

# Supporting Information

## Cu-catalyzed sulfenylation of imidazol[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine via C-H functionalization using a combination of **Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>** and halides

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### Table of contents

General experimental procedures.....	S1
Experimental data for compounds <b>2a-x</b> .....	S1-10
<sup>1</sup> H NMR and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of compounds.....	S11-58

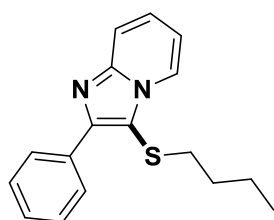
## General experimental procedures

All reactions were carried out in sealed tubes; stirring was achieved with an oven-dried magnetic stirring bar. Solvents were purified by standard methods unless otherwise noted. Commercially available reagents were purchased from Aladdin Company in China and used throughout without further purification other than those detailed below. Flash column chromatography was performed on silica gel (200-300 mesh). All reactions were monitored by TLC analysis. Deuterated solvents were purchased from Cambridge Isotope laboratories.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX-400 spectrometer operating at 400 MHz and 100 MHz respectively. HRMS spectrometry (LC-HRMS) was recorded on a LXQ Spectrometer (Thermo Scientific) operating on ESI-TOF (MeOH as a solvent). Flavones derivatives were synthesized according to the literature.

### General procedure for the synthesis of compounds **2a-x**.

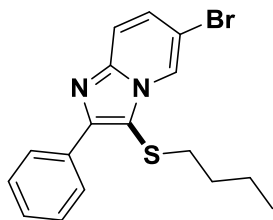
2-phenylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.),  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$  (1.25 equiv.) and Butyl chloride (2.0 equiv.) were added to a dried flask with DMF (0.5 mL), followed by the addition of CuI (0.2 equiv.). The mixture was stirred at 120 °C. After 12 h, the reaction was cooled down to room temperature, diluted with ethyl acetate, washed with brine, dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (Petroleum ether: EtOAc =30:1) on silica gel to give the desired product **2a** as a colorless oil in a 75% yield. The same procedure was applied to the production of other compounds **2a-x**.

### **3-(Butylthio)-2-phenylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2a)**



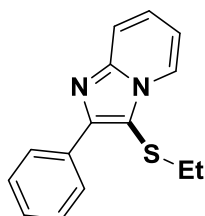
**FTIR:** 2975, 2913, 2365, 2341, 1345, 1051, 669  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H}$ -NMR** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.53 (d,  $J=6.9$  Hz, 1H), 8.35 (dd,  $J=8.4$ , 1.3 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (dd,  $J=9.0$ , 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.41-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.28 (ddd,  $J=9.0$ , 6.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (td,  $J=6.8$ , 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.66 (t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 2H), 1.45-1.39 (m, 2H), 1.32 (dt,  $J=8.6$ , 7.1 Hz, 2H), 0.77 (t,  $J=7.3$  Hz, 3H).  **$^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  149.5, 146.4, 133.9, 128.4, 128.3, 128.1, 125.9, 124.4, 117.5, 112.6, 110.4, 35.5, 31.5, 21.7, 13.5. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{S}^+$  283.1263 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ , found 283.1265.

### **6-Bromo-3-(butylthio)-2-phenylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2b)**



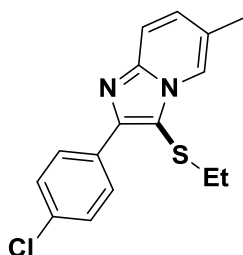
**FTIR:** 3004, 2928, 2345, 1310, 1080, 679  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.32 (dd,  $J=2.0, 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 8.31-8.30 (m, 2H), 7.58 (dd,  $J=9.4, 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.56-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.35 (dd,  $J=9.4, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.67 (t,  $J=7.1$  Hz, 2H), 1.47-1.41 (m, 2H), 1.39-1.30 (m, 2H), 0.79 (t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 3H).  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  150.0, 144.7, 133.4, 129.3, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 124.6, 118.2, 111.2, 111.15, 107.6, 35.5, 31.5, 21.7, 13.5. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{BrN}_2\text{S}^+$  361.0369 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ , found 361.0346.

### 3-(Ethylthio)-2-phenylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2c)



**FTIR:** 3064, 2922, 2364, 1345, 7563, 694  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.36 (dt,  $J=6.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.71-7.69 (m, 2H), 7.50 (dt,  $J=9.0, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.00-6.93 (m, 1H), 6.94 (td,  $J=6.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 2.71 (q,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 2H), 1.14 (t,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 3H).  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  149.4, 146.3, 133.8, 128.4, 128.3, 128.3, 126.0, 124.4, 117.5, 112.7, 110.1, 29.9, 14.8. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{S}^+$  255.0950 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ , found 255.0951.

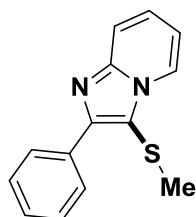
### 2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-(ethylthio)-6-methylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2d)



**FTIR:** 3060, 2919, 2361, 1388, 917, 723,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.32 – 8.30 (m, 3H), 7.59 (d,  $J=9.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.17 (dd,  $J=9.1, 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.69 (q,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.42 (d,  $J=1.1$  Hz, 3H), 1.12 (t,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 3H).  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  148.1, 145.4, 134.0, 132.5, 129.5, 129.4, 128.5, 122.7, 122.1, 116.9, 29.8, 18.5, 14.7. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{22}\text{ClN}_2\text{S}^+$  441.1187

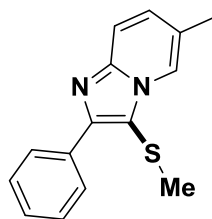
(M+H)<sup>+</sup>, found 441.1189.

### 3-(Methylthio)-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridine (2e)



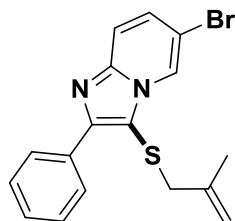
**FTIR:** 3066, 2920, 2364, 1345, 756, 695 cm<sup>-1</sup>; **<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 8.51 (d, *J*=6.8 Hz, 1H), 8.32-8.30 (m, 2H), 7.70 (dt, *J*=9.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.34-7.28 (m, 1H), 6.96 (td, *J*=6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H). **<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 148.7, 146.3, 133.7, 128.4, 128.30, 128.3, 126.0, 124.3, 117.6, 112.8, 111.5, 18.2. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 241.0794 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, found 241.07880.

### 6-Methyl-3-(methylthio)-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridine (2f)



**FTIR:** 3057, 2920, 2360, 1338, 816, 776 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; **<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 8.31-8.29 (m, 3H), 7.60 (dd, *J*=9.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.17 (dd, *J*=9.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H). **<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 148.5, 145.3, 133.9, 129.1, 128.4, 128.2, 122.6, 122.0, 116.9, 111.0, 18.5, 18.2. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 255.0950 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, found 255.0950.

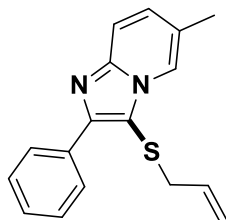
### 6-Bromo-3-((2-methylallyl)thio)-2-phenylimidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridine (2g)



**FTIR:** 2922, 2851, 2362, 2340, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; **<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 8.64 (d, *J*=1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.27-8.25 (m, 2H), 7.56 (dd, *J*=9.0, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, *J*=7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.45-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.36 (dd, *J*=9.4, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (t, *J*=1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (s, 1H), 3.24 (s, 2H), 1.74 (s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 2). **<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ 150.7, 144.8, 133.3, 129.4, 128.5, 128.4, 128.4, 124.8, 118.2, 115.4, 110.7, 107.5, 43.1, 30.2, 22.7, 20.8. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF) *m/z* calculated for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 359.0212 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>,

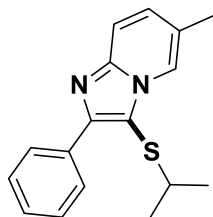
found 359.0209.

### 3-(Allylthio)-6-methyl-2-phenylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (3h)



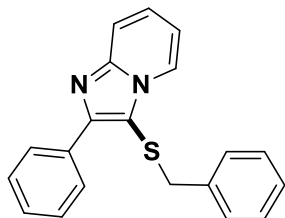
**FTIR:** 3061, 2919, 2361, 1345, 915, 753  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.33-8.31 (m, 3H), 7.61 (d,  $J=9.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t,  $J=7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.44-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.17 (dd,  $J=9.0, 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 5.74 (ddt,  $J=17.3, 10.0, 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 4.89-4.73 (m, 2H), 3.31 (d,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.42 (d,  $J=1.1$  Hz, 3H).  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  149.4, 145.2, 133.6, 132.8, 129.5, 128.8, 128.3, 128.3, 122.6, 122.3, 118.5, 116.7, 109.2, 38.9, 18.5. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{S}^+$  281.1107 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ), found 281.1118.

### 3-(Isopropylthio)-6-methyl-2-phenylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2i)



**FTIR:** 3021, 2989, 2366, 2355, 1606, 1025, 831  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.35-8.33 (m, 3H), 7.58 (dd,  $J=9.0, 0.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.14 (dd,  $J=9.1, 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.18 (hept,  $J=6.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.40 (d,  $J=1.1$  Hz, 3H), 1.16 (d,  $J=6.7$  Hz, 6H).  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  149.7, 145.4, 134.1, 129.1, 128.3, 128.2, 128.0, 122.3, 116.8, 109.8, 40.5, 23.1, 18.5. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{NaS}^+$  305.1083 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ), found 305.1080.

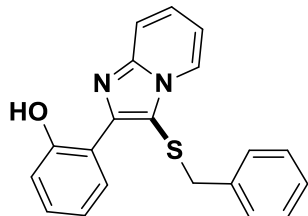
### 3-(Benzylthio)-2-phenylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2j)



**FTIR:** 3024, 2925, 2362, 2341, 1453, 1143, 737  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.28-8.26 (m, 2H), 8.09 (d,  $J=6.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d,  $J=9.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.37 (m, 1H), 7.21 (ddd,  $J=9.0, 6.7, 1.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.04 (m, 3H), 6.97-6.89 (m, 2H), 6.69 (td,  $J=6.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 2H).  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$

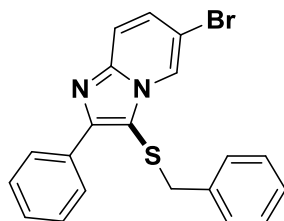
150.1, 146.4, 137.1, 133.7, 129.4, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 128.3, 127.3, 126.0, 124.2, 117.2, 112.3, 109.4, 40.6. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $C_{20}H_{17}N_2S^+$  317.1107 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, found 317.1113.

### 2-(3-(Benzylthio)imidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridin-2-yl)phenol (2k)



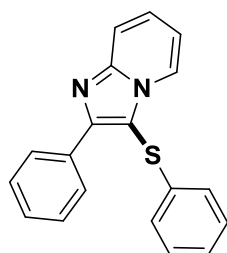
**FTIR:** 3329, 2974, 2926, 2362, 2341, 1509, 1051, 692  $cm^{-1}$ ; **<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  13.22 (s, 1H), 8.86 (dd,  $J=7.9, 1.7$  Hz, 1H), 8.09 (dd,  $J=6.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dt,  $J=8.9, 1.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.33 (ddd,  $J=8.6, 7.2, 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.23 (ddd,  $J=8.9, 6.8, 1.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.15-7.04 (m, 4H), 7.02-6.92 (m, 3H), 6.70 (td,  $J=6.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 2H). **<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  158.4, 148.1, 143.9, 137.0, 130.3, 128.7, 128.5, 127.5, 127.5, 126.8, 123.9, 118.7, 117.7, 116.6, 116.2, 112.9, 108.4, 40.5. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $C_{20}H_{17}N_2OS^+$  333.1056 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, found 333.1064.

### 3-(Benzylthio)-6-bromo-2-phenylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2l)



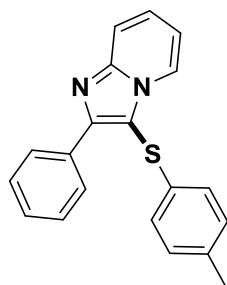
**FTIR:** 3053, 2966, 2364, 2355, 1603, 1029, 801  $cm^{-1}$ ; **<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.29-8.27 (m, 2H), 8.04 (d,  $J=2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.38 (m, 4H), 7.22 (dd,  $J=9.4, 1.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.17-7.04 (m, 3H), 6.96-6.88 (m, 2H), 3.83 (s, 2H). **<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** ( $CDCl_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  150.7, 144.7, 137.1, 133.3, 129.4, 128.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 127.7, 124.6, 117.7, 110.0, 107.1, 41.0. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $C_{20}H_{16}BrN_2S^+$  395.0212 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, found 395.0210.

### 2-Phenyl-3-(phenylthio)imidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2m)



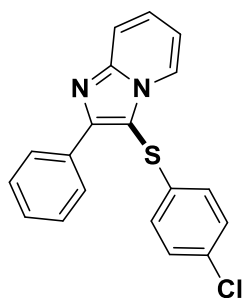
**FTIR:** 2979, 2921, 2338, 1591, 1463, 1047, 684  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.30 (dt,  $J=6.9, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 8.26-8.21 (m, 2H), 7.77 (dt,  $J=9.0, 1.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.15 (ddt,  $J=8.5, 6.7, 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.06-6.99 (m, 2H), 6.89 (td,  $J=6.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H).  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  151.3, 147.1, 135.2, 133.3, 129.5, 128.6, 128.4, 128.4, 126.7, 126.1, 125.6, 124.5, 117.7, 113.1, 106.4. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{S}^+$  303.0950 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ , found 303.0941.

### 2-Phenyl-3-(p-tolylthio)imidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2n)



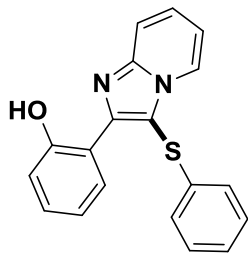
**FTIR:** 2975, 2927, 1343, 1090, 1463, 1050, 882  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.29-8.26 (m, 3H), 7.74 (d,  $J=9.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.39 (t,  $J=7.2$  Hz, 4H), 7.31-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.02 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.93 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.82 (t,  $J=6.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.26 (s, 3H);  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  151.1, 147.0, 136.0, 133.4, 131.5, 130.2, 128.4, 128.4, 128.4, 126.6, 125.8, 124.5, 117.6, 113.0, 106.9, 20.90. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{S}^+$  317.1107 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ , found 317.1113.

### 3-((4-Chlorophenyl)thio)-2-phenylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2o)



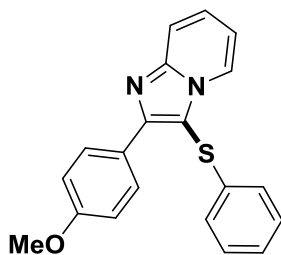
**FTIR:** 3038, 2924, 2857, 1470, 1345, 1086, 692  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.28-8.24 (m, 1H), 8.21-8.18 (m, 1H), 7.77 (dd,  $J=8.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.19 (m, 2H), 6.96-6.90 (m, 3H);  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  151.6, 147.2, 133.7, 133.1, 132.1, 129.6, 128.8, 128.5, 128.3, 126.9, 126.8, 124.3, 117.8, 113.3, 105.7. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{14}\text{ClN}_2\text{S}^+$  337.0561 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ , found 337.0550.

### 2-(3-(Phenylthio)imidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridin-2-yl)phenol (2p)



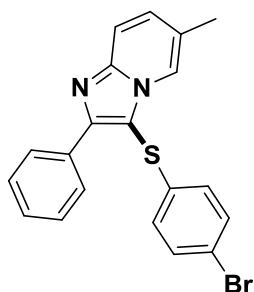
**FTIR:** 3328, 3053, 3018, 2358, 1457, 1349, 1098, 734  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  13.13 (s, 1H), 8.64 (dd,  $J=8.0, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d,  $J=6.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d,  $J=8.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.16 (m, 1H), 7.12-7.06 (m, 3H), 6.98-6.95 (m, 1H), 6.92-6.87 (m, 1H);  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  158.4, 149.5, 144.7, 134.4, 130.6, 129.6, 127.8, 127.5, 126.4, 125.9, 124.2, 118.9, 117.8, 116.7, 116.1, 113.8, 105.5; **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{OS}^+$  319.0900 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ), found 319.0902.

**2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-(phenylthio)imidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2q)**



**FTIR:** 2920, 2847, 2357, 1469, 1249, 1035, 744  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.27 (d,  $J=6.8$  Hz, 1H), 8.22-8.18 (m, 2H), 7.73 (d,  $J=9.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.16-7.12 (m, 1H), 7.036-6.97 (m, 4H), 3.85 (s, 3H);  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  160.0, 151.3, 147.1, 135.3, 129.7, 129.4, 126.6, 126.0, 125.9, 125.5, 124.4, 117.4, 113.9, 112.9, 105.3, 55.3. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{OS}^+$  333.1056 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ), found 333.1064.

**2-(4-bromophenyl)-6-methyl-3-(phenylthio)imidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2r)**

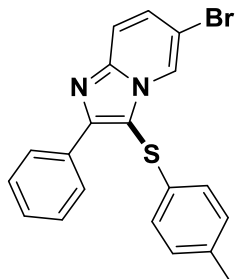


**FTIR:** 3028, 2929, 2857, 1470, 1345, 1086, 796  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.22-8.13 (m, 2H), 8.10-8.03 (m, 1H), 7.70 (d,  $J=9.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd,  $J=8.3, 6.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.25 (dd,  $J=9.2, 1.7$  Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d,



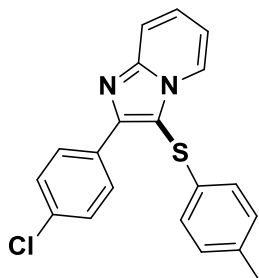
$J=8.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  151.2, 146.1, 134.7, 133.0, 132.5, 130.3, 128.7, 128.5, 128.2, 127.0, 123.4, 122.1, 119.8, 117.0, 105.1, 18.4. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{BrN}_2\text{S}^+$  395.0212( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ , found 395.0210.

**6-bromo-2-phenyl-3-(p-tolylthio)imidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2s)**



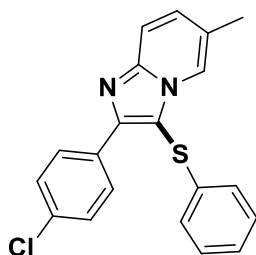
**FTIR:** 3026, 2928, 2869, 1478, 1349, 1080, 783  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.45 (s, 1H), 8.23 (d,  $J=7.0$  Hz, 14H), 7.63 (dd,  $J=9.4, 0.8$  Hz, 14H), 7.46 (dd,  $J=8.2, 6.4$  Hz, 27H), 7.43-7.38 (m, 25H), 7.07 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 28H), 6.94 (d,  $J=8.2$  Hz, 24H), 2.30 (s, 41H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  151.7, 145.3, 136.4, 132.9, 130.9, 130.4, 130.1, 128.8, 128.5, 128.3, 126.0, 124.7, 118.3, 108.0, 107.7, 20.91. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{BrN}_2\text{S}^+$  395.0212 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ , found 395.0210.

**2-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(p-tolylthio)imidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2t)**



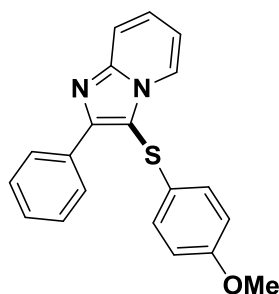
**FTIR:** 3025, 2928, 2863, 1479, 1345, 1083, 786  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.30 (dt,  $J=6.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 8.25-8.18 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.72 (m, 1H), 7.46-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.36 (ddd,  $J=9.0, 6.8, 1.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.08-7.01 (m, 2H), 6.96-6.85 (m, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  149.8, 147.0, 136.3, 134.6, 131.8, 131.1, 130.3, 129.6, 128.7, 126.9, 125.9, 124.6, 117.6, 113.2, 107.2, 20.9. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{ClN}_2\text{S}^+$  351.0717 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ , found 351.0710.

**2-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-methyl-3-(phenylthio)imidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2u)**



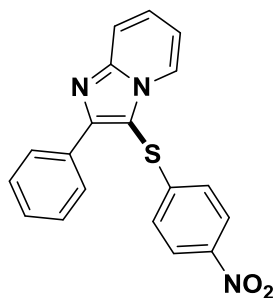
**FTIR:** 3025, 2927, 2863, 1478, 1346, 1085, 786  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.18-8.16 (m, 2H), 8.09 (t,  $J=1.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d,  $J=9.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.12 (m, 4H), 7.05-6.96 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H).  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  149.9, 146.1, 135.2, 134.4, 132.0, 130.1, 129.5, 129.5, 128.6, 126.1, 125.5, 123.2, 122.2, 117.0, 106.0, 18.4. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{ClN}_2\text{S}^+$  351.0717 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ), found 351.0709.

### 3-((4-methoxyphenyl)thio)-2-phenylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2v)



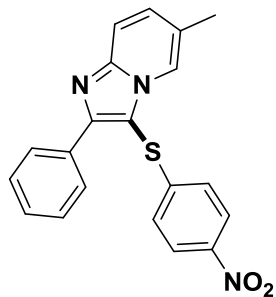
**FTIR:** 3027, 2928, 2857, 1460, 1345, 1086, 798  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.34 (d,  $J=6.8$  Hz, 1H), 8.26 (dd,  $J=7.2, 1.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d,  $J=9.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t,  $J=7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.46-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.06-6.97 (m, 2H), 6.91 (td,  $J=6.8, 1.1$  Hz, 1H), 6.83-6.75 (m, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H).  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  158.6, 150.6, 146.7, 133.2, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 126.7, 125.4, 124.5, 117.5, 115.2, 114.1, 113.1, 107.9, 55.3. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_2\text{OS}^+$  333.1056 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ), found 333.1042.

### 3-((4-nitrophenyl)thio)-2-phenylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2w)

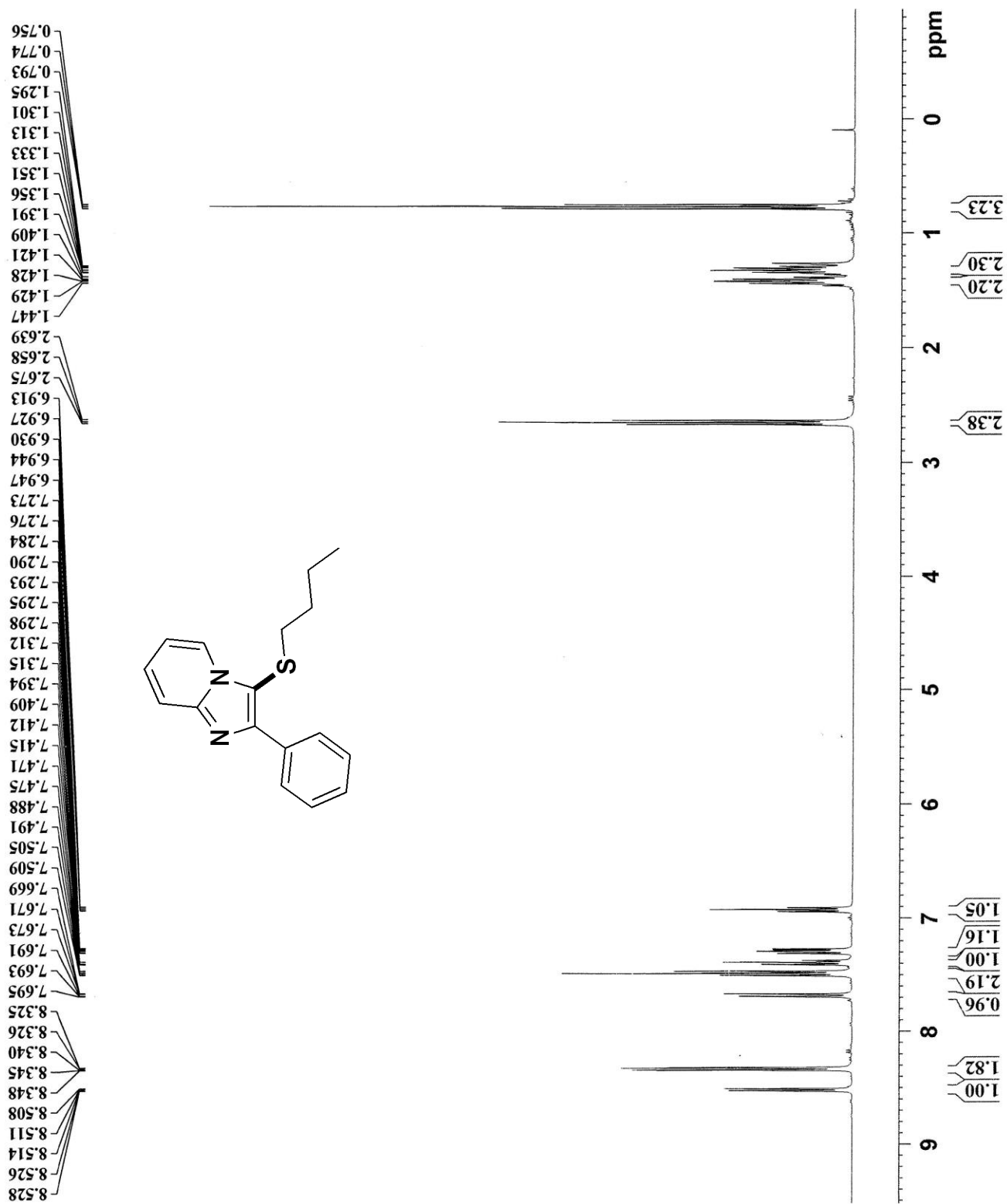


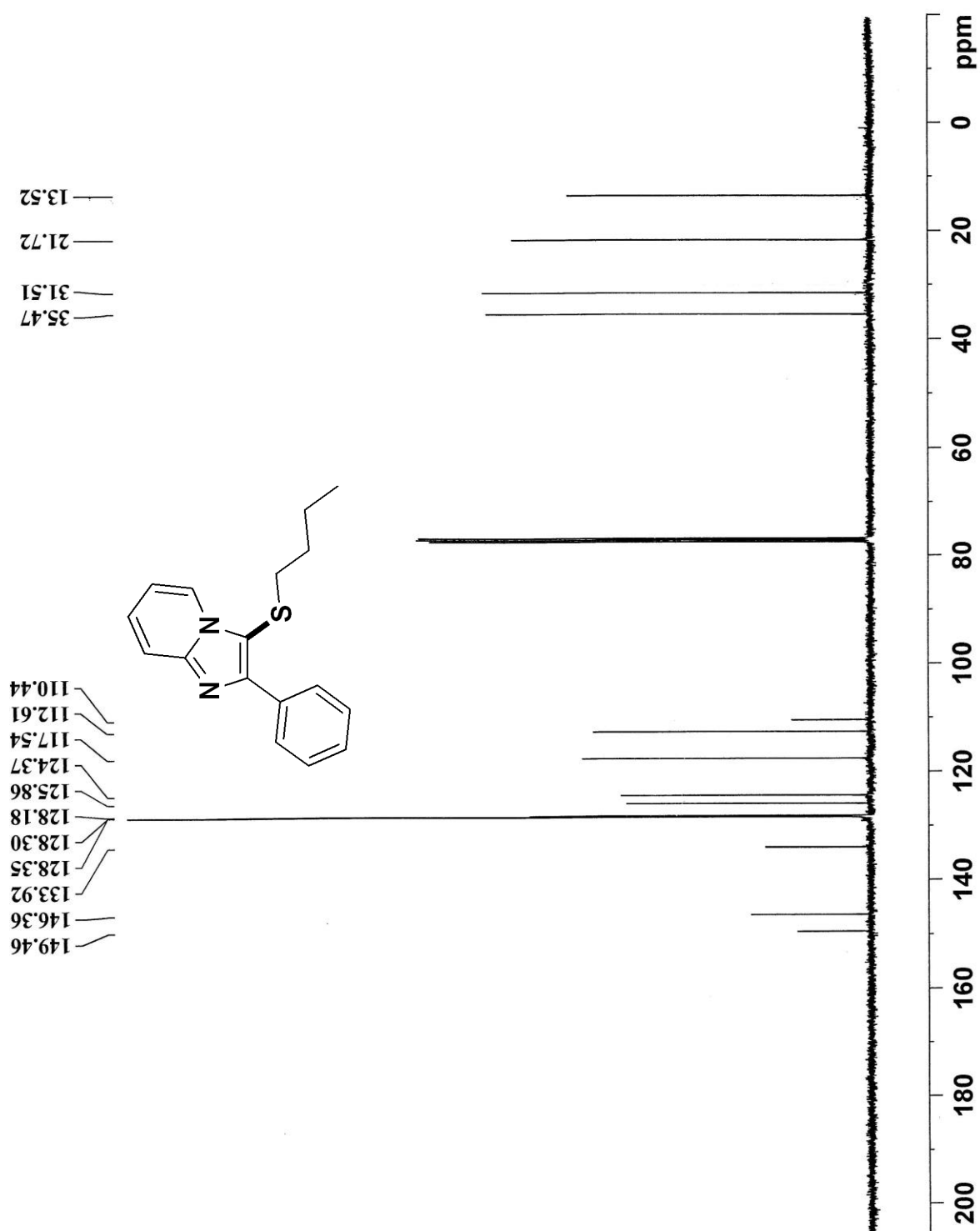
**FTIR:** 3025, 2920, 2837, 1460, 1333, 1080, 770  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.23 (dt,  $J=6.9, 1.2$  Hz, 1H), 8.19-8.04 (m, 4H), 7.87-7.76 (m, 1H), 7.54-7.36 (m, 4H), 7.17-7.04 (m, 2H), 6.96 (td,  $J=6.8, 1.2$  Hz, 1H).  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  152.3, 147.6, 146.1, 145.0, 132.7, 129.1, 128.6, 128.3, 127.4, 125.3, 124.6, 124.1, 118.0, 113.8, 103.6. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}^+$  348.0801 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}^+$ ), found 348.0800.

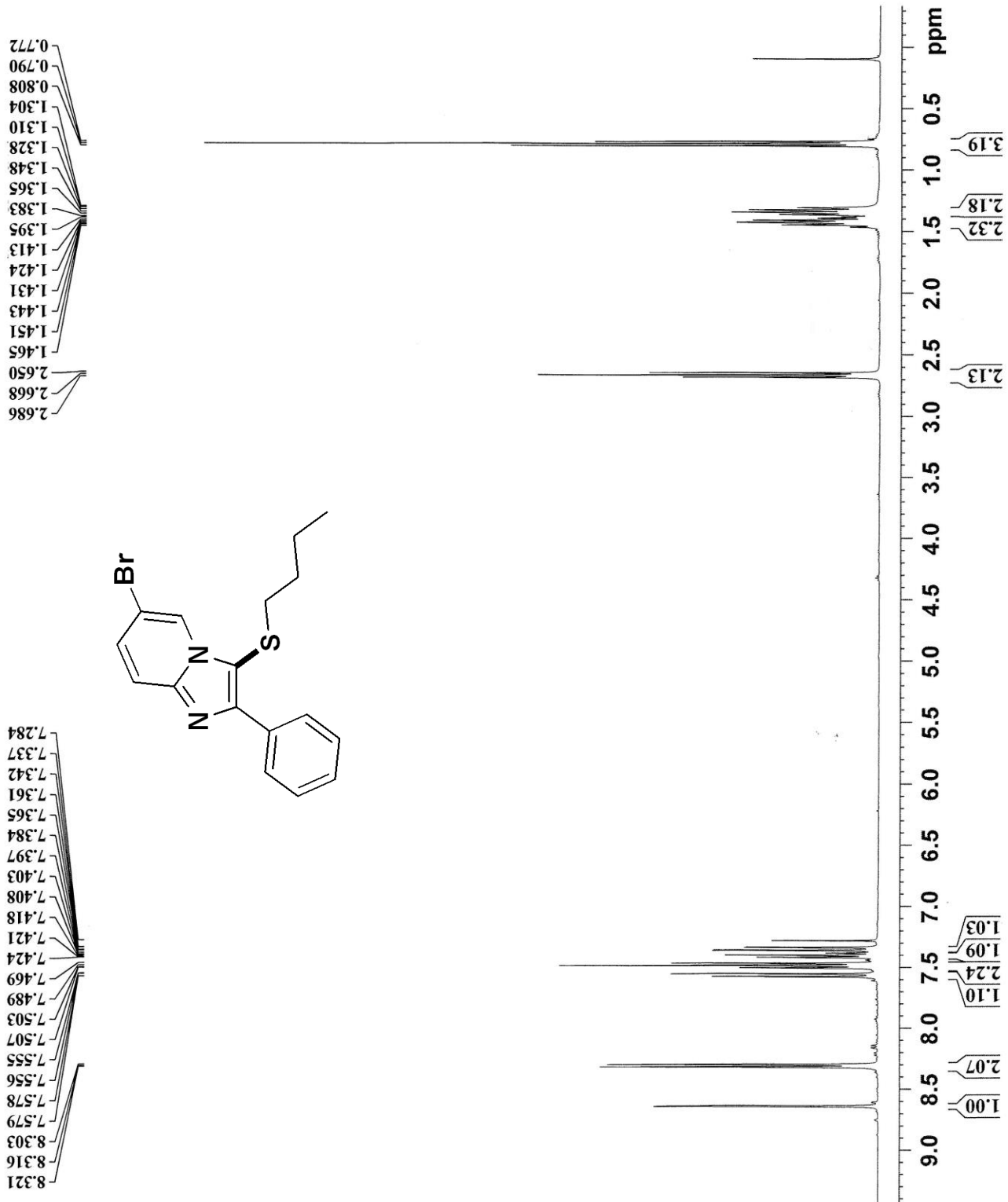
### 6-methyl-3-((4-nitrophenyl)thio)-2-phenylimidazo[1,2- $\alpha$ ]pyridine (2x)

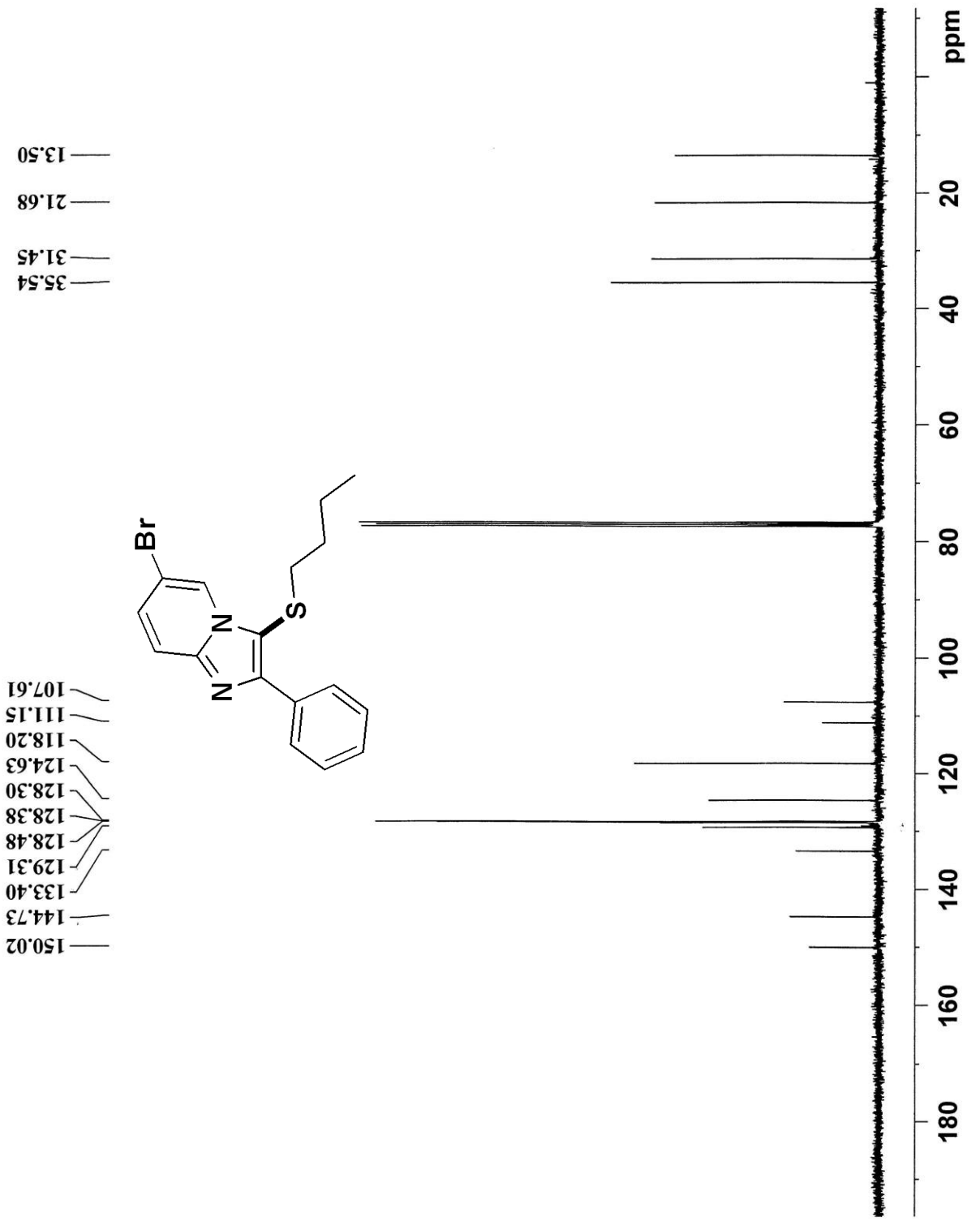


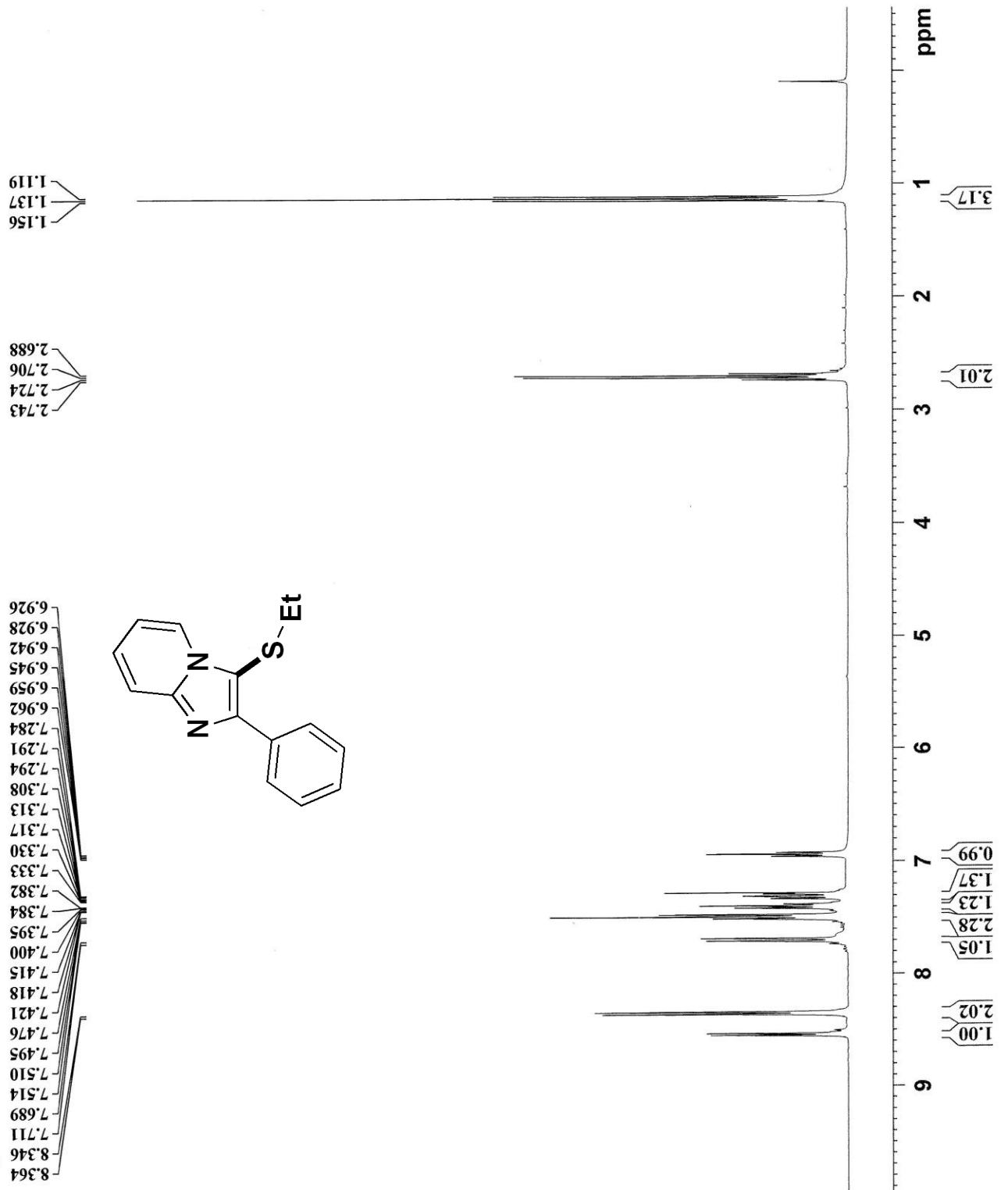
**FTIR:** 3023, 2921, 2835, 1467, 1335, 1079, 778  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.14-8.08 (m, 3H), 8.02 (d,  $J=1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.79-7.73 (m, 1H), 7.50-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.30 (d,  $J=12.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.17-7.07 (m, 2H), 2.37 (d,  $J=1.1$  Hz, 3H).  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz):  $\delta$  146.4, 146.1, 145.1, 132.6, 130.7, 129.0, 128.6, 128.2, 125.2, 124.7, 124.5, 124.0, 121.8, 117.3, 103.2, 22.7. **HRMS** (ESI-TOF)  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}^+$  362.0958( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ , found 362.0956.



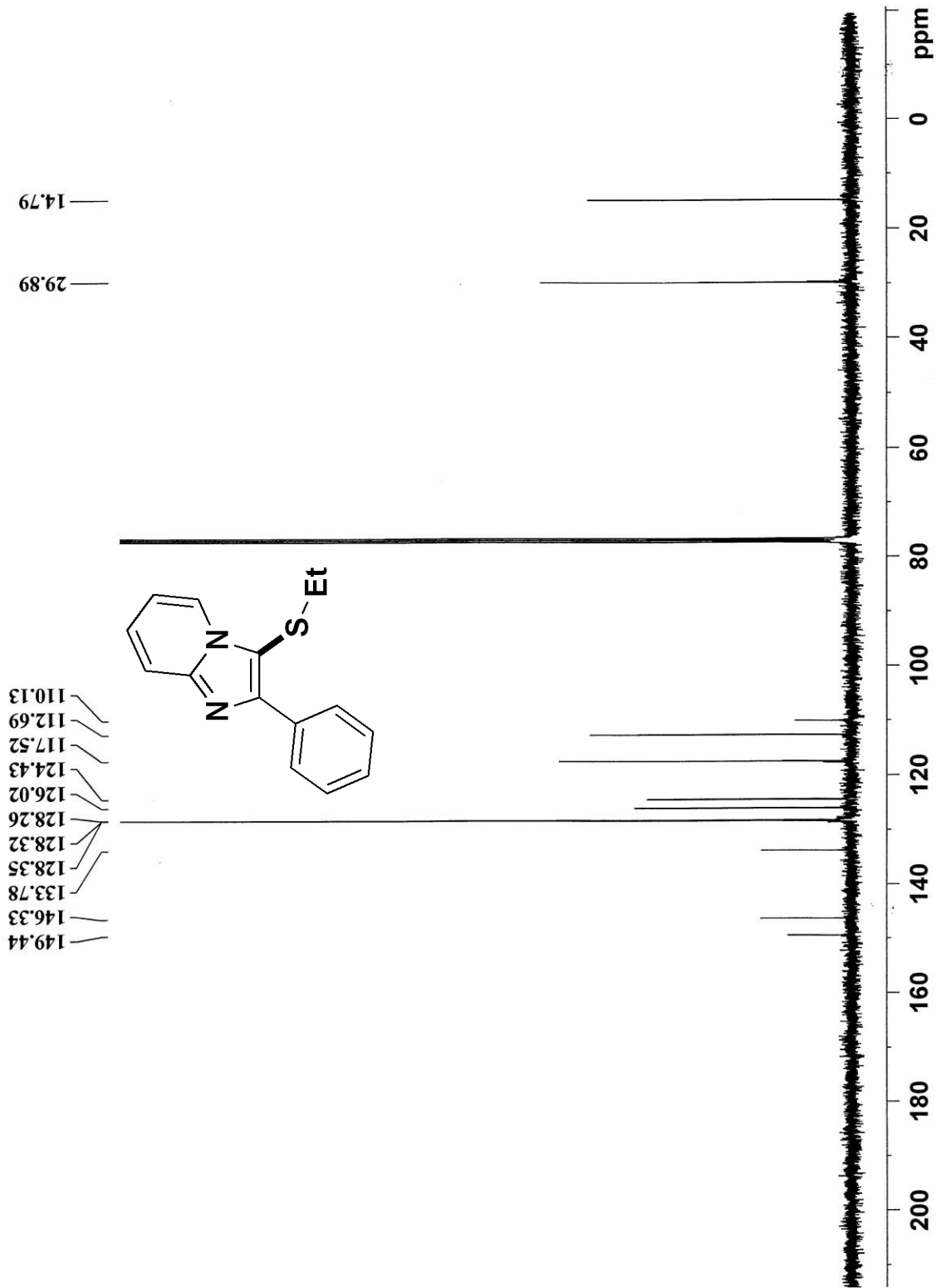


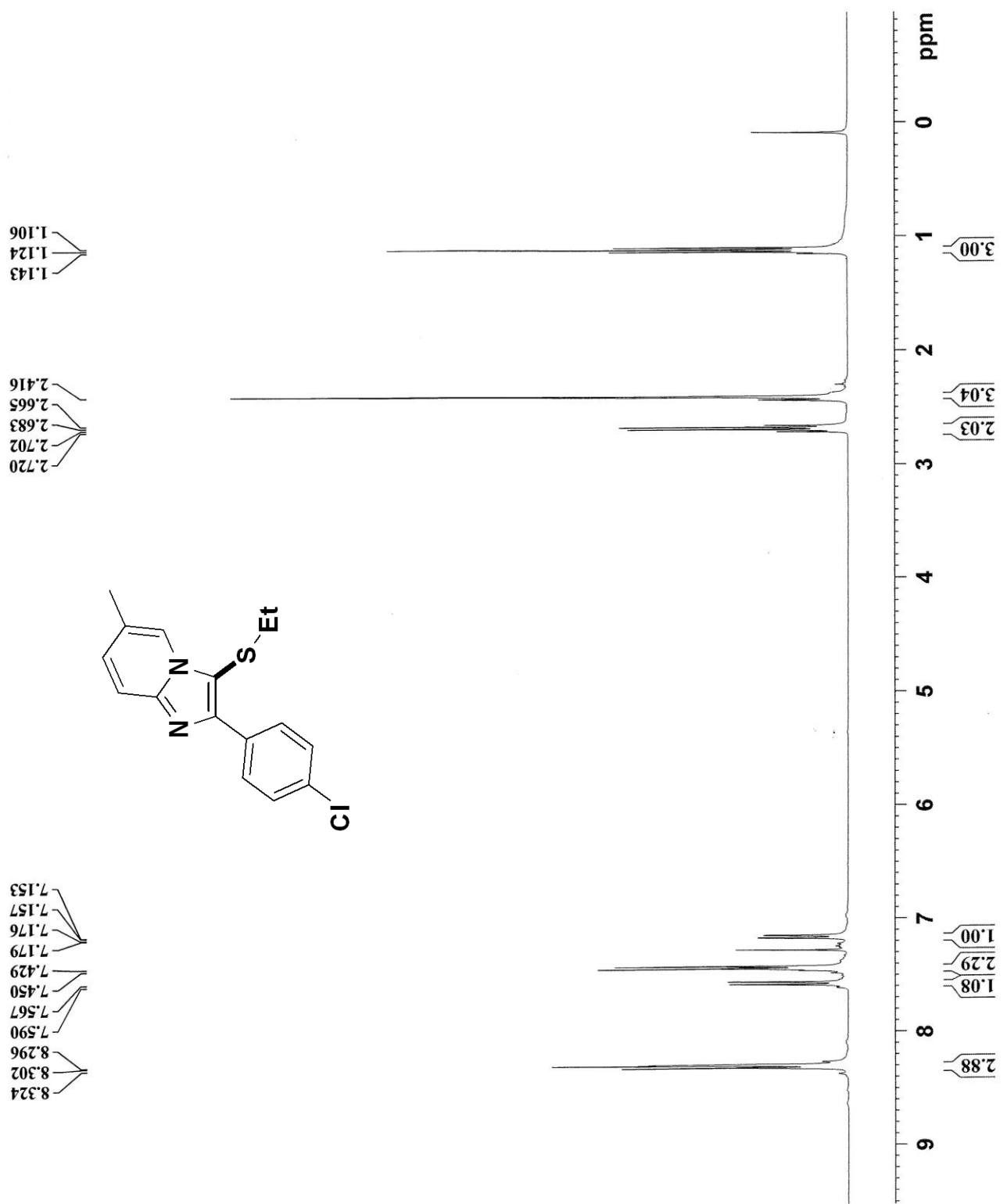


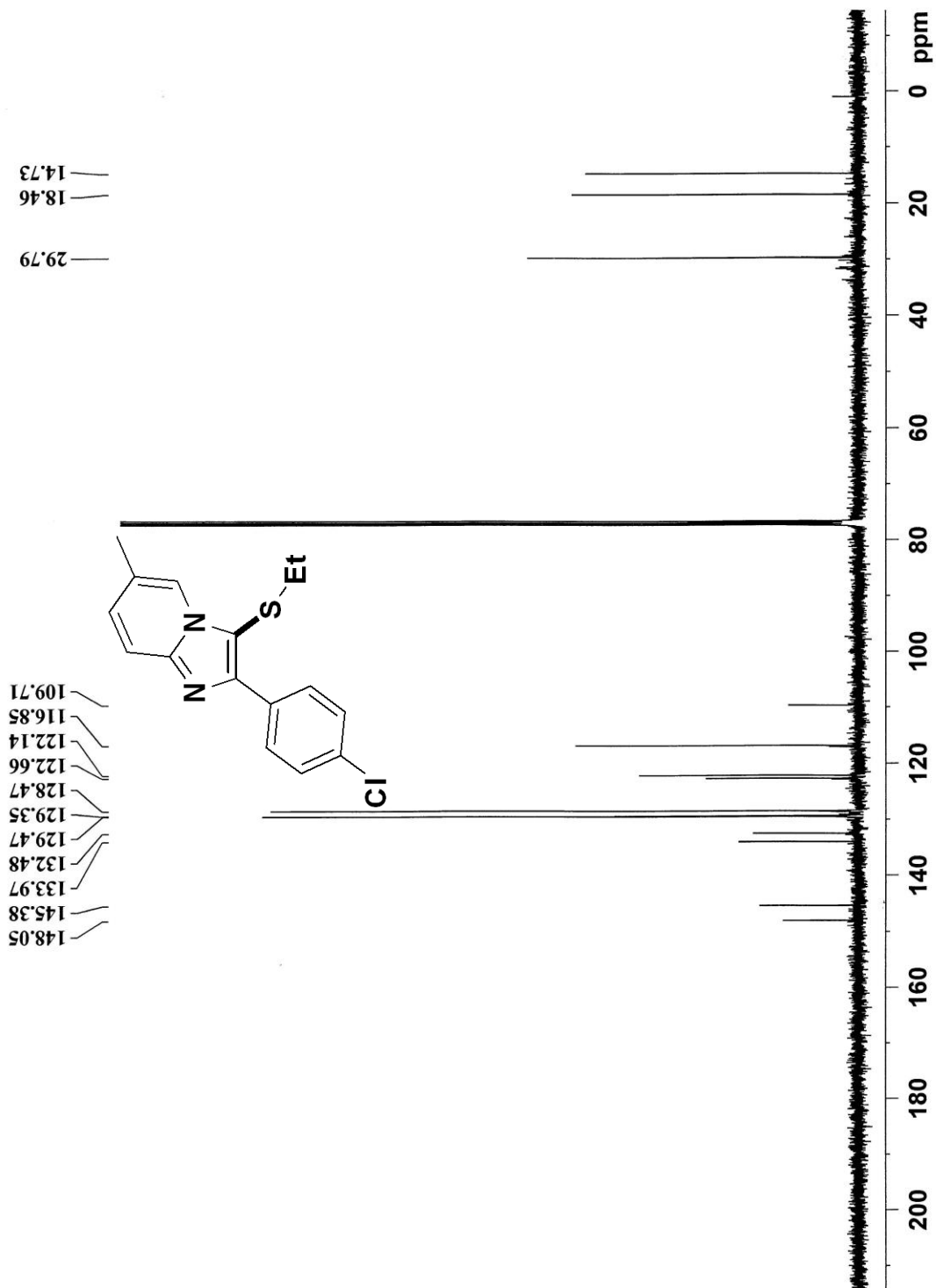


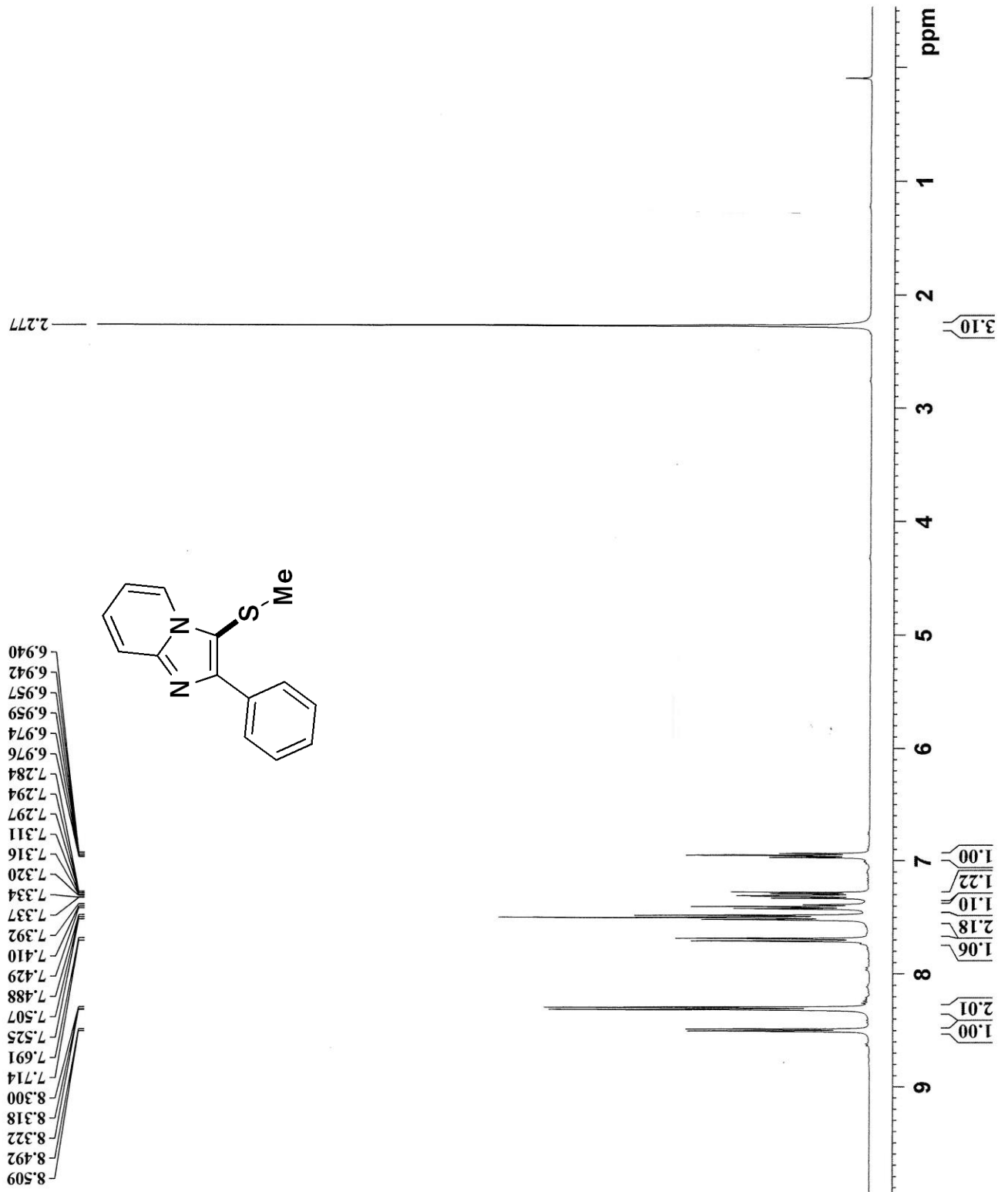


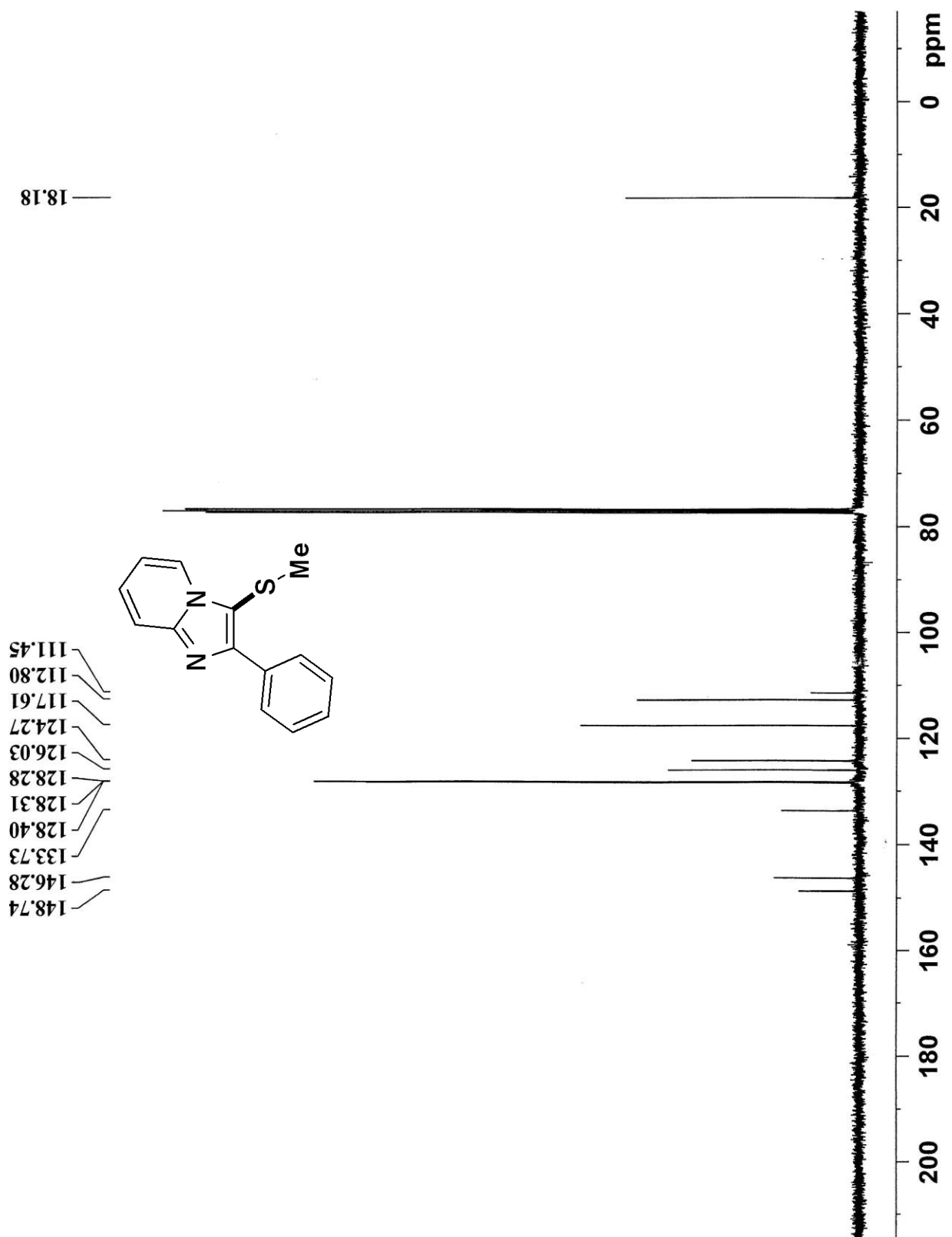


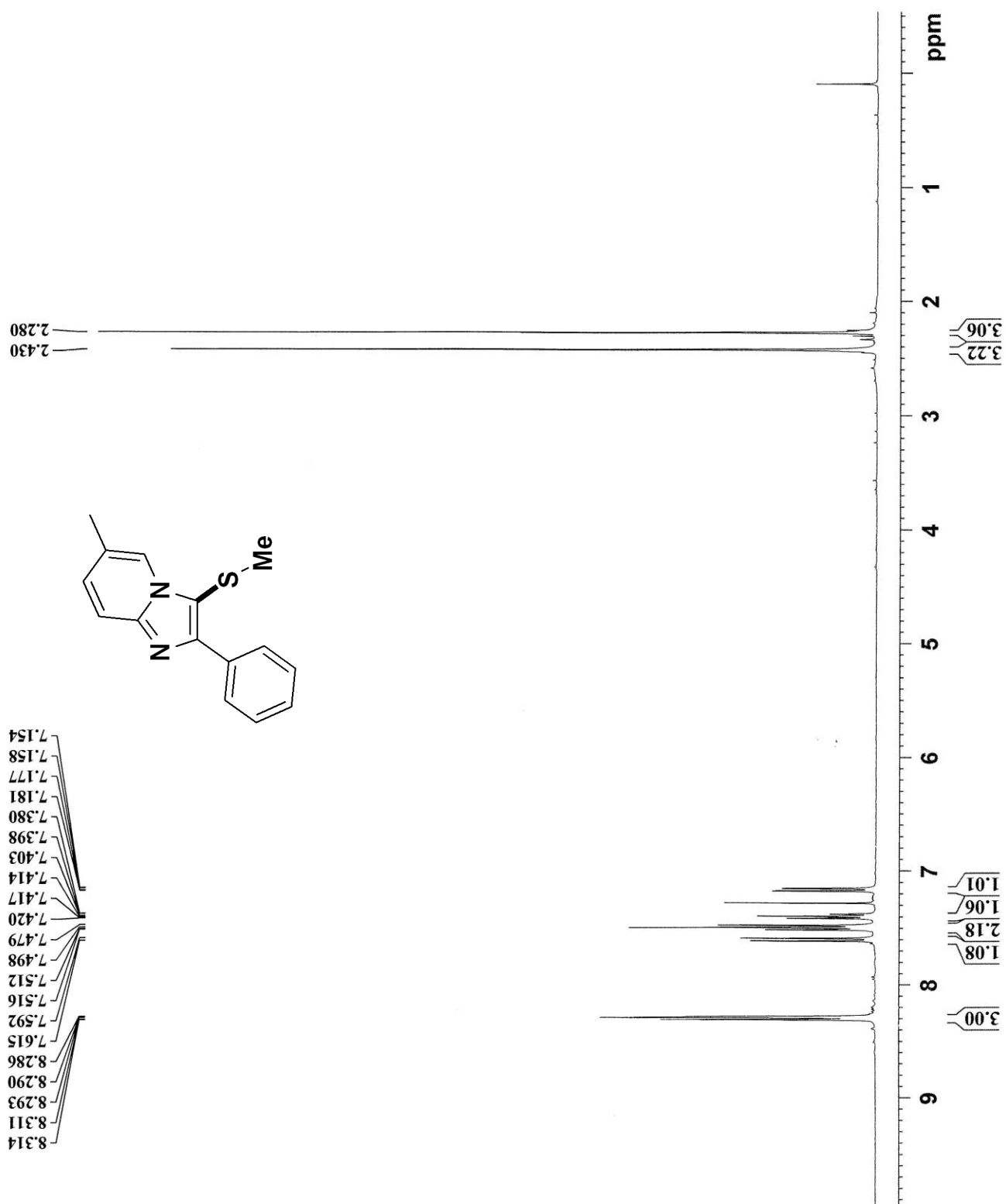


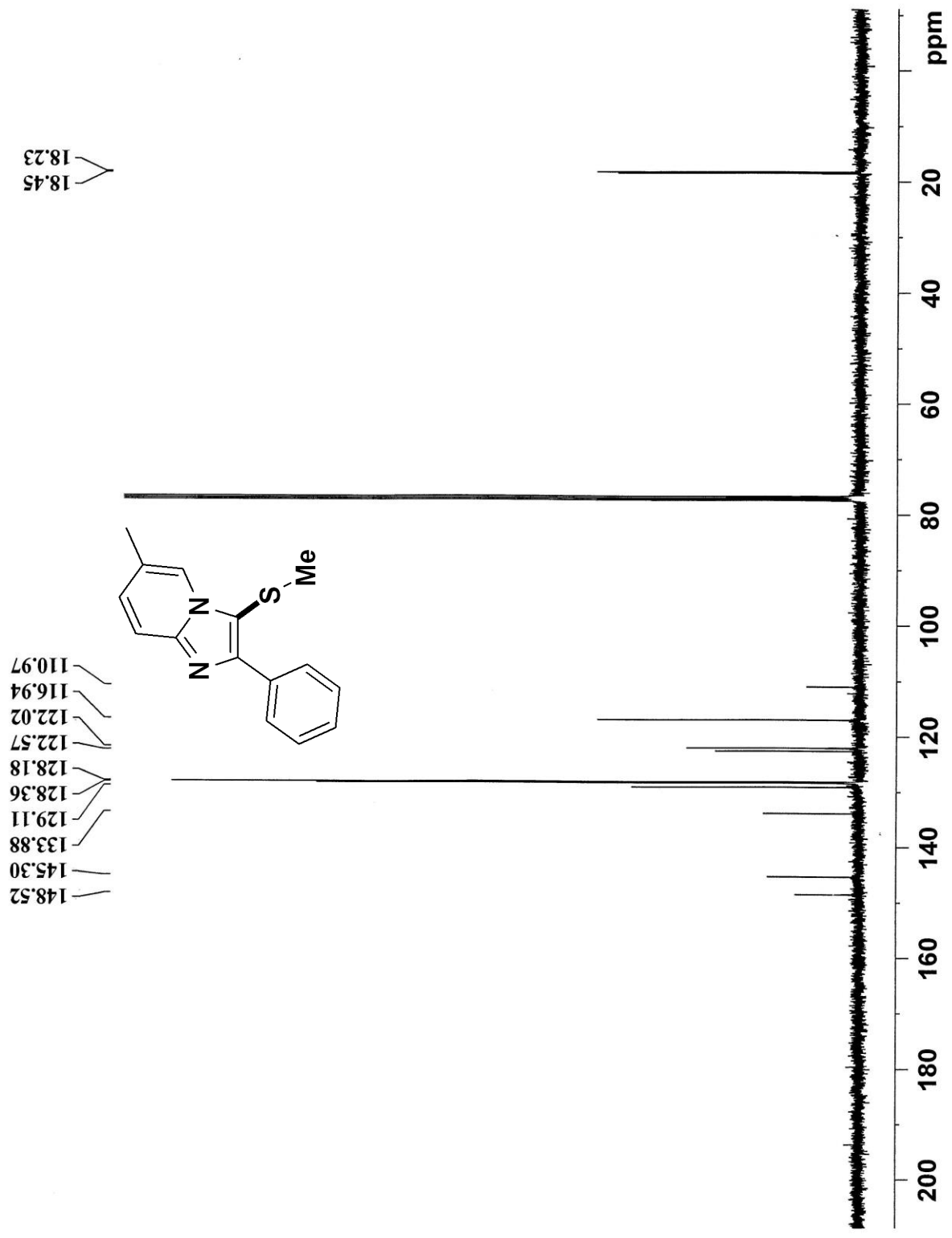


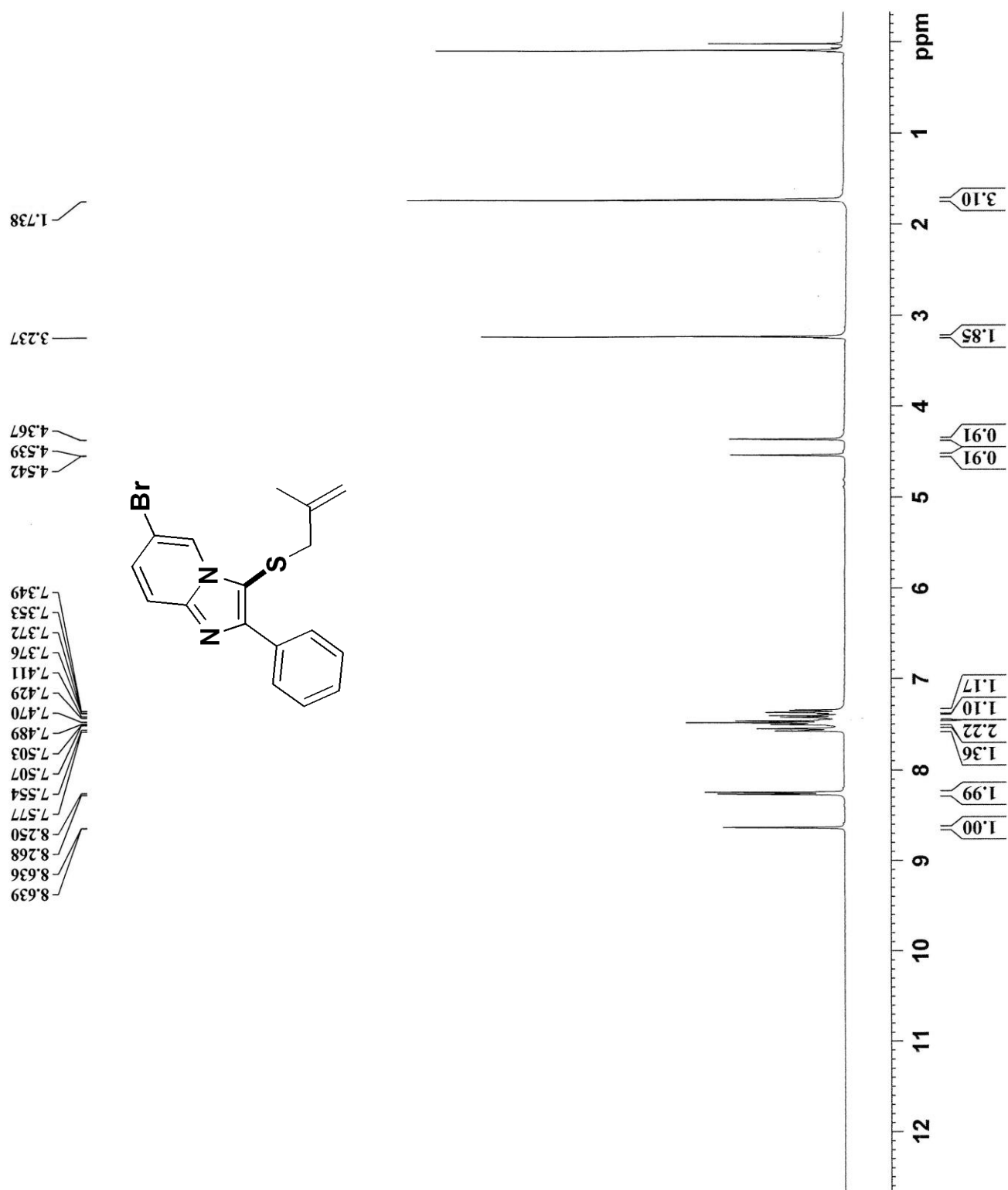




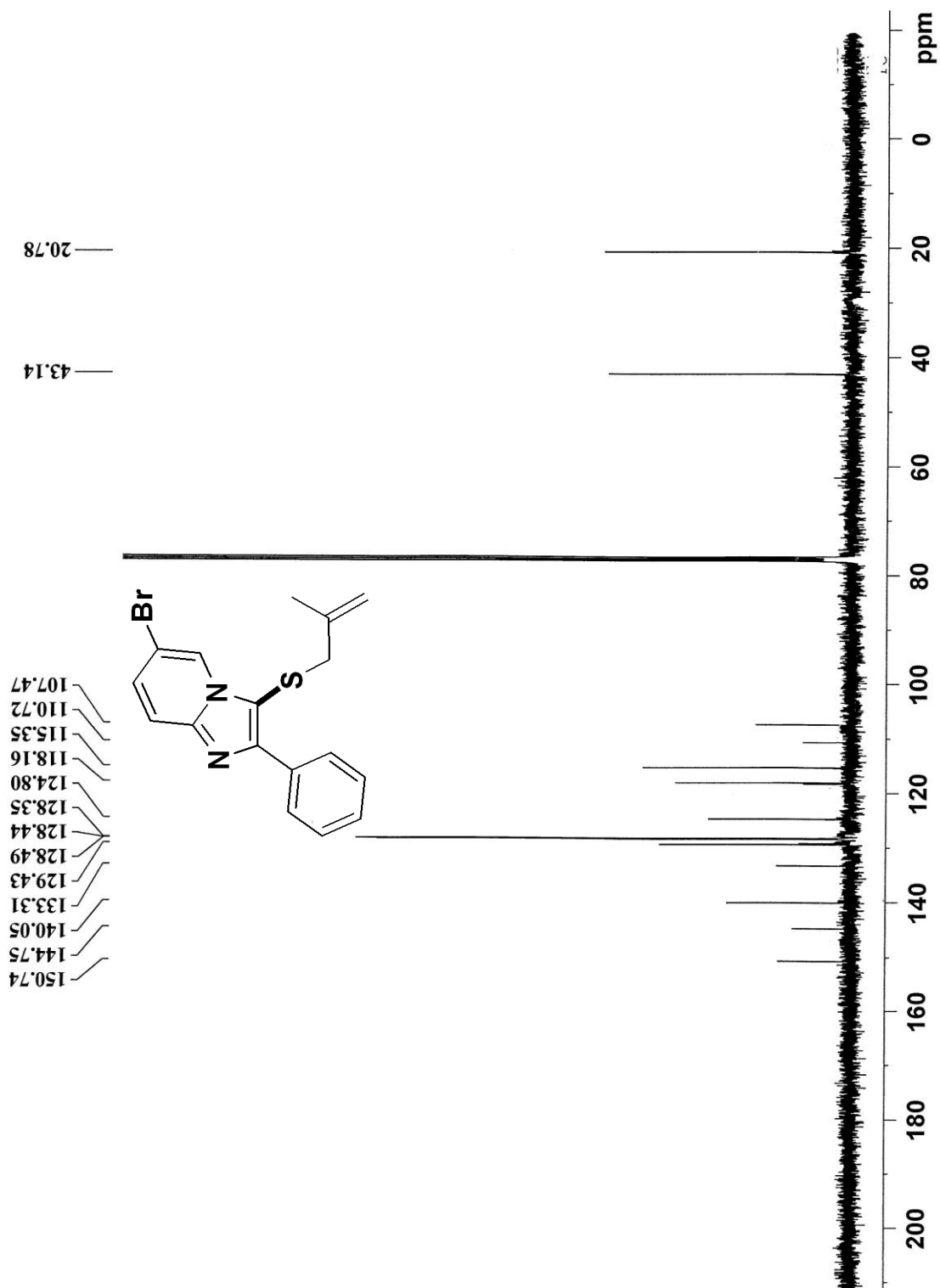


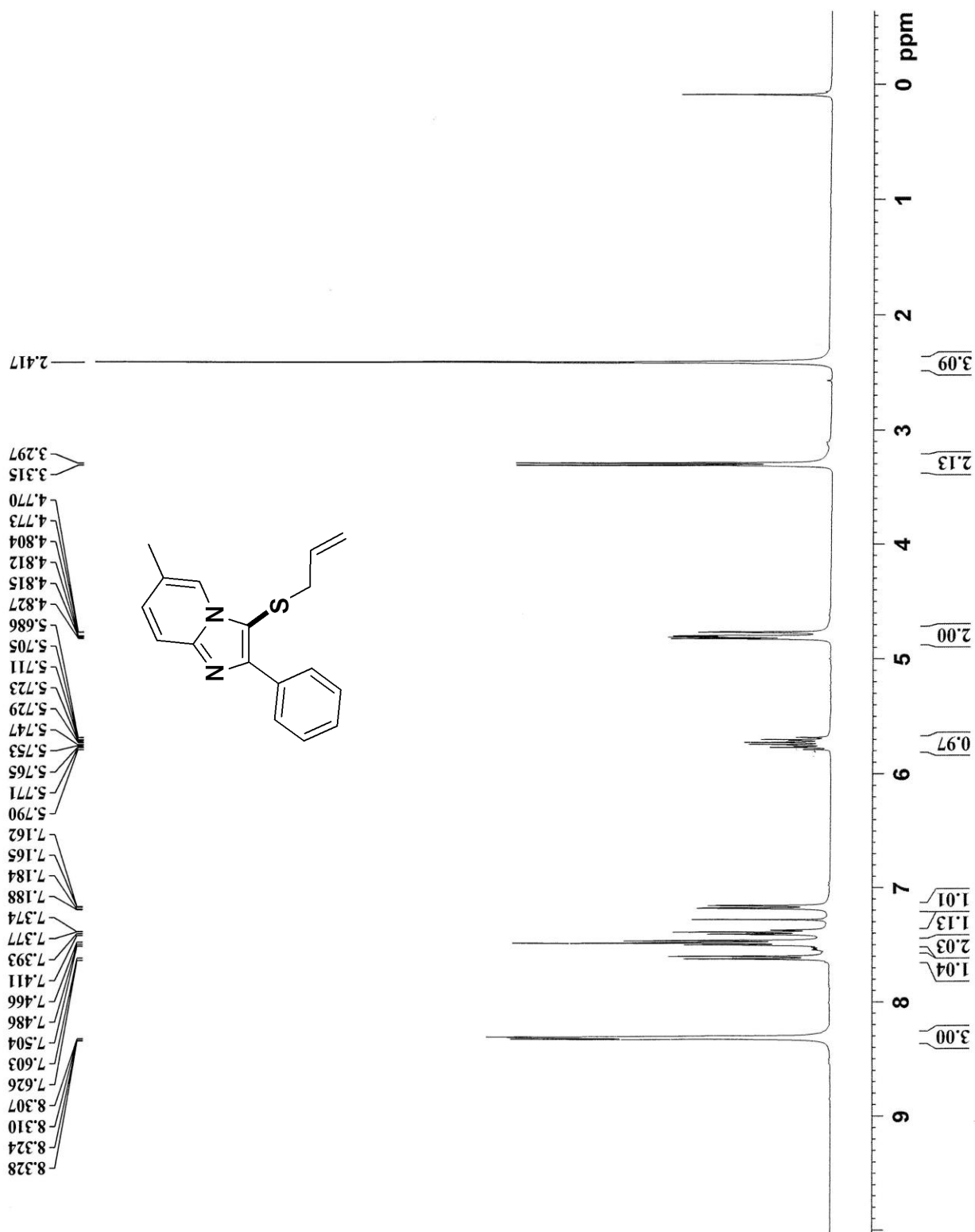


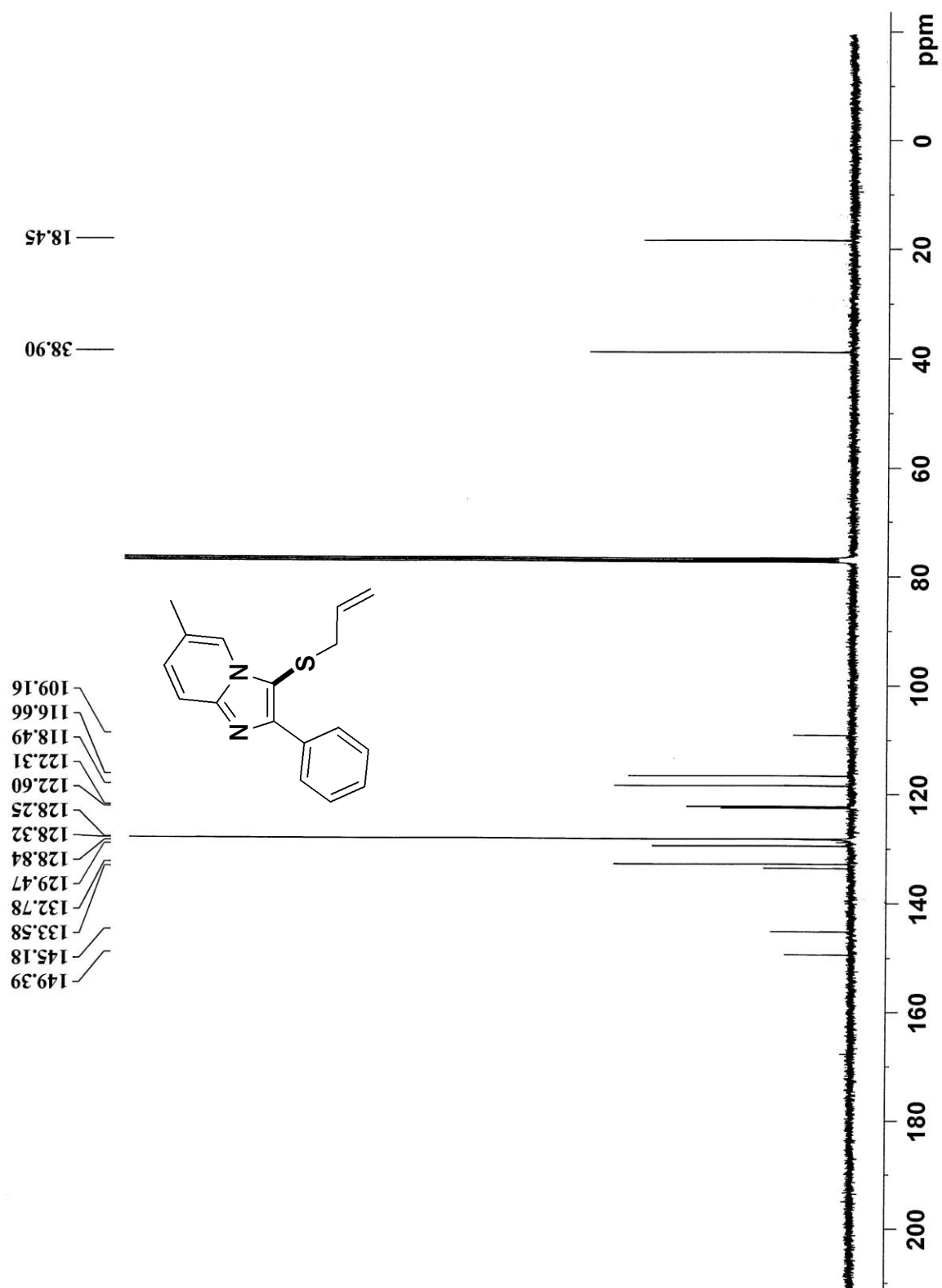


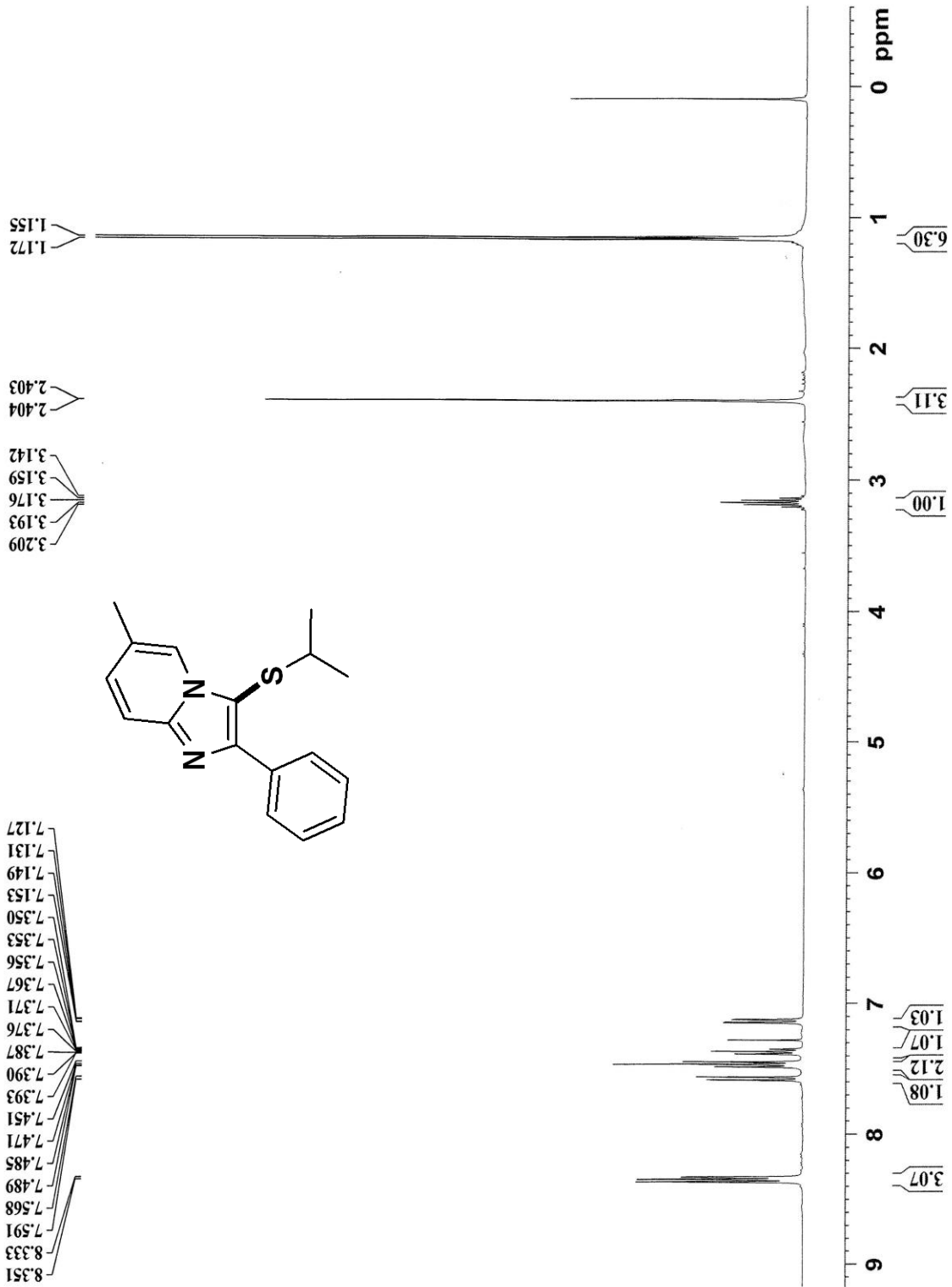


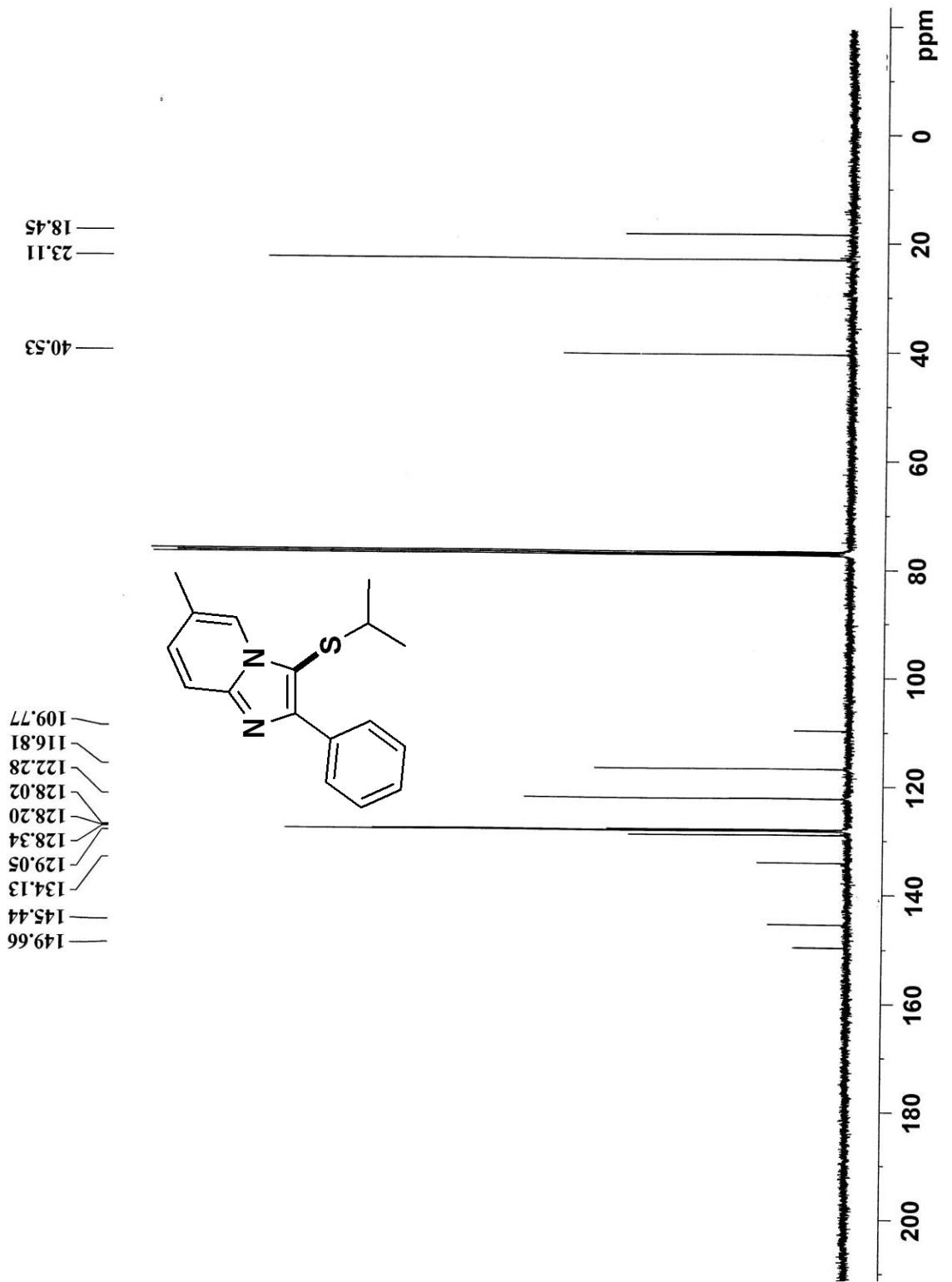


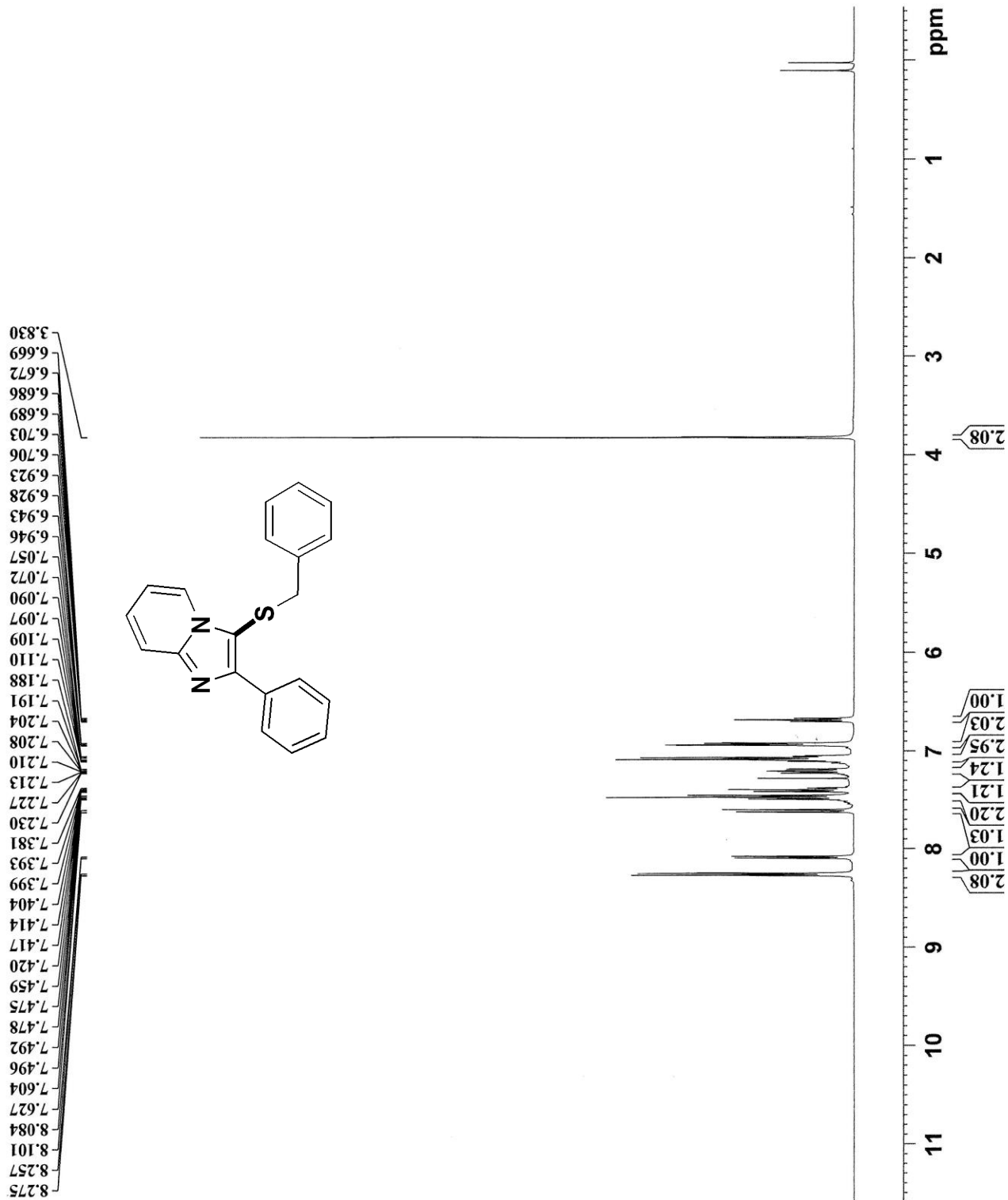


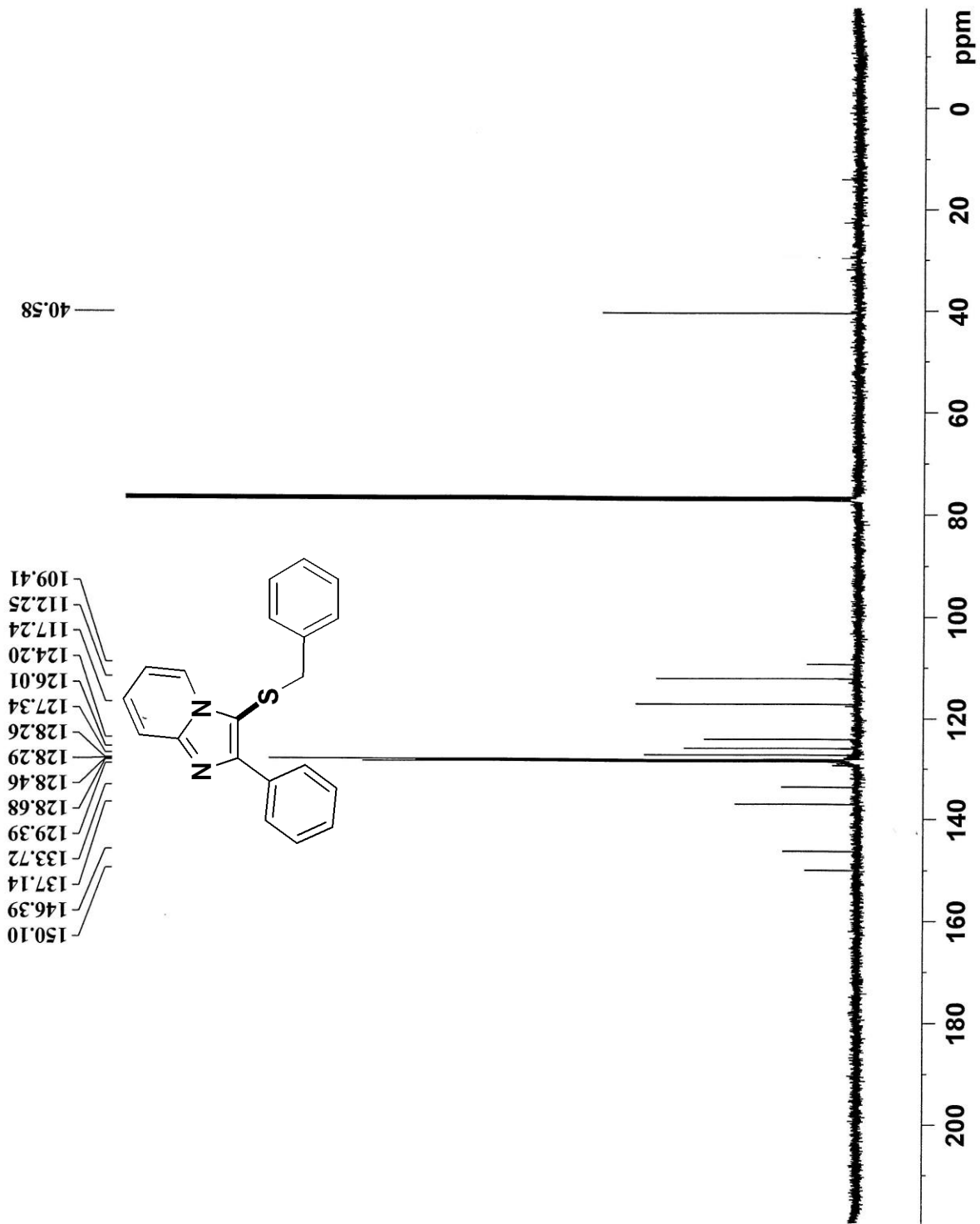


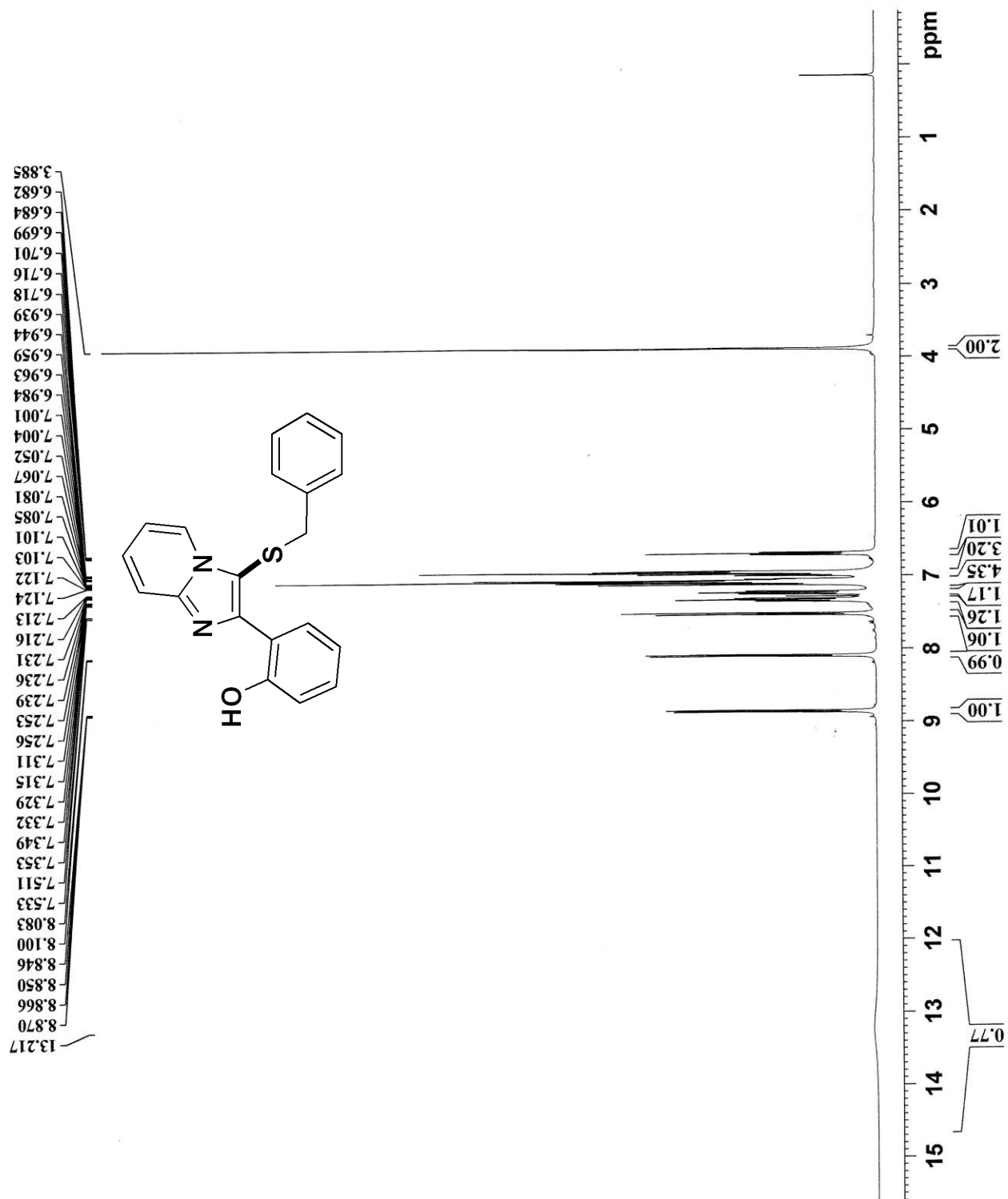




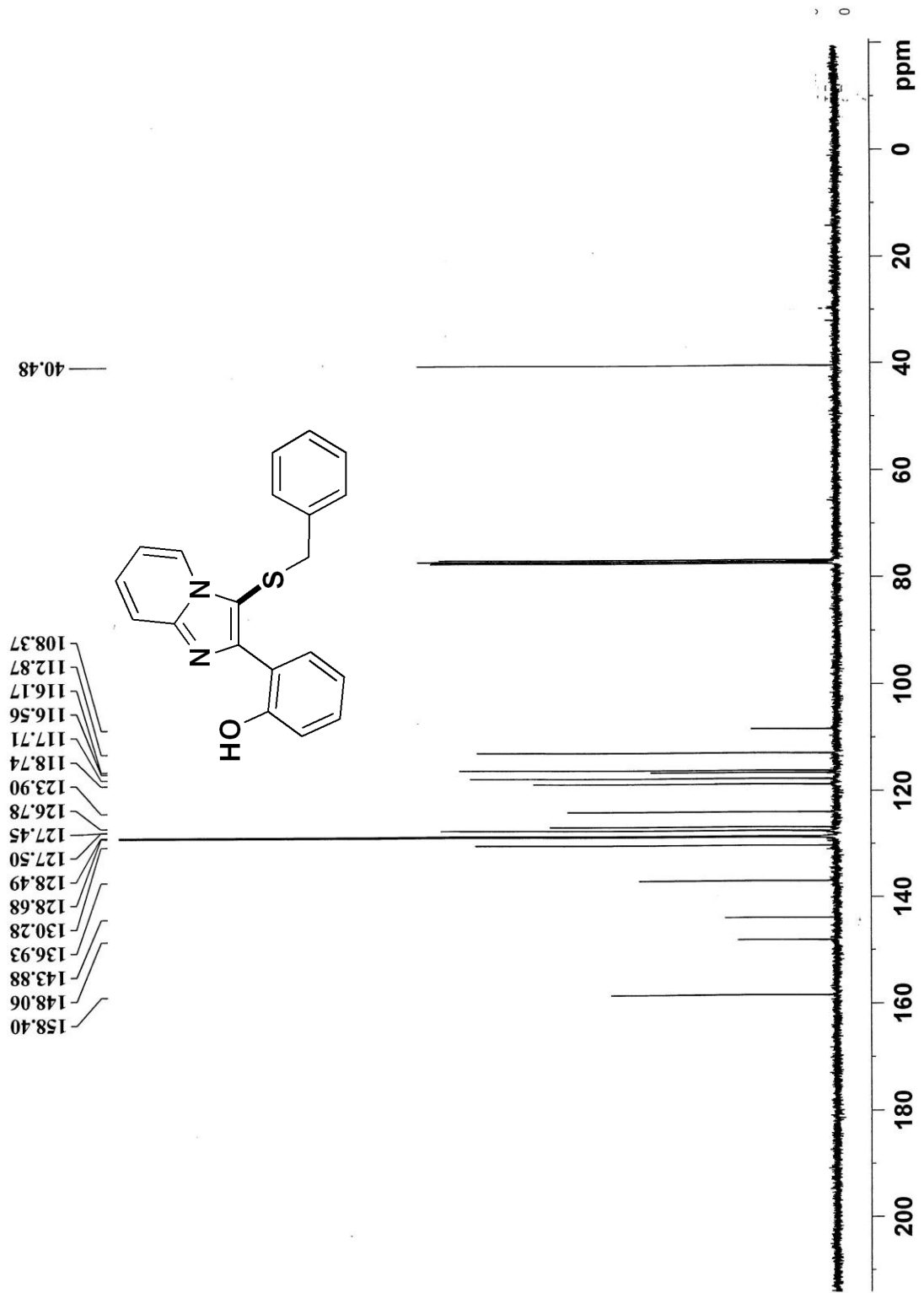


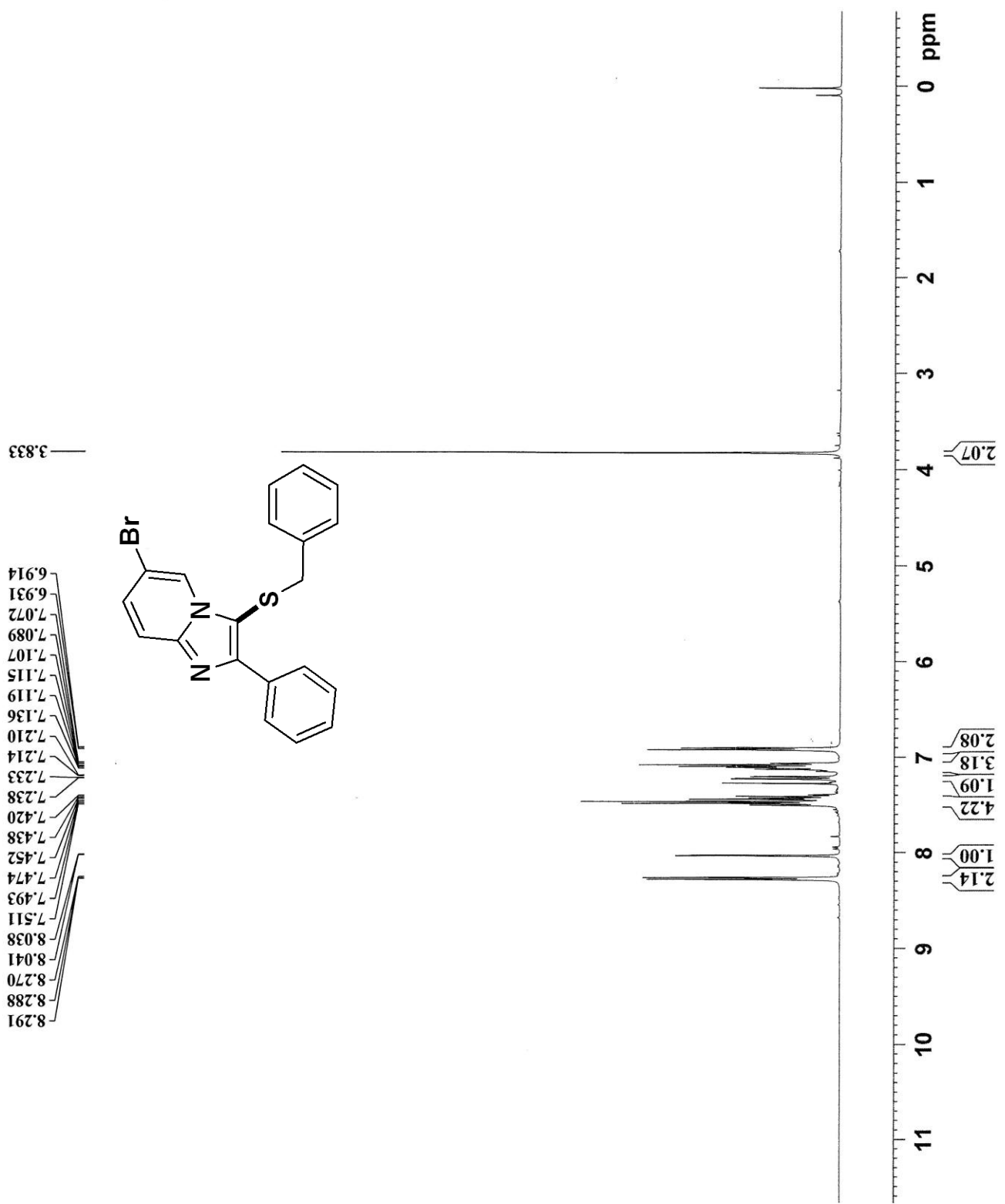


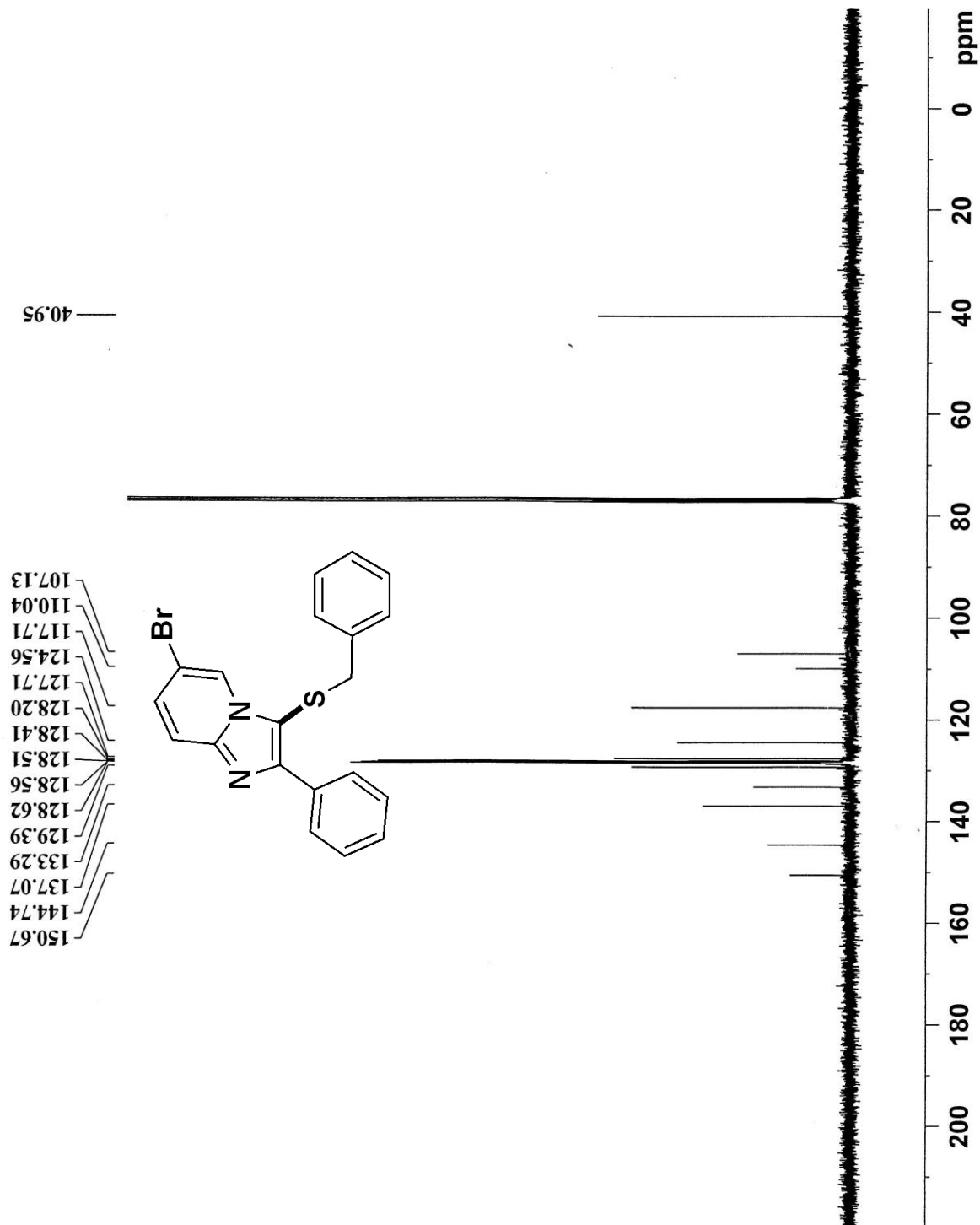


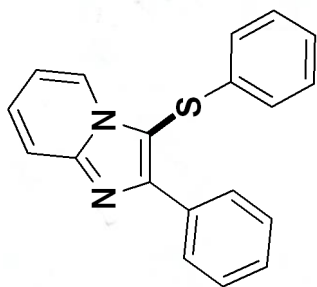




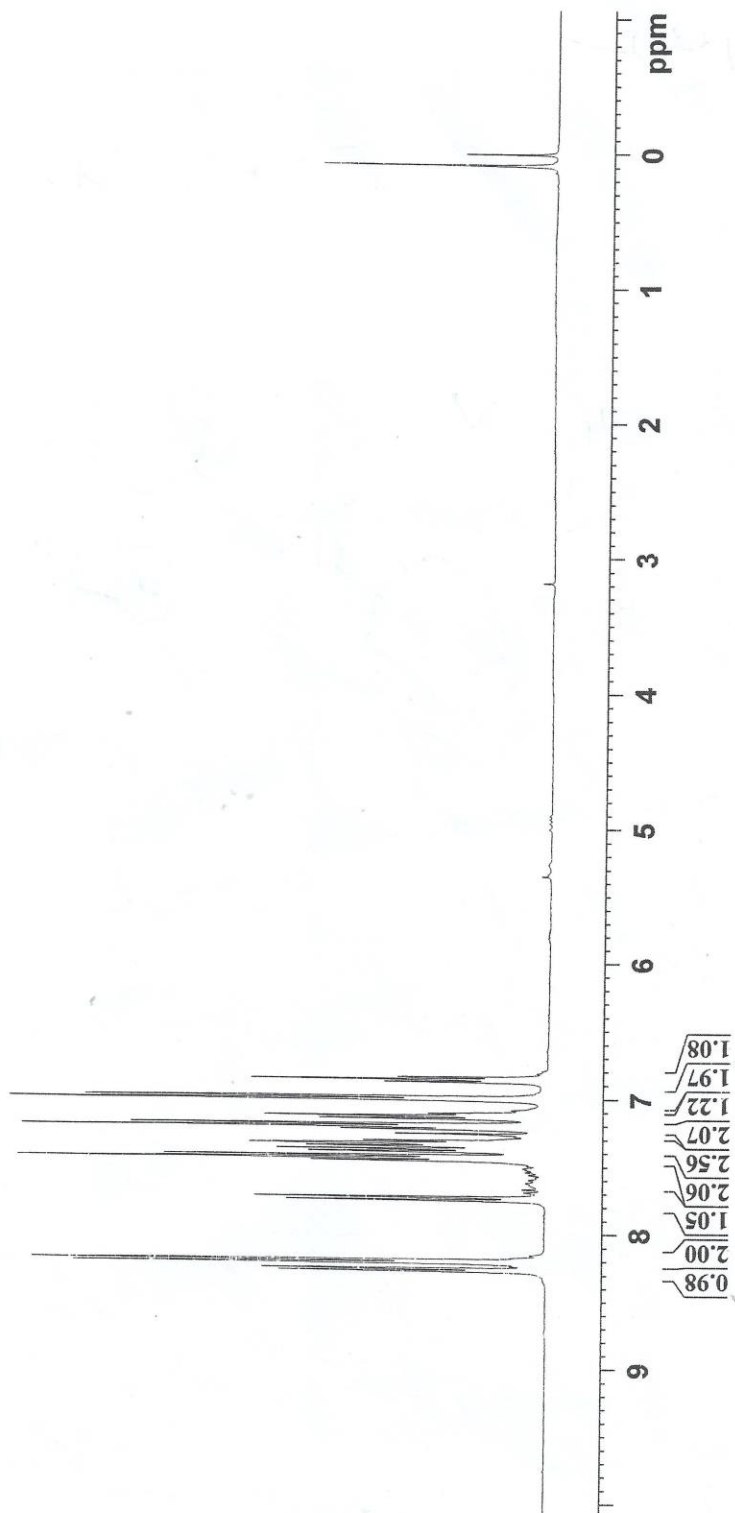


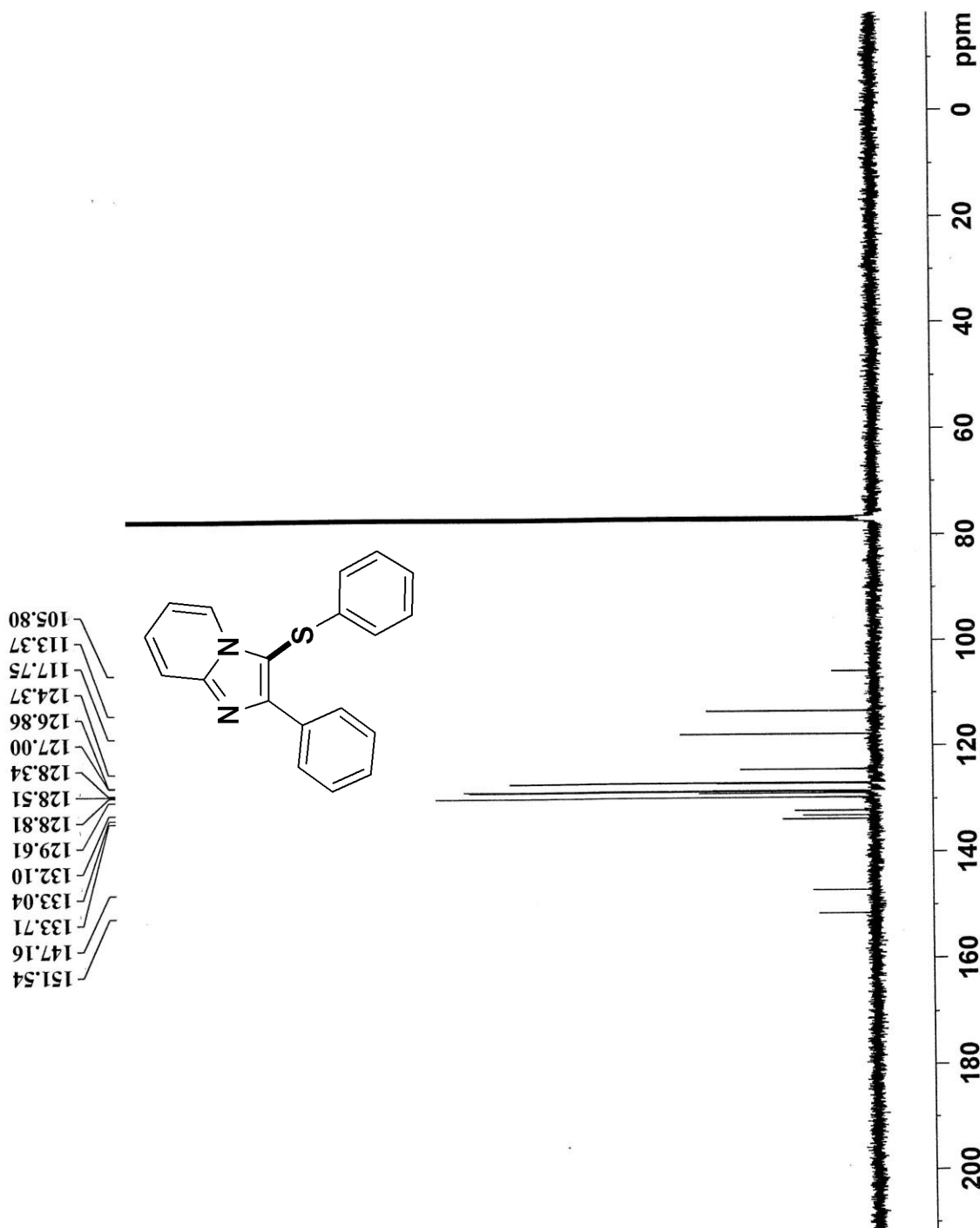


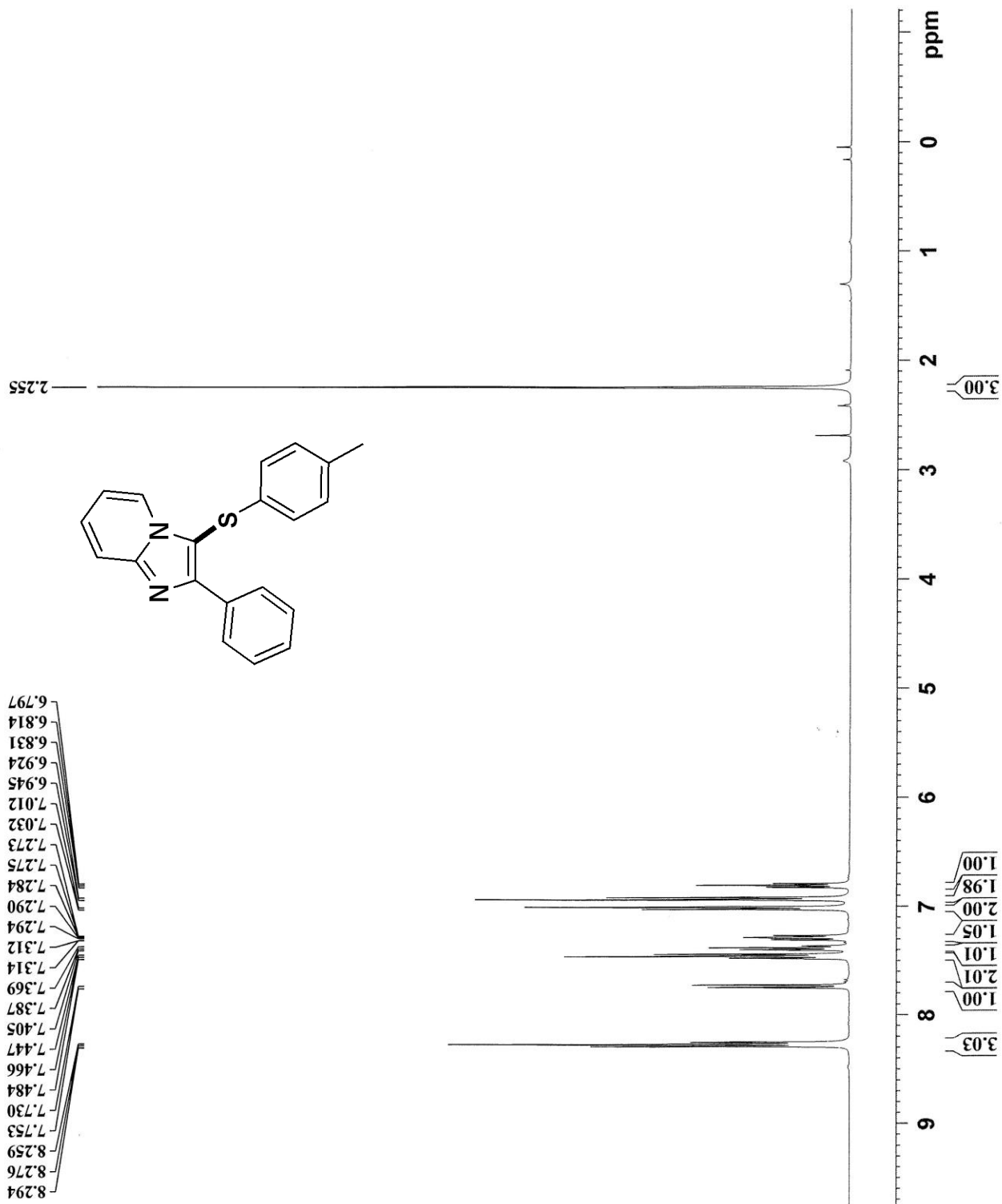


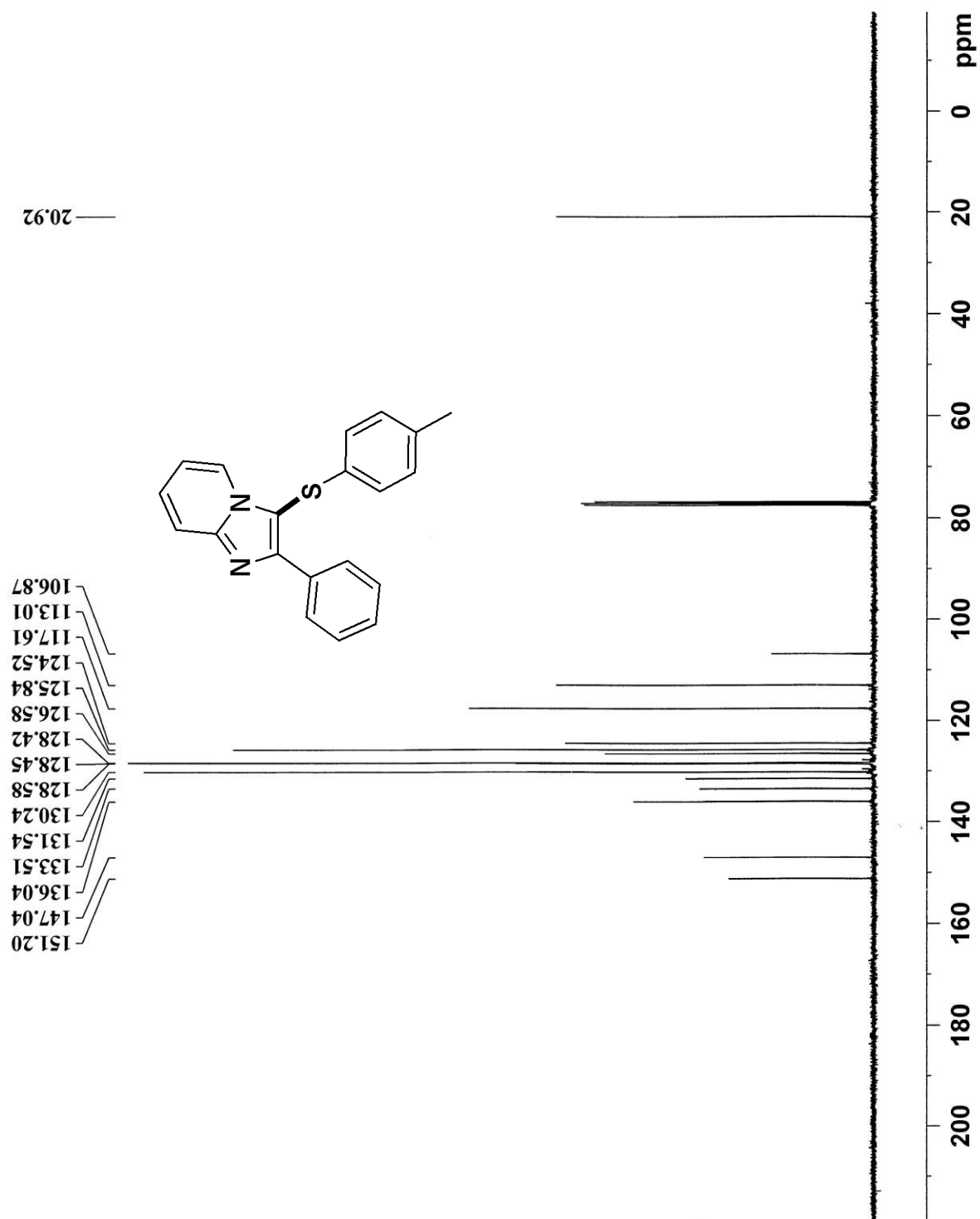


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