

Supplementary Information

Acid-Promoted Cycloisomerization of Phenylallenes Bearing Acetalic Functions at *ortho* Position: a Stereocontrolled Entry to Indeno-Fused Dioxepanes, Dioxocanes and Thioanalogues

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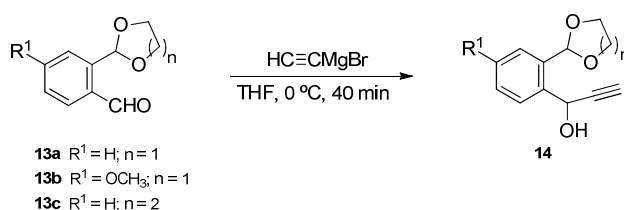
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General Methods

All melting points are uncorrected. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded as Nujol emulsions or neat. ^1H NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl_3 or CD_2Cl_2 at 300 or 400 MHz. ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl_3 or CD_2Cl_2 at 75 or 100 MHz. The chemical shifts are expressed in ppm, relative to Me_4Si at $\delta = 0.00$ ppm for ^1H , while the chemical shifts for ^{13}C are reported relative to the resonance of CDCl_3 $\delta = 77.1$ ppm or CD_2Cl_2 $\delta = 54.0$ ppm. Mass spectra were recorded on a HPLC/MS TOF 6220 Agilent Technologies apparatus.

Materials: 2-(1,3-Dioxolan-2-yl)benzaldehyde **13a**,¹ 2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)-4-methoxybenzaldehyde **13b**,² 2-(1,3-dioxan-2-yl)benzaldehyde **13c**,³ 2-(2-bromophenyl)-1,3-oxathiolane **17**⁴ and 2-(dimethoxymethyl)benzaldehyde **21**⁵ were prepared following published experimental procedures.

General procedure for the preparation of the propargylic alcohols **14**



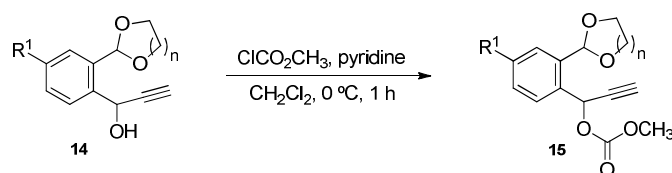
To a solution of the 2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)benzaldehyde or 2-(1,3-dioxan-2-yl)benzaldehyde **13** (3 mmol) in anhydrous THF (30 mL) at 0 °C was added 0.5 M solution of ethynylmagnesium bromide in THF (6 mL, 3 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 40 min. Then, saturated aqueous solution of NH_4Cl (10 mL) was added. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (2×30 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with water (2×100 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO_4 . The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting oil was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

Propargylic alcohol 14a ($\text{R}^1 = \text{H}, n = 1$): (hexanes/diethyl ether 1:1); (0.66 g, 99%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl_3) 2.65 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.79 (br s, 1H), 3.98-4.07 (m, 2H), 4.08-4.17 (m, 2H), 5.81 (s, 1H), 6.14 (br s, 1H), 7.32-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.56 (dd, $J = 1.8, 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, $J = 1.8, 7.3$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl_3) 61.7, 65.0, 65.1, 74.8, 82.8 (s), 102.3, 127.2, 128.4, 128.5, 129.7, 134.2 (s), 138.7 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3417, 3288, 1456; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{NaO}_3$: 227.0679 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$; found: 227.0679.

Propargylic alcohol 14b ($R^1 = \text{OCH}_3$, $n = 1$): (hexanes/ethyl acetate 3:2); (0.61 g, 87%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 2.65 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.41 (d, $J = 5.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 4.03-4.13 (m, 4H), 5.70 (dd, $J = 2.4, 5.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.08 (s, 1H), 7.10 (d, $J = 2.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd, $J = 2.7, 8.4$ Hz, 1H) ppm, δ_{C} (75 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 55.9, 61.7, 65.6, 65.7, 74.7, 83.7 (s), 102.4, 113.3, 114.7, 130.4, 131.6 (s), 136.7 (s), 160.2 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3439, 3285, 1611, 1582; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{NaO}_4$: 257.0784 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$; found: 257.0787.

Propargylic alcohol 14c ($R^1 = \text{H}$, $n = 2$): (hexanes/diethyl ether 2:3); (0.40 g, 62%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 1.39-1.47 (m, 1H), 2.14-2.26 (m, 1H), 2.67 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.78 (d, $J = 4.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.93-4.02 (m, 2H), 4.19-4.27 (m, 2H), 5.77 (s, 1H), 5.95-5.97 (m, 1H), 7.30-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.48 (dd, $J = 1.6, 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (dd, $J = 1.6, 7.2$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 26.1, 62.2, 68.1, 68.2, 74.9, 83.6 (s), 102.2, 128.0, 128.9, 130.0, 136.2 (s), 139.0 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3418, 3288, 1458, 1401; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{NaO}_3$: 241.0835 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$; found 241.0835.

General procedure for the preparation of the propargyl carbonates 15



To a solution of the appropriate propargylic alcohol **14** (3 mmol) in anhydrous dichloromethane (20 mL), under nitrogen at 0 °C, dry pyridine (0.72 mL, 9 mmol) and methyl chloroformate (0.69 mL, 9 mmol) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. Then, saturated aqueous solution of NH_4Cl (20 mL) was added, and the resulting mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (2×30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (2×50 mL), and dried over anhydrous MgSO_4 . The solvent was removed under reduce pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

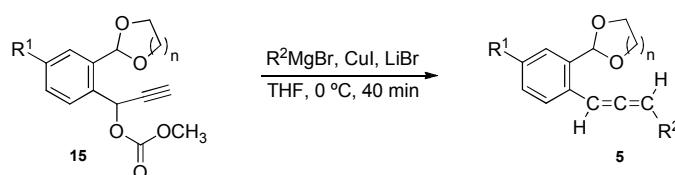
Propargyl carbonate 15a ($R^1 = \text{H}$, $n = 1$): (hexanes/diethyl ether 1:4); (0.69 g, 88%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl_3) 2.69 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 4.00-4.19 (m, 4H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 6.77 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.57 (dd, $J = 1.8, 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, $J =$

1.8, 7.2 Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_C (75 MHz; CDCl_3) 55.2, 65.2, 65.3, 65.8, 76.2, 80.0 (s), 102.0, 127.2, 128.8, 129.3, 129.7, 134.6 (s), 135.0 (s), 154.8 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1747, 1441, 1315; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{14}\text{NaO}_5$: 285.0733 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$; found: 285.0727.

Propargyl carbonate 15b ($\text{R}^1 = \text{OCH}_3$, $n = 1$): (hexanes/diethyl ether 1:4); (0.79 g, 90%); yellow oil; δ_H (300 MHz; CDCl_3) 2.68 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 4.06-4.18 (m, 4H), 6.02 (s, 1H), 6.69 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, $J = 2.7, 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, $J = 2.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_C (75 MHz; CDCl_3) 55.1, 55.4, 65.3, 65.6, 76.0, 80.2 (s), 101.6, 112.5, 114.9, 126.5 (s), 130.7, 136.8 (s), 154.8 (s), 160.3 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3303, 1750, 1611, 1052; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{NaO}_6$: 315.0839 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$; found 315.0841.

Propargyl carbonate 15c ($\text{R}^1 = \text{H}$, $n = 2$): (hexanes/diethyl ether 3:2); (0.61 g, 74%); yellow oil; δ_H (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 1.40-1.45 (m, 1H), 2.24-2.34 (m, 1H), 2.69 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.95-4.01 (m, 2H), 4.19-4.28 (m, 2H), 5.68 (s, 1H), 6.92 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.78-7.80 (m, 1H) ppm; δ_C (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 25.4, 55.0, 65.9, 67.5, 76.0, 80.2 (s), 100.7, 127.1, 129.0, 129.3, 129.4, 133.6 (s), 136.0 (s), 154.7 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3284, 1750, 1441; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{NaO}_5$: 299.0895 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$; found 299.0890.

General procedure for the preparation of the allenenes 5a-e



To a $0\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ cooled solution of CuI (9.6 g, 50 mmol) and LiBr (4.34 g, 50 mmol) in anhydrous THF (40 mL), 1.0 M *tert*-butylmagnesium bromide in THF (50 mL, 50 mmol) or 1.0 M methylmagnesium bromide in THF (50 mL, 50 mmol) or 1.0 M phenylmagnesium bromide in THF (50 mL, 50 mmol) was added, and the stirring was continued at $0\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 30 min. Then a solution of the corresponding propargyl carbonate **15** (5 mmol) in anhydrous THF (10 mL) was dropwise added. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred at $0\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 40 min. Next, saturated solution of NH_4Cl (20 mL) was added, and the suspension extracted with diethyl

ether (2 x 40 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with brine (30 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

Allene 5a (R¹ = H, R² = C(CH₃)₃, n = 1): (hexanes/ethyl acetate 9:1); (1.19 g, 88%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 1.12 (s, 9H), 3.99-4.13 (m, 4H), 5.58 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 6.58 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.18 (td, $J = 1.2, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.28 (td, $J = 1.2, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 (dd, $J = 1.2, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, $J = 1.2, 7.6$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 30.5, 33.1 (s), 65.8, 92.9, 102.2, 106.8, 126.8, 126.9, 127.5, 129.5, 134.2 (s), 134.3 (s), 203.7 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1946, 1602, 1454; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₅: 183.1168 [M+H-C₂H₆O₂]⁺; found: 183.1172.

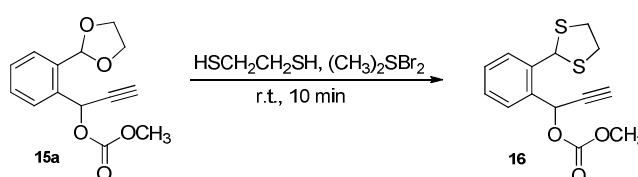
Allene 5b (R¹ = OCH₃, R² = CH₃, n = 1): (hexanes/diethyl ether 7:3); (0.69 g, 60%); white oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 1.75 (dd, $J = 3.5, 6.9$ Hz, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H); 3.97-4.12 (m, 4H), 5.49 (q, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 6.38 (br s, 1H), 6.83 (dd, $J = 3.5, 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, $J = 2.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 14.4, 55.8, 65.8, 89.4, 90.3, 101.8, 111.5, 115.6, 126.1 (s), 129.4, 135.7 (s), 159.0 (s), 206.5 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1941, 1609, 1499; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₇O₃: 233.1171 [M+H]⁺, found 233.1172.

Allene 5c (R¹ = H, R² = Ph, n = 1): (hexanes/ethyl acetate 9:1); (0.63 g, 48%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 3.96-4.16 (m, 4H), 6.01 (s, 1H), 6.59 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.36 (m, 7H), 7.46 (dd, $J = 1.8, 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, $J = 1.8, 7.5$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 65.8, 95.4, 98.2, 102.3, 127.2, 127.4, 127.7, 127.8, 129.2, 129.7, 132.7 (s), 134.1 (s), 134.7 (s), 208.8 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1935, 1596, 1490; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₈H₁₇O₂: 265.1228 [M+H]⁺; found: 265.1223.

Allene 5d (R¹ = H, R² = C(CH₃)₃, n = 2): (hexanes/ethyl acetate 9:1); (0.79 g, 62%); white oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 1.12 (s, 9H), 1.40-1.44 (m, 1H), 2.12-2.24 (m, 1H), 3.92-3.99 (m, 2H), 4.19-4.22 (m, 2H), 5.57 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 6.62 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.15 (dt, $J = 1.6, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dt, $J = 1.6, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.49 (m, 2H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 26.3, 30.5, 33.1 (s), 68.0, 93.2, 100.9, 106.7, 126.9, 127.1, 129.1, 133.4 (s), 135.4 (s), 203.5 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1946, 1458, 1376; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₅: 183.1168 [M+H-C₃H₈O₂]⁺; found 183.1171.

Allene 5e ($R^1 = H$, $R^2 = CH_3$, $n = 2$): (hexanes/ethyl acetate 9:1); (0.54 g, 50%); white oil; δ_H (300 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 1.39-1.45 (m, 1H), 1.78 (dd, $J = 3.3, 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.10-2.27 (m, 1H), 3.91-4.00 (m, 2H), 4.19-4.24 (m, 2H), 5.53 (quint, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 5.62 (s, 1H), 6.51-6.56 (m, 1H), 7.14-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.43 (dd, $J = 1.6, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.49 (dd, $J = 1.6, 7.6$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_C (75 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 14.0, 26.3, 68.0, 89.7, 91.2, 100.9, 127.0, 127.2, 128.0, 129.2, 133.2 (s), 135.6 (s), 207.0 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): ν_{max}/cm^{-1} 1943, 1456, 1375; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{11}H_9$: 141.0699 $[M+H-C_3H_8O_2]^+$; found 141.0703.

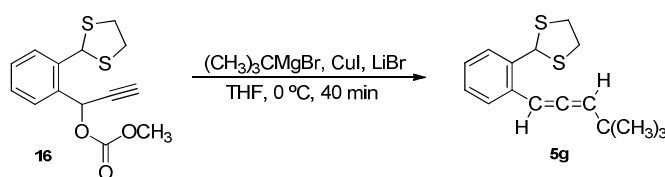
Procedure for the preparation of the propargyl carbonate 16



To a mixture of carbonate **15a** (1 mmol) and 1,2-ethanedithiol (1.1 mmol) a catalytic amount of (bromodimethyl)sulfonium bromide was added (0.023 g). After stirring at room temperature for 15 min the reaction mixture was neutralized by addition of two drops of saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution. Then, the resulting crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/diethyl ether (1:1 v/v) as eluent.

Propargyl carbonate 16: (0.24 g, 83%); yellow oil; δ_H (400 MHz; $CDCl_3$) 2.77 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.35-3.43 (m, 2H) 3.51-3.59 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 6.12 (s, 1H), 6.60 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dt, $J = 1.6, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dt, $J = 1.6, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (dd, $J = 1.6, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.88 (dd, $J = 1.6, 7.6$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_C (100 MHz; $CDCl_3$) 40.5, 52.0, 55.3, 67.0, 77.2, 79.6 (s), 128.4, 128.9, 130.0, 133.9 (s), 138.7 (s), 154.6 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): ν_{max}/cm^{-1} 3284, 1750, 1440; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $C_{14}H_{14}NaO_3S_2$: 317.0277 $[M+Na]^+$; found 317.0274.

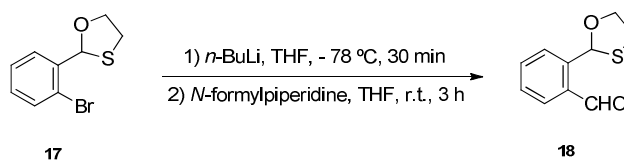
Procedure for preparation of the allene 5g



To a 0 °C cooled solution of CuI (9.6 g, 50 mmol) and LiBr (4.34 g, 50 mmol) in anhydrous THF (40 mL), 1.0 M *tert*-butylmagnesium bromide in THF (50 mL, 50 mmol) was added, and the stirring was continued at 0 °C for 30 min. Then a solution of propargyl carbonate **16** (5 mmol) in anhydrous THF (10 mL) was dropwise added. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 40 min. Next, a saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl (20 mL) was added, and the suspension extracted with diethyl ether (2 x 40 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with brine (30 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/ethyl acetate (9:1 v/v) as eluent.

Allene 5g: (1.20 g, 87%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.12 (s, 9H), 3.50-3.51 (m, 4H), 5.58 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.02 (s, 1H), 6.55 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.15-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.80 (m, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 30.4, 33.1 (s), 40.4, 40.5, 53.1, 93.3, 106.6, 127.4, 127.9, 128.3, 128.6, 133.6 (s), 137.0 (s), 203.9 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1946, 1474, 1448; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₆H₂₁S₂: 277.1079 [M+H]⁺; found 277.1080.

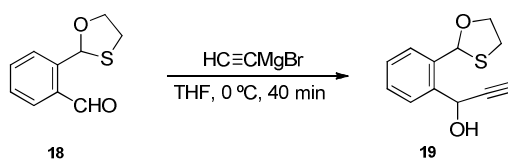
Preparation of 2-(1,3-oxathiolan-2-yl)benzaldehyde **18**



n-BuLi [5 mL, 2.5 M in hexane] was added dropwise to a solution of 2-(2-bromophenyl)-1,3-oxathiolane **17** (3 g, 12.2 mmol) in anhydrous THF (50 mL), at -78 °C under an atmosphere of nitrogen. The mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 30 min. Next, a solution of *N*-formylpiperidine (1.4 g, 12.3 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added. The mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 15 min, warmed to room temperature and the stirring continued for 3 h. Then, the reaction was quenched with the addition of water (25 mL). The mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (2 x 100 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting oil was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/diethyl ether (3:2, v/v) as eluent.

2-(1,3-Oxathiolan-2-yl)benzaldehyde 18: (2.1 g, 90%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 3.17-3.19 (m, 2H), 3.99-4.05 (m, 1H), 4.59-4.64 (m, 1H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 7.49 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 10.21 (s, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 33.5, 72.4, 83.1, 126.2, 128.4, 132.6 (s), 133.2, 134.0, 142.0 (s), 192.6 ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1694, 1598, 1570, 1198; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_2\text{S}$: 195.0474 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$; found 195.0475.

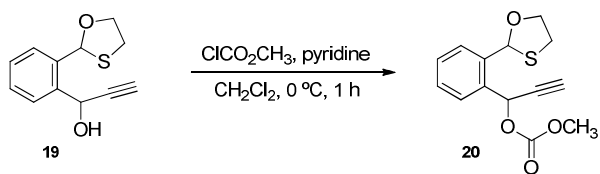
Preparation of the propargylic alcohol 19



To a solution of 2-(1,3-oxathiolan-2-yl)benzaldehyde **18** (3 mmol) in anhydrous THF (30 mL) at $0\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ was added 0.5 M solution of ethynylmagnesium bromide in THF (6 mL, 3 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at $0\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 40 min. Then a saturated aqueous solution of NH_4Cl (10 mL) was added. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (2×30 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with water (2×100 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO_4 . The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting oil was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/diethyl ether (3:2 v/v) as eluent.

Propargylic alcohol 19: mixture of diastereoisomers; (0.47 g, 72%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 2.69 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.72 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.91-2.92 (m, 1H), 3.03-3.06 (m, 1H), 3.20-3.30 (m, 4H), 3.87-3.94 (m, 2H), 4.55-4.60 (m, 2H), 5.86 (dd, $J = 2.4, 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.89 (dd, $J = 2.4, 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 6.37 (s, 1H), 7.35-7.38 (m, 4H), 7.54-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.74-7.76 (m, 2H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 34.4, 34.5, 61.8, 61.9, 72.5, 72.6, 75.3, 75.7, 83.4 (s), 83.7 (s), 85.1, 85.6, 128.2, 128.3, 128.4, 128.8, 129.3, 129.4, 129.5, 129.7, 136.5 (s), 137.0 (s), 138.6 (s), 138.8 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3405, 3285, 2116, 1375; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{NaO}_2\text{S}$: 243.045 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$; found 243.0446.

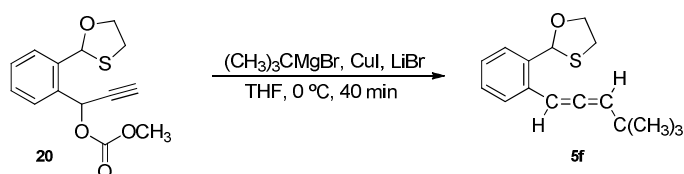
Preparation of the propargylic carbonate **20**



To a solution of the propargylic alcohol **19** (3 mmol) in anhydrous dichloromethane (20 mL), under nitrogen at 0 °C, dry pyridine (0.72 mL, 9 mmol) and methyl chloroformate (0.69 mL, 9 mmol) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. Then, a saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl (20 mL) was added, and the resulting mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (2 × 50 mL), and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/diethyl ether (3:7 v/v) as eluent.

Propargyl carbonate 20: mixture of diastereoisomers; (0.71 g, 85%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl₃) 2.70 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.75 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.18-3.26 (m, 2H), 3.28-3.38 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.86-3.97 (m, 2H), 4.54-4.66 (m, 2H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 6.40 (s, 1H), 6.61 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.42 (m, 4H), 7.60-7.66 (m, 2H), 7.73-7.76 (m, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl₃) 34.0, 34.2, 55.1, 55.2, 66.0, 66.1, 72.1, 76.3, 76.9, 79.7 (s), 79.9 (s), 84.1, 84.7, 127.6, 128.2, 128.8, 129.0, 129.1, 129.2, 129.6, 129.7, 133.5 (s), 133.7 (s), 136.7 (s), 136.8 (s), 154.6 (s), 154.7 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1750, 1441, 1314; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₄NaO₄S: 301.0505 [M+Na]⁺; found 301.0504.

Preparation of the allene **5f**

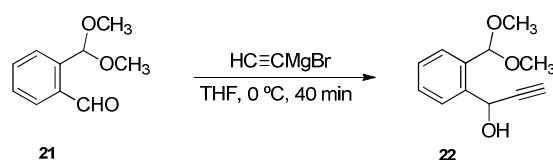


To a 0 °C cooled solution of CuI (9.6 g, 50 mmol) and LiBr (4.34 g, 50 mmol) in anhydrous THF (40 mL), 1.0 M *tert*-butylmagnesium bromide in THF (50 mL, 50 mmol) was added, and the stirring was continued at 0 °C for 30 min. Then a solution of the propargyl carbonate **20** (5 mmol) in anhydrous THF (10 mL) was dropwise added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 40 min. Next, a saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl (20 mL) was added and the

suspension extracted with diethyl ether (2 x 40 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with brine (30 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/ethyl acetate (9:1 v/v) as eluent.

Allene 5f: (0.89 g, 68%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 1.12 (s, 9H), 3.21-3.28 (m, 2H), 3.89-3.97 (m, 1H), 4.55-4.6 (m, 1H), 5.57-5.60 (m, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 6.44 (d, $J = 6.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.17-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.55-7.58 (m, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 30.5, 33.2 (s), 34.5, 34.6, 72.5, 84.8, 84.9, 92.8, 93.0, 106.7, 106.9, 126.4, 126.5, 127.3, 127.5, 127.7, 128.7, 133.0 (s), 136.1 (s), 136.3 (s), 203.9 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1946, 1474, 1448; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₆H₂₁OS: 261.1308 [M+H]⁺; found 261.1310.

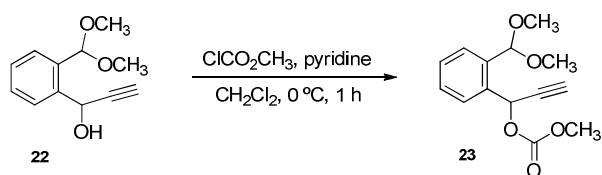
Preparation of the propargylic alcohol 22



To a solution of 2-(dimethoxymethyl)benzaldehyde **21** (3 mmol) in anhydrous THF (30 mL) at 0 °C was added 0.5 M solution of ethynylmagnesium bromide in THF (6 mL, 3 mmol). The reaction was stirred for 40 min at 0 °C. Then a saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl (10 mL) was added. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (2 × 30 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with water (2 × 100 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting oil was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/diethyl ether (3:2 v/v) as eluent.

Propargylic alcohol 22: (0.34 g, 54%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 2.70 (s, 1H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 1H), 5.66 (s, 1H), 5.89 (s, 1H), 7.38-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.79 (m, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 54.3, 54.4, 62.2, 74.8, 84.1 (s), 103.9, 128.3, 128.7, 128.8, 129.7, 135.8 (s), 139.1 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3403, 2937, 2115, 1454; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₂H₁₄NaO₃: 229.0835 [M+Na]⁺; found 229.0830.

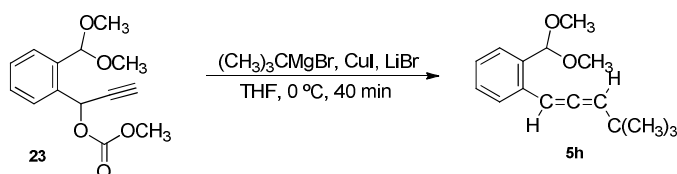
Preparation of the propargyl carbonate **23**



To a solution of the propargylic alcohol **22** (3 mmol) in anhydrous dichloromethane (20 mL), under nitrogen at 0 °C, dry pyridine (0.72 mL, 9 mmol) and methyl chloroformate (0.69 mL, 9 mmol) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. Then, a saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl (20 mL) was added, and the resulting mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (2 × 50 mL), and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduce pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/diethyl ether (1:1 v/v) as eluent.

Propargyl carbonate 23: (0.52 g, 66%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl₃) 2.67 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 5.60 (s, 1H), 6.74 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.56-7.59 (m, 1H), 7.73-7.76 (m, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl₃) 52.8, 53.9, 55.1, 65.8, 75.9, 80.1 (s), 101.6, 127.4, 128.5, 128.9, 129.2, 134.3 (s), 135.6 (s), 154.7 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3286, 1754, 1442; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₃H₁₃O₄: 233.0808 [M+H-CH₄O]⁺; found 233.0812.

Preparation of the allene **5h**

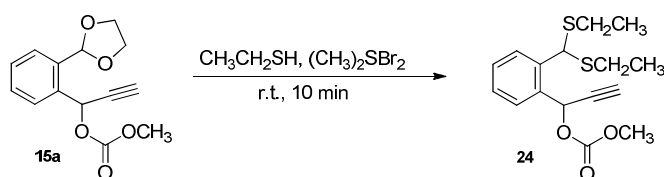


To a 0 °C cooled solution of CuI (9.6 g, 50 mmol) and LiBr (4.34 g, 50 mmol) in anhydrous THF (40 mL), 1.0 M *tert*-butylmagnesium bromide in THF (50 mL, 50 mmol) was added, and the stirring was continued at 0 °C for 30 min. Then a solution of the propargyl carbonate **23** (5 mmol) in anhydrous THF (10 mL) was dropwise added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 40 min. Next, a saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl (20 mL) was added and the

suspension extracted with diethyl ether (2 x 40 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with brine (30 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/ ethyl acetate (9:1 v/v) as eluent.

Allene 5h: (0.89 g, 73%); white oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 1.10 (s, 9H), 3.29 (s, 3H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 5.47 (s, 1H), 5.56 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.16 (td, $J = 1.2, 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.25 (td, $J = 1.2, 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.48 (m, 2H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 30.5, 33.1 (s), 53.6, 93.1, 102.6, 106.6, 126.6, 127.5, 127.7, 129.0, 133.9 (s), 134.6 (s), 203.6 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1947, 1453, 1361; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₅: 183.1168 [M+H-C₂H₈O₂]⁺; found 183.1172.

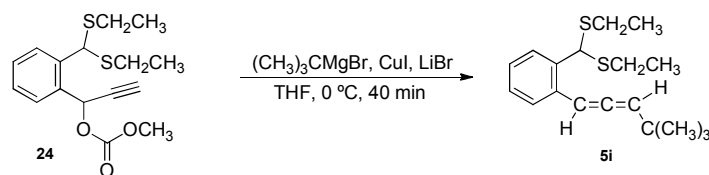
Preparation of the propargyl carbonate 24



To a mixture of the carbonate **15a** (1 mmol) and ethanethiol (2.2 mmol) a catalytic amount of (bromodimethyl)sulfonium bromide was added (0.023 g). After stirring at room temperature for 15 min the reaction mixture was neutralized by addition of two drops of saturated NaHCO₃ solution. Then, the resulting crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/diethyl ether (1:1 v/v) as eluent.

Propargyl carbonate 24: (0.28 g, 87%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.21 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.23 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.51-2.71 (m, 4H), 2.72 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 5.37 (s, 1H), 6.66 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.31 (dt, $J = 1.2, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dt, $J = 1.2, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, $J = 1.6, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 14.3, 14.4, 26.5, 26.6, 48.3, 55.3, 66.4, 76.7, 79.6 (s), 128.2, 128.7, 129.0, 129.8, 133.0 (s), 138.3 (s), 154.7 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3285, 1751, 1441; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₆H₂₀NaO₃S₂: 347.0746 [M+Na]⁺; found 347.0741.

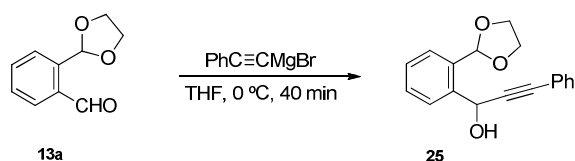
Preparation of the allene **5i**



To a 0 °C cooled solution of CuI (9.6 g, 50 mmol) and LiBr (4.34 g, 50 mmol) in anhydrous THF (40 mL), 1.0 M *tert*-butylmagnesium bromide in THF (50 mL, 50 mmol) was added, and the stirring was continued at 0 °C for 30 min. Then a solution of the propargyl carbonate **24** (5 mmol) in anhydrous THF (10 mL) was dropwise added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 40 min. Next, saturated solution of NH₄Cl (20 mL) was added and the suspension extracted with diethyl ether (2 x 40 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with brine (30 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/ethyl acetate (9:1 v/v) as eluent.

Allene 5i: (0.78 g, 60%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 1.11 (s, 9H), 1.19 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.20 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.24-2.64 (m, 4H), 5.29 (s, 1H), 5.57 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.58 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.15-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.59-7.61 (m, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 14.7, 14.8, 26.8, 26.9, 30.4, 33.1 (s), 49.3, 92.9, 106.6, 127.3, 128.1, 128.2, 129.0, 133.3 (s), 137.0 (s), 203.9 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1946, 1474, 1447; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₆H₂₁S: 245.1358 [M+H-C₂H₆S]⁺; found 245.1360.

Preparation of the propargylic alcohol **25**

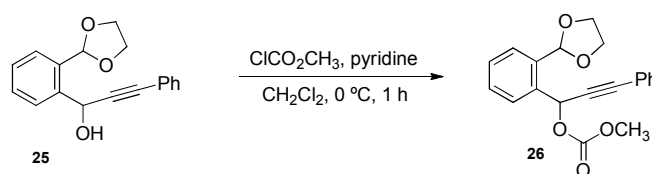


To a solution of 2-(1,3-dioxolan-2-yl)benzaldehyde **13a** (3 mmol) in anhydrous THF (30 mL) at 0 °C was added 0.5 M solution of phenylethynylmagnesium bromide in THF (6 mL, 3 mmol). The reaction was stirred for 40 min at 0 °C. Then a saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl (10 mL) was added. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (2 x 30 mL).

The organic layers were combined, washed with water (2 × 100 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting oil was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/diethyl ether (2:3 v/v) as eluent.

Propargylic alcohol 25: (0.48 g, 57%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 4.05-4.19 (m, 5H), 6.02 (s, 1H), 6.19 (s, 1H), 7.32-7.52 (m, 7H), 7.58-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.83-7.86 (m, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 62.8, 65.6, 65.7, 86.7 (s), 88.9 (s), 102.9, 123.1 (s), 127.8, 128.9, 129.0, 129.1, 130.2, 132.1, 135.1 (s), 140.1 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 3439, 1489, 1454, 1406; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₈H₁₇O₃: 281.1172 [M+H]⁺; found: 281.1176.

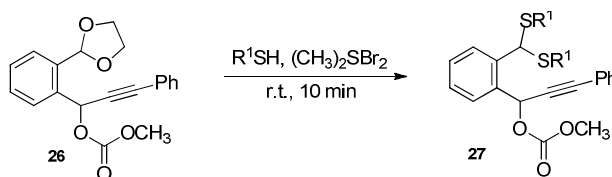
Preparation of the propargyl carbonate 26



To a solution of the propargylic alcohol **25** (3 mmol) in anhydrous dichloromethane (20 mL), under nitrogen at 0 °C, dry pyridine (0.72 mL, 9 mmol) and methyl chloroformate (0.69 mL, 9 mmol) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. Then, a saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl (20 mL) was added and the resulting mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (2 × 50 mL), and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduce pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography, using hexanes/diethyl ether (3:2 v/v) as eluent.

Propargyl carbonate 26: (0.61, 60%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl₃) 3.82 (s, 3H), 4.22-4.30 (m, 4H), 6.13 (s, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 7.27-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.38-7.48 (m, 4H), 7.60 (dd, $J=1.8, 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.85 (dd, $J=1.8, 7.2$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl₃) 54.9, 65.2, 66.6, 85.1 (s), 87.8 (s), 101.7, 122.0, 126.9, 128.1, 128.7, 128.9, 129.1, 129.5, 131.8, 134.9 (s), 135.0 (s), 154.7 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1750, 1441, 1263; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₂₀H₁₈NaO₅: 361.1046 [M+Na]⁺; found: 361.1043.

General procedure for the preparation of the propargyl carbonates **27**



To a mixture of propargyl carbonate **26** (1 mmol) and ethanethiol (2.2 mmol) or 2-phenylethanethiol (2.2 mmol) or (4-chlorophenyl)methanethiol (2.2 mmol) or (4-bromophenyl)methanethiol (2.2 mmol) a catalytic amount of (bromodimethyl)sulfonium bromide was added (0.023 g). After stirring at room temperature for 15 min the reaction mixture was neutralized by addition of two drops of saturated NaHCO_3 solution. Then, the resulting crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

Propargyl carbonate 27a ($\text{R}^1 = \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2$): (hexanes/diethyl ether 2:3); (0.30 g, 76%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl_3) 1.18 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H), 1.21 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H); 2.54-2.73 (m, 4H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 5.50 (s, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 7.30-7.35 (m, 4H), 7.40 (td, $J = 1.8, 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.67 (dd, $J = 1.5, 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.84 (dd, $J = 1.5, 7.8$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl_3) 14.2, 14.4, 26.6, 26.7, 48.5, 55.2, 67.6, 84.9 (s), 88.4 (s), 121.9 (s), 128.1, 128.3, 128.7, 129.0, 129.2, 129.6, 131.9, 133.6 (s), 138.7 (s), 154.8 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1752, 1490, 1441; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{KO}_3\text{S}_2$: 439.0798 $[\text{M}+\text{K}]^+$; found 439.0793.

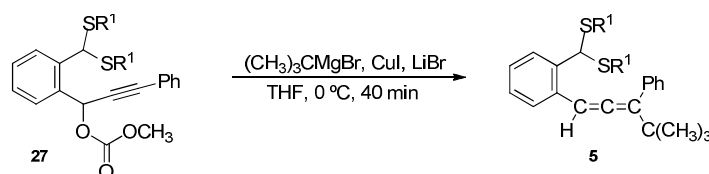
Propargyl carbonate 27b ($\text{R}^1 = \text{PhCH}_2\text{CH}_2$): (hexanes/diethyl ether 3:2); (0.35 g, 63%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 2.77-2.87 (m, 8H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 7.05-7.46 (m, 17H), 7.66 (dd, $J = 1.2, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 34.7, 34.9, 36.5, 36.6, 50.4, 56.0, 68.6, 85.7 (s), 89.4 (s), 122.7 (s), 127.1, 129.1, 129.2, 129.3, 129.4, 129.8, 130.1, 130.6, 132.8 (s), 139.3 (s), 141.2 (s), 141.3 (s), 155.6 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1751, 1491, 1453; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{32}\text{NaO}_3\text{S}_2$: 575.1685 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$; found 575.1680.

Propargyl carbonate 27c ($\text{R}^1 = 4\text{-Cl-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-CH}_2$): (hexanes/diethyl ether 3:2); (0.41 g, 70%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl_3) 3.61-3.79 (m, 4H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 6.49 (s, 1H), 7.06-7.24 (m, 8H), 7.29-7.43 (m, 7H), 7.64-7.67 (m, 1H), 7.78-7.79 (m, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75

MHz; CDCl₃) 36.2, 36.3, 48.4, 55.3, 66.9, 84.9 (s), 88.1 (s), 121.8 (s), 128.4, 128.6, 128.7, 128.8, 129.1, 129.2, 129.6, 130.3, 130.4, 132.0, 132.9 (s), 133.0 (s), 134.5 (s), 135.7 (s), 135.8 (s), 136.5 (s), 154.4 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1754, 1489, 1440; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₃₂H₂₆Cl₂KO₃S₂: 631.0332 [M+K]⁺; found 631.0342.

Propargyl carbonate 27d (**R**¹ = **4-Br-C₆H₄-CH₂**): (hexanes/diethyl ether 3:2); (0.41 g, 60%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl₃) 3.55-3.77 (m, 4H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 6.49 (s, 1H), 7.00-7.77 (m, 17H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl₃) 36.3, 36.4, 48.5, 55.3, 67.0, 85.0 (s), 88.2 (s), 121.0 (s), 121.8 (s), 128.4, 128.5, 128.6, 128.8, 129.1, 129.6, 130.6, 130.7, 130.8, 131.1, 131.6, 132.0, 134.5 (s), 136.2 (s), 136.3 (s), 136.5 (s), 154.4 (s) pm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1753, 1486, 1440; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₃₀H₂₃Br₂S₂: 606.9764 [M+H-C₂H₄O₃]⁺; found 606.9524.

General procedure for the preparation of the allenes 5j-m



To a 0 °C cooled solution of CuI (9.6 g, 50 mmol) and LiBr (4.34 g, 50 mmol) in anhydrous THF (40 mL), 1.0 M *tert*-butylmagnesium bromide in THF (50 mL, 50 mmol) was added, and the stirring was continued at 0 °C for 30 min. Then a solution of the propargyl carbonate **27** (5 mmol) in anhydrous THF (10 mL) was dropwise added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 40 min. Next, a saturated aqueous solution of NH₄Cl (20 mL) was added and the suspension extracted with diethyl ether (2 x 40 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with brine (30 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

Allene 5j (**R**¹ = **CH₃CH₂**): (hexanes/ ethyl acetate 9:1); (0.68 g, 36%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 1.13 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.18 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.20 (s, 9H), 2.41-2.57 (m, 4H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 7.17-7.28 (m, 4H), 7.29-7.34 (m, 4H), 7.47 (dd, J = 1.6, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CD₂Cl₂) 14.7, 14.8, 26.8, 26.9, 30.1, 35.6 (s), 91.8, 119.6 (s), 127.4, 127.5, 128.0, 128.3, 128.4, 129.1, 129.9, 133.5 (s), 137.1 (s), 137.5 (s), 204.3

(s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1944, 1596, 1476; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{30}\text{KS}_2$: 421.1421 $[\text{M}+\text{K}]^+$; found 421.1419.

Allene 5k ($\text{R}^1 = \text{PhCH}_2\text{CH}_2$): (hexanes/ethyl acetate 95:5); (1.76 g, 66%); colorless oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 1.24 (s, 9H), 2.73-2.85 (m, 8H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 6.54 (s, 1H), 7.09-7.39 (m, 17H), 7.55 (dd, $J = 1.4, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 30.1, 34.2, 34.3, 35.7 (s), 36.4, 91.8, 119.7 (s), 126.7, 126.8, 127.4, 127.5, 127.9, 128.5, 128.8, 128.9, 129.0, 129.1, 129.2, 129.9, 133.5 (s), 136.7 (s), 137.5 (s), 140.9 (s), 141.0 (s), 204.3 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1944, 1597, 1494; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{38}\text{KS}_2$: 573.2047 $[\text{M}+\text{K}]^+$; found 573.2047.

Allene 5l ($\text{R}^1 = 4\text{-Cl-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-CH}_2$): (hexanes/ ethyl acetate 9:1); (1.20 g, 42%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 1.17 (s, 9H), 3.26 (d, $J = 13.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.46 (d, $J = 13.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.53 (d, $J = 13.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.69 (d, $J = 13.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.43 (s, 1H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 6.76-6.79 (m, 2H), 6.84-6.90 (m, 4H), 7.16-7.38 (m, 10H), 7.45 (dd, $J = 2.4, 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 30.1, 35.6 (s), 36.5, 36.7, 45.9, 90.2, 119.6 (s), 127.6, 127.8, 128.6, 128.7, 128.8, 129.1, 129.2, 130.0, 130.5, 130.9, 133.1 (s), 133.3 (s), 134.4 (s), 137.5 (s), 137.4 (s), 137.7 (s), 203.8 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1945, 1595, 1489; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{33}\text{Cl}_2\text{S}_2$: 575.1395 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$; found 575.1396.

Allene 5m ($\text{R}^1 = 4\text{-Br-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-CH}_2$): (hexanes/ ethyl acetate 9:1); (1.39 g, 42%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 1.20 (s, 9H), 3.21 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.44 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.48 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.64 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.43 (s, 1H), 5.14 (s, 1H), 6.69 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 6.78 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 3H), 7.19-7.47 (m, 8H), 7.83 (m, 2H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CD_2Cl_2) 29.9, 35.2 (s), 36.0, 36.3, 45.1, 89.7, 119.0 (s), 120.9 (s), 121.0 (s), 127.1, 127.3, 128.1, 128.2, 128.3, 129.5, 130.7, 131.6, 131.7, 133.7, 136.9 (s), 137.1 (s), 137.2 (s), 203.3 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1946, 1596, 1485; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{33}\text{Br}_2\text{S}_2$: 663.0385 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, found 663.0386.

Acid-triggered cyclization of acetallic allenes **5**

Conditions A: To a solution of the appropriate allene **5** (1 mmol) in dichloromethane (10 mL) at room temperature silver hexafluoroantimonate(V) (0.1 equivalent) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 min. Then, the solution was filtrated

through Celite[®] and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Finally, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel.

Conditions B: To a solution of the allene **5** (1 mmol) in dichloromethane (10 mL) at room temperature trifluoroacetic acid (1 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 min. Then, saturated NaHCO₃ solution (10 mL) was added. After separation of the organic phase the aqueous one was extracted with dichloromethane (2 x 15 mL). The organic layers were combined, washed with brine (30 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified column chromatography on silica gel.

Indene-1,4-dioxepane *trans*-6a (**R**¹ = **H**, **R**² = **C(CH₃)₃**, **n** = **1**): *conditions A*; (hexanes/ethyl acetate 9:1); (0.15 g, 62%); colorless prism; mp 108-110 °C (from diethyl ether); δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl₃) 0.96 (s, 9H), 3.65-3.71 (m, 1H), 3.96-4.06 (m, 3H), 4.19 (s, 1H), 5.00 (s, 1H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 7.14-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.41-7.43 (m, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl₃) 26.5, 36.8 (s), 72.3, 72.7, 85.0, 87.6, 120.7, 124.1, 125.9, 128.8, 130.3, 142.5 (s), 143.2 (s), 151.9 (s) ppm; IR (Nujol): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1610, 1358, 1283; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₅: 183.1168 [M+H-C₂H₆O₂]⁺; found 183.1171.

Indene-1,4-dioxepane *cis*-6a (**R**¹ = **H**, **R**² = **C(CH₃)₃**, **n** = **1**): *see Table 1*; (hexanes/ethyl acetate 9:1); mp 106-108 °C (from diethyl ether); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.14 (s, 9H), 3.11 (dd, J = 10.0, 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.51-3.55 (m, 1H), 3.62-3.68 (m, 1H), 3.82-3.86 (m, 2H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 7.19-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl₃) 27.1, 34.9 (s), 67.6, 72.0, 82.7, 86.7, 121.4, 123.6, 125.8, 128.7, 128.9, 142.9 (s), 143.9 (s), 149.3 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1479, 1438, 1292; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₅: 183.1168 [M+H-C₂H₆O₂]⁺; found 183.1172.

Indene-1,4-dioxepane *cis/trans*-6b (**R**¹ = **OCH₃**, **R**² = **CH₃**, **n** = **1**): *conditions A*; (hexanes/ethyl acetate 9:1); (0.14 g, 60%); colorless oil; *cis/trans* ratio 1:3; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.45 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 1.55 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 3.46 (dd, J = 0.9, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.67-3.90 (m, 10H), 3.95-4.13 (m, 3H), 4.52 (q, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 4.64-4.70 (m, 1H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 5.11 (s, 1H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 6.61 (s, H), 6.69 (dt, J = 2.4, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (dt, J = 2.4, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.03-7.13 (m, 4H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl₃) 19.0, 23.5, 55.6, 69.6, 70.8, 71.5, 73.6, 74.2, 76.8, 84.8, 85.0, 110.5, 110.7, 113.7, 113.8, 121.1, 121.7, 125.9, 127.9, 135.3 (s), 144.5

(s), 145.8 (s), 150.5 (s), 155.1 (s), 158.5 (s), 158.8 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1480, 1286; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_3$: 233.1172 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$; found 233.1169.

Indene-1,4-dioxepane *trans*-6c ($\text{R}^1 = \text{H}$, $\text{R}^2 = \text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $n = 1$): *conditions A*; (hexanes/diethyl ether 9:1); (0.12 g, 47%); mp 116-118 °C (from diethyl ether); δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl_3) 3.87-3.95 (m, 1H), 4.12-4.15 (m, 2H), 4.20-4.26 (m, 1H), 5.26 (s, 1H), 5.53 (s, 1H), 6.23 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.15-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.40 (m, 5H), 7.45 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl_3) 73.8, 74.9, 83.5, 85.8, 120.9, 123.8, 125.8, 127.0, 128.0, 128.6, 128.7, 128.9, 142.3 (s), 142.6 (s), 155.4 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1494, 1290, 1164; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_2$: 265.1233 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$; found 265.1232.

Indene-1,5-dioxocane *trans*-7a ($\text{R}^1 = \text{H}$, $\text{R}^2 = \text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$, $n = 2$): *conditions A*; (hexanes/ethyl acetate 9:1); (0.11 g, 45%); colorless oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl_3) 0.99 (s, 9H), 1.31-1.41 (m, 1H), 1.93-2.07 (m, 1H), 3.09-3.18 (m, 1H), 3.47 (dt, $J = 2.1, 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.69-3.76 (m, 1H), 3.98-4.05 (m, 2H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 7.17-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.49 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl_3) 27.1, 32.2, 35.5 (s), 66.2, 68.0, 83.9, 88.8, 120.6, 123.8, 125.8, 128.4, 134.4, 141.7 (s), 145.0 (s), 149.8 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1462, 1389, 1292; HRMS (ESI)M m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{15}$: 183.1168 $[\text{M}+\text{H}-\text{C}_3\text{H}_8\text{O}_2]^+$; found 183.1172.

Indene-1,5-dioxocane *cis/trans*-7b ($\text{R}^1 = \text{H}$, $\text{R}^2 = \text{CH}_3$, $n = 2$): *conditions A*; (hexanes/diethyl ether 4:1); (0.13 g, 60%); colorless oil; *cis/trans* ratio 1:3; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl_3) 1.29-1.34 (m, 2H), 1.46 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H), 1.54 (d, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H), 1.78-1.89 (m, 1H), 1.96-2.11 (m, 1H), 3.02-3.11 (m, 2H), 3.54 (dt, $J = 1.8, 12.0$ Hz, 3H), 3.62-3.72 (m, 3H), 3.85 (t, $J = 5.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.96-4.02 (m, 1H), 4.56 (q, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.61 (q, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 7.18-7.30 (m, 6H), 7.48-7.53 (m, 2H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl_3) 19.0, 23.0, 31.3, 32.4, 63.8, 65.6, 65.8, 67.6, 73.0, 75.3, 80.4, 84.8, 120.8, 121.2, 123.7, 124.0, 126.0, 128.5, 130.5, 131.8, 141.8 (s), 144.0 (s), 144.4 (s), 151.5 (s), 152.3 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1724, 1600, 1339; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_2$: 217.1233 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$; found 217.1233.

Indene-1,4-oxathiepane *cis*-8: *conditions A*; (hexanes/ethyl acetate 95:5); (0.16 g, 58%); colorless oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl_3) 1.40 (s, 9H), 2.55-2.63 (m, 1H), 2.91-3.03 (m, 2H), 3.69 (s, 1H), 3.88-3.96 (m, 1H), 4.91 (s, 1H), 6.79 (d, $J = 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.47 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl_3) 28.7, 33.2, 35.0 (s), 53.4,

67.4, 86.1, 120.9, 123.5, 125.4, 126.9, 128.8, 141.1 (s), 144.2 (s), 152.7 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1608, 1458, 1396; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{OS}$: 261.1308 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$; found 261.1315.

Indene-1,4-dithiepane 9: *conditions B*; (hexanes/ethyl acetate 9:1); (0.23 g, 83%); colorless oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 1.18 (s, 9H), 2.12 (ddd, $J = 2.0, 10.0, 15.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.66 (ddd, $J = 2.0, 6.0, 15.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.87-2.99 (m, 2H), 3.97 (s, 1H), 4.29 (s, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 7.16-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.47 (dd, $J = 0.8, 7.6$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 28.4, 30.3, 34.7, 35.5 (s), 52.8, 54.5, 120.9, 124.0, 125.3, 127.6, 129.4, 143.7 (s), 145.6 (s), 153.3 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1478, 1390, 1361; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{S}_2$: 277.1079 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$; found 277.1078.

1-Methoxy-1H-indene 10: *conditions A*; (hexanes/diethyl ether 9:1); (0.15 g, 61%); colorless oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 1.03 (s, 9H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 1H), 5.09 (s, 1H), 6.67 (s, 1H), 7.17-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.46-7.48 (m, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 26.8, 35.7 (s), 55.0, 58.2, 85.4, 88.6, 121.2, 123.7, 125.7, 128.4, 133.5, 141.9 (s), 143.4 (s), 147.0 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1465, 1364, 1179; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{15}$: 183.1168 $[\text{M}+\text{H}-\text{C}_2\text{H}_8\text{O}_2]^+$; found 183.1171.

1-(Ethylthio)-1H-indene 11: *conditions B*; (hexanes/diethyl ether 9:1); (0.26 g, 99%); colorless oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 0.98 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H), 1.19 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H), 1.22 (s, 9H), 1.81-1.89 (m, 1H), 1.96-2.04 (m, 1H), 2.43-2.52 (m, 1H), 2.57-2.65 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 1H), 4.53 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 7.16-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.54 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 13.9, 14.9, 21.3, 28.0, 28.8, 36.3 (s), 53.7, 54.9, 120.8, 123.9, 125.2, 127.3, 127.4, 143.4 (s), 143.9 (s), 149.5 (s) ppm; ; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1607, 1461, 1392; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{S}$: 245.1358 $[\text{M}+\text{H}-\text{C}_2\text{H}_6\text{S}]^+$; found 245.1362.

1H-Indene 12a ($\text{R}^1 = \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2$): *conditions B*; (hexanes/diethyl ether 4:1); (0.32 g, 83%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 0.94 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.30 (s, 9H), 1.37 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.01-2.08 (m, 1H), 2.18-2.27 (m, 1H), 2.63-2.73 (m, 2H), 4.09 (s, 1H), 5.33 (s, 1H), 6.94-6.97 (m, 1H), 7.14-7.40 (m, 8H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 14.0, 26.0, 27.7, 31.2, 37.8 (s), 47.8, 52.6, 123.7, 126.2, 127.0, 127.2, 127.6, 127.8, 128.2, 130.7, 137.8 (s), 141.7 (s), 142.7 (s), 143.8 (s), 148.5 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1475, 1458, 1392; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{30}\text{NaS}_2$: 405.1681 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$; found 405.1677.

1H-Indene 12b ($R^1 = \text{PhCH}_2\text{CH}_2$): *conditions B*; (hexanes/ethyl acetate 9:1); (0.43 g, 80%); yellow oil; δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl_3) 1.27 (s, 9H), 2.24-2.27 (m, 1H), 2.44-2.54 (m, 3H), 2.87-3.00 (m, 4H), 4.14 (s, 1H), 5.33 (s, 1H), 6.93-7.12 (m, 4H), 7.13-7.38 (m, 15H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl_3) 31.2, 33.6, 35.3, 35.7, 35.8, 37.8 (s), 48.4, 53.1, 123.8, 126.2, 126.3, 126.4, 127.3, 127.4, 128.0, 128.2, 128.4, 128.5, 128.6, 130.7, 137.7 (s), 140.8 (s), 140.9 (s), 141.7 (s), 142.7 (s), 143.7 (s), 149.0 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1475, 1458, 1392; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{38}\text{KS}_2$: 573.2047 $[\text{M}+\text{K}]^+$; found 573.2047.

1H-Indene 12c ($R^1 = 4\text{-Cl-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-CH}_2$): *conditions B*; (hexanes/ethyl acetate 4:1); (0.50 g, 87%); mp 119-121 °C (from diethyl ether); δ_{H} (300 MHz; CDCl_3) 1.16 (s, 9H), 3.08 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.32 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.71 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.79 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.05 (s, 1H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 6.45 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.85-6.91 (m, 3H), 7.15-7.39 (m, 13H) ppm; δ_{C} (75 MHz; CDCl_3) 31.1, 36.1, 37.5, 37.7 (s), 48.4, 52.0, 123.7, 124.1, 126.4, 127.3, 127.6, 127.9, 128.0, 128.4, 128.6, 128.7, 130.3, 130.5, 130.6, 132.5 (s), 132.8 (s), 136.3 (s), 136.9 (s), 137.6 (s), 141.8 (s), 142.6 (s), 143.1 (s), 149.1 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1596, 1488, 1264; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{32}\text{Cl}_2\text{NaS}_2$: 597.1215 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$; found 597.1218.

1H-Indene 12d ($R^1 = 4\text{-Br-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-CH}_2$): *conditions B*; (hexanes/ethyl acetate 4:1); (0.56 g, 85 %); mp 125-127 °C (from diethyl ether); δ_{H} (400 MHz; CDCl_3) 1.17 (s, 9H), 3.08 (d, $J = 13.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.31 (d, $J = 13.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.70 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.79 (d, $J = 13.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.06 (s, 1H), 5.21 (s, 1H), 6.47 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.82-6.83 (m, 2H), 6.90-6.93 (m, 1H), 7.08-7.15 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.46 (m, 10H) ppm; δ_{C} (100 MHz; CDCl_3) 31.2, 36.2, 37.6, 37.7 (s), 48.5, 52.1, 120.6, 120.9, 123.8, 124.2, 126.5, 127.3, 127.6, 128.0, 128.4, 130.5, 130.7, 130.9, 131.1 (s), 131.6, 131.7 (s), 136.9 (s), 137.5 (s), 137.7 (s), 141.9 (s), 142.6 (s), 143.1 (s), 149.2 (s) ppm; IR (Neat): $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 1589, 1361, 1070; HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{33}\text{Br}_2\text{S}_2$: 663.0390 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$; found 663.0392.

DFT Computational Study

The 1,3-disubstituted 2-alkylidene-2,3-dihydroindenes **28**, **29** and **30** shown in Figure S1 have been used as slightly simplified models of compounds **12** in the experimental study. Their geometries have been fully optimized by DFT methods using the B3LYP functional⁶ and the 6-311++G(d,p) basis set⁷ as implemented in the Gaussian 09 package.⁸ All the energy minima were characterized by frequency analysis.

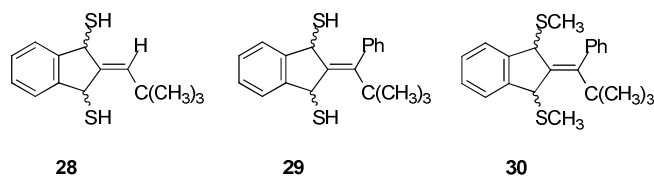


Figure S1. 2-Alkylidene-2,3-dihydroindenes **28**, **29** and **30**

The *cis* and *trans* diastereoisomers of **28**, **29** and **30** have been computed. Their relative energies are gathered in Table S1. In the three pairs, the *cis* diastereoisomer is always the most stable one. The difference in energy between the two diastereoisomers in each pair increases with the substitution at the exocyclic carbon atom (compare entries 1 and 2). With a methyl group linked to each S atom, entry 3, the *cis* diastereoisomer is still the most stable although in slightly lower extent.

Table S1. Relative energies (RE, in $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$) of the *cis* and *trans* diastereoisomers of **28**, **29** and **30**.

Entry	2,3-Dihydroindene	RE
1	<i>cis_28</i>	0.0
	<i>trans_28</i>	4.4
2	<i>cis_29</i>	0.0
	<i>trans_29</i>	24.4
3	<i>cis_30</i>	0.0
	<i>trans_30</i>	19.6

The B3LYP energies in Hartrees, the number of imaginary frequencies (NIMAG) and the Cartesian coordinates of 2-alkylidene-2,3-dihydroindenes **28**, **29** and **30** are collected in Table S2.

Table S2. B3LYP energies in Hartrees, Number of Imaginary Frequencies (NIMAG) and Cartesian Coordinates of 2-Alkylidene-2,3-dihydroindenes **28**, **29** and **30**

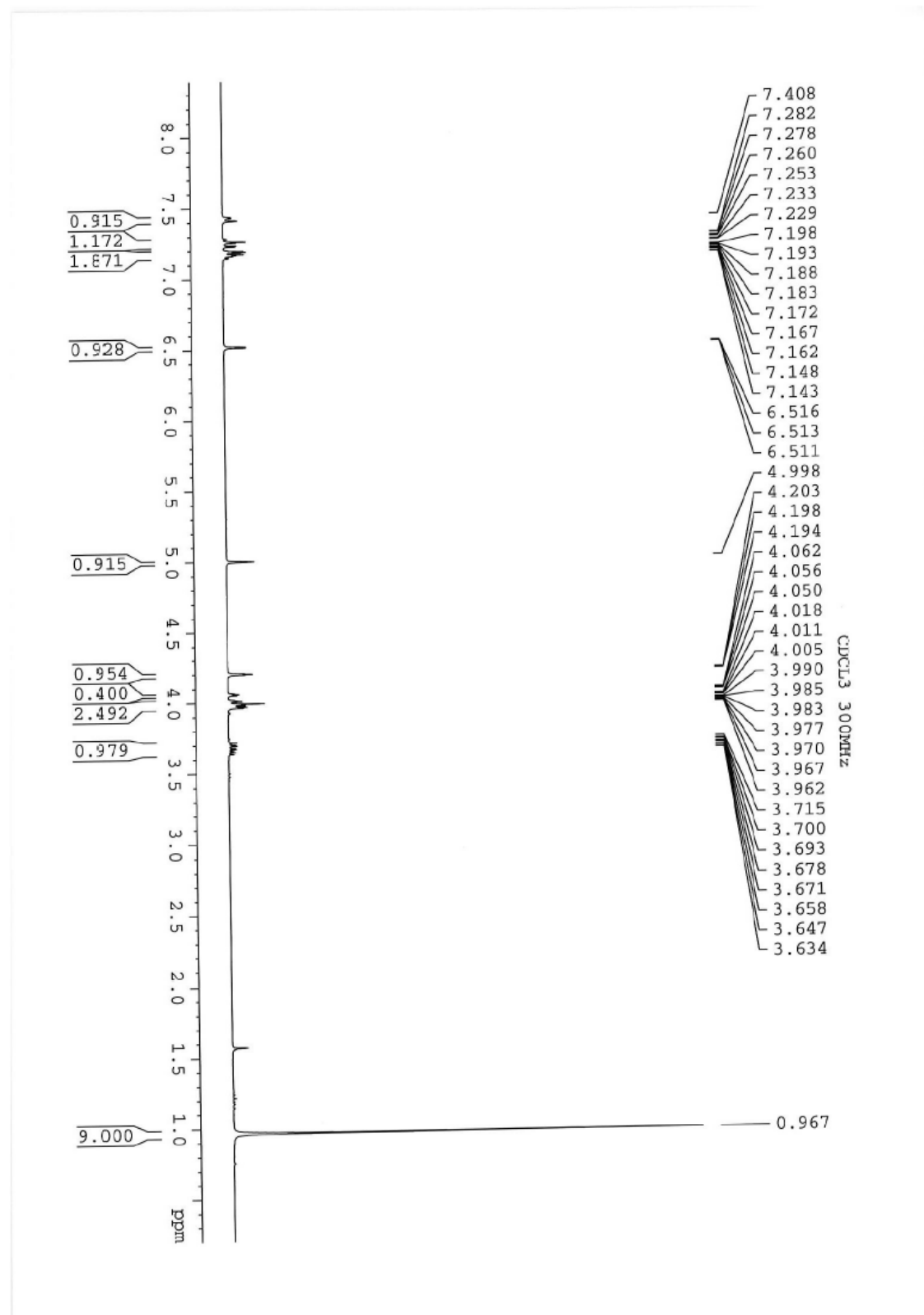
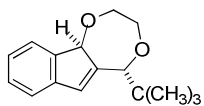
<p><i>cis_28</i>, B3LYP Energy= -1340.89255049 Hartree, NIMAG= 0</p> <p>C,-3.1561283418,0.9856590598,0.1729834743 C,-3.2875953401,-0.4047951061,0.1041756997 C,-2.1604896505,-1.2248608662,0.0898265164 C,-0.9000842501,-0.6364897034,0.15322345 C,-0.7694532727,0.752660865,0.2254399111 C,-1.8936530872,1.5748409215,0.2298446198 H,-4.0427462605,1.609459513,0.1832756465 H,-4.2759405789,-0.8485652639,0.0611106319 H,-2.2651306452,-2.3021887057,0.0222211913 H,-1.7911897249,2.6535155029,0.2775292903 C,0.4526826086,-1.3061235942,0.173692626 H,0.4818015779,-2.1461646941,0.8630890539 C,0.685294162,1.1387602266,0.2826379137 H,0.9025026221,1.901329651,1.0297714948 C,1.390842466,-0.1783035468,0.578514232 C,2.5809517937,-0.2038602487,1.1891068608 H,3.0066796427,0.7802967394,1.3944607198 S,0.8803651419,-2.1152945218,-1.4646308322 H,0.9258698327,-0.9684993318,-2.1748248056 S,1.1412173175,1.8830967684,-1.3864032828 H,2.4601328375,2.0167981059,-1.1326874406 C,3.519271963,-1.3155054565,1.6284184183 C,2.8998588945,-2.7221166667,1.6669931764 C,4.7218786679,-1.318974411,0.6532004182 C,4.0262052651,-0.9619545781,3.0461938814 H,2.0473316596,-2.7666006582,2.35062783 H,2.5816588936,-3.0527650198,0.6772471472 H,3.6445843407,-3.4376166728,2.0281879728 H,5.203223461,-0.337146466,0.6135062096 H,5.4723330948,-2.046581873,0.9787098943 H,4.4023173277,-1.5830557536,-0.3575136972 H,4.7566985261,-1.70204595,3.3857508868 H,4.5106331972,0.0189995319,3.0624932495 H,3.2025414583,-0.9431586968,3.7656410418</p>	<p><i>trans_28</i>, B3LYP Energy= -1340.89088471 Hartree, NIMAG= 0</p> <p>C,-2.6596736437,1.8698664396,0.0960029709 C,-3.1875589365,0.6789005052,0.6016260729 C,-2.3866571812,-0.4578039533,0.7098928923 C,-1.0552748209,-0.3841974504,0.3081424244 C,-0.5241116176,0.8105584588,-0.1816553021 C,-1.3227129653,1.9438806434,-0.2962948129 H,-3.2921450766,2.7469799505,0.0173621216 H,-4.2242802783,0.6401241422,0.9166343261 H,-2.7983437578,-1.3807841254,1.1057915263 H,-0.9054275651,2.8732159424,-0.6668423721 C,-0.0160648783,-1.4726995424,0.3137866923 H,-0.0390687541,-2.0828990089,1.2113434853 C,0.9341191111,0.626062525,-0.5399454012 H,1.0348696749,0.5479107153,-1.6293398779 C,1.2922331036,-0.7241663554,0.1107309944 C,2.5414618874,-1.0848700804,0.4160187426 H,3.2954635939,-0.3390523229,0.1669143062 S,-0.2298161316,-2.6441390598,-1.1490947629 H,-1.5451322353,-2.8868643633,-0.9668600621 S,2.0282915198,2.0598560435,-0.1576666383 H,1.7993293128,2.073941334,1.1726920075 C,3.161957566,-2.3306209734,1.0268521272 C,2.1808645491,-3.3093850028,1.6932019603 C,3.925275079,-3.0675270284,-0.1009768364 C,4.1819247959,-1.8590375007,2.0904393048 H,1.6326135679,-2.8313574009,2.509913744 H,1.4663039719,-3.7255326021,0.9807322142 H,2.7403907138,-4.1459610116,2.1223494692 H,4.6454118183,-2.4058267907,-0.5910340347 H,4.4762242611,-3.9201105011,0.309023535 H,3.2350407718,-3.4397407345,-0.8620321393 H,4.7118927215,-2.7155815748,2.517563947 H,4.9260292286,-1.1856456062,1.6553845784 H,3.6828373938,-1.3277770106,2.9059890969</p>
<p><i>cis_29</i>, B3LYP Energy= -1571.98999686 Hartree, NIMAG= 0</p> <p>C,-3.2620553602,0.6483440119,0.2935353436 C,-3.2070366643,-0.6924189736,-0.1018579943 C,-1.9849929971,-1.3565470647,-0.1912244398 C,-0.8198244415,-0.6632861761,0.1276383134 C,-0.8752414558,0.6724343608,0.5230451945 C,-2.0938193549,1.3429144332,0.6032057354 H,-4.2207185403,1.1505646729,0.3581090331 H,-4.1241479927,-1.2190374284,-0.3411575453 H,-1.9431613295,-2.3918212311,-0.5117636186 H,-2.1339439994,2.3856111781,0.8987465131 C,0.6009207964,-1.1664672955,0.143896006 H,0.666837877,-2.1347641959,0.6267802325 C,0.5093258381,1.193873214,0.7986909331 H,0.5666141357,1.8105036488,1.6912220738 C,1.3638439817,-0.0717968681,0.8885183216 C,2.5152627907,-0.138079466,1.5897433951 S,1.2571832852,-1.527697771,-1.5772261393 H,1.2359241778,-0.246746095,-2.002030092 S,0.9552158975,2.3293426445,-0.6395498706</p>	<p><i>trans_29</i>, B3LYP Energy= -1571.98071619 Hartree, NIMAG= 0</p> <p>C,-4.5314573063,-1.704523551,0.2570937557 C,-4.9411957772,-0.3983136778,-0.029062599 C,-3.9992511545,0.6095504534,-0.2219291057 C,-2.6443767769,0.2936064728,-0.1305886097 C,-2.236641522,-1.0125091963,0.1194202411 C,-3.1764621408,-2.0220182181,0.3217570489 H,-5.2739672951,-2.4787716853,0.4138321832 H,-5.9985436854,-0.1689825847,-0.0993861506 H,-4.3223722555,1.6235666383,-0.434929523 H,-2.858341781,-3.0417949753,0.505750064 C,-1.4653744604,1.2207905388,-0.2101643001 H,-1.5063429213,1.8948496247,-1.0608633402 C,-0.7365437933,-1.1326978308,0.0466664186 H,-0.3042412666,-1.6017492121,0.9296082759 C,-0.2336570255,0.3069792355,-0.1772625971 C,1.073805212,0.6456960969,-0.2475209431 S,-1.4217365457,2.2919263994,1.3459122221 H,-2.7011848683,2.715408955,1.2766314111 S,-0.4153696622,-2.3184039003,-1.3759470468</p>

<p>H,2.1397925537,2.7421801071,-0.1430167744 C,3.4720197132,-1.350639889,1.7675176063 C,2.8044225715,-2.7339443595,1.6237278852 C,4.6015222561,-1.253648414,0.710949739 C,4.1166877,-1.3206001677,3.1752346822 H,1.9313263392,-2.8347693852,2.274421409 H,2.5197458968,-2.9535010957,0.5953080529 H,3.5237567185,-3.5015938929,1.9226026473 H,5.2016059227,-0.3512100887,0.842658688 H,5.2740338826,-2.1114549827,0.8138360706 H,4.1906954844,-1.259033515,-0.3007905458 H,4.7989749456,-2.1693260681,3.2748497615 H,4.6885190616,-0.409404766,3.3528356866 H,3.3627124797,-1.4047261265,3.9635755843 C,2.9867816277,1.1334467253,2.2506869545 C,3.918524028,1.9783970807,1.6325685782 C,2.5032940408,1.4985102162,3.515072993 C,4.3588324248,3.1439663602,2.2612361389 H,4.3018673485,1.7248418683,0.6511923083 C,2.9381526481,2.6635213085,4.1427428411 H,1.779574636,0.8595384244,4.0095056765 C,3.8714185246,3.4904588035,3.5188388456 H,5.0802502703,3.7821908022,1.762795092 H,2.5481064885,2.9247041827,5.1203971359 H,4.2116269924,4.3967457727,4.0067613484</p>	<p>H,0.8813213222,-2.5632614899,-1.1048688592 C,1.6966017418,2.0308825424,-0.5940870072 C,0.7494794088,2.9923078278,-1.3418820316 C,2.1921936653,2.714388203,0.7038566585 C,2.9245948307,1.8481774323,-1.5237079214 H,0.3337220577,2.5237925645,-2.2381159152 H,-0.059620982,3.3602043112,-0.7134241219 H,1.3227265941,3.8652648582,-1.6660314152 H,2.9236739097,2.093638589,1.2264814339 H,2.6777790683,3.6637323968,0.4565887623 H,1.3666606111,2.926106628,1.3851044439 H,3.3276738533,2.8344972703,-1.7684964695 H,3.7240333499,1.2722747643,-1.0582764483 H,2.6488448845,1.3622080613,-2.4639519452 C,2.0763487772,-0.4086978971,0.1547929191 C,2.262016665,-0.6723227436,1.5193882117 C,2.8466108261,-1.1359876774,-0.7644105254 C,3.1851556954,-1.6233451283,1.9530556271 H,1.6737863711,-0.1235866879,2.2468739111 C,3.7668428373,-2.0904930109,-0.3341976802 H,2.7190071662,-0.9612124402,-1.8253238178 C,3.9417810434,-2.3368248363,1.0267120847 H,3.3098794225,-1.8051989779,3.0148460065 H,4.3461889535,-2.6434410047,-1.0654960586 H,4.6589859529,-3.078254588,1.3601967528</p>
<p><i>cis_30</i>, B3LYP Energy= -1650.62962857 Hartree, NIMAG= 0</p>	<p><i>trans_30</i>, B3LYP Energy= -1650.62215681 Hartree, NIMAG= 0</p>
<p>C,-3.7774383608,-1.9977686429,-1.4036924713 C,-4.3104463782,-0.7315113908,-1.6533946035 C,-3.5748728623,0.4166223186,-1.3536649916 C,-2.30881141,0.2802186926,-0.7884395943 C,-1.7715058782,-0.9882878595,-0.5496725562 C,-2.5006070408,-2.13329656,-0.856998774 H,-4.3532717872,-2.8822045856,-1.6526199258 H,-5.2957821291,-0.6398080761,-2.0965030003 H,-3.9823324609,1.3960496183,-1.5785398248 H,-2.0830813315,-3.1201924901,-0.6904103378 C,-1.3192079219,1.3562560254,-0.4206156992 H,-1.2938753464,2.1505179794,-1.1590587515 C,-0.378373016,-0.8688550582,0.0030400654 H,0.3237499962,-1.5678793178,-0.4480374129 C,-0.0039138773,0.5890405861,-0.2889274258 C,1.2690820248,1.0031537907,-0.4560230039 S,-1.6658466065,2.1629377085,1.2365205925 S,-0.3170977736,-1.2459035434,1.8452499624 C,1.800310767,2.4407955889,-0.708537424 C,0.7665609637,3.4366525742,-1.2702217663 C,2.3237595771,3.0060161772,0.6364366843 C,2.977755004,2.4128201204,-1.7137434212 H,0.3355750336,3.0849371173,-2.2115786949 H,-0.0312880291,3.651131864,-0.558900649 H,1.2743697617,4.3825673371,-1.4796477921 H,3.1355688566,2.398418094,1.0407266029 H,2.713150584,4.0176312048,0.4825408354 H,1.5232311669,3.0571812882,1.3777689574 H,3.3397983239,3.4328498801,-1.8696506994 H,3.815107852,1.8118071993,-1.3584146595 H,2.6655103959,2.0187345303,-2.685346391 C,2.3429066397,-0.0503711115,-0.3360462918 C,2.9636384298,-0.3318300045,0.8868527487 C,2.7345148719,-0.7871750732,-1.4631820662 C,3.9575893038,-1.3069539632,0.9758129205 H,2.6515126633,0.1977927674,1.777449639 C,3.7238174654,-1.7643527543,-1.3757402744 H,2.2575247862,-0.5908504411,-2.4174150986 C,4.3435960763,-2.0247088972,-0.1541632061 H,4.4248743306,-1.5085066662,1.933625176 H,4.0105781927,-2.3203149801,-2.261741954 H,5.1165210321,-2.7819272952,-0.0837340876 C,-3.3188918365,2.8887286698,0.9707055273 H,-3.3195042309,3.5796818076,0.1248067065 H,-4.0755887874,2.1169534226,0.8300140767 H,-3.5491234784,3.4477469447,1.8789364126 C,0.1525120166,-3.0108715845,1.7919487548 H,-0.6223626659,-3.6234057654,1.3284757557</p>	<p>C,-4.3658114085,-1.8650121355,0.0365916577 C,-4.8349544493,-0.5741395258,-0.2225761129 C,-3.9413546632,0.4891226042,-0.3403948233 C,-2.5749239281,0.2462251672,-0.1925058127 C,-2.10456263,-1.0516229373,0.0000738234 C,-2.9979310595,-2.1123223941,0.1319321864 H,-5.0697419184,-2.6836891986,0.1360925566 H,-5.8991956353,-0.3996887865,-0.3349075813 H,-4.309971275,1.4862722254,-0.5520163605 H,-2.6396223464,-3.1252455763,0.2775330631 C,-1.4427319093,1.2333598125,-0.1831338586 H,-1.5237556479,1.9885538257,-0.9610568223 C,-0.6005363991,-1.0953013889,-0.0778569572 H,-0.1330318592,-1.5853048016,0.7773420148 C,-0.1708255806,0.3776133648,-0.2255346925 C,1.1214401995,0.775204825,-0.2755622929 S,-1.37045059,2.1367680157,1.4693923564 S,-0.0926911262,-2.1211008189,-1.5707452003 C,1.6887326801,2.1897244332,-0.5885842453 C,0.6825564728,3.1590879832,-1.2411791963 C,2.2368611662,2.8388423273,0.7053788586 C,2.8664056629,2.0632616002,-1.5907586367 H,0.2393814524,2.7293288408,-2.1436525218 H,-0.1060774542,3.4613455503,-0.5538189142 H,1.2147798878,4.0667234455,-1.5396320571 H,3.0119497218,2.2216915693,1.1644585772 H,2.6819136768,3.8102431214,0.4673352699 H,1.4391971077,2.9981787895,1.4327637034 H,3.2308858376,3.0647848087,-1.8347465997 H,3.7034485452,1.4978798858,-1.1819559911 H,2.5508114143,1.5880193142,-2.5240638242 C,2.165769422,-0.2449492843,0.1117485311 C,2.3661586766,-0.4959500641,1.4770948934 C,2.958674679,-0.9444365748,-0.8077373631 C,3.3341402719,-1.4012348141,1.9129760709 H,1.757001354,0.0291413405,2.2049392106 C,3.9231010355,-1.8526563435,-0.3757543088 H,2.8090078461,-0.7916944787,-1.8677990377 C,4.1192297051,-2.0819195702,0.9860350745 H,3.4719554947,-1.5703976856,2.9753511511 H,4.5224480872,-2.38403829,-1.1071161528 H,4.8738526902,-2.7859267689,1.318888948 C,-2.9376270779,3.07113449,1.5035461763 H,-2.8851125725,3.7039149762,2.3910773163 H,-3.0382941774,3.7113940828,0.6244710839 H,-3.799147138,2.4099685356,1.5917070385 C,0.4739241735,-3.6585106195,-0.764563175 H,1.3252404182,-3.4614104759,-0.1117462065</p>

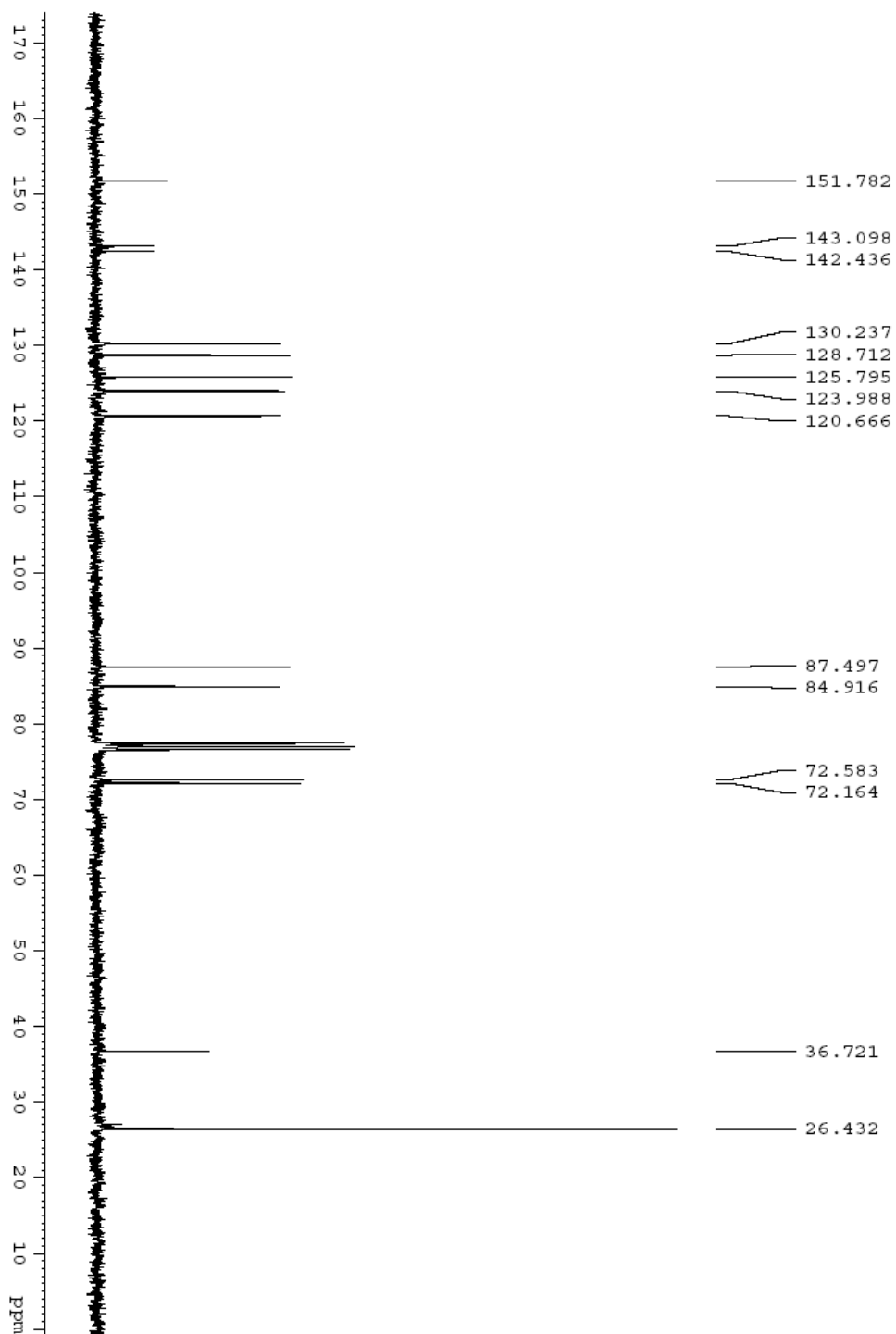
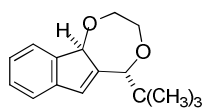
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¹H NMR of *trans*-6a

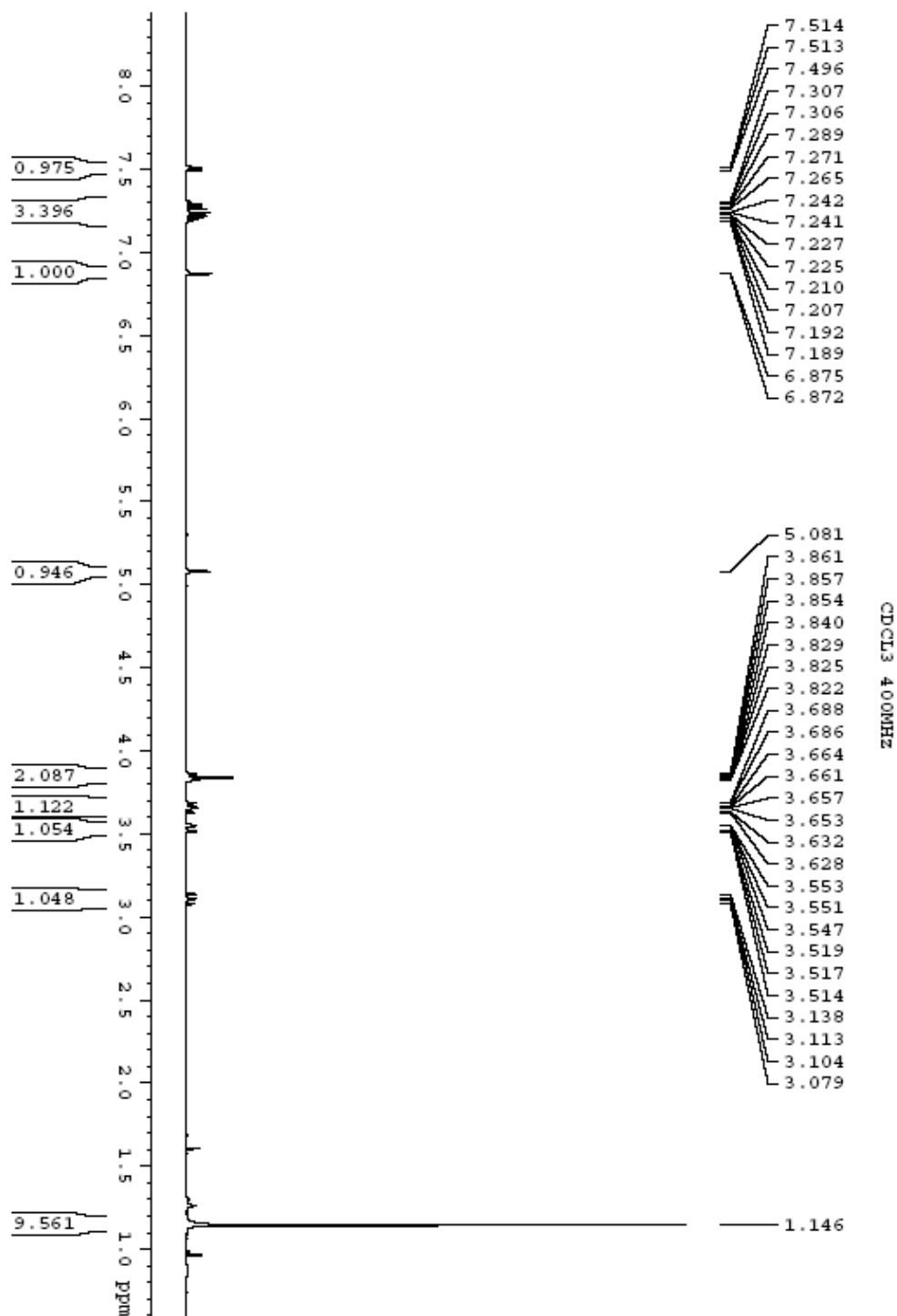
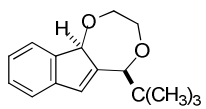


^{13}C NMR of *trans*-6a

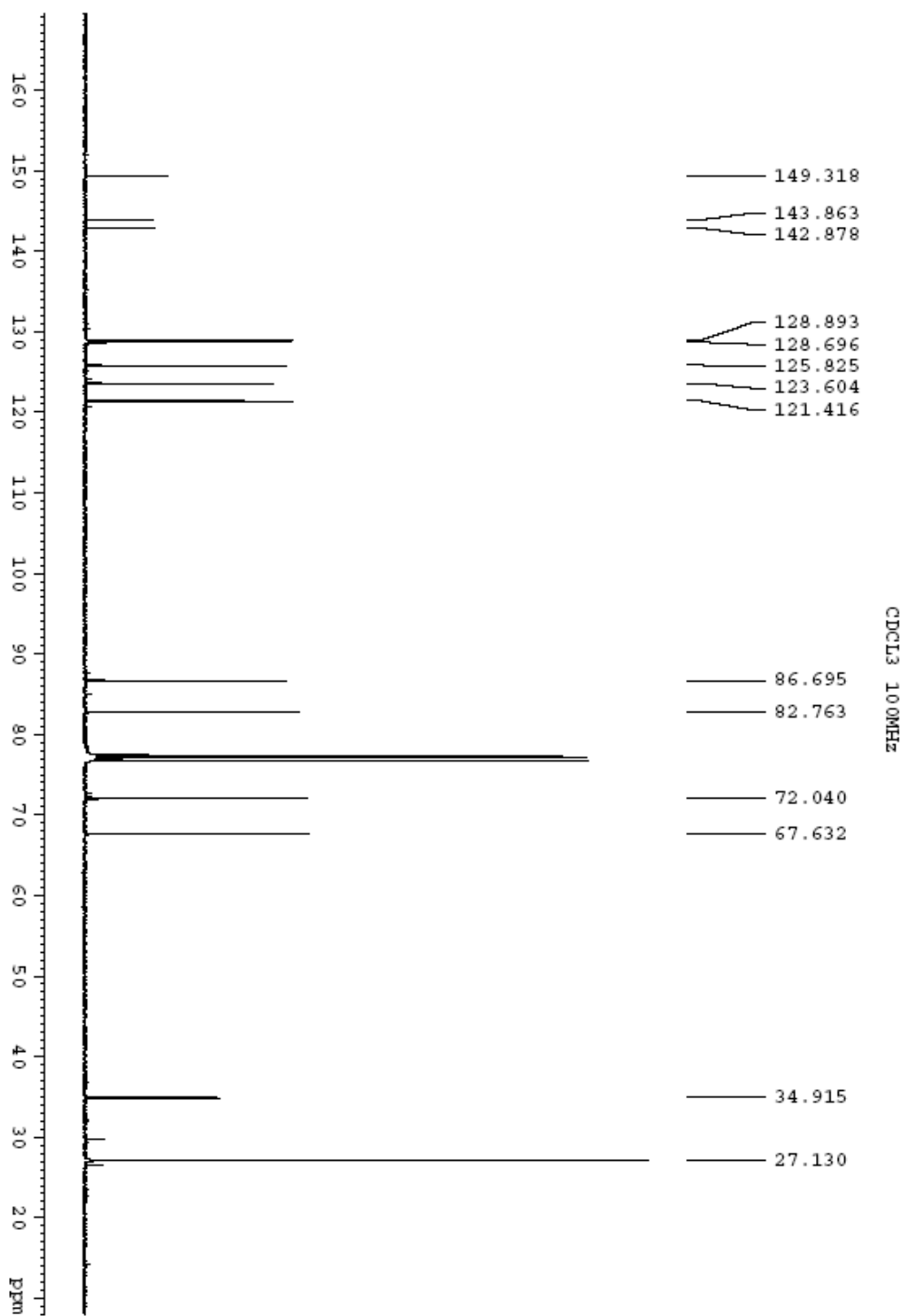
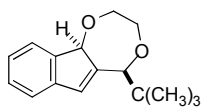


CDCl_3 75 MHz

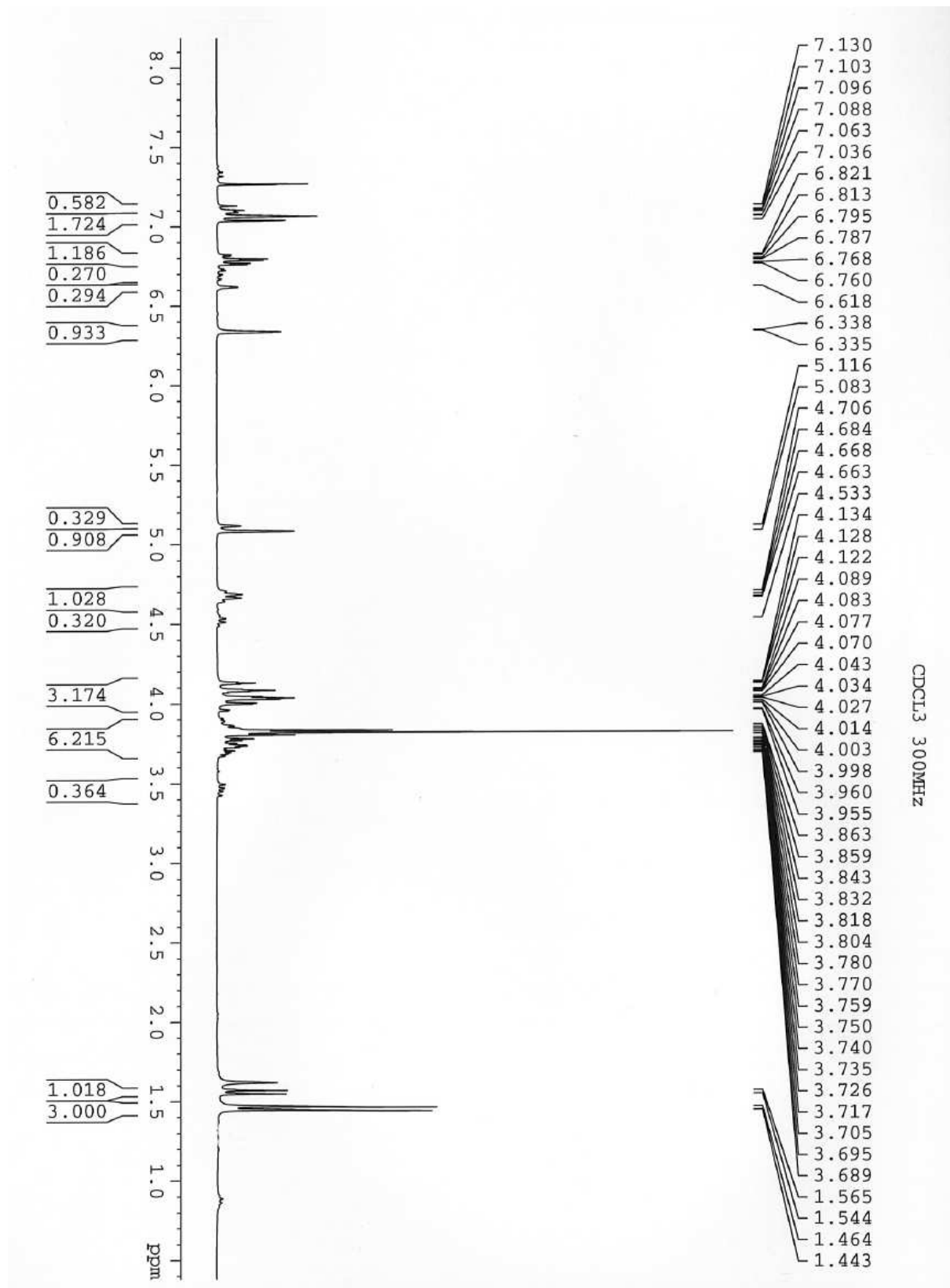
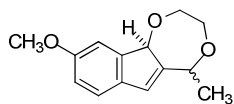
^1H NMR of *cis*-6a



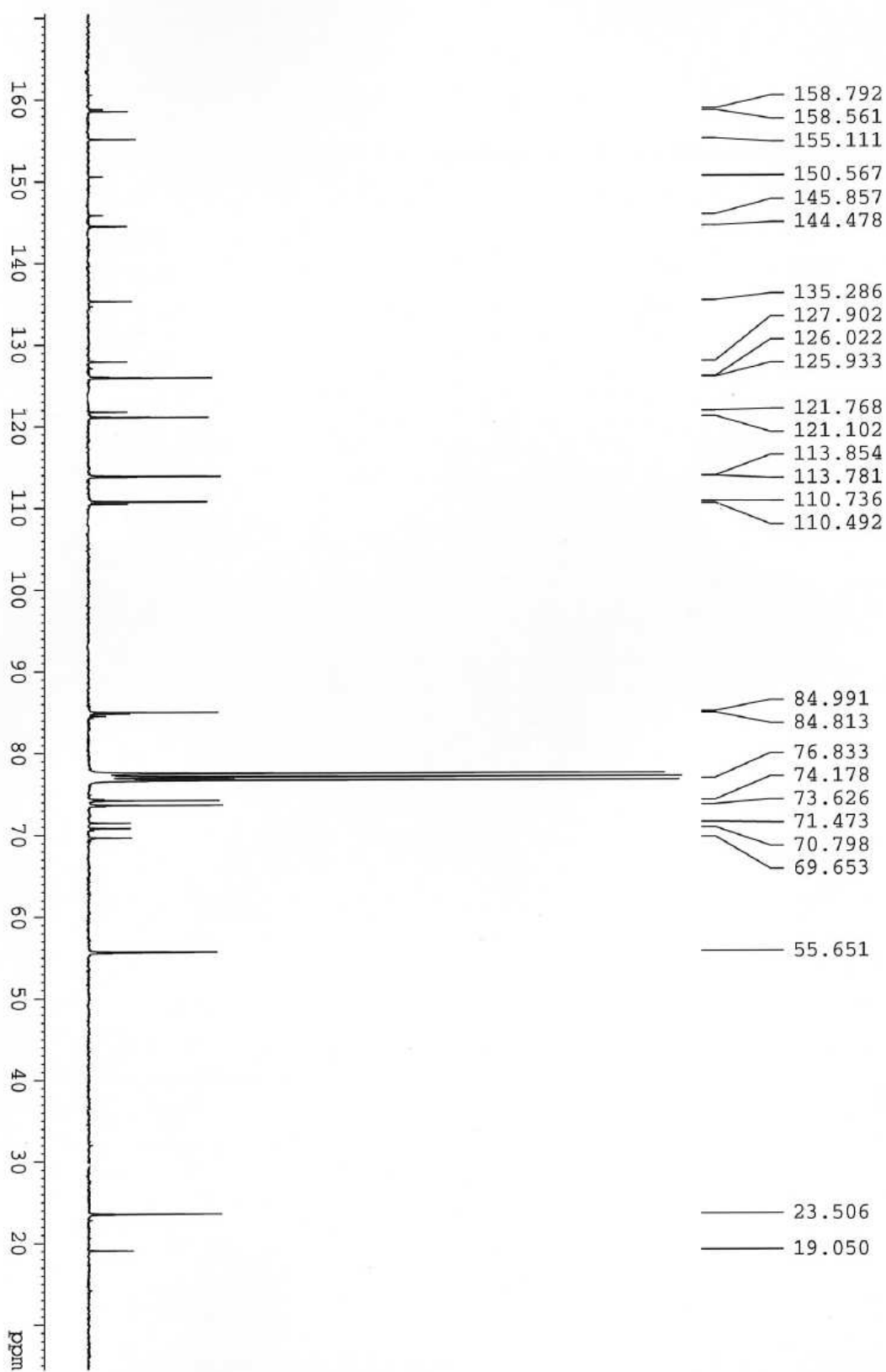
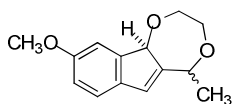
^{13}C NMR of *cis*-6a



¹H NMR of *cis/trans*-6b

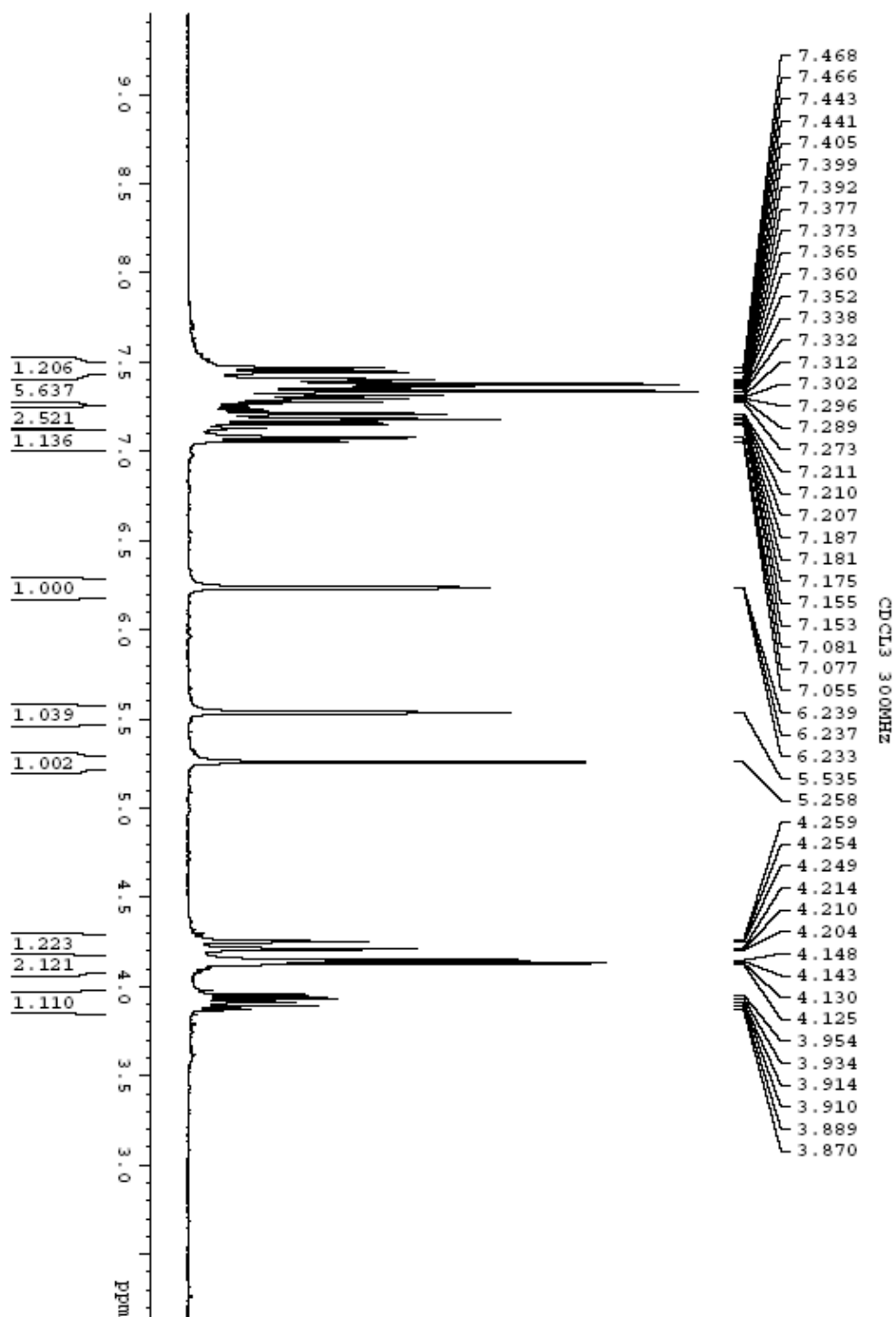
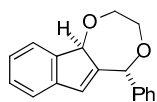


^{13}C NMR of *cis/trans*-6b

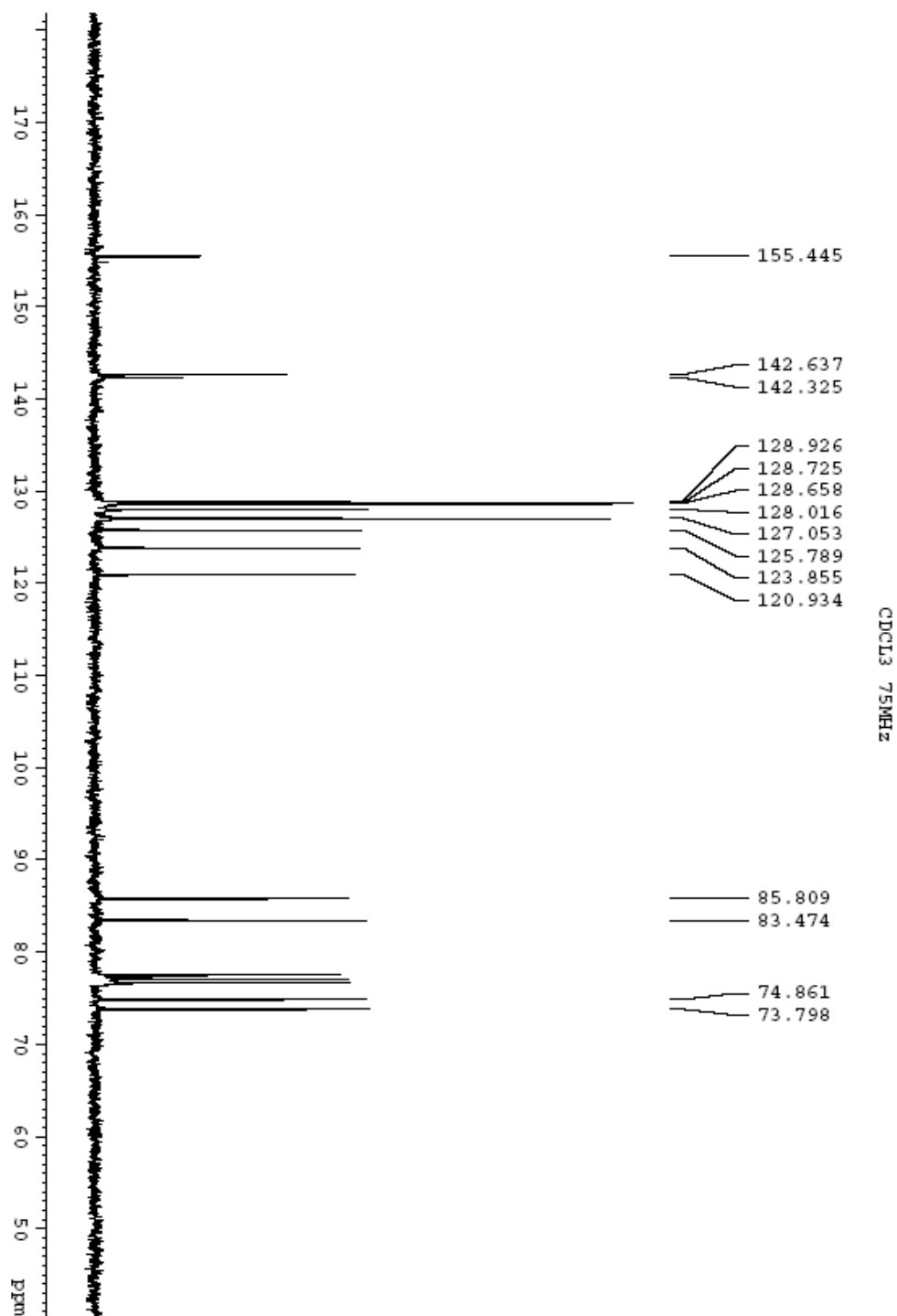
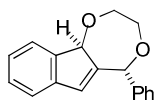


CDCl_3 300MHz

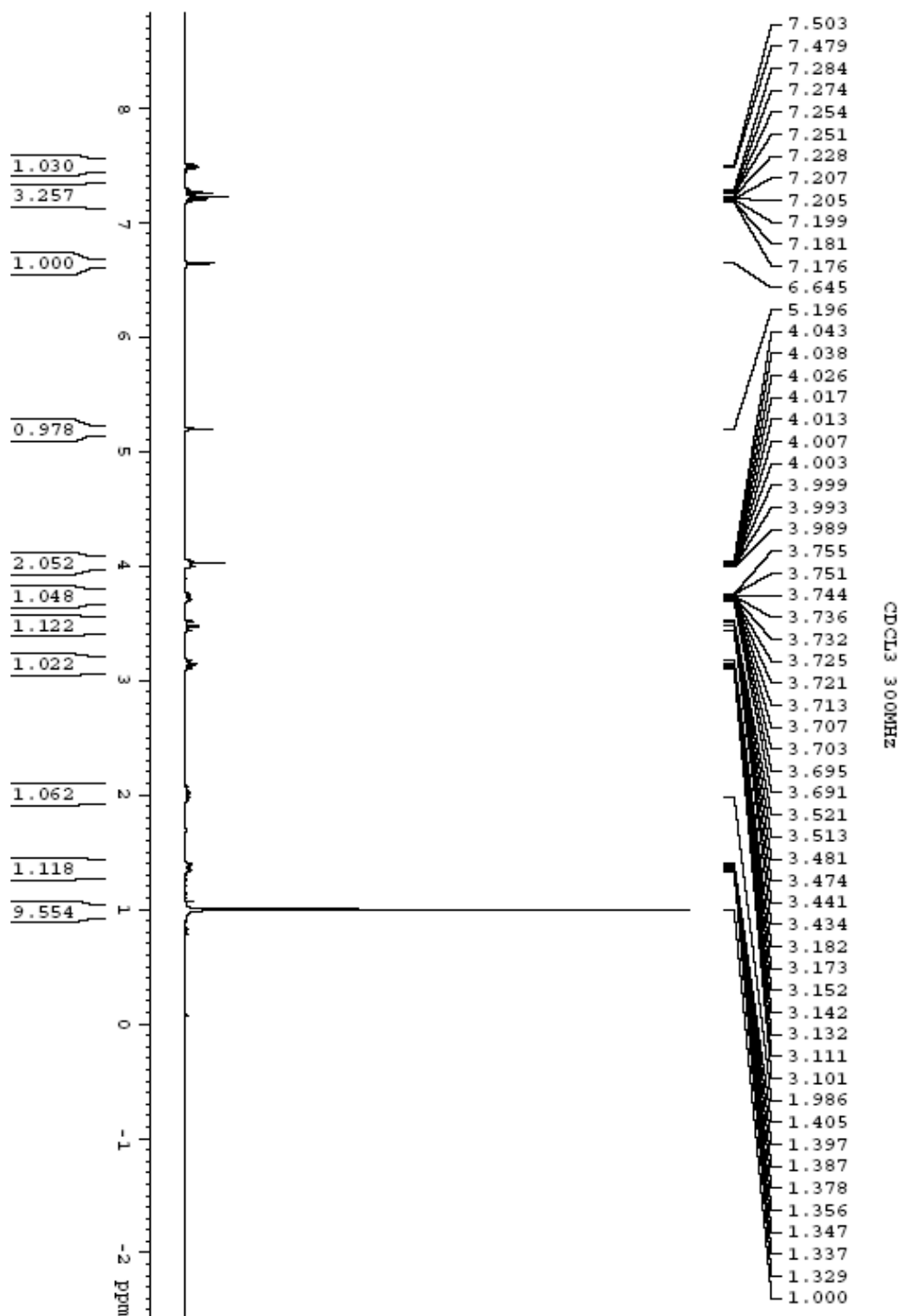
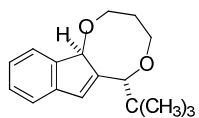
^1H NMR of *trans*-6c



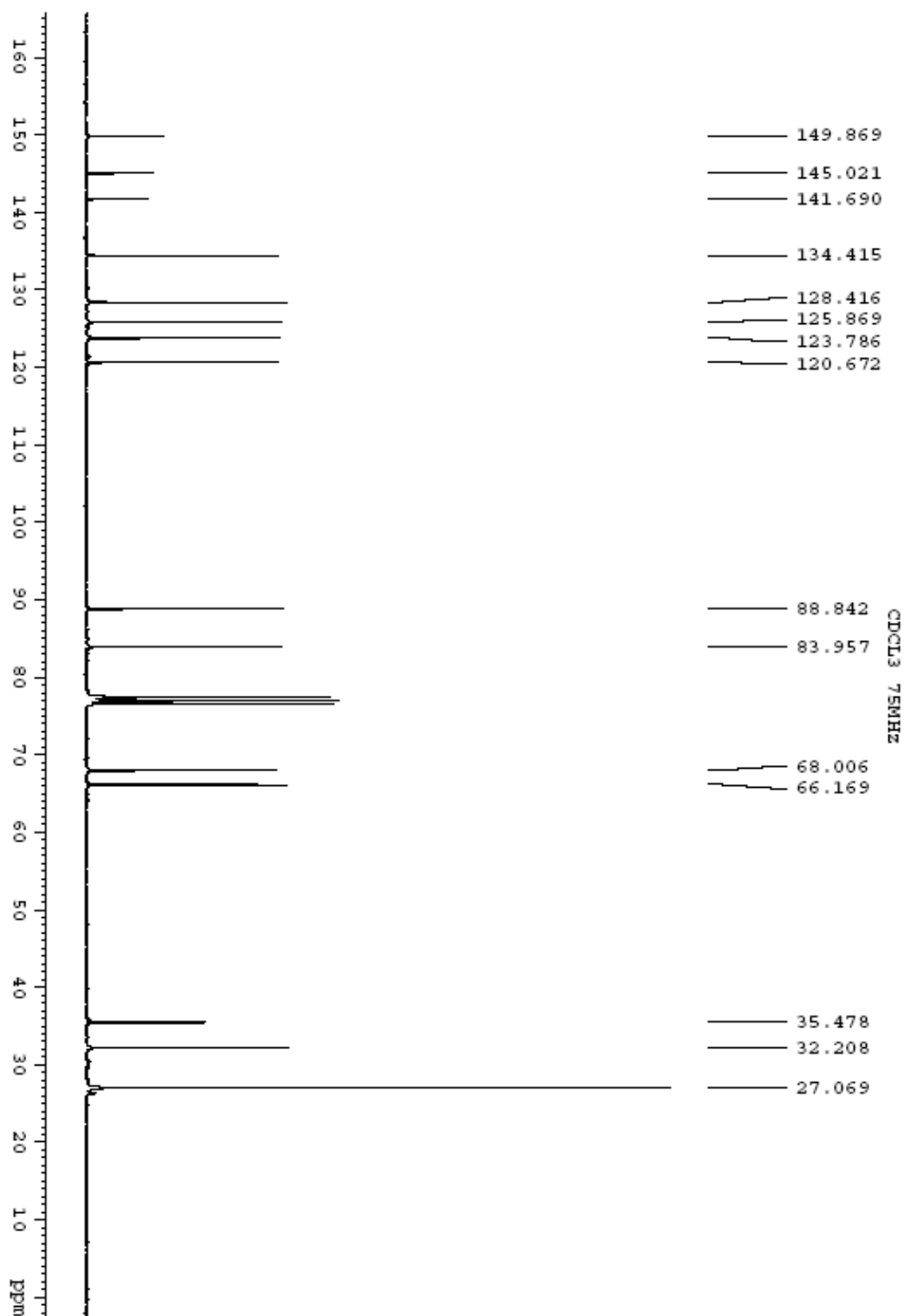
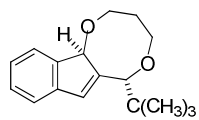
^{13}C NMR of *trans*-6c



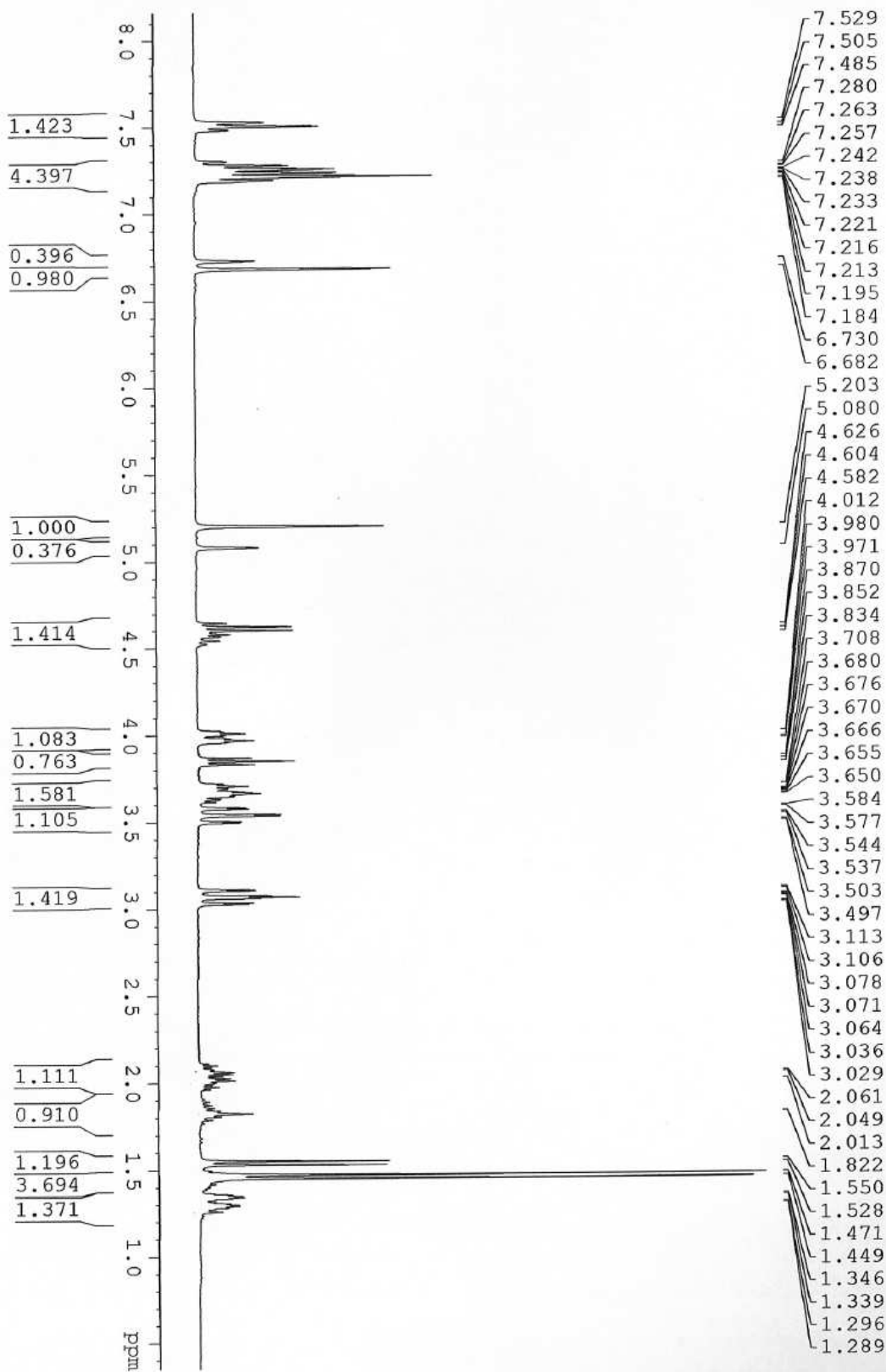
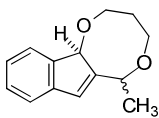
^1H NMR of *trans*-7a



^{13}C NMR of *trans*-7a

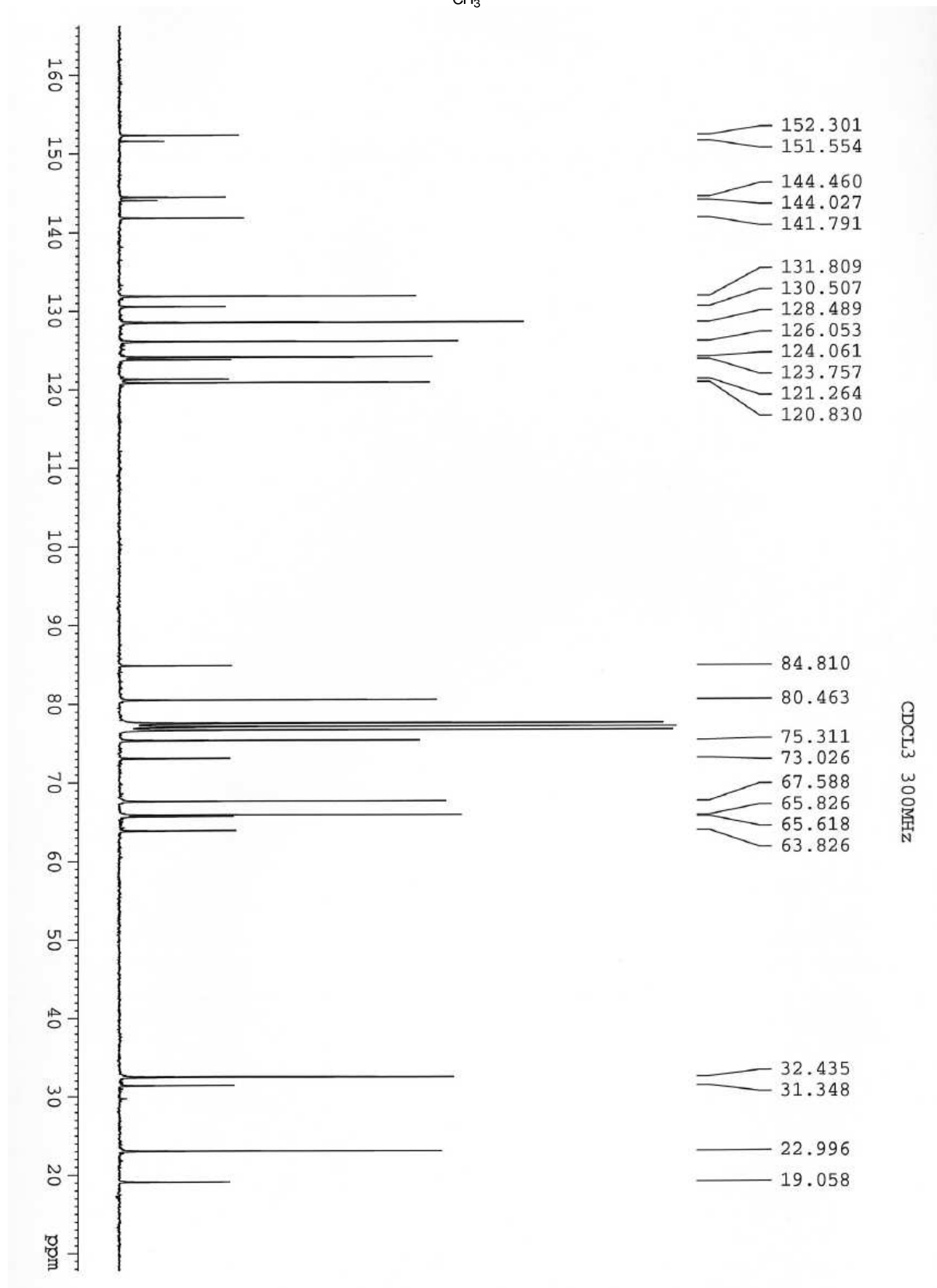
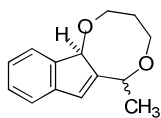


¹H NMR of *cis/trans*-7b

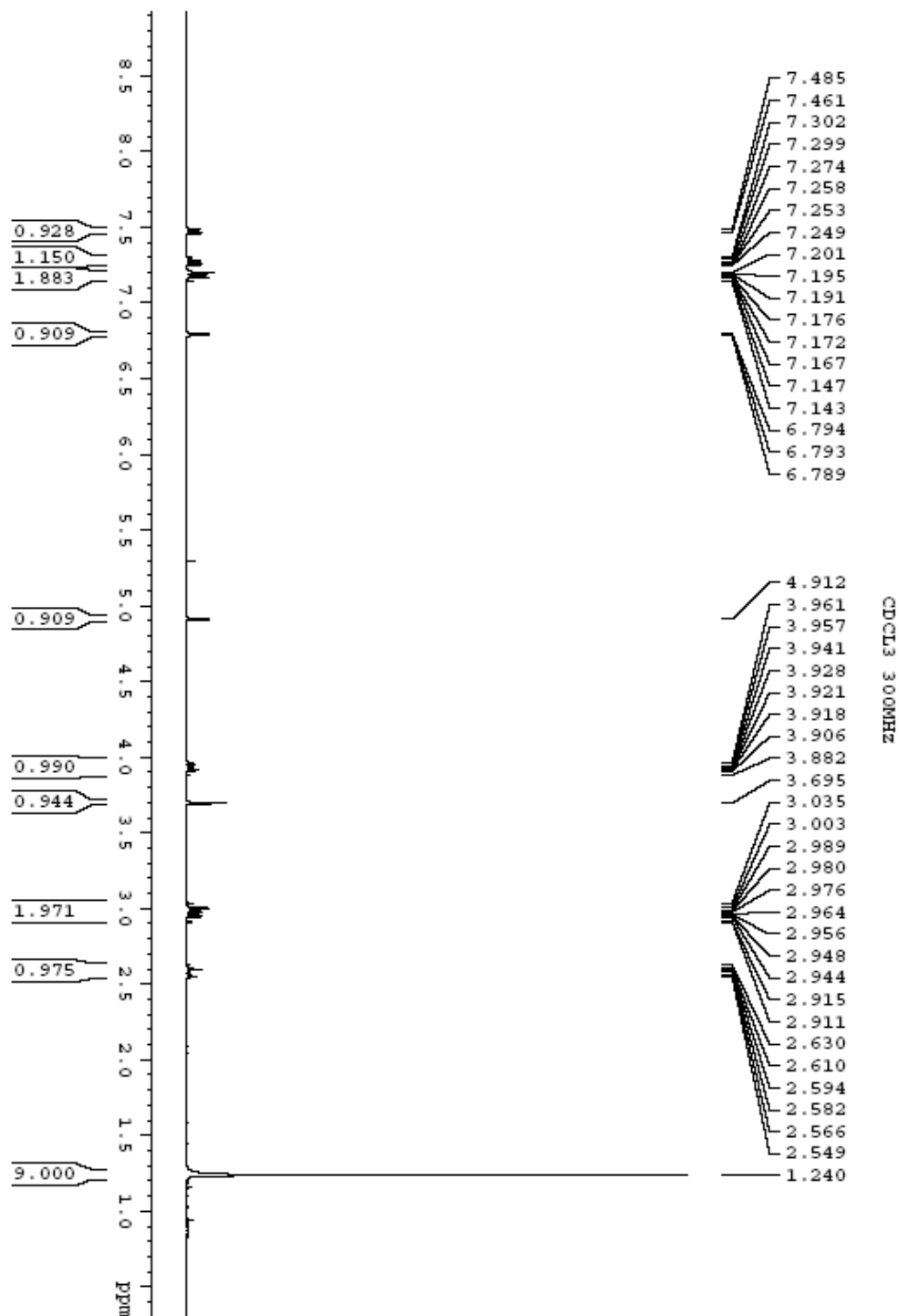
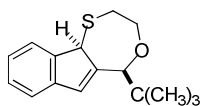


CDCl₃ 300MHz

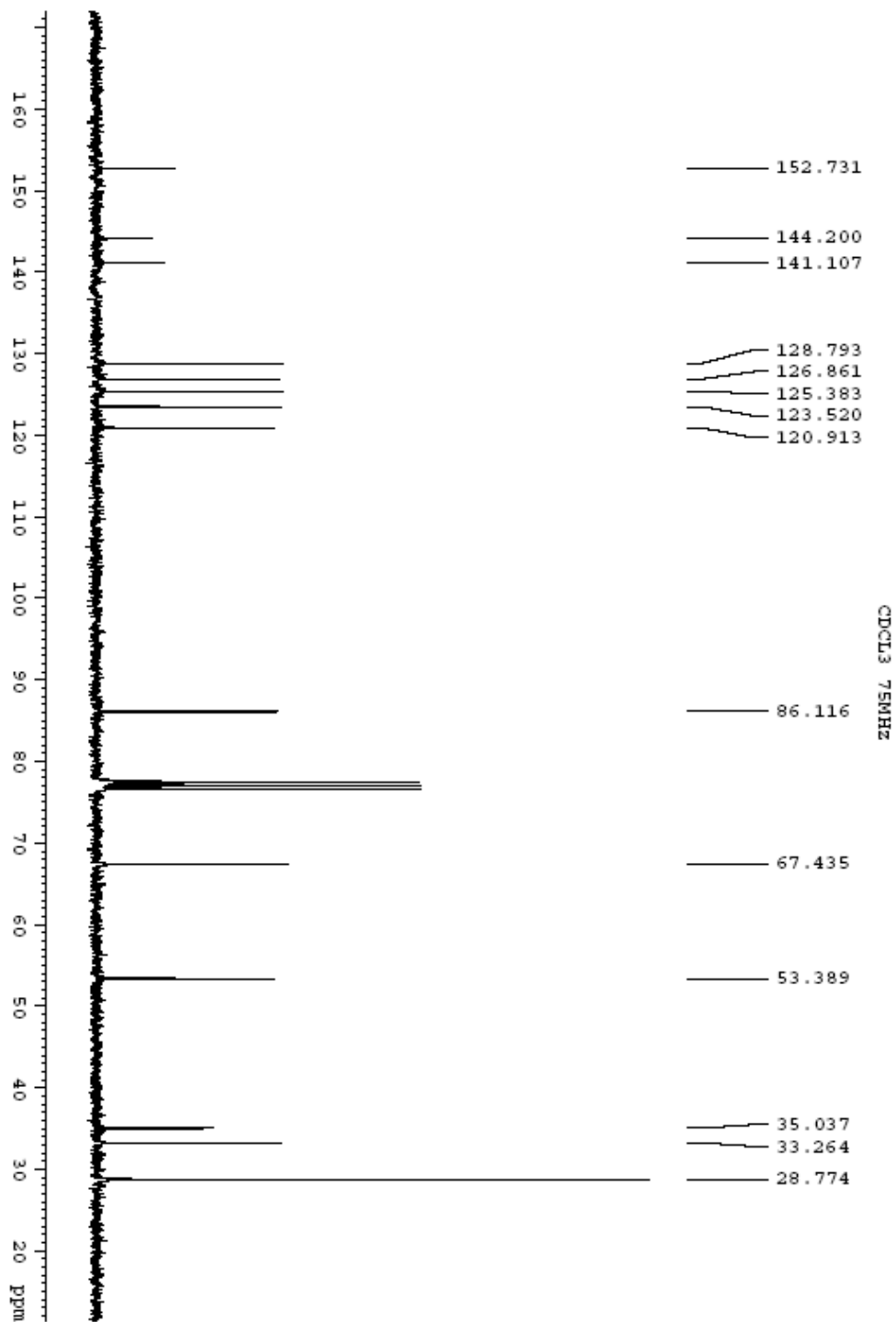
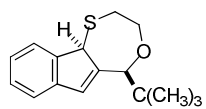
¹³C NMR of *cis/trans*-7b



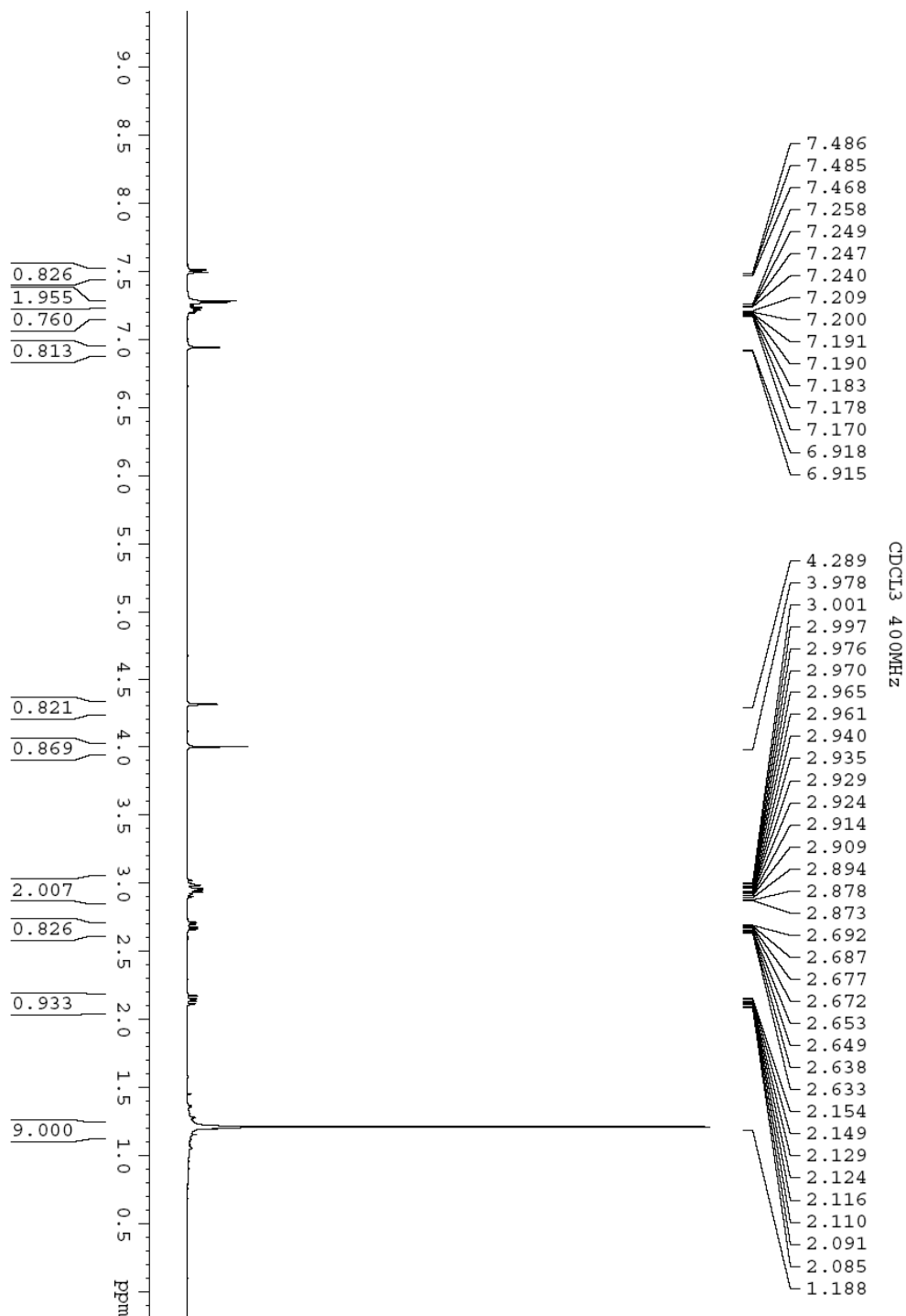
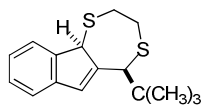
^1H NMR of *cis*-8



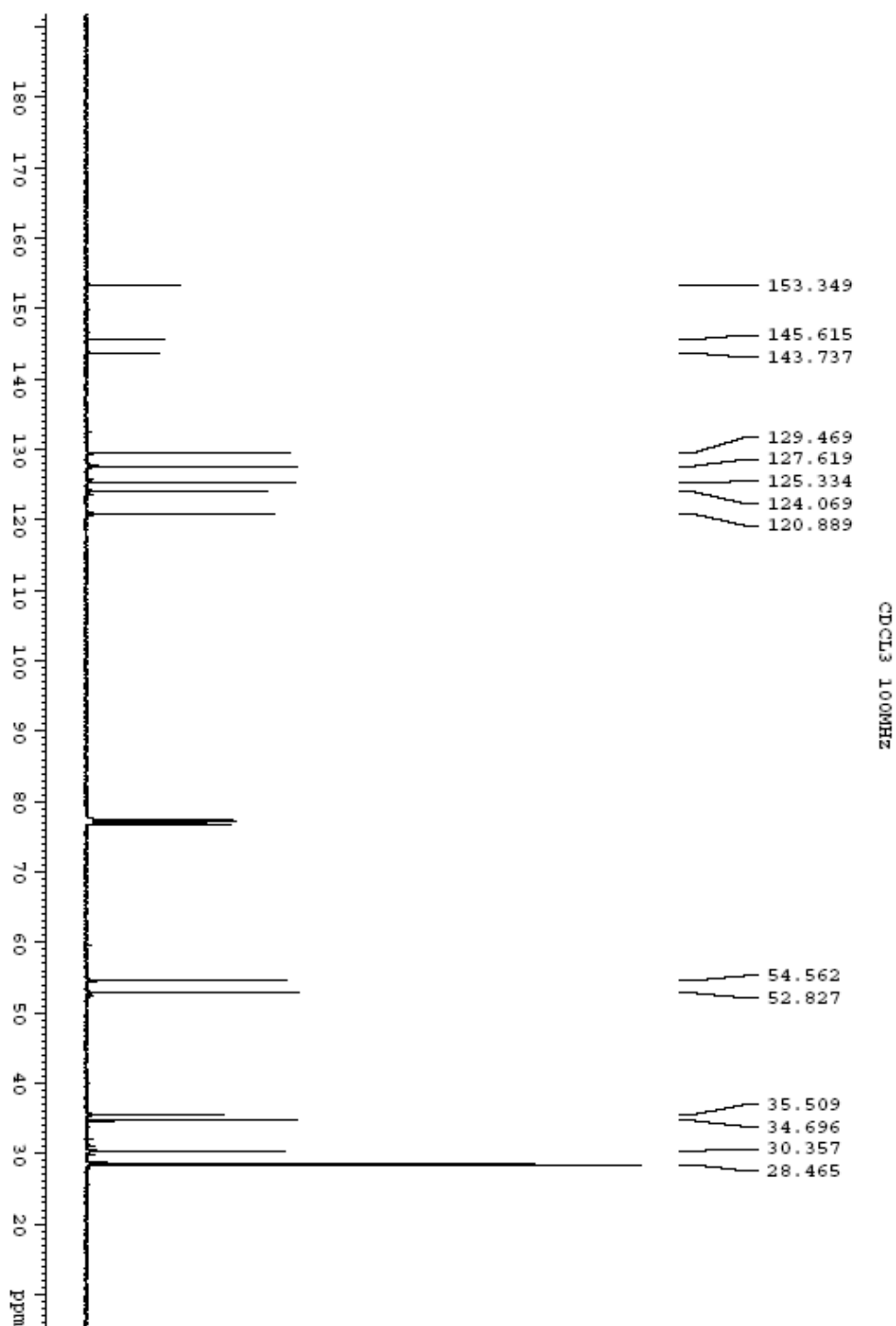
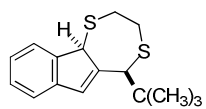
^{13}C NMR of *cis*-8



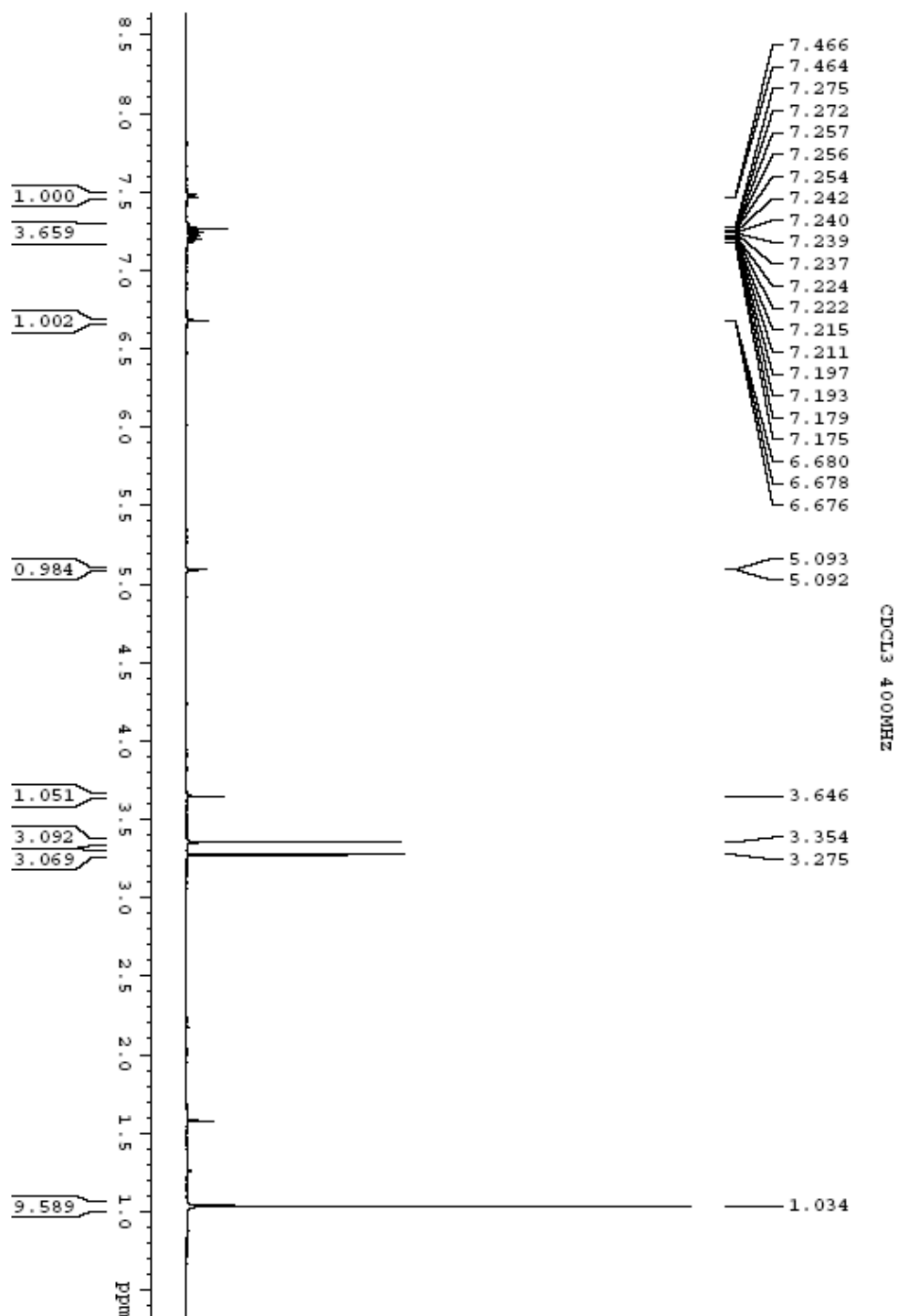
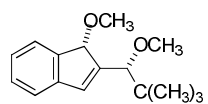
¹H NMR of *cis*-9



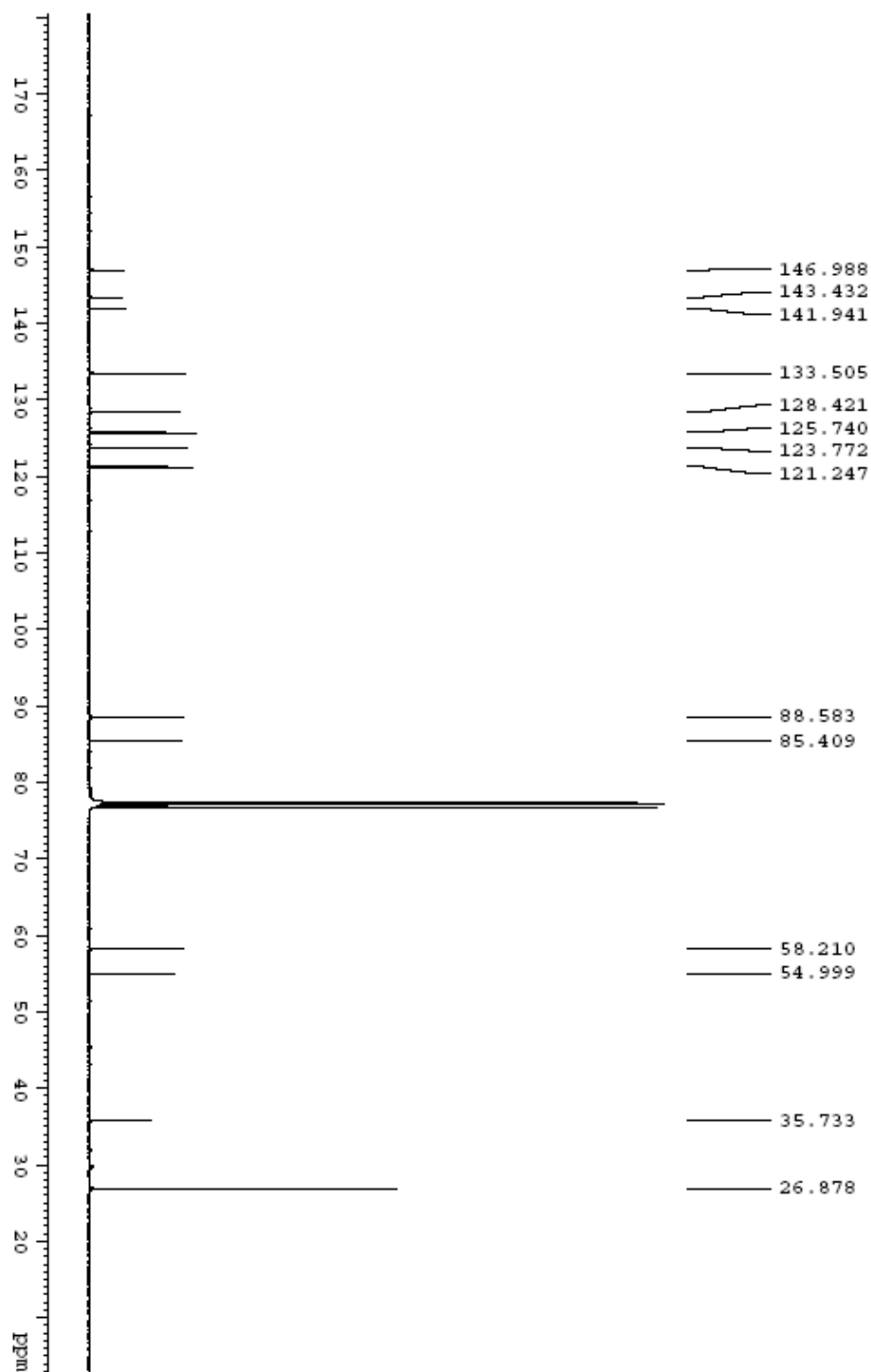
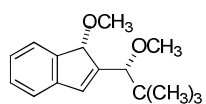
^{13}C NMR of *cis*-9



¹H NMR of 10

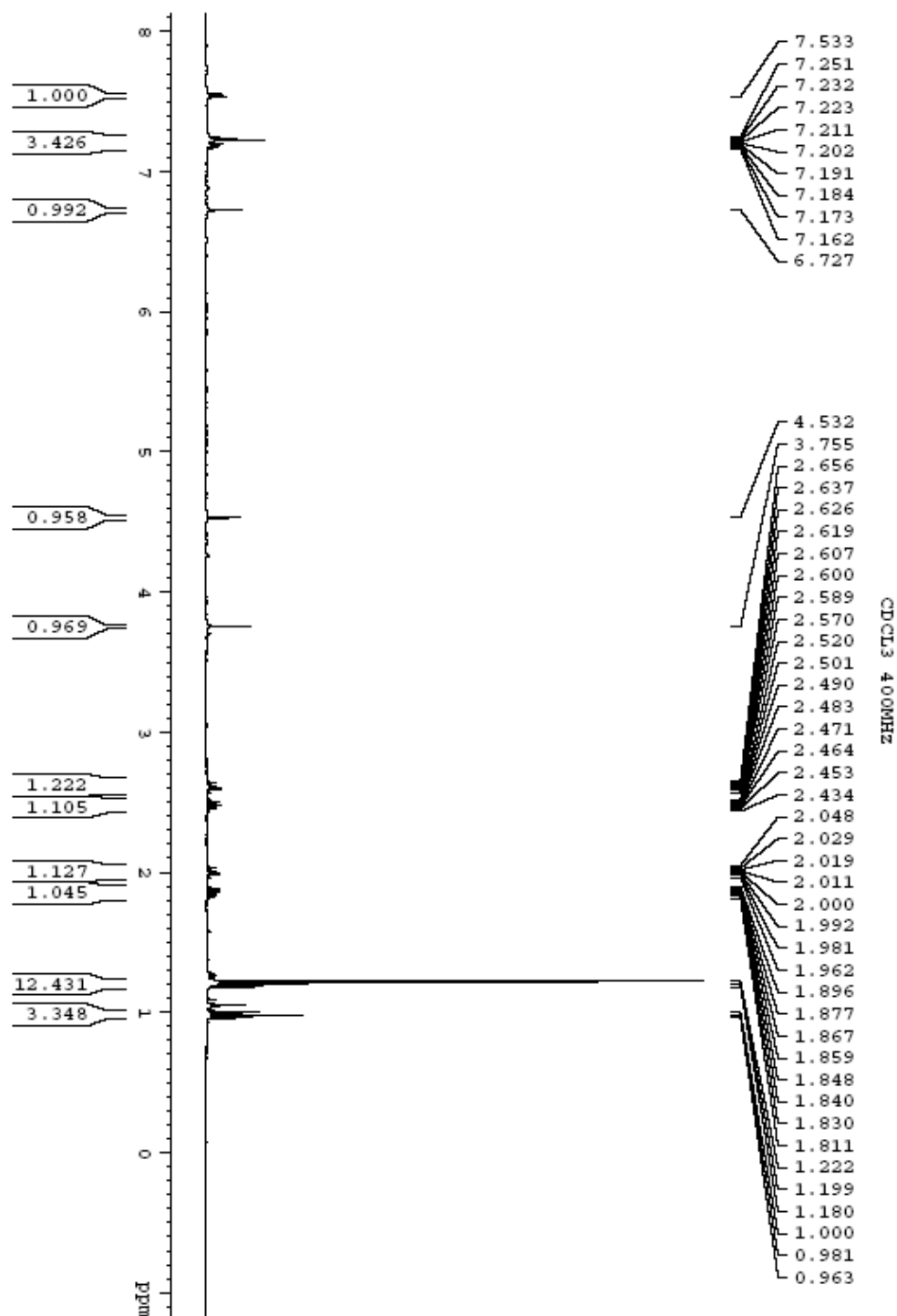
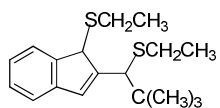


^{13}C NMR of **10**

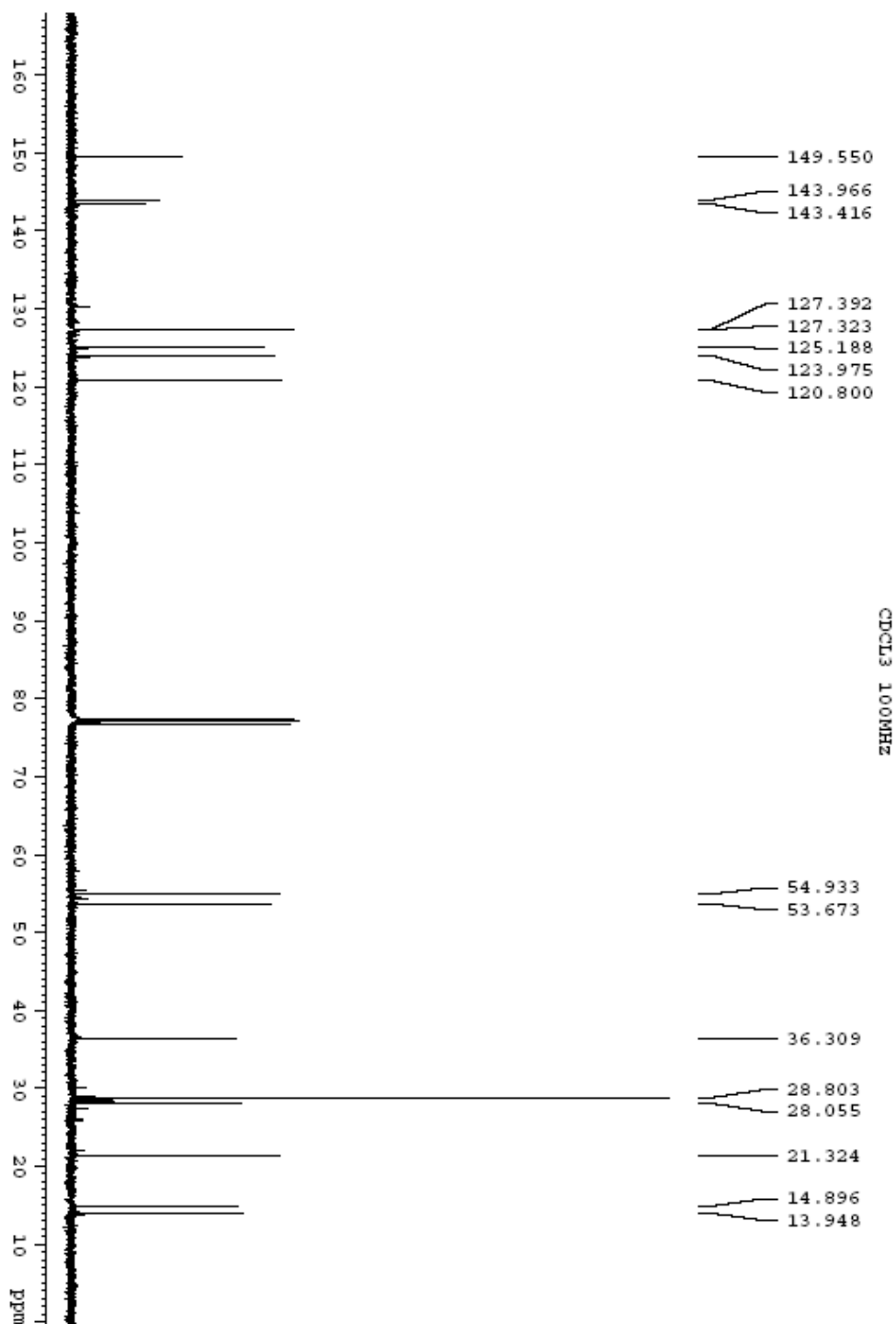
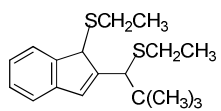


CDCl_3 100MHz

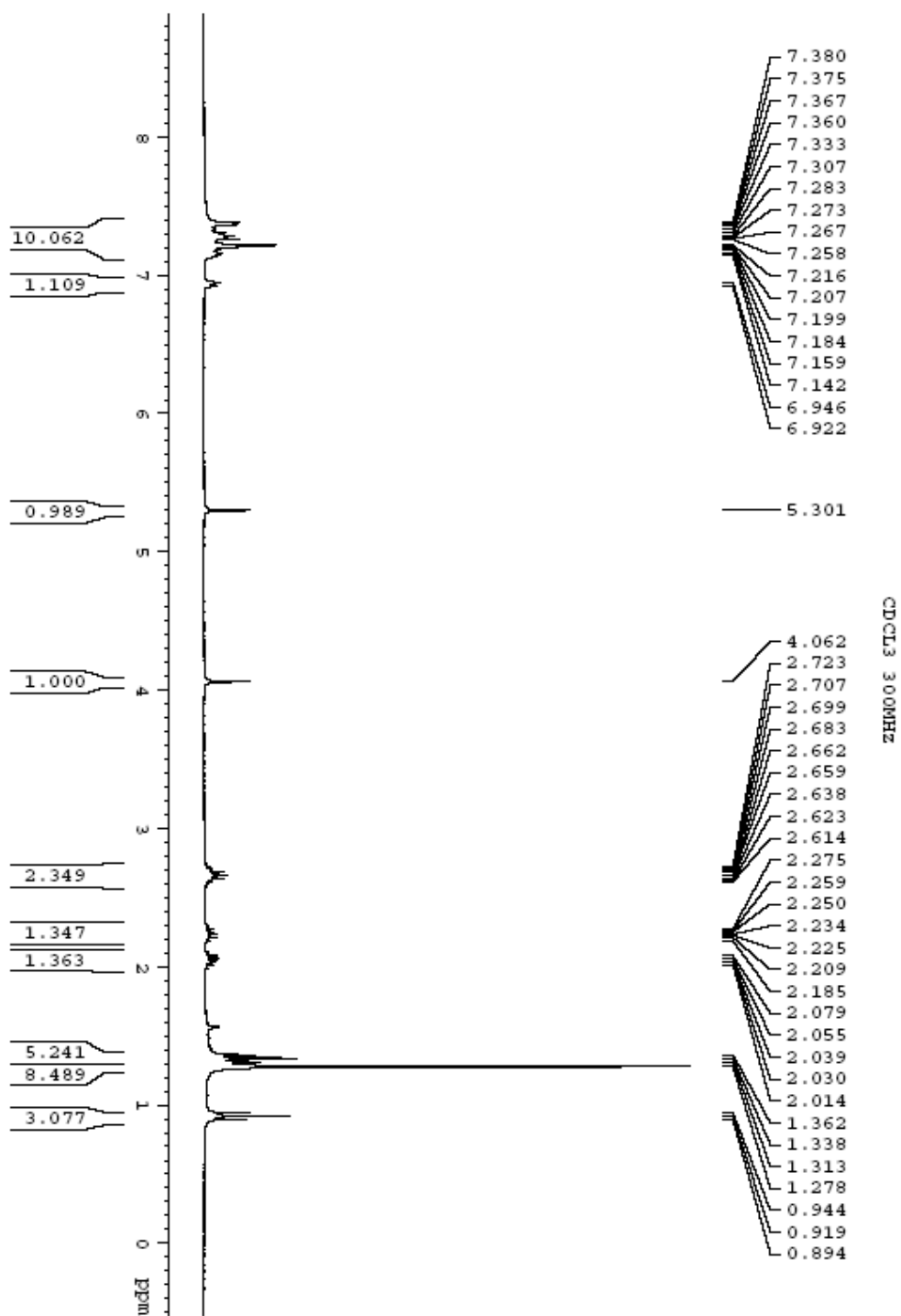
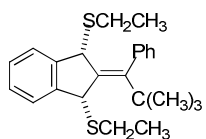
¹H NMR of 11



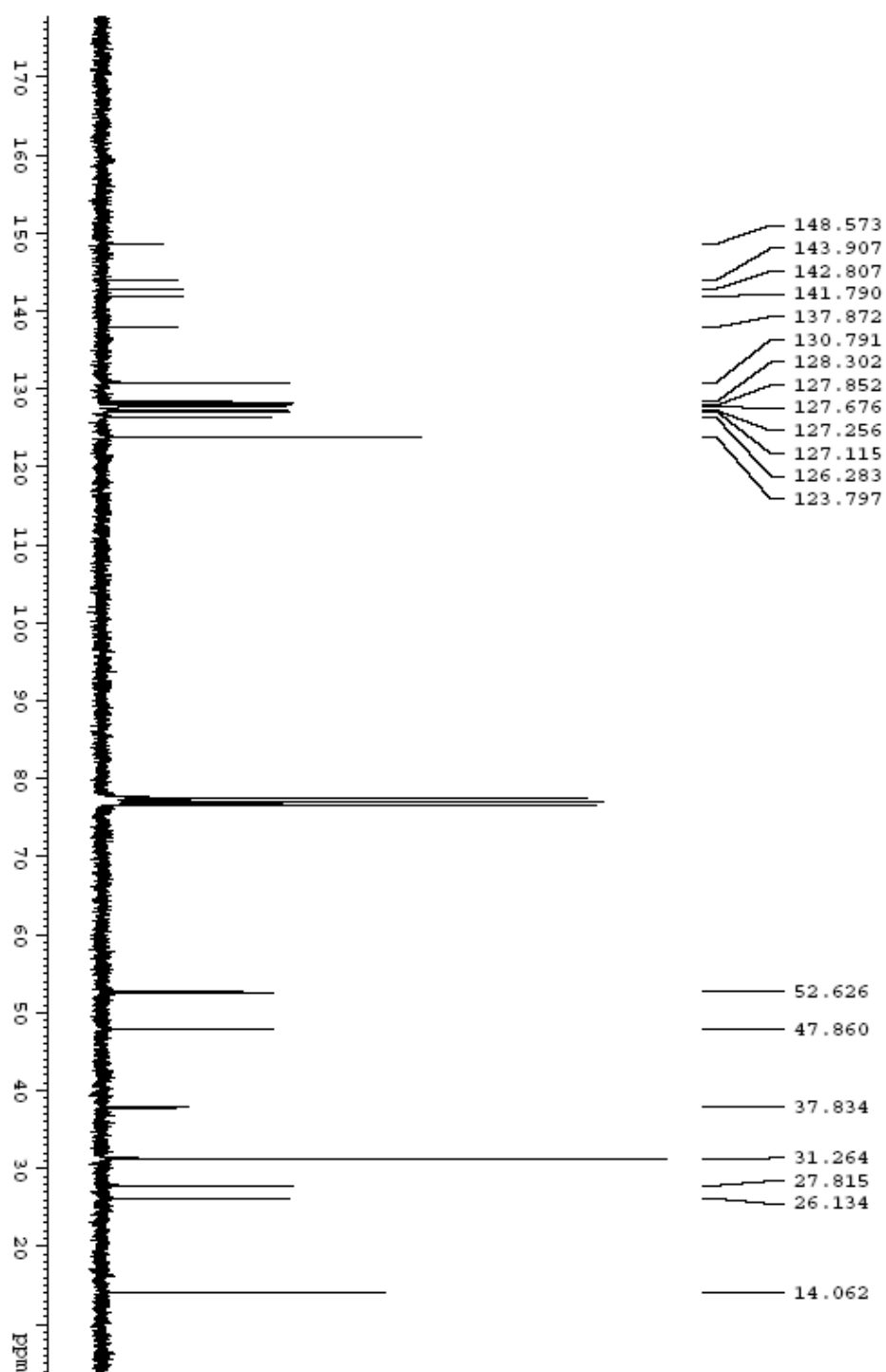
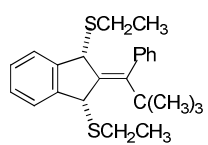
^{13}C NMR of **11**



¹H NMR of 12a

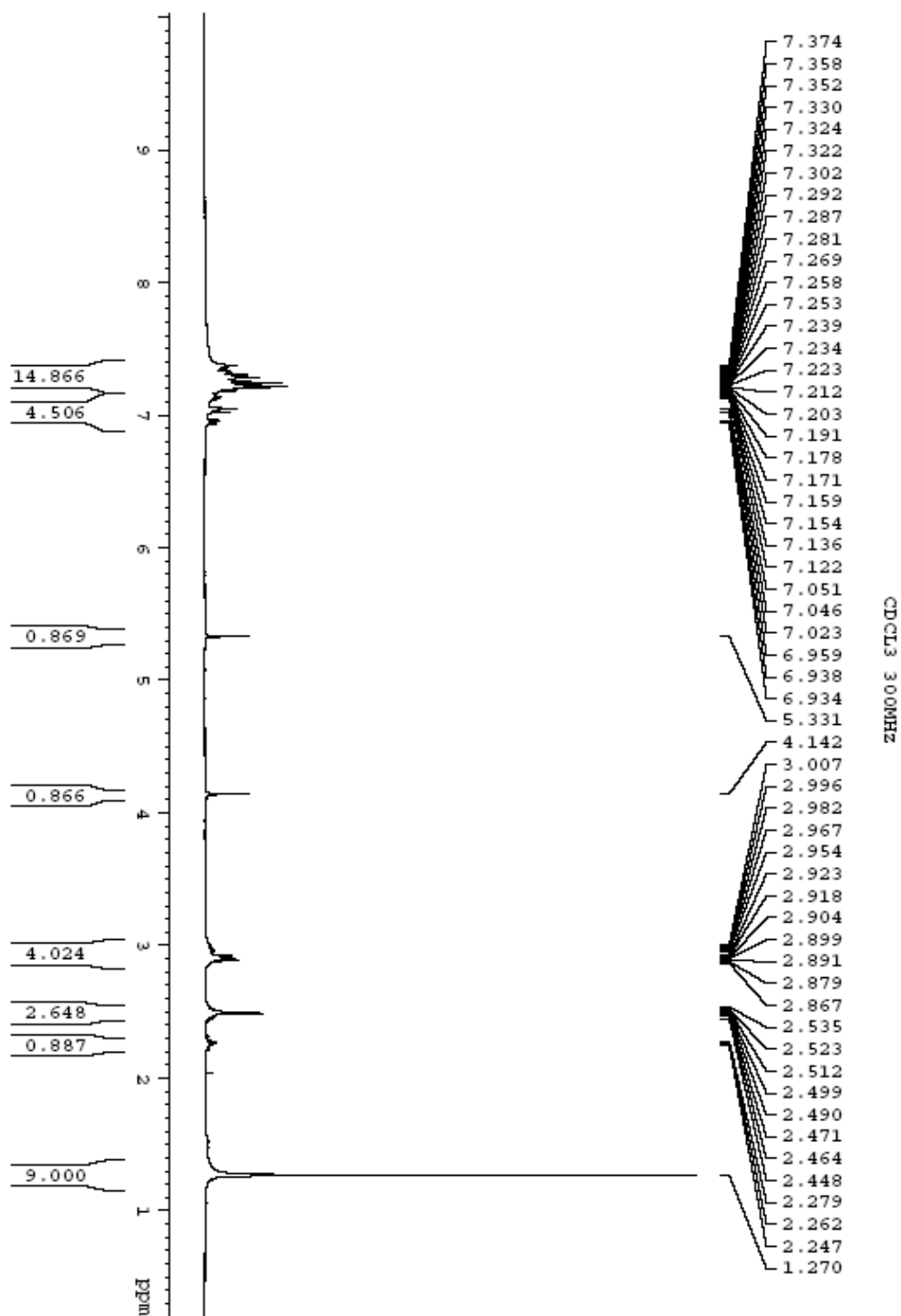
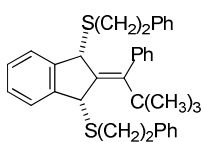


^{13}C NMR of 12a

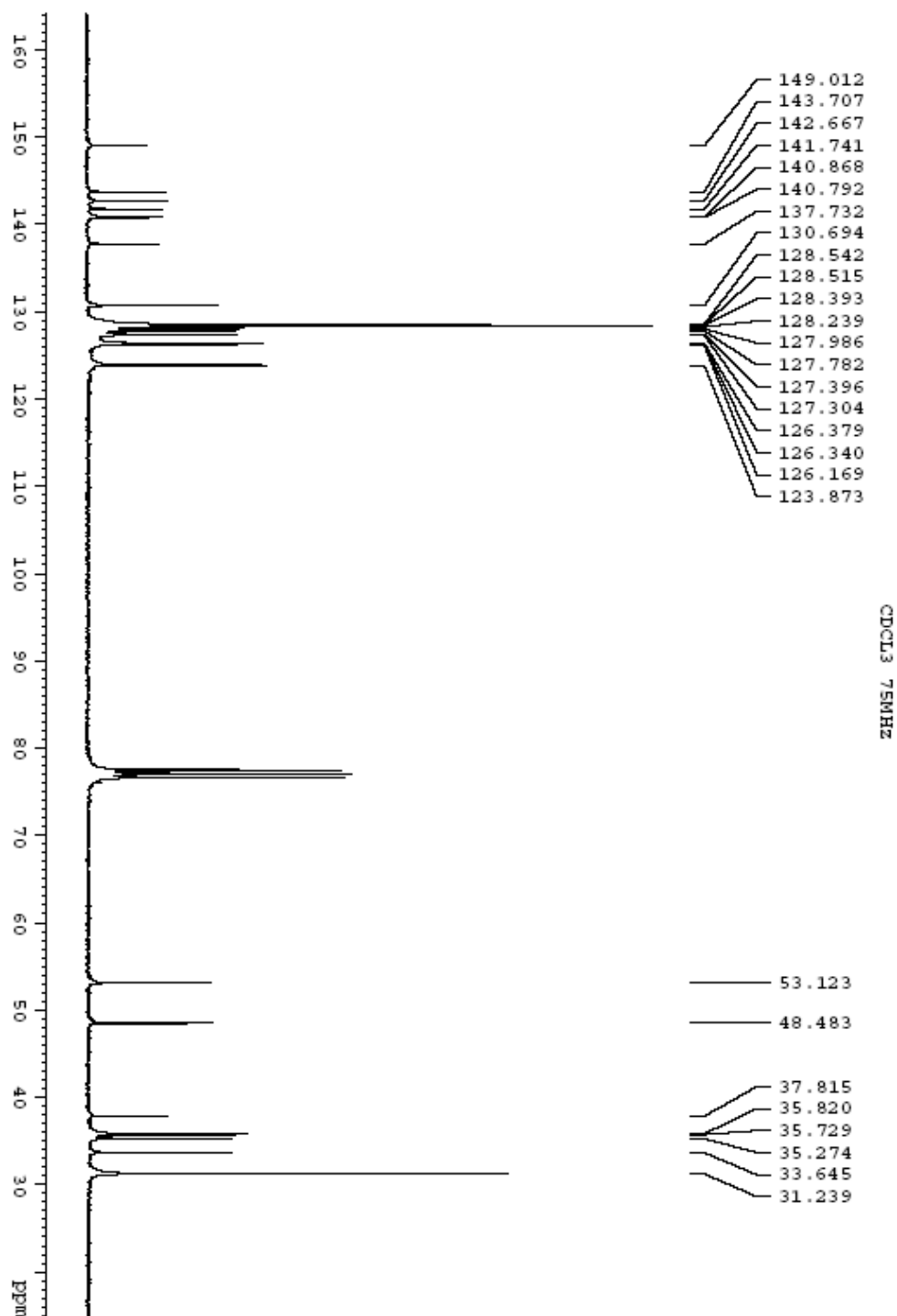
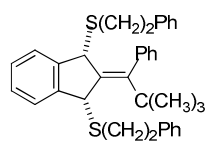


CDCl₃ 75MHz

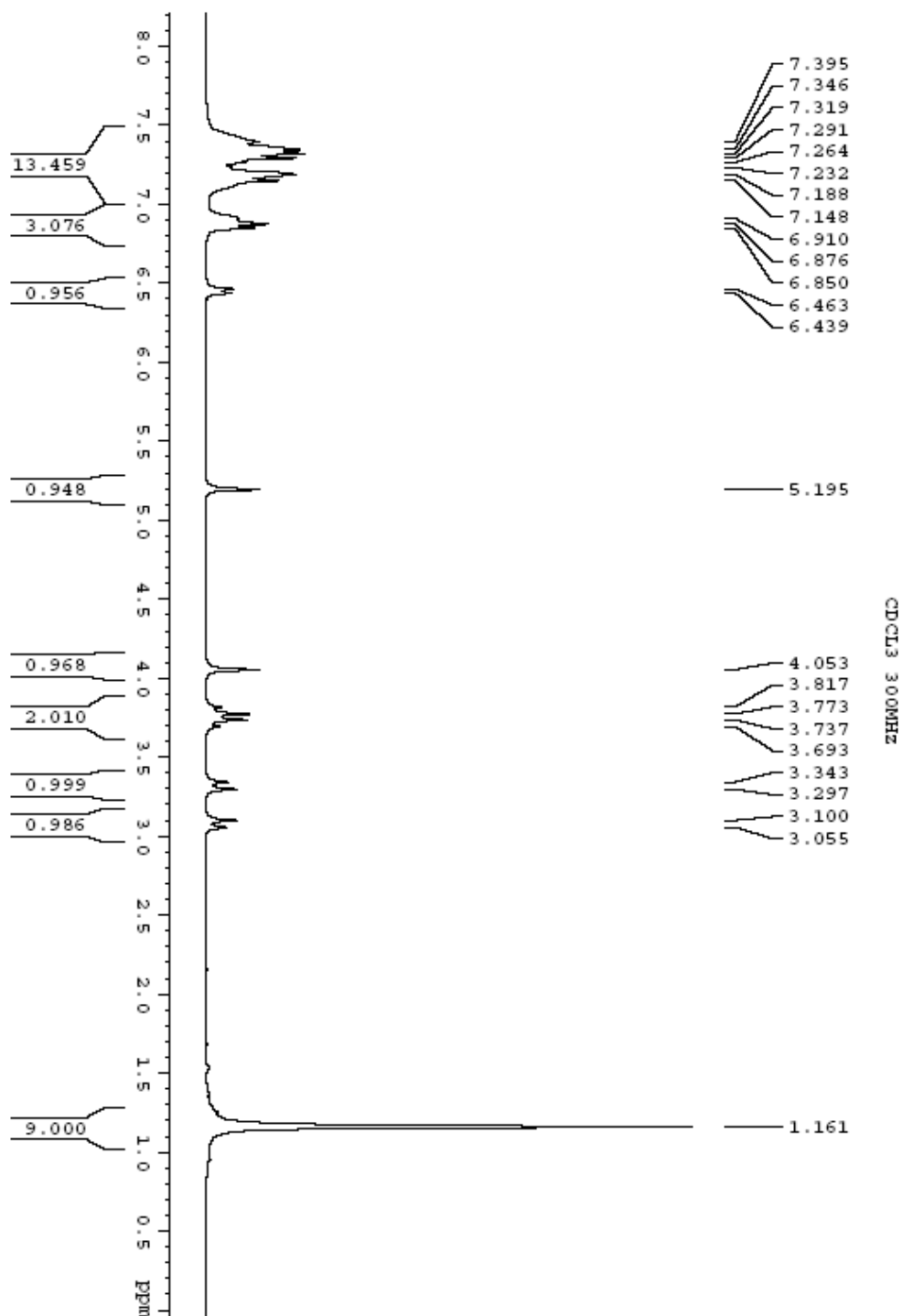
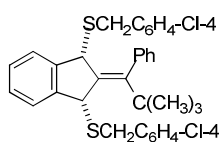
¹H NMR of **12b**



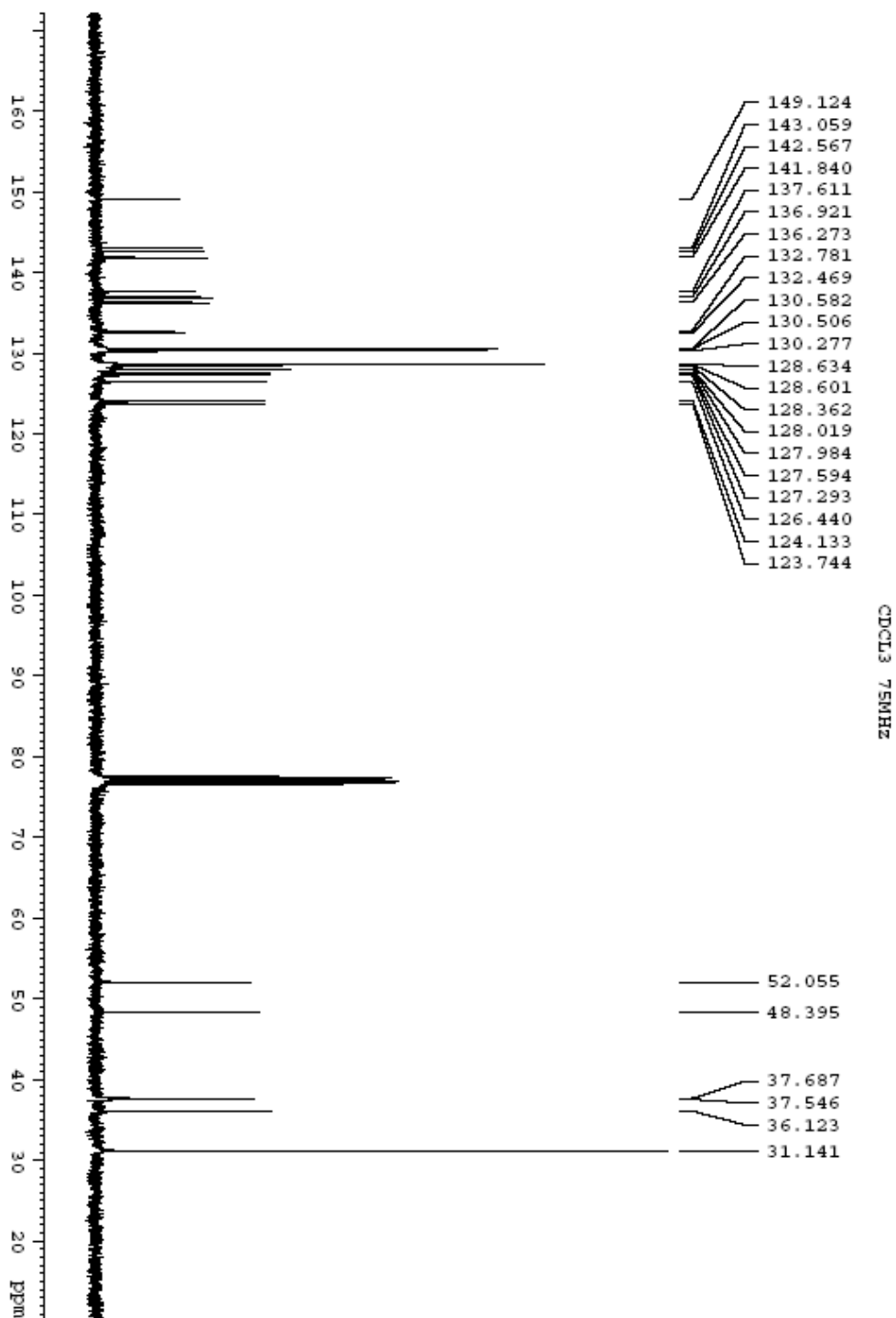
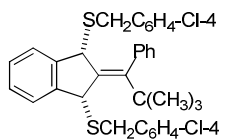
^{13}C NMR of **12b**



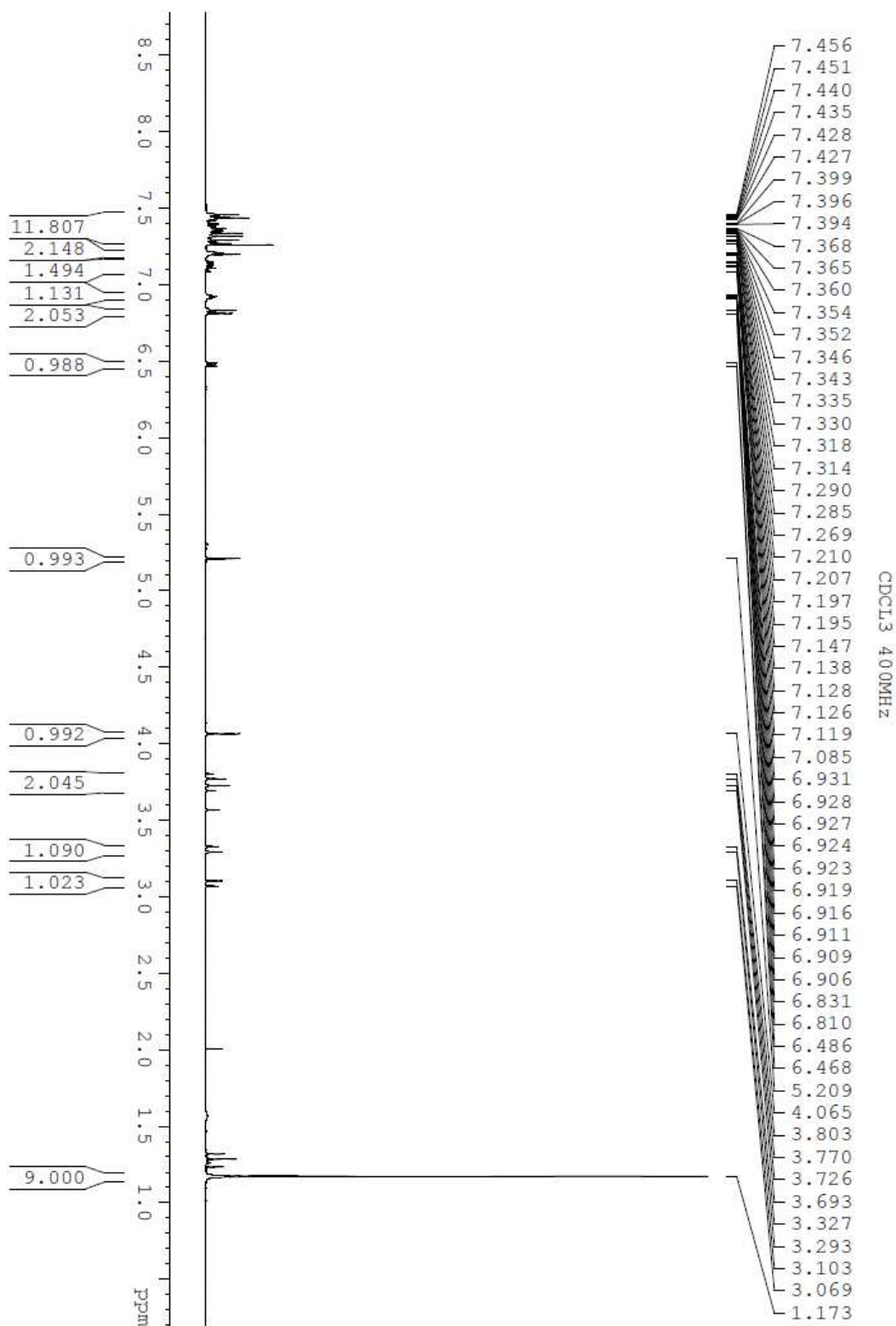
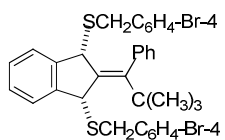
¹H NMR of 12c



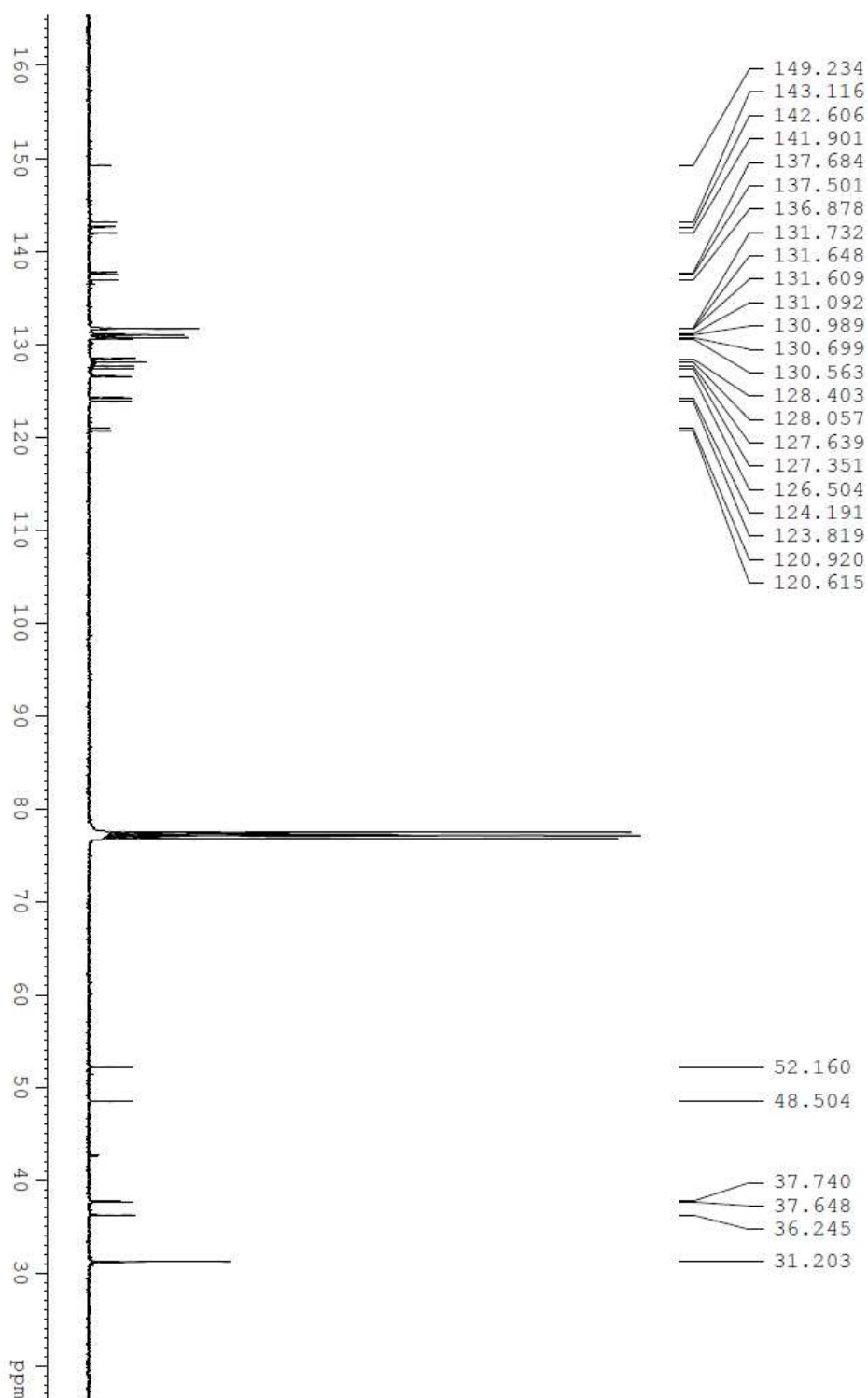
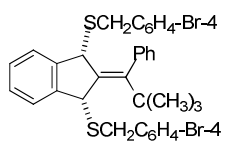
^{13}C NMR of 12c



¹H NMR of **12d**



^{13}C NMR of **12d**



CDCl₃ 100MHz