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## **Supporting Information**

### **Palladium-Catalyzed Regioselective Direct C-H Bond Alkoxy carbonylation of 2-Arylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridines**

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## 1. General Information

All commercially available chemicals and reagents were purchased from Merck or Sigma or commercial distributors and were used without further purification. 2-aryl-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridines were synthesized according to the literature<sup>[1]</sup>. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on precoated silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> plates. The products were purified by preparative column chromatography on silica gel (0.063–0.200 mm, Merck). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz) spectra were recorded on an Inova Varian 500 Advanced instrument in CDCl<sub>3</sub> or Methanol-*d*<sub>4</sub>. Electron ionization (EI) mass spectra were obtained using an Agilent 5975C VL MSD (ion source: EI+, 70 eV, 230 °C).

## 2. General Procedure for Synthesis of alkoxy-carbonylated Imidazo[1,2-a]pyridines:

A 10 mL microwave vial was charged with the 2-aryl-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine derivative (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), alcohol (0.2 mL), W(CO)<sub>6</sub> (50 mol-%), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (10 mol-%), Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.4 mmol, 2.0 eq.) and DCE (1.5 mL) in air. The reaction vessel was then sealed and immersed in an oil bath, which was preheated at 110 °C, for 16h. After this time, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and then diluted with ethyl acetate and filtered. The residue was purified by column chromatography (n-hexane/EtOAc, 10:3) to yield the desired product.

## 3. Spectral data

### 3.1. Ethyl 2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3aa)<sup>[2]</sup>

Pale yellow solid (88 %, 49.2 mg), mp 77-79 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.40 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.2, 153.6, 147, 138.6, 131.3, 130.1, 128.3, 128.3, 127.9, 117.4, 114, 111.8, 60.4, 21.4, 14.1. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 280 (M<sup>+</sup>, 58), 251 (17), 208 (100), 111 (58), 112 (54), 82 (13). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1679.8 cm<sup>-1</sup>

### 3.2. Ethyl 2-phenyl imidazo[1,2-a] pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ba)<sup>[2]</sup>

Pale yellow solid (89 %, 47.3 mg), mp 71-73 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 9.41 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.71-7.65 (m, 3H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.42 (m, 3H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.17 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 160.7, 152.6, 146.7, 133.9, 129.9, 128.9, 128.6, 128.1, 127.3, 116.1, 114.5, 111.9, 60.3, 12.9. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 266 (M<sup>+</sup>, 29), 194 (58), 115 (14), 89 (51), 78 (100), 63 (14). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1674.1 cm<sup>-1</sup>

### 3.3. Ethyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ca)

Yellow solid (67 %, 39.6 mg), mp 103-105 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 9.41 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.71–7.64 (m, 3H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 0H), 7.16 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.30 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 160.8, 160.5, 152.6, 146.7, 131.3, 131, 128.8, 128.2, 126, 115.9, 114.3, 112.7, 60.3, 54.4, 13. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 296 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 267 (21), 251 (18), 224 (78), 209 (42), 78 (20). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1683.5 cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (296.32): calcd. C 68.91, H 5.44, N 9.45; found C 68.60, H 5.47, N 9.49.

### 3.4. Ethyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3da)<sup>[3]</sup>

Yellow solid (71 %, 42.6 mg) mp 106-108 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 9.38 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.71–7.64 (m, 3H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 160.5, 151.2, 146.8, 134.6, 132.6, 131.5, 129, 128.2, 127.5, 116.2, 114.7, 112, 60.5, 12.9. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 302 (M+2, 14), 300 (M<sup>+</sup>, 39), 271 (20), 230 (30), 228 (100), 192 (43), 78 (34), 69 (49). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1668.3 cm<sup>-1</sup>

### 3.5. Ethyl 2-(3-bromophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ea)<sup>[3]</sup>

Yellow solid (85 %, 58.5 mg), mp 99-101 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.44 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.8, 151.6, 147, 136.3, 133.3, 131.6, 129.2, 128.8, 128.4, 128.3, 121.4, 117.5, 114.4, 112.1, 60.7, 14.0. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 346 (M+2, 9), 344 (M<sup>+</sup>, 10), 272 (18), 220 (12), 192 (22), 110 (93), 78 (100), 69 (58). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1681.7 cm<sup>-1</sup>

### 3.6. Ethyl 2-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3fa)<sup>[4]</sup>

Yellow oil, (68%, 44.3 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.38 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.01 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.93 (s, 6H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.1, 153.4, 149.6, 148.2, 147, 128.4, 127.9, 127, 123.3, 117.3, 113.9, 113.4, 111.7, 110.2, 60.4, 55.9, 55.9, 14.2. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 326 (M<sup>+</sup>, 91), 297 (19), 254 (14), 80 (51), 43 (100). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1683.9 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### 3.7. Ethyl 2-(thiophen-2-yl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ga)

Pale yellow solid (76 %, 41.3 mg), mp 74-76 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.24 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.7, 146.8, 146.6, 136.7, 129.8, 128.4, 128.1, 128.1, 127.3, 117, 113.9, 110.8, 60.8, 14.4. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 272 (M<sup>+</sup>, 81), 244 (15), 200 (100), 155 (15), 78 (45). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1684.3 cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (272.32): calcd. C 61.75, H 4.44, N 10.29; found C 60.92, H 4.39, N 10.34.

### 3.8. Ethyl 8-methyl-2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ha)

Pale yellow solid (73 %, 43 mg), mp 91-93 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.28 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.70 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.3, 153.3, 147.4, 138.3, 131.9, 130.2, 128.3, 127.4, 126.7, 126.1, 113.9, 112.2, 60.3, 21.4, 17.1, 14.1. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 294 (M<sup>+</sup>, 78), 265 (24), 249 (16), 222 (100), 91 (14). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1675.5 cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (294.35): calcd. C 73.45, H 6.16, N 9.52; found C 73.21, H 6.19, N 9.47.

### 3.9. Ethyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-8-methylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ia)

White solid (78%, 46.5 mg), mp 107-109 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.29 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.70 (s, 3H), 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.1 (d, *J* = 247.7 Hz), 161.1, 152.1, 147.3, 132.1 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 130.9 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 127.5, 126.9, 126.1, 114.5 (d, *J* = 21.6 Hz), 114.2, 112.3, 60.4, 17.1, 14. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 298 (M<sup>+</sup>, 72), 269 (13), 253 (25), 226 (100), 107 (10), 92 (12). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1675.6 cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (298.32): calcd. C 68.45, H 5.07, N 9.39; found C 68.81, H 5.13, N 9.31.

### 3.10. Ethyl 7-methyl-2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ja)

Pale yellow solid (77 %, 45.2 mg), mp 83-85 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 9.27 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (s, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (dd, *J* = 7.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ 160.9, 152.8, 147.1, 140.8, 138.7, 131, 129.8, 127.9, 127.3, 116.8, 114.6, 111.5, 60.2, 20, 19.9, 13. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 294 (M<sup>+</sup>, 90), 265 (27), 222 (100), 206 (17), 110 (15), 91 (18), 69 (30). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1683.9 cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (294.35): calcd. C 73.45, H 6.16, N 9.52; found C 73.77, H 6.20, N 9.56.

### 3.11. Ethyl 6-methyl-2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ka)<sup>[5]</sup>

White solid (71 %, 41.7 mg), mp 85-87 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.25 (s, 1H), 7.71-7.64 (m, 3H), 7.32-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 4.33 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 6H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.3, 153.4, 146.1, 138.5, 131.5, 130.9, 130.1, 128.3, 126.2, 123.9, 116.6, 111.5, 60.4, 21.4, 18.5, 14.1. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 294 (M<sup>+</sup>, 92), 279 (25), 249 (50), 222 (100), 119 (21), 84 (22). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1680.3 cm<sup>-1</sup>

### 3.12. Ethyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-7-methylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3la)

Yellow solid (64 %, 39.6 mg), mp 79-81 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.26 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.3, 160.1, 153.5, 147.7, 139.2, 131.6, 127.6, 127.4, 127.0, 116.4, 116.0, 113.0, 60.3, 55.3, 21.4, 14.2. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 310 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 281 (28), 223 (73), 135 (72), 77 (27).

IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1677.2 cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (310.35): calcd. C 69.66, H 5.85, N 9.03; found C 69.43, H 5.88, N 9.09.

### 3.13. Ethyl 7-chloro-2-(3-methoxyphenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ma)

Off-white solid (82%, 54.1 mg), mp 87-89 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.53 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dt, *J* = 9.5, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.03-6.98 (m, 1H), 4.35 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.9, 159, 153.7, 145.3, 135.2, 129.2, 128.6, 126.3, 122.8, 122.4, 117.7, 115.5, 114.9, 112.5, 60.8, 55.4, 14. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 332 (M+2, 35), 330 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 303 (12), 301 (33), 287

(14), 285 (23), 259 (40), 257 (83), 228 (47), 179 (17), 112 (23), 76 (19). IR  $\nu_{(C=O)}$  1674.3  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3$  (330.77): calcd. C 61.73, H 4.57, N 8.47; found C 61.27, H 4.61, N 8.42.

### 3.14. Ethyl 7-chloro-2-(4-chlorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3na)<sup>[6]</sup>

White solid (87%, 58.1 mg), mp 127-129 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  9.53 (s, 1H), 7.74 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d,  $J = 9.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H), 4.36 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 1.29 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  160.6, 152.7, 145.4, 135, 132.5, 131.5, 129.4, 127.9, 126.4, 122.6, 117.7, 112.4, 60.9, 14.1. MS (IE)  $m/z$  (relative intensity %) 338 (M+4, 6), 336 (M+2, 31), 334 (M<sup>+</sup>, 47), 307 (9), 305 (14), 291 (9), 289 (14), 266 (11), 264 (66), 262 (100), 226 (18), 191 (10), 112 (17), 76 (10). IR  $\nu_{(C=O)}$  1680.2  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

### 3.15. Methyl 2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ab)

Yellow solid (91 %, 48.4 mg), mp 123-125 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  9.28 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.21 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.06 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  161.1, 152.7, 146.7, 138.7, 130.8, 129.7, 128.8, 128.1, 128, 116.0, 114.4, 111.5, 50.3, 20. MS (IE)  $m/z$  (relative intensity %) 266 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 251 (56), 235 (28), 208 (75), 192 (16), 78 (17). IR  $\nu_{(C=O)}$  1685.3  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  (266.29): calcd. C 72.16, H 5.30, N 10.52; found C 72.39, H 5.34, N 10.58.

### 3.16. Propyl 2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ac)

Yellow oil (83 %, 48.8 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  9.40 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.02 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 1H), 4.20 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.60 (h,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 0.79 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.3, 153.5, 146.9, 138.6, 131.3, 130, 128.3, 128.3, 128.1, 117.2, 114.1, 111.9, 66.2, 21.8, 21.4, 10.4. MS (IE)  $m/z$  (relative intensity %) 294 (M<sup>+</sup>, 40), 251 (11), 208 (100), 110 (47), 78 (14). IR  $\nu_{(C=O)}$  1683.2  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  (294.35): calcd. C 73.45, H 6.16, N 9.52; found C 73.26, H 6.13, N 9.45.

### 3.17. Phenethyl 2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ad)

Pale yellow solid (87 %, 62 mg), mp 87-89 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  9.33 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.20 (m, 5H), 7.06 (d,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 2H), 6.98 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.53 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 2.96 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.1, 154, 147.2, 138.7, 137.8, 131.6, 130.2, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 127.9, 126.5, 117.4, 114, 111.7, 65.1, 34.9, 21.5. MS (IE)  $m/z$  (relative intensity %) 356 (M<sup>+</sup>, 88), 252 (54), 235 (33), 208 (100), 104 (20), 78 (17). IR  $\nu_{(C=O)}$  1678.2  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  (356.42): calcd. C 77.51, H 5.66, N 7.86; found C 77.84, H 5.71, N 7.81.

### 3.18. Isopentyl 2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ae)

Pale yellow solid (76%, 49 mg), mp. 77-79 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  9.41 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.40 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.00 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.27 (t,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.50-1.36 (m, 3H), 0.82 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.3, 153.9, 147.1, 138.4, 131.7, 130, 128.3, 128.3, 127.8, 117.4, 113.9, 111.9, 62.9, 37.1, 24.7, 22.3, 21.4. MS (IE)  $m/z$  (relative intensity %) 322 (M<sup>+</sup>, 83), 252 (40), 235 (27), 208 (100), 192 (23), 119 (38), 91 (20), 78 (22). IR  $\nu_{(C=O)}$  1674.4  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  (322.40): calcd. C 74.51, H 6.88, N 8.69; found C 74.79, H 6.84, N 8.65.

### 3.19. 3-cyclohexylpropyl 2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3af)

Colorless oil (83%, 62.4 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  9.43 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.41 (dd,  $J = 8.9, 6.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.01 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 1H), 4.23 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.70-1.56 (m, 8H), 1.22-1.08 (m, 4H), 1.06-0.99 (m, 2H), 0.84-0.77 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.4, 153.8, 147.1, 138.4, 131.7, 130, 128.3, 127.8, 117.4, 113.9, 111.9, 65, 37.3, 33.6, 33.2, 26.6, 26.3, 25.9, 21.4. MS (IE)  $m/z$  (relative intensity %) 376 (M<sup>+</sup>, 31), 252 (22), 208 (100), 80 (29). IR  $\nu_{(C=O)}$  1681.2  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  (376.49): calcd. C 76.56, H 7.50, N 7.44; found C 76.87, H 7.57, N 7.52.

### 3.20. Isopropyl 2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ag)

Yellow oil (69%, 40.5 mg).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  9.38 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.57 - 7.49 (m, 3H), 7.24 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.12 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 1H), 5.16 (hept,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.17 (d,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  158.8, 151.1, 145, 137.1, 129.5, 128.4, 127.2, 126.5, 126.3, 114.5, 112.8, 110.5, 66.8, 19.1, 19.1, 18.5. MS (IE)  $m/z$  (relative intensity %) 294 (M<sup>+</sup>, 81), 252 (28), 235 (30), 208 (100), 43 (9.2). IR  $\nu_{(C=O)}$  1679.4  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$  (294.35): calcd. C 73.45, H 6.16, N 9.52; found C 73.68, H 5.21, N 9.55.

### 3.21. Cyclopentyl 2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ah)

Pale yellow solid (71 %, 45.4 mg), mp 90-92 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.44 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 5.41 (tt, *J* = 5.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.88–1.79 (m, 2H), 1.73–1.65 (m, 2H), 1.57–1.48 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161, 153.7, 147, 138.4, 131.8, 130, 128.3, 128.2, 127.7, 117.4, 113.9, 112.2, 77.6, 32.6, 23.5, 21.4. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 320 (M<sup>+</sup>, 86), 252 (71), 235 (22), 208 (100), 192 (28), 78 (20). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1676.7 cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (320.39): calcd. C 74.98, H 6.29, N 8.74; found C 74.63, H 6.22, N 8.82.

### 3.22. Cyclohexyl 2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ai)<sup>[7]</sup>

White solid (65 %, 43.4 mg), mp 105-107 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.42 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (tt, *J* = 8.7, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.89–1.83 (m, 2H), 1.62–1.51 (m, 2H), 1.44–1.28 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.8, 153.7, 147, 138.4, 131.7, 130.1, 128.4, 128.3, 127.7, 117.4, 113.9, 112.2, 73.2, 31.5, 25.3, 23.5, 21.4. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 334 (M<sup>+</sup>, 83), 252 (98), 208 (100), 115 (55), 78 (43). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1673.8 cm<sup>-1</sup>

### 3.23. Pentan-2-yl 2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3aj)

Yellow oil (60 %, 38.6 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.43 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (q, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.55 – 1.48 (m, 1H), 1.46 – 1.38 (m, 1H), 1.25 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 1.23 – 1.14 (m, 2H), 0.84 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.9, 153.8, 147, 138.3, 131.7, 130.1, 128.3, 128.1, 127.7, 117.4, 113.8, 112.2, 71.4, 38, 21.4, 19.9, 18.5, 13.9. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 322 (M<sup>+</sup>, 93), 308 (35), 252 (98), 235(36), 208 (100), 192 (43), 78 (30). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1677.9 cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (322.40): calcd. C 74.51, H 6.88, N 8.69; found C 74.28, H 6.95, N 8.62.

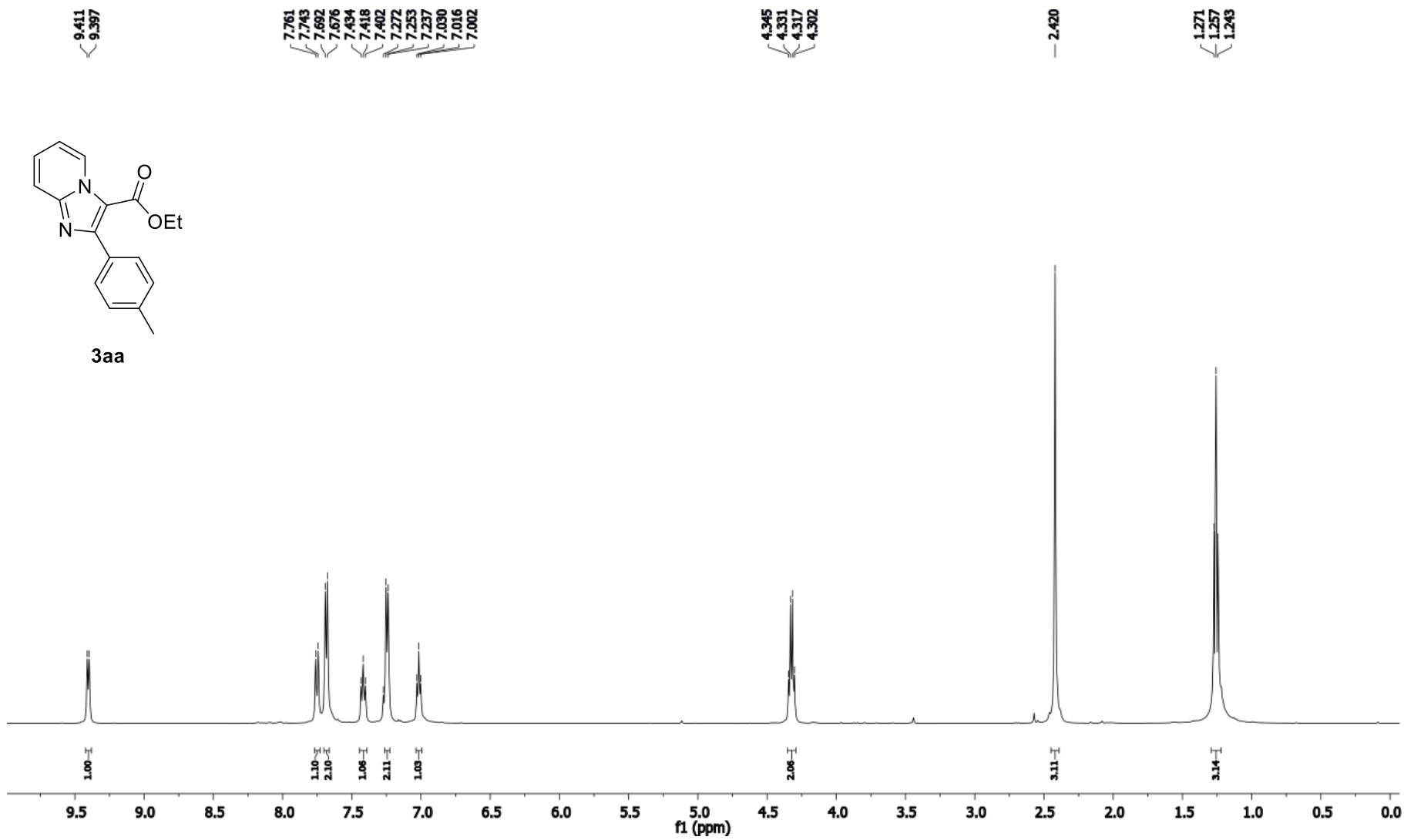
### 3.24. *tert*-butyl 2-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridine-3-carboxylate (3ak)

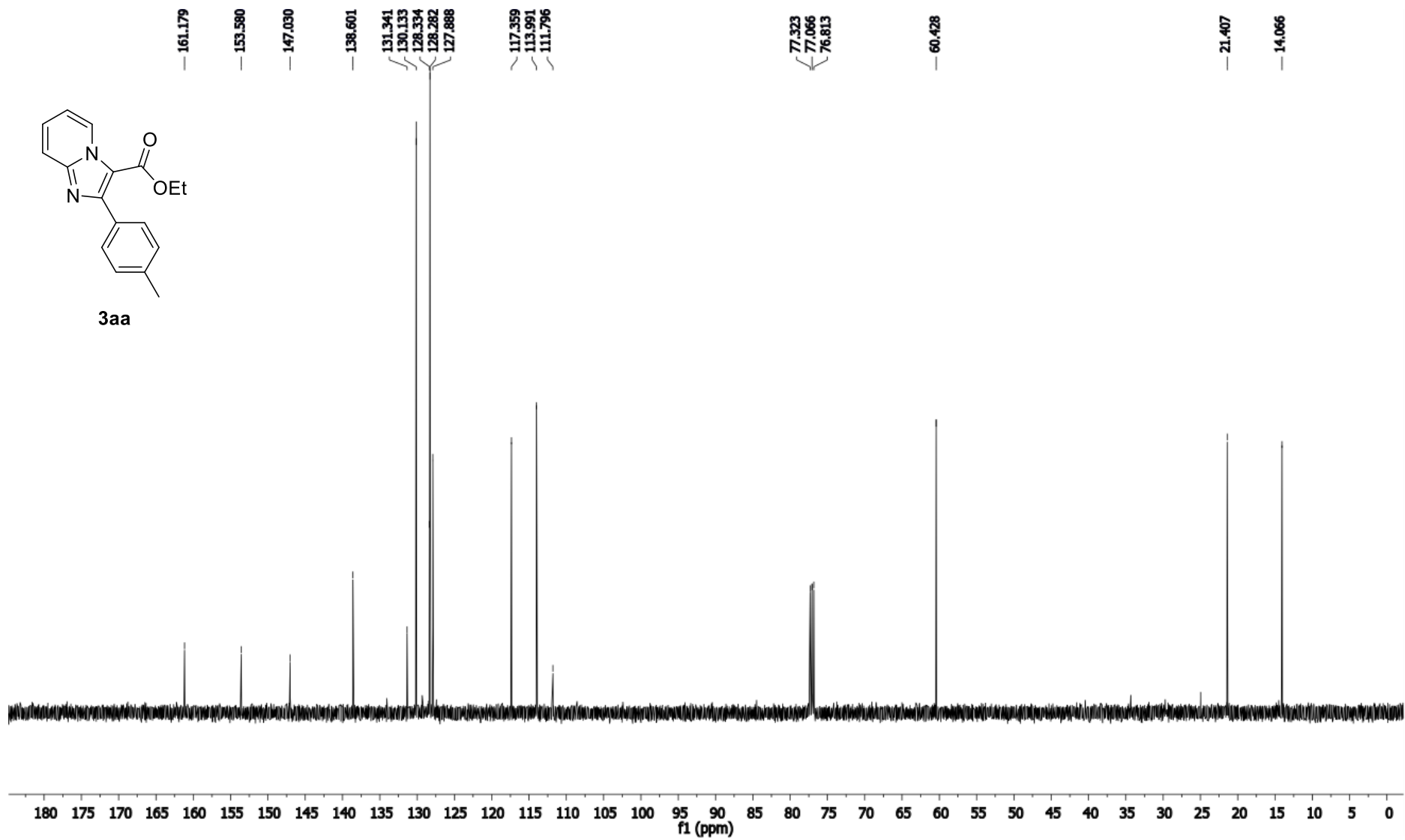
Yellow solid (57 %, 35.1 mg), mp 83-85 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.35 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 1.43 (s, 9 H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 160.6, 153.2, 146.7, 138.2, 131.9, 130.1, 128.2, 127.4, 117.3, 113.6, 112.9, 81.8, 28.3, 21.4. MS (IE) *m/z* (relative intensity %) 308 (M<sup>+</sup>, 18), 252 (49), 208 (100), 192 (20), 119 (22), 57 (35). IR ν<sub>(C=O)</sub> 1679 cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (308.37): calcd. C 74.00, H 6.54, N 9.08; found C 74.29, H 6.59, N 9.14.

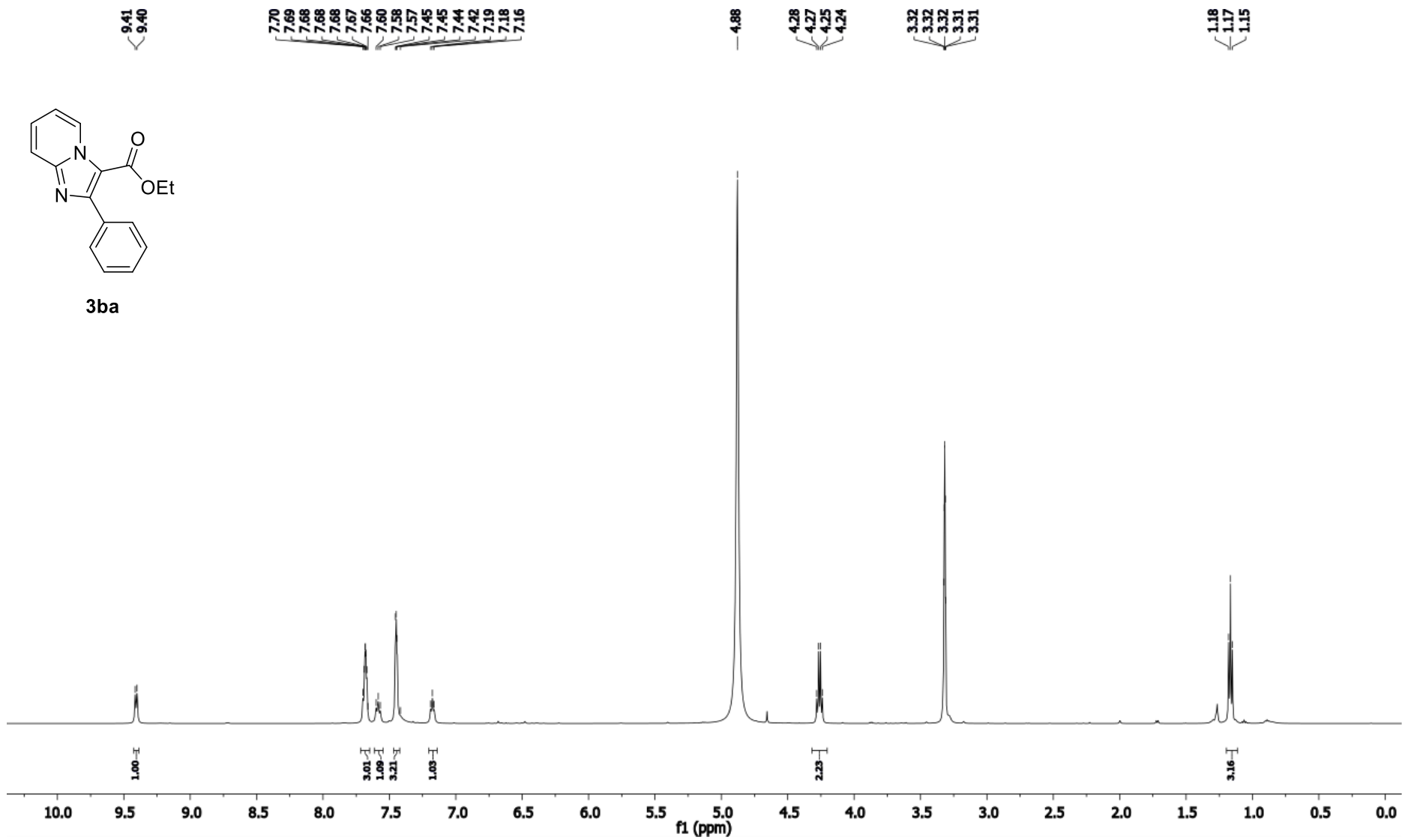
## 4. References

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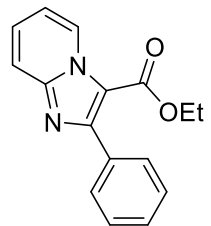
## 5. Copies of $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra



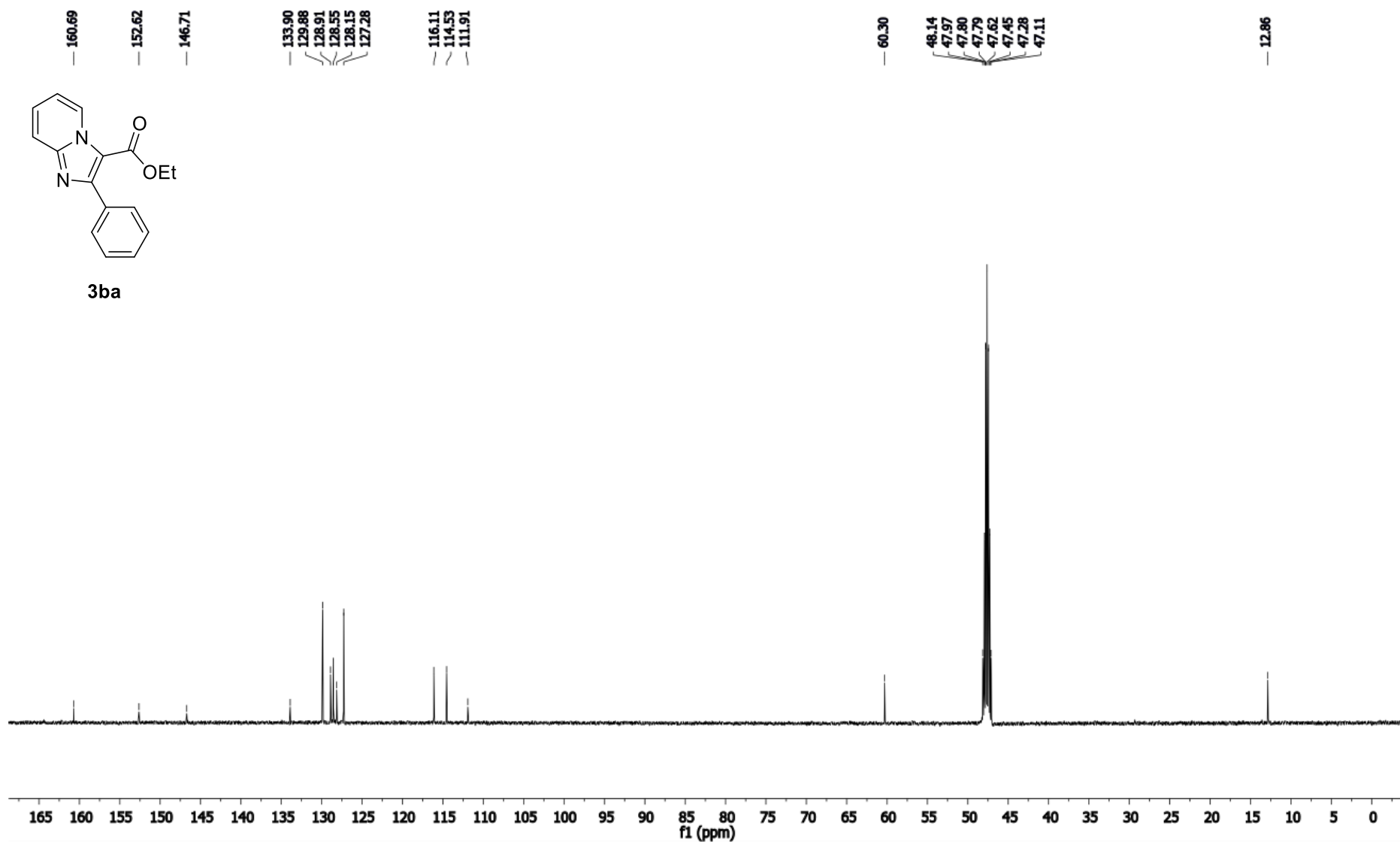


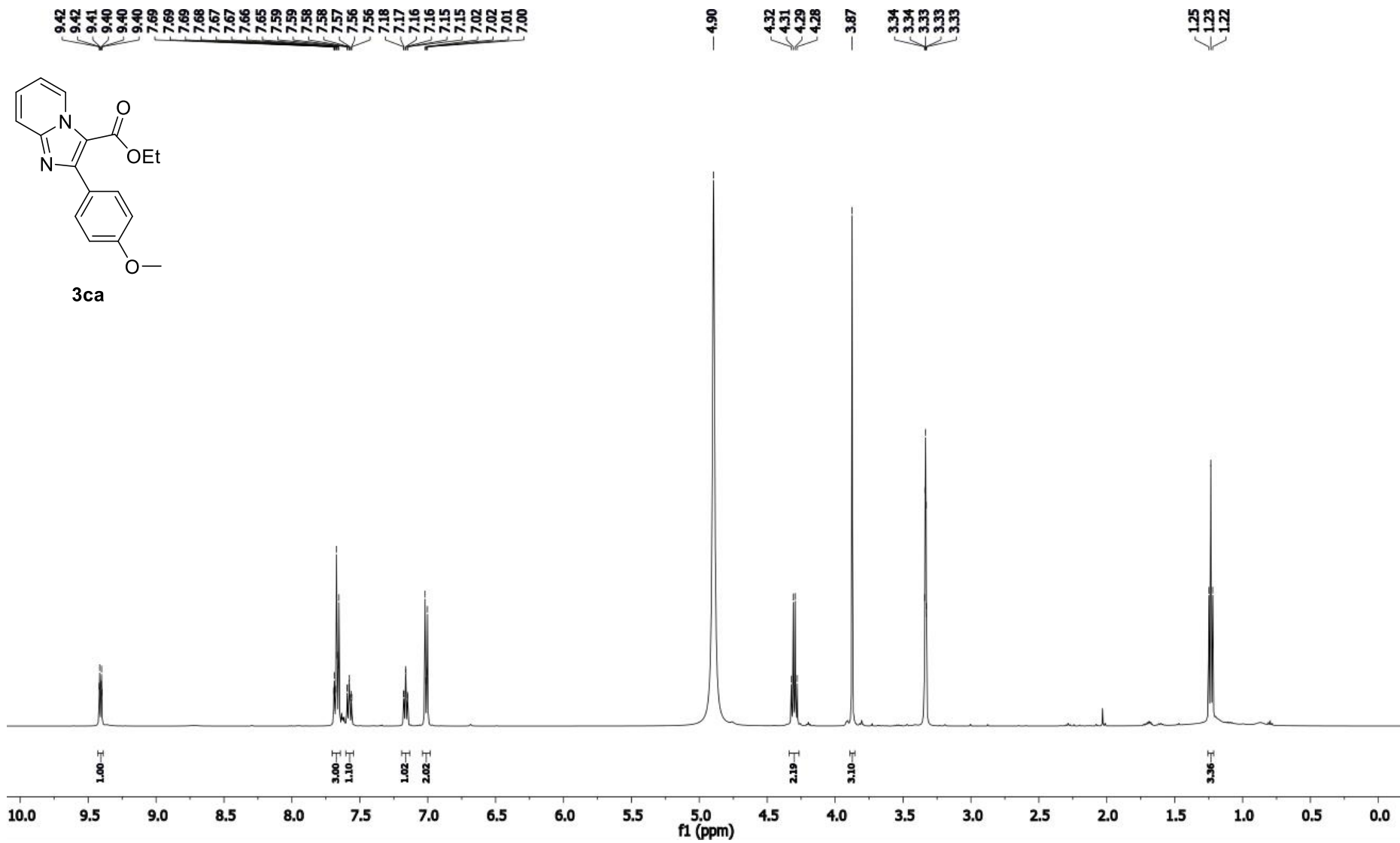


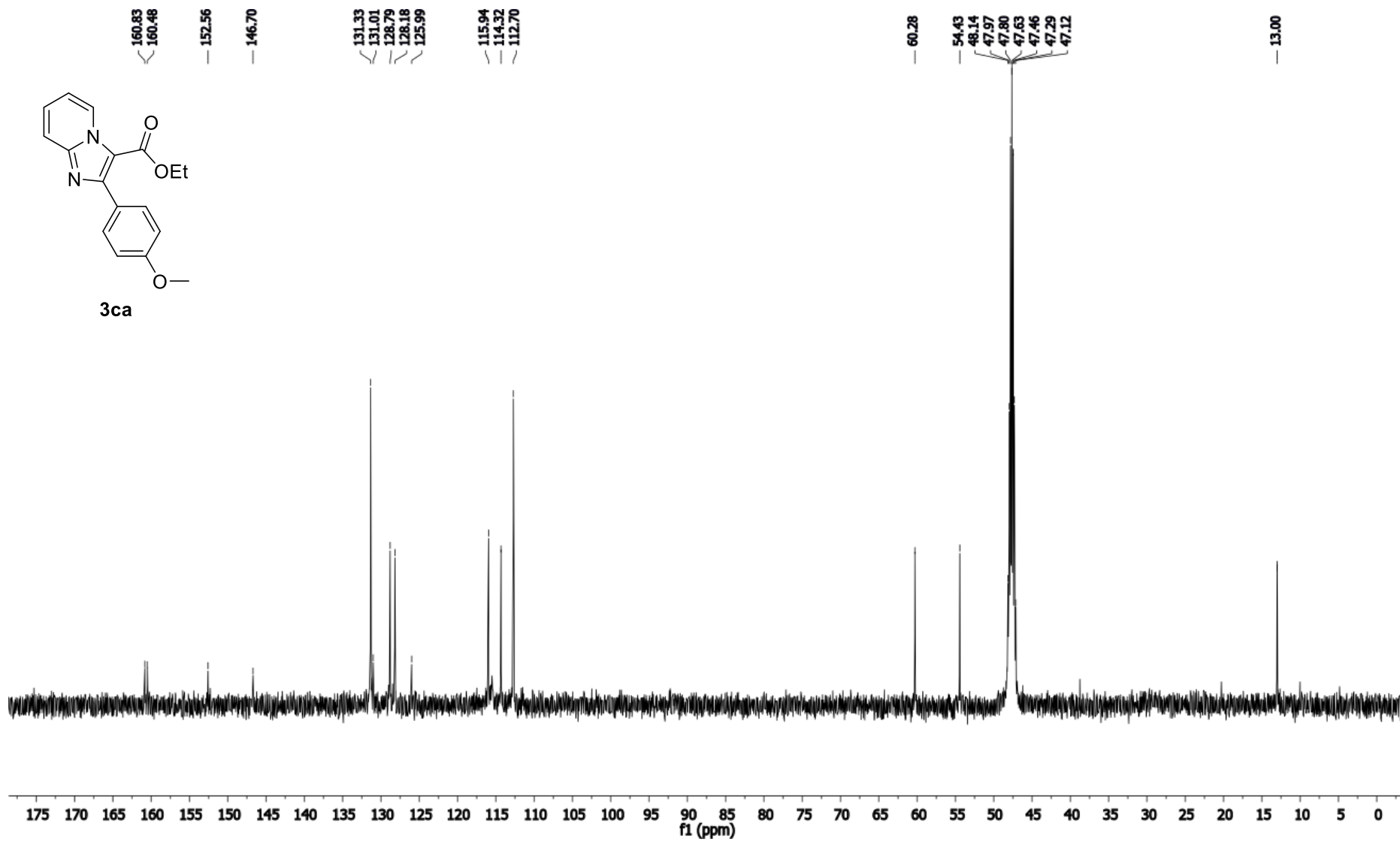


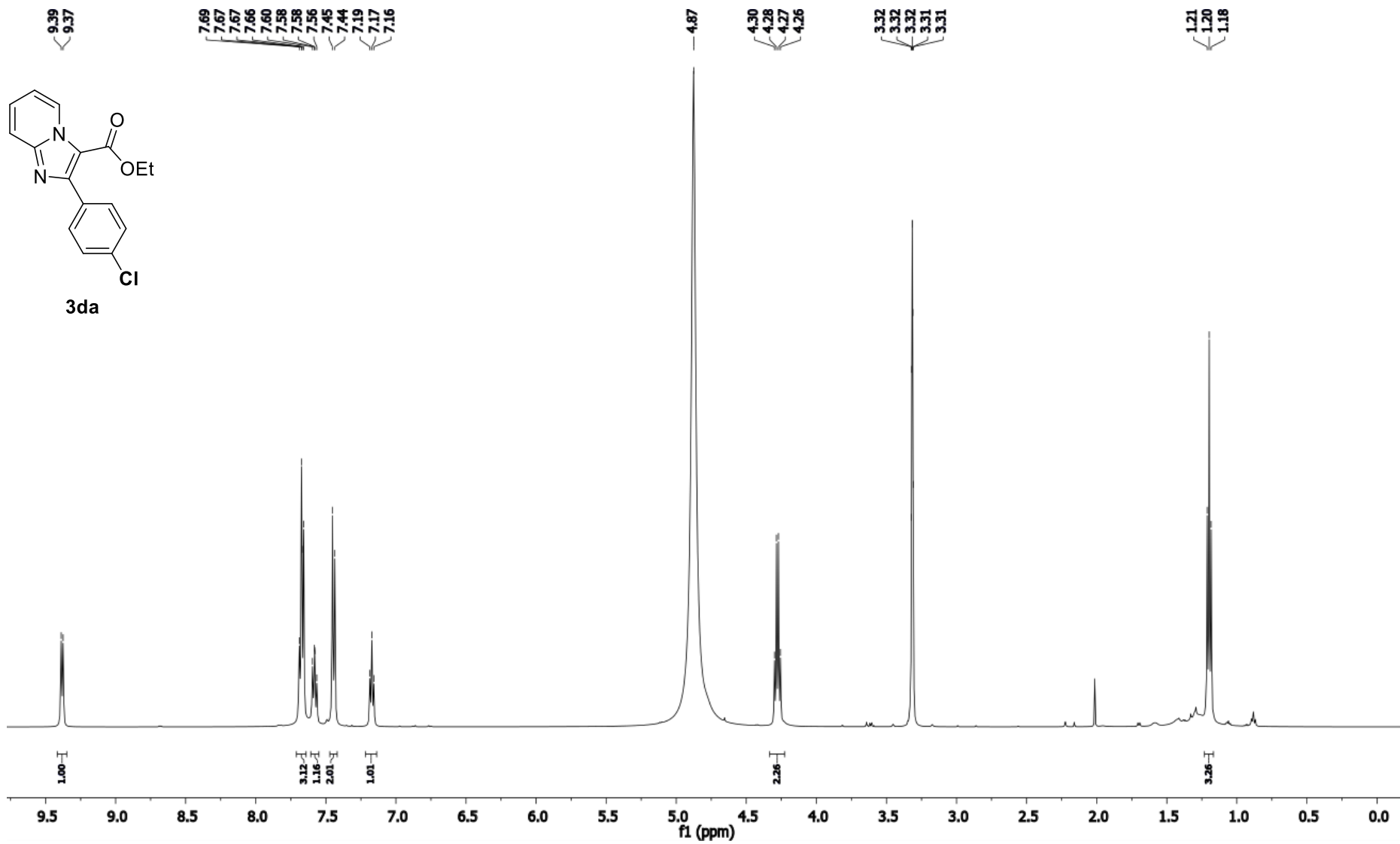


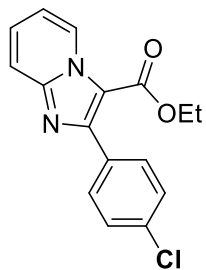
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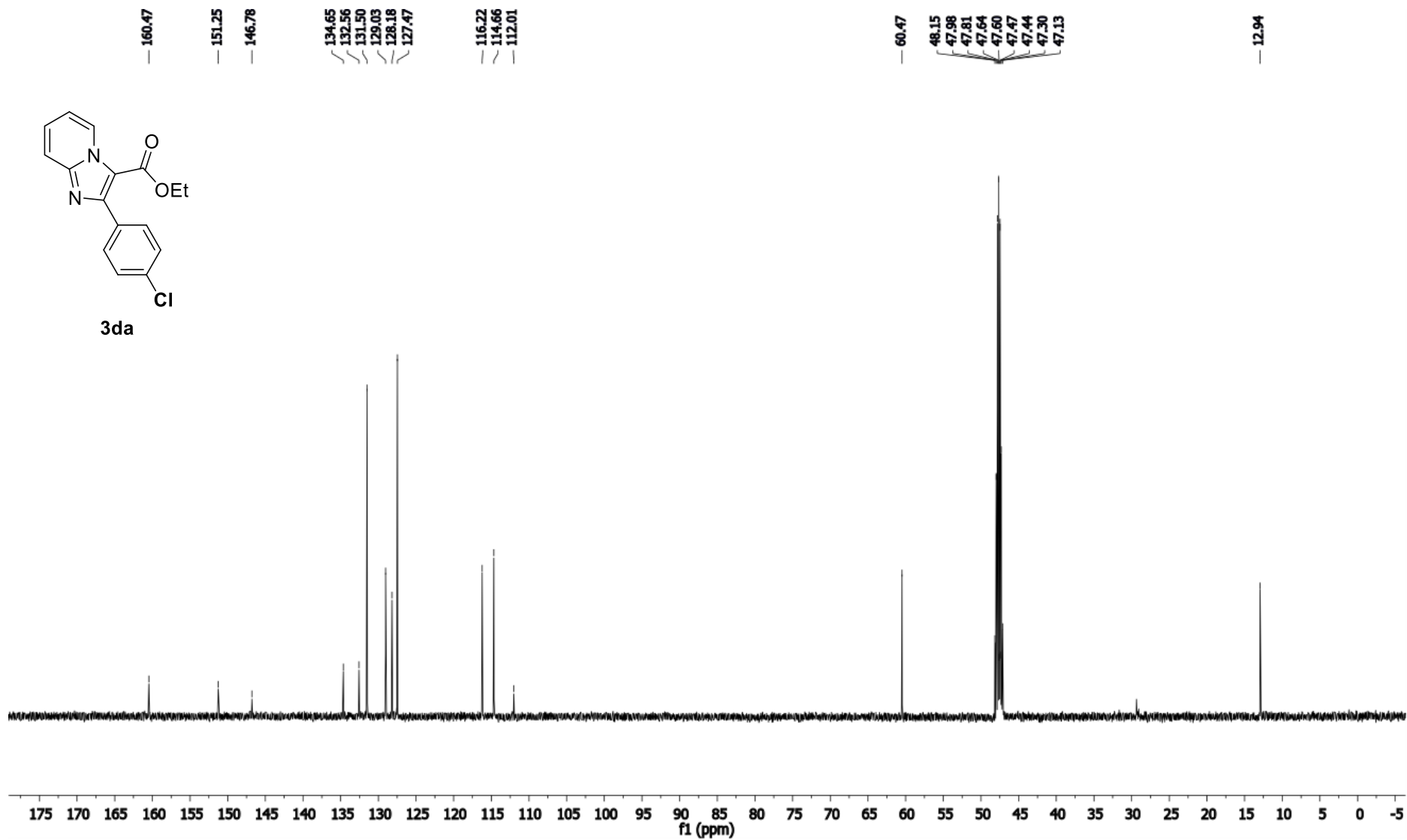


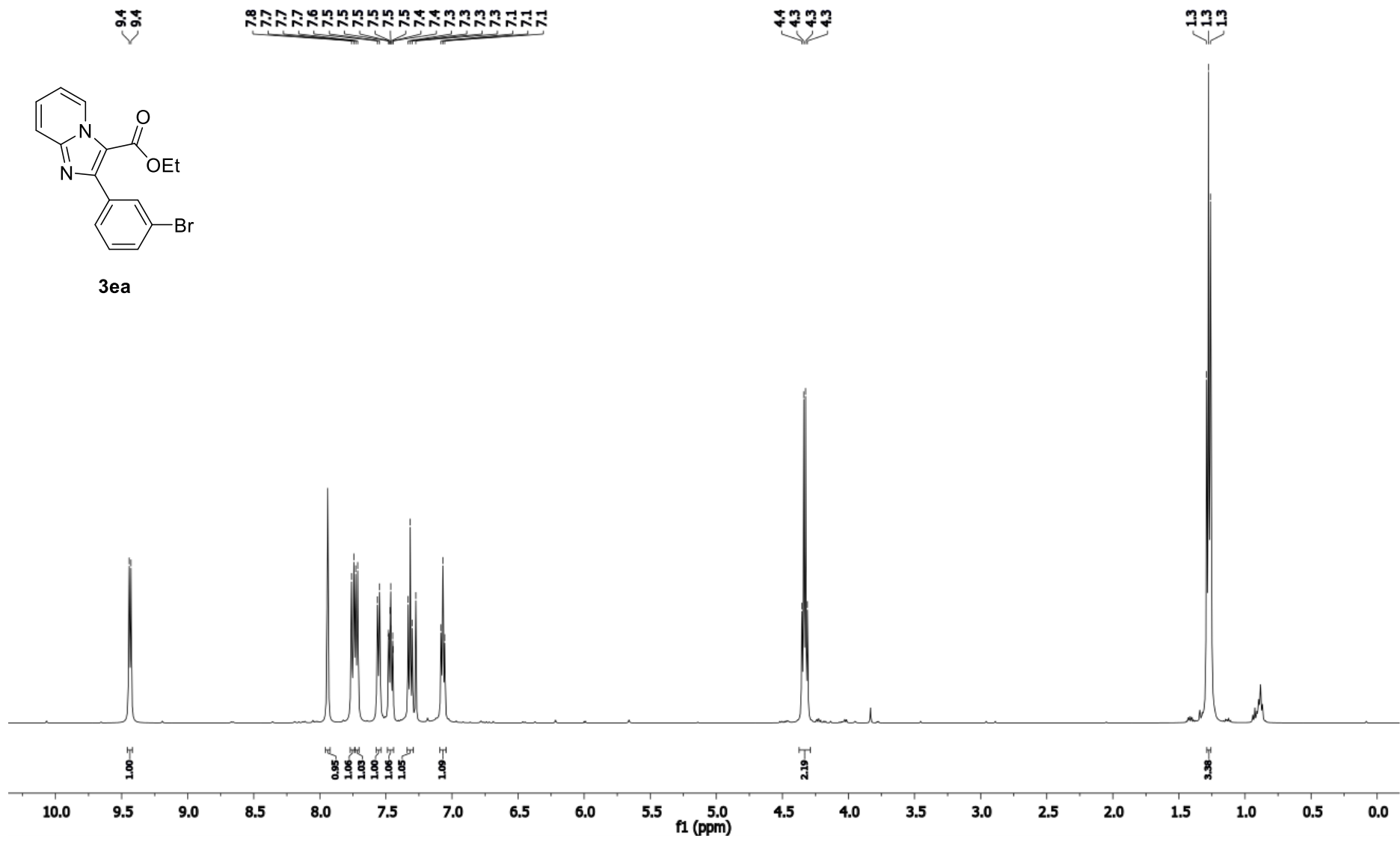


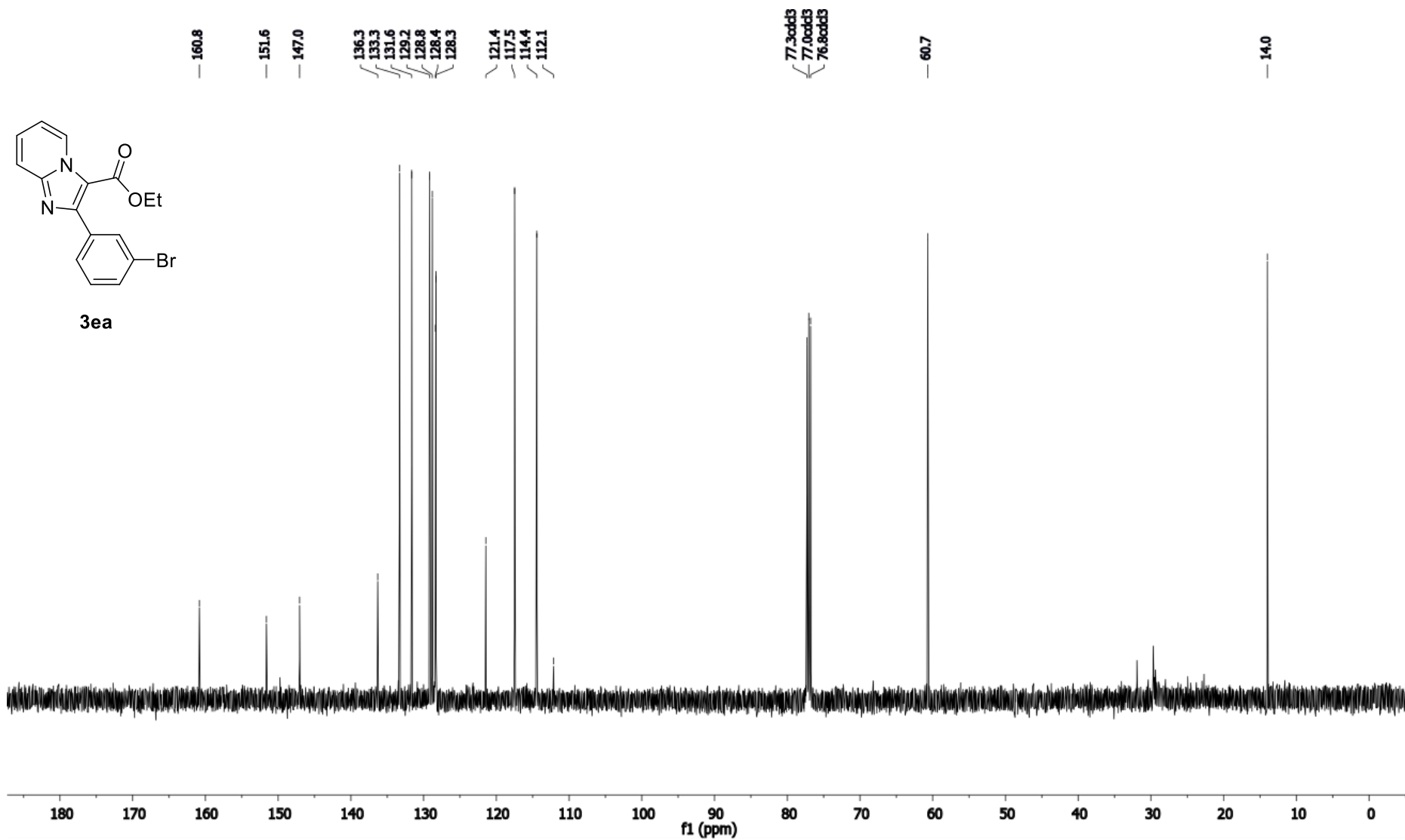


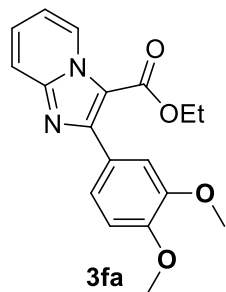


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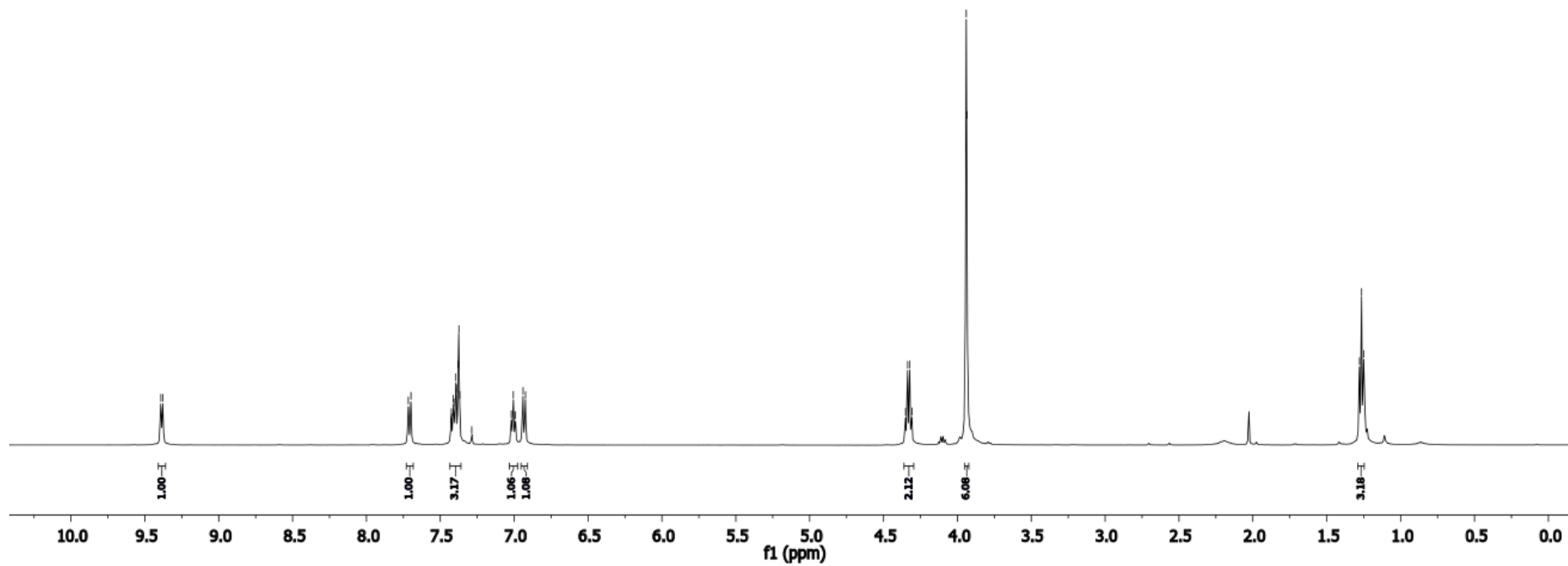


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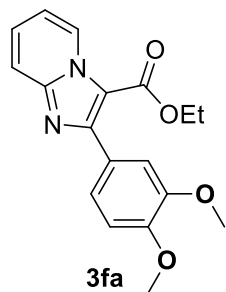
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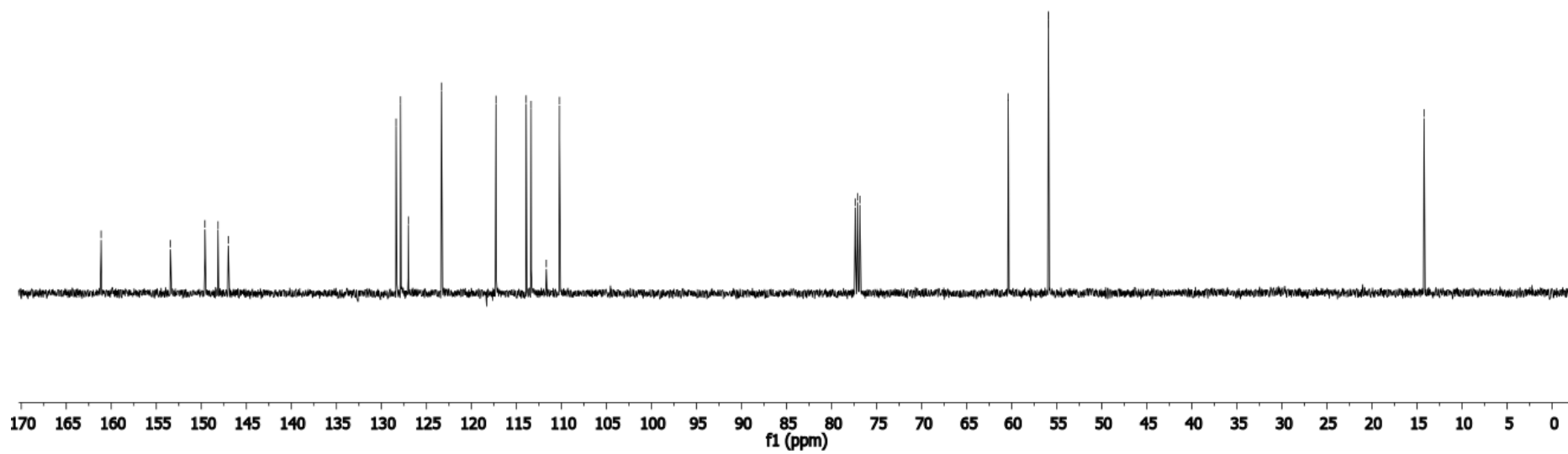
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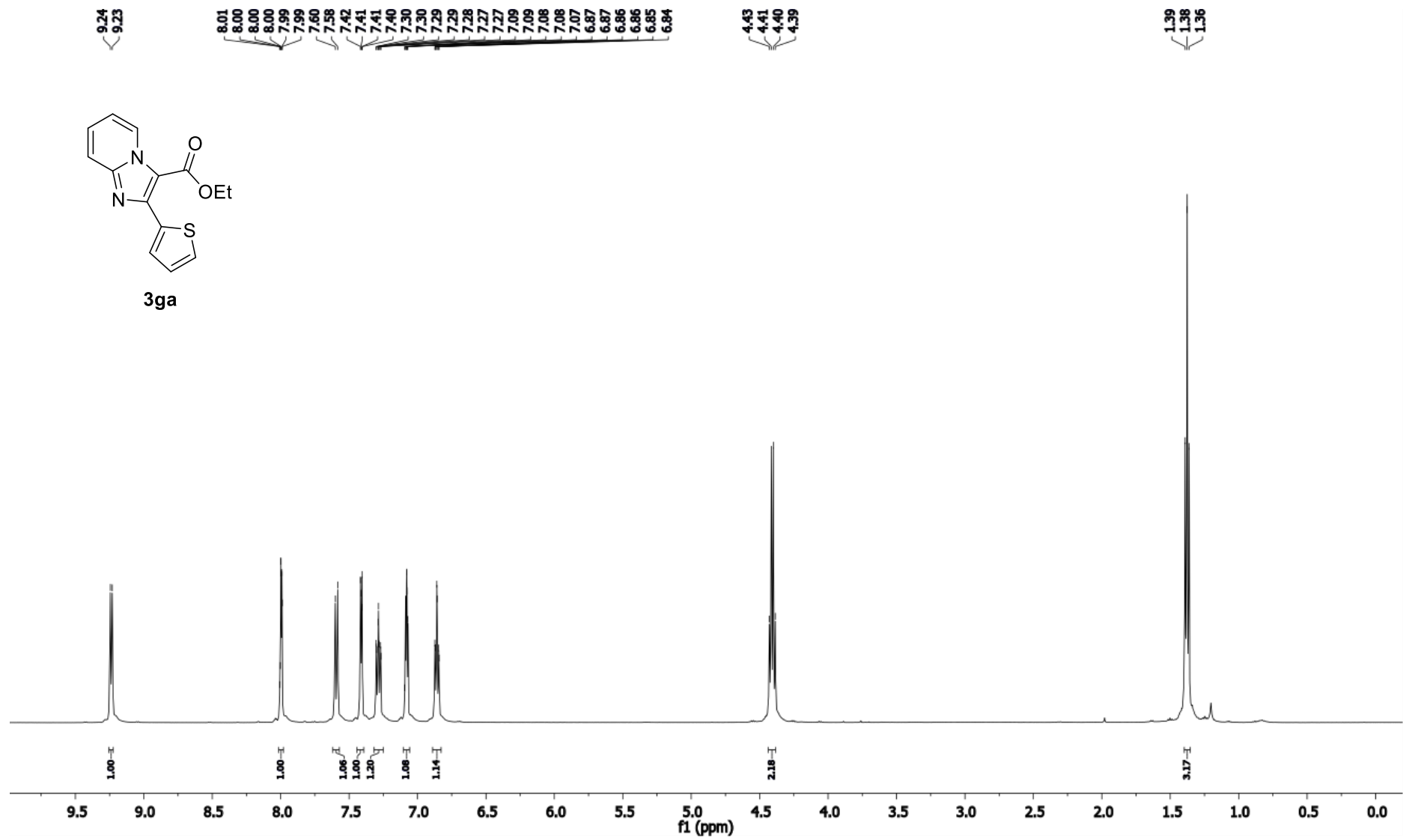
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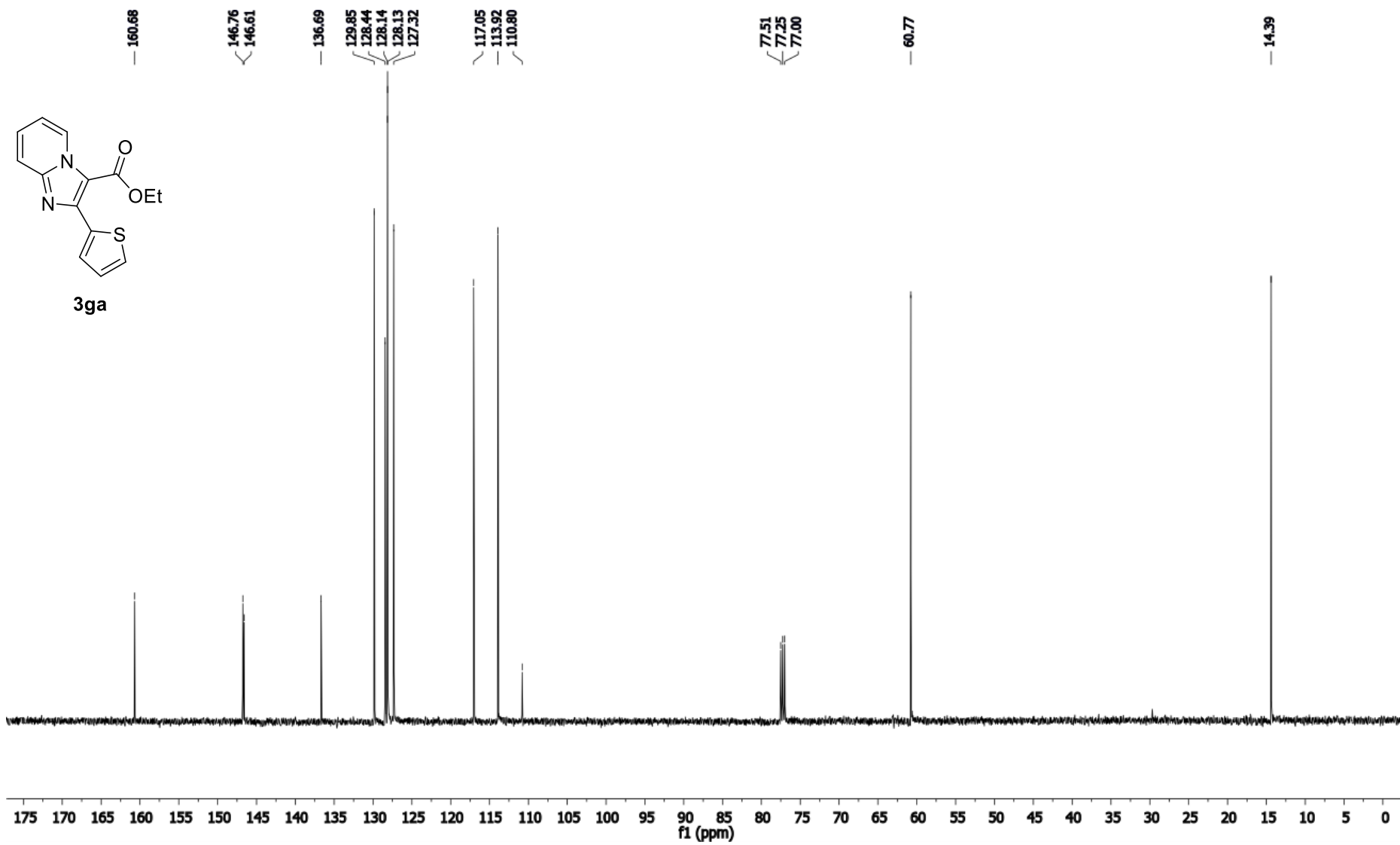
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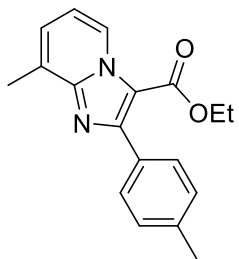
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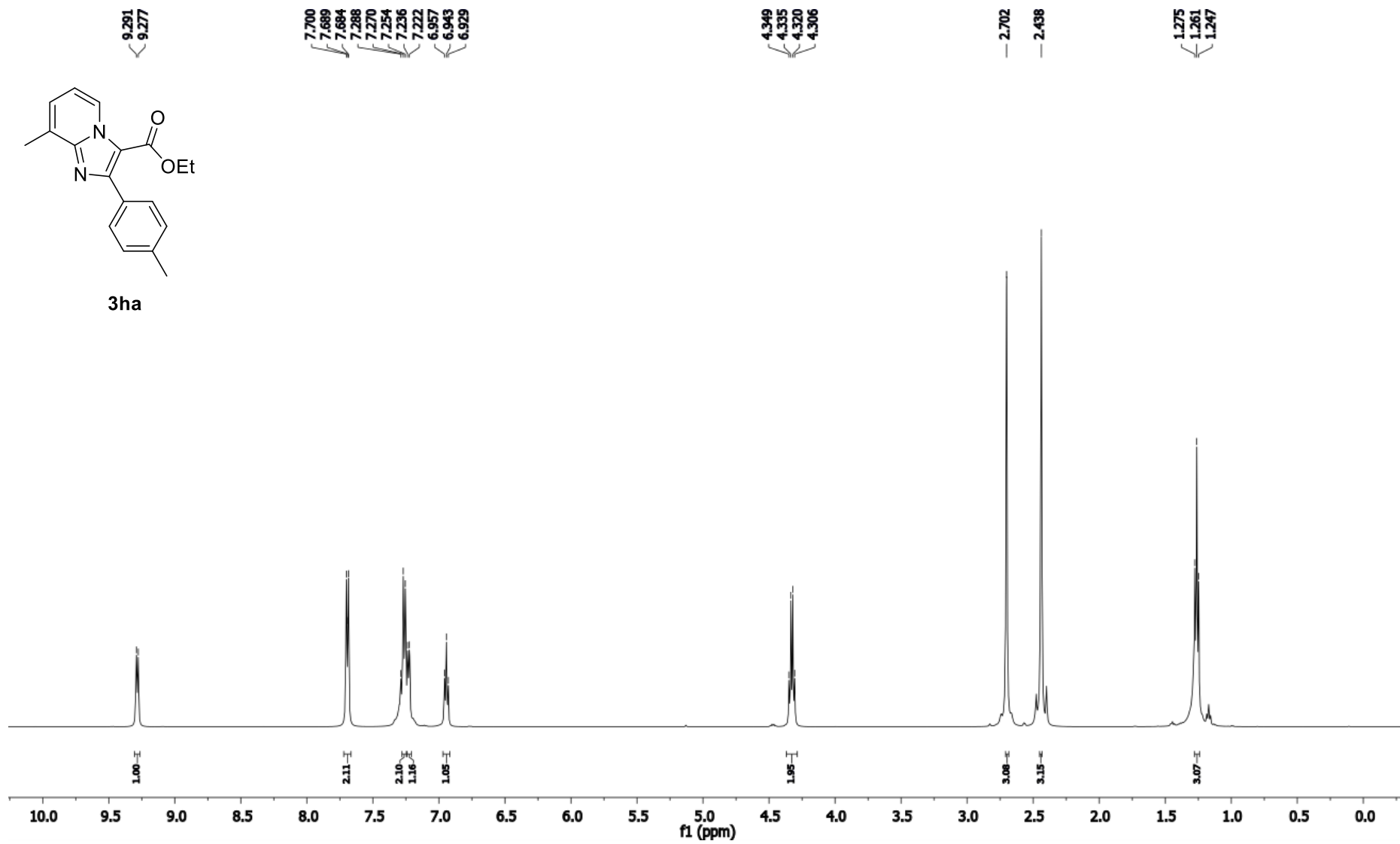


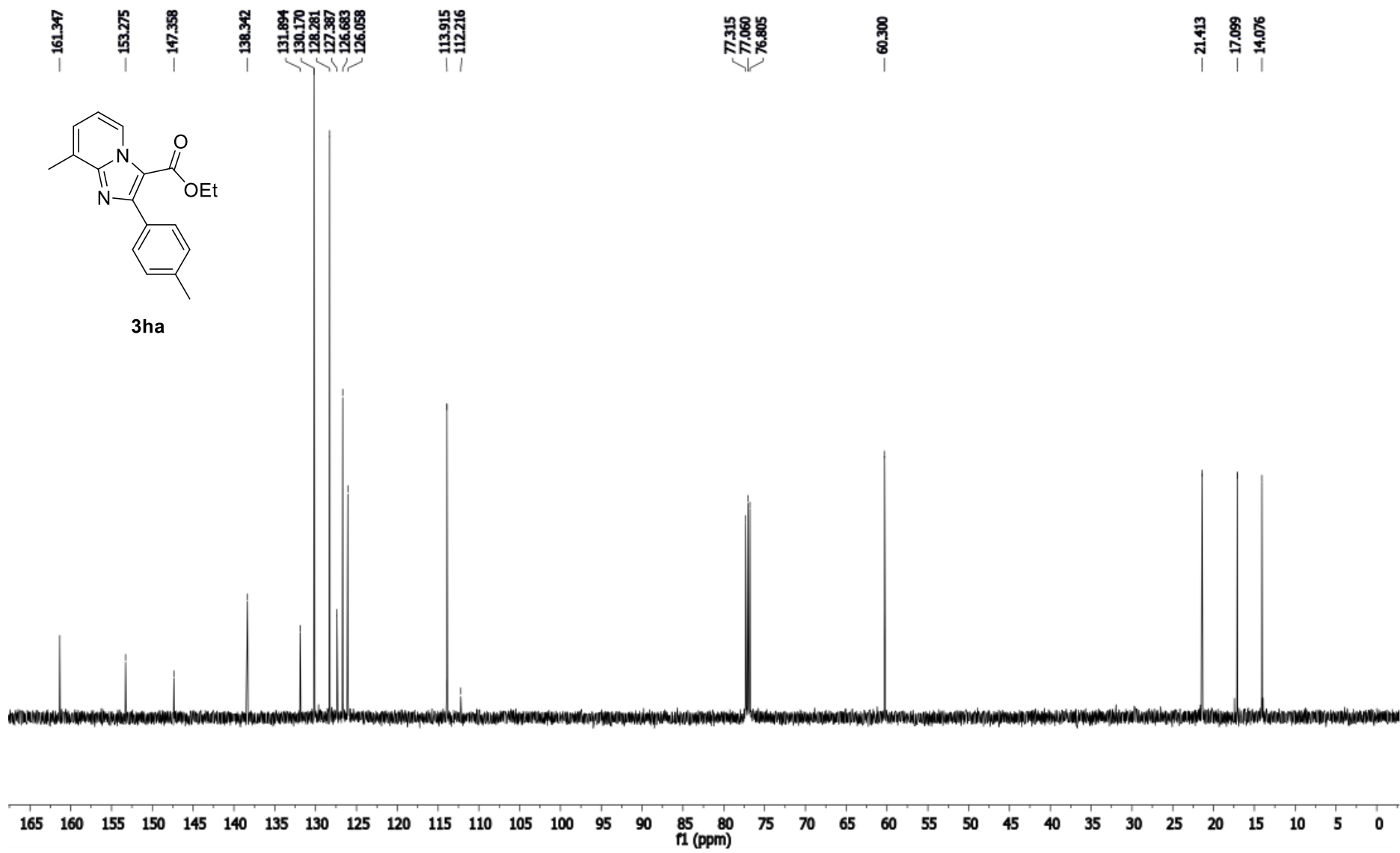






3ha





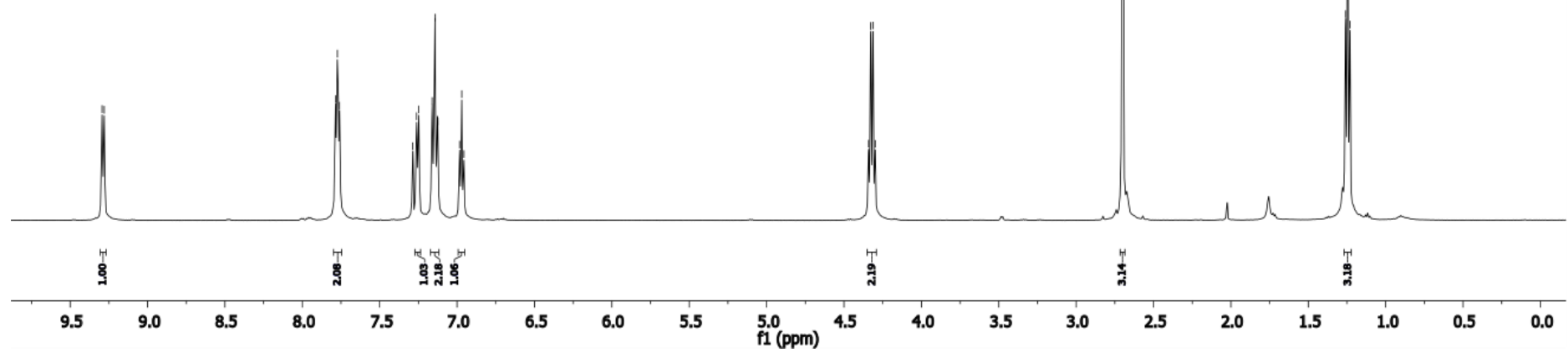
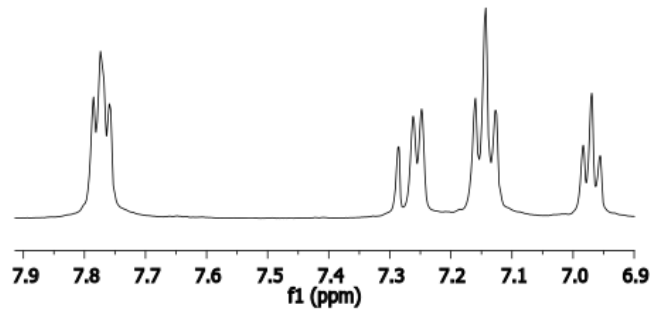
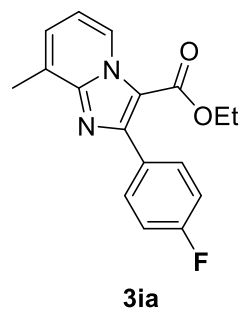
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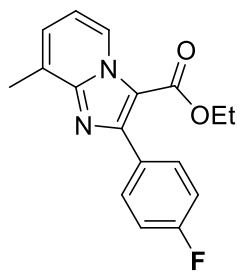
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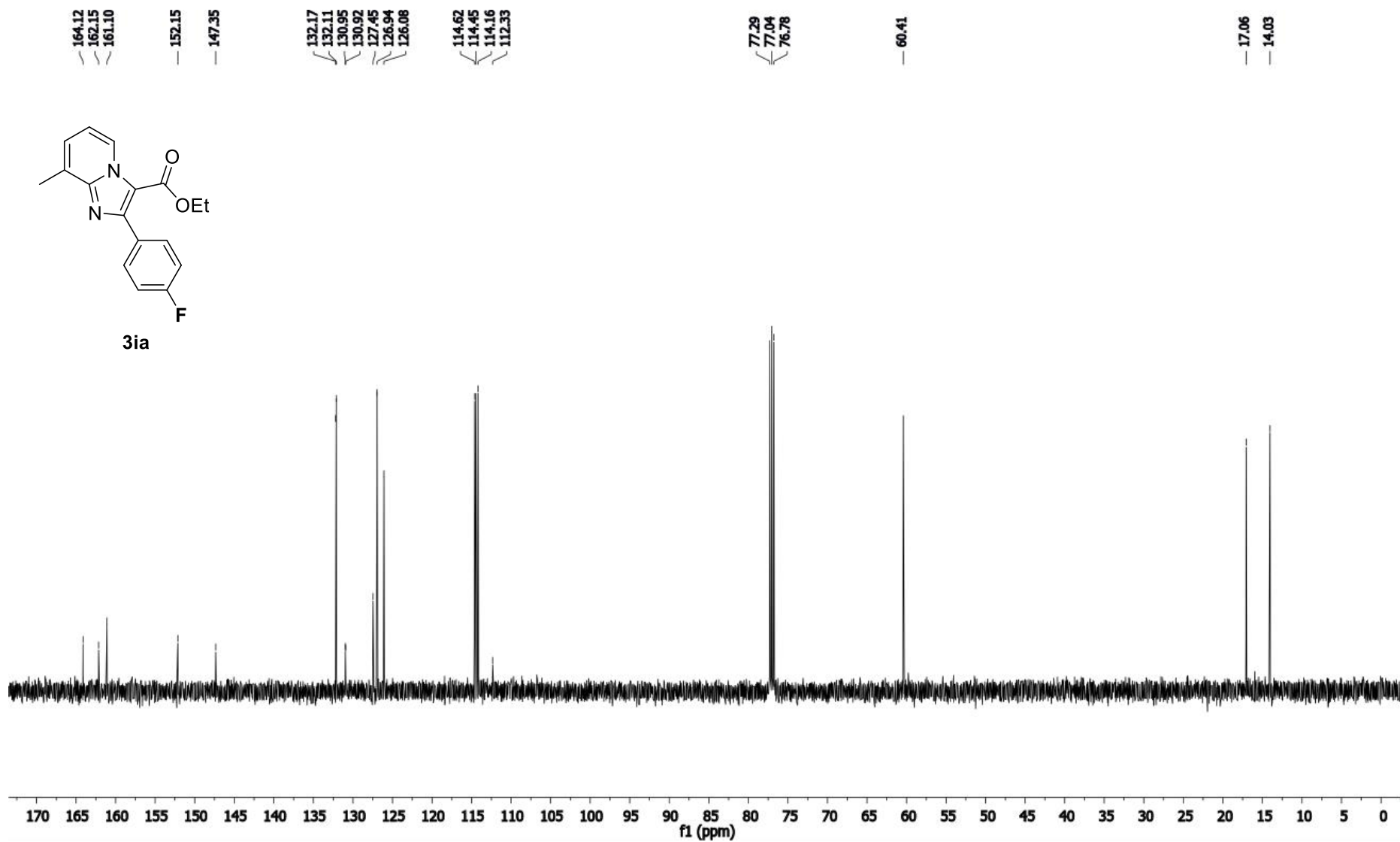
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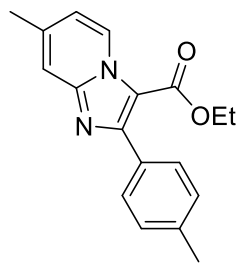
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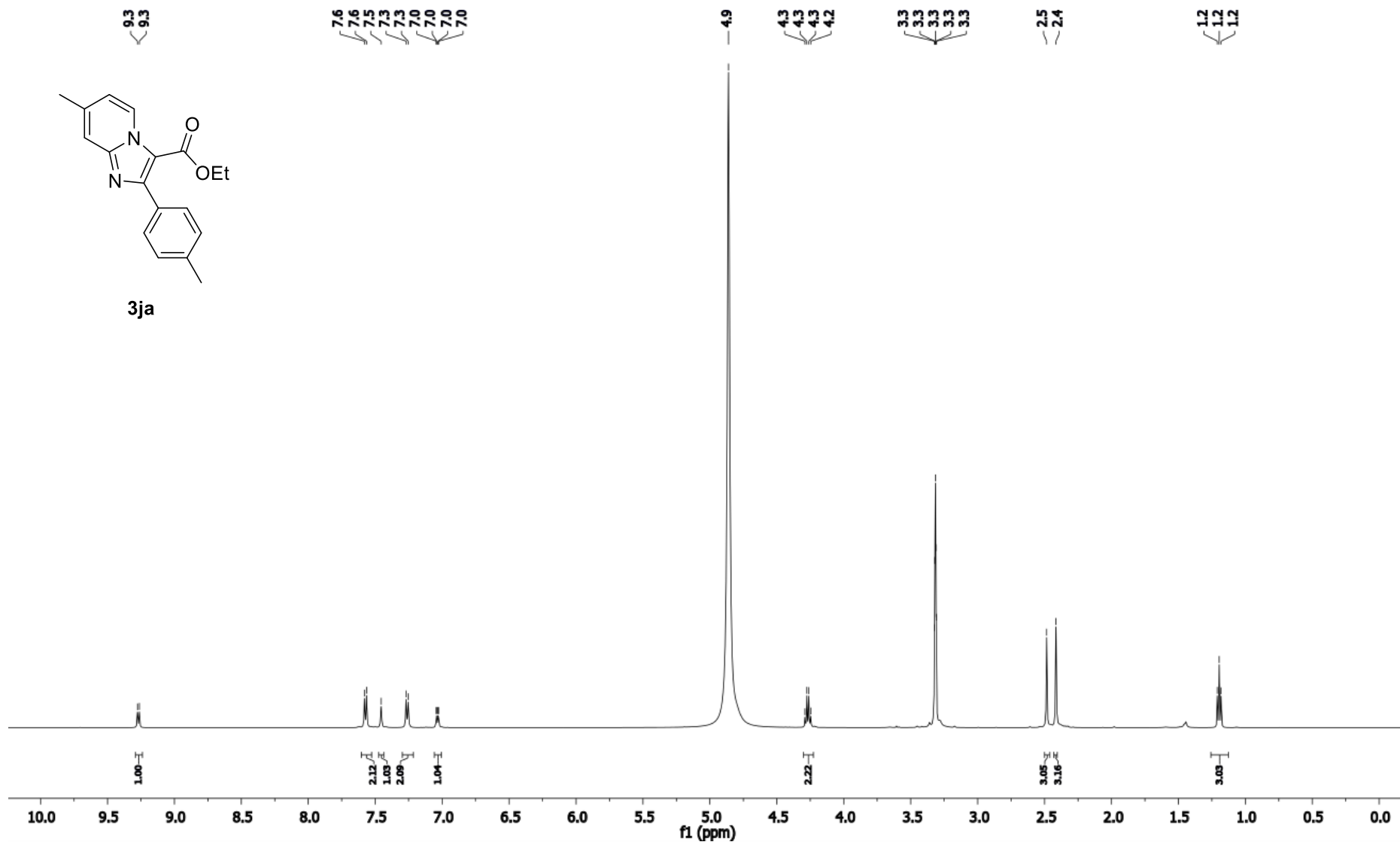


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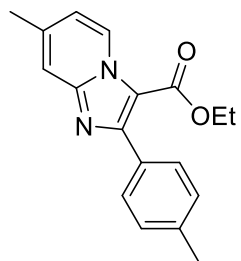




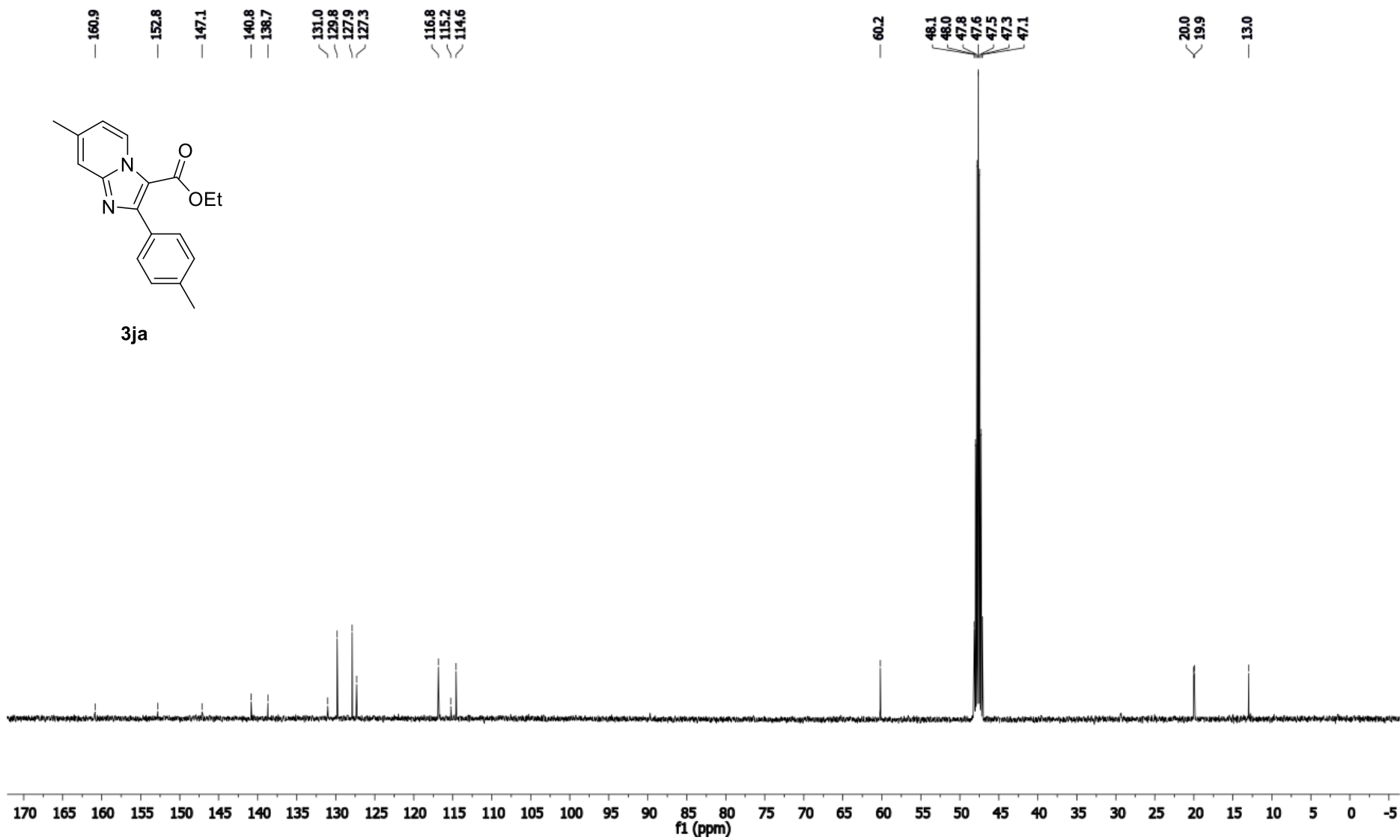
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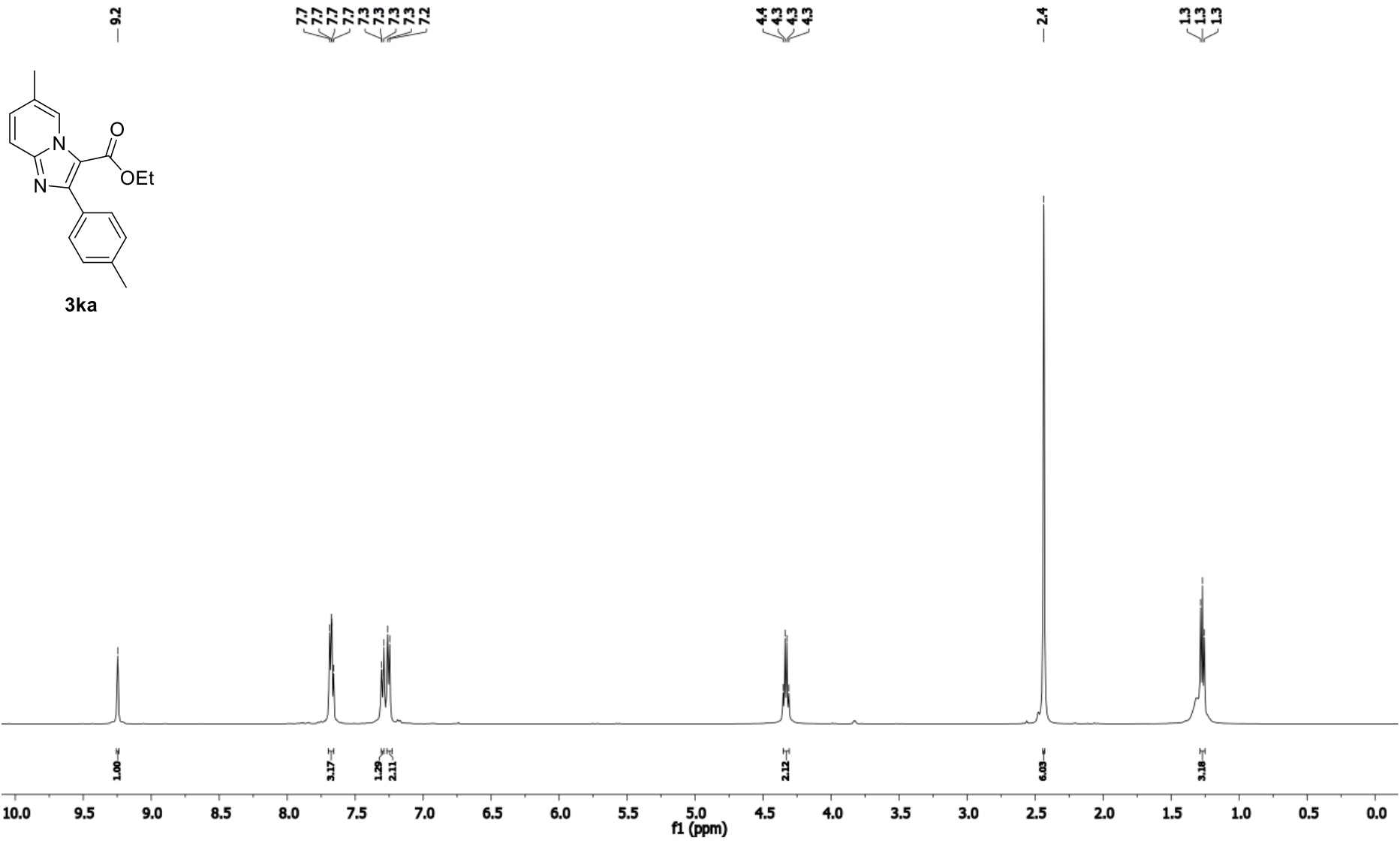


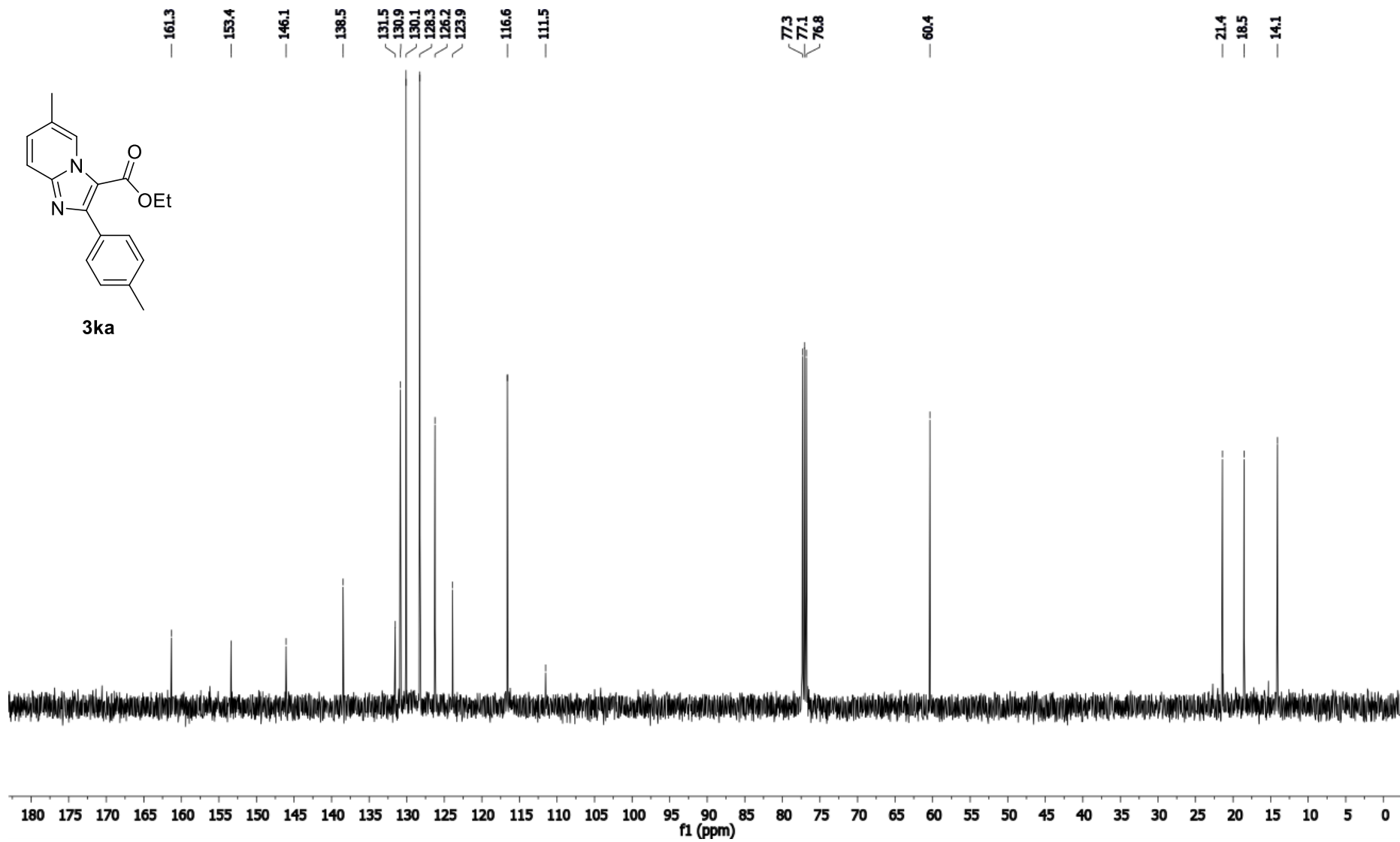


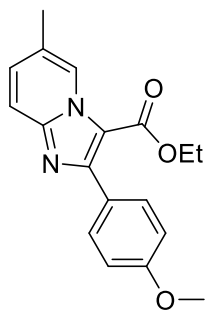


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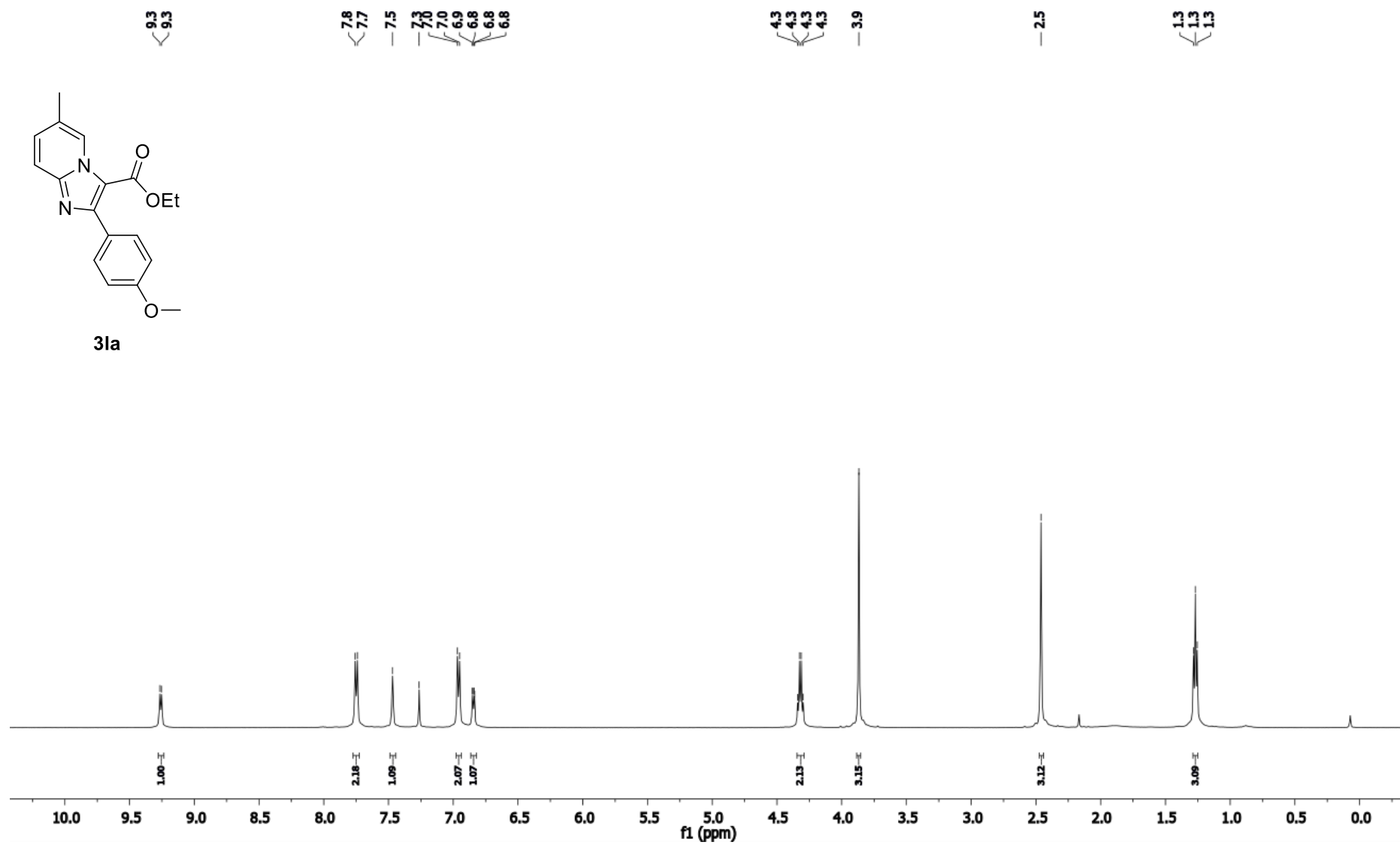


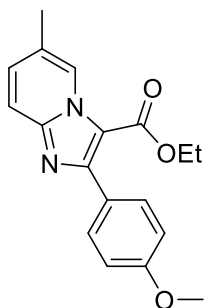




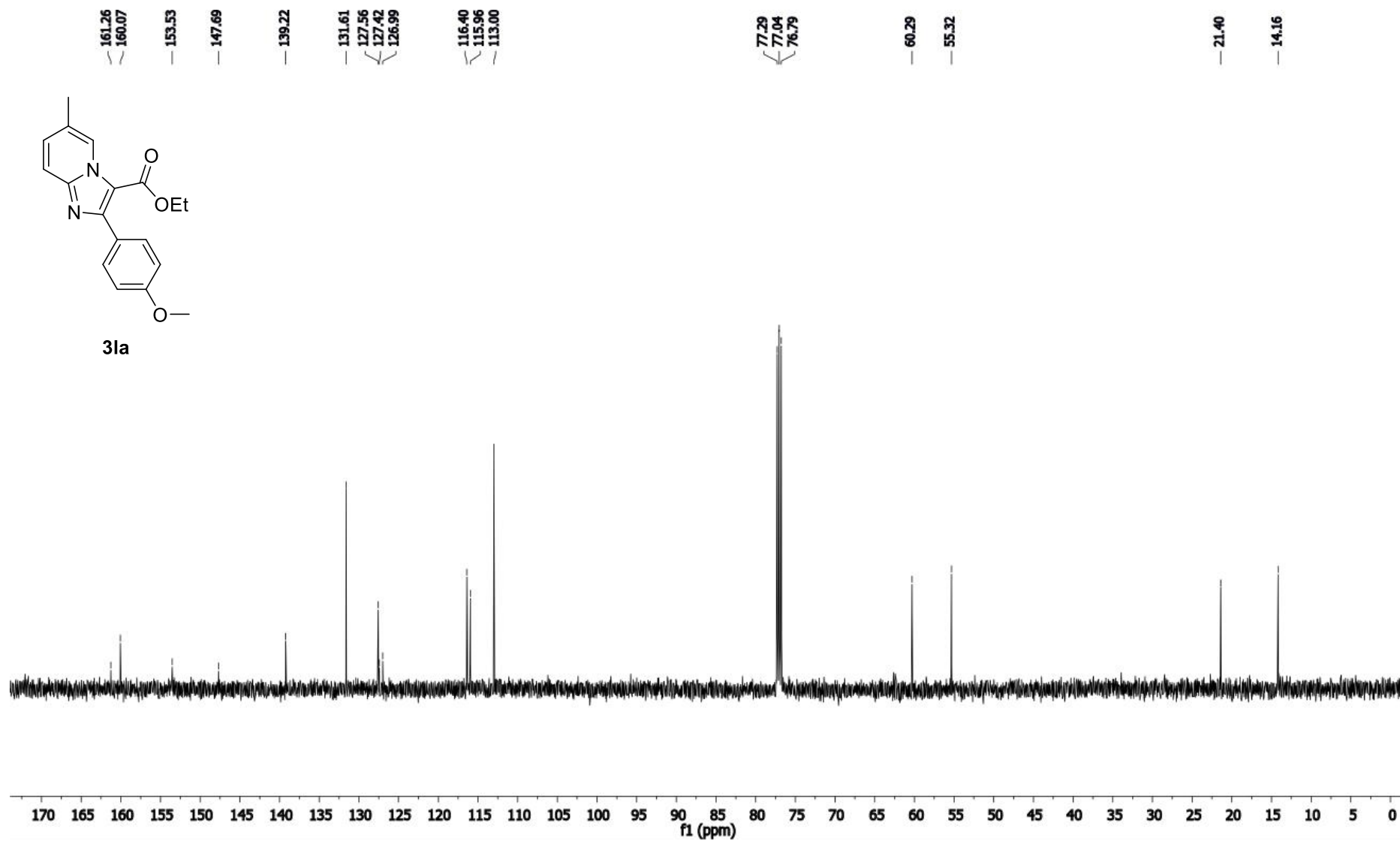


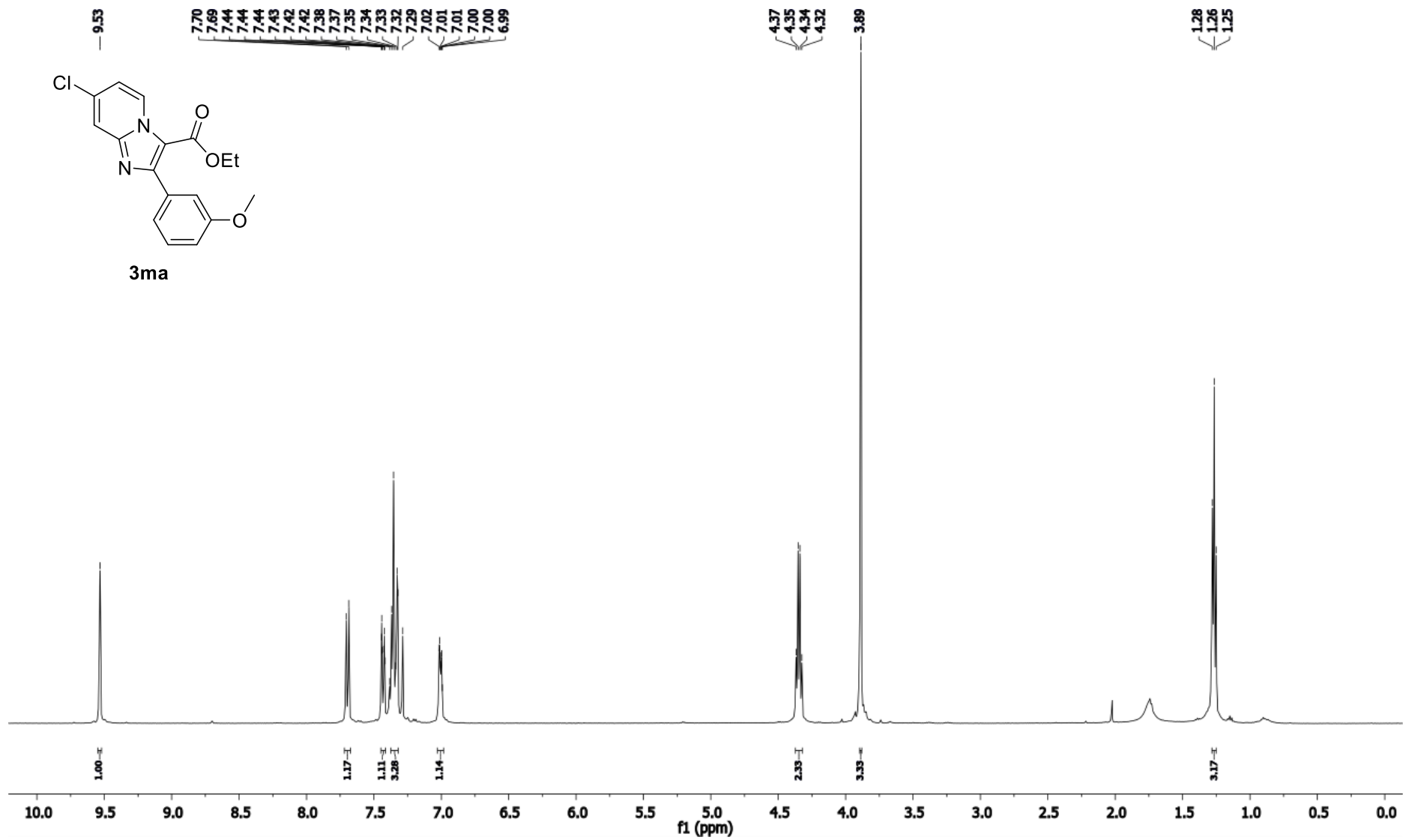
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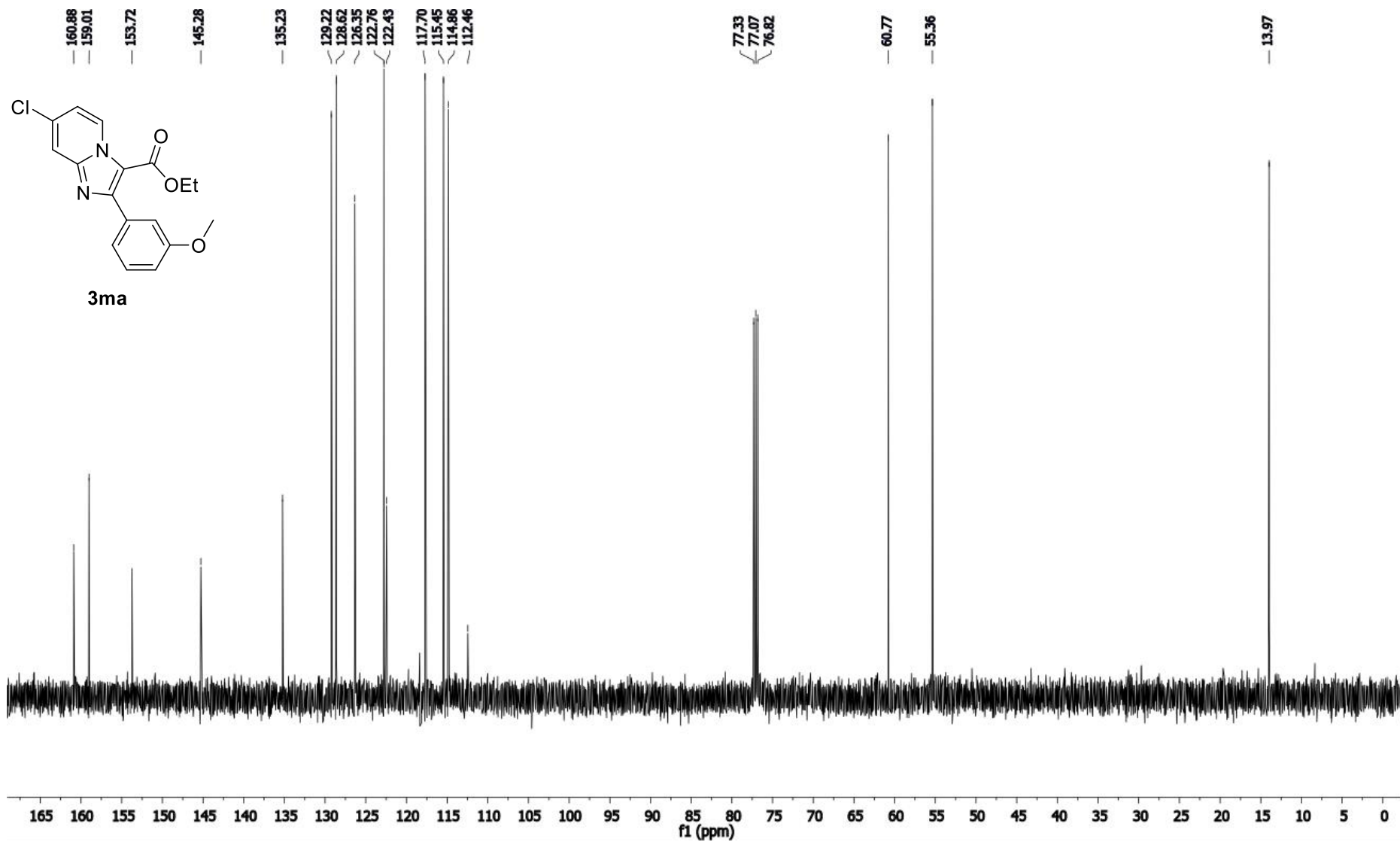


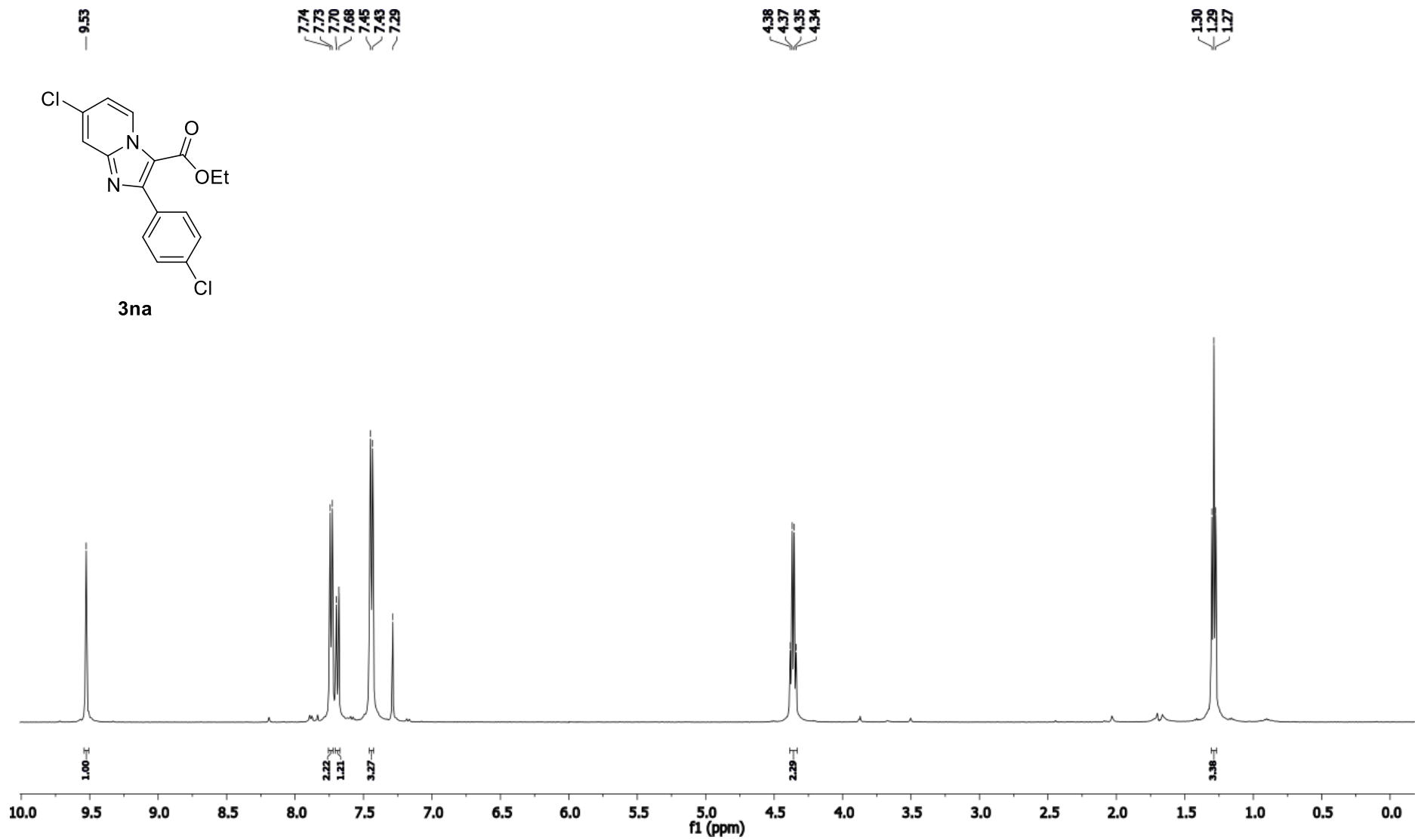


31a

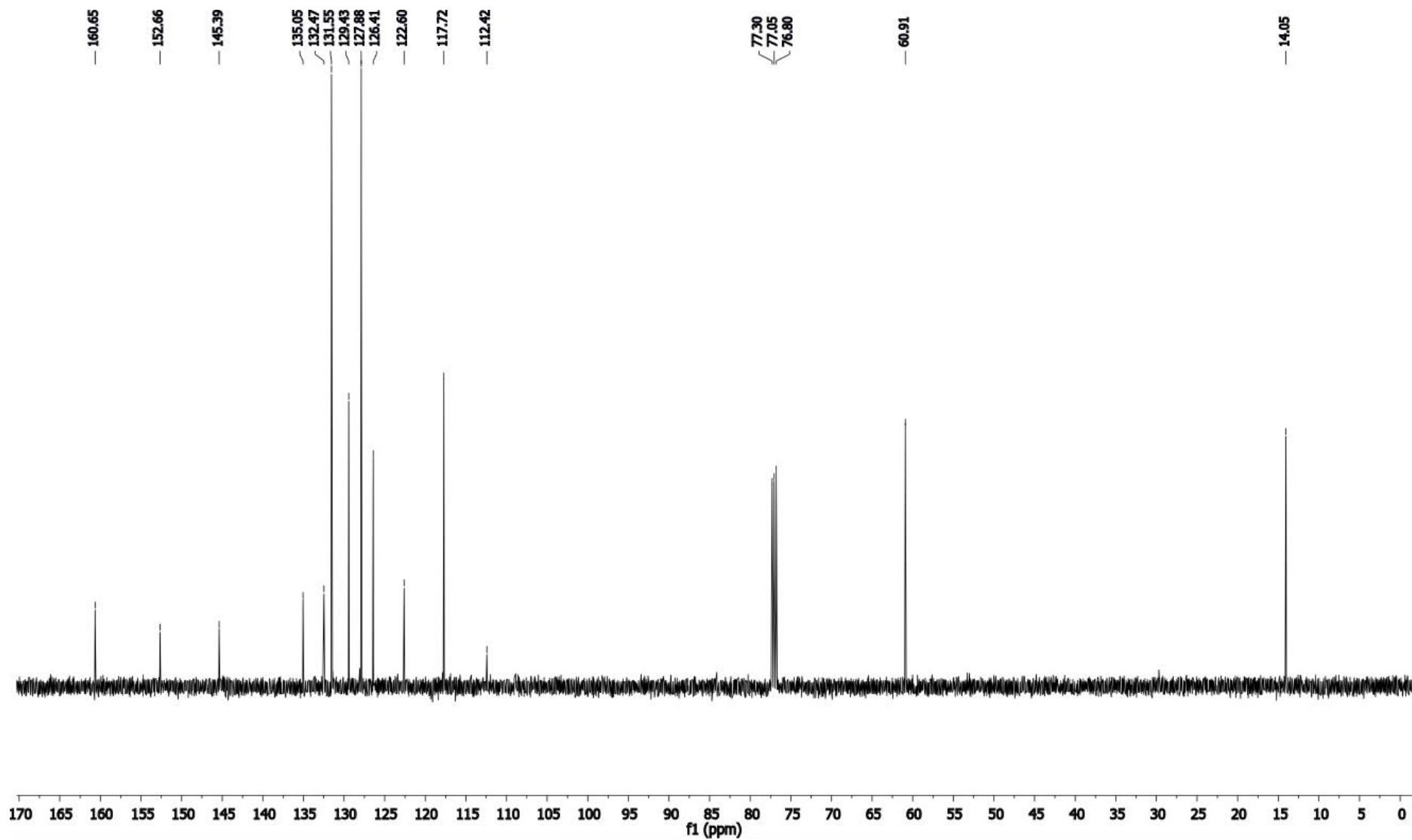


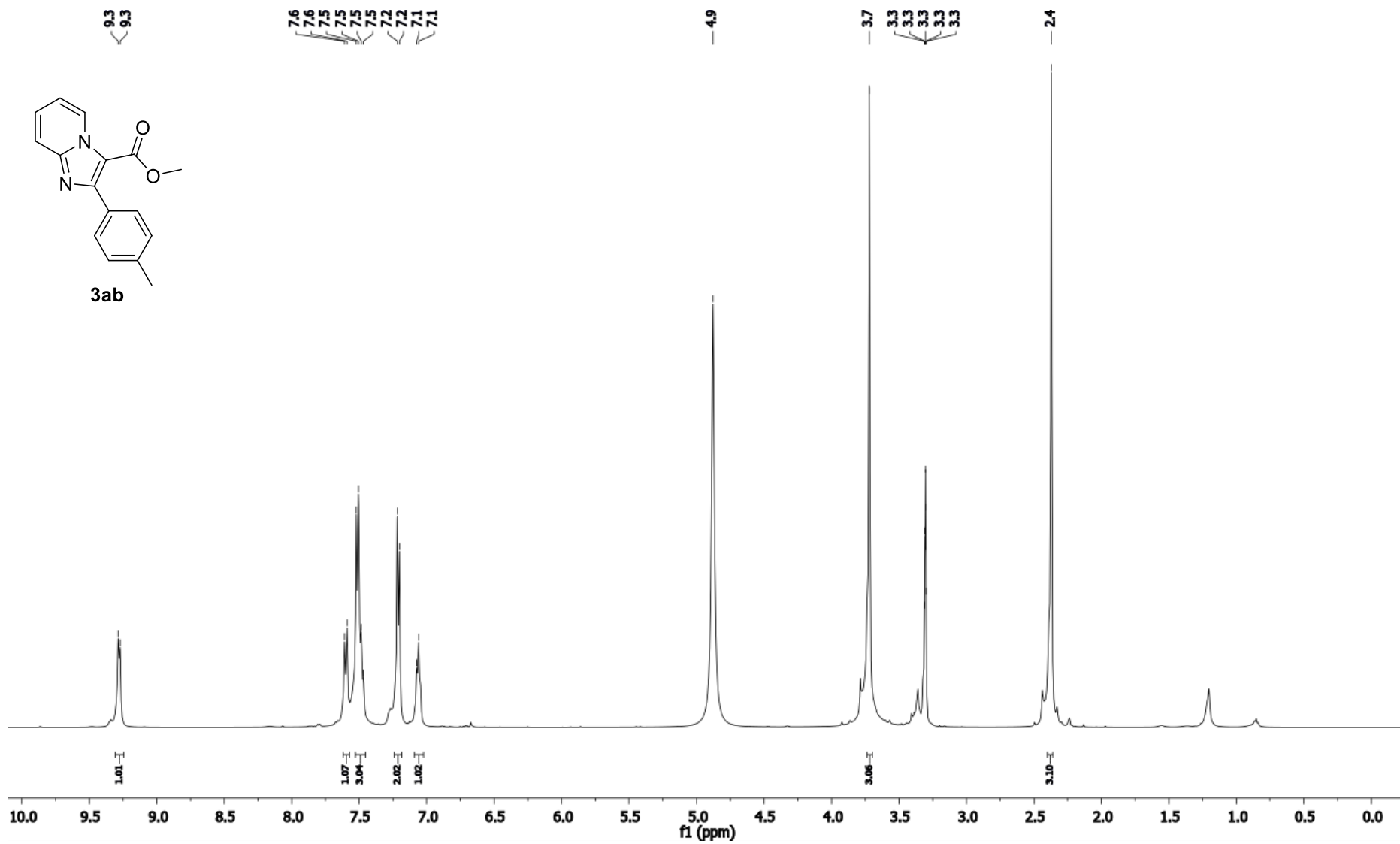


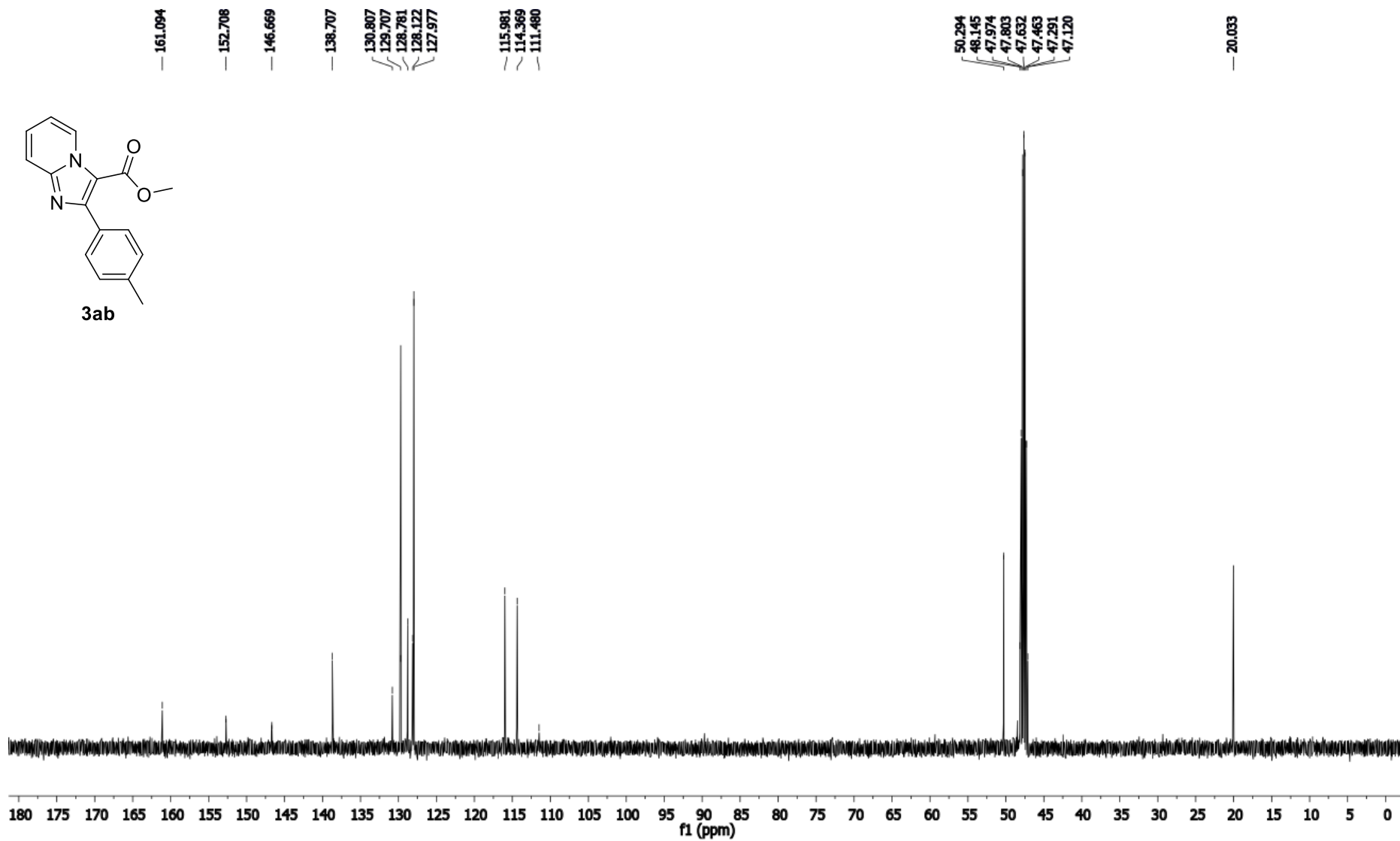


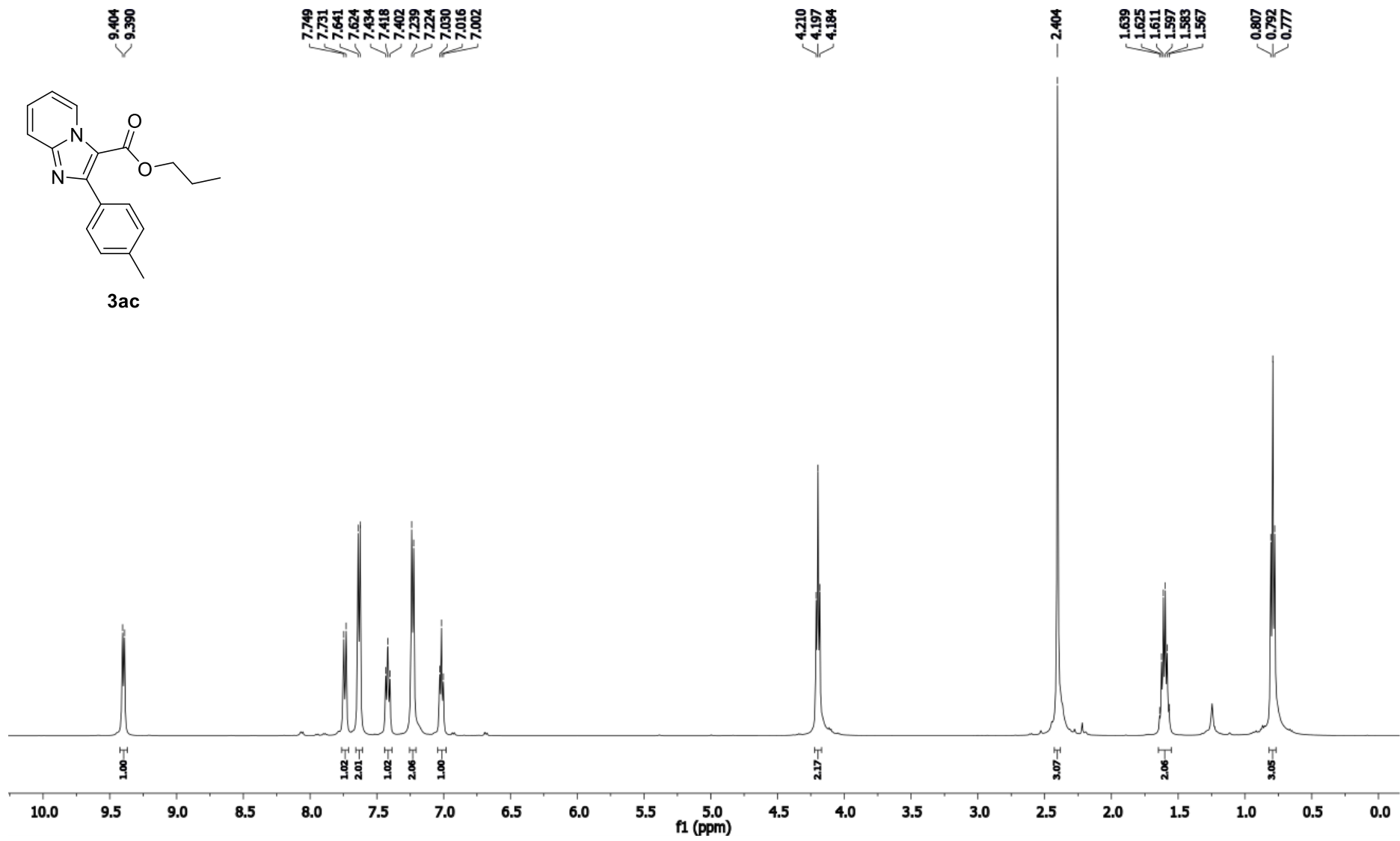


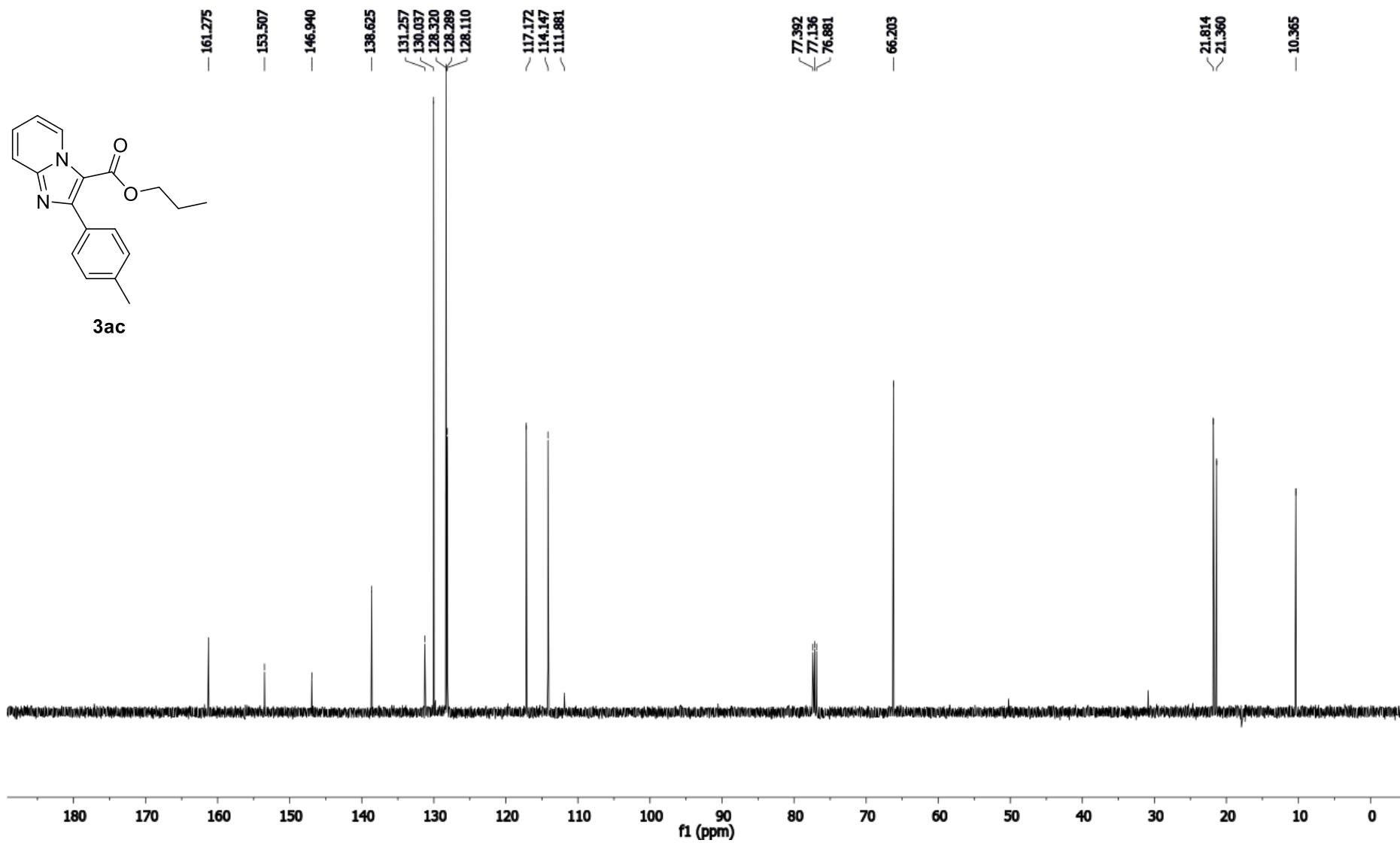


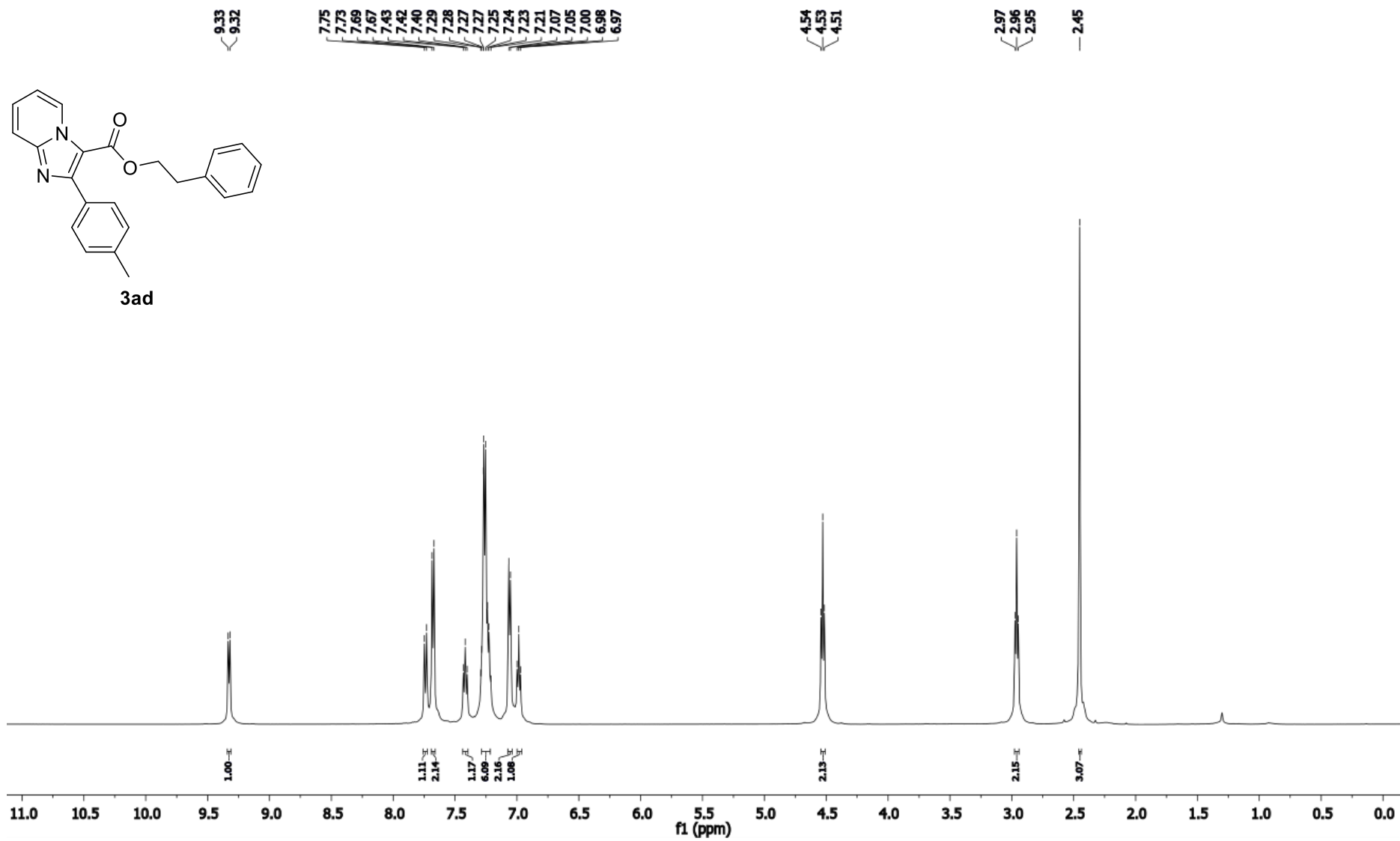


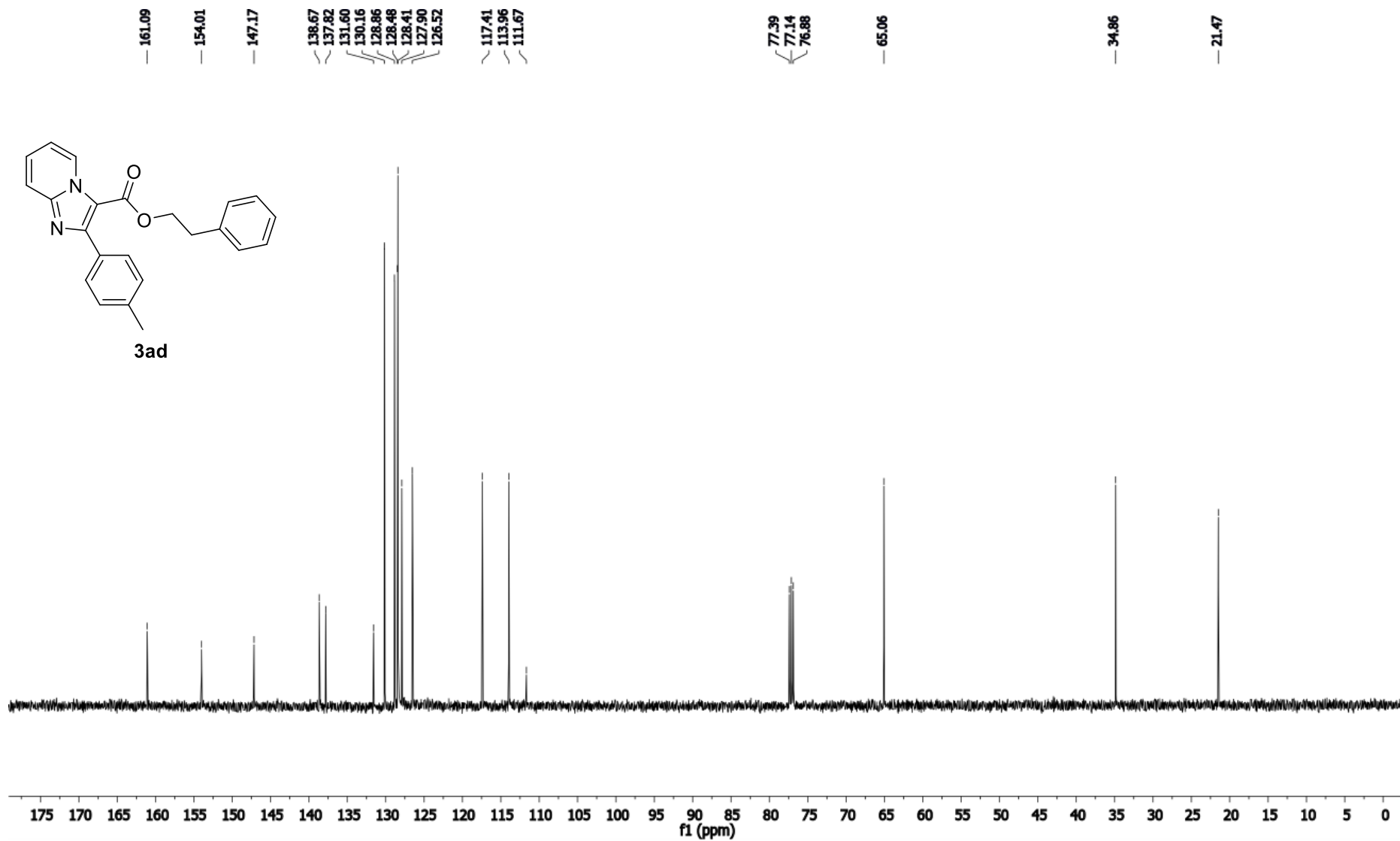


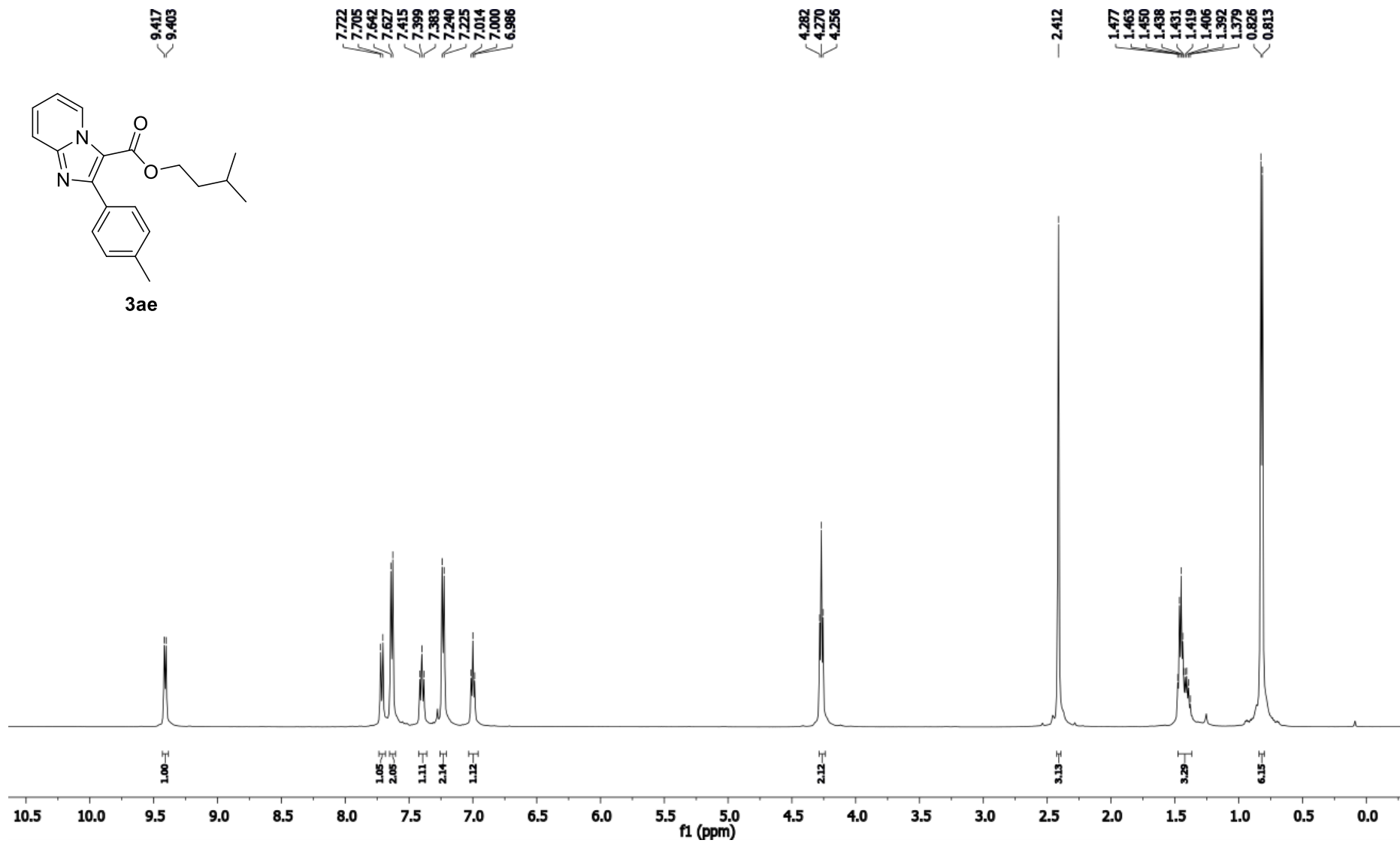




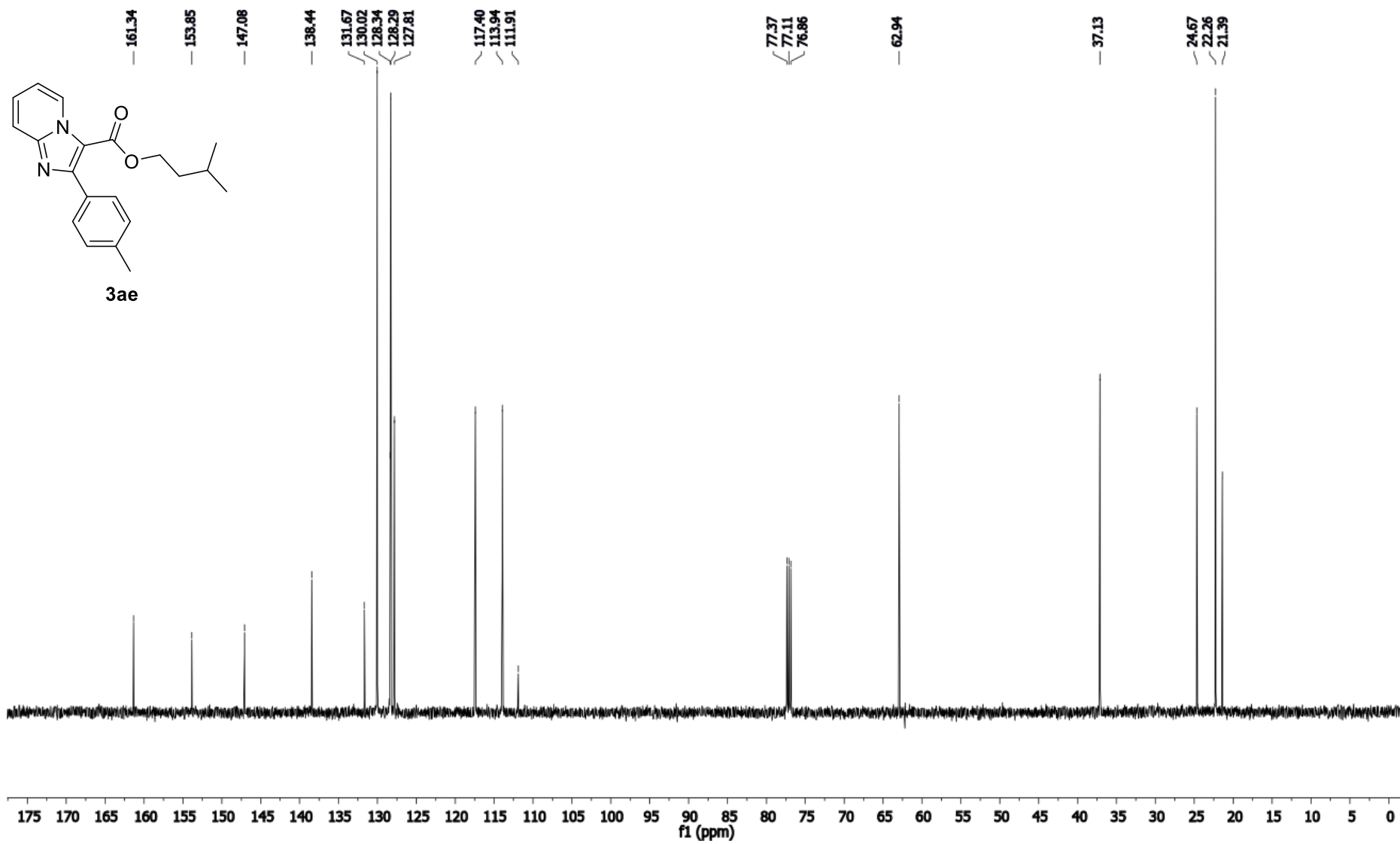


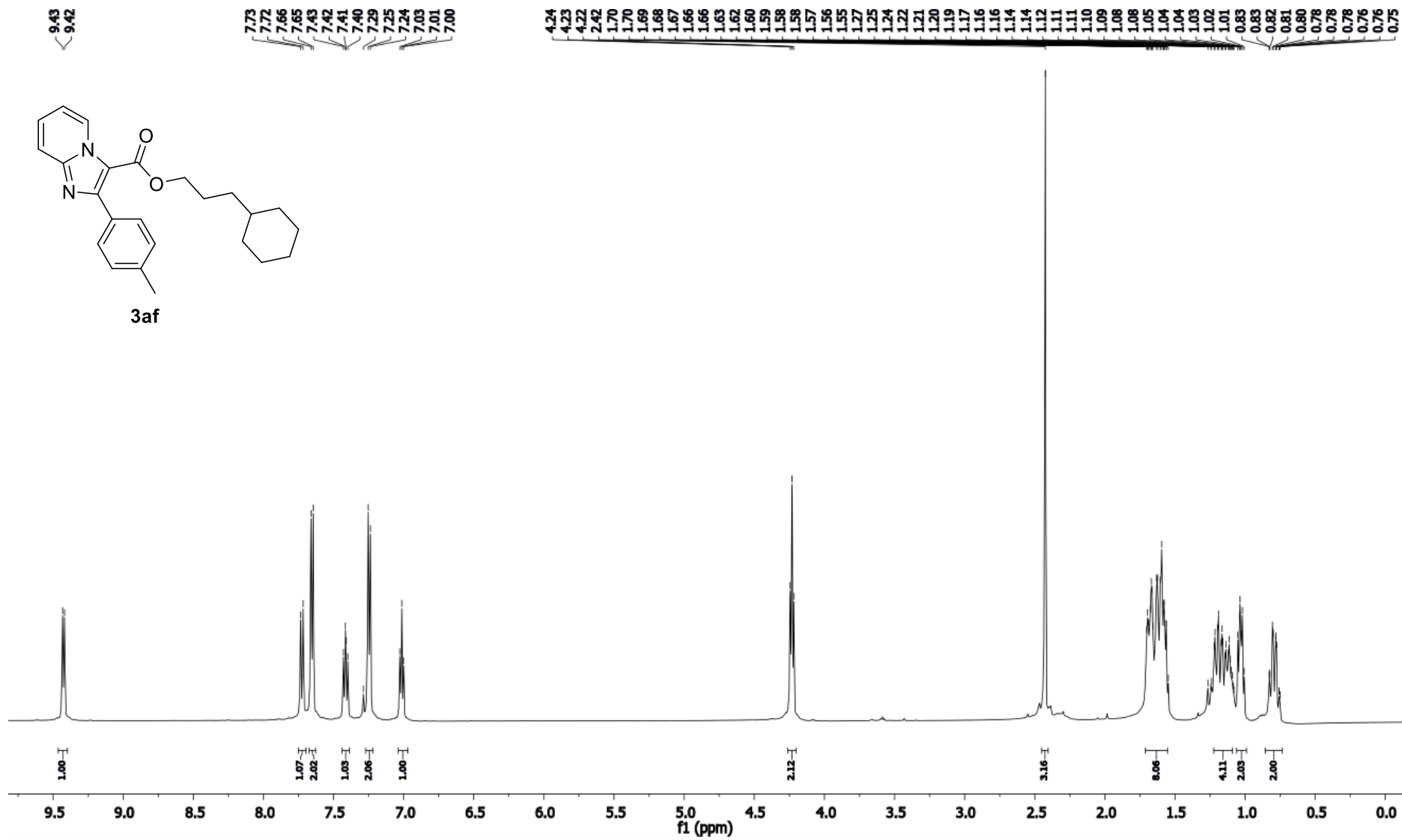


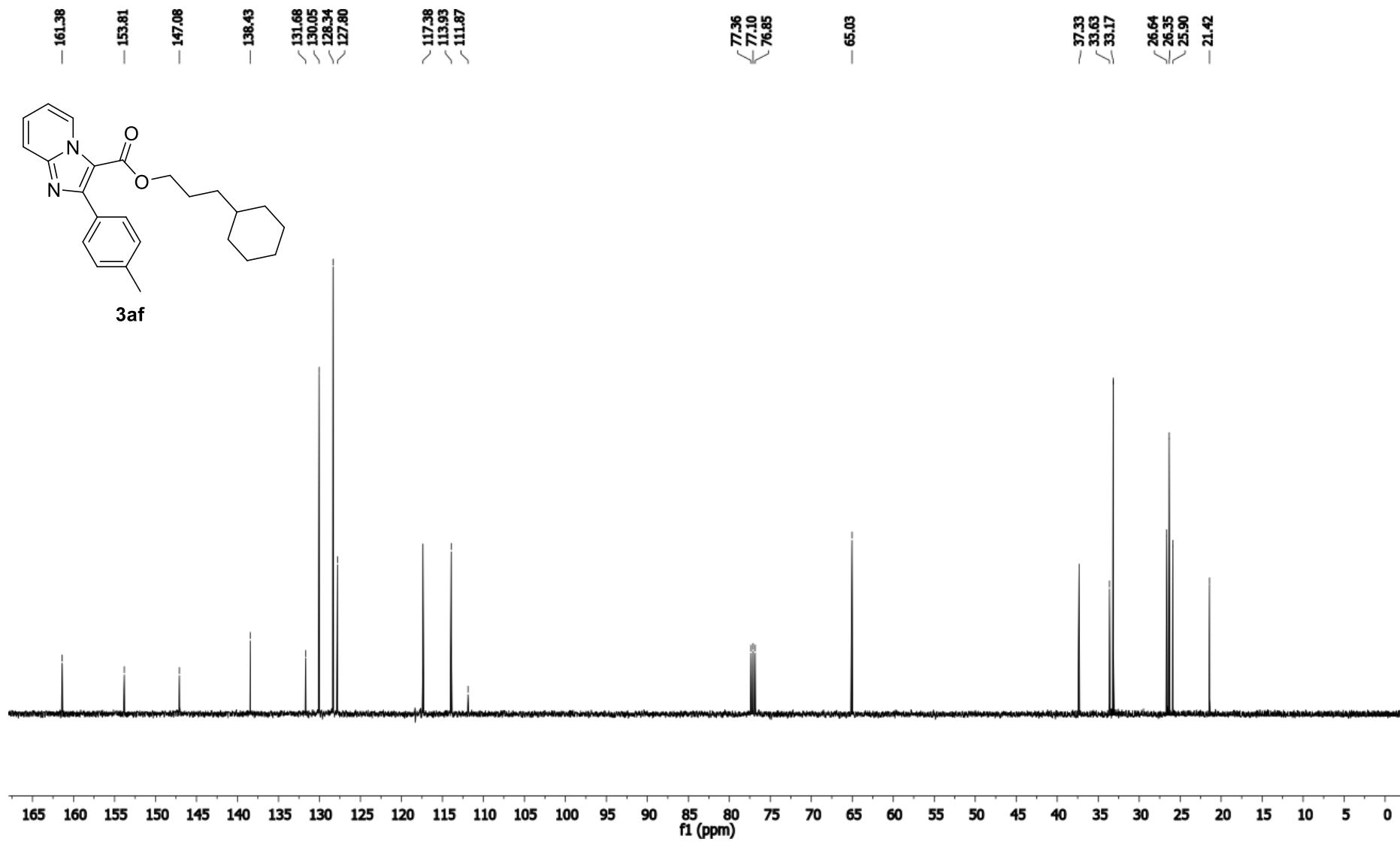


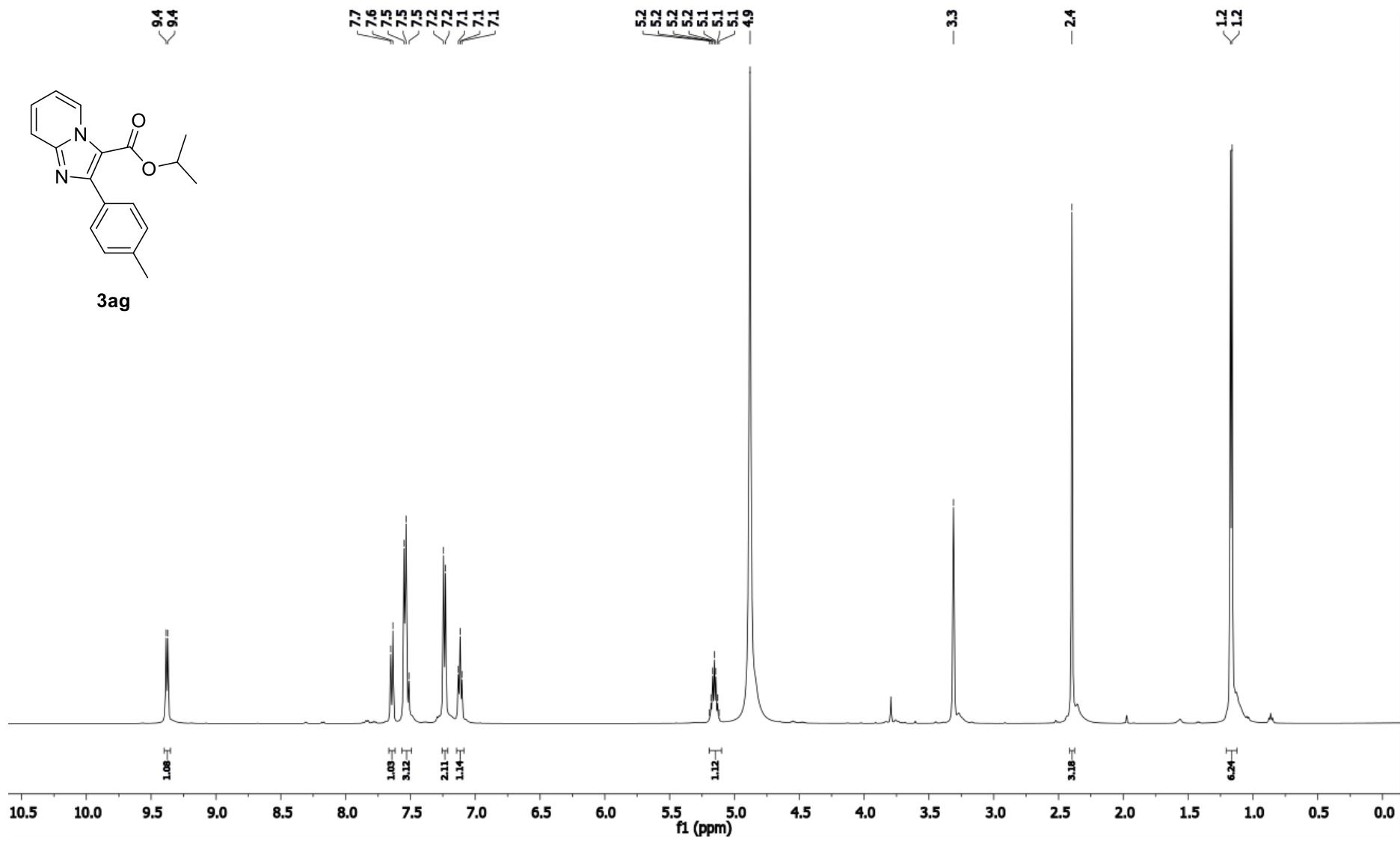


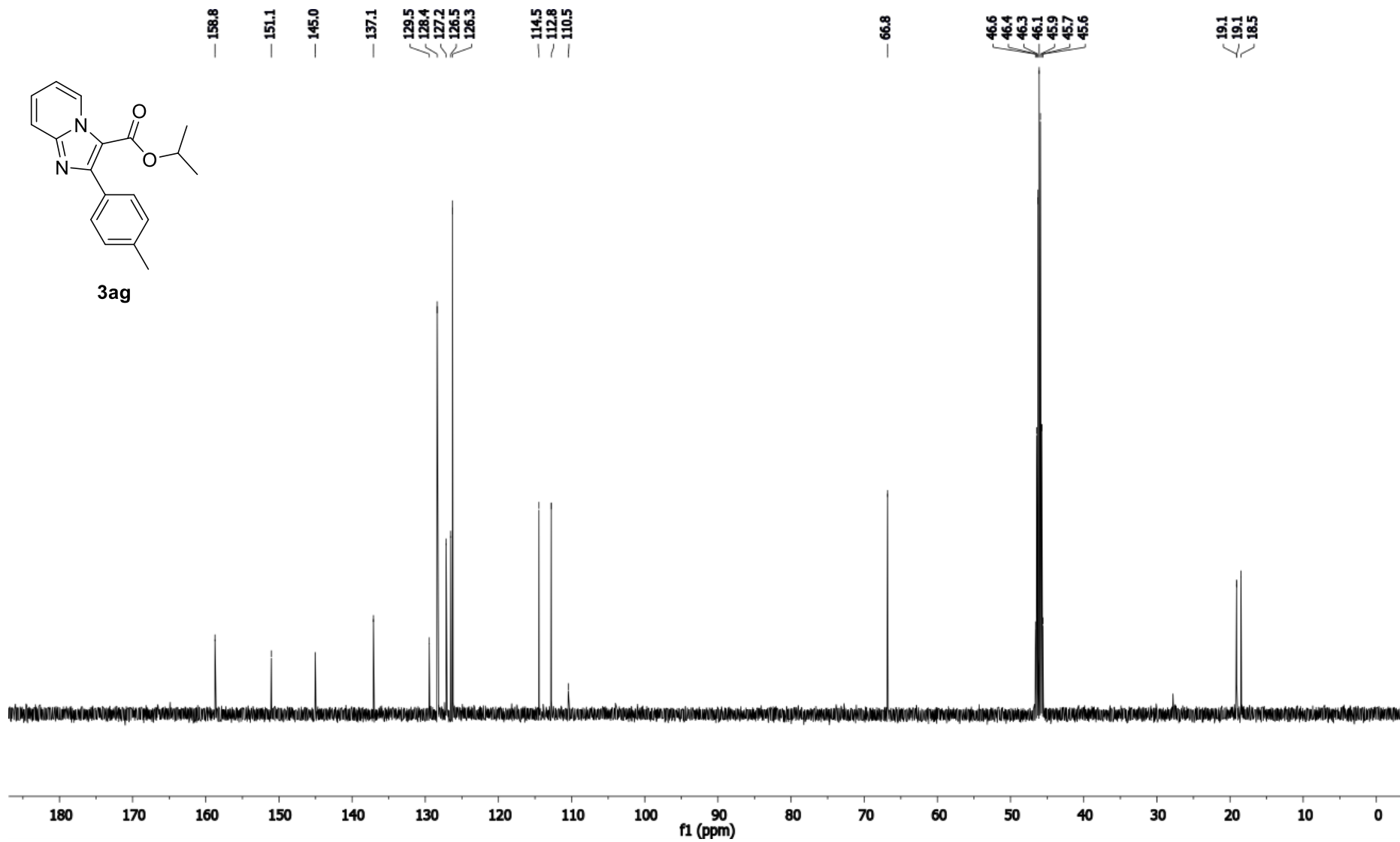


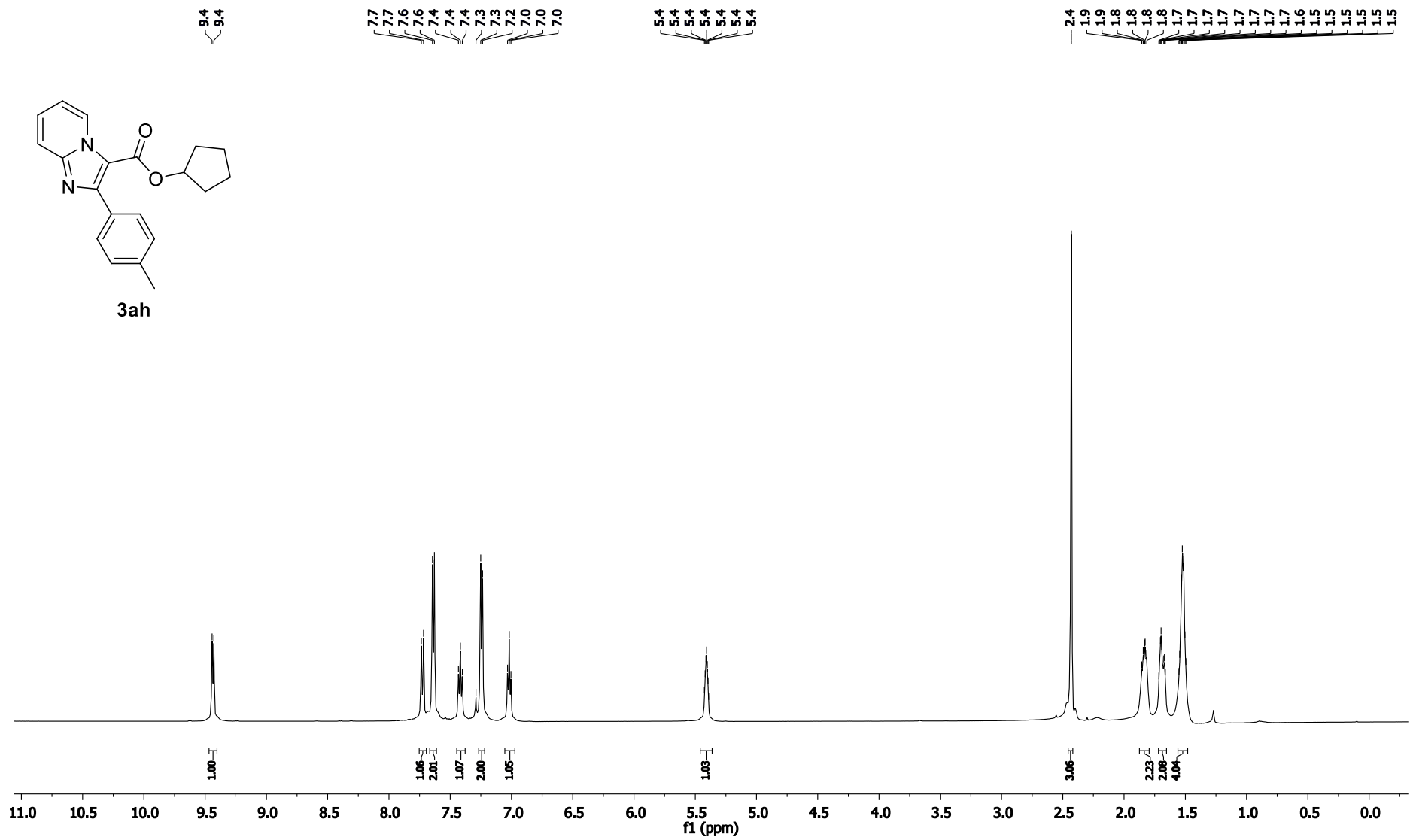


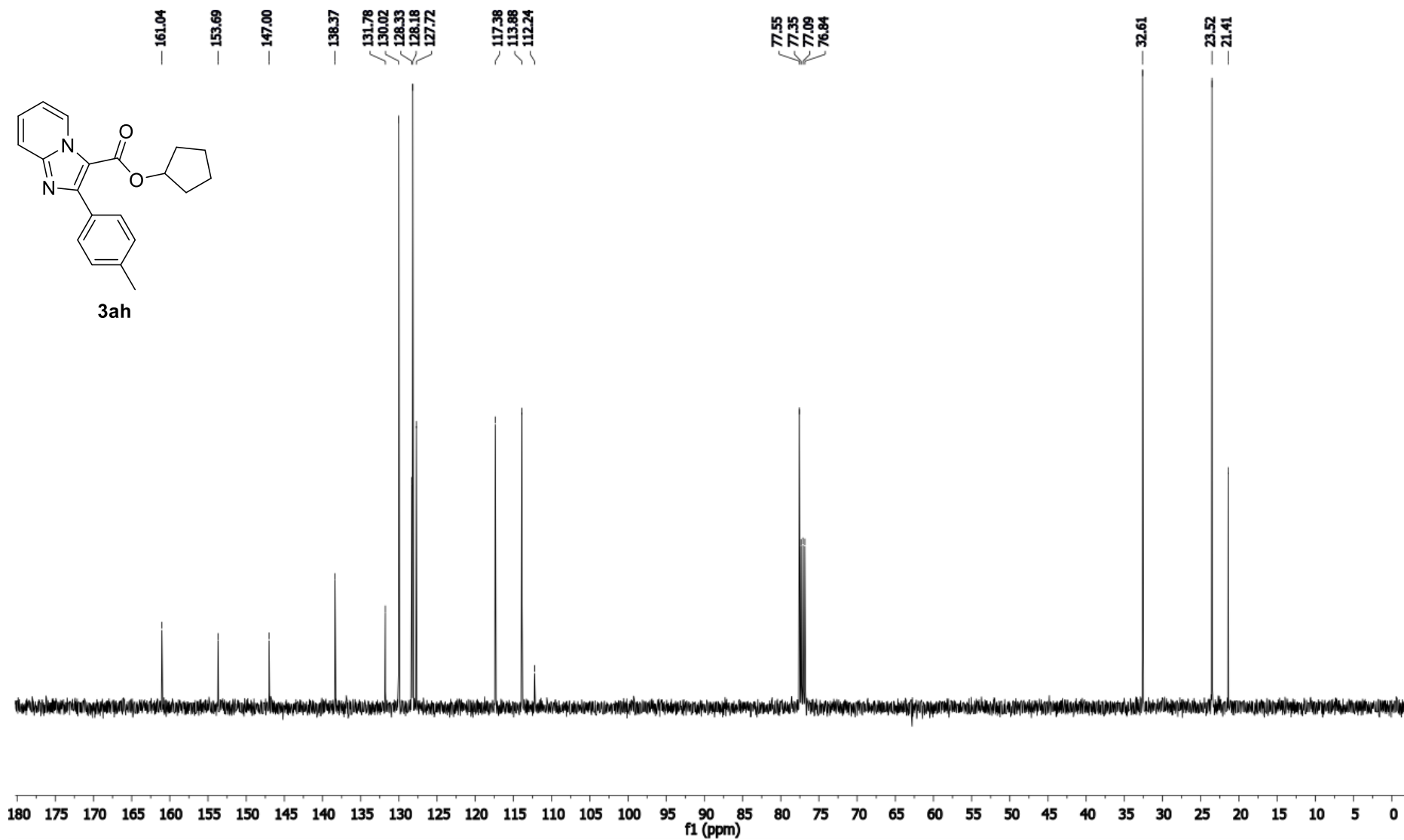


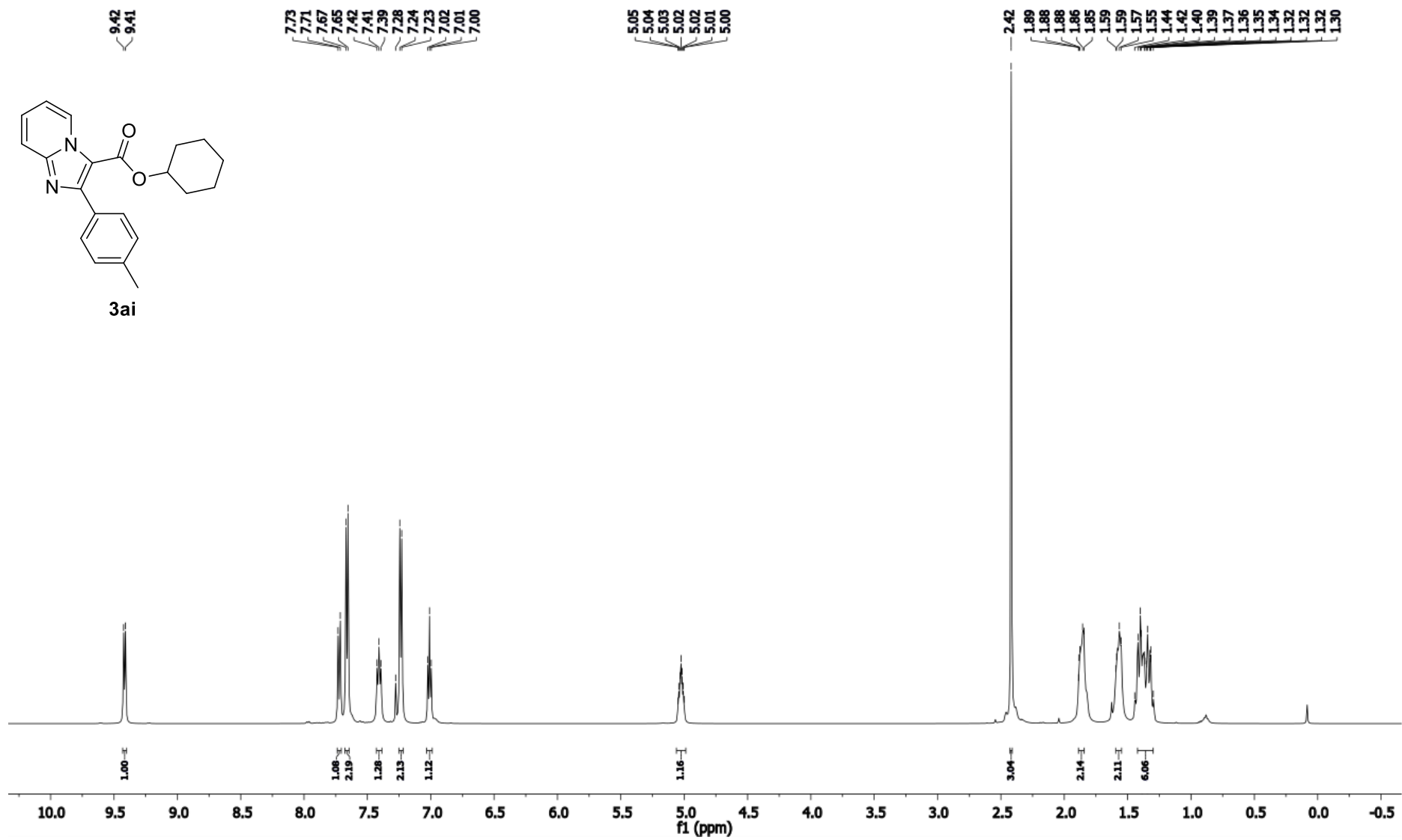




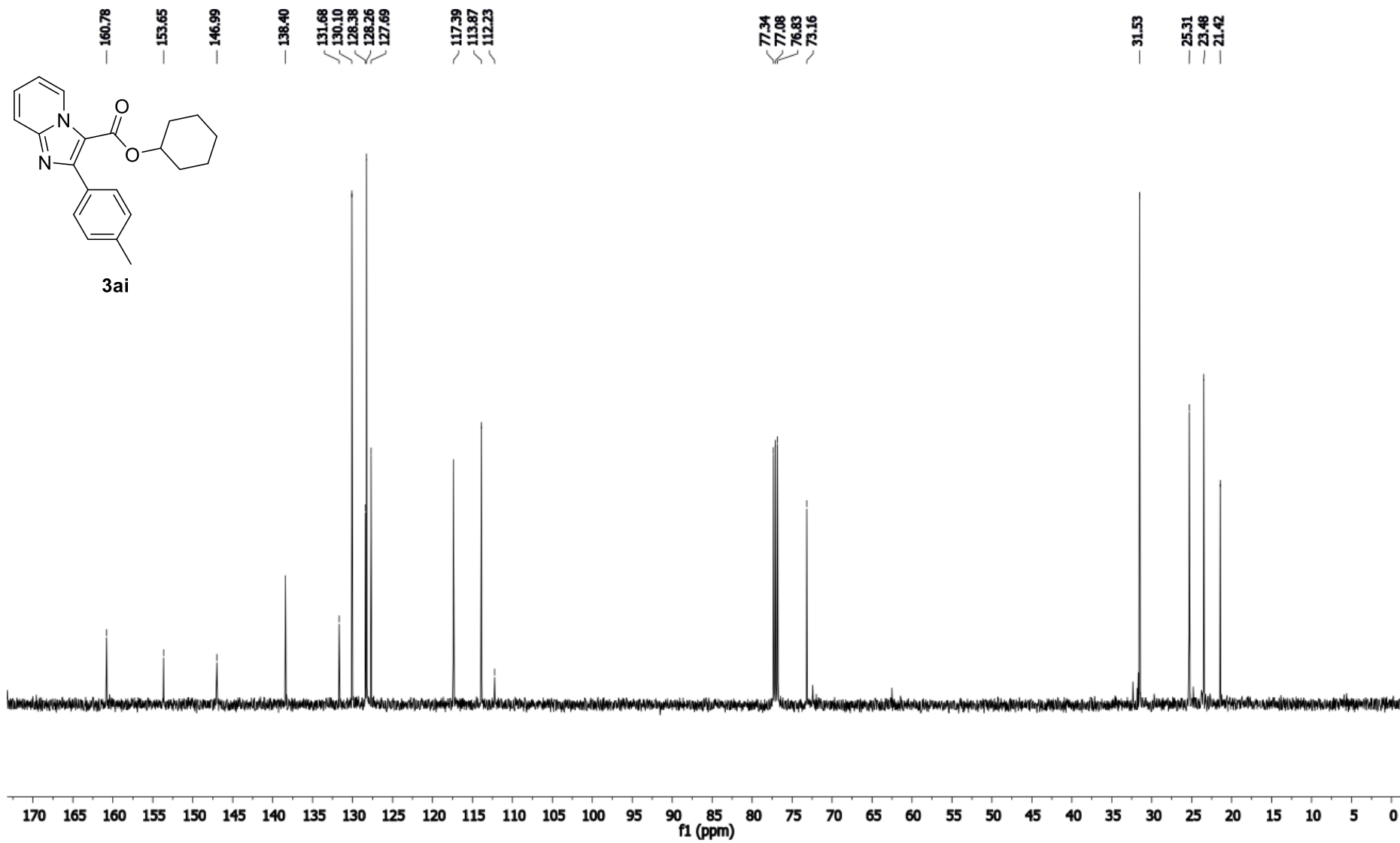


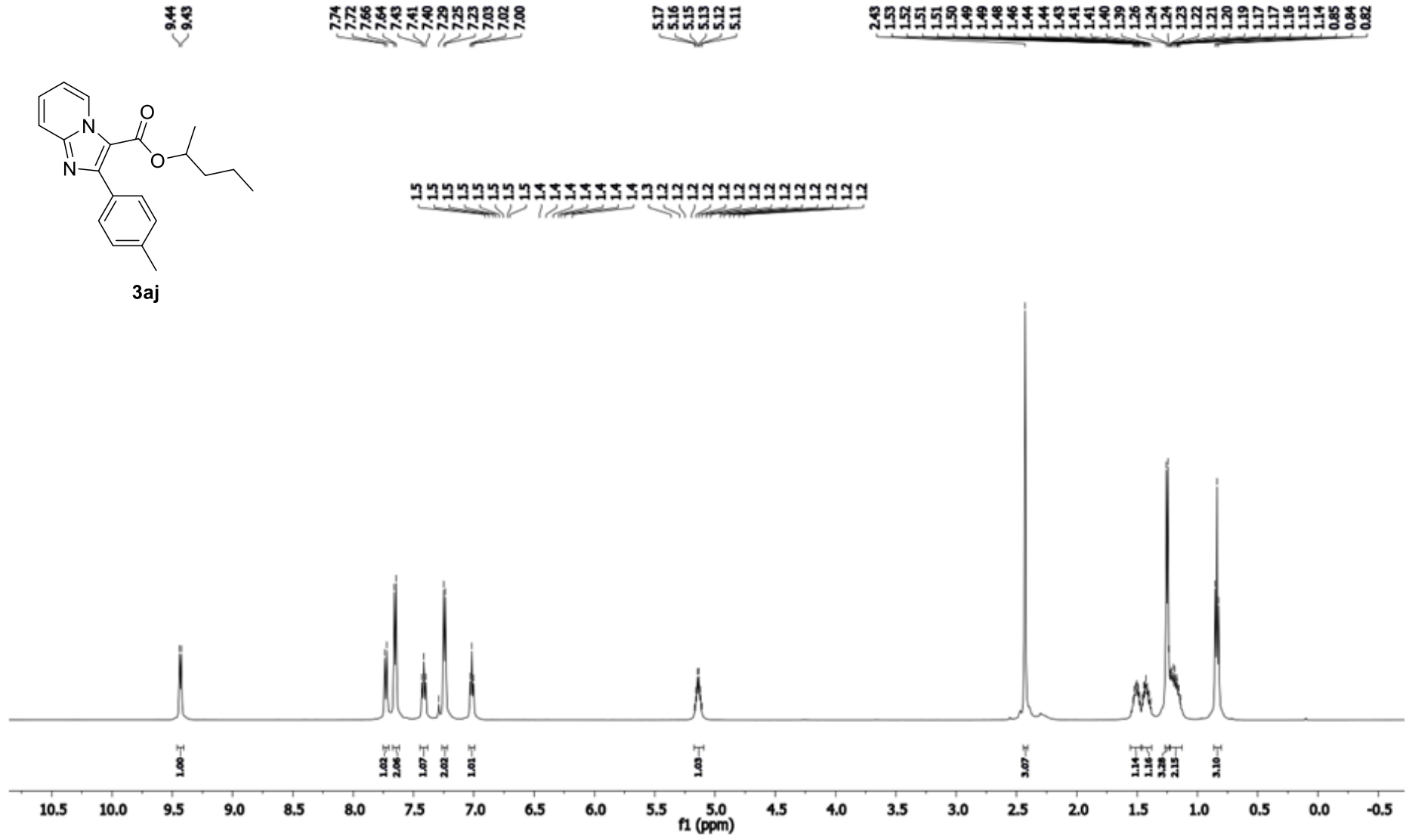


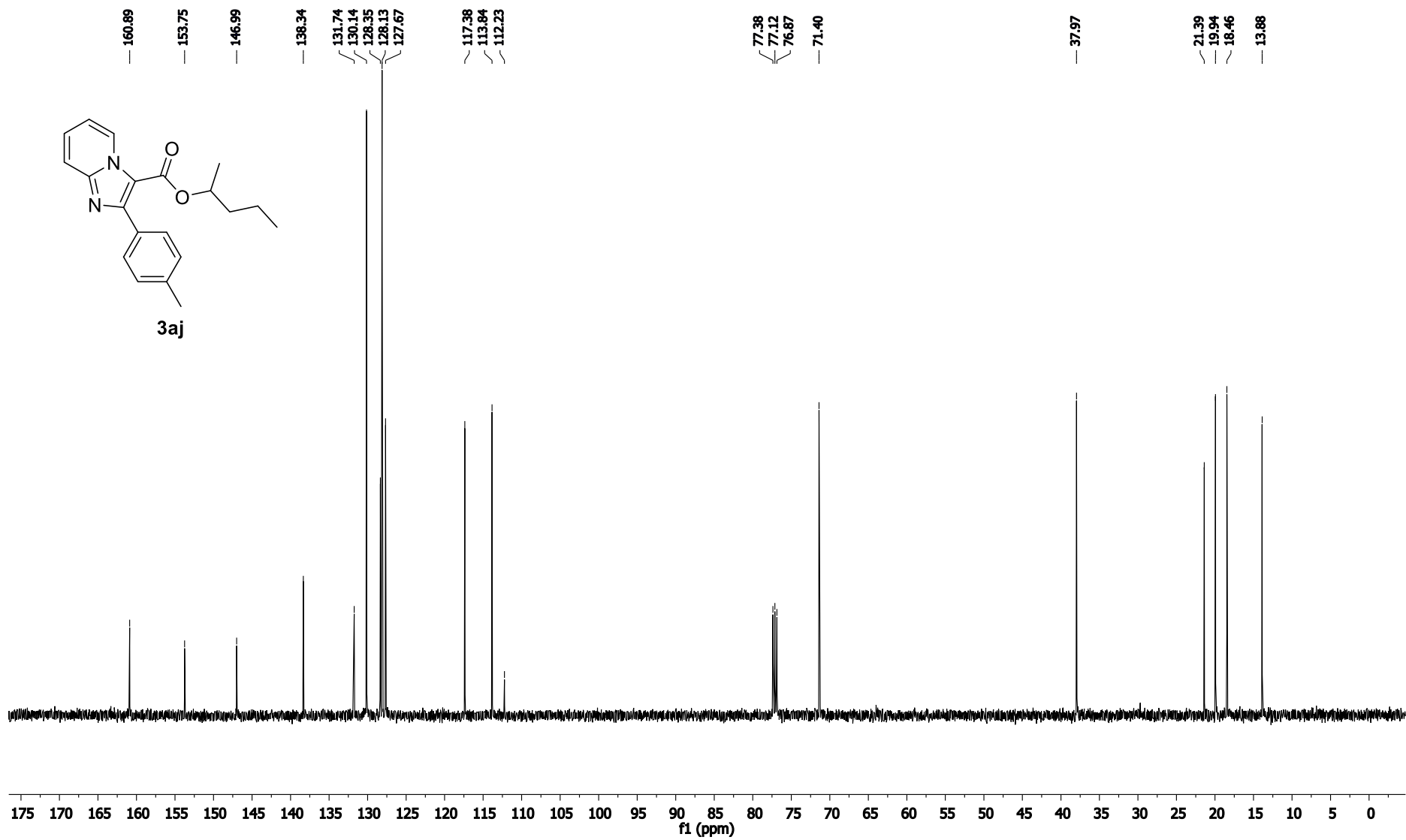


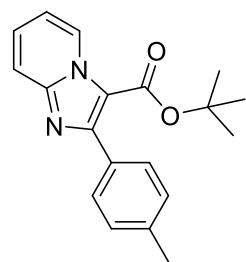




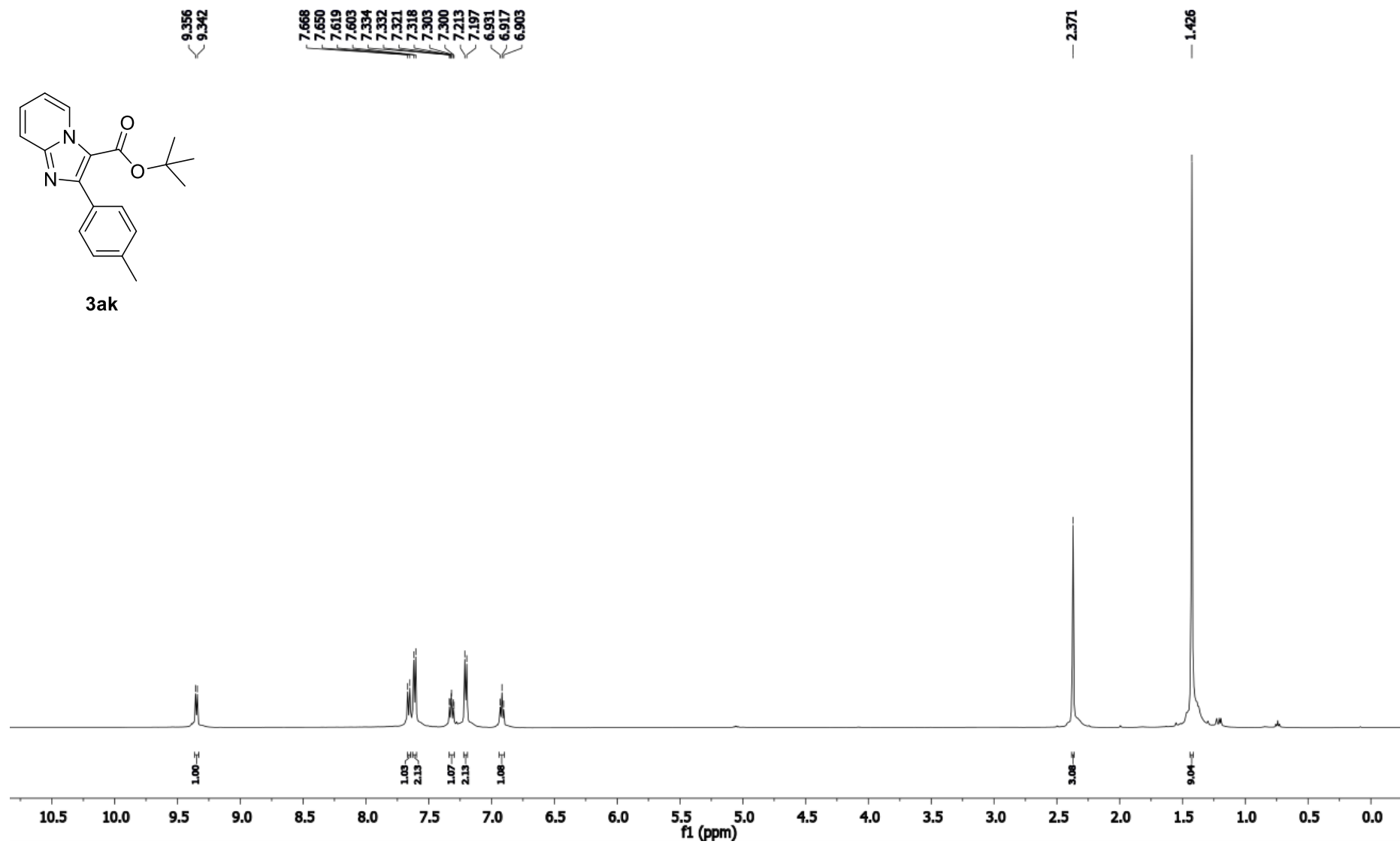


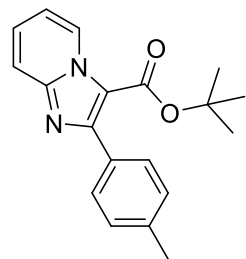






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