

Electronic Supplementary Information

Metal-free cascade oxidative decarbonylative alkylarylation of acrylamides with aliphatic aldehydes: a convenient approach to oxindoles via dual C(sp²)-H bonds functionalization

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I. General information

Unless otherwise noted, all commercially available compounds were used as provided without further purification. Dry solvents (toluene, benzene, chlorobenzene *o*-dichlorobenzene, 1,2-dichloroethane) were used as commercially available;

Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using E. Merck silica gel 60 F254 precoated plates (0.25 mm) or Sorbent Silica Gel 60 F254 plates. The developed chromatography was analyzed by UV lamp (254 nm). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained from a JEOL JMS-700 instrument (ESI). Melting points are uncorrected. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 spectrometer at ambient temperature. Chemical shifts for ¹H NMR spectra are reported in parts per million (ppm) from tetramethylsilane with the solvent resonance as the internal standard (chloroform: δ 7.26 ppm). Chemical shifts for ¹³C NMR spectra are reported in parts per million (ppm) from tetramethylsilane with the solvent as the internal standard (CDCl₃: δ 77.16 ppm). Data are reported as following: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, dd = doublet of doublets, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad signal), coupling constant (Hz), and integration.

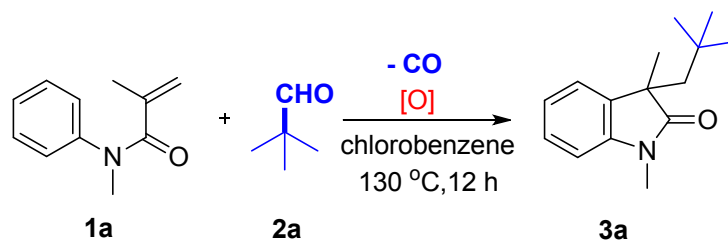
II. General experimental procedures

A general experimental procedure is described as following:

To a solution of N-methyl-N-phenylmethacrylamide (**1a**, 0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.) and pivalaldehyde (**2a**, 0.6 mmol, 3 equiv.) in chlorobenzene (1.5 mL) at ambient temperature, DTBP (0.4mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was added with vigorous stirring. The reaction mixture was stirred at 140°C (oil bath temperature) for 12 h. Afterwards The resulting mixture was cooled to room temperature, transferred to silica gel column directly and purified by column chromatography on silica gel with a mixture of EtOAc in petroleum ether as eluent to afford the pure product **3a**.

III. Condition optimization

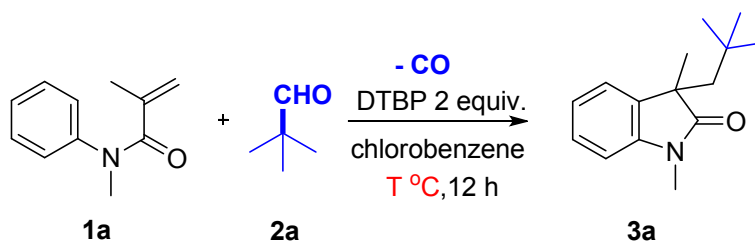
Table S1. Optimization of the oxidants^[a]



Entry	Oxidant (equiv)	Yield (%) ^[b]
1	DTBP	65
2	BPO	26
3	DCP	45
4	H ₂ O ₂	34
5	PhI(OAc) ₂	41
6	TBHP	56

^[a]To a solution of **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.) and **2a** (0.6 mmol, 3 equiv.) in chlorobenzene (1.5 mL) at ambient temperature, oxidant (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was added with vigorous stirring. The reaction mixture was stirring at 130°C for 12 h under air. ^[b] Isolated yields.

Table S2. Optimization of the temperature^[a]



Entry	Temperature (°C)	Yield (%) ^[b]
1	140	76
2	130	65
3	150	57

^[a]To a solution of **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.) and **2a** (0.6 mmol, 3 equiv.) in chlorobenzene (1.5 mL) at ambient temperature, DTBP (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was added with vigorous stirring. The reaction mixture was stirring at given temperature for 12 h under air. ^[b] Isolated yields.

Table S3. Optimization of the reactants ratio^[a]

Entry	2a (X equiv)	DTBP (Y equiv)	Yield (%) ^[b]
1	3	1.5	59
2	3	2.0	65
3	3	2.5	65
4	1.5	2.0	66
5	3.0	2.0	76
6	5.0	2.0	71

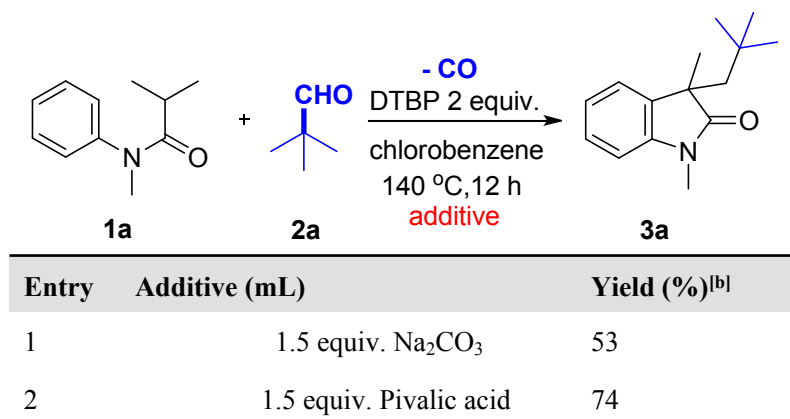
^[a]To a solution of **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.) and **2a** (X equiv.) in chlorobenzene (1.5 mL) at ambient temperature, DTBP (Y equiv.) was added with vigorous stirring. The reaction mixture was stirring at 140°C for 12 h under air. ^[b] Isolated yields.

Table S4. Optimization of the solvents^[a]

Entry	Solvent (mL)	Yield (%) ^[b]
1	Benzene (1.5)	53
2	<i>o</i> -Dichlorobenzene (1.5)	74
3	Toluene (1.5)	33
4	Fluorobenzene (1.5)	51
5	chlorobenzene (1.5)	76
6	Fluorobenzene (1.5)	36
9	1,2-Dichloroethane (1.5)	43

^[a]To a solution of **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.) and **2a** (0.6 mmol, 3 equiv.) in solvent (1.5 mL) at ambient temperature, DTBP (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was added with vigorous stirring. The reaction mixture was stirring at 140°C for 12 h under air. ^[b] Isolated yields.

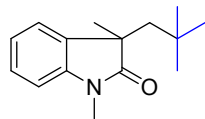
Table S5. Optimization of the additives^[a]



^[a]To a solution of **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1 equiv.), **2a** (0.6 mmol, 3 equiv.) and additive in chlorobenzene (1.5 mL) at ambient temperature, DTBP (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) was added with vigorous stirring. The reaction mixture was stirring at 140°C for 12 h under air. ^[b] Isolated yields.

V. Spectra data of products 3a-3h, 4b-4x, 5, 6, 6'

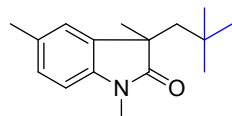
(3a) 1,3-dimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one ¹



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-phenylmethacrylamide (**1a**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow solid (35.1 mg, 76%).

M.p. 104-105°C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.26 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.22 (s, 4H), 2.16 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.86 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.29 (s, 3H), 0.61 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.12, 142.96, 134.30, 127.64, 123.96, 122.08, 108.12, 50.89, 47.49, 31.87, 30.92, 28.38, 26.33.

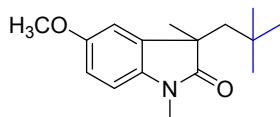
(3b) N-methyl-N-(p-tolyl)methacrylamide ²



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-(p-tolyl)methacrylamide (**1b**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as white solid (42.14mg, 86%).

M.p. 120-121 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.14 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 0.61 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.08, 140.63, 134.37, 131.48, 127.83, 124.80, 107.80, 50.88, 47.53, 31.86, 30.92, 28.41, 26.34, 21.23.

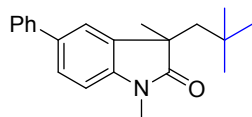
(3c) 5-methoxy-1,3-dimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one ²



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-(4-methoxyphenyl)-N-methylmethacrylamide (**1c**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (39.67 mg, 76%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.85 – 6.63 (m, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 2.15 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.82 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 3H), 1.28 (s, 1H), 0.63 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.80, 155.83, 136.69, 135.82, 111.88, 111.68, 108.32, 55.98, 50.92, 47.95, 31.90, 30.96, 28.47, 26.42.

(3d) N-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-N-methylmethacrylamide



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the

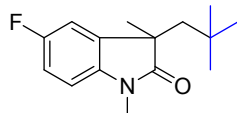
¹ J. Xie, P. Xu, H.-M Li, Q.-C Xue, H.-M Jin, Y.-X Cheng and C.- J Zhu, *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, 49, 5672.

² T. Wu, H. Zhang, G.-S Liu, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2012**, 68, 5229.

reaction between N-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-N-methylmethacrylamide (**1d**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as white solid (46.66 mg, 76%).

M.p. 125-126 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 2.20 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 1.92 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 0.65 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.20, 142.38, 141.28, 135.52, 134.83, 128.90, 127.00, 126.93, 126.59, 122.95, 108.35, 50.92, 47.66, 31.93, 30.99, 28.44, 26.47. IR (cm⁻¹): 2969, 2355, 1706, 1617, 1489, 1473, 1349, 758, 688; HRMS: calcd. for [M+H]⁺ C₂₁H₂₆NO: 308.20146, found: 308.20089.

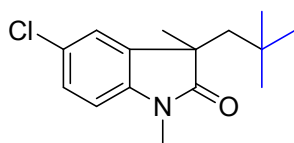
(3e) 5-fluoro-1,3-dimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one ²



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-methylmethacrylamide (**1e**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as white solid (38.34 mg, 77%).

M.p. 121-123 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.98-6.93 (m, 2H), 6.76 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.16 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.82 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.29 (s, 3H), 0.63 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.69, 160.41, 158.03, 138.93, 136.22, 136.14, 113.95, 113.72, 112.10, 111.85, 108.54, 108.46, 50.91, 47.99, 47.97, 31.87, 30.92, 28.30, 26.45.

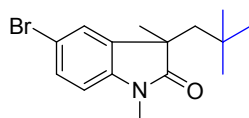
(3f) 5-chloro-1,3-dimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one ²



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-methylmethacrylamide (**1f**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as white solid (33.86 mg, 81%).

M.p. 132-134 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.16 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.29 (s, 3H), 0.63 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.56, 141.55, 136.25, 127.60, 124.41, 109.05, 50.93, 47.90, 31.93, 30.97, 28.36, 26.49.

(3g) 5-bromo-1,3-dimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one ²

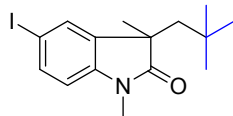


M.p. 147-149 °C; The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-(4-bromophenyl)-N-methylmethacrylamide (**1g**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as white solid (36.46 mg, 59%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 2.15 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.29 (s, 3H), 0.62 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.47, 142.08, 136.64, 130.53, 127.19, 114.94, 109.60, 50.97, 47.80, 31.94, 31.00, 28.34, 26.47.

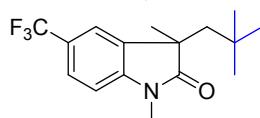
(3h) 5-iodo-1,3-dimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one ²



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-(4-iodophenyl)-N-methylmethacrylamide (**1h**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as white solid (59.26 mg, 83%).

M.p. 110-111 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 2.13 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.82 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 0.62 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.31, 142.70, 136.94, 136.48, 132.76, 110.24, 84.71, 50.90, 47.60, 31.94, 30.99, 28.29, 26.42.

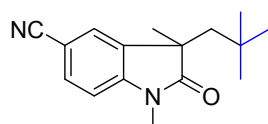
(3i) N-methyl-N-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methacrylamide ²



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methacrylamide (**1i**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (47.24 mg, 79%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 2.19 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.89 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.32 (s, 3H), 0.60 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.04, 181.04, 145.97, 135.02, 131.36 – 131.16 (m), 126.01, 125.49 (q, *J* = 3.9 Hz), 124.67, 124.35, 123.31, 121.02 (q, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 107.87, 50.98, 47.53, 31.92, 30.93, 28.26, 26.58.

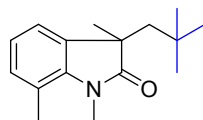
(3j) 1,3-dimethyl-3-neopentyl-2-oxindoline-5-carbonitrile



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-(4-cyanophenyl)-N-methylmethacrylamide (**1j**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light white solid (38.40 mg, 75%).

M.p. 174-175 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 6.92 (s, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 2.18 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.87 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 0.61 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.63, 146.80, 135.42, 133.09, 127.14, 119.47, 108.59, 105.21, 50.85, 47.29, 31.87, 30.93, 28.17, 26.56. IR (cm⁻¹): 2941, 2216, 1717, 1607, 1499, 1346, 813. MS (EI) *m/z*(%): 256(68)[M]⁺, 201(31), 186(100), 155(13).

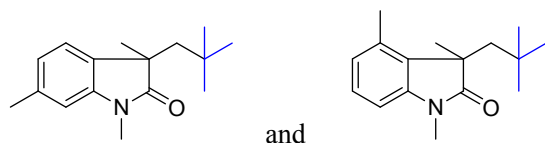
(3k) 1,3,7-trimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one ²



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-(o-tolyl)methacrylamide (**1j**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (23.03 mg, 47%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.03 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.13 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.82 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.27 (s, 3H), 0.61 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.91, 140.75, 134.91, 131.31, 121.97, 121.95, 119.70, 51.11, 46.82, 31.89, 30.95, 29.70, 28.78, 19.22.

(3l) 1,3,6-trimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one and 1,3,4-trimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one

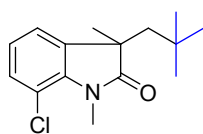


[A mixture of regio-isomers (1,3,5-trimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one and 1,3,4-trimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one) in a ratio of 66:34]

The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-(m-tolyl)methacrylamide (**1k**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (38.22 mg, 78%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 0.38×1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 0.69×1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 0.67×1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 0.36×1H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 13.1 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.15-2.09 (m, 0.76×2H), 1.83 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 0.36×2H), 1.36 (s, 0.34×3H), 1.27 (s, 0.70×3H), 0.62 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.47, 181.14, 143.18, 142.97, 137.63, 134.97, 131.26, 127.55, 125.00, 123.69, 122.60, 109.06, 105.86, 50.83, 49.18, 48.27, 47.27, 31.82, 30.91, 30.09, 28.46, 26.37, 26.27, 25.34, 21.87, 18.83. HRMS: calcd. for [M+H]⁺C₁₆H₂₄NO: 246.18538; found: 246.18524.

(3m) 7-chloro-1,3-dimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one

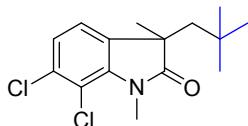


The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-(2-chlorophenyl)-N-methylmethacrylamide (**1l**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (31.27 mg, 59%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 2.15 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (d, *J* = 14.3 Hz, 1H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 0.62 (s, 9H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.31, 138.88, 137.17, 129.97, 122.87, 122.48, 115.58, 51.17, 47.31, 31.93, 30.98, 29.71, 28.70. IR (cm⁻¹): 2957, 1718, 1605, 1583, 1470, 1364, 739. IR (cm⁻¹): 2957, 1718, 1605, 1617, 1583, 1473, 1470, 1364, 739; HRMS: calcd. for [M+H]⁺C₁₅H₂₁NOCl: 266.13112; found: 266.13062.

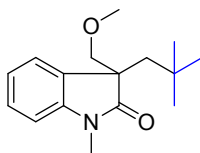
(3n) 6,7-dichloro-1,3-dimethyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)-N-methylmethacrylamide (**1m**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (38.27 mg, 64%).

M.p. 75-76 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.16 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.82 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.27 (s, 3H), 0.63 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.31, 140.68, 135.22, 132.96, 123.63, 122.66, 114.7, 75.10, 47.14, 31.95, 31.02, 30.01, 28.67. IR (cm⁻¹): 2960, 2363, 1714, 1602, 1493, 1462, 1362, 807. HRMS: calcd. for [M+H]⁺ C₁₅H₂₀NOCl₂: 300.09222; found: 266.09165.

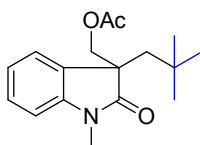
(3o) 3-(methoxymethyl)-1-methyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-ethyl-2-(methoxymethyl)-N-phenylacrylamide (**1n**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow solid (45.41 mg, 87%).

M.p. 73-74 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 6H), 2.02 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 1.92 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 0.62 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.83, 144.02, 131.24, 128.03, 124.89, 121.98, 108.04, 79.48, 59.69, 53.02, 45.66, 31.76, 31.12, 26.40. IR (cm⁻¹): 2953, 2365, 1702, 1612, 1468, 1380, 1344, 748. HRMS: calcd. for [M+Na]⁺ C₁₆H₂₃NO₂Na: 284.16220; found: 284.16210.

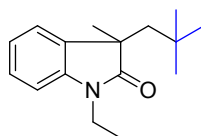
(3p) (1-methyl-3-neopentyl-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)methyl acetate



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between 2-(ethyl(phenyl)carbamoyl)allyl acetate (**1o**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (52.60 mg, 91%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 4.01 (d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 2.07 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.89 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz, 1H), 1.81 (s, 3H), 0.64 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 178.05, 170.43, 144.03, 129.66, 128.47, 125.00, 122.18, 108.14, 69.55, 51.66, 45.46, 31.78, 31.07, 26.44, 20.63. IR (cm⁻¹): 3060, 2949, 2364, 1719, 1618, 1498, 1467, 1372, 1215, 750. HRMS: calcd. for [M+Na]⁺ C₁₇H₂₃NO₃Na: 312.15710; found: 312.15701.

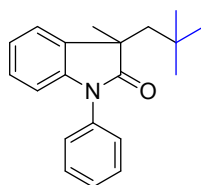
(3q) 1-ethyl-3-methyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-ethyl-N-phenylmethacrylamide (**1p**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow solid (31.85 mg, 65%).

M.p. 60-61 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22 (dd, *J* = 13.6, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.915-3.826(m, 1H), 3.730-3.641 (m, 1H), 2.16 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.86 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.36 – 1.20 (m, 3H), 0.63 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.70, 142.08, 134.59, 127.55, 124.22, 121.83, 108.29, 50.70, 47.53, 34.64, 31.98, 31.02, 28.76, 12.37. IR(cm⁻¹): 2955, 2363, 1703, 1610, 1487, 1466, 1374, 753. HRMS: calcd. for [M+H]⁺C₁₆H₂₄NO: 246.18547; found: 246.18524.

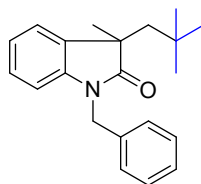
(3r) 3-methyl-3-neopentyl-1-phenylindolin-2-one



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N,N-diphenylmethacrylamide (**1q**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as white solid (42.19 mg, 72%).

M.p. 103-104 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (dd, *J* = 13.6, 7.6 Hz, 3H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.95 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 0.73 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.43, 142.83, 135.00, 134.12, 129.67, 127.91, 127.55, 126.42, 124.39, 122.56, 109.57, 51.13, 47.73, 32.10, 31.15, 29.03. IR(cm⁻¹): 2949, 2363, 1713, 1608, 1496, 1470, 1375, 754, 692.

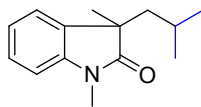
(3s) 1-benzyl-3-methyl-3-neopentylindolin-2-one



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-benzyl-N-phenylmethacrylamide (**1r**) with pivalaldehyde (**2a**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow solid (38.07 mg, 62%).

M.p. 107-108 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.90 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (s, 4H), 0.64 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.22, 142.20, 136.27, 134.39, 128.82, 127.77, 127.67, 127.54, 124.12, 122.10, 109.26, 50.67, 47.64, 44.08, 32.00, 31.08, 29.19. IR(cm⁻¹): 2949, 2356, 1705, 1607, 1493, 1466, 1357, 758, 693. HRMS: calcd. for [M+H]⁺ C₂₁H₂₆NO: 308.20102, found: 308.20089.

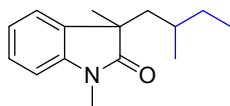
(4b) 3-isobutyl-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one¹



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-phenylmethacrylamide (**1a**) with isobutyraldehyde (**2b**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (27.78 mg, 64%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.26 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 1.94 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 1.76 (dd, *J* = 14, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 1.32 (s, 3H), 1.24 (m, 1H), 0.65 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.61 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.19, 143.29, 134.31, 127.66, 122.91, 122.43, 108.05, 48.18, 46.84, 26.28, 26.24, 25.63, 24.22, 22.93.

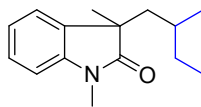
(4c) 1,3-dimethyl-3-(2-methylbutyl)indolin-2-one



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-phenylmethacrylamide (**1a**) with 2-methylbutyraldehyde (**2c**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (34.19 mg, 74%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.14 (m, 1H), 7.08-7.03 (m, 1H), 6.86-6.83 (m, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.05-2.00 (m, 0.57×1H), 1.86 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 1.68-1.64 (m, 0.60×1H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 1.16-0.92 (m, 3H), 0.74-0.69 (m, 3H), 0.60 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 0.59×3H), 0.49 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 0.52×3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 181.40, 143.30, 134.65, 134.13, 127.64, 122.95, 122.88, 122.42, 122.37, 110.09, 108.02, 108.00, 48.26, 48.00, 45.12, 44.51, 31.74, 31.67, 30.82, 30.15, 26.29, 26.23, 25.88, 20.41, 19.37, 11.16, 11.03. IR (cm⁻¹): 3059, 2933, 1705, 1607, 1496, 1467, 1374, 756. HRMS: calcd. for [M+H]⁺ C₁₅H₂₂NO: 232.16995, found: 232.16959.

(4d) 1,3-dimethyl-3-(2-methylpentyl)indolin-2-one³

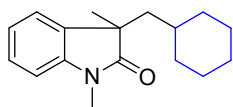


The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-phenylmethacrylamide (**1a**) with methyl valeraldehyde (**2d**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (36.75 mg, 75%).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.28-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.14 (m, 1H), 7.08-7.03 (m, 1H), 6.85-6.82 (m, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.04-1.99 (m, 0.51×1H), 1.86 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 1.68-1.63 (m, 0.53×1H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 1.26-0.89 (m, 5H), 0.77-0.69 (m, 3H), 0.60 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 0.53×3H), 0.50 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 0.63×3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.97, 142.06, 136.45, 129.64, 127.63, 127.01, 126.92, 124.88, 118.93, 37.85, 29.72, 20.27, 12.49.

(4e) 3-(cyclohexylmethyl)-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one³

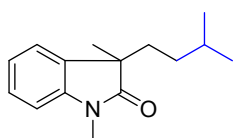
³ Z.-J Li, Y. Zhang, L.-Z Zhang, and Z.-Q Liu, *Org. Lett.* **2014**, *16*, 382.



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-phenylmethacrylamide (**1a**) with cyclohexanecarbaldehyde (**2e**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (38.55 mg, 75%).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.15 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 1.92 (dd, $J = 13.6, 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.72 (d, $J = 13.6$ Hz, 1H), 1.46 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.20 (d, $J = 12.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.09 – 0.65 (m, 7H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 181.27, 143.15, 134.45, 127.61, 122.80, 122.44, 108.06, 47.95, 45.48, 34.82, 34.53, 33.58, 26.31, 26.17, 26.11.

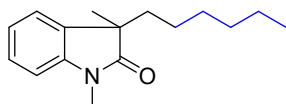
(4f) 3-isopentyl-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-phenylmethacrylamide (**1a**) with 3-methylbutanal (**2f**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (15.25 mg, 33%).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.26 (d, $J = 14.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 1.92-1.84 (m, 1H), 1.76-1.69 (m, 1H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 0.96 – 0.82 (m, 1H), 0.77 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 6H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 181.03, 143.46, 134.44, 127.68, 122.56, 107.99, 48.49, 36.48, 33.30, 28.28, 26.24, 24.00, 22.61, 22.40. IR (cm $^{-1}$): 3057, 2962, 1703, 1610, 1495, 1472, 1387, 753. HRMS: calcd. for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}$ O: 232.16998 found: 232.16959.

(4g) 3-hexyl-1,3-dimethylindolin-2-one³

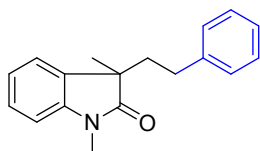


The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-phenylmethacrylamide (**1a**) with hexanal (**2g**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (21.07 mg, 43%).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.26 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 1.88 (td, $J = 12.8, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.72 (td, $J = 12.8, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 1.27 – 0.89 (m, 8H), 0.80 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 181.03, 143.44, 134.45, 127.68, 122.58, 122.53, 107.97, 48.59, 38.66, 31.64, 29.52, 26.23, 24.52, 23.92, 22.67, 14.14.

(4h) 1,3-dimethyl-3-phenethylindolin-2-one⁴

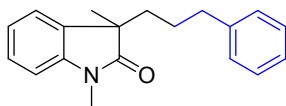
⁴ M.-Bo Zhou, C.-Y Wang, R.-J Song, Y.-L, W.-T Wei, and J.-H Li, *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, 49, 10817.



The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-phenylmethacrylamide (**1a**) with 2-phenylacetaldehyde (**2h**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (30.74mg, 58%).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.29 (dd, $J = 15.8, 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, $J = 13.6, 6.8$ Hz, 3H), 7.12 (dd, $J = 14.8, 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.43 – 2.20 (m, 2H), 2.19 – 2.08 (m, 1H), 2.07 – 1.91 (m, 1H), 1.40 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 180.46, 143.53, 141.50, 133.86, 128.39, 128.34, 127.95, 125.95, 122.71, 122.59, 108.13, 48.49, 40.35, 31.08, 26.24, 24.07.

(4i)1,3-dimethyl-3-(3-phenylpropyl)indolin-2-one¹

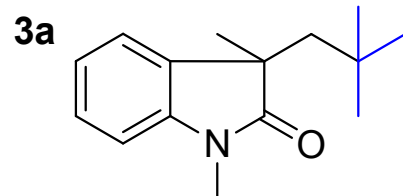


The title compound was prepared according to the general procedure described above by the reaction between N-methyl-N-phenylmethacrylamide (**1a**) with 3-phenylpropanal (**2i**), and purified by flash column chromatography as light yellow oil (25.11 mg, 45%).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, D_2O) δ 7.22 (dd, $J = 13.6, 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 7.13 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.05 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 6.82 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 2.80 – 2.28 (m, 2H), 1.96 (td, $J = 13.2, 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.78 (td, $J = 12.8, 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.34 (s, 5H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 180.85, 143.42, 142.04, 134.16, 128.48, 128.37, 127.80, 125.87, 122.60, 108.07, 48.49, 38.27, 36.09, 26.51, 26.27, 24.01.

VI. Copies of ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of products

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7.189
7.050
7.032
7.014
6.857
6.838

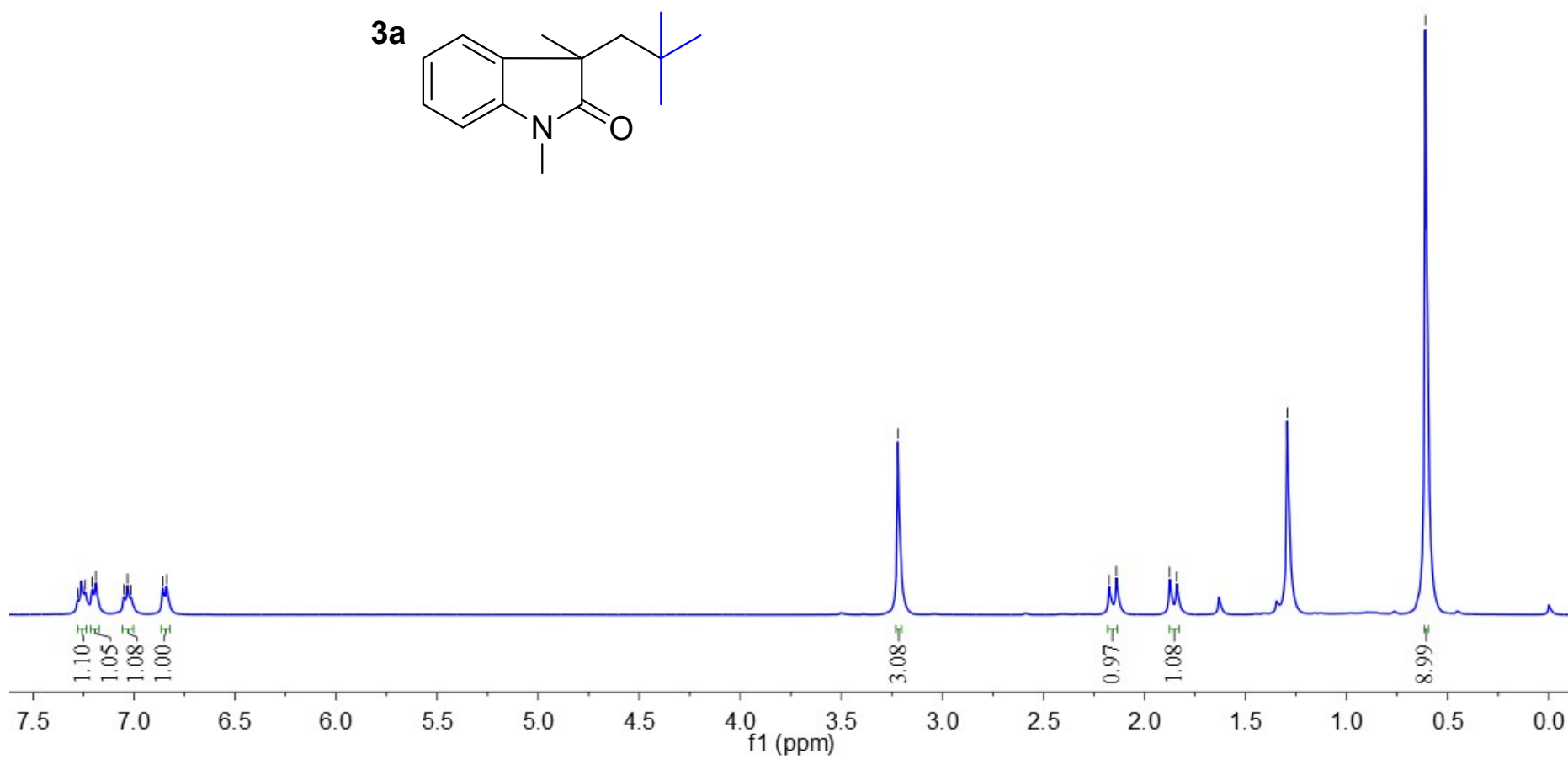


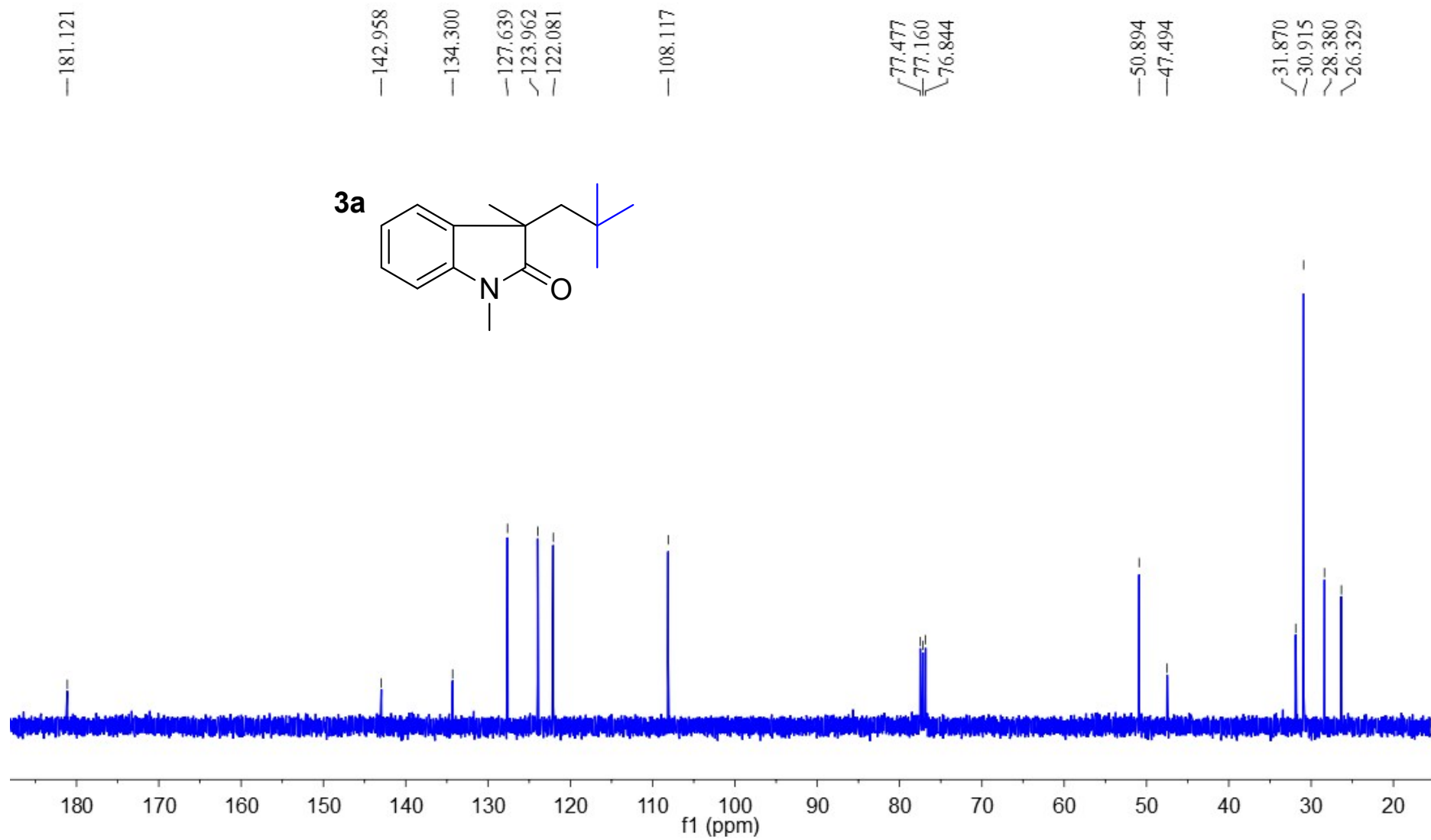
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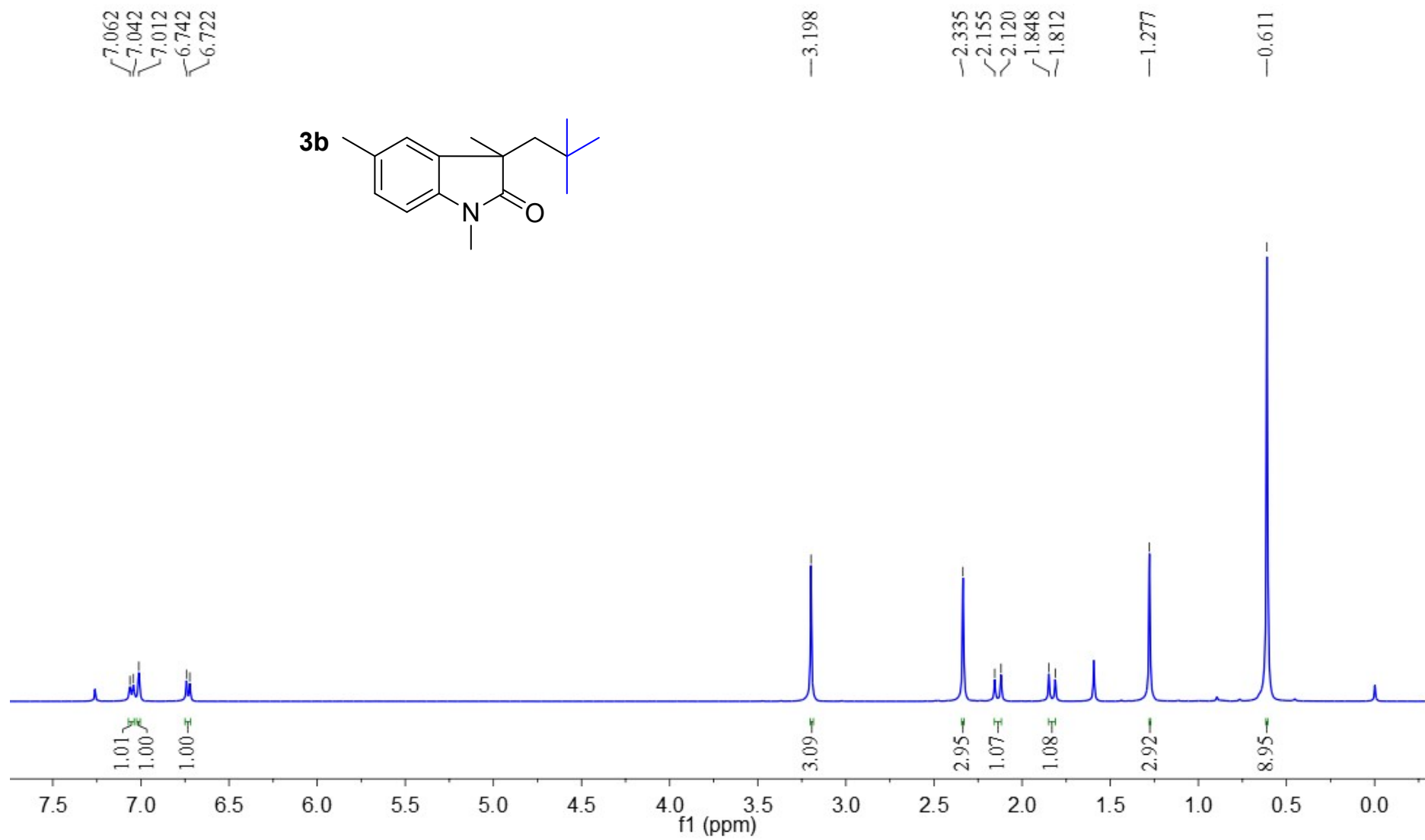
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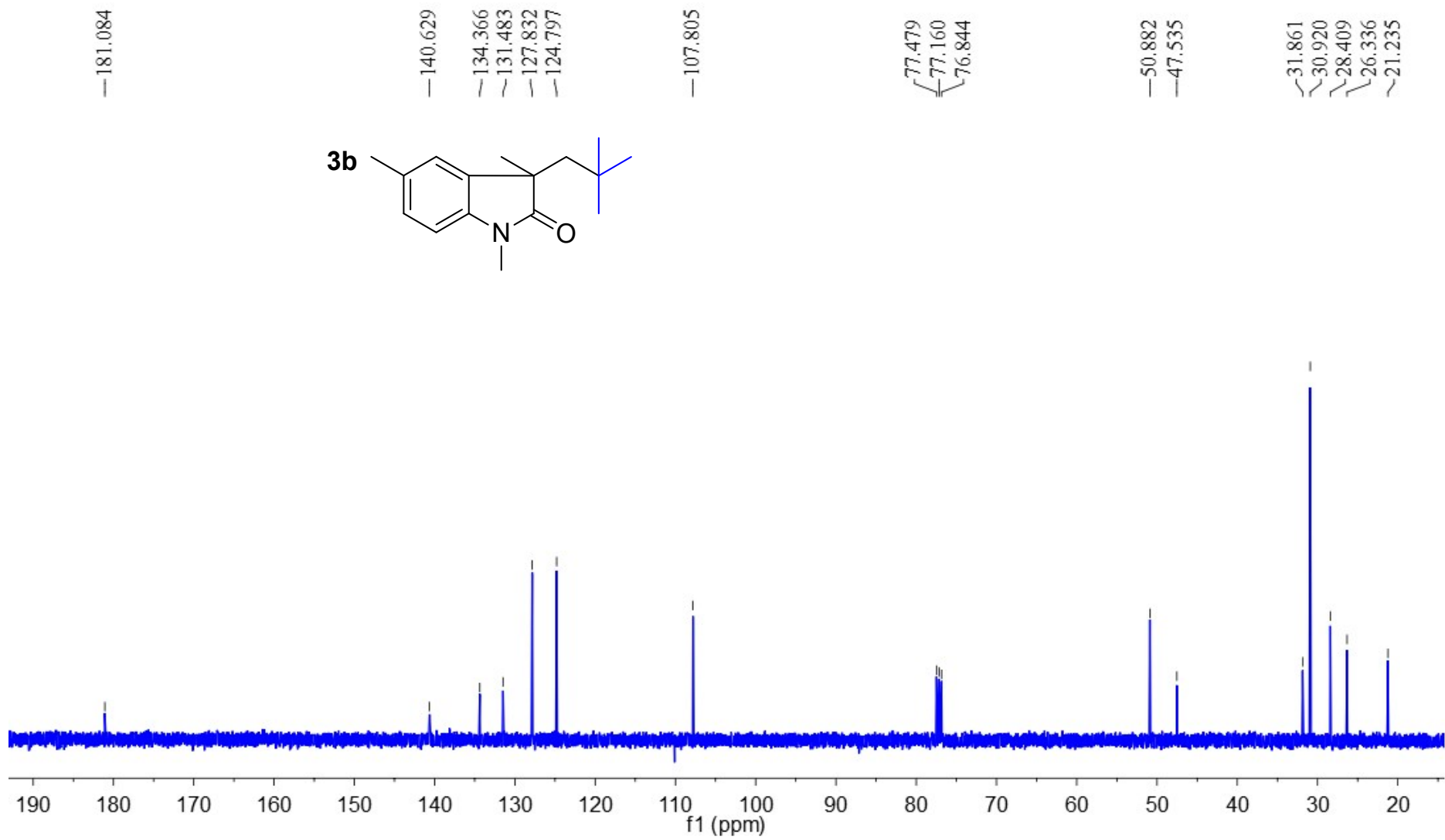
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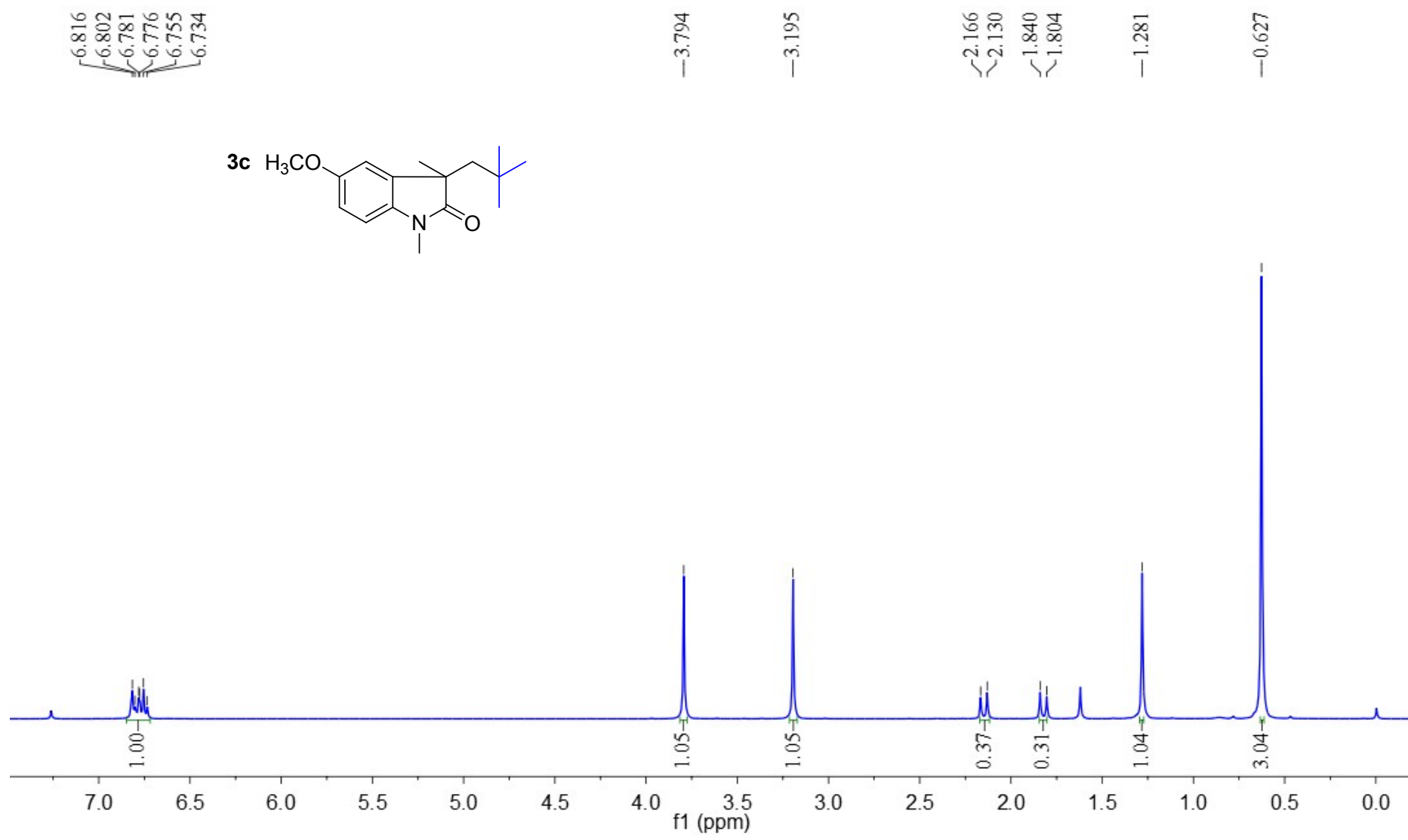
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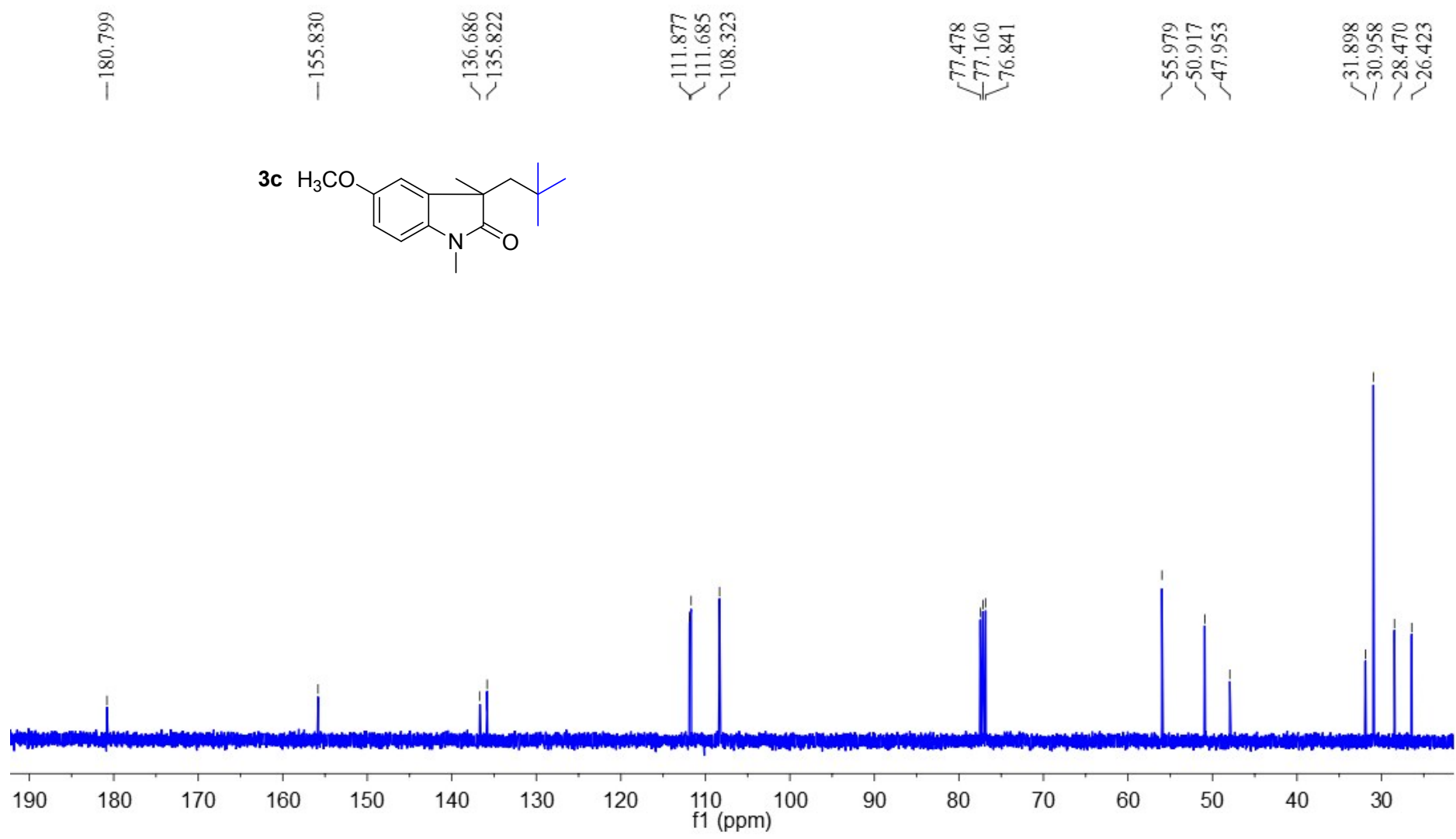


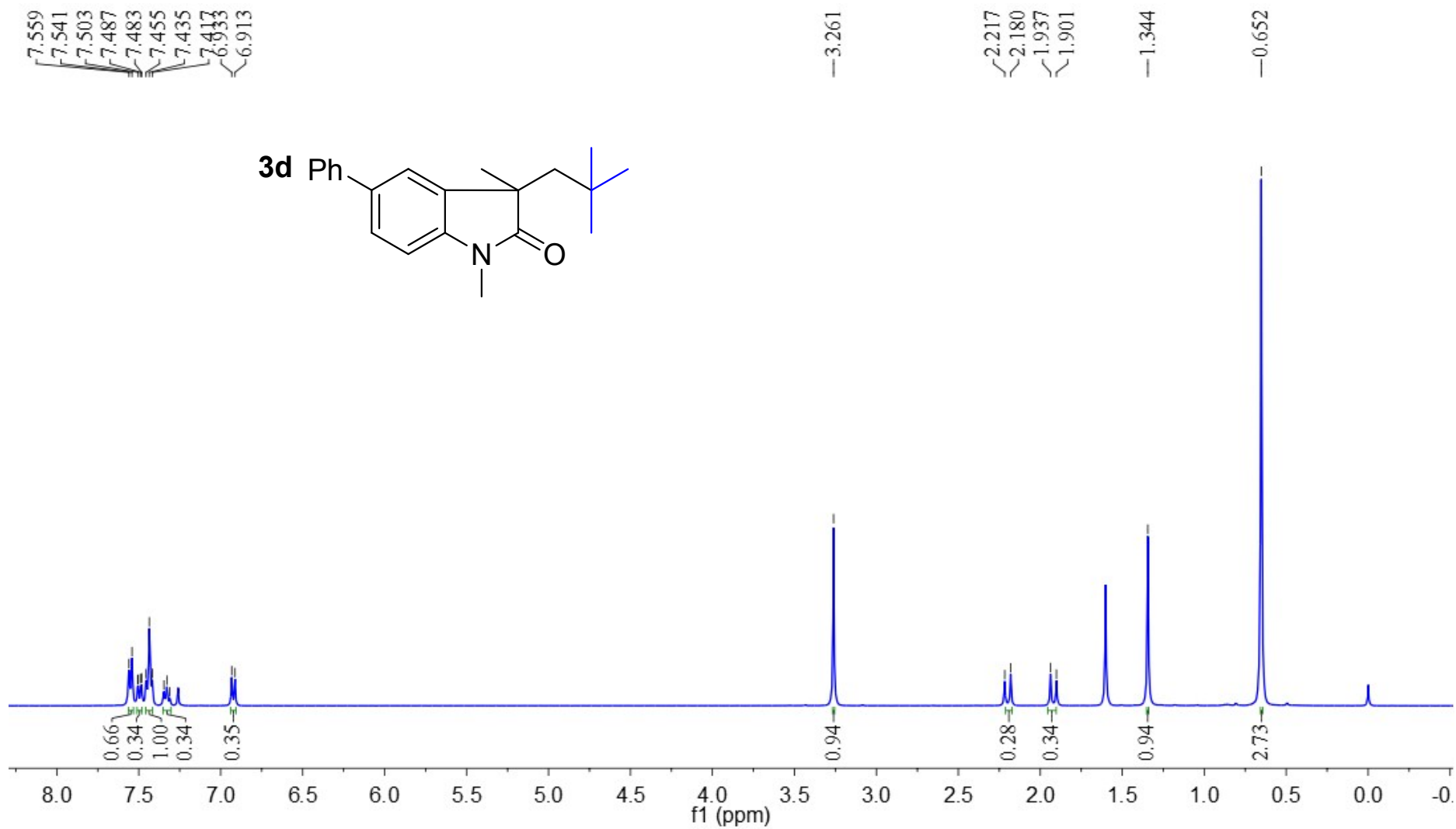


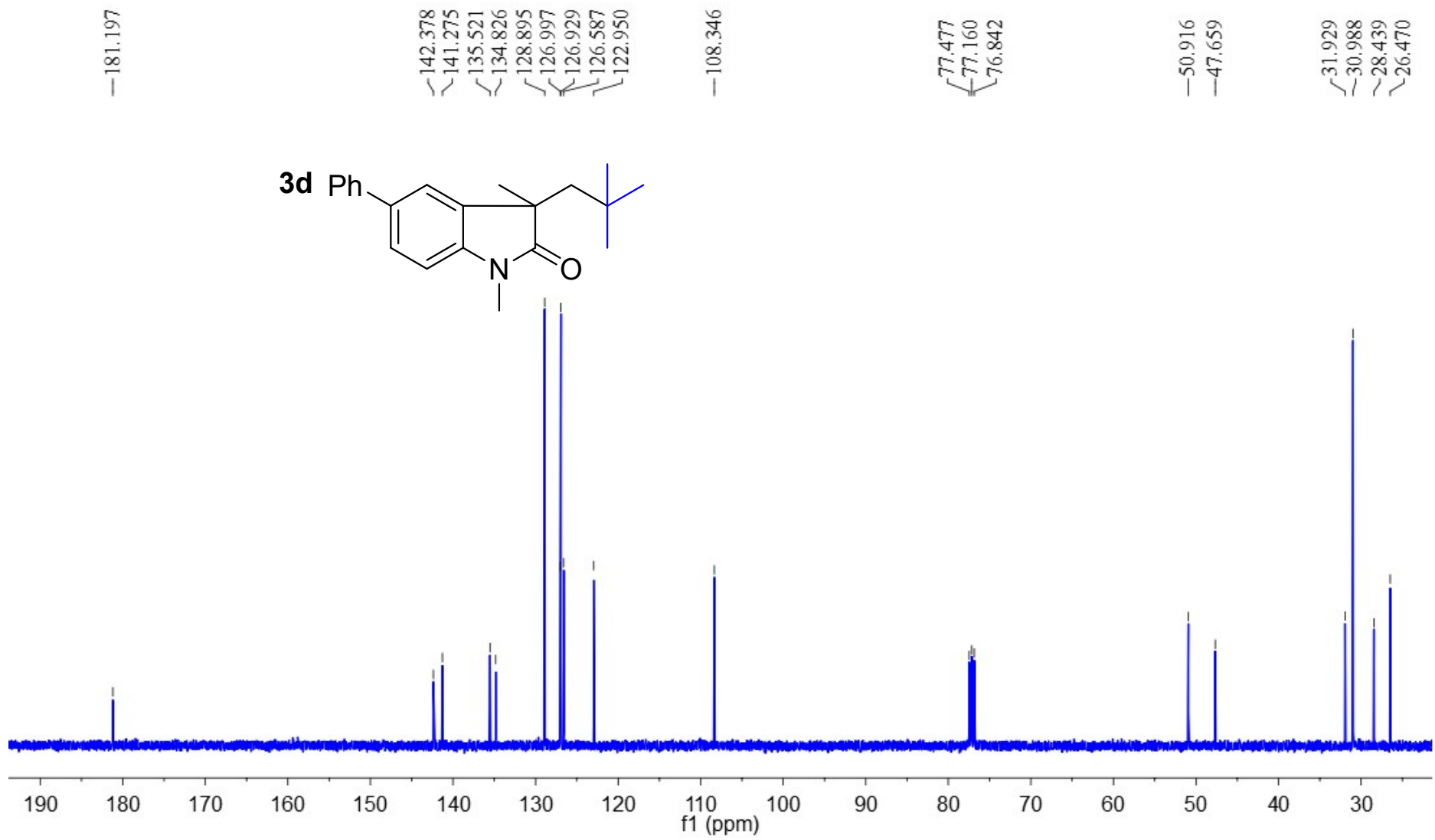


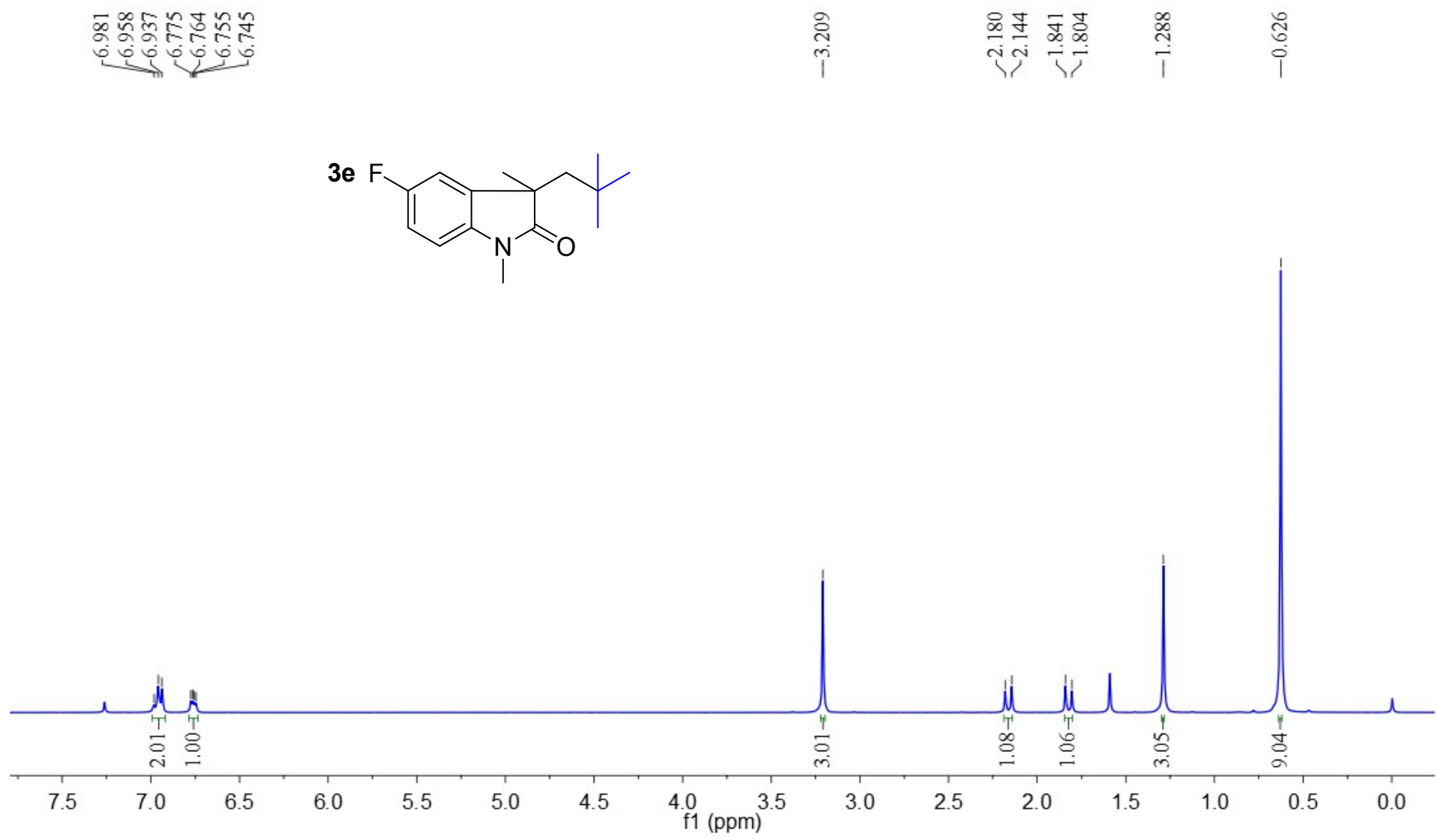


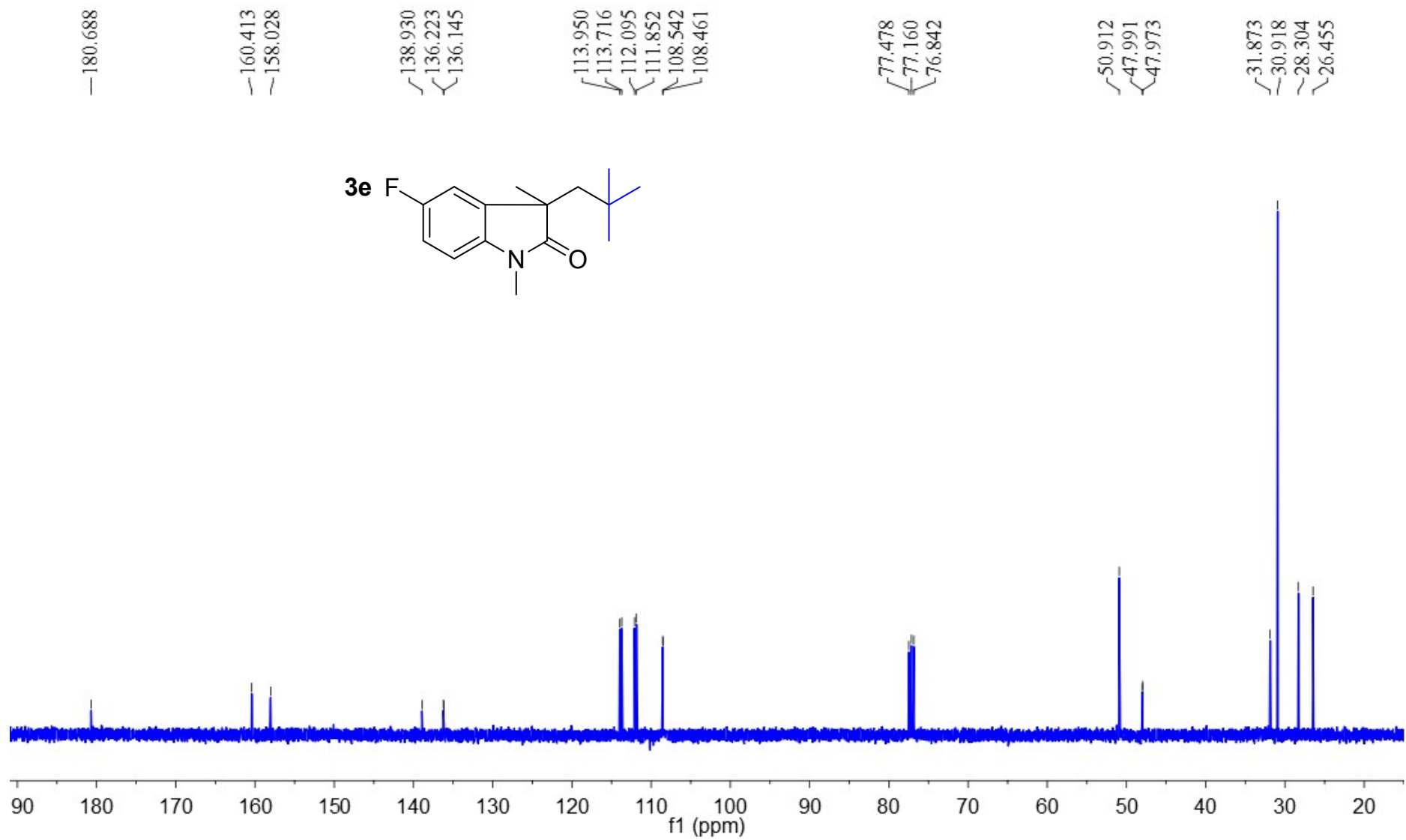






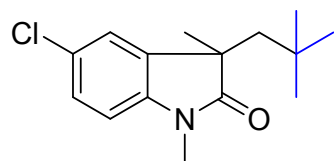






7.261
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7.225
7.169
6.777
6.757

3f

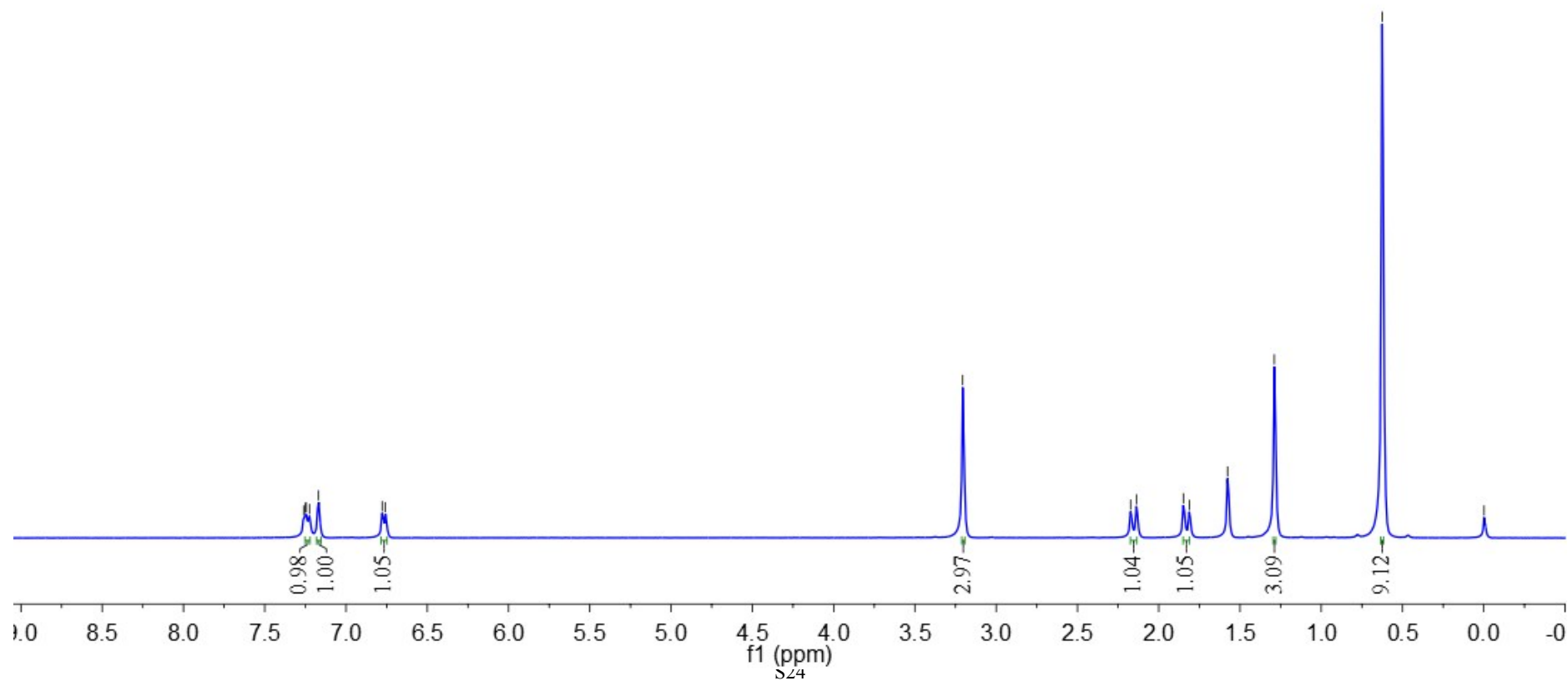


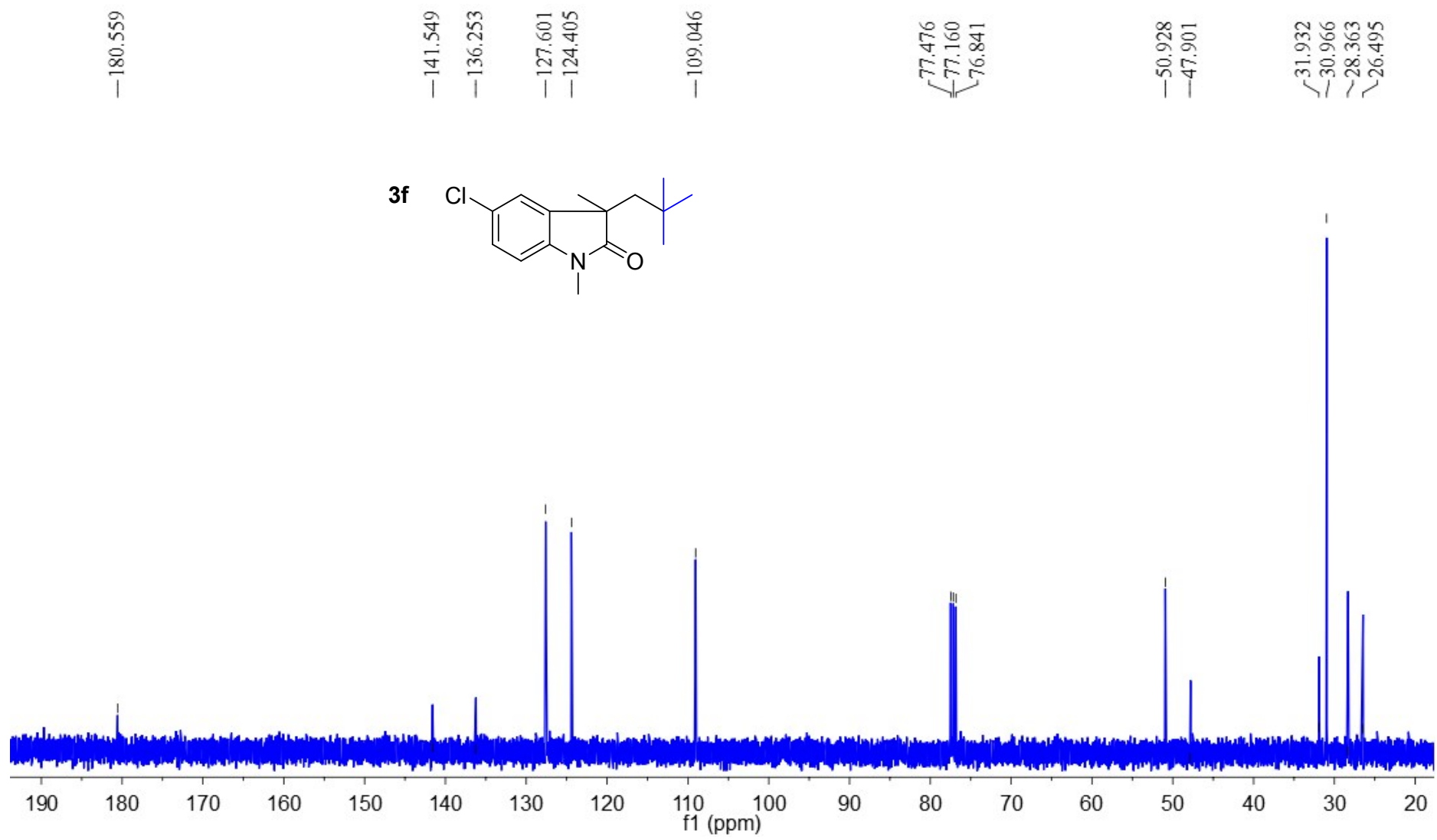
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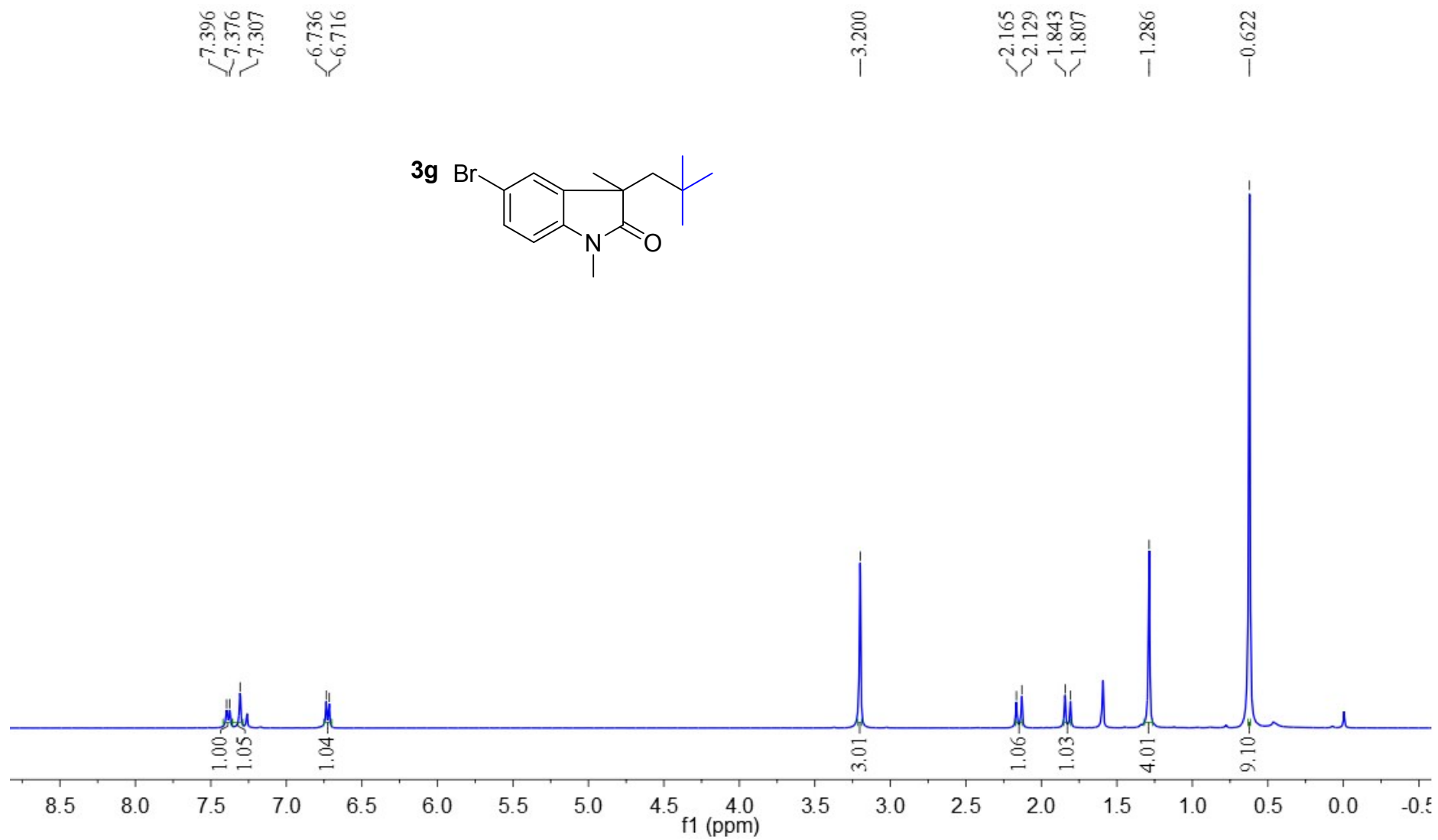
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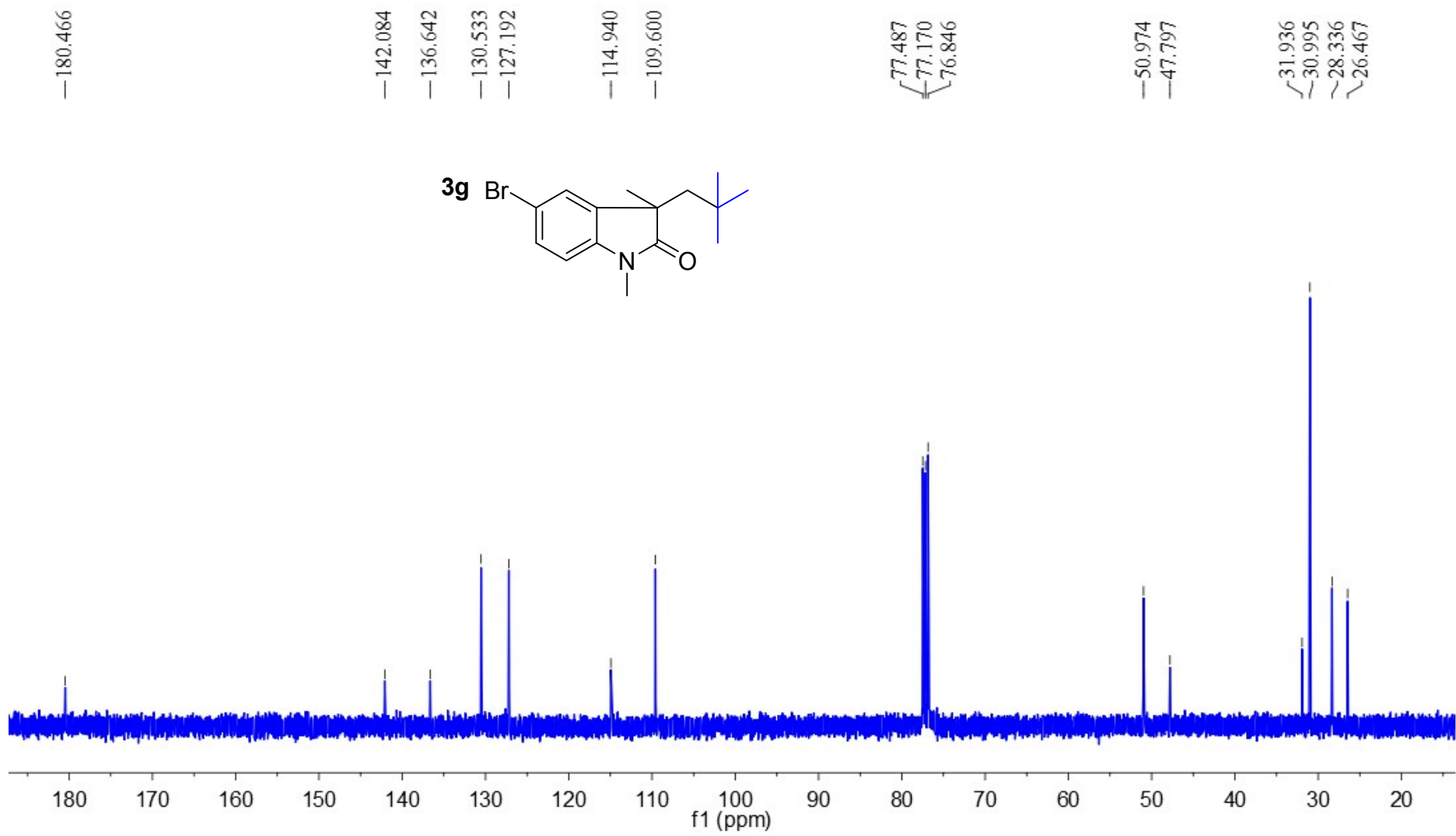
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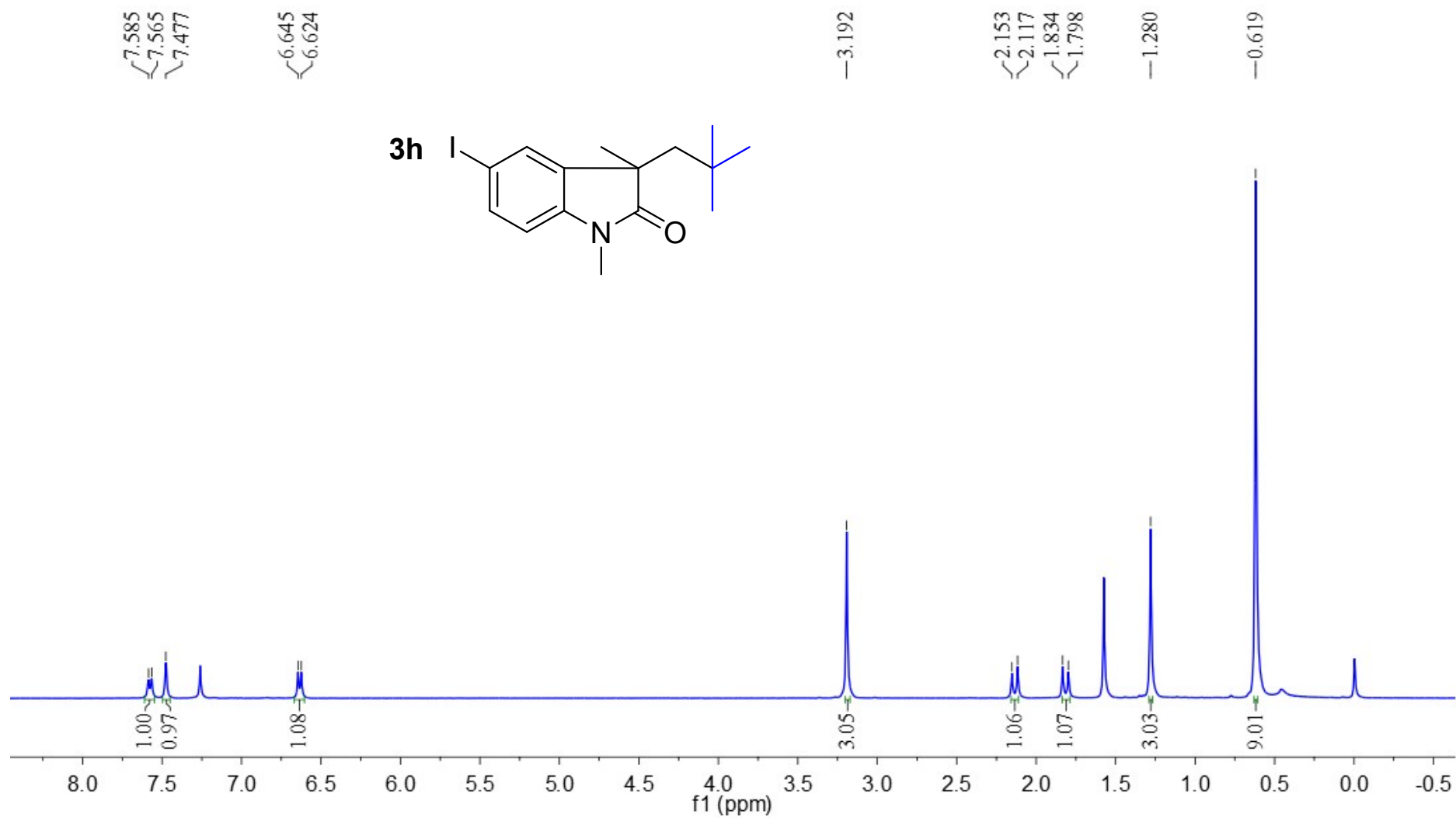
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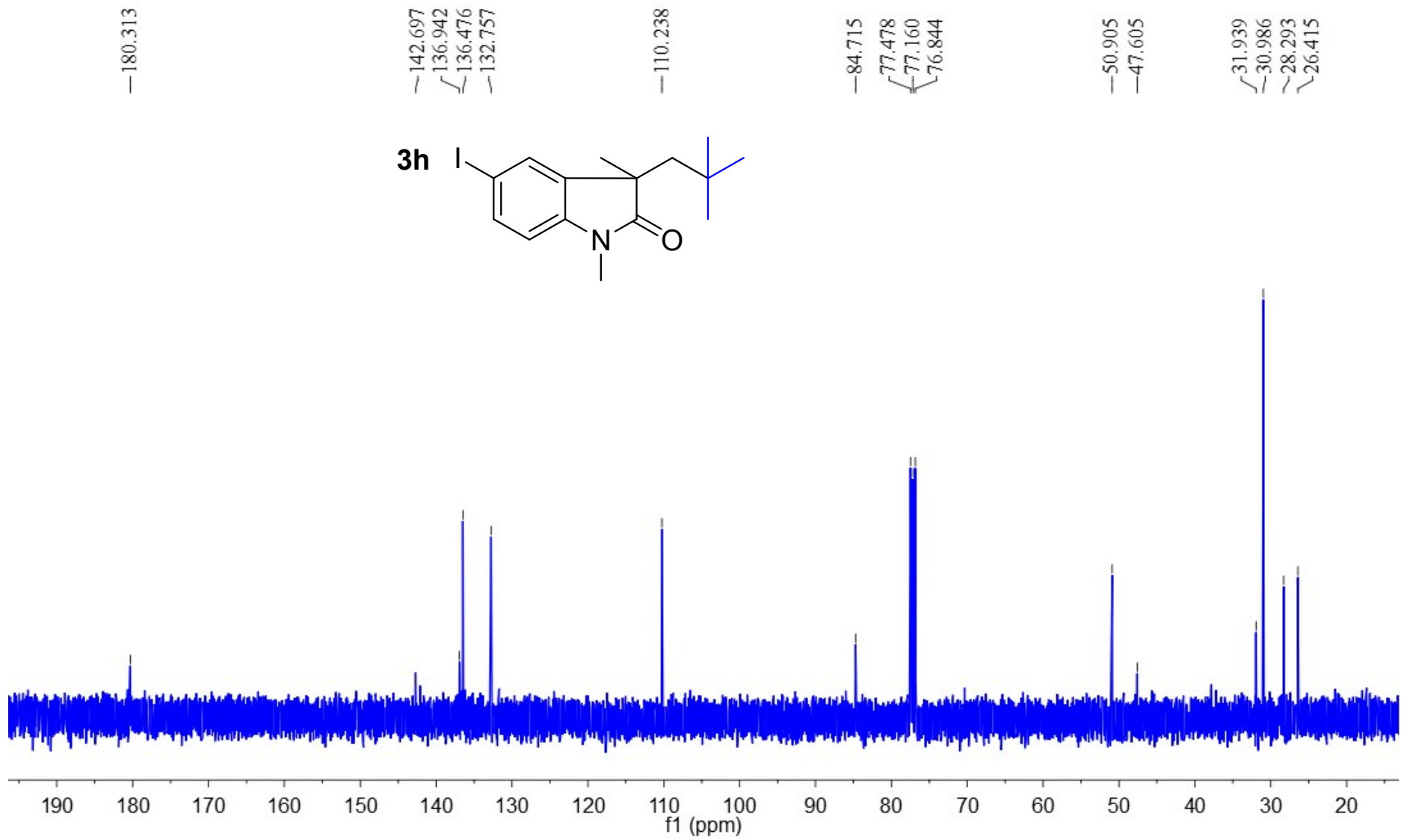


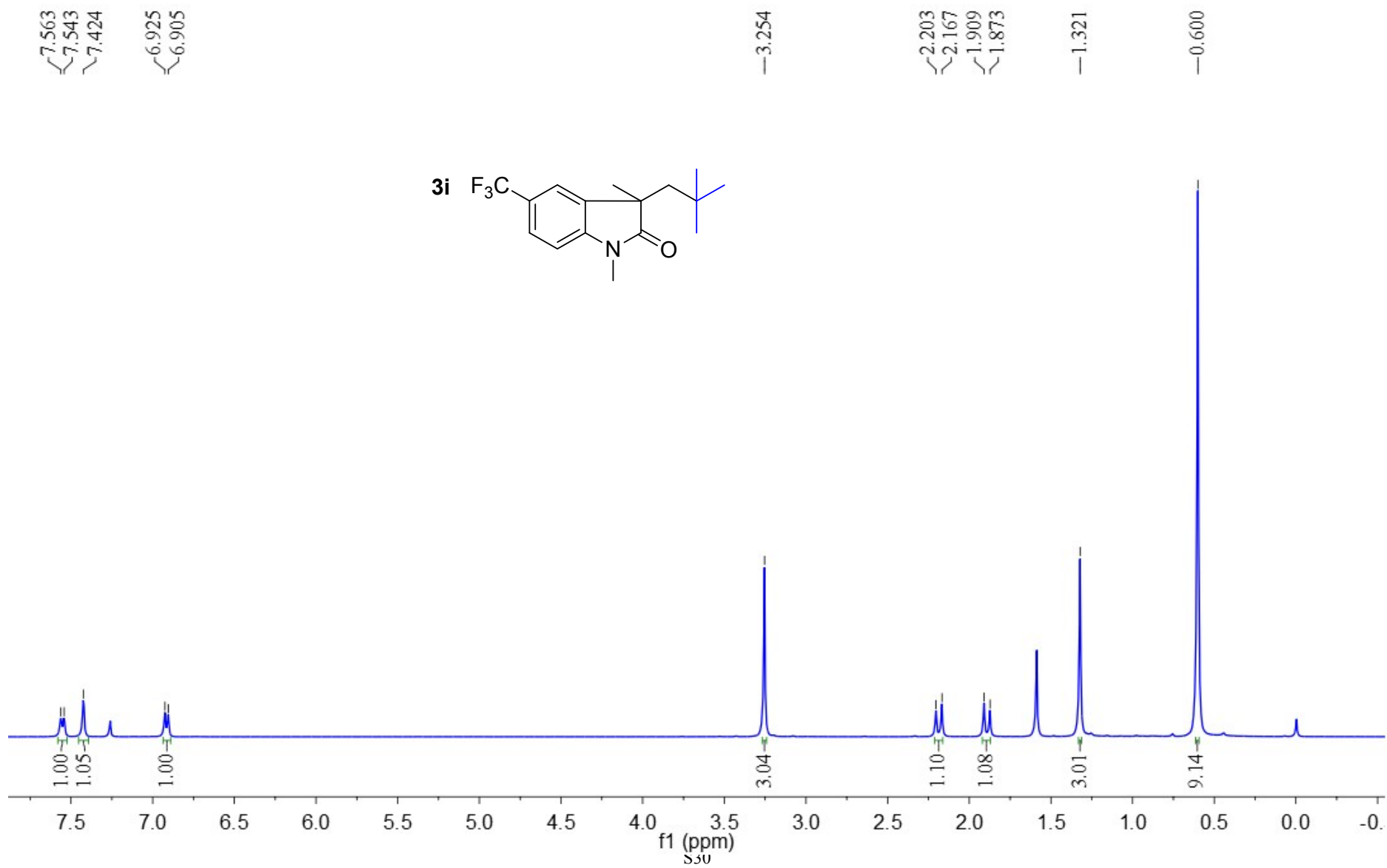


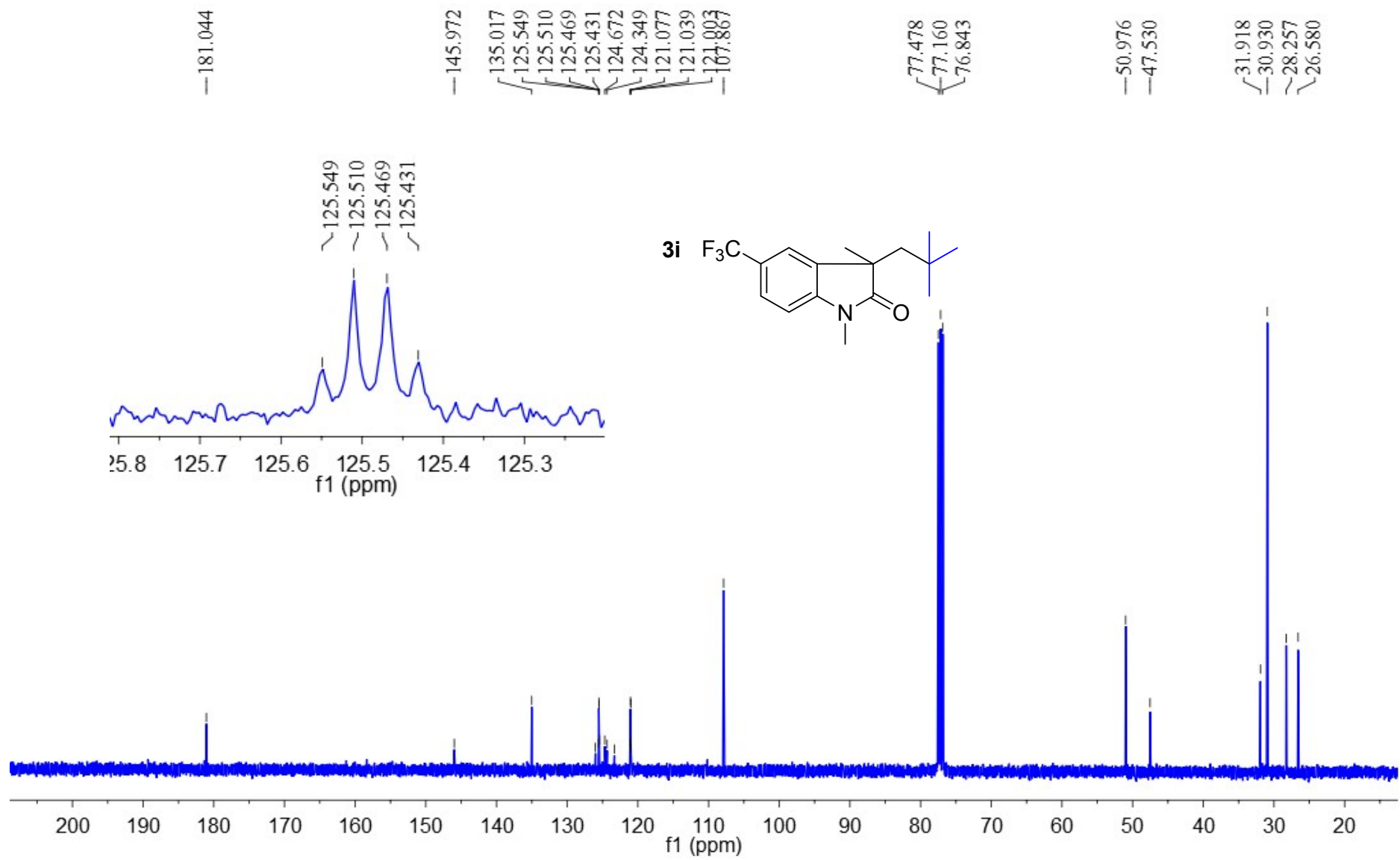


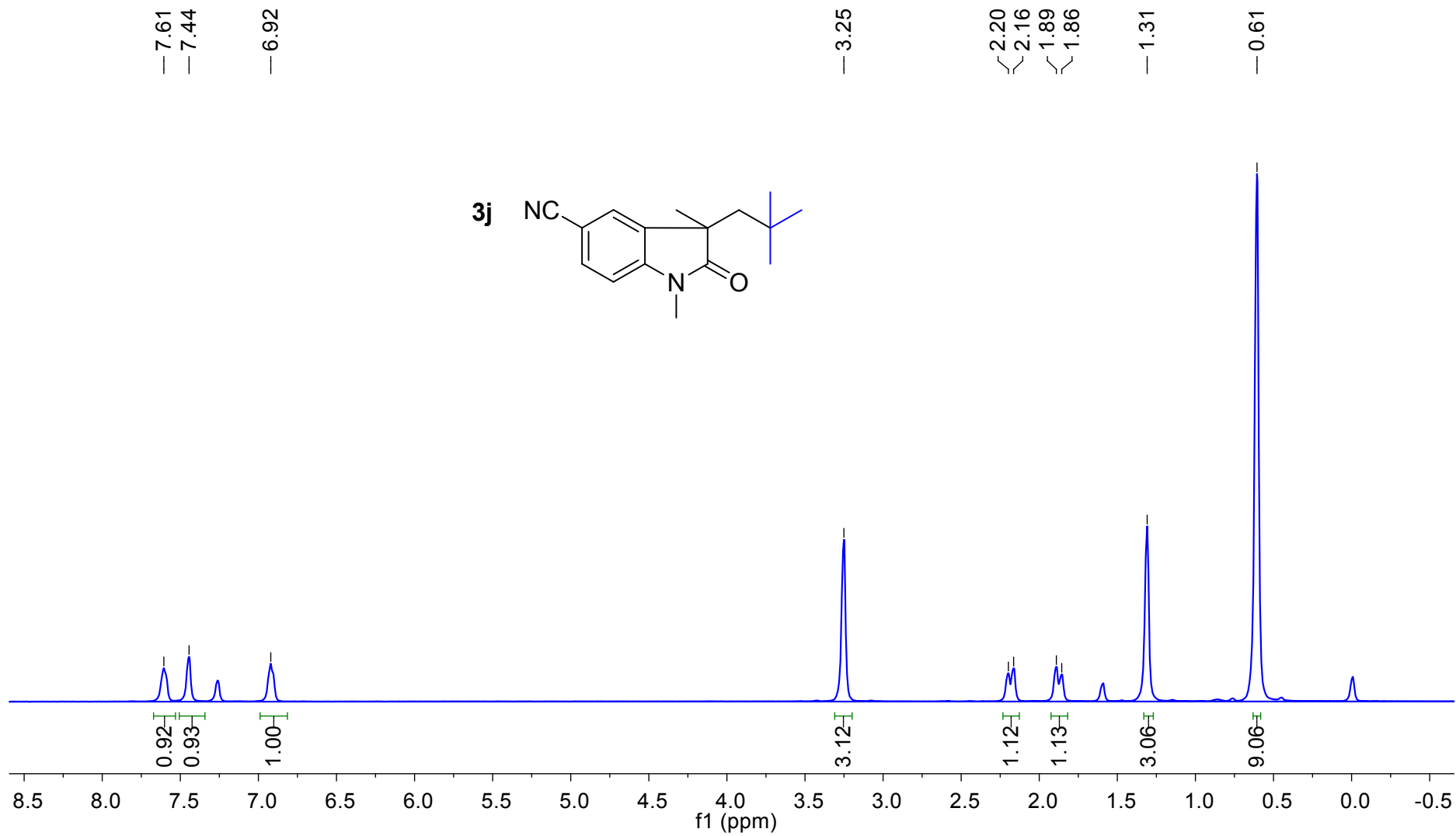


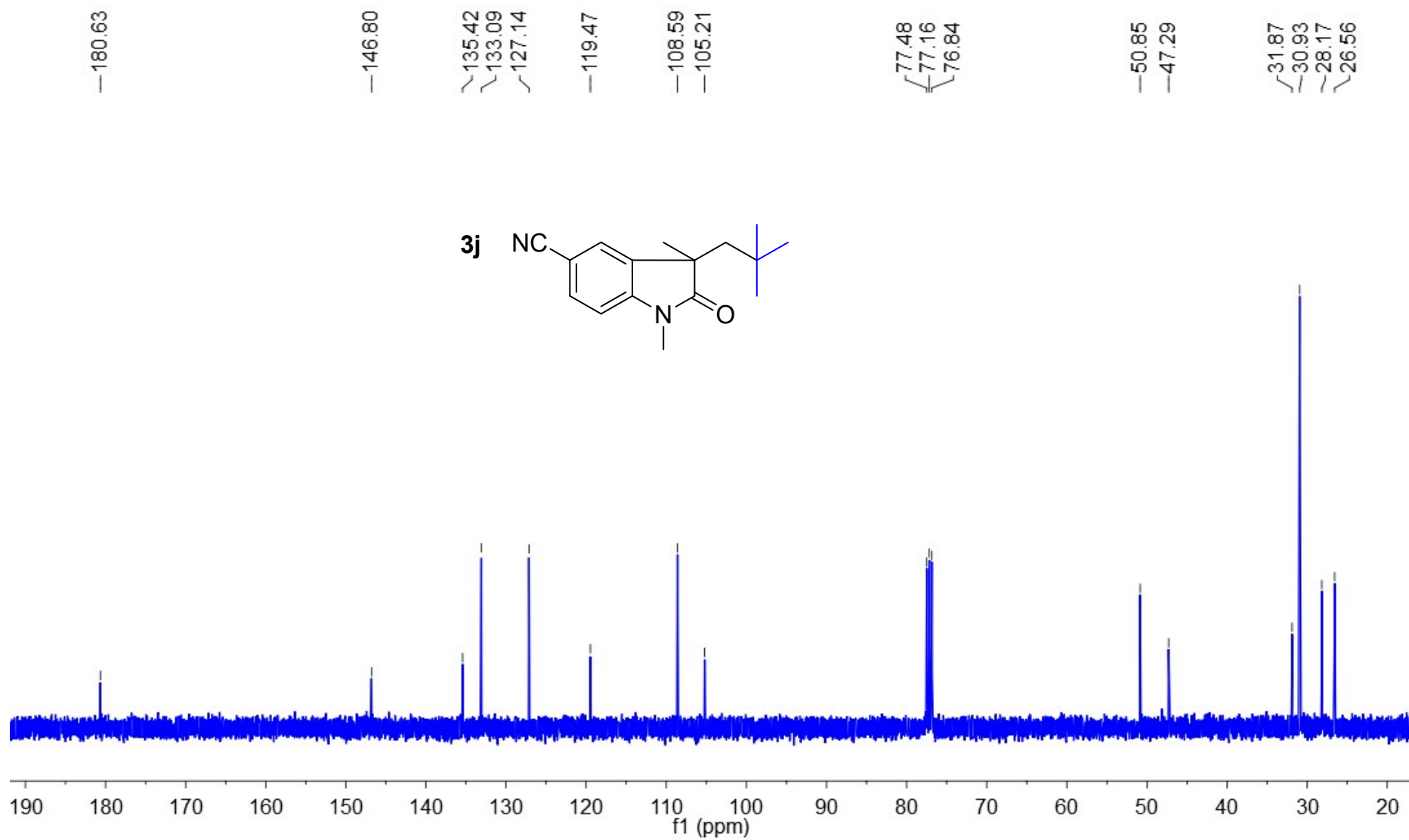




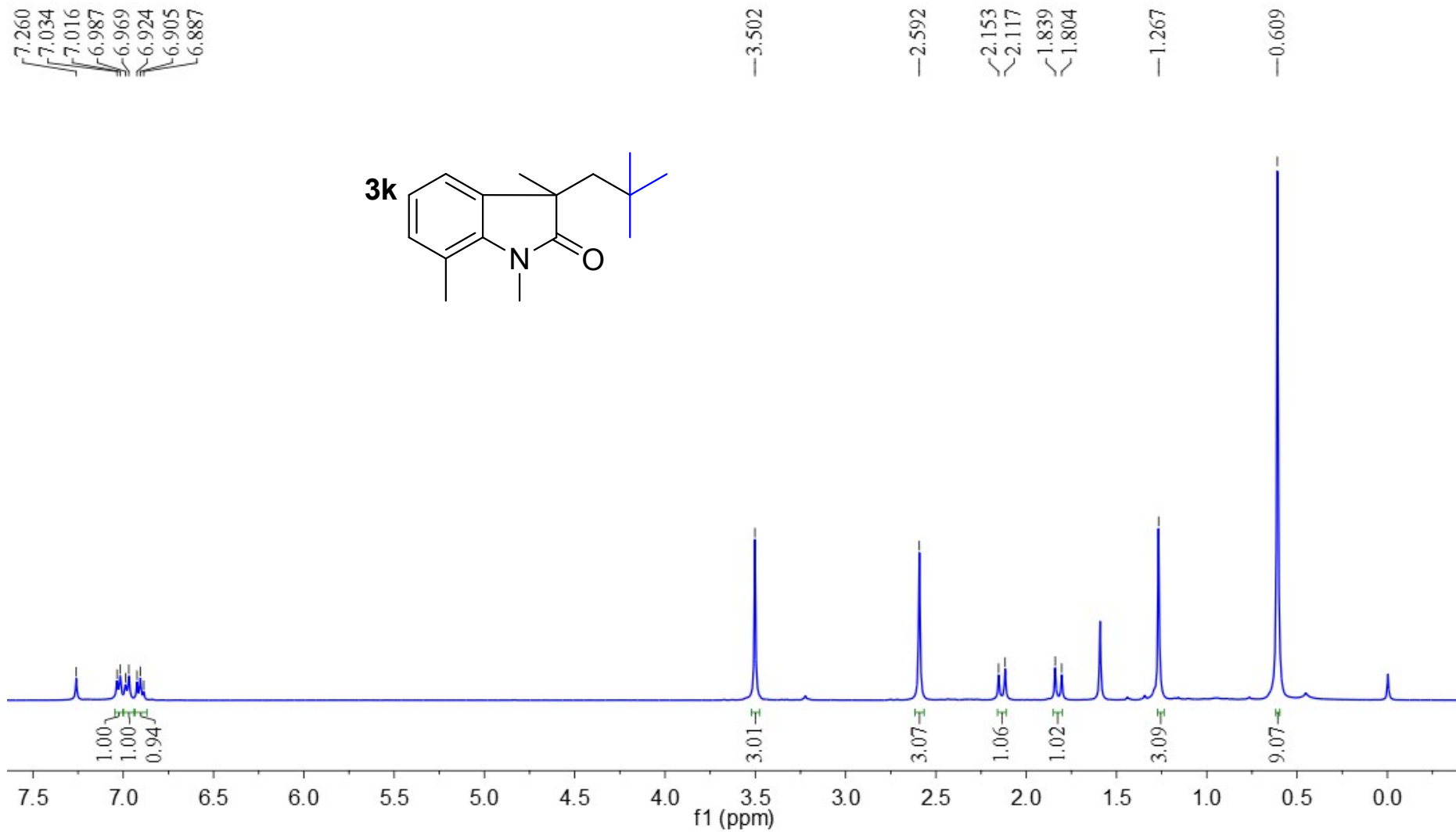
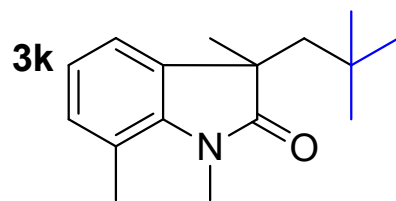


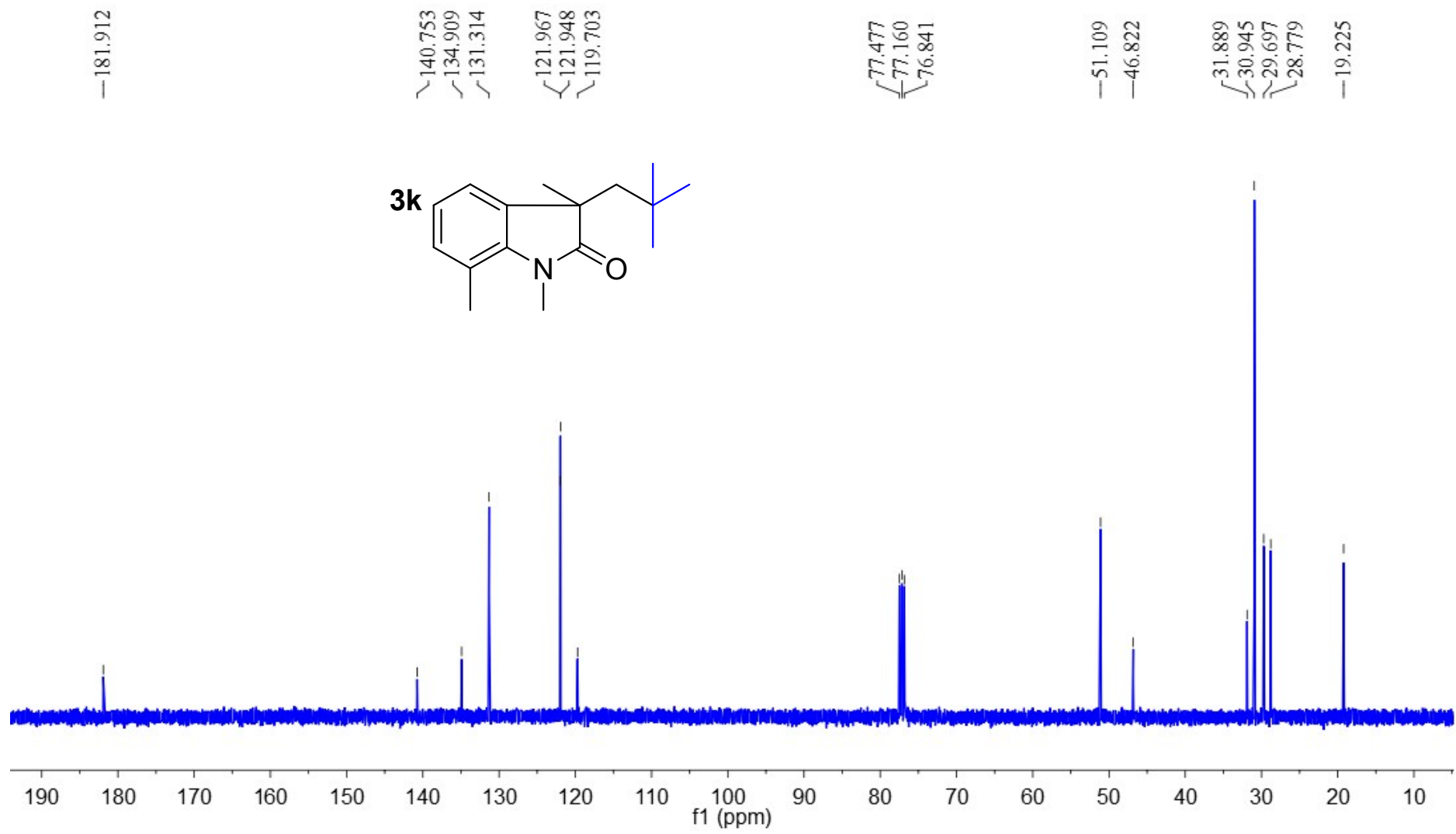






7.260
7.034
7.016
6.987
6.969
6.924
6.905
6.887





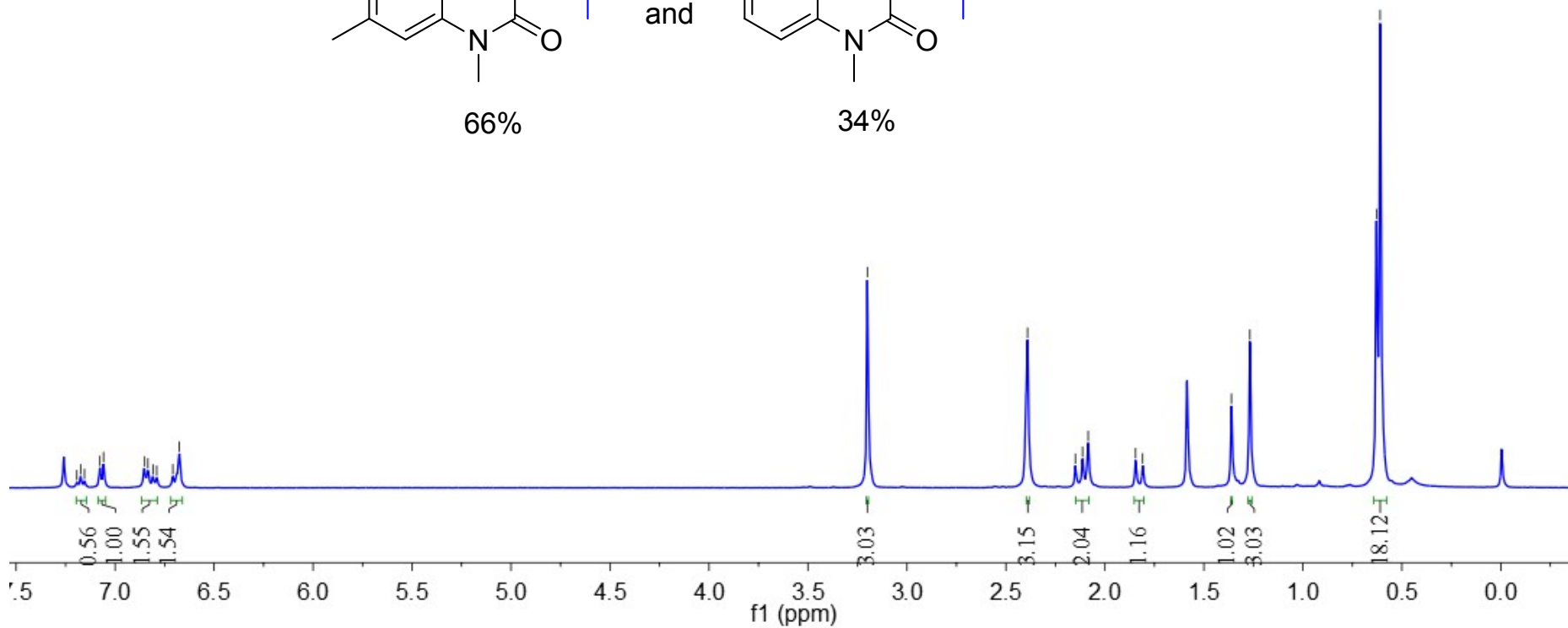
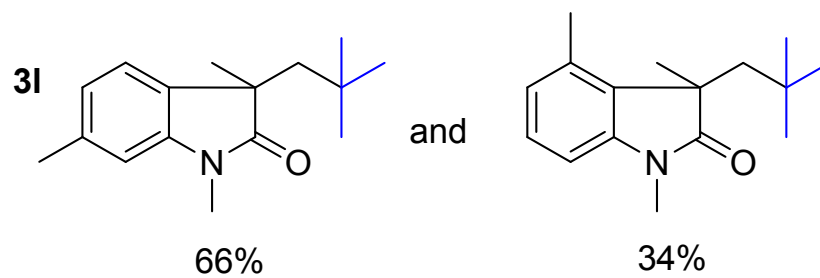
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7.155
7.077
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6.853
6.835
6.809
6.790
6.709
6.676

3.200

2.391
2.149
2.113
2.085
1.845
1.809

1.361
1.268

0.629
0.610



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143.175
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137.630
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131.263
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123.689
122.596

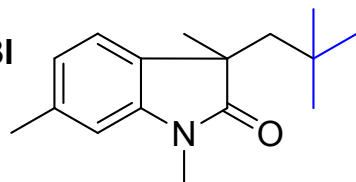
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77.478
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48.274
47.265

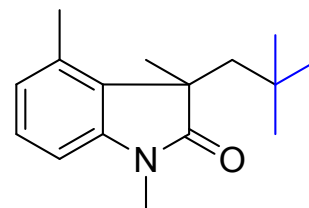
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26.267
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21.874
18.830

3I

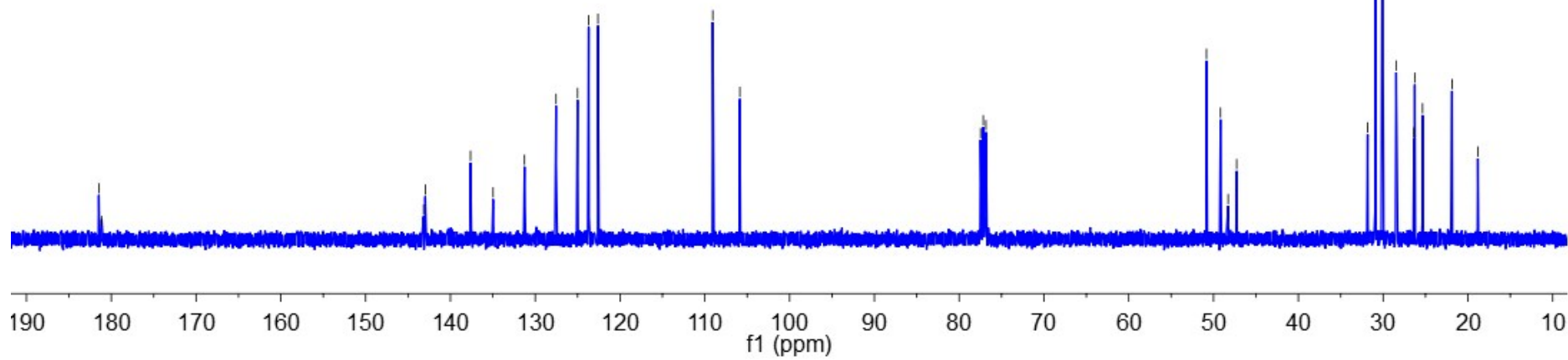


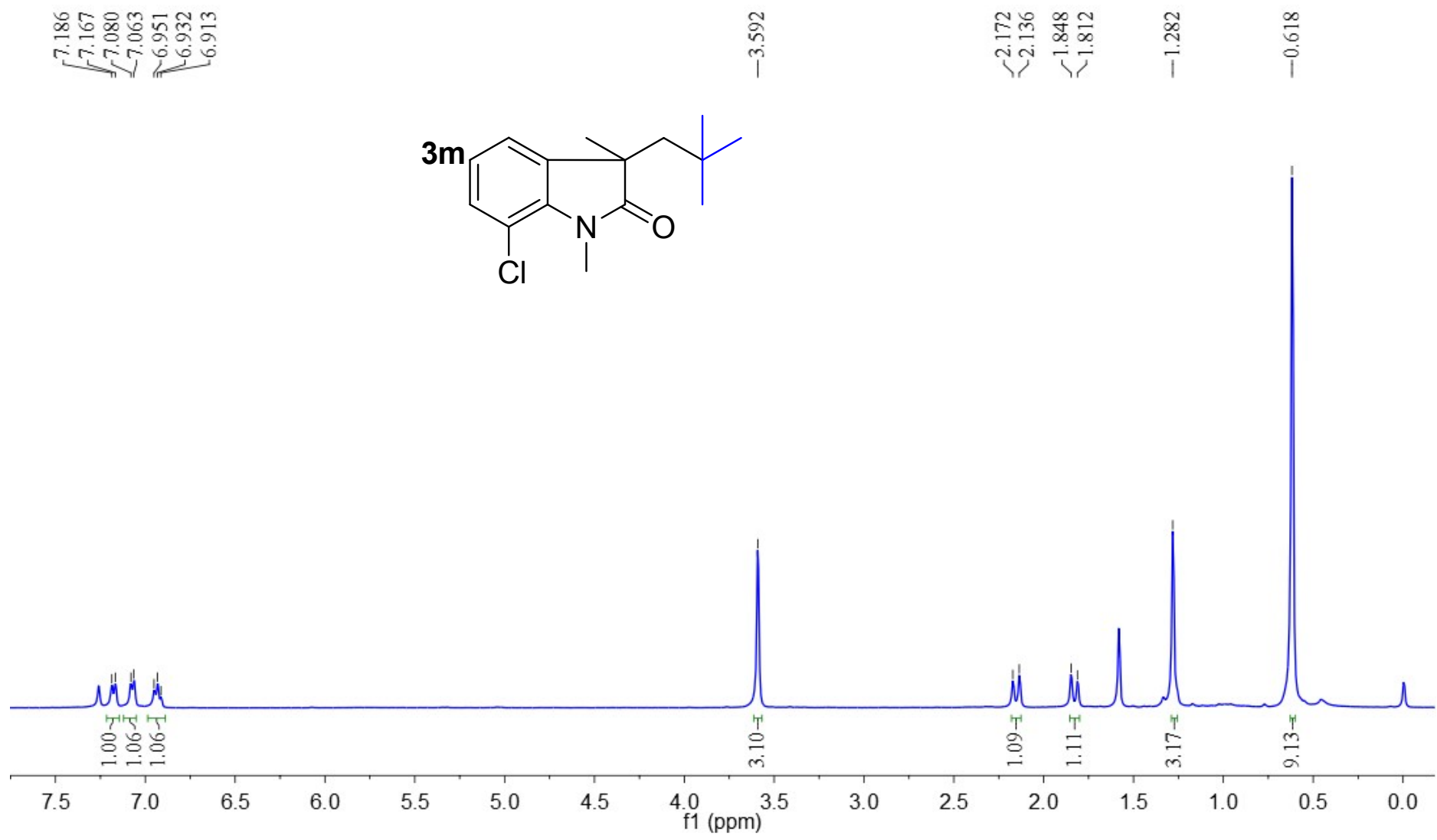
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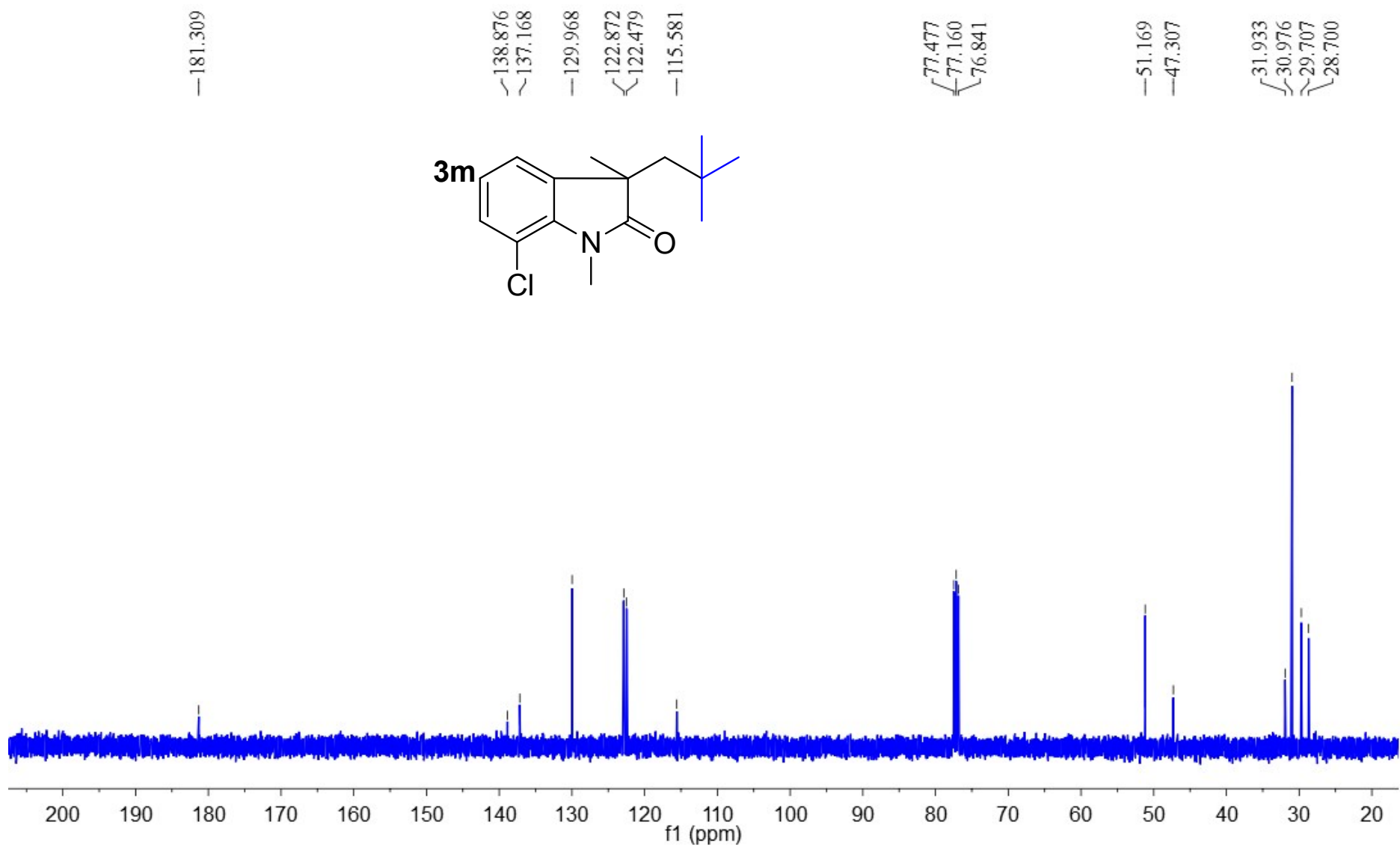
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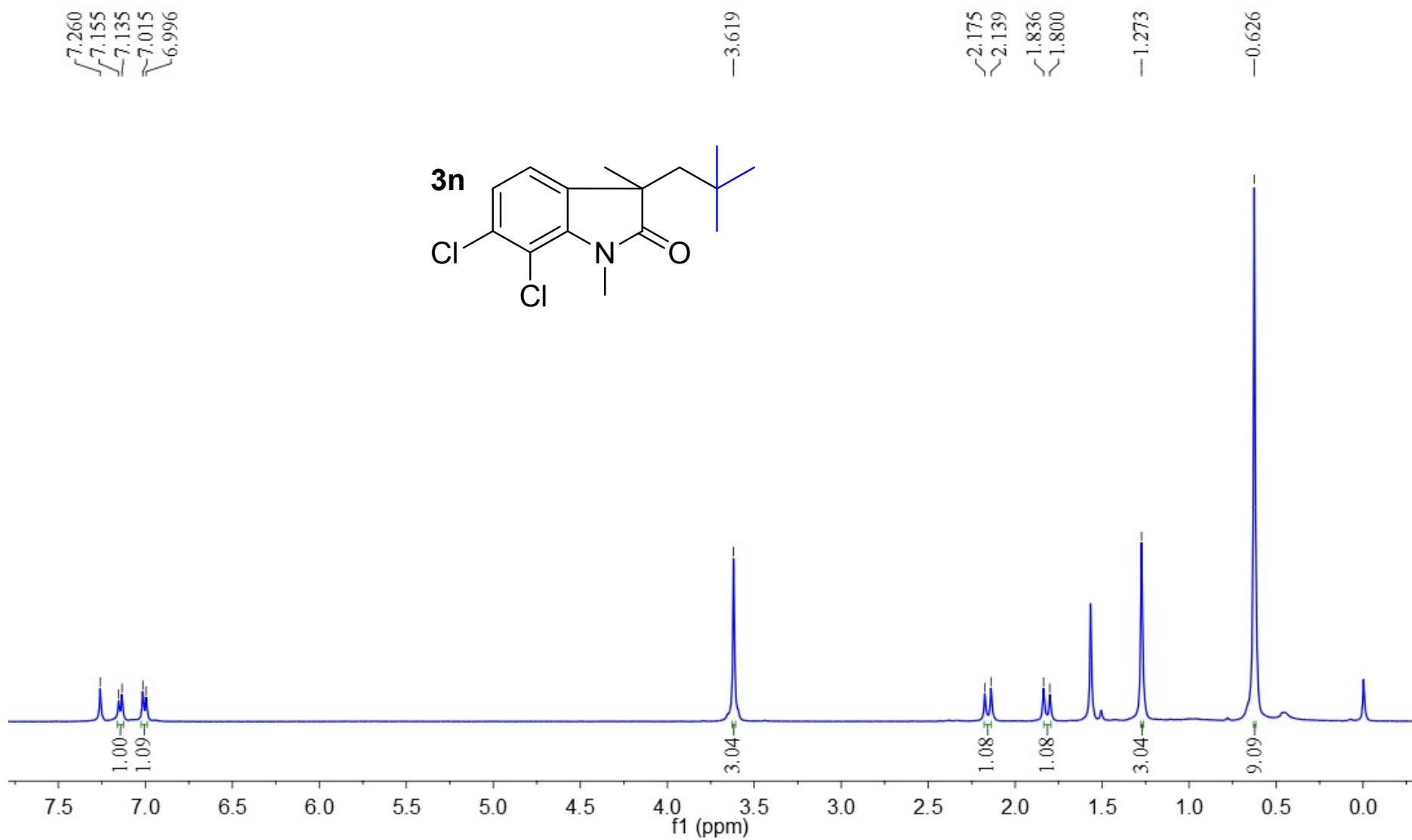


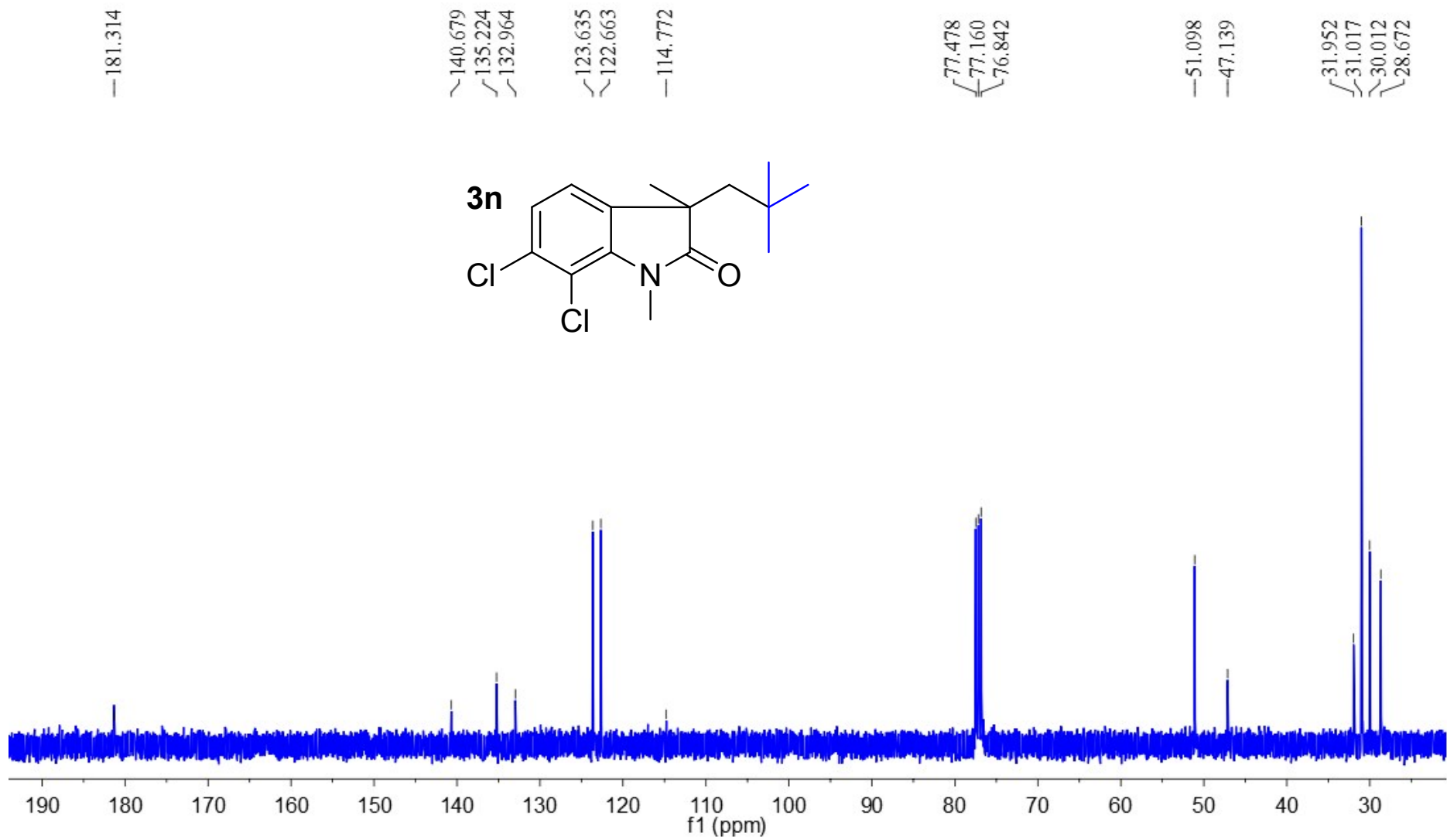
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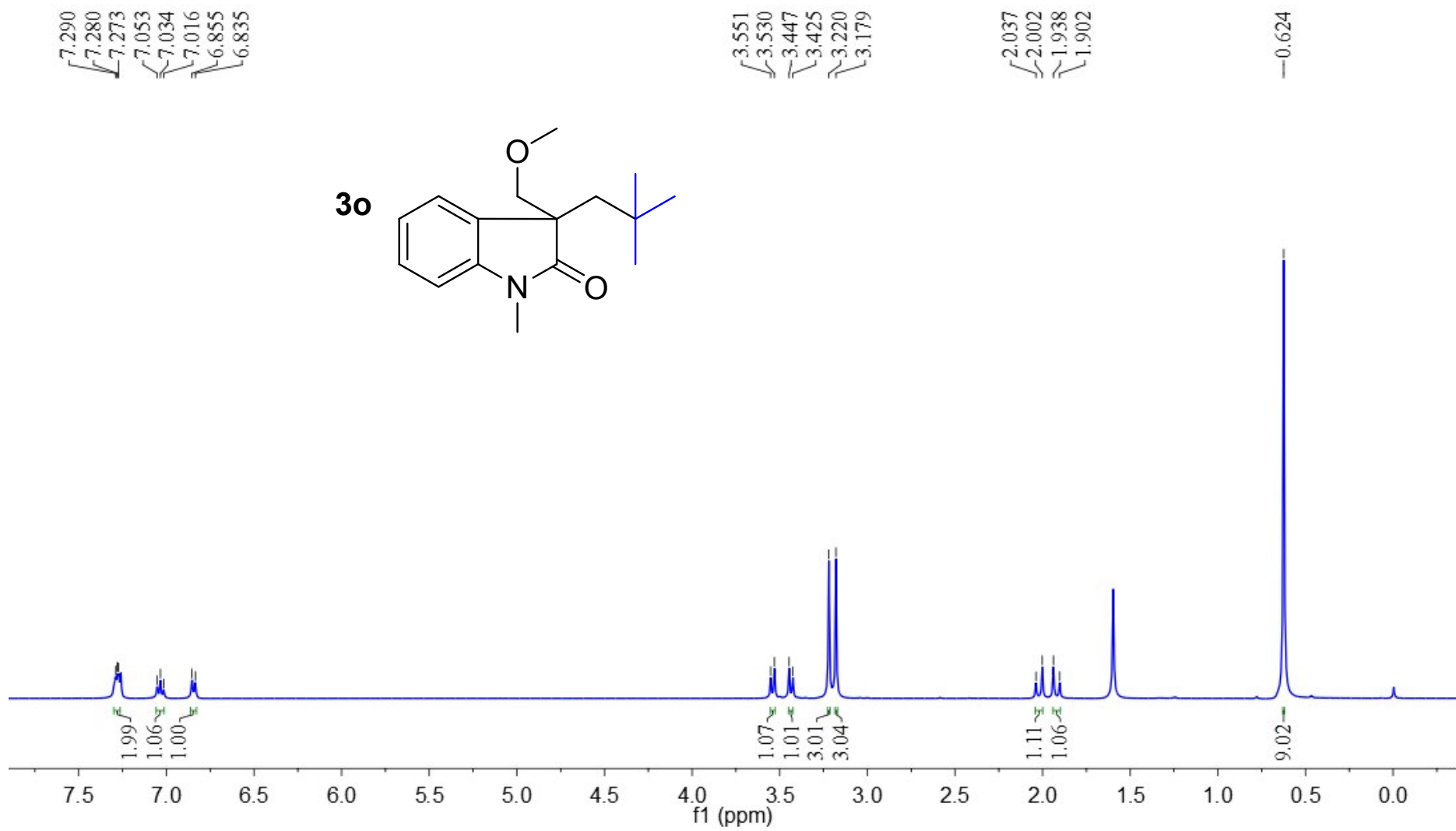


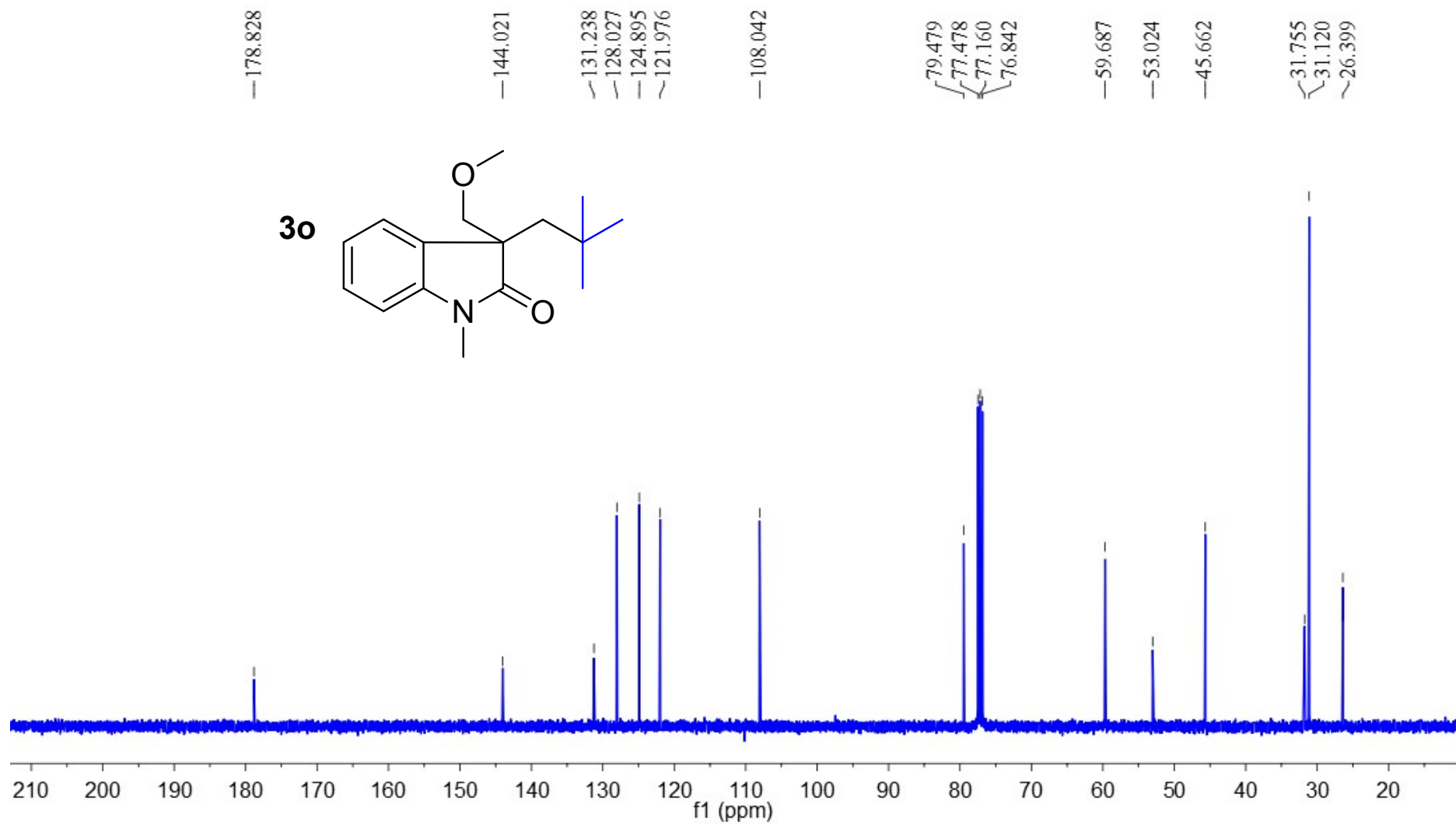


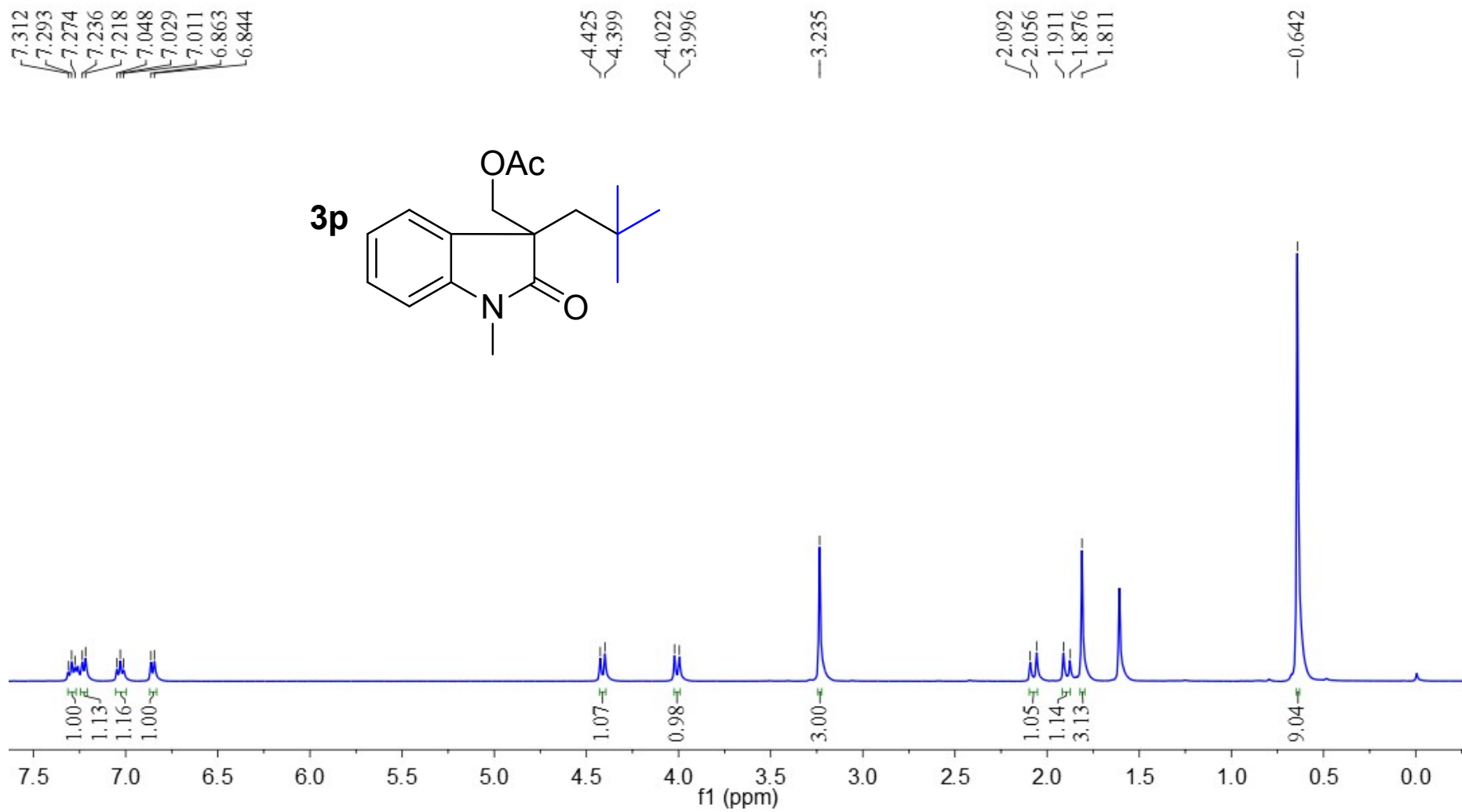


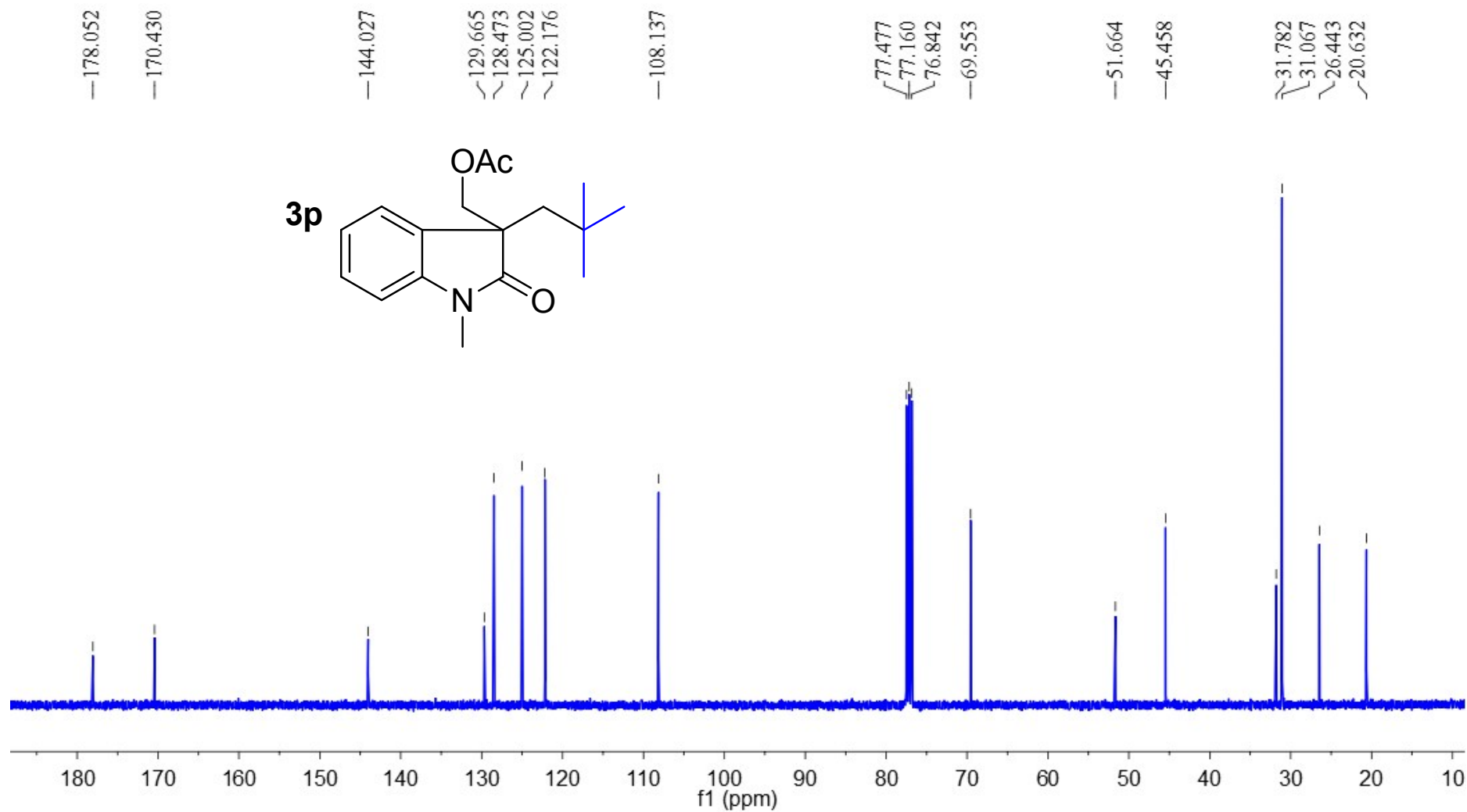




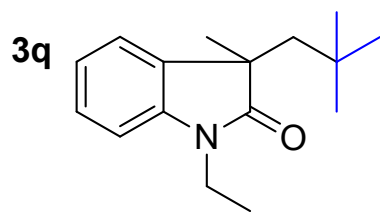








7.245
7.225
7.211
7.193
7.035
7.016
6.997
6.876
6.857

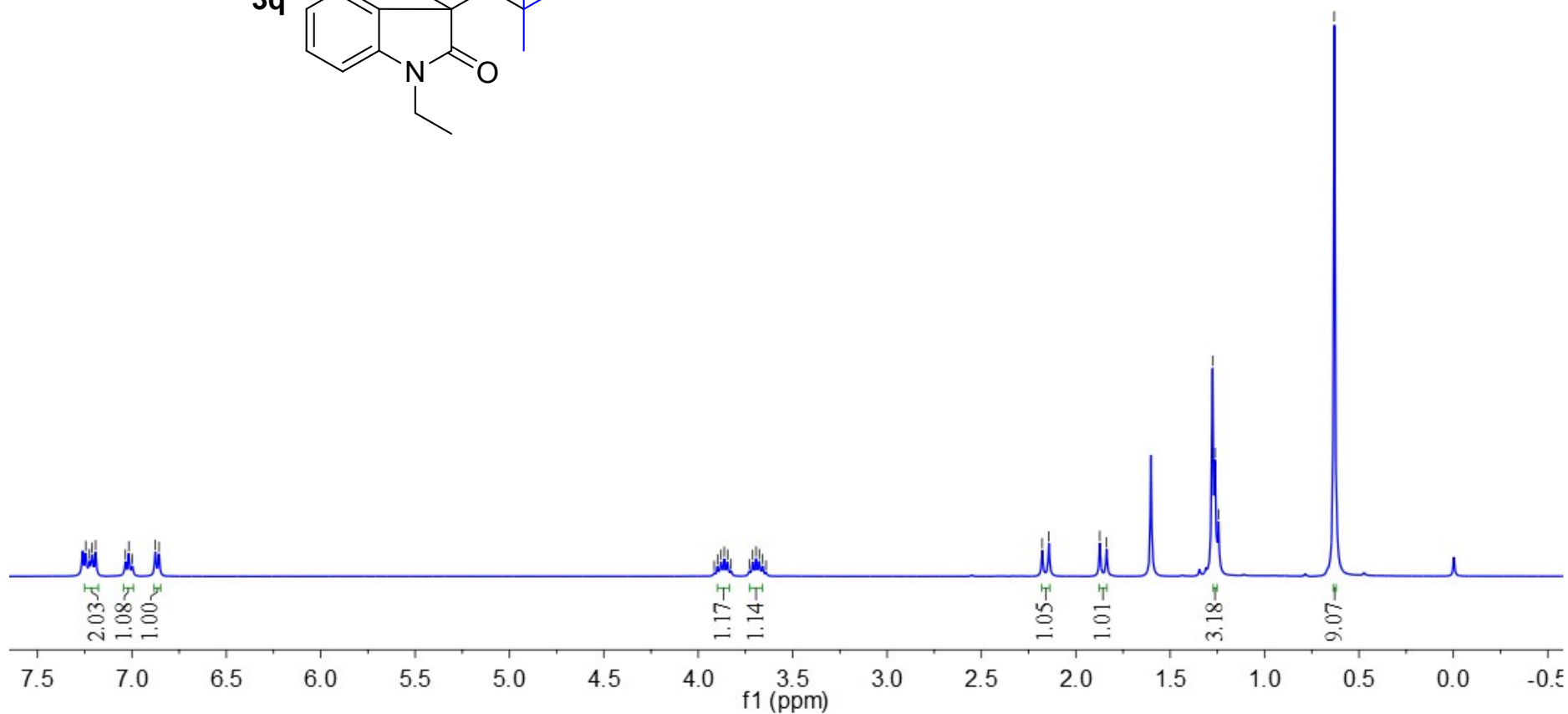


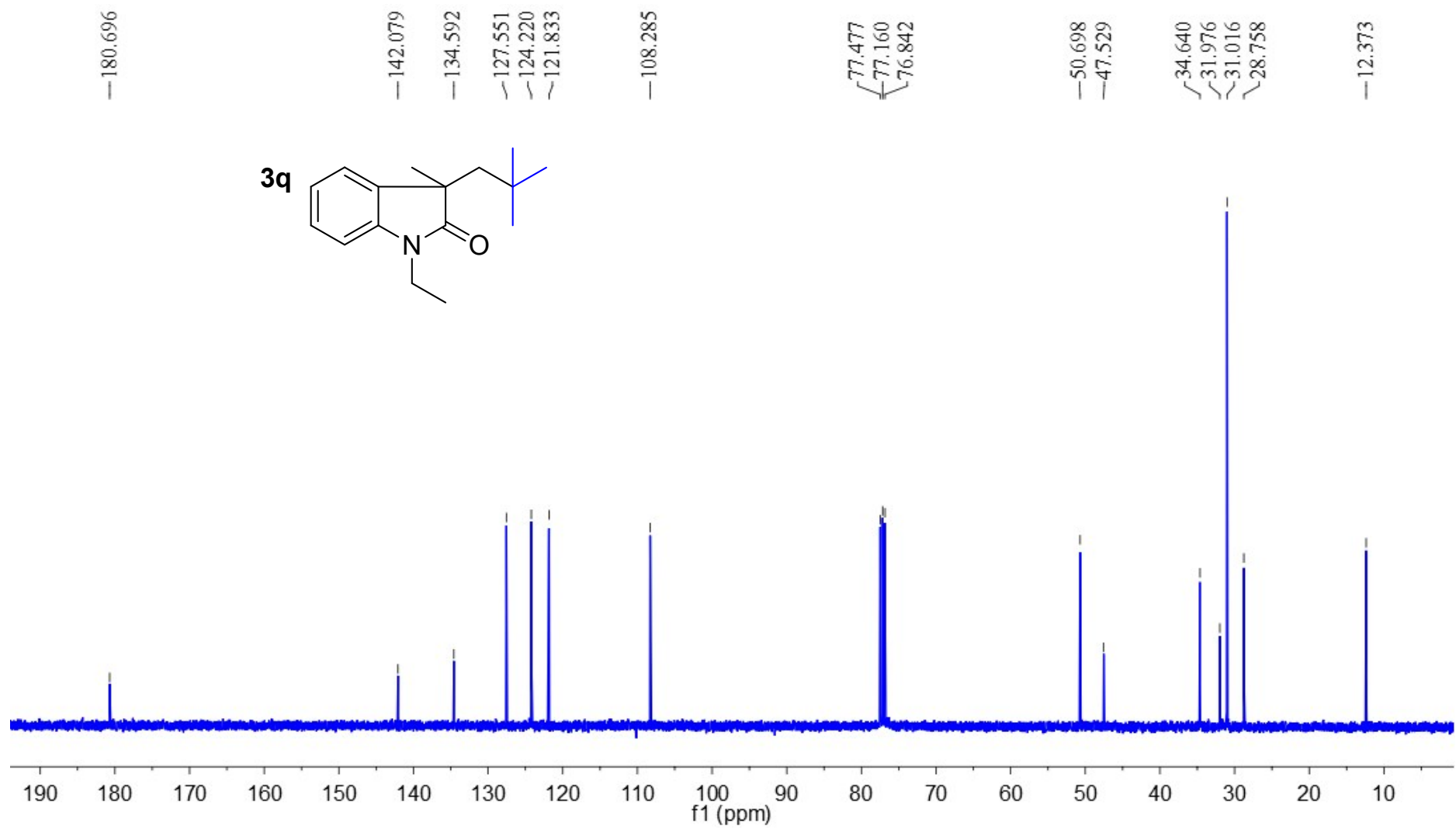
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3.641

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2.142
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1.837

1.276
1.262
1.244

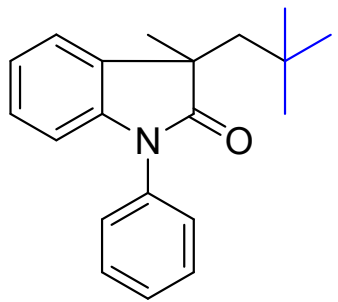
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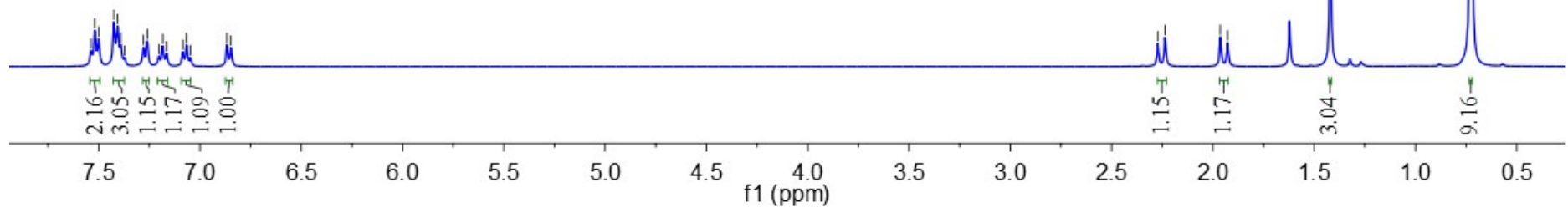


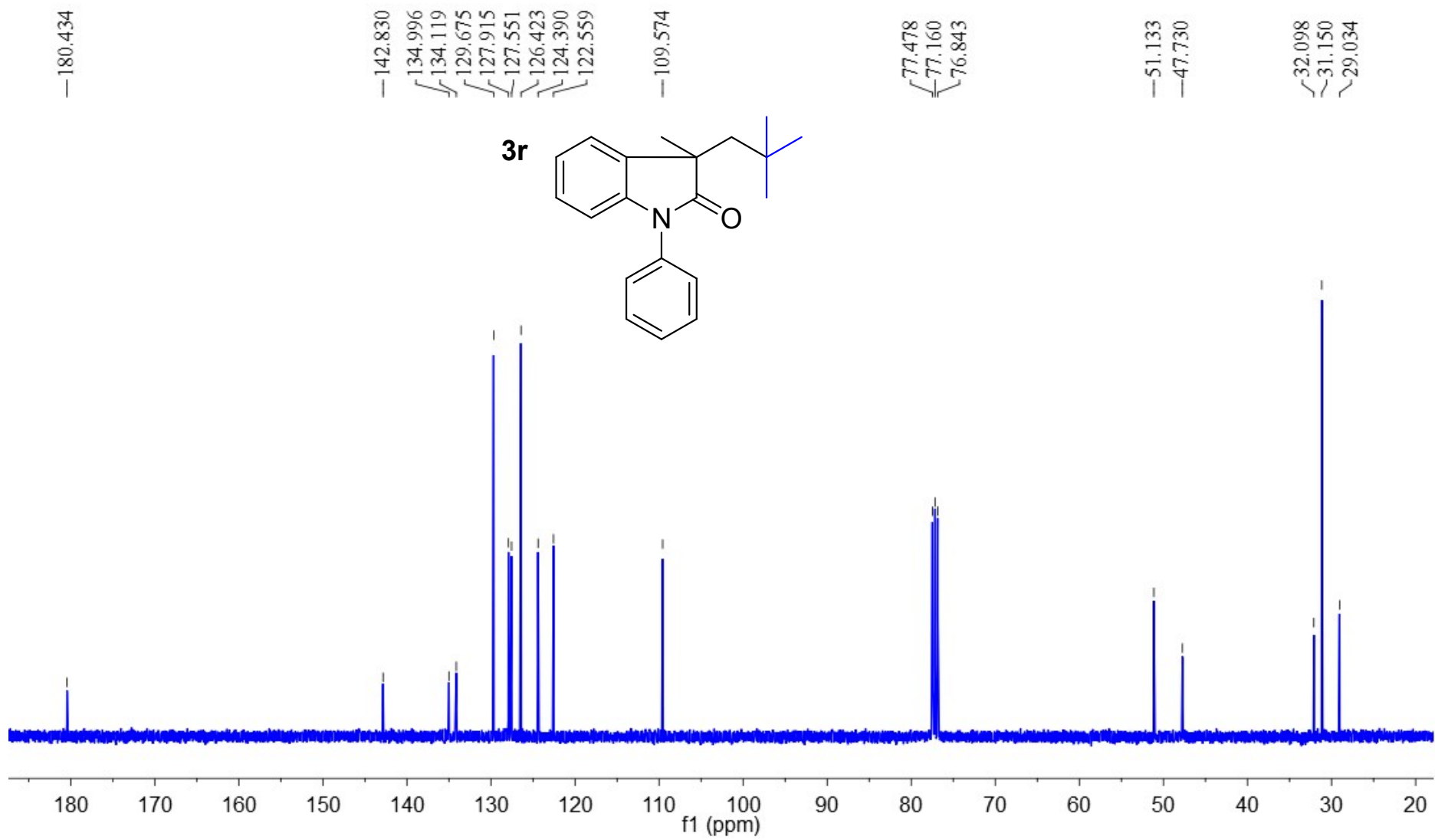
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7.500
7.425
7.406
7.391
7.372
7.279
7.260
7.203
7.184
7.165
7.084
7.066
7.048
6.867
6.847

3r



2.273
2.237
1.964
1.928
-1.422
-0.728





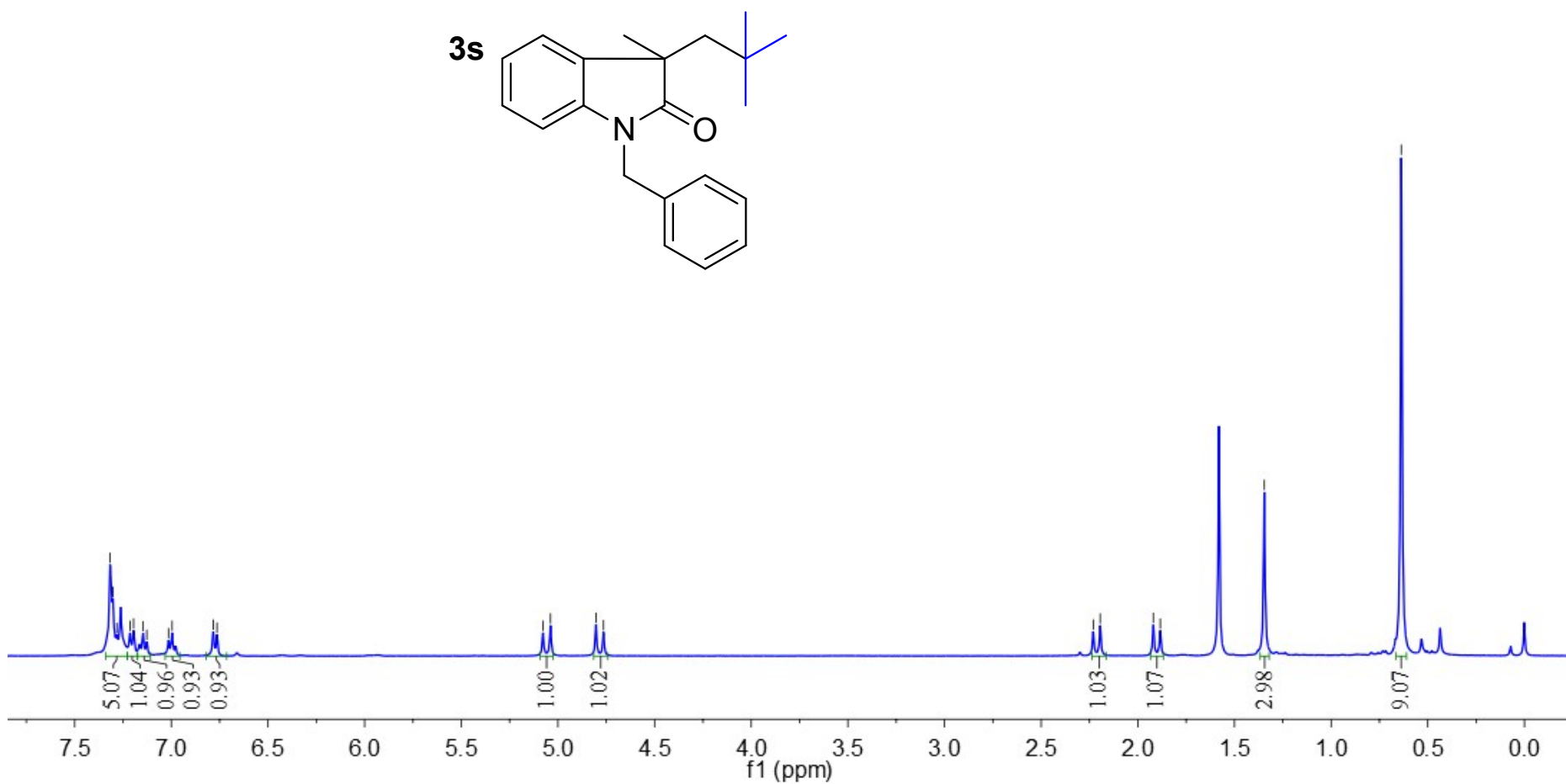
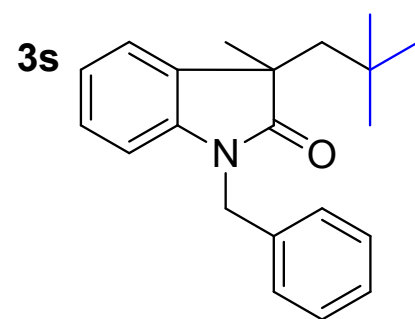
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7.302
7.282
7.213
7.195
7.146
7.127
7.014
6.996
6.783
6.764

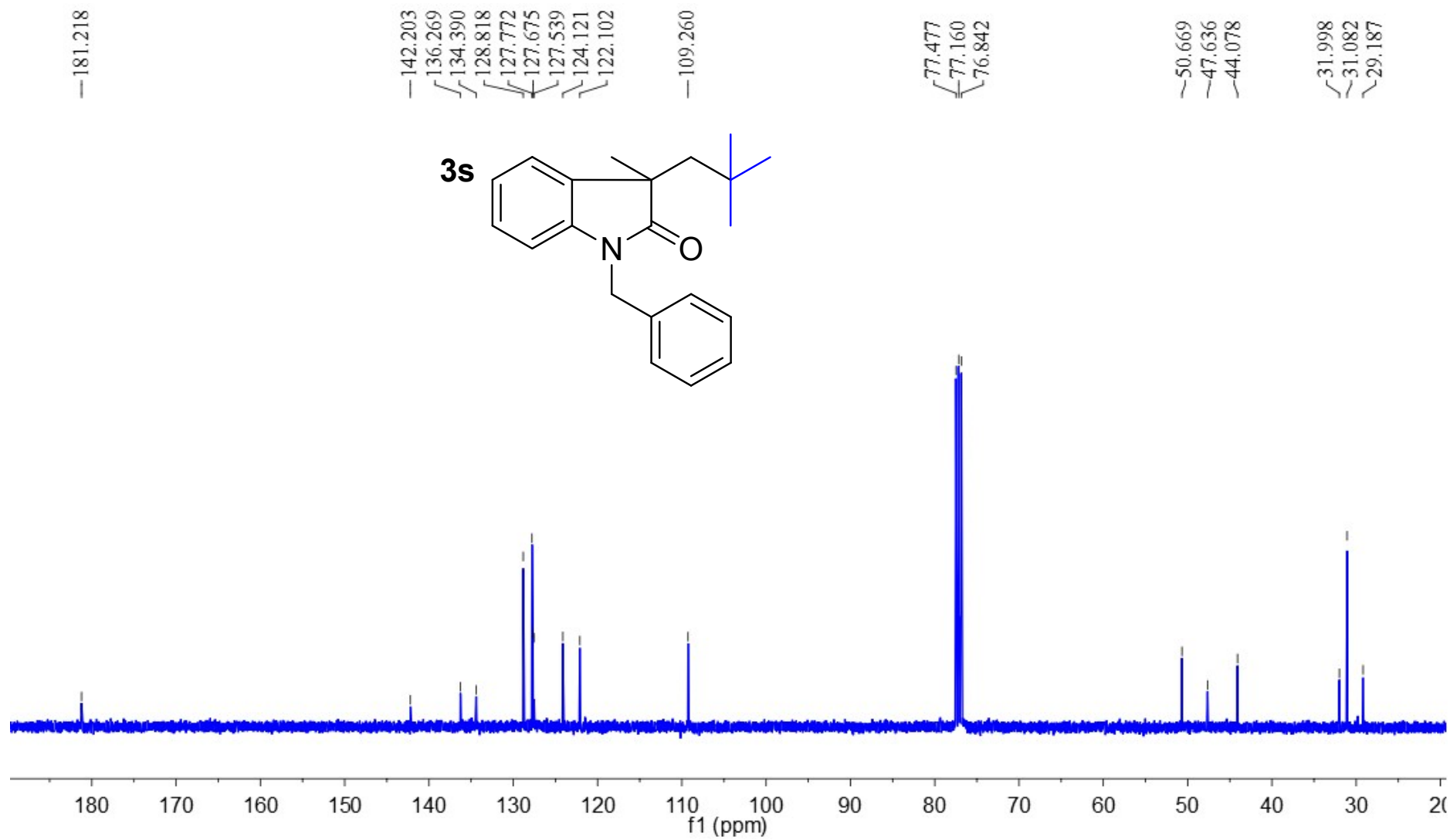
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4.803
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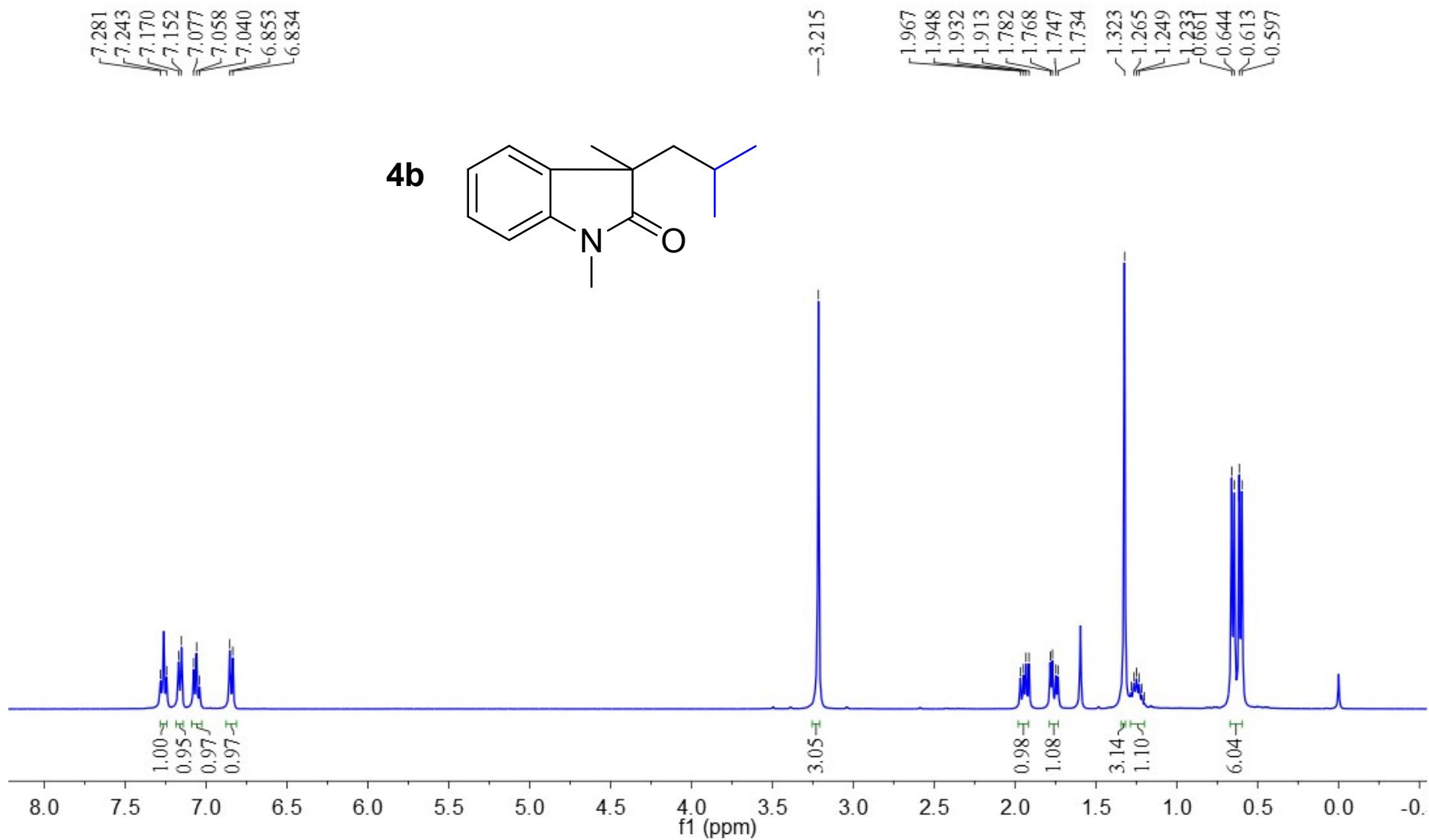
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2.195
1.920
1.884

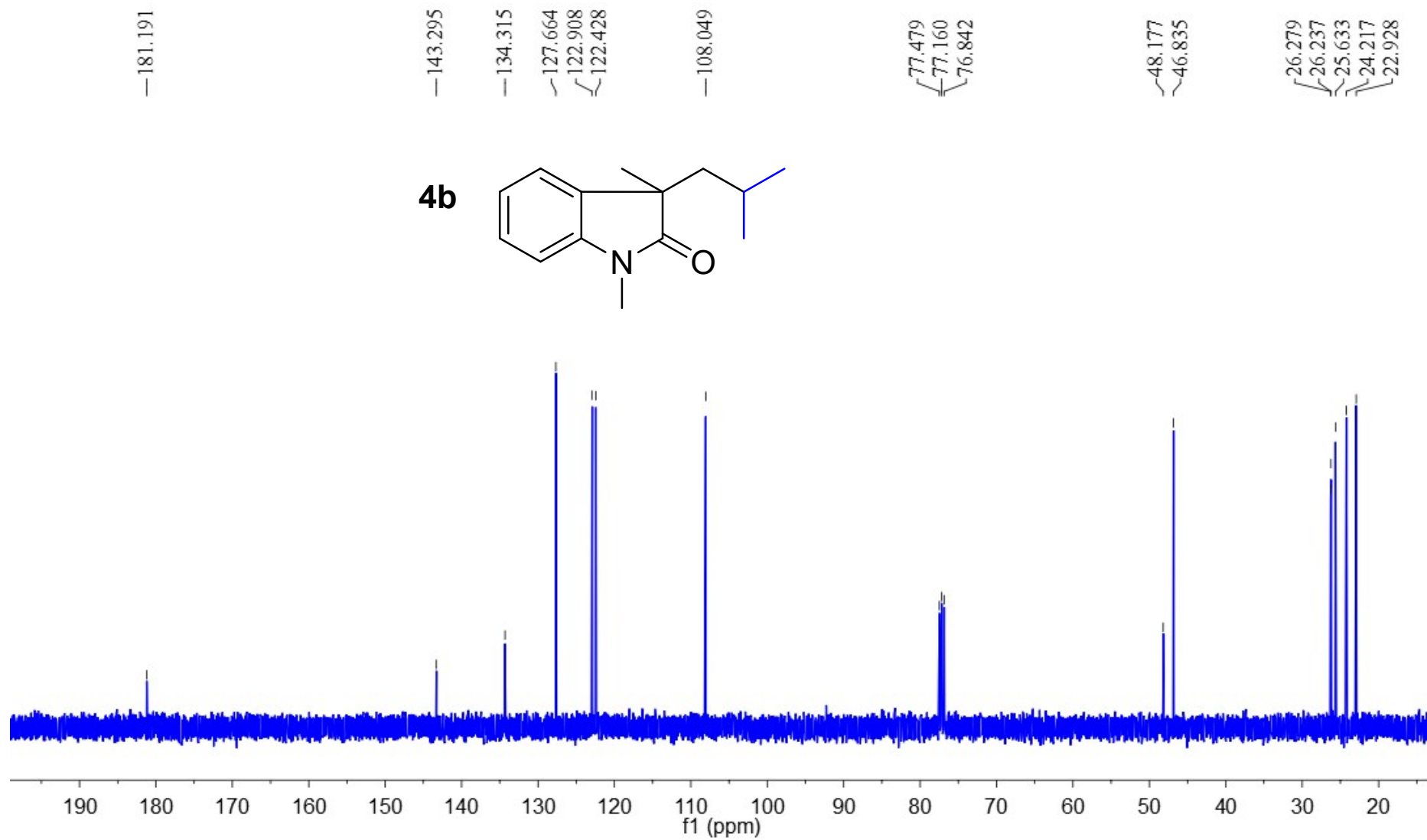
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0.637





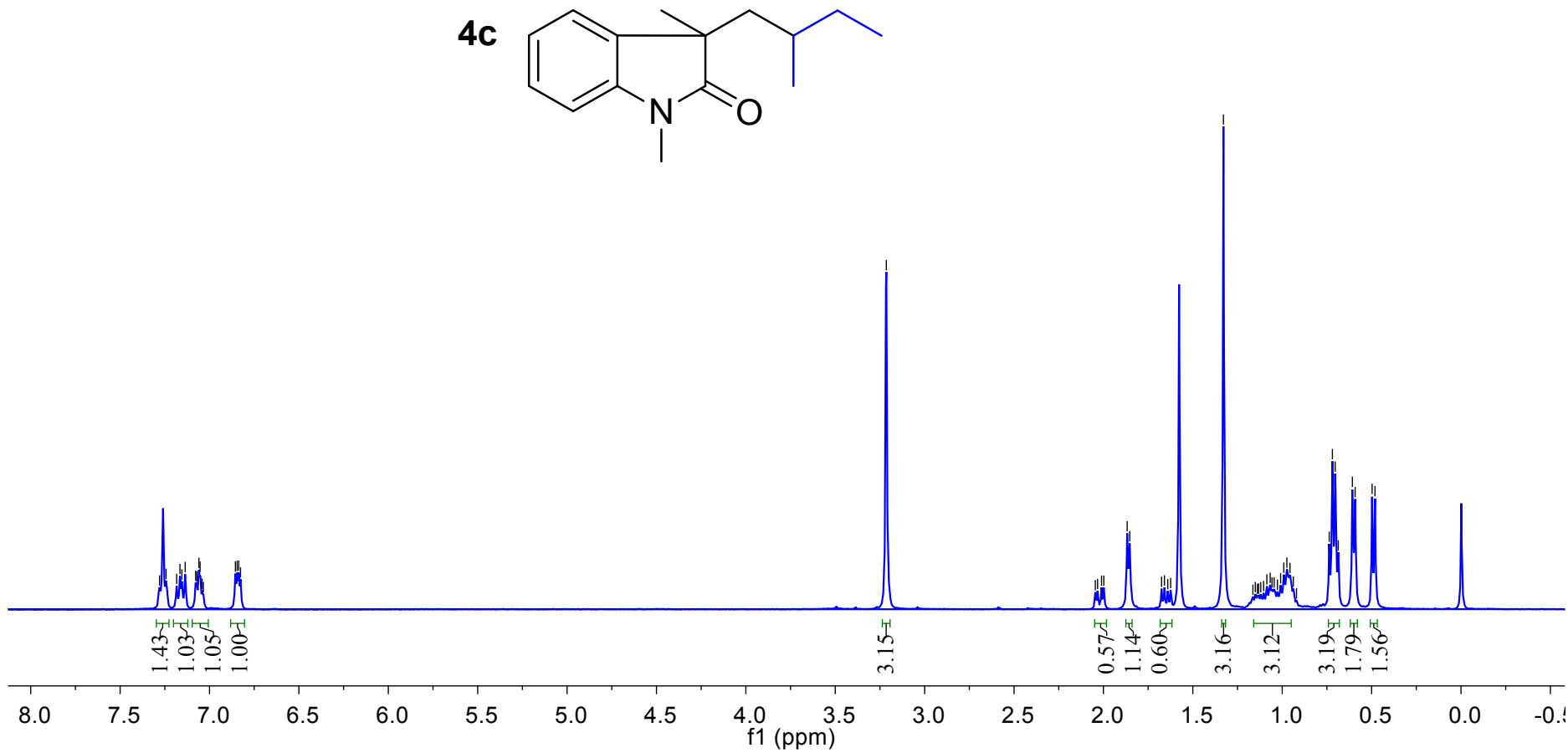
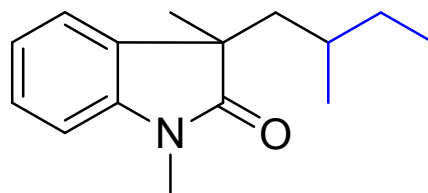


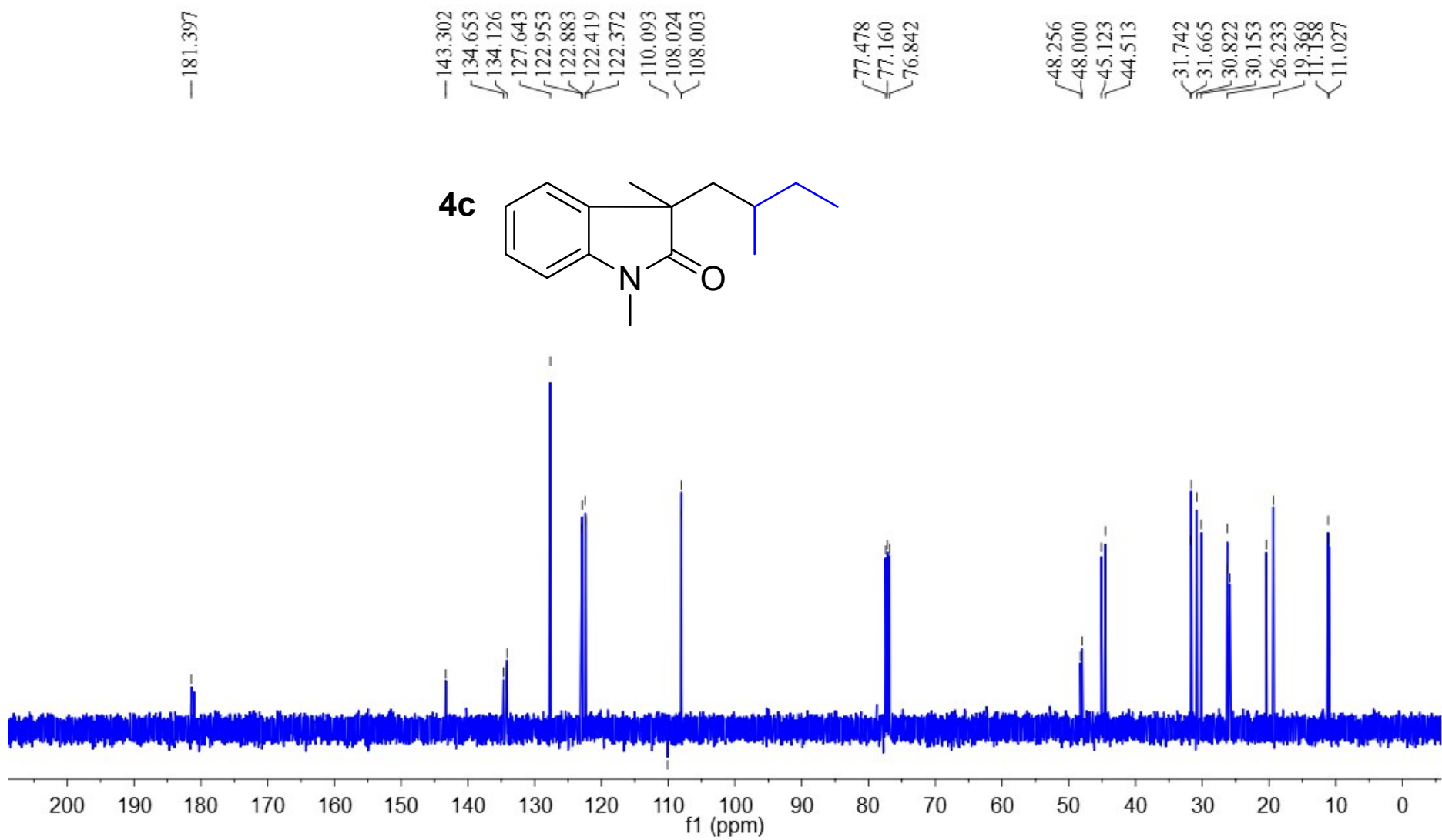


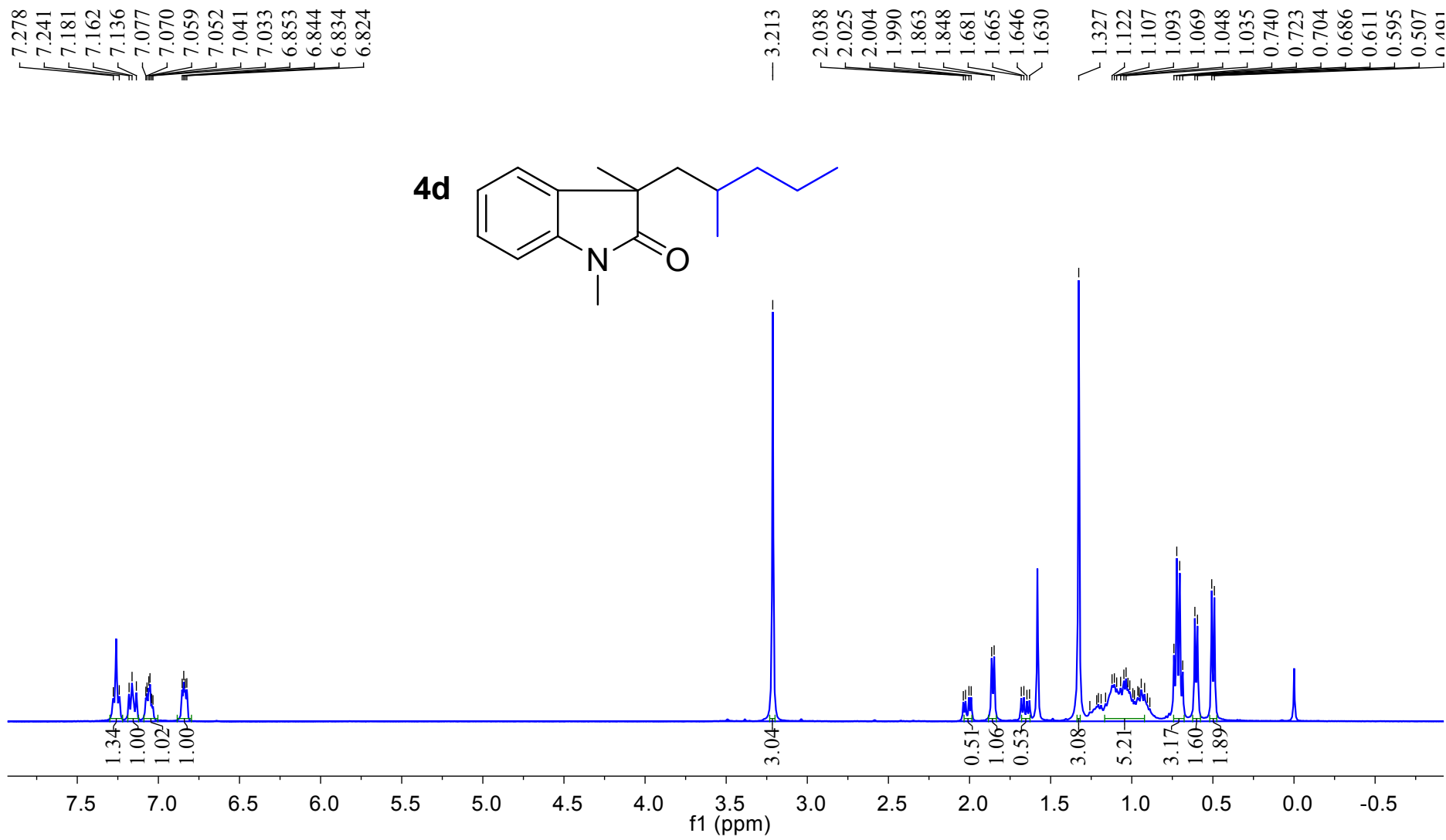
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7.243
7.184
7.165
7.155
7.136
7.078
7.071
7.059
7.053
7.041
7.034
6.855
6.845
6.836
6.827

3.214
2.011
1.998
1.867
1.853
1.675
1.659
1.624
1.329
1.086
1.067
1.057
1.045
1.009
0.991
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0.497
0.481

4c







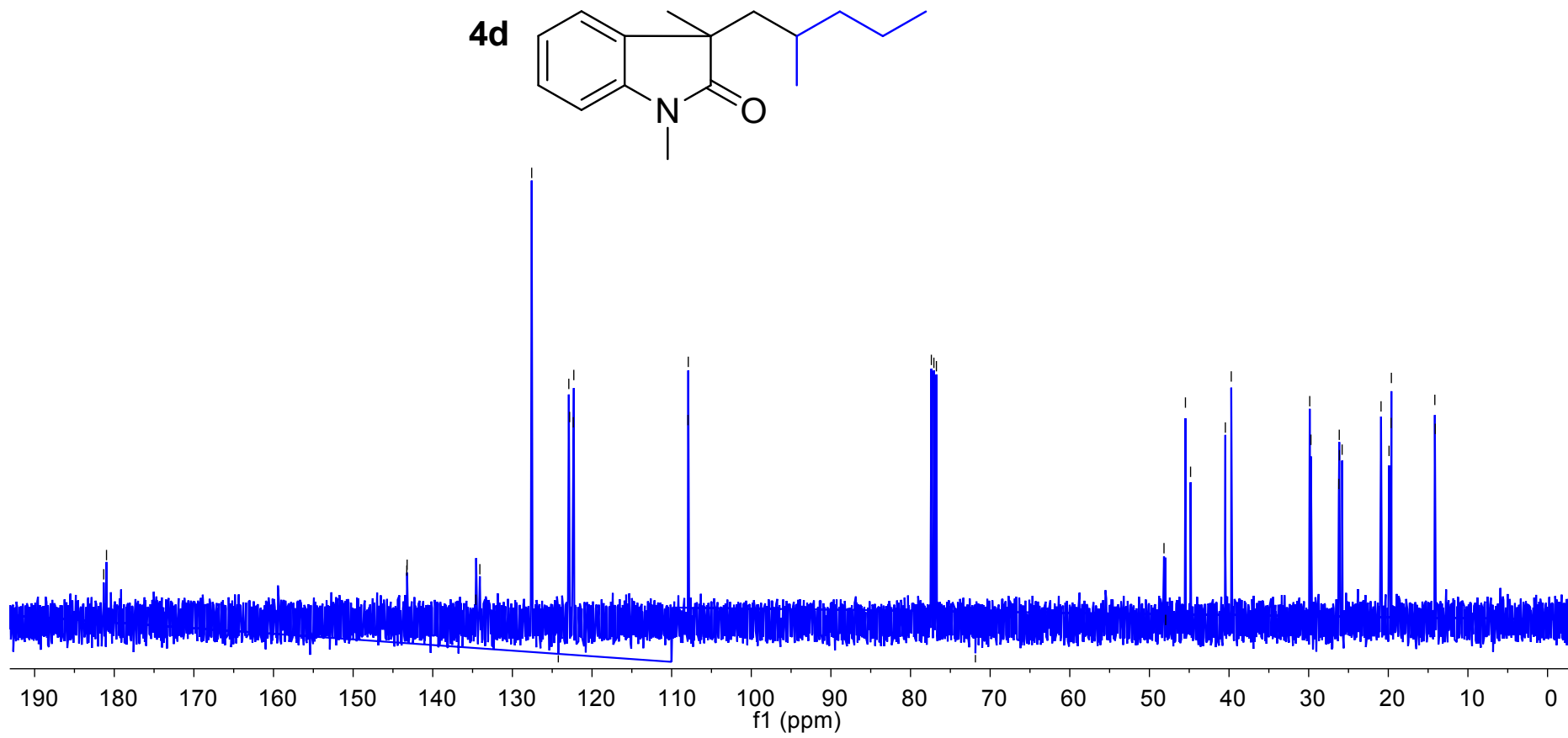
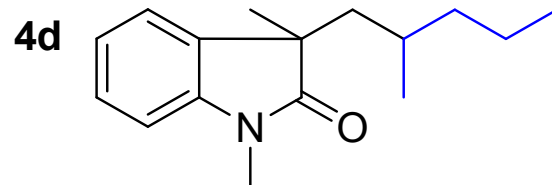
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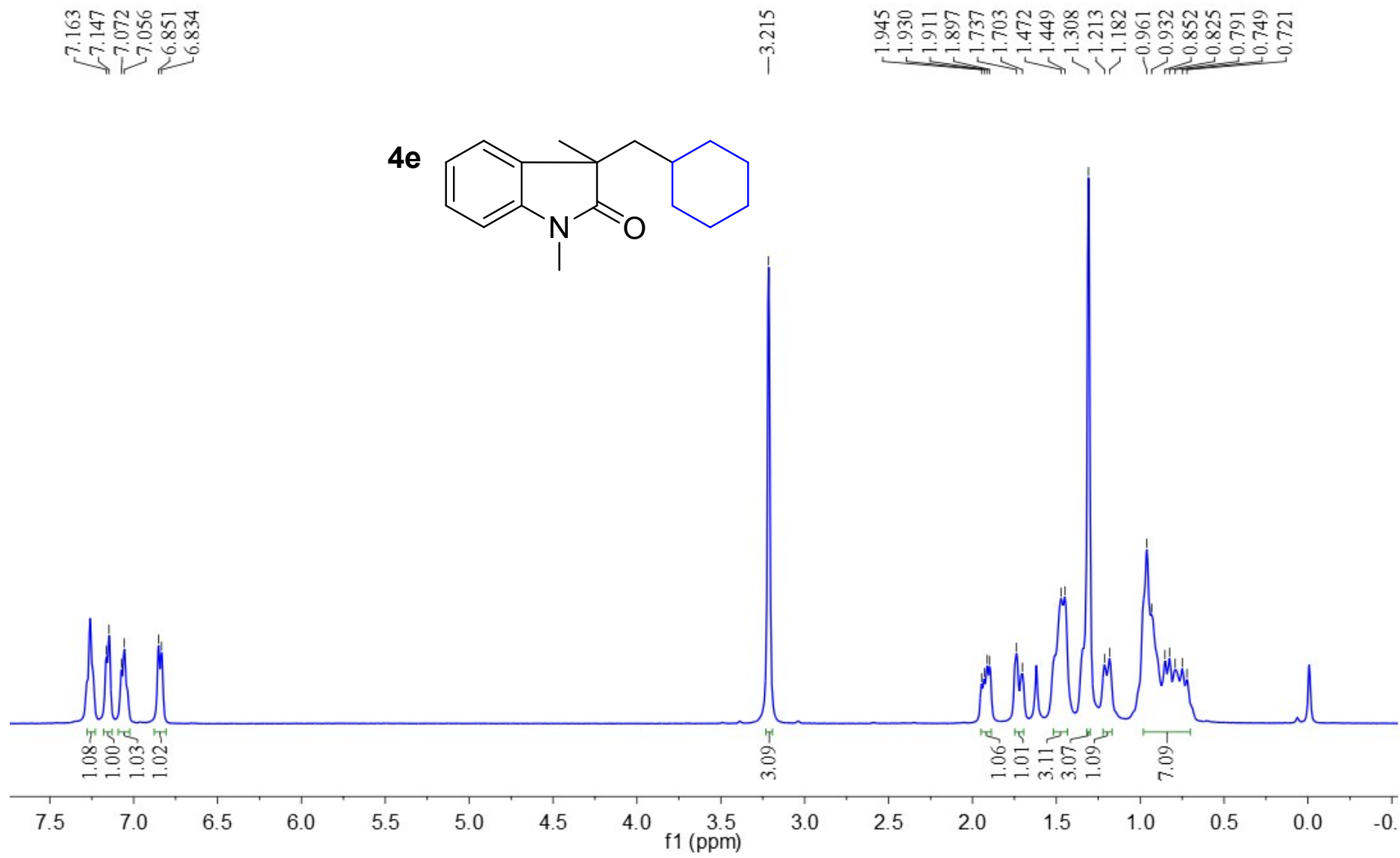
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134.087
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122.349
122.287
107.945
107.912

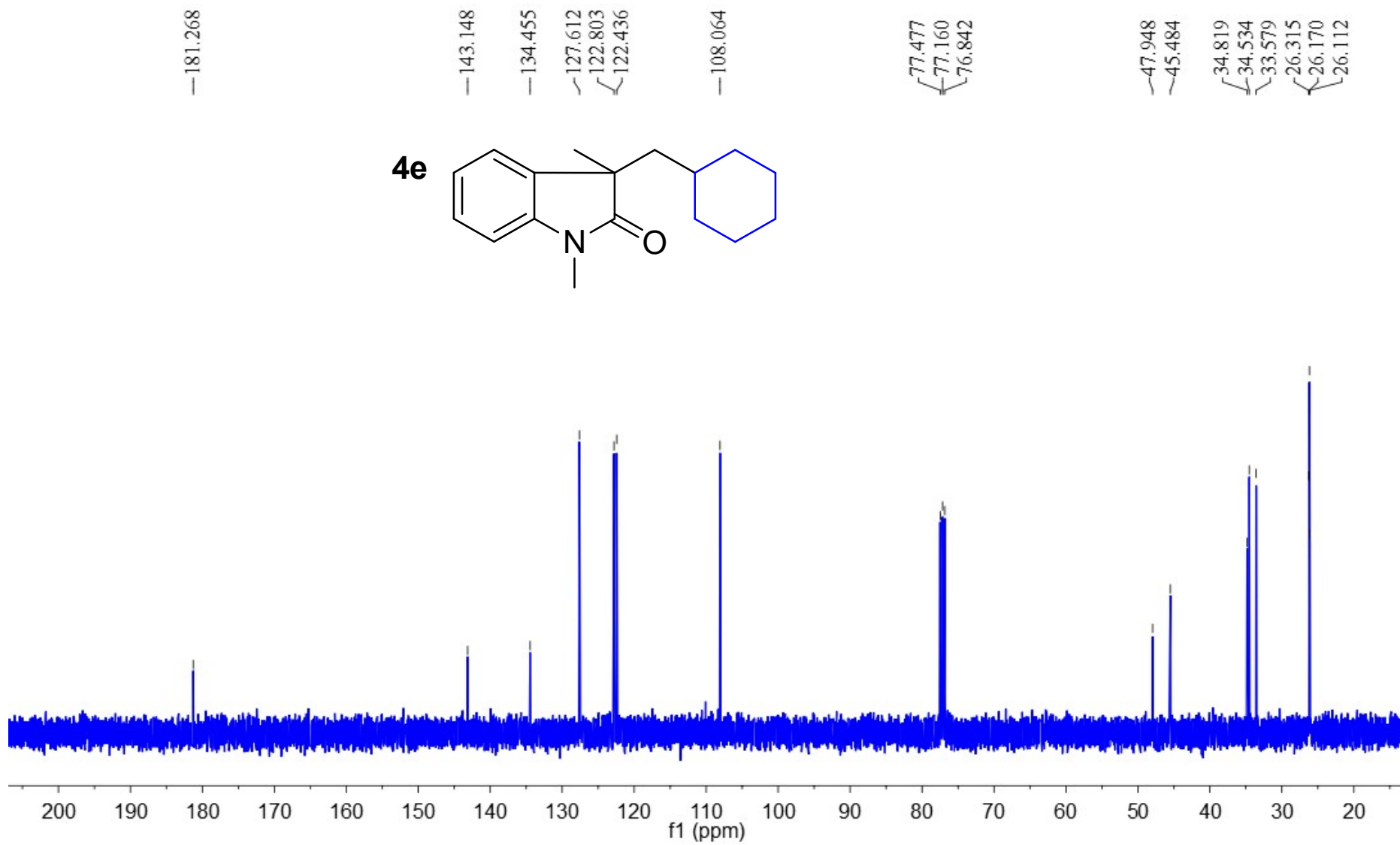
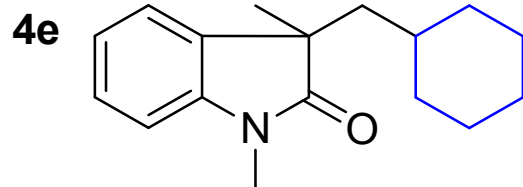
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77.066
76.750
71.850

48.169
47.959
45.475
44.831
40.462
39.721

29.866
29.715
26.158
26.140
25.798
20.910
19.907
19.653
19.613
14.156
14.008



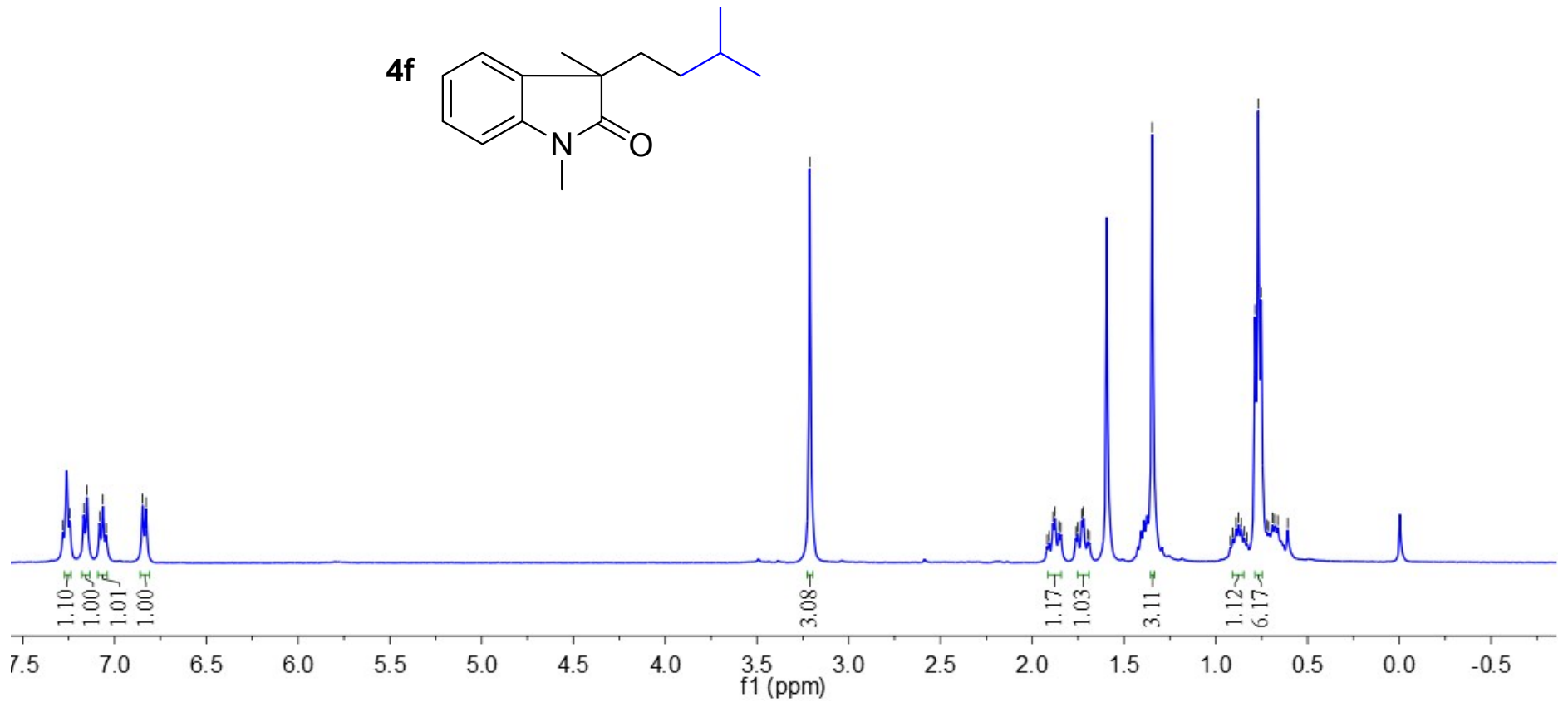
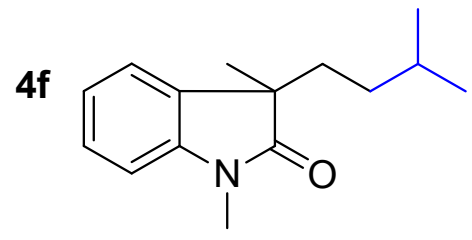


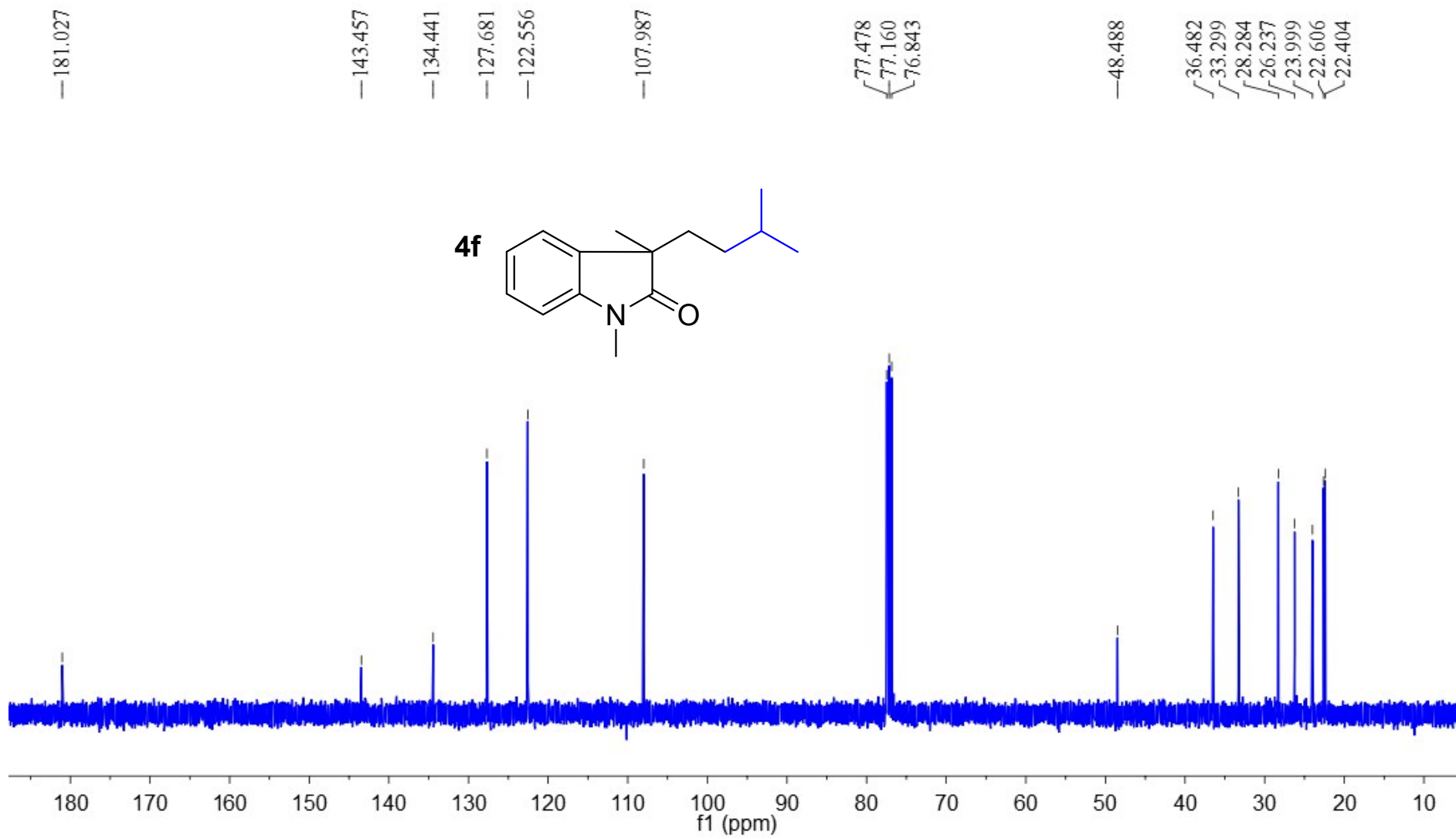


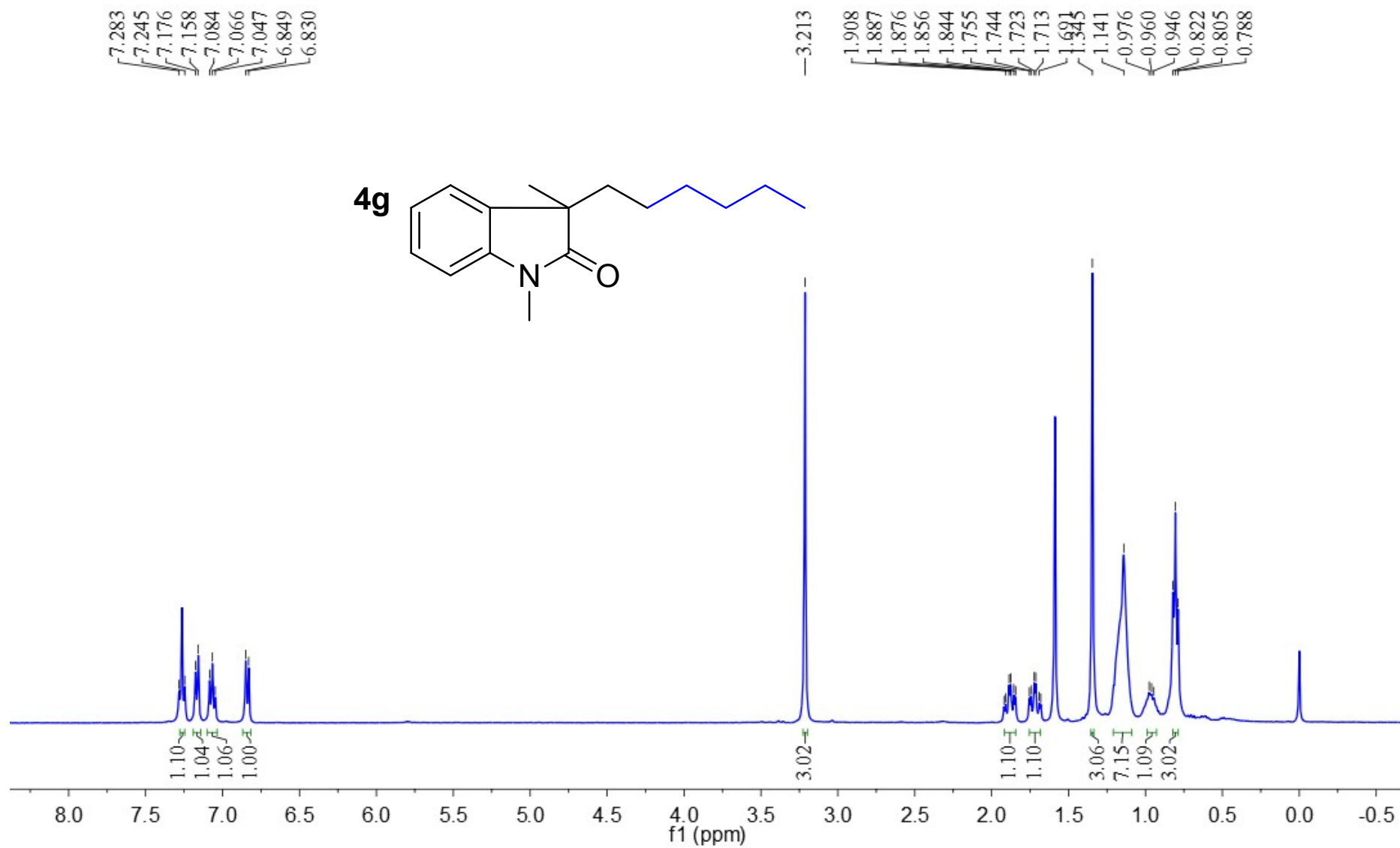
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7.244
7.168
7.150
7.082
7.063
7.045
6.847
6.828

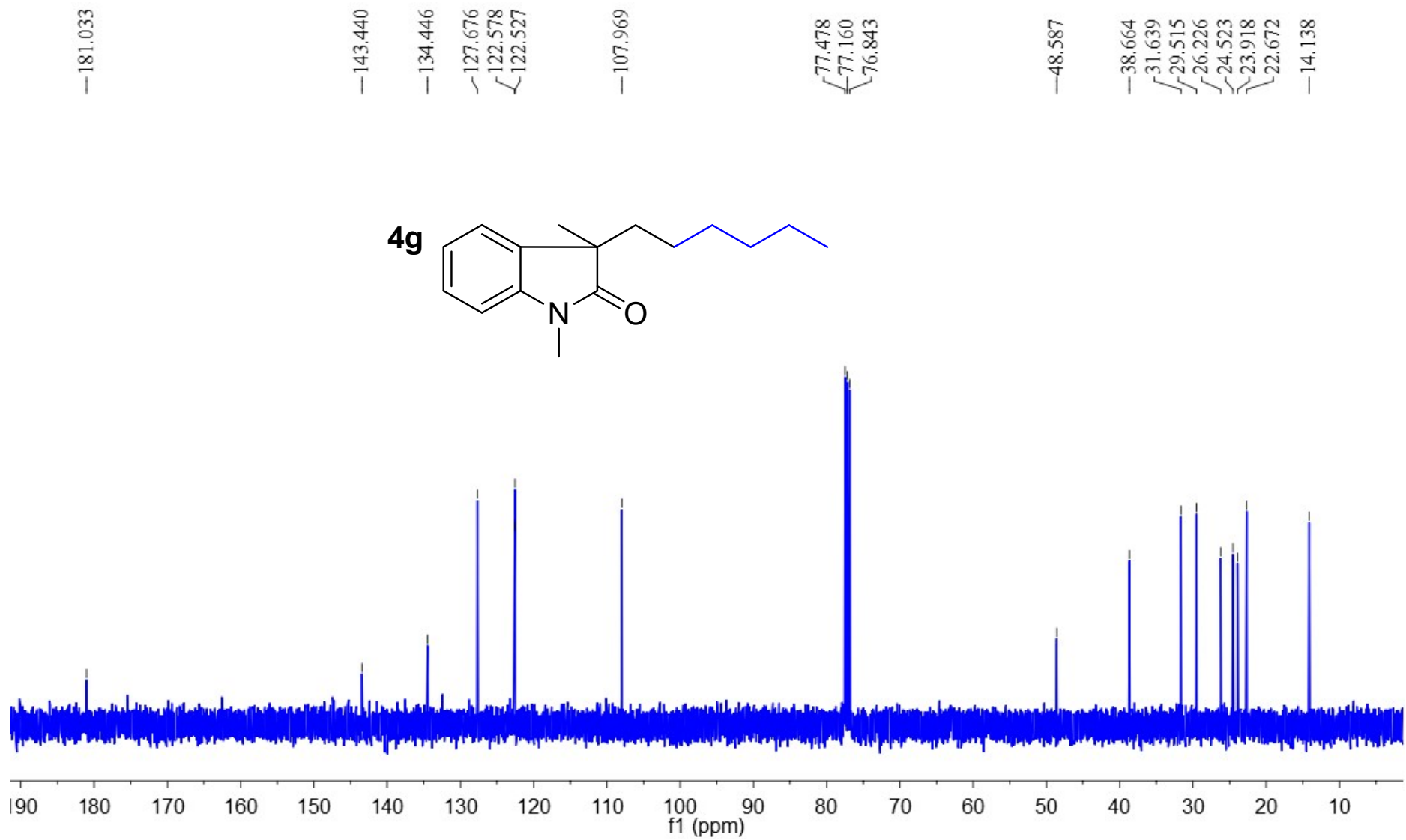
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1.763
1.753
1.731
1.721
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1.346

0.908
0.889
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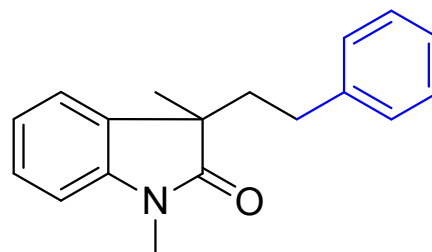






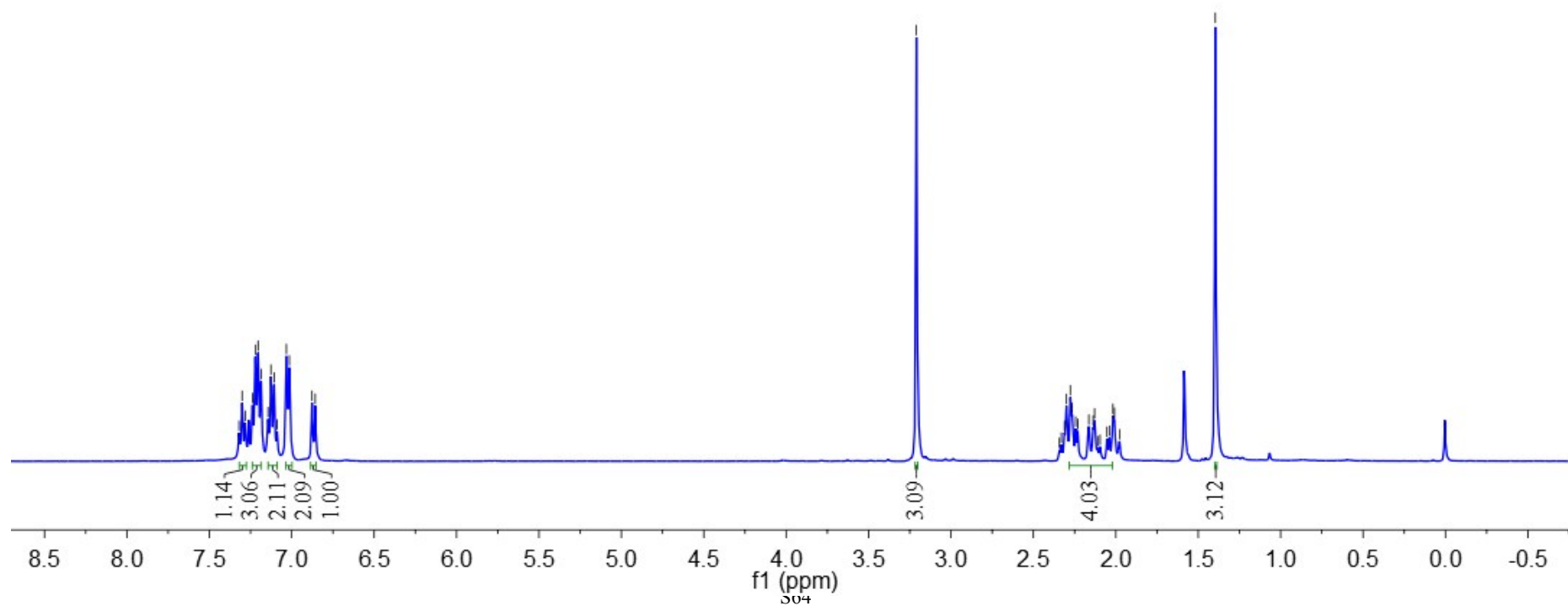


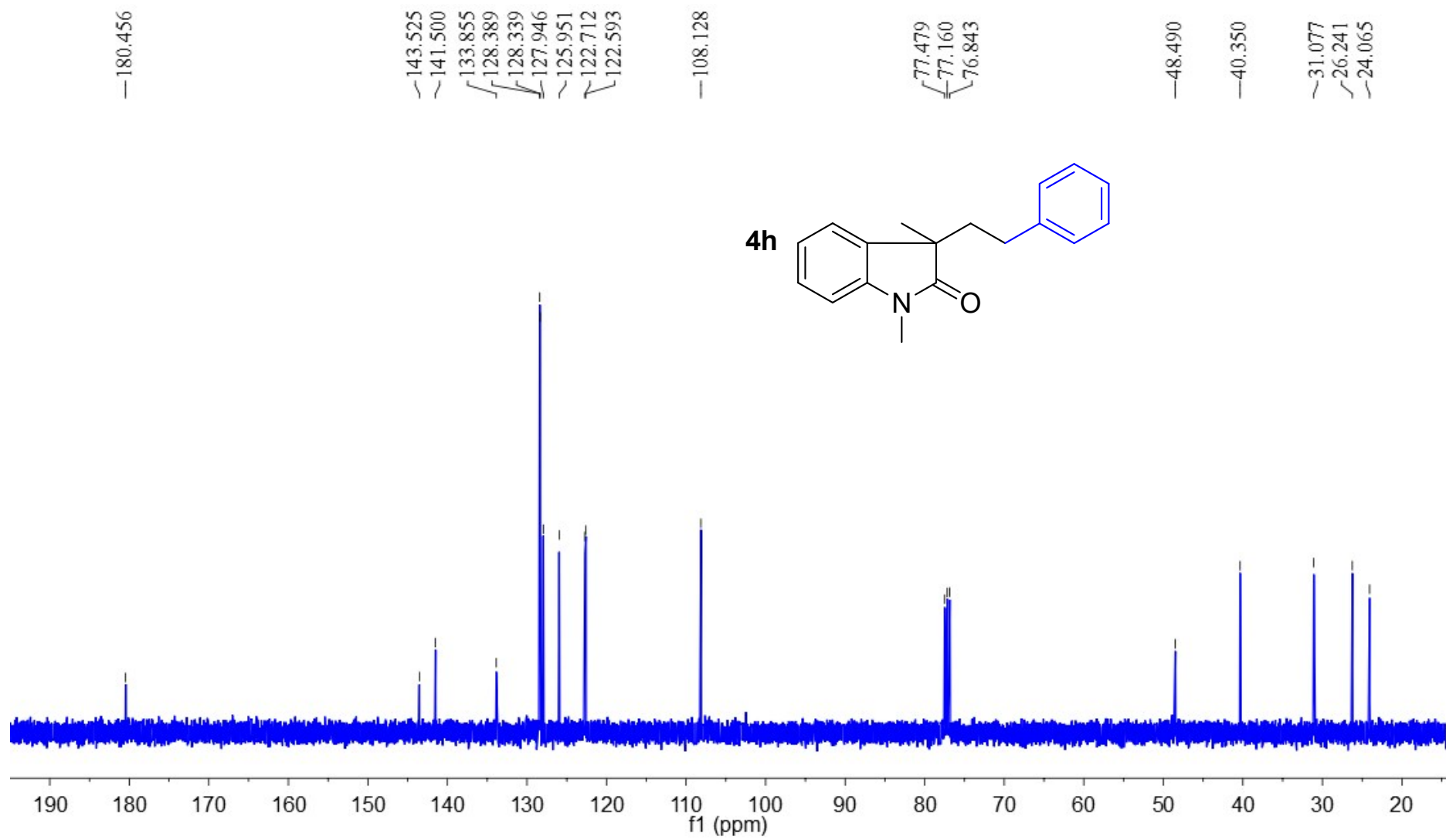
4h



7.320
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7.221
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7.107
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7.032
7.014
6.877
6.858

3.210
2.299
2.276
2.264
2.243
2.231
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2.138
2.129
2.017
1.998





7.249
7.231
7.215
7.197
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7.134
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7.068
7.050
7.031
6.827
6.808

3.196
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1.935
1.782
1.740

4i

