

Electrochemical Synthesis of Cyclic Biaryl λ^3 -Bromanes from 2,2'-Dibromobiphenyls**Andrejs Savkins^{a,b}, Igors Sokolovs^{a*}**^a*Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis, Aizkraukles 21, LV-1006, Riga, Latvia*^b*Faculty of Medicine and Life Sciences, Department of Chemistry, University of Latvia**Jelgavas 1, LV-1004, Riga, Latvia*igorss@osi.lv**CONTENTS**

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General Information

Unless otherwise noted, all chemicals were used as received from commercial sources. Anhydrous THF was obtained by passing commercially available anhydrous solvents through activated alumina columns. Et₄N–BF₄ was dried under reduced pressure at 90 °C for 5 h prior the use. The glassy carbon electrodes

(SIGRADUR G) were purchased from HTW GmbH, Germany. The solvent 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoro-2-propanol (99%) was purchased from Fluorochem, UK, and used as received. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on pre-coated silica gel F-254 plates. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on NMR spectrometers at the following frequencies: ¹H, 400 or 300 MHz; ¹³C{¹H}, 100.6 or 75 MHz; ¹⁹F, 376.3 MHz. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm) with the residual solvent peak as an internal reference. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on mass spectrometers with a time-of-flight (TOF) mass analyzer using ESI techniques.

Synthesis of bromobiphenyls 4 for electrochemical oxidation

General procedure A for esterification of carboxylic acids S1

A flame-dried round-bottom flask was flushed with a stream of argon and charged with carboxylic acid **S1** (1.0 equiv) and absolute EtOH (1.5 mL per mmol of carboxylic acid **S1**). Thionyl chloride (3.0 equiv) was then added dropwise, and the resulting yellowish solution was heated under reflux for 3 h. It was cooled to room temperature and all volatiles were removed by distillation under reduced pressure. Saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution (30 mL) was added, and the yellowish semi-solid residue was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3x20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water, brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford an oil.

Ethyl 2-bromo-3-nitrobenzoate (**S2a**).



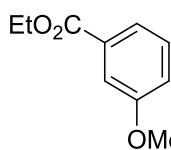
Following General Procedure A, 2-bromo-3-nitrobenzoic acid **S1a** (2.50 g, 10.16 mmol) was converted into **S2a**. Yellowish oil (2.64 g, 95% yield).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.83 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.7 Hz), 7.75

(1H, dd, $J = 7.9, 1.7$ Hz), 7.51 (1H, t, $J = 7.9$ Hz), 4.43 (2H, q, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.41 (3H, t, $J = 7.1$ Hz);

$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 165.3, 152.1, 136.4, 133.0, 128.3, 126.6, 112.8, 62.6, 14.2;

Elemental analysis (%): calculated for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_8\text{BrNO}_4$: C, 39.44; H, 2.94; N, 5.11; found: C, 39.47; H, 2.96; N, 5.10.

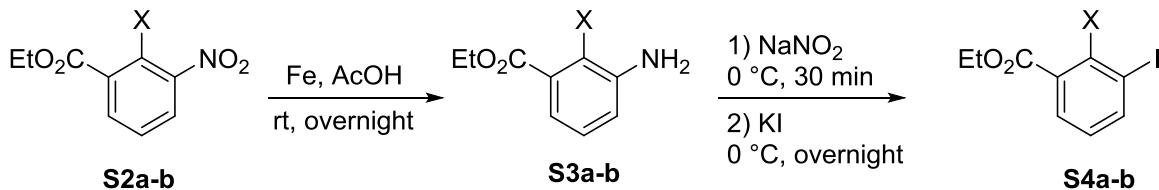


Ethyl 3-methoxybenzoate (S2c).

Following General Procedure A, 3-methoxybenzoic acid **S1c** (800 mg, 5.26 mmol) was converted into **S2c**. Pale yellow oil (900 mg, 94% yield).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 7.64 (1H, dt, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1.4 Hz), 7.58 – 7.55 (1H, m), 7.34 (1H, t, $J = 7.7$ Hz), 7.13 – 7.06 (1H, m), 4.38 (2H, q, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 3.86 (3H, s), 1.39 (3H, t, $J = 7.1$ Hz). $^1\text{H NMR}$ spectrum was consistent with that reported in the literature¹.

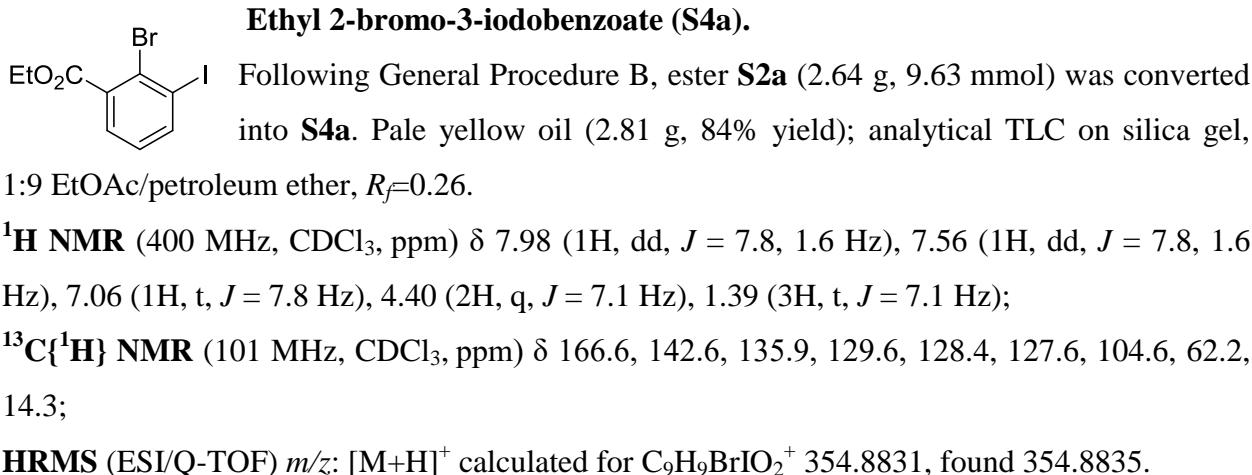
General procedure B for iodide **S4 synthesis from nitrobenzoates **S2****



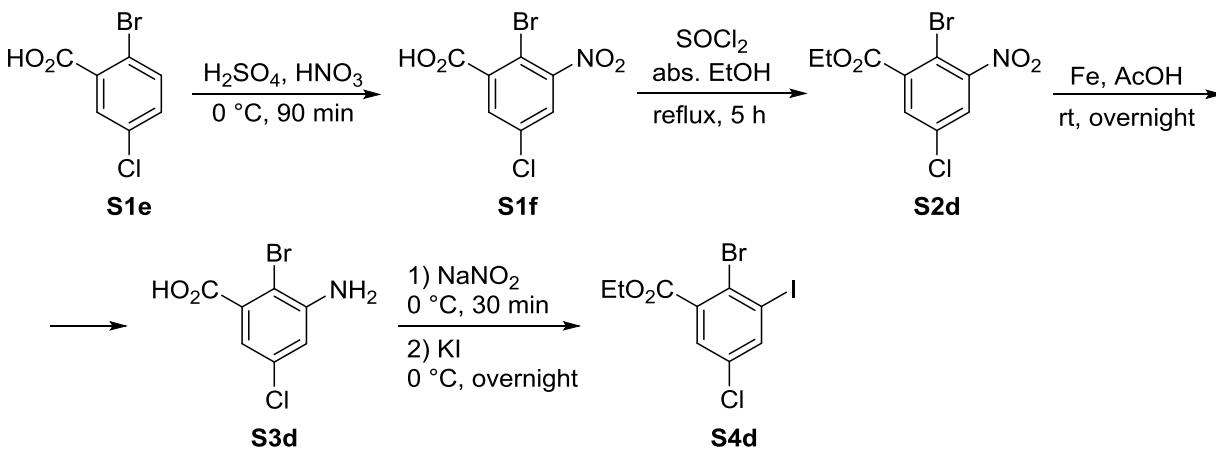
Following a reported procedure², a round-bottom flask was charged with ester **S2** (1.0 equiv), glacial AcOH (3.0 mL per mmol of ester **S2**) and iron powder (5.0 equiv.). The red reaction mixture was well-stirred overnight at room temperature, the residue iron powder was filtered off from the dark red suspension and washed with AcOH on filter. Water (30 mL) and brine (30 mL) was added to the red reaction mixture, and it was extracted with EtOAc (3x40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude aminobenzoate **S3** (red amorphous solid) was used in the further step without additional purification.

Following a reported procedure³, a suspension of aminobenzoate **S3** from above (1.0 equiv) in a 1:1 (v/v) mixture of conc. HCl and H_2O (4 mL per mmol of aminobenzoate) was cooled in an ice bath. NaNO_2 (1.5 equiv) solution in water (1 mL per mmol of NaNO_2) was added dropwise to a well-stirred pale yellow reaction mixture. The resulting suspension was stirred for 30 minutes,

then it was added dropwise to KI (3.0 equiv) solution in water (2 mL per mmol of KI) which was cooled in an ice bath. The dark red solution was stirred overnight. Crude Na₂SO₃ was added to dark green reaction mixture until the color disappeared, the resulting pale yellow suspension was extracted with EtOAc (3x50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with aqueous NaHCO₃ solution, brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 20% EtOAc/petroleum ether yielding iodide **S4**.



Synthesis of ethyl 2-bromo-5-chloro-3-iodobenzoate (**S4d**).



Following a reported procedure⁴, a suspension of 2-bromo-5-chlorobenzoic acid **S1e** (5.00 g, 21.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in 98% sulfuric acid (12 mL) was cooled to 0 °C (crushed ice bath). Fuming nitric acid (1.18 mL, 23.4 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was then added dropwise, and the resulting

brown suspension was stirred at 0 °C for 90 min, then poured into ice water (50 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3×20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude nitrobenzoic acid **S1f** (brown solid) was used in the further step without additional purification.

A 100 mL flame-dried round-bottom flask was flushed with a stream of argon and charged with nitrobenzoic acid **S1f** from above (5.82 g, 20.8 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and absolute EtOH (30 mL). Thionyl chloride (4.62 mL, 63.7 mmol, 3.0 equiv) was then added dropwise, and the resulting yellowish solution was heated under reflux for 3 h. It was cooled to room temperature and all volatiles were removed by distillation under reduced pressure. Saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution (30 mL) was added, and the yellowish semi-solid residue was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3x10 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water, brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude nitrobenzoate **S2d** (reddish amorphous solid) was used in the further step without additional purification.

Following a reported procedure², a round-bottom flask was charged with nitrobenzoate **S2d** from above (6.16 g, 20.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), glacial AcOH (50 mL) and iron powder (7.84 g, 0.140 mol, 7.0 equiv). The red reaction mixture was well-stirred overnight at room temperature, the residue iron powder was filtered off from the dark red suspension and washed with AcOH on filter. Filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude aminobenzoate **S3d** (red amorphous solid) was used in the further step without additional purification.

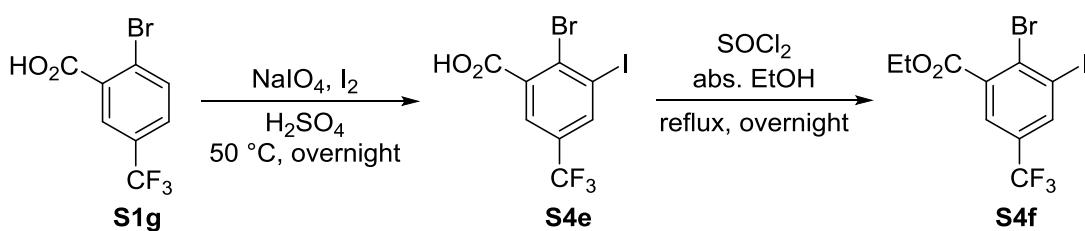
Following a reported procedure³, a suspension of aminobenzoate **S3d** from above (5.00 g, 20.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), in a 1:1 (v/v) mixture of conc. HCl and H₂O (80 mL) was cooled in an ice bath. NaNO₂ (2.07 g, 31.9 mmol, 1.5 equiv) solution in water (25 mL) was added dropwise to a well-stirred pale yellow reaction mixture. The resulting suspension was stirred for 30 minutes, then it was added dropwise to KI (9.96 g, 63.7 mmol, 3.0 equiv) solution in water (100 mL) which was cooled in an ice bath. The dark red solution was stirred overnight. Crude Na₂SO₃ was added to dark green reaction mixture until the color disappeared, the resulting pale yellow suspension was extracted with EtOAc (3x70 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with aqueous NaHCO₃ solution, brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 30% EtOAc/petroleum ether. Colorless oil (2.10 g, 25% yield); analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:9 EtOAc/petroleum ether, *R_f*=0.35.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.96 (1H, d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 7.56 (1H, d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 4.40 (2H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.39 (3H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.4, 141.7, 136.2, 133.8, 129.8, 126.1, 105.0, 62.6, 14.2;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₉H₈O₂ClBrI⁺ 388.8441, found 388.8453.

Synthesis of ethyl 2-bromo-3-iodo-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzoate (S4f**).**



Following a reported procedure⁵, sodium periodate (280 mg, 1.31 mmol, 0.16 equiv) was added gradually within 5 min to a well-stirred suspension of powdered iodine (976 mg, 3.84 mmol, 0.47 equiv) in 95% sulfuric acid (25 mL). The stirring was continued for 30 min at room temperature to afford a dark-brown solution. 2-Bromo-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzoic acid **S1g** (2.20 g, 8.18 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added neat in one portion to the solution and the resulting dark brown reaction mixture was stirred for 18 h at 50 °C, whereupon it was cooled to room temperature and poured into 200 g of crushed ice (*Caution! Heat evolution!*). Resulted suspension was extracted with DCM (3x80 mL). Combined pink organic layers were washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated. The resulting crude iodobenzoic acid **S4e** (colorless oil) was used in the further step without additional purification.

A flame-dried round-bottom flask was flushed with a stream of argon and charged with iodobenzoic acid **S4e** from above (3.14 g, 8.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and absolute EtOH (15 mL). Thionyl chloride (1.73 mL, 24 mmol, 3.0 equiv) was then added dropwise, and the resulting yellowish solution was heated under reflux overnight. It was cooled to room temperature and all volatiles were removed by distillation under reduced pressure. Saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution (70 mL) was added, and the yellowish semi-solid residue was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3x50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water, brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 5% EtOAc/petroleum ether to

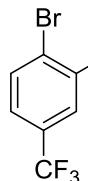
30% EtOAc/petroleum ether, after that reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 10% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water to 95% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water afforded product as colorless oil (2.30 g, 67% yield); analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:9 EtOAc/petroleum ether, $R_f=0.40$.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.19 (1H, dd, $J = 2.2, 0.7$ Hz), 7.81 (1H, dd, $J = 2.2, 0.7$ Hz), 4.43 (2H, q, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.41 (3H, t, $J = 7.1$ Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.4, 138.9 (q, $^3J_{C-F} = 3.6$ Hz), 136.2, 132.2, 130.8 (q, $^2J_{C-F} = 33.9$ Hz), 126.5 (q, $^3J_{C-F} = 3.6$ Hz), 121.1 (q, $^1J_{C-F} = 273.1$ Hz), 105.0, 62.8, 14.2;

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -62.9;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₀H₈O₂F₃BrI⁺ 422.8704, found 422.8696.

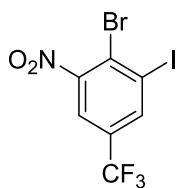


1-Bromo-2-nitro-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (S5a).

Following a reported procedure⁴, a mixture of 4-bromotrifluoromethylbenzene **S5b** (4.20 mL, 30.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in 95% sulfuric acid (15.0 mL) was cooled in an ice bath, followed by dropwise addition of fuming nitric acid (2 mL).

Resulted yellowish suspension was stirred for 90 min at 0 °C, whereupon it was poured into crushed ice (100 g) and extracted with DCM (3 × 50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried with Na₂SO₄ and concentrated. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 5% EtOAc/petroleum ether to 15% EtOAc/petroleum ether to afford product as yellow oil (6.78 g, 96% yield); analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:10 EtOAc/petroleum ether, $R_f=0.41$.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.11 (1H, d, $J = 2.2$ Hz), 7.92 (1H, d, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.69 (1H, dd, $J = 8.4, 2.2$ Hz). ¹H NMR spectrum was consistent with that reported in the literature⁶.



2-Bromo-1-iodo-3-nitro-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (S4g).

Following a reported procedure⁵, sodium periodate (636 mg, 2.97 mmol, 0.16 equiv) was added gradually within 5 min to a well-stirred suspension of powdered iodine (2.22 g, 8.74 mmol, 0.47 equiv) in 95% sulfuric acid (80 mL).

The stirring was continued for 30 min at room temperature to afford a dark-brown solution. 4-Bromo-3-nitrobenzotrifluoride **S5a** (5.00 g, 18.58 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added neat in one portion to the solution and the resulting dark brown reaction mixture was stirred for 4 days at

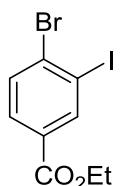
50 °C. Dark-brown reaction suspension was cooled to room temperature and poured into 200 g of crushed ice (*Caution! Heat evolution!*). Resulted suspension was extracted with DCM (3x80 mL). Combined pink organic layers were washed with brine, dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using isocratic elution with 5% Et_2O /petroleum ether to afford product as pale yellow powder (4.64 g, 63% yield); analytical TLC on silica gel, petroleum ether, R_f =0.18.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 8.29 (1H, dd, J = 2.0, 0.7 Hz), 7.89 (1H, dd, J = 2.0, 0.7 Hz);

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 151.1, 139.5 (q, $^3J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 3.6$ Hz), 131.9 (q, $^2J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 34.9$ Hz), 126.2, 121.7 (q, $^1J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 273.8$ Hz), 121.5 (q, $^3J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 3.6$ Hz), 105.7;

^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ -63.0;

Elemental analysis (%): calculated for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_2\text{BrF}_3\text{INO}_2$: N, 3.54; C, 21.24; H, 0.51; found: N, 3.49; C, 21.40; H, 0.56.



Ethyl 4-bromo-3-iodobenzoate (S4h).

Following a reported procedure⁵, sodium periodate (323 mg, 1.51 mmol, 0.16 equiv) was added gradually within 5 min to a well-stirred suspension of powdered iodine (1.13 g, 4.45 mmol, 0.47 equiv) in 95% sulfuric acid (40 mL). The stirring was continued for 30 min at room temperature to afford a dark-brown solution. 4-Bromobenzoic acid **S5c** (1.90 g, 9.45 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added neat in one portion to the solution and the resulting dark brown reaction mixture was stirred for 18 h at room temperature, whereupon it was poured into 200 g of crushed ice (*Caution! Heat evolution!*). Resulted suspension was extracted with EtOAc (3x80 mL). Combined pink organic layers were washed with brine, dried (Na_2SO_4) and concentrated. The resulting crude iodobenzoic acid **S4i** (brownish powder) was used in the further step without additional purification.

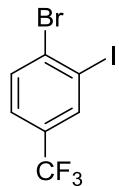
A flame-dried round-bottom flask was flushed with a stream of argon and charged with iodobenzoic acid (**S4i**) from above (3.09 g, 9.44 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and absolute EtOH (20 mL). Thionyl chloride (1.37 mL, 18.88 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was then added dropwise, and the resulting yellowish solution was heated under reflux overnight. It was cooled to room temperature and all volatiles were removed by distillation under reduced pressure. Saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 solution (70 mL) was added, and the yellowish semi-solid residue was extracted with CH_2Cl_2

(3x50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water, brine, dried over Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using isocratic elution with 5% Et_2O /petroleum ether to afford product as colorless powder (3.27 g, 97% yield); analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:10 Et_2O /petroleum ether, $R_f=0.43$.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 8.49 (1H, d, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 7.85 (1H, dd, $J = 8.3, 2.0$ Hz), 7.68 (1H, d, $J = 8.3$ Hz), 4.37 (2H, q, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.39 (3H, t, $J = 7.1$ Hz);

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\} \text{NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 164.7, 141.3, 135.3, 132.8, 130.8, 130.4, 101.1, 61.7, 14.4;

Elemental analysis (%): calculated for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_8\text{BrIO}_2$: C, 30.45; H, 2.27; found: C, 30.50; H, 2.26.

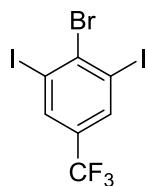
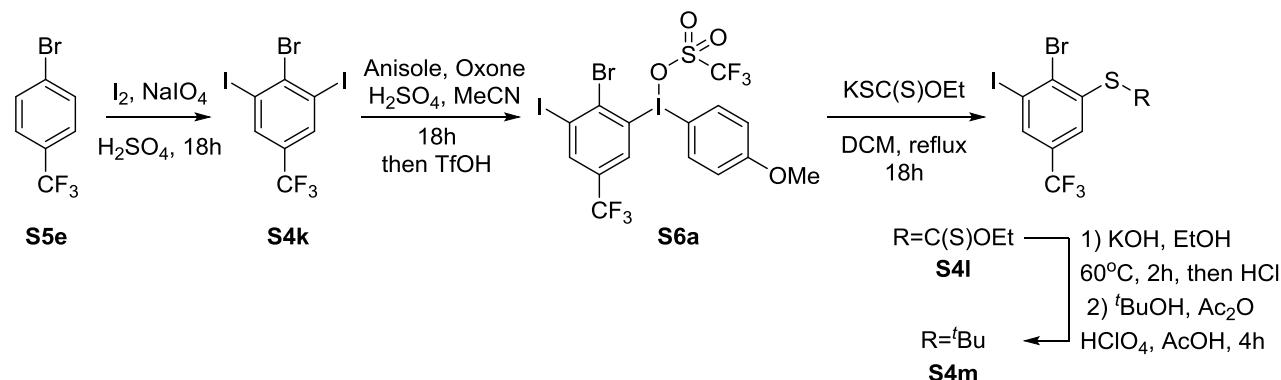


1-Bromo-2-iodo-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (S4j).

Following a reported procedure⁵, to a suspension of NaIO_4 (5.13 g, 24.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and I_2 (6.09 g, 24.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in a 2:1 mixture of acetic acid and acetic anhydride (30 mL) a 95% sulfuric acid (30.0 mL) was added dropwise at 10°C (cold water bath) followed by dropwise addition of 4-bromotrifluorotoluene **S5d** (2.8 mL, 20.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Resulted dark suspension was stirred at room temperature for 18 h, whereupon it was poured into 50 mL crushed ice (*Caution! Heat evolution!*). Crude Na_2SO_3 was added to dark-brown emulsion until the color disappeared. Resulted yellow emulsion was extracted with DCM (3×50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water, brine, dried over Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using isocratic elution with 5% Et_2O /petroleum ether to afford product as colorless oil (6.78 g, 96%); analytical TLC on silica gel, petroleum ether, $R_f=0.62$.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 8.09 (1H, d, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 7.74 (1H, d, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.46 (1H, dd, $J = 8.4, 2.0$ Hz). ^1H NMR spectrum was consistent with that reported in the literature⁷.

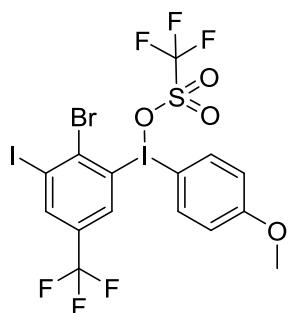
Synthesis of (2-bromo-3-iodo-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)(tert-butyl)sulfone (S4m).



2-Bromo-1,3-diiodo-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (S4k).

Following a reported procedure⁵, sodium periodate (1.36 g, 6.36 mmol, 0.32 equiv) was added gradually within 5 min to a well stirred suspension of powdered iodine (4.8 g, 18.9 mmol, 0.95 equiv) in 95% H₂SO₄ (100 mL). The stirring was continued for 30 min at room temperature to afford a dark-brown solution. 2-Bromo-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzene **S5e** (2.8 mL, 20.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added dropwise within ~2 min to the solution and the resulting dark brown reaction mixture was stirred for 18 h at room temperature, whereupon it was poured into 100 mL of crushed ice (*Caution! Heat evolution!*). The formed pink precipitate was filtered and carefully washed with water until pH 6. The crude product was recrystallized from methanol to afford colorless needles (8.53 g, 89%); mp 88–89 °C; analytical TLC on silica gel, petroleum ether, *R*_f=0.67.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.06 (2H, q, ⁴J_{H-F} = 0.6 Hz). ¹H NMR spectrum was consistent with that reported in the literature⁸.



(2-Bromo-3-iodo-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)(4-methoxyphenyl)-λ³-iodanetyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (S6a).

Following a reported procedure⁹, diiodobromobenzene **S4k** (13.0 g, 27.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and anisole (4.4 mL, 40.9 mmol, 1.5 equiv) were dissolved in MeCN (150 mL) followed by Oxone® (16.8 g, 27.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv). To the resulting colorless suspension, cooled in ice-bath and well stirred, 95% sulfuric acid (11 mL, 204.5 mmol, 7.5 equiv) was added dropwise within

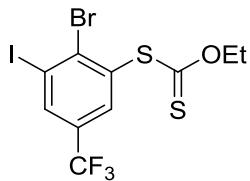
5 min. Dark blue suspension was stirred at room temperature for 18 h, whereupon TfOH (4.8 mL, 54.5 mmol, 2.0 equiv) solution in water (500 mL) was added and extracted with DCM (3×150 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (200 mL), dried over Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated under reduced pressure. Dark brown oil was triturated with petroleum ether (3×20 mL), dissolved in small amount of DCM and Et_2O (150 mL) was added. Filtration of precipitate afforded the title compound (8.25 g, 41%) as off white powder.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$, ppm) δ 9.04 – 9.00 (1H, m), 8.54 – 8.50 (1H, m), 8.23 – 8.17 (2H, m), 7.15 – 7.11 (2H, m), 3.81 (3H, s);

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\} \text{ NMR}$ (101 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$, ppm) δ 162.4, 139.9 (q, $^3J_{C-F} = 3.8$ Hz), 138.9, 137.3, 134.7 (q, $^3J_{C-F} = 3.4$ Hz), 131.1 (q, $^2J_{C-F} = 33.6$ Hz), 123.0, 121.7 (q, $^1J_{C-F} = 273.9$ Hz), 120.7 (q, $^1J_{C-F} = 322.0$ Hz), 117.8, 106.4, 104.4, 55.8;

$^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$, ppm) δ -63.0, -77.7;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M- OSO_2CF_3] $^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_2^+$: 243.1385, found 243.1386.



S-(2-Bromo-3-iodo-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)carbonodithioate (S4l).

Following a reported procedure¹⁰, iodane (**S6a**) (6.0 g, 8.19 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and potassium ethyl xanthate (2.6 g, 16.37 mmol, 2.0 equiv) were suspended in DCM (80 mL) and stirred under reflux for 18 h. Resulted yellow suspension was cooled to room temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using isocratic elution with 5% DCM/petroleum ether to afford product as yellow oil (2.4 g, 62% yield); analytical TLC on silica gel, petroleum ether, $R_f=0.30$.

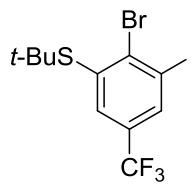
$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 8.13 (1H, dq, $J = 2.2, 0.7$ Hz), 7.85 (1H, dq, $J = 2.2, 0.7$ Hz), 4.63 (2H, q, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.34 (3H, t, $J = 7.1$ Hz);

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\} \text{ NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 208.2, 141.5, 138.6 (q, $^3J_{C-F} = 3.8$ Hz), 134.0, 133.3 (q, $^3J_{C-F} = 3.4$ Hz), 131.4 (q, $^2J_{C-F} = 33.8$ Hz), 122.3 (q, $^1J_{C-F} = 273.6$ Hz), 103.1, 71.1, 13.7;

$^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ -62.8;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M-H] $^-$ calculated for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_6\text{F}_3\text{BrOS}_2\text{I}^-$: 468.8040, found 468.8036.

O-ethyl

**(2-Bromo-3-iodo-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)(tert-butyl)sulfone (S4m).**

Following a reported procedure¹⁰, a xanthate ester **S4l** (2.0 g, 4.24 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was dissolved in EtOH (20 mL). Argon was bubbled through the solution for 15 min, whereupon KOH (702 mg, 12.74 mmol, 3.0 equiv) was added. Resulted pale yellow suspension was stirred at 60 °C for 2 h under argon atmosphere, then cooled to room temperature and acidified to pH 5 with 4M HCl solution in water. Resulting yellowish emulsion was extracted with Et₂O (3x30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (30 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford a colorless oily residue, which was used in subsequent step without additional purification.

Following a reported procedure¹¹, the oily residue from above and *tert*-butanol (487 µL, 5.09 mmol, 1.2 equiv) were dissolved in glacial acetic acid (7 mL). Clear reaction solution was cooled in an ice bath followed by addition of acetic anhydride (440 µL, 4.67 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and perchloric acid (70% wt. in water, 350 µL, 3.89 mmol, 0.9 equiv). Resulted reaction mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature, whereupon it was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with Et₂O (3x30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water, brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using isocratic elution with 100% petroleum ether to afford product as colorless oil (915 mg, 49%); analytical TLC on silica gel, petroleum ether, *R*_f=0.46.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.03 (1H, dd, *J* = 2.2, 0.8 Hz), 7.84 (1H, dd, *J* = 2.2, 0.8 Hz), 1.38 (9H, s);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 143.0, 137.6, 137.0 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 134.1 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 130.6 (q, ²*J*_{C-F} = 33.4 Hz), 122.6 (q, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 273.2 Hz), 102.9, 50.2, 31.2;

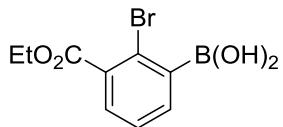
¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -62.9;

Elemental analysis (%): calculated for C₁₁H₁₁BrF₃IS: C, 30.09; H, 2.53; S, 7.30; found: C, 30.02; H, 2.54; S, 7.32.

General procedure C for boronic acid S7 synthesis from iodide S4

Following a reported procedure¹², a flame-dried 20 mL pressure vial was flushed with a stream of argon and charged with iodide **S4** (1.0 equiv) and dry THF (3 mL per 1 mmol of iodide **S4**).

Reaction mixture was cooled to -78 °C (dry ice/acetone bath) under argon atmosphere and *i*PrMgCl·LiCl solution in THF (1.3 M, 1.1 equiv) was added dropwise within 30 minutes. Then the resulting yellow solution was stirred for 1 hour at -78 °C, whereupon a trimethylborate (1.3 equiv) was added dropwise within 5 min. The stirring at -78 °C was continued for 1 hour, whereupon a white suspension was allowed to warm to room temperature. After stirring overnight, reaction mixture was quenched with 1M HCl (15 mL) and extracted with Et₂O (3x50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 15% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water to 95% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water, to afford an amorphous solid.



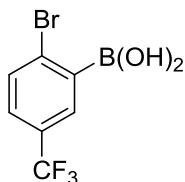
(2-Bromo-3-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl)boronic acid (S7a).

Following General Procedure C, iodide **S4a** (1.50 g, 4.27 mmol) was converted into **S7a**. Pale yellow amorphous solid (925 mg, 80% yield);

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm) δ 7.58 – 7.54 (1H, m), 7.42 (1H, s), 7.40 (1H, d, *J* = 1.6 Hz), 4.31 (2H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.31 (3H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm) δ 166.9, 135.1, 133.5, 129.4, 126.8, 126.8, 121.9, 61.4, 14.1;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₉H₁₁BrBO₄⁺: 272.9934, found 272.9944.



(2-bromo-5-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)boronic acid (S7b).

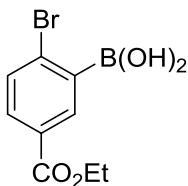
Following General Procedure C, iodide **S4j** (1.50 g, 4.23 mmol) was converted into **S7b**. White amorphous solid (920 mg, 80% yield);

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm) δ 8.55 (2H, br s), 7.77 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.66 (1H, d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 7.60 (1H, ddd, *J* = 8.3, 2.4, 0.8 Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm) δ 132.4, 129.8 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 4.0 Hz), 129.6 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 1.9 Hz), 127.3 (q, ²*J*_{C-F} = 31.8 Hz), 126.7 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 4.0 Hz), 122.9 (q, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 272.0 Hz);

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -56.4;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₇H₄BBrF₃O₂: 266.9440, found 266.9447.



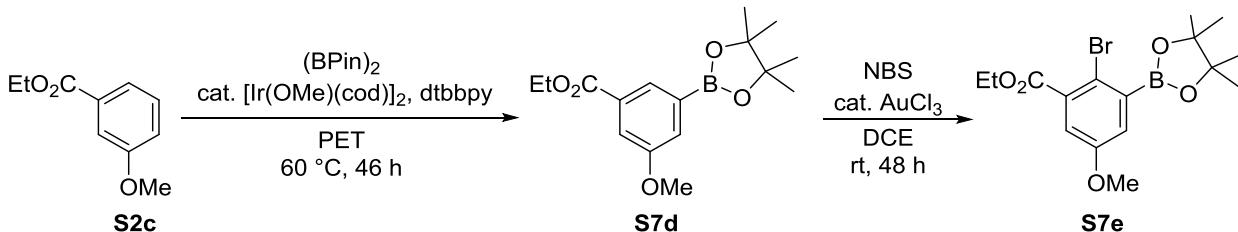
(2-bromo-5-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl)boronic acid (S7c).

Following General Procedure C, iodide **S4h** (1.50 g, 4.23 mmol) was converted into **S7c**. White amorphous solid (656 mg, 57% yield);
¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆, ppm) δ 8.49 (2H, br s), 7.89 (1H, d, *J* = 2.3 Hz), 7.79 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.3 Hz), 7.68 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 4.31 (2H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.32 (3H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d₆, ppm) δ 165.4, 134.0, 132.0, 130.7, 130.7, 128.0, 61.0, 14.2;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₉H₁₁O₄BrB⁺ 272.9934, found 272.9937.

Synthesis of ethyl 2-bromo-5-methoxy-3-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)benzoate (S7e).



Following a reported procedure¹³, a 20 mL pressure vial was charged with an ester **S2c** (900 mg, 5.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv), [Ir(OMe)(cod)]₂ (65 mg, 0.10 mmol, 0.02 equiv), 4,4'-di-tert-butyl-2,2'-bipyridine (40 mg, 0.15 mmol, 0.03 equiv), bis(pinacolato)diboron (1.90 g, 7.49 mmol, 1.50 equiv) and *n*-hexane (5 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 46 hours at 60 °C, cooled to room temperature and all volatiles were removed by distillation under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 5% EtOAc/petroleum ether to 40% EtOAc/petroleum ether. Afforded boronic acid pinacol ester **S7d** (white amorphous solid) was used in the further step without additional purification.

Following a reported procedure¹⁴, the boronic acid pinacol ester **S7d** from above (600 mg, 1.96 mmol, 1 equiv), NBS (349 mg, 1.96 mmol, 1 equiv), AuCl₃ (9 mg, 0.02 mmol, 0.01 equiv) were weighted in a 25 mL flask, then DCE (4 mL) was added. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 48 h. The solution was then concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 5%

EtOAc/petroleum ether to 20% EtOAc/petroleum ether. Pale green viscous oil (371 mg, 30 % yield); analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:10 EtOAc/petroleum ether, R_f =0.30.

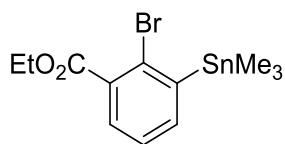
^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 8.05 (1H, dd, J = 1.5, 0.9 Hz), 7.66 (1H, dd, J = 2.8, 1.5 Hz), 7.51 (1H, dd, J = 2.8, 0.9 Hz), 4.38 (2H, q, J = 7.1 Hz), 3.87 (3H, s), 1.40 (3H, t, J = 7.1 Hz), 1.35 (12H, s);

$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 167.2, 157.9, 135.2, 123.5, 117.5, 115.6, 84.73, 61.8, 55.8, 24.9, 14.3;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H] $^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_5\text{BrB}^+$ 385.0822, found 385.0812.

General procedure D for trimethylstannane **S8** synthesis from iodide **S4**

A flame-dried 20 mL pressure vial was flushed with a stream of argon and charged with iodide **S4** (1.0 equiv) and dry THF (2 mL per 1 mmol of iodide **S4**). Reaction mixture was cooled to -40 °C (dry ice/acetone bath) under argon atmosphere and $i\text{PrMgCl}\cdot\text{LiCl}$ solution in THF (1.3 M, 1.2 equiv) was added dropwise within 30 minutes. Then the resulting colorless solution was stirred for 1 hour at -40 °C, whereupon a solution of trimethyltin chloride (1.5 equiv) in dry THF (0.5 mL per 1 mmol of trimethyltin chloride) was added dropwise within 20 min. The pale yellow reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 1 hour, whereupon it was allowed to warm to room temperature. After stirring overnight, all volatiles were removed by distillation under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 50% MeCN in water to 95% MeCN in water, to afford an oil.



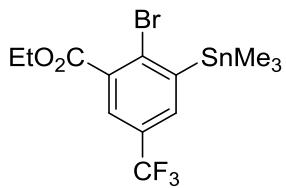
Ethyl 2-bromo-3-(trimethylstannylyl)benzoate (**S8a**).

Following General Procedure D, iodide **S4a** (2.00 g, 5.63 mmol) was converted into **S8a**. Colorless oil (1.20 g, 54% yield);

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 7.59 (1H, dd, J = 7.3, 1.8 Hz), 7.42 (1H, dd, J = 7.3, 1.8 Hz), 7.31 (1H, t, J = 7.3 Hz), 4.39 (2H, q, J = 7.1 Hz), 1.40 (3H, t, J = 7.1 Hz), 0.40 (9H, s);

$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 167.6, 149.9, 139.6, 133.5, 130.8, 130.4, 126.5, 61.8, 14.3, -7.3;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H] $^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_2\text{Br}_2\text{Sn}^+$ 392.9512, found 392.9510.



Ethyl 2-bromo-5-(trifluoromethyl)-3-(trimethylstannylyl)benzoate (S8b).

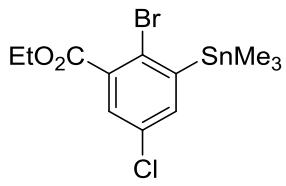
Following General Procedure D, iodide **S4f** (500 mg, 2.51 mmol) was converted into **S8b**. Colorless oil (375 mg, 33% yield);

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.62 (1H, dd, *J* = 2.4, 0.7 Hz), 7.83 (1H, dd, *J* = 2.4, 0.7 Hz), 4.42 (2H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.42 (3H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 0.45 (9H, s);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 166.3, 151.9, 135.5 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 134.3, 133.8, 129.0 (q, ²*J*_{C-F} = 32.7 Hz), 127.8 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 123.9 (q, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 272.8 Hz), 62.3, 14.3, -7.2;

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -62.7;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₃H₁₇O₂F₃BrSn⁺ 460.9386, found 460.9376.



Ethyl 2-bromo-5-chloro-3-(trimethylstannylyl)benzoate (S8c).

Following General Procedure D, iodide **S4d** (1.00 g, 2.57 mmol) was converted into **S8c**. Colorless oil (416 mg, 38% yield);

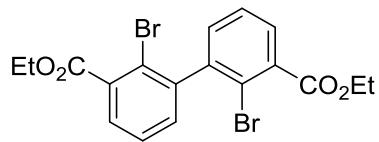
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.58 – 7.56 (1H, m), 7.36 – 7.34 (1H, m), 4.39 (2H, q, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 1.40 (3H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 0.42 (9H, s);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 166.2, 152.4, 139.0, 134.5, 133.3, 130.7, 128.1, 62.1, 14.3, -7.2;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₂H₁₇O₂ClBrSn⁺ 426.9122, found 426.9101.

General procedure E for Suzuki-Miyaura reaction

A flame-dried 20 mL pressure vial was flushed with a stream of argon and charged with iodide **S4** (1.0 equiv), boronic acid or ester **S7** (2.0 equiv), PdCl₂(dppf) (0.05 equiv), CsF (3 equiv) and dry dioxane (10 mL per 1 mmol of iodide **S4**). Reaction mixture was stirred for 3 hours at 80 °C under argon atmosphere, whereupon it was cooled to room temperature. H₂O (30 mL) was added to the reaction mixture, and resulting white suspension was extracted with EtOAc (3x30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography to afford an oil.

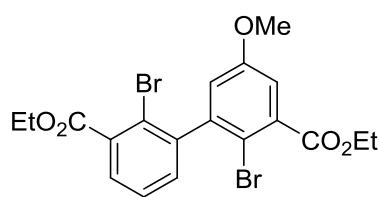
**Diethyl 2,2'-dibromo-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,3'-dicarboxylate (4a).**

Following General Procedure E, iodide **S4a** (300 mg, 0.845 mmol) and boronic acid **S7a** (461 mg, 1.69 mmol) were converted into **4a**. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 30% Et₂O/petroleum ether. Pale yellow viscous oil (230 mg, 60% yield); analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:8 Et₂O/petroleum ether, *R*_f=0.28.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.71 (2H, dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.8 Hz), 7.44 (2H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.32 (2H, dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.8 Hz), 4.43 (4H, q, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 1.42 (6H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 167.0, 143.9, 134.6, 133.3, 130.2, 127.2, 122.1, 62.0, 14.4;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₈H₁₇Br₂O₄: 454.9494, found 454.9501.

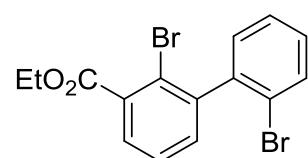
**Diethyl 2,2'-dibromo-5-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,3'-dicarboxylate (4h).**

Following General Procedure E, iodide **S4a** (50 mg, 0.14 mmol) and boronic acid ester **S7e** (108 mg, 0.281 mmol) were converted into **4h**. The resulting crude product was purified by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 25% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water to 95% MeCN in 0.1% TFA. Pale yellow oil (33 mg, 48% yield).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.70 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.8 Hz), 7.43 (1H, t, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.31 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.8 Hz), 7.25 (1H, d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 6.87 (1H, d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 4.46 – 4.38 (4H, m), 3.83 (3H, s), 1.44 – 1.39 (6H, m);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 167.0, 166.9, 158.3, 144.6, 143.9, 135.2, 134.6, 133.2, 130.2, 127.2, 122.0, 119.1, 115.9, 112.4, 62.1, 62.0, 55.9, 14.3;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₉H₁₉Br₂O₅: 484.9599, found 484.9598.

**Ethyl 2,2'-dibromo-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carboxylate (4i).**

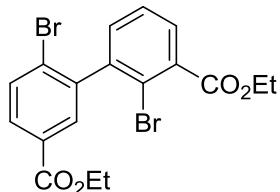
Following General Procedure E, iodide **S4a** (300 mg, 0.845 mmol) and (2-bromo-3-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl)boronic acid **S7e** (339 mg, 1.69 mmol) were converted into **4i**. The resulting crude product was

purified by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 15% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water to 95% MeCN in 0.1% TFA. Black oil (180 mg, 55% yield).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.74 – 7.63 (2H, m), 7.46 – 7.20 (5H, m), 4.43 (2H, q, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 1.42 (3H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 167.1, 144.0, 142.1, 134.6, 133.3, 132.8, 131.1, 130.0, 129.7, 127.3, 127.1, 123.6, 122.1, 62.0, 14.4;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₅H₁₃Br₂O₂: 382.9282, found 382.9280.



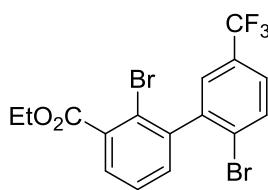
Diethyl 2,6'-dibromo-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,3'-dicarboxylate (4j).

Following General Procedure E, iodide **S4a** (400 mg, 1.13 mmol) and boronic acid **S7c** (615 mg, 2.25 mmol) were converted into **4j**. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 30% Et₂O/petroleum ether. Colorless oil (233 mg, 45% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:8 Et₂O/petroleum ether, *R*_f=0.35.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.93 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.1 Hz), 7.90 (1H, d, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 7.75 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.72 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.8 Hz), 7.45 (1H, t, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.33 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.8 Hz), 4.43 (2H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 4.37 (2H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.42 (3H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.38 (3H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 166.9, 165.8, 143.2, 142.3, 134.7, 133.2, 133.0, 132.0, 130.6, 130.4, 129.9, 129.0, 127.2, 122.1, 62.0, 61.5, 14.4, 14.3;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₈H₁₇Br₂O₄: 454.9494, found 454.9490.



Ethyl 2,2'-dibromo-5'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carboxylate (4k).

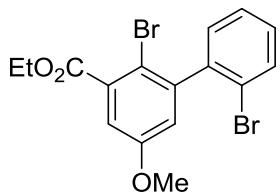
Following General Procedure E, iodide **S4a** (300 mg, 0.845 mmol) and boronic acid **S7b** (454 mg, 1.69 mmol) were converted into **4k**. The resulting crude product was purified by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 25% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water to 95% MeCN in 0.1% TFA. Black oil (121 mg, 32% yield).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.81 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.74 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.8 Hz), 7.58 – 7.47 (2H, m), 7.46 (1H, t, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.33 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.8 Hz), 4.43 (2H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.42 (3H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 166.8, 142.8, 142.6, 134.8, 133.5, 133.1, 130.6, 130.0 (q, ²*J*_{C-F} = 33.1 Hz), 128.0 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 127.8, 127.3, 126.4 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 123.8 (q, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 272.3 Hz), 121.9, 62.1, 14.4;

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -62.6.

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₆H₁₂Br₂F₃O₂: 450.9156, found 450.9157.



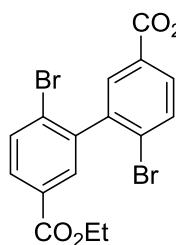
Ethyl 2,2'-dibromo-5-methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carboxylate (S9a).

Following General Procedure E, 1-bromo-2-iodobenzene **S4n** (200 mg, 0.707 mmol) and boronic acid ester **S7e** (544 mg, 1.42 mmol) were converted into **S9a**. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 30% Et₂O/petroleum ether. Pale green oil (126 mg, 43% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:8 Et₂O/petroleum ether, *R_f*=0.35.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.67 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.2 Hz), 7.38 (1H, td, *J* = 7.7, 1.2 Hz), 7.31 – 7.19 (3H, m), 6.89 (1H, d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 4.42 (2H, q, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 3.84 (3H, s), 1.42 (3H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 167.0, 158.2, 144.7, 142.1, 135.2, 132.8, 131.0, 129.7, 127.3, 123.5, 119.2, 115.7, 112.5, 62.1, 55.9, 14.3;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₆H₁₅Br₂O₃: 412.9378, found 412.9388.



Diethyl 6,6'-dibromo-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,3'-dicarboxylate (S9b).

Following General Procedure E, iodide **S4h** (319 mg, 0.90 mmol) and boronic acid **S7c** (491 mg, 1.80 mmol) were converted into **S9b**. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 10% EtOAc/petroleum ether to 40% EtOAc/petroleum ether. Colorless powder (277 mg, 68% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:10 Et₂O/petroleum ether, *R_f*=0.25.

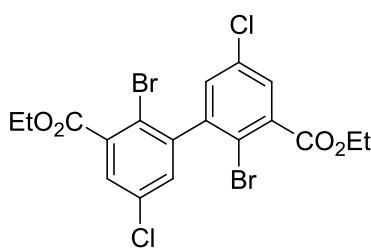
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.95 (2H, dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.1 Hz), 7.91 (2H, d, *J* = 2.1 Hz), 7.76 (2H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 4.38 (4H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.39 (6H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz);

$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 165.8, 141.6, 133.0, 131.9, 130.7, 130.0, 129.0, 61.6, 14.4;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_4\text{Br}_2^+$ 454.9494, found 454.9500.

General procedure F for Stille reaction

Following a reported procedure¹⁵, a flame-dried 20 mL pressure vial was flushed with a stream of argon and charged with iodide **S4** (1.0 equiv), trimethylstannane **S8** (1.0 equiv), CuI (0.75 equiv), dry DMF (15 mL per 1 mmol of iodide **S4**) and $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$ (0.10 equiv) with PPh_3 (0.40 equiv) or $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (0.10 equiv). Reaction mixture was stirred overnight at 50 °C under argon atmosphere, whereupon it was cooled to room temperature. H_2O (30 mL) was added to the reaction mixture, and resulting white suspension was extracted with Et_2O (3x30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography to afford an oil.



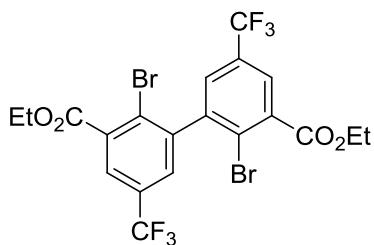
Diethyl 2,2'-dibromo-5,5'-dichloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,3'-dicarboxylate (4b).

Following General Procedure F and using $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (173 mg, 0.15 mmol), iodide **S4d** (584 mg, 1.5 mmol) and trimethylstannane **S8c** (639 mg, 1.5 mmol) were converted into **4b**. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 30% Et_2O /petroleum ether, then by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 30% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water to 95% MeCN in 0.1% TFA. Colorless oil (329 mg, 42% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:10 EtOAc/petroleum ether, $R_f=0.31$.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 7.72 (2H, d, $J = 2.6$ Hz), 7.30 (2H, d, $J = 2.6$ Hz), 4.42 (4H, q, $J = 7.2$ Hz), 1.42 (6H, t, $J = 7.2$ Hz);

$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 165.5, 144.1, 135.8, 133.5, 132.9, 130.6, 120.2, 62.5, 14.3;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_4\text{Cl}_2\text{Br}_2^+$ 522.8714, found 522.8704.



Diethyl 2,2'-dibromo-5,5'-bis(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,3'-dicarboxylate (4c).

Following General Procedure F and using $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ (75 mg, 0.07 mmol), iodide **S4f** (275 mg, 0.65 mmol) and trimethylstannane **S8b** (299 mg, 0.65 mmol) were converted into

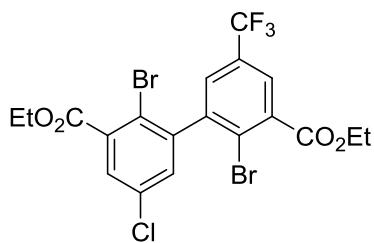
4c. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 30% Et_2O /petroleum ether, then by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 30% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water to 95% MeCN in 0.1% TFA. Colorless oil (298 mg, 77% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:10 EtOAc/petroleum ether, $R_f=0.29$.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 7.58 (2H, dd, $J = 2.3, 0.7$ Hz), 8.01 (2H, dd, $J = 2.3, 0.7$ Hz), 4.46 (4H, q, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.44 (6H, t, $J = 7.1$ Hz);

$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 165.4, 143.6, 135.7, 130.2 (q, ${}^2J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 33.9$ Hz), 129.6 (q, ${}^3J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 3.7$ Hz), 127.7 (q, ${}^3J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 3.7$ Hz), 126.3, 123.2 (q, ${}^1J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 272.9$ Hz), 62.7, 14.3;

$^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ -62.8;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{15}\text{O}_4\text{F}_6\text{Br}_2^+$ 590.9241, found 590.9233.



Diethyl 2,2'-dibromo-5-chloro-5'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,3'-dicarboxylate (4e).

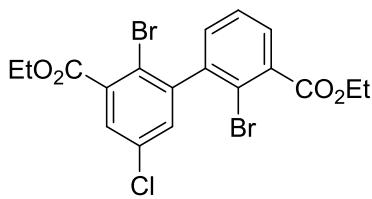
Following General Procedure F and using $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$ (130 mg, 0.142 mmol) and PPh_3 (149 mg, 0.567 mmol), iodide **S4f** (600 mg, 1.42 mmol) and trimethylstannane **S8c** (605 mg, 1.42 mmol) were converted into **4e**. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 30% Et_2O /petroleum ether, then by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 30% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water to 95% MeCN in 0.1% TFA. Pale brown oil (429 mg, 54% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:8 Et_2O /petroleum ether, $R_f=0.39$. Analytically pure material was obtained by preparative HPLC, using Chiraldak IG column and 20% DCM in heptane elution.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 7.98 (1H, dd, $J = 2.5, 0.7$ Hz), 7.75 (1H, d, $J = 2.5$ Hz), 7.56 (1H, dd, $J = 2.5, 0.7$ Hz), 7.33 (1H, d, $J = 2.5$ Hz), 4.49 – 4.40 (4H, m), 1.46 – 1.39 (6H, m);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.5, 165.4, 144.0, 143.8, 135.9, 135.5, 133.6, 132.9, 130.9, 130.1 (q, ²J_{C-F} = 33.9 Hz), 129.6 (q, ³J_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 127.5 (q, ³J_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 126.3 (q, ³J_{C-F} = 1.6 Hz), 123.2 (q, ¹J_{C-F} = 272.8 Hz), 120.2, 62.7, 62.5, 14.3;

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -62.8;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₉H₁₅O₄F₃ClBr₂⁺ 556.8978, found 556.8992.



Diethyl 2,2'-dibromo-5-chloro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,3'-dicarboxylate (4f).

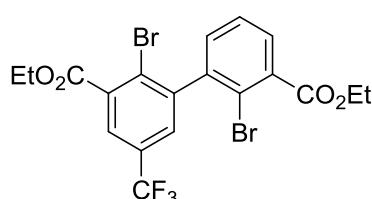
Following General Procedure F and using Pd₂(dba)₃ (35 mg, 0.039 mmol) and PPh₃ (40 mg, 0.15 mmol), iodide **S4d** (150 mg,

0.385 mmol) and trimethylstannane **S8a** (151 mg, 0.385 mmol) were converted into **4f**. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 30% Et₂O/petroleum ether, then by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 30% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water to 95% MeCN in 0.1% TFA. Colorless oil (67 mg, 36% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:8 Et₂O/petroleum ether, R_f=0.28.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.73 (1H, dd, J = 7.7, 1.8 Hz), 7.70 (1H, d, J = 2.6 Hz), 7.44 (1H, t, J = 7.7 Hz), 7.32 (1H, d, J = 2.6 Hz), 7.29 (1H, dd, J = 7.7, 1.8 Hz), 4.46 – 4.39 (4H, m), 1.44 – 1.39 (6H, m);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 166.8, 165.7, 145.3, 142.7, 135.7, 134.7, 133.3, 133.1, 133.1, 130.6, 130.2, 127.3, 121.9, 120.4, 62.4, 62.1, 14.3, 14.3;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₈H₁₆O₄ClBr₂⁺ 488.9104, found 488.9104.



Diethyl 2,2'-dibromo-5-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,3'-dicarboxylate (4g).

Following General Procedure F and using Pd₂(dba)₃ (65 mg, 0.072 mmol) and PPh₃ (75 mg, 0.29 mmol), iodide **S4f** (280 mg,

0.715 mmol) and trimethylstannane **S8a** (302 mg, 0.715 mmol) were converted into **4g**. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 30% Et₂O/petroleum ether, then by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 30% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water to 95% MeCN

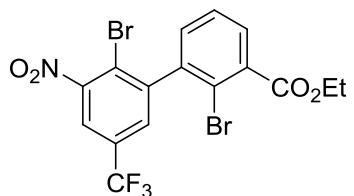
in 0.1% TFA. Colorless oil (189 mg, 51% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:8 Et₂O/petroleum ether, $R_f=0.34$.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.96 (1H, d, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 7.76 (1H, dd, $J = 7.7, 2.0$ Hz), 7.57 (1H, d, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 7.47 (1H, t, $J = 7.7$ Hz), 7.32 (1H, dd, $J = 7.7, 2.0$ Hz), 4.53 – 4.37 (4H, m), 1.49 – 1.37 (6H, m);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 166.7, 165.7, 144.9, 142.6, 135.4, 134.8, 133.1, 130.8, 130.2 (q, $^2J_{C-F} = 33.6$ Hz), 129.8 (q, $^3J_{C-F} = 3.5$ Hz), 127.4, 127.0 (q, $^3J_{C-F} = 3.5$ Hz), 126.5, 123.3 (q, $^1J_{C-F} = 272.8$ Hz), 121.9, 62.6, 62.1, 14.3, 14.3;

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -62.8;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₉H₁₆O₄F₃Br₂⁺ 522.9367, found 522.9374.



Ethyl 2,2'-dibromo-3'-nitro-5'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carboxylate (4l).

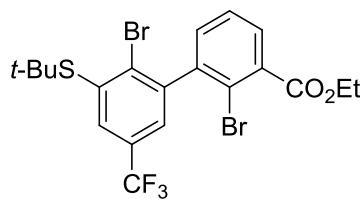
Following General Procedure F and using Pd₂(dba)₃ (69 mg, 0.076 mmol) and PPh₃ (80 mg, 0.30 mmol), iodide **S4g** (300 mg, 0.758 mmol) and trimethylstannane **S8a** (297 mg, 0.758 mmol) were converted into **4l**. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 30% Et₂O/petroleum ether, then by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 30% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water to 95% MeCN in 0.1% TFA. Yellow oil (120 mg, 32% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:8 Et₂O/petroleum ether, $R_f=0.30$.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.03 (1H, d, $J = 1.9$ Hz), 7.81 (1H, dd, $J = 7.7, 1.9$ Hz), 7.69 (1H, d, $J = 1.9$ Hz), 7.51 (1H, t, $J = 7.7$ Hz), 7.34 (1H, dd, $J = 7.7, 1.9$ Hz), 4.44 (2H, q, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.43 (3H, t, $J = 7.1$ Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 166.4, 151.5, 146.4, 141.4, 135.0, 132.8, 131.5, 131.0 (q, $^2J_{C-F} = 34.9$ Hz), 130.5 (q, $^3J_{C-F} = 3.6$ Hz), 127.7, 122.6 (q, $^1J_{C-F} = 273.2$ Hz), 121.8 (q, $^3J_{C-F} = 3.6$ Hz), 121.7, 120.1, 62.3, 14.3;

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -62.9;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₆H₁₁NO₄F₃Br₂⁺ 495.9007, found 495.9002.



Ethyl 2,2'-dibromo-3'-(tert-butylthio)-5'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carboxylate (S9c).

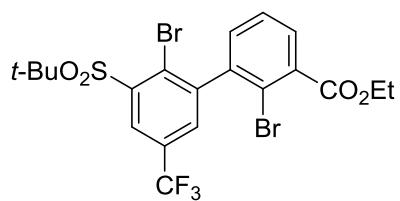
Following General Procedure F and using $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$ (63 mg, 0.068 mmol) and PPh_3 (72 mg, 0.27 mmol), iodide **S4m** (300 mg, 0.683 mmol) and trimethylstannane **S8a** (268 mg, 0.683 mmol) were converted into **S9c**. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 20% Et_2O /petroleum ether, then by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 30% MeCN in 0.1% TFA in water to 95% MeCN in 0.1% TFA. White amorphous solid (125 mg, 34% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:10 Et_2O /petroleum ether, $R_f=0.40$.

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 7.95 (1H, d, $J = 1.7$ Hz), 7.74 (1H, dd, $J = 7.7, 1.7$ Hz), 7.46 (1H, t, $J = 7.7$ Hz), 7.43 (1H, d, $J = 1.7$ Hz), 7.33 (1H, dd, $J = 7.7, 1.7$ Hz), 4.43 (2H, q, $J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.44 – 1.37 (12H, m);

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\} \text{ NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 166.8, 144.6, 143.7, 137.7, 137.3, 134.8 (q, ${}^3J_{C-F} = 3.6$ Hz), 134.7, 132.8, 130.6, 129.4 (q, ${}^2J_{C-F} = 33.2$ Hz), 127.5 (q, ${}^3J_{C-F} = 3.6$ Hz), 127.4, 123.5 (q, ${}^1J_{C-F} = 272.8$ Hz), 121.9, 62.1, 49.78, 31.2, 14.33;

$^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ -62.7;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H] $^+$ calculated for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_2\text{F}_3\text{SBr}_2^+$ 538.9503, found 538.9497.



Ethyl 2,2'-dibromo-3'-(tert-butylsulfonyl)-5'-(trifluoromethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3-carboxylate (4m).

Following a reported procedure¹⁶, to a 8 mL pressure vial was added *tert*-butyl sulfide **S9c** (108 mg, 0.200 mmol, 1.00 equiv) and Oxone® (492 mg, 0.800 mmol, 4.00 equiv). The mixture was suspended in 1:1 acetone:water (4.0 mL) and stirred at 50 °C overnight. The white suspension was diluted with water and DCM, then transferred to a separating funnel. The combined organic extracts were dried over Na_2SO_4 , and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 100% petroleum ether to 40% Et_2O /petroleum ether. White amorphous solid (48 mg, 42% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:5 Et_2O /petroleum ether, $R_f=0.30$.

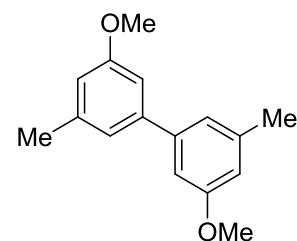
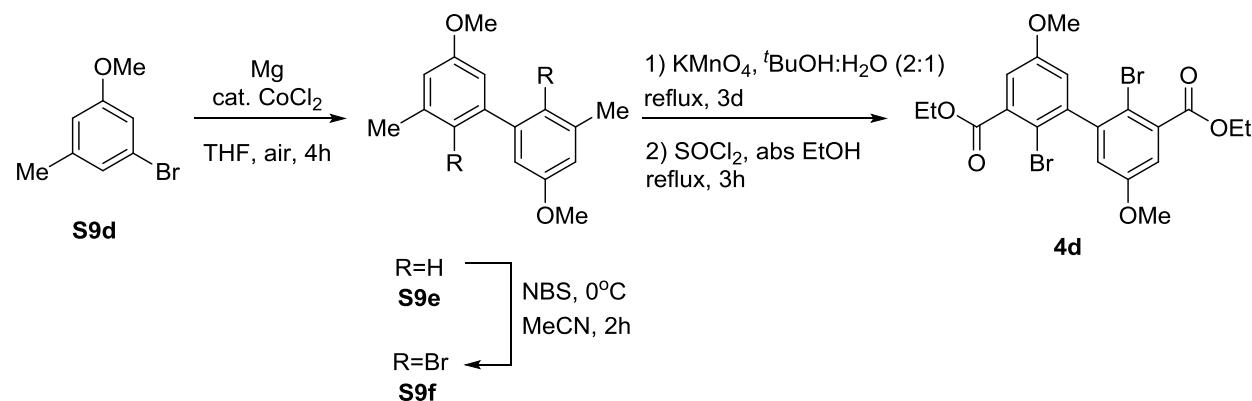
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.40 (1H, dd, *J* = 2.3, 0.7 Hz), 7.80 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.7 Hz), 7.69 (1H, dd, *J* = 2.3, 0.7 Hz), 7.50 (1H, t, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.33 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.7 Hz), 4.43 (2H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.46 (9H, s), 1.42 (3H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 166.4, 147.0, 142.5, 137.5, 134.7, 132.8, 132.0 (q, ³J_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 131.7 (q, ³J_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 131.2, 130.2 (q, ²J_{C-F} = 34.3 Hz), 128.9, 127.7, 123.0 (q, ¹J_{C-F} = 273.1 Hz), 121.9, 63.6, 62.2, 24.2, 14.3;

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -62.8;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₂₀H₂₀O₄F₃SBr₂⁺ 570.9401, found 570.9374.

Synthesis of diethyl 2,2'-dibromo-5,5'-dimethoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,3'-dicarboxylate (4d).



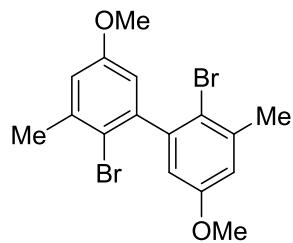
3,3'-Dimethoxy-5,5'-dimethyl-1,1'-biphenyl (**S9e**).

Following a reported procedure¹⁷, in a flame-dried round-bottom flask anhydrous CoCl₂ (130 mg, 1.00 mmol, 0.05 equiv) and magnesium turnings (632 mg, 24.00. mmol, 1.2 equiv) were suspended in 40 mL of anhydrous THF, followed by addition of 1-bromo-3-methoxy-5-methylbenzene **S9d** (4.02 g, 20.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv). Flask was closed with septum and blue suspension was stirred under a stream of dry air for 4 h, whereupon a dark suspension was formed. Reaction mixture was quenched with 30 mL of 0.5 M HCl and extracted with EtOAc (3x30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 5% EtOAc/petroleum ether to 15% EtOAc /petroleum ether. Colorless oil (1.6 g, 66% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:10 EtOAc/petroleum ether, *R*_f=0.35.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.01 – 6.99 (2H, m), 6.94 – 6.91 (2H, m), 6.75 – 6.71 (2H, m), 3.85 (6H, s), 2.42 – 2.39 (6H, m);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 160.0, 142.8, 139.8, 120.8, 113.8, 110.1, 55.4, 21.8;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₁₆H₁₉O₂: 243.1385, found 243.1386.



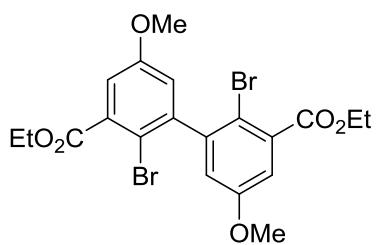
2,2'-Dibromo-5,5'-dimethoxy-3,3'-dimethyl-1,1'-biphenyl (S9f).

Following a reported procedure¹⁸, to a solution of biaryl **S9e** (1.77 g, 7.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in MeCN (10 mL) a solution of NBS (2.86 g, 16.1 mmol, 2.2 equiv) in MeCN (20 mL) was added dropwise within 10 min at 0 °C. Resulting pale yellow solution was stirred for 2 h at the same temperature, whereupon colorless sediments were formed. Reaction suspension was quenched with water (50 mL) and extracted with Et₂O (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 5% EtOAc/petroleum ether to 20% EtOAc /petroleum ether. Colorless powder (1.94 g, 66% yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:10 EtOAc/petroleum ether, R_f=0.31.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 6.84 (2H, d, J = 3.1 Hz), 6.62 (2H, d, J = 3.1 Hz), 3.79 (6H, s), 2.46 (6H, s).

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 158.2, 144.1, 139.6, 116.6, 116.2, 113.6, 55.6, 24.2;

Elemental analysis (%): calculated for C₁₆H₁₆Br₂O₂: C, 48.03; H, 4.03; found: C, 47.94; H, 4.03.



Diethyl 2,2'-dibromo-5,5'-dimethoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3,3'-dicarboxylate (4d).

Dibromobiarene **S9f** (1.8 g, 4.50 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was suspended in 2:1 v/v tBuOH:water (60 mL) and KMnO₄ (1.5 g, 9.45 mmol, 2.1 equiv) was added at ambient temperature. The resulting dark suspension was vigorously stirred and heated under reflux for 4 h, whereupon it was cooled to room temperature and additional KMnO₄ (1.5 g, 9.45 mmol, 2.1 equiv) was added. Heating at reflux temperature with vigorous stirring was continued for additional 18 h. The addition of additional KMnO₄ (1.5 g, 9.45 mmol, 2.1 equiv) to cooled reaction mixture followed by

refluxing with vigorous stirring for 24 h was repeated 2 more times. (a total of 6.0 g of KMnO₄ was used for this reaction) The resulting brown suspension was hot-filtered thought a plug of Celite. The plug was washed with water (100 mL) and EtOH (50 mL). The combined filtrates were concentrated under reduced pressure to ~1/3 of the starting volume. The resulting colorless solution was acidified by addition of aqueous 4 M HCl to pH 2, and extracted with EtOAc (3×50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Colorless oil was charged in to a flame-dried round-bottom flask and dissolved in absolute EtOH (10 mL). Thionyl chloride (1.3 mL, 18.0 mmol, 4.0 equiv) was then added dropwise, and the resulting yellowish solution was heated under reflux for 3 h. It was cooled to room temperature and all volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. Saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution (30 mL) was added, and the yellowish semi-solid residue was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3x20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water, brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product was purified by flash chromatography using gradient elution from 10% Et₂O/petroleum ether to 50% Et₂O/petroleum ether, then by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 50% MeCN/water to 95% MeCN/water. Off-white oil (622 mg, 27 % yield), analytical TLC on silica gel, 1:3 EtOAc/petroleum ether, R_f =0.37.

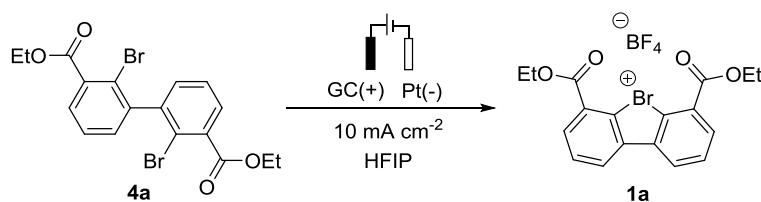
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 7.24 (2H, d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 6.86 (2H, d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 4.41 (4H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 3.82 (6H, s), 1.41 (6H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 166.8, 158.3, 144.6, 135.2, 119.0, 115.9, 112.2, 62.1, 55.9, 14.3.

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]⁺ calculated for C₂₀H₂₁O₆Br₂⁺ 514.9705, found 514.9706.

Optimization of electrochemical oxidation/cyclization of 2,2'-dibromo-1,1'-biphenyl **4a**

Table S1. Summary of optimization experiments.



Entry	Current density, <i>j</i> (mA·cm ⁻²)	Supporting Electrolyte	Passed charge equiv. (F)	1a, % ^a	4a, % ^a	Mass balance, % ^a
<i>Undivided cell</i>						
1	10	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	2	14	61	75
2	2	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	2	11	66	77
3	3	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	2	19	55	74
4	4	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	2	23	50	73
5	5	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	2	25	55	80
6	6	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	2	22	47	69
7	7	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	2	25	46	71
8	8	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	2	28	49	77
9	9	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	2	15	55	70
10	15	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	2	14	63	77
11	8	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	3	29	33	62
12	8	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	4	38	18	54
13	8	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	5	39	12	51
14	8	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	6	45	5	50
15	8	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	7	45	7	52
16	8	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	8	37	9	46
17	8	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	9	37	7	44
18	8	0.1 M NBu ₄ BF ₄	10	35	>5	>40
19	8	0.1 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	6	48	5	53
20	8	0.1 M NMe ₄ BF ₄	6	42	6	48
<i>Divided cell</i>						
21	8	0.25 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	2	60	24	84
22	3	0.25 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	2	41	30	71
23	4	0.25 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	2	42	32	73
24	5	0.25 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	2	47	23	70
25	6	0.25 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	2	46	22	68
26	10	0.25 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	2	54	24	78
27	13	0.25 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	2	42	28	70
28	8	0.25 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	2,5	46	21	64
29	8	0.25 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	3	41	19	60
30 ^b	8	0.25 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	2	62	0	62
31 ^c	8	0.25 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	2	57	10	67

Entry	Current density, <i>j</i> (mA·cm ⁻²)	Supporting Electrolyte	Passed charge equiv. (F)	1a, % ^a	4a, % ^a	Mass balance, % ^a
32	8	0.20 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	2	15	55	70
33	8	0.30 M NEt ₄ BF ₄	2	15	63	78
34	8	0.25 M NMe ₄ BF ₄	2	15	49	68

^aYields and mass balance were determined by ¹H-NMR in the crude reaction mixture using 1,2,3,4-tetrafluorobenzene as an internal standard; ^b Anode material: RVC; ^c Anode material: BDD

Published conditions for electrochemical oxidation of bromoarenes into λ^3 -bromanes^{19,20} were used as the starting point for the preparation of cyclic biaryl bromane **1a** from dibromo biphenyl **4a** (Table S1). Accordingly, electrochemical oxidation in an undivided cell using GC as anode and platinum foil as cathode in HFIP in presence of TBABF₄ as a supporting electrolyte afforded the desired biaryl bromane **1a** in 14% yield (entry 1) after passing 2 F per mole of starting material at 10 mA/cm² current density.

The following experimental variables were examined:

1) Undivided cell:

- a) Current density. Neither lower current density (2 mA/cm²) or higher current density (15 mA/cm²) could provide increase of the reaction yield (entry 2 or entry 10 vs. entry 1). At average current densities (from 3 mA/cm² to 8 mA/cm²) increase of product **1a** formation was observed (entries 3-8 vs. entry 1). Thus 8 mA/cm² current density was used in further optimization experiments.
- b) Amount of passed charge. The increase of passed charge equivalents from 2.0 F up to 7.0 F resulted in the substantial increase of bromane **1a** yield from 14% to 45% (entry 15 vs. 1). However, further increase of the passed charge amount did not result in further significant improvements (entries 16-18) and concomitantly, formation of degradation products was observed.
- c) Supporting electrolyte. TEA-BF₄ appeared to be somewhat superior as the electrolyte to TBA-BF₄ and Me₄N-BF₄ (entry 19 vs. 8 and 20).

In all experiments with passed charge amount of ≥ 6.0 F per mole (entries 14 – 20), nearly complete conversion of the starting **4a** and moderate yield of the desired **1a** was observed pointing at possible degradation of starting material or product. Linear sweep voltammetry (LVS) experiments (0.1 M TBA-BF₄ in HFIP on a Pt disk electrode) revealed that the reduction current increases almost 4 times upon the addition of 5 mM **1a** to the electrolyte (see SI

Figure S1). At the same time, passing 6.0 F per mole through a solution of **1a** in 50 mM TBA-BF₄/HFIP at $j = 8 \text{ mA/cm}^2$ led to 60% bromane **1a** degradation, suggesting that cationic **1a**, formed on anode, decomposes on a cathode. To avoid the undesired cathodic decomposition of **1a**, cathode and anode chambers were separated, and further experiments were performed in a divided cell.

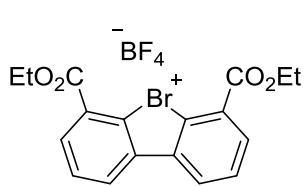
2) Divided cell:

- a) Cell type. The change of the cell type increased product **1a** yield from 28% (entry 8, undivided cell) to 60% (entry 21, divided cell).
- b) Current density. Lower current density (3 mA/cm^2) resulted in increase of the reaction time and slightly reduced product yield (entry 22 vs. entry 21). Higher current densities (10 and 13 mA/cm^2 , entries 26 and 27, respectively) led to increased conversion at the expense of the side product formation. Thus, 8 mA/cm^2 current density was used in further optimization experiments.
- c) Amount of passed charge. The increase of passed charge equivalents from 2.0 F up to 3.0 F resulted in the product **1a** yield decreases from 60% to 41% (entry 29 vs. 21).
- d) Working electrode material. The replacement of working electrode material to BDD or RVC (entry 30 and 31 vs. 21) gave no increase in product yield.
- e) Amount of electrolyte. Variation of electrolyte amount was not successful (entries 32-33 vs. 21).
- f) Supporting electrolyte. TEA-BF₄ appeared to be somewhat superior as the electrolyte to Me₄N-BF₄ (entry 21 vs. 34).

Bromane **1** synthesis via electrochemical oxidation of bromobiphenyls **4**

General procedure G for electrochemical oxidation of bromobiphenyls **4**

An anode chamber of 10 mL divided electrochemical cell *IKA Pro-Divide* was charged with biphenyl **4** (0.15 mmol, 1 equiv), both anode and cathode chamber were charged with NEt₄BF₄ (0.75 mmol, 5 equiv) and HFIP (3 mL). A 8×5×2 glassy carbon plate (immersed electrode surface area $A=1.0\text{ cm}^2$) was used as a working electrode and a 5×4×0.1 mm Pt sheet (immersed electrode surface area $A=1.0\text{ cm}^2$) as a counter electrode. The electrolysis was carried out under galvanostatic conditions at room temperature, and 2.0 F/mol charge with a current density of 8 mA/cm² was passed through the colorless solution. The resulting dark yellow solution was concentrated under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel using gradient elution from 5% MeCN in water to 95% MeCN in water.



4,6-bis(Ethoxycarbonyl)dibenzo[b,d]bromol-5-ium tetrafluoroborate (1a**).**

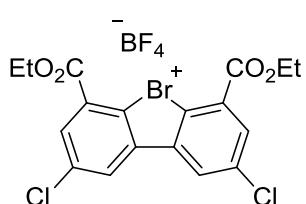
Following General Procedure G, biphenyl **4a** (68 mg, 0.15 mmol) was converted into **1a**. White powder (24 mg, 43% yield).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 9.23 (2H, dd, $J = 7.7, 1.4\text{ Hz}$), 8.41 (2H, dd, $J = 7.7, 1.4\text{ Hz}$), 8.16 (2H, t, $J = 7.7\text{ Hz}$), 4.64 (4H, q, $J = 7.2\text{ Hz}$), 1.53 (6H, t, $J = 7.2\text{ Hz}$);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.1, 135.5, 133.6, 133.5, 132.3, 132.2, 124.6, 64.8, 14.1;

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -153.6;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M-BF₄]⁺ calculated for C₁₈H₁₆BrO₄⁺ 375.0232, found 375.0242.



2,8-Dichloro-4,6-bis(ethoxycarbonyl)dibenzo[b,d]bromol-5-ium tetrafluoroborate (1b**).**

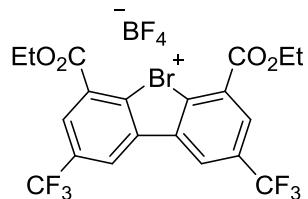
Following General Procedure G, biphenyl **4b** (79 mg, 0.15 mmol) was converted into **1b**. White powder (14 mg, 21% yield).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm) δ 9.29 (2H, d, $J = 2.2\text{ Hz}$), 8.53 (2H, d, $J = 2.2\text{ Hz}$), 4.62 (4H, q, $J = 7.1\text{ Hz}$), 1.47 (6H, t, $J = 7.1\text{ Hz}$);

$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm) δ 163.8, 138.0, 135.3, 132.7, 131.6, 131.4, 126.0, 64.8, 13.9;

^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm) δ -148.4;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M-BF₄]⁺ calculated for C₁₈H₁₄BrCl₂O₄⁺ 442.9453, found 442.9458.



4,6-bis(Ethoxycarbonyl)-2,8-bis(trifluoromethyl)dibenzo[b,d]bromol-5-ium tetrafluoroborate (1c).

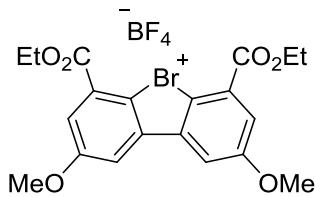
Following General Procedure G, biphenyl **4c** (89 mg, 0.15 mmol) was converted into **1c**. White powder (22 mg, 29% yield).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm) δ 9.79 (2H, d, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 8.76 (2H, d, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 4.67 (4H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.50 (6H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz);

$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm) δ 163.9, 138.0, 135.4, 133.5 (q, ²*J*_{C-F} = 33.8 Hz), 129.6 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.8 Hz), 128.4 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.7 Hz), 126.1, 122.9 (q, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 273.9 Hz), 65.0, 13.9;

^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm) δ -60.8, -148.4.

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M-BF₄]⁺ calculated for C₂₀H₁₄BrF₆O₄⁺ 510.9980, found 510.9979.



4,6-bis(Ethoxycarbonyl)-2,8-dimethoxydibenzo[b,d]bromol-5-ium tetrafluoroborate (1d).

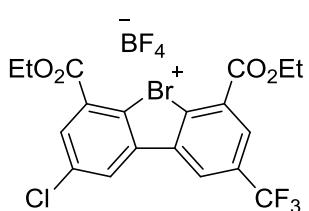
Following General Procedure G, biphenyl **4d** (77 mg, 0.15 mmol) was converted into **1d**. Pale yellow powder (14 mg, 21% yield).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.57 (2H, s), 7.84 (2H, s), 4.62 (4H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 4.14 (6H, s), 1.52 (6H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz);

$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.1, 164.1, 136.9, 124.6, 123.0, 121.6, 115.1, 64.7, 58.1, 14.2;

^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -148.3;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M-BF₄]⁺ calculated for C₂₀H₂₀O₆Br⁺ 435.0443, found 435.0443.



2-Chloro-4,6-bis(ethoxycarbonyl)-8-(trifluoromethyl)dibenzo[b,d]bromol-5-ium tetrafluoroborate (1e).

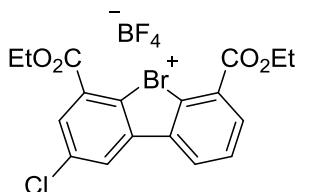
Following General Procedure G, biphenyl **4e** (77 mg, 0.15 mmol) was converted into **1e**. White powder (15 mg, 22% yield).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$, ppm) δ 9.62 (1H, d, $J = 1.5$ Hz), 9.48 (1H, d, $J = 2.3$ Hz), 8.73 (1H, d, $J = 1.5$ Hz), 8.57 (1H, d, $J = 2.3$ Hz), 4.69 – 4.59 (4H, m), 1.52 – 1.44 (6H, m);

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\} \text{NMR}$ (101 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$, ppm) δ 163.9, 163.8, 138.1, 137.7, 135.5, 135.3, 133.5 (q, $^2J_{\text{C-F}} = 33.9$ Hz), 133.0, 131.8, 131.7, 129.11 (q, $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.7$ Hz), 128.2 (q, $^3J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.8$ Hz), 126.1, 126.0, 122.8 (q, $^1J_{\text{C-F}} = 273.7$ Hz), 64.9, 64.8, 13.9;

$^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$, ppm) δ -60.8, -148.4;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M-BF₄]⁺ calculated for C₁₉H₁₄O₄ClBrF₃⁺ 476.9716, found 476.9725.



2-Chloro-4,6-bis(ethoxycarbonyl)dibenzo[b,d]bromol-5-ium tetrafluoroborate (1f).

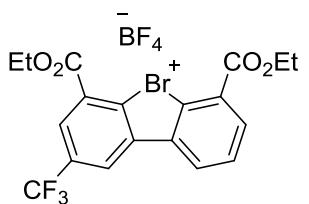
Following General Procedure G, biphenyl **4f** (74 mg, 0.15 mmol) was converted into **1f**. Pale yellow powder (14 mg, 23% yield).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 8.71 (1H, dd, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1.4 Hz), 8.61 (1H, d, $J = 2.1$ Hz), 8.40 (1H, d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2.1 Hz), 8.29 (1H, d, $J = 2.1$ Hz), 8.08 (1H, t, $J = 7.7$ Hz), 4.70 – 4.60 (4H, m), 1.58 – 1.49 (6H, m);

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\} \text{NMR}$ (101 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ 165.2, 164.2, 139.9, 136.9, 134.4, 134.3, 133.7, 132.6, 132.3, 131.8, 131.7, 131.2, 125.9, 124.7, 65.2, 64.9, 14.2, 14.2;

$^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, CDCl_3 , ppm) δ -153.6;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M-BF₄]⁺ calculated for C₁₈H₁₅O₄ClBr⁺ 408.9842, found 408.9840.



4,6-bis(Ethoxycarbonyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)dibenzo[b,d]bromol-5-ium tetrafluoroborate (1g).

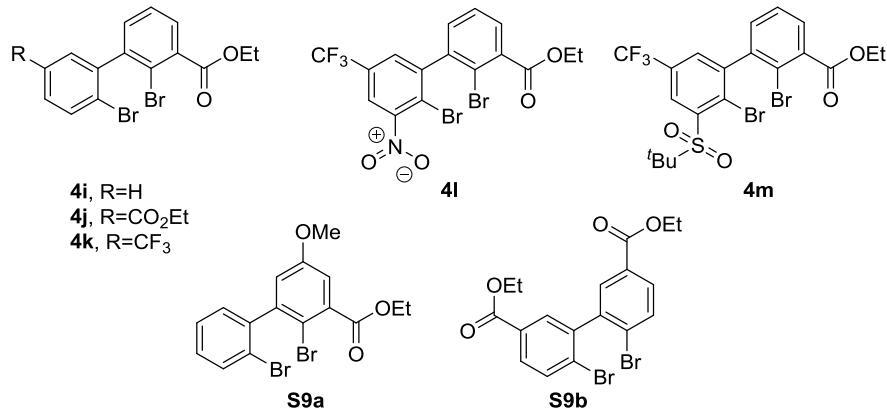
Following General Procedure G, biphenyl **4g** (79 mg, 0.15 mmol) was converted into **1g**. White powder (16 mg, 24% yield).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 8.82 (1H, d, *J* = 1.9 Hz), 8.74 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.9 Hz), 8.54 (1H, d, *J* = 1.9 Hz), 8.42 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.9 Hz), 8.09 (1H, t, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 4.71 – 4.61 (4H, m), 1.58 – 1.50 (6H, m);

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 165.2, 164.1, 136.9, 136.8, 135.6 (q, ²*J*_{C-F} = 34.5 Hz), 135.0, 134.5, 133.6, 132.8, 131.9, 128.3 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 127.9 (q, ³*J*_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 126.3, 124.9, 122.6 (q, ¹*J*_{C-F} = 274.0 Hz), 65.4, 65.0, 14.2;

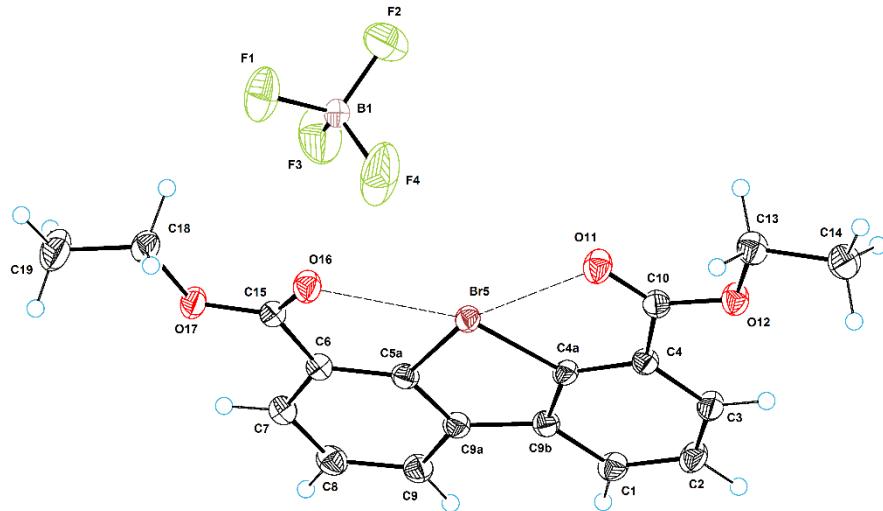
¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ -62.4, -153.9;

HRMS (ESI): m/z [M-BF₄]⁺ calculated for C₁₉H₁₅O₄BrF₃ 443.0106, found 443.0109.



Scheme S1. List of substrates that do not undergo electrochemical oxidation/cyclization reaction.

Crystal data and structure refinement for biaryl λ^3 -bromane 1a

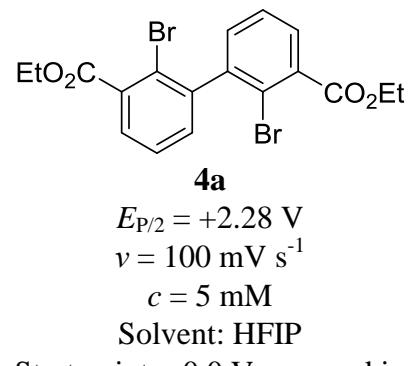


Identification code	ISR-454-7
Empirical formula	C ₁₈ H ₁₆ BBrF ₄ O ₄
Formula weight	463.05
Temperature/K	160.0(1)
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 ₁ /c
a/Å	10.2442(1)
b/Å	9.9297(1)
c/Å	18.1776(2)
α/°	90
β/°	99.648(1)
γ/°	90
Volume/Å ³	1822.91(3)
Z	4
ρ _{calc} g/cm ³	1.6870
μ/mm ⁻¹	3.659
F(000)	928
Crystal size/mm ³	0.18 × 0.13 × 0.05
Radiation	Cu Kα (λ = 1.54184 Å)
2Θ max. for data collection/°	160
Index ranges	-12 ≤ h ≤ 13, -12 ≤ k ≤ 9, -23 ≤ l ≤ 23
Reflections collected	26364
Independent reflections	3956 [R _{int} = 0.0281, R _{sigma} = 0.0174]
Data/restraints/parameters	3956/0/263
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.041
Final R indexes [I > 2σ(I)]	R ₁ = 0.0403, wR ₂ = 0.1087
Final R indexes [all data]	R ₁ = 0.0409, wR ₂ = 0.1093
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	1.36/-1.00

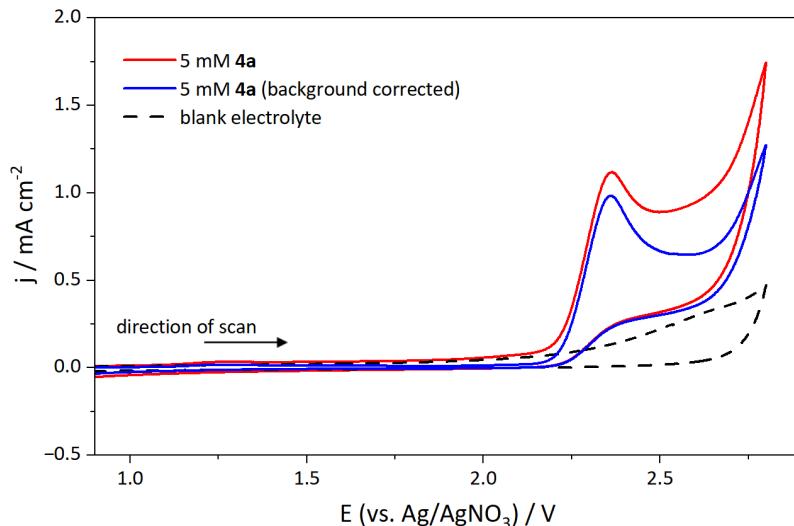
Cyclic Voltammetry

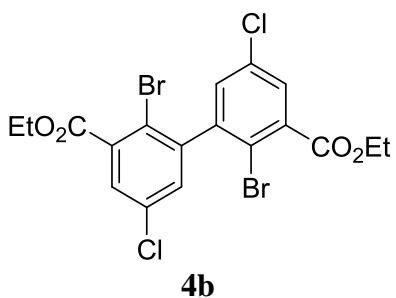
The experiments were carried out in a custom-made three-electrode cell using a PGSTAT 128N (Metrohm, Autolab). A glassy carbon disc (diameter: 1.6 mm) or platinum disc (diameter: 3.0 mm) served as the working electrode, and a platinum wire as the counter electrode. The glassy carbon disk was polished using polishing alumina (0.05 µm) prior to each experiment. As reference, an Ag/AgNO₃ electrode [silver wire in 0.1 M NBu₄BF₄/CH₃CN solution; *c*(AgNO₃) = 0.01 M; *E*₀ = -87 mV vs. Fc/Fc⁺ couple]²¹ was used, and this compartment was separated from the rest of the cell with a Vycor frit. Unless stated otherwise, NBu₄BF₄ (0.1 M, electrochemical grade) was employed as the supporting electrolyte in HFIP solution. The electrolyte was purged with Ar for at least 5 min prior to recording. Compounds were analyzed at a concentration of 5 mM and a scan rate of 100 mV s⁻¹. The half-peak potentials (*E*_{P/2}) and peak potentials *E*_P were extracted from background-corrected voltammograms.

Anodic oxidation of bromobiphenyls **4**, S9a-b



Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction





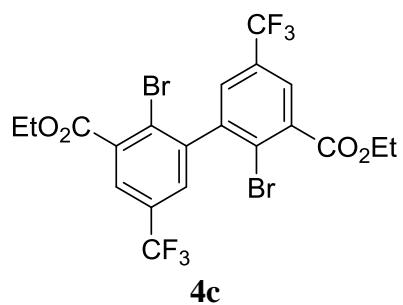
$E_{P/2} = +2.35 \text{ V}$

$\nu = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$

$c = 5 \text{ mM}$

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction



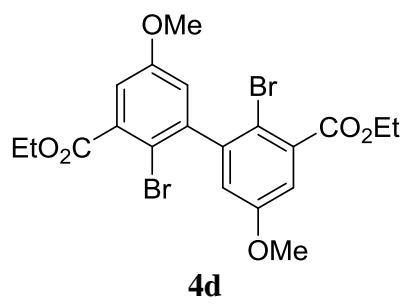
$E_{P/2} = +2.88 \text{ V}$

$\nu = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$

$c = 5 \text{ mM}$

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction



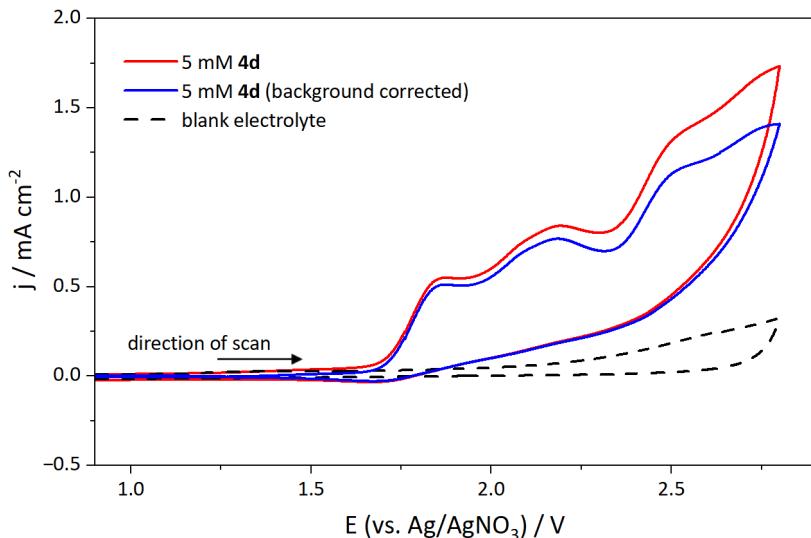
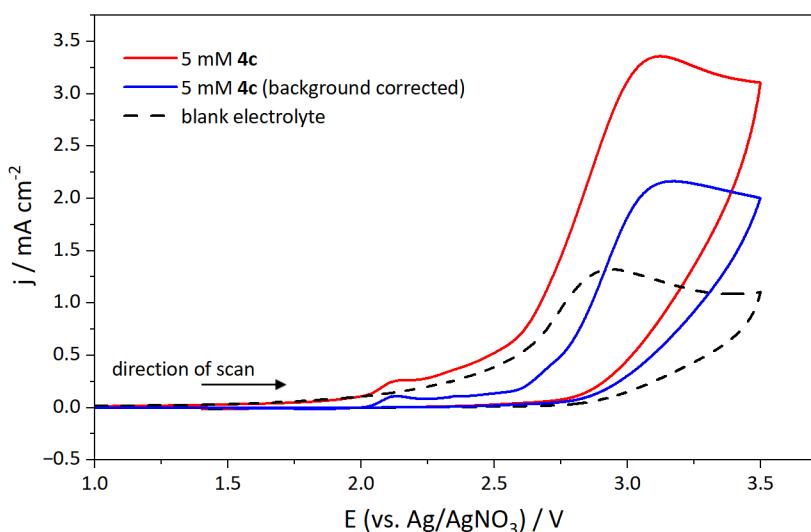
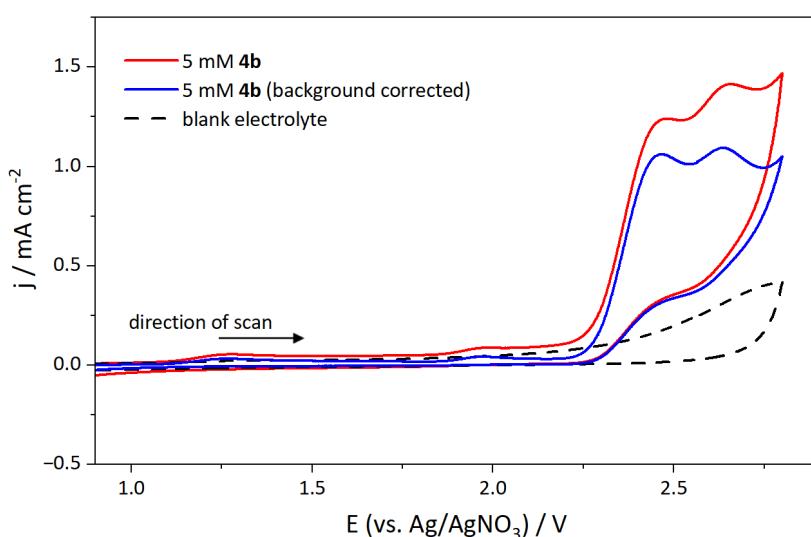
$E_{P/2} = +1.77 \text{ V}$

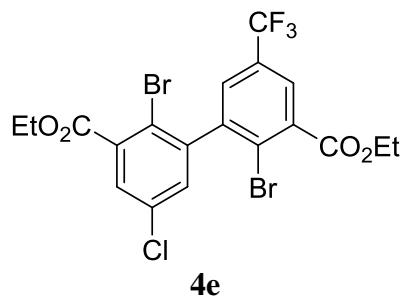
$\nu = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$

$c = 5 \text{ mM}$

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction





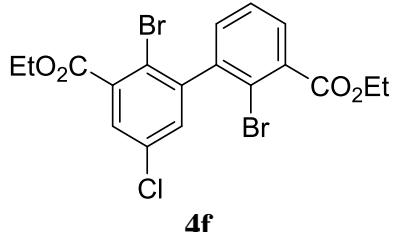
$E_{P/2} = +2.39 \text{ V}$

$v = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$

$c = 5 \text{ mM}$

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction



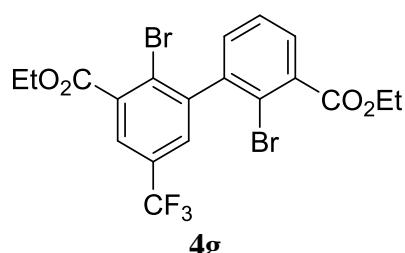
$E_{P/2} = +2.30 \text{ V}$

$v = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$

$c = 5 \text{ mM}$

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction



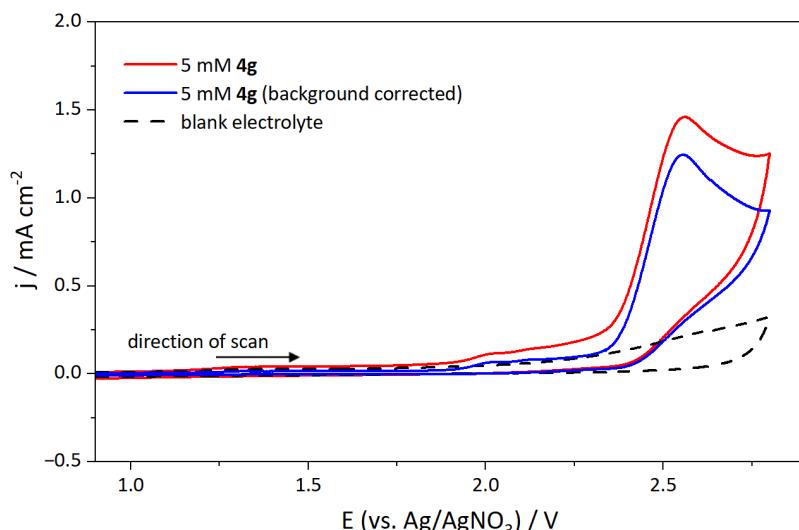
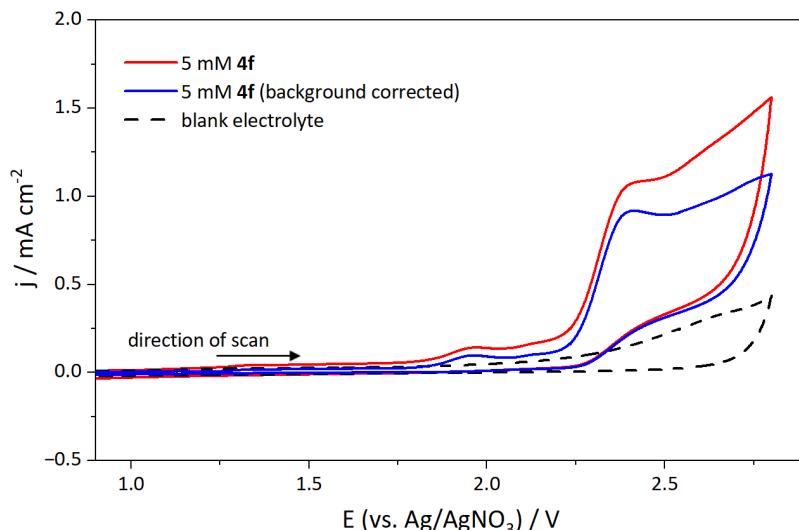
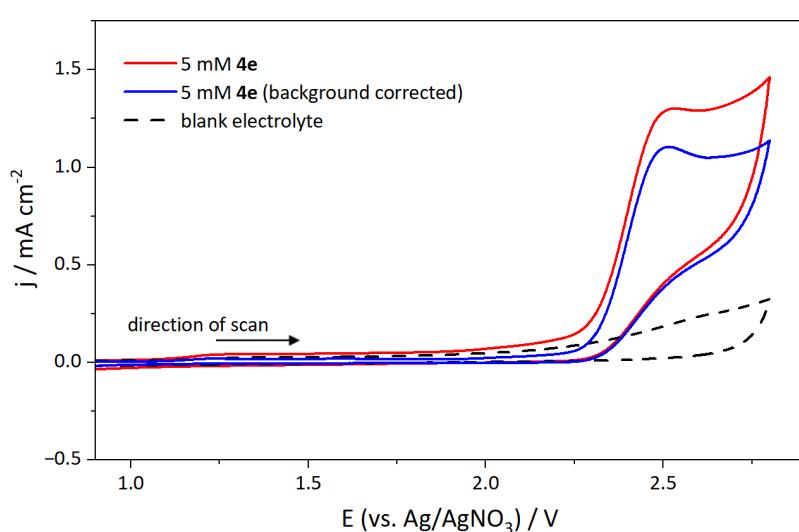
$E_{P/2} = +2.45 \text{ V}$

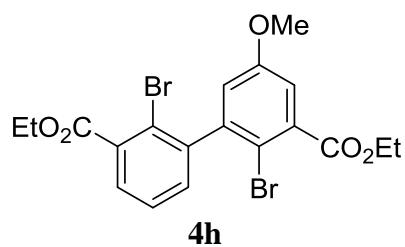
$v = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$

$c = 5 \text{ mM}$

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction





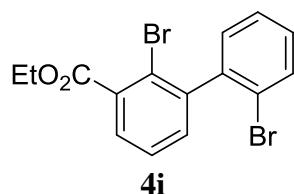
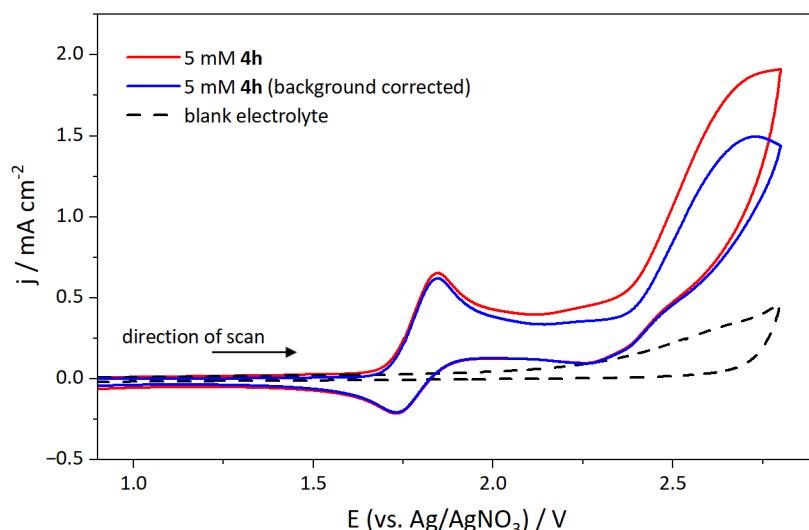
$E_{P/2} = +1.75 \text{ V}$

$v = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$

$c = 5 \text{ mM}$

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction



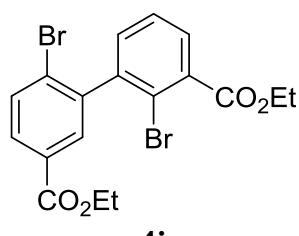
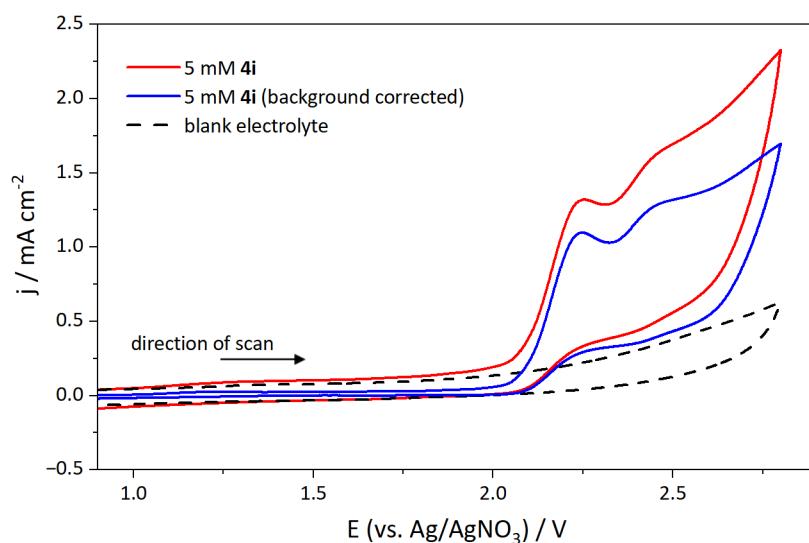
$E_{P/2} = +2.15 \text{ V}$

$v = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$

$c = 5 \text{ mM}$

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction



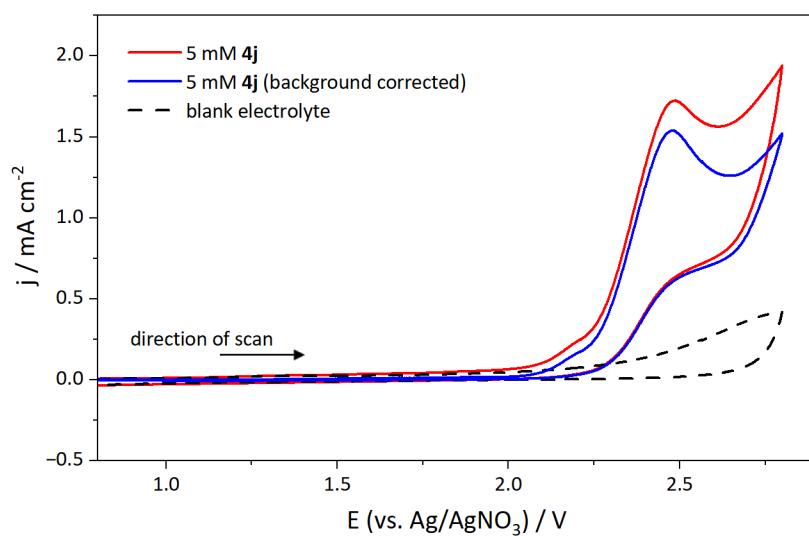
$E_{P/2} = +2.34 \text{ V}$

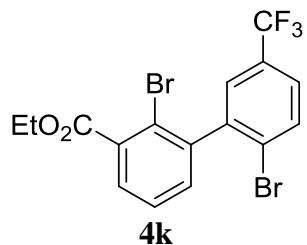
$v = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$

$c = 5 \text{ mM}$

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction





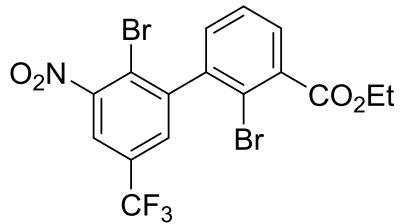
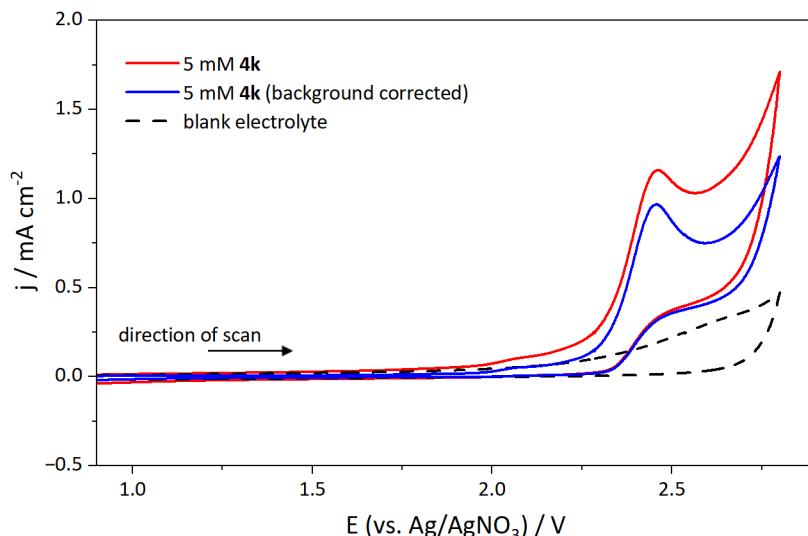
$$E_{\text{P}/2} = +2.37 \text{ V}$$

$$v = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$$

$$c = 5 \text{ mM}$$

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in
positive direction



41

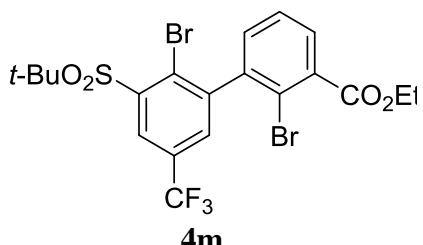
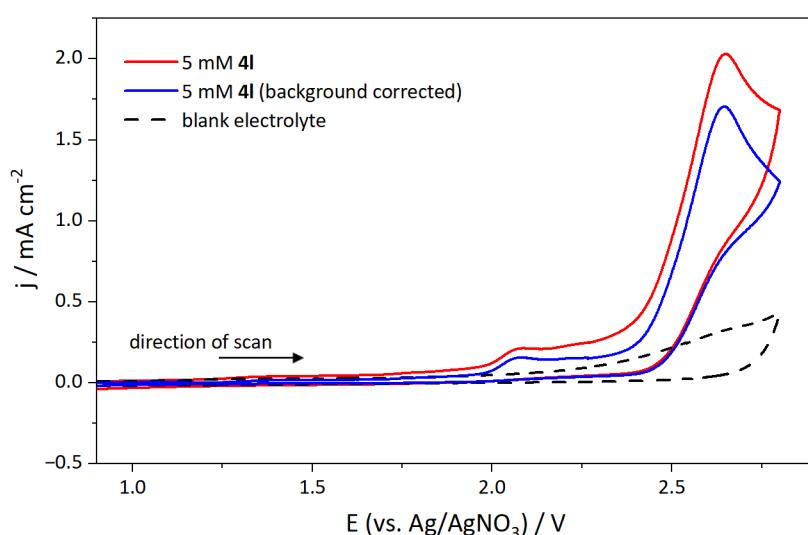
$$E_{\text{P}/2} = +2.53 \text{ V}$$

$$v = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$$

$c = 5$ mM

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in
positive direction



- 2

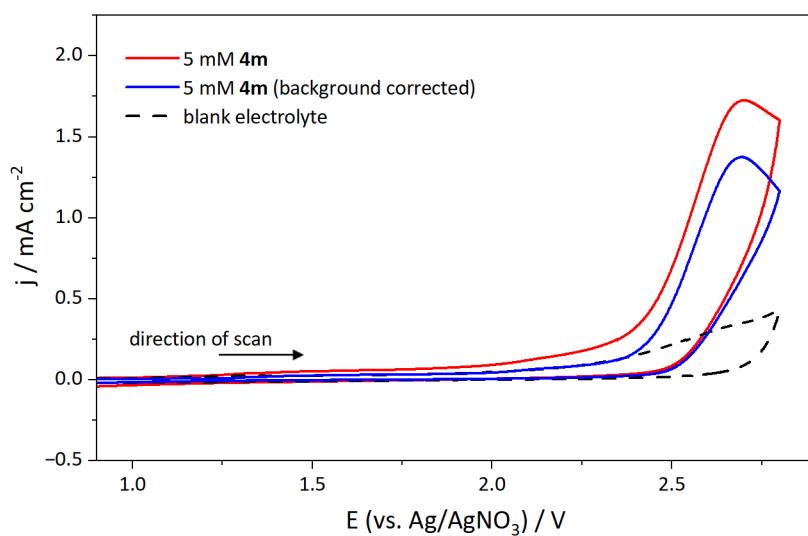
$$v = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$$

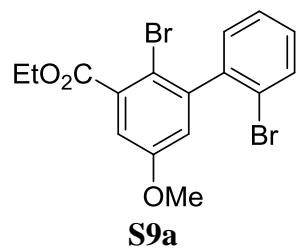
$c = 5 \text{ mM}$

Solvent: HEIP

Solvent: THF-H₂O

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction





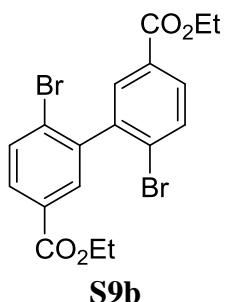
$E_{P/2} = +1.73 \text{ V}$

$v = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$

$c = 5 \text{ mM}$

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction



$E_{P/2} = +2.37 \text{ V}$

$v = 100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$

$c = 5 \text{ mM}$

Solvent: HFIP

Start point = 0.0 V, scanned in positive direction

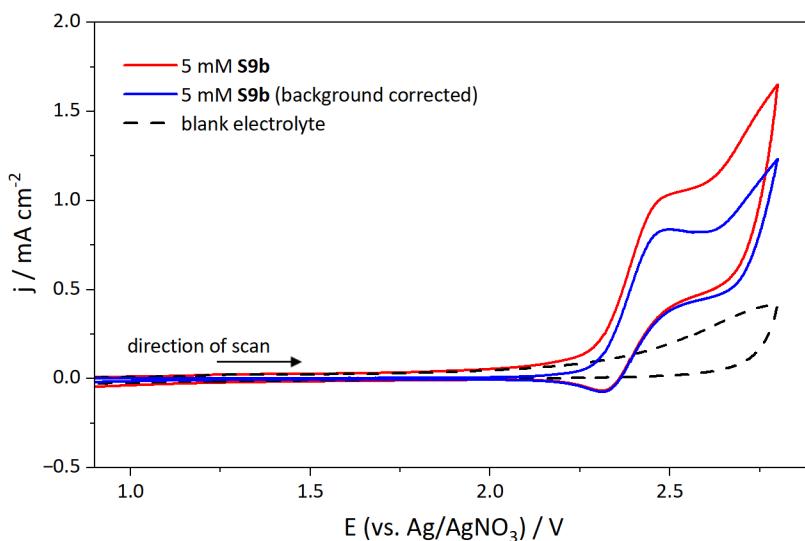
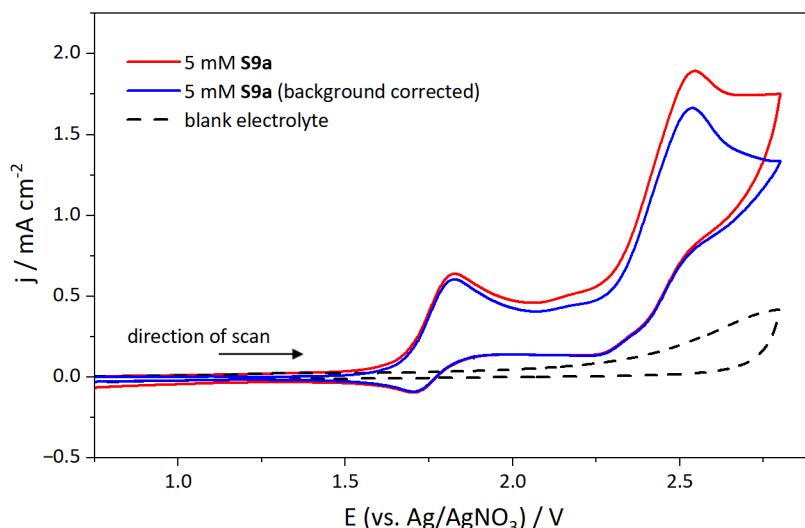


Table S2. Summary of the half-peak potentials of bromobiphenyls **4**, **S9a-b** in HFIP

Compound	$E_{\text{P}/2}$ / V
4a	+2.28
4b	+2.35
4c	+2.88
4d	+1.77
4e	+2.39
4f	+2.30
4g	+2.45
4h	+1.75
4i	+2.15
4j	+2.34
4k	+2.37
4l	+2.53
4m	+2.54
S9a	+1.73
S9b	+2.37

Cathodic reduction of bromane **1a**

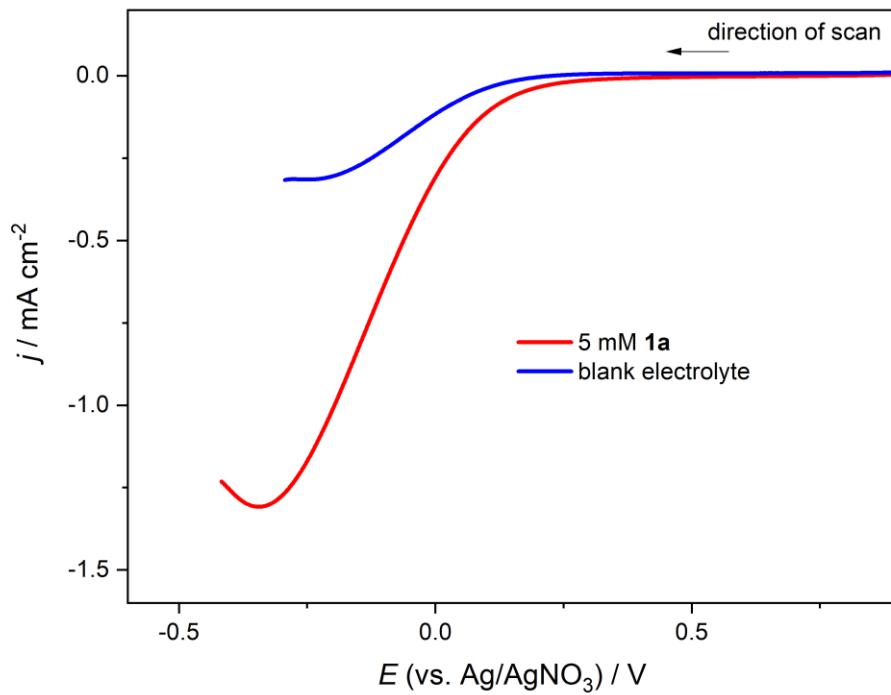
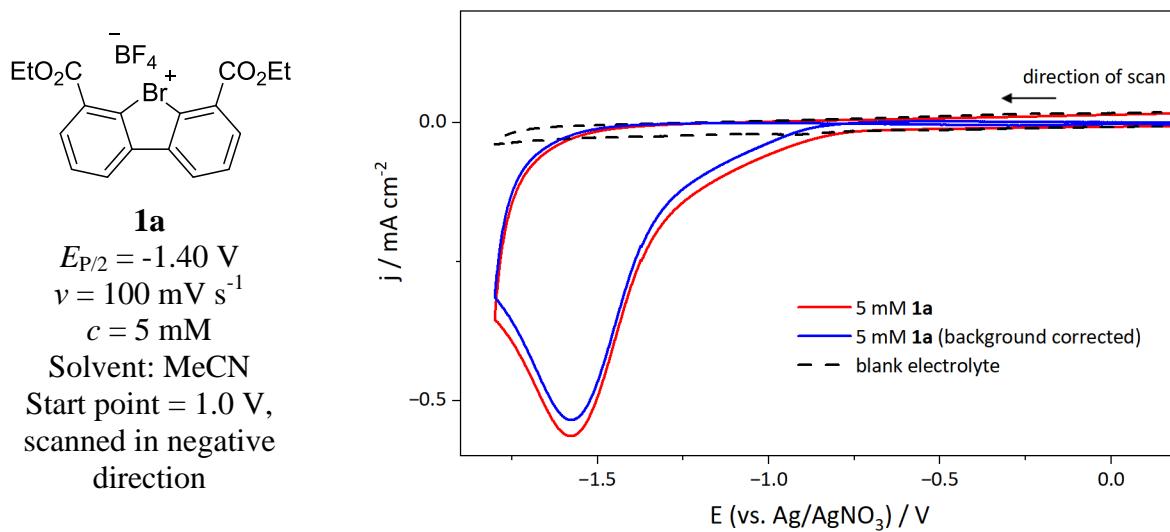


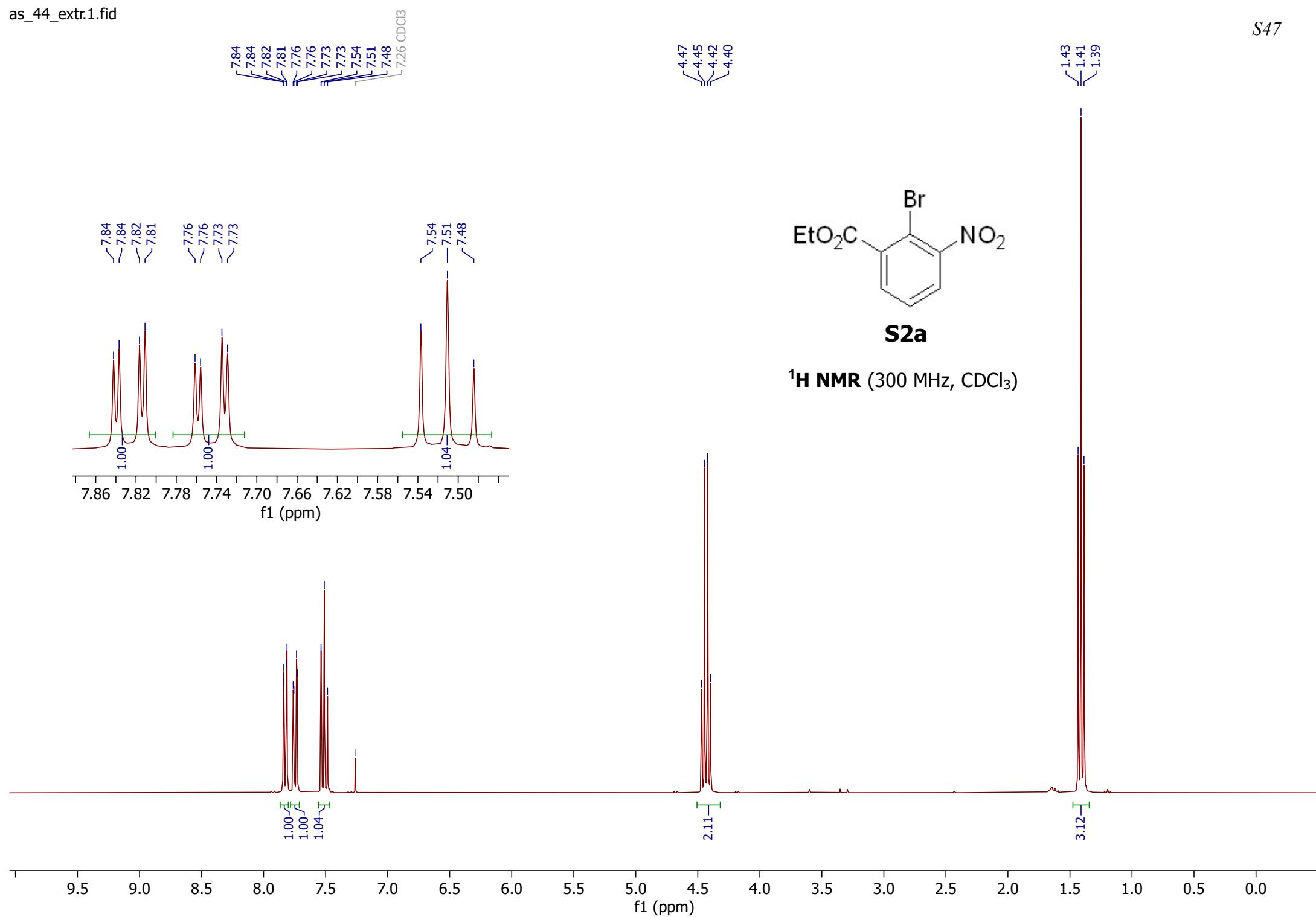
Figure S1. Linear sweep voltammograms (LSV) of blank electrolyte (0.1 M TBA-BF₄ in HFIP) and bromane **1a** ($c = 5 \text{ mM}$) recorded at 100 mV s^{-1} on Pt disk (diameter: 3.0 mm) working electrode.

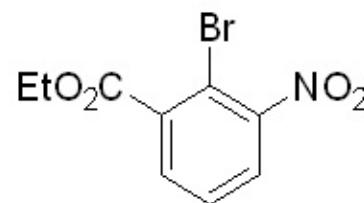
References

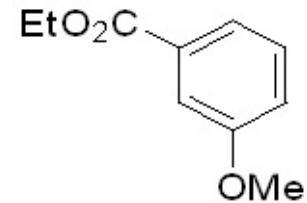
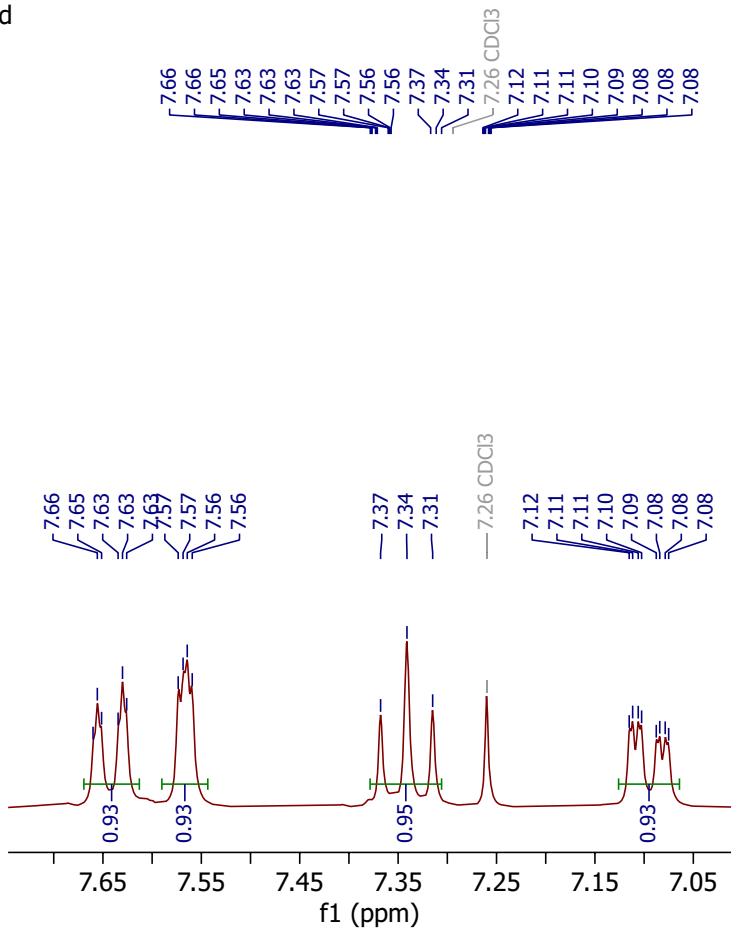
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NMR spectra

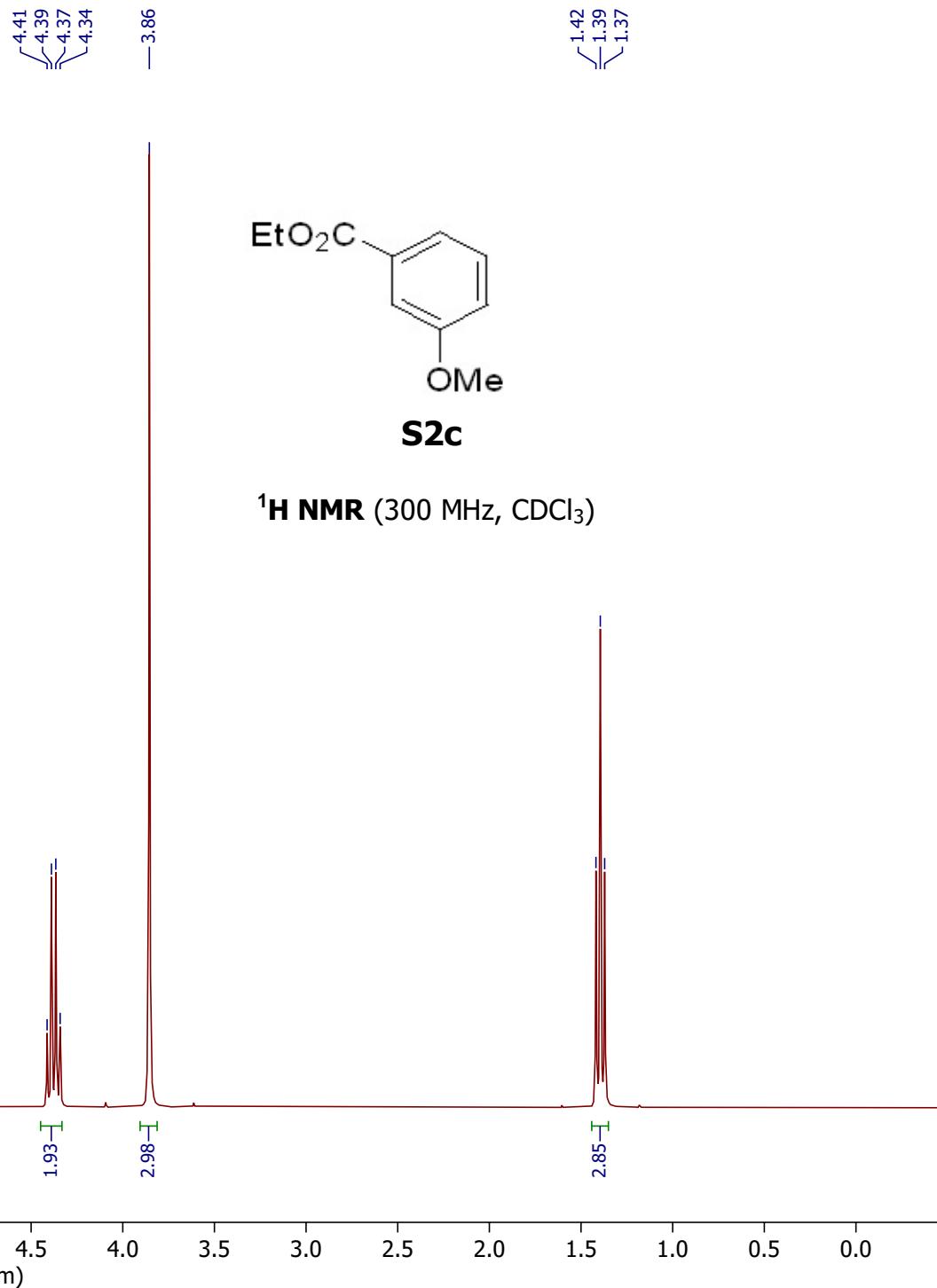


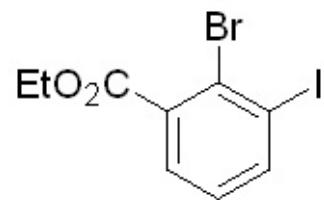
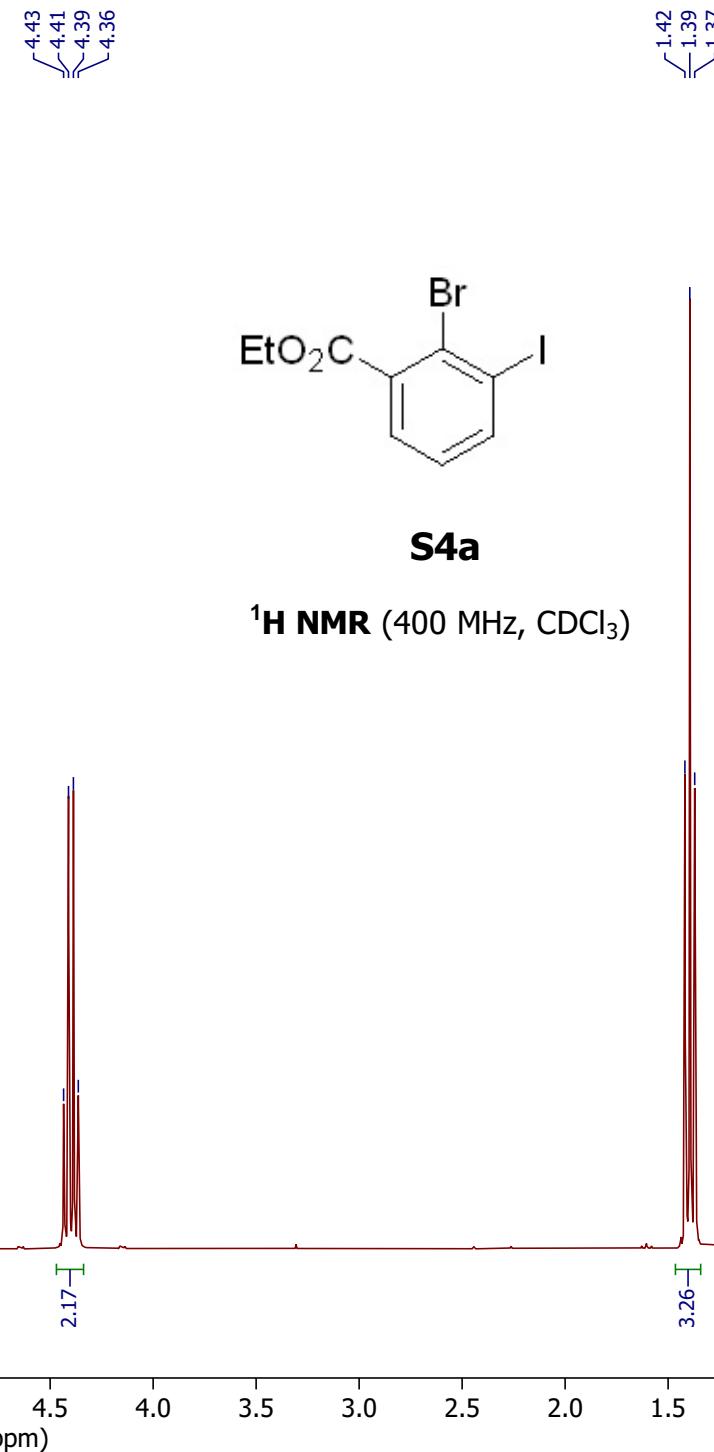
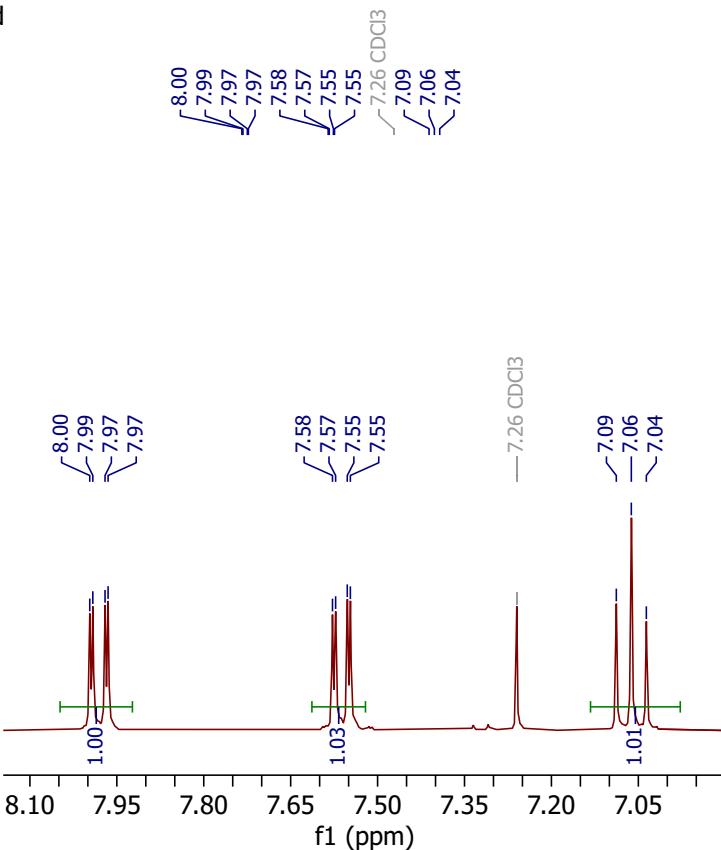
**S2a** $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃)



S2c

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)



**S4a**

—166.63

—142.58

—135.87

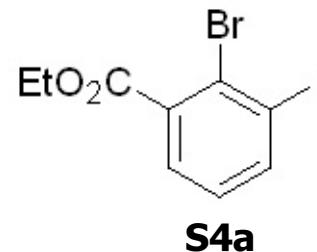
—129.63
—128.43
—127.61

—104.57

—77.16 CDCl₃

—62.22

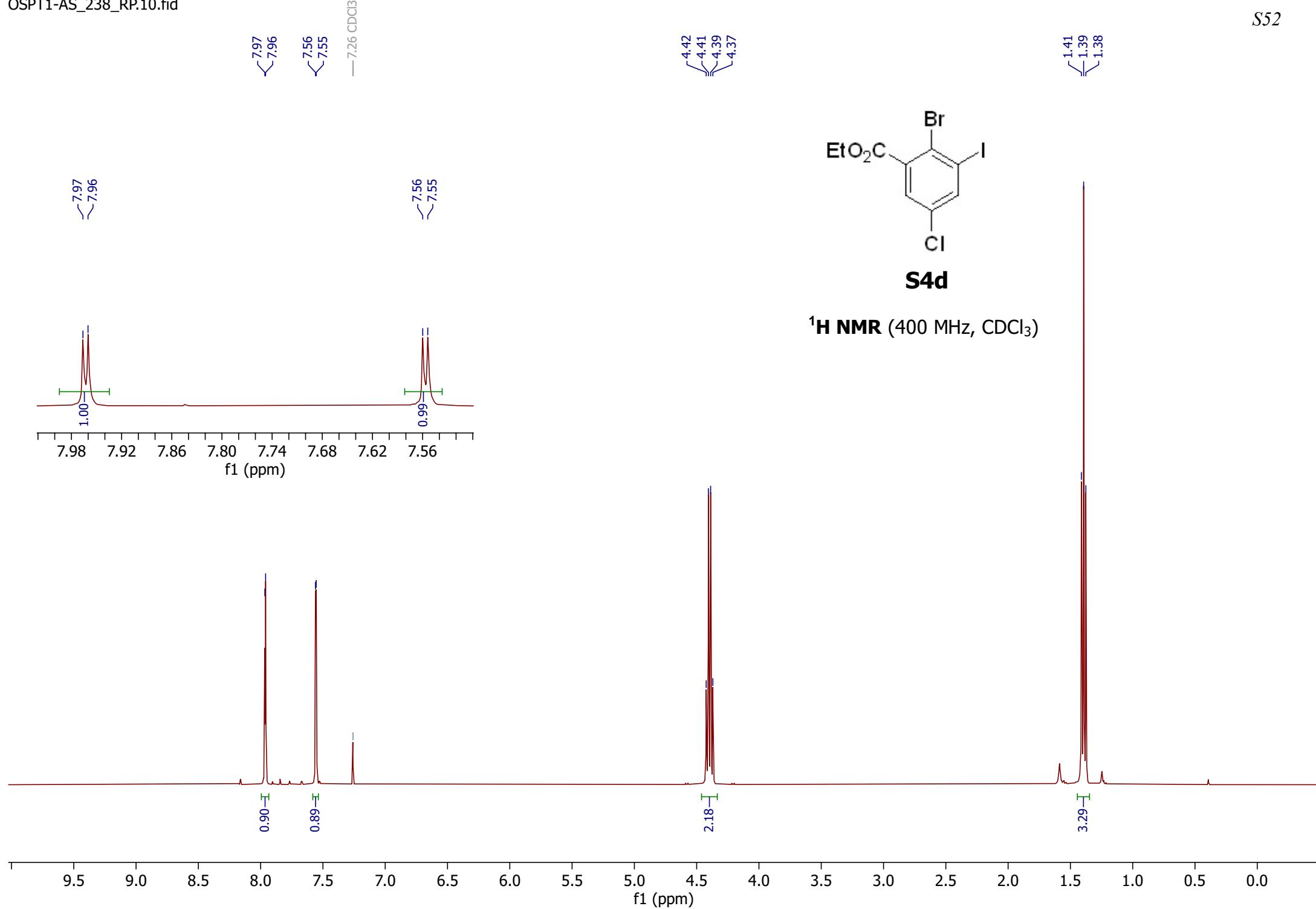
—14.26



¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0

f1 (ppm)



— 165.35

— 141.73

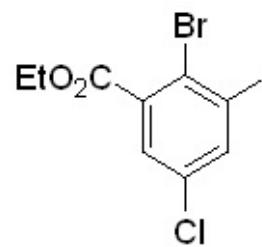
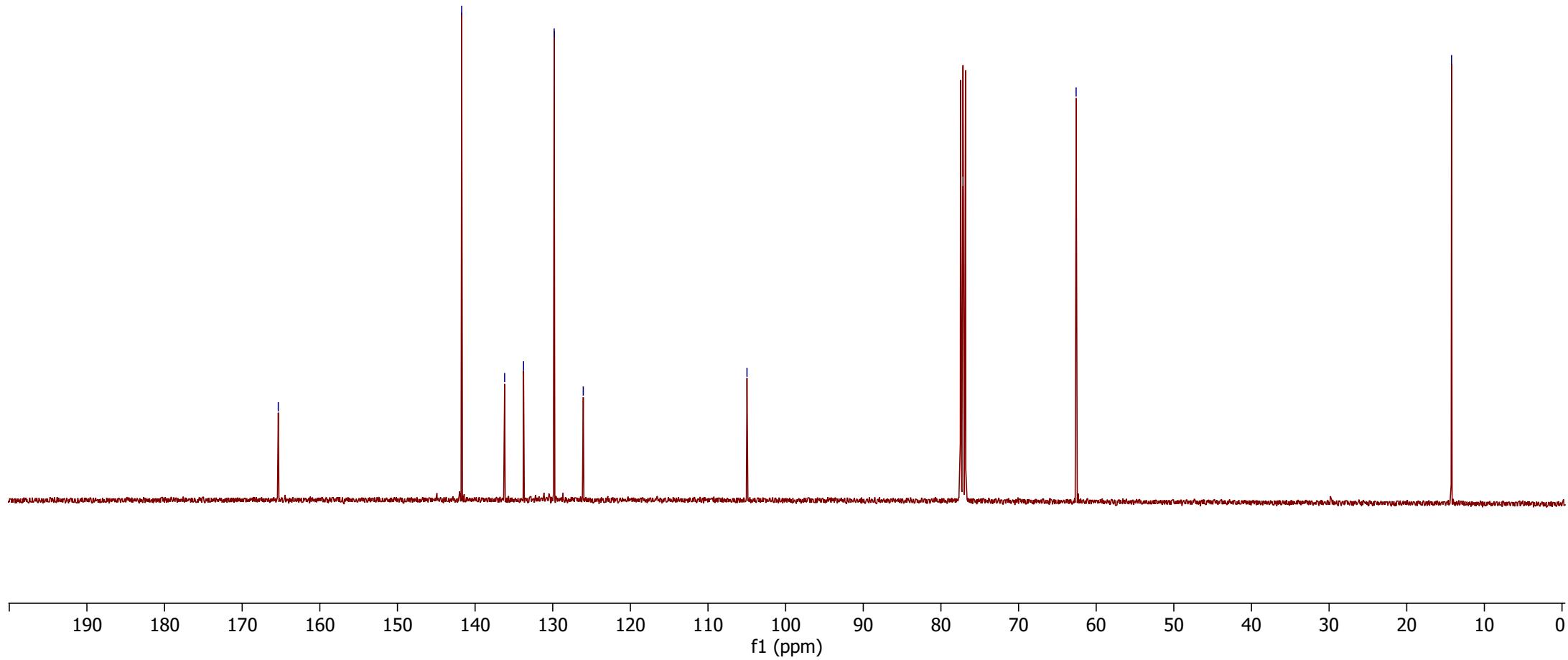
— 136.19
— 133.76
— 129.82
— 126.07

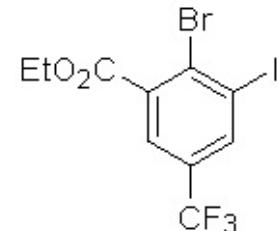
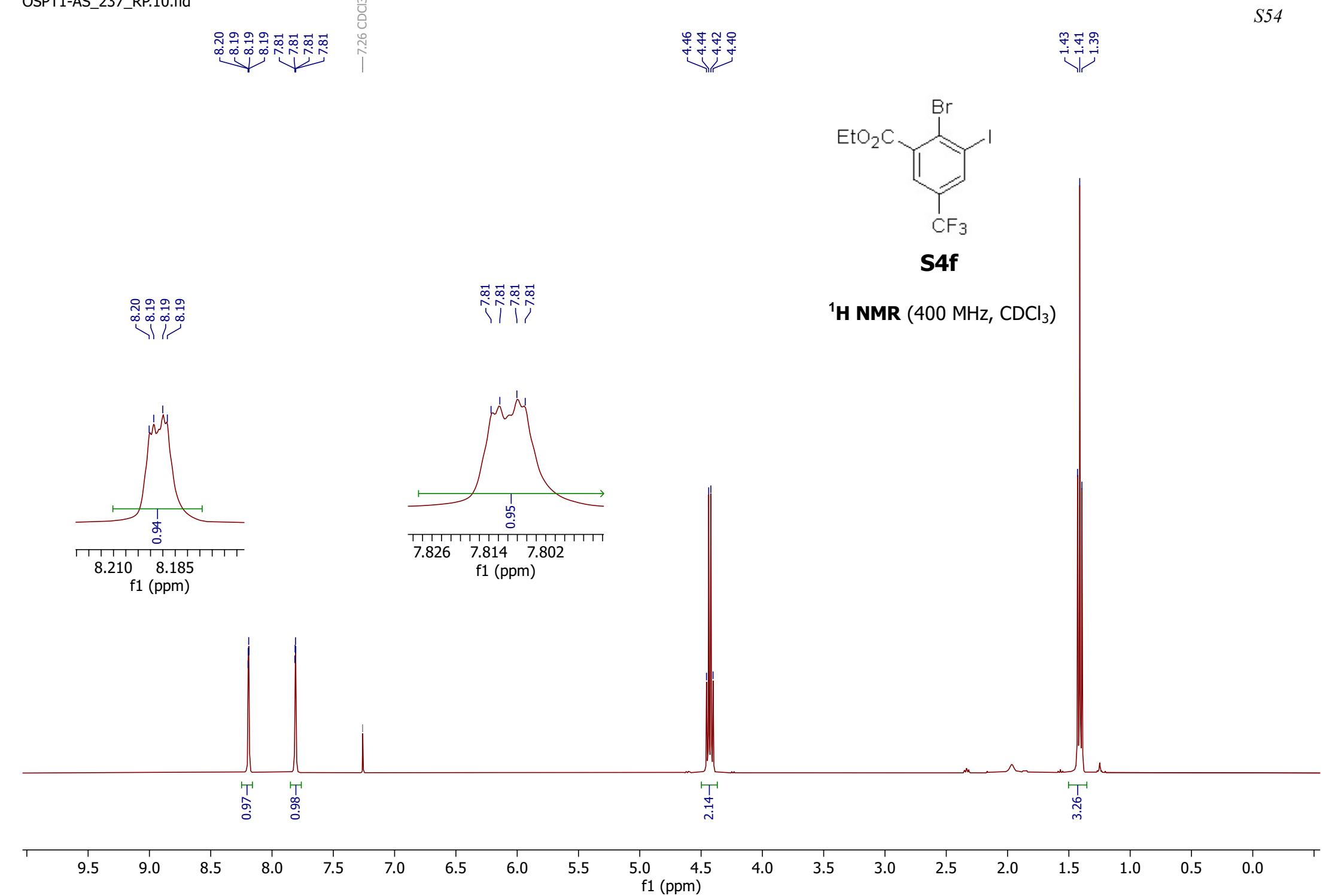
— 104.98

— 77.16 CDCl₃

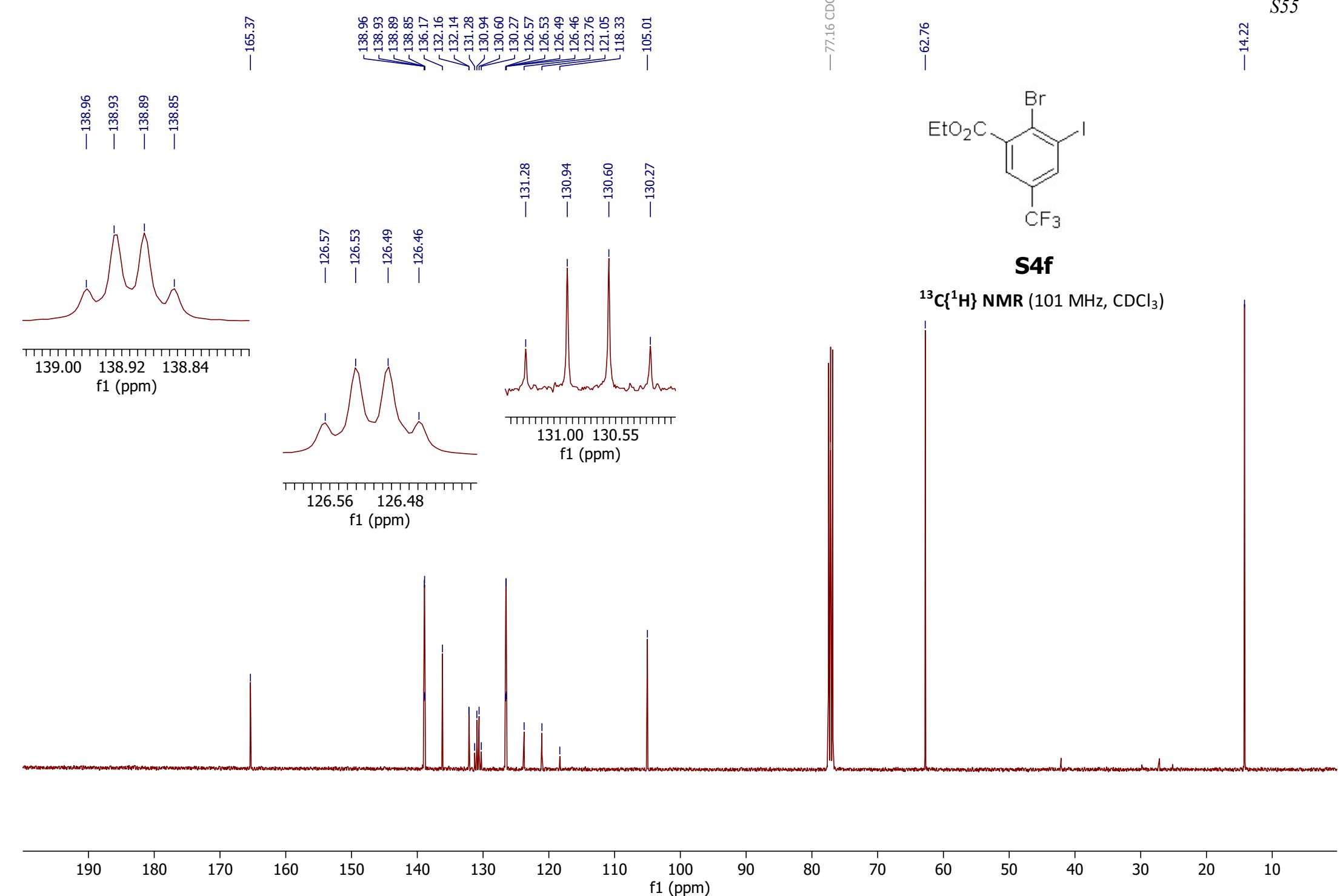
— 62.58

— 14.23

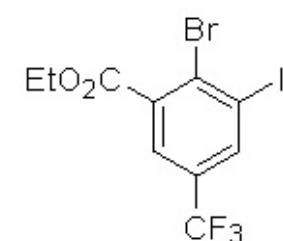
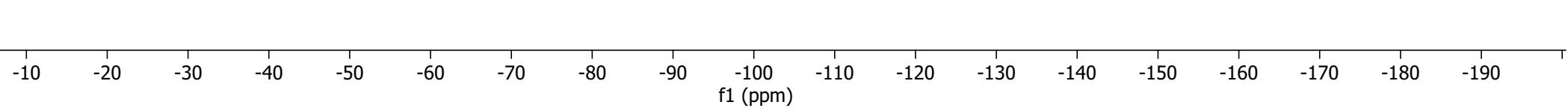
**S4d**¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

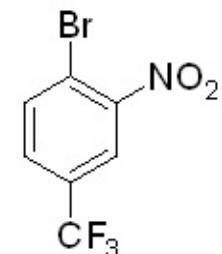
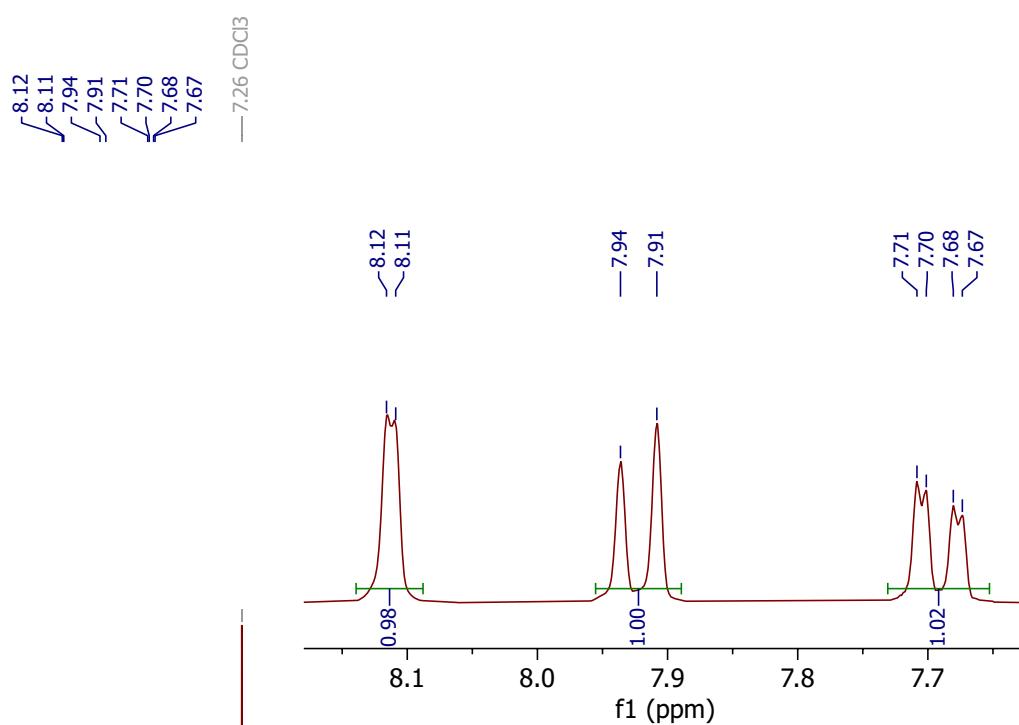


S4f

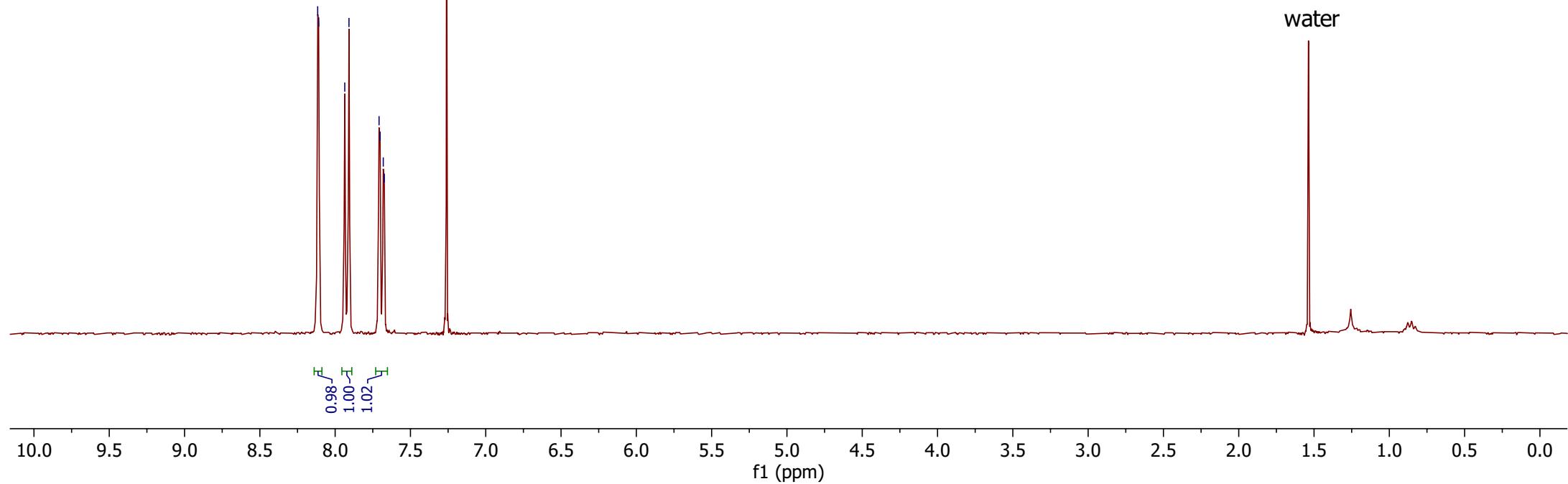


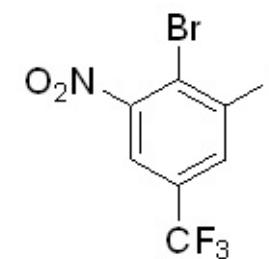
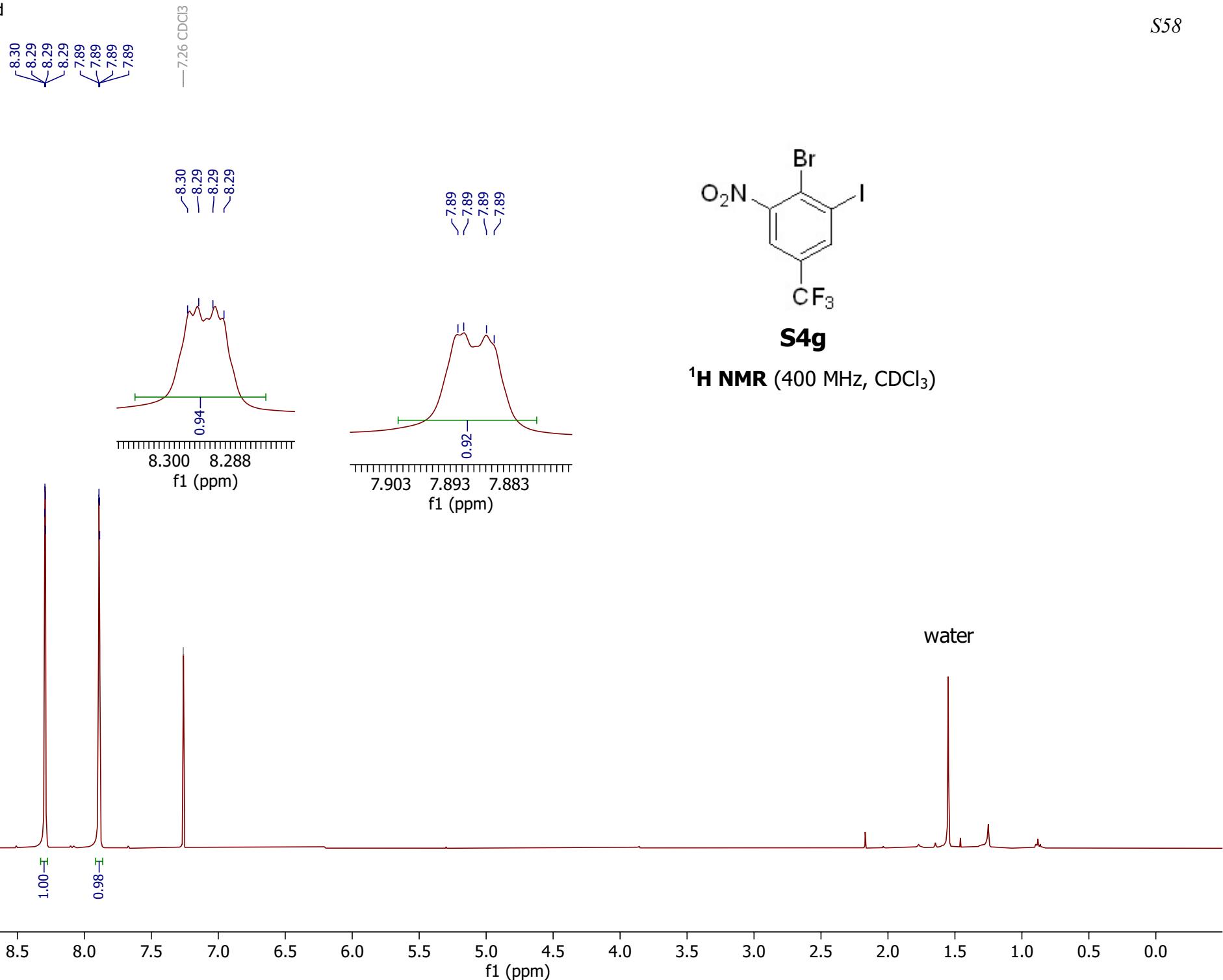
—62.94

**S4f****¹⁹F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl₃)

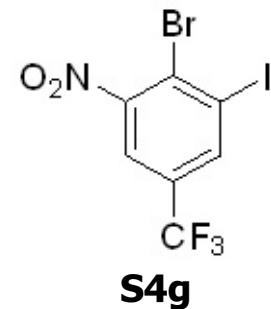
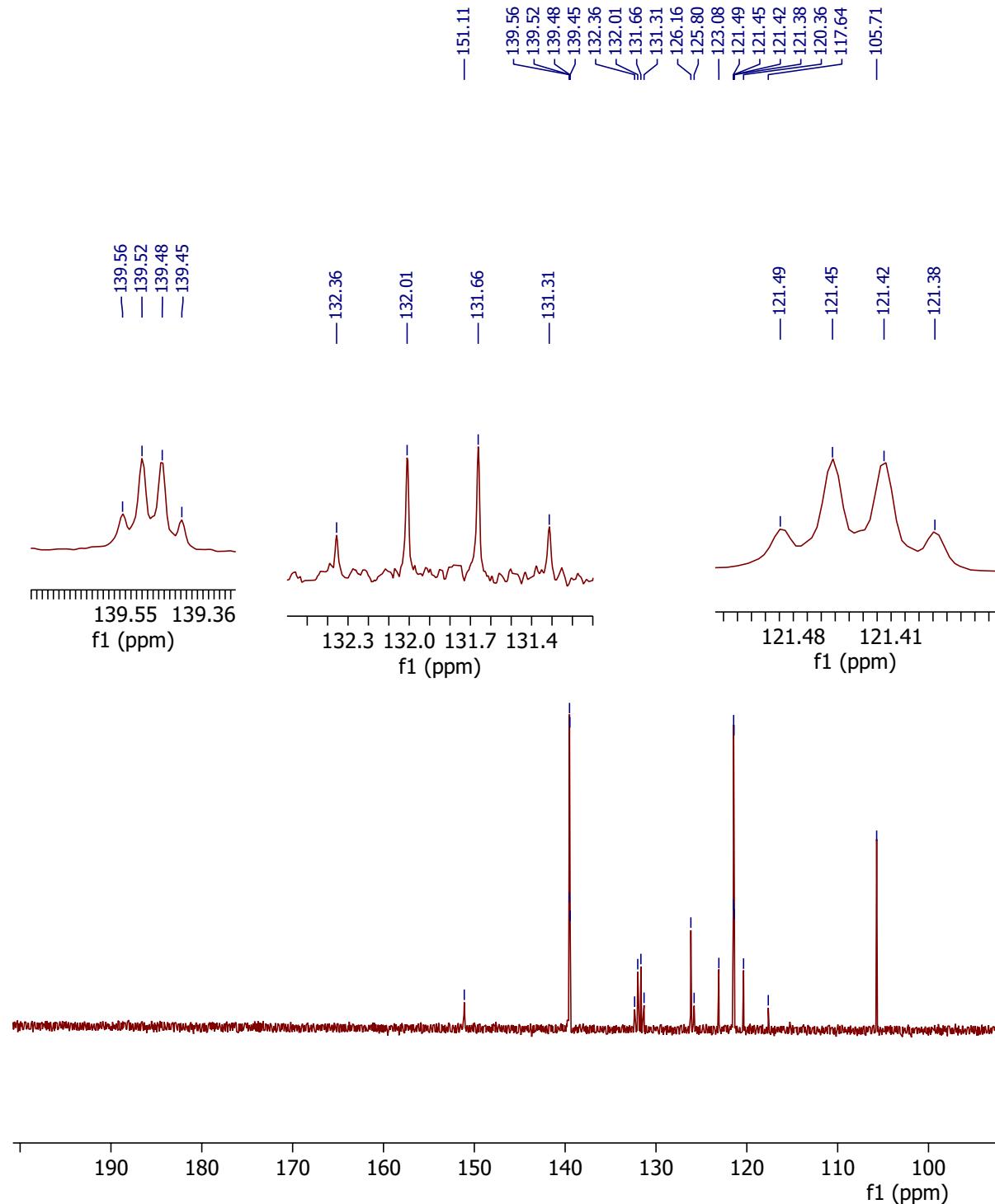


¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)



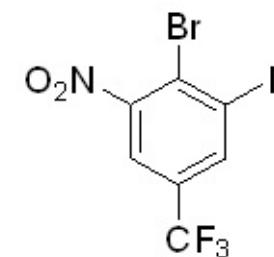
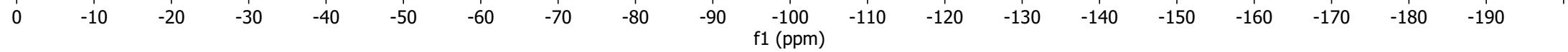


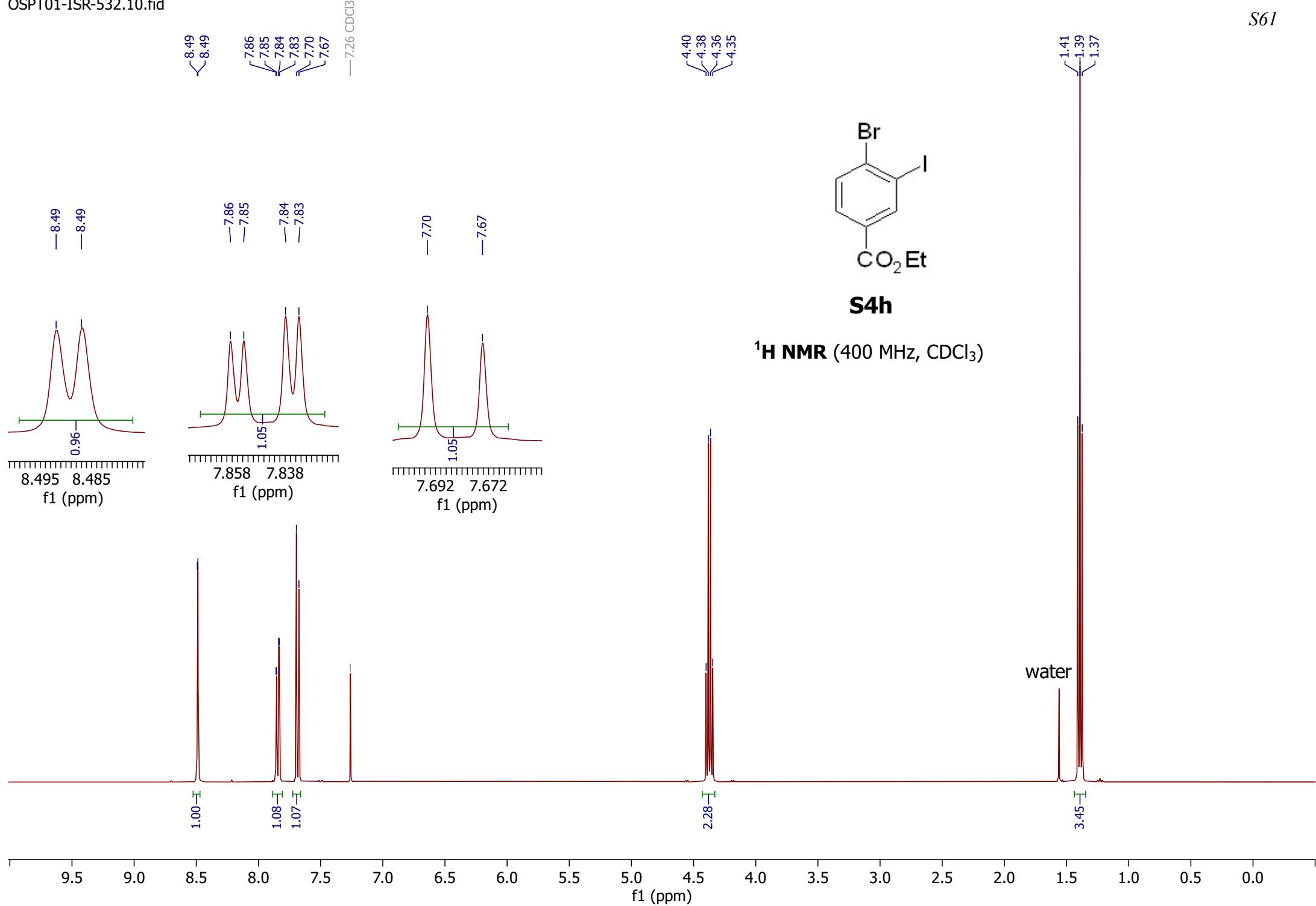
S4g



¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

---63.00

**S4g**¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃)



— 164.68

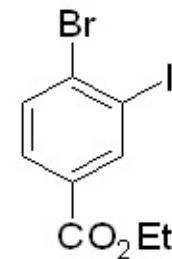
— 141.31
— 135.25
— 132.75
— 130.80
— 130.35

— 101.12

— 77.16 CDCl₃

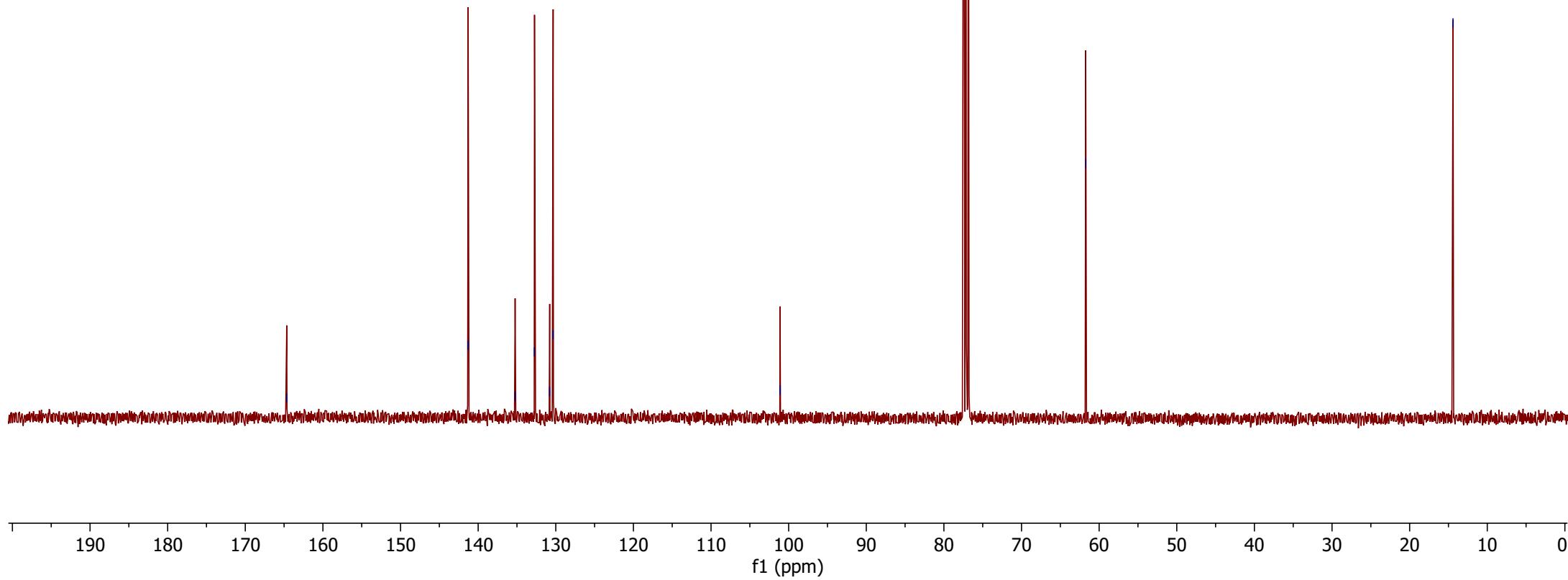
— 61.74

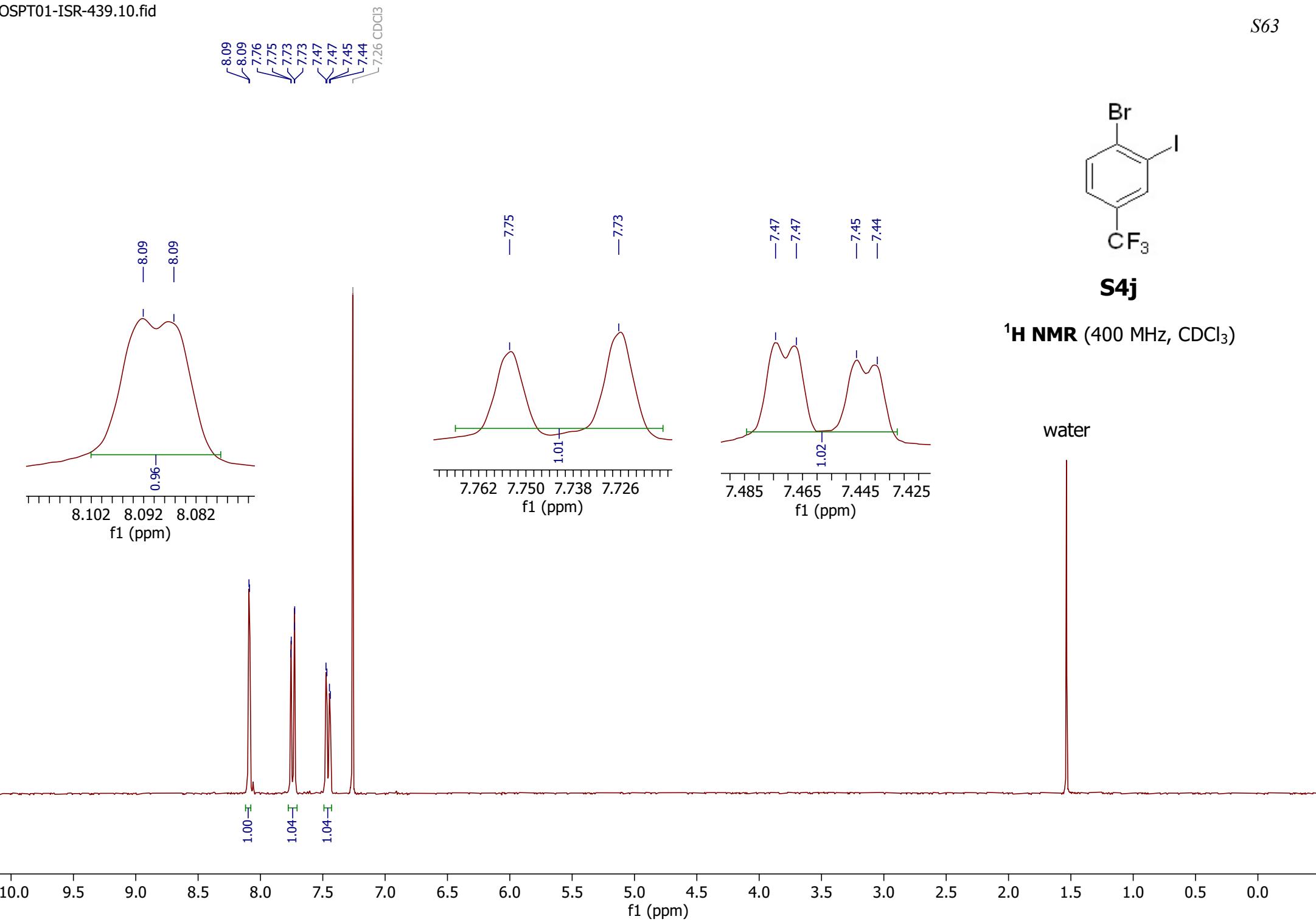
— 14.41

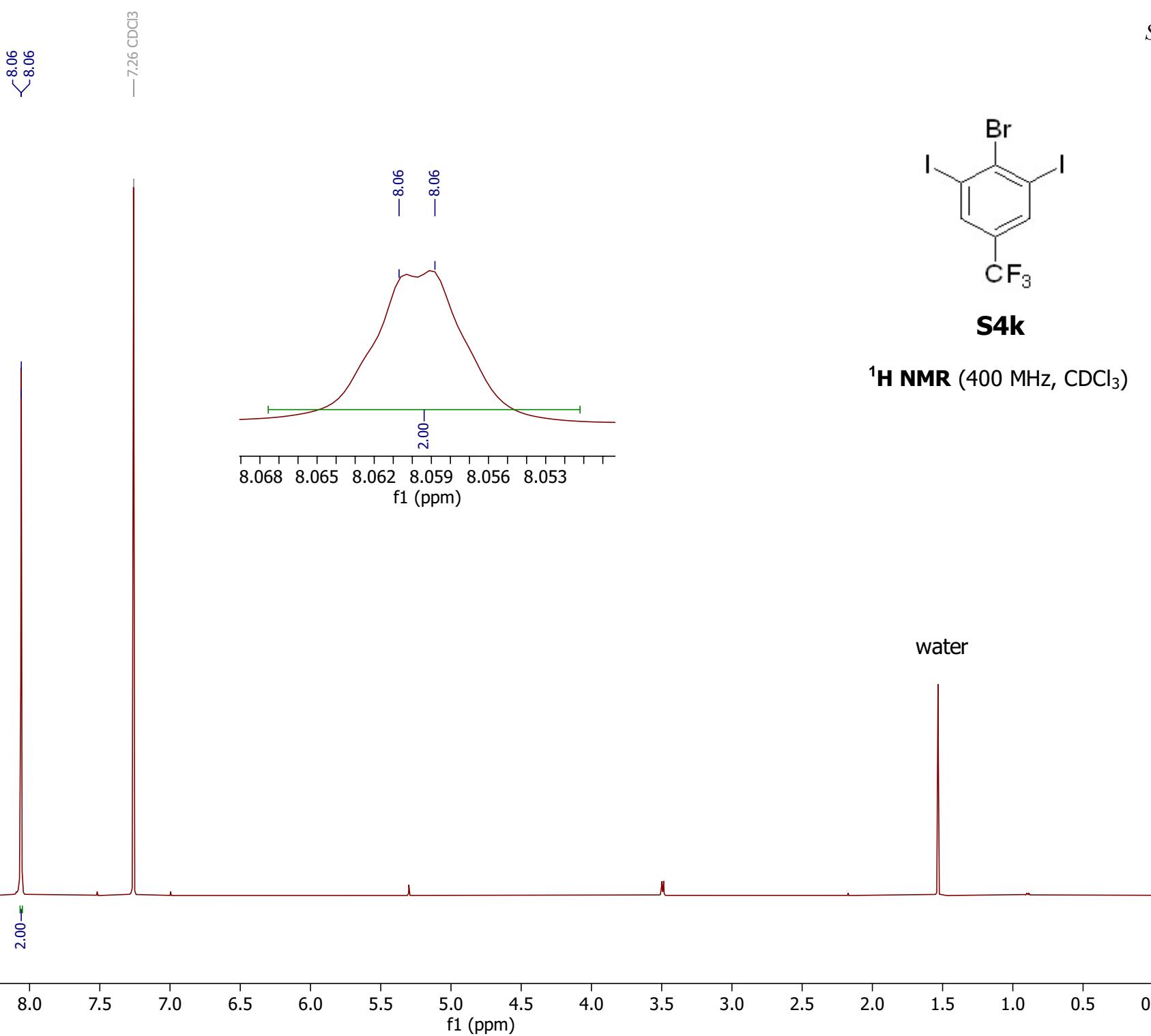


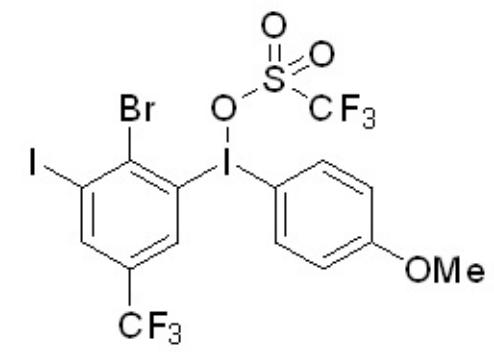
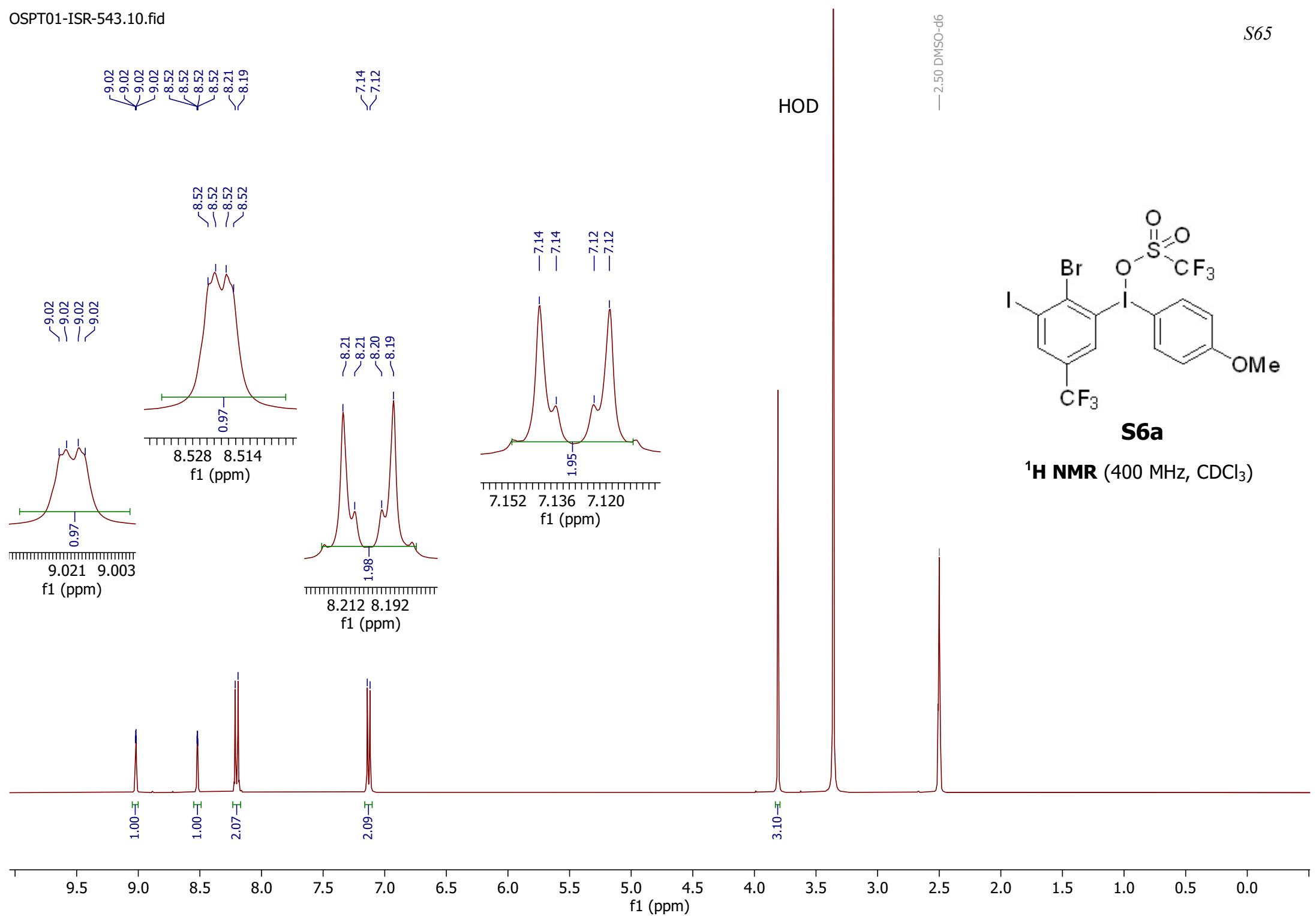
S4h

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)



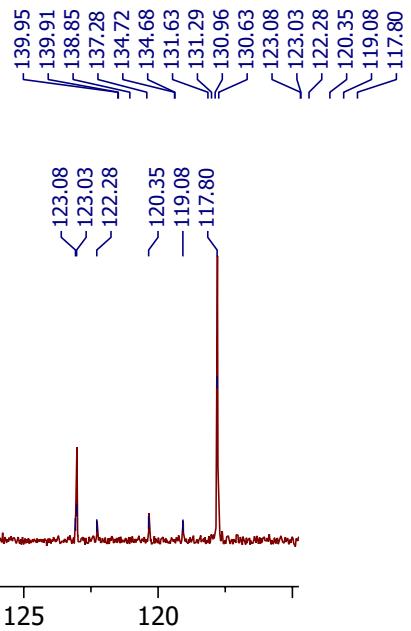
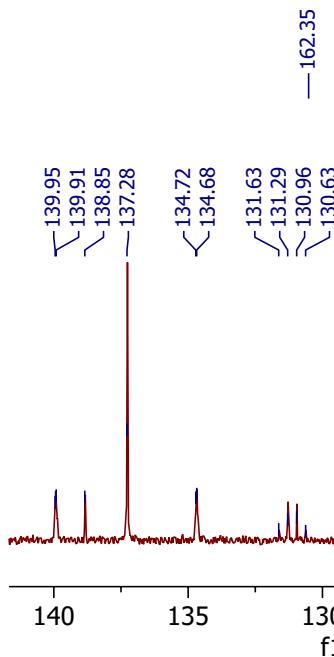




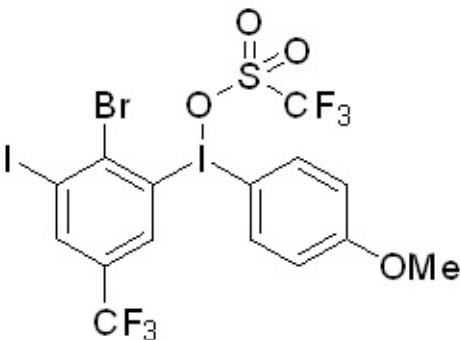


S6a

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3)



— 106.37
— 104.42

**S6a** $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)

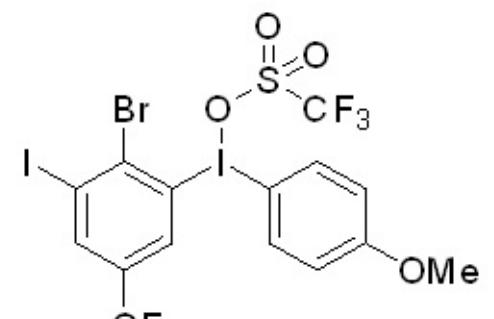
— 39.52: DMSO-d6

— 55.78

f1 (ppm)

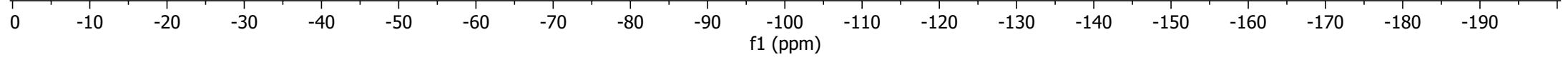
190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0

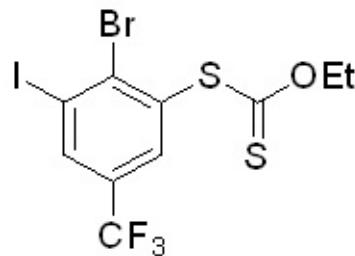
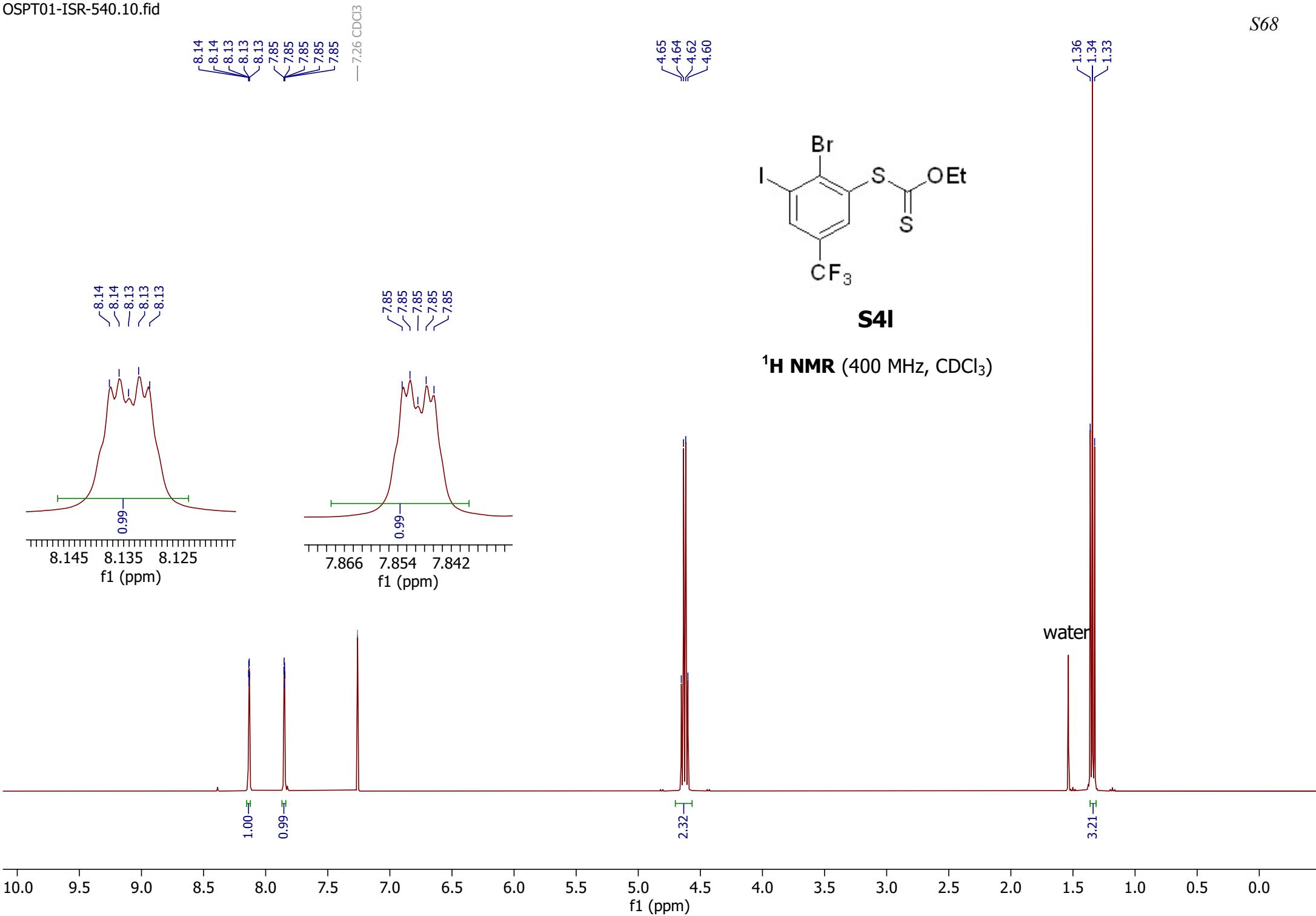
— -61.03
— -77.75



S6a

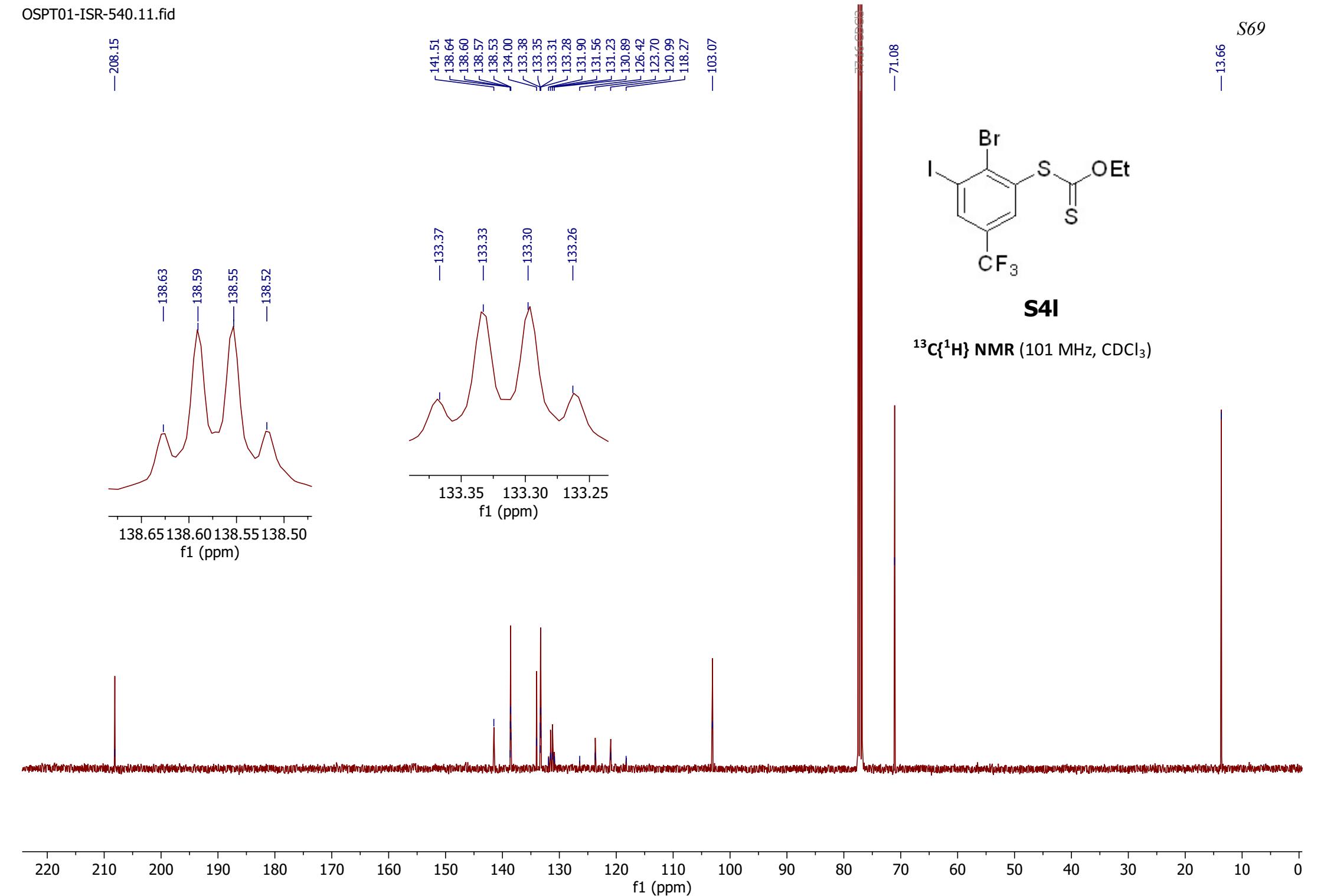
¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃)



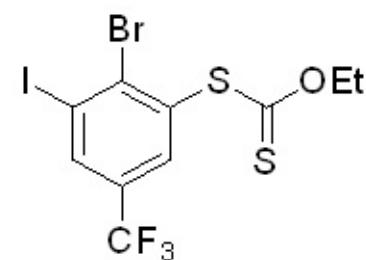
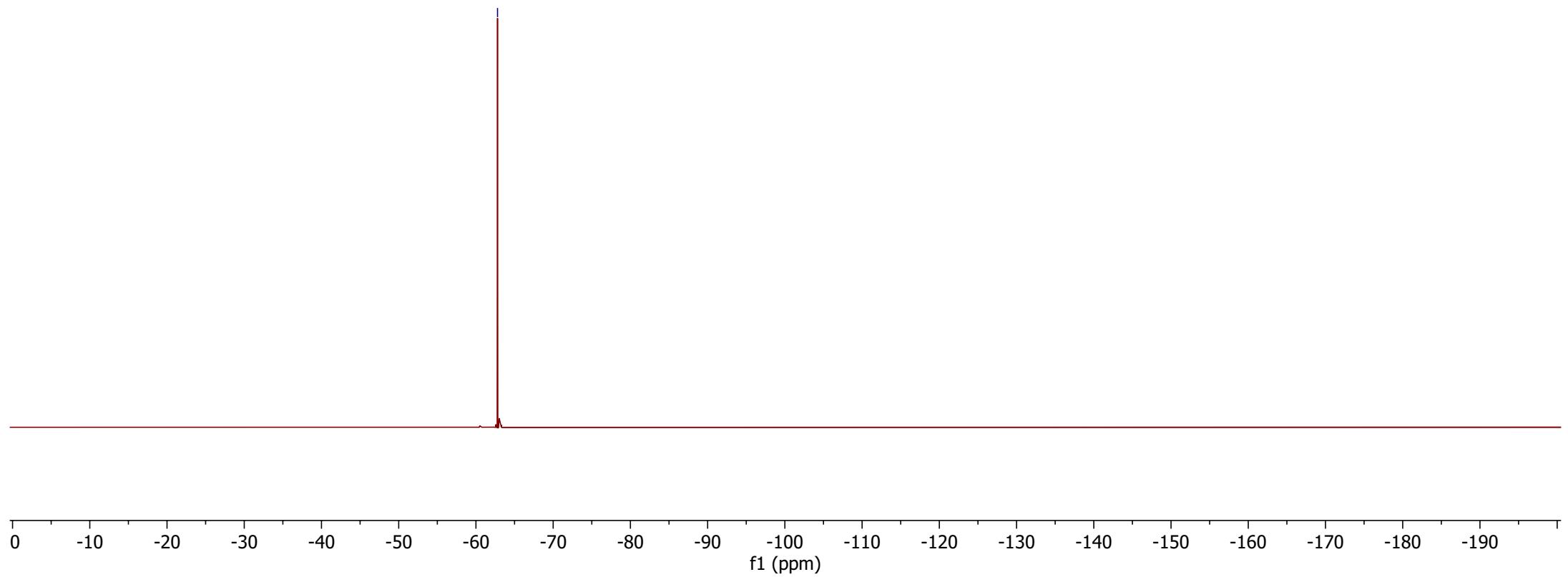


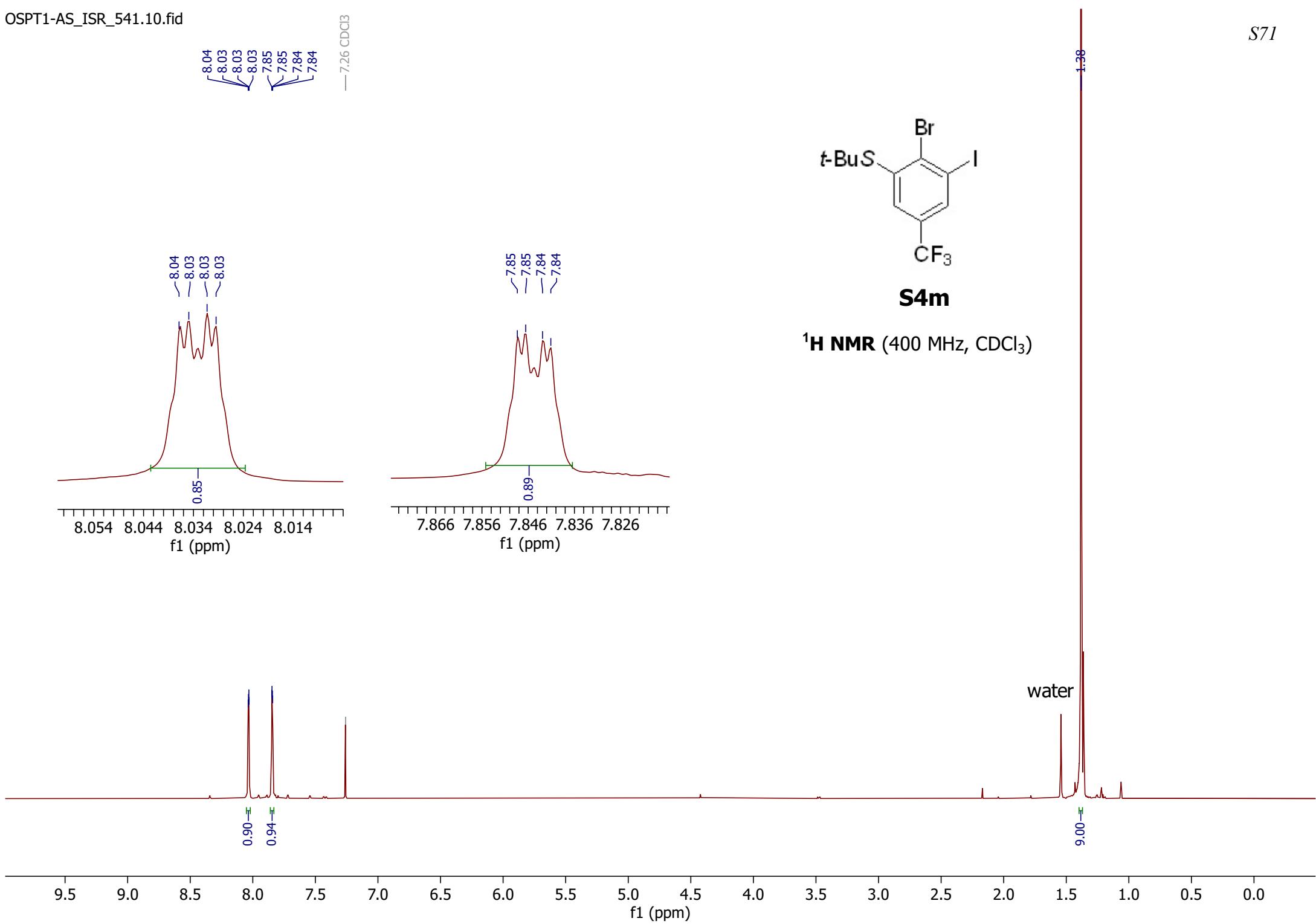
S41

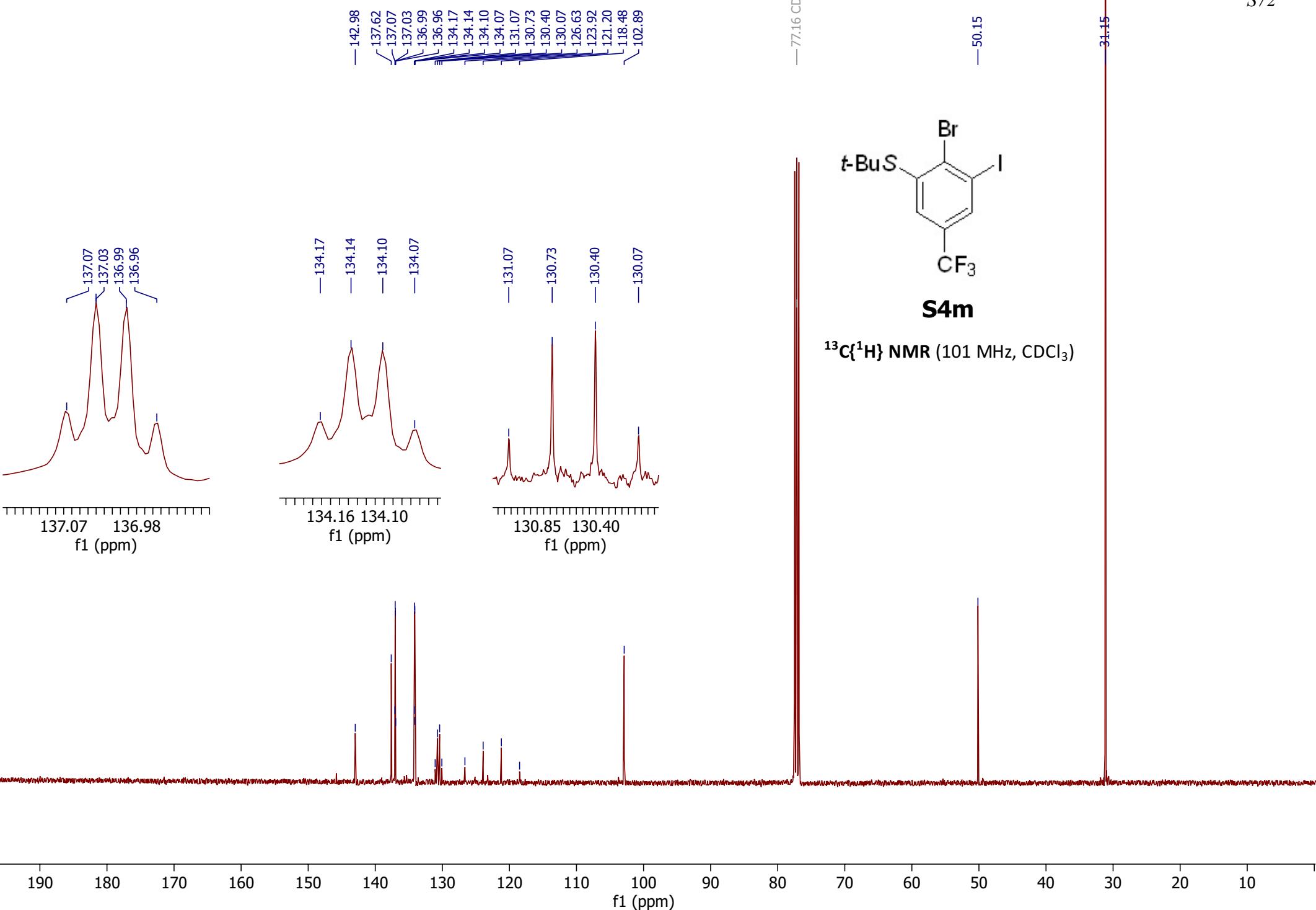
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



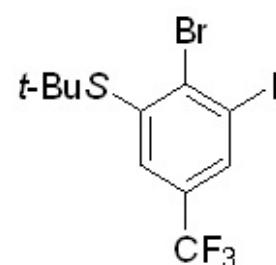
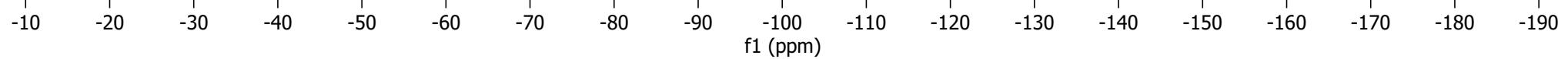
-62.79

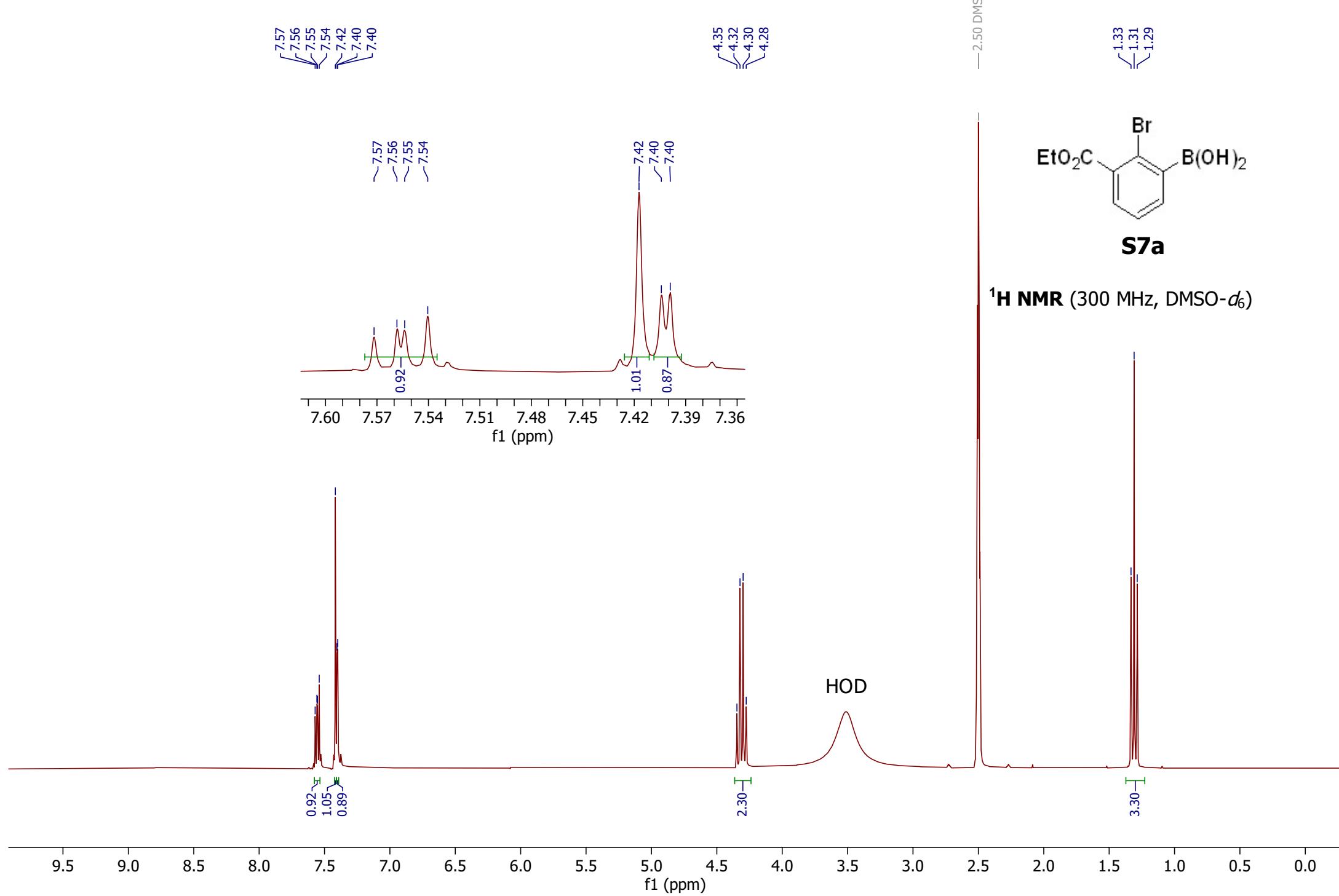
**S4I** ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3)

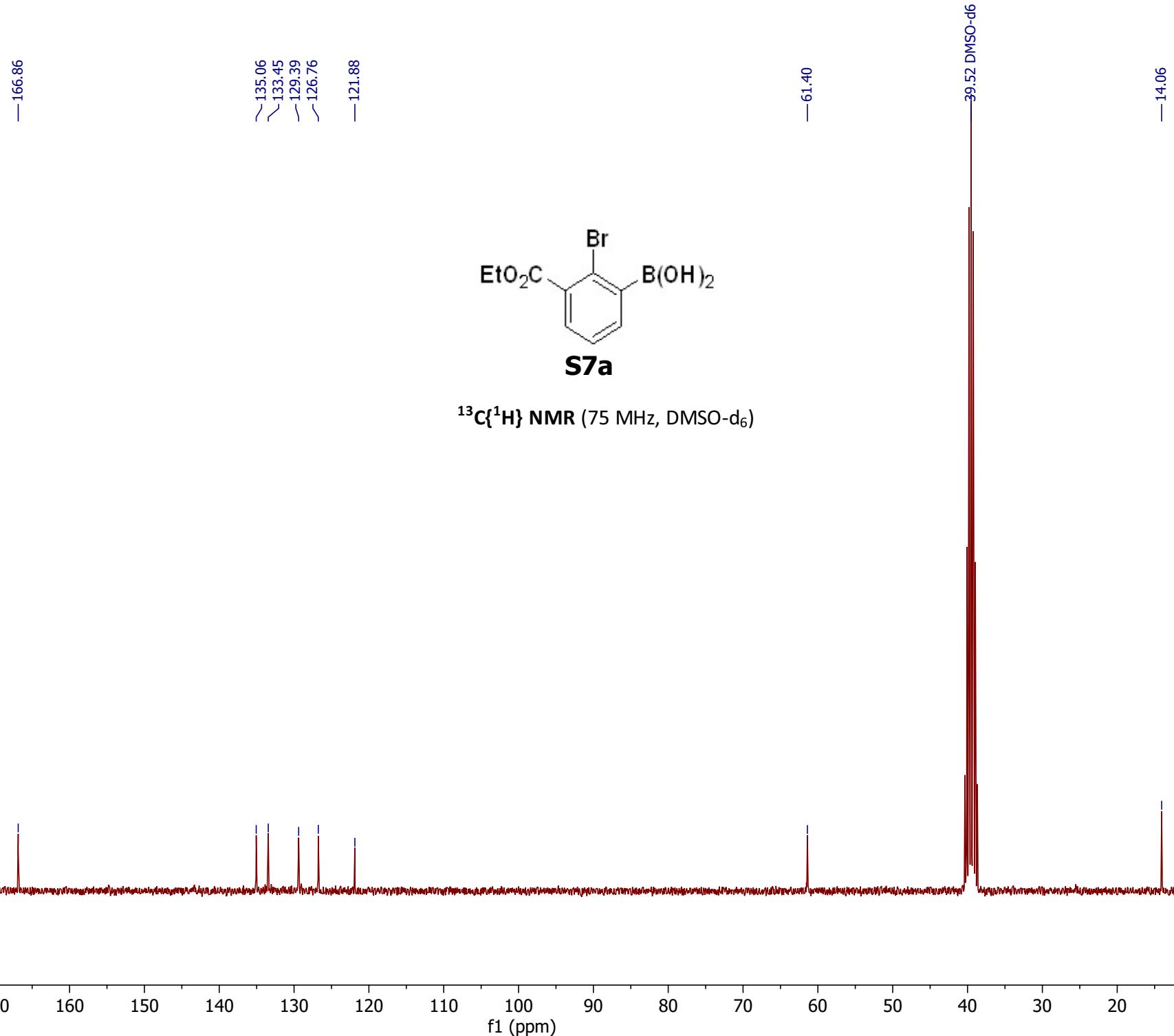


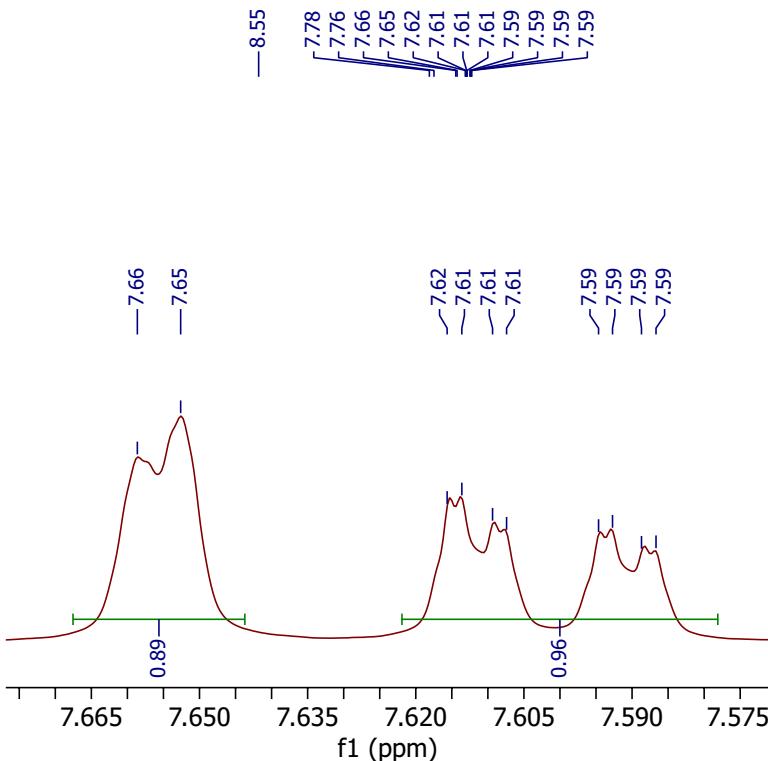


-62.86

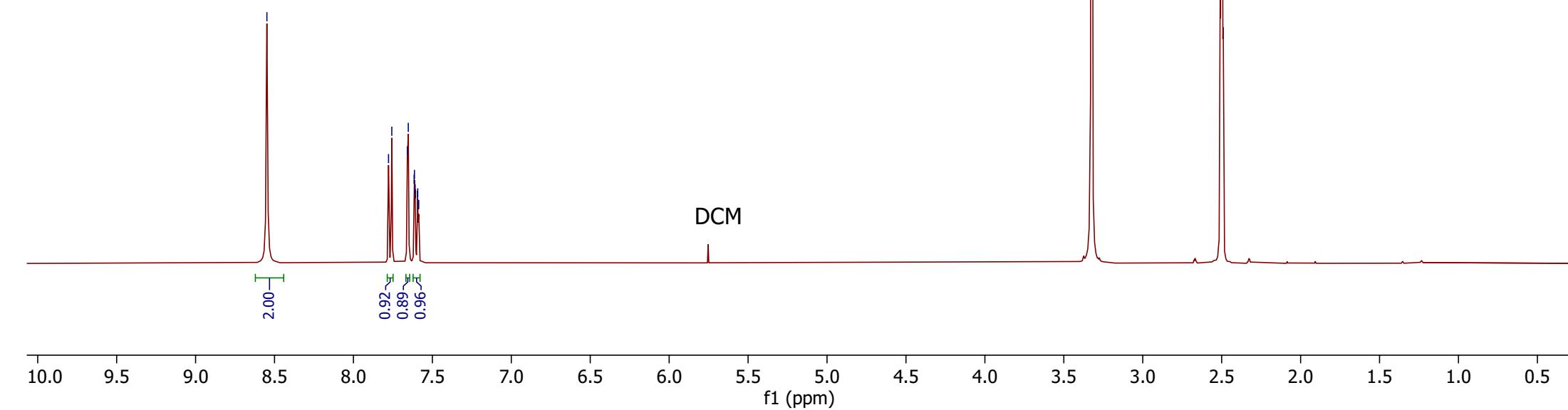
**S4m**¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃)

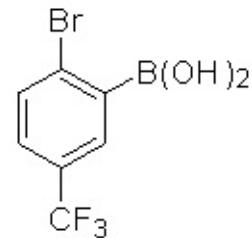
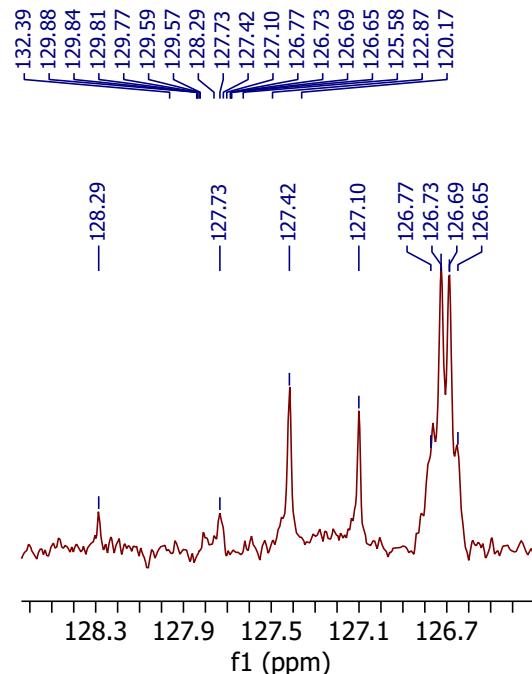
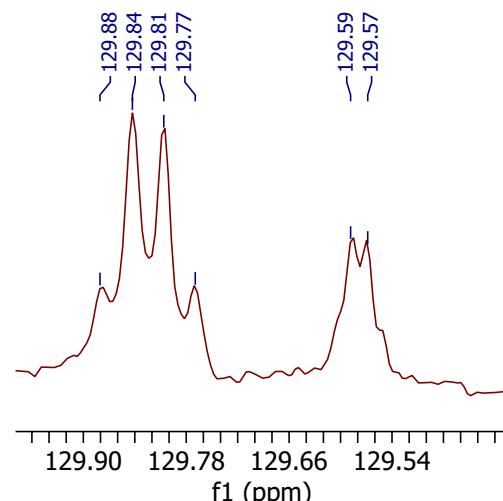
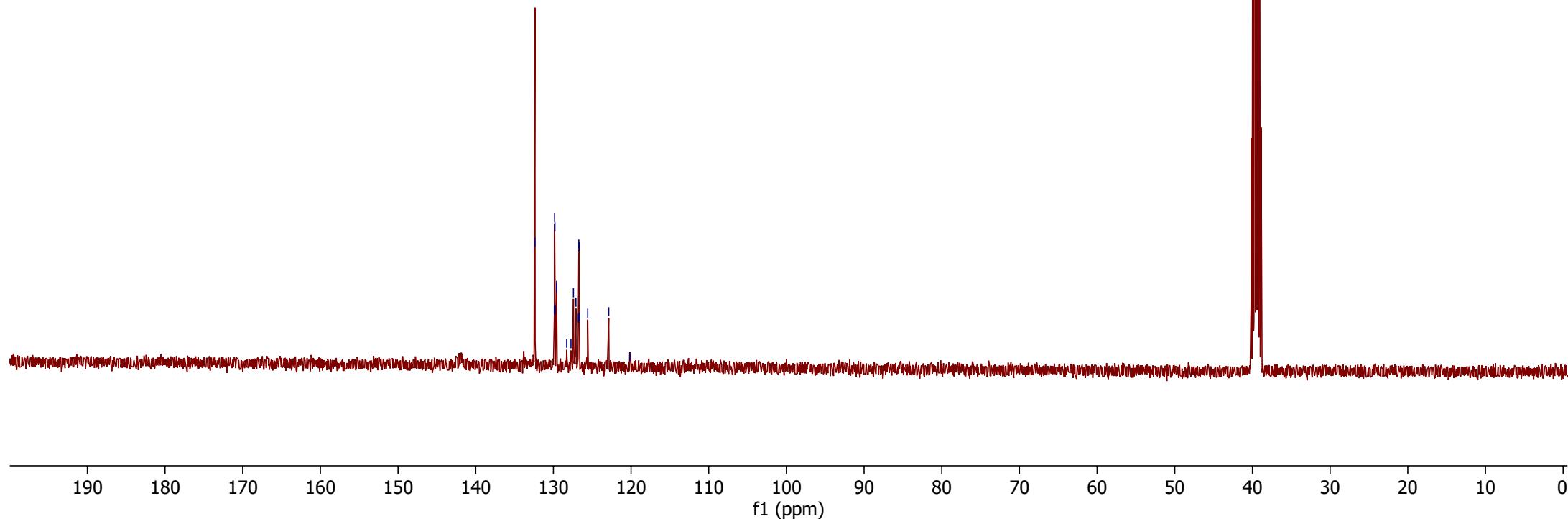




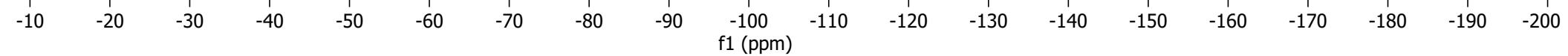


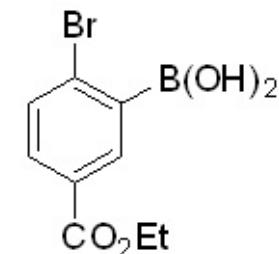
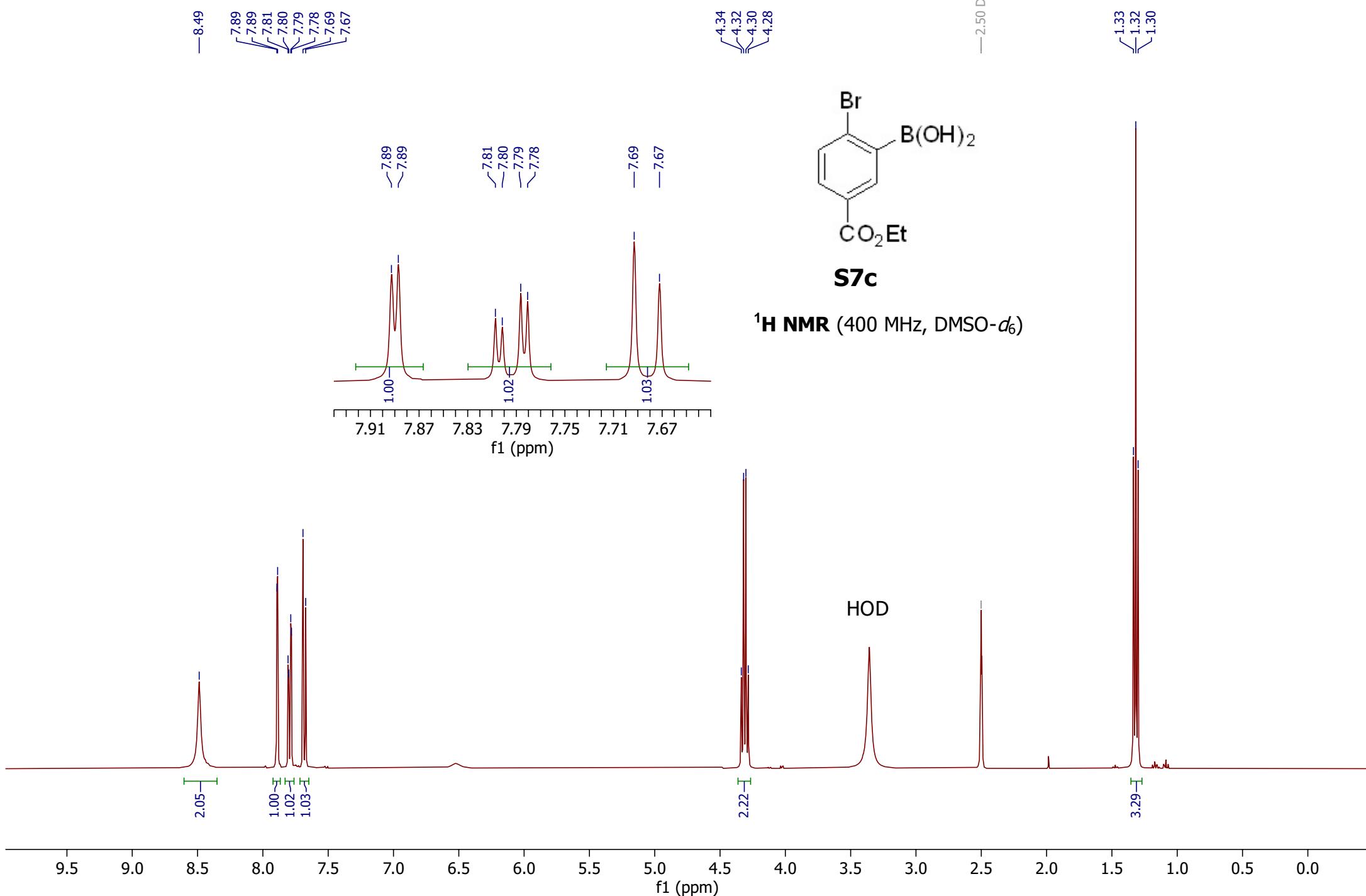
¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆)



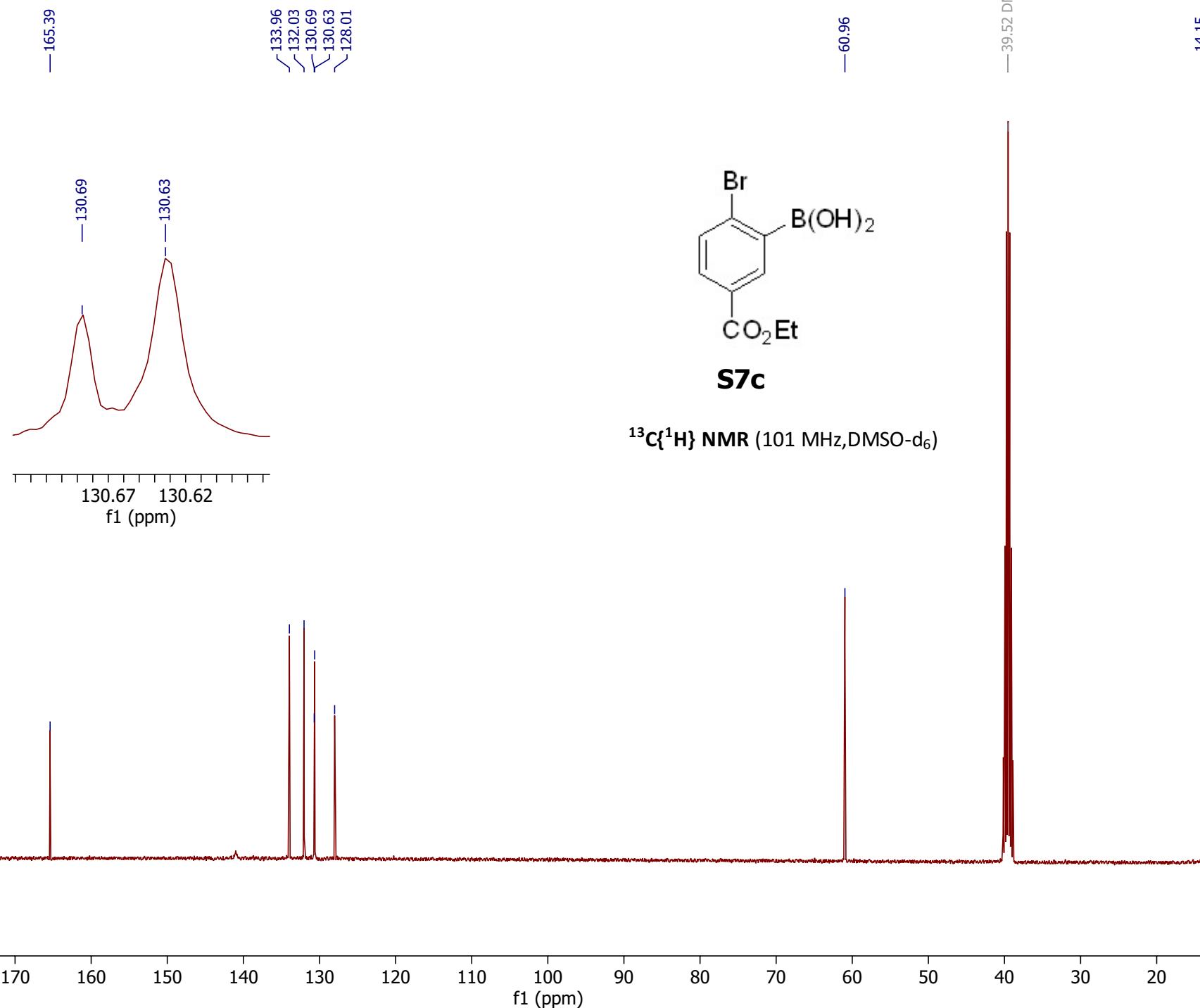
**S7b**¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d₆)

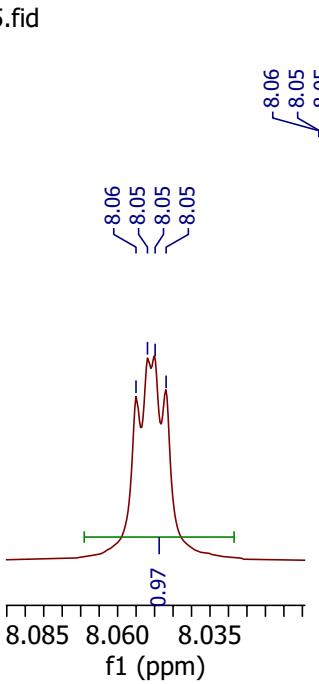
—56.39

**S7b**¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-d₆)

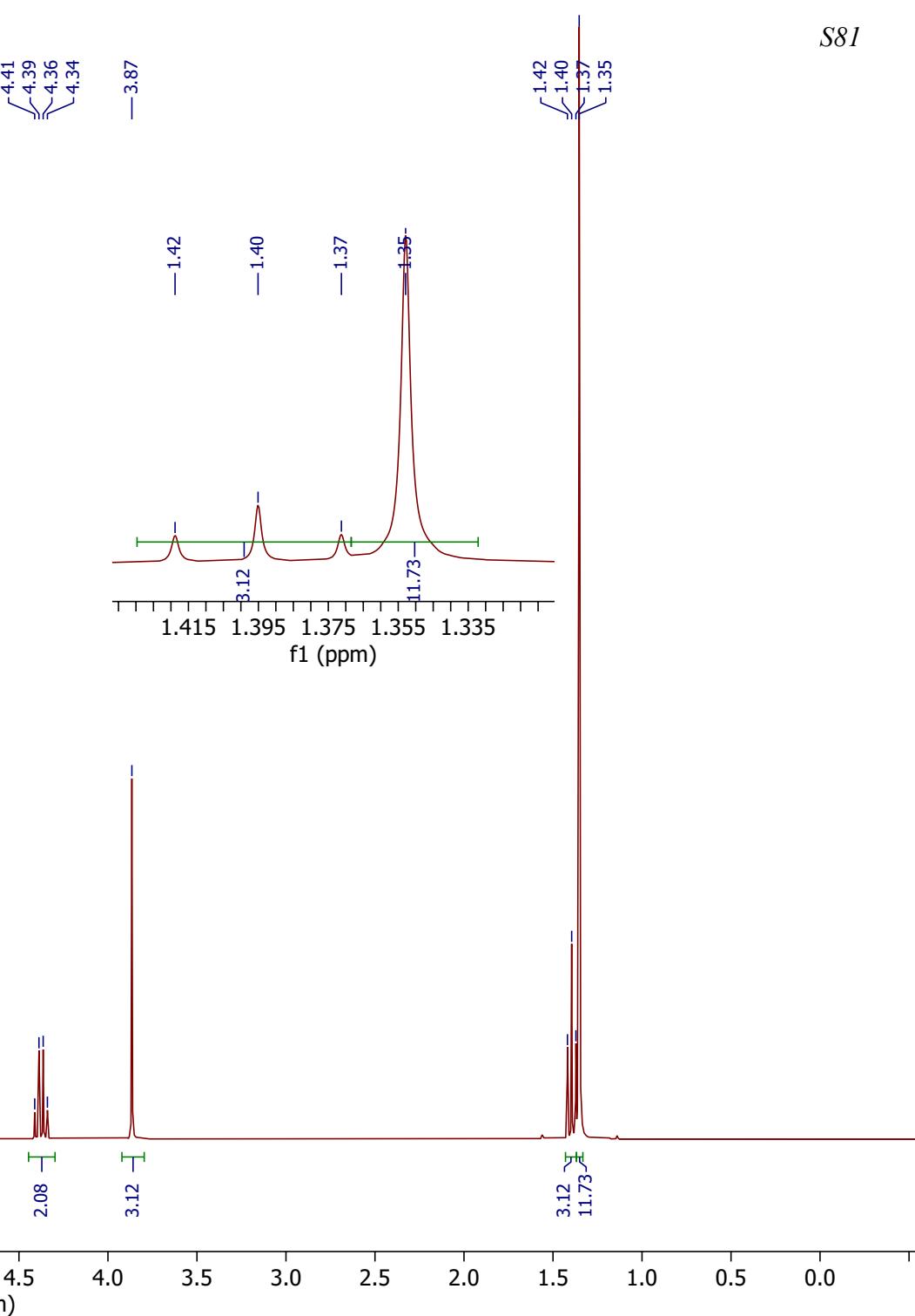


S7c





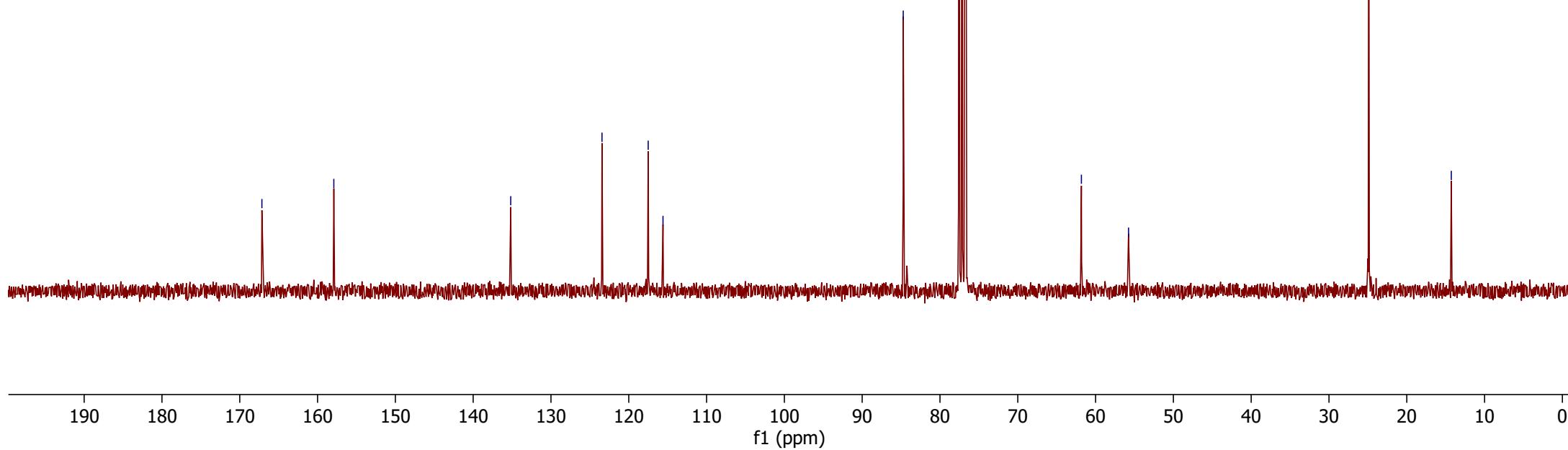
¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃)

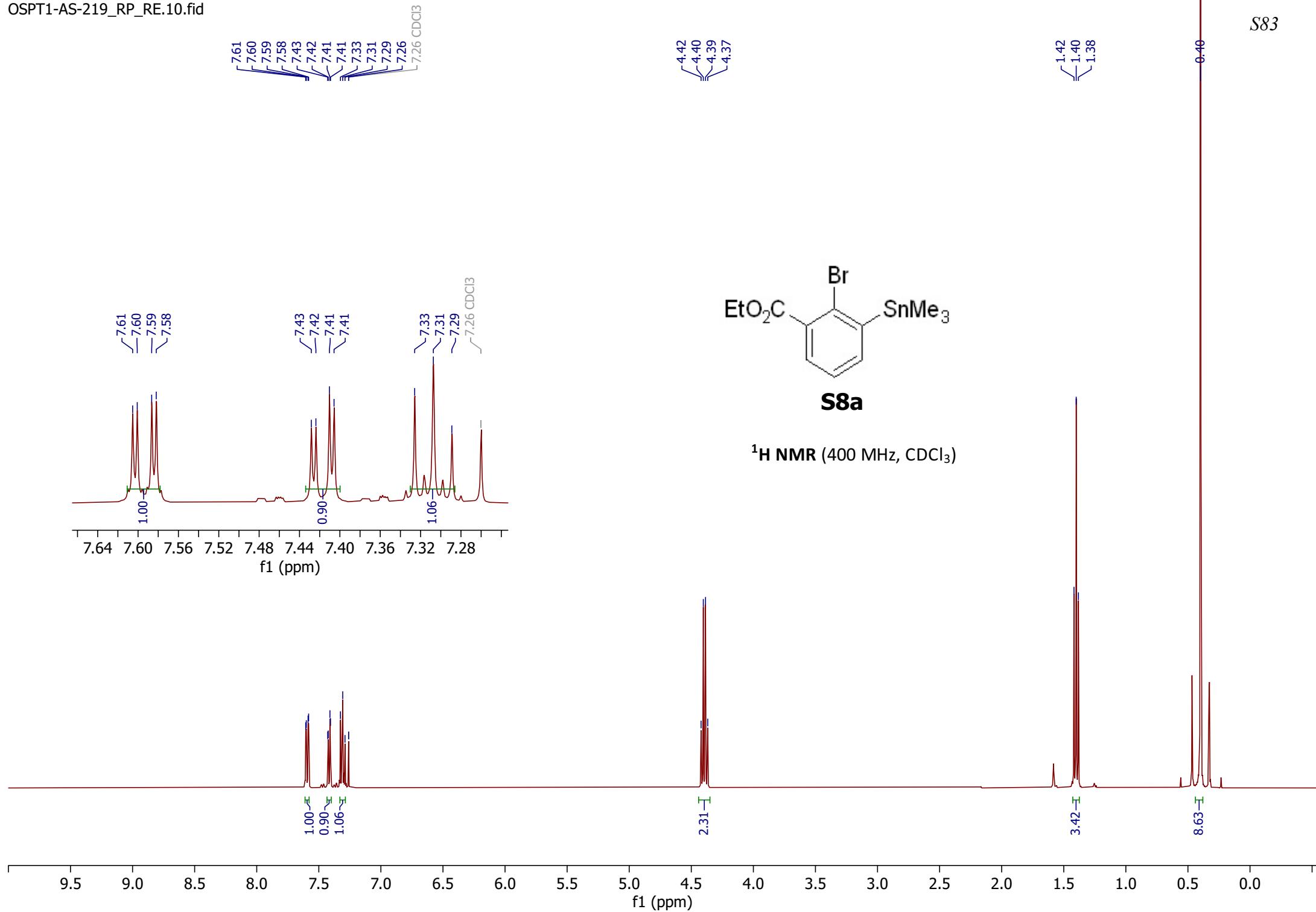


—167.15
—157.91
—135.17
—123.44
—117.50
—115.60
—84.72
—77.16 CDCl₃
—61.82
—55.76
—24.89
—14.28



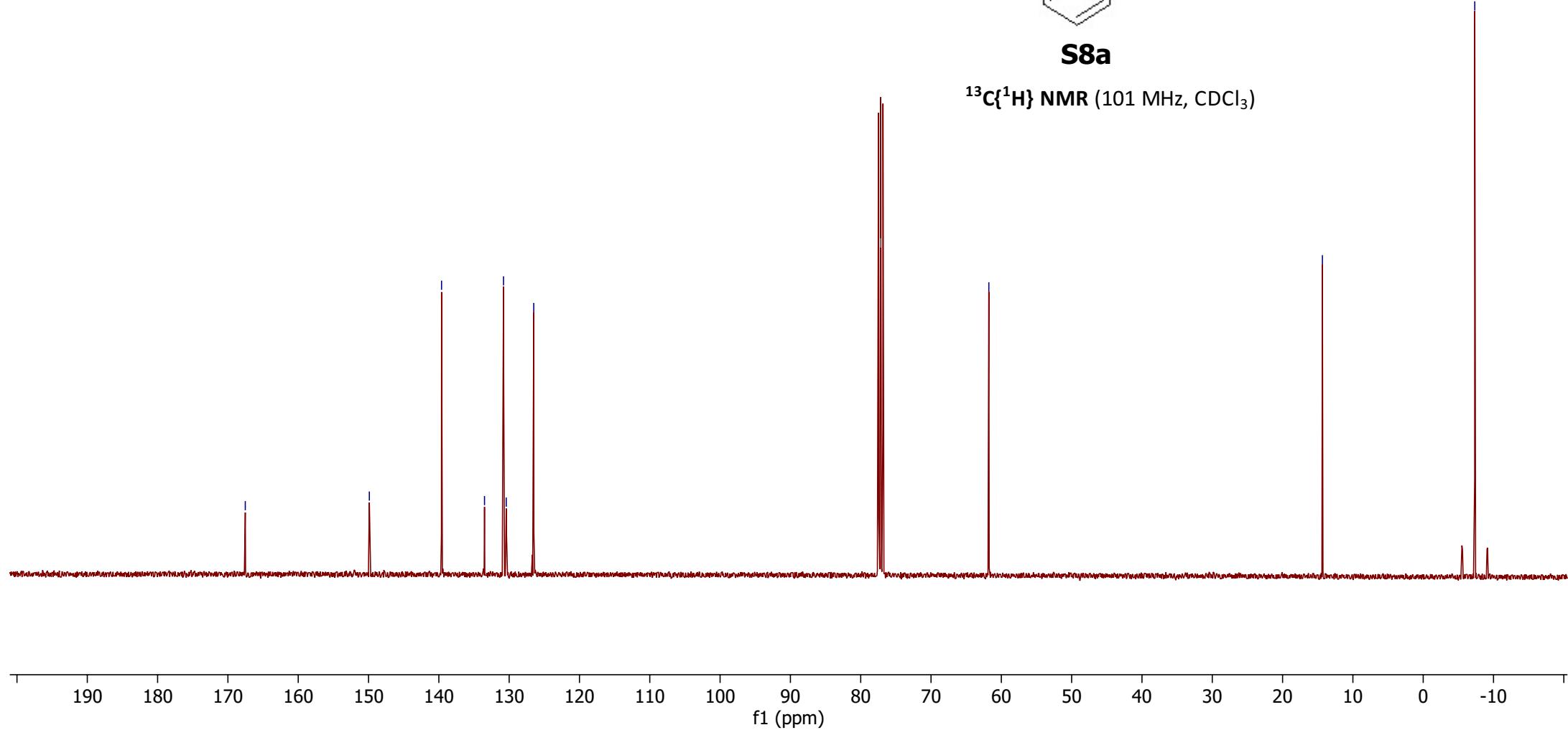
¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃)

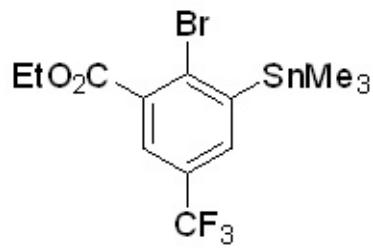
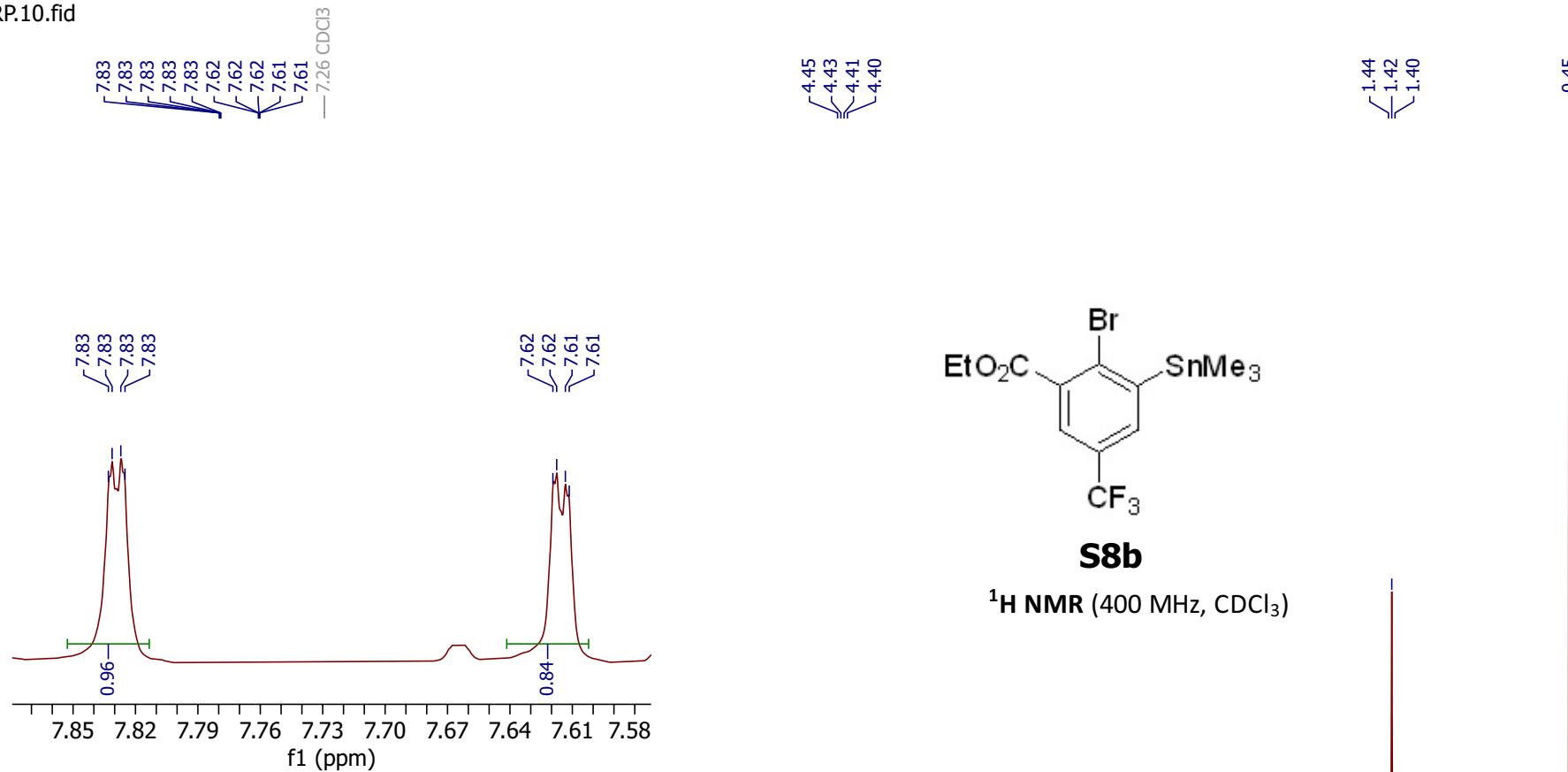
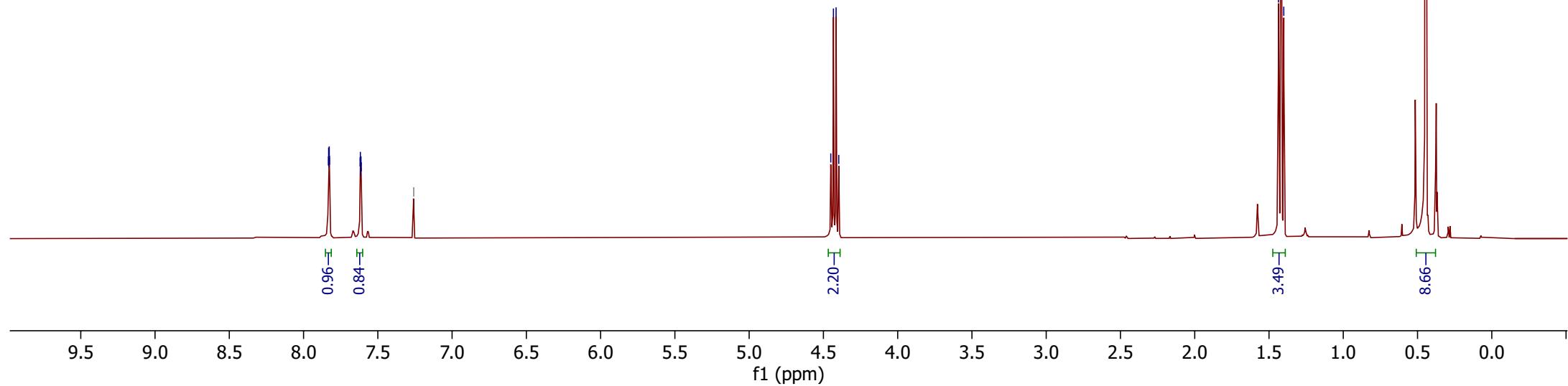


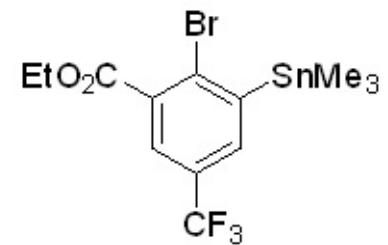
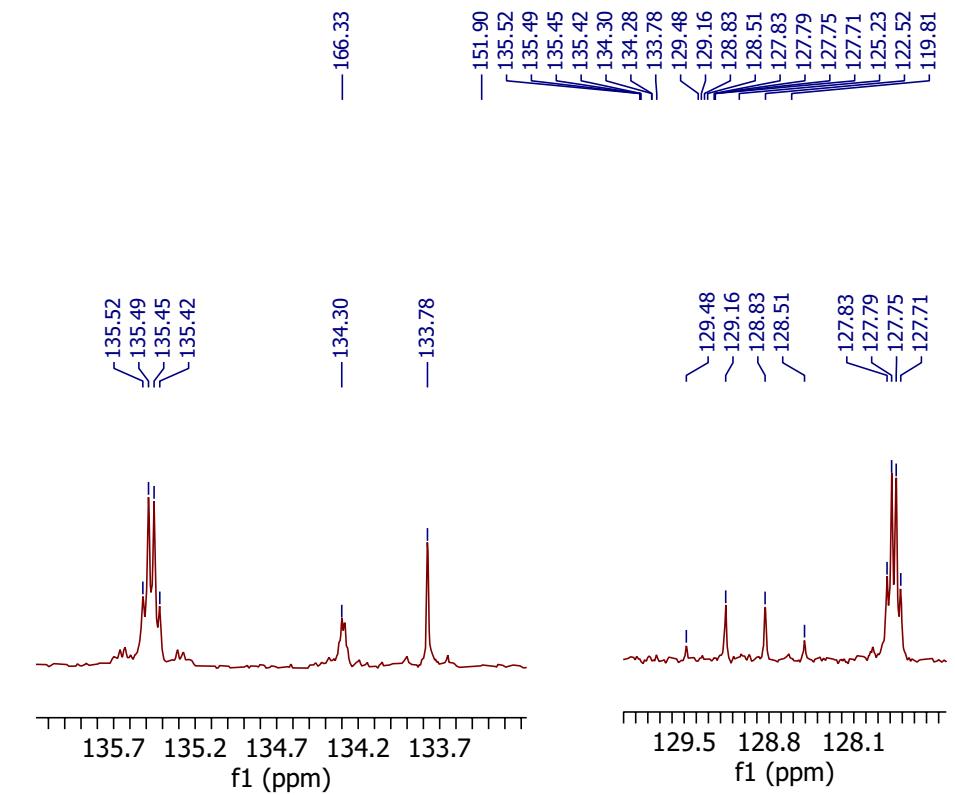
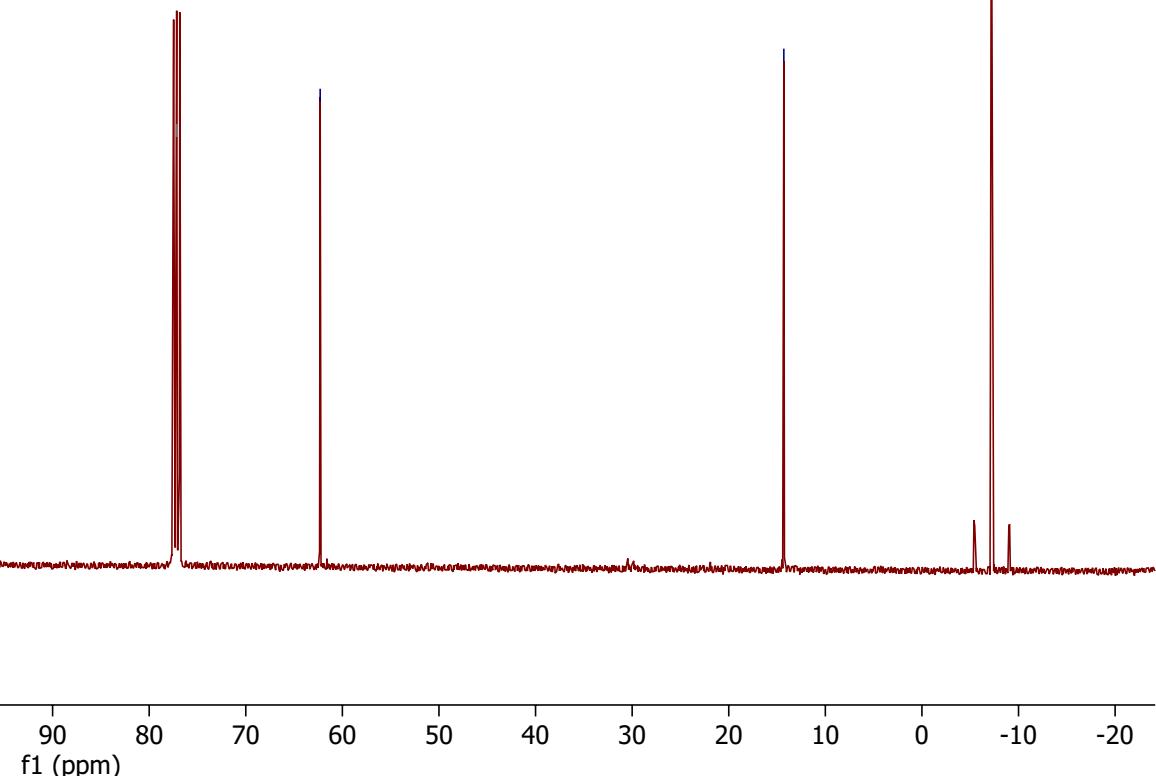




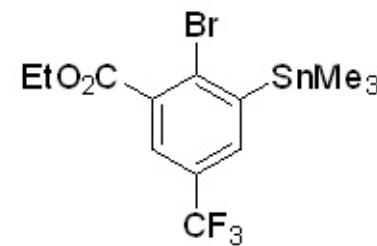
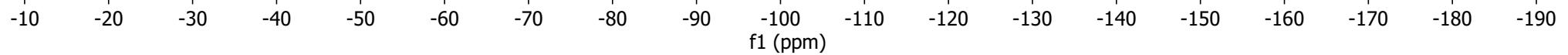
¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

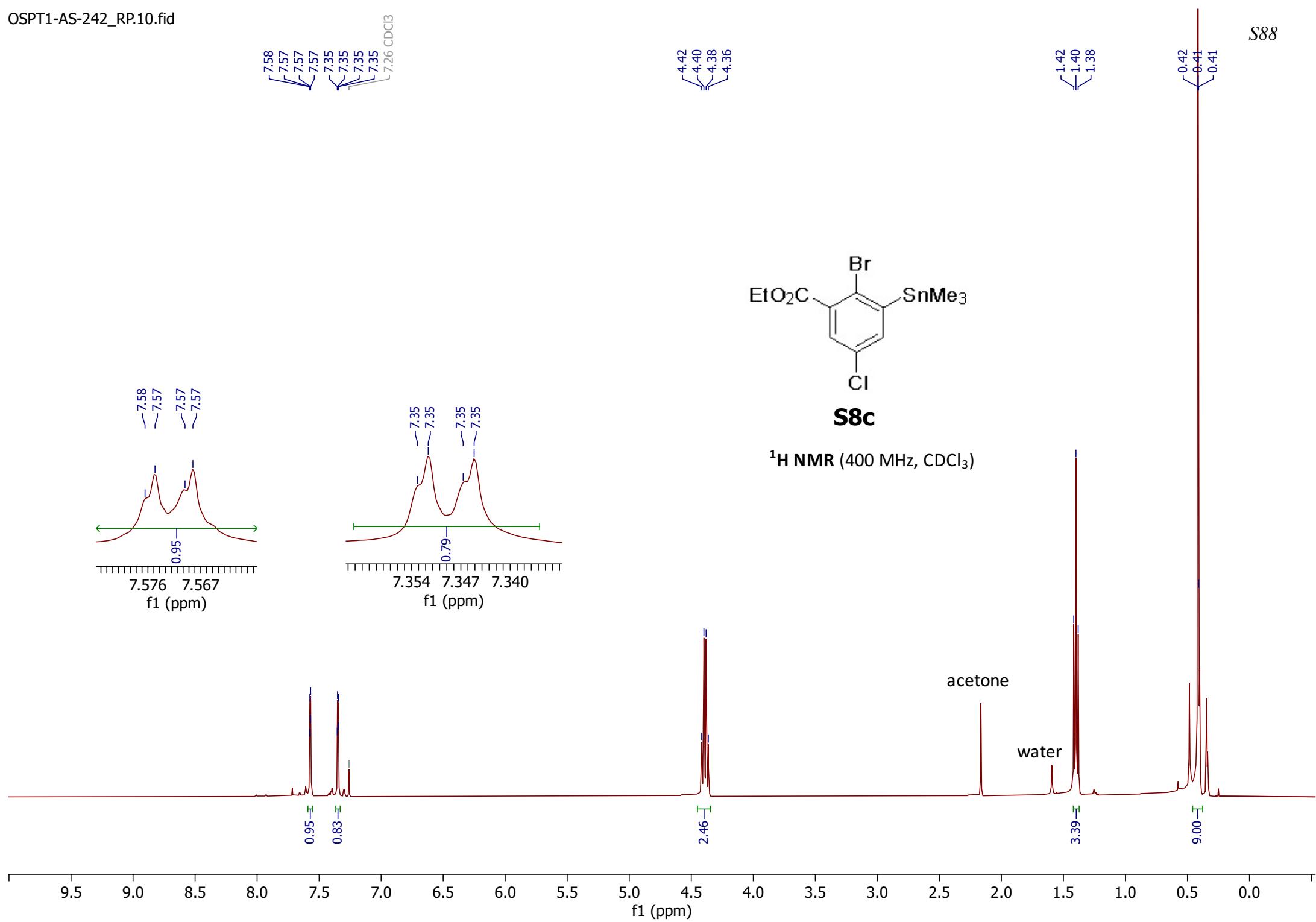


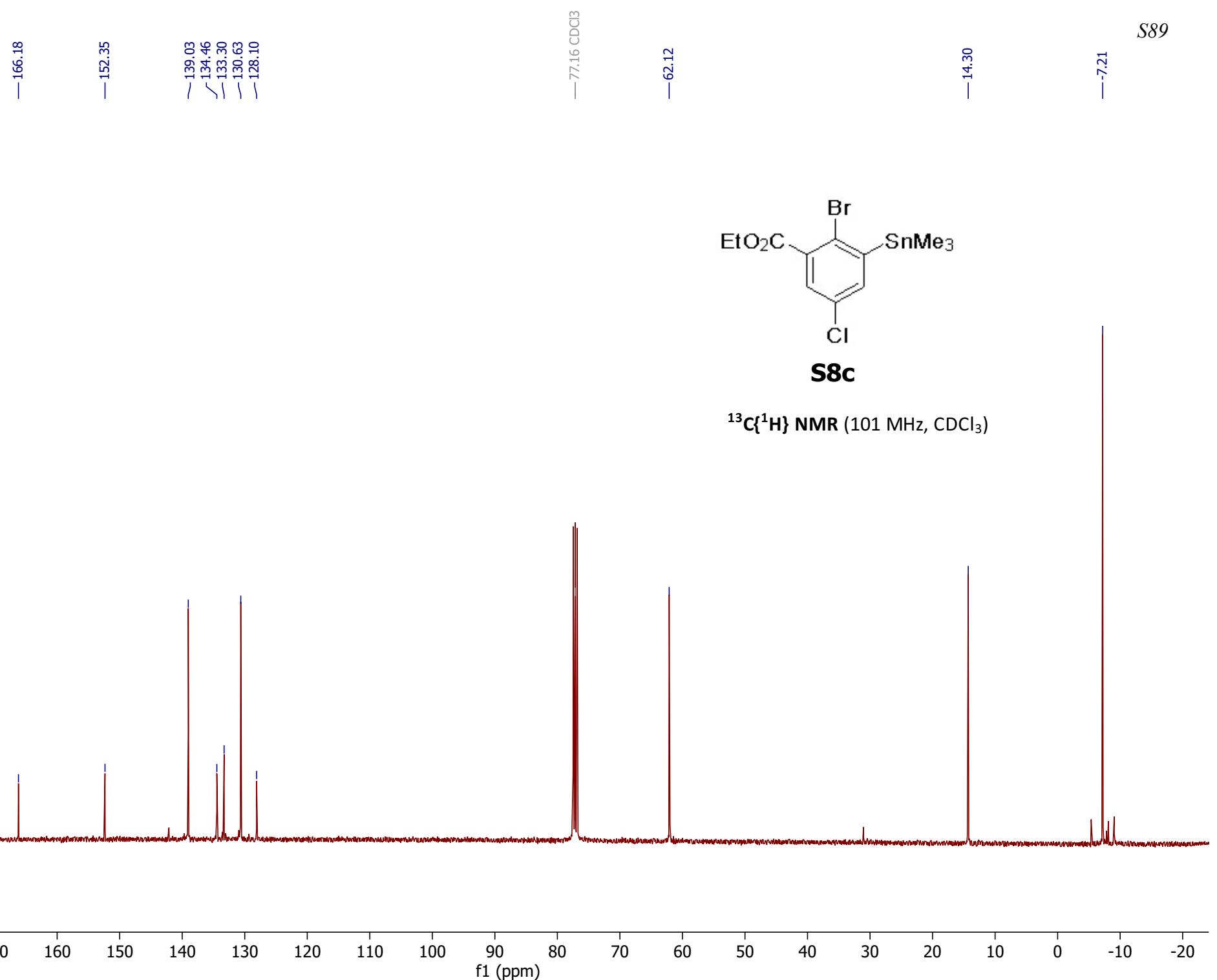
**S8b**¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

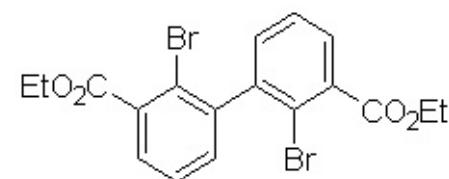
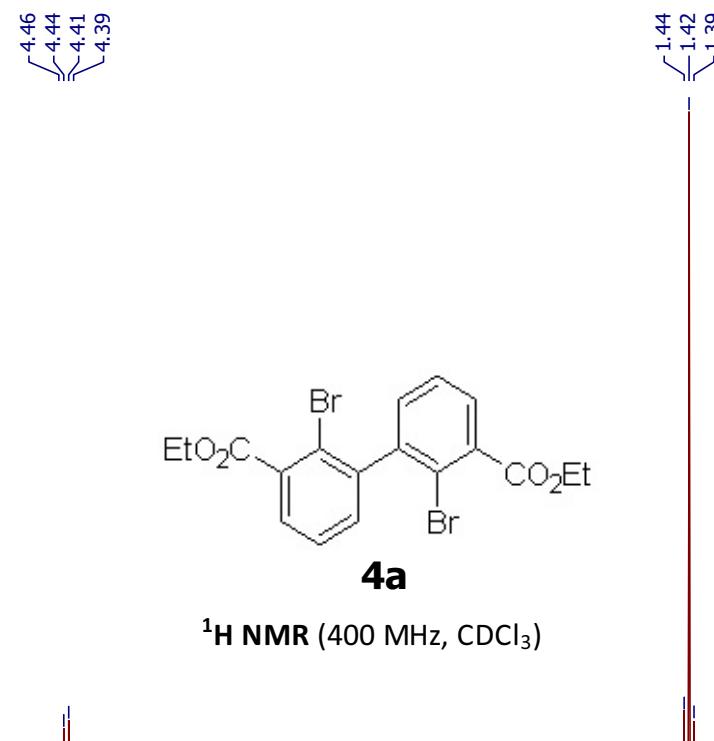
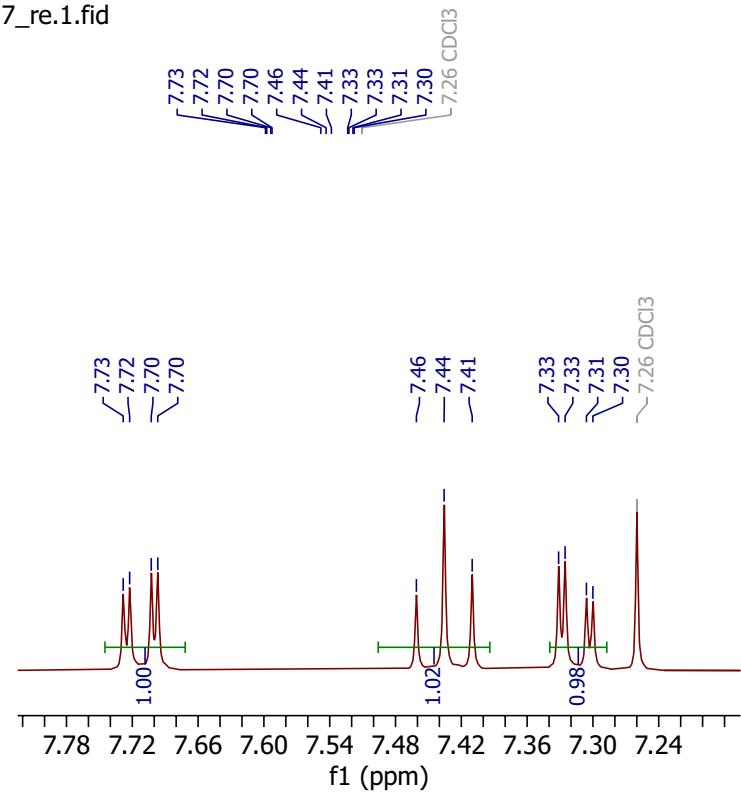
**S8b**¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

-62.68

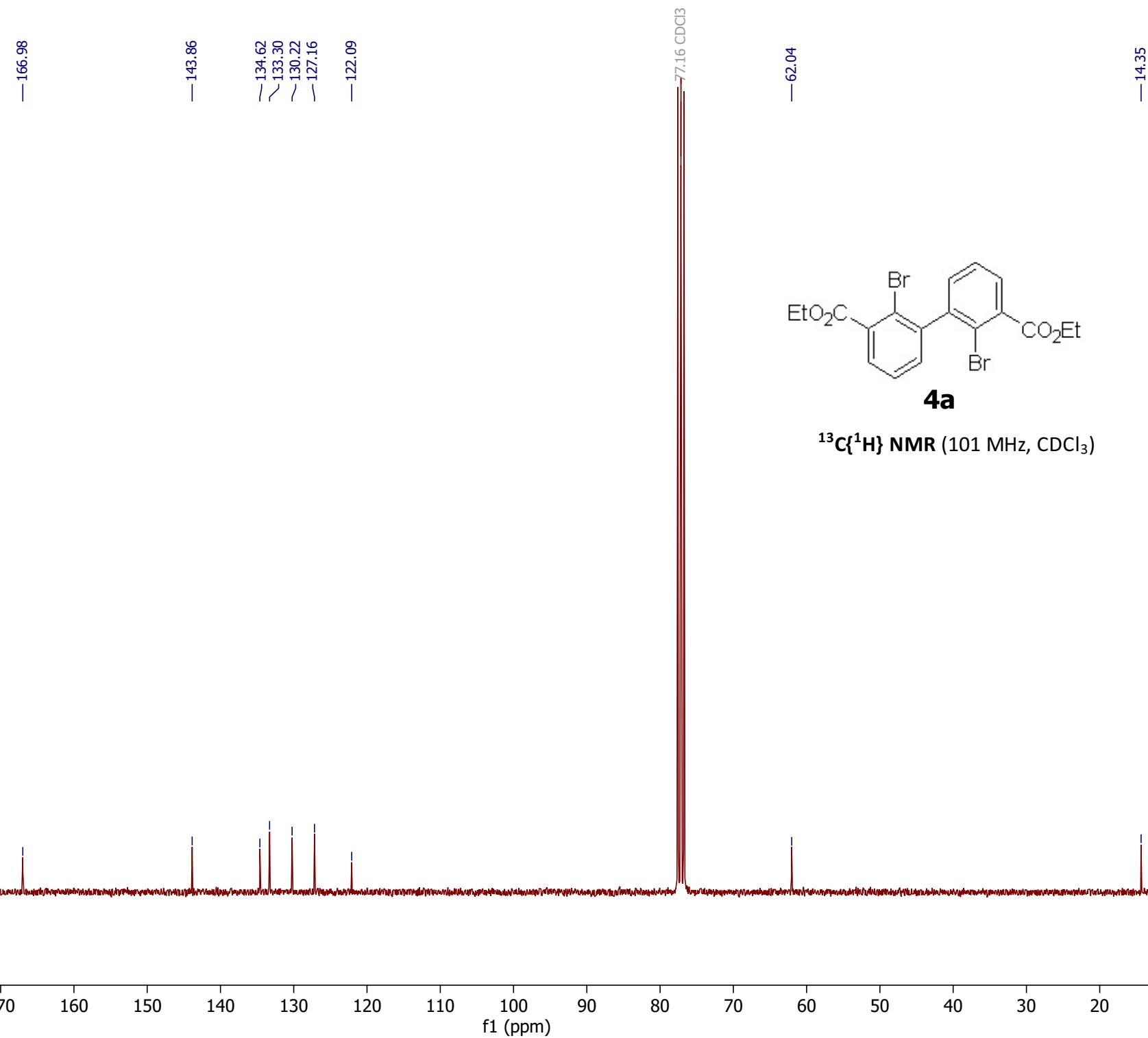
**S8b** ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3)

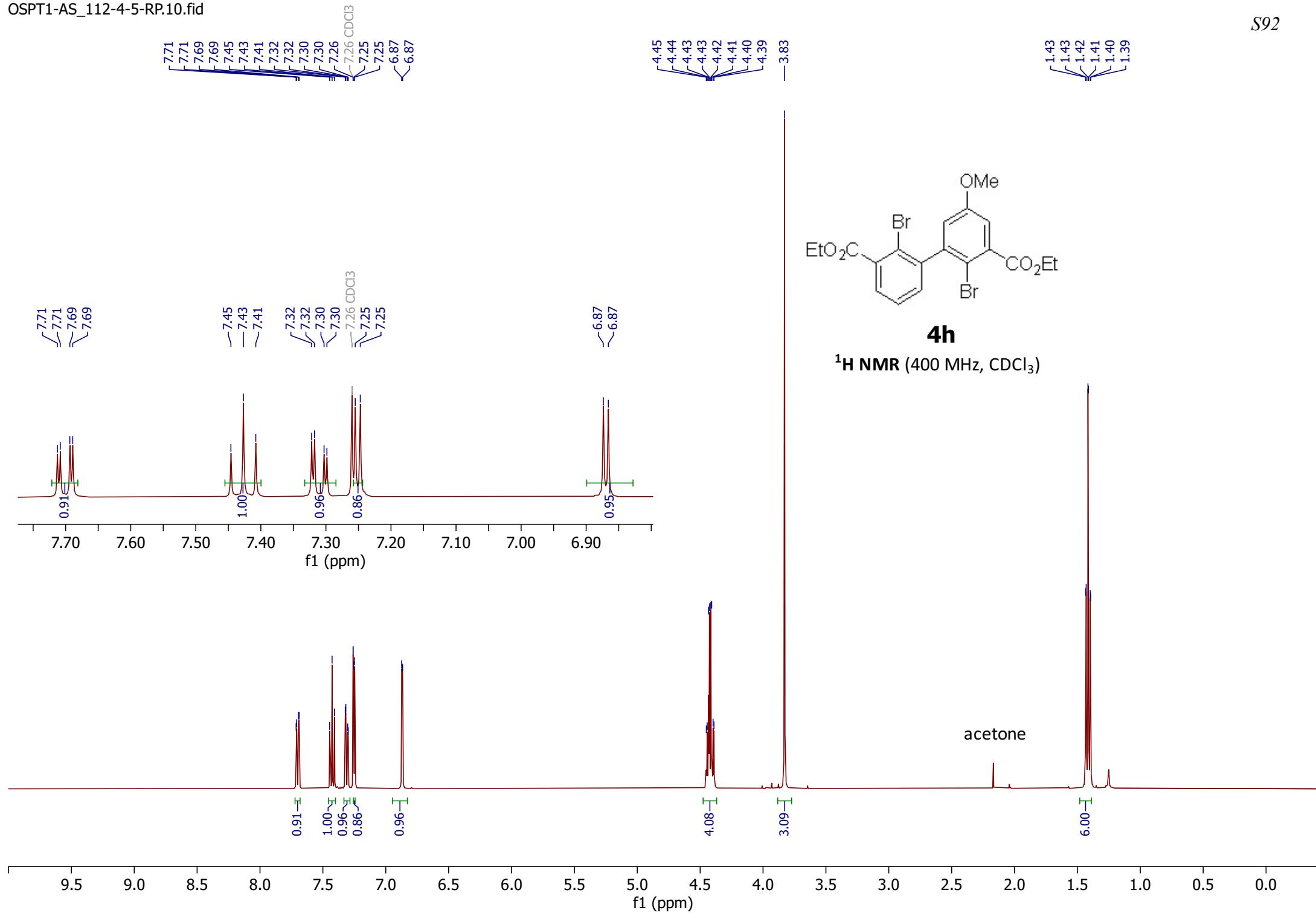


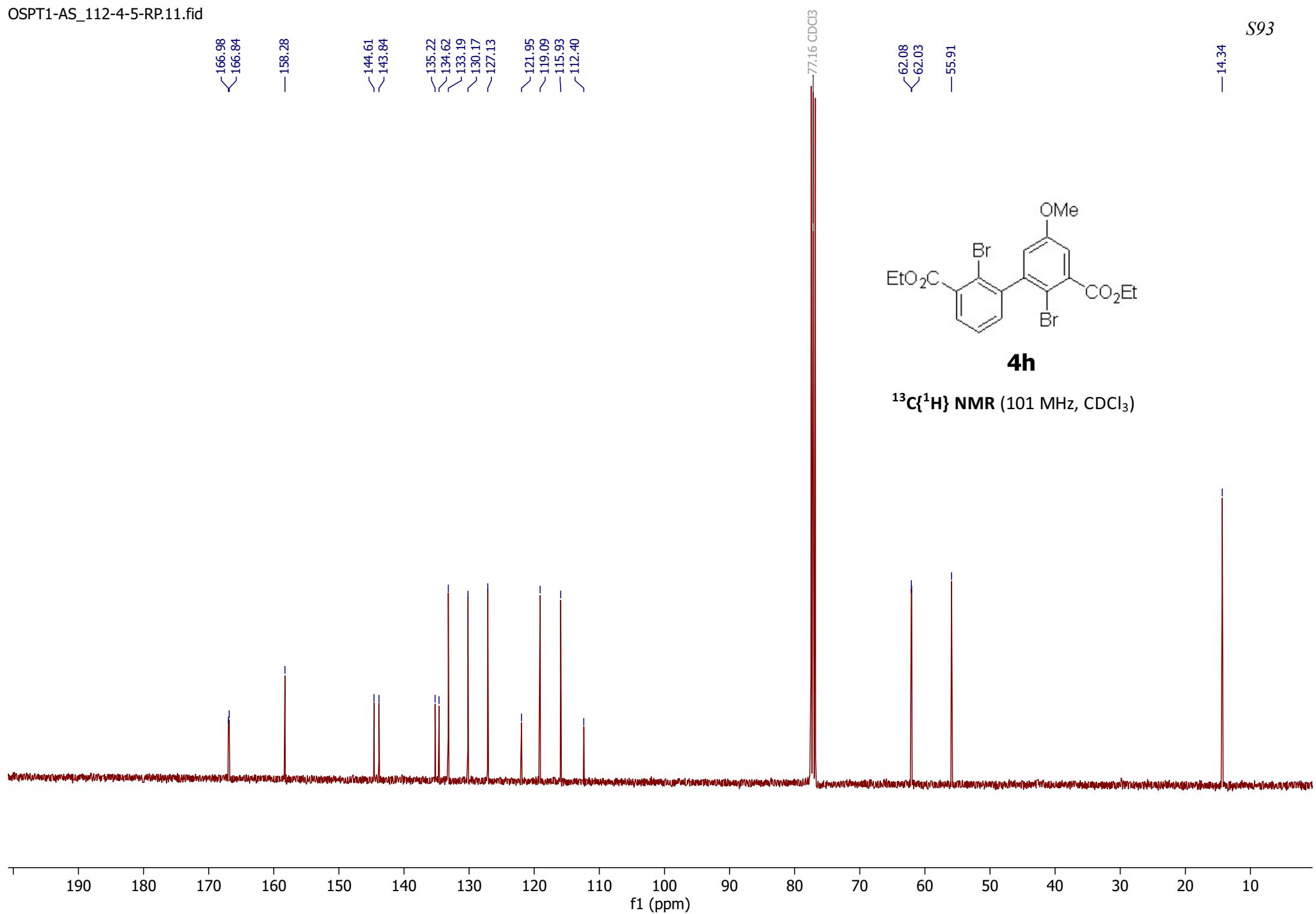


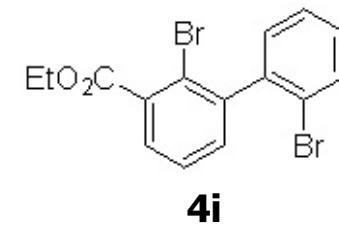
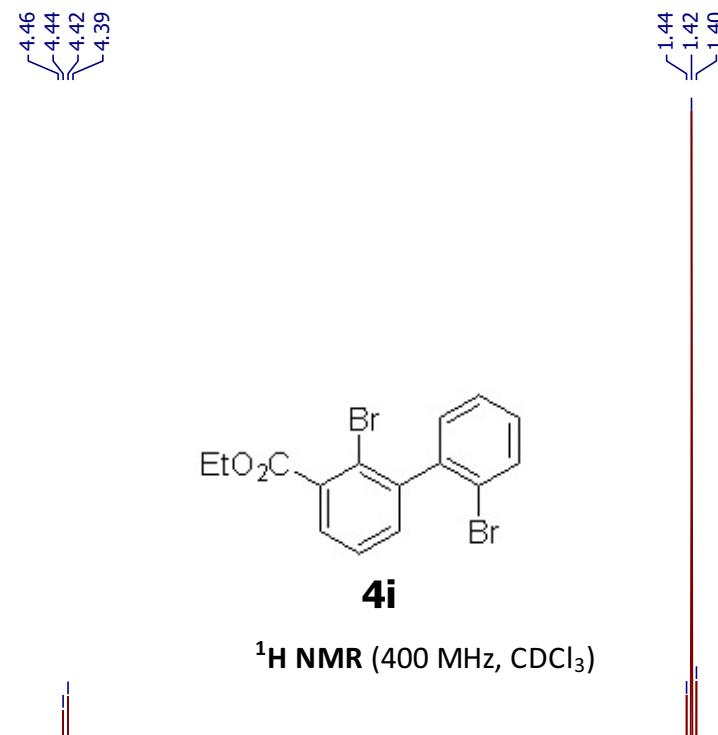
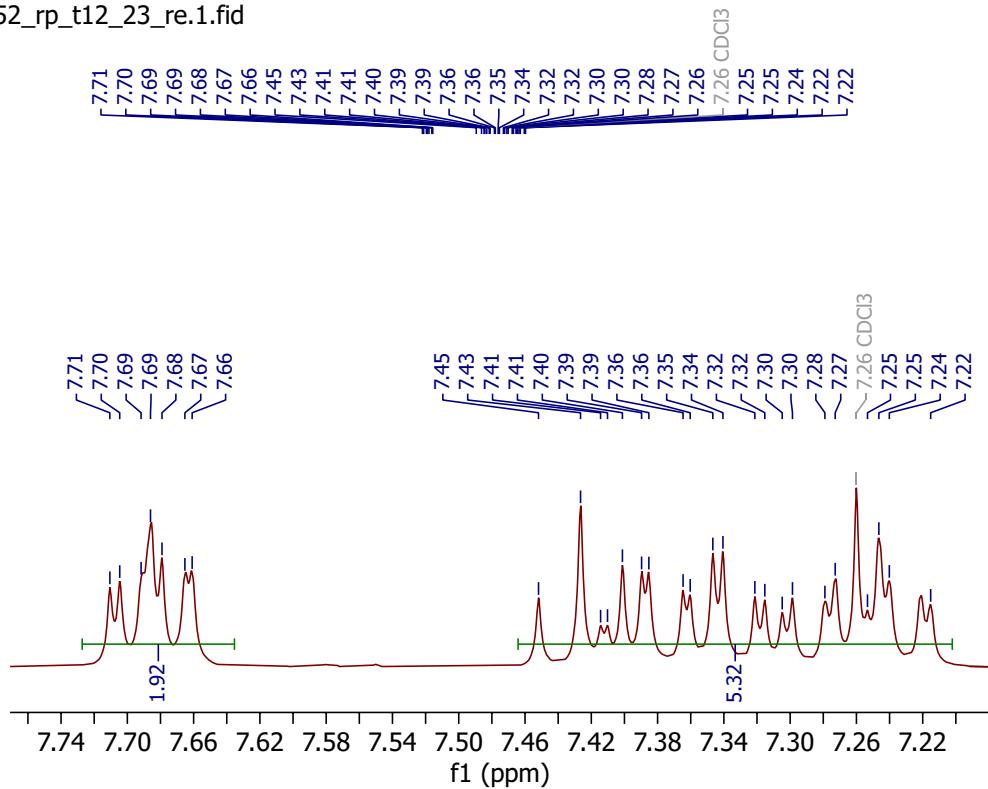


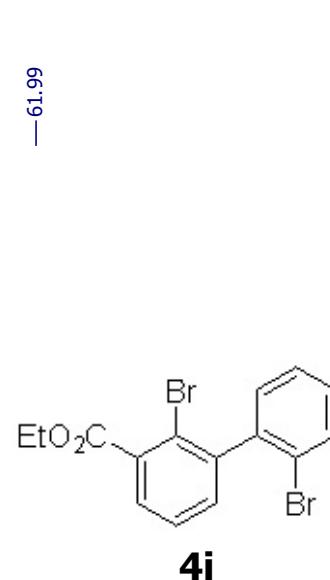
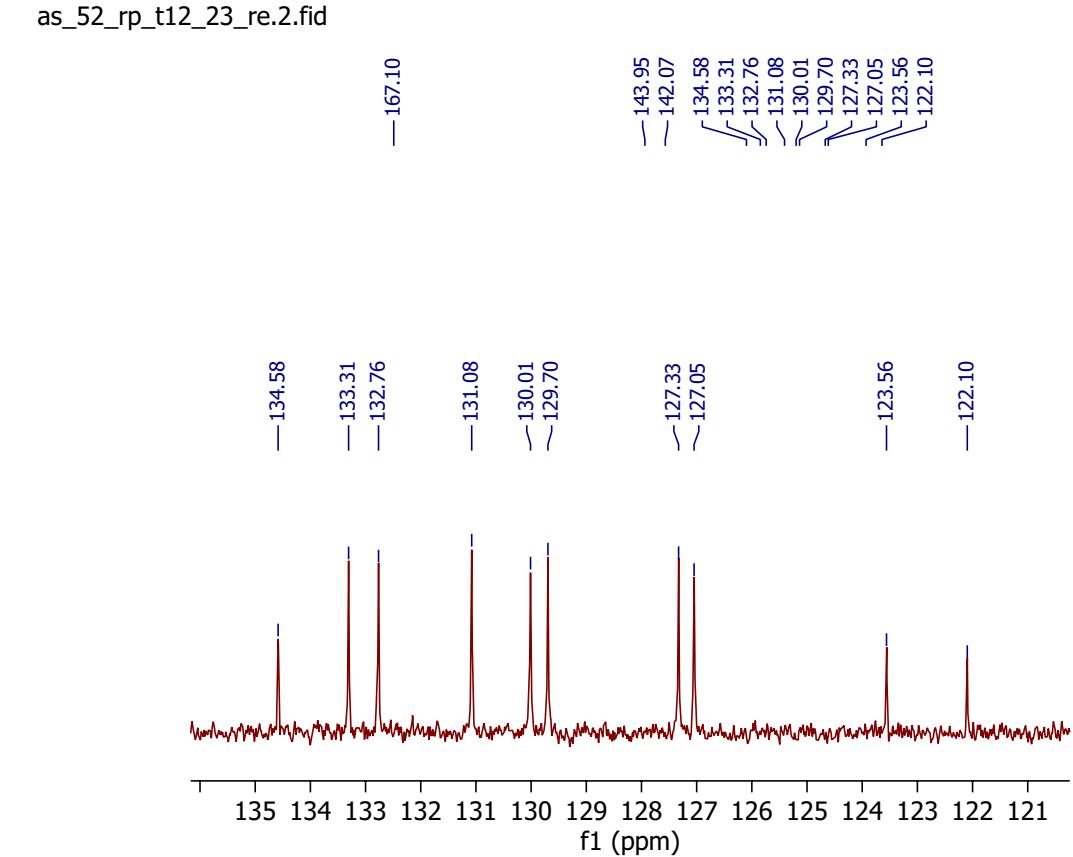
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)









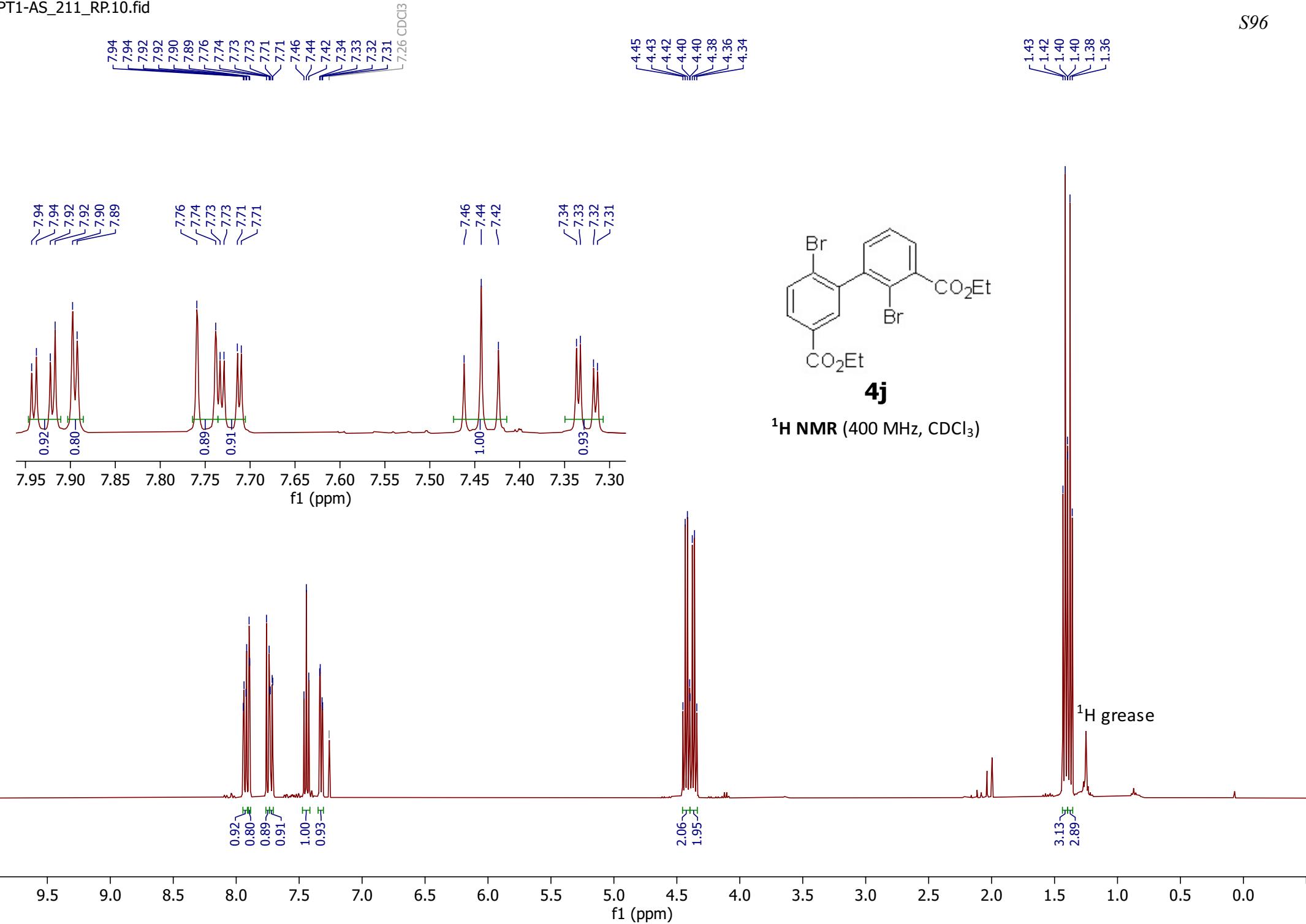


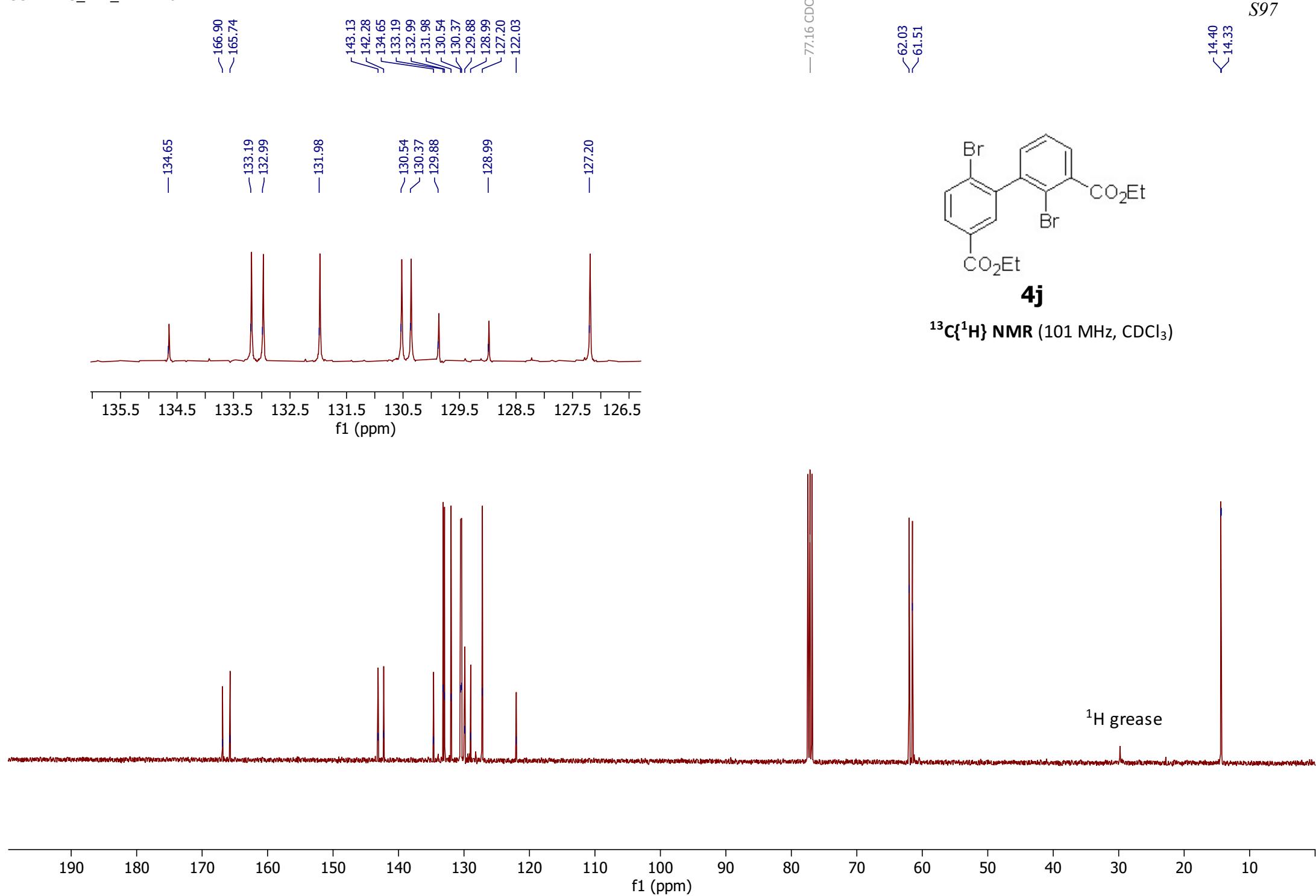
¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

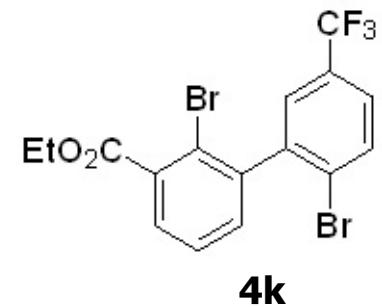
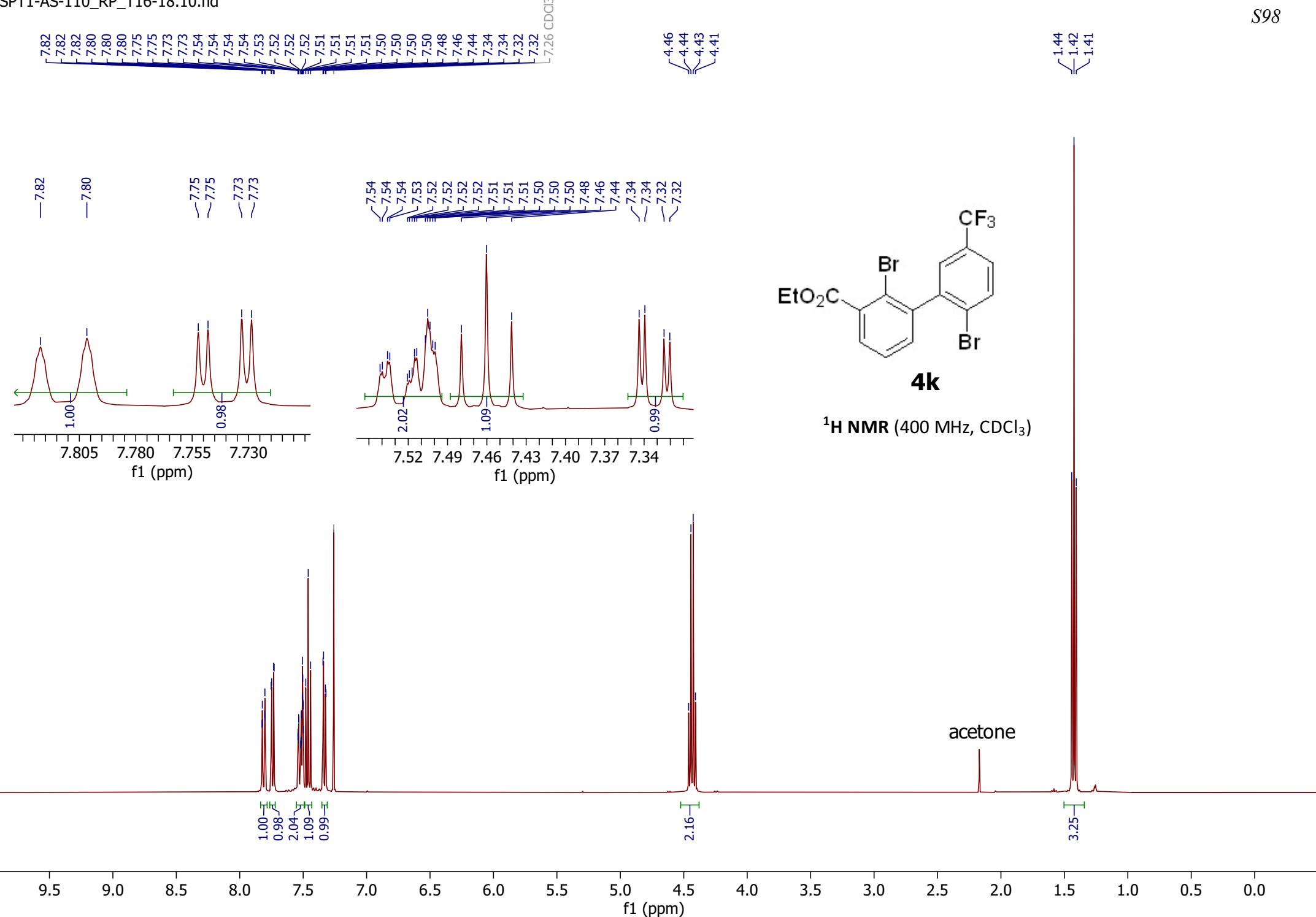
—14.36

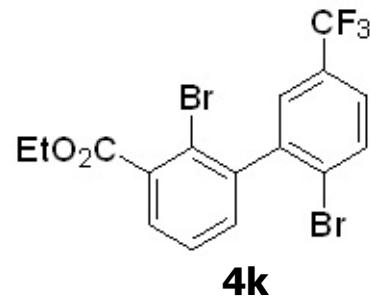
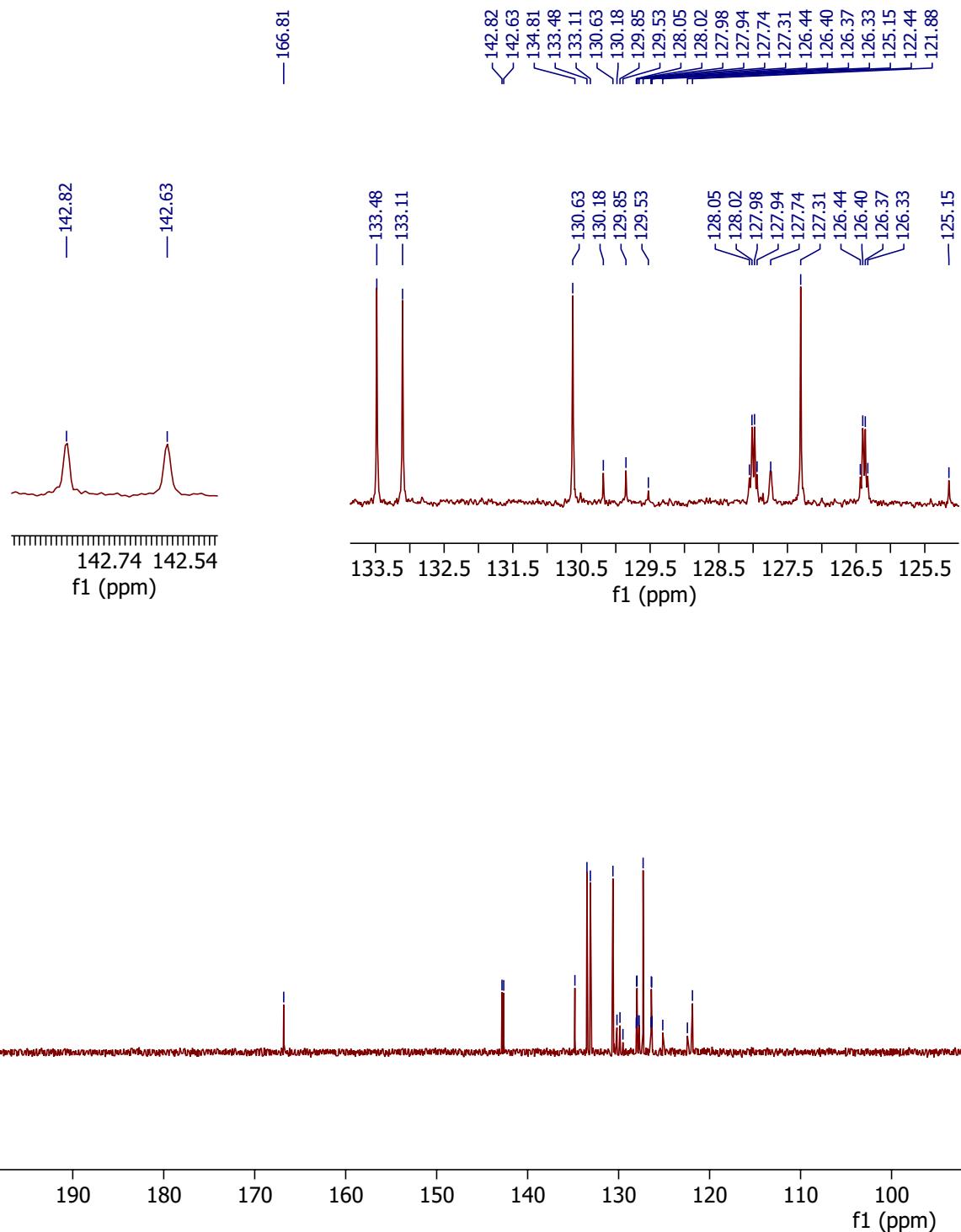
—61.99

—167.10



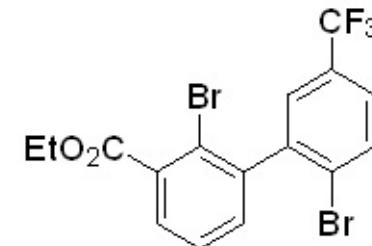






¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

—62.62

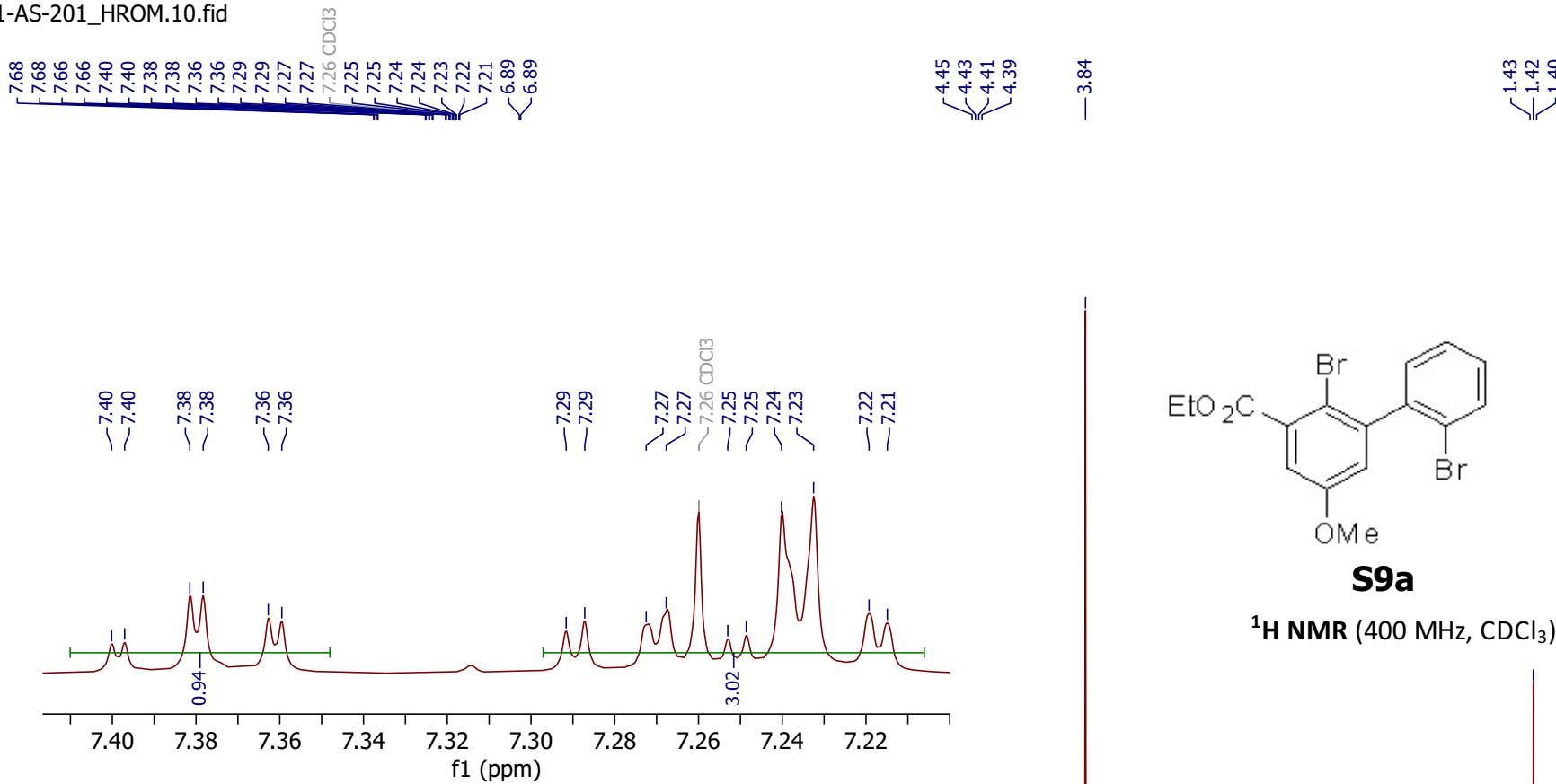


4k

$^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, CDCl_3)

-10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190

f1 (ppm)



S9a
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

acetone

water

3.10

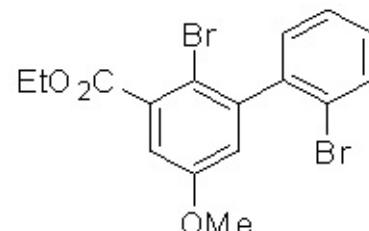
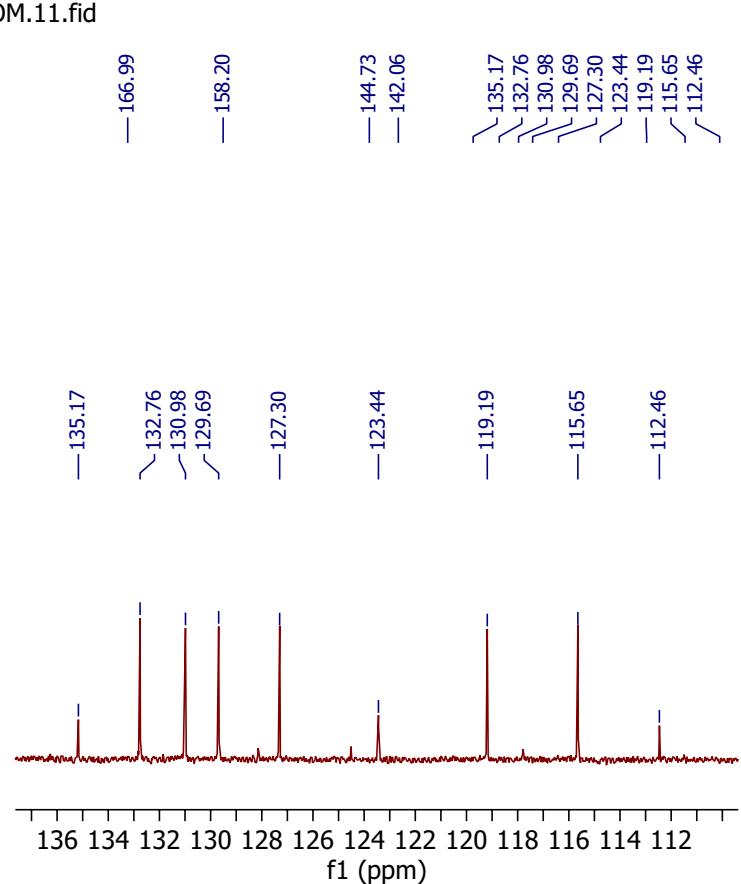
2.60

2.08

1.40

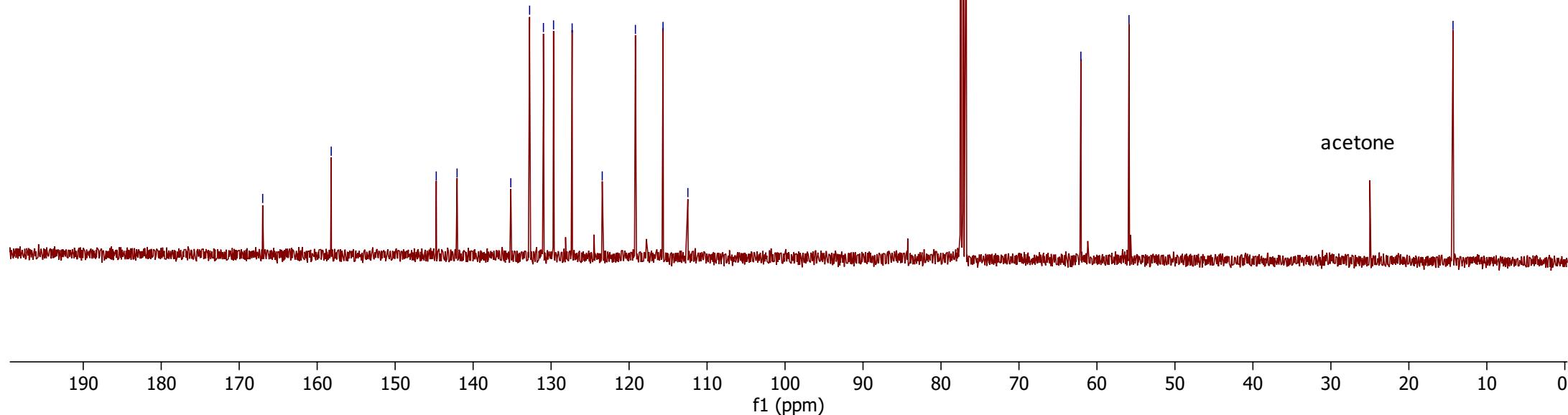
1.42

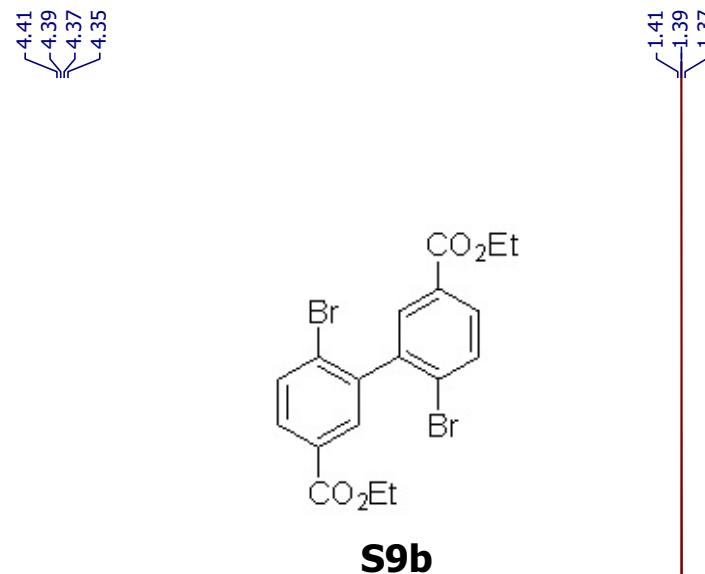
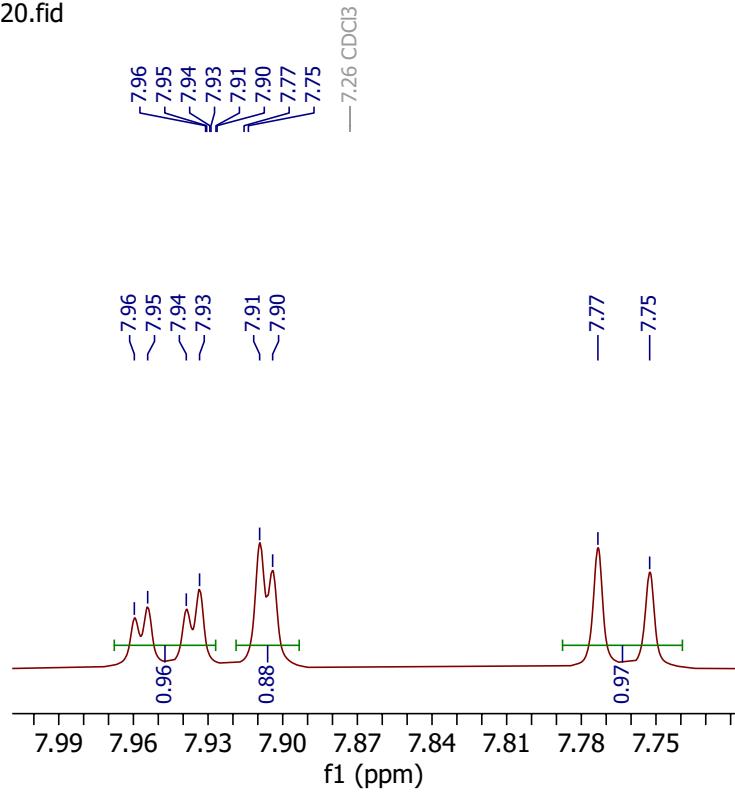
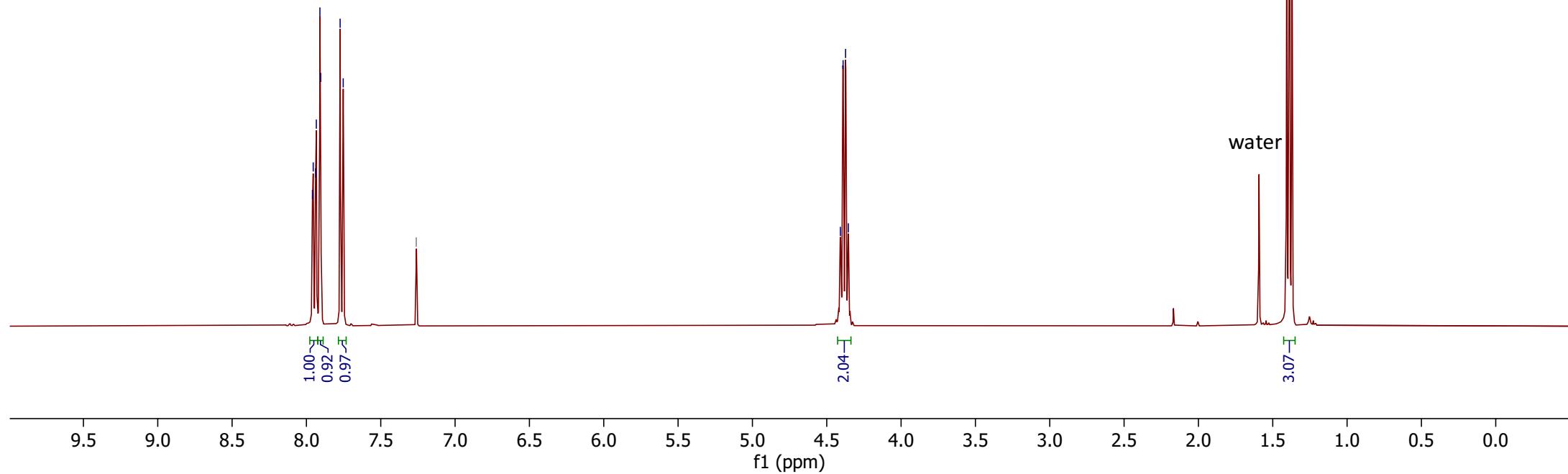
1.43



S9a

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

— 165.73

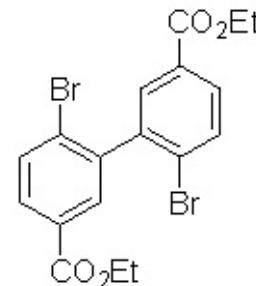
— 141.60

133.03
131.90
130.69
129.95
129.00

— 77.16 CDCl₃

— 61.56

— 14.43

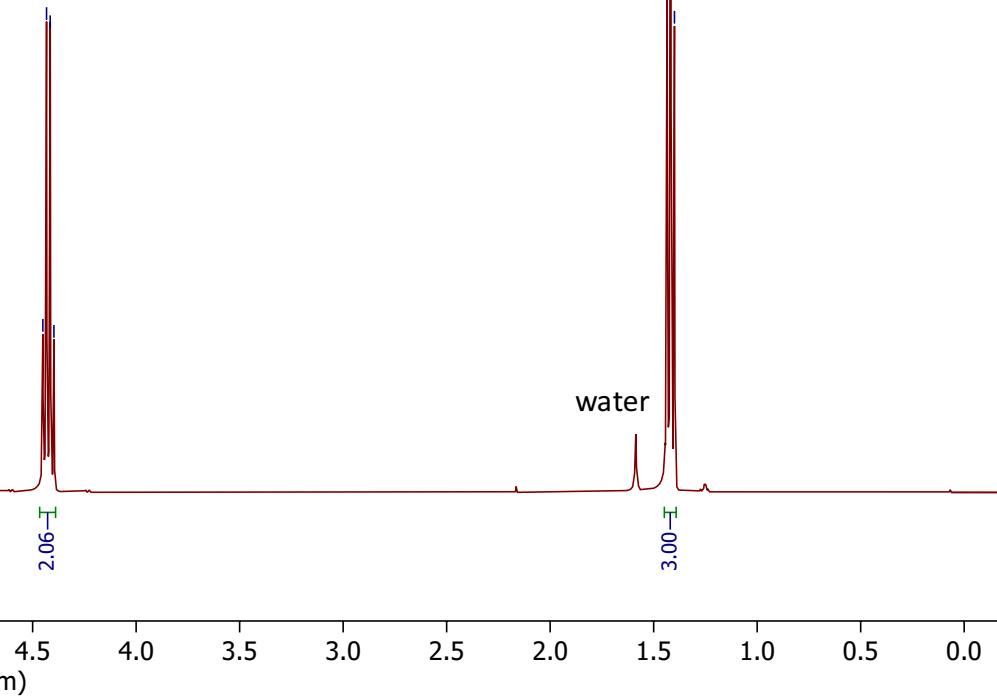
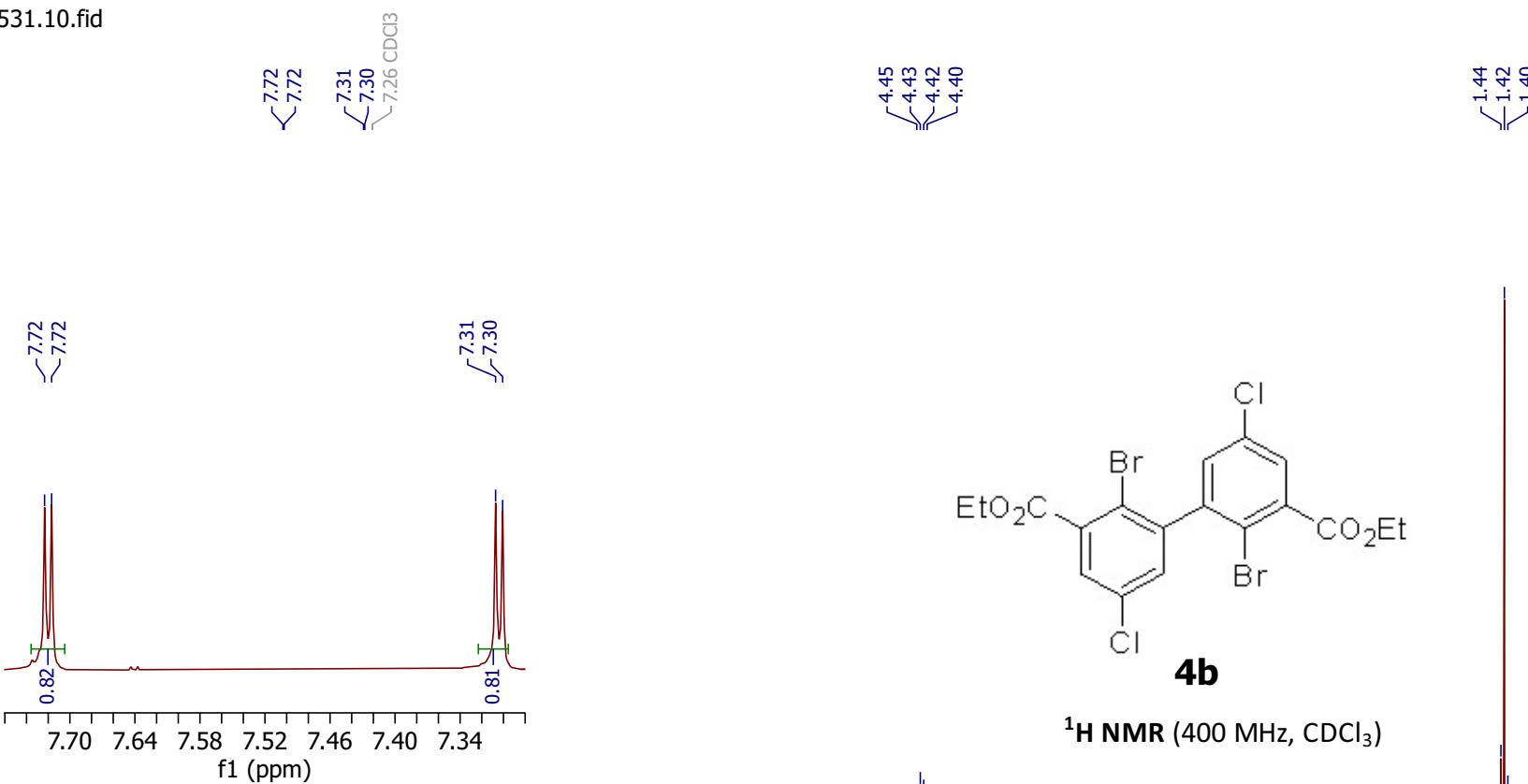


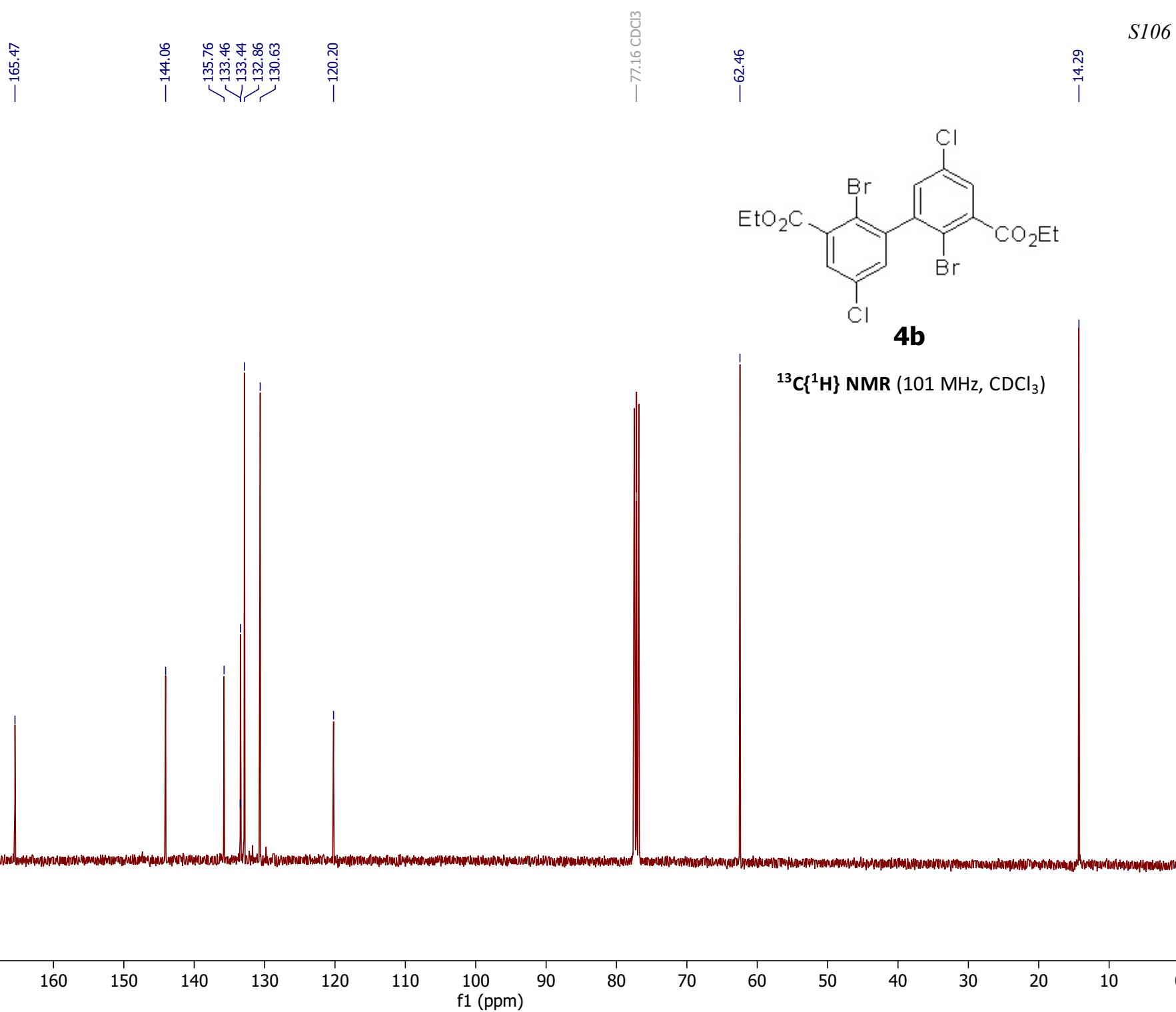
S9b

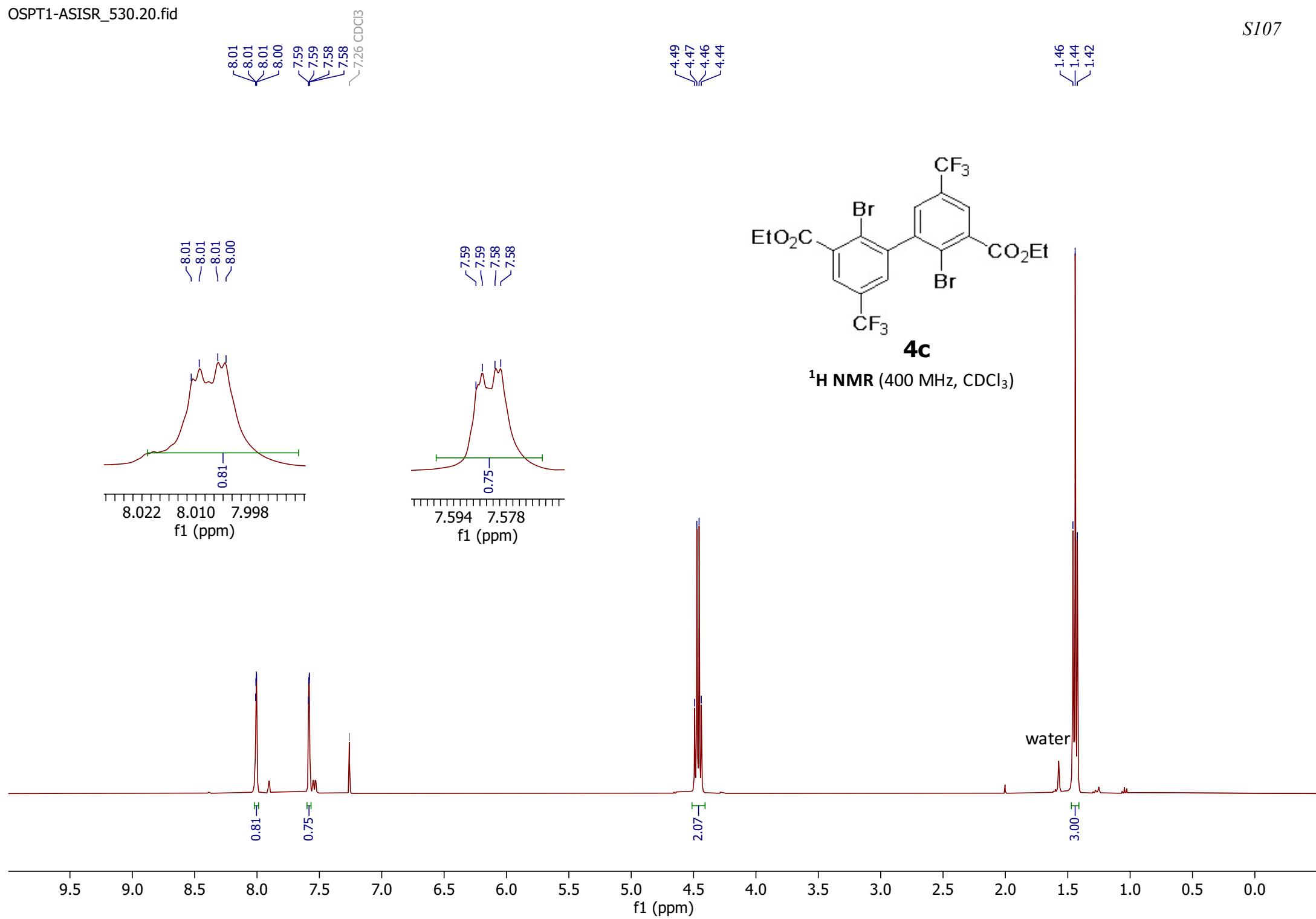
¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

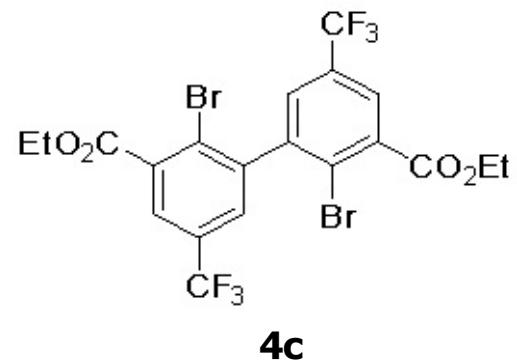
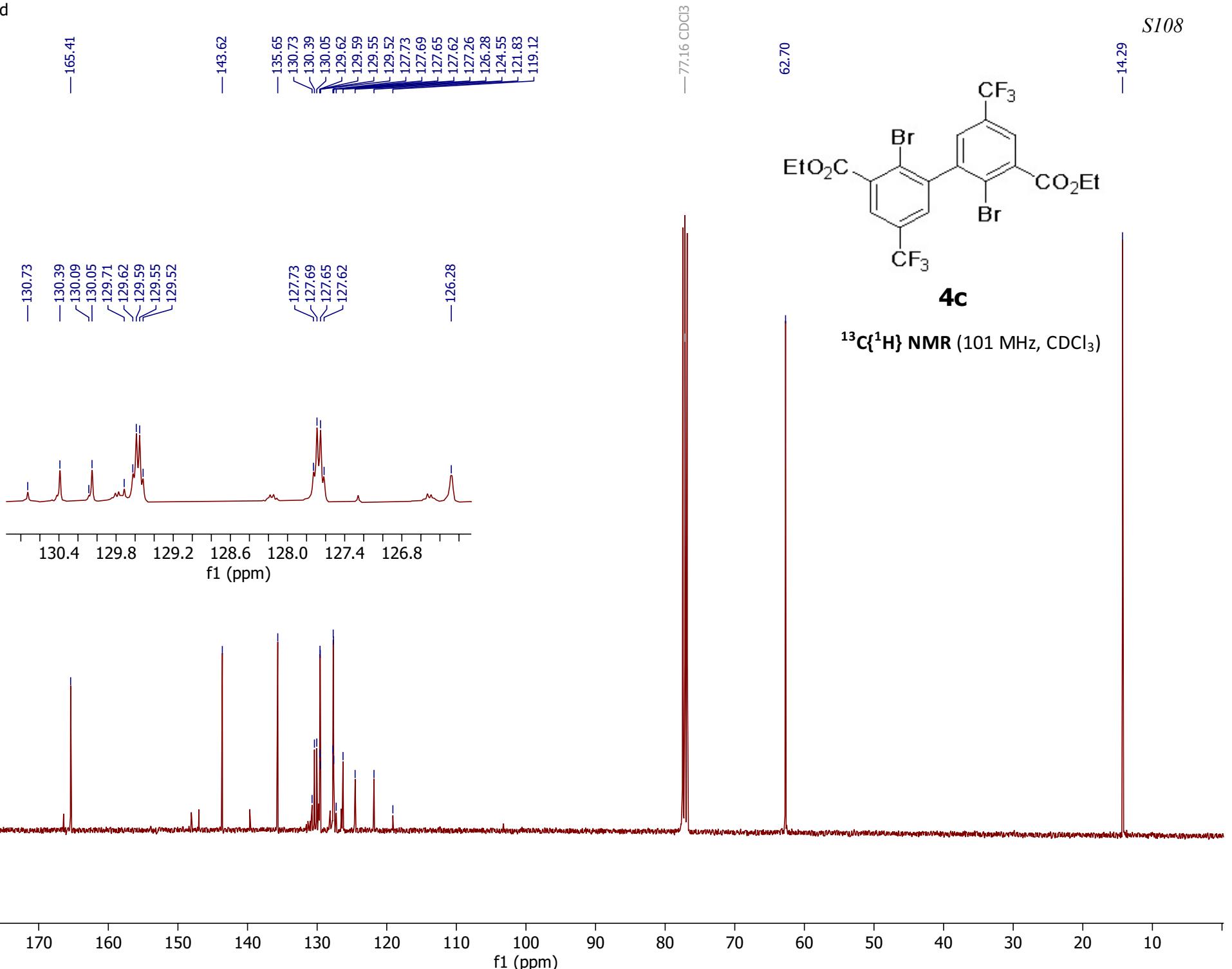
190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0

f1 (ppm)

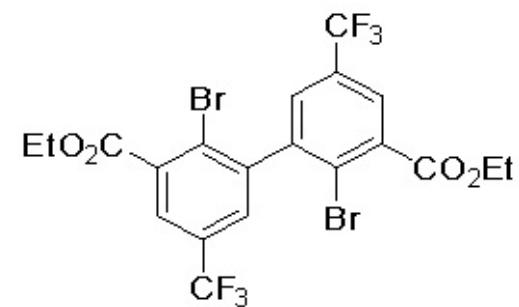
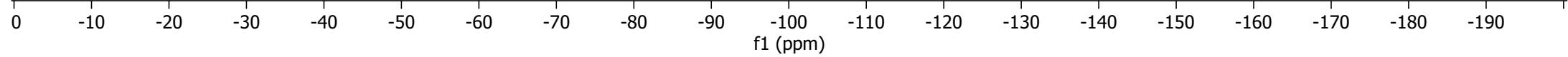


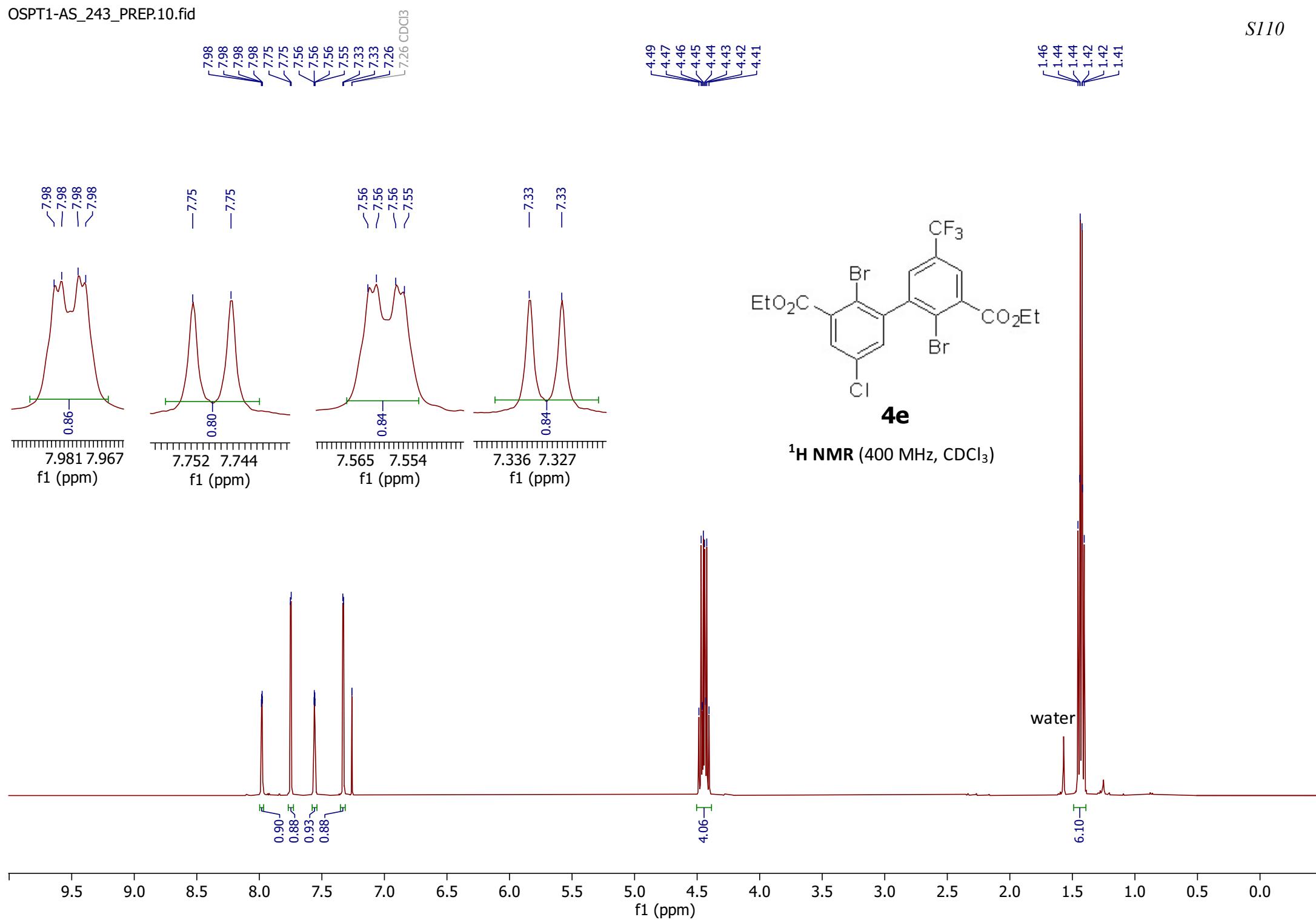


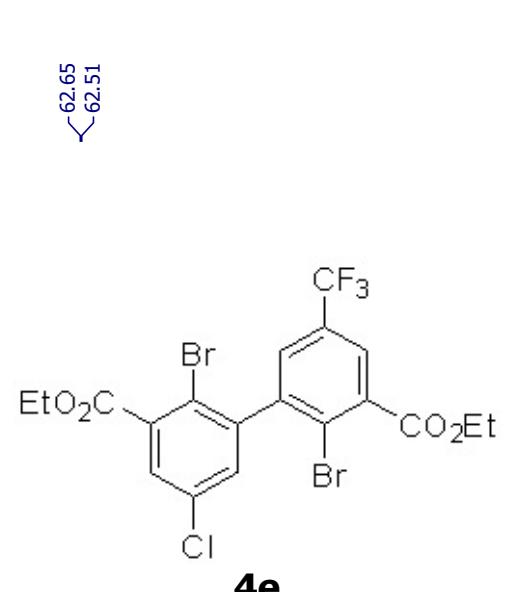
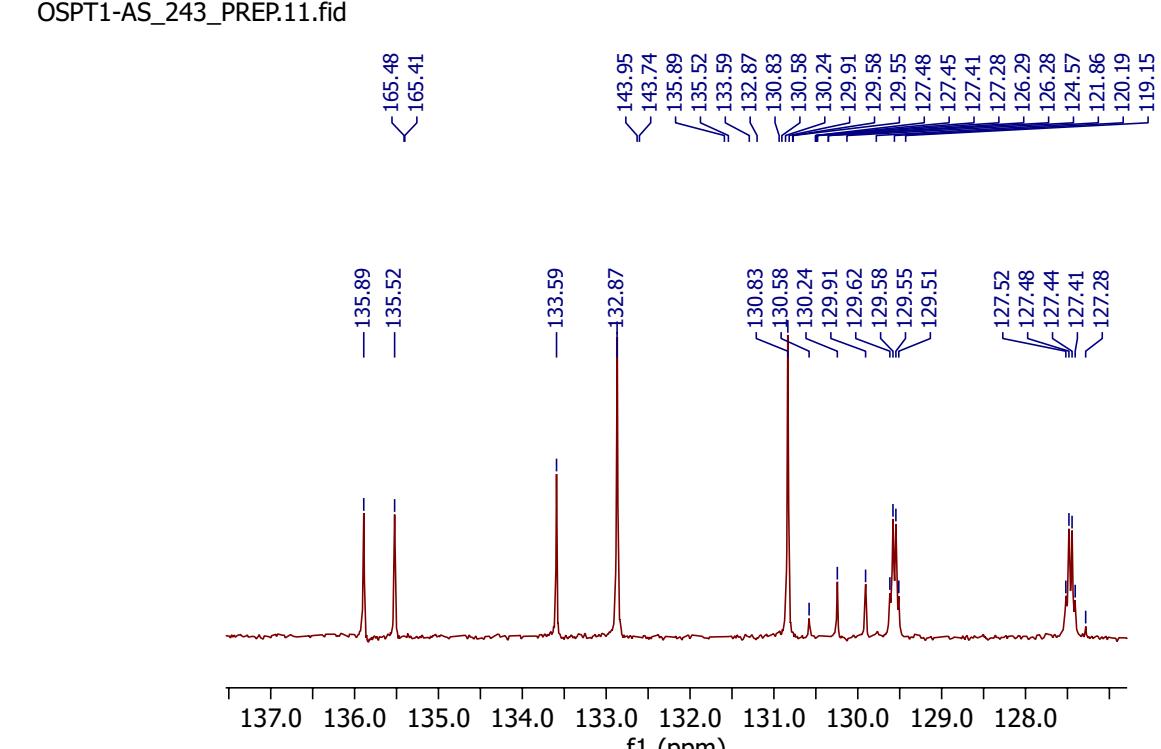
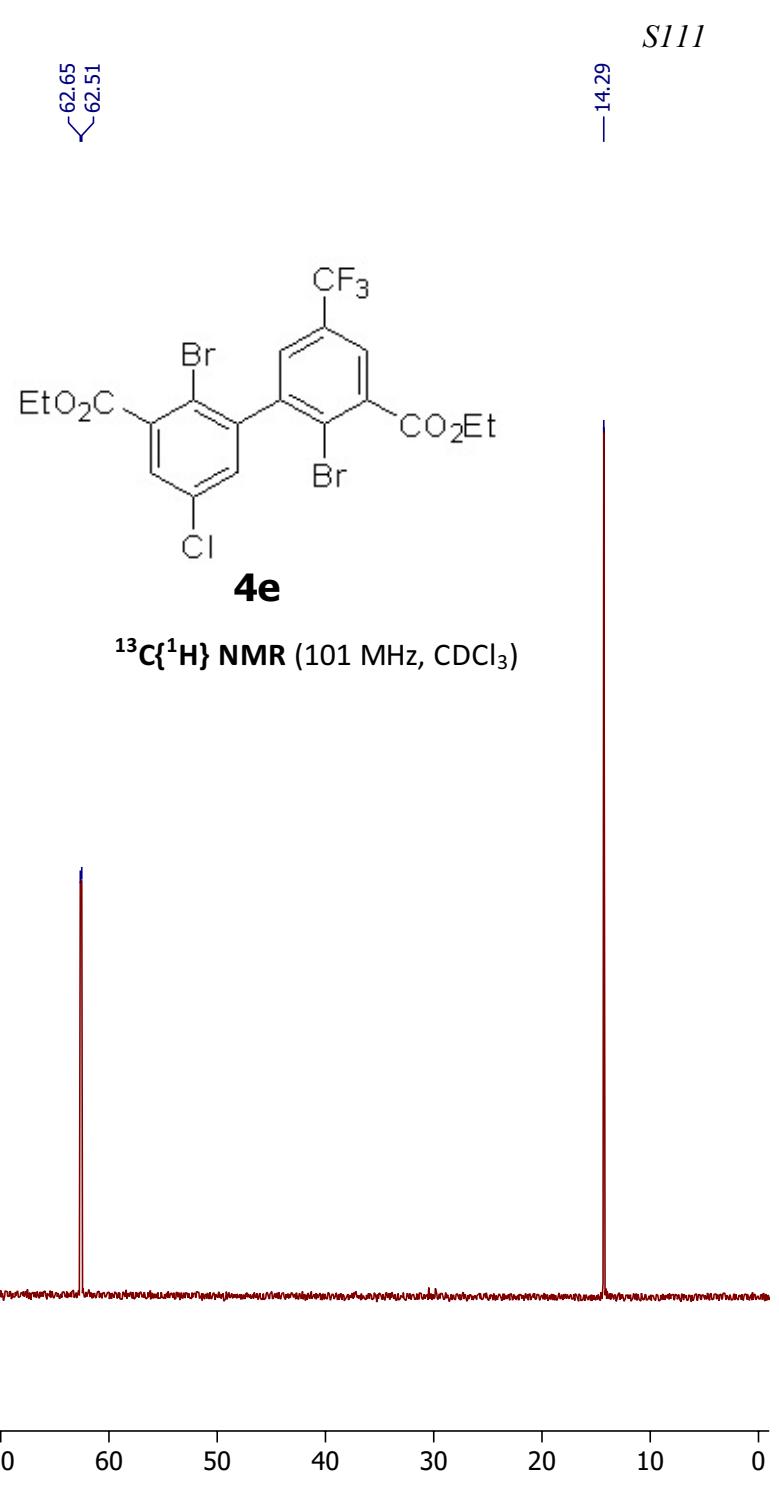




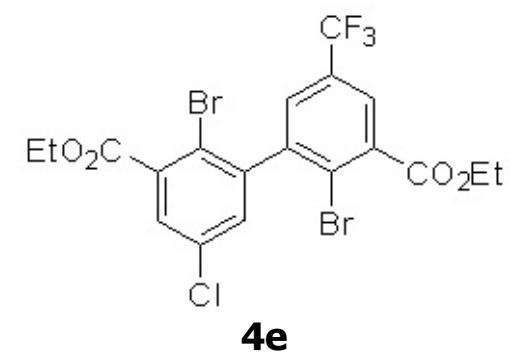
-62.82

**4c** $^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, CDCl_3)

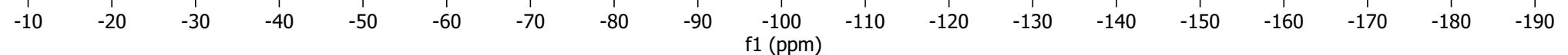


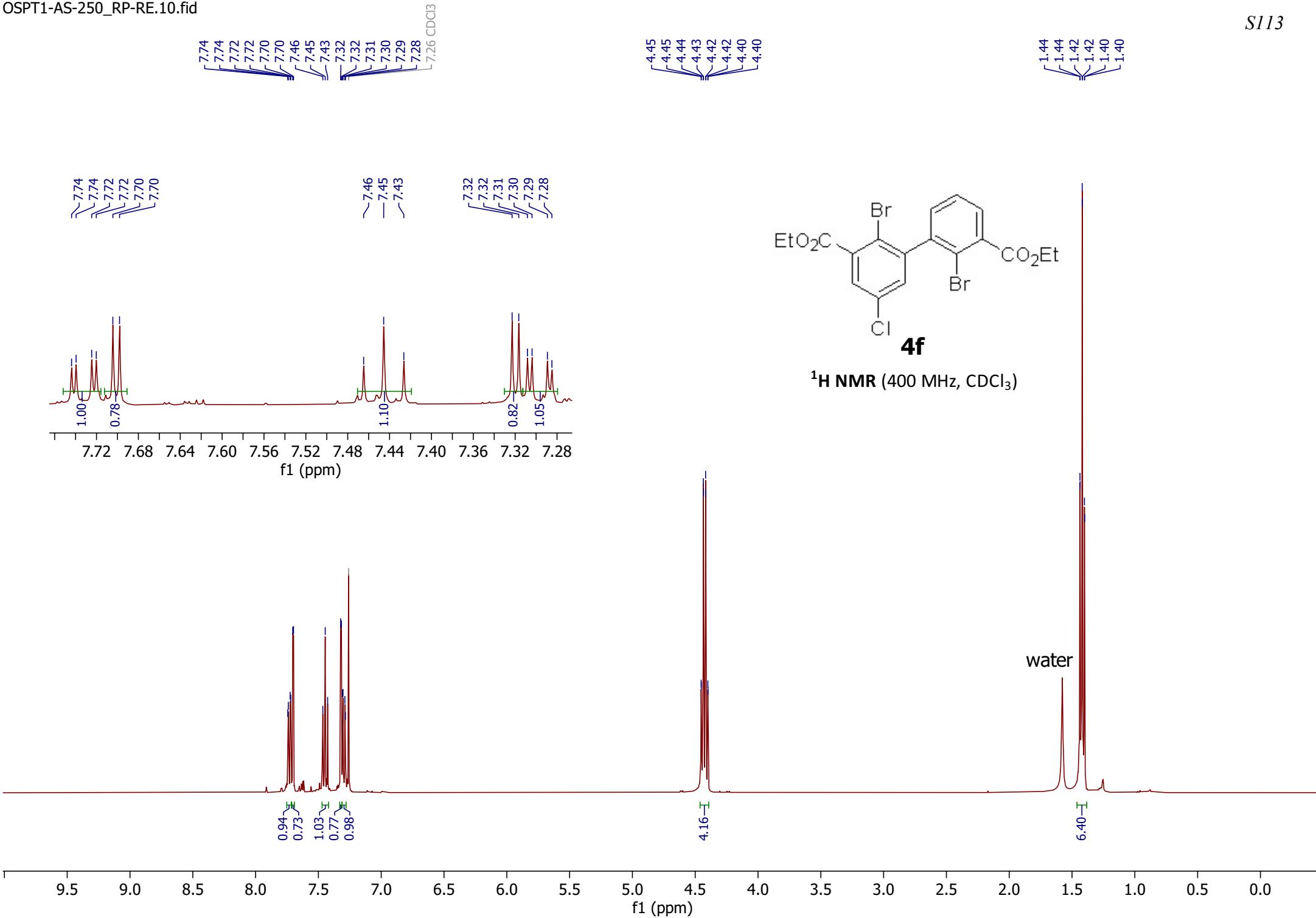
¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

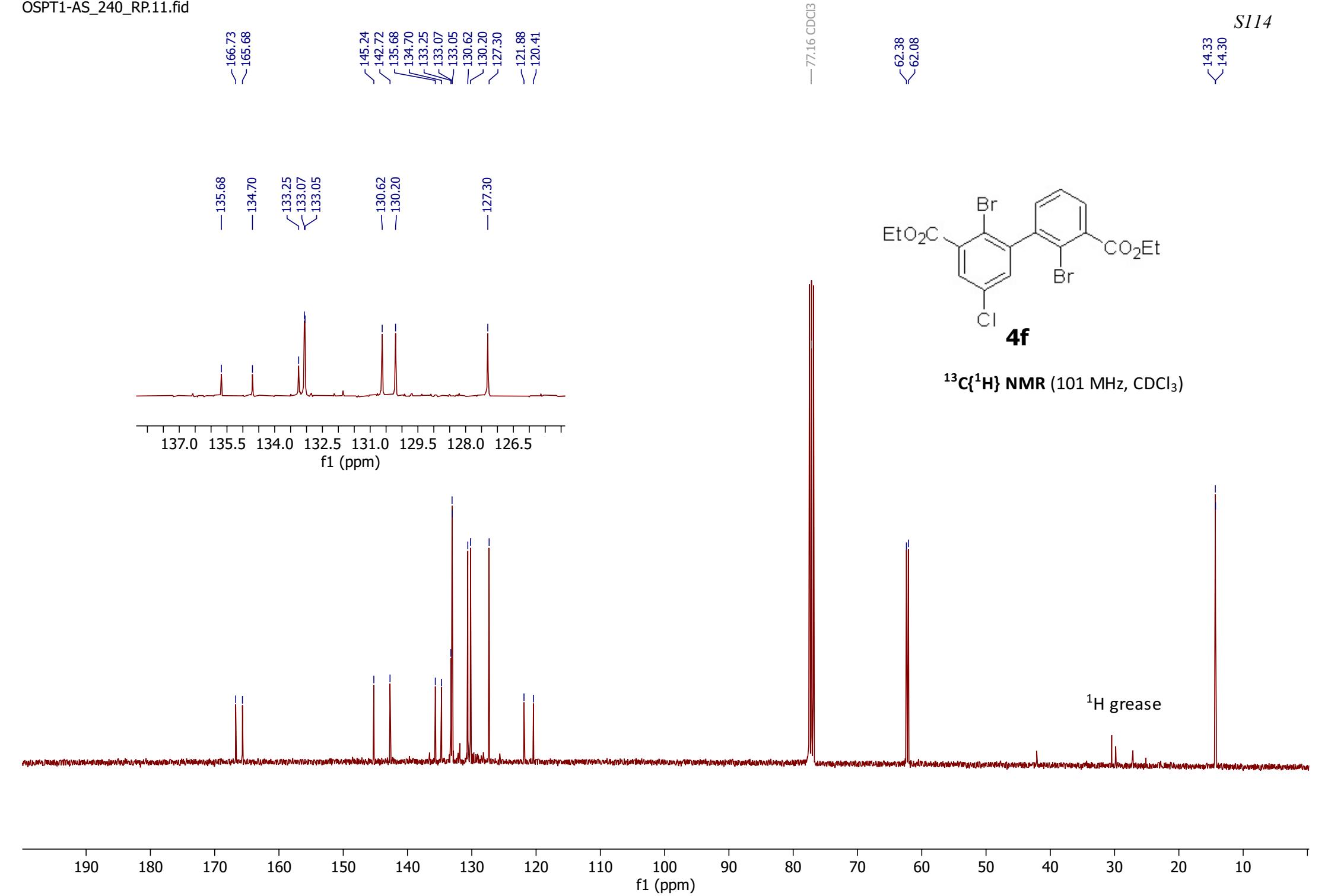
---62.81

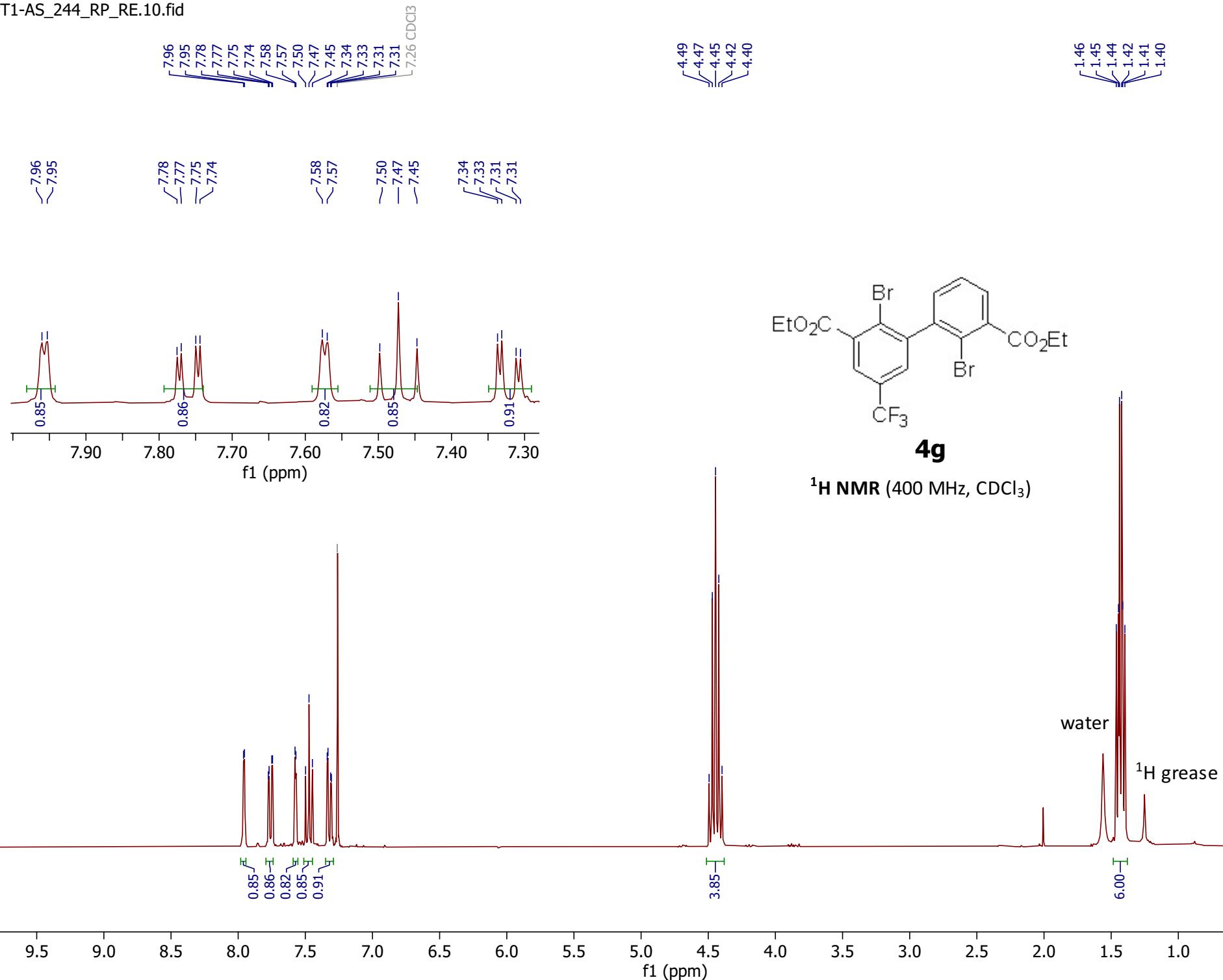


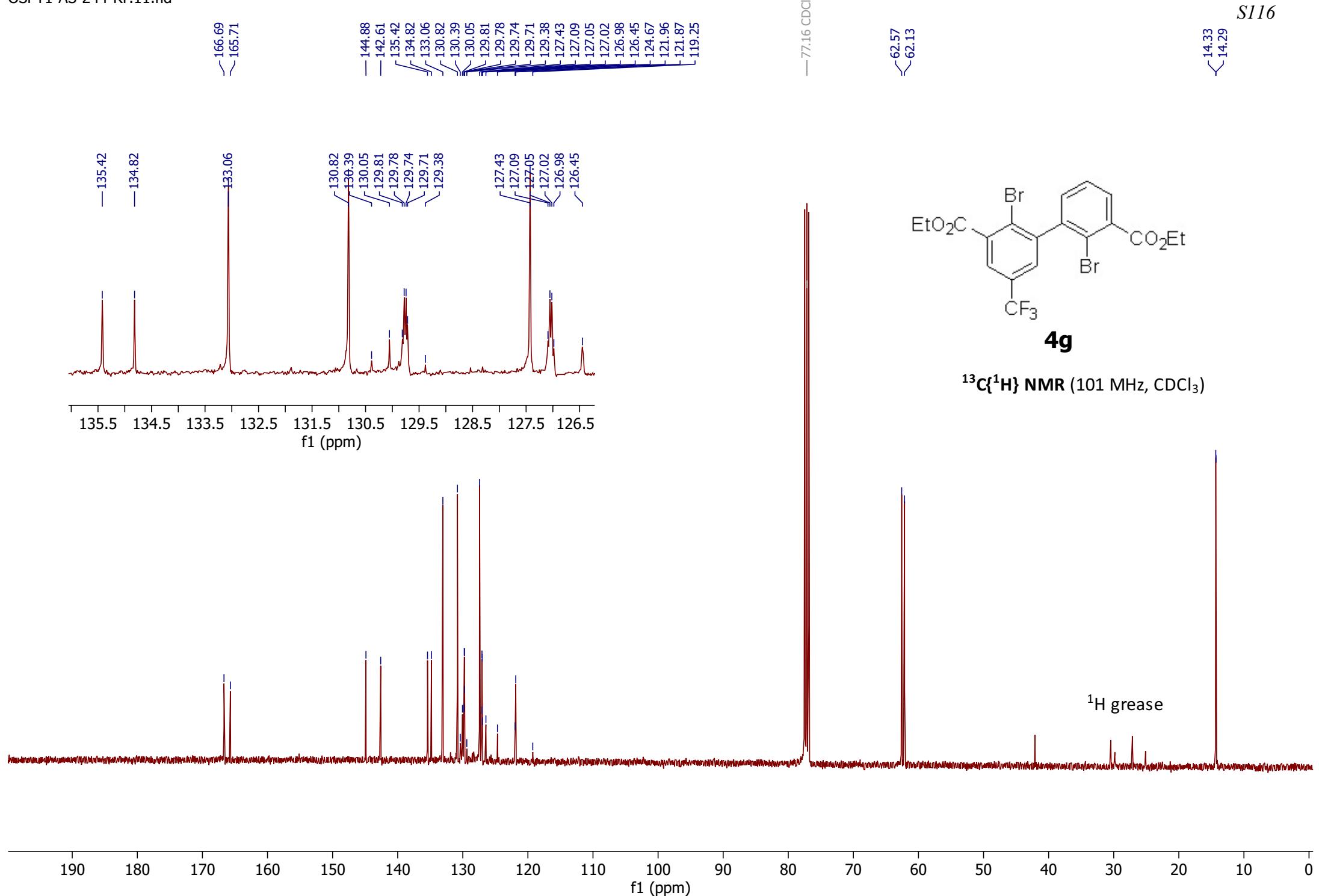
¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃)



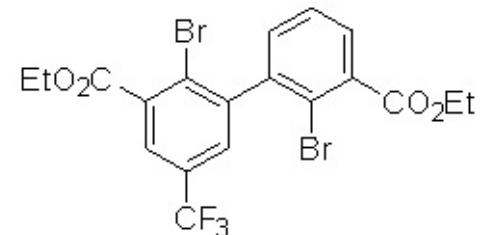
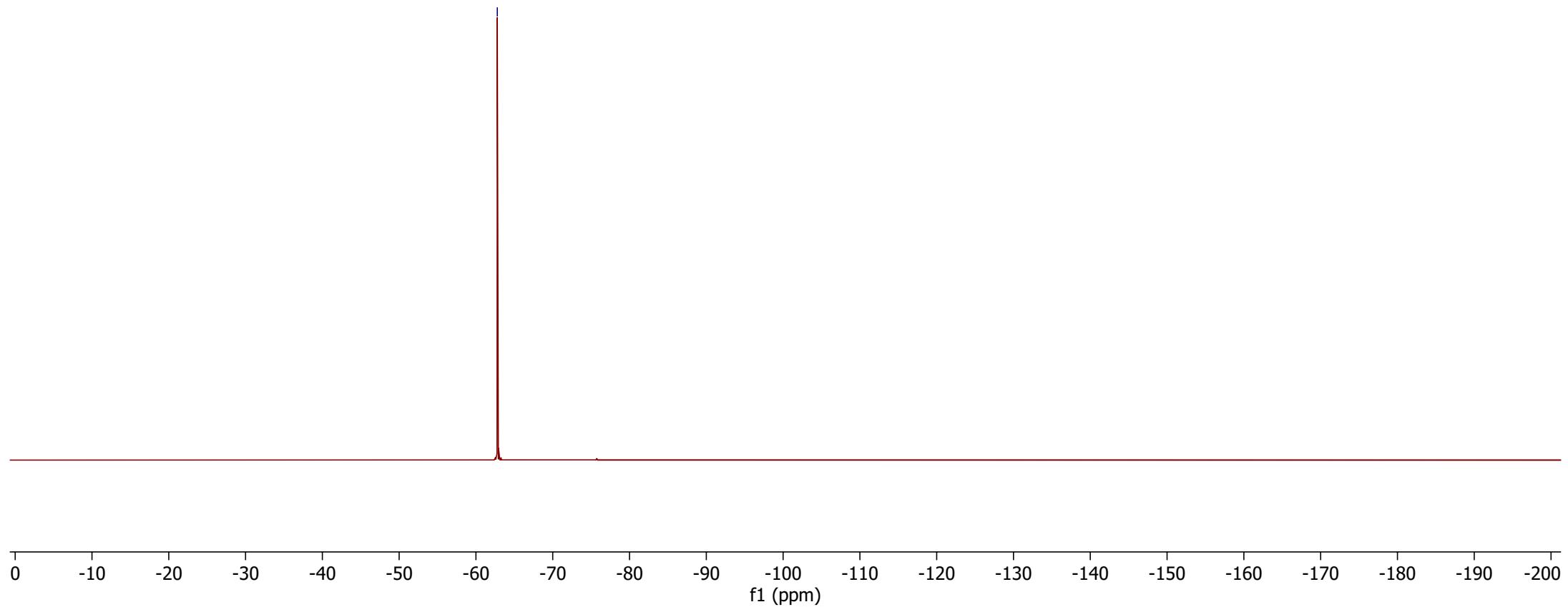


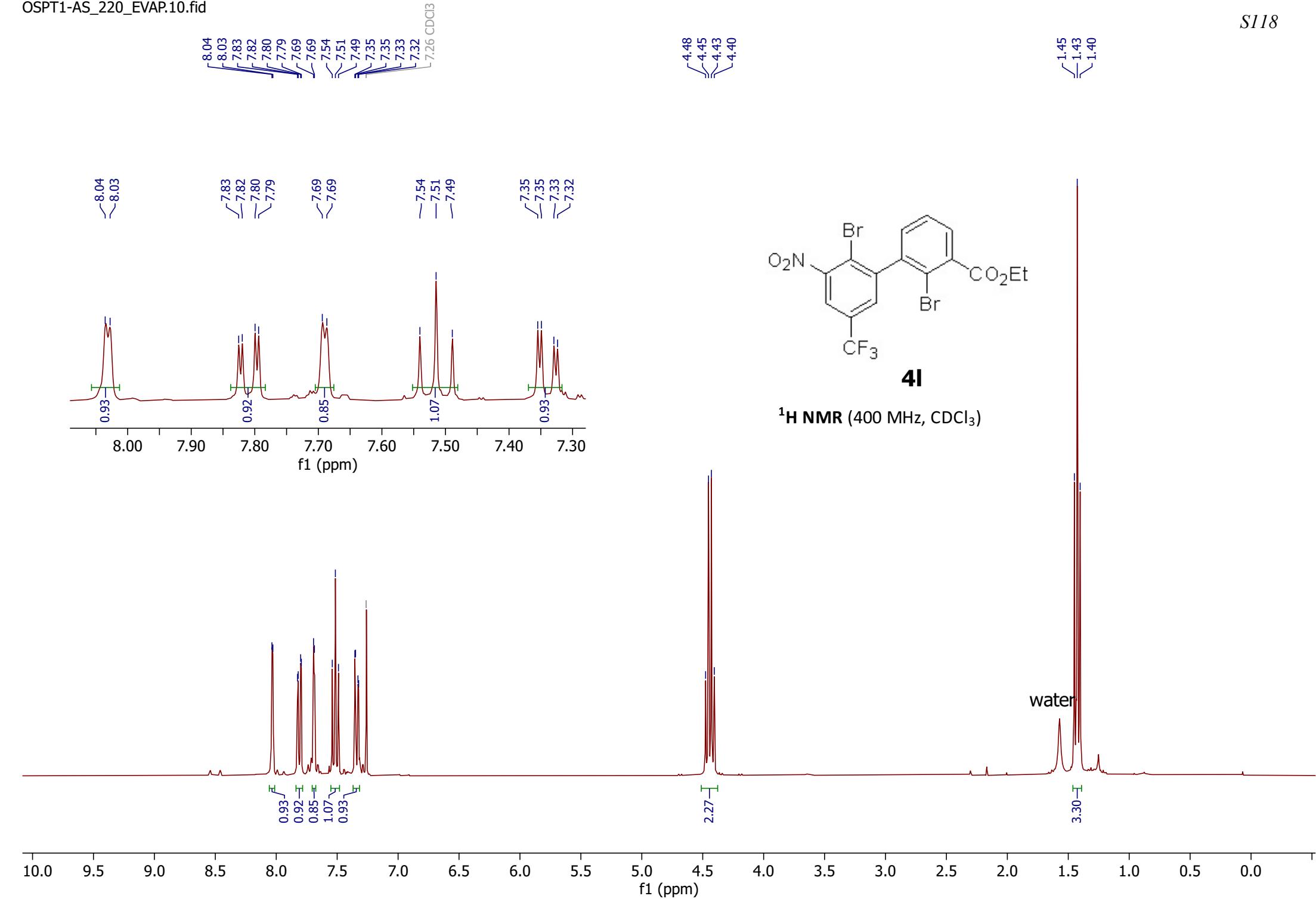


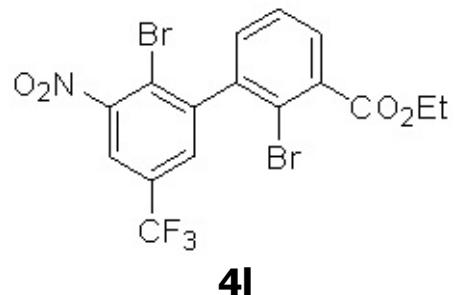
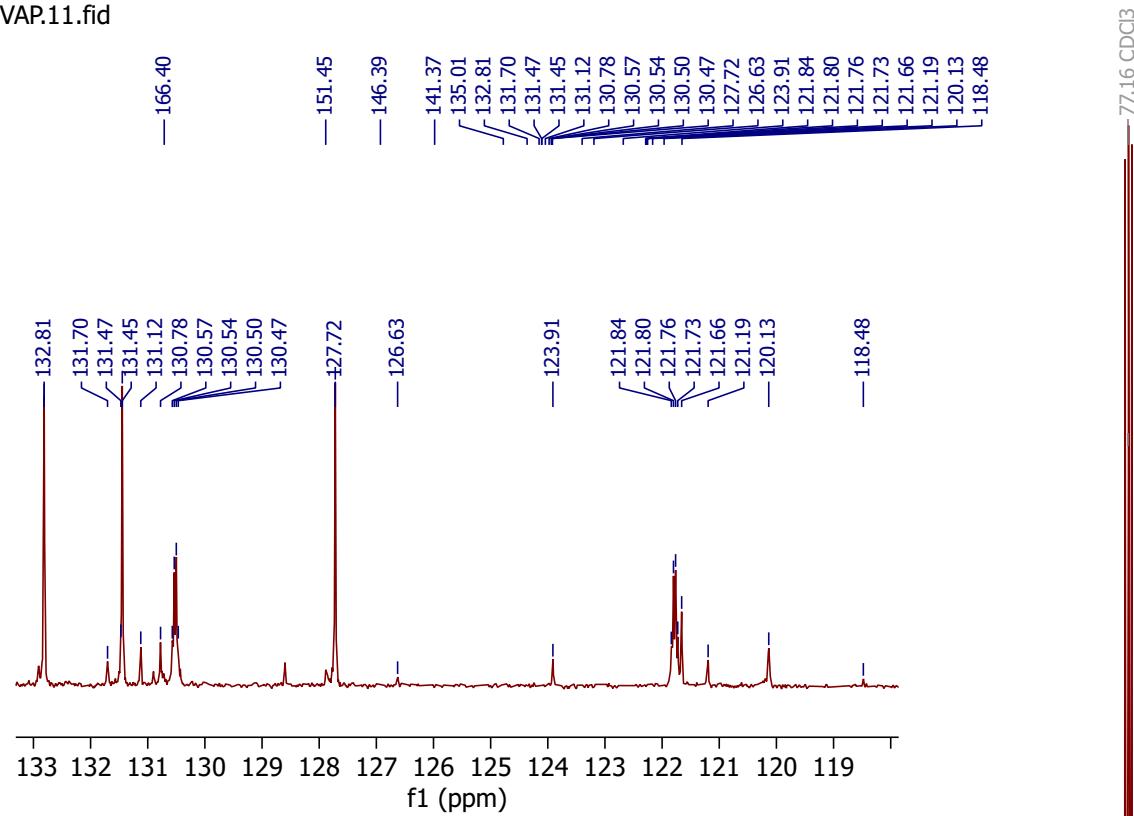




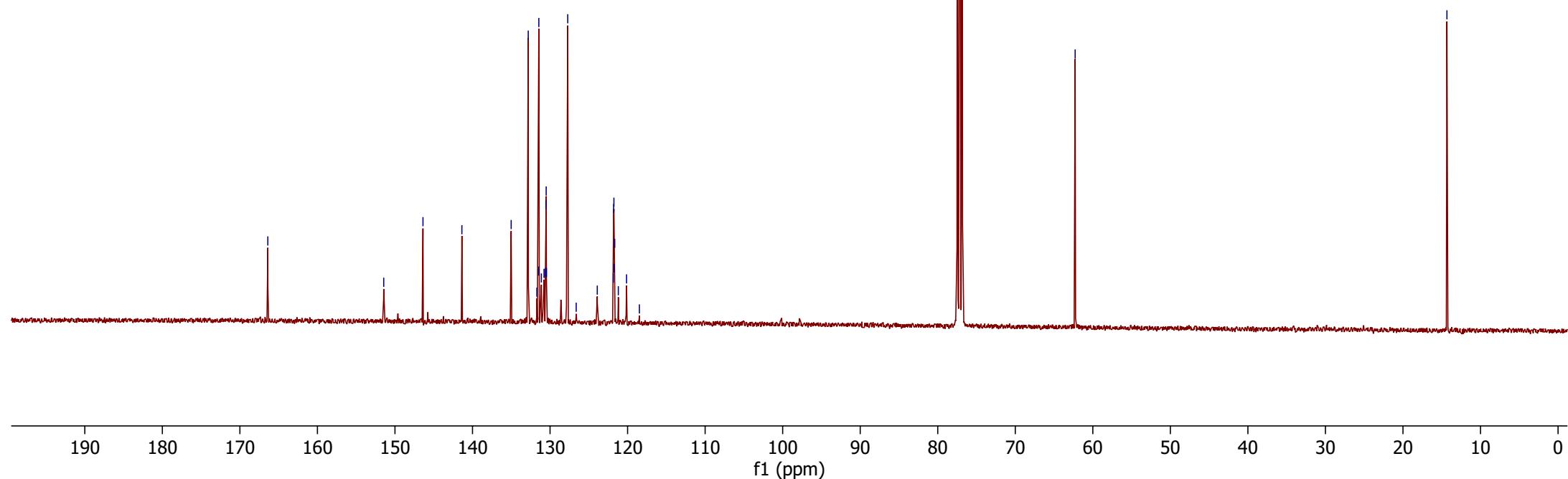
-62.78

**4g** **$^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, CDCl_3)**





$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)



-62.90

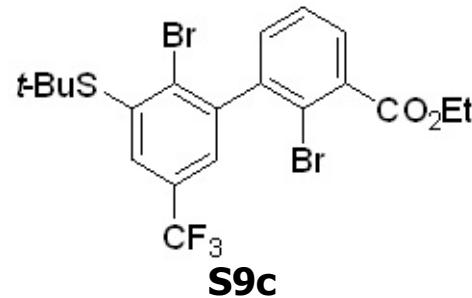
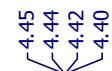
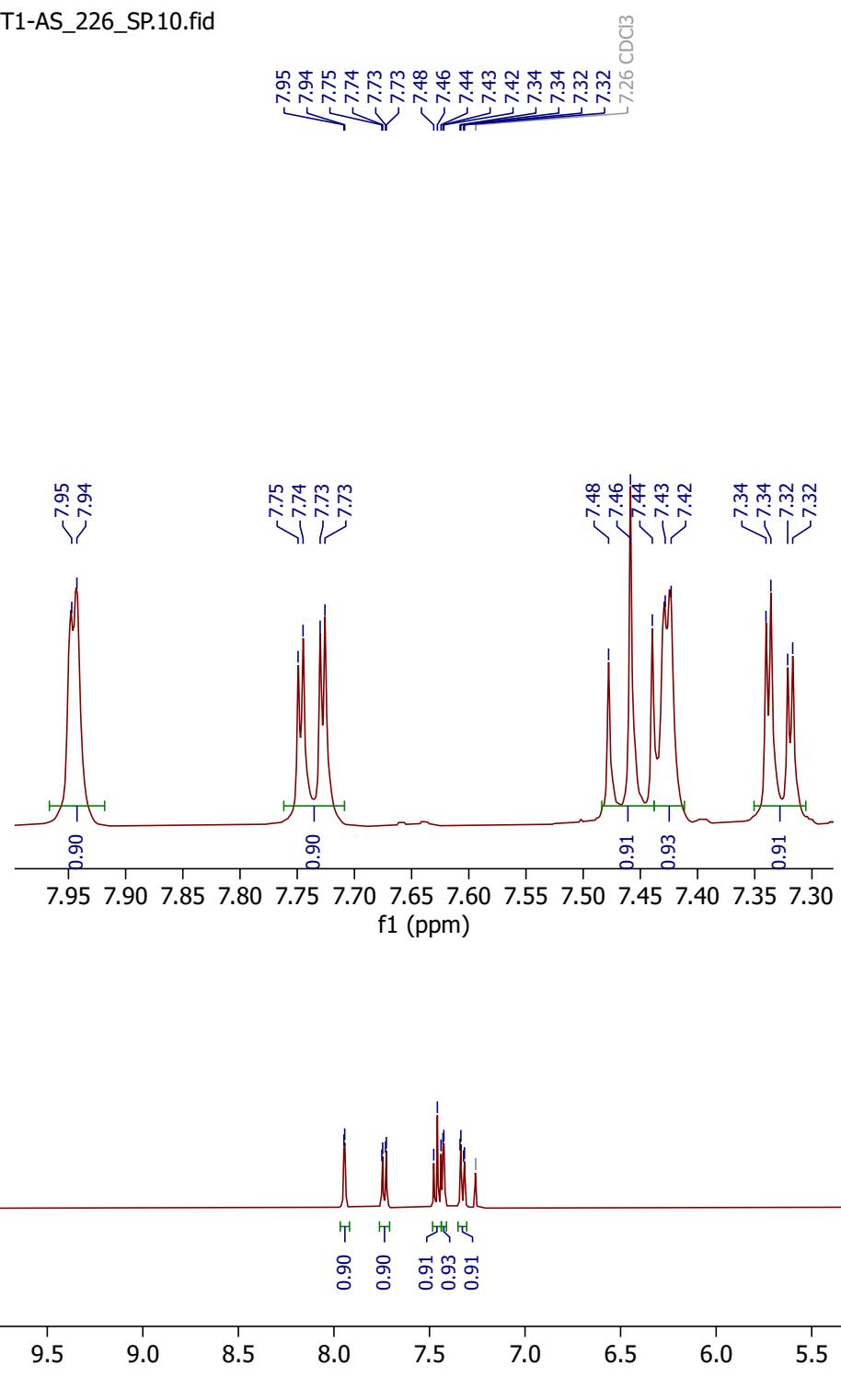
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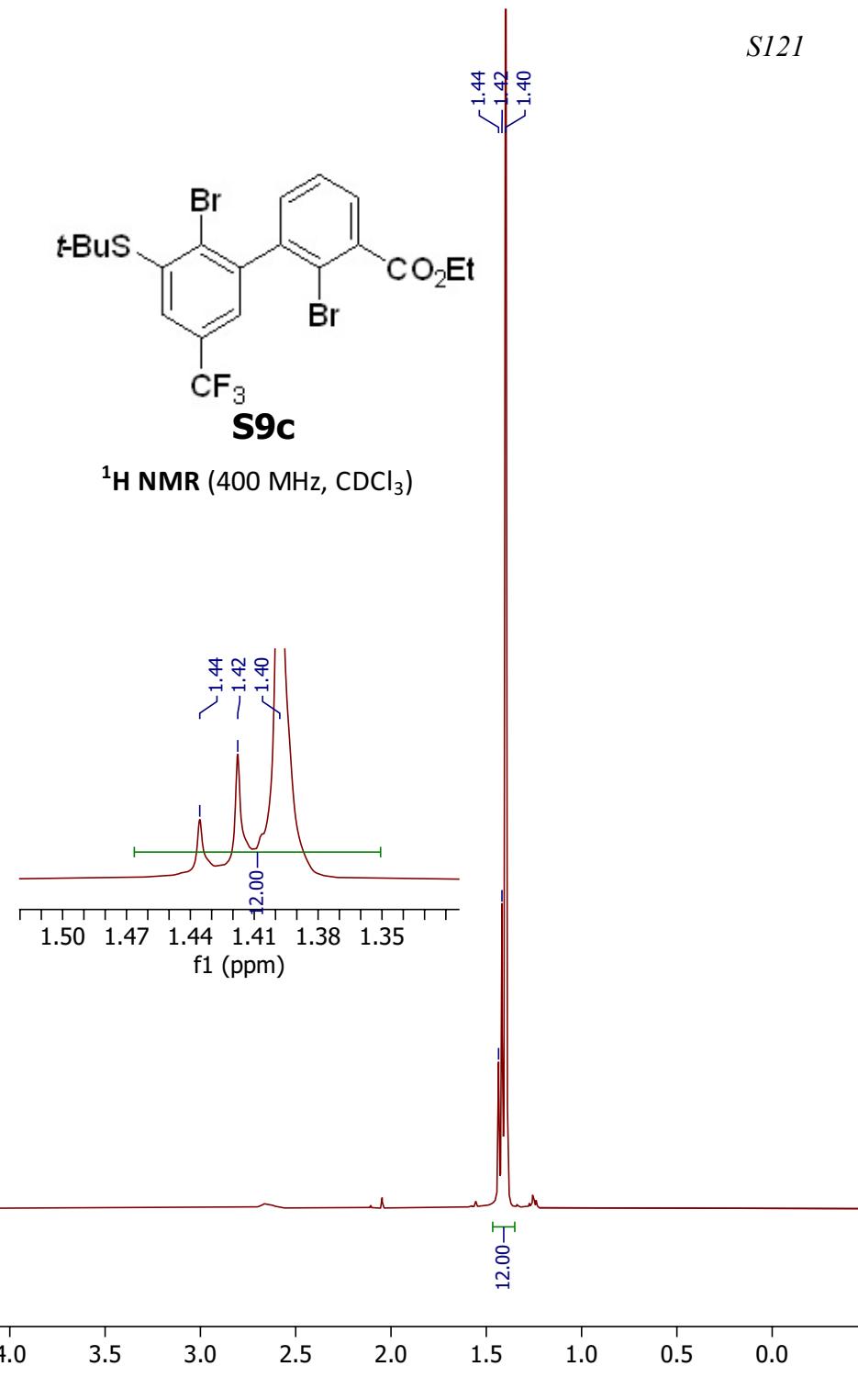
4l

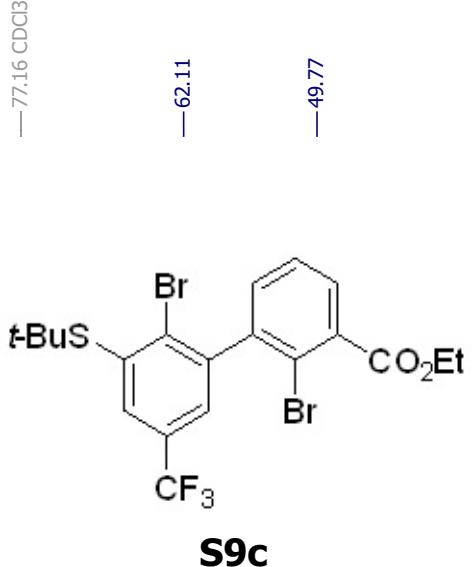
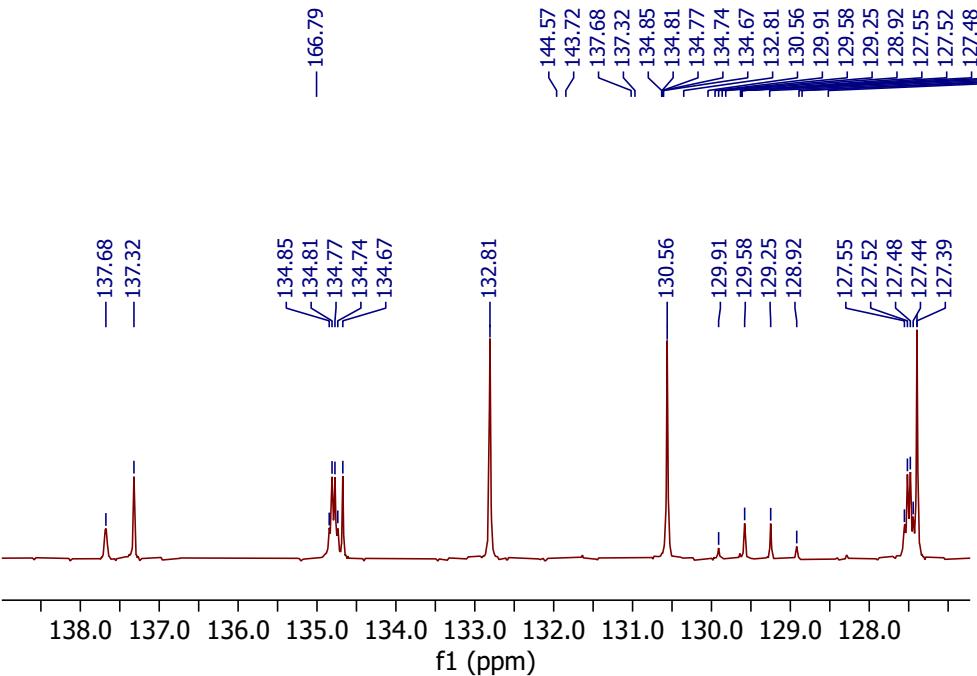
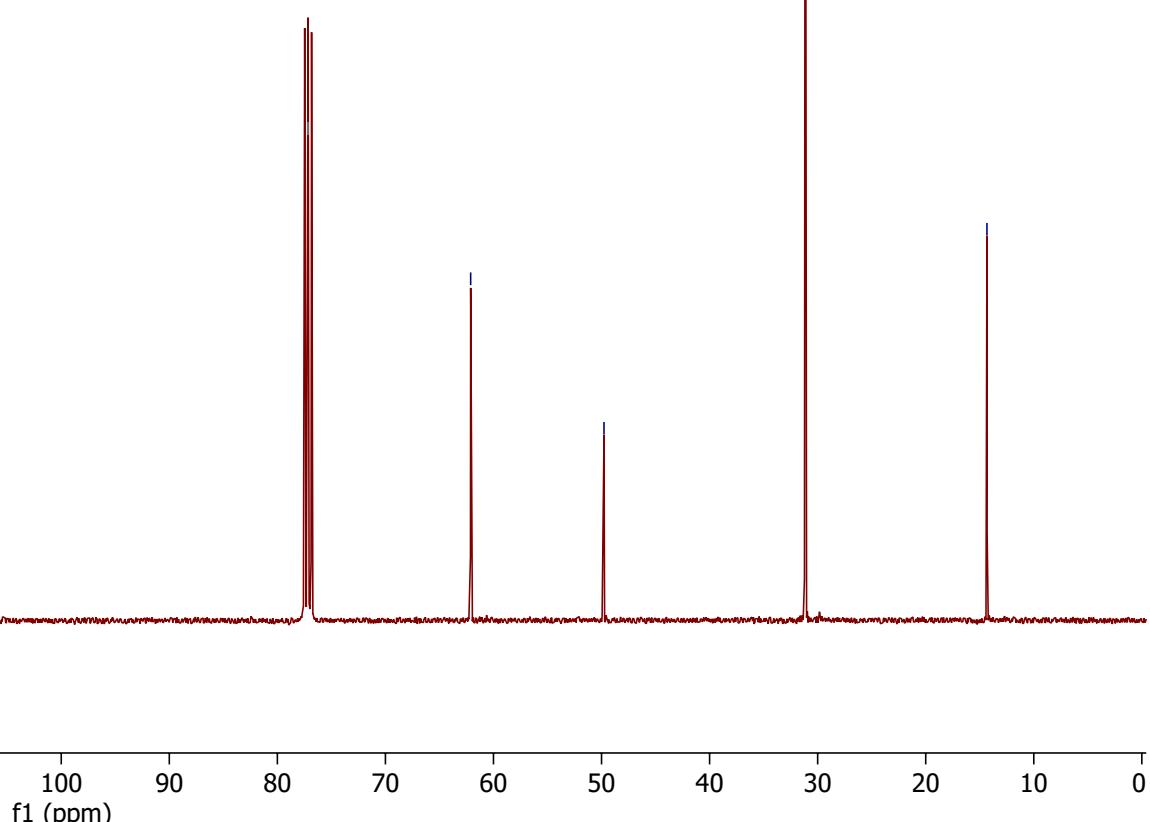
$^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, CDCl_3)

-10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70 -80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190
f1 (ppm)



¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

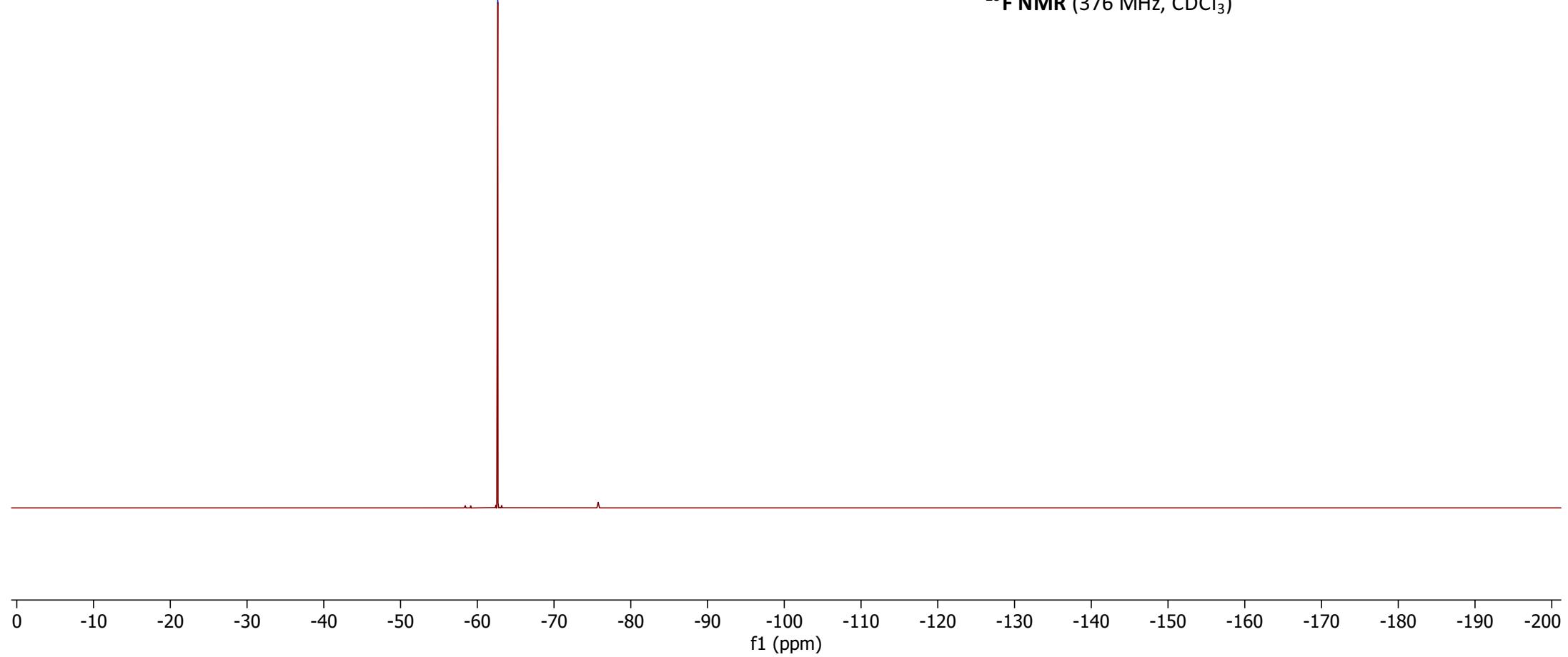


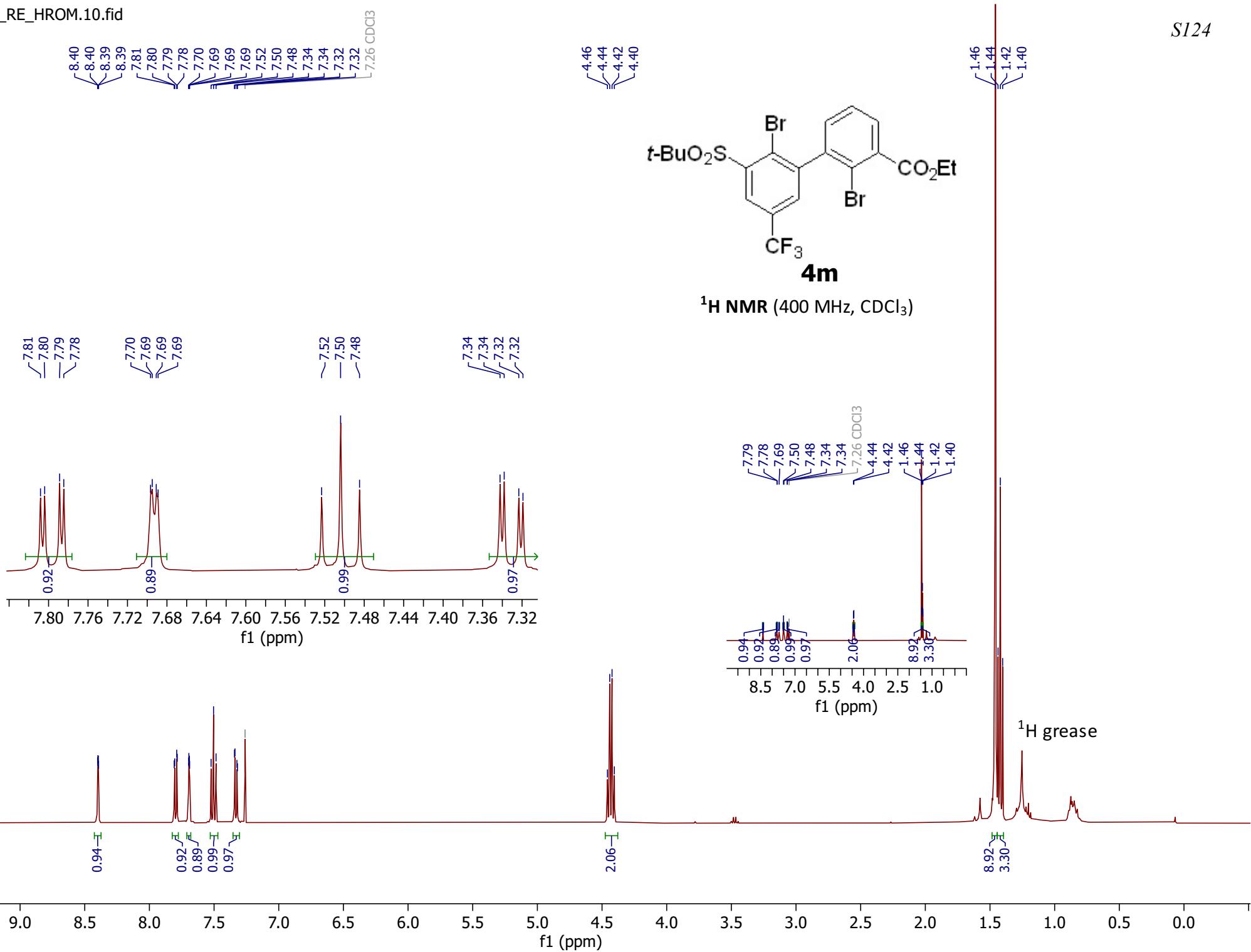
¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

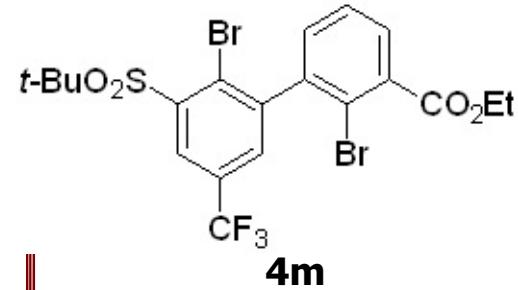
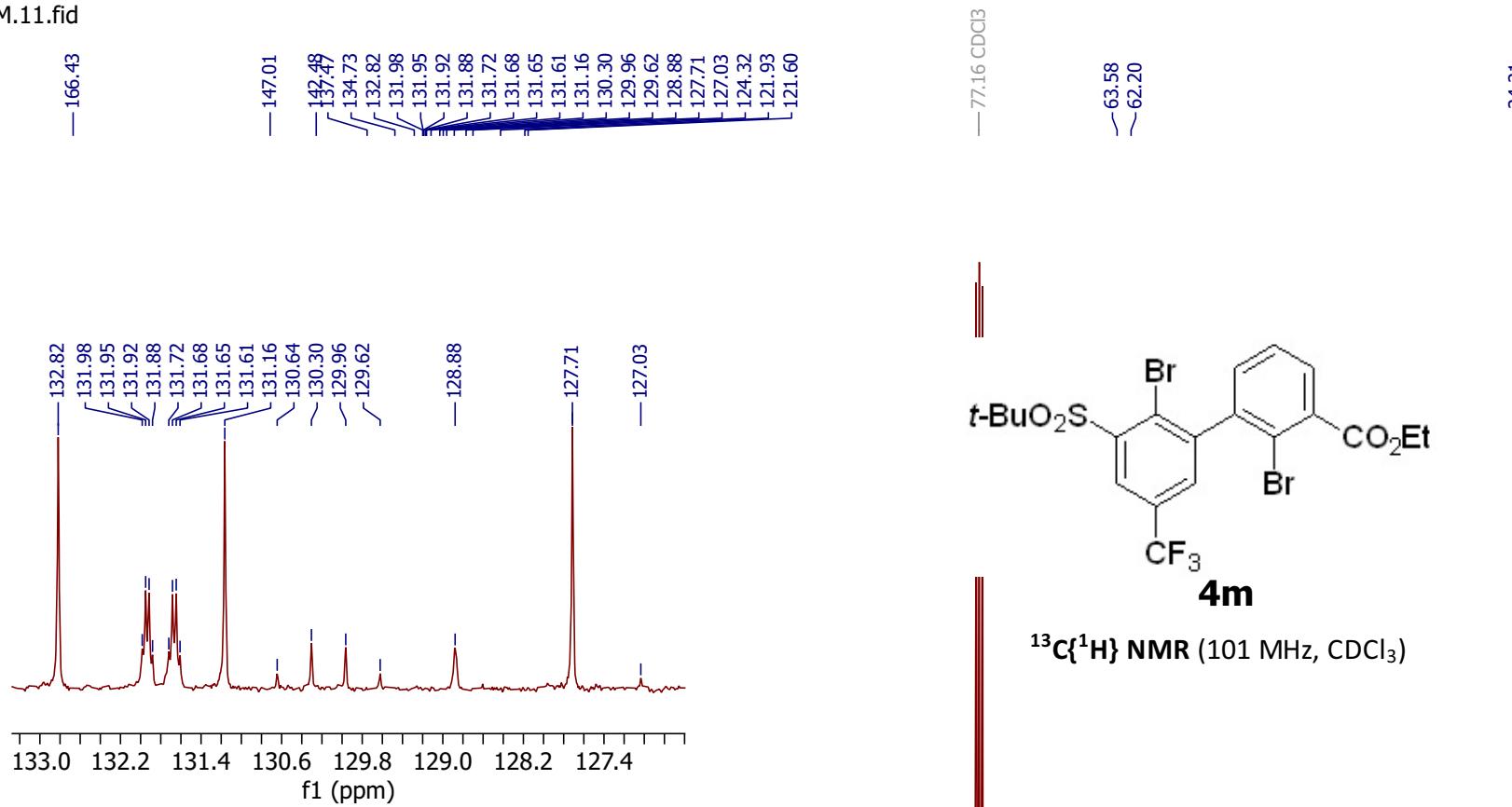
-62.67



¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃)



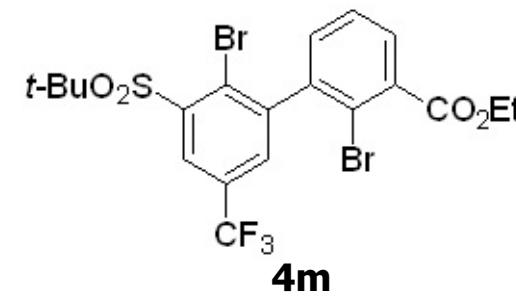
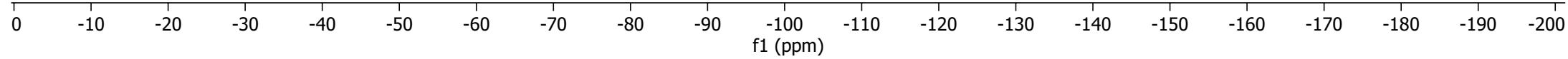


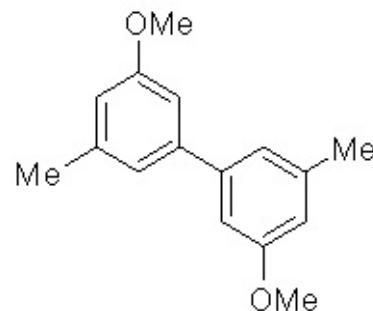
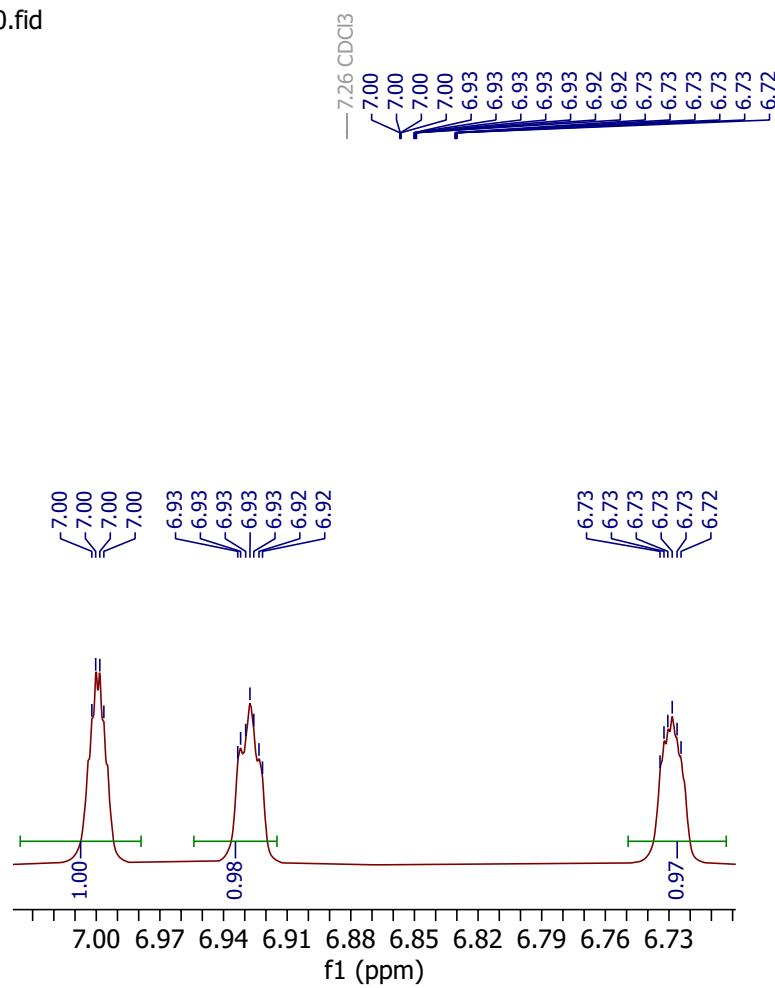


¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)

¹H grease

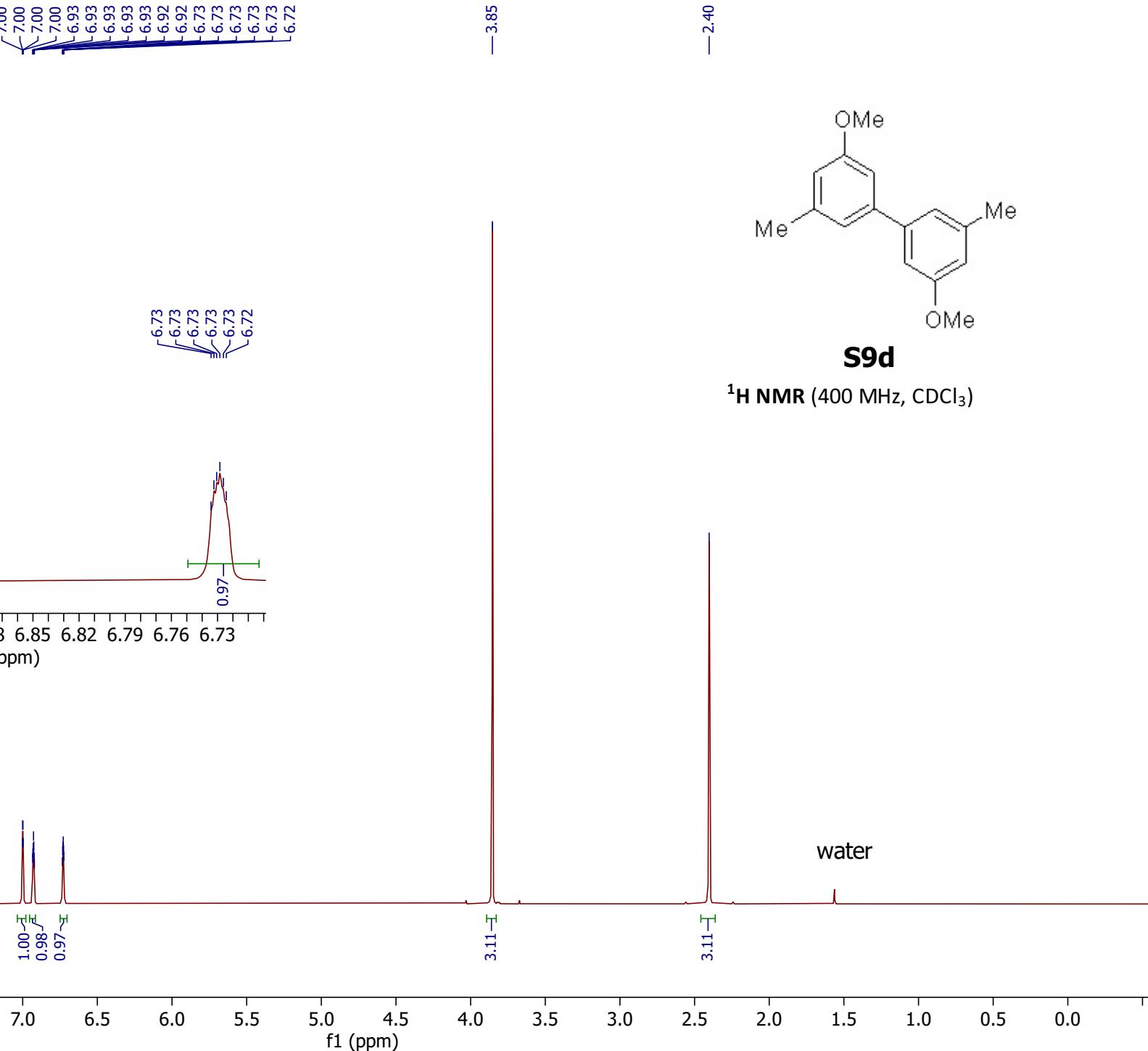
-62.78

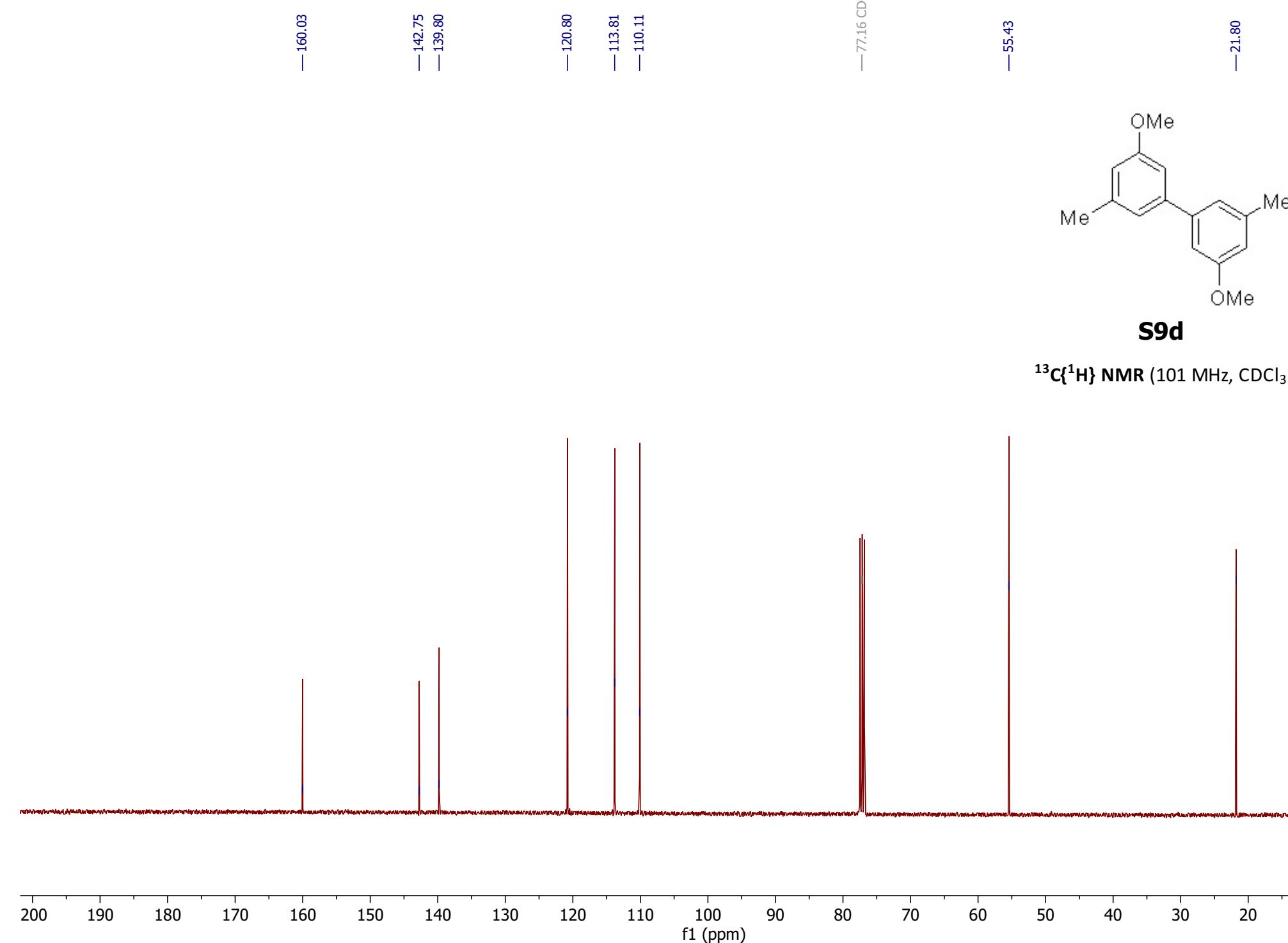
**4m**¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃)

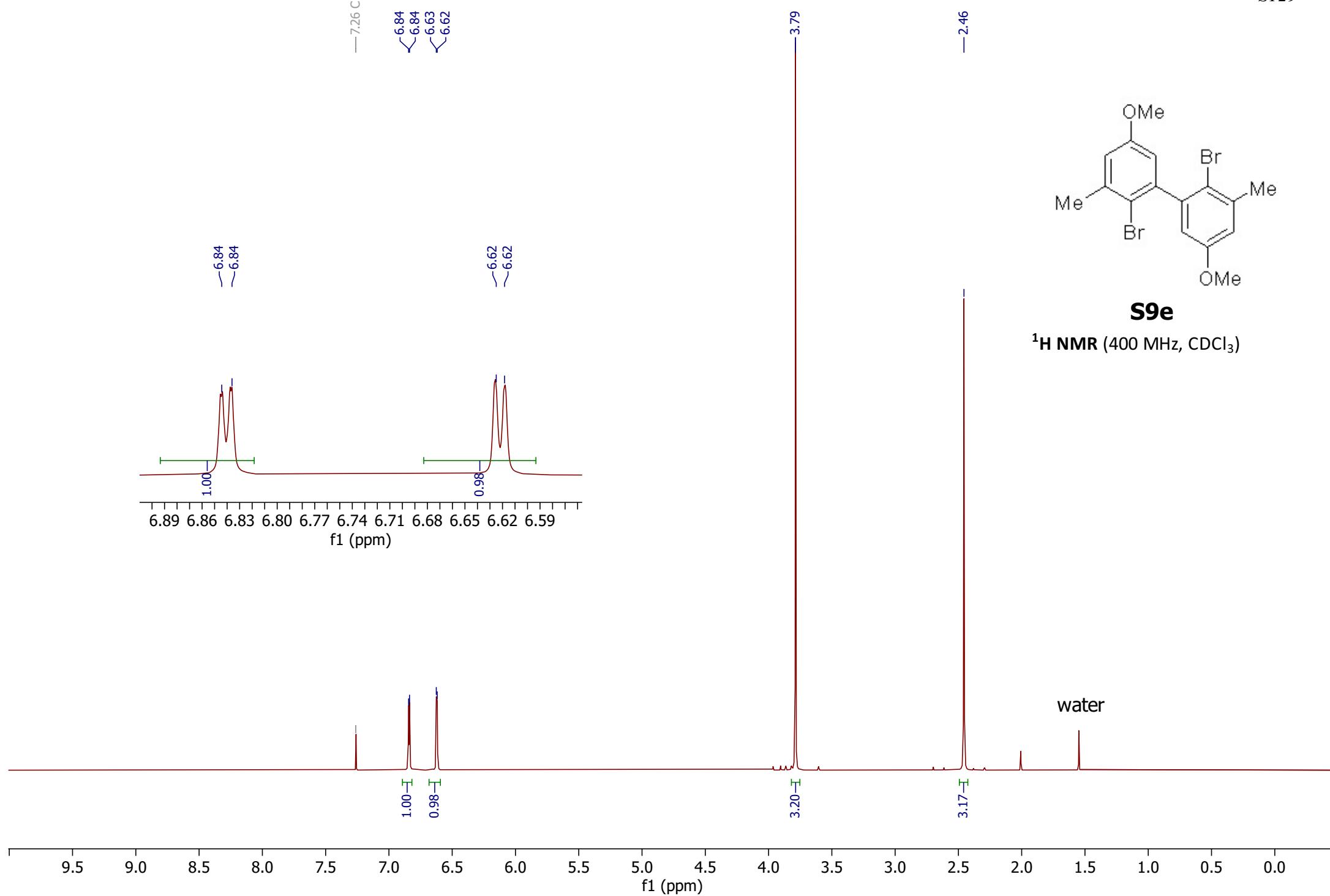


S9d

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)





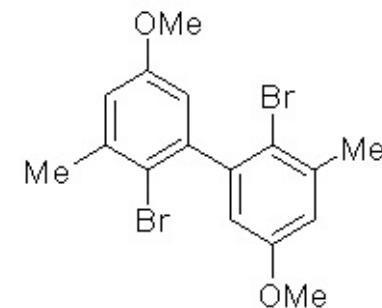


— 116.58
— 116.17
— 113.61

— 77.16 CDCl₃

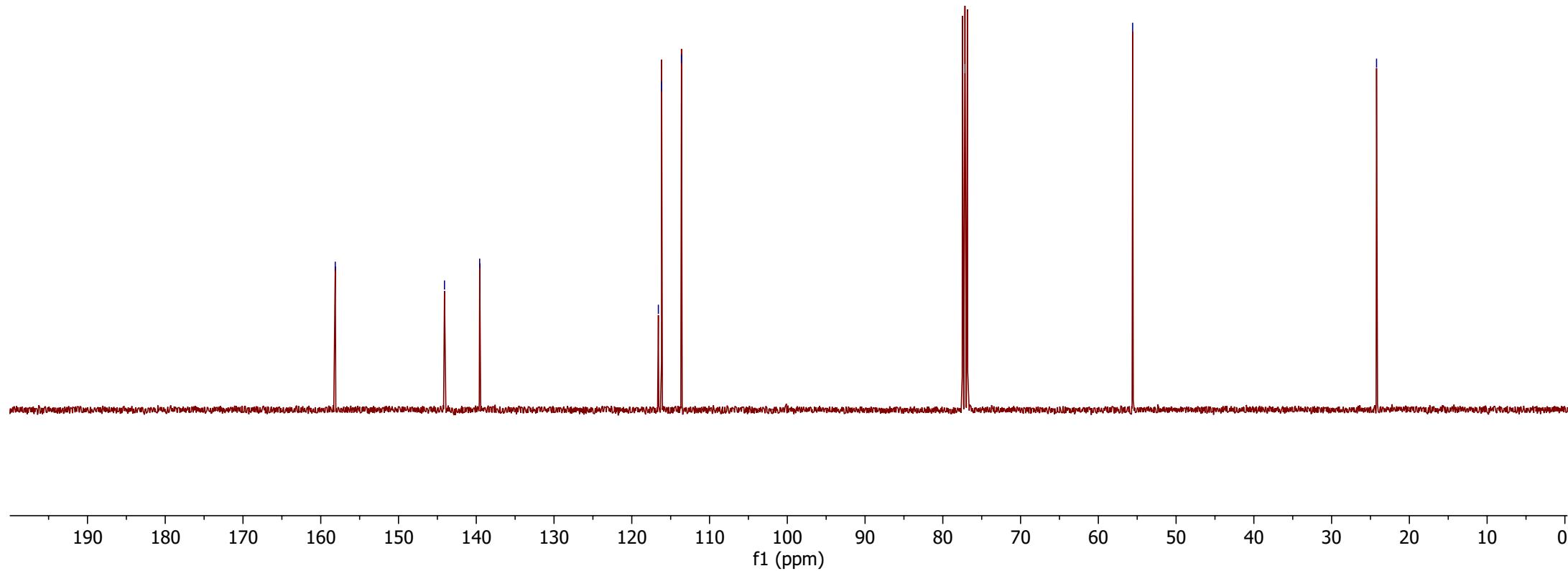
— 55.59

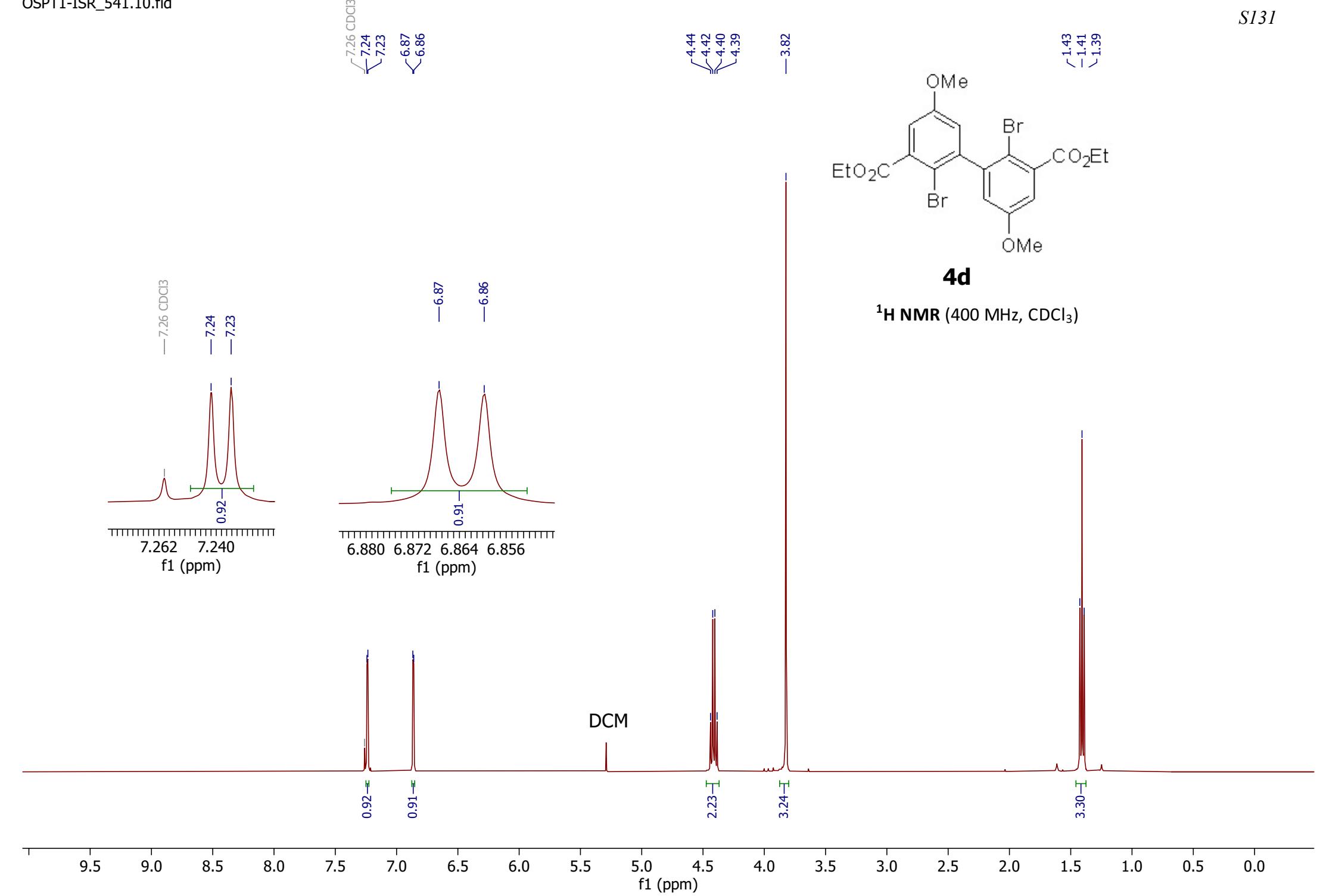
— 24.22



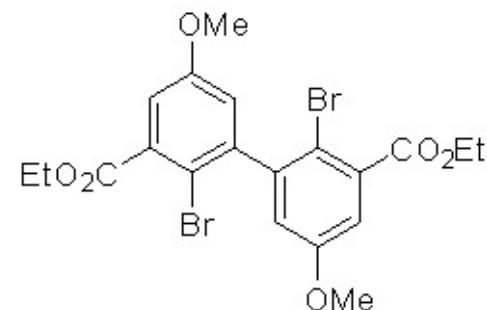
S9e

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)



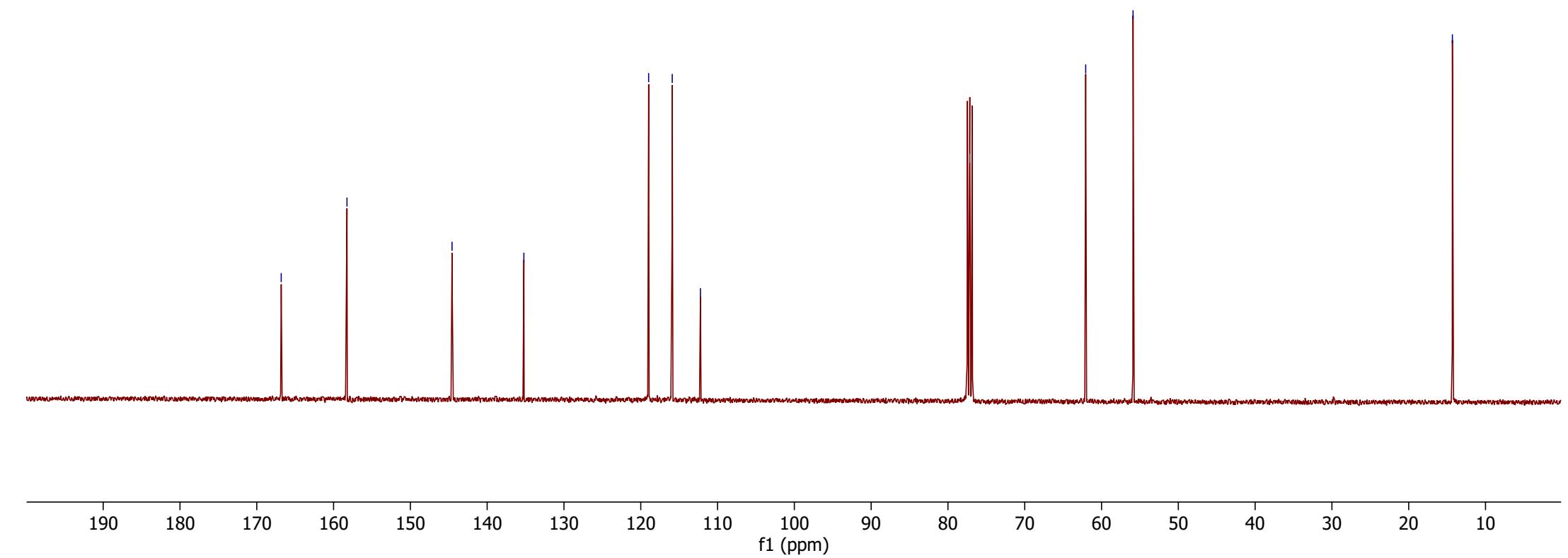


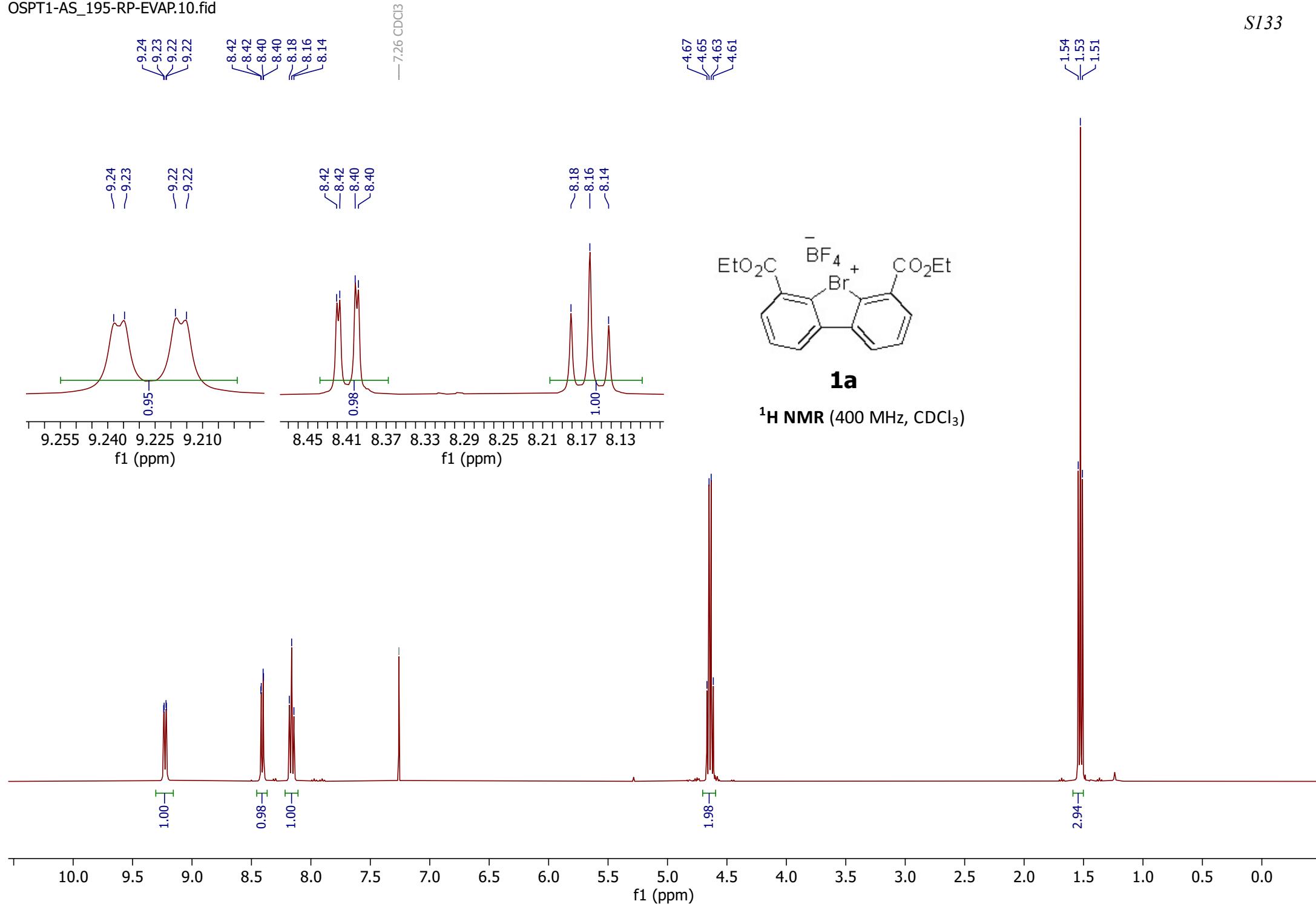
—166.82
—158.25
—144.57
—135.22
—118.97
—115.90
—112.23
—77.16 CDCl₃
—62.06
—55.89
—14.31

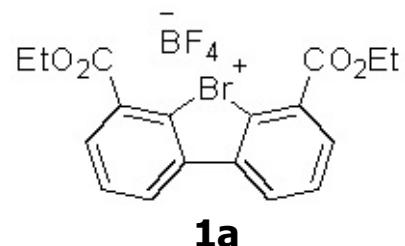
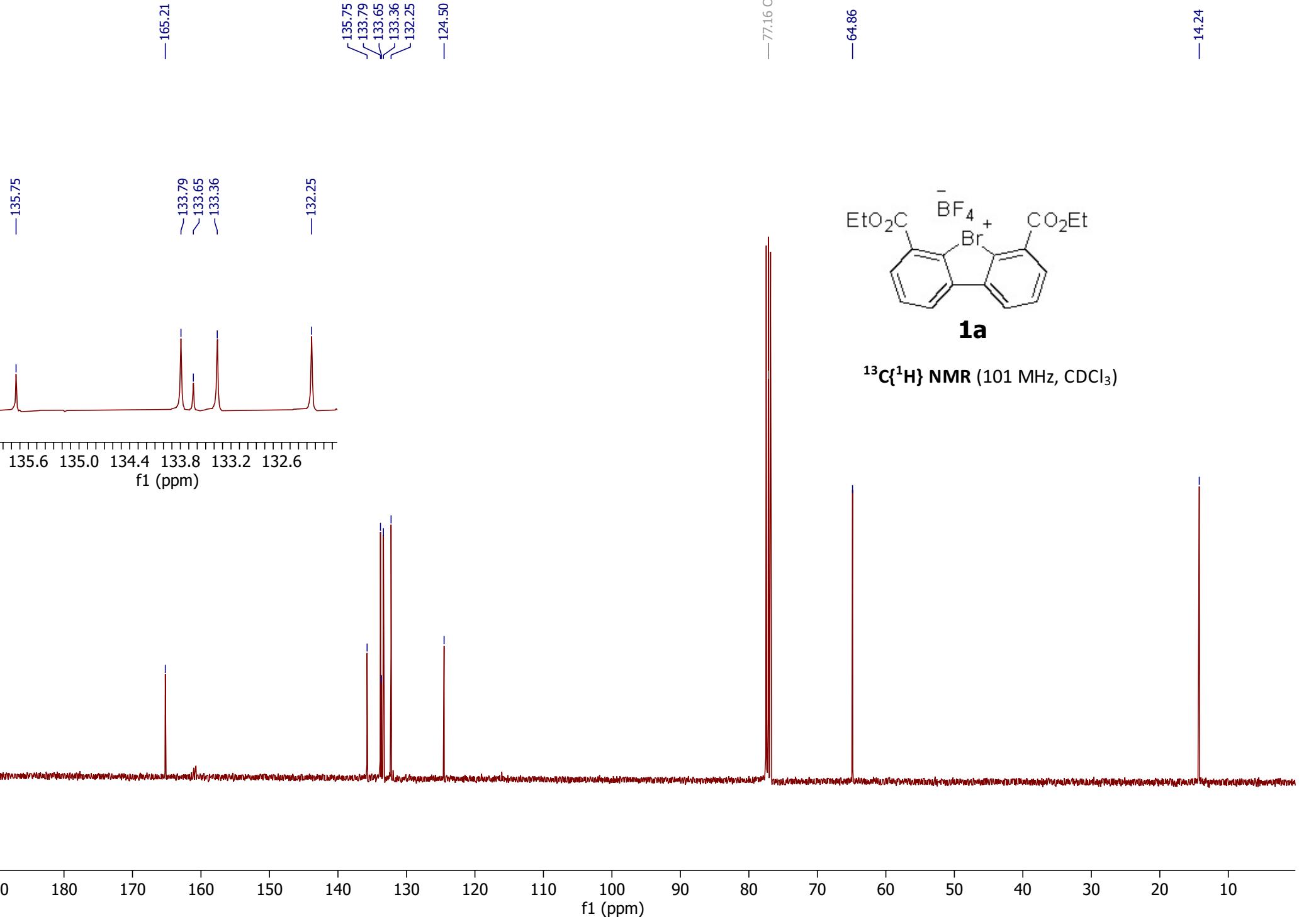


4d

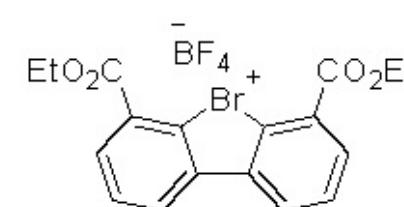
¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)







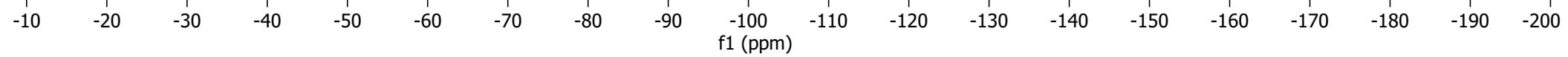
$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)

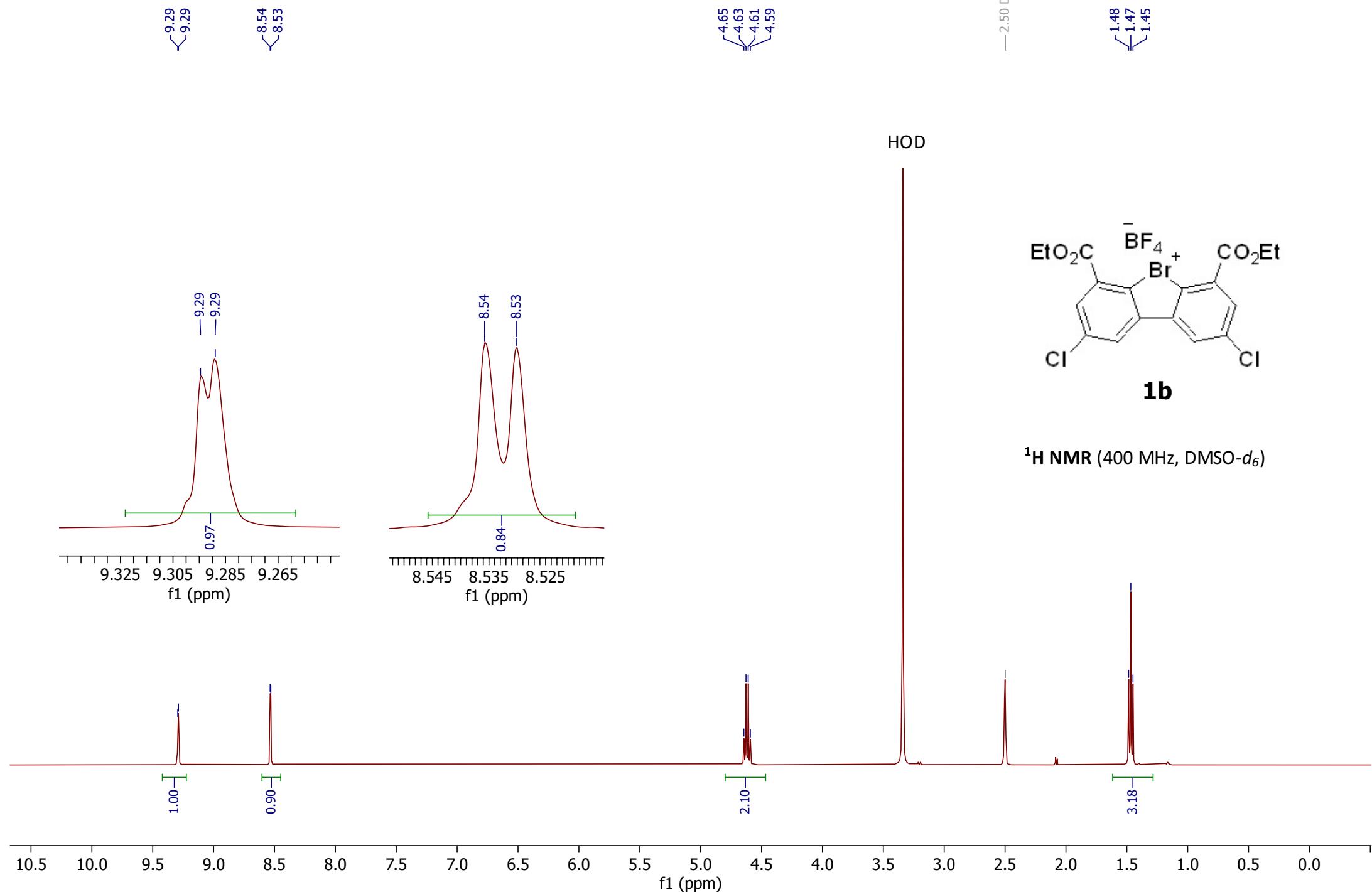


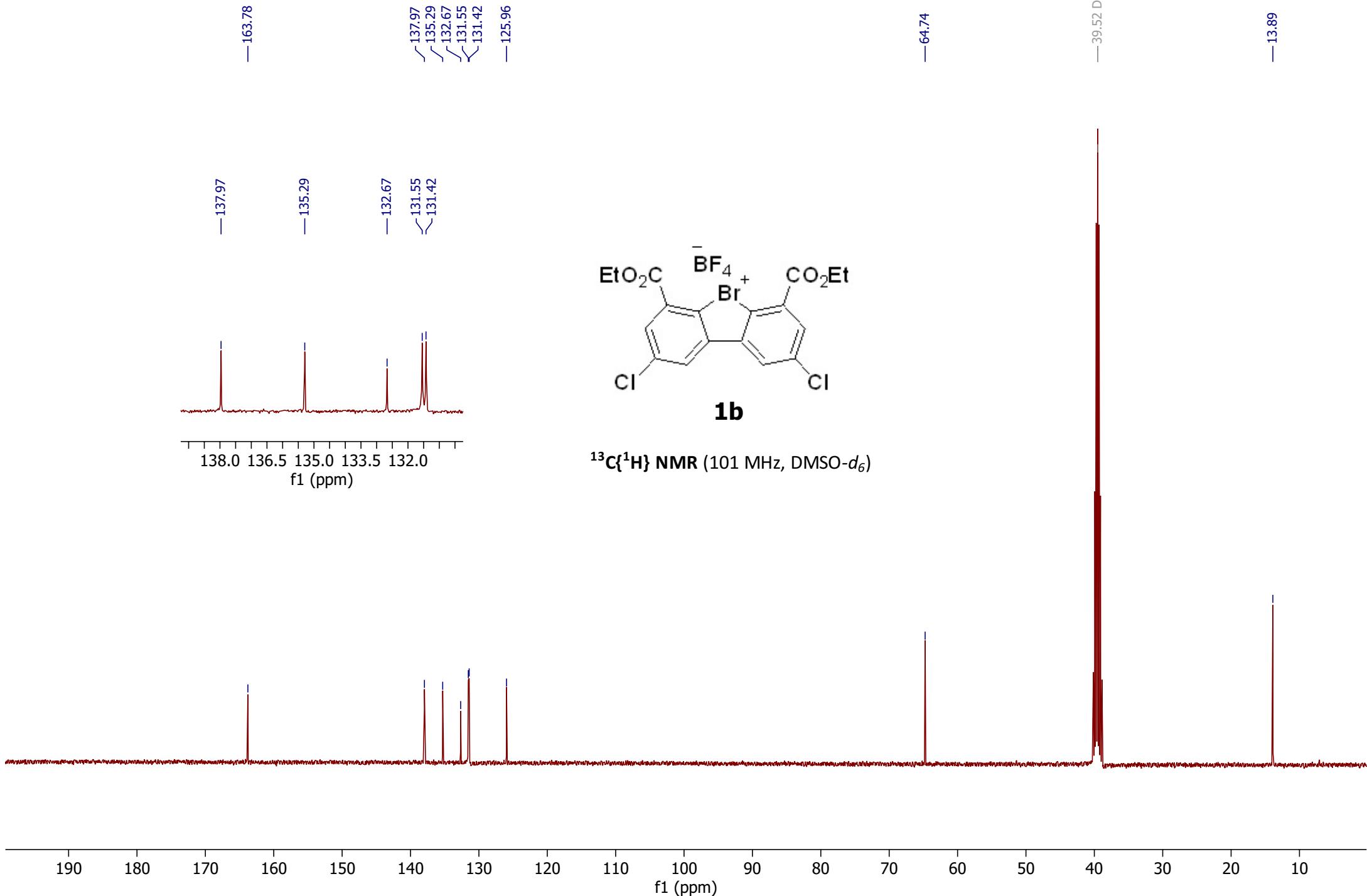
-152.30

1a

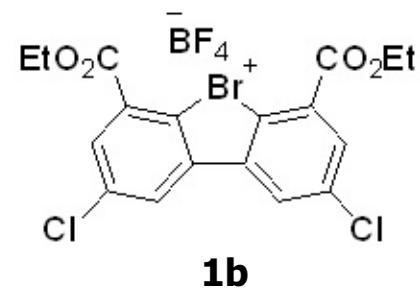
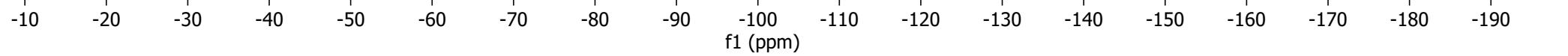
¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃)

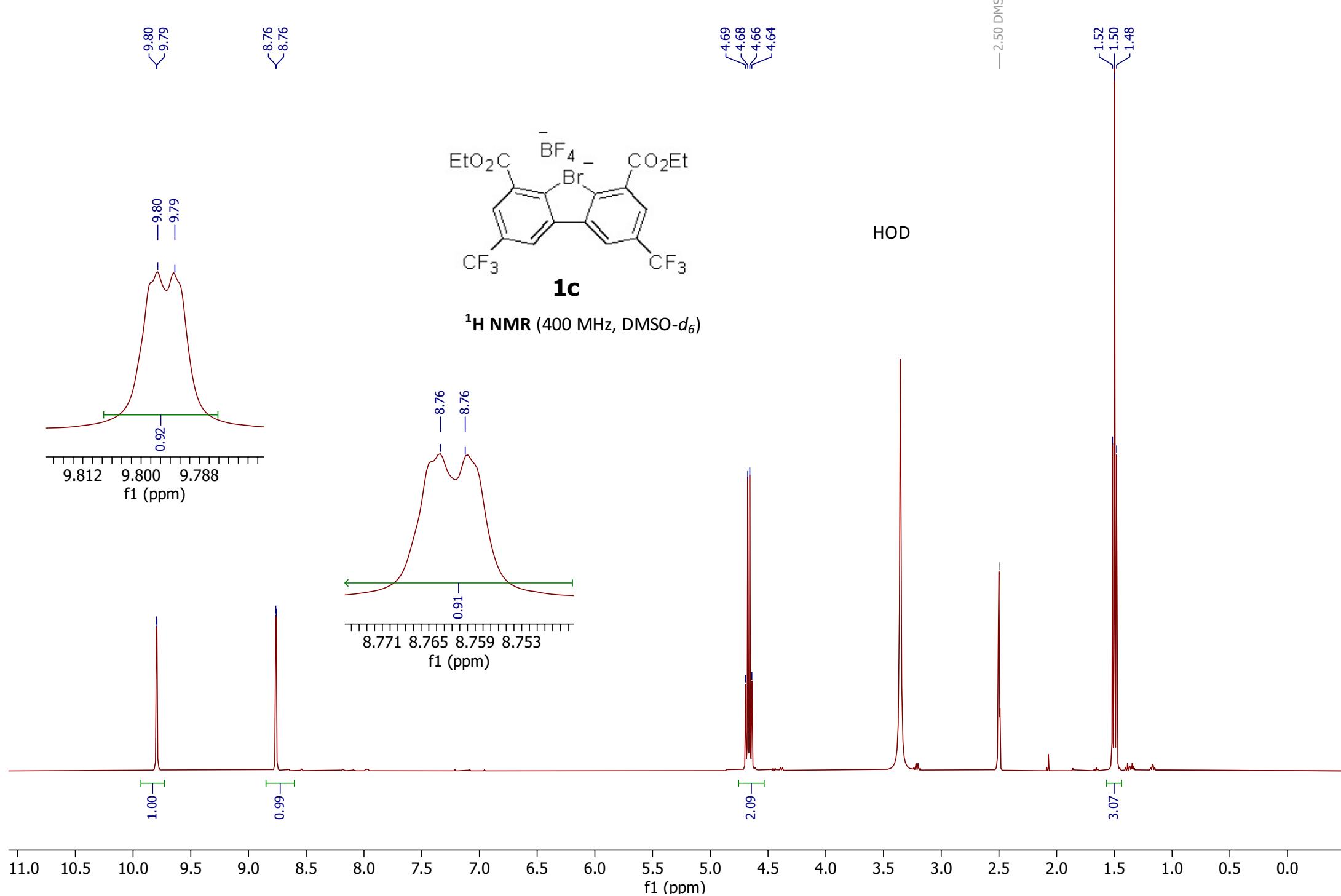


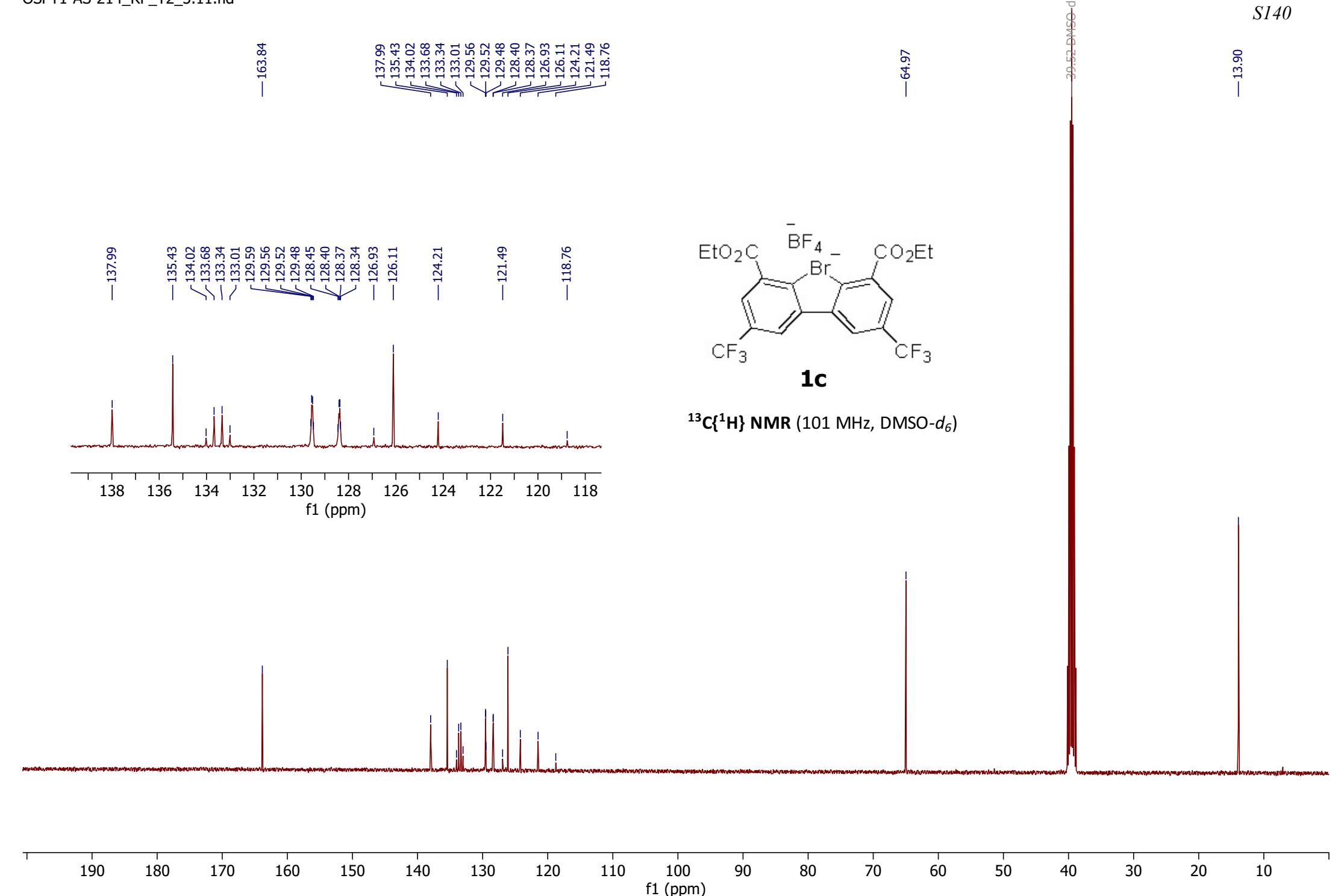




— ·148.37

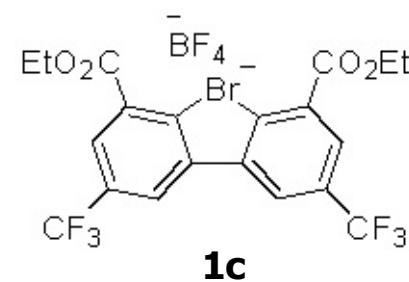
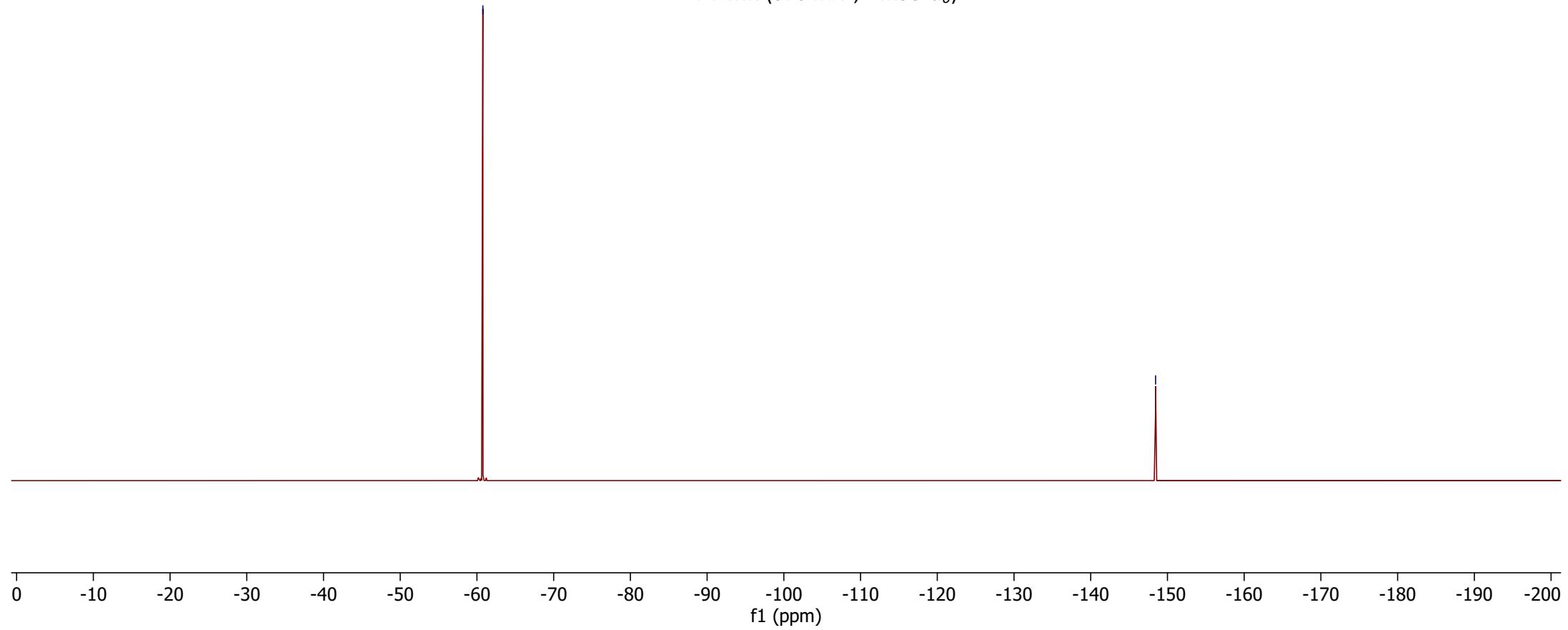
**1b**¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)

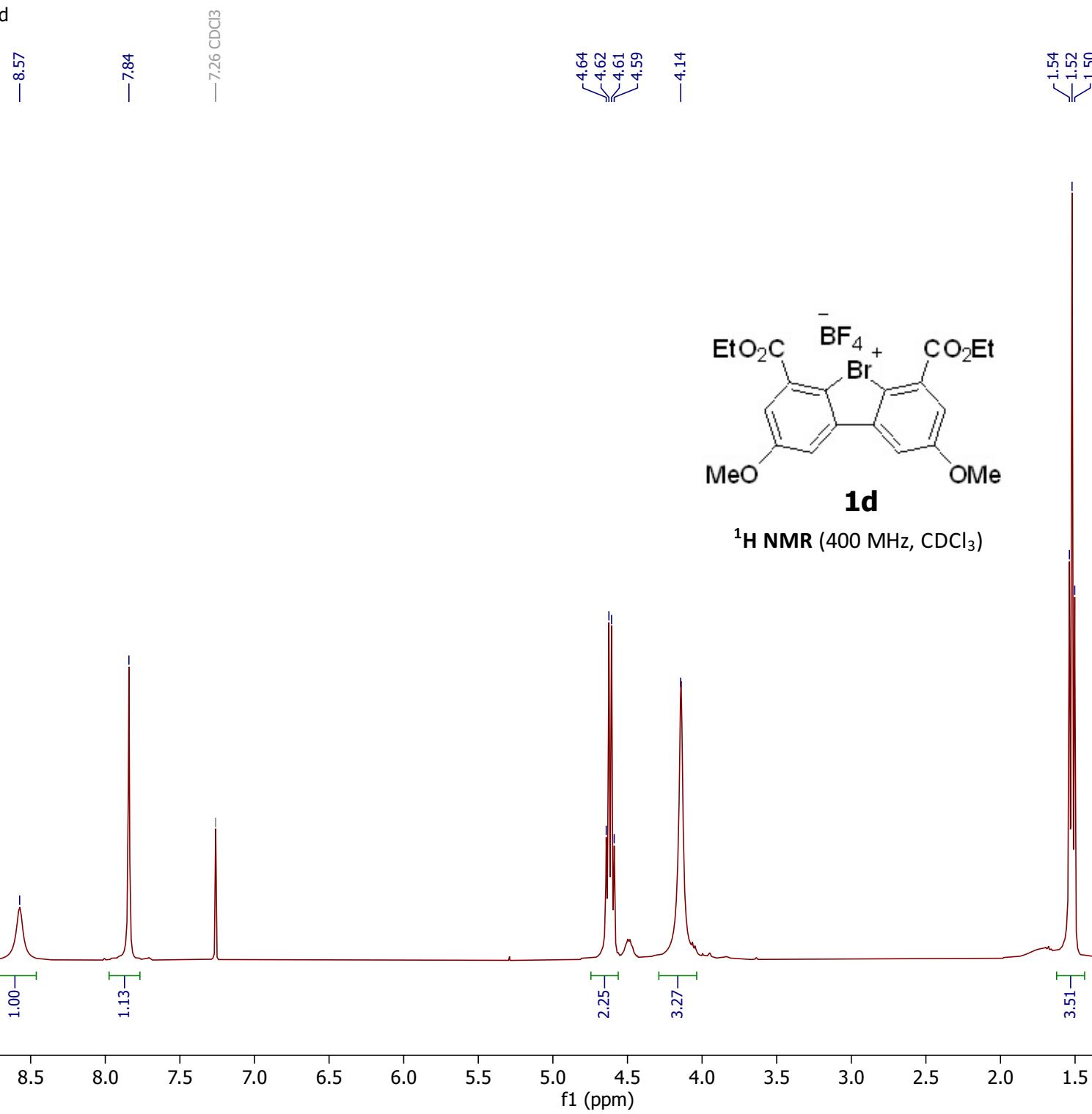


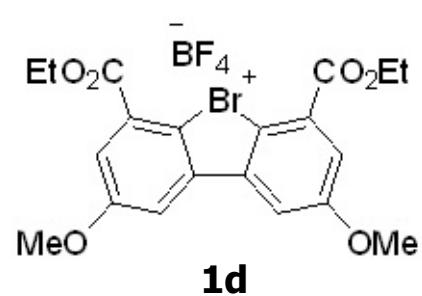


— -60.77

— -148.46

**1c**¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆)



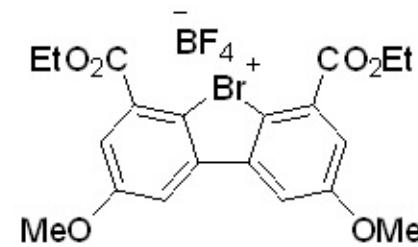


$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3)

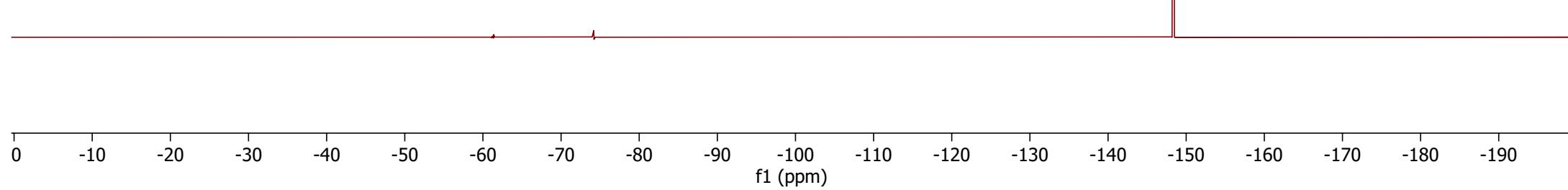
190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10

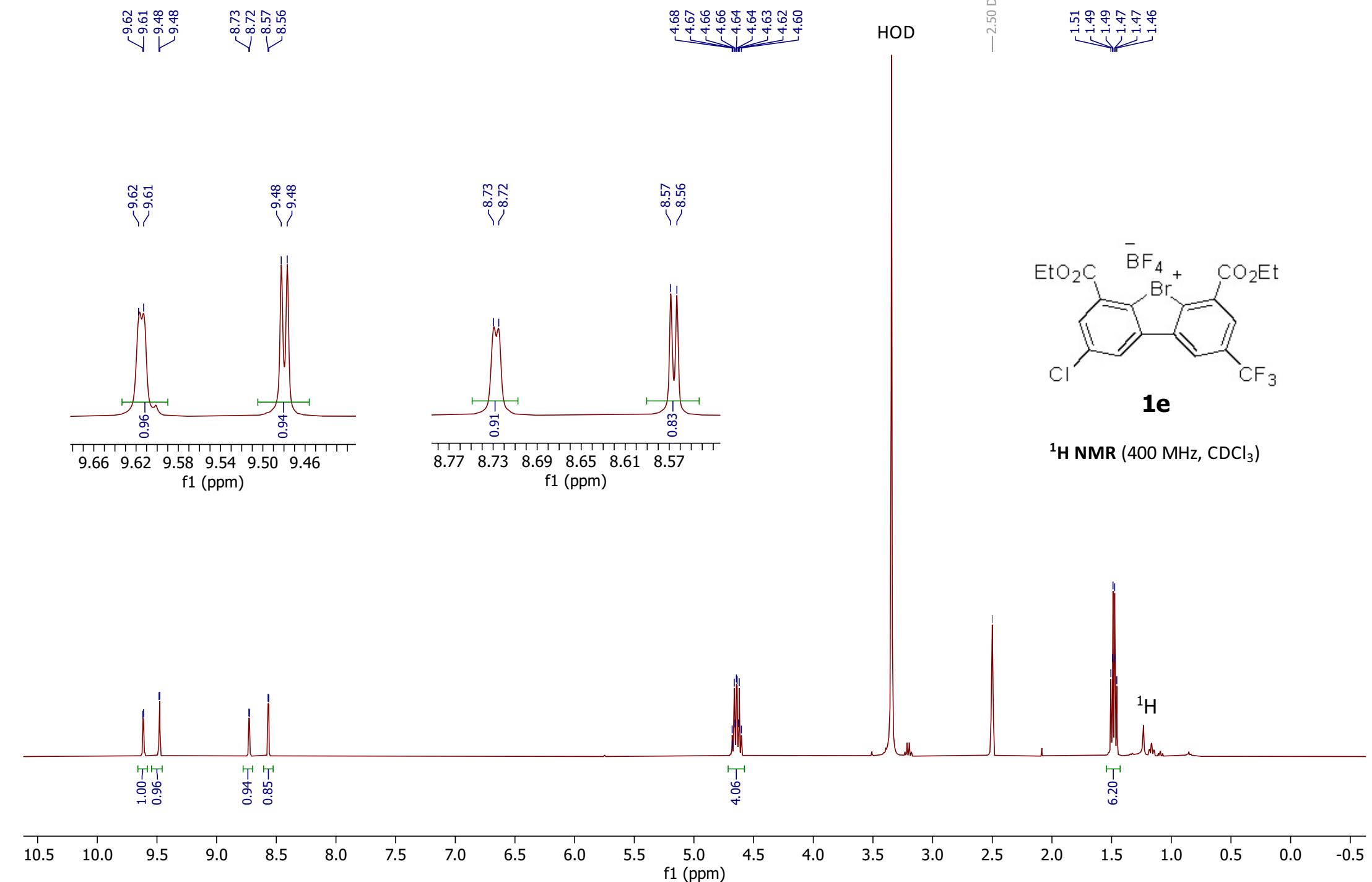
f1 (ppm)

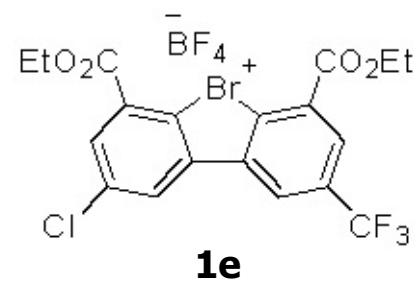
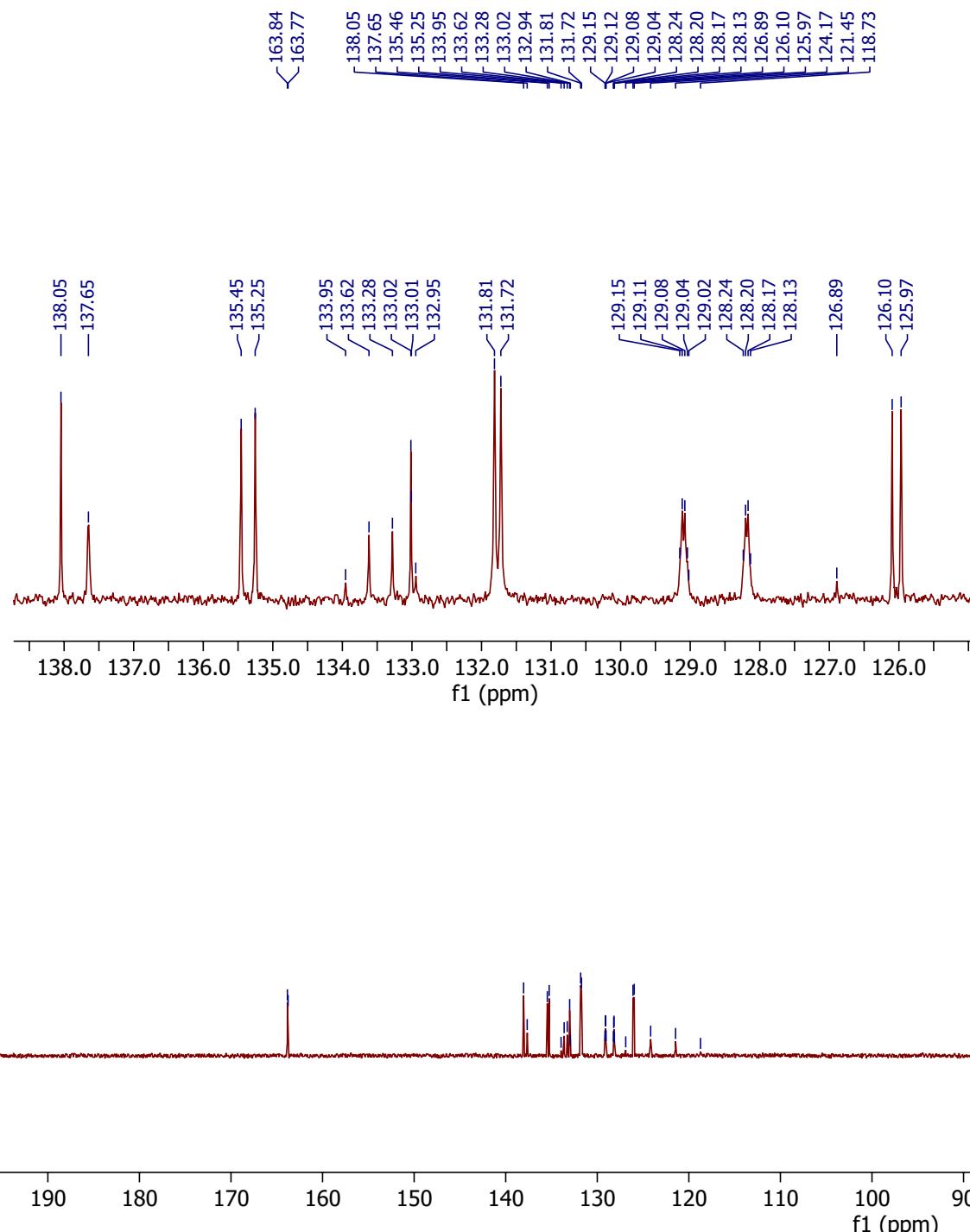
— -148.33



19F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3)





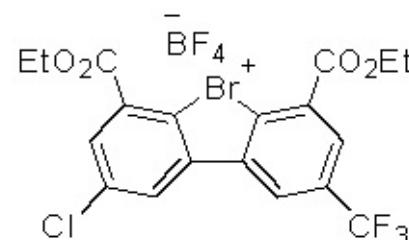
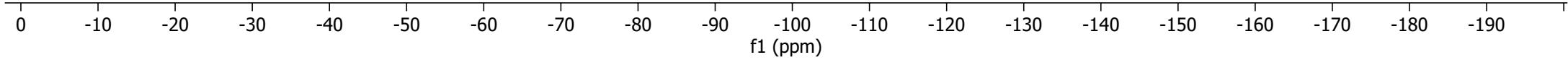


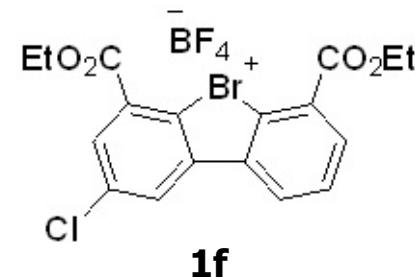
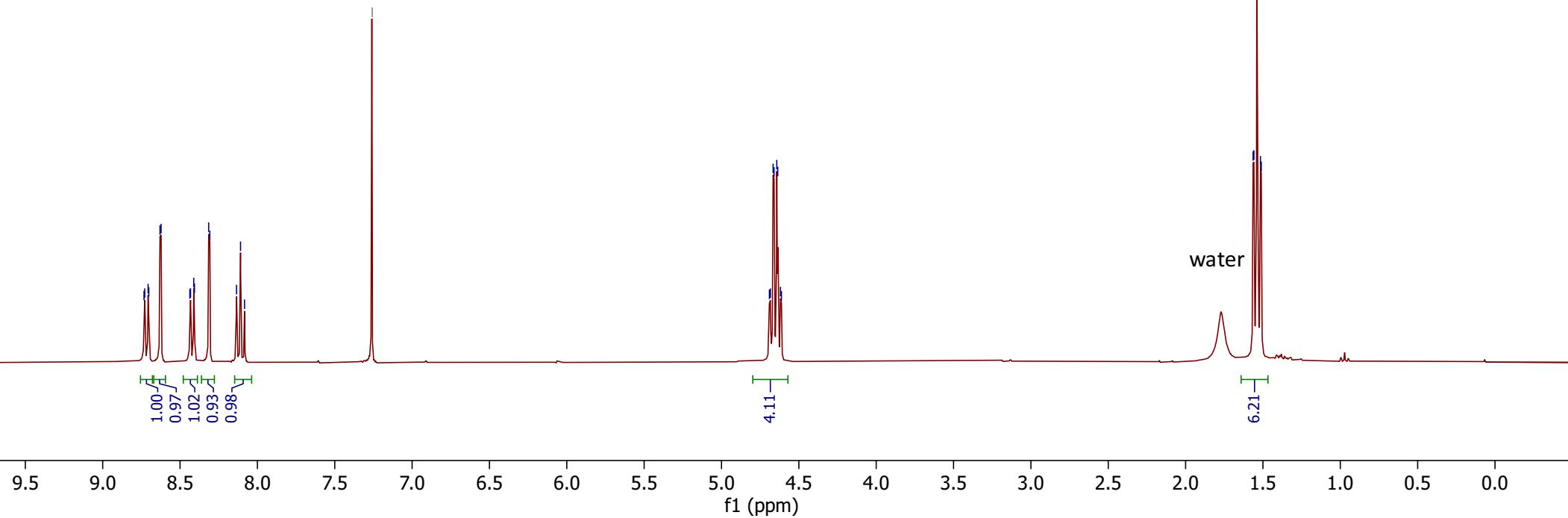
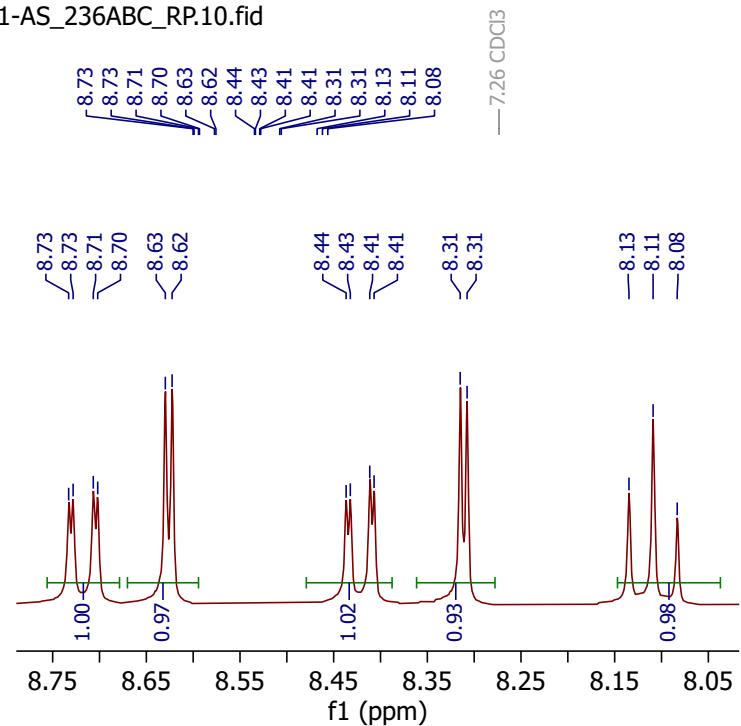
¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)



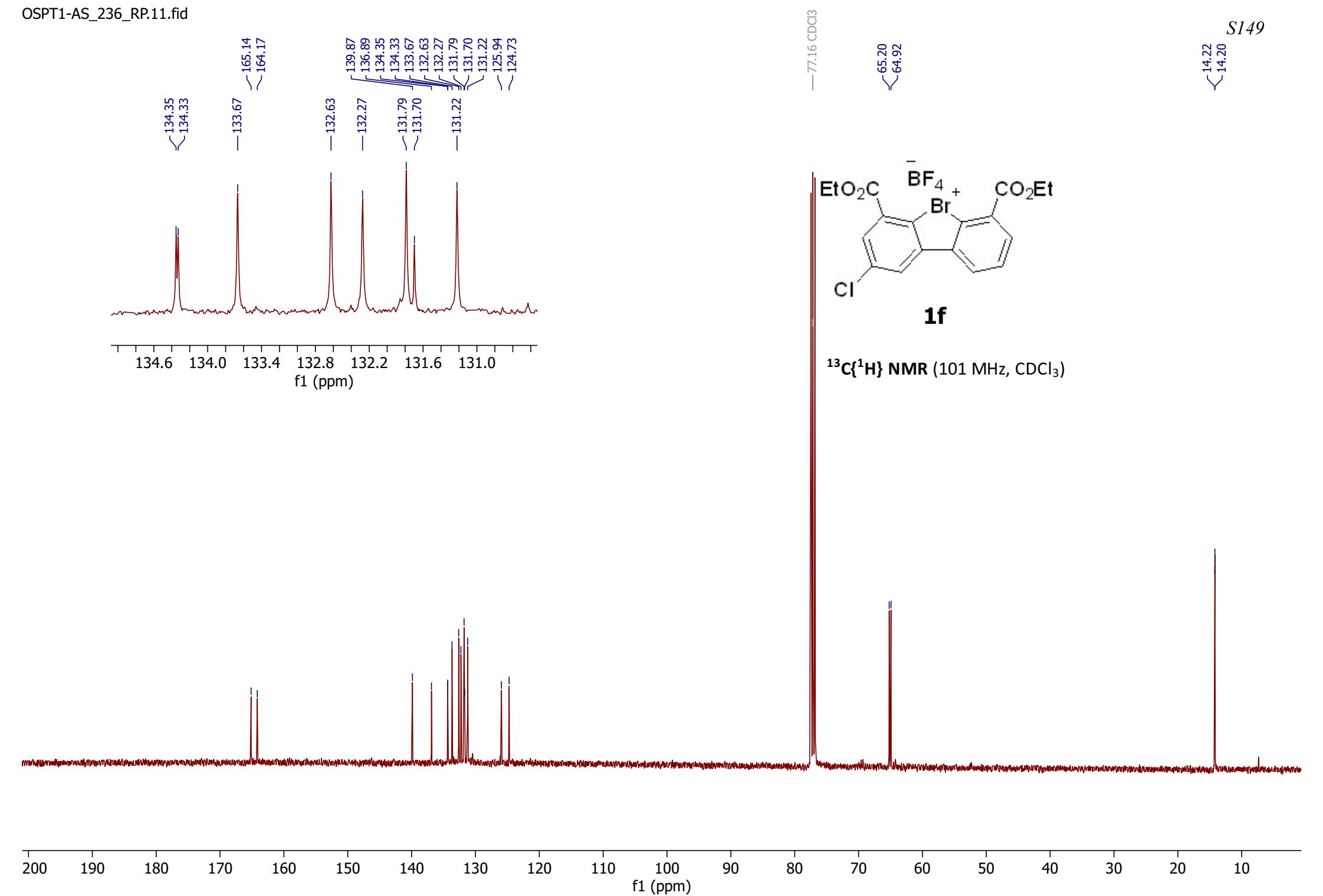
-60.78

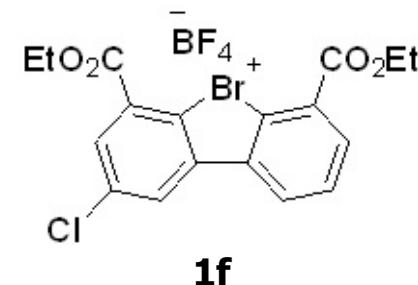
-148.35

**1e****¹⁹F NMR** (376 MHz, CDCl₃)



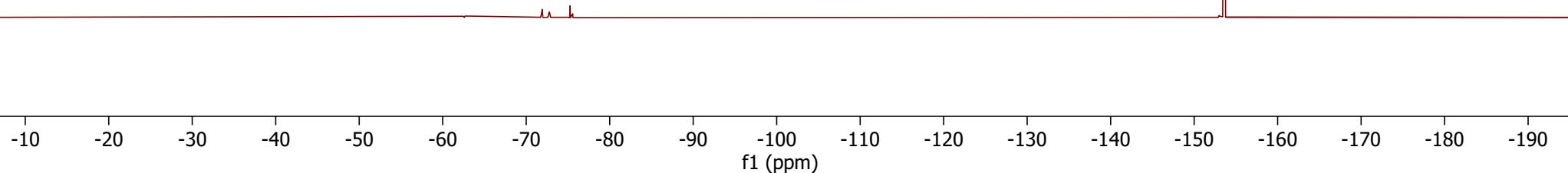
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

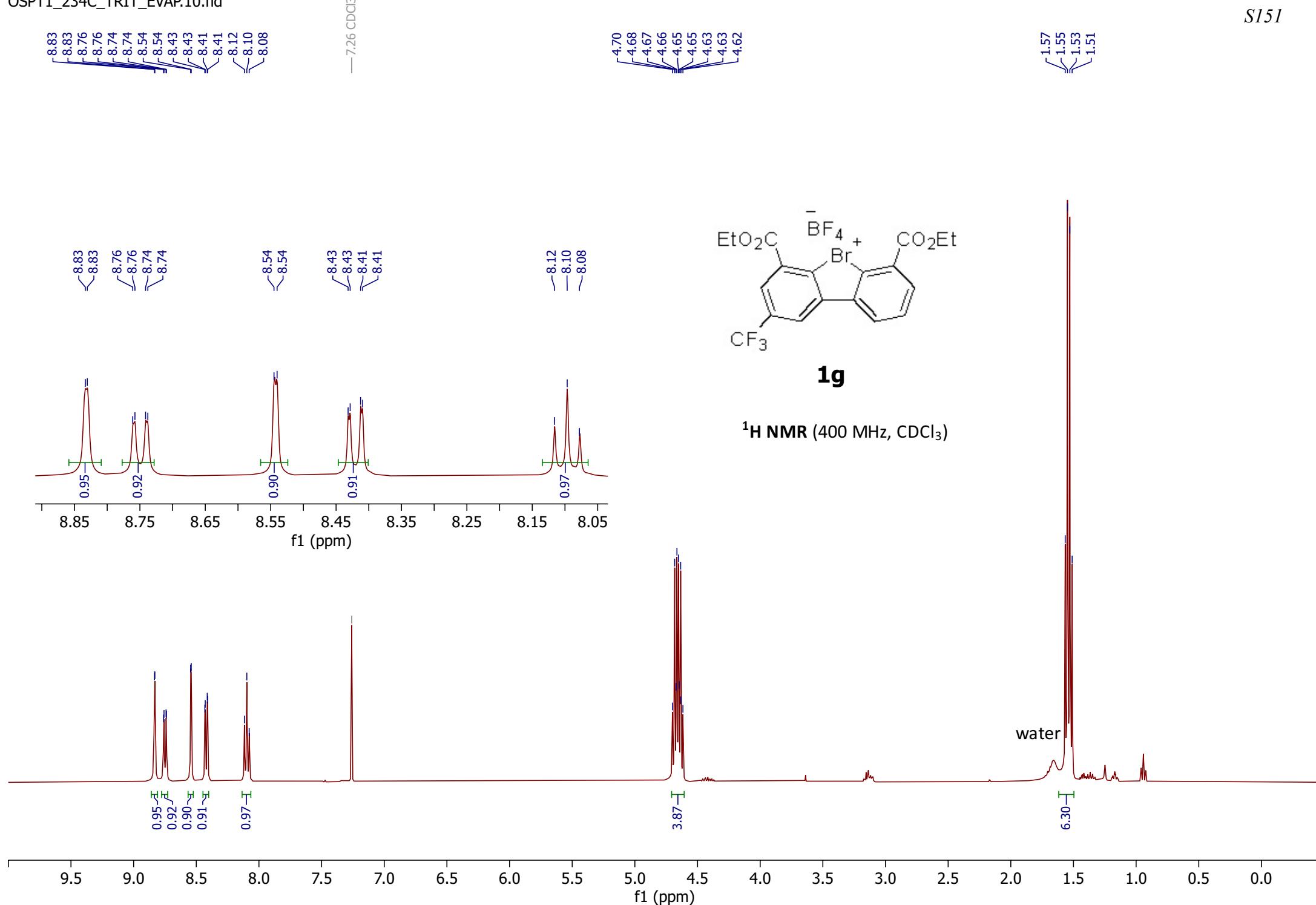


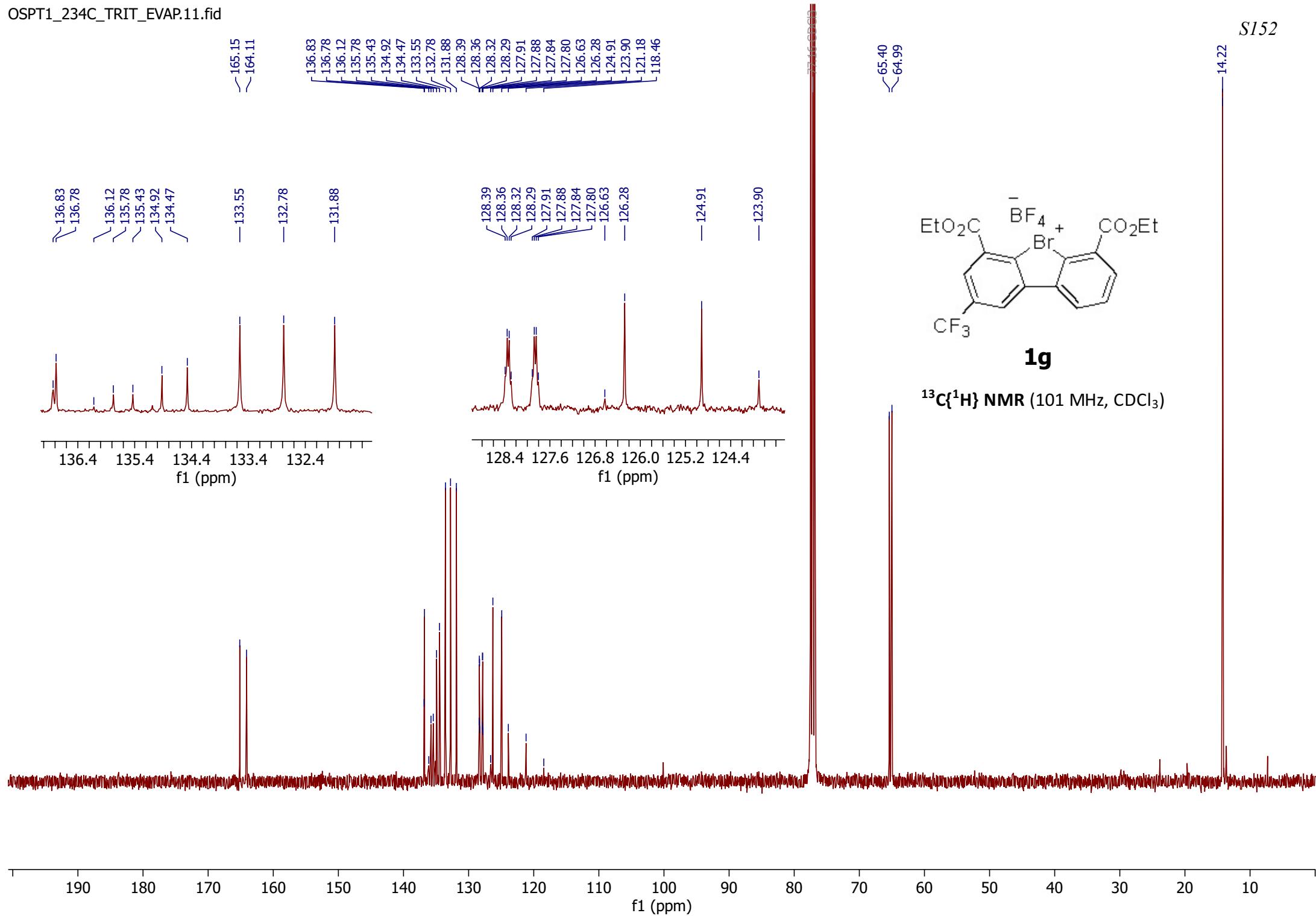


1f

$^{19}\text{F NMR}$ (376 MHz, CDCl_3)

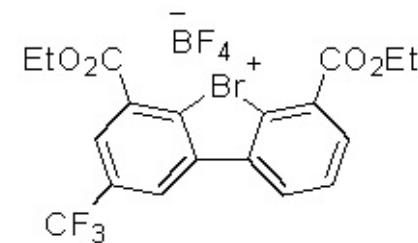






-62.4

-153.9

**1g**¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃)