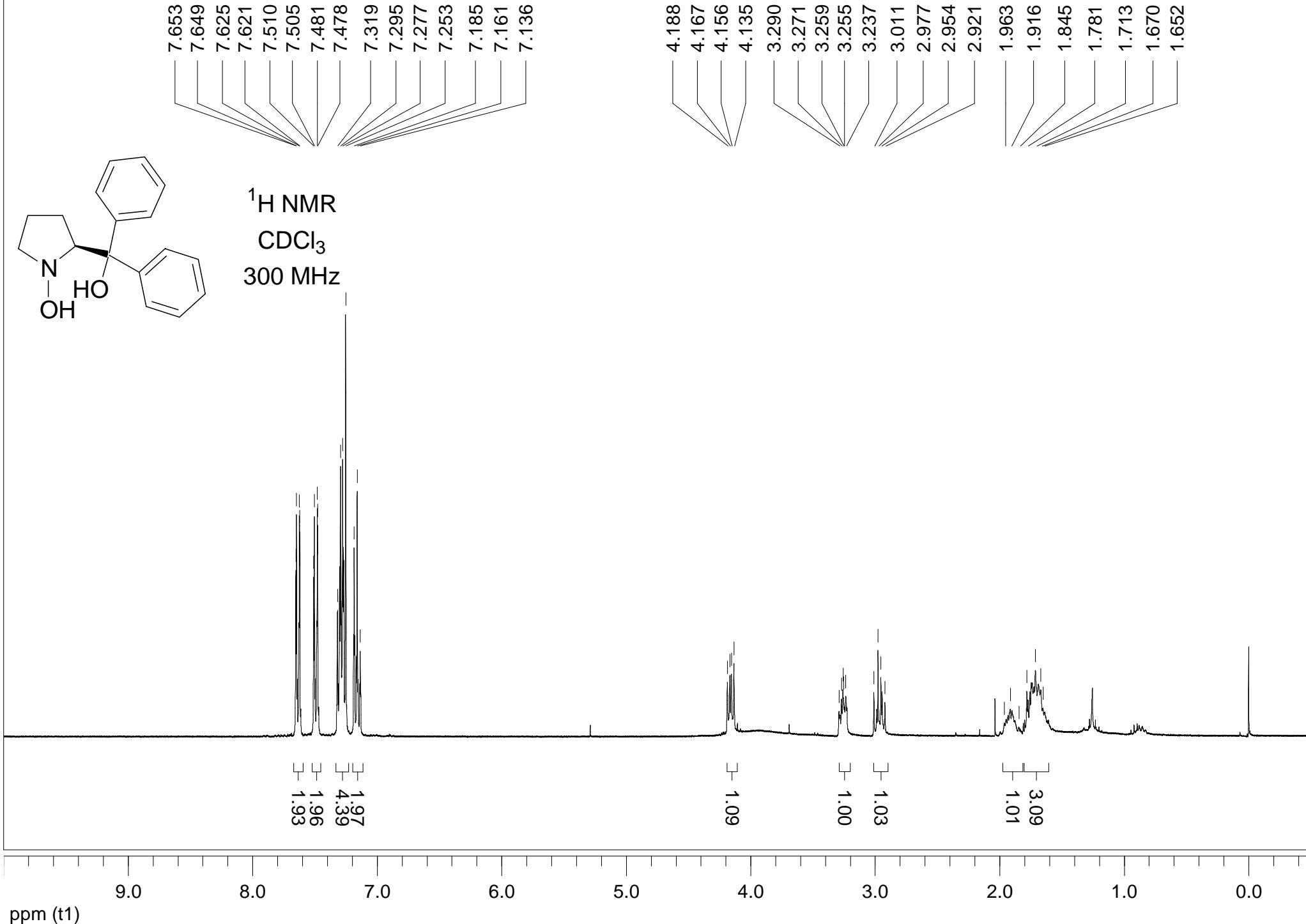
S32



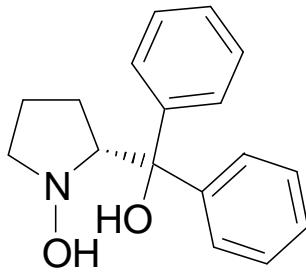
product (S)-11



^1H NMR
 CDCl_3
300 MHz



product (R)-12



^1H NMR
 CDCl_3
300 MHz

