

Supporting Information

Photocatalytic Radical Cyclization of

N-(*o*-Cyanobiaryl)acrylamides with Oxime Esters

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1. General Information

Unless otherwise stated, all commercial reagents were used as received. 2-Bromo-6-aminobenzonitrile (Leyan, 99%), *p*-Tolylbromic acid (Meryer, 98%), 2,3-Butanedione (Macklin, 98%) were used without further treatment. All reagents and solvents were commercially available and used without any further purification unless specified. All solvents were dried and distilled according to standard procedures. Flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel (0.25mm, 300-400 mesh). Analytical thin-layer chromatography was performed using glass plates pre-coated with 0.25mm 300-400 mesh silica gel impregnated with a fluorescent indicator (254 nm). All reactions were carried out with magnetic stirring and in dried glassware. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra are recorded in parts per million from internal tetramethylsilane on the δ scale. ^1H NMR, ^{19}F NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl_3 on a Bruker DRX-400 spectrometer operating at 400 MHz, 282 MHz and 100 MHz, respectively. All chemical shift values are quoted in ppm and coupling constants quoted in Hz. The solvent peak was used as a reference value, for ^1H NMR: TMS = 0.00 ppm, for ^{13}C NMR: CDCl_3 = 77.00 ppm. The following abbreviations were used to explain multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, dd = doublet of doublet, t = triplet, td = triplet of doublet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, and br = broad. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on an Agilent mass spectrometer using ESI-TOF (electrospray ionization-time of flight).

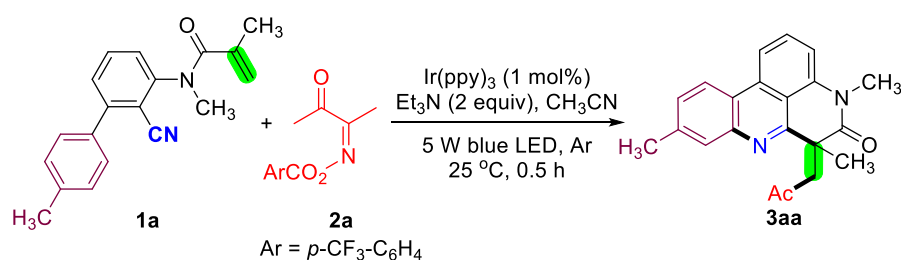
2. Experiment Section

2.1 General Procedure for the Synthesis of Substrates

All of the *N*-(2-cyano-4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide(**1**)^[1] and 3-(((4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl)oxy)imino)butan-2-one (**2**)^{[2]-[3]} were synthesized according to the known methods.

2.2 Table S1. Screening optimal conditions of **1a** and acyl oxime esters **2a**^a

we investigated the optimal reaction conditions of *N*-(2-cyano-4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide (**1a**) and 3-(((4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl)oxy)imino)butan-2-one (**2a**) (Table S1, ESI). Pleasingly, the desired **3aa** was produced in 81% yield (Table 1, entry 1). Control experiments revealed that both of photocatalyst and light irradiation were essential for reactivity (entry 2). The absence of base resulted in reduced yield (entry 3). The use of other photocatalyst decreased the yield (entries 4-7). The effect of bases was examined, and the results showed that Et₃N was preferred (entry 1 vs entries 8-11). Other solvents, such as THF (tetrahydrofuran), DMF (*N,N*-dimethylformamide), and toluene, could also favor the reaction, albeit with lower reactivity (entry 1 vs entries 12-18).

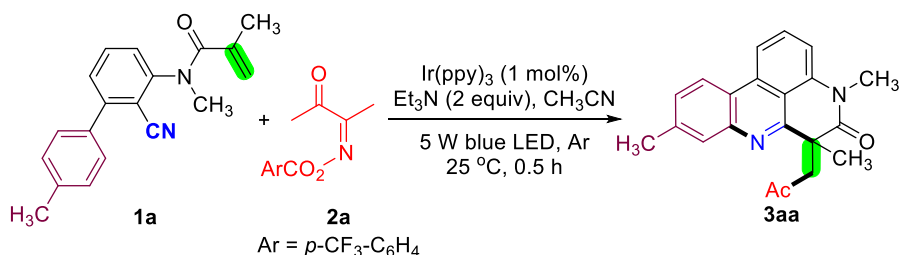


Entry	Variation from the standard conditions	Yield (%) ^b
1	none	81
2	no light	0
3	no PC	17
4	no Et ₃ N	28
5	Ru(bpy) ₃ Cl ₂ instead of Ir(ppy) ₃	55
6	Eosin Y instead of Ir(ppy) ₃	28
7	Na ₂ -Eosin Y instead of Ir(ppy) ₃	33
8	Eosin B instead of Ir(ppy) ₃	30
9	2,6-lutidine instead of Et ₃ N	52
10	DIPEA instead of Et ₃ N	46
11	DABCO instead of Et ₃ N	66
12	Na ₂ CO ₃ instead of Et ₃ N	32
13	THF instead of CH ₃ CN	51
14	DMF instead of CH ₃ CN	73
15	toluene instead of CH ₃ CN	72
16	DCE instead of CH ₃ CN	70
17	DMSO instead of CH ₃ CN	62

18	1,4-dioxane instead of CH ₃ CN	58
19	acetone instead of CH ₃ CN	56
20 ^c	none	72

^a Standard reaction conditions: **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), **2a** (0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv), photocatalyst (2 mol %), base (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv), solvent (2.0 mL), 5 W blue LED ($\lambda_{\text{max}} = 468 \text{ nm}$), argon, 25 °C, 0.5 h. ^b Yield of isolated **3aa** was reported. ^c 1 mmol scale reaction.

2.3 Typical Experimental Procedure



To a Schlenk tube were added *N*-(2-cyano-4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide **1a** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 3-(((4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl)oxy)imino)butan-2-one **2a** (0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), Ir(ppy)₃ (1% mol), Et₃N (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv), and CH₃CN (2 mL) at 25 °C under an argon atmosphere by 5 W blue LEDs irradiation for 0.5 h. Until completion, consumption of the starting material was observed by TLC and/or GC-MS analysis. After the reaction was finished, the solvent was removed from the reaction mixture and the crude product was purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 4 : 1) to provide the desired products.

2.4 Details of Visible-Light Source

The light source bought from SANYI (https://item.taobao.com/item.htm?spm=a1z09.2.0.0.42672e8dv2Chsz&id=35497290577&_u=j35sh1qt9325), 5 W blue LED light bulb (E27). The wavelength was about 460-470 nm and the wavelength of peak intensity was about 467.5 nm. The pictures of the visible-light source (Figure S1) was shown as follow:

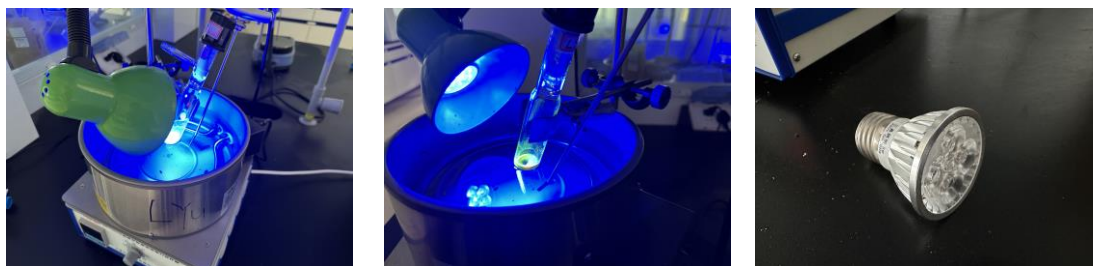
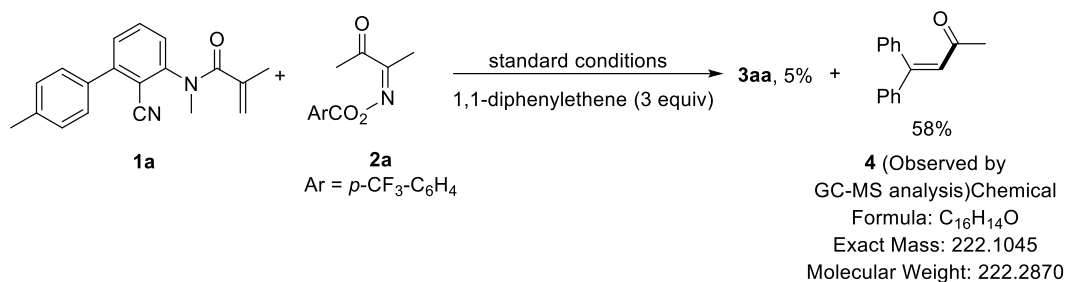


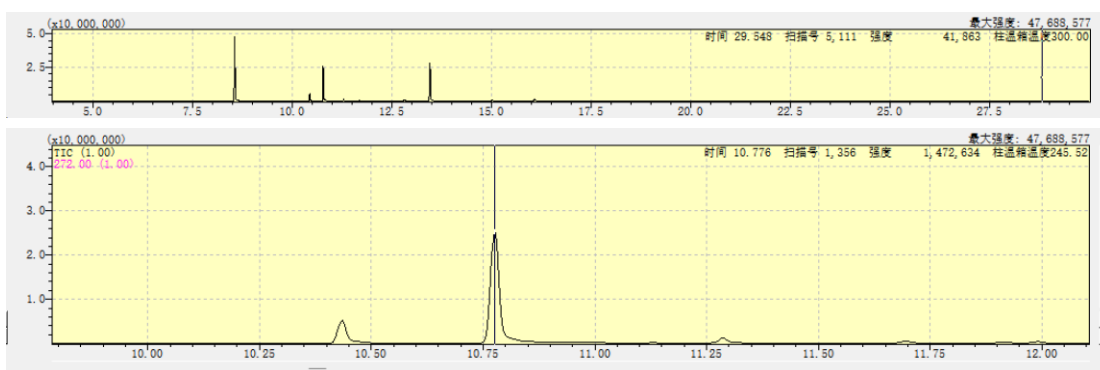
Figure S1. Pictures of Visible-Light Source

2.5 Control Experiments

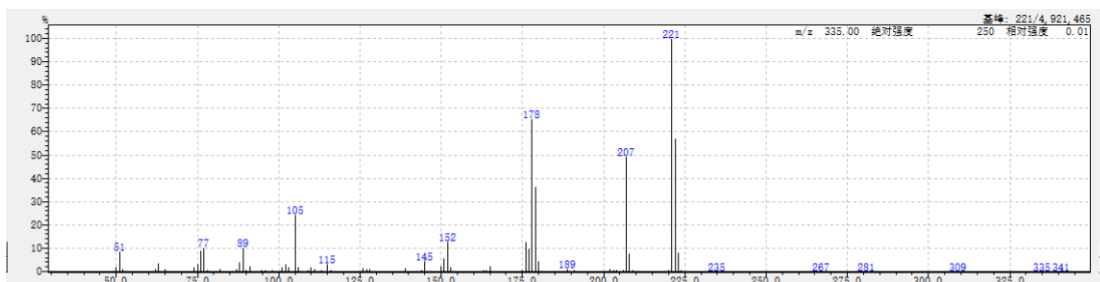
2.5.1 GC-MS Analysis of trapping product 4



Spectra of GC-MS



MS spectra of the peak at 10.775 min



[MS Spectrum]

of Peaks 457

Raw Spectrum 10.775 (scan : 1356)

Background No Background Spectrum

Base Peak m/z 221.00 (Inten : 4,921,465)

Event# 1

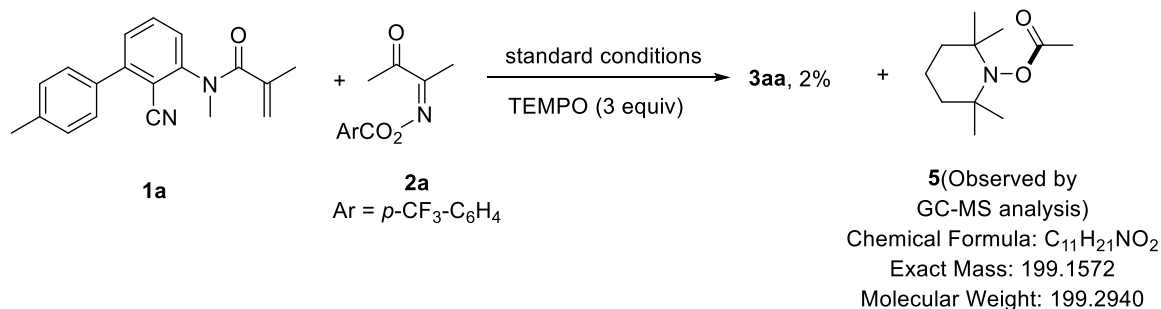
m/z Absolute Intensity Relative Intensity

m/z	Absolute Intensity	Relative Intensity
50.00	98246	2.00
51.00	421742	8.57
52.00	66522	1.35

53.05	14591	0.30	97.05	20100	0.41	141.05	4283	0.09
54.05	1061	0.02	98.00	44311	0.90	142.15	1301	0.03
55.00	3695	0.08	99.05	25050	0.51	143.05	1733	0.04
55.60	700	0.01	100.10	26642	0.54	144.05	31720	0.64
56.65	11660.02		101.05	104478	2.12	145.00	218311	4.44
57.65	2048	0.04	102.05	168463	3.42	146.00	24666	0.50
58.30	594	0.01	103.05	109399	2.22	147.00	2842	0.06
59.30	841	0.02	103.95	16244	0.33	148.05	792	0.02
60.00	294	0.01	105.05	1198170	24.35	149.05	14017	0.28
61.05	7608	0.15	106.05	92984	1.89	150.00	122362	2.49
62.05	51962	1.06	107.05	5696	0.12	151.00	283628	5.76
63.05	182715	3.71	108.00	742	0.02	152.00	635375	12.91
64.05	21035	0.43	109.05	30777	0.63	153.00	104558	2.12
65.05	55691	1.13	110.00	107111	2.18	154.00	8649	0.18
66.05	3896	0.08	111.00	58409	1.19	155.00	11400.02	
67.45	953	0.02	111.95	6828	0.14	156.00	58	0.00
68.55	3344	0.07	113.05	39549	0.80	157.00	148	0.00
69.50	15089	0.31	114.10	15007	0.30	158.00	190	0.00
70.45	2075	0.04	115.05	167081	3.39	159.00	239	0.00
71.00	1682	0.03	116.05	37030	0.75	160.00	14	0.00
72.05	524	0.01	117.05	11424	0.23	161.05	2777	0.06
73.05	4583	0.09	118.10	1412	0.03	162.00	10399	0.21
74.05	92611	1.88	118.90	932	0.02	162.95	49773	1.01
75.05	169922	3.45	119.90	311	0.01	164.00	33898	0.69
76.05	454070	9.23	121.00	590	0.01	165.00	116772	2.37
77.00	520303	10.57	122.05	5319	0.11	166.00	19009	0.39
78.05	48924	0.99	123.00	3710	0.08	167.00	7754	0.16
79.05	3930	0.08	124.00	3386	0.07	168.05	1986	0.04
80.15	643	0.01	125.05	17900	0.36	169.00	1964	0.04
81.15	17028	0.35	126.05	86413	1.76	170.00	198	0.00
82.10	54215	1.10	127.05	68262	1.39	171.00	119	0.00
83.05	28452	0.58	128.05	62420	1.27	172.00	65	0.00
84.05	7793	0.16	129.05	24991	0.51	173.05	1901	0.04
85.05	5813	0.12	130.05	2689	0.05	173.95	19710	0.40
86.05	29213	0.59	131.05	1910	0.04	175.05	43789	0.89
87.05	66359	1.35	132.00	303	0.01	176.00	636905	12.94
88.05	208717	4.24	133.00	750	0.02	177.00	493956	10.04
89.05	517759	10.52	134.00	1282	0.03	178.00	3231591	65.66
90.05	34275	0.70	135.00	1898	0.04	179.00	1802255	36.62
91.05	121034	2.46	136.05	422	0.01	180.00	233553	4.75
92.05	8663	0.18	137.05	15036	0.31	180.95	23797	0.48
93.65	12815	0.26	138.00	13470	0.27	182.00	4060	0.08
94.65	48668	0.99	139.00	80239	1.63	182.90	713	0.01
96.05	31638	0.64	140.00	11471	0.23	183.90	94	0.00

185.05	408	0.01	208.00	393734	8.00	231.00	58	0.00
185.95	820	0.02	209.00	36663	0.74	232.00	74	0.00
187.00	9209	0.19	209.95	2301	0.05	233.00	185	0.00
188.00	7460	0.15	210.90	220	0.00	234.00	194	0.00
189.00	59041	1.20	211.90	68	0.00	234.95	541	0.01
190.00	26148	0.53	212.90	38	0.00	236.00	65	0.00
191.00	39292	0.80	213.90	62	0.00	237.00	13	0.00
192.00	9943	0.20	214.90	46	0.00	238.00	50	0.00
193.00	27570	0.56	215.90	87	0.00	239.00	11	0.00
193.95	65110.13		217.05	303	0.01	242.00	22	0.00
194.95	6902	0.14	217.95	7289	0.15	244.00	36	0.00
195.90	11510.02		219.00	20318	0.41	245.00	36	0.00
196.90	305	0.01	220.05	41841	0.85	246.00	50	0.00
197.90	393	0.01	221.00	4921465	100.00	247.00	65	0.00
198.95	1098	0.02	222.00	2822166	57.34	248.00	62	0.00
199.95	11302	0.23	223.00	417332	8.48	249.00	126	0.00
201.00	14175	0.29	224.00	38826	0.79	250.00	316	0.01
202.00	67217	1.37	224.95	2365	0.05	250.95	440	0.01
203.00	45154	0.92	226.00	238	0.00	251.80	516	0.01
204.00	31284	0.64	227.00	63	0.00	252.80	183	0.00
204.95	25623	0.52	228.00	79	0.00	253.80	266	0.01
206.05	30948	0.63	229.00	90	0.00			
207.00	2428650	49.35	230.00	57	0.00			

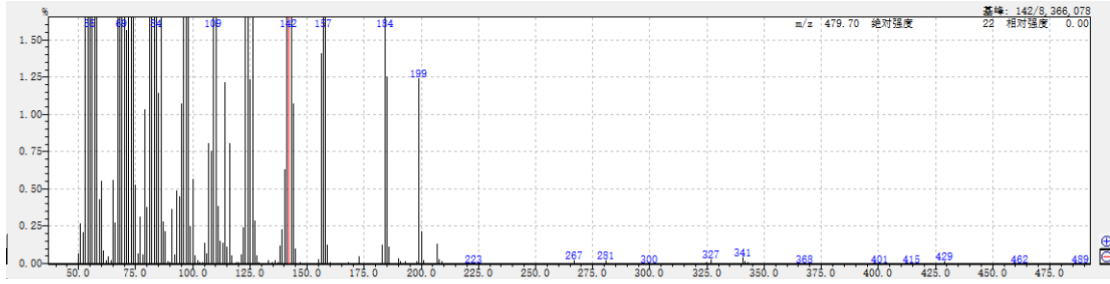
2.5.2 GC-MS Analysis of trapping product 5



Spectra of GC-MS



MS spectra of the peak at 6.820 min



[MS Spectrum]

of Peaks 544

Raw Spectrum 6.820 (scan : 565)

Background No Background Spectrum

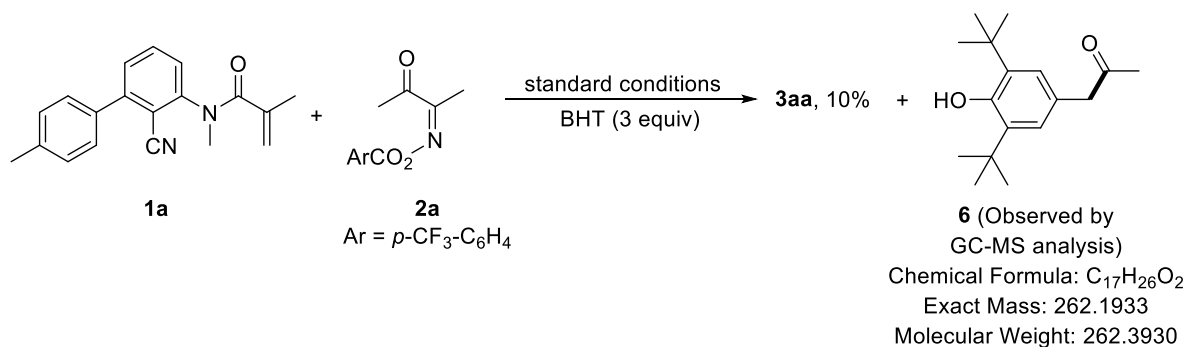
Base Peak m/z 142.10 (Inten : 8,366,078)

Event# 1

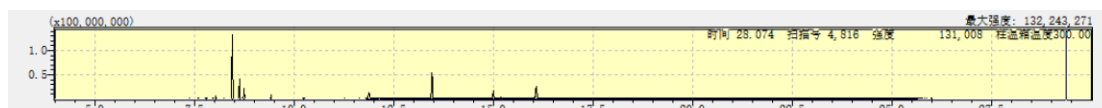
m/z	Absolute Intensity	Relative Intensity
50.00	5748	0.07
50.95	22756	0.27
52.05	17958	0.21
53.00	201458	2.41
54.05	153858	1.84
55.00	4241814	50.70
56.00	1796764	21.48
57.05	322629	3.86
58.00	591054	7.06
59.05	36285	0.43
60.00	46734	0.56
61.00	7324	0.09
61.95	2050	0.02
63.00	4138	0.05
64.05	2441	0.03
65.00	47231	0.56
66.05	23476	0.28
67.05	334082	3.99
68.05	253423	3.03
69.05	1991910	23.81
70.05	499011	5.96
71.05	131296	1.57
72.05	178516	2.13
73.05	147411	1.76
74.05	1050061	12.55
75.00	44314	0.53
76.05	6181	0.07
77.00	26756	0.32
78.05	5425	0.06
79.00	86682	1.04
80.05	32050	0.38
81.05	373374	4.46
82.05	344722	4.12
83.05	1411824	16.88
84.05	396255	4.74
85.05	96058	1.15
86.00	357474	4.27
87.05	23714	0.28
88.00	18615	0.22
89.00	1756	0.02
90.05	834	0.01
91.00	30826	0.37
92.05	5598	0.07
93.05	41058	0.49
94.05	37951	0.45
95.05	90230	1.08
96.05	156846	1.87
97.05	203377	2.43
98.05	191135	2.28
99.05	21092	0.25
100.05	47952	0.57
101.05	4694	0.06
102.05	23110.03	
103.05	968	0.01
104.15	999	0.01
105.05	12066	0.14
106.15	6099	0.07
107.05	67703	0.81
108.15	63355	0.76
109.05	1675304	20.02
110.10	230071	2.75
111.10	32354	0.39
112.10	13169	0.16
113.15	11810	0.14
114.05	102207	1.22
115.05	9913	0.12
116.00	67910	0.81
117.00	4932	0.06
118.05	719	0.01
119.05	11880.01	
120.15	1348	0.02
121.10	5250	0.06
122.15	20720	0.25
123.10	176914	2.11
124.10	289506	3.46
125.10	103881	1.24
126.10	252023	3.01
127.10	24546	0.29
128.05	4785	0.06
129.00	961	0.01
130.05	536	0.01
131.00	404	0.00
132.00	242	0.00
133.00	2297	0.03
133.95	672	0.01
134.95	964	0.01
136.05	2244	0.03
137.15	11010.01	
138.10	10446	0.12
139.15	19478	0.23

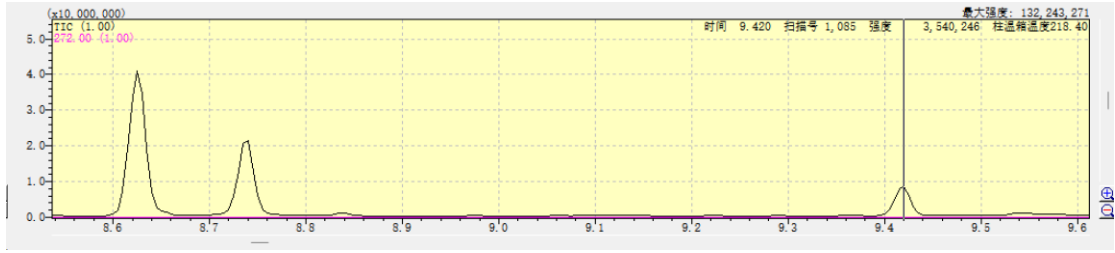
140.10	52894	0.63	165.05	413	0.00	189.90	3279	0.04
141.15	209881	2.51	166.00	186	0.00	190.80	1548	0.02
142.10	8366078	100.00	167.00	183	0.00	191.85	409	0.00
143.05	1589342	19.00	168.00	978	0.01	192.80	1580	0.02
144.05	89810	1.07	169.00	206	0.00	193.85	465	0.01
145.05	8680	0.10	169.90	49	0.00	194.90	282	0.00
146.05	680	0.01	170.90	476	0.01	195.90	134	0.00
147.00	11830.01		172.00	178	0.00	196.90	132	0.00
148.00	382	0.00	172.95	4519	0.05	198.05	1507	0.02
149.00	310	0.00	173.95	550	0.01	199.00	103895	1.24
150.00	148	0.00	175.00	119	0.00	200.00	18180	0.22
151.00	585	0.01	175.90	84	0.00	201.00	2126	0.03
152.00	393	0.00	176.90	550	0.01	202.00	140	0.00
153.00	255	0.00	177.90	215	0.00	203.00	73	0.00
154.10	239	0.00	178.80	386	0.00	204.00	41	0.00
155.15	2544	0.03	179.80	100	0.00	205.00	174	0.00
156.15	118186	1.41	180.80	63	0.00	205.90	162	0.00
157.05	1704179	20.37	182.00	247	0.00	206.95	11128	0.13
158.05	179444	2.14	183.05	11076	0.13	207.90	2534	0.03
158.95	11044	0.13	184.00	904495	10.81	208.85	1798	0.02
160.10	873	0.01	185.00	105033	1.26	209.80	246	0.00
161.10	206	0.00	186.00	9698	0.12	210.90	538	0.01
162.10	202	0.00	186.95	644	0.01	211.90	218	0.00
163.00	500	0.01	188.00	151	0.00	212.90	50	0.00
164.00	175	0.00	188.90	114	0.00			

2.5.3GC-MS Analysis of trapping product 6

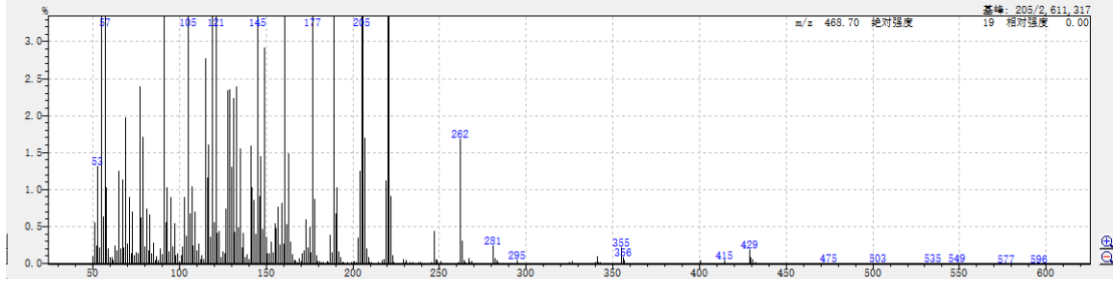


Spectra of GC-MS





MS spectra of the peak at 9.420 min



[MS Spectrum]

of Peaks 545

Raw Spectrum 9.420 (scan : 1085)

Background No Background Spectrum

Base Peak m/z 205.05 (Inten : 2,611,317)

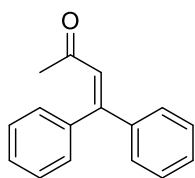
Event# 1

m/z	Absolute Intensity	Relative Intensity
49.95	2660	0.10
50.95	14707	0.56
52.00	6433	0.25
53.00	34537	1.32
54.05	5875	0.22
55.00	128775	4.93
56.05	16810	0.64
57.05	533012	20.41
58.05	26916	1.03
59.00	5388	0.21
60.00	2346	0.09
61.00	2390	0.09
61.95	1404	0.05
62.95	6620	0.25
64.05	4734	0.18
65.00	33004	1.26
66.00	5554	0.21
67.05	29824	1.14
68.00	5842	0.22
69.05	51688	1.98
70.05	7186	0.28
71.05	23592	0.90
72.05	3741	0.14
73.00	18658	0.71
73.95	3190	0.12
75.00	4178	0.16
76.05	3818	0.15
77.00	62708	2.40
78.05	16479	0.63
79.00	44975	1.72
80.05	6017	0.23
81.05	19393	0.74
82.05	4969	0.19
83.05	17510	0.67
84.05	3924	0.15
85.05	7431	0.28
86.05	1515	0.06
86.95	2644	0.10
88.05	1225	0.05
88.95	5466	0.21
90.05	3489	0.13
91.00	121758	4.66
92.05	14599	0.56
93.05	27007	1.03
94.05	4580	0.18
95.05	23661	0.91
96.05	6068	0.23
97.05	14511	0.56
98.05	3038	0.12
99.10	3684	0.14
100.05	11750.04	
100.95	3123	0.12
102.00	6193	0.24
103.00	23620	0.90
104.05	9800	0.38
105.05	156772	6.00
106.05	17797	0.68
107.05	27484	1.05
108.05	6570	0.25
109.05	18595	0.71
110.05	4913	0.19
111.05	7299	0.28
112.05	1765	0.07
113.10	2977	0.11
114.05	1759	0.07
115.00	72750	2.79

116.00	30364	1.16	160.05	72110.28	204.05	33056	1.27	
117.00	42305	1.62	161.00	94812	3.63	205.05	2611317	100.00
118.15	9593	0.37	162.05	14064	0.54	206.00	404124	15.48
119.05	89534	3.43	163.00	38985	1.49	207.00	44658	1.71
120.05	14642	0.56	164.00	7902	0.30	207.95	5420	0.21
121.05	93380	3.58	165.00	3588	0.14	208.90	2290	0.09
122.05	10899	0.42	166.10	1538	0.06	209.95	527	0.02
123.05	11490	0.44	167.00	1281	0.05	210.95	834	0.03
124.05	2541	0.10	168.05	777	0.03	212.00	300	0.01
125.05	4371	0.17	169.00	1956	0.07	212.95	513	0.02
126.05	3630	0.14	170.05	11050.04		214.00	484	0.02
127.00	19561	0.75	171.00	3892	0.15	214.95	750	0.03
128.05	61458	2.35	172.05	4874	0.19	216.15	361	0.01
129.05	61693	2.36	173.00	15636	0.60	217.05	1205	0.05
130.05	34266	1.31	174.00	5879	0.23	218.15	1771	0.07
131.05	58683	2.25	175.00	13121	0.50	219.15	29624	1.13
132.05	11415	0.44	176.05	41180.16		220.05	1505008	57.63
133.05	62869	2.41	177.00	164585	6.30	221.05	251478	9.63
134.05	12998	0.50	178.00	23017	0.88	222.00	24073	0.92
135.05	40666	1.56	179.00	3124	0.12	223.00	3010	0.12
136.05	5895	0.23	179.90	11160.04		223.90	702	0.03
137.05	11073	0.42	181.00	894	0.03	225.10	510	0.02
138.10	2250	0.09	182.05	556	0.02	226.10	185	0.01
139.10	3567	0.14	183.10	630	0.02	227.10	430	0.02
140.05	1685	0.06	184.05	437	0.02	228.15	269	0.01
141.05	41691	1.60	185.05	11000.04		229.10	1751	0.07
142.05	27015	1.03	186.05	849	0.03	230.05	648	0.02
143.05	22491	0.86	187.00	10111	0.39	231.00	1254	0.05
144.05	10578	0.41	188.05	4024	0.15	231.90	444	0.02
145.05	134424	5.15	189.00	99524	3.81	233.10	580	0.02
146.00	23993	0.92	190.00	17807	0.68	233.90	217	0.01
147.00	38020	1.46	191.00	27186	1.04	234.90	654	0.03
148.05	12412	0.48	192.00	4410	0.17	236.10	490	0.02
149.05	76573	2.93	192.95	2552	0.10	237.00	366	0.01
150.00	9598	0.37	193.95	761	0.03	238.05	738	0.03
150.95	3720	0.14	194.95	729	0.03	239.00	780	0.03
152.05	3897	0.15	195.85	421	0.02	240.00	214	0.01
152.95	7749	0.30	197.05	665	0.03	240.95	443	0.02
154.05	4222	0.16	198.05	340	0.01	242.00	170	0.01
155.00	14234	0.55	199.00	641	0.02	242.95	455	0.02
156.00	12735	0.49	200.00	538	0.02	244.05	327	0.01
157.00	20273	0.78	201.00	940	0.04	245.15	515	0.02
158.00	6791	0.26	202.05	824	0.03	246.05	499	0.02
159.00	21750	0.83	203.00	9306	0.36	247.05	11689	0.45

247.95	1817	0.07	270.80	119	0.00	294.00	81	0.00
248.95	1261	0.05	271.80	146	0.01	295.00	1233	0.05
249.70	166	0.01	273.15	386	0.01	295.90	356	0.01
250.75	962	0.04	274.20	223	0.01	296.85	467	0.02
251.80	164	0.01	275.20	223	0.01	297.90	127	0.00
252.80	426	0.02	276.20	148	0.01	298.90	129	0.00
253.80	242	0.01	277.20	161	0.01	299.90	124	0.00
255.00	382	0.01	277.90	110	0.00	300.90	90	0.00
256.00	191	0.01	278.85	482	0.02	301.90	89	0.00
257.00	202	0.01	279.85	323	0.01	302.90	164	0.01
258.00	252	0.01	280.90	6473	0.25	303.90	111	0.00
259.00	284	0.01	281.95	1899	0.07	304.90	82	0.00
260.00	262	0.01	282.95	1481	0.06	305.90	170	0.01
261.15	837	0.03	284.00	754	0.03	306.90	78	0.00
262.05	44323	1.70	284.95	413	0.02	307.90	110	0.00
263.00	8334	0.32	286.10	407	0.02	309.00	372	0.01
264.10	1310	0.05	287.10	162	0.01	310.00	118	0.00
265.05	774	0.03	288.10	262	0.01	311.00	79	0.00
265.85	500	0.02	289.10	218	0.01	312.00	82	0.00
266.80	2218	0.08	290.10	180	0.01	313.00	105	0.00
267.85	713	0.03	291.10	156	0.01			
268.85	11290.04		292.10	218	0.01			
269.80	230	0.01	293.10	127	0.00			

2.5.4 NMR Spectrum Analysis of trapping product 4.



4,4-diphenylbut-3-en-2-one 4: Yield: 25.8 mg, 58%; yellow oil; ^1H

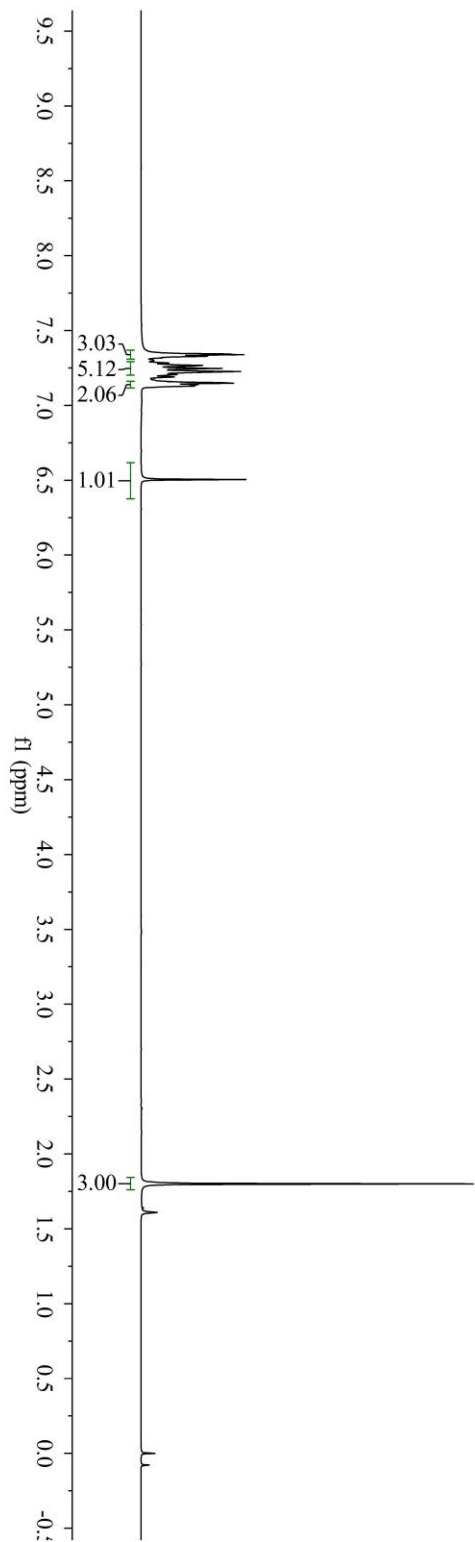
NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 7.35-7.32 (m, 3H), 7.28-7.21 (m, 5H),

7.15-7.13 (m, 2H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 1.80 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100

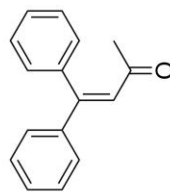
MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 200.2, 153.9, 140.7, 138.9, 129.5, 129.4, 128.7,

128.4, 128.4, 128.3, 127.6, 30.3; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 223.1117, found 223.1121.

The ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra for 4

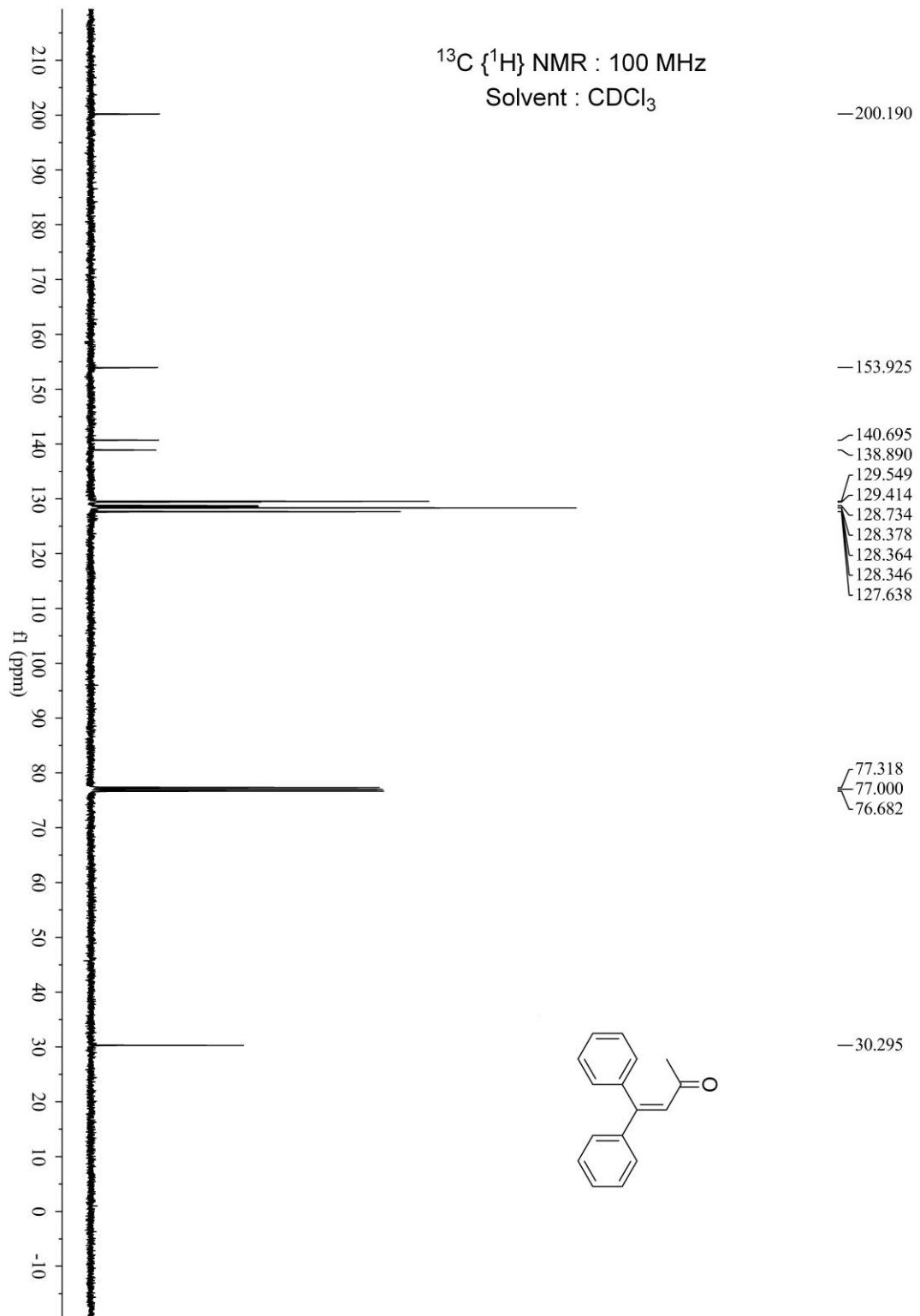


7.344
7.339
7.331
7.326
7.274
7.267
7.262
7.246
7.232
7.226
7.222
7.217
7.211
7.206
7.152
7.147
7.139
7.135
7.129
6.505



-1.801

-0.000
-0.078



2.6 Stern-Volmer quenching experiments

Formulation

solution:

N-(2-cyano-4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide **1a** (14.5 mg) was dissolved in CH₃CN in a 5 mL volumetric flask to set the concentration to be 0.01 M. 3-(((4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl)oxy)imino)butan-2-one **2a** (13.65 mg) was dissolved in CH₃CN in a 5 mL volumetric flask to set the concentration to be 0.01 M.

Additional experimental details: The samples were prepared by the photocatalyst Ir(ppy)₃ (5×10^{-4} M) with different amount of quencher **1a** in CH₃CN in a light path quartz fluorescence cuvette. The concentration of quencher **1a** is 0.01 M in CH₃CN. For each S2 quenching experiment, 3 μ l of quencher solution was separately titrated to the photocatalyst Ir(ppy)₃ (3.0 mL).

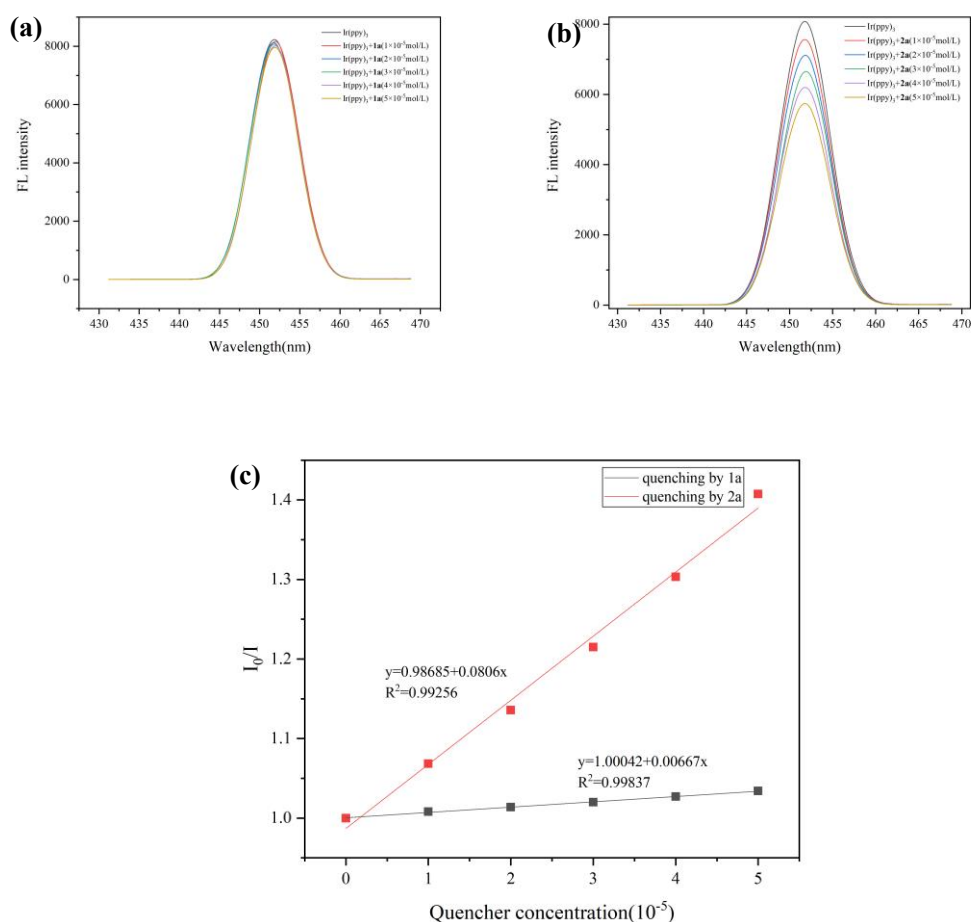


Figure S2 Stern-Volmer Quenching Experiments: (a) Ir(ppy)₃ quenched by 1a in CH₃CN; (b) Ir(ppy)₃ quenched by 2a in CH₃CN; (c) Stern-Volmer plot of photocatalyst at different concentration.

The resulting mixture was sparged with nitrogen for 3 minutes and then irradiated at 468 nm. Fluorescence emission spectra were recorded (3 trials per sample). Into this solution, 3.0 μL of a *N*-(2-cyano-4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide **1a** solution was successively added and uniformly stirred, and the resulting mixture was bubbled with nitrogen for 3 minutes and irradiated at 468 nm. Fluorescence emission spectra of 0 μL , 3.0 μL , 6.0 μL , 9.0 μL , 12.0 μL , 15.0 μL fluorescence intensity. Follow this method and make changes to the amount to obtain the Stern-Volmer relationship in turn.

Compared the figure S2 (a) of Stern-Volmer quenching experiments results, the emission intensity of the photocatalyst $\text{Ir}(\text{ppy})_3$ solution strongly affected by the gradual increase of the amount of **2a**, and the influence is not observed to **1a**. These indicated that the single electron transfer (SET) process occurred in photocatalyst and 3-(((4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl)oxy)imino)butan-2-one.

2.7 Quantum yield determination

Determination of the light intensity at 468 nm:

According to the procedure of Yoon² the photon flux of the blue LED ($\lambda_{\text{max}} = 468$ nm) was determined by standard ferrioxalate actinometry. A 0.15 M solution of ferrioxalate was prepared by dissolving 2.21 g of potassium ferrioxalate hydrate in 30 mL of 0.05 M H_2SO_4 . A buffered solution of phenanthroline was prepared by dissolving 50 mg of phenanthroline and 11.25 g of sodium acetate in 50 mL of 0.5 M H_2SO_4 . Both solutions were stored in the dark. To determine the photon flux of the spectrophotometer, 2.0 mL of the ferrioxalate solution was placed in a cuvette and irradiated for 90.0 seconds at $\lambda = 468$ nm with an emission slit width at 10.0 nm. After irradiation, 0.35 mL of the phenanthroline solution was added to the cuvette. The solution was then allowed to rest for 1 h to allow the ferrous ions to completely coordinate to the phenanthroline. The absorbance of the solution was measured at 510 nm. A nonirradiated sample was also prepared and the absorbance at 510 nm measured. Conversion was calculated using eq 1.

$$\text{mol of Fe}^{2+} = \frac{V \cdot \Delta A_{510\text{nm}}}{l \cdot \varepsilon} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{mol of Fe}^{2+} = \frac{(0.00235\text{L}) \cdot (2.786)}{(1.00\text{cm}) \cdot (11100 \frac{\text{L}}{\text{mol}} \text{cm}^{-1})} = 5.9 \times 10^{-7}$$

Where V is the total volume (0.00235 L) of the solution after addition of phenanthroline, ΔA is the difference in absorbance at 510 nm between the irradiated and non-irradiated solutions, l is the path length (1.000 cm), and ε is the molar absorptivity of the ferrioxalate actinometer at 510 nm (11,100 L mol⁻¹ cm⁻¹).³ The photon flux can be calculated using eq 2.

$$\text{Photo flux} = \frac{\text{mol of Fe}^{2+}}{\phi \cdot t \cdot f} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Photo flux} = \frac{5.9 \times 10^{-7}}{(0.92) \cdot (90\text{s}) \cdot (0.998)} = 7.1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ einstein / s}$$

Where Φ is the quantum yield for the ferrioxalate actinometer (0.92 at $\lambda = 468$ nm), t is the time (90.0 s), and f is the fraction of light absorbed at 468 nm by the ferrioxalate actinometer. This value is calculated using eq 3 where $A_{468\text{ nm}}$ is the absorbance of the ferrioxalate solution at 468 nm. An absorption spectrum gave an $A_{468\text{ nm}}$ value of 2.806 at 468 nm, indicating that the fraction of absorbed light (f) is 0.998.

$$f = 1 - 10^{-A_{468\text{nm}}} \quad (3)$$

The photon flux was thus calculated to be 7.1×10^{-9} einsteins s⁻¹

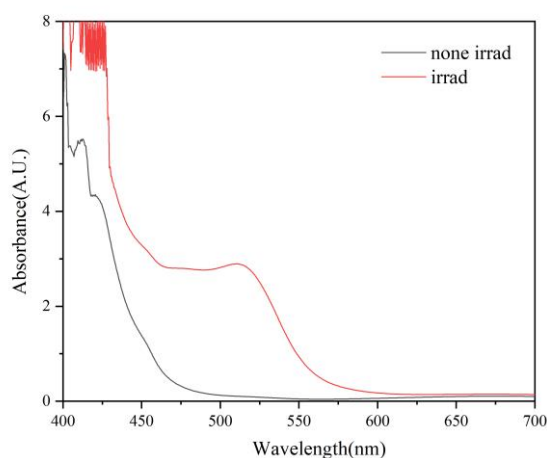
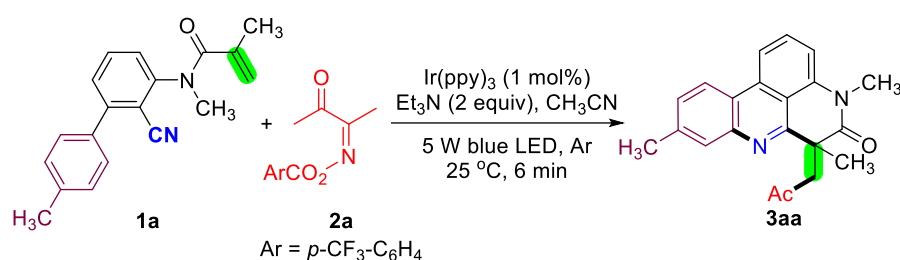


Figure S3. Absorbance of the ferrioxalate actinometer solution.

Determination of the reaction quantum yield.



To a Schlenk tube were added *N*-(2-cyano-4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide **1a** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), 3-(((4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl)oxy)imino)butan-2-one **2a** (0.15 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), Ir(ppy)₃ (1% mol), Et₃N (0.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv), and CH₃CN (1 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature (oil bath) for 6 min under blue LED irradiation ($\lambda = 468$ nm). The reaction mixture was extracted using EtOAc and saturated brine, and the organic layer was dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtrated and concentrated in vacuo. The yield was calculated by NMR with 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard. The quantum yield was determined using eq 4.

$$\phi = \frac{\text{mol of product}}{\text{flux} \cdot t \cdot f} \quad (4)$$

$$\phi = \frac{3.1 \times 10^{-5}}{(7.1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ einstein} / \text{s}) \cdot (360 \text{ s}) \cdot (0.78)} = 15.5$$

The photon flux is 7.1×10^{-9} einsteins s⁻¹, *t* is the reaction time (360 s). *f* is the fraction of incident light absorbed by the catalyst, determined using eq 3. An absorption spectrum of the catalyst (0.001 M) gave an absorbance value of 0.658 at 468 nm (figure S4), indicating that the fraction of light absorbed by the photocatalyst (*f*) is 0.78.

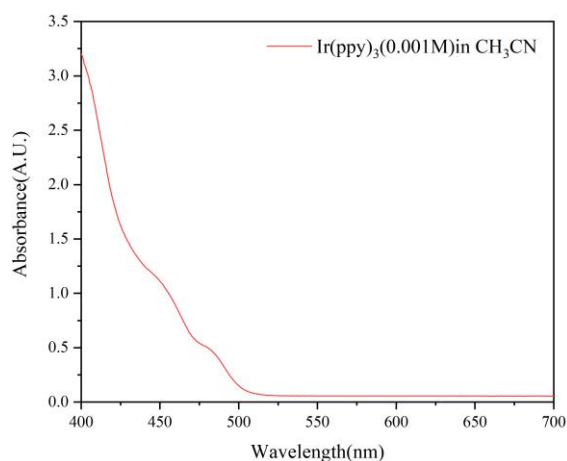


Figure S4. Absorption spectrum of Ir(ppy)₃ [0.001 M] in acetonitrile

2.8 UV/vis studies

UV/vis absorption spectra were measured in a 1 cm quartz cuvette using a Shimadzu UV-2600 UV/Vis spectrometer. Absorption spectra of individual reaction components and mixtures thereof were recorded. A bathochromic shift was observed for a mixture of *N*-(2-cyano-4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-*N*-methacrylamide **1a**, 3-(((4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl)oxy)imino)butan-2-one **2a**, and Et₃N in CH₃CN (0.2 M), which was a visibly in color (Figure S5). This indicates the formation of an electron donor-acceptor (EDA) complex (Figure S6, red band)

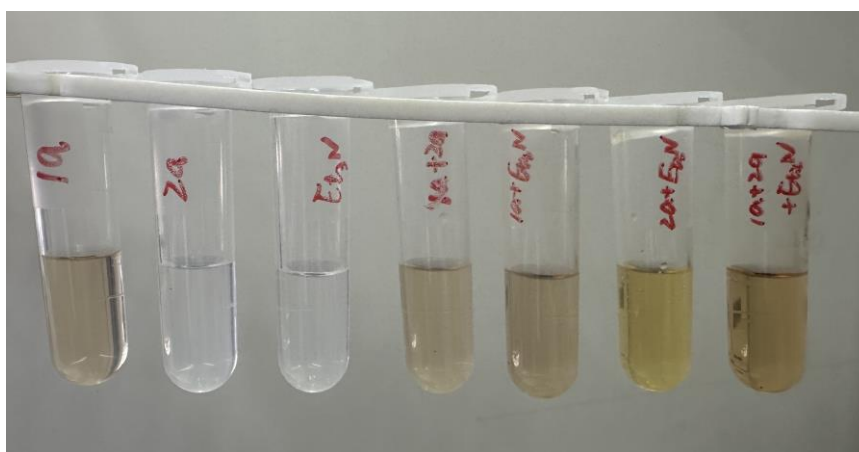


Figure S5. Visual appearance of reaction components and mixtures thereof.

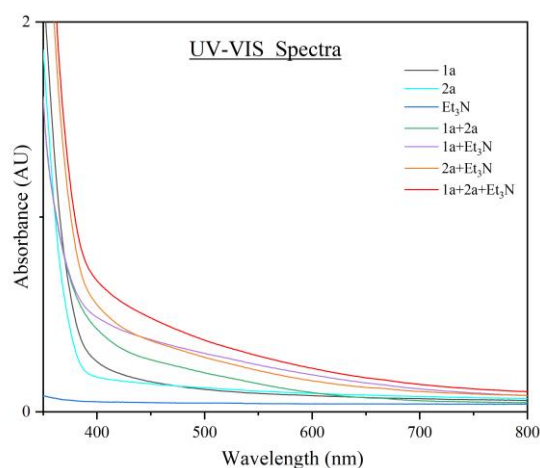


Figure S6. UV/vis absorption spectra of individual reaction components and a combination thereof. All spectra were measured in CH_3CN and with a concentration of 0.1 M *N*-(2-cyano-4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide **1a**, 0.15 M 3-(((4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl)oxy)imino)butan-2-one **2a**, 0.2 M Et_3N . The stoichiometry and concentration of samples reflects the used reaction conditions.

Job Plot

Using UV-vis spectroscopy, the absorbance values at 468 nm (corresponding to the EDA complex's absorption) were monitored and plotted as a function of molar fraction of the 3-(((4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl)oxy)imino)butan-2-one of **2a**. A parabolic curve with a maximum absorbance value at 50% mol fraction of *N*-(2-cyano-4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide **1a** was obtained, indicating a 1:1 EDA complex between **1a** and the conjugated base of **2a**.

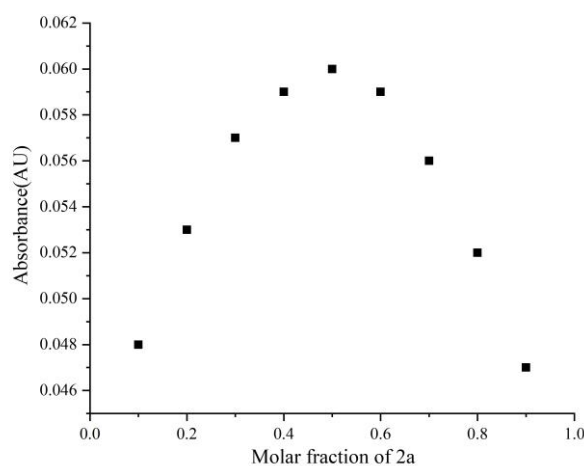


Figure S7. Job Plot of the EDA complex system between **1a** and **2a** at 468 nm.

Benesi–Hildebrand Plot

The absorbance values of five solutions containing a constant value of 0.01 M of *N*-(2-cyano-4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-*N*-methylmethacrylamide **1a** and increasing amounts of the 3-(((4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoyl)oxy)imino)butan-2-one of **2a** from 0.01 M to 0.05 M were recorded at 468 nm. Using the Benesi–Hildebrand method, $1/\Delta\text{Absorbance}$ versus $1/[\text{Concentration of } \mathbf{2a}]$ were plotted and a linear relationship (Figures S8) was observed. Through linear regression, the y-intercept and slope values allowed an estimation of the association constant of the EDA complex (KEDA) as 6.8 in CH_3CN .

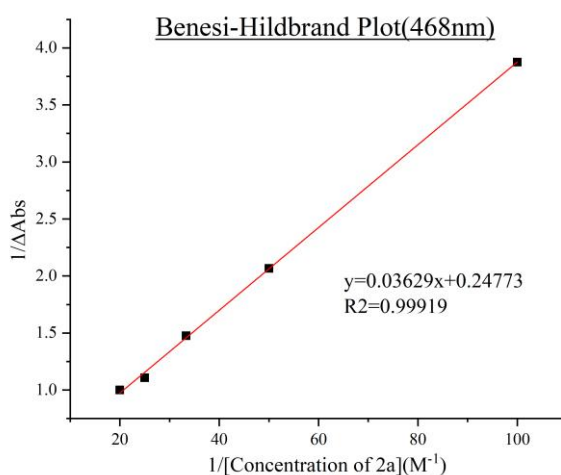
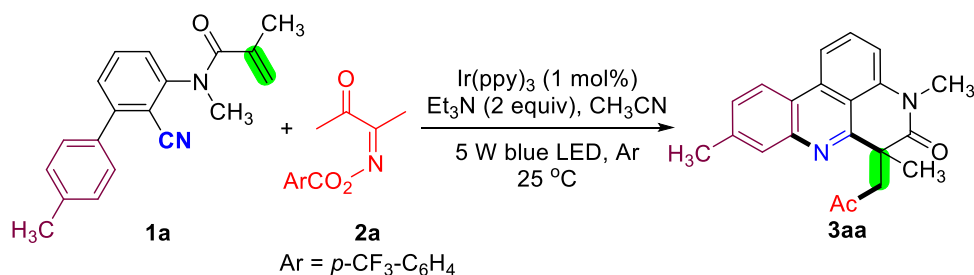


Figure S8. Benesi-Hildebrand Plot of the EDA complex system between **1a** and **2a** at 468 nm.

2.9 The Light on/off Experiments



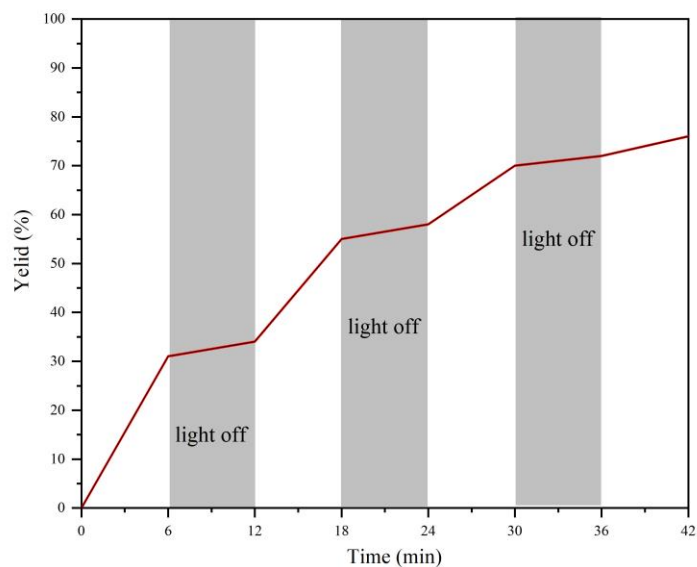


Figure S9 The Light on/off Experiments

2.10 Possible reaction mechanisms involving an EDA process

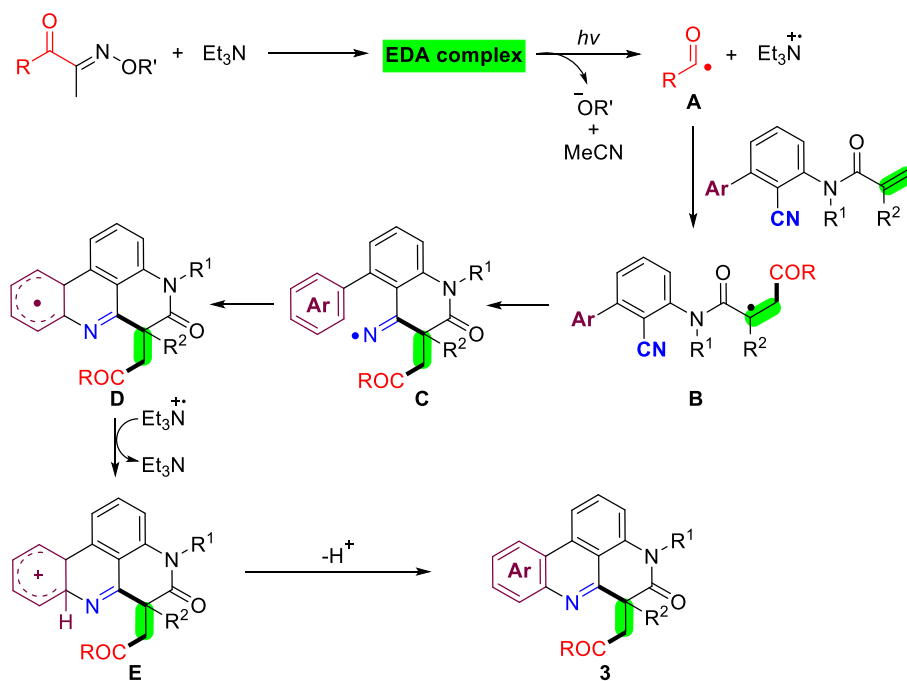


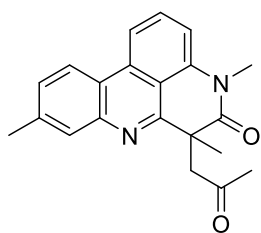
Figure S10 Possible reaction mechanisms involving an EDA process

3. References

- [1] Y.-J. Ma, Z.-H. Yuan, P. Gao, X.-H. Duan, H. Xin, L. Liu and L.-N. Guo, *J. Org. Chem.*, **2023**, 88, 9927-9940.
- [2] P. Chen, J. Xie, Z. Chen, B.-Q. Xiong, Y. Liu, C.-A. Yang and K.-W. Tang, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, **2021**, 363, 4440.
- [3] X. Fan, T. Lei, B. Chen, C.-H. Tung and L.-Z. Wu, *Org. Lett.*, **2019**, 21, 4153

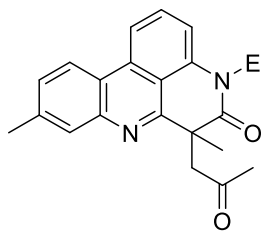
4. Analytical data

4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one



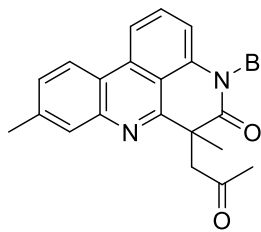
(3aa): Yield: 53.8 mg, 81%; yellow solid; mp 141.5-141.8 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.35 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.75 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 1.51 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 206.9, 174.1, 160.0, 144.6, 139.0, 139.0, 133.3, 131.6, 128.8, 128.0, 122.3, 120.5, 115.7, 111.6, 110.4, 52.9, 48.1, 29.7, 29.5, 29.4, 21.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: C₂₁H₂₁N₂O₂ (M + H)⁺ calcd for 333.1598, found 333.1601.

4-Ethyl-6,9-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ba)



(3ba): Yield: 55.4 mg, 80%; yellow solid; mp 87.3-87.6 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.38 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.29-4.15 (m, 3H), 3.72 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 1.50 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 206.9, 173.6, 160.1, 144.7, 139.0, 137.8, 133.7, 131.6, 128.9, 128.0, 122.3, 120.6, 115.5, 112.0, 110.3, 53.0, 48.0, 37.3, 29.7, 29.5, 21.5, 11.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: C₂₂H₂₃N₂O₂ (M + H)⁺ calcd for 347.1754, found 347.1751.

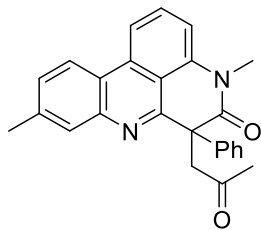
4-Benzyl-6,9-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ca)



(3ca): Yield: 63.6 mg, 78%; yellow solid; mp 72.1-72.5 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.30 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.29 (m, 5H), 7.24-7.20 (m, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.45-5.35 (m, 2H), 4.26 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 206.9, 174.5, 159.9, 144.6, 139.0, 137.8, 136.4, 133.5, 131.5, 128.8, 128.8, 128.0, 127.0, 126.2,

122.3, 120.6, 115.7, 111.8, 111.6, 52.8, 48.3, 46.1, 29.7, 29.5, 21.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{27}H_{25}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 409.1911, found 409.1912.

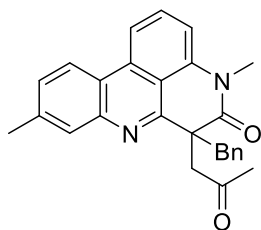
4,9-Dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-6-phenyl-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)



-one (3da): Yield: 59.1 mg, 75%; yellow solid; mp 104.4-104.8 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.39 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.76 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.08 (m, 6H), 4.55 (d, $J =$

17.6 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 206.6, 171.7, 158.2, 144.6, 141.4, 139.1, 139.0, 133.3, 131.7, 129.3, 128.5, 128.4, 127.2, 126.7, 122.4, 120.7, 115.9, 112.8, 110.7, 56.5, 53.0, 30.2, 29.7, 21.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{26}H_{23}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 395.1754, found 395.1752.

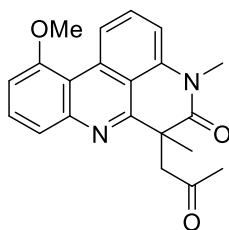
6-Benzyl-4,9-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-



one (3ea): Yield: 62.8 mg, 77%; yellow solid; mp 60.4-60.9 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.36 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.53 (t, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.44 (m, 1H), 6.86-6.82 (m, 1H), 6.74-6.70 (m,

3H), 6.35 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 4.33 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.86 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.32-3.19 (m, 5H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 206.7, 172.5, 158.7, 144.6, 138.9, 138.4, 134.9, 132.2, 131.2, 129.1, 129.0, 128.1, 127.0, 126.5, 122.4, 120.6, 115.3, 113.7, 109.8, 53.9, 53.5, 50.1, 29.6, 29.2, 21.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{27}H_{25}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 409.1911, found 409.1912.

11-Methoxy-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-

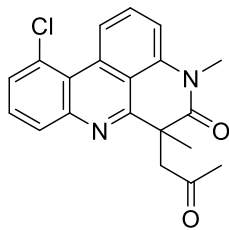


H)-one (3fa): Yield: 49.4 mg, 71%; yellow solid; mp 171.3-171.5 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 9.22 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.80 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.67-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.27 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.18 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H),

4.10 (s, 3H), 3.72 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 1.50 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 206.9, 173.9, 160.3, 158.3, 146.6, 138.4, 133.2, 131.4, 128.3, 122.2, 122.0, 113.9, 112.4, 110.7, 107.4, 55.8, 52.8, 48.0, 29.9, 29.5,

29.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{21}H_{21}N_2O_3$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 349.1547, found 349.1551.

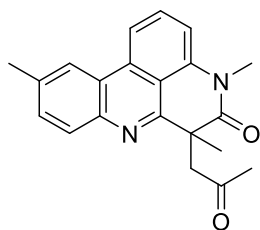
11-Chloro-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H



)-one (3ga): Yield: 57.7 mg, 82%; yellow solid; mp 166.9-167.3 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 9.54 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.96-7.94 (m, 1H), 7.84 (t, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.67-7.65 (m, 1H), 7.55 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.16 (d, $J =$

18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.50 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 206.9, 173.6, 160.7, 146.7, 138.8, 132.7, 131.1, 130.9, 130.0, 129.2, 128.0, 120.8, 120.5, 112.8, 111.8, 52.8, 48.0, 30.0, 29.4, 29.3; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{20}H_{18}ClN_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 353.1051, found 353.1053.

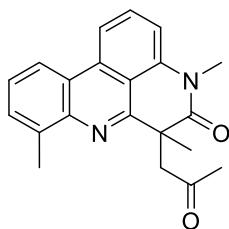
4,6,10-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-one



(3ha): Yield: 33.7 mg, 50%; yellow solid; mp 128.2-128.7 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.35 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.23 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz,

1H), 4.20 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.74 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 1.51 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 206.9, 174.1, 158.5, 143.1, 139.0, 136.9, 133.6, 131.5, 129.4, 125.9, 122.6, 120.4, 116.1, 111.7, 110.6, 53.0, 48.4, 29.9, 29.8, 29.6, 18.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{21}H_{21}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 333.1598, found 333.1601.

4,6,8-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-one

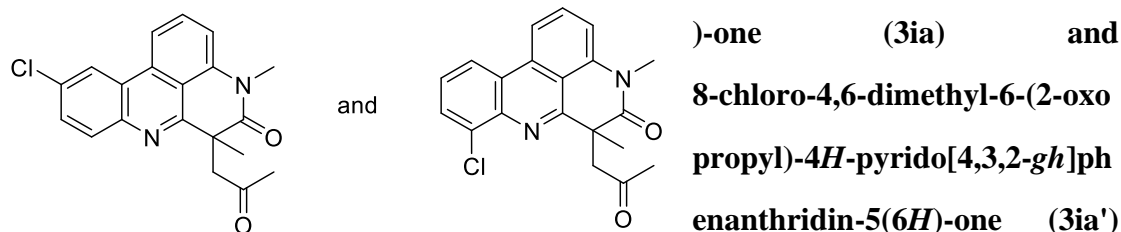


(3ha'): Yield: 16.8 mg, 26%; yellow solid; mp 148.0-148.4 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.28 (s, 1H), 8.23 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.80 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.51 (m, 1H), 7.23 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.18 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz,

1H), 3.72 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 207.0, 174.2, 159.0, 142.9, 139.0, 136.1, 133.1, 131.4, 130.5, 129.1, 122.7, 122.1, 115.9, 112.1, 110.7, 53.0, 48.1, 29.8, 29.6, 29.5,

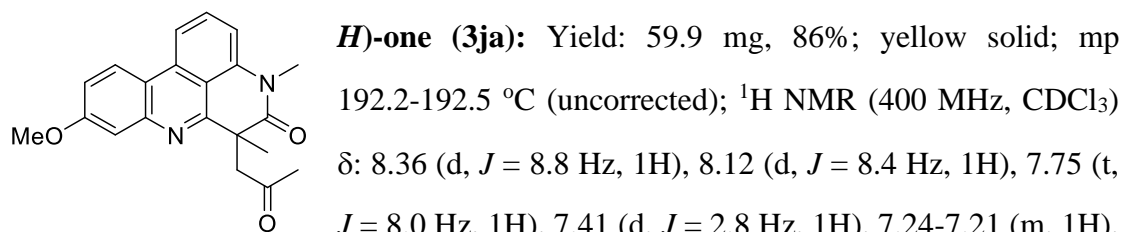
21.9; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{21}H_{21}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 333.1598, found 333.1601.

10-Chloro-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)



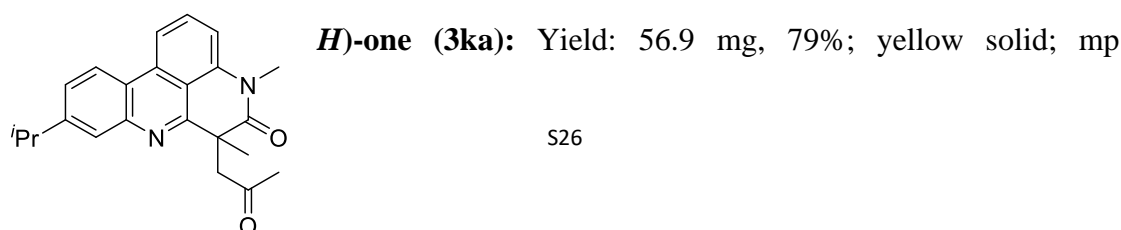
mixture : Yield: 44.4 mg, 63%; yellow solid; mp 145.2-145.6 °C (uncorrected); **3ia** : **3ia'** = 7:3; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.42 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 0.3H), 8.39-8.37 (m, 0.7H), 8.18 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 0.7H), 8.11 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 0.3H), 7.93 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 0.3H), 7.83-7.76 (m, 1.7H), 7.63-7.60 (m, 0.3H), 7.47 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 0.7H), 7.26-7.23 (m, 1H), 4.28 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 0.7H), 4.16 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 0.3H), 3.78-3.72 (m, 1H), 3.59-3.58 (m, 3H), 2.15-2.11 (m, 3H), 1.53-1.51 (m, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 207.3, 206.9, 173.9, 173.9, 160.8, 160.5, 143.0, 140.8, 139.3, 139.1, 133.9, 133.1, 132.3, 132.1, 132.0, 130.8, 129.3, 129.1, 126.1, 124.5, 123.9, 122.1, 121.4, 116.0, 115.8, 112.1, 111.9, 111.4, 111.3, 53.0, 52.8, 48.7, 48.2, 29.8, 29.7, 29.5, 29.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{20}H_{18}ClN_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 353.1051, found 353.1053.

9-Methoxy-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6



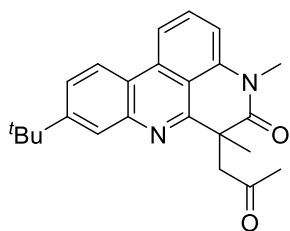
7.15 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.17 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 3.74 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 206.9, 174.1, 160.5, 160.2, 146.3, 139.1, 133.5, 131.7, 123.8, 117.4, 117.0, 115.4, 111.2, 109.7, 109.1, 55.5, 53.0, 48.2, 29.8, 29.6, 29.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{21}H_{21}N_2O_3$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 349.1547, found 349.1551.

9-Isopropyl-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6



138.8-139.2 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.59-8.55 (m, 2H), 8.27 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.17-8.15 (m, 1H), 7.87 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.82-3.75 (m, 2H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H), 1.32-1.30 (m, 6H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 207.0, 173.9, 161.3, 144.3, 139.2, 136.1, 132.7, 132.2, 130.2, 126.2, 125.1, 123.2, 116.3, 112.6, 112.0, 53.2, 48.3, 35.5, 29.9, 29.5, 29.4, 19.3, 19.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: C₂₃H₂₅N₂O₂ (M + H)⁺ calcd for 361.1911, found 361.1915.

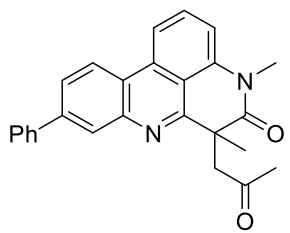
9-(*tert*-Butyl)-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3la):



Yield: 62.1 mg, 83%; yellow solid; mp 156.1-156.4 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.42 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.69-7.66 (m, 1H), 7.20

(d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 3H), 1.46 (s, 9H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 206.9, 174.2, 159.9, 152.1, 144.6, 139.0, 133.2, 131.6, 125.2, 124.6, 122.2, 120.5, 115.7, 111.8, 110.4, 53.1, 48.1, 34.9, 31.3, 29.8, 29.6, 29.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: C₂₄H₂₇N₂O₂ (M + H)⁺ calcd for 375.2067, found 375.2071.

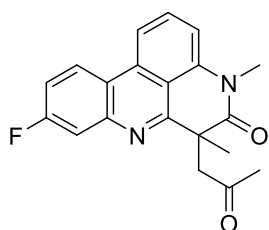
4,6-Dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-9-phenyl-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ma):



Yield: 65.4 mg, 83%; yellow solid; mp 216.2-216.7 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.54 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.26-8.24 (m, 2H), 7.87-7.78 (m, 4H), 7.52-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.0

Hz, 1H), 4.21 (d, *J* = 18.4 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.55 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 207.0, 174.1, 160.6, 144.9, 141.6, 140.3, 139.2, 133.2, 131.8, 128.9, 127.7, 127.3, 127.3, 125.5, 123.1, 122.0, 115.9, 112.0, 110.9, 53.1, 48.2, 29.8, 29.6, 29.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: C₂₆H₂₃N₂O₂ (M + H)⁺ calcd for 395.1754, found 395.1752.

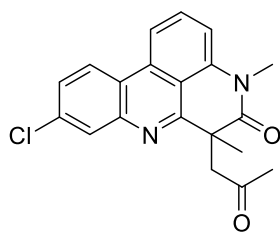
9-Fluoro-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3na):



Yield: 52.4 mg, 78%; yellow solid; mp 139.8-140.1

°C (uncorrected); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 8.46-8.42 (m, 1H), 8.14 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.79 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.67-7.64 (m, 1H), 7.36-7.31 (m, 1H), 7.22 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.16 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.75 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 207.0, 173.9, 162.8 (d, $J = 246.7$ Hz, 1C), 161.6, 145.9 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1C), 139.2, 133.1, 132.1, 124.5 (d, $J = 9.5$ Hz, 1C), 119.6 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1C), 115.6, 115.3 (d, $J = 23.6$ Hz, 1C), 113.8 (d, $J = 20.3$ Hz, 1C), 111.6, 110.6, 53.0, 48.2, 29.8, 29.5, 29.4; ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : -111.9 (s, 1F); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 337.1347, found 337.1345.

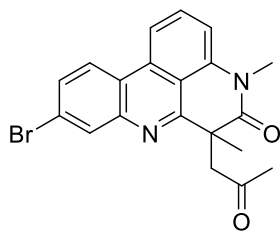
9-Chloro-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-gh]phenanthridin-5(6H)



-one (30a): Yield: 56.3 mg, 80%; yellow solid; mp 172.3-172.8 °C (uncorrected); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 8.37 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.79 (t, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.23

(d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.15 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.75 (d, $J = 18.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.51 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 206.9, 173.8, 161.6, 145.2, 139.2, 134.5, 132.9, 132.1, 128.5, 126.8, 123.9, 121.4, 115.7, 111.9, 111.1, 53.0, 48.3, 29.8, 29.4, 29.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 353.1051, found 353.1053.

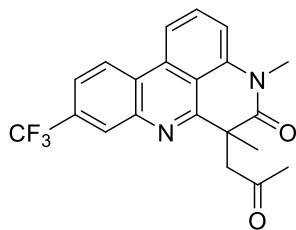
9-Bromo-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-gh]phenanthridin-5(6H)-



one (3pa): Yield: 61.0 mg, 77%; yellow solid; mp 171.7-172.2 °C (uncorrected); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 8.33 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.20-8.16 (m, 2H), 7.82 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.68-7.66 (m, 1H), 7.26 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.15 (d, $J =$

18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.51 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 207.0, 173.9, 161.6, 145.5, 139.3, 133.0, 132.2, 131.8, 129.4, 124.1, 122.6, 121.8, 115.7, 111.9, 111.2, 77.3, 77.0, 76.7, 53.1, 48.3, 29.9, 29.5, 29.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{BrN}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 397.0546, found 397.0548.

4,6-Dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-9-(trifluoromethyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthri-



din-5(6H)-one (3qa): Yield: 53.3 mg, 69%; yellow solid; mp

213.7-214.2 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

δ: 8.57 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (d,

J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.78-7.75 (m, 1H),

7.31 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s,

3H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 207.0, 173.8,

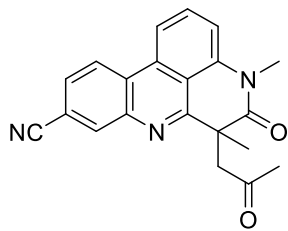
162.0, 143.9, 139.3, 132.5, 132.3, 130.6 (q, *J* = 32.6 Hz, 1C), 126.9 (q, *J* = 4.2 Hz,

1C), 125.2, 124.1 (q, *J* = 270.7 Hz, 1C), 123.7, 122.0 (q, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 1C), 116.1, 112.5,

112.0, 53.1, 48.3, 29.9, 29.4, 29.4; ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: -62.3 (s, 3F);

HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: C₂₁H₁₈F₃N₂O₂ (M + H)⁺ calcd for 387.1315, found 387.1317.

4,6-Dimethyl-5-oxo-6-(2-oxopropyl)-5,6-dihydro-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthri-



dine-9-carbonitrile (3ra): Yield: 52.8 mg, 77%; yellow solid;

mp 150.1-150.6 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ: 8.54 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H),

8.22 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.76-7.74

(m, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (d, *J* = 18.4 Hz, 1H),

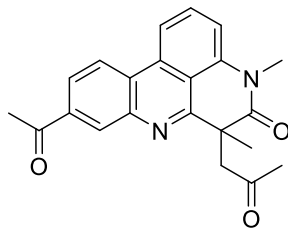
3.60 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 207.0,

173.6, 162.7, 143.8, 139.4, 134.4, 132.6, 132.2, 127.6, 126.2, 123.9, 118.6, 116.2,

112.6, 112.5, 112.0, 53.1, 48.4, 29.9, 29.4, 29.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: C₂₁H₁₈N₃O₂

(M + H)⁺ calcd for 344.1394, found 344.1399.

9-Acetyl-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-



one (3sa): Yield: 49.7 mg, 69%; yellow solid; mp 66.1-66.5

°C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.57 (d, *J* =

1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.54 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H),

8.17-8.14 (m, 1H), 7.86 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0

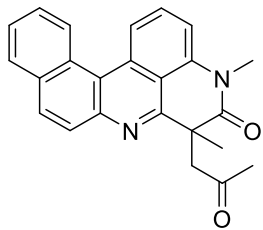
Hz, 1H), 4.20 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (d, *J* = 18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (s, 3H), 2.77 (s,

3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 206.9, 197.9,

173.8, 161.4, 144.1, 139.2, 136.9, 132.6, 132.2, 130.7, 126.4, 124.6, 123.1, 116.4,

112.6, 112.0, 53.1, 48.3, 29.9, 29.5, 29.4, 26.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{22}H_{21}N_2O_3$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 361.1547, found 361.1552.

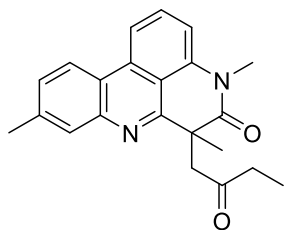
4,6-Dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4H-benzo[*a*]pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-



one (3ta): Yield: 54.5 mg, 74%; yellow solid; mp 221.9-222.3 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 9.03 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.73 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.01-7.93 (m, 3H), 7.83 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.70-7.66 (m, 1H), 7.64-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.25 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.22 (d, $J = 18.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.76 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.55 (s, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 207.0, 174.0, 159.2, 144.5, 138.9, 133.4, 132.9, 131.3, 129.9, 129.7, 128.7, 128.0, 127.4, 126.5, 126.1, 120.7, 119.3, 113.3, 110.0, 52.9, 48.0, 29.9, 29.5, 29.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z :

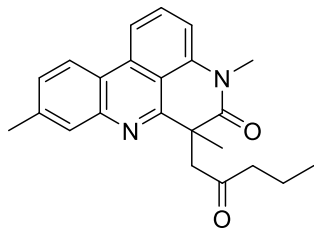
$C_{24}H_{21}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 369.1598, found 369.1603.

4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxobutyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-one



(3ab): Yield: 56.1 mg, 81%; yellow solid; mp 158.9-159.4 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.37 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.81-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.19 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.17 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.70 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.52-2.36 (m, 2H), 1.52 (s, 3H), 0.91 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 209.8, 174.2, 160.1, 144.7, 139.0, 139.0, 133.4, 131.6, 128.8, 128.0, 122.4, 120.6, 115.7, 111.7, 110.4, 51.8, 48.1, 35.3, 29.8, 29.6, 21.5, 7.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{22}H_{23}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 347.1754, found 347.1757.

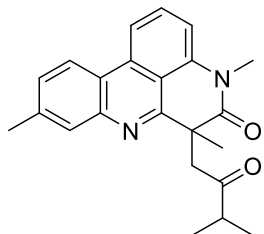
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxopentyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-one



(3ac): Yield: 55.4 mg, 77%; yellow solid; mp 138.8-139.2 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.38 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.81-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.42 (m, 1H), 7.21 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.17 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.70 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.39 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.52 (s, 3H), 1.50-1.44 (m, 2H), 0.80 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 209.5, 174.2, 160.2, 144.7, 139.1, 139.0, 133.4, 131.6, 128.8, 128.0,

122.4, 120.6, 115.7, 111.7, 110.4, 52.2, 48.1, 44.1, 29.8, 29.6, 21.5, 17.1, 13.6;
HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{23}H_{25}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 361.1911, found 361.1915.

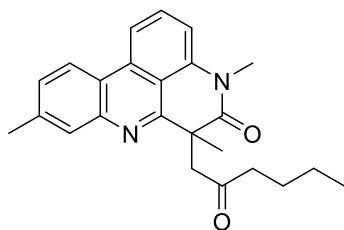
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(3-methyl-2-oxobutyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-one



(3ad): Yield: 51.1 mg, 71%; yellow solid; mp 146.7-1447.2 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.40 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.78 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.45 (M, 1H), 7.16 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz,

1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.52-2.47 (m, 1H), 2.34-2.29 (m, 1H), 1.76 (s, 3H), 1.49-1.39 (m, 1H), 0.69 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H), 0.50 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 174.5, 160.0, 145.0, 139.3, 138.8, 133.2, 131.5, 131.5 129.2, 128.2, 122.3, 120.2, 115.8, 112.0, 110.1, 51.1, 50.5, 30.9, 29.6, 25.6, 23.7, 22.9, 21.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{23}H_{25}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 361.1911, found 361.1915.

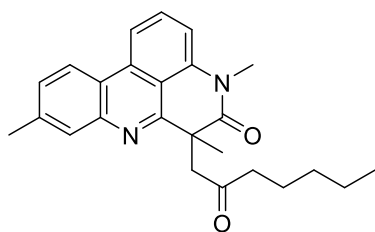
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxohexyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-one



(3ae): Yield: 59.8 mg, 80%; yellow solid; mp 128.0-128.4 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.37 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.81-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.20 (d, $J =$

7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.70 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.41 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 1.52 (s, 3H), 1.48-1.40 (m, 2H), 1.23-1.15 (m, 2H), 0.81 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H); ¹³C{¹H}NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 209.6, 174.2, 160.1, 144.7, 139.0, 139.0, 133.4, 131.6, 128.8, 128.0, 122.3, 120.6, 115.7, 111.7, 110.4, 52.2, 48.1, 41.9, 29.8, 29.5, 25.7, 22.1, 21.5, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $C_{24}H_{27}N_2O_2$ ($M + H$)⁺ calcd for 375.2067, found 375.2071.

4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxoheptyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-one

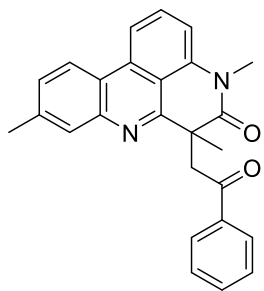


(3af): Yield: 59.0 mg, 76%; yellow solid; mp 90.3-90.7 °C (uncorrected); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 8.37 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.81-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.19 (d, $J =$

8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.70 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.42-2.37 (m, 2H), 1.52 (s, 3H), 1.47-1.41 (m, 2H), 1.22-1.12 (m, 4H), 0.78 (t, J

= 6.8 Hz, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 209.6, 174.2, 160.2, 144.7, 139.1, 139.0, 133.4, 131.6, 128.8, 128.0, 122.3, 120.6, 115.7, 111.7, 110.4, 52.2, 48.1, 42.2, 31.2, 29.8, 29.5, 23.4, 22.4, 21.5, 13.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 389.2224, found 389.2226.

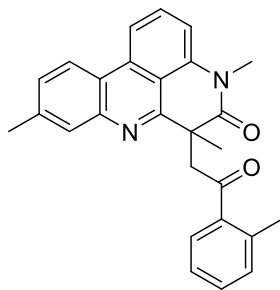
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-phenylethyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ag):



Yield: 62.3 mg, 79%; yellow solid; mp 194.5-194.9 °C (uncorrected); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 8.35 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.96-7.94 (m, 2H), 7.80-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.42-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.23 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.79 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.27 (d, $J =$

18.0 Hz, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 1.65 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 198.2, 174.2, 160.1, 144.7, 139.1, 138.9, 136.2, 133.4, 133.1, 131.6, 128.9, 128.4, 128.2, 127.9, 122.3, 120.5, 115.7, 111.7, 110.4, 48.8, 48.3, 29.8, 29.7, 21.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 395.1754, found 395.1759.

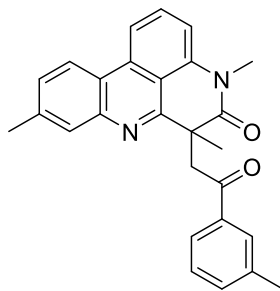
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-(*o*-tolyl)ethyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ah):



Yield: 57.1 mg, 70%; yellow solid; mp 71.6-72.1 °C (uncorrected); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 8.39 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.22 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.88-7.79 (m, 3H), 7.43-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.35-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.14 (d, $J =$

7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.16 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 202.7, 174.2, 160.3, 144.8, 139.2, 139.1, 137.8, 137.7, 133.5, 131.6, 131.5, 131.0, 128.9, 128.5, 128.0, 125.5, 122.4, 120.6, 115.7, 111.8, 110.5, 51.2, 48.7, 29.9, 29.7, 21.5, 20.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 409.1911, found 409.1913.

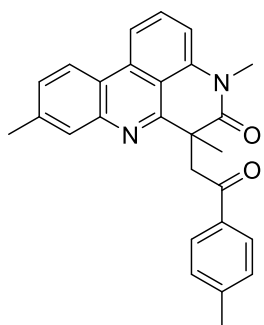
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-(*m*-tolyl)ethyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ai):



Yield: 62.0 mg, 76%; yellow solid; mp 81.9-82.4 °C (uncorrected); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 8.34 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.79-7.74

(m, 4H), 7.38-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.22 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.77 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.26 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.65 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 198.4, 174.3, 160.2, 144.7, 139.1, 138.9, 138.1, 136.2, 133.8, 133.4, 131.6, 128.9, 128.7, 128.2, 127.9, 125.4, 122.3, 120.5, 115.7, 111.7, 110.4, 49.0, 48.3, 29.8, 29.7, 21.4, 21.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 409.1911, found 409.1913.

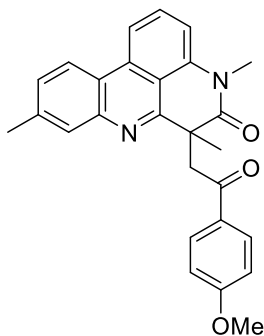
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-(*p*-tolyl)ethyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6



***H*)-one (3aj):** Yield: 64.5 mg, 79%; yellow solid; mp 138.1-138.4 °C (uncorrected); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 8.35 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.85-7.83 (m, 2H), 7.79 (t, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.39-7.36 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.18 (m, 3H), 4.76 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.24 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H);

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 197.8, 174.3, 160.2, 144.7, 143.8, 139.1, 138.9, 133.8, 133.4, 131.6, 129.0, 128.9, 128.3, 127.9, 122.3, 120.6, 115.7, 111.7, 110.4, 48.8, 48.3, 29.8, 29.7, 21.6, 21.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 409.1911, found 409.1914.

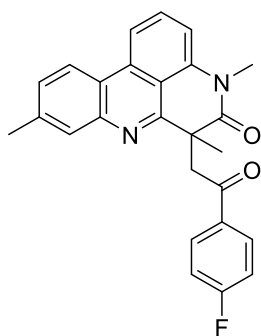
6-(2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4,6,9-trimethyl-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenant



hridin-5(6H)-one (3ak): Yield: 62.8 mg, 74%; yellow solid; mp 191.5-191.8 °C (uncorrected); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 8.37 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.94-7.90 (m, 2H), 7.81 (t, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.41-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.25 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.90-6.86 (m, 2H), 4.73 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.22 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s,

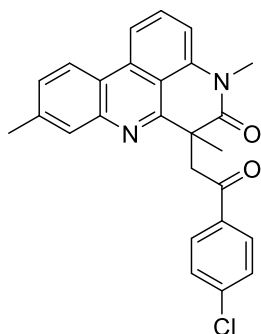
3H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 196.7, 174.4, 163.4, 160.4, 144.8, 139.2, 138.9, 133.5, 131.6, 130.5, 129.6, 129.0, 127.9, 122.3, 120.6, 115.7, 113.5, 111.8, 110.4, 55.4, 48.7, 48.3, 29.9, 29.7, 21.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 425.1860, found 425.1862.

6-(2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4,6,9-trimethyl-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-one (3al):



idin-5(6H)-one (3al): Yield: 64.3 mg, 78%; yellow solid; mp 184.8-185.3 °C (uncorrected); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 8.36 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.98-7.95 (m, 2H), 7.80 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.40-7.37 (m, 1H), 7.24 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 4.74 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.23 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 196.7, 174.2, 165.7 (d, $J = 253.0$ Hz, 1C), 160.0, 144.7, 139.0 (d, $J = 1.9$ Hz, 1C), 133.4, 132.8 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1C), 131.7, 130.8 (d, $J = 9.3$ Hz, 1C), 128.8, 128.0, 126.6, 122.3, 120.5, 115.6 (d, $J = 46.0$ Hz, 1C), 115.5, 111.7, 110.5, 48.6, 48.3, 29.8, 29.7, 21.4; ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : -105.2 (s, 1F); HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 413.1660, found 412.1663.

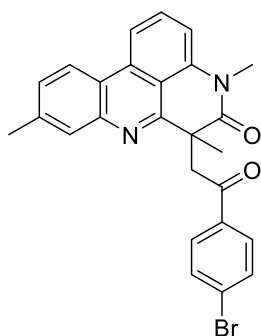
6-(2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4,6,9-trimethyl-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-one (3am):



idin-5(6H)-one (3am): Yield: 67.6 mg, 79%; yellow solid; mp 161.2-161.7 °C (uncorrected); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 8.36 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.80 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.40-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.24 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.73 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.22 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H);

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 197.1, 174.1, 160.0, 144.7, 139.5, 139.0, 139.0, 134.6, 133.4, 131.7, 129.6, 128.9, 128.7, 128.0, 122.3, 120.6, 115.8, 111.7, 110.5, 48.6, 48.4, 29.9, 29.7, 21.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 429.1364, found 429.1361.

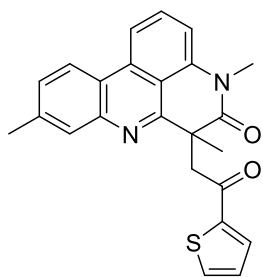
6-(2-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4,6,9-trimethyl-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-one (3an):



idin-5(6H)-one (3an): Yield: 68.9 mg, 73%; yellow solid; mp 137.6-137.9 °C (uncorrected); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 8.38 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.22 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.84-7.79 (m, 3H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.57-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.26 (d,

$J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.73 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.21 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 197.3, 174.1, 160.0, 144.7, 139.1, 139.0, 135.1, 133.5, 131.7, 131.7, 129.7, 128.9, 128.3, 128.1, 122.3, 120.6, 115.8, 111.7, 110.5, 48.6, 48.4, 29.9, 29.7, 21.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{BrN}_2\text{O}_2$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 473.0859, found 473.0864.

4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-(thiophen-2-yl)ethyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthri



din-5(6H)-one (3ao): Yield: 51.2 mg, 64%; yellow solid; mp

143.5-143.8 °C (uncorrected); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ :

8.38 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.85-7.77 (m,

3H), 7.56-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.42-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.23 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz,

1H), 7.12-7.10 (m, 1H), 4.70 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.22 (d, $J =$

17.6 Hz, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (100 MHz,

CDCl_3) δ : 191.1, 174.1, 159.9, 144.7, 143.4, 139.1, 139.0, 133.5, 133.3, 132.1, 131.6,

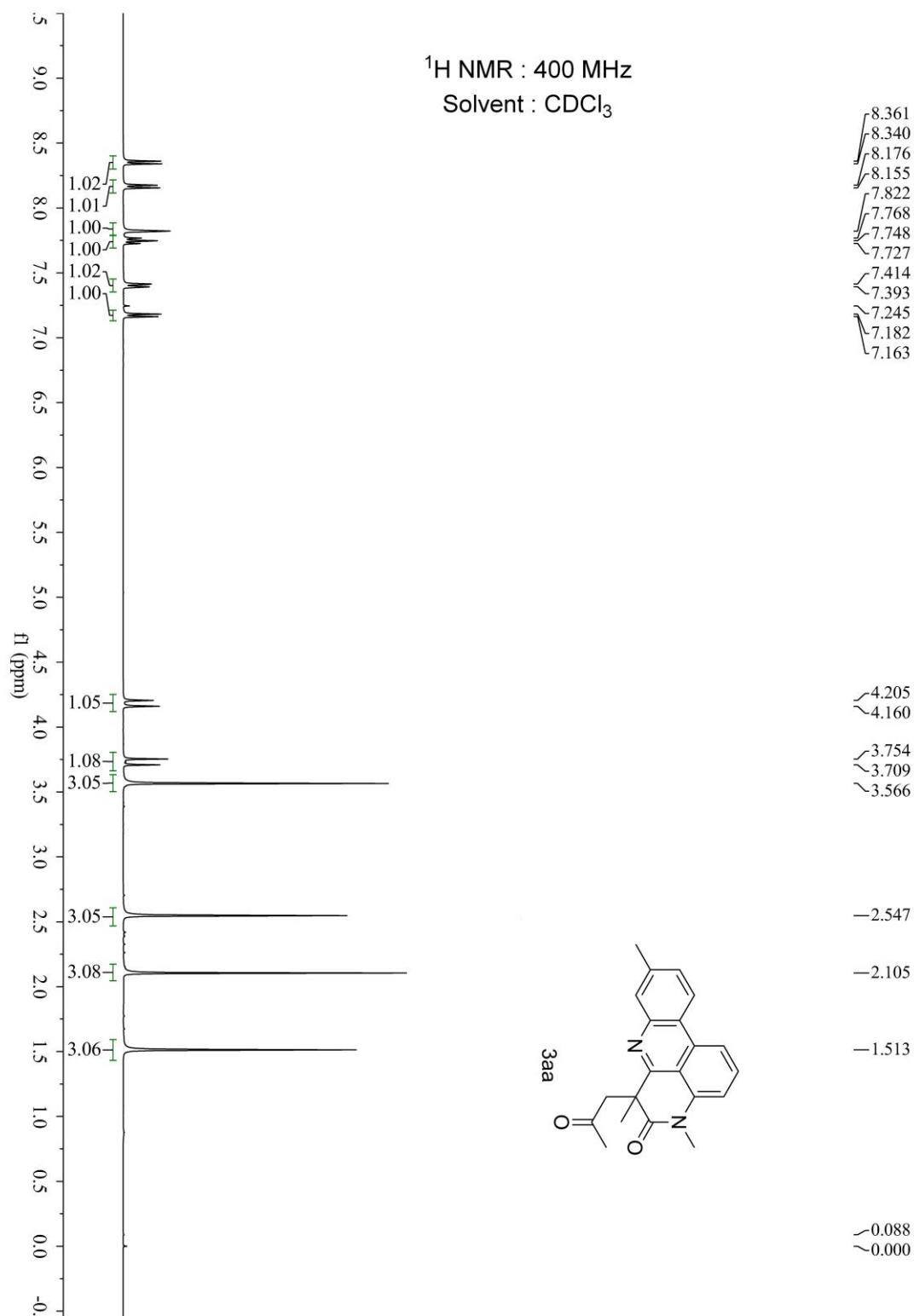
129.0, 128.0, 127.9, 122.3, 120.6, 115.8, 111.7, 110.5, 49.2, 48.3, 29.9, 29.7, 21.4;

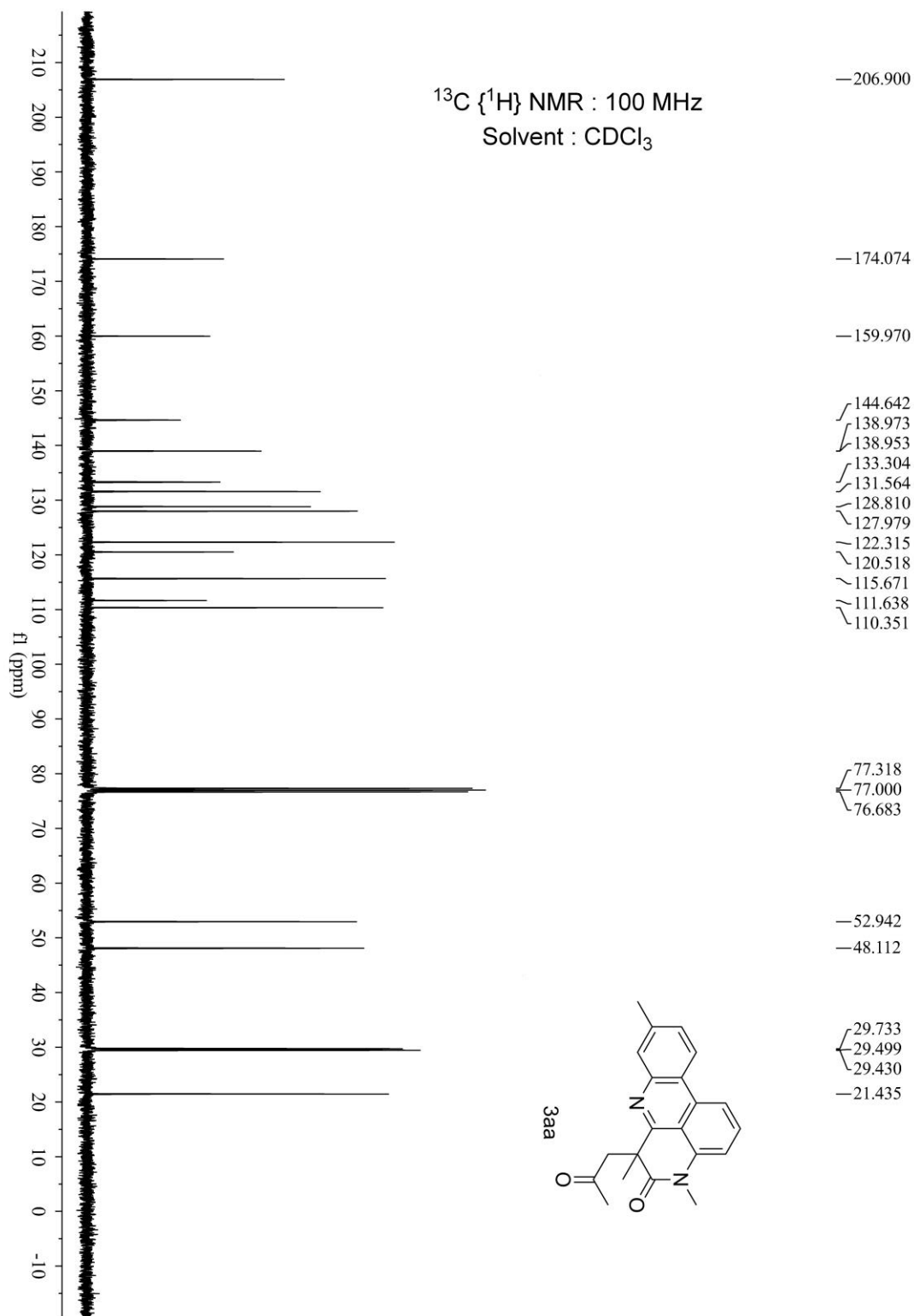
HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}$ ($\text{M} + \text{H}$) $^+$ calcd for 401.1318, found 401.1342.

5. The ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR and ^{19}F NMR spectra for all compounds

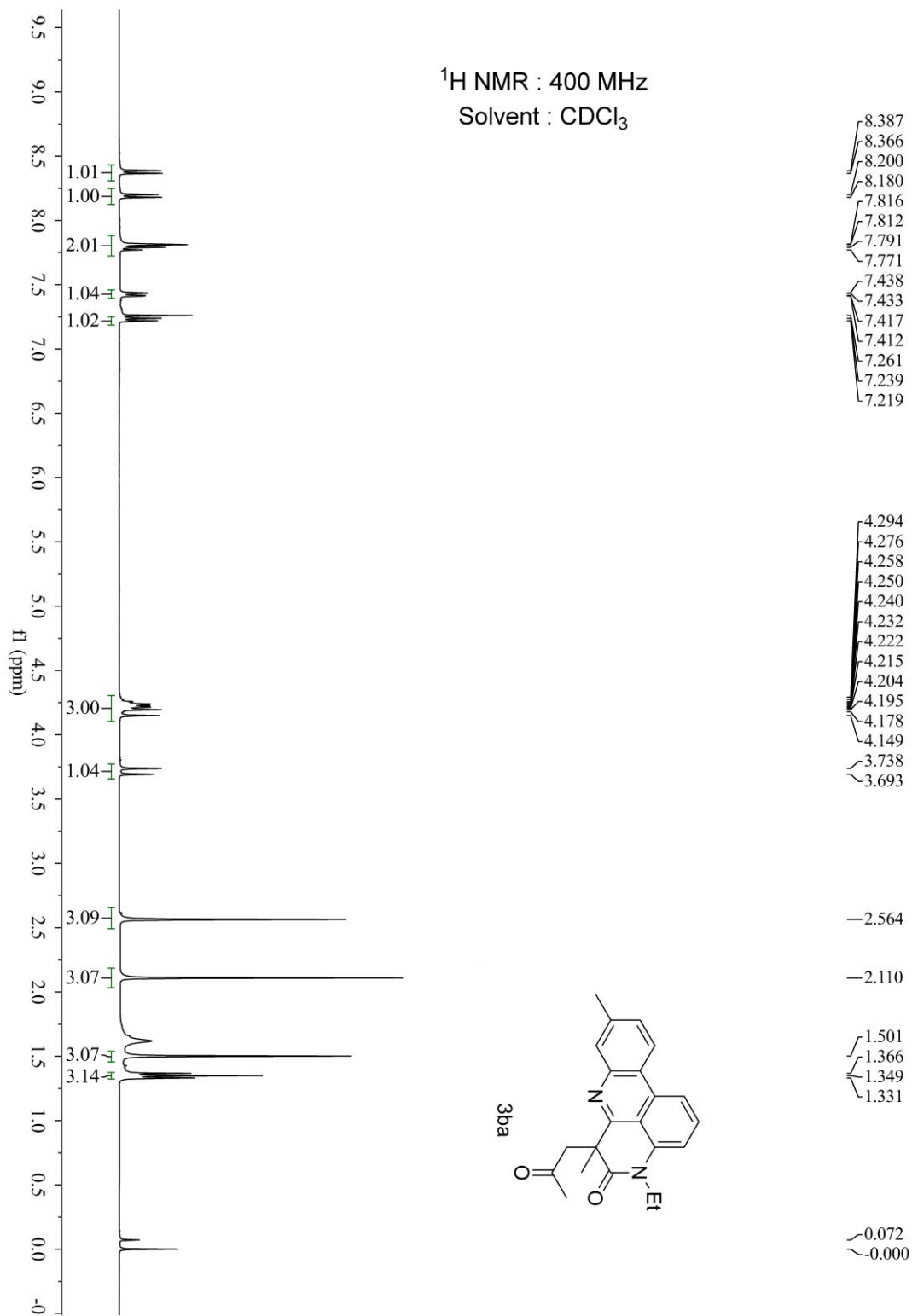
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5

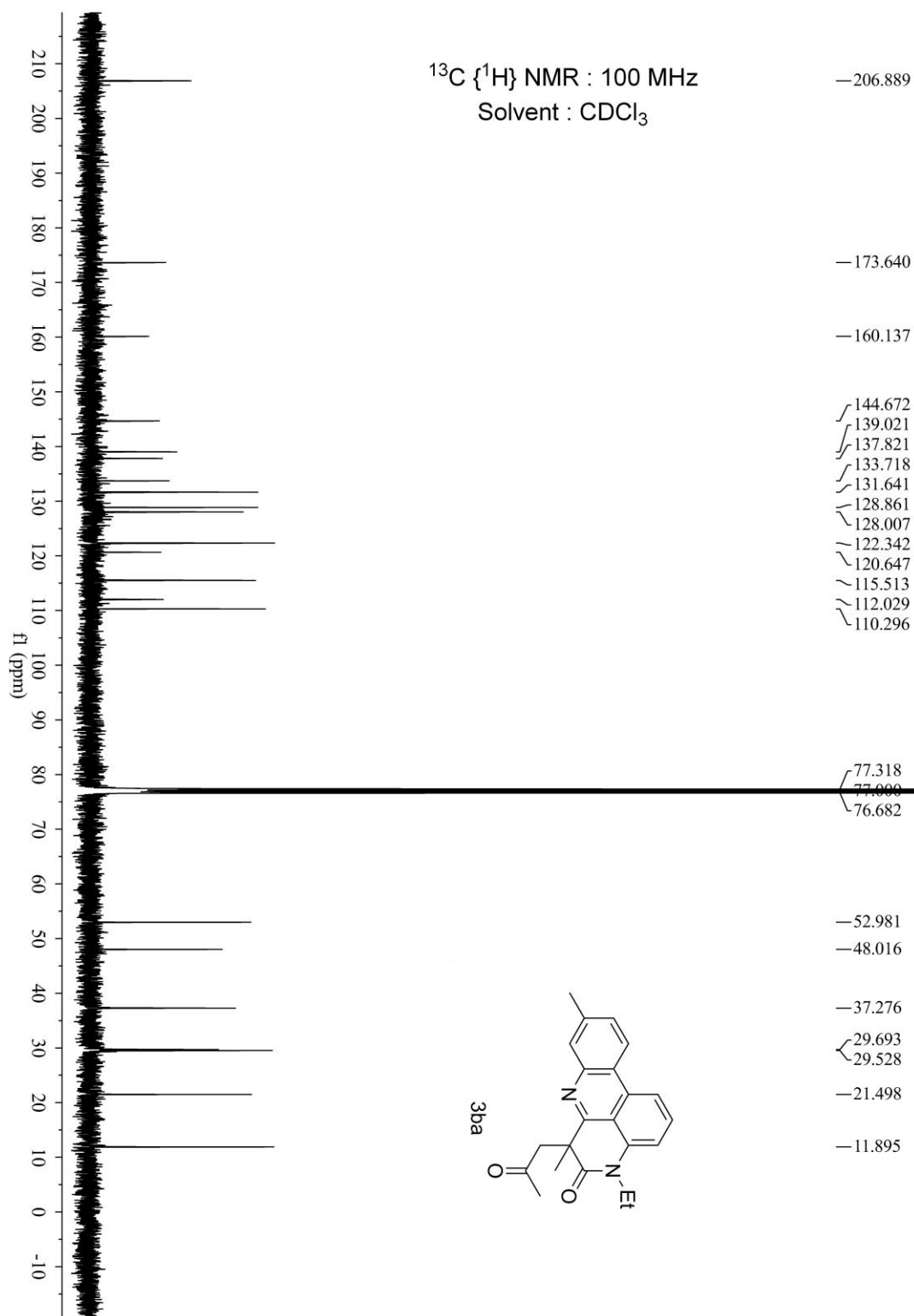
(6*H*)-one (3aa)



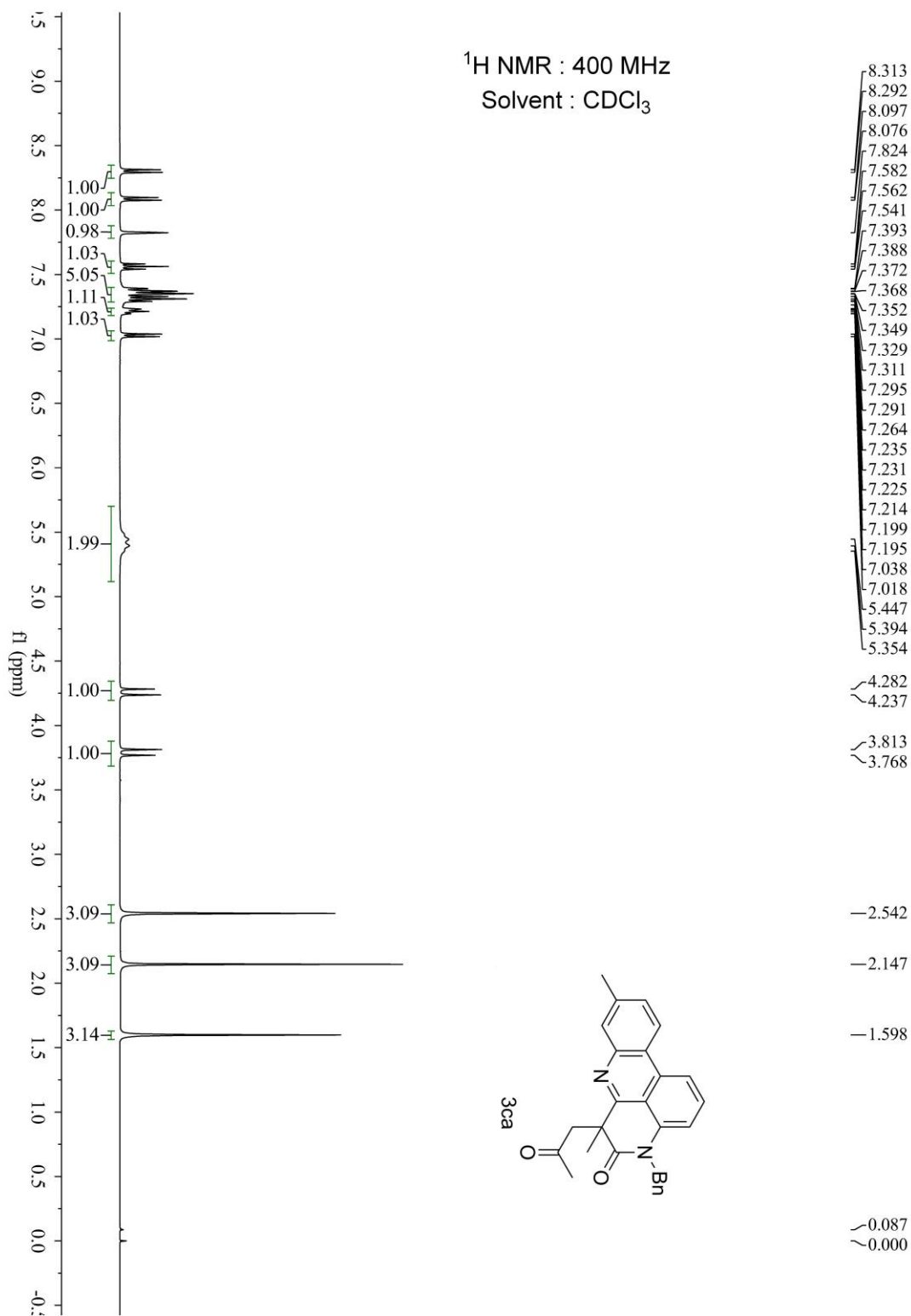


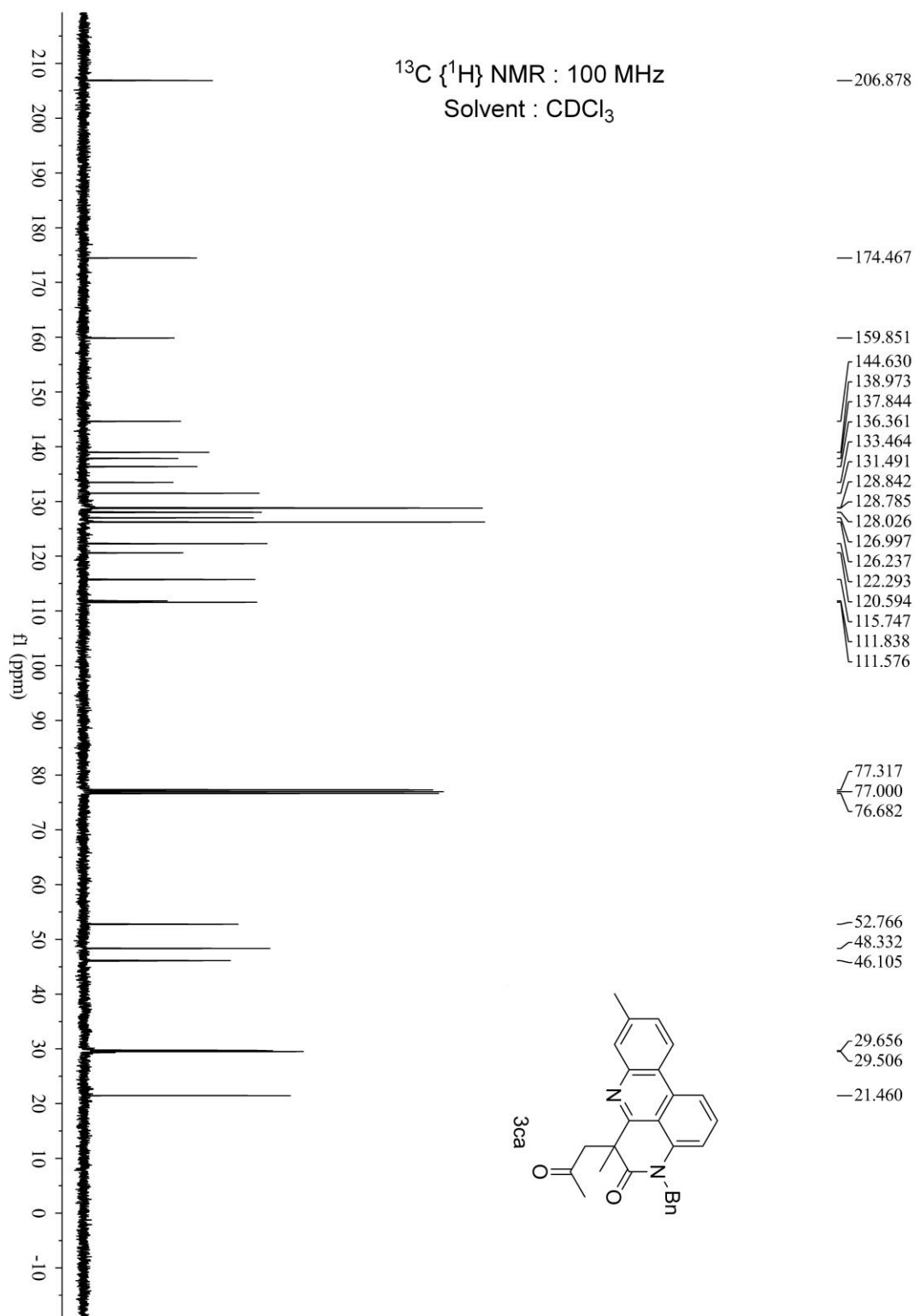
**4-Ethyl-6,9-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthri-
din-5(6*H*)-one (3ba)**



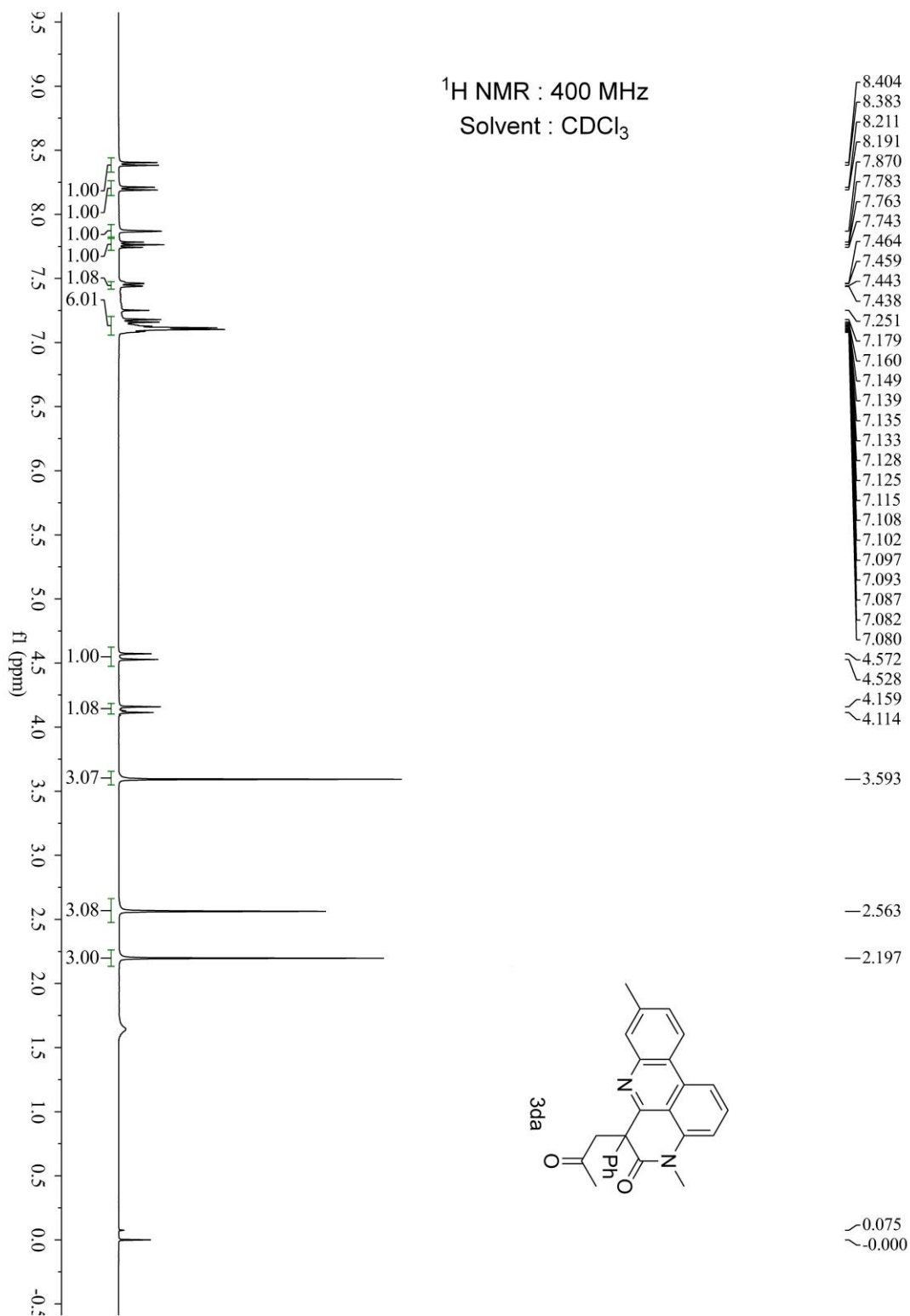


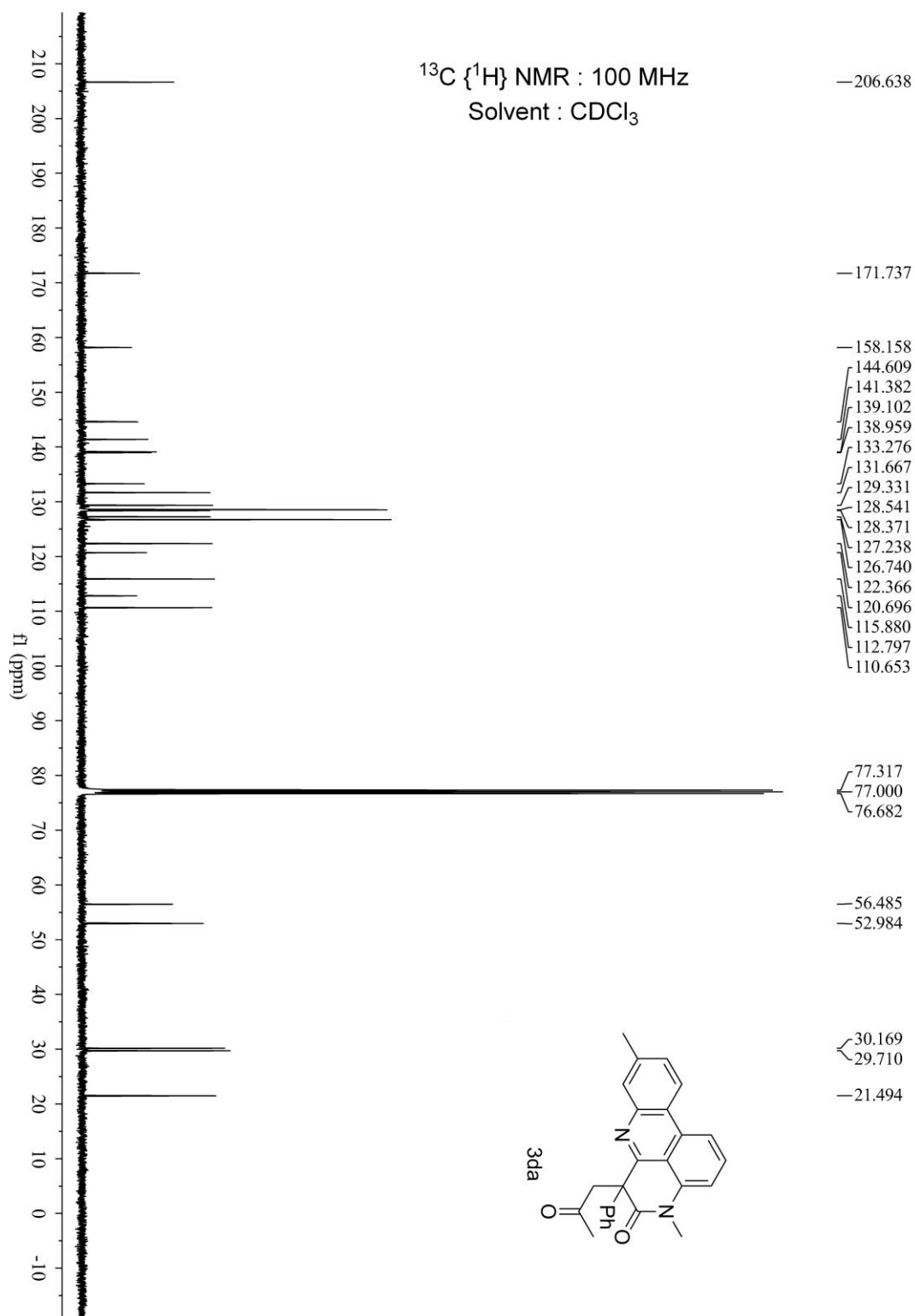
4-Benzyl-6,9-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ca)



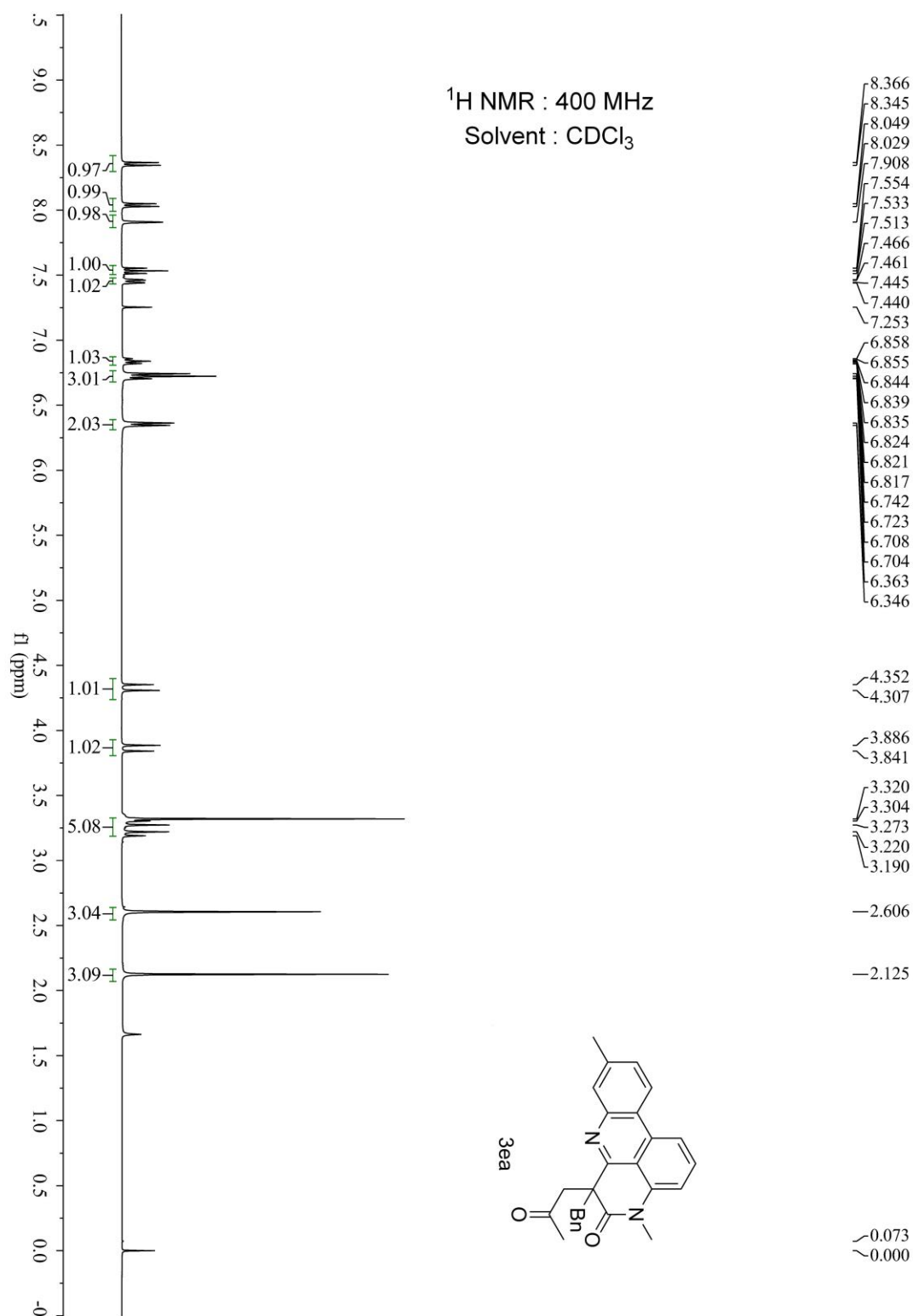


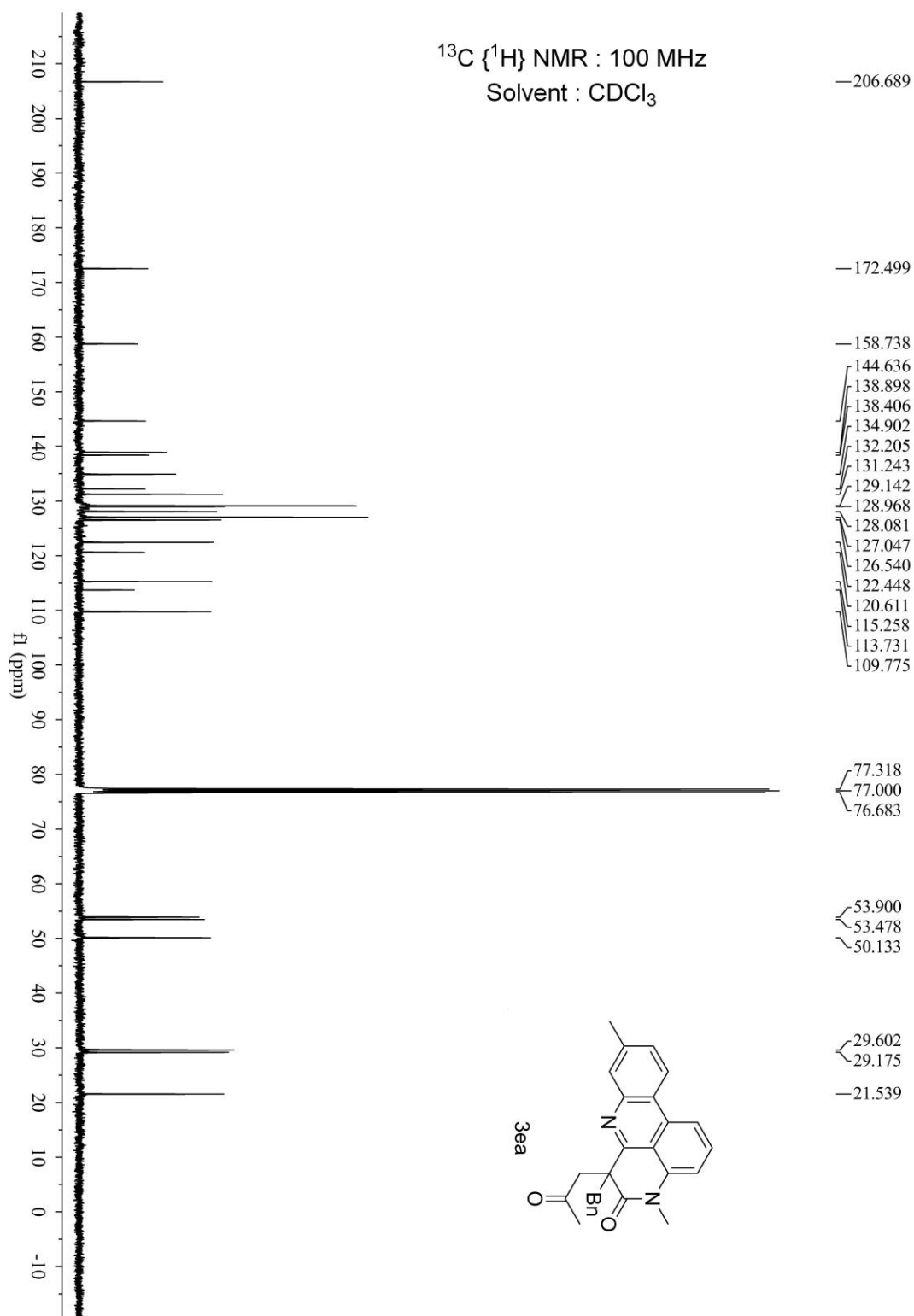
4,9-Dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-6-phenyl-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3da)



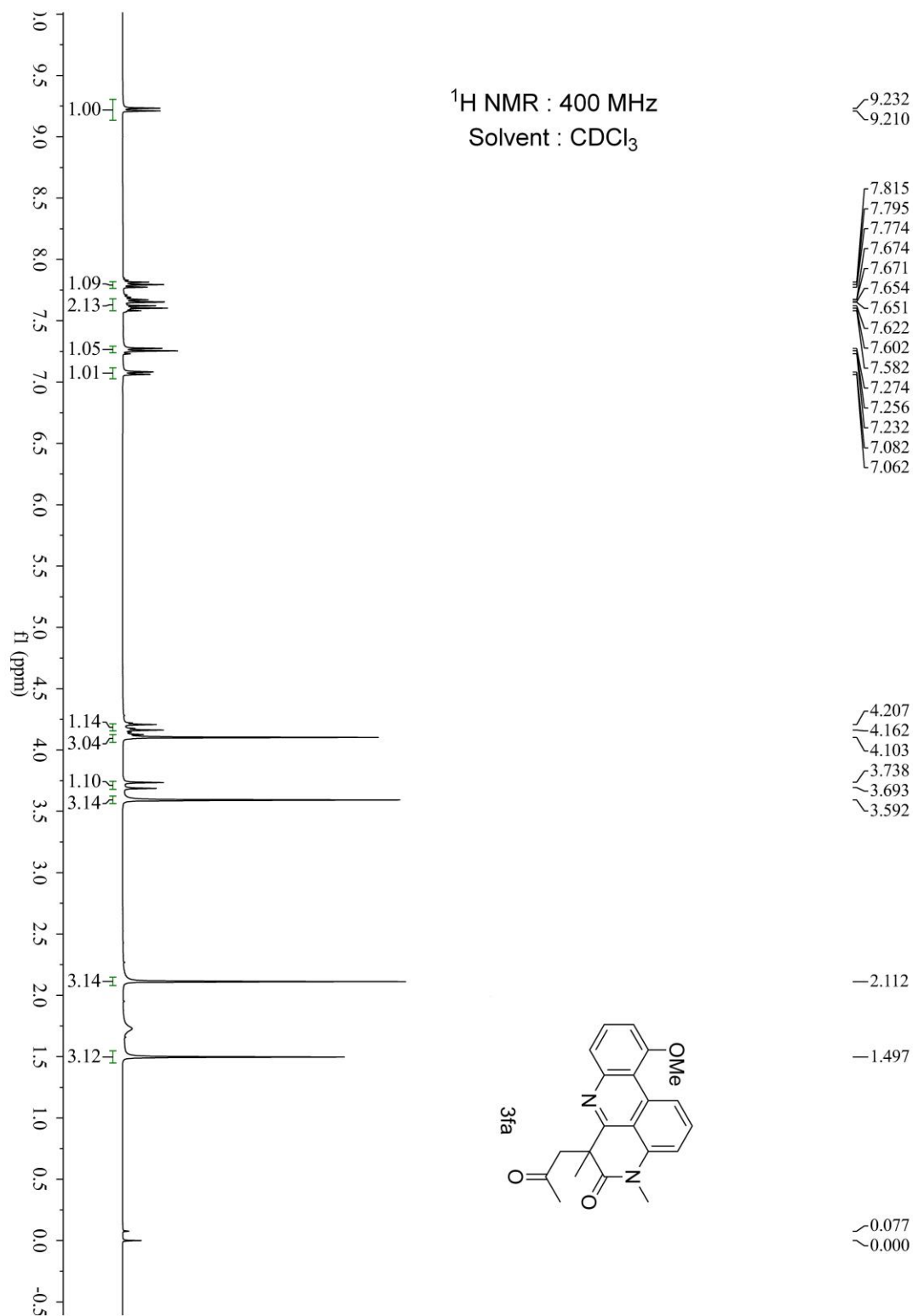


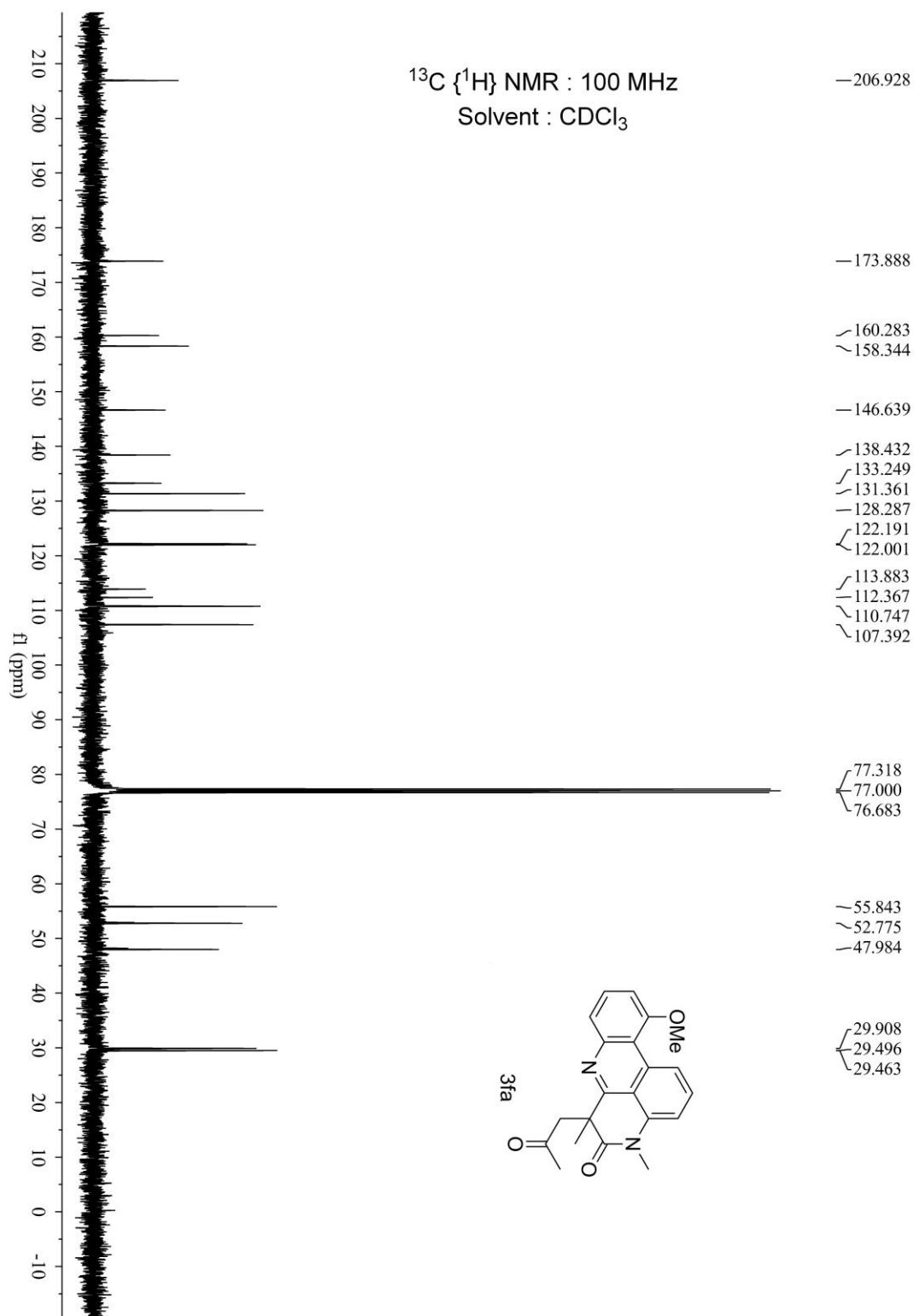
6-Benzyl-4,9-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ea)



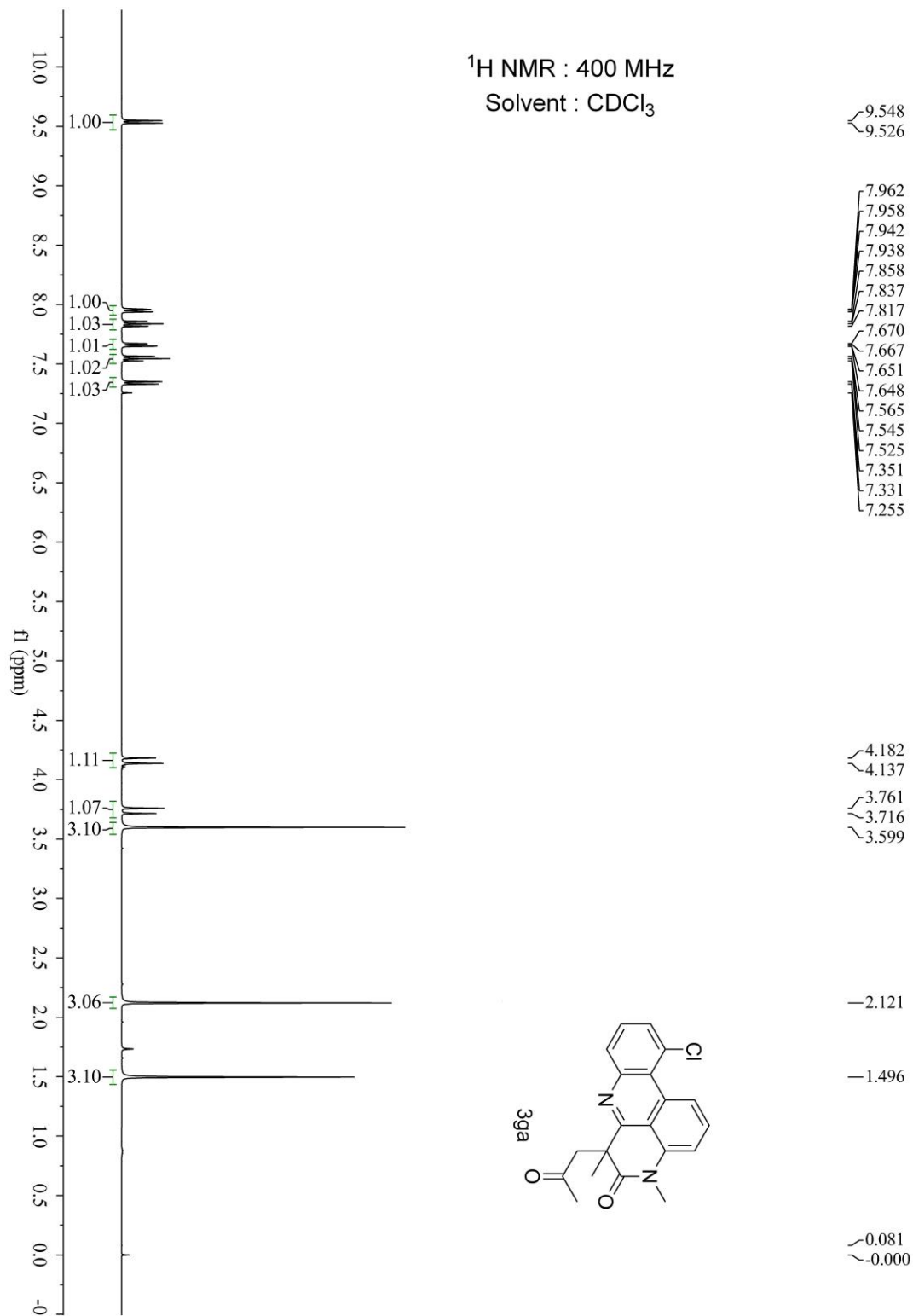


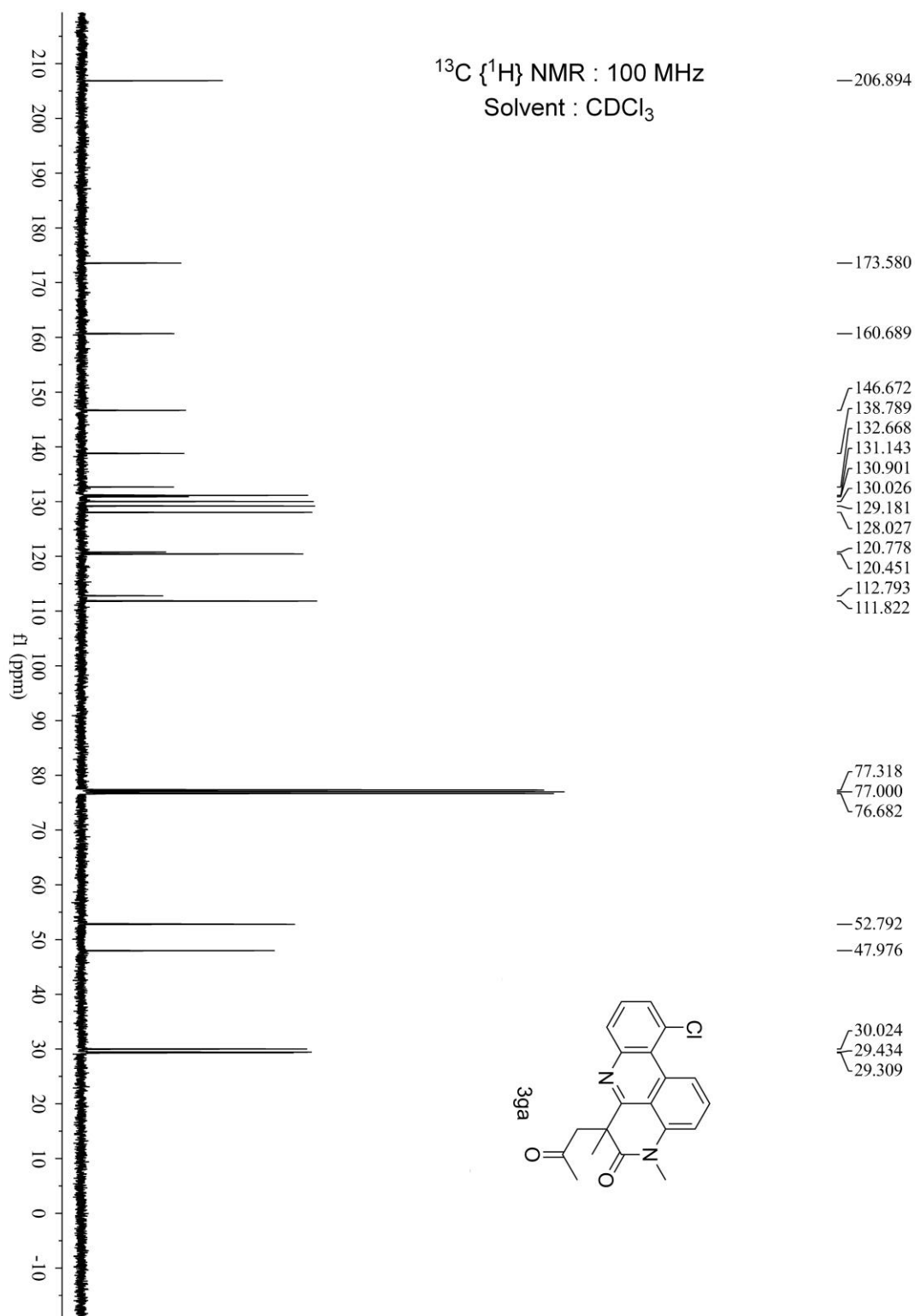
11-Methoxy-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3fa)



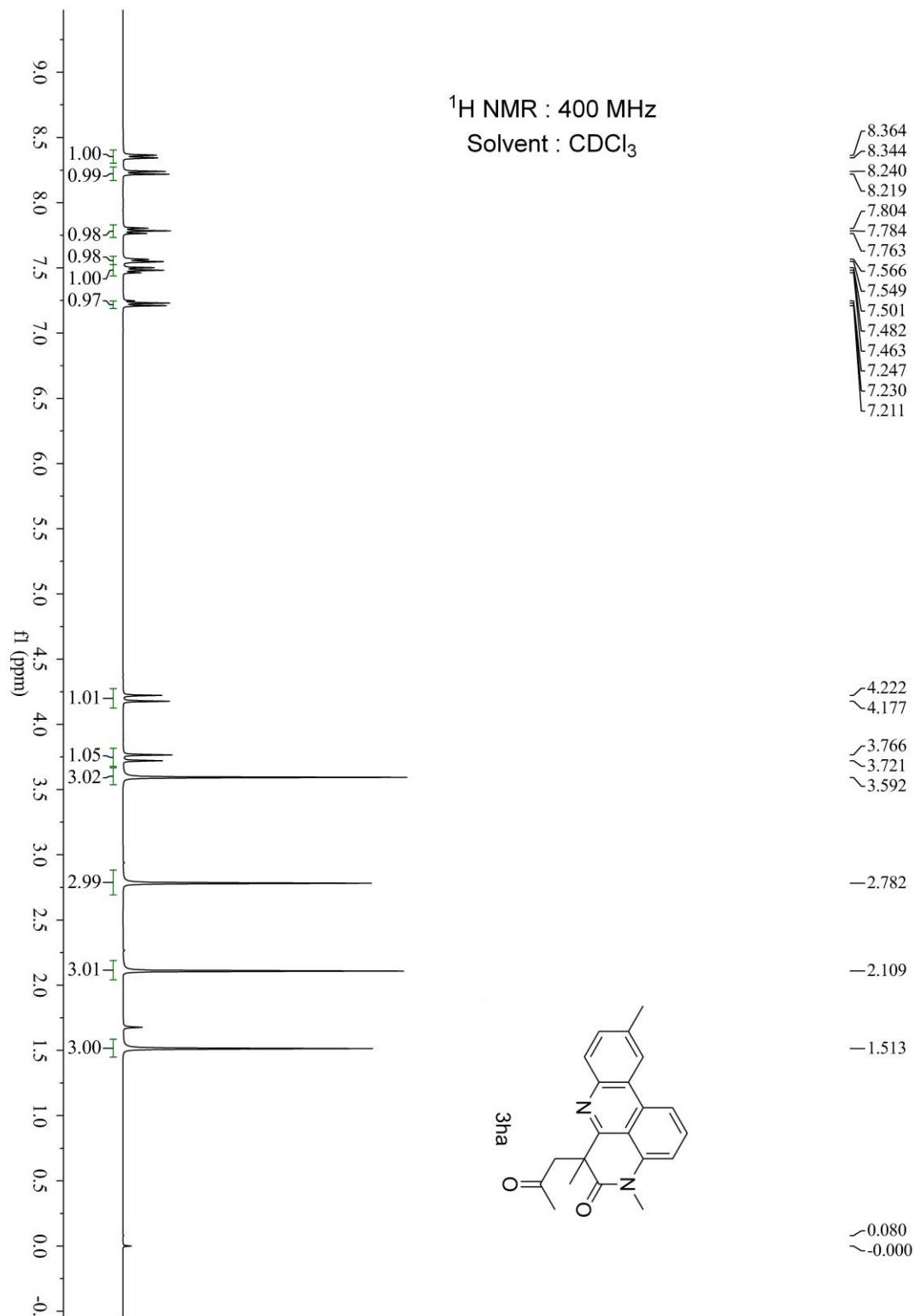


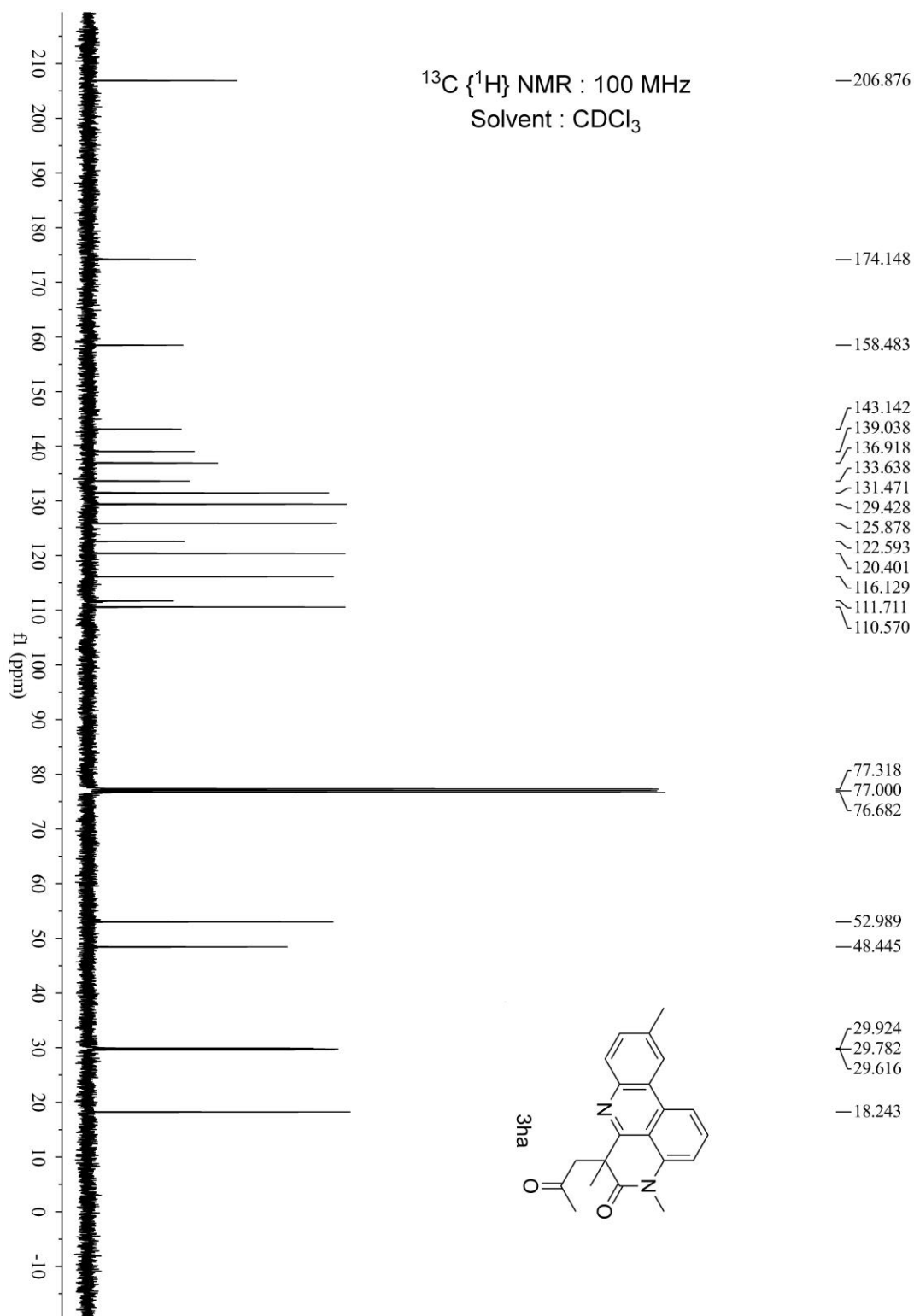
11-Chloro-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ga)





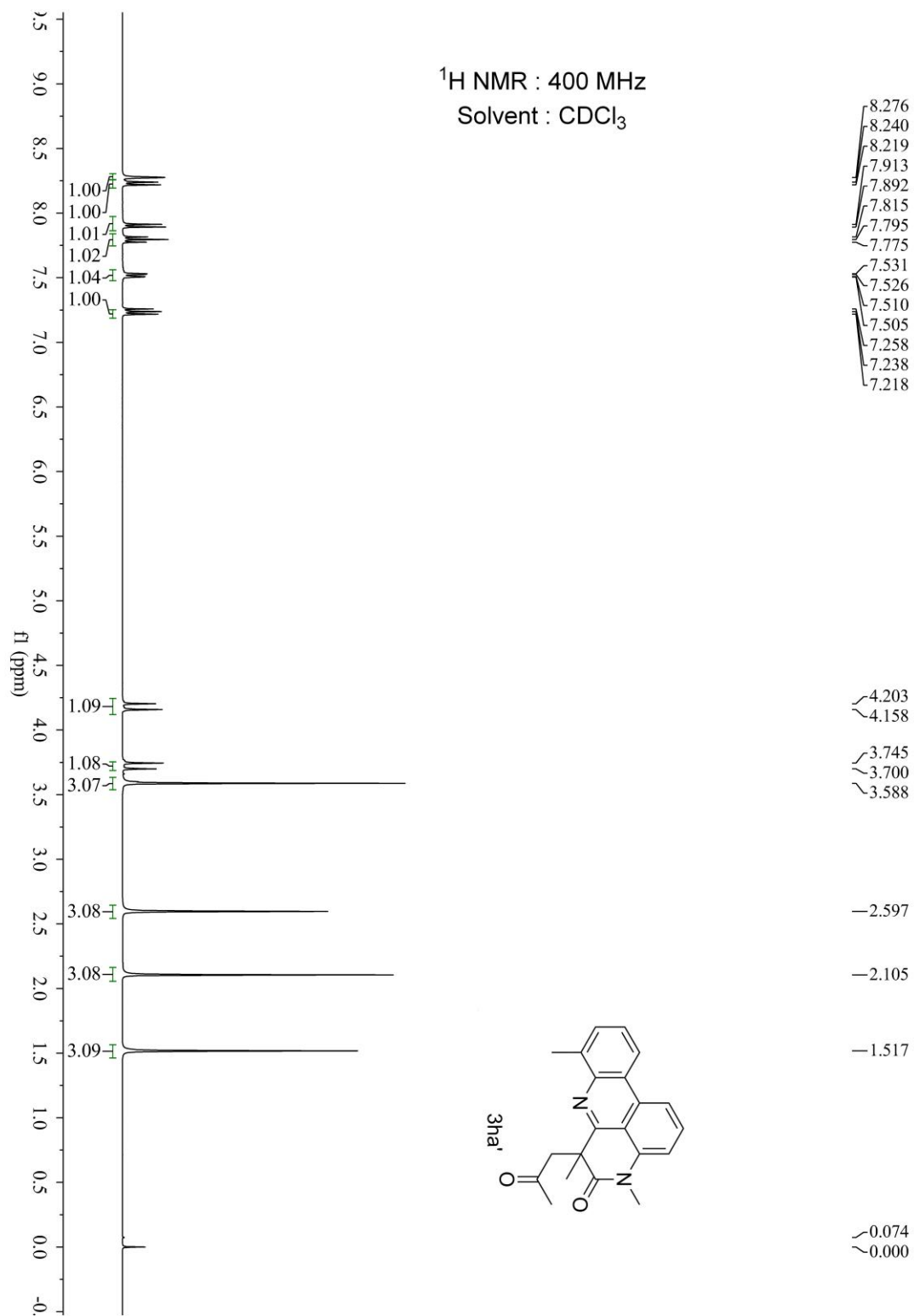
4,6,10-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ha)

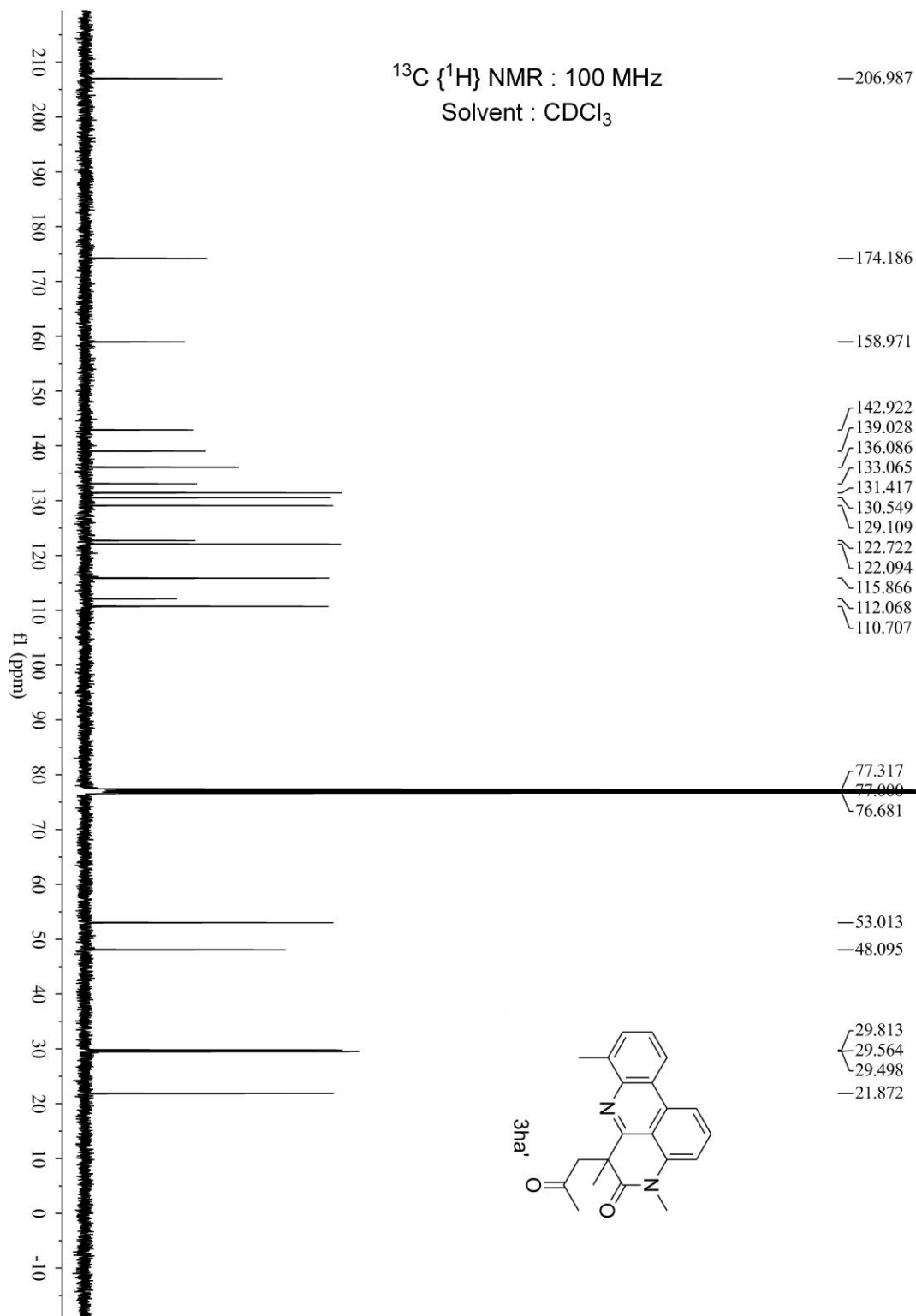




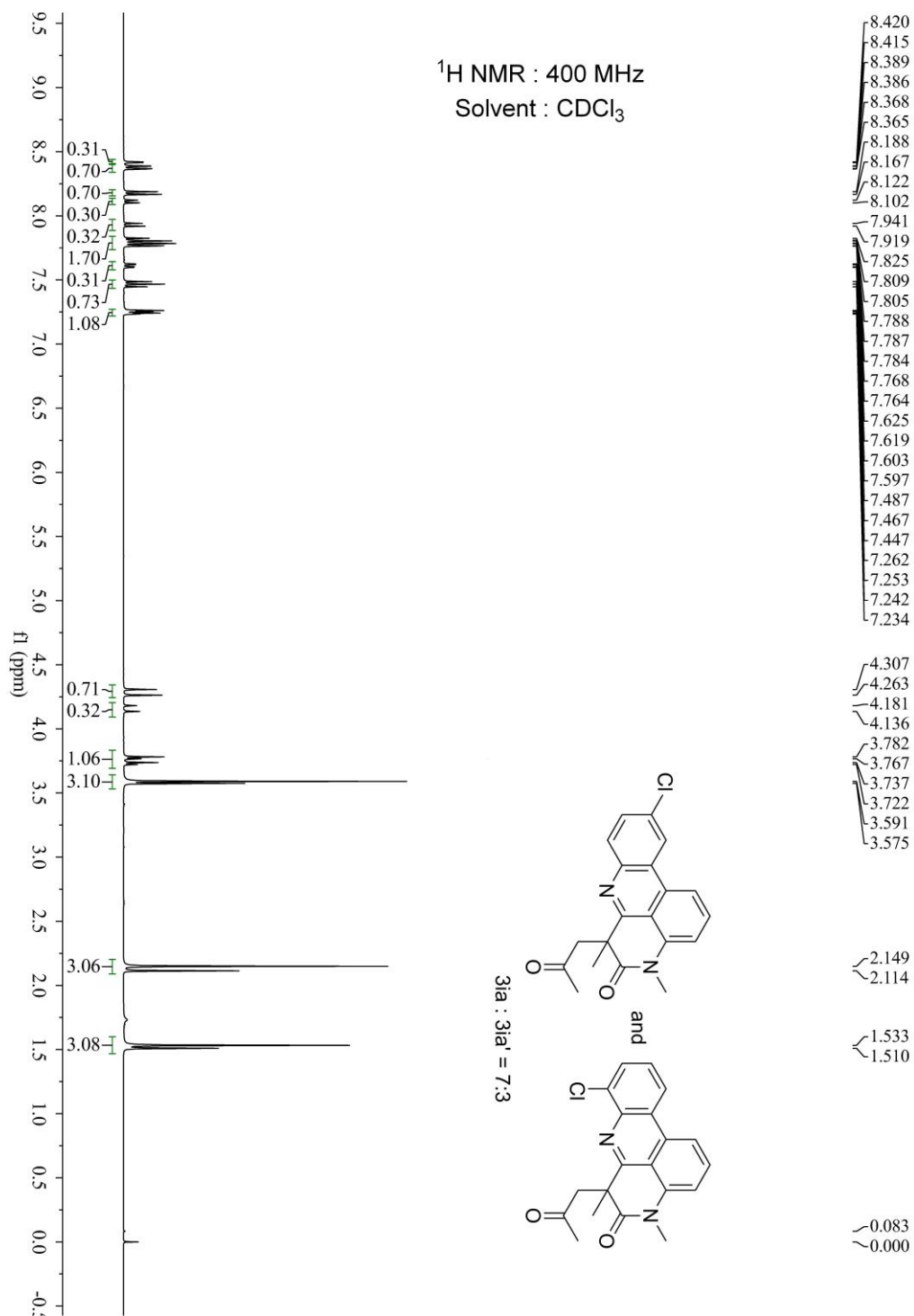
4,6,8-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5

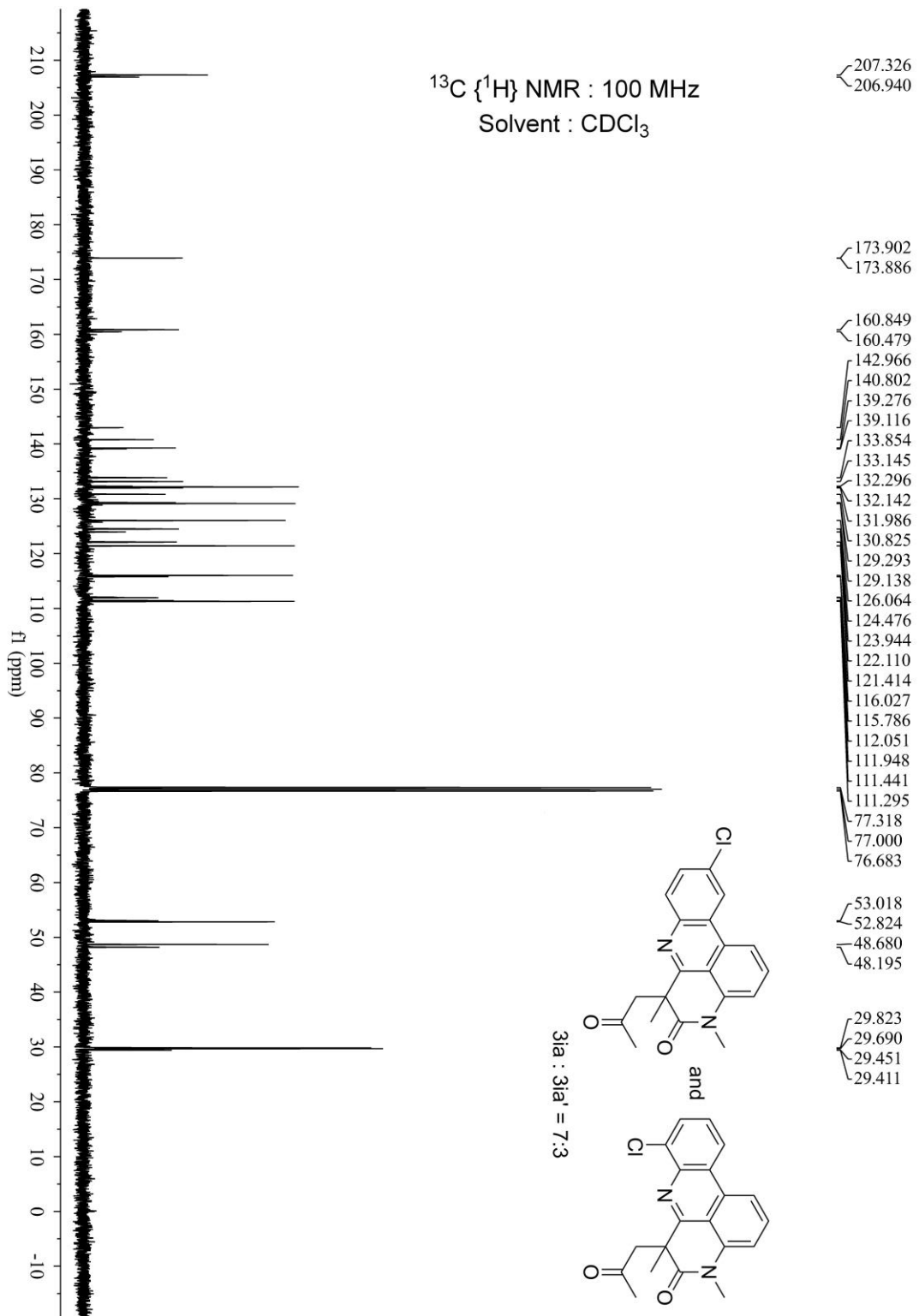
(6*H*)-one (3ha')





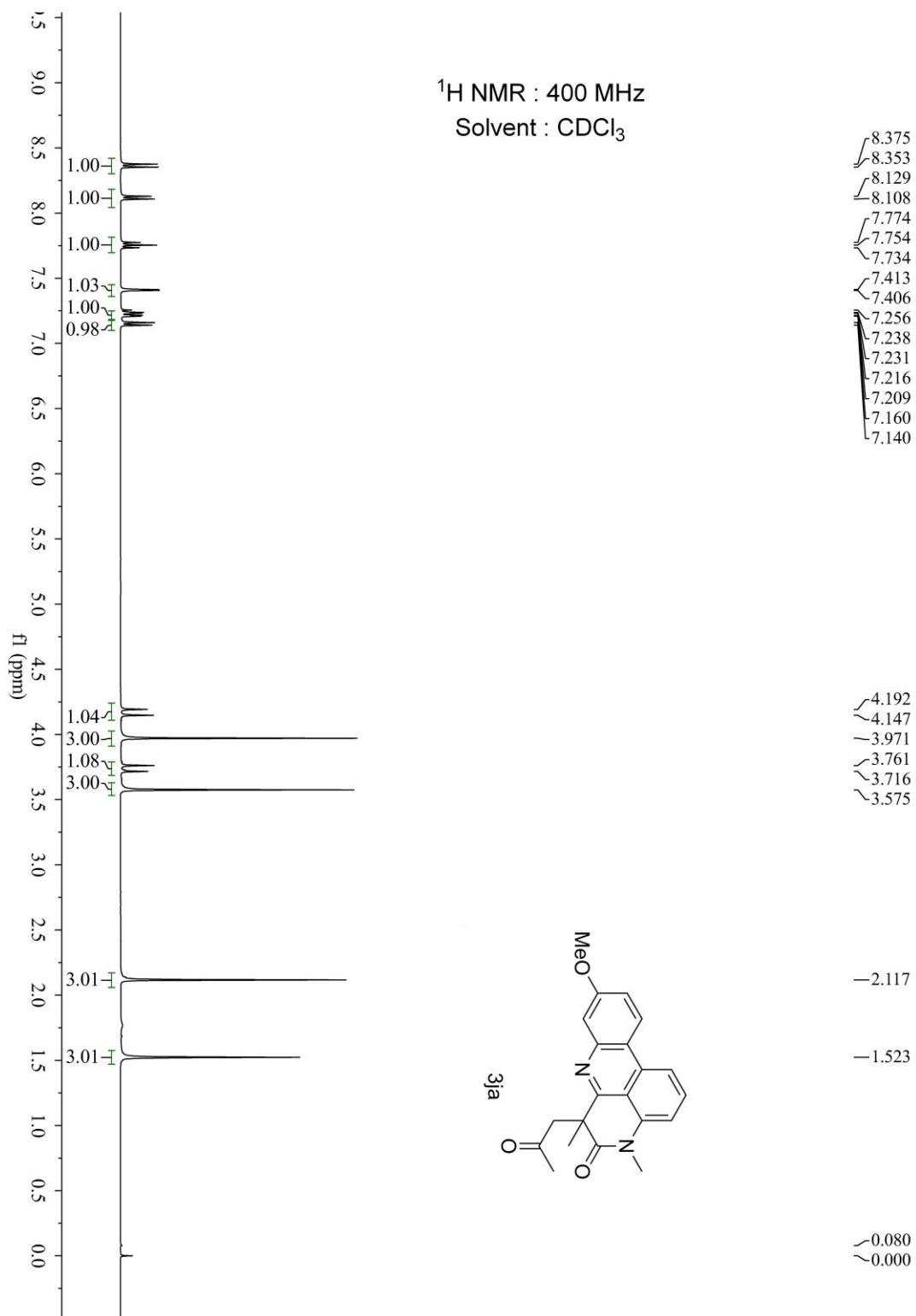
**10-Chloro-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ia) and
8-chloro-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ia') mixture**

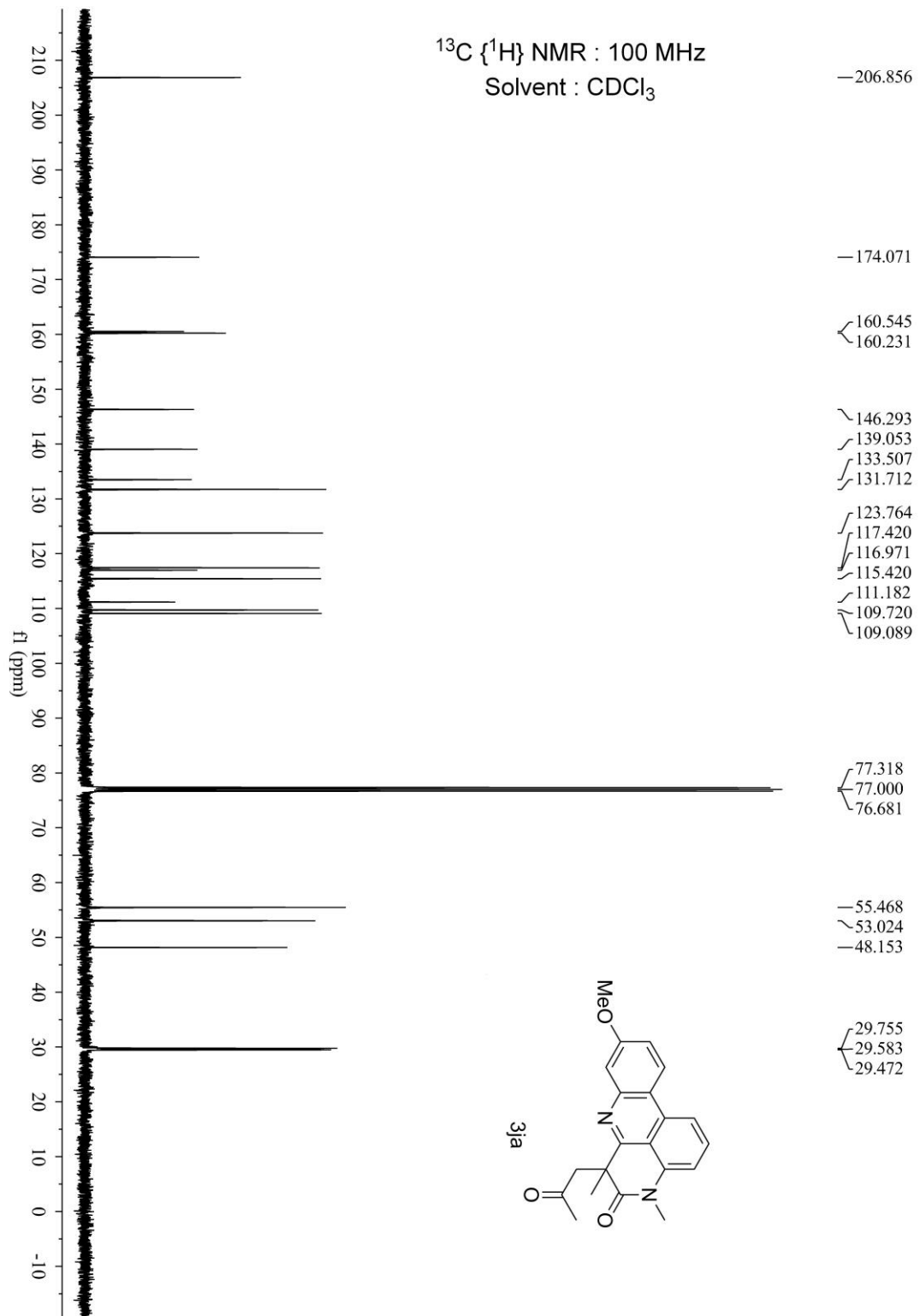




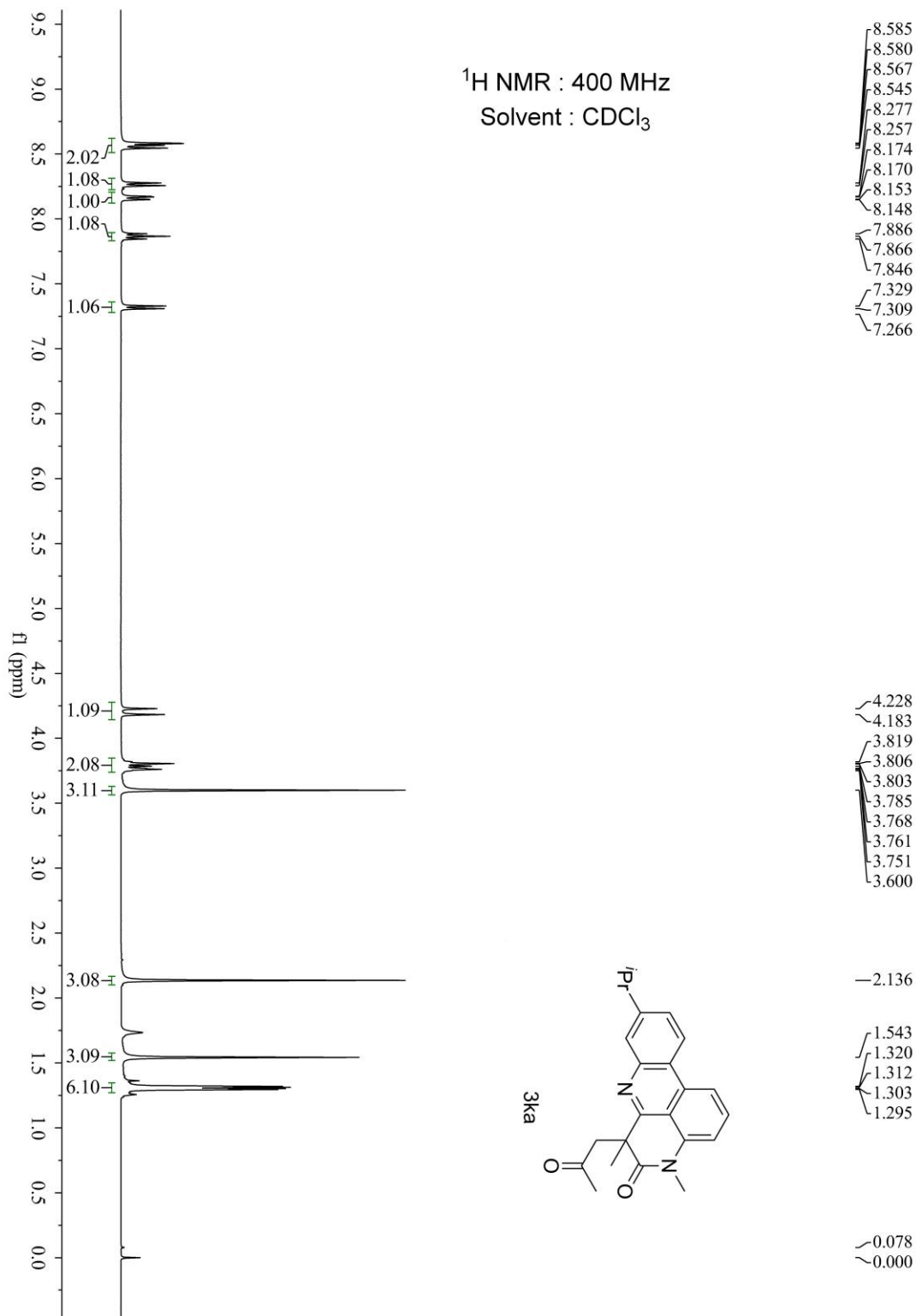
9-Methoxy-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenant

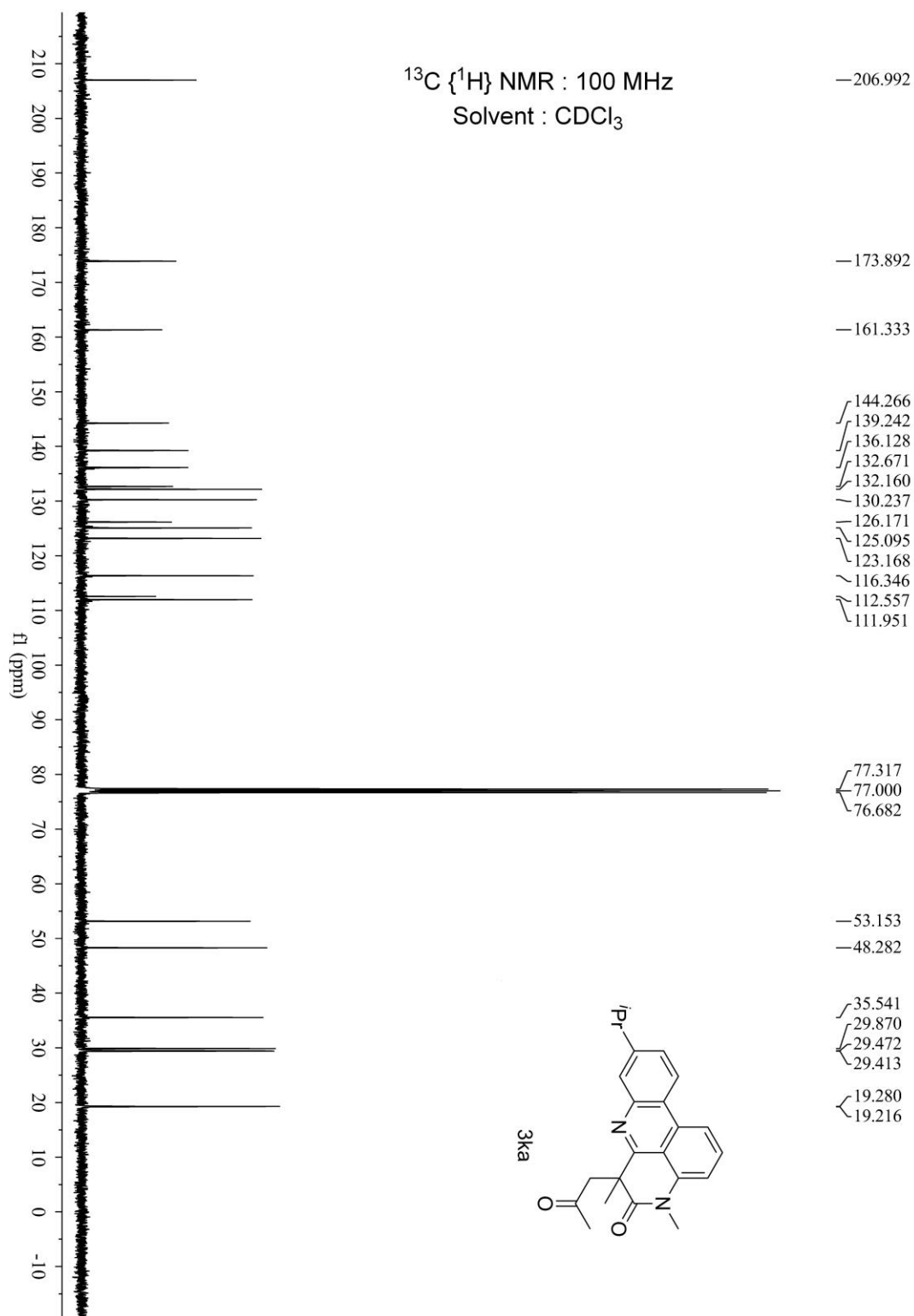
hridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ja)



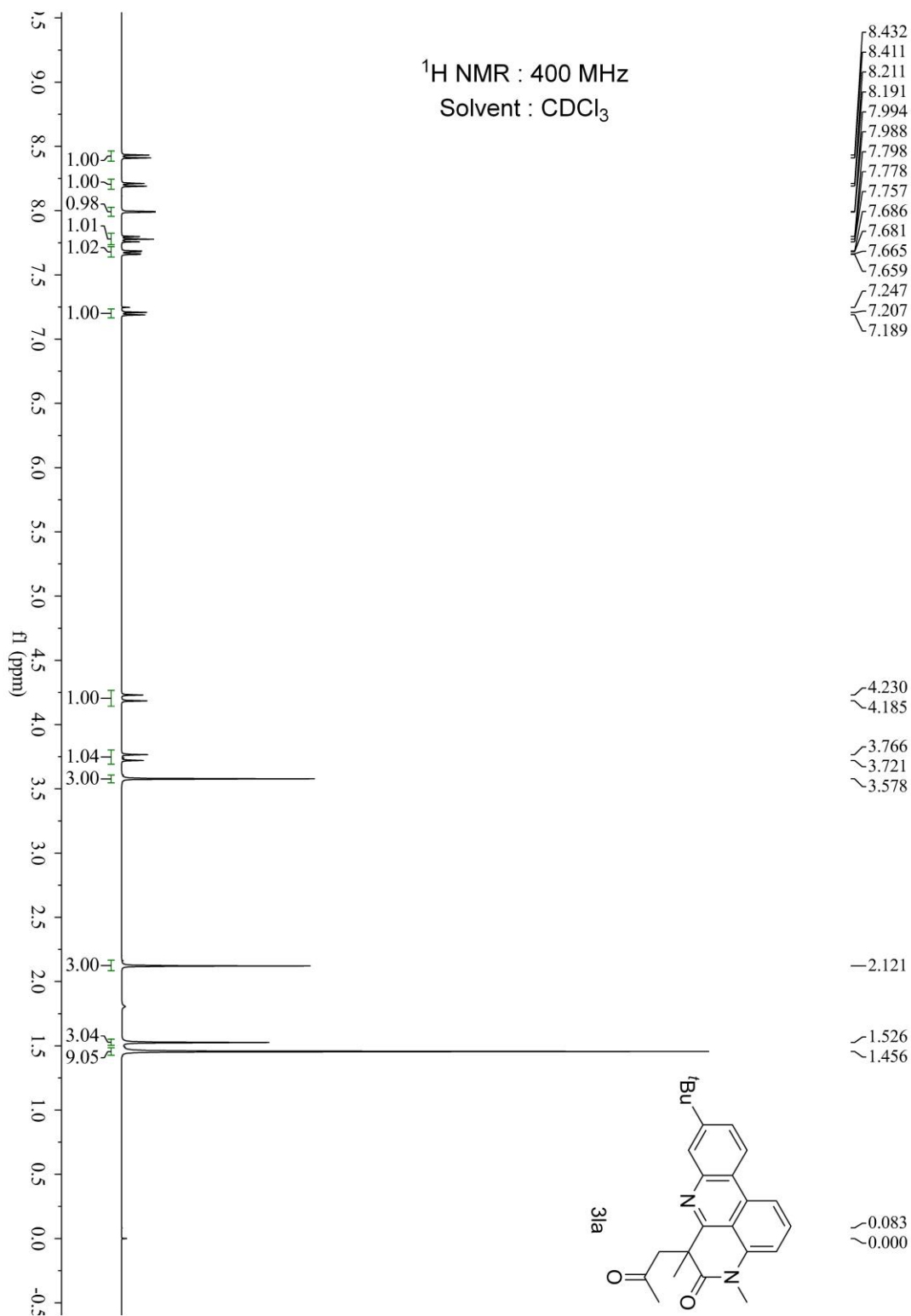


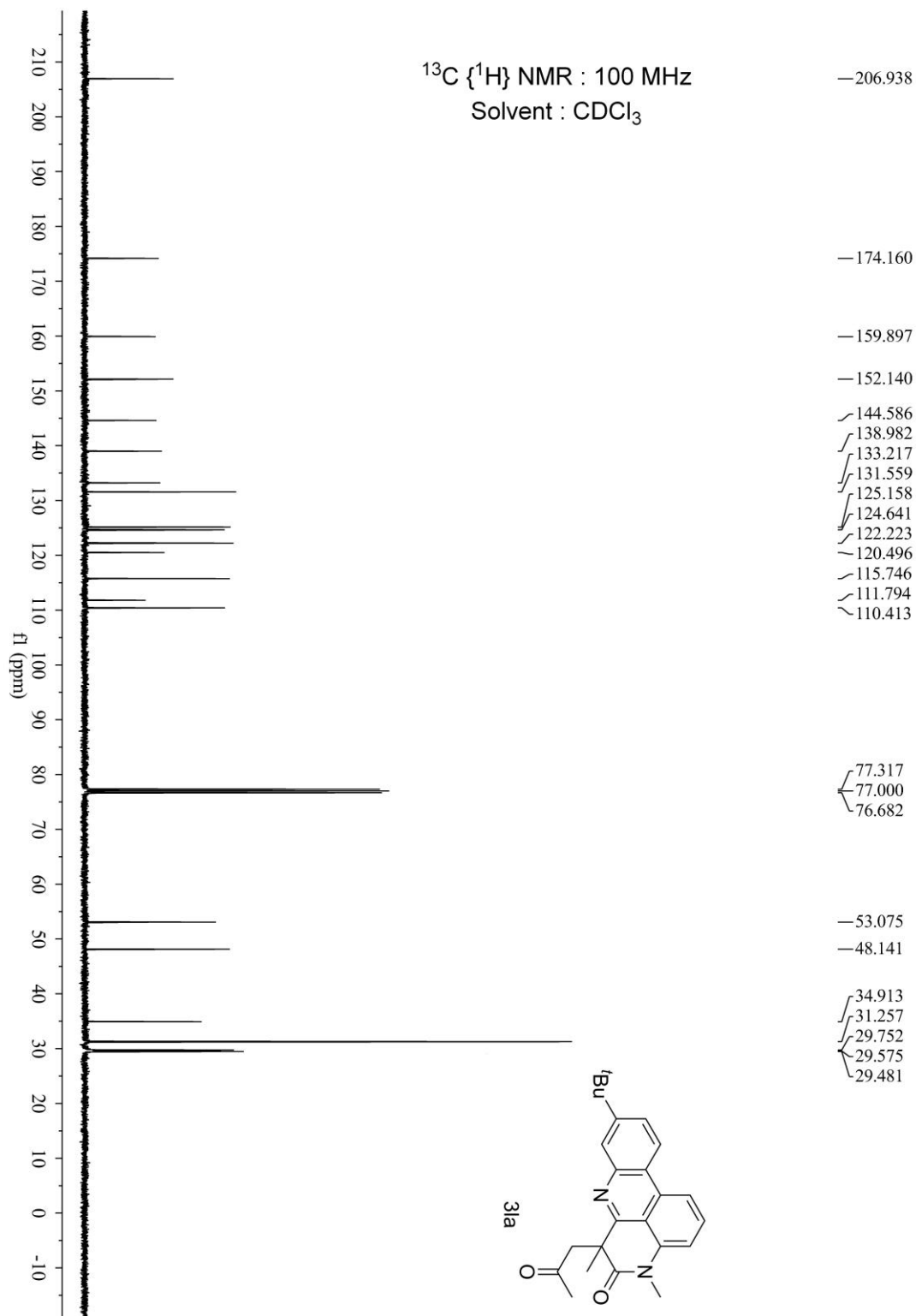
9-Isopropyl-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ka)



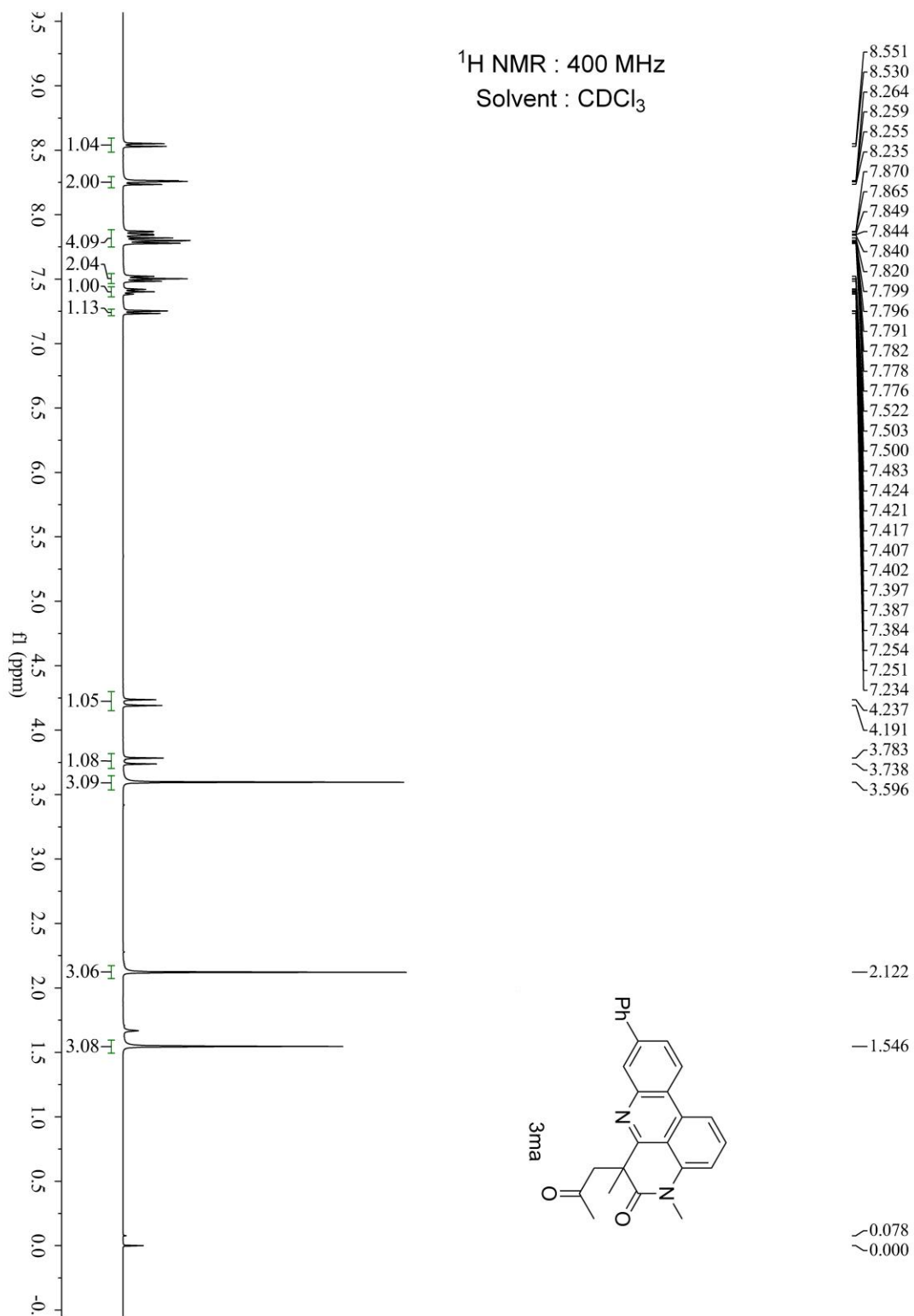


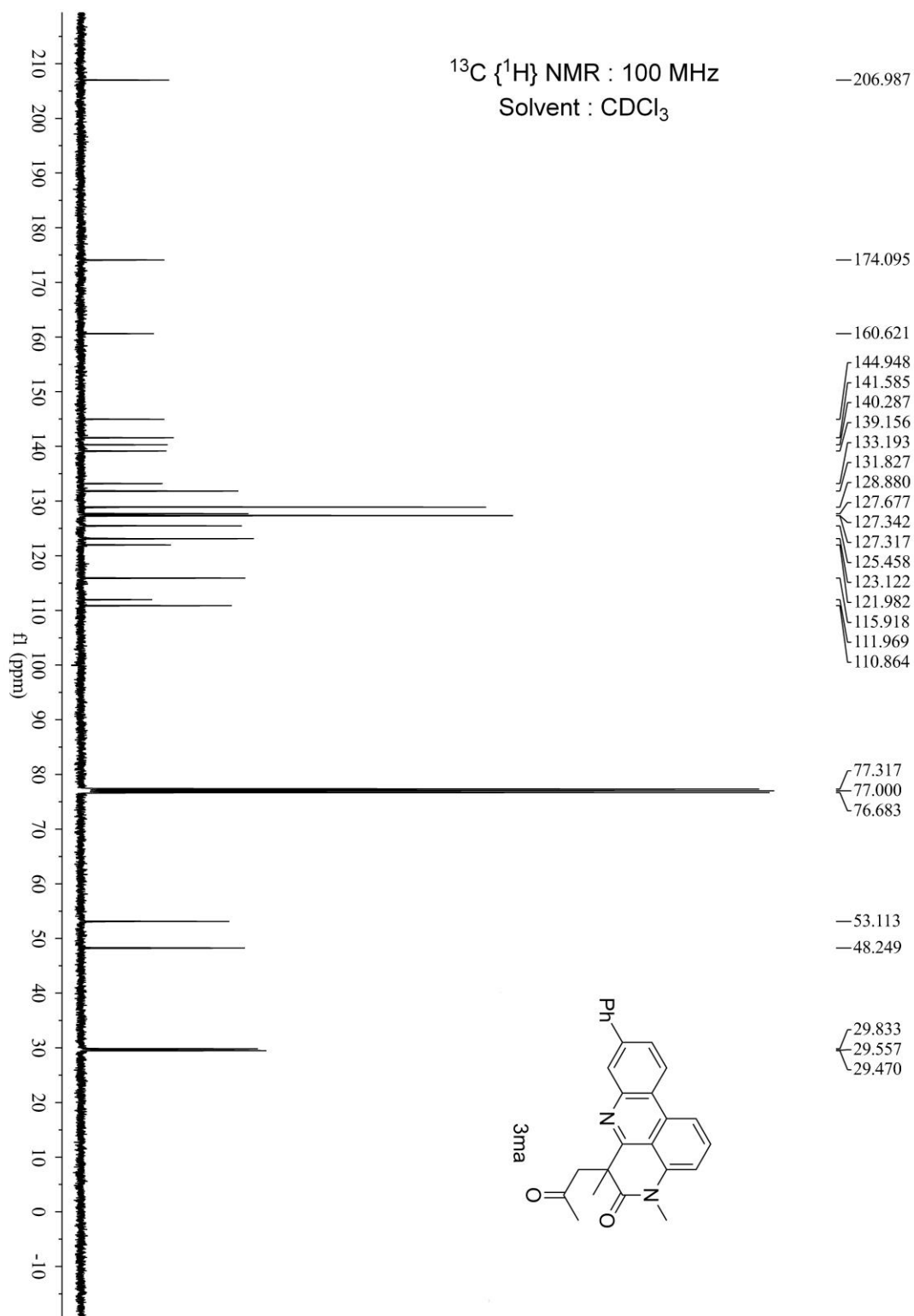
9-(*tert*-Butyl)-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3la)



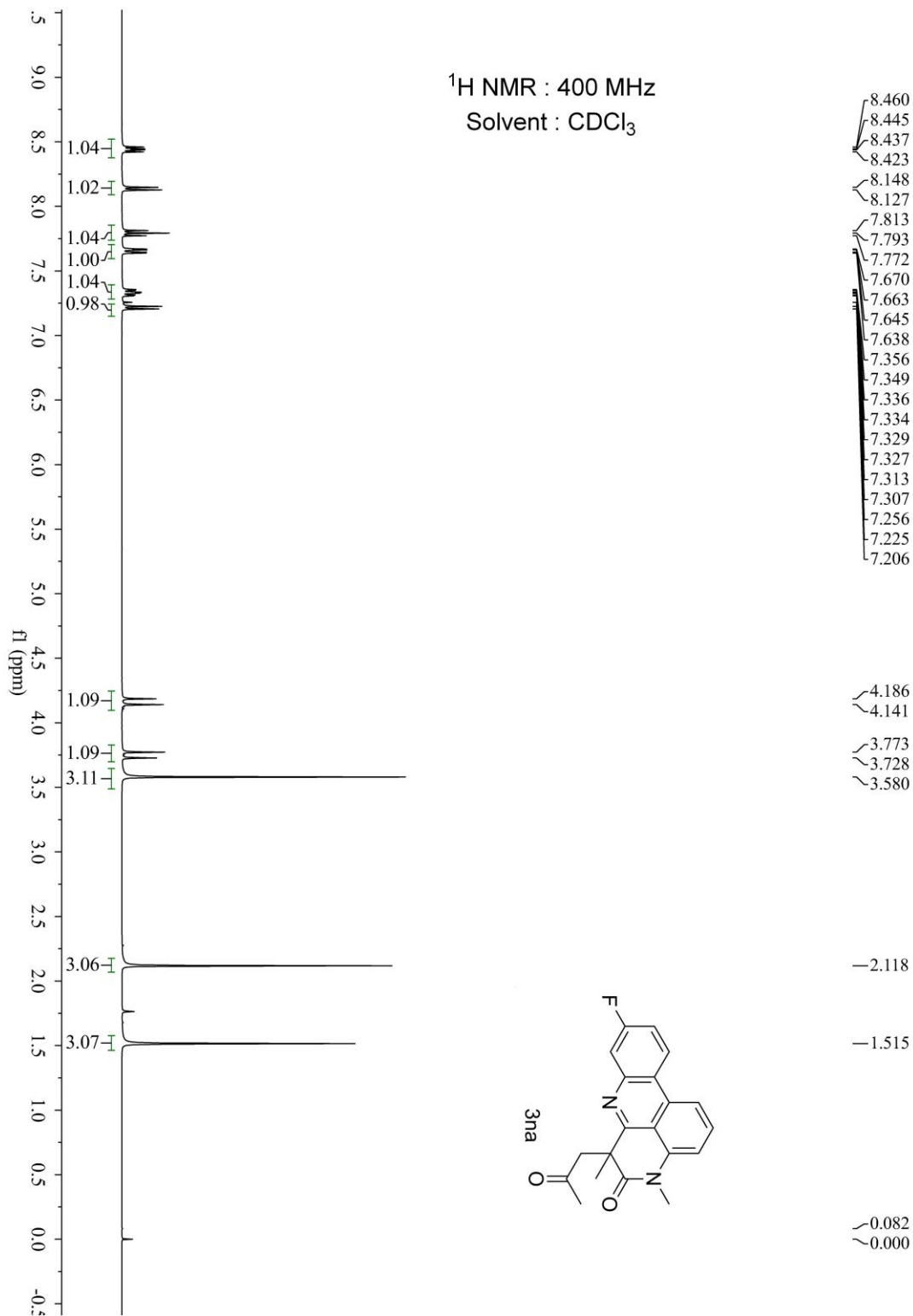


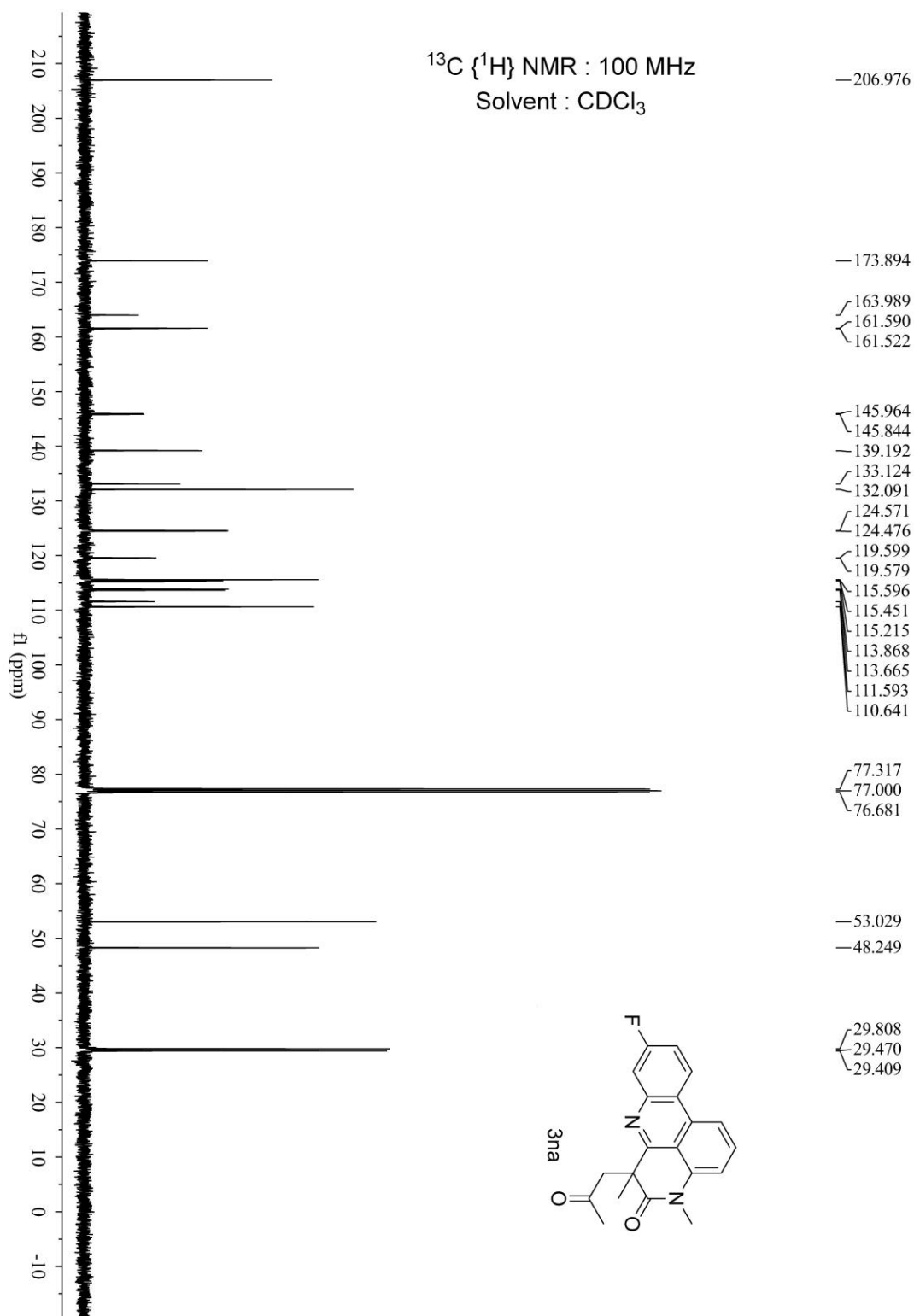
4,6-Dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-9-phenyl-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ma)

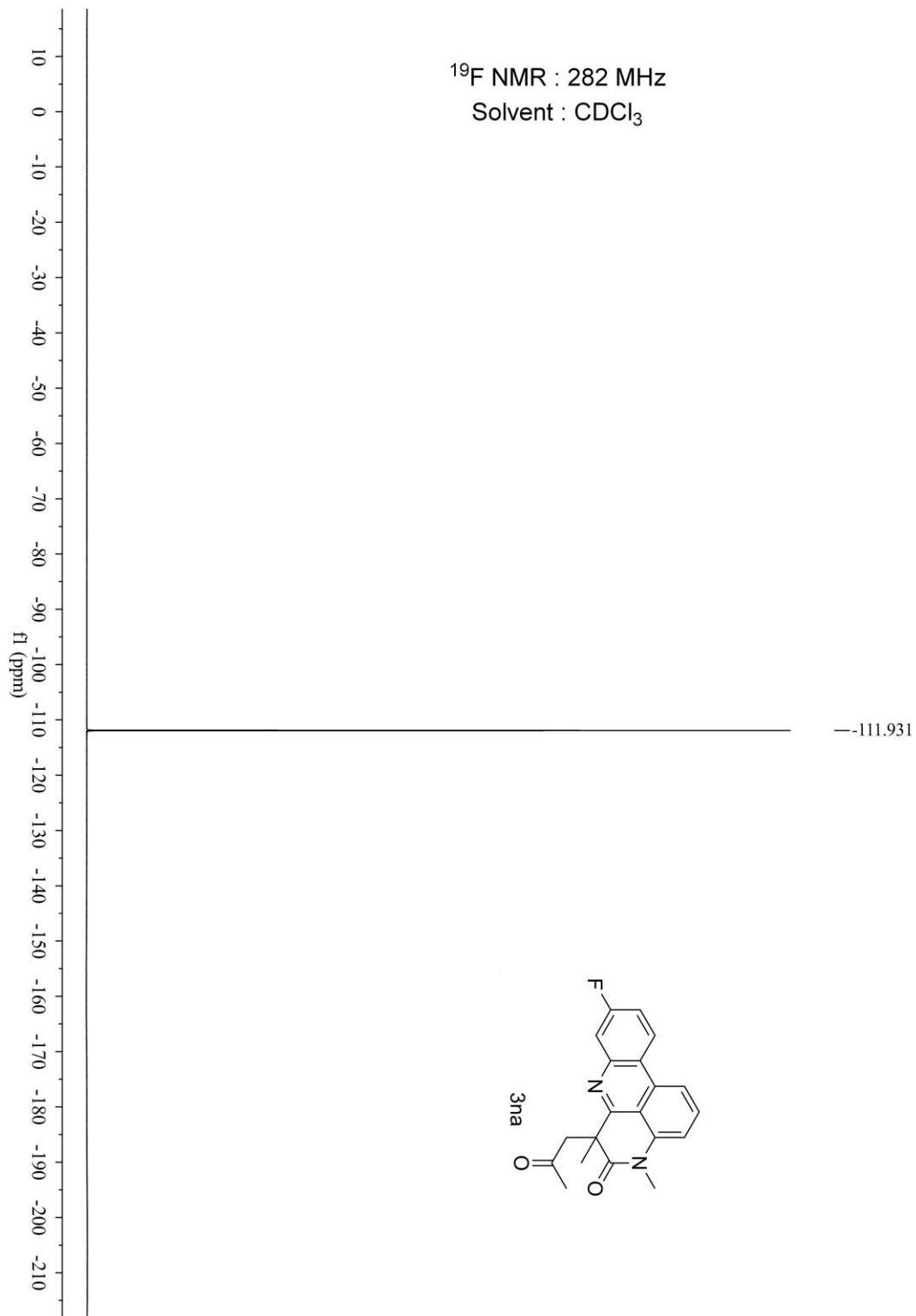




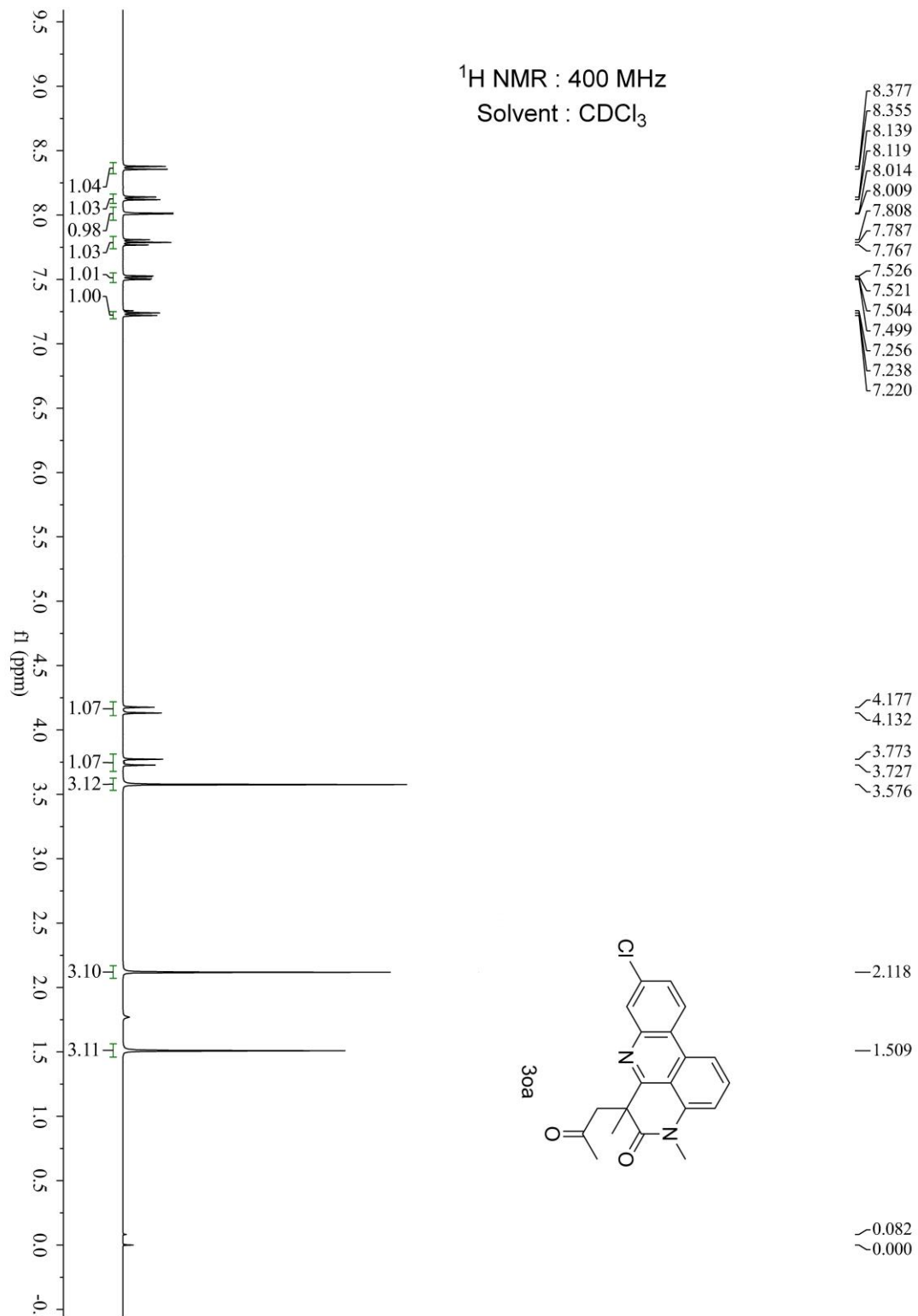
9-Fluoro-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3na)

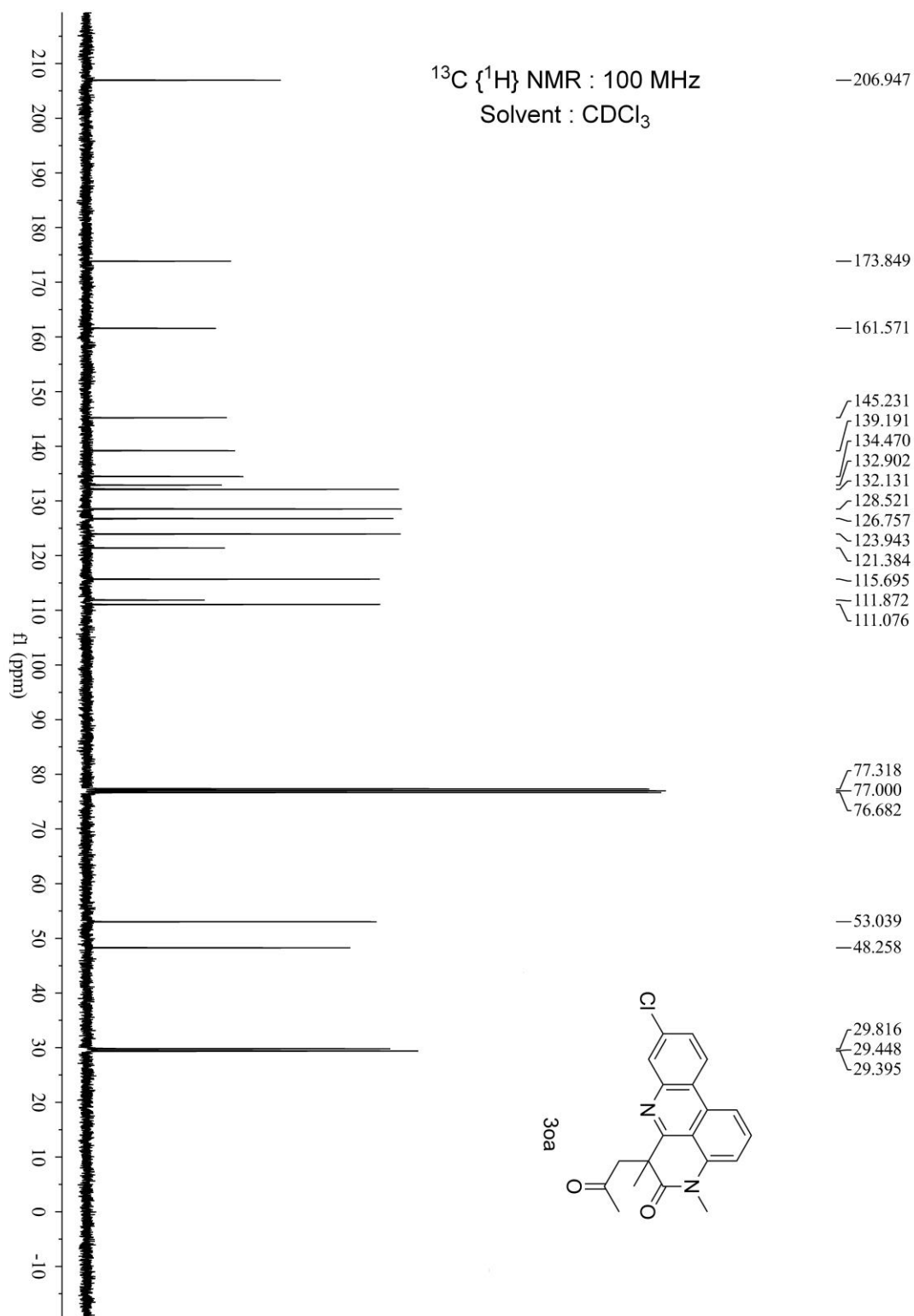




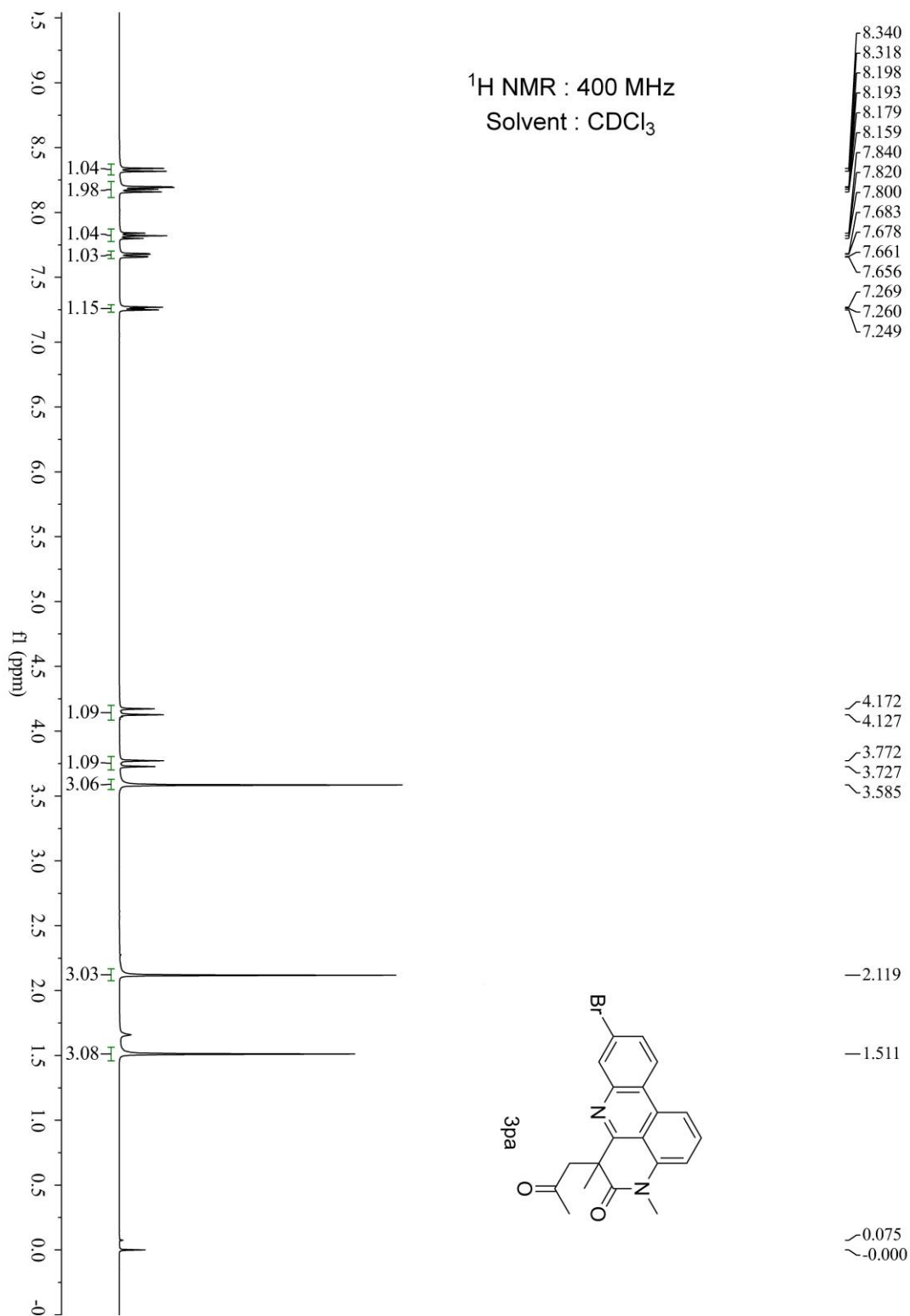


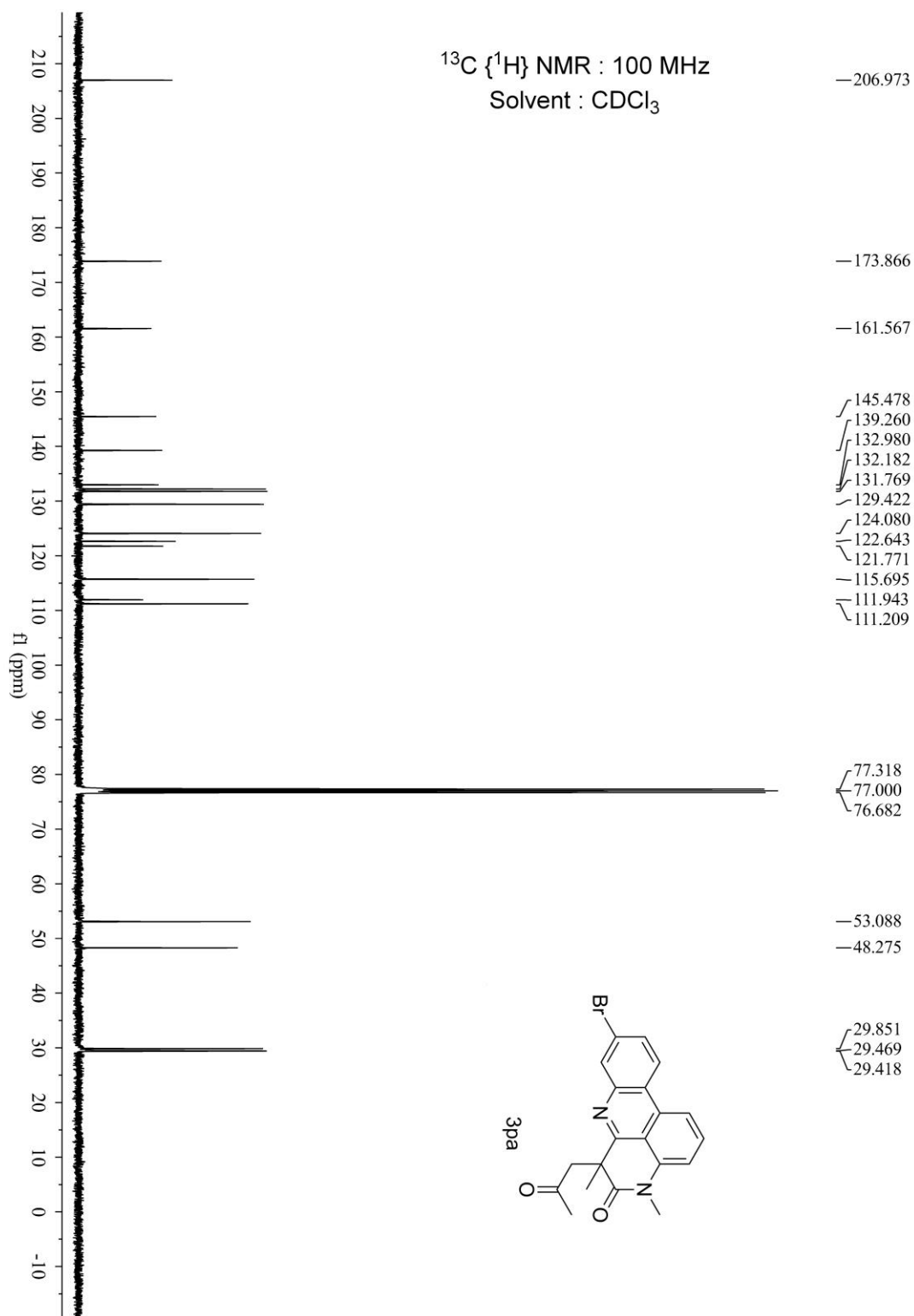
9-Chloro-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6H)-one (30a)



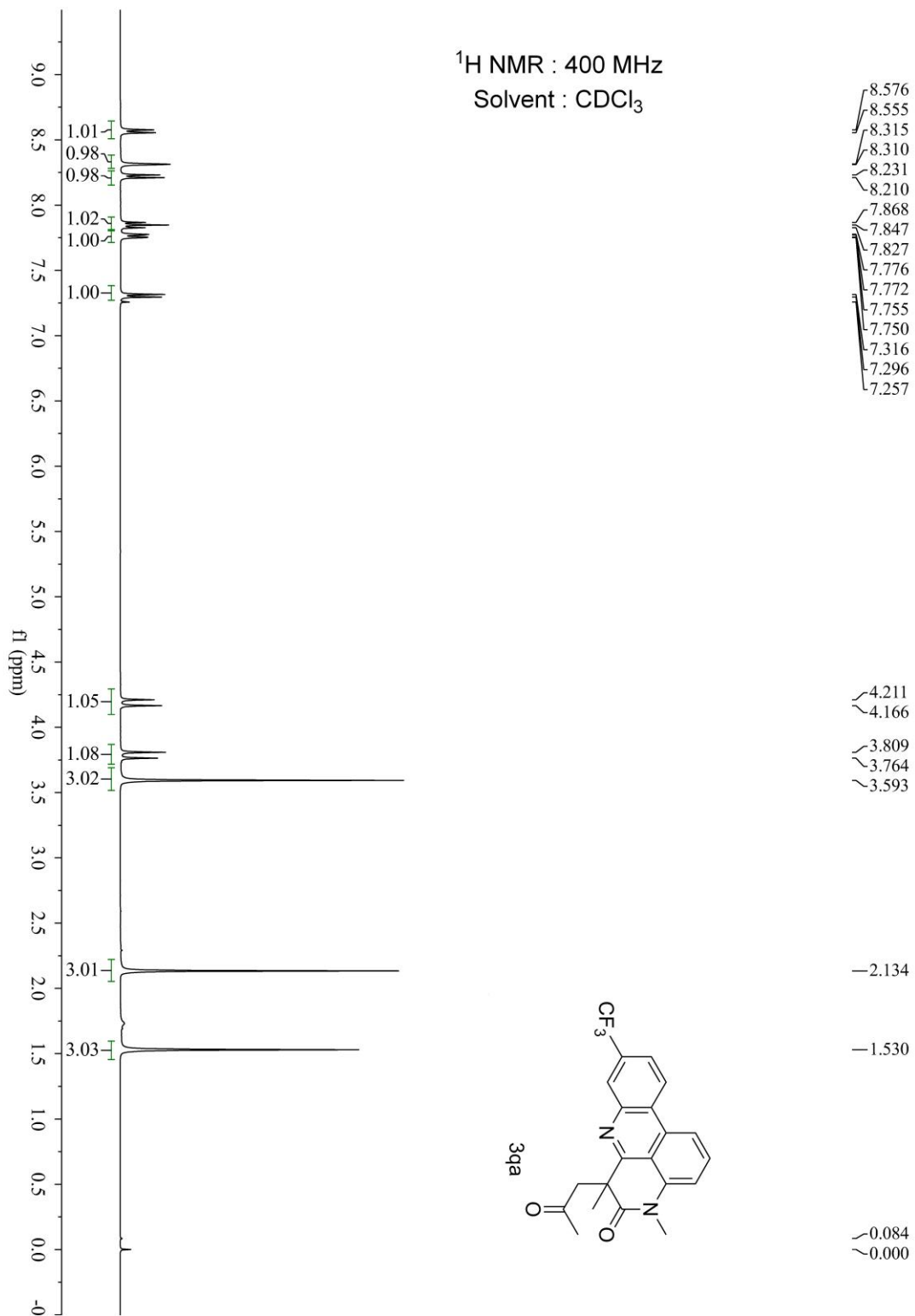


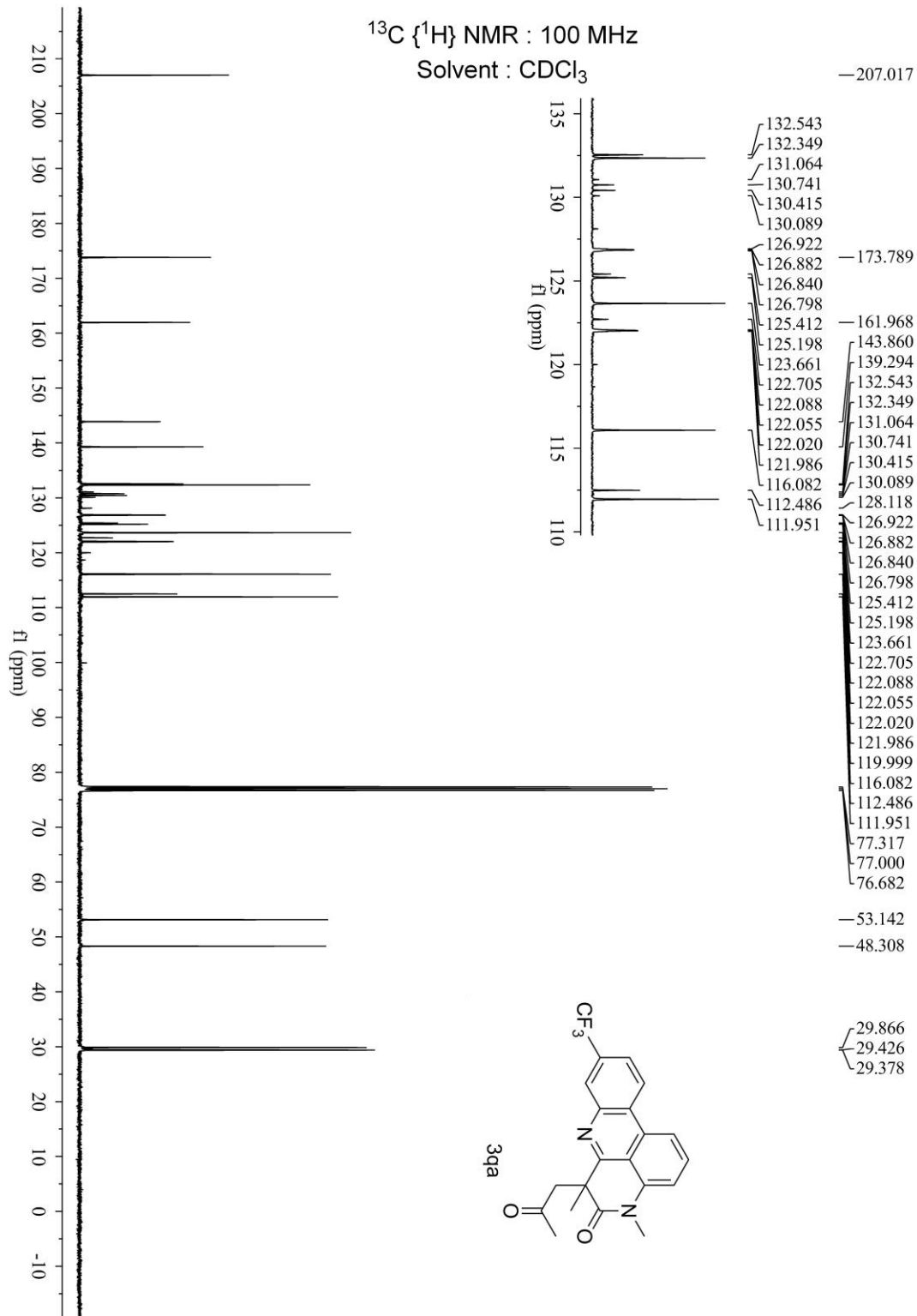
9-Bromo-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3pa)

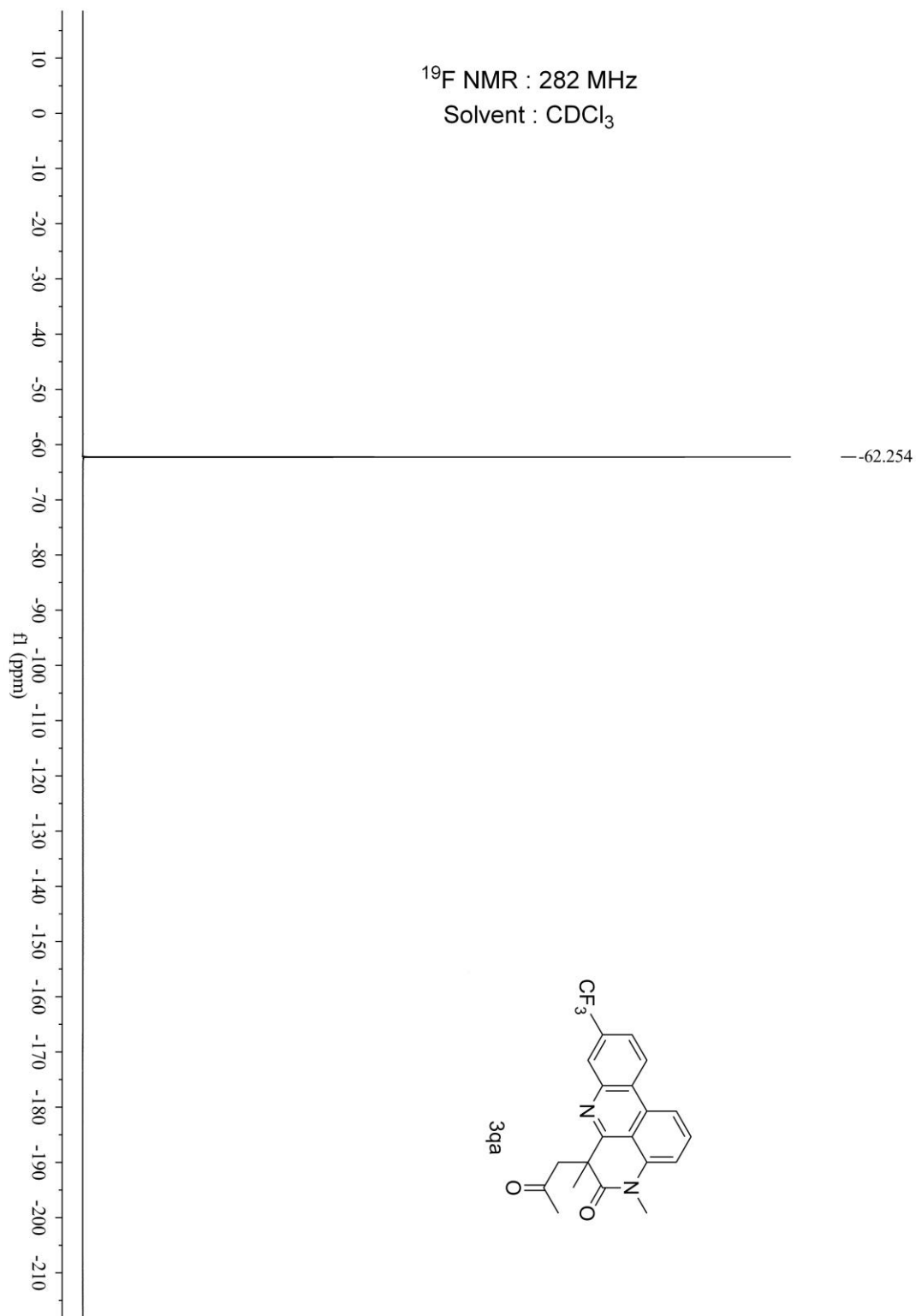




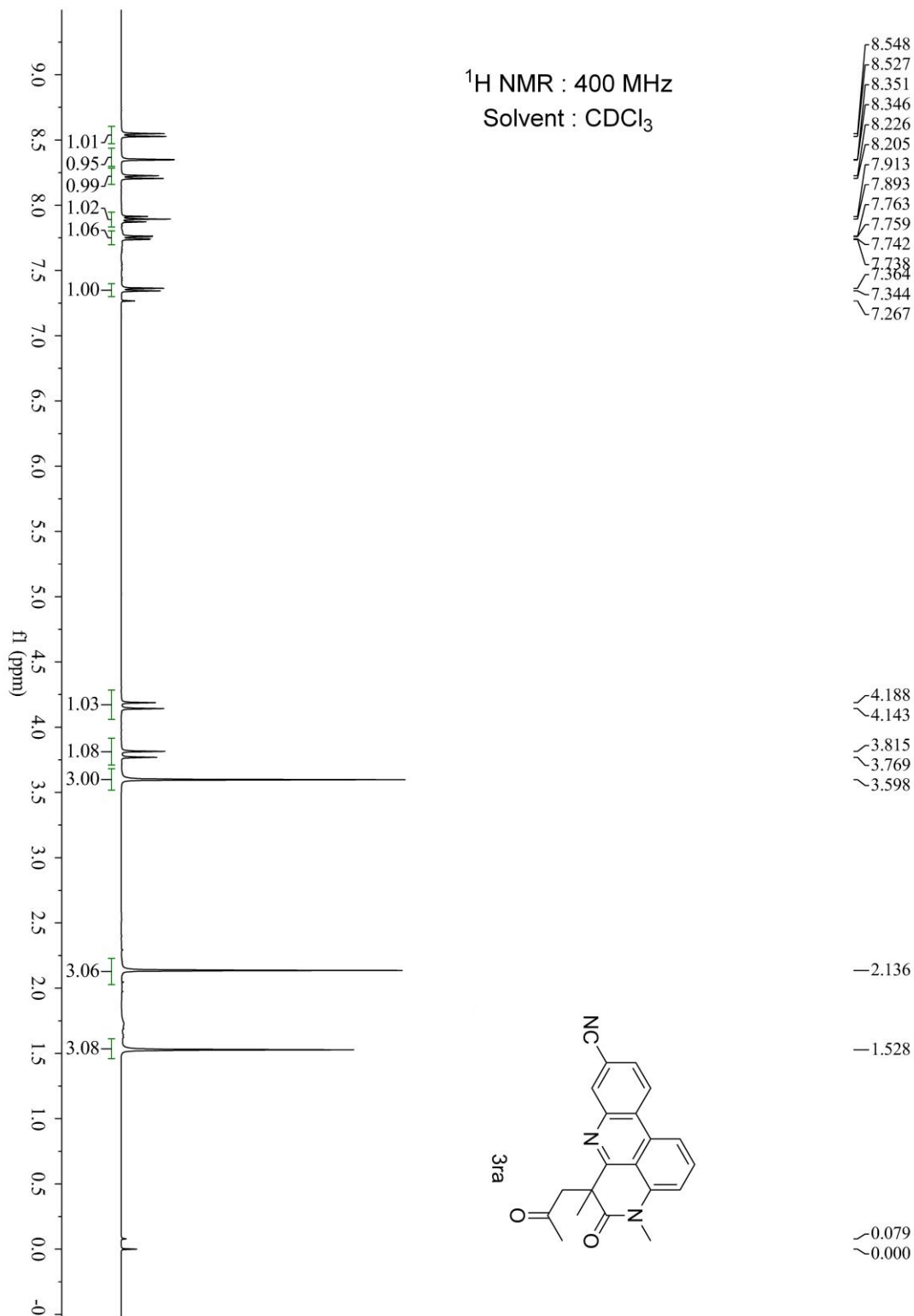
**4,6-Dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-9-(trifluoromethyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]
phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3qa)**

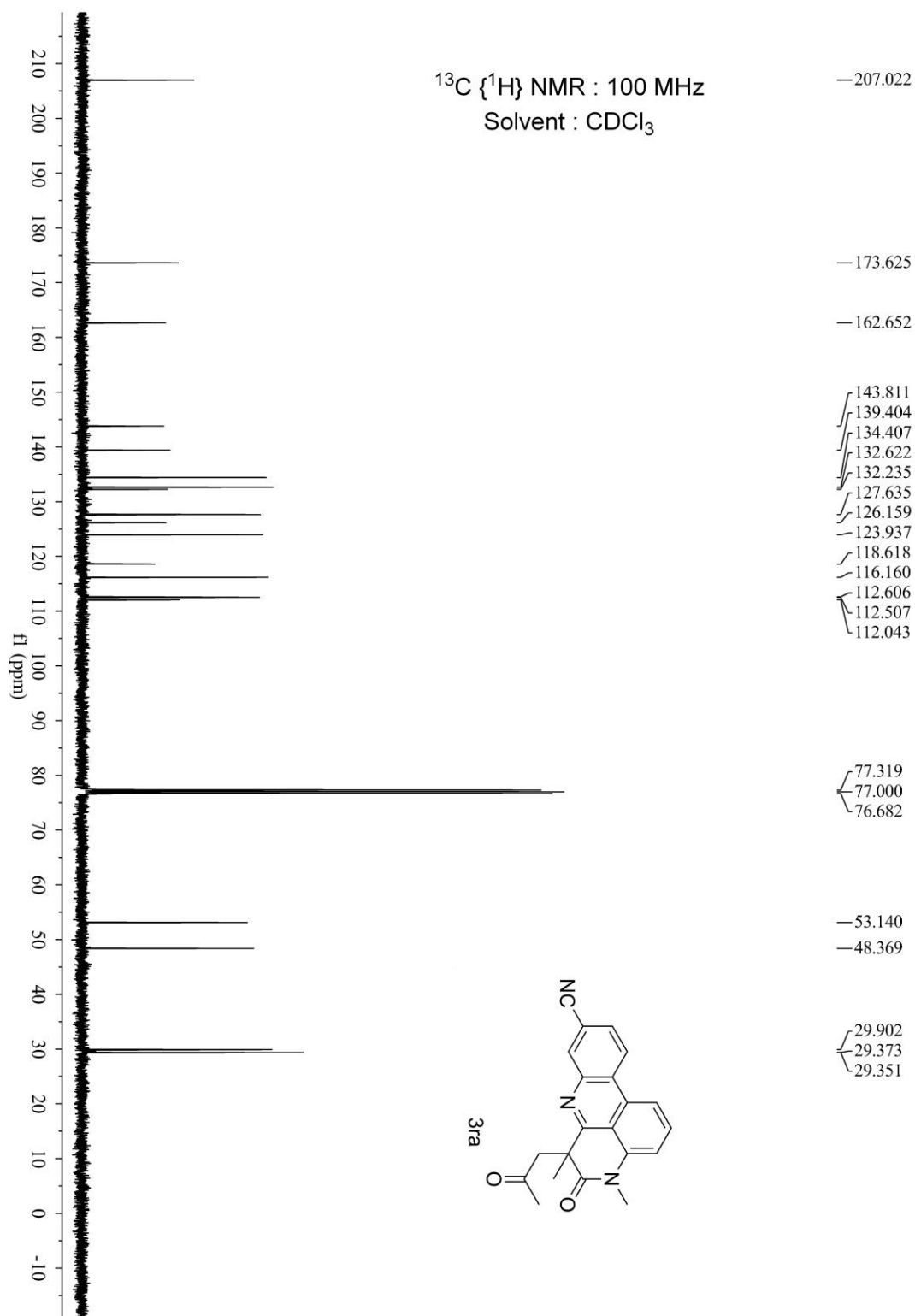




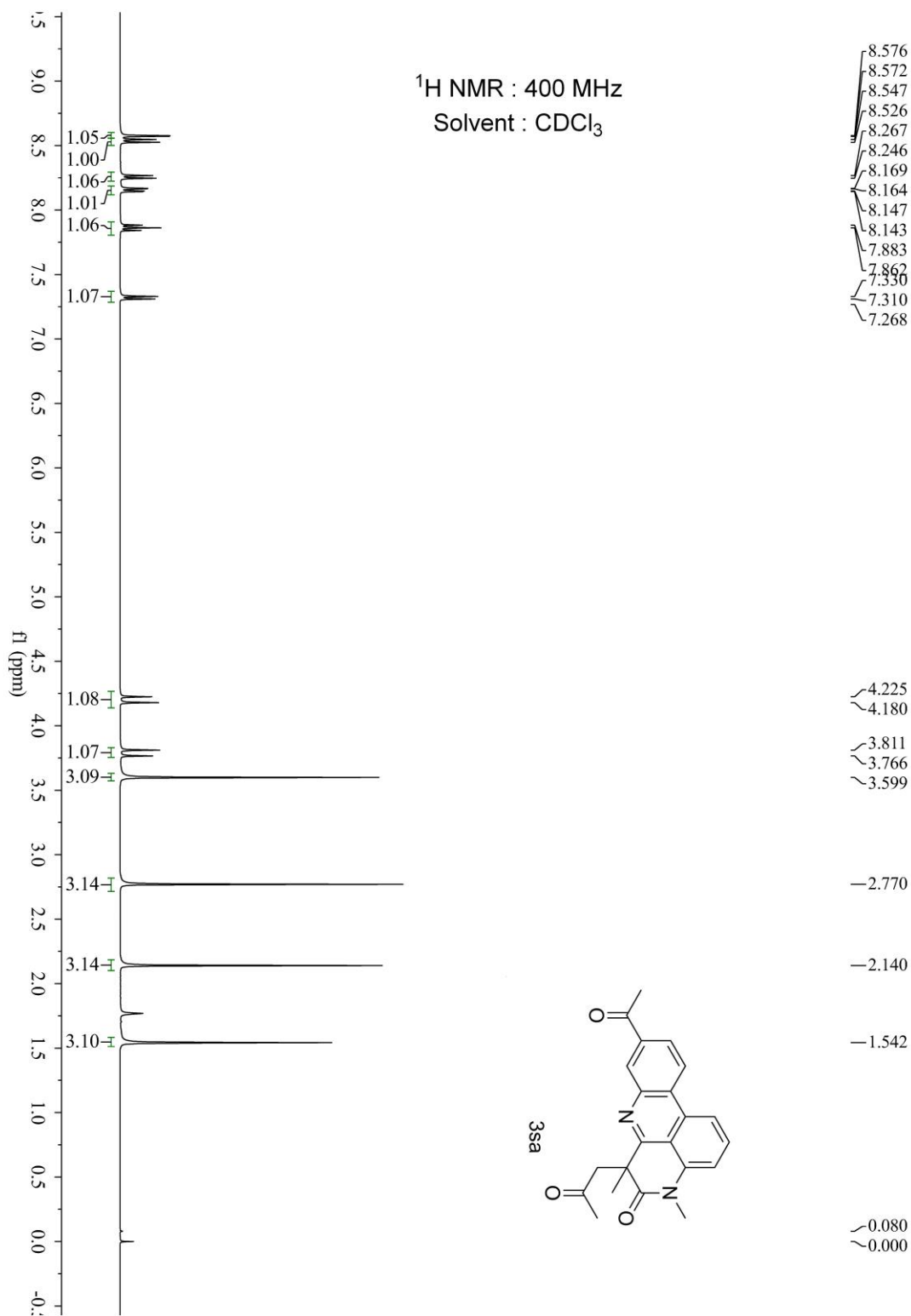


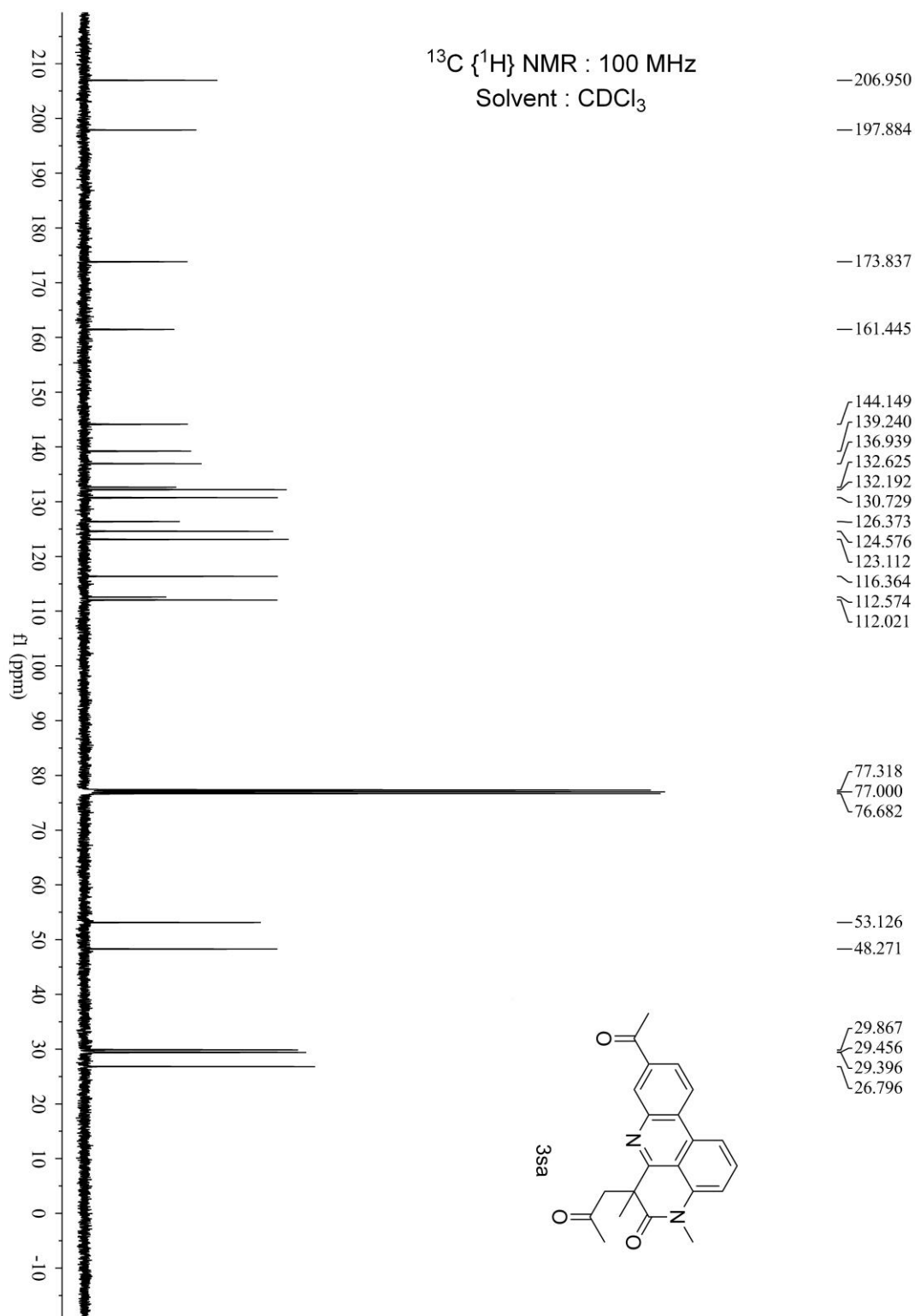
**4,6-Dimethyl-5-oxo-6-(2-oxopropyl)-5,6-dihydro-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-gh]
phenanthridine-9-carbonitrile (3ra)**



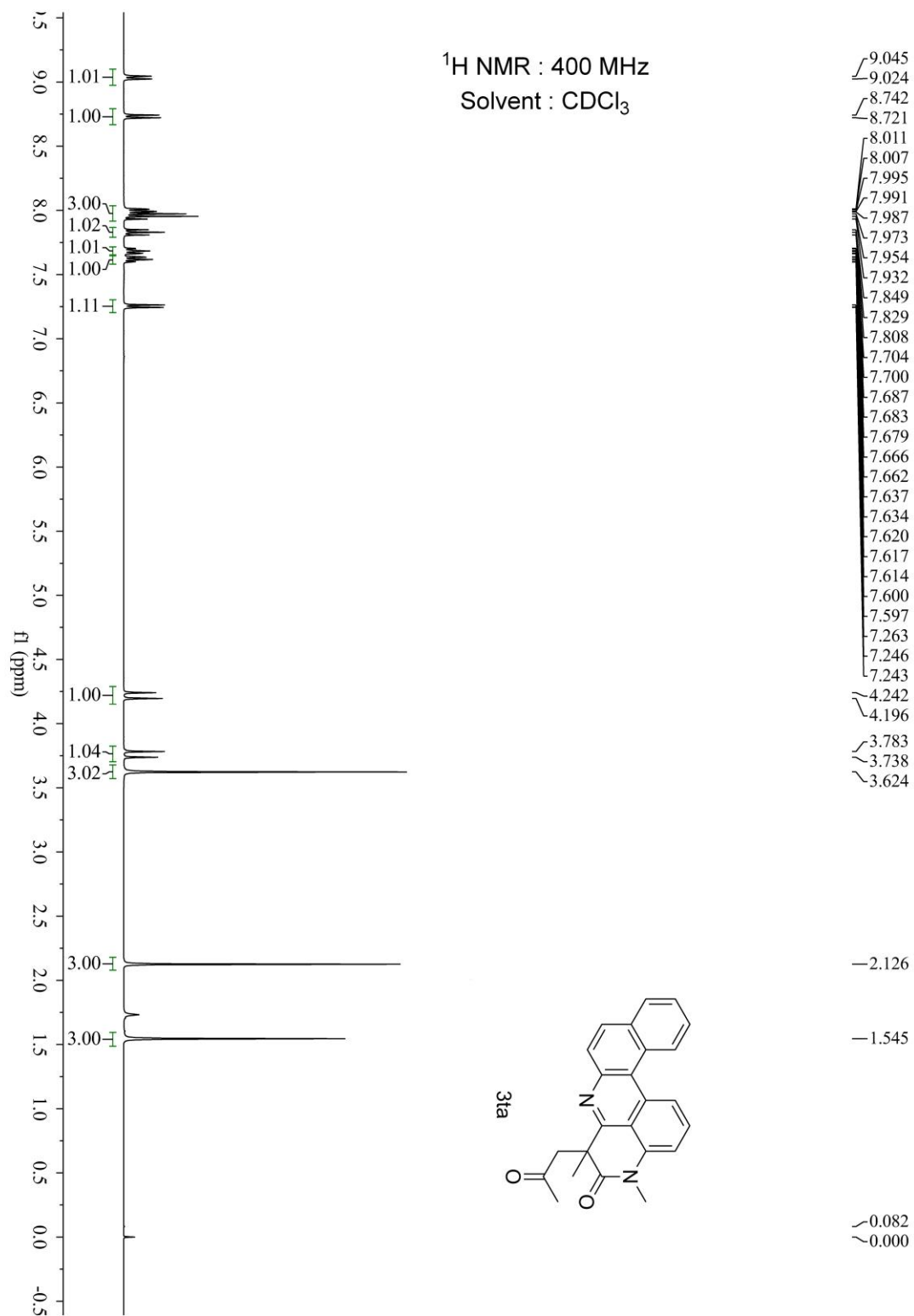


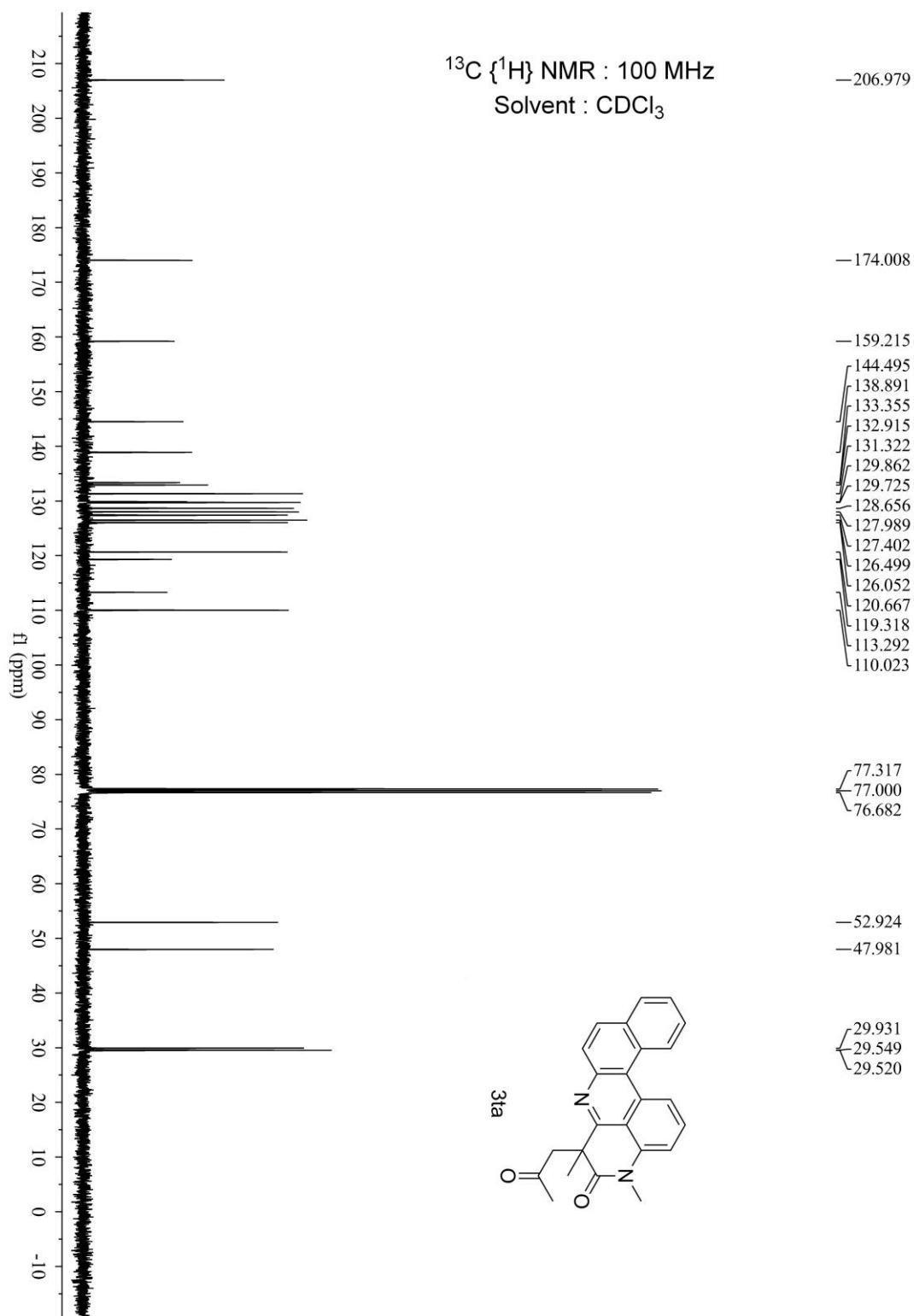
9-Acetyl-4,6-dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3sa)



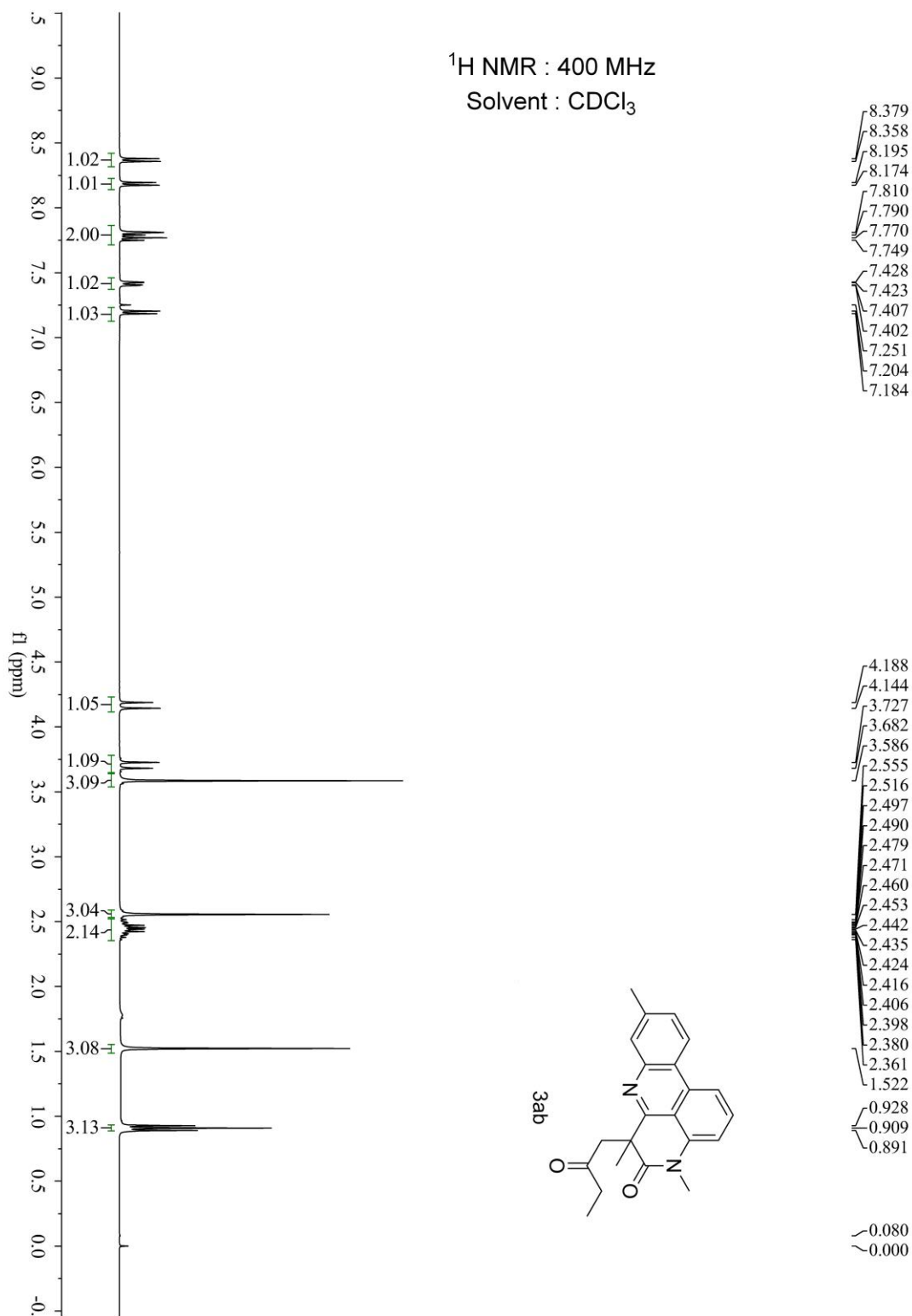


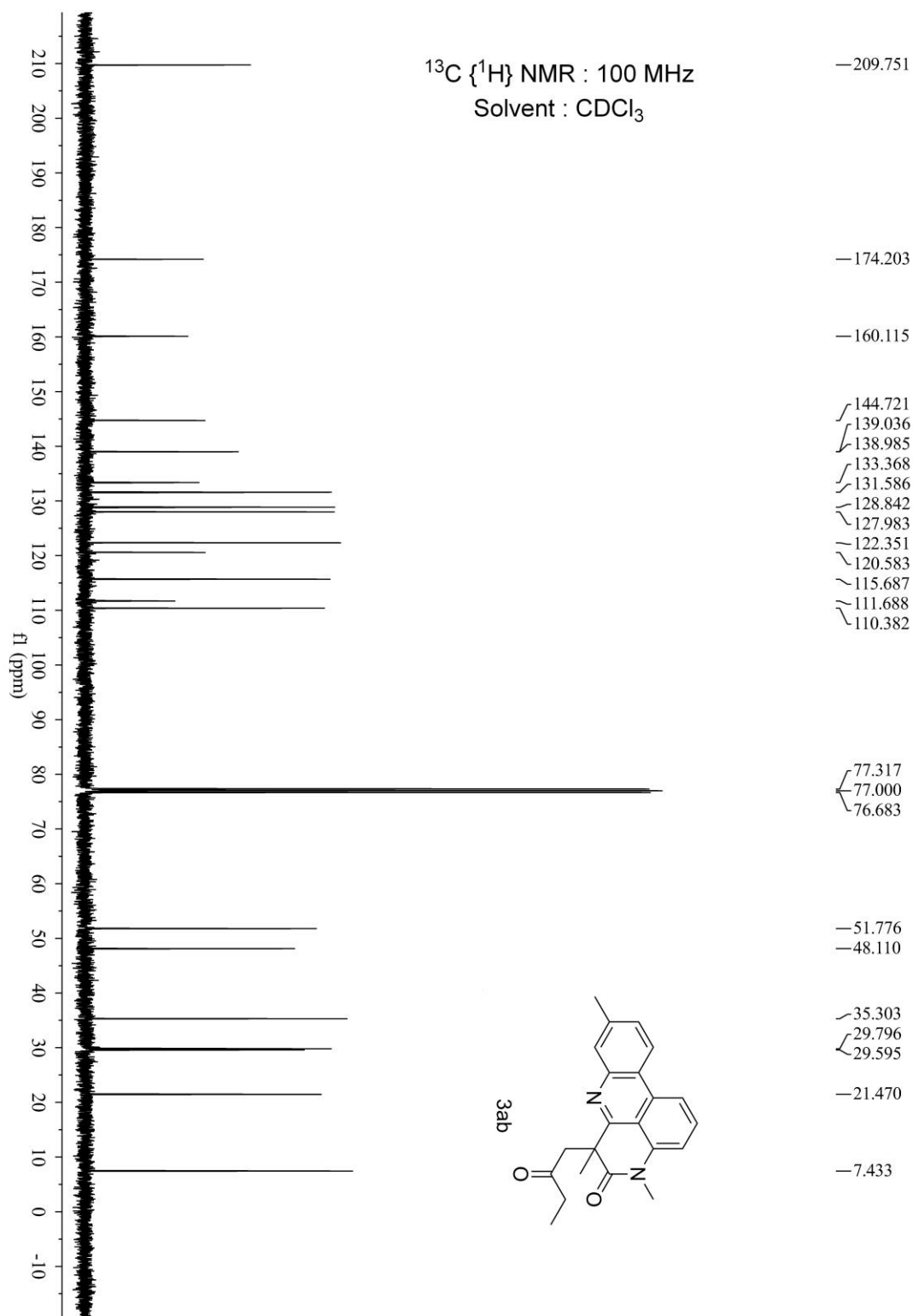
4,6-Dimethyl-6-(2-oxopropyl)-4*H*-benzo[*a*]pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ta)





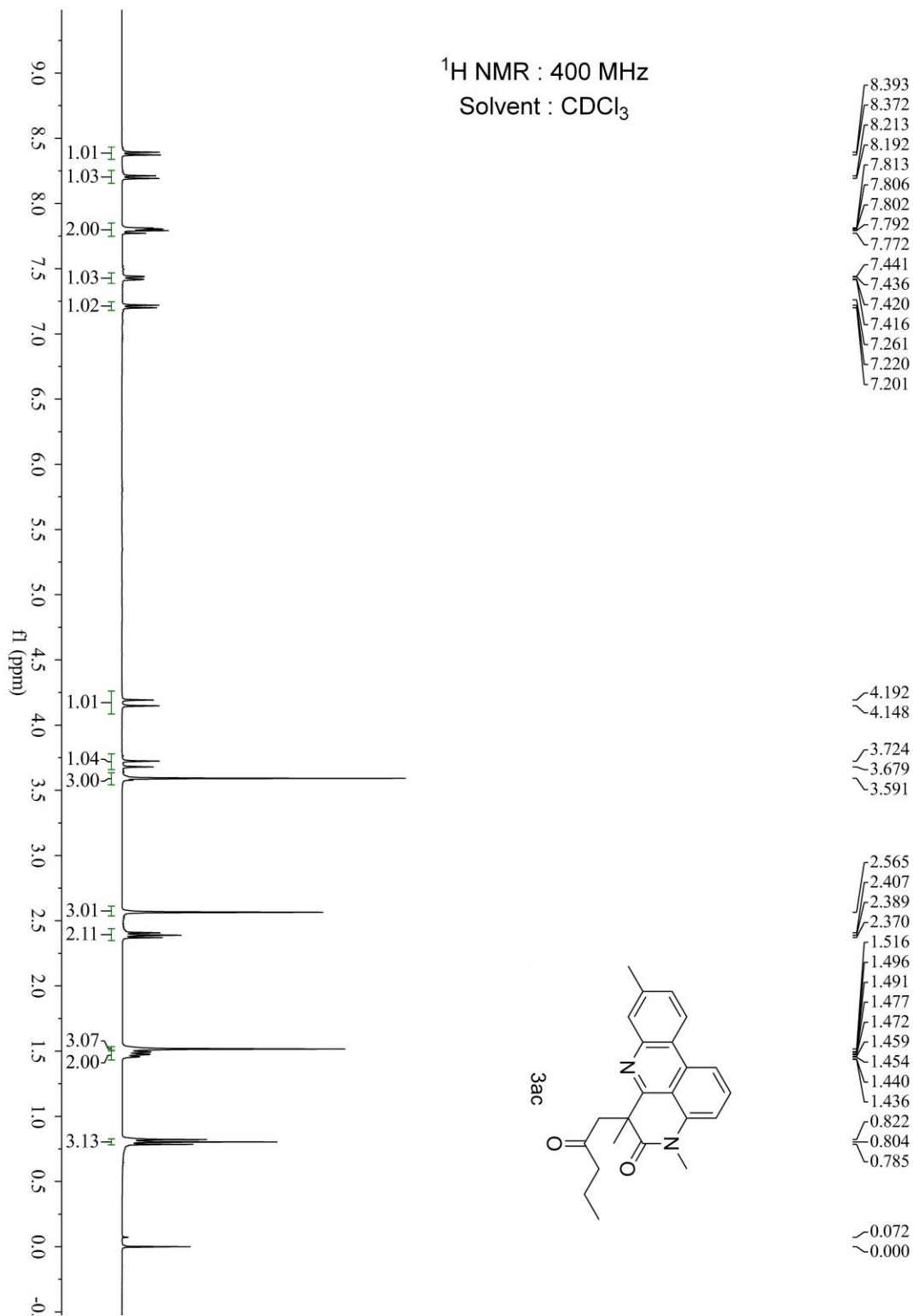
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxobutyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ab)

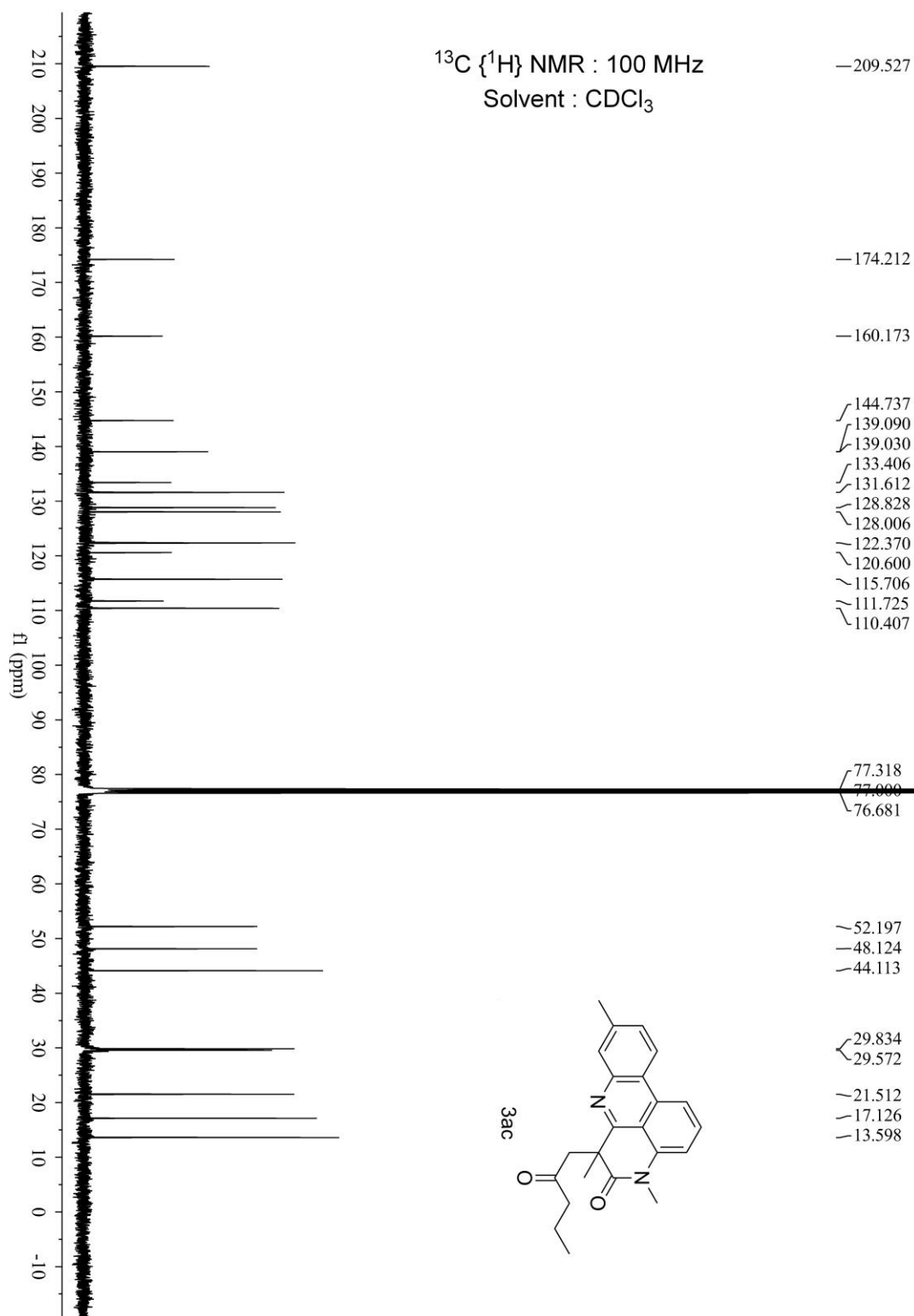




4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxopentyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5

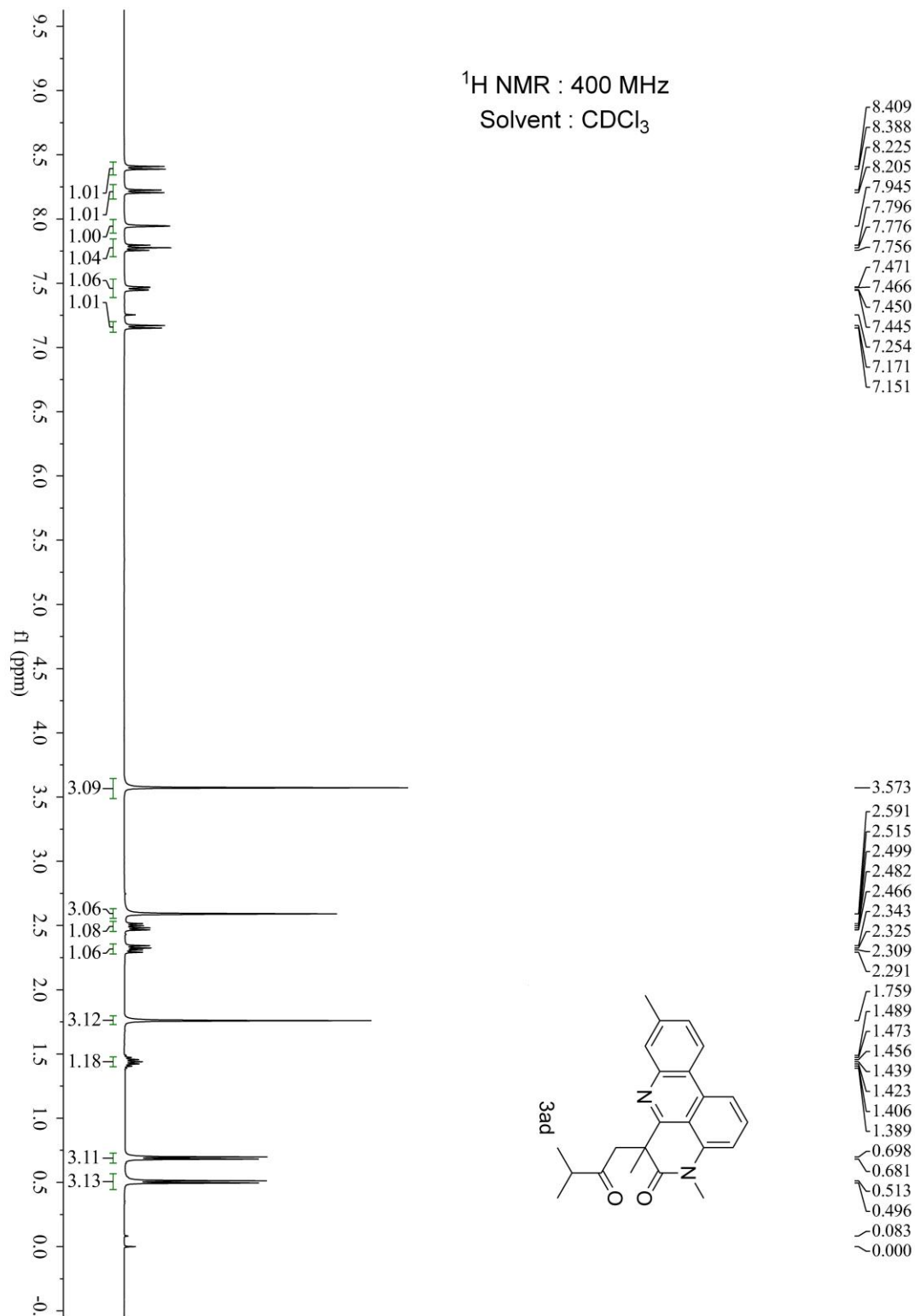
(6*H*)-one (3ac)

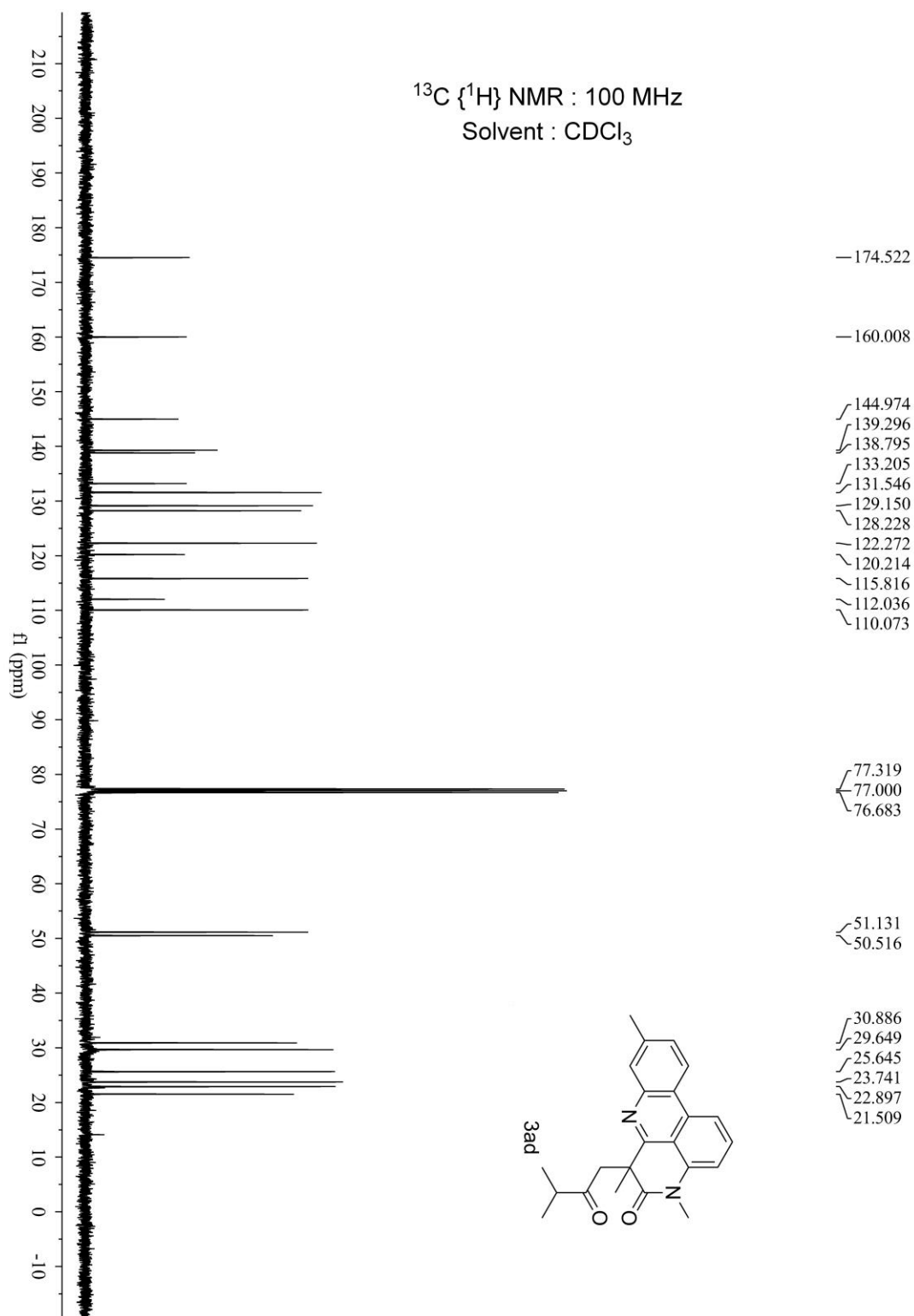




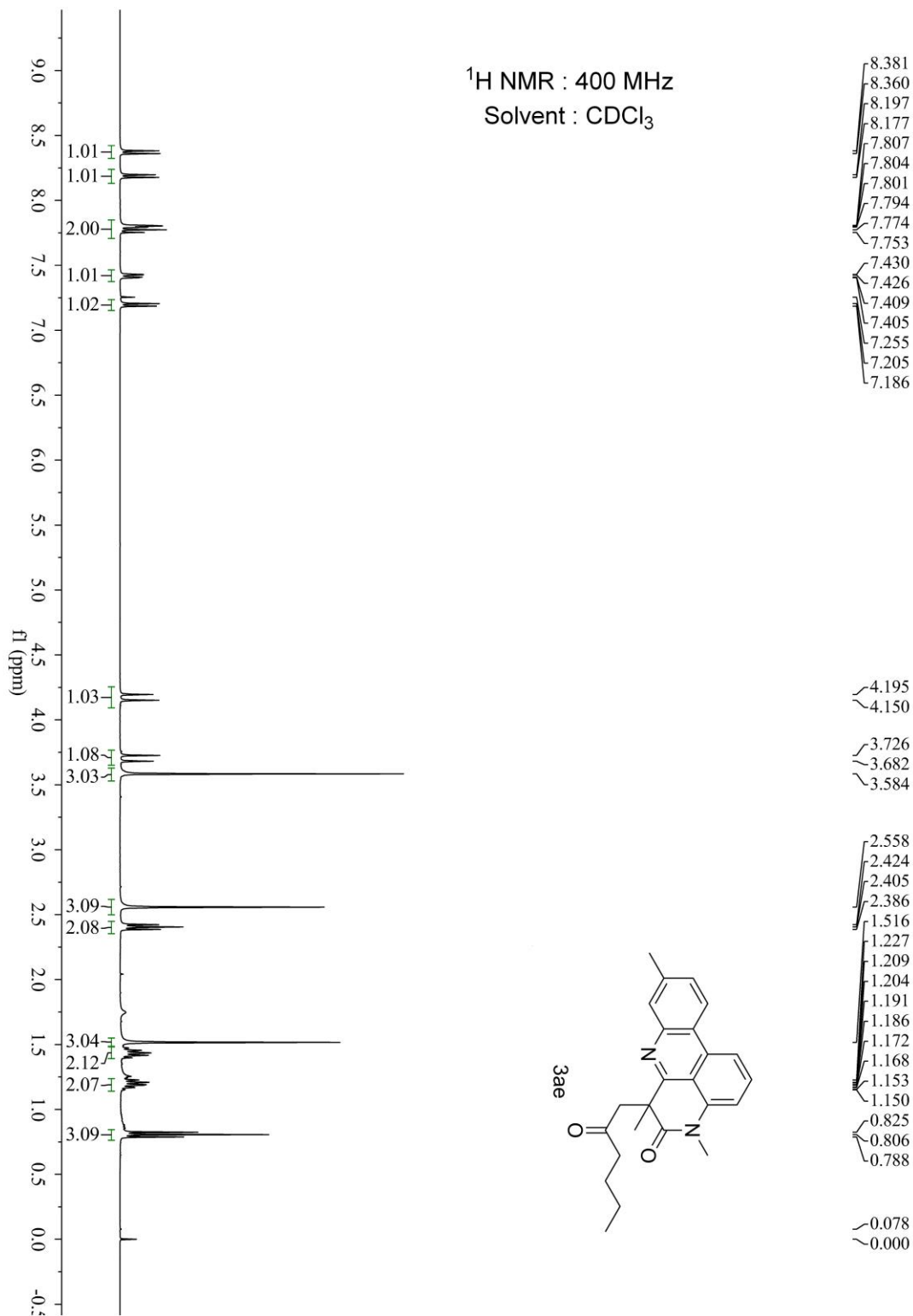
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(3-methyl-2-oxobutyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenant

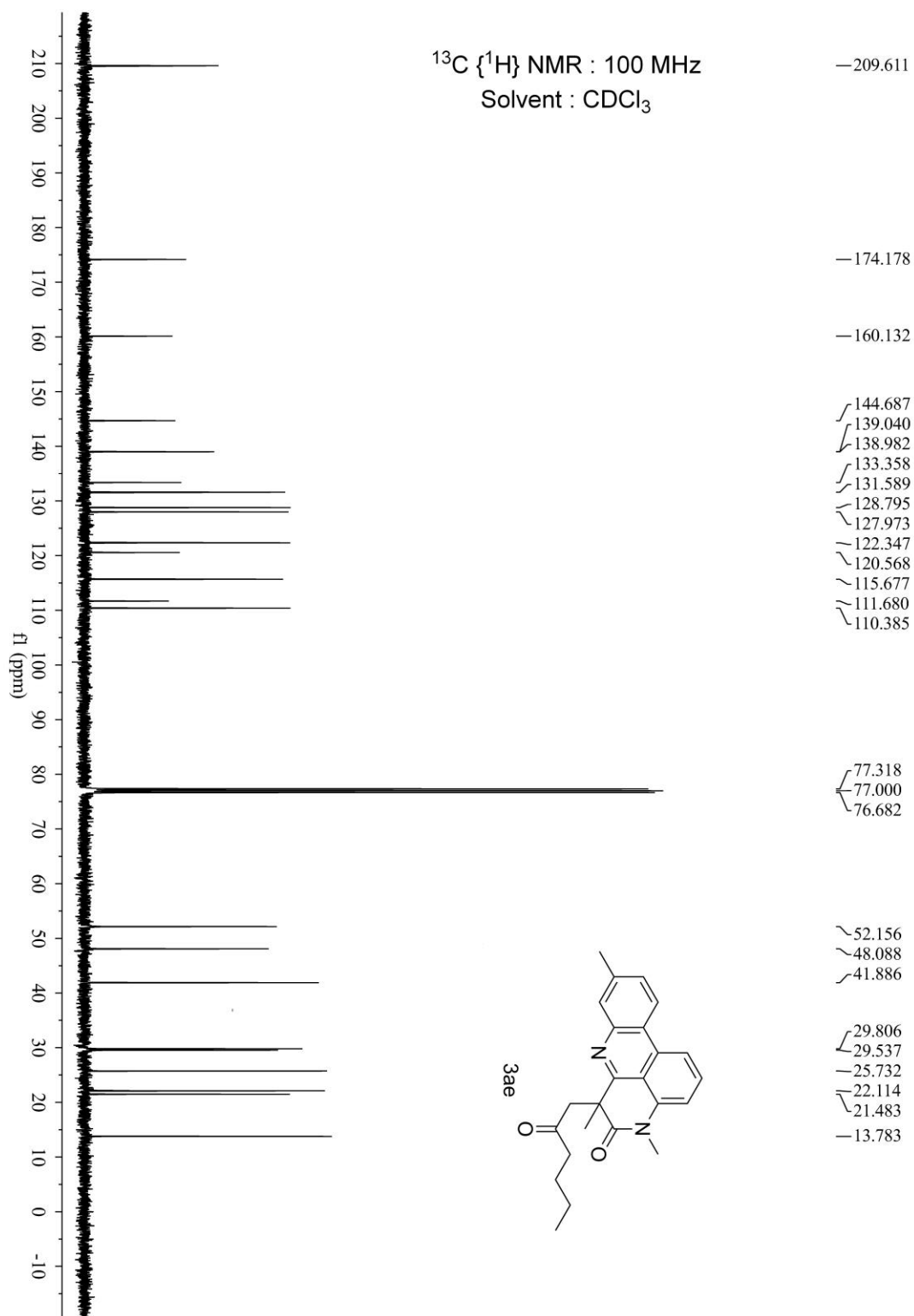
hridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ad)





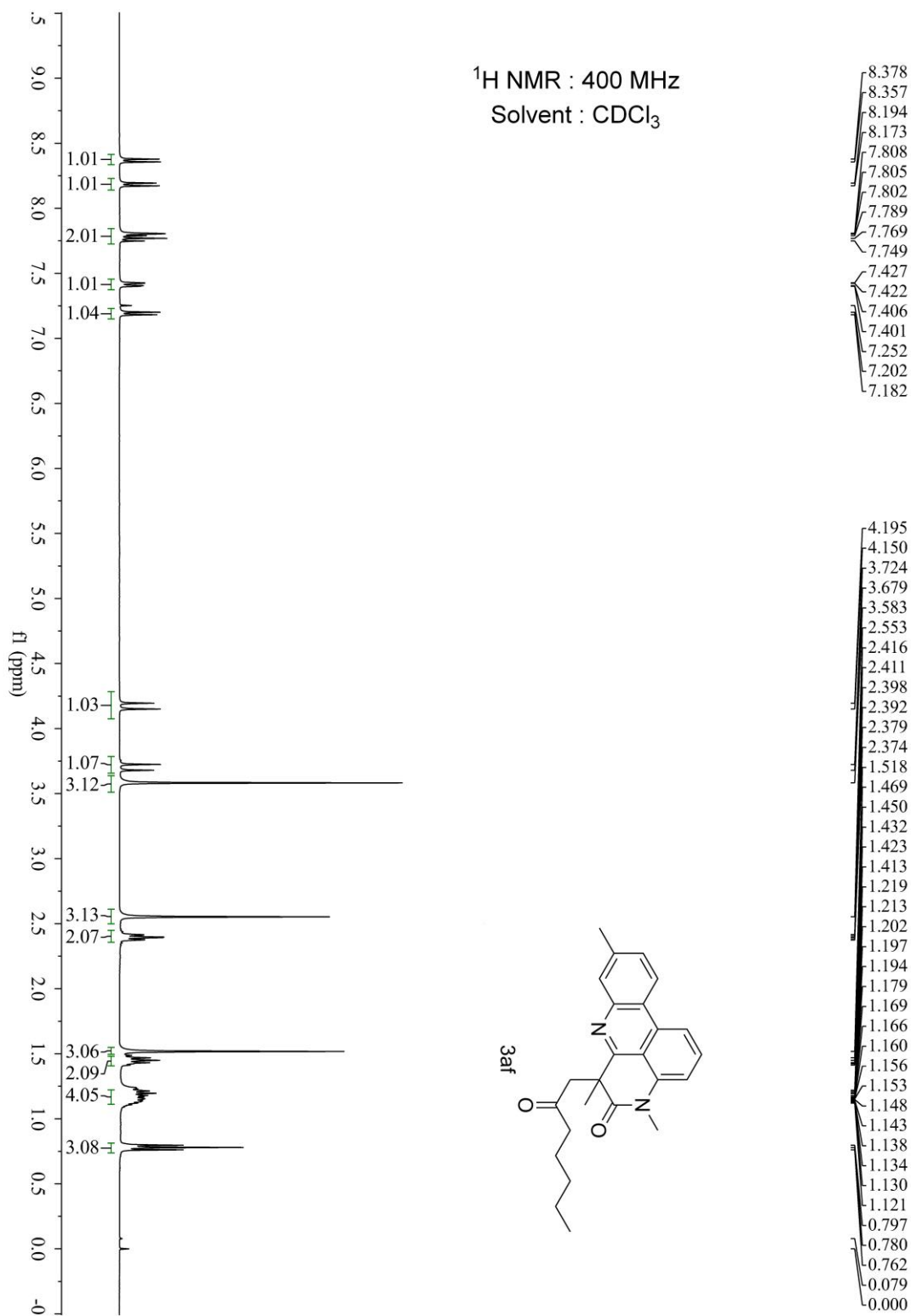
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxohexyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ae)

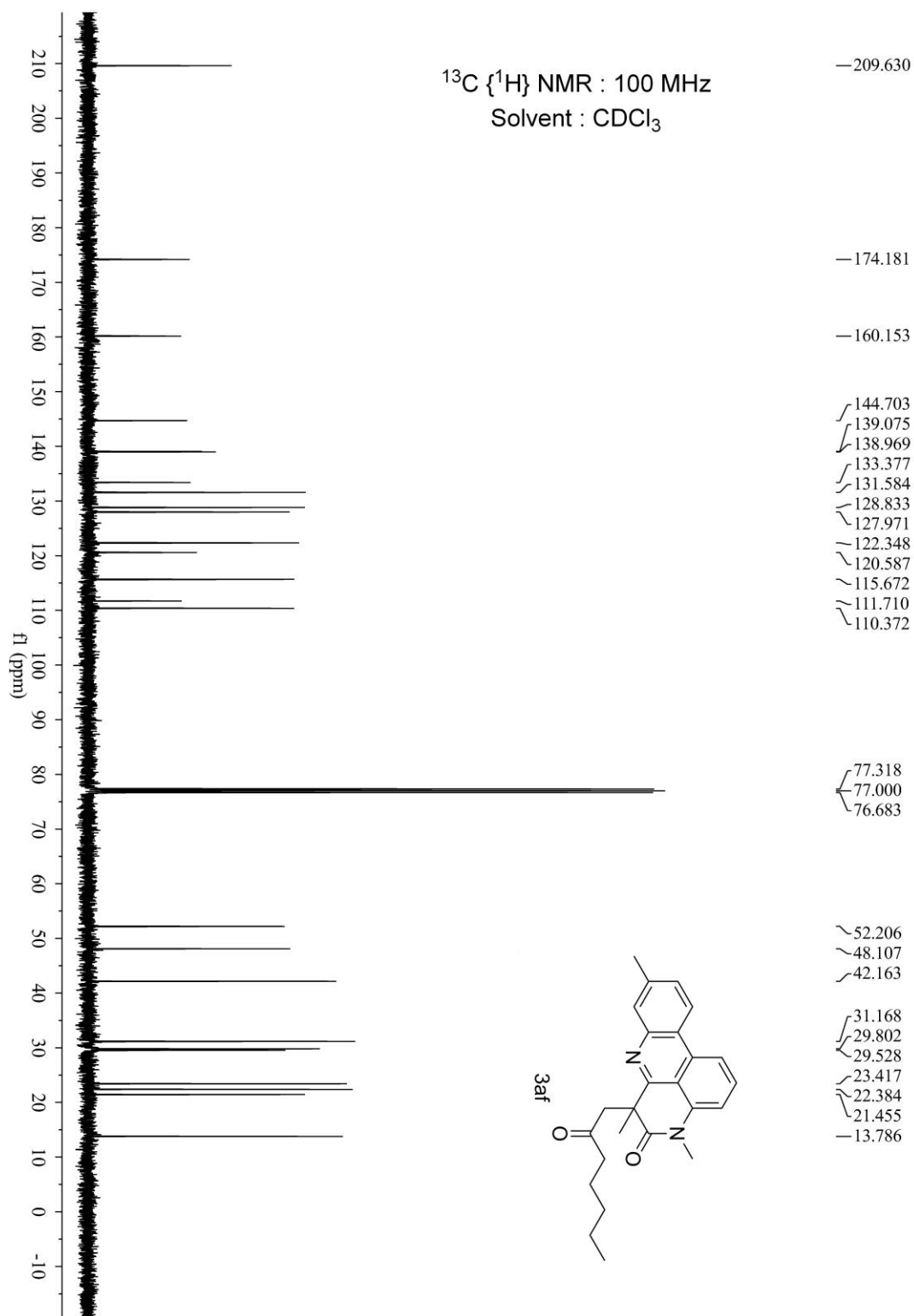




4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxoheptyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5

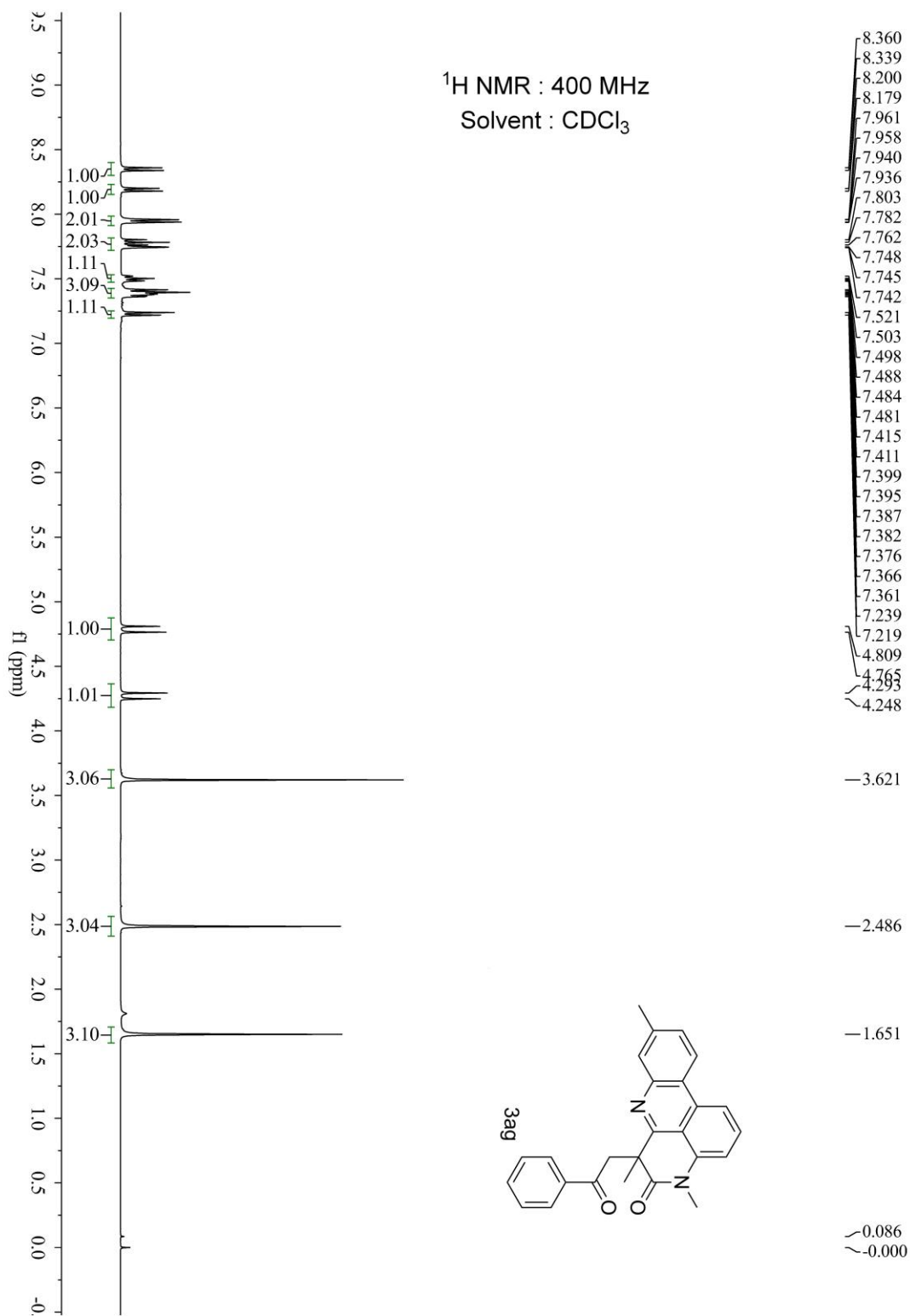
(6*H*)-one (3af)

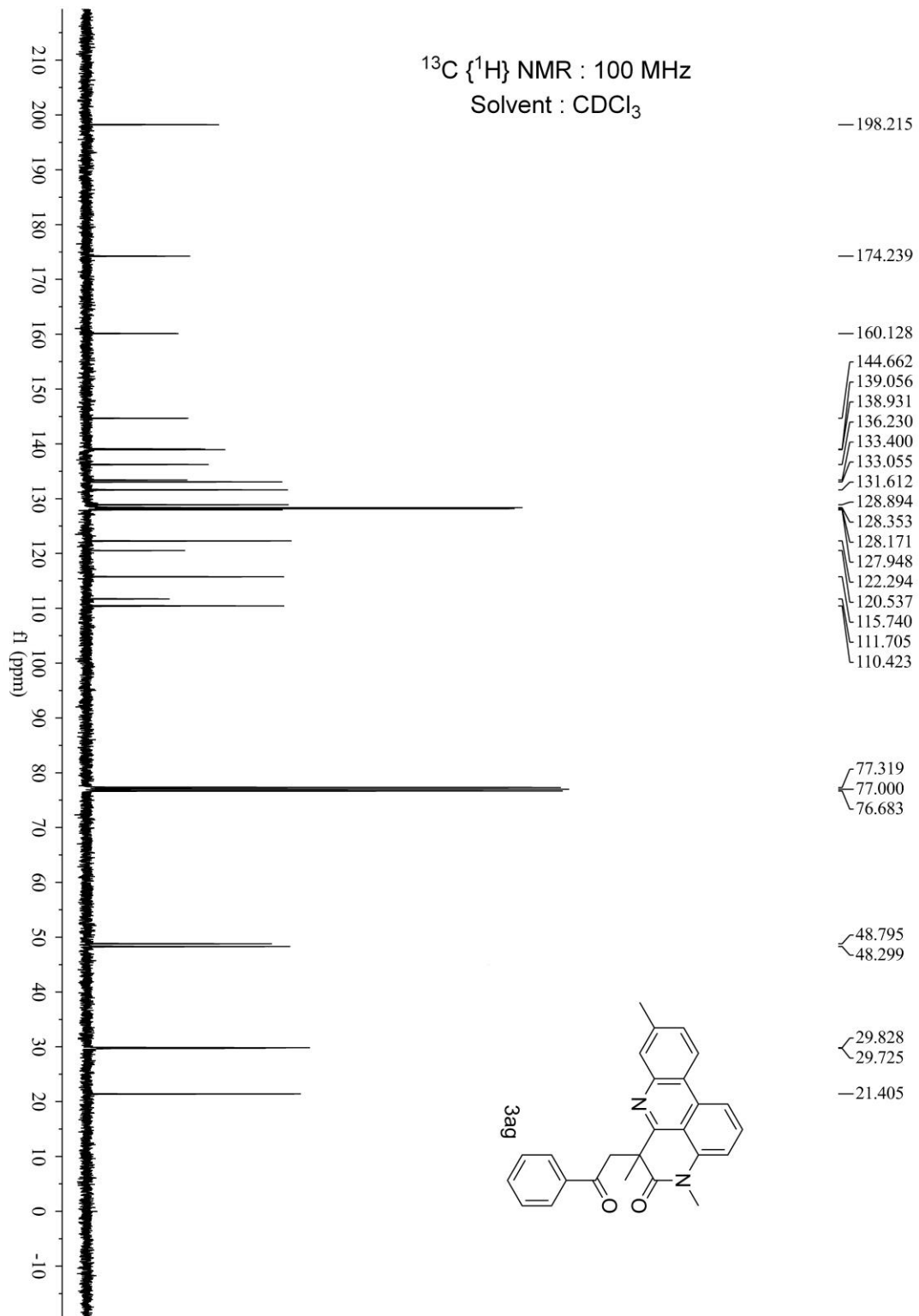




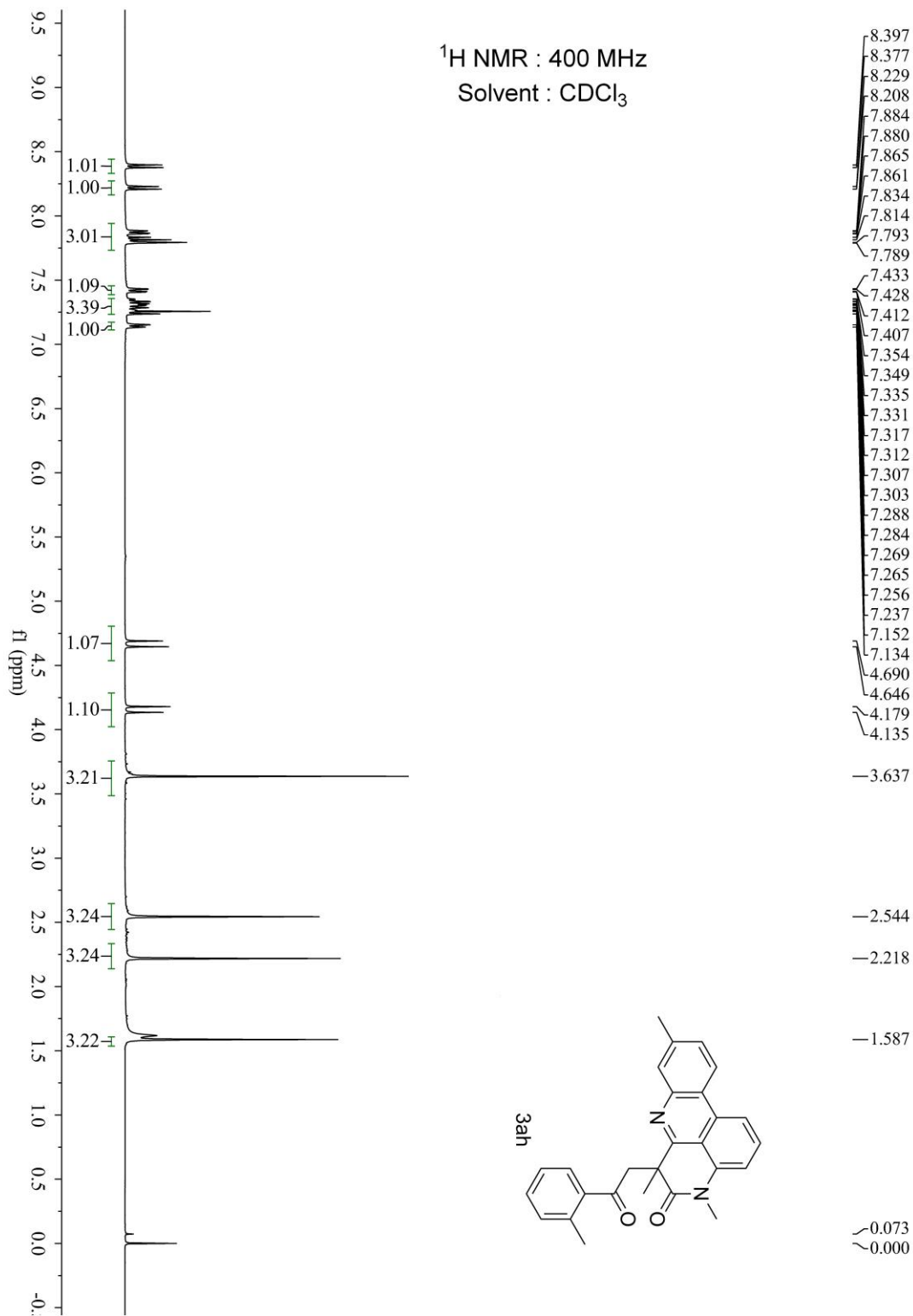
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-phenylethyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenant

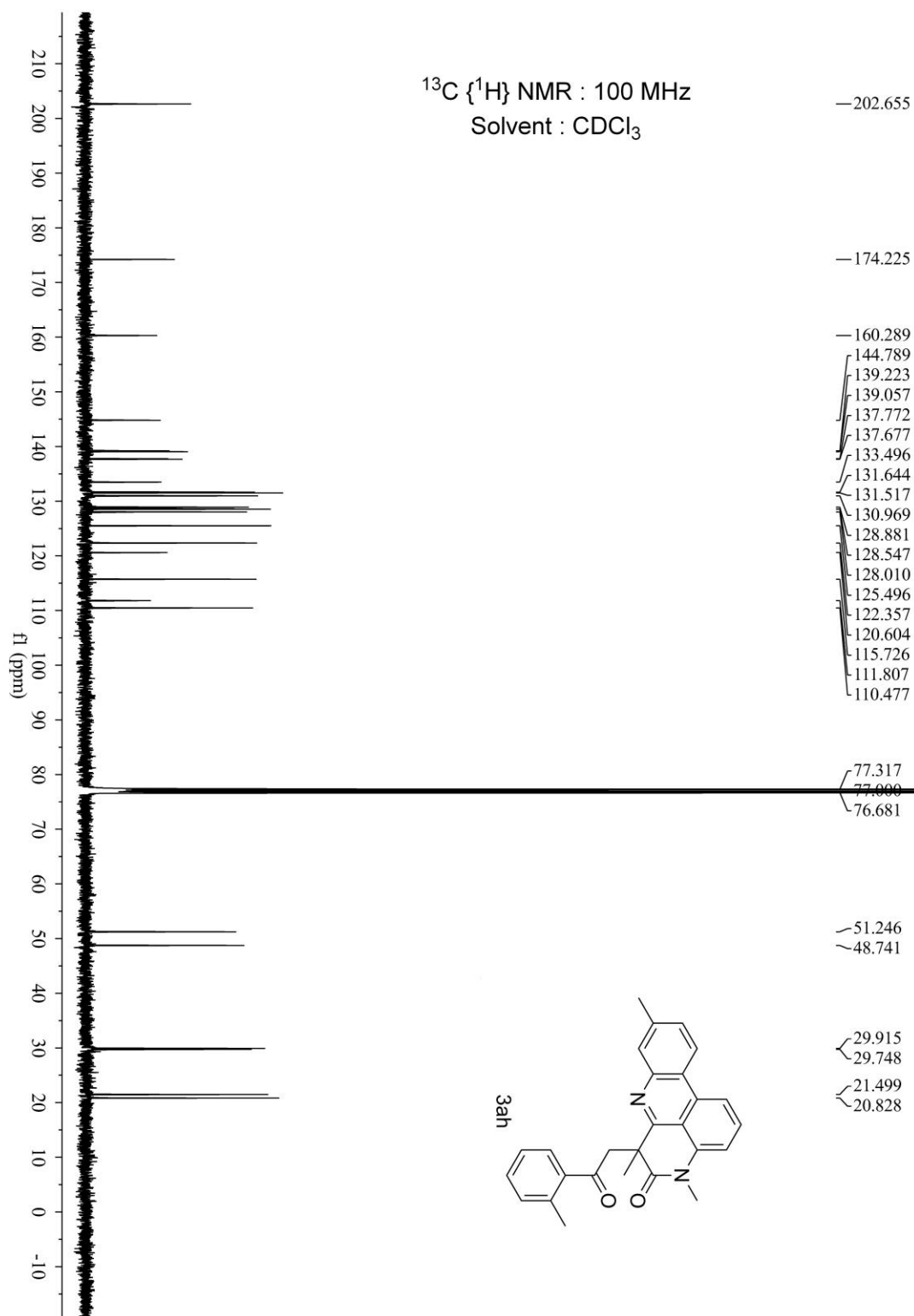
hridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ag)



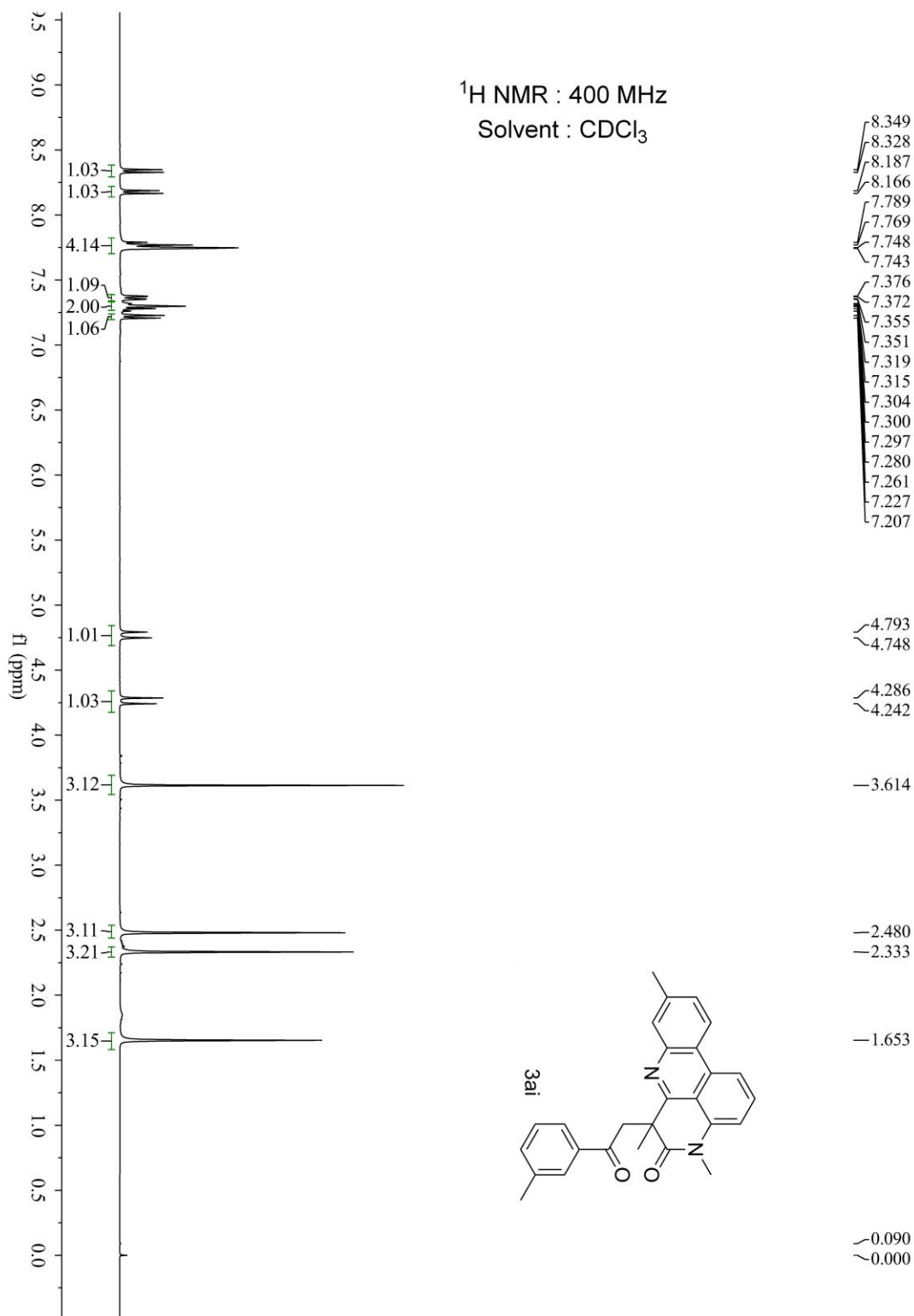


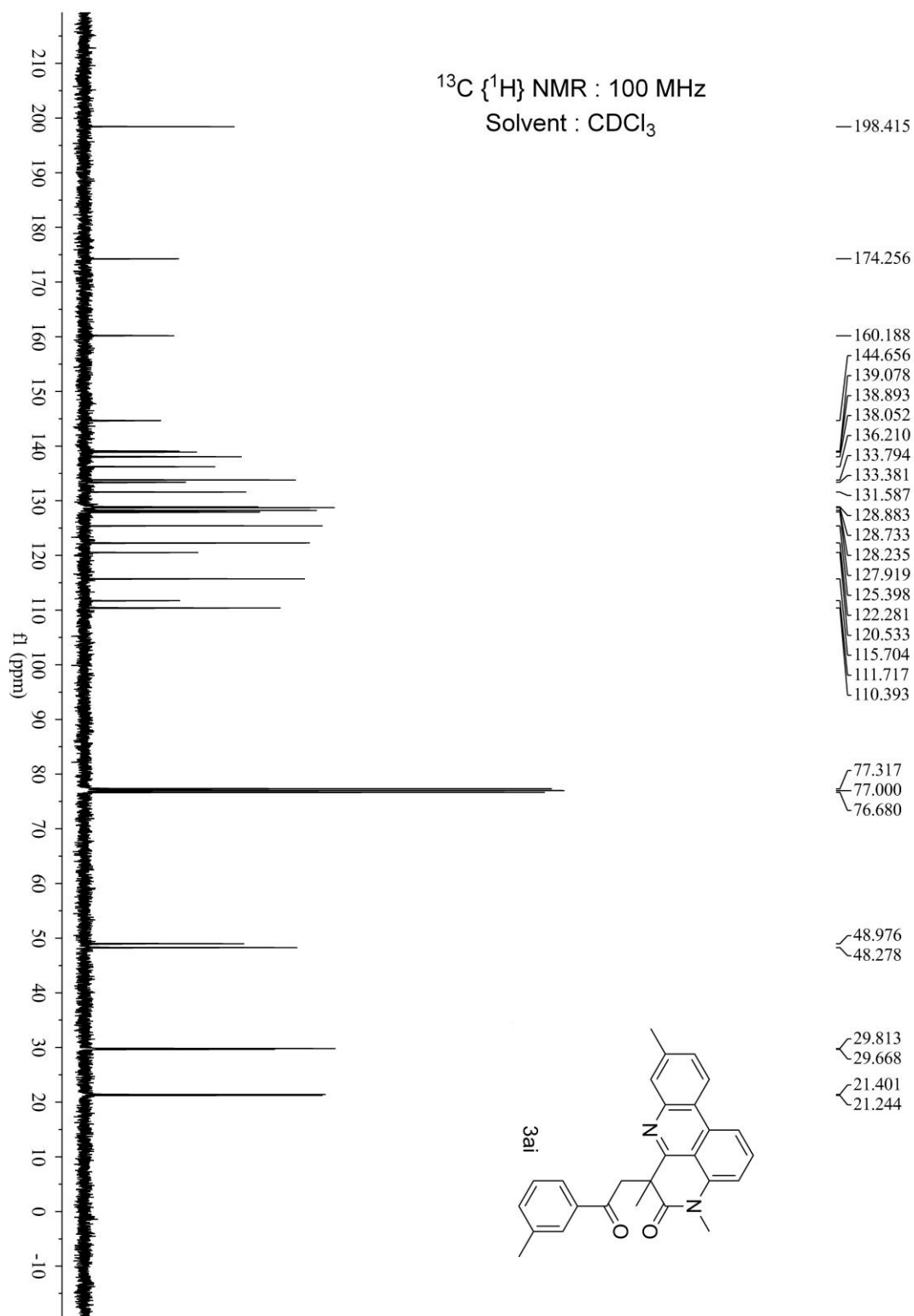
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-(*o*-tolyl)ethyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ah)



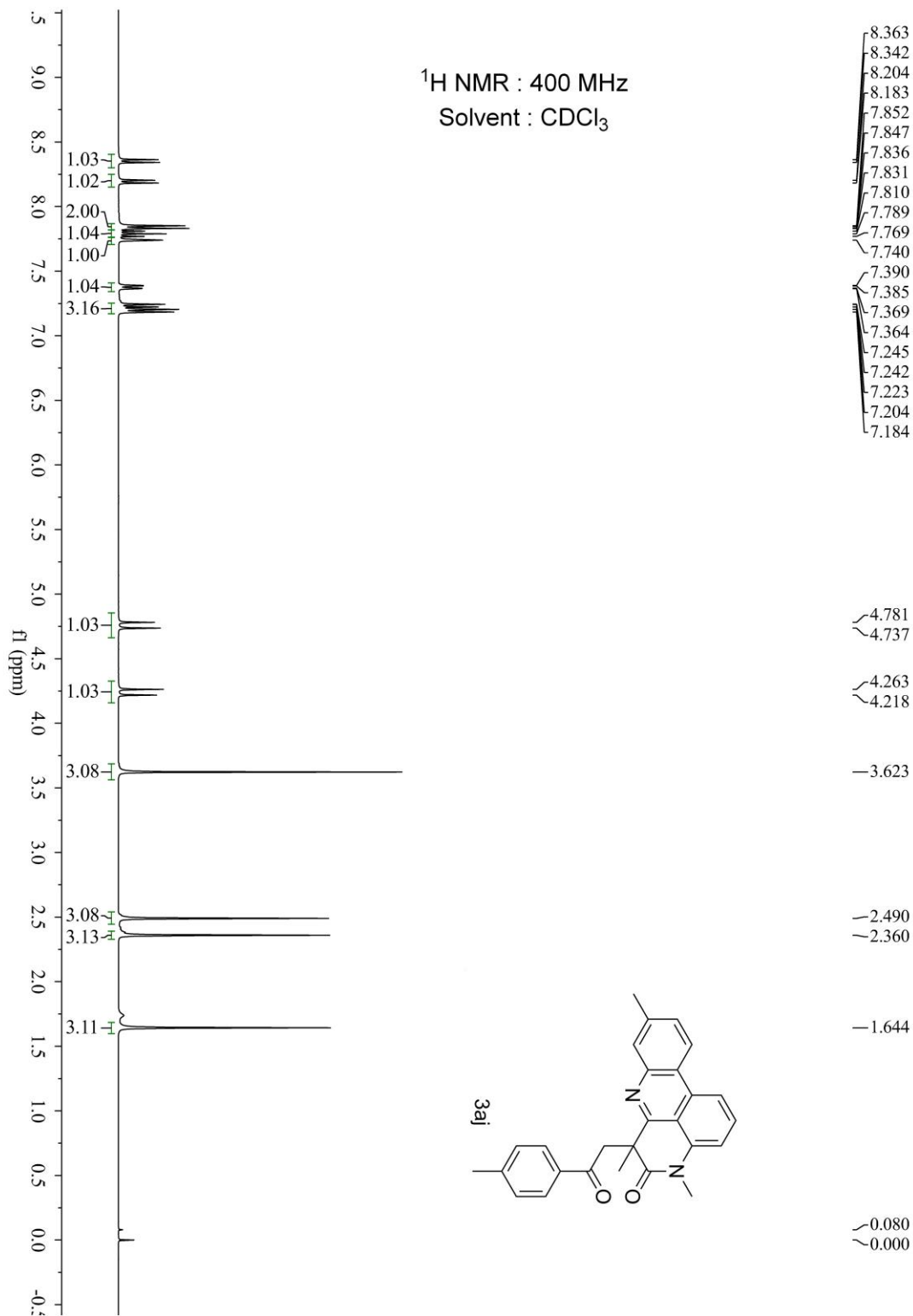


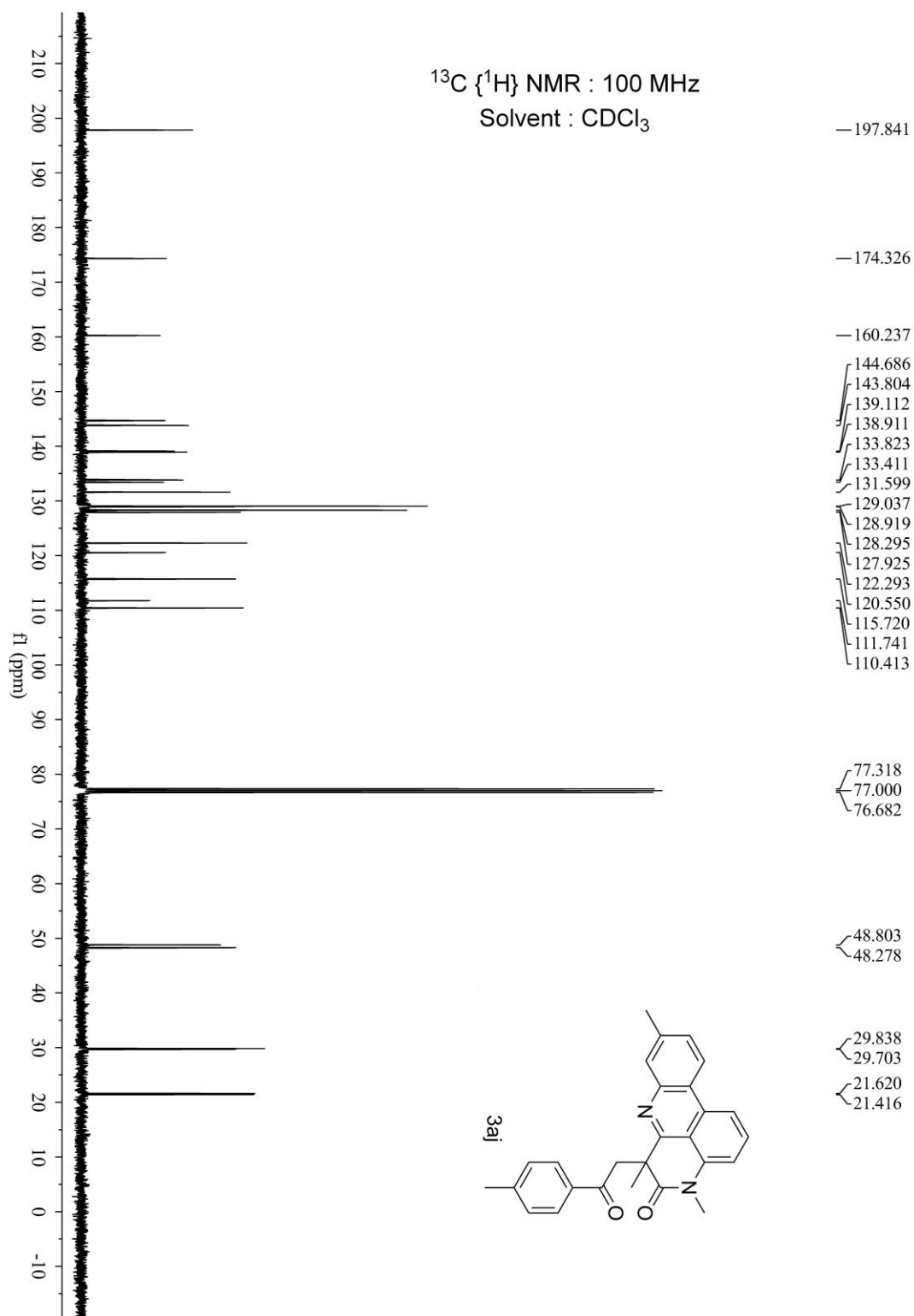
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-(*m*-tolyl)ethyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ai)



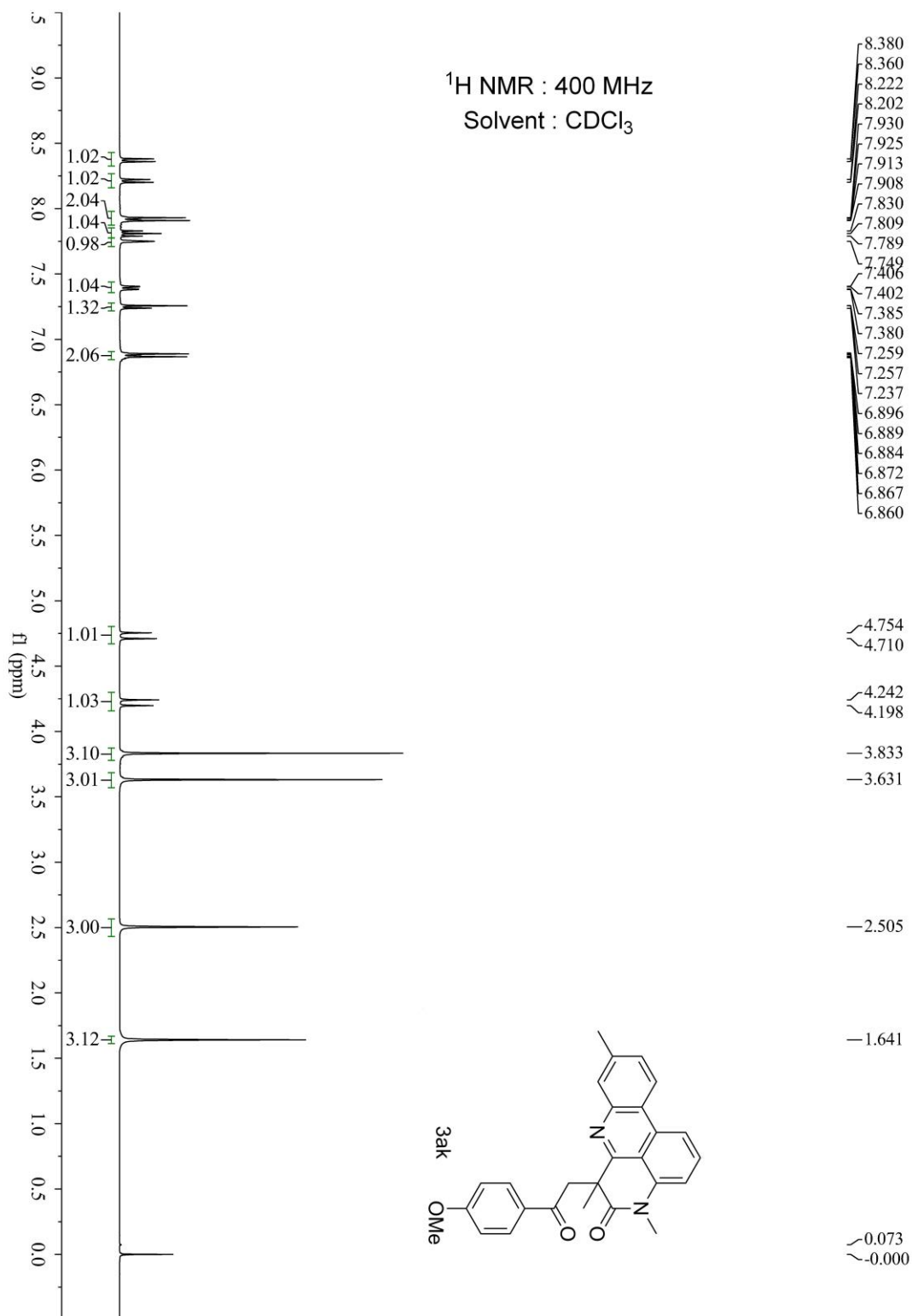


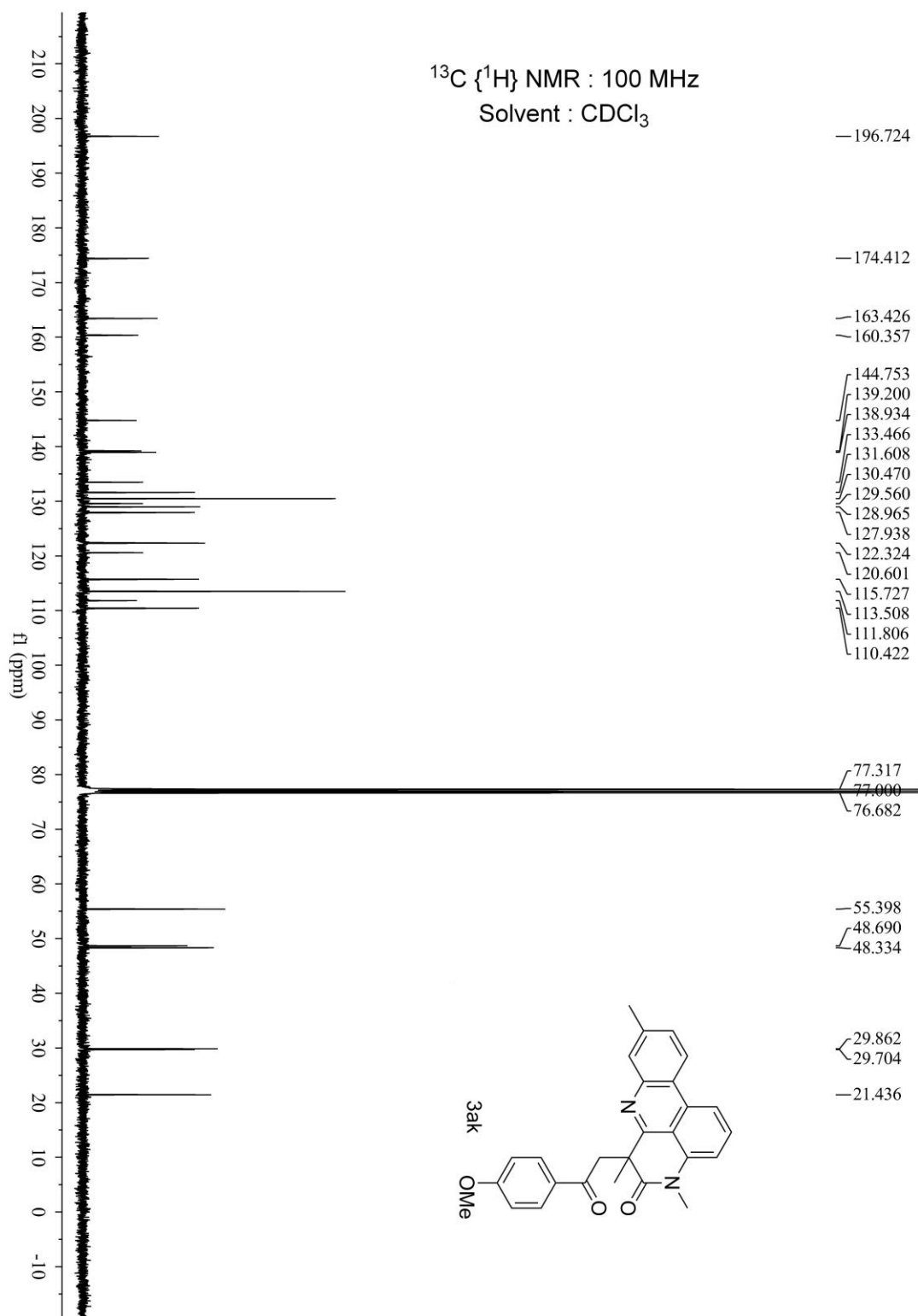
4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-(*p*-tolyl)ethyl)-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3aj)



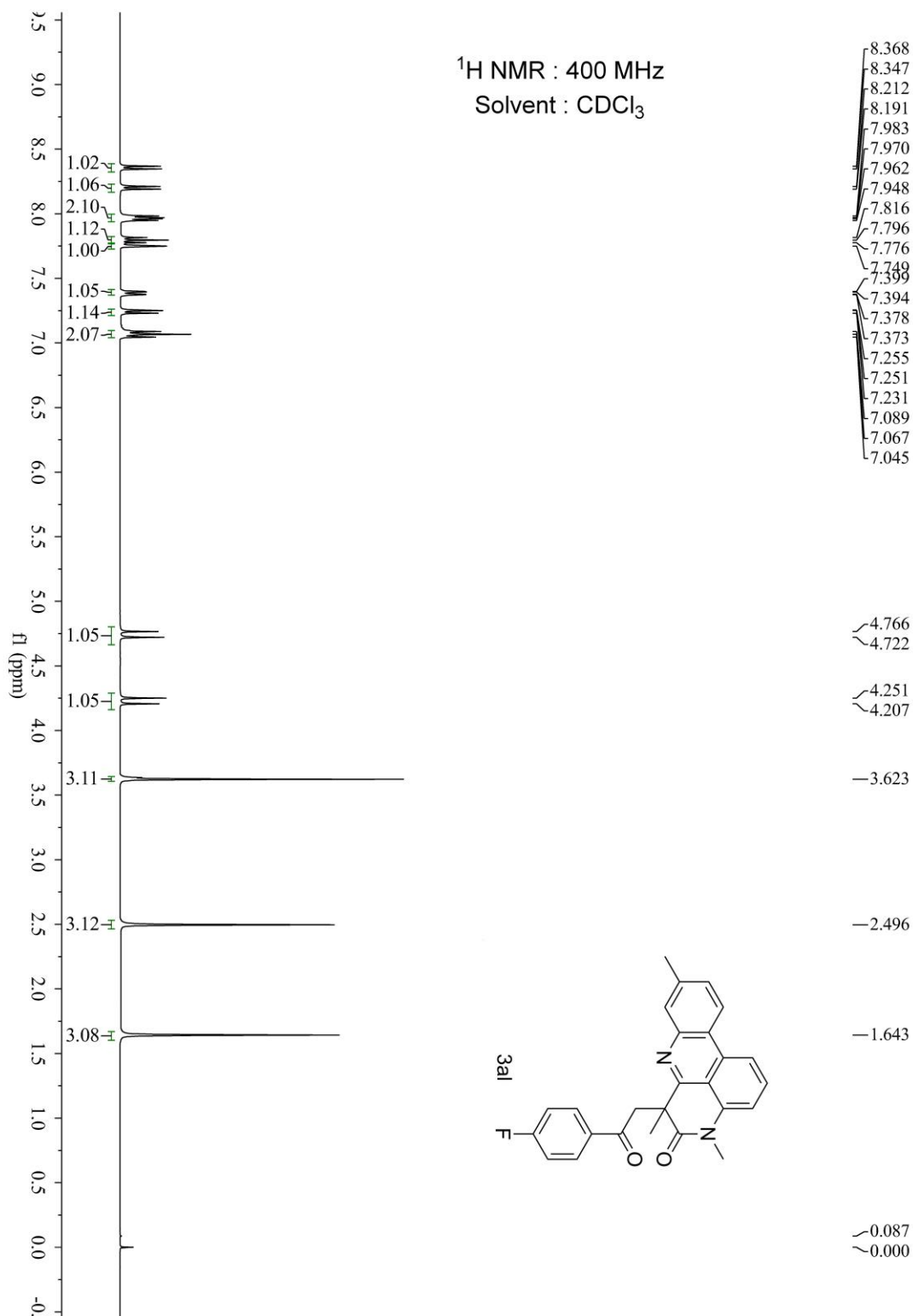


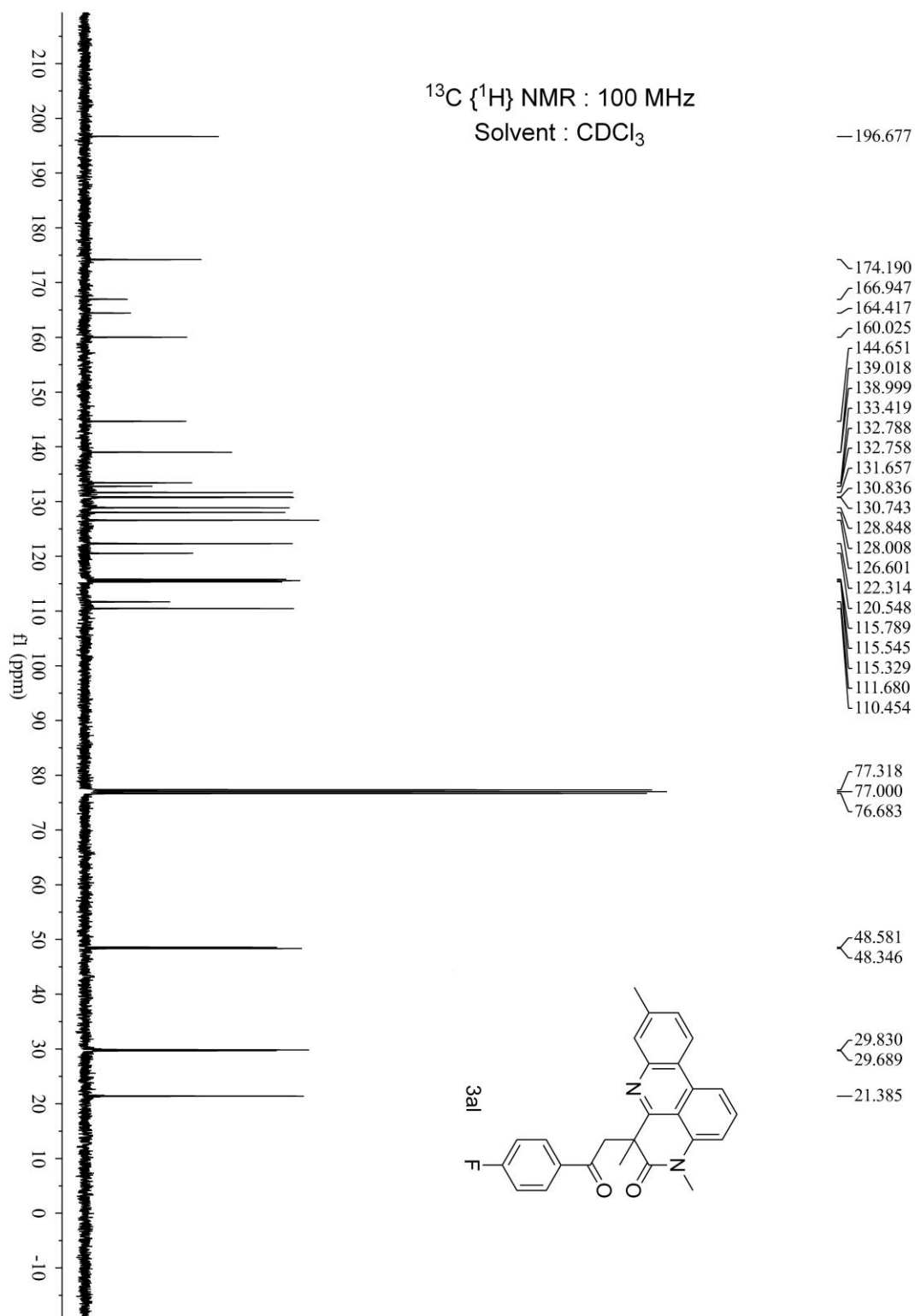
6-(2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4,6,9-trimethyl-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ak)

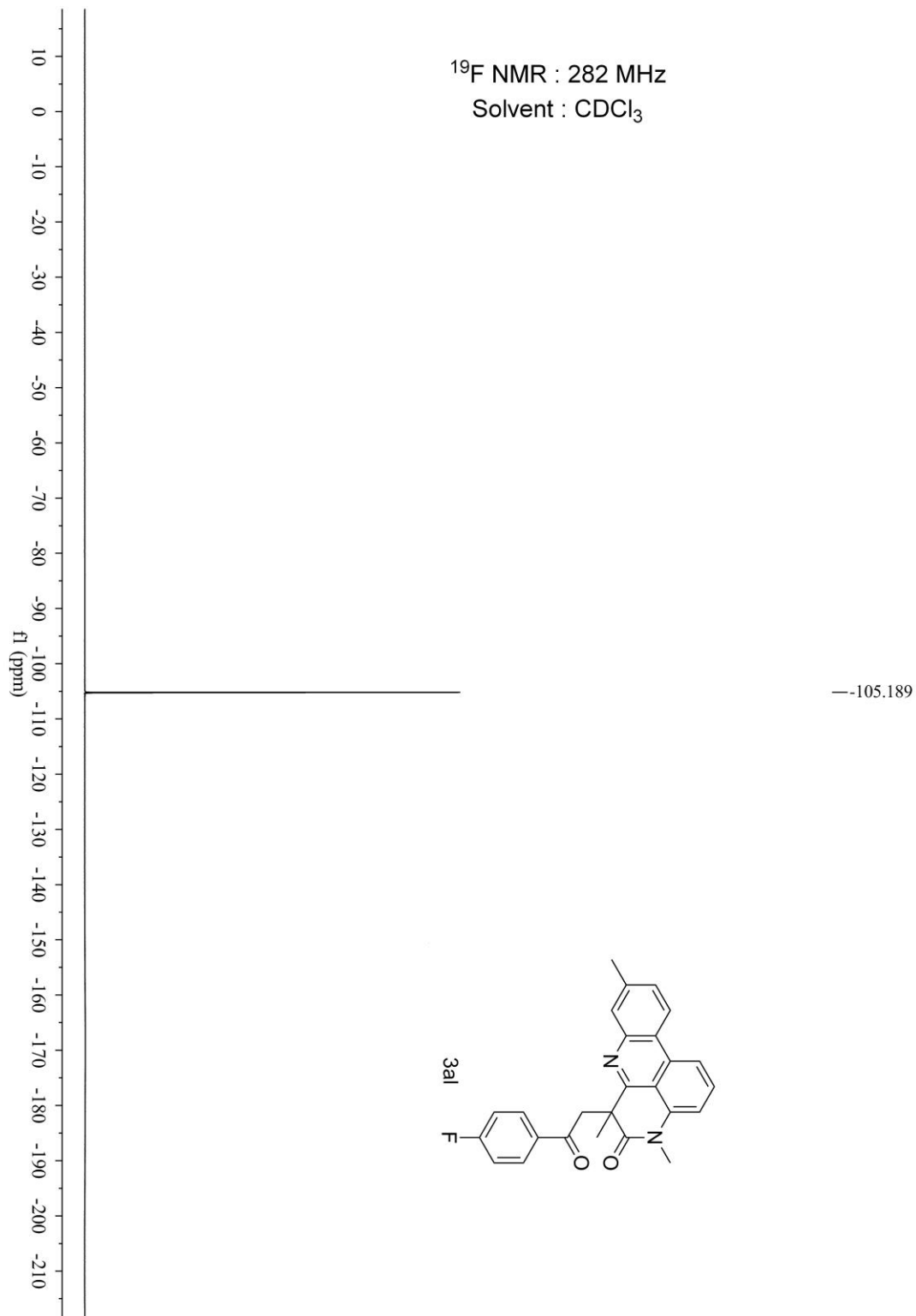




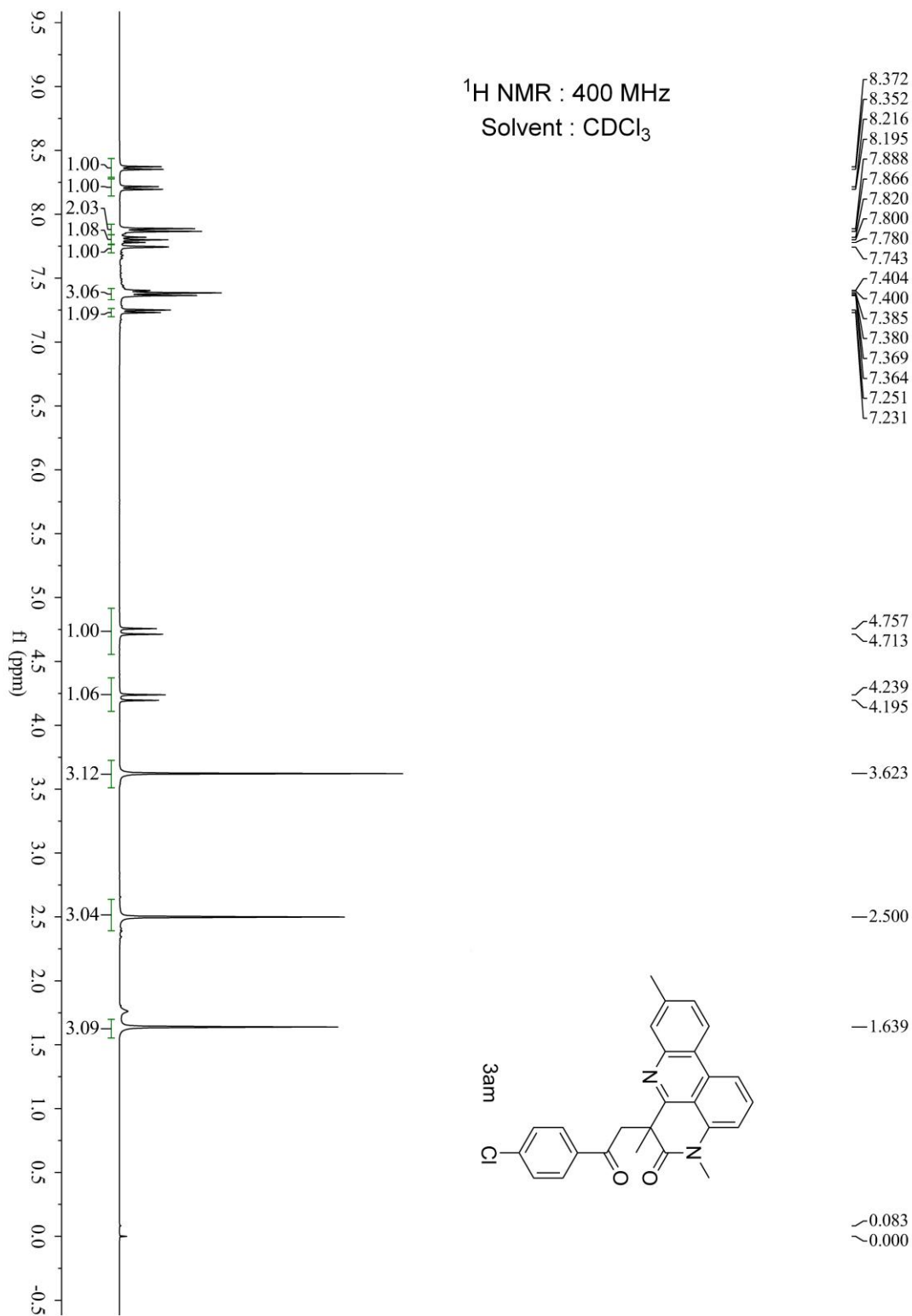
**6-(2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4,6,9-trimethyl-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]
phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3aI)**

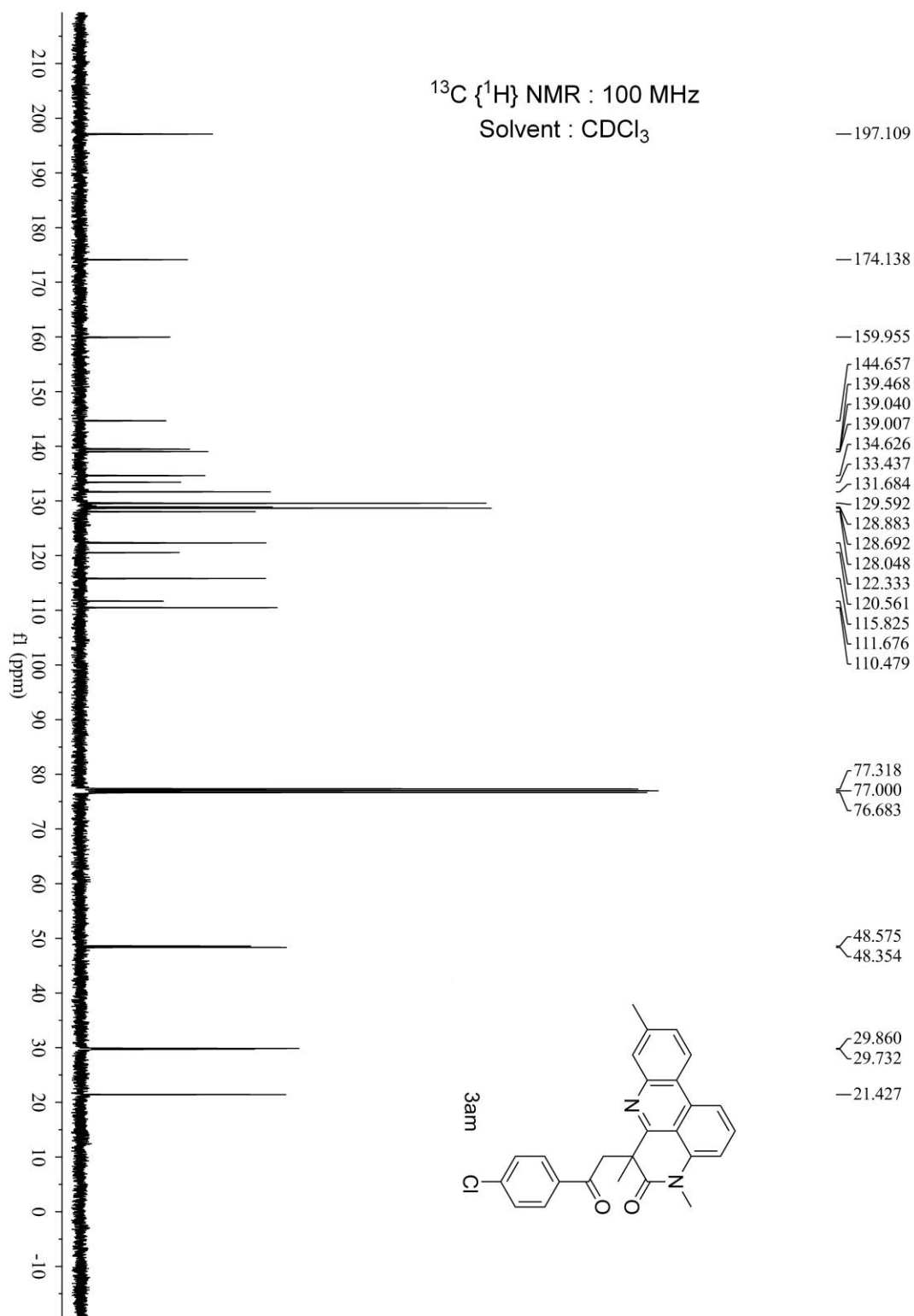




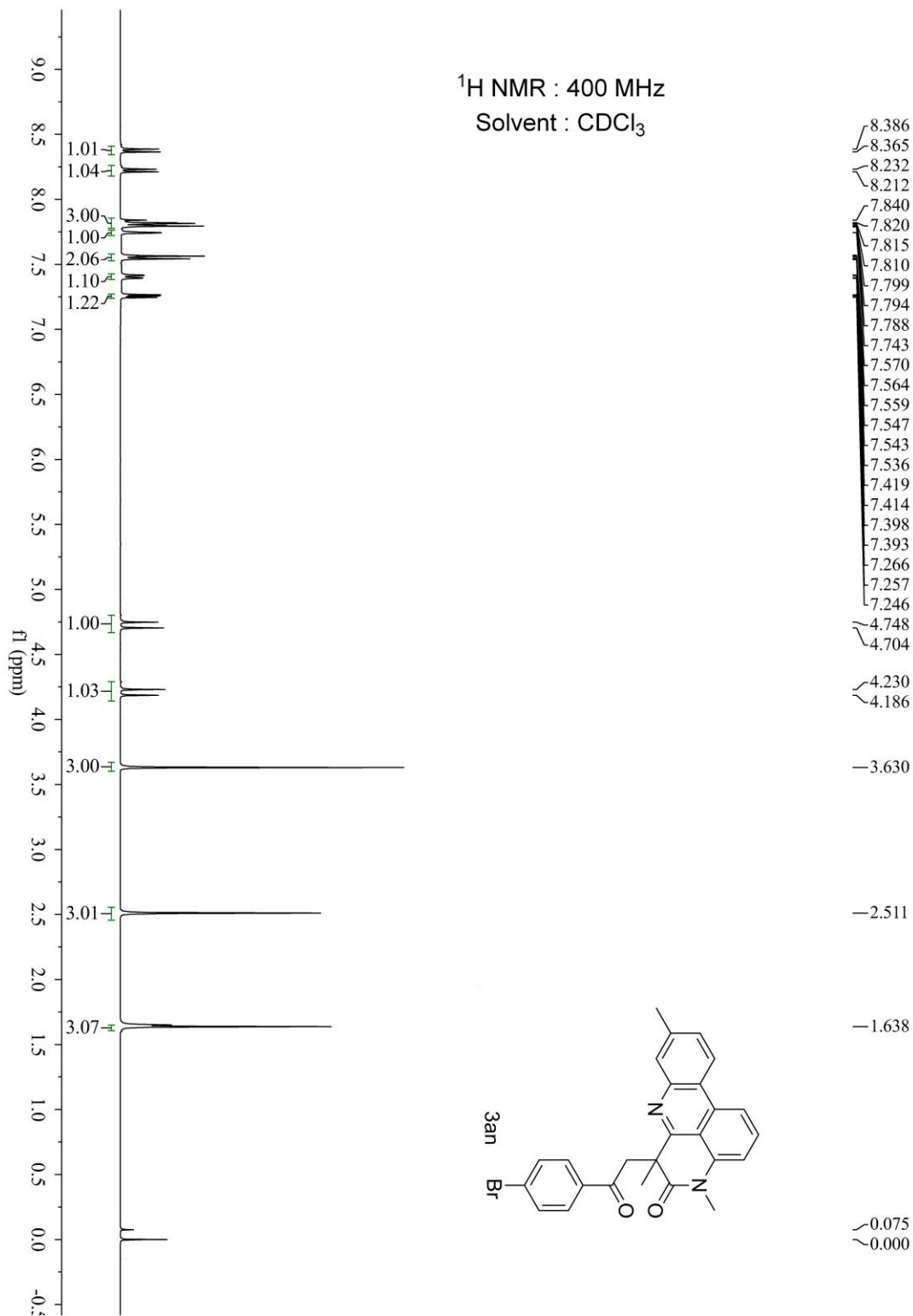


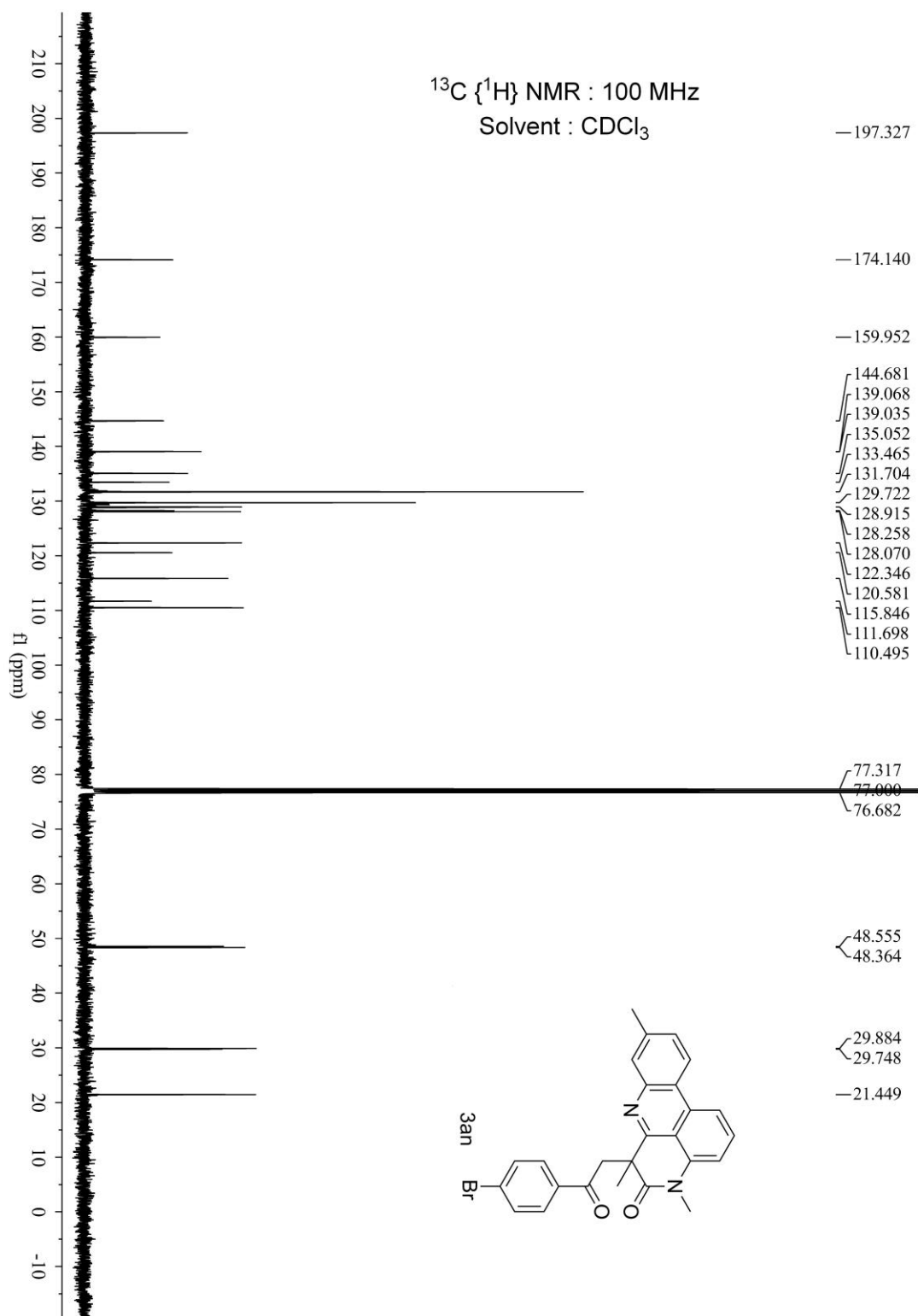
**6-(2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4,6,9-trimethyl-4*H*-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]
phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3am)**





**6-(2-(4-Bromophenyl)-2-oxoethyl)-4,6,9-trimethyl-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]
phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3an)**





**4,6,9-Trimethyl-6-(2-oxo-2-(thiophen-2-yl)ethyl)-4H-pyrido[4,3,2-*gh*]
phenanthridin-5(6*H*)-one (3ao)**

