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**Synthesis of benzo[*b*]thiophenes and indoles via palladium-catalyzed coupling and
electrophilic cyclization of terminal acetylenes**

by

Dawei Yue

A thesis submitted to the graduate faculty
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
MASTER OF SCIENCE

Major: Organic Chemistry

Program of Study Committee:

Richard C. Larock (Major Professor)

Dennis C. Johnson

William S. Jenks

Iowa State University

Ames, Iowa

2002

Graduate College
Iowa State University

This is to certify that the master's thesis of
Dawei Yue
has met the thesis requirements of Iowa State University

Signatures have been redacted for privacy

To my parents and my wife,
for their love, patience, support and encouragement.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

aq	aqueous
Bu	butyl
<i>t</i> -Bu	<i>tert</i> -butyl
cat.	catalytic
d	doublet
dd	doublet of doublet
eq	equation
equiv	equivalent
Et	ethyl
h	hour(s)
HRMS	high resolution mass spectroscopy
Hz	Hertz
IR	infrared
m	multiplet
Me	methyl
ml	milliliter(s)
mol	mole(s)
mp	melting point
MS	mass spectrometry
NBS	<i>N</i> -bromosuccinimide
NMR	nuclear magnetic resonance
<i>o</i>	ortho

<i>o</i> -tol	<i>o</i> -tolyl
Ph	phenyl
q	quartet
s	singlet
satd	saturate
t	triplet
<i>tert</i>	tertiary
TLC	thin layer chromatography
TMS	trimethylsilyl

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Benzo[*b*]thiophenes and indoles are important heterocyclic ring system in organic chemistry, because of their occurrence in natural products and their wide range of biological and physiological effects.¹ Research directed towards concise, new syntheses of 2,3-disubstituted benzo[*b*]thiophenes and indoles are highly desirable.

Electrophilic cyclization² has been widely used in organic synthesis. However, this type of cyclization is generally limited to the cyclization of carbon-carbon double bonds. The cyclization of compounds with carbon-carbon triple bonds is relatively unexplored. Previous work by Cacchi³, Flynn⁴ and Larock⁵ shows that iodine and other electrophiles can be used for the synthesis of benzo[*b*]furans, benzo[*b*]thiophenes and isoquinolines. This type of cyclization is generally viewed as proceeding through an intramolecular, stepwise electrophilic addition and dealkylation mechanism involving a cationic intermediate. The mild reaction conditions and high efficiency encouraged us to further explore the generality of this approach for benzo[*b*]thiophenes and indoles utilizing various electrophiles.

Thesis Organization

This thesis is composed of two chapters. The chapters presented herein are written following the guidelines for a full paper in the *Journal of Organic Chemistry* and are composed of an abstract, introduction, results and discussion, conclusion, experimental, acknowledgement, and references.

Chapter 1 is a publication that describes the synthesis of 2,3-disubstituted benzo[*b*]thiophenes by the palladium-catalyzed coupling and electrophilic cyclization of

terminal alkynes. This process has proven to be highly efficient. Various electrophiles undergo this process and give high yields of the desired cyclization products.

Chapter 2 presents the synthesis of indoles by electrophilic cyclization. The overall synthetic process involves the coupling of a terminal acetylene with an *N,N*-dialkyl-*o*-iodoaniline by a palladium-catalyzed coupling reaction, followed by electrophilic cyclization. Iodine is the most effective electrophile for this process. It gives high yields of 3-iodoindoles, which can be further functionalized by utilizing palladium-catalyzed couplings.

Finally, all of the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra for the thioanisole and aniline starting materials and the electrophilic cyclization products have been compiled in appendices A and B following the general conclusions for this thesis.

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1. (a) Pinny, K. G.; Bounds, A. D.; Dubgenab, K. M.; Mocharla, V. P.; Pettit, G. R.; Hamel, E. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **1999**, *9*, 1081. (b) Pinny, K. G.; Pettit, G. R.; Mocharla, V. P.; Del, P. M.; Shirali, A. *PCT Int. Appl. WO 98 39 323 (Chem. Abs., 1998, 129, 245037c)*. (c) Sundberg, R. *J. Prog. Heterocyclic Chem.* **1989**, *1*, 111. (d) Saxon, J. E. *Nat. Prod. Rep.* **1986**, *3*, 357; **1987**, *4*, 591; **1989**, *6*, 1.
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**CHAPTER 1. SYNTHESIS OF 2,3-DISUBSTITUTED BENZO[*b*]THIOPHENES
VIA PALLADIUM-CATALYZED COUPLING AND ELECTROPHILIC
CYCLIZATION OF TERMINAL ACETYLENES**

A paper submitted to the *Journal of Organic Chemistry*

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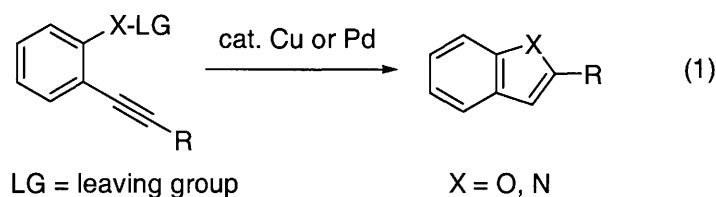
Abstract

2,3-Disubstituted benzo[*b*]thiophenes have been prepared in excellent yields via coupling of terminal acetylenes with commercially available *o*-iodothioanisole in the presence of a palladium catalyst and subsequent electrophilic cyclization of the resulting *o*-(1-alkynyl)thioanisole derivatives. I₂, Br₂, NBS, *p*-O₂NC₆H₄SOCl and PhSeCl have been utilized as electrophiles. Aryl-, vinylic-, and alkyl-substituted terminal acetylenes undergo this coupling and cyclization to produce excellent yields of benzo[*b*]thiophenes. Trimethylsilyl acetylene also undergoes this coupling/cyclization process with I₂, NBS, and the sulfur and selenium electrophiles to afford the corresponding 2-(trimethylsilyl)benzo[*b*]-thiophenes.

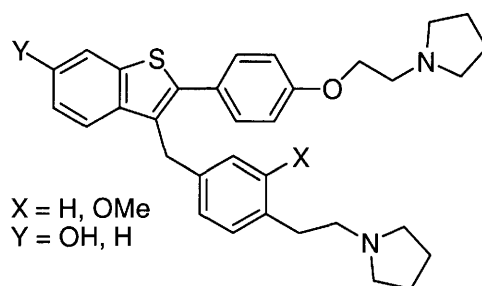
Introduction

The transition metal-catalyzed cyclization of disubstituted alkynes possessing a nucleophile in proximity to the triple bond by either copper or palladium reagents has

been shown to be extremely effective for the synthesis of a wide variety of carbo- and heterocycles (eq 1).¹ Generally, this methodology requires a good leaving group on the nucleophile. However, due to sulfur's affinity for transition metals, sulfur-containing heterocycles, like benzo[*b*]thiophenes, have never been synthesized using this strategy.



Benzo[*b*]thiophenes are of interest, because of their frequent occurrence in nature and their wide range of biological and physiological effects.² Benzo[*b*]thiophene derivatives, which are antimetabolic agents,³ estrogen receptor antagonists, and antitumor, anti-inflammation and anti-fungal agents⁴ are currently in pharmaceutical use or development. Diaminobenzothiophene derivatives like **1** have been identified as active site directed thrombin inhibitors.⁵ Thus, research directed towards concise, new syntheses of 2,3-disubstituted benzo[*b*]thiophenes has been actively pursued in recent years.^{1,6}



1

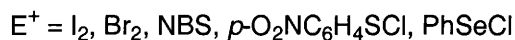
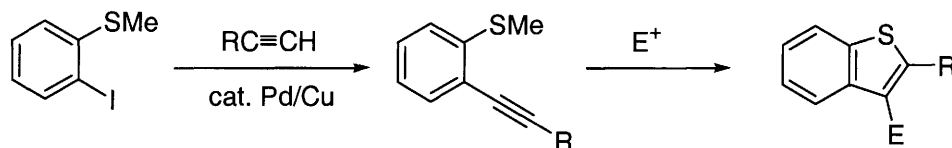
The electrophilic cyclization of unsaturated compounds has proven to be an efficient method for constructing heterocycles.⁷ These reactions are generally viewed as proceeding through an intramolecular, stepwise electrophilic addition and dealkylation mechanism involving a cationic intermediate. Taniguchi and co-workers have explored the cyclization of vinylic cations as a route to heterocycles, but found significant limitations in generating the vinylic cations.⁸ Although mechanistic and synthetic work on the preparation of benzofuran and indole derivatives have been carried out by Cacchi and co-workers⁹ and ourselves,¹⁰ the synthesis of benzo[*b*]thiophenes by this approach remains relatively unexplored.

Recently, Flynn and co-workers treated *o*-(1-alkynyl)phenyl benzyl sulfides with iodine to obtain 3-iodobenzo[*b*]thiophene derivatives through a 5-endo-dig iodocyclization.^{4c} The limited availability of the requisite starting sulfides, the low yields obtained in their preparation, the incompatibility of functional groups with this methodology and the failure to demonstrate the scope of this methodology have encouraged us to report our related studies.¹¹ Herein, we report the successful application of this electrophilic cyclization strategy as a convenient and general synthetic methodology for the synthesis of 2,3-disubstituted benzo[*b*]thiophenes.

Results and Discussion

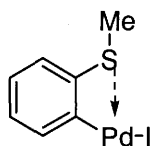
A two step approach to benzo[*b*]thiophenes has been examined involving (i) the Sonagashira coupling of commercially available *o*-iodothioanisole with terminal alkynes, and (ii) electrophilic cyclization (Scheme 1).

Scheme 1



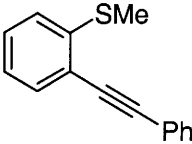
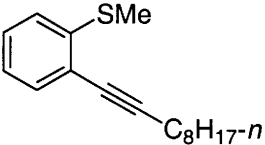
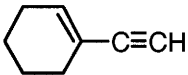
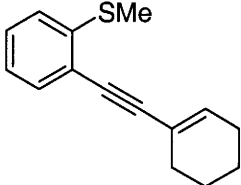
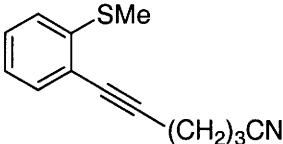
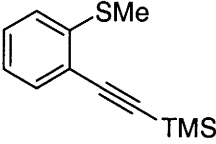
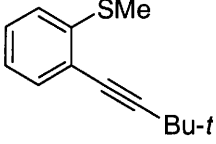
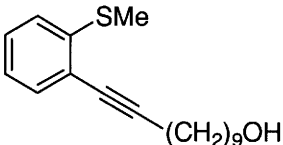
To assess the generality of this approach, the scope of the Sonogashira coupling of *o*-iodothioanisole has been studied. Treatment of *o*-iodothioanisole with a variety of terminal alkynes under standard Sonogashira coupling conditions (5 mmol of *o*-iodothioanisole, 1.2 equivs of terminal alkyne, 2 mol % of PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂, 1 mol % CuI, 12.5 ml of Et₃N at room temperature for 3-5 h) affords almost quantitative yields of the coupling products (Table 1).

o-Iodothioanisole shows high reactivity towards the Sonogashira coupling and this allows the preparation of a wide variety of functionally substituted *o*-(1-alkynyl)thioanisoles. This high reactivity may be attributed to the coordination of sulfur to palladium in the presumed intermediate (**2**), which stabilizes the arylpalladium

**2**

intermediate and reduces its tendency to undergo homo-coupling. Alkynes with all sorts of substituents, including phenyl, trimethylsilyl, vinylic, bulky alkyl, and alkyl groups bearing functional groups, such as hydroxy and cyano groups, have been successfully employed in the Sonogashira coupling of *o*-iodothioanisole. Almost quantitative yields were obtained in all cases (Table 1).

Table 1. Sonogashira Coupling of *o*-Iodothioanisole and Terminal Acetylenes (Scheme 1).^a

entry	terminal acetylene	aryllalkyne	reaction time (h)	% isolated yield
1	PhC≡CH	 (3)	3	100
2	<i>n</i> -C ₈ H ₁₇ C≡CH	 (4)	3	93
3	 C≡CH	 (5)	3	100
4	NC(CH ₂) ₃ C≡CH	 (6)	5	99
5	Me ₃ SiC≡CH	 (7)	3	97
6	<i>t</i> -BuC≡CH	 (8)	3	99
7	HO(CH ₂) ₉ C≡CH	 (9)	5	99

^aAll reactions were run with 5 mmol of *o*-iodothioanisole, 1.2 equivs of the terminal acetylene, 2 mol % of PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂, 1 mol % of CuI, and 12.5 mL of Et₃N at reaction temperature.

We have found that *o*-(phenylethynyl)thioanisole (**3**), when treated with I₂ in CH₂Cl₂, undergoes smooth iodocyclization at room temperature and affords a nearly quantitative yield of the corresponding 2,3-disubstituted benzo[*b*]thiophene (**10**) (Scheme 1; Table 2, entry 1). The mild reaction conditions, as well as the high yield of this reaction, encouraged us to extend this methodology to a range of *o*-(1-alkynyl)thioanisoles (Table 2; entries 5, 9, 14, 18, 23 and 28). The yields in all cases are essentially quantitative. It makes little difference if the substituent on the other end of the alkyne is aryl, vinylic, alkyl, functionally-substituted or silyl. Even hindered trimethylsilyl- (**7**) or *tert*-butyl- (**8**) substituted alkynes react rapidly and quantitatively.

The sulfur moiety in this approach to benzo[*b*]thiophenes comes from commercially available *o*-iodothioanisole. The approach used by Flynn and co-workers^{4c} introduces the sulfur through a series of steps starting with 2-iodoaniline or 2-bromo-1-iodobenzene and is thus less practical. We were pleased to find that the methyl group on the sulfur is easily removed during the cyclization step, which makes introduction of the benzylsulfide group of Flynn and co-workers unnecessary.^{4c} This represents the first general route to 2,3-disubstituted benzo[*b*]thiophenes by an electrophilic cyclization strategy.

In order to explore the scope of this electrophilic cyclization strategy, four other electrophiles, Br₂, NBS, *p*-O₂NC₆H₄SCl and PhSeCl have been employed. The reactions have all been monitored by thin layer chromatography and most of the reactions were complete within half an hour. In virtually all cases examined, excellent yields of benzo[*b*]thiophene of around 90% have been obtained. The results are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Electrophilic Cyclization of *o*-(1-Alkynyl)thioanisoles to 2,3-Disubstituted Benzo[*b*]thiophenes (Scheme 1).^a

entry	<i>o</i> -(1-alkynyl)thioanisole	electrophile	time (min)	product	yield (%)
1		I ₂	10		100
2		Br ₂	10		92
3		<i>p</i> -O ₂ NC ₆ H ₄ SCl	10		97
4		PhSeCl	10		100
5		I ₂	10		100
6		Br ₂	10		91
7		<i>p</i> -O ₂ NC ₆ H ₄ SCl	10		70
8		PhSeCl	10		91
9		I ₂	10		97

Table 2. (Continued)

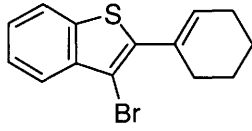
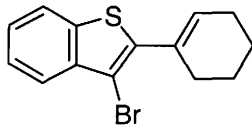

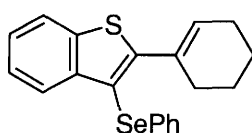
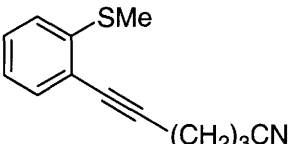
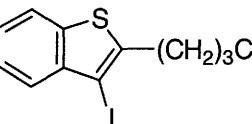
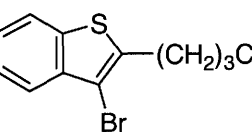
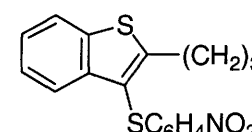
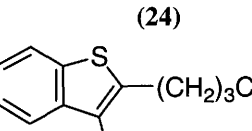
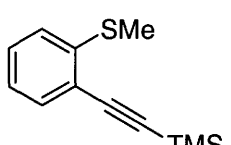
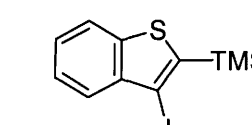
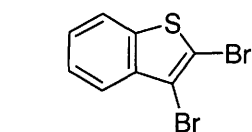
10		Br ₂	10		–
11		NBS	2 d		74 ^b
12		<i>p</i> -O ₂ NC ₆ H ₄ SCl	10		95
13		PhSeCl	10		97
14		I ₂	10		98
15		Br ₂	10		79
16		<i>p</i> -O ₂ NC ₆ H ₄ SCl	10		25 ^c
17		PhSeCl	10		78
18		I ₂	10		100
19		Br ₂	60		95 ^d

Table 2. (Continued)

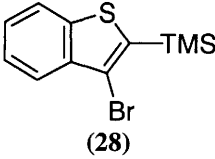
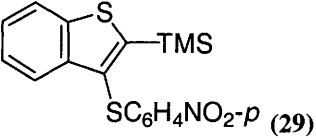
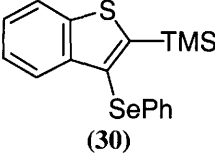
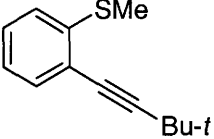
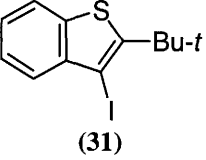
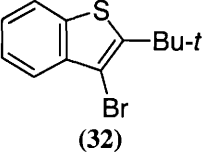
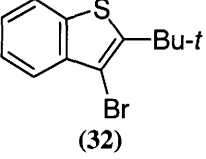
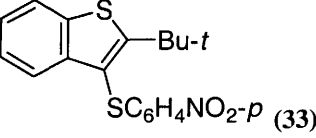
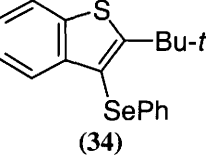
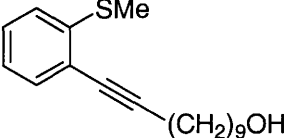
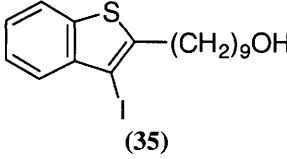
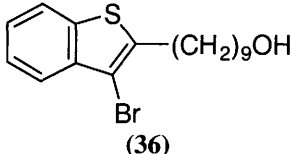
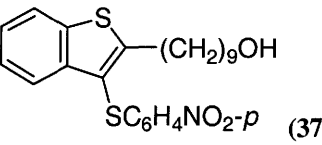
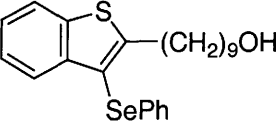
20		NBS	2 d		65
21		$p\text{-O}_2\text{NC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SCl}$	10		100
22		PhSeCl	10		100
23		I_2	20		98
24		Br_2	30		67
25		NBS	6 h		52
26		$p\text{-O}_2\text{NC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SCl}$	20		80
27		PhSeCl	20		82
28		I_2	30		98

Table 2. (Continued)

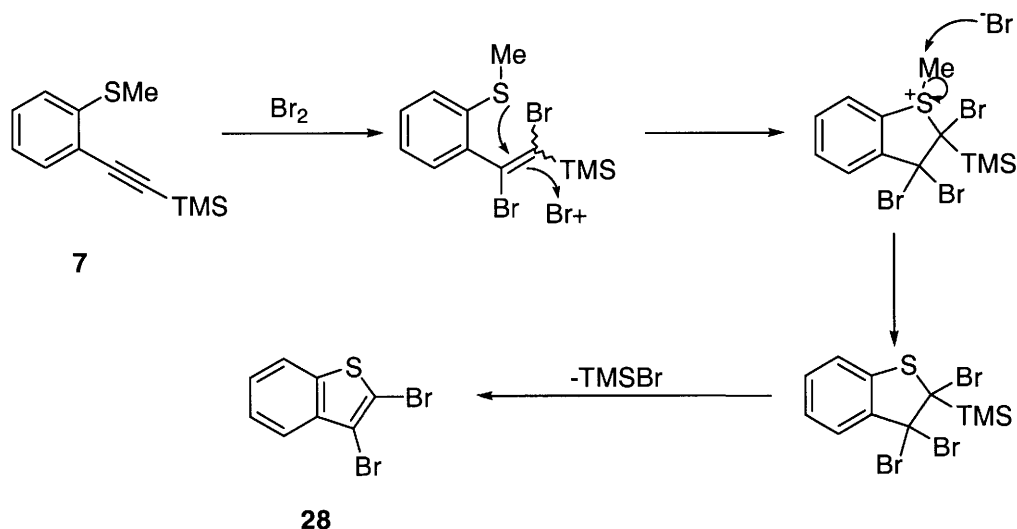
29	Br ₂	30	 (36)	70
30	<i>p</i> -O ₂ NC ₆ H ₄ SCl	30	 (37)	60
31	PhSeCl	30	 (38)	95

^aAll reactions were run with 0.25 mmol of the *o*-(1-alkynyl)thioanisole, 1.5 equivs of electrophile in 5 mL of CH₂Cl₂ at 25 °C unless otherwise indicated. All NBS reactions were run using 1.2 equivs of NBS in 10 mL of CH₂Cl₂. ^b1.2 Equivs of NBS at 25 °C for 2 d. ^cThe desired benzo[*b*]thiophene **24** was obtained as an inseparable 1:3 mixture of **24** and the product of addition of the *p*-nitrophenylsulfenyl chloride to the alkyne triple bond. The yield was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. ^d1 Equiv of Br₂ gave the product of bromine addition to the triple bond; 1.5 equivs of NBS gave a mixture of the simple alkyne addition product and 2,3-dibromobenzo[*b*]thiophene, and 2 equiv of Br₂ gave 2,3-dibromobenzo[*b*]thiophene. The yield here is of 2,3-dibromobenzo[*b*]thiophene.

The nature of the electrophile plays an important role in these cyclization reactions. The iodocyclization reactions are most efficient and general. All functional groups that we have studied tolerate the reaction conditions and yields above 97% were obtained in all cases (Table 2, entries 1, 5, 9, 14, 18, 23 and 28). Aryl- (entry 1) and long chain alkyl- (entry 5) substituted alkynes are readily accommodated and the presence of an olefin (entry 9), a nitrile (entry 14) or an alcohol (entry 28) group presents no difficulties. *o*-(Trimethylsilylethynyl)thioanisole (entry 18) undergoes iodocyclization smoothly without desilylation, which provides an efficient method for the preparation of 3- iodo-2-silylbenzo[*b*]thiophenes. Even an alkyne with a bulky *tert*-butyl group (entry 23) gave almost a quantitative isolated yield (98%) of the cyclization product in only 10 min

reaction time. The success of this reaction is presumably due to the highly nucleophilic nature of the iodide ion formed after the cyclization, which facilitates methyl group removal from the sulfonium intermediate presumably generated upon cyclization. The reactions with Br₂ gave somewhat different results than those of I₂. While most alkynes reacted fairly cleanly with Br₂ to afford good to excellent yields of 3-bromobenzo[*b*]thiophenes (entries 2, 6, 15, 24 and 29), there were also complications not encountered previously using I₂. The carbon-carbon double bond present in alkyne **5** was found to be more reactive towards Br₂ than the triple bond and only a trace of the desired bromobenzo[*b*]thiophene product was detected (entry 10). However, by changing the electrophile from Br₂ to NBS, the desired cyclization product **19** was obtained in 74% yield (entry 11). The reaction of silyl alkyne **7** with Br₂ led to a mixture of 2,3-dibromobenzo[*b*]thiophene (**27**) and products of simple addition of the Br₂ to the carbon-carbon triple bond. The formation of **27** can be explained by either bromocyclization in the desired manner, followed by more rapid bromodesilylation, or by the mechanism described in Scheme 2, where the bromine first adds to the triple bond to form the simple addition product. Attack of another equivalent of Br₂ on the simple addition product might then lead to cyclization and formation of a 2,3-dihydrobenzo[*b*]thiophene bearing 3 bromine atoms and a silyl group. Elimination of trimethylsilyl bromide would afford **27**. By changing the electrophile from Br₂ to NBS, the desired cyclization product 3-bromo-2-silylbenzo[*b*]thiophene **28** was obtained in 65% yield. The bromocyclization reaction times of NBS and *o*-(1-alkynyl)thioanisoles (entries 11, 20 and 25) are generally longer than the bromocyclization reaction times employing Br₂ and the yields are generally lower.

Scheme 2



The commercially available reagents $p\text{-O}_2\text{NC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SCl}$ and PhSeCl are generally good electrophiles in this cyclization reaction, when there is no nucleophilic functionality present in the *o*-(1-alkynyl)thioanisoles. *o*-(1-Alkynyl)thioanisoles **3**, **4**, **5**, **7** and **8** all give decent yields of the desired disubstituted benzo[*b*]thiophene products. However, the yields from $p\text{-O}_2\text{NC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SCl}$ cyclizations are generally lower than those of the PhSeCl cyclizations, which are in turn lower than those of the iodocyclization reactions. The reason for this is not clear at this time, but factors to be considered include the electrophilicity and hardness of the electrophiles.

Substituents on the triple bond of the *o*-(1-alkynyl)thioanisoles also affect the yields of the cyclization reactions. Substrates with substituents, which are in conjugation with the triple bond, such as the phenyl group in alkyne **3** and the vinylic group in alkyne **5**, appear to cyclize more rapidly and generally produce higher yields of products. Bulky substrates, like the *tert*-butyl group in alkyne **6** tend to hinder cyclization. Longer reaction times are often needed and lower yields often result. However, no products

involving simple addition of the electrophile to the alkyne triple bond are observed with this alkyne.

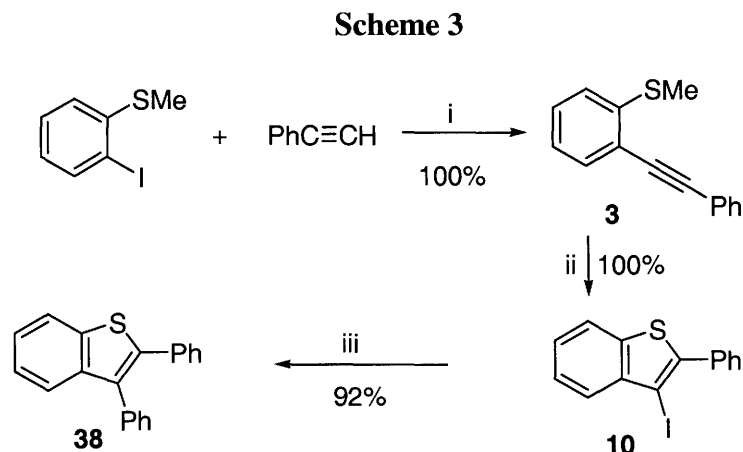
Long alkyl chains also play a role in the cyclization. The presence of an *n*-octyl group on the triple bond, as in alkyne **2**, lowered the yields of the *p*-nitrophenylsulfenyl and phenylselenyl cyclization reactions (entries 7 and 8), relative to the halocyclization processes (entries 5 and 6). Some product of the simple addition of *p*-O₂NC₆H₄SCl to the carbon-carbon triple bond of the *o*-(1-alkynyl)thioanisole **2** was observed (entry 7).

Due apparently to the electron-withdrawing effect of the cyano group on the alkyl chain, the reactions of 5-(2-methylmercaptophenyl)-5-hexynenitrile (**6**) with the sulfur and selenium electrophiles (entries 16 and 17) gave lower yields than the simple alkyl-substituted alkyne **2**. In fact, *p*-O₂NC₆H₄SCl gave mainly the product of simple addition of the electrophile to the carbon-carbon triple bond and only a 25% yield of the desired product was obtained (entry 16). The cyano group here could serve as a nucleophile, which possibly interacts with the sulfur and selenium electrophiles and lowers the yields of the cyclization reactions.

An alcohol group can also interfere in the cyclization process. While the yield for the iodocyclization of the *o*-(1-alkynyl)thioanisole **9** with an hydroxyl group on the end of the long alkyl chain of the alkyne is still high, the Br₂ and *p*-O₂NC₆H₄SCl cyclizations give much lower yields (entries 29 and 30). The hydroxyl group of alkyne **7** may be reacting directly with the *p*-O₂NC₆H₄SCl generating HCl and a *p*-nitrophenylsulfenyl group on the end of the alkyl chain.

The 3-substituted benzo[*b*]thiophenes produced by this new chemistry should be very useful for the synthesis of additional benzo[*b*]thiophenes. For example, the 3-

iodobenzo[*b*]thiophenes produced by this strategy can be further functionalized by applying palladium-mediated coupling techniques (Scheme 3). This methodology has



Reagents and reaction conditions: i. 2 mol % PdCl₂(Ph₃)₂, 1 mol % CuI, Et₃N, 25 °C for 6 h; ii. I₂, CH₂Cl₂, 25 °C for 10 min; iii. 5 mol % Pd(OAc)₂, NaBPh₄, 1:1 DMF/H₂O, 1 equiv of Na₂CO₃, 100 °C for 12 h.

been successfully employed by Flynn and co-workers in the synthesis of tubulin binding agents.^{4c} We have found that 2,3-diphenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene can be obtained in a 92% overall yield from *o*-iodoanisole and phenyl acetylene by our two step coupling/cyclization process, followed by Suzuki cross-coupling of the intermediate 3-iodo-2-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene with NaBPh₄. One should be able to prepare many other 2,3-disubstituted benzo[*b*]thiophenes using these iodo substrates and known palladium methodology.

Conclusions

A very efficient synthesis of 2,3-disubstituted benzo[*b*]thiophenes has been developed by a two step approach involving the Sonogashira cross-coupling of terminal alkynes and commercially available *o*-iodoanisole, followed by electrophilic

cyclization using I₂, Br₂, NBS, and sulfur and selenium electrophiles. All electrophiles give benzo[*b*]thiophenes in good to excellent yields. A wide variety of thioanisole-containing acetylenes with various functional groups undergo this overall process in good to excellent yields. The steric and electronic effects of the substituents on the carbon-carbon triple bond of the alkynylthioanisole intermediates have been studied.

Experimental Section

General. All ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 300 and 75.5 MHz or 400 and 100 MHz. Thin-layer chromatography was performed using commercially prepared 60-mesh silica gel plates (Whatman K6F), and visualization was effected with short wavelength UV light (254 nm). All melting points are uncorrected. High resolution mass spectra were recorded on a Kratos MS50TC double focusing magnetic sector mass spectrometer using EI at a voltage of 70 eV. All reagents were used directly as obtained commercially unless otherwise noted. Anhydrous forms of ethyl ether, hexanes, ethyl acetate, methylene chloride and DMF were purchased from Fisher Scientific Co. 2-Iodothioanisole, phenylacetylene, 1-decyne, 1-cyclohexenyl acetylene, 11-undecyn-1-ol, *tert*-butyl acetylene, trimethylsilyl acetylene, 5-hexynenitrile and Et₃N were purchased from Aldrich Chemical Co., Inc. The palladium salts were donated by Johnson Matthey Inc. and Kawaken Fine Chemicals Co. Ltd.

General Procedure for the Palladium-Catalyzed Formation of *o*-(1-

Alkynyl)thioanisoles. To a solution of Et₃N (12.5 mL), PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.070 g, 2 mol %), 5 mmol of *o*-iodothioanisole and 6 mmol of terminal acetylene (stirring for 5 min

beforehand), CuI (0.010 g, 1 mol %) was added and stirring was continued for another 2 min before flushing with Ar and the flask was then sealed. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for 3-6 h and the resulting solution was filtered and washed with a satd aq NaCl solution and extracted with diethyl ether (2 x 10 mL). The combined ether fractions were dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under vacuum to yield the crude product. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using ethyl acetate/hexane as the eluent.

***o*-(1-Alkynyl)thioanisoles Prepared**

***o*-(Phenylethynyl)thioanisole (3).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectral data were in good agreement with the literature data.¹²

Characterization of all other *o*-(1-alkynyl)thioanisoles prepared in this study can be found in the supporting information.

***o*-(1-Decynyl)thioanisole (4).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.89 (t, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 3H), 1.29-1.31 (m, 8 H), 1.50 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.65 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.48 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.3, 15.2, 19.9, 22.9, 29.0, 29.1, 29.4, 29.4, 32.1, 78.3, 97.7, 122.3, 123.9, 124.3, 128.2, 132.4, 141.3; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3058, 2926, 2855, 2227, 1464, 1435, 749; HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₂₄S 260.15987. Found 260.16021.

***o*-(Cyclohex-1-enylethynyl)thioanisole (5).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.54-1.62 (m, 4H), 2.07-2.09 (m, 2H), 2.12-2.20 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 6.19 (m, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t, *J* =

3.9 Hz, 1H) 7.25 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 15.2, 21.7, 22.5, 26.0, 29.3, 84.4, 98.1, 120.9, 121.9, 124.0, 124.3, 128.4, 132.1, 135.7, 141.4; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2925, 2857, 1461, 1434, 749; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{S}$ 228.09727. Found 228.09766.

5-(2-Methylmercaptophenyl)-5-hexenenitrile (6). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.90 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.58 (m, 4H), 6.99 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.20 (td, $J = 15.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 15.0, 16.1, 16.3, 17.6, 18.9, 24.4, 24.8, 70.5, 80.1, 93.9, 119.5, 121.2, 123.9, 124.3, 128.7, 132.3, 141.5; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3058, 2922, 2247, 1464, 1432, 735; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{NS}$ 215.07687. Found 215.07723.

***o*-(Trimethylsilylethynyl)thioanisole (7).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.29 (s, 9H), 2.49 (s, 3H), 7.07 (td, $J = 7.6, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.29 (td, $J = 8.0, 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, $J = 8.0, 1.2$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.2, 15.2, 101.6, 102.3, 121.3, 124.1, 124.5, 129.1, 132.8, 142.2; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3059, 2959, 2920, 2155, 1461, 1434, 1249, 843; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{SSi}$ 220.07420. Found 220.07455.

***o*-(3,3-Dimethyl-1-butynyl)thioanisole (8).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.36 (s, 9H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 7.04 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.23 (t, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 15.1, 28.5, 30.8, 31.2, 76.8, 105.7, 122.0, 123.8, 124.2, 128.2, 132.2, 141.5; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2968, 2922, 2234; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{S}$ 204.09727. Found 204.09765.

***o*-(9-Hydroxy-1-undecynyl)thioanisole (9).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.33 (m, 9H), 1.48-1.52 (m, 2H), 1.54-1.58 (m, 2H), 1.60-1.66 (m, 2H), 1.47 (s, 3H), 1.49 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.63 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.05 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 15.2, 19.8, 25.9, 28.9, 29.0, 29.3, 29.6, 29.7, 33.0, 63.2, 78.3, 97.6, 122.2, 123.9, 124.3, 128.2, 132.4, 141.3; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3312, 3057, 2927, 2854, 2226, 1464, 1435, 750; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{26}\text{OS}$ 290.17044. Found 290.17097.

General Procedure for the Iodo- and Bromocyclizations. To a solution of 0.25 mmol of the *o*-(1-alkynyl)thioanisole and 3 mL of CH_2Cl_2 , 2 equivs of I_2 or Br_2 dissolved in 2 mL of CH_2Cl_2 was added gradually. The reaction mixture was flushed with Ar and allowed to stir at room temperature for 30 min. The excess I_2 or Br_2 was removed by washing with a satd aq soln of $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$. The aqueous solution was then extracted by diethyl ether (2 x 10 mL). The combined ether layers were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under a vacuum to yield the crude product, which was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using ethyl acetate/hexanes as the eluent.

3-Halobenzo[*b*]thiophenes Prepared

3-Iodo-2-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene (10). The product was obtained as a yellow oil. The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectral data were in good agreement with the literature data.¹² Characterization of all other 3-halobenzo[*b*]thiophenes prepared in this study can be found in the supporting information.

3-Bromo-2-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene (11). The product was obtained as pale yellow crystals: lit¹³ mp 63-64 °C, found 63-64 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.38 (m, 5H), 7.75 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 105.2, 122.4, 123.9, 125.5, 125.7, 128.8, 129.0, 129.9, 133.3, 137.9, 138.4, 139.4; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3060, 2925, 2853; HRMS calcd for C₁₄H₉BrS 287.96083. Found 287.96116.

3-Iodo-2-*n*-octylbenzo[*b*]thiophene (14). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.91-0.96 (t, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 3H), 1.33-1.41 (m, 10H), 1.78 (m, 2H), 2.98 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, *J* = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (t, *J* = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.4, 22.9, 29.3, 29.4, 29.6, 30.8, 32.1, 33.2, 80.3, 122.4, 124.9, 125.2, 125.2, 138.2, 141.3, 145.0; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2924, 2853, 2354, 1454, 1432, 749; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₂₁IS 372.04087. Found 372.04128.

3-Bromo-2-*n*-octylbenzo[*b*]thiophene (15). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.90 (t, *J* = 9 Hz, 3H), 1.30-1.45 (m, 10H), 1.70-1.77 (m, 2H), 2.95 (t, *J* = 10.2 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (td, *J* = 12.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (td, *J* = 12.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, *J* = 12.0, 1.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.3, 22.9, 29.3, 29.4, 29.5, 30.1, 30.6, 32.1, 105.9, 122.5, 122.8, 124.9, 125.0, 137.3, 138.6, 141.2; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2953, 2925, 2854; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₂₁BrS 324.05473. Found 324.05523.

2-(Cyclohex-1-enyl)-3-iodobenzo[*b*]thiophene (18). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.69-1.71 (m, 2H), 1.79-1.80 (m, 2H), 2.23-

2.25 (m, 2H), 2.44-2.45 (m, 2H), 6.17-6.19 (m, 1H), 7.31 (td, $J = 7.4, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (td, $J = 8.0, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 21.9, 23.0, 25.8, 30.1, 77.6, 122.3, 125.2, 125.3, 125.9, 132.4, 132.7, 138.1, 141.7, 145.3; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2925, 2855, 1432, 749; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{13}\text{IS}$ 339.97827. Found 339.97881.

3-Bromo-2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (19).¹⁴ The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.67-1.72 (m, 2H), 1.76-1.82 (m, 2H), 2.24-2.25 (m, 2H), 2.51 (m, 2H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 7.33 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, 8.0 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 21.9, 23.0, 26.0, 29.6, 103.3, 122.2, 123.3, 125.1, 125.1, 130.9, 132.3, 136.9, 139.2, 141.3; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2934, 2860; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrS}$ 291.99213. Found 291.99258.

4-(3-Iodobenzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)butanenitrile (22). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.09-2.21 (m, 2H), 2.44 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.12 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 16.6, 26.4, 31.7, 81.8, 119.3, 122.5, 125.5, 125.6, 125.6, 138.2, 141.2, 141.2; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3056, 2923, 2850, 2247, 1453, 1433, 1265, 753; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}\text{INS}$ 326.95787. Found 326.95832.

4-(3-Bromobenzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)butanenitrile (23). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.11 (q, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.42 (t, $J = 2.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.10 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 16.6, 26.2, 28.8, 107.4, 119.3, 122.6,

123.1, 125.4, 125.5, 137.3, 137.4, 138.4; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3062, 2921, 2850, 2250, cm^{-1} ;

HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{10}\text{BrNS}$ 278.97173. Found 278.97219.

3-Iodo-2-(trimethylsilyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (26). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.51 (s, 9H), 7.37 (td, $J = 8.0, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (td, $J = 7.2, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.4, 87.3, 122.1, 125.2, 125.4, 125.5, 140.9, 141.4, 143.1; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2954, 2923, 1470, 839, 750; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{ISSi}$ 331.95520. Found 331.95571.

2,3-Dibromobenzo[*b*]thiophene (27). The product was obtained as pale yellow crystals: lit¹⁵ mp 58-59 °C, found 58-59 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.36-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.69 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 111.9, 114.4, 122.1, 123.5, 125.7, 125.9, 137.7, 139.1; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3072, 2963; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_4\text{Br}_2\text{S}$ 291.83800. Found 291.83852.

3-Bromo-2-(trimethylsilyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (28). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.47 (s, 9H), 7.37 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.6, 114.9, 122.4, 123.1, 125.0, 125.3, 136.2, 140.0, 141.6; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3072, 2956, 2924; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrSSi}$ 283.96906. Found 283.96949.

2-*t*-Butyl-3-iodobenzo[*b*]thiophene (31). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.62 (s, 9H), 7.31 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 30.5, 36.0, 75.0, 121.9, 125.0, 125.2, 125.4, 136.3, 143.1, 151.6; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3056, 2961, 2925, 1429, 750; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{IS}$ 315.97827. Found 315.97879.

3-Bromo-2-*t*-butylbenzo[*b*]thiophene (32). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.59 (s, 9H), 7.33 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 30.2, 35.7, 102.9, 122.1, 122.8, 124.9, 125.0, 135.7, 140.2, 149.0; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3071, 2963, 2866; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrS}$ 267.99213. Found 267.99254.

2-(9-Hydroxynonyl)-3-iodobenzo[*b*]thiophene (35). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.32-1.42 (m, 11H), 1.54-1.57 (m, 2H), 1.74 (q, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 2.95 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.63 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 25.9, 29.2, 29.5, 29.6, 29.6, 30.7, 33.0, 33.1, 63.3, 80.3, 122.4, 125.0, 125.2, 125.2, 138.2, 141.3, 145.0; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3378, 3057, 2925, 2853, 1453, 1433, 750; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{23}\text{IOS}$ 402.05144. Found 402.05195.

3-Bromo-2-(9-hydroxynonyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (36). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.31-1.40 (m, 11H), 1.55 (t, $J = 10.0$ Hz, 2H), 1.73 (m, 2H), 2.93 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.62 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 25.9, 29.2, 29.4, 29.6, 29.6, 30.1, 30.5, 33.0, 63.2, 105.9, 122.4, 122.8, 124.9, 125.0, 137.3, 138.6, 141.1; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3386, 3050, 2926, 2853; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{23}\text{BrOS}$ 354.06530. Found 354.06573.

General Procedure for the *p*- $\text{O}_2\text{NC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SCl}$ and PhSeCl cyclizations. To a solution of 0.25 mmol of the *o*-(1-alkynyl)thioanisole and CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL), a solution of 0.375 mmol

of *p*-O₂NC₆H₄S₂Cl and PhSeCl and CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) was added. The mixture was stirred for 2 min and the flask was flushed with Ar and allowed to stir at the designated temperature for 30 min. The reaction mixture was washed with 20 mL of water and extracted with diethyl ether. The combined ether layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under vacuum to yield the crude product, which was further purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using ethyl acetate/hexanes as the eluent.

3-Thio- and 3-Selenobenzo[*b*]thiophenes Prepared

3-(*p*-Nitrophenylsulfenyl)-2-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene (12). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.42-7.46 (m, 5H), 7.65-7.67 (m, 2H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 115.8, 122.6, 123.4, 124.1, 124.2, 125.6, 125.8, 128.8, 129.5, 129.7, 132.9, 138.6, 140.3, 145.3, 147.8, 151.3; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3061, 2918, 2849, 1577, 1512, 1337, 753; HRMS calcd for C₂₀H₁₃NO₂S₂ 363.03877. Found 363.03943. Characterization of all other 3-thio and 3-seleno benzo[*b*]thiophenes prepared in this study can be found in the supporting information.

2-Phenyl-3-(phenylselenenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (13). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.16-7.22 (m, 5H), 7.41-7.47 (m, 5H), 7.70 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 7.90-7.93 (m, 1H), 7.94-7.97 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 115.7, 122.3, 125.3, 126.1, 127.9, 128.5, 129.1, 129.4, 129.4, 130.3, 131.7, 133.0, 134.3, 139.3, 142.2; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3055, 2919, 2849, 1576, 1475; HRMS calcd for C₂₀H₁₄SSe 367.99833. Found 367.99903.

3-(*p*-Nitrophenylsulfenyl)-2-*n*-octylbenzo[*b*]thiophene (16). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.85 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H), 1.21-1.36 (m, 10H), 1.67-1.72 (m, 2H), 3.07 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.04 (dd, $J = 8.8, 2.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.33-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.62-7.64 (m, 1H), 8.01 (dd, $J = 8.8, 2.4$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.3, 22.8, 29.3 (2C), 29.4, 29.8, 31.5, 32.0, 116.2, 122.6, 122.8, 124.2, 125.1, 125.3, 125.6, 138.2, 139.8, 145.4, 147.9, 155.3; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2925, 2853, 1578, 1515, 1337; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{15}\text{S}_2\text{NO}_2$ 399.13267. Found 399.13346.

2-*n*-Octyl-3-(phenylselenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (17). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.86 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H), 1.22-1.33 (m, 10H), 1.67-1.70 (m, 2H), 3.13 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.08-7.14 (m, 5H), 7.28-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.80 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.3, 22.9, 29.4, 29.5, 31.2, 31.8, 32.0, 116.1, 122.3, 124.3, 124.6, 125.0, 126.1, 129.1, 129.3, 132.9, 138.6, 141.8, 152.8; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3057, 2924, 2853, 1577, 1476, 1434; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{26}\text{SSe}$ 402.09204. Found 402.09268.

2-(Cyclohex-1-enyl)-3-(*p*-nitrophenylsulfenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (20). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.56-1.57 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.65 (m, 2H), 2.10-2.12 (m, 2H), 2.41-2.41 (m, 2H), 6.11 (m, 1H), 6.98 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.54 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 21.7, 22.9, 26.0, 30.0, 114.1, 122.6, 122.9, 124.3, 125.3, 125.4, 125.6, 131.1, 133.0, 137.8, 140.4, 145.3, 148.4, 154.6; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3055, 2930, 2857, 1577, 1475, 1434, 754, 731; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_2\text{S}_2$ 367.07007. Found 367.07053.

2-(Cyclohex-1-enyl)-3-(phenylselenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (21). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.64-1.66 (m, 2H), 1.73-1.74 (m, 2H), 2.19-2.21 (m, 2H), 2.50-2.51 (m, 2H), 6.10 (m, 1H), 7.10-7.15 (m, 5H), 7.28-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.76-7.79 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 21.9, 23.0, 25.9, 30.4, 114.0, 122.2, 124.7, 124.8, 125.0, 126.0, 129.3, 131.7, 132.0, 132.4, 133.3, 138.4, 142.0, 152.1; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3055, 2929, 1577, 1475, 1433, 754, 731; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{SeS}$ 370.02944. Found 370.02987.

4-(3-(*p*-Nitrophenylsulfenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)butanenitrile (24). The compound was obtained as an inseparable 1:3 mixture of benzo[*b*]thiophene **24** and the product of addition of the *p*- $\text{O}_2\text{NC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SCl}$ to the alkyne triple bond. Compound **24**: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.37-2.44 (m, 2H), 2.93 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.26 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.35-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.66 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H); IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3095, 2920, 2849, 2249, 1735, 1577, 1513, 1338; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}_2$ 354.04967. Found 354.05038.

4-(3-(Phenylselenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophen-2-yl)butanenitrile (25). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.00-2.04 (m, 2H), 2.32 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.27 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.13 (m, 5H), 7.33-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.80-7.85 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 16.7, 27.2, 29.9, 119.2, 122.4, 124.5, 125.2, 125.3, 126.4, 129.2, 129.5, 132.3, 134.2, 138.5, 141.6, 148.7; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3055, 2934, 2246, 1576, 1475, 1434, 757, 734; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{NSe}$ 357.00904. Found 357.00971.

3-(*p*-Nitrophenylsulfenyl)-2-(trimethylsilyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (29). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.40 (s, 9H), 7.01 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz,

1H), 7.35 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.68 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.3, 122.5, 124.1, 125.2, 125.3, 125.4, 126.3, 141.1, 142.9, 145.2, 148.1, 151.5; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3064, 2956, 2898, 1578, 1514, 1337; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_2\text{S}_2\text{Si}$ 359.04700. Found 359.04769.

3-Phenylselenyl-2-(trimethylsilyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (30). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.43 (s, 9H), 7.06-7.10 (m, 5H), 7.29-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.81 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.2, 122.3, 124.3, 124.9, 125.0, 125.4, 125.9, 128.7, 129.3, 133.6, 142.8, 143.2, 149.3; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3057, 2954, 1577, 1476, 1247; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{SSeSi}$ 362.00637. Found 362.00687.

2-*t*-Butyl-3-(*p*-nitrophenylsulfenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (33). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.58 (s, 9H), 7.01 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.27-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.57 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 31.1, 36.5, 114.1, 122.2, 122.4, 124.2, 125.0, 125.3, 125.4, 136.6, 141.2, 145.2, 148.3, 164.1; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3062, 2963, 1578, 1513, 1337; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_2\text{S}_2$ 343.07007. Found 343.07076.

2-*t*-Butyl-3-(phenylselenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (34). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.62 (s, 9H), 7.04-7.12 (m, 5H), 7.25-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.74 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 31.5, 36.7, 121.9, 124.1, 124.5, 124.9, 125.7, 127.9, 128.3, 129.3, 129.4, 131.7, 133.8, 143.2; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3055, 2960, 2920, 1577, 1475; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{SSe}$ 346.02944. Found 346.02983.

2-(9-Hydroxynonyl)-3-(*p*-nitrophenylsulfenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (37). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.24-1.32 (m, 11H), 1.51-1.55 (m, 2H), 1.65-1.72 (m, 2H), 3.08 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.62 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.34-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.63 (dd, $J = 8.0, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.85 (dd, $J = 8.0, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 25.9, 29.3, 29.3, 29.5, 29.6, 29.8, 31.5, 33.0, 63.2, 116.3, 122.6, 122.8, 124.3, 125.2, 125.4, 125.6, 138.2, 139.8, 145.4, 147.9, 155.3; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3347, 2926, 2853, 1578, 1513, 1337; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{27}\text{NO}_3\text{S}_2$ 429.14324. Found 429.14398.

2-(9-Hydroxynonyl)-3-(phenylselenyl)benzo[*b*]thiophene (38). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.25-1.32 (m, 11H), 1.54 (q, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 1.69 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.14 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.62 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.10-7.13 (m, 5H), 7.30-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.78-7.81 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 25.9, 29.3, 29.4, 29.5, 29.6, 31.2, 31.7, 33.0, 63.2, 116.1, 122.3, 124.2, 124.6, 125.0, 126.1, 129.1, 129.3, 132.8, 138.6, 141.8, 152.7; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3341, 3056, 2925, 2854, 1577, 1475; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{28}\text{OSSe}$ 432.10261. Found 432.10322.

2,3-Diphenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene (39). This benzo[*b*]thiophene was prepared by the following procedure. Into 10 mL of a 2:1 DMF/ H_2O solution containing 5 mmol of 3-iodo-2-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene, 5 mmol of Na_2CO_3 and 1.25 mmol of NaBPh_4 were added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 min. $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (5 mol %) was then added and the flask was flushed with Ar, sealed and allowed to stir at 100 °C for 12 h. The resulting reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl ether (2 x 10 mL). The combined ether layers were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under vacuum to afford

a white solid product. Crystallization afforded a 92 % yield of a crystalline solid. The product was obtained as white needles: lit¹⁶ mp 113-114 °C, found 114-116 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.12-7.14 (m, 3H), 7.20-7.29 (m, 9H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.75-7.77 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 122.3, 123.6, 124.7, 124.8, 127.6, 127.9, 128.6, 128.9, 129.9, 130.7, 133.5, 134.5, 135.7, 139.1, 141.1; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3057, 3024, 1599; HRMS calcd for C₂₀H₁₄S 286.08162. Found 286.08219.

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CHAPTER 2. SYNTHESIS OF 3-iodoindoles via Palladium-catalyzed coupling and electrophilic cyclization of terminal acetylenes

A paper to be submitted to the *Journal of Organic Chemistry*

Dawei Yue and Richard C. Larock*

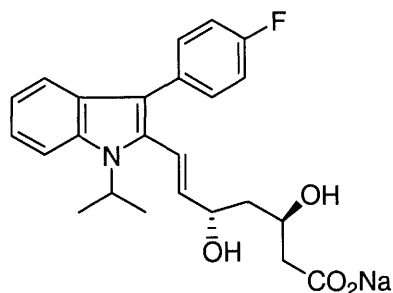
Department of Chemistry, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011

Abstract

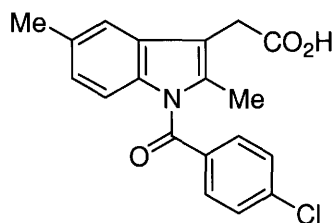
3-Iodoindoles have been prepared in excellent yields via coupling of terminal acetylenes with *N,N*-dialkyl-*o*-iodoanilines in the presence of a palladium catalyst and subsequent electrophilic iodocyclization of the resulting *N,N*-dialkyl-*o*-(1-alkynyl)aniline derivatives. Aryl-, vinylic-, alkyl- and silyl-substituted terminal acetylenes undergo this process to produce excellent yields of 3-iodoindoles.

Introduction

The indole nucleus is prevalent in natural products and important in medicinal chemistry.¹ 2,3-Disubstituted indoles, like Ilescol 1, which has been identified as an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor,^{1c} and indomethacin, which is an anti-tumor agent for endometrial cancers, are good examples.^{1d} Thus, research directed towards concise and novel syntheses of substituted indoles is highly desirable.



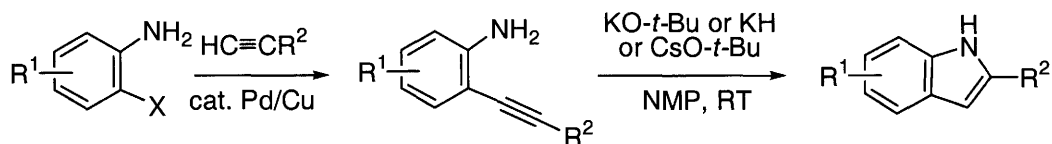
Lescol 1



Indomethacin

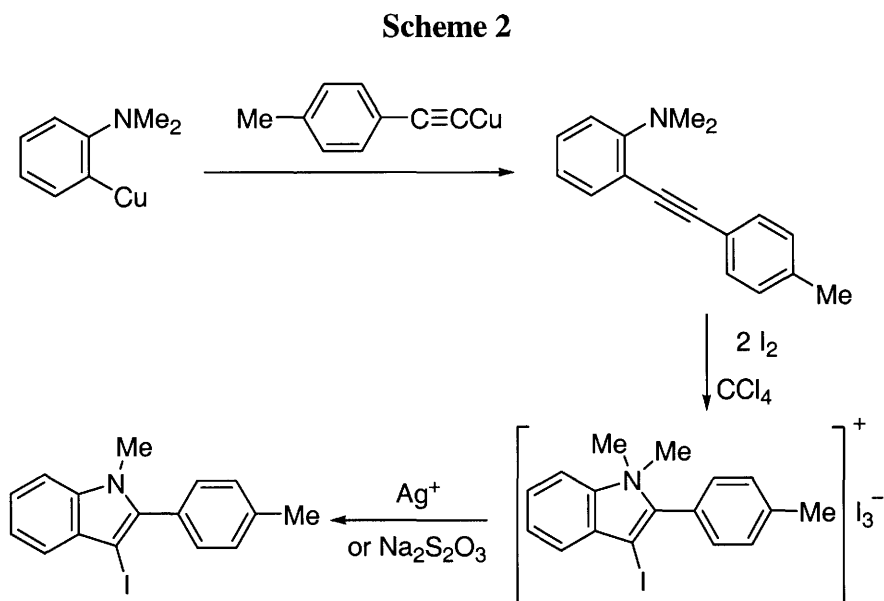
Many useful syntheses of indoles have recently been reported.² Knochel has reported a versatile indole synthesis by the *5-endo-dig* cyclization of *o*-alkynylanilines mediated by potassium or cesium bases.^{2c} This highly efficient ring closure process requires an excess of a strong base and sometimes a high temperature (Scheme 1). On

Scheme 1



the other hand, the electrophilic cyclization of unsaturated compounds has proven to be an efficient method for constructing heterocycles.³ This process is generally viewed as proceeding through an intramolecular, stepwise electrophilic addition and dealkylation mechanism involving a cationic intermediate. Taniguchi has explored the cyclization of vinylic cations as a route to heterocycles, but found significant limitations in generating the vinylic cations.⁴ Although mechanistic and synthetic work on the preparation of benzo[*b*]furan,^{3a} benzo[*b*]thiophene,^{3b,c} isoquinoline,^{3d} and furopyridine^{3e} derivatives by electrophilic cyclization⁵ of the corresponding functionally-substituted arylalkynes have been carried out, the synthesis of indole derivatives by this novel method remains relatively unknown.

Hoedt has reported an approach to the synthesis of 1-methyl-2-*p*-tolylindole and the corresponding 3-iodo- derivative by related processes involving electrophilic cyclization (Scheme 2).⁶ Unfortunately, the separation of the triiodide salt and the stepwise addition of an expensive silver reagent or



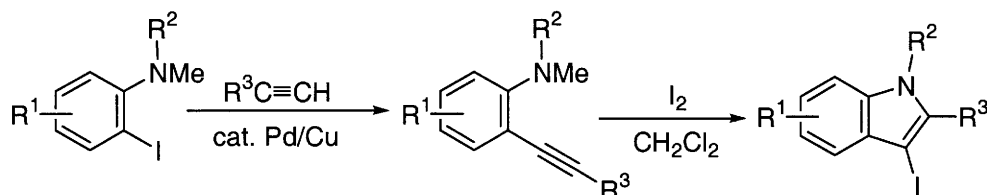
$\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ are not particularly attractive synthetically. Furthermore, the yield of the above process was only 66% or less and the scope of the cyclization step has not been examined. Herein, we report the successful application of this electrophilic cyclization strategy as a convenient and general synthetic methodology for the synthesis of a wide variety of 3-iodoindoles.

Results and Discussion

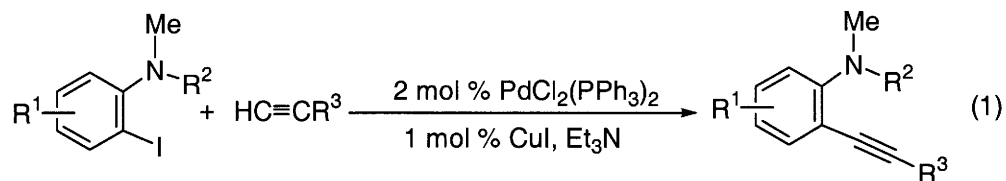
A two step approach to 3-iodoindoles has been examined involving (i) the Sonogashira coupling⁷ of *N,N*-dialkyl-*o*-iodoanilines with terminal alkynes, and (ii) electrophilic cyclization (Scheme 3).

To assess the generality of this approach, the scope of the Sonogashira coupling of various *N,N*-dialkyl-*o*-iodoaniline derivatives and terminal alkynes has

Scheme 3



been studied. Treatment of *N,N*-dialkyl-*o*-iodoanilines bearing different functionality with a variety of terminal alkynes under standard Sonogashira coupling conditions⁹ (5 mmol of *N,N*-dialkyl-*o*-iodoaniline, 1.2 equivs of terminal alkyne, 2 mol % of PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂, 1 mol % of CuI, 12.5 ml of Et₃N at room temperature for 5-24 h) affords high yields of the coupling products (eq 1, Table 1).



N,N-Dialkyl-*o*-iodoanilines exhibit high reactivity towards Sonogashira coupling, allowing the preparation of a wide variety of functionally-substituted *N,N*-dialkyl-*o*-(1-alkynyl)anilines. *N,N*-Dialkyl-*o*-iodoanilines bearing nitro, ester, methyl and methoxy groups undergo smooth Sonogashira coupling with terminal alkynes bearing various substituents, including aryl, vinylic, alkyl and silyl groups. High yields have been obtained in almost all cases (Table 1). However, because it is extremely active towards homocoupling, 5-hexynitrile affords only a relatively low yield and a large amount of the homocoupled diyne product of 5-hexynitrile is formed (entry 6). 1-Octyne has also given a low yield on occasion (entries 12 and 18) for reasons that are not obvious.

Table 1. Sonogashira Coupling of *N,N*-Dialkyl-2-iodoanilines and Terminal Acetylenes (eq 1).^a

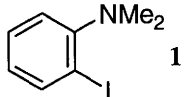
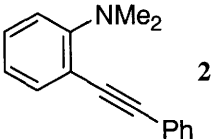
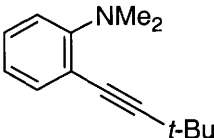
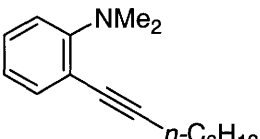
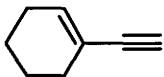
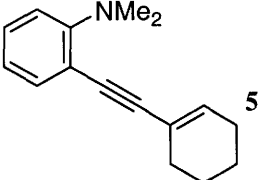
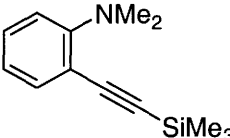
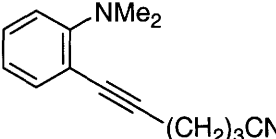
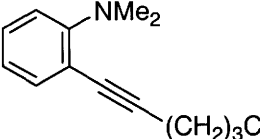
entry	<i>N,N</i> -dialkyl-2-iodoaniline	terminal acetylene	arylalkyne	time (h)	yield (%)
1		PhC≡CH		7	84
2		<i>t</i> -BuC≡CH		7	85
3		<i>n</i> -C ₆ H ₁₃ C≡CH		7	94
4				5	84
5		Me ₃ Si—C≡C—H		7	70
6		HC≡C(CH ₂) ₃ CN		7	40
7		HC≡C(CH ₂) ₃ Cl		7	87

Table 1. (Continued)

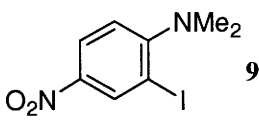
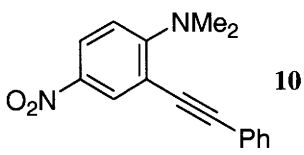
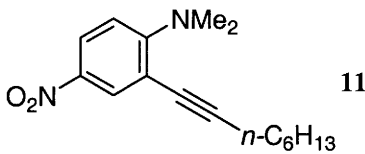
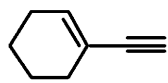
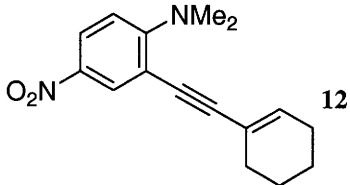
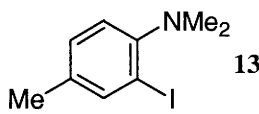
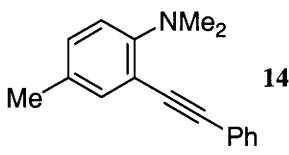
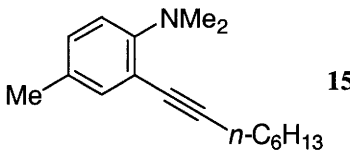
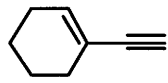
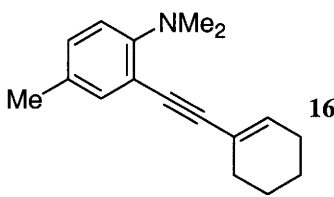
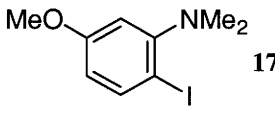
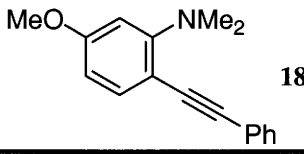
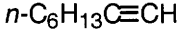
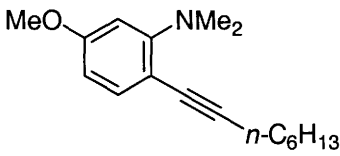
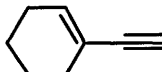
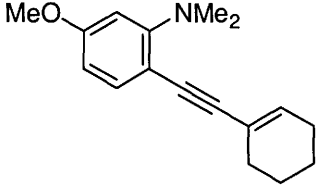
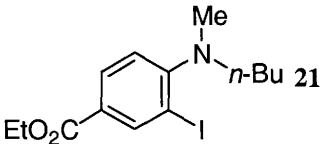
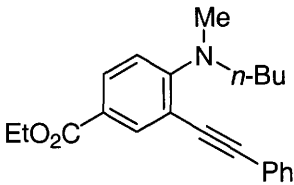
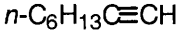
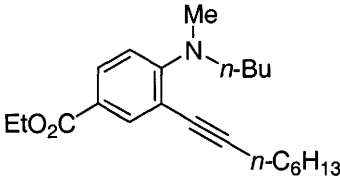
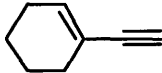
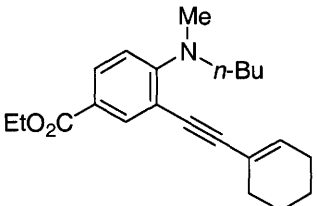
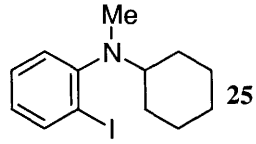
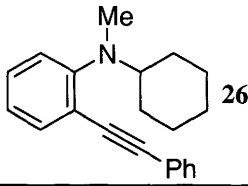
8		PhC≡CH		5	89
9		<i>n</i> -C ₆ H ₁₃ C≡CH		5	83
10				5	100
11		PhC≡CH		5	98
12		<i>n</i> -C ₆ H ₁₃ C≡CH		5	67
13				5	83
14		PhC≡CH		24	98

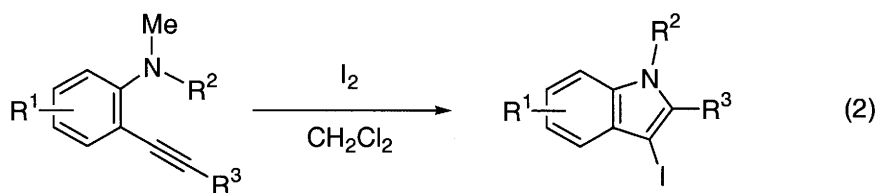
Table 1. (Continued)

15			19	24	93	
16			20	24	100	
17		$\text{PhC}\equiv\text{CH}$		22	5	100
18			23	5	54	
19			24	5	95	
20		$\text{PhC}\equiv\text{CH}$		26	24	80

^aAll reactions were run with 5 mmol of the *N,N*-dialkyl-2-iodoaniline, 1.2 equiv of the terminal acetylene, 2 mol % of $\text{PdCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2$, 1 mol % of CuI , and 12.5 mL of Et_3N at 50 °C.

We have found that *N,N*-dimethyl-*o*-(phenylethynyl)aniline (**2**), when treated with 2 equiv of I_2 in CH_2Cl_2 , undergoes smooth iodocyclization at room temperature and affords

a nearly quantitative yield of the corresponding 3-iodo-2-phenylindole (**33**) (Table 2, entry 1). Only a trace of the triiodide salt was observed upon TLC analysis. However, under Hoedt's reaction conditions, using CCl_4 as the solvent, the triiodide salt is the major product. The mild reaction conditions, as well as the high yield of this reaction, encouraged us to extend this methodology to a range of *N,N*-dimethyl-*o*-(1-alkynyl)anilines (eq 2; Table 2, entries 1-7). It makes little difference if the substituent on the other end of the alkyne is aryl, vinylic, alkyl, functionally-substituted alkyl or silyl. Even hindered *tert*-butyl- (**3**) (entry 2) or trimethylsilyl- (**6**) (entry 5) substituted alkynes react rapidly in high yields.



Substituents on the remote end of the triple bond of the *N,N*-dimethyl-*o*-(1-alkynyl)anilines also affect the yields of the cyclization reactions. The reactions of 6-(2-*N,N*-dimethylaminophenyl)-5-hexynenitrile (**7**) and *N,N*-dimethyl-2-(5-chloro-1-pentynyl)aniline (**8**) with iodine (entries 6 and 7) afford slightly lower yields than the simple alkyl-substituted alkyne **4** (entry 3). This may be because the electron-withdrawing cyano and chloro groups on the alkyl chain make the vinylic cation intermediates less stable or it may be the result of some side reaction of which we are unaware at this time. No products involving simple addition of the electrophile I_2 to the alkyne triple bond are observed with any of these alkynes. The 3-iodo-1-methyl-2-(trimethylsilyl)indole (**31**) obtained by iodocyclization of the silylalkyne **6** is extremely

Table 2. Synthesis of 3-Iodoindoles (eq 2).^a

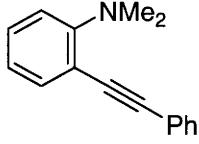
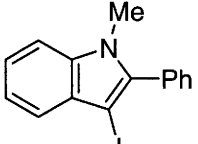
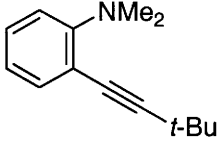
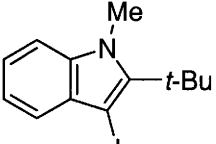
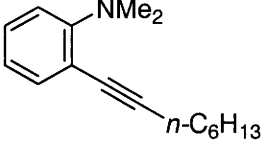
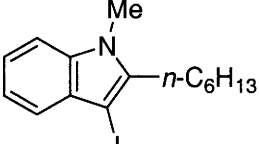
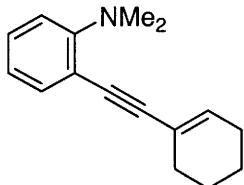
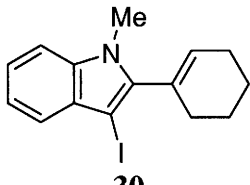
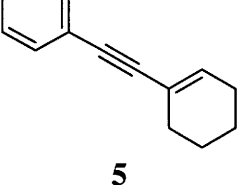
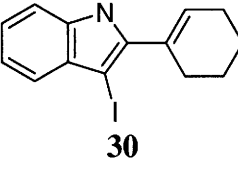
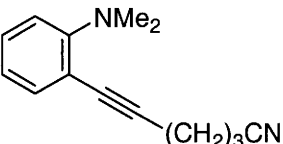
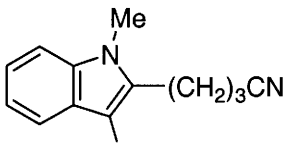
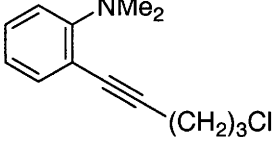
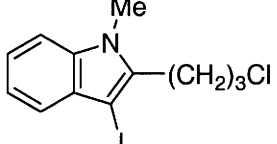
entry	alkyne	time (h)	product	Yield (%)
1	 2	2	 27	100
2	 3	2	 28	96
3	 4	2	 29	94
4	 5	2	 30	85
5	 6	4	 31	80
6	 7	4	 32	86
7	 8	4	 33	73

Table 2. (Continued)

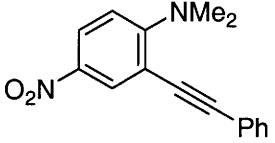
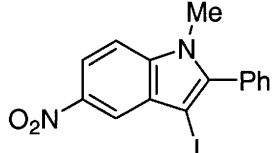
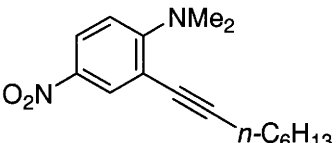
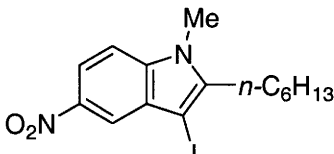
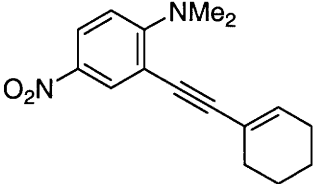
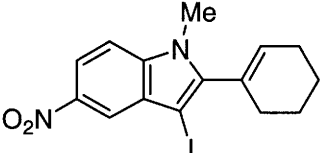
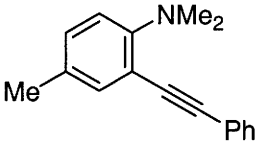
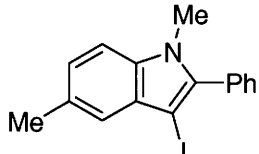
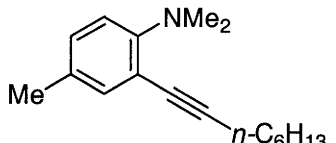
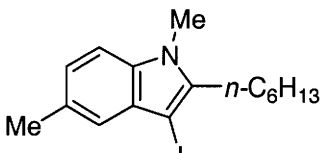
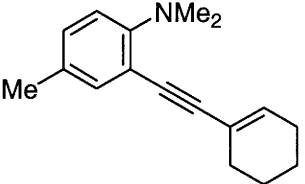
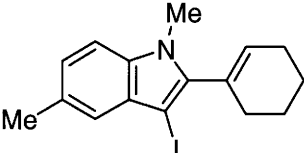
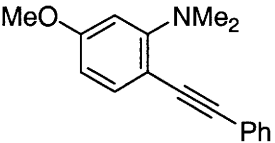
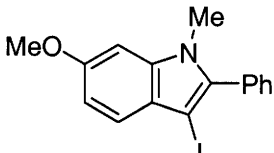
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10	 <p style="text-align: center;">12</p>	0.5	 <p style="text-align: center;">36</p>	100
11	 <p style="text-align: center;">14</p>	0.5	 <p style="text-align: center;">37</p>	100
12	 <p style="text-align: center;">15</p>	0.5	 <p style="text-align: center;">38</p>	100
13	 <p style="text-align: center;">16</p>	0.5	 <p style="text-align: center;">39</p>	98
14	 <p style="text-align: center;">18</p>	2	 <p style="text-align: center;">40</p>	84

Table 2. (Continued)

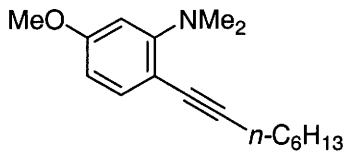
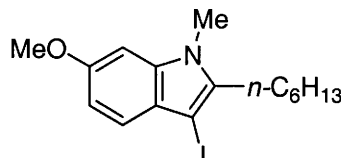
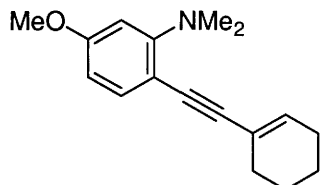
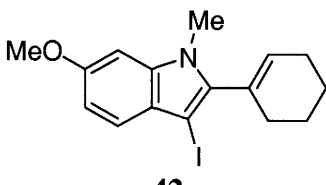
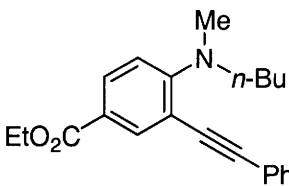
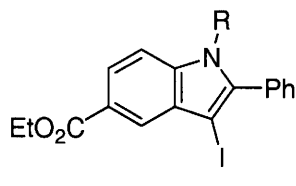
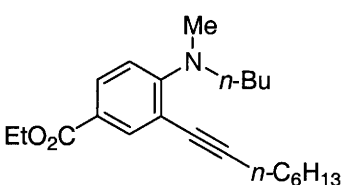
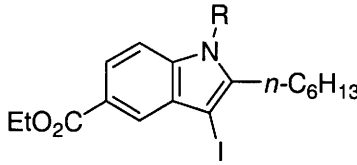
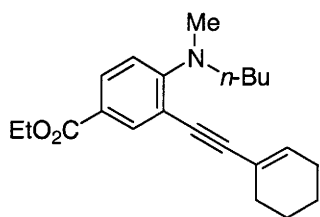
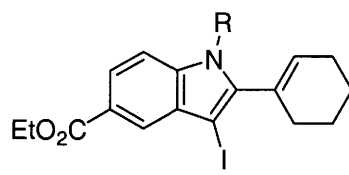
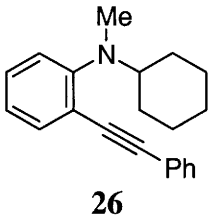
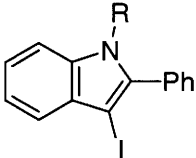
15	 <p style="text-align: center;">19</p>	2	 <p style="text-align: center;">41</p>	84
16	 <p style="text-align: center;">20</p>	2	 <p style="text-align: center;">42</p>	100
17	 <p style="text-align: center;">22</p>	0.5	 <p style="text-align: center;">43</p>	98 (72:28)
18	 <p style="text-align: center;">23</p>	0.5	 <p style="text-align: center;">45</p>	84 (62:38)
19	 <p style="text-align: center;">24</p>	0.5	 <p style="text-align: center;">47</p>	92 (66:34)

Table 2. (Continued)

20	 <p style="text-align: center;">26</p>	2	 <p style="text-align: center;">27</p>	50 (90:10)
			R = Me	
			27	49

^aAll reactions were run with 0.25 mmol of the alkyne and 2 equiv of I₂ in 5 mL of CH₂Cl₂ at 25 °C, followed by the addition of 5 mL of satd aq Na₂S₂O₃ to remove the excess I₂.

unstable. Although the cyclization product was detected by TLC analysis, we were unable to cleanly separate and characterize the corresponding 3-iodoindole.

Substituents on the aniline ring play a role in the cyclization. Electron-withdrawing groups, such as a nitro or an ester group, enhance the electrophilic cyclization. The reaction times are shorter and higher yields are obtained (entries 8-10 and 17-19).

Electron-donating groups, such as a methoxy group, make the triple bonds more electron rich and, therefore, make the cationic intermediate less reactive towards attack by the nitrogen. Longer reaction times are therefore needed and lower yields of the desired cyclization products are obtained (entries 14 and 15). Anilines with a less electron-donating group, such as a methyl group, undergo rapid iodocyclization and give high yields of the desired cyclization products (entries 11-13).

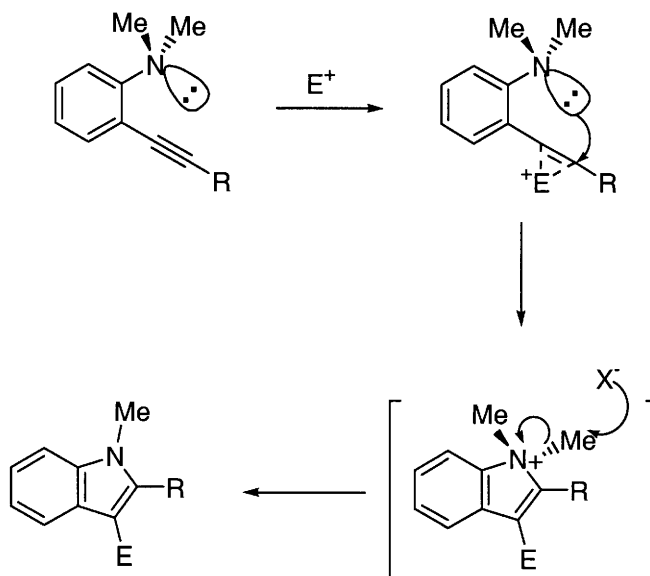
We were pleased to find that the methyl group on the nitrogen is easily removed during the cyclization step. This represents the first general route to 3-iodoindoles by an electrophilic cyclization strategy. The use of two different alkyl groups on the nitrogen of the aniline raises interesting selectivity questions. Compounds **22-24** with a methyl and an *n*-butyl group on the nitrogen undergo electrophilic cyclization smoothly and the

total conversions are almost quantitative (entries 17-19). The less hindered methyl is more easily removed than is the *n*-butyl group. Thus, cleavage in this case appears to involve S_N2 displacement of the less hindered alkyl group. The corresponding 1-*n*-butyl-3-iodoindoles and 3-iodo-1-methylindoles were generally obtained in approximately a 2 to 1 ratio. The chemistry of compound **26** bearing a methyl and a cyclohexyl group on the nitrogen of the aniline was also of interest (entry 20). We expected to obtain mainly the *N*-cyclohexylindole if loss of the alkyl group proceeds by an S_N2 mechanism. If loss of the alkyl group proceeds by an S_N1 process, we would expect to obtain the *N*-methylindole. In fact, we isolated 45% of the *N*-methylindole and about 5% of the *N*-cyclohexylindole was formed. This suggests that loss of the alkyl group can occur by either an S_N1 or an S_N2 mechanism depending upon what groups are attached to the nitrogen of the aniline.

We believe that these cyclizations proceed by anti attack of the electrophile and the nitrogen of the *N,N*-dialkylamino group of the alkyne to produce an indolium salt, which loses an alkyl group via either S_N1 or S_N2 substitution by the iodide nucleophile present in the reaction mixture after cyclization (Scheme 4). The success of this reaction is presumably due to several factors. First, the two alkyl groups on the nitrogen make the nitrogen highly nucleophilic. Second, the interaction between the two alkyl groups and the internal triple bond favors an orientation of the nitrogen with its lone pair of electrons pointing towards the triple bond. Third, the highly nucleophilic iodide ion formed after the cyclization facilitates removal of the methyl or other alkyl group.

In order to explore the scope of this electrophilic cyclization strategy, four other electrophiles, Br₂, NBS, *p*-O₂NC₆H₄SO₂Cl and PhSeCl have been employed in the reaction

Scheme 4

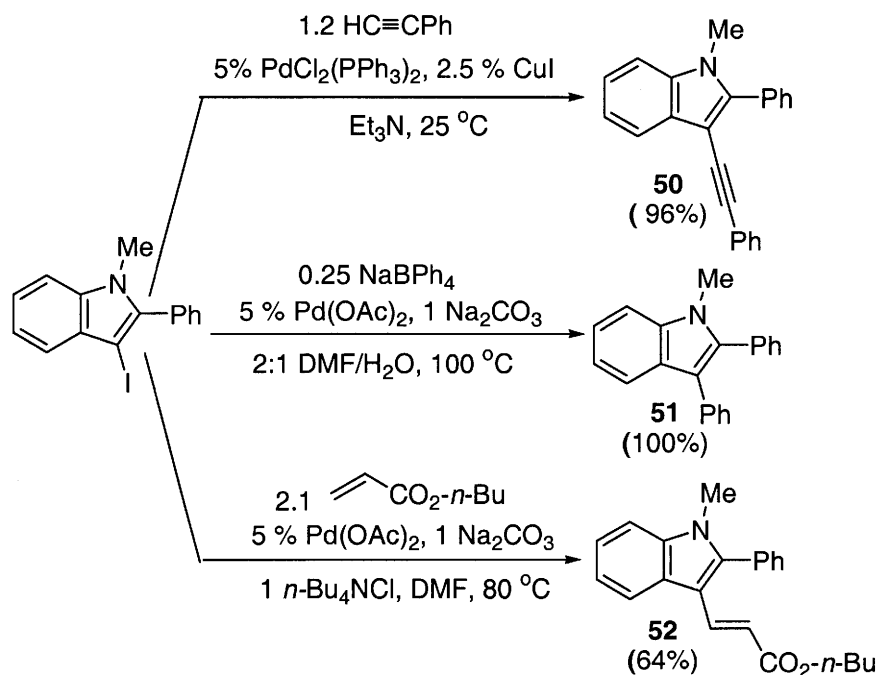


of alkyne **2**. Only iodine exhibits high reactivity towards electrophilic cyclization. These electrophiles do not provide good yields of cyclization products.

The 3-iodoindoles produced by this chemistry should be very useful for the synthesis of additional indoles. For example, the 3-iodo-2-phenylindole produced by this strategy can be further functionalized by applying palladium-catalyzed coupling reactions. We have found that 1-methyl-2-phenyl-3-(phenylethynyl)indole (**50**), 1-methyl-2,3-diphenylindole (**51**) and *n*-butyl (*E*)-3-[1-methyl-2-phenylindol-3-yl]propenoate (**52**) can be obtained in 92%, 90% and 64% overall yields respectively from *N,N*-dimethyl-*o*-iodoaniline and phenyl acetylene by our two step coupling/cyclization process, followed by palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling processes involving the Sonogashira,⁷ Suzuki,⁸ and Heck⁹ reactions (Scheme 5). One should be able to prepare many other 2,3-

disubstituted indoles using these iodoindole substrates and other known palladium methodology.¹⁰

Scheme 5



Conclusions

A very efficient synthesis of 2,3-disubstituted indoles has been developed by a two step approach involving the Sonogashira cross-coupling of terminal alkynes and *N,N*-dialkyl-*o*-iodoanilines, followed by electrophilic cyclization using I₂ in CH₂Cl₂. While I₂ gives 3-iodoindoles in excellent yields, Br₂, NBS, *p*-O₂NC₆H₄SCl and PhSeCl give mixtures of both cyclization products and products of simple addition to the triple bond with the latter predominating. A wide variety of aniline-containing acetylenes with various functional groups on the arene moiety undergo this overall process in good to excellent yields. The steric and electronic effects of the substituents on the carbon-

carbon triple bond of the *N,N*-dialkyl-2-(1-alkynyl)aniline intermediates have been studied. A study of the N-alkyl bond cleavage of the dialkylamino group reveals that this chemistry can undergo either S_N1 or S_N2 displacement.

Experimental Section

General. All ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 300 and 75.5 MHz or 400 and 100 MHz. Thin-layer chromatography was performed using commercially prepared 60-mesh silica gel plates (Whatman K6F), and visualization was effected with short wavelength UV light (254 nm). All melting points are uncorrected. High resolution mass spectra were recorded on a Kratos MS50TC double focusing magnetic sector mass spectrometer using EI at a voltage of 70 eV. All reagents were used directly as obtained commercially unless otherwise noted. Anhydrous forms of ethyl ether, hexanes, ethyl acetate, methylene chloride and DMF were purchased from Fisher Scientific Co. 2-Iodoaniline, phenylacetylene, 1-octyne, 1-cyclohexenyl acetylene, *tert*-butyl acetylene, trimethylsilyl acetylene, 5-hexynenitrile and Et₃N were purchased from Aldrich Chemical Co., Inc. The palladium salts were donated by Johnson Matthey Inc. and Kawaken Fine Chemicals Co. Ltd.

Preparation of 2-Iodoanilines. 2-Iodo-4-nitroaniline,¹¹ 2-iodo-4-methylaniline,¹¹ 2-iodo-5-methoxyaniline¹¹ and ethyl 3-iodo-4-(*n*-butylamino)benzoate¹² were prepared according to literature procedures. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectral data were in good agreement with the literature data.^{11,12}

Ethyl 4-(*n*-butylamino)-3-iodobenzoate. The compound was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.98 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.36 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 1.40-

1.52 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.72 (m, 2H), 3.18-3.22 (m, 2H), 4.31 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 4.61 (s, 1H), 6.49 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.33 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.0, 14.6, 20.4, 31.2, 43.8, 60.7, 83.8, 108.9, 120.0, 131.7, 140.8, 150.7, 165.7; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3394, 2959, 2930, 2871, 1711. The product was used for the next step without further characterization.

General Procedure for the Preparation of *N,N*-Dialkyl-*o*-iodoanilines. These compounds were prepared by a procedure reported by Cadogan.¹³ A solution of the corresponding aniline (2.0 mmol) and iodomethane (0.85 g, 6.0 mmol) in DMF (10 ml) containing K_2CO_3 (0.55 g, 4.0 mmol) was stirred for 48 h at room temperature. Water (10 ml) was then added, and the solution was extracted with ethyl ether (3 x 10 ml). The organic extracts were washed with water (4 x 20 ml) to remove any remaining DMF, and then dried (Na_2SO_4) and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to yield the crude product, which was further purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using ethyl acetate/hexane as the eluent.

***N,N*-Dialkyl-2-iodoanilines Prepared**

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-iodoaniline (1).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.76 (s, 6H), 6.76 (t, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, $J = 9.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 45.2, 97.3, 120.6, 125.2, 129.2, 140.4, 155.1; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3002, 1944, 2830, 2783; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{IN}$ 246.98580. Found 246.98605.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-iodo-4-nitroaniline (9)**. The compound was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.94 (s, 6H), 6.98 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.69 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 44.4, 90.6, 118.6, 124.8, 136.8, 160.7; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2947, 2871, 2843, 2794; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_9\text{IN}_2\text{O}_2$ 291.97088. Found 291.97104.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-iodo-4-methylaniline (13)**. The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.72 (s, 6H), 6.99 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 20.4, 45.4, 97.6, 120.3, 130.0, 135.1, 140.7, 152.7; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3058, 2926, 2855, 2227, 1464, 1435, 749; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{IN}$ 261.00165. Found 261.00198.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-iodo-5-methoxyaniline (17)**. The compound was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.75 (s, 6H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 6.38 (d, $J = 10.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.66 (s, 1H), 7.68 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 45.0, 55.5, 85.4, 107.8, 110.0, 140.3, 156.1, 160.9; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2293, 2829, 2780; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{INO}$ 276.99637. Found 276.99697.

Ethyl 4-(*N*-*n*-butyl-*N*-methylamino)-3-iodobenzoate (21). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.91 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H), 1.30-1.40 (m, 5H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 3.03 (t, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.35 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.96 (dd, $J = 8.4, 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 8.49 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.2, 14.6, 20.4, 29.7, 41.9, 56.1, 61.2, 95.7, 120.7, 126.2, 130.5, 142.0, 158.9, 165.4; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3004, 2922, 1713; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{20}\text{INO}_2$ 361.05388. Found 361.05433.

***N*-Cyclohexyl-*N*-methyl-2-iodoaniline (25).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.08-1.13 (m, 4H), 1.32 (q, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 2H), 1.74-1.84 (m, 4H), 2.62 (s, 3H), 2.97-3.03 (m, 1H), 6.75 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 25.8, 26.3, 29.3, 35.6, 62.2, 100.2, 123.8, 125.1, 128.6, 140.2, 154.3; HRMS calcd for C₁₃H₁₈IN 315.00637. Found 315.00684.

General Procedure for the Palladium/Copper-Catalyzed Formation of *N,N*-Dialkyl-2-(1-alkynyl)anilines. To a solution of Et₃N (12.5 ml), PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.070 g, 2 mol %), 5 mmol of *N,N*-dialkyl-*o*-iodoaniline and 6.0 mmol of terminal acetylene (stirring for 5 min beforehand), CuI (0.010 g, 1 mol %) was added and stirring was continued for another 2 min before flushing with Ar. The flask was then sealed. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for the desired time and the resulting solution was filtered, washed with a satd aq NaCl solution and extracted with diethyl ether (2 x 10 ml). The combined ether fractions were dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under vacuum to yield the crude product. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using ethyl acetate/hexane as the eluent.

***N,N*-Dialkyl-2-(1-alkynyl)anilines Prepared**

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-(phenylethynyl)aniline (2).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.01 (s, 6H), 6.88-6.94 (m, 2H), 7.25 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 43.8, 89.1, 95.0, 115.3, 117.2, 120.7, 124.1, 128.2, 128.5, 129.5, 131.5,

134.6, 155.0; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3059, 2943, 2833, 2785, 2209; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}$ 221.12045. Found 221.12076.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-(3,3-dimethyl-1-butynyl)aniline (3).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.34 (s, 9H), 2.92 (s, 6H), 6.80-6.86 (m, 2H), 7.17 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 28.5, 31.2, 43.6, 78.5, 104.0, 116.2, 116.9, 120.5, 128.5, 134.5, 154.6; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3004, 2923, 2147; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}$ 200.14392. Found 200.14417.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-(1-octynyl)aniline (4).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.90 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3H), 1.29-1.34 (m, 4 H), 1.46-1.49 (m, 2H), 1.62 (q, $J = 3.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.47 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.91 (s, 3H), 6.83-6.90 (m, 2H), 7.18 (t, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.3, 20.1, 22.8, 28.9, 29.0, 31.6, 43.8, 79.7, 96.1, 116.8, 117.1, 120.9, 128.5, 134.5, 154.8; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2930, 2858, 2782, 2242; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}$ 229.18305. Found 229.18336.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-(cyclohex-1-enylethynyl)aniline (5).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.62-1.68 (m, 4H), 2.13-2.15 (m, 2H), 2.25-2.27 (m, 2H), 2.93 (s, 6H), 6.18-6.19 (m, 1H), 6.84-6.89 (m, 2H), 7.18 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 21.8, 22.5, 25.9, 29.3, 43.6, 86.3, 96.8, 115.9, 117.0, 120.6, 121.3, 128.8, 134.2, 134.4, 154.6; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2932, 2859, 2832, 2196; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}$ 225.15175. Found 225.15209.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-(trimethylsilylethynyl)aniline (6).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.25 (s, 9H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 6.83 (dd, $J = 9.0$,

6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (t, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.2, 43.5, 99.7, 104.9, 114.9, 116.9, 120.3, 129.6, 135.1, 155.3; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3059, 2959, 2920, 2155, 1461, 1434, 1249, 843; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{18}\text{NSi}$ 216.12085. Found 216.12100.

6-(2-*N,N*-Dimethylaminophenyl)-5-hexynenitrile (7). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.97 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.57 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.67 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.90 (s, 6H), 6.87 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 16.3, 19.1, 24.9, 43.8, 81.6, 92.3, 115.9, 117.3, 119.4, 121.0, 129.1, 134.4, 155.0; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3061, 2942, 2834, 2785, 2247; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2$ 212.13135. Found 212.13172.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-(5-chloro-1-pentynyl)aniline (8).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.04-2.11 (m, 2H), 2.68 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.91 (s, 6H), 3.74 (t, $J = 6.3$ Hz, 2H), 6.84-6.92 (m, 2H), 7.21 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 17.6, 31.7, 43.8, 44.0, 80.8, 93.6, 116.3, 117.3, 121.0, 128.9, 134.5, 154.9; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2943, 2832, 2784, 2259; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{ClN}$ 221.69713. Found 221.69754.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-4-nitro-2-(phenylethynyl)aniline (10).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.26 (s, 6H), 6.78 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.50-7.52 (m, 2H), 8.06 (dd, $J = 9.2, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.35 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 42.7, 87.7, 95.3, 110.4, 114.7, 123.0, 125.1, 128.6, 128.7,

131.1, 131.4, 138.5, 157.5; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2954, 2917, 2849, 2133; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ 266.10553. Found 266.10592.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-4-nitro-2-(1-octynyl)aniline (11).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.91 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H), 1.30-1.34 (m, 4H), 1.43-1.48 (m, 2H), 1.62 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.45 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.15 (s, 6H), 6.73 (d, $J = 9.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd, $J = 9.3, 2.7$ Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, $J = 2.7$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.2, 19.9, 22.7, 28.7, 28.9, 31.5, 42.8, 78.7, 97.3, 112.4, 114.9, 124.5, 131.4, 138.9, 158.0; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2930, 2857, 2806, 2224; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ 274.16813. Found 274.16830.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-(cyclohex-1-enylethynyl)-4-nitroaniline (12).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.61-1.71 (m, 4H), 2.15-2.20 (m, 2H), 2.20-2.22 (m, 2H), 3.18 (s, 6H), 6.20-6.21 (m, 1H), 6.73 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.22 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 21.5, 22.3, 25.8, 28.8, 42.7, 85.0, 97.5, 111.5, 114.6, 120.7, 124.6, 131.0, 135.4, 138.7, 157.5; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2924, 2853, 2354, 1454, 1432, 749; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ 270.13683. Found 270.13735.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-4-methyl-2-(phenylethynyl)aniline (14).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.26 (s, 3H), 2.95 (s, 6H), 6.83 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.33 (m, 4H), 7.52-7.55 (m, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 20.5, 44.0, 89.1, 94.7, 115.6, 117.3, 124.2, 128.2, 128.5, 130.3, 130.3, 131.6, 134.8, 152.8; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3378, 3057, 2925, 2853, 1453, 1433, 750; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}$ 235.13610. Found 235.13582.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-4-methyl-2-(1-octynyl)aniline (15).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.83 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 3H), 1.24-1.26 (m, 4H), 1.37-1.41 (m, 2H), 1.55 (q, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.40 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.79 (s, 6H), 6.73 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.3, 20.1, 20.4, 22.8, 28.9, 29.0, 31.6, 44.0, 79.6, 95.7, 116.9, 117.2, 129.2, 130.4, 134.9, 152.5; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3378, 3057, 2925, 2853, 1453, 1433, 750; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}$ 243.19870. Found 243.19908.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-(cyclohex-1-enylethynyl)-4-methylaniline (16).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.52-1.63 (m, 4H), 2.05-2.06 (m, 2H), 2.15-2.17 (m, 5H), 2.81 (s, 3H), 6.09-6.11 (m, 1H), 6.71 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 20.4, 21.8, 22.6, 25.9, 29.3, 43.8, 86.2, 96.6, 116.1, 117.0, 121.3, 129.5, 130.1, 134.4, 134.5, 152.5; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3378, 3057, 2925, 2853, 1453, 1433, 750; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}$ 239.16740. Found 239.16779.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-5-methoxy-2-(phenylethynyl)aniline (18).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.99 (s, 6H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 6.44 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.23-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.41 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 43.5, 55.4, 89.2, 93.5, 103.8, 105.3, 107.6, 124.4, 127.8, 131.2, 135.6, 156.3, 160.8; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2924, 2853, 2354, 1454, 1432, 749; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}$ 251.13101. Found 251.13132.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-5-methoxy-2-(1-octynyl)aniline (19).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.90 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H), 1.30-1.33 (m, 4H),

1.42-1.49 (m, 2H), 1.62 (q, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 2.45 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.90 (s, 6H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 6.36-6.42 (m, 2H), 7.29 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.2, 20.0, 22.8, 28.9, 29.1, 31.6, 43.6, 55.3, 79.5, 94.2, 104.1, 105.3, 109.2, 135.4, 156.1, 160.0; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2924, 2853, 2354, 1454, 1432, 749; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}$ 259.19361. Found 259.19389.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-2-(cyclohex-1-enylethynyl)-5-methoxyaniline (20).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.59-1.68 (m, 4H), 2.12-2.14 (m, 2H), 2.22-2.24 (m, 2H), 2.92 (s, 6H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 6.13-6.15 (m, 1H), 6.38-6.41 (m, 2H), 7.29 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 21.8, 22.6, 25.9, 29.4, 43.4, 55.3, 86.2, 95.3, 103.8, 105.2, 108.3, 121.4, 133.6, 135.3, 156.0, 160.3; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2932, 2834, 2786, 2194; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}$ 255.16231. Found 255.16270.

Ethyl 4-(*N-n*-butyl-*N*-methylamino)-3-(phenylethynyl)benzoate (22). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.87 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 3H), 1.25-1.31 (m, 2H), 1.37 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H), 1.63-1.69 (m, 2H), 3.02 (s, 3H), 3.54 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 4.34 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 6.81 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.49-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.86 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.15 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.0, 14.6, 20.4, 30.1, 39.8, 54.9, 60.7, 89.0, 94.2, 111.7, 115.8, 120.5, 123.8, 128.2, 128.5, 130.8, 131.3, 137.1, 156.6, 166.2; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2957, 2929, 2870, 2203; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_2$ 335.18853. Found 335.18887.

Ethyl 4-(*N-n*-butyl-*N*-methylamino)-3-(1-octynyl)benzoate (23). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.81-0.87 (m, 6H), 1.19-1.40 (m, 11H), 1.50-1.58 (m, 4H), 2.87 (s, 3H), 3.39 (q, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.25 (q, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H),

6.71 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.2, 14.3, 14.6, 20.1, 20.4, 22.8, 28.9, 28.9, 30.0, 31.6, 39.7, 54.9, 60.6, 79.6, 95.7, 113.4, 116.0, 120.8, 130.1, 137.0, 156.9, 166.4; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2924, 2853, 2354, 1454, 1432, 749; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{33}\text{NO}_2$ 343.25113. Found 343.25150.

Ethyl 4-(*N*-*n*-butyl-*N*-methylamino)-3-(cyclohex-1-enylethynyl)benzoate (24). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.83 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 3H), 1.20-1.28 (m, 5H), 1.54-1.59 (m, 6H), 2.06-2.15 (m, 4H), 2.89 (s, 3H), 3.39 (q, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.24 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.09 (m, 1H), 6.69 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.73 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.1, 14.6, 20.4, 21.7, 22.5, 25.9, 29.2, 30.0, 39.7, 54.8, 60.6, 86.1, 96.3, 112.6, 115.8, 120.5, 121.2, 130.3, 134.5, 136.8, 156.5, 166.3; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2924, 2853, 2354, 1454, 1432, 749; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_2$ 339.21983. Found 339.22025.

***N*-Cyclohexyl-*N*-methyl-2-(phenylethynyl)aniline (26).** The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.07-1.28 (m, 4H), 1.51-1.62 (m, 2H), 1.78 (d, $J = 13.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.88 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.77 (s, 3H), 3.80-3.85 (m, 1H), 6.87 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.33 (m, 3H), 7.50 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 26.3, 26.4, 29.9, 32.8, 62.6, 89.2, 94.3, 116.0, 119.0, 120.3, 124.2, 128.0, 128.5, 129.1, 131.5, 134.7, 154.8; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3378, 3057, 2925, 2853, 1453, 1433, 750; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}$ 289.0144. Found 289.0251.

General Procedure for Iodocyclization. To a solution of 0.25 mmol of the *N,N*-dialkyl-2-(1-alkynyl)aniline and 3 ml of CH₂Cl₂, 2 equivs of I₂ dissolved in 2 ml of CH₂Cl₂ was added gradually. The reaction mixture was flushed with Ar and allowed to stir at room temperature for the desired time. The excess I₂ was removed by washing with a satd aq soln of Na₂S₂O₃. The aqueous solution was then extracted by diethyl ether (2 x 10 ml). The combined ether layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under a vacuum to yield the crude product, which was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using ethyl acetate/hexanes as the eluent.

3-Iodoindoles Prepared

3-Iodo-1-methyl-2-phenylindole (27). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.63 (s, 3H), 7.21-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.43-7.51 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 32.2, 59.0, 110.0, 120.9, 121.6, 123.1, 128.6, 129.0, 130.5, 131.1, 131.8, 137.9, 141.9; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3054, 2937; HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₂IN 333.00145. Found 333.00194.

2-*t*-Butyl-3-iodo-1-methylindole (28). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.67 (s, 9H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 7.16-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 30.4, 32.4, 34.7, 54.5, 109.0, 120.5, 122.4, 122.8, 131.6, 138.6, 144.4; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3004, 2966, 2922; HRMS calcd for C₁₃H₁₆IN 312.02492. Found 312.02515.

2-*n*-Hexyl-3-iodo-1-methylindole (29). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.89 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.30-1.43 (m, 6H), 1.56-1.59 (m,

2H), 2.82 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 7.12-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.37 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.3, 22.8, 27.3, 29.2, 29.5, 30.8, 31.8, 57.9, 109.4, 120.4, 120.7, 122.1, 130.2, 137.6, 142.0; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3053, 2926, 2855; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{20}\text{IN}$ 341.06405. Found 341.06452.

2-(Cyclohex-1-enyl)-3-iodo-1-methylindole (30). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.73-1.76 (m, 2H), 1.81-1.84 (m, 2H), 2.22-2.30 (m, 4H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 5.88-5.90 (m, 1H), 7.17-7.19 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.41 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 22.1, 22.9, 25.7, 29.4, 31.5, 57.0, 109.7, 120.5, 121.2, 122.4, 130.0, 130.3, 133.8, 137.3, 144.4; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2921, 2850; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{IN}$ 337.03275. Found 337.03300.

3-Iodo-1-methyl-2-(trimethylsilyl)indole (31). The product was obtained as an inseparable mixture of the desired product and decomposed product.

4-(3-Iodo-1-methylindol-2-yl)butanenitrile (32). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.99 (q, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H), 2.42 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.02 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 7.17-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.38 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 16.8, 25.4, 26.0, 30.9, 59.3, 109.6, 119.5, 120.8, 121.0, 122.8, 130.0, 137.8, 138.8; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2935, 2869, 2246; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{IN}_2$ 324.01235. Found 324.01269.

2-(3-Chloropropyl)-3-iodo-1-methylindole (33). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.04-2.11 (m, 2H), 3.02 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.60 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 7.14-7.18 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.23 (m, 2H), 7.38 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 24.6, 30.9, 32.3, 44.4, 58.6, 109.6, 120.6, 120.8,

122.5, 130.1, 137.7, 140.0; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2956, 2928, 2869; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClIN}$ 333.57813. Found 333.57851.

3-Iodo-1-methyl-5-nitro-2-phenylindole (34). The compound was obtained as pale yellow crystals: the compound decomposes at 125 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.74 (s, 3H), 7.36 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.59 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.57 (m, 3H), 8.19 (dd, $J = 9.0, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.45 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 16.6, 32.7, 61.3, 110.2, 118.6, 119.0, 128.9, 129.8, 130.2, 130.7, 130.9, 140.9, 142.7, 145.4; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2924, 2852; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{IN}_2\text{O}_2$ 378.01168. Found 378.01242.

2-*n*-Hexyl-3-iodo-1-methyl-5-nitroindole (35). The product was obtained as pale yellow crystals: the compound decomposes at 118 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.90 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H), 1.31-1.37 (m, 4H), 1.39-1.46 (m, 2H), 1.57-1.64 (m, 2H), 2.87 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 7.25 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.09 (dd, $J = 9.0, 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.32 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.3, 16.6, 22.8, 27.6, 29.3, 31.4, 31.7, 60.3, 109.5, 117.8, 118.0, 130.0, 140.8, 142.4, 145.9; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3004, 2964, 2923; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{19}\text{IN}_2\text{O}_2$ 386.04913. Found 386.04988.

2-(Cyclohex-1-enyl)-3-iodo-1-methyl-5-nitroindole (36). The compound was obtained as pale yellow crystals: mp 112 °C; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.74 (s, 3H), 7.36 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.57 (m, 5H), 8.19 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.45 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 16.6, 32.7, 61.3, 110.2, 118.6, 119.0, 128.9, 129.8, 130.2, 130.7, 130.9, 140.9, 142.7, 145.4; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3095, 2920, 2849, 2249, 1735, 1577, 1513, 1338; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{IN}_2\text{O}_2$ 382.01783. Found 382.01837.

3-Iodo-1,5-dimethyl-2-phenylindole (37). The product was obtained as a yellow oil:

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.42 (s, 3H), 3.54 (s, 3H), 7.03 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.20 (s, 1H), 7.37-7.41 (m, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 21.6, 32.2, 58.4, 109.8, 121.2, 124.7, 128.6, 128.9, 130.4, 130.7, 131.1, 131.9, 136.4, 141.8; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3055, 2919, 2849, 1576, 1475; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{IN}$ 347.01710. Found 347.01747.

2-*n*-Hexyl-3-iodo-1,5-dimethylindole (38). The product was obtained as a yellow oil:

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.83 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3H), 1.24-1.34 (m, 6H), 1.49 (q, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.73 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 6.94 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.01 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.08 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.3, 21.6, 22.8, 27.3, 29.2, 29.5, 30.8, 31.8, 57.3, 109.1, 120.4, 123.6, 129.8, 130.3, 136.0, 141.9; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3055, 2919, 2849, 1576, 1475; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{22}\text{IN}$ 355.07970. Found 355.08037.

2-(Cyclohex-1-enyl)-3-iodo-1,5-dimethylindole (39). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.64-1.74 (m, 4H), 2.15-2.19 (m, 4H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 5.79 (m, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 21.6, 22.1, 22.9, 25.7, 29.4, 31.5, 56.4, 109.5, 120.8, 124.0, 129.9, 130.0, 130.4, 133.6, 135.7, 144.4; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3055, 2919, 2849, 1576, 1475; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{18}\text{IN}$ 351.04840. Found 351.04879.

3-Iodo-6-methoxy-1-methyl-2-phenylindole (40). The product was obtained as a

yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 3.60 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 6.89 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.51 (m, 5H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 32.2, 56.0, 58.7, 93.5, 110.7, 122.3, 125.0, 128.6, 128.8, 131.1, 131.9, 138.5, 140.9, 157.4; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3378, 3057, 2925, 2853, 1453, 1433, 750; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₁₄INO 363.01202. Found 363.01270.

2-*n*-Hexyl-3-iodo-6-methoxy-1-methylindole (41). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.90 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.31-1.33 (m, 4H), 1.40-1.42 (m, 2H), 1.56 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.79 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.3, 22.8, 27.3, 29.2, 29.6, 30.8, 31.8, 56.1, 57.4, 93.4, 109.8, 121.3, 124.5, 138.1, 140.9, 156.8; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3378, 3057, 2925, 2853, 1453, 1433, 750; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₂₂INO 371.07462. Found 371.07537.

2-(1-Cyclohexenyl)-3-iodo-6-methoxy-1-methylindole (42). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.72-1.75 (m, 2H), 1.79-1.82 (m, 2H), 2.22-2.26 (m, 4H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 5.87 (s, 1H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 22.1, 22.9, 25.7, 29.5, 31.5, 56.0, 56.5, 93.4, 110.1, 121.8, 124.6, 130.0, 133.7, 137.8, 143.5, 157.0; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 2925, 2855; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₁₈INO 367.06332. Found 367.06396.

Ethyl 1-*n*-butyl-3-iodo-2-phenylindole-5-carboxylate (43). The product was obtained as a pale yellow solid: mp. 103-105 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 4.36 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.48 (m, 5H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.7, 32.4, 60.6, 61.0, 109.8, 123.3, 124.4, 124.5, 128.7, 129.3, 130.2, 131.0, 131.3, 140.5, 143.4,

167.6; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 2978, 2933, 1705; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{INO}_2$ 405.02258. Found 405.02306.

Ethyl 3-iodo-1-methyl-2-phenylindole-5-carboxylate (44). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.67 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 1.02-1.07 (m, 2H), 1.36 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 3H), 1.47-1.51 (m, 2H), 4.00 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 4.34 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.43 (m, 5H), 7.91 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.17 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.7, 14.7, 20.0, 32.2, 45.2, 60.9, 61.2, 110.1, 123.2, 124.2, 124.5, 128.7, 129.3, 130.3, 130.9, 131.7, 139.6, 143.3, 167.6; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3058, 2959, 2932, 2872, 1709; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{22}\text{INO}_2$ 447.06953. Found 447.07000.

Ethyl 1-*n*-butyl-2-*n*-hexyl-3-iodoindole-5-carboxylate (45). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.83 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 3H), 1.25-1.26 (m, 4H), 1.34-1.38 (m, 5H), 1.53 (q, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.78 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 4.34 (q, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.05 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.3, 14.7, 22.8, 27.4, 29.2, 29.4, 31.1, 31.8, 59.5, 60.9, 109.1, 122.8, 123.5, 123.6, 129.9, 140.3, 143.7, 167.7; IR (neat, cm^{-1}) 3378, 3057, 2925, 2853, 1453, 1433, 750; HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{24}\text{INO}_2$ 413.08518. Found 413.08573.

Ethyl 2-*n*-hexyl-3-iodo-1-methylindole-5-carboxylate (46). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.83-0.90 (m, 6H), 1.26-1.37 (m, 11H), 1.52-1.55 (m, 2H), 1.64-1.67 (m, 2H), 2.76 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.06 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.34 (q, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.05 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.0, 14.3, 14.7, 20.5, 22.8, 27.4, 29.4, 29.6, 31.7, 32.7, 44.7, 59.8, 60.8, 109.4, 122.7, 123.4, 123.5, 130.0, 139.5, 143.2, 167.7; IR (neat,

cm⁻¹) 3378, 3057, 2925, 2853, 1453, 1433, 750; HRMS calcd for C₂₁H₃₀INO₂ 455.13213. Found 455.13262.

Ethyl 1-*n*-butyl-2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)-3-iodoindole-5-carboxylate (47). The product was obtained as a pale yellow solid: mp. 121-122 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.36 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 1.68-1.77 (m, 4H), 2.17-2.22 (m, 4H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 4.34 (q, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.85 (m, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.7, 14.7, 20.0, 32.2, 45.2, 60.9, 61.2, 110.1, 123.2, 124.2, 124.5, 128.7, 129.3, 130.3, 130.9, 131.7, 139.6, 143.3, 167.6; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3378, 3057, 2925, 2853, 1453, 1433, 750; HRMS calcd for C₁₈H₂₀INO₂ 409.05388. Found 409.05434.

Ethyl 2-(cyclohex-1-enyl)-3-iodo-1-methylindole-5-carboxylate (48). The product was obtained as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.85 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 1.21-1.27 (m, 2H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 1.58-1.75 (m, 6H), 2.18-2.19 (m, 4H), 4.00 (q, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.33 (q, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.83 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 13.9, 14.7, 20.3, 22.0, 22.9, 25.7, 29.6, 32.6, 45.1, 59.0, 60.8, 109.8, 122.7, 123.7, 124.0, 129.8, 130.1, 134.2, 139.2, 145.6, 167.7; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3378, 3057, 2925, 2853, 1453, 1433, 750; HRMS calcd for C₂₁H₂₆INO₂ 451.10083. Found 451.10169.

1-Methyl-2-phenyl-3-(phenylethynyl)indole (50). This indole was prepared by the following procedure. Into a well mixed Et₃N solution (5 ml) containing 5.0 mmol of 3-iodo-2-phenylindole, 6.0 mmol of phenylacetylene and PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (5 mol %), CuI (2.5 mol %) was added and the flask was flushed with Ar, sealed and allowed to stir at room

temperature for 2 h. The resulting precipitate was filtered off and washed with ethyl ether (10 ml). The combined ether layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under vacuum to afford a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.69 (s, 3H), 7.21-7.32 (m, 6H), 7.41-7.44 (m, 3H), 7.49 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 31.8, 84.5, 91.9, 110.0, 120.2, 121.0, 123.1, 124.7, 127.4, 128.1, 128.4, 128.5, 128.7, 129.0, 130.4, 131.0, 131.3, 137.4, 144.0; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3004, 2962, 2923, 2204; HRMS calcd for C₂₃H₁₇N 307.13610. Found 307.13698.

1-Methyl-2,3-diphenylindole (51). This indole was prepared according to a literature procedure.¹⁴ Into 10 ml of a 2:1 DMF/H₂O solution containing 5.0 mmol of 3-iodo-2-phenylindole, 5.0 mmol of Na₂CO₃ and 1.25 mmol of NaBPh₄ were added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 min. Pd(OAc)₂ (5 mol %) was then added and the flask was flushed with Ar, sealed and allowed to stir at 100 °C for 2 h. The resulting reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl ether (2 x 10 ml). The combined ether layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under vacuum to afford a white solid.

Recrystallization afforded a 92 % yield of a crystalline solid. The product was obtained as white needles: mp 136-137 °C, lit¹⁵ mp 137-138 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.67 (s, 3H), 7.16-7.39 (m, 13H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 10.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 31.1, 109.8, 115.3, 119.8, 120.4, 122.4, 125.7, 127.2, 128.2, 128.4, 128.6, 130.1, 131.4, 132.1, 135.4, 137.5, 137.9; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3058, 2923, 2849; HRMS calcd for C₂₁H₁₇N 283.13610. Found 283.13690.

***n*-Butyl 2(*E*)-3-[1-methyl-2-phenylindol-3-yl]propenoate (52).** This indole was prepared by the following procedure. Into 1 ml of DMF containing 0.25 mmol of 3-iodo-

2-phenylindole, 0.25 mmol of Na₂CO₃ and 0.25 mmol of *n*-Bu₄NCl, 0.525 mmol of *n*-butyl acrylate were added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 min. Pd(OAc)₂ (5 mol %) was then added and the flask was flushed with Ar, sealed and allowed to stir at 80 °C for 24 h.¹⁶ The resulting reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl ether (2 x 10 ml). The combined ether layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under vacuum to afford a pale yellow oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.94 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 1.37-1.44 (m, 2H), 1.62-1.67 (m, 2H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 4.15 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 6.48 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.40 (m, 5H), 7.50-7.53 (m, 3H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.0, 19.4, 31.1, 31.3, 64.0, 110.2, 110.6, 113.1, 120.9, 121.9, 123.2, 125.8, 128.8, 129.4, 130.2, 131.1, 138.1, 139.0, 145.6, 168.8; IR (neat, cm⁻¹) 3004, 2963, 2925, 1711; HRMS calcd for C₂₂H₂₃NO₂ 333.17288. Found 333.17370.

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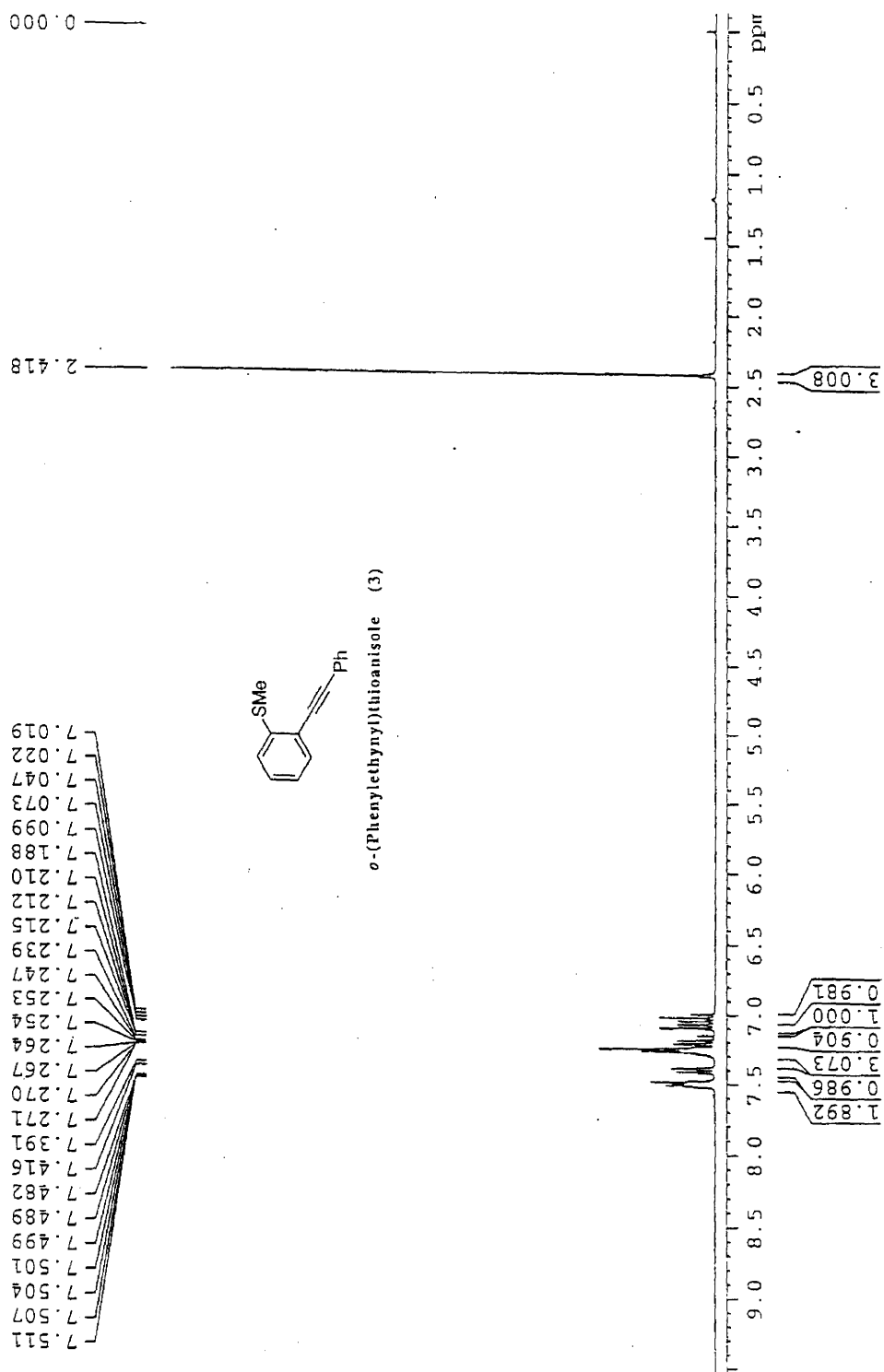
GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

In this thesis, the scope and limitations of syntheses of substituted benzo[*b*]thiophenes and indoles by electrophilic cyclization reactions have been presented. Various electrophiles have been employed in this study and highly efficient synthetic methodologies have been developed.

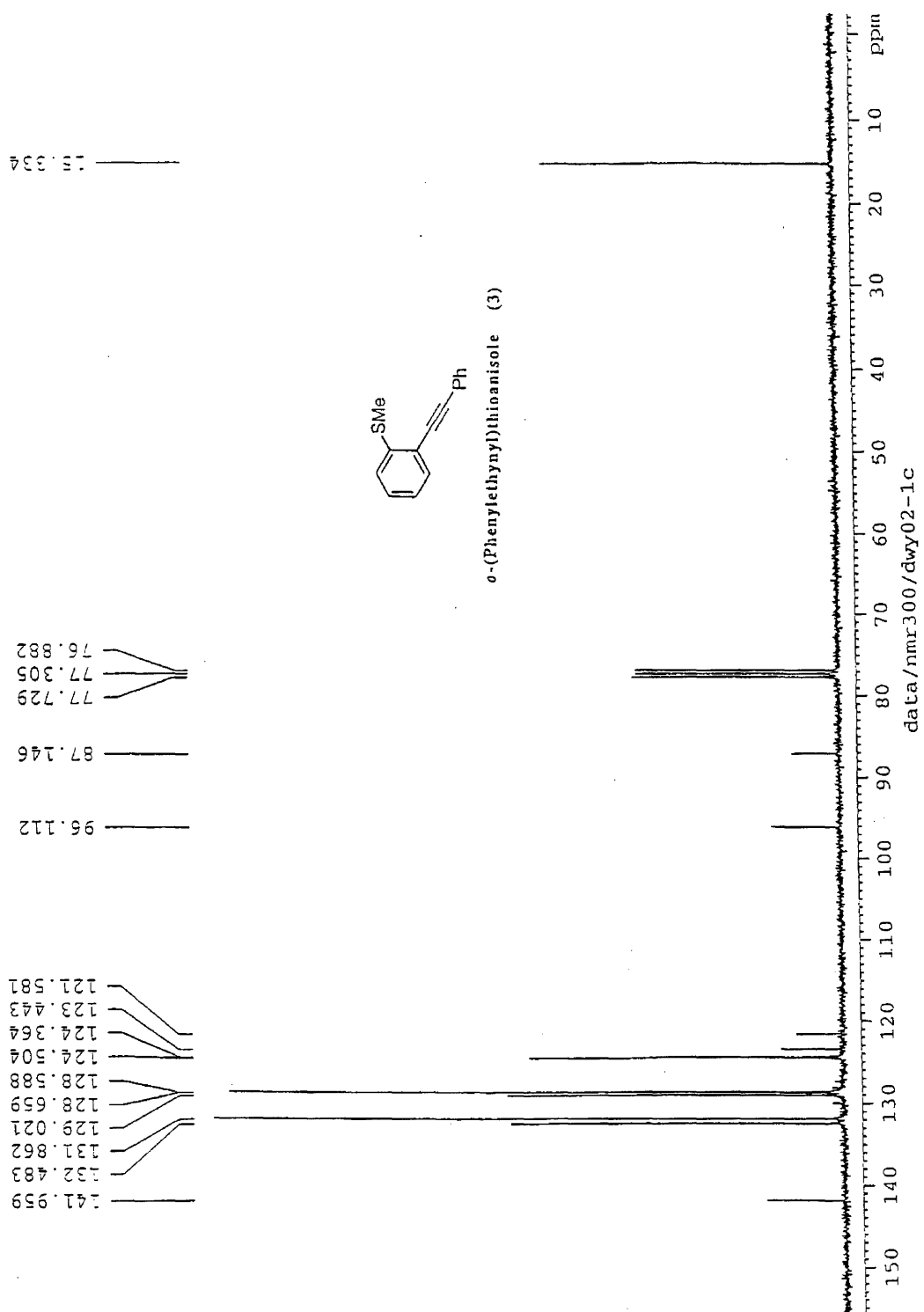
Chapter 1 describes the synthesis of 2,3-disubstituted benzo[*b*]thiophenes by the palladium-catalyzed coupling and electrophilic cyclization of terminal acetylenes. Various benzo[*b*]thiophenes have been synthesized by this approach in high yields. I₂, Br₂, NBS, *p*-O₂NC₆H₄SOCl and PhSeCl have been utilized as electrophiles. Aryl-, vinylic-, and alkyl-substituted terminal acetylenes undergo this coupling and cyclization to produce excellent yields of benzo[*b*]thiophenes. Trimethylsilyl acetylene also undergoes this coupling/cyclization process with I₂, NBS, and the sulfur and selenium electrophiles to afford the corresponding 2-(trimethylsilyl)benzo[*b*]thiophenes.

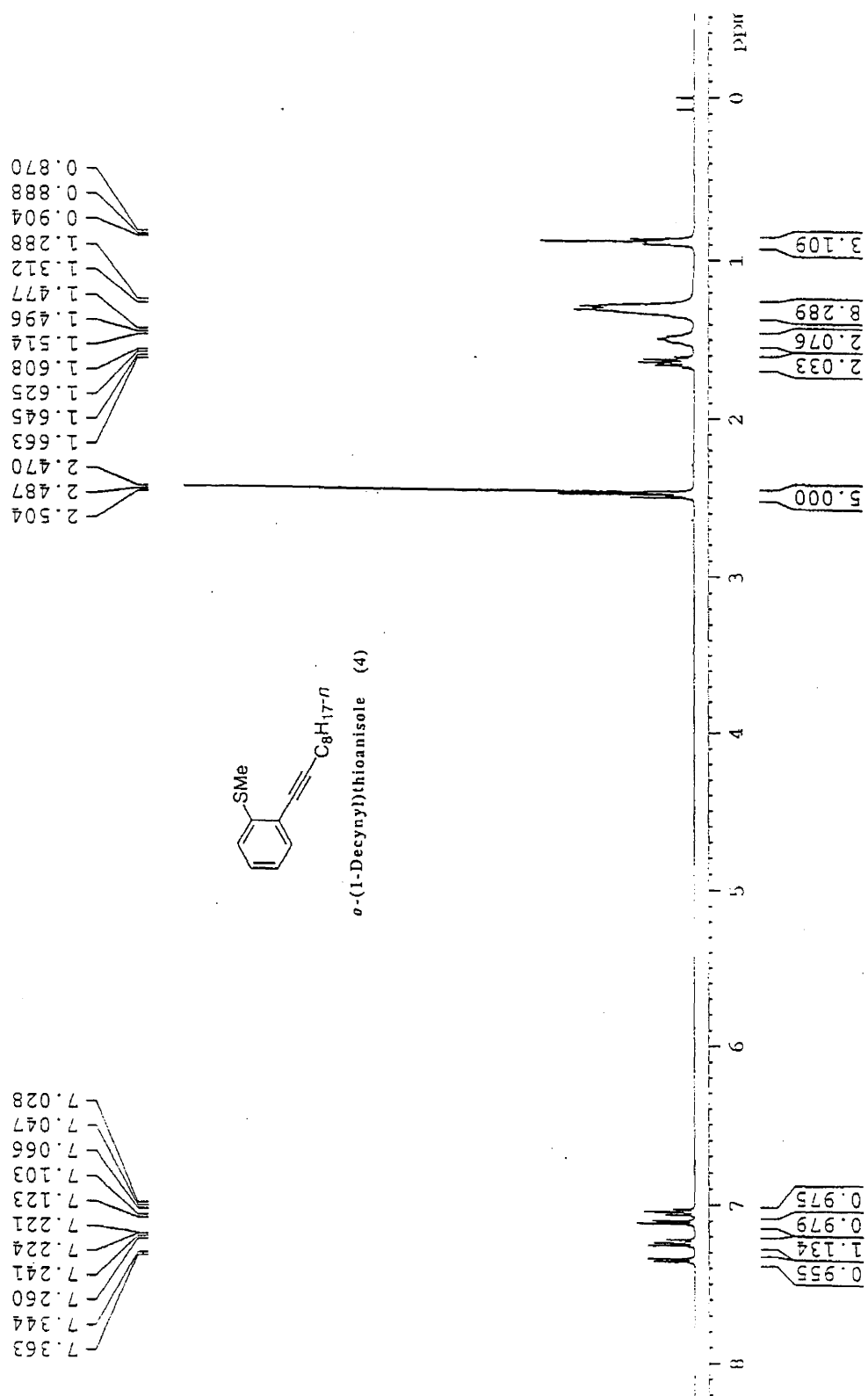
Chapter 2 presents a synthesis of 3-iodoindoles via coupling of terminal acetylenes with *N,N*-dialkyl-*o*-iodoanilines in the presence of a palladium catalyst and subsequent electrophilic iodocyclization of the resulting *N,N*-dialkyl-*o*-(1-alkynyl)aniline derivatives. Aryl-, vinylic-, alkyl- and silyl-substituted terminal acetylenes undergo this process to produce excellent yields of 3-iodoindoles.

APPENDIX A. CHAPTER 2 ^1H AND ^{13}C NMR SPECTRA

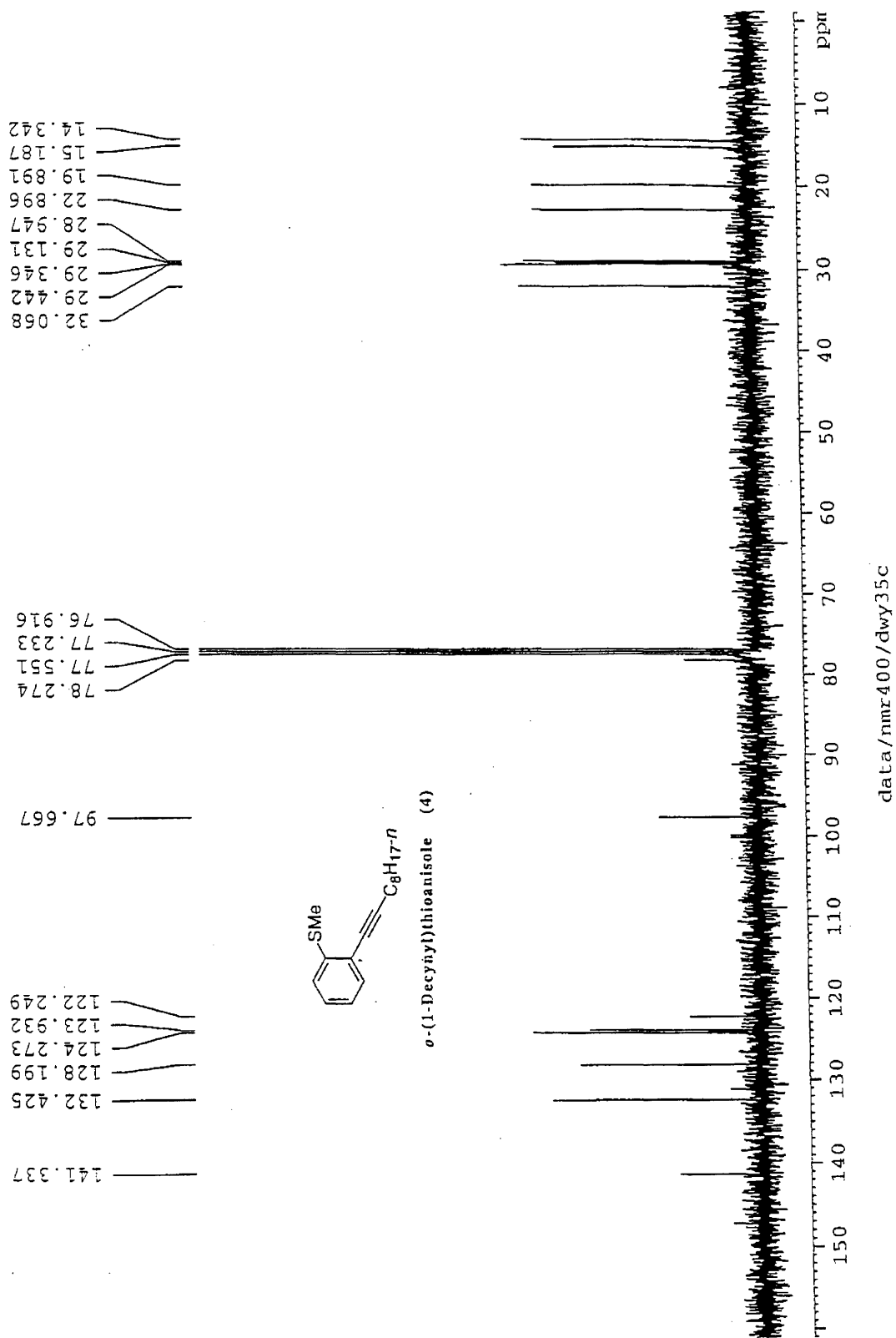


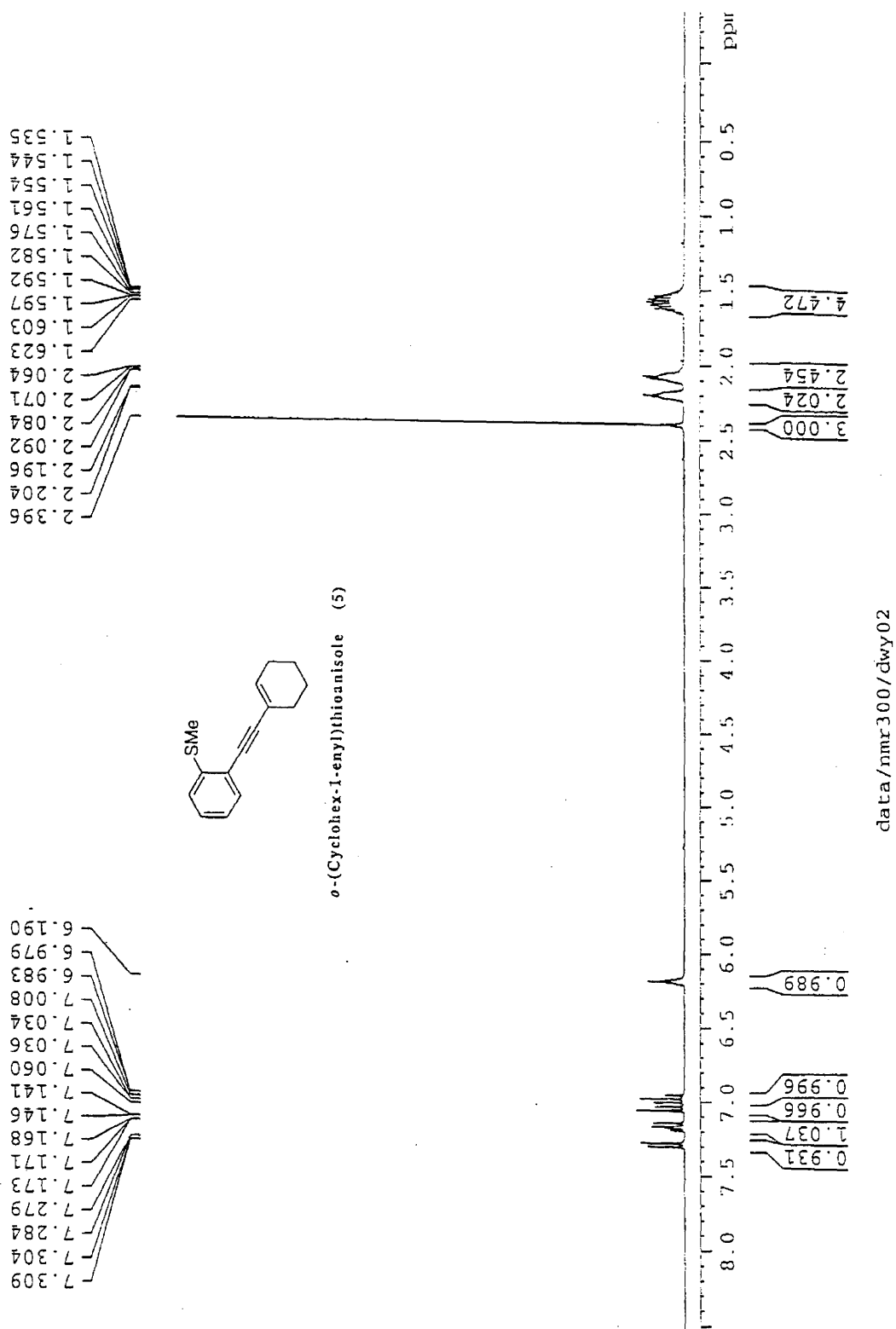
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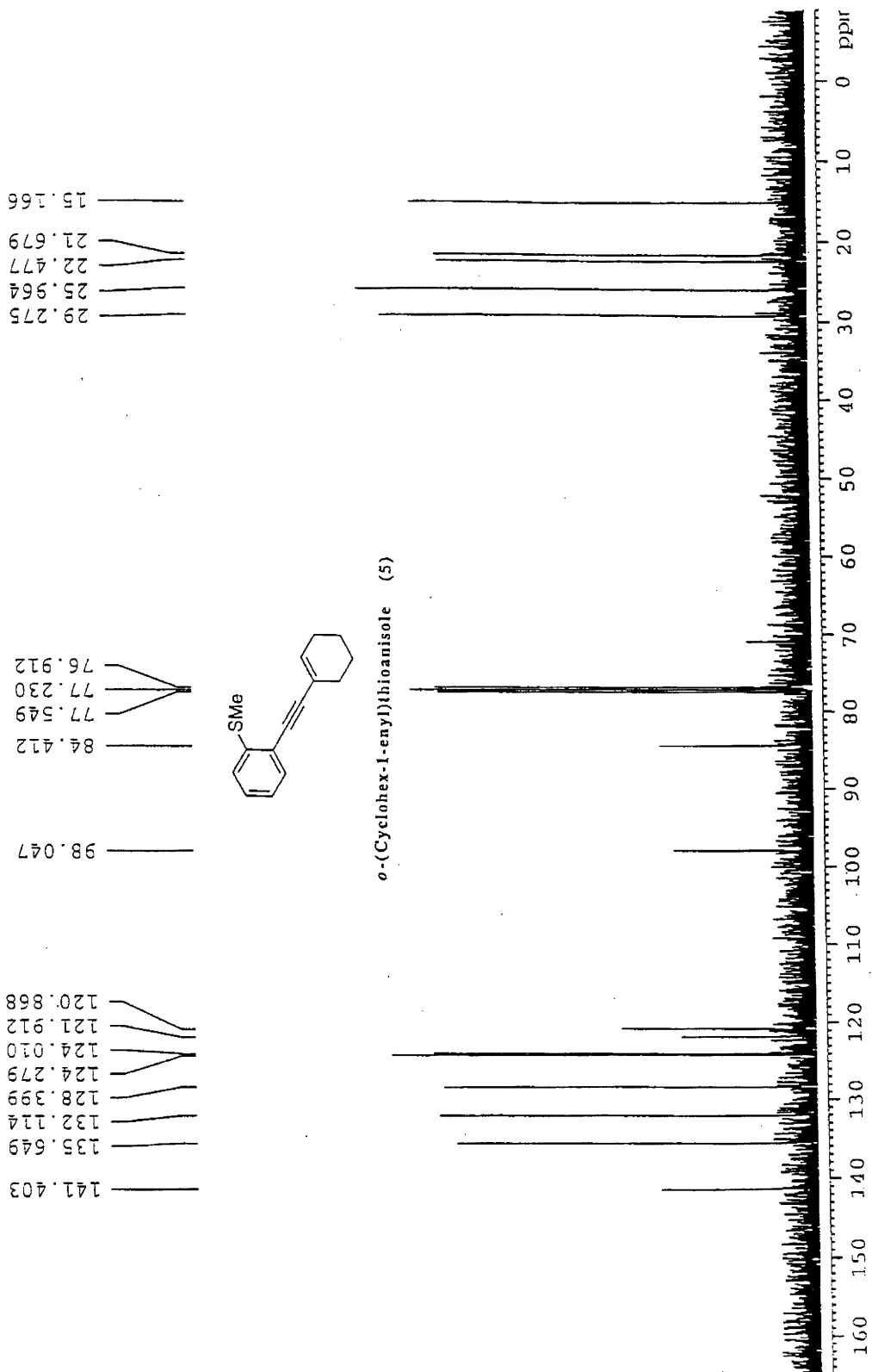




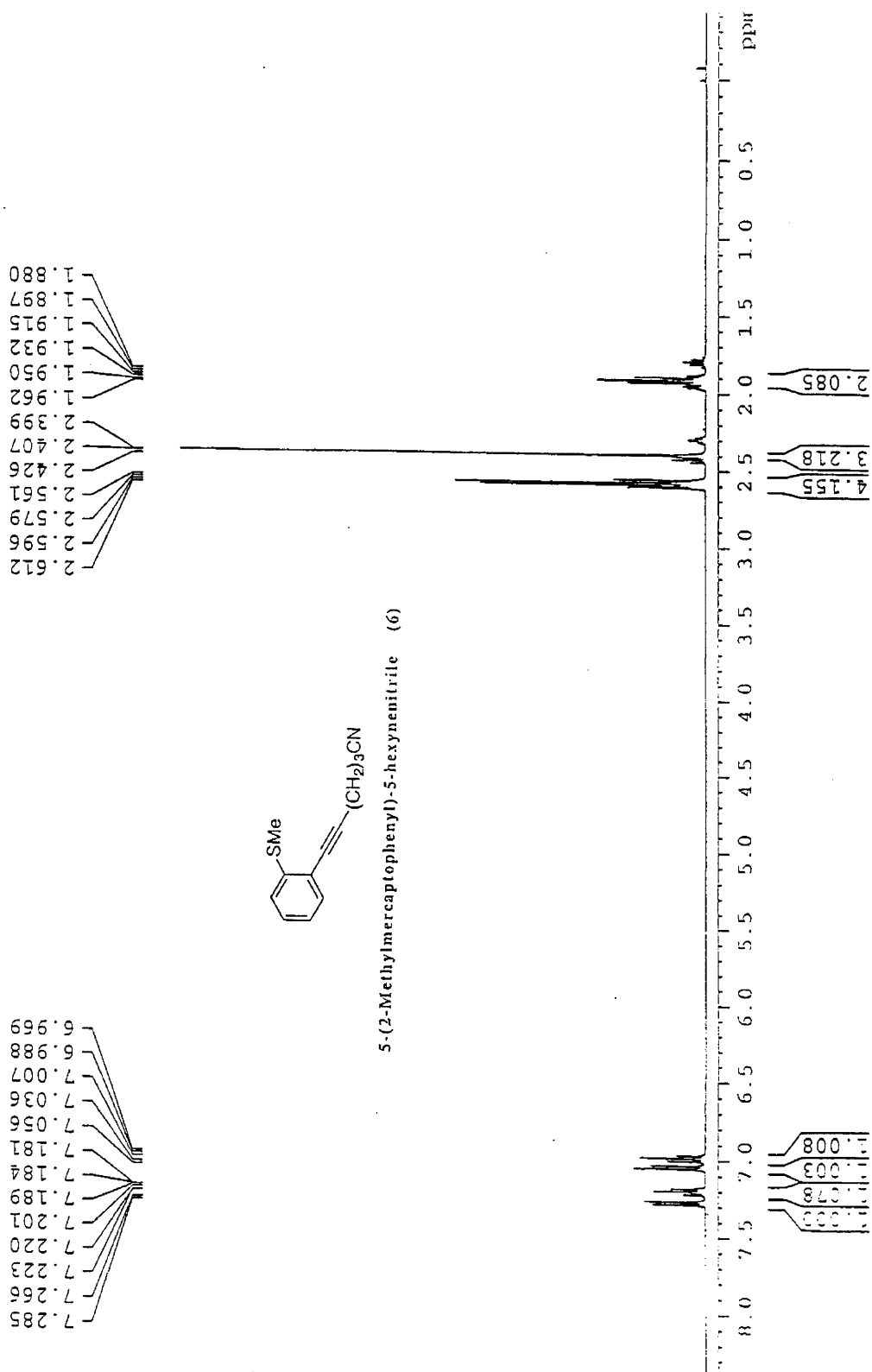
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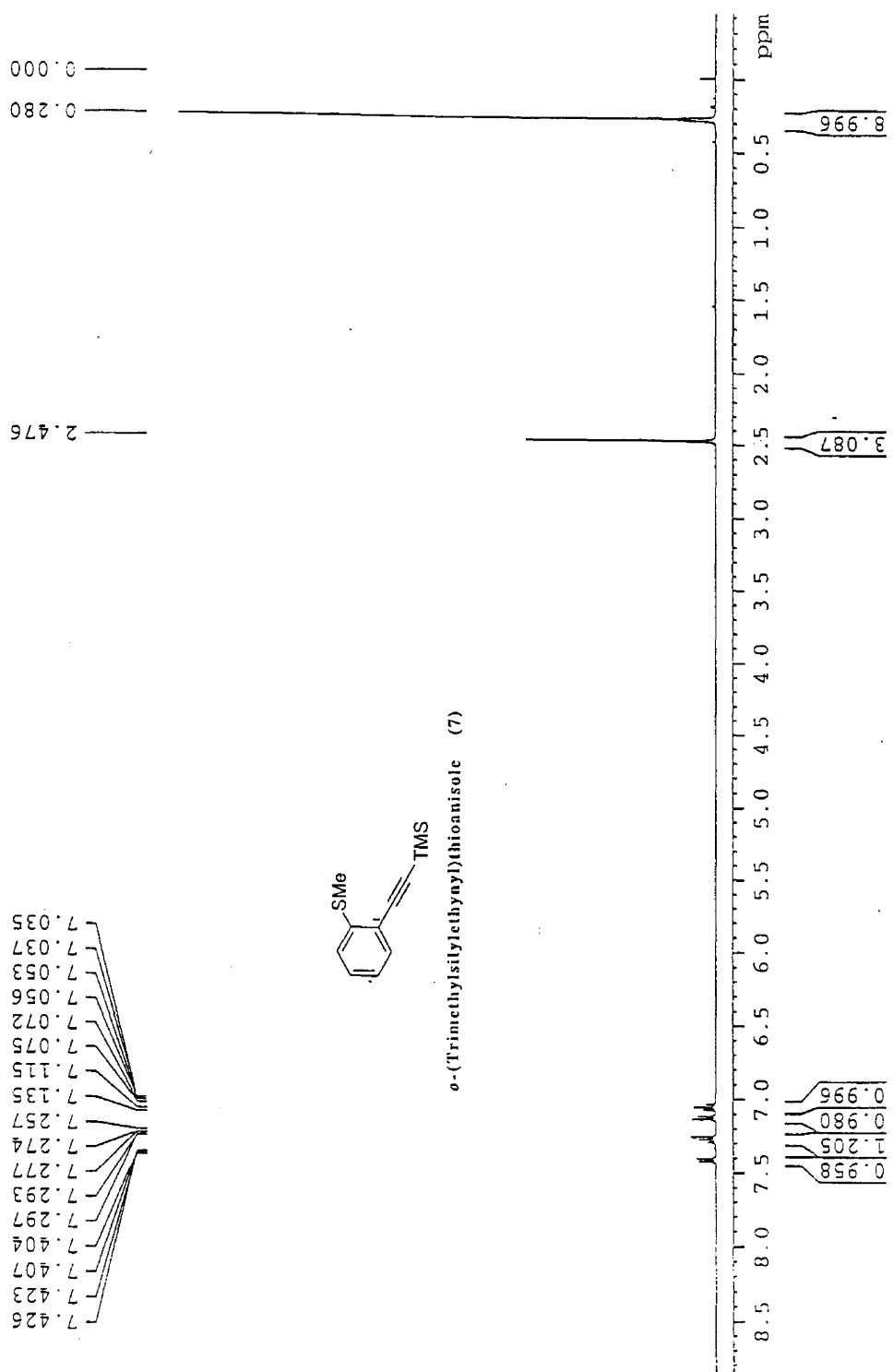


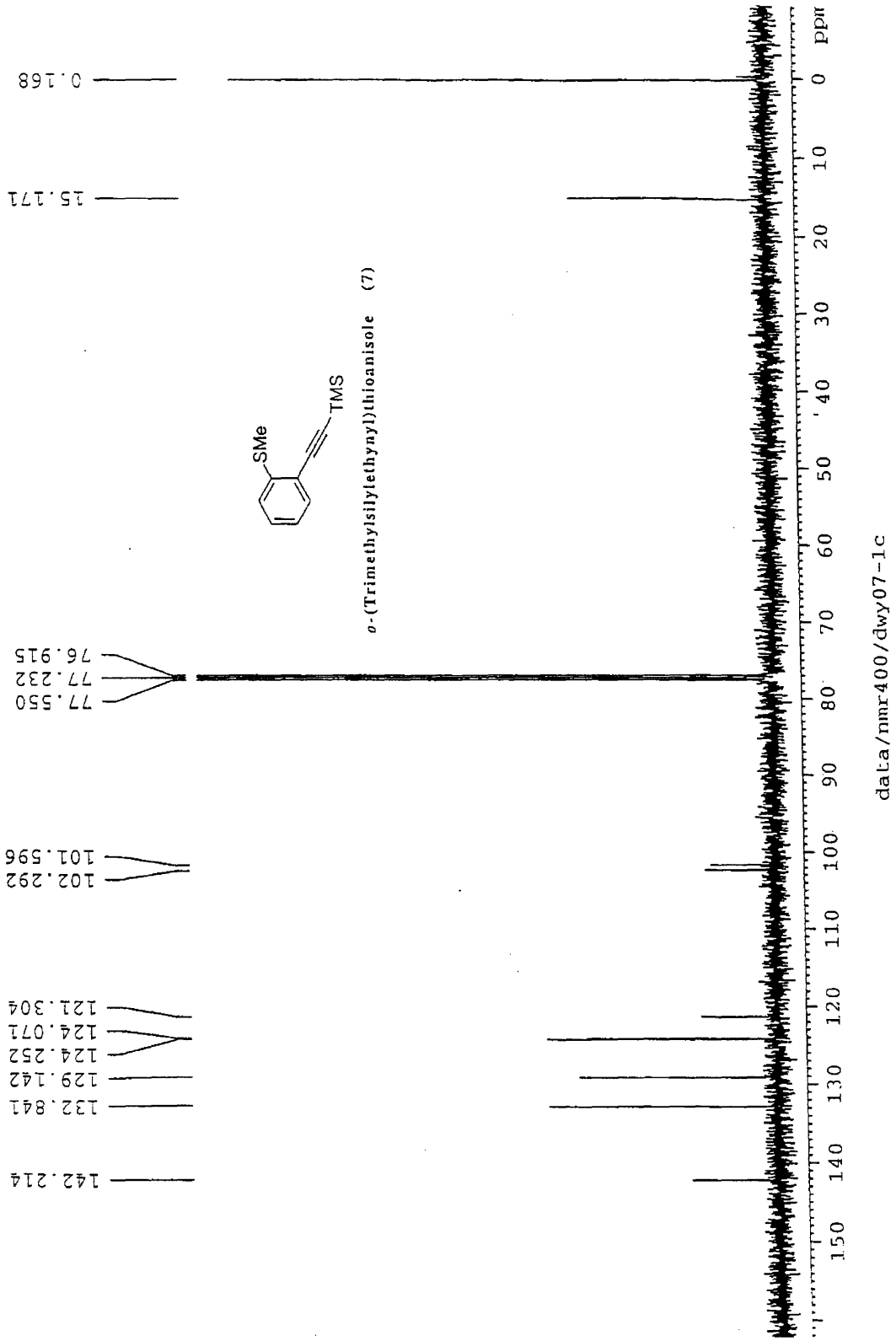


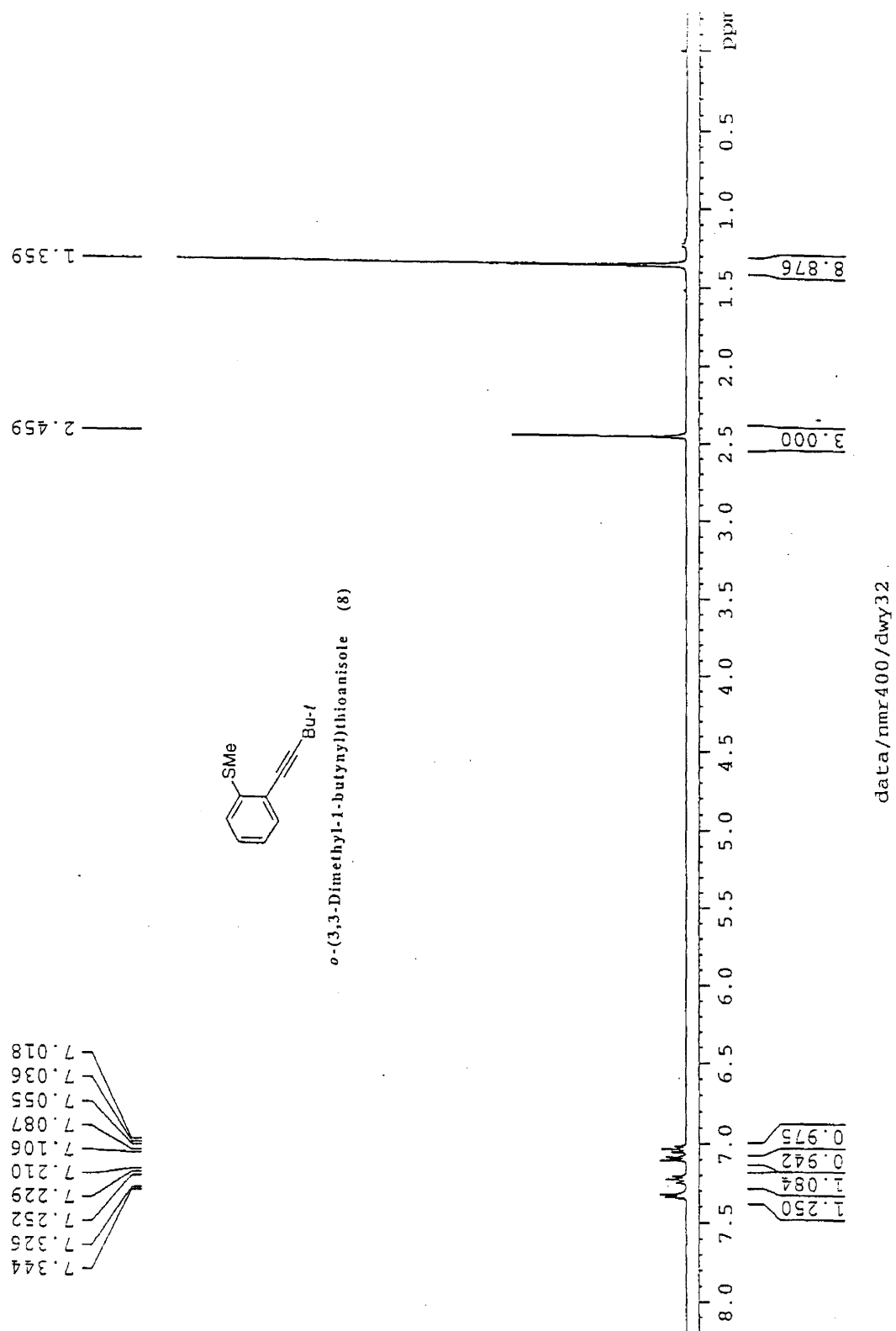
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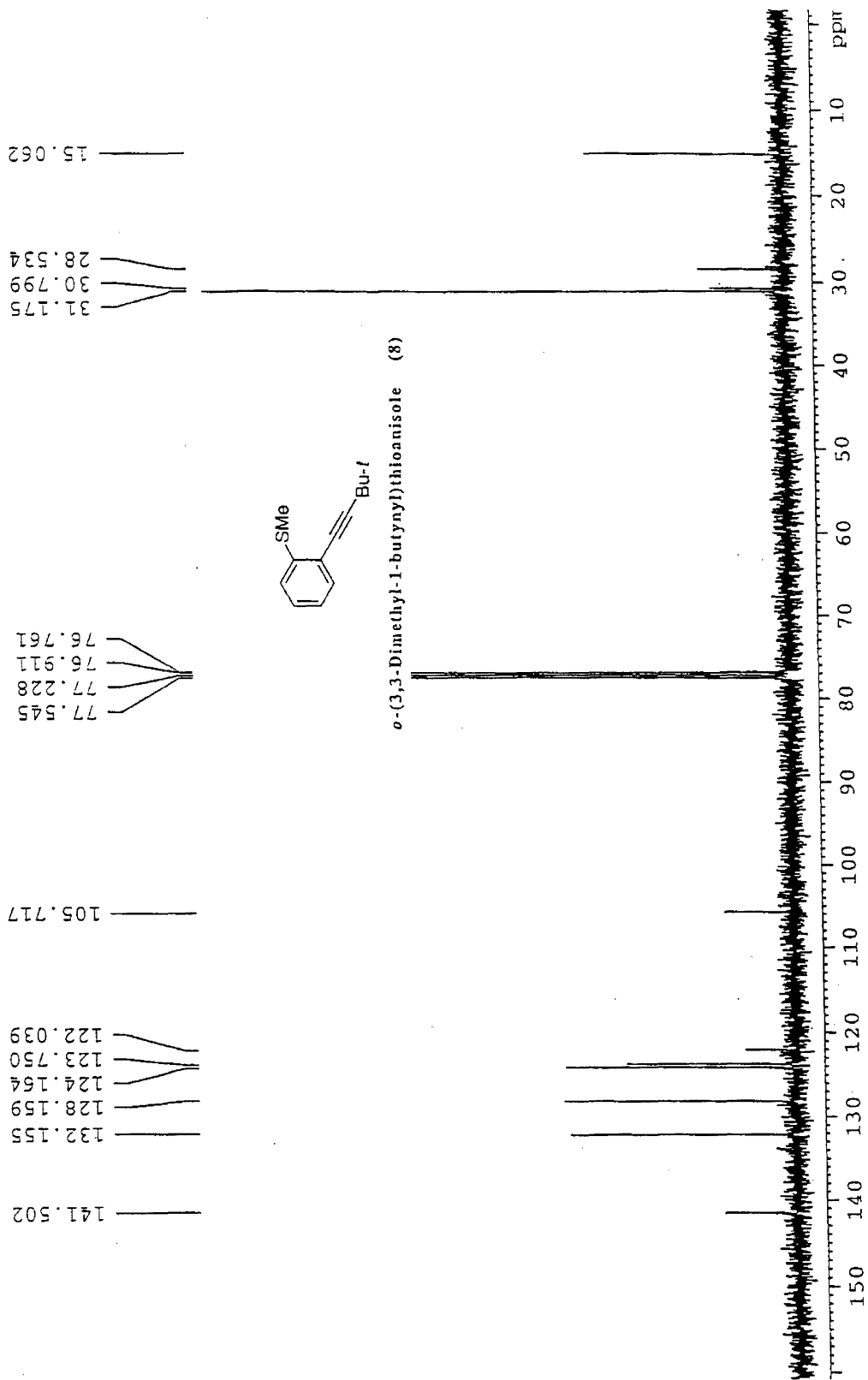


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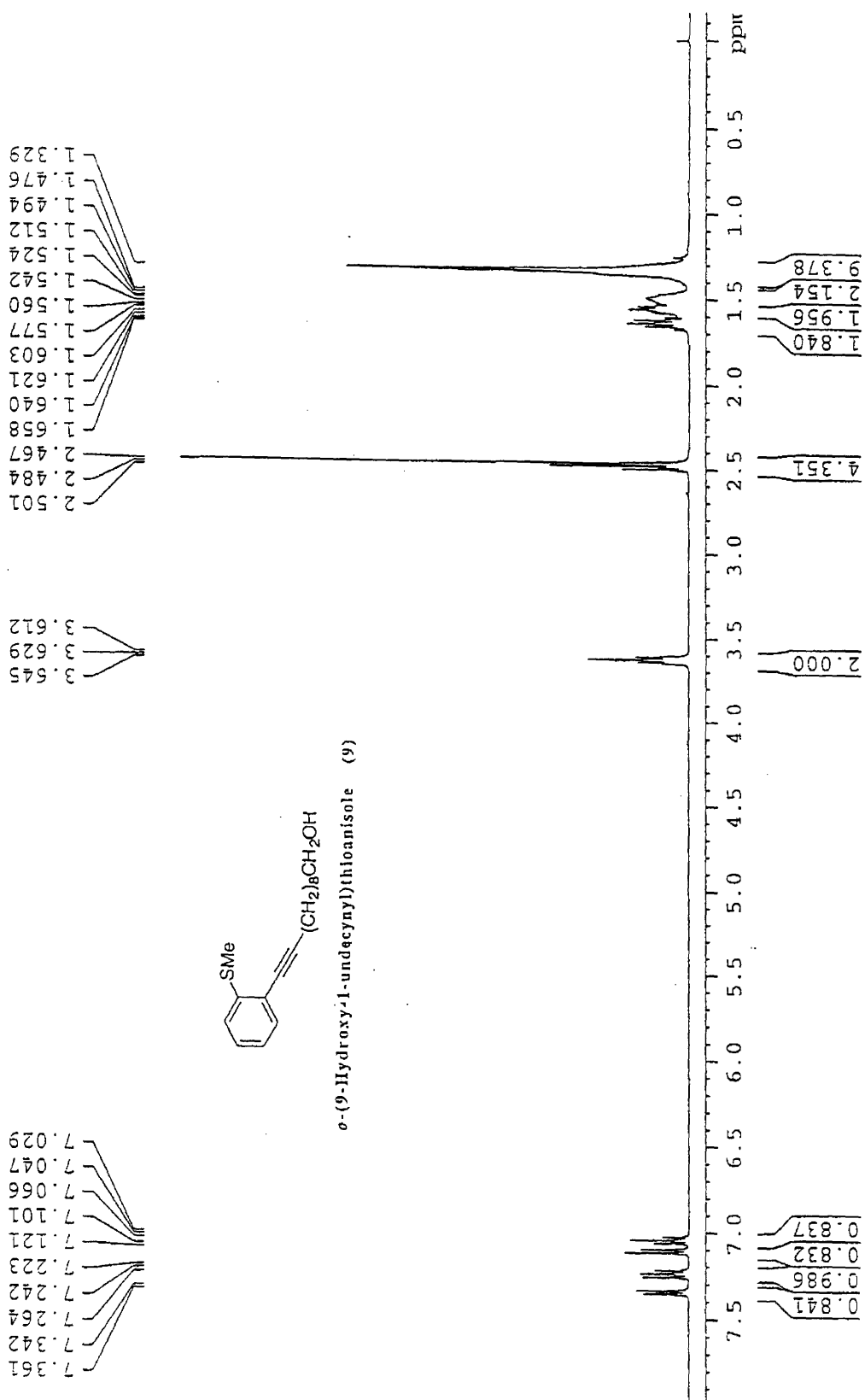




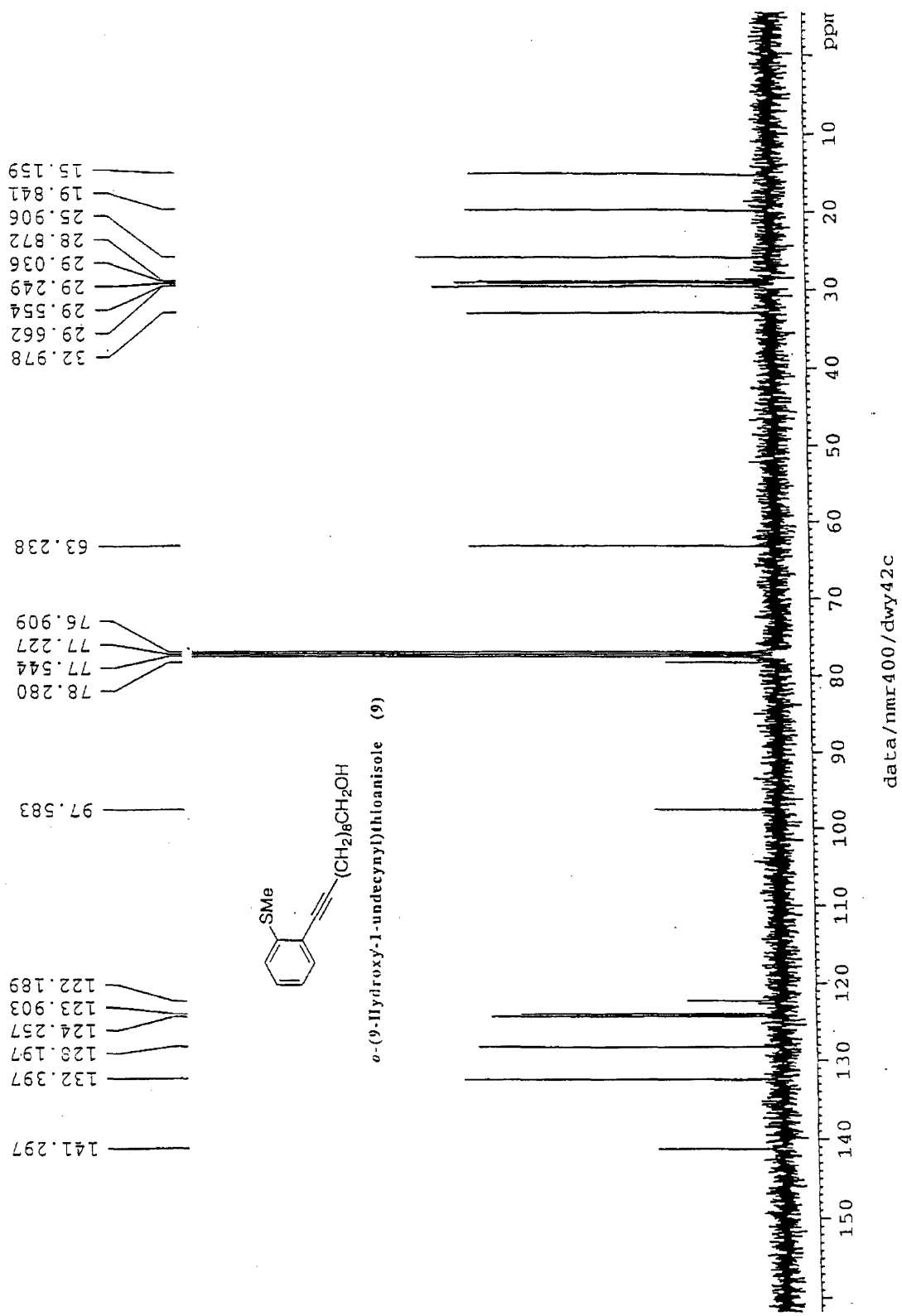


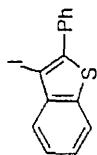


data/nmr400/dwy32c



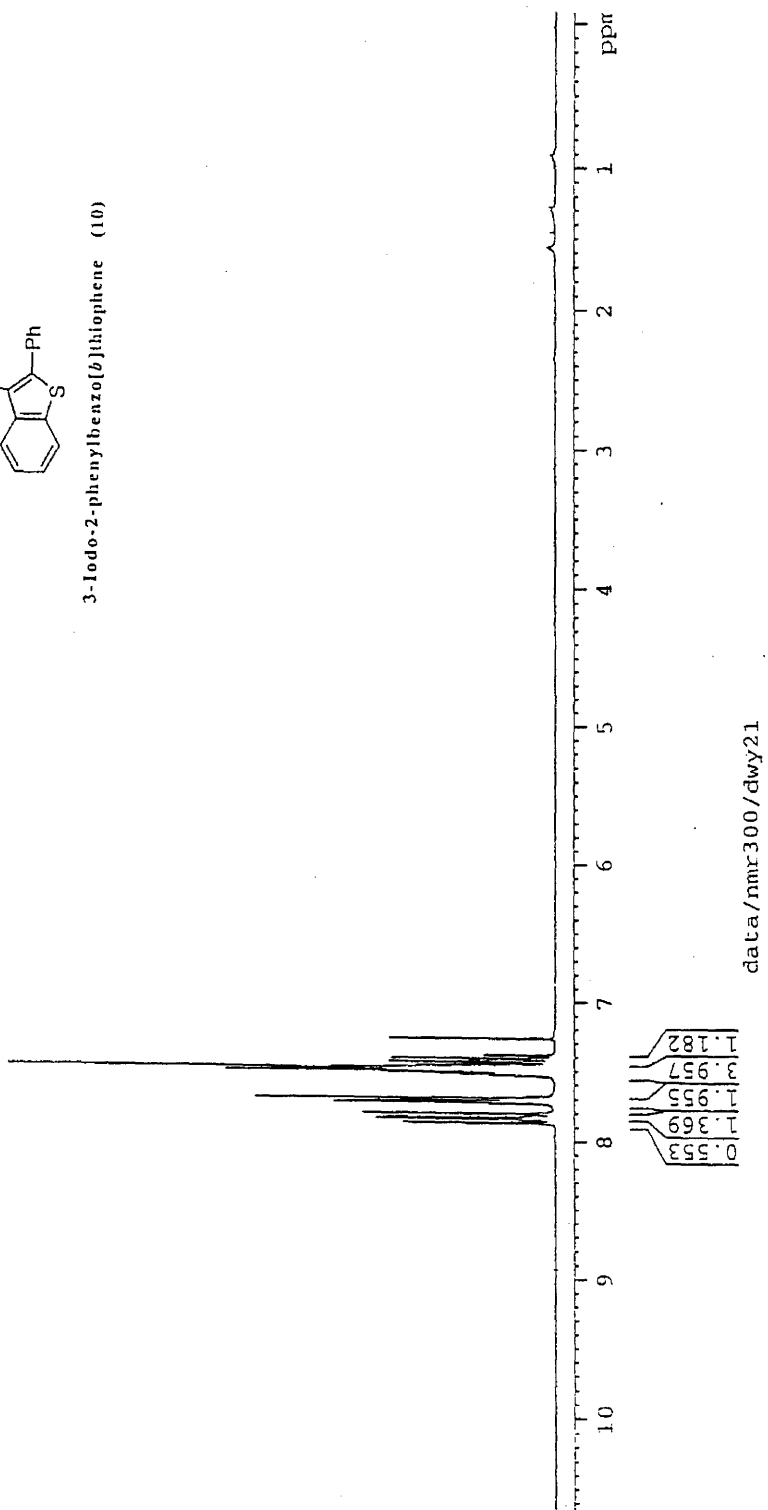
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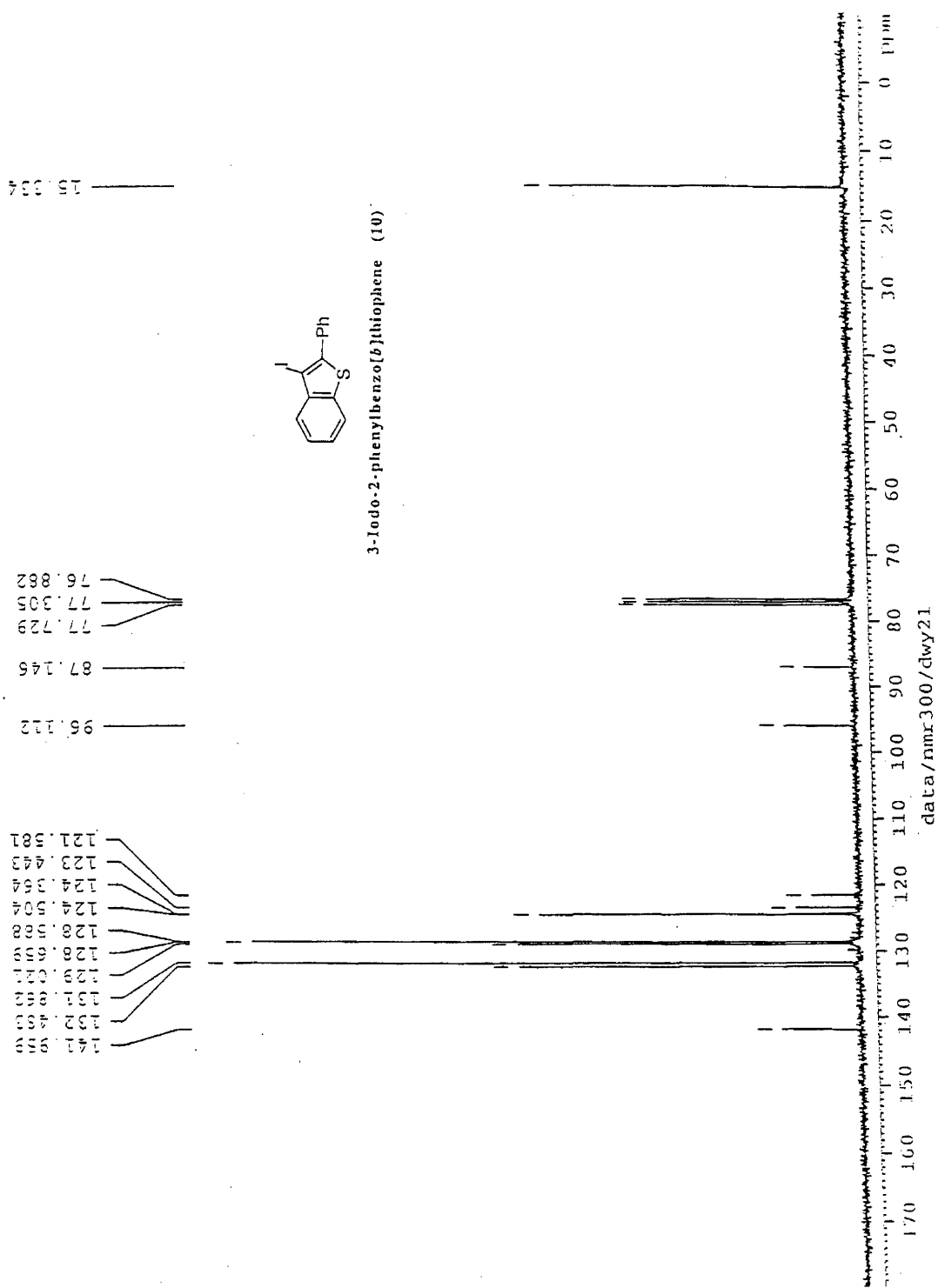




3-Iodo-2-phenylbenzo[b]thiophene (10)

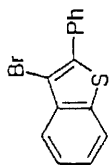
7.870
7.868
7.843
7.829
7.802
7.726
7.720
7.714
7.700
7.695
7.526
7.523
7.519
7.506
7.499
7.495
7.489
7.482
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7.442
7.437
7.415
7.411
7.391
7.387
7.270



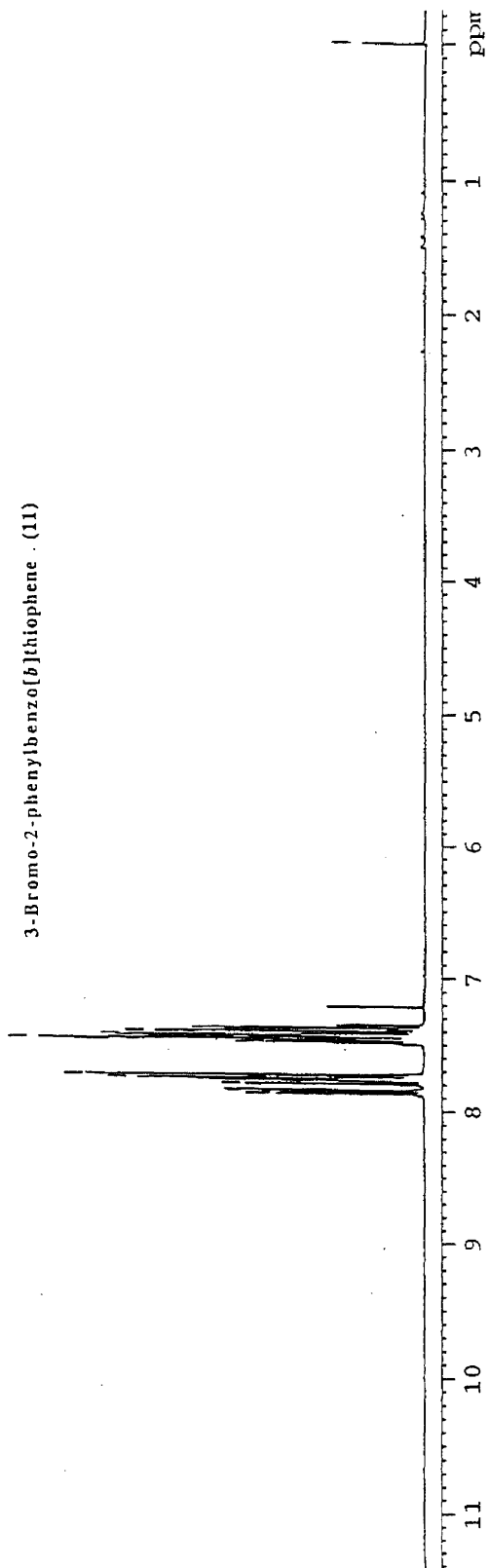


0.000

7.876
7.873
7.872
7.849
7.847
7.845
7.801
7.800
7.777
7.775
7.773
7.771
7.766
7.760
7.744
7.738
7.733
7.486
7.481
7.467
7.465
7.462
7.460
7.458
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7.429
7.407
7.405
7.403
7.381
7.379
7.377

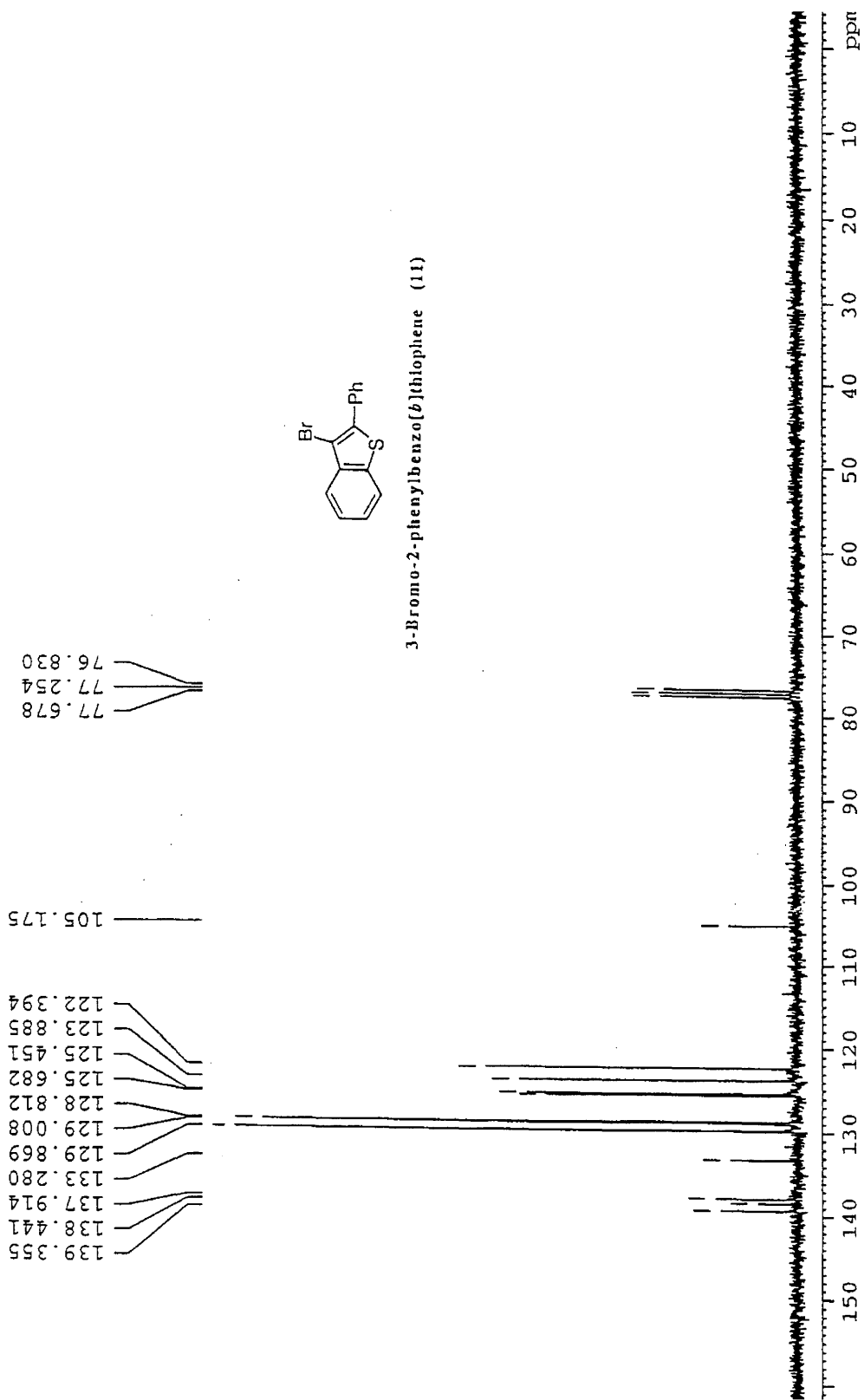


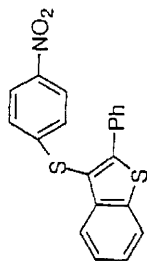
3-Bromo-2-phenylbenzo[b]thiophene . (11)



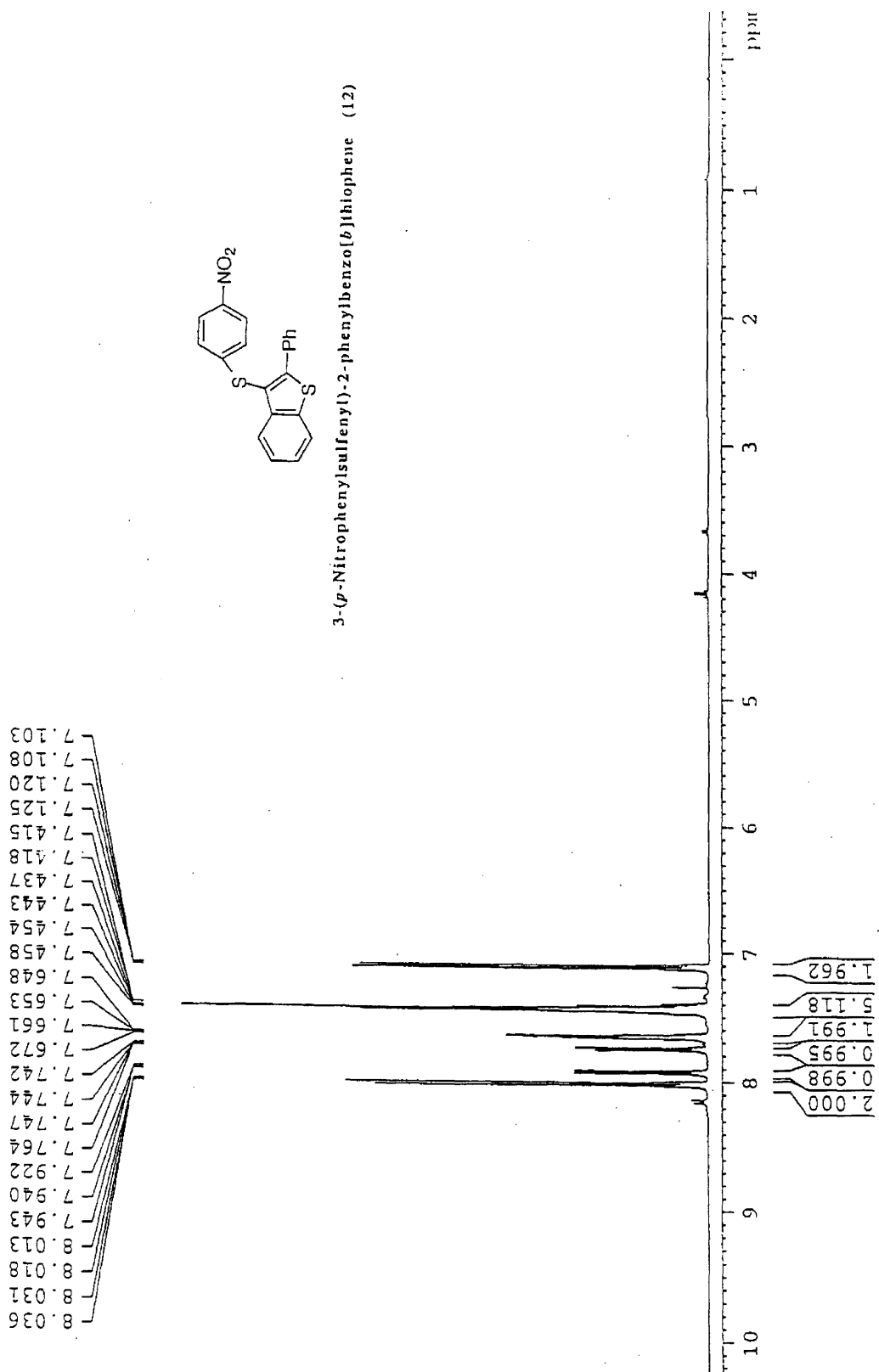
1.000
3.004
5.222

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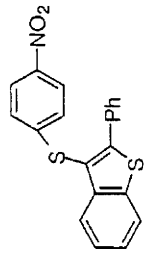




3-(*p*-Nitrophenylsulfenyl)-2-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene (12)

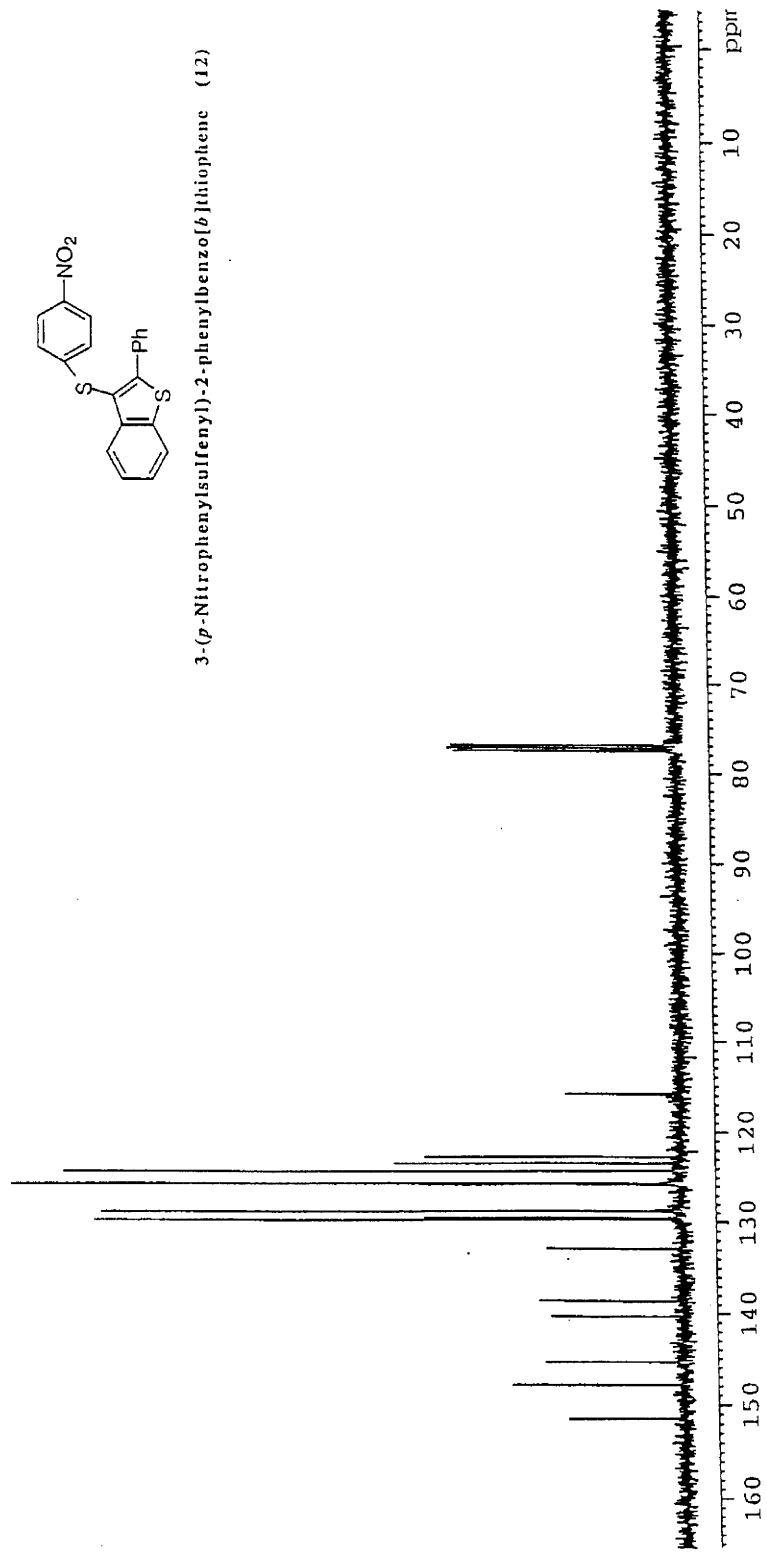


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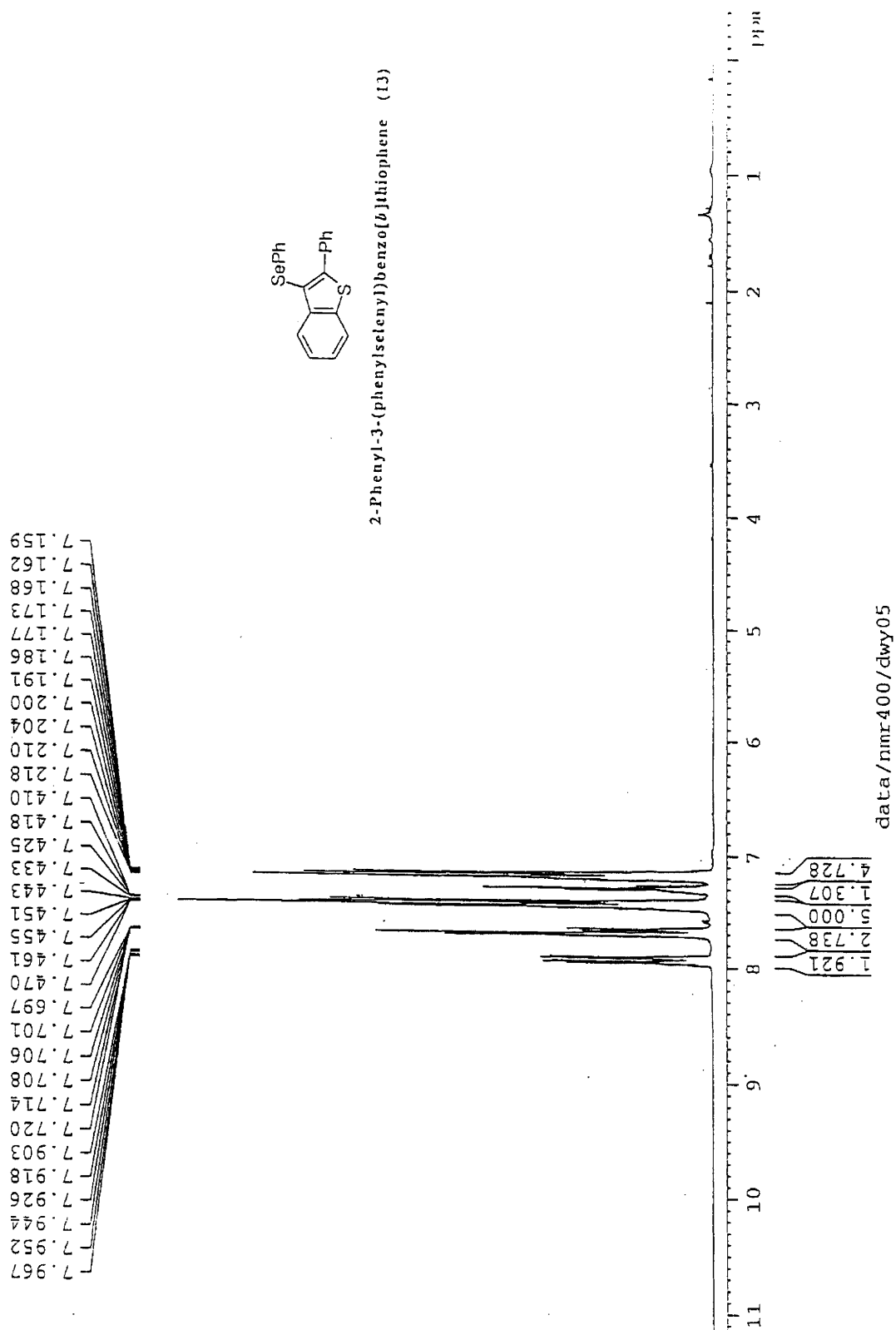


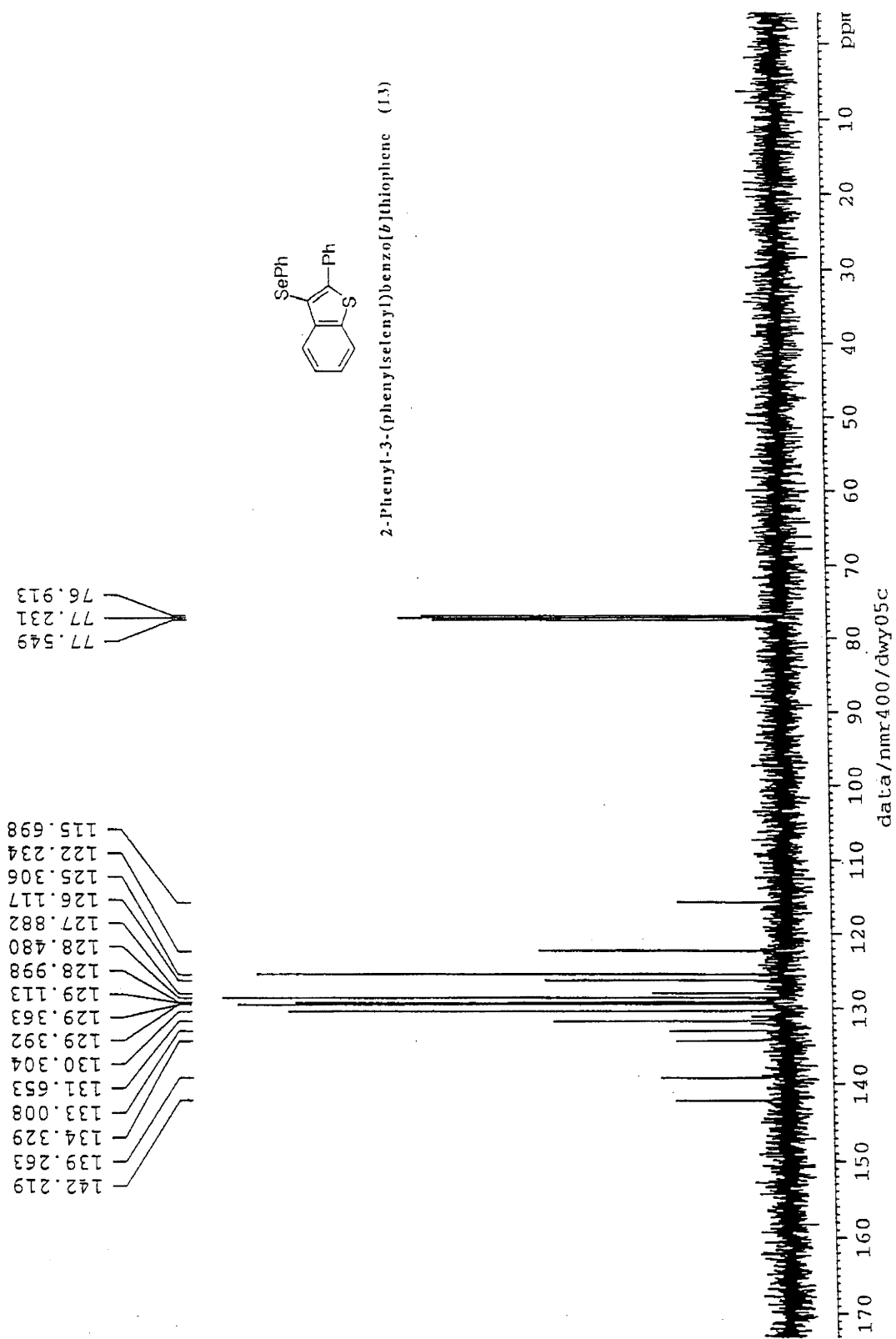
3-(*p*-Nitrophenylsulfenyl)-2-phenylbenzo[*b*]thiophene (12)

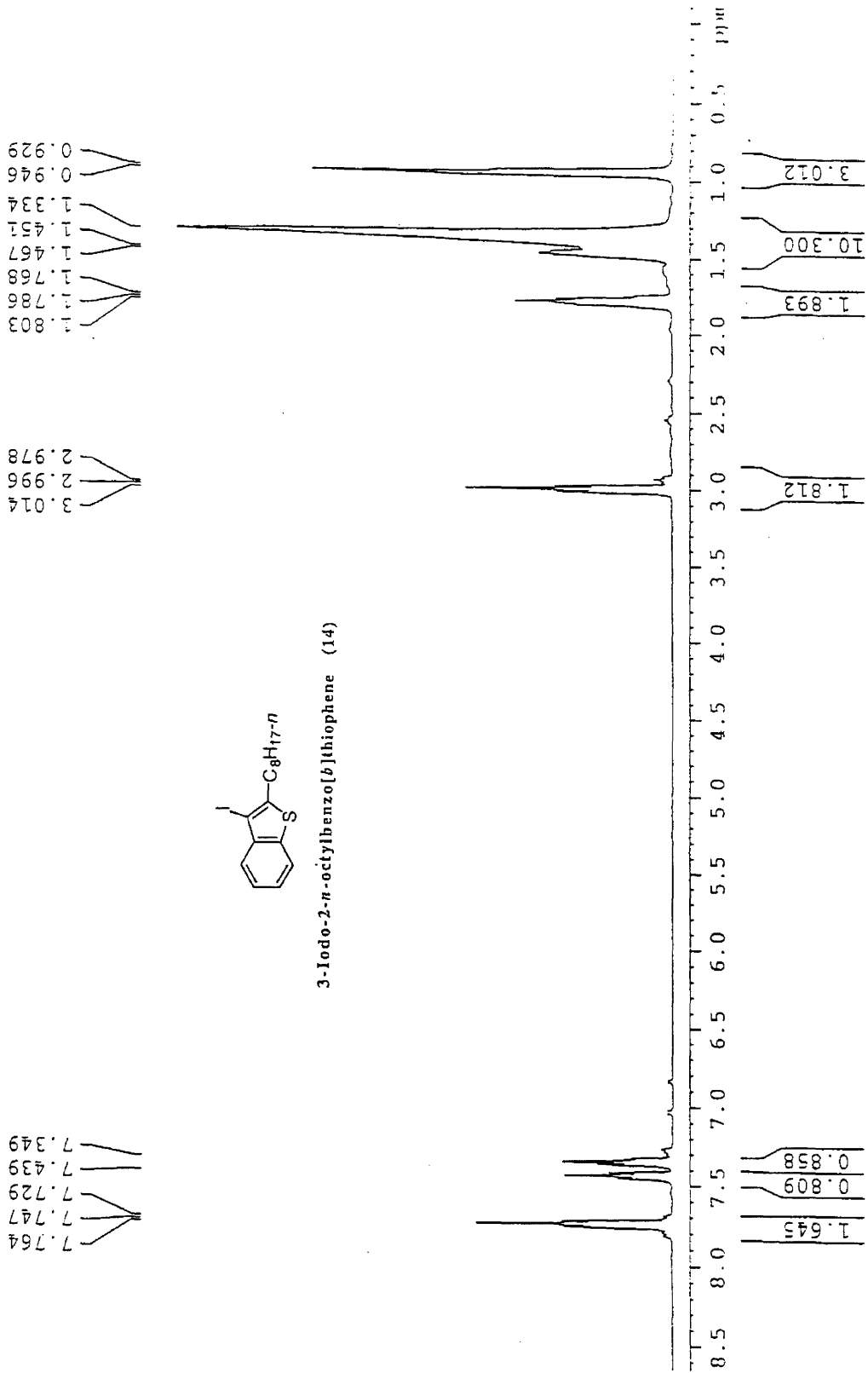
- 151.343
- 147.750
- 145.301
- 140.283
- 138.584
- 132.861
- 129.711
- 129.458
- 128.755
- 125.756
- 125.598
- 124.236
- 124.147
- 123.361
- 122.640
- 115.798
- 77.512
- 77.194
- 76.877



data/nmr-400/dwy06c







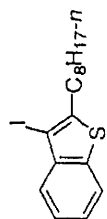
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33.176
32.070
30.768
29.545
29.417
29.329
22.891
14.366

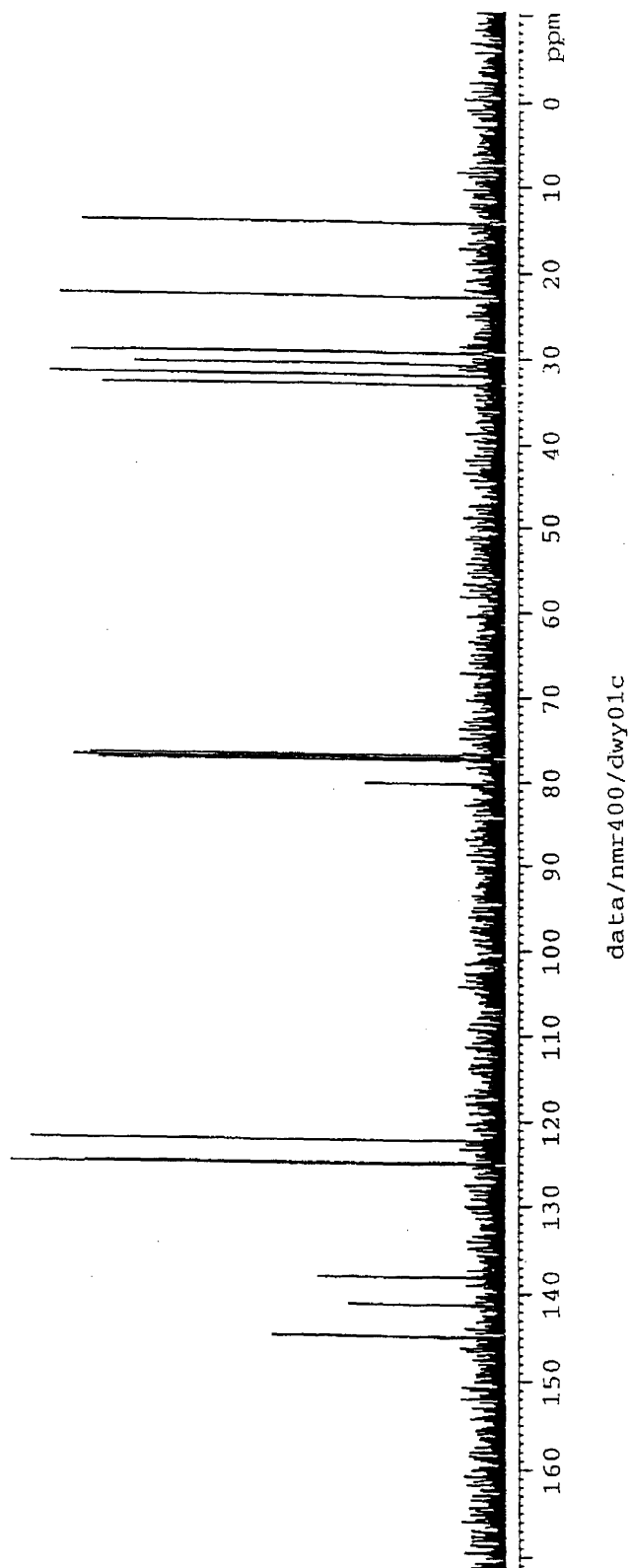
80.286
77.545
77.228
76.910

125.202
125.185
124.939
122.363

144.958
141.322
138.230

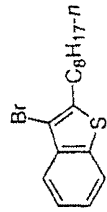


3-Iodo-2-n-octylbenzo[b]thiophene (14)

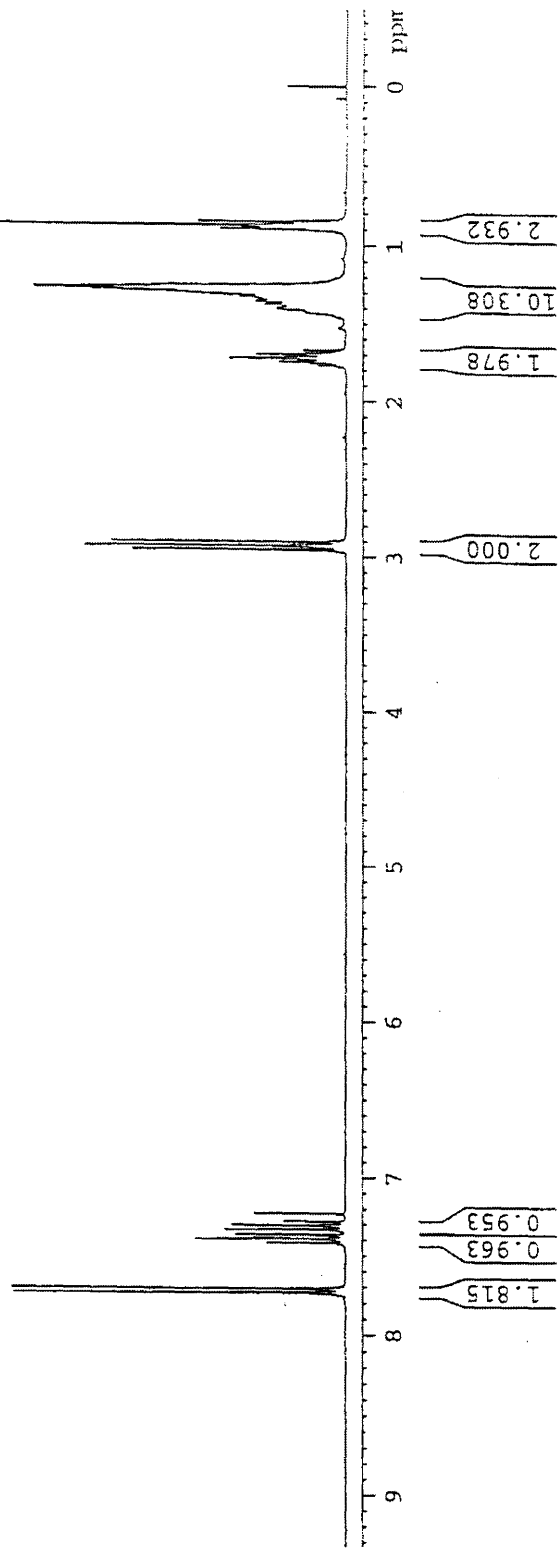


0.023
0.878
0.901
0.923
1.296
1.311
1.351
1.361
1.379
1.399
1.411
1.418
1.426
1.444
1.452
1.698
1.723
1.748
1.770
1.774
2.930
2.956
2.981

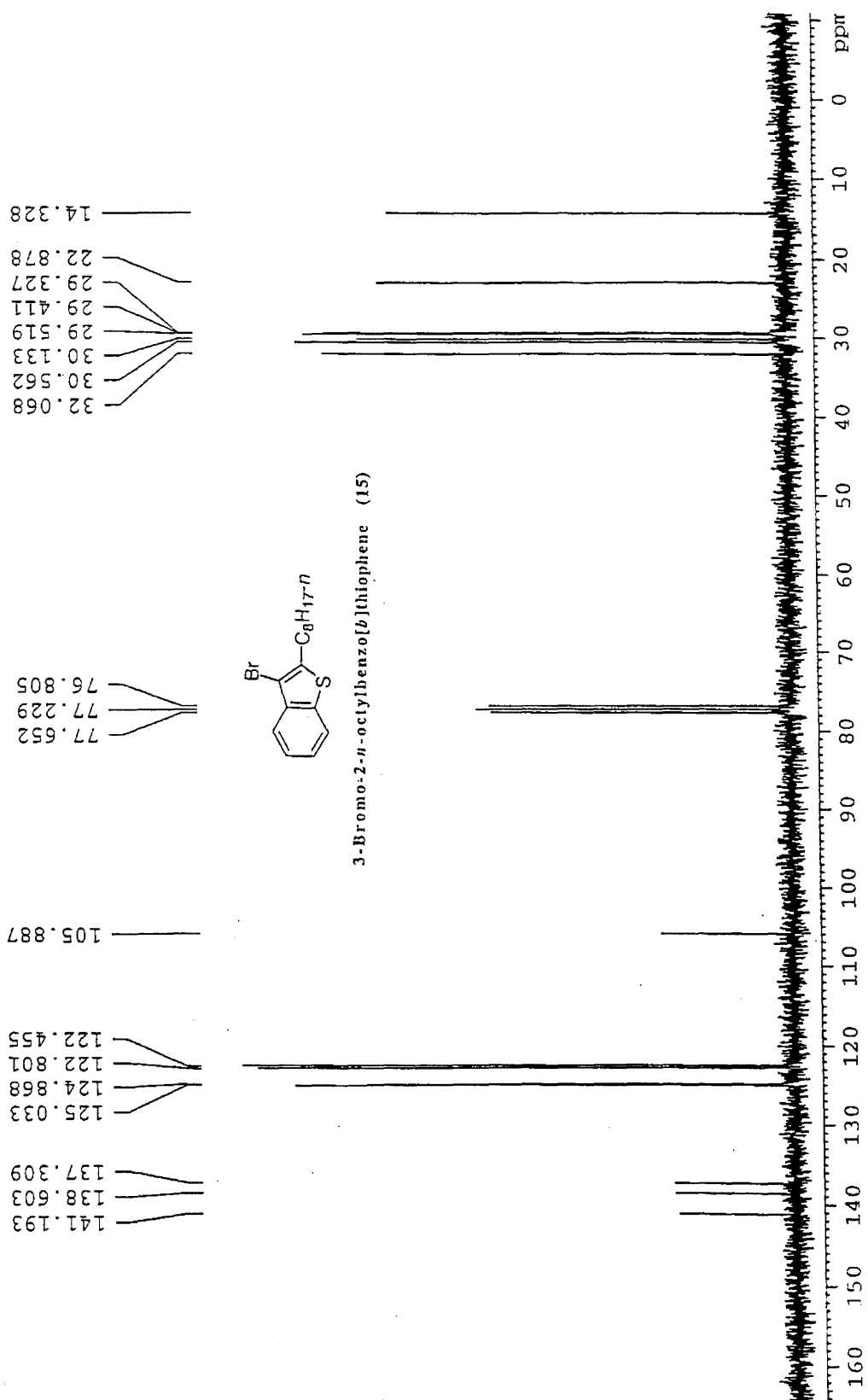
7.259
7.314
7.333
7.334
7.336
7.340
7.360
7.364
7.364
7.395
7.399
7.420
7.423
7.426
7.445
7.450
7.736
7.740
7.741
7.762
7.764
7.767

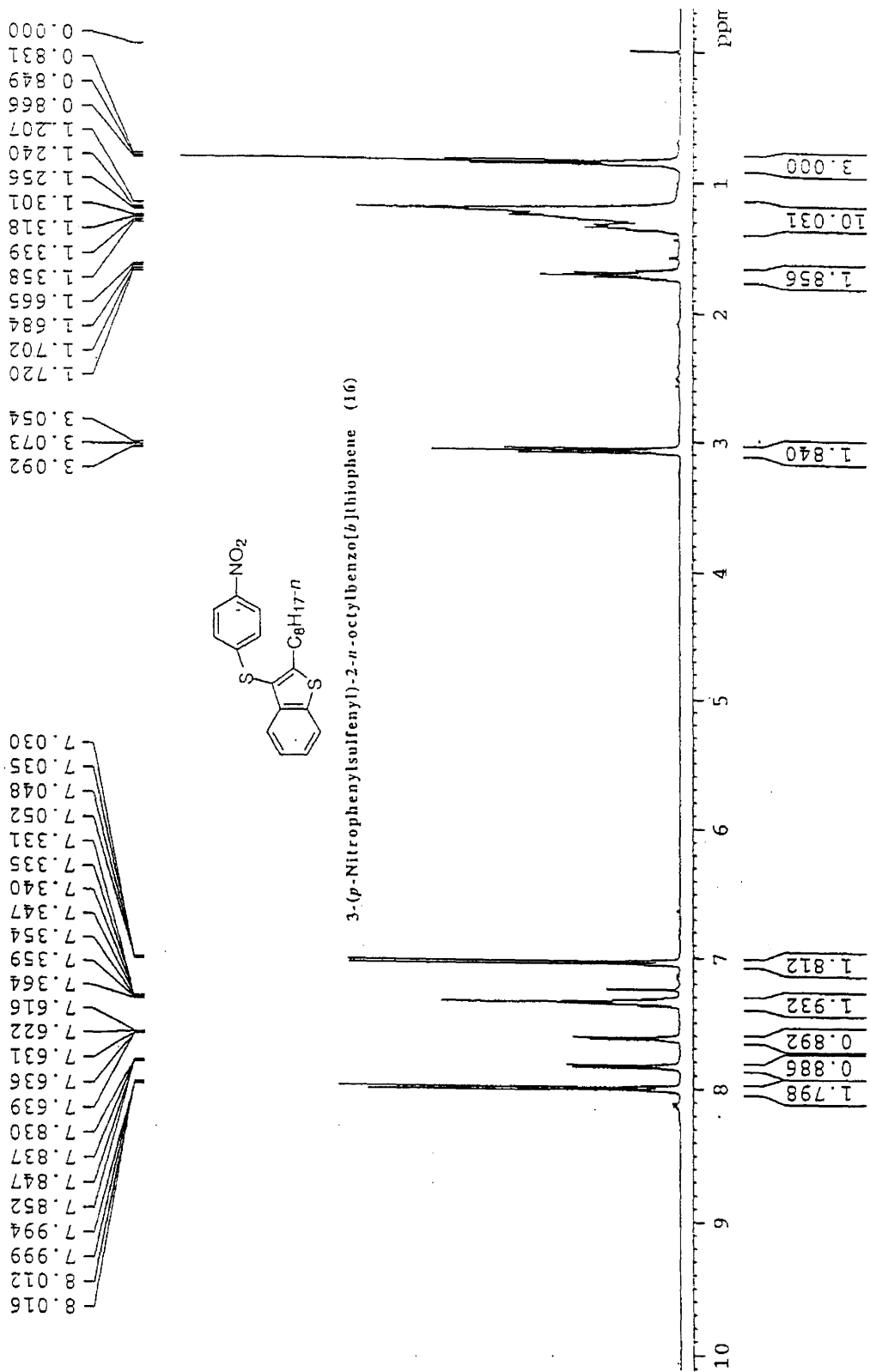


3-Bromo-2-n-octylbenzo[b]thiophene (15)

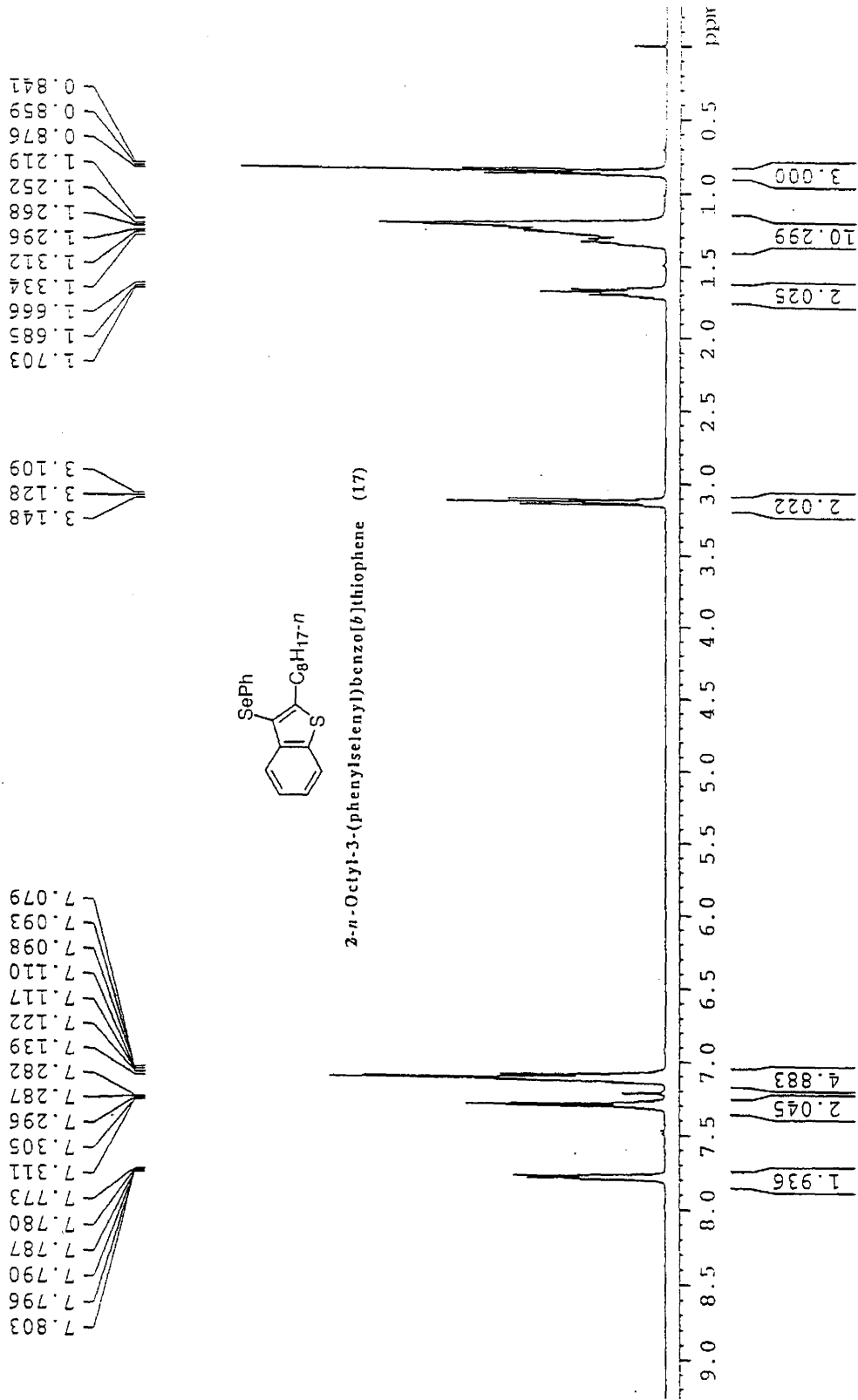


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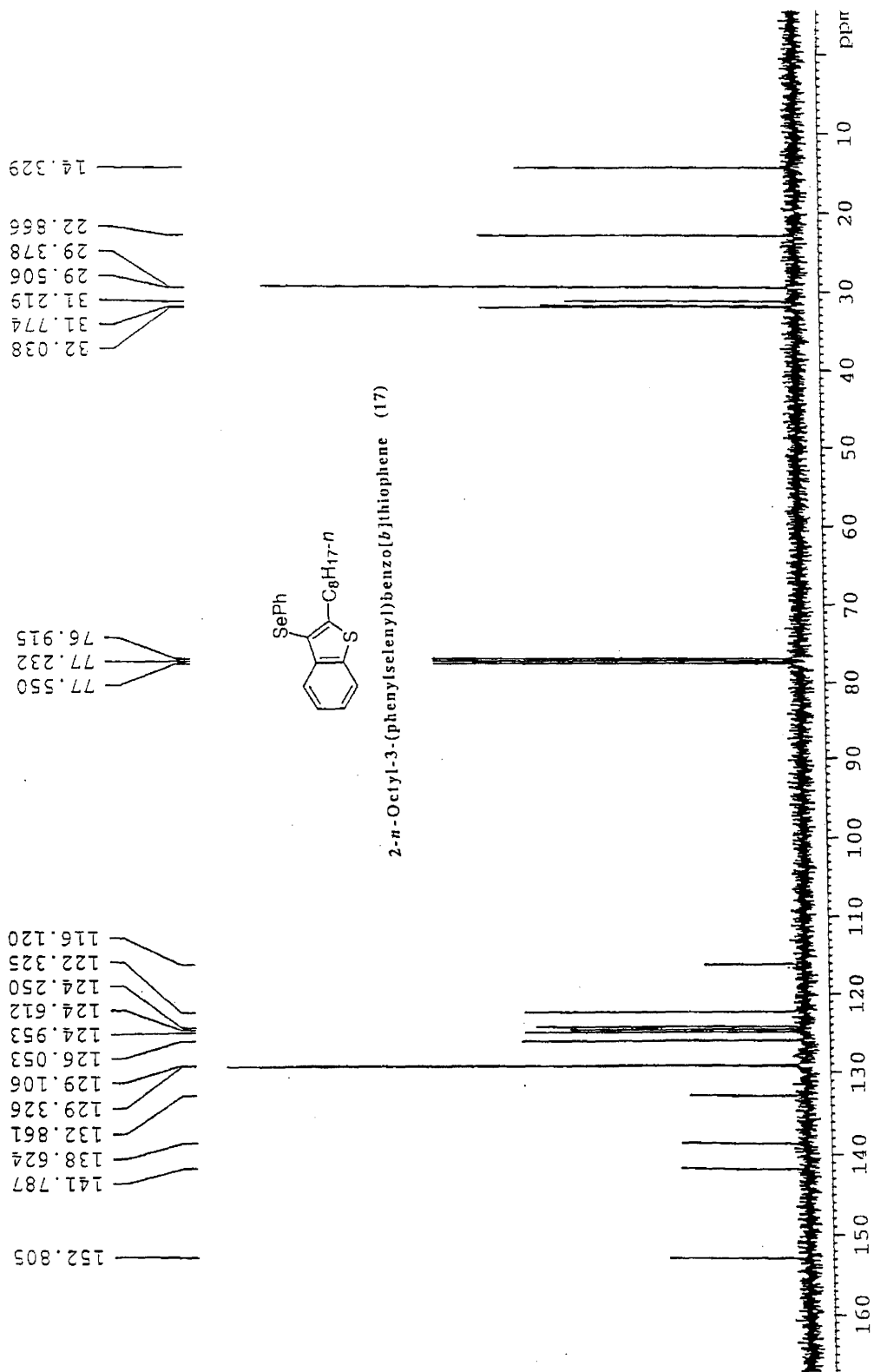




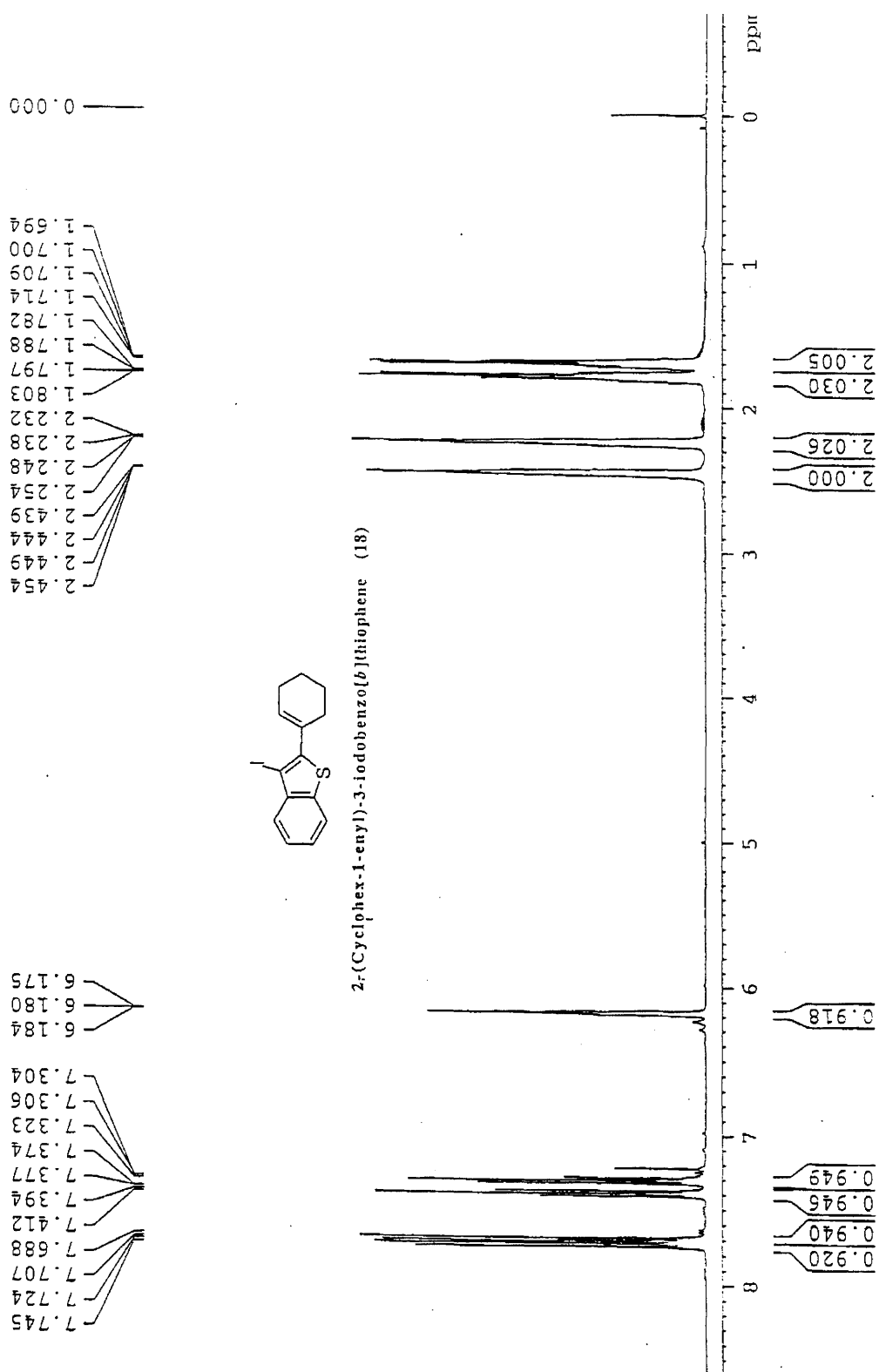
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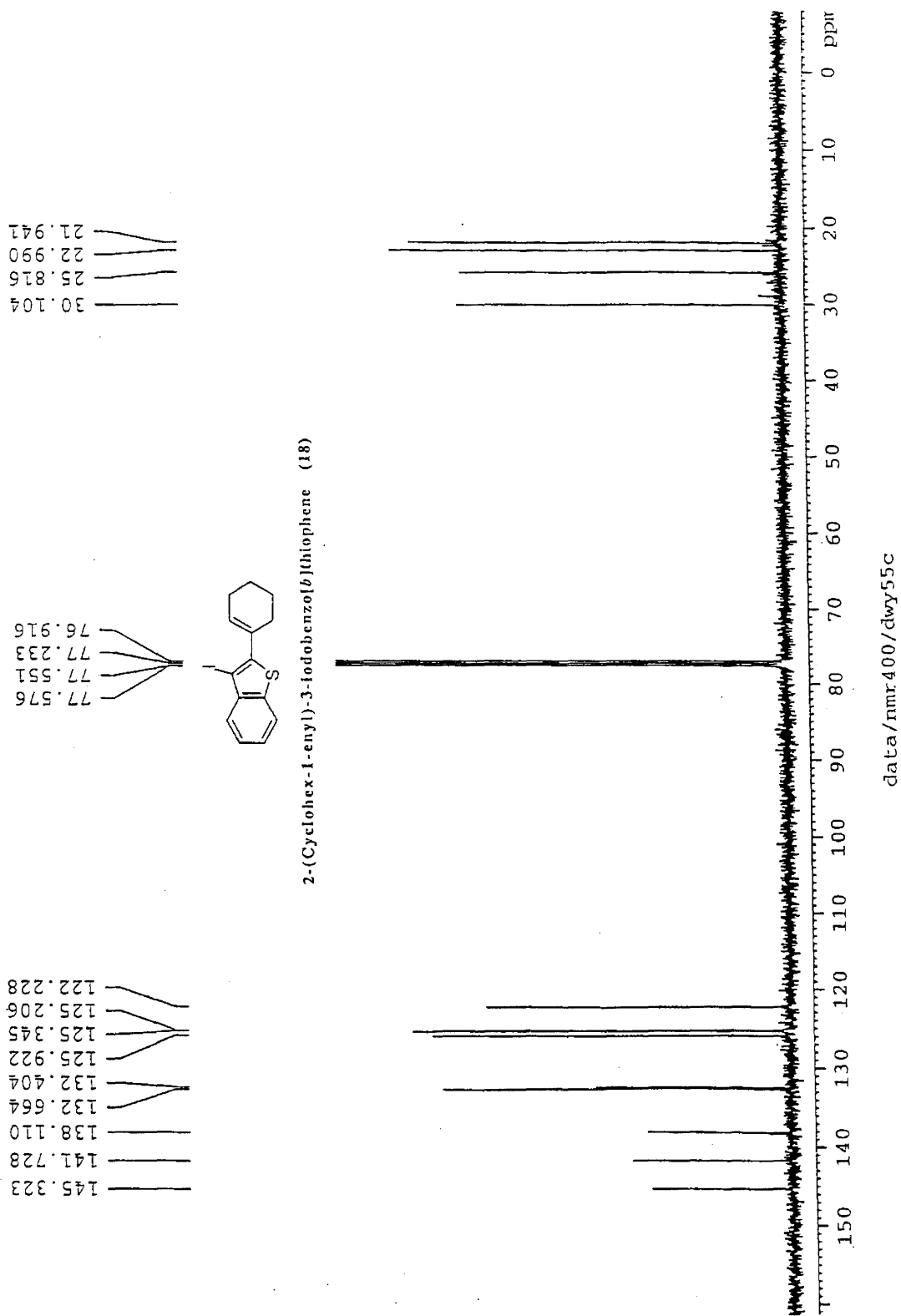
data /nmr 400/dwy50

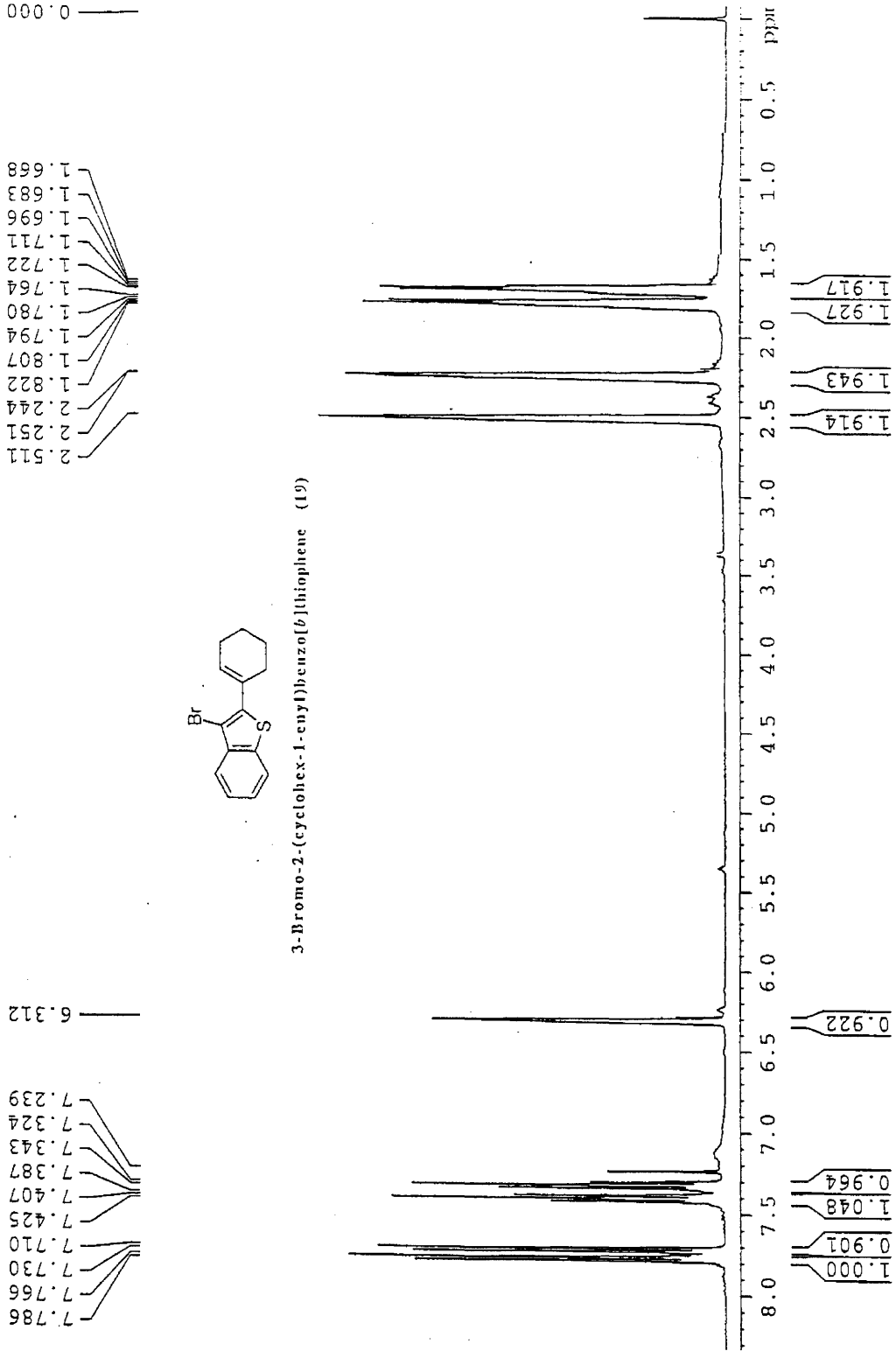


data/nmr400/dwy50c

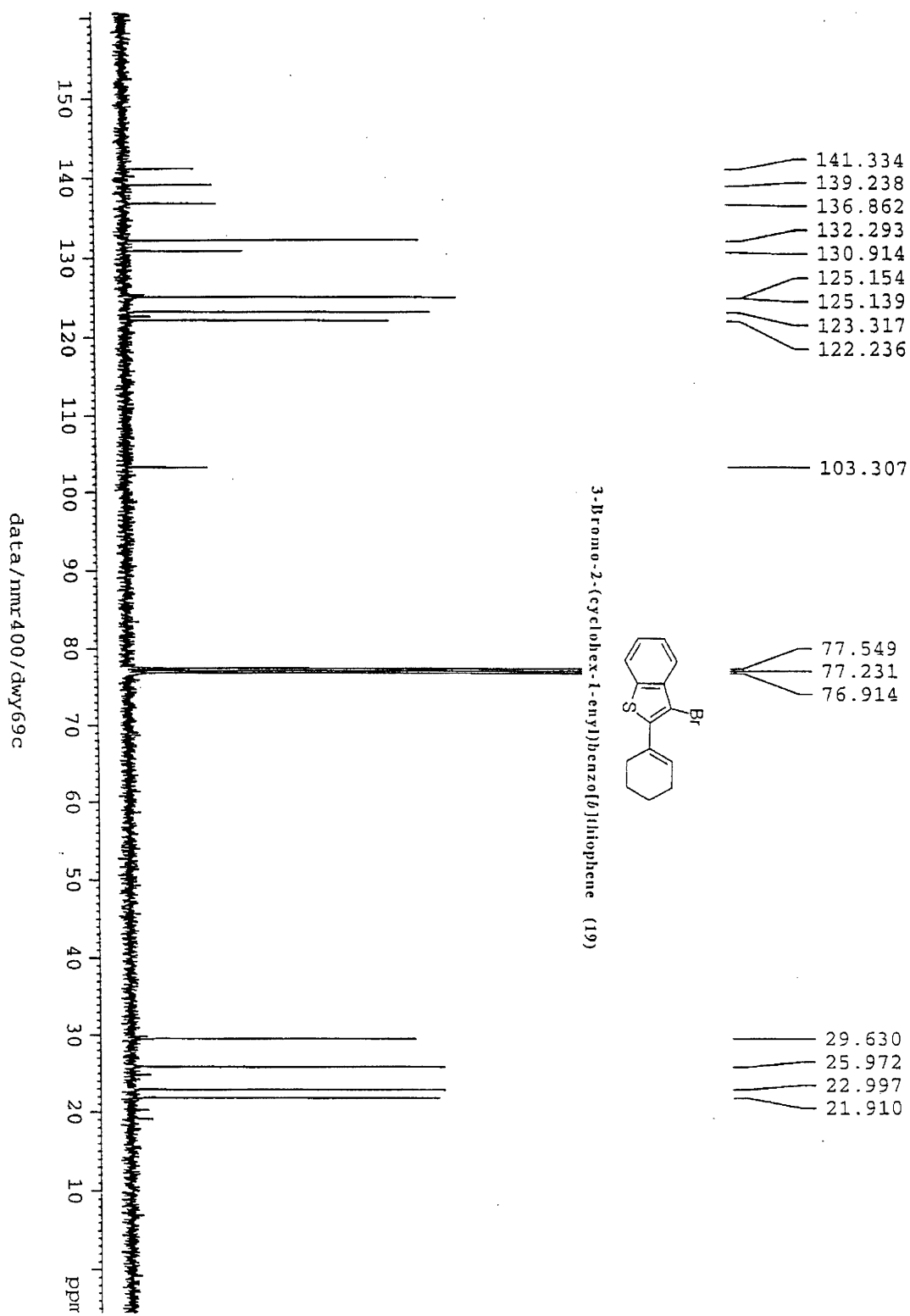


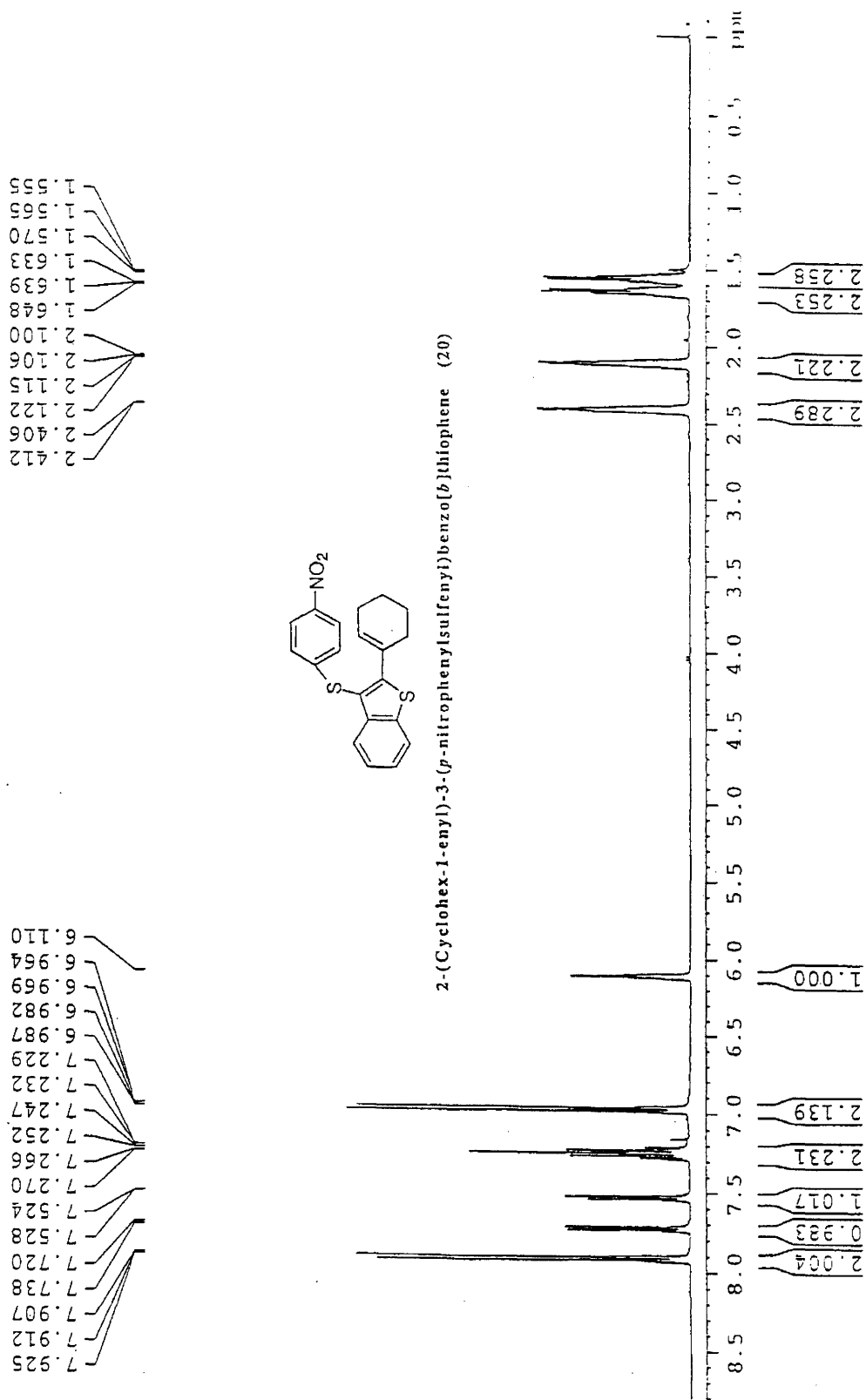
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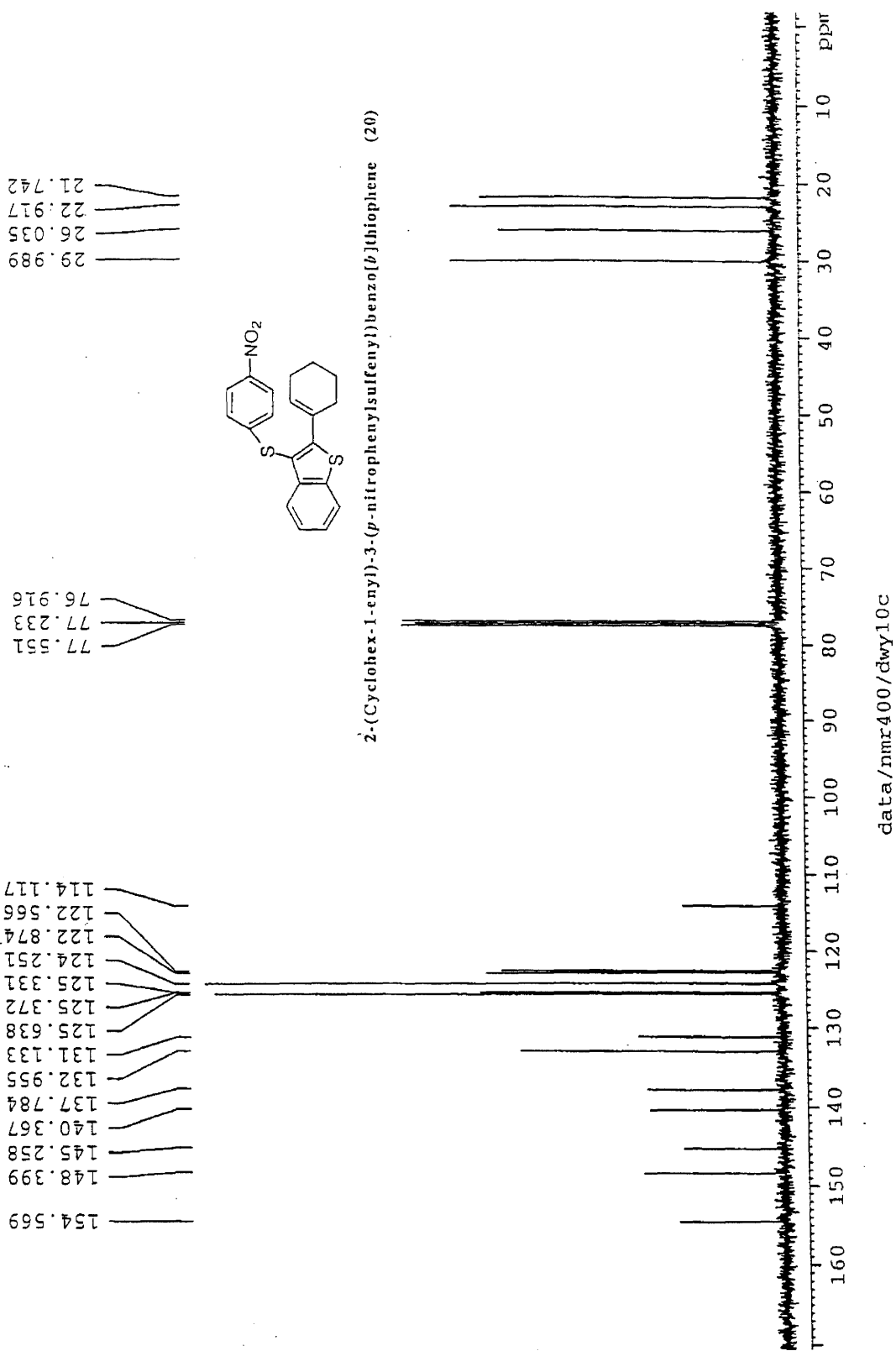


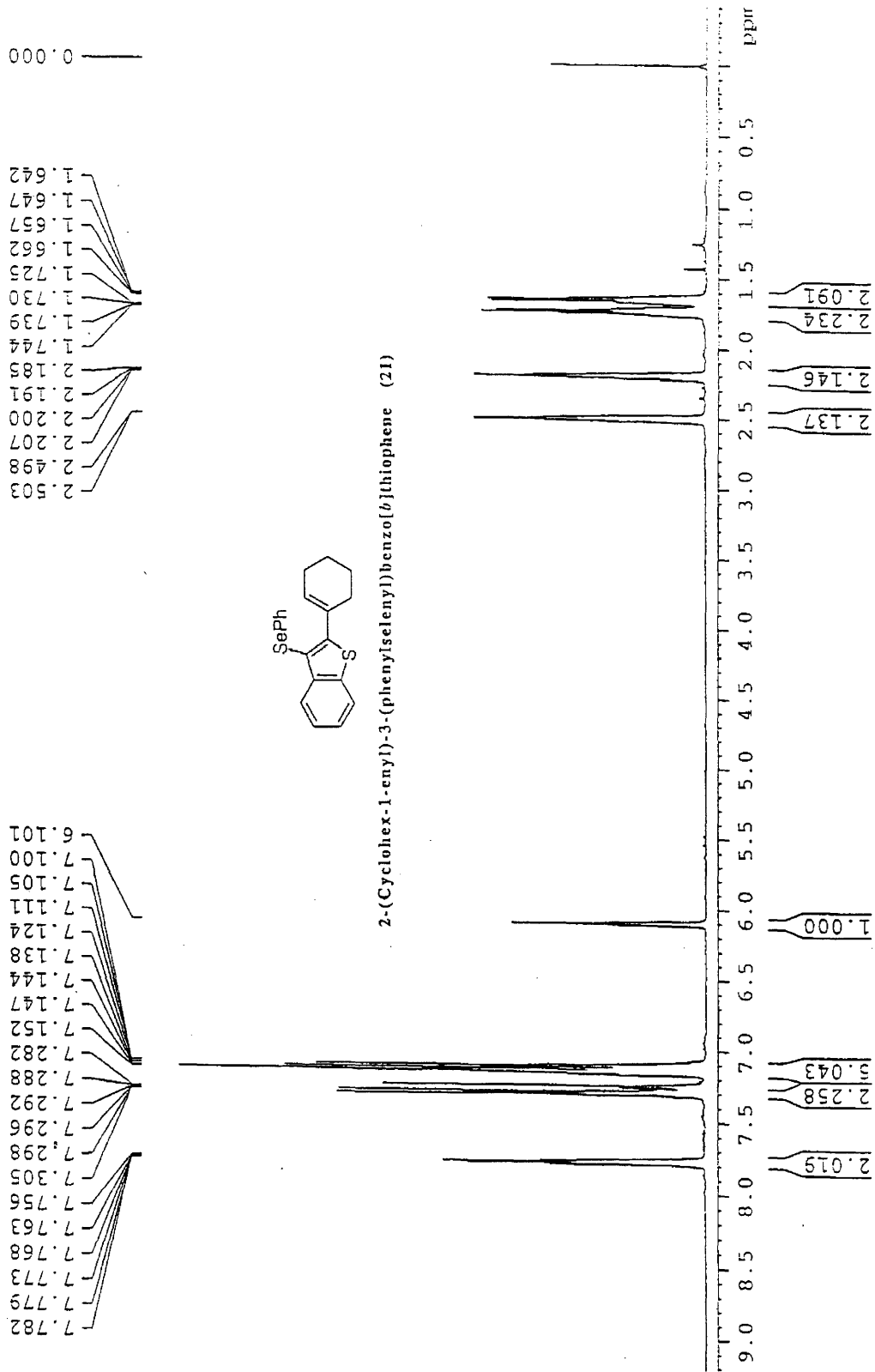
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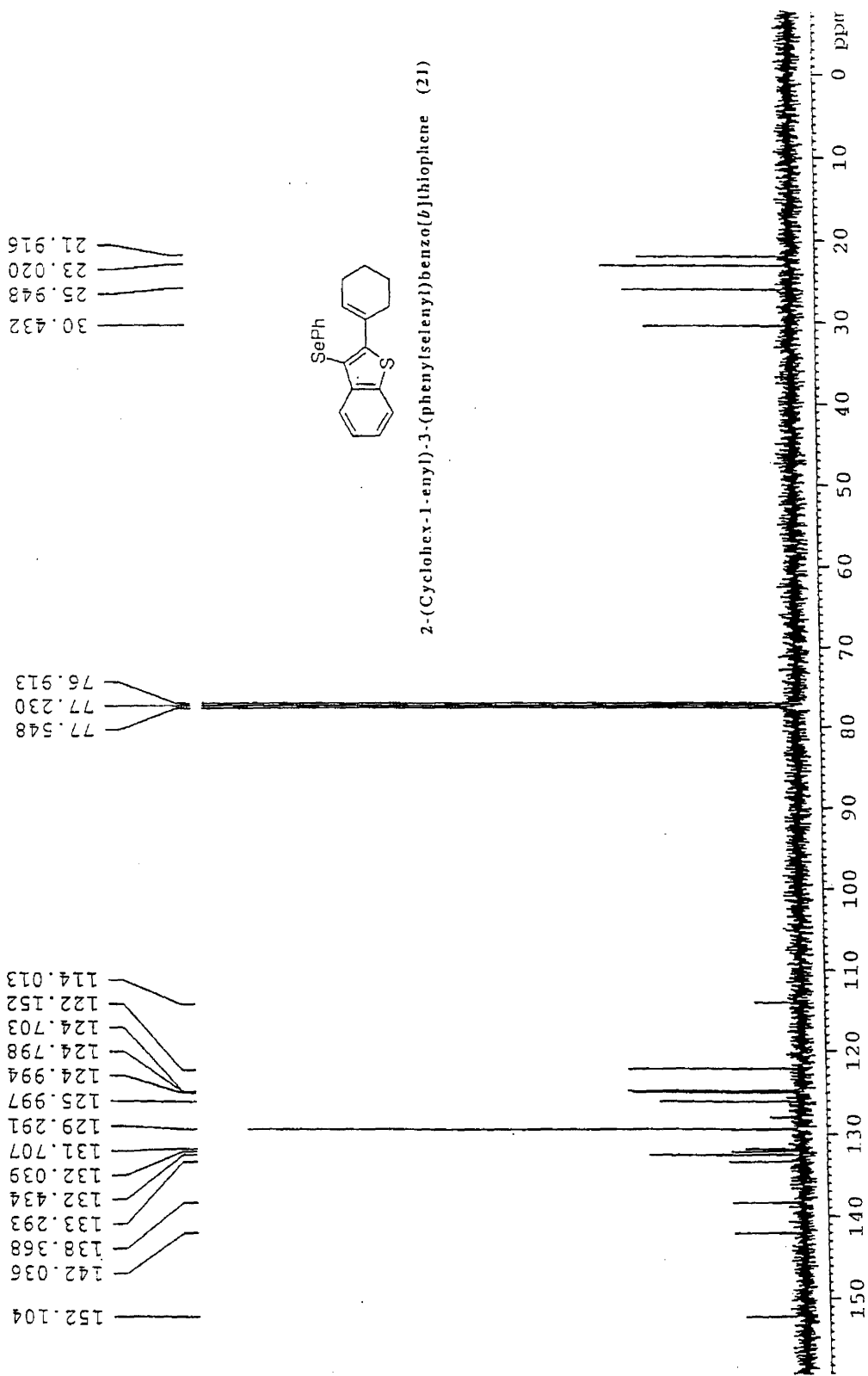


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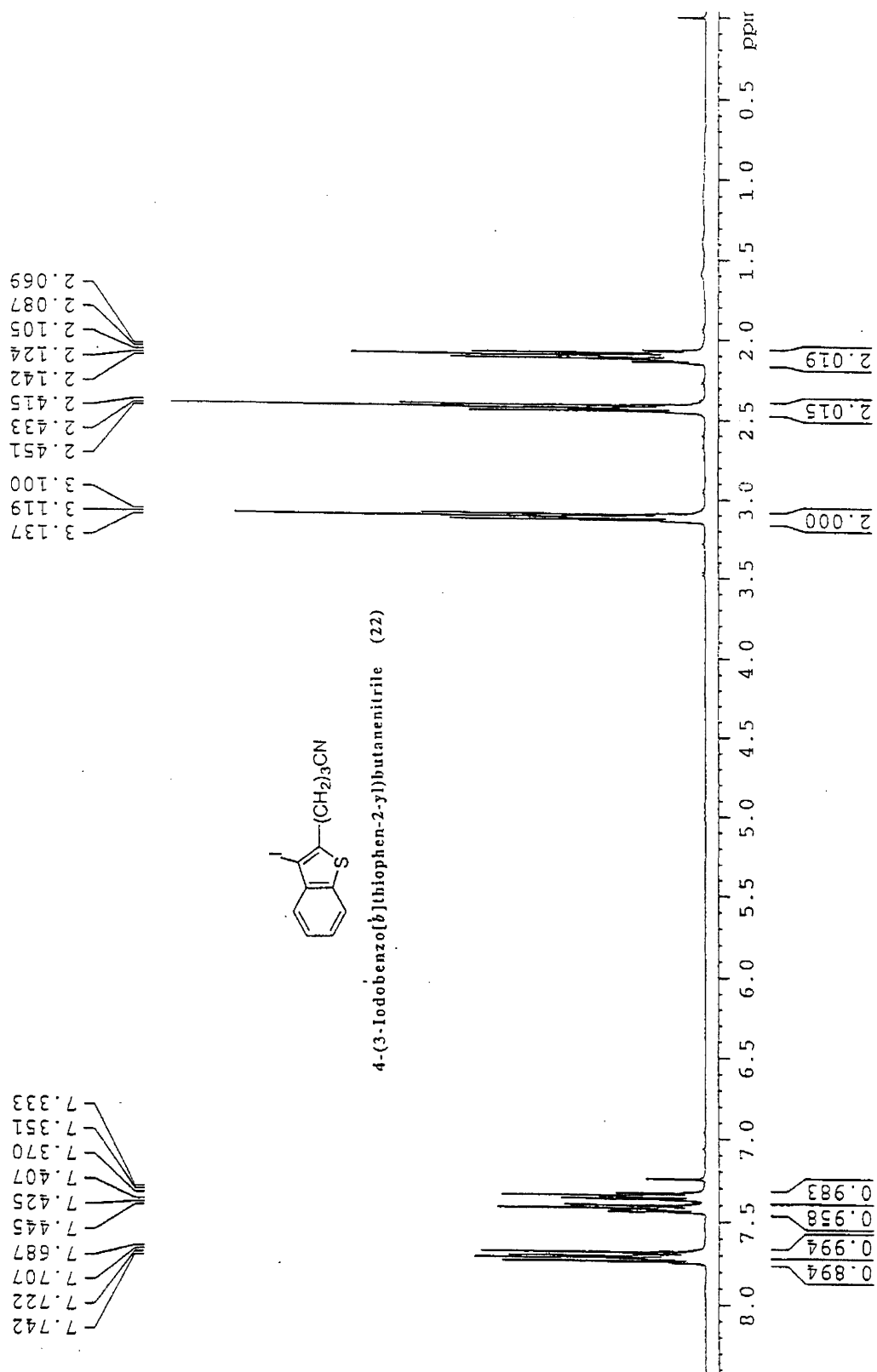




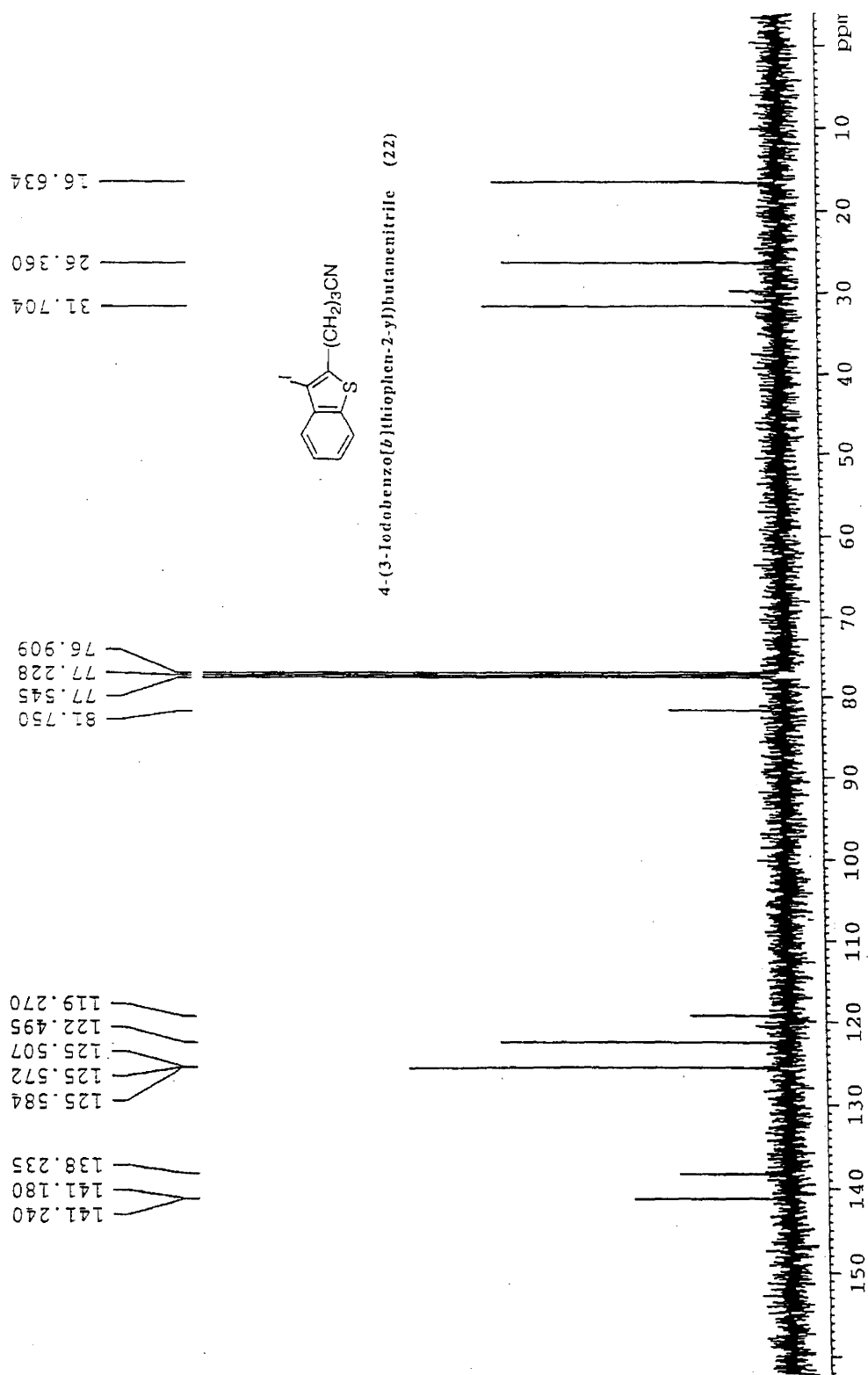
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data/nmr400/dwy56-1c



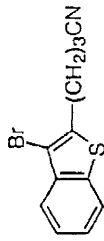
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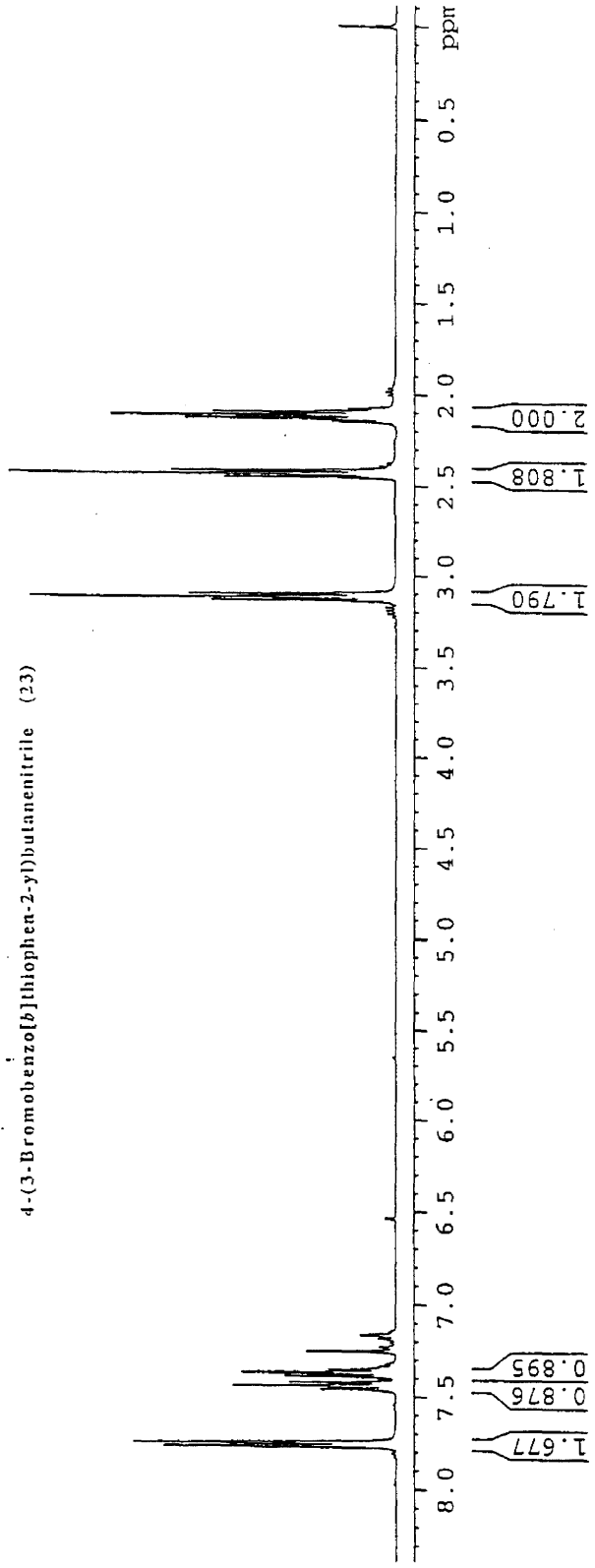
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3.100
3.081
2.434
2.416
2.398
2.131
2.113
2.095
2.077

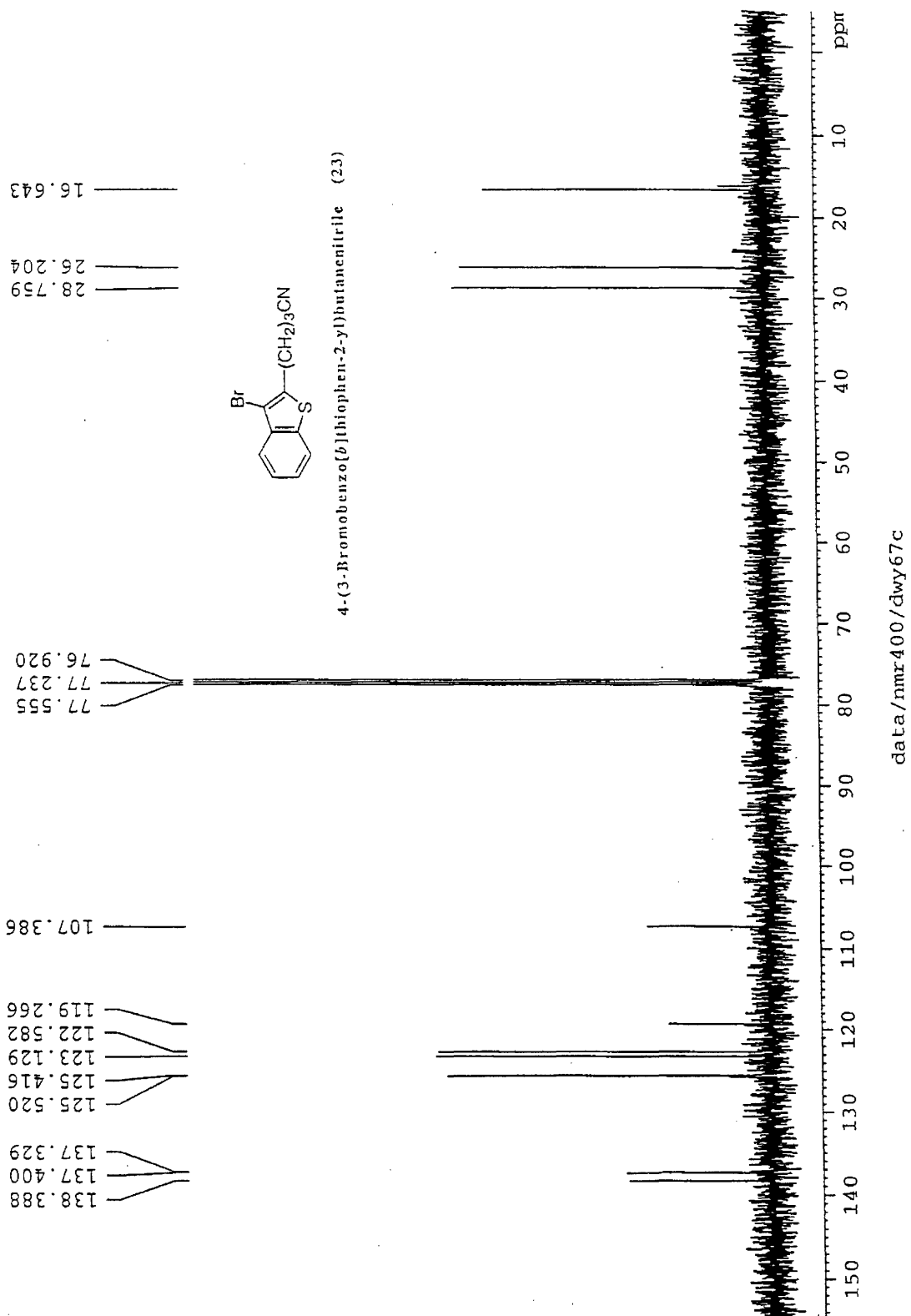
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7.443
7.425
7.405
7.372
7.352
7.334

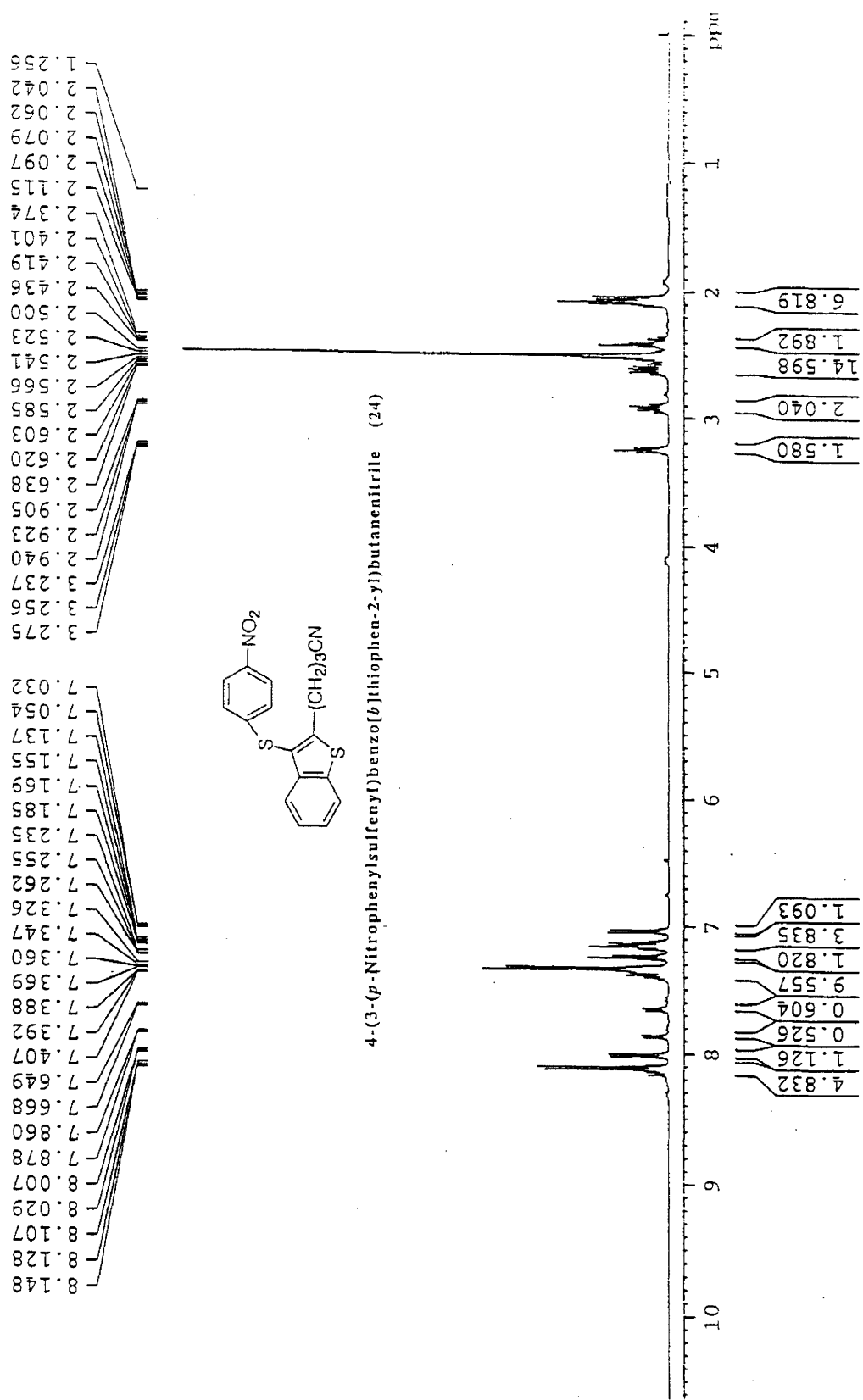


4-(3-Bromobenzo[b]thiophen-2-yl)butanenitrile (23)

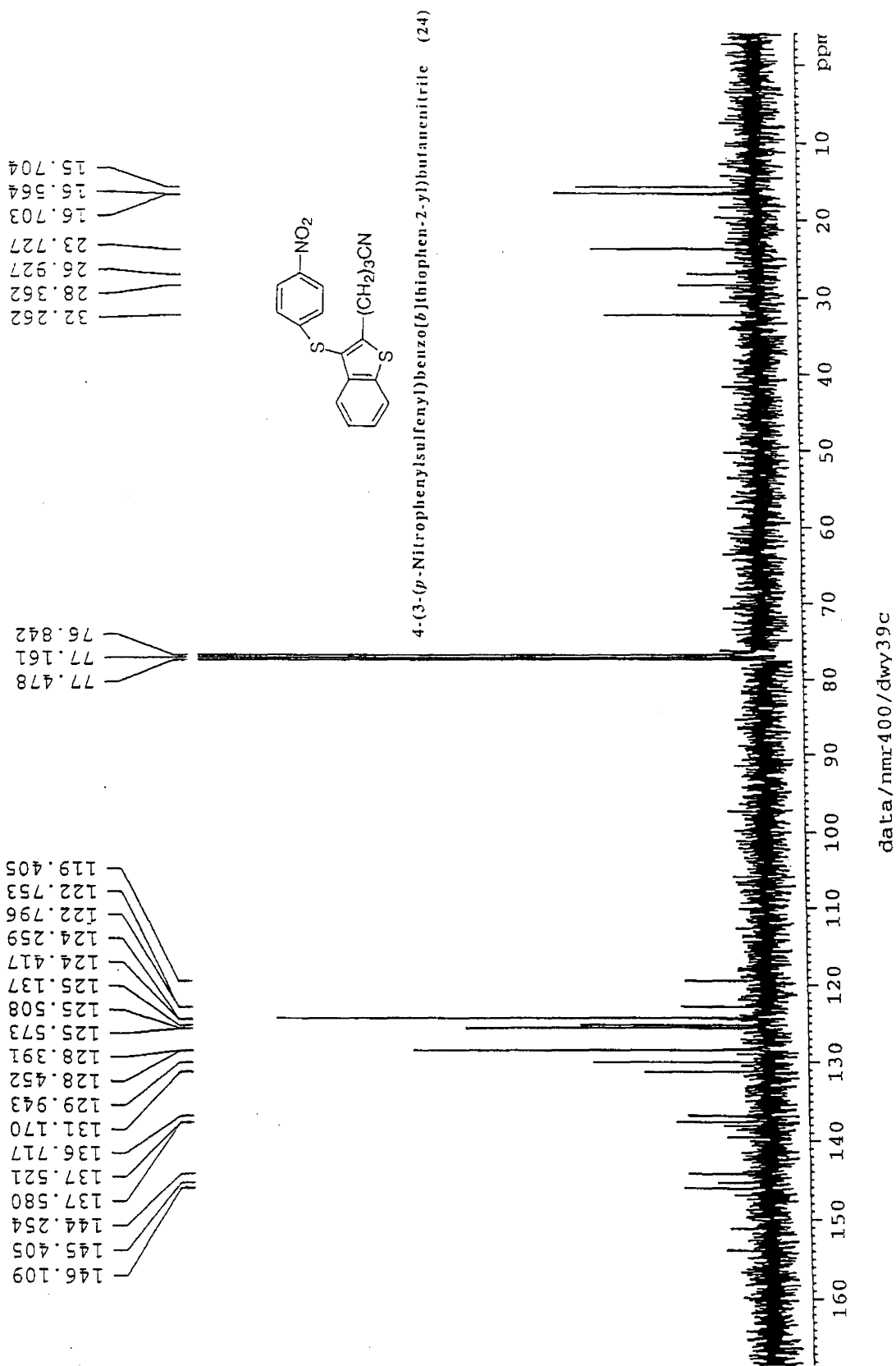


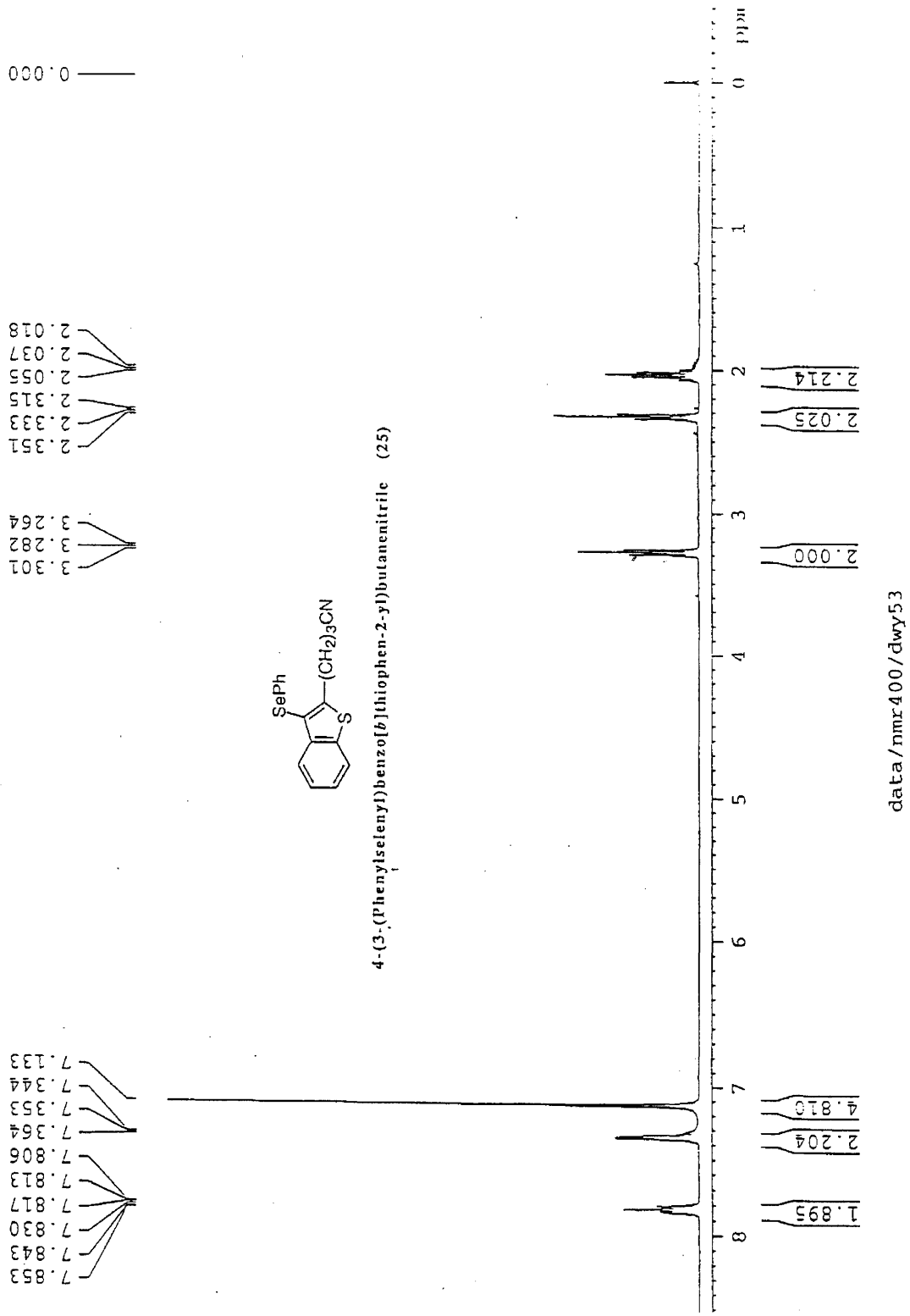
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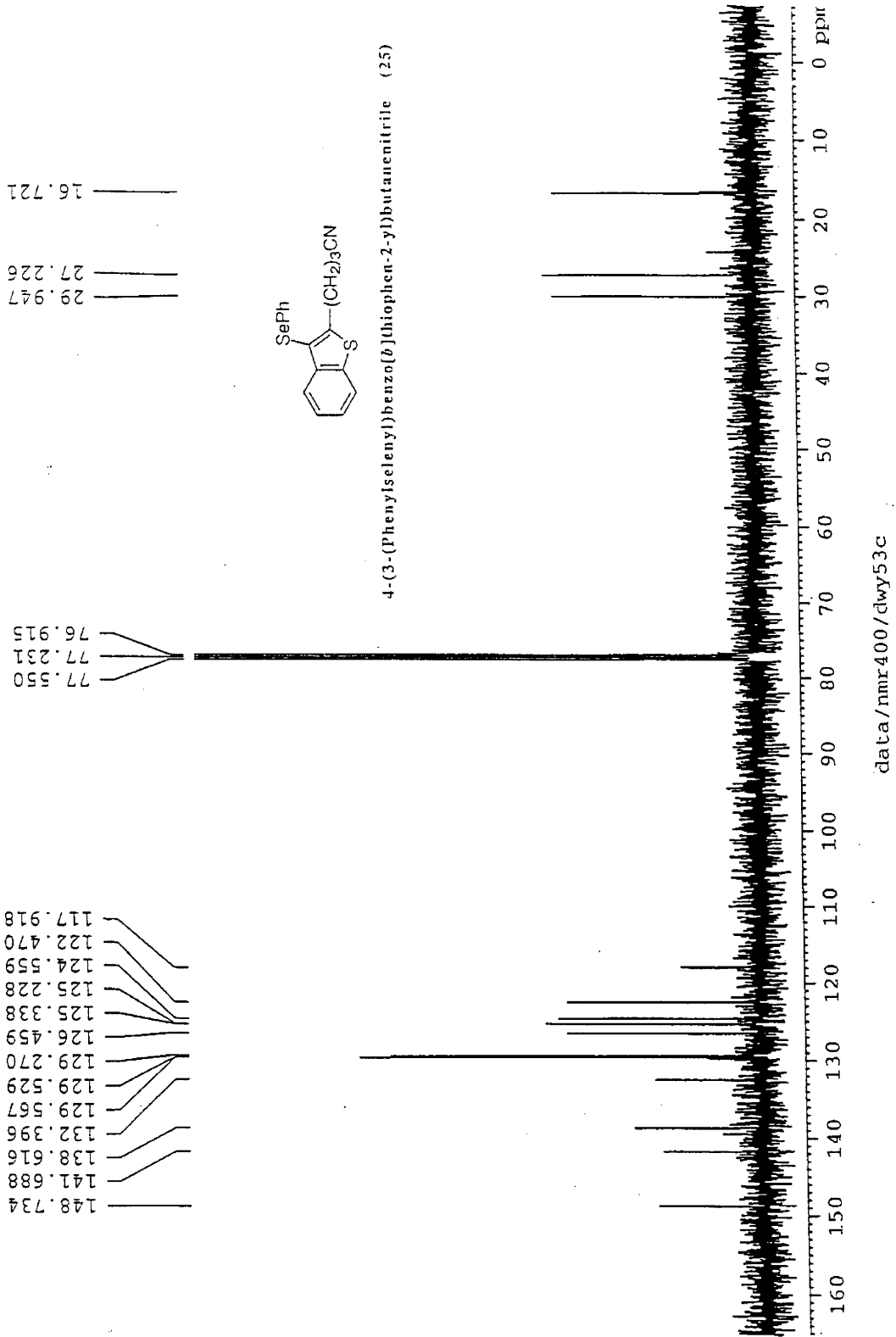


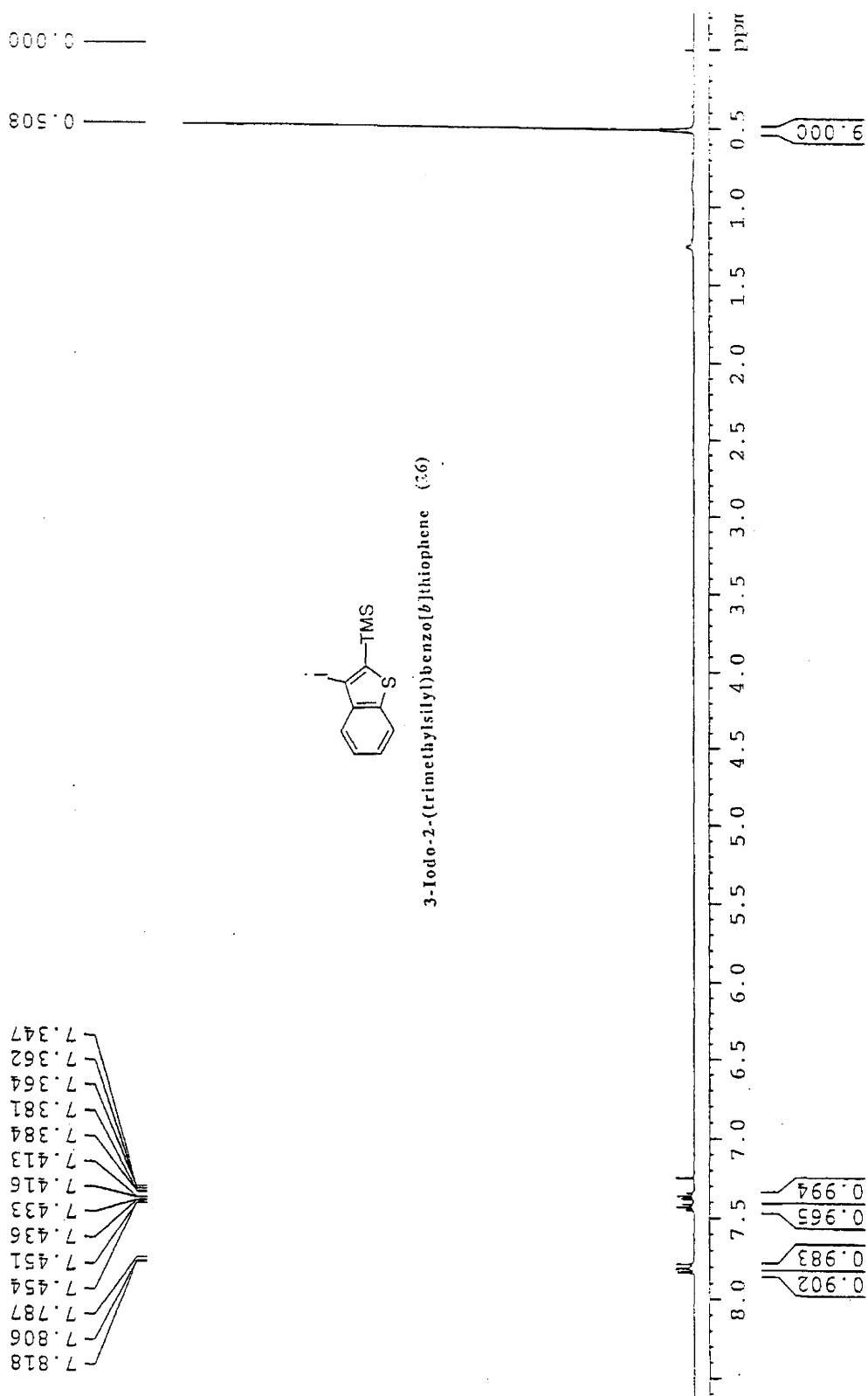


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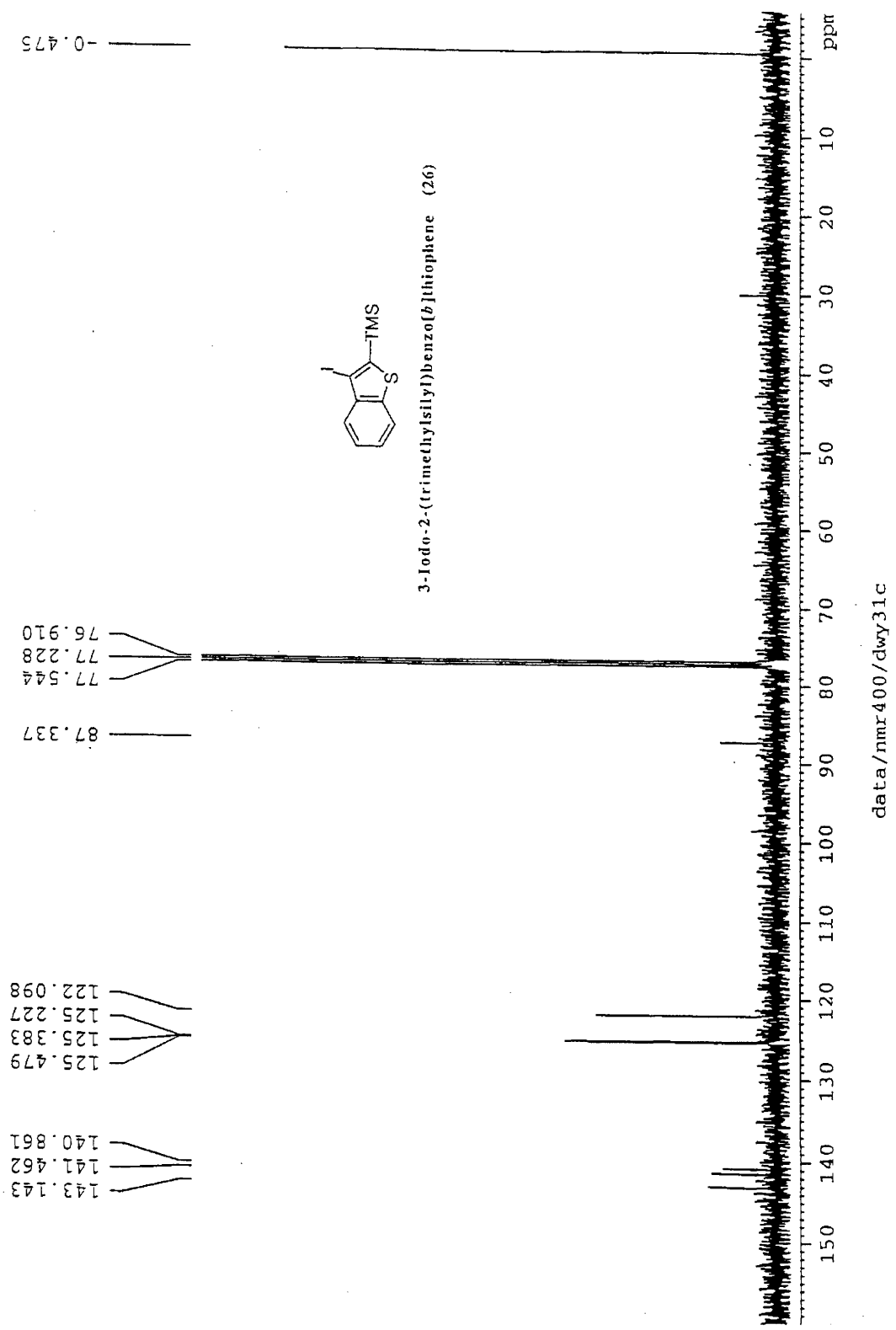


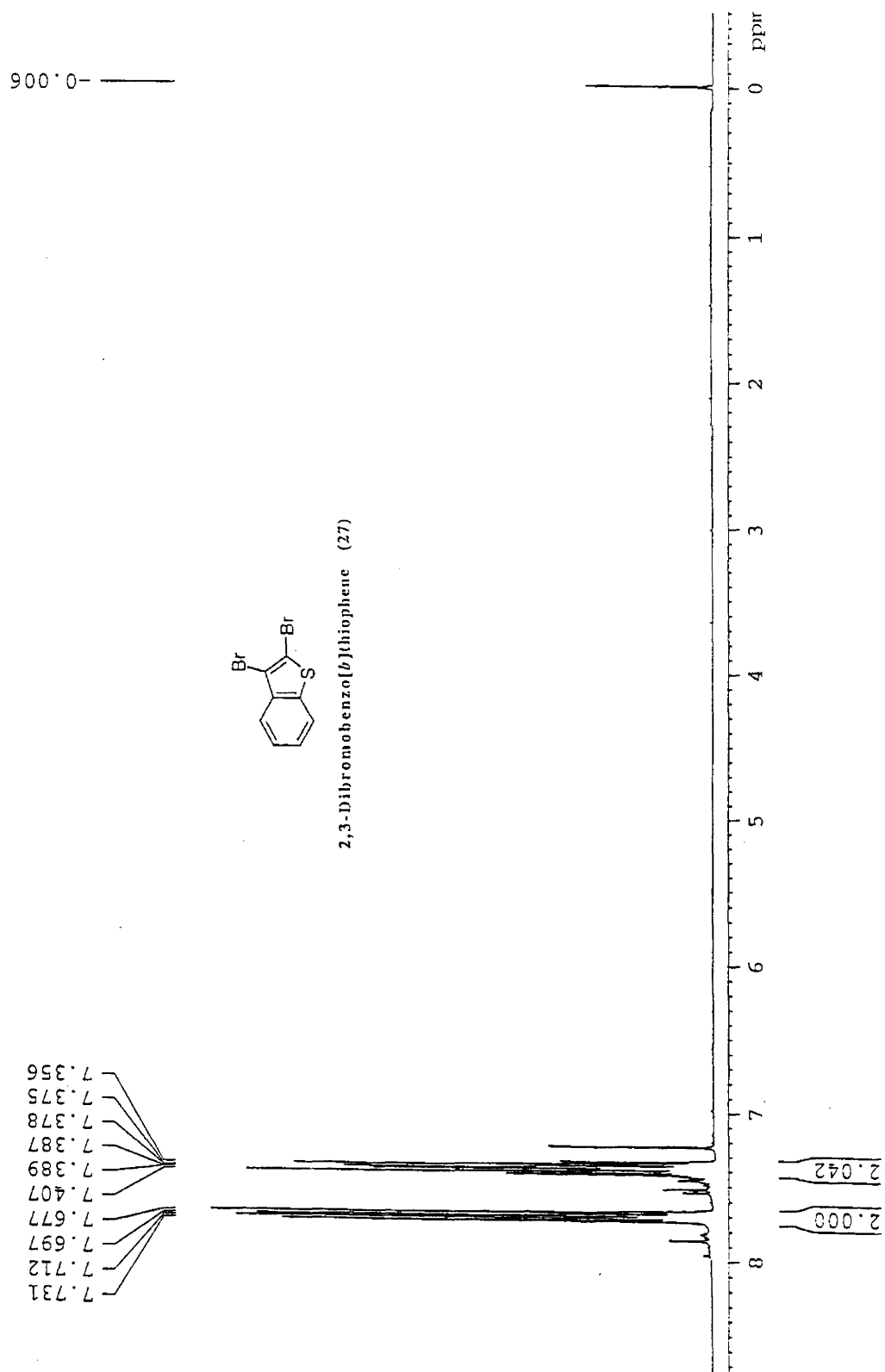


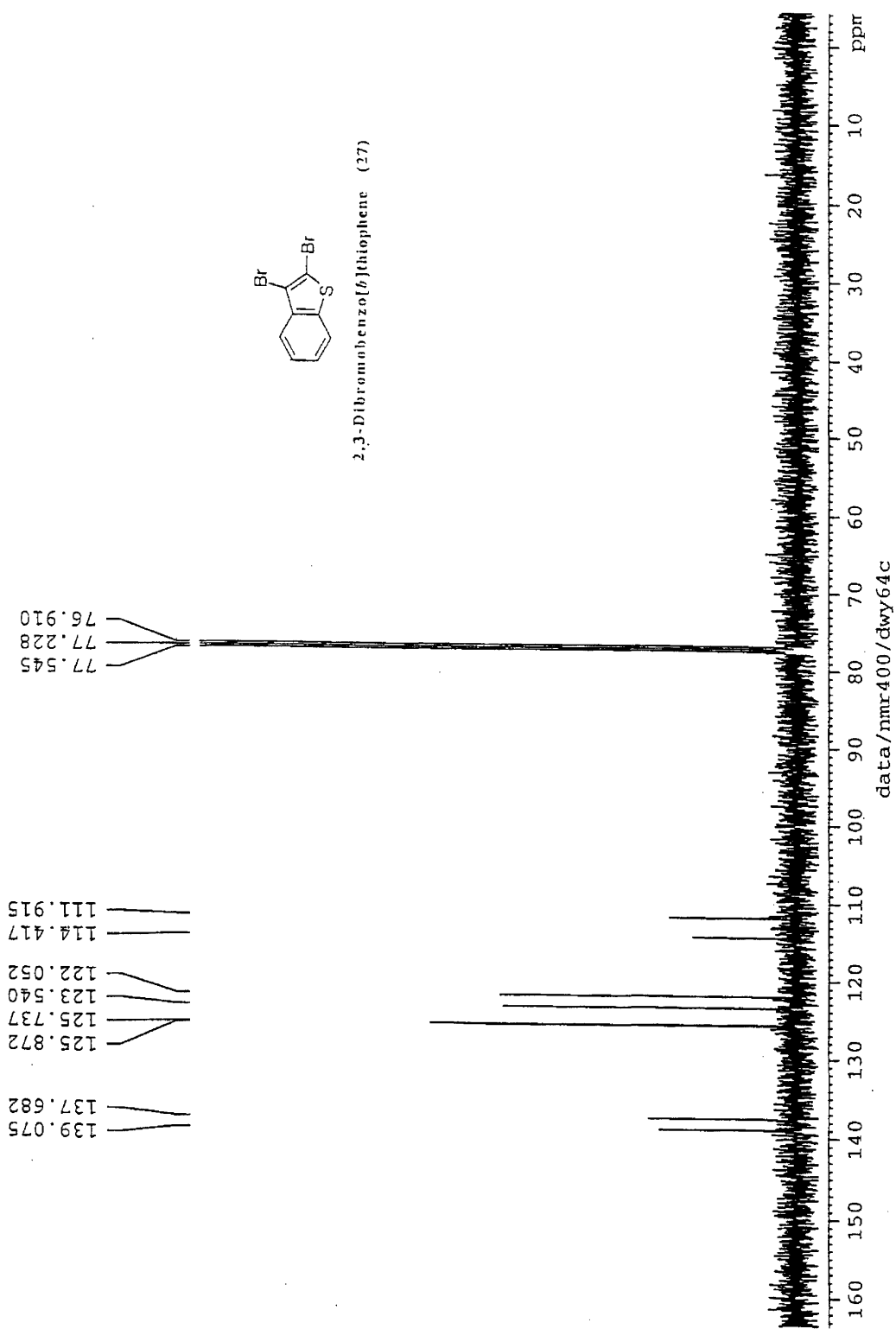


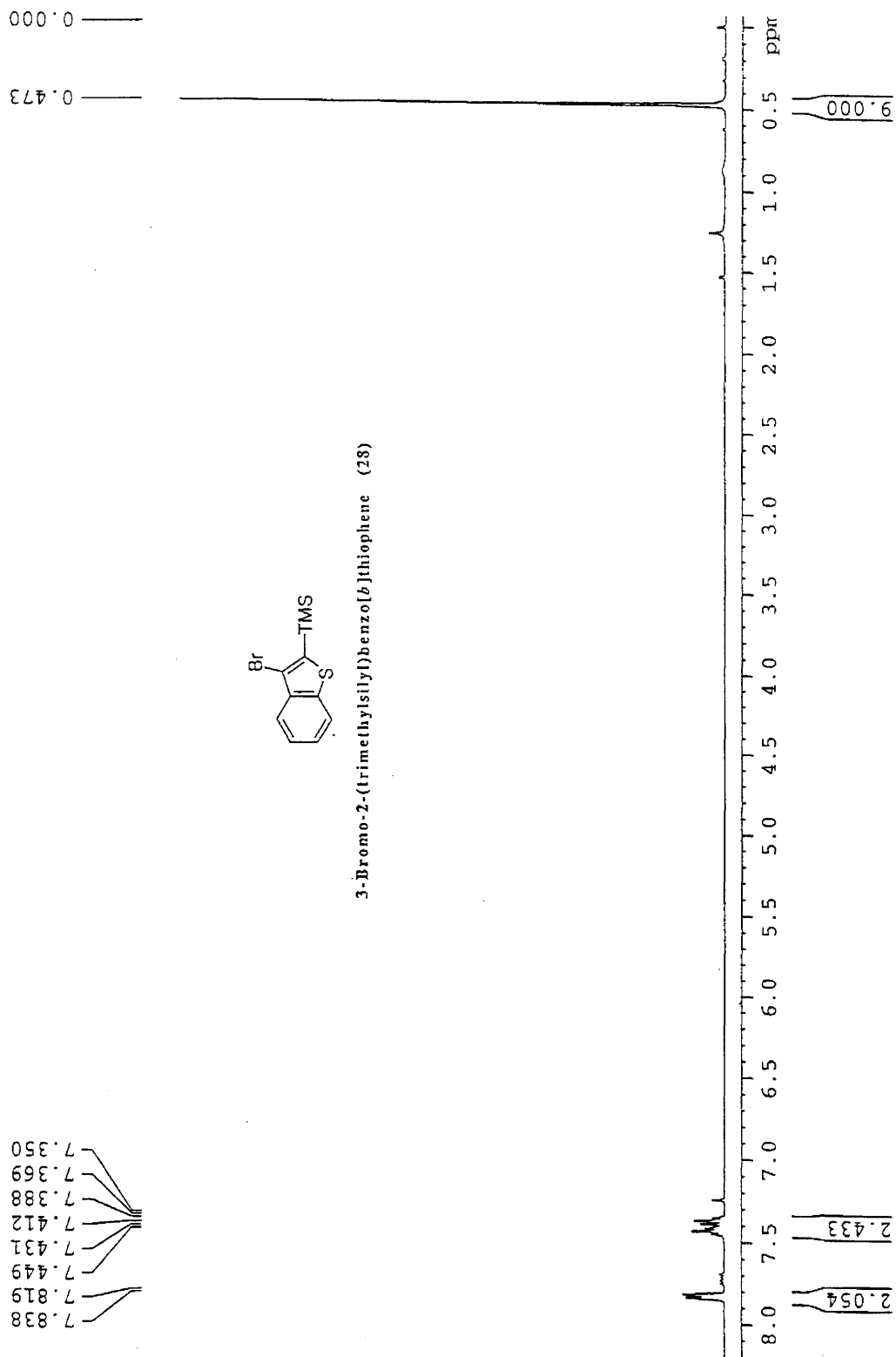


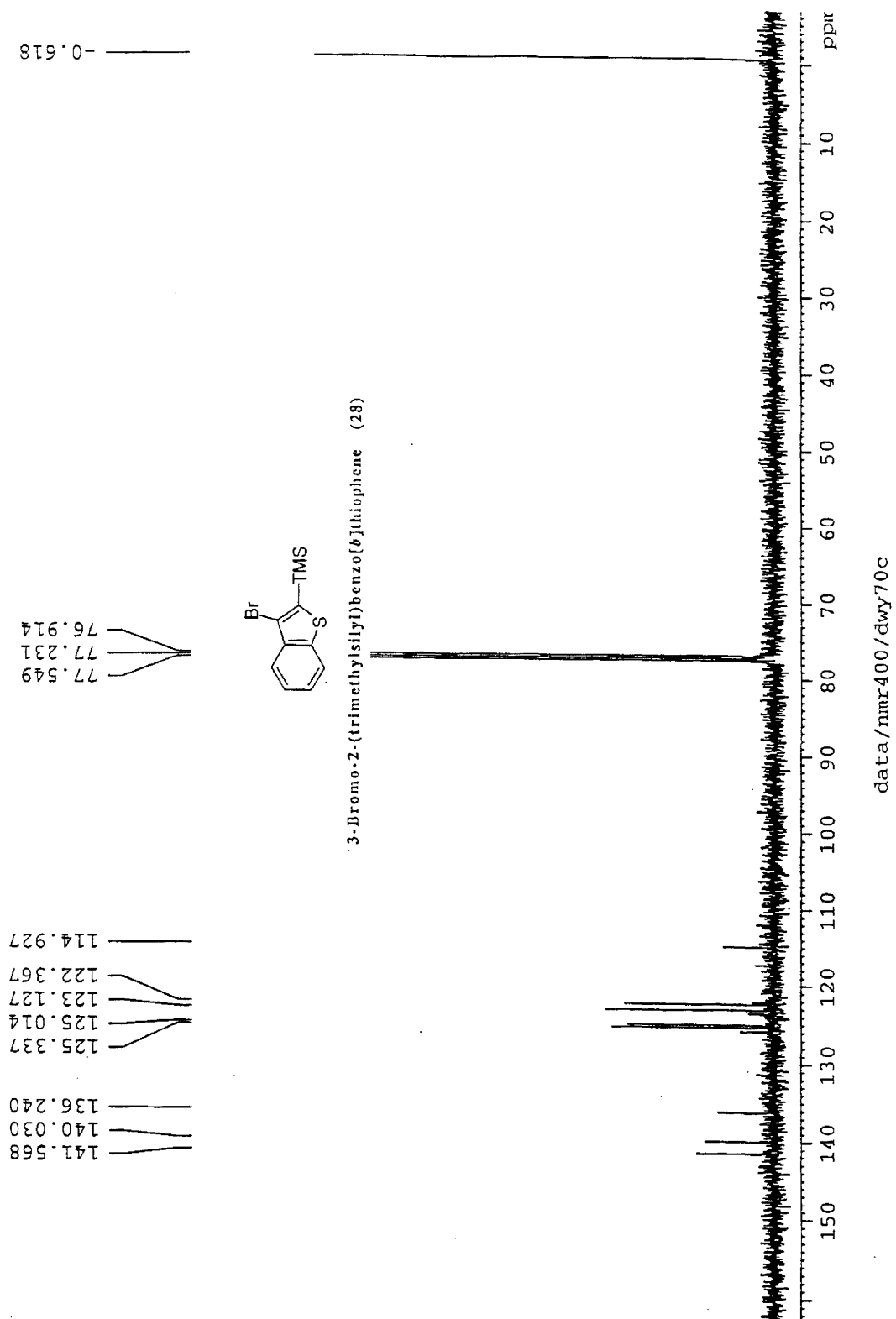
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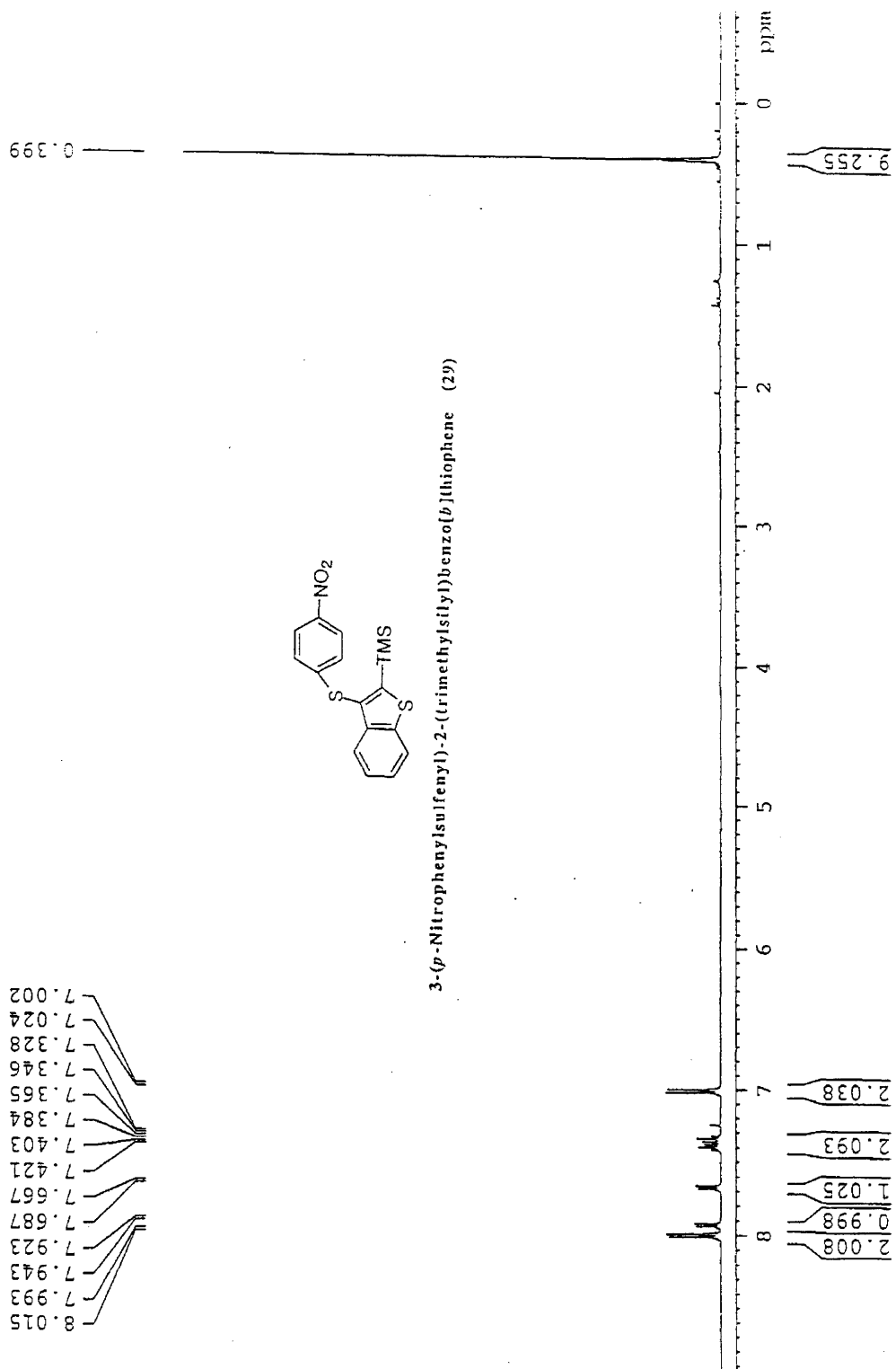




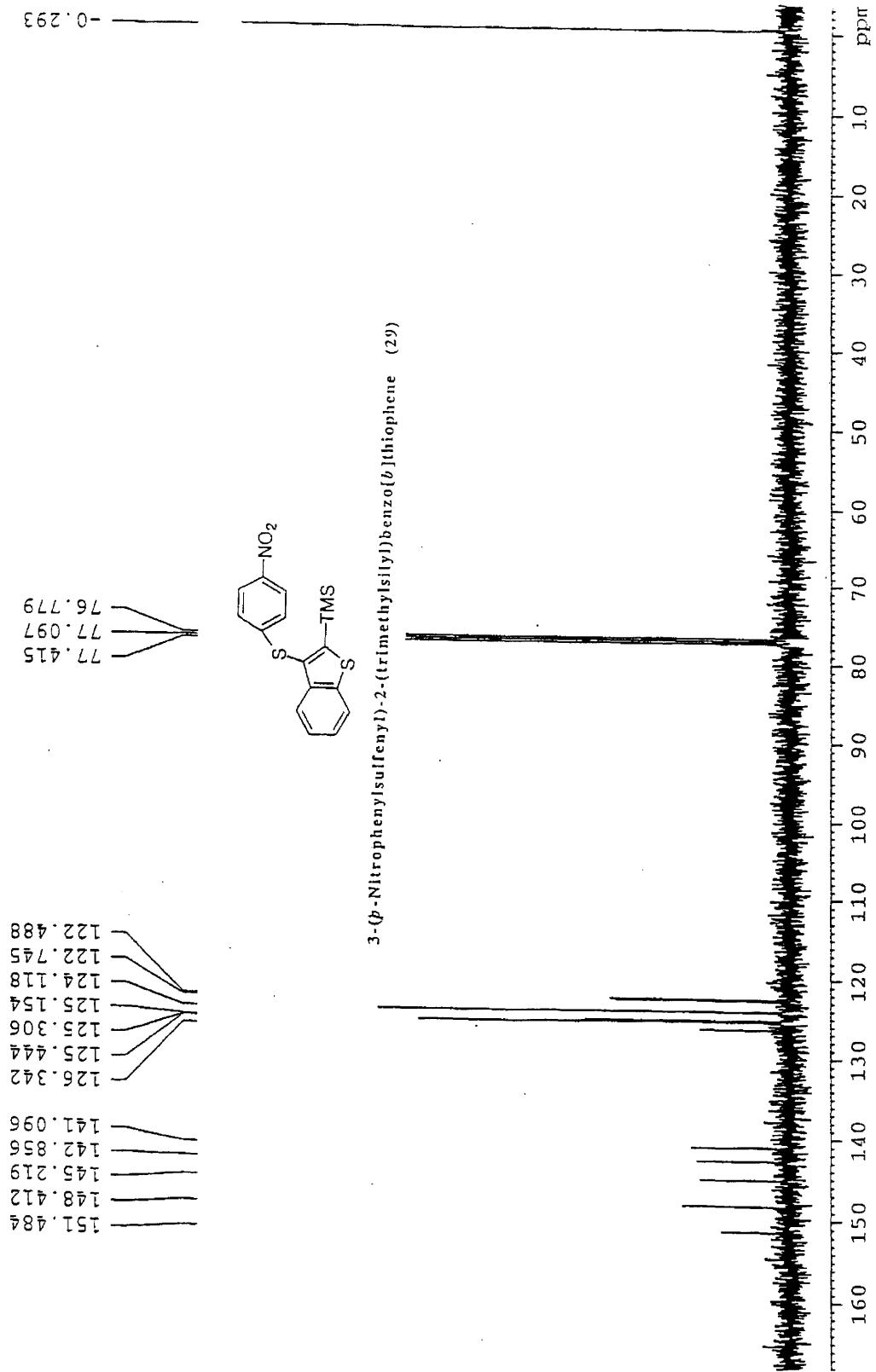




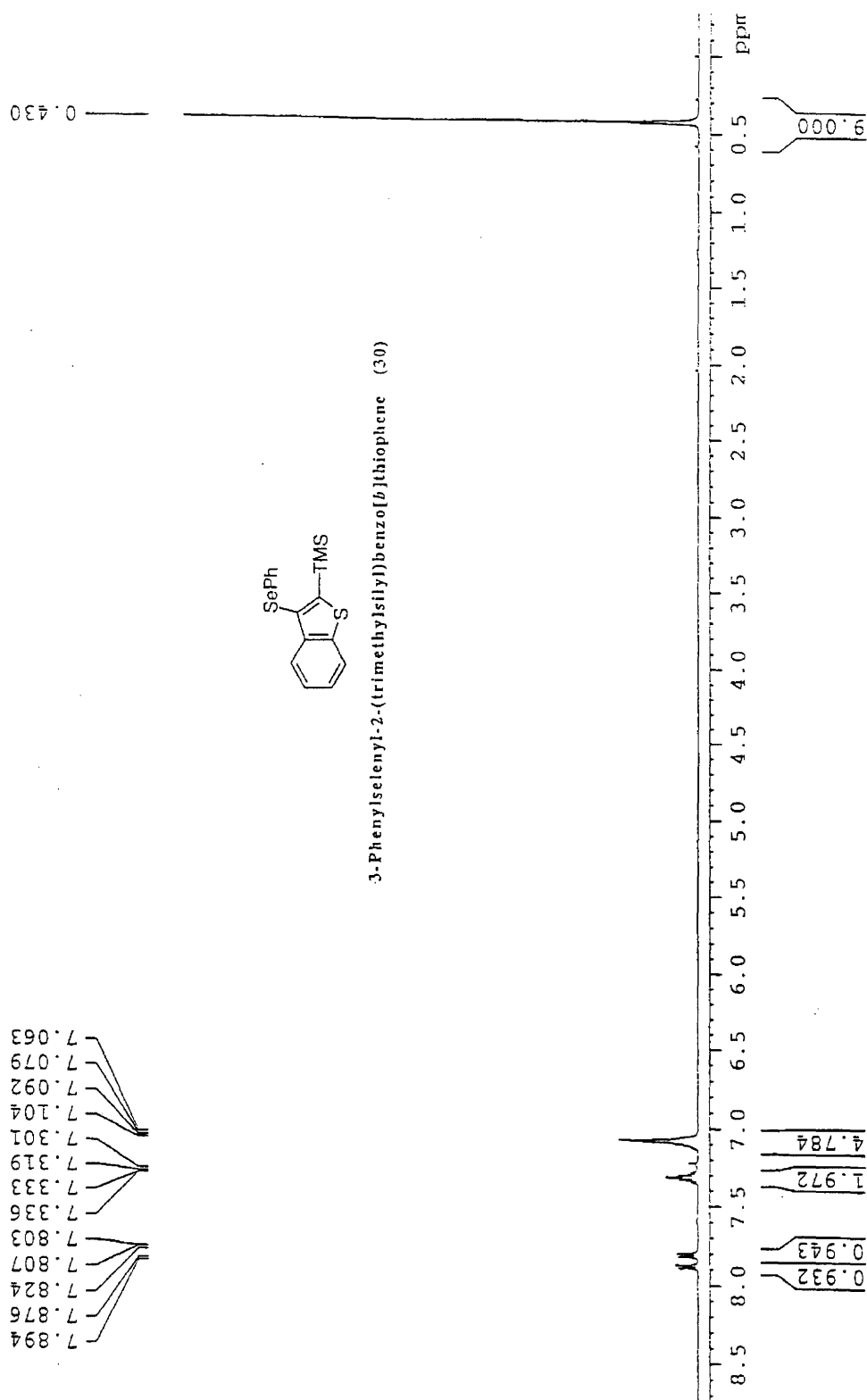




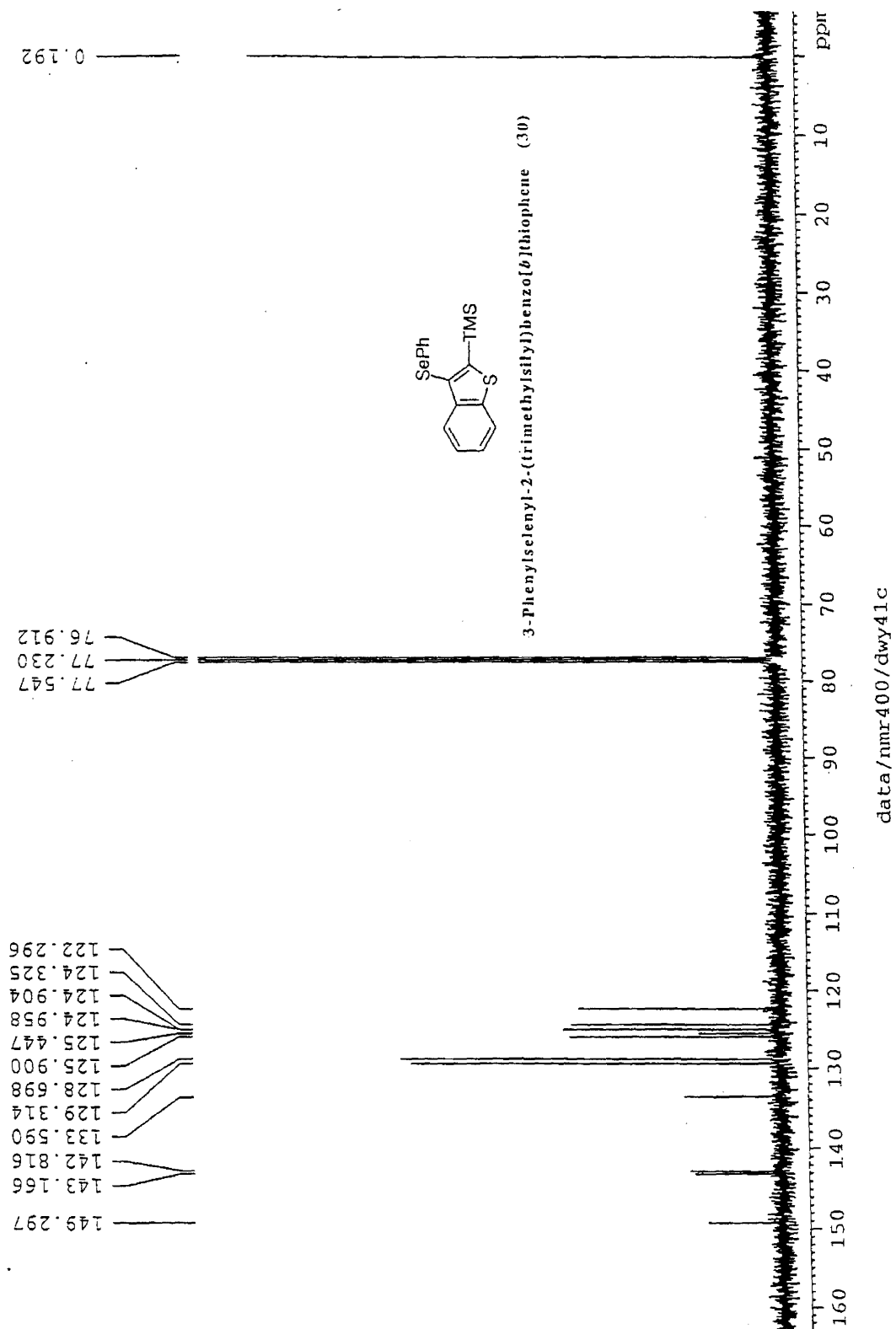
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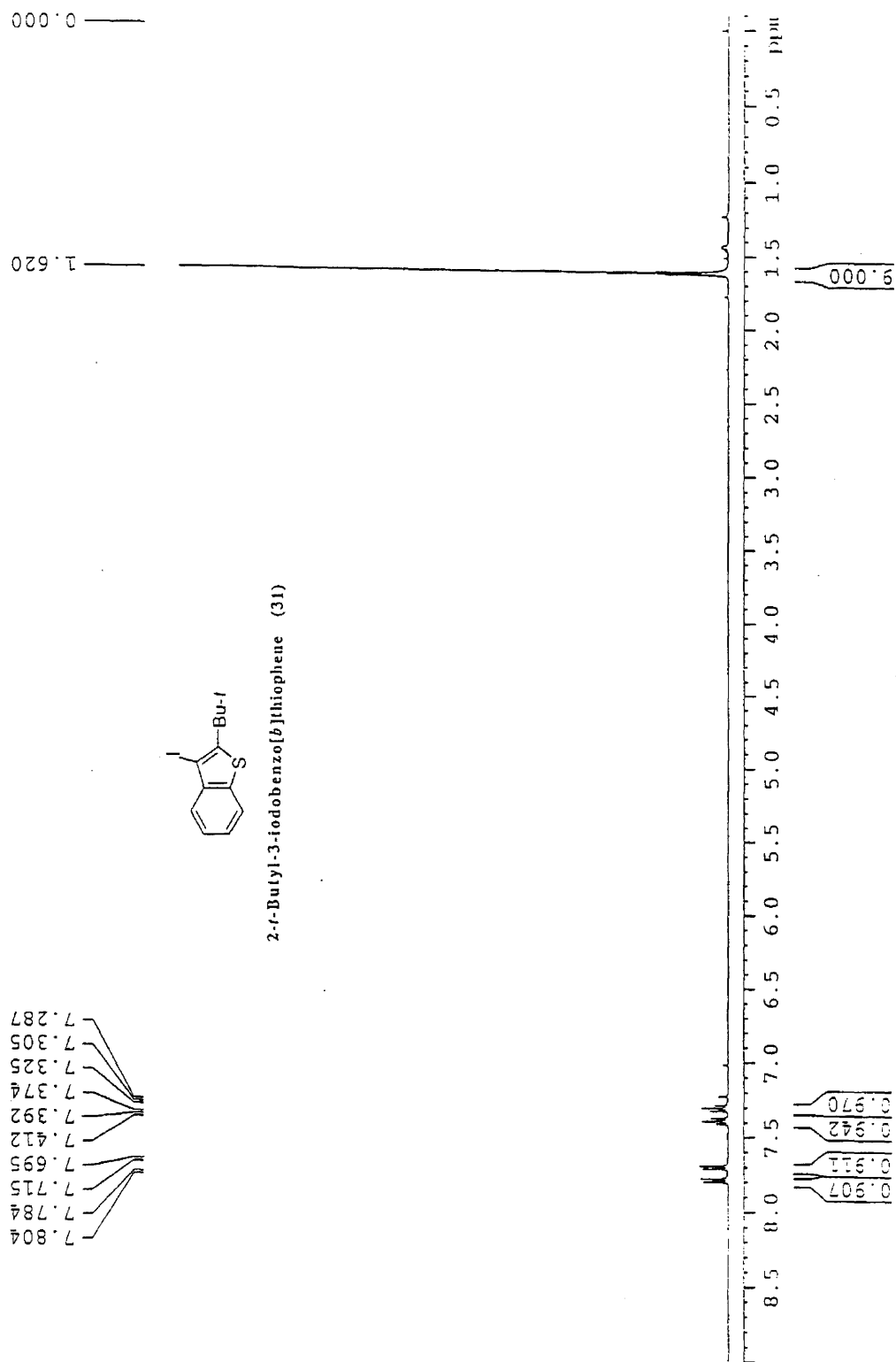


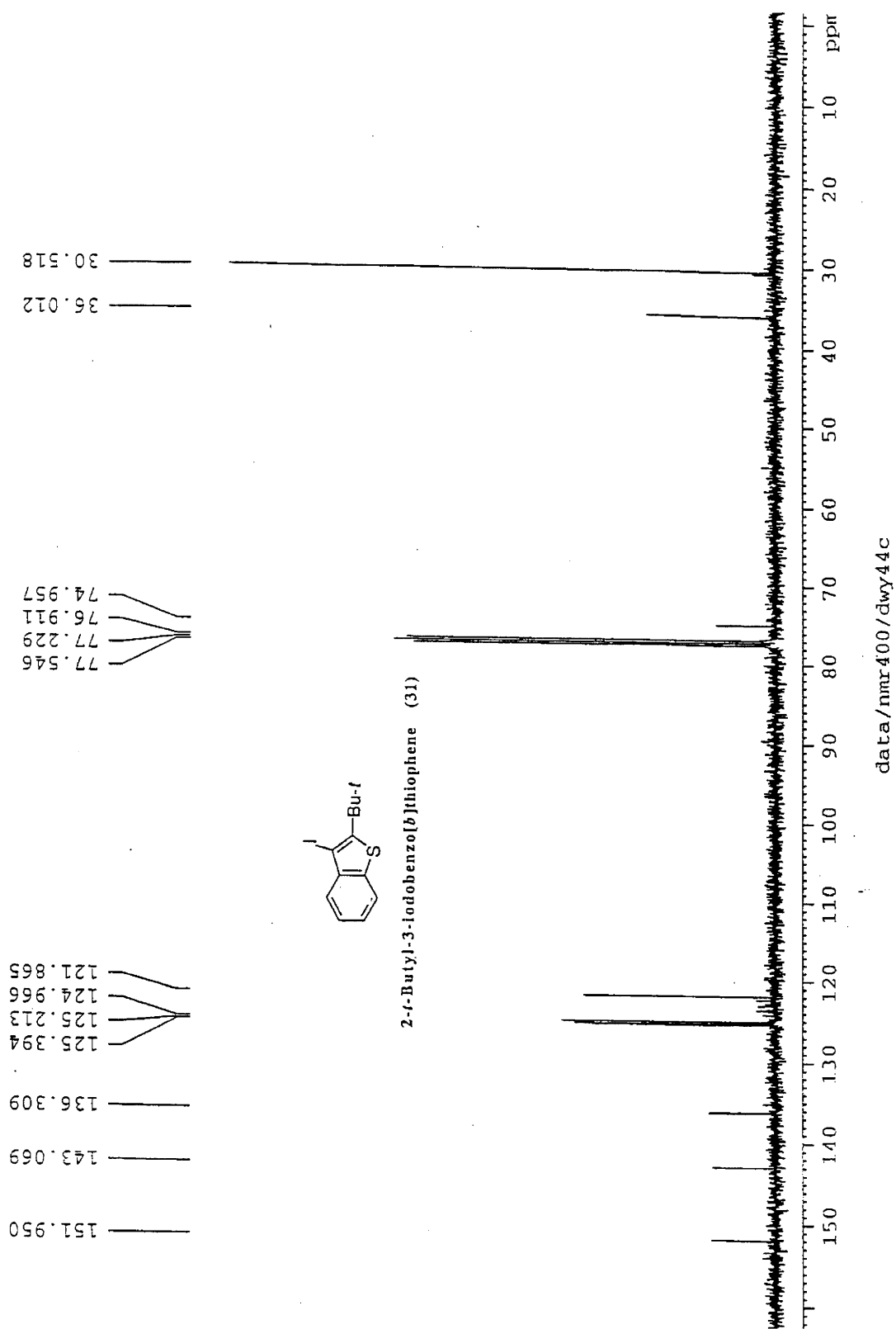
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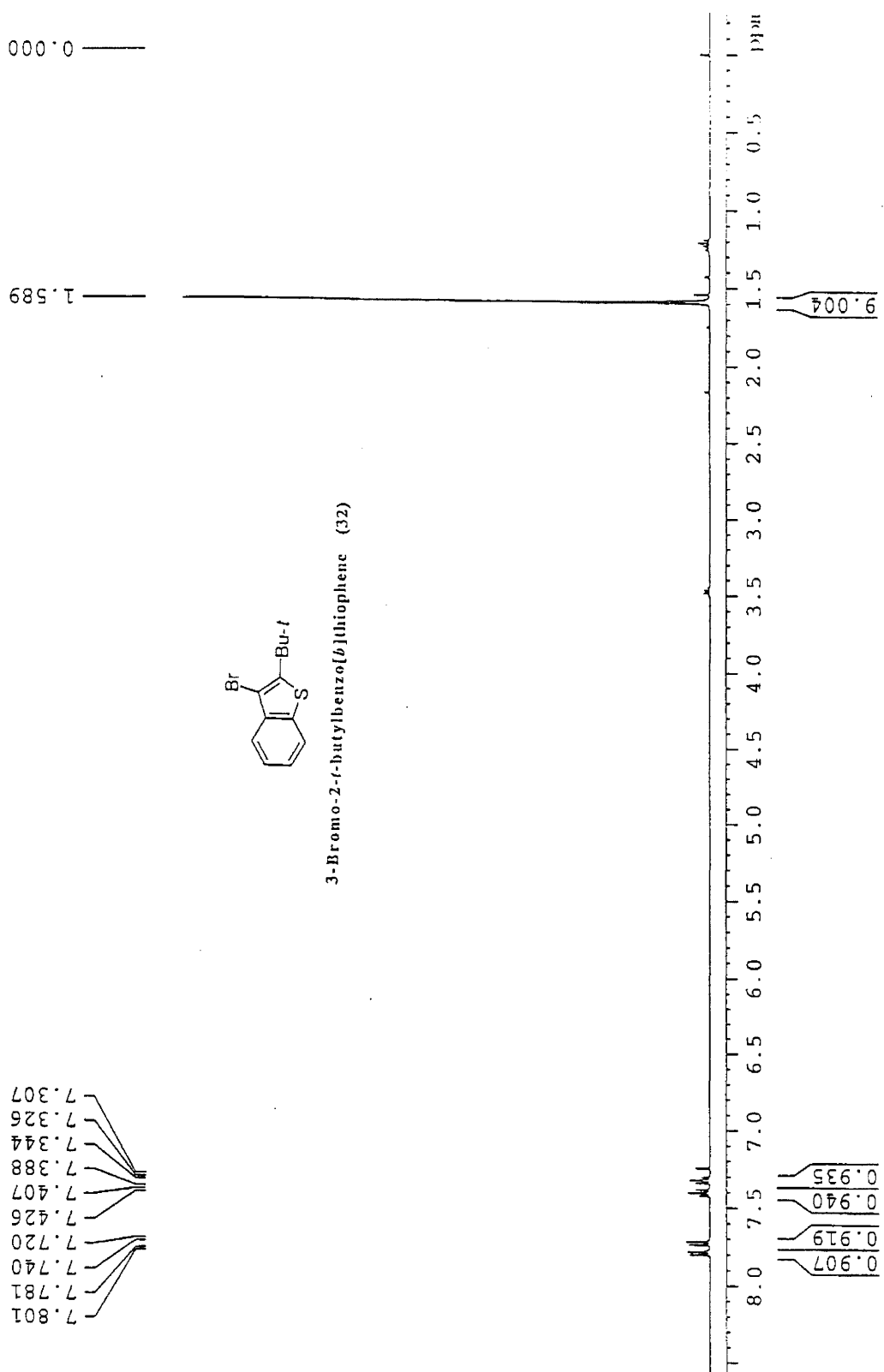


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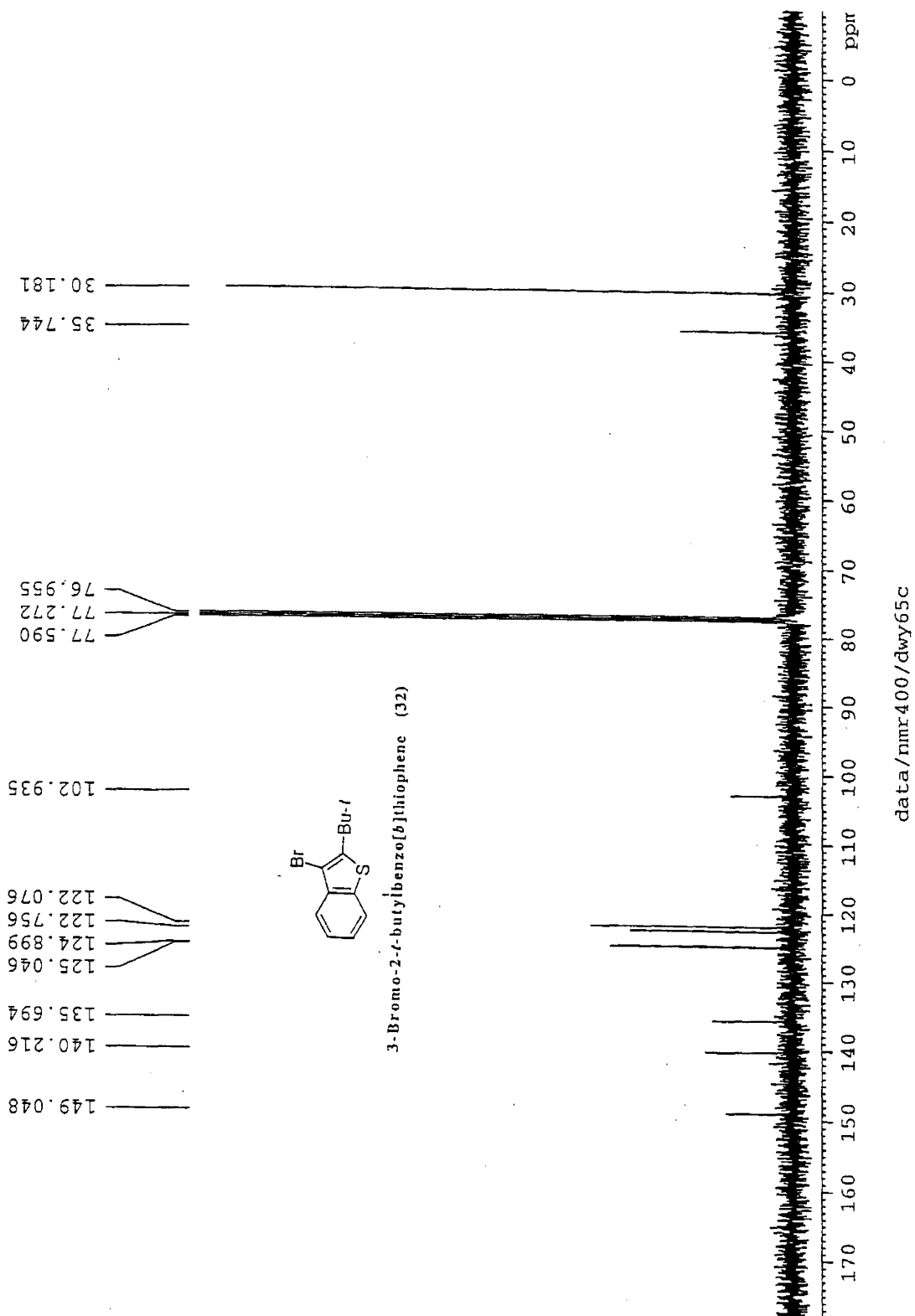


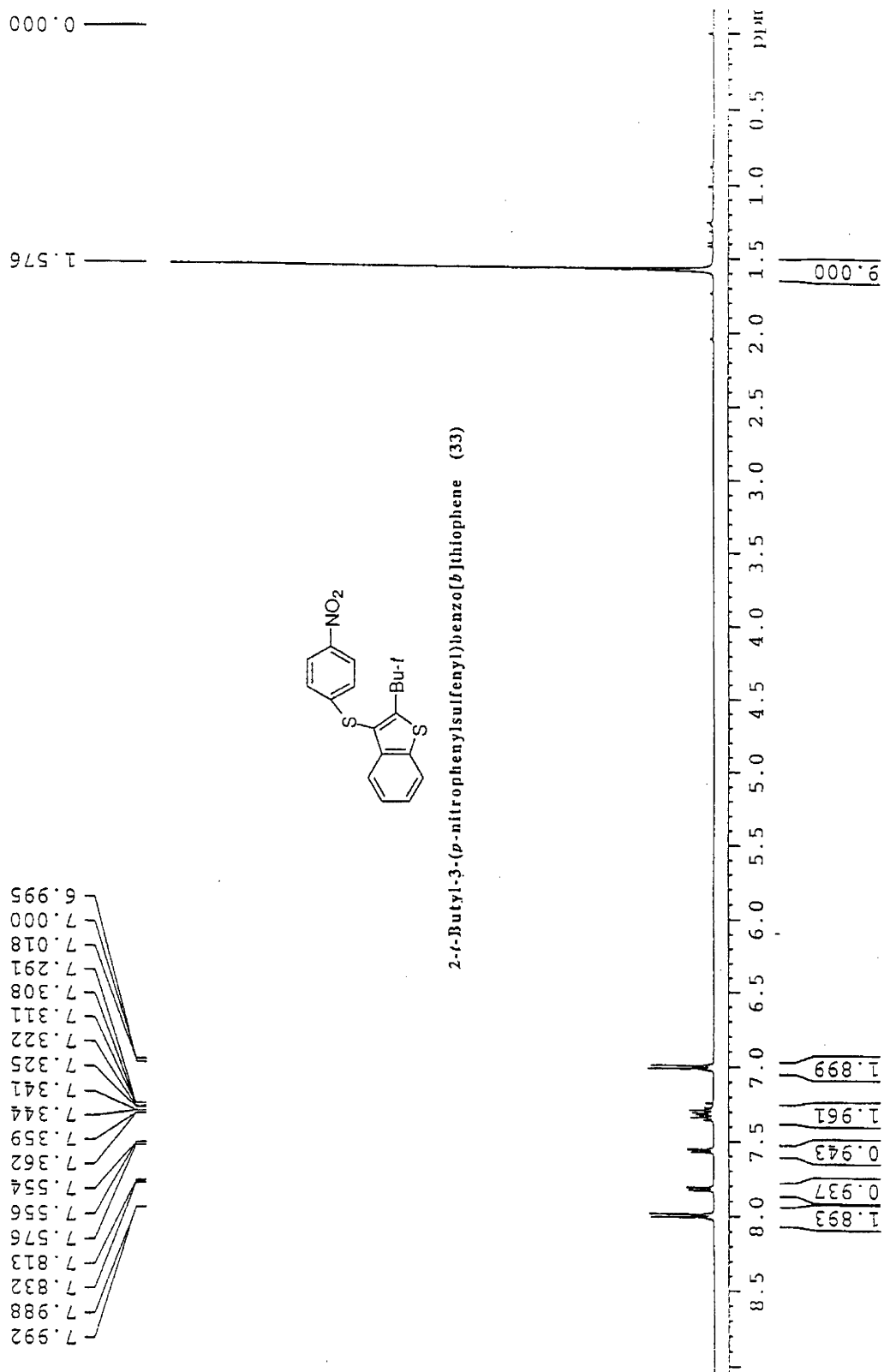




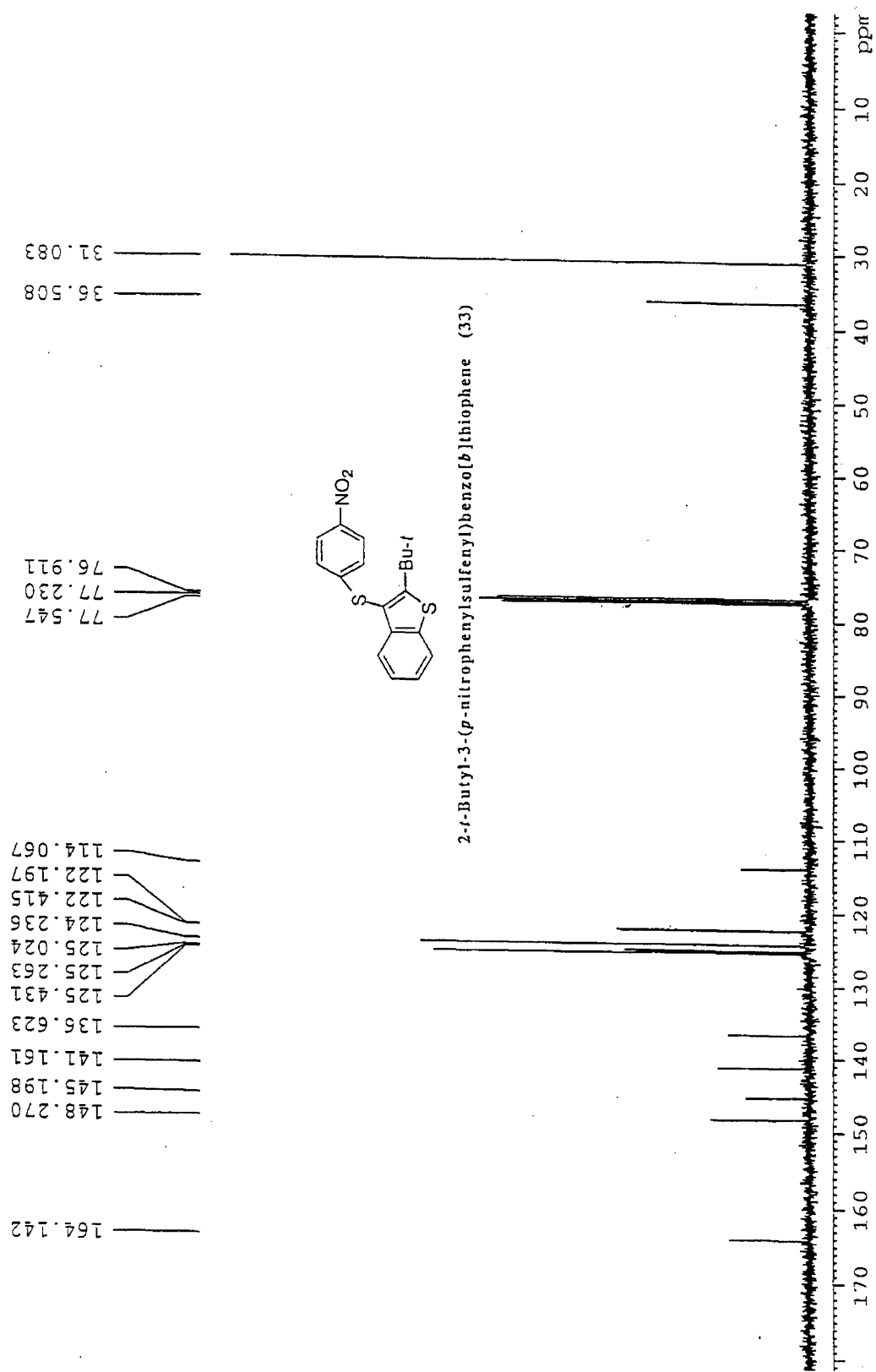


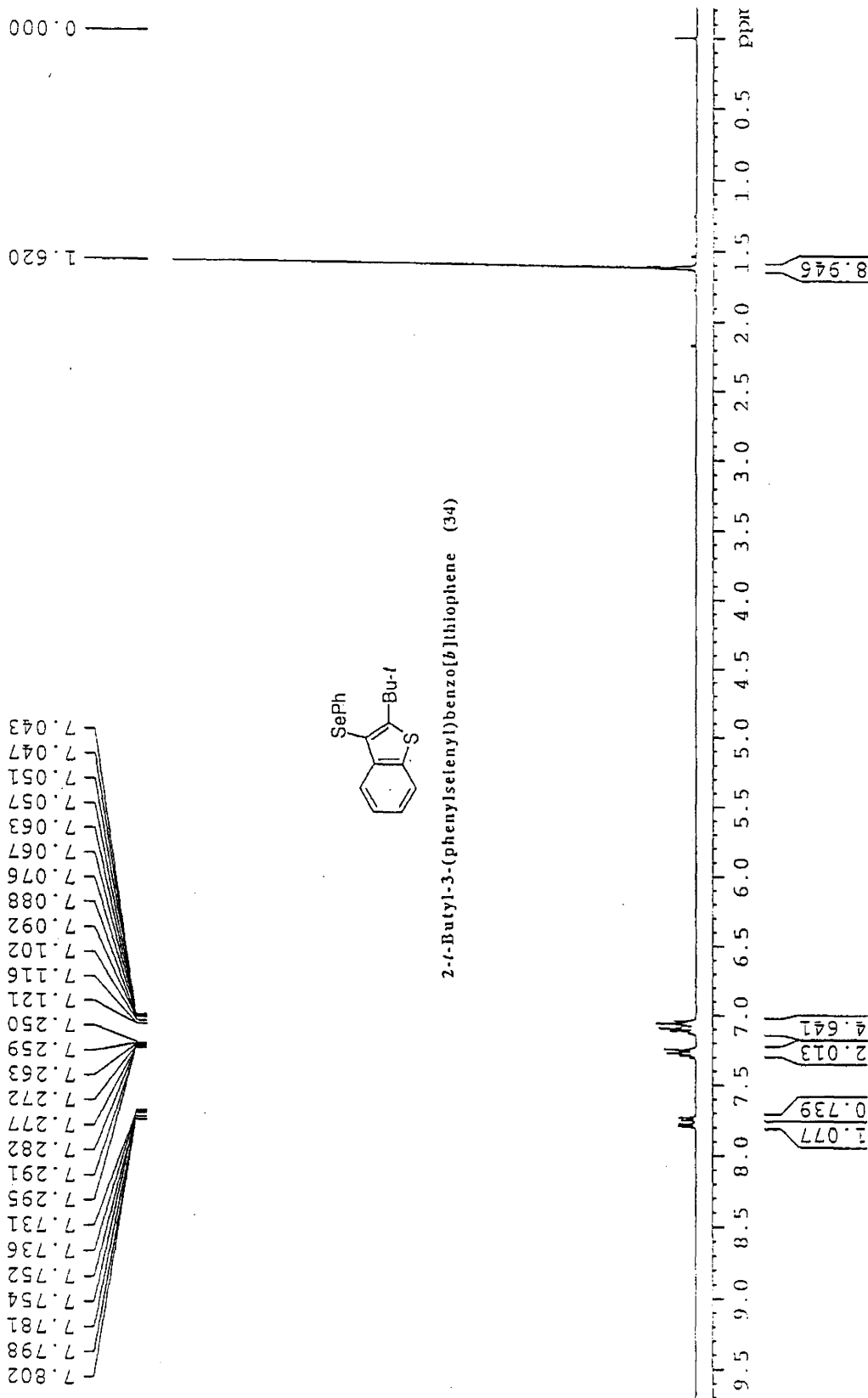
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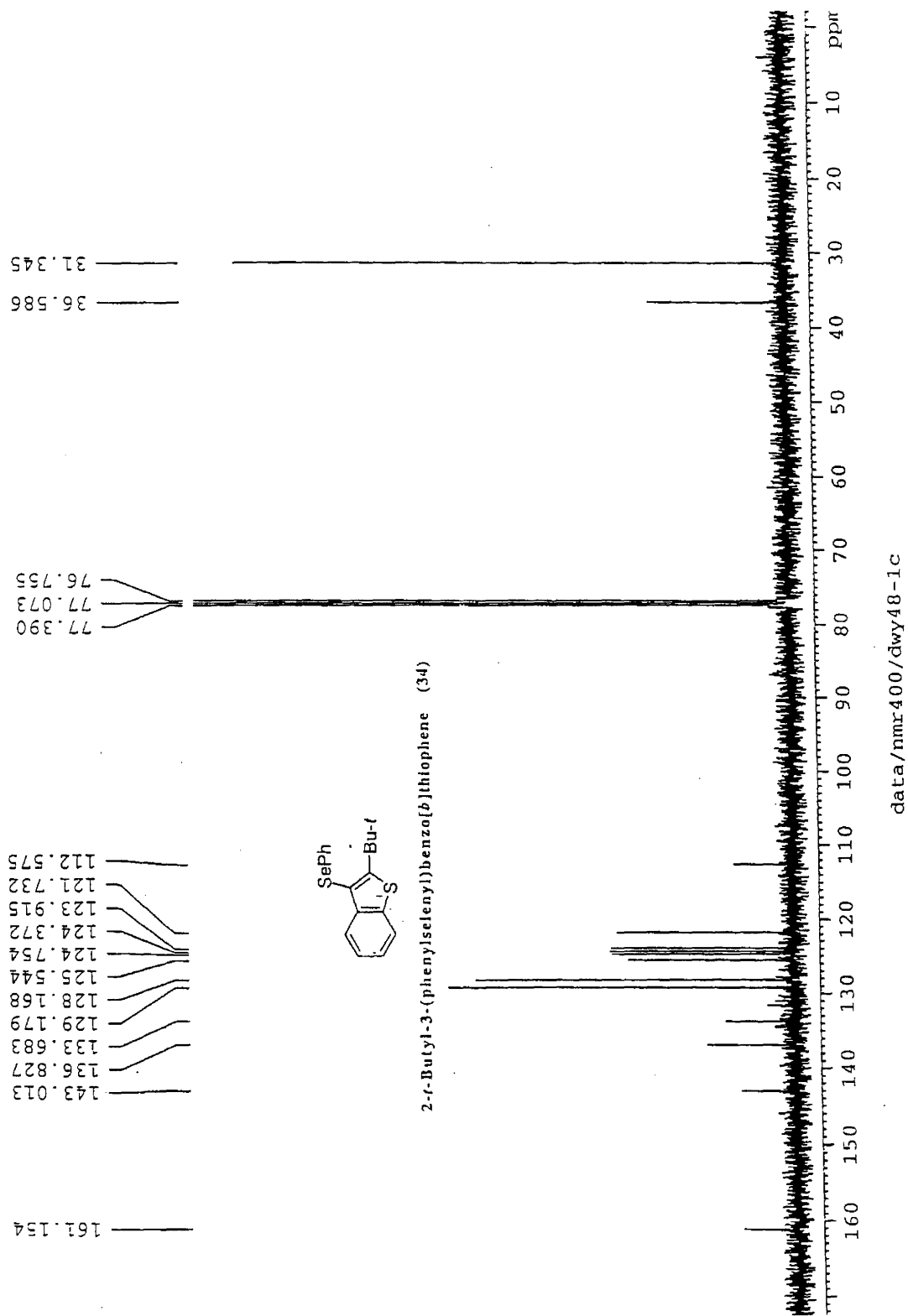


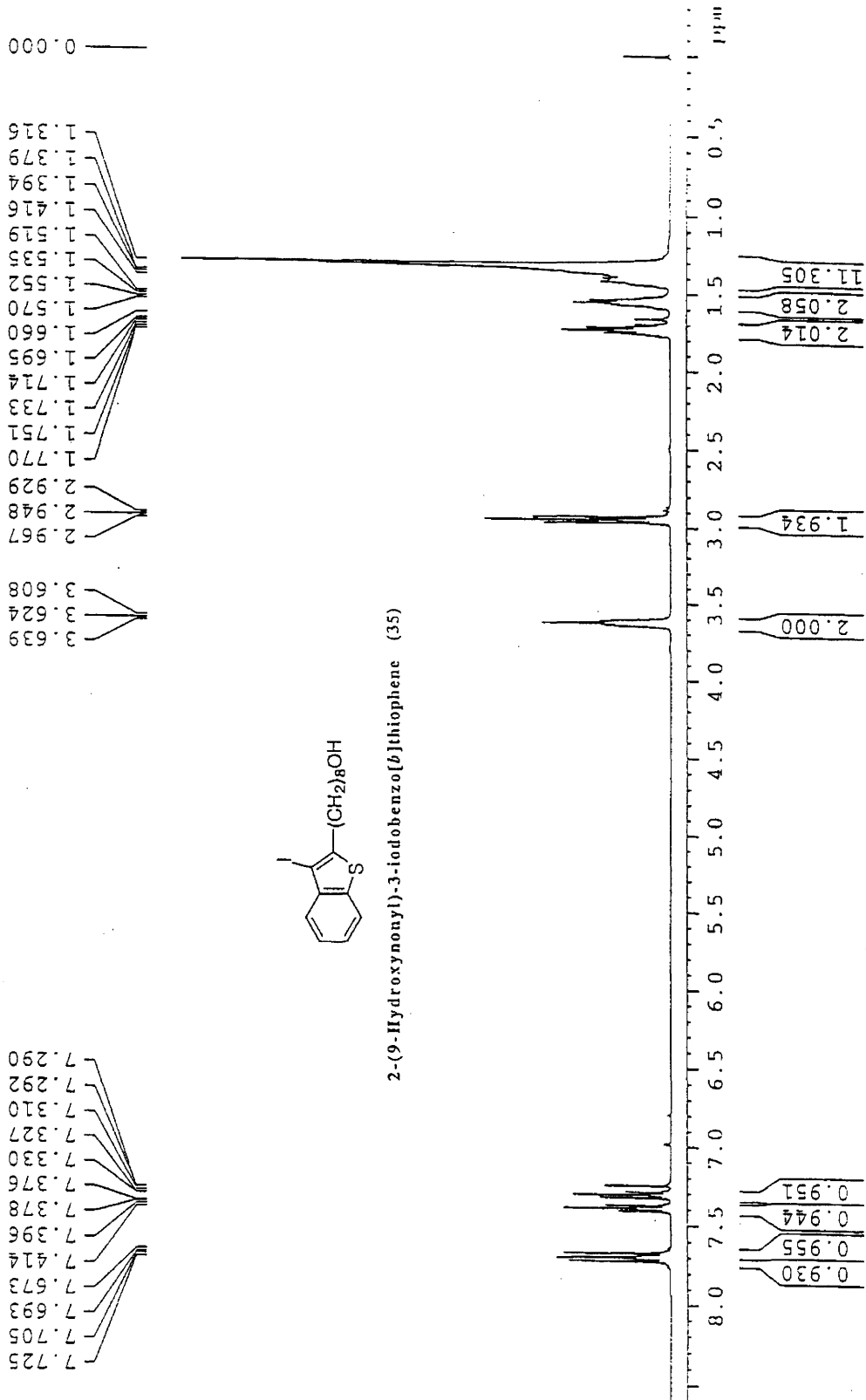
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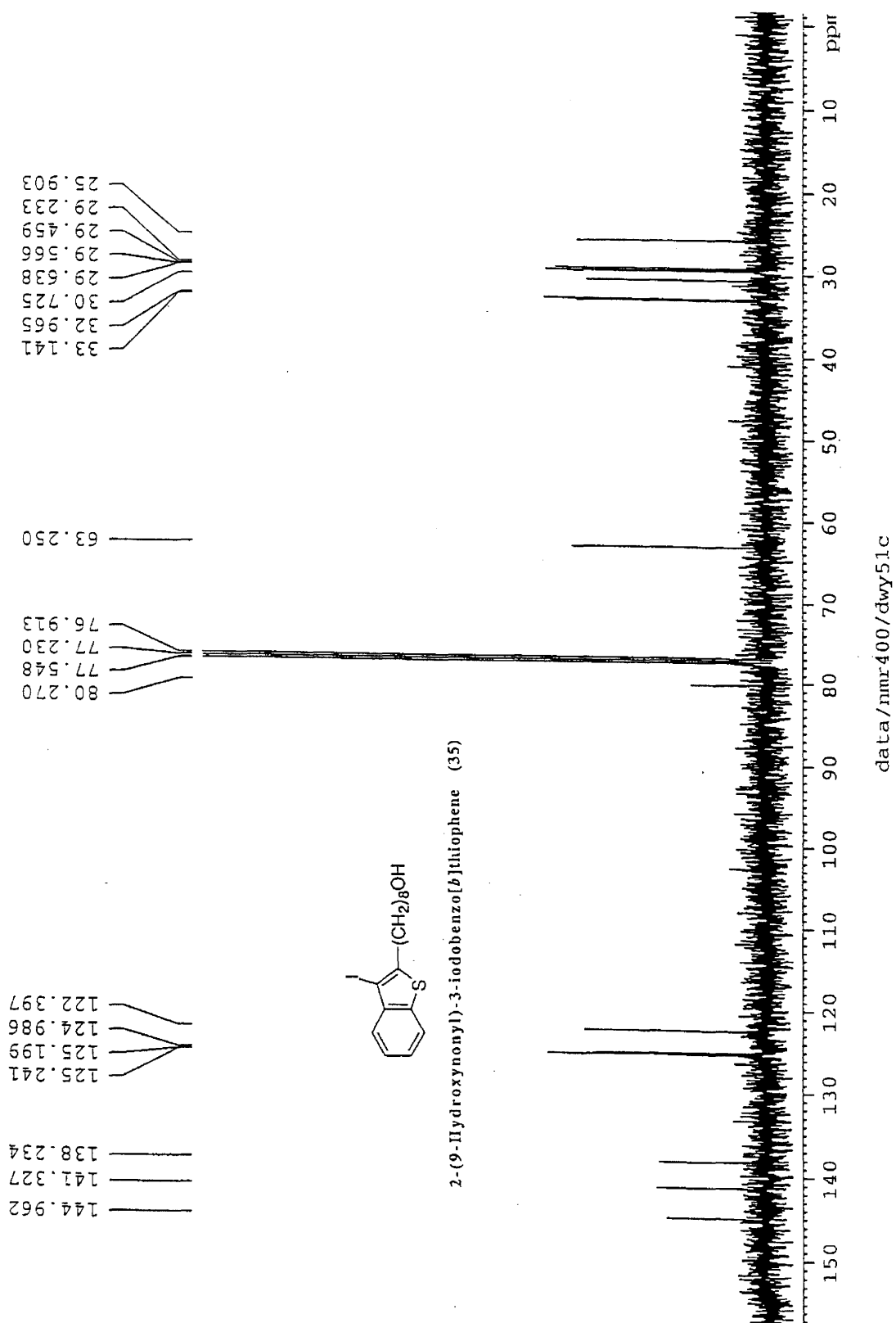


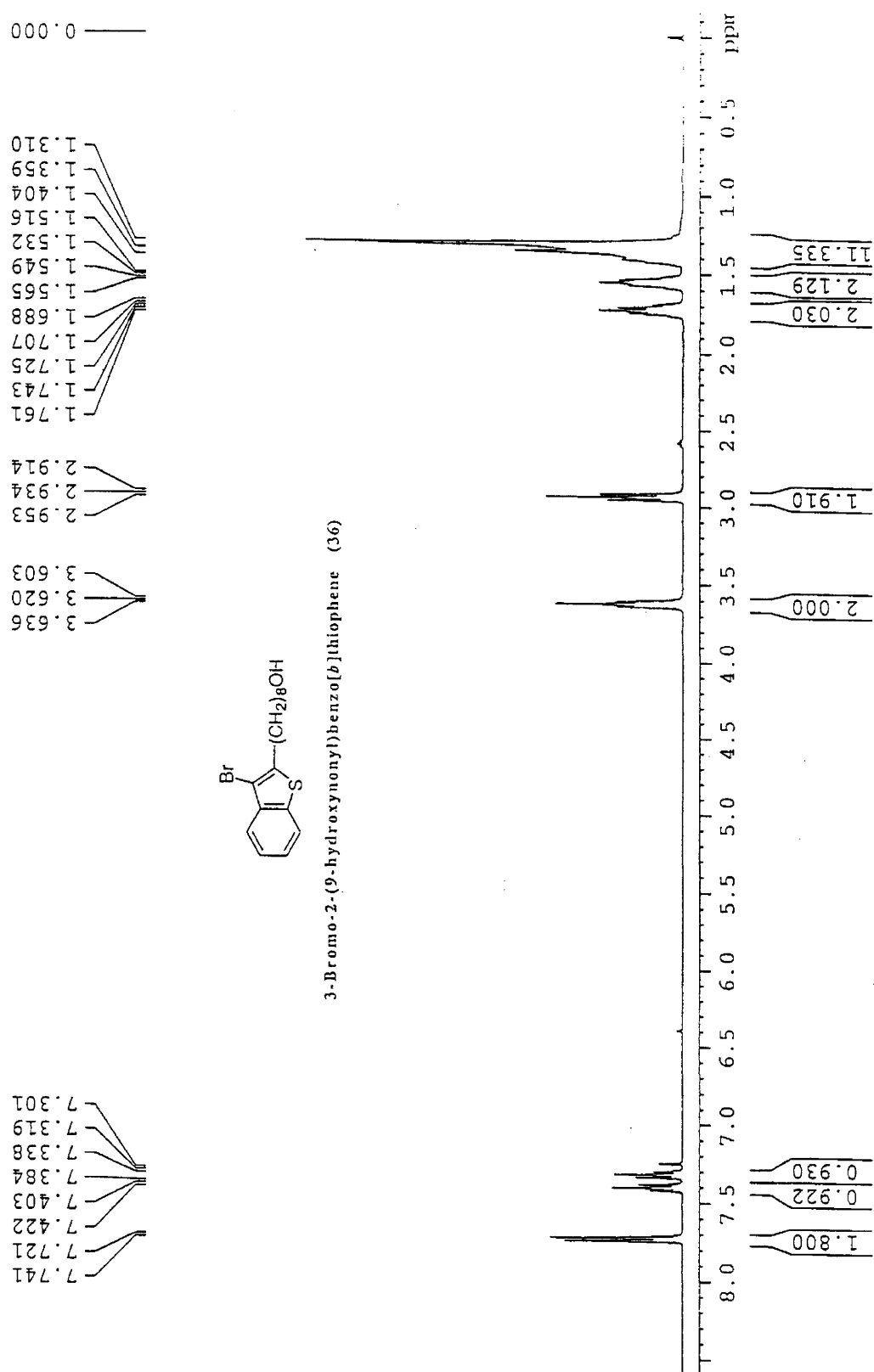


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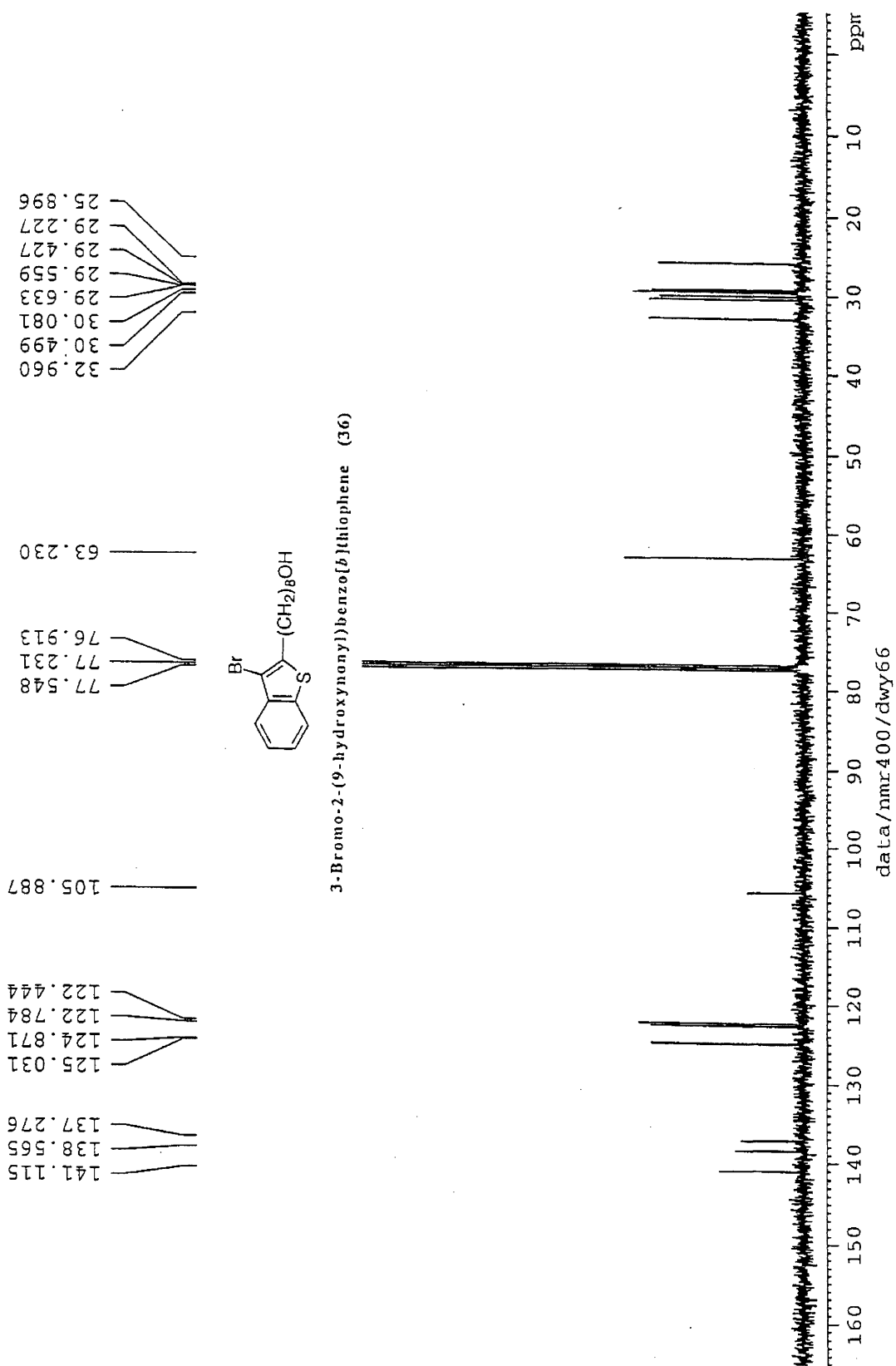


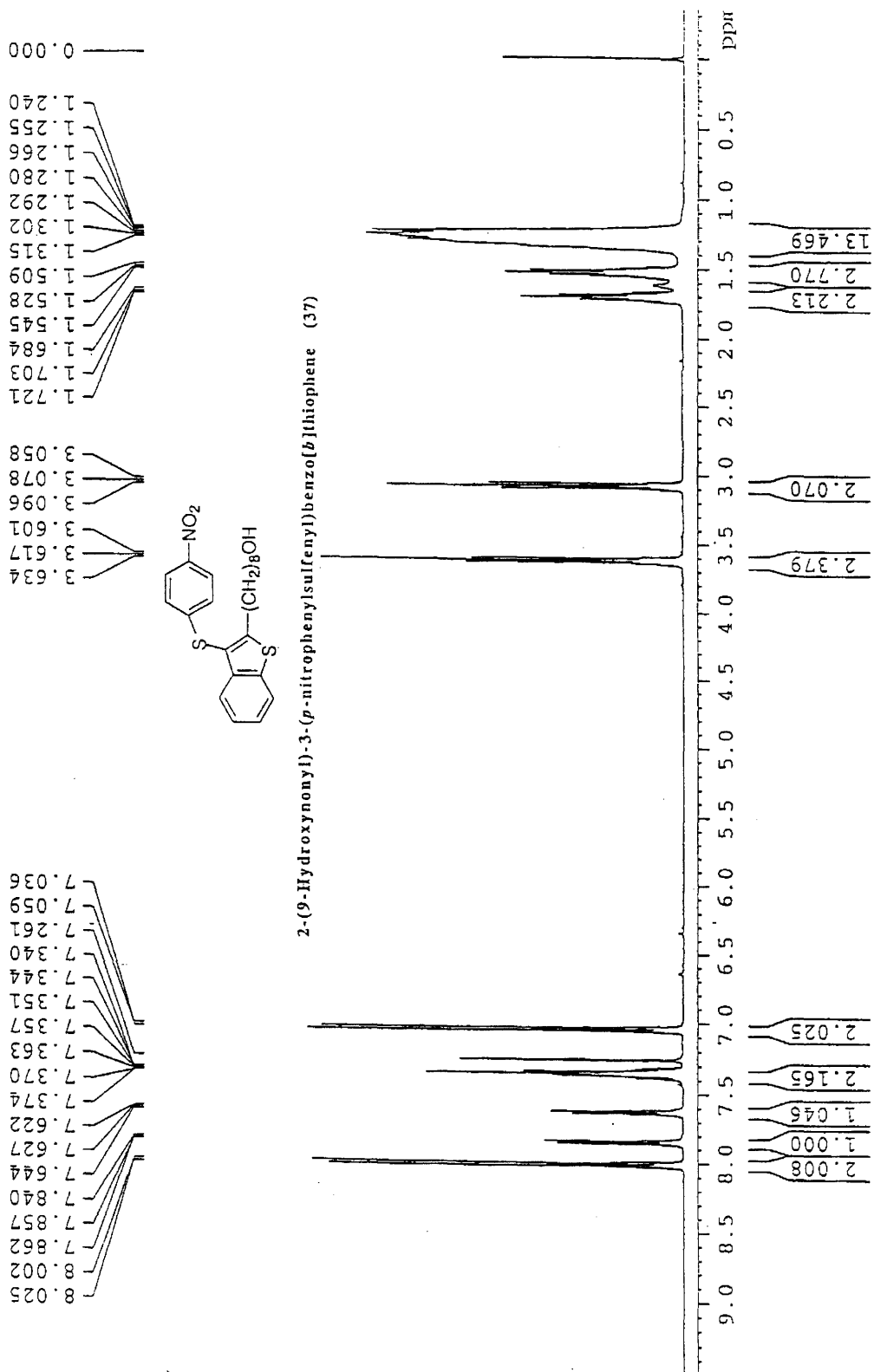




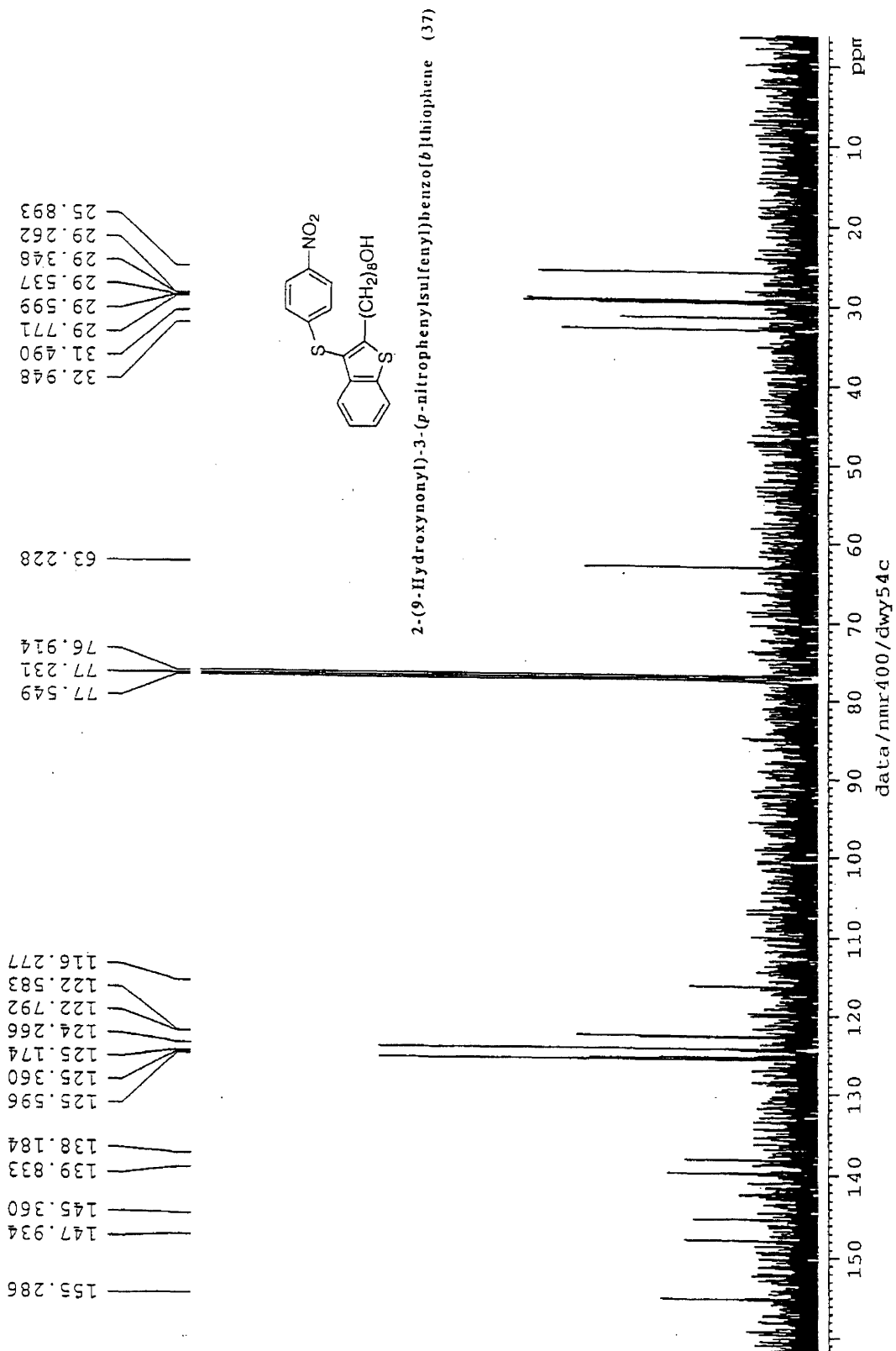


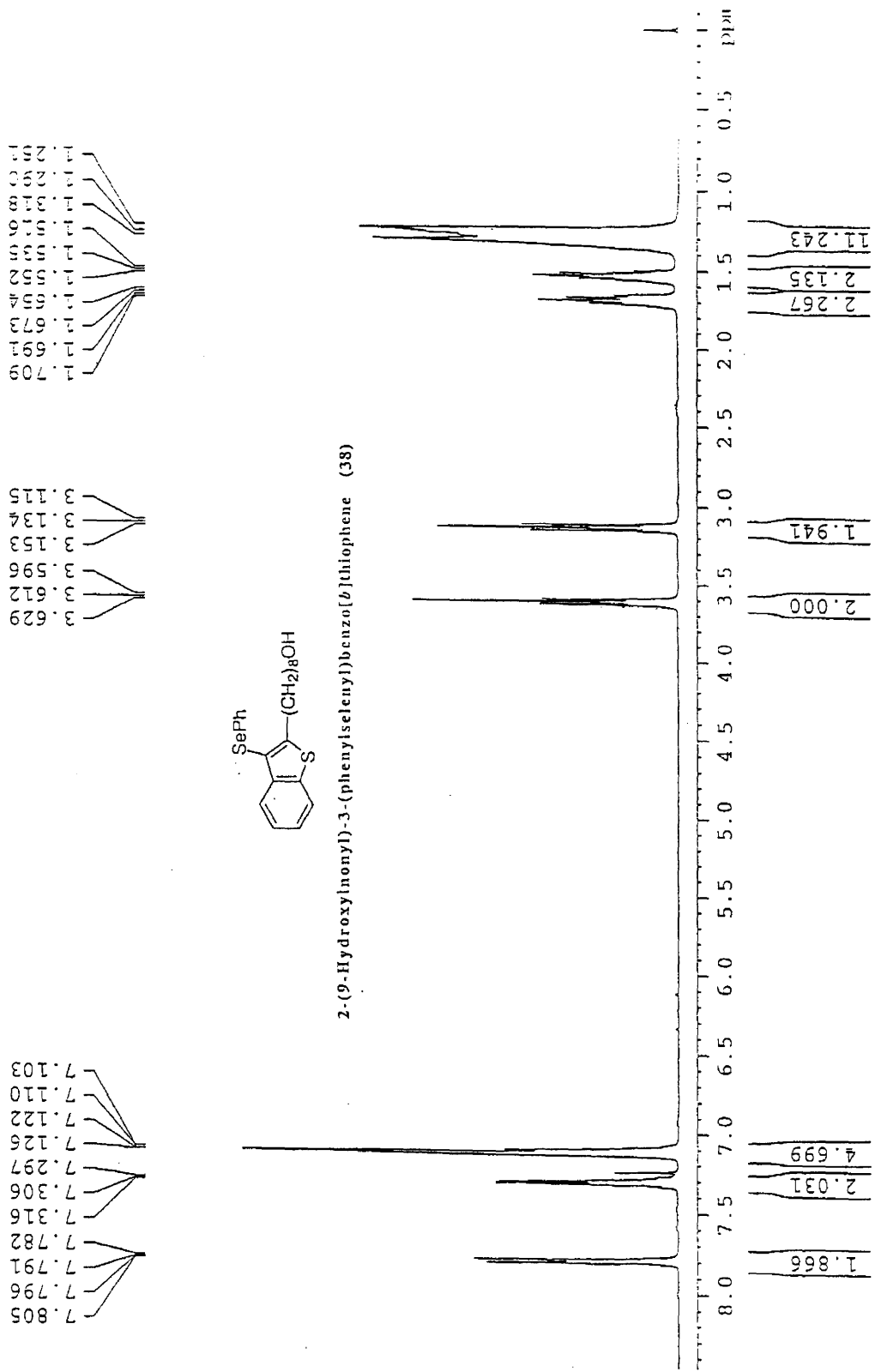
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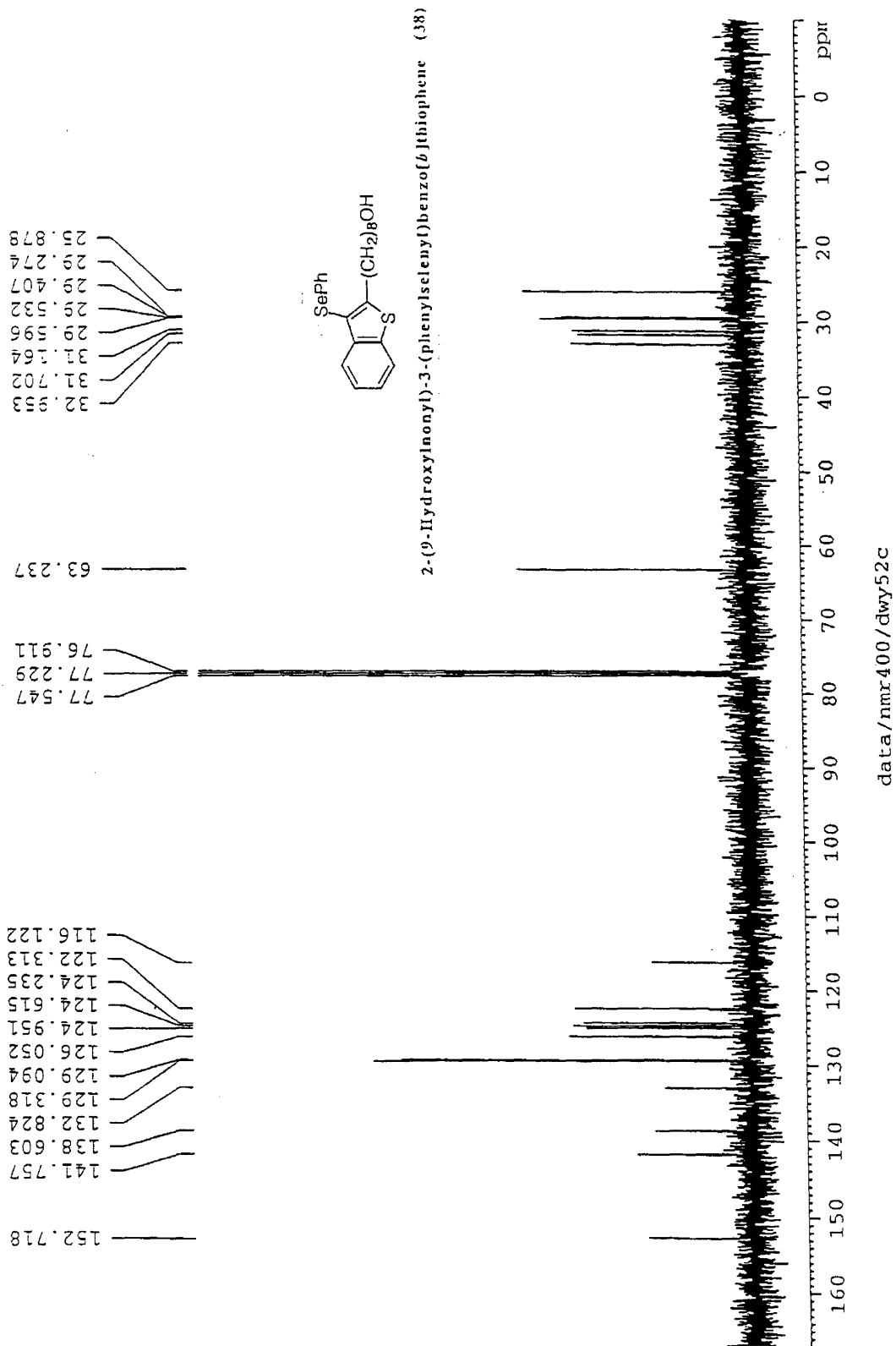


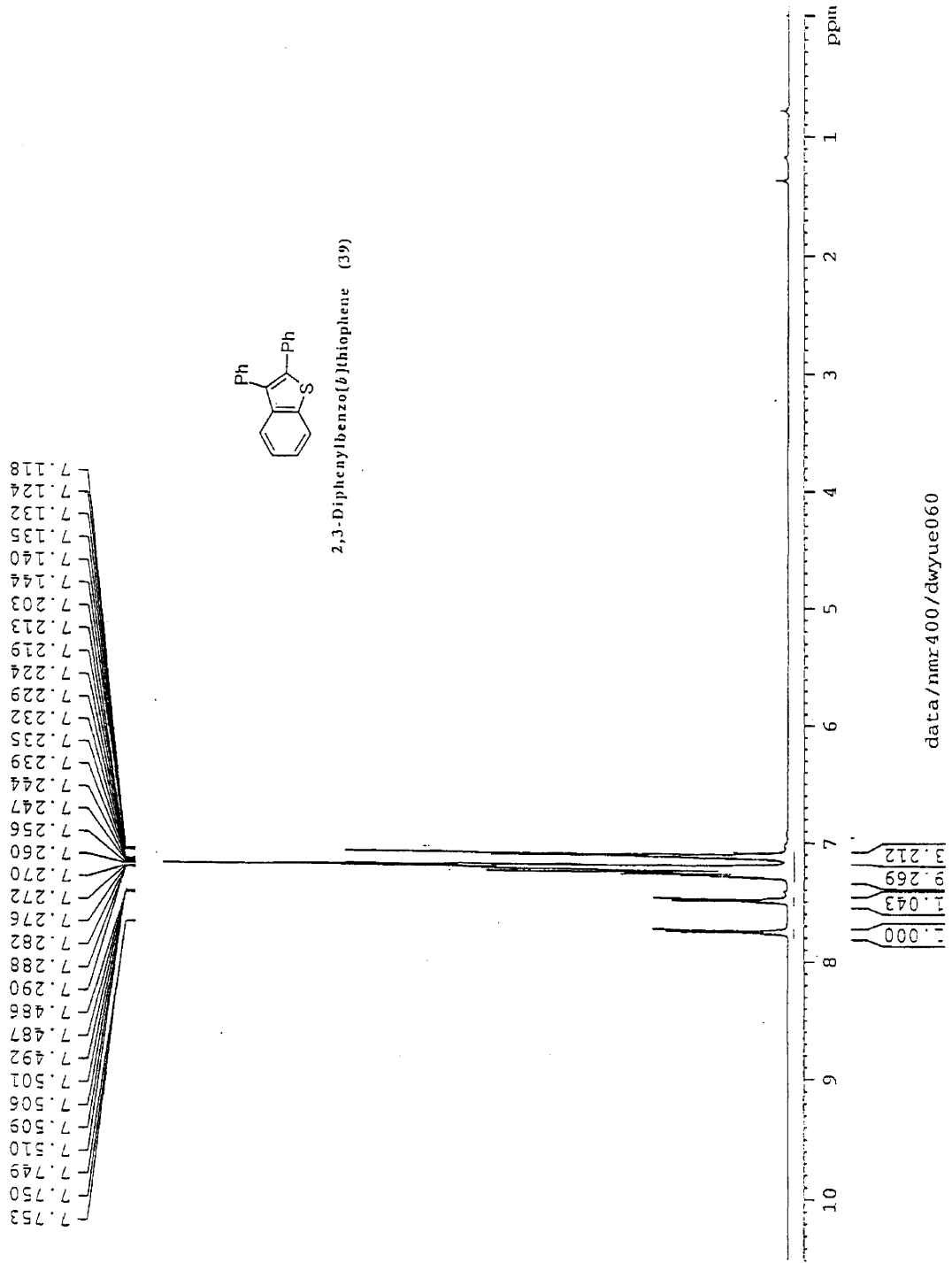
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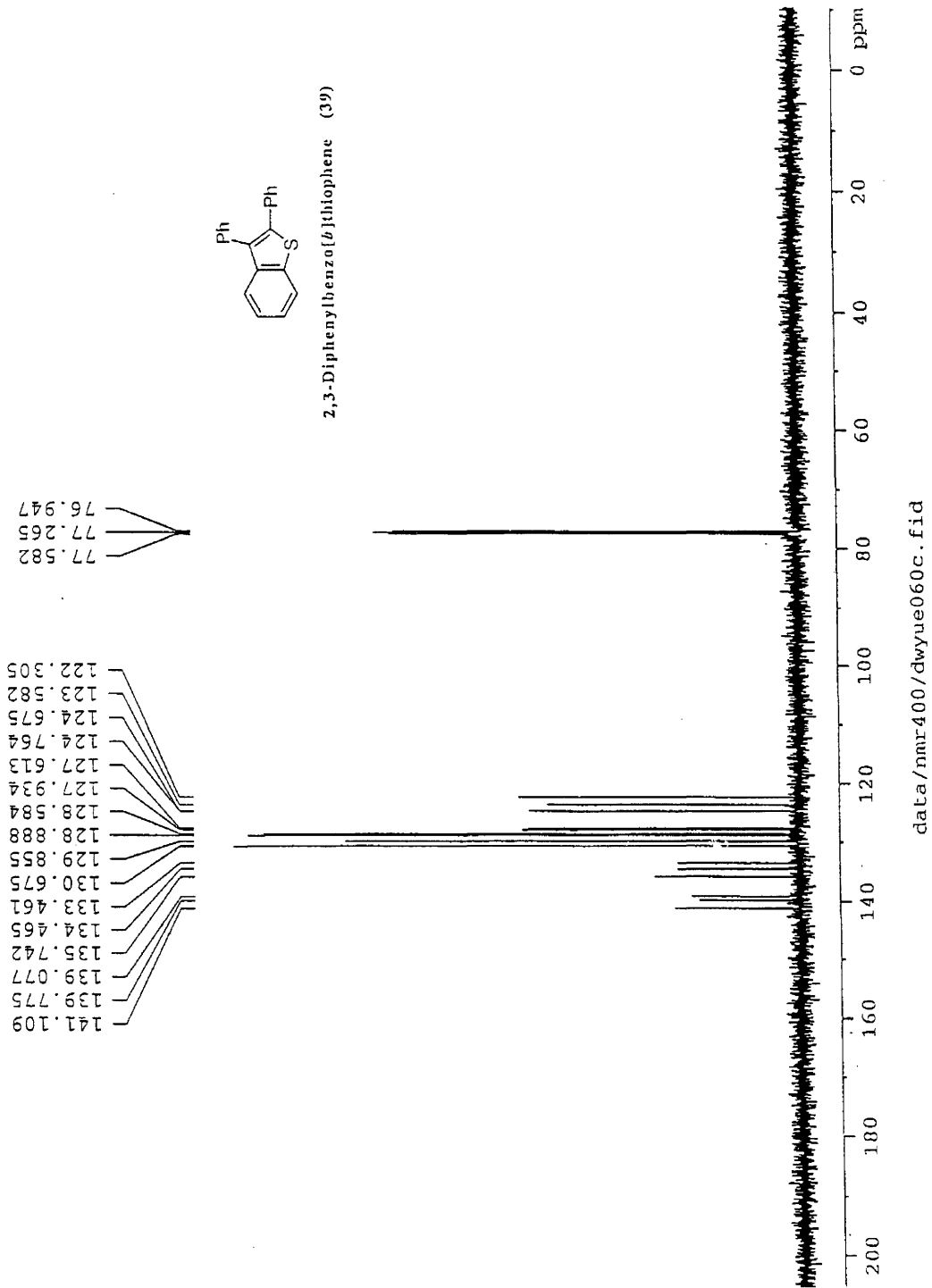




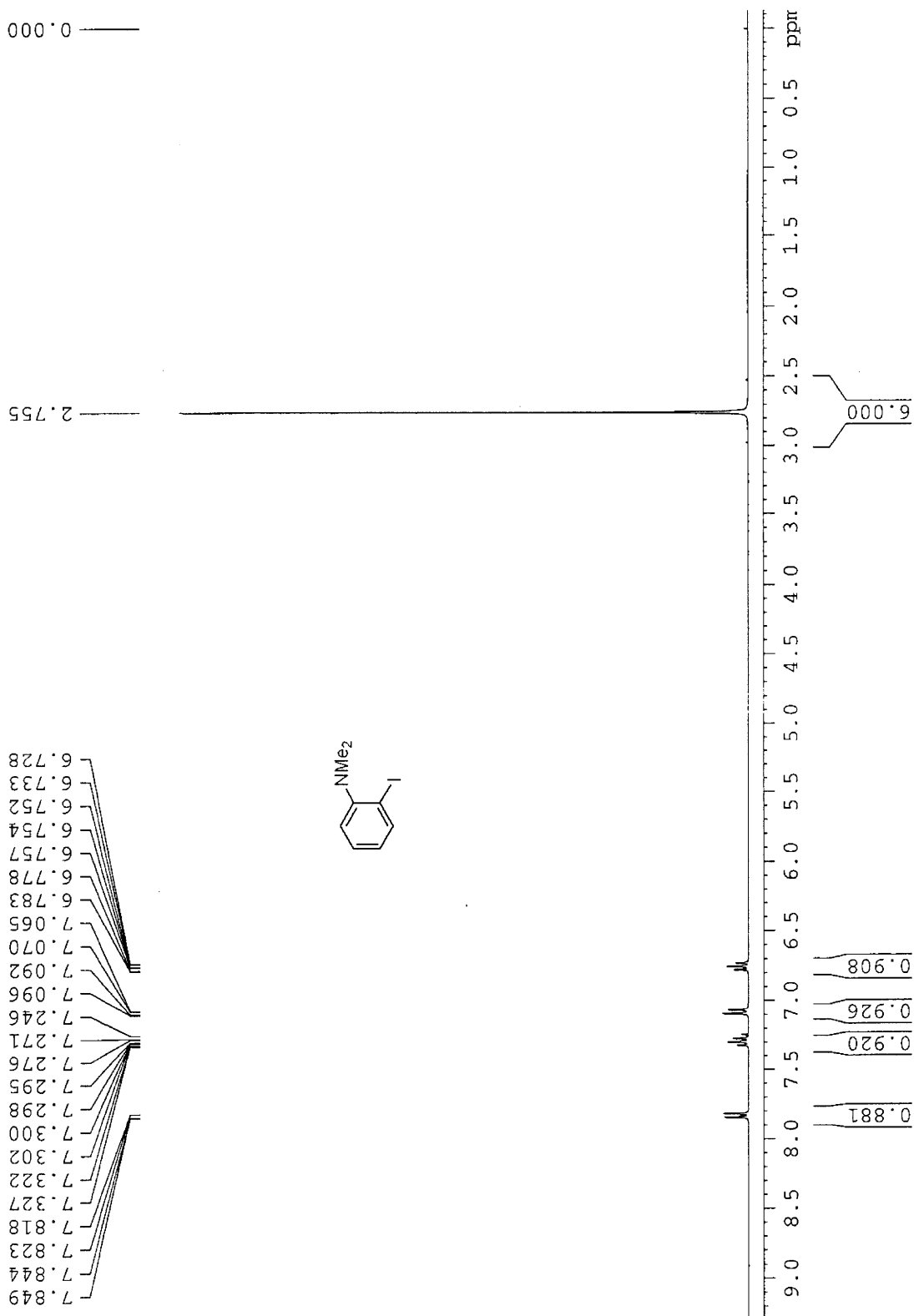
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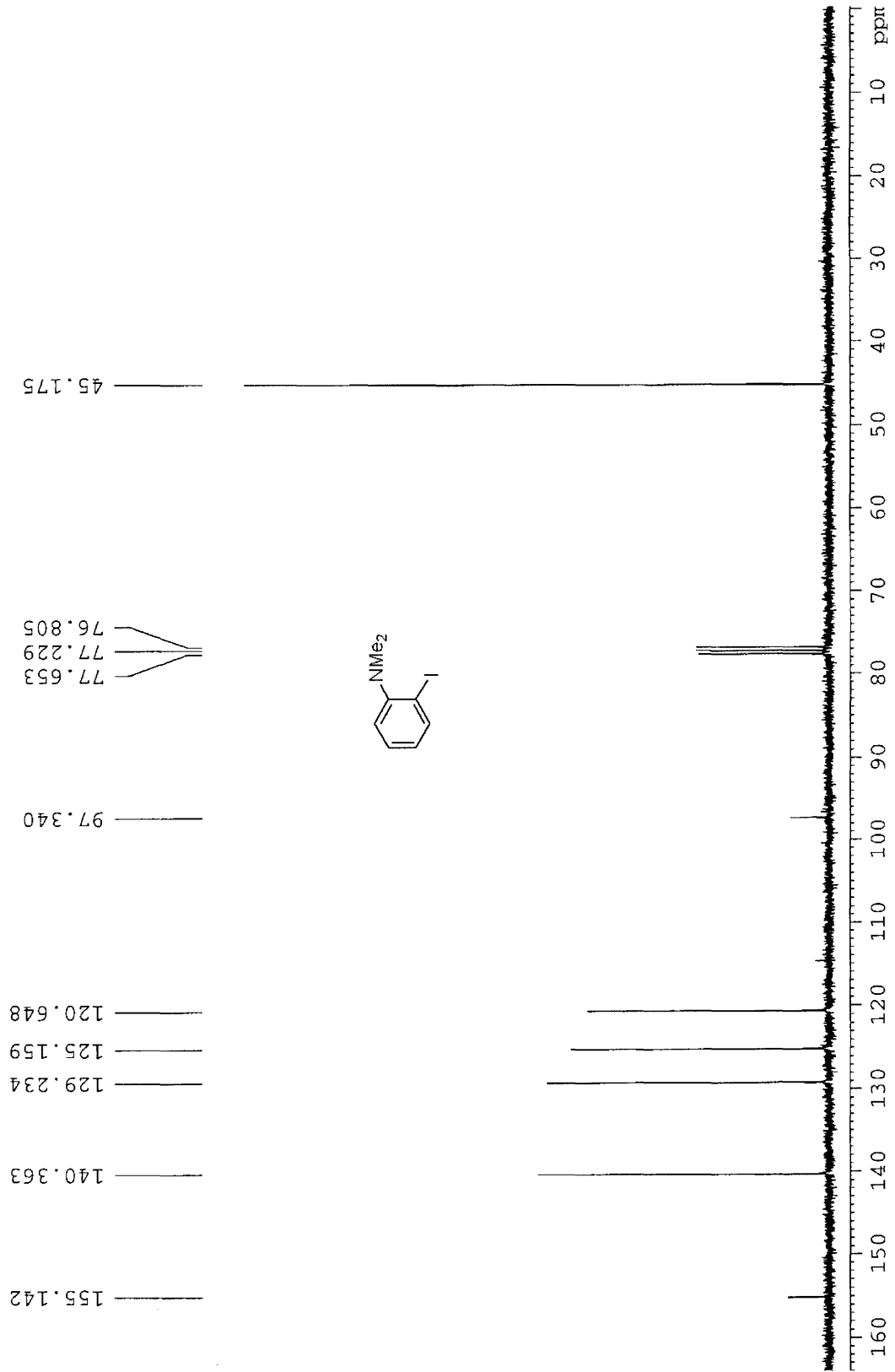


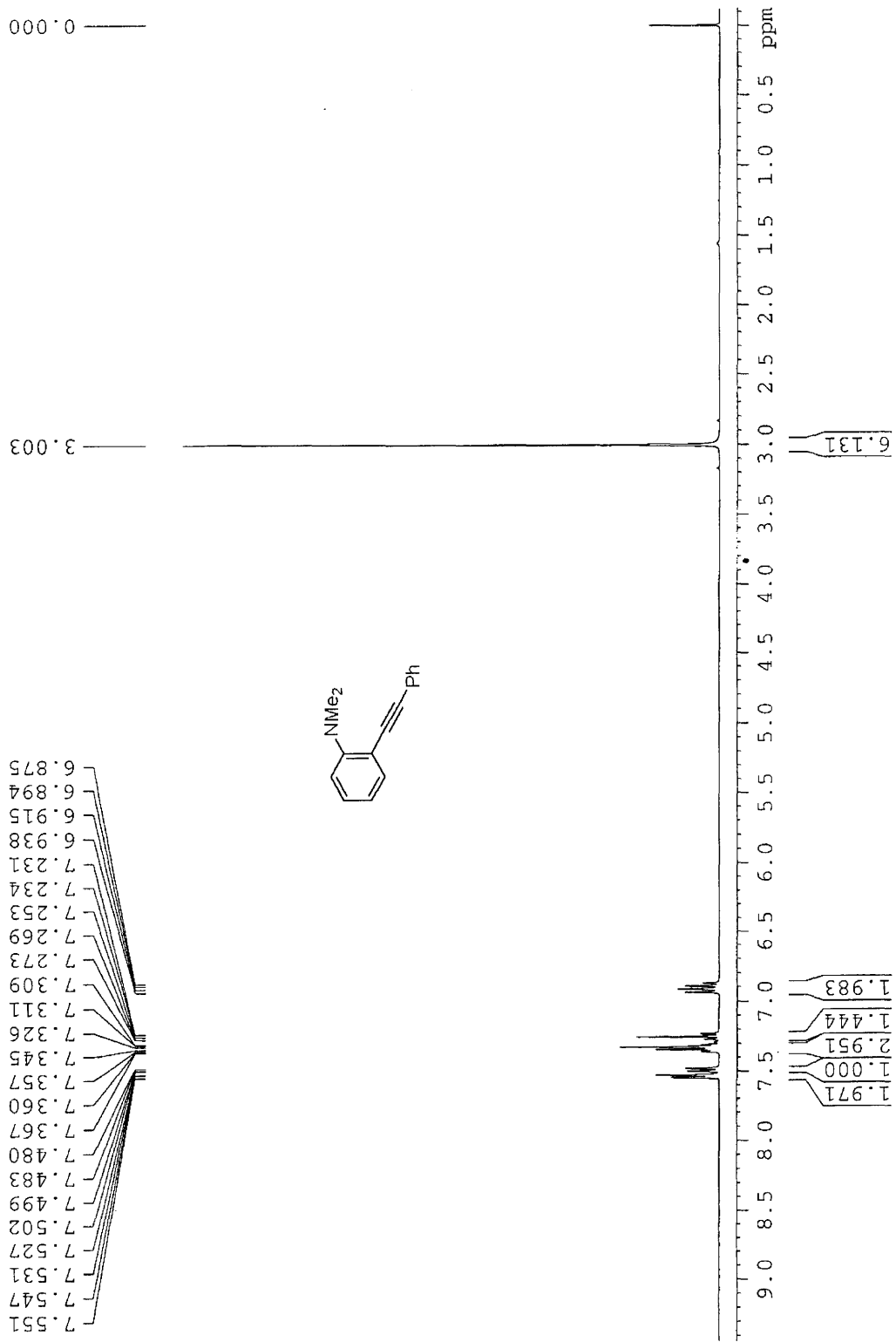




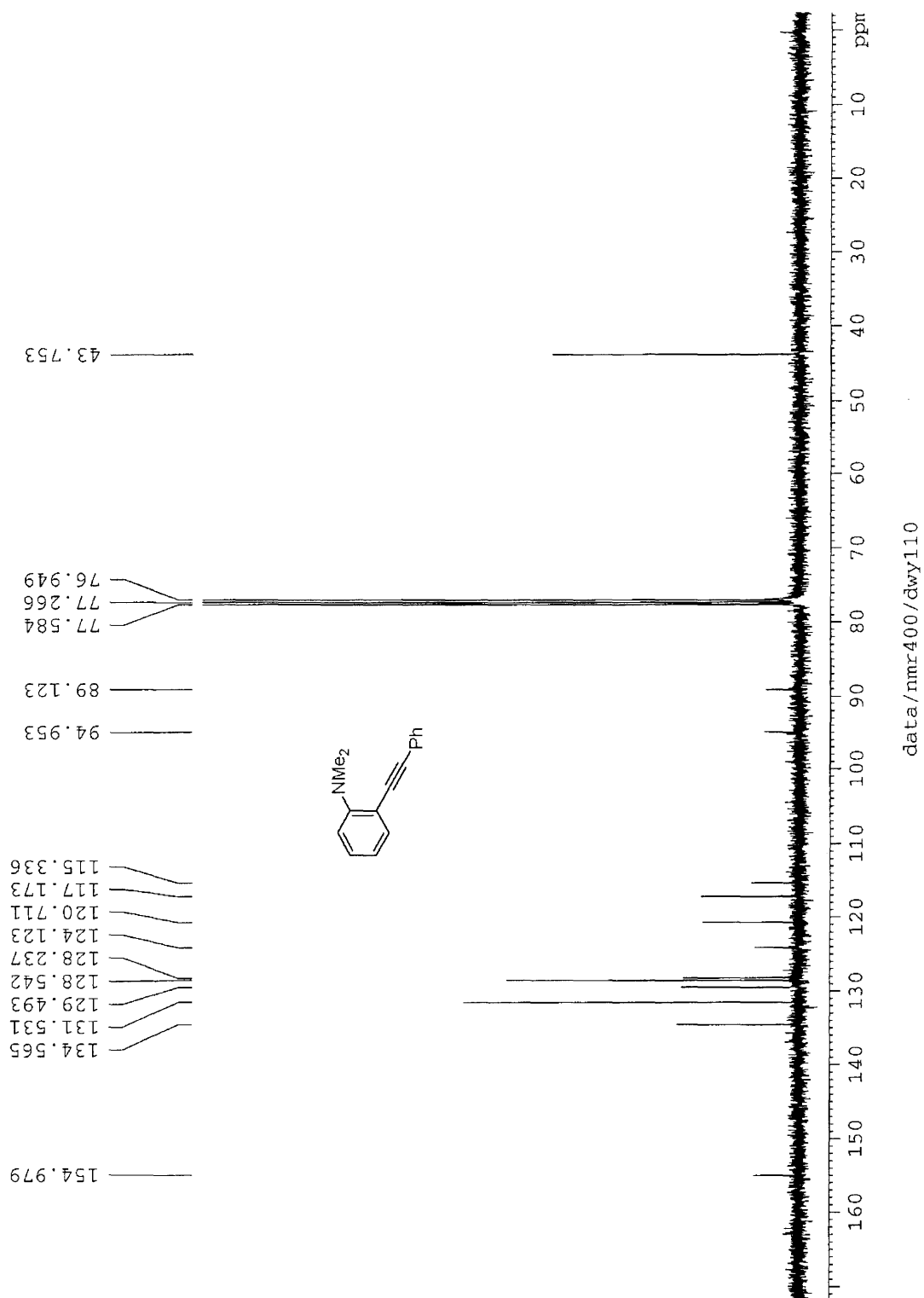
APPENDIX B. CHAPTER 2 ^1H AND ^{13}C NMR SPECTRA

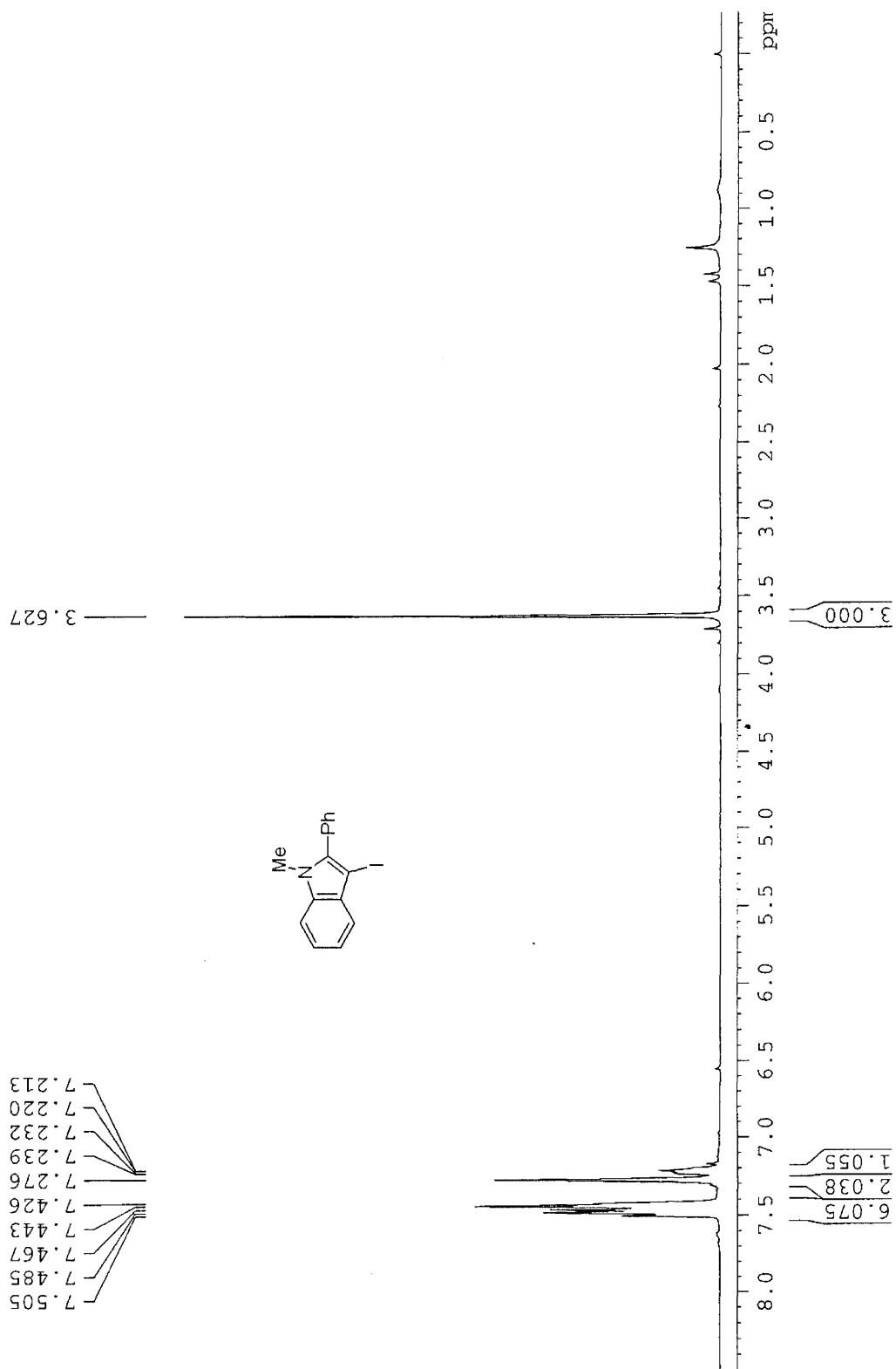




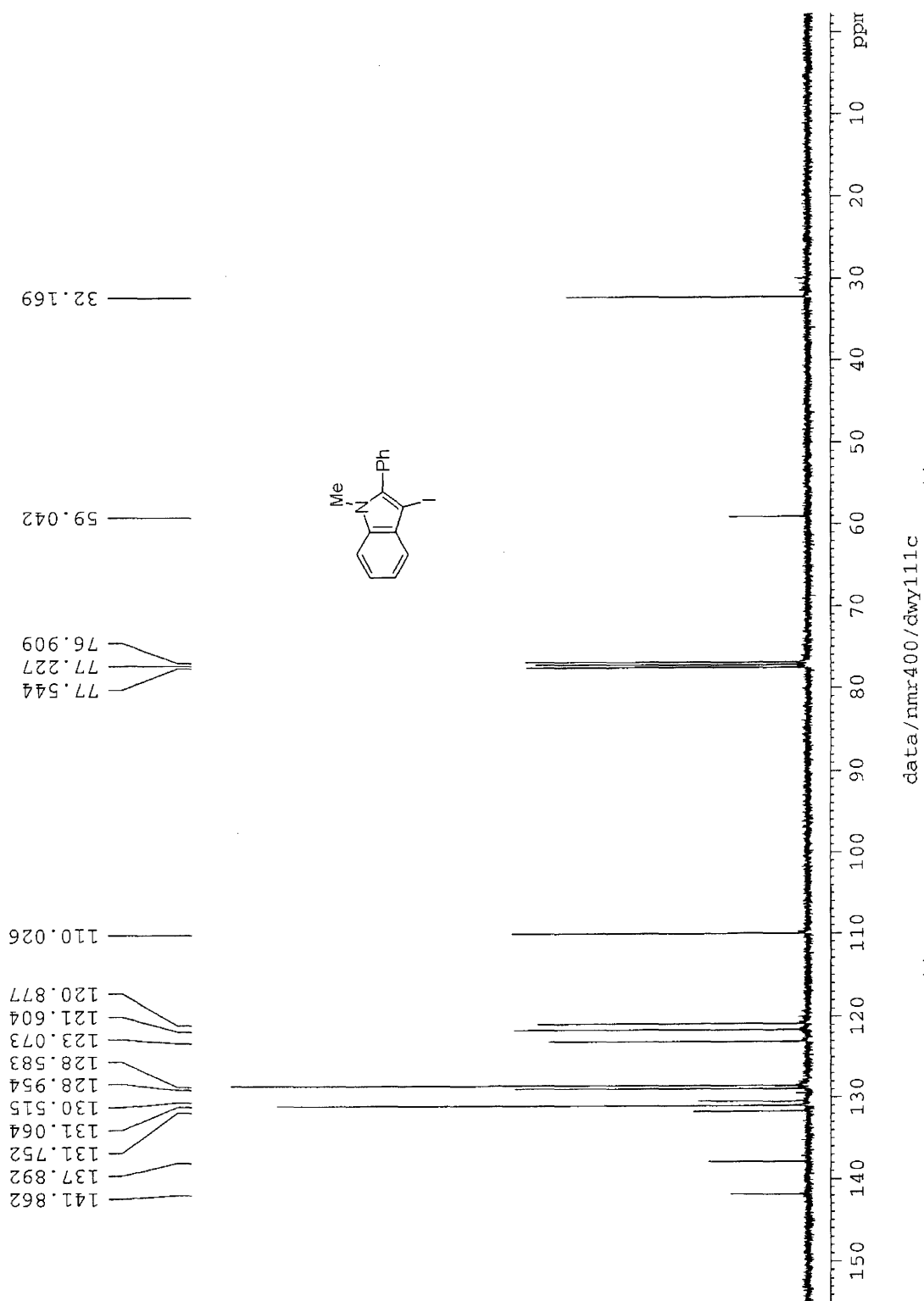


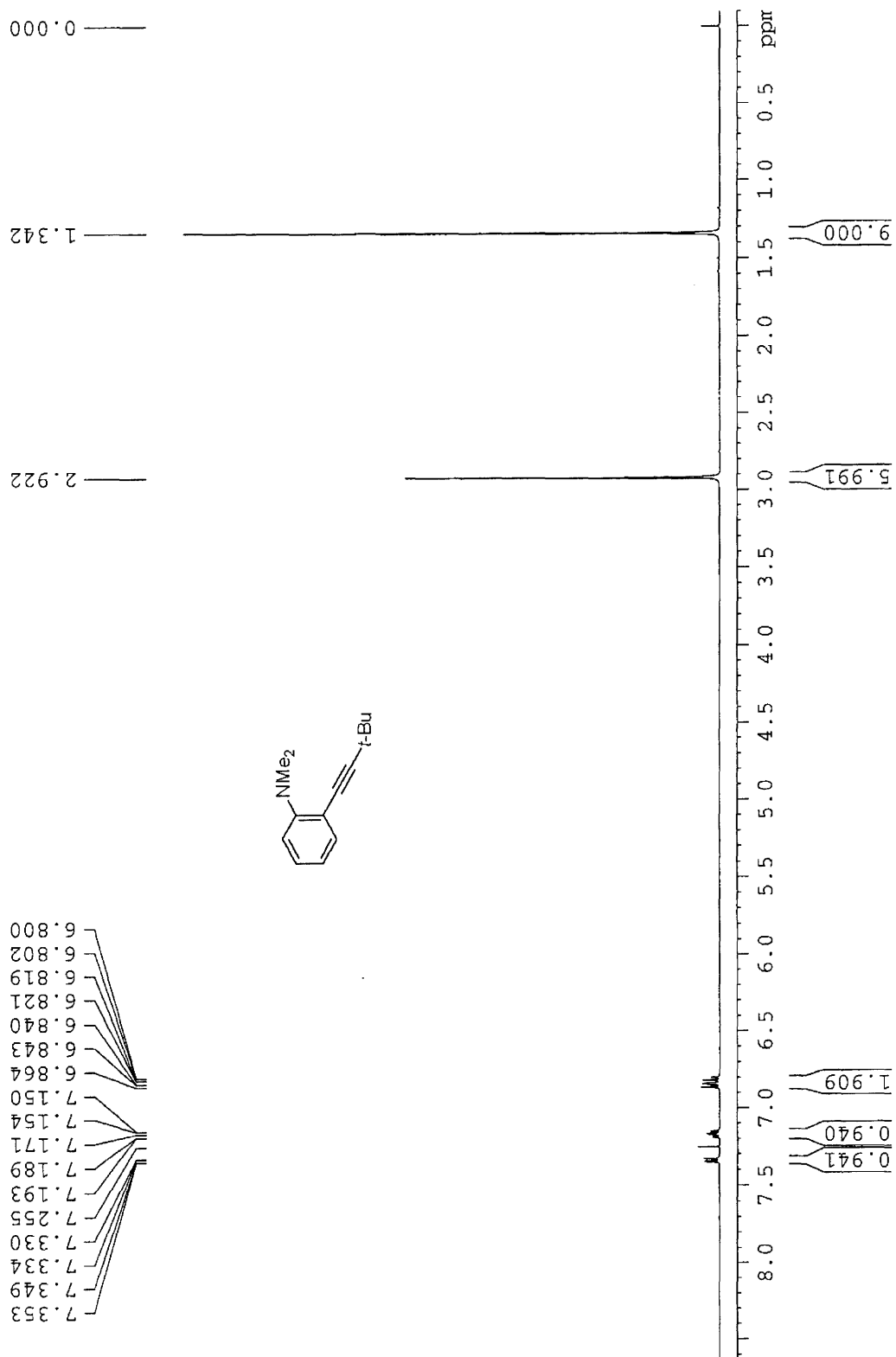
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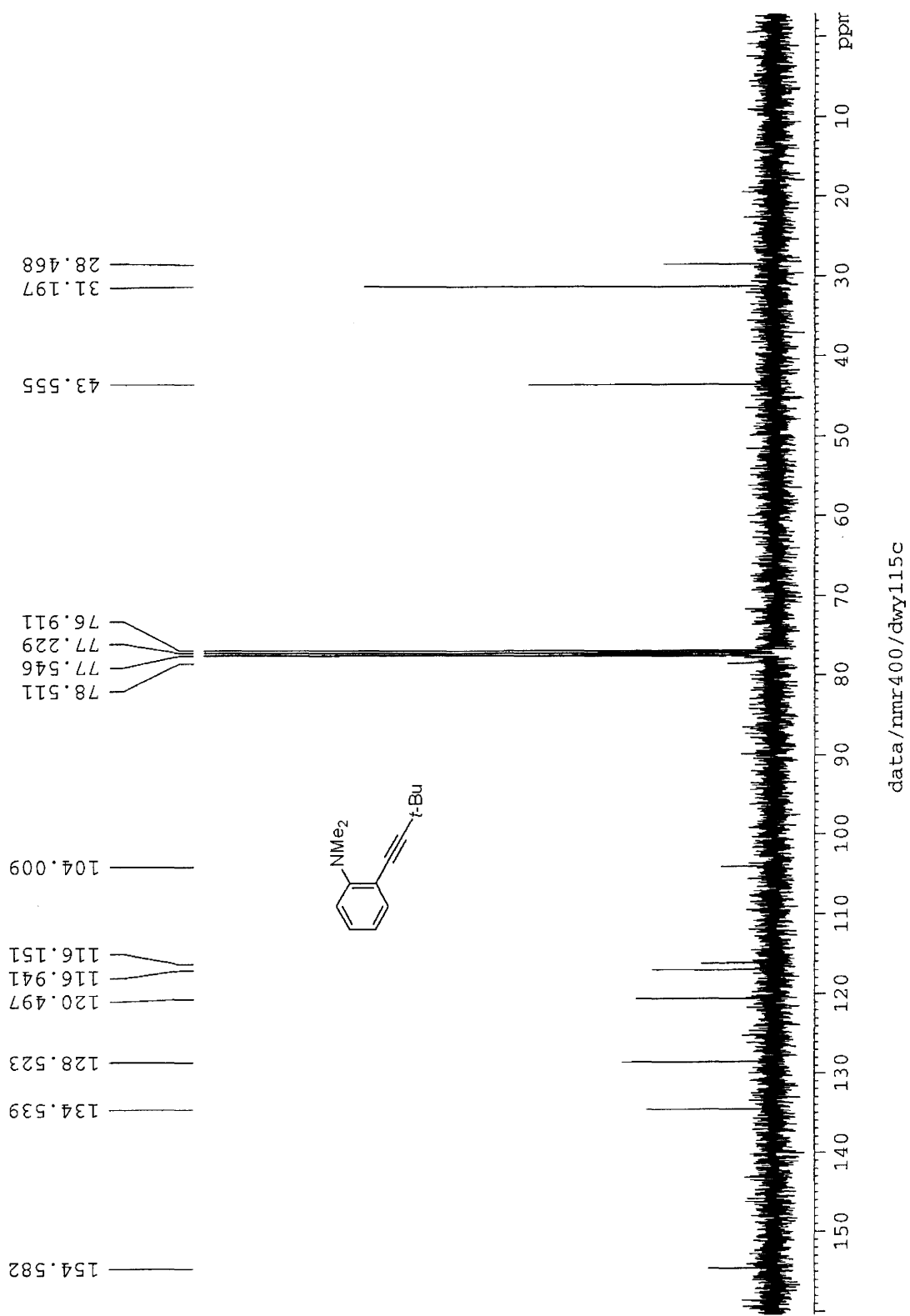


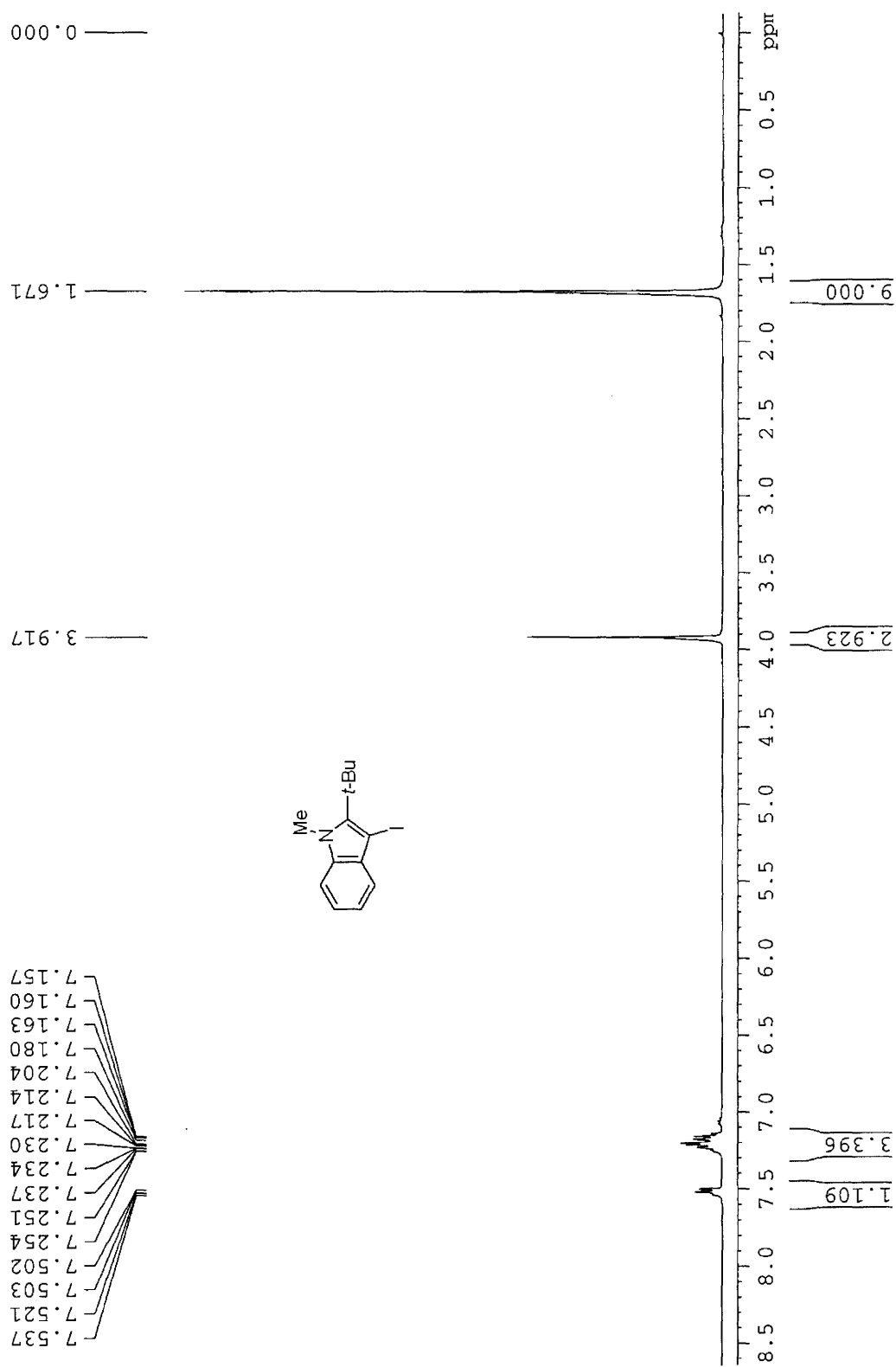
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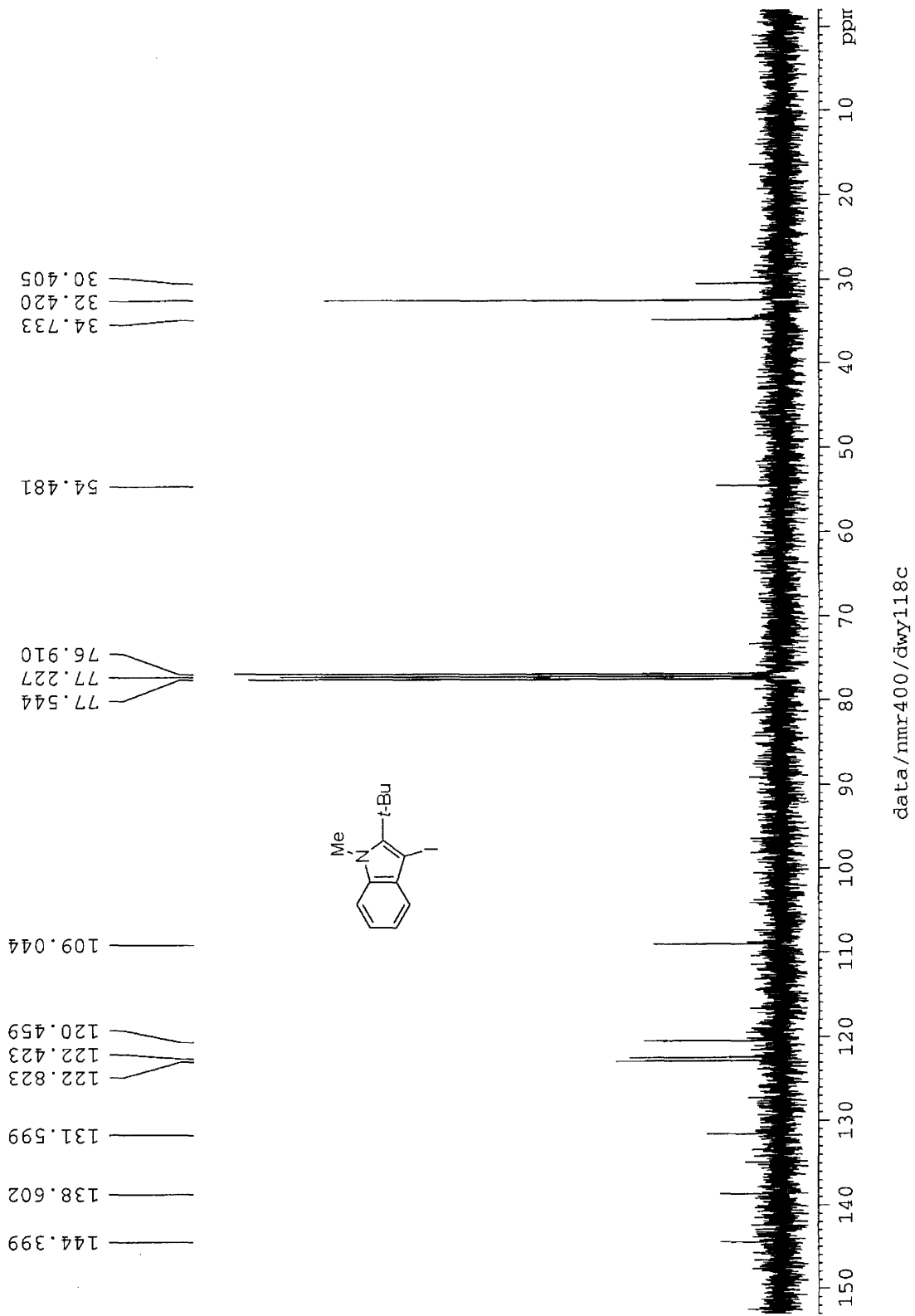


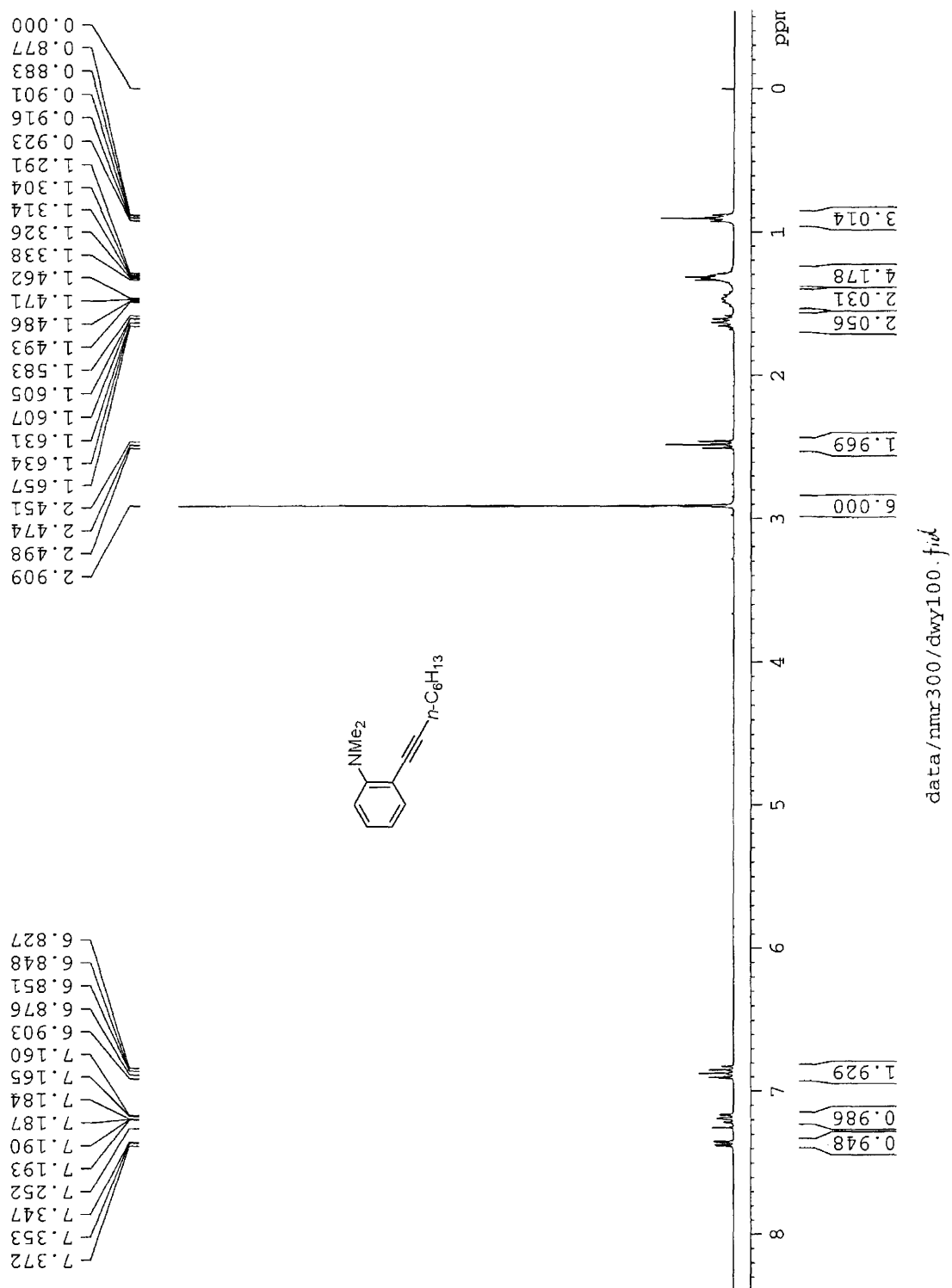
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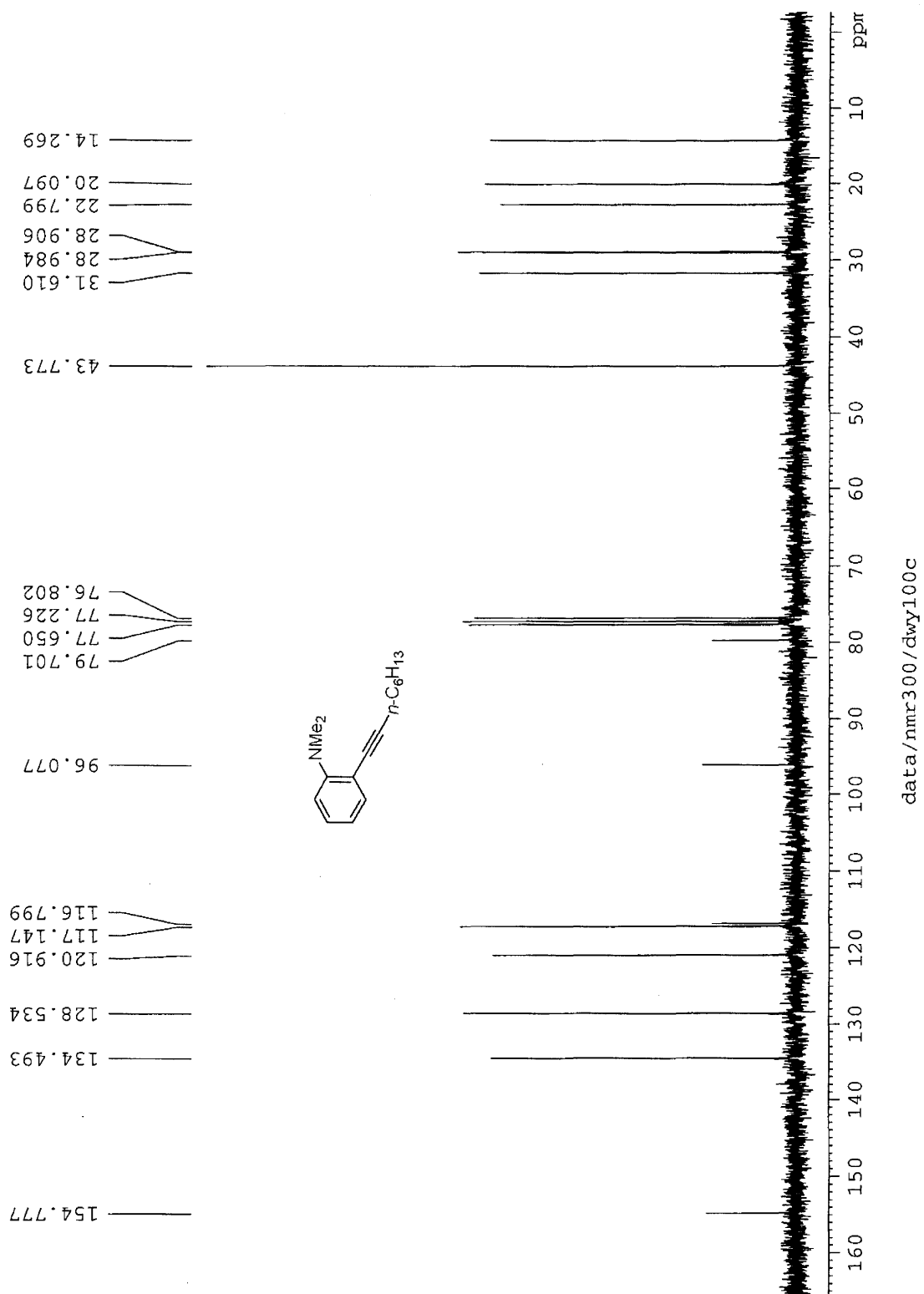


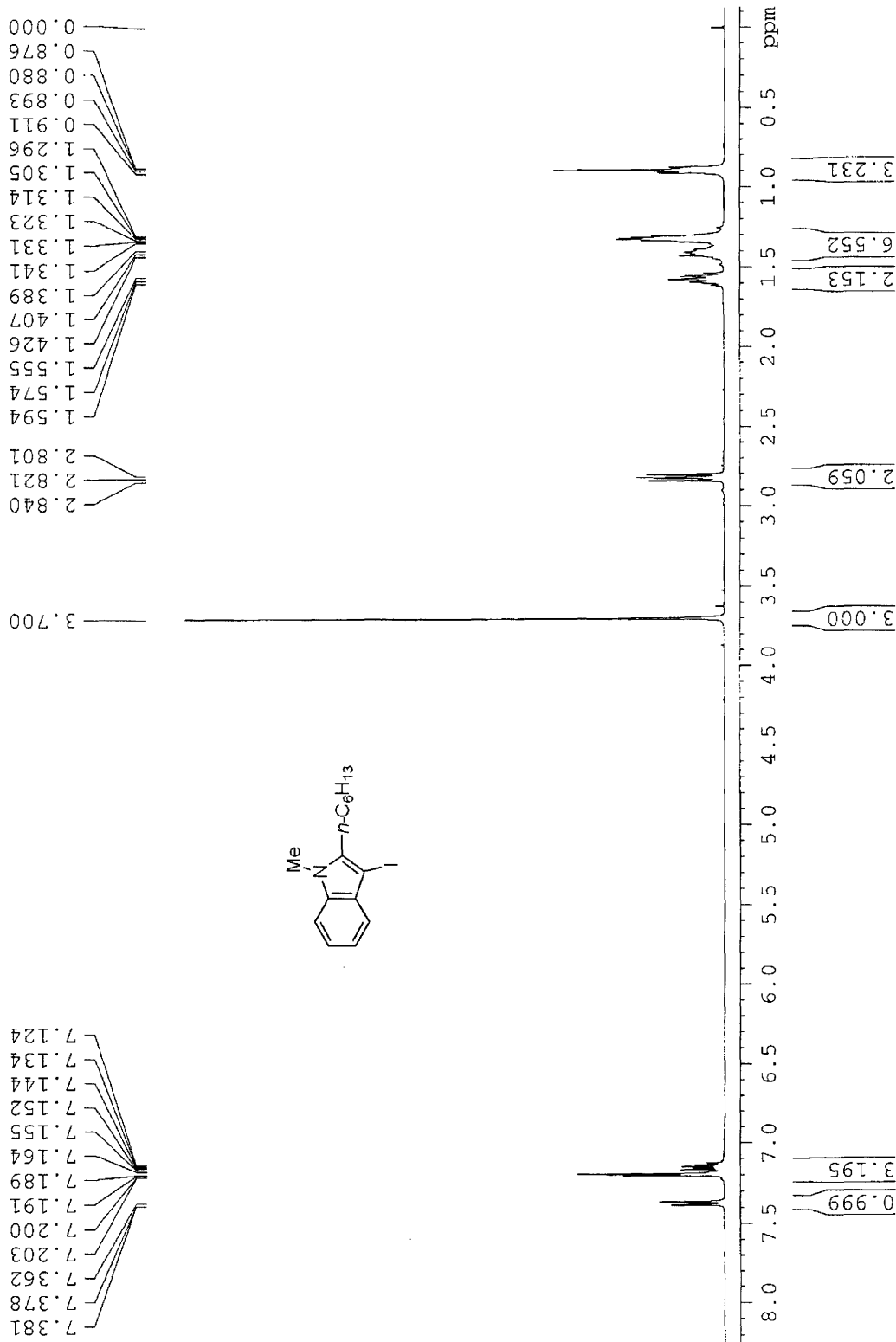


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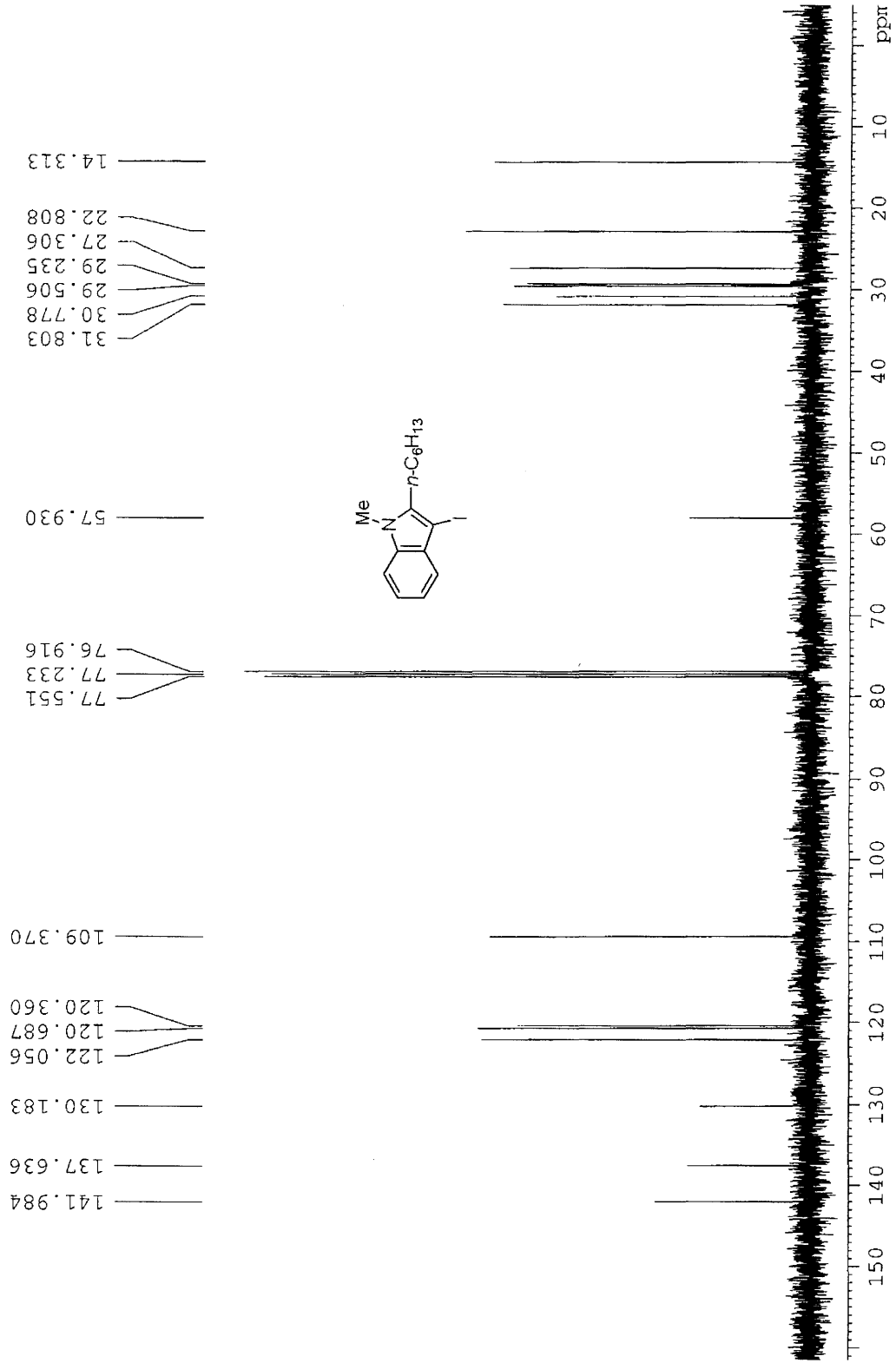








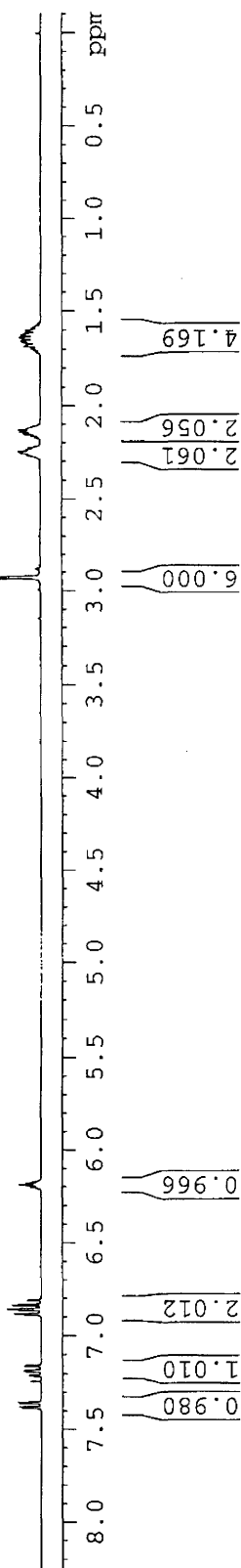
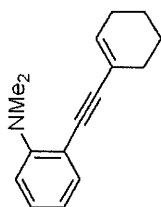
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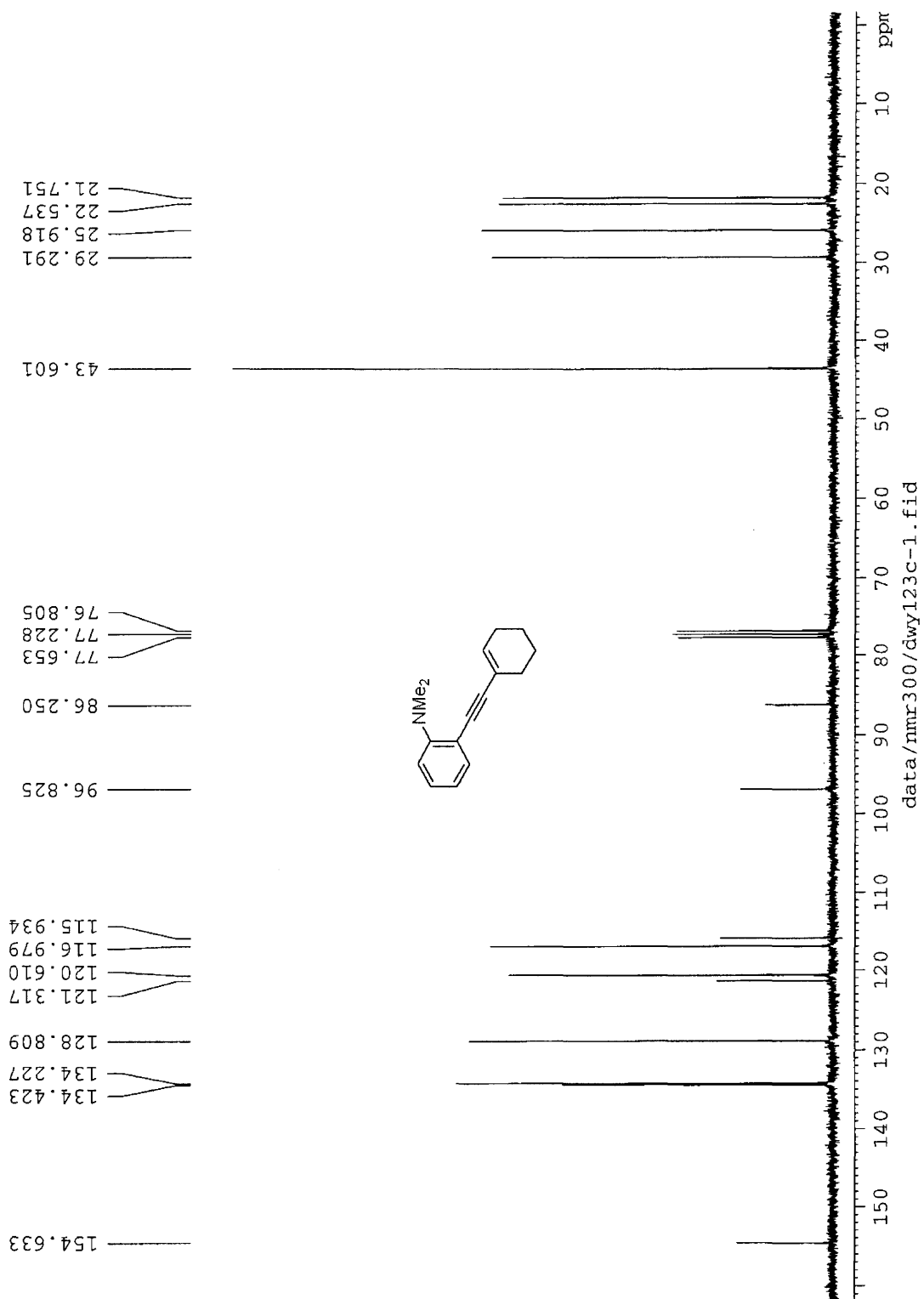
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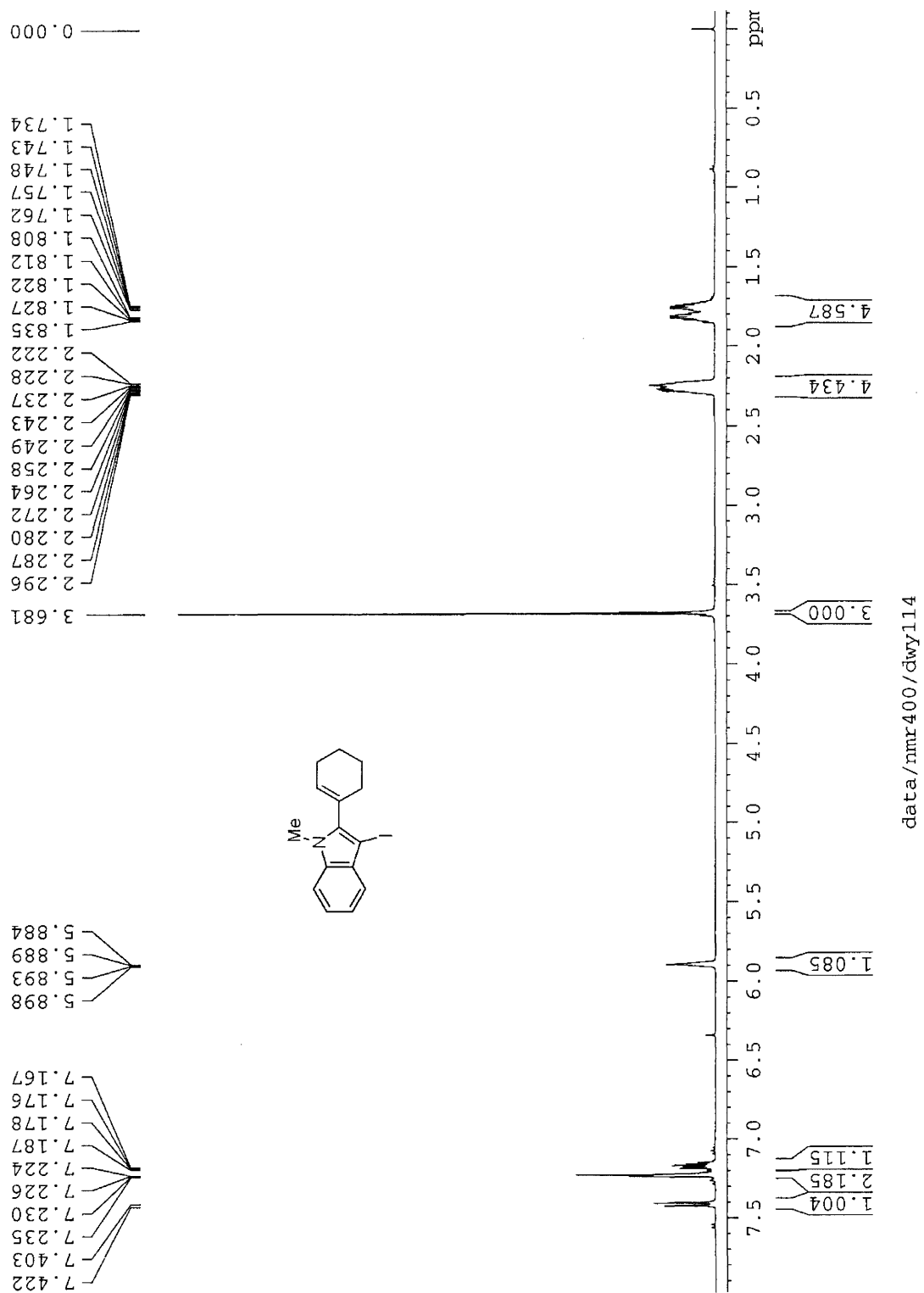
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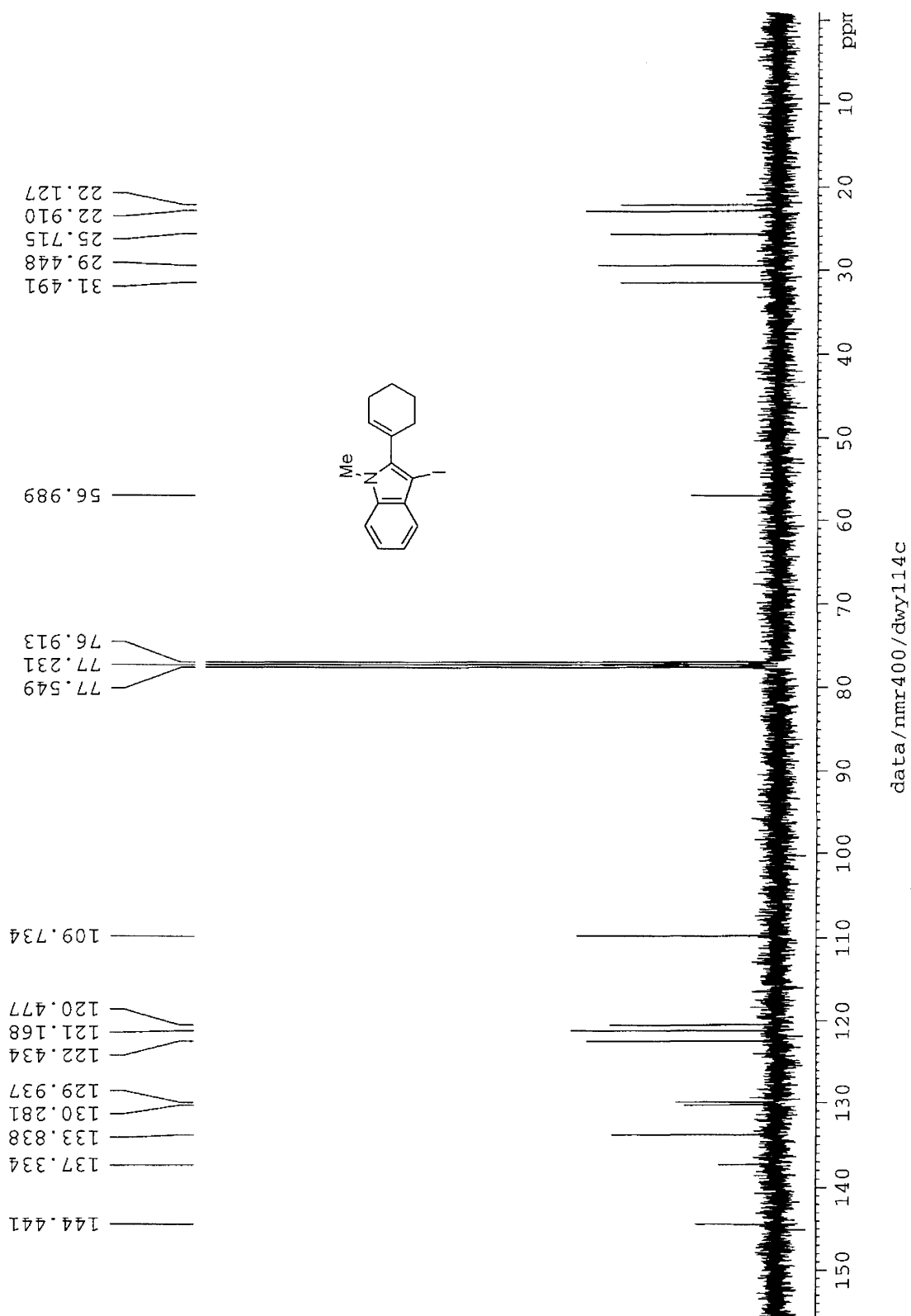
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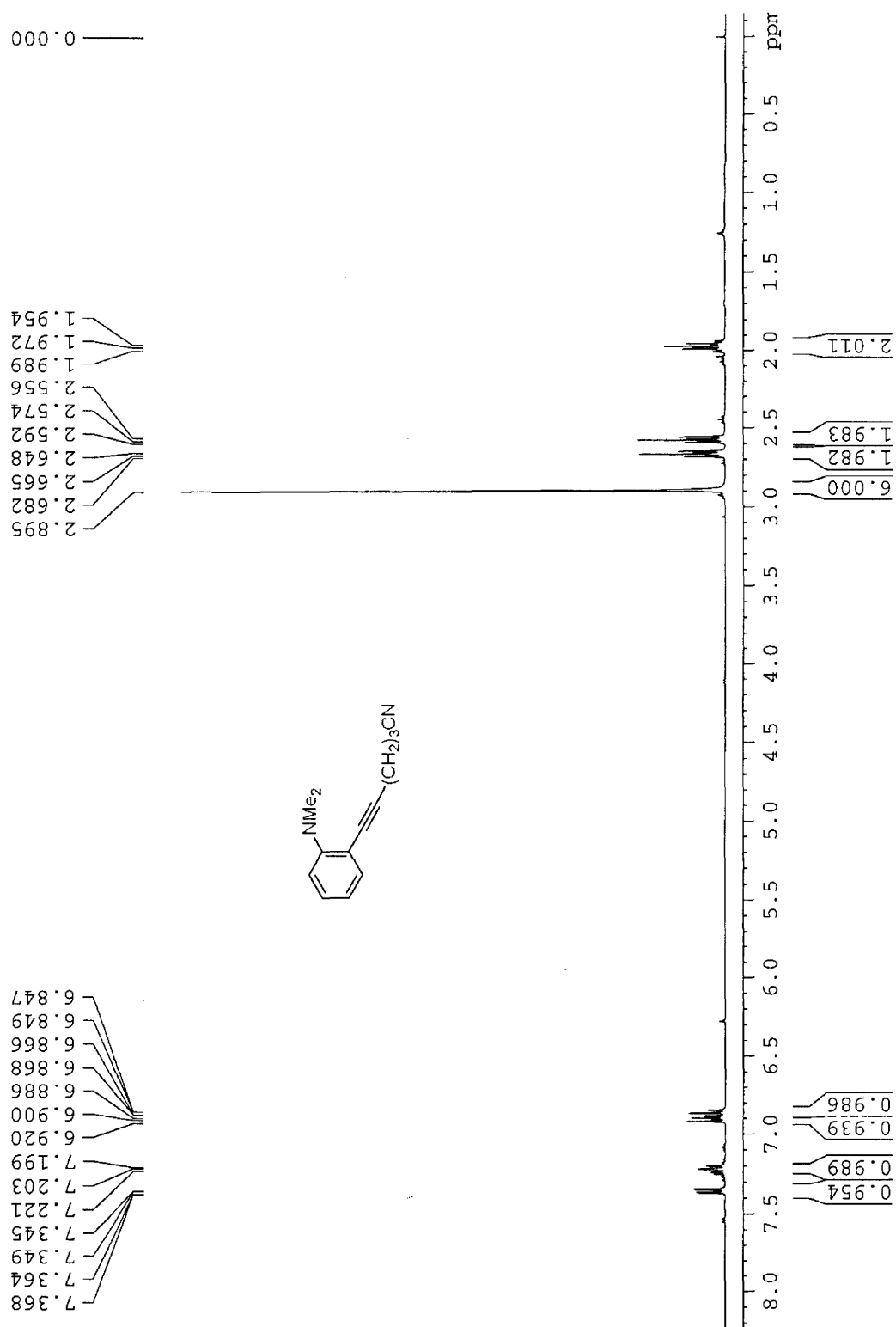


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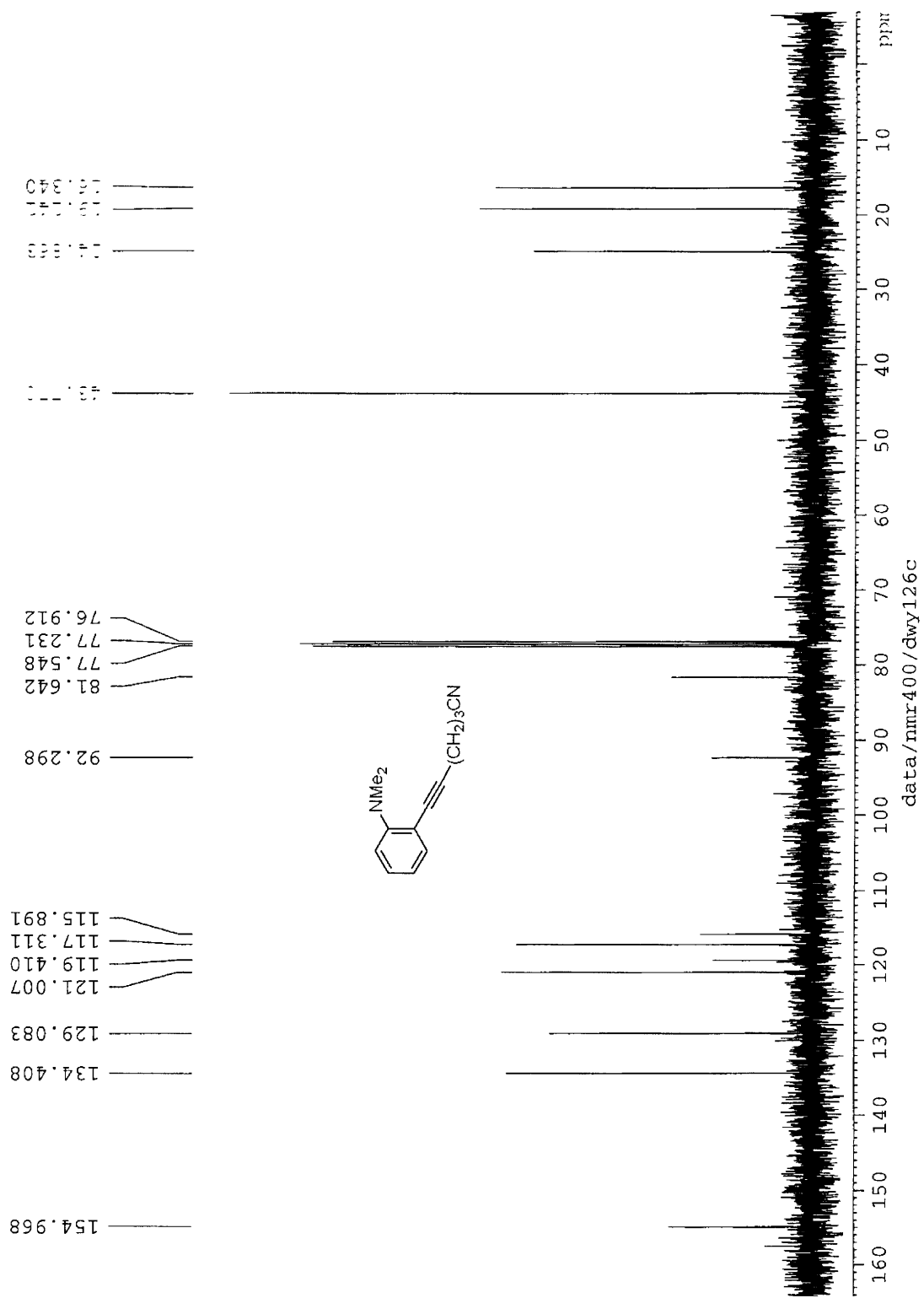


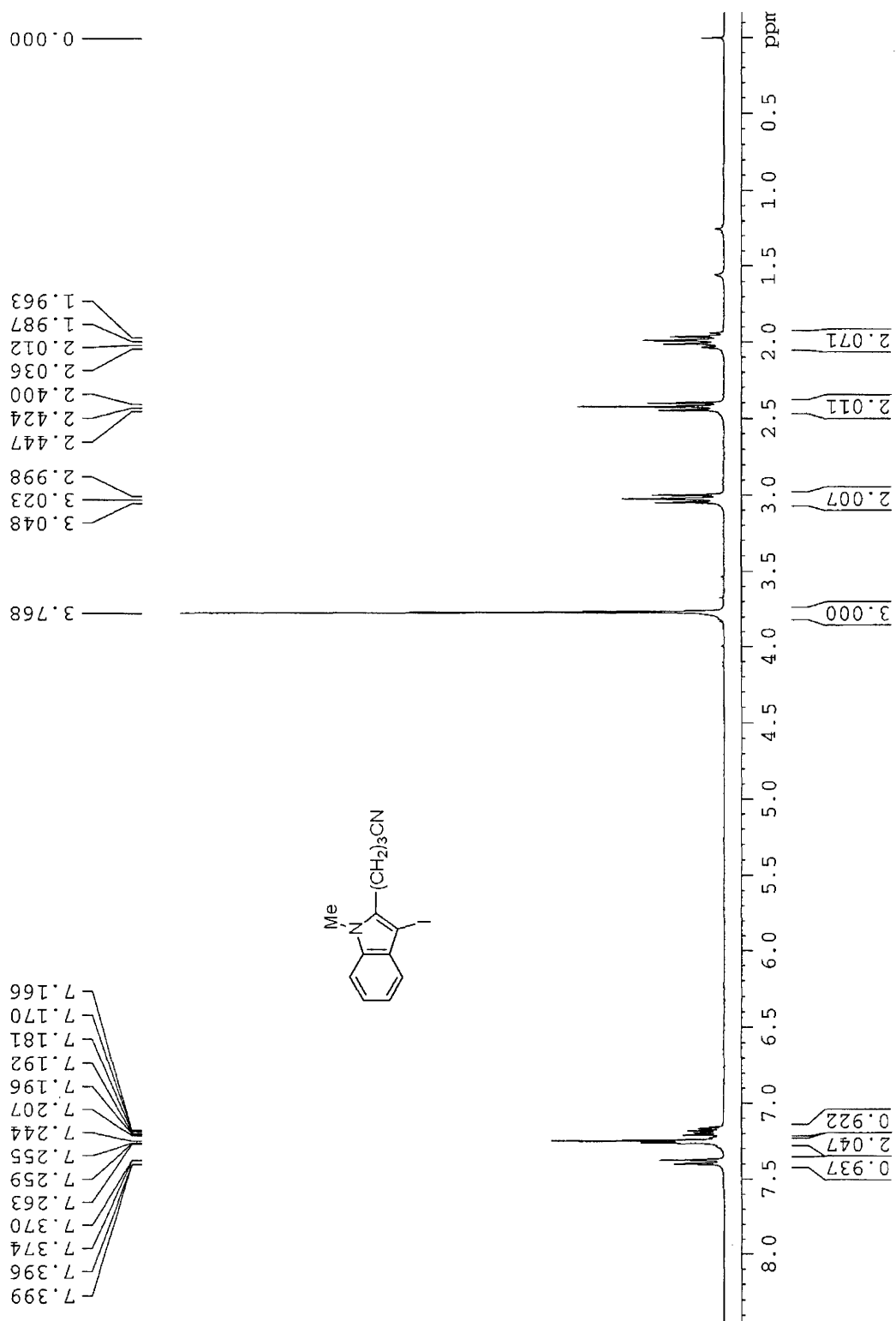


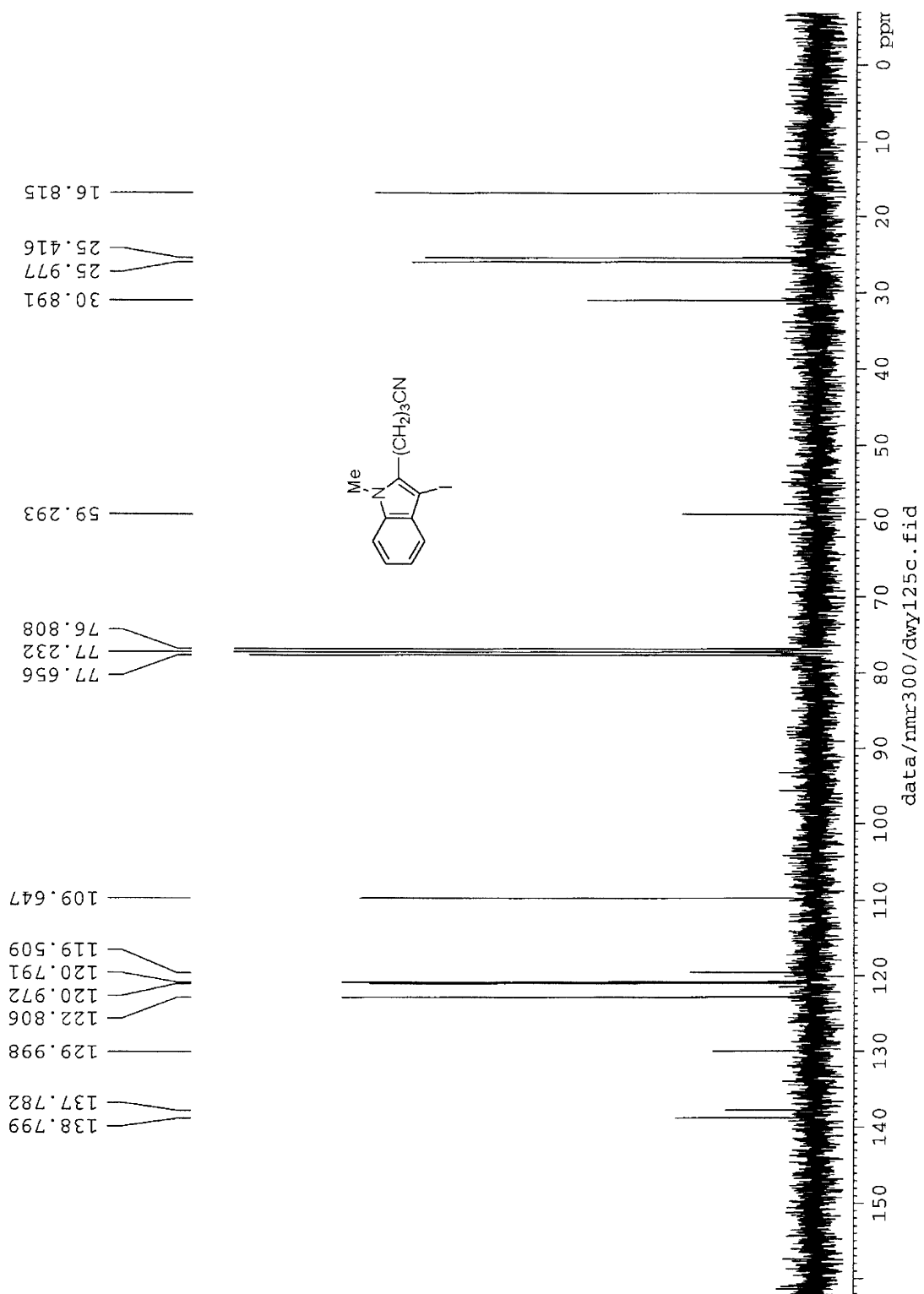


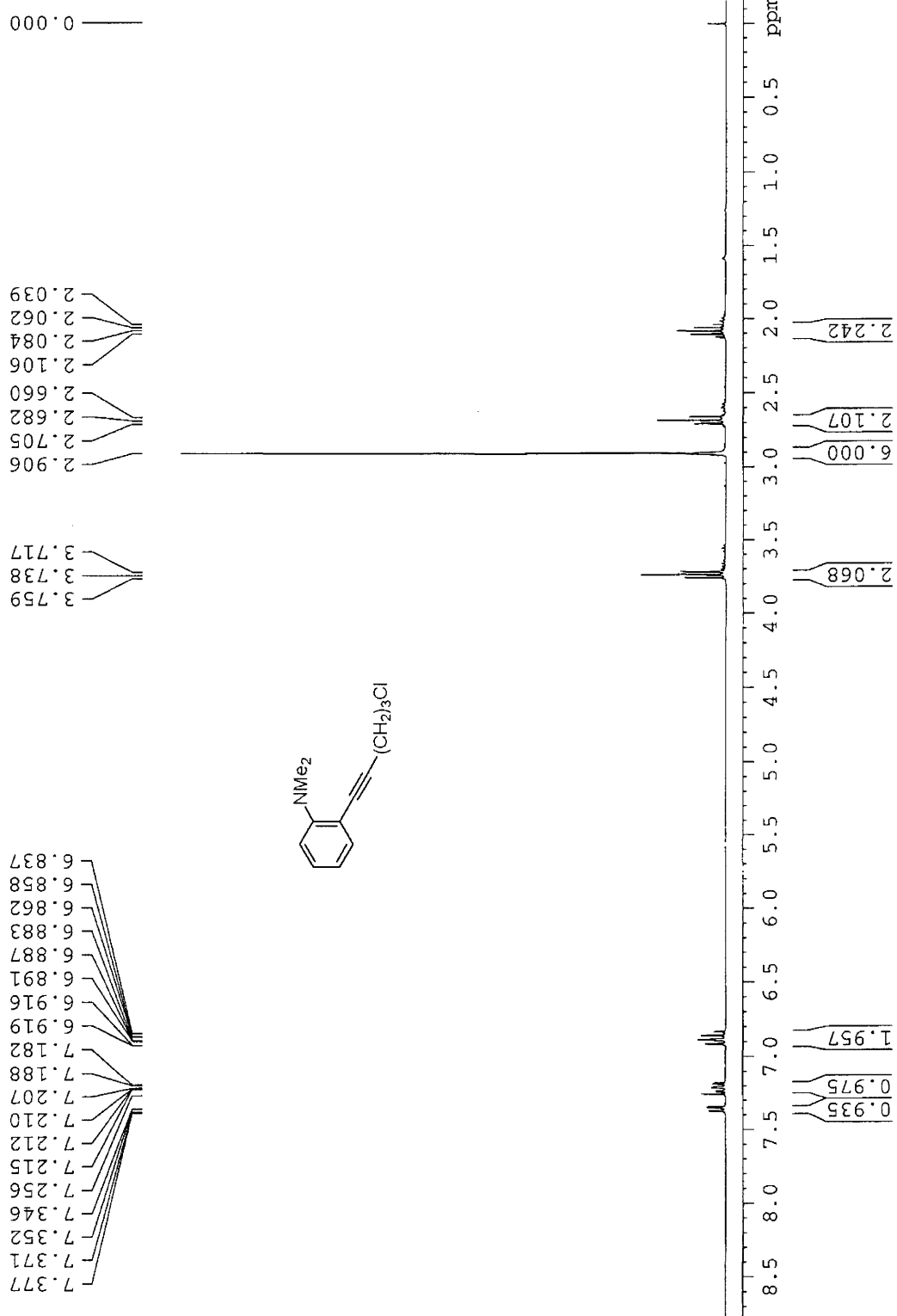


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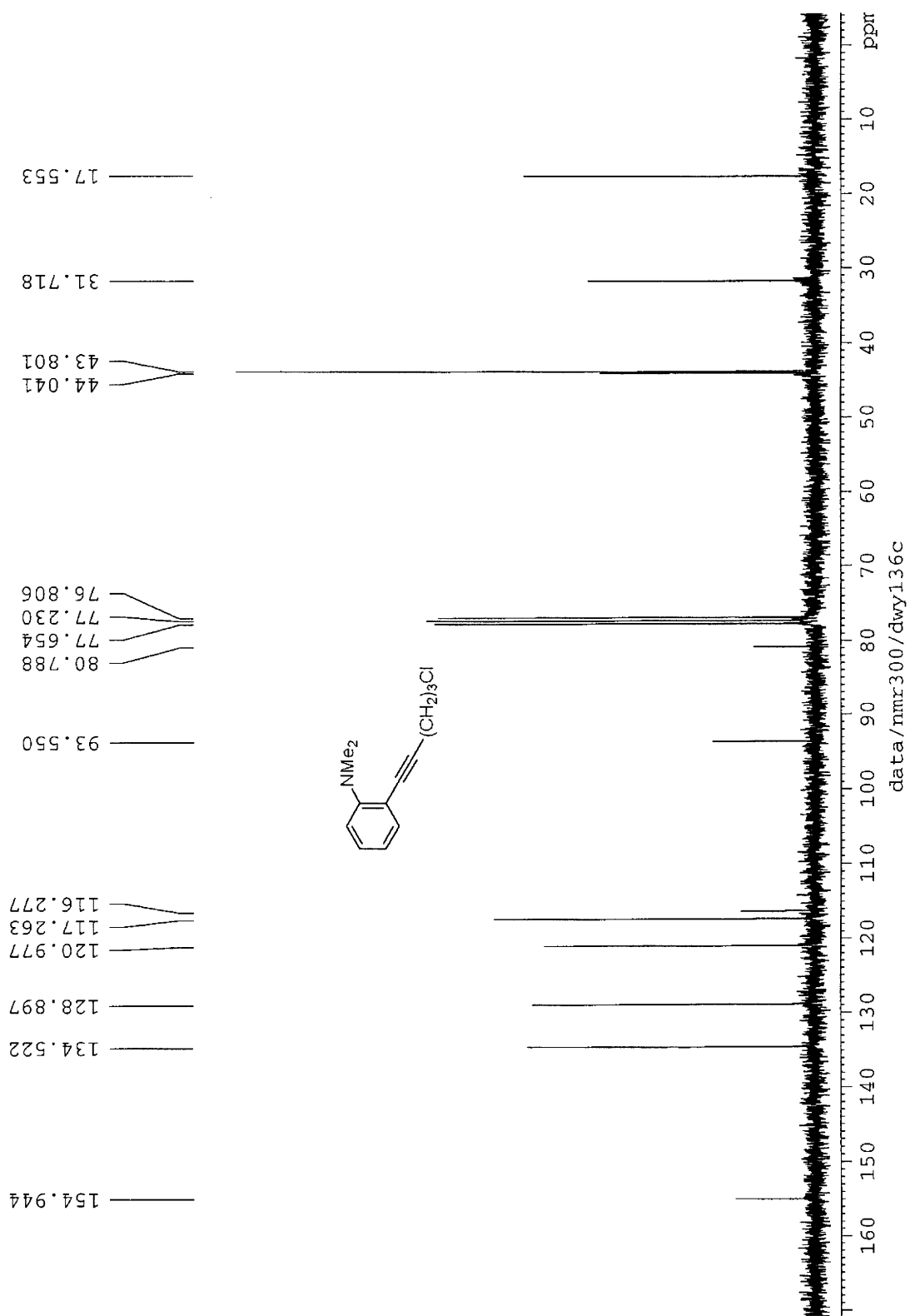


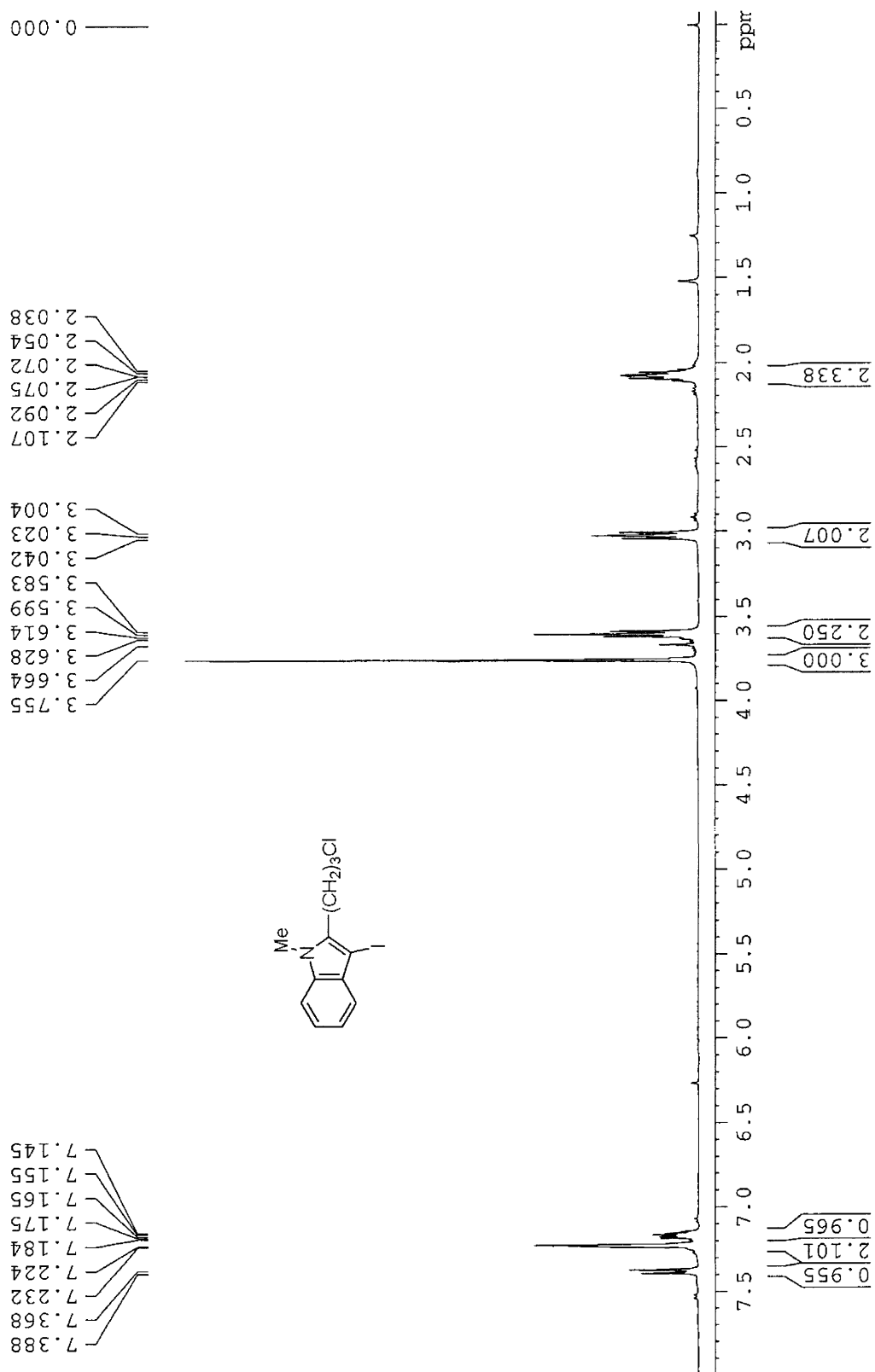




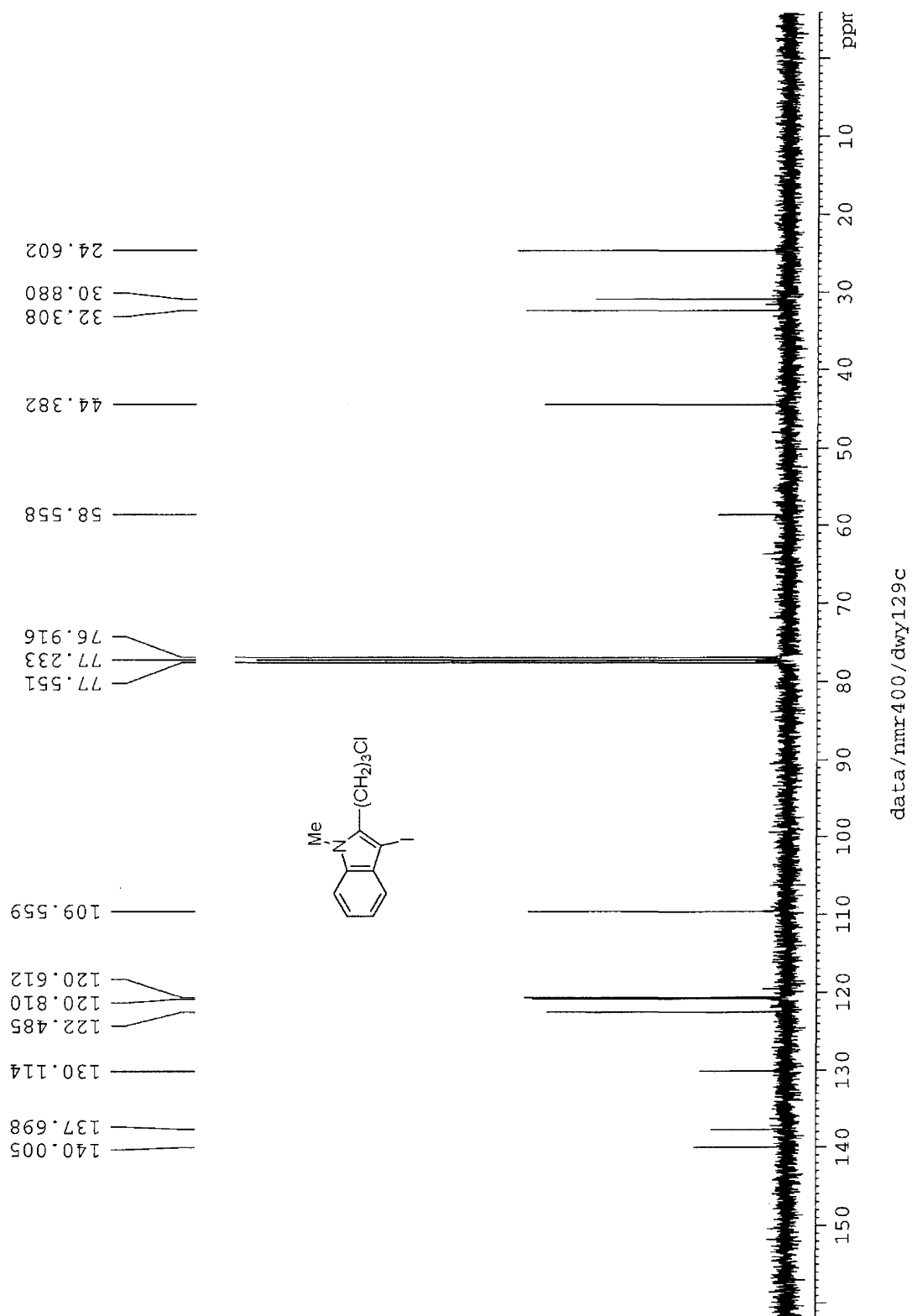


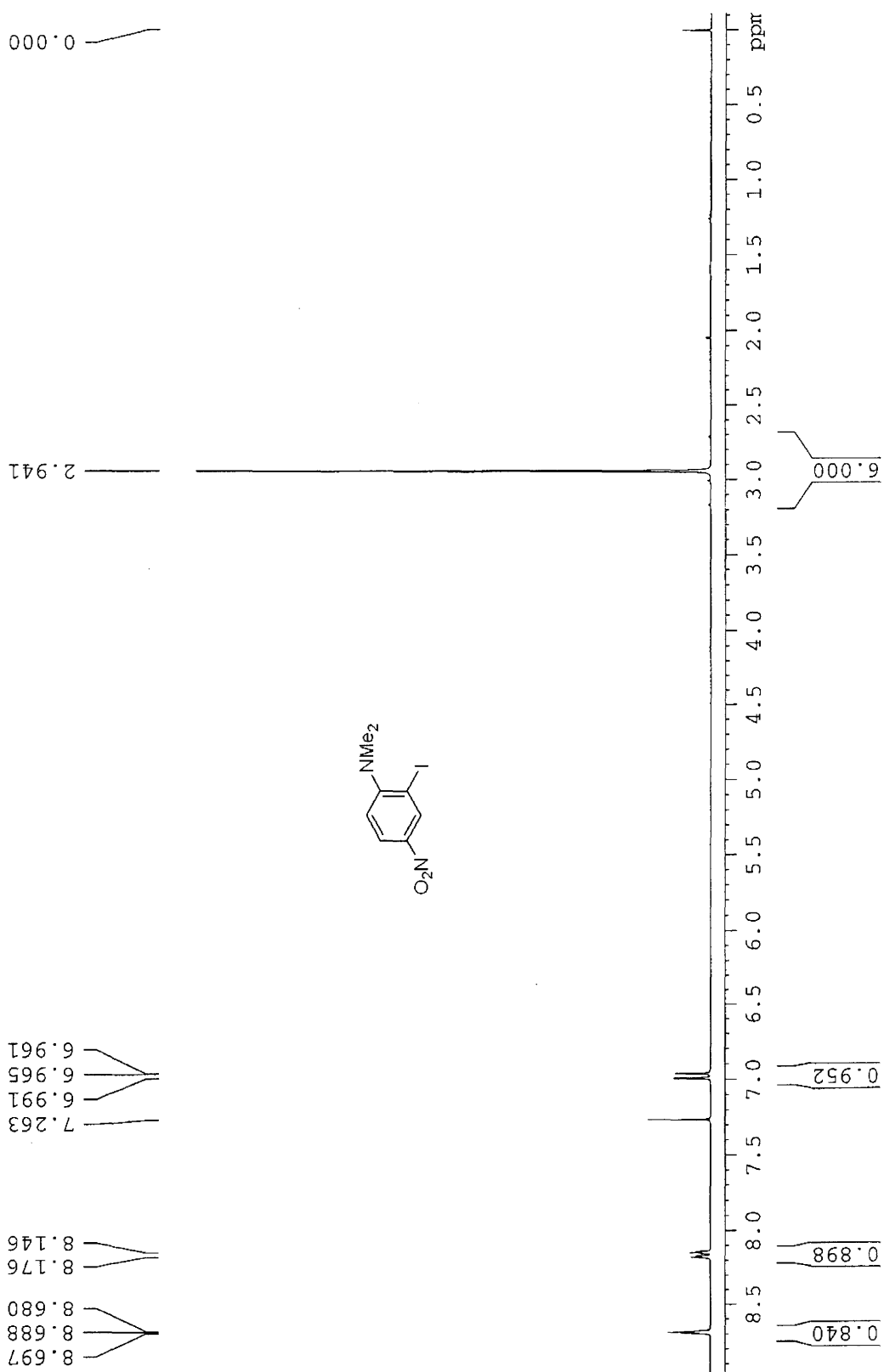
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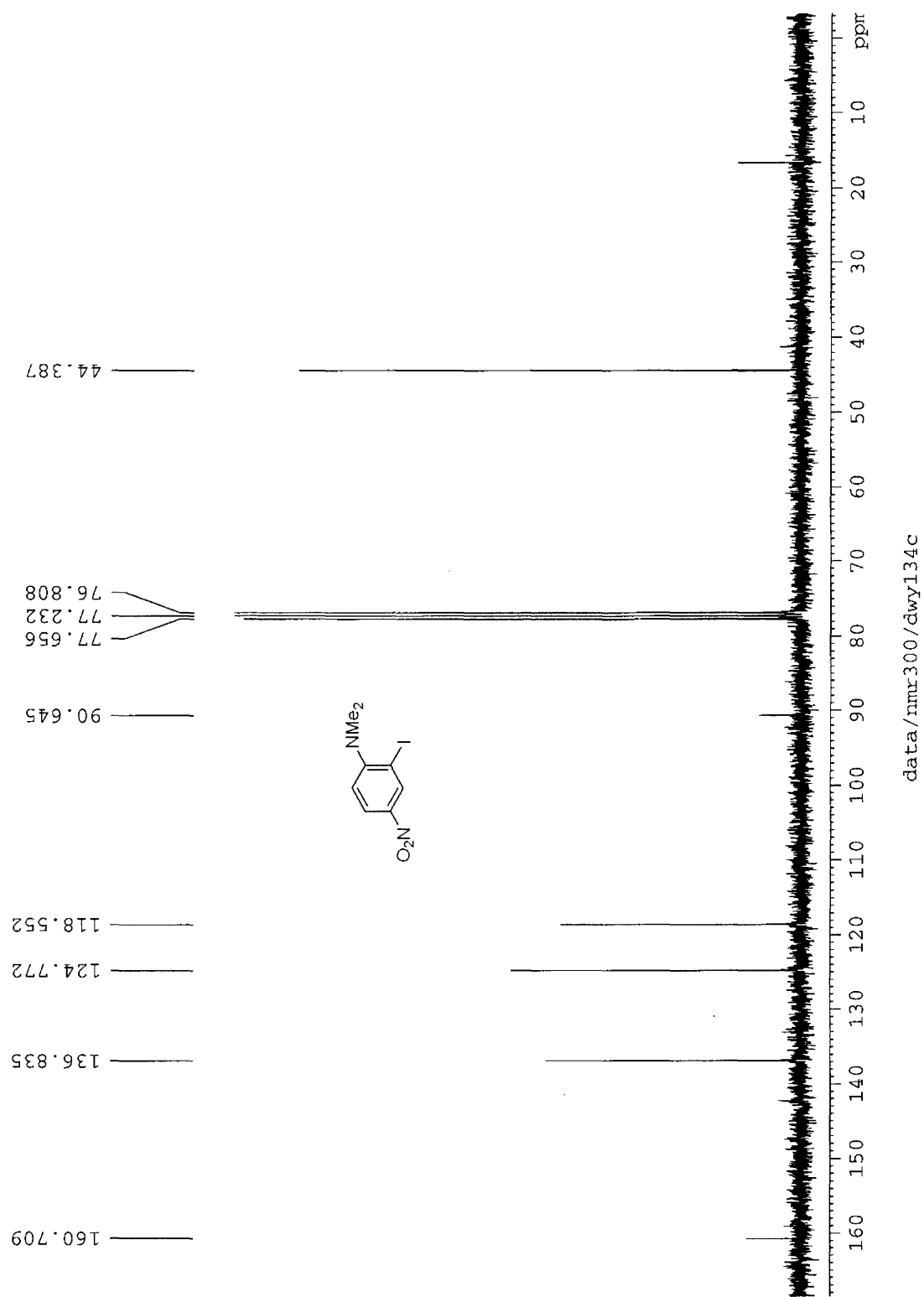


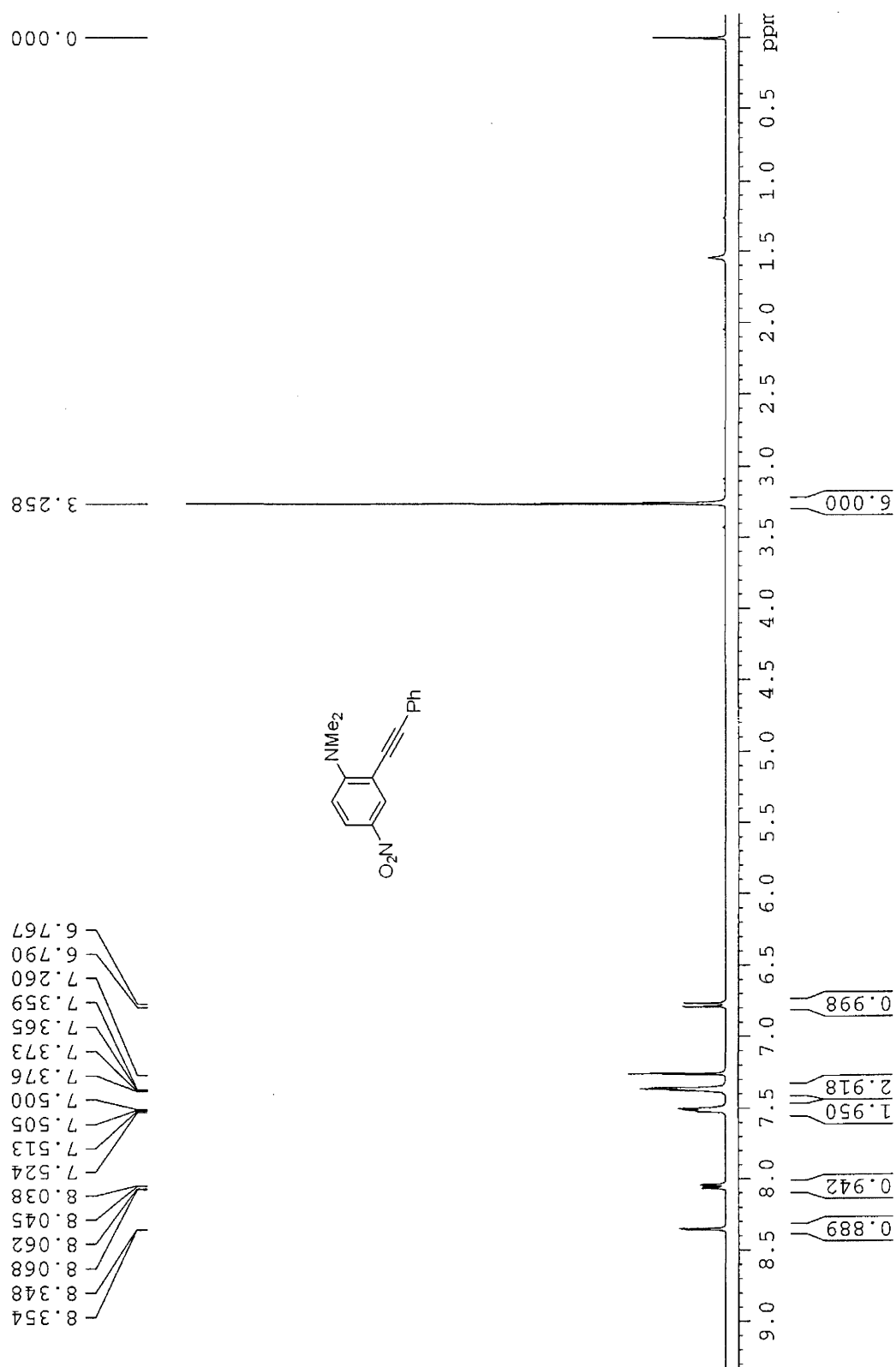
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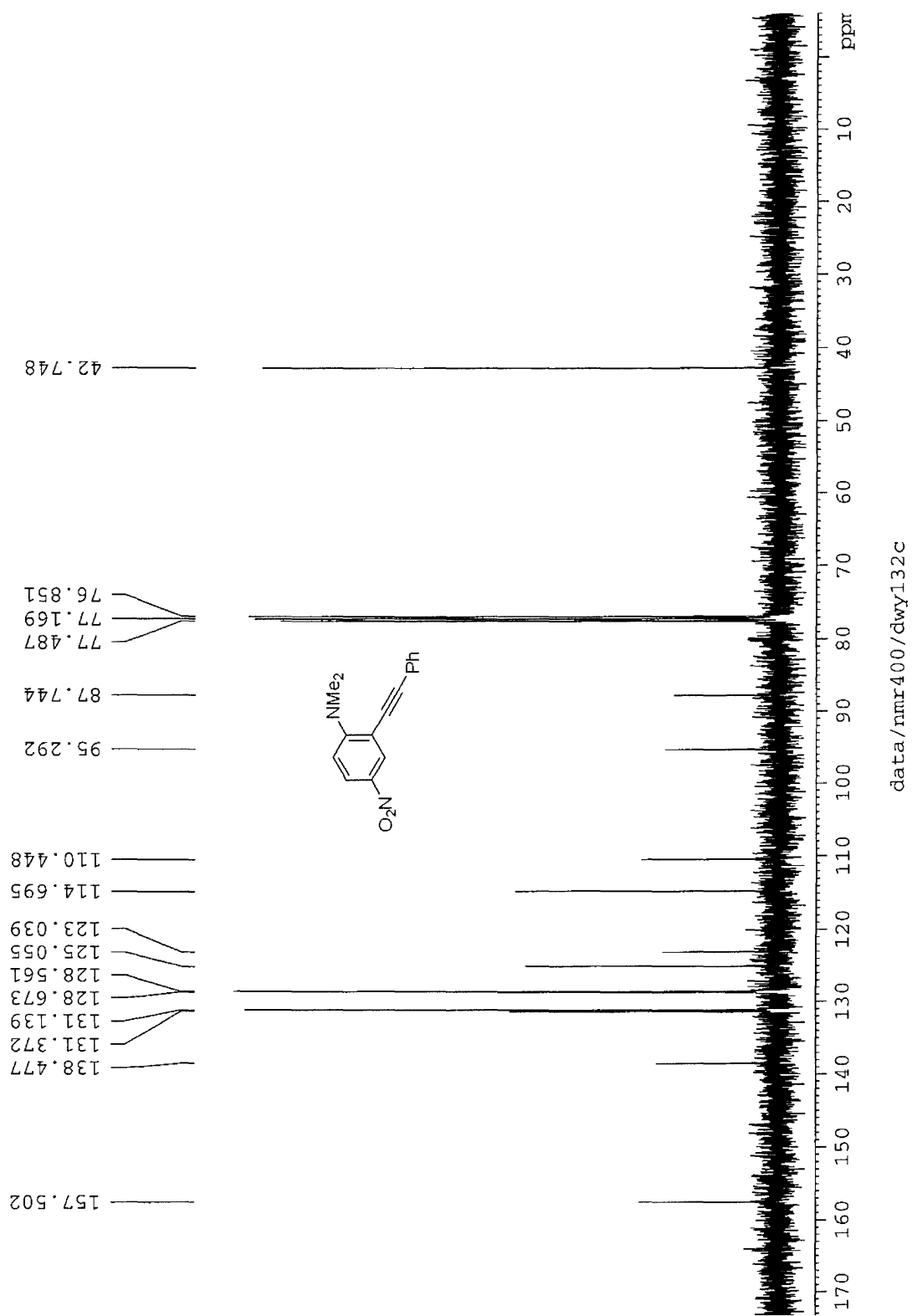


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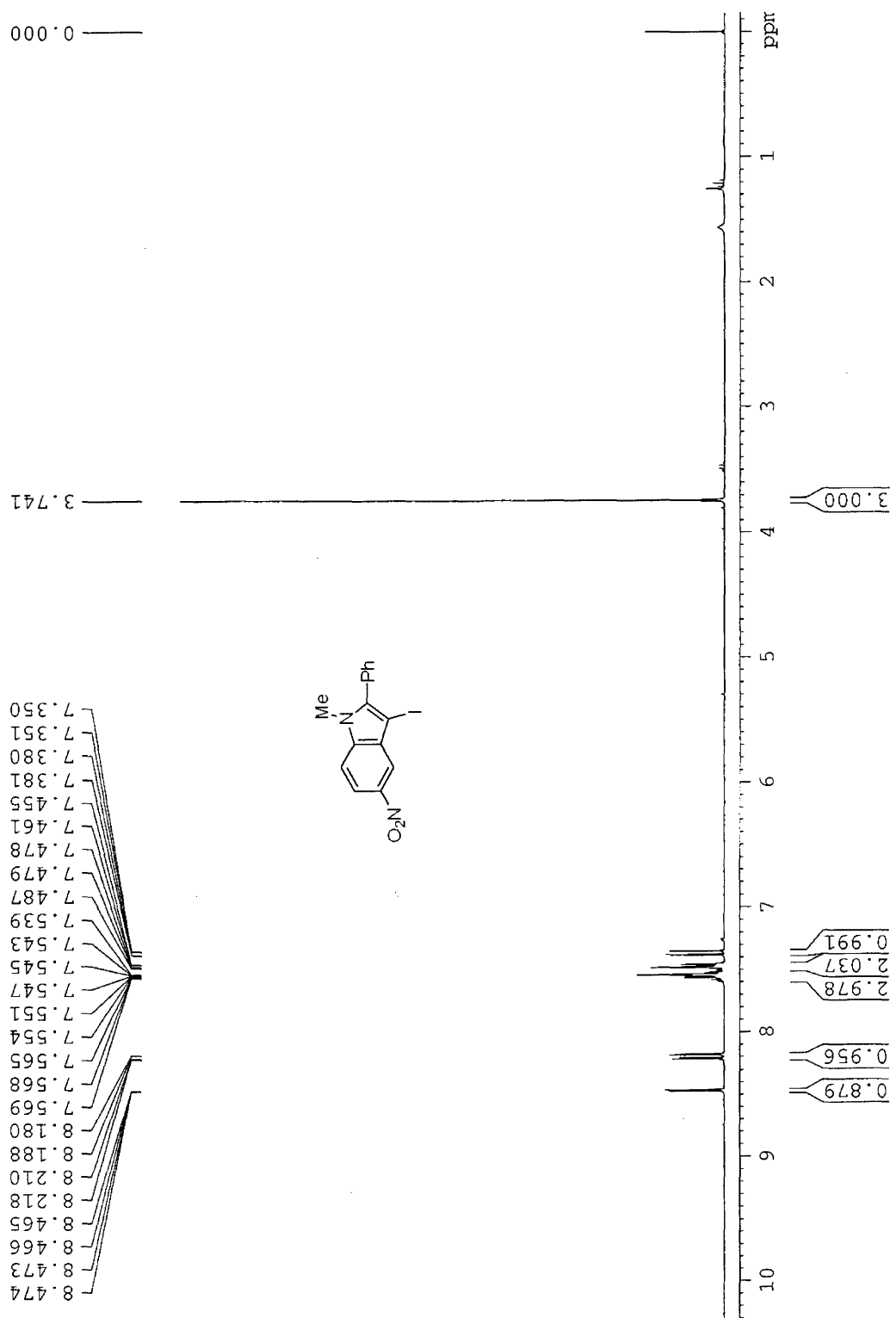




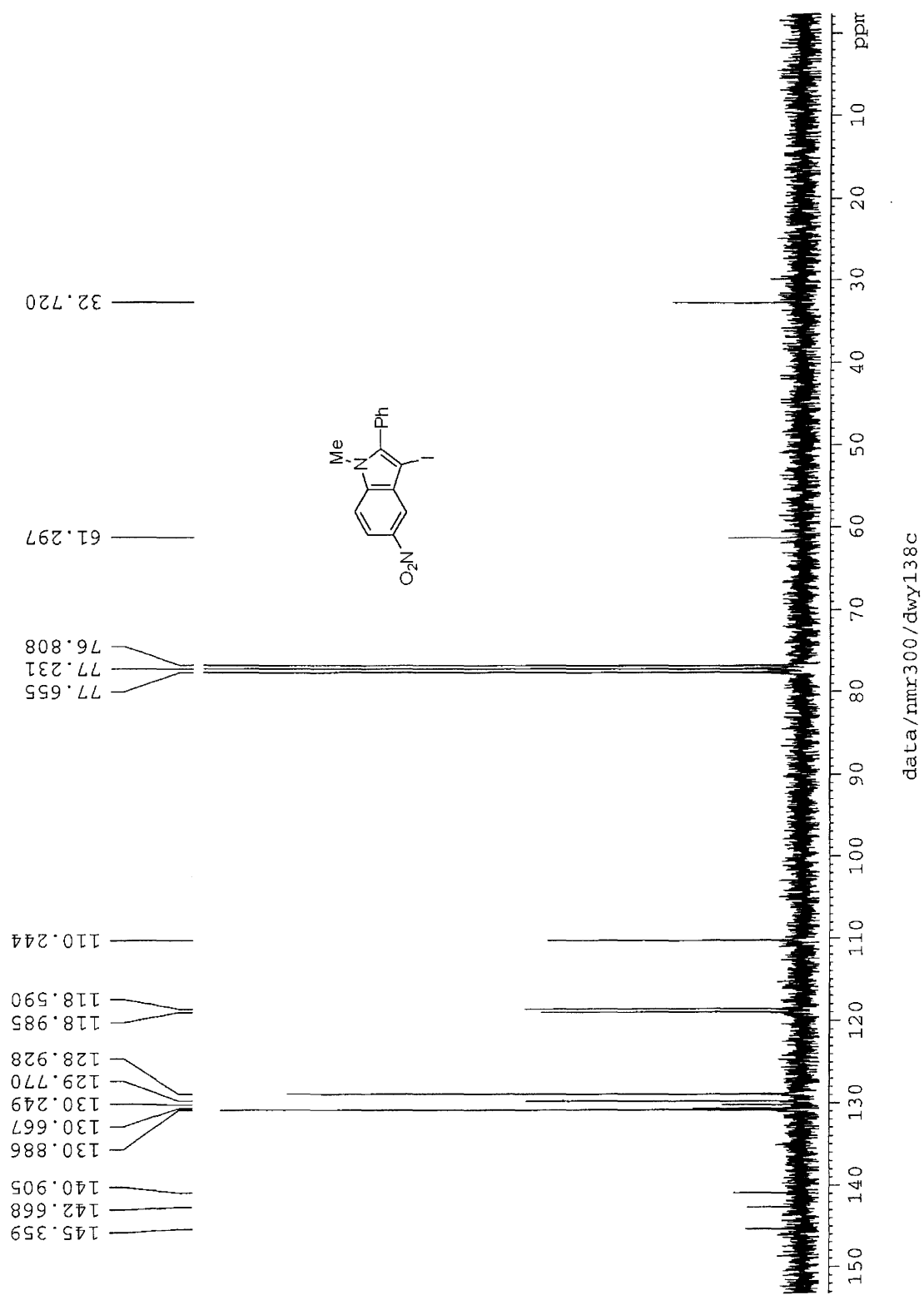
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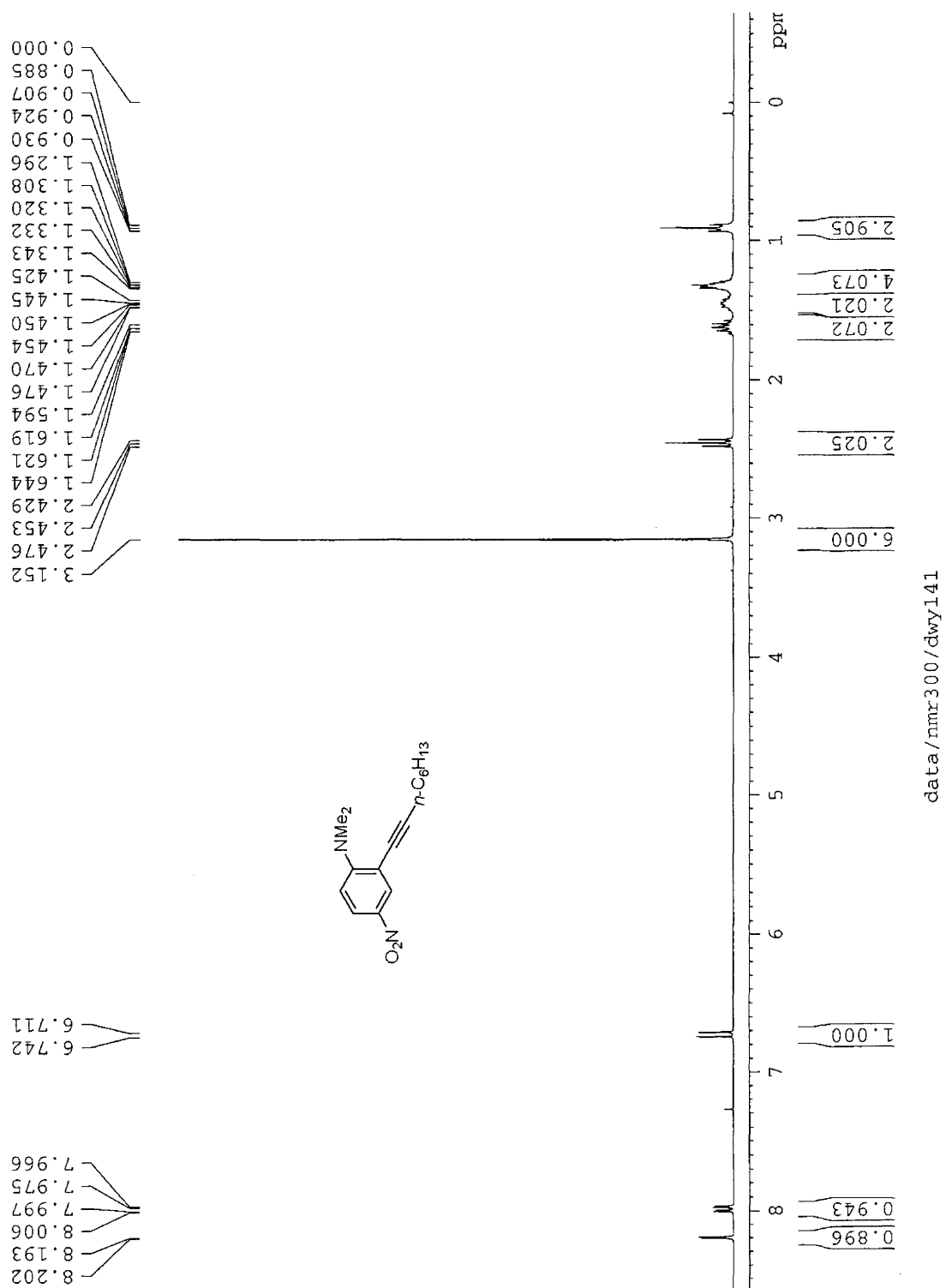


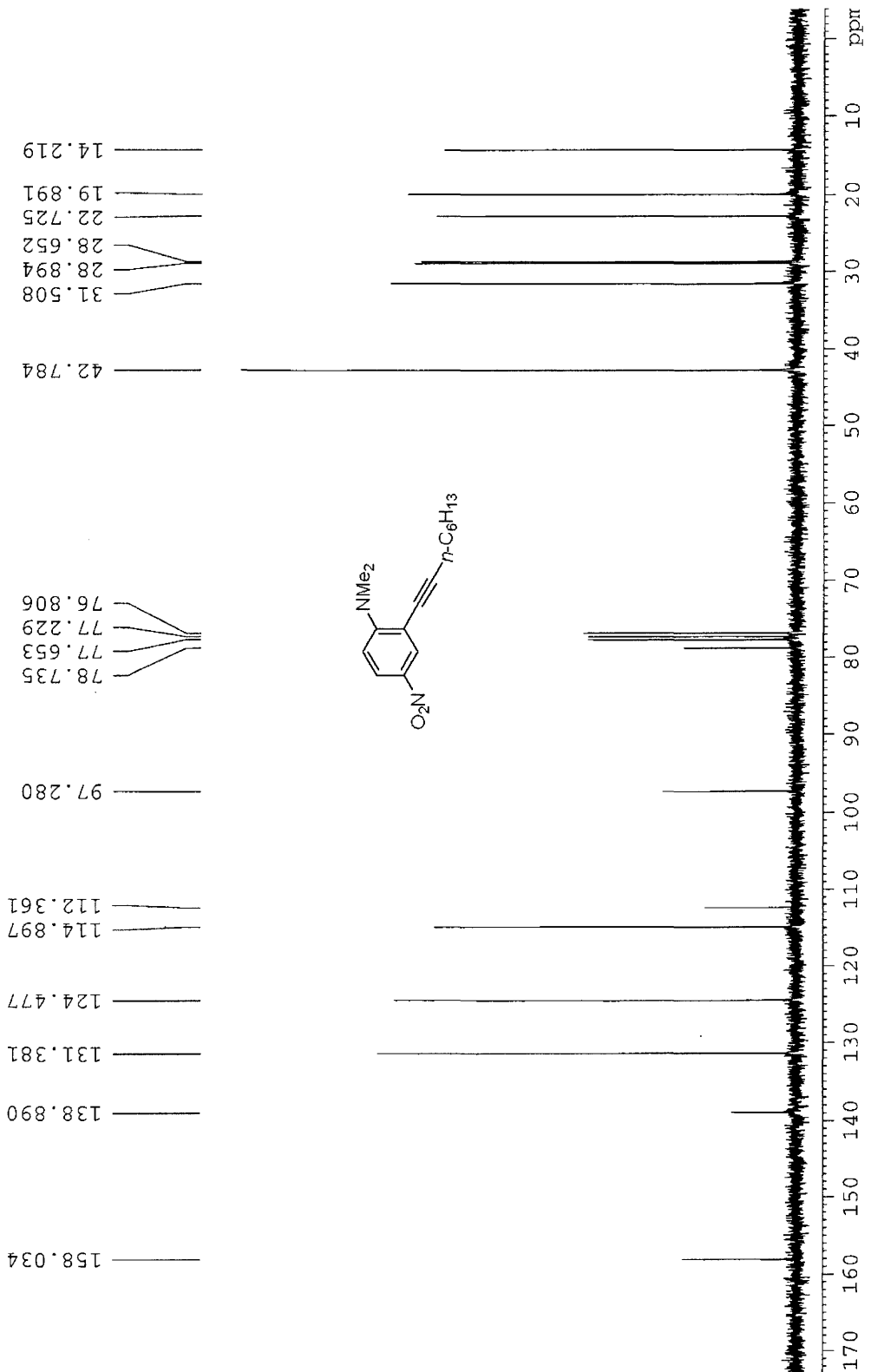
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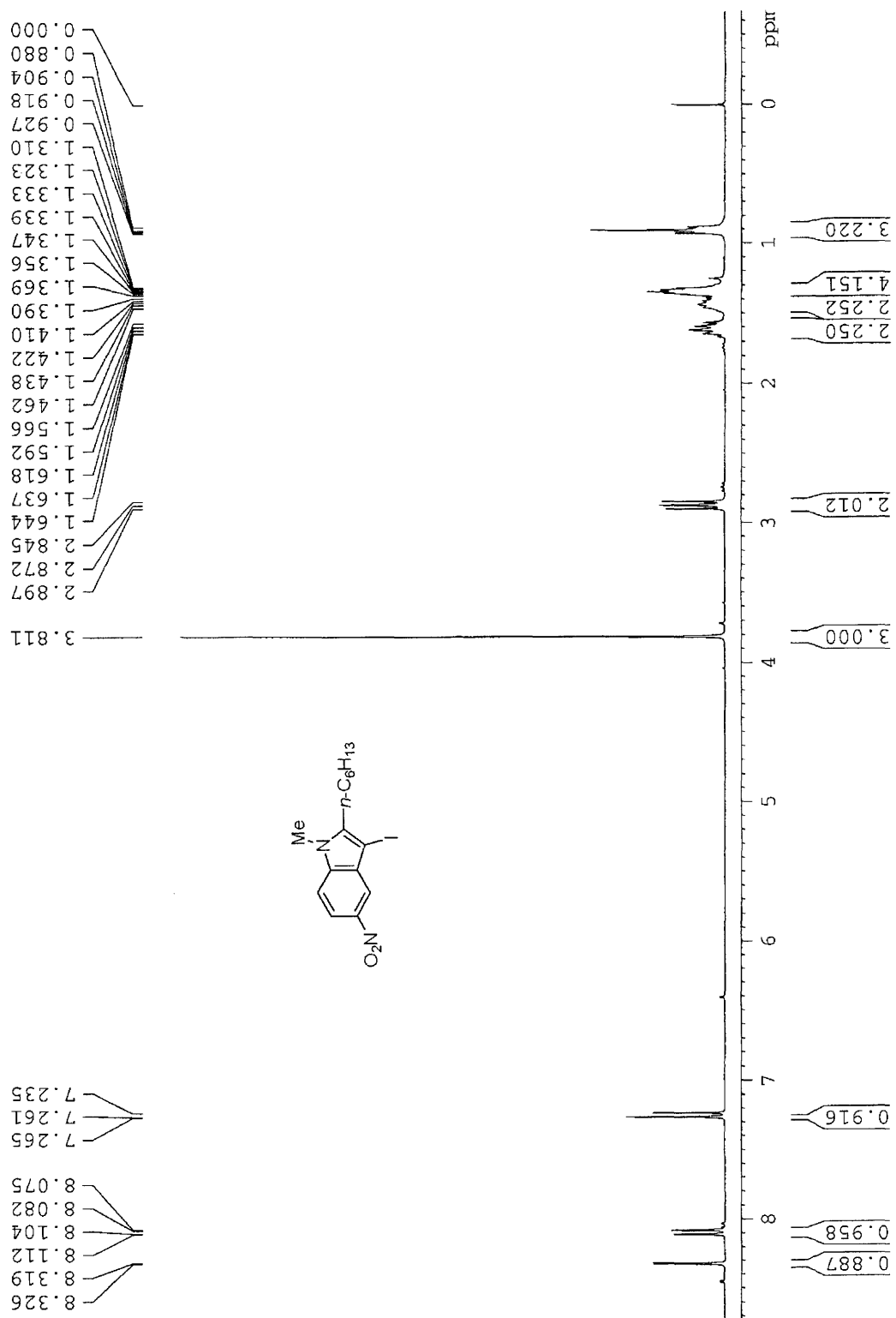
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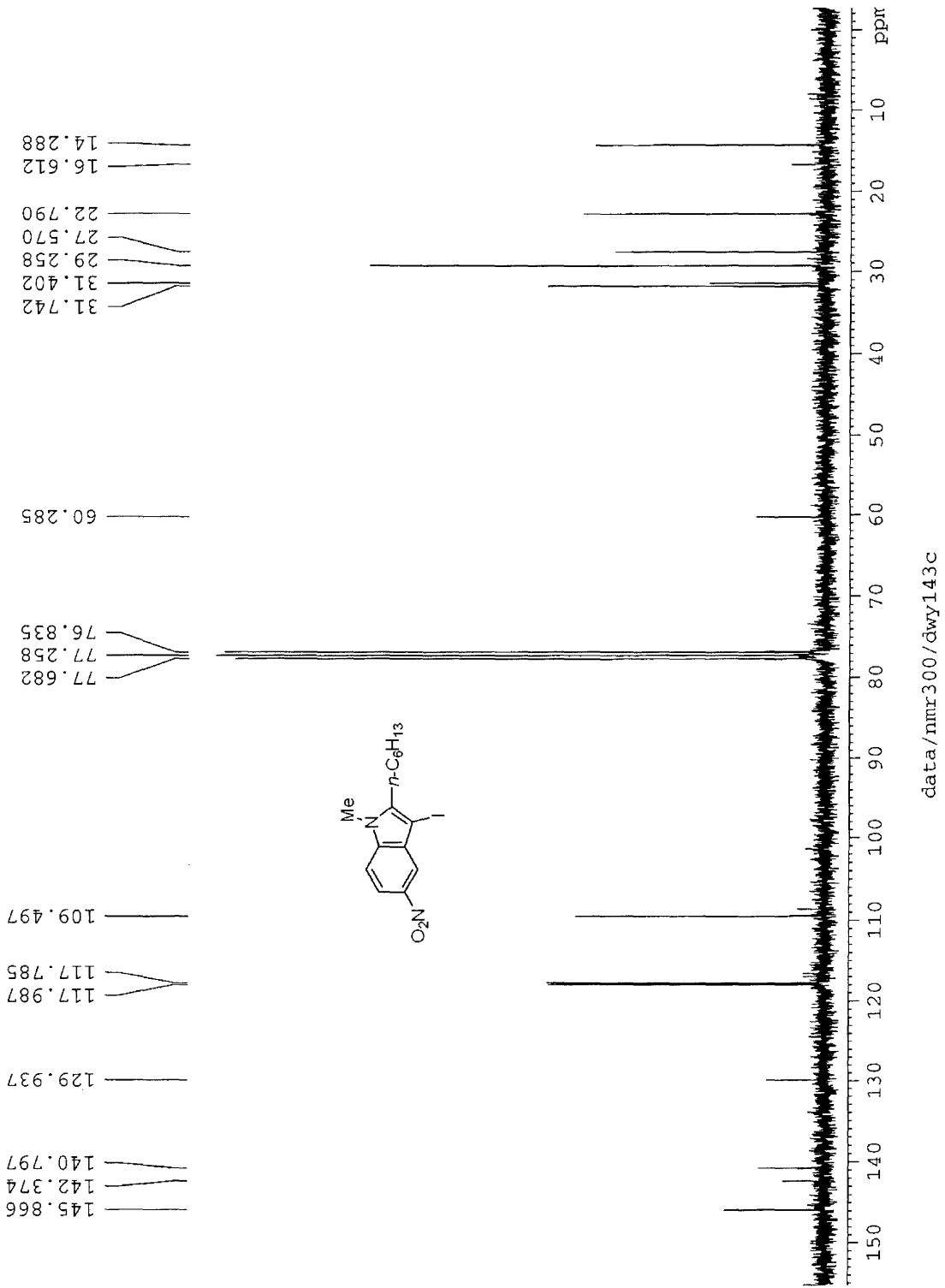


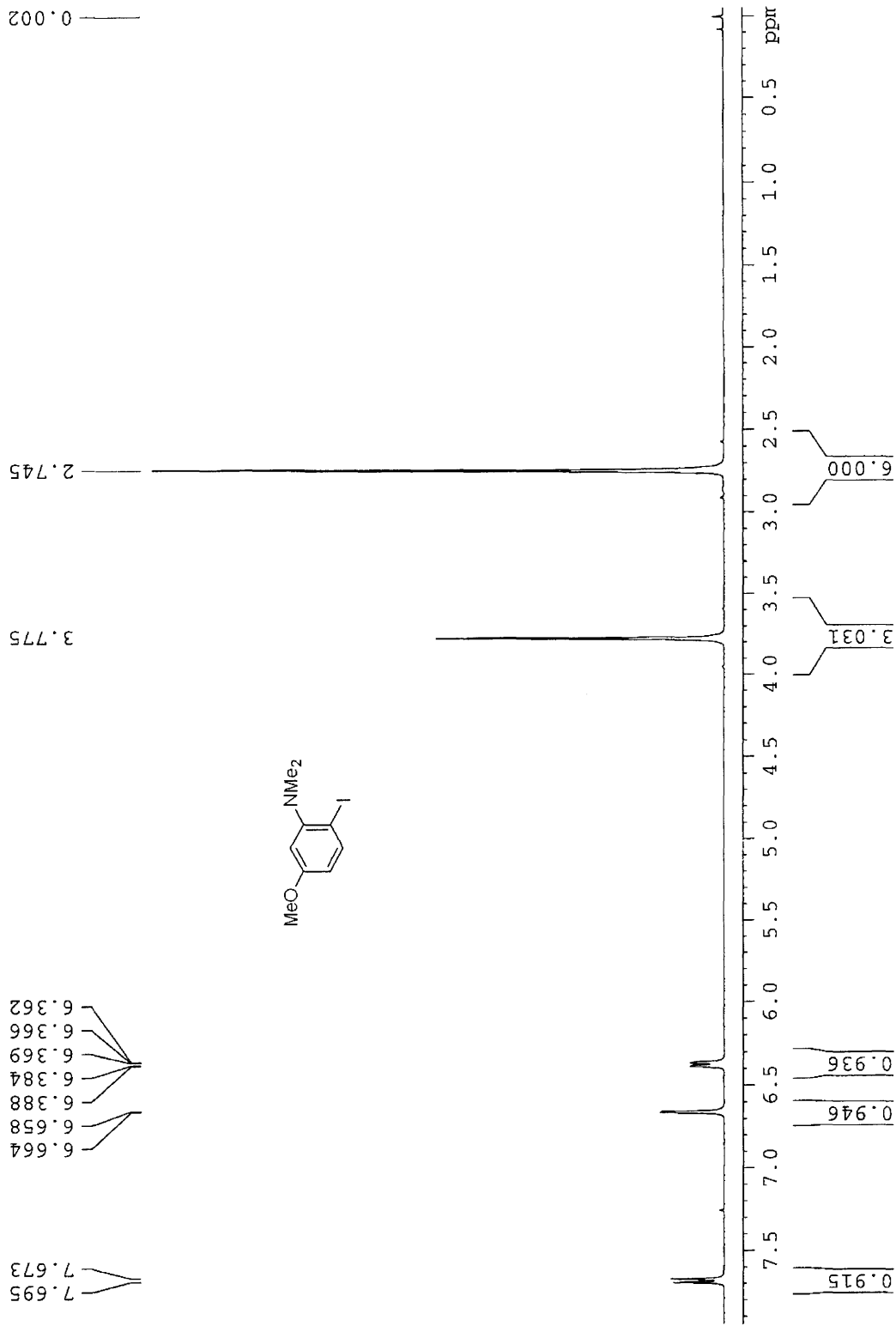




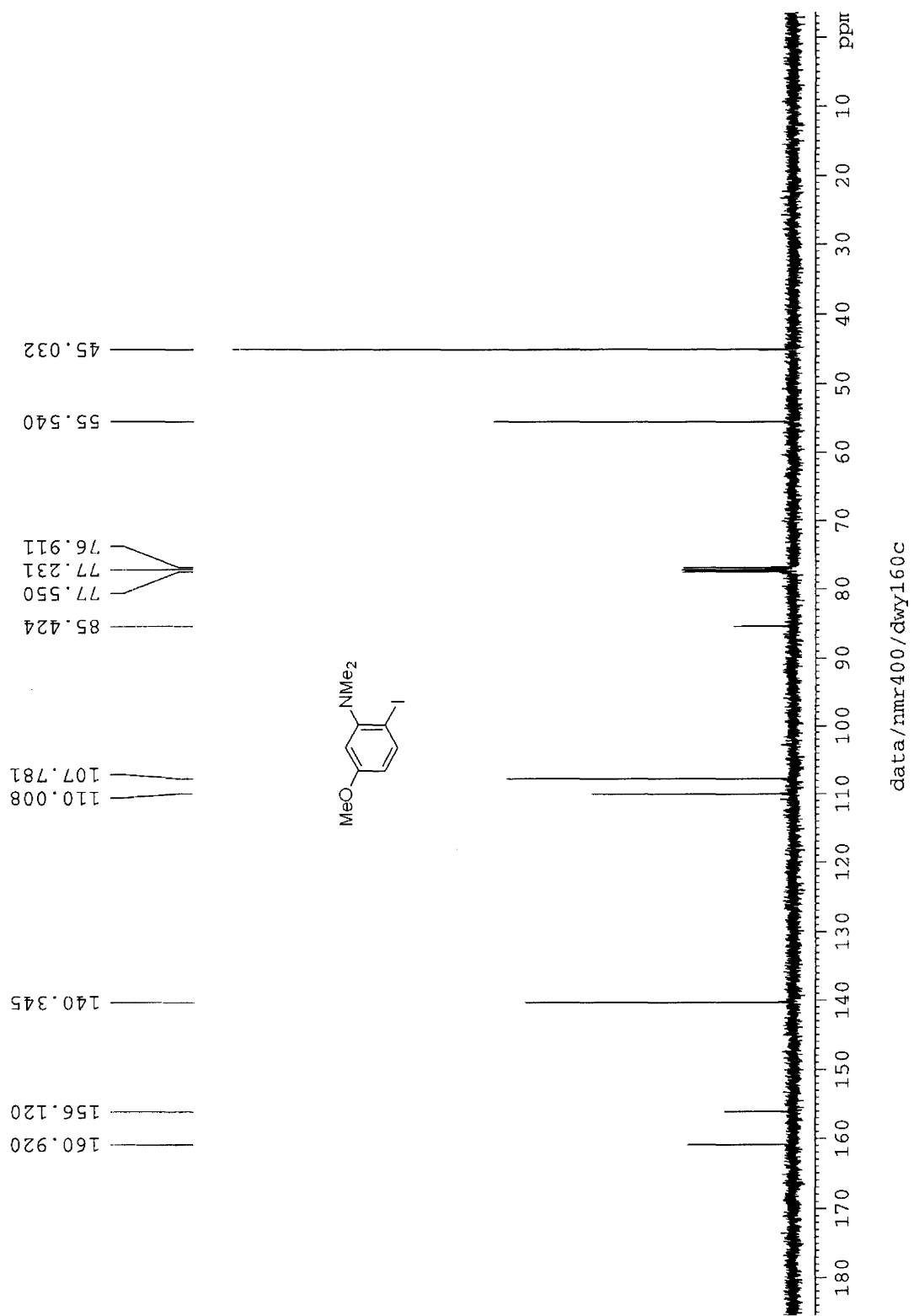
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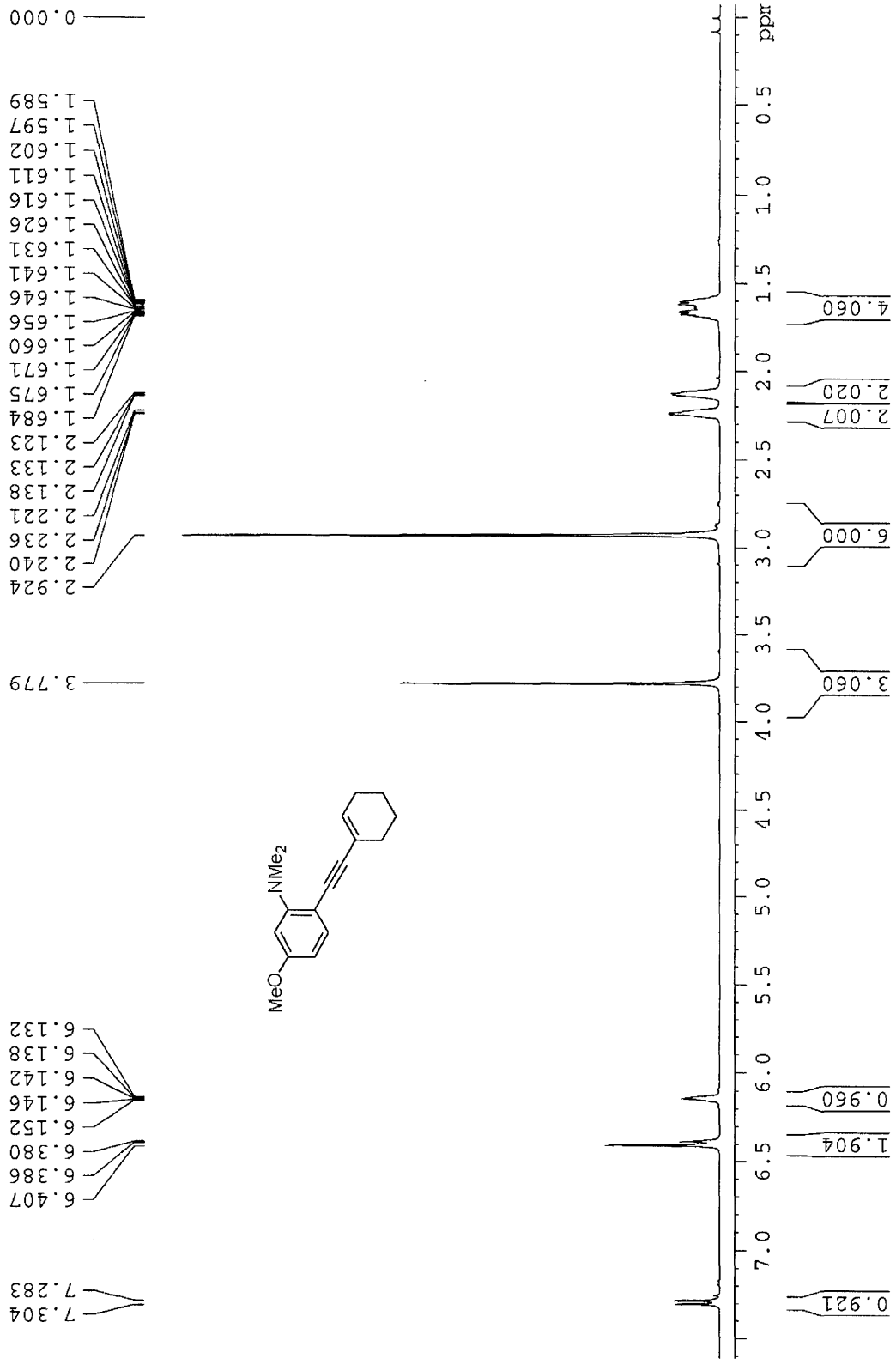




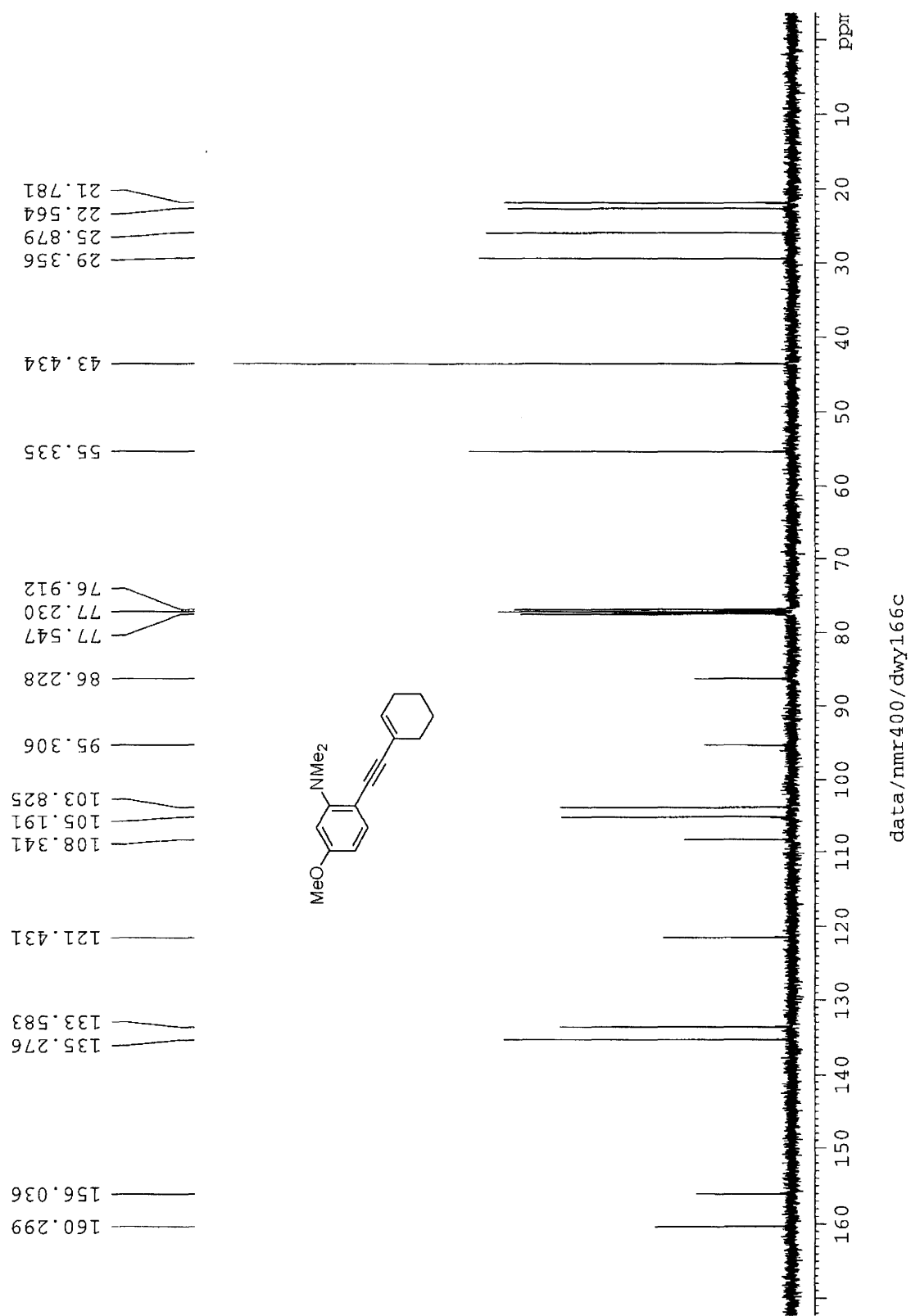
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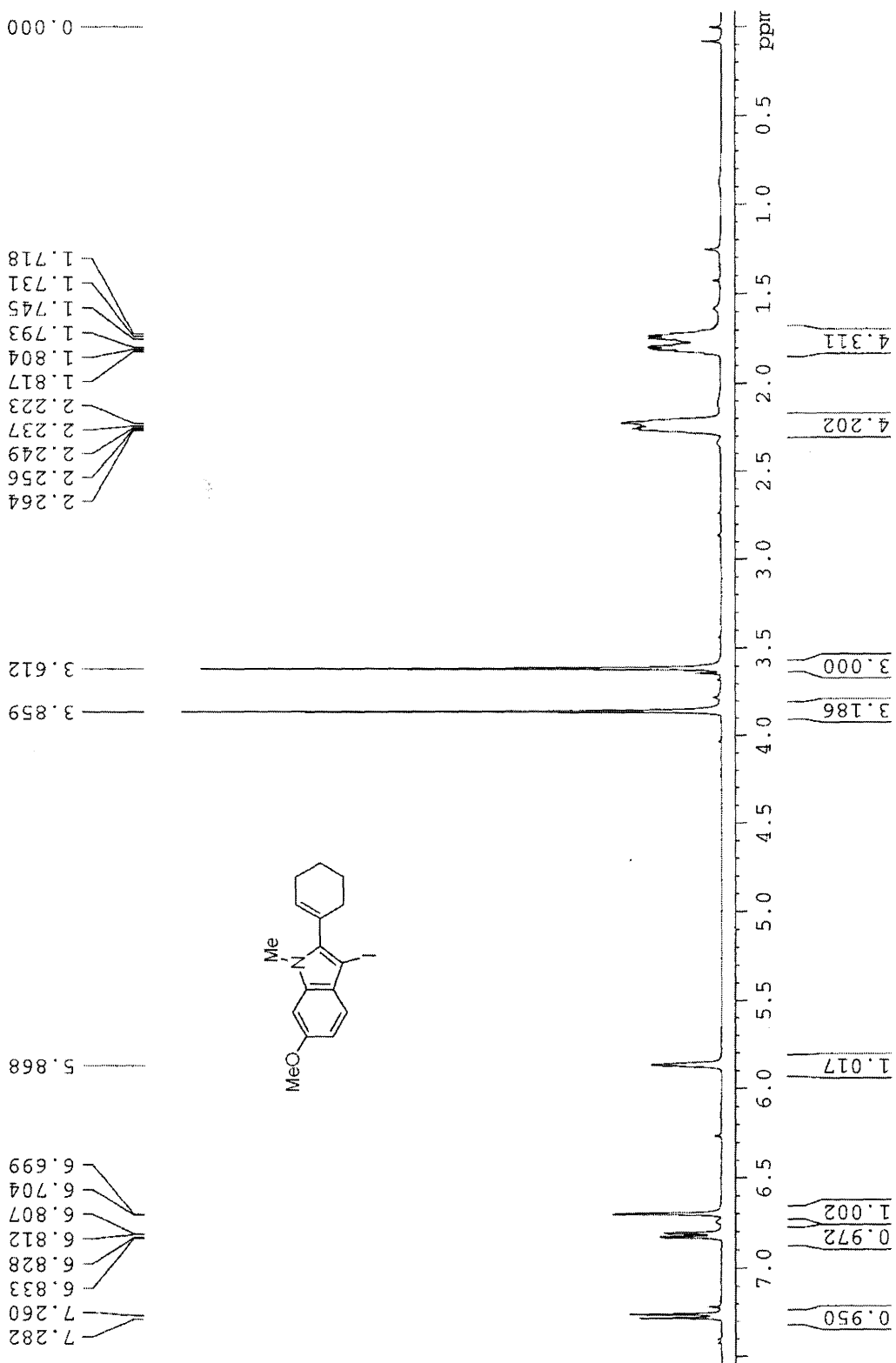


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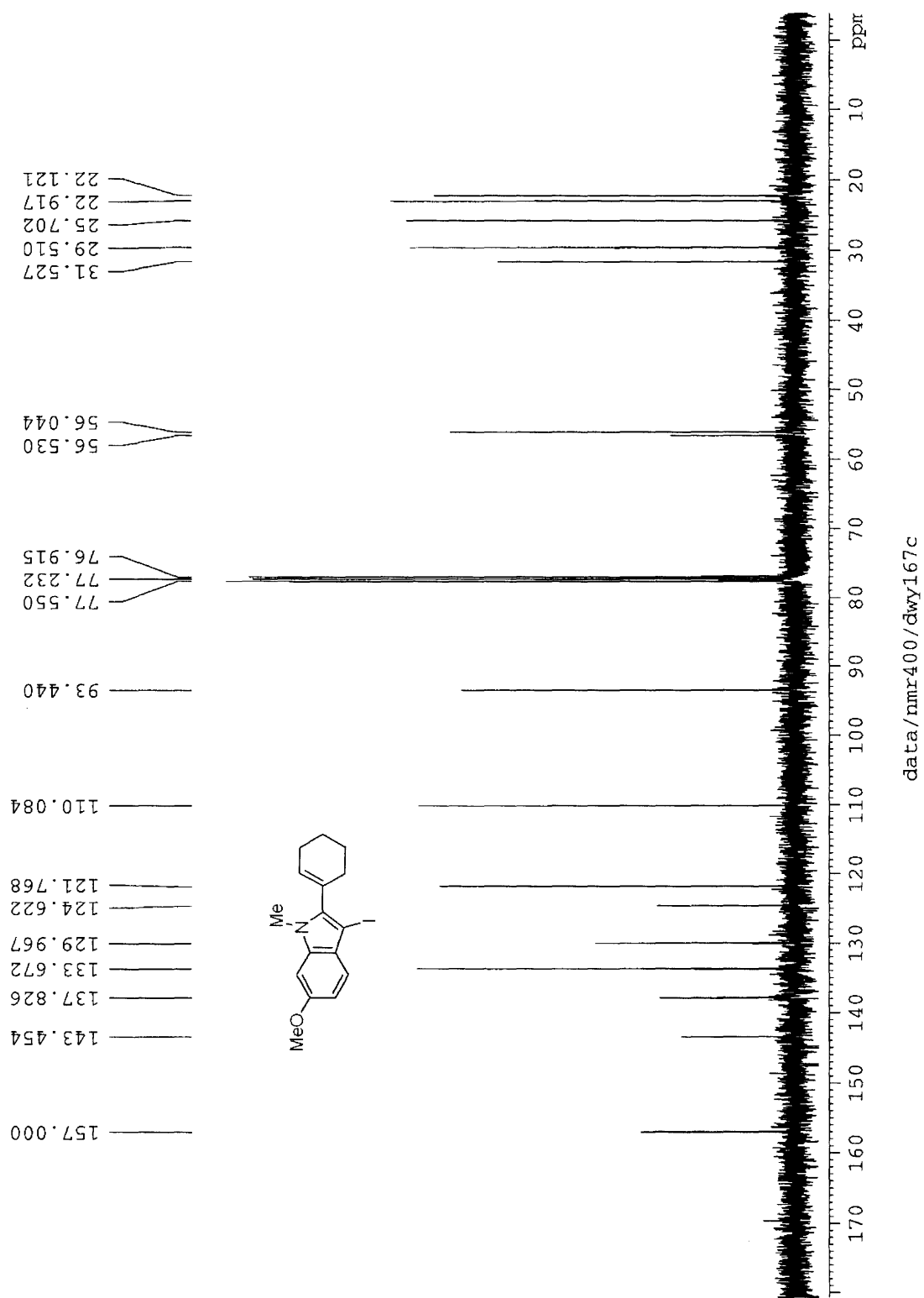


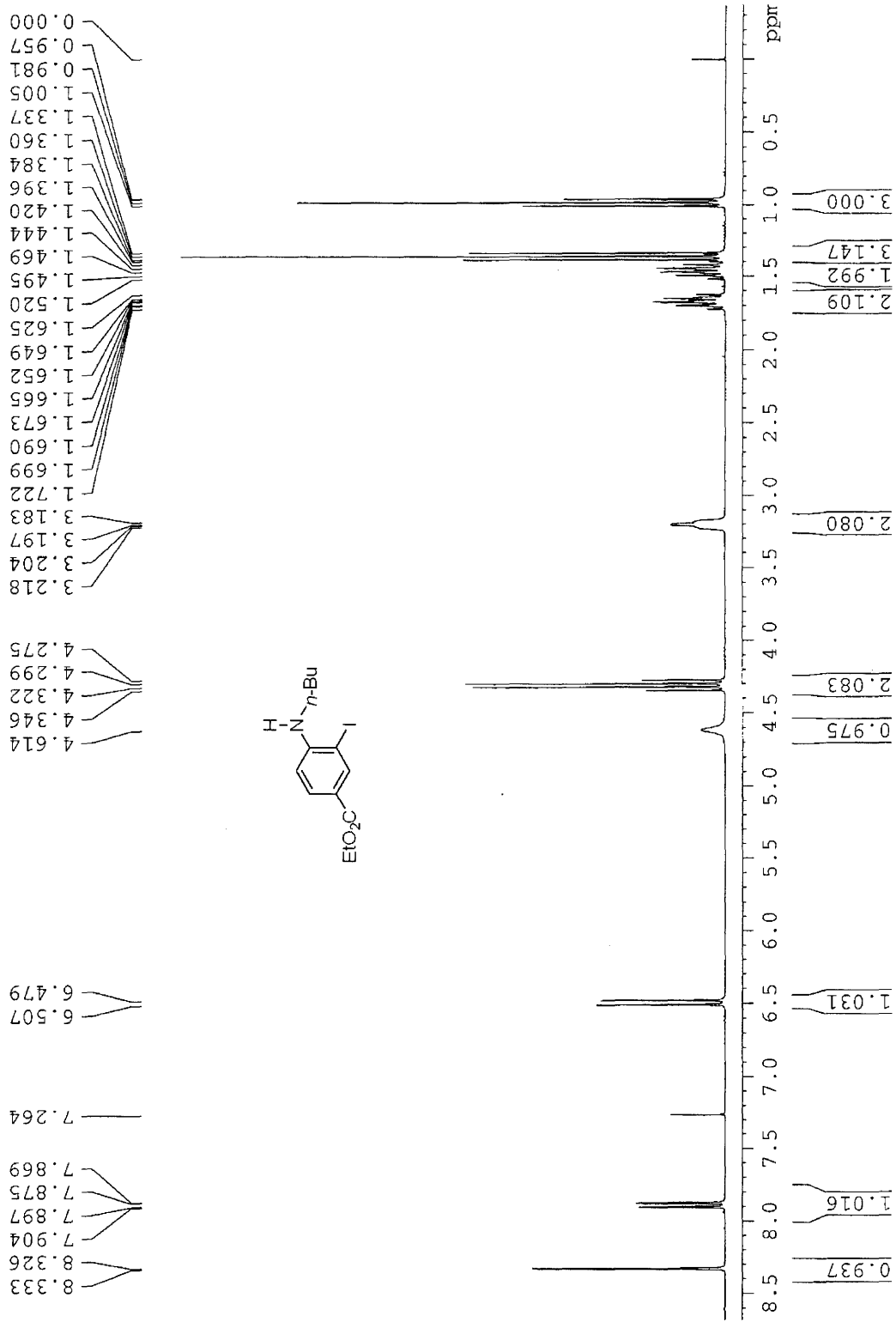
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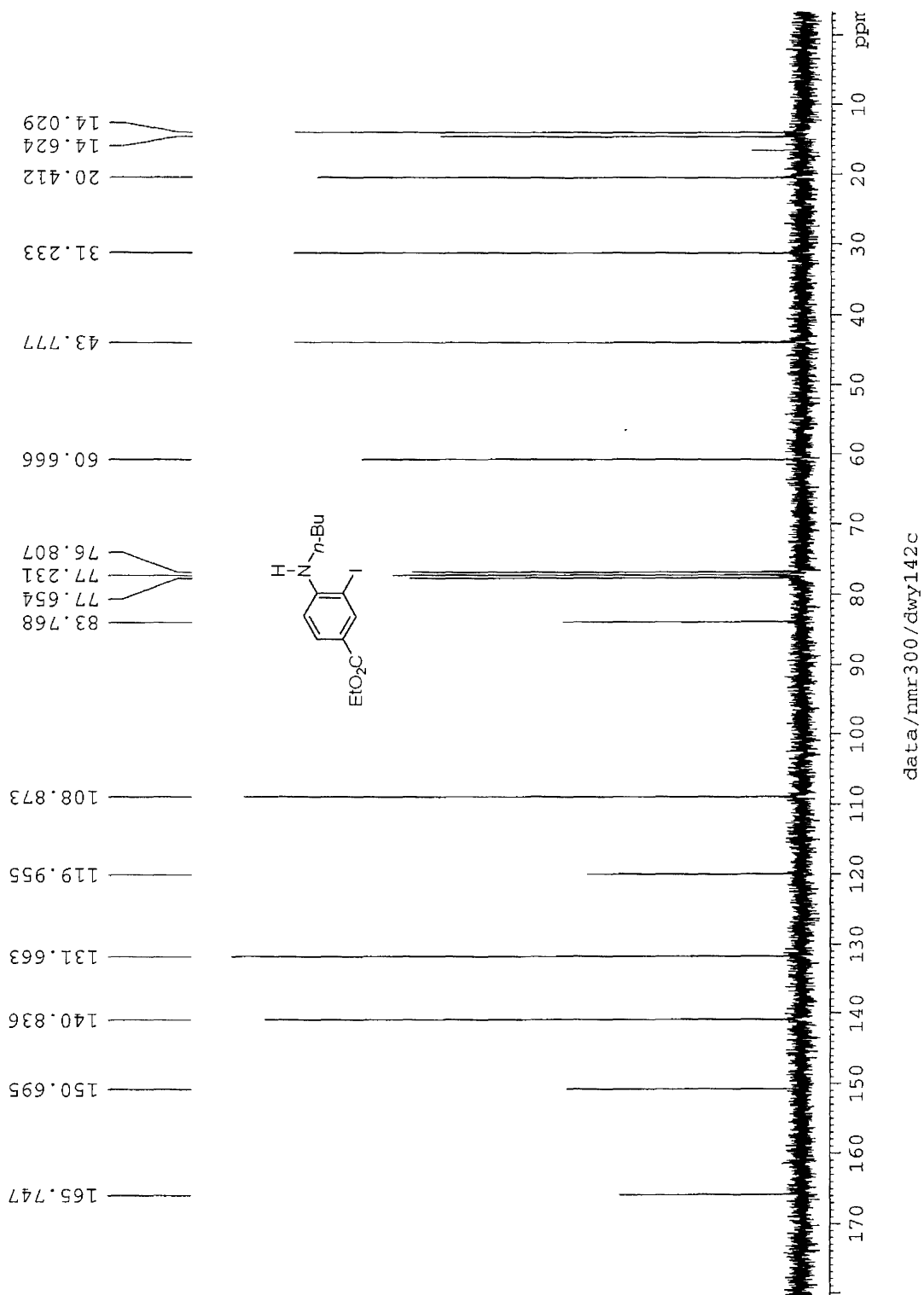


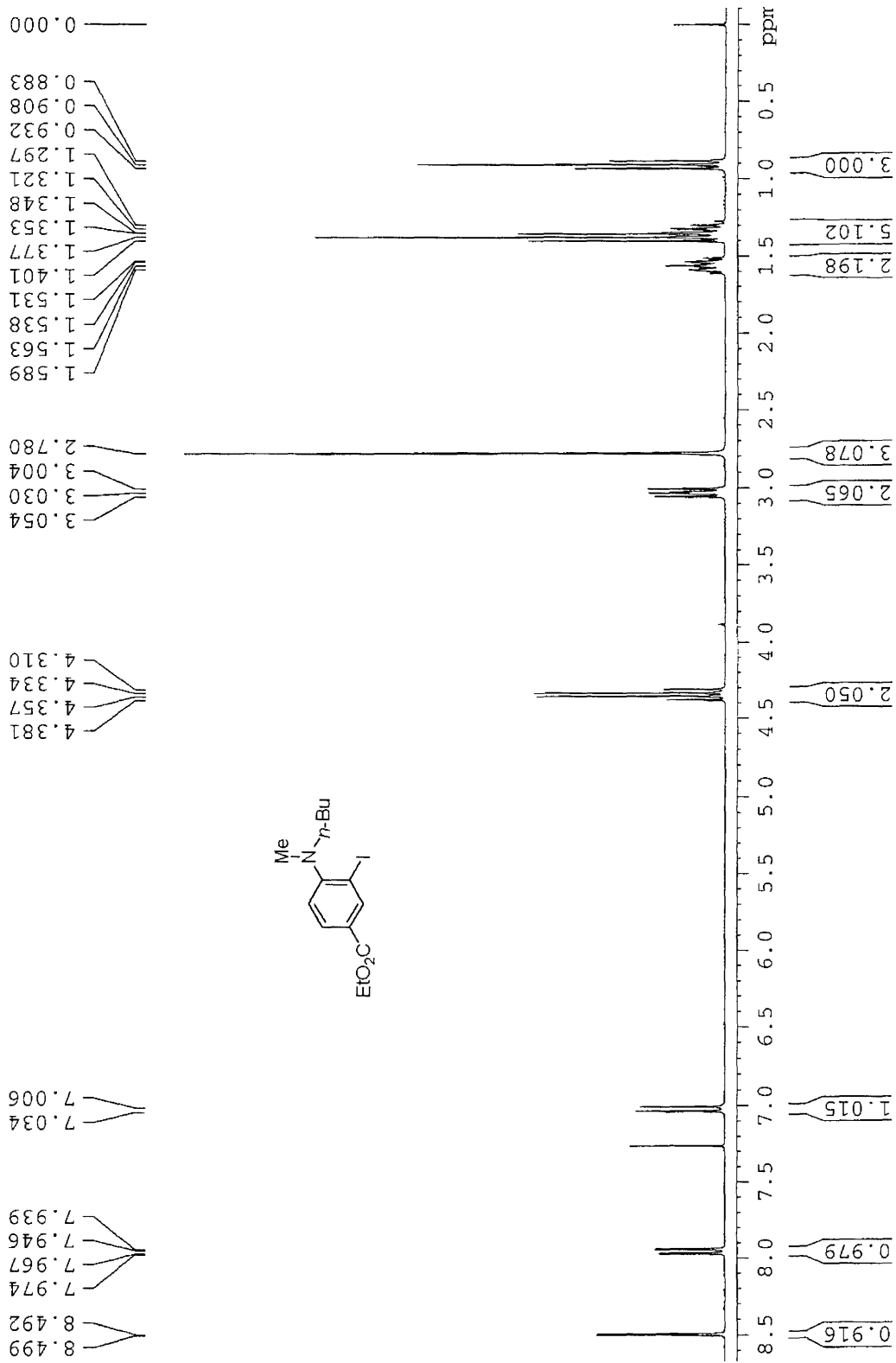
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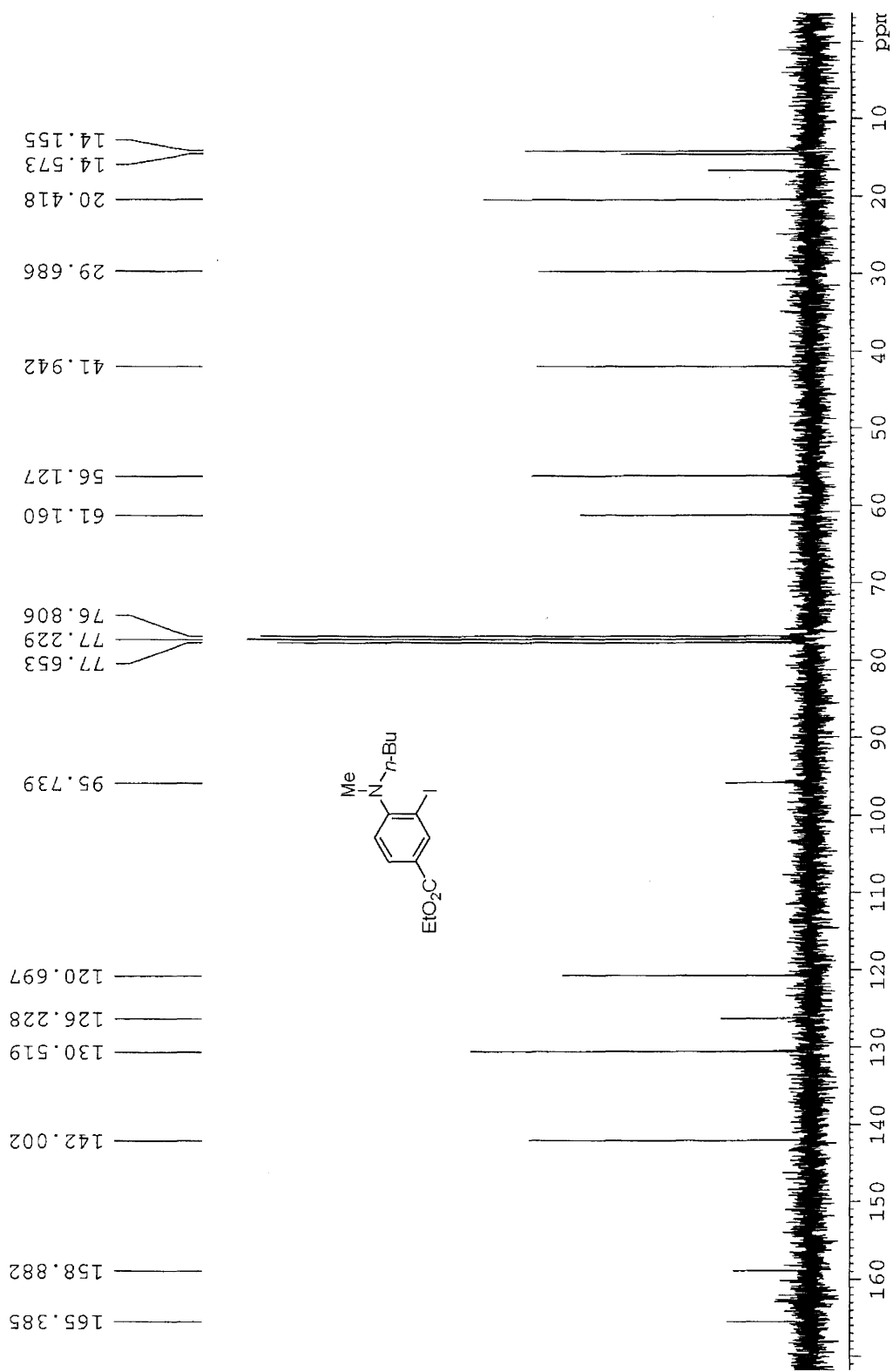


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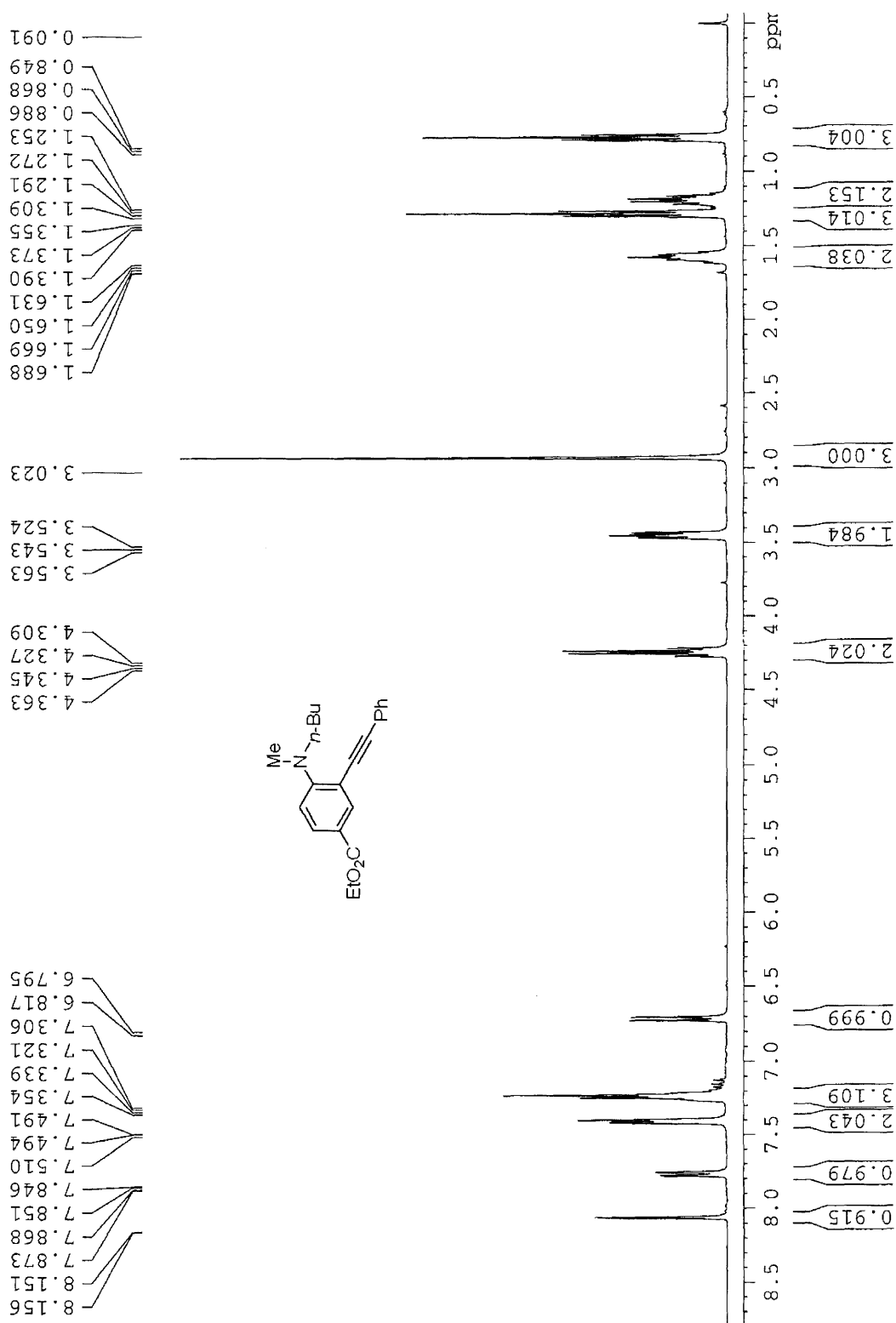




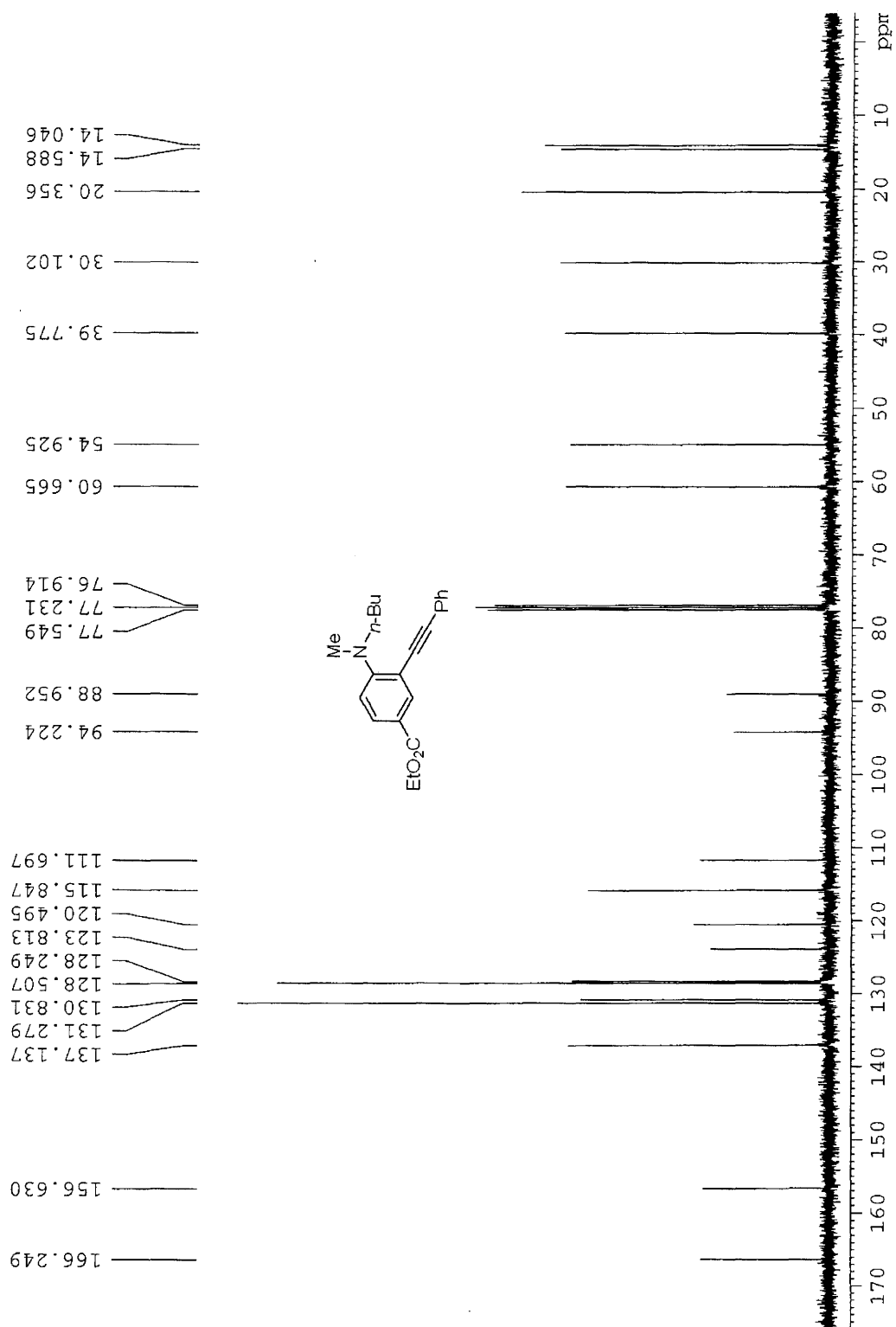
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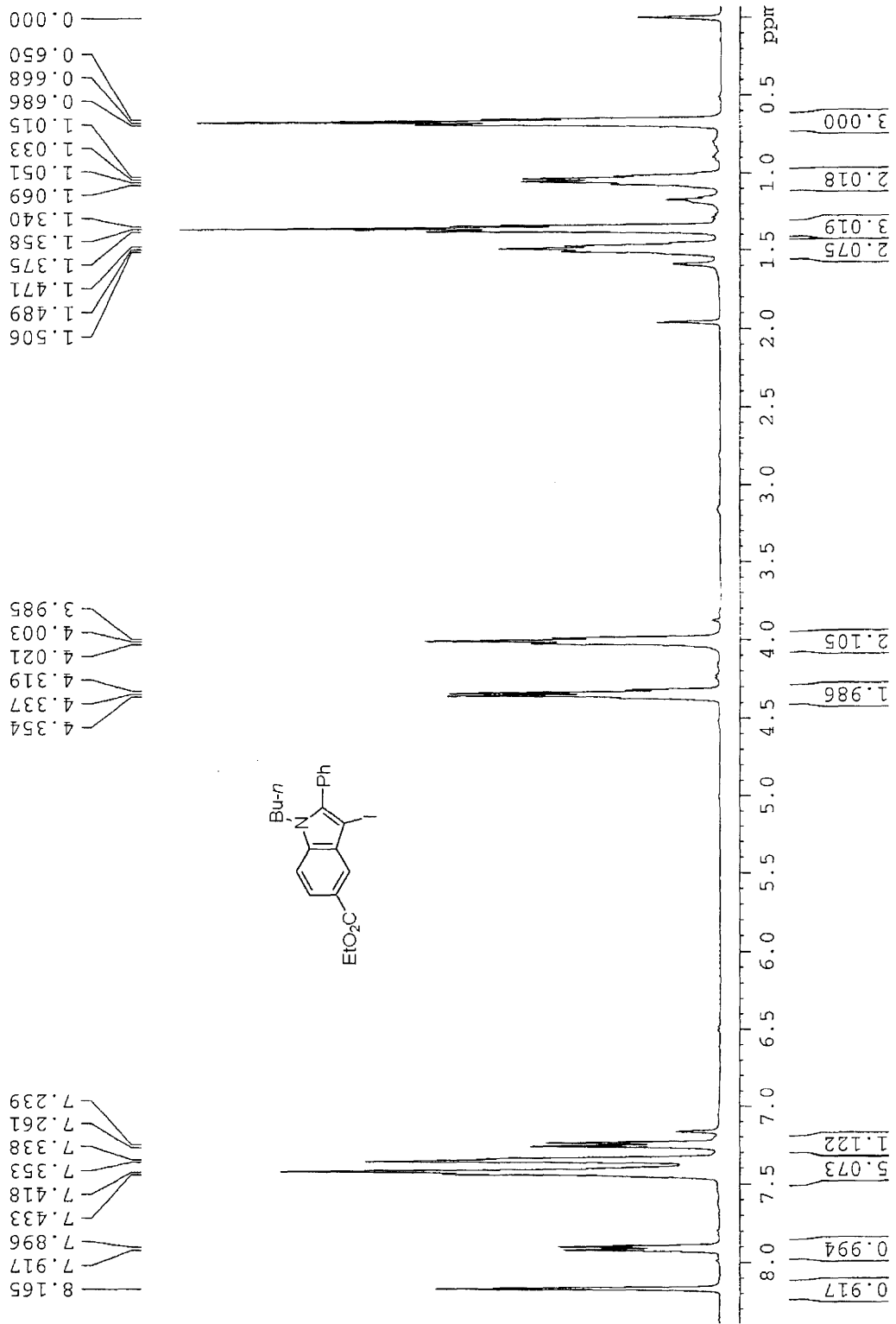
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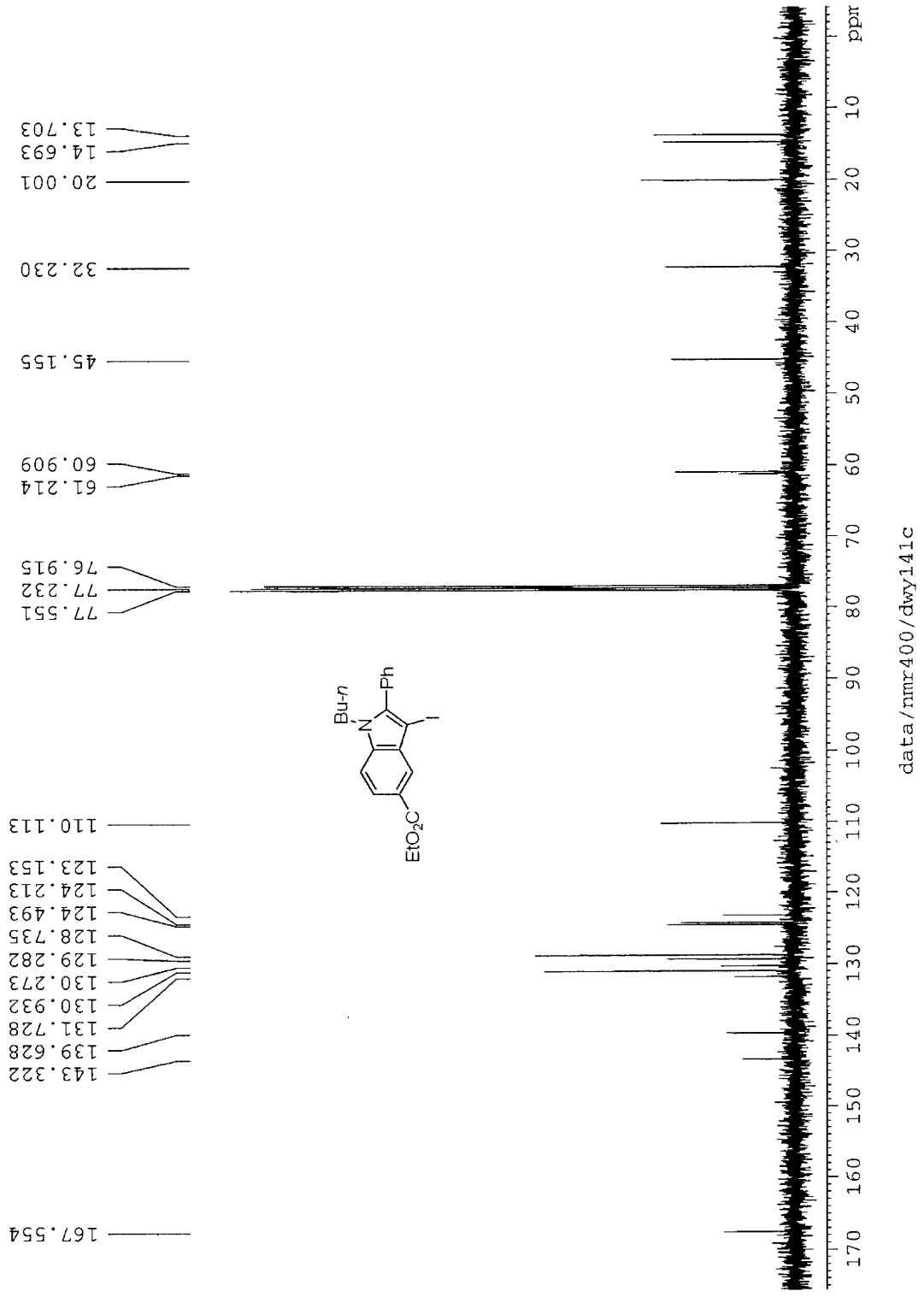
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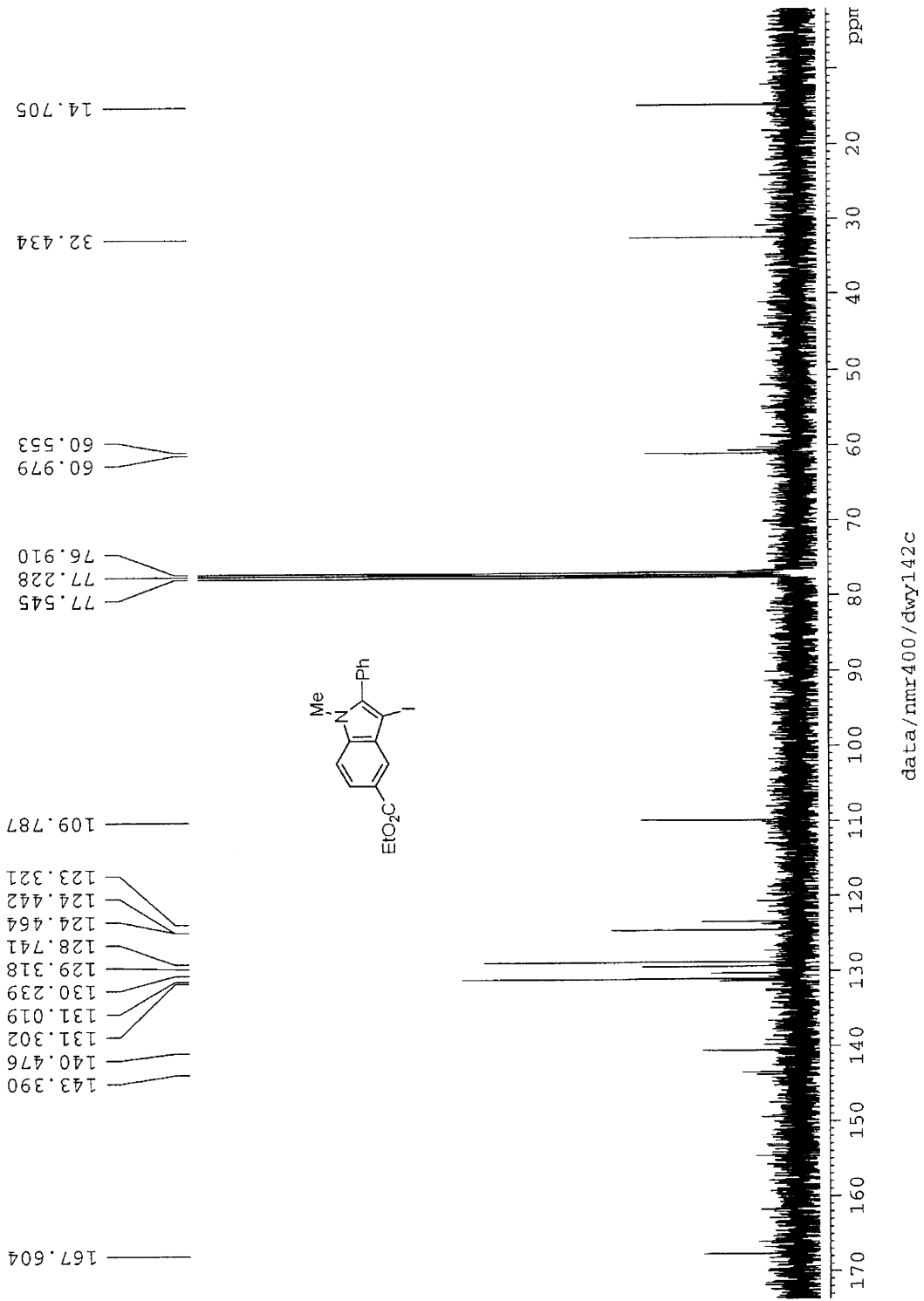


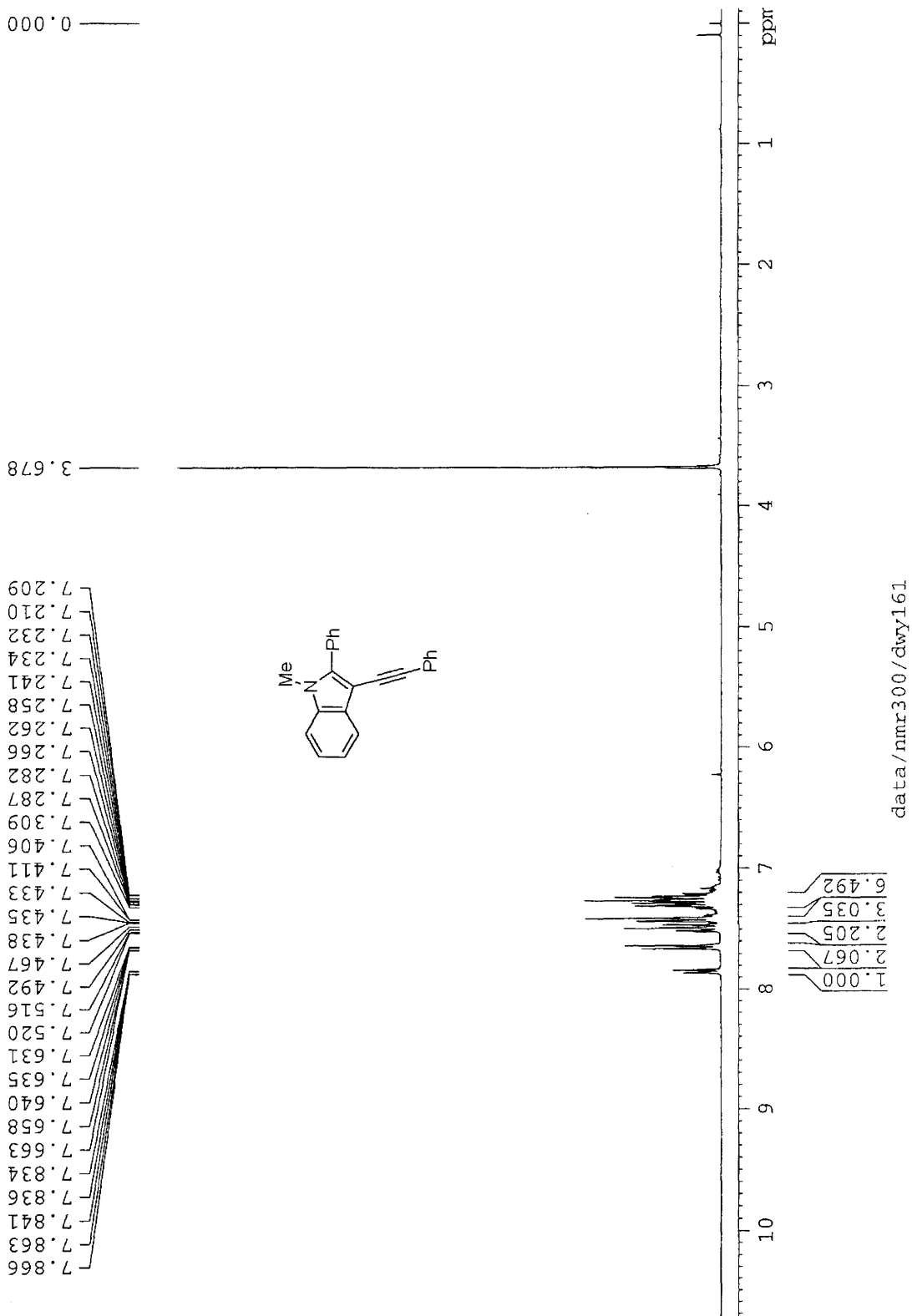
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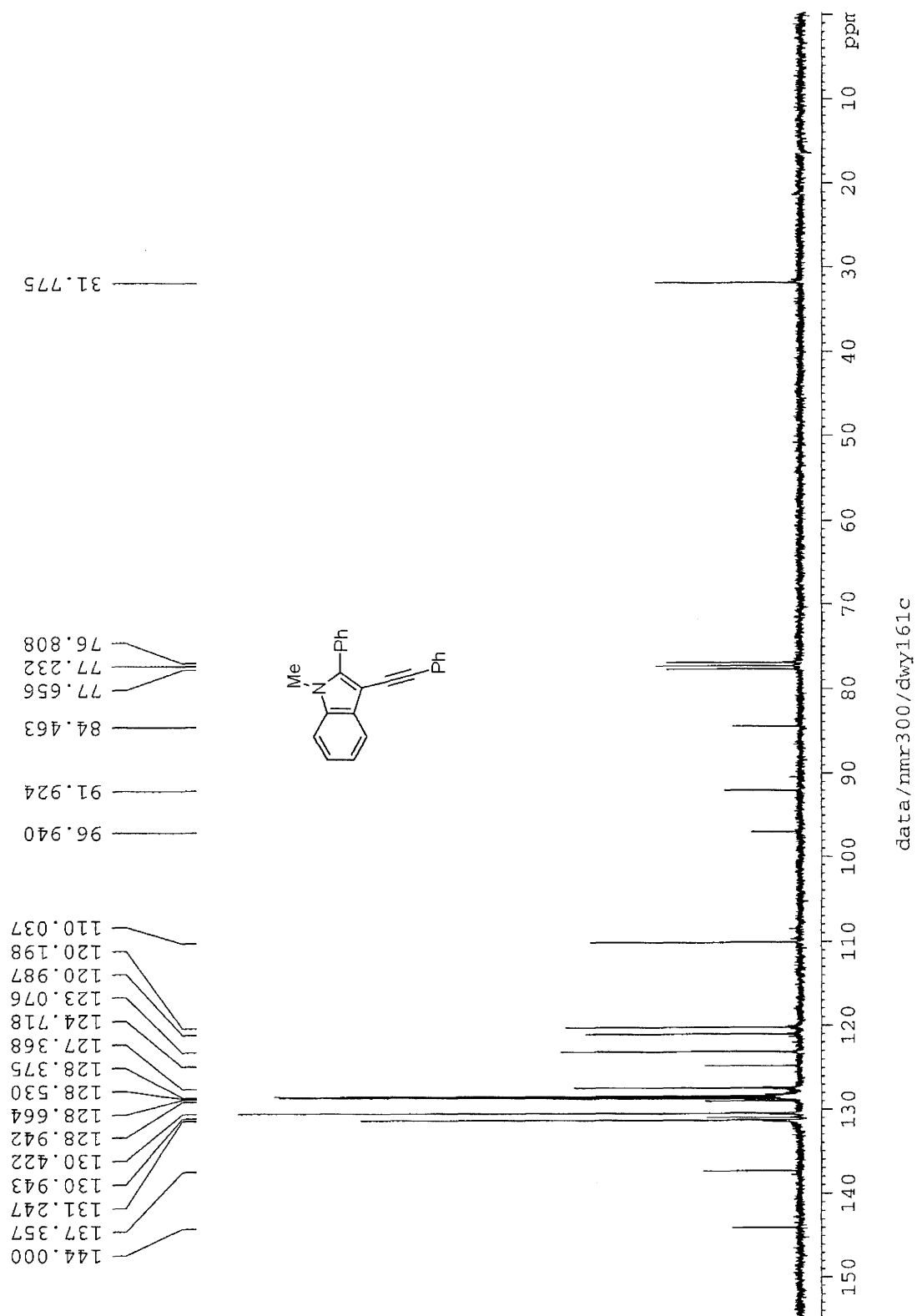


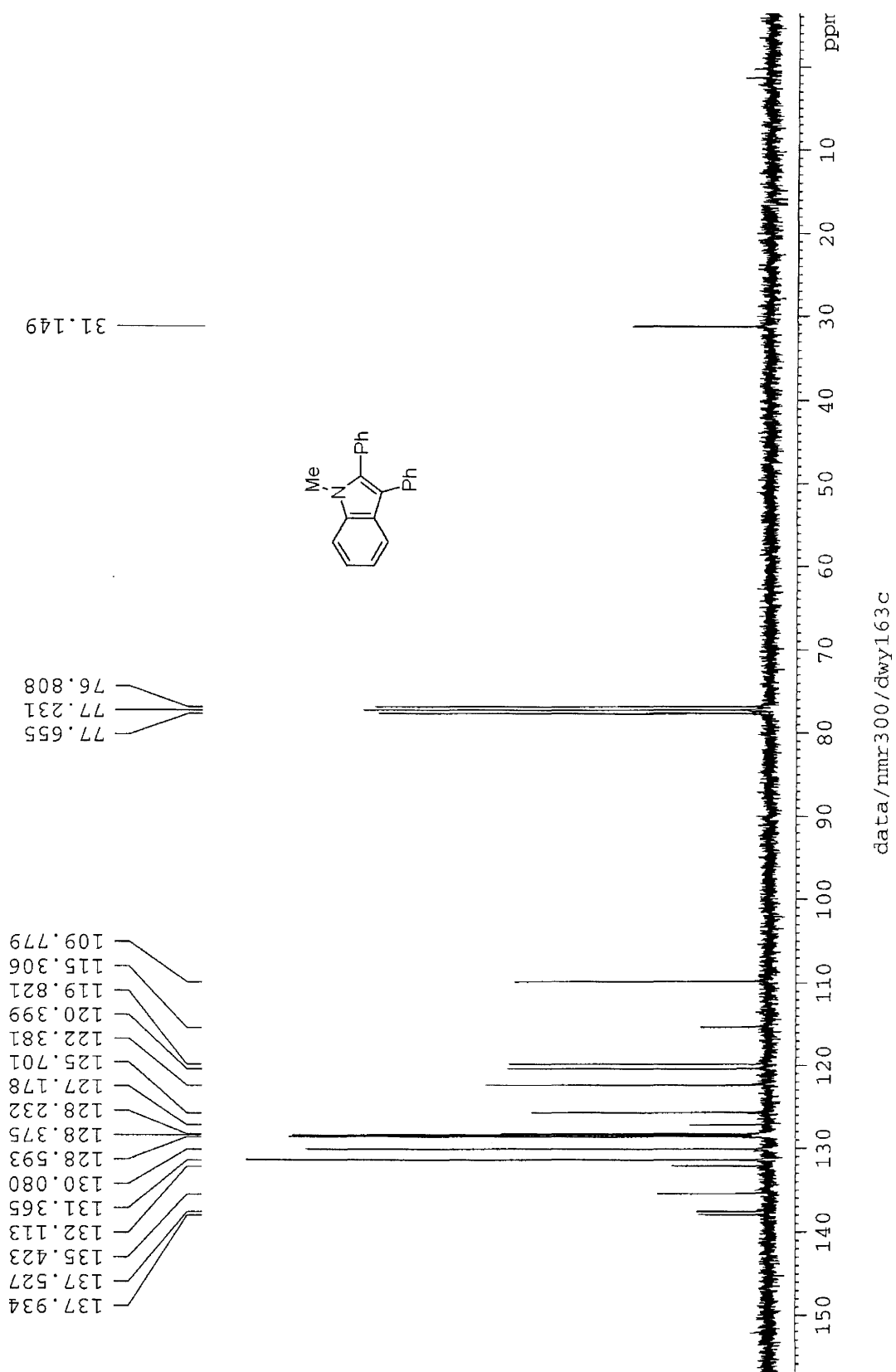


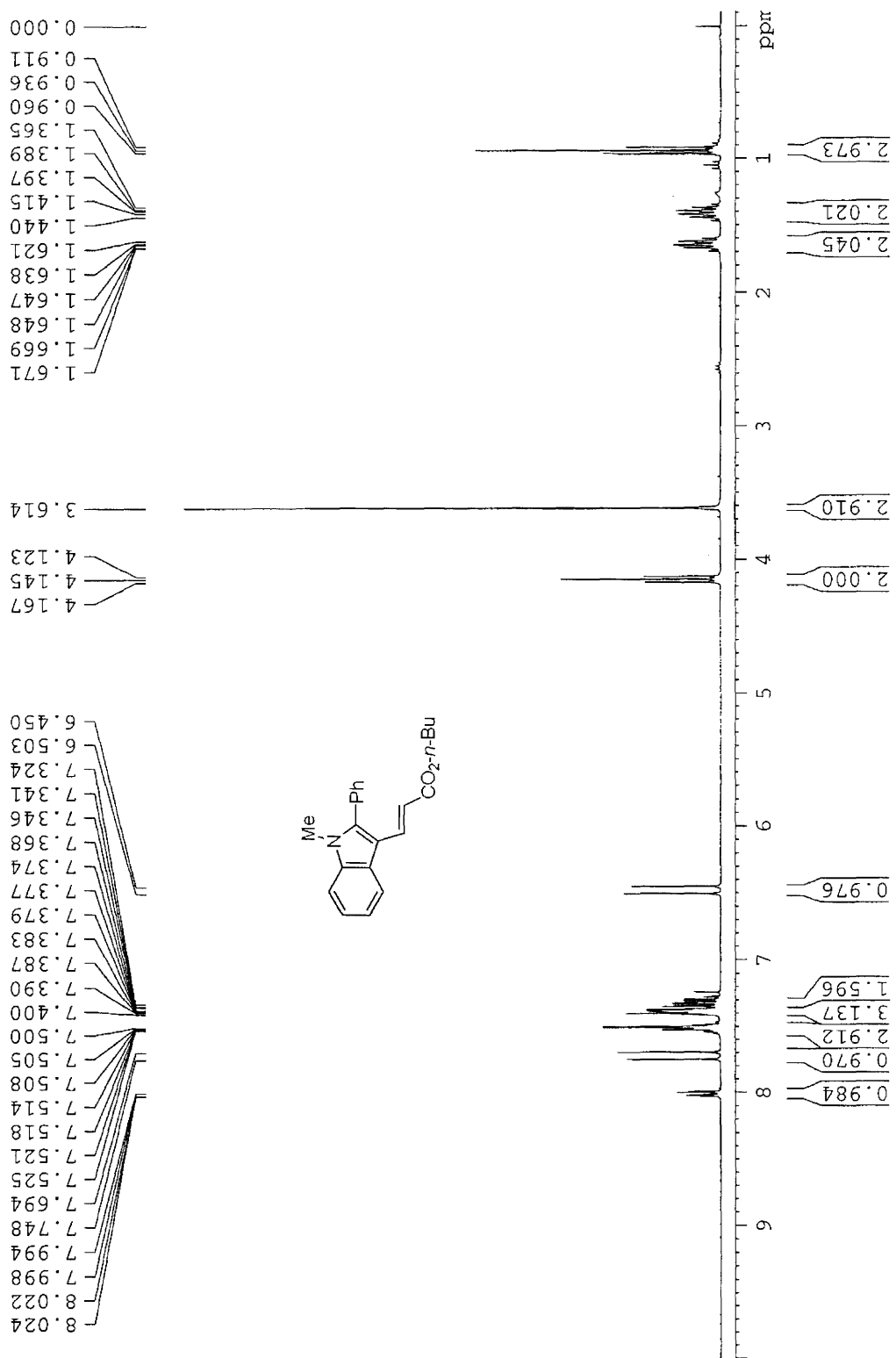
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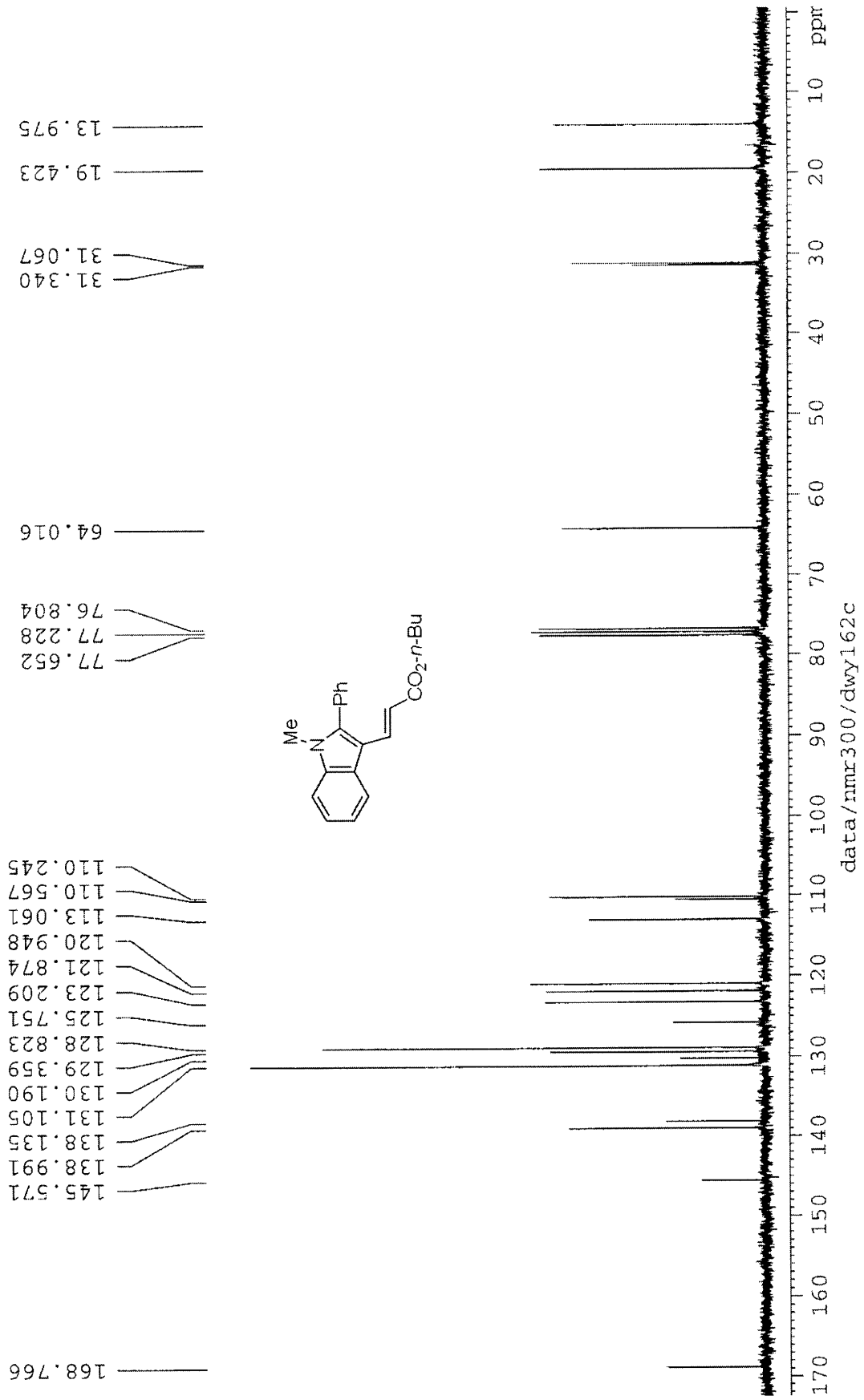


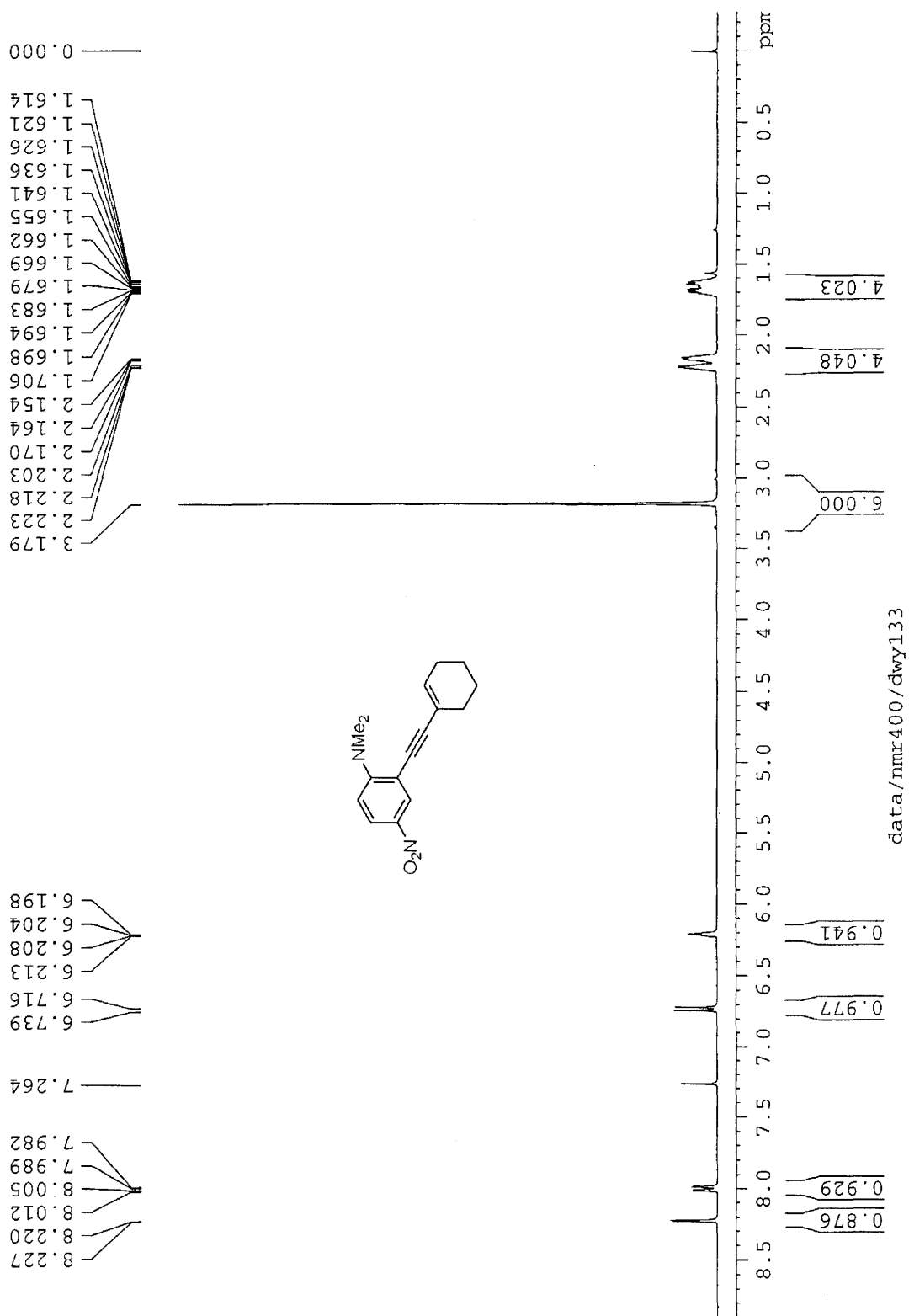


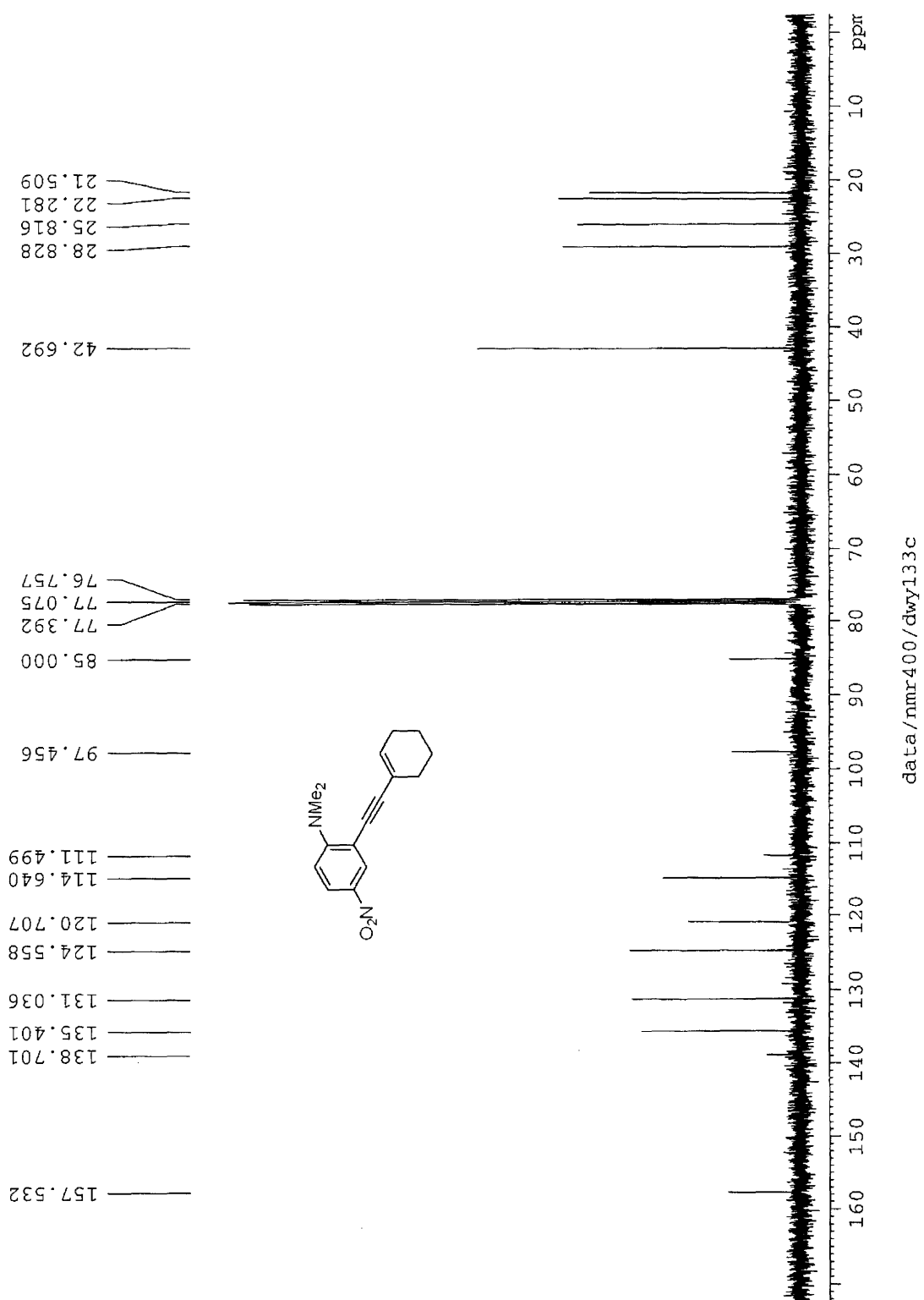


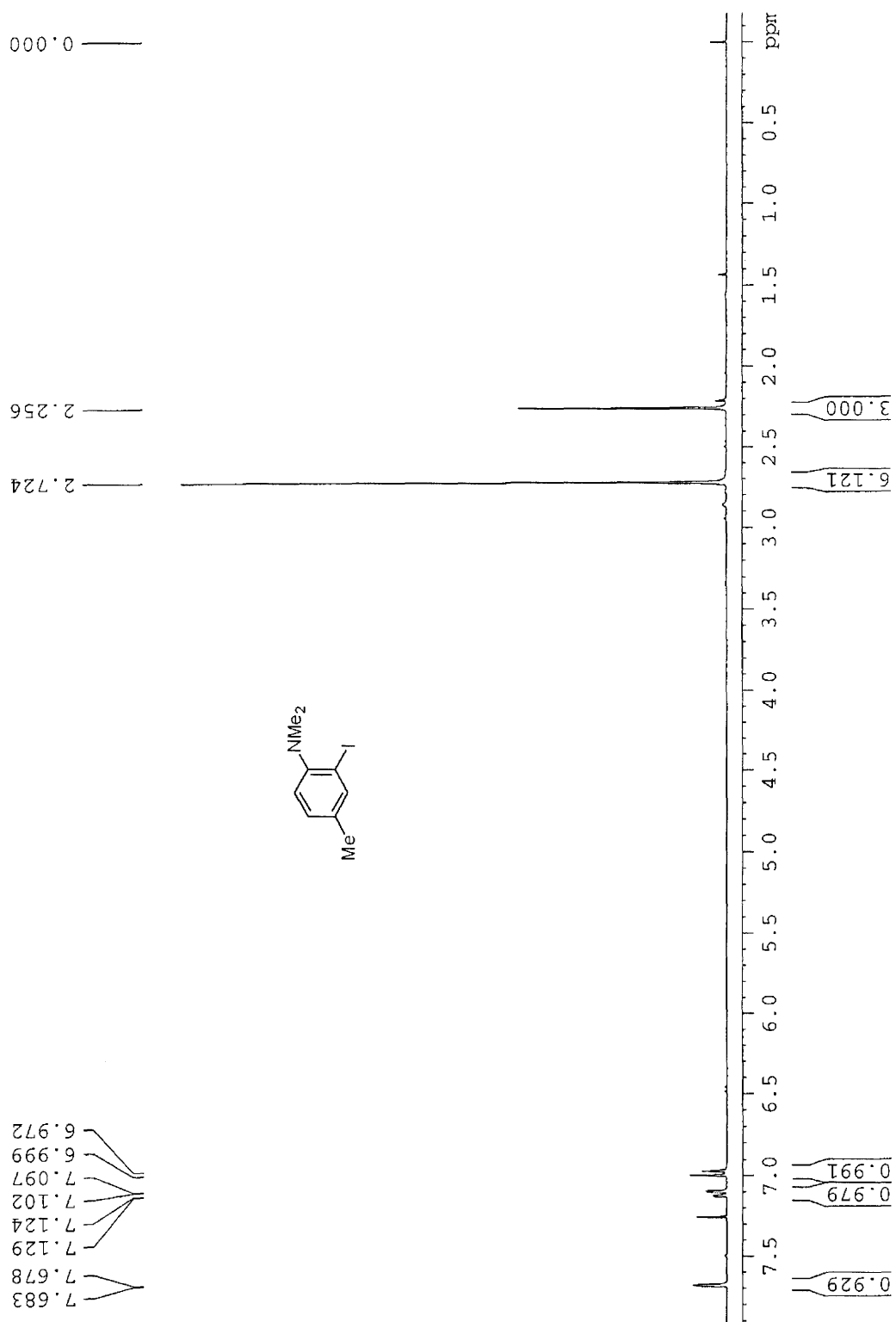


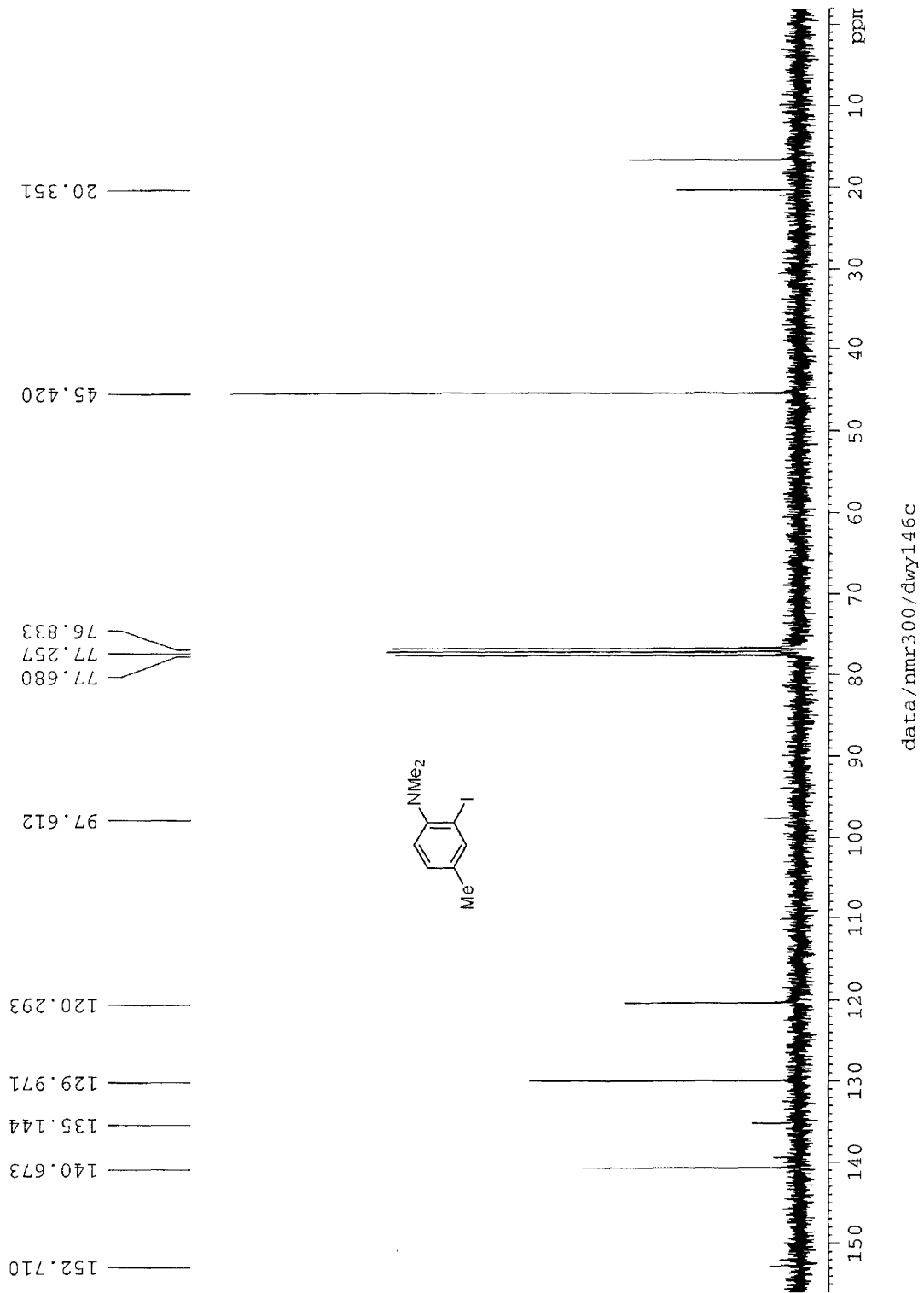
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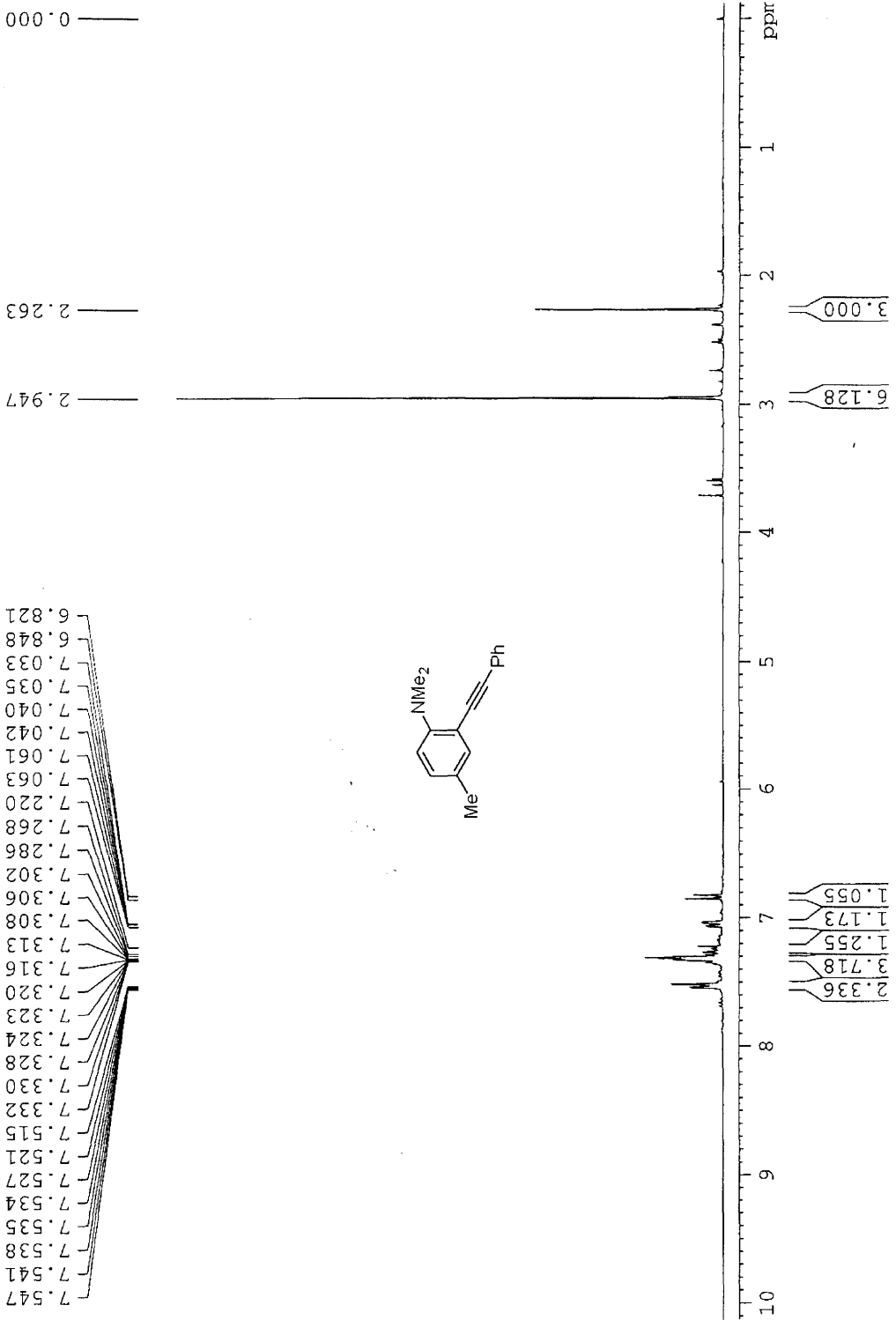




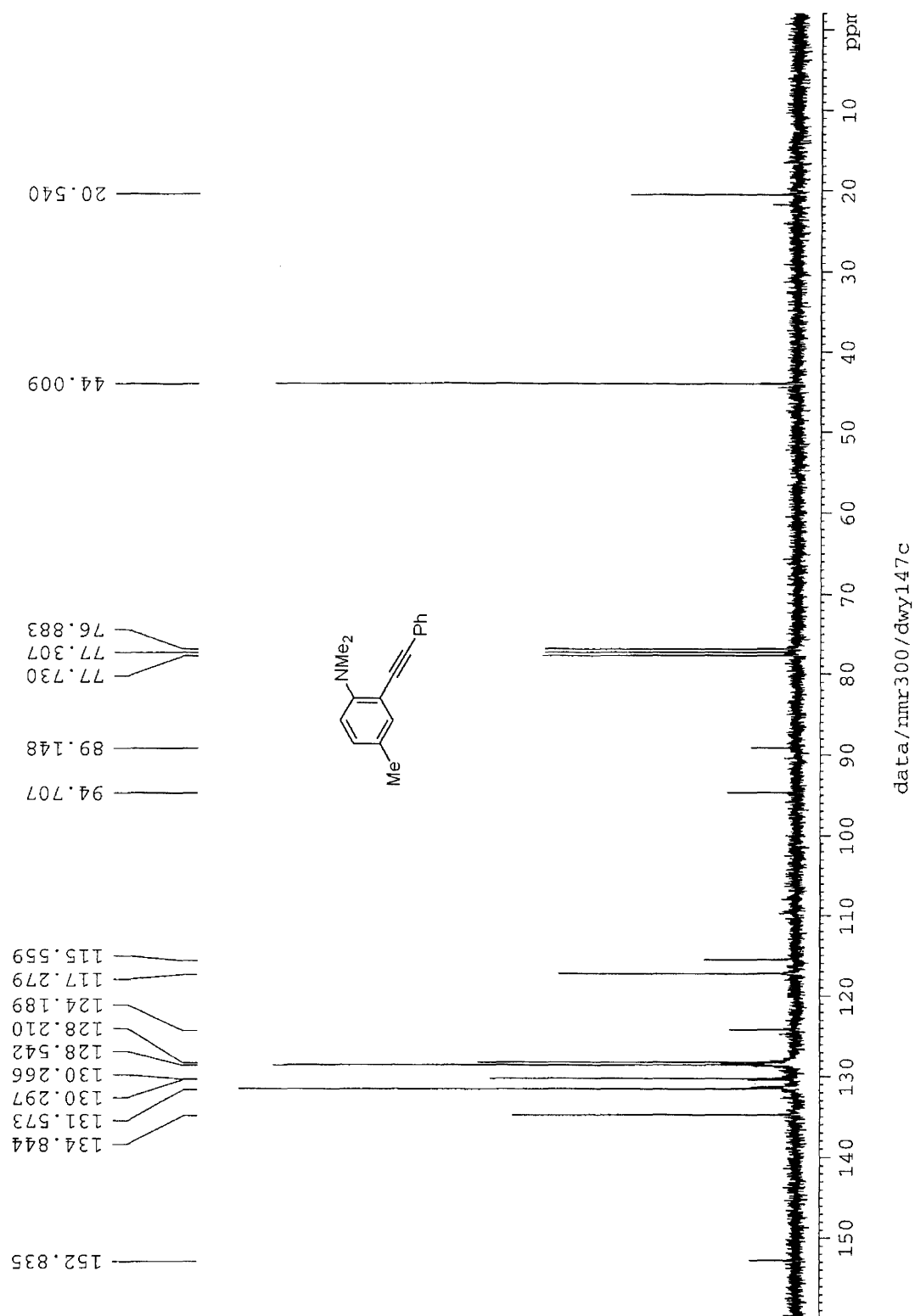




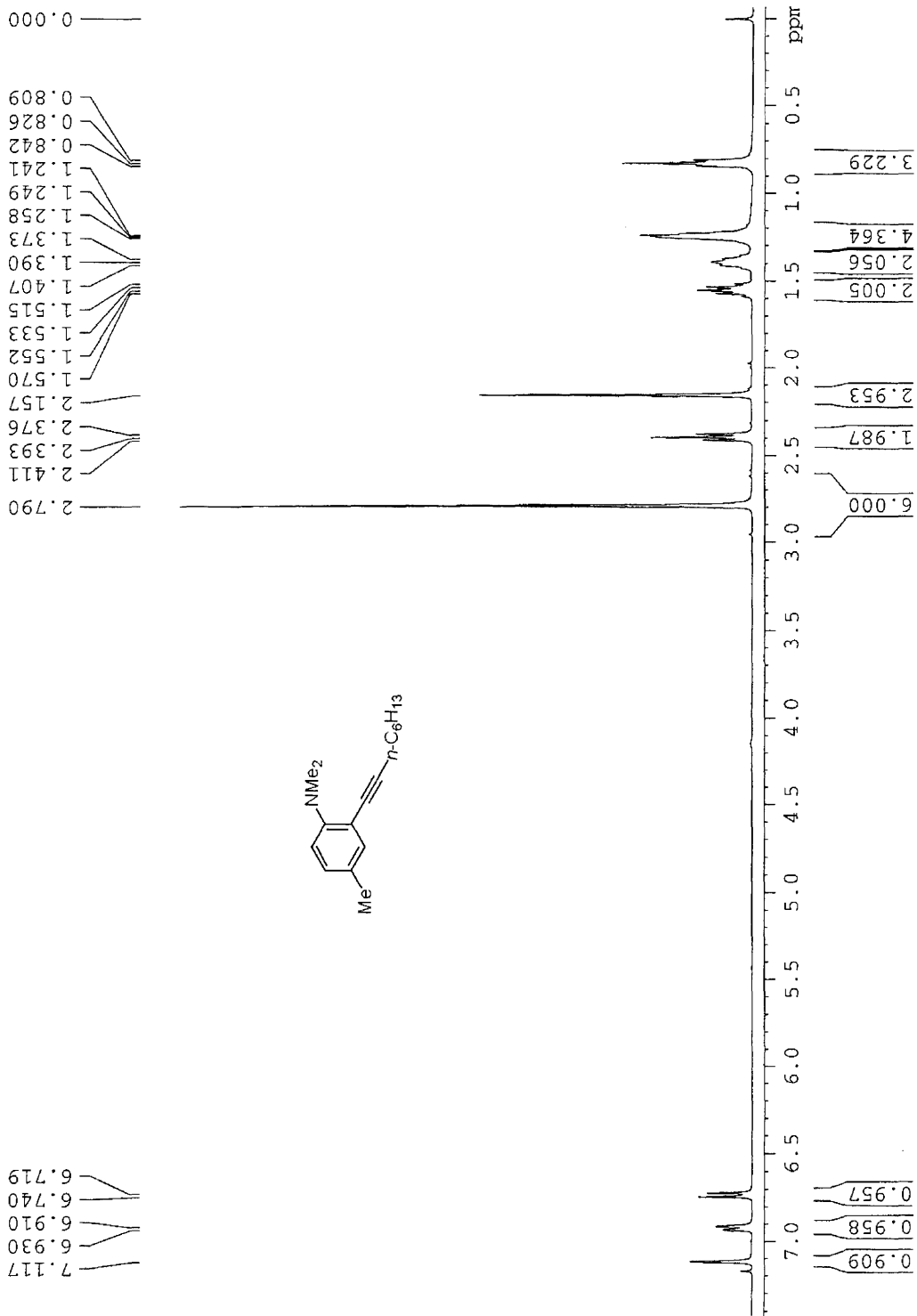




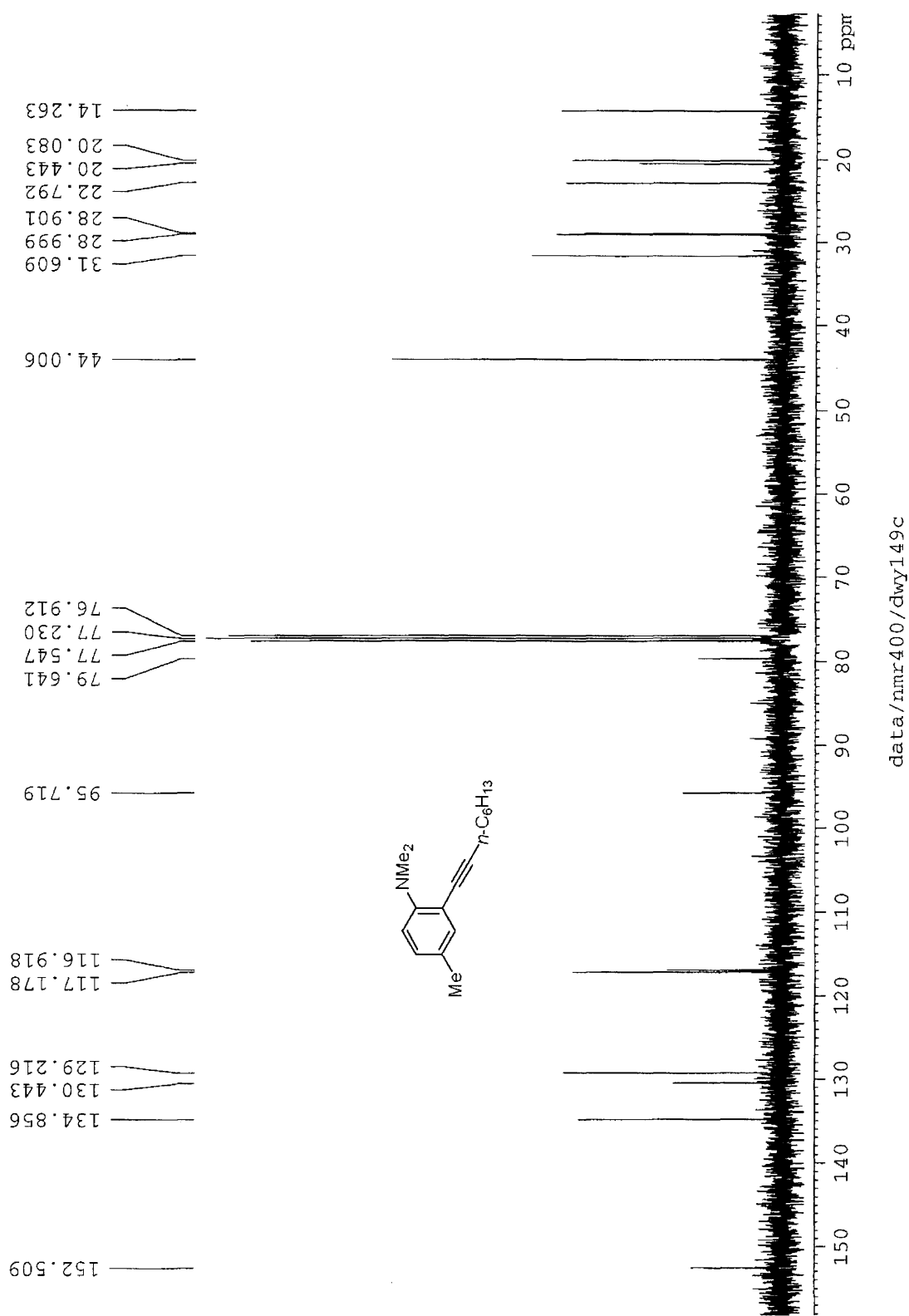
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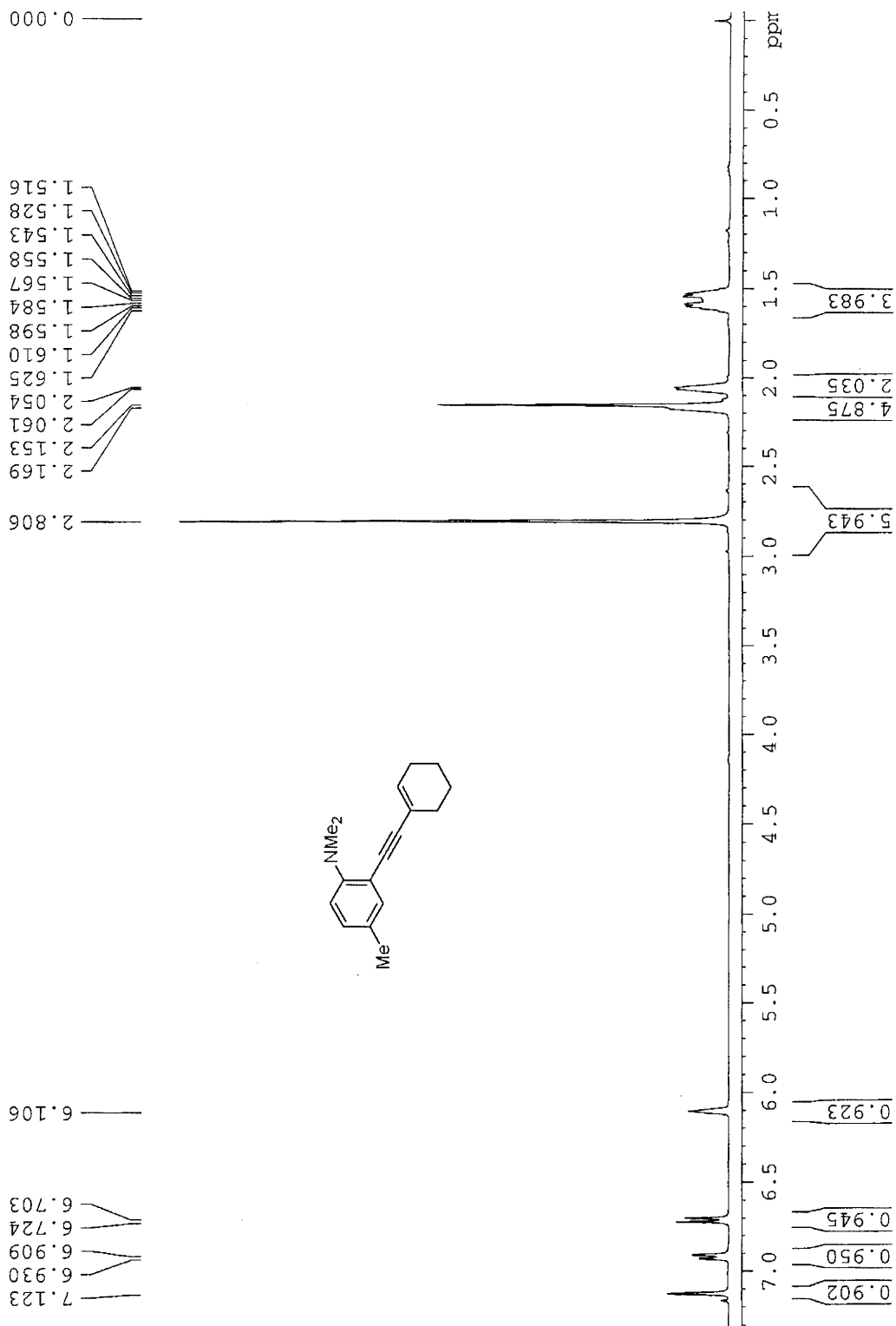


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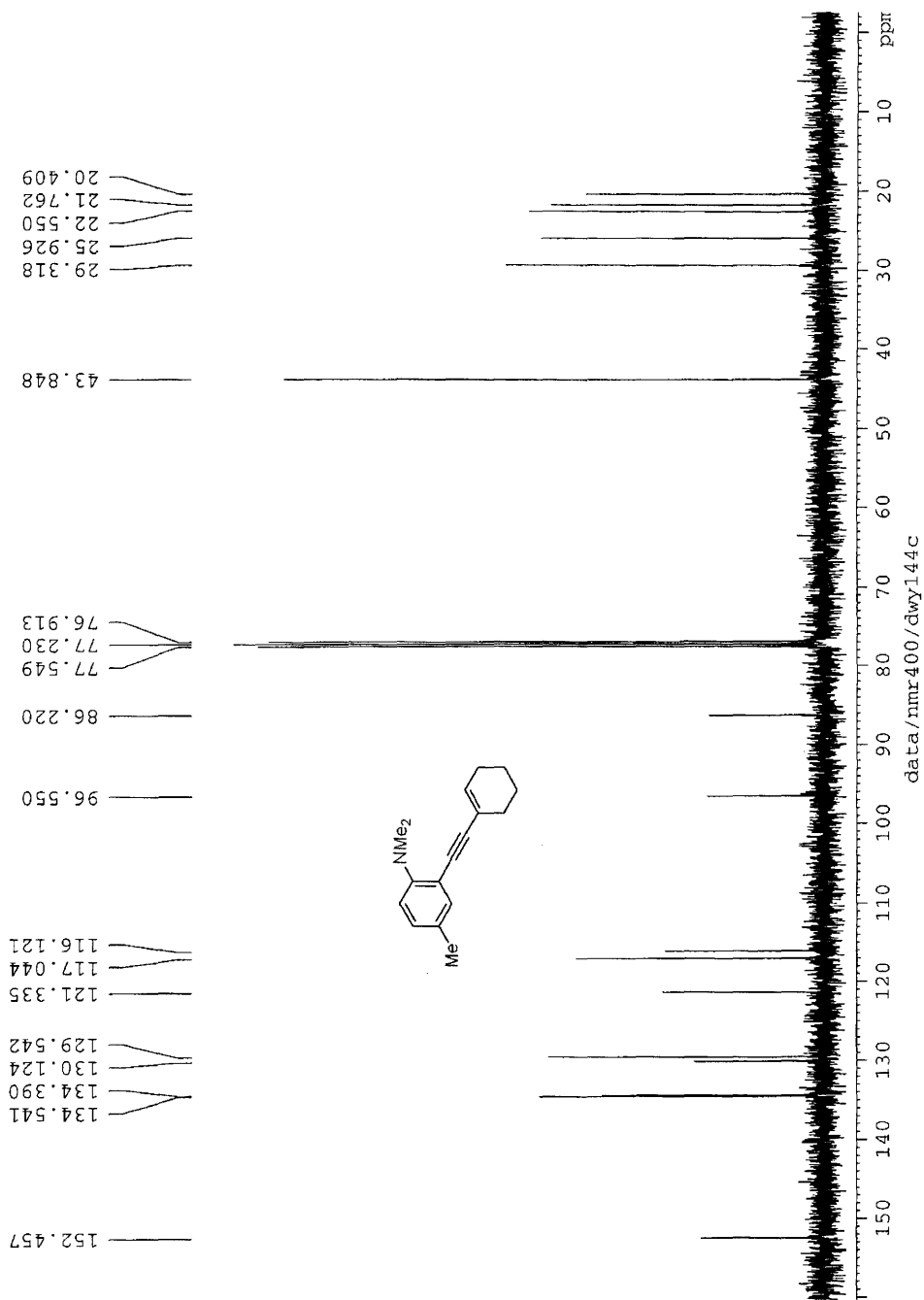


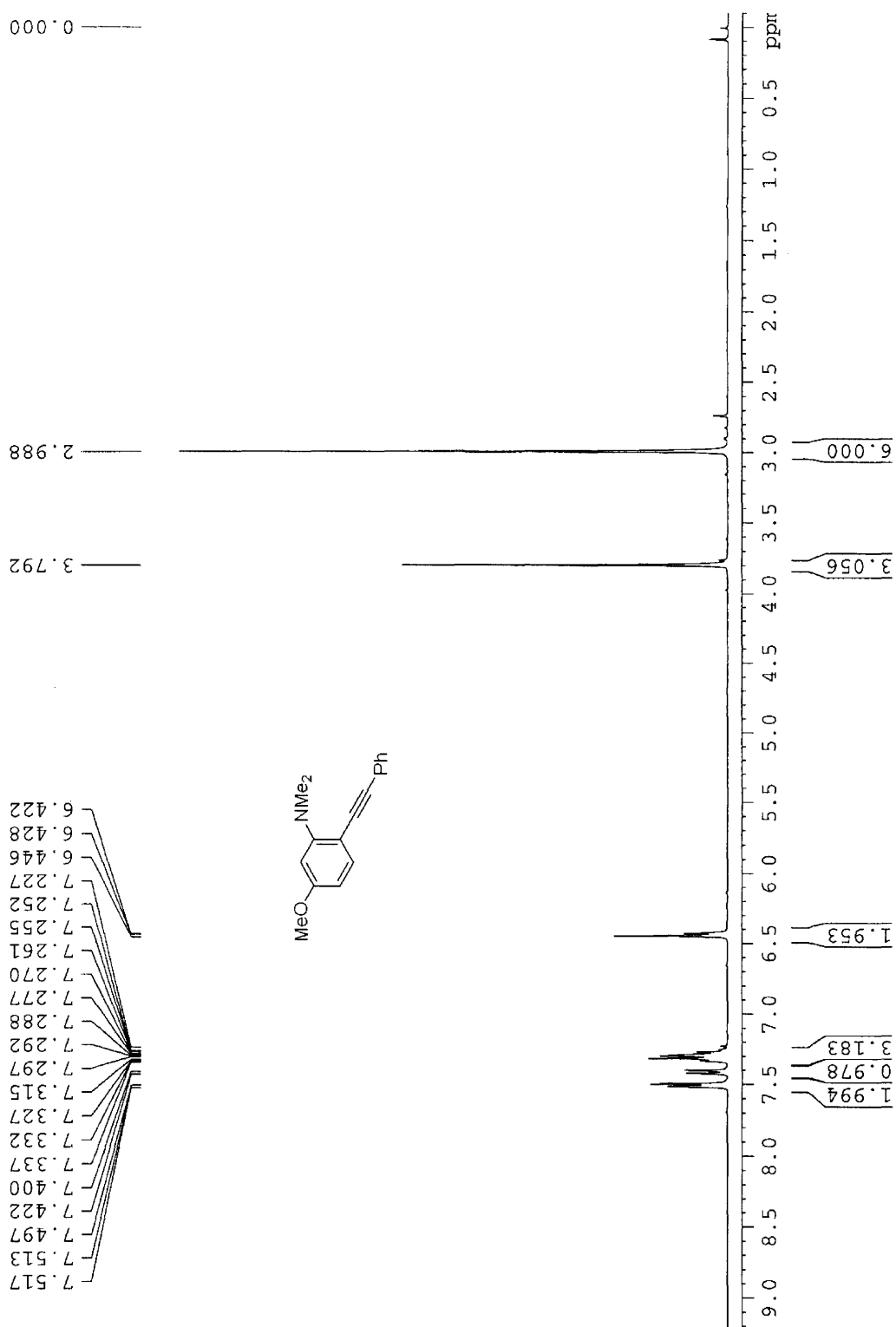
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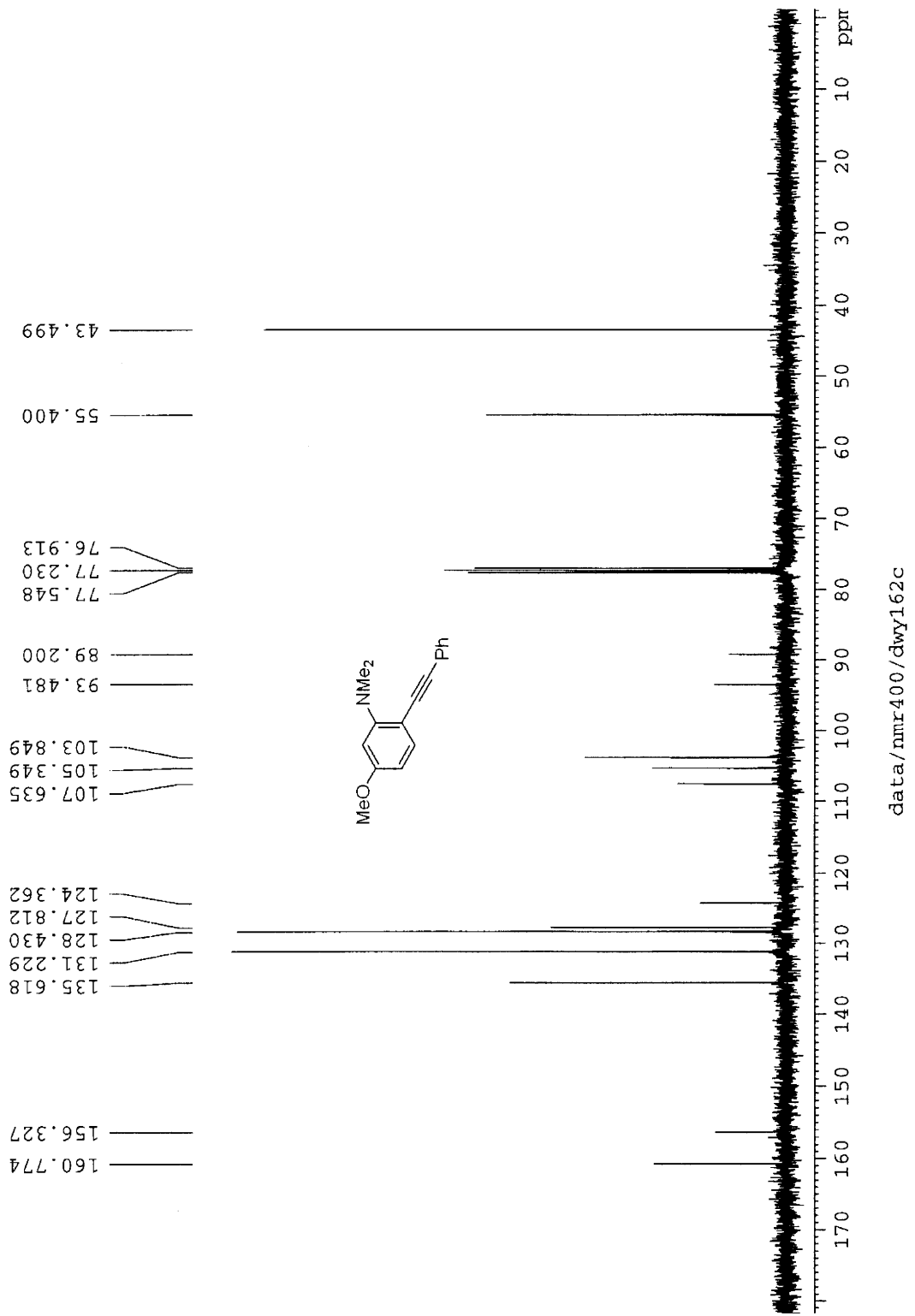


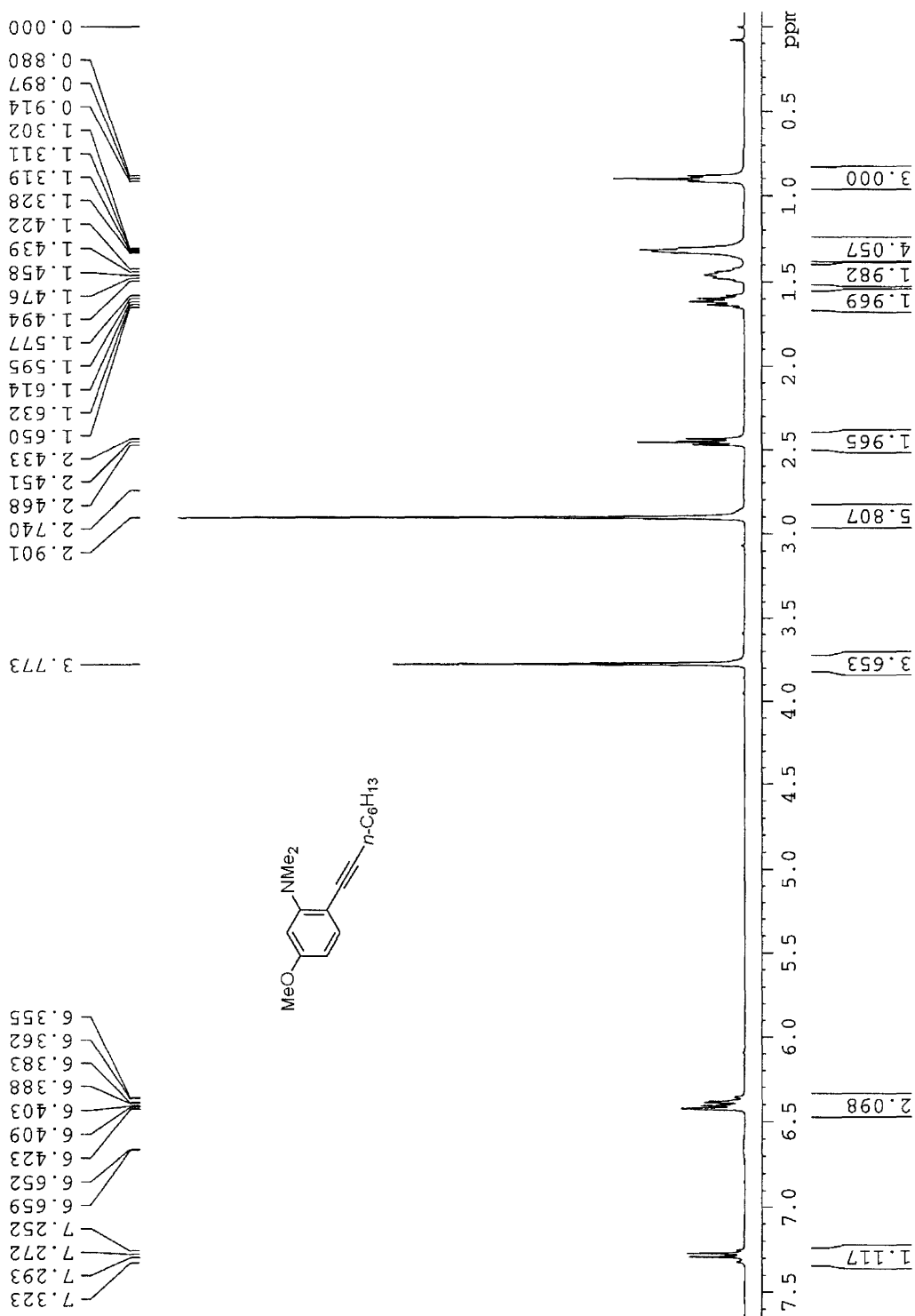
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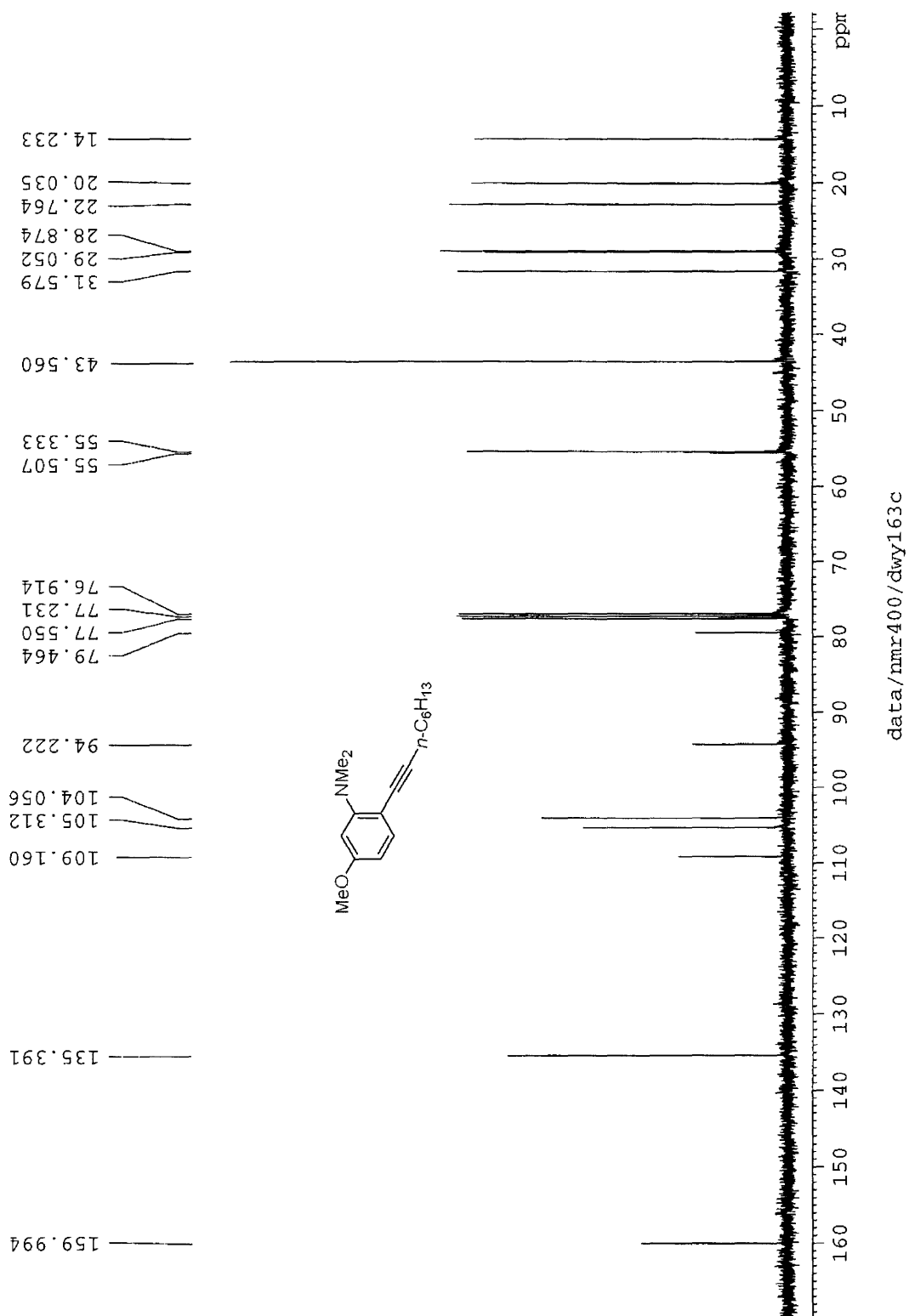


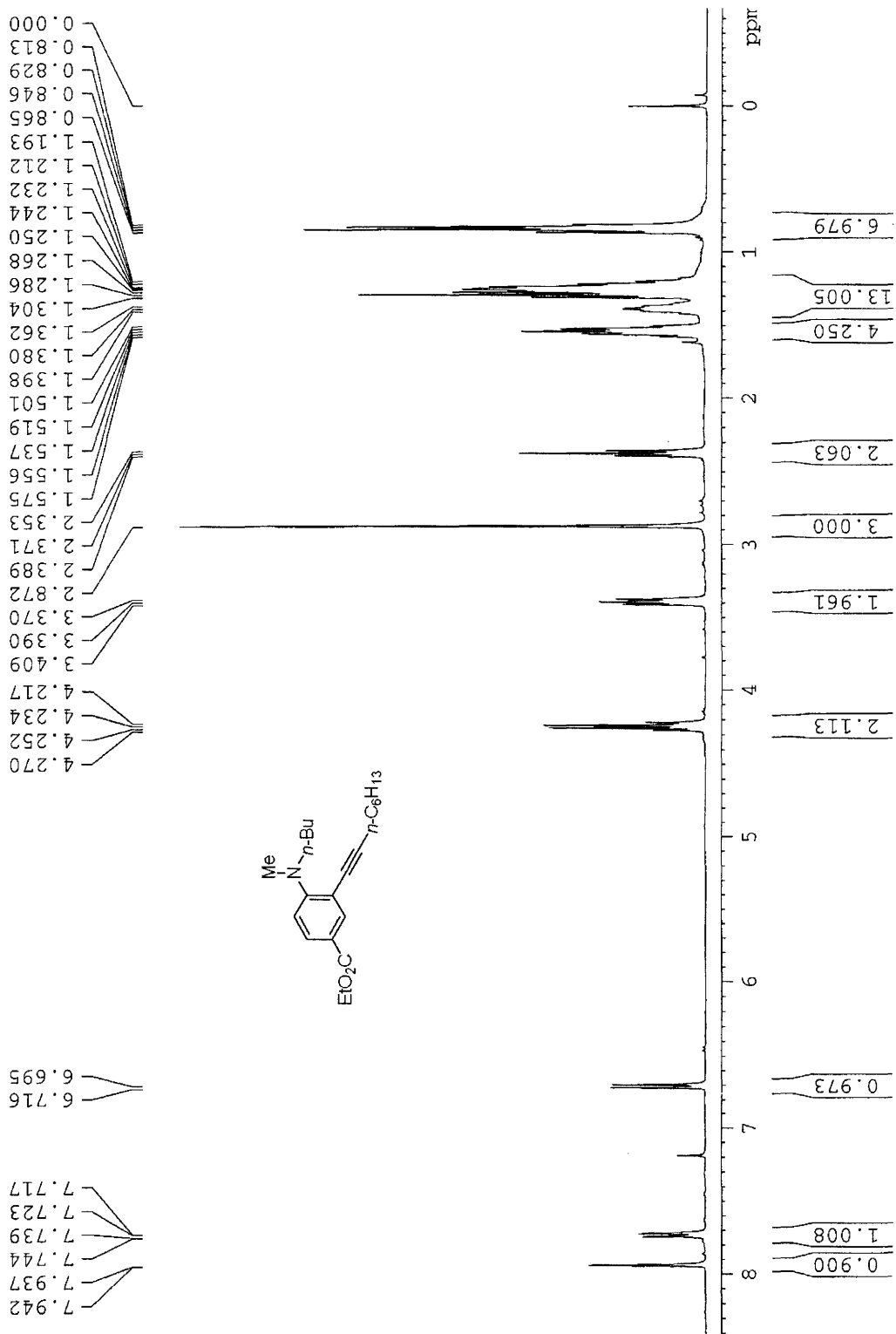
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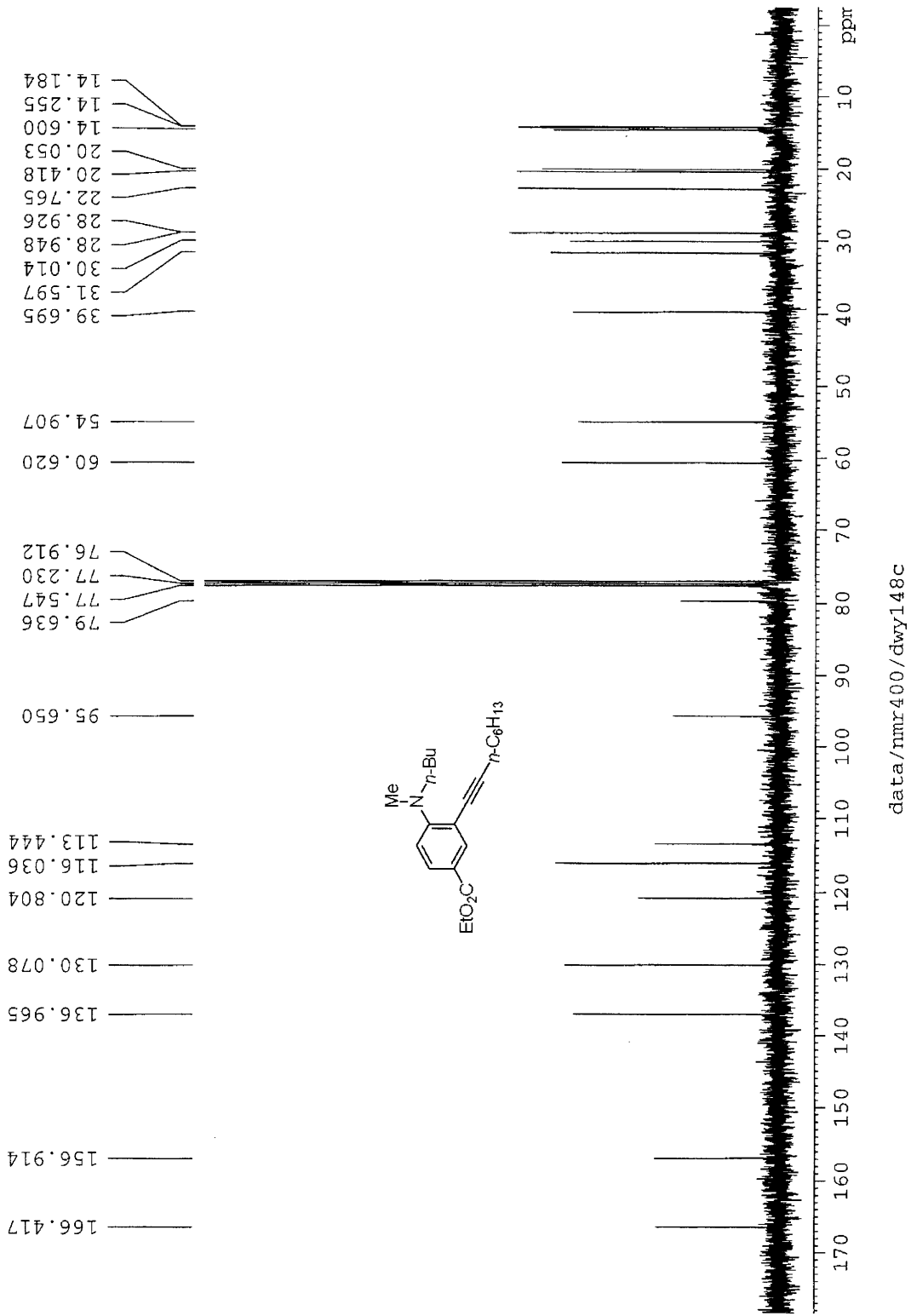


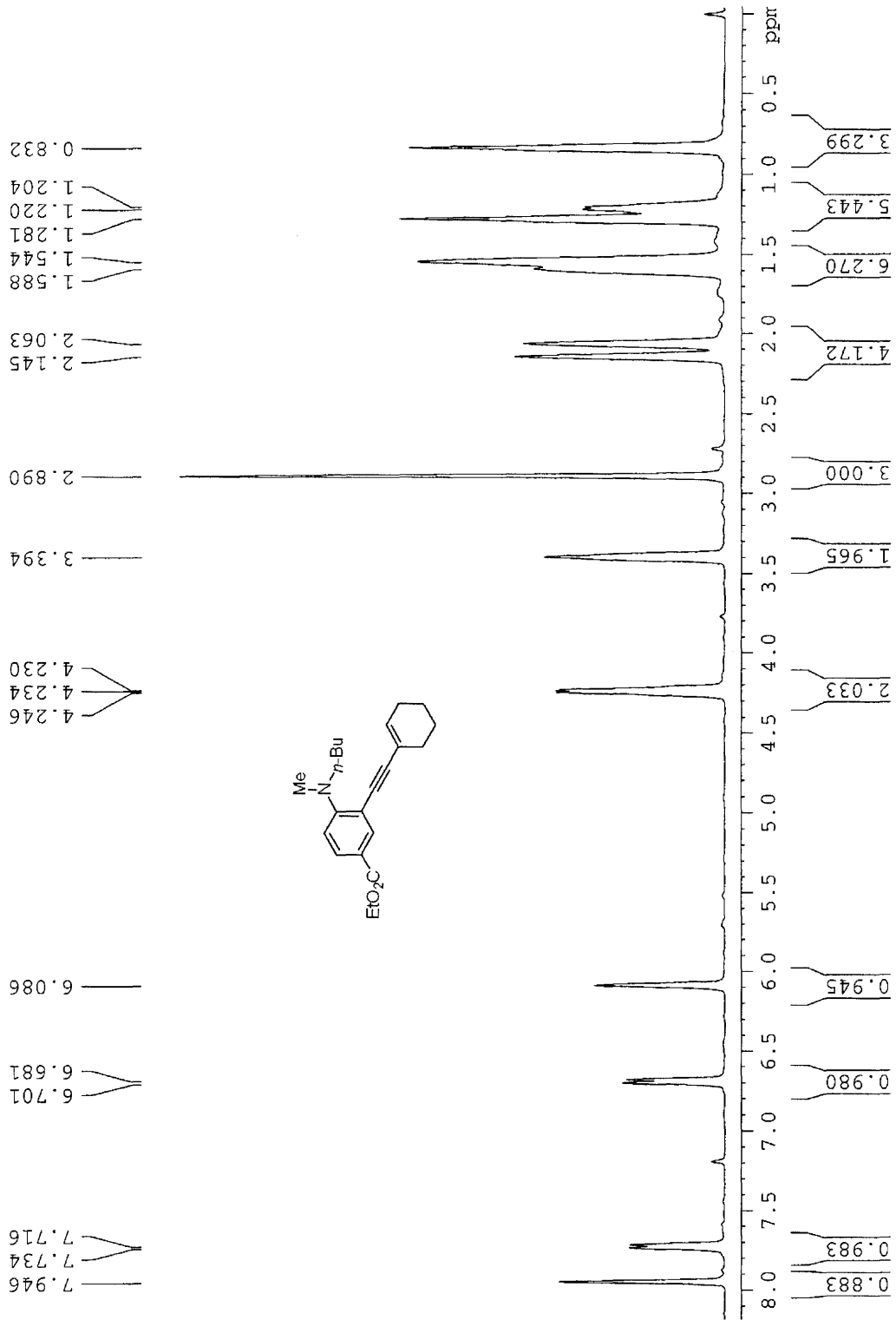
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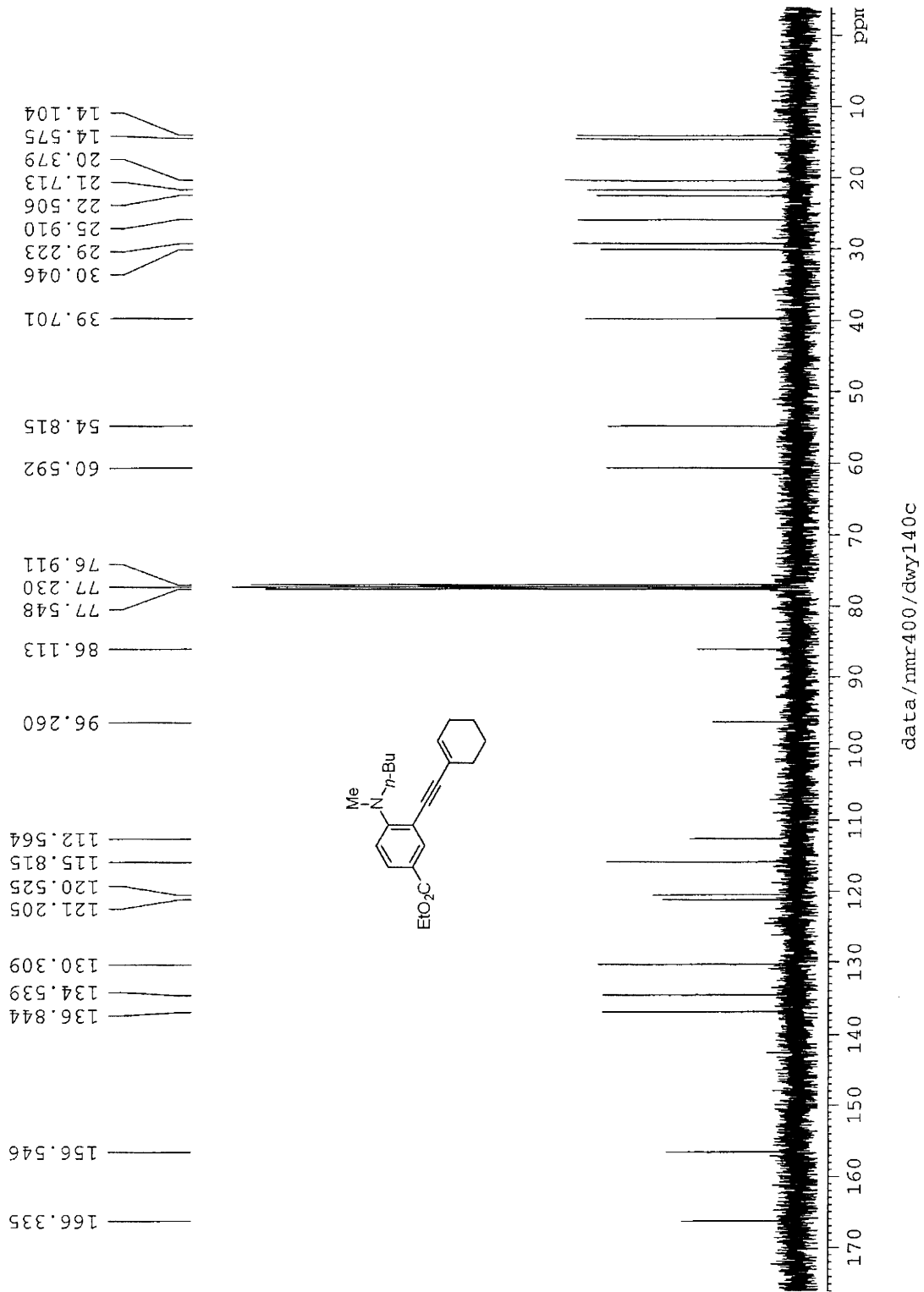


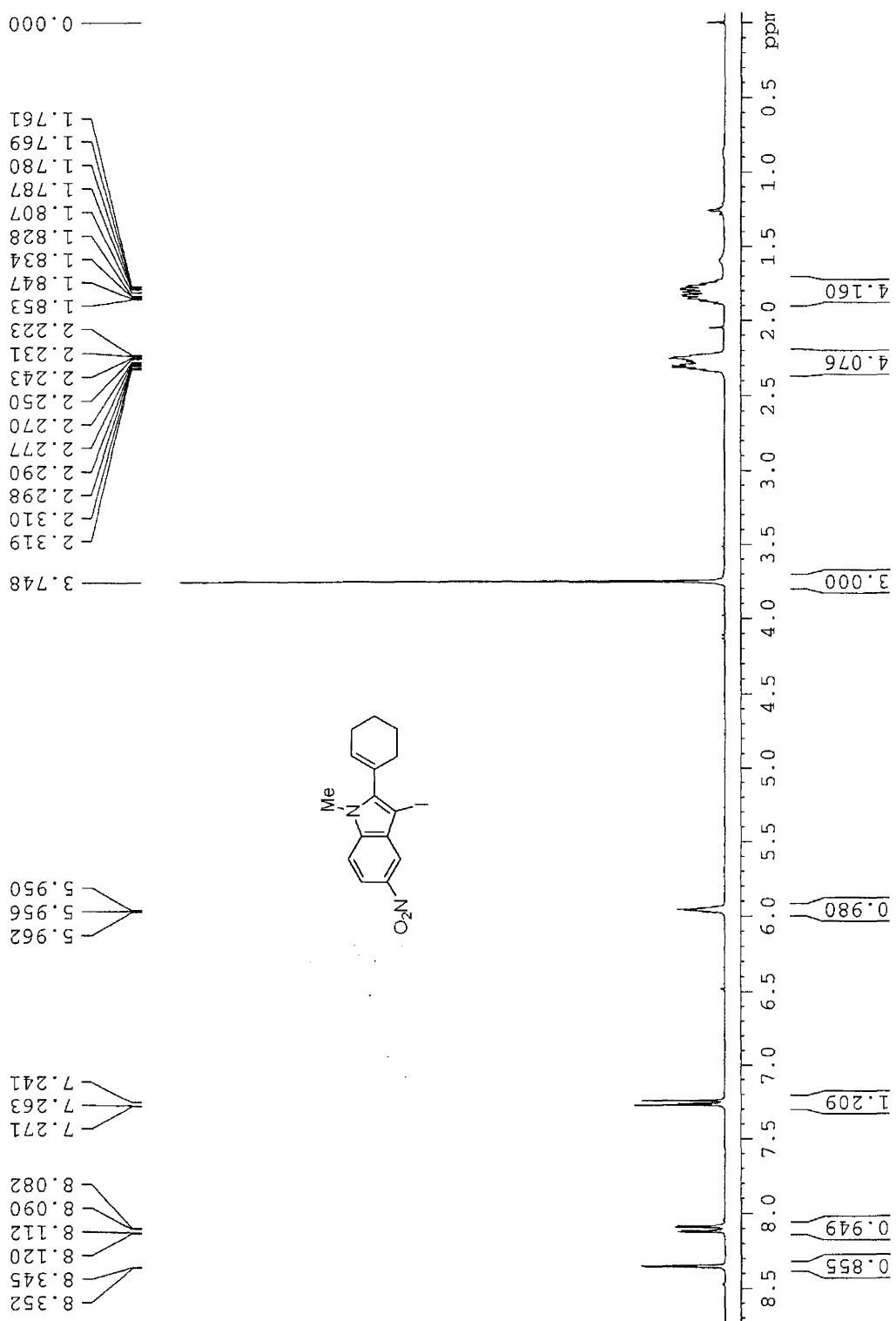
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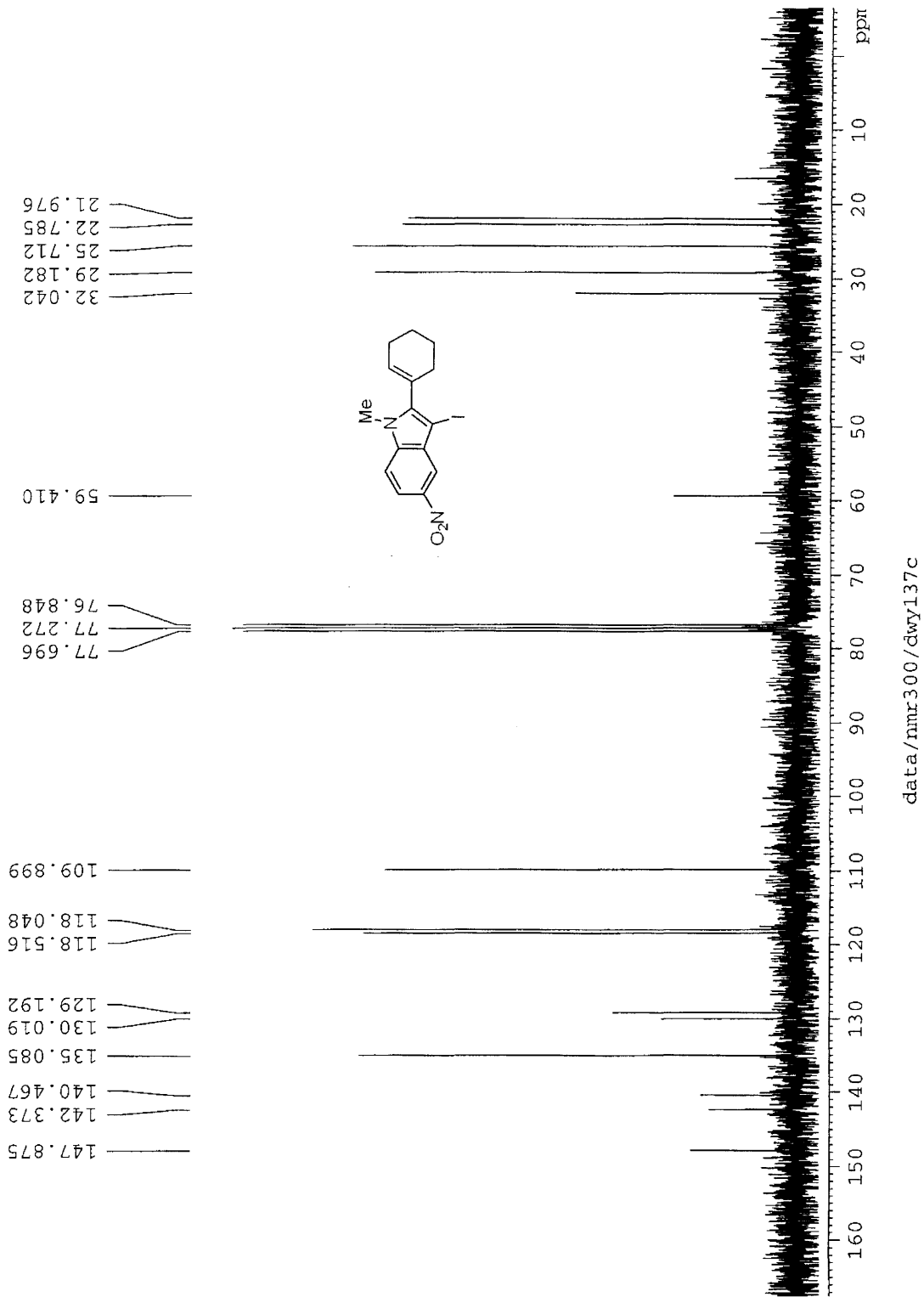


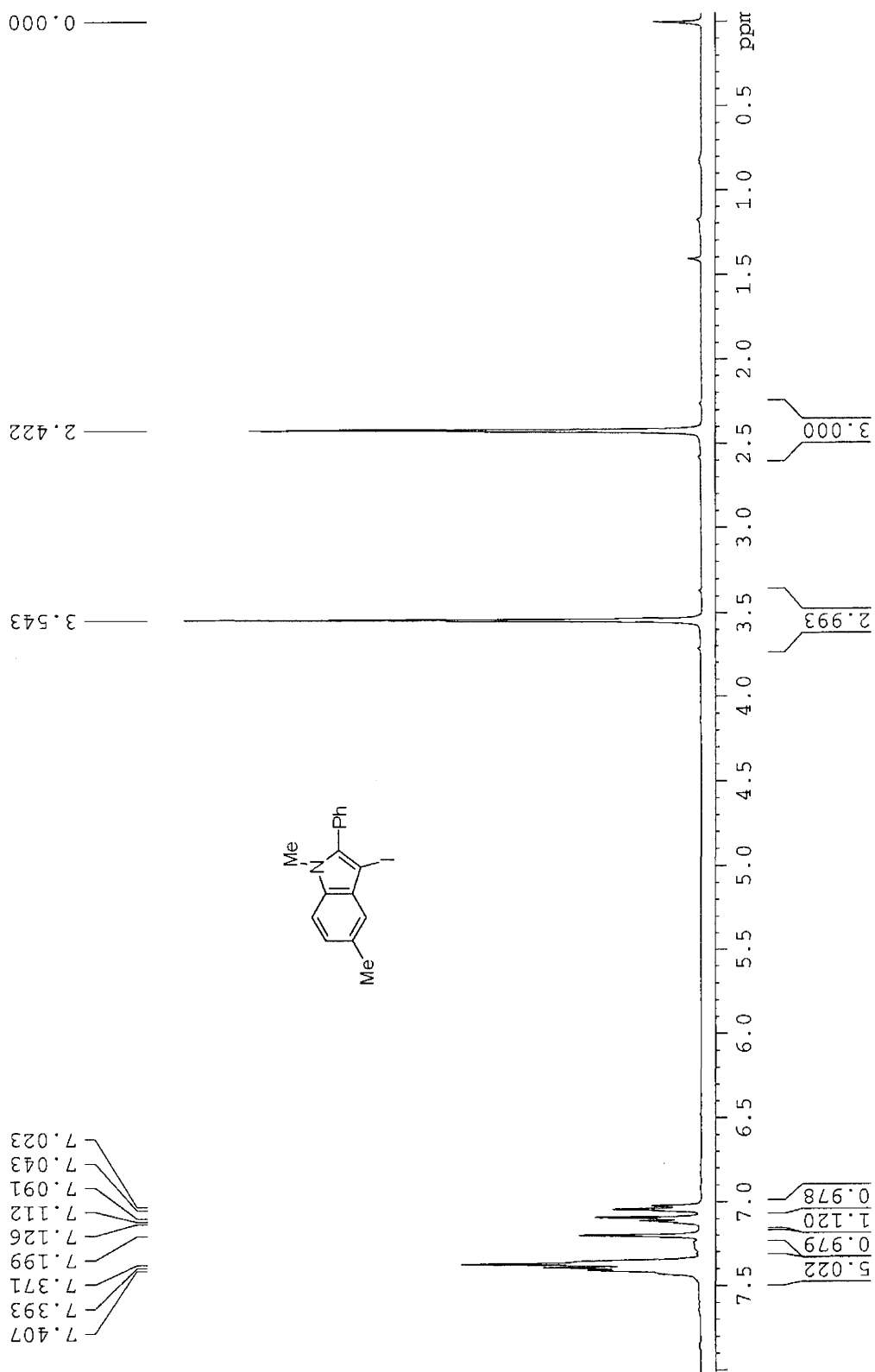


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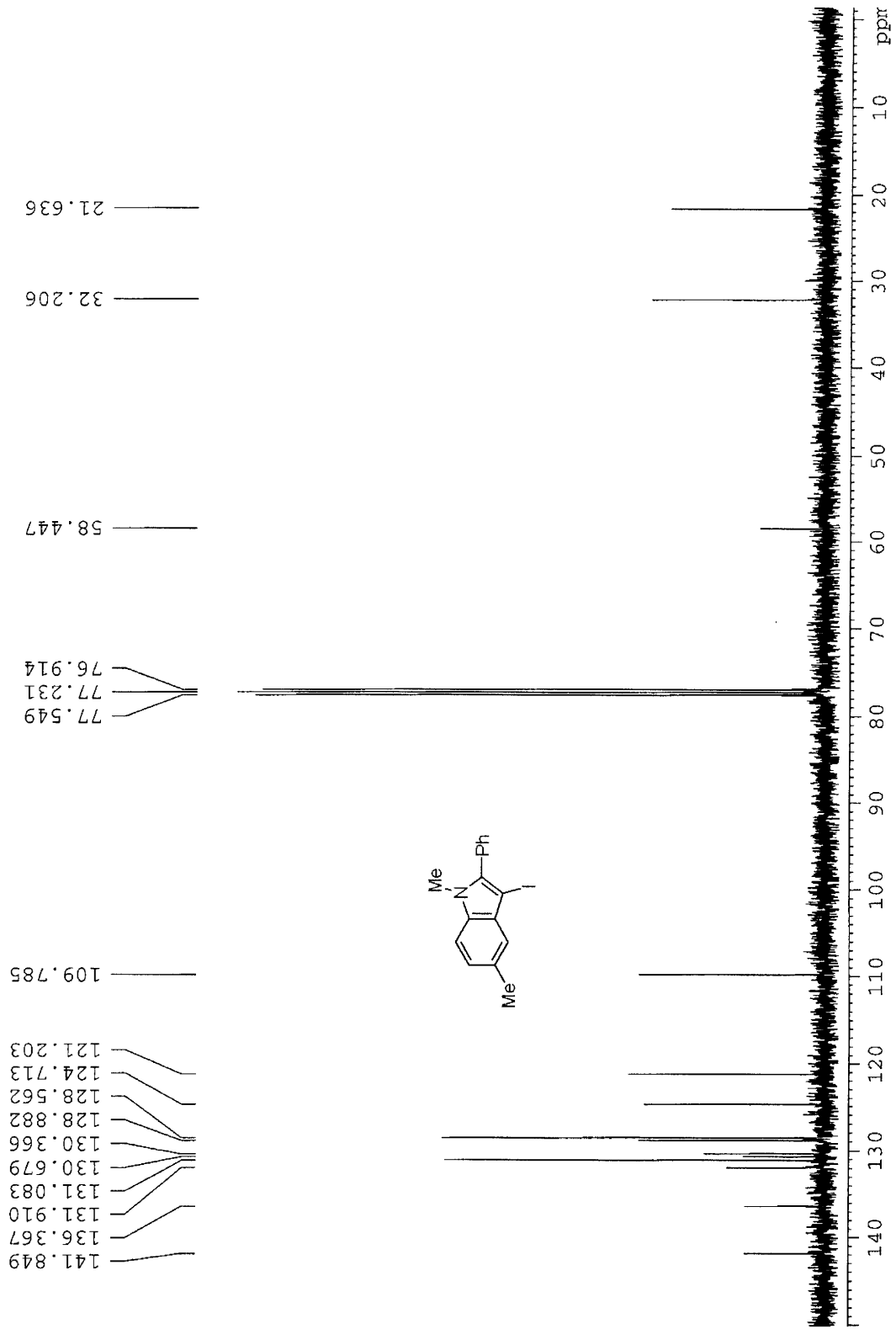


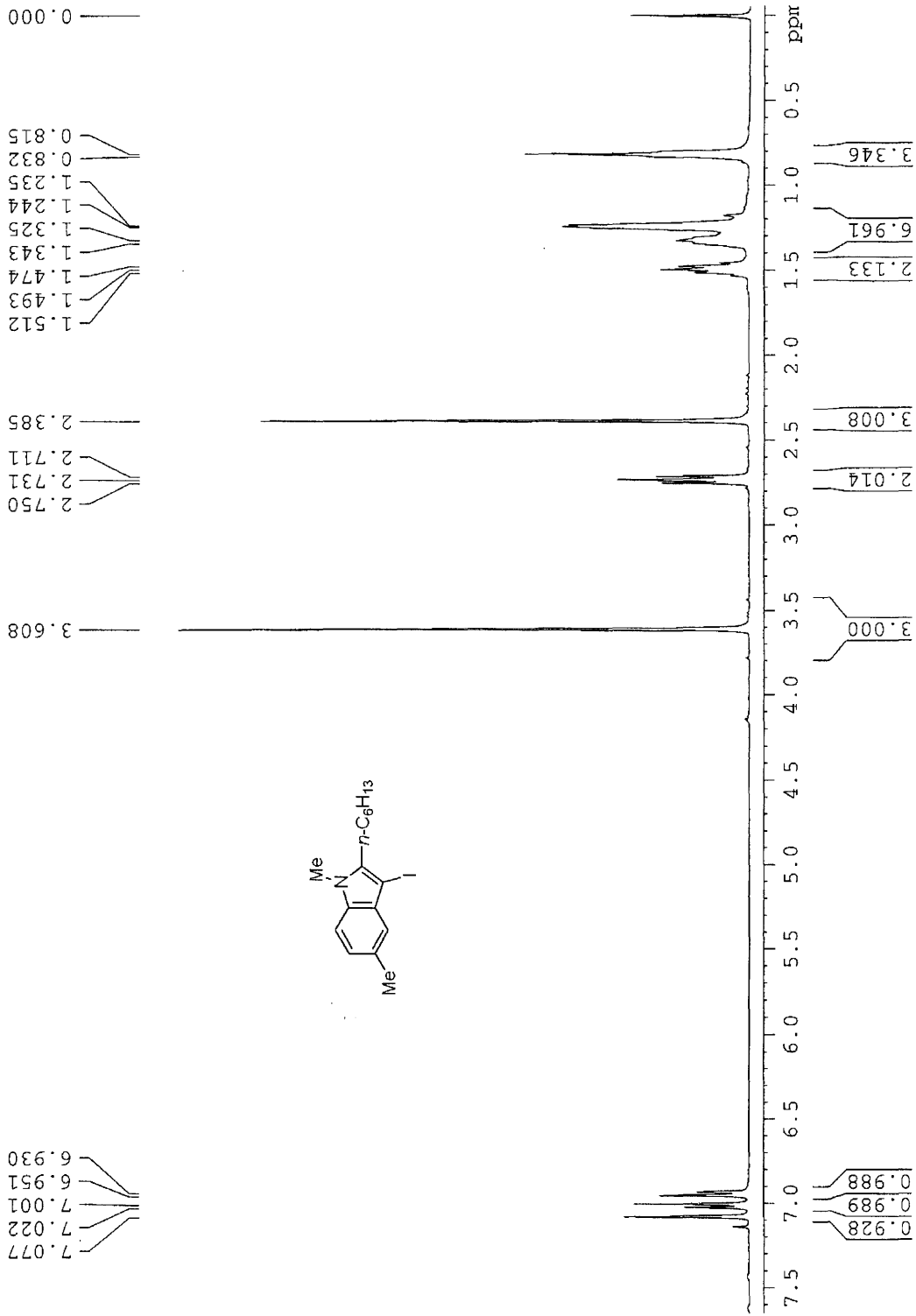




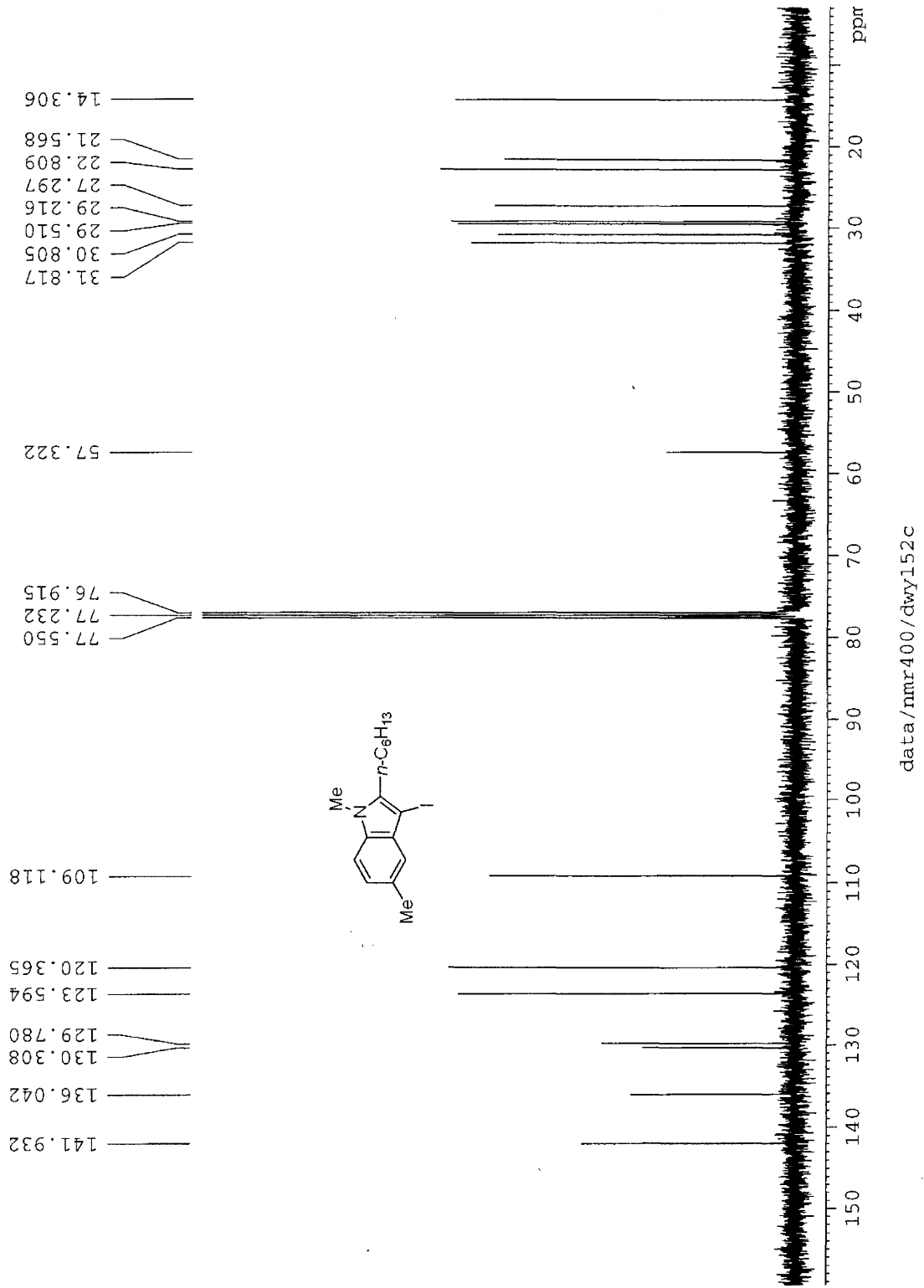


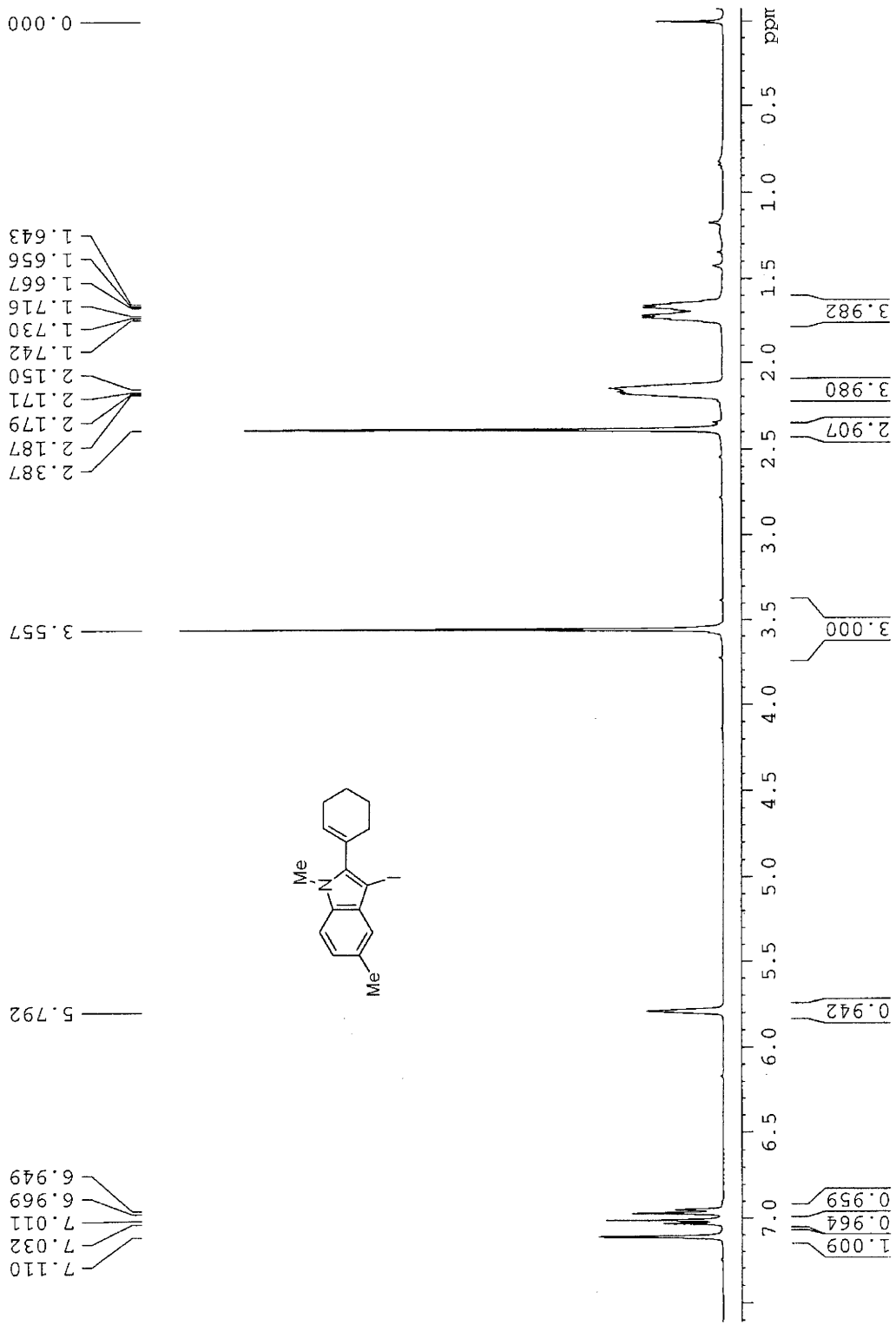
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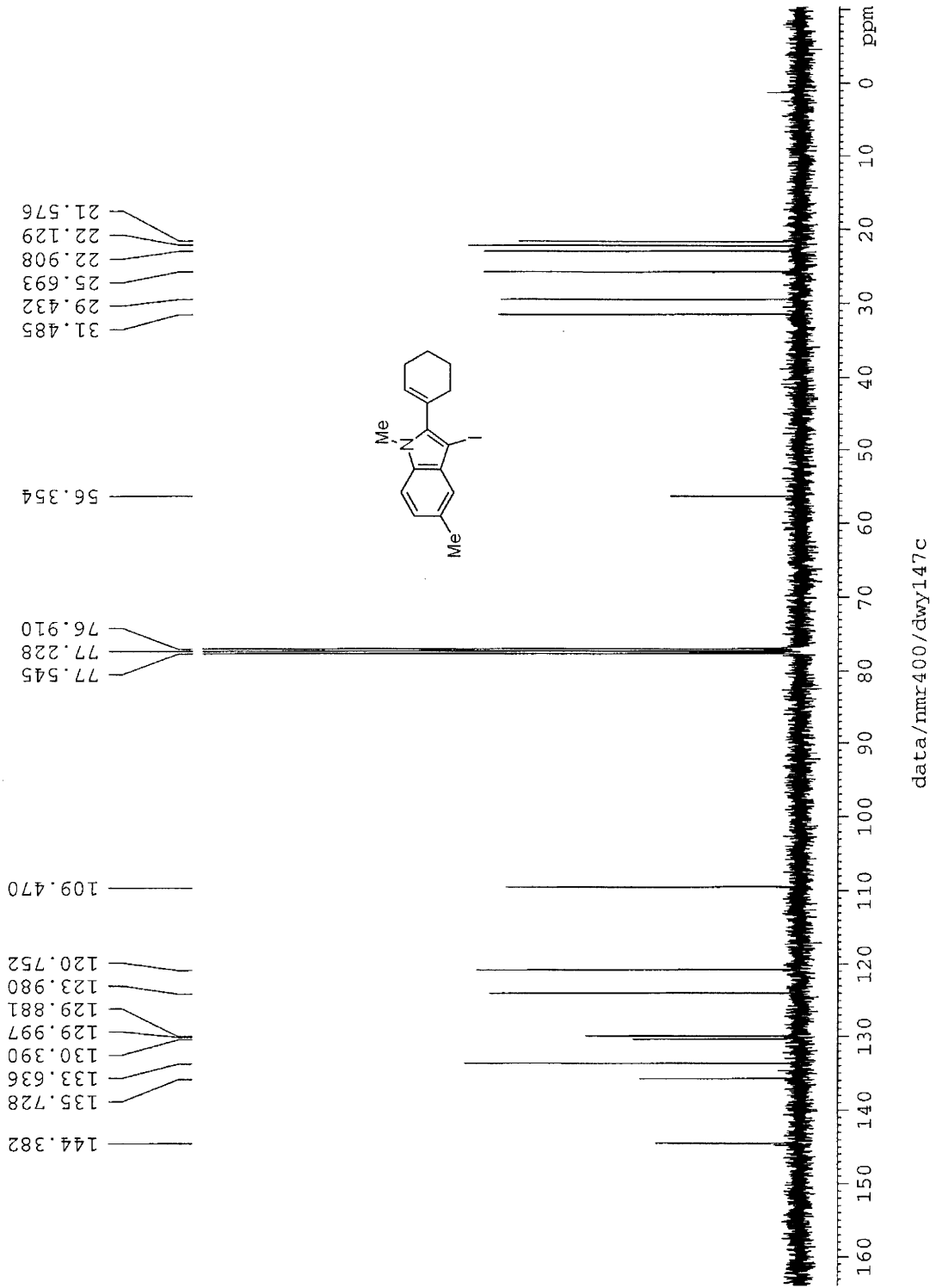


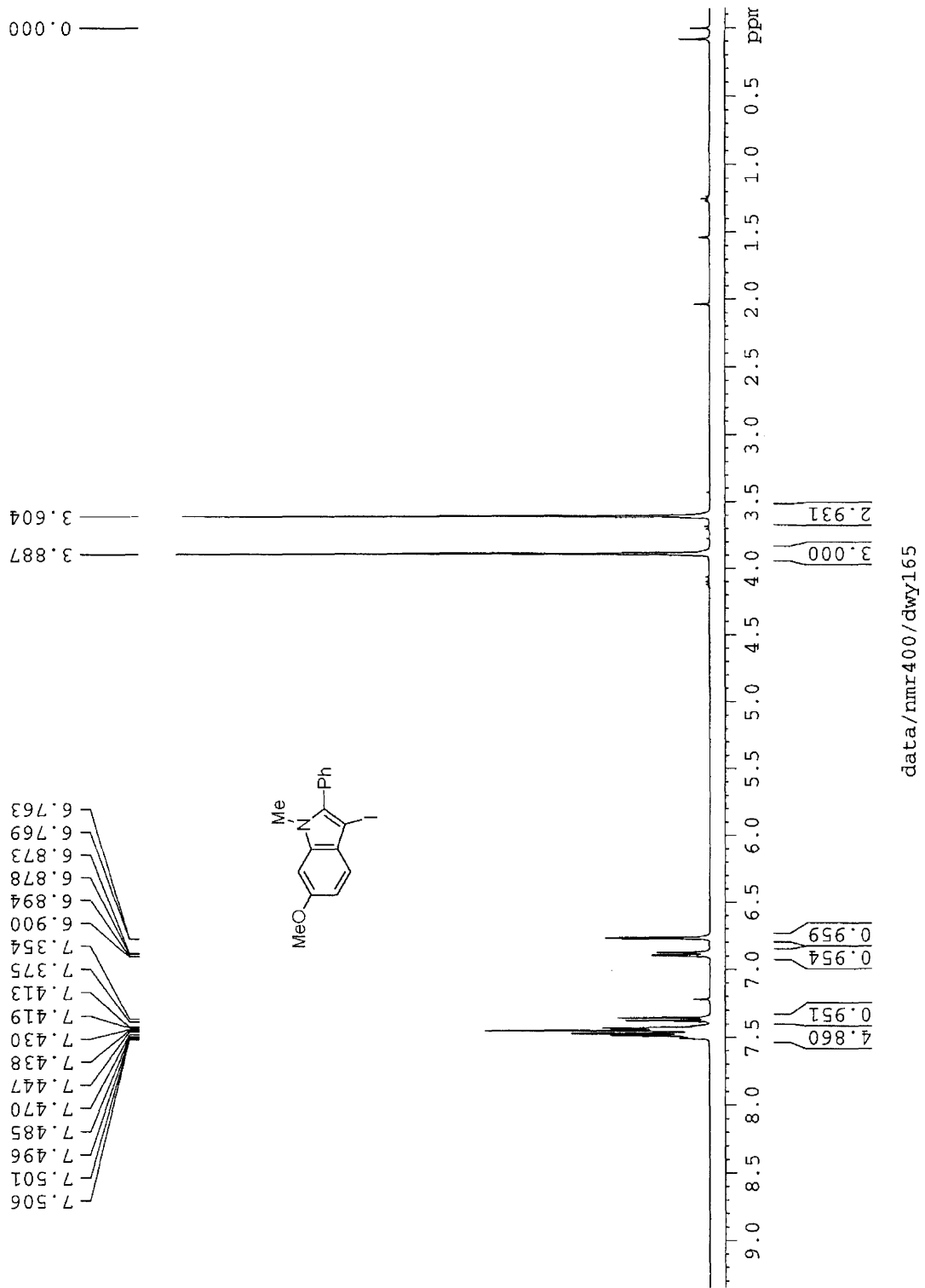
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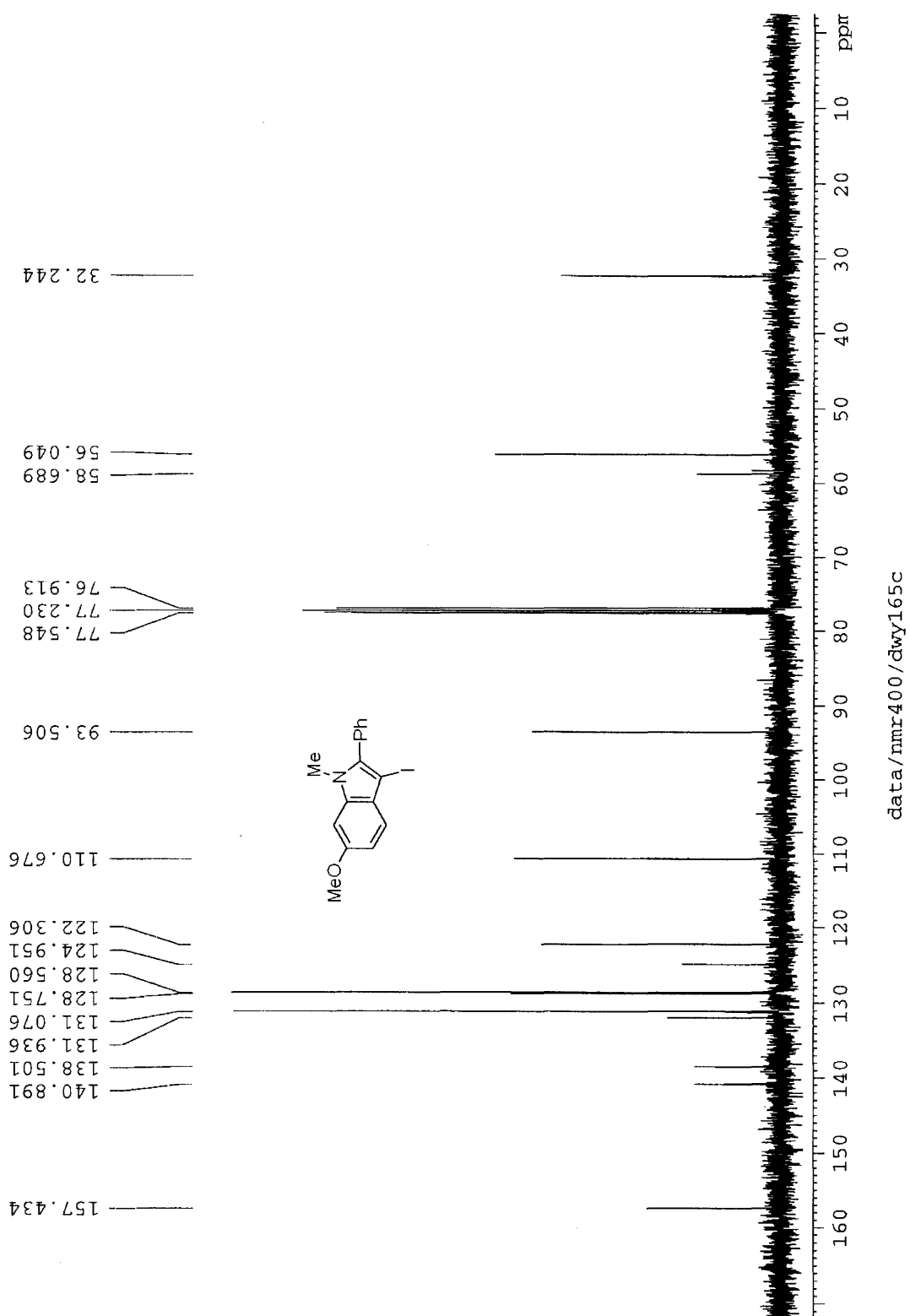


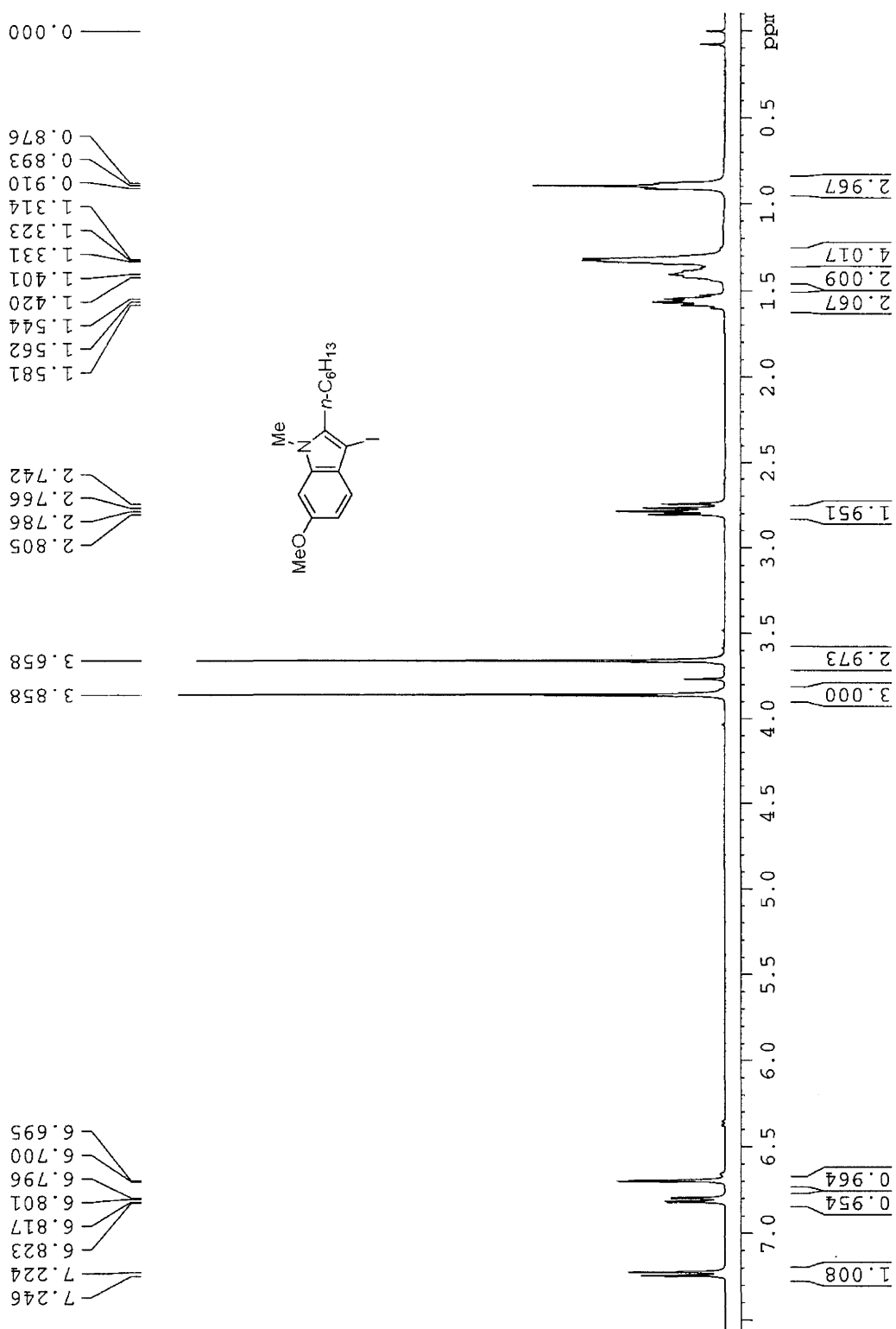


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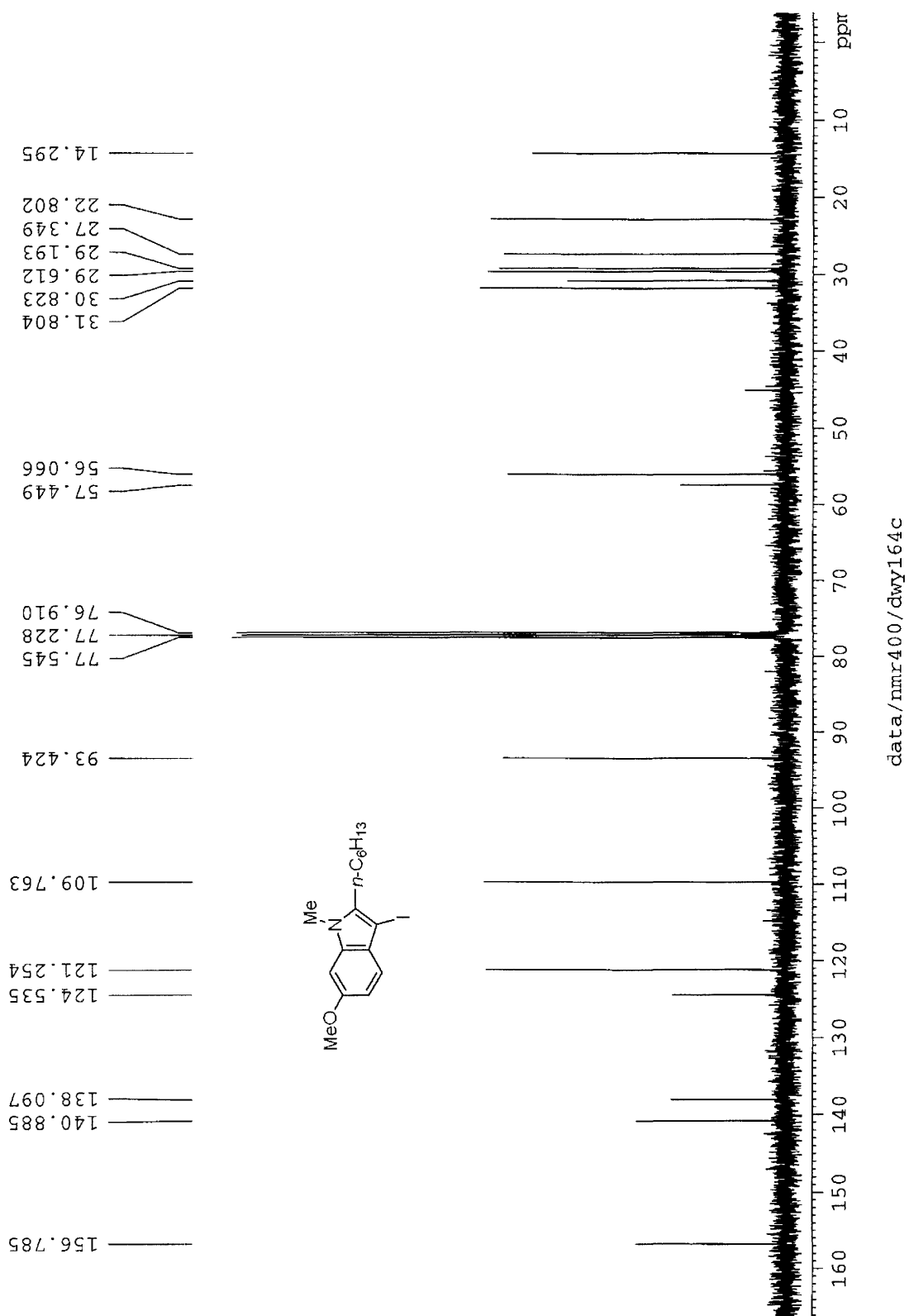


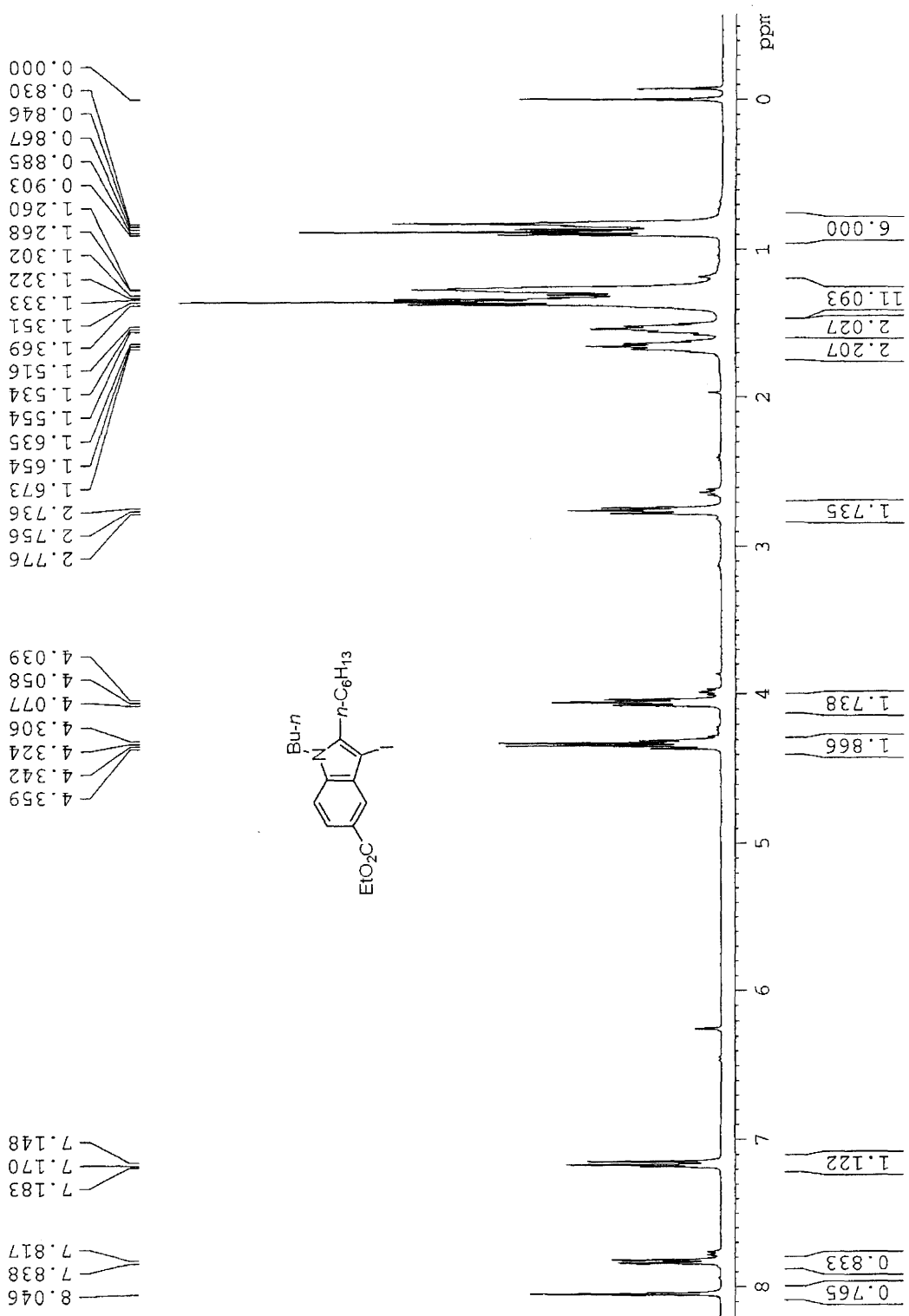




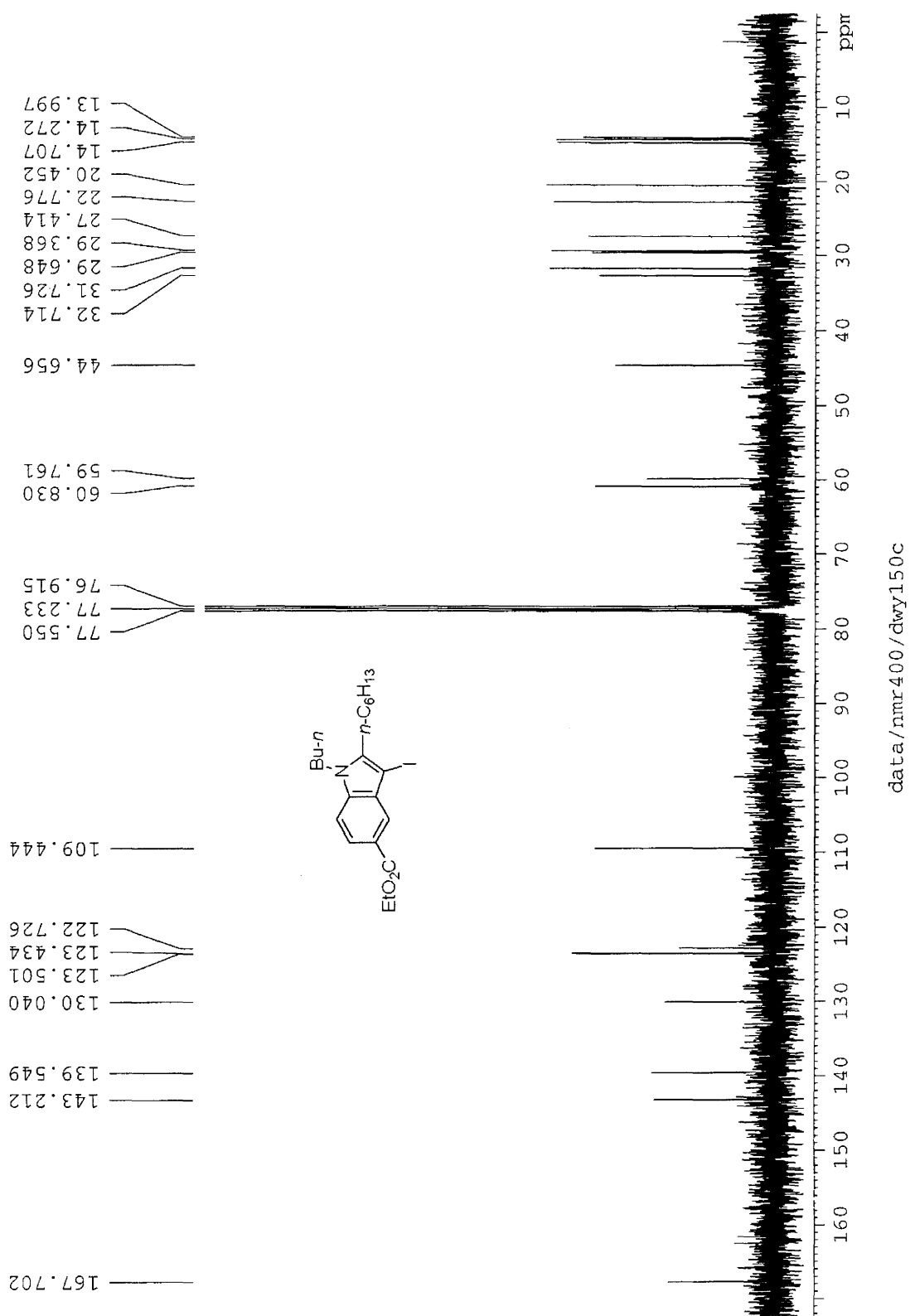


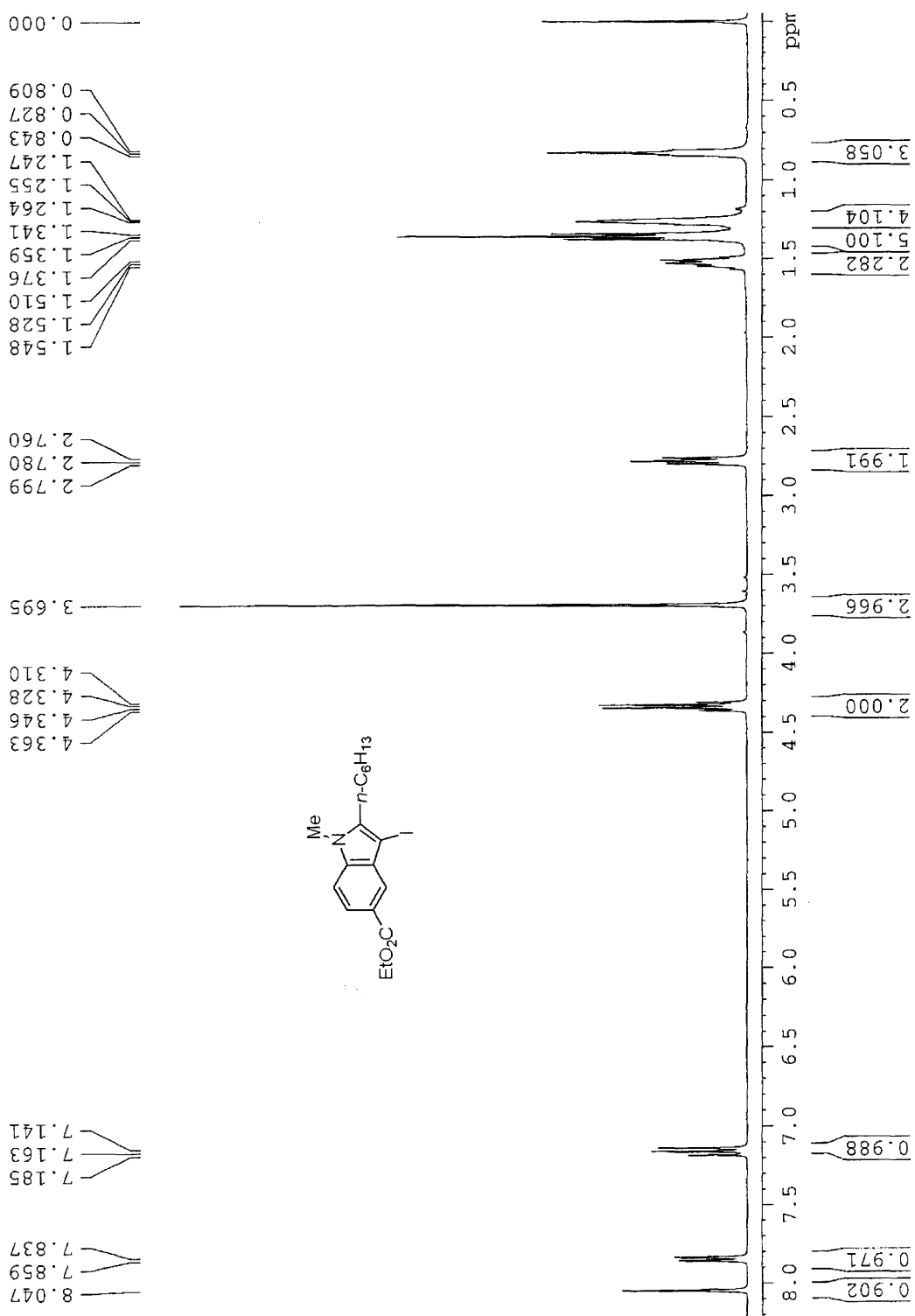
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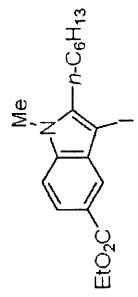
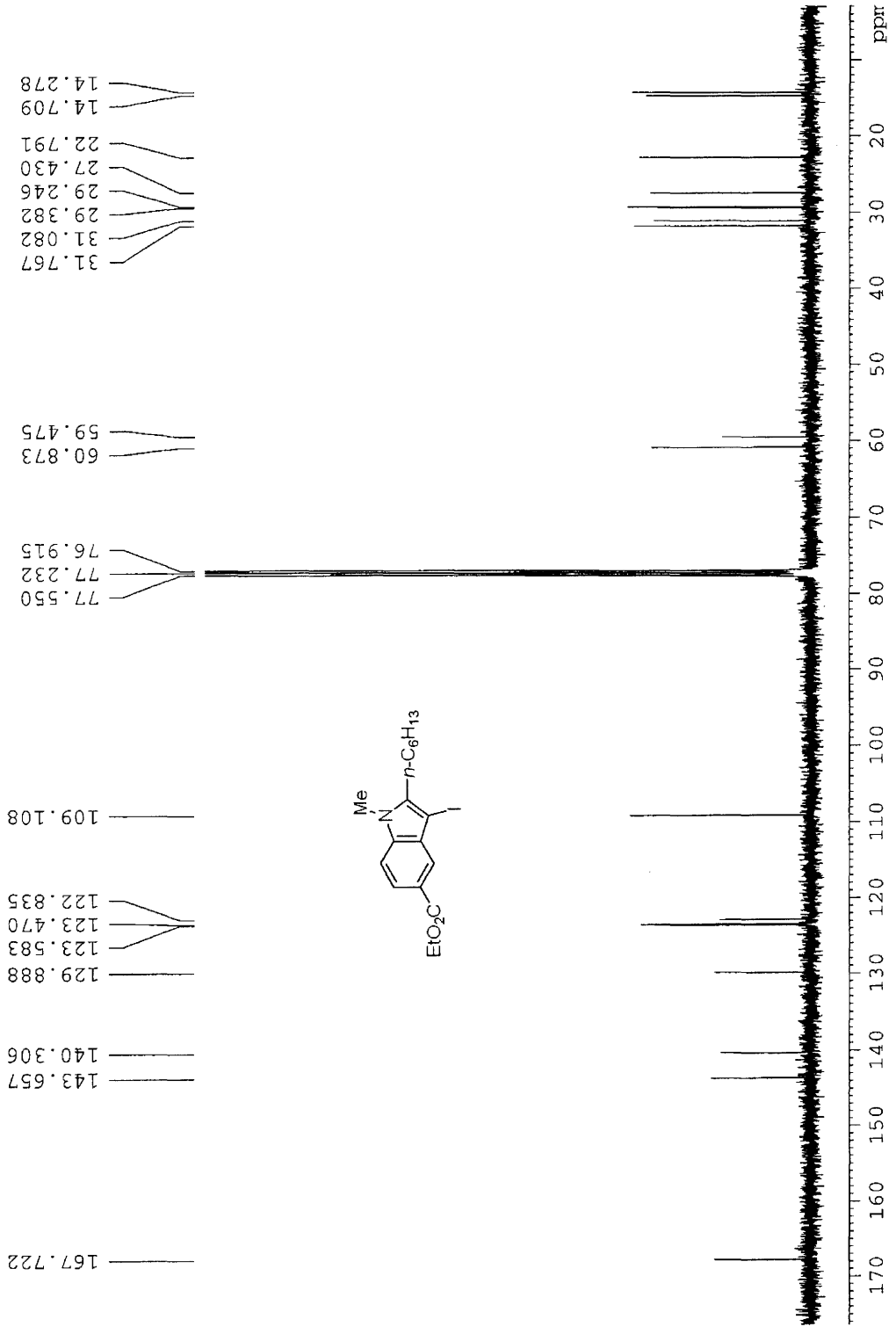


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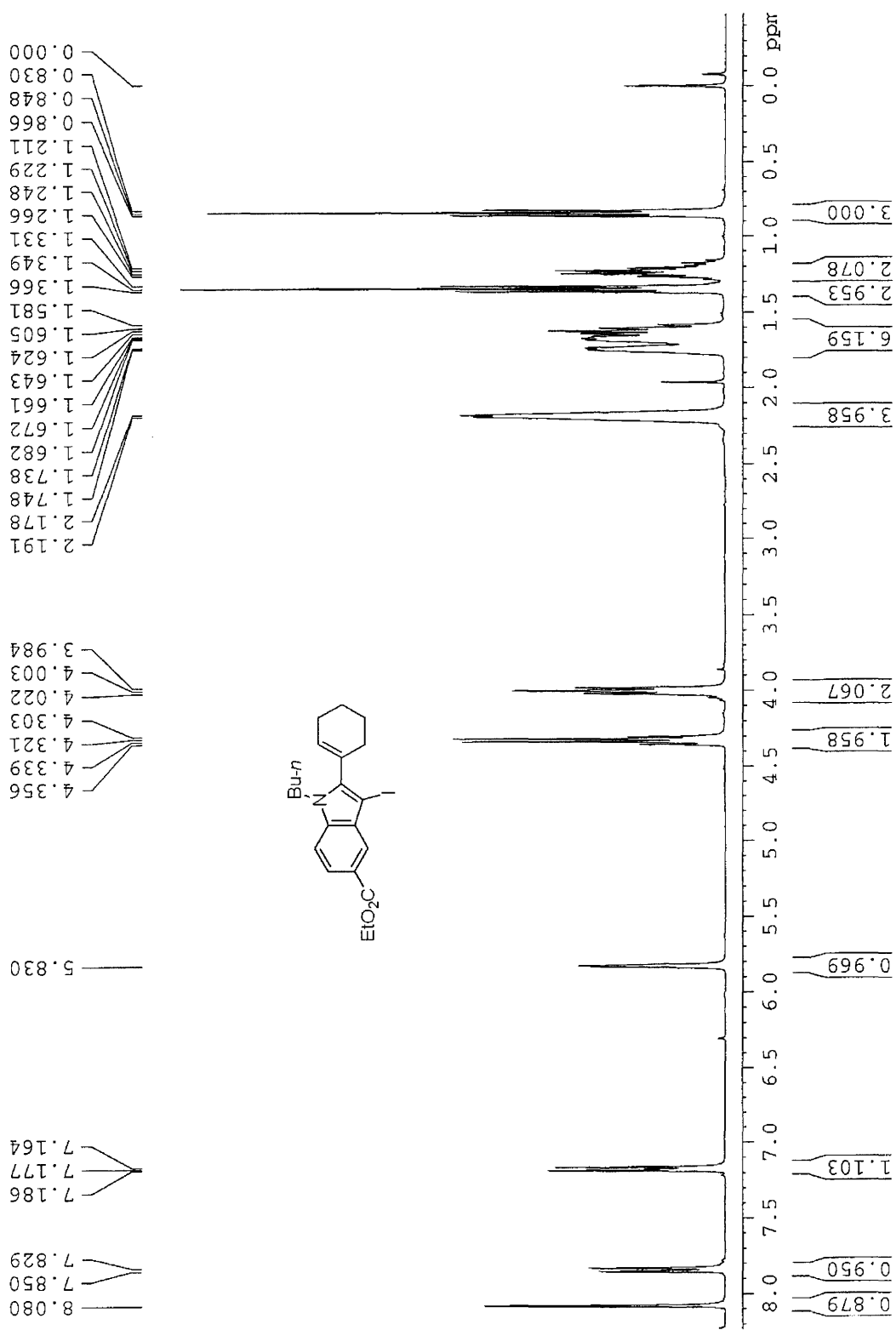




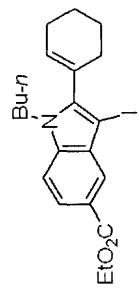
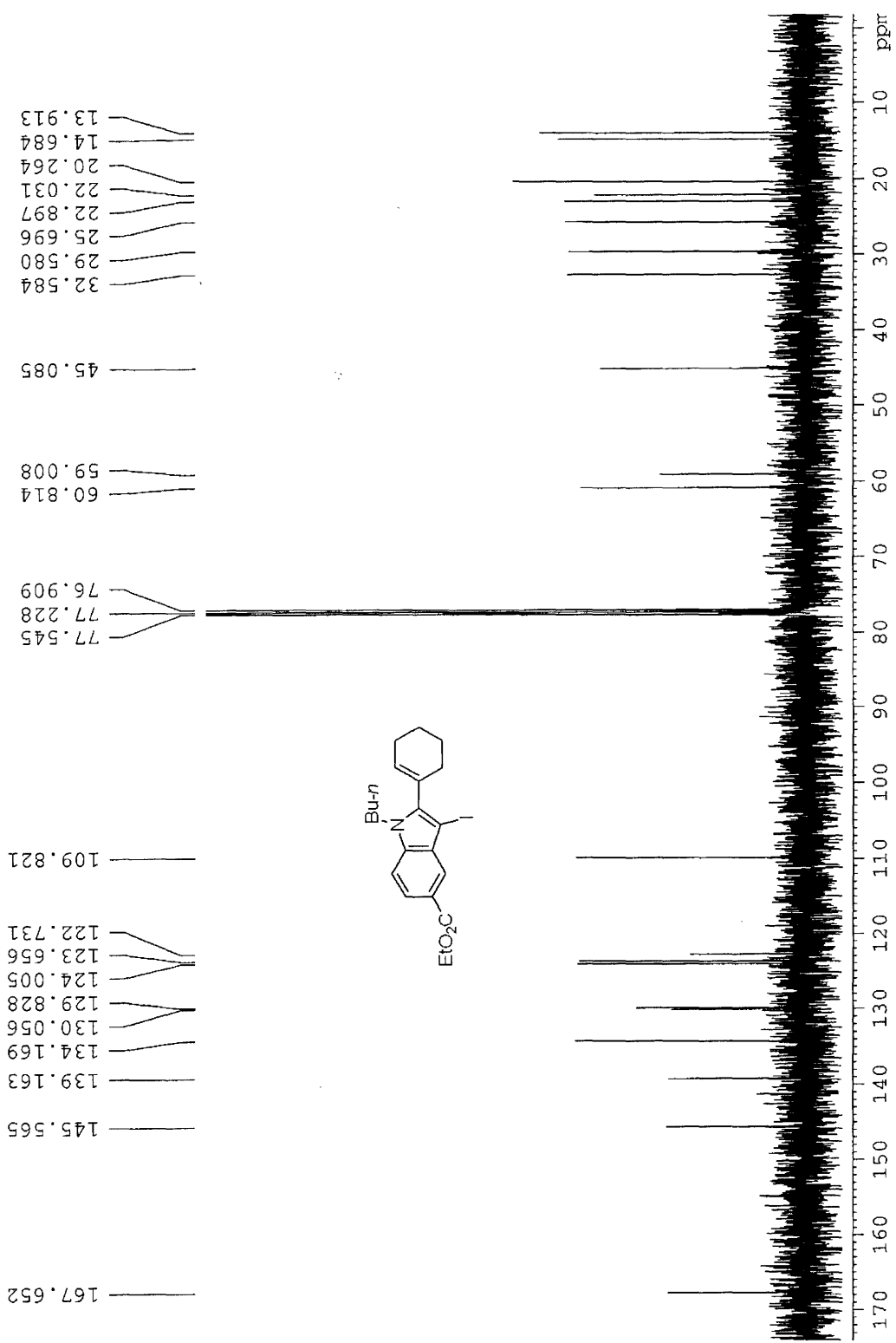
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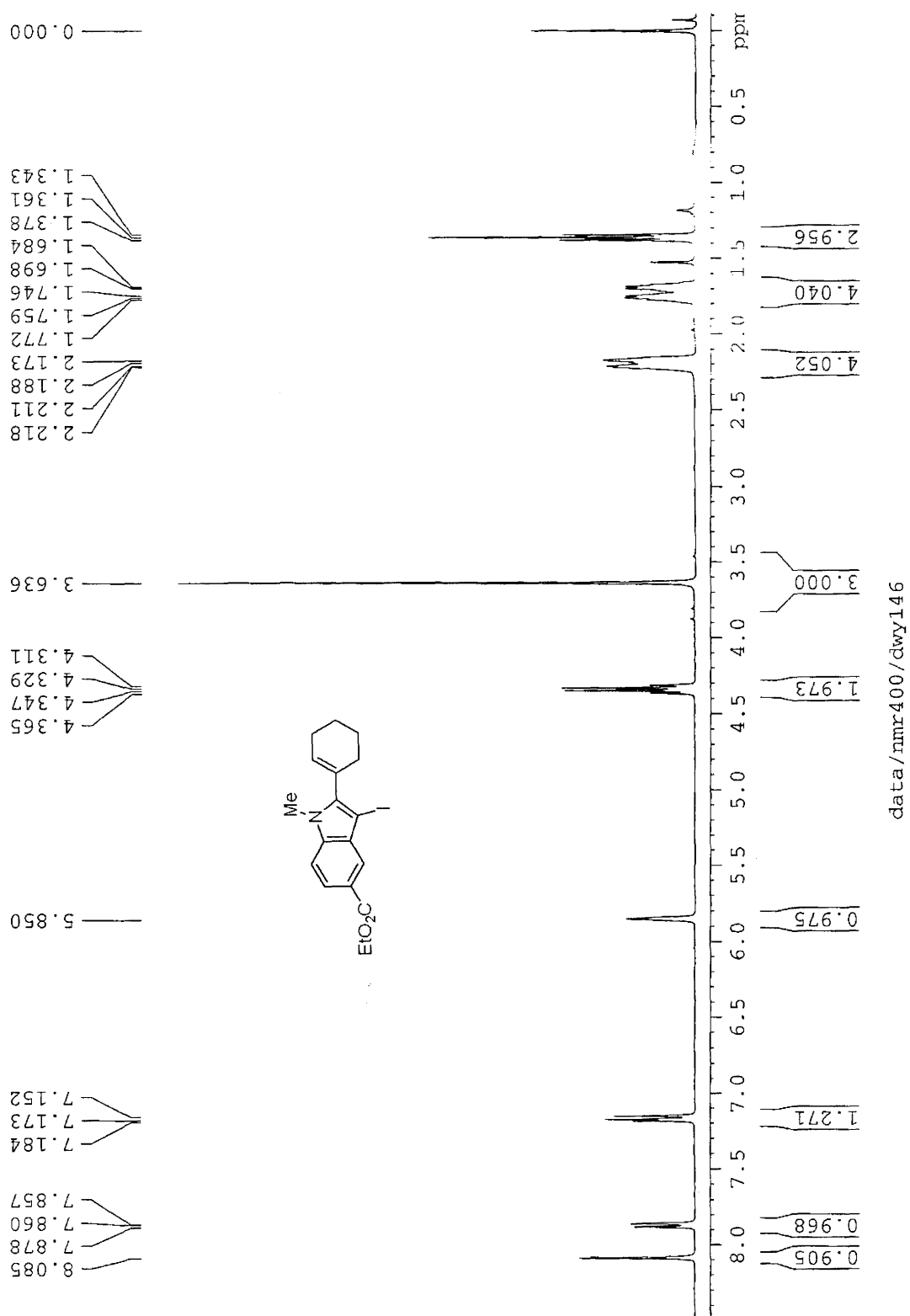
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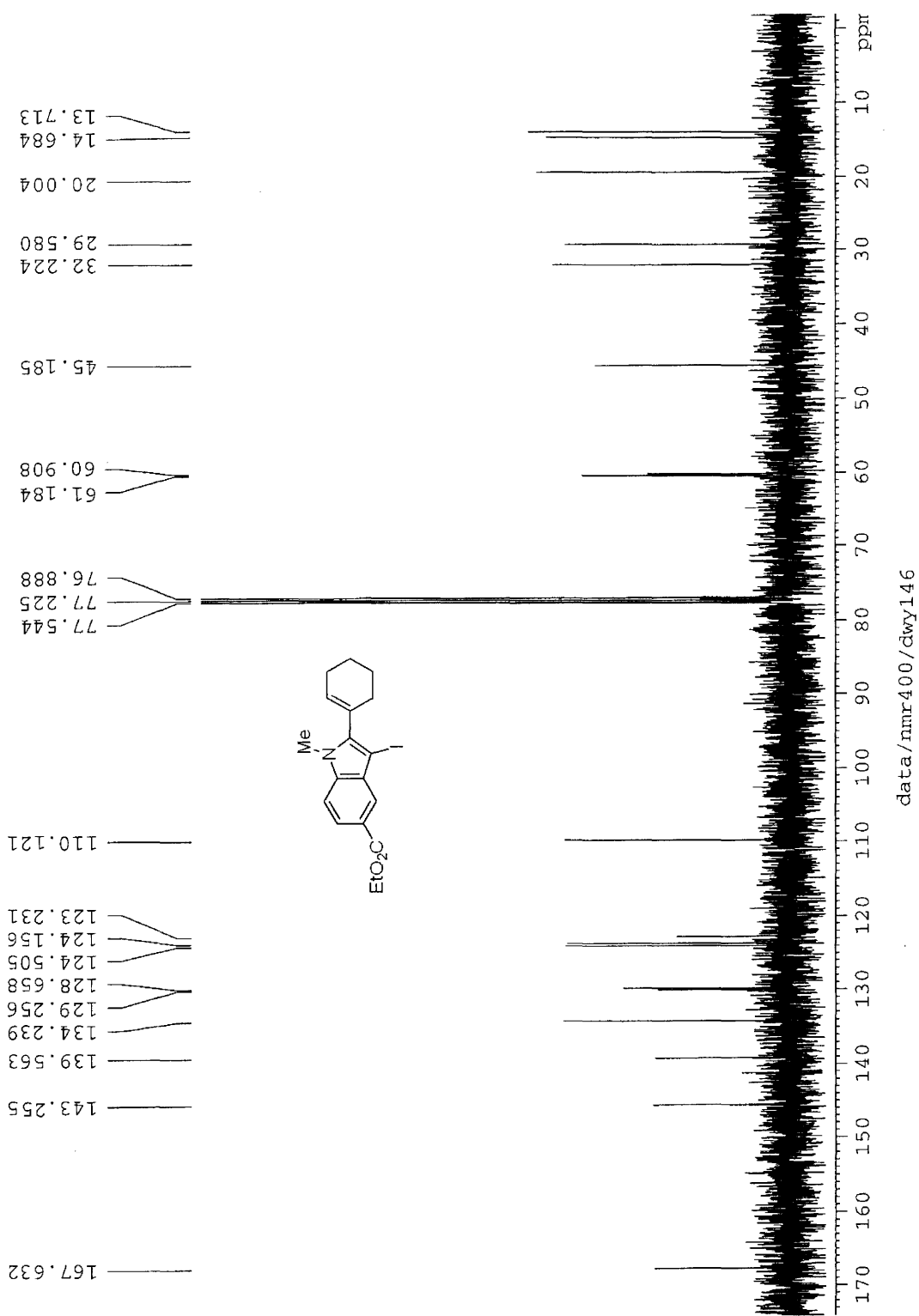


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