

Iron(II) Bromide-Catalyzed Synthesis of Benzimidazoles from Aryl Azides

Meihua Shen and Tom G. Driver*

*Department of Chemistry, University of Illinois at Chicago,
845 West Taylor Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60607-7061*

Supporting Information

Contents

I.	Preparation of 2-azidoanilines.....	s-2
II.	Preparation of 2-azidoarylimines	s-12
III.	FeBr ₂ -catalyzed synthesis of benzimidazoles from aryl azides.....	s-13
IV.	References.....	s-24
V.	¹ H and ¹³ C NMR spectra of compounds.....	s-25

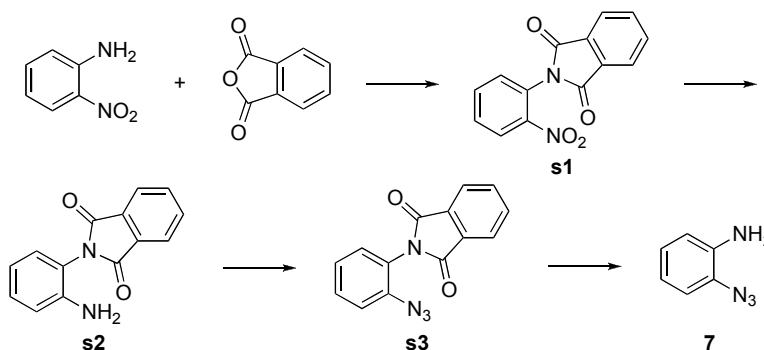
Typical information and materials

¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at ambient temperature using Bruker DRX 500 or Varian DRX 300 spectrometers. The data are reported as follows: chemical shift in ppm from internal tetramethylsilane on the δ scale, multiplicity (br = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), coupling constants (Hz) and integration. High resolution mass spectra were acquired on a JEOL GCMate II or Thermo Finnigan LTQ FT spectrometer, and were obtained by peak matching. Analytical thin layer chromatography was performed on Sorbent Technologies 0.25 mm extra hard silica gel plates with UV254 fluorescent indicator. Liquid chromatography was performed using forced flow (flash chromatography) of the indicated solvent system on Sorbent Technologies 60Å (40 – 60 μ m) mesh silica gel (SiO₂). Medium pressure liquid chromatography (MPLC) was performed using Thomson SINGLE StEP pumps to force flow the indicated solvent system down columns that had been packed with Sorbent Technologies 60Å (40 – 60 μ m) mesh silica gel (SiO₂). All reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of nitrogen in glassware, which had been oven-dried. Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were commercially obtained and, where appropriate, purified prior to use. Acetonitrile, Methanol, Toluene, THF, Et₂O, and CH₂Cl₂ were dried by filtration through alumina according to the procedure of Grubbs.¹ Metal salts were stored in an MBraun labmaster nitrogen atmosphere dry box.

I. Preparation of 2-azidoanilines

A. Typical procedure for the preparation of 2-azidoanilines

The requisite 2-azidoanilines were prepared from 2-nitroanilines following the method reported by Hall and co-workers (Scheme s1).²



Scheme s1.

2-Phthalimidonitrobenzene (s1).³ 13.81 g of phthalic anhydride (100.0 mmol) and 14.81 g of 2-nitroaniline (100.0 mmol) were melted together in an open flask and heated to 215 °C for 2h, at which time the evolution of water had ceased. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool somewhat, and 50 mL of glacial acetic acid was then added. The solution was refluxed to dissolve any phthalimide that had precipitated. After 5 minutes, the reaction mixture was slowly cooled. The resulting mixture was filtered and the precipitate was washed with portions of ethyl ether until the filtrate was colorless to provide **s1** as a yellow crystalline solid (19.16 g, 72%): mp 195–196 °C. The spectral data matched that reported by Cul and co-workers:³ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.96–7.98 (m, 2H), 7.78–7.84 (m, 3H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): δ 166.3, 145.7, 134.8, 134.1, 131.8, 130.9, 129.7, 125.8, 125.6, 124.2; IR (thin film): 1714, 1600, 1523, 1467, 1379, 1344, 781, 706 cm⁻¹.

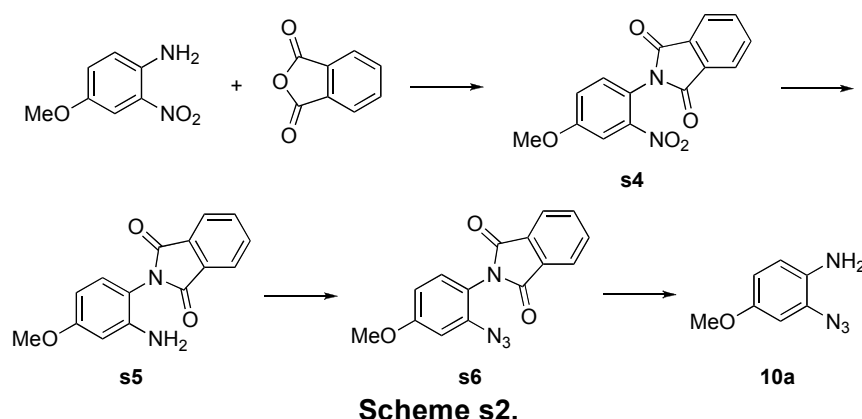
2-Phthalimidoaniline (s2).⁴ To a solution of 10.73 g of **s1** (40.0 mmol) in 320 mL of acetone was added 32 mL of glacial acetic acid, 32 mL of water and 26.81 g of iron powder (480.0 mmol). The mixture was heated to reflux. After 8 h, the reaction mixture was cooled and filtered through a pad of Celite. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was dissolved in 150 mL of acetone, and 200 mL of saturated solution of sodium carbonate was then added. Filtration afforded **s2** as a yellow solid (7.04 g, 74%): mp 184–184 °C. The spectral data matched that reported by Alkhathlan and co-workers:⁴ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 7.94–7.96 (m, 2H), 7.79–7.81 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.27 (m, 1H), 7.12 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.88–6.92 (m, 2H), 3.76 (br s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): δ 167.4, 143.4, 134.5, 132.1, 130.2, 129.2, 123.9, 119.4, 118.0, 117.9; IR (thin film): 3379, 1707, 1623, 1503, 1379, 1100, 881, 716 cm⁻¹.

2-Phthalimidophenyl azide (s3). 5.96 g of **s2** (25.0 mmol) was suspended in 160 mL of glacial acetic acid and 160 mL of water. The mixture was cooled to 0 °C and 2.42 g of NaNO₂ (35.0 mmol) was added in one portion. After 3h, the remaining undissolved starting **s2** (approximately 0.16 g) was isolated by filtration. To the filtrate, 2.44 g of NaN₃ (37.5 mmol) was slowly added. During this addition, small portions of ethyl ether were added to prevent excessive foaming. After 0.5 h, the reaction mixture was filtered to give **s3** as a light yellow solid (6.37 g, 99%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 7.95–7.96 (m, 2H), 7.79–7.80 (m, 2H), 7.50–7.53 (m, 1H), 7.26–7.33 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): δ 166.9, 137.8, 134.4, 131.9, 130.6, 130.5, 125.3, 123.8, 122.5, 119.3;

IR (thin film): 2117, 2088, 1712, 1501, 1380, 1077, 753, 711 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_8\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$ (M)⁺ 264.0647, found 264.0647.

2-Azidoaniline (7). 5.55 g of **s3** (21.0 mmol) was suspended in 14 mL of methanol. To this slurry was added 1.5 mL of hydrazine hydrate (31.5 mmol) in one portion. The resulting reaction mixture was stirred rapidly. After 20 min, the reaction became very thick. Any lumps were broken up with a spatula. An additional 10 mL of methanol was added and stirring was continued for 1 h. To the resulting paste, 40 mL of a 1.0 M aqueous solution of NaOH was added. The mixture was diluted with 30 mL of water and 60 mL of CH_2Cl_2 . The resulting two phases were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with an additional 2×30 mL of CH_2Cl_2 . The combined organic phases were washed with 1×30 mL of distilled water and 1×30 mL of brine. The resulting organic phase was dried over Na_2SO_4 and the heterogeneous mixture was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification of the resulting residue by MPLC (0:100 – 10:90 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **7** as a yellow solid (1.76 g, 62%): $R_f = 0.6$ (14:86 EtOAc:hexanes); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.30 (dd, $J = 8.0, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.97 (td, $J = 7.7, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.80 (td, $J = 7.7, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.70 (dd, $J = 7.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.81 (br s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 138.0, 125.5, 125.1, 119.0, 118.3, 115.8; IR (thin film): 3386, 3194, 2132, 1502, 1304, 1262, 822, 746 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6\text{N}_4$ (M)⁺ 134.0592, found 134.0594.

B. Substituted 2-azidoaniline syntheses



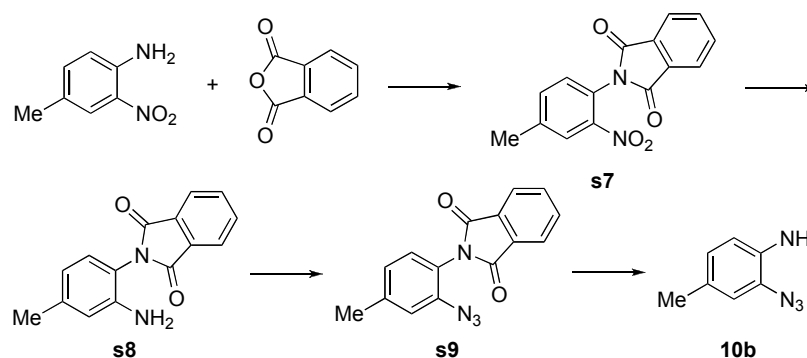
5-Methoxy-2-phthalimidonitrobenzene (s4). The typical procedure was followed using 7.41 g of phthalic anhydride (50.0 mmol) and 8.41 g of 4-methoxy-2-nitroaniline (50.0 mmol). Purification by recrystallization from 25 mL of glacial acetic acid afforded **s4** as a yellow crystalline solid (11.80 g, 79%): mp 147–148 °C; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.94–7.96 (m, 2H), 7.80–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.70 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.29 (m, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 166.7, 160.1, 146.2, 134.6, 131.93, 131.88, 124.0, 120.1, 117.9, 110.8, 56.2; IR (thin film): 1736, 1536, 1509, 1386, 1313, 1244, 1029, 720 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_5\text{N}_2$ (M)⁺ 298.0590, found 298.0592.

5-Methoxy-2-phthalimidoaniline (s5). The typical procedure was followed using 5.96 g of **s4** (20.0 mmol) and 13.40 g of iron powder (240.0 mmol) in 160 mL of acetone, 16 mL of glacial acetic acid, and 16 mL of water. Purification by recrystallization from 70 mL of acetone and 100 mL of saturated solution of sodium carbonate afforded **s5** as a yellow solid (3.71 g, 69%): mp 181–182 °C; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.94 (br s, 2H), 7.78 (br s, 2H), 7.02 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.73 (br s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 167.7, 161.1, 144.5, 134.4, 132.1, 130.1, 123.8, 111.0, 105.3, 102.7, 55.4;

IR (thin film): 3444, 3366, 1715, 1630, 1515, 1385, 1212, 880 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_3\text{N}_2$ (M)⁺ 268.0848, found 268.0851.

5-Methoxy-2-phthalimidophenyl azide (s6). The typical procedure was followed using 2.68 g of **s5** (10.0 mmol), 0.97 g of NaNO_2 (14.0 mmol) and 0.98 g of NaN_3 (15.0 mmol) in 60 mL of glacial acetic acid and 60 mL of water. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 20:80 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **s6** as a light yellow solid (2.94 g, 100%): R_f = 0.5 (16:84 EtOAc:hexanes); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.93–7.95 (m, 2H), 7.78–7.79 (m, 2H), 7.19 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.79–6.81 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 167.3, 161.3, 138.9, 134.3, 132.0, 131.3, 123.8, 115.3, 110.9, 105.2, 55.8; IR (thin film): 2113, 1705, 1511, 1389, 1232, 1078, 881, 717 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_3\text{N}_4$ (M)⁺ 294.0753, found 294.0755.

2-Azido-4-methoxyaniline (10a). The typical procedure was followed using 2.94 g of **s6** (10.0 mmol) and 0.7 mL of hydrazine hydrate (15.0 mmol) in 15 mL of methanol. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 15:85 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **10a** as a yellow solid (1.31 g, 80%): R_f = 0.4 (14:86 EtOAc:hexanes); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 6.62–6.65 (m, 2H), 6.54–6.57 (m, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.52 (br s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 153.2, 131.8, 126.1, 117.0, 111.2, 104.6, 55.9; IR (thin film): 3404, 3187, 2114, 1509, 1254, 1042, 826, 714 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8\text{ON}_4$ (M)⁺ 164.0698, found 164.0697.



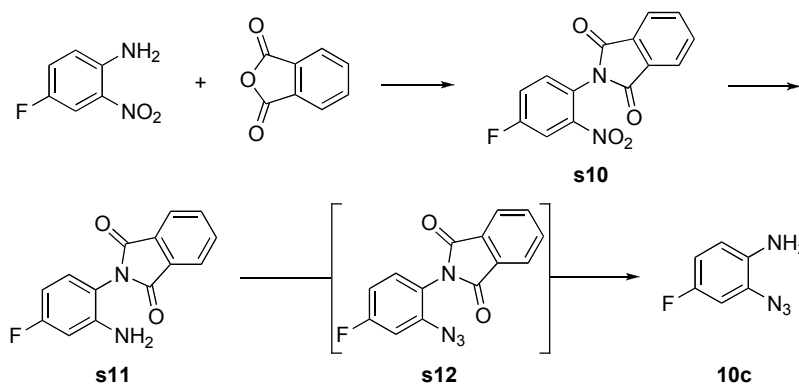
Scheme s3.

5-Methyl-2-phthalimidonitrobenzene (s7).³ The typical procedure was followed using 7.41 g of phthalic anhydride (50.0 mmol) and 7.76 g of 4-methyl-2-nitroaniline (50.0 mmol). Purification by recrystallization from 25 mL of glacial acetic acid afforded **s7** as a yellow crystalline solid (11.50 g, 81%): mp 134–135 °C. The spectral data matched that reported by Cul and co-workers:³ ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.94–7.96 (m, 2H), 7.80–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.58 (dt, J = 8.0, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 166.6, 145.4, 140.8, 134.8, 134.7, 131.9, 130.7, 126.2, 124.1, 122.9, 21.1; IR (thin film): 1734, 1716, 1533, 1381, 1350, 1226, 1101, 719 cm^{-1} .

5-Methyl-2-phthalimidoaniline (s8). The typical procedure was followed using 5.64 g of **s7** (20.0 mmol) and 13.40 g of iron powder (240.0 mmol) in 160 mL of acetone, 16 mL of glacial acetic acid and 16 mL of water. Purification by recrystallization from 70 mL of acetone and 100 mL of saturated solution of sodium carbonate afforded **s8** as a yellow solid (4.01 g, 79%): mp 157–158 °C; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.93–7.95 (m, 2H), 7.78–7.79 (m, 2H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.71–6.72 (m, 2H), 3.70 (br s, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 167.5, 143.0, 140.5, 134.4, 132.1, 128.9, 123.8, 120.4, 118.4, 115.5, 21.4; IR (thin film): 3421, 3350, 1724, 1512, 1383, 1103, 883, 717 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2\text{N}_2$ (M)⁺ 252.0899, found 252.0899.

5-Methyl-2-phthalimidophenyl azide (s9). The typical procedure was followed using 2.52 g of **s8** (10.0 mmol), 0.97 g of NaNO_2 (14.0 mmol) and 0.98 g of NaN_3 (15.0 mmol) in 60 mL of glacial acetic acid and 60 mL of water. Filtration afforded **s9** as a yellow solid (2.73 g, 98%): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.94–7.96 (m, 2H), 7.78–7.80 (m, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.07–7.11 (m, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 167.2, 141.3, 137.4, 134.3, 132.0, 130.2, 126.3, 123.8, 120.0, 119.9, 21.4; IR (thin film): 2112, 1734, 1716, 1514, 1385, 1306, 1105, 717 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2\text{N}_4$ (M) $^+$ 278.0804, found 278.0805.

2-Azido-4-methylaniline (10b).⁵ The typical procedure was followed using 2.18 g of **s9** (7.8 mmol) and 0.6 mL of hydrazine hydrate (12.3 mmol) in 15 mL of methanol. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 10:90 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **10b** as an orange oil (0.92 g, 79%): R_f = 0.5 (14:86 EtOAc:hexanes). The spectral data matched that reported by Novak and co-workers:⁵ ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.80 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (br s, 2H), 2.30 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 135.7, 128.8, 126.3, 125.0, 118.8, 116.1, 20.6; IR (thin film): 3462, 3371, 2110, 1624, 1516, 1306, 1261, 810 cm^{-1} .



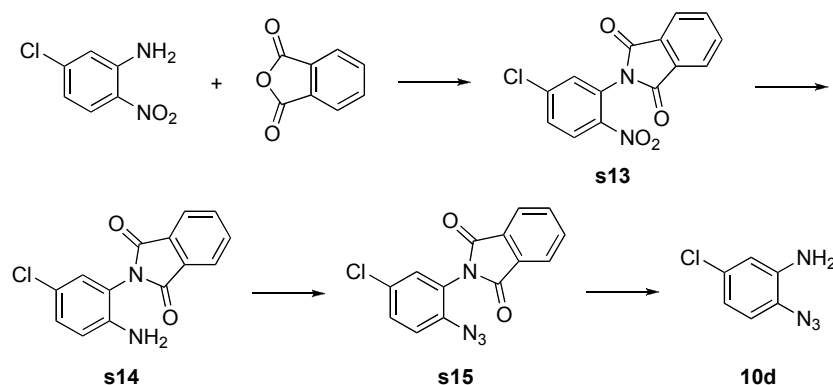
Scheme s4.

5-Fluoro-2-phthalimidonitrobenzene (s10). The typical procedure was followed using 7.41 g of phthalic anhydride (50.0 mmol) and 8.05 g of 4-fluoro-2-nitroaniline (50.0 mmol). Purification by recrystallization from 40 mL of glacial acetic acid afforded **s10** as a brown crystalline solid (9.40 g, 66%): mp 230–231 °C; ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 500 MHz): δ 8.21 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.01–8.04 (m, 2H), 7.95–7.97 (m, 2H), 7.84–7.91 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 125 MHz): δ 166.5, 161.5 (d, J_{CF} = 250.0 Hz), 146.6 (d, J_{CF} = 10.0 Hz), 135.9, 133.7 (d, J_{CF} = 8.8 Hz), 131.7, 124.5, 122.4 (d, J_{CF} = 22.5 Hz), 121.7, 114.0 (d, J_{CF} = 27.5 Hz); IR (thin film): 1739, 1537, 1502, 1466, 1383, 1234, 878, 714 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_7\text{O}_4\text{N}_2\text{F}$ (M) $^+$ 286.0390, found 286.0392.

5-Fluoro-2-phthalimidoaniline (s11). The typical procedure was followed using 2.86 g of **s10** (10.0 mmol) and 6.70 g of iron powder (120.0 mmol) in 80 mL of acetone, 8 mL of glacial acetic acid and 8 mL of water. Purification by recrystallization from 35 mL of acetone and 50 mL of saturated solution of sodium carbonate afforded **s11** as a brown solid (0.74 g, 29%): mp 182–183 °C; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.94–7.95 (m, 2H), 7.79–7.81 (m, 2H), 7.04–7.07 (m, 1H), 6.56–6.59 (m, 2H), 3.85 (br s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 167.4, 163.7 (d, J_{CF} = 245.0 Hz), 145.2 (d, J_{CF} = 11.2 Hz), 134.6, 131.9, 130.8 (d, J_{CF} = 10.0 Hz), 123.9, 113.7, 106.2 (d, J_{CF} = 22.5 Hz), 104.2 (d, J_{CF} = 25.0 Hz); IR (thin film): 3454, 3375, 2125, 1722, 1622, 1513, 1385, 717 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{O}_2\text{N}_2\text{F}$ (M) $^+$ 256.0648, found 256.0650.

5-Fluoro-2-phthalimidophenyl azide (s12). The typical procedure was followed using 0.73 g of **s11** (2.8 mmol), 0.28 g of NaNO₂ (4.0 mmol) and 0.28 g of NaN₃ (4.3 mmol) in 20 mL of glacial acetic acid and 20 mL of water. Filtration afforded crude **s12** as a yellow solid (0.62 g, 77%): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 7.94–7.96 (m, 2H), 7.79–7.81 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.28 (m, 1H), 7.02 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96–7.00 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): δ 166.9, 163.4 (d, *J*_{CF} = 248.8 Hz), 139.8 (d, *J*_{CF} = 10.0 Hz), 134.5, 132.1 (d, *J*_{CF} = 10.0 Hz), 131.9, 123.9, 118.7, 112.6 (d, *J*_{CF} = 22.5 Hz), 107.0 (d, *J*_{CF} = 25.0 Hz). This material was used directly in the next step without further purification.

2-azido-4-fluoroaniline (10c). The typical procedure was followed using 0.62 g of unpurified **s12** (2.2 mmol) and 0.16 mL of hydrazine hydrate (3.3 mmol) in 8 mL of methanol. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 10:90 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **10c** as a red oil (0.32 g, 97%) (**Caution** **10c** is volatile): *R*_f = 0.5 (16:84 EtOAc:hexanes); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 6.77 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (td, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.60–6.63 (m, 1H), 3.67 (br s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): δ 156.1 (d, *J*_{CF} = 237.5 Hz), 134.3, 126.0 (d, *J*_{CF} = 8.8 Hz), 116.4 (d, *J*_{CF} = 8.8 Hz), 112.2 (d, *J*_{CF} = 22.5 Hz), 105.6 (d, *J*_{CF} = 25.0 Hz); IR (thin film): 3456, 3373, 2114, 1599, 1510, 1311, 1255, 950 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₆H₅N₄F (M)⁺ 152.0498, found 152.0497.



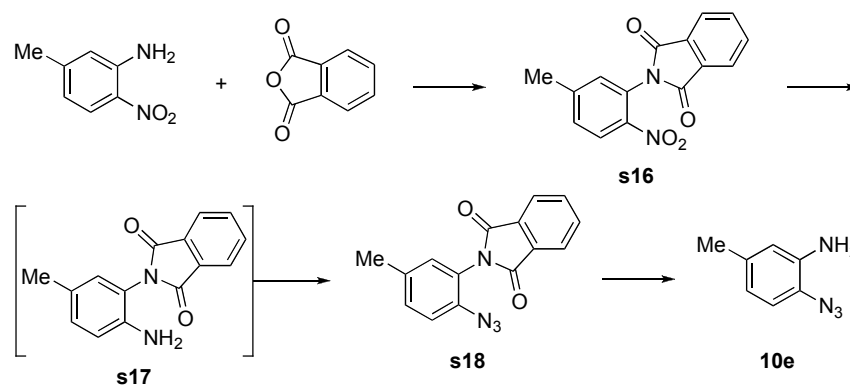
Scheme s5.

4-Chloro-2-phthalimidonitrobenzene (s13). The typical procedure was followed using 7.41 g of phthalic anhydride (50.0 mmol), and 8.63 g of 5-chloro-2-nitroaniline (50.0 mmol). Purification by recrystallization from 25 mL of glacial acetic acid afforded **s13** as a yellow crystalline solid (5.10 g, 34%): mp 192–193 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.97–7.99 (m, 2H), 7.83–7.85 (m, 2H), 7.59 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): δ 165.9, 144.0, 140.3, 135.0, 131.7, 131.0, 129.8, 127.0, 126.8, 124.4; IR (thin film): 1727, 1600, 1525, 1347, 1224, 1109, 780, 716 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₇O₄N₂Cl (M)⁺ 302.0094, found 302.0091.

4-Chloro-2-phthalimidoaniline (s14). The typical procedure was followed using 4.54 g of **s13** (15.0 mmol) and 10.05 g of iron powder (180.0 mmol) in 120 mL of acetone, 12 mL of glacial acetic acid, and 12 mL of water. Purification by recrystallization from 50 mL of acetone and 80 mL of saturated solution of sodium carbonate afforded **s14** as a yellow solid (3.77 g, 92%): mp 165–166 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 7.95–7.96 (m, 2H), 7.80–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.21 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H); 6.82 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (br s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): δ 166.9, 142.2, 134.6 (2C), 131.9, 130.2, 129.0, 124.0, 123.5, 118.7; IR (thin film): 3433, 3360, 1717, 1630, 1496, 1376, 1102, 722 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₉O₂N₂Cl (M)⁺ 272.0353, found 272.0352.

4-Chloro-2-phthalimidophenyl azide (s15). The typical procedure was followed using 2.73 g of **s14** (10.0 mmol), 0.97 g of NaNO₂ (14.0 mmol) and 0.98 g of NaN₃ (15.0 mmol) in 60 mL of glacial acetic acid and 60 mL of water. Filtration afforded **s15** as a light yellow solid (2.12 g, 71%): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 7.95–7.97 (m, 2H), 7.80–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.48 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H); 7.24 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): δ 166.5, 136.7, 134.6 (2C), 131.8, 130.8, 130.3, 124.0, 123.5, 120.3; IR (thin film): 2131, 2099, 1725, 1492, 1371, 1305, 1111, 717 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₇O₂N₄Cl (M)⁺ 298.0258, found 298.0262.

2-azido-5-chloroaniline (10d). The typical procedure was followed using 1.49 g of **s15** (5.0 mmol) and 0.4 mL of hydrazine hydrate (7.5 mmol) in 5 mL of methanol. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 10:90 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **10d** as an orange oil (0.76 g, 91%): R_f = 0.5 (13:87 EtOAc:hexanes); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (br s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): δ 139.1, 130.7, 123.8, 119.2, 118.7, 115.4; IR (thin film): 3392, 3299, 2128, 2087, 1494, 1297, 1252, 796 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₆H₅N₄Cl (M)⁺ 168.0203, found 168.0205.



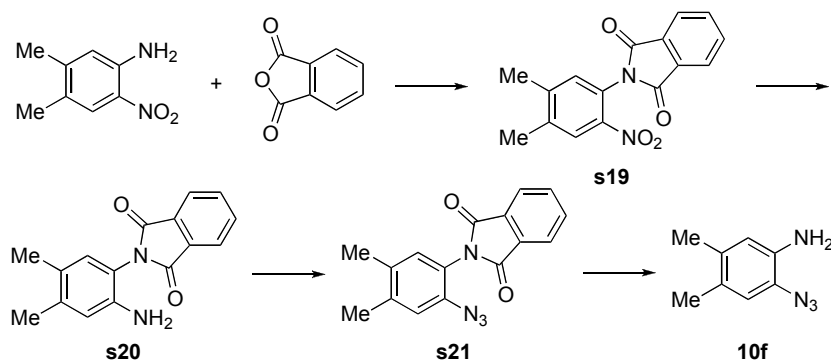
4-Methyl-2-phthalimidonitrobenzene (s16). The typical procedure was followed using 1.30 g of phthalic anhydride (8.8 mmol) and 1.34 g of 5-methyl-2-nitroaniline (8.8 mmol). Purification by recrystallization from 5 mL of glacial acetic acid afforded **s16** as a light yellow crystalline solid (1.02 g, 41%): mp 147–148 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 8.10 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.94–7.96 (m, 2H), 7.80–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (s, 1H), 2.50 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): δ 166.5, 145.9, 143.4, 134.7, 131.9, 131.5, 130.4, 125.9, 125.5, 124.1, 21.5; IR (thin film): 1724, 1604, 1520, 1371, 1348, 1306, 1105, 719 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₅H₁₀O₄N₂ (M)⁺ 282.0641, found 282.0638.

4-Methyl-2-phthalimidoaniline (s17). The typical procedure was followed using 2.17 g of **s16** (7.7 mmol) and 5.13 g of iron powder (92.3 mmol) in 60 mL of acetone, 6 mL of glacial acetic acid, and 6 mL of water. Purification by recrystallization from 15 mL of acetone and 50 mL of saturated solution of sodium carbonate afforded crude **s17** as a brown solid (0.69 g, 40%): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz): δ 7.94–7.95 (m, 2H), 7.78–7.79 (m, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (br s, 2H), 2.84 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz): δ 167.4, 140.8, 134.4 (2C), 132.1, 131.0, 129.4, 129.0, 123.8, 118.0, 20.4. Unpurified **s17** was used directly to next step.

4-Methyl-2-phthalimidophenyl azide (s18). The typical procedure was followed using 0.69 g of **s17** (2.7 mmol), 0.26 g of NaNO₂ (3.8 mmol), and 0.26 g of NaN₃ (4.1 mmol) in 16 mL of glacial acetic acid and 16 mL of water. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 20:80 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **s18** as a light yellow solid (0.68 g,

89%); R_f = 0.5 (14:86 EtOAc:hexanes); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.92–7.94 (m, 2H), 7.77–7.78 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 167.0, 135.6, 135.0, 134.4, 132.0, 131.5, 131.0, 123.8, 122.3, 119.2, 20.8; IR (thin film): 2129, 2100, 1722, 1502, 1375, 1302, 1109, 717 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_2\text{N}_4$ (M) $^+$ 278.0804, found 278.0802.

2-azido-5-methylaniline (10e). The typical procedure was followed using 0.67 g of **s18** (2.4 mmol) and 0.2 mL of hydrazine hydrate (3.6 mmol) in 10 mL of methanol. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 10:90 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **10e** as a pink solid (0.34 g, 96%); R_f = 0.4 (14:86 EtOAc:hexanes); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 6.93 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 3.76 (br s, 2H), 2.27 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 137.9, 135.6, 122.5, 119.9, 118.2, 116.6, 21.0; IR (thin film): 3388, 2130, 2092, 1633, 1506, 1308, 1273, 798 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8\text{N}_4$ (M) $^+$ 148.0749, found 148.0748.



Scheme s7.

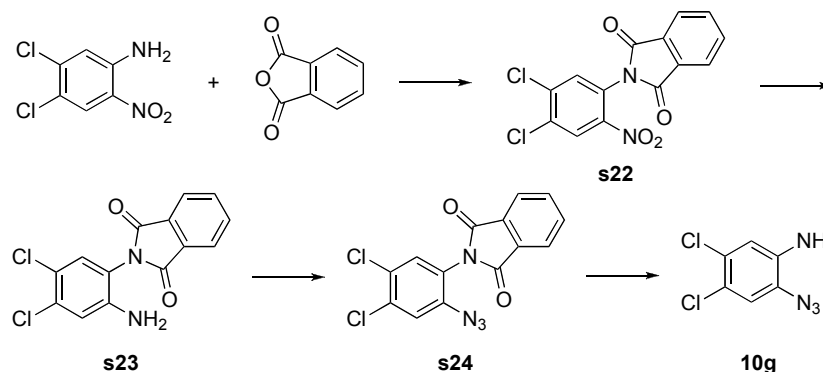
4,5-Dimethyl-2-phthalimidonitrobenzene (s19). The typical procedure was followed using 3.70 g of phthalic anhydride (25.0 mmol) and 4.28 g of 4,5-dimethyl-2-nitroaniline (25.0 mmol). Purification by recrystallization from 5 mL of glacial acetic acid afforded **s19** as a brown crystalline solid (4.01 g, 54%); mp 158–159 °C; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.92–7.94 (m, 2H), 7.79–7.80 (m, 2H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 166.7, 144.6, 143.2, 139.4, 134.6, 132.0, 131.8, 126.7, 124.1, 123.0, 20.0, 19.6; IR (thin film): 1726, 1525, 1408, 1365, 1350, 1248, 1103, 719 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_4\text{N}_2$ (M) $^+$ 296.0797, found 296.0799.

4,5-Dimethyl-2-phthalimidophenyl azide (s21). The typical procedure was followed using 2.96 g of **s19** (10.0 mmol) and 6.70 g of iron powder (120.0 mmol) in 80 mL of acetone, 8 mL of glacial acetic acid and 8 mL of water. Purification by recrystallization from 15 mL of acetone and 80 mL of saturated solution of sodium carbonate afforded **s20** as a brown solid (2.09 g, 78%); mp 180–181 °C; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.93–7.95 (m, 2H), 7.77–7.79 (m, 2H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 3.55 (br s, 2H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 167.6, 141.0, 139.0, 134.4, 132.1, 129.6, 127.8, 123.8, 119.4, 115.5, 19.7, 18.8; IR (thin film): 1708, 1610, 1511, 1381, 1099, 1068, 872, 717 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2\text{N}_2$ (M) $^+$ 266.1055, found 266.1057.

4,5-Dimethyl-2-phthalimidophenyl azide (s21). The typical procedure was followed using 1.48 g of **s20** (5.5 mmol), 0.54 g of NaNO_2 (7.8 mmol) and 0.54 g of NaN_3 (8.3 mmol) in 30 mL of glacial acetic acid and 30 mL of water. Filtration afforded **s21** as a light brown solid (1.52 g, 94%); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.94 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 2H), 7.77–7.79 (m, 2H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 167.3, 140.0, 134.8, 134.34, 134.28, 132.0, 131.2, 123.8, 120.4, 119.8, 19.9, 19.3; IR (thin film): 2112,

1714, 1508, 1379, 1306, 1105, 872, 723 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2\text{N}_4$ (M)⁺ 292.0960, found 292.0957.

2-azido-4,5-dimethylaniline (10f). The typical procedure was followed using 1.45 g of **s21** (5.0 mmol) and 0.4 mL of hydrazine hydrate (7.5 mmol) in 10 mL of methanol. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 10:90 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **10f** as a yellow solid (0.68 g, 84%): R_f = 0.6 (16:84 EtOAc:hexanes); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 6.80 (s, 1H), 6.52 (s, 1H), 3.61 (br s, 2H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 135.7, 133.9, 127.4, 122.5, 119.4, 117.4, 19.3, 18.9; IR (thin film): 2117, 2100, 1512, 1448, 1318, 1261, 865, 768 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_4$ (M)⁺ 162.0905, found 162.0906.



Scheme s8.

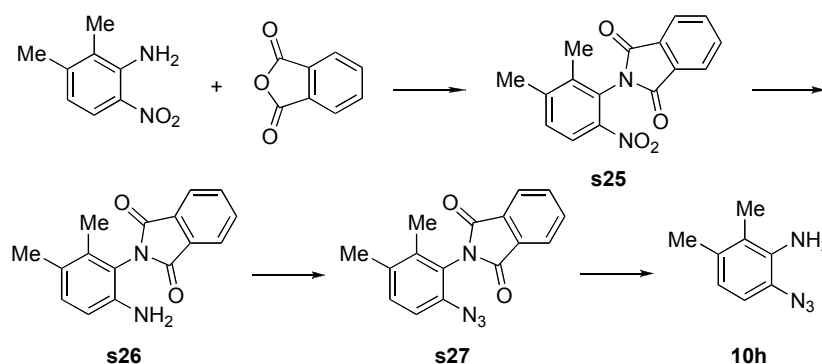
4,5-Dichloro-2-phthalimidonitrobenzene (s22). The typical procedure was followed using 3.70 g of phthalic anhydride (25.0 mmol) and 5.39 g of 4,5-dichloro-2-nitroaniline (25.0 mmol). Purification by recrystallization from 25 mL of glacial acetic acid afforded **s22** as a brown crystalline solid (2.36 g, 28%): mp 170–171 °C; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 8.31 (s, 1H), 7.97–7.98 (m, 2H), 7.84–7.86 (m, 2H), 7.67 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 165.8, 143.8, 138.9, 135.1, 134.1, 132.2, 131.6, 127.5, 124.7, 124.5; IR (thin film): 1726, 1533, 1473, 1394, 1346, 1224, 1105, 717 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_6\text{O}_4\text{N}_2\text{Cl}_2$ (M)⁺ 335.9705, found 335.9702.

4,5-Dichloro-2-phthalimidoaniline (s23). The typical procedure was followed using 2.18 g of **s22** (6.5 mmol) and 4.33 g of iron powder (78.0 mmol) in 60 mL of acetone, 6 mL of glacial acetic acid, and 6 mL of water. Purification by recrystallization from 20 mL of acetone and 80 mL of saturated solution of sodium carbonate afforded **s23** as a light brown solid (1.58 g, 80%): mp 222–223 °C; ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 500 MHz): δ 7.91 (s, 2H), 7.86 (s, 2H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 6.94 (s, 1H), 5.88 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 125 MHz): δ 167.6, 147.5, 134.7, 133.0, 132.5, 132.0, 123.7, 116.2, 115.9, 115.7; IR (thin film): 3348, 1722, 1708, 1626, 1491, 1375, 862, 714 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_8\text{O}_2\text{N}_2\text{Cl}_2$ (M)⁺ 305.9963, found 305.9962.

4,5-Dichloro-2-phthalimidophenyl azide (s24). The typical procedure did not work because of the poor solubility of **s23** in acetic acid and water. This azide was obtained following the method reported by Goddard-Borger and co-workers:⁶ 1.33 g of imidazole-1-sulfonyl azide hydrochloride (6.3 mmol) was added to 1.30 g of aniline **s23** (4.2 mmol), 1.16 g of K_2CO_3 (8.4 mmol), and 0.16 g of $\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (0.63 mmol) in 21 mL of MeOH and 21 mL of acetone. After 36h, visualization of the reaction progress using thin layer chromatography revealed only about 50% completion. Nevertheless, the resulting mixture was diluted with 50 mL of water and 50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 . The phases were separated and the resulting aqueous phase was extracted with an additional 2 $\times$ 50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 . The combined organic phases were washed with 1 $\times$ 30 mL of distilled water and 1 $\times$ 30 mL of brine. The resulting organic phase was dried over Na_2SO_4 , and the heterogeneous mixture was filtered.

The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 10:90 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **s24** as a yellow solid (0.28 g, 20%): R_f = 0.6 (16:84 EtOAc:hexanes); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.95–7.97 (m, 2H), 7.81–7.83 (m, 2H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.39 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 166.3, 137.6, 134.7 (2C), 132.0, 131.7, 128.9, 124.1, 122.0, 120.9; IR (thin film): 2111, 1713, 1487, 1395, 1294, 1102, 872, 725 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_6\text{O}_2\text{N}_4\text{Cl}_2$ (M) $^+$ 331.9868, found 331.9871.

2-azido-4, 5-dichlorolaniline (10g). The typical procedure was followed using 0.42 g of **s24** (1.3 mmol) and 0.1 mL of hydrazine hydrate (2.0 mmol) in 5 mL of methanol. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 10:90 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **10g** as a light red solid (0.18 g, 71%): R_f = 0.5 (15:85 EtOAc:hexanes); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.04 (s, 1H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 3.82 (br s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 137.7, 128.8, 124.9, 121.0, 119.5, 116.4; IR (thin film): 2116, 1619, 1491, 1390, 1271, 1242, 1126, 862 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{N}_4\text{Cl}_2$ (M) $^+$ 201.9813, found 201.9815.



Scheme s9.

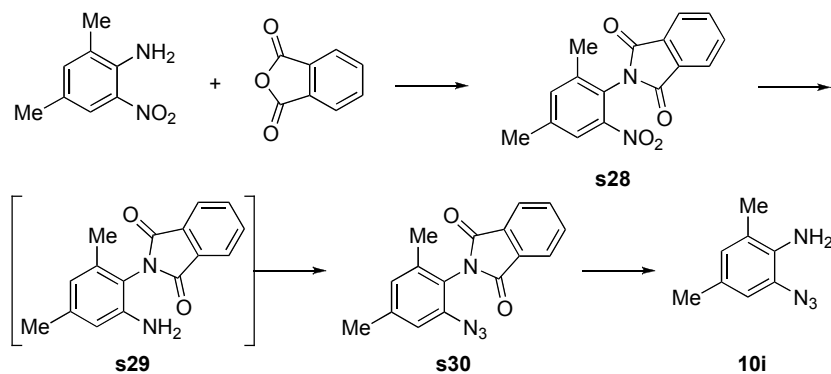
3,4-Dimethyl-2-phthalimidonitrobenzene (s25). The typical procedure was followed using 3.70 g of phthalic anhydride (25.0 mmol) and 4.28 g of 2,3-dimethyl-6-nitroaniline (25.0 mmol). Purification by recrystallization from 20 mL of glacial acetic acid afforded **s25** as a deep brown crystalline solid (3.61 g, 49%): mp 168–169 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.95–7.97 (m, 2H), 7.80–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.43 (s, 1H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.19 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 166.8, 145.1, 144.7, 139.1, 134.7, 132.1, 131.0, 124.5, 124.1, 123.2, 21.1, 15.0; IR (thin film): 1720, 1583, 1516, 1468, 1369, 1334, 876, 719 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_4\text{N}_2$ (M) $^+$ 296.0797, found 296.0794.

3,4-Dimethyl-2-phthalimidoaniline (s26). The typical procedure was followed using 2.96 g of **s25** (10.0 mmol) and 6.70 g of iron powder (120.0 mmol) in 80 mL of acetone, 8 mL of glacial acetic acid and 8 mL of water. Purification by recrystallization from 15 mL of acetone and 80 mL of saturated solution of sodium carbonate afforded **s26** as a brown solid (0.96 g, 36%): mp 176–177 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.96 (s, 2H), 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.06 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.47 (br s, 2H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 1.99 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 167.4, 141.7, 135.7, 134.4, 132.0, 131.7, 127.8, 123.9, 117.4, 114.4, 19.7, 14.8; IR (thin film): 3373, 1714, 1626, 1494, 1375, 1105, 883, 721 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2\text{N}_2$ (M) $^+$ 266.1055, found 266.1055.

3,4-Dimethyl-2-phthalimidophenyl azide (s27). The typical procedure was followed using 0.68 g of **s26** (2.3 mmol), 0.22 g of NaNO_2 (3.2 mmol) and 0.23 g of NaN_3 (3.5 mmol) in 15 mL of glacial acetic acid and 15 mL of water. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 11:89 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **s27** as a yellow solid (0.67 g, 100%): R_f = 0.4 (15:85 EtOAc:hexanes); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.94–7.96 (m, 2H), 7.78–7.80 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.08 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ

167.2, 137.8, 135.6, 134.4 (2C), 132.1, 131.8, 123.9, 121.6, 116.0, 20.1, 14.8; IR (thin film): 2121, 1722, 1485, 1371, 1304, 1107, 885, 721 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2\text{N}_4$ (M)⁺ 292.0960, found 292.0963.

6-azido-2,3-dimethylaniline (10h). The typical procedure was followed using 0.83 g of **s27** (2.8 mmol) and 0.2 mL of hydrazine hydrate (3.4 mmol) in 10 mL of methanol. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 10:90 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **10h** as a pink solid (0.26 g, 57%): R_f = 0.5 (14:86 EtOAc:hexanes); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 6.86 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (br s, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 136.2, 133.6, 122.9, 121.9, 120.3, 115.1, 20.3, 13.1; IR (thin film): 2109, 2062, 1460, 1271, 1072, 1020, 849, 788 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_4$ (M)⁺ 162.0905, found 162.0907.



Scheme s10.

3,5-Dimethyl-2-phthalimidonitrobenzene (s28). The typical procedure was followed using 4.46 g of phthalic anhydride (30.1 mmol) and 5.00 g of 4,6-dimethyl-2-nitroaniline (30.1 mmol). Purification by recrystallization from 15 mL of glacial acetic acid afforded **s28** as a brown crystalline solid (5.55 g, 62%): mp 213–214 °C; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.95–7.97 (m, 2H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.81–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 166.7, 146.5, 140.7, 140.2, 136.7 (2C), 134.6, 132.1, 124.1, 122.1, 21.1, 18.1; IR (thin film): 1728, 1707, 1529, 1375, 1350, 1218, 1103, 715 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_4\text{N}_2$ (M)⁺ 296.0797, found 296.0799.

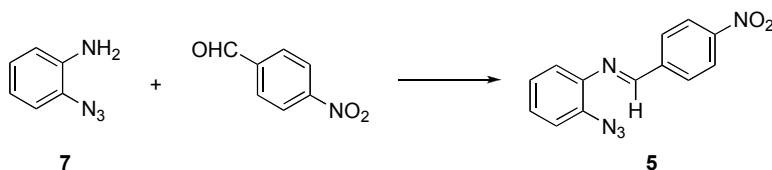
3,5-Dimethyl-2-phthalimidoaniline (s29). The typical procedure was followed using 2.96 g of **s28** (10.0 mmol) and 6.70 g of iron powder (120.0 mmol) in 80 mL of acetone, 8 mL of glacial acetic acid, and 8 mL of water. Purification by recrystallization from 15 mL of acetone and 80 mL of saturated solution of sodium carbonate afforded crude **s29** as a brown solid (2.58 g, 97%): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.95 (s, 2H), 7.80 (m, 2H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 6.54 (s, 1H), 3.56 (br s, 2H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 167.5, 143.7, 140.3, 137.2, 134.4, 132.0, 123.8, 122.0, 115.4, 114.4, 21.3, 18.0. Unpurified **s29** was used directly in the next step.

3,5-Dimethyl-2-phthalimidophenyl azide (s30). The typical procedure was followed using 2.58 g of **s29** (9.7 mmol), 0.94 g of NaNO_2 (13.6 mmol), and 0.94 g of NaN_3 (14.5 mmol) in 58 mL of glacial acetic acid and 58 mL of water. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 20:80 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **s30** a pale yellow solid (0.96 g, 34%): R_f = 0.4 (15:85 EtOAc:hexanes); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 7.93–7.94 (m, 2H), 7.77–7.78 (m, 2H), 6.944 (s, 1H), 6.938 (s, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 167.1, 140.9, 138.9, 137.8, 134.4, 132.1, 127.9, 123.8, 119.2, 117.2, 21.4, 17.8; IR (thin film): 2112, 1732, 1713, 1377, 1317, 1107, 845, 717 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2\text{N}_4$ (M)⁺ 292.0960, found 292.0956.

2-azido-4,6-dimethylaniline (10i). The typical procedure was followed using 0.95 g of **s30** (3.2 mmol) and 0.2 mL of hydrazine hydrate (3.9 mmol) in 12 mL of methanol. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 10:90 EtOAc:hexanes) afforded **10i** as a yellow solid (0.45 g, 86%); $R_f = 0.4$ (15:85 EtOAc:hexanes); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 3.68 (br s, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 134.0, 128.0, 127.7, 124.7, 123.7, 116.4, 20.6, 17.3; IR (thin film): 3420, 3322, 2114, 1636, 1498, 1318, 1267, 828 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_4$ (M) $^+$ 162.0905, found 162.0895.

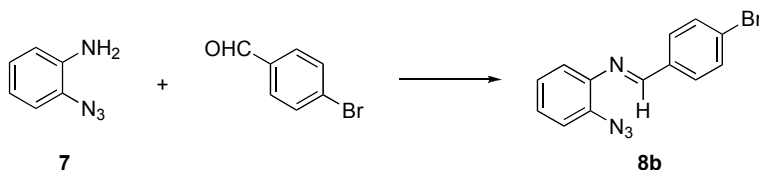
II. Preparation of 2-azidoarylimines

A. Typical procedure for the preparation of 2-azidoarylimines

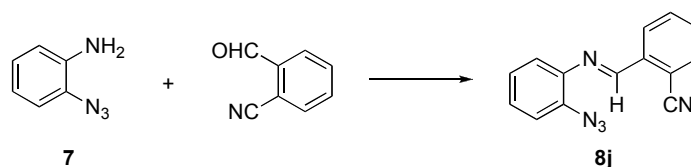


(E)-2-azido-N-(4-nitrobenzylidene)aniline (5). To a solution of 0.27 g of 2-azidoaniline (**7**) (2.0 mmol) and 0.31 g of 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (2.0 mmol) in 2 mL of CH_2Cl_2 was added 0.6 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 . The mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 36 h, the heterogeneous mixture was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was recrystallized from CH_2Cl_2 and hexanes to afford **5** as an orange crystalline solid (0.39 g, 73%); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 8.55 (s, 1H), 8.32 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 8.08 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.24–7.28 (m, 1H), 7.18 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.08–7.12 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 157.7, 149.4, 143.1, 141.1, 134.0, 129.7, 128.2, 125.6, 124.0, 120.6, 119.0; IR (thin film): 2122, 2094, 1560, 1520, 1340, 1096, 853, 766 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{O}_2\text{N}_5$ (M) $^+$ 267.0756, found 267.0755.

B. 2-Azidoarylimine syntheses



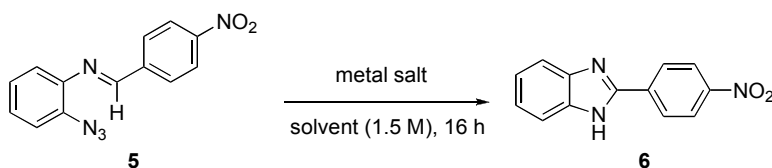
(E)-2-azido-N-(4-bromobenzylidene)aniline (8b). The typical procedure was followed using 0.27 g of 2-azidoaniline (**7**) (2.0 mmol), 0.37 g of 4-bromobenzaldehyde (2.0 mmol) and 0.6 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 in 2 mL of CH_2Cl_2 . Purification by recrystallization afforded **8b** as a yellow crystalline solid (0.22 g, 36%); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 8.39 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.21 (td, $J = 7.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.15 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (td, $J = 7.8, 1.3$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 159.3, 143.9, 134.7, 133.5, 132.1, 130.4, 127.2, 126.3, 125.5, 120.4, 119.2; IR (thin film): 2120, 2092, 1624, 1488, 1299, 1068, 820, 751 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{N}_4\text{Br}$ (M) $^+$ 300.0010, found 300.0012.



(E)-2-azido-N-(2-cyanobenzylidene)aniline (8j). The typical procedure was followed using 0.13 g of 2-azidoaniline (**7**) (1.0 mmol), 0.16 g of 2-cyanobenzaldehyde (1.2 mmol) and 0.3 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 in 1 mL of CH_2Cl_2 . Purification by recrystallization afforded **8j** as a yellow crystalline solid (0.24 g, 96%): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 500 MHz): δ 8.86 (s, 1H), 8.36 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.00–7.76 (m, 2H), 7.58 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.24–7.28 (m, 1H), 7.14–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.08–7.10 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 125 MHz): δ 155.9, 143.0, 137.8, 134.0, 133.1, 133.0, 131.5, 128.2, 127.9, 125.6, 120.5, 119.3, 116.8, 113.6; IR (thin film): 2154, 2121, 1487, 1446, 1350, 1097, 766, 737 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{N}_5$ (M) $^+$ 247.0858, found 247.0858.

III. FeBr_2 -catalyzed synthesis of benzimidazoles from aryl azides

A. General procedure for the screening of catalysts to promote the decomposition of aryl azides



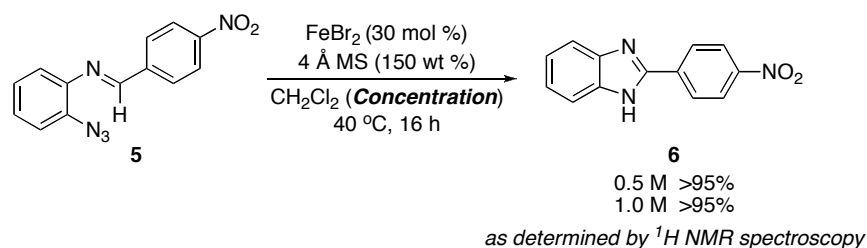
To a mixture of 0.021 g of aryl azide **5** (0.078 mmol), metal salt (5–30 mol %) and crushed 4Å molecular sieves (100 wt %) was added 0.05 mL of solvent. After 16 h, the heterogenous mixture was filtered through SiO_2 . The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting mixture was dissolved in 0.8 mL of $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ and 0.007 mL of dibromomethane (0.1 mmol) was added. The area of NH peak in benzimidazole **6** was compared with the area of the peak of dibromomethane to derive a ^1H NMR yield.

Table s1. Optimization of reaction conditions

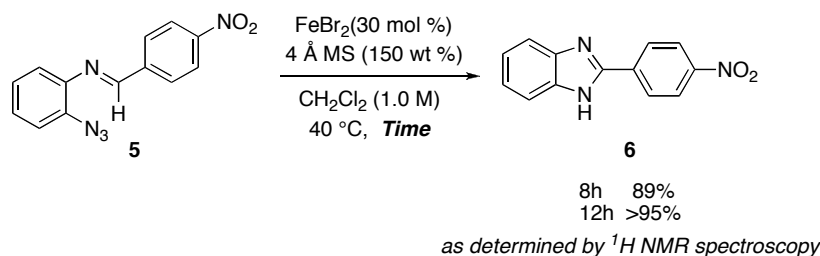
entry	metal salt	mol %	4 Å MS (wt %)	Temp (°C)	yield (%) ^a
1	None	n.a.	0	145	89 ^b
2 ^d	None	n.a.	100	40	0
3 ^c	None	n.a.	100	60	0
4 ^c	Rh ₂ (O ₂ CC ₃ F ₇) ₄	5	0	60	trace
5 ^c	Rh ₂ (O ₂ CC ₃ F ₇) ₄	5	100	60	36
6 ^c	Rh ₂ (O ₂ CC ₇ H ₁₅) ₄	5	100	60	31
7 ^c	ZnI ₂	10	100	60	trace
8 ^c	Cu(OTf) ₂	10	100	60	trace
9 ^c	AgOTf	5	100	60	5
10 ^c	AuCl	5	100	60	trace
11 ^c	Pd(PPh ₃) ₄	5	100	60	trace
12 ^c	Pd(PhCN) ₂ Cl ₂	5	100	60	0
13 ^c	Pd(OCOCF ₃) ₂	5	100	60	0
14 ^c	Co(salen) ^e	5	100	60	28
15 ^c	Ni(COD) ₂ ^f	5	100	60	8
16 ^c	Fe(F ₃ COCHCOCF ₃) ₃	5	100	60	43
17 ^d	Fe(F ₃ COCHCOCF ₃) ₃	30	100	40	60
18 ^d	Fe(acac) ₃	30	100	40	40
19 ^d	Fe(OCOCH ₃) ₃	30	100	40	10
20 ^d	FeF ₃	30	100	40	11
21 ^d	FeCl ₃	30	100	40	27
22 ^d	FeBr ₃	30	100	40	77
23 ^d	AlCl ₃	30	100	40	53
24 ^d	BF ₃ •Et ₂ O	30	100	40	trace
25 ^d	FeCl ₂	30	100	40	49
26 ^d	FeBr ₂	30	100	40	>95
27 ^d	FeBr ₂	30	30	40	62
28 ^d	FeBr ₂	30	150	40	>95 ^g
29 ^d	FeBr ₂	10	150	40	55
30 ^d	FeBr ₂	100	150	40	91

^a as determined using ¹H NMR spectroscopy. ^b xylenes was employed as solvent (0.2 M) and after 2 h. ^c Reaction performed in PhMe. ^d Reaction performed in CH₂Cl₂. ^e Salen = (1S,2S)-N,N'-Bis[3-oxo-2-(2,4,6-trimethylbenzoyl)butylidene]-1,2-diphenylethylenediamine. ^f COD = 1,5-cyclooctadiene. ^g Isolated yield after chromatography on SiO₂ was 91%.

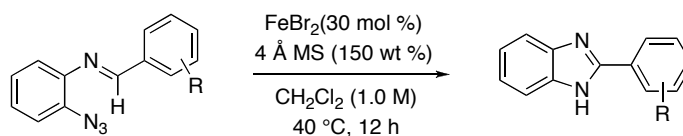
B. Examination of concentration



C. Examination of reaction time

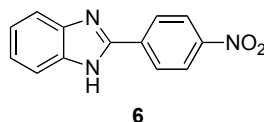


D. Optimized general procedure

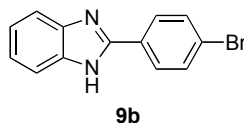


To a mixture of 0.080 g of 2-azidoarylimine, FeBr_2 (30 mol %) and 0.120 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves (150 wt %) was added CH_2Cl_2 to make a 1.0 M solution. The resulting mixture was heated to 40 °C. After 12 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, and the heterogenous mixture was filtered through SiO_2 . The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification using MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$) provided the benzimidazole as a solid.

E. Benzimidazole synthesis from 2-azidoarylimine

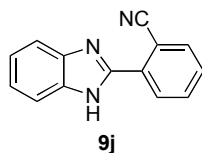


Benzimidazole (6).⁷ The general procedure was followed with 0.080 g of azide **5** (0.299 mmol), 0.019 g of FeBr_2 (0.090 mmol), and 0.120 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 0.30 mL of CH_2Cl_2 . Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$) afforded benzimidazole **6** as an orange solid (0.066 g, 93%): R_f = 0.5 (9:91 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$); mp 321–322 °C. The spectral data matched that reported by Bellona and co-workers:⁷ ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 500 MHz): δ 13.27 (br s, 1H), 8.36–8.41 (m, 4H), 7.70 (br s, 1H), 7.57 (br s, 1H), 7.24 (br s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 125 MHz): δ 149.5, 148.2, 144.3, 136.5, 135.7, 127.8, 124.8, 124.0, 122.8, 119.9, 112.3; IR (thin film): 3421, 3296, 1587, 1512, 1338, 852, 744, 708 cm^{-1} .



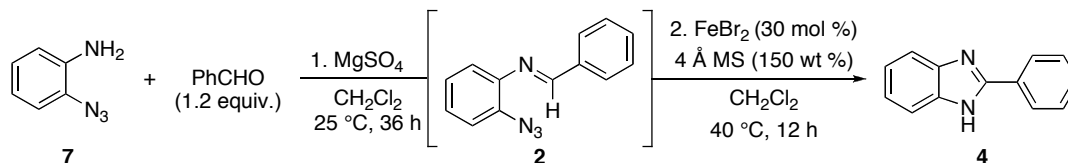
Benzimidazole (9b).⁸ The general procedure was followed with 0.080 g of azide **8b** (0.266 mmol), 0.017 g of FeBr_2 (0.080 mmol), and 0.120 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 0.27 mL of CH_2Cl_2 . Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 3:97 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$) afforded benzimidazole **9b** as a light yellow solid (0.072 g, 99%): R_f = 0.4 (9:91 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$); mp 298–299 °C. The spectral data matched that reported by Itoh and co-workers:⁸ ^1H NMR

(DMSO- d_6 , 500 MHz): δ 12.97 (br s, 1H), 8.10 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (br s, 2H), 7.20 (br s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 125 MHz): δ 150.7, 144.2, 135.5, 132.4, 129.9, 128.8, 123.7, 123.3, 122.3, 119.4, 111.9; IR (thin film): 3466, 3396, 1639, 1594, 1312, 1274, 1084, 764 cm^{-1} .



Benzimidazole (9j). The general procedure was followed with 0.080 g of azide **8j** (0.323 mmol), 0.021 g of FeBr_2 (0.097 mmol), and 0.120 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 0.32 mL of CH_2Cl_2 . Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2) afforded benzimidazole **9j** as a light yellow solid (0.065 g, 92%): R_f = 0.6 (9:91 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2); mp 252–253 °C; ^1H NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 500 MHz): δ 13.09 (s, 1H), 8.07 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24–7.28 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 125 MHz): δ 148.9, 144.0, 135.7, 135.3, 133.8, 133.1, 130.6, 129.7, 123.9, 122.6, 120.0, 118.7, 112.2, 110.6; IR (thin film): 3400, 3368, 1453, 1400, 1283, 1136, 970, 746 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{N}_3$ (M^+) 219.0796, found 219.0796.

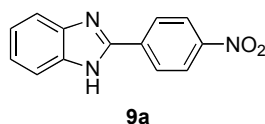
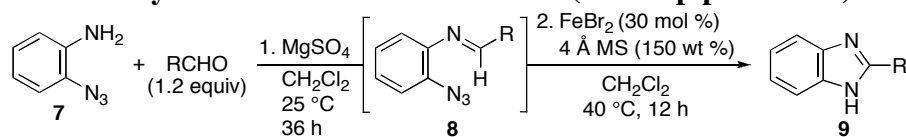
F. Optimized two step typical procedure



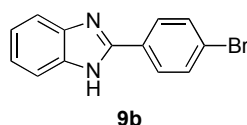
Step 1: To a solution of 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol) and 0.056 mL of benzaldehyde (0.60 mmol) in 0.5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 was added 0.20 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 . The mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 36 h, the heterogeneous mixture was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting mixture was dissolved in 0.6 mL of CDCl_3 and 0.007 mL of dibromomethane (0.10 mmol) was added. The area of $\text{N}=\text{CH}$ peak in 2-azidoarylimine **2** was compared with the area of the peak of dibromomethane to derive a ^1H NMR yield: 93%. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo* once more to afford crude 2-azidoarylimine **2**.

Step 2: To the unpurified product **2**, 0.032 g of FeBr_2 (0.15 mmol), 0.167 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves, and 0.50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 was added. The resulting mixture was heated to 40 °C. After 12 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, and the heterogenous mixture was filtered through SiO_2 . The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2) provided the benzimidazole **4**⁹ as a white solid (0.084 g, 86%): R_f = 0.5 (7:93 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2); mp 299–300 °C. The spectral data matched that reported by Sezen and co-workers:⁹ ^1H NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 500 MHz): δ 12.91 (br s, 1H), 8.17 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.46–7.58 (m, 5H), 7.18–7.19 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 125 MHz): δ 151.8, 144.4, 135.5, 130.7, 130.3, 129.4, 127.0, 123.0, 122.2, 119.4, 111.8; IR (thin film): 3047, 2966, 1462, 1411, 1276, 970, 744, 703 cm^{-1} .

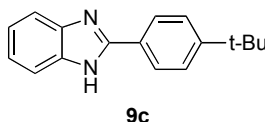
Note: (a) When 1.0 equiv of benzaldehyde was employed, ^1H NMR yield of step 1 was 81% and the yield of two steps was only 72%; (b) Without filtration in step 1, the yield of two steps was only 76%.

G. Benzimidazole synthesis from 2-azidoaniline **7 (two step procedure)**

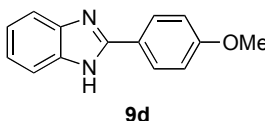
Benzimidazole (9a). The typical procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.091 g of 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (0.6 mmol), and 0.20 g of anhydrous $MgSO_4$ in 0.5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 to afford **8a** (>95% as determined by 1H NMR spectroscopy). 0.032 g of $FeBr_2$ (0.15 mmol) and 0.200 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 0.50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2) afforded benzimidazole **9a** as an orange solid (0.111 g, 93%).



Benzimidazole (9b). The typical procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.111 g of 4-bromobenzaldehyde (0.6 mmol), and 0.20 g of anhydrous $MgSO_4$ in 0.5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 to afford **8b** (95% as determined by 1H NMR spectroscopy). 0.032 g of $FeBr_2$ (0.15 mmol) and 0.226 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 0.50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 3:97 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2) afforded benzimidazole **9b** as a light yellow solid (0.128 g, 94%).

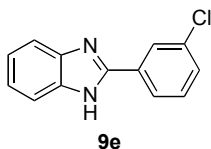


Benzimidazole (9c). The typical procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.100 mL of 4-*tert*-butylbenzaldehyde (0.6 mmol), and 0.20 g of anhydrous $MgSO_4$ in 0.5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 to afford **8c** (89% as determined by 1H NMR spectroscopy). 0.032 g of $FeBr_2$ (0.15 mmol), and 0.209 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 0.50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 1:99 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2) afforded benzimidazole **9c** as a white solid (0.061 g, 49%): R_f = 0.7 (6:94 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2); mp $250\text{--}251\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$; 1H NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 500 MHz): δ 12.85 (br s, 1H), 8.10 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 7.53–7.56 (m, 4H), 7.17 (br s, 2H), 1.29 (s, 9H); ^{13}C NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 125 MHz): δ 153.0 (2C), 151.8 (2C), 127.9, 126.7, 126.2, 122.4 (4C), 35.0, 31.4; IR (thin film): 3560, 2962, 1724, 1589, 1450, 1427, 970, 740 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $C_{17}H_{18}N_2$ (M) $^+$ 250.1470, found 250.1469.

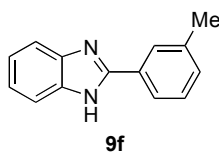


Benzimidazole (9d).¹⁰ The typical procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.073 mL of 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (0.6 mmol), and 0.20 g of anhydrous $MgSO_4$ in 0.5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 to afford **8d** (80% as determined by 1H NMR spectroscopy). 0.032 g of $FeBr_2$ (0.15 mmol), and 0.189 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 0.50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 1:99 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2) afforded benzimidazole **9d** as a white solid (0.041 g, 36%): R_f = 0.7 (5:95 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2);

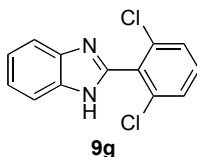
mp 224–225 °C. The spectral data matched that reported by Bellina and co-workers:¹⁰ ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz): δ 12.74 (s, 1H), 8.10–8.12 (m, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.13–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125 MHz): δ 161.1, 151.8, 144.4, 135.4, 128.5, 123.2, 122.5, 121.9, 119.0, 114.8, 112.5, 55.8; IR (thin film): 3674, 3345, 1652, 1558, 1419, 1180, 808, 742 cm⁻¹.



Benzimidazole (9e). The typical procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.068 mL of 3-chlorobenzaldehyde (0.6 mmol), and 0.20 g of anhydrous MgSO₄ in 0.5 mL of CH₂Cl₂ to afford **8e** (>95% as determined using ¹H NMR spectroscopy). 0.032 g of FeBr₂ (0.15 mmol), and 0.192 g of crushed 4 Å molecular sieves in 0.50 mL of CH₂Cl₂ were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 3:97 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂) afforded benzimidazole **9e** as a light yellow solid (0.093 g, 81%): *R*_f = 0.5 (5:95 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂); mp 232–233 °C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz): δ 13.04 (br s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (br s, 2H), 7.48–7.57 (m, 2H), 7.20–7.22 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125 MHz): δ 150.2 (3C), 134.3, 132.7, 131.4, 130.0, 126.5, 125.5, 122.9 (4C); IR (thin film): 3610, 1558, 1442, 1402, 1228, 1124, 893, 744 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₉N₂Cl (M)⁺ 228.0454, found 228.0453.

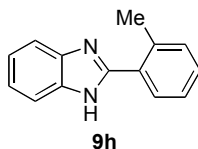


Benzimidazole (9f).¹¹ The typical procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.070 mL of 3-methylbenzaldehyde (0.6 mmol) and 0.20 g of anhydrous MgSO₄ in 0.5 mL of CH₂Cl₂ to afford **8f** (94% as determined using ¹H NMR spectroscopy). 0.032 g of FeBr₂ (0.15 mmol) and 0.177 g of crushed 4 Å molecular sieves in 0.50 mL of CH₂Cl₂ were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 1:99 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂) afforded benzimidazole **9f** as a white solid (0.064 g, 61%): *R*_f = 0.6 (6:94 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂); mp 219–220 °C. The spectral data matched that reported by Lewis and co-workers:¹¹ ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz): δ 12.89 (br s, 1H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (br s, 2H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18–7.19 (m, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125 MHz): δ 151.8 (2C), 138.6 (2C), 130.9, 130.6, 129.3, 127.5, 124.1, 122.5 (4C), 21.5; IR (thin film): 3442, 2873, 1402, 1357, 1274, 1228, 1110, 740 cm⁻¹.

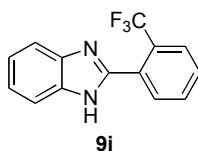


Benzimidazole (9g). The typical procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.105 g of 2,6-dichlorobenzaldehyde (0.6 mmol), and 0.20 g of anhydrous MgSO₄ in 0.5 mL of CH₂Cl₂ to afford **8g** (>95% as determined using ¹H NMR spectroscopy). 0.032 g of FeBr₂ (0.15 mmol) and 0.218 g of crushed 4 Å molecular sieves in 0.50 mL of CH₂Cl₂ were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 3:97 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂) afforded benzimidazole **9g** as a white solid (0.129 g, 98%): *R*_f = 0.5 (7:93 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂); mp 275–276 °C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz): δ 12.90 (br s, 1H), 7.55–7.70 (m, 5H), 7.23 (br s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125 MHz): δ 147.2, 143.7, 135.6, 134.6, 132.8, 131.1, 128.8, 123.2, 122.1, 119.8, 112.1; IR (thin

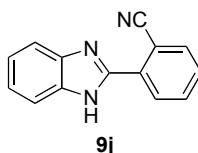
film): 3428, 3297, 1587, 1481, 1410, 1265, 1132, 735 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{N}_2\text{Cl}_2$ (M^+) 262.0065, found 262.0067.



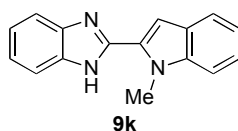
Benzimidazole (9h).¹² The typical procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.070 mL of 2-methylbenzaldehyde (0.6 mmol) and 0.20 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 in 0.5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 to afford **8h** (90% as determined using ^1H NMR spectroscopy). 0.032 g of FeBr_2 (0.15 mmol) and 0.177 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 0.50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 1:99 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$) afforded benzimidazole **9h** as a white solid (0.068 g, 65%): R_f = 0.6 (8:92 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$); mp 213–214 °C. The spectral data matched that reported by Du and co-workers:¹² ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 500 MHz): δ 12.63 (br s, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.17–7.21 (m, 3H), 7.17–7.21 (m, 2H), 2.60 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 125 MHz): δ 152.4, 144.2, 137.5, 134.9, 131.7, 130.6, 129.9, 129.8, 126.4, 122.8, 121.9, 119.4, 111.7, 21.5; IR (thin film): 3544, 1724, 1612, 1442, 1407, 1273, 958, 744 cm^{-1} .



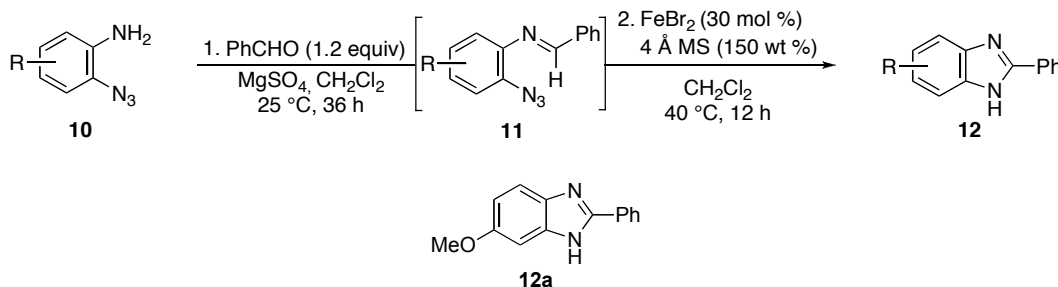
Benzimidazole (9i). The typical procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.079 mL of 2-trifluoromethylbenzaldehyde (0.6 mmol), and 0.20 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 in 0.5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 to afford **8i** (92% as determined using ^1H NMR spectroscopy). 0.032 g of FeBr_2 (0.15 mmol) and 0.218 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 0.50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 3:97 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$) afforded benzimidazole **9i** as a white solid (0.121 g, 92%): R_f = 0.5 (8:92 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$); mp 273–274 °C; ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 500 MHz): δ 12.77 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.45–7.83 (m, 3H), 7.67 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.25 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 125 MHz): δ 149.8, 143.9, 135.0, 132.8, 132.7, 130.8, 130.7, 128.3 (q, J_{CF} = 30.0 Hz), 127.1 (d, J_{CF} = 7.5 Hz), 124.2 (q, J_{CF} = 265.0 Hz), 123.2, 122.1, 119.6, 112.0; IR (thin film): 2920, 2850, 1493, 1408, 1311, 1121, 1034, 746 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{N}_2\text{F}_3$ (M^+) 262.0718, found 262.0720.



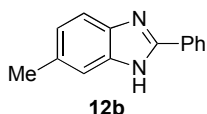
Benzimidazole (9j). The typical procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.079 g of 2-cyanobenzaldehyde (0.6 mmol), and 0.20 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 in 0.5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 to afford **8j** (>95% as determined using ^1H NMR spectroscopy). 0.032 g of FeBr_2 (0.15 mmol) and 0.185 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 0.50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$) afforded benzimidazole **9j** as a light yellow solid (0.099 g, 90%).



Benzimidazole (9k). The typical procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.096 g of 1-methylindole-2-carboxaldehyde (0.6 mmol), and 0.20 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 in 0.5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 to afford **8k** (78% as determined using ^1H NMR spectroscopy). 0.032 g of FeBr_2 (0.15 mmol) and 0.206 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 0.50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 1:99 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2) afforded benzimidazole **9k** as a white solid (0.051 g, 41%); R_f = 0.7 (8:92 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2); mp 202–203 °C; ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 500 MHz): δ 12.92 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.20–7.27 (m, 4H), 7.10–7.12 (m, 1H), 4.30 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 125 MHz): δ 146.3, 144.2, 139.3, 134.6, 129.9, 127.2, 123.5, 123.4, 122.2, 121.4, 120.6, 119.4, 111.5, 110.8, 104.0, 32.5; IR (thin film): 3027, 2809, 1576, 1402, 1337, 1287, 973, 741 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3$ (M) $^+$ 247.1110, found 247.1106.



Benzimidazole (12a). The typical procedure was followed with 0.164 g of 2-azido-4-methoxyaniline **10a** (1.00 mmol), 0.121 mL of benzaldehyde (1.20 mmol), and 0.40 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 in 1.0 mL of CH_2Cl_2 to afford **11a** [66% as determined using ^1H NMR spectroscopy; 0.070 mL of dibromomethane (1.0 mmol) was used]. 0.065 g of FeBr_2 (0.30 mmol) and 0.378 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 1.0 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2) afforded benzimidazole **12a** as a white solid (0.126 g, 56%); R_f = 0.7 (2:98 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2); mp 149–150 °C; ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 500 MHz): δ 12.76 (br s, 1H), 8.13 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.43–7.50 (m, 4H), 7.04 (br s, 1H), 6.82 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 125 MHz): δ 156.3, 151.0 (3C), 130.8, 130.0, 129.4 (2C), 126.6 (2C), 111.8 (3C), 55.9; IR (thin film): 3055, 2931, 1630, 1456, 1404, 1269, 1159, 702 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{ON}_2$ (M) $^+$ 224.0950, found 224.0949.

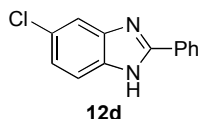


Benzimidazole (12b).¹³ The typical procedure was followed with 0.148 g of 2-azido-4-methylaniline **10b** (1.00 mmol), 0.121 mL of benzaldehyde (1.20 mmol), and 0.40 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 in 1.0 mL of CH_2Cl_2 to afford **11b** (92% as determined using ^1H NMR spectroscopy; 0.070 mL of dibromomethane (1.0 mmol) was used). 0.065 g of FeBr_2 (0.30 mmol) and 0.354 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 1.0 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 1:99 MeOH: CH_2Cl_2) afforded benzimidazole **12b** as a white solid (0.156 g, 75%). Alternatively, the typical procedure was followed with 0.148 g of 2-azido-5-methylaniline **10e** (1.00 mmol), 0.121 mL of benzaldehyde (1.20 mmol) and 0.40 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 in 1.0 mL of CH_2Cl_2 to afford **11e** [$>95\%$ as determined using ^1H NMR spectroscopy; 0.070 mL of dibromomethane (1.0 mmol) was used]. 0.065 g of FeBr_2 (0.30 mmol) and 0.354 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 1.0 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were

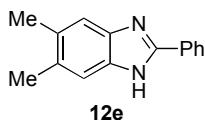
used in next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 1:99 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂) afforded benzimidazole **12b** as a white solid (0.187 g, 90%): *R_f* = 0.6 (2:98 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂); mp 243–244 °C. The spectral data matched that reported by Wang and co-workers:¹³ ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz): δ 12.80 (br s, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.39–7.51 (m, 5H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125 MHz): δ 151.4, 131.8 (3C), 130.8, 130.1, 129.4 (2C), 126.8 (2C), 124.0 (3C), 21.8; IR (thin film): 3265, 1743, 1587, 1442, 1265, 1111, 968, 748 cm⁻¹.



Benzimidazole (12c). The typical procedure was followed with 0.172 g of 2-azido-4-fluoroaniline **10c** (1.13 mmol), 0.137 mL of benzaldehyde (1.36 mmol) and 0.45 g of anhydrous MgSO₄ in 1.1 mL of CH₂Cl₂ to afford **11c** [94% as determined using ¹H NMR spectroscopy; 0.070 mL of dibromomethane (1.0 mmol) was used]. 0.073 g of FeBr₂ (0.30 mmol) and 0.407 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 1.1 mL of CH₂Cl₂ were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂) afforded benzimidazole **12c** as a white solid (0.114 g, 54%): *R_f* = 0.6 (2:98 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂); mp 242–243 °C; ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz): δ 13.06 (br s, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.45–7.53 (m, 5H), 7.05 (br s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125 MHz): δ 159.2 (d, *J_{CF}* = 237.5 Hz), 153.2 (d, *J_{CF}* = 42.5 Hz), 153.0 (2C), 130.4 (2C), 129.4 (2C), 126.9 (2C), 110.9 (3C); IR (thin film): 3543, 1587, 1408, 1254, 1144, 1103, 837, 739 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₉N₂F (M)⁺ 212.0750, found 212.0754.

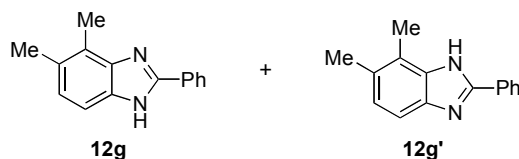


Benzimidazole (12d).¹⁴ The typical procedure was followed with 0.168 g of 2-azido-5-chloroaniline **10d** (1.00 mmol), 0.121 mL of benzaldehyde (1.20 mmol), and 0.40 g of anhydrous MgSO₄ in 1.0 mL of CH₂Cl₂ to afford **11d** [84% as determined using ¹H NMR spectroscopy; 0.070 mL of dibromomethane (1.0 mmol) was used]. 0.065 g of FeBr₂ (0.30 mmol) and 0.385 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 1.0 mL of CH₂Cl₂ were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂) afforded benzimidazole **12d** as a light yellow solid (0.188 g, 82%): *R_f* = 0.6 (3:97 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂); mp 212–213 °C. The spectral data matched that reported by Perry and co-workers:¹⁴ ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz): δ 13.09 (br s, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.47–7.59 (m, 5H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125 MHz): δ 153.1 (4C), 130.6, 130.2, 129.5 (2C), 127.1 (2C), 122.8 (3C); IR (thin film): 3579, 2916, 1583, 1429, 1274, 1103, 806, 690 cm⁻¹.

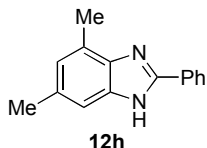


Benzimidazole (12e).¹³ The typical procedure was followed with 0.162 g of 2-azido-4,5-dimethylaniline **10f** (1.00 mmol), 0.121 mL of benzaldehyde (1.20 mmol), and 0.40 g of anhydrous MgSO₄ in 1.0 mL of CH₂Cl₂ to afford **11f** [>95% as determined using ¹H NMR spectroscopy; 0.070 mL of dibromomethane (1.0 mmol) was used]. 0.065 g of FeBr₂ (0.30 mmol) and 0.375 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 1.0 mL of CH₂Cl₂ were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂) afforded benzimidazole **12e** as a pale white solid (0.205 g, 92%): *R_f* = 0.6 (8:92 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂); mp 253–254 °C. The spectral data matched that reported by Perry and co-workers:¹³ ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz): δ 12.66 (s, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (br s, 1H), 2.30 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125

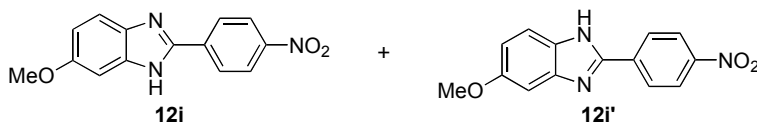
MHz): δ 150.8, 143.0, 134.0, 131.6, 131.0, 130.4, 129.9, 129.3, 126.7, 119.4, 111.8, 20.5 (2C); IR (thin film): 3362, 1584, 1446, 1398, 1286, 1115, 968, 851 cm^{-1} .



Benzimidazole (12g). The typical procedure was optimized using 0.111 g of 6-azido-2,3-dimethylaniline **10h** (0.68 mmol), 0.34 mL of benzaldehyde (3.42 mmol), and 0.27 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 in 0.50 mL of CH_2Cl_2 . After the reaction, excessive benzaldehyde was removed under reduced pressure (~ 1 mm Hg) to afford **11g** (% as determined using ^1H NMR spectroscopy; 0.070 mL of dibromomethane (1.0 mmol) was used. Without excess benzaldehyde, the yield of this step was only 29%. 0.044 g of FeBr_2 (0.20 mmol) and 0.257 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 0.68 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$) afforded benzimidazole **12g**, an inseparable mixture of tautomers (ratio: 48:52), as a white solid (0.092 g, 60%); R_f = 0.7 (8:92 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$); mp 200–201 $^\circ\text{C}$. One isomer: ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 500 MHz): δ 12.69 (br s, 1H), 8.19 (br s, 2H), 7.52 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (br s, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 125 MHz): δ 150.8, 142.1 (4C), 131.0, 130.0 (2C), 129.3 (2C), 126.9, 125.0, 116.1, 19.5, 13.7. The other isomer: ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 500 MHz): δ 12.35 (br s, 1H), 8.19 (br s, 2H), 7.52 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.45 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (br s, 1H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 125 MHz): δ 150.7, 144.5 (4C), 131.0, 130.0 (2C), 129.3 (2C), 126.9, 124.7, 108.3, 19.5, 14.5. IR (thin film): 3056, 2918, 1706, 1457, 1362, 1311, 1226, 694 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2$ (M) $^+$ 222.1157, found 222.1158.



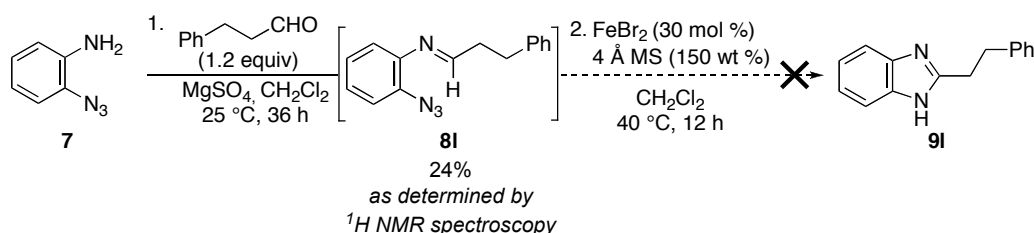
Benzimidazole (12h). The optimized two step typical procedure was followed with 0.162 g of 2-azido-4,6-dimethylaniline **10i** (1.00 mmol), 0.121 mL of benzaldehyde (1.20 mmol), and 0.40 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 in 1.0 mL of CH_2Cl_2 to afford **11h** [91% as determined using ^1H NMR spectroscopy; 0.070 mL of dibromomethane (1.0 mmol) was used). 0.065 g of FeBr_2 (0.30 mmol) and 0.375 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 1.0 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were used in next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$) afforded benzimidazole **12h** as a white solid (0.146 g, 66%); R_f = 0.5 (6:94 $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$); mp 187–188 $^\circ\text{C}$; ^1H NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 500 MHz): δ 12.65 (br s, 1H), 8.21 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (br s, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 2.36 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 125 MHz): δ 150.8, 131.7 (4C), 131.0, 129.9, 129.3 (2C), 126.9 (2C), 124.5 (2C), 21.8, 17.3; IR (thin film): 2972, 2918, 1705, 1455, 1406, 1221, 840, 694 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (EI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2$ (M) $^+$ 222.1157, found 222.1155.



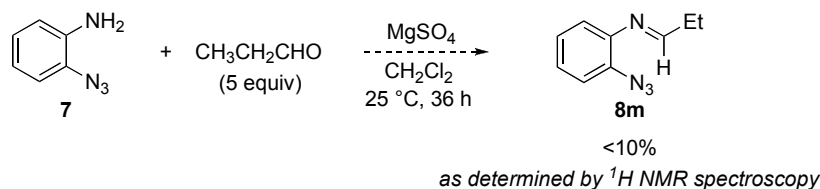
Benzimidazole (12i). The typical procedure was followed with 0.164 g of 2-azido-4-methoxyaniline **10a** (1.00 mmol), 0.183 g of 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (1.20 mmol) and 0.40 g of anhydrous MgSO_4 in 1.0 mL of CH_2Cl_2 10 afford **11i** [$>95\%$ as determined using ^1H NMR spectroscopy; 0.070 mL of dibromomethane (1.0 mmol) was used]. 0.065 g of FeBr_2 (0.30 mmol) and 0.444 g of crushed 4Å molecular sieves in 1.0 mL of CH_2Cl_2 were

used in the next step. Purification by MPLC (0:100 – 2:98 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂) afforded benzimidazole **12i**, an inseparable mixture of tautomers (ratio: 35/65), as an orange solid (0.266 g, 99%): *R_f* = 0.4 (8:92 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂); mp 245–246 °C. Major isomer: ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz): δ 13.05 (br s, 1H), 8.30 (s, 4H), 7.56 (br s, 1H), 6.97 (br s, 1H), 6.84 (br s, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125 MHz): δ 157.3, 148.5, 147.8, 138.9 (2C), 136.6, 127.2 (2C), 124.6 (2C), 120.5, 112.8, 94.7, 55.9. Minor isomer: ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 500 MHz): δ 13.10 (br s, 1H), 8.30 (s, 4H), 7.42 (br s, 1H), 7.20 (br s, 1H), 6.84 (br s, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 125 MHz): δ 156.3, 149.5, 145.2, 136.4, 130.2 (2C), 127.4 (2C), 124.6 (2C), 114.3, 112.6, 101.7, 55.9. IR (thin film): 3534, 1597, 1512, 1423, 1342, 1254, 856, 811 cm⁻¹; HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₁O₃N₃ (M)⁺ 269.0800, found 269.0797.

H. Reactivity of alkyl aldehydes with 2-azidoaniline **7**



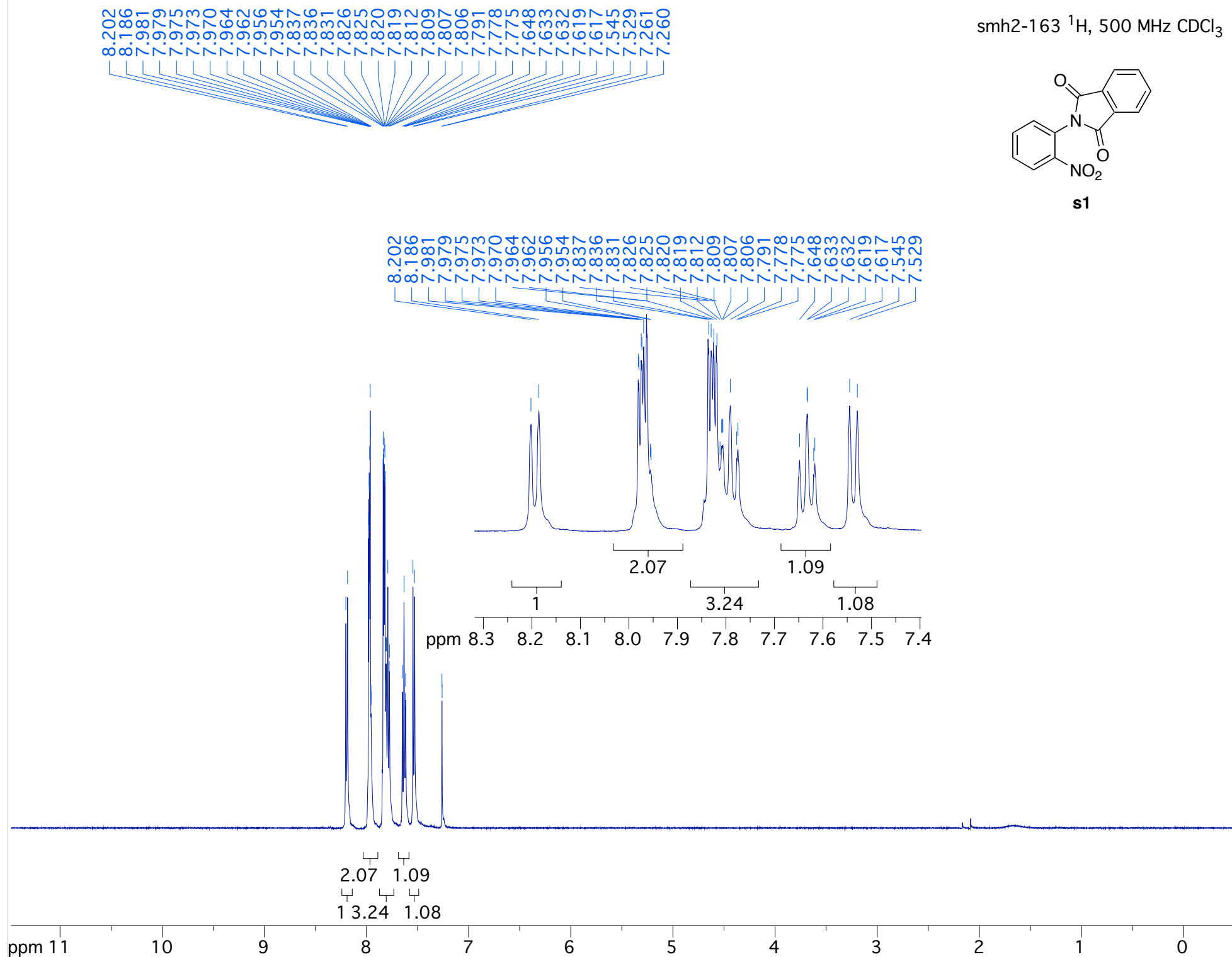
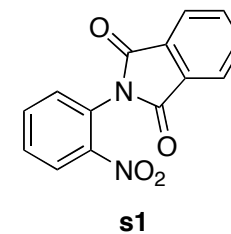
The typical two-step procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.081 mL of hydrocinnamaldehyde (0.6 mmol), and 0.20 g of anhydrous MgSO₄ in 0.5 mL of CH₂Cl₂ to afford **8i** (24% as determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy). 0.032 g of FeBr₂ (0.15 mmol) and 0.209 g of crushed 4 Å molecular sieves in 0.50 mL of CH₂Cl₂ were used in the next step. The ¹H NMR spectroscopy of crude product did not reveal any characteristic benzimidazole peaks.

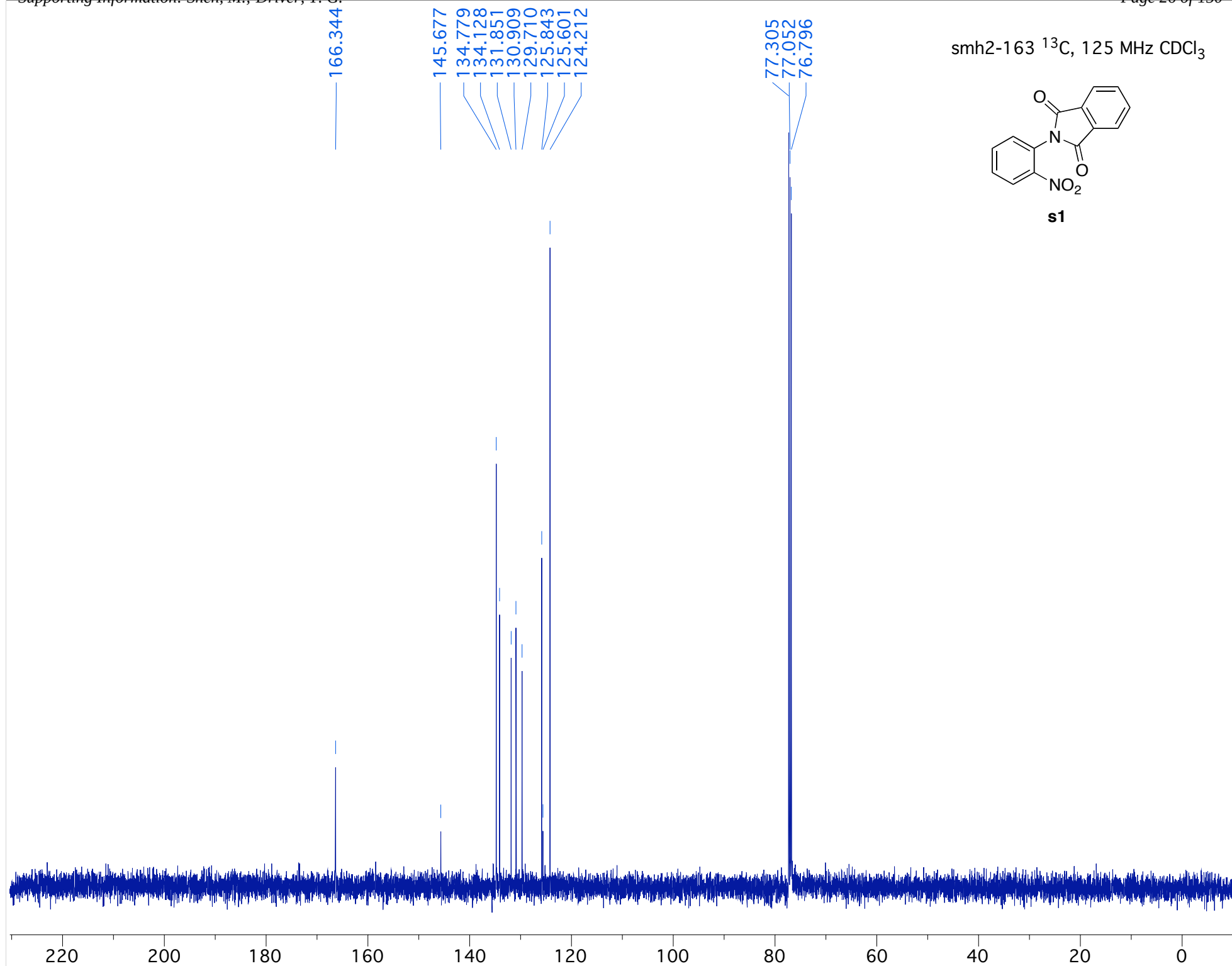


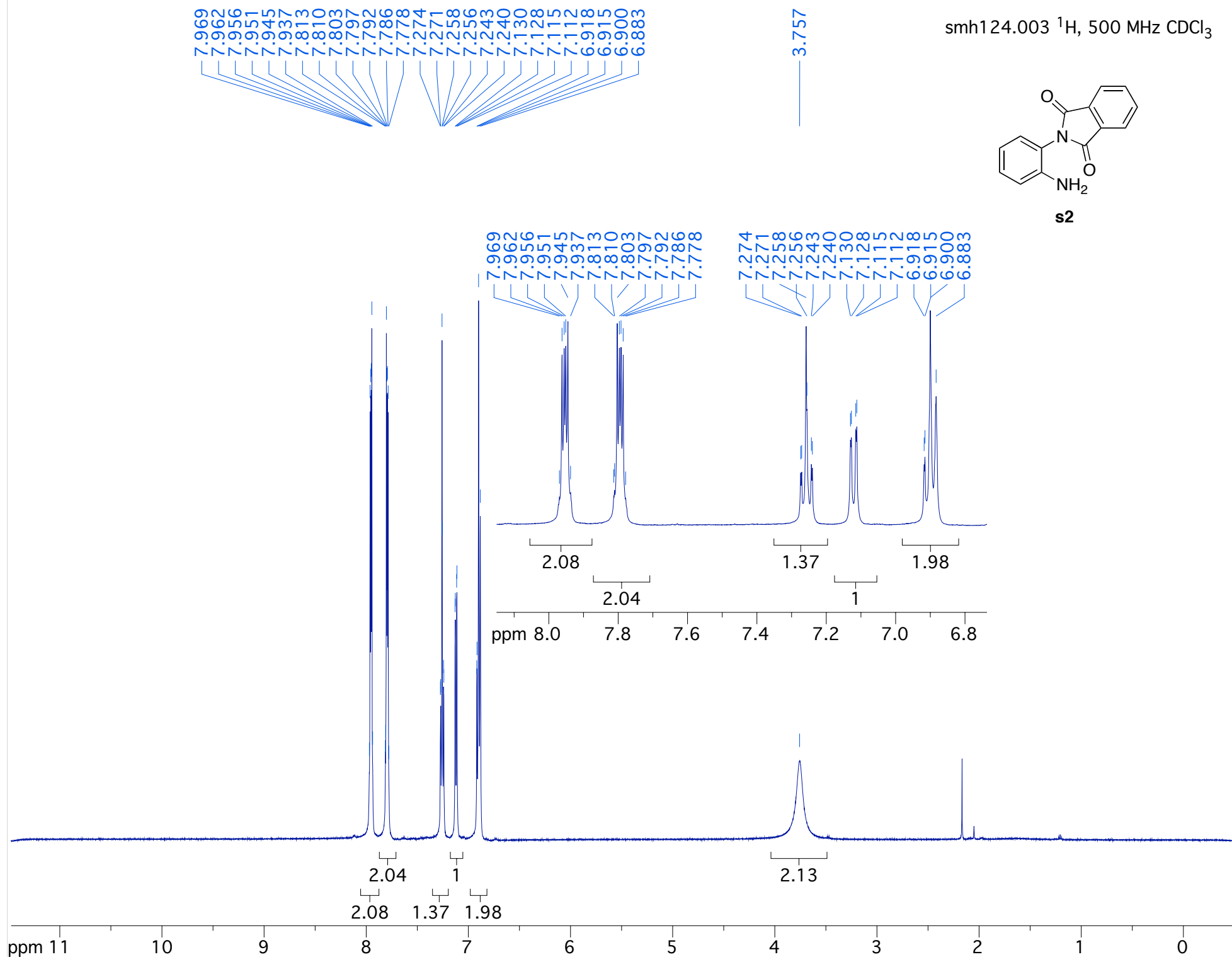
The optimized, typical step 1 condensation procedure was followed with 0.067 g of 2-azidoaniline **7** (0.50 mmol), 0.018 mL of propionaldehyde (2.5 mmol), and 0.20 g of anhydrous MgSO₄ in 0.5 mL of CH₂Cl₂. ¹H NMR spectroscopy of the crude reaction mixture revealed a complex mixture of products consisting of less than 10% of **8m**. Further optimization was not performed.

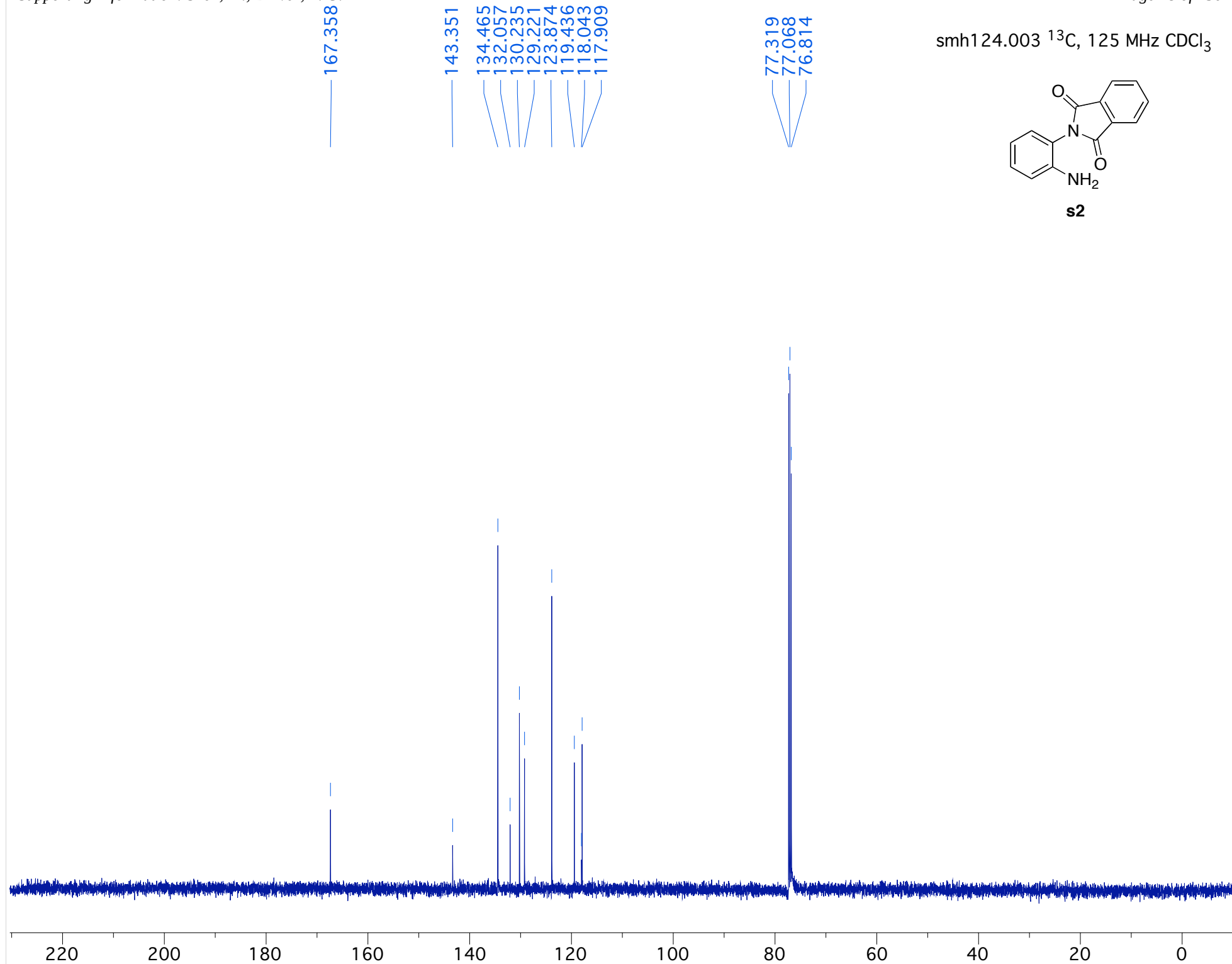
IV. References

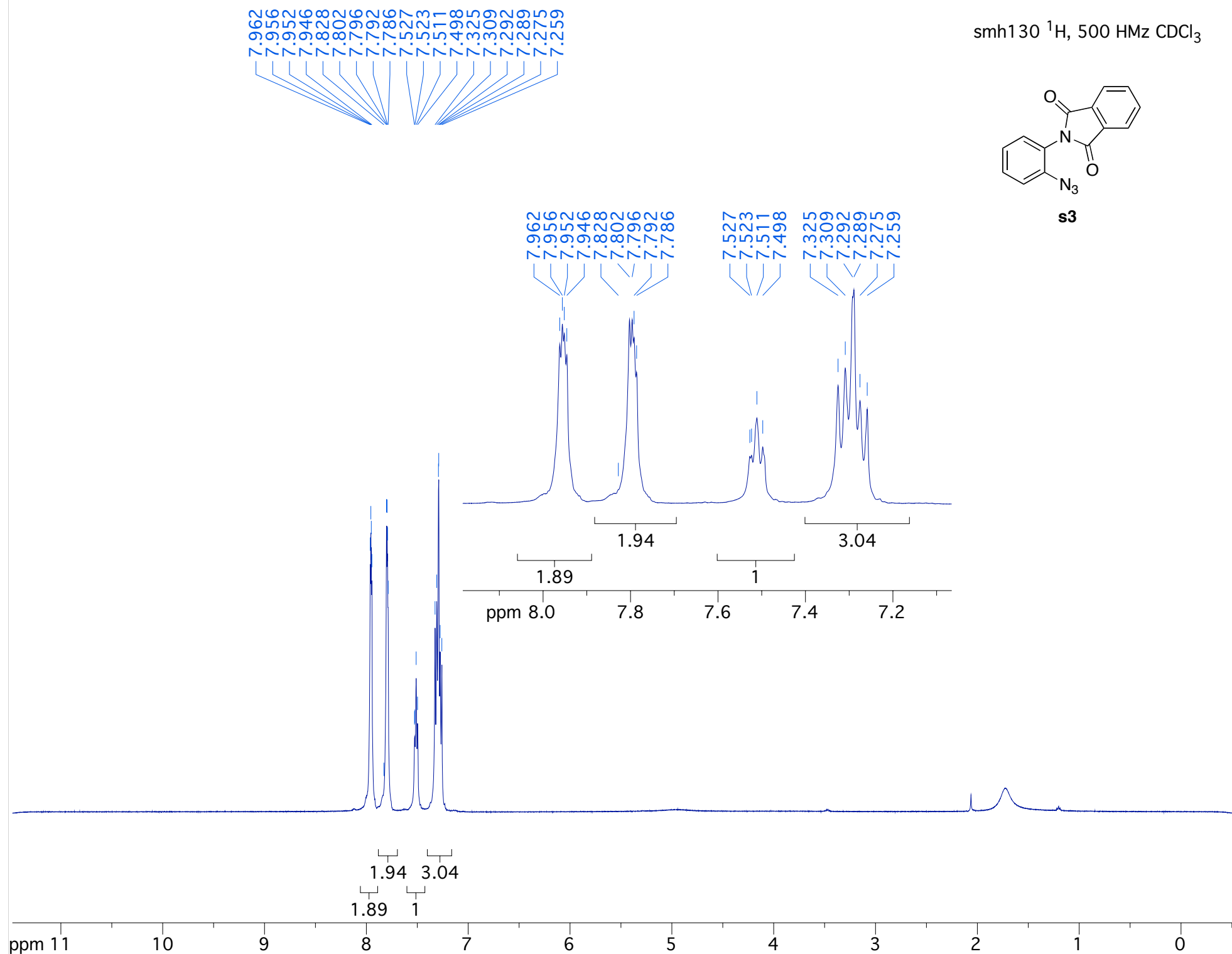
- ¹ Pangborn, A. B.; Giardello, M. A.; Grubbs, R. H.; Rosen, R. K.; Timmers, F. J. *Organometallics* **1996**, *15*, 1518-1520
- ² Hall, J. H.; Patterson, E. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1967**, *89*, 5856-5861.
- ³ Cul, A.; Daich, A.; Decroix, B.; Sanz, G.; Hijfte, L. V. *Tetrahedron* **2004**, *60*, 11029-11040.
- ⁴ Alkhathlan, H. A.; Al-Lohedan, H. A. *Phosphorous, Sulfur Silicon Relat. Elem.* **1991**, *61*, 367-372.
- ⁵ Novak, M.; Kahley, M. J.; Lin, J.; Kennedy, S. A.; James, T. G. *J. Org. Chem.* **1995**, *60*, 8294-8304.
- ⁶ Goddard-Borger, E. D.; Stick, R. V. *Org. Lett.* **2007**, *9*, 3797-3800.
- ⁷ Bellona, F.; Calandri, C.; Cauteruccio, S.; Rossi, R. *Tetrahedron* **2007**, *63*, 1970-1980.
- ⁸ Itoh, T.; Nagata, K.; Ishikawa, H.; Ohsawa, A. *Heterocycles* **2004**, *63*, 2769-2784.
- ⁹ Sezen, B.; Sames, D. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, *125*, 5274-5275.
- ¹⁰ Bellina, F.; Cauteruccio, S.; Rossi, R. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2006**, *6*, 1379-1382.
- ¹¹ Lewis, J.; Jessica Y., W.; Robert, G., B.; Jonathan A., E. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2006**, *118*, 1619-1621.
- ¹² Du, L.-H.; Wang, Y.-G. *Synthesis* **2007**, *5*, 675-678.
- ¹³ Wang, Y.; Sarris, K.; Sauer, D. R.; Djuric, S. W. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2006**, *47*, 4823-4826.
- ¹⁴ Perry, R.; Wilson, B. D. *J. Org. Chem.* **1993**, *58*, 7016-7021.

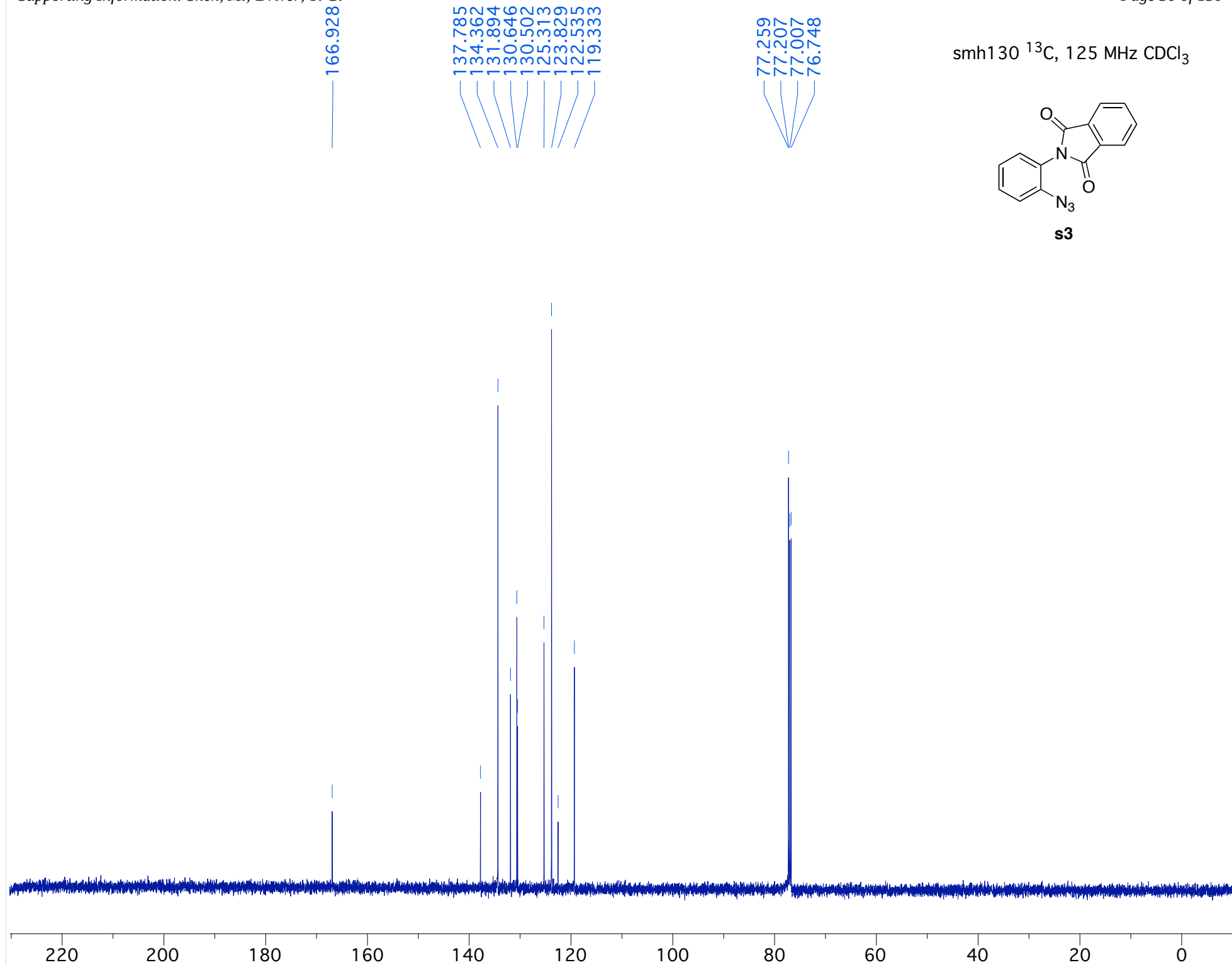
smh2-163 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 

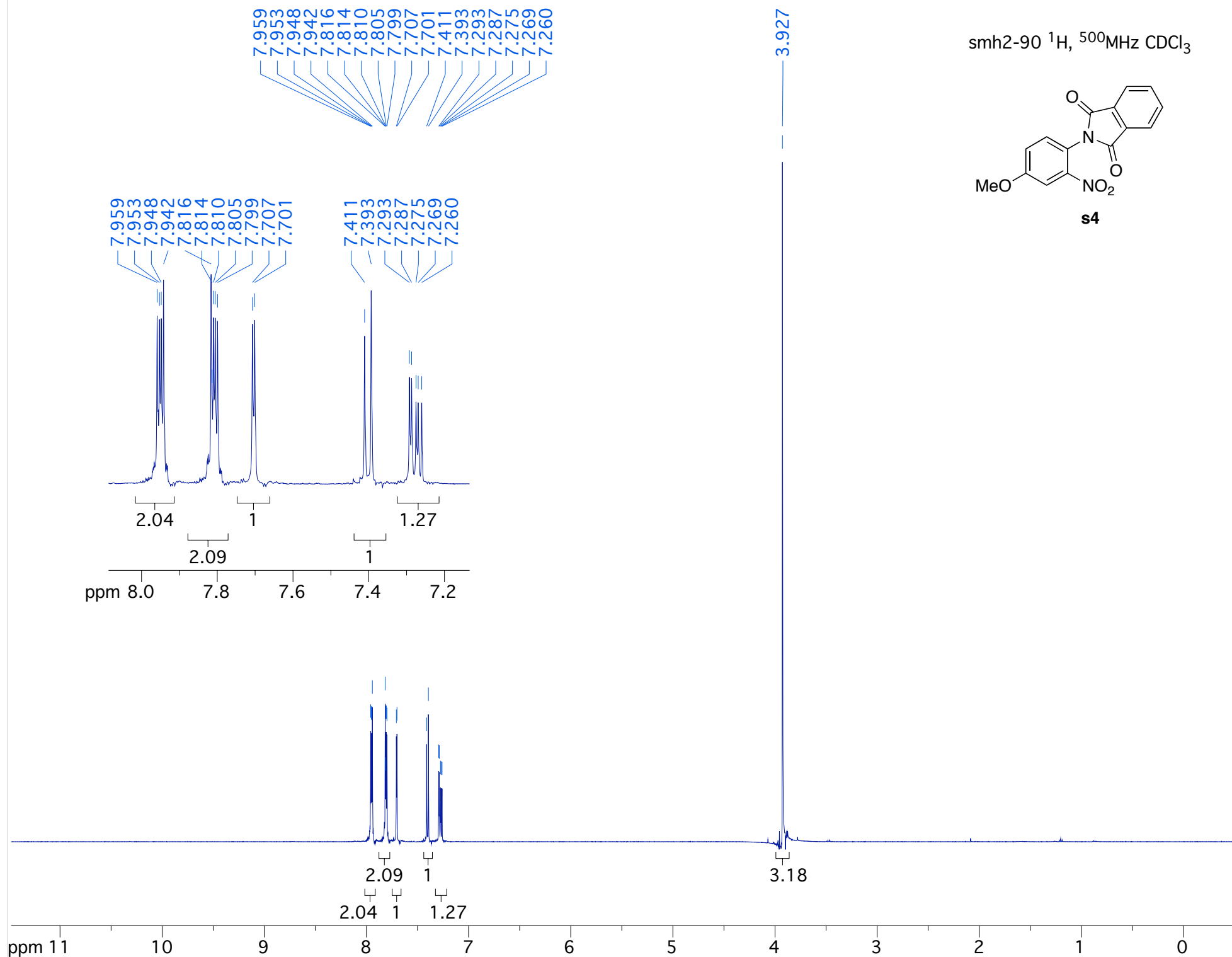


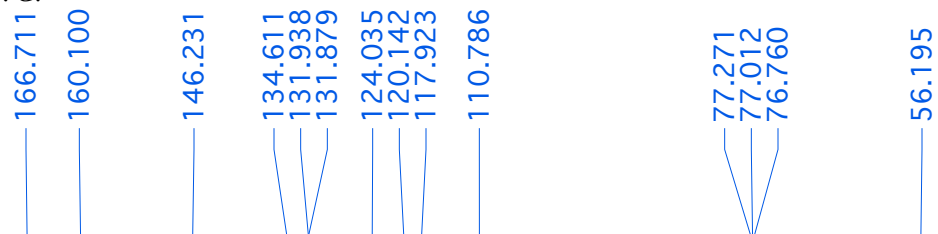
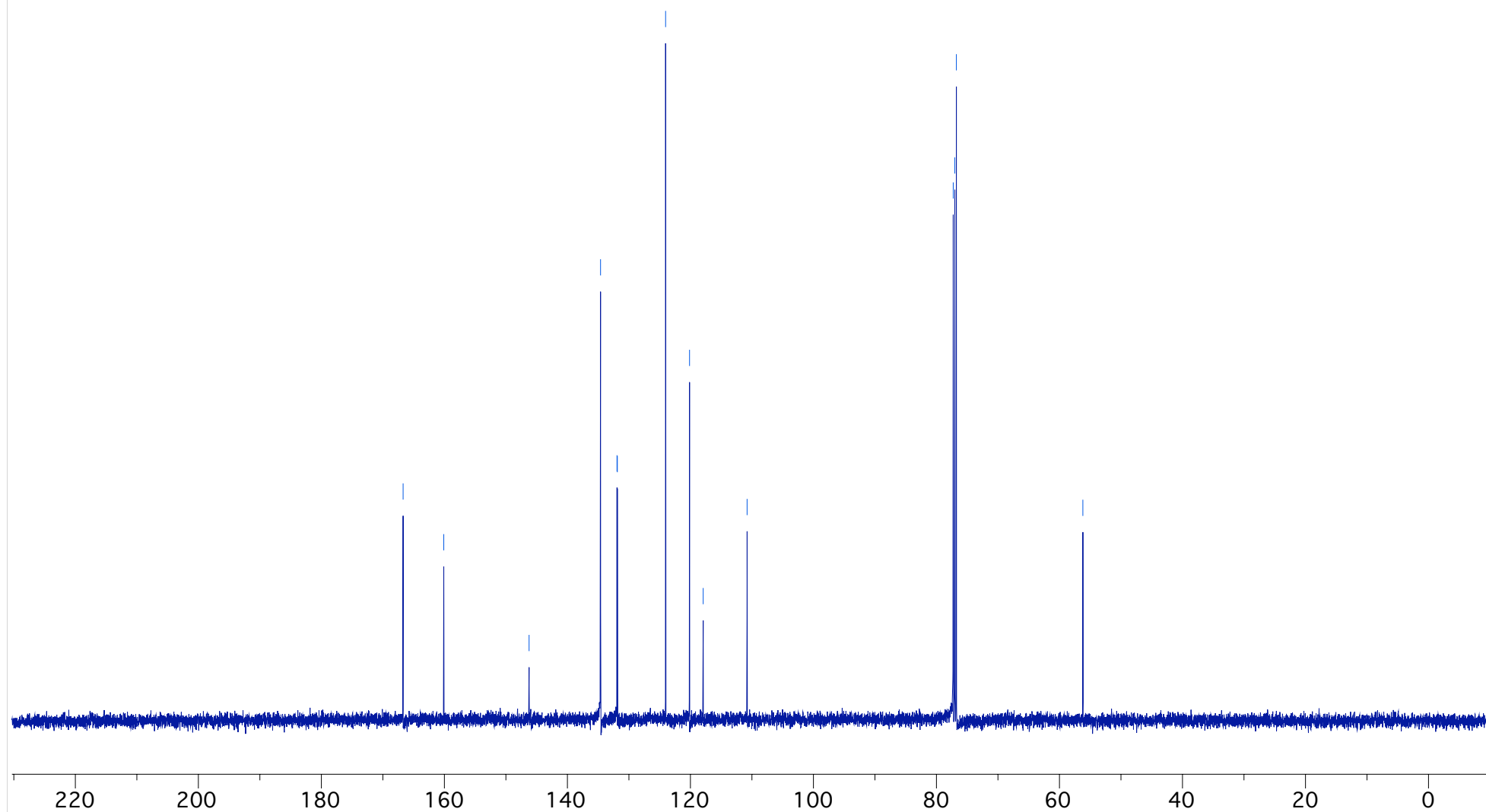
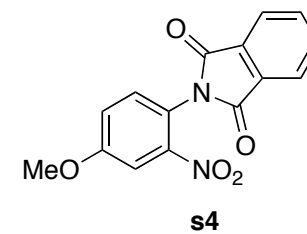


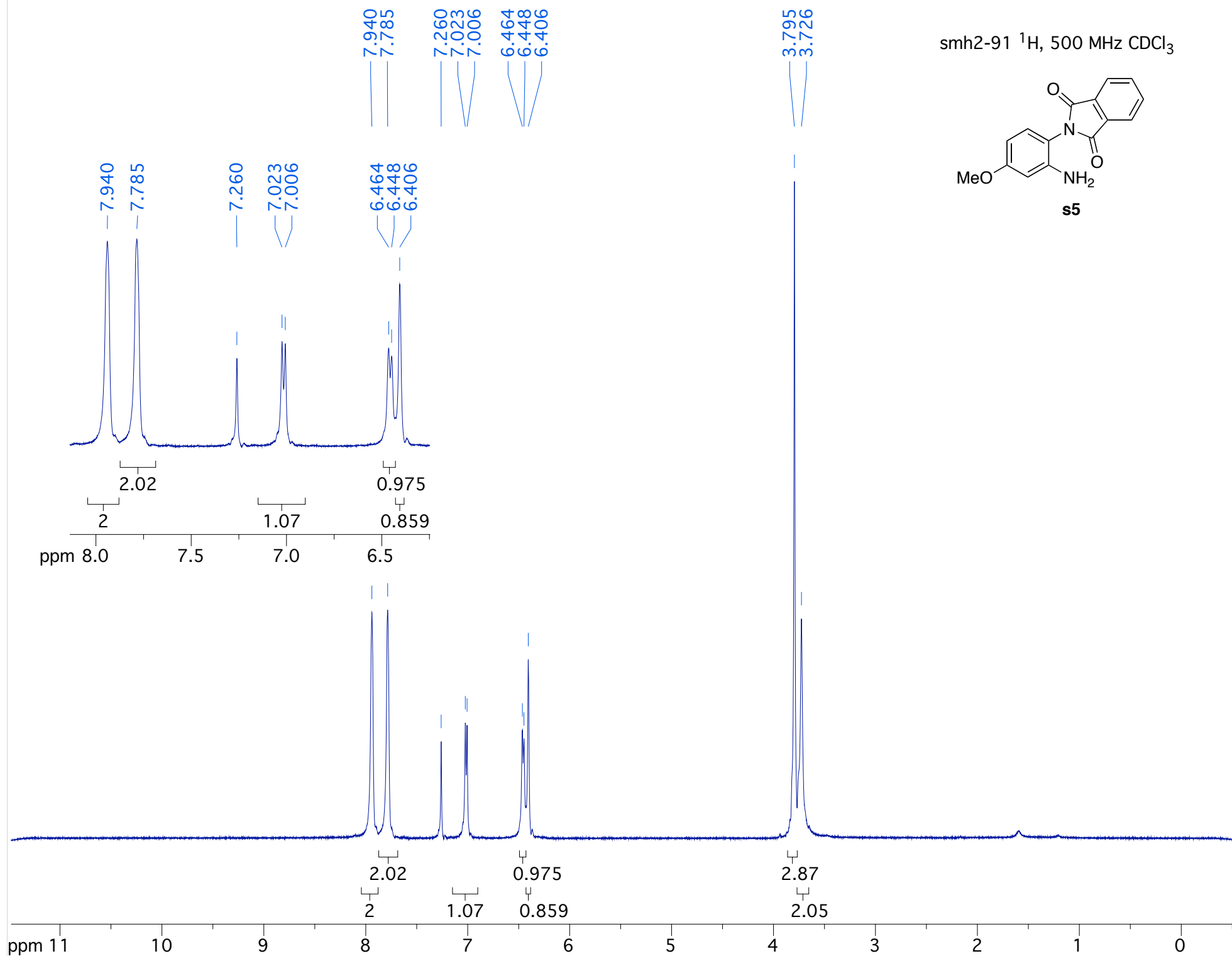


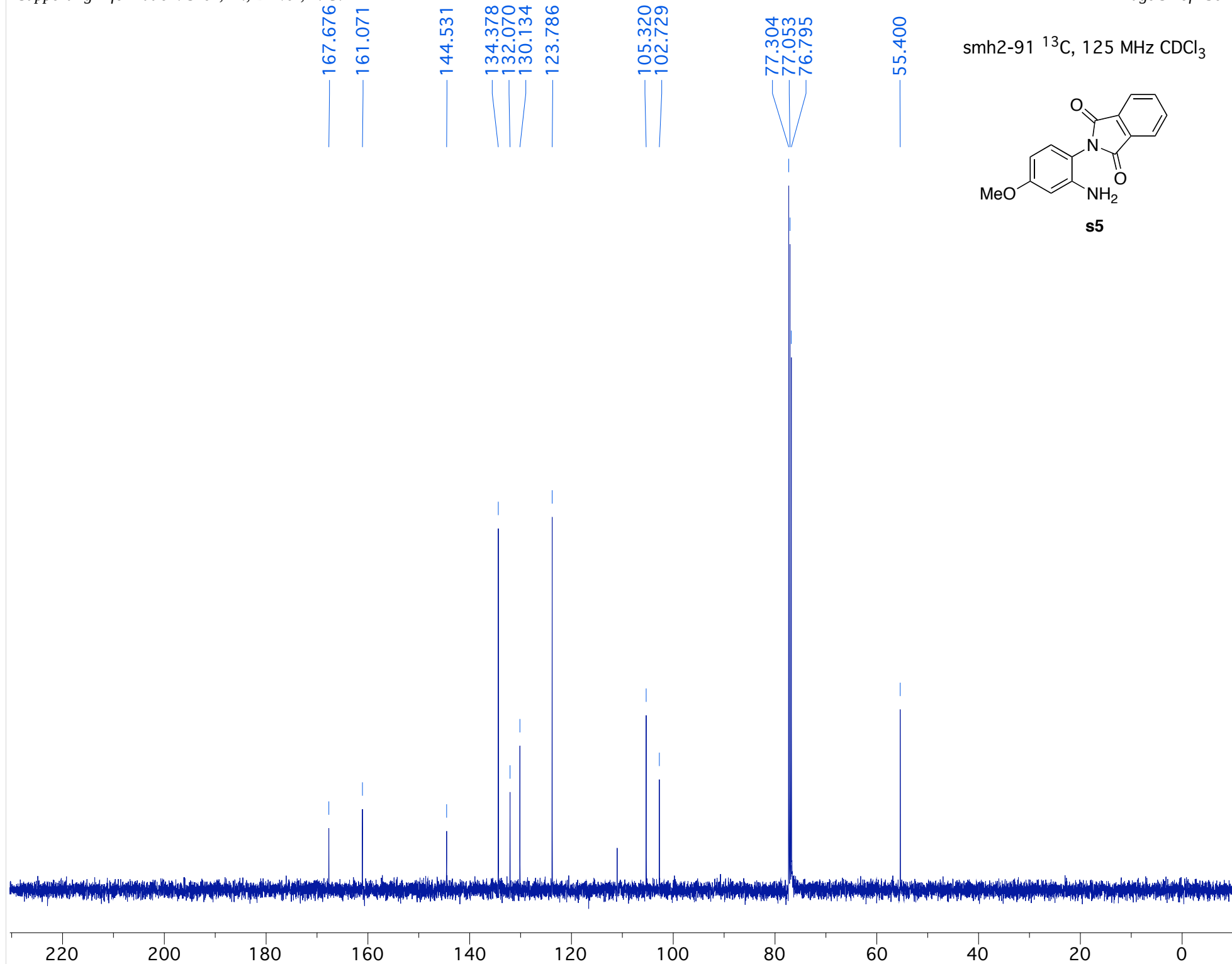


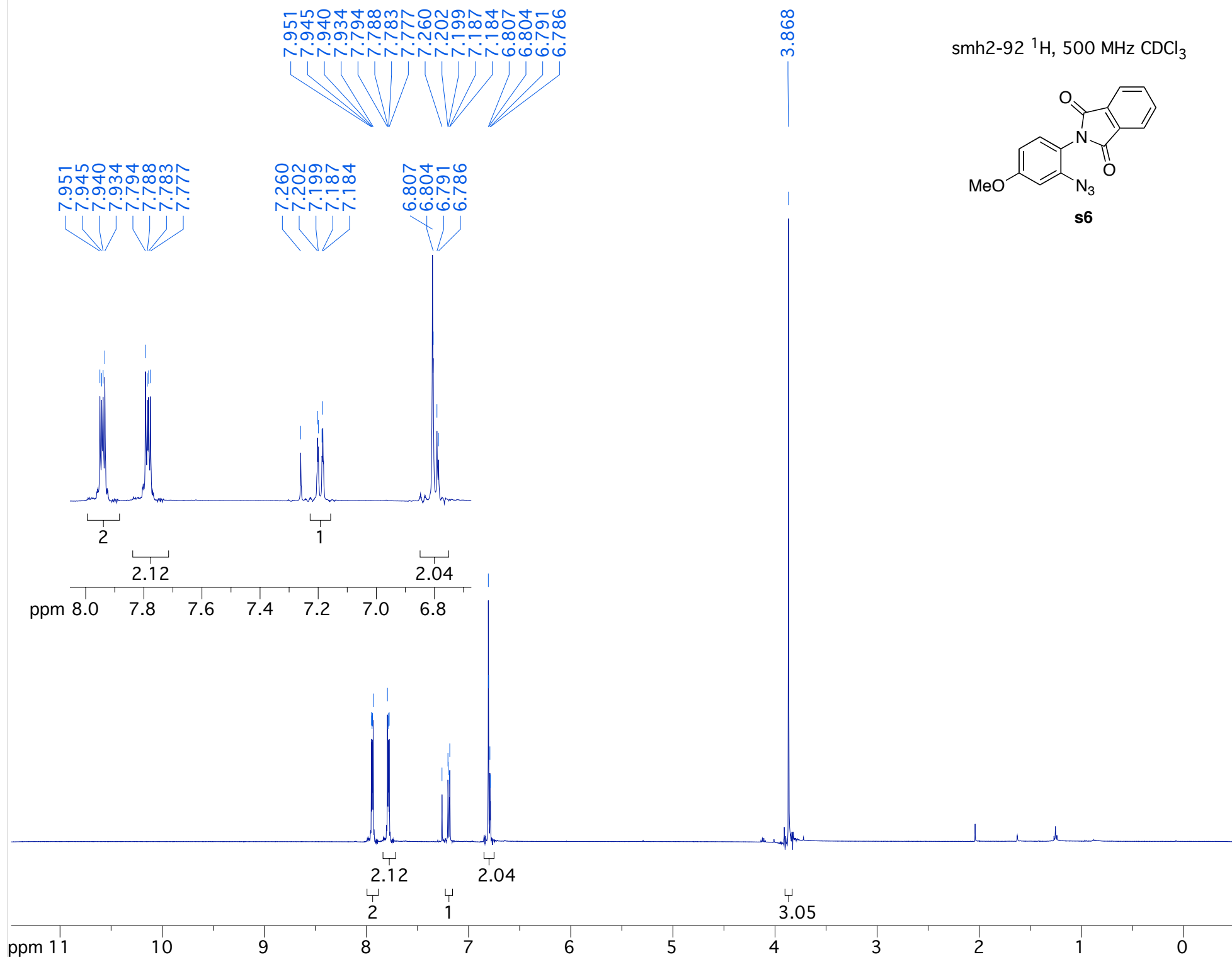


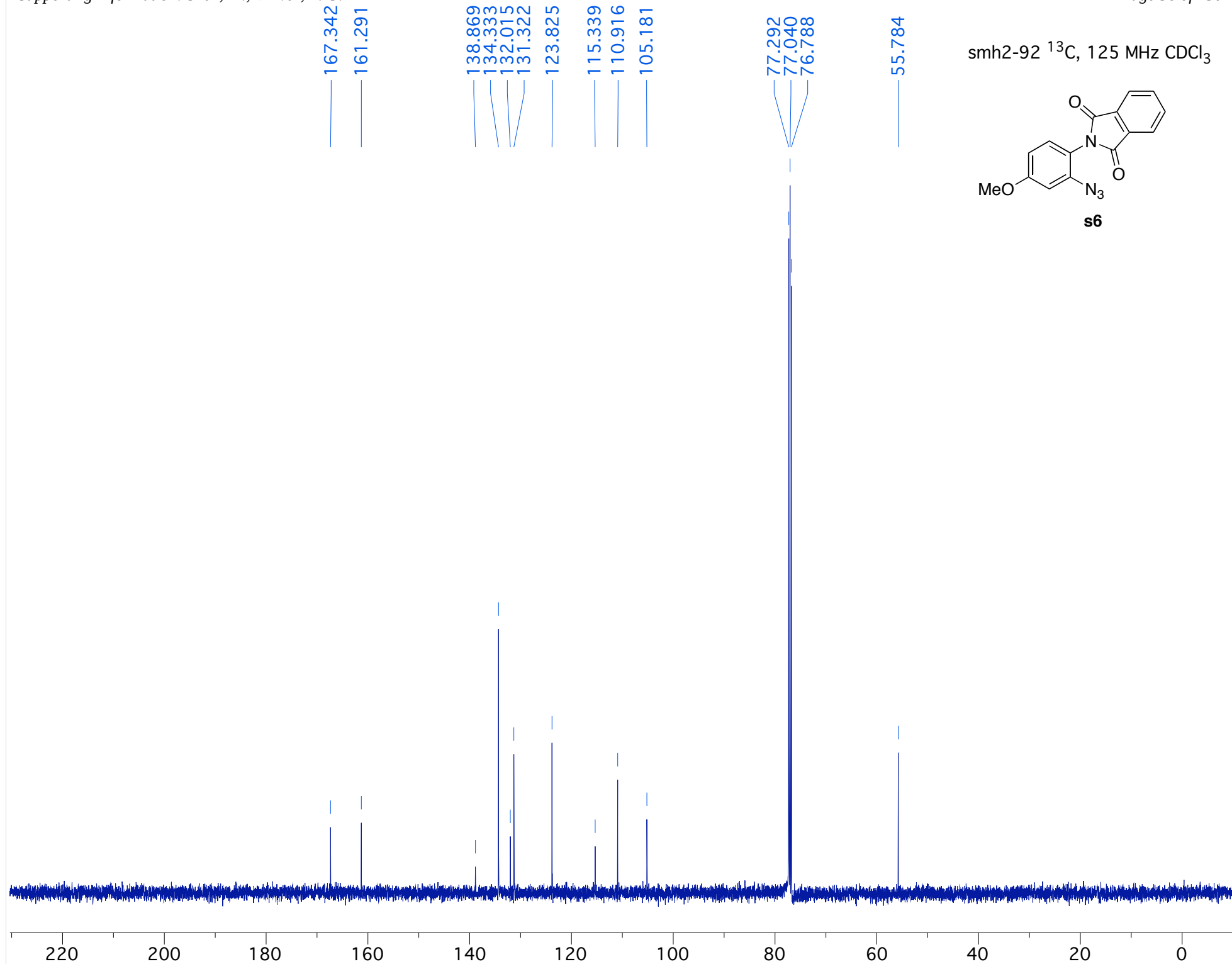


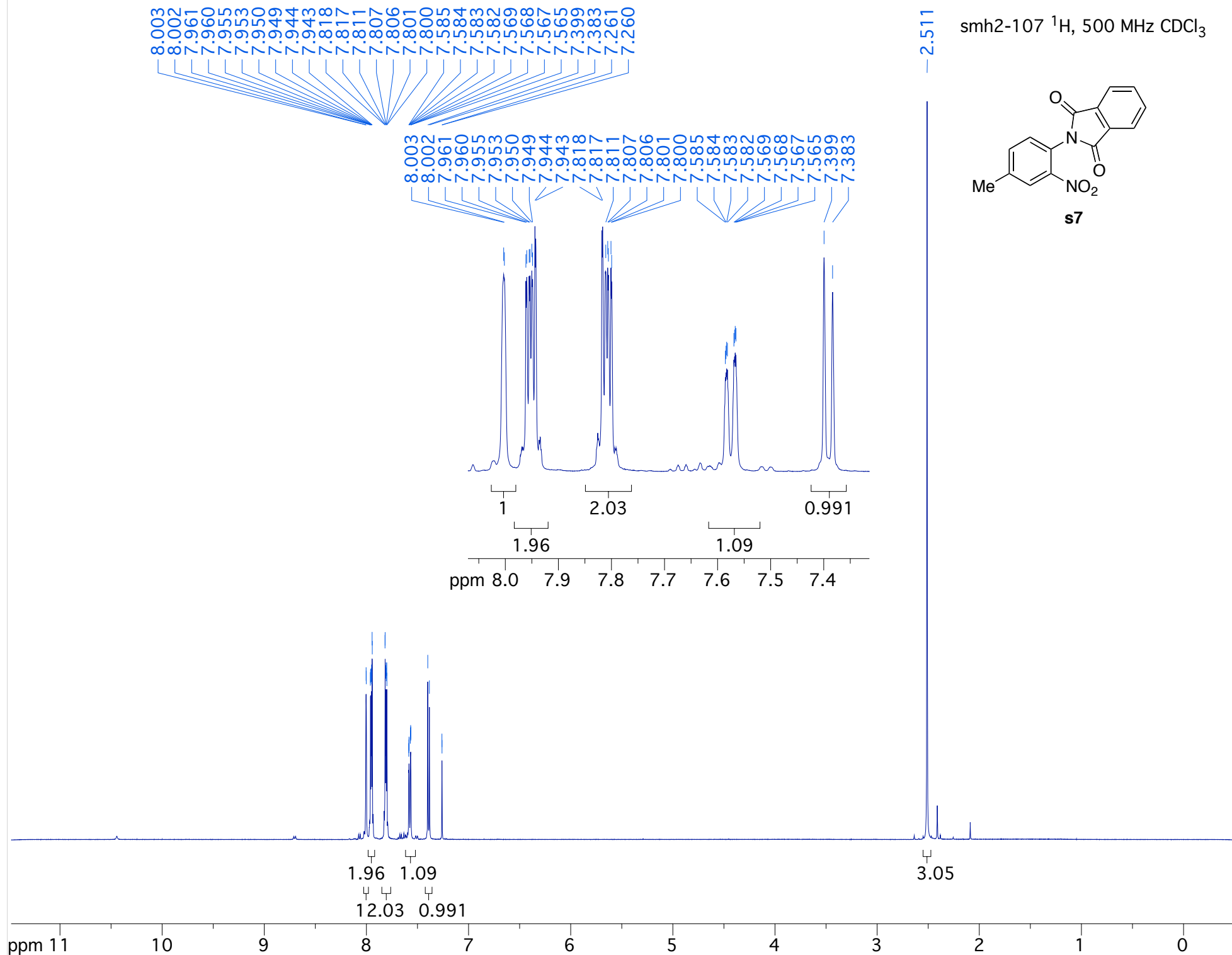
smh2-90 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 

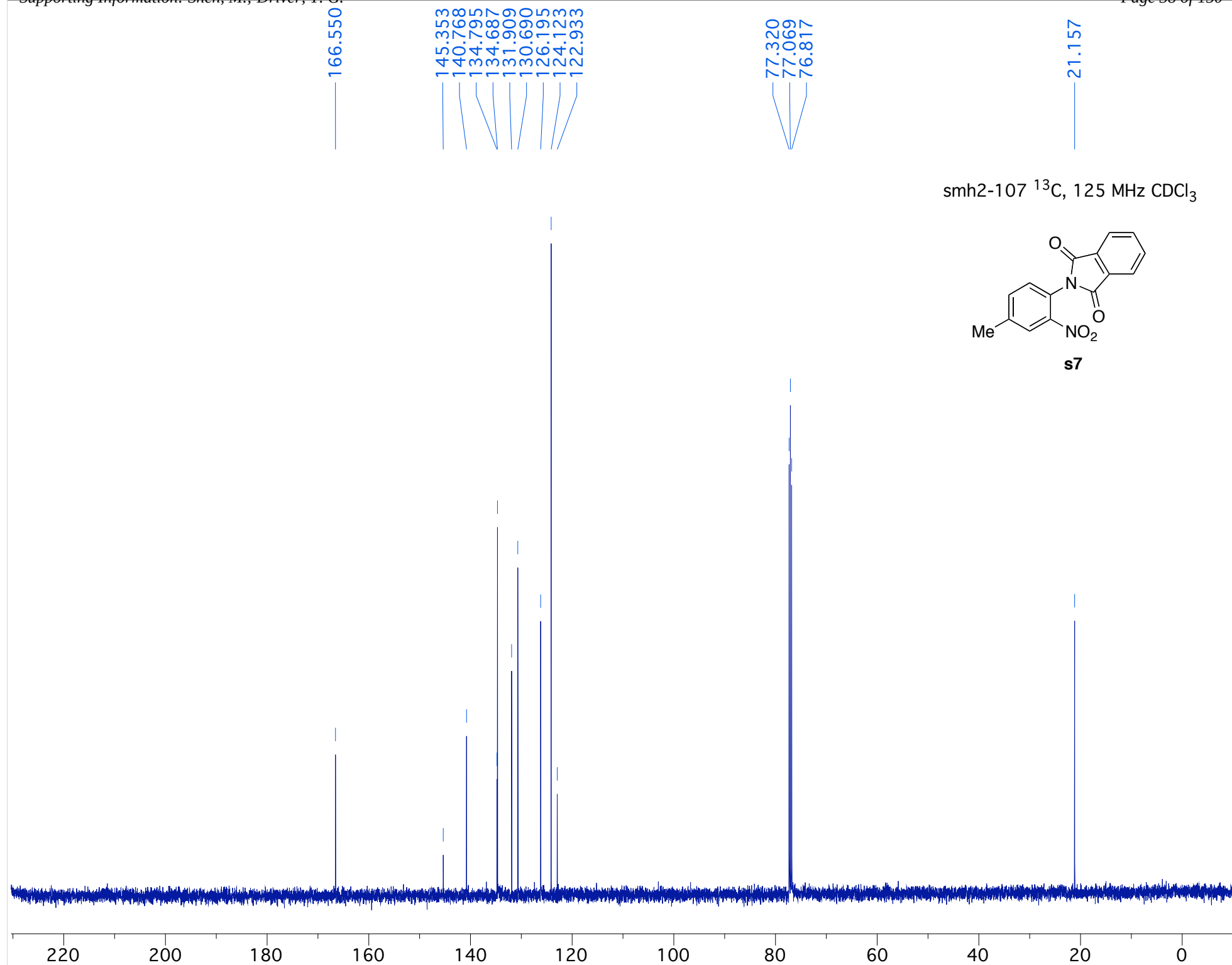


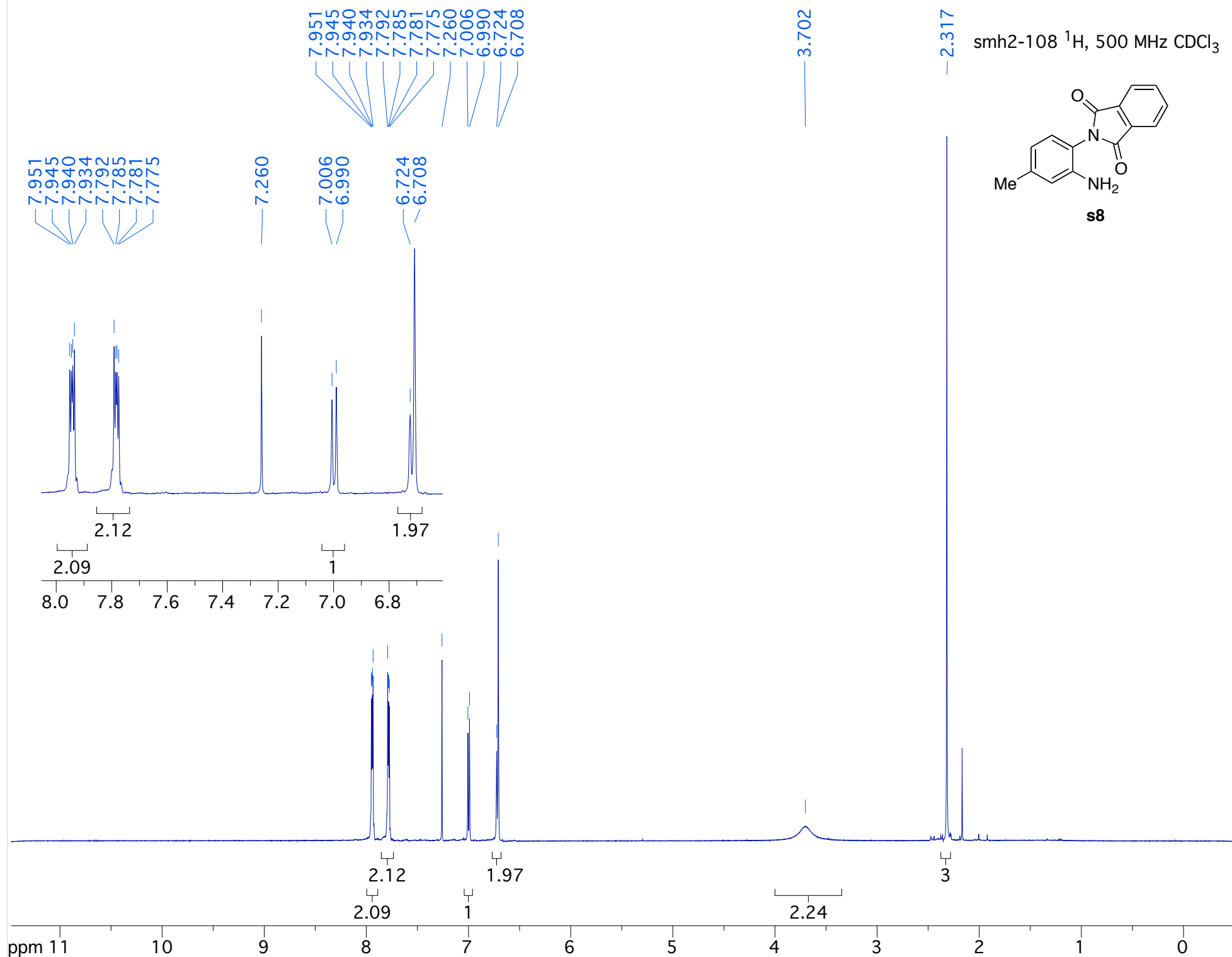


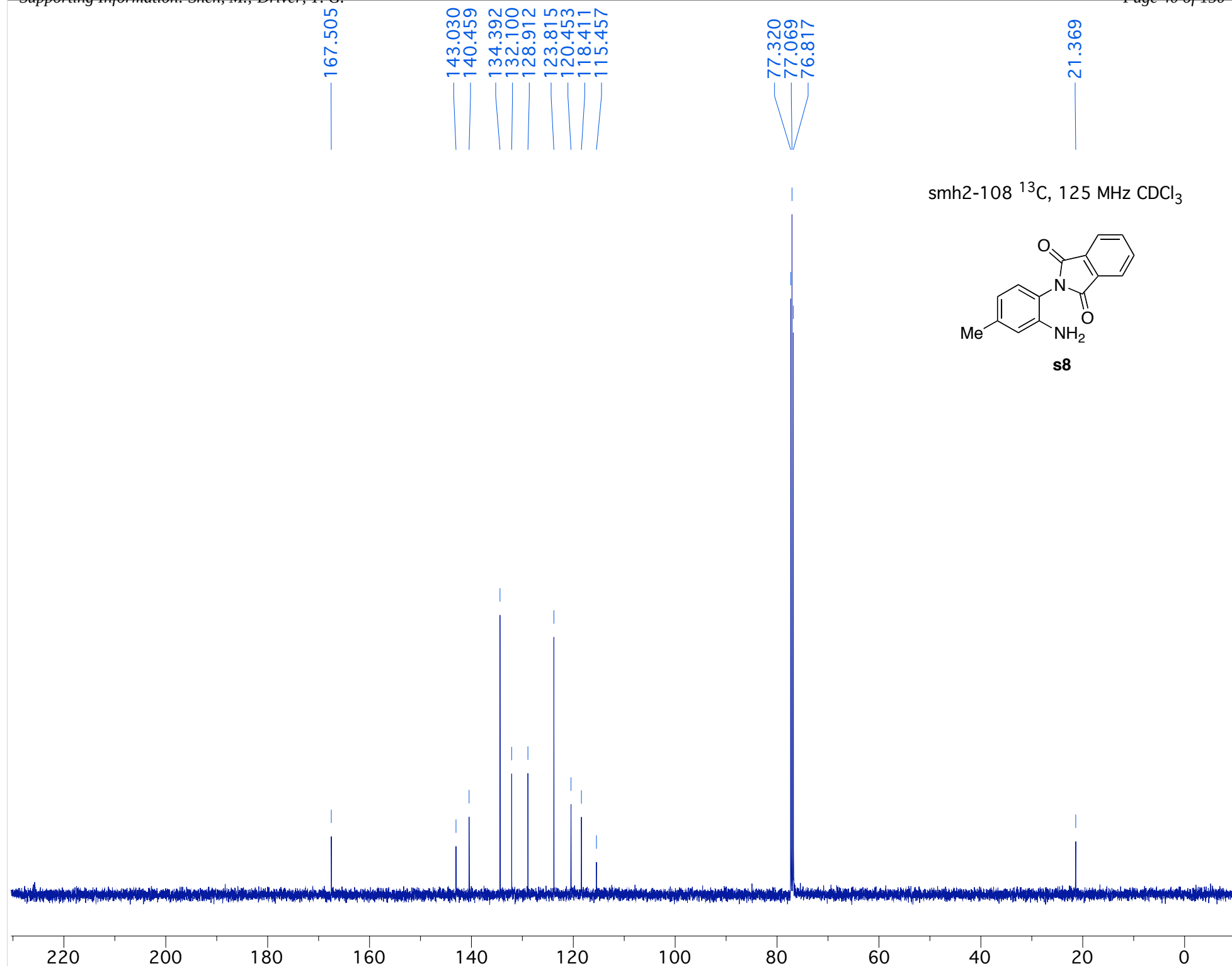


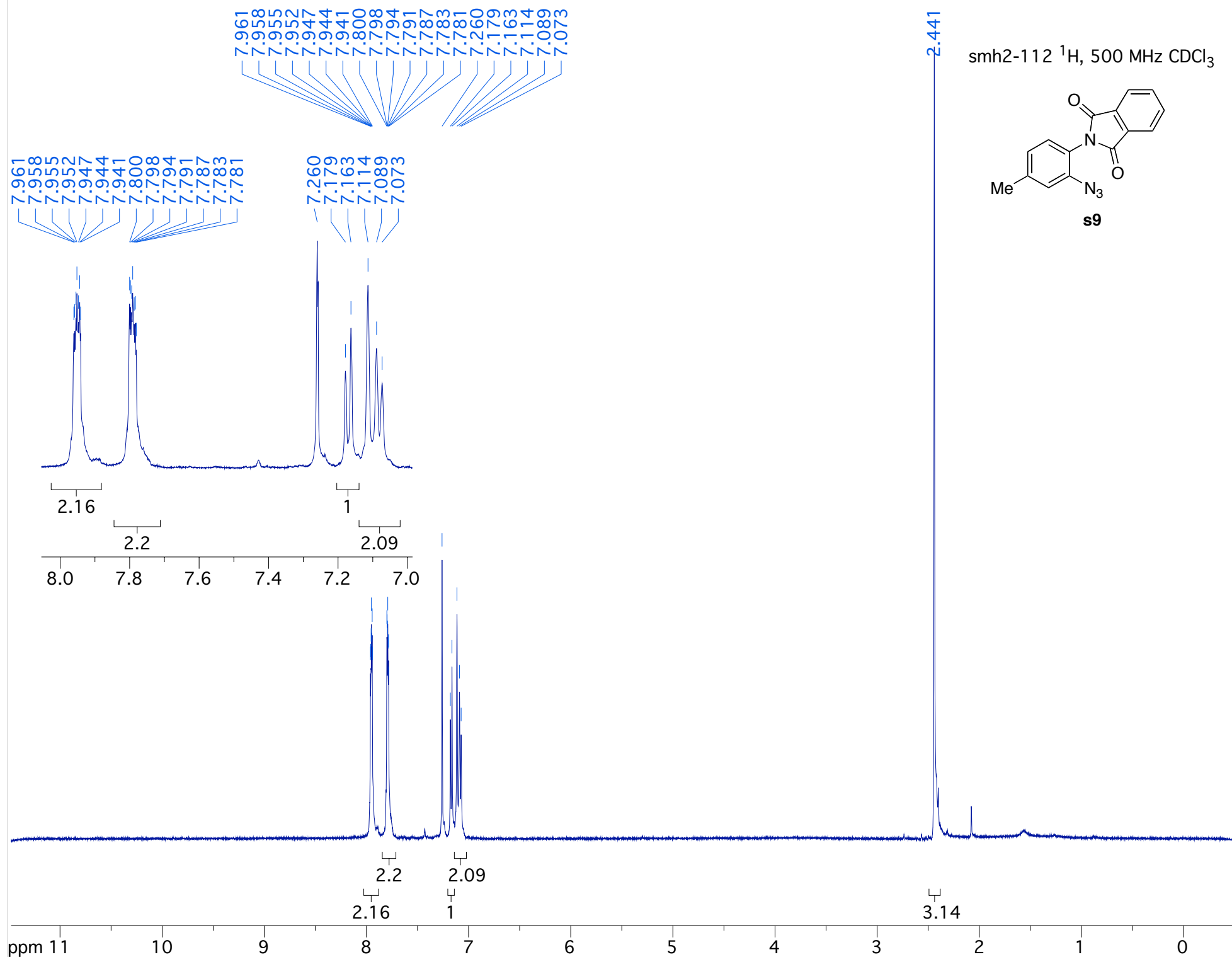


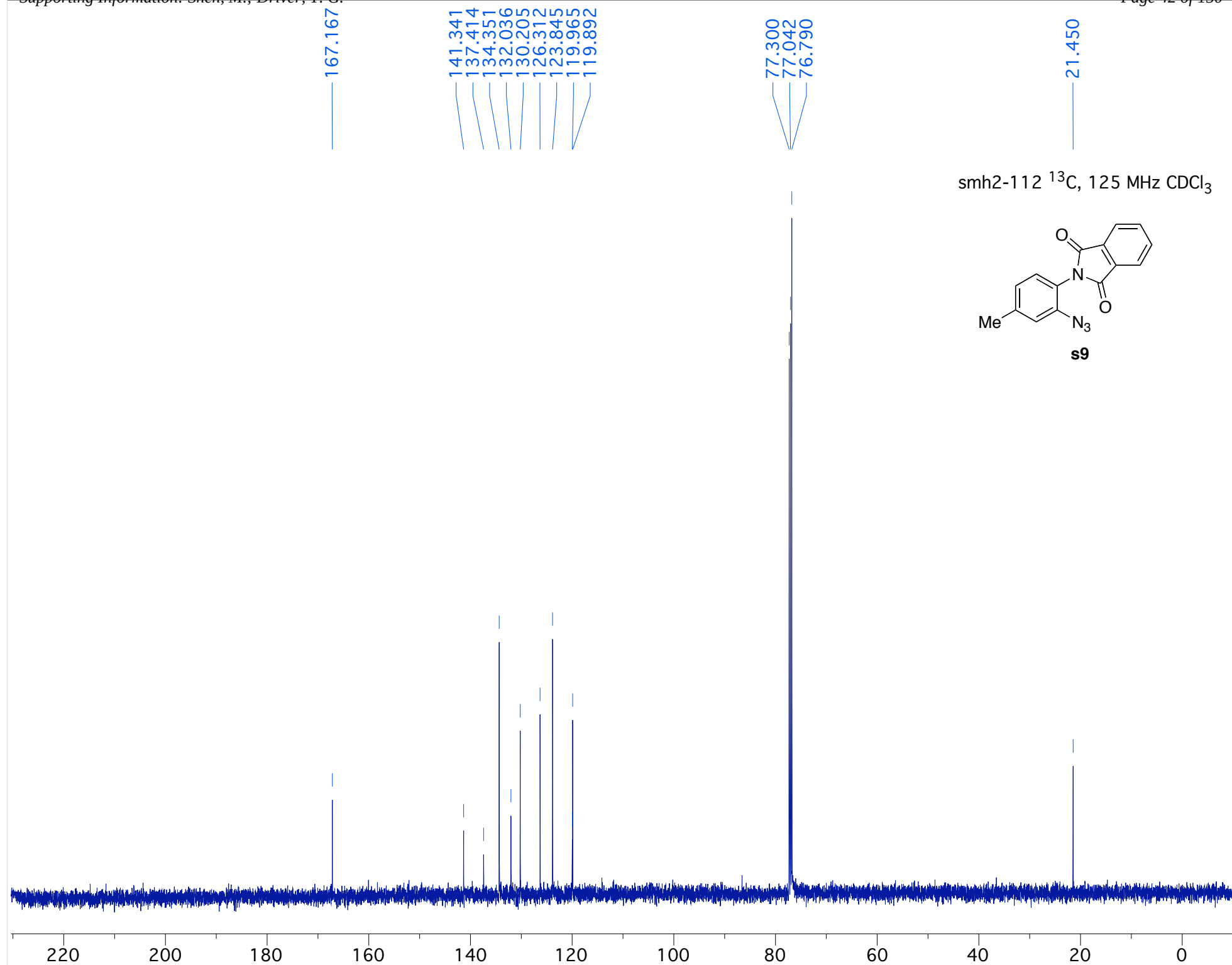


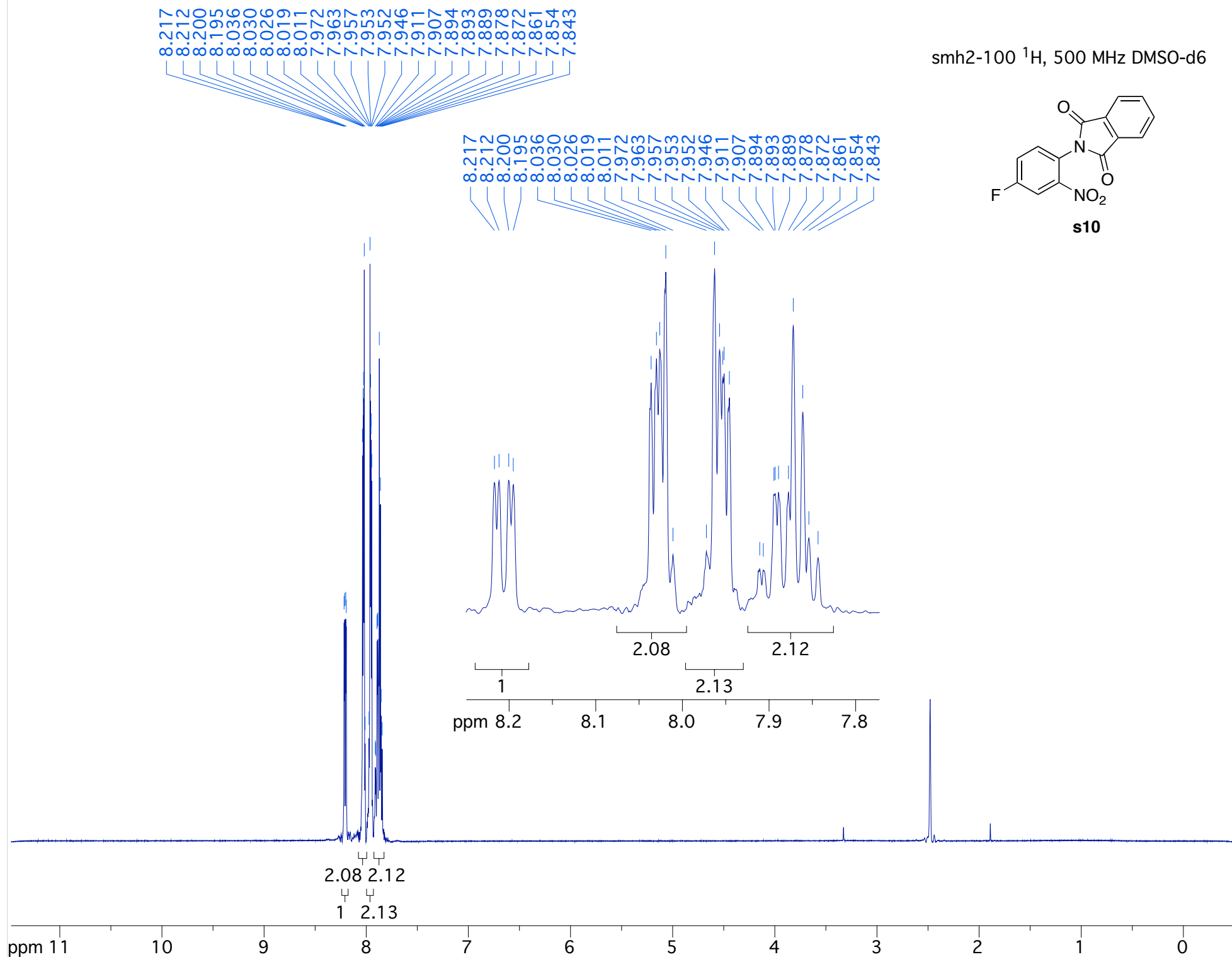


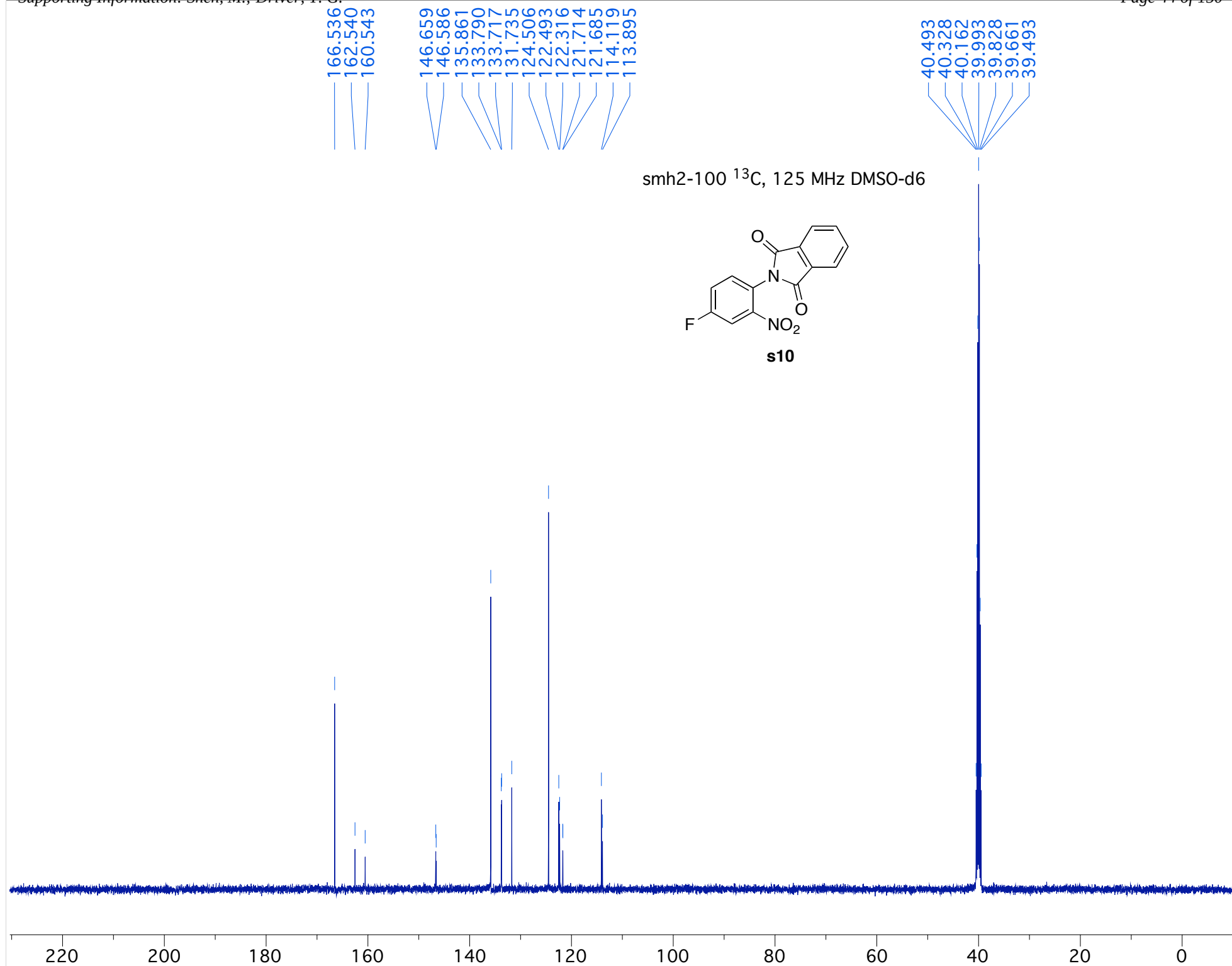


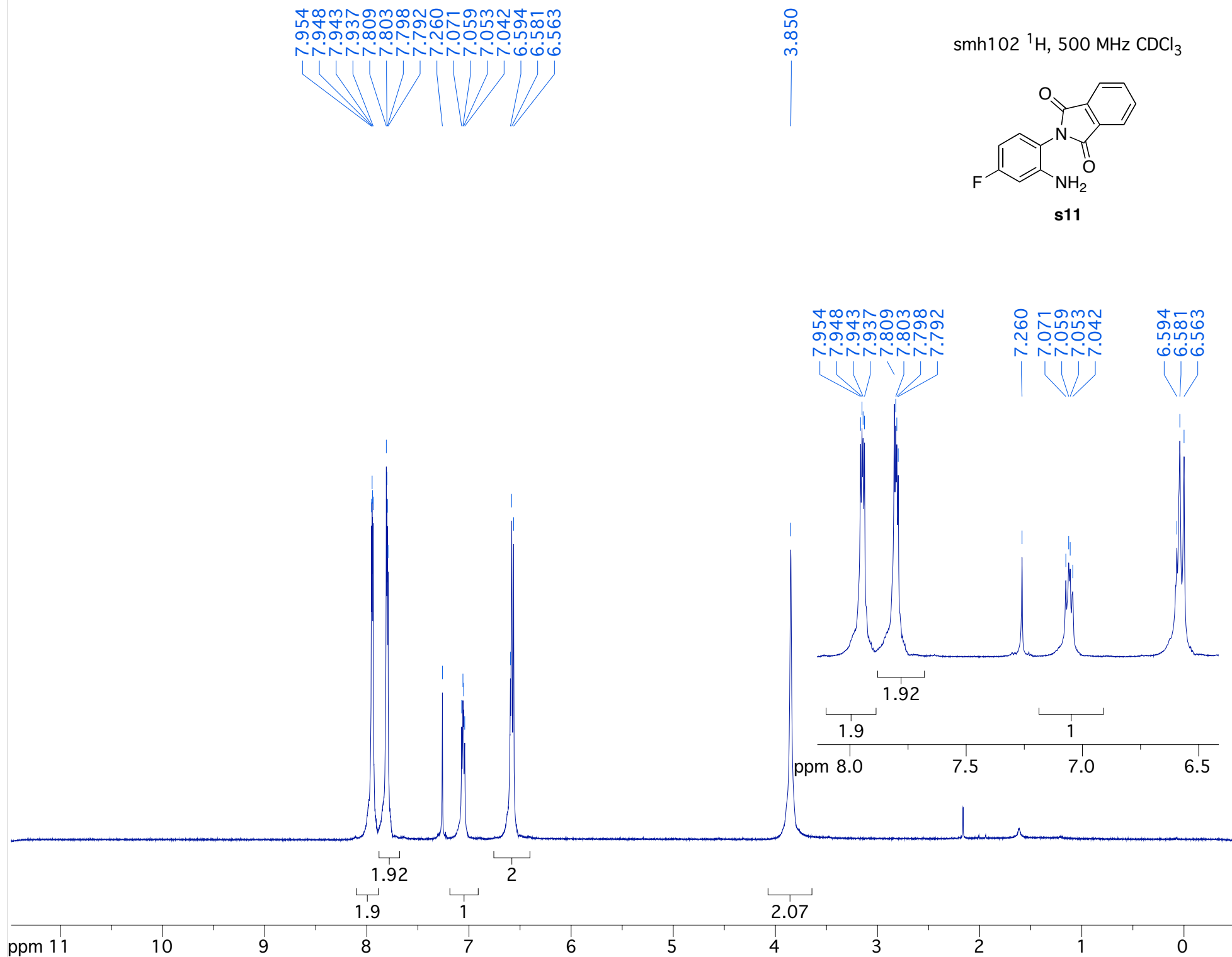


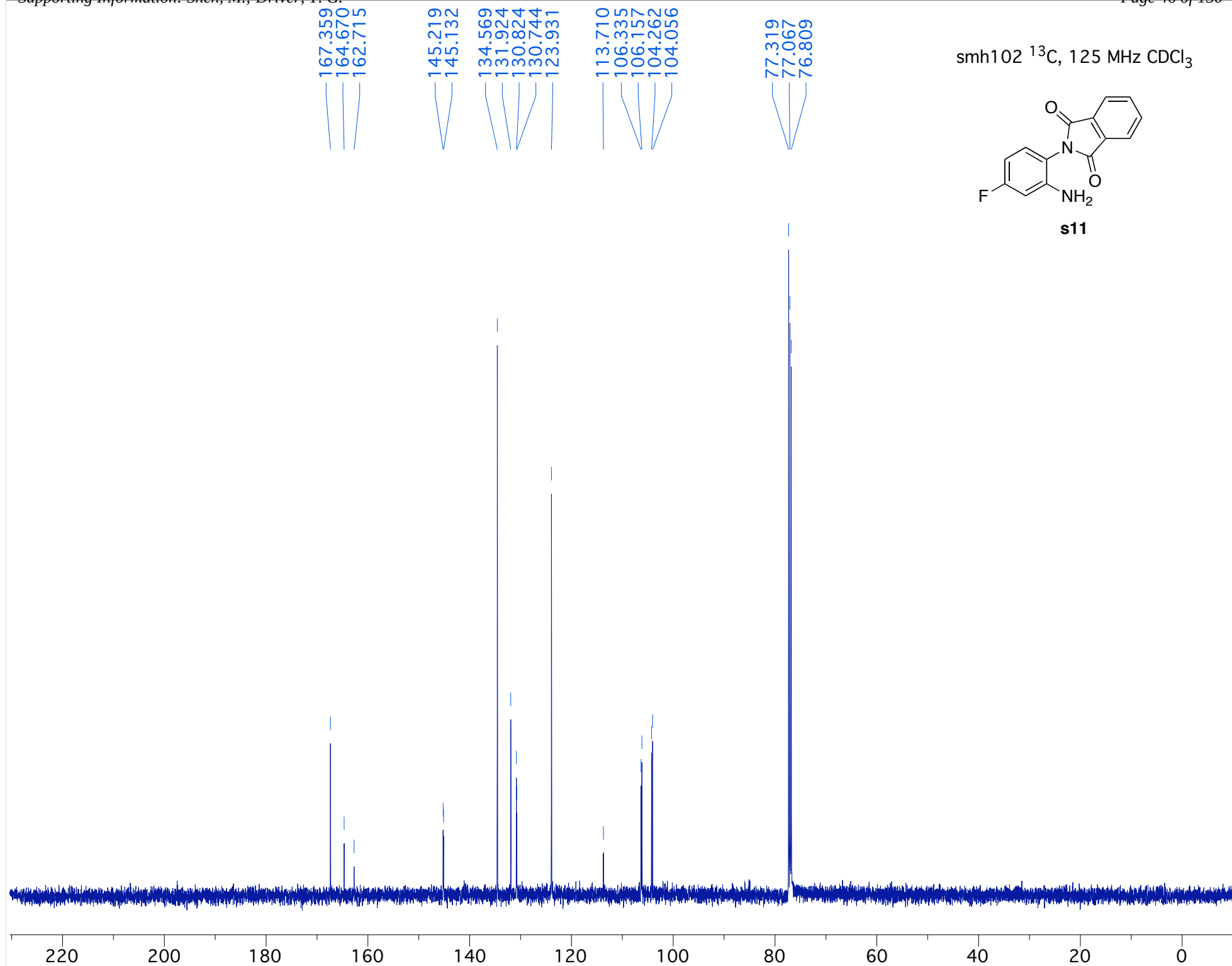


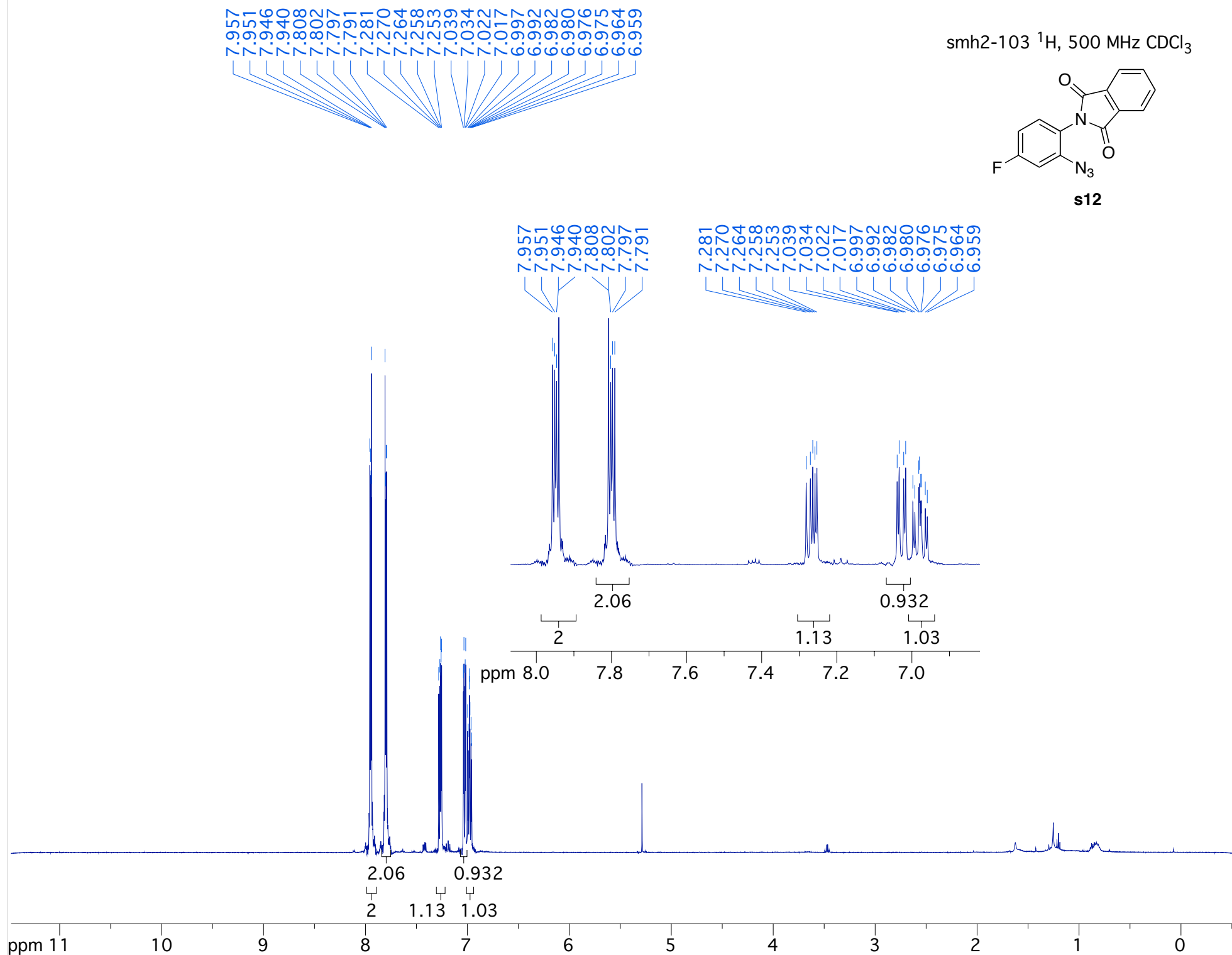


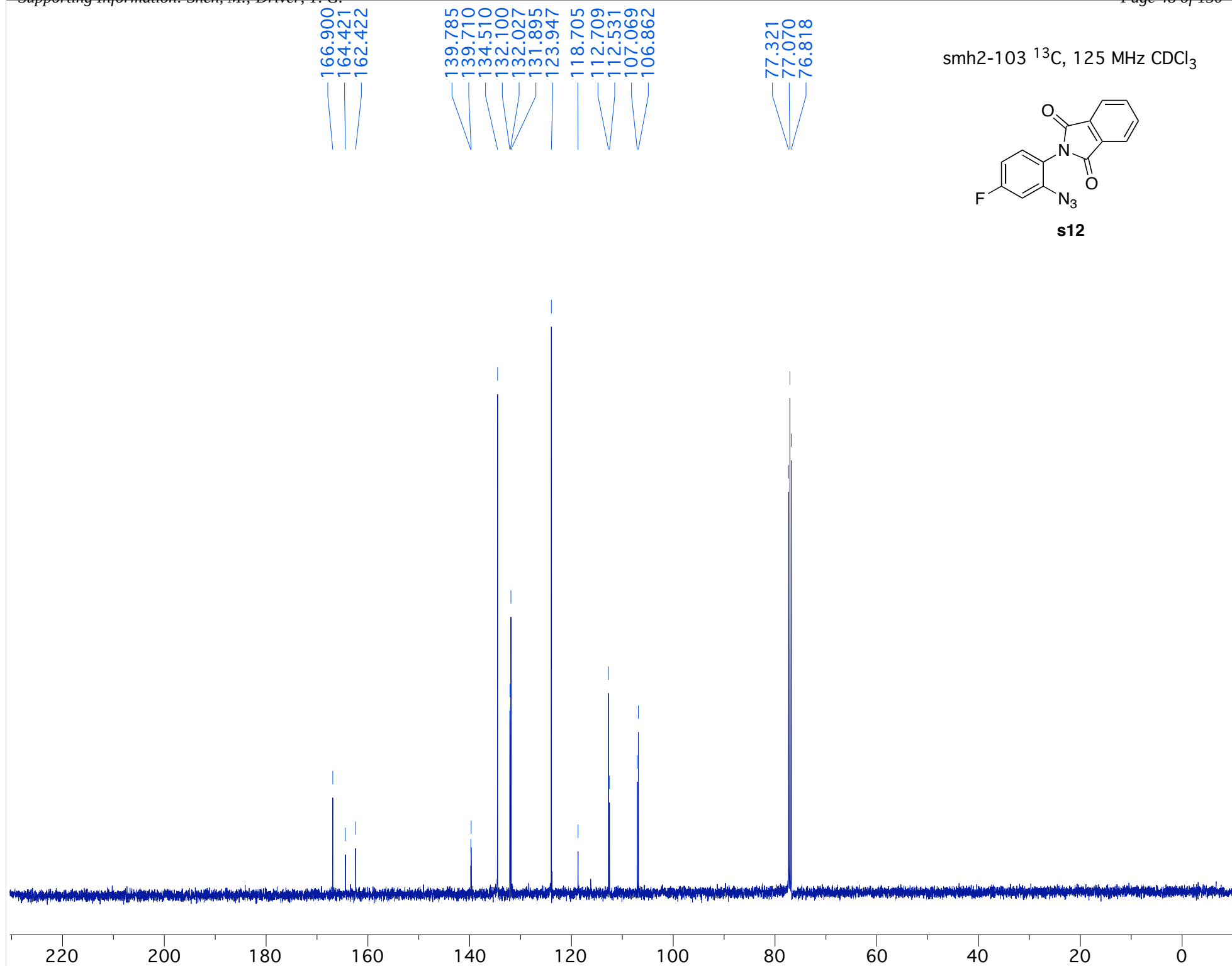


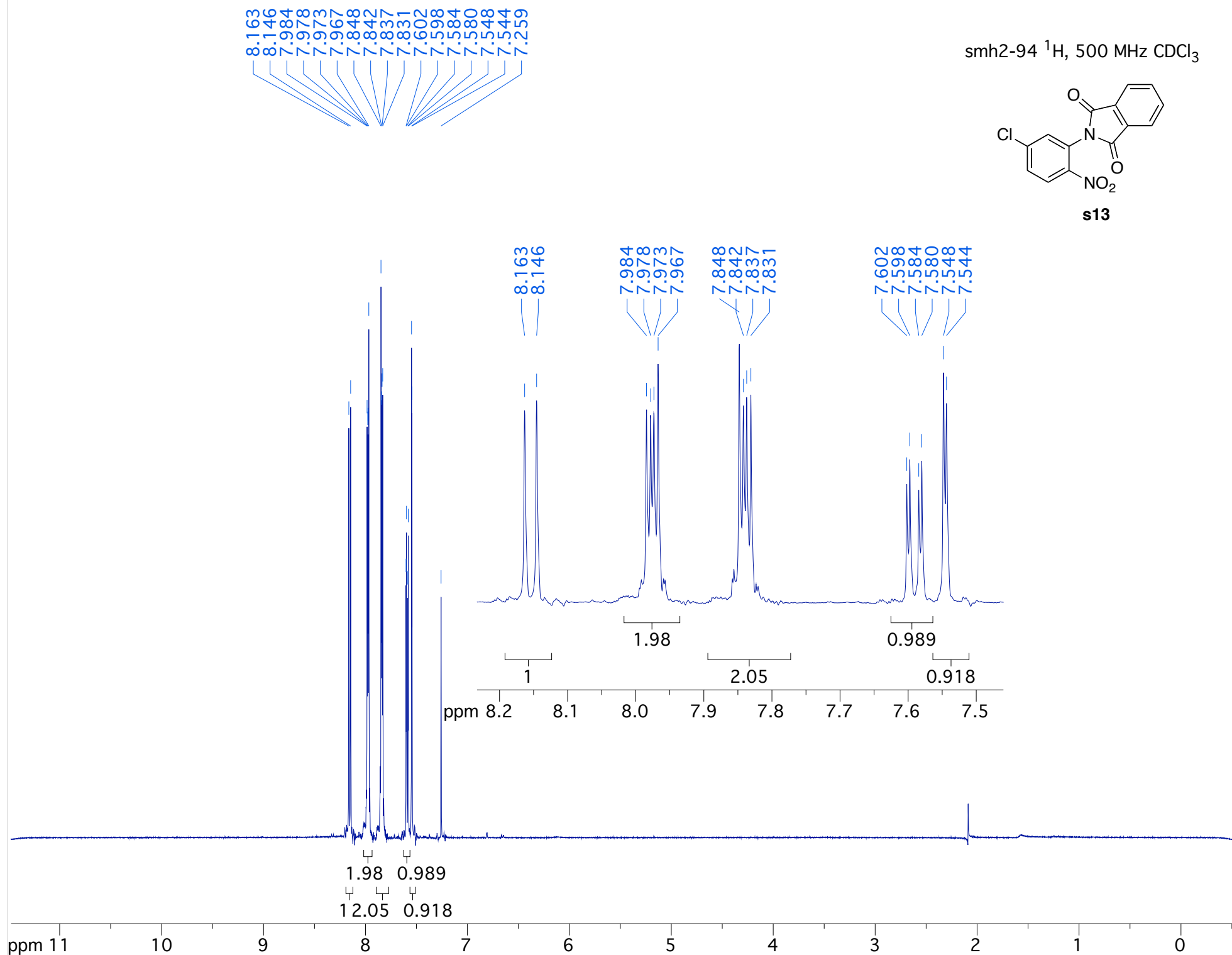


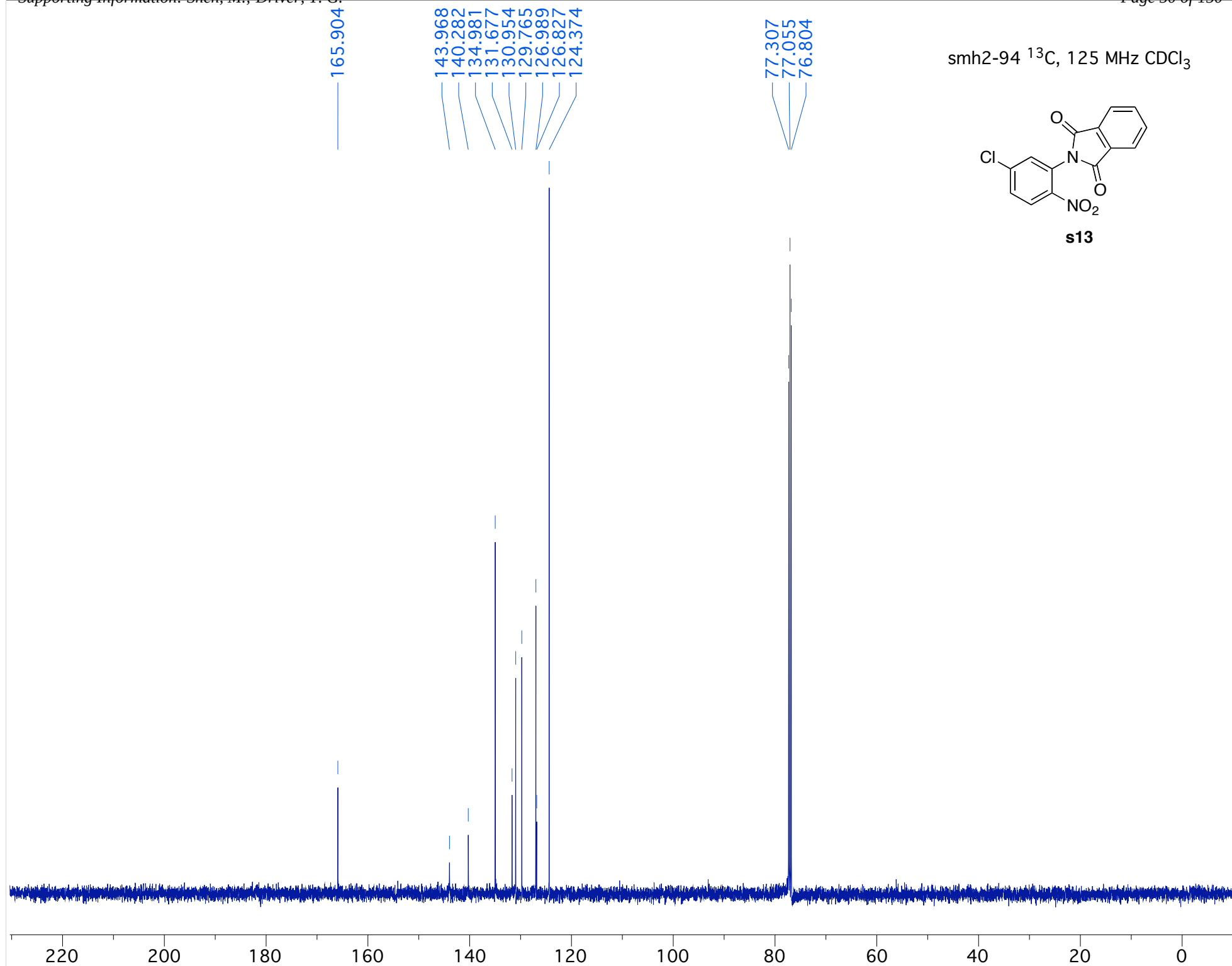


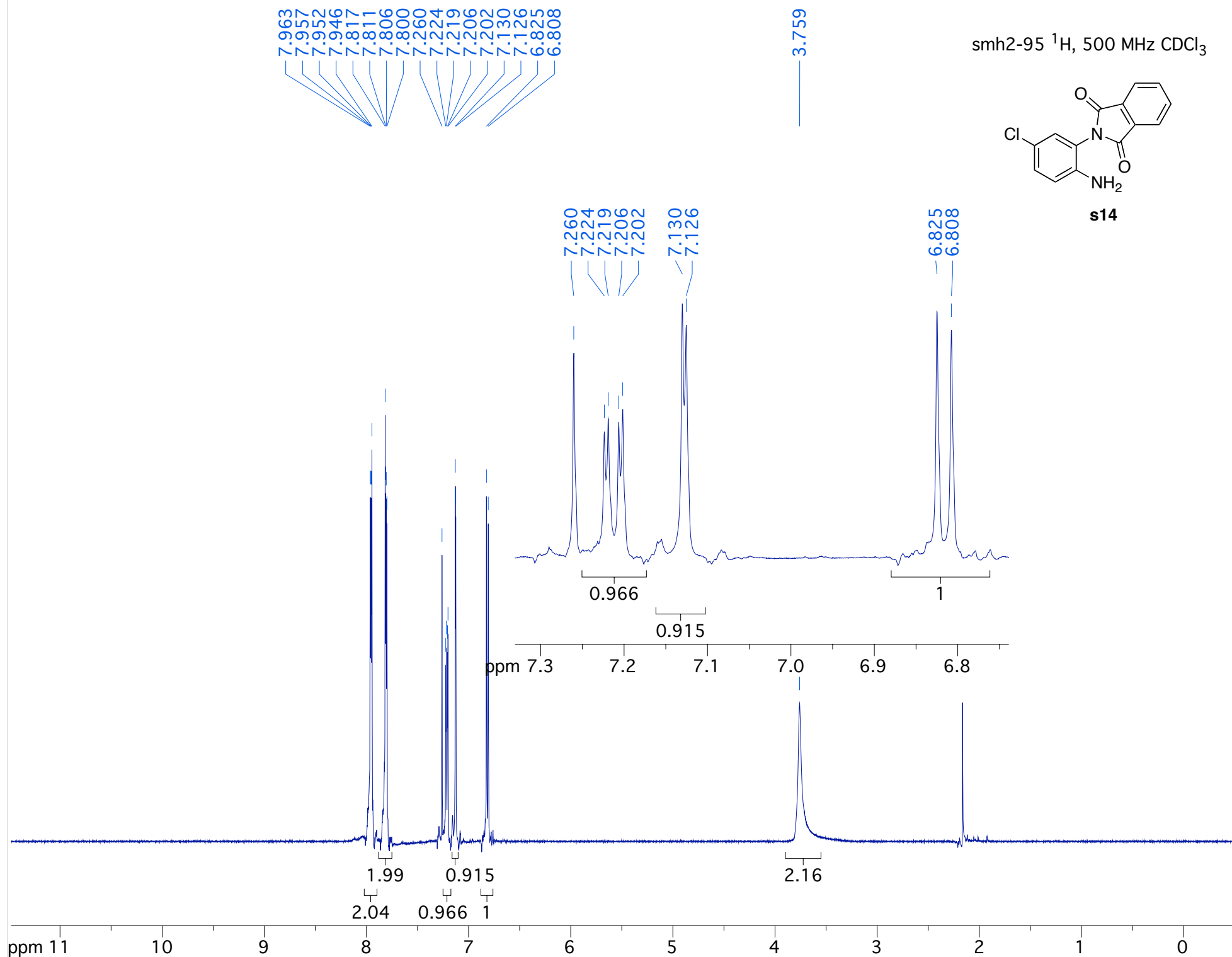


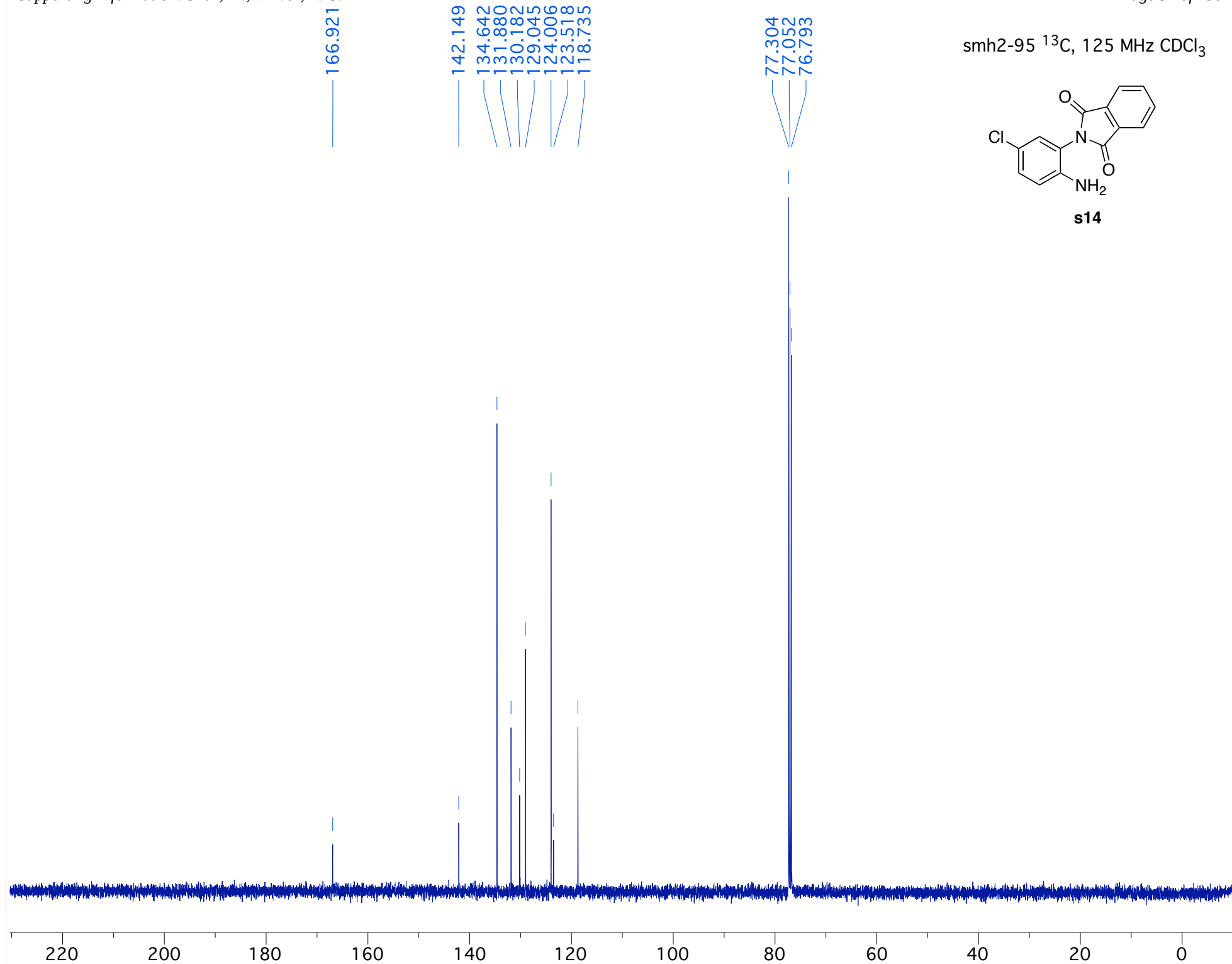


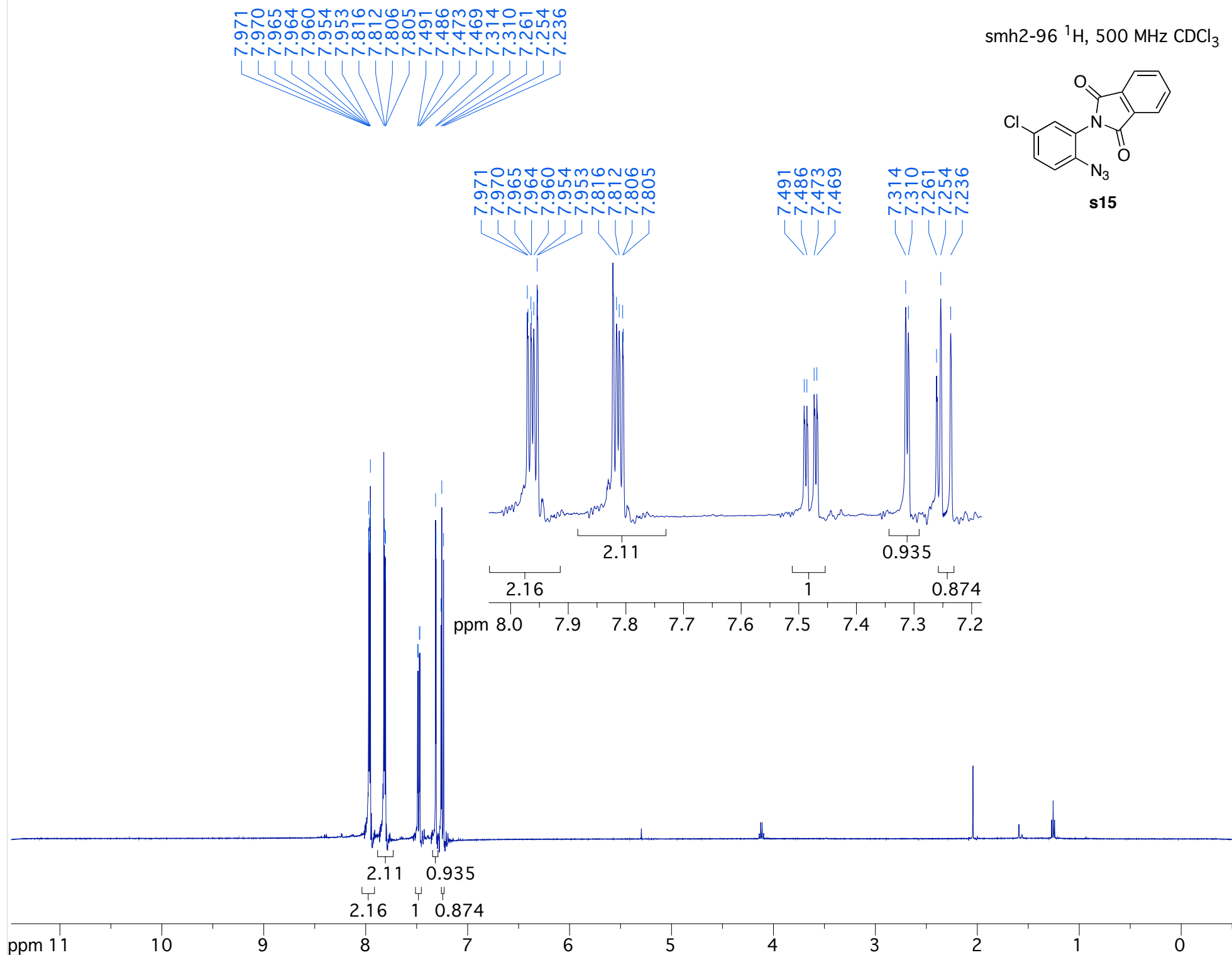


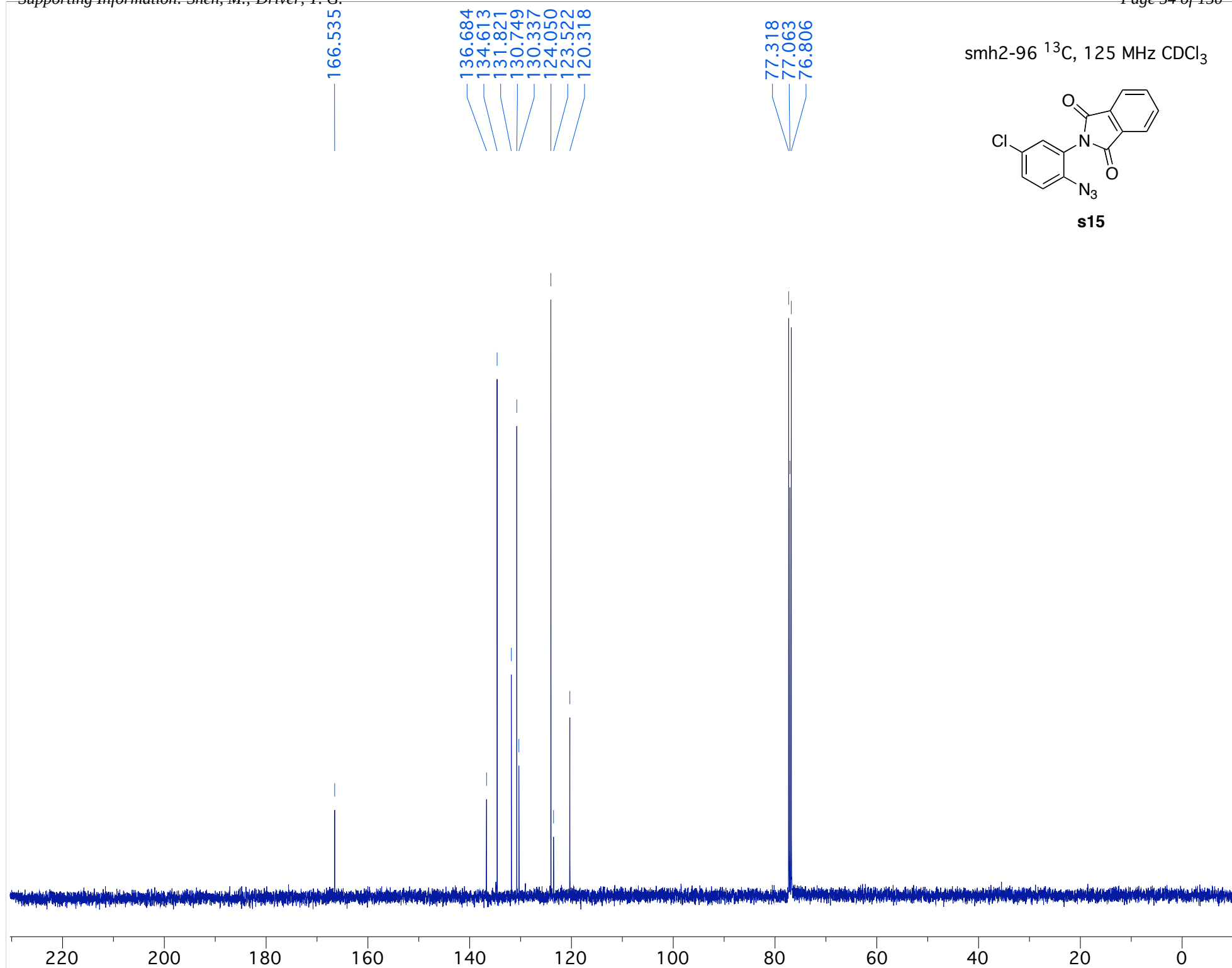


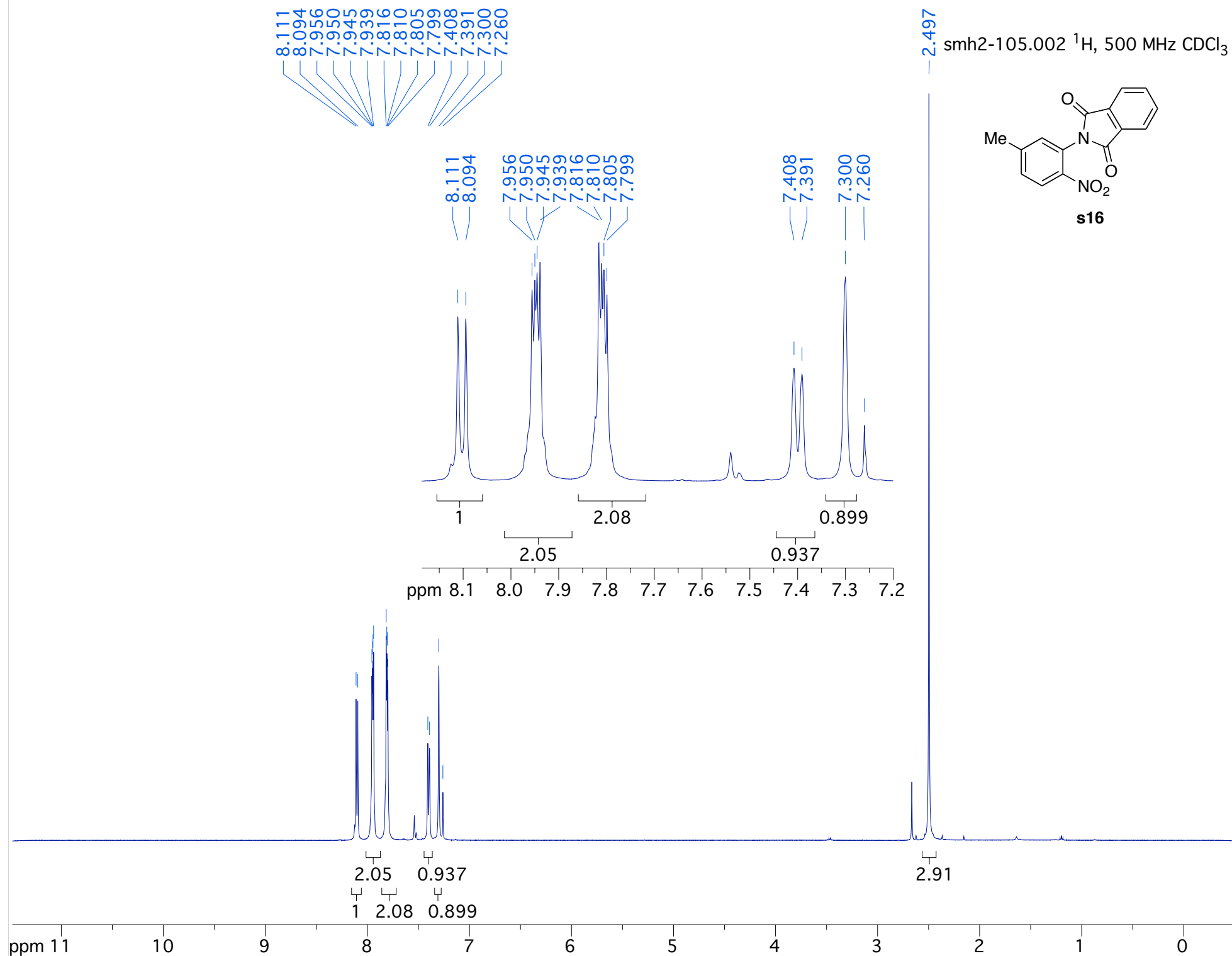


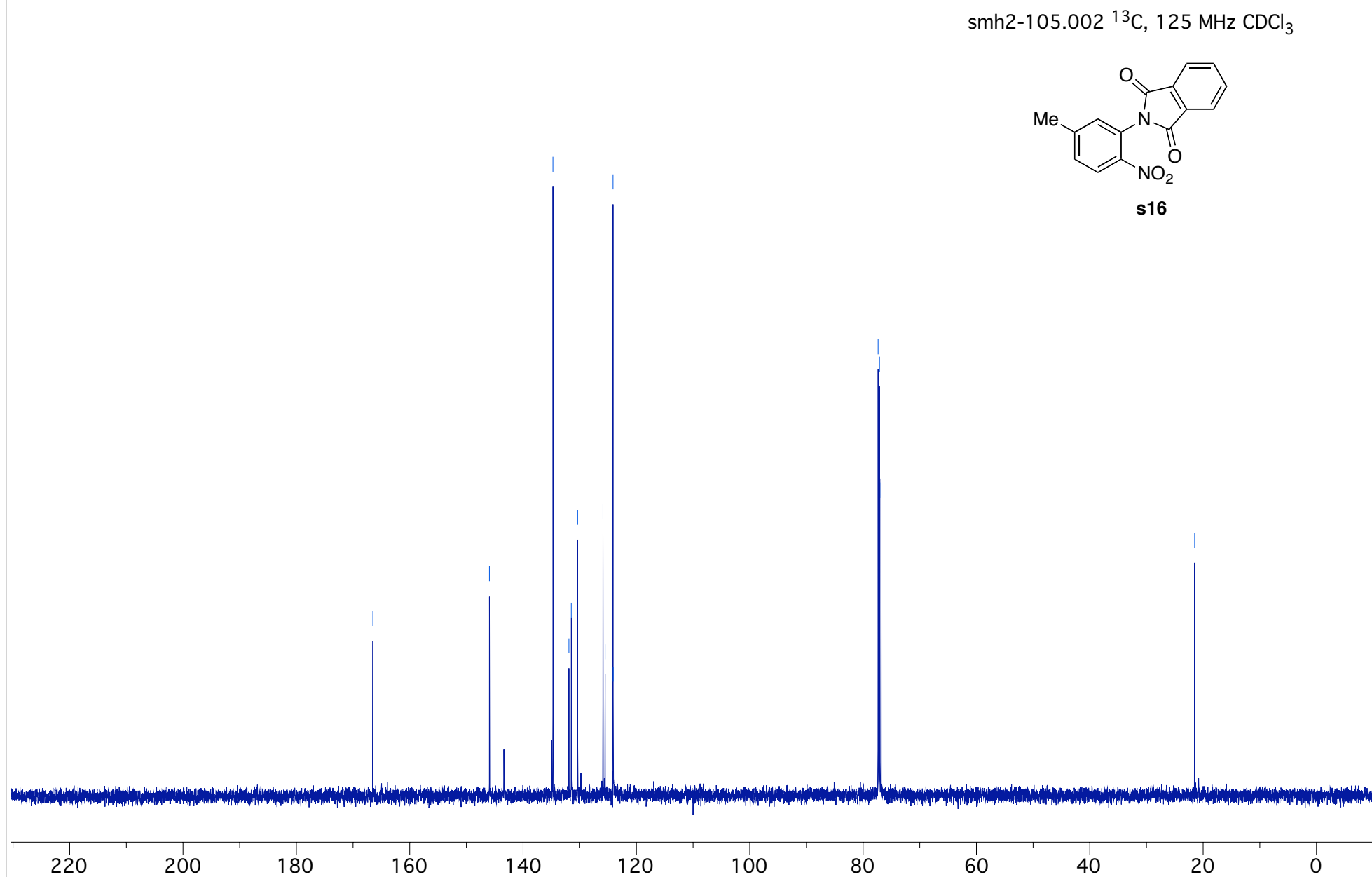


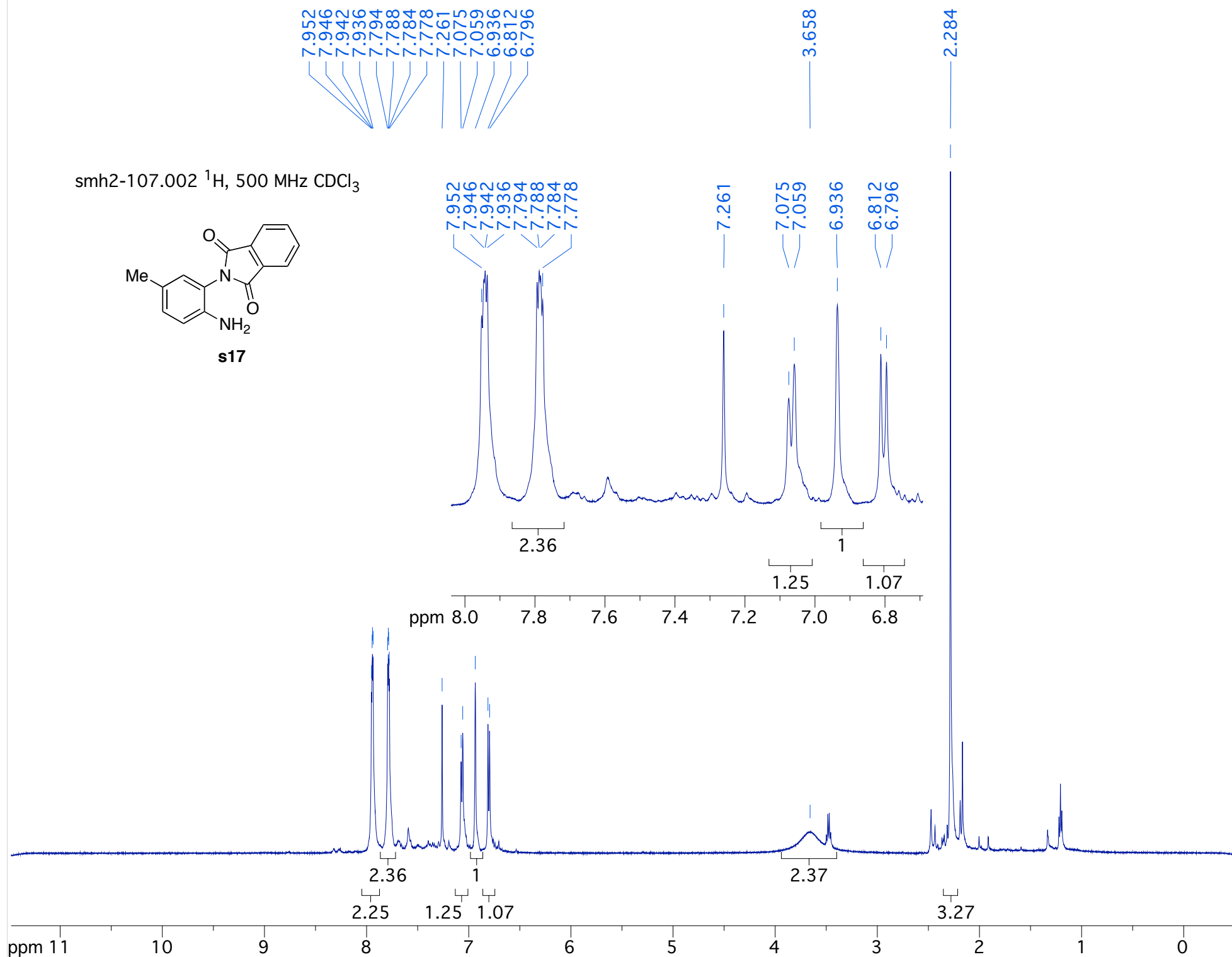


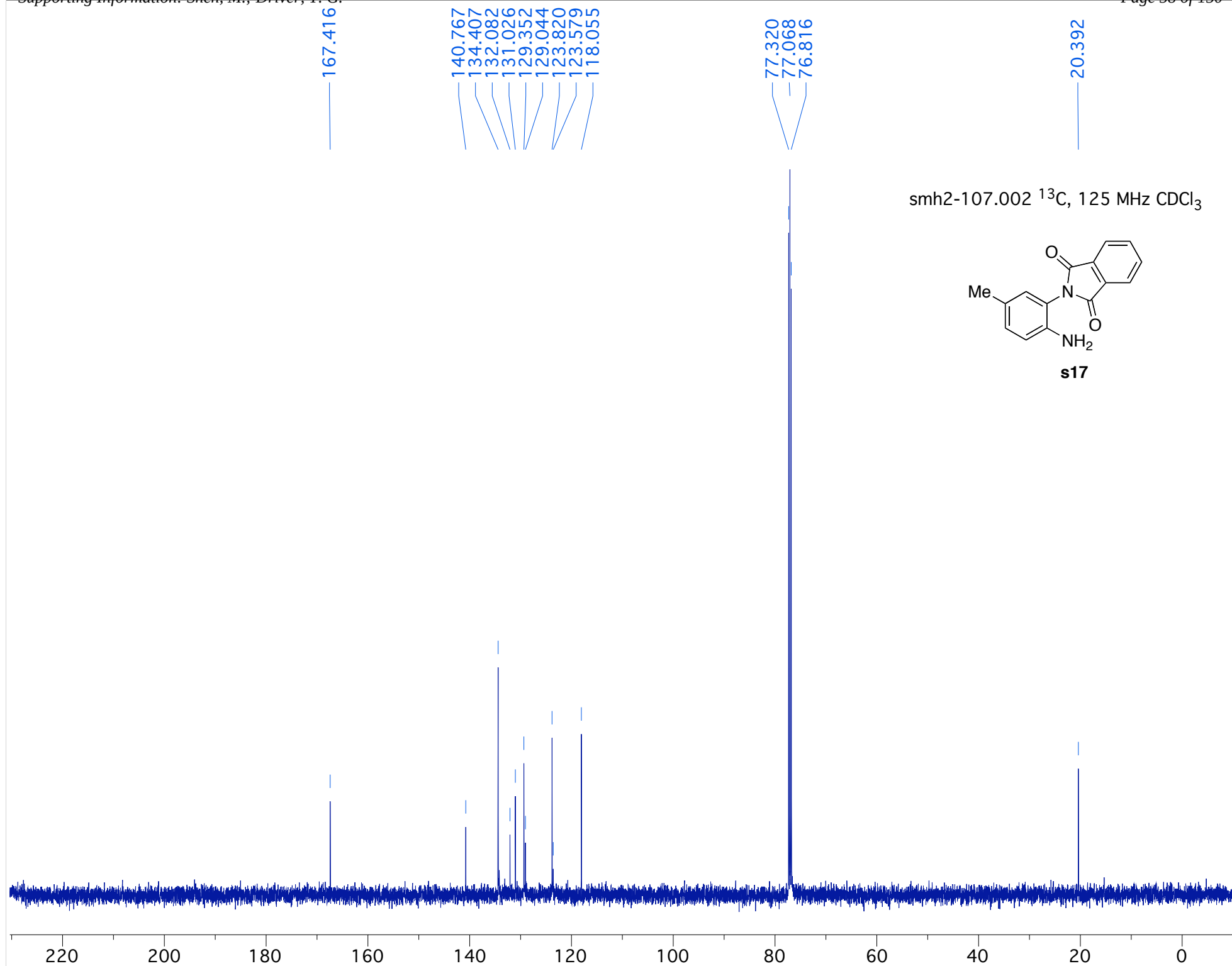


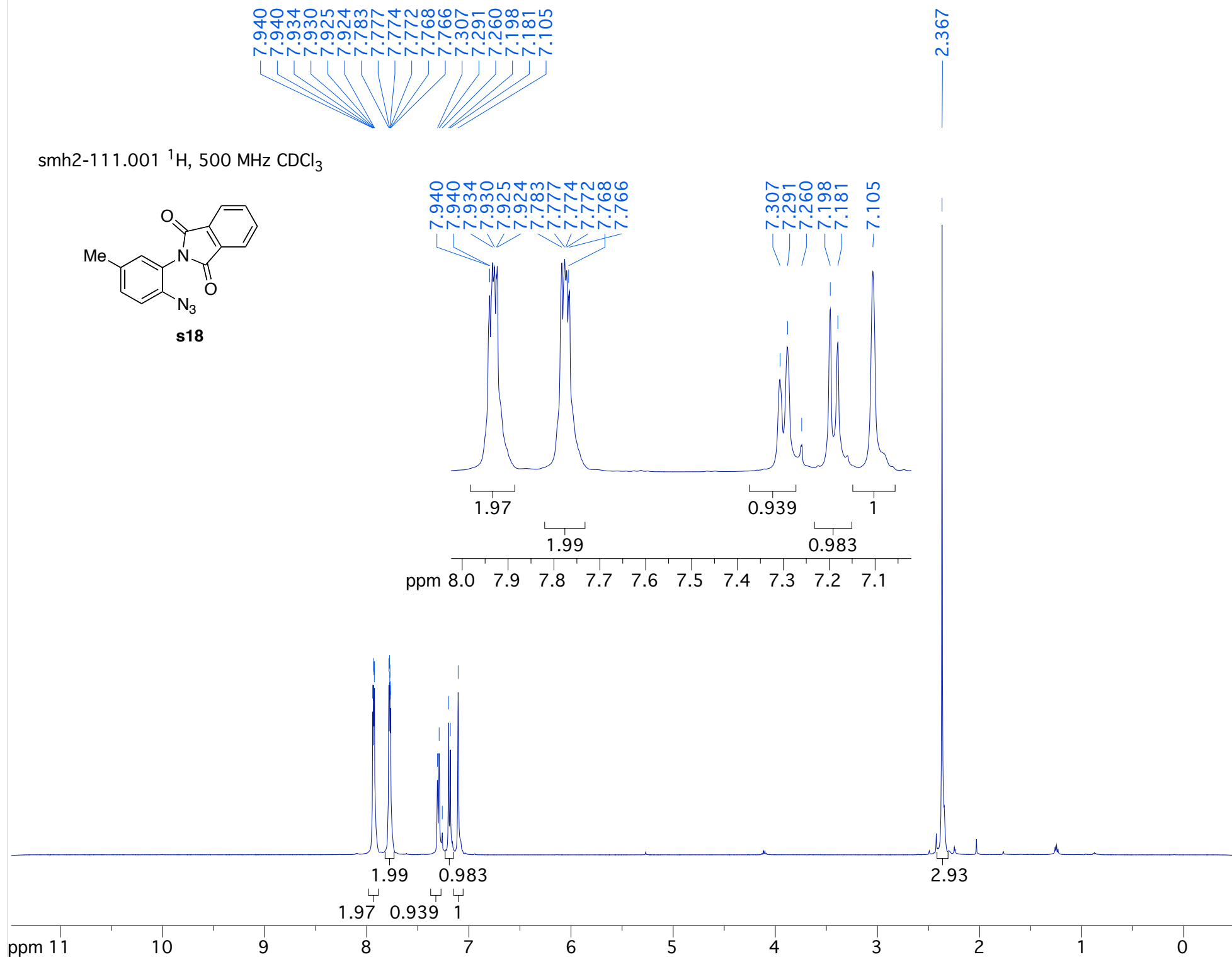


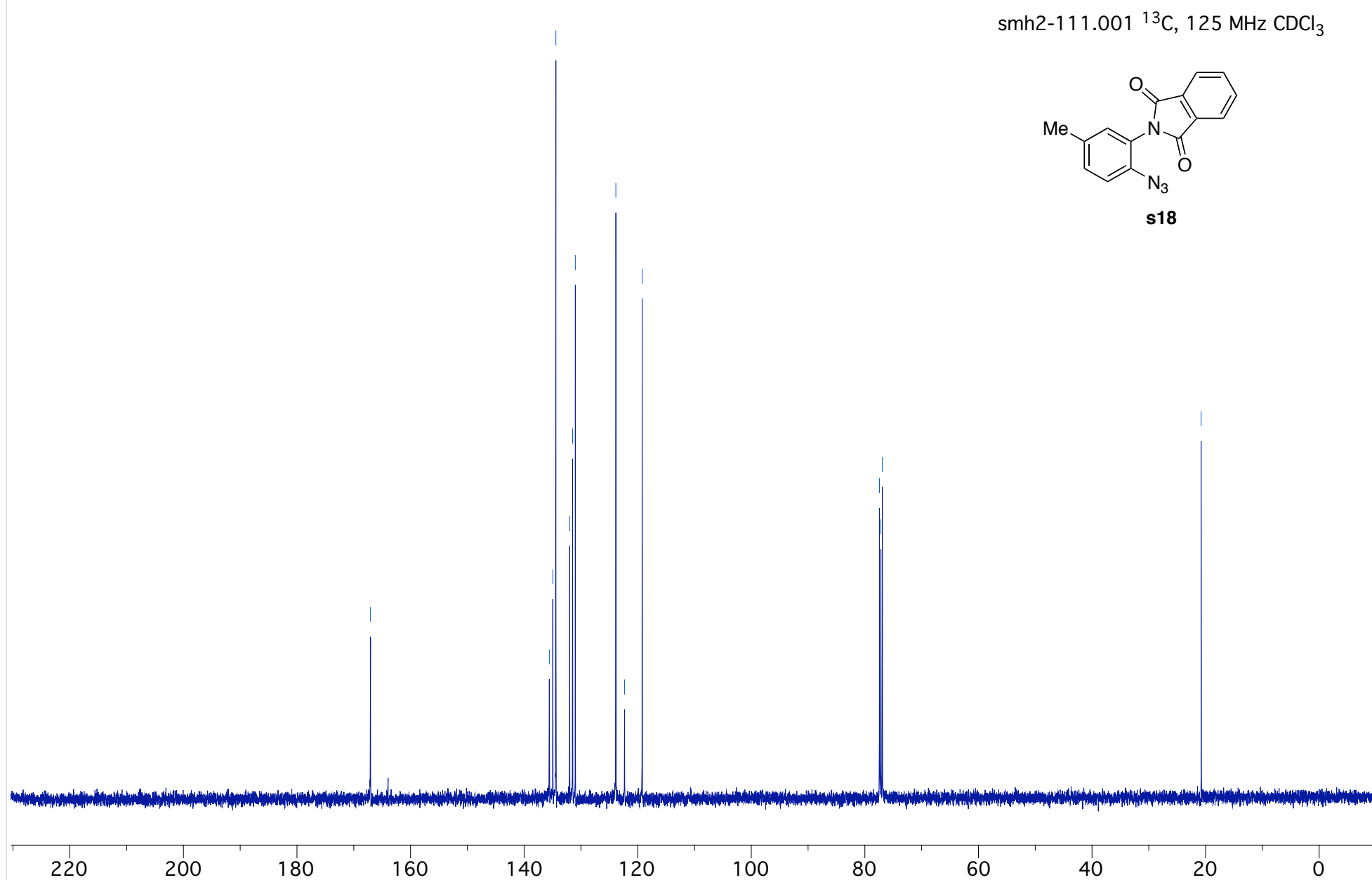


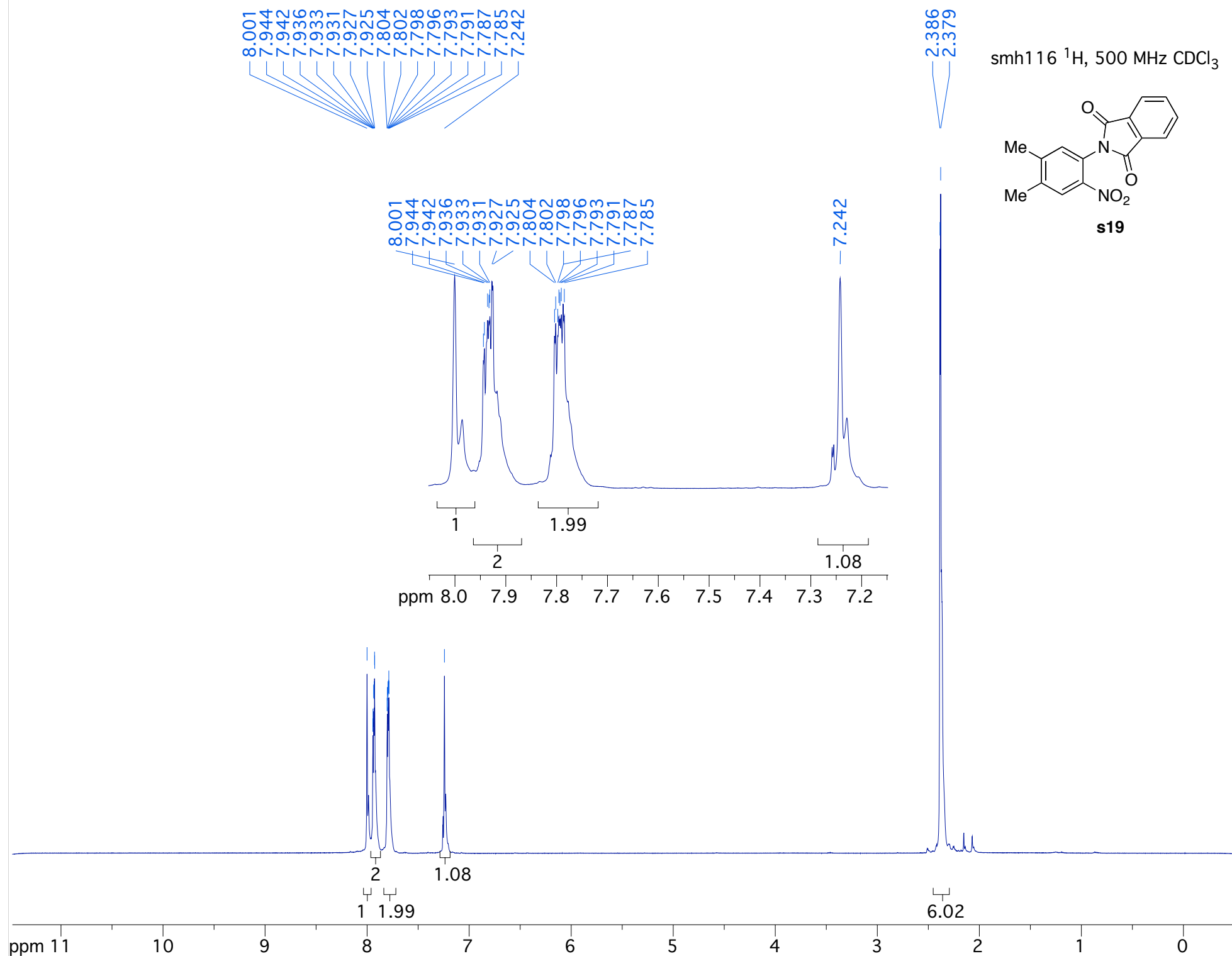


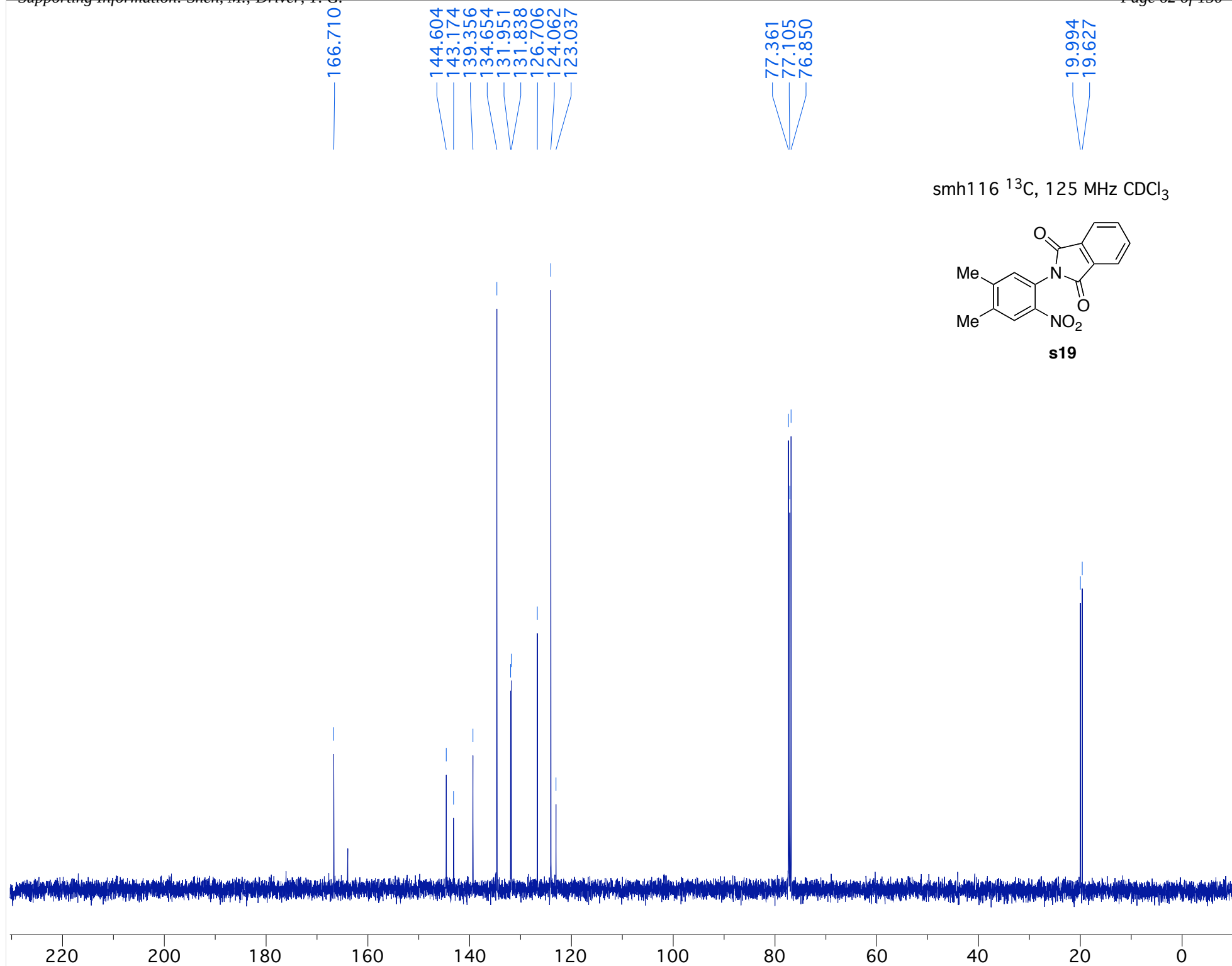


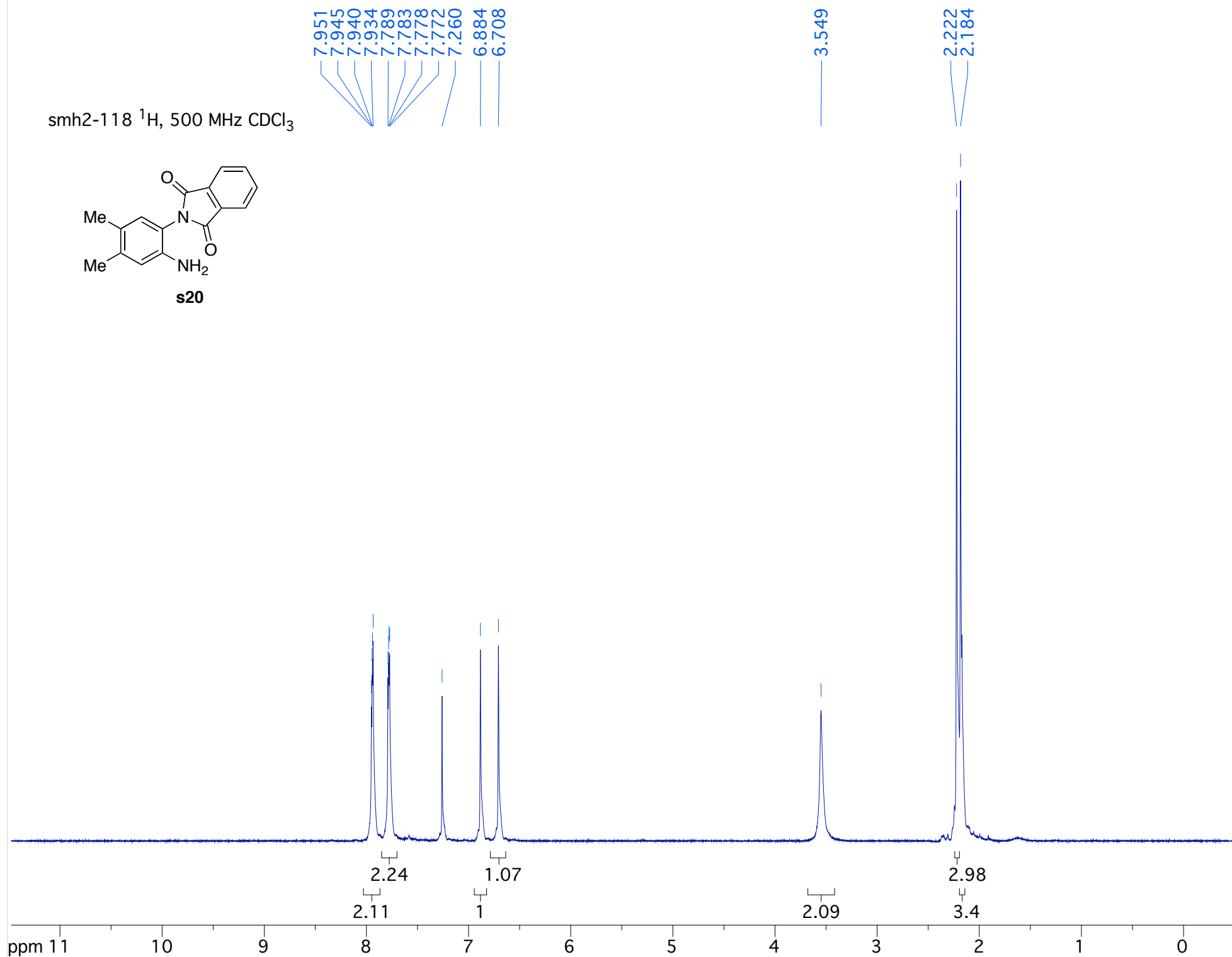


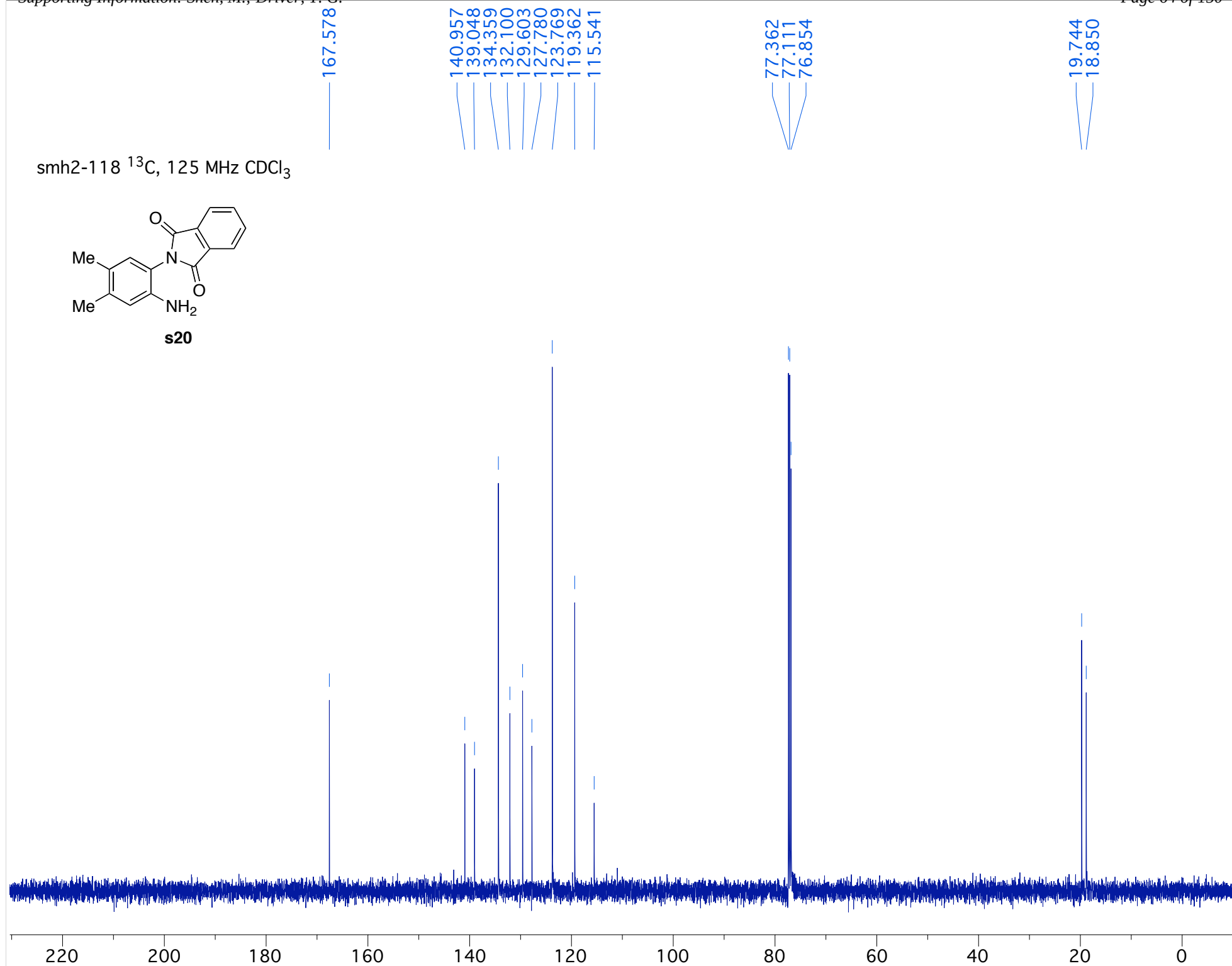
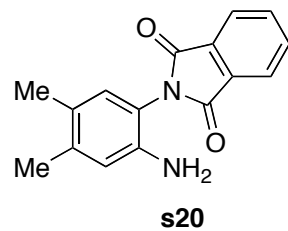


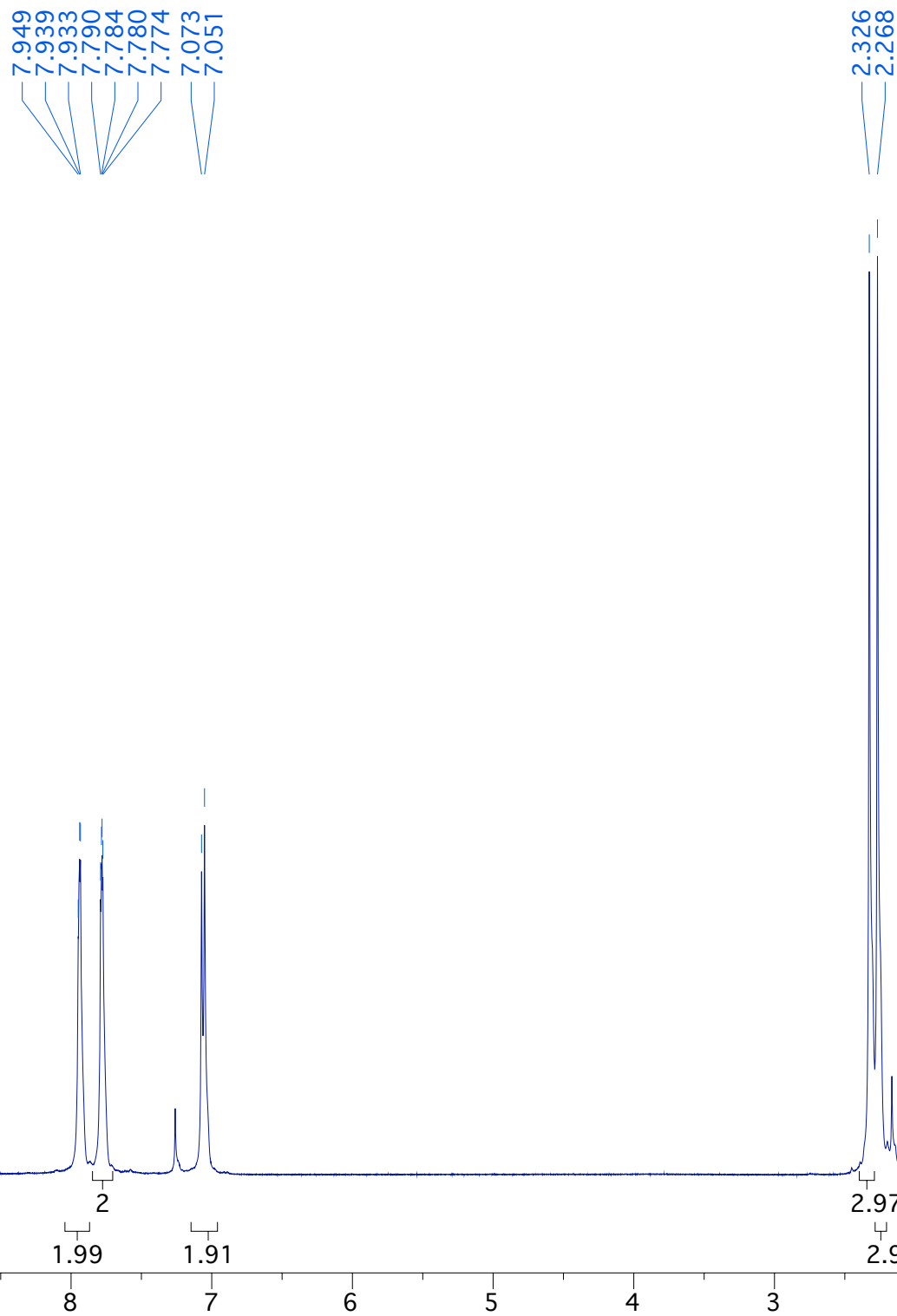
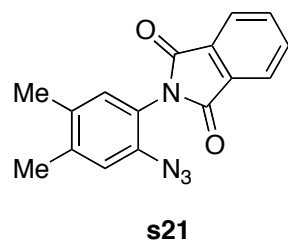








smh2-118 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 

smh2-122 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 

ppm 11

10

9

8

7

6

5

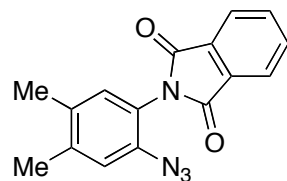
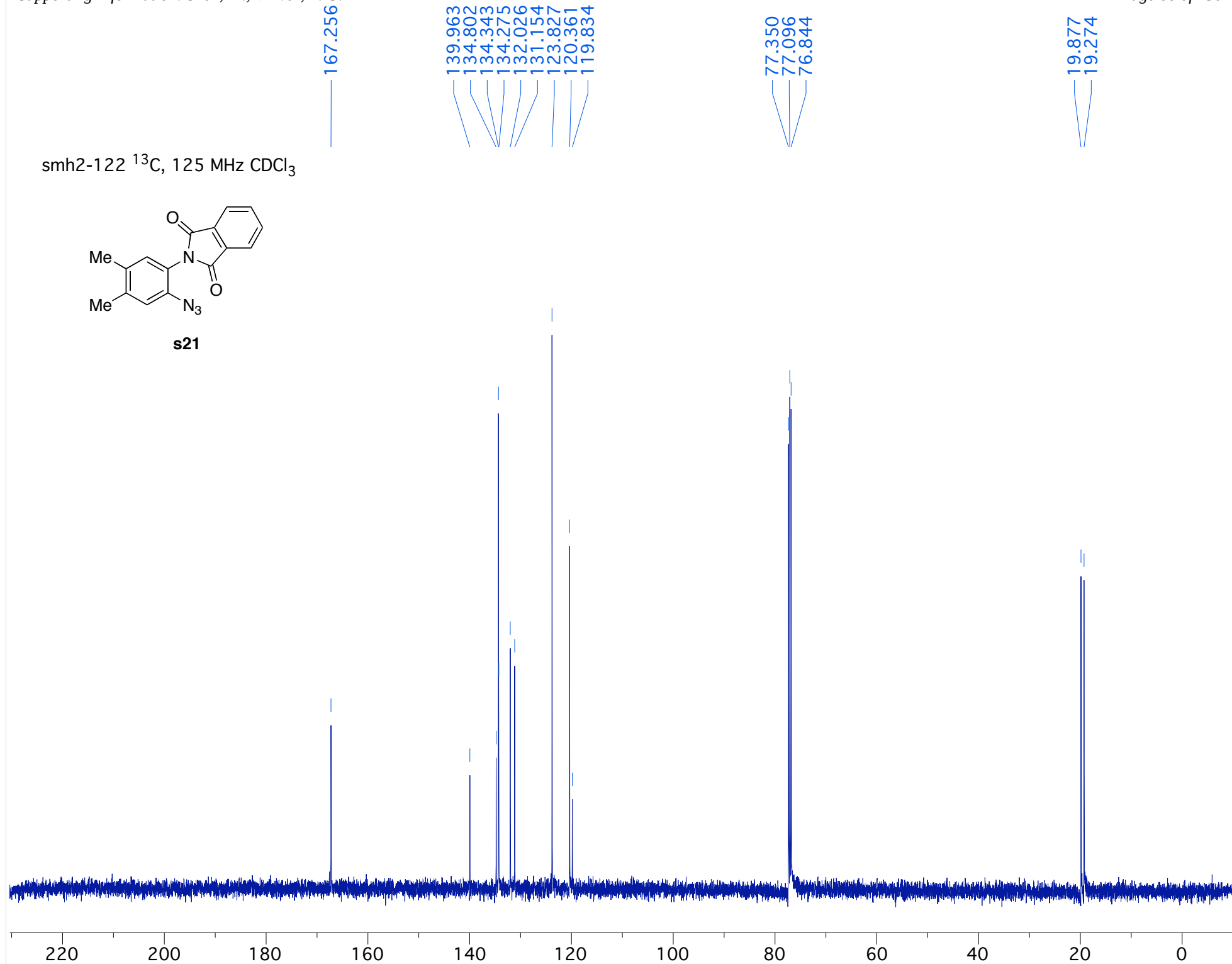
4

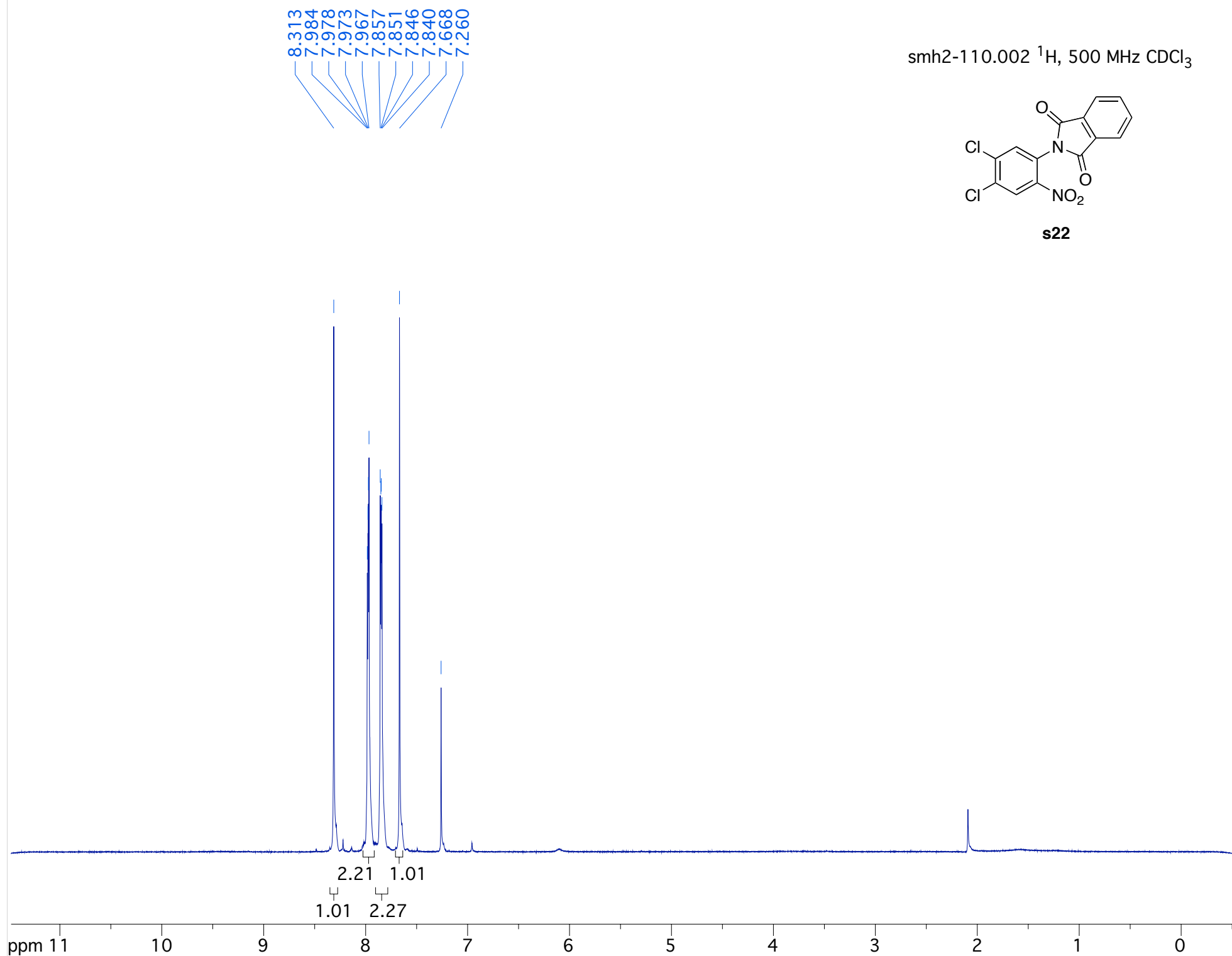
3

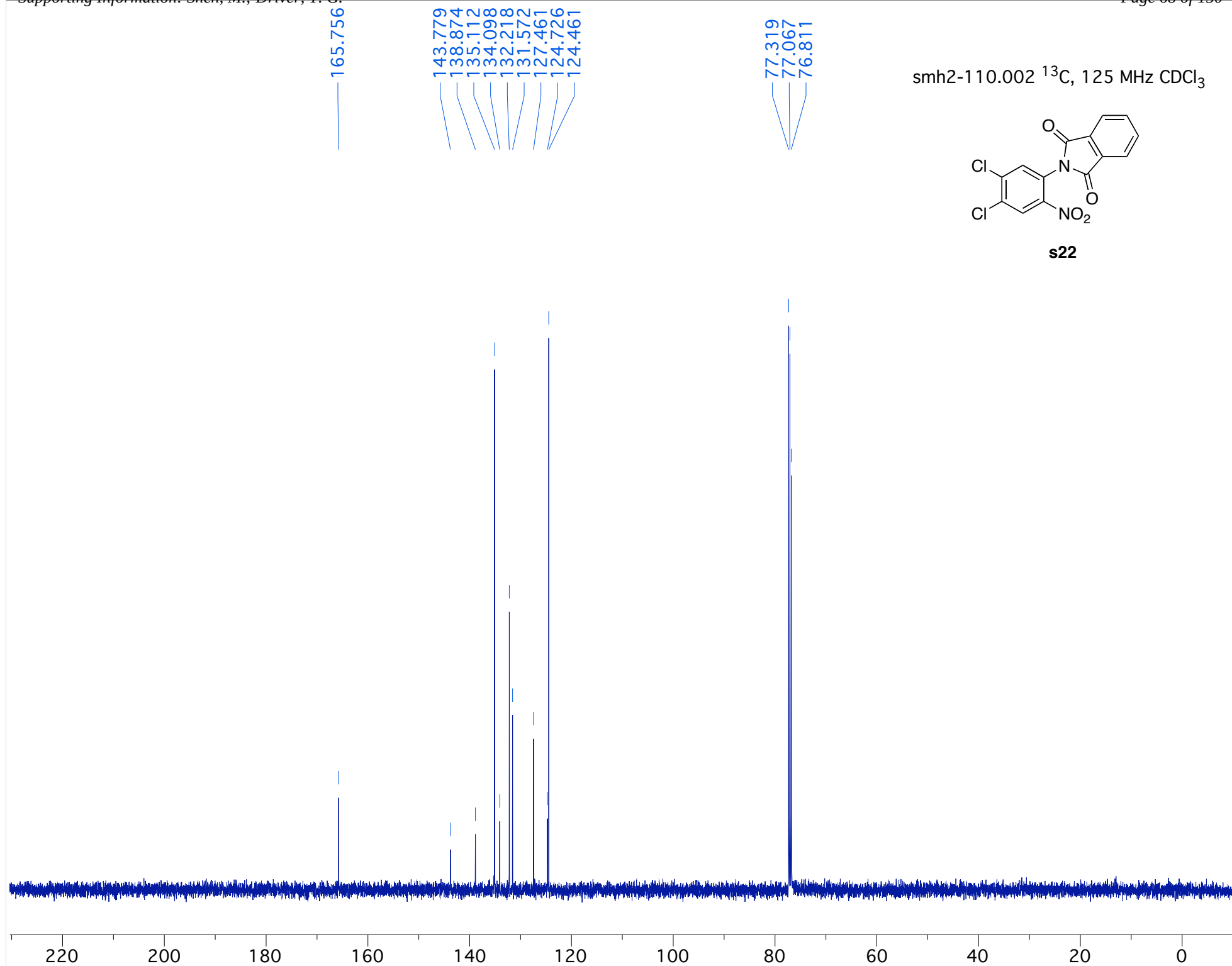
2

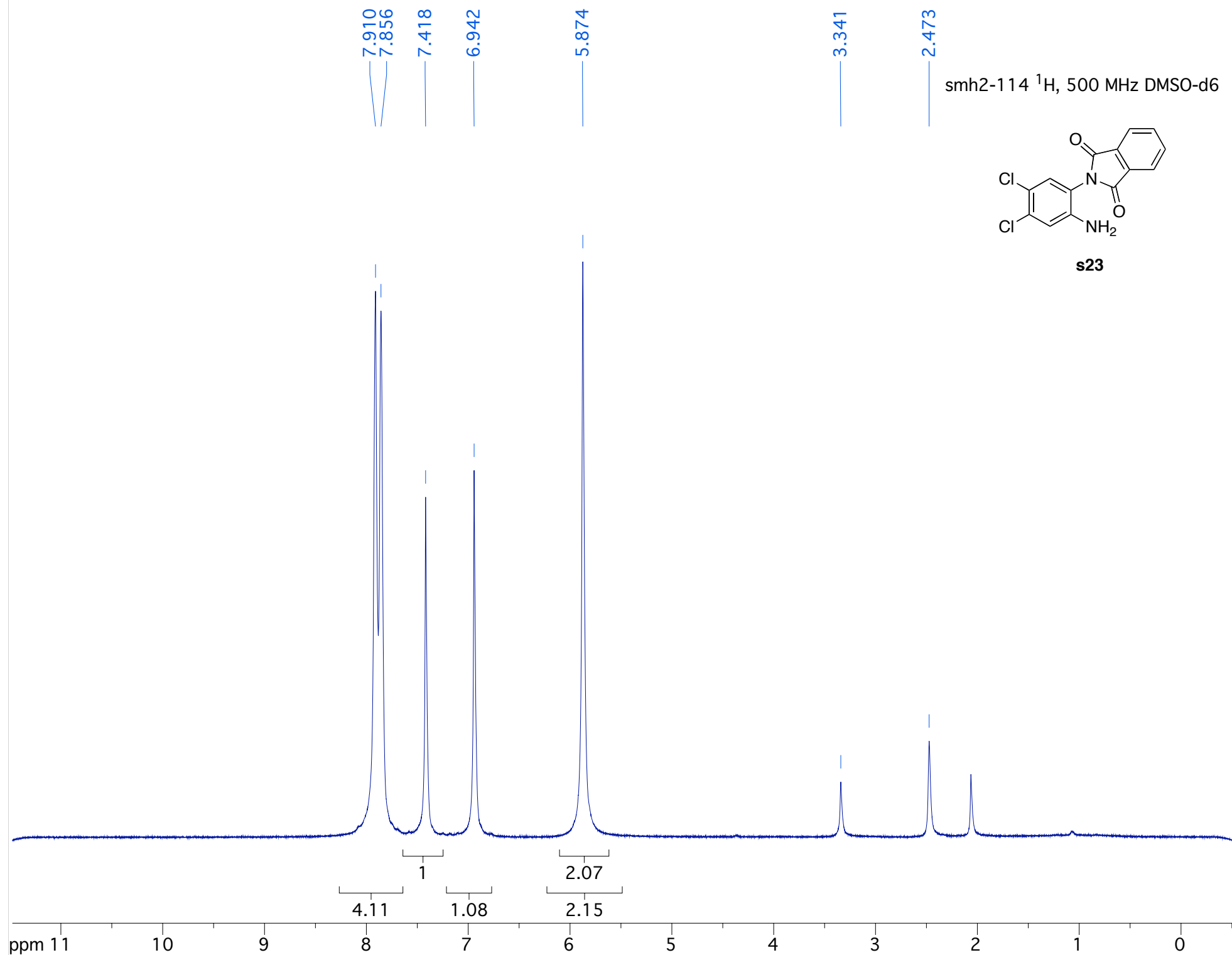
1

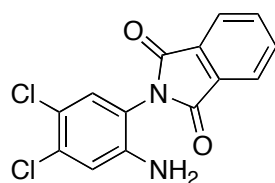
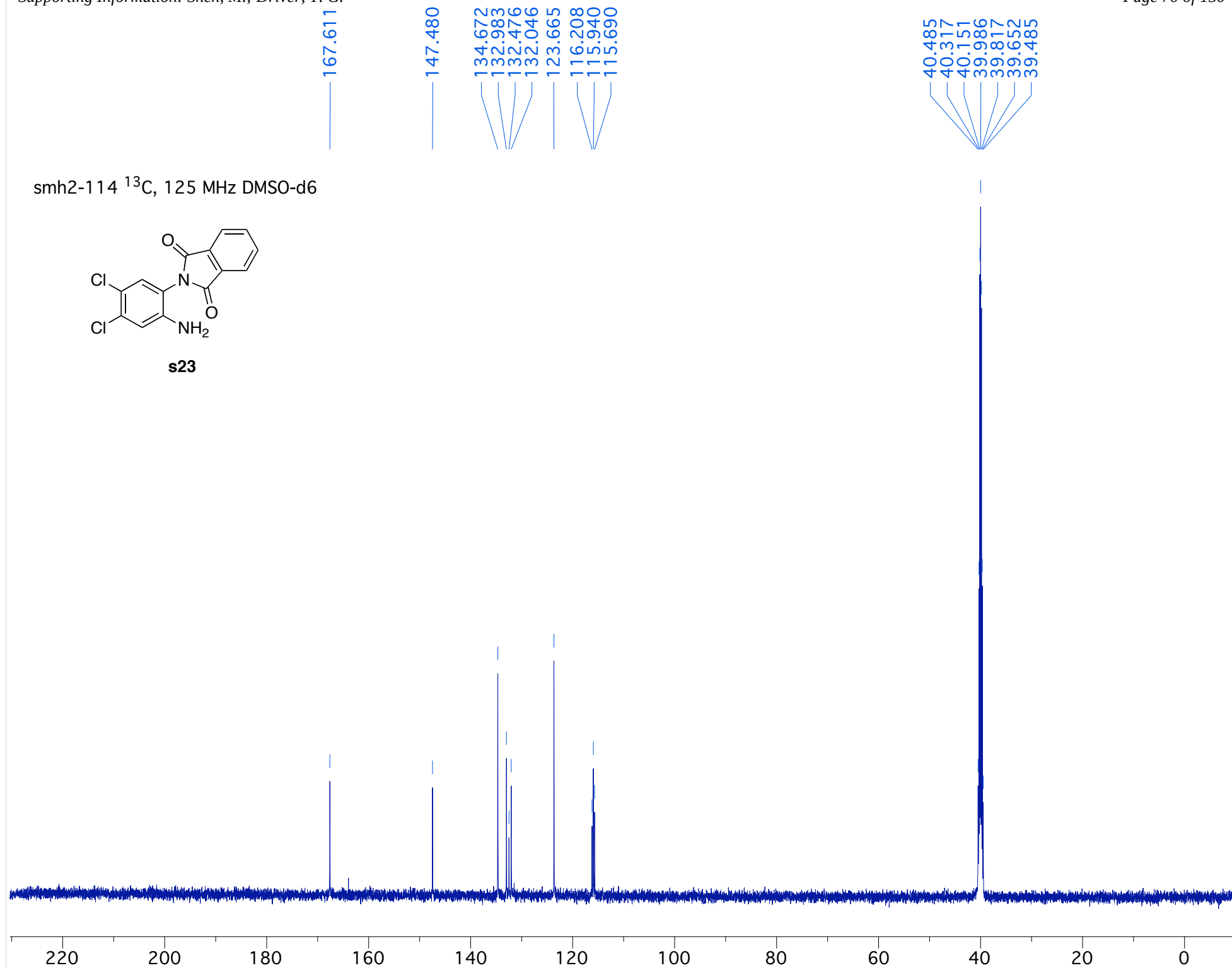
0

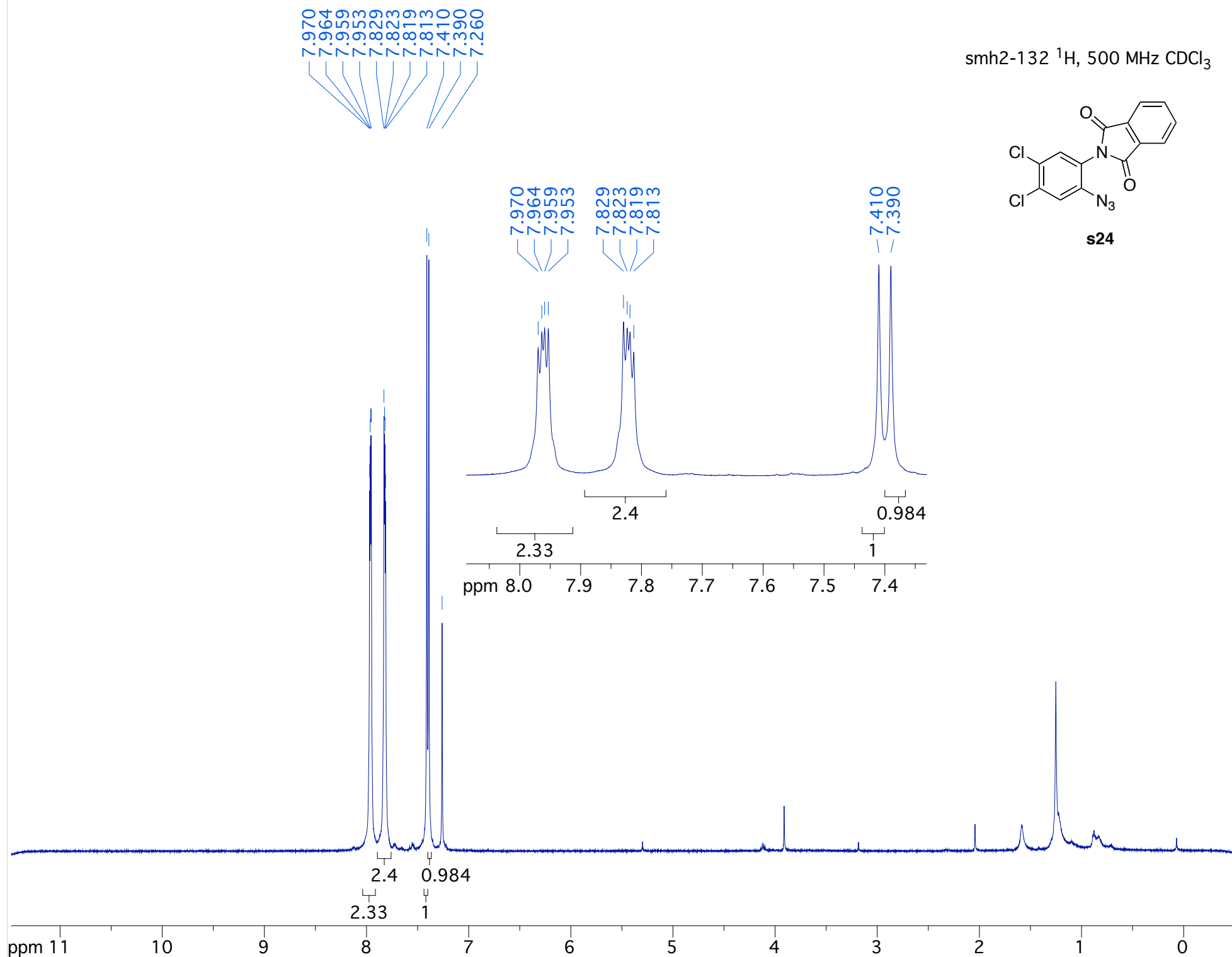
smh2-122 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 **s21**

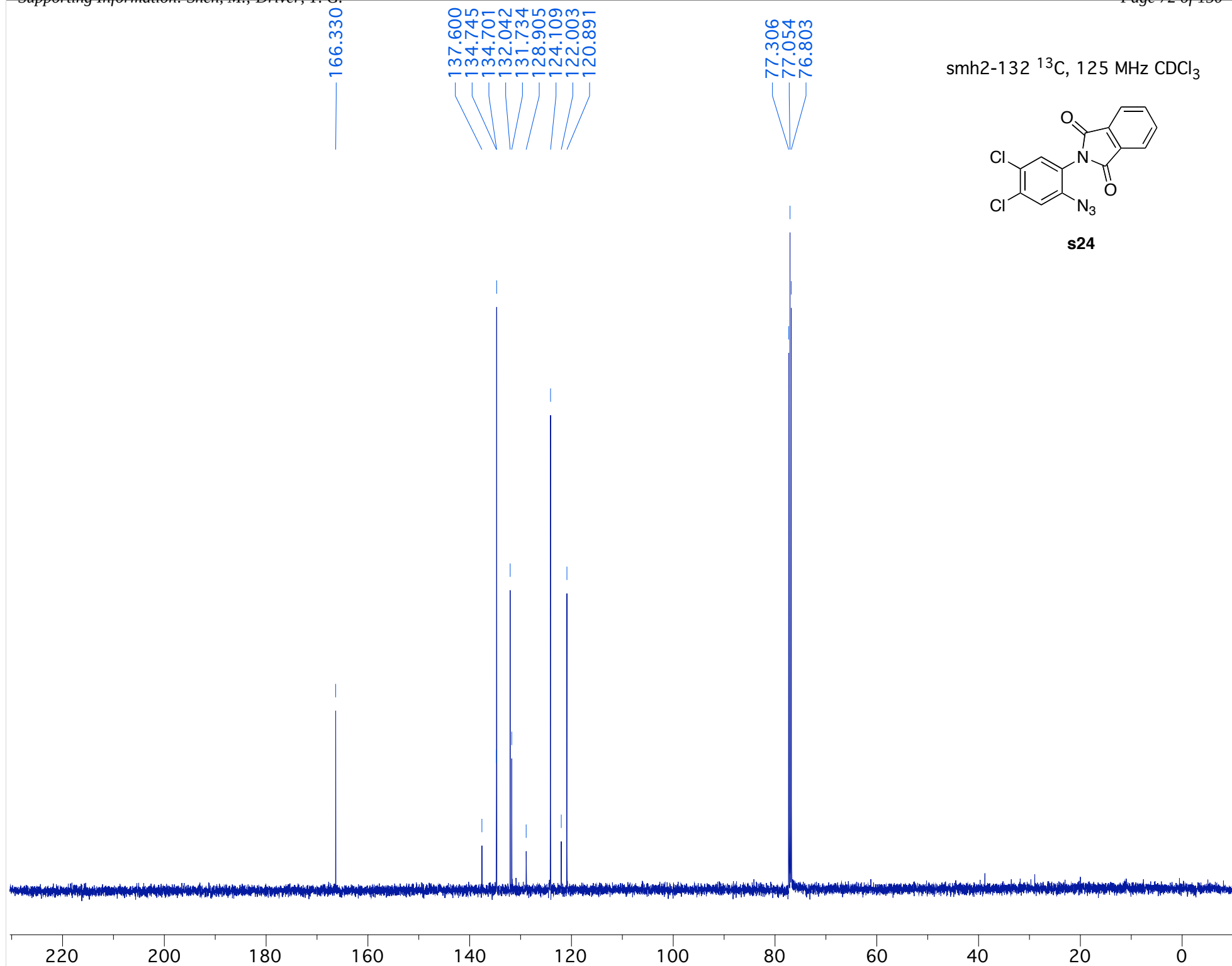


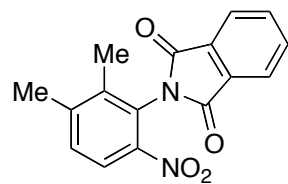
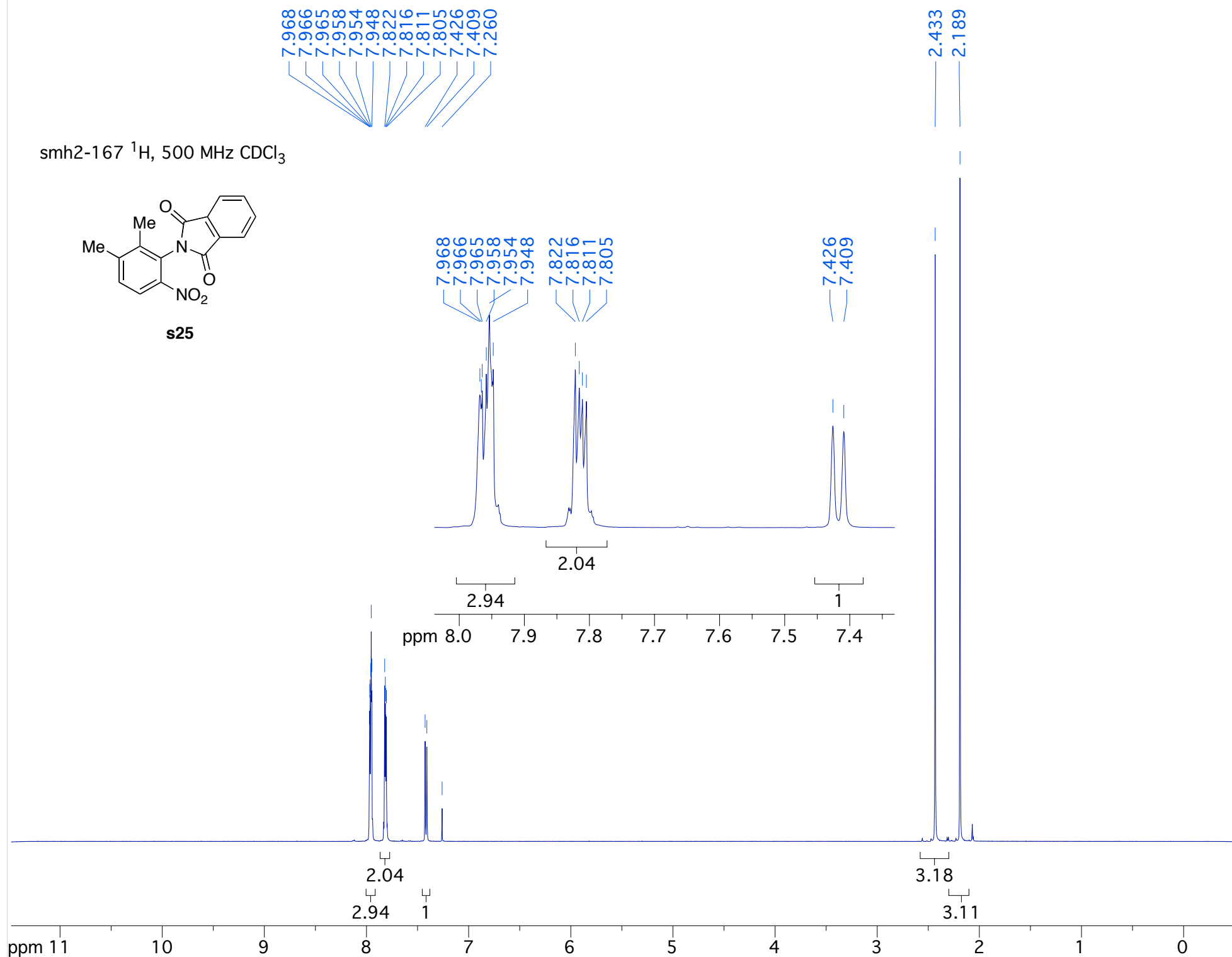


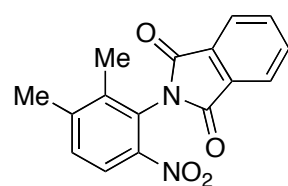
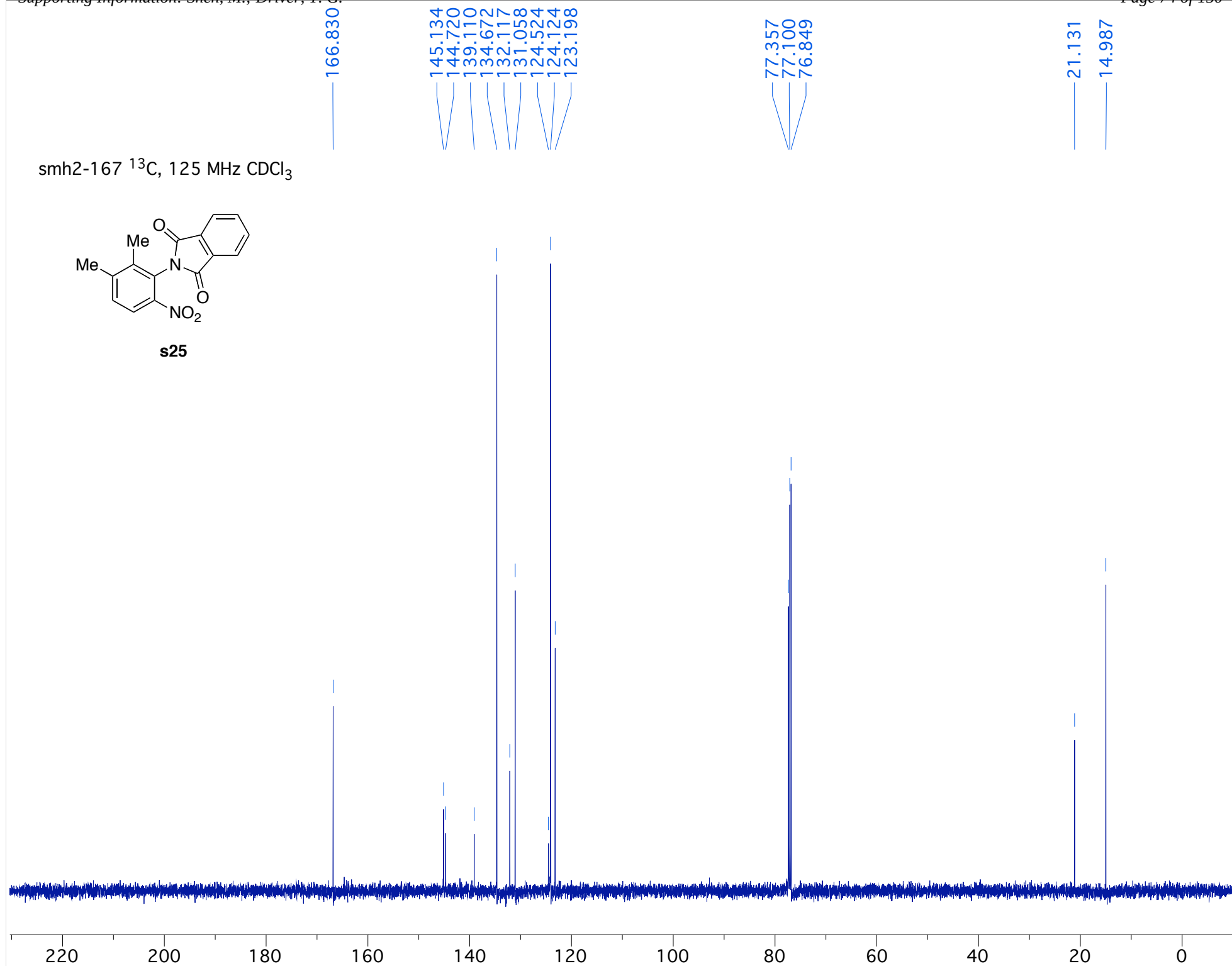


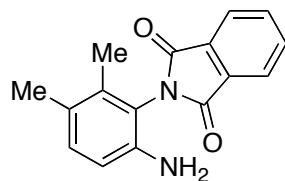
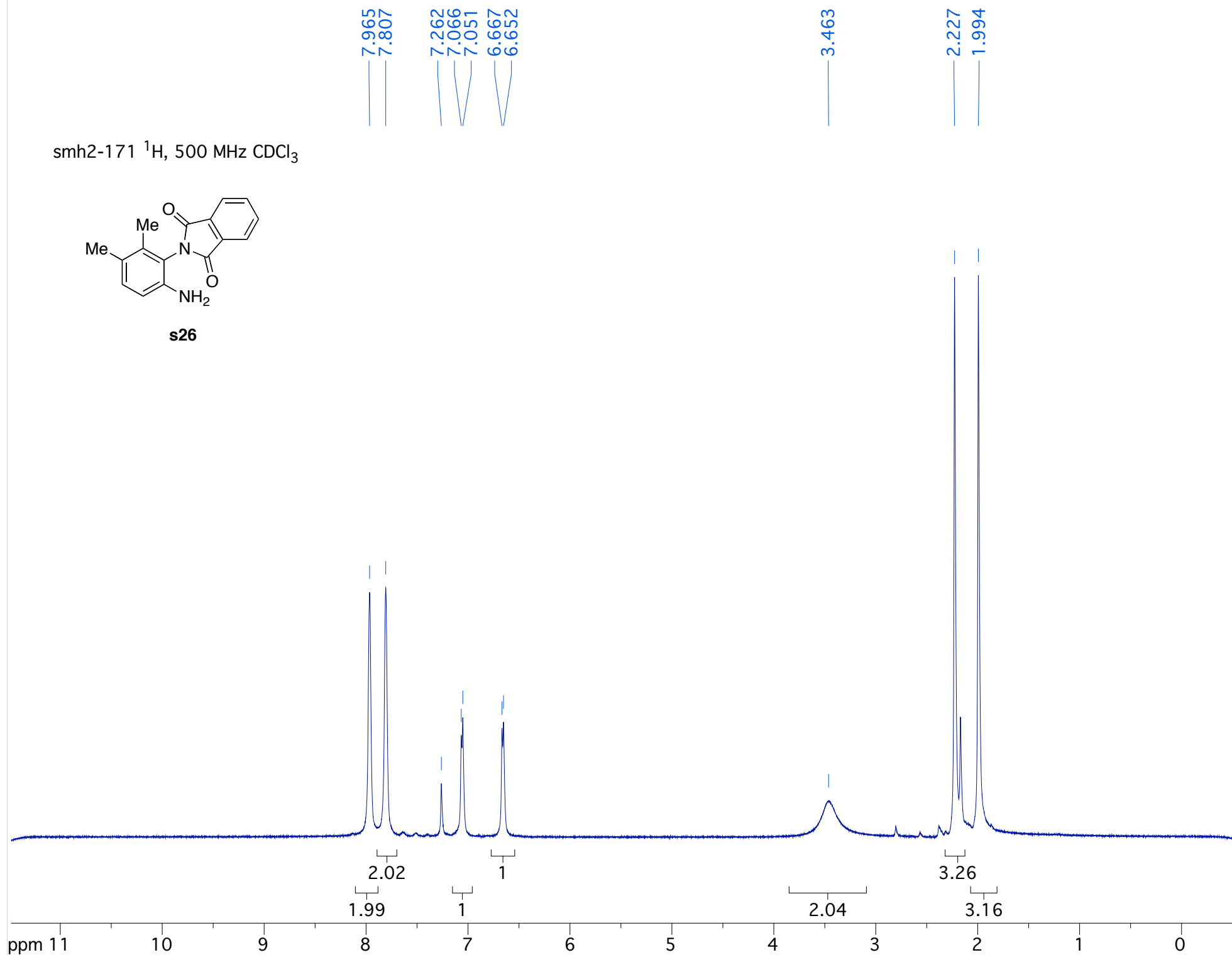
smh2-114 ^{13}C , 125 MHz DMSO-d₆**s23**

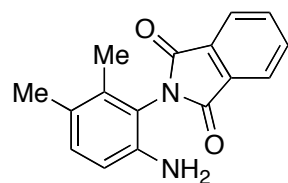
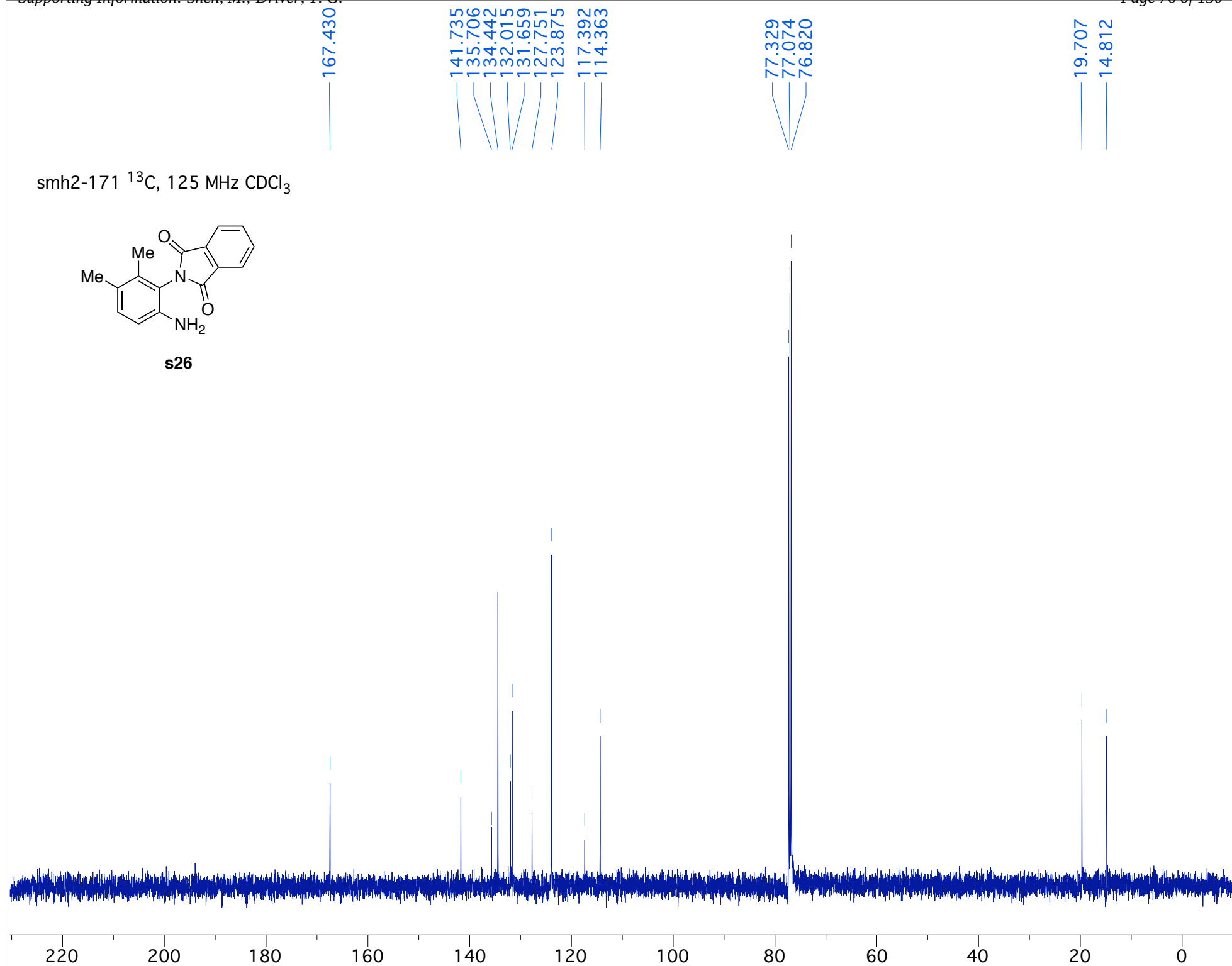


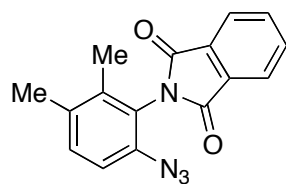


smh2-167 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 **s25**

smh2-167 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 **s25**

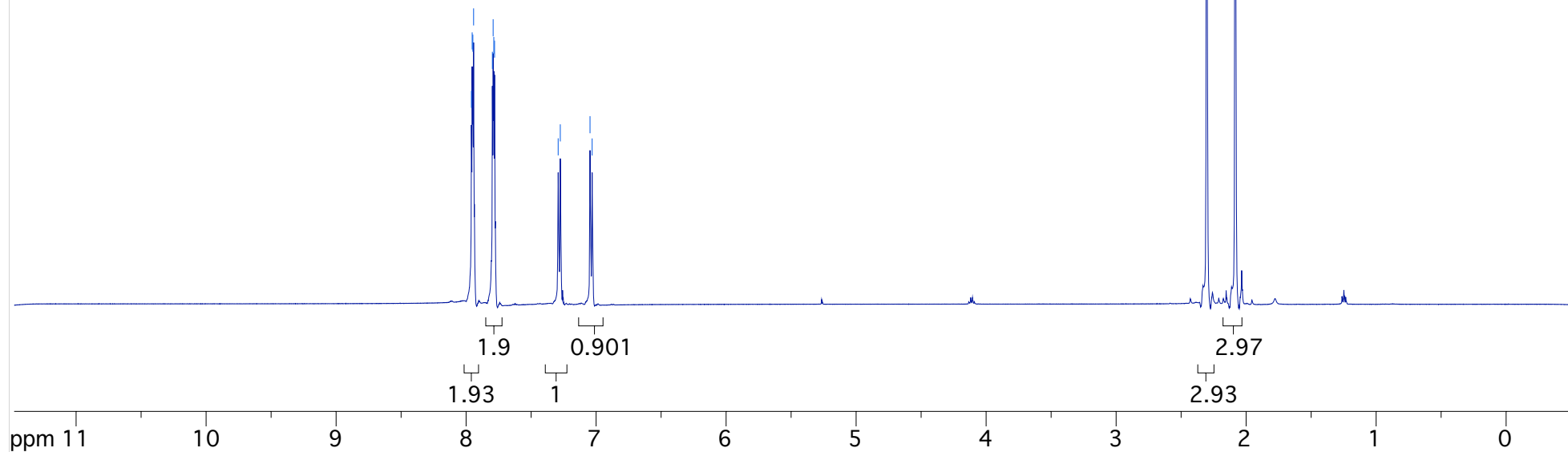
smh2-171 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 **s26**

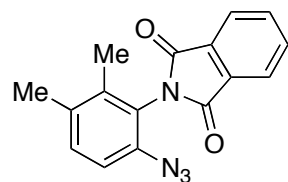
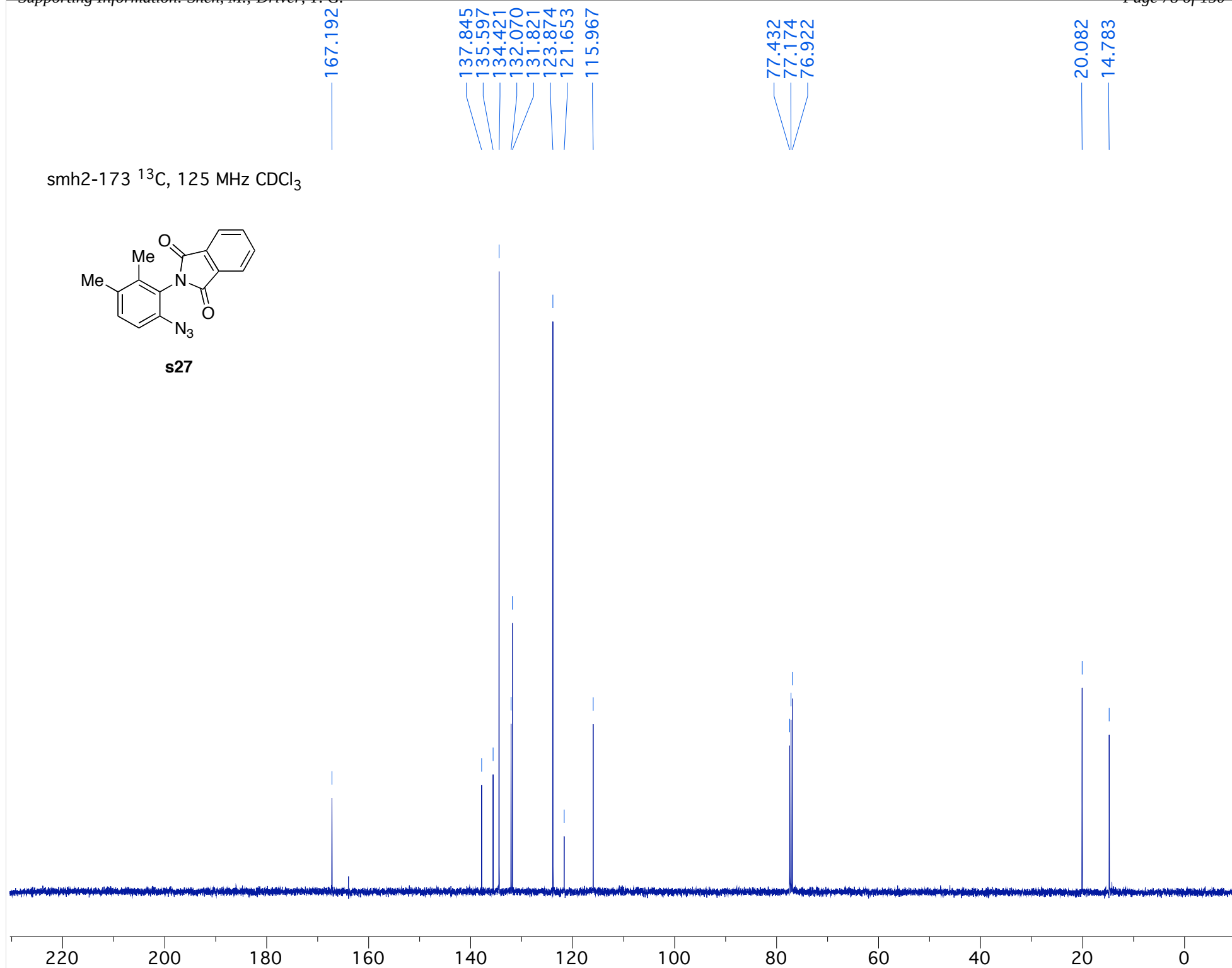
smh2-171 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 **s26**

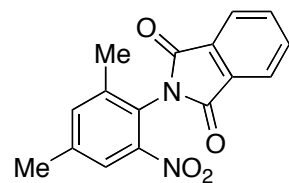
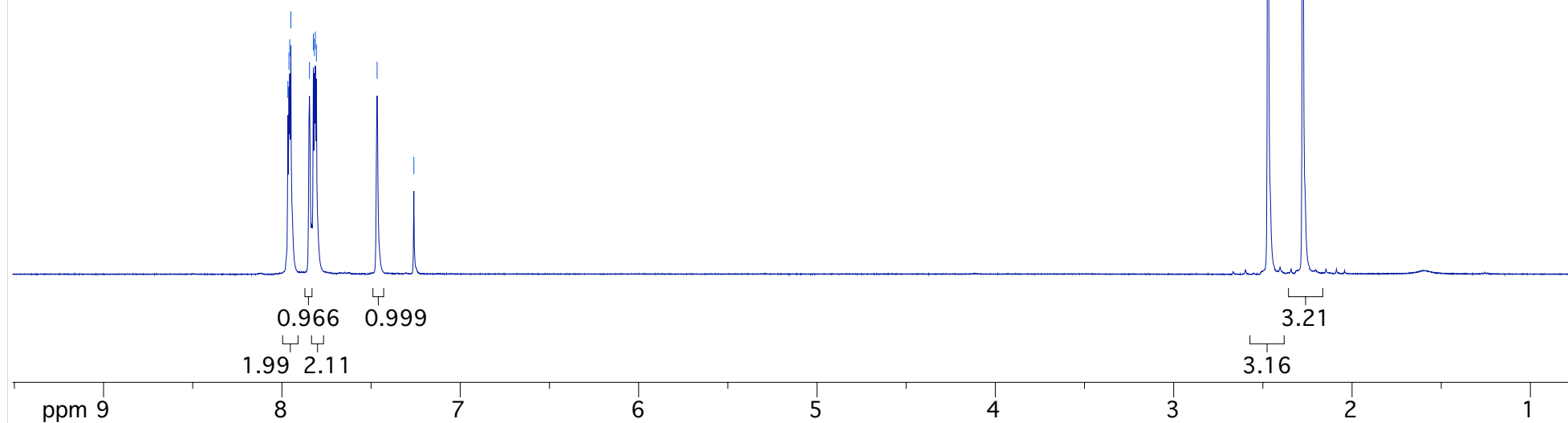
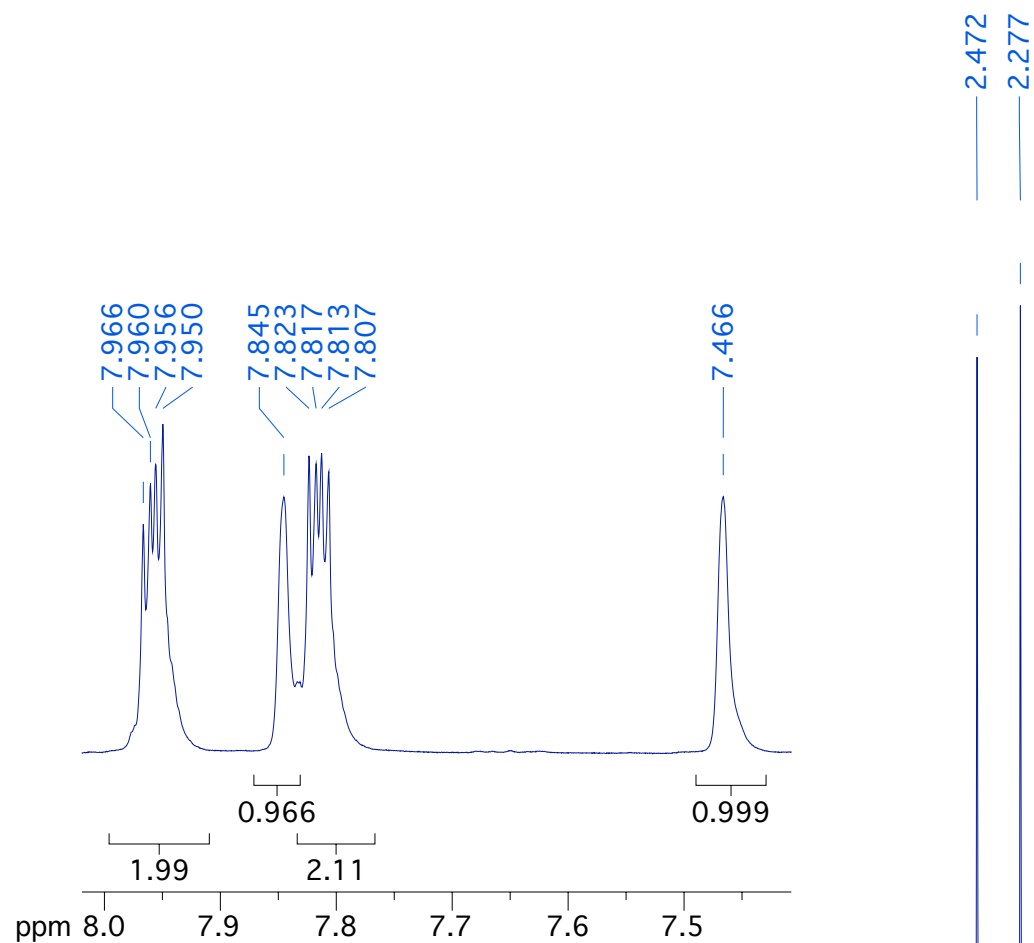
smh2-173 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 **s27**

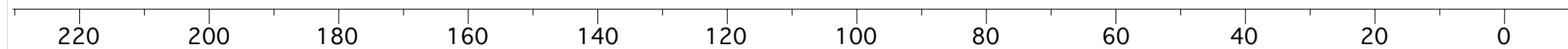
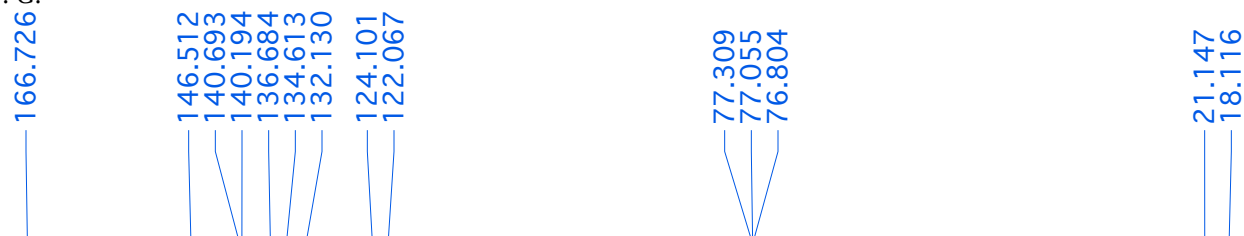
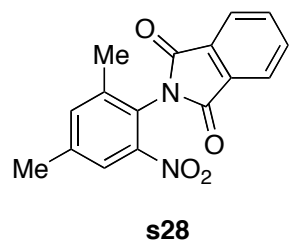
7.959
7.953
7.948
7.942
7.798
7.792
7.787
7.781
7.292
7.275
7.047
7.030

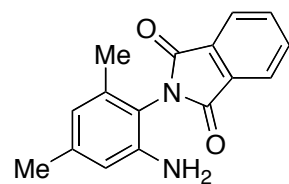
2.304
2.085



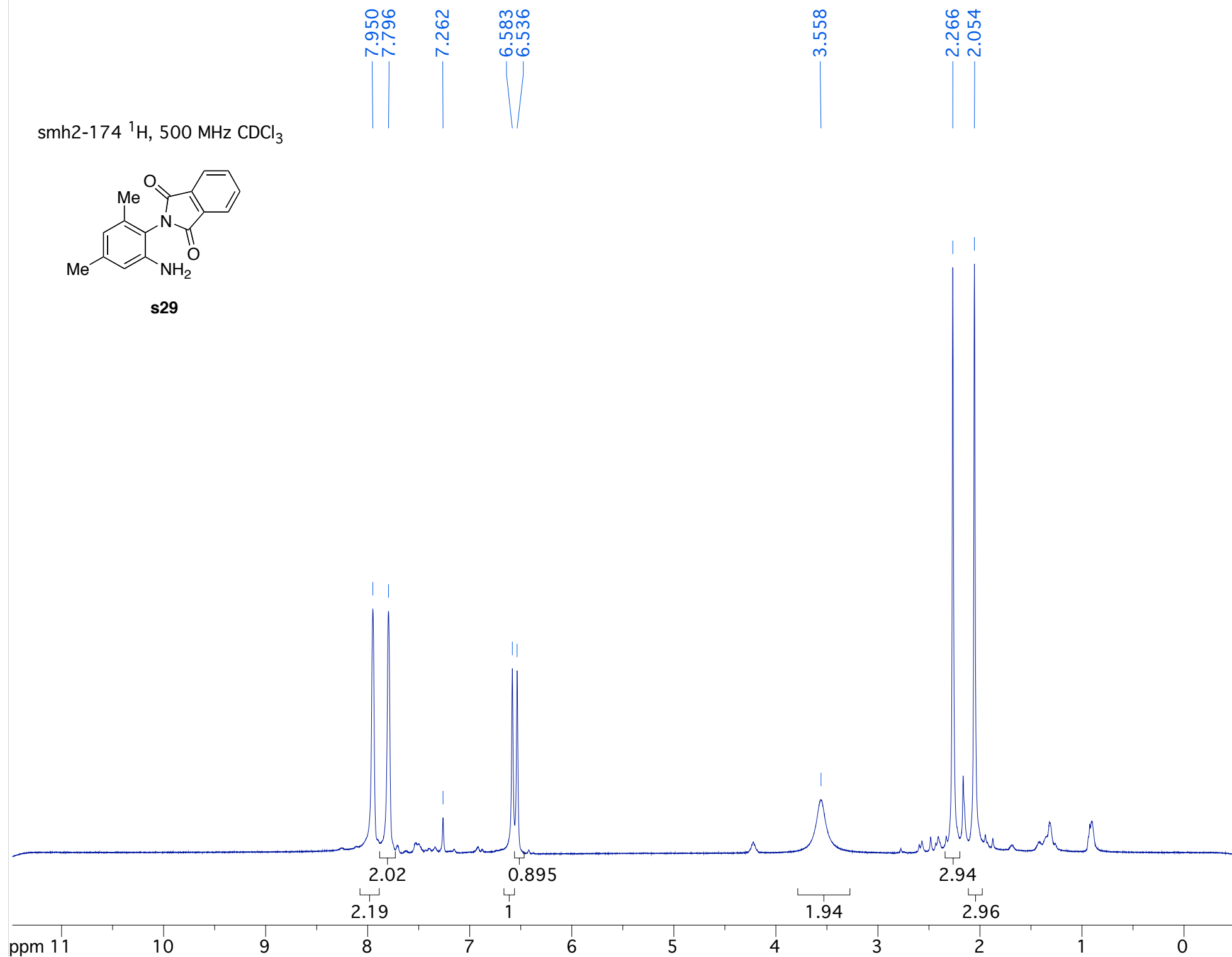
smh2-173 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 **s27**

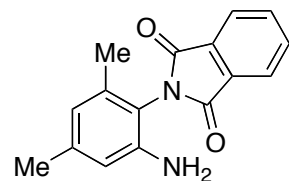
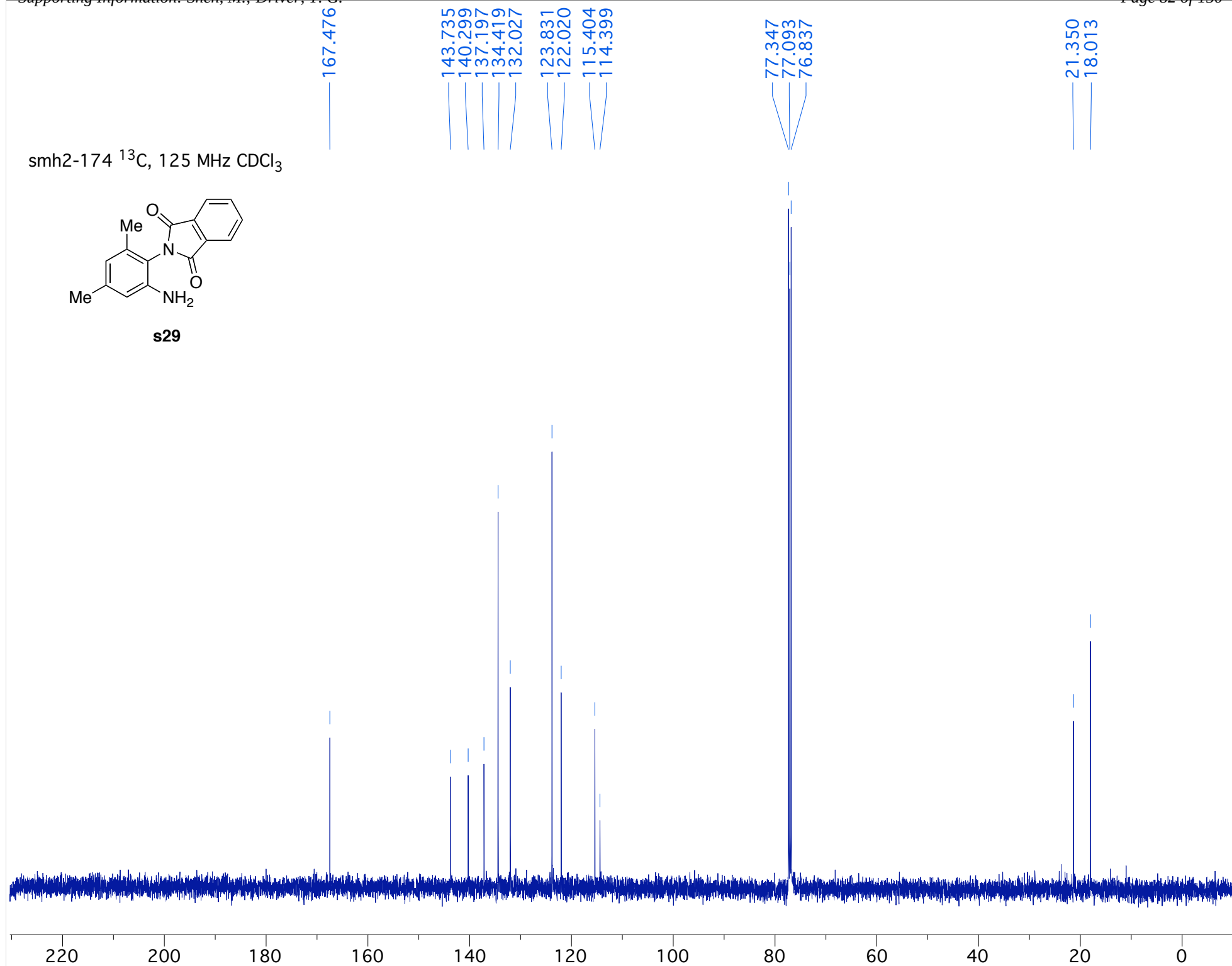
smh2-169 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 **s28**

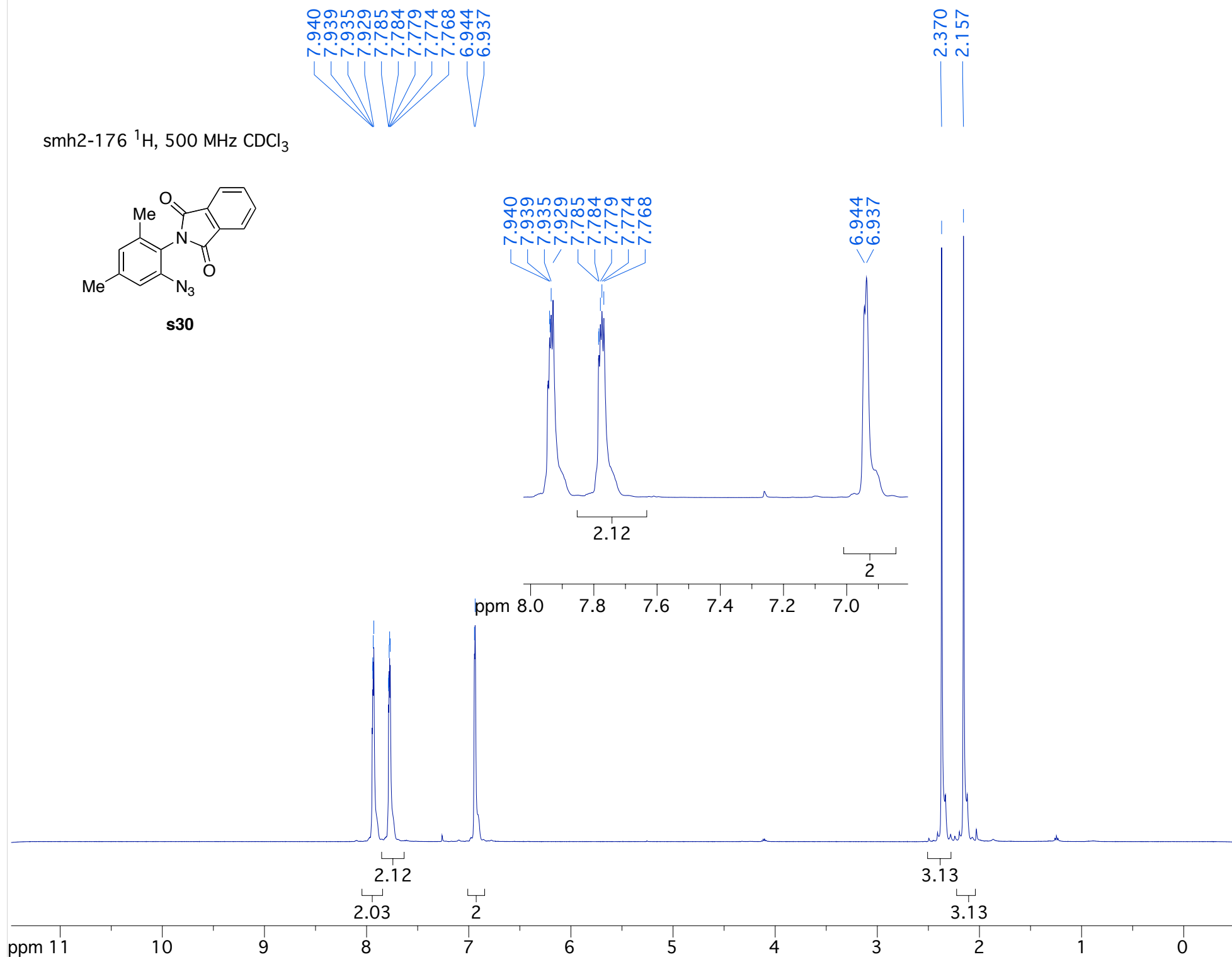
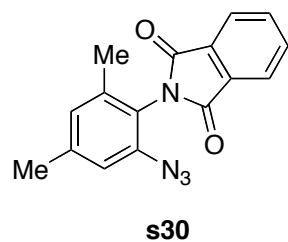
smh2-169 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 

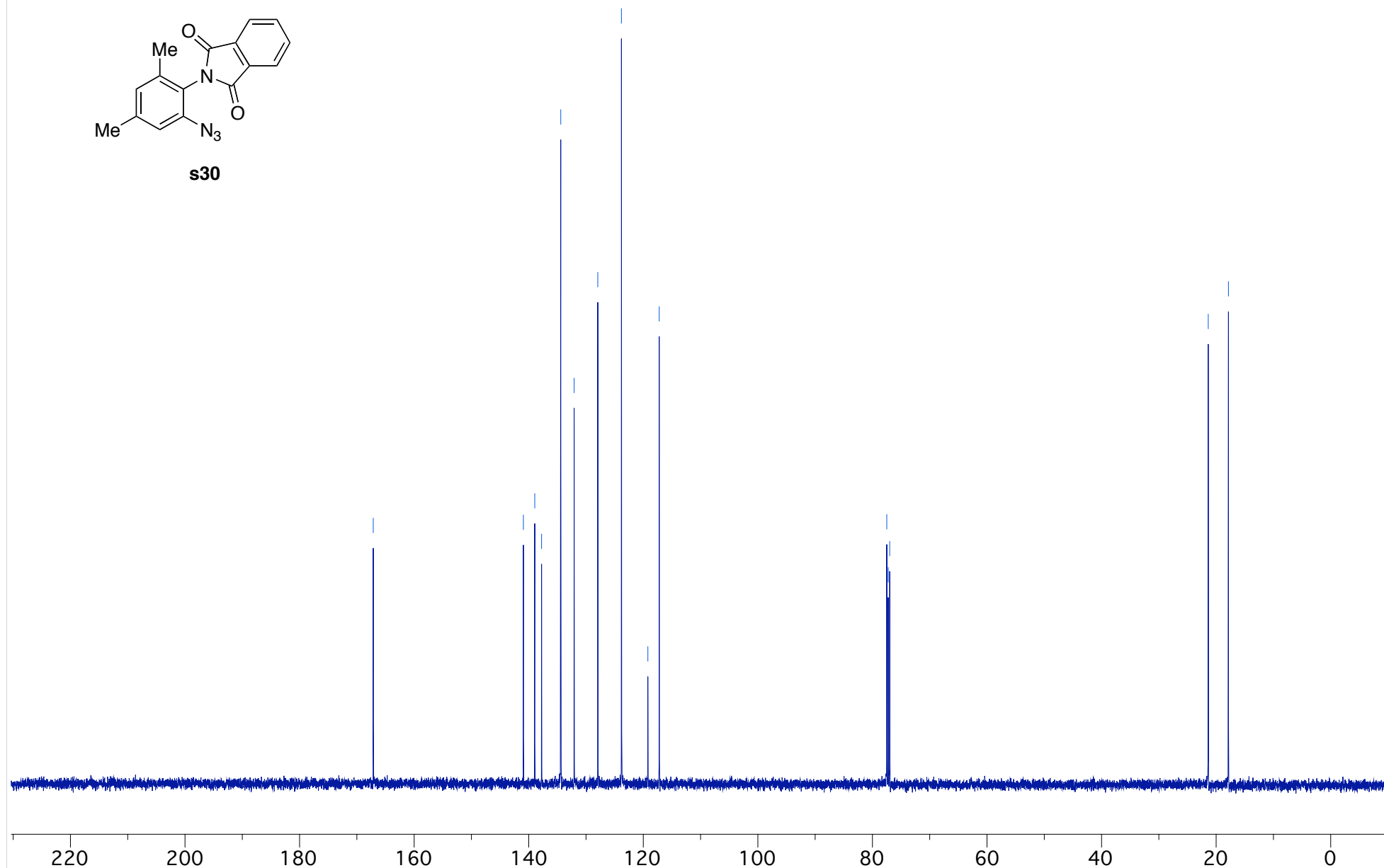
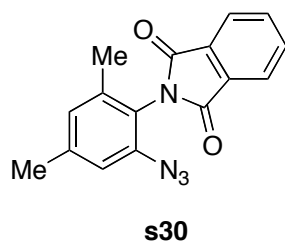
smh2-174 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 

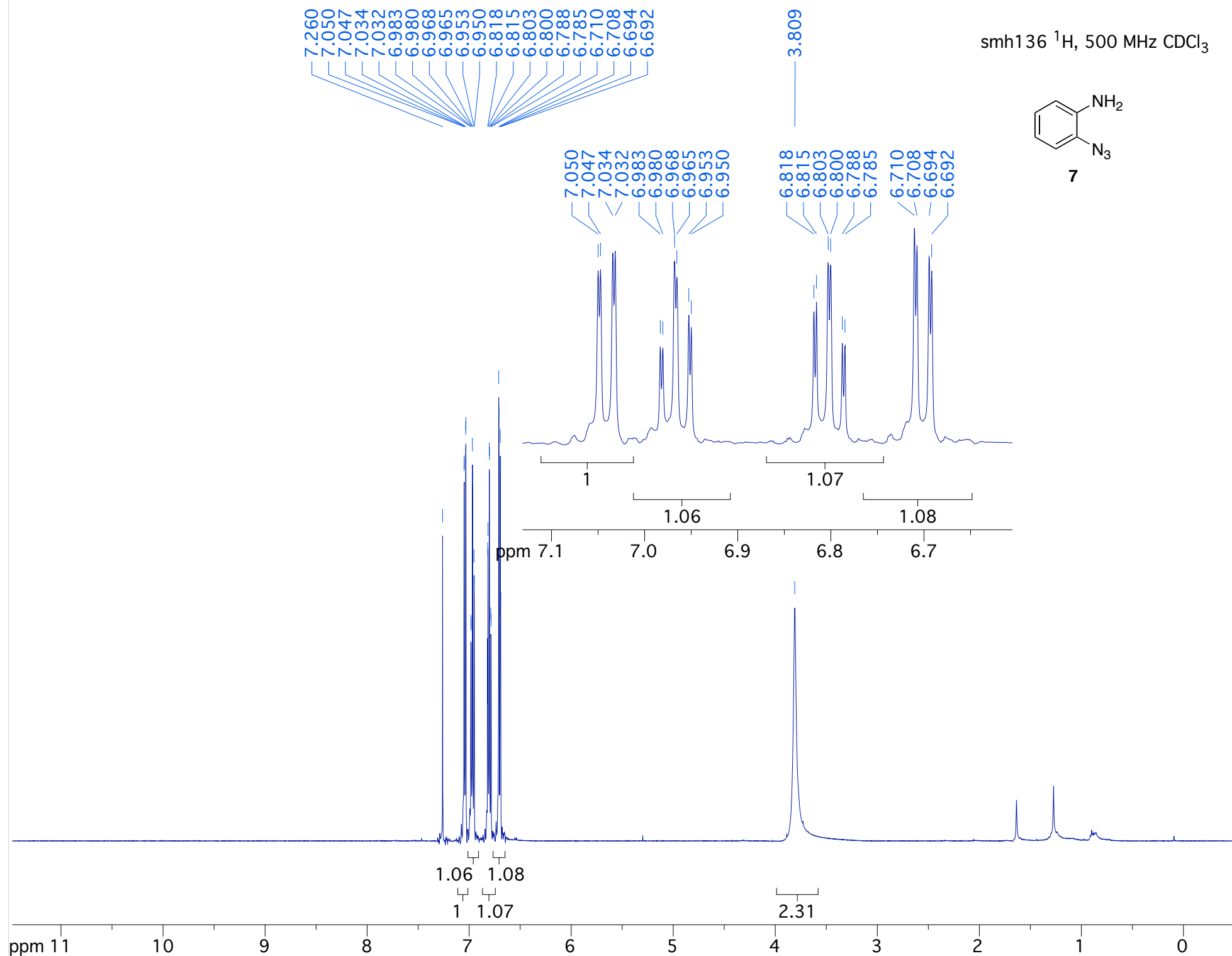
s29

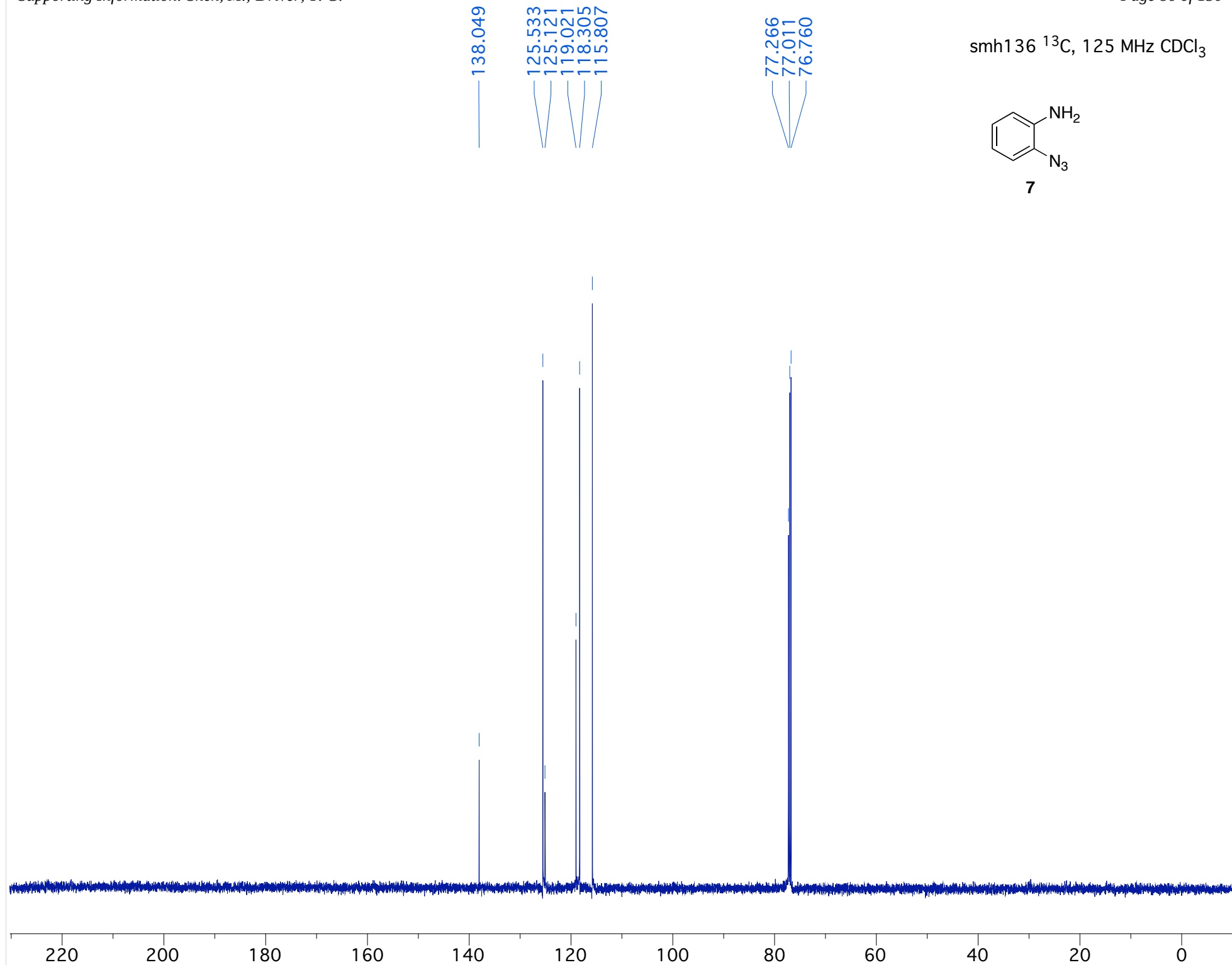


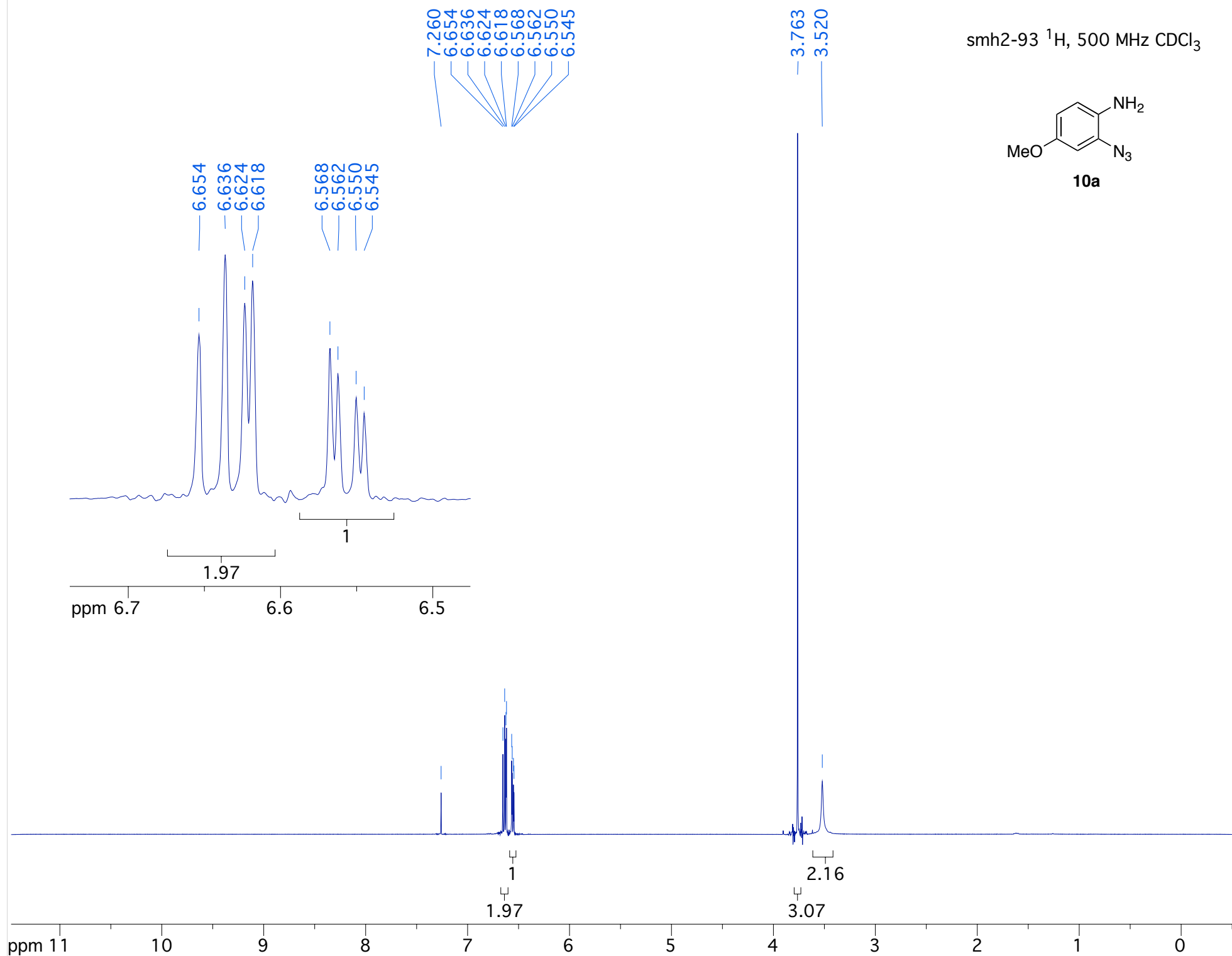
smh2-174 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 **s29**

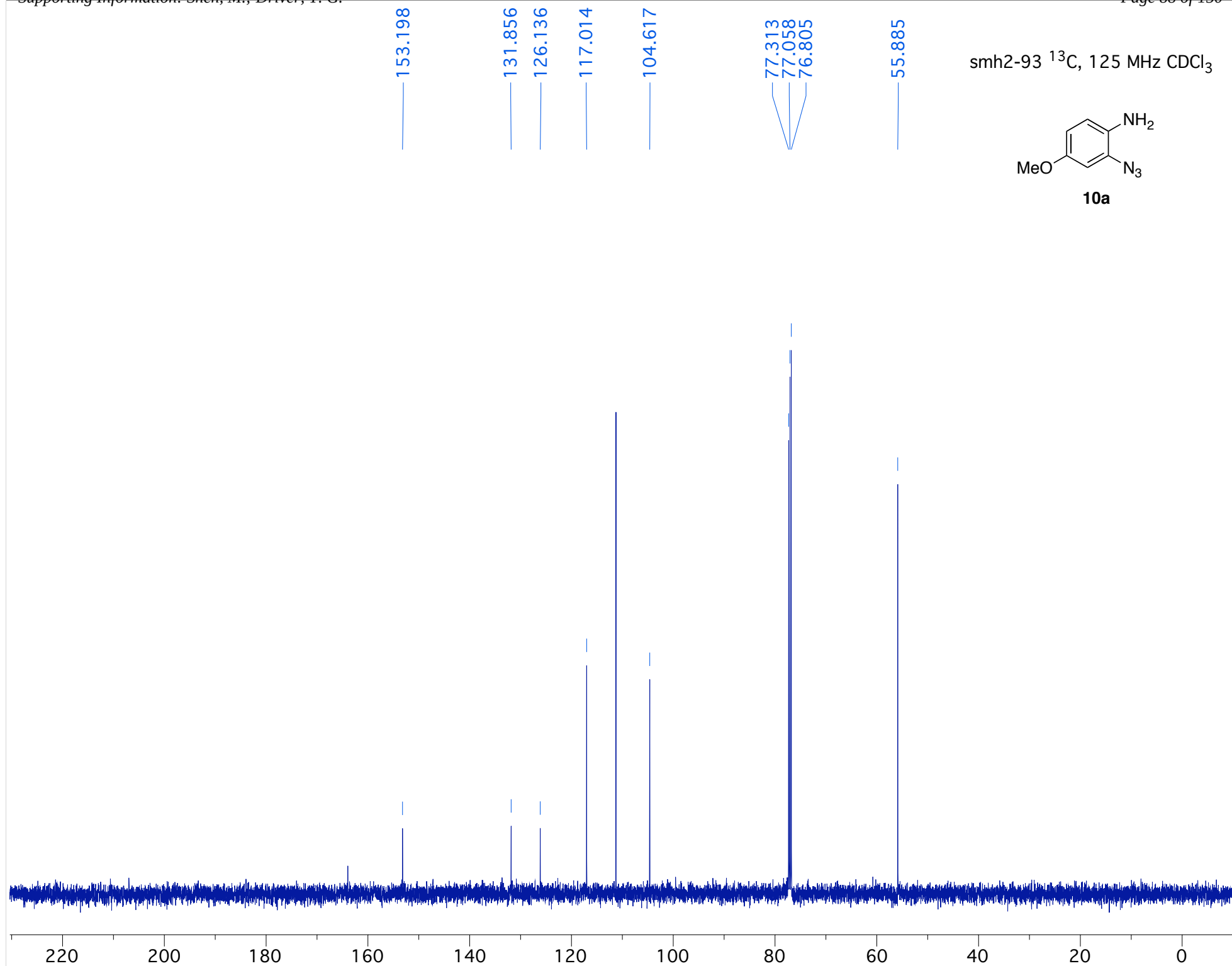
smh2-176 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 

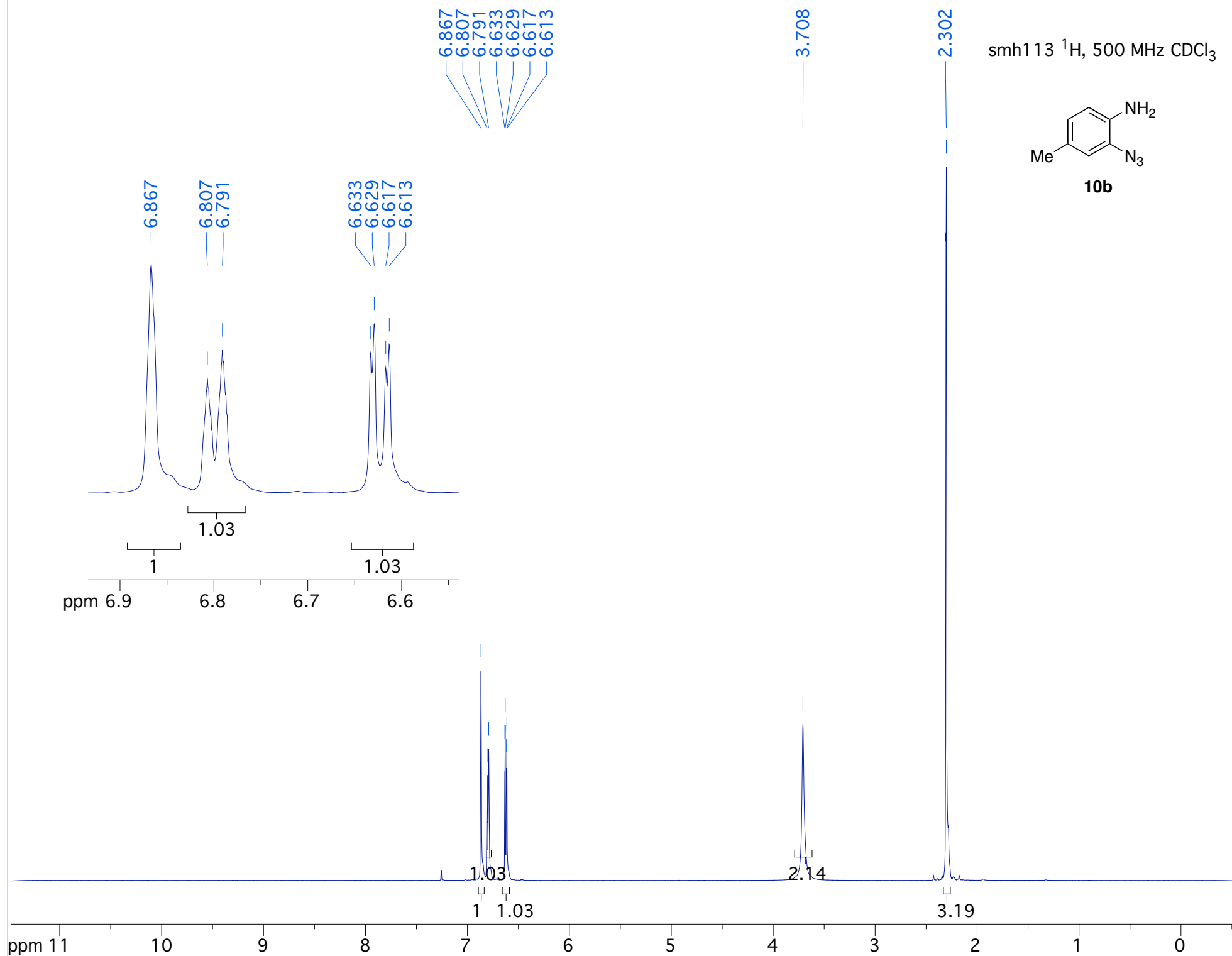
smh2-176 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 

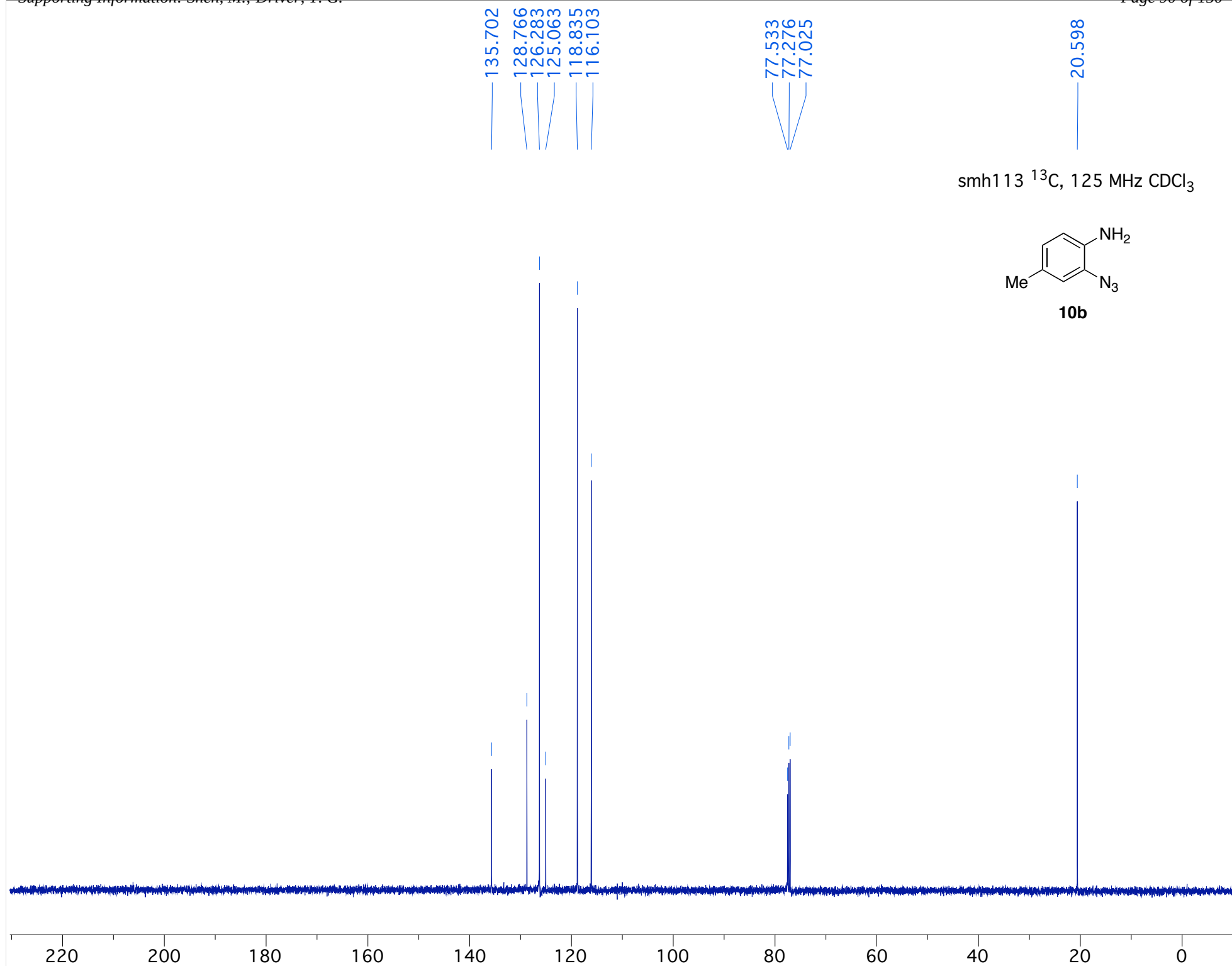


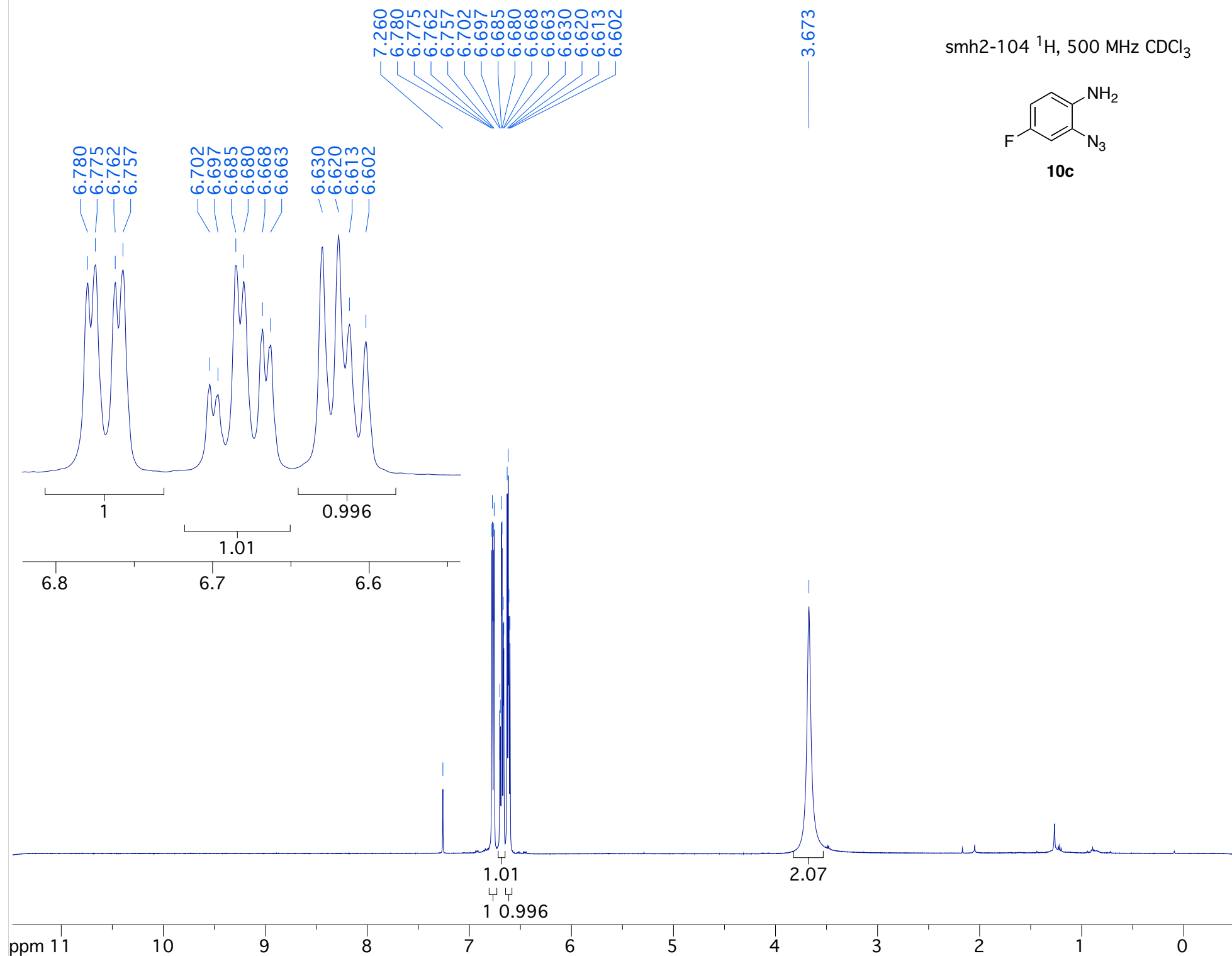




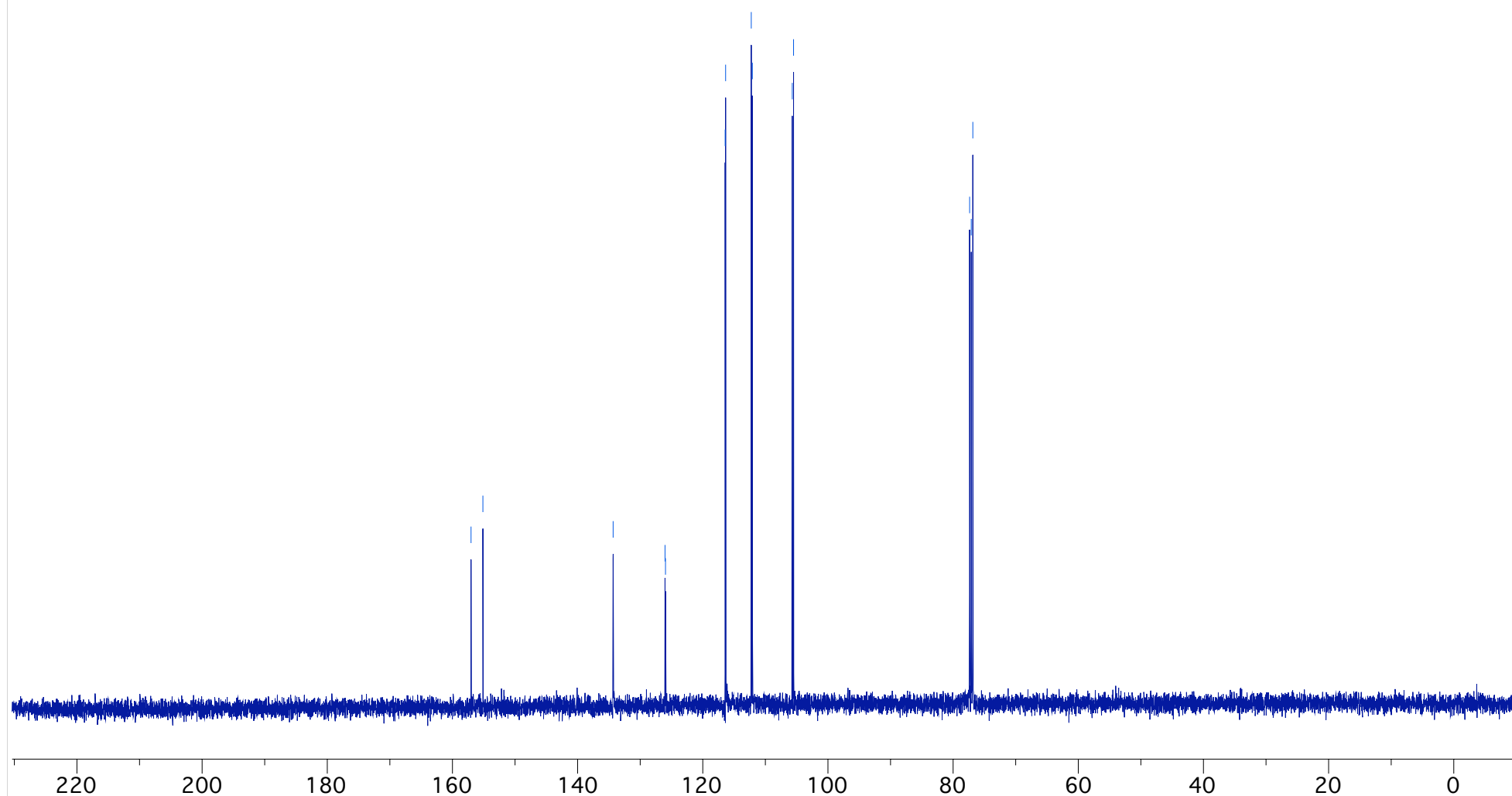
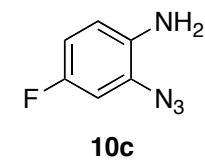


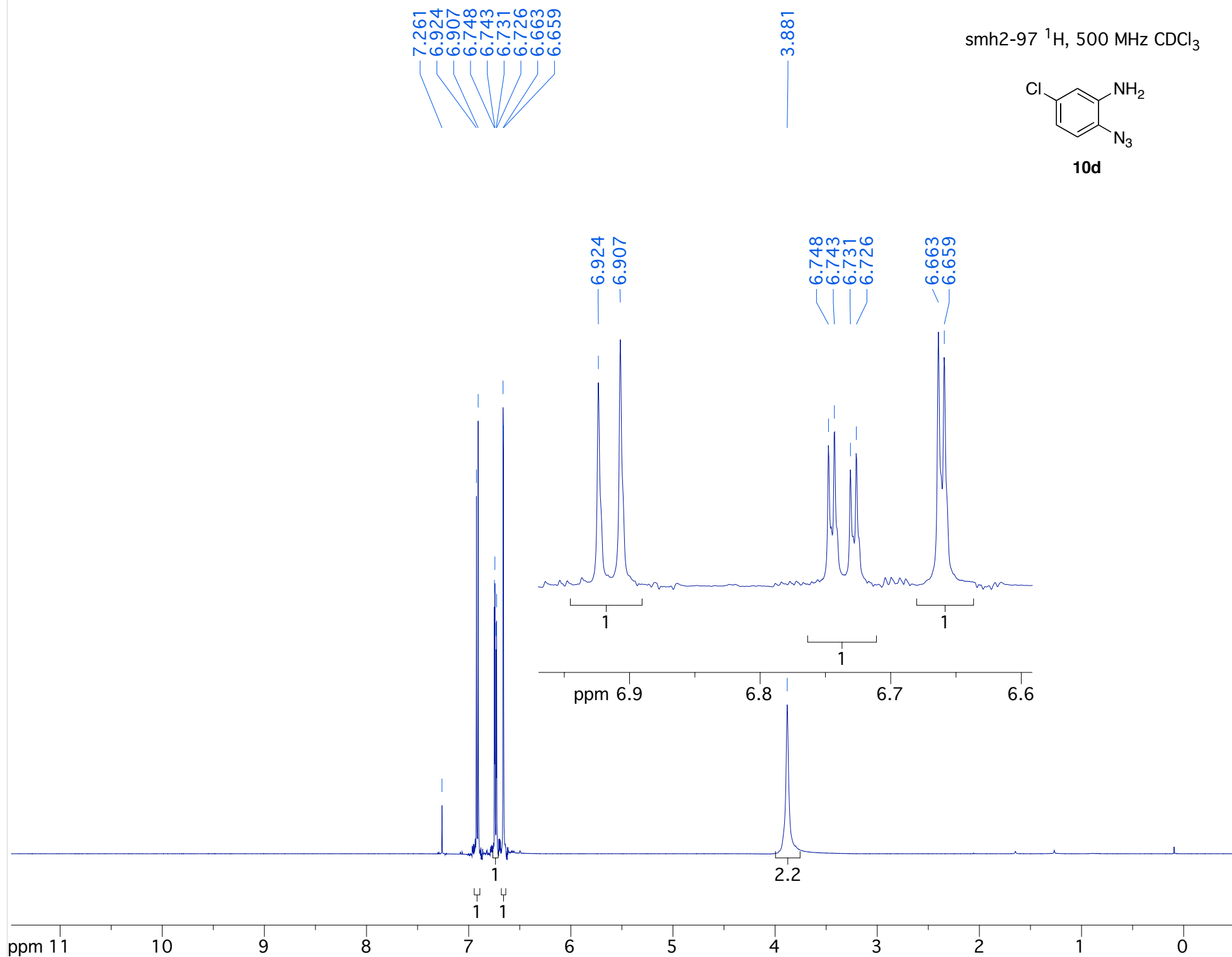


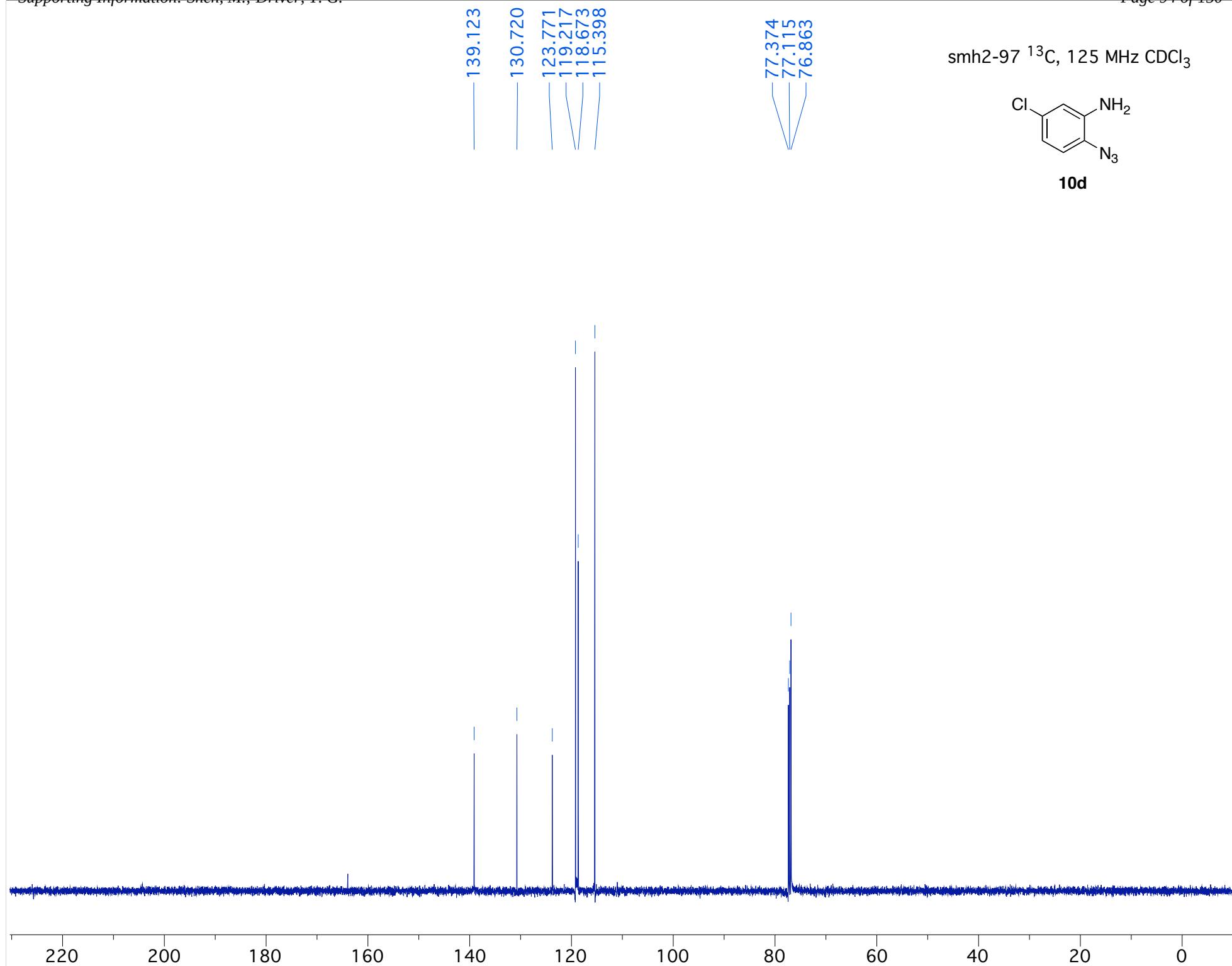


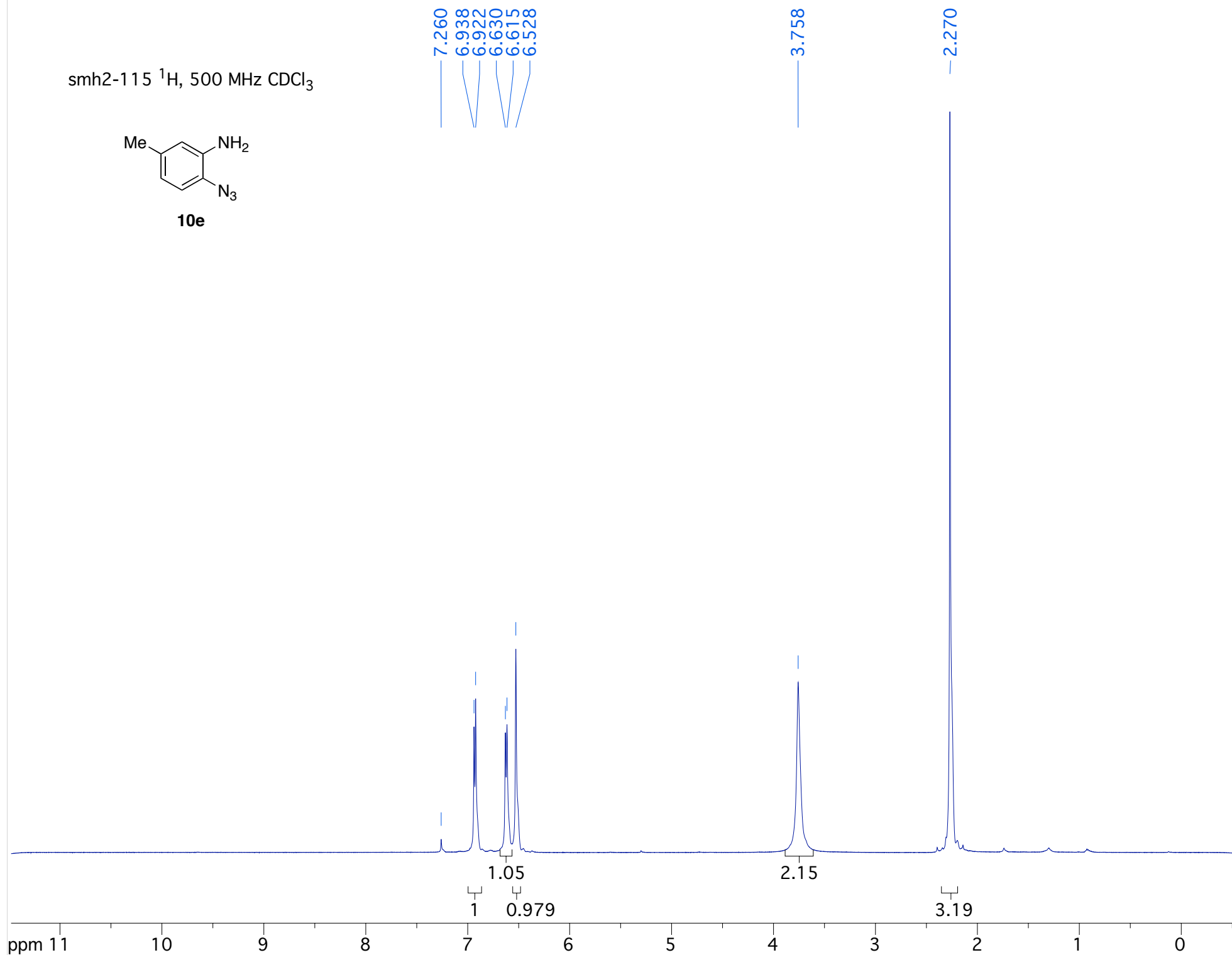
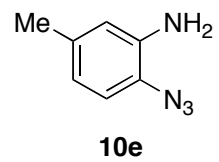


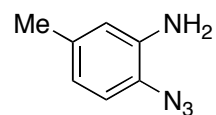
157.030
155.135
134.325
126.033
125.959
116.425
116.351
112.253
112.077
105.701
105.496
77.361
77.102
76.850

smh2-104 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 

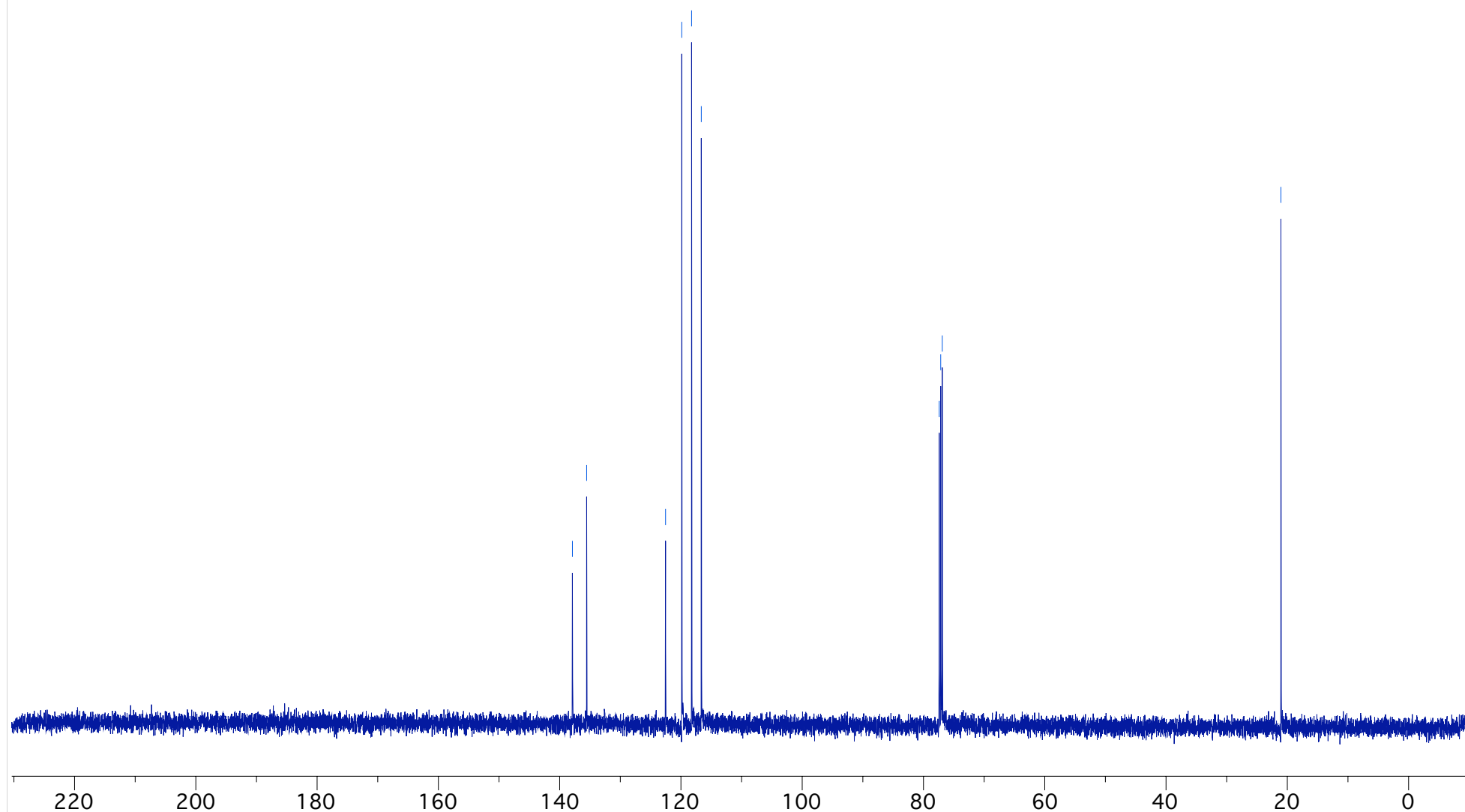


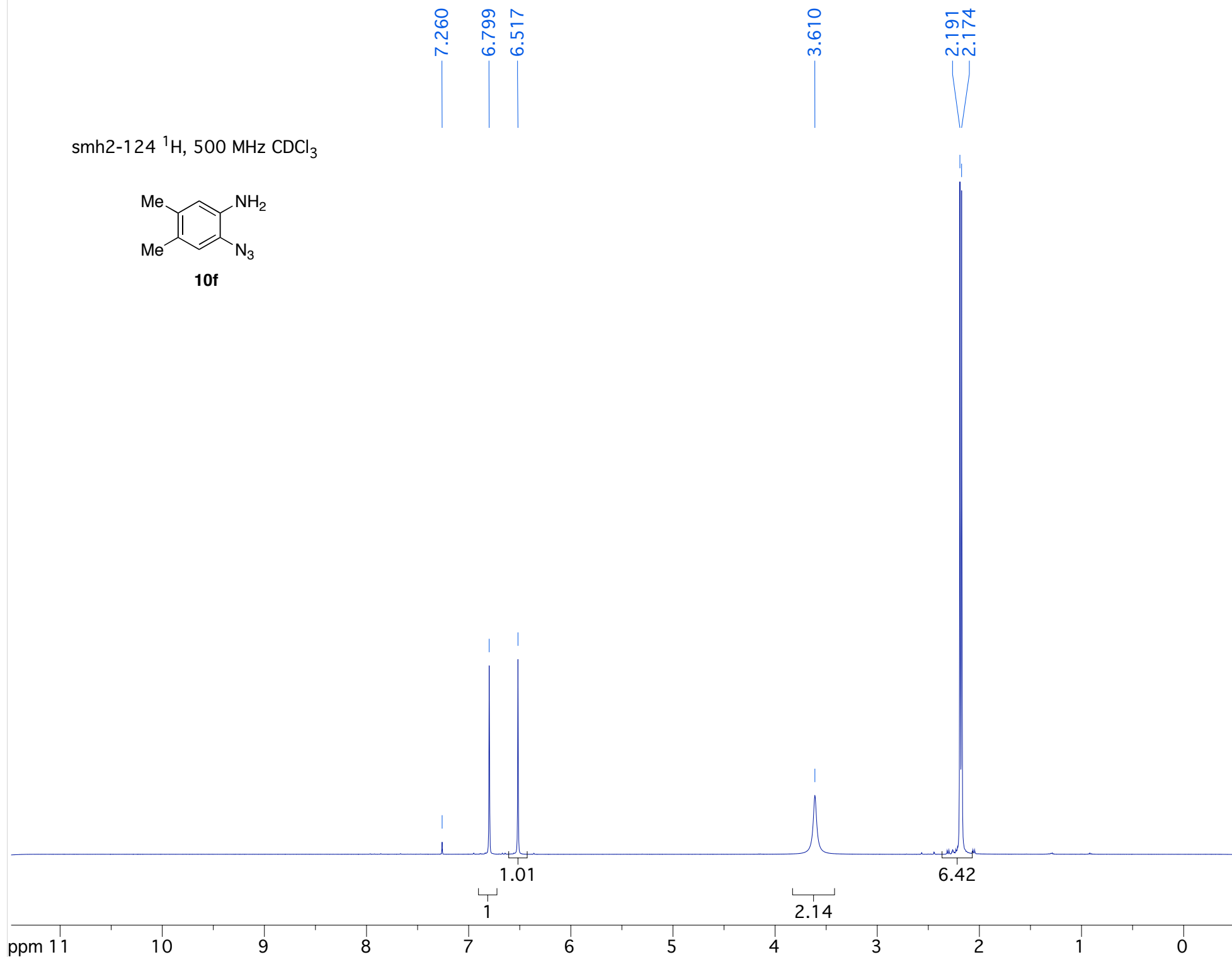
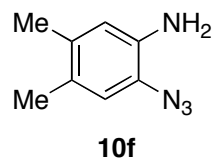


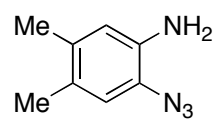
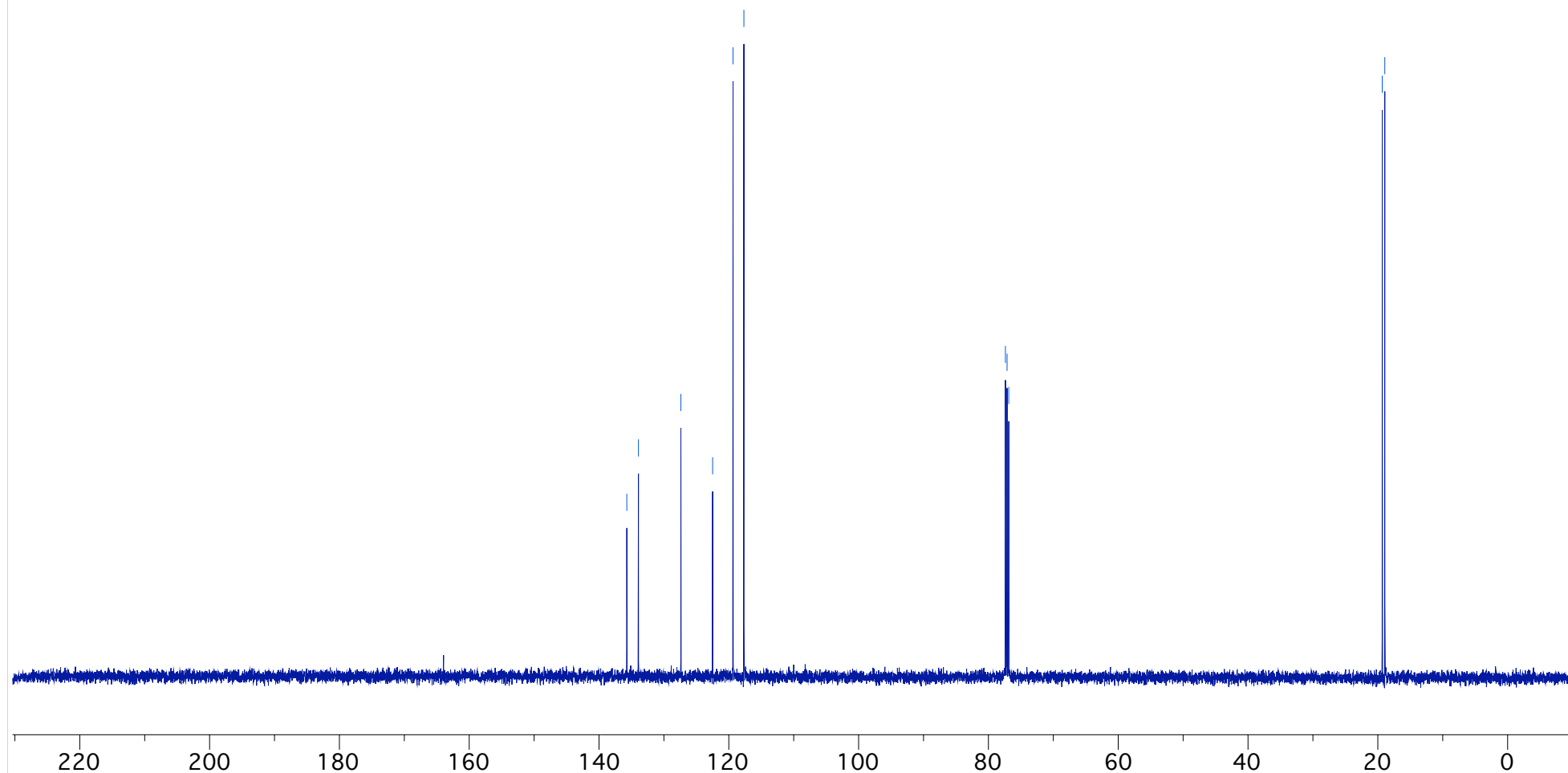
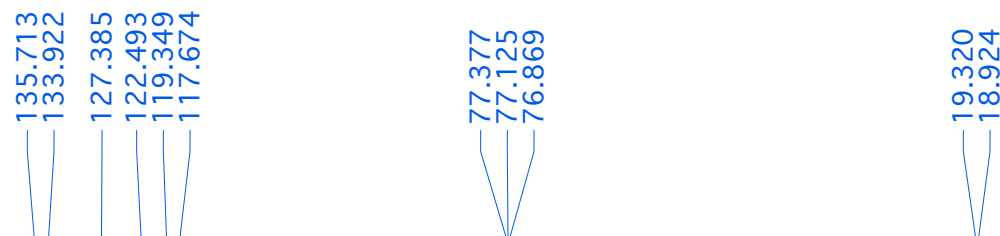
smh2-115 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 

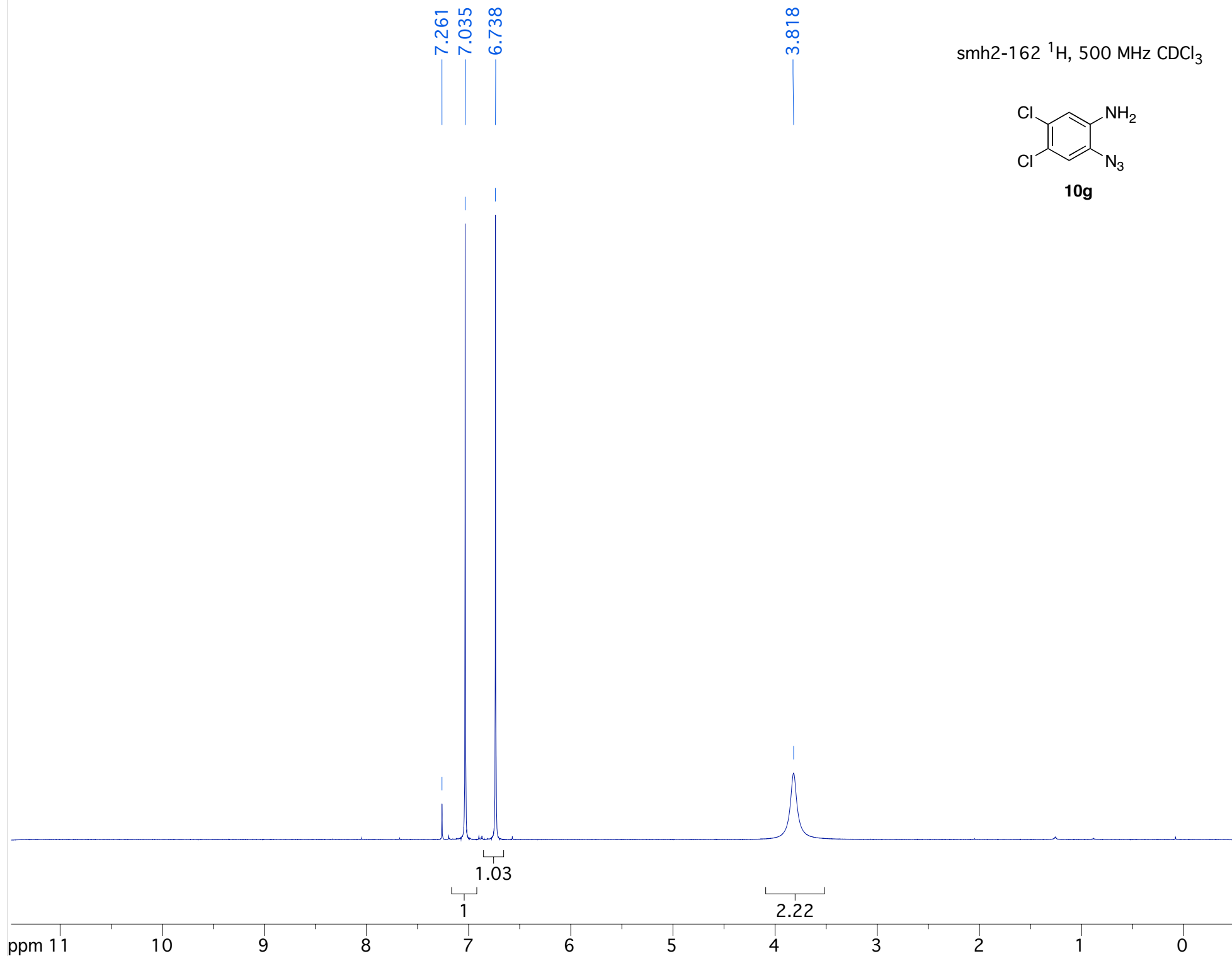
smh2-115 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 **10e**137.898
135.551122.536
119.862
118.246
116.64377.411
77.157
76.905

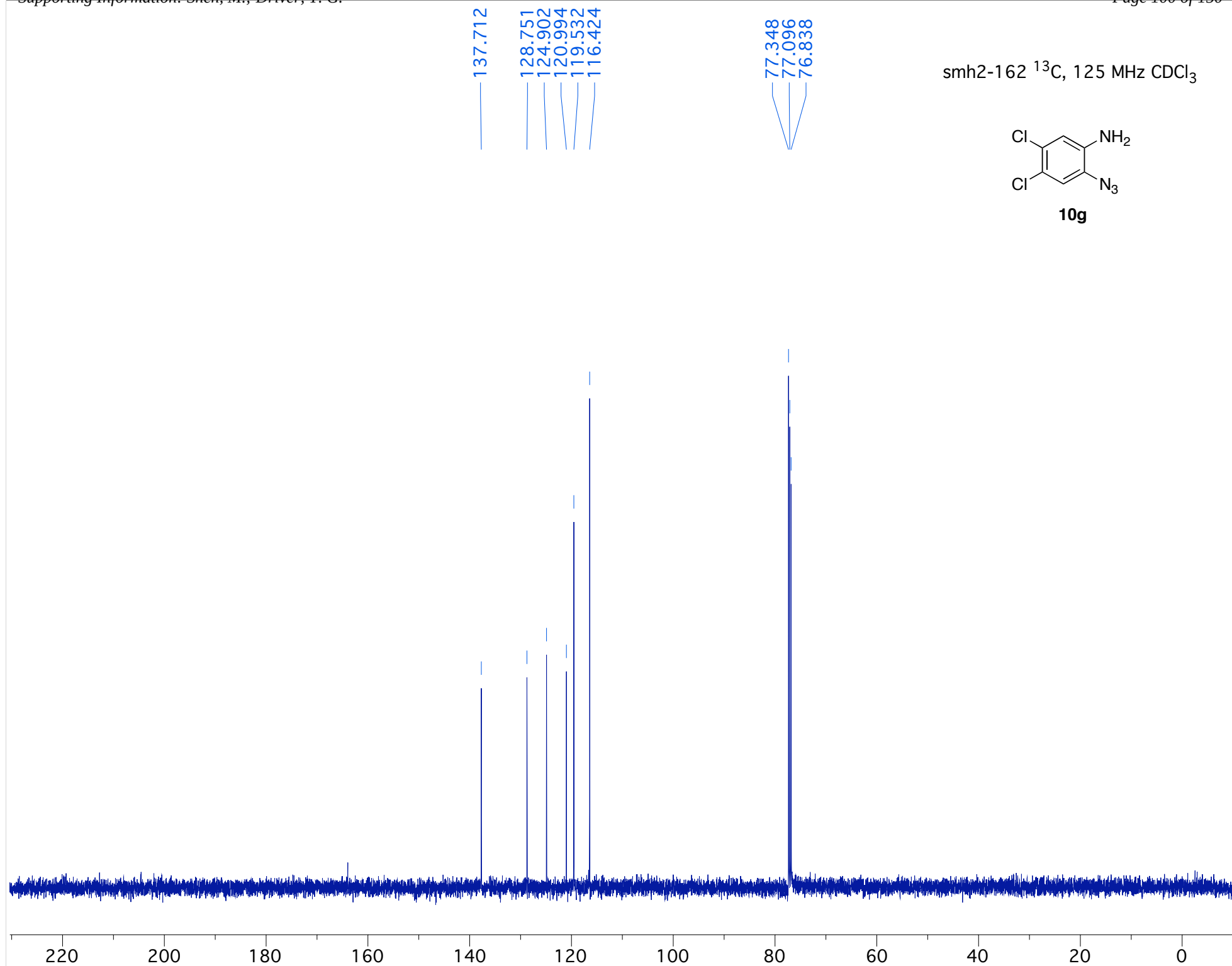
21.053

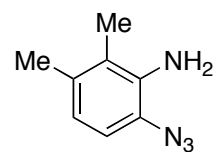
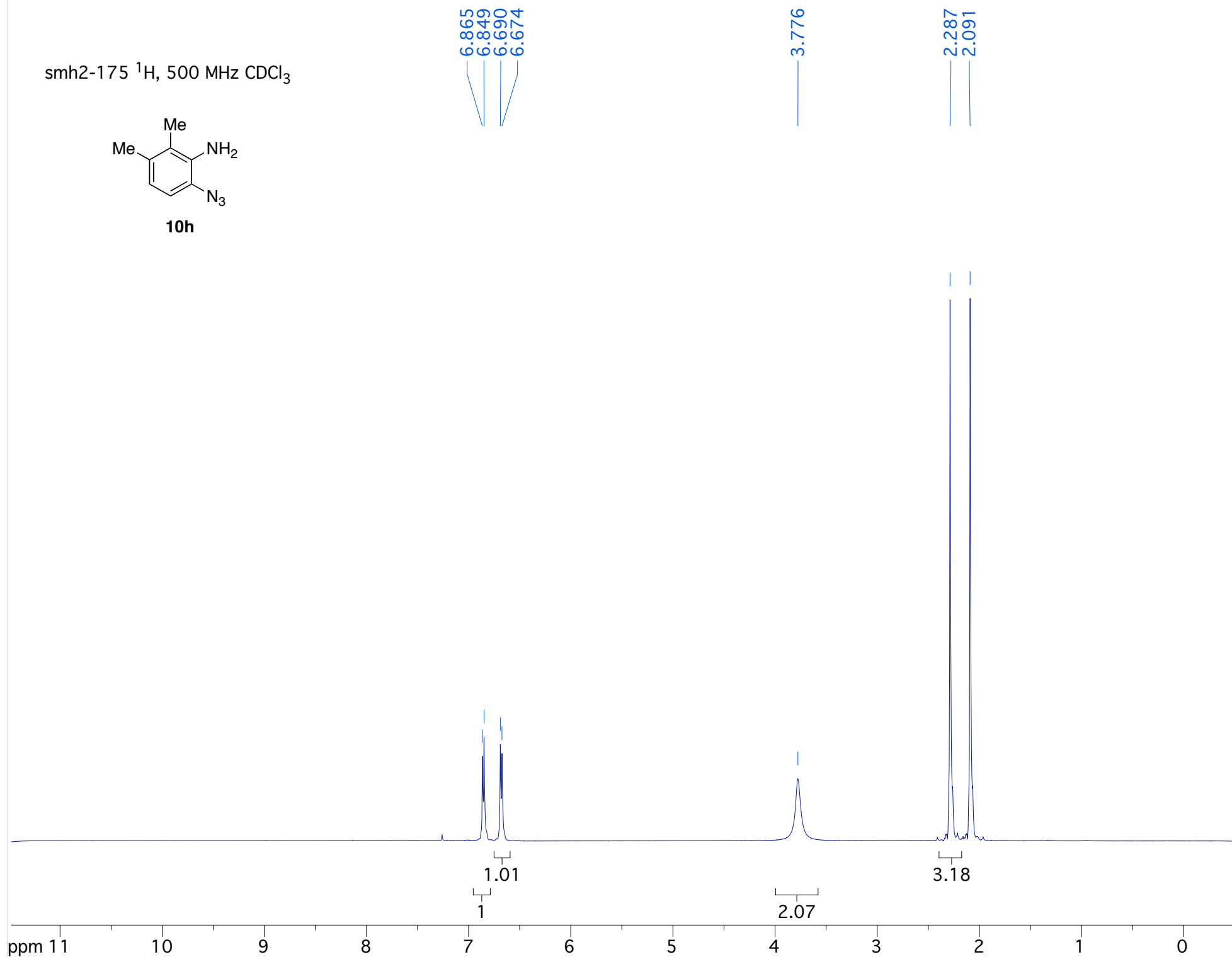


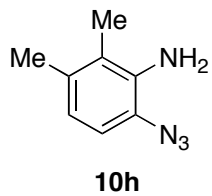
smh2-124 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 

smh2-124 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 **10f**



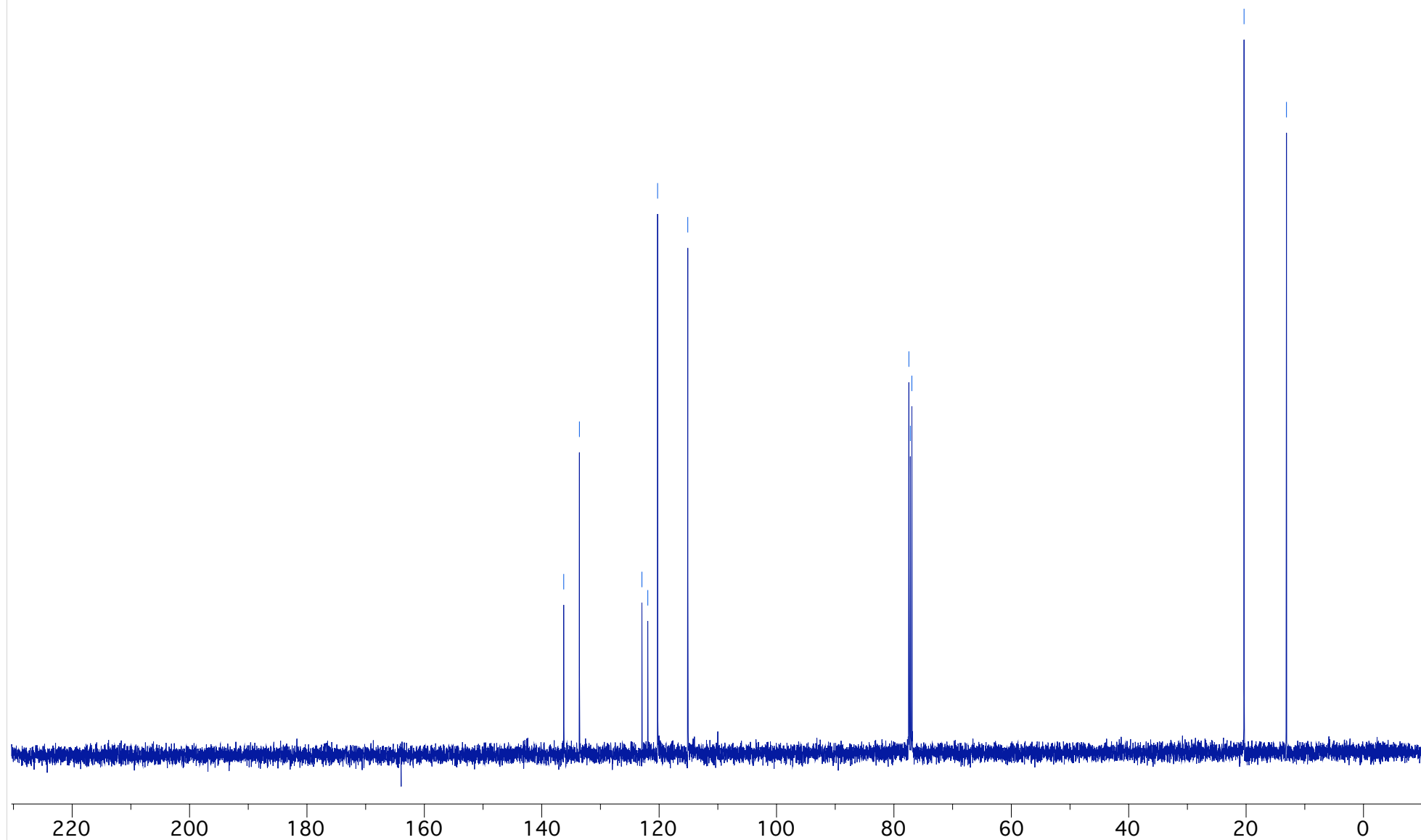


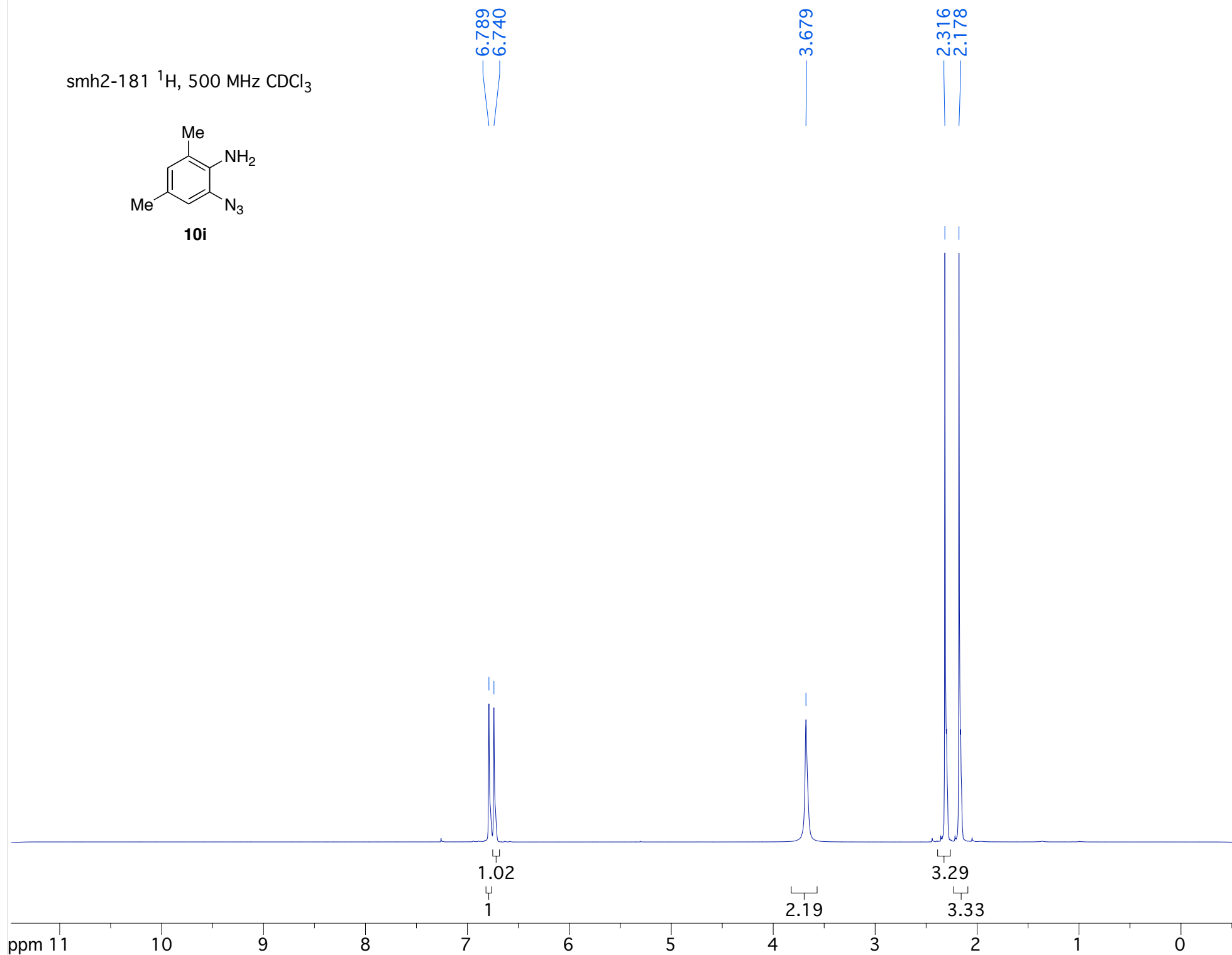
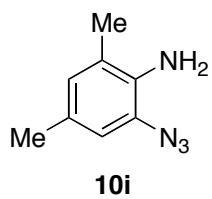
smh2-175 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 **10h**

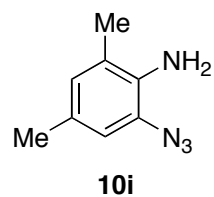
smh2-175 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 136.253
133.584122.930
121.928
120.261
115.12077.450
77.195
76.938

20.349

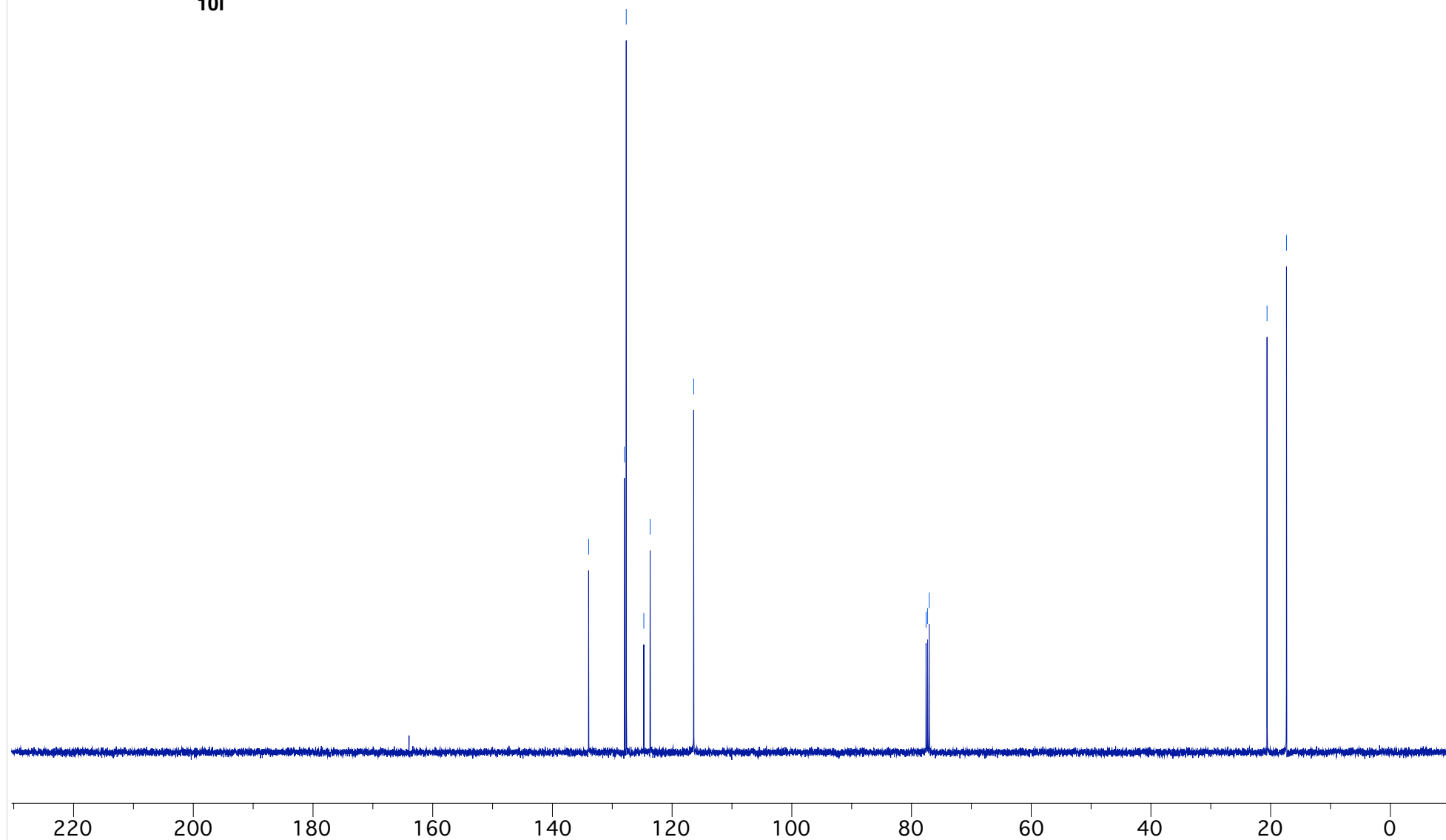
13.121

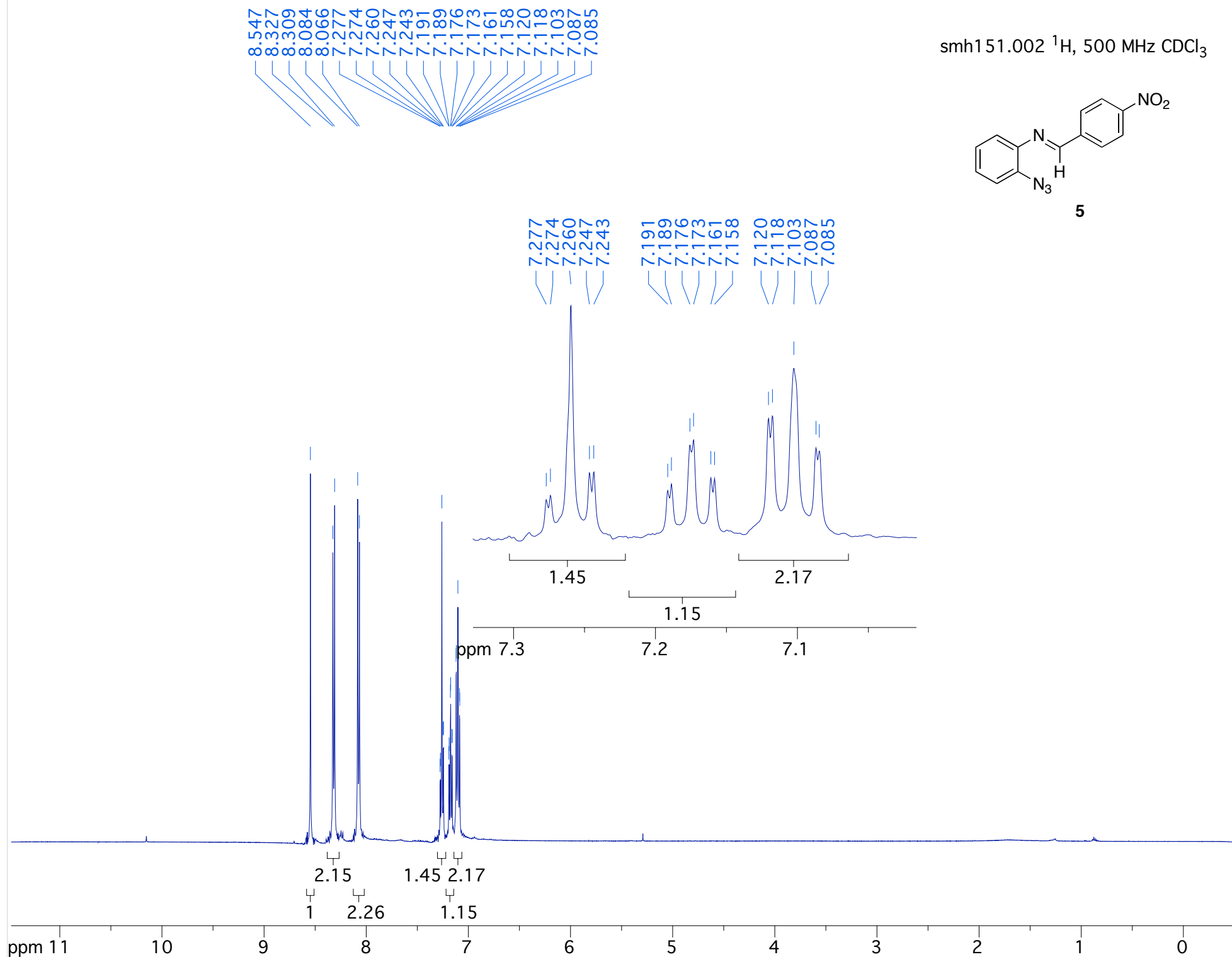


smh2-181 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 

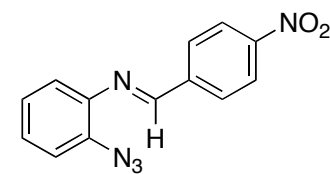
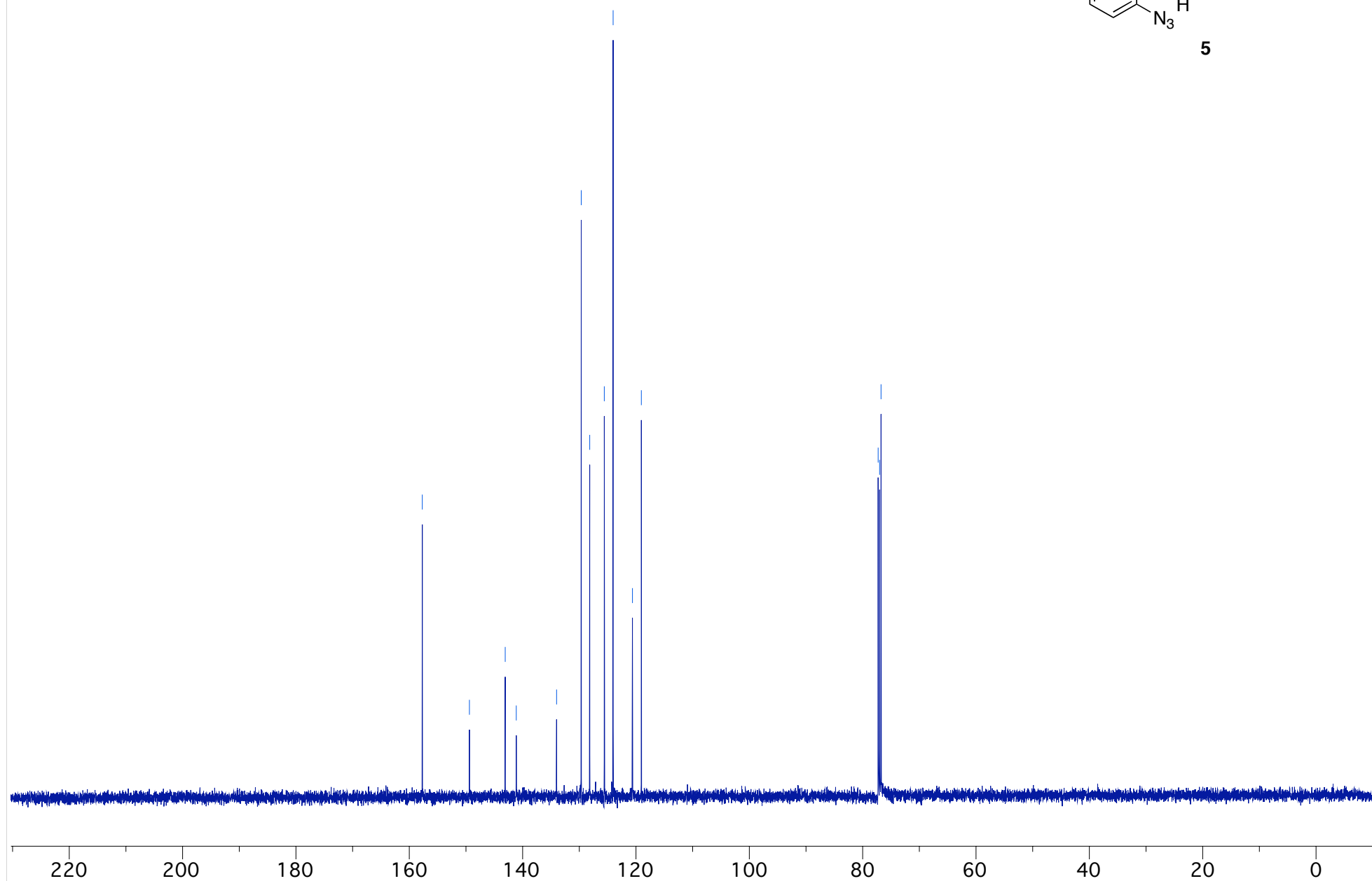
smh2-181 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 

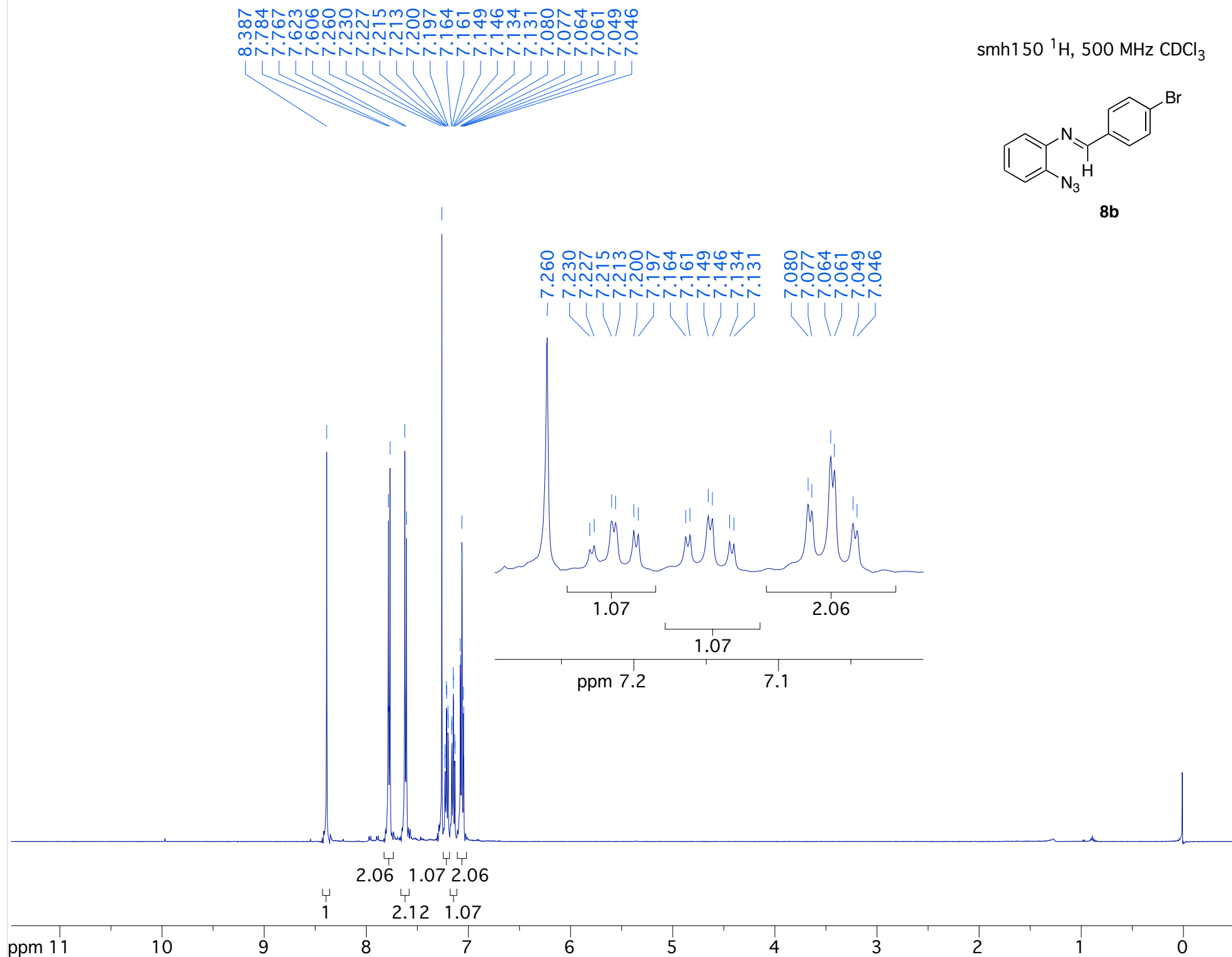
133.951
127.971
127.663
124.722
123.667
116.390
77.565
77.305
77.054
20.598
17.350

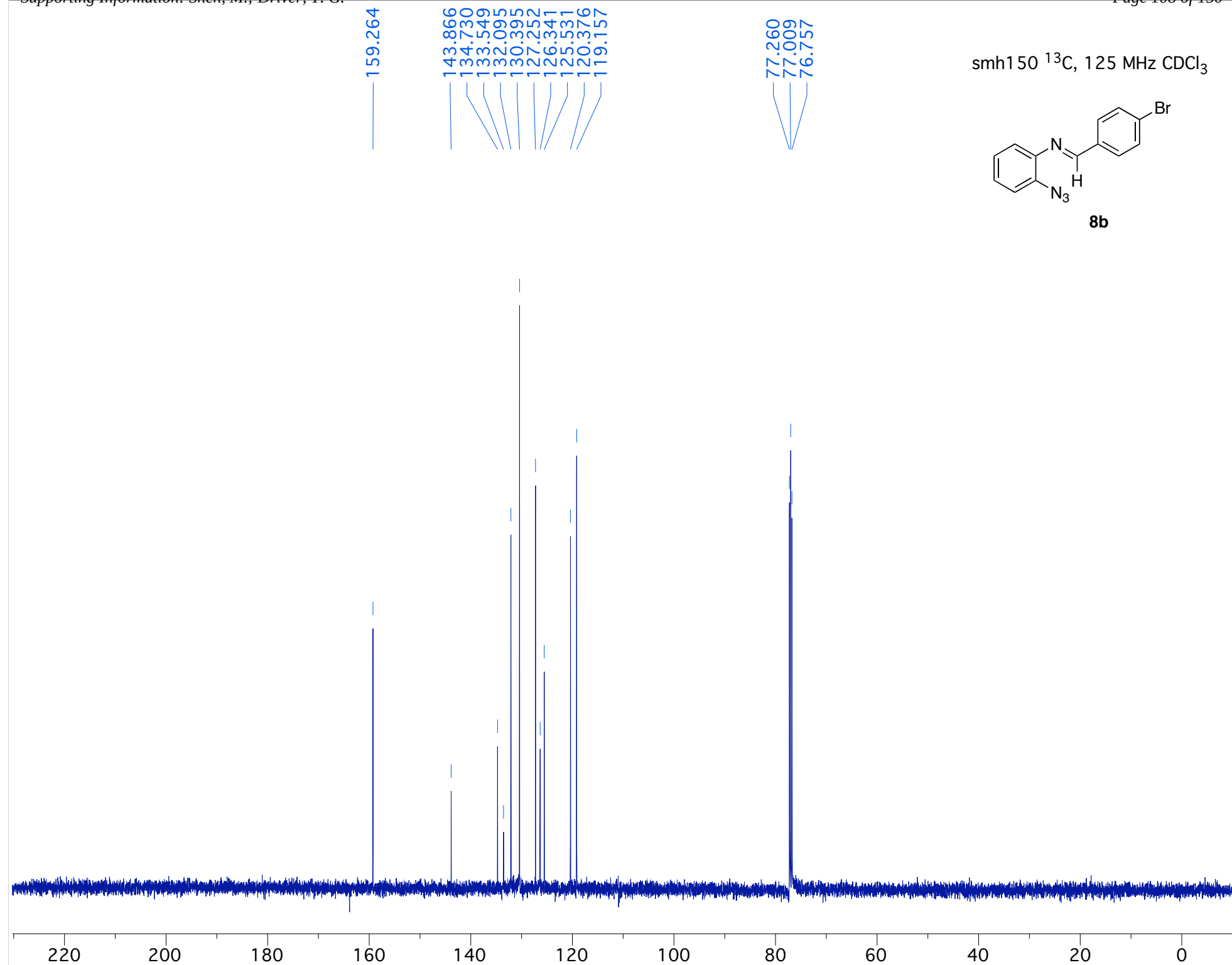


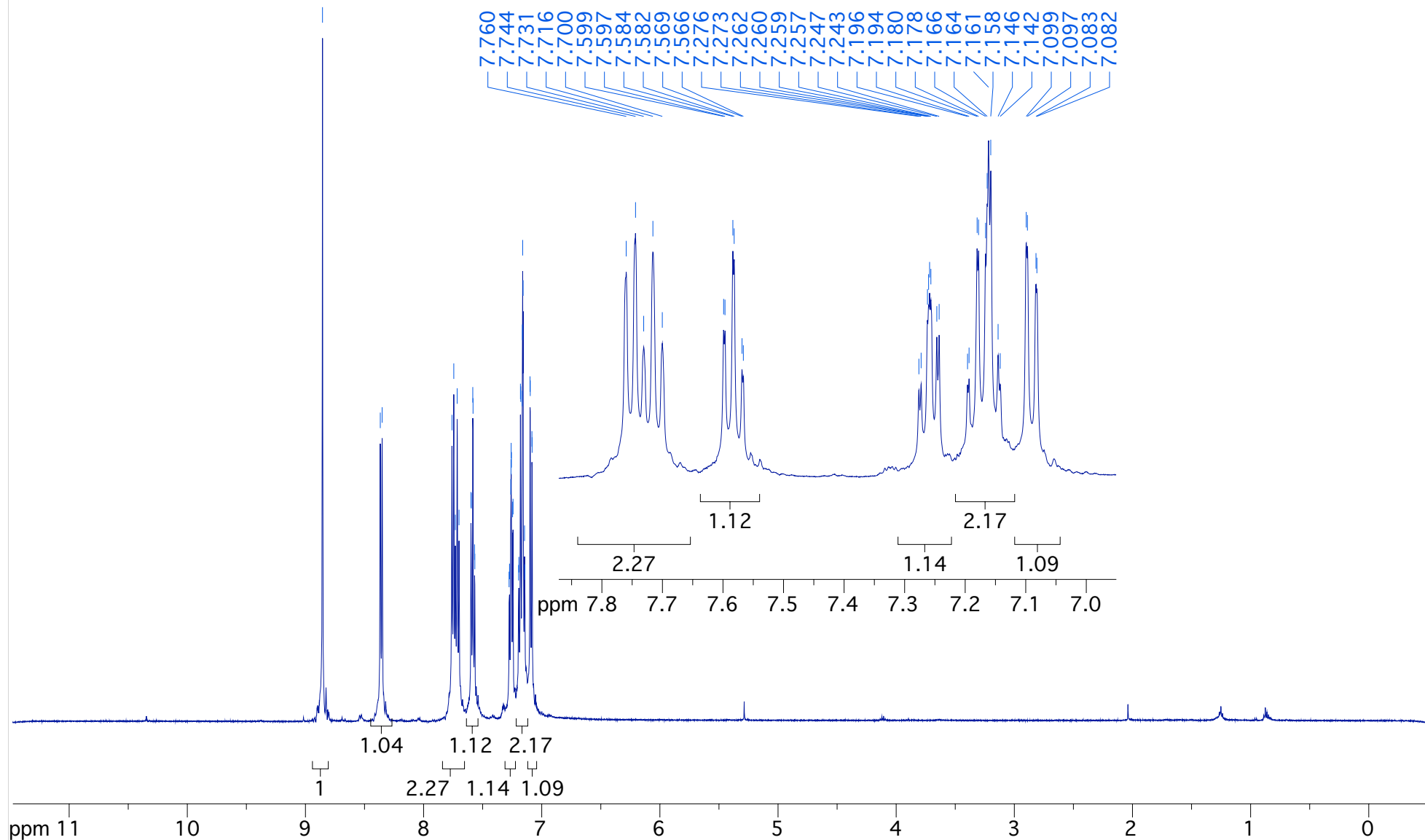
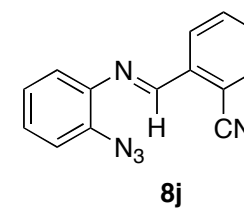


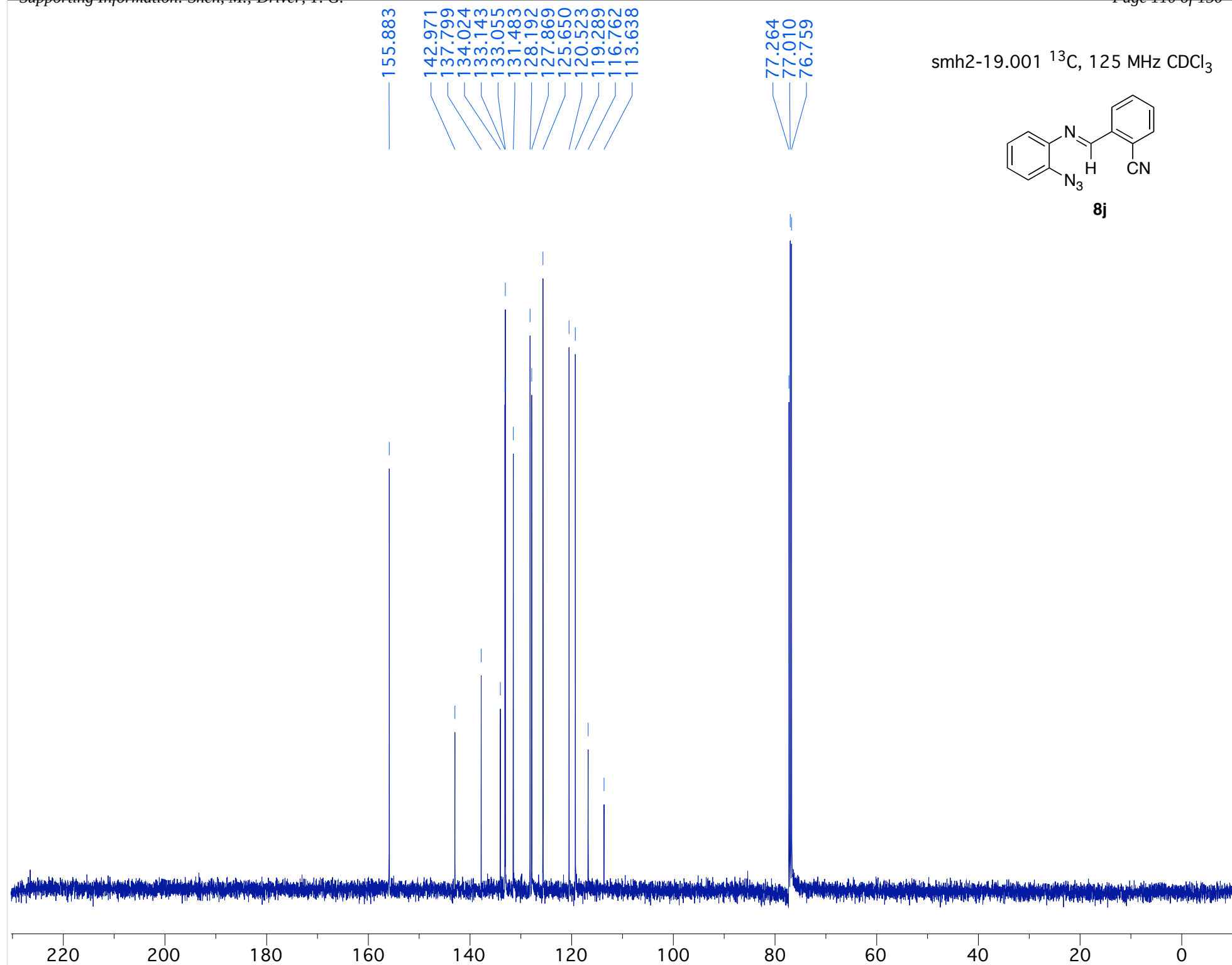
157.706
149.389
143.074
141.124
134.009
129.661
128.162
125.591
124.034
120.622
119.054
77.271
77.013
76.760

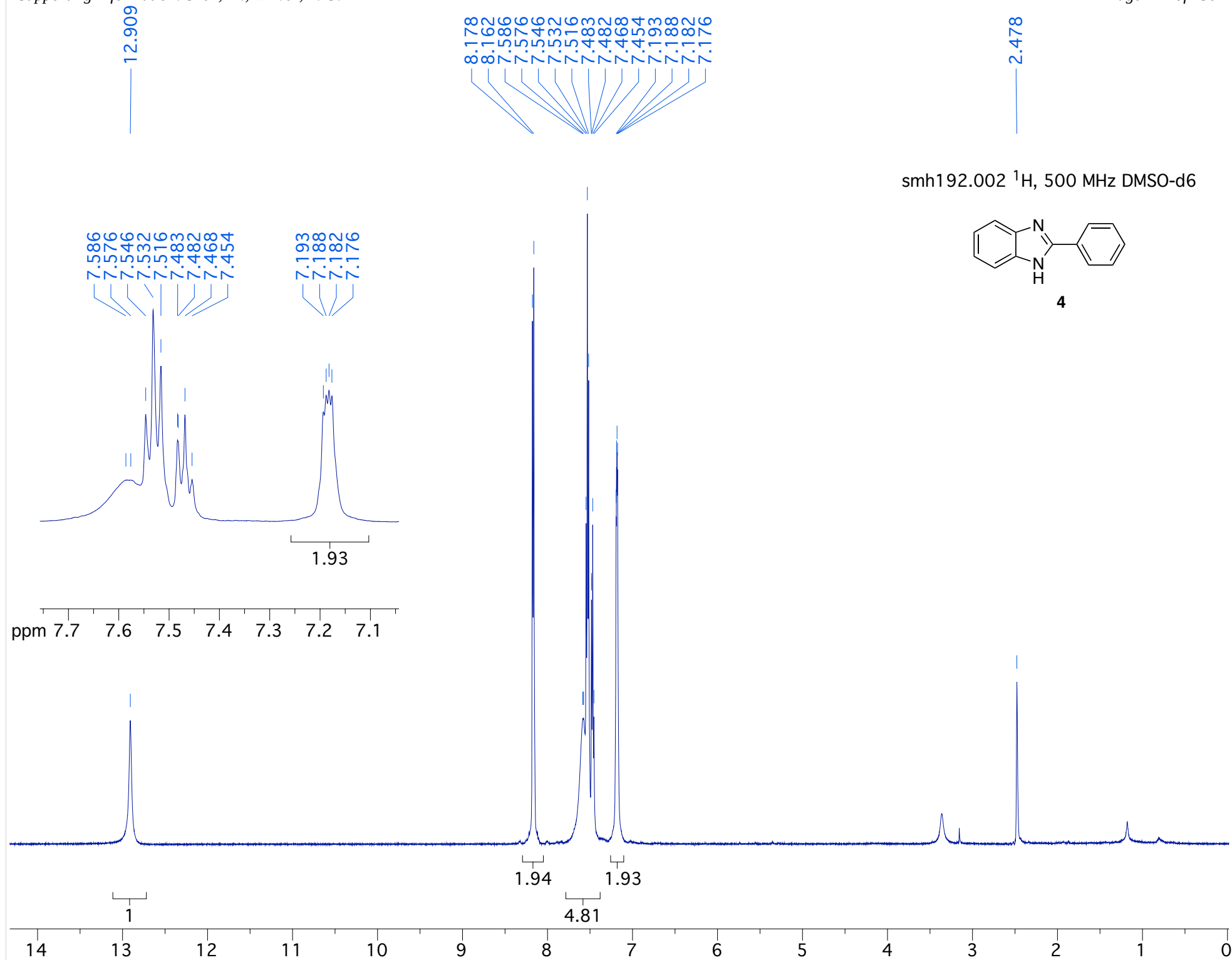
smh151.002 ^{13}C , 125 MHz CDCl_3 **5**

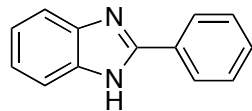




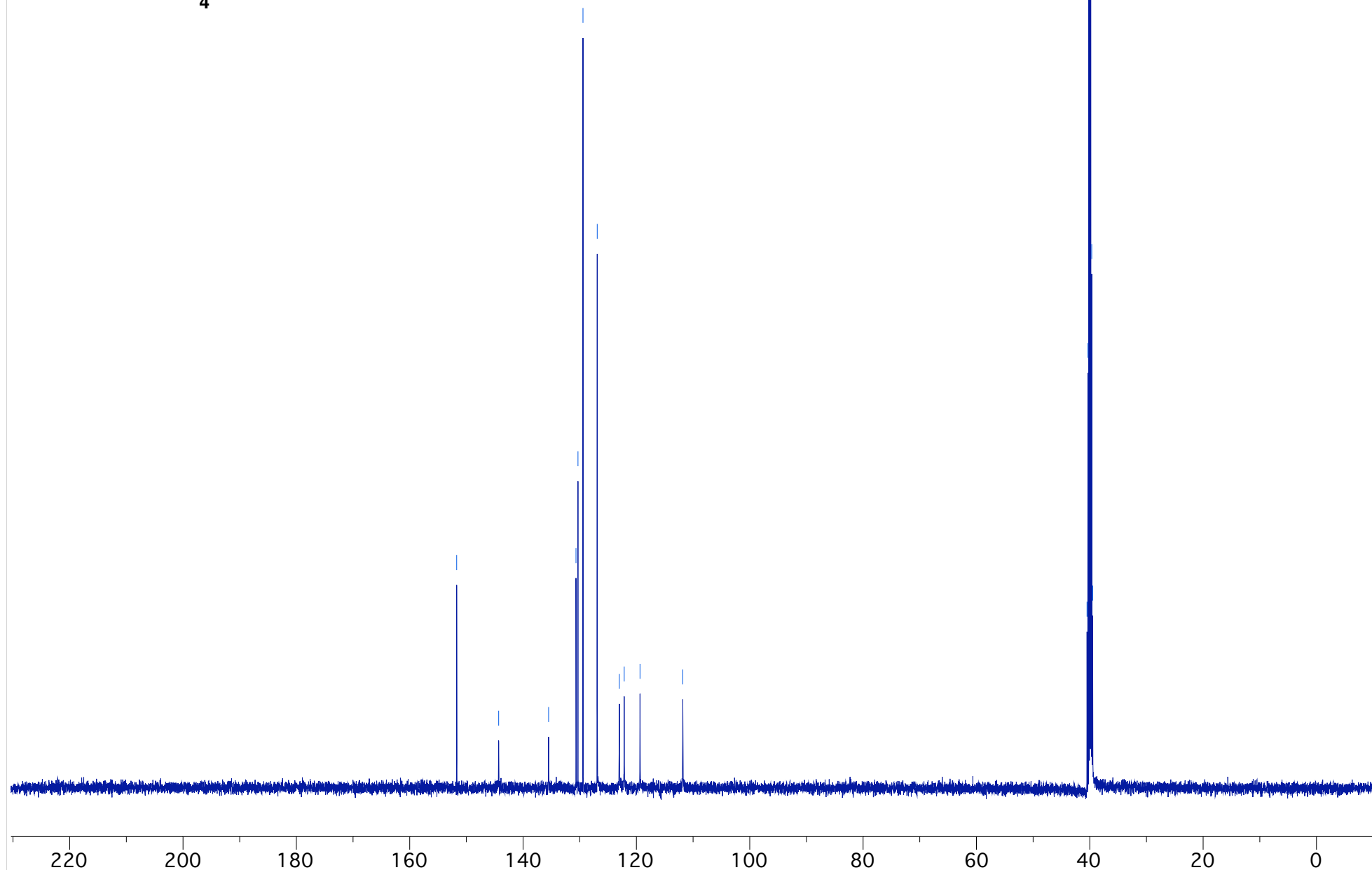
smh2-19.001 ^1H , 500 MHz CDCl_3 

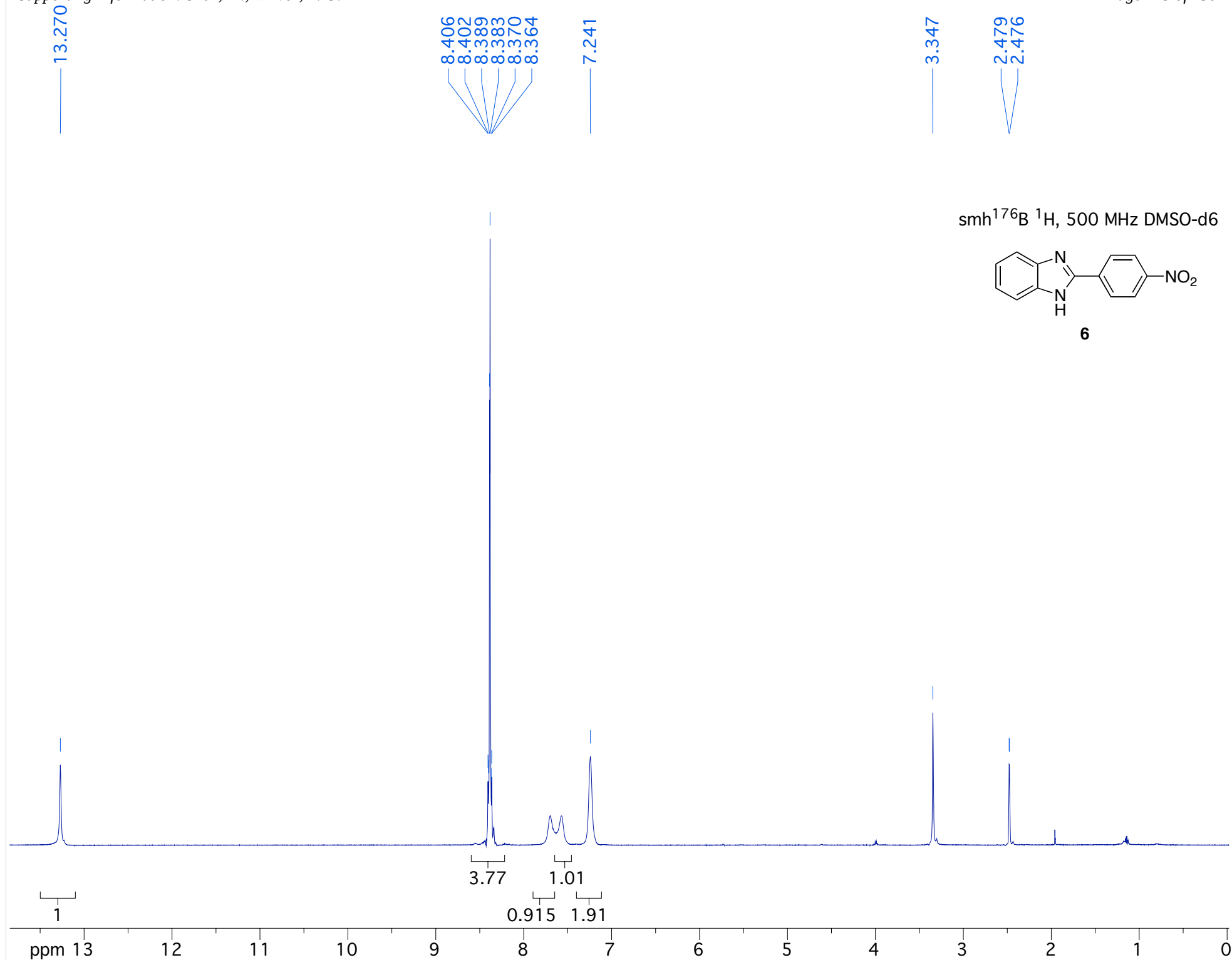


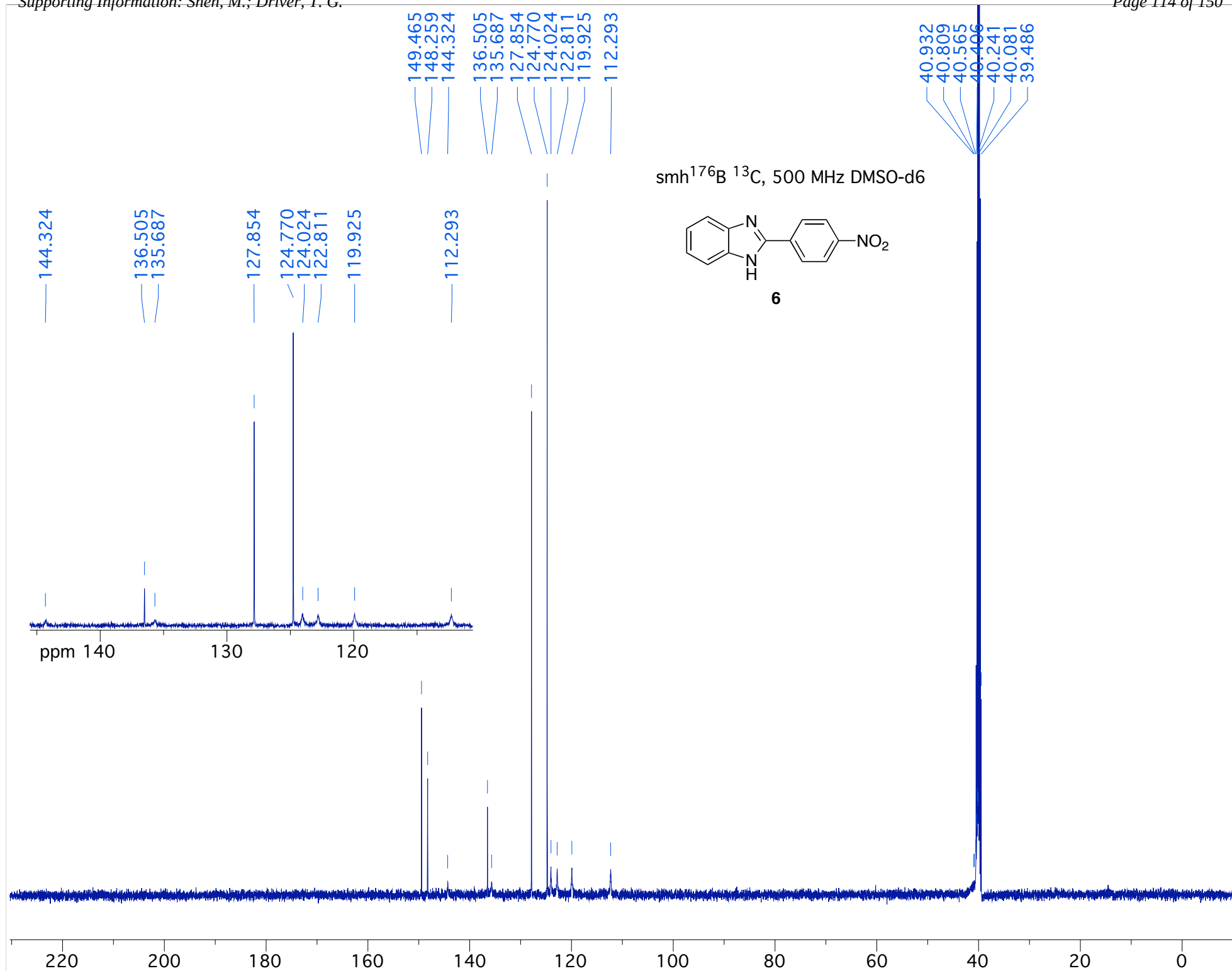


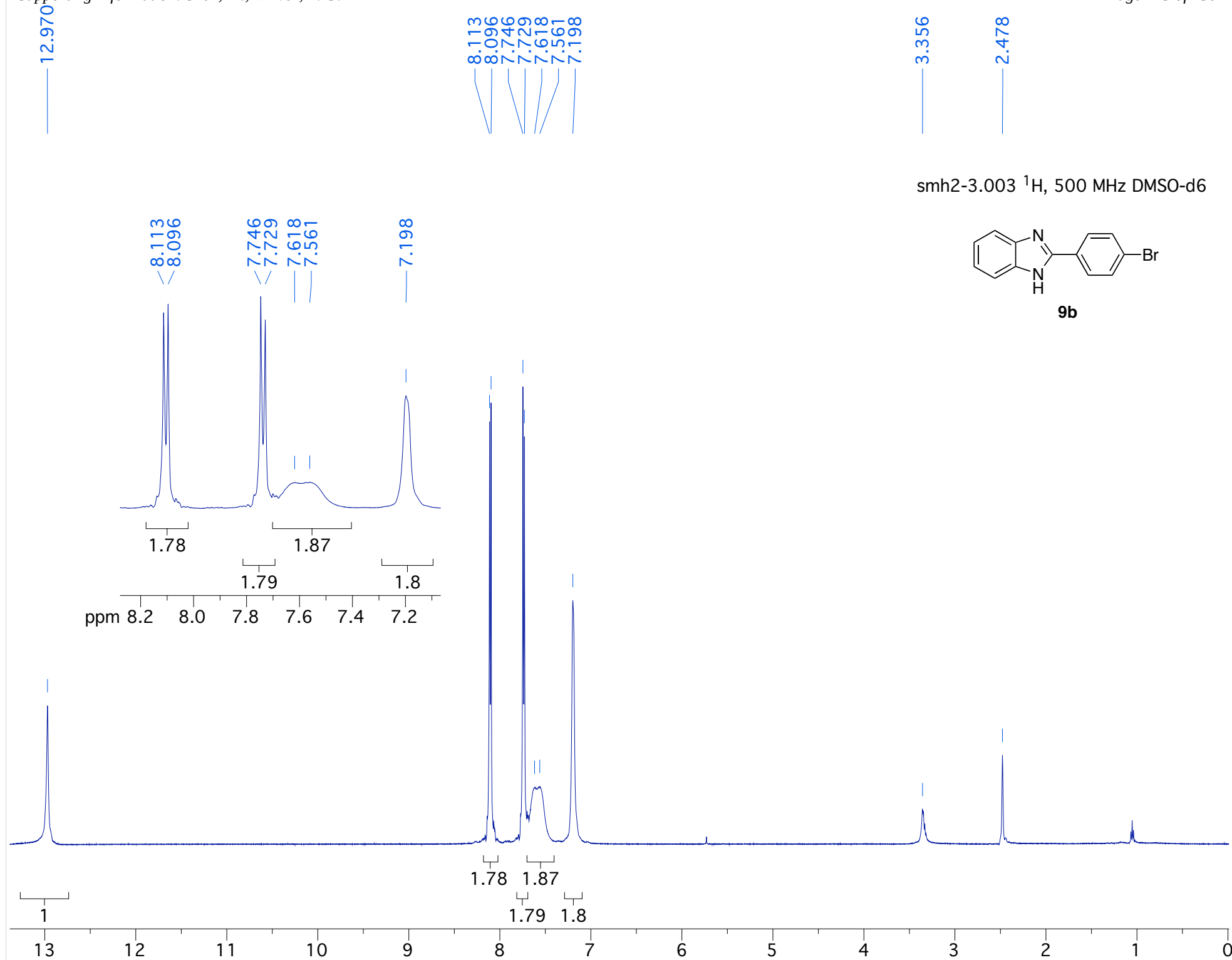
smh192.003 ^{13}C , 125 MHz DMSO-d₆**4**

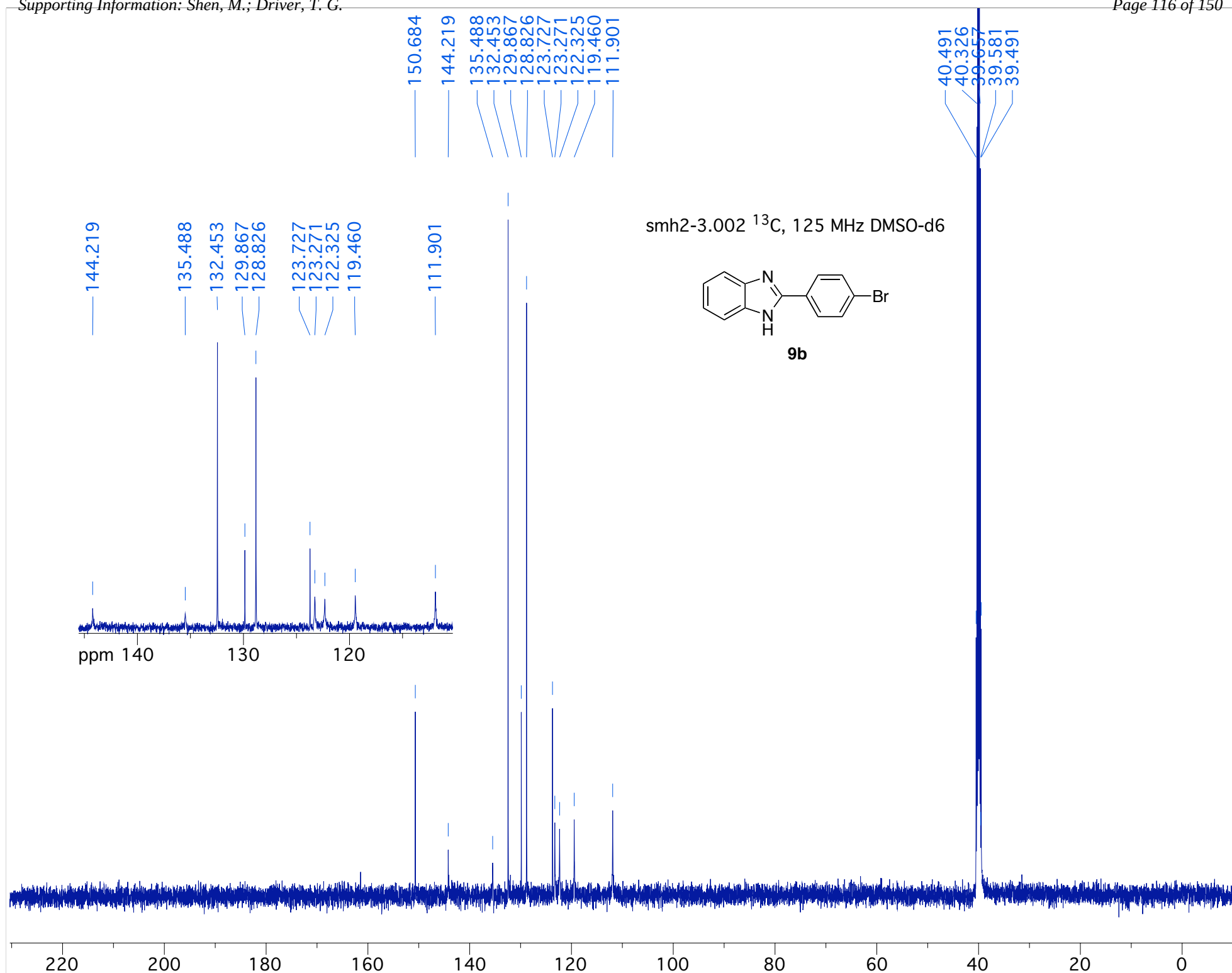
151.713
144.302
135.491
130.661
130.308
129.427
126.915
123.013
122.153
119.365
111.808
40.489
40.322
40.154
39.822
39.654
39.489

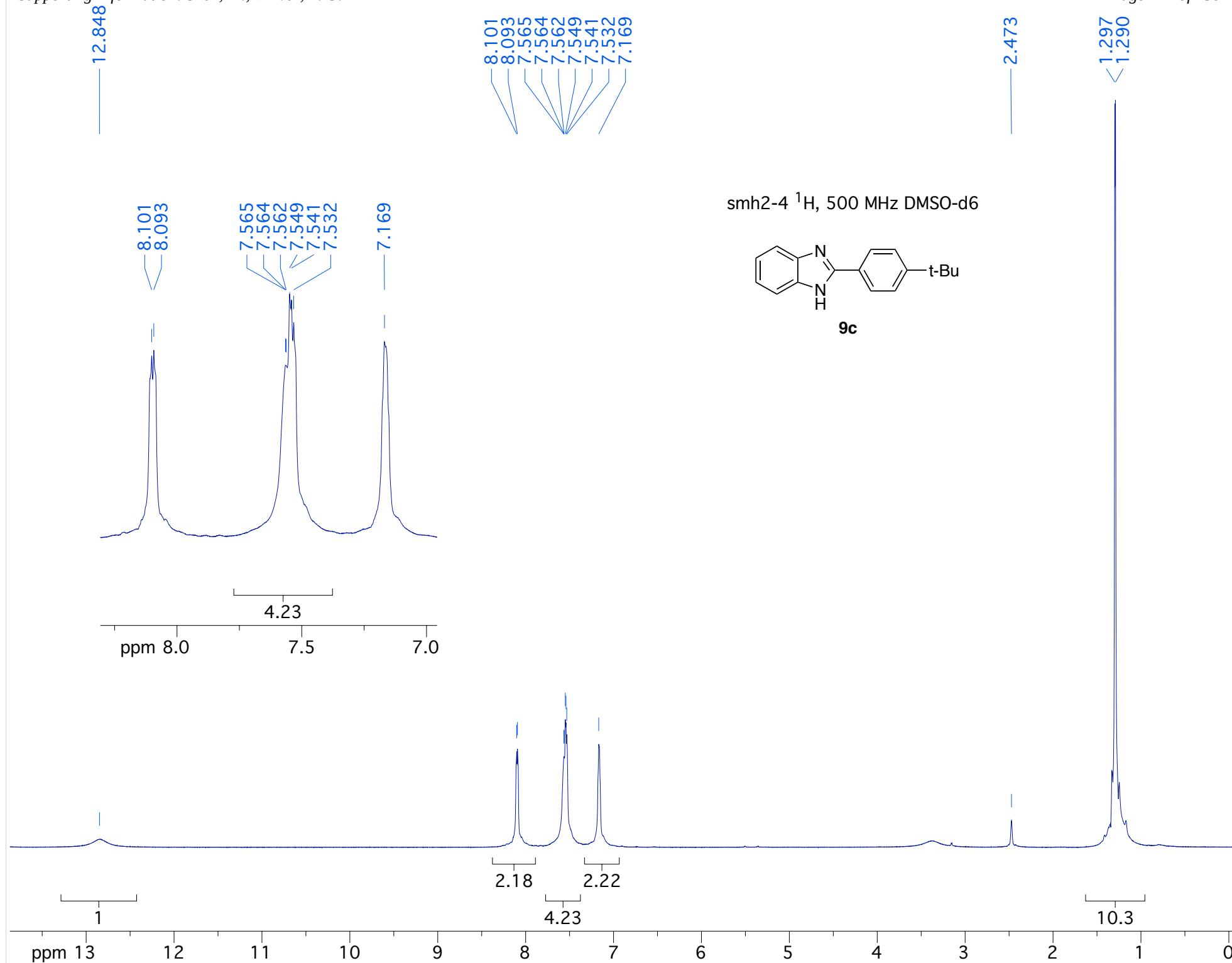


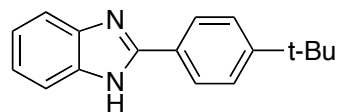




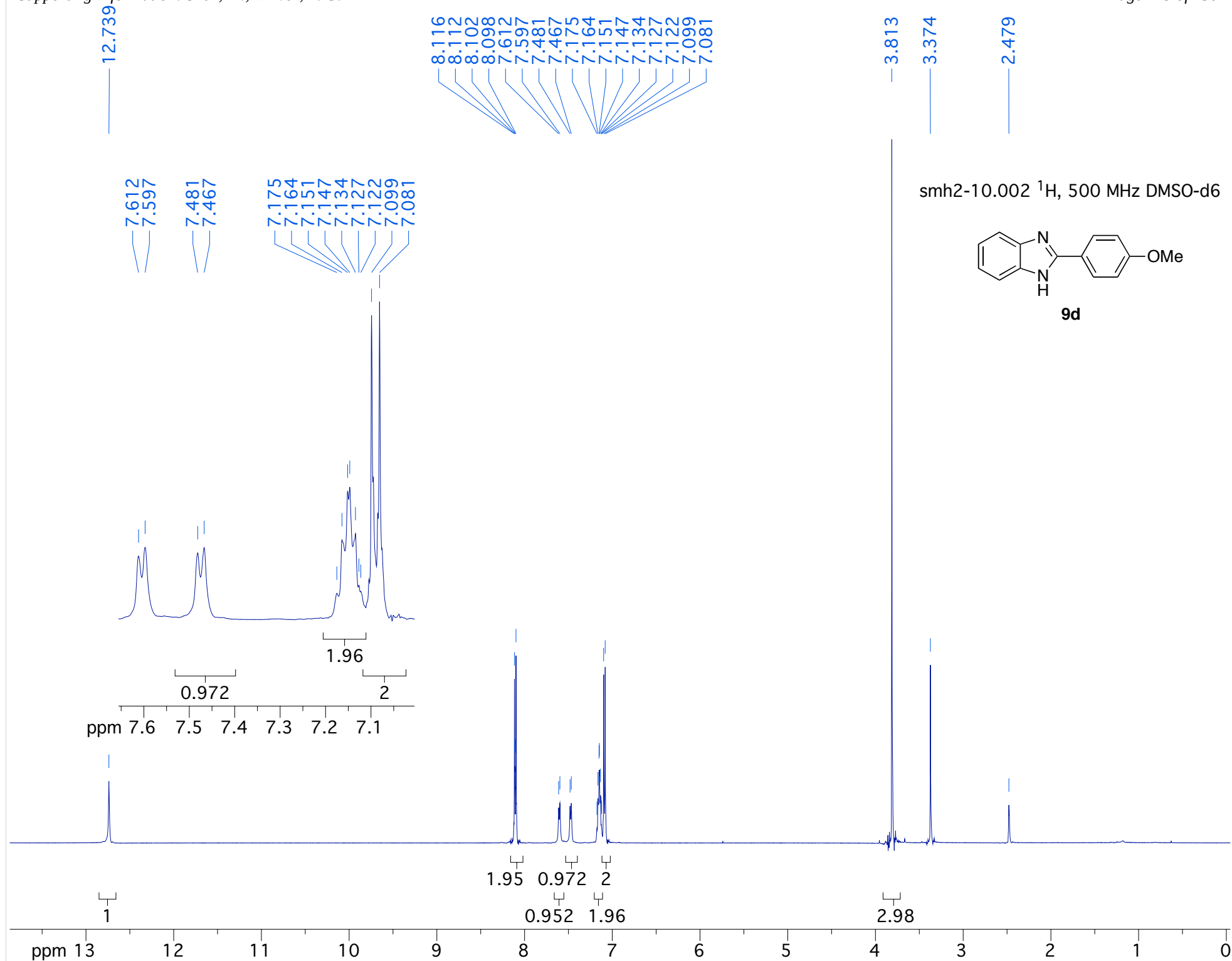


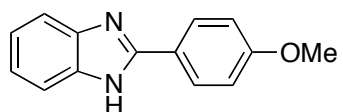
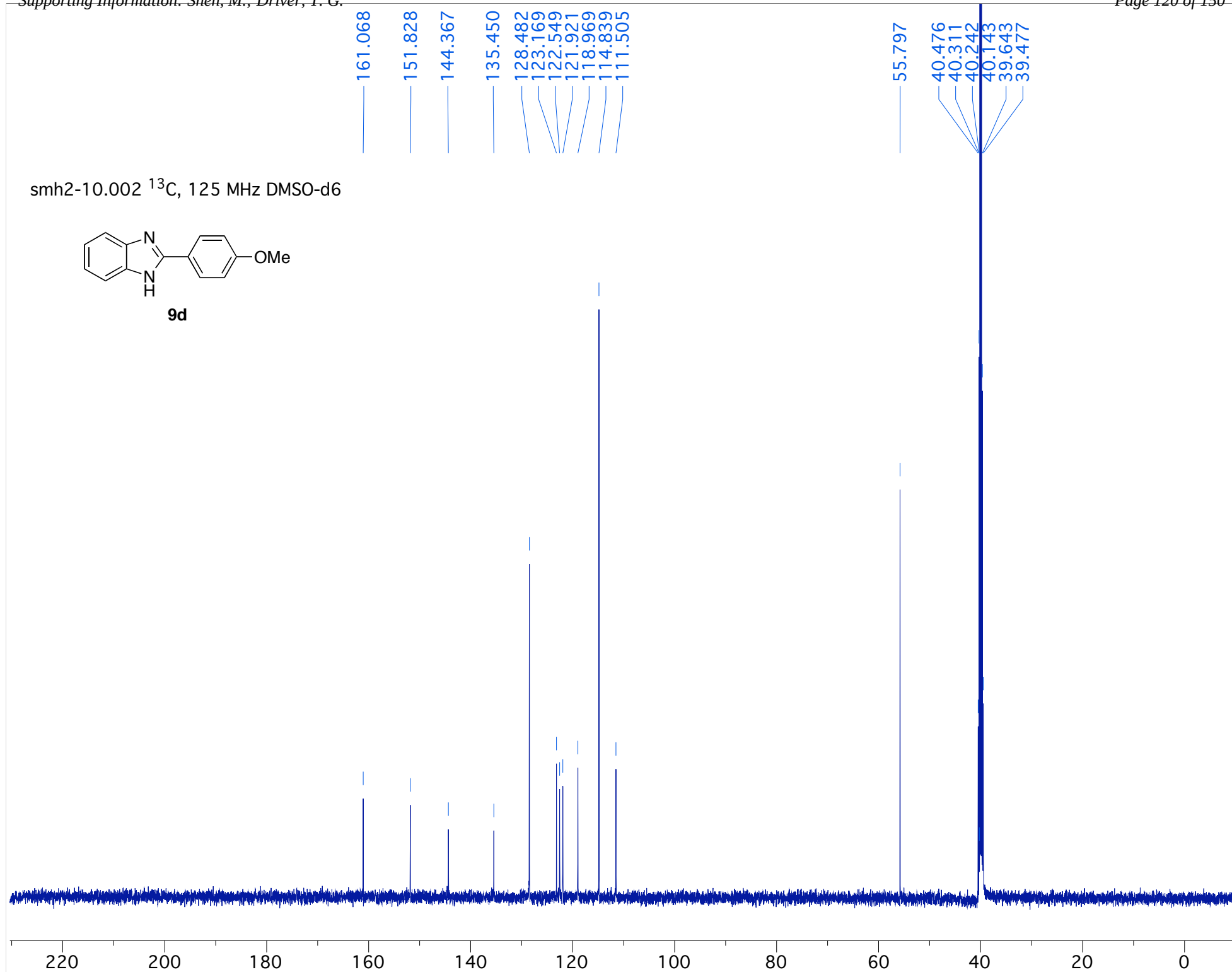


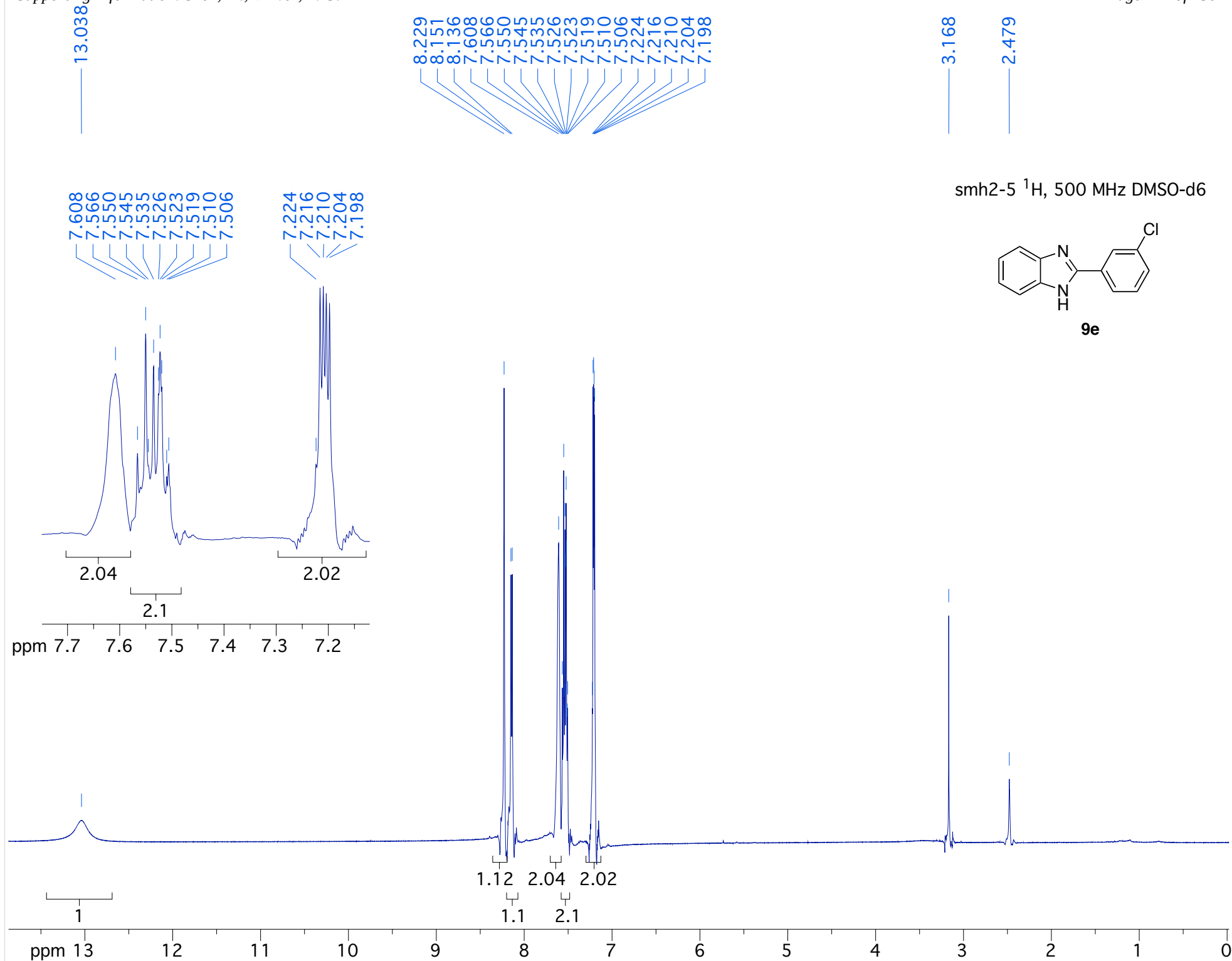


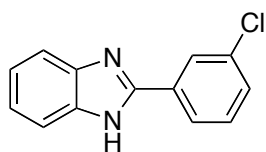
smh2-4 ^{13}C , 125 MHz DMSO-d₆**9c**153.001
151.770127.938
126.710
126.206
122.39240.480
40.314
40.149
39.981
39.815
39.650
39.483
35.059
31.455

220 200 180 160 140 120 100 80 60 40 20 0



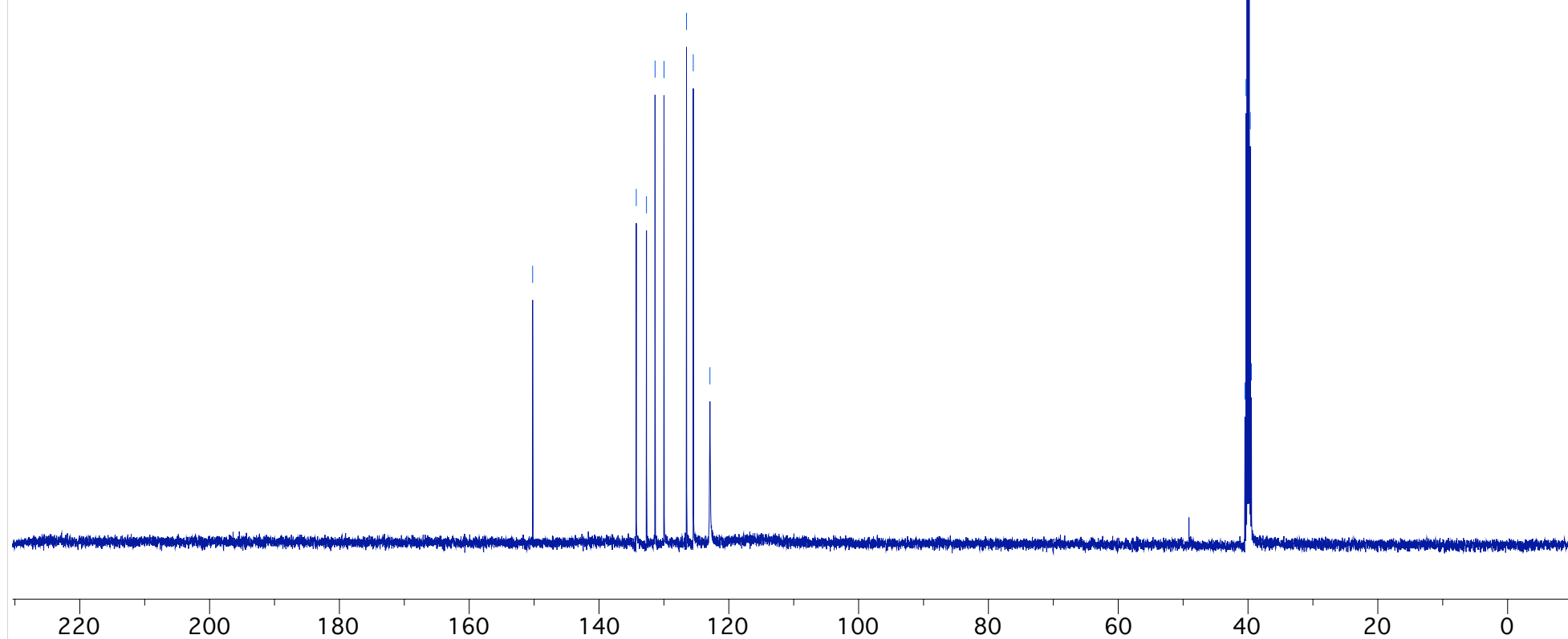
smh2-10.002 ^{13}C , 125 MHz DMSO-d₆**9d**

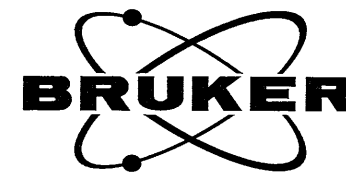


smh2-5 ^{13}C , 125 MHz DMSO-d₆**9e**

150.227
134.259
132.687
131.364
129.983
126.516
125.475
122.909

40.479
40.313
40.148
39.979
39.813
39.648
39.479



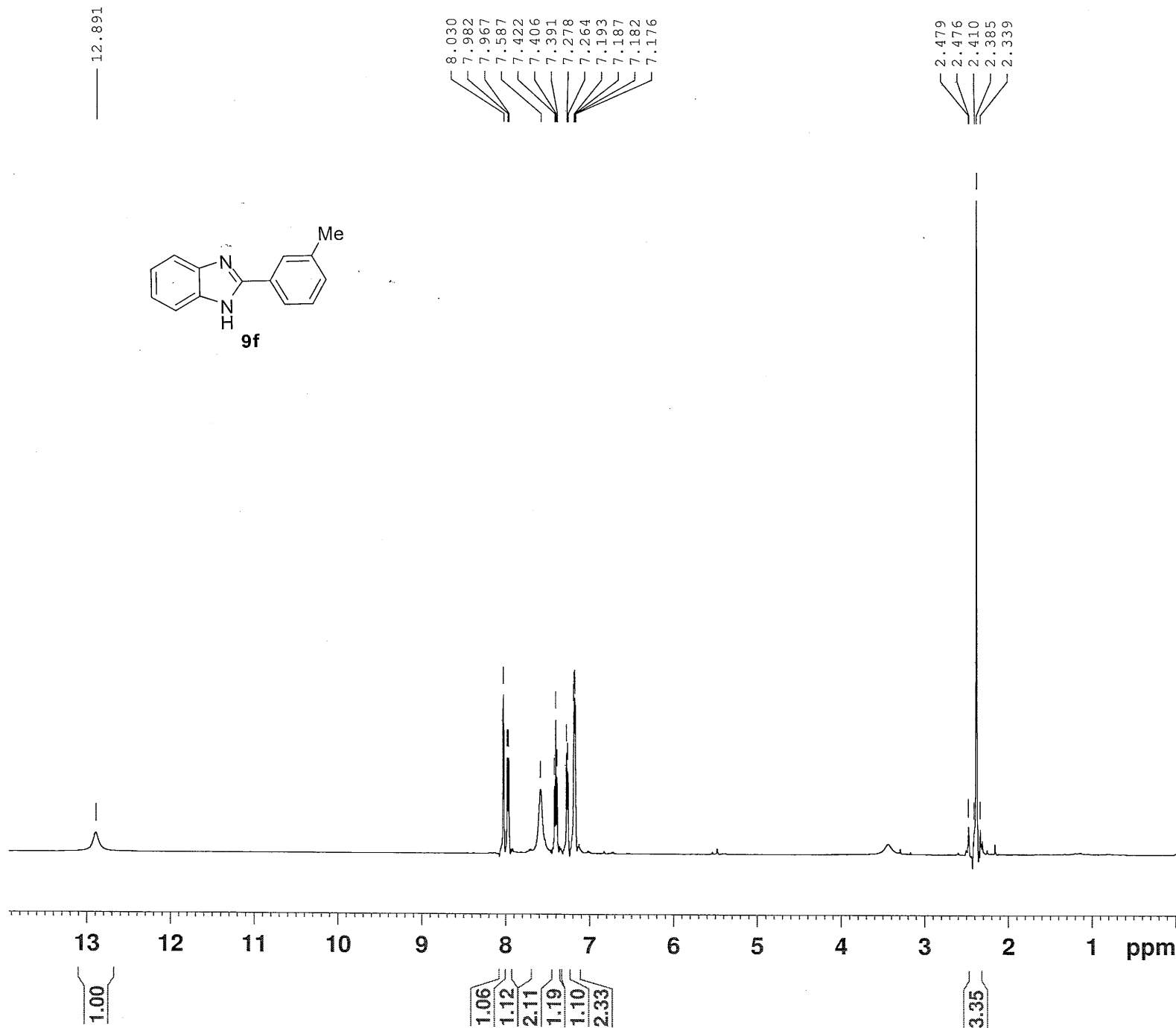
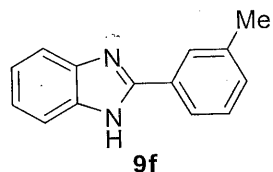


Current Data Parameters
NAME .smh2-13.002
EXPNO 1
PROCNO 1

F2 - Acquisition Parameters
Date_ 20071108
Time 16.27
INSTRUM spect
PROBHD 5 mm BBO BB-1H
PULPROG zg
TD 32768
SOLVENT CDC13
NS 16
DS 2
SWH 8503.401 Hz
FIDRES 0.259503 Hz
AQ 1.9268672 sec
RG 80.6
DW 58.800 use
DE 6.00 use
TE 300.0 K
D1 1.00000000 sec
MCREST 0.00000000 sec
MCWRK 0.01500000 sec

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1 1H
P1 3.50 use
PL1 -2.00 dB
SFO1 500.6427535 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters
SI 32768
SF 500.6400128 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
LB 0.30 Hz
GB 0
PC 1.00





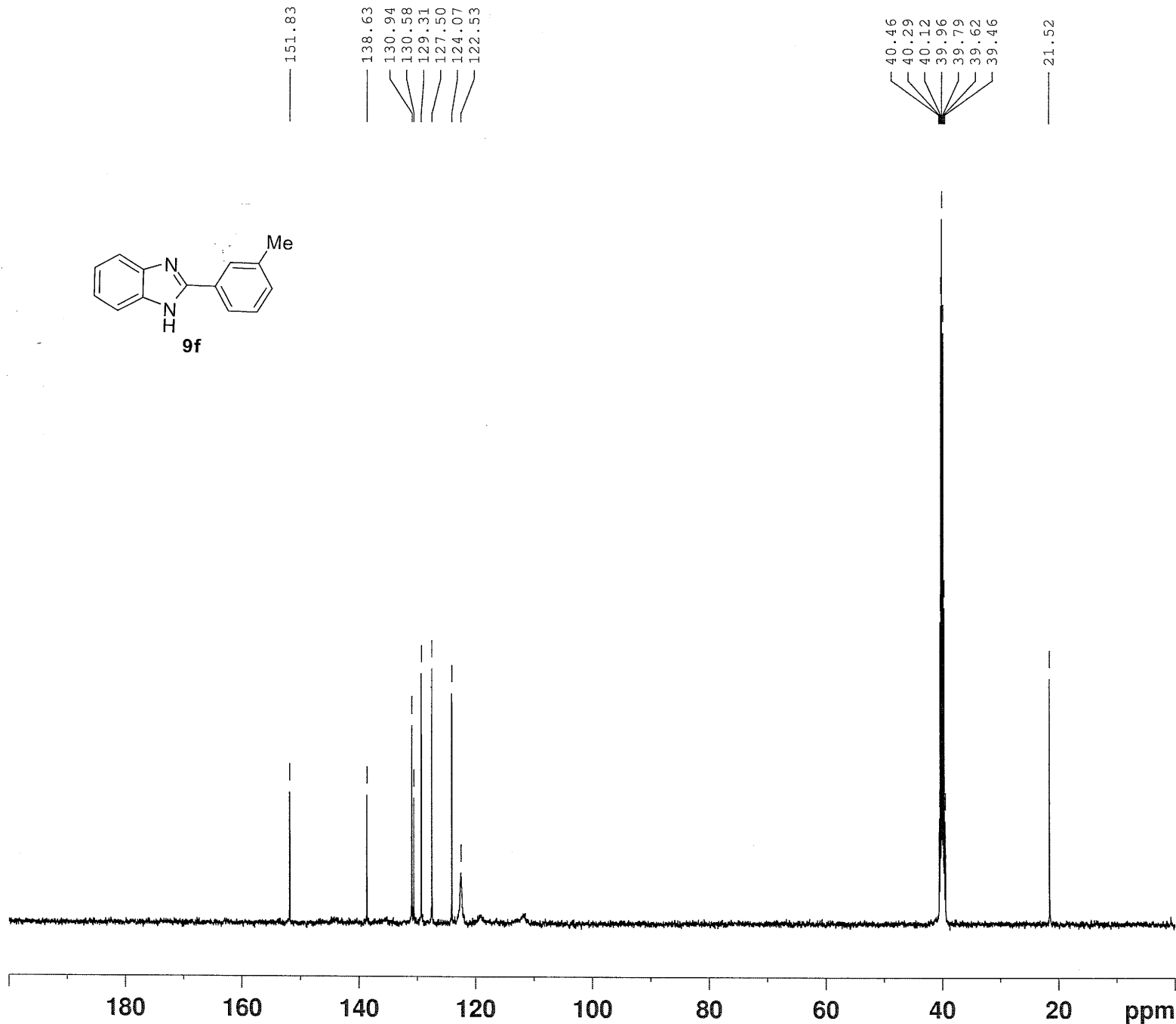
Current Data Parameters
NAME .smh2-13.002
EXPNO 2
PROCNO 1

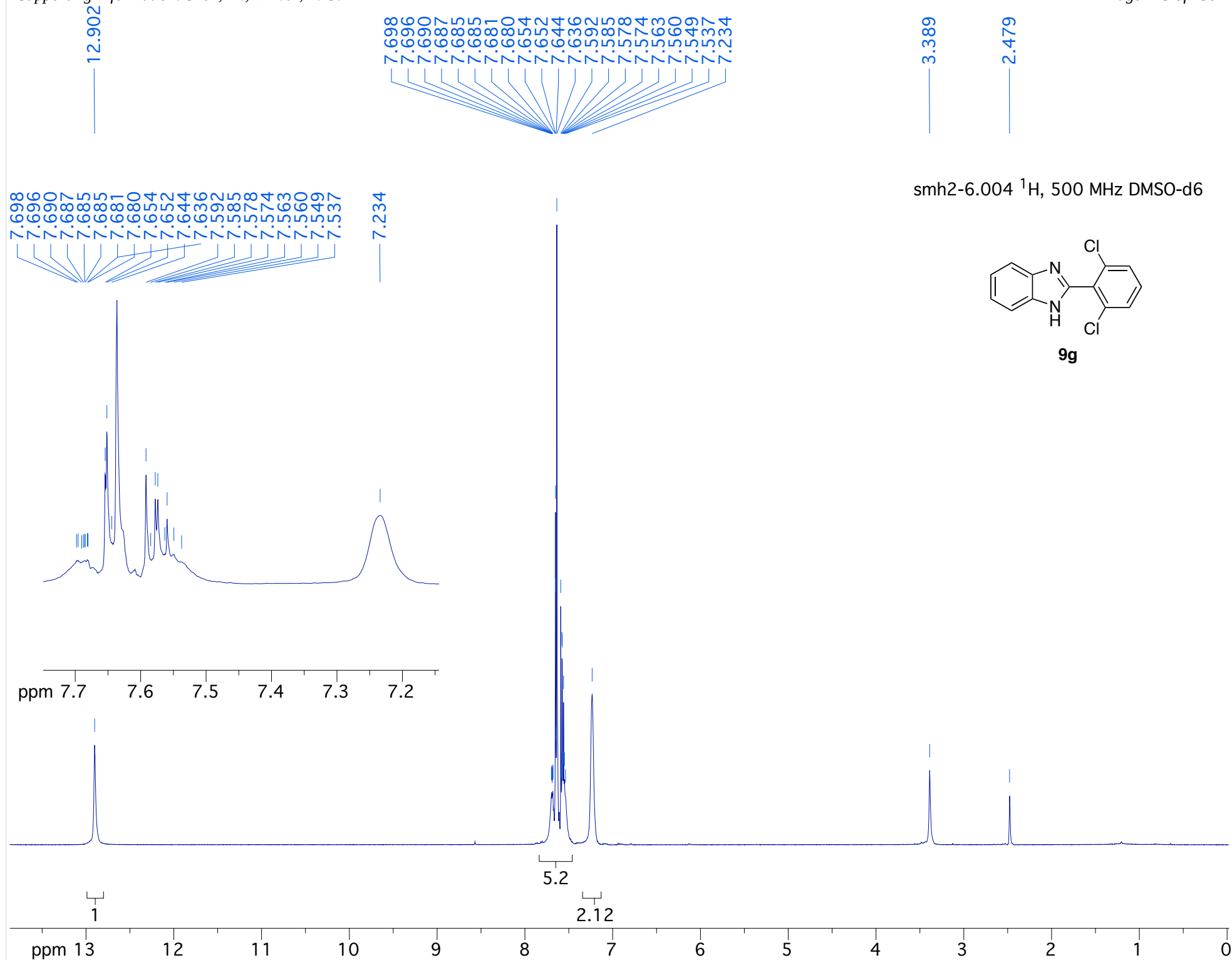
F2 - Acquisition Parameters
Date_ 20071108
Time 16.32
INSTRUM spect
PROBHD 5 mm BBO BB-1H
PULPROG zgpg
TD 32768
SOLVENT CDCl3
NS 164
DS 2
SWH 30303.031 Hz
FIDRES 0.924775 Hz
AQ 0.5407385 sec
RG 16384
DW 16.500 usec
DE 6.00 usec
TE 300.0 K
D1 2.00000000 sec
d11 0.03000000 sec
DELTA 1.89999998 sec
MCREST 0.00000000 sec
MCWRK 0.01500000 sec

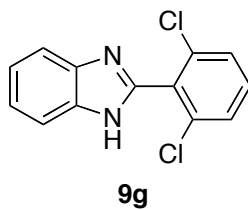
===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1 13C
P1 2.70 usec
PL1 1.00 dB
SFO1 125.8998755 MHz

===== CHANNEL f2 =====
CPDPRG2 waltz16
NUC2 1H
PCPD2 83.00 usec
PL2 -2.00 dB
PL12 15.40 dB
PL13 20.00 dB
SFO2 500.6422529 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters
SI 16384
SF 125.8860280 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
LB 3.00 Hz
GB 0
PC 1.00

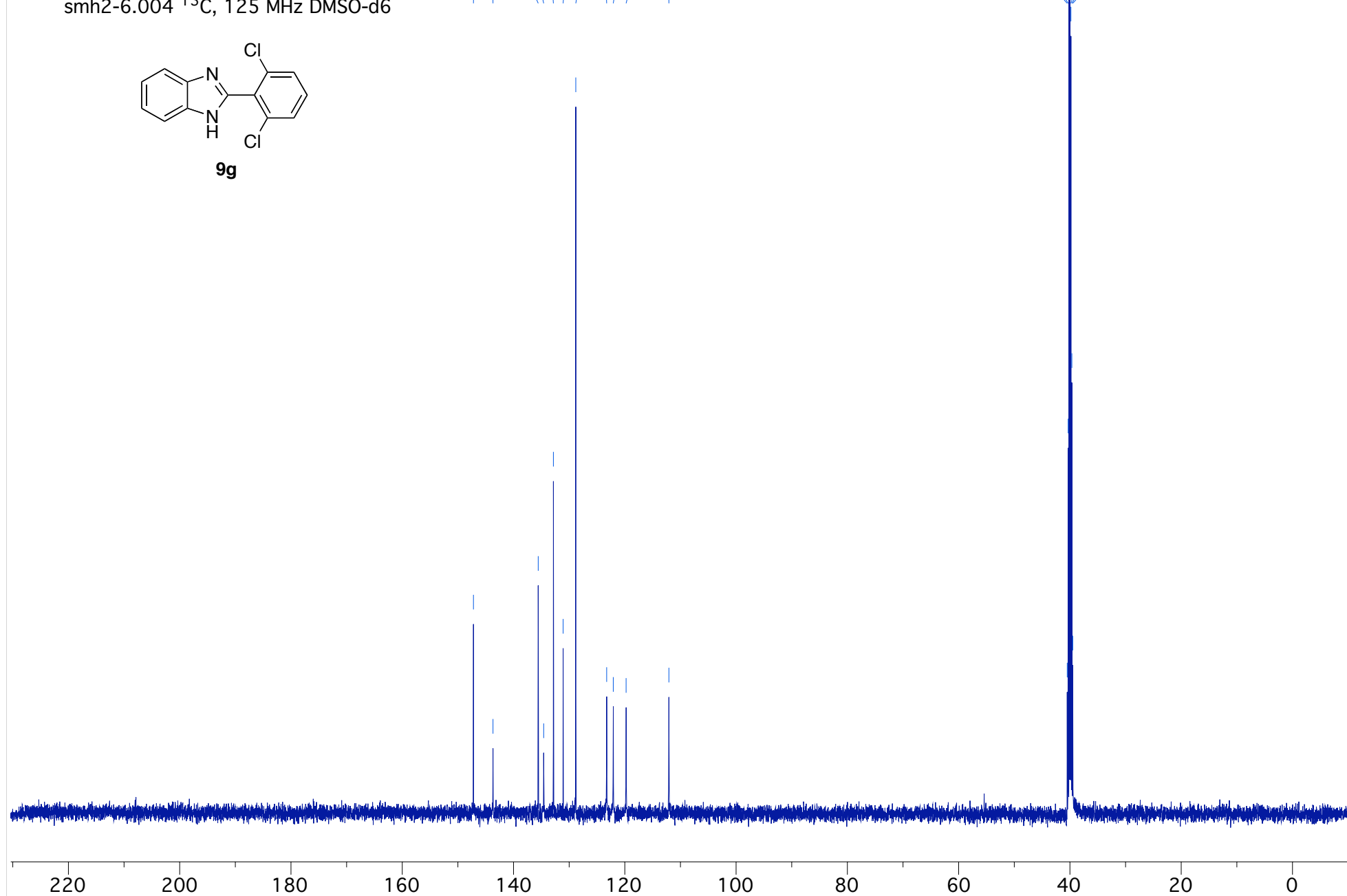


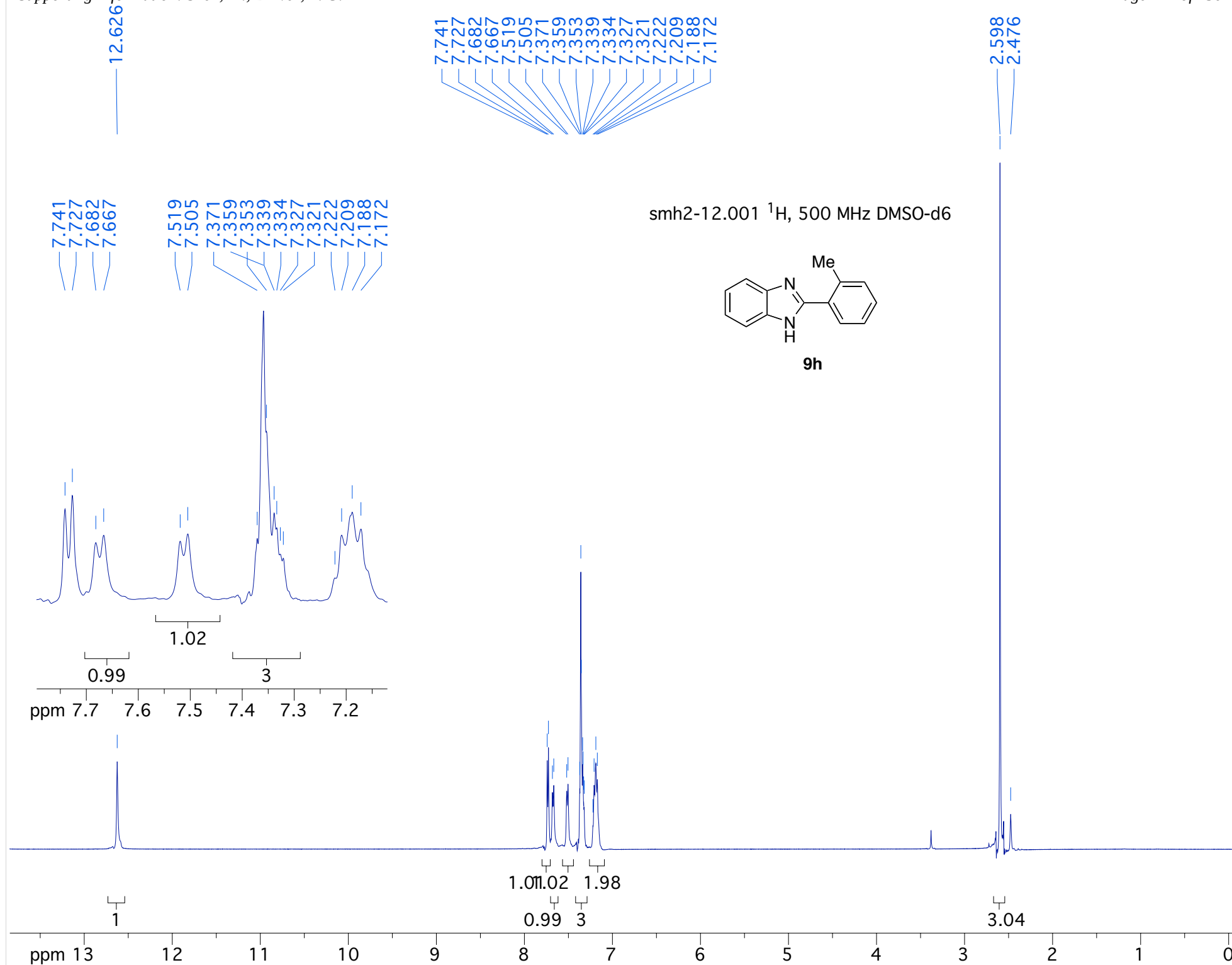


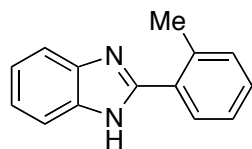
smh2-6.004 ^{13}C , 125 MHz DMSO-d₆

147.203
143.691
135.562
134.581
132.835
131.087
128.810
123.260
122.074
119.768
112.076

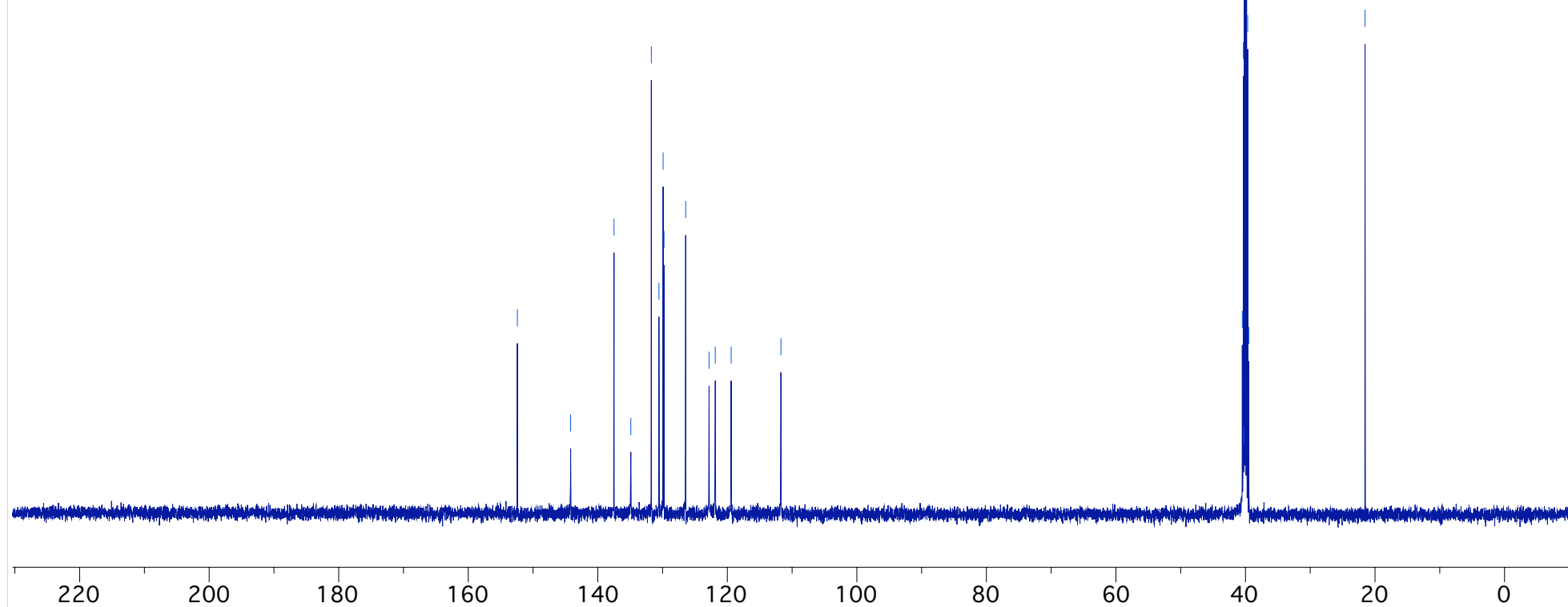
40.486
40.319
40.152
39.987
39.819
39.653
39.488

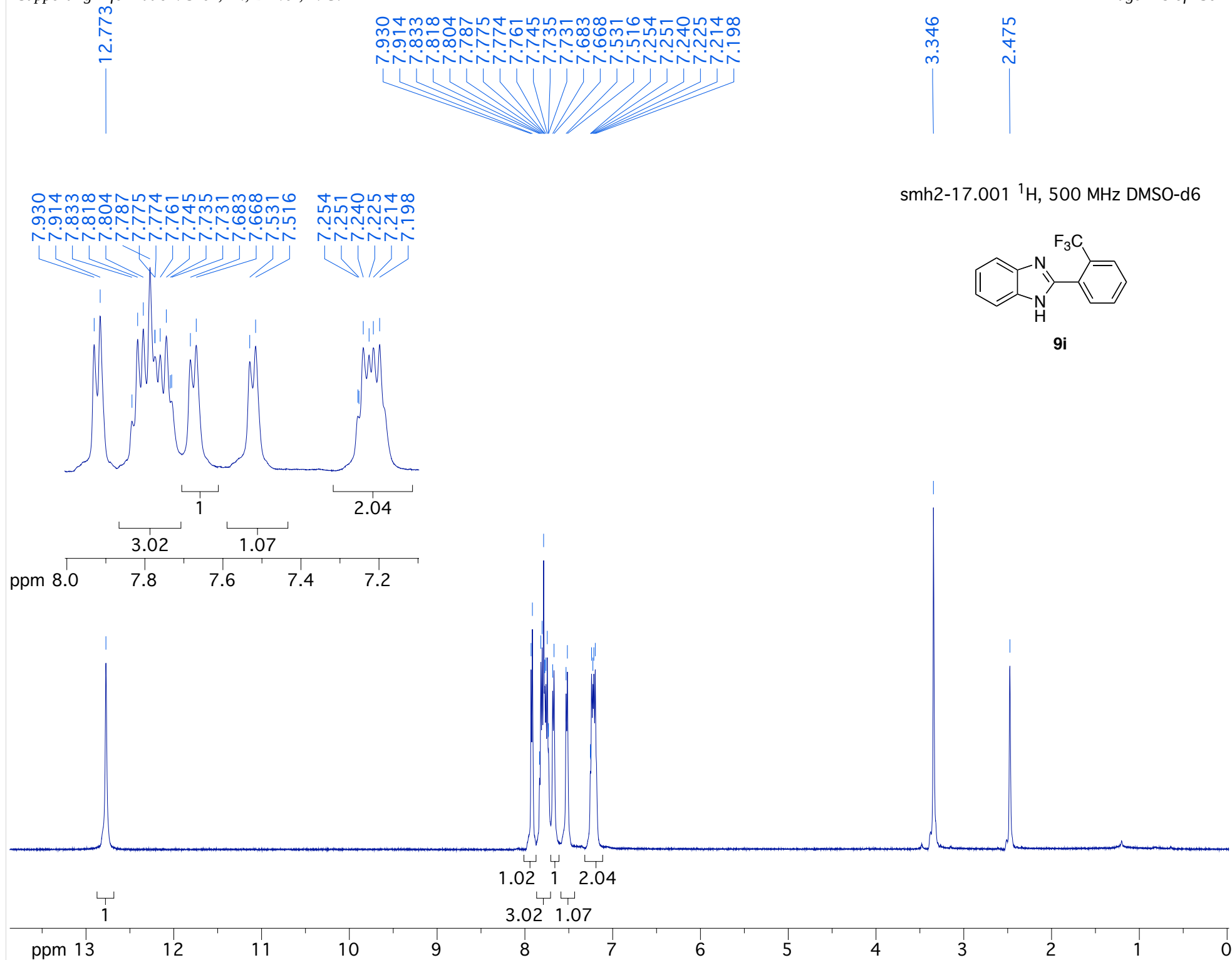


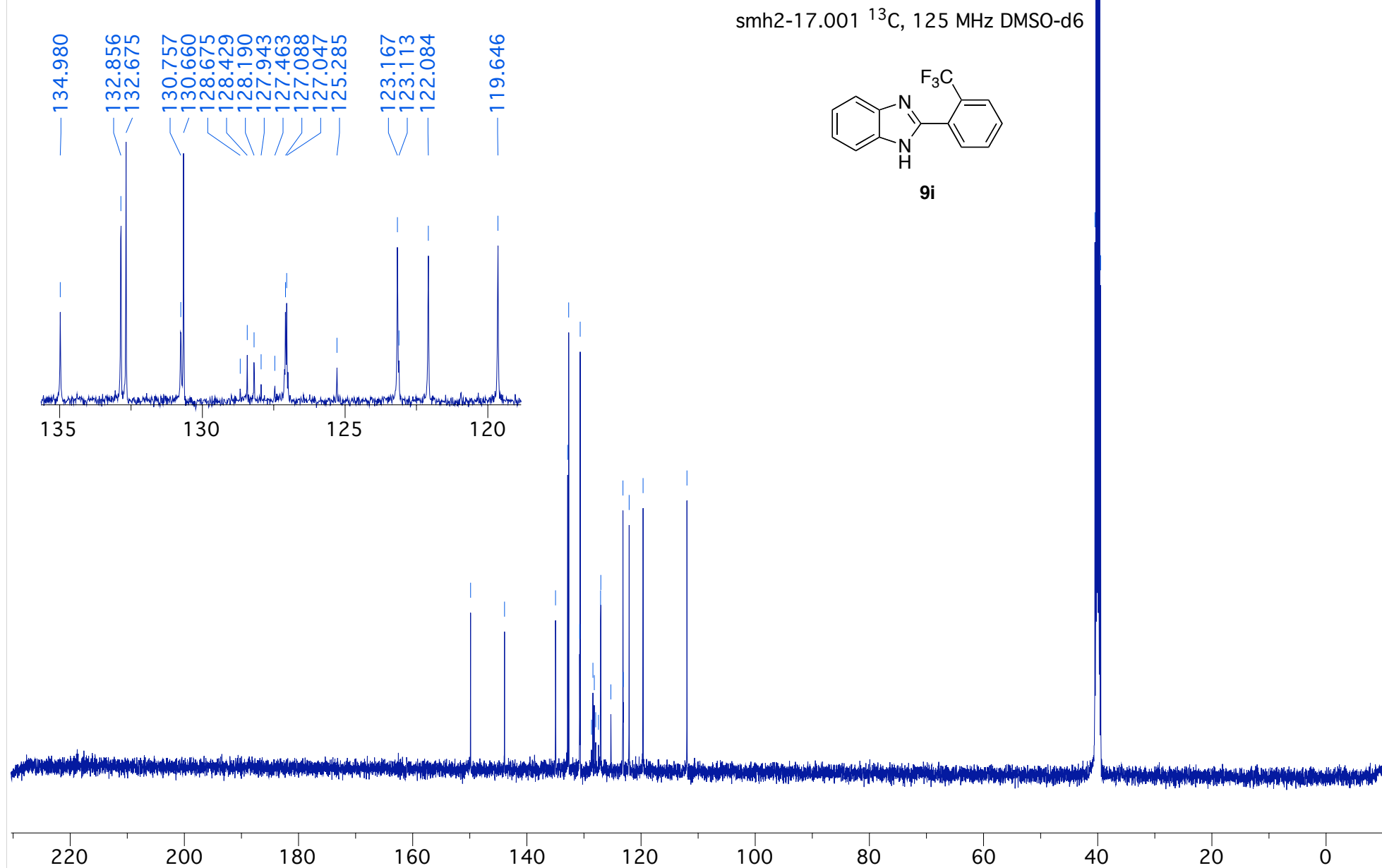


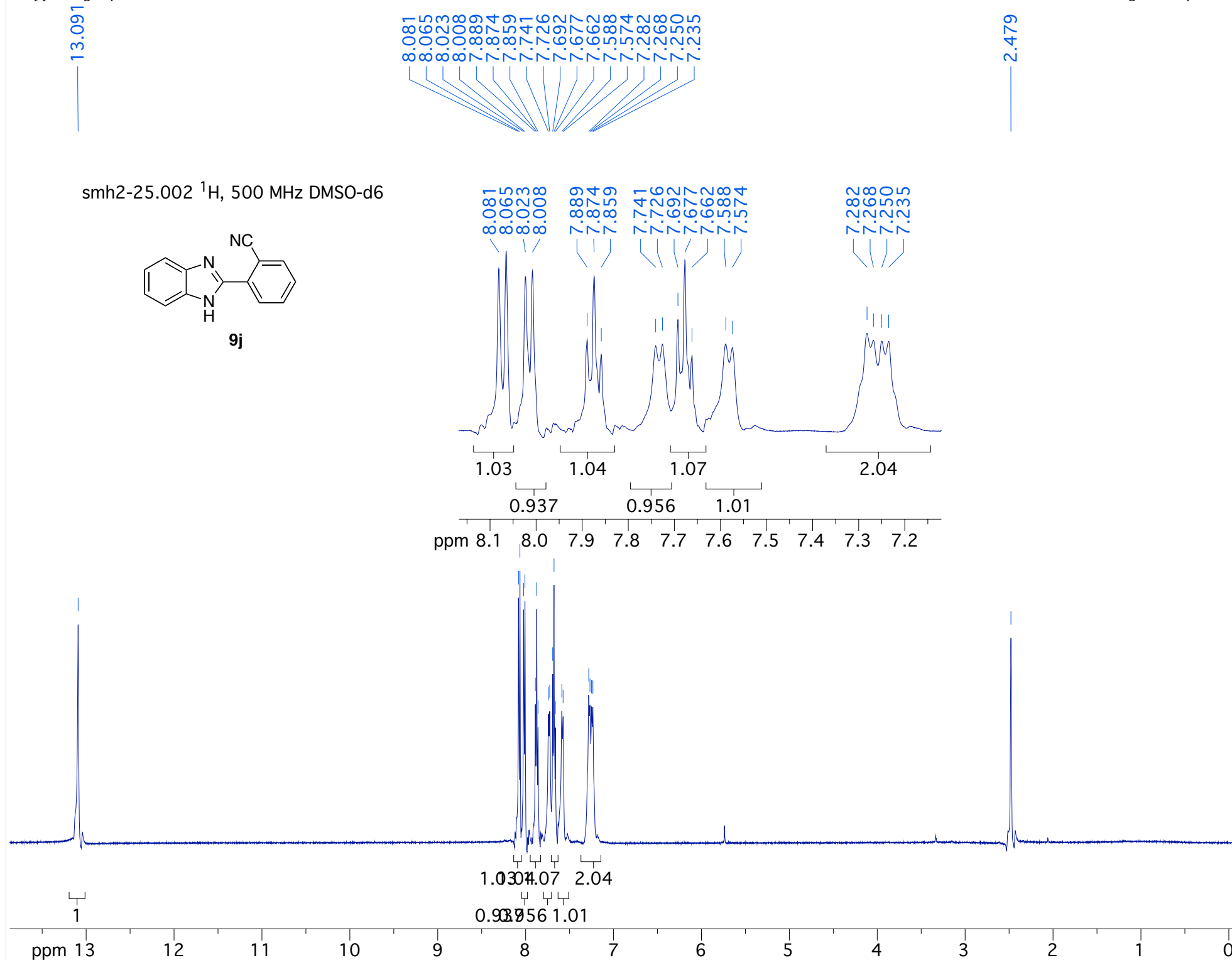
smh2-12.001 ^{13}C , 125 MHz DMSO-d₆**9h**

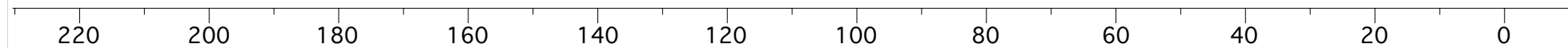
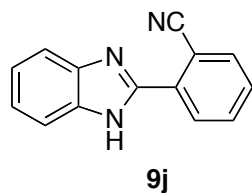
152.419
144.196
137.492
134.898
131.734
130.559
129.913
129.768
126.428
122.820
121.863
119.407
111.726
40.489
40.323
40.242
40.154
39.823
39.654
39.489
21.539

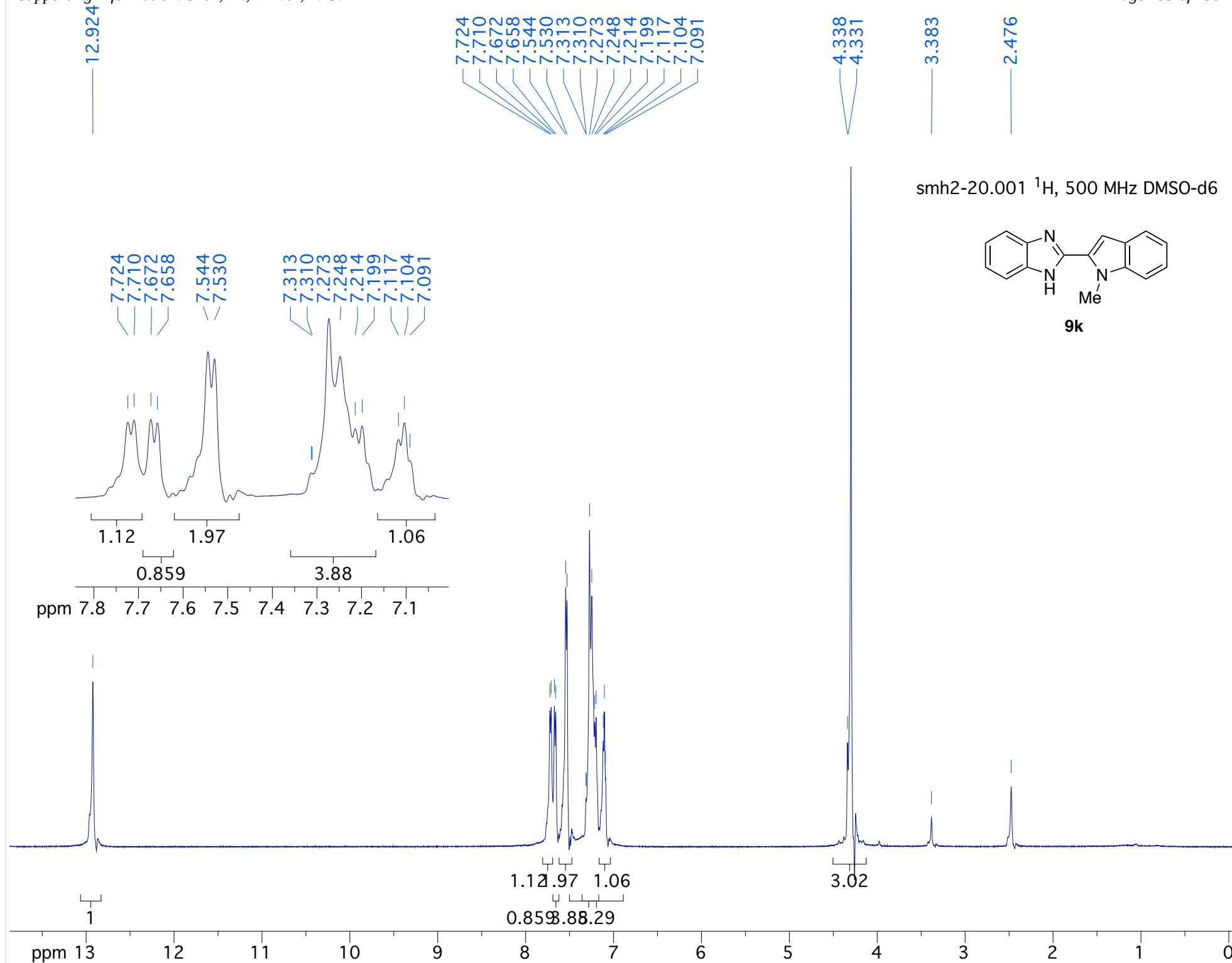


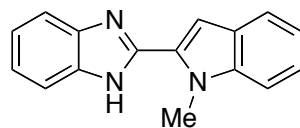
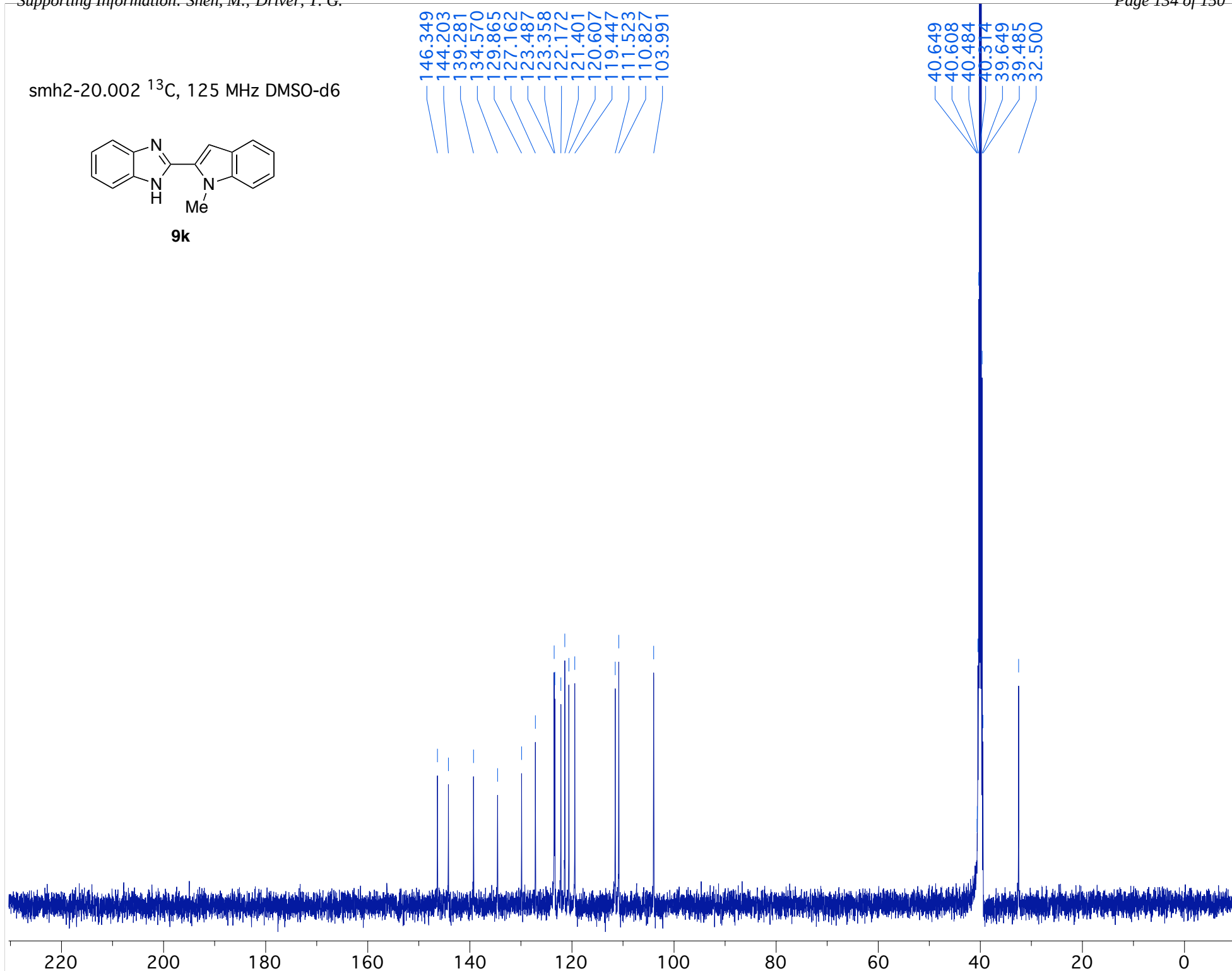


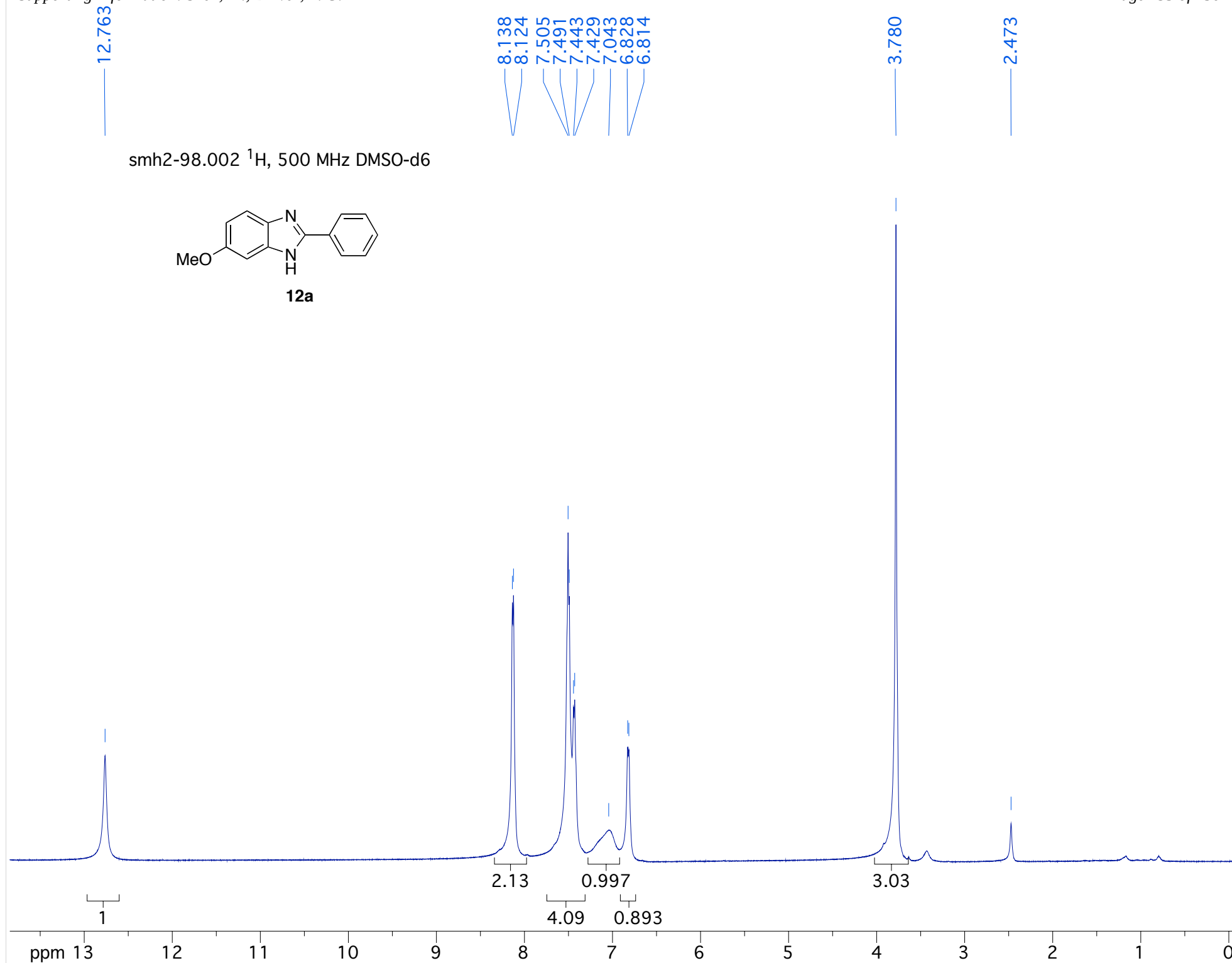


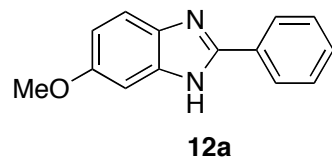


smh2-25.002 ^{13}C , 125 MHz DMSO-d₆



smh2-20.002 ^{13}C , 125 MHz DMSO-d₆**9k**



smh2-98.002 ^{13}C , 125 MHz DMSO-d₆

156.263

151.027

130.821

129.950

129.368

126.596

111.864

55.888

40.462

40.297

40.129

39.962

39.797

39.629

39.462

156.263

151.027

130.821

129.950

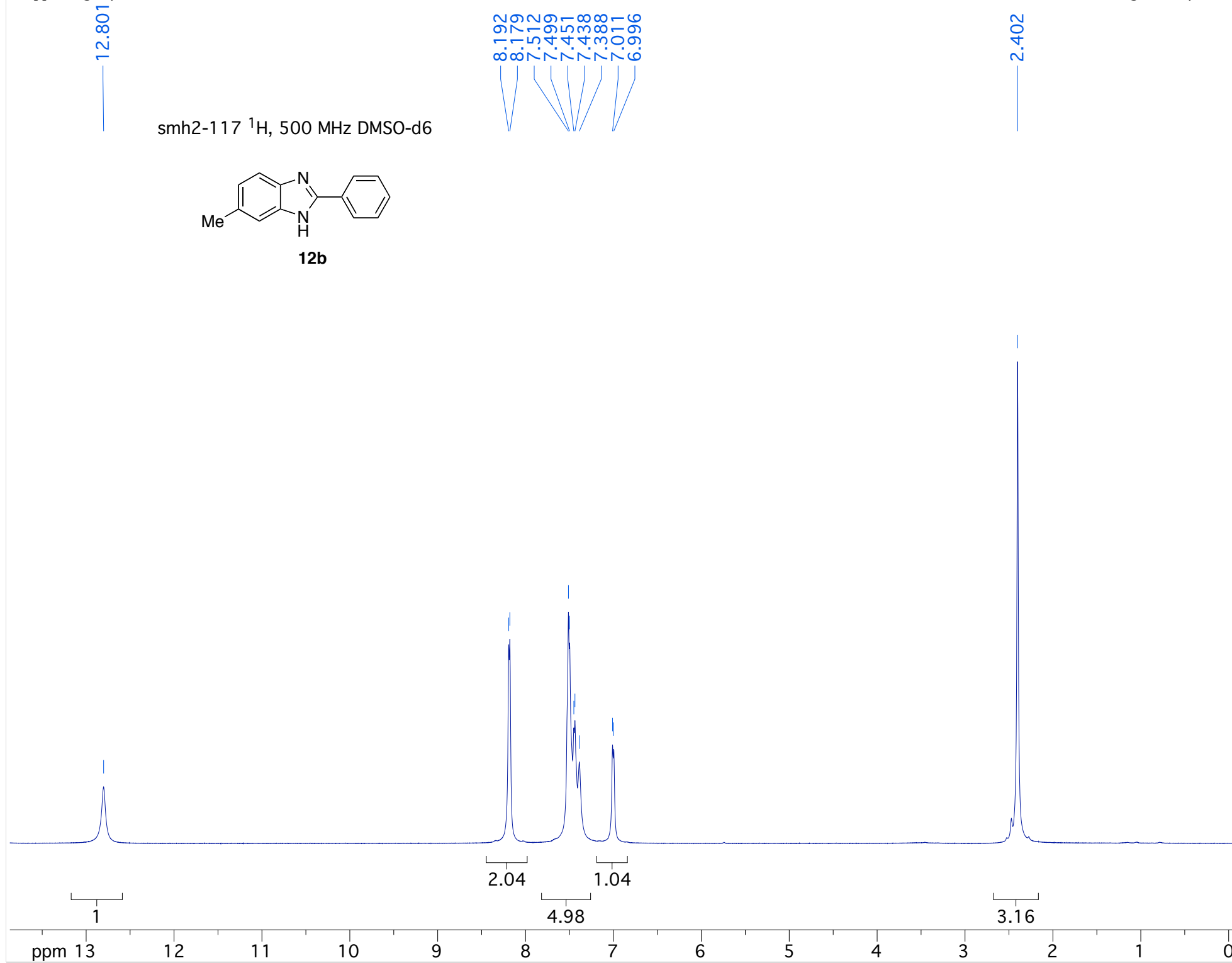
129.368

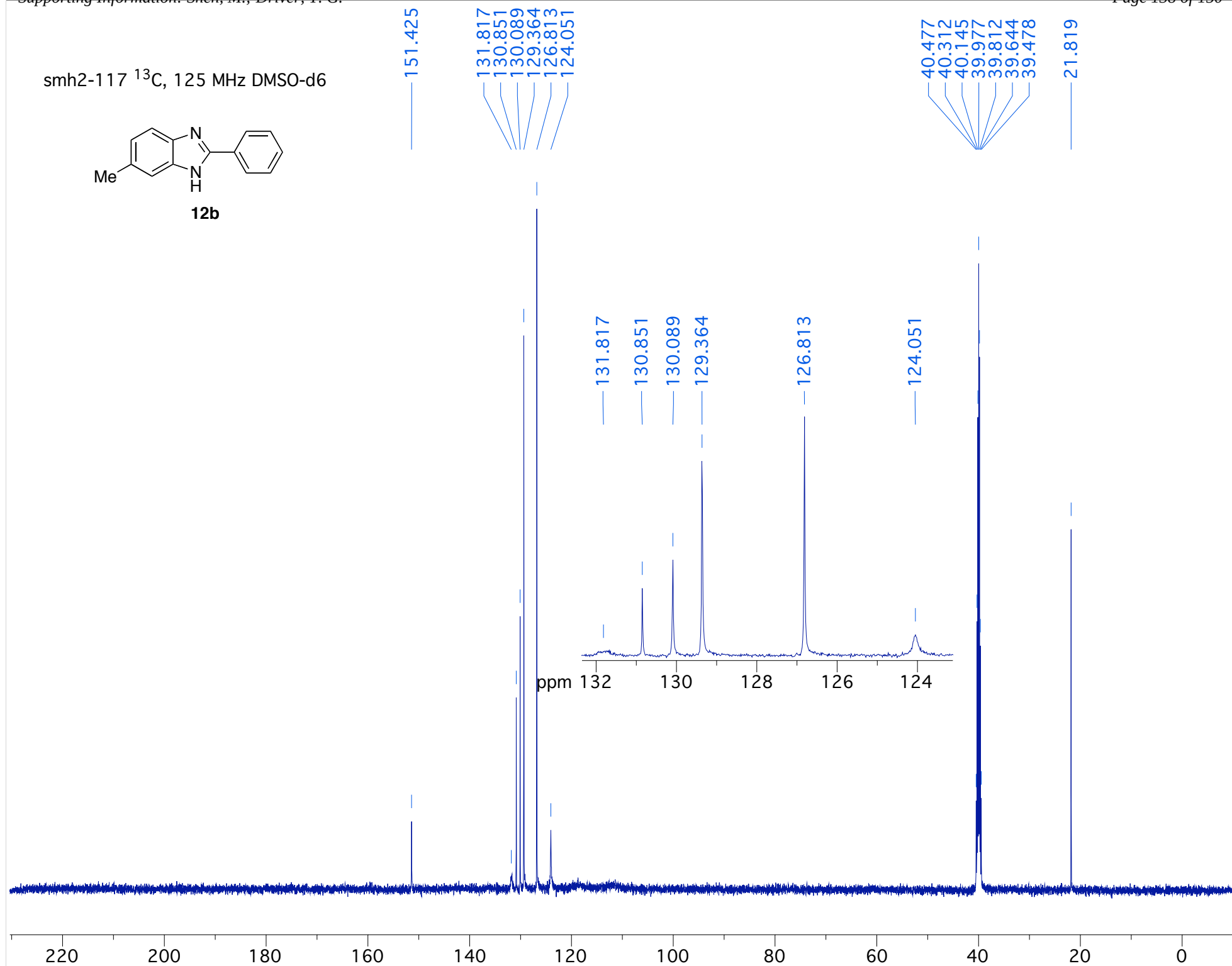
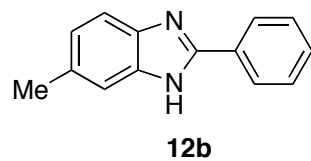
126.596

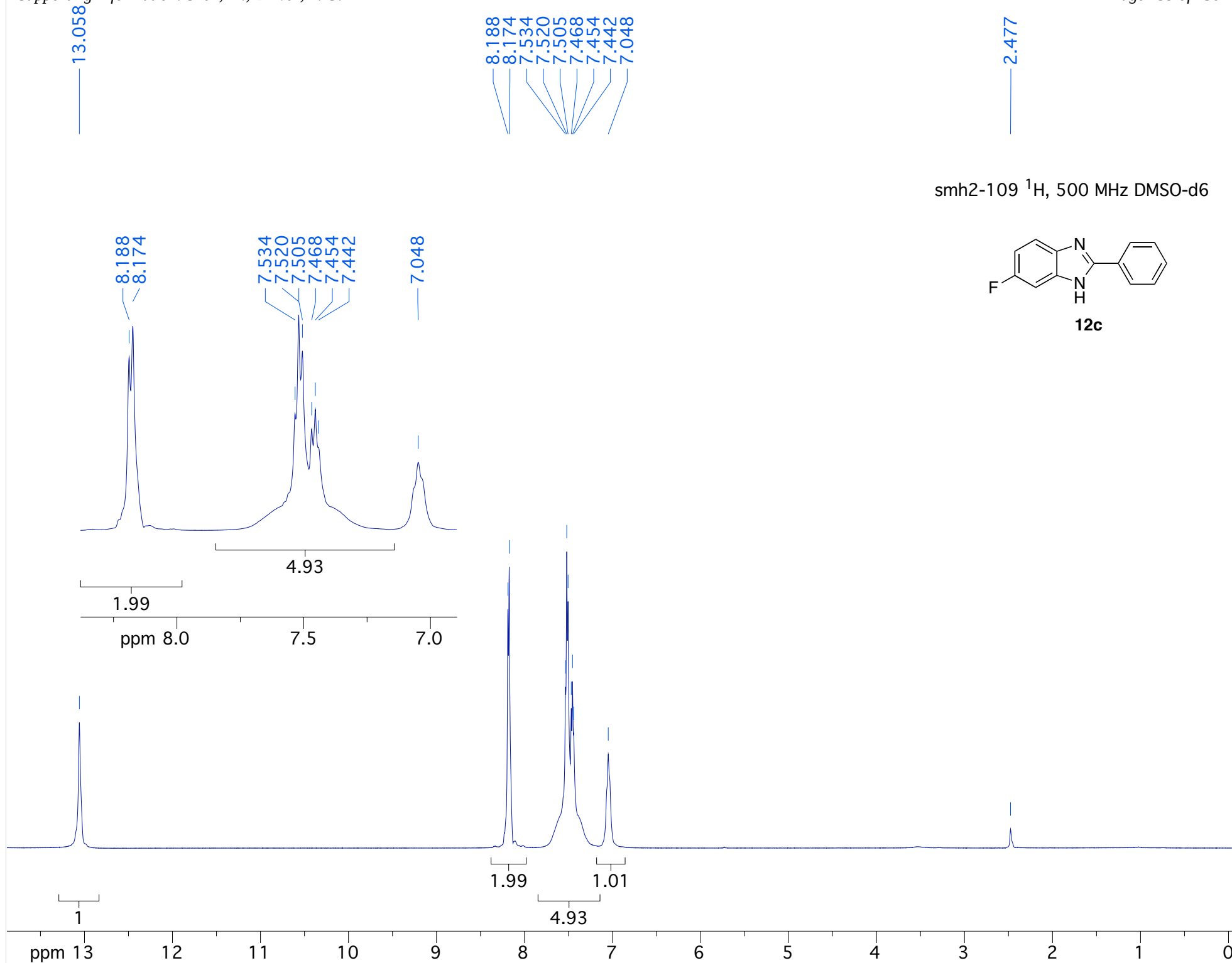
111.864

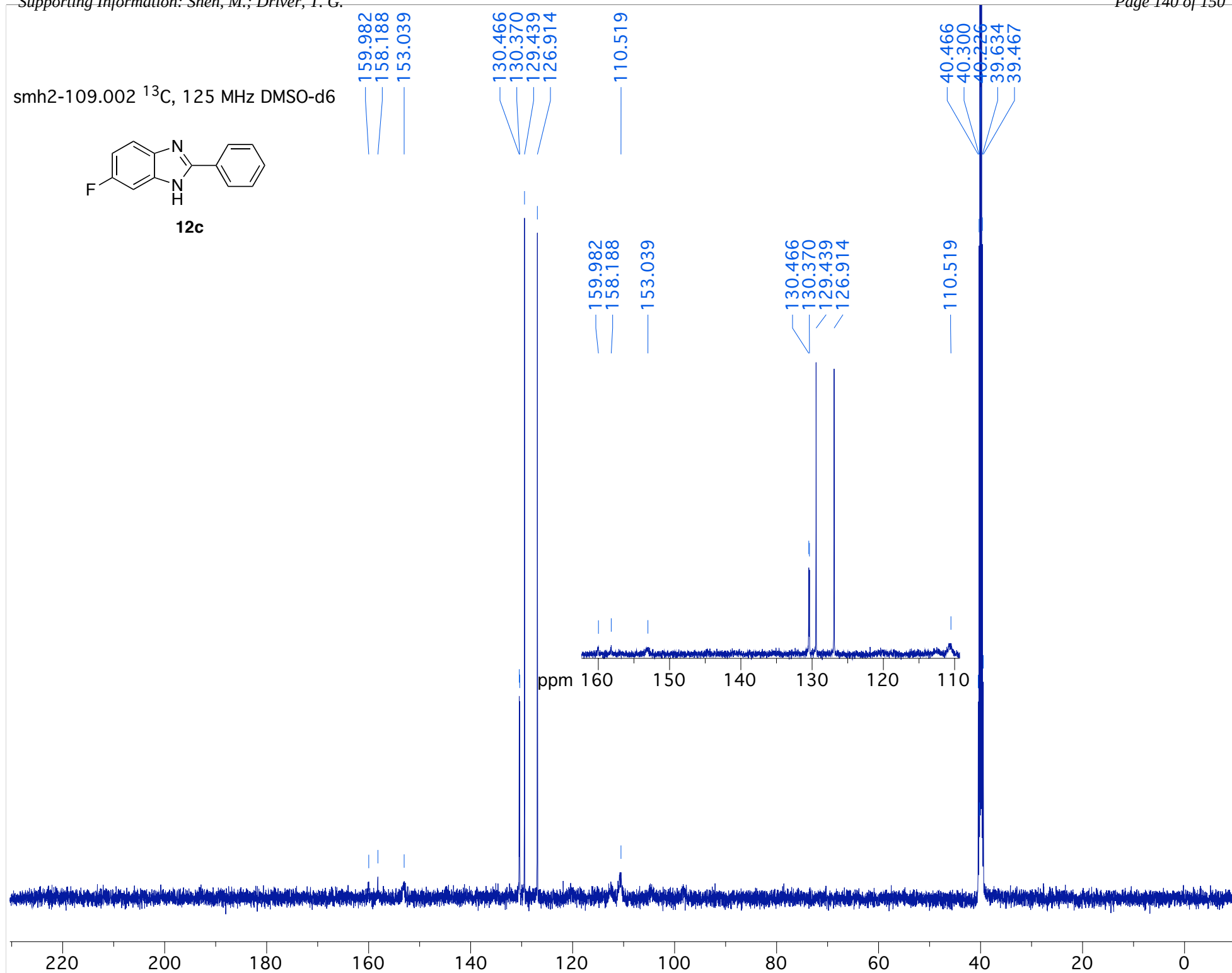
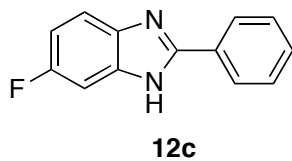
ppm 150 140 130 120 110

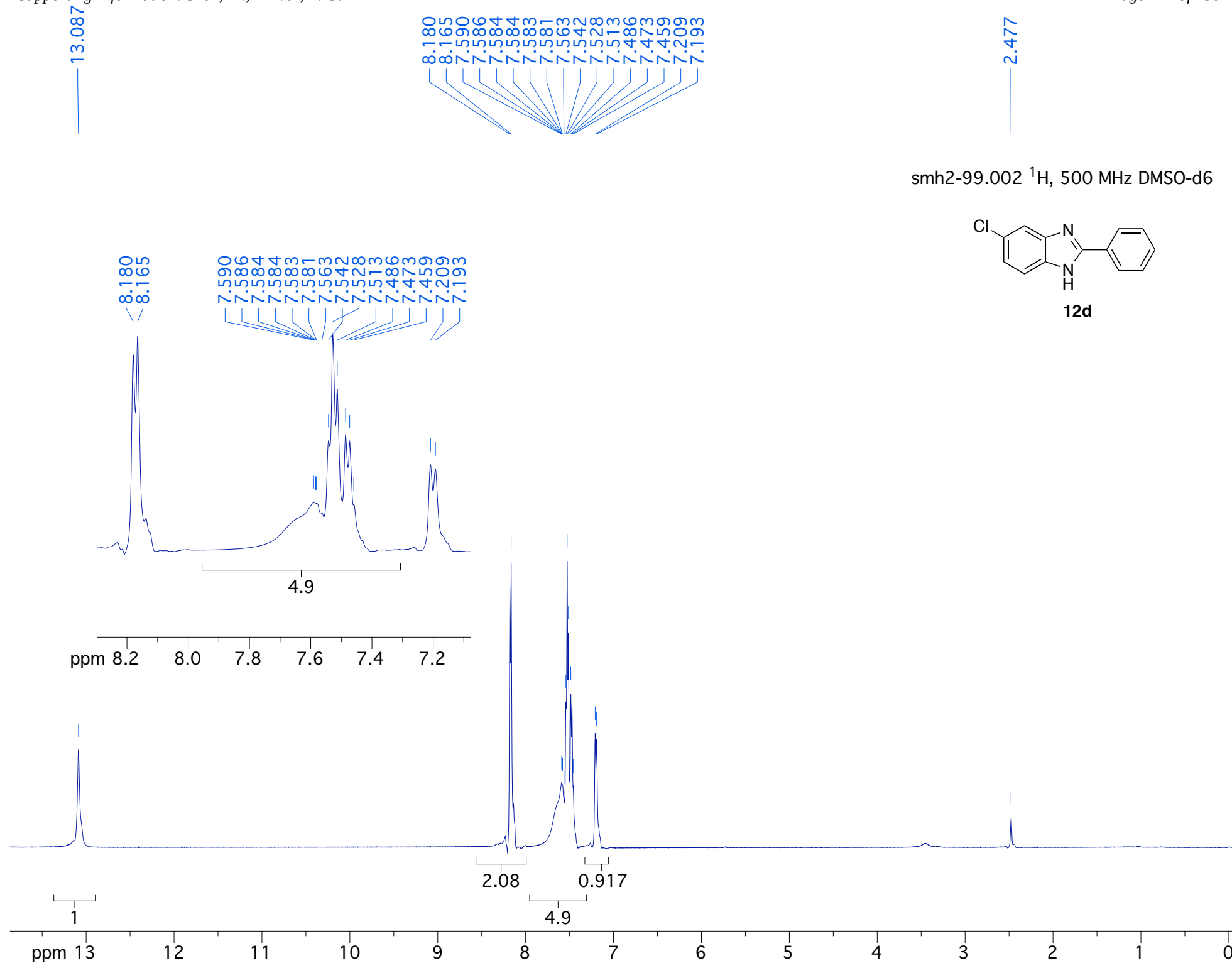
220 200 180 160 140 120 100 80 60 40 20 0



smh2-117 ^{13}C , 125 MHz DMSO-d₆



smh2-109.002 ^{13}C , 125 MHz DMSO-d₆



smh2-99.003 ^1H , 125 MHz DMSO- d_6 