

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI†)

### Nano Zirconia Catalysed One Pot Synthesis of Some Novel Substituted Imidazoles under Solvent Free Conditions

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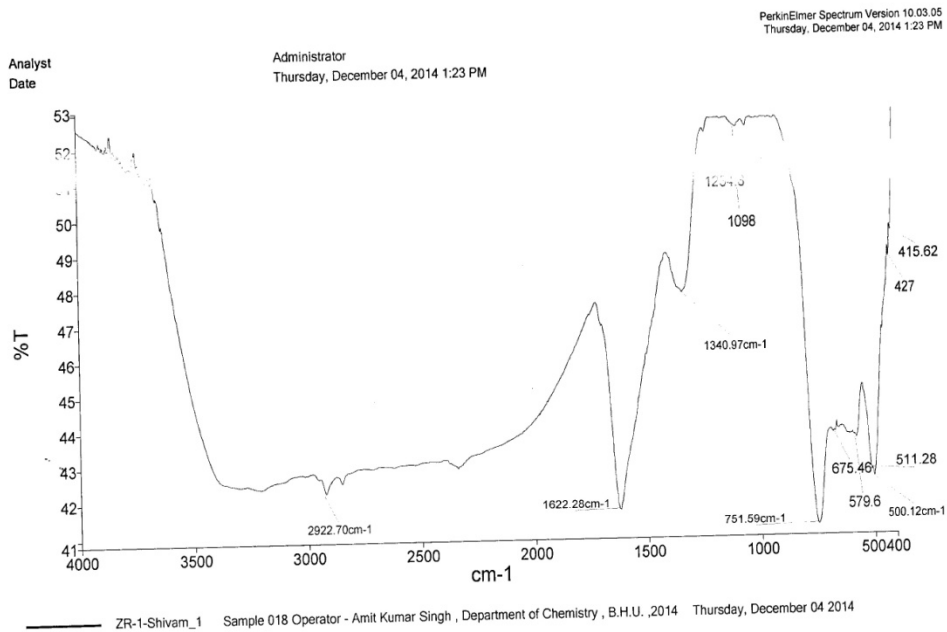
## 1. General remarks

All chemicals were procured from Aldrich, USA, and E. Merck, Germany and used as such. *N*-substituted isatins were prepared by earlier reported procedures. TLC was carried out on SiO<sub>2</sub> gel (HF254, 200 mesh). The solvent system employed was ethyl acetate: n-hexane (1: 1) and the spots were identified by placing the plate in Iodine chamber. IR spectra were recorded on a PerkinElmer FT/IR version 10.03.05 spectrometer. NMR spectra were run on a JEOL AL300 FTNMR spectrometer; chemical shifts are given in  $\delta$  ppm, relative to TMS as internal standard. **Elemental microanalysis was performed on Exeter Analytical Inc Model CE-440 CHN Analyzer.** Melting points were measured in open capillaries and are uncorrected. An XRD spectrum was recorded on a Scifert X-Ray Diffraction System. TEM image was taken from TECNAI G2, FEI. SEM image was recorded from Scanning Electron Microscope, QUANTA 200 F. BET surface area analysis was carried by Smart Sorb-93 manufactured by Smart Instruments Pvt. Ltd.

## 2. Typical procedure for the synthesis of ZrO<sub>2</sub> NPs<sup>1</sup>

0.075 M solution of ZrOCl<sub>2</sub>.8H<sub>2</sub>O was prepared and then precipitated with NH<sub>4</sub>OH (25%) with continuous stirring on a magnetic stirrer till the PH raises in the range of 10 to 10.5. This resulted in the formation of precipitate of zirconium hydroxide. The precipitate was filtered and washed with double distilled water until traces of chloride ion were completely removed from the filtrate. Complete removal of chloride ion from filtrate was checked by titrating it with AgNO<sub>3</sub> solution using potassium chromate as indicator. Now, the precipitate was dried in oven at 80 – 90 °C for 24 h. and calcinated at 600 °C for 3 h in order to formation of white nano zirconia powder.

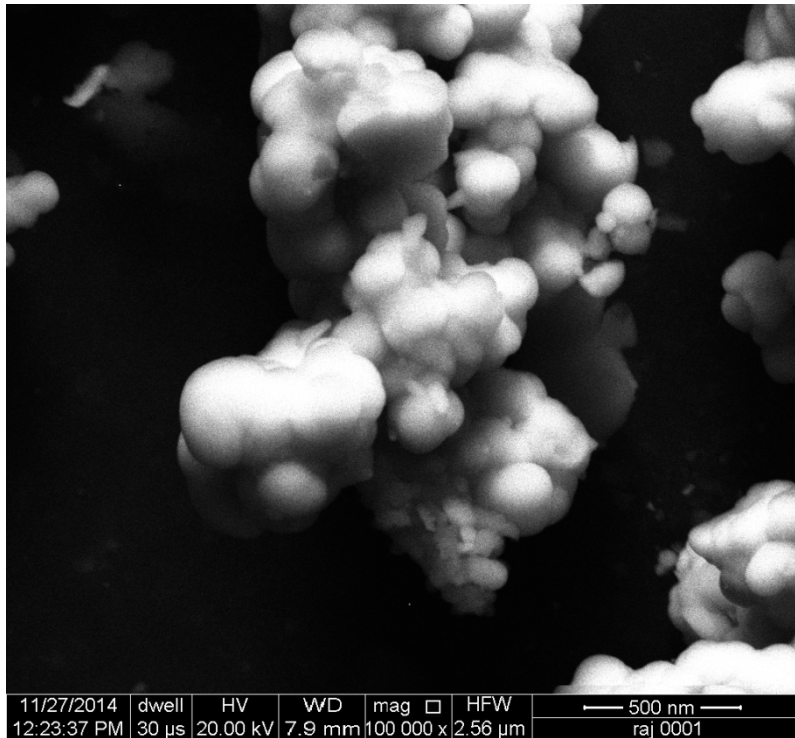
### 3. IR spectra of ZrO<sub>2</sub>NPs



Page 1

**Figure A: FT-IR spectrum of ZrO<sub>2</sub> NPs**

#### 4. SEM image of ZrO<sub>2</sub> NPs



**Figure B: SEM image of ZrO<sub>2</sub> NPs**

## 5. BET surface area analysis data of ZrO<sub>2</sub> NPs

IIT BHU	
Surface Area Analyser From Smart Instruments Co.Pvt.Ltd	Model: Smart Sorb 92/93 WebSite: www.smartinstrument.com
Run Time:01:01 pm	Date:November 4 2014
% of N2 :30.06	Room temp.in Deg.C:28
Sample Name : I	Wt of Tube(gms) :24.0721
Wt of Tube (gms) :24.0721	Wt of Tube+Sample (gms) :24.1946
Sample Wt (gms) :.1225	Sample Wt after Reg. (gms) :.1198
Sample Loss :2.2 %	
Regeneration Temp. (deg.C) : 300	
Time for regeneration (min.) :75	
Desorption count : 30706.4	
Injection count : 22306.2	
Injected volume (cc) : 1.4	
<b>Surface Area in (Sq.m/gm) : 44.70</b>	
Remarks: SHIVAM	

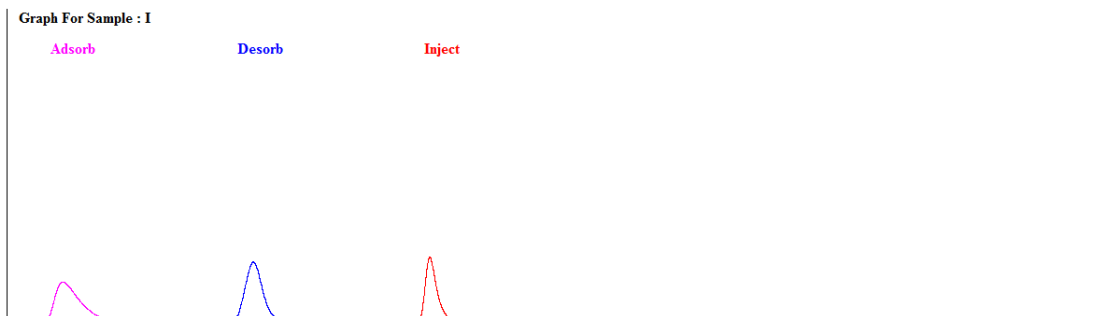
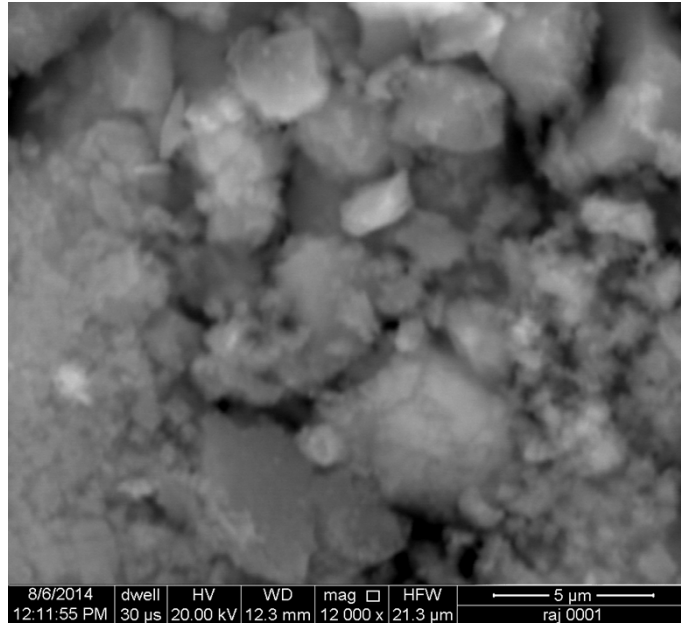


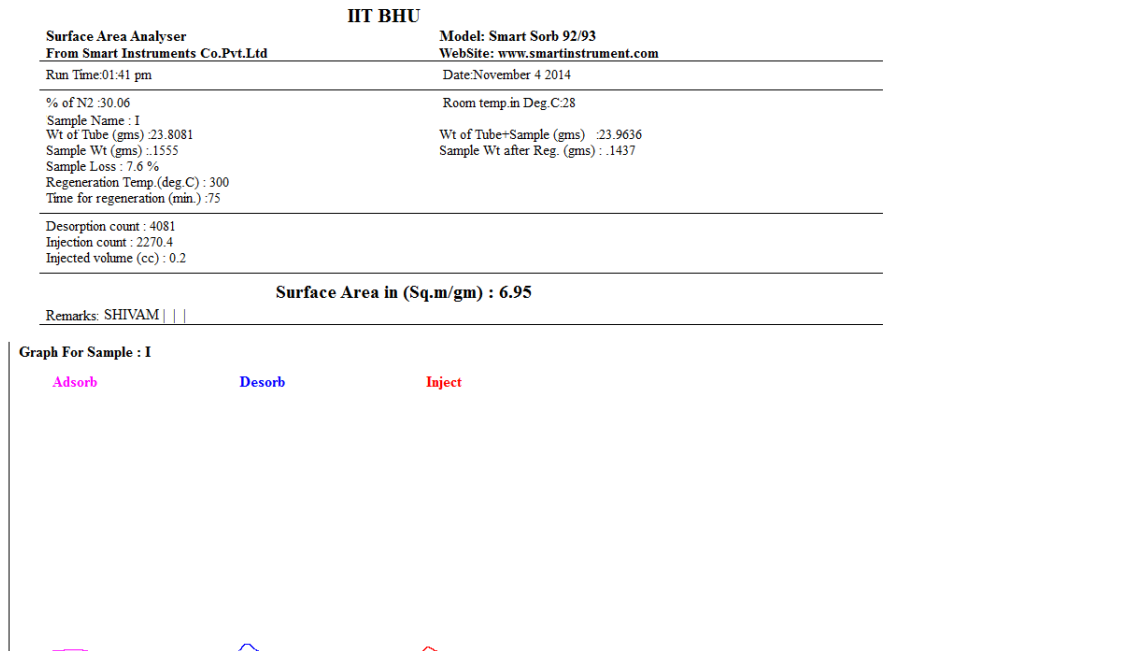
Figure C: BET surface area of ZrO<sub>2</sub> NPs

**6. SEM image of bulk ZrO<sub>2</sub>**



**Figure D: SEM image of bulk ZrO<sub>2</sub>**

## 7. BET surface area analysis data of bulk ZrO<sub>2</sub>



**Figure E: BET surface area of bulk ZrO<sub>2</sub>**

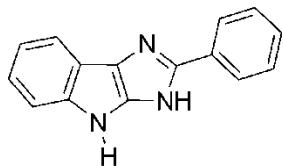
### **8. General procedure for the synthesis of substituted imidazoles 4a-s**

To a mixture of isatin derivatives **1a-g** (1 mmol), ammonium acetate **2** (5 mmol), substituted aromatic aldehydes **3a-f** (1 mmol), 15 mol% of ZrO<sub>2</sub> NPs was added [**Scheme 1**]. The mixture was heated and stirred at 110 °C for 30 min. The progress of the reaction was monitored by thin layered chromatography (n-hexane: ethyl acetate, 1:1). After completion, 20 ml acetone was added to the reaction mixture; the catalyst was removed by filtration and washed with xylene and acetone. Then, 50 ml of double distilled water is added to the liquid portion. This resulted in the formation of precipitate of products **4a-s**. The precipitate was filtered, dried and recrystallized with ethanol.

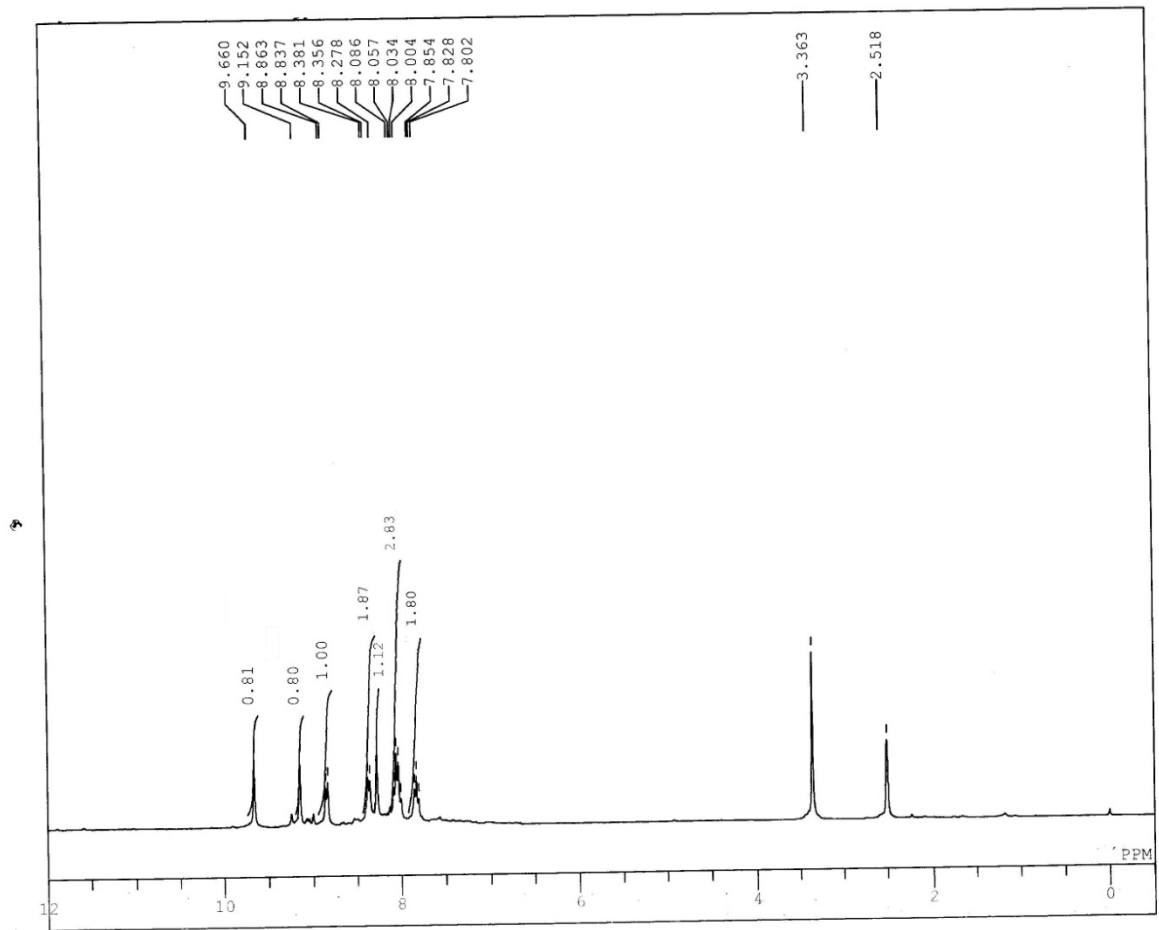


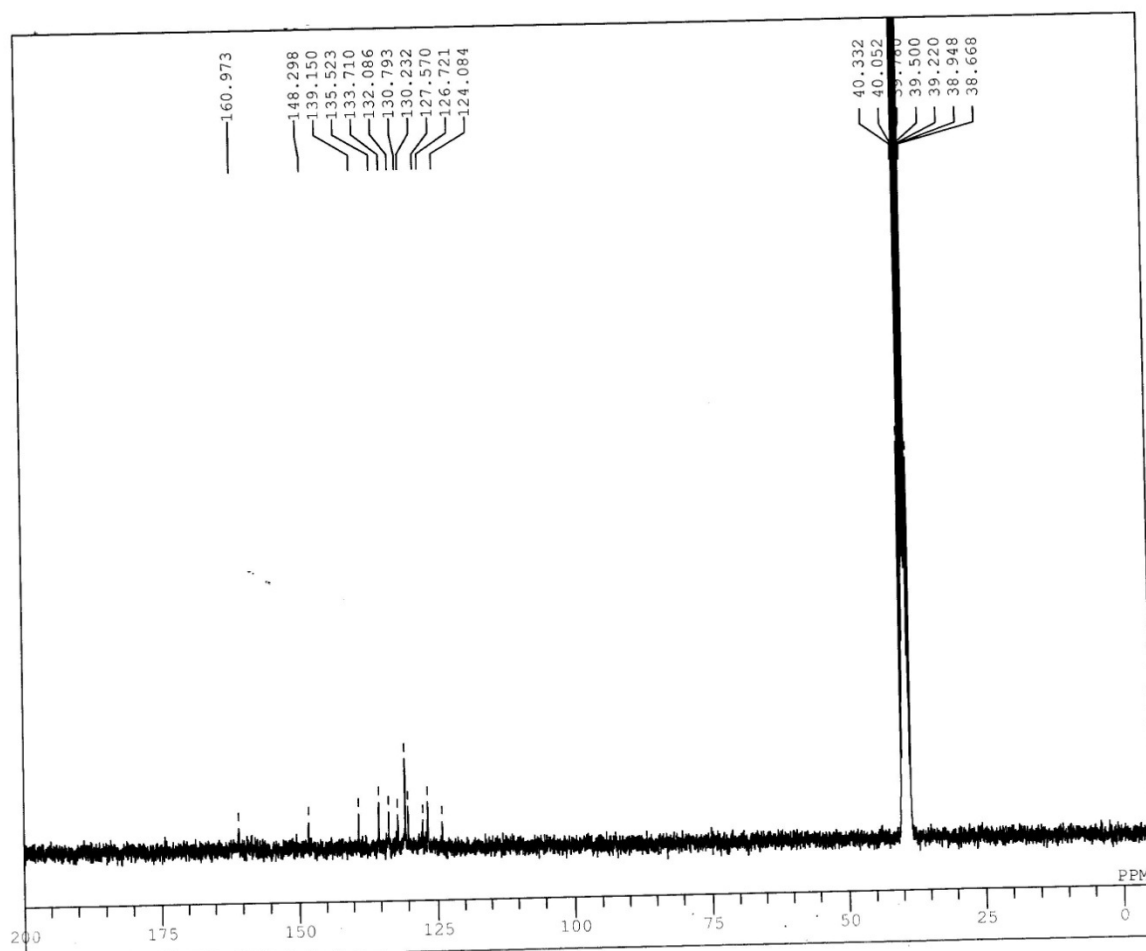
## 9. Characterization data and $^1\text{H}$ & $^{13}\text{C}$ spectra of substituted imidazoles 4a-s

### 9.1. 2-phenyl-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4a)

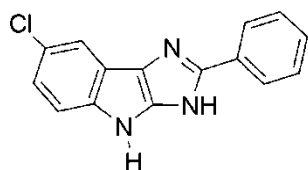


Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3400, 3209, 3019, 2964, 1660, 1614, 1567, 1484, 1316, 1210, 1171, 1010, 877, 742, 653, 580  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 7.80- 8.86 (m, 9H, aromatic protons), 9.15 (s, 1H, NH), 9.66 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 124.0, 126.7, 127.5, 130.2, 130.7, 132.0, 133.7, 135.5, 139.1, 148.2, 160.9 ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3$ : C, 77.24; H, 4.74; N, 18.01 Found C, 77.20; H, 4.76; N, 18.03.



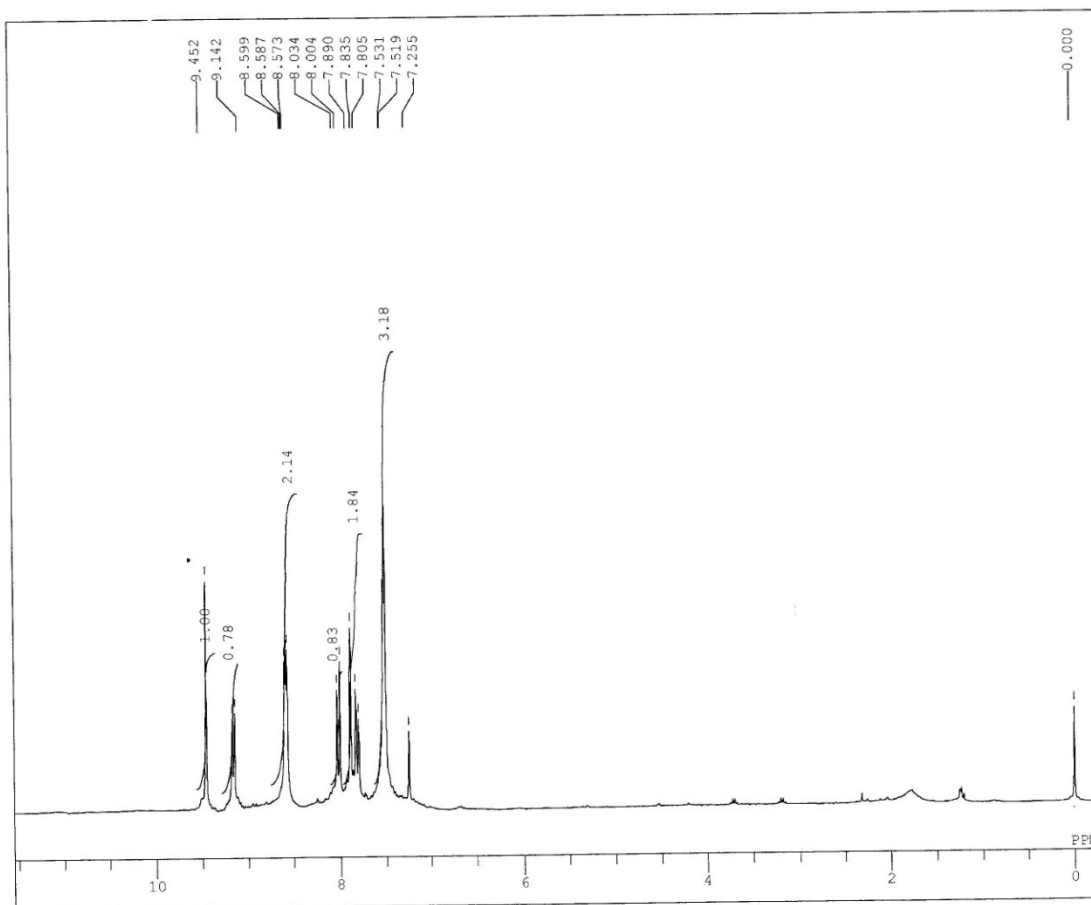


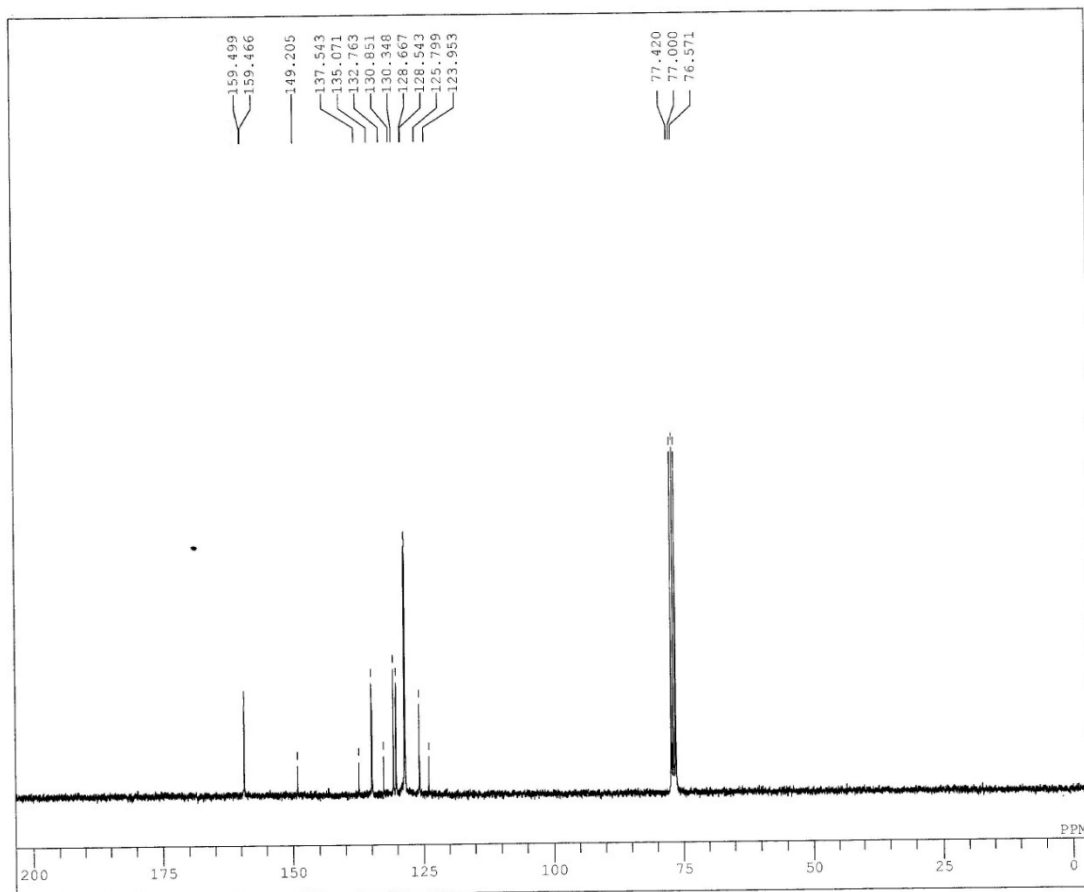
## 9.2. 7-chloro-2-phenyl-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4b)



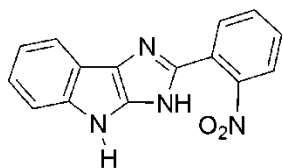
Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3364, 3190, 2981, 2964, 1648, 1609, 1559, 1447, 1311, 1199, 1143, 1019, 872, 744, 651, 566  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.51- 8.59 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 9.14 (s, 1H, NH), 9.45 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 123.9,

125.7, 128.5, 128.6, 130.3, 130.8, 132.7, 135.0, 137.5, 149.2, 159.4 ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{15}H_{10}ClN_3$ : C, 67.28; H, 3.78; N, 15.72. Found C, 67.32; H, 3.76; N, 15.70

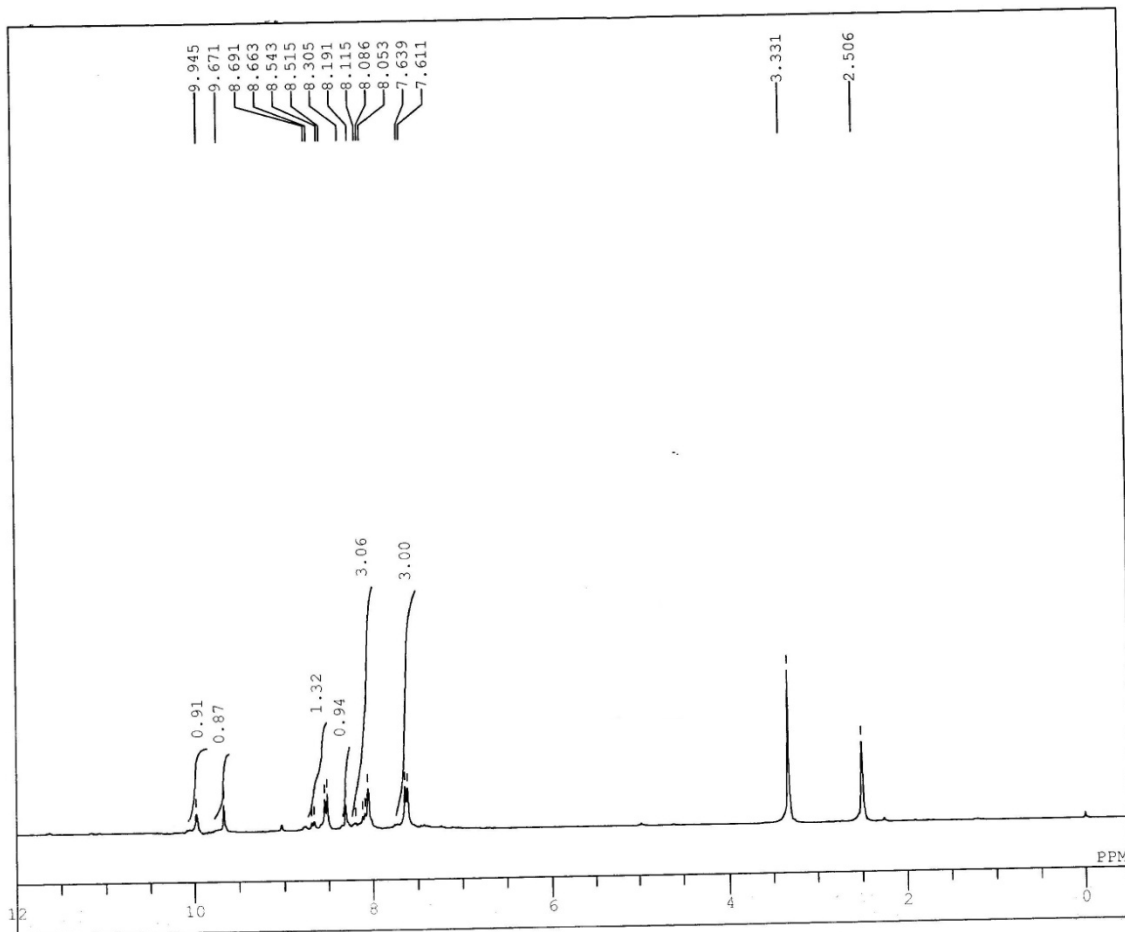


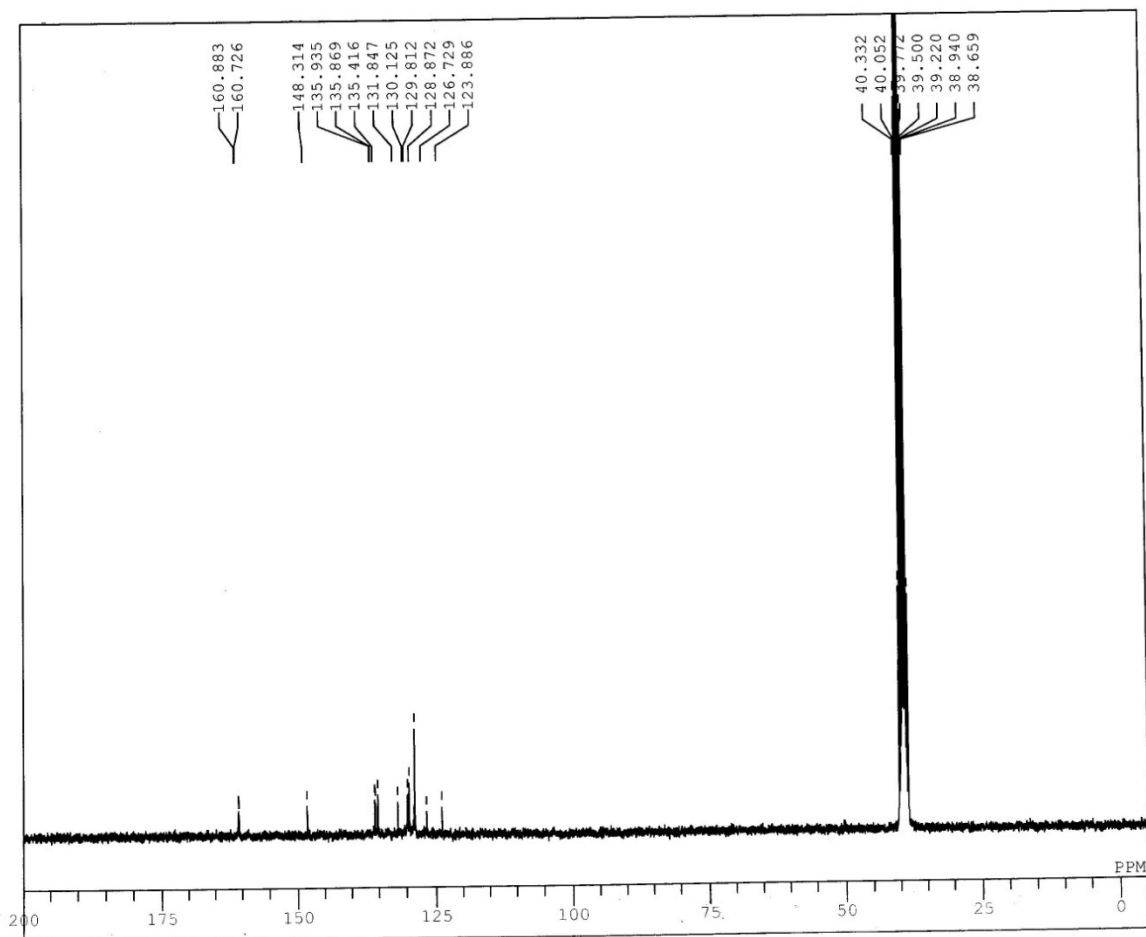


### 9.3. 2-(2-nitrophenyl)-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4c)

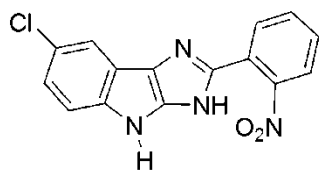


Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3332, 3201, 2995, 2917, 1658, 1623, 1549, 1485, 1348, 1280, 1176, 1068, 864, 708, 667, 544  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 7.61- 8.69 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 9.67 (s, 1H, NH), 9.94 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 123.8, 126.7, 128.8, 129.8, 130.1, 131.8, 135.4, 135.8, 135.9, 148.3, 160.7 ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$ : C, 64.74; H, 3.62; N, 20.13 Found C, 64.69; H, 3.65; N, 20.14.

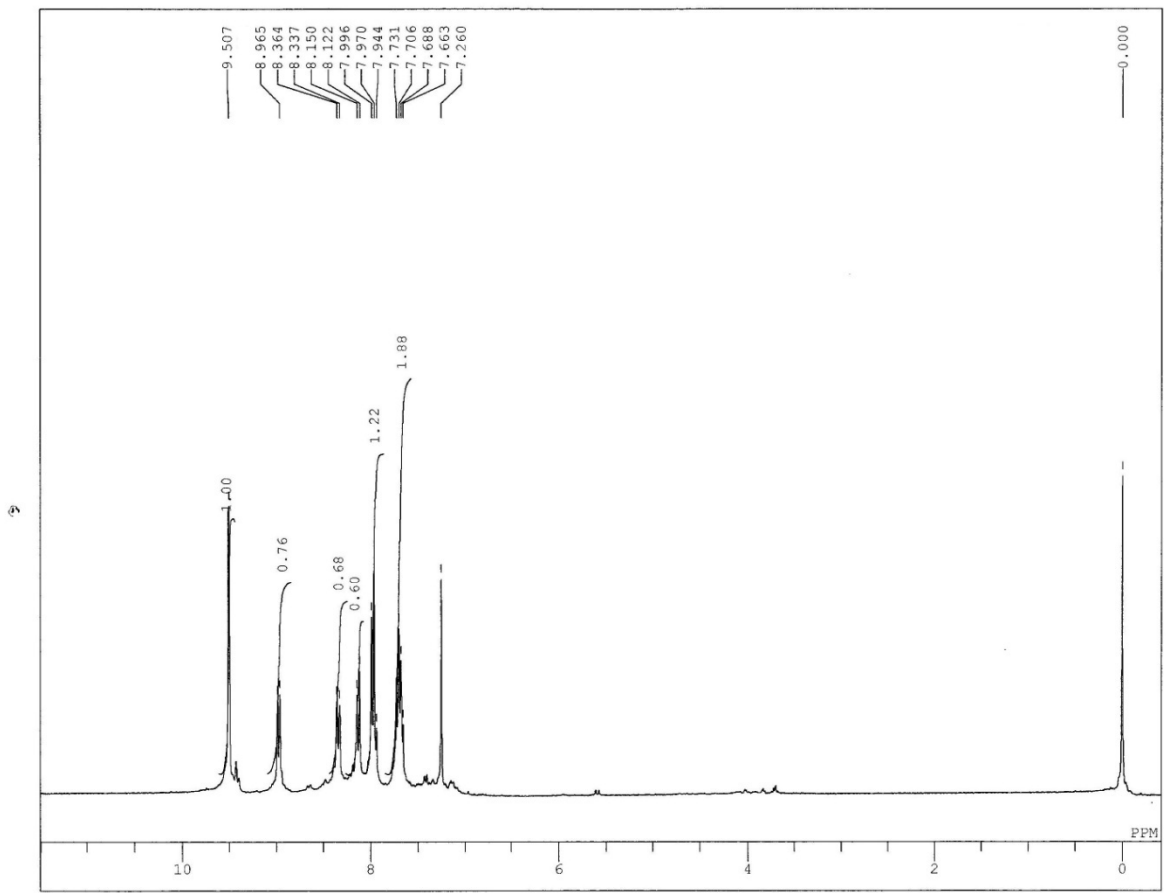




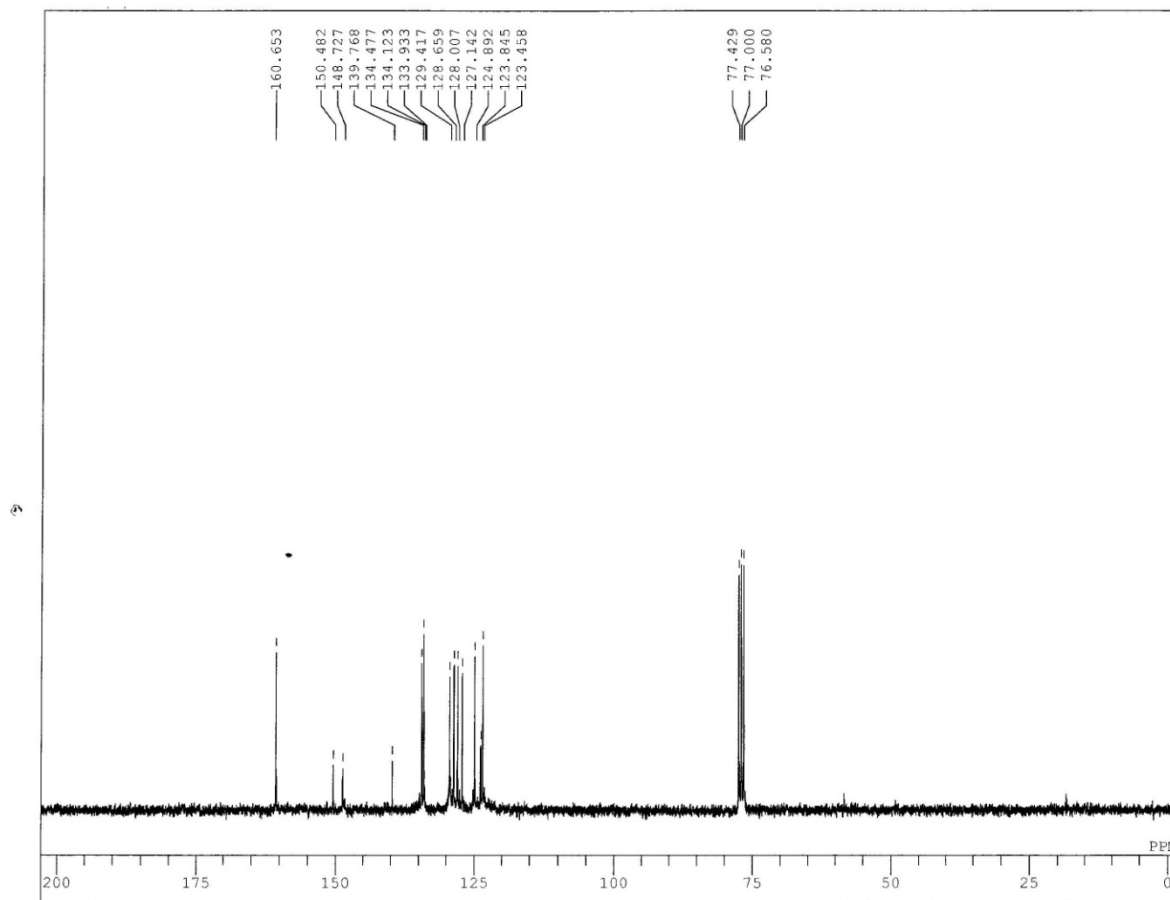
#### 9.4. 7-chloro-2-(2-nitrophenyl)-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4d)



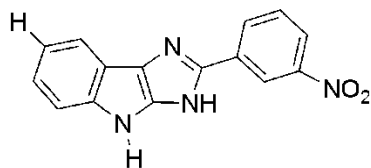
Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3399, 3229, 2916, 2885, 1645, 1600, 1539, 1457, 1329, 1253, 1162, 1027, 885, 703, 647, 553  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.66- 8.36 (m, 7H, aromatic protons), 8.96 (s, 1H, NH), 9.50 (s, 1H, NH) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.45 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 123.4, 123.8, 124.8, 127.1, 128.0, 128.6, 129.4, 133.9, 134.1, 134.4, 139.7, 148.7, 150.4, 160.6 ppm. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>9</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 57.60; H, 2.91; N, 17.91 Found C, 57.51; H, 3.0; N, 17.94.





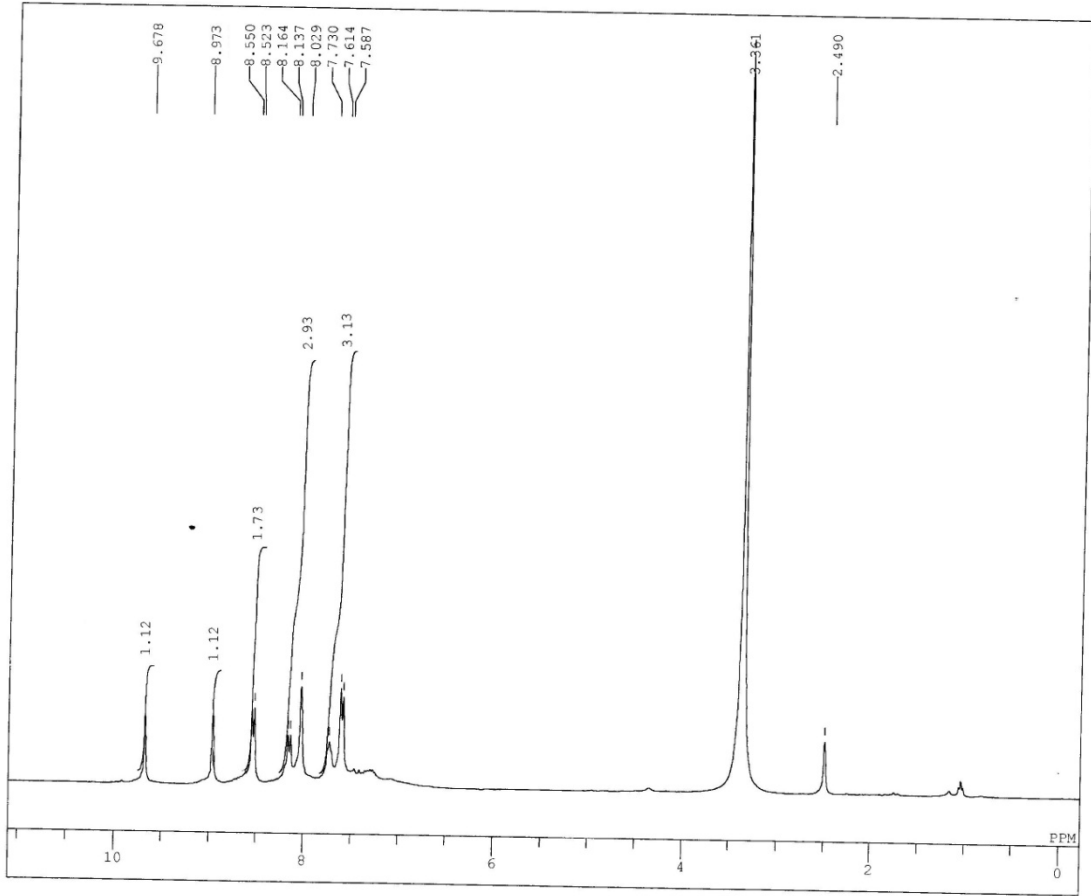


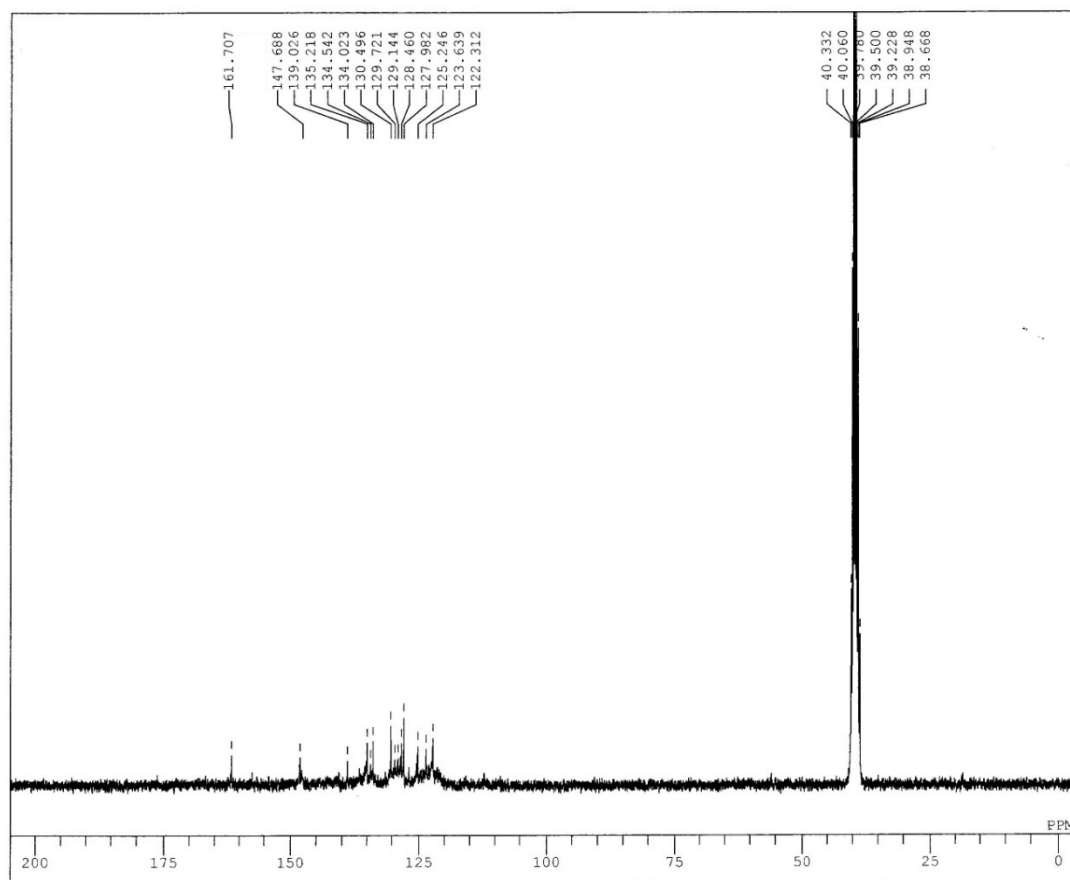
### 9.5. 2-(3-nitrophenyl)-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4e)



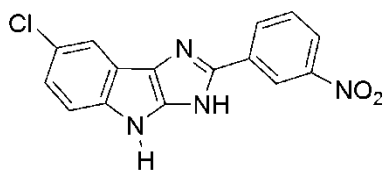
Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3315, 3194, 3066, 2978, 1662, 1623, 1572, 1482, 1353, 1286, 1135, 1025, 832, 797, 661, 542  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 7.58- 8.55 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 8.97 (s, 1H, NH), 9.67 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 122.3, 123.6, 125.2, 127.9, 128.4, 129.7, 130.4, 134.4, 134.5, 135.2, 139.0, 147.6, 161.7 ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$ : C, 64.70; H, 3.63; N, 20.16 Found C, 64.51; H, 3.72; N, 20.23.

2

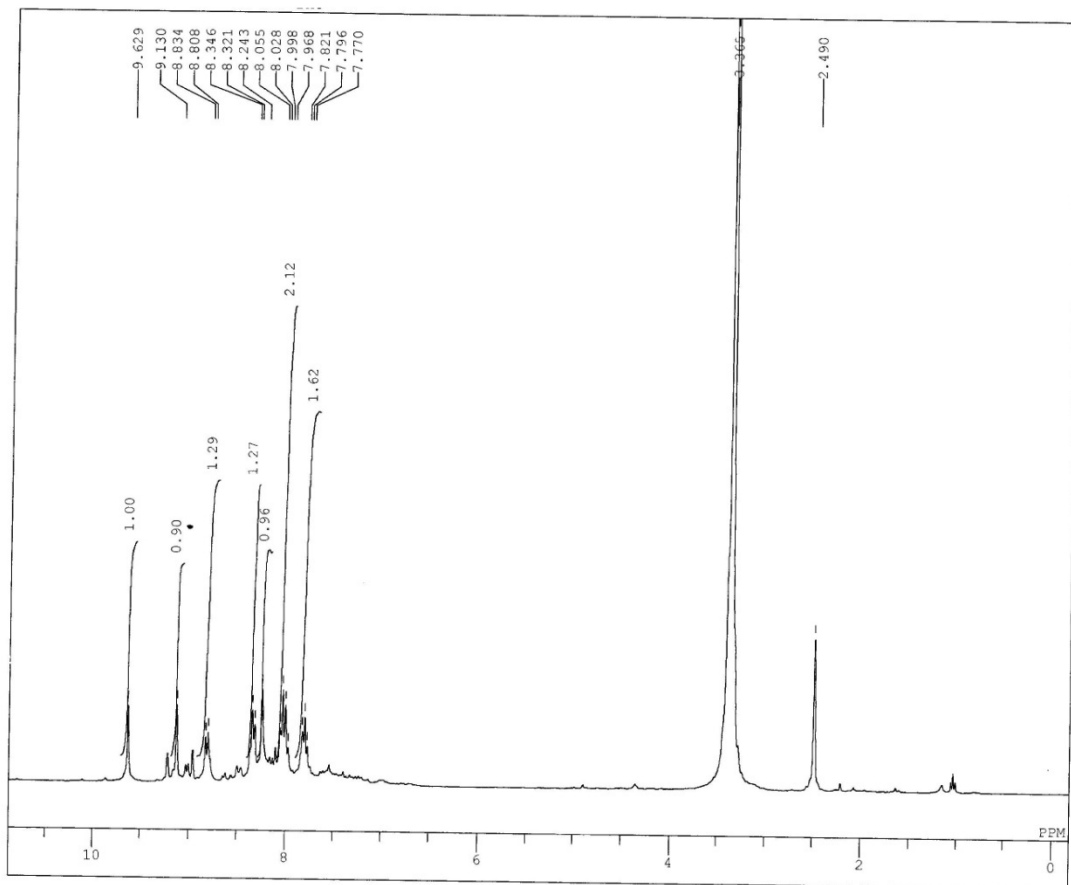


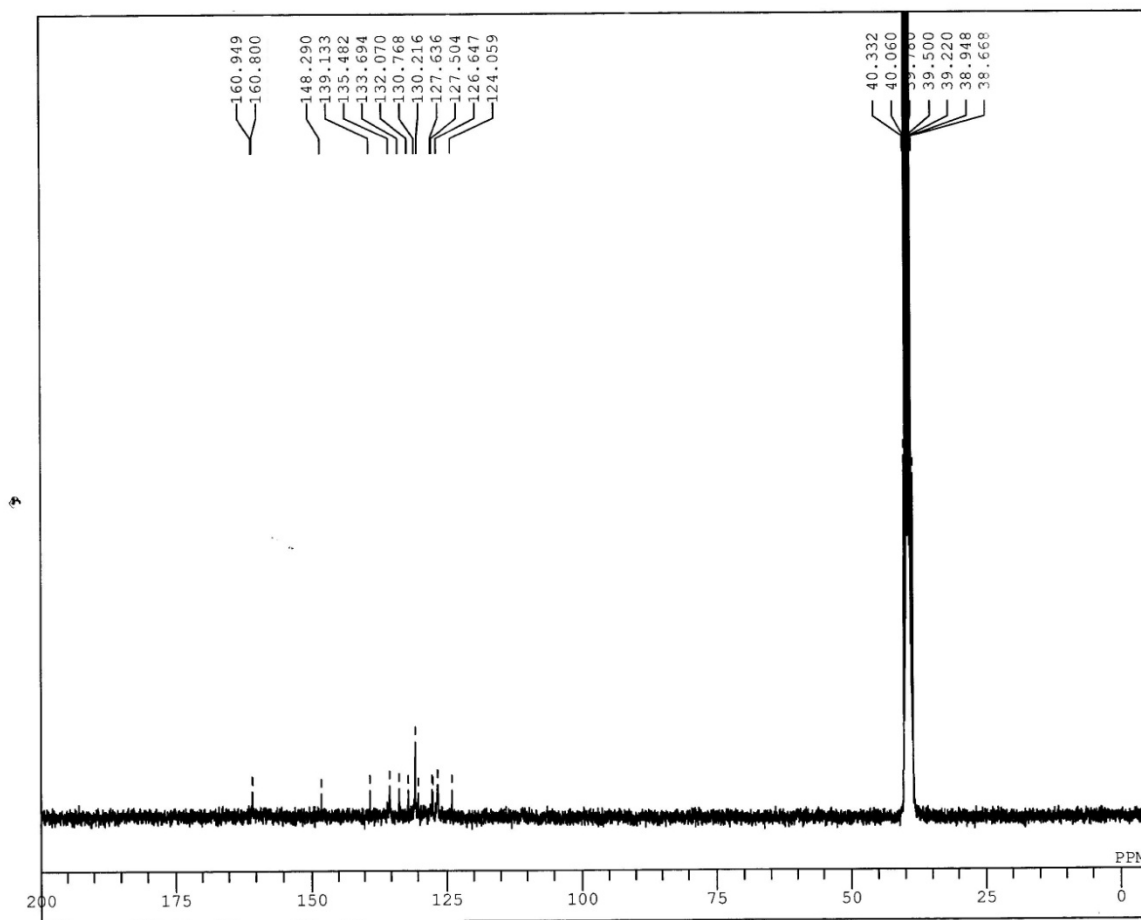


### 9.6. 7-chloro-2-(3-nitrophenyl)-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4f)

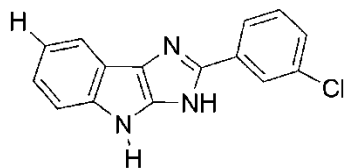


Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3385, 3211, 3003, 2959, 1646, 1603, 1538, 1458, 1367, 1248, 1122, 1022, 831, 741, 635, 564  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 7.77- 8.83 (m, 7H, aromatic protons), 9.13 (s, 1H, NH), 9.62 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 124.0, 126.6, 127.5, 127.6, 130.2, 130.7, 132.0, 133.6, 135.4, 139.1, 148.2, 160.8, 160.9 ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_9\text{ClN}_4\text{O}_2$ : C, 57.61; H, 2.90; N, 17.92 Found C, 57.67; H, 2.90; N, 17.90.

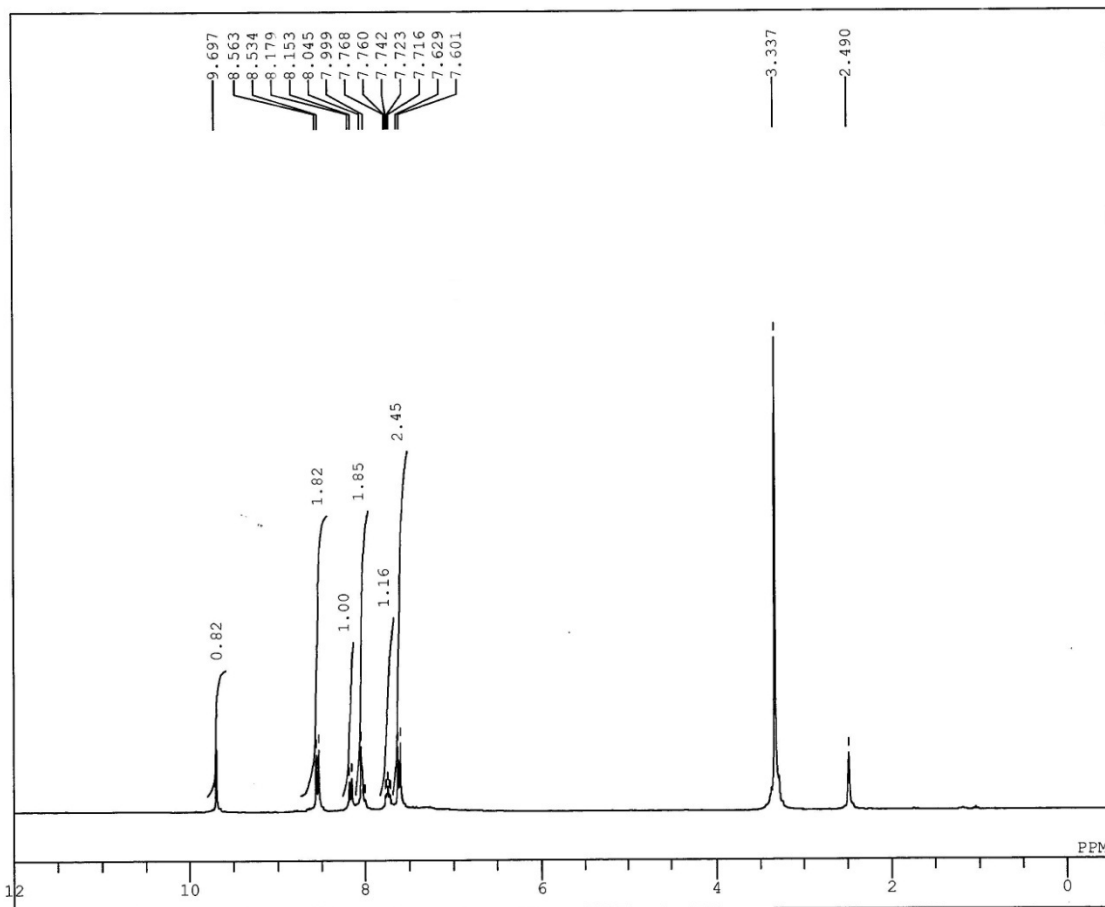


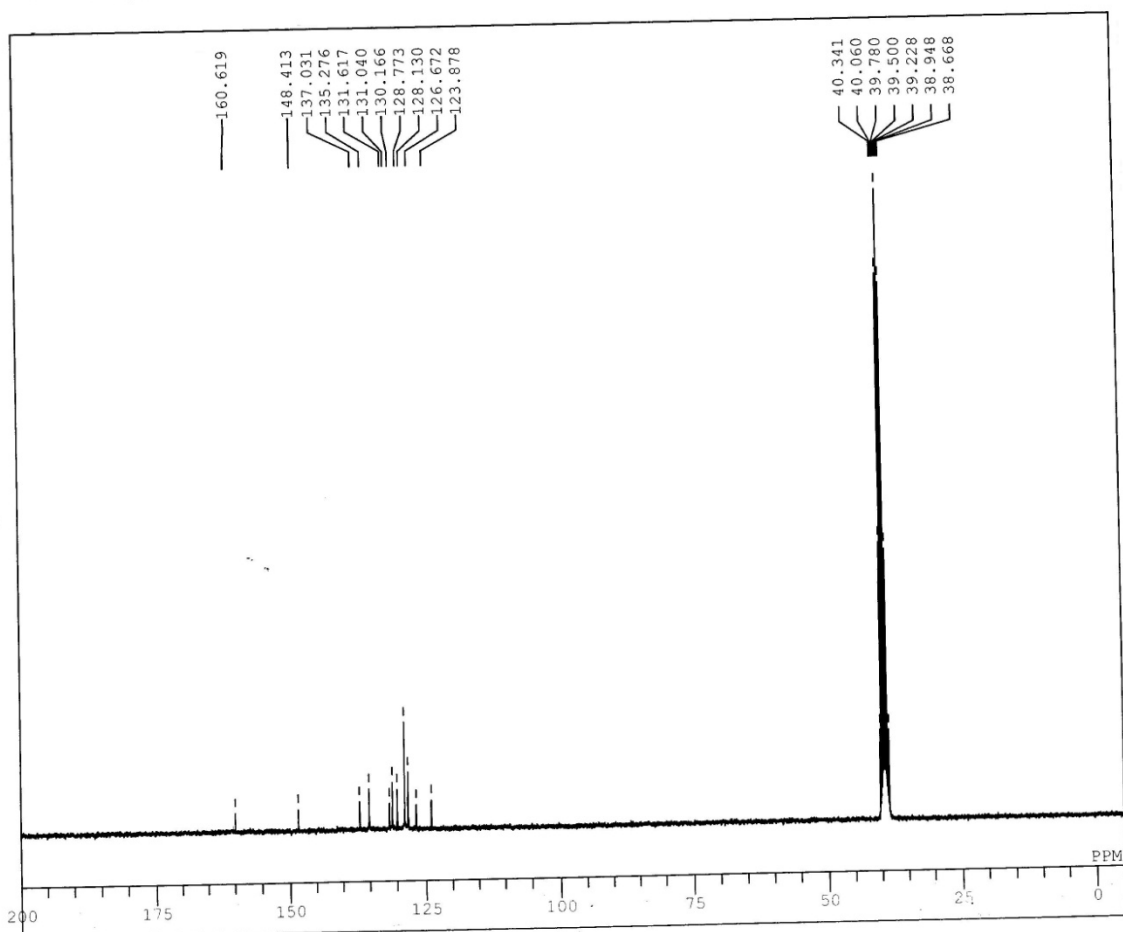


### 9.7. 2-(3-chlorophenyl)-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4g)

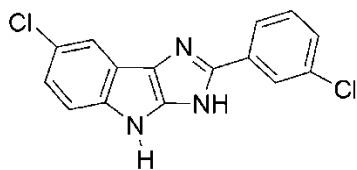


Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3405, 3217, 2948, 2909, 1671, 1617, 1568, 1454, 1371, 1283, 1134, 1018, 892, 754, 641, 577  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 7.60- 8.56 (m, 9H, aromatic protons and 1H, NH), 9.69 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 123.8, 126.6, 128.8, 128.7, 130.1, 131.0, 131.6, 135.2, 137.0, 148.4, 160.6 ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{10}\text{ClN}_3$ : C, 67.30; H, 3.77; N, 15.70 Found C, 67.29; H, 3.75; N, 15.70.

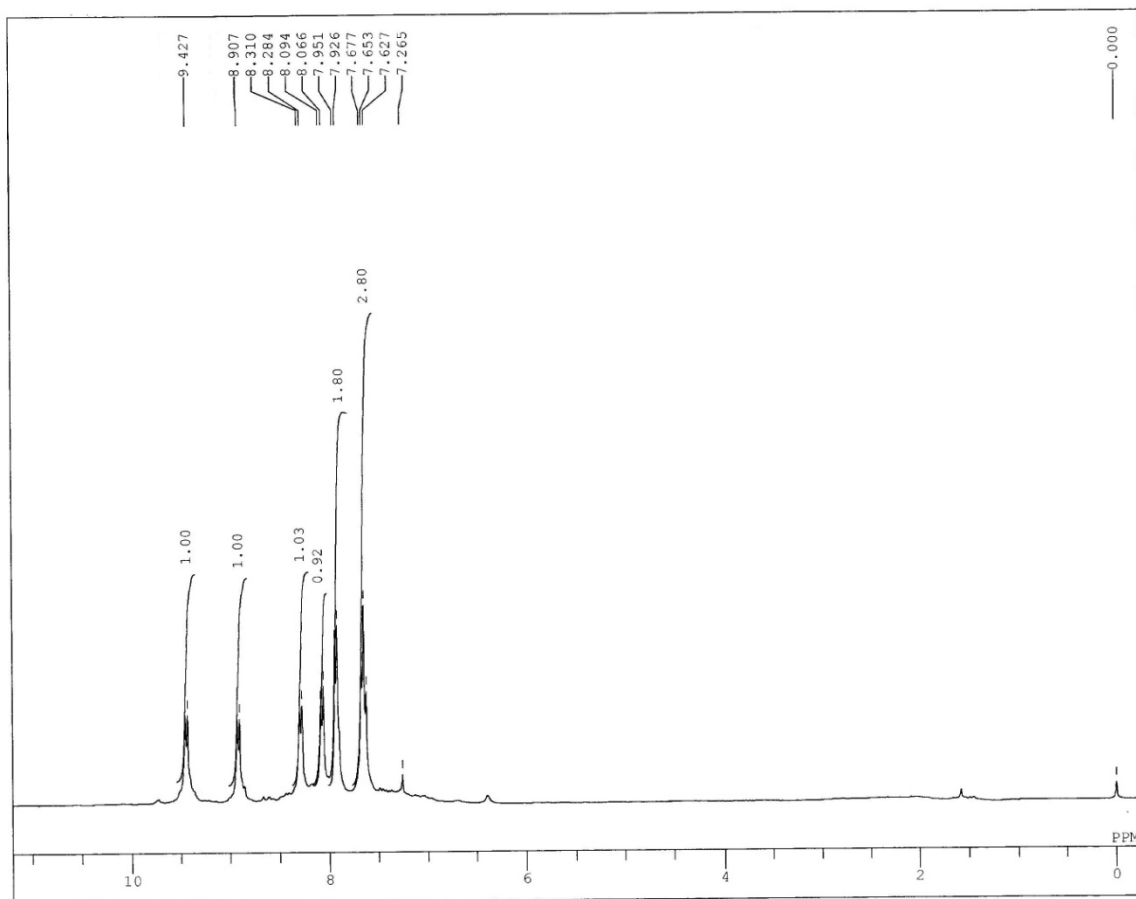




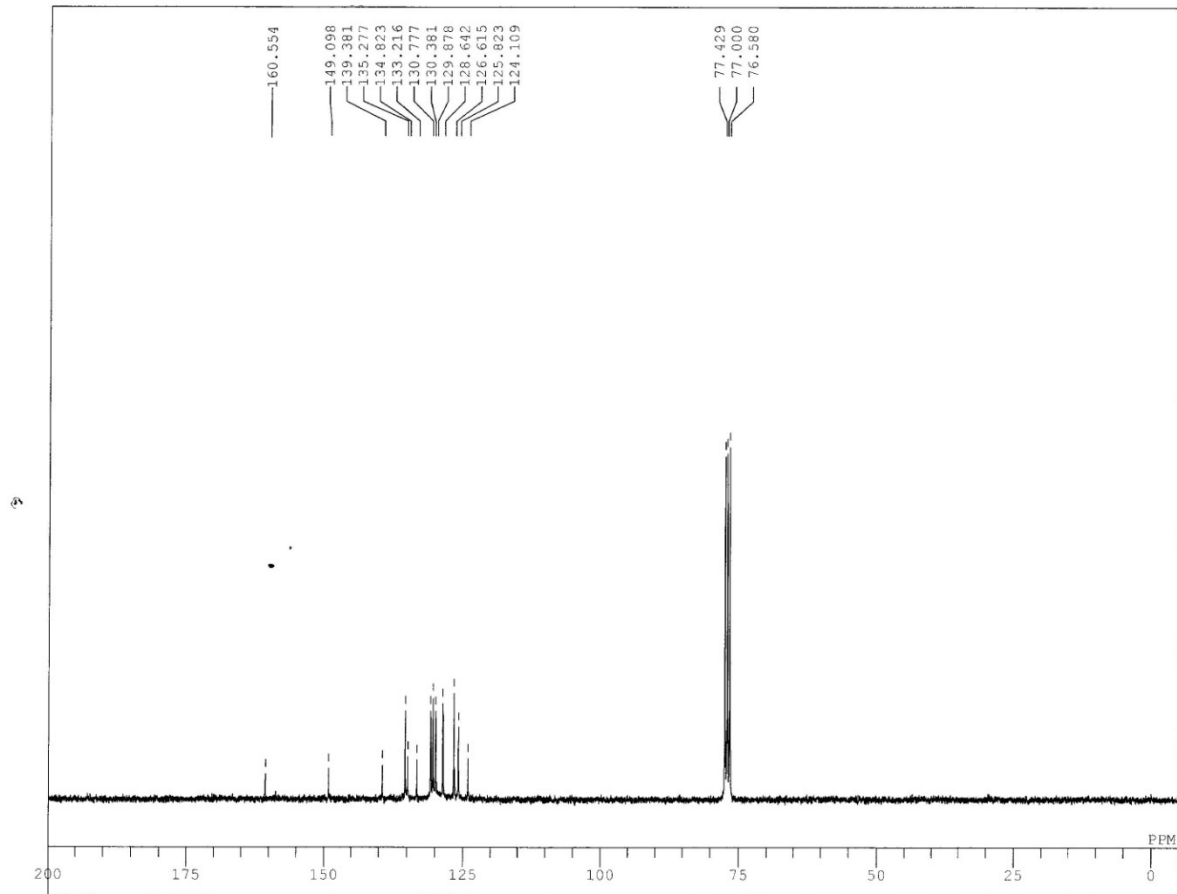
### 9.8. 7-chloro-2-(3-chlorophenyl)-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4h)



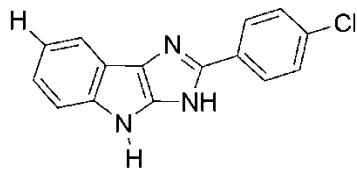
Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3398, 3227, 2977, 2893, 1664, 1605, 1551, 1477, 1358, 1242, 1163, 1011, 844, 743, 650, 567  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.62- 8.31 (m, 7H, aromatic protons), 8.90 (s, 1H, NH), 9.42 (s, 1H, NH) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.45 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 124.1, 125.8, 126.6, 128.6, 129.8, 130.3, 130.7, 133.2, 134.8, 135.2, 139.3, 149.0, 160.5 ppm. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: C, 59.62; H, 3.00; N, 13.91 Found C, 59.52; H, 3.05; N, 13.89.



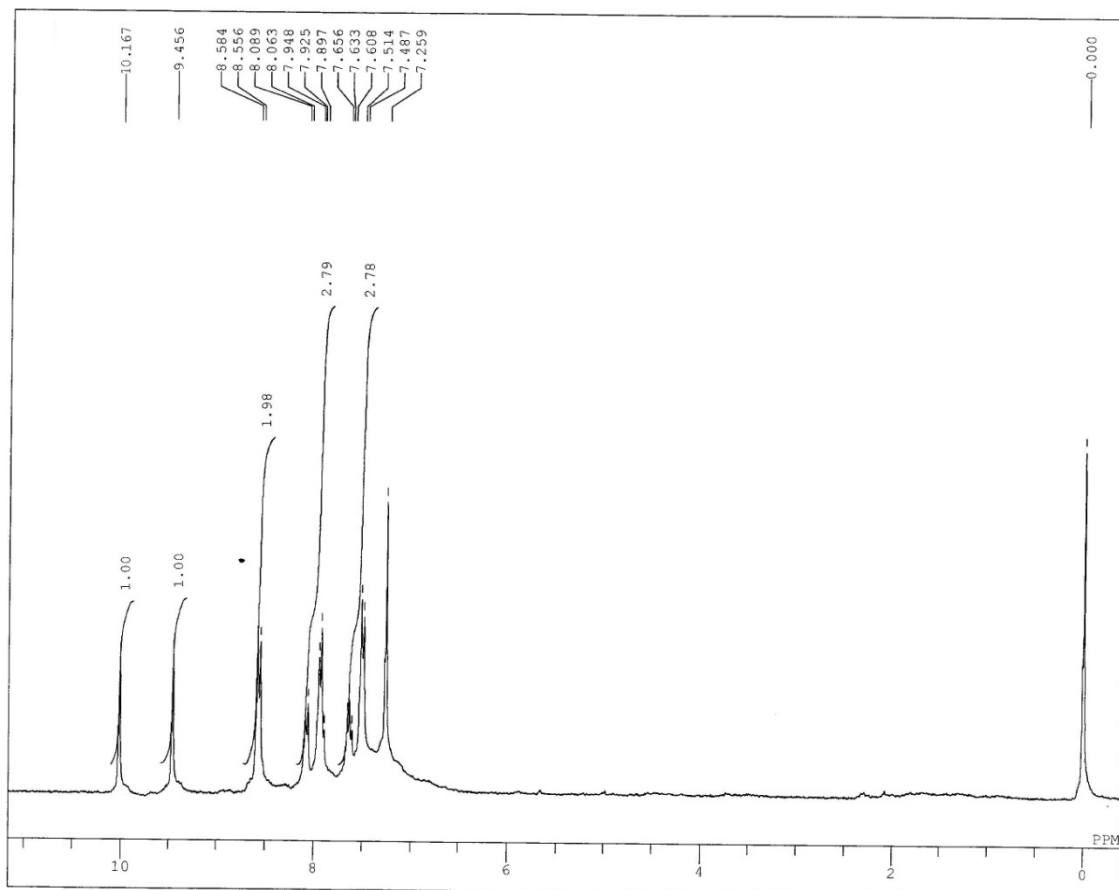


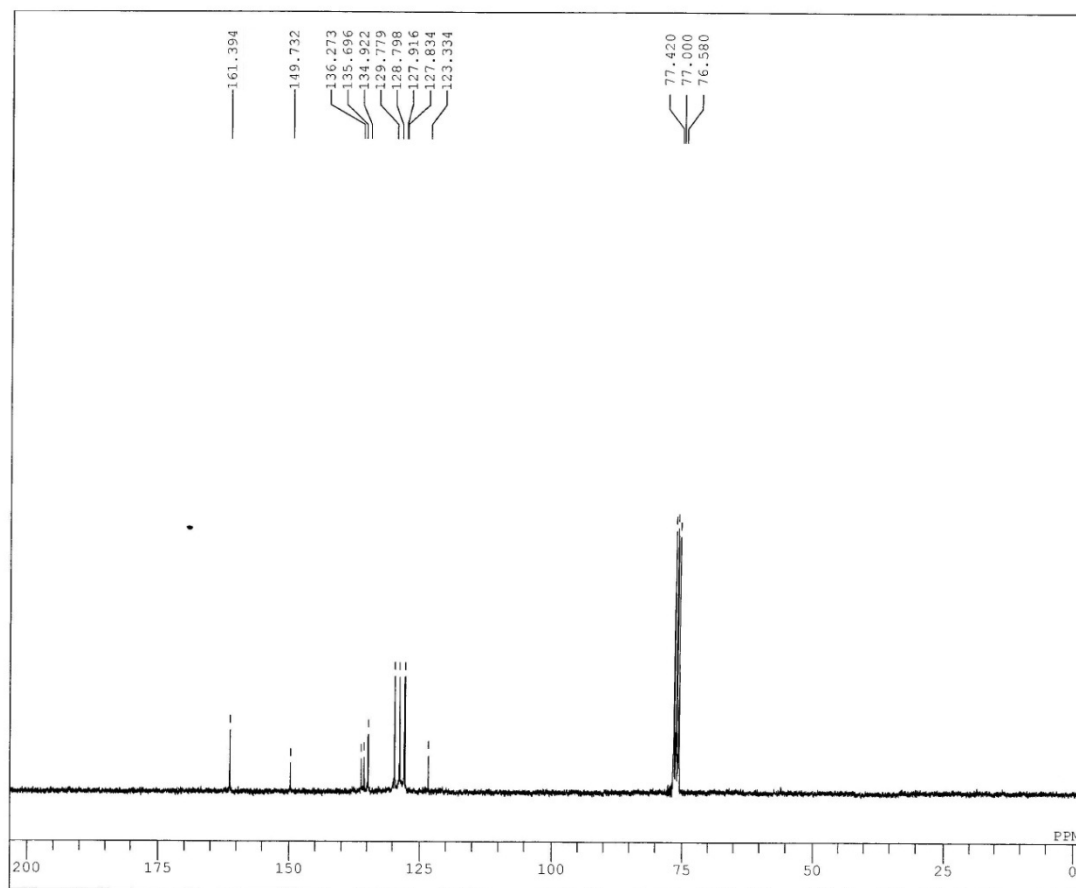


### 9.9. 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4i)

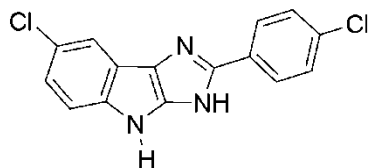


Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3362, 3255, 3015, 2882, 1669, 1620, 1565, 1482, 1375, 1235, 1140, 1026, 890, 777, 663, 526  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.48- 8.58 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 9.45 (s, 1H, NH), 10.16 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 123.3, 127.8, 127.9, 128.7, 129.7, 134.9, 135.6, 136.2, 149.7, 161.3 ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{10}\text{ClN}_3$ : C, 67.30; H, 3.77; N, 15.70 Found C, 67.31; H, 3.75; N, 15.73.

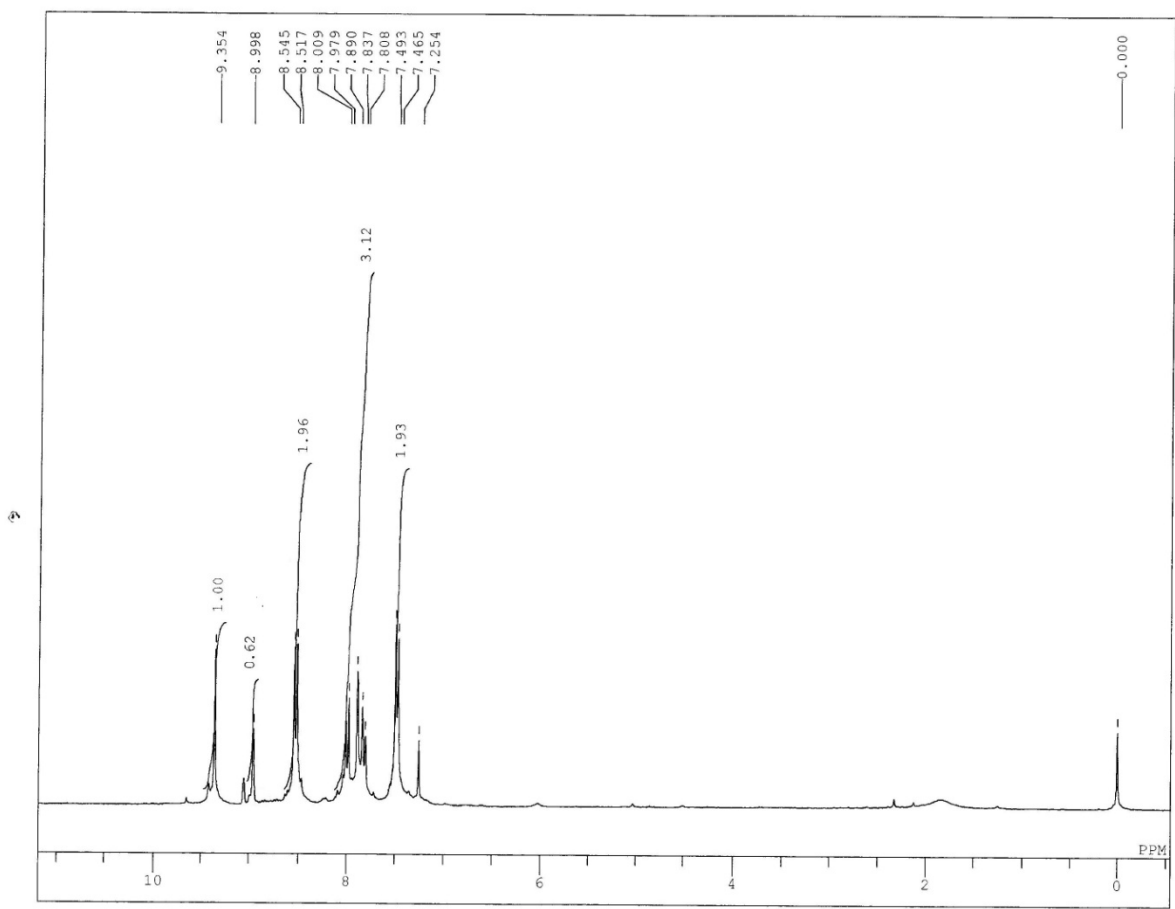


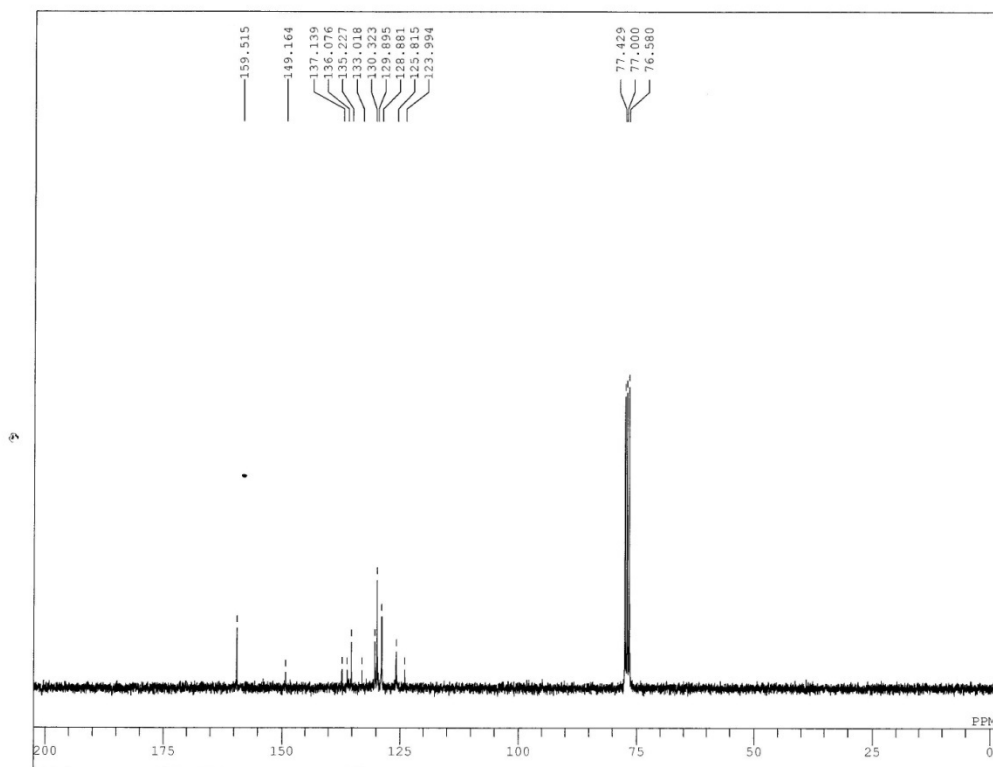


**9.10. 7-chloro-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4j)**

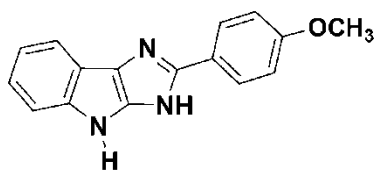


Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3386, 3233, 3047, 2960, 1657, 1612, 1558, 1435, 1348, 1282, 1153, 1019, 871, 742, 654, 552  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 7.46- 8.54 (m, 7H, aromatic protons), 8.99 (s, 1H, NH), 9.35 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 123.9, 125.8, 128.8, 129.8, 130.3, 133.0, 135.2, 136.0, 137.1, 149.1, 159.5 ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_9\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_3$ : C, 59.62; H, 3.00; N, 13.91 Found C, 59.55; H, 3.10; N, 13.90.

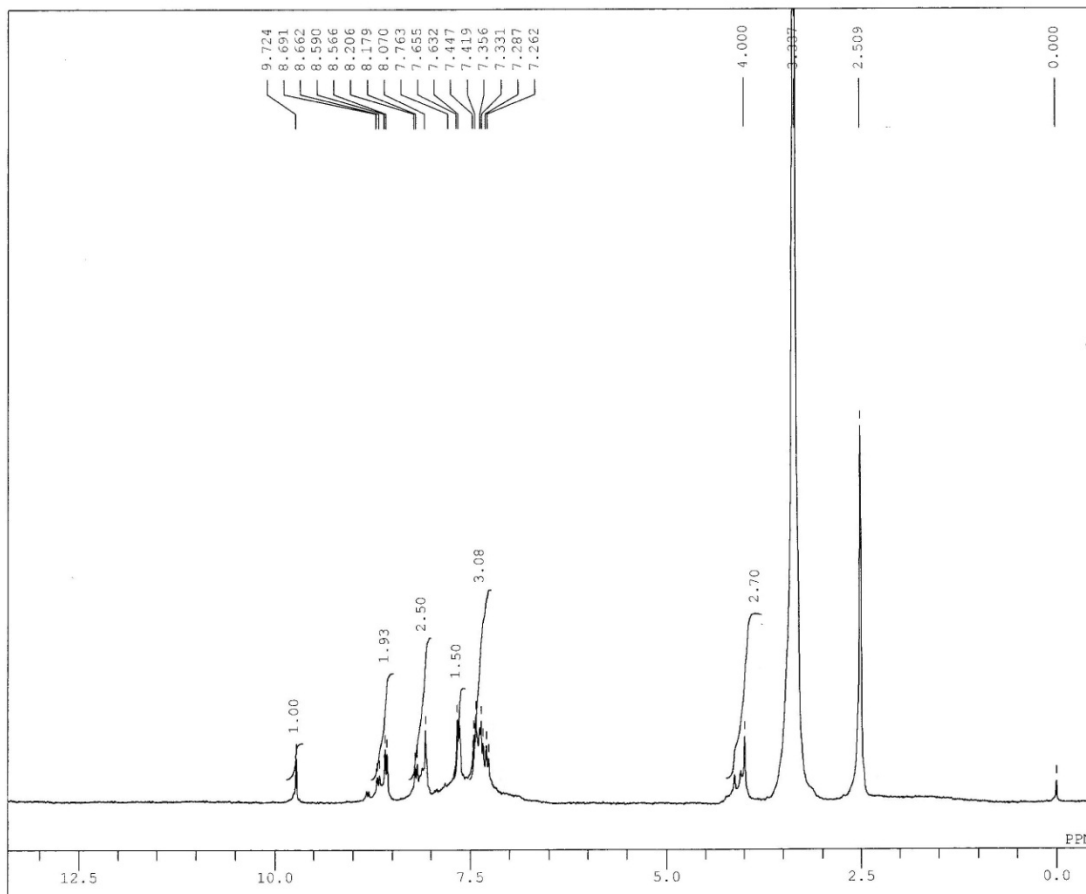


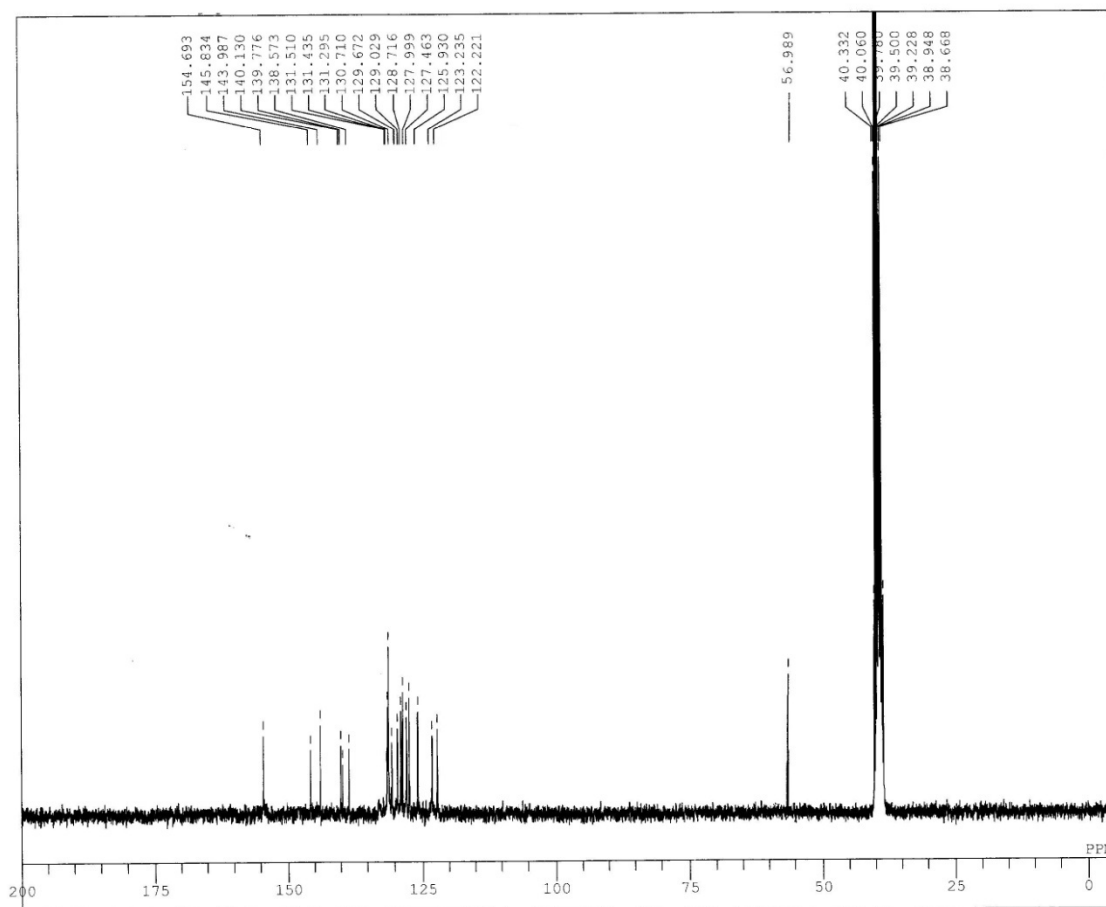


### 9.11. 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4k)

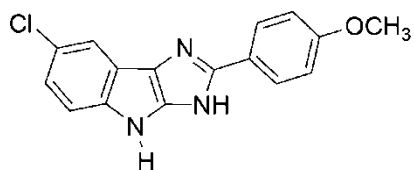


Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3351, 3138, 3001, 2944, 2881, 1667, 1619, 1575, 1450, 1371, 1284, 1157, 1021, 863, 743, 654, 534  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 4.00 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 7.26-8.69 (m, 9H, aromatic protons and 1H, NH), 9.72 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 56.9, 122.2, 123.2, 125.9, 127.7, 127.4, 127.9, 128.7, 129.0, 129.6, 130.7, 131.2, 131.4, 131.5, 138.5, 139.7, 140.1, 143.9, 145.8, 154.6 ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3\text{O}$ : C, 72.99; H, 4.98; N, 15.96 Found C, 72.91; H, 5.04; N, 15.95.



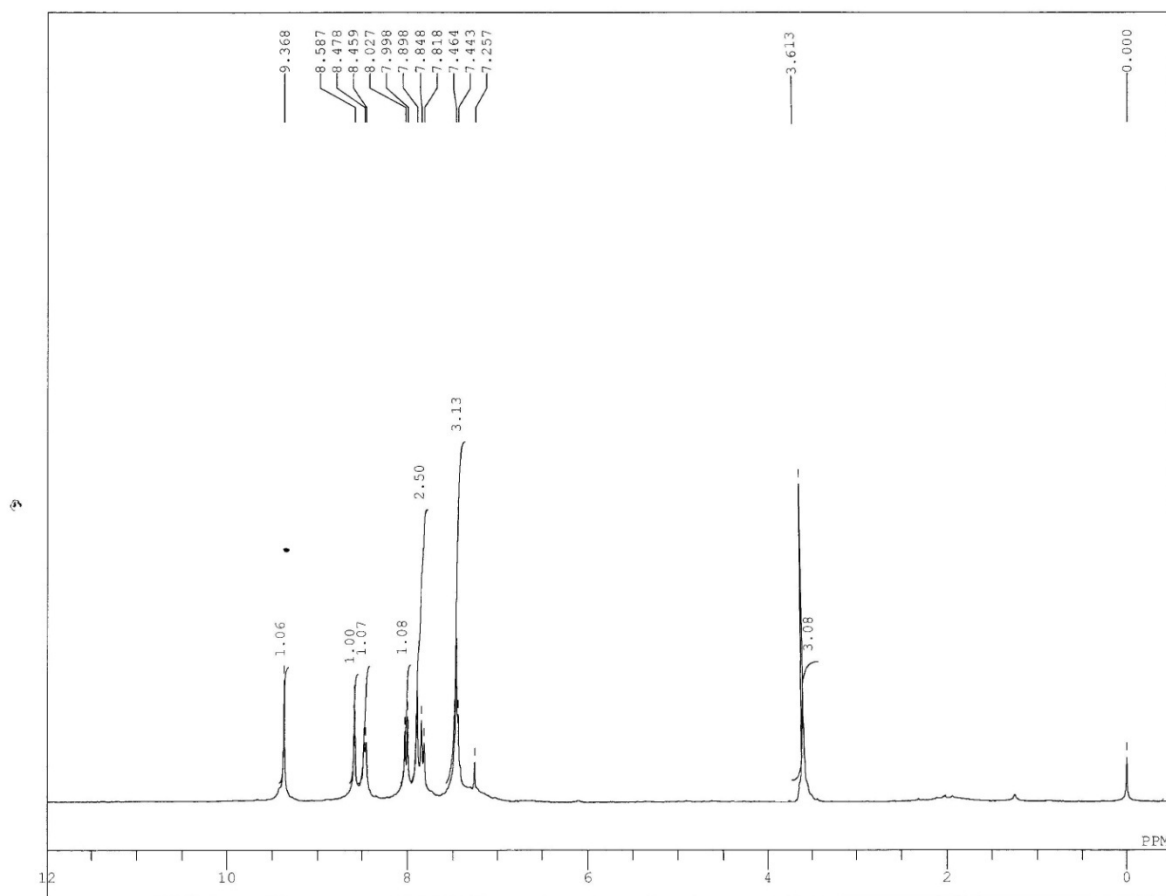


**9.12. 7-chloro-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4I)**

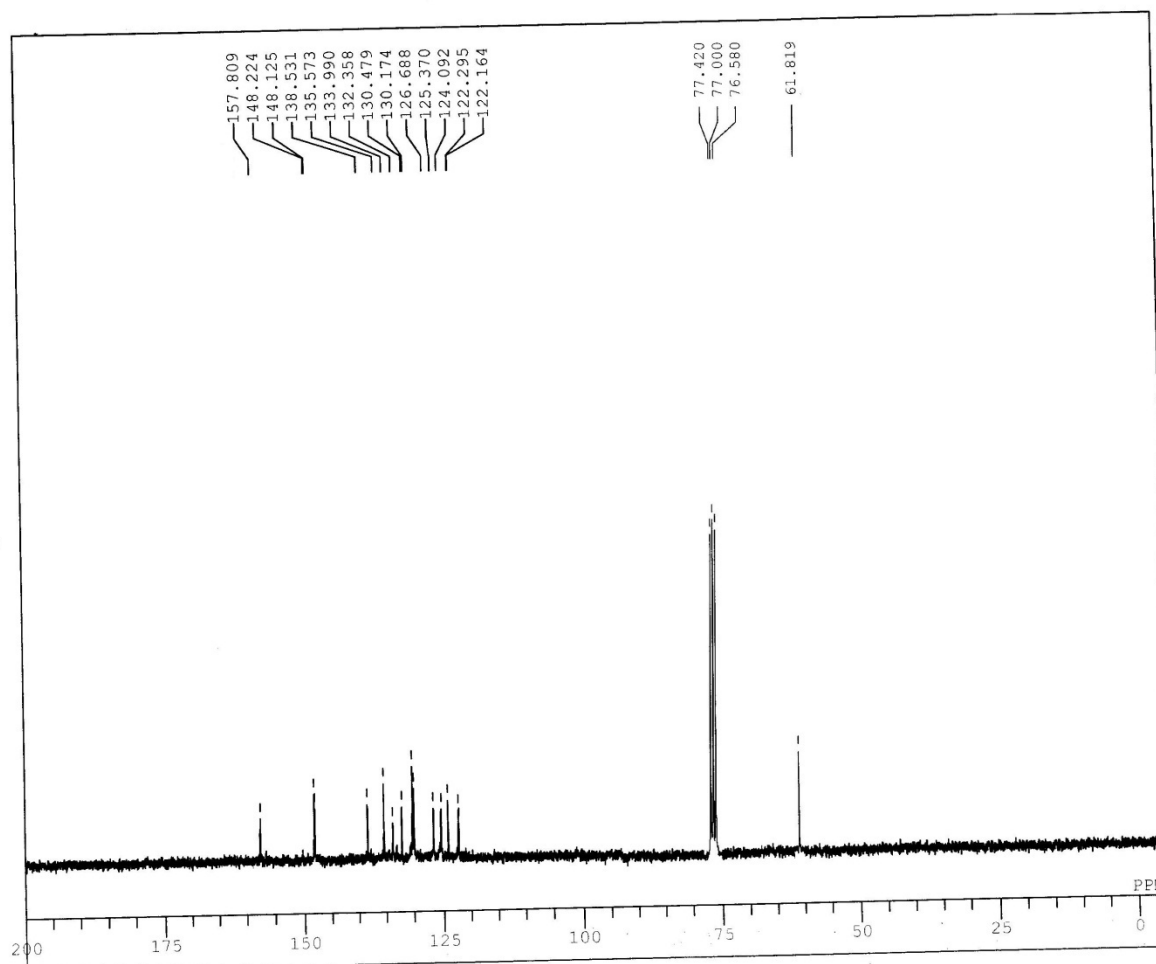


Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3370, 3259, 2991, 2911, 1675, 1614, 1558, 1480, 1436 1377, 1291, 1186, 1049, 869, 745, 651, 522  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 3.61 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 7.44-8.47 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 8.58 (s, 1H, NH), 9.36 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz,

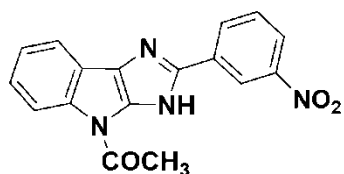
CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 61.8, 122.16, 122.29, 124.0, 125.3, 126.6, 130.1, 130.4, 132.3, 133.9, 135.5, 138.5, 148.1, 148.2, 157.8 ppm. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>12</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O: C, 64.54; H, 4.06; N, 14.11 Found C, 64.70; H, 4.00; N, 14.10.





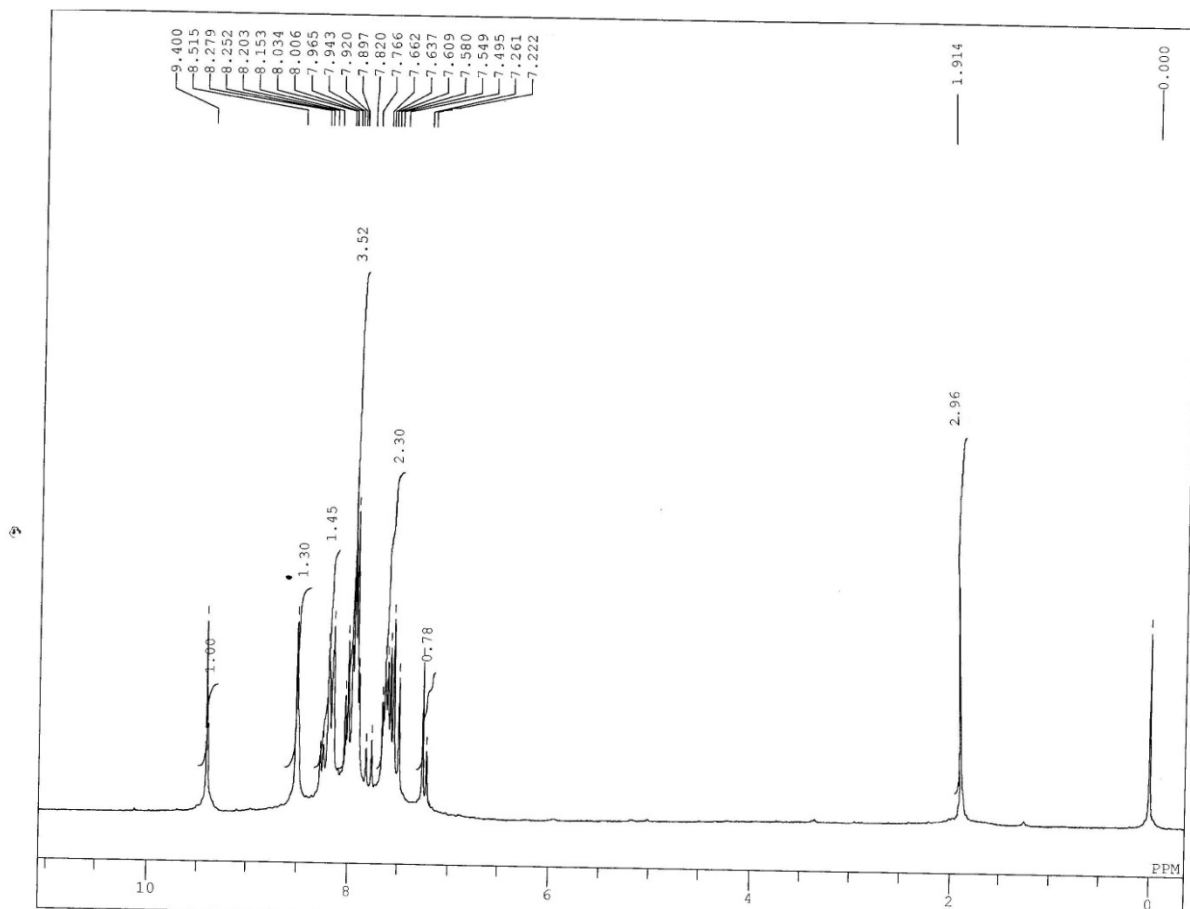


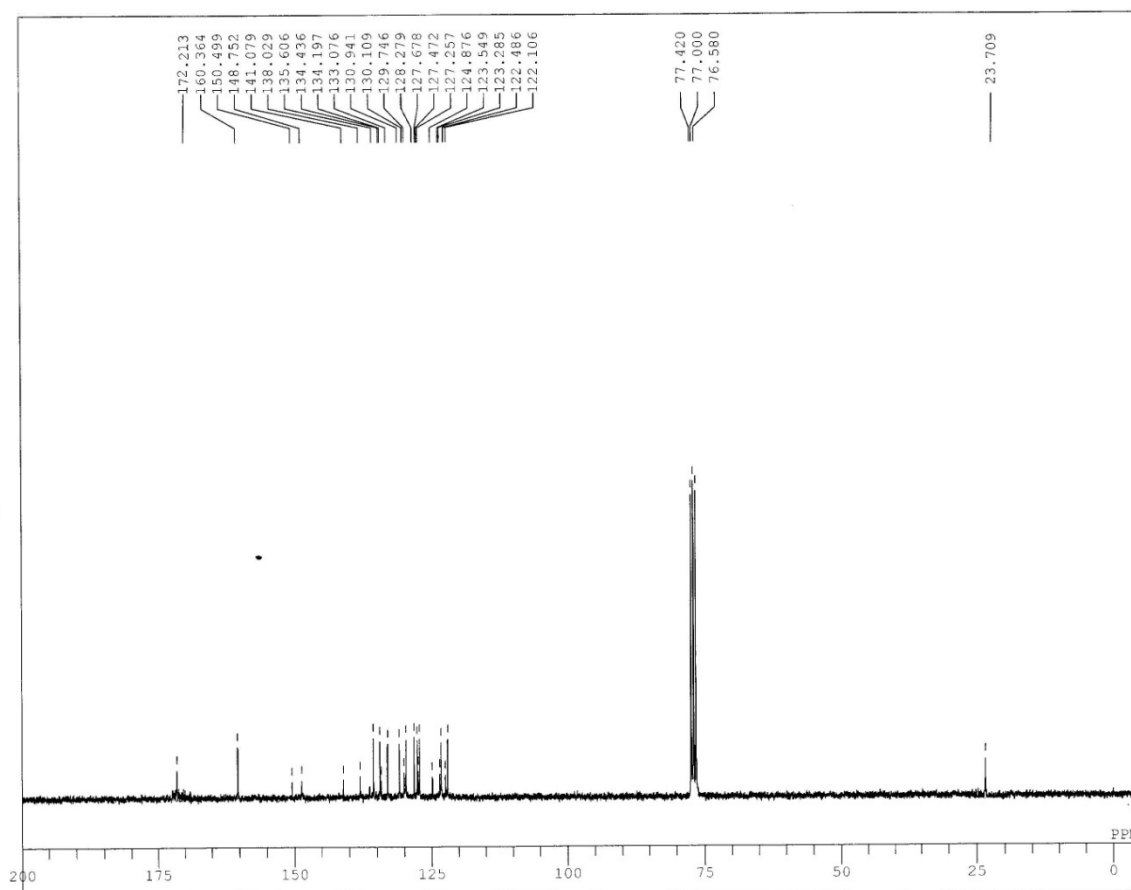
**9.13. 1-(2-(3-nitrophenyl)imidazo[4,5-b]indol-4(3H)-yl)ethanone (4m)**



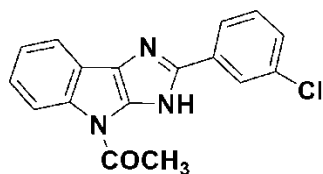
Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3389, 3266, 2978, 2935, 1694, 1645, 1616, 1571, 1467, 1346, 1224, 1133, 1021, 823, 744, 641, 572  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.91 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 7.22-8.51 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 9.40 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 23.7,

122.1, 122.4, 123.2, 123.5, 124.8, 127.2, 127.4, 127.6, 128.2, 129.7, 130.1, 130.9, 133.0, 134.1, 134.4, 135.6, 138.0, 141.0, 148.7, 150.4, 160.3, 172.2 ppm. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 63.75; H, 3.78; N, 17.49 Found C, 63.68; H, 3.88; N, 17.52.



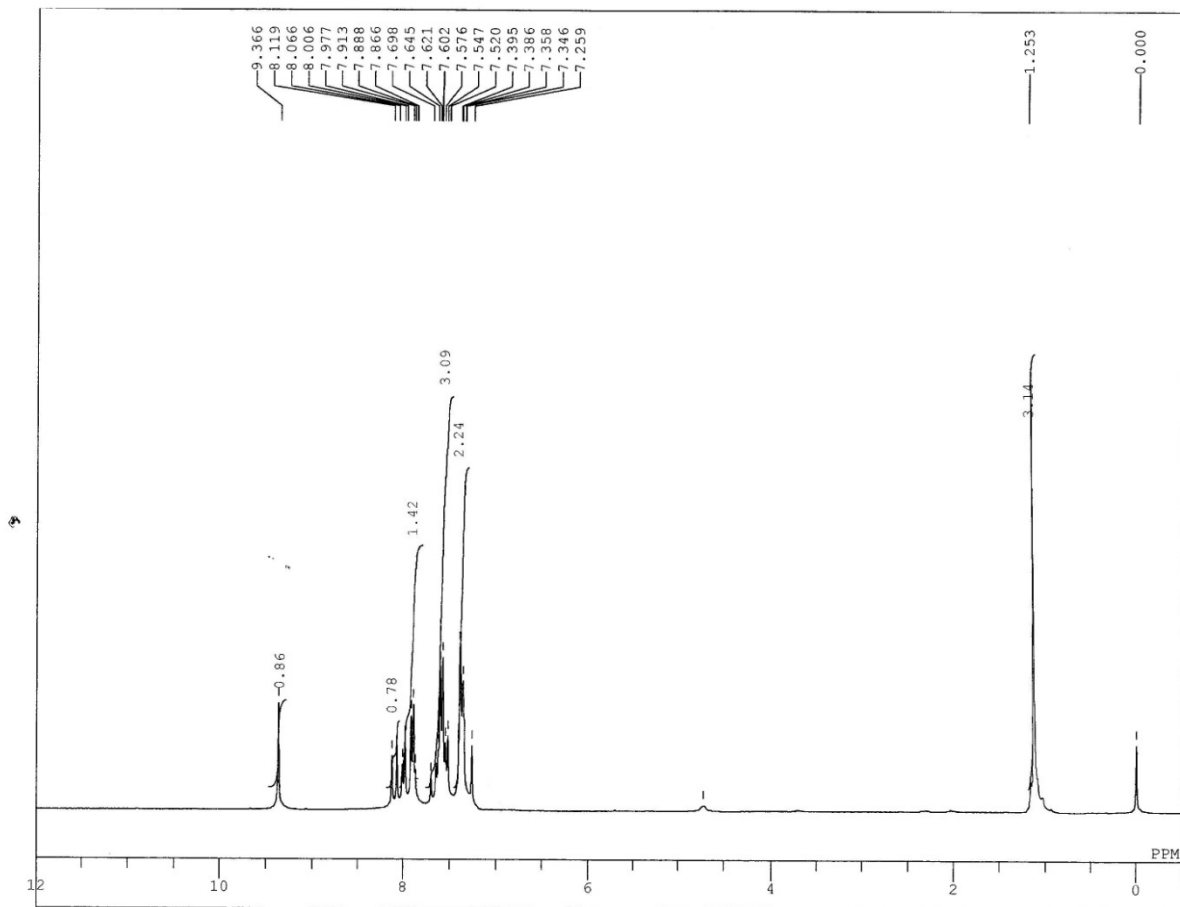


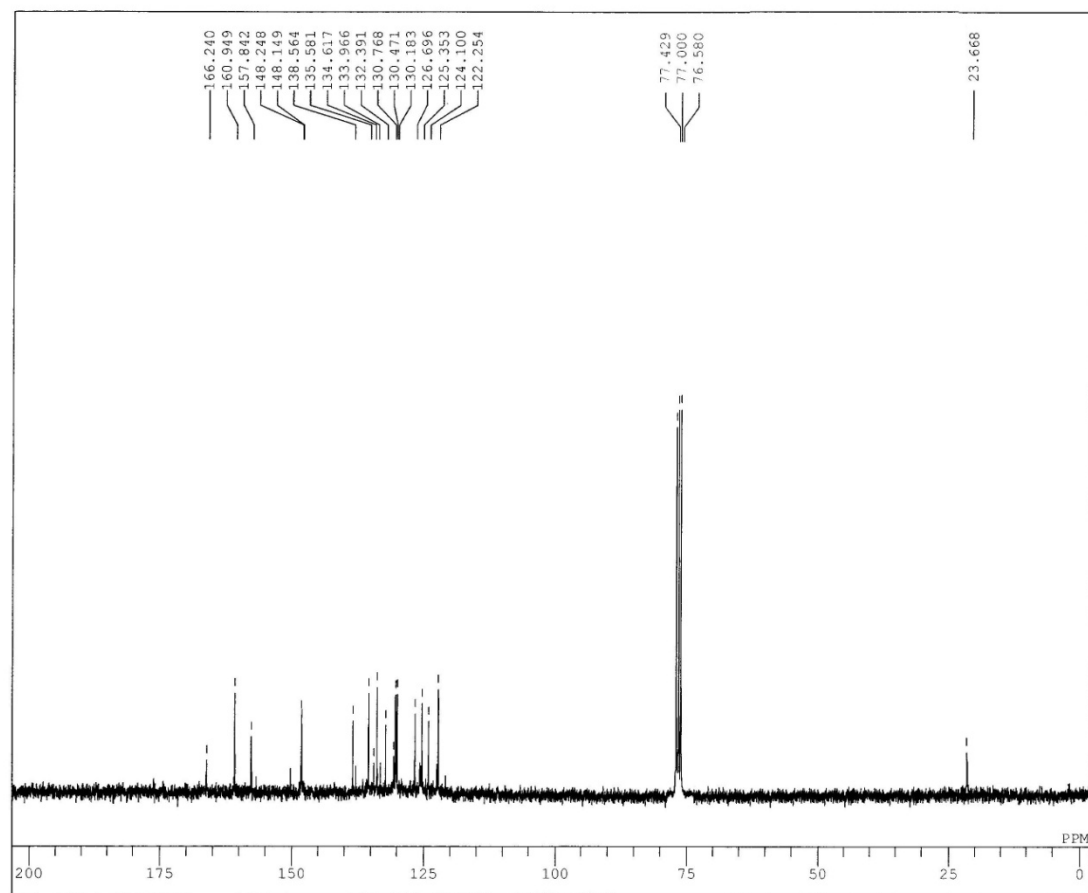
**9.14. 1-(2-(3-chlorophenyl)imidazo[4,5-b]indol-4(3H)-yl)ethanone (4n)**



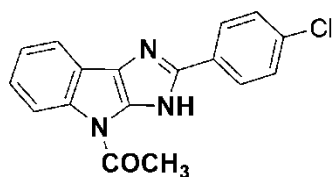
Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3367, 3215, 2947, 2923, 1692, 1662, 1607, 1580, 1477, 1359, 1272, 1144, 1042, 807, 735, 653, 546  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.25 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 7.34-8.11 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 9.36 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 23.6, 122.5, 124.1, 125.3, 126.6, 130.1, 130.4, 130.7, 132.3, 133.9, 134.6, 135.5, 138.5, 148.1, 148.2,

157.8, 160.9, 166.2 ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{12}ClN_3O$ : C, 65.92; H, 3.90; N, 13.57 Found C, 66.01; H, 3.95; N, 13.47.



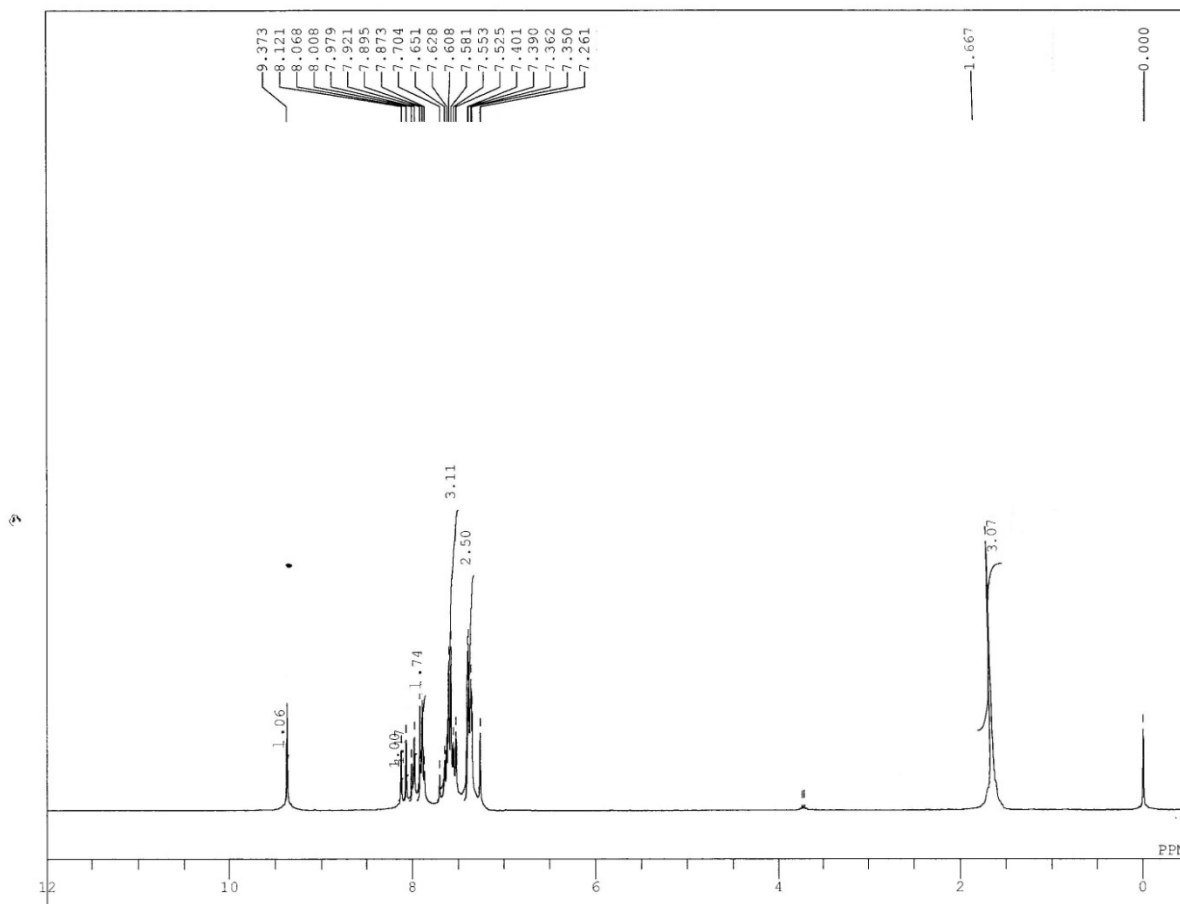


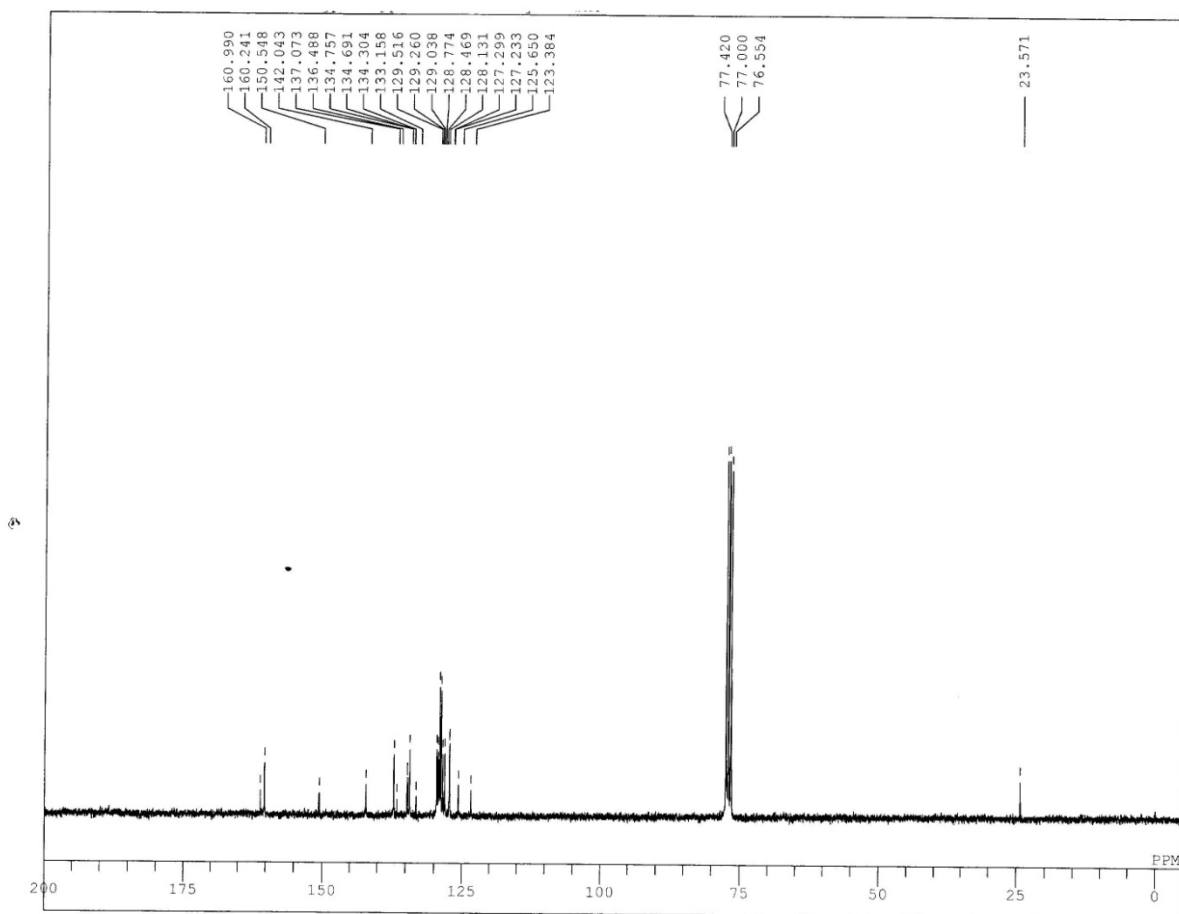
**9.15. 1-(2-(4-chlorophenyl)imidazo[4,5-b]indol-4(3H)-yl)ethanone (4o)**



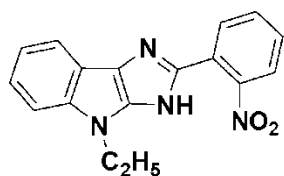
Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3350, 3285, 3011, 2935, 1685, 1654, 1611, 1572, 1485, 1455, 1343, 1284, 1132, 1062, 899, 783, 659, 531  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.66 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 7.35- 8.12 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 9.37 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 23.5, 123.3, 125.6, 127.2, 128.1, 128.4, 128.7, 129.0, 129.2, 129.5, 133.1, 134.3, 134.6, 134.7,

136.4, 137.0, 142.0, 150.5, 160.2, 160.9 ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{12}ClN_3O$ : C, 65.92; H, 3.90; N, 13.57 Found C, 65.99; H, 3.93; N, 13.54.



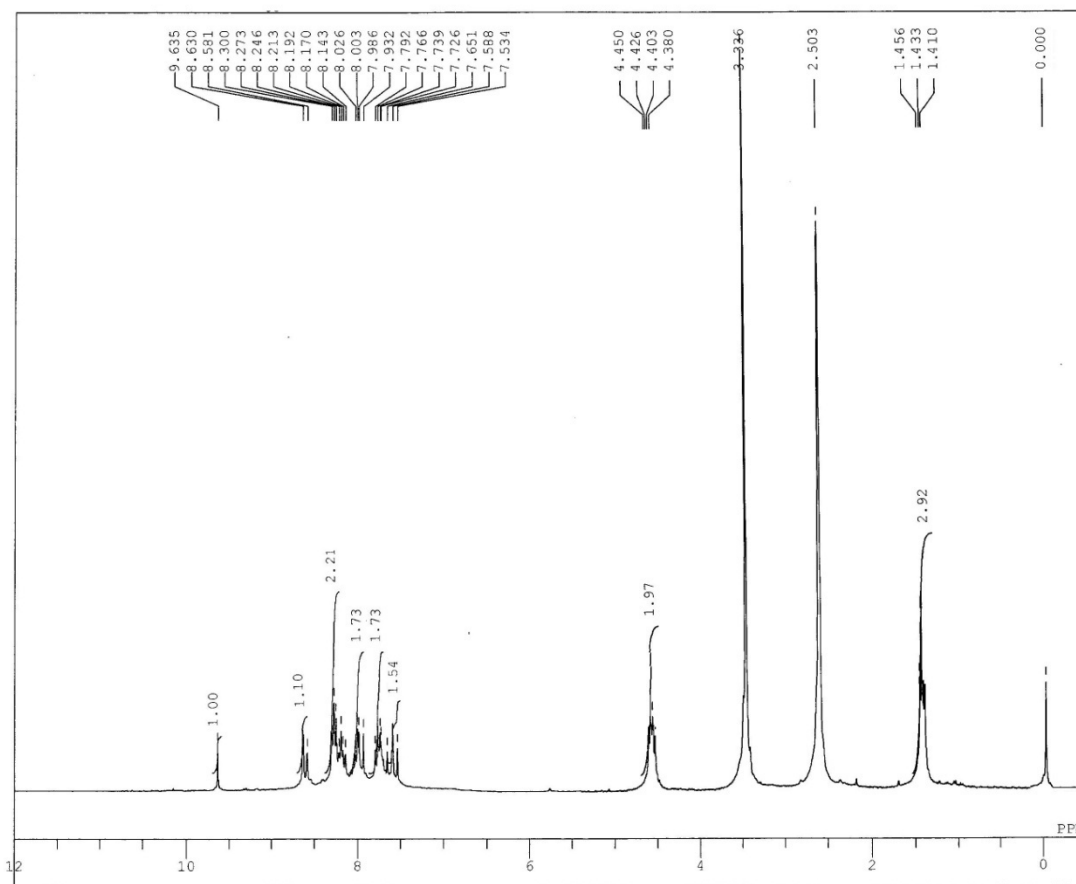


**9.16. 4-ethyl-2-(2-nitrophenyl)-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4p)**

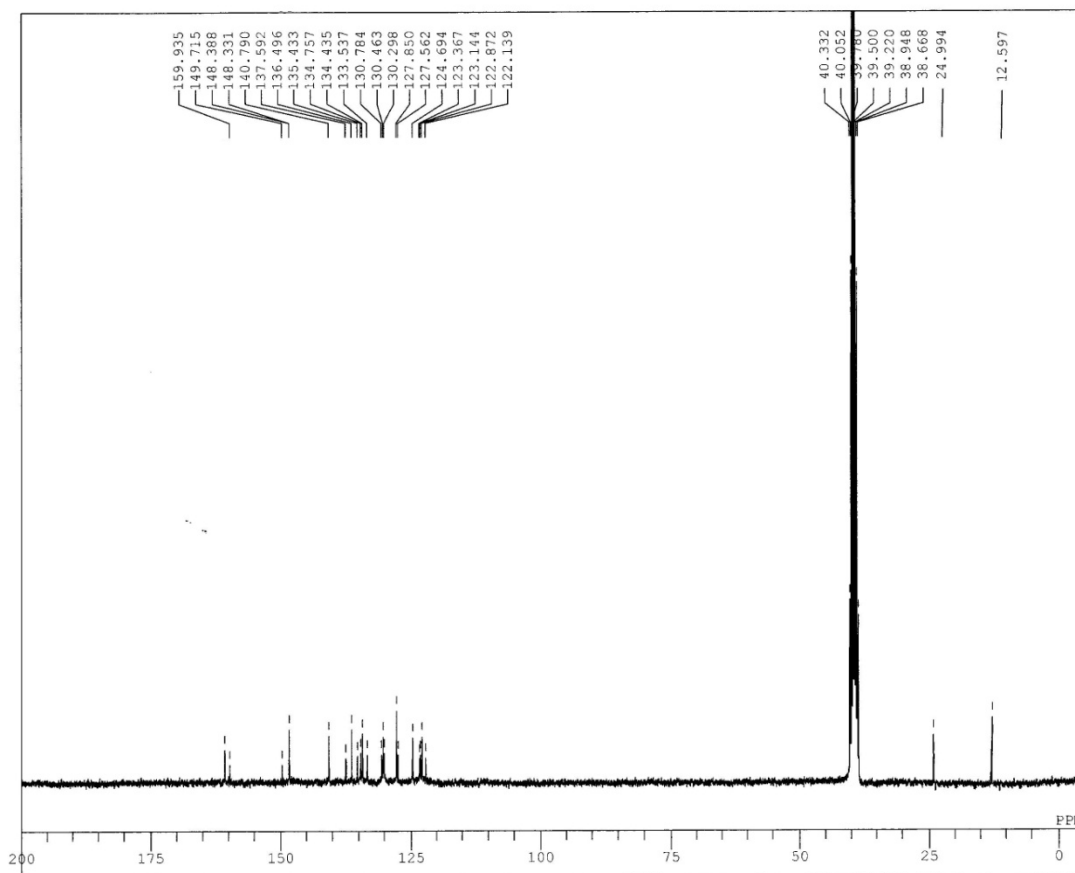


Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3416, 3199, 3012, 2999, 2942, 2872, 1654, 1607, 1561, 1441, 1453, 1351, 1283, 1192, 1021, 861, 741, 657, 526  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 1.41-1.45 (t,  $J=6.6$ , 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.38-4.45 (q,  $J=6.9$ , 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.53- 8.63 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 9.63 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 12.5, 24.9, 122.1, 122.8, 123.1, 124.6, 127.5, 127.8, 130.2, 130.4, 130.7, 133.5, 134.4, 137.7, 135.4, 136.4, 137.5, 140.7, 148.3, 149.7, 159.9.

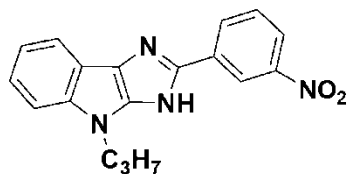
ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{14}N_4O_2$ : C, 66.66; H, 4.61; N, 18.29 Found C, 66.74; H, 4.65; N, 18.20.







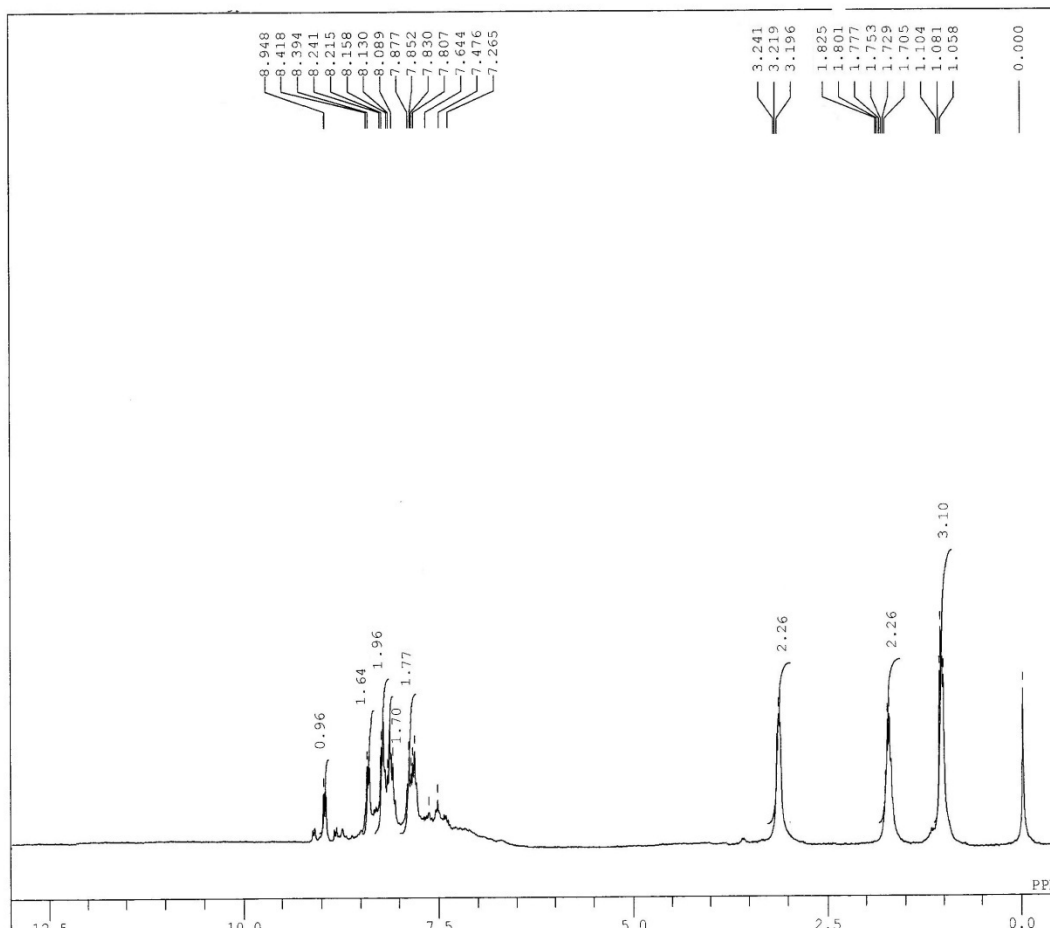
**9.17. 2-(3-nitrophenyl)-4-propyl-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4q)**

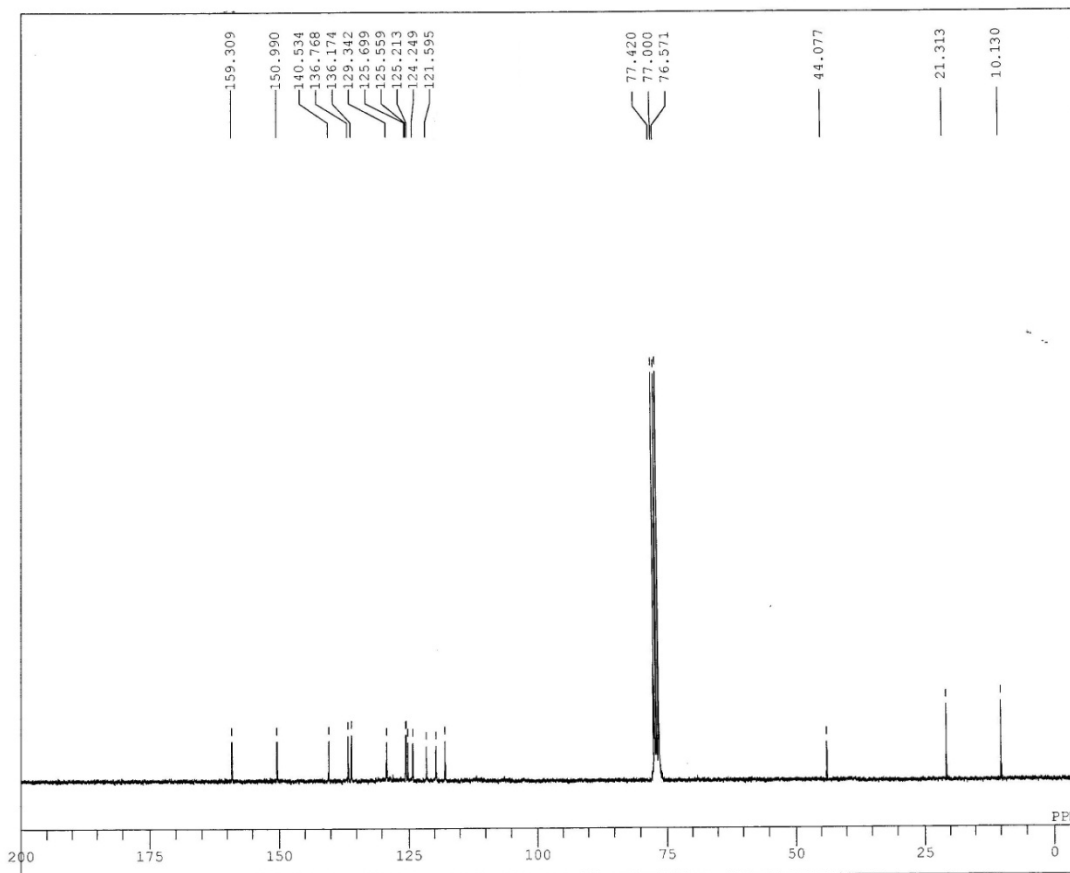


Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3400, 3301, 3221, 3135, 3009, 2951, 2912, 2865, 1664, 1616, 1571, 1478, 1422, 1371, 1271, 1181, 1037, 873, 739, 649, 536  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 1.05-1.10 (t,  $J=6.9$ , 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.70-1.82 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.19-3.24 (t,  $J=6.6$ , 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.47- 8.41 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 8.94 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$ : 10.1, 21.3,

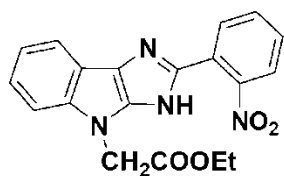
44.0, 121.5, 124.2, 125.2, 125.5, 125.6, 129.3, 136.1, 136.7, 140.5, 150.9, 159.3 ppm. Anal.

Calcd for  $C_{18}H_{16}N_4O_2$  C, 67.49; H, 5.03; N, 17.49 Found C, 67.44; H, 5.10; N, 17.52.



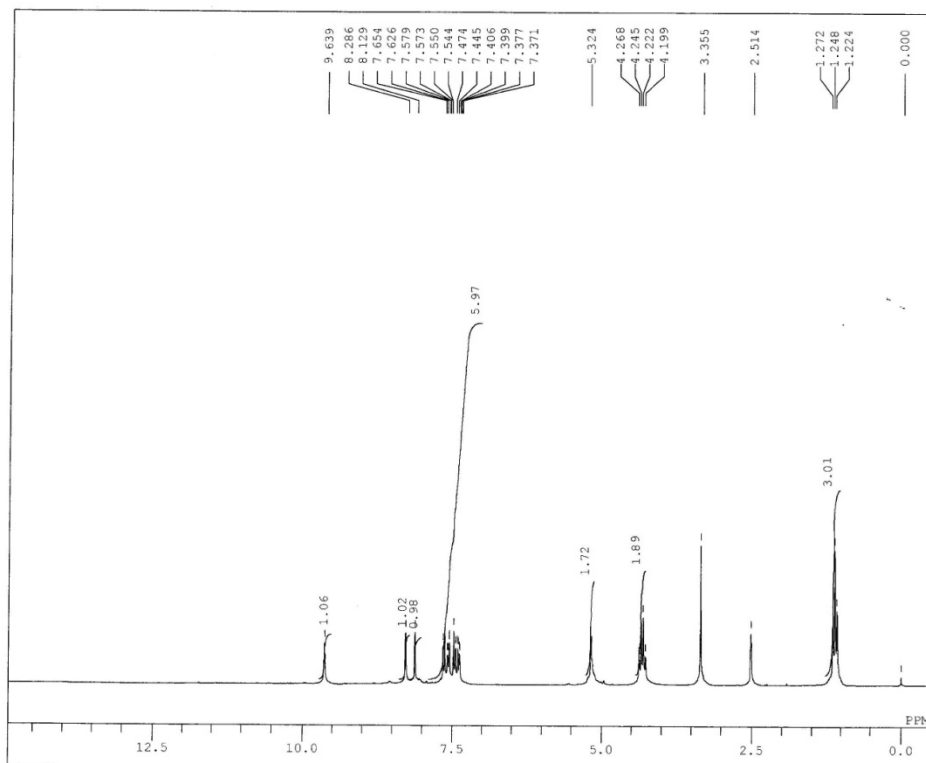


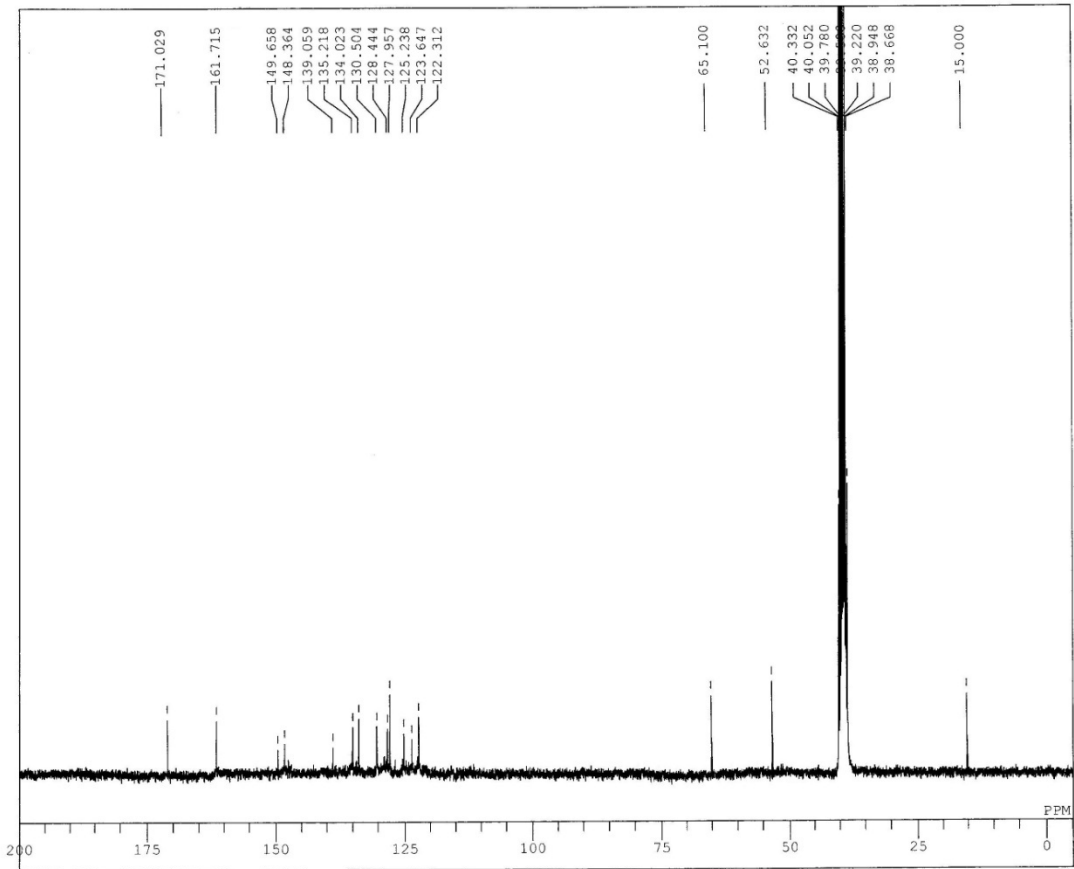
**9.18. Ethyl 2-(2-(2-nitrophenyl)imidazo[4,5-b]indol-4(3H)-yl)acetate (4r)**



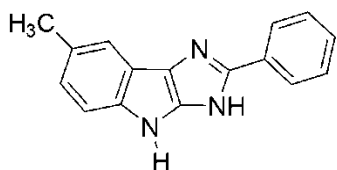
Brown solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3389, 3255, 3129, 3116, 3027, 2969, 2913, 2847, 1735, 1657, 1618, 1569, 1435, 1353, 1264, 1158, 1049, 854, 751, 651, 546  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 1.22- 1.27 (t,  $J= 7.2$ , 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.19- 4.26 (q,  $J=6.9$ , 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.32 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.37- 8.28 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 9.63 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 15.0, 52.6, 65.1, 122.3, 123.6, 125.2, 127.9, 128.4, 130.5, 134.0, 135.2, 139.0, 148.3, 149.6, 161.7, 171.0

ppm. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 62.63; H, 4.43; N, 15.38 Found C, 62.71; H, 4.51; N, 15.30.

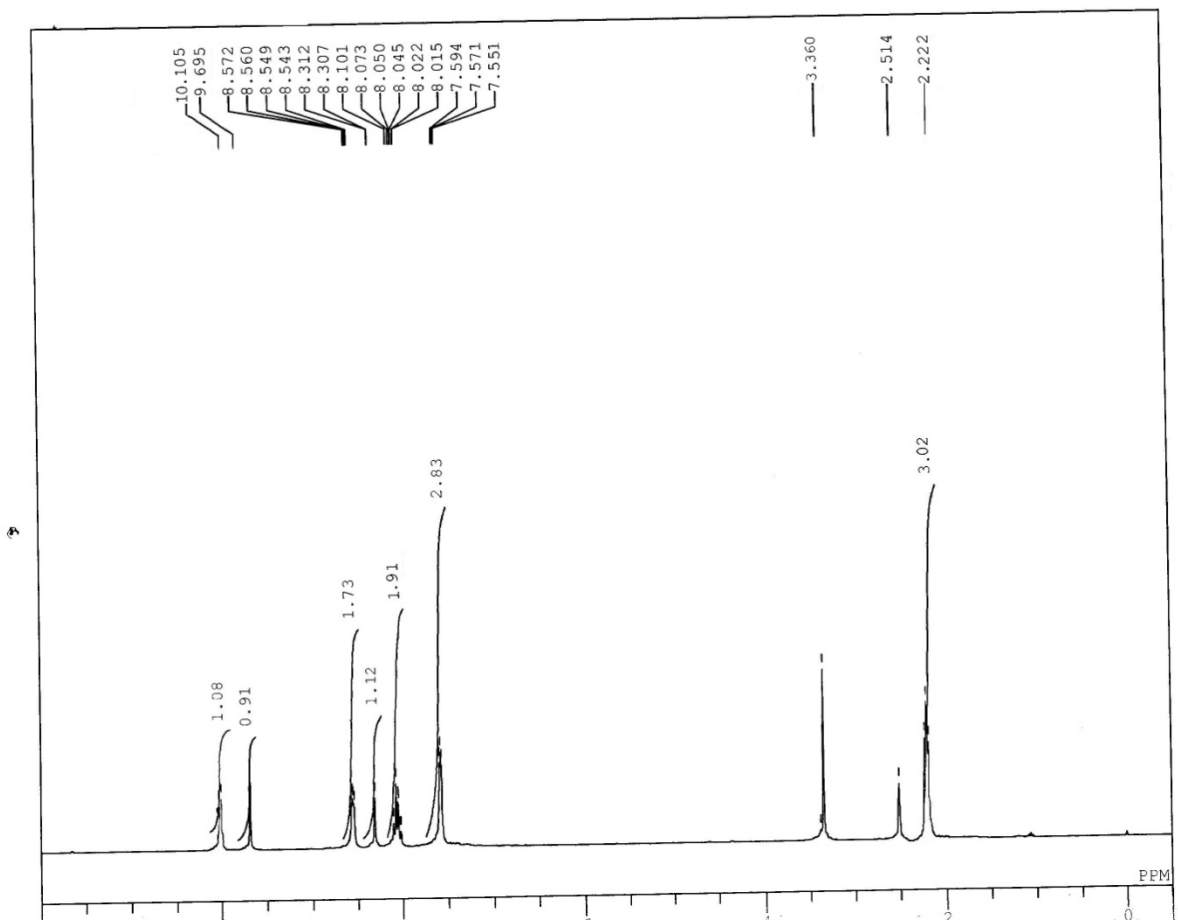


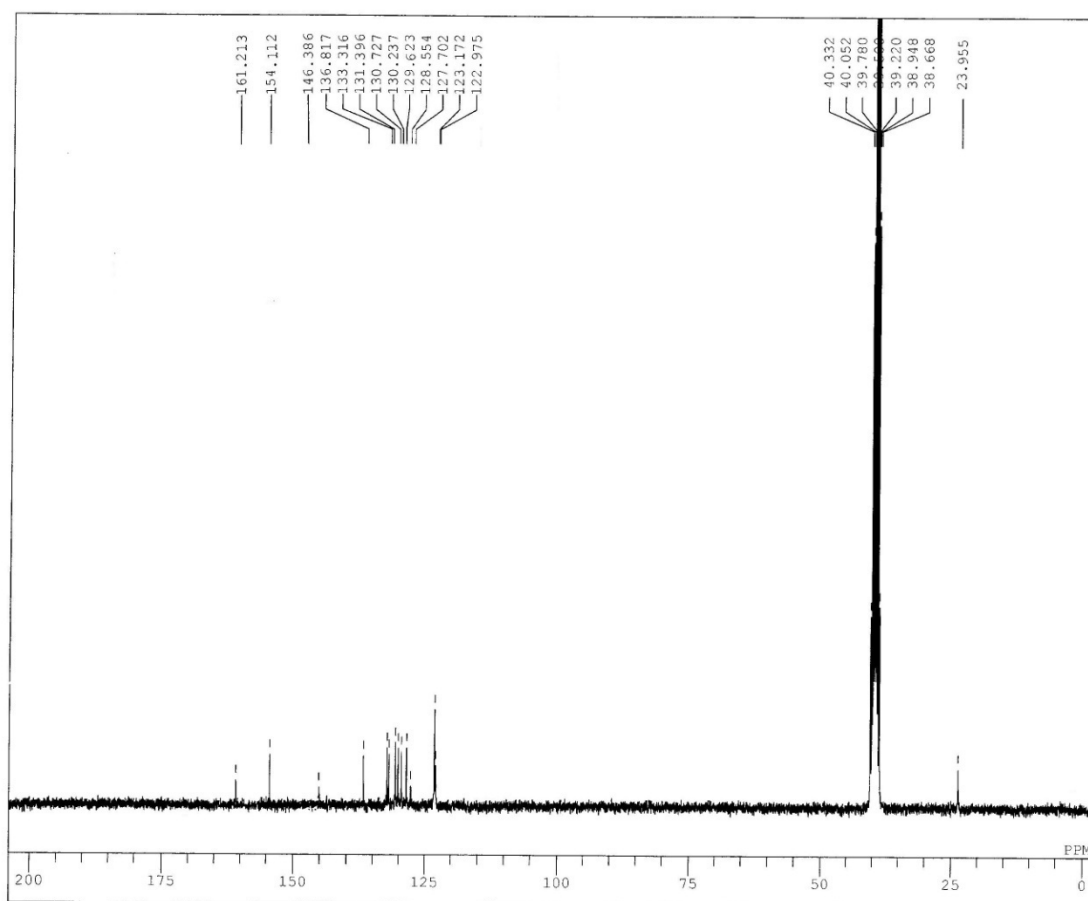


9.19. 7-methyl-2-phenyl-3,4-dihydroimidazo[4,5-b]indole (4s)



Brownish white solid, IR (KBr)  $\nu$ : 3398, 3242, 2963, 2931, 1648, 1607, 1559, 1451, 1311, 1232, 1142, 1027, 813, 741, 655, 534  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 2.22 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 7.55-8.57 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 9.69 (s, 1H, NH), 10.10 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.45 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$ : 23.9, 122.9, 123.1, 127.7, 128.5, 129.6, 130.2, 130.7, 131.3, 133.3, 136.8, 146.3, 154.1, 161.2, ppm. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3$ : C, 77.71; H, 5.30; N, 16.99 Found C, 77.64; H, 5.34; N, 17.02.





1. D. Gusain, S. N. Upadhyay, Y. C. Shrama, *RSC Adv.*, **4**, 2014, 18755-18762.