

Persulfate promoted C-1 thiocyanation of imidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridines under visible light irradiation in water

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General information

All chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, TCI Chemicals, SRL Chemicals, and Avra, and used as received. Molychem silica gel (60-120 mesh) was used for column chromatography, and thin-layer chromatography was performed on Merck pre-coated silica gel 60-F254 plates. All other chemicals and solvents were obtained from commercial sources and purified using standard methods. The ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Advance spectrometers. Data are represented as follows: chemical shift, integration, multiplicity (br = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, dd = double doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, dd= doublet of doublet, dt= doublet of triplet, td= triplet of doublet and m = multiplet), and coupling constants in hertz (Hz).

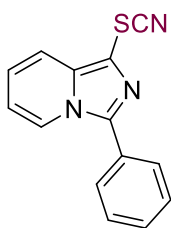
General procedure for the synthesis of 2a-2r:

An oven-dried round bottom flask was charged with the corresponding 3-aryl/heteroaryl/alkyl substituted imidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (1 mmol), KSCN (2 equiv.), K₂S₂O₈ (1 equiv.) in 2 mL of H₂O. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6 h under irradiation of blue LED light (24 W, 455 nm), at a distance of 10-12cm away from light source, in open air. After completion of reaction, the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (15 mL × 3). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using a solvent system of ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane to afford the desired product.

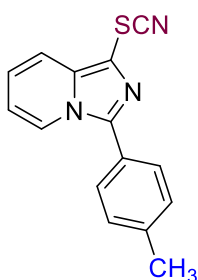
General procedure for the synthesis of 3aa-3ca:

An oven-dried round bottom flask was charged with the corresponding imidazoheterocycle (1 mmol), KSCN (2 equiv.), K₂S₂O₈ (1 equiv.) in 2 mL of H₂O. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6 h under irradiation of blue LED light (24 W, 455 nm), at a distance of 10-12 cm away from light source, in open air. After completion of reaction, the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (15 mL × 3). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using a solvent system of ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane to afford the desired product.

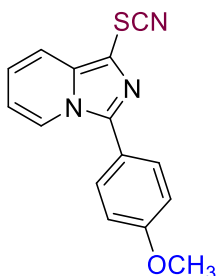
Spectral Data



3-Phenyl-1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2a): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.30 (d, $J=7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, $J=7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, $J=9$ Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.47 (m, 1H), 7.09-7.06 (m, 1H), 6.77 (t, $J=6.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 140.2, 135.4, 129.8, 129.2, 128.7, 128.3, 123.4, 122.7, 114.5, 110.6, 108.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_3\text{S}$: 252.0595; found: 252.0591.

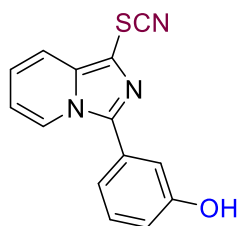


1-Thiocyanato-3-(*p*-tolyl)imidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2b): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.46-8.45 (m, 1H), 7.98 (d, $J=7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.78 (d, $J=9$ Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.34 (d, $J=7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.15-7.12 (m, 1H), 7.14-7.12 (m, 1H), 2.46 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ (ppm) 153.2, 147.9, 139.6, 129.5, 129.1, 128.7, 128.0, 124.4, 118.2, 114.3, 108.2, 94.3, 21.4. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_3\text{S}$: 266.0752; found: 266.0744.

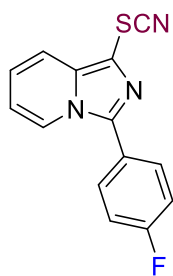


3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2c): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.27 (d, $J=7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.73-7.70 (m, 2H), 7.09-7.08 (m, 3H), 6.777 (d, $J=7.08$ Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 160.7, 140.3, 135.2, 129.8, 123.1,

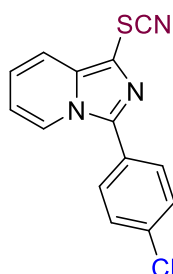
122.7, 121.1, 117.3, 114.6, 114.2, 110.6, 107.6, 55.5. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd. for $C_{15}H_{12}ON_3S$: 282.0701; found: 282.0696.



4-(1-Thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl)phenol (2d): 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.16 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.05 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.02-6.99 (m, 1H), 6.82-6.80 (M, 1H), 6.69-6.66 (M, 1H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 157.5, 140.4, 135.3, 130.3, 128.8, 123.9, 123.1, 119.6, 117.8, 117.1, 116.0, 114.7, 110.4, 107.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd. for $C_{14}H_{10}N_3OS$: 268.3140; found: 268.3136.

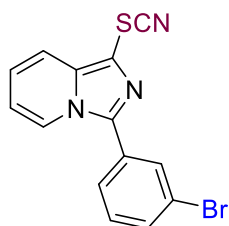


3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2e): 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 500 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.27 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.80-7.74 (m, 3H), 7.29-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.14-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.84-6.81 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 125 MHz) δ (ppm) 163.4 (d, $J_{F-C} = 250$ Hz), 139.3, 135.3, 130.4 (d, $J_{F-C} = 8.75$ Hz), 124.9 4 (d, $J_{F-C} = 3.75$ Hz), 123.3, 122.4, 117.4, 116.5 4 (d, $J_{F-C} = 22.5$ Hz), 114.6, 110.4, 108.3; ^{19}F NMR ($CDCl_3$, 471 MHz) δ (ppm) -109.95 (m, 1F). HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd. for $C_{14}H_8FN_3S$: 269.2974; found: 269.2972.

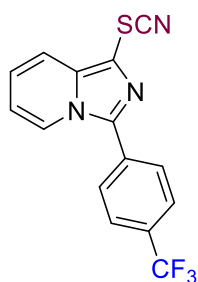


3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2f): 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.19 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.67-7.64 (m, 3H), 7.45 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.05-7.02 (m, 1H), 6.74 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 139.1, 135.8, 135.5, 129.5,

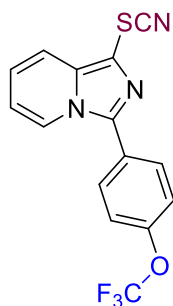
127.2, 123.5, 122.5, 117.5, 114.8, 110.4, 108.6. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd. for $C_{14}H_9ClN_3S$: 286.0200; found, 286.0199.



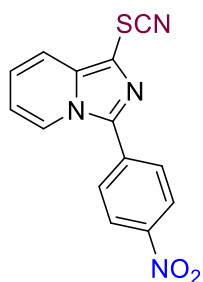
3-(3-Bromophenyl)-1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2g): 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.31 (d, $J=7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.75-7.71 (m, 2H), 7.63 (d, $J=7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, $J=7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.84 (t, $J=6.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 138.5, 135.5, 132.8, 131.2, 130.7, 130.6, 126.7, 123.6, 123.3, 122.5, 117.5, 114.9, 110.3, 108.8. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd. for $C_{14}H_9BrN_3S$: 329.9701; found: 329.9692.



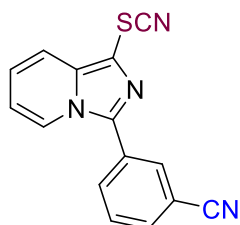
1-Thiocyanato-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)imidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2h): 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.27 (d, $J=6.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, $J=7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, $J=8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, $J=9.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.07 (m, 1H), 6.79-6.75 (t, $J=7.2$ Hz, 1H), ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 138.6, 135.7, 132.3, 131.6, 131.4, 128.5, 126.2 (q, $J_{F-C}=4.5$ Hz), 123.7, 122.4, 117.6, 115.1, 110.2, 109.3. ^{19}F NMR ($CDCl_3$, 471 MHz) δ = -61.339 (s, 1F). HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd. for $C_{15}H_9F_3N_3S$: 320.3032; found: 335.3015.



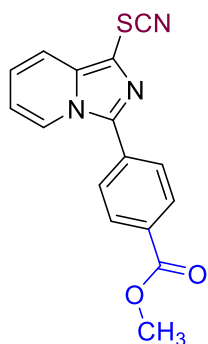
1-thiocyanato-3-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)imidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2i): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.29 (d, $J=7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, $J=9$ Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, $J=9$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, $J=8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.83 (t, $J=6.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 150.0, 138.8, 135.5, 129.9, 127.4, 123.5, 122.4, 121.6, 120.4 (d, $J_{\text{F-C}}=256.5$ Hz), 117.5, 114.8, 110.3, 108.6; ^{19}F NMR (CDCl_3 , 471 MHz) $\delta=-57.72$ (s, 3F). HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_9\text{F}_3\text{N}_3\text{OS}$: 335.3042; found: 335.3038.



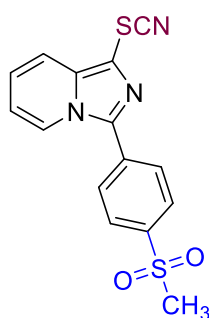
3-(4-Nitrophenyl)-1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2j): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.45-8.42 (m, 3H), 8.07-8.05 (m, 2H), 7.84 (d, $J=9.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.22 (m, 1H), 6.98-6.95 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz,) δ (ppm) 147.9, 137.7, 136.0, 134.8, 128.7, 124.5, 124.1, 122.4, 117.8, 115.6, 110.3, 109.9. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{N}_4\text{O}_2\text{S}$: 297.0446; found 297.0418.



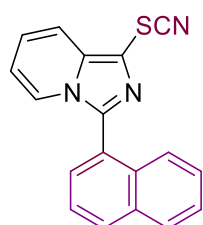
3-(1-Thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl)benzotrile (2k): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.33 (dt, $J=7$ Hz, 1Hz, 1H), 8.12-8.11 (m, 1H), 8.09-8.07 (m, 1H), 7.81-7.79 (m, 1H), 7.71 (td, $J=7$ Hz, 1 Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.18 (m, 1H), 6.94-6.91 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz,) δ (ppm) 137.6, 135.8, 132.9, 132.3, 131.4, 130.2, 123.9, 122.2, 117.9, 117.6, 115.4, 113.7, 110.1, 109.4. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_9\text{N}_4\text{S}$: 277.0548; found: 277.0547.



Methyl 4-(1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl)benzoate (2l): ^1H NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.71 (d, $J=7.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.16-8.14 (m, 2H), 8.07-8.06 (m, 2H), 7.87 (d, $J=9$ Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.06-7.04 (m, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H); (d, $J=7.8$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 150 MHz,) δ (ppm) 166.2, 143.0, 141.0, 138.7, 135.8, 133.4, 130.3, 128.6, 125.2, 124.5, 117.2, 115.8, 111.8, 52.8. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{S}$: 309.0572; found 309.0565.

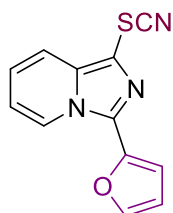


3-(4-(Methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2m): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.31 (d, $J=7.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.06 (d, $J=8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.96 (d, $J=8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, $J=9$ Hz, 1H), 7.13-7.10 (m, 1H), 6.85-6.83 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz,) δ (ppm) 141.2, 138.0, 135.9, 134.0, 128.8, 128.4, 124.0, 122.4, 117.7, 115.5, 110.0, 109.9, 44.5. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}_2$: 330.4000; found 309.3996.

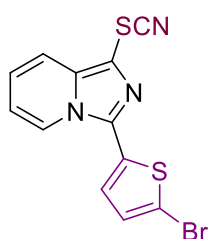


3-(Naphthalen-1-yl)-1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2n): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.01 (d, $J=7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, $J=7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, $J=9$ Hz, 1H), 7.71 (t,

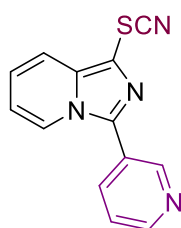
$J= 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.63-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.53 (t, $J= 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 (t, $J= 7.2$ Hz, 2H); (d, $J= 7.8$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz,) δ (ppm) 139.0, 135.1, 133.9, 131.5, 130.8, 129.0, 128.8, 127.5, 126.7, 125.6, 125.3, 125.0, 123.5, 123.3, 117.1, 114.2, 110.7, 107.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_3\text{S}$: 302.0752; found: 302.0747.



3-(Furan-2-yl)-1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2o): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.77 (d, $J= 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, $J= 9$ Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, $J= 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.12-7.09 (m, 2H), 6.87 (t, $J= 6.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.6 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz,) δ (ppm) 145.0, 142.9, 134.8, 132.2, 124.3, 123.5, 117.1, 114.9, 112.0, 110.2, 108.5. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_8\text{N}_3\text{OS}$: 242.2762; found: 242.2753.

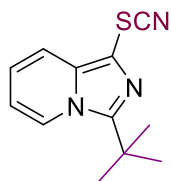


3-(5-Bromothiophen-2-yl)-1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2p): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.35 (d, $J= 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, $J= 9.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.3 (d, $J= 4.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, $J= 4.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.15-7.12 (m, 1H), 6.90 (t, $J= 7.2$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 135.4, 133.7, 132.0, 130.7, 126.6, 123.5, 117.6, 115.3, 114.9, 110.1, 109.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_6\text{BrN}_3\text{OS}$: 336.2250; found: 242.2245.



3-(Pyridin-3-yl)-1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2q): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ (ppm) 9.07 (s, 1H), 8.76 (d, $J= 4$ Hz, 1H), 8.33 (d, $J= 7$ Hz, 1H), 8.15 (dt, $J= 8$ Hz, 2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, $J= 9.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.16 (m, 1H), 6.90-6.88 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ (ppm) 150.6, 148.7, 137.2, 136.0, 135.7, 125.3, 124.1, 123.8, 122.2, 117.6,

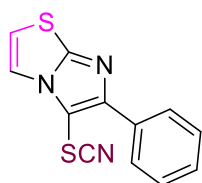
115.2, 110.2, 109.3. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd. for $C_{13}H_8N_4S$: 252.2950; found: 252.2947.



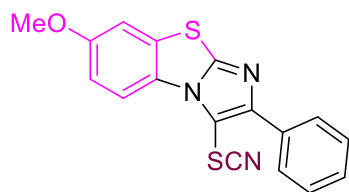
3-(*Tert*-butyl)-1-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (2r): 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 500 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.18 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, $J = 9$ Hz, 1H), 7.04-7.01 (m, 1H), 6.76-6.73 (m, 1H), 1.57 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 125 MHz) δ (ppm) 147.5, 135.9, 124.2, 122.0, 111.0, 105.0, 33.8, 28.0. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd. for $C_{12}H_{13}N_3S$: 231.3170; found: 231.3168.



2-Phenyl-3-thiocyanatoimidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridine (3aa): 1H NMR ($CDCl_3$, 500 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.47 (dt, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1Hz, 1H), 8.09-8.07 (m, 2H), 7.79 (d, $J = 9$ Hz, 1H), 7.57-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.51-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.15 (td, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 125 MHz) δ (ppm) 153.1, 148.0, 132.0, 129.5, 128.8, 128.7, 128.0, 124.4, 118.3, 114.4, 108.1, 94.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd. for $C_{14}H_{10}N_3S$: 252.0595; found: 252.0591.



6-Phenyl-5-thiocyanatoimidazo[2,1-*b*]thiazole (3ba): 1H NMR ($DMSO-d_6$, 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.23 (d, $J = 4$ Hz, 1H), 8.00-7.98 (m, 2H), 7.58 (d, $J = 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.57-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.45 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR ($CDCl_3$, 125 MHz) δ (ppm) 152.7, 152.2, 132.8, 129.3, 128.1, 127.9, 119.7, 116.6, 111.1, 90.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M + H]^+$ Calcd. for $C_{12}H_7N_3S_2$: 257.3290; found: 257.3286.



7-Methoxy-2-phenyl-3-thiocyanatobenzo[*d*]imidazo[2,1-*b*]thiazole (3ca): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.39 (d, $J = 9$ Hz, 1H), 8.00-7.99 (m, 2H), 7.56-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.30 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.16 (dd, $J = 9$ Hz, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz) δ (ppm) 157.8, 155.0, 131.9, 131.8, 129.2, 128.7, 128.3, 127.0, 114.5, 114.2, 108.9, 108.8, 97.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_3\text{OS}_2$: 337.0344; found: 337.0341.

Gram Scale Synthesis

An oven-dried round bottom flask was charged with the 3-phenyl imidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (7.0 mmol, 1.35 gm), KSCN (2 equiv.), K₂S₂O₈ (1 equiv.) in 10 mL of H₂O. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 9 h under irradiation of blue LED light (24 W, 455 nm) in open air. The reaction mixture was kept at a distance of 2 cm from the light source for irradiation. After completion of reaction, the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (15 mL × 3). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to afford the desired product **2a** in 89% yield (Scheme 1).



Scheme 1: Gram-scale reaction.

Reaction conditions: **1** (7 mmol), KSCN (2 equiv.), K₂S₂O₈ (1 equiv.), H₂O (10 mL), 9 h, rt, open air, blue LED (24 W, 455 nm). ^bIsolated yield.

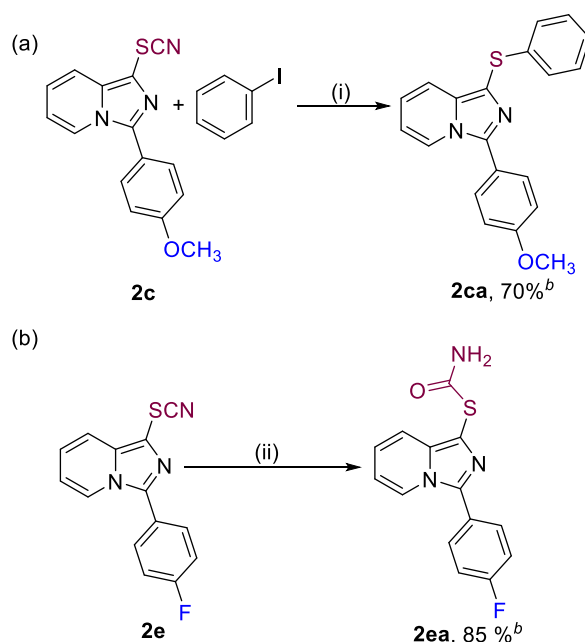
Conversion of thiocyanated imidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridines to thioether and thiocarbamate:

General procedure for the synthesis of **2ca**:

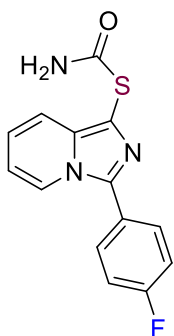
To an oven-dried round bottom flask **2c** (1 equiv., 0.2 mmol) was added in 2 mL of water. Iodobenzene (1 equiv.), CuCl₂•2H₂O (0.1 equiv.), 1,10-Phenanthroline (0.1 equiv.), Cs₂CO₃ (2 equiv.), (nBu)₄NF (0.2 equiv.) was further added and the entire reaction mixture was subjected to uniform stirring at 100°C for 12 h. After completion of reaction, the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (15 mL × 3). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using a solvent system of ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane to afford the desired product.

General procedure for the synthesis of **2ea**:

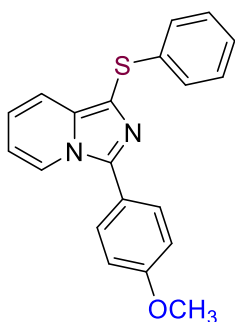
To an oven-dried round bottom flask, **2e** (1 equiv., 0.2 mmol) was added in 2 mL of DCM. To it 0.1 mL of H₂SO₄ (18 M) was added and the entire reaction mixture was subjected to uniform stirring for 4 h in ice bath. On completion of the reaction, 10 mL of DCM was added to it for further dilution and the entire reaction mixture was washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution (5 mL × 3), brine (5 mL × 2), dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using a solvent system of ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane to afford the desired product.



Scheme 2: Application of C-1 thiocyanated of imidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridines. "Reaction conditions: (i) **2c** (1 equiv.), Iodobenzene (1 equiv.), CuCl₂•2H₂O (0.1 equiv.), 1,10-Phenanthroline (0.1 equiv.), Cs₂CO₃ (2 equiv.), (nBu)₄NF (0.2 equiv.), H₂O (5 mL). (ii) **2e** (1 equiv., 0.2 mmol), H₂SO₄ (0.1 mL, 18 M), CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL), 0°C, 4h. ^bIsolated yield.



S-(3-(4-fluorophenyl)imidazo[1,5-a]pyridin-1-yl) carbamothioate (2ea): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.06 (d, $J=4$ Hz, 1H), 7.70-7.68 (m, 2H), 7.14 (t, $J=9$ Hz, 3H), 6.60-6.58 (m, 1H), 6.51 (t, $J=6.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 163.1(d, $J_{F-C}=248.5$ Hz), 138.4, 135.9, 130.2 (d, $J_{F-C}=7.5$ Hz), 125.7 (d, $J_{F-C}=3$ Hz), 124.1, 121.8, 121.3, 118.6, 116.2 (d, $J_{F-C}=21$ Hz), 113.9; ^{19}F NMR (CDCl_3 , 471 MHz) δ (ppm) -107.870 (m, 1F). HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{FN}_3\text{OS}$: 288.3204; found: 288.3200.

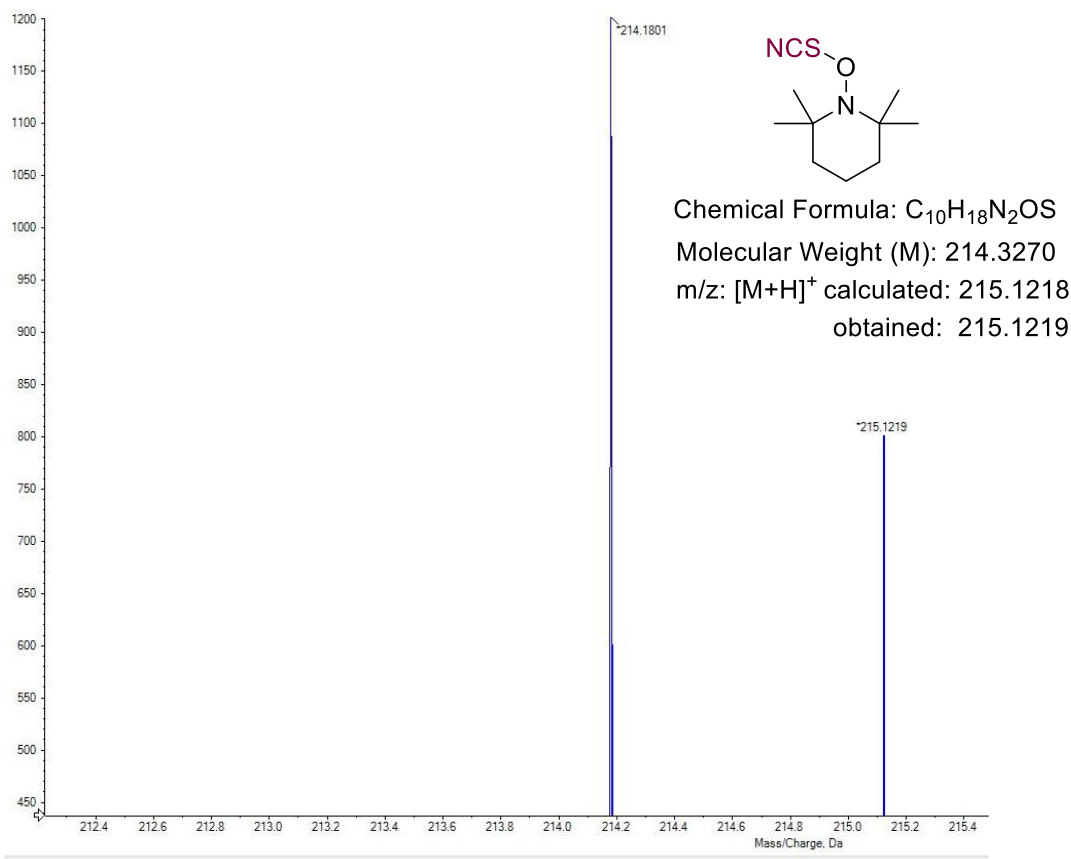


3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-(phenylthio)imidazo[1,5-a]pyridine (2ca): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 8.17 (d, $J=7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, $J=8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, $J=9$ Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.09 (m, 4H), 7.02-6.97 (m, 3H), 6.78-6.75 (m, 1H), 6.57 (t, $J=7.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz) δ (ppm) 160.3, 139.3, 138.5, 134.9, 130.6, 129.7, 128.8, 127.0, 125.4, 122.0, 120.8, 119.5, 118.4, 114.4, 113.7, 55.4. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ Calcd. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{OS}$: 332.4210; found: 332.4208.

Control Experiments

TEMPO addition in the general procedure:

An oven-dried round bottom flask was charged with the 3-phenylimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (1 mmol), KSCN (2 equiv.), K₂S₂O₈ (1 equiv.), TEMPO (4 equiv.) in 2 mL of H₂O. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6 h under irradiation of blue LED light (24 W, 455 nm) at a distance of 2 cm away from light source, in open air (Scheme 2a).



BHT addition in the general procedure:

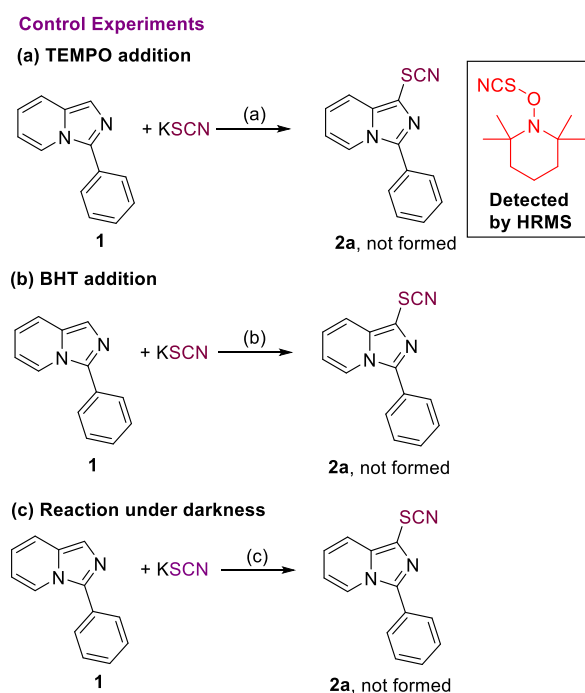
An oven-dried round bottom flask was charged with 3-phenylimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (1 mmol), KSCN (2 equiv.), K₂S₂O₈ (1 equiv.), BHT (4 equiv.) in 2 mL of H₂O. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6 h under irradiation of blue LED light (24 W, 455 nm), at a distance of 2 cm away from light source, in open air (Scheme 2b).

Reaction in darkness:

An oven-dried round bottom flask was charged with 3-phenylimidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (1 mmol), KSCN (2 equiv.), K₂S₂O₈ (1 equiv.), in 2 mL of H₂O. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h in open air and in absence of any light source *i.e.*, in darkness (Scheme 2c).

Light on-off experiment:

Six standard oven-dried round bottom flask were charged with 3-phenyl imidazo[1,5-*a*]pyridine (1 mmol), KSCN (2 equiv.), K₂S₂O₈ (1 equiv.), in 2 mL of H₂O. The mixtures were stirred uniformly under irradiated of blue LEDs (approximately 2 cm away from the light source) at room temperature. After 1hr LEDs were turned off, and one round bottom flask was removed from the irradiation setup for analysis. The remaining five reactions were stirred in the absence of light for another 1 hr. After 2 h, one reaction was removed for analysis, and the LED lamps were turned back on to irradiate the remaining four reaction mixtures. After an additional 1 h of irradiation, the blue LEDs were turned off, and one round bottom flask was removed for analysis. The remaining three reactions were stirred in the absence of light for an additional 1 h. After 4 h another reaction was removed for analysis, and the LEDs were turned back on to irradiate the remaining two reaction mixtures. After 5 h, the LEDs were turned off, and one round bottom flask was removed for analysis. The remaining one reaction was stirred in the absence of light for an additional 1 h, then, it was analyzed. The yield of each reaction was determined by column chromatography at the respective time intervals (Fig. 1).



Scheme 3: Control Experiments Scheme.

Reaction conditions: (a) **1** (1 mmol), KSCN (2 equiv.), K₂S₂O₈ (1 equiv.), TEMPO (4 equiv.), blue LED (24 W, 455 nm), H₂O (2 mL), 6 h, rt, open air; (b) **1** (1 mmol), KSCN (2 equiv.), K₂S₂O₈ (1 equiv.), BHT (4 equiv.), blue LED (24 W, 455 nm), H₂O (2 mL), 6 h, rt, open air; (c) **1** (1 mmol), KSCN (2 equiv.), K₂S₂O₈ (1 equiv.), H₂O (2 mL), 6 h, rt, open air.

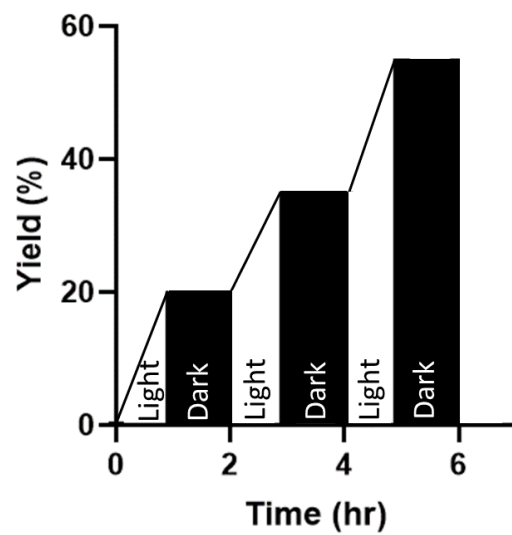
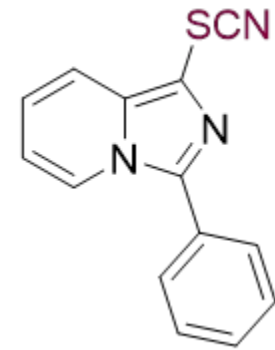


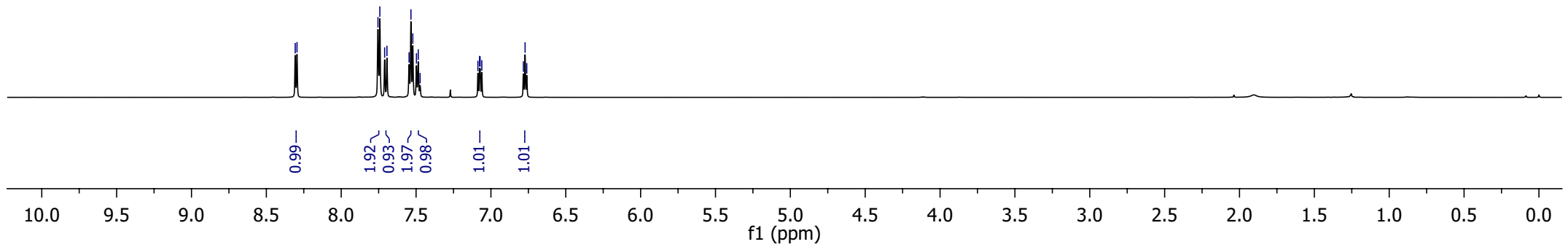
Figure 1: Light on-off experiment.

8.307
8.295
7.754
7.742
7.710
7.695
7.534
7.522
7.485
7.076
7.072
6.783
6.772
6.761

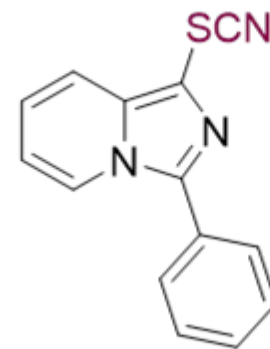


2a

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz)

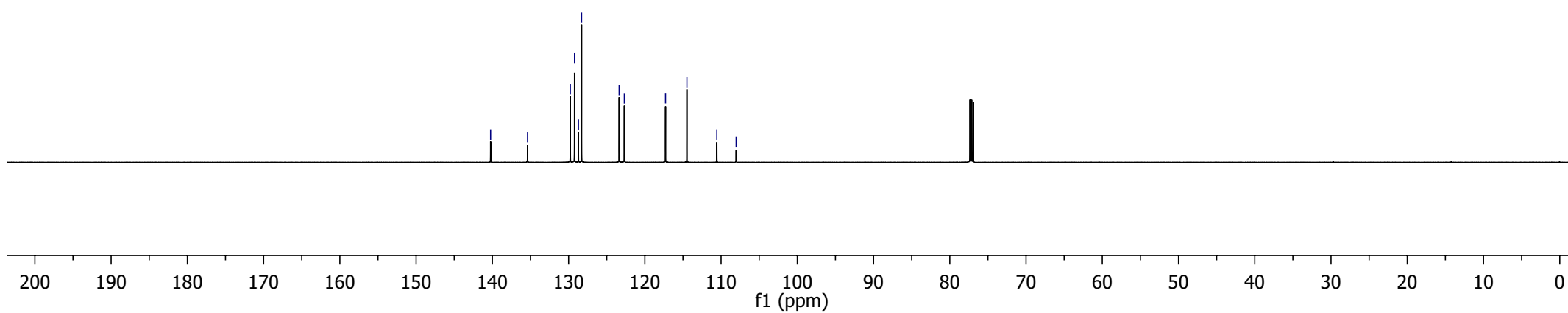


—140.23
—135.38
└─129.78
└─129.22
└─128.71
└─128.30
└─123.37
└─122.69
└─117.29
└─114.48
└─110.56
└─108.02

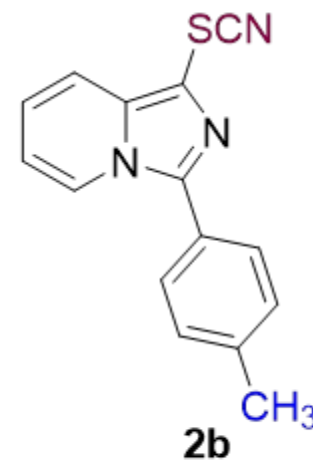


2a

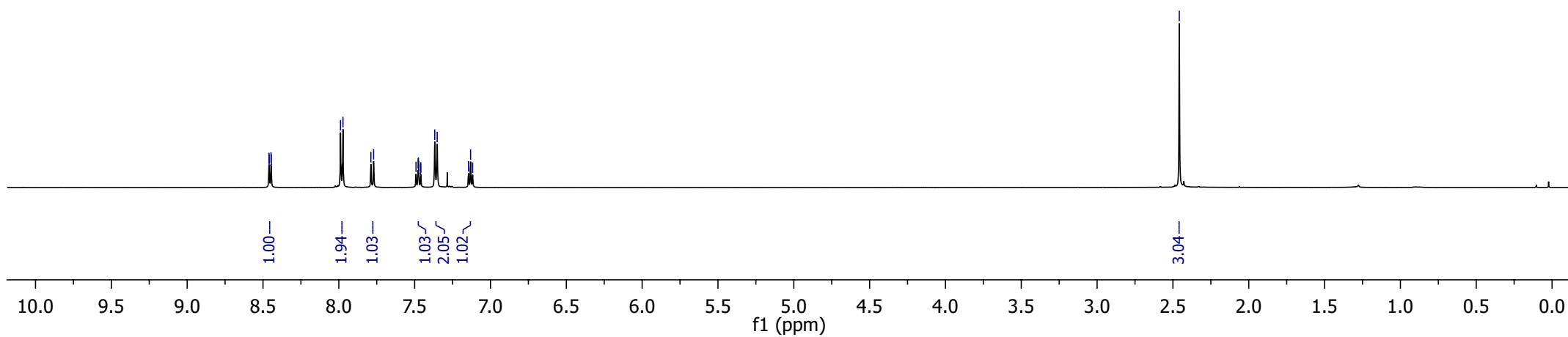
¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz)

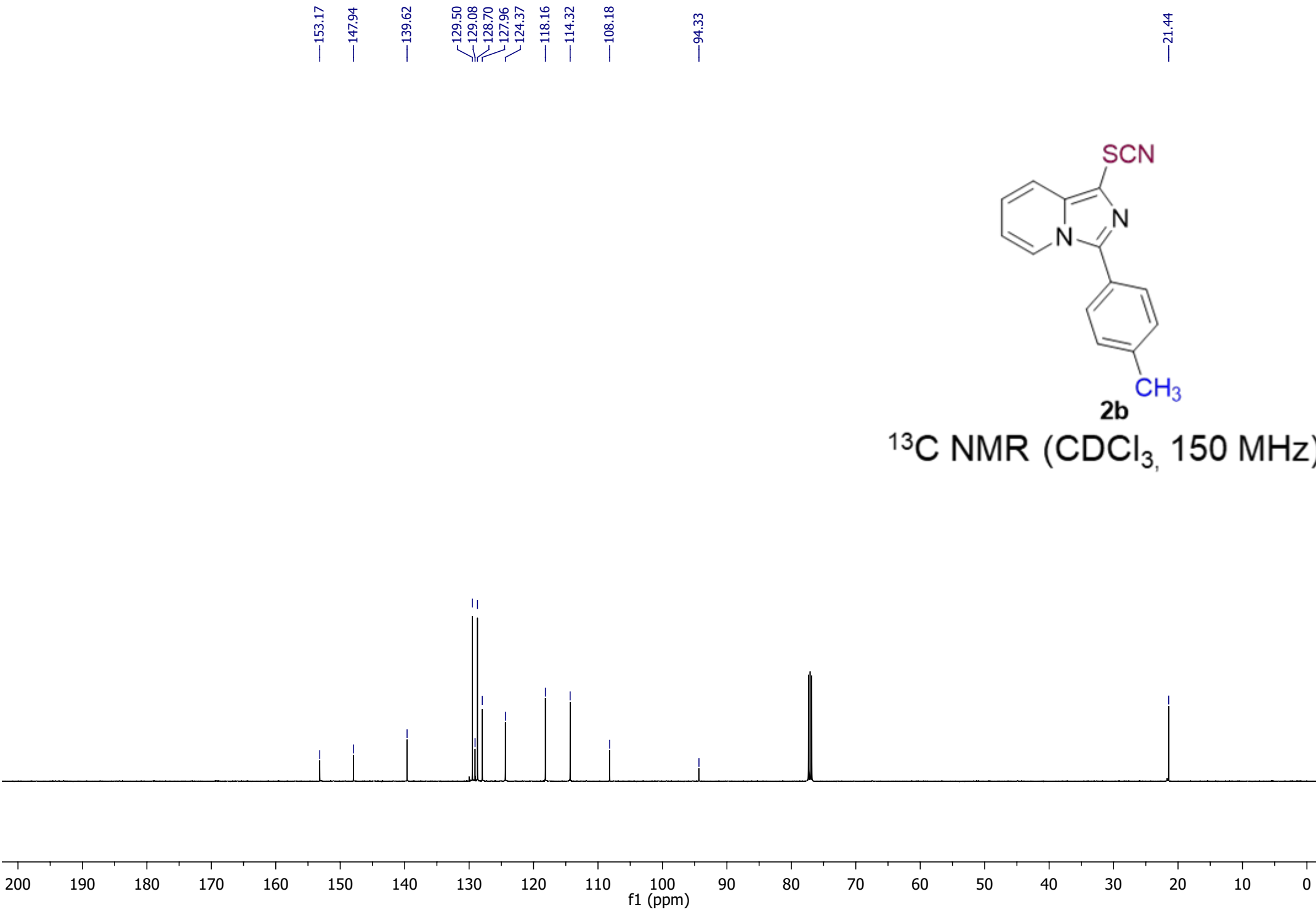


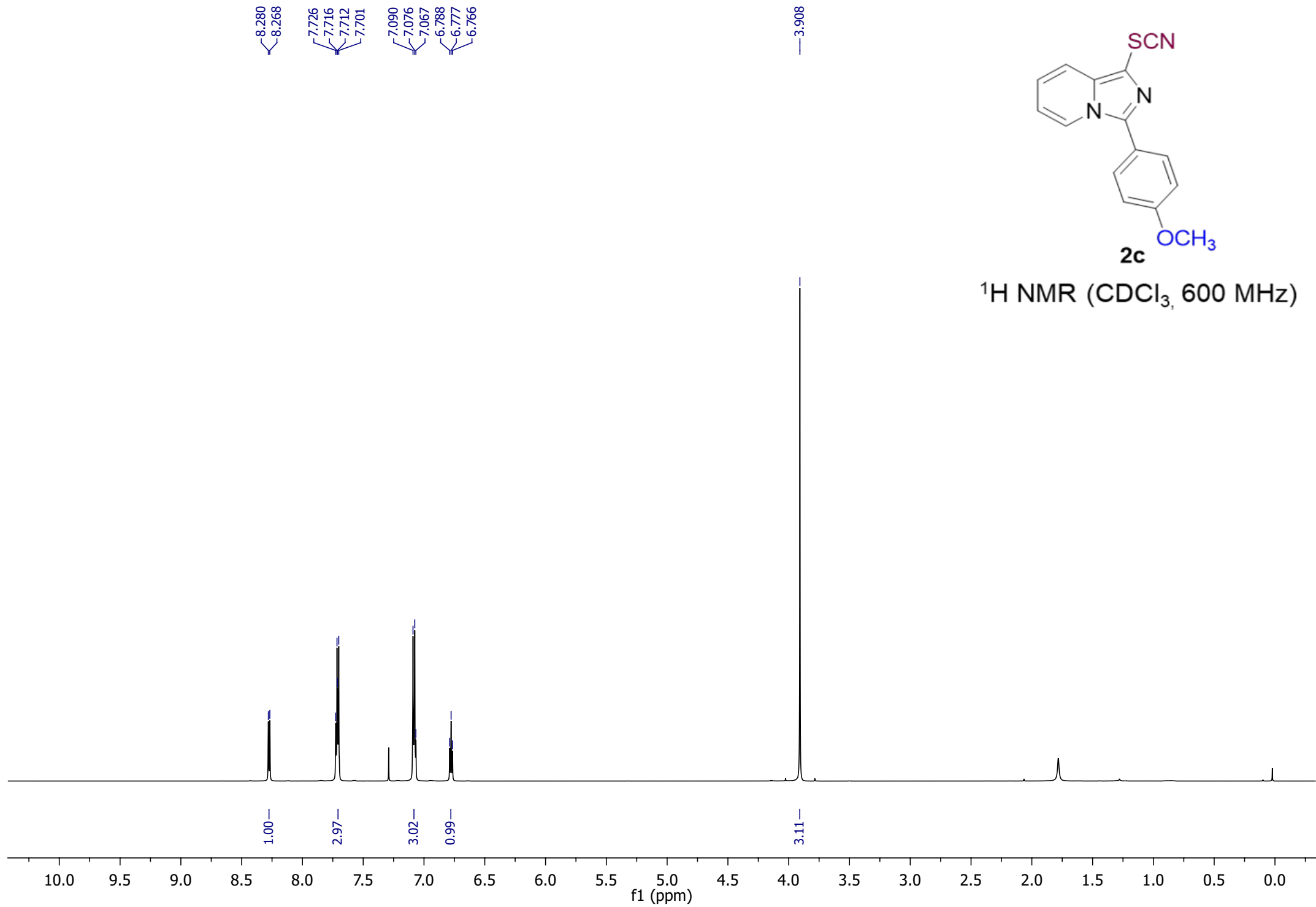
8.461
8.459
8.447
8.446
7.989
7.973
7.789
7.771
7.491
7.477
7.475
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7.461
7.459
7.367
7.352
7.145
7.131
7.118

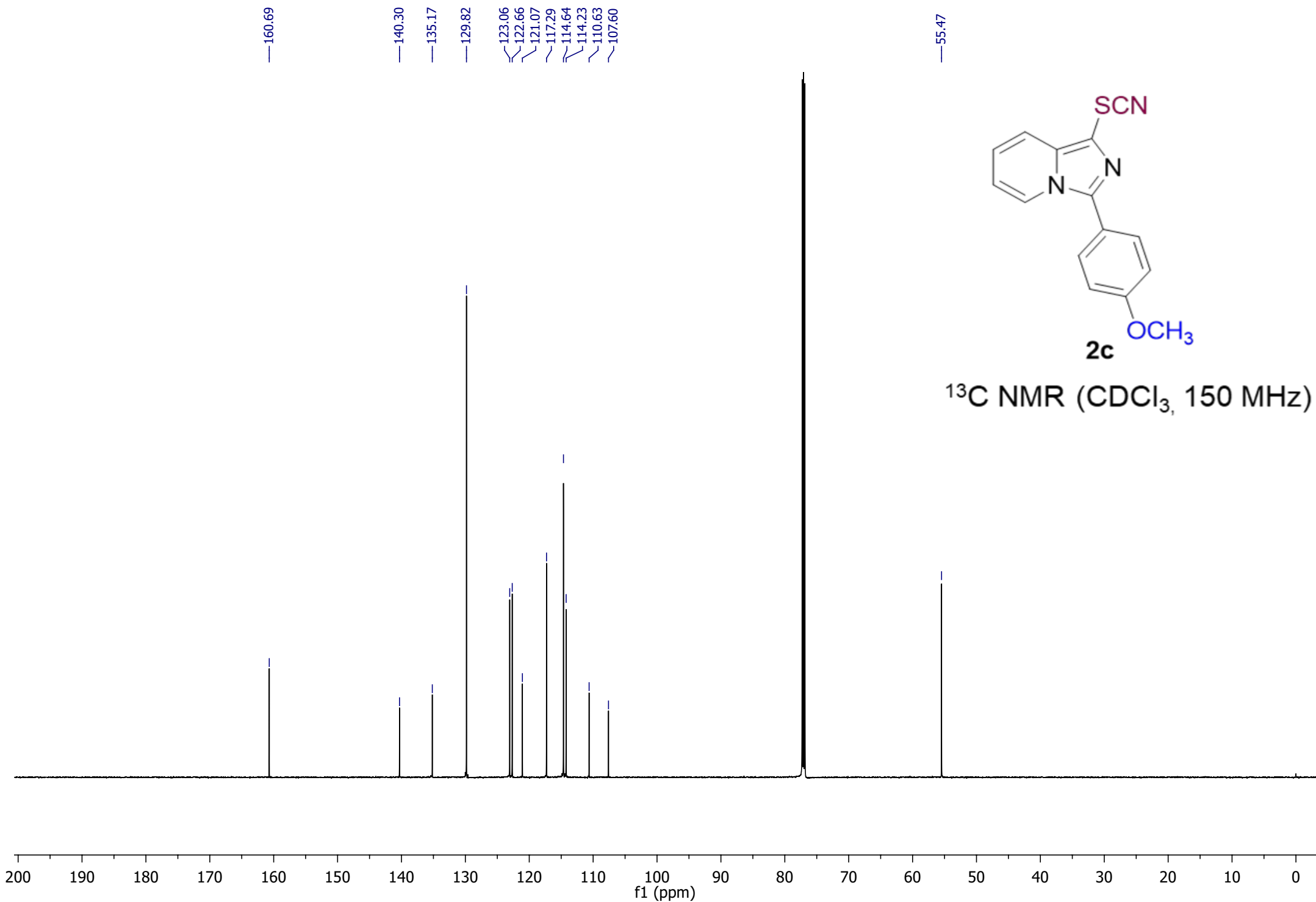


^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz)

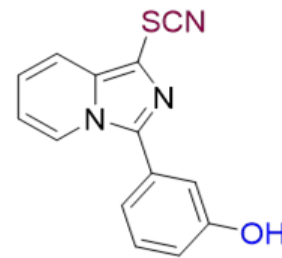






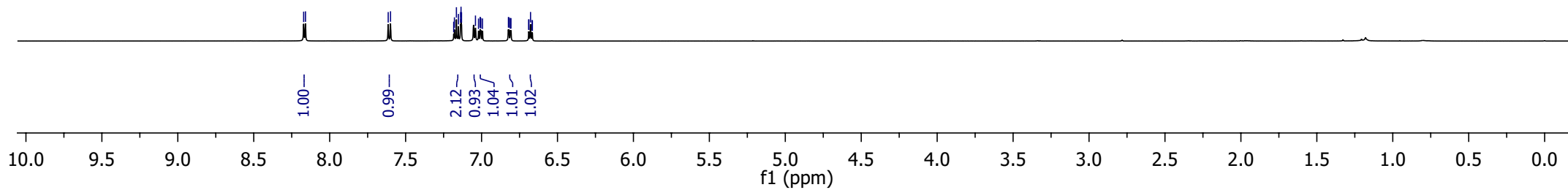


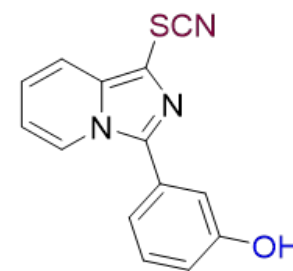
8.171
8.159
7.615
7.599
7.184
7.179
7.166
7.152
7.138
7.135
7.132
7.040
7.020
7.009
7.009
7.005
6.994
6.823
6.820
6.810
6.809
6.807
6.690
6.688
6.677
6.667
6.665



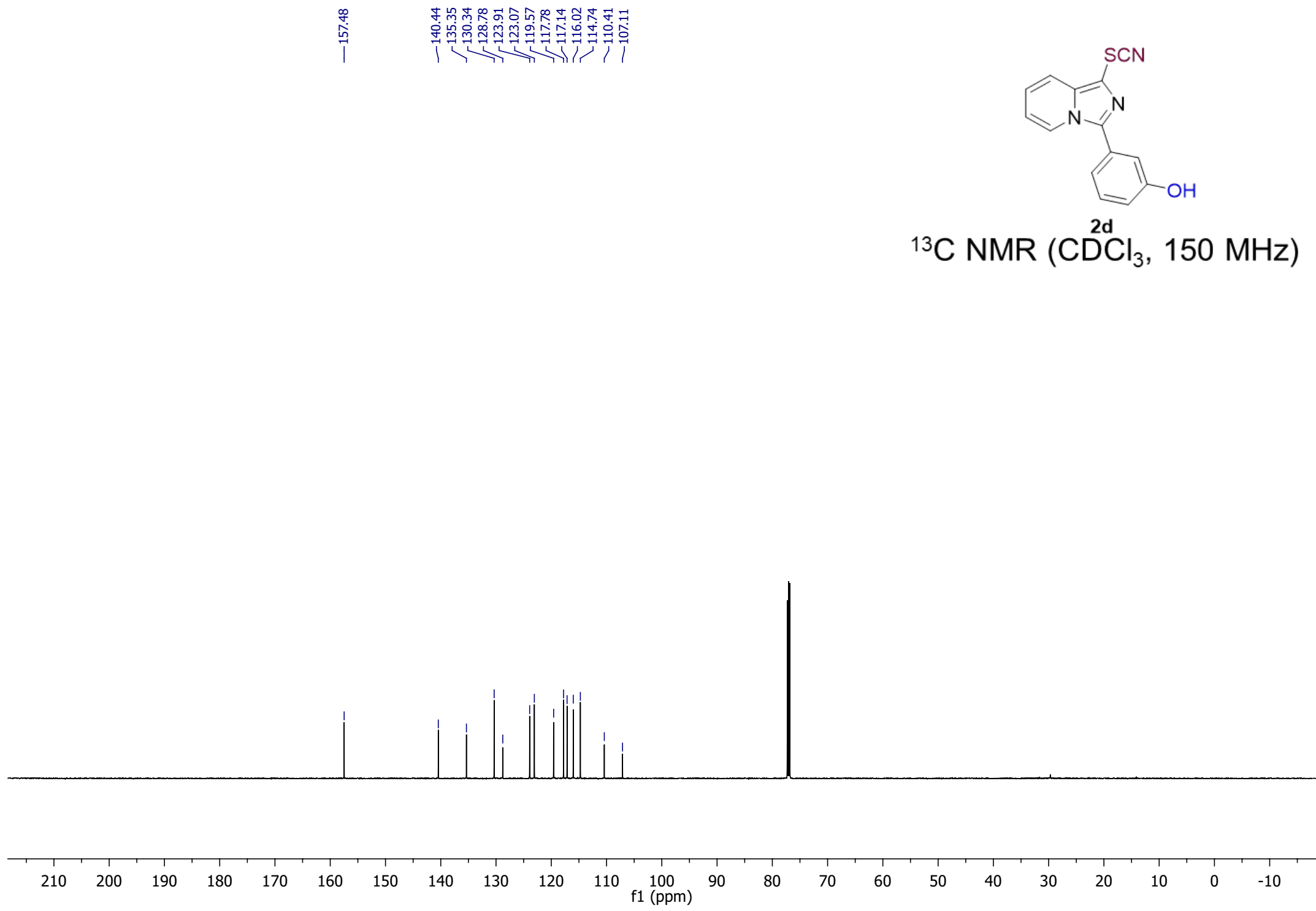
2d

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz)

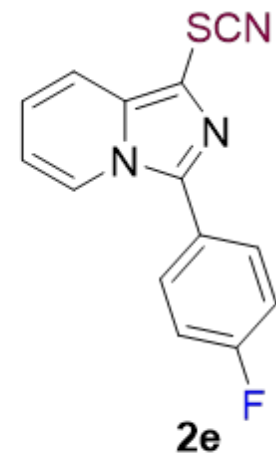




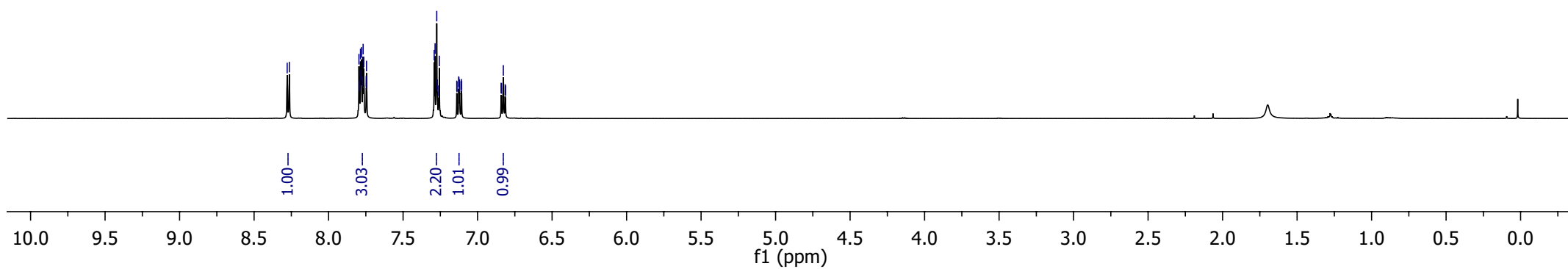
2d
¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz)



8.278
8.263
7.796
7.786
7.779
7.768
7.291
7.285
7.274
6.842
6.840
6.827
6.815
6.812

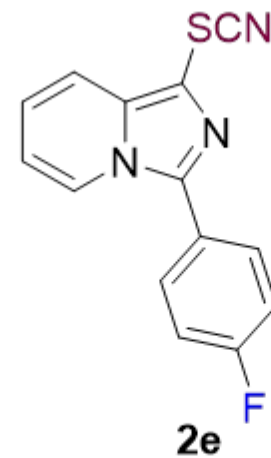


^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz)

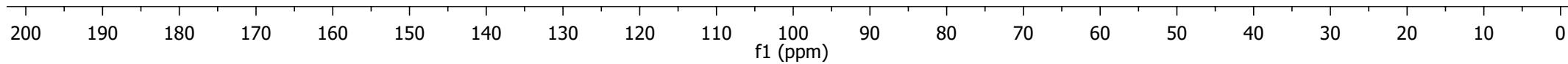


164.43
162.43

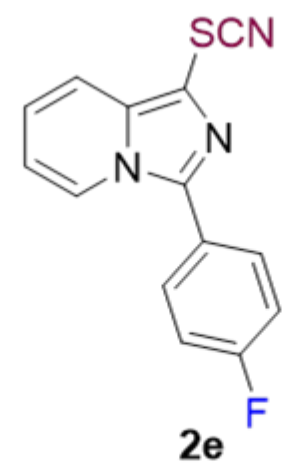
139.28
135.35
130.44
130.37
124.95
123.32
117.42
117.44
116.56
116.38
114.63
110.42
108.26



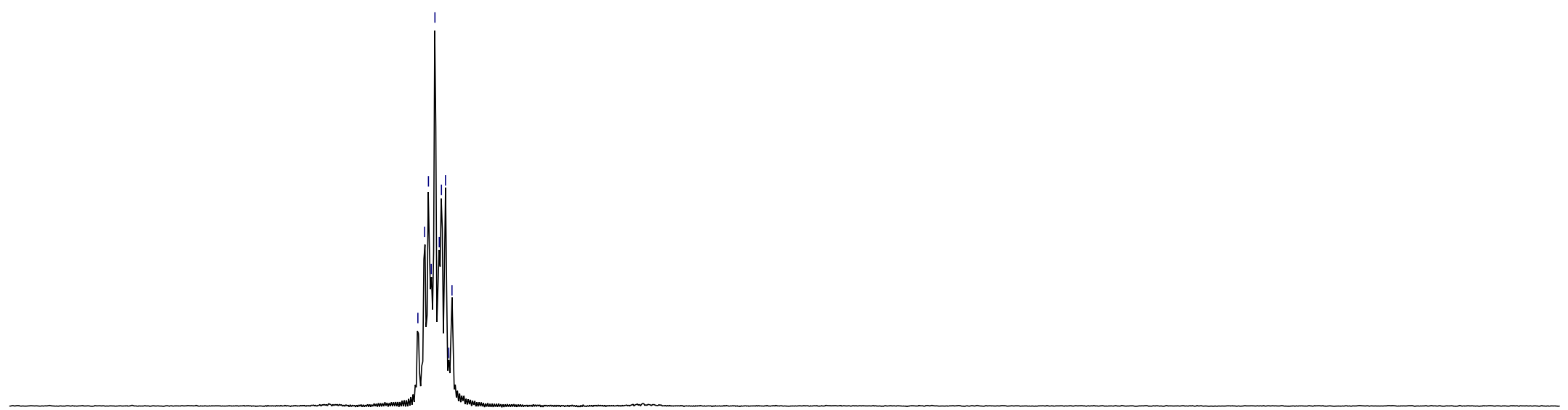
¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz)



-109.901
-109.912
-109.919
-109.924
-109.930
-109.937
-109.941
-109.948
-109.953
-109.959

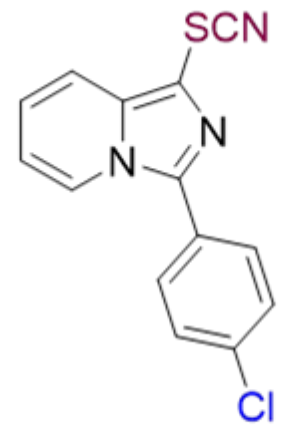


¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 471 MHz)



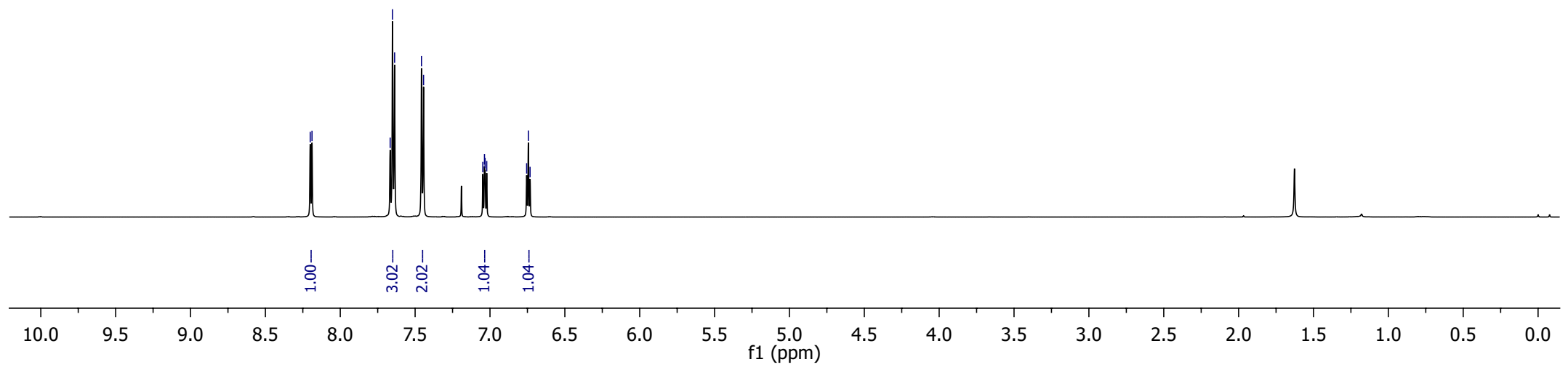
-109.3 -109.5 -109.7 -109.9 -110.1 -110.3 -110.5 -110.7 -110.9 -111.1 -111.3 -111.5 -111.7
f1 (ppm)

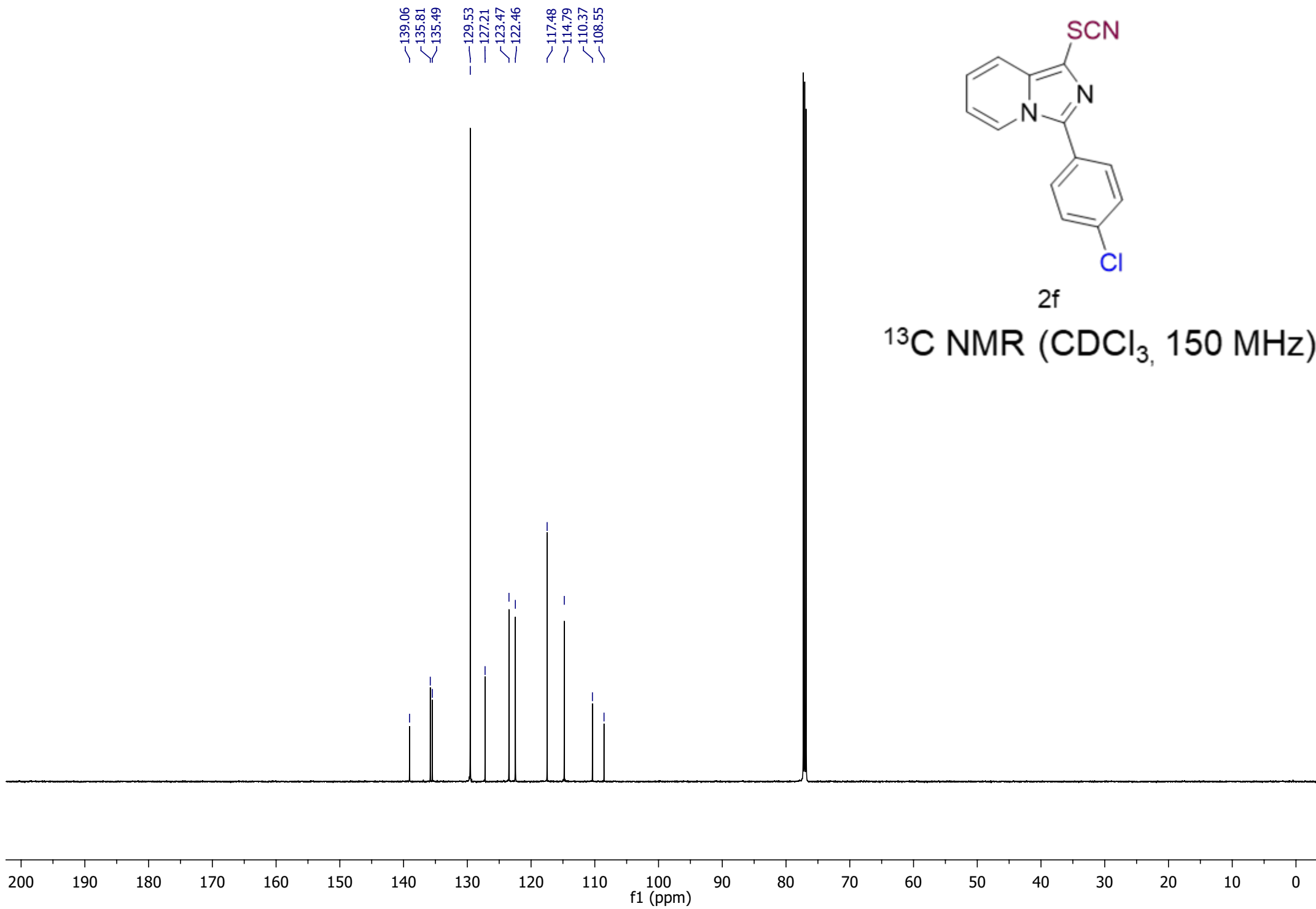
8.201
8.189
7.667
7.651
7.637
7.458
7.444
7.037
6.933
6.755
6.744
6.732



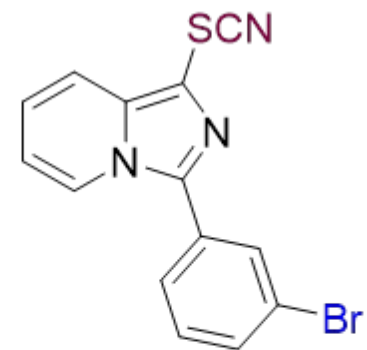
2f

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz)



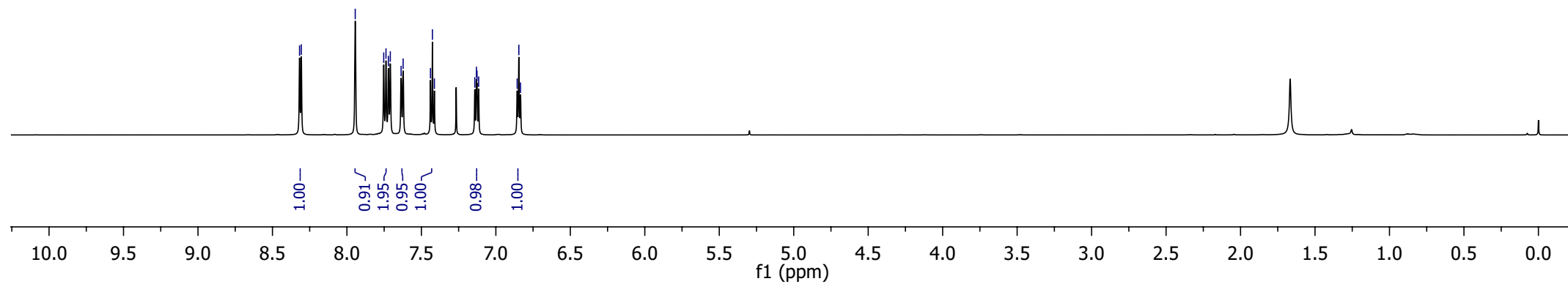


8.318
8.306
7.944
7.753
7.738
7.722
7.709
7.623
7.426
7.130
7.127
6.857
6.846
6.834

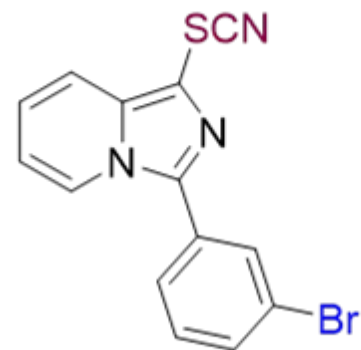


2g

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz)

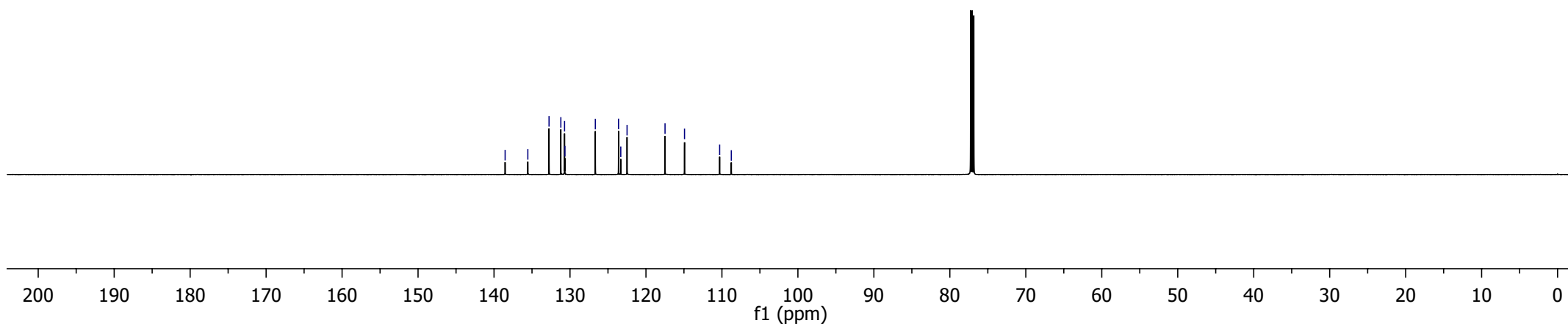


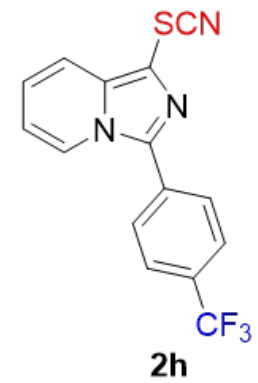
138.54
135.55
132.76
131.20
130.72
130.67
126.66
123.61
123.31
122.49
117.49
114.93
110.30
108.76



2g

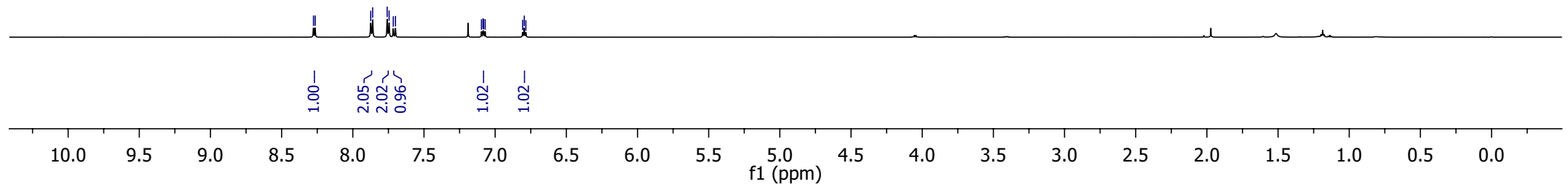
^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz)



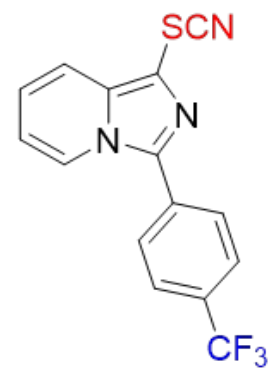


^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz)

8.277
8.265
7.874
7.861
7.759
7.745
7.700
7.085
7.081
6.807
6.795
6.784

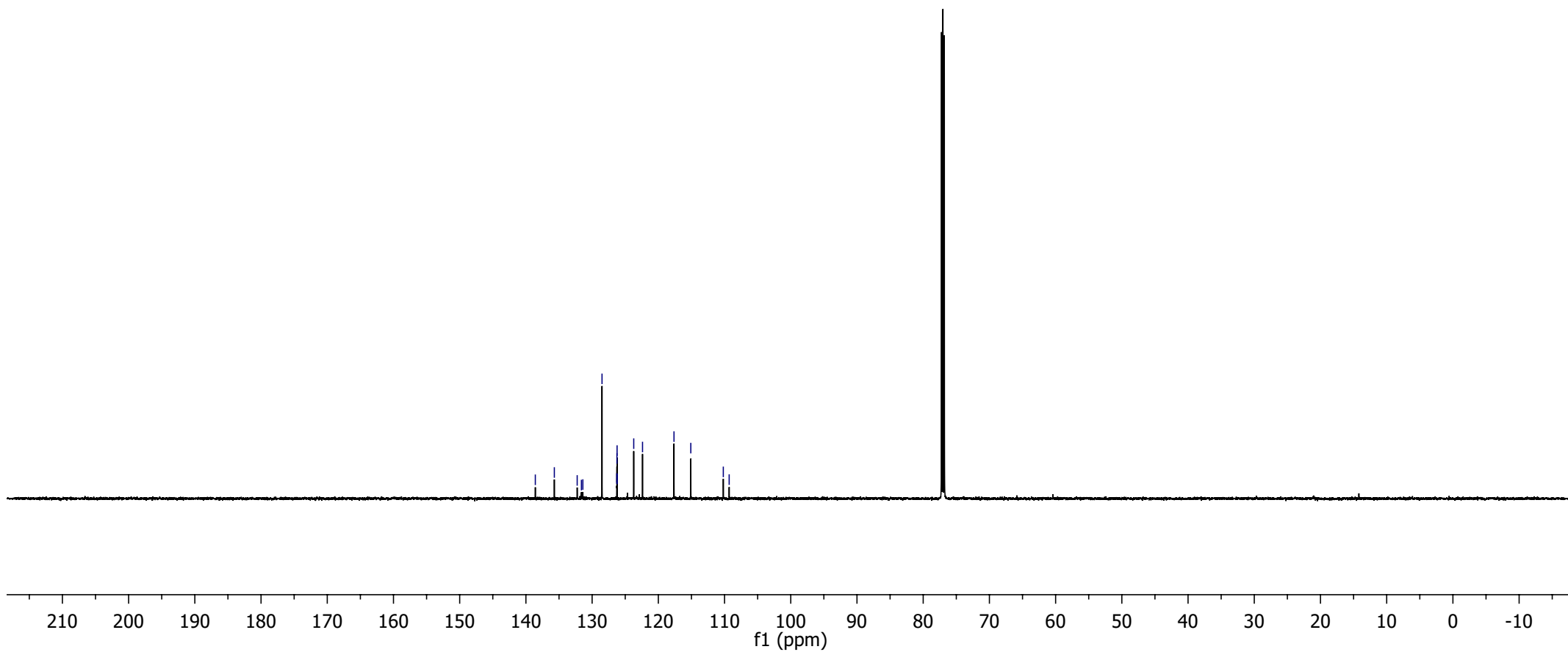


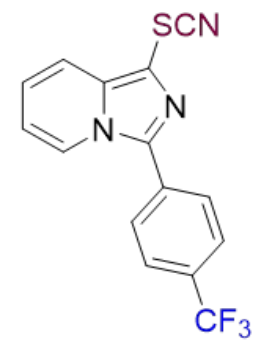
138.58
135.71
132.26
131.62
131.40
128.50
126.28
126.25
126.23
126.21
123.72
122.39
117.63
115.10
110.19
109.30



2h

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz)





2h

¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 471 MHz)

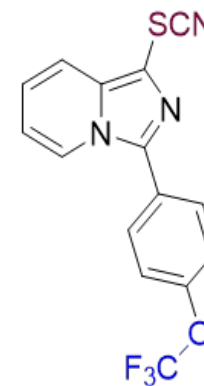
-61.339



f1 (ppm)

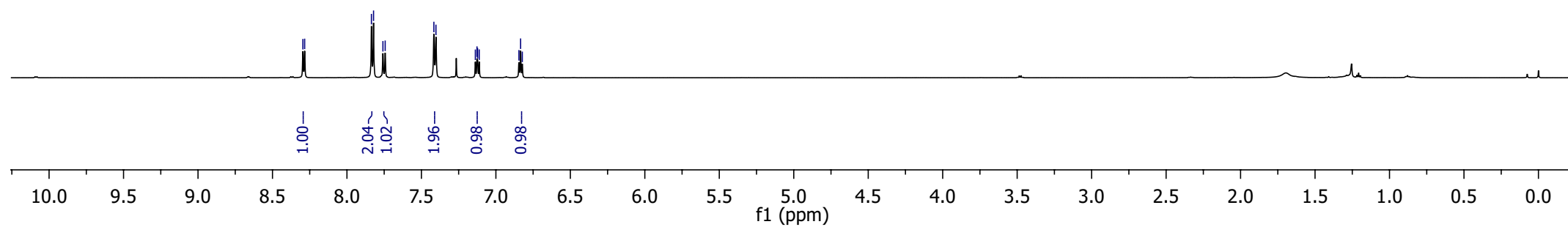
-42 -44 -46 -48 -50 -52 -54 -56 -58 -60 -62 -64 -66 -68 -70 -72 -74 -76 -78 -80 -82 -84

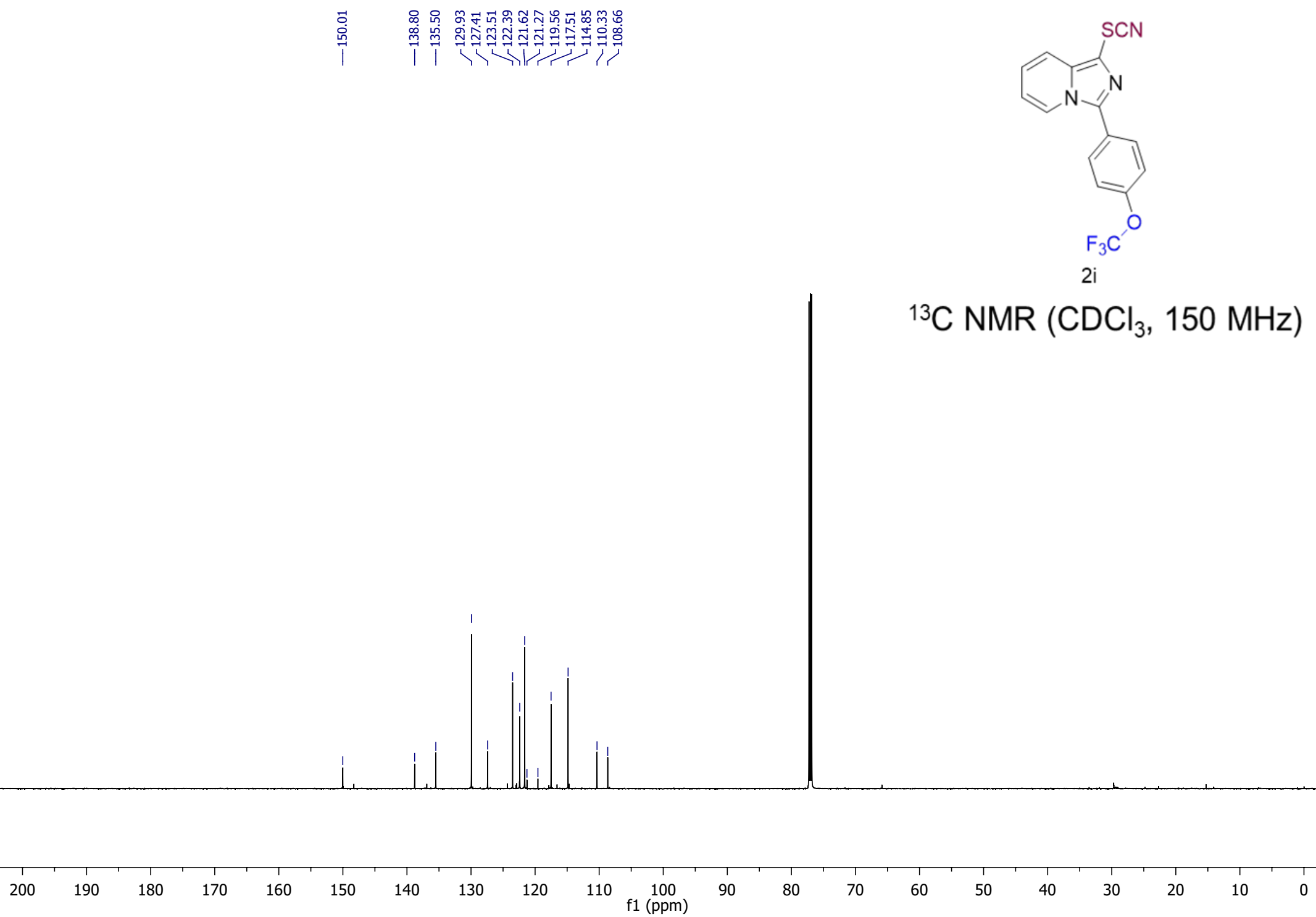
8.296
8.284
7.836
7.821
7.758
7.743
7.416
7.402
7.127
7.123
6.845
6.834
6.823

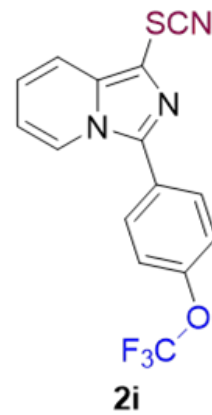


2i

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz)

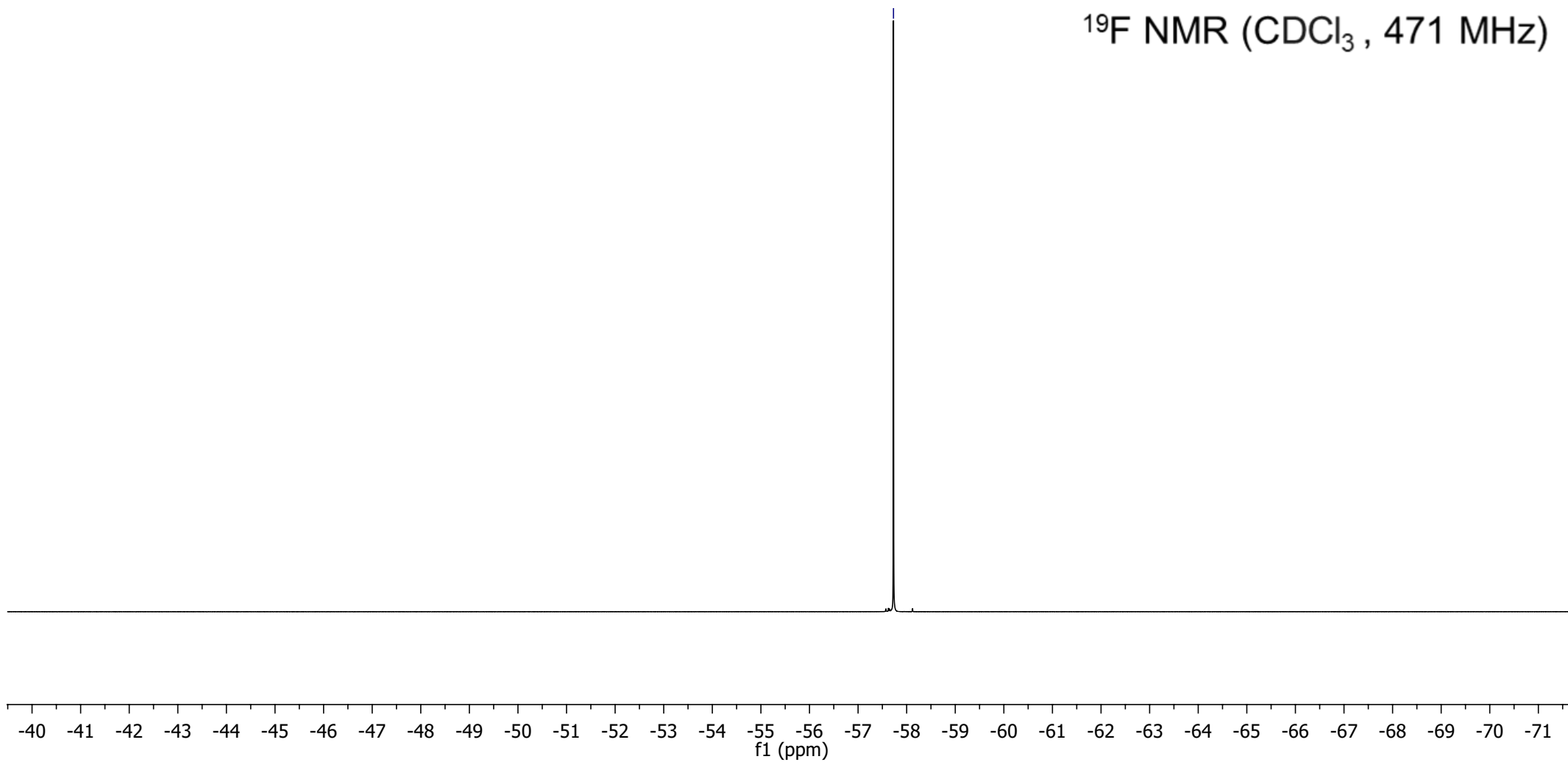


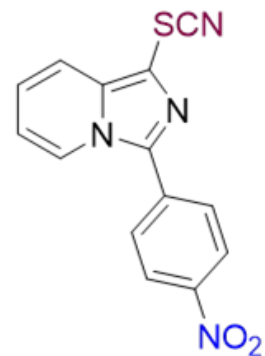




^{19}F NMR (CDCl_3 , 471 MHz)

-57.728





2j

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz)

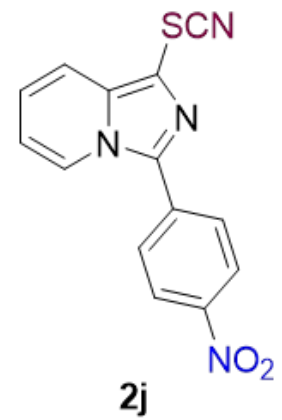
8.454
8.451
8.442
8.439
8.436
8.424
8.065
8.061
8.050
7.850
7.824
7.817
7.236
7.232
7.221
7.221
7.221
6.978
6.976
6.966
6.955
6.954

2.96
1.99
0.94
0.98
1.00

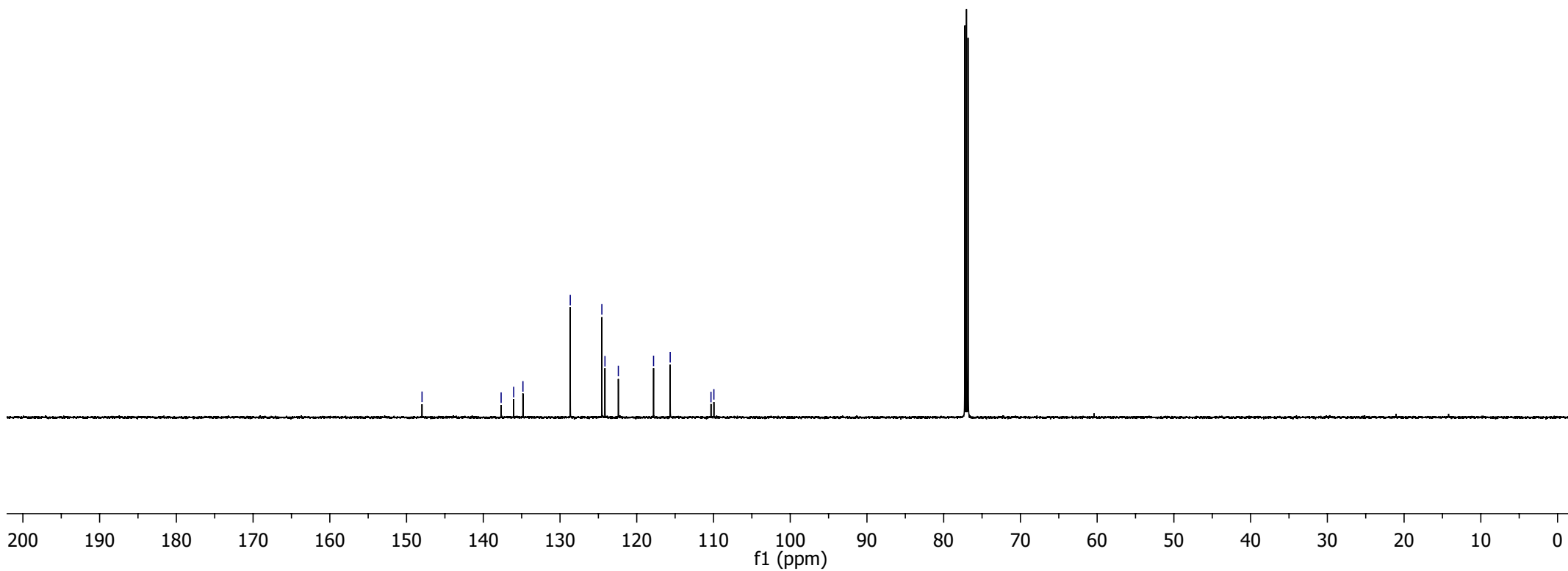
10.0 9.5 9.0 8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0

f1 (ppm)

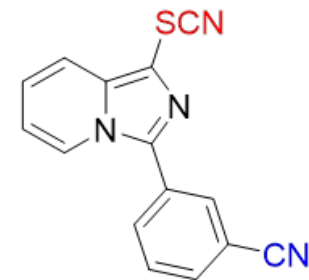
— 147.98
— 137.68
— 136.04
— 134.83
— 128.66
— 124.55
— 124.14
— 122.40
— 117.81
— 115.64
— 110.33
— 109.95



^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz)

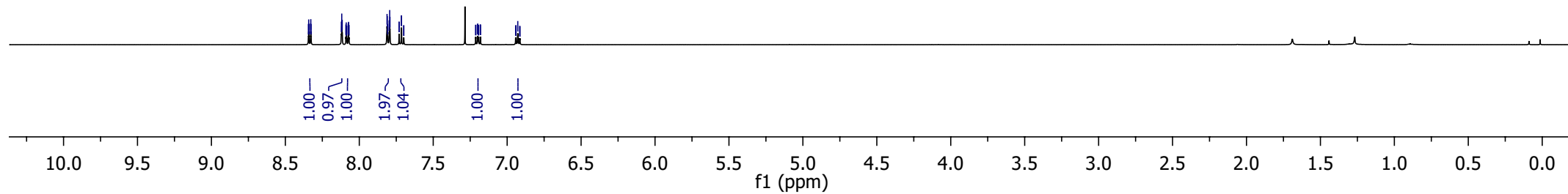


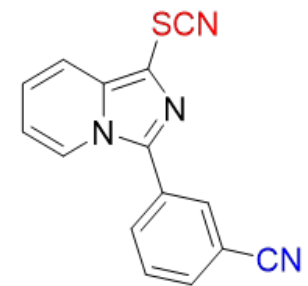
8.344
8.342
8.340
8.330
8.328
8.326
8.121
8.119
8.116
8.091
8.088
8.085
8.075
8.073
8.072
8.069
7.812
7.794
7.715
7.713
7.212
7.200
7.198
7.195
7.193
7.182
7.180
6.943
6.940
6.928
6.915
6.913



2k

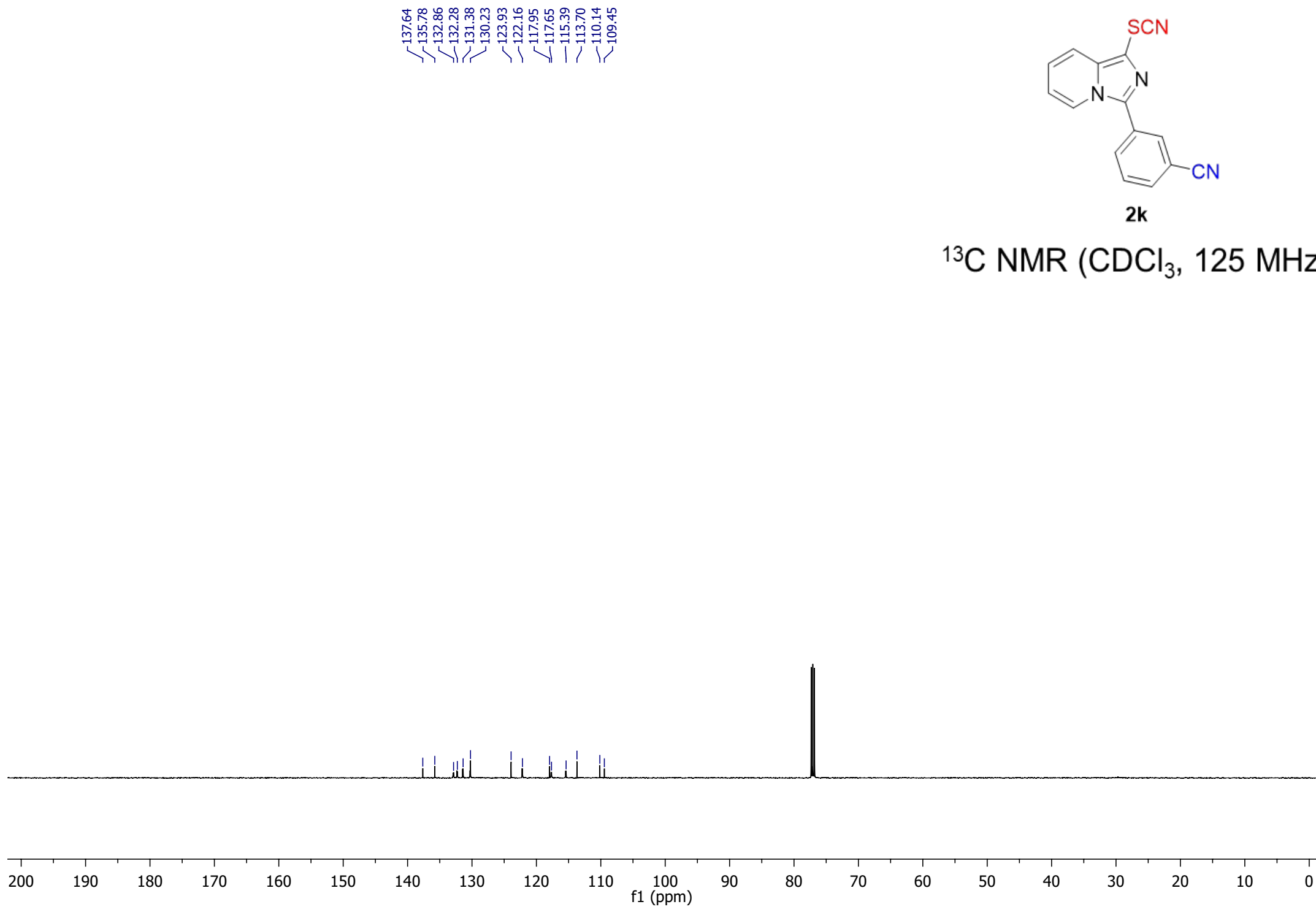
$^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz)

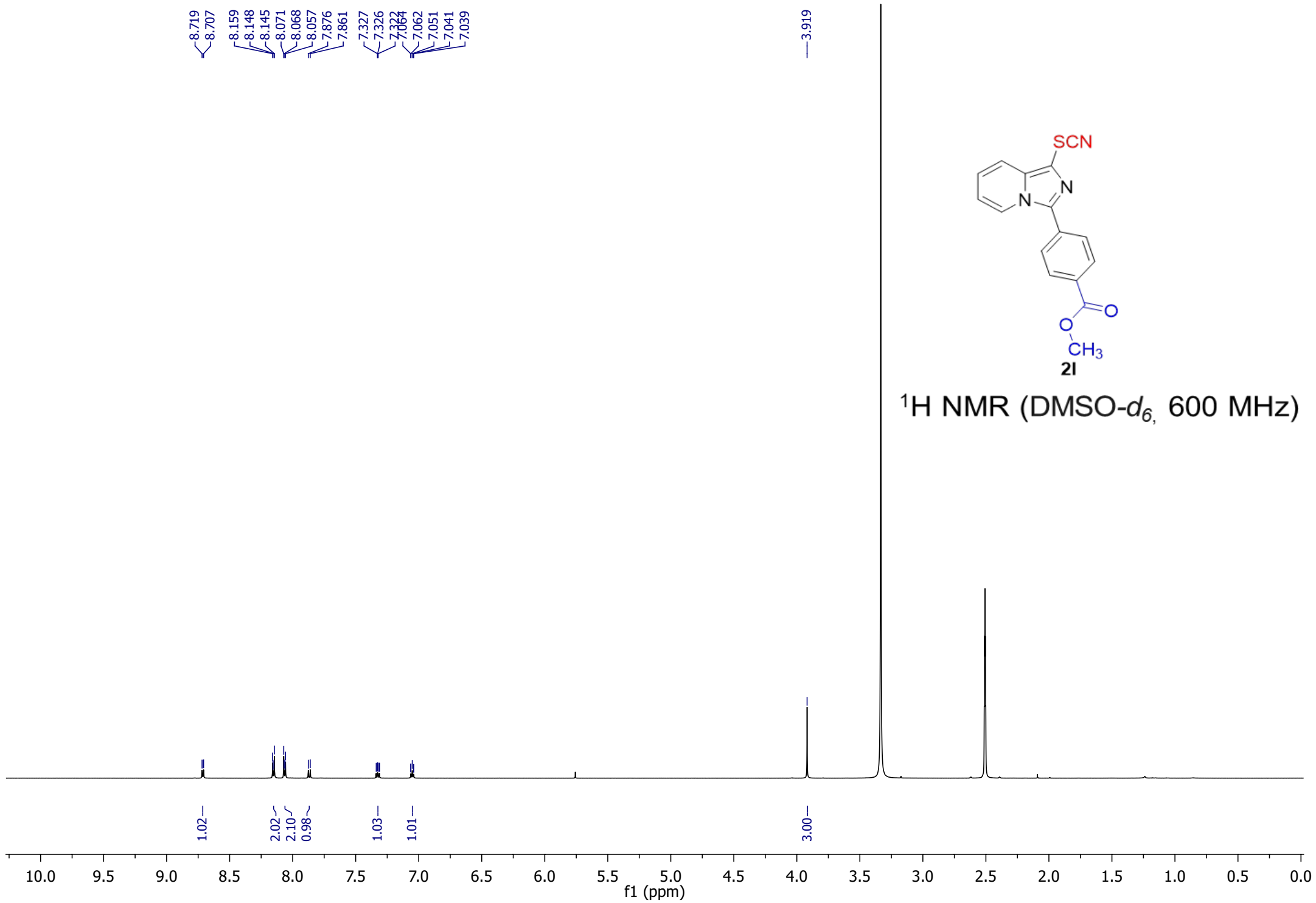


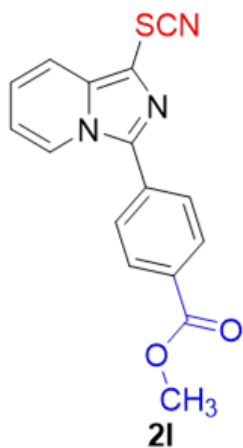


2k

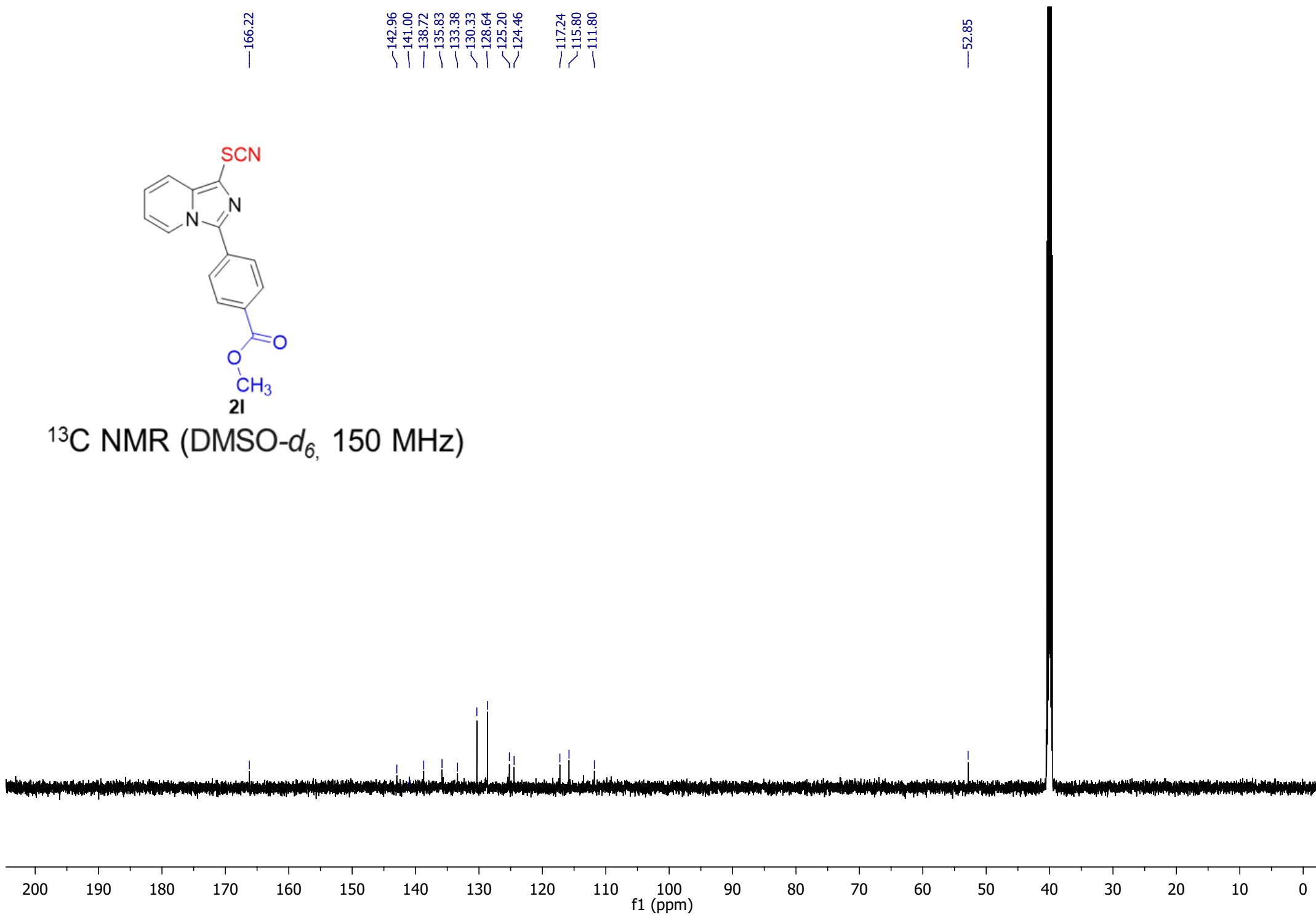
^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz)





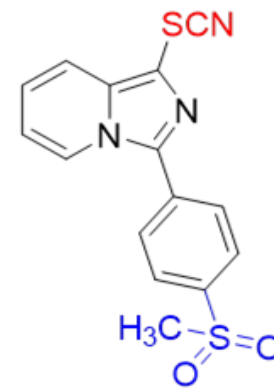


^{13}C NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 150 MHz)

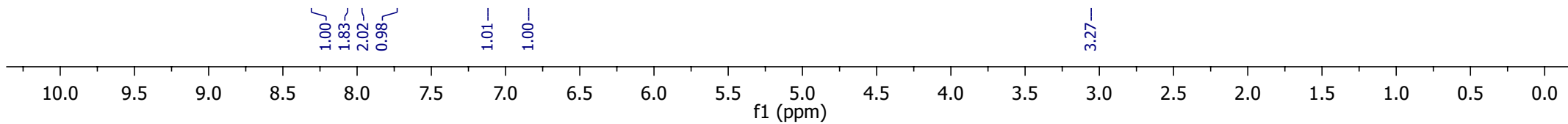


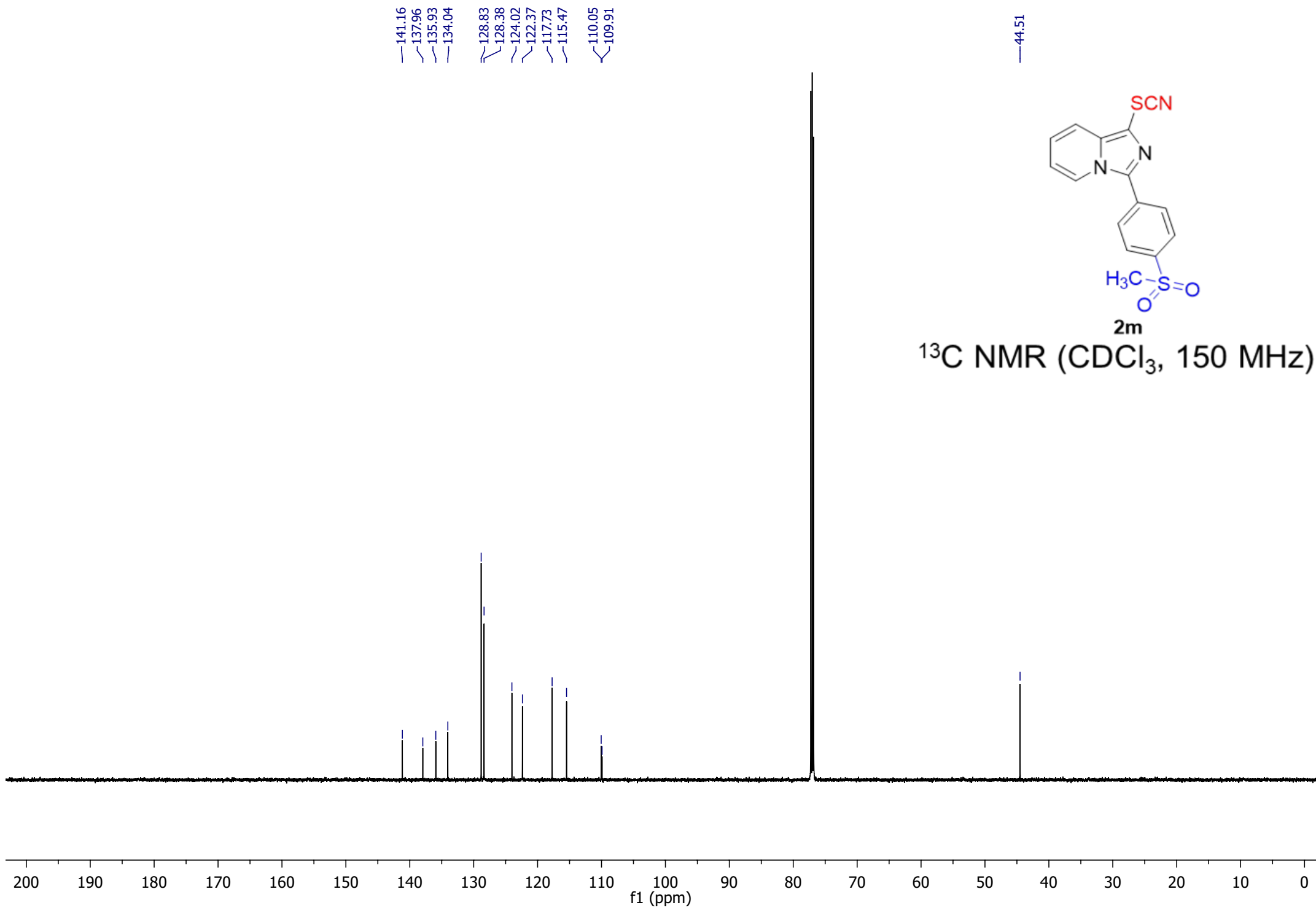
8.313
8.301
8.067
8.053
7.972
7.958
7.736
7.721
7.131
7.120
7.116
7.105
6.855
6.853
6.843
6.832
6.831

3.058

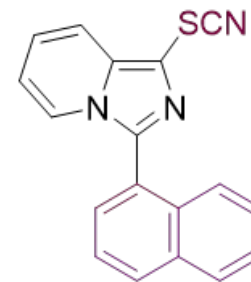


2m
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz)



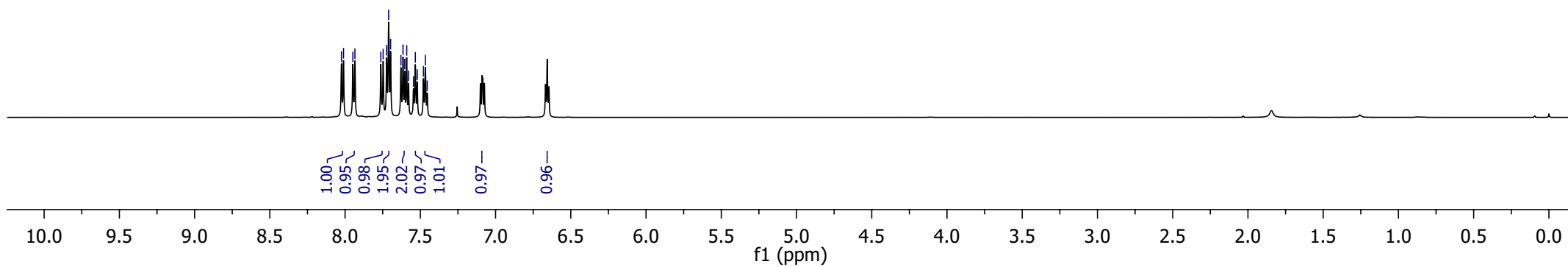


8.024
8.011
7.948
7.935
7.762
7.747
7.724
7.710
7.698
7.629
7.615
7.603
7.590
7.578
7.545
7.533
7.521
7.479
7.467
7.454

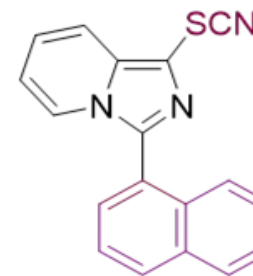


2n

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz)

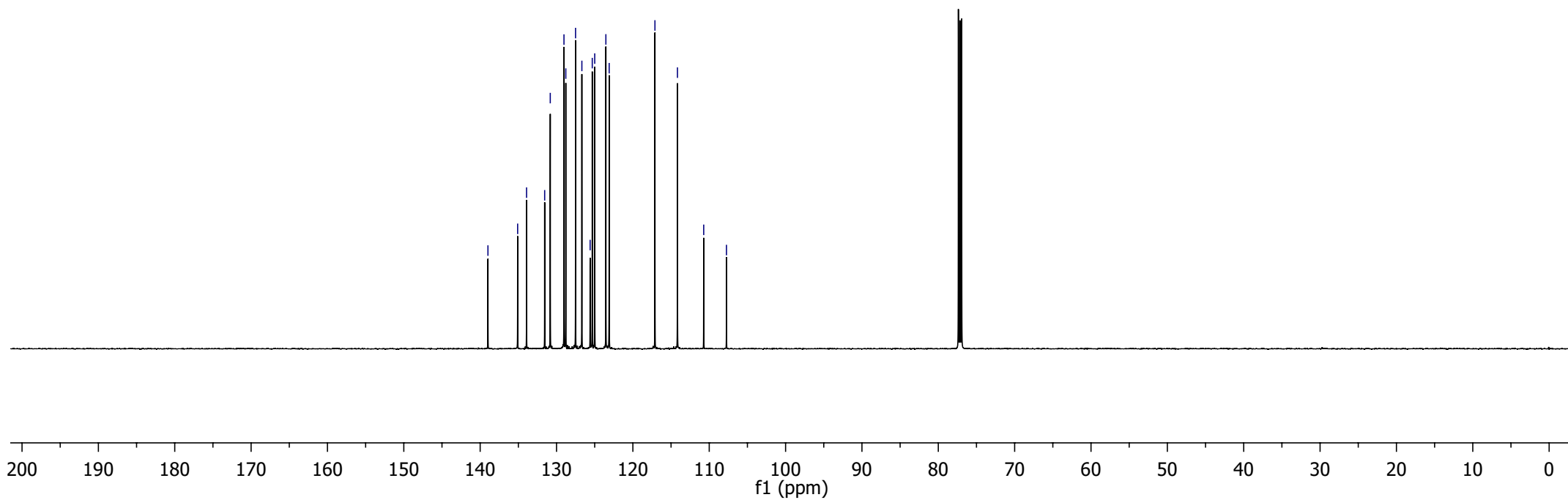


138.98
135.09
133.92
131.55
130.82
129.02
128.78
127.51
126.68
125.60
125.32
125.00
123.54
123.10
117.11
114.16
110.72
107.74



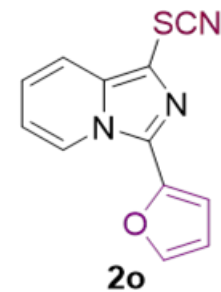
2n

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz)

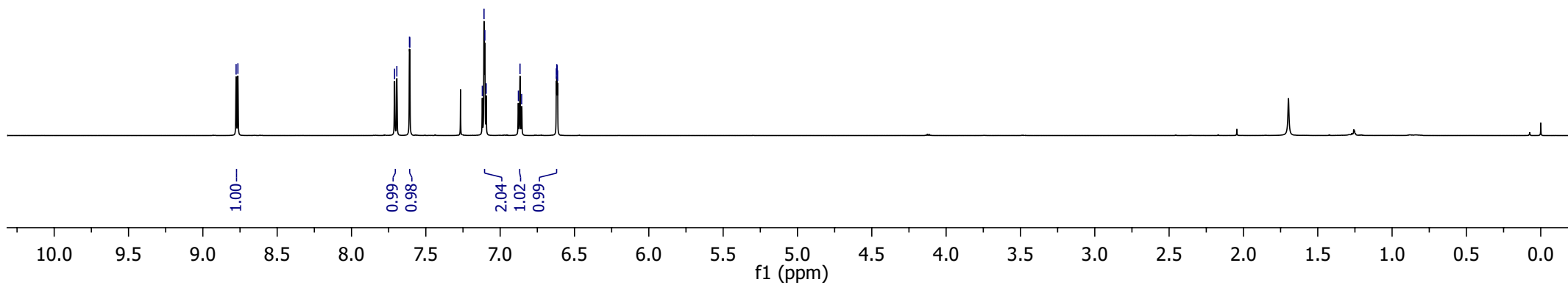


8.776
8.764

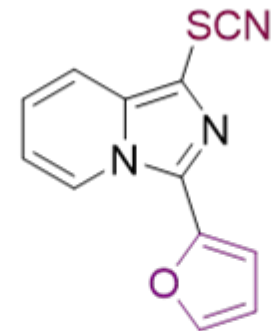
7.710
7.695
7.610
7.608
7.120
7.109
7.103
7.094
6.877
6.866
6.855
6.622
6.619
6.617
6.614



¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz)

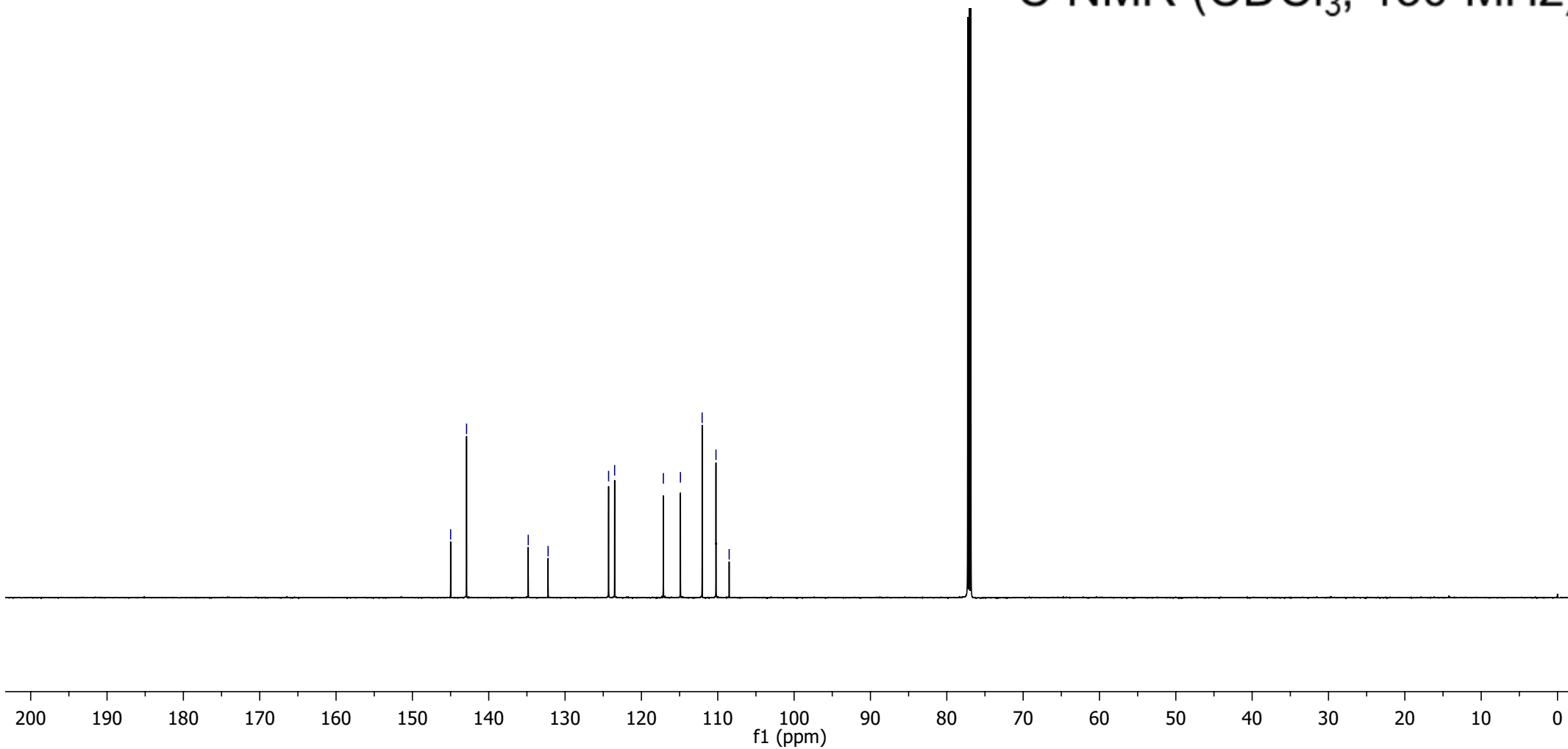


144.99
142.90
134.82
132.22
124.30
123.51
117.12
114.89
112.05
110.24
108.51

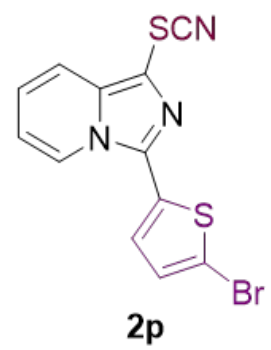


2o

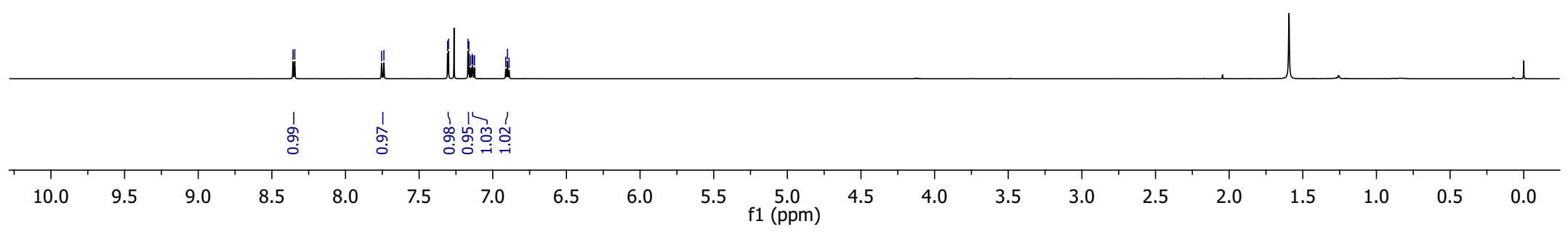
¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz)

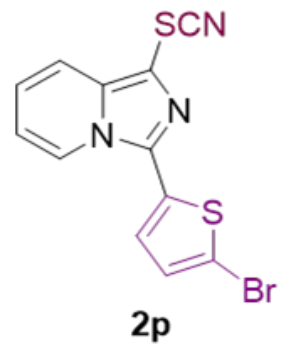


8.356
8.344
7.755
7.739
7.307
7.300
7.169
7.162
7.150
7.139
7.135
7.124
6.912
6.900
6.889



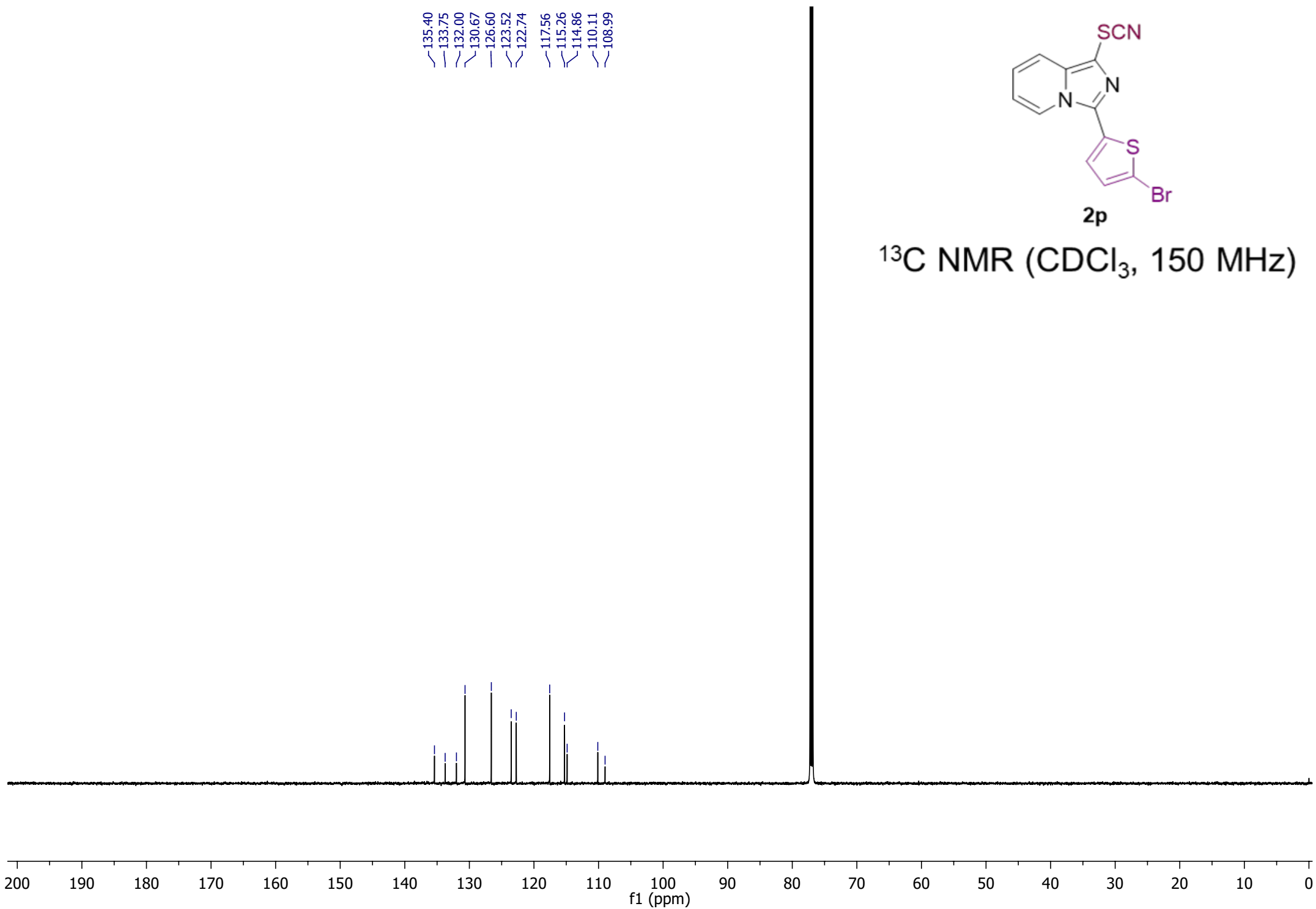
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz)



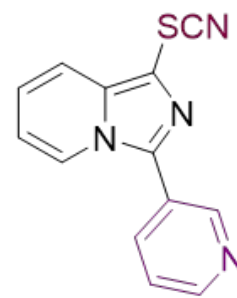


^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150 MHz)

135.40
133.75
132.00
130.67
126.60
123.52
122.74
117.56
115.26
114.86
110.11
108.99

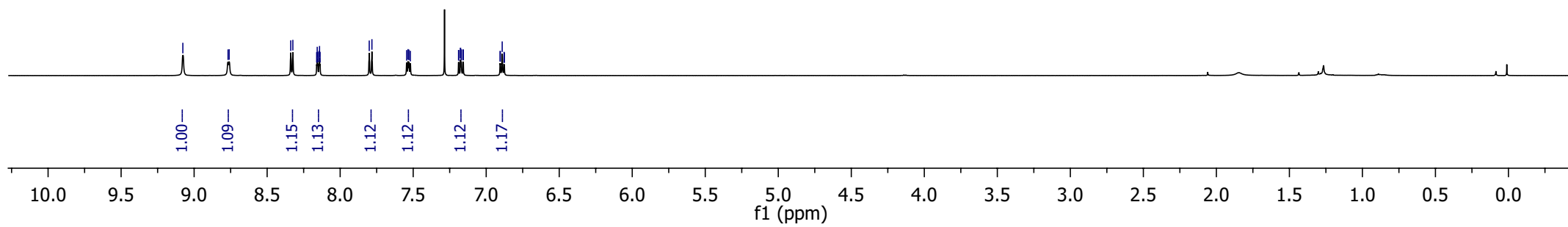


9.077
8.768
8.760
8.338
8.324
8.157
8.145
8.141
7.801
7.782
7.535
7.529
7.189
7.188
7.176
7.175
7.171
7.170
7.158
7.157
6.905
6.903
6.890
6.878
6.876

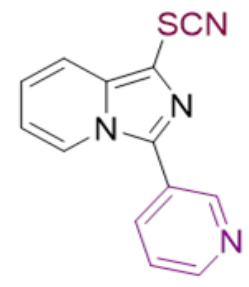


2q

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz)

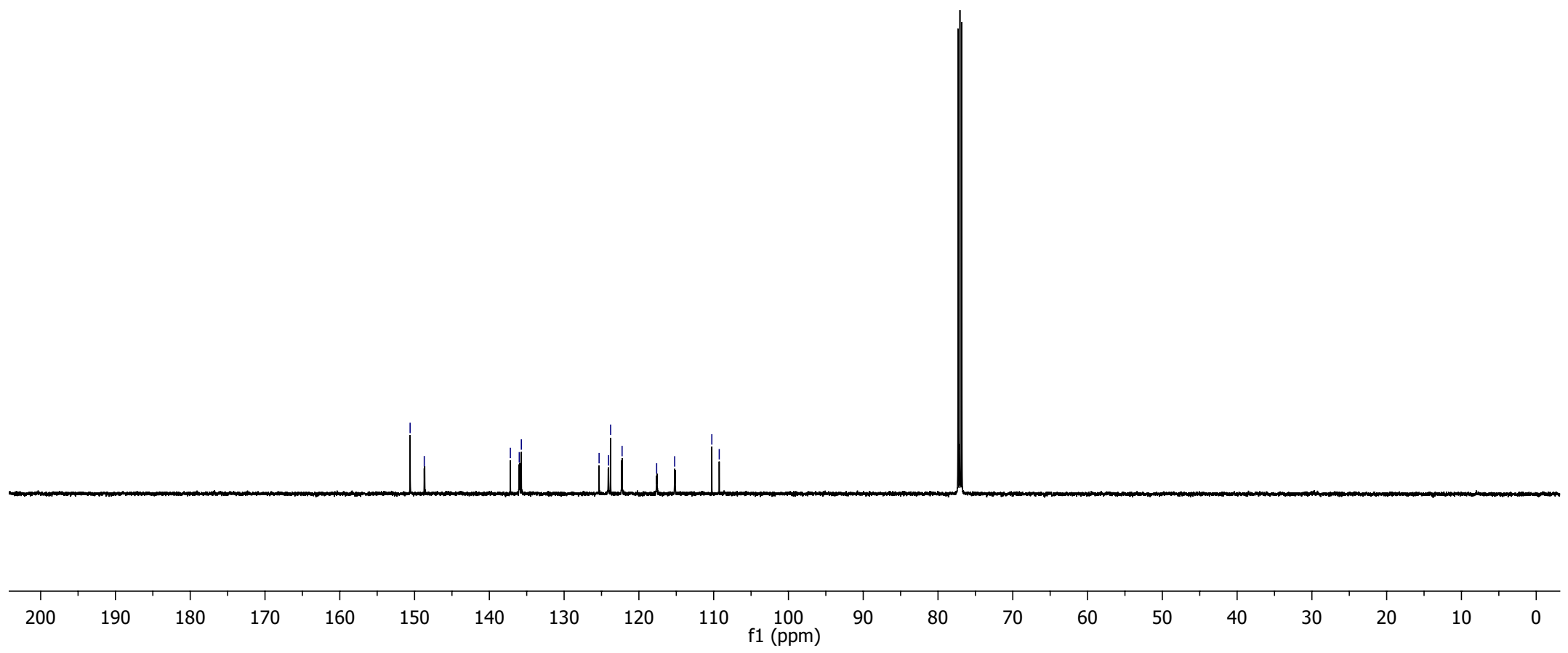


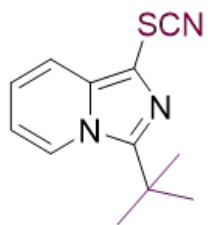
150.60
148.70
137.19
136.00
135.72
125.32
124.06
123.78
122.25
117.63
115.21
110.25
109.26



2q

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz)



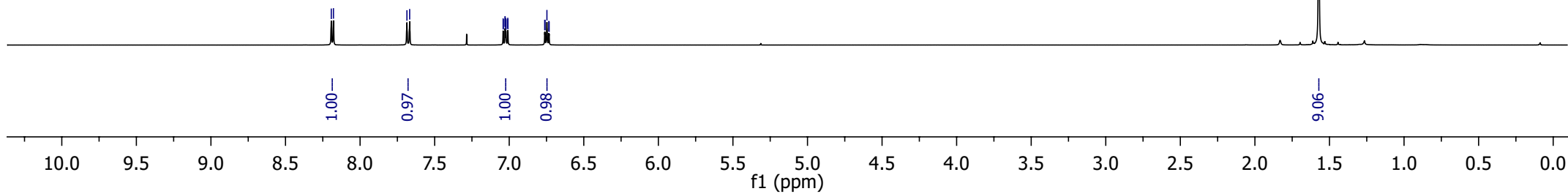


2r

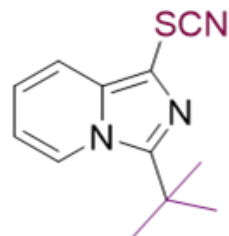
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz)

8.193
8.178
7.686
7.668
7.041
7.040
7.028
7.027
7.023
7.021
7.010
7.009
6.762
6.760
6.747
6.735
6.732

1.572



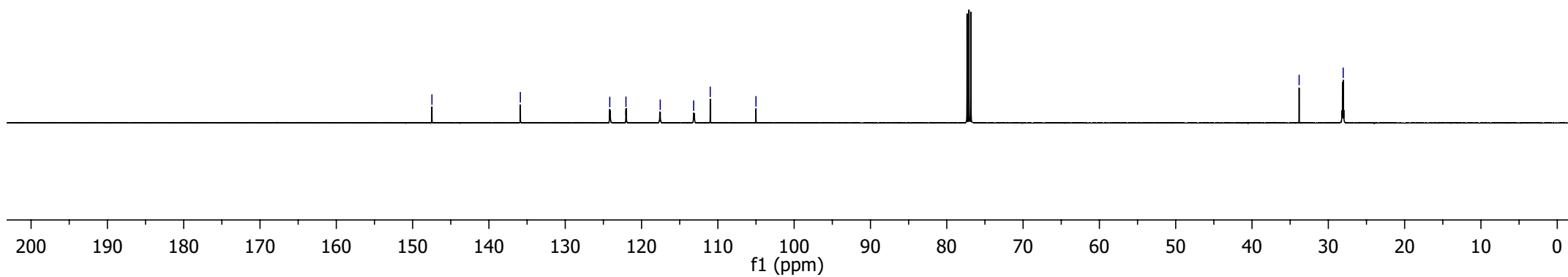
—147.47
—135.88
—124.17
—122.04
—117.55
—113.17
—111.00
—105.01



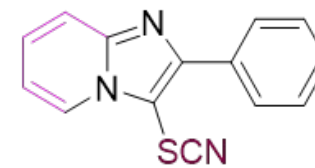
2r

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz)

—33.82
—28.05

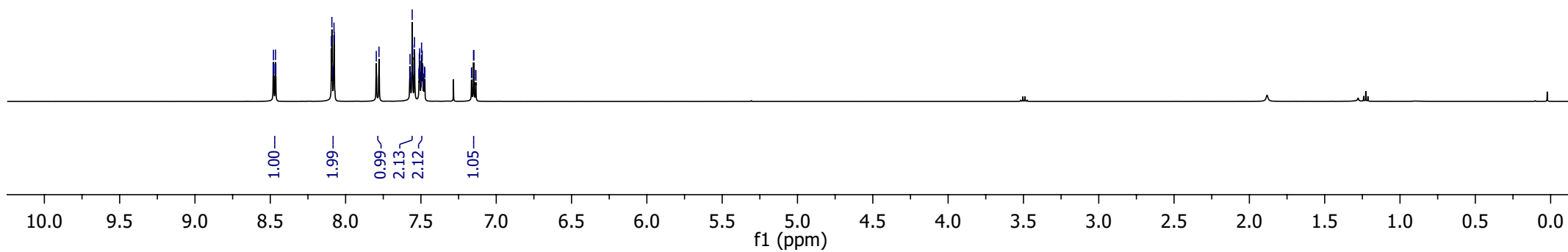


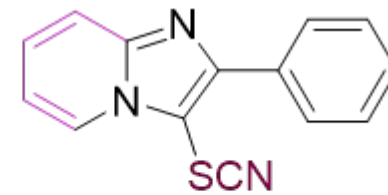
8.481
8.479
8.477
8.467
8.465
8.463
8.091
8.077
7.558
7.555
7.543
7.496
7.464
7.162
7.151
7.149
7.137
7.135



3aa

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz)

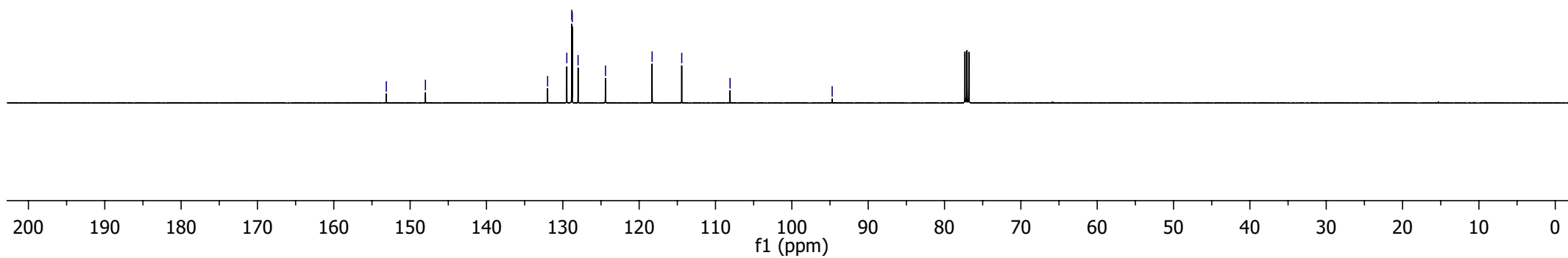




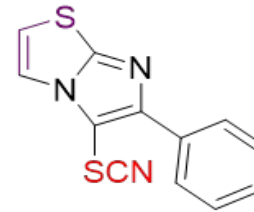
3aa

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz)

—153.12
—148.00
—131.99
—129.48
—128.83
—128.76
—128.00
—124.41
—118.30
—114.42
—108.09
—94.72

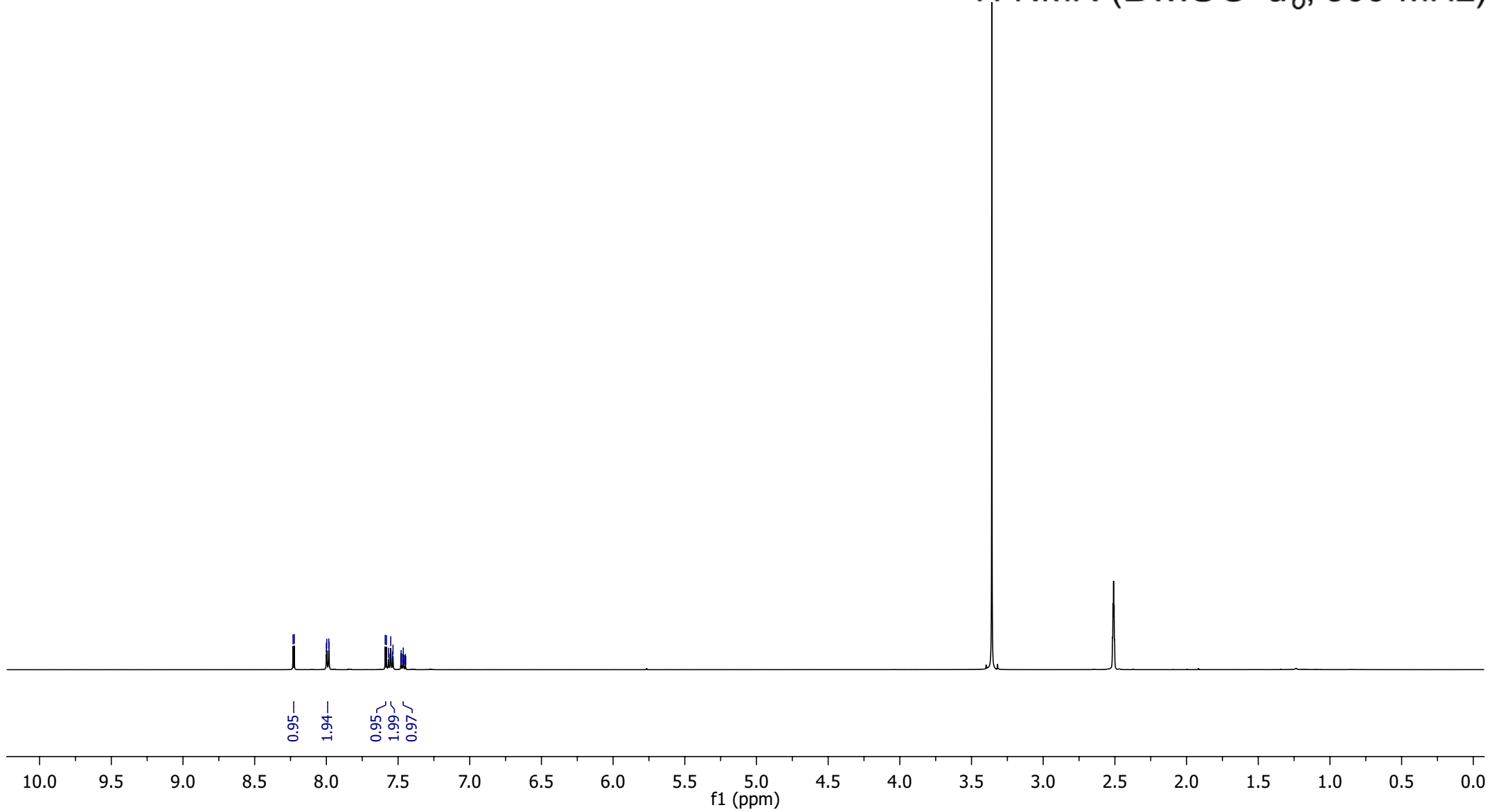


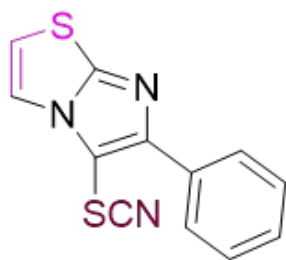
8.232
8.224
8.000
7.997
7.983
7.982
7.590
7.581
7.566
7.562
7.551
7.538
7.535
7.481
7.478
7.476
7.467
7.464
7.460
7.451
7.449
7.446



3ba

^1H NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 500 MHz)





3ba

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz)

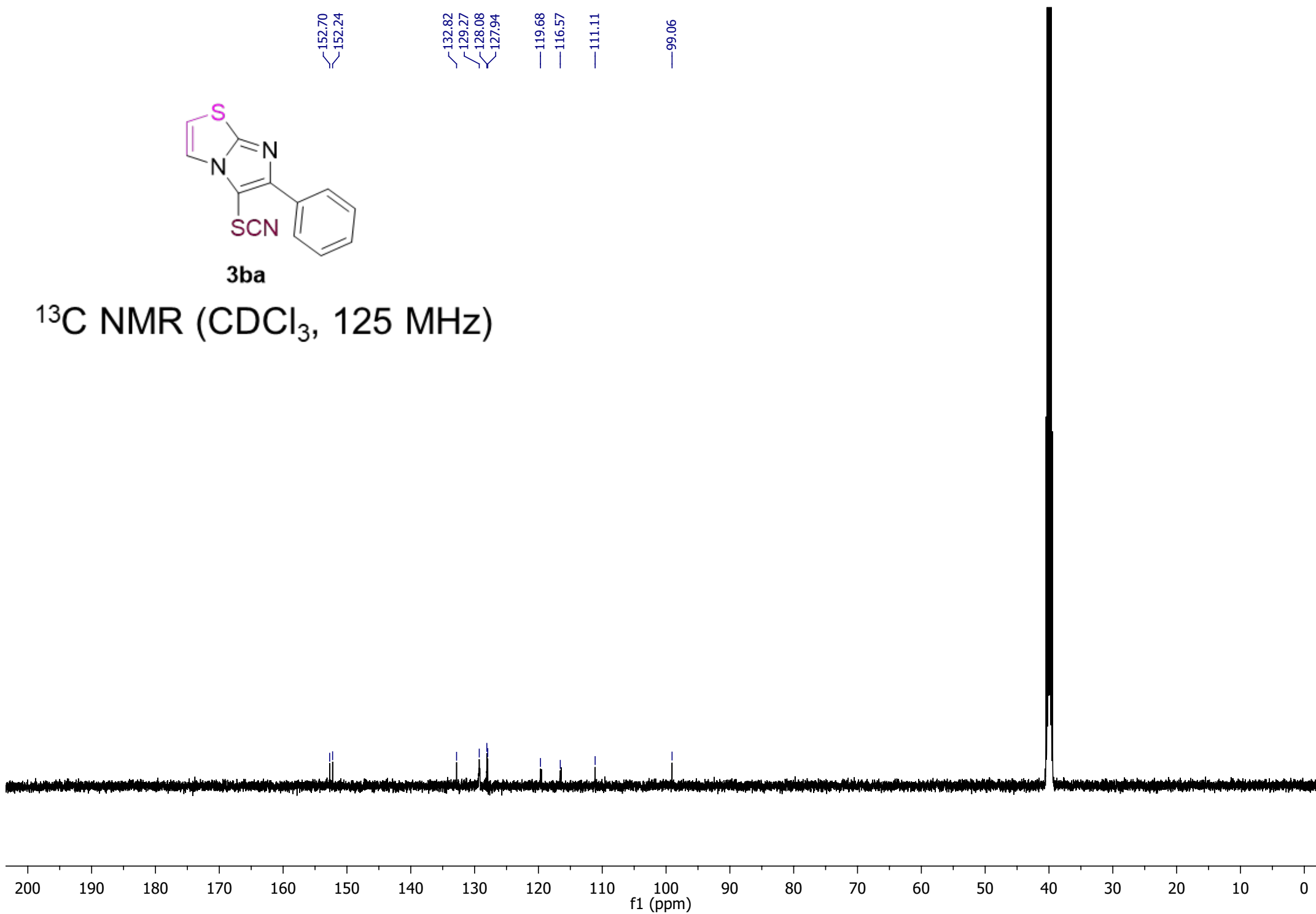
152.70
152.24

132.82
129.27
128.08
127.94

119.68
116.57

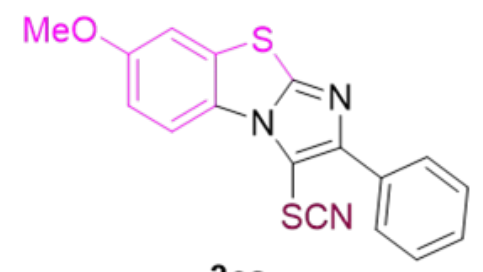
111.11

99.06



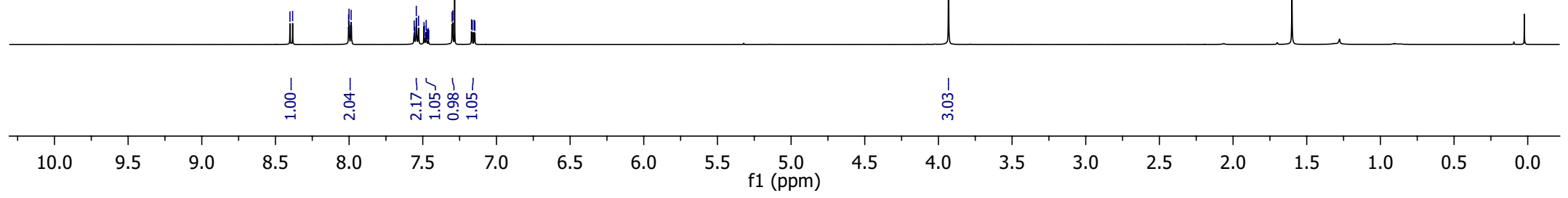
8.401
8.383
8.003
8.001
7.987
7.558
7.555
7.544
7.541
7.529
7.494
7.492
7.489
7.477
7.472
7.464
7.462
7.460
7.301
7.296
7.169
7.164
7.151
7.146

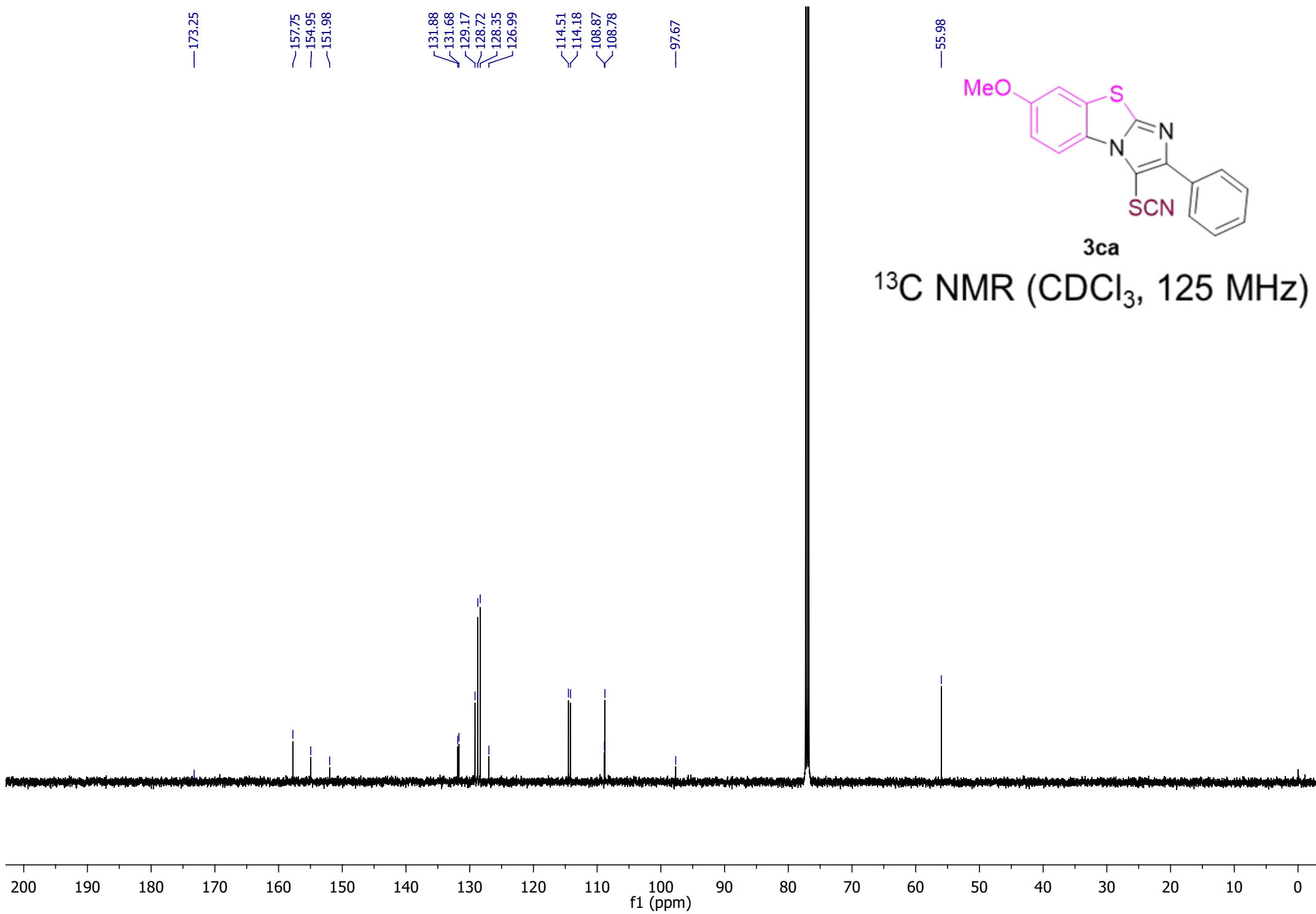
3.931



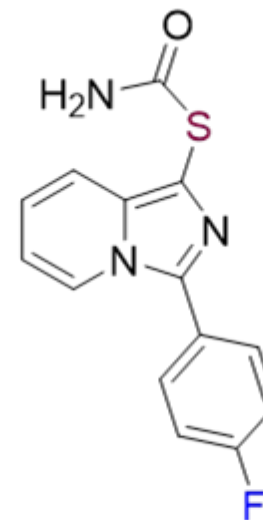
3ca

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz)



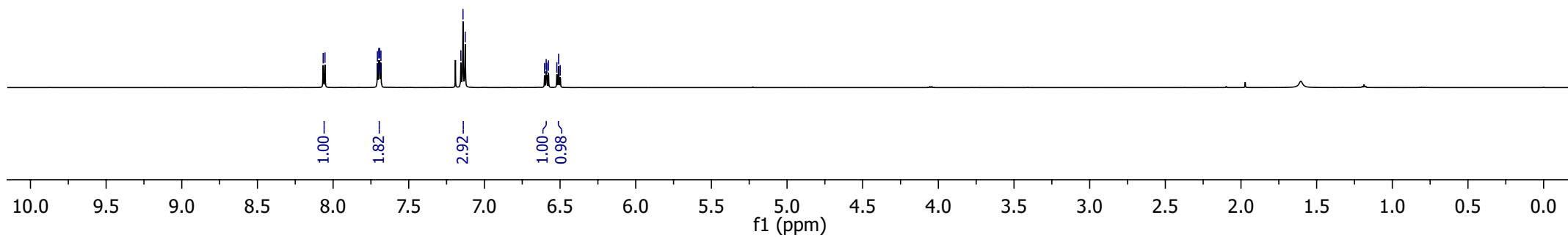


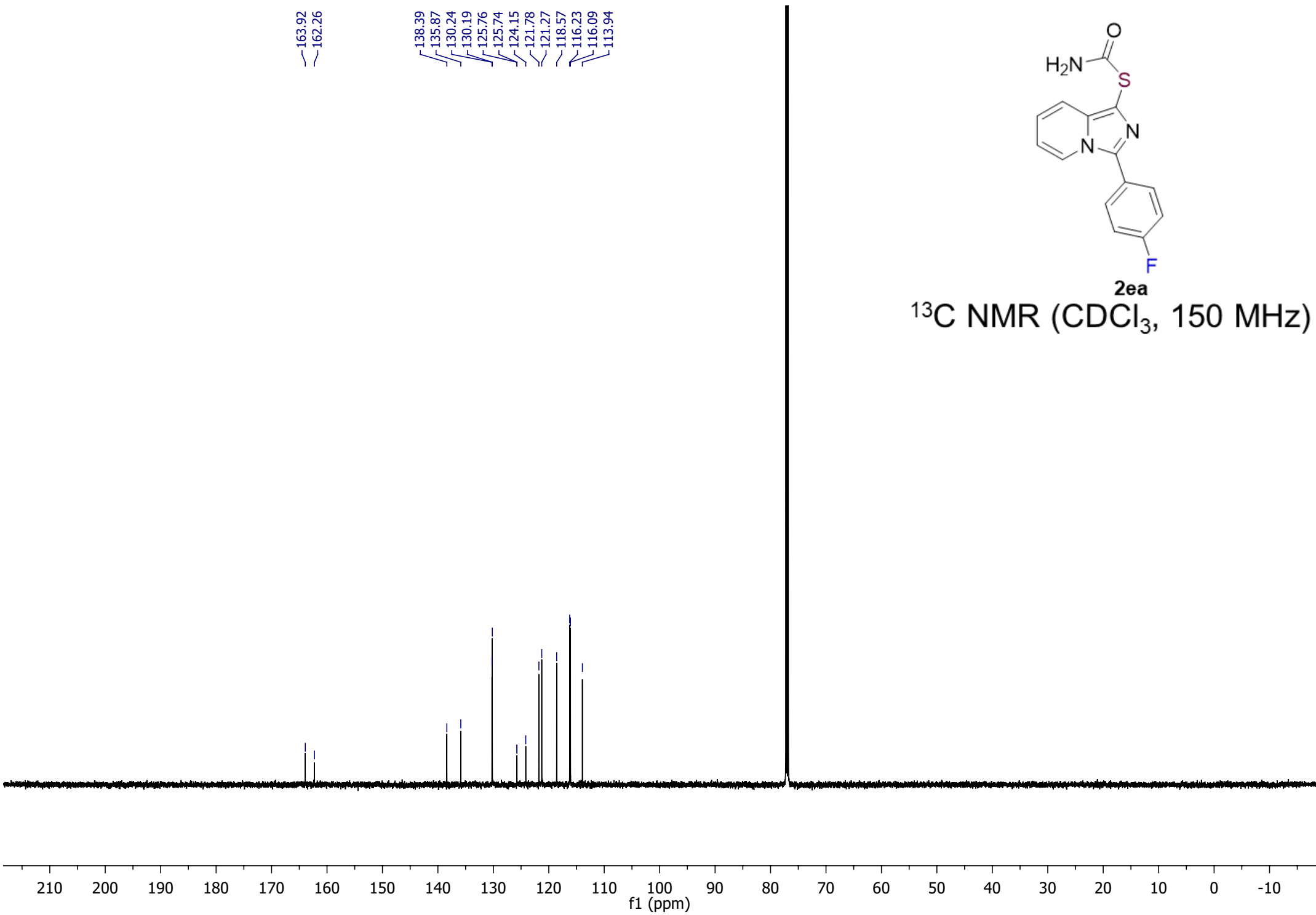
8.065
8.054
7.707
7.698
7.693
7.684
7.156
7.141
7.127
6.602
6.592
6.587
6.577
6.521
6.510
6.499



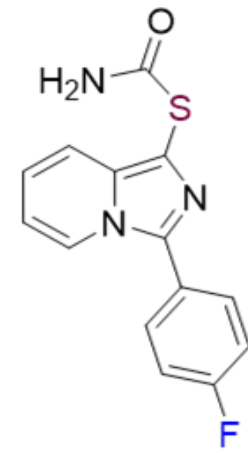
2ea

^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz)





-107.841
-107.852
-107.859
-107.864
-107.870
-107.877
-107.881
-107.888
-107.893
-107.899



2ea

¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 471 MHz)



-102.5 -103.0 -103.5 -104.0 -104.5 -105.0 -105.5 -106.0 -106.5 -107.0 -107.5 -108.0 -108.5 -109.0 -109.5 -110.0 -110.5
f1 (ppm)

