

Supporting Information for

**Visible-Light Photoredox Catalysis: Selective Reduction of Carbon Dioxide to Carbon Monoxide by a Nickel *N*-Heterocyclic Carbene-Isoquinoline Complex**

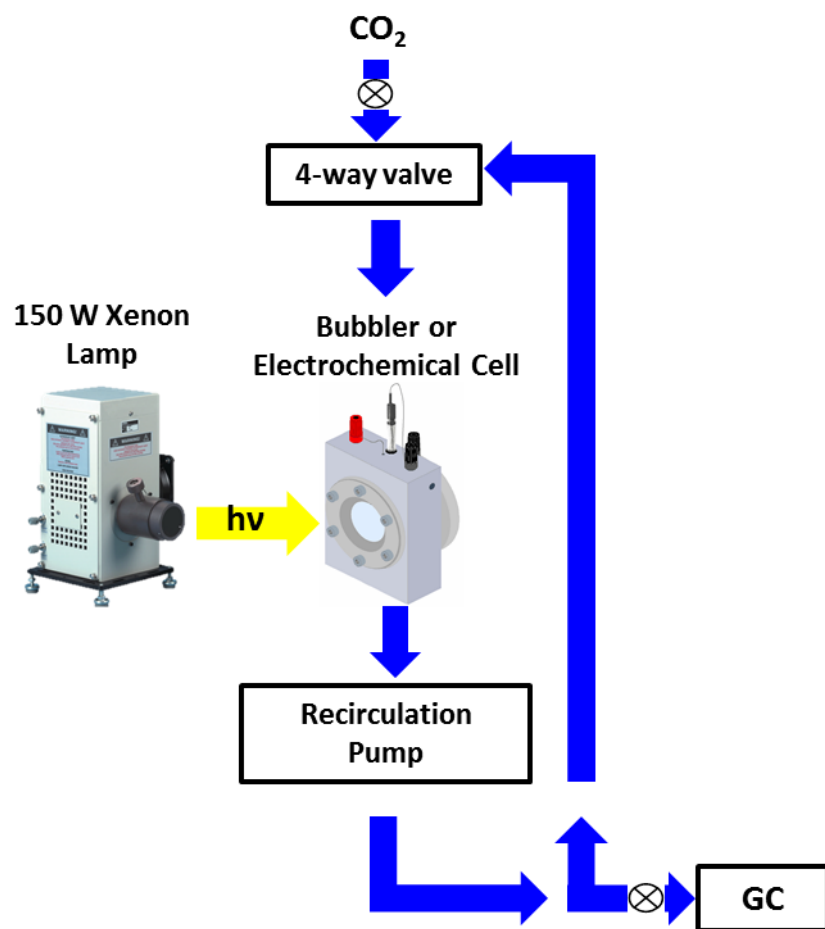
**V. Sara Thoi,<sup>1,4,6</sup> Nikolay Kornienko,<sup>1,6</sup> Charles G. Margarit,<sup>1</sup> Peidong Yang,<sup>1,5</sup> & Christopher J. Chang<sup>\*1-4</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Departments of Chemistry and <sup>2</sup>Molecular and Cell Biology and the <sup>3</sup>Howard Hughes Medical Institute, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, United States

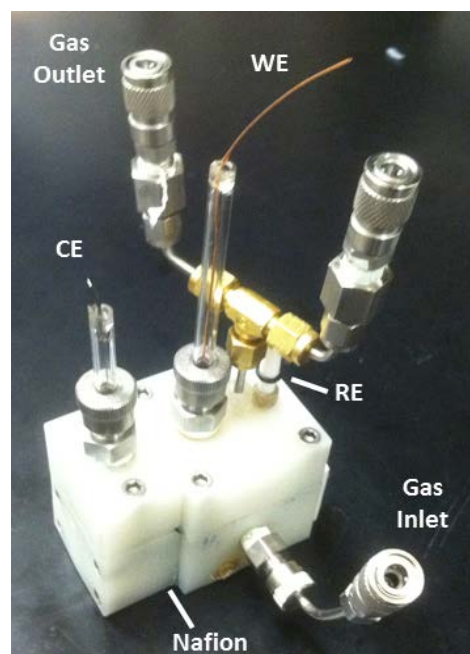
<sup>4</sup>Chemical Sciences Division and <sup>5</sup>Materials Sciences Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California 94720, United States

<sup>6</sup>These authors contributed equally to this work

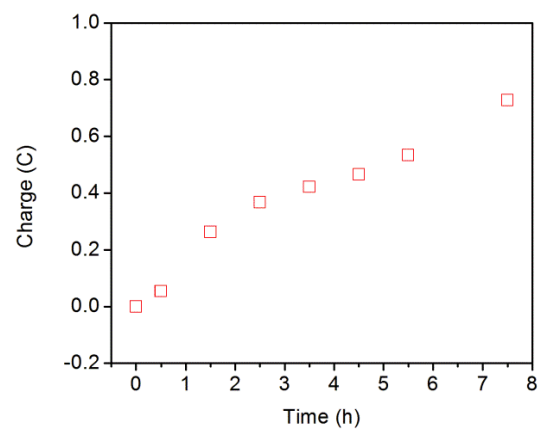
*chrischang@berkeley.edu*



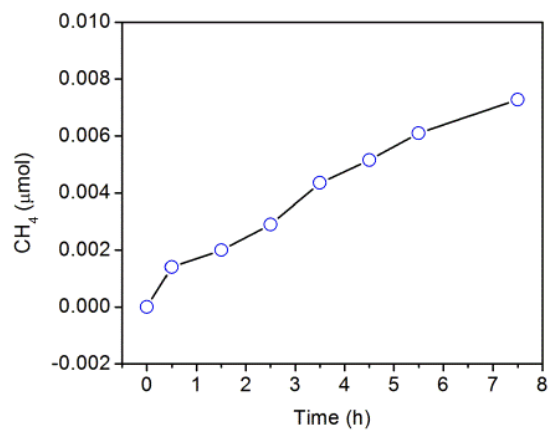
**Figure S1.** Schematic of experimental photolysis system connected a gas chromatograph.



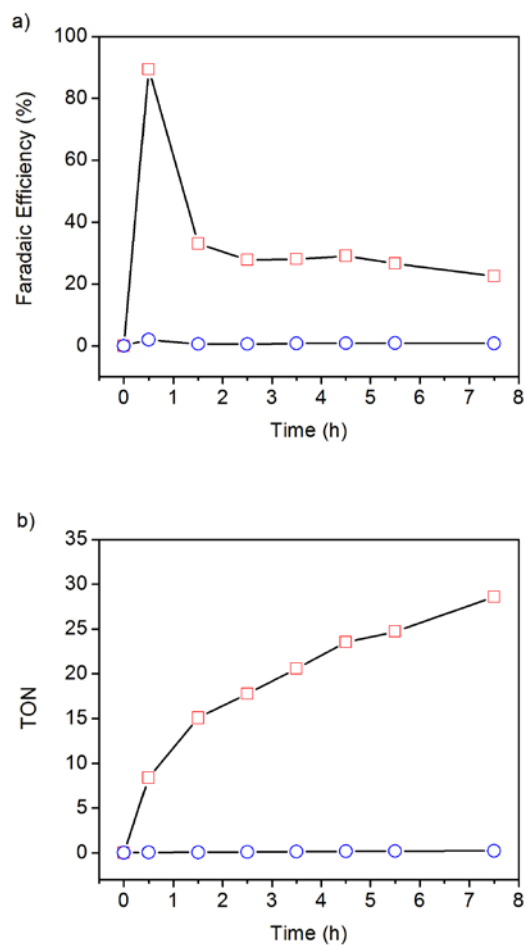
**Figure S2.** Photographs of electrochemical cell (left) and photolysis cell (right). WE = working electrode, CE = counter electrode, RE = reference electrode.



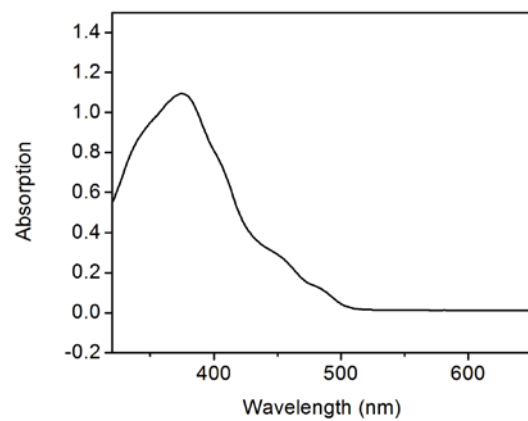
**Figure S3.** Plot of charge accumulated versus time for a controlled potential electrolysis in a 0.1 M M NBu<sub>4</sub>PF<sub>6</sub> acetonitrile solution containing 2 μM **1c** at -1.8 V using a glassy carbon disk electrode under a CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere.



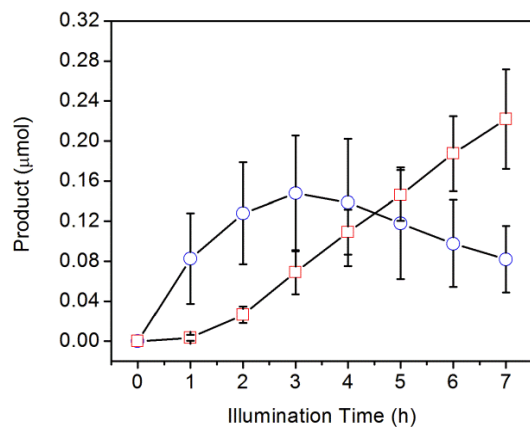
**Figure S4.** Methane production in a controlled potential electrolysis in a 0.1 M NBu<sub>4</sub>PF<sub>6</sub> acetonitrile solution containing 2 μM **1c** at -1.8 V vs. SCE using a glassy carbon disk electrode under a CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere.



**Figure S5.** a) Faradaic efficiency versus time and b) gas product versus electrolysis time for CO (red squares) and CH<sub>4</sub> (blue circles) in a controlled potential electrolysis in a 0.1 M M NBu<sub>4</sub>PF<sub>6</sub> acetonitrile solution containing 2 μM **1c** at -1.8 V using a glassy carbon rod electrode under a CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere.

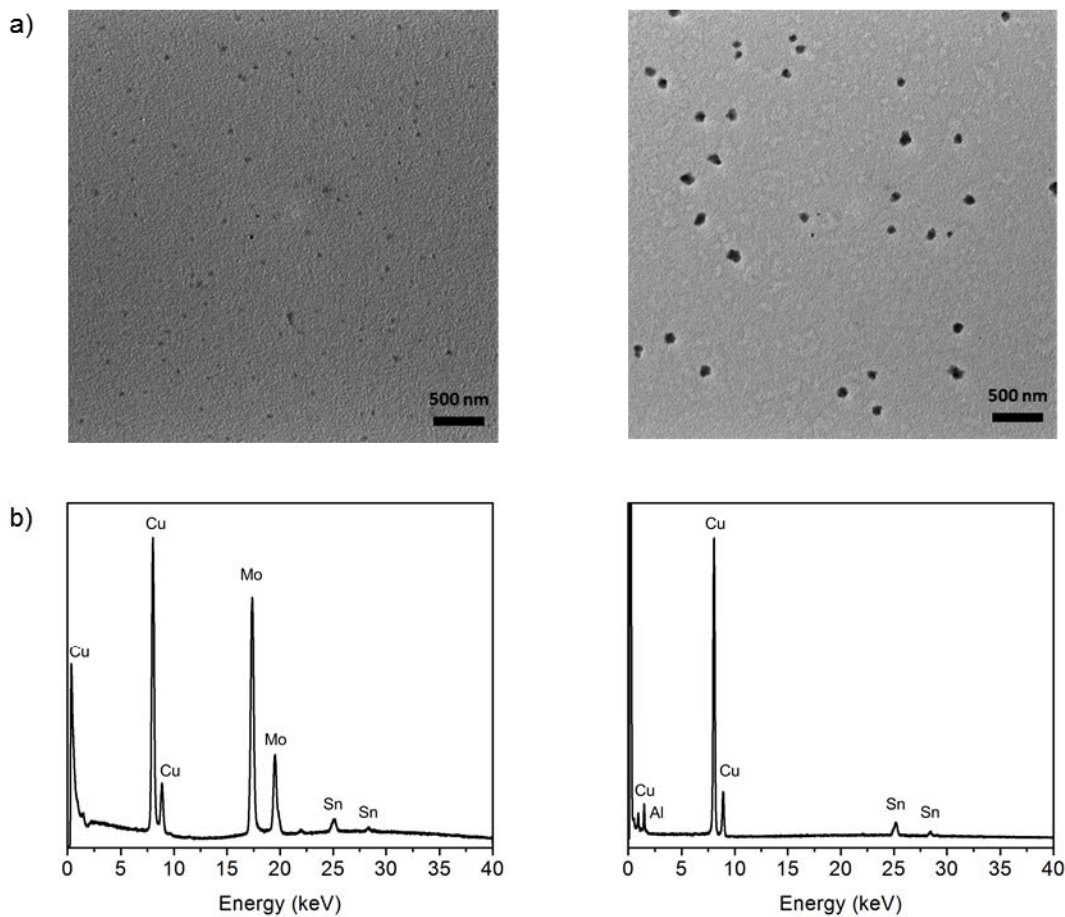


**Figure S6.** Absorption spectrum of Ir(ppy)<sub>3</sub>.

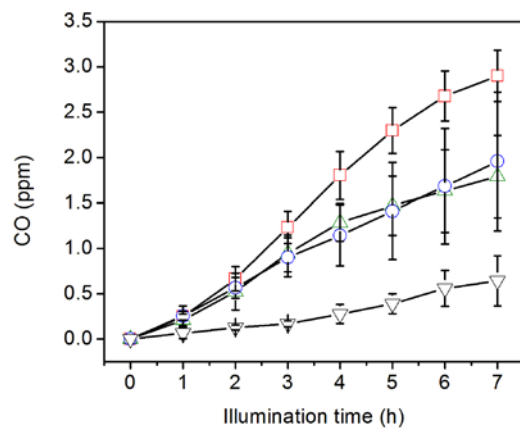


**Figure S7.** Photocatalytic reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> to minor products CH<sub>4</sub> (red squares) and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (blue circles) in a 0.07 M TEA acetonitrile solution containing 0.2 μM **1c** and 0.2 mM Ir(ppy)<sub>3</sub>, using a 130 mW·cm<sup>-2</sup> Xe lamp fitted with an AM 1.5 filter.

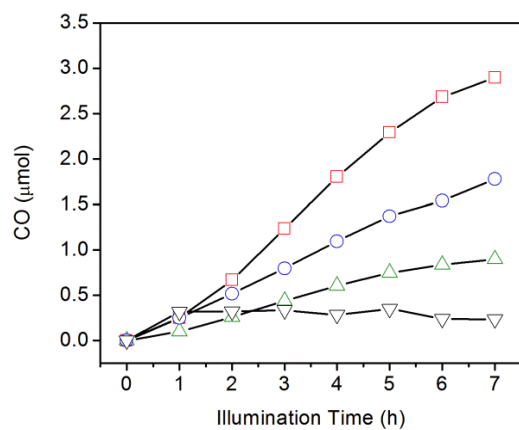




**Figure S8.** a) TEM images and b) EDS plots of 0.07 M TEA acetonitrile solution containing 0.2  $\mu\text{M}$  **1c** and 0.2 mM  $\text{Ir}(\text{ppy})_3$ , before (left) and after photolysis (right), using a  $130 \text{ mW}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$  Xe lamp fitted with an AM 1.5 filter. The copper, aluminum, and tin signals originate from the TEM grid holder and grid. A Pelco 300 Mesh molybdenum grid and copper grid (Ted Pella, Inc.) were used for the samples before and after photolysis, respectively.



**Figure S9.** Photocatalytic reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> to CO in a 0.07 M M TEA acetonitrile solution containing 0.2 mM Ir(ppy)<sub>3</sub> and 200 nM (red squares), 20 nM (green triangles), 2 nM (blue circles), and 0 nM (black triangles) Ir(ppy)<sub>3</sub>, using a 130 mW·cm<sup>-2</sup> Xe lamp fitted with an AM 1.5 filter.



**Figure S10.** Photocatalytic reduction of  $\text{CO}_2$  to CO in an acetonitrile solution containing  $0.2 \mu\text{M}$  **1c** and  $0.2 \text{ mM}$   $\text{Ir}(\text{ppy})_3$  in the presence of  $0.07 \text{ M}$  TEA (red squares), TEOA (blue circles), DMAE (green triangles), and IPA (black triangles), using a  $130 \text{ mW}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$  Xe lamp fitted with an AM 1.5 filter.

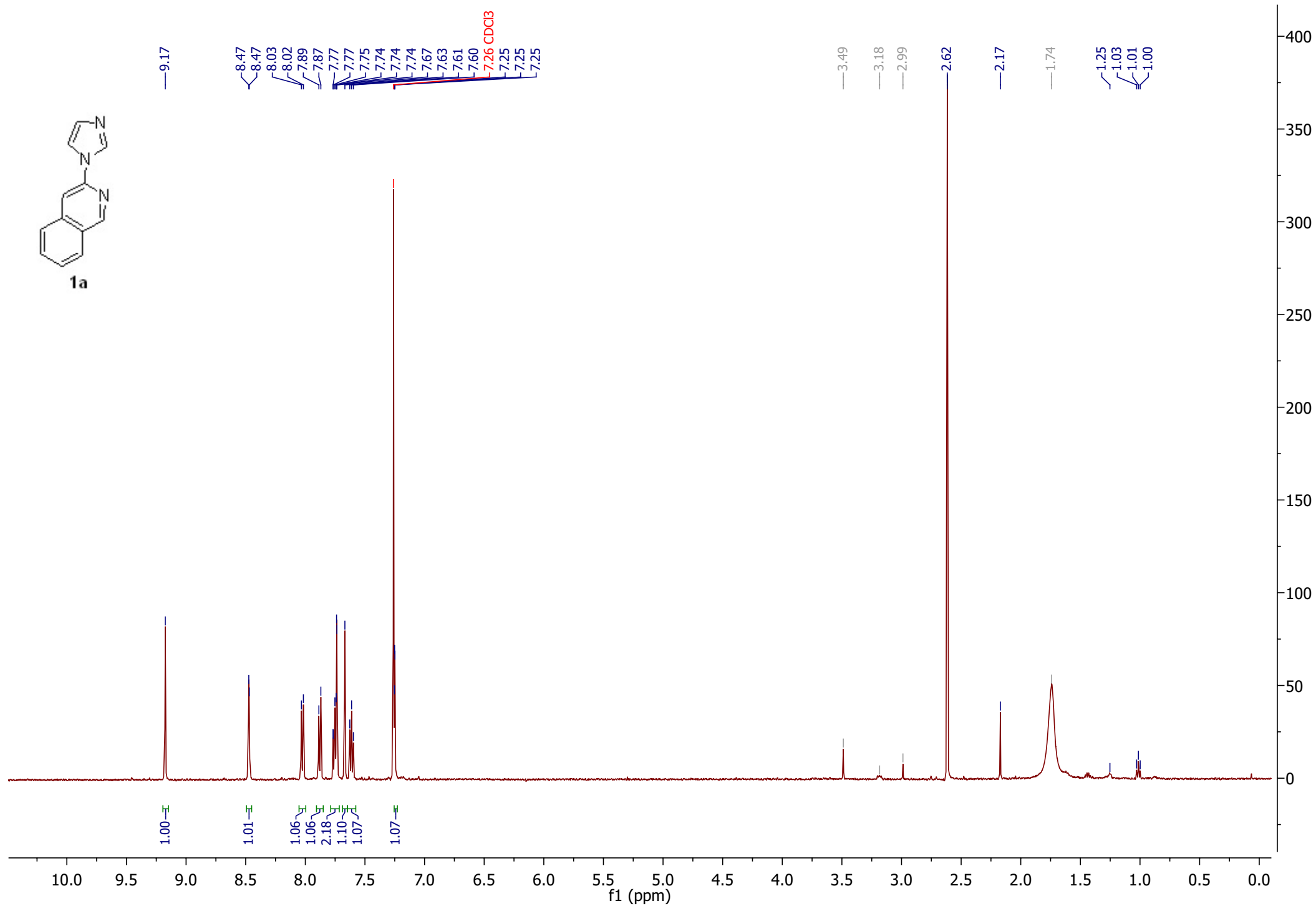
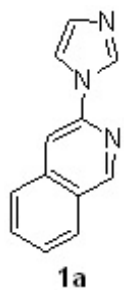
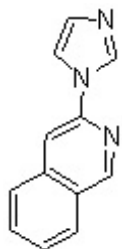
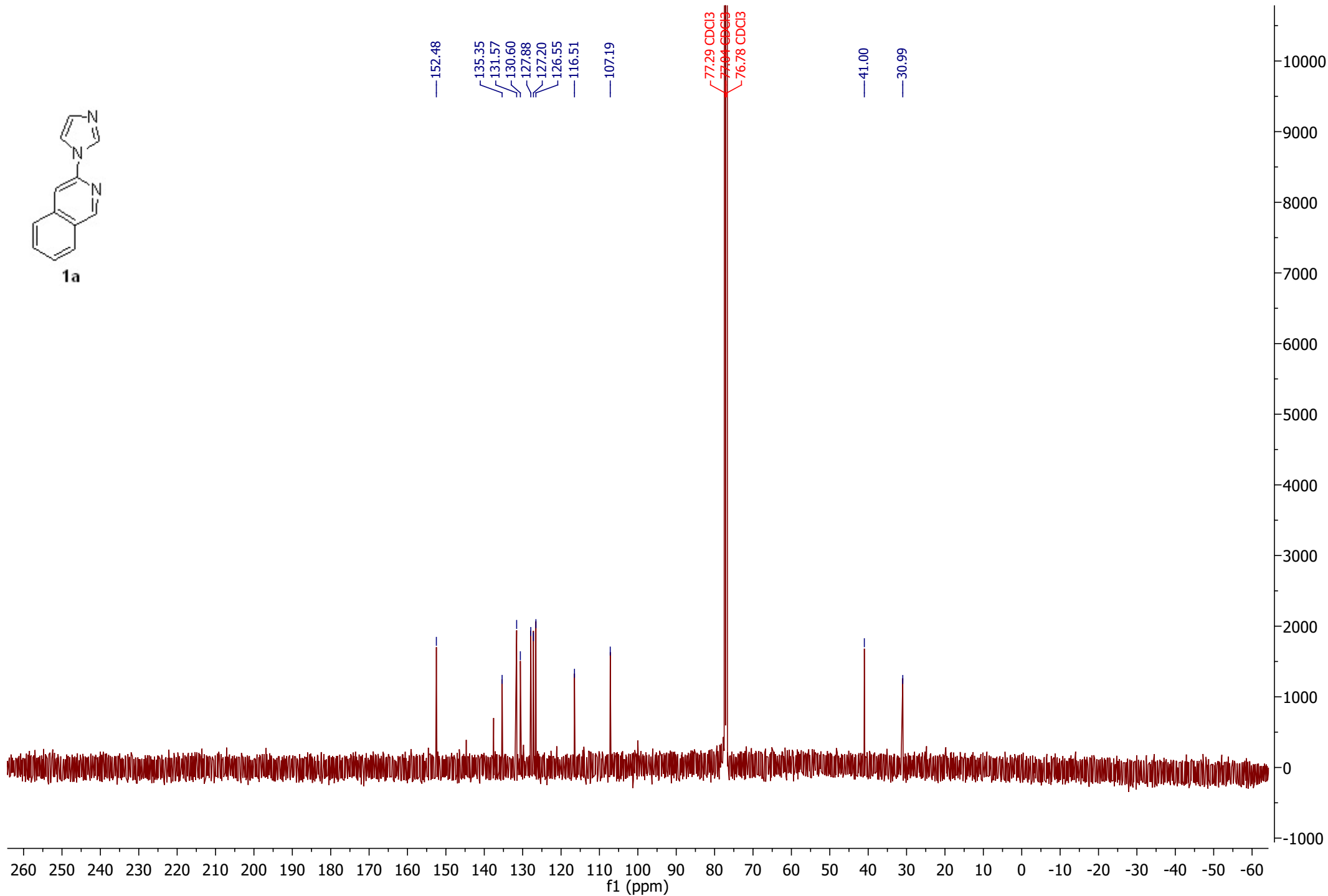


Figure S11. <sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of **1a**.



**1a**



**Figure S12.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of **1a**.

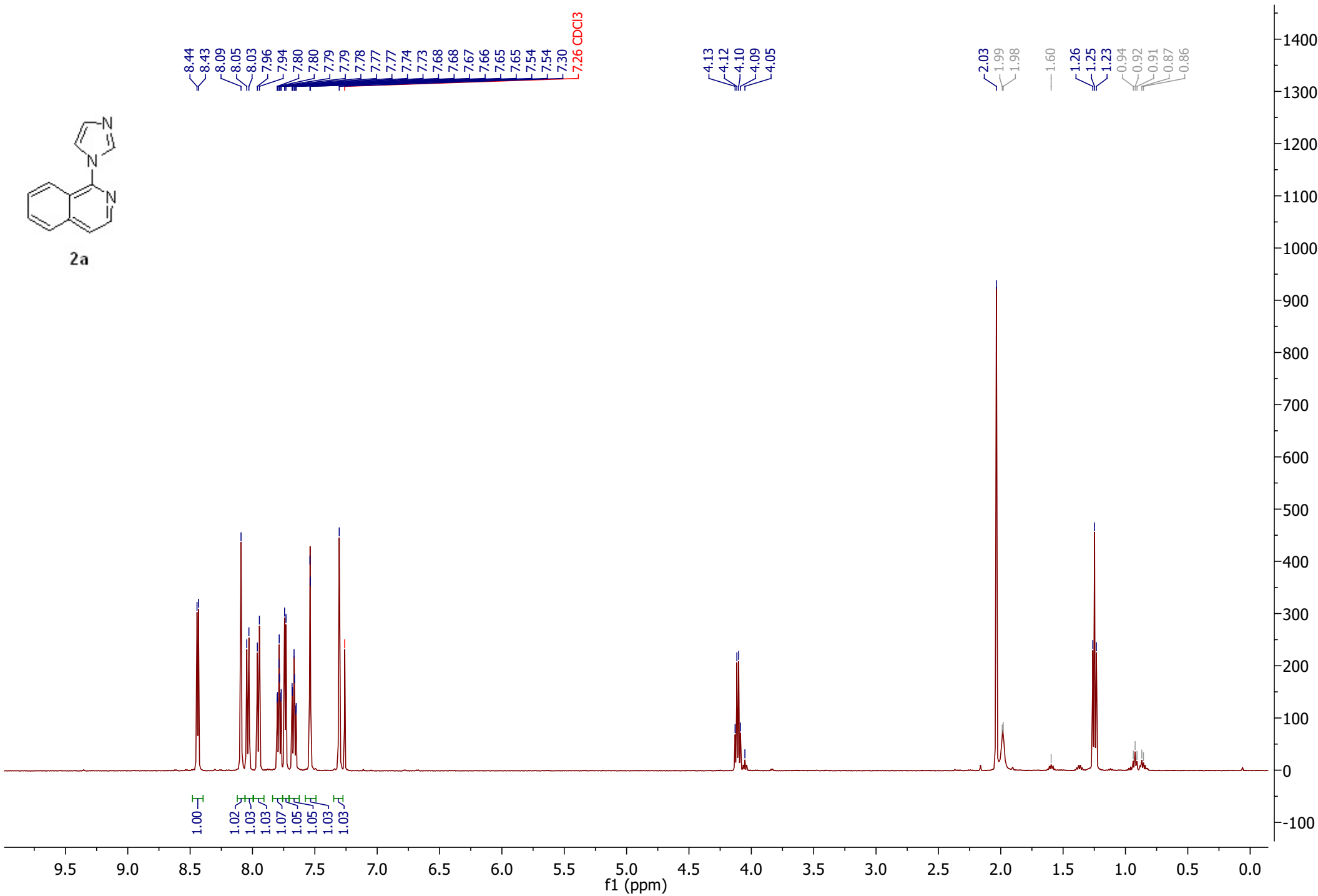
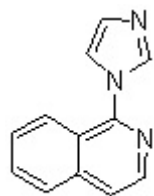


Figure S13. <sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of **2a**.



2a

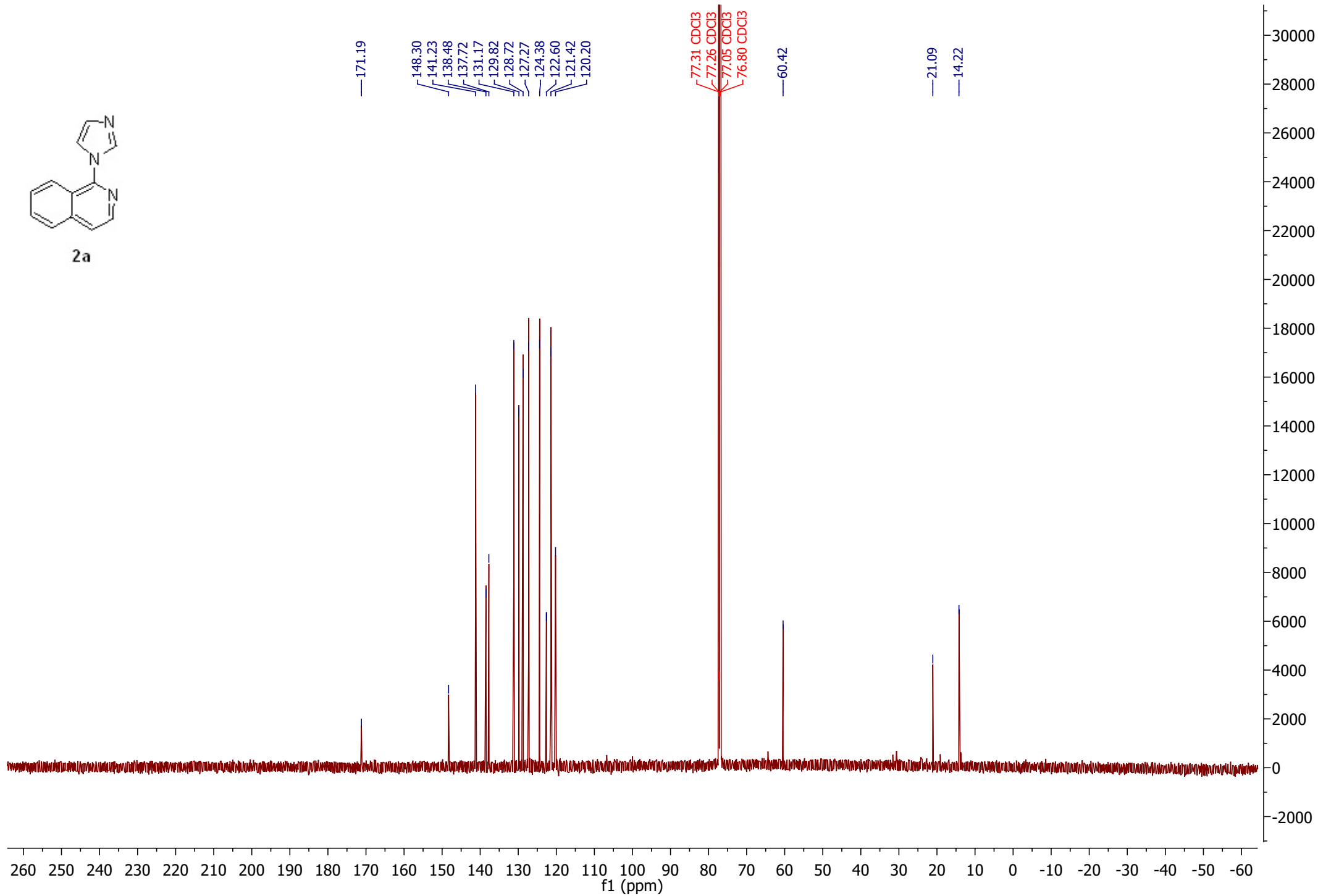
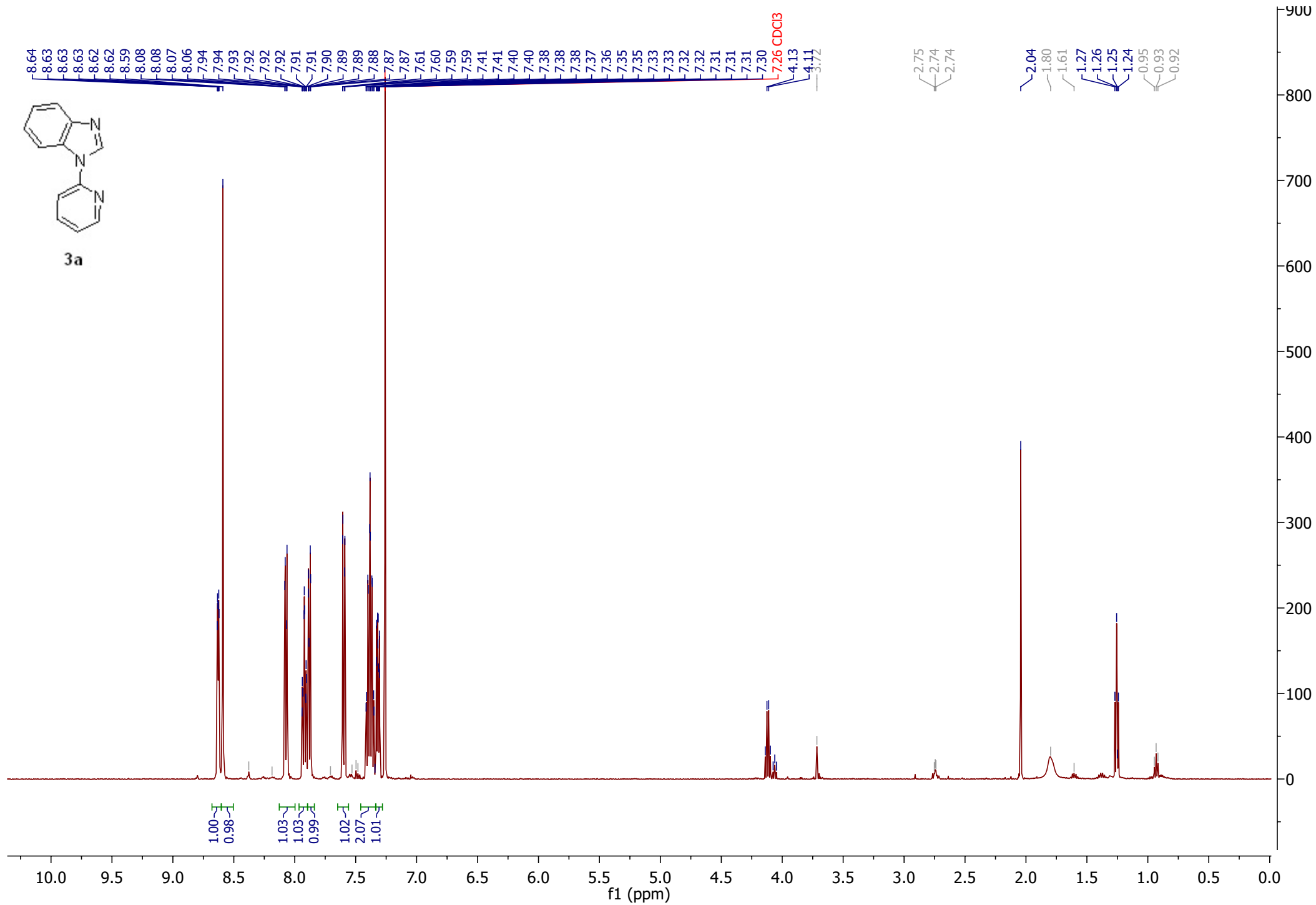
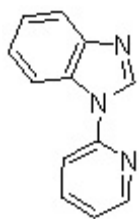


Figure S14. <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of 2a.

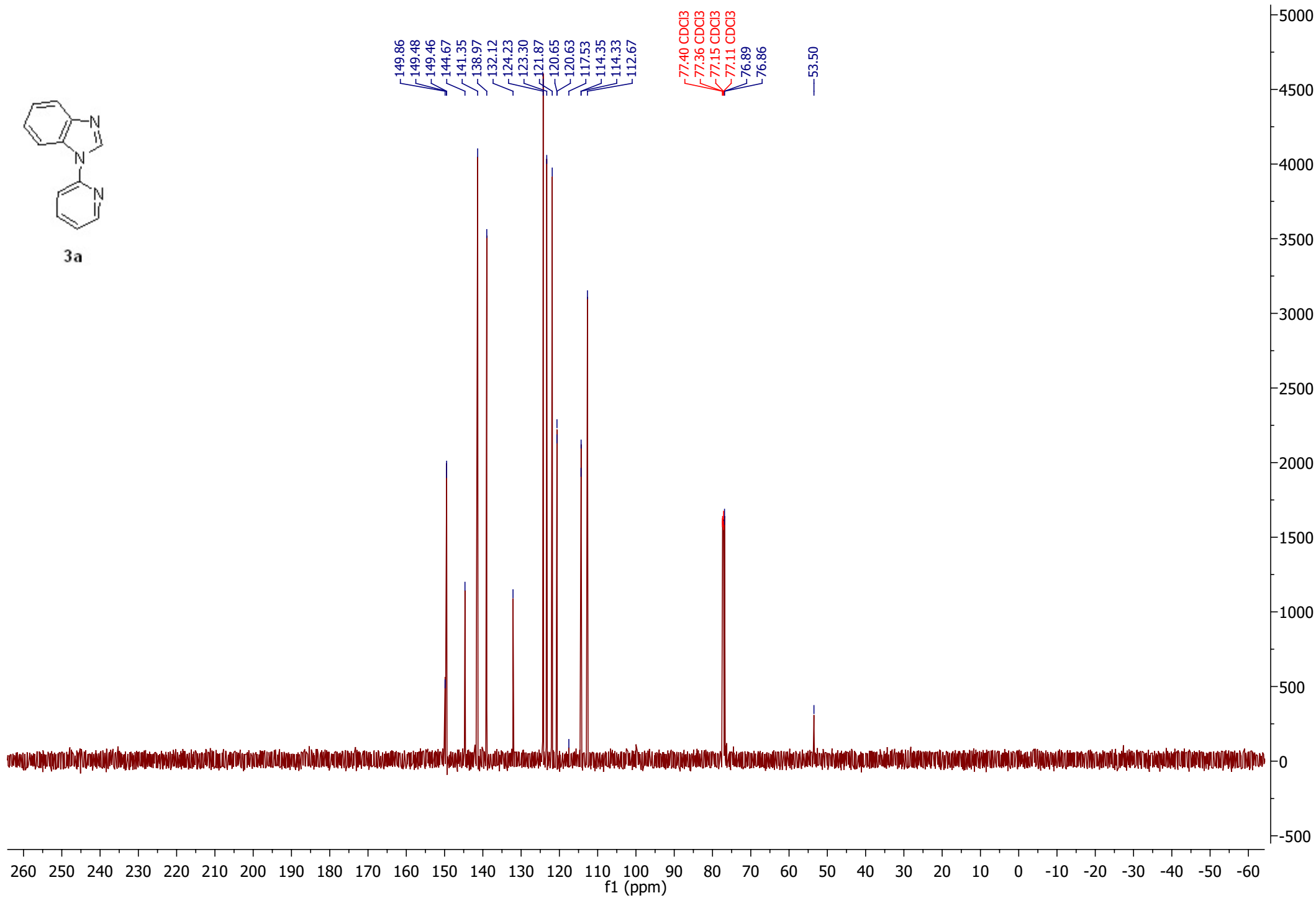


**Figure S15.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of **3a**.





**3a**



**Figure S16.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of **3a**.

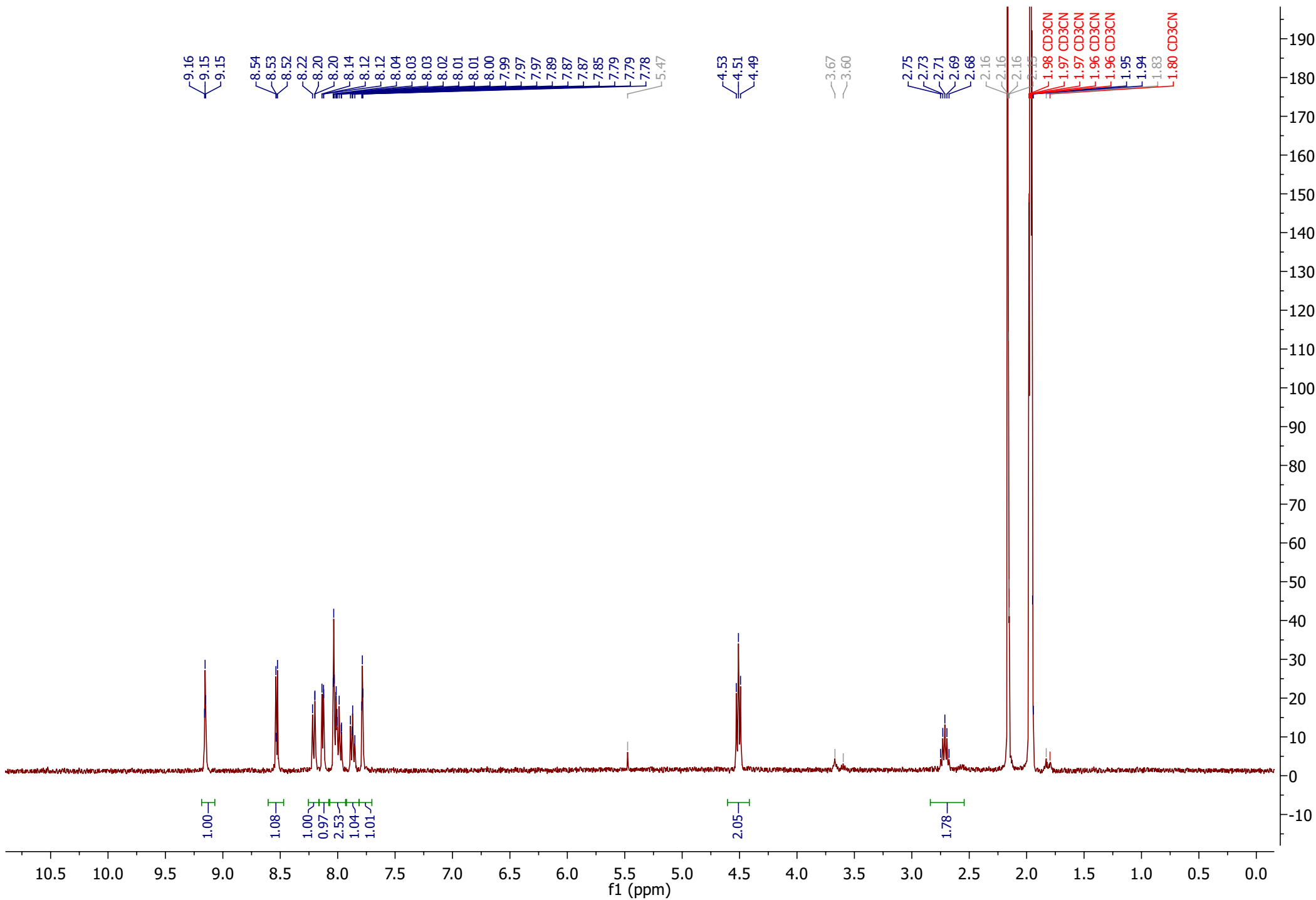
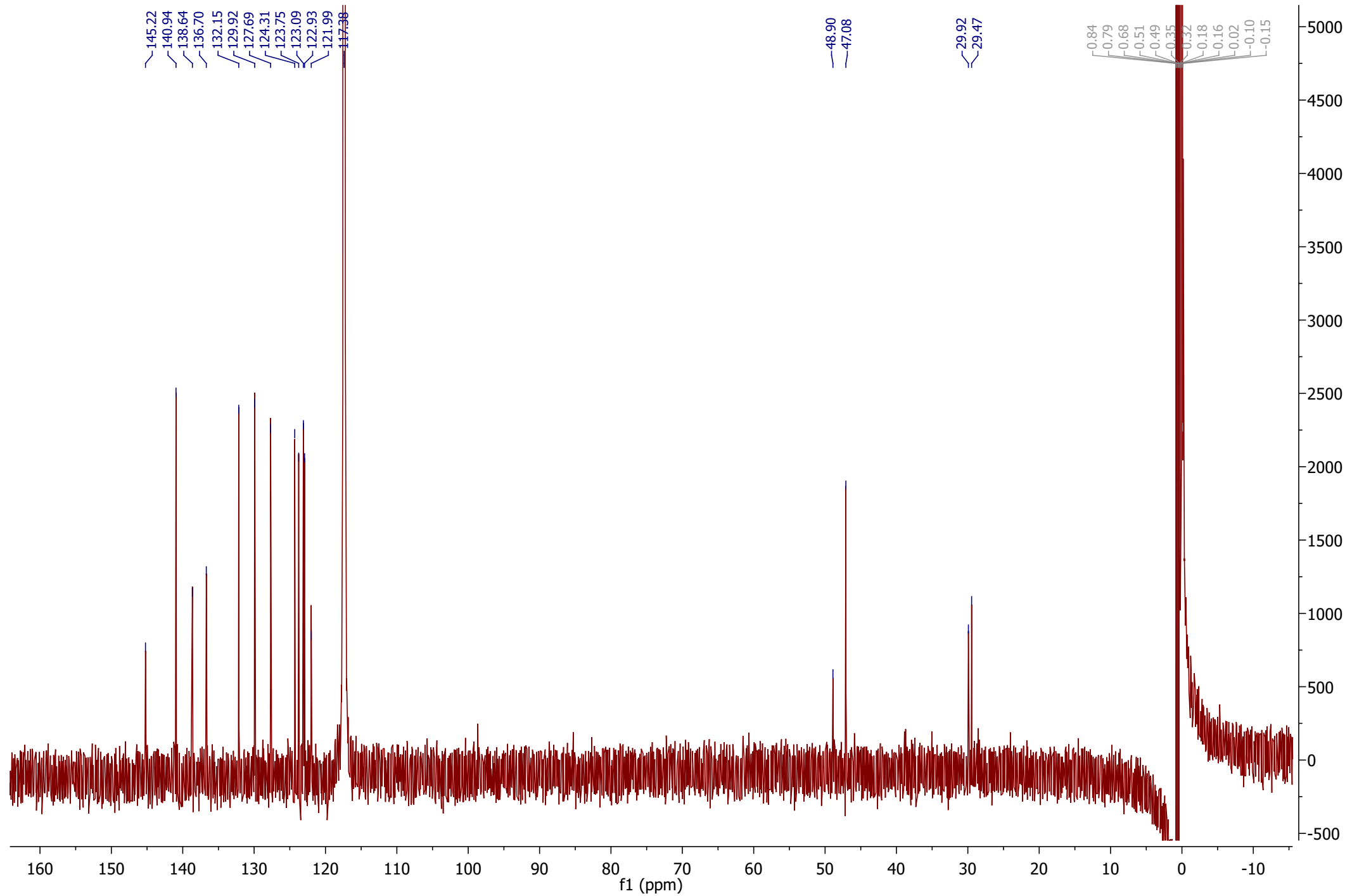


Figure S17. <sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of 2b.



**Figure S18.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR Spectrum of **2b**.