

# Hydrogen peroxide-promoted Mizoroki-Heck reactions of phenyldiazenes with acrylates, acrylamides and styrenes

Roman Lasch, Stefanie K. Fehler and Markus R. Heinrich\*.

Department of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Schuhstraße 19, 91052 Erlangen, Germany. Markus.Heinrich@fau.de

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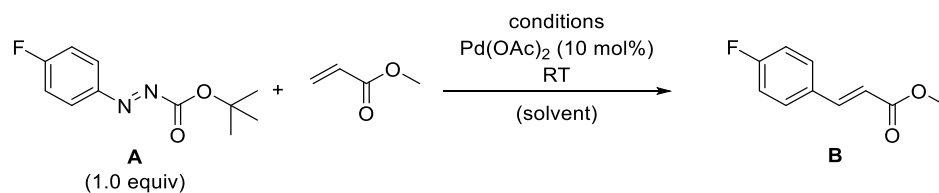
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## 1.1 General remarks

Solvents and reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used as received. NMR spectra were recorded on *Bruker* Avance 600 ( $^1\text{H}$ : 600 MHz,  $^{13}\text{C}$ : 151 MHz) and *Bruker* Avance 360 ( $^1\text{H}$ : 360 MHz,  $^{13}\text{C}$ : 91 MHz). For  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR  $\text{CDCl}_3$  and  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , and are used as solvents referenced to TMS ( $\delta = 0.00$  ppm),  $\text{CDCl}_3$  ( $\delta = 7.26$  ppm) or  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  ( $\delta = 3.31$  ppm). For  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR  $\text{CDCl}_3$  and  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  are used as solvents with  $\text{CDCl}_3$  ( $\delta = 77.0$  ppm), and  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  ( $\delta = 49.0$  ppm) as standards. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm). Coupling constants are in Hertz ( $J$  Hz). The following abbreviations are used for the description of signals: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet) and bs (broad singlet). Mass spectra were recorded using electron impact (EI). A sector field mass was used for HRMS measurements.

Analytical TLC was carried out on *Merck* silica gel plates using short wave (254 nm) UV light,  $\text{KMnO}_4$  [3.0 g  $\text{KMnO}_4$ , 20 g potassium carbonate, 5.0 mL aqueous sodium hydroxide (5%  $w/w$ ) in 300 mL  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ] and ninhydrin [200 mg ninhydrin in 100 mL ethanol] to visualize components. For flash column chromatography silica gel (Kieselgel 60, grain size 40 - 63  $\mu\text{m}$ , *Merck*) was used. The phenylazocarboxylic esters **1a-1k** have been previously characterized<sup>1</sup> and were prepared according to established procedures.

**Table S1.** Experiments with *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate: variation of solvent, base and ligand.

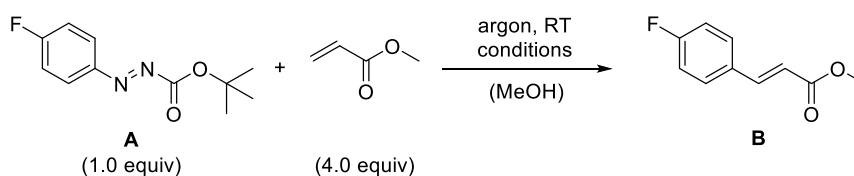


Entry	Conditions					Yield [%] <sup>a</sup>	
	Atmosphere	Solvent	Ligand	Base (1.0 equiv)	Acrylate (equiv)	<b>B</b>	<b>A</b> <sup>b</sup>
1	Argon	MeOH	-	-	2	6	89
2	Argon	MeOH	-	NEt <sub>3</sub>	2	25	41
3	Air	MeOH	-	NEt <sub>3</sub>	4	28	6
4	Air	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	-	NEt <sub>3</sub>	4	2	86
5	Air	MeOH	PPh <sub>3</sub> (10 mol%)	NEt <sub>3</sub>	4	29	3
6	Argon	MeOH	PPh <sub>3</sub> (10 mol%)	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	4	5	-

<sup>a</sup> Yields determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR using dimethyl terephthalate (0.1 mmol, δ = 8.1 (s, 4 H)) as internal standard;

<sup>b</sup> recovered starting material **A**

**Table S2.** Experiments with *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate: variation of Pd-source, base and additive.

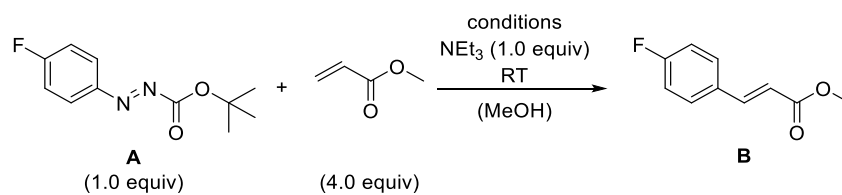


Entry	Conditions			Yield [%] <sup>a</sup>	
	Pd-salt	Ligand	Base (1.0 equiv)	<b>B</b>	<b>A</b> <sup>b</sup>
1	Pd[(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> P] <sub>4</sub> (5 mol%)	-	NEt <sub>3</sub>	19	-
2	PdCl <sub>2</sub> (10 mol%)	PPh <sub>3</sub> (10 mol%)	NEt <sub>3</sub>	43	17
3	PdCl <sub>2</sub> (10 mol%)	PPh <sub>3</sub> (20 mol%)	NEt <sub>3</sub>	42	6
4	PdCl <sub>2</sub> (10 mol%)	PPh <sub>3</sub> (20 mol%)	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	16	-

<sup>a</sup> Yields determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR using dimethyl terephthalate (0.1 mmol, δ = 8.1 (s, 4 H)) as internal standard;

<sup>b</sup> recovered starting material **A**

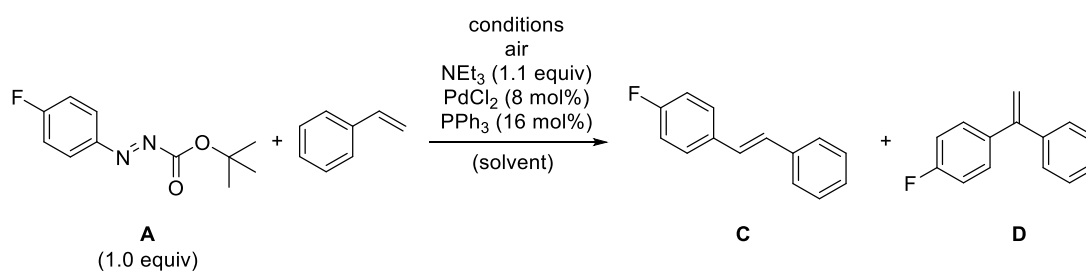
**Table S3.** Experiments with *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate: variation of catalyst loading and amount of additive.



Entry	Conditions			Yield [%] <sup>a</sup>	
	Atmosphere	PdCl <sub>2</sub> (mol%)	PPh <sub>3</sub> (mol%)	<b>B</b>	<b>A</b> <sup>b</sup>
1	Argon	8	16	48	-
2	Argon	5	10	35	9
3	Argon	3	6	30	15
4	Argon	1	2	12	21
5	Air	1	2	12	9

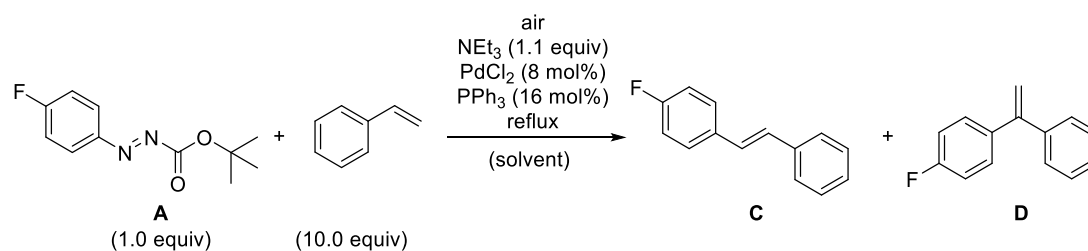
<sup>a</sup> Yields determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR using dimethyl terephthalate (0.1 mmol,  $\delta$  = 8.1 (s, 4 H)) as internal standard; <sup>b</sup> recovered starting material **A**

**Table S4.** Experiments with *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate: variation of solvent and temperature.



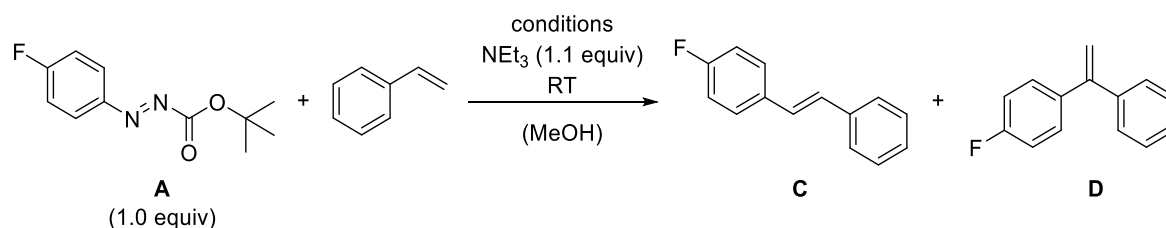
Entry	Conditions			Yield [%] <sup>a</sup>			Ratio C/D
	Solvent	Temperature	Styrene (equiv)	C	D	A <sup>b</sup>	
1	MeOH	RT	4	61	20	17	3/1
2	MeOH	0°C → RT	4	55	22	12	2.5/1
3	EtOH	RT	4	6	2	72	3/1
4	dioxan	RT	4	-	-	66	-
5	DMF	RT	4	-	-	86	-
6	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	RT	4	10	-	90	1/0

<sup>a</sup> Yields determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR using dimethyl terephthalate (0.1 mmol, δ = 8.1 (s, 4 H)) as internal standard; <sup>b</sup> recovered starting material **A**

**Table S5.** Experiments with *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate: variation of solvent

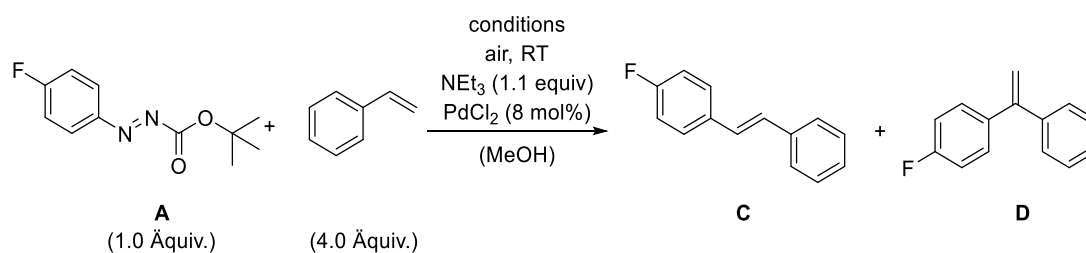
Entry	Solvent	Yield [%] <sup>a</sup>		
		<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>A</b> <sup>b</sup>
1	$\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$	12	-	58
2	$\text{CH}_3\text{CN} / \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (5%)	12	1	65
3	$\text{CH}_3\text{CN} / \text{H}_2\text{O}$ (10%)	14	1	41

<sup>a</sup> Yields determined by  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR using dimethyl terephthalate (0.1 mmol,  $\delta = 8.1$  (s, 4 H)) as internal standard; <sup>b</sup> recovered starting material **A**

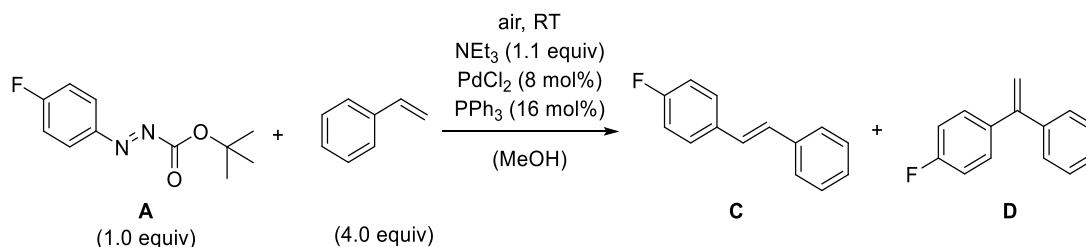
**Table S6.** Experiments with *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate: variation of catalyst loading and phosphine additive

Entry	Conditions				Yield [%] <sup>[a]</sup>			Ratio C/D
	Atmosphere	$\text{PdCl}_2$ [mol%]	Ligand	Styrene (equiv)	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>A</b> <sup>[b]</sup>	
1	Argon	5.5	Dppf (5 mol%)	4	22	10	-	2.2/1
2	Argon	8	Dppp (8 mol%)	10	48	11	13	4.4/1
3	Air	8	$\text{P}(o\text{-tol})_3$ (16 mol%)	4	48	8	6	6/1
4	Argon	8	$\text{P}(\text{Cy})_3$ (16 mol%)	10	26	1	-	26/1
5	Air	8	-	4	8	-	74	1/0

<sup>a</sup> Yields determined by  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR using dimethyl terephthalate (0.1 mmol,  $\delta = 8.1$  (s, 4 H)) as internal standard; <sup>b</sup> recovered starting material **A**

**Table S7.** Experiments with *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate: further additives

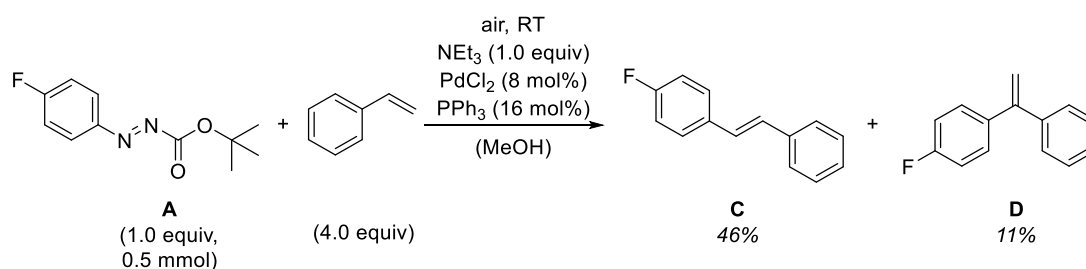
Entry	Conditions		Yield [%] <sup>a</sup>			Ratio C/D
	Additive	PPh <sub>3</sub>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>A</b> <sup>b</sup>	
1	CuCl <sub>2</sub> (8 mol%)	16 mol%	30	5	-	6/1
2	I <sub>2</sub> (8 mol%)	-	10	-	82	1/0
3	NaBr (0.5 eq)	16 mol%	41	12	4	3.4/1

<sup>a</sup> Yields determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR using dimethyl terephthalate (0.1 mmol, δ = 8.1 (s, 4 H)) as internal standard;<sup>b</sup> recovered starting material **A****Table S8.** Experiments with *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate: dilution of the reaction mixture

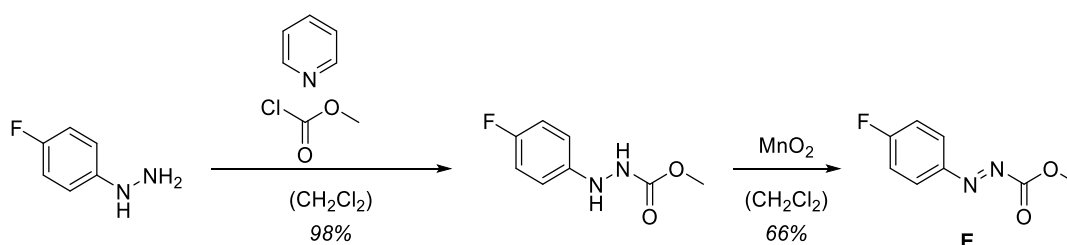
Entry	Concentration of <b>A</b> in MeOH	Yield [%] <sup>a</sup>		
		<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>A</b> <sup>b</sup>
1	standard conc.: 0.1 mol/L	61	20	17
2	0.2 mol/L	4	1	84
3	0.03 mol/L	56	15	14

<sup>a</sup> Yields determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR using dimethyl terephthalate (0.1 mmol, δ = 8.1 (s, 4 H)) as internal standard; <sup>b</sup> recovered starting material **A**

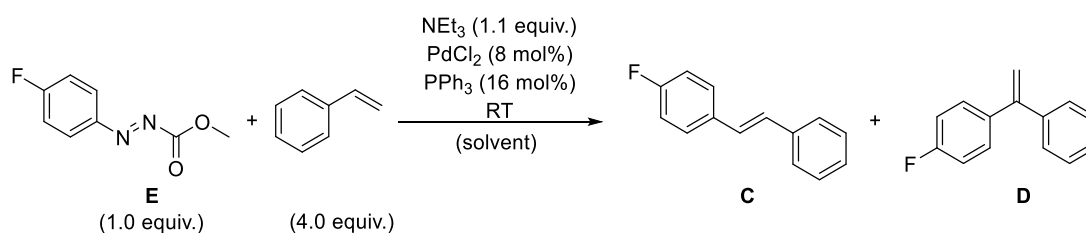
**Scheme S1.** Experiments with *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate: yields after purification with column chromatography



**Scheme S2.** Preparation of methyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate



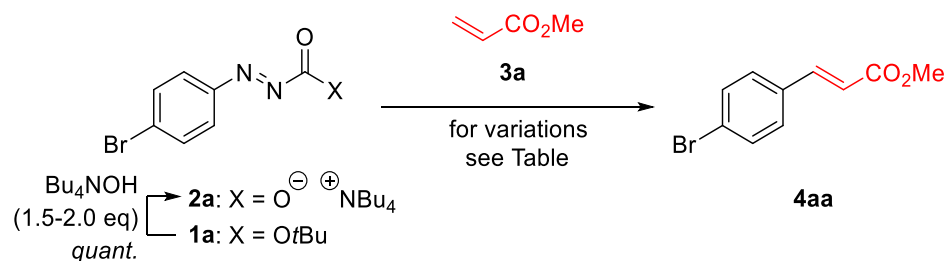
**Table S9.** Experiments with methyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate: variation of solvent and atmosphere.



Entry	Conditions		Yield [%] <sup>[a]</sup>			Ratio C/D
	Atmosphere	Solvent	C	D	E <sup>[b]</sup>	
1	Argon	MeOH	26	8	-	3.3/1
2	Air	MeOH	33	5	-	6.6/1
3	Argon	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	26	-	73	1/0

<sup>a</sup> Yields determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR using dimethyl terephthalate (0.1 mmol,  $\delta = 8.1$  (s, 4 H)) as internal standard; <sup>b</sup> recovered starting material **E**



**Table S10.** Preliminary optimization experiments with **1a** on a 175  $\mu\text{mol}$  scale

Entry	Variation of conditions <sup>a</sup> (equiv)	Yield <sup>b</sup> <b>4aa</b> (%)
1	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (2.0), $\text{AgOAc}$ (2.5), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.38), <b>3a</b> (15), 30 min, $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{AcOH}$ (1 mL/0.25 mL)	68%
2	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (2.0), $\text{AgOAc}$ (2.5), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.1), <b>3a</b> (15), 30 min, $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{AcOH}$ (1 mL/0.25 mL)	63%
3	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (2.0), $\text{AgOAc}$ (2.5), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.1), <b>3a</b> (15), 30 min, $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{AcOH}$ (0.75 mL/0.75 mL)	68%
4	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (1.5), $\text{AgOAc}$ (2.5), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 30 min, $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{AcOH}$ (1 mL/0.2 mL)	76%
5	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (1.5), $\text{AgOAc}$ (2.5), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.05), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{AcOH}$ (1 mL/0.2 mL)	61%
6	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (1.5), $\text{AgOAc}$ (2.5), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{AcOH}$ (1 mL/0.2 mL)	0%
7	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (1.5), $\text{AgOAc}$ (3.0), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{AcOH}$ (1 mL/0.1 mL)	66%
8	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (1.5), $\text{AgOAc}$ (2.0), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{AcOH}$ (1 mL/0.2 mL)	73%
9	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (1.5), $\text{AgOAc}$ (0.1), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{AcOH}$ (1 mL/0.2 mL)	25%
10	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (1.5), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{AcOH}$ (1 mL/0.2 mL)	51%
11	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (1.5), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.1), <b>3a</b> (20), 60 min, $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{AcOH}$ (1 mL/0.2 mL)	23%
12	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (1.5), $\text{AgOAc}$ (2.0), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, $\text{AcOH}$ (1.2 mL)	75%
13	$\text{Bu}_4\text{NOH}$ (1.5), $\text{AgOAc}$ (2.5), $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, $\text{MeOH}/\text{AcOH}$ (1 mL/0.2 mL)	60%

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: Tetrabutylammonium hydroxide (262-300  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) and **1a** (175  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (1.0 mL) 5 min; then slow addition of **2a** (over 30-60 min, see table) to **3a** (0.875-3.5 mmol),  $\text{AgOAc}$  (17.5-525  $\mu\text{mol}$ ),  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (0-67  $\mu\text{mol}$ ), solvent (see table), rt. <sup>b</sup>Yields determined by  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as internal standard.

**Table S11.** Preliminary optimization experiments with **1a** on a 0.5 mmol scale

Entry	Variation of conditions <sup>a</sup> (equiv)	Yield <sup>b</sup> <b>4aa</b> (%)
1	Bu <sub>4</sub> NOH (1.5), AgOAc (2.0), Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.1), <b>3a</b> (20), 120 min, CH <sub>3</sub> CN/AcOH (3 mL/0.6 mL)	61%
2	Bu <sub>4</sub> NOH (1.5), AgOAc (2.0), Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, CH <sub>3</sub> CN/AcOH (3 mL/0.6 mL)	57%
3	Bu <sub>4</sub> NOH (1.5), AgOAc (2.0), Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, CH <sub>3</sub> CN/AcOH/H <sub>2</sub> O (1 mL/1 mL/1 mL)	55%
4	Bu <sub>4</sub> NOH (1.5), AgOAc (2.0), Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, AcOH (3 mL)	72%
5	Bu <sub>4</sub> NOH (1.5), AgOAc (2.0), Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, AcOH (3 mL), reaction at 60°C	53%
6	Bu <sub>4</sub> NOH (1.5), AgOAc (2.0), Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.1), PPh <sub>3</sub> (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, AcOH (3 mL)	75%
7	Bu <sub>4</sub> NOH (1.5), H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (2.0) instead of AgOAc, Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 45 min, AcOH (3 mL)	83%

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: Tetrabutylammonium hydroxide (0.75 mmol) and **1a** (0.5 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1.4 mL), 5 min; then slow addition of **2a** (over 45-120 min, see table) to **3a** (2.5-10 mmol), AgOAc (1.0 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.05 mmol), solvent (see table), rt (if not otherwise mentioned in table). <sup>b</sup>Yields determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as internal standard.

**Table S12.** Qualitative screening for suitable oxidants

Entry	Variation of conditions <sup>a</sup> (equiv)	Qualitative TLC analysis referenced to <b>4aa</b>
1	Bu <sub>4</sub> NOH (1.5), MnO <sub>2</sub> (2.0), Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 30 min, AcOH (0.5 mL)	<b>4aa</b> as major product, few side products
2	Bu <sub>4</sub> NOH (1.5), KMnO <sub>4</sub> (2.0), Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 30 min, AcOH (0.5 mL)	traces of <b>4aa</b> , many side products
3	Bu <sub>4</sub> NOH (1.5), Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub> (2.0), Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 30 min, AcOH (0.5 mL)	traces of <b>4aa</b> , many side products
4	Bu <sub>4</sub> NOH (1.5), H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (2.0), Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (0.1), <b>3a</b> (5), 30 min, AcOH (0.5 mL)	<b>4aa</b> as major product, no side products

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: Tetrabutylammonium hydroxide (188 μmol) and **1a** (125 μmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (0.5 mL) 5 min; then slow addition of **2a** (over 30min) to **3a** (0.625 mmol), oxidant (0.25 mmol, see table), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (12.5 μmol), AcOH (0.5 mL), rt.

## 1.2 General procedures

### General procedure for method A (GP A)

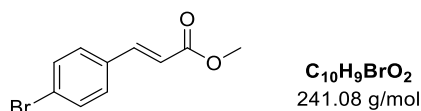
Tetrabutylammonium hydroxide solution (1.5 M in H<sub>2</sub>O, 0.75 mmol, 0.5 mL) is added to a solution of *tert*-butyl phenylazocarboxylate (0.5 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1.4 mL) and stirred for 5 min. This mixture is added to a suspension of palladium(II) acetate (50.0 μmol), silver(I) acetate (1.0 mmol), triphenylphosphane (50.0 μmol) and the acrylate or acrylamide (2.5 mmol) in acetic acid (3.0 mL) over 45 min with a syringe pump. The reaction mixture is stirred for additional 10 min and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (25 mL) is added. The organic phase is washed with water (5 mL), a saturated aqueous solution of sodium chloride (5 mL) and dried over sodium sulfate. The solvent is removed under reduced pressure and the residue is subjected to column chromatography on silica gel.

### General procedure for method B (GP B)

Tetrabutylammonium hydroxide solution (1.5 M in H<sub>2</sub>O, 750 μmol, 0.5 mL) is added to a solution of *tert*-butyl phenylazocarboxylate (0.5 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1.4 mL) and stirred for 5 min. This mixture is added to a suspension of palladium(II) acetate (50.0 μmol), hydrogen peroxide solution (1.0 mmol, 30% in H<sub>2</sub>O) and the acrylate, acrylamide or styrene (2.5 mmol) in acetic acid (3.0 mL) over 45 min with a syringe pump. The reaction mixture is stirred for additional 10 min and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (25 mL) is added. The organic phase is washed with water (5 mL), a saturated aqueous solution of sodium chloride (5 mL) and dried over sodium sulfate. The solvent is removed under reduced pressure and the residue is subjected to column chromatography on silica gel.

## 1.3 Synthesis of cinnamic esters and amides

### 1.3.1 Methyl 4-bromocinnamate (**4aa**)



Compound **4aa** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1a**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 142 mg) and methyl acrylate (**3a**) (2.50 mmol, 223  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP A and GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) to give the title compound **4aa** (375  $\mu$ mol, 90.4 mg, 75%, GP A), (402  $\mu$ mol, 96.9 mg, 80%, GP B) as a white solid.

In a modified version tetrabutylammonium hydroxide solution (1.5 M in H<sub>2</sub>O, 263  $\mu$ mol, 175  $\mu$ L) is added to a solution of *tert*-butyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1a**) (175  $\mu$ mol, 50.0 mg) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (0.8 mL) and stirred for 5 min. This mixture is added to a solution of palladium(II) acetate (17.5  $\mu$ mol, 4.00 mg), methyl acrylate **3a** (875  $\mu$ mol, 78.0  $\mu$ L) and hydrogen peroxide solution (350  $\mu$ mol, 30% in H<sub>2</sub>O) in acetic acid (1.4 mL). The reaction mixture is stirred for one hour and concentrated under reduced pressure. The yield of **4aa** (112  $\mu$ mol, 64%) is determined with an internal standard of 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene

Experiment on 3 mmol scale:

Compound **4aa** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1a**) (3.00  $\mu$ mol, 855 mg) and methyl acrylate (**3a**) (15.0 mmol, 1.35 mL) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give the title compound **4aa** (2.58 mmol, 622 mg, 86%) as a white solid.

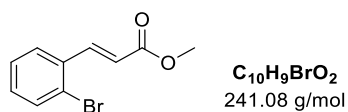
***R<sub>f</sub>*** 0.4 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) = 3.81 (3 H), 6.42 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) = 51.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 118.5 (CH), 124.5 (C<sub>q</sub>), 129.4 (2 × CH), 132.1 (2 × CH), 133.3 (C<sub>q</sub>), 143.4 (CH), 167.1 (C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>2</sup>.

### 1.3.2 Methyl 2-bromocinnamate (**4ba**)



Compound **4ba** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(2-bromophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1b**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 142 mg) and methyl acrylate (**3a**) (2.50 mmol, 223  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give the title compound **4ba** (299  $\mu$ mol, 72.0 mg, 60%) as a white solid.

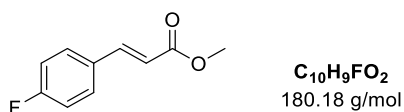
**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.5 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.82 (3 H), 6.39 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.20-7.25 (m, 1 H), 7.30-7.35 (m, 1 H), 7.61 (dt,  $J$  = 1.4 Hz,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2 H), 8.06 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 51.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 120.7 (CH), 125.3 (C<sub>q</sub>), 127.7 (CH), 127.7 (CH), 131.2 (CH), 133.4 (CH), 134.5 (C<sub>q</sub>), 143.1 (CH), 166.7 (C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>3</sup>.

### 1.3.3 Methyl 4-fluorocinnamate (**4ca**)



Compound **4ca** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1c**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 112 mg) and methyl acrylate (**3a**) (2.50 mmol, 223  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP A and GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) to give the title compound **4ca** (381  $\mu$ mol, 68.7 mg, 76%, GP A), (365  $\mu$ mol, 65.8 mg, 73%, GP B) as a white solid.

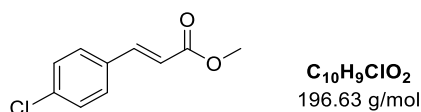
**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.4 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.81 (3 H), 6.37 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.10 (t,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.51 (dd,  $J_{\text{HF}}$  = 5.4 Hz,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.66 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 51.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 116.0 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 22.0 Hz, 2  $\times$  CH), 117.6 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 2.4 Hz, CH), 129.9 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 8.5 Hz, 2  $\times$  CH), 130.7 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 3.4 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 143.5 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 0.8 Hz, CH), 163.9 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 251.4 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 167.3 (C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>4</sup>

### 1.3.4 Methyl 4-chlorocinnamate (**4da**)



Compound **4da** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1d**) (500  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 120 mg) and methyl acrylate (**3a**) (2.50 mmol, 223  $\mu\text{L}$ ) according to general procedure GP A and GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give the title compound **4da** (375  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 73.7 mg, 75%, GP A), (390  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 76.7 mg, 78%, GP B) as a white solid.

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.4 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

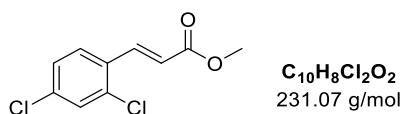
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.81 (3 H), 6.41 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.36 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.45 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.64 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 52.8 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 118.4 (CH), 129.2 ( $2 \times \text{CH}$ ), 129.2 ( $2 \times \text{CH}$ ), 132.9 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 136.2 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 143.4 (CH), 167.1 ( $\text{C}_q$ ).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>4</sup>



### 1.3.5 Methyl 2,4-dichlorocinnamate (**4ea**)



Compound **4ea** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1e**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 138 mg) and methyl acrylate (**3a**) (2.50 mmol, 223  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 12:1) to give the title compound **4ea** (304  $\mu$ mol, 72.2 mg, 61%) as a white solid.

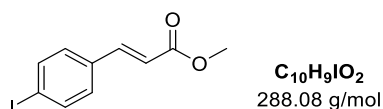
**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.5 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.82 (3 H), 6.39 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.20-7.25 (m, 1 H), 7.30-7.35 (m, 1 H), 7.61 (dt,  $J$  = 1.4 Hz,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz, 2 H), 8.06 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 51.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 120.9 (CH), 127.6 (CH), 128.3 (CH), 130.0 (CH), 131.3 (C<sub>q</sub>), 135.5 (C<sub>q</sub>), 136.4 (C<sub>q</sub>), 139.4 (CH), 166.6 (C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>5</sup>

### 1.3.6 Methyl 4-iodocinnamate (**4fa**)



Compound **4fa** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-iodophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1f**) (500  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 166 mg) and methyl acrylate (**3a**) (2.50 mmol, 223  $\mu\text{L}$ ) according to general procedure GP A and GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) to give the title compound **4fa** (239  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 68.8 mg, 48%, GP A), (158  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 45.5 mg, 32%, GP B) as a white solid.

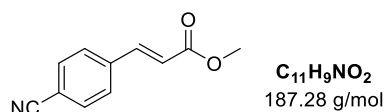
**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.4 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.81 (3 H), 6.43 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.24 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.60 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.72 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 51.7 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 96.5 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 118.6 (CH), 129.5 ( $2 \times \text{CH}$ ), 133.9 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 138.1 ( $2 \times \text{CH}$ ), 143.6 (CH), 167.1 ( $\text{C}_q$ ).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>6</sup>

### 1.3.7 Methyl 4-cyanocinnamate (**4ga**)



Compound **4ga** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-cyanophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1g**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 166 mg) and methyl acrylate (**3a**) (2.50 mmol, 223  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 5:1) to give the title compound **4ga** (278  $\mu$ mol, 52.0 mg, 56%) as a white solid.

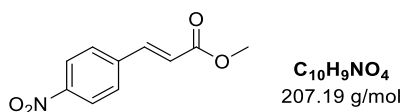
**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.3 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 6:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.83 (3 H), 6.52 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.61 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.67 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.68 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 52.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 113.4 (C<sub>q</sub>), 118.3 (C<sub>q</sub>), 121.4 (CH), 128.4 (2  $\times$  CH), 132.6 (2  $\times$  CH), 138.6 (C<sub>q</sub>), 142.4 (CH), 166.5 (C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>7</sup>

### 1.3.8 Methyl 4-nitrocinnamate (**4ha**)



Compound **4ha** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-nitrophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1h**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 126 mg) and methyl acrylate (**3a**) (2.50 mmol, 223  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 4:1) to give the title compound **4ha** (243  $\mu$ mol, 50.4 mg, 49%) as a white solid.

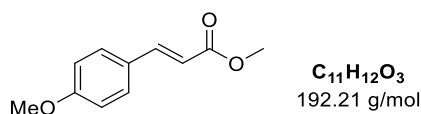
**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.1 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 3:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.84 (3 H), 6.56 (d,  $J$  = 16.1 Hz, 1 H), 7.67 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.72 (d,  $J$  = 16.1 Hz, 1 H), 8.25 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 52.0 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 122.1 (CH), 124.2 (2  $\times$  CH), 128.6 (2  $\times$  CH), 140.5 (C<sub>q</sub>), 141.9 (CH), 148.5 (C<sub>q</sub>), 166.4 (C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>3</sup>.

### 1.3.9 Methyl 4-methoxycinnamate (**4ia**)



Compound **4ia** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)azocarboxylate (**1i**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 118 mg) and methyl acrylate (**3a**) (2.50 mmol, 223  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 12:1) to give the title compound **4ia** (278  $\mu$ mol, 53.4 mg, 56%) as a white solid.

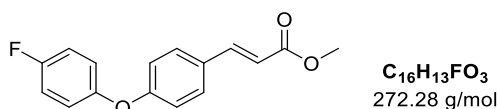
**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.x (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.79 (3 H), 3.84 (3 H), 6.31 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.91 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.47 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.65 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 51.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 55.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 114.3 (2  $\times$  CH), 115.3 (CH), 127.2 (C<sub>q</sub>), 129.7 (2  $\times$  CH), 144.5 (CH), 161.4 (C<sub>q</sub>), 167.7 (C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>4</sup>

### 1.3.10 Methyl 4-(4-fluorophenoxy)cinnamate (**4ja**)



Compound **4ja** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenoxyphenyl)azocarboxylate (**1j**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 158 mg) and methyl acrylate (**3a**) (2.50 mmol, 223  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give the title compound **4ja** (439  $\mu$ mol, 119 mg, 88%) as a white solid.

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.5 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

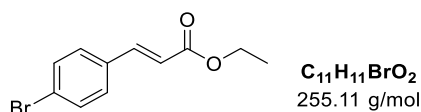
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.80 (3 H), 6.34 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.94 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.00-7.08 (m, 4 H), 7.48 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.66 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 51.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 116.5 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 23.0 Hz, 2  $\times$  CH), 116.5 (CH), 117.9 (2  $\times$  CH), 121.3 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 8.3 Hz, 2  $\times$  CH), 129.2 (C<sub>q</sub>), 129.8 (2  $\times$  CH), 144.0 (CH), 151.8 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 2.7 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 159.3 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 242.8 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 159.8 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 0.7 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 167.5 (C<sub>q</sub>).

**MS (EI)**  $m/z$  (%): 272.1 [M<sup>+</sup>].

**HRMS (ESI)** calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>FO<sub>3</sub> [M<sup>+</sup> + Na<sup>+</sup>]: 295.0741, found: 295.0743.

### 1.3.11 Ethyl 4-bromocinnamate (**4ab**)



Compound **4ab** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1a**) (500  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 138 mg) and ethyl acrylate (**3b**) (2.50 mmol, 270  $\mu\text{L}$ ) according to general procedure GP A. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 20:1) to give the title compound **4ab** (388  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 99.1 mg, 78%) as a white solid.

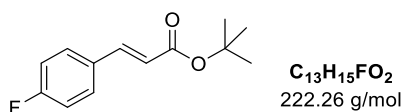
**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.3 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 20:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.34 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3 H), 4.27 (q,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 2 H), 6.42 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.38 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.52 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.61 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 14.3 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 60.6 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 119.0 (CH), 124.4 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 129.4 (2  $\times$  CH), 132.1 (2  $\times$  CH), 133.4 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 143.2 (CH), 166.7 ( $\text{C}_q$ ).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>8</sup>

### 1.3.12 *tert*-Butyl 4-fluorocinnamate (**4cc**)



Compound **4cc** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1c**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 112 mg) and *tert*-butyl acrylate (**3c**) (2.50 mmol, 366  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP A. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give the title compound **4cc** (386  $\mu$ mol, 85.7 mg, 77%) as a white solid.

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.6 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

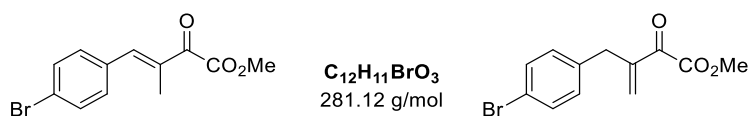
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.53 (s, 9 H), 6.29 (dd,  $J_{\text{HF}}$  = 0.5 Hz,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.06 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.49 (dd,  $J_{\text{HF}}$  = 5.4 Hz,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.54 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 28.2 (3  $\times$  CH<sub>3</sub>), 80.6 (C<sub>q</sub>), 115.9 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 21.9 Hz, 2  $\times$  CH), 120.0 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 2.4 Hz, CH), 129.7 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 8.4 Hz, 2  $\times$  CH), 130.9 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 3.4 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 142.2 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 0.7 Hz, CH), 163.7 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 250.7 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 166.1 (C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>9</sup>



### 1.3.13 Methyl (*E*)-3-(4-bromophenyl)-3-methylacrylate (**4ad**) and methyl 2-(4-bromobenzyl)acrylate (**4ad'**)



Compounds **4ad** and **4ad'** are prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1a**) (500  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 142 mg) and methyl methacrylate (**3d**) (2.50 mmol, 270  $\mu\text{L}$ ) according to general procedure GP A and GP B. The yield of the isomers **4ad** (13%) and **4ad'** (42%) from GP A is determined with an internal standard of 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene. The crude product from GP B is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give the title compounds **4ad** (75.6  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 21.3 mg, 15%, GP B) and **4ad'** (248  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 68.8 mg, 50%, GP B) as colorless oils.

#### Methyl (*E*)-3-(4-bromophenyl)-3-methylacrylate (**4ad**)

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.6 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.09 (d,  $J$  = 1.5 Hz, 3 H), 3.82 (s, 3 H), 7.26 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2 H), 7.52 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2 H), 7.61 (s, 1 H).

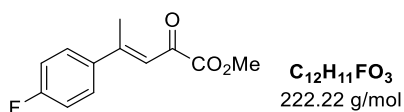
#### Methyl 2-(4-bromobenzyl)acrylate (**4ad'**)

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.6 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.58 (bs, 2 H), 3.73 (s, 3 H), 5.48 (q,  $J$  = 1.4 Hz, 1 H), 6.24 (mc, 1 H), 7.08 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.41 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>10</sup>

### 1.3.14 Methyl (*E*)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-methylacrylate (**4ce**)



Compound **4ce** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1c**) (500  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 112 mg) and methyl crotonate (**3e**) (2.50 mmol, 270  $\mu\text{L}$ ) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 14:1) to give the title compound **4ce** (318  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 61.8 mg, 64%) as a colorless oil.

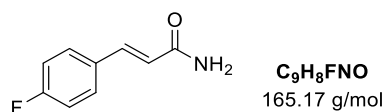
***R*<sub>f</sub>** 0.6 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (360 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.56 (d,  $J$  = 1.3 Hz, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 6.09 (q,  $J$  = 1.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.06 (t,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.45 (dd,  $J_{\text{HF}}$  = 5.4 Hz,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 18.0 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 51.1 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 115.5 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 21.5 Hz, 2  $\times$  CH), 116.6 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 1.3 Hz,  $\text{C}_q$ ), 128.1 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 8.3 Hz, 2  $\times$  CH), 138.2 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 3.4 Hz,  $\text{C}_q$ ), 154.6 (CH), 163.2 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 249.1 Hz,  $\text{C}_q$ ), 167.1 ( $\text{C}_q$ ).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>11</sup>

### 1.3.15 4-Fluorocinnamide (**4cf**)



Compound **4cf** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1c**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 112 mg) and acrylamide (**3f**) (2.50 mmol, 178 mg) according to general procedure GP A and GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, chloroform / methanol = 20:1) to give the title compound **4cf** (435  $\mu$ mol, 71.8 mg, 87%, GP A), (416  $\mu$ mol, 68.7 mg, 83%, GP B) as a white solid.

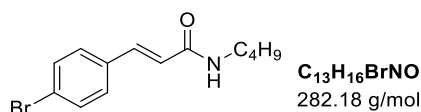
**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.1 (chloroform / methanol = 20:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 6.58 (d,  $J$  = 15.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.13 (d,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.53 (d,  $J$  = 15.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.61 (dd,  $J_{\text{HF}}$  = 5.5 Hz,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 116.0 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 21.9 Hz, 2  $\times$  CH), 119.3 (CH), 129.6 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 8.5 Hz, 2  $\times$  CH), 130.7 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 3.4 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 141.0 (CH), 163.6 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 250.6 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 168.5 (C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>12</sup>

### 1.3.16 *N*-Butyl 4-bromocinnamide (**4ag**)



Compound **4ag** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1a**) (500  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 142 mg) and *n*-butylacrylamide (**3g**) (2.50 mmol, 318 mg) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 3:1) to give the title compound **4ag** (460  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 85.7 mg, 92%) as a white solid.

***R*<sub>f</sub>** 0.2 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 3:1) [UV].

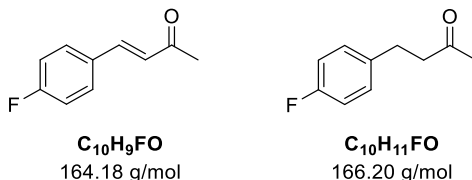
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.94 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 3 H), 1.39 (qd,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz,  $J$  = 14.7 Hz, 2 H), 1.59 (mc, 2 H), 3.45-3.42 (m, 2 H), 5.87 (bs, NH), 6.40 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.35 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.48 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.56 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 13.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 20.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 39.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 121.4 (CH), 123.7 (C<sub>q</sub>), 129.1 (2  $\times$  CH), 132.0 (2  $\times$  CH), 133.8 (C<sub>q</sub>), 139.6 (CH), 165.6 (C<sub>q</sub>).

**MS (EI)**  $m/z$  (%): 282.0 [MH<sup>+</sup>].

**HRMS (ESI)** calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrNO [M<sup>+</sup> + Na<sup>+</sup>]: 304.0307, found: 304.0303.

1.3.17 (*E*)-4-(4-Fluorophenyl)but-3-en-2-one (**4ah**) and 4-(4-fluorophenyl)butan-2-one (**4ah'**)



Compounds **4ah** and **4ah'** are prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1c**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 112 mg) and methyl vinyl ketone (**3h**) (2.50 mmol, 211  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 6:1) to give the title compounds **4ah** (171  $\mu$ mol, 28.1 mg, 34%) and **4ah'** (239  $\mu$ mol, 39.7 mg, 48%) as colorless oils.

In a modified version tetrabutylammonium hydroxide solution (1.5 M in  $H_2O$ , 263  $\mu$ mol, 175  $\mu$ mol) is added to a solution of *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1c**) (175  $\mu$ mol, 39.2 mg) in  $CH_3CN$  (0.8 mL) and stirred for 5 min. This mixture is added to a solution of palladium(II) acetate (17.5  $\mu$ mol, 4.00 mg) and methyl vinyl ketone (875  $\mu$ mol, 94.0  $\mu$ L) in formic acid (1.4 mL) over 45 min with a syringe pump. The reaction mixture is stirred for additional 10 min and concentrated under reduced pressure. The yield of **4ah'** (136  $\mu$ mol, 22.4 mg, 78%) is determined with an internal standard of 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene.

(*E*)-4-(4-Fluorophenyl)but-3-en-2-one (**4ah**)

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.4 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 6:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (360 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.38 (s, 3 H), 6.65 (d,  $J$  = 16.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.10 (t,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.48 (d,  $J$  = 16.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.54 (dd,  $J_{HF}$  = 5.4 Hz,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) = 27.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 116.2 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 22.0$  Hz, 2 × CH), 126.9 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 2.4$  Hz, CH), 130.1 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 8.6$  Hz, 2 × CH), 130.7 115.2 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 3.5$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 142.0 (CH), 164.0 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 251.8$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 198.0 (C<sub>q</sub>).

**4-(4-Fluorophenyl)butan-2-one (4ah')**

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.4 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 6:1) [UV].

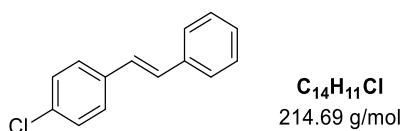
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) = 2.13 (s, 3 H), 2.74 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2 H), 2.87 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2 H), 6.96 (t,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2 H), 7.13 (dd,  $J_{\text{HF}} = 5.4$  Hz,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) = 28.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 45.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 115.2 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 21.2$  Hz, 2 × CH), 129.7 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 7.8$  Hz, 2 × CH), 136.6 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 3.2$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 161.4 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 243.9$  Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 207.6 (C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>13</sup>

## 1.4 Synthesis of stilbenes

### 1.4.1 (*E*)-4-Chlorostilbene (**4di**)



Compound **4di** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1d**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 120 mg) and styrene (**3i**) (2.50 mmol, 280  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) to give the title compound **4di** (352  $\mu$ mol, 75.7 mg, 71%) as a pale yellow solid.

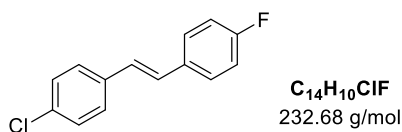
**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.8 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.05 (d,  $J$  = 16.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.08 (d,  $J$  = 16.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.26-7.29 (m, 1 H), 7.32 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.36 (t,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 2 H), 7.44 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.50-7.51 (m, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 126.5 (2  $\times$  CH), 127.4 (CH), 127.6 (2  $\times$  CH), 127.9 (CH), 128.7 (2  $\times$  CH), 128.7 (2  $\times$  CH), 129.3 (CH), 133.2 (C<sub>q</sub>), 135.8 (C<sub>q</sub>), 137.0 (C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>14</sup>

### 1.4.2 (*E*)-4-Chloro-4'-fluorostilbene (**4dj**)



Compound **xx** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1d**) (500  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 120 mg) and 4-fluorostyrene (**3j**) (2.50 mmol, 298  $\mu\text{L}$ ) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give the title compound **4dj** (350  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 81.4 mg, 70%) as a pale yellow solid.

***R*<sub>f</sub>** 0.7 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

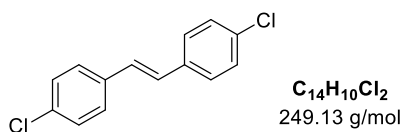
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 6.95 (d,  $J$  = 16.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.01-7.07 (m, 3 H), 7.32 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.42 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.46 (dd,  $J_{\text{HF}}$  = 5.4 Hz,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (151 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 115.7 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 21.8 Hz,  $2 \times \text{CH}$ ), 127.2 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 2.5 Hz, CH), 127.5 ( $2 \times \text{CH}$ ), 128.1 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 7.9 Hz,  $2 \times \text{CH}$ ), 128.1 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 128.9 ( $2 \times \text{CH}$ ), 133.2 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 3.4 Hz,  $\text{C}_q$ ), 133.2 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 135.7 (CH), 162.4 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 247.7 Hz,  $\text{C}_q$ ).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>15</sup>



### 1.4.3 (*E*)-4,4'-Dichlorostilbene (**4dk**)



Compound **xx** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1d**) (500  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 120 mg) and 4-chlorostyrene (**3k**) (2.50 mmol, 320  $\mu\text{L}$ ) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 14:1) to give the title compound **4dk** (399  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 99.4 mg, 80%) as a pale yellow solid.

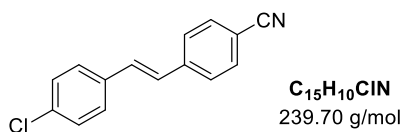
**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.7 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.01 (s, 2 H), 7.32 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 4 H), 7.42 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 4 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 127.7 (4  $\times$  CH), 127.9 (2  $\times$  CH), 128.9 (4  $\times$  CH), 133.4 (2  $\times$  C<sub>q</sub>), 135.5 (2  $\times$  CH).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>16</sup>

#### 1.4.4 (*E*)-4-chloro-4'-cyanostilbene (**4dl**)



Compound **xx** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1d**) (500  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 120 mg) and 4-cyanostyrene (**3l**) (2.50 mmol, 322  $\mu\text{L}$ ) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 14:1) to give the title compound **4dl** (305  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 72.6 mg, 61%) as a pale yellow solid.

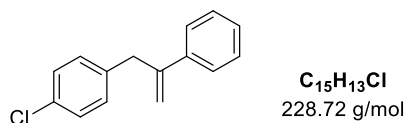
***R*<sub>f</sub>** 0.5 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.06 (d,  $J$  = 16.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.16 (d,  $J$  = 16.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.36 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.46 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.58 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.64 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 110.9 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 118.9 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 126.9 ( $2 \times \text{CH}$ ), 127.3 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 128.0 ( $2 \times \text{CH}$ ), 129.1 ( $2 \times \text{CH}$ ), 131.0 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 132.5 ( $2 \times \text{CH}$ ), 134.3 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 134.7 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 141.5 ( $\text{C}_q$ ).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>17</sup>

#### 1.4.5 1-Chloro-4-(2-phenylallyl)benzene (**4dm'**)



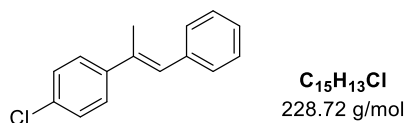
Compound **xx** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1d**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 120 mg) and  $\alpha$ -methylstyrene **3m** (2.50 mmol, 325  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 25:1) to give the title compound **4dm'** (71.2  $\mu$ mol, 16.3 mg, 14%) as a highly viscous brown oil.

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.5 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 3.80 (bs, 2 H), 5.03 (q,  $J$  = 1.3 Hz, 1 H), 5.49 (td,  $J$  = 0.5 Hz,  $J$  = 1.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.15 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.21-7.33 (m, 5 H), 7.40 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2 H).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>18</sup>

#### 1.4.6 (*E*)-1-Chloro-4-(1-phenylprop-1-en-2-yl)benzene (**4dn**)



Compound **xx** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-chlorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1d**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 120 mg) and  $\beta$ -methylstyrene (**3n**) (2.50 mmol, 325  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 10:1) to give the title compound **4dn** (280  $\mu$ mol, 64.0 mg, 49%) as a colorless oil.

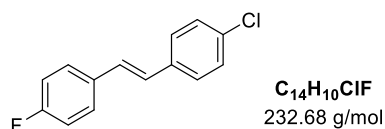
**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.5 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.26 (d,  $J$  = 1.4 Hz, 3 H), 6.82 (s, 1 H), 7.24-7.28 (m, 1 H), 7.34 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.35-7.40 (m, 4 H), 7.46 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 17.4 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 126.7 (CH), 127.3 (2  $\times$  CH), 128.1 (CH), 128.2 (2  $\times$  CH), 128.4 (2  $\times$  CH), 129.1 (2  $\times$  CH), 132.9 (C<sub>q</sub>), 136.2 (C<sub>q</sub>), 138.0 (C<sub>q</sub>), 142.4 (C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>19</sup>

#### 1.4.7 (*E*)-4-Fluoro-4'-chlorostilbene (**4ck**)



Compound **xx** is prepared from *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1c**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 112 mg) and 4-chlorostyrene (**3k**) (2.50 mmol, 320  $\mu$ L) according to general procedure GP B. The crude product is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) to give the title compound **4ck** (367  $\mu$ mol, 85.4 mg, 73%) as a pale yellow solid.

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.7 (hexane / ethyl acetate = 9:1) [UV].

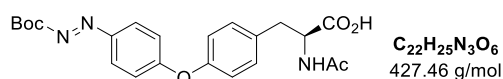
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 6.96 (d,  $J$  = 16.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.02-7.07 (m, 3 H), 7.32 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.42 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.46 (dd,  $J_{\text{HF}}$  = 5.4 Hz,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (91 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 115.7 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 21.7 Hz, 2  $\times$  CH), 127.2 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 2.5 Hz, CH), 127.6 (2  $\times$  CH), 128.0 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 8.0 Hz, 2  $\times$  CH), 128.1 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 1.0 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 128.9 (2  $\times$  CH), 133.2 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 3.3 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>), 133.2 (C<sub>q</sub>), 135.7 (CH), 162.4 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}}$  = 247.7 Hz, C<sub>q</sub>).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>15</sup>

## 1.5 Two-step functionalization of *N*-acetyl tyrosine:

### 1.5.1 (*S,E*)-2-Acetamido-3-(4-(4-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)diazenyl)phenoxy)-phenyl)propanoic acid (**6**)



A mixture of  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (5.00 mmol, 691 mg) and 18-crown-6 (5.00 mmol, 1.32 g) in dry DMF (15 mL) is stirred under argon for 15 min. *N*-Acetyl-*L*-tyrosine (**5**) (1.20 mmol, 268 mg) is added and stirred for 30 min. After the addition of *tert*-butyl 2-(4-nitrophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1h**) (1.00 mmol, 251 mg) the mixture is stirred for 3 h. Under cooling with ice, the reaction is quenched with water and an aqueous solution of hydrogen chloride (1 M, 15 mL) is added. The resulting mixture is extracted with ethyl acetate (2  $\times$  25 mL). The combined organic phases are washed with a saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution and dried over sodium sulphate. The crude product is purified by column chromatography (chloroform / methanol = 20:1) to give the title compound **6** (0.82 mmol, 352 mg, 82%) as an orange solid.

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.2 (chloroform / methanol = 9:1) [UV].

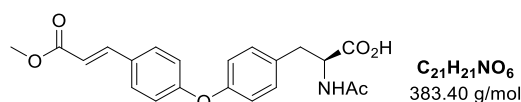
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 1.65 (s, 9 H), 2.02 (s, 3 H), 3.12 (dd,  $J$  = 5.9 Hz,  $J$  = 14.1 Hz, 1 H), 3.25 (dd,  $J$  = 5.5 Hz,  $J$  = 14.1 Hz, 1 H), 4.87 (dd,  $J$  = 5.8 Hz,  $J$  = 13.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.34 (d,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, NH), 7.00 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.02 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.20 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.90 (d,  $J$  = 8.9 Hz, 2 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 22.9 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 27.8 (3  $\times$   $\text{CH}_3$ ), 36.7 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 53.4 ( $\text{CH}$ ), 84.8 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 117.8 (2  $\times$   $\text{CH}$ ), 120.4 (2  $\times$   $\text{CH}$ ), 125.9 (2  $\times$   $\text{CH}$ ), 131.0 (2  $\times$   $\text{CH}$ ), 132.4 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 146.9 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 154.4 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 161.1 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 162.4 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 170.9 ( $\text{C}_q$ ), 173.6 ( $\text{C}_q$ ).

**MS (ESI)**  $m/z$  (%): 426 [ $\text{M}-\text{H}^-$ ].

**HRMS (ESI)** calcd. for  $C_{22}H_{25}N_3O_6$  [ $M^+ + Na^+$ ]: 450.1636, found: 450.1636.

1.5.2 (*S,E*)-2-Acetamido-3-(4-(4-(3-methoxy-3-oxoprop-1-en-1-yl)phenoxy)phenyl)propanoic acid (**7**)



Tetrabutylammonium hydroxide solution (1.5 M in  $H_2O$ , 1.05 mmol, 0.7 mL) is added to a solution of (*E*)-2-acetamido-3-(4-(4-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)-diazenyl)phenoxy)phenyl)propanoic acid (**6**) (351  $\mu$ mol, 150 mg) in  $CH_3CN$  (1.4 mL) and stirred for 5 min. This mixture is added to a suspension of palladium(II) acetate (35.0  $\mu$ mol, 7.80 mg), hydrogen peroxide solution (0.7 mmol, 30% in  $H_2O$ ) and methyl acrylate (**3a**) (1.75 mmol, 160  $\mu$ L) in acetic acid (3.0 mL) over 45 min with a syringe pump. The reaction mixture is stirred for additional 10 min and ethyl acetate (25 mL) is added. The organic phase is washed with water (5 mL), a saturated aqueous solution of sodium chloride (5 mL) and dried over sodium sulfate. The solvent is removed under reduced pressure and the residue is subjected to column chromatography (silica gel, chloroform / methanol = 20:1) to give the title compound **7** (228  $\mu$ mol, 87.4 mg, 65%) as a viscous brown oil.

**R<sub>f</sub>** 0.1 (chloroform / methanol = 9:1) [UV].

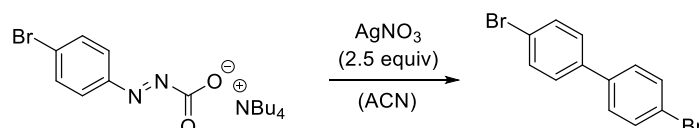
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (300 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.02 (s, 3 H), 3.04-3.31 (m, 2 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 4.87 (bs, 1 H), 6.15 (bs, 1 H), 6.34 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H), 6.90-7.04 (m, 4 H), 7.16 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.47 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 2 H), 7.65 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1 H).

**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR** (75 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 23.0 ( $CH_3$ ), 36.6 ( $CH_2$ ), 51.7 ( $CH_3$ ), 53.4 (CH), 116.5 (CH), 118.5 (2  $\times$  CH), 119.6 (2  $\times$  CH), 129.4 ( $C_q$ ), 129.8 (2  $\times$  CH), 130.8 (2  $\times$  CH), 131.4 ( $C_q$ ), 144.1 ( $C_q$ ), 155.3 ( $C_q$ ), 159.2 ( $C_q$ ), 167.7 ( $C_q$ ), 170.9 ( $C_q$ ).  
One signal missing.

**MS (ESI)**  $m/z$  (%): 384 [ $MH^+$ ].

**HRMS (ESI)** calcd. for  $C_{21}H_{21}NO_6$  [ $M^+ + Na^+$ ]: 406.1261, found: 406.1262.

**Scheme S3.** Silver(I)-induced fragmentation of phenylazocarboxylate salts



To a solution of solution of silver(I) nitrate (438  $\mu$ mol, 74.4 mg) in  $CH_3CN$  (1.0 mL) a prestirred mixture of tetrabutylammonium hydroxide solution (1.5 M in  $H_2O$ , 350  $\mu$ mol, 233  $\mu$ L) and *tert*-butyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1a**) (175  $\mu$ mol, 50.0 mg) in  $CH_3CN$  (0.5 mL) is added over 15 min with a syringe pump. The solvent is removed under reduced pressure. The yield of 4,4'-dibromobiphenyl (52.5  $\mu$ mol, 30%) is determined with an internal standard of 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene and verified by GC-MS analysis.

**$^1H$ -NMR** (360 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.41 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 4 H), 7.56 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 4 H).

**MS (EI)**  $m/z$  (%): 312.0 [ $M^+$ ].

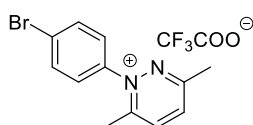
Competition experiment with acrylonitrile:

Tetrabutylammonium hydroxide solution (1.5 M in  $H_2O$ , 750  $\mu$ mol, 0.5 mL) is added to a solution of *tert*-butyl 2-(4-fluorophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1c**) (500  $\mu$ mol, 112 mg) in  $CH_3CN$  (1.4 mL) and stirred for 5 min. This mixture is added to a solution of palladium(II) acetate (50.0  $\mu$ mol, 11.3 mg), methyl acrylate (2.50 mmol, 223  $\mu$ L), acrylonitrile (2.50 mmol, 165  $\mu$ L) and hydrogen peroxide solution (1.00 mmol, 30% in  $H_2O$ ) in acetic acid (3.0 mL) over 45 min with a syringe pump. The reaction mixture is stirred for additional 10 min and concentrated under reduced pressure. The yield of **4ca** (235  $\mu$ mol, 47%) is determined with an internal standard of 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene. (*E*)-3-(4-Fluorophenyl)acrylonitrile cannot be detected.



Competition experiment with 2,5-dimethylfuran – trapping of phenyldiazene:

A solution of tetrabutylammonium hydroxide (1.5 M in H<sub>2</sub>O, 263 μmol), *tert*-butyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1a**) (175 μmol, 50.0 mg) and palladium(II) acetate (17.5 μmol, 4.00 mg) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (2.0 mL) is stirred for 5 min. To this mixture a solution of methyl acrylate (700 μmol, 190 μL), 2,5-dimethylfuran (700 μmol, 74.0 μL) and trifluoroacetic acid (100 μL) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (0.5 mL) is added and stirred for 10 minutes. The solvent is removed under reduced pressure. 1-(4-Bromophenyl)-3,6-dimethylpyridazinium trifluoroacetate is obtained in quantitative yield. Trace amounts of **4aa** can be identified in <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and GC-MS analysis.



**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR** (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) = 2.77 (s, 3 H), 2.81 (s, 3 H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2 H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2 H), 8.22 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1 H), 8.36 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2 H).

Analytical data is in agreement with those reported in literature<sup>1</sup>

Experiment with excess of benzene:

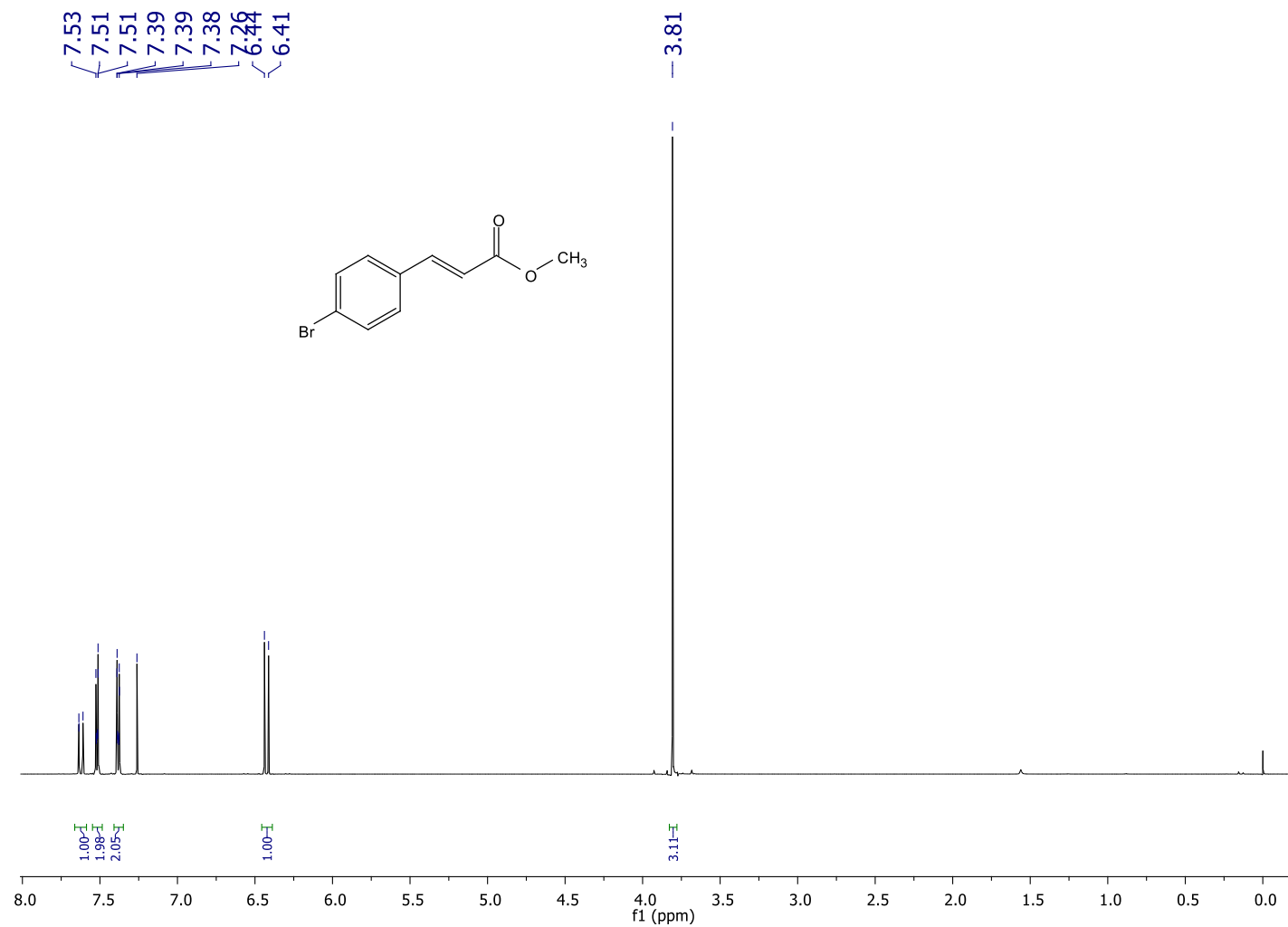
Tetrabutylammonium hydroxide solution (1.5 M in H<sub>2</sub>O, 263 μmol) is added to a solution of *tert*-butyl 2-(4-bromophenyl)azocarboxylate (**1a**) (175 μmol, 50.0 mg) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (0.8 mL) and stirred for 5 min. This mixture is added to a solution of silver(I) acetate (350 μmol, 58.0 mg), palladium(II) acetate (17.5 μmol, 4.00 mg) and benzene (1.0 mL) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN/acetic acid (0.2 mL/1.0 mL) over 45 min with a syringe pump. The solvent is removed under reduced pressure. 4-Bromobiphenyl could not be detected via GC-MS and NMR analysis.

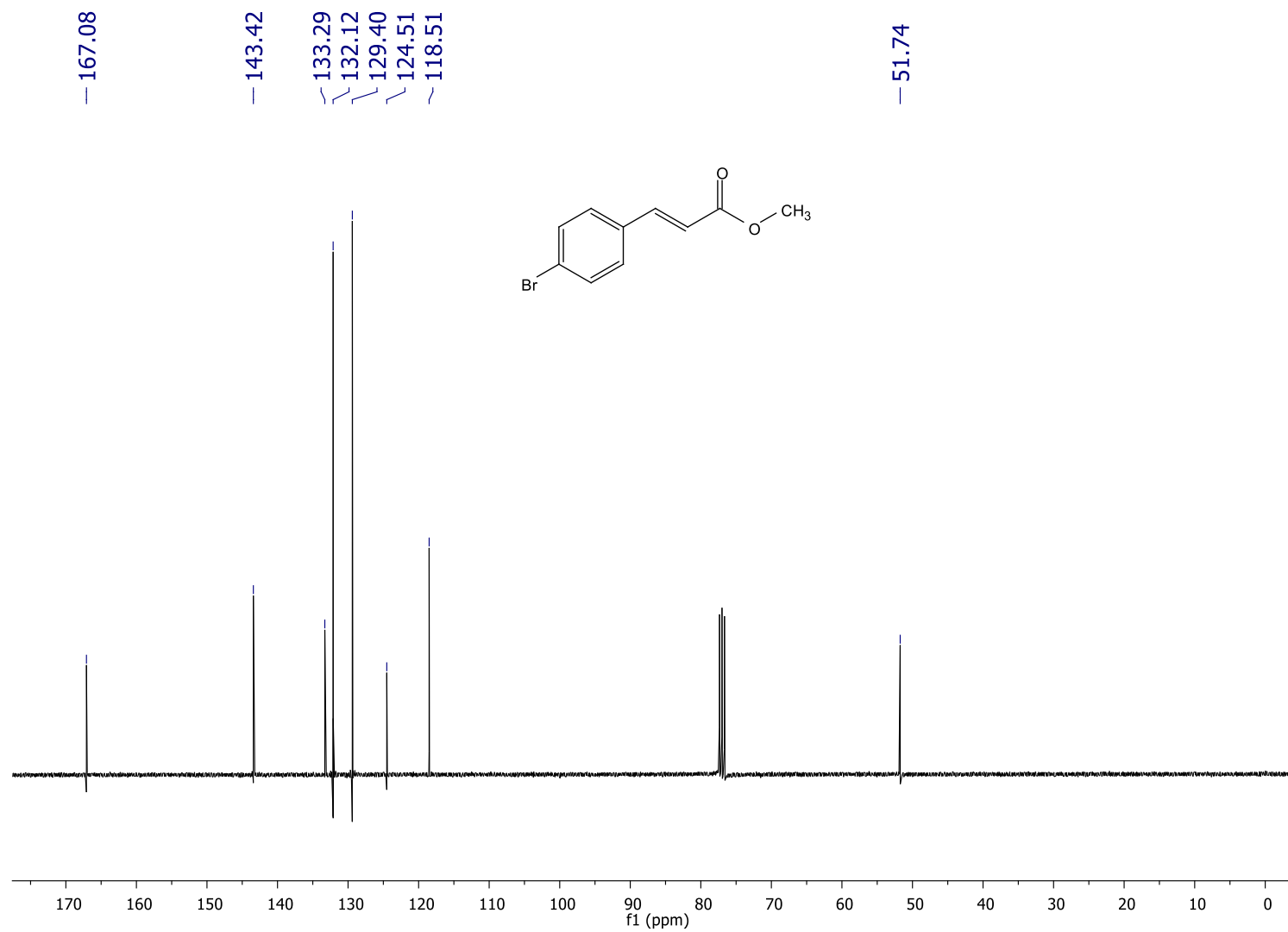
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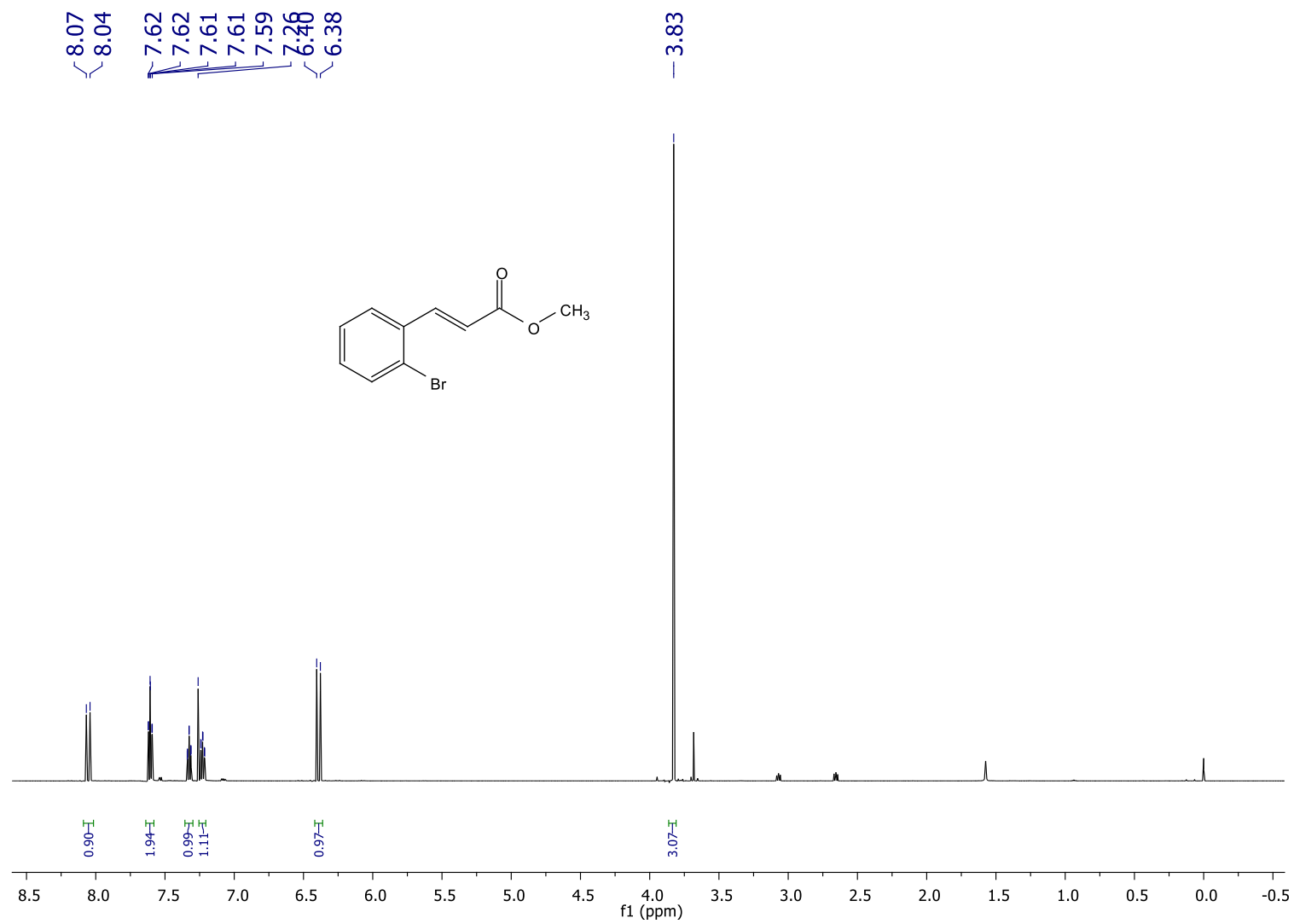
## 1.7 Copies of $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ spectra

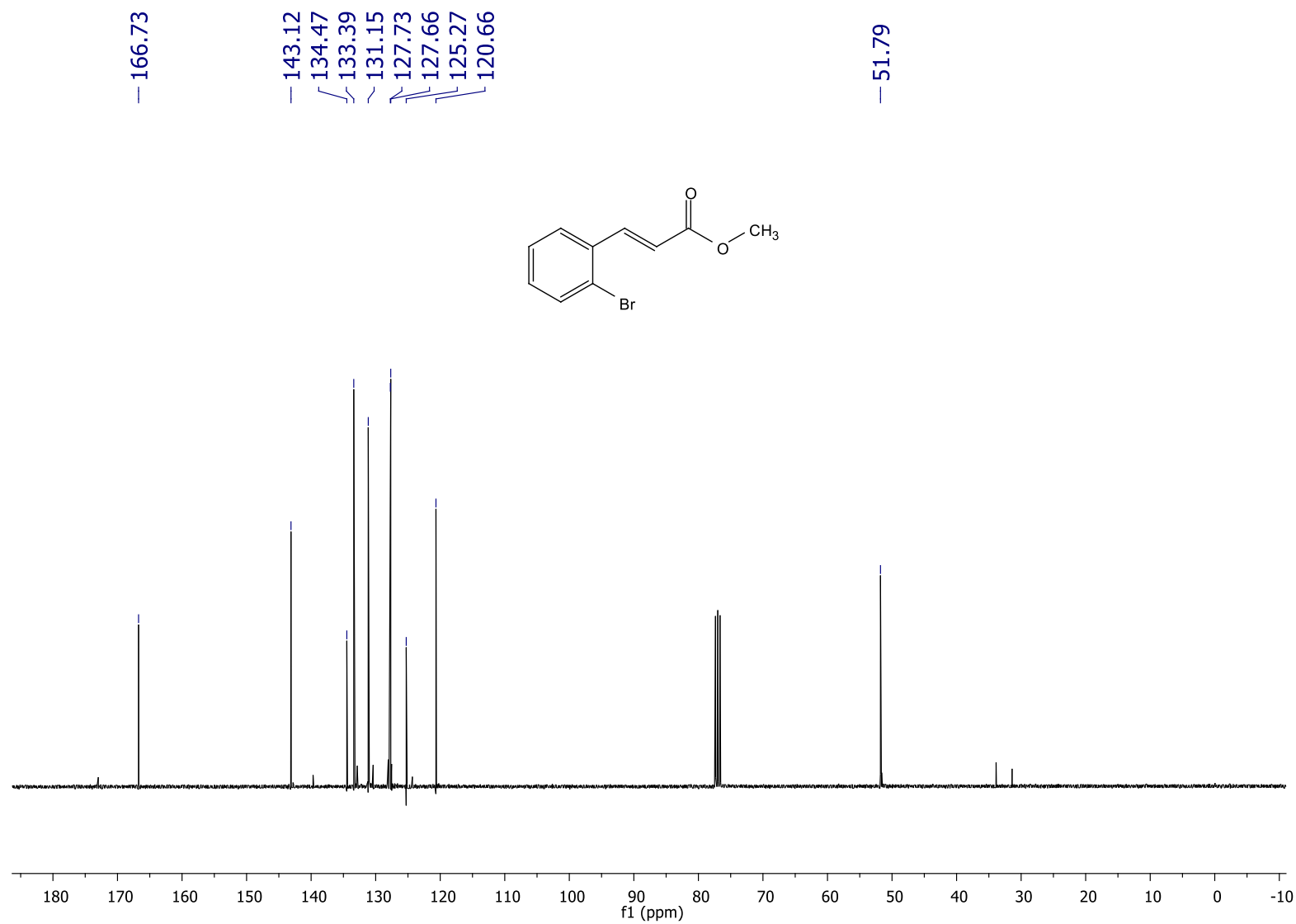
Methyl 4-bromocinnamate (**4aa**)





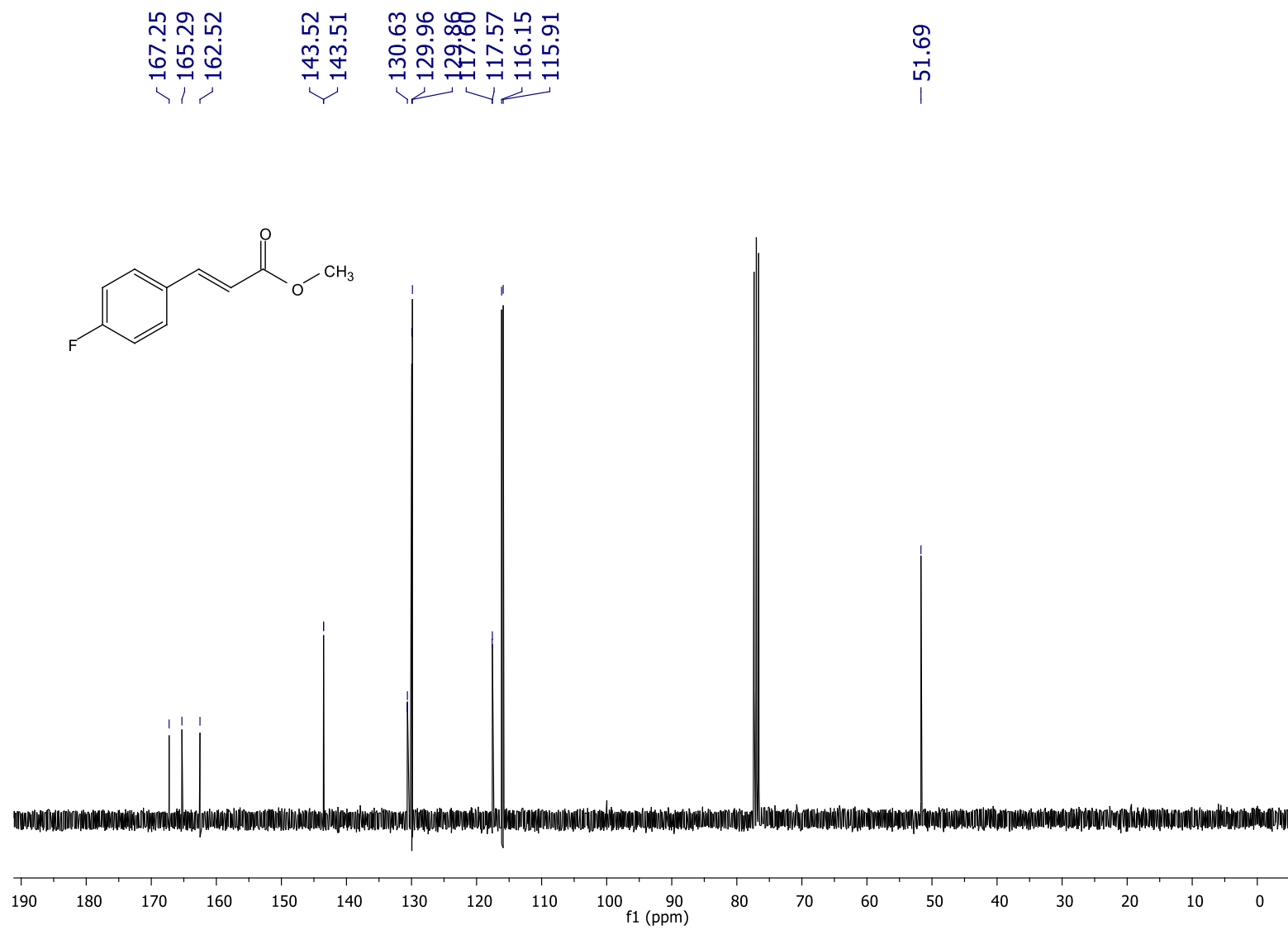
Methyl 2-bromocinnamate (**4ba**)





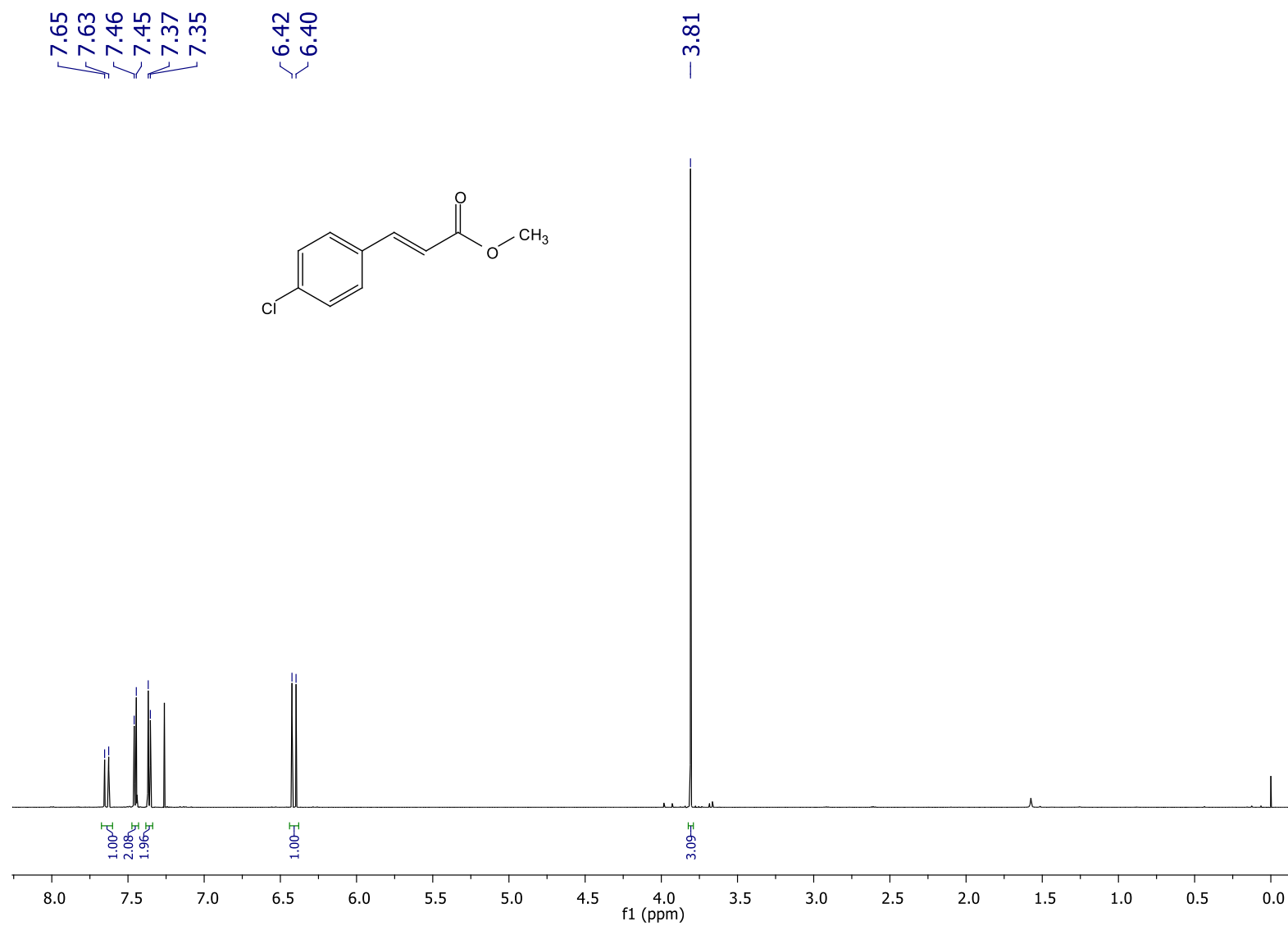
Methyl 4-fluorocinnamate (**4ca**)

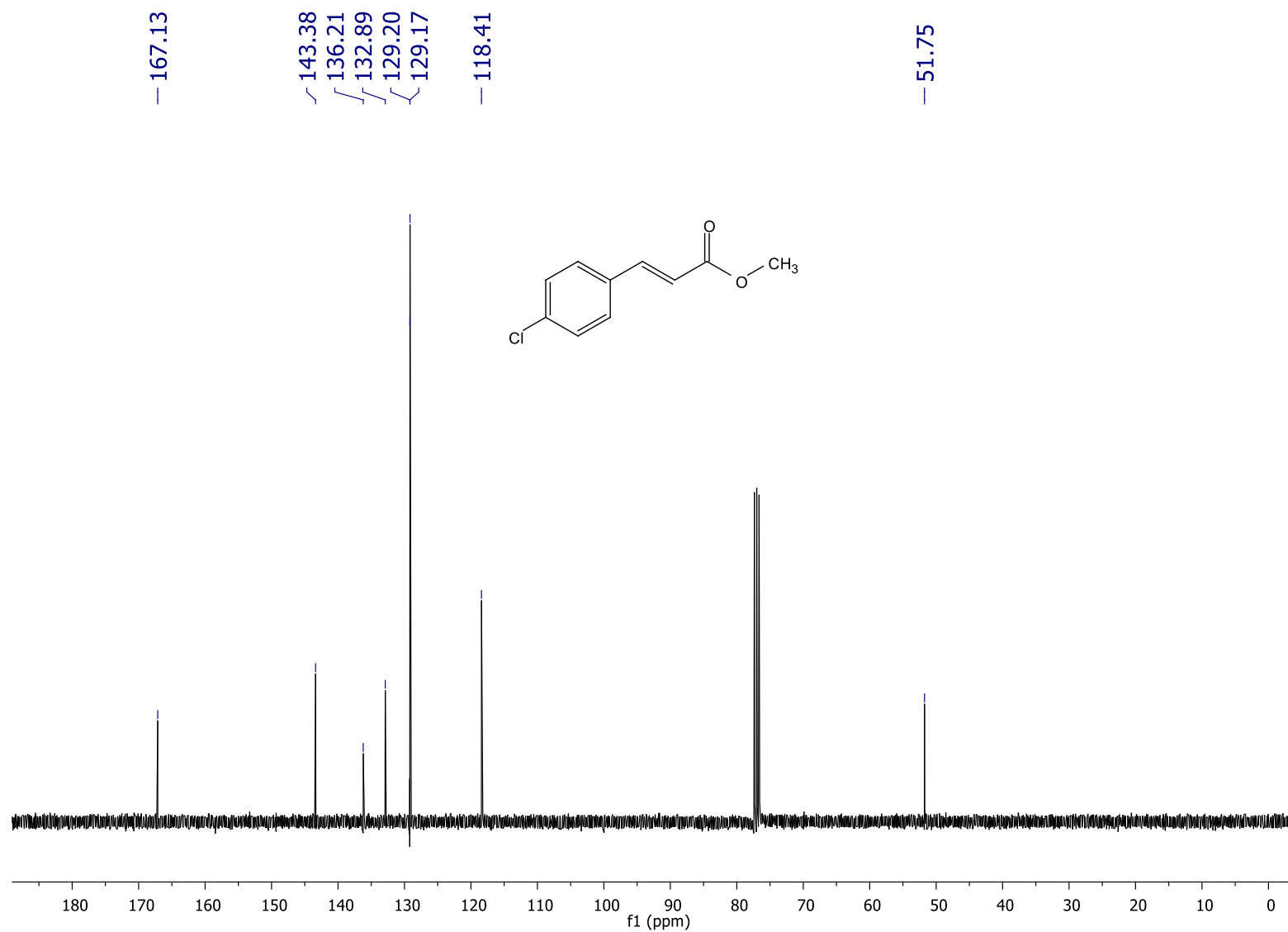






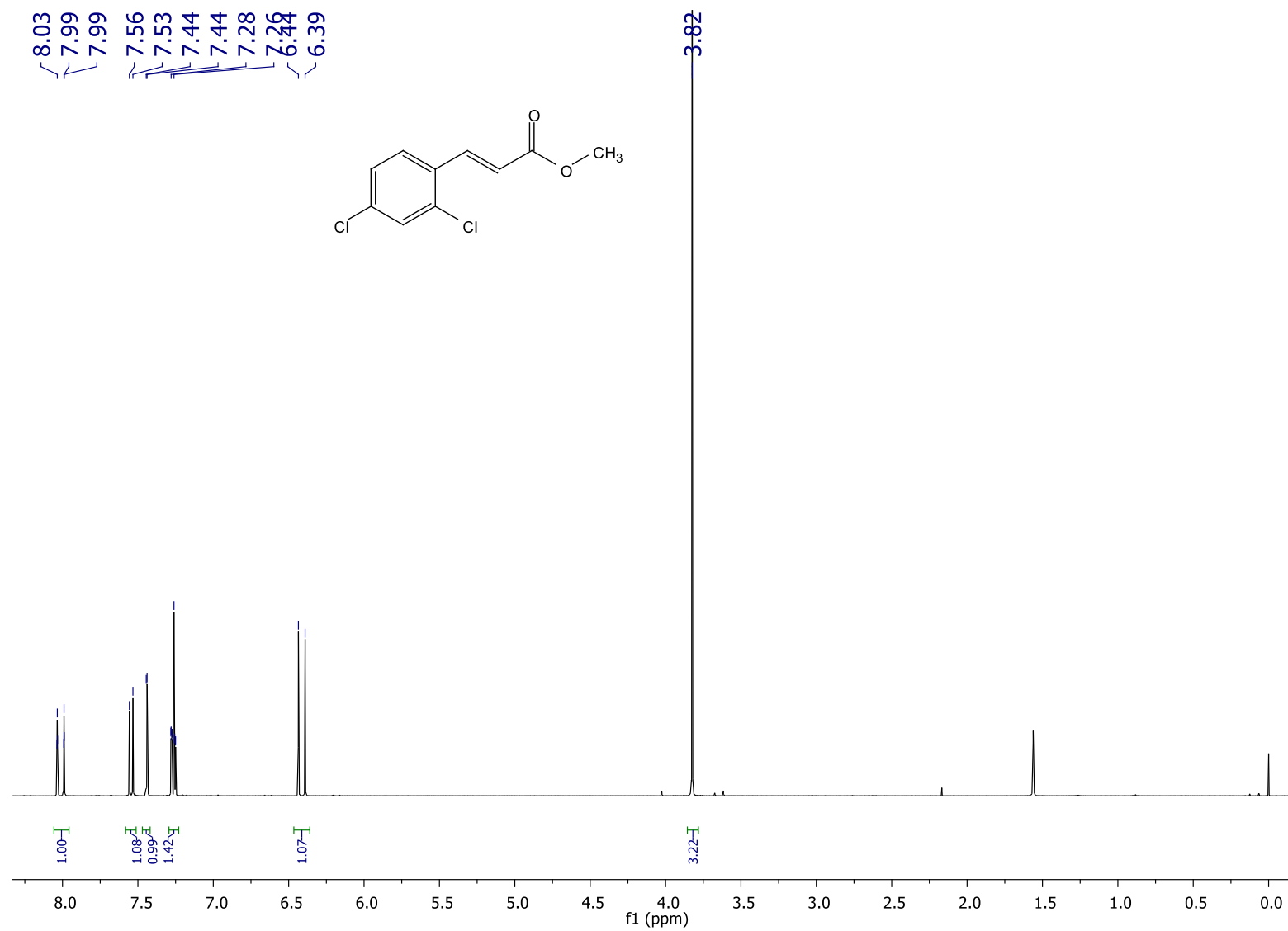
Methyl 4-chlorocinnamate (**4da**)

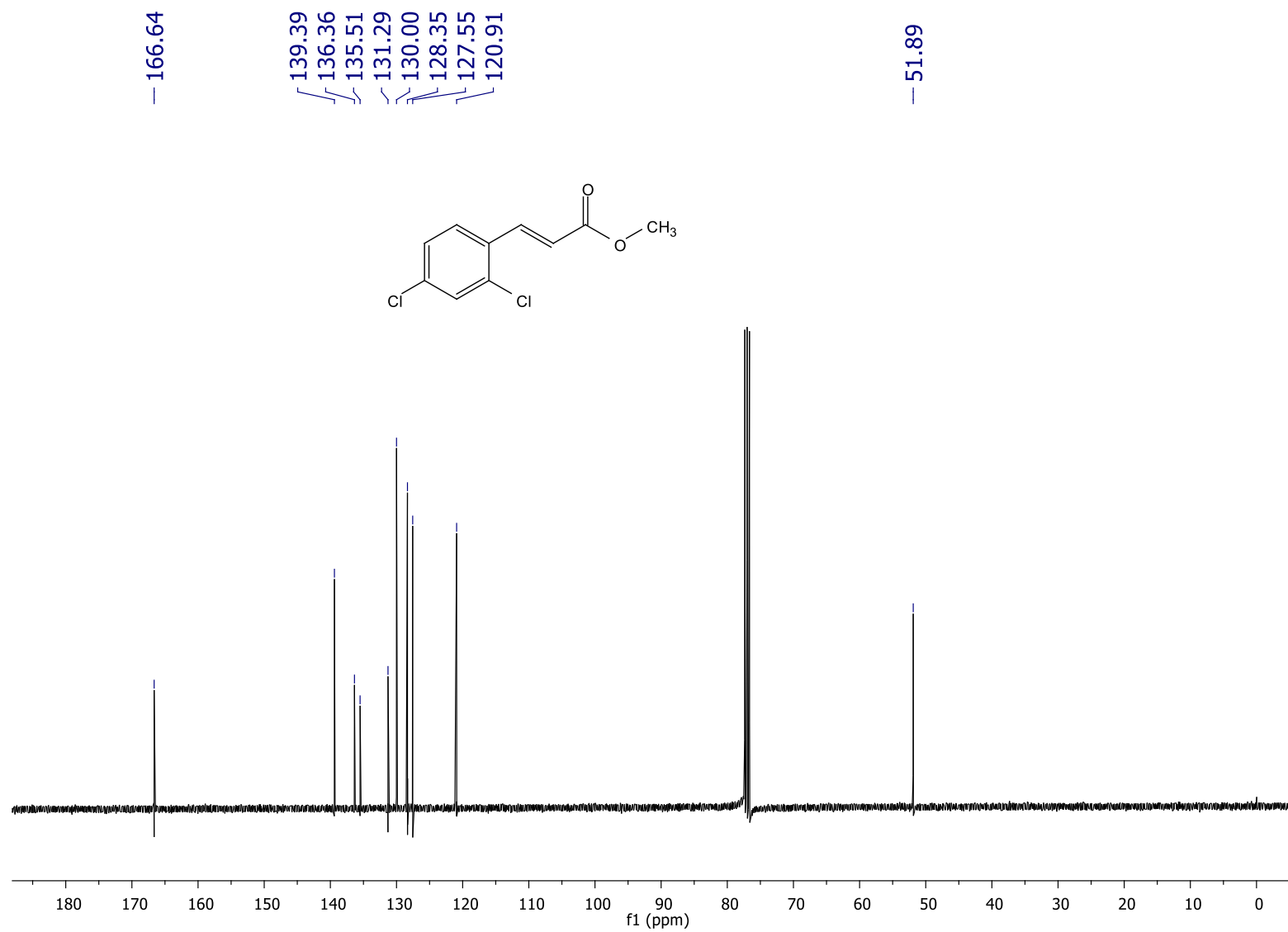




S50

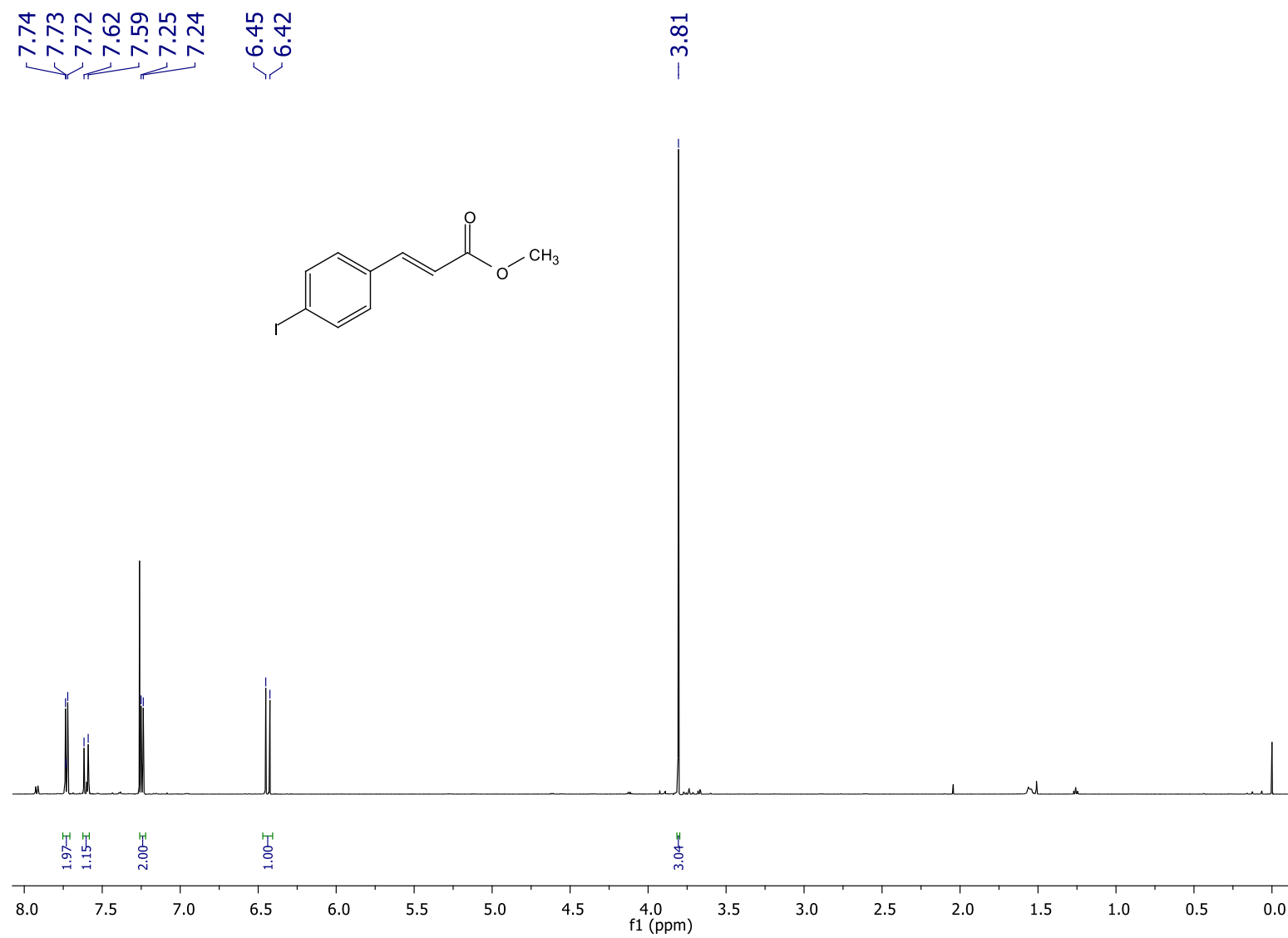
Methyl 2,4-dichlorocinnamate (**4ea**)

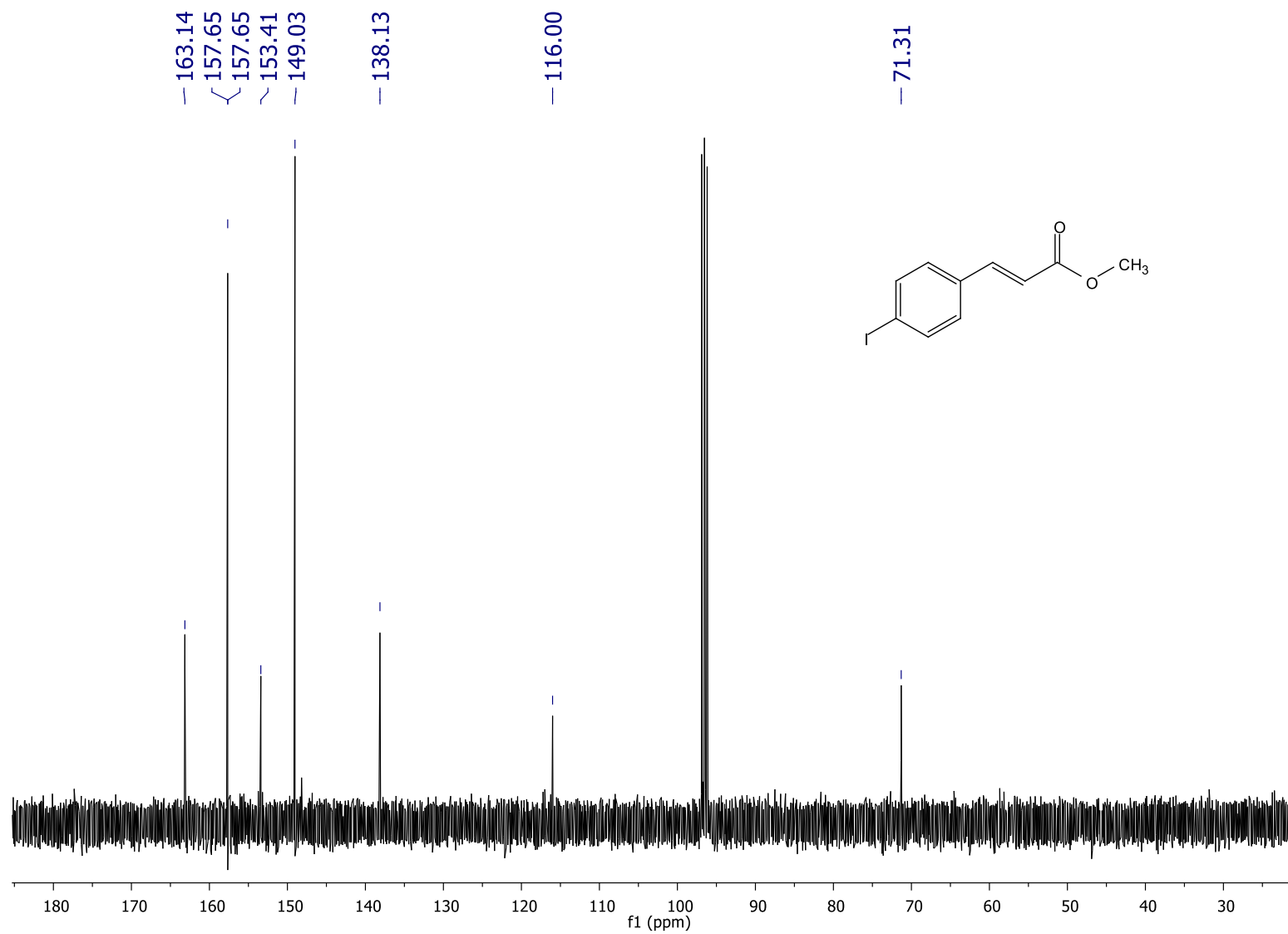




S52

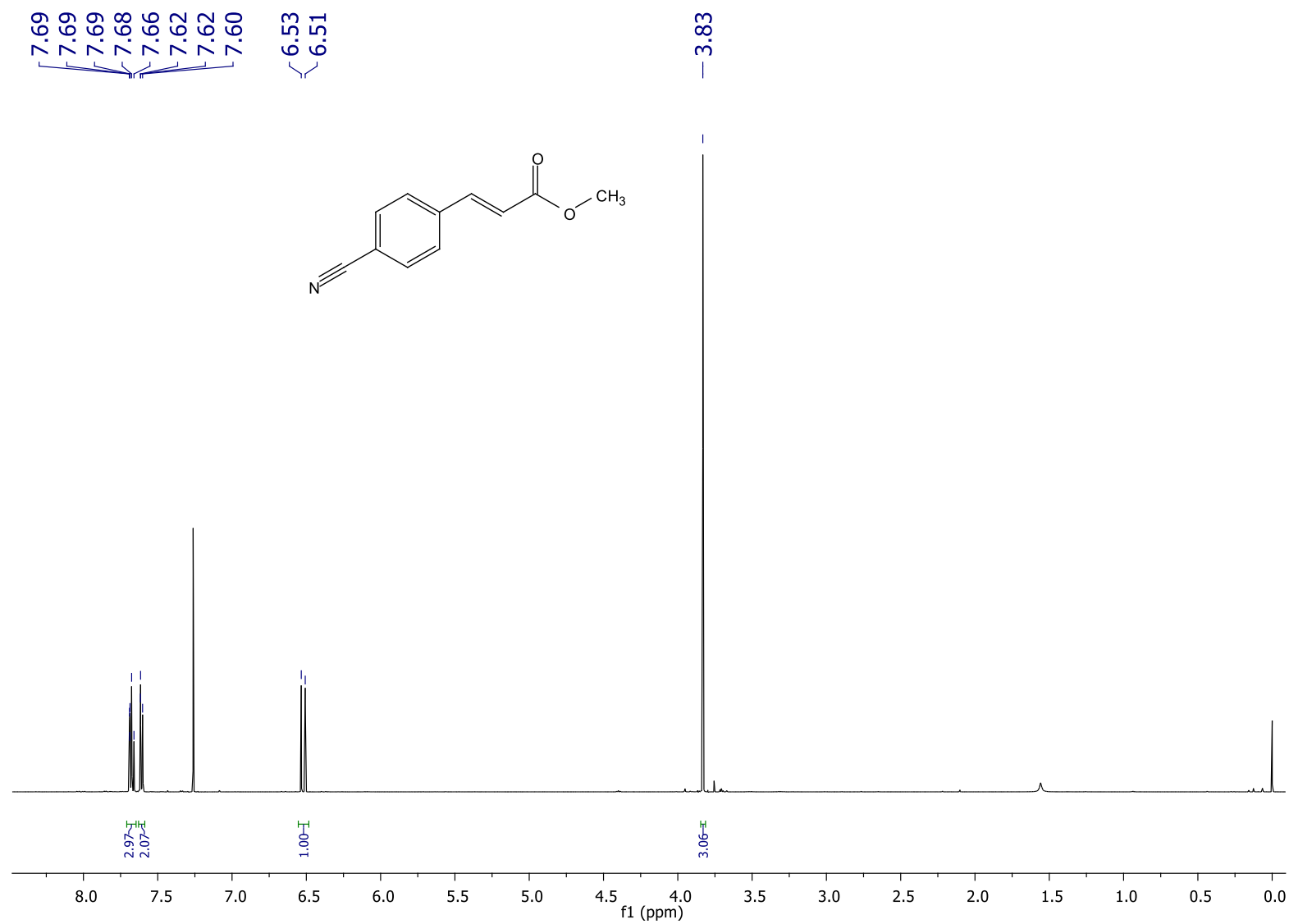
Methyl 4-iodocinnamate (**4fa**)

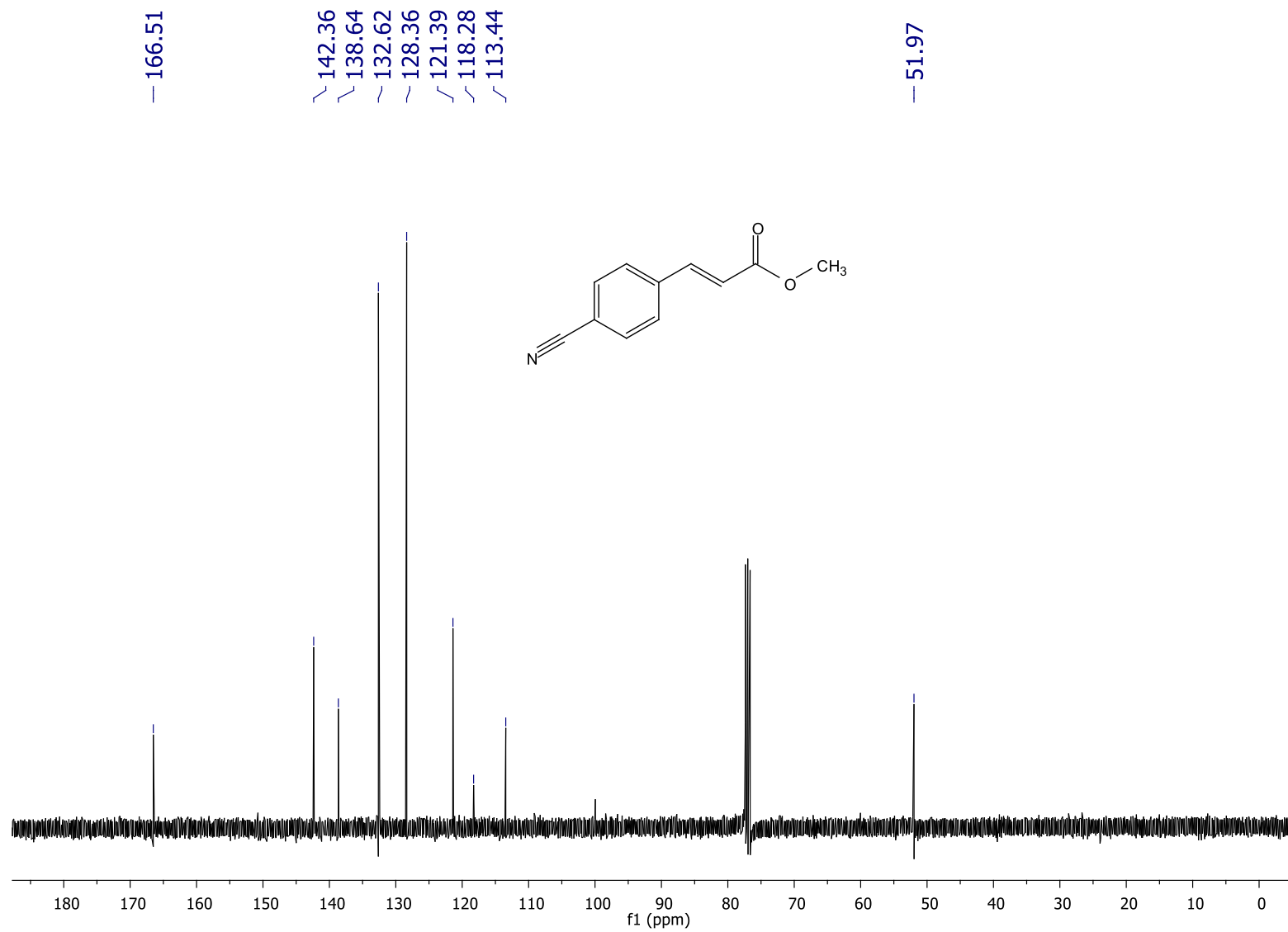




S54

Methyl 4-cyanocinnamate (**4ga**)

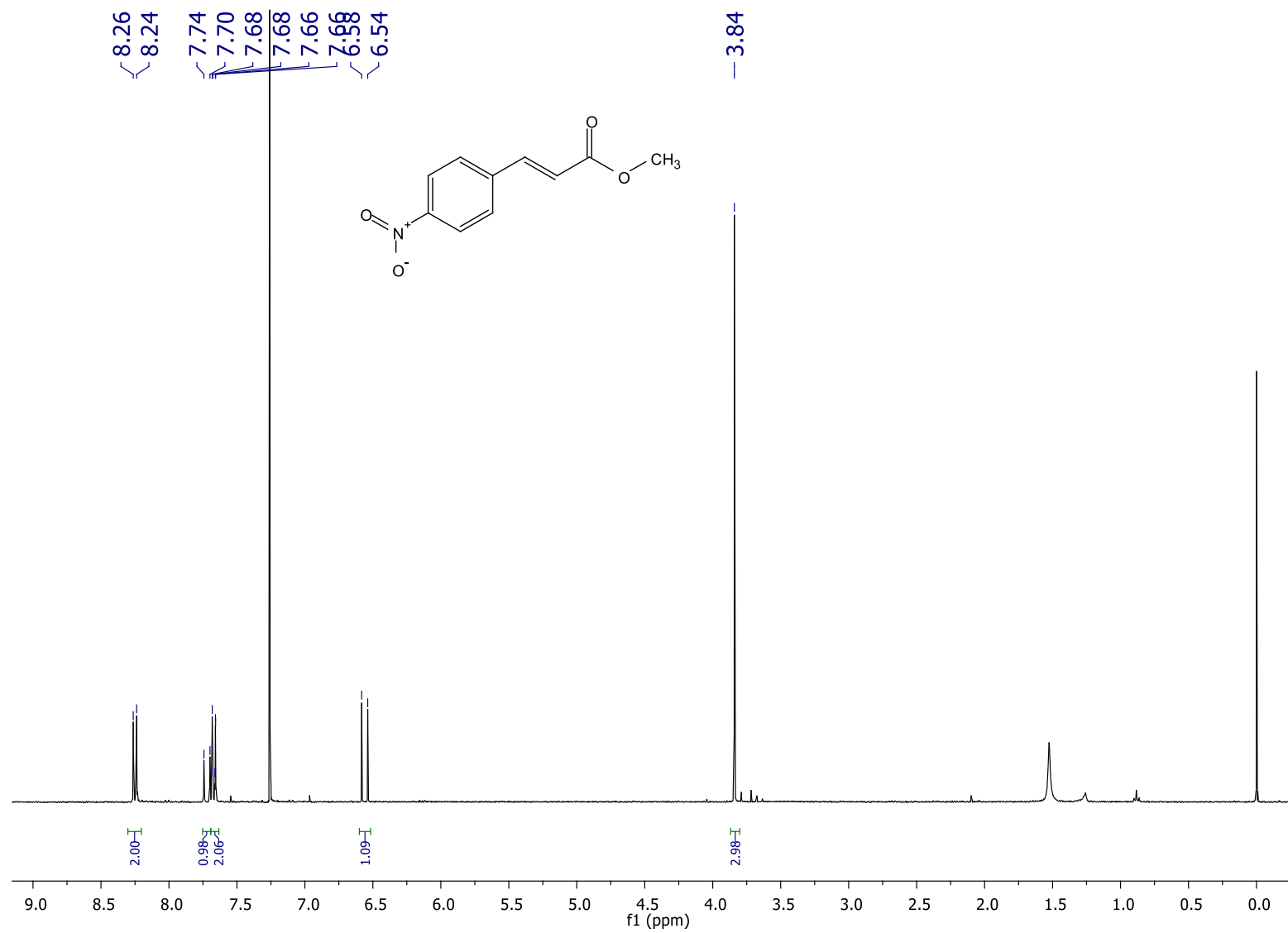


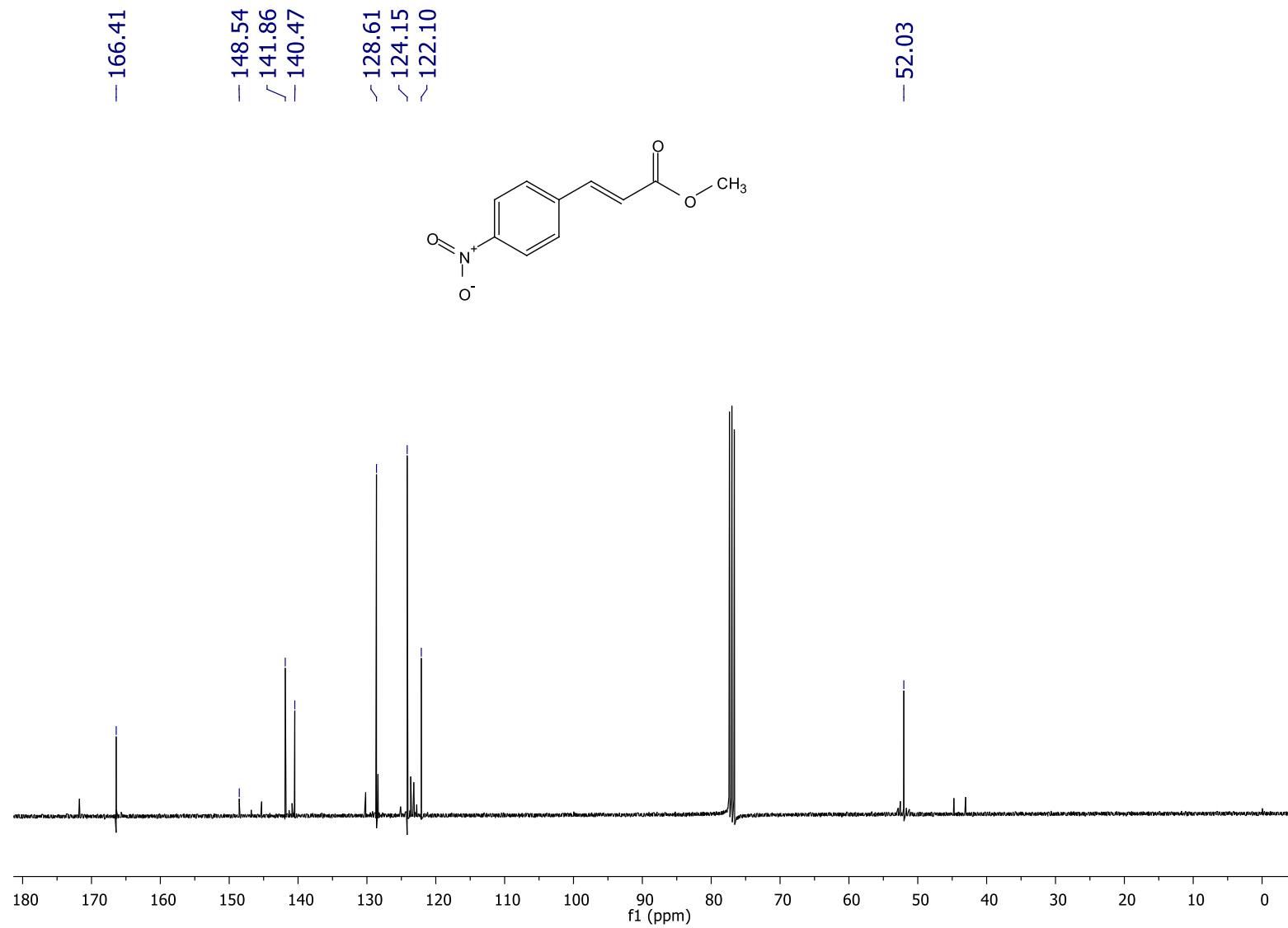


S56

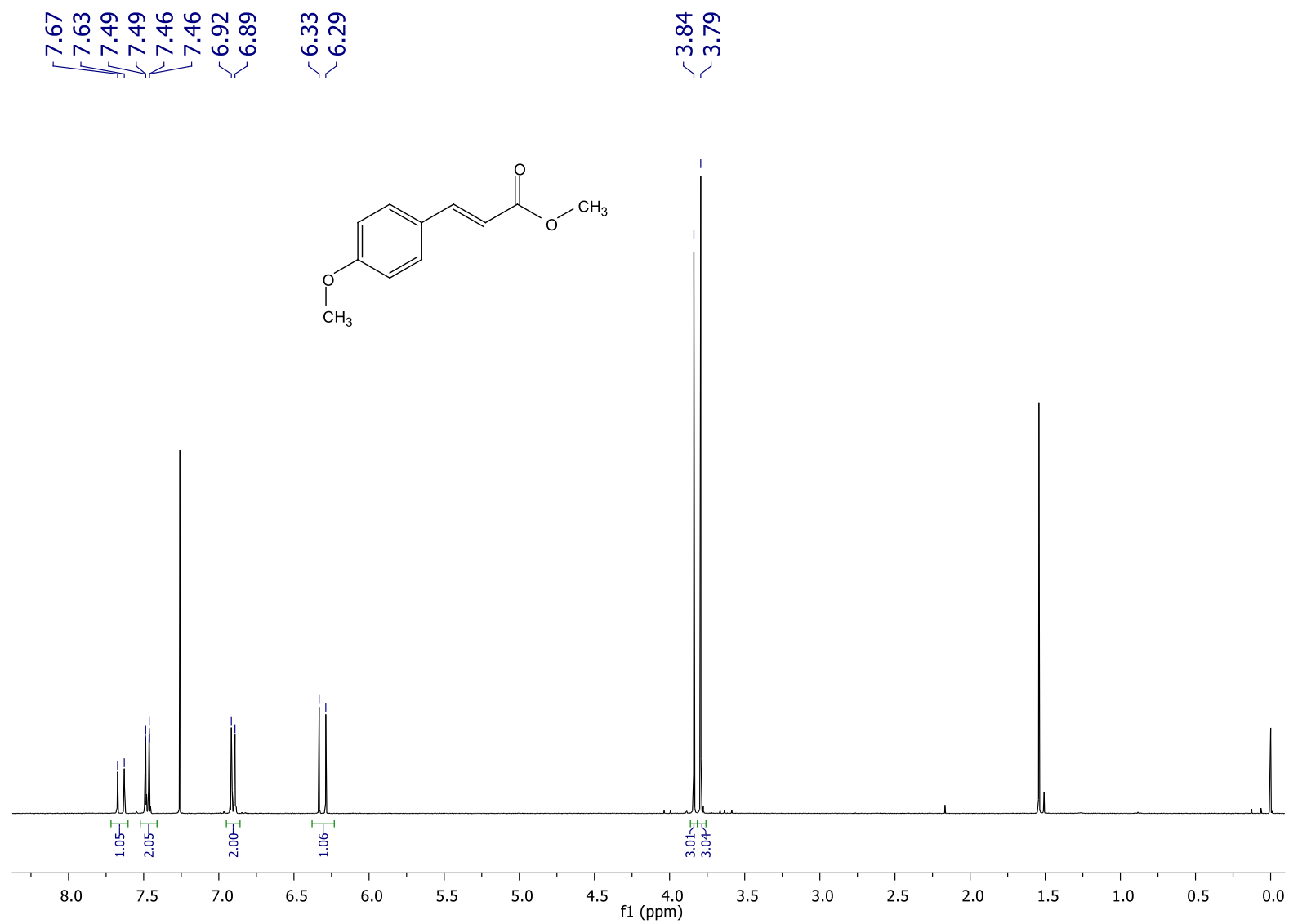


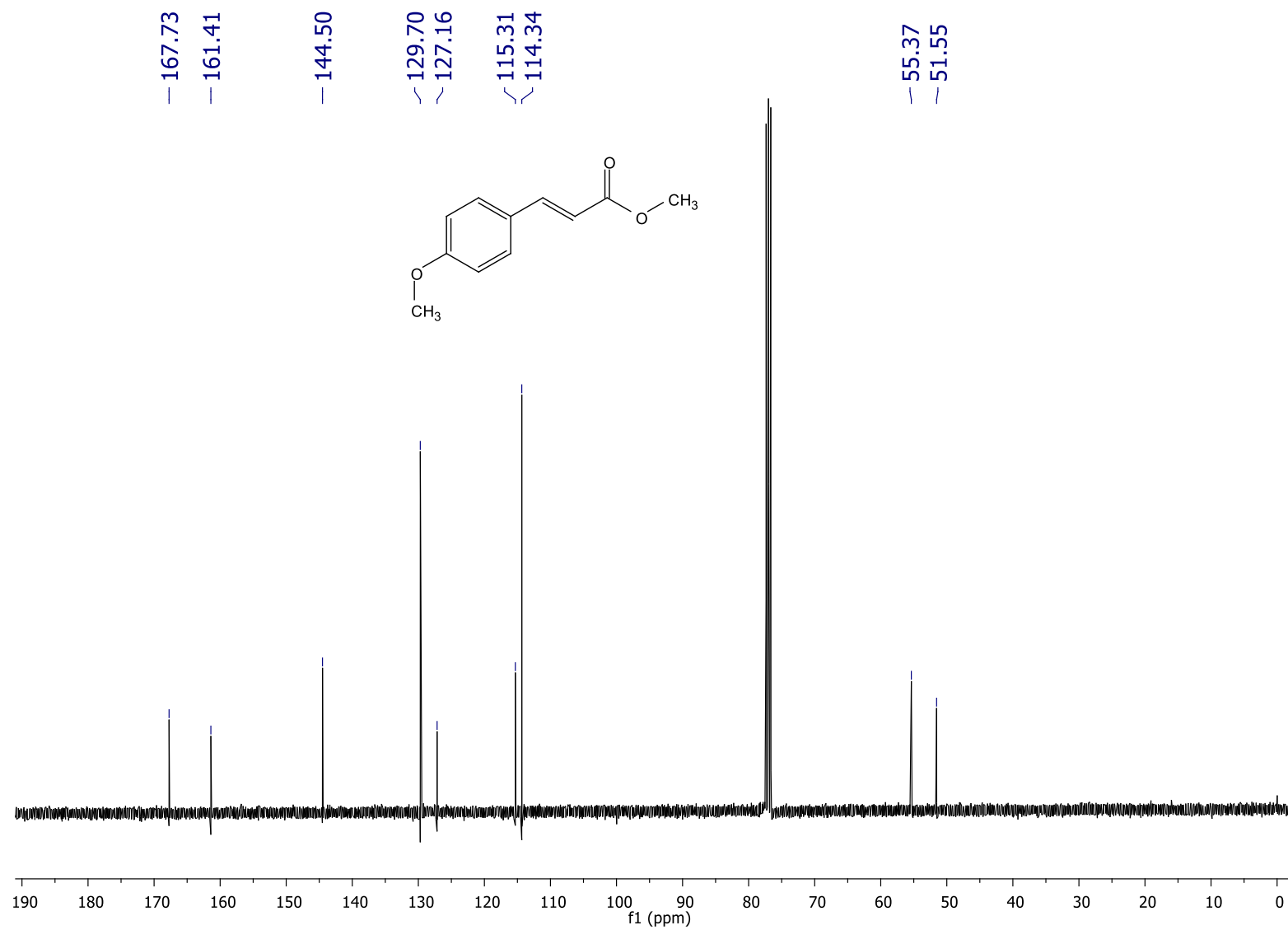
Methyl 4-nitrocinnamate (**4ha**)



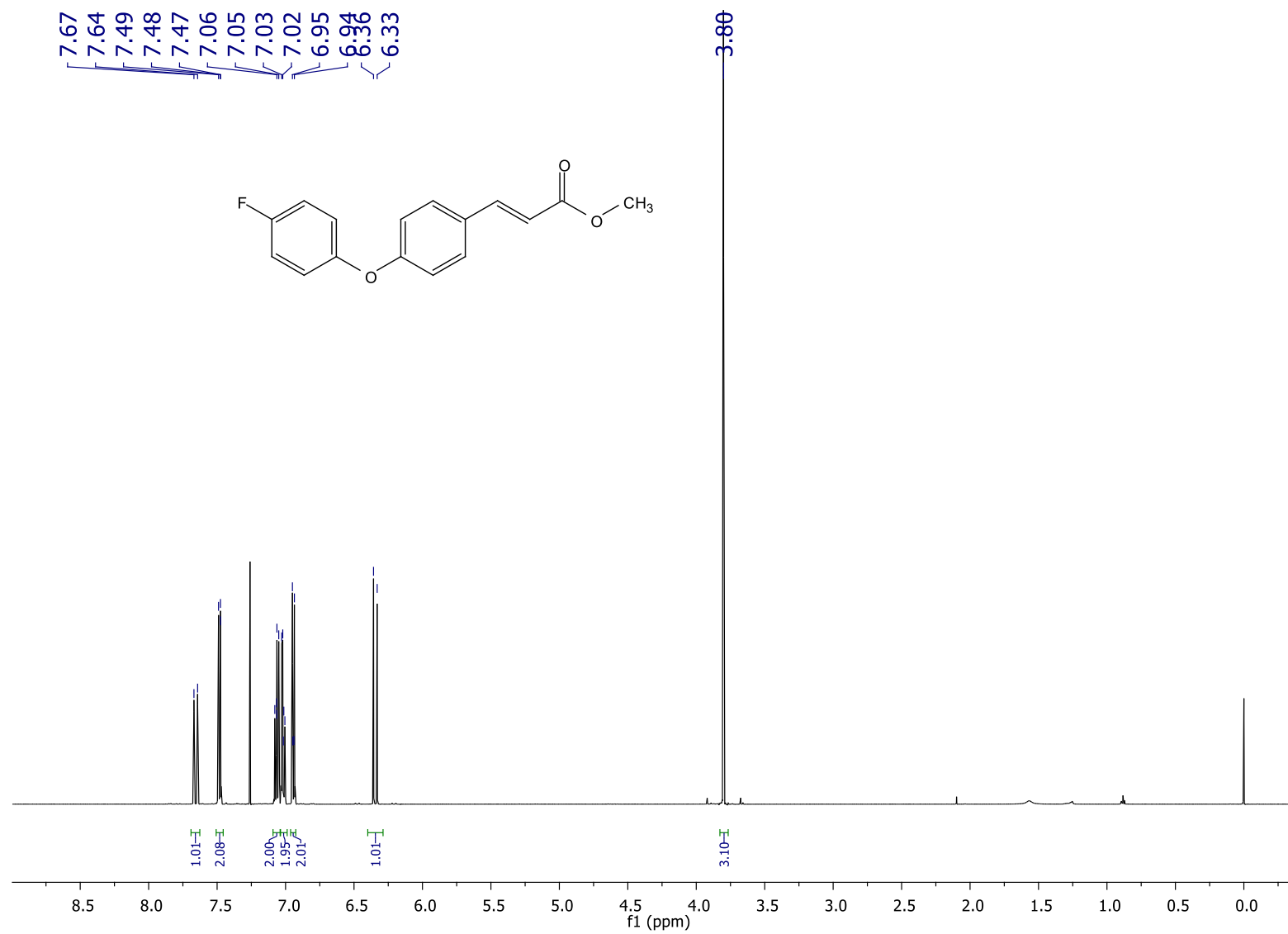


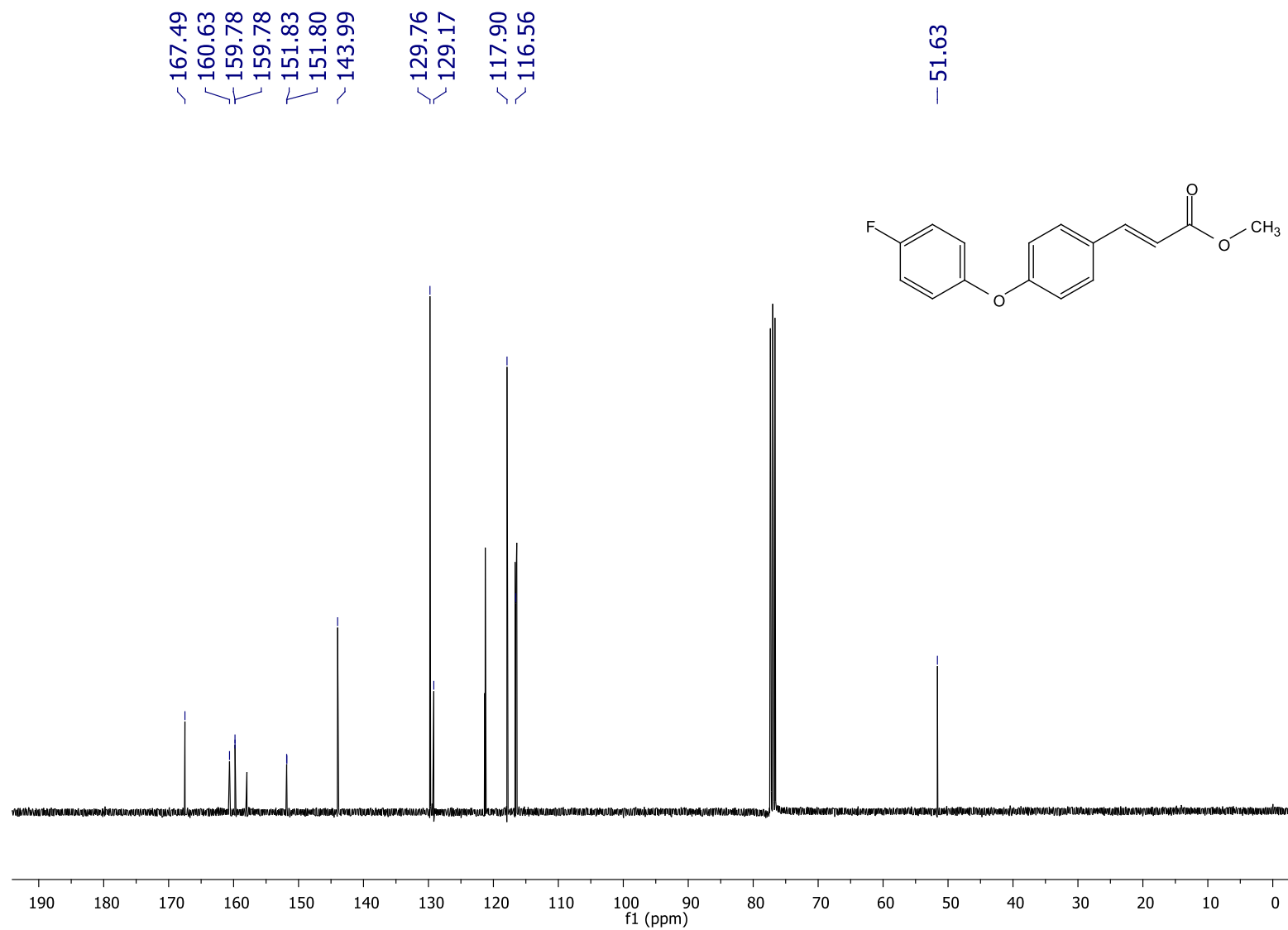
Methyl 4-methoxycinnamate (**4ia**)



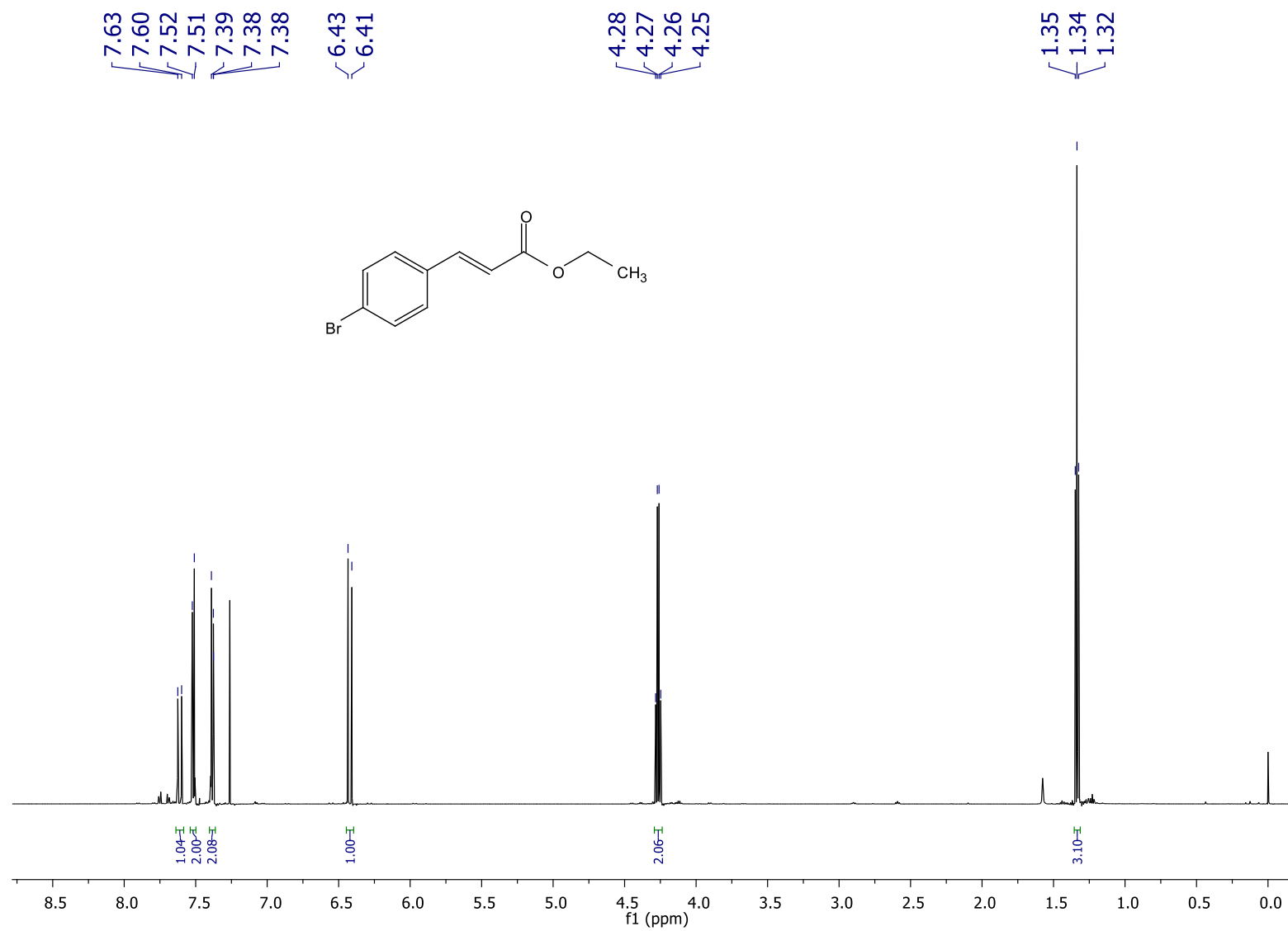


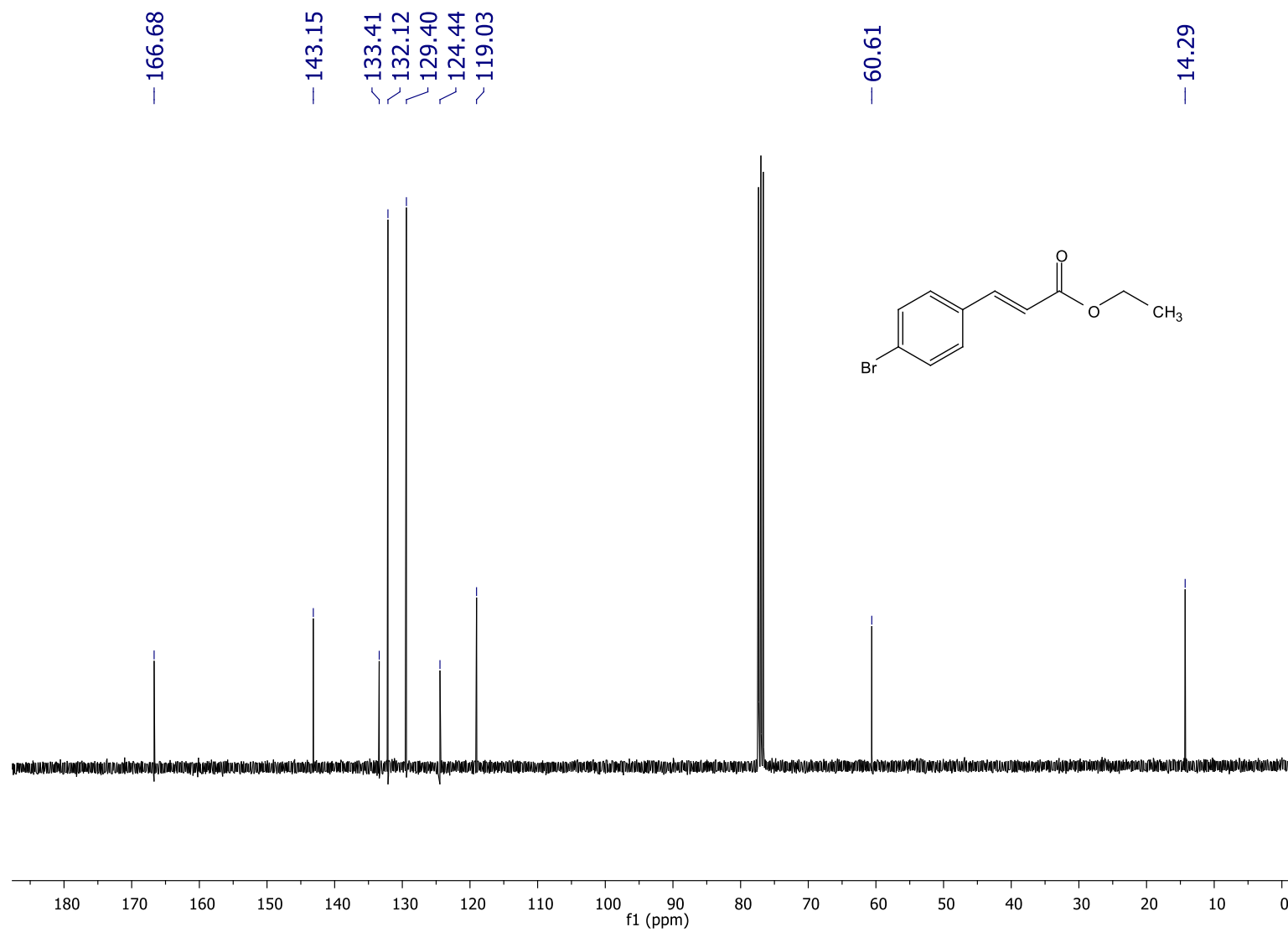
Methyl 4-(4-fluorophenoxy)cinnamate (**4ja**)





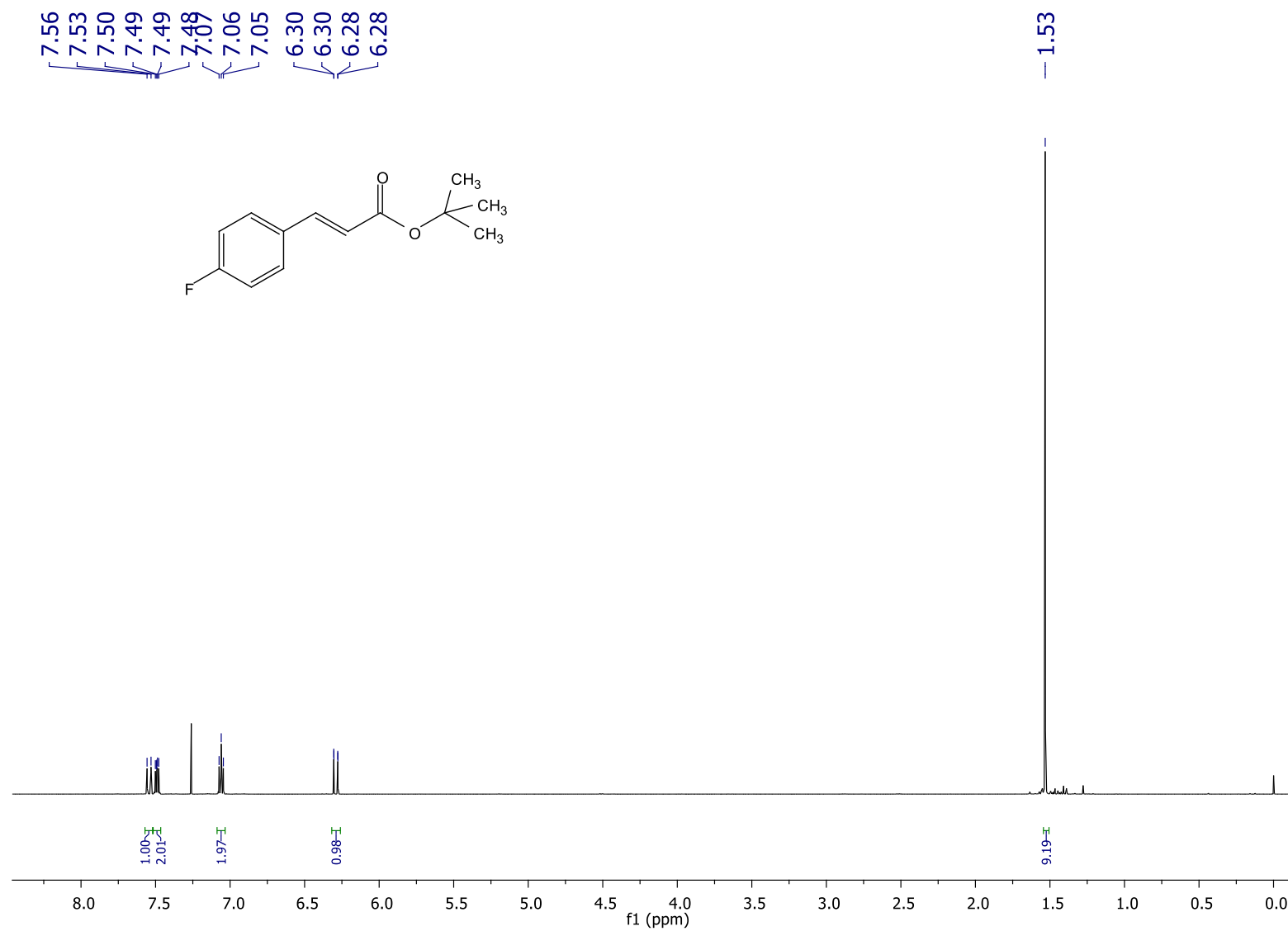
Ethyl 4-bromocinnamate (**4ab**)

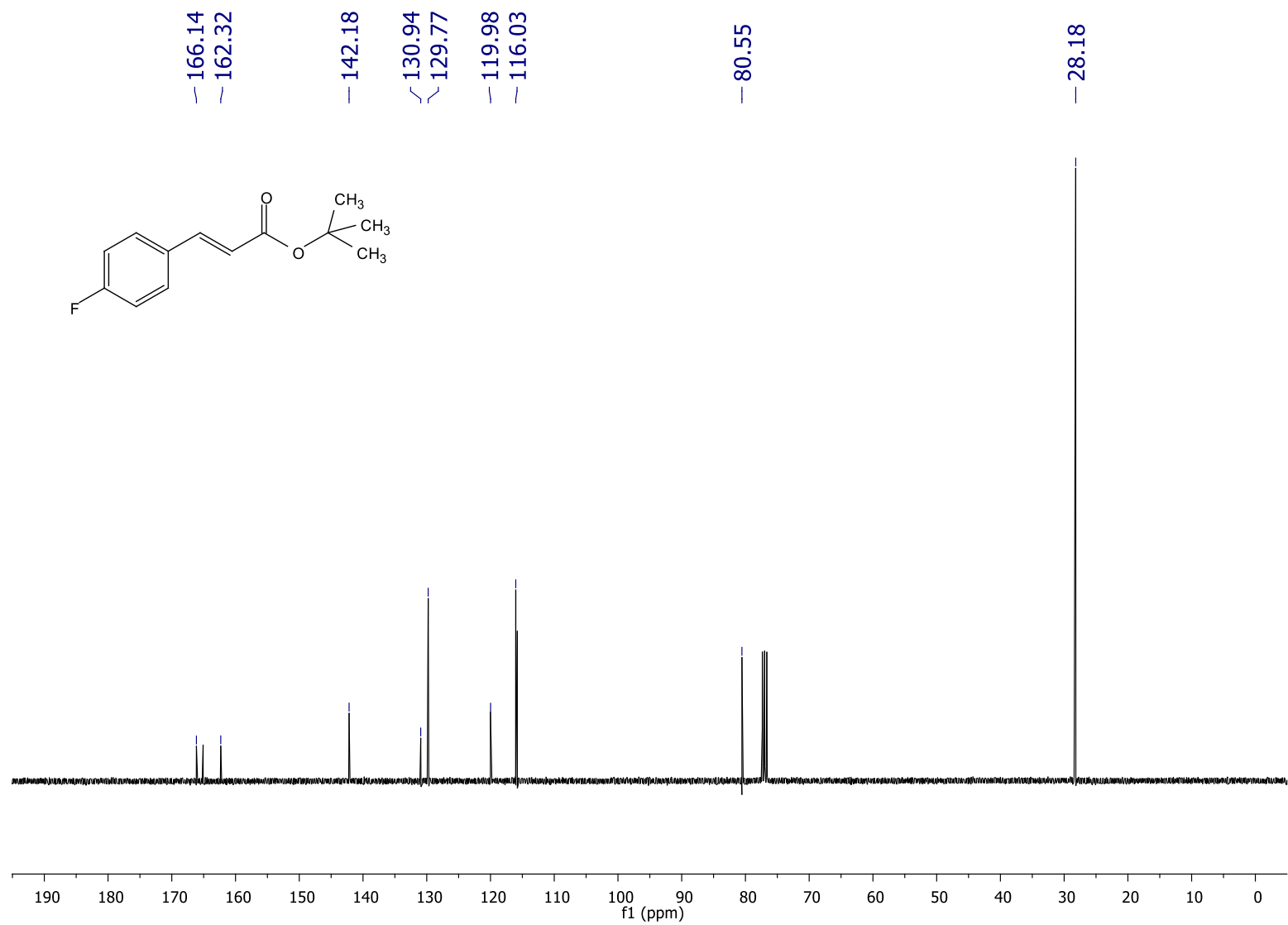
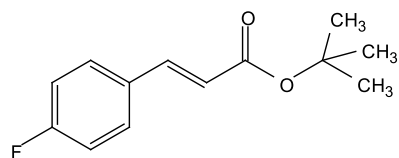




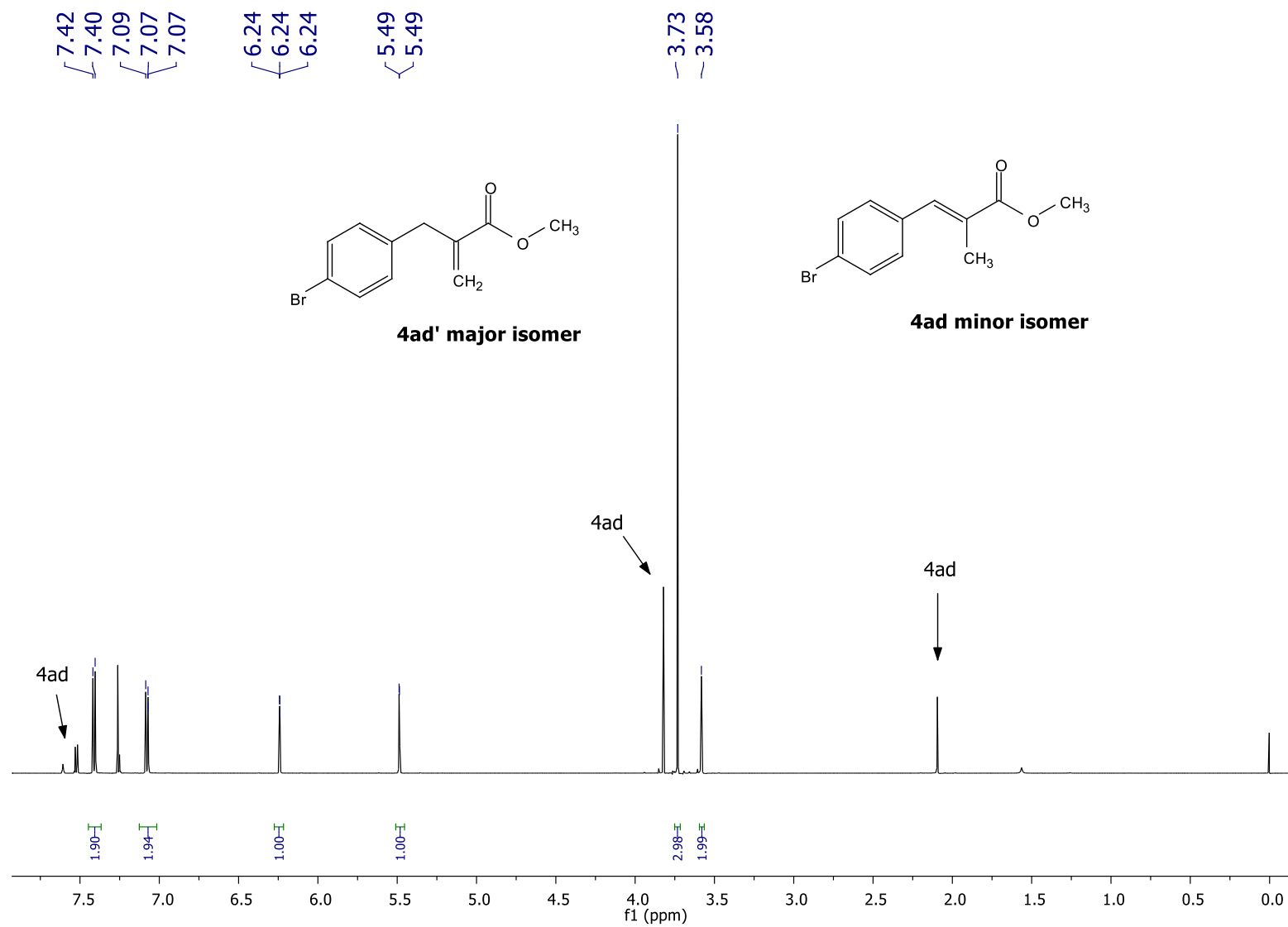


*tert*-Butyl 4-fluorocinnamate (**4cc**)



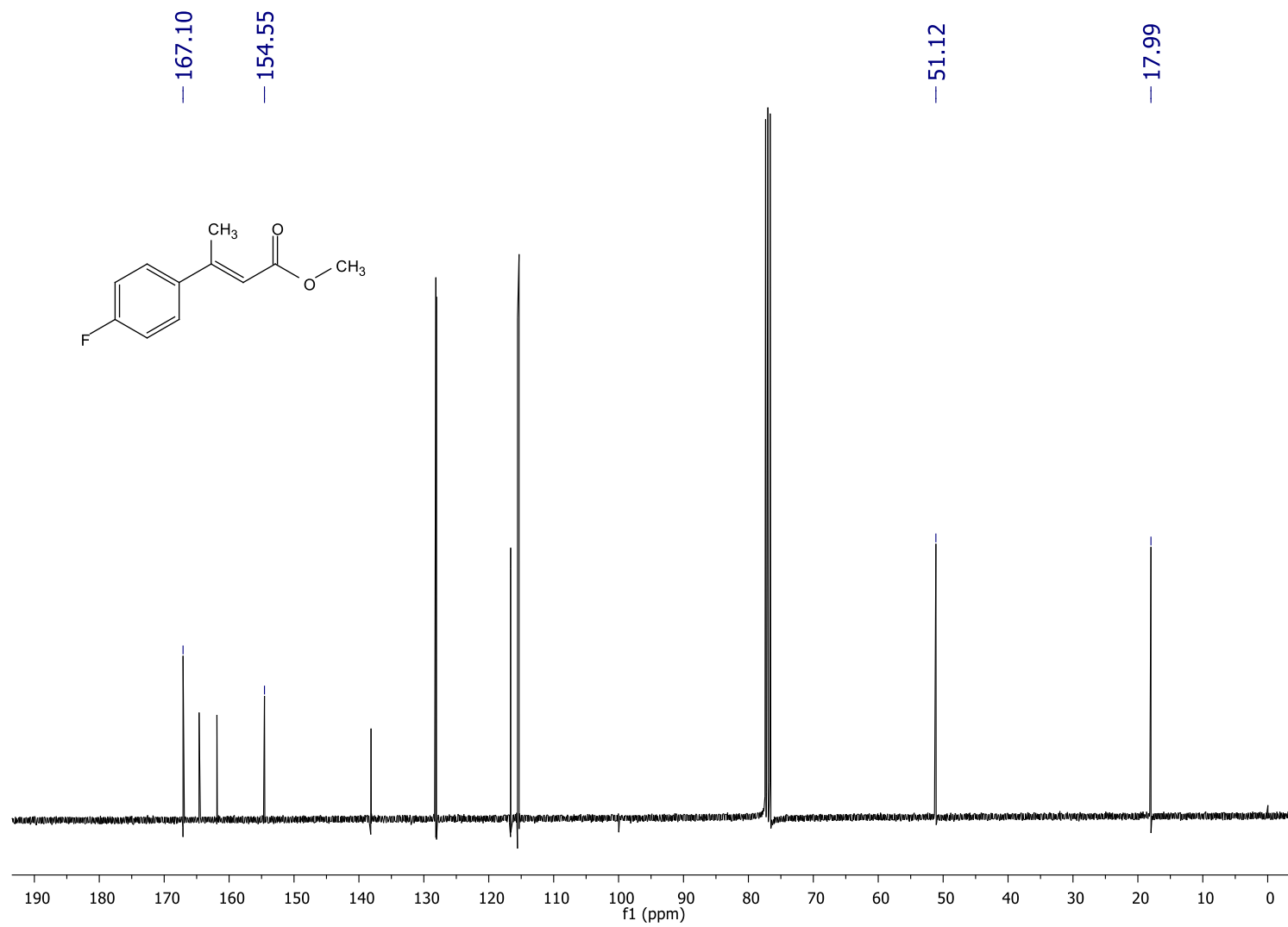


Methyl 2-(4-bromobenzyl)acrylate (**4ad'**) and methyl (*E*)-3-(4-bromophenyl)-3-methylacrylate (**4ad**)

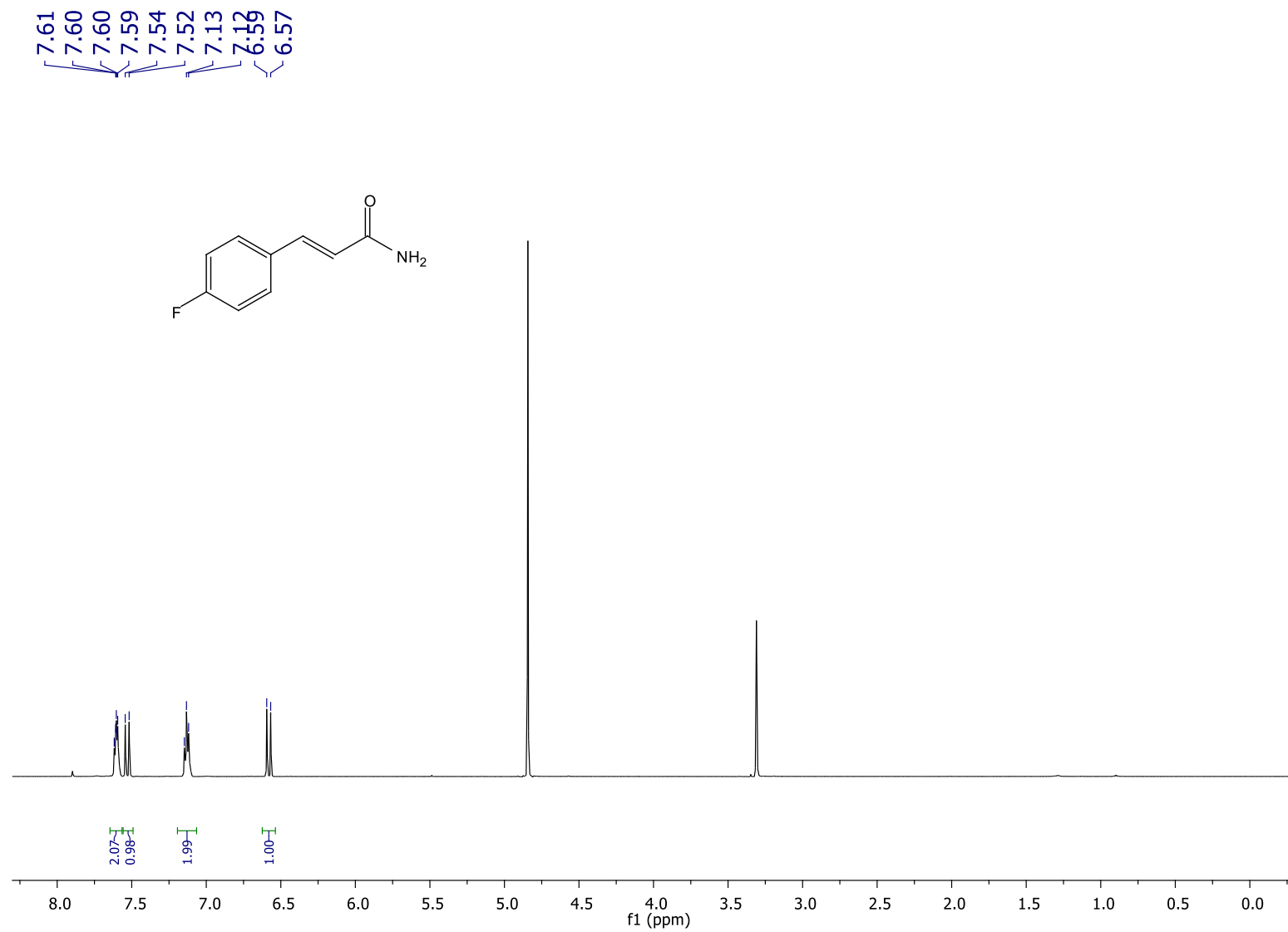


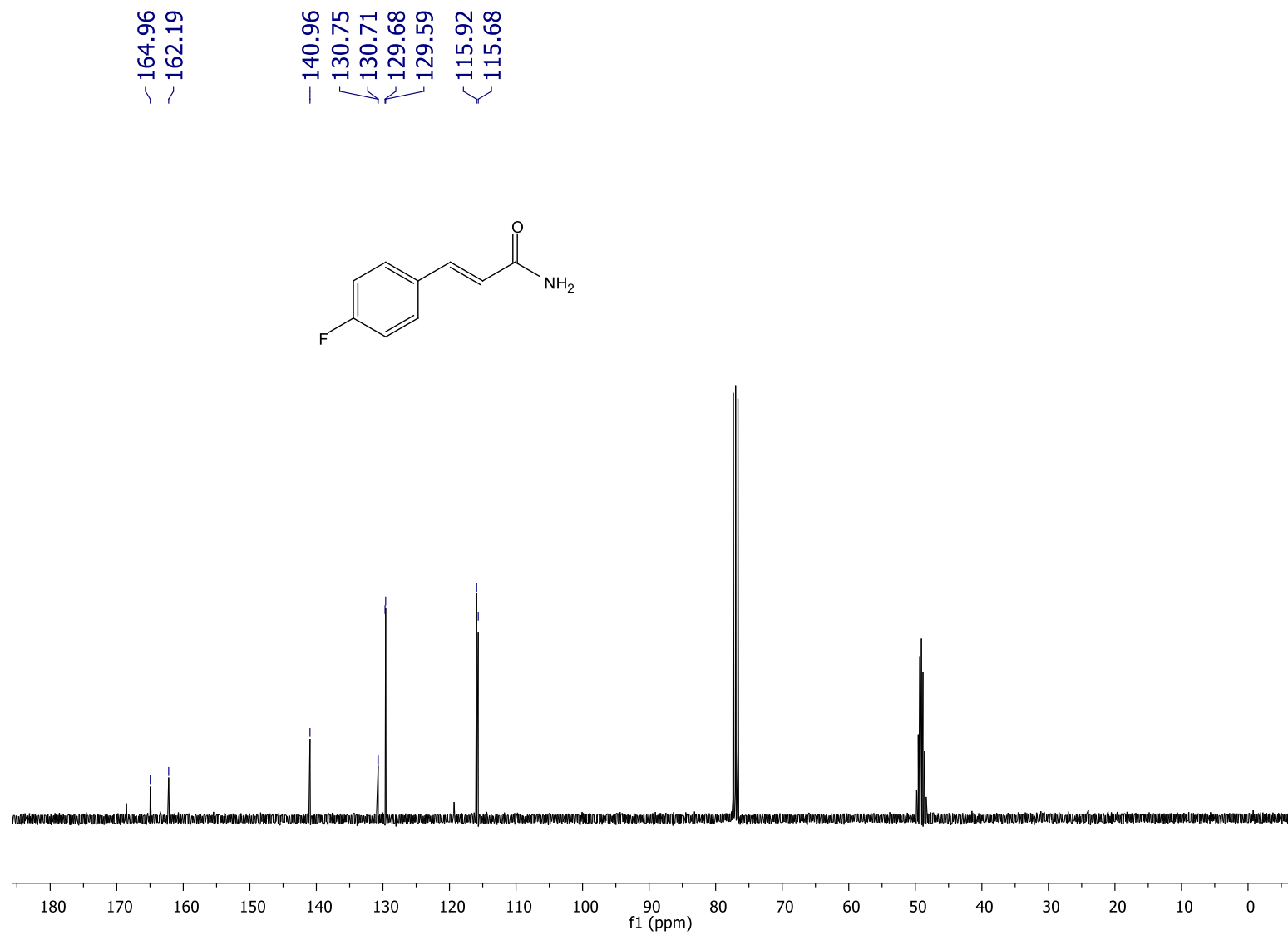
Methyl (*E*)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-methylacrylate (**4ce**)



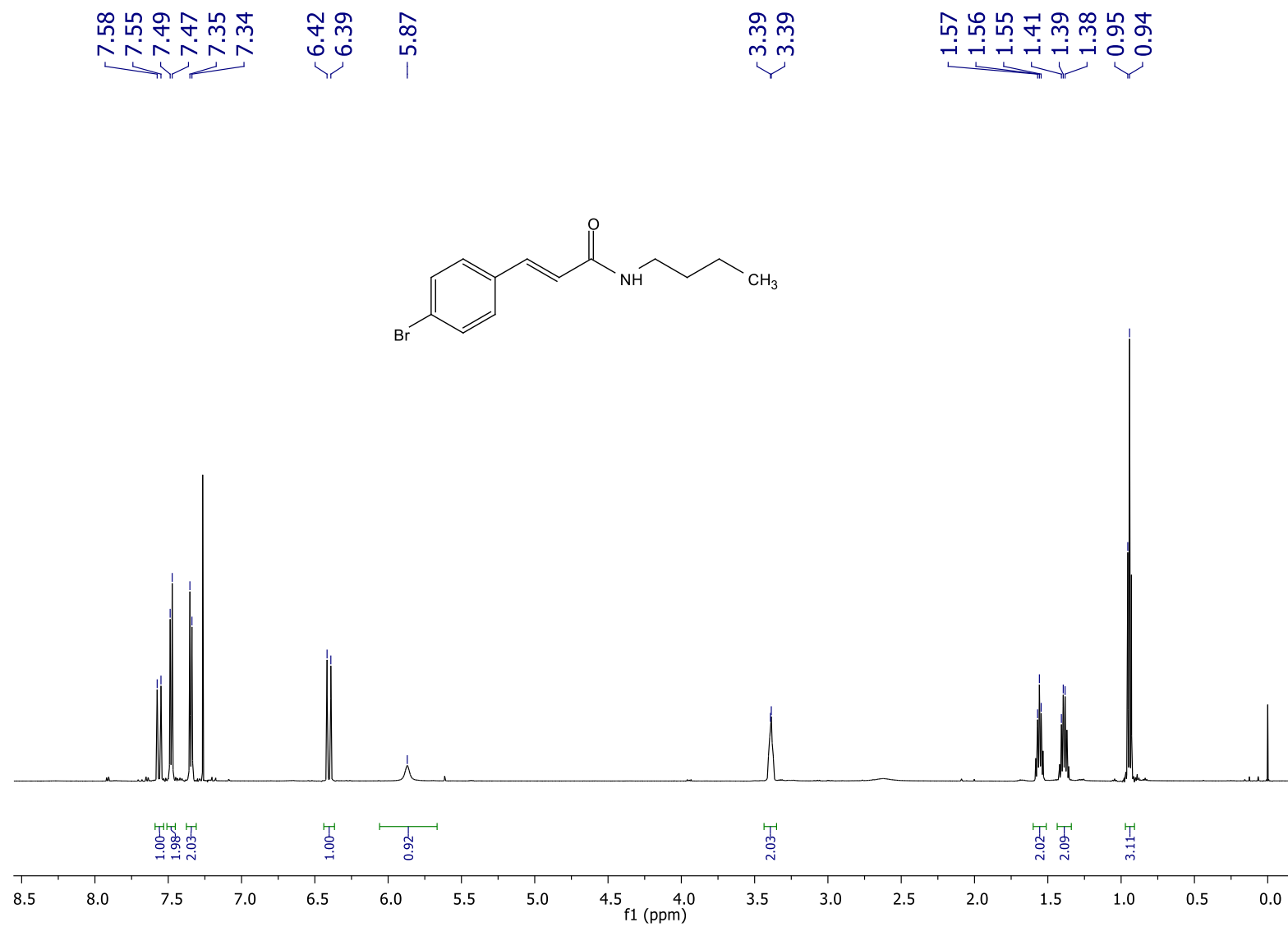


4-Fluorocinnamide (**4cf**)

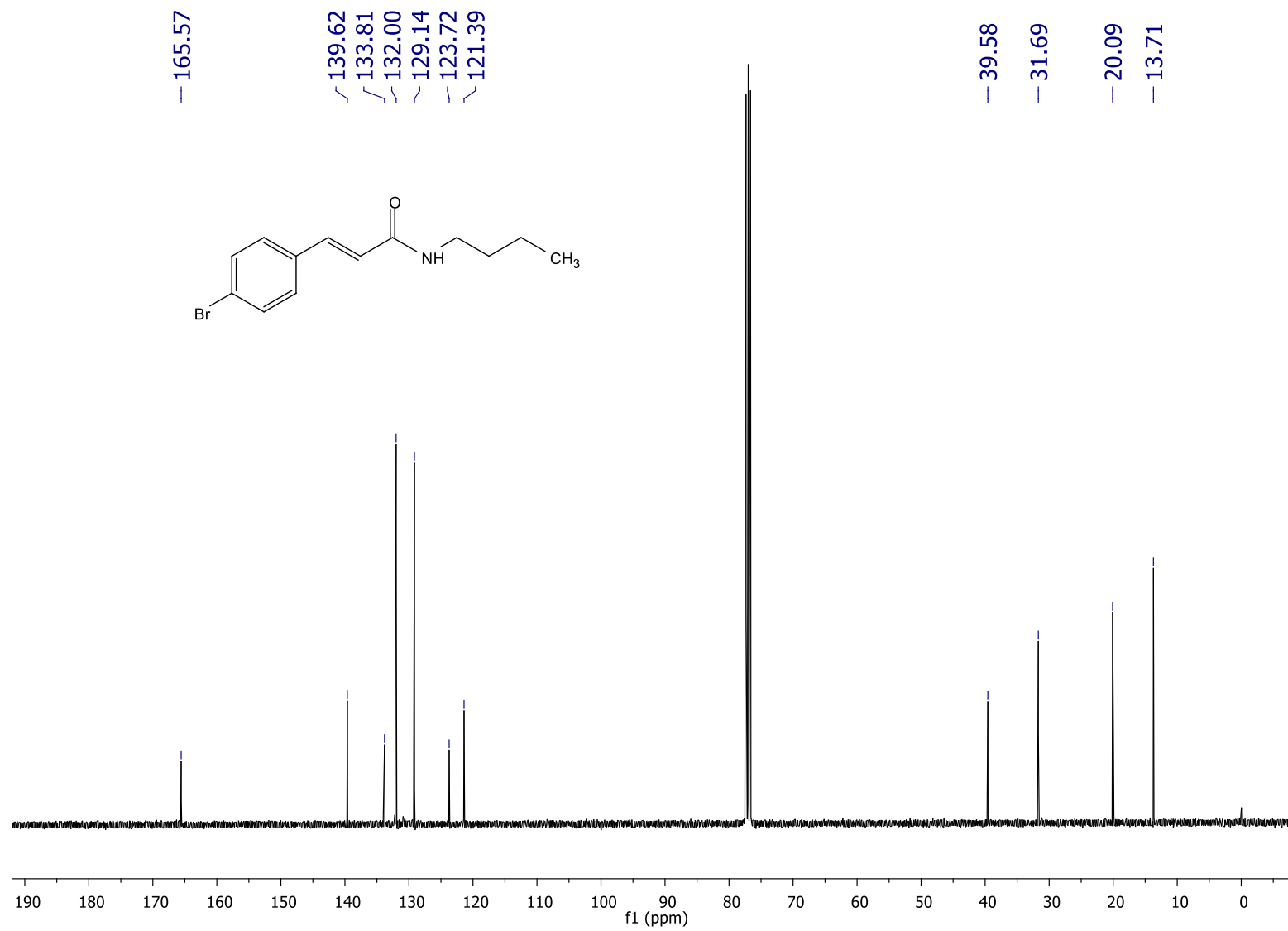




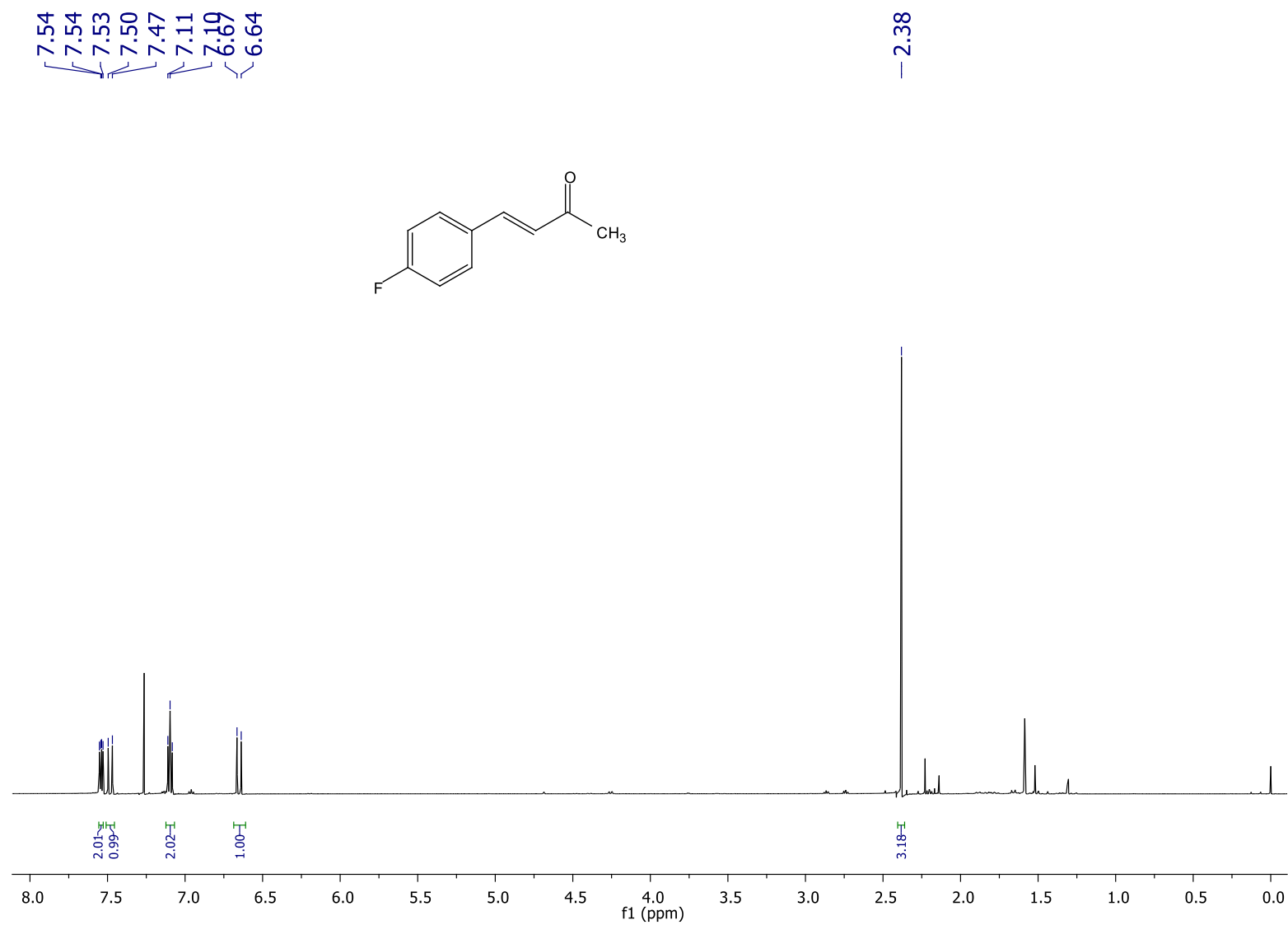
*N*-Butyl 4-bromocinnamide (**4ag**)

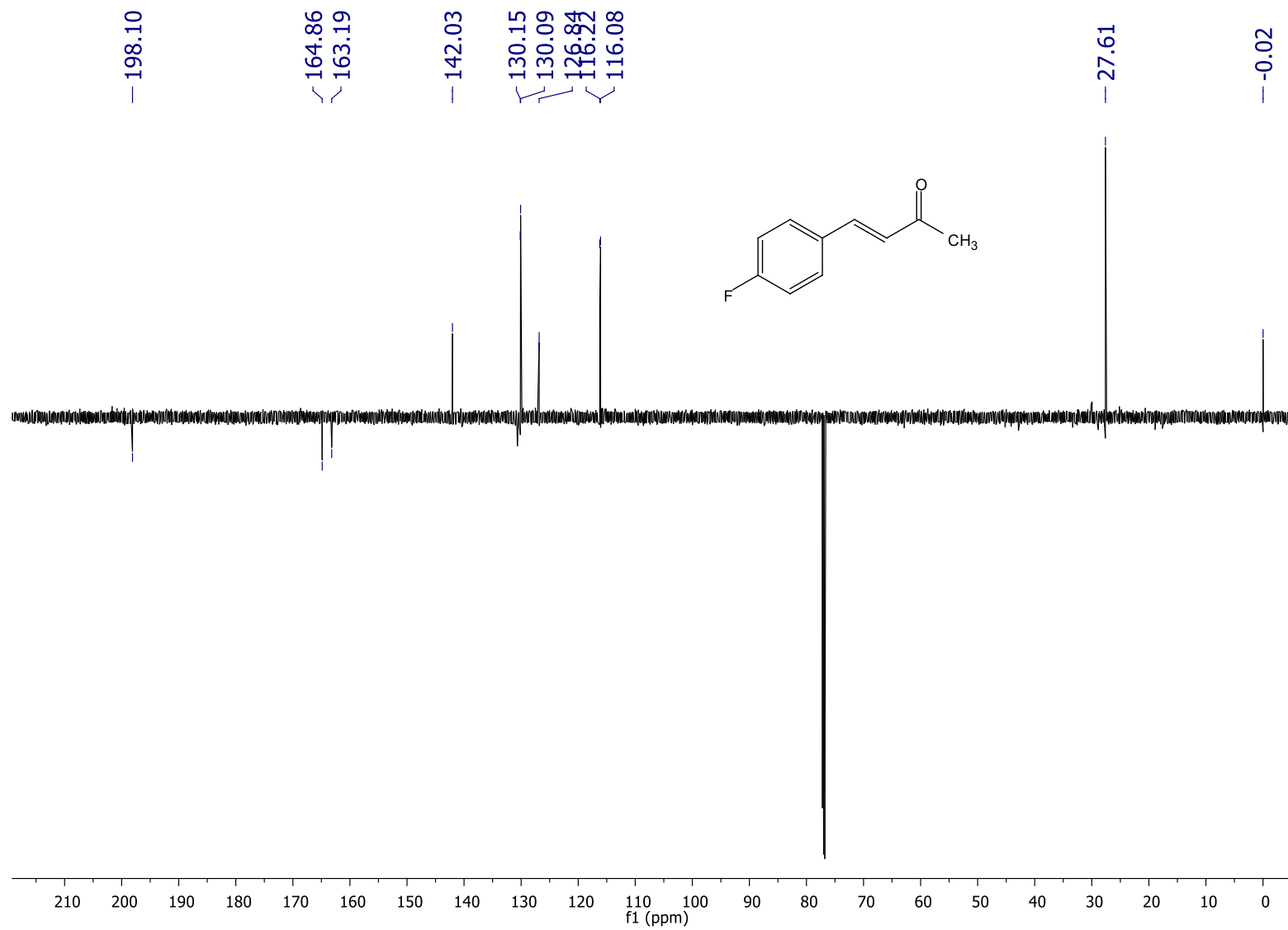




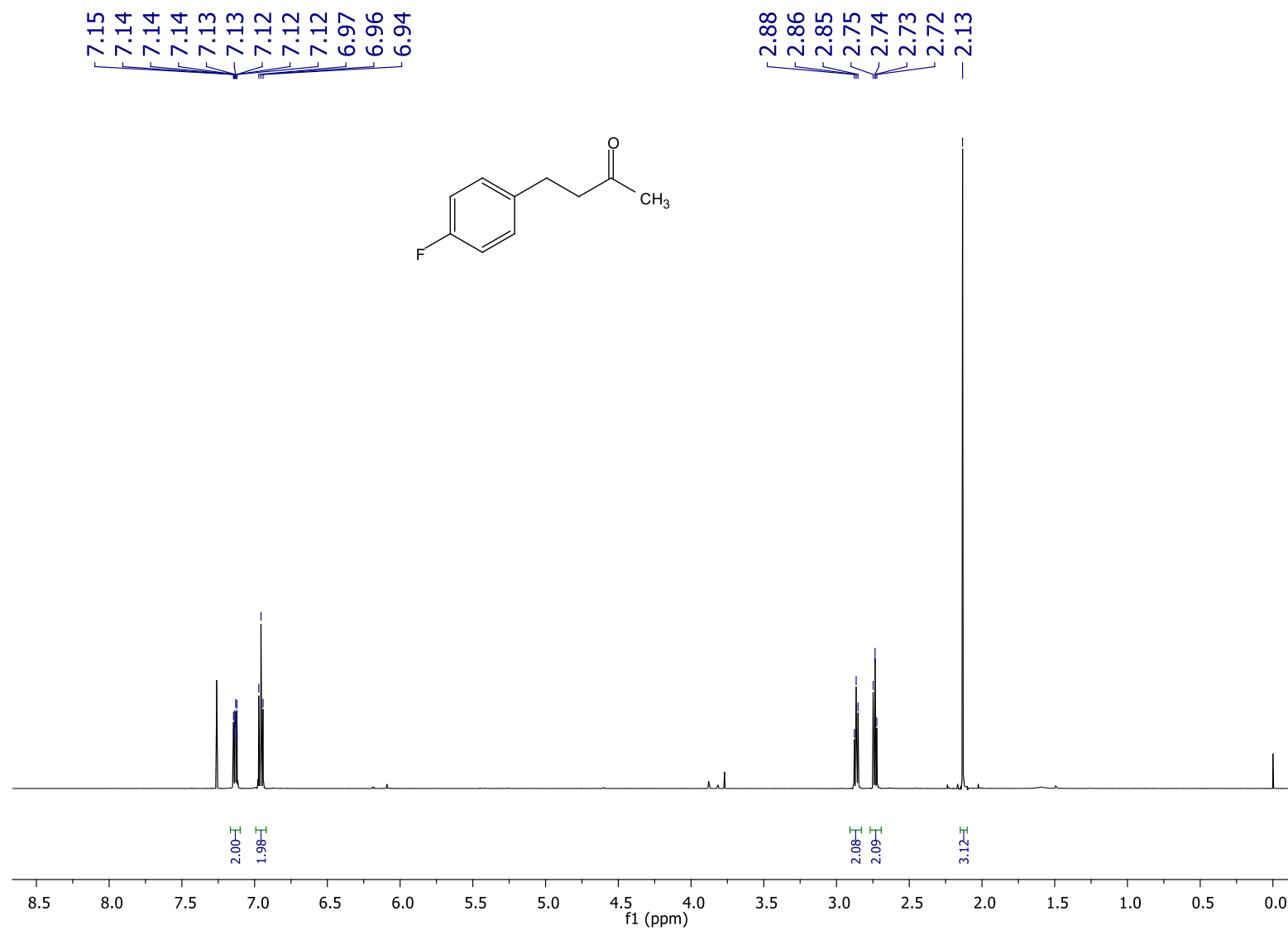


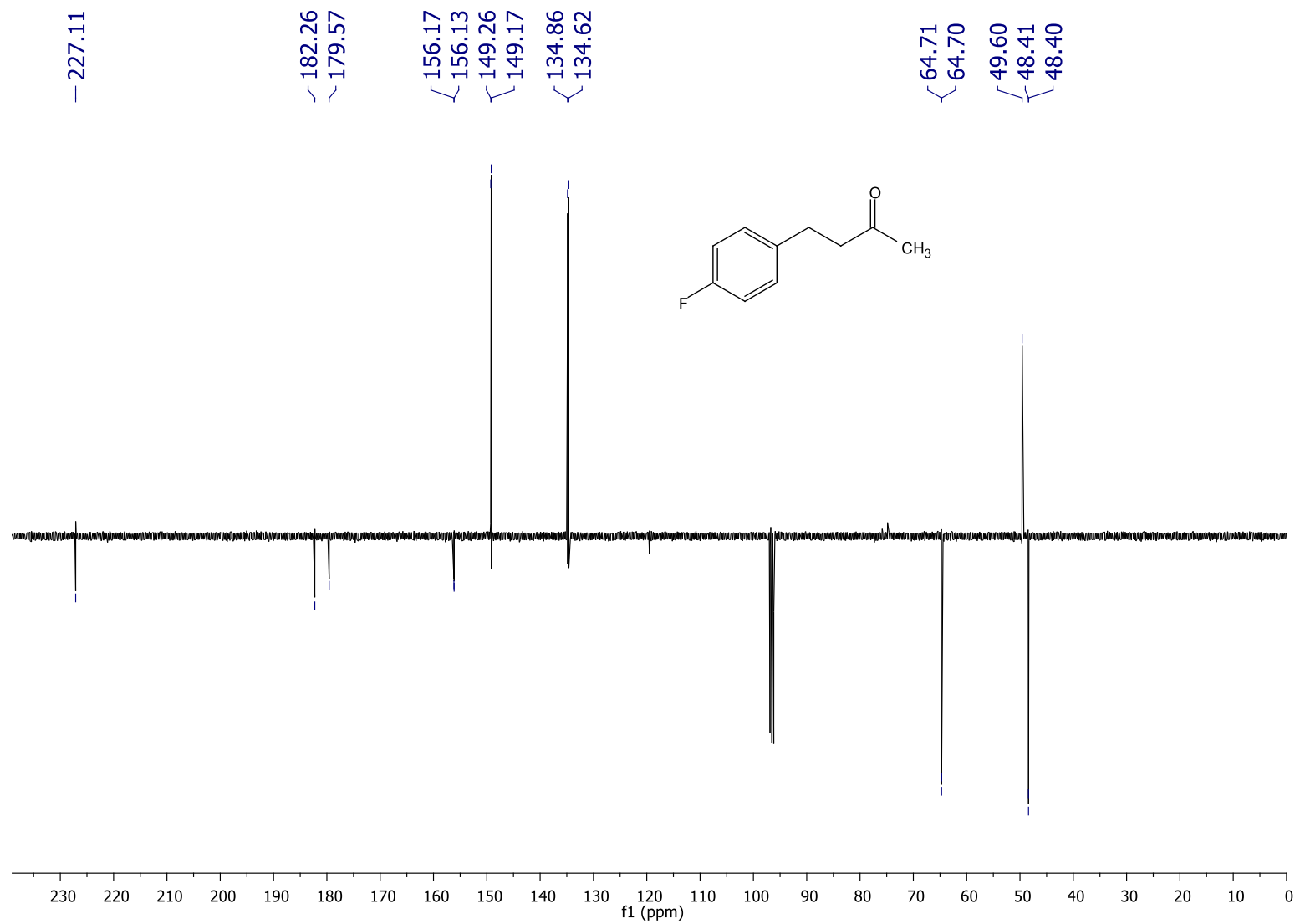
(*E*)-4-(4-Fluorophenyl)but-3-en-2-one (**4ah**)





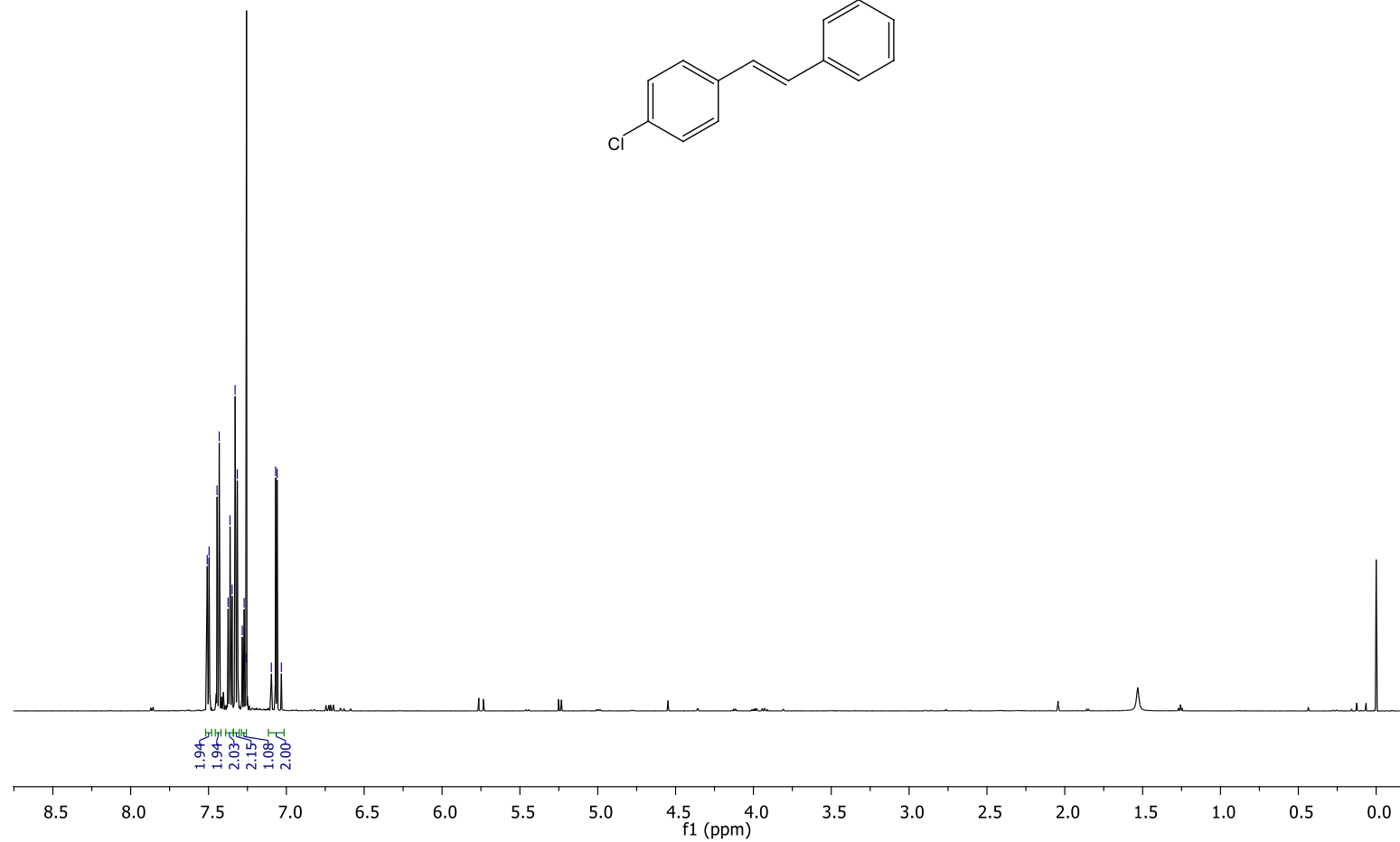
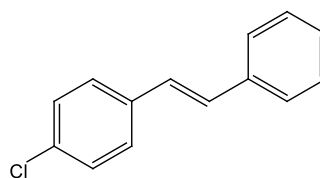
4-(4-Fluorophenyl)butan-2-one (**4ah'**)

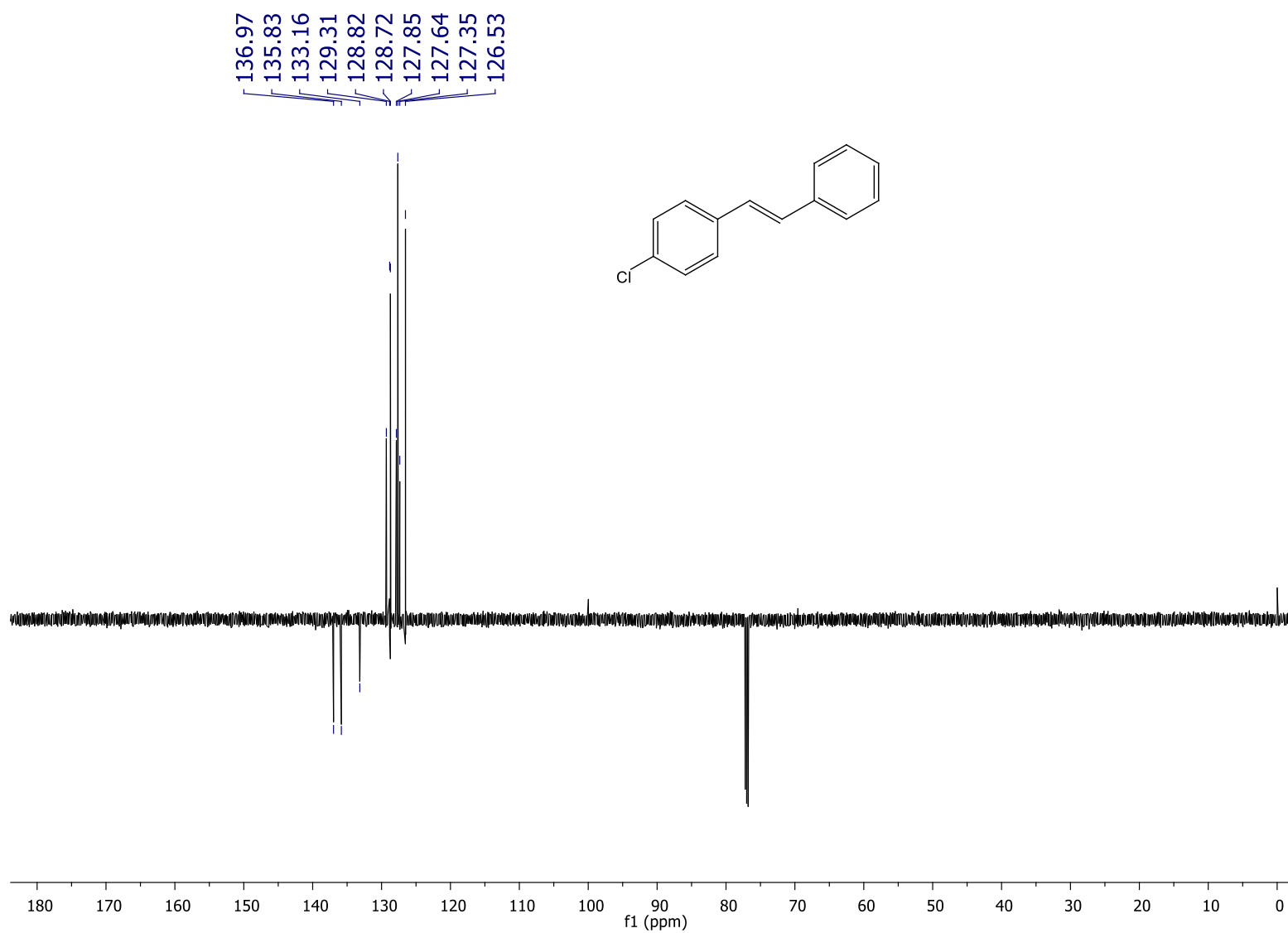




(*E*)-4-Chlorostilbene (**4di**)

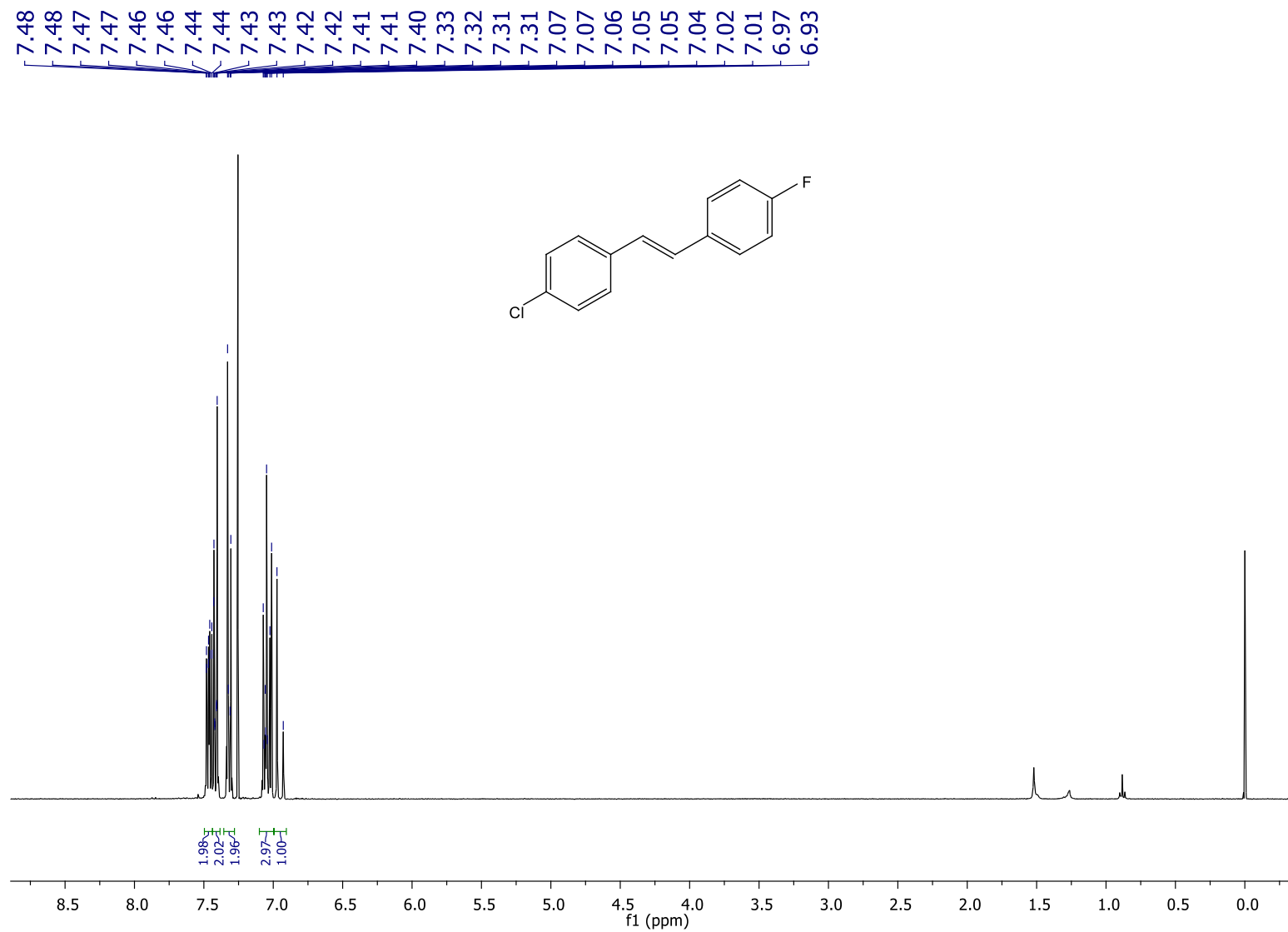
7.51  
7.50  
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7.37  
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7.06  
7.03



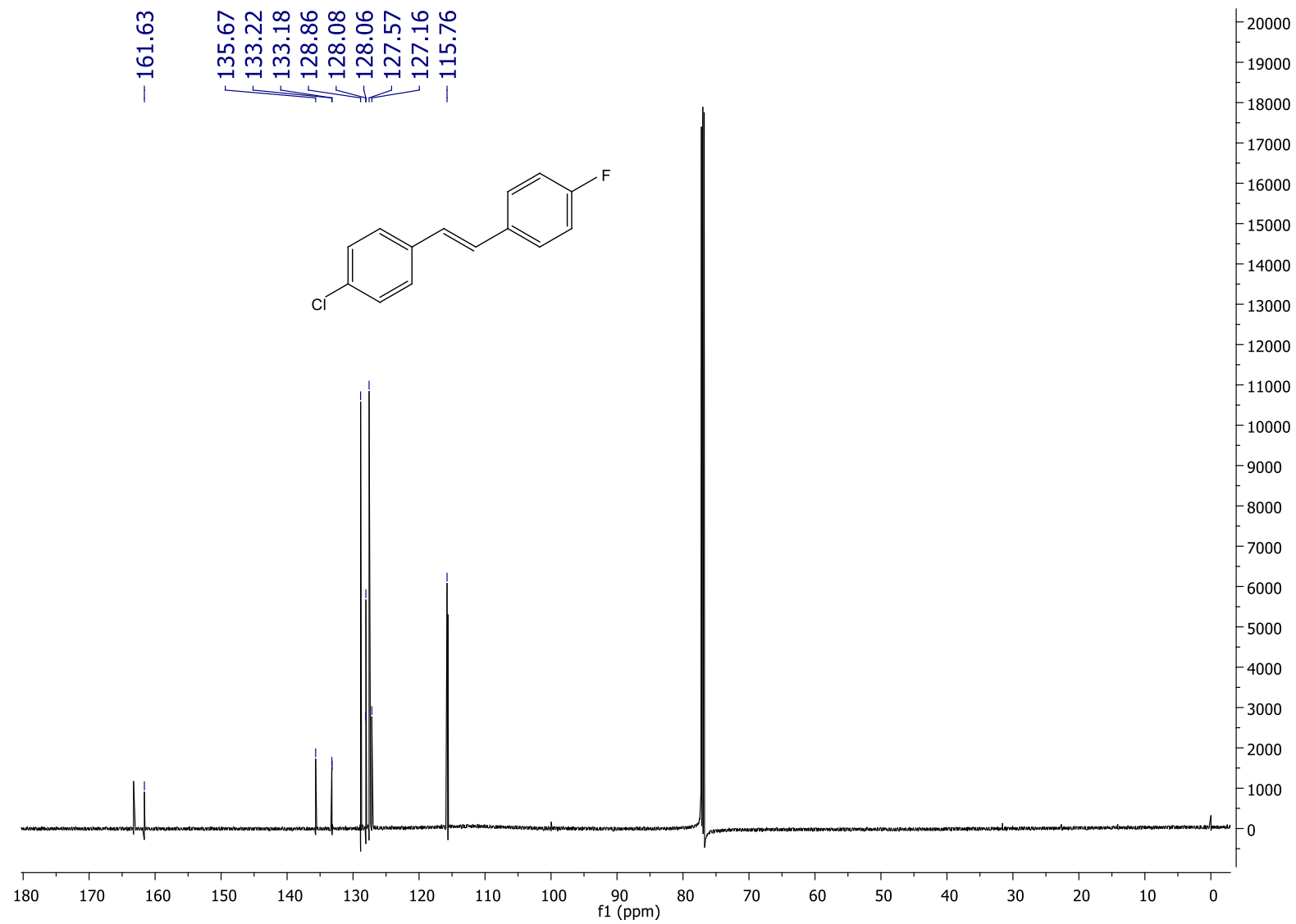


S79

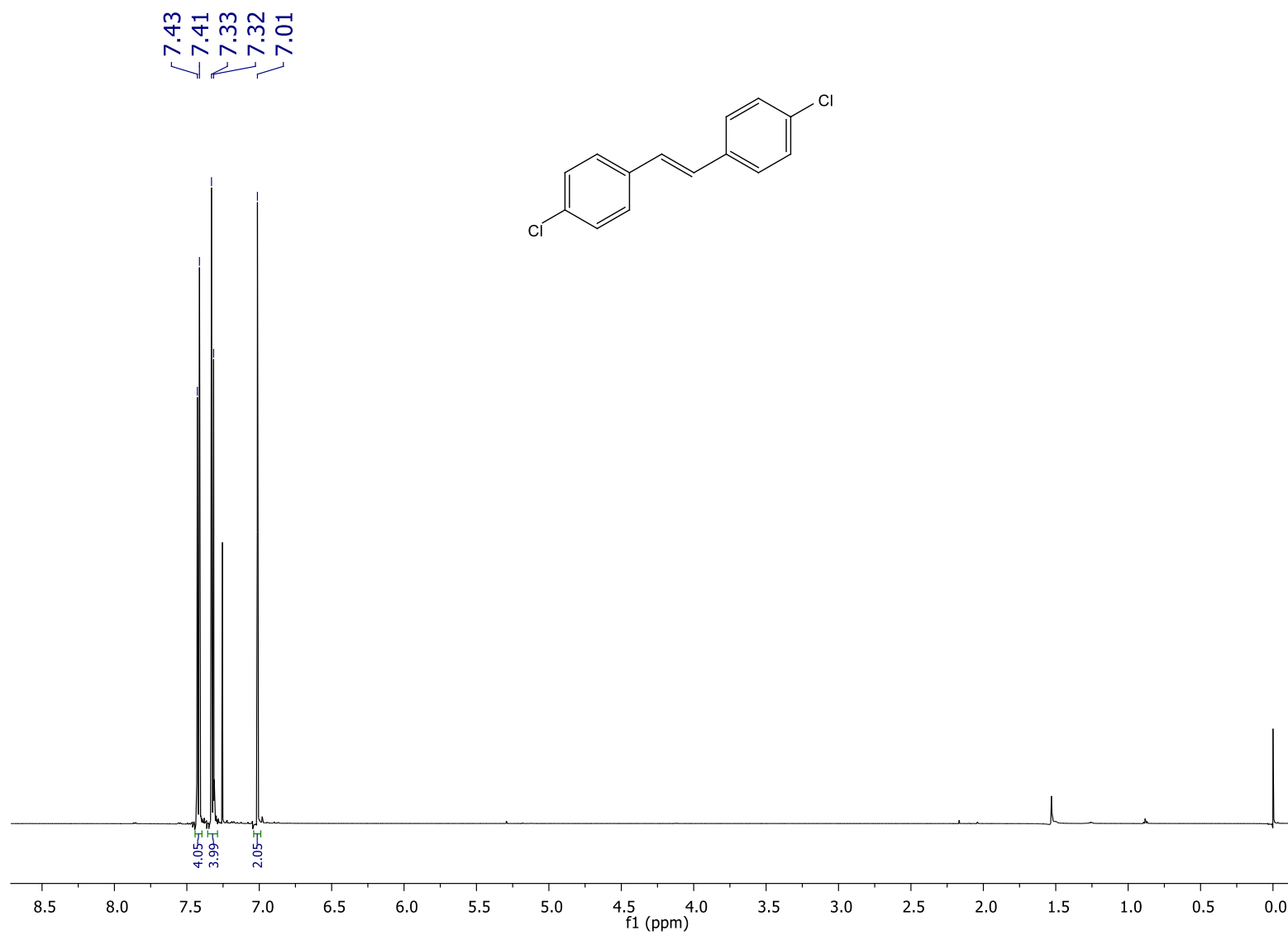
(*E*)-4-Chloro-4'-fluorostilbene (**4dj**)

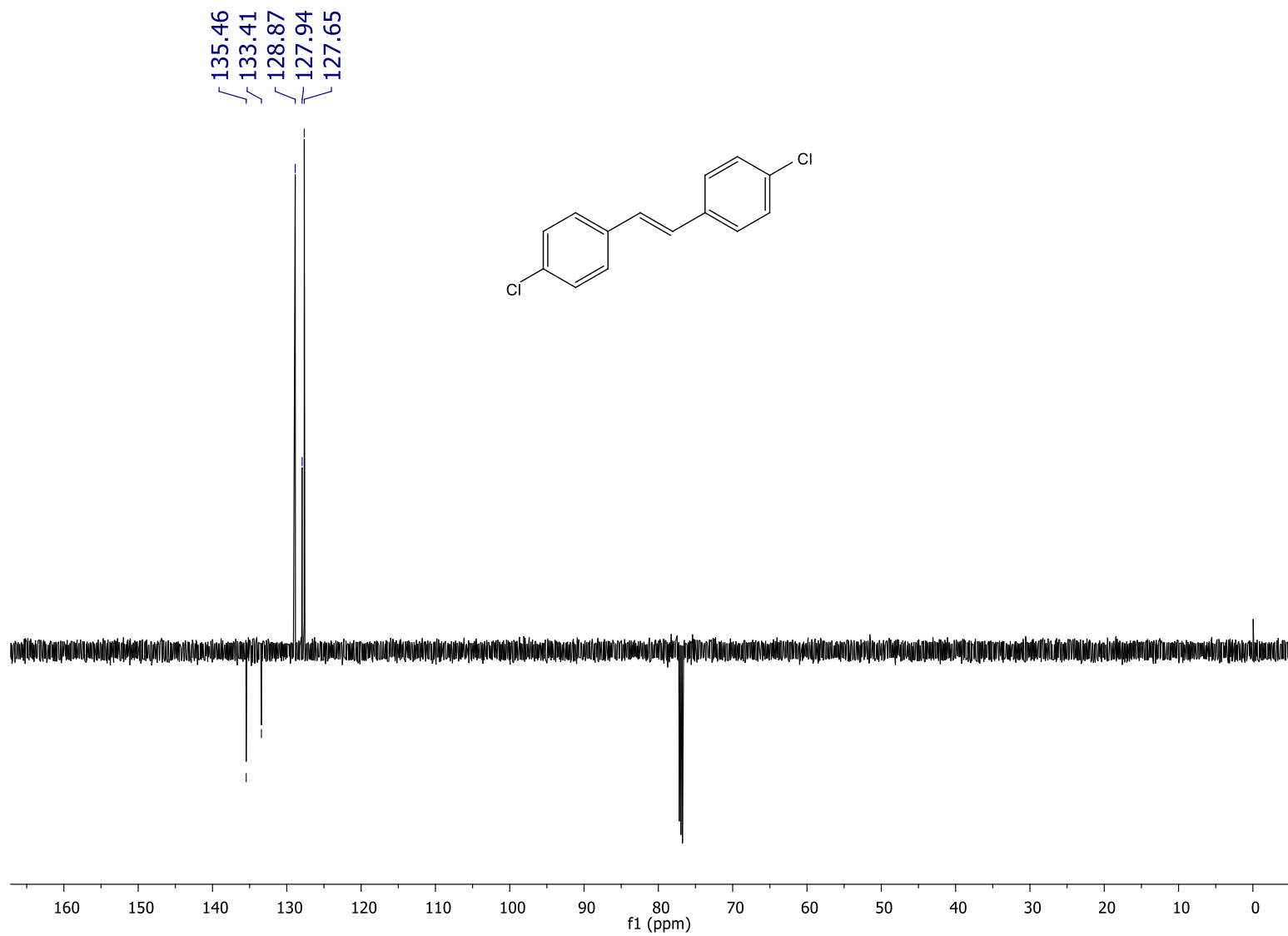






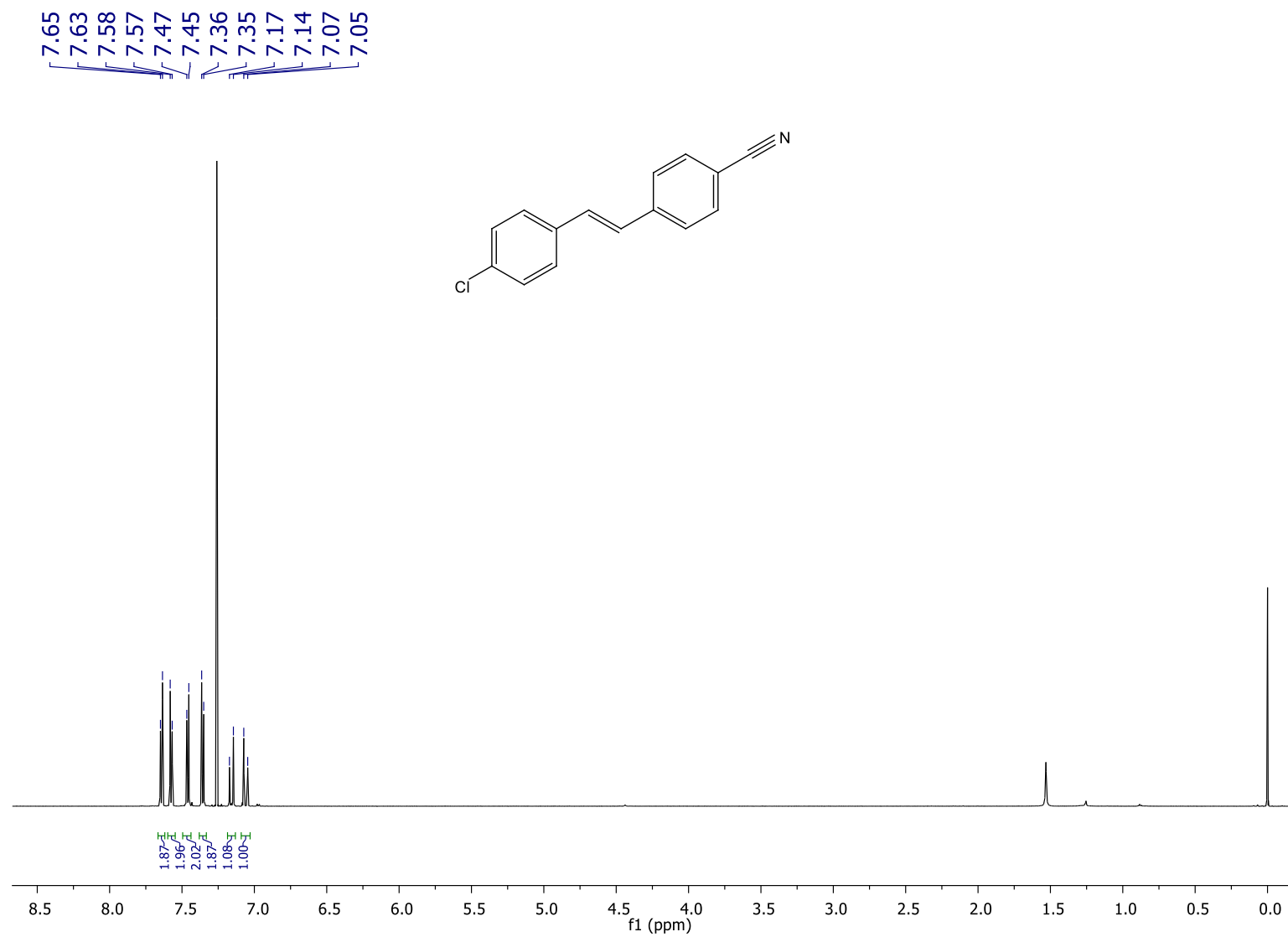
(*E*)-4,4'-Dichlorostilbene (**4dk**)



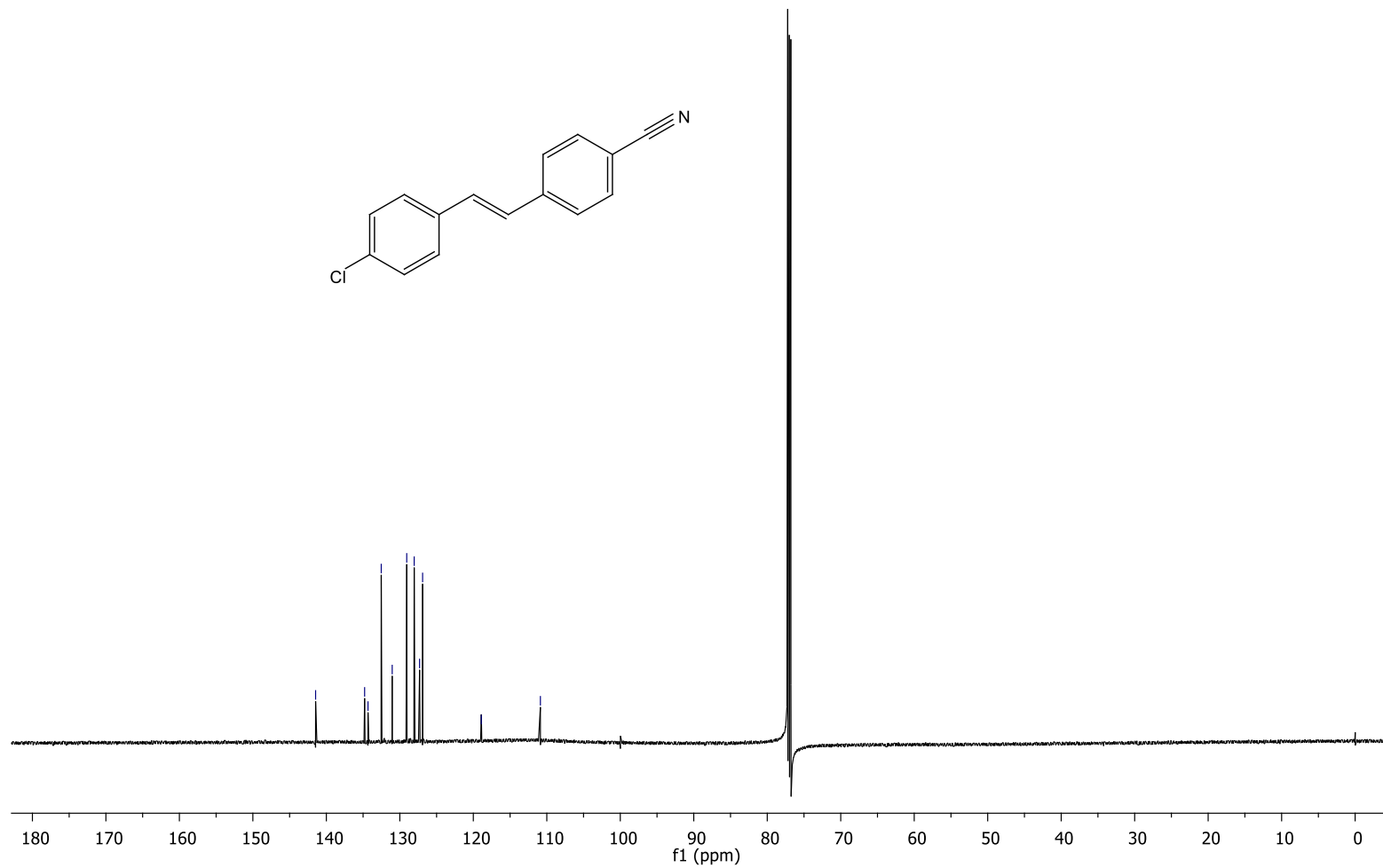
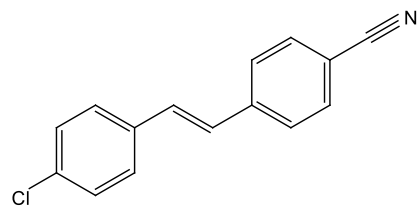


S83

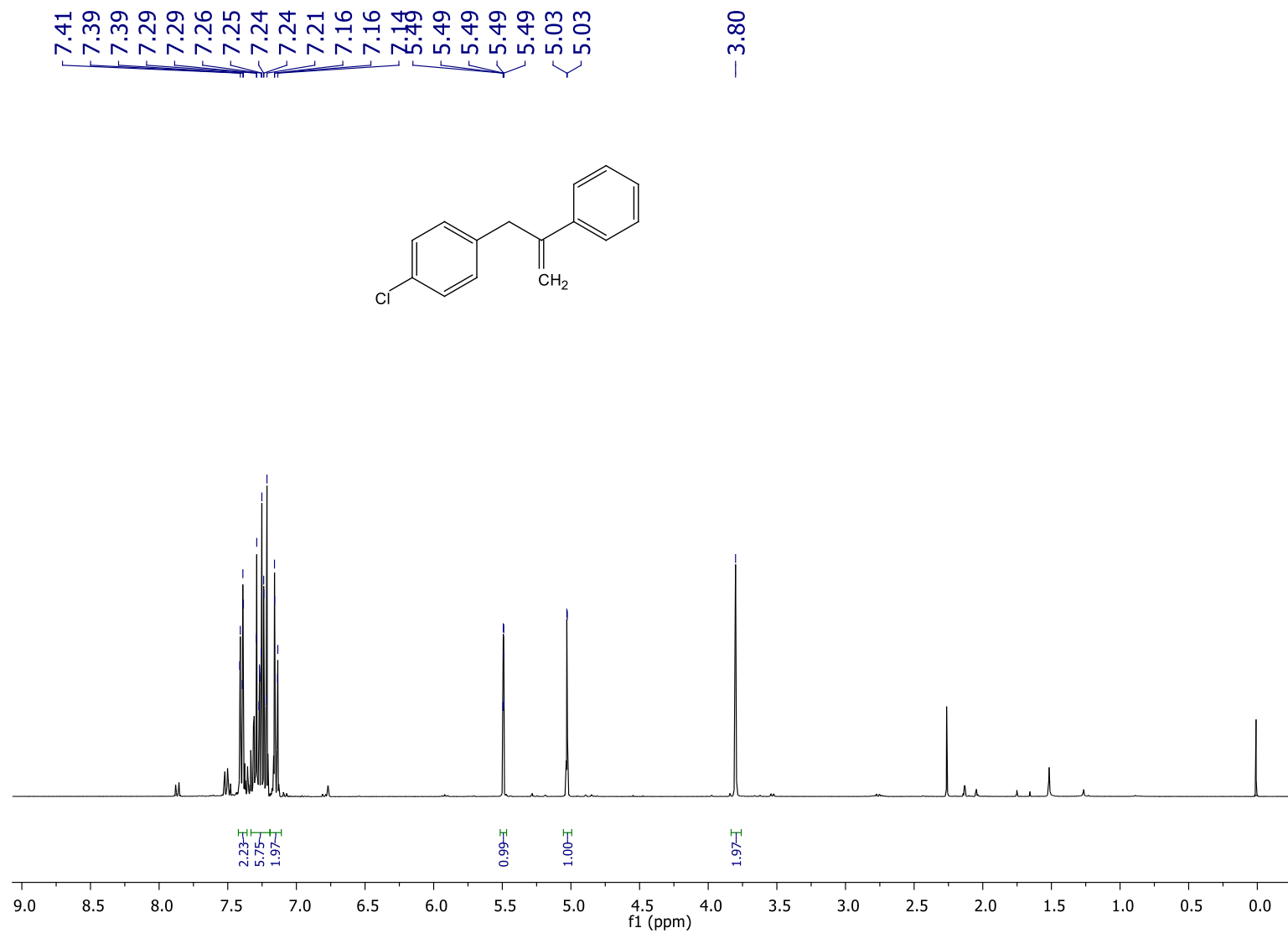
(*E*)-4-Chloro-4'-cyanostilbene (**4dl**)



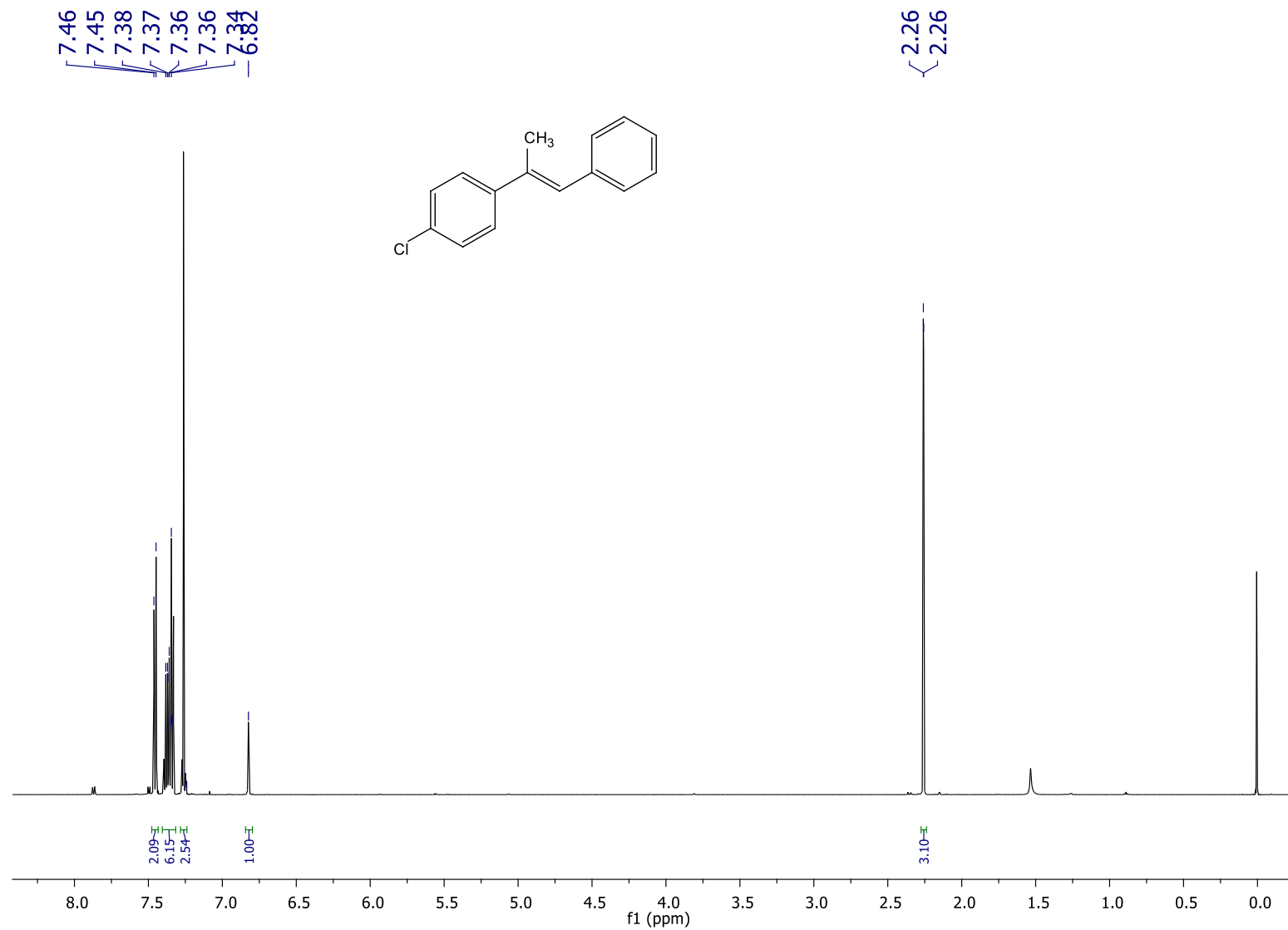
141.46  
134.79  
134.33  
132.53  
131.04  
129.06  
128.05  
127.31  
126.90  
118.91  
110.87

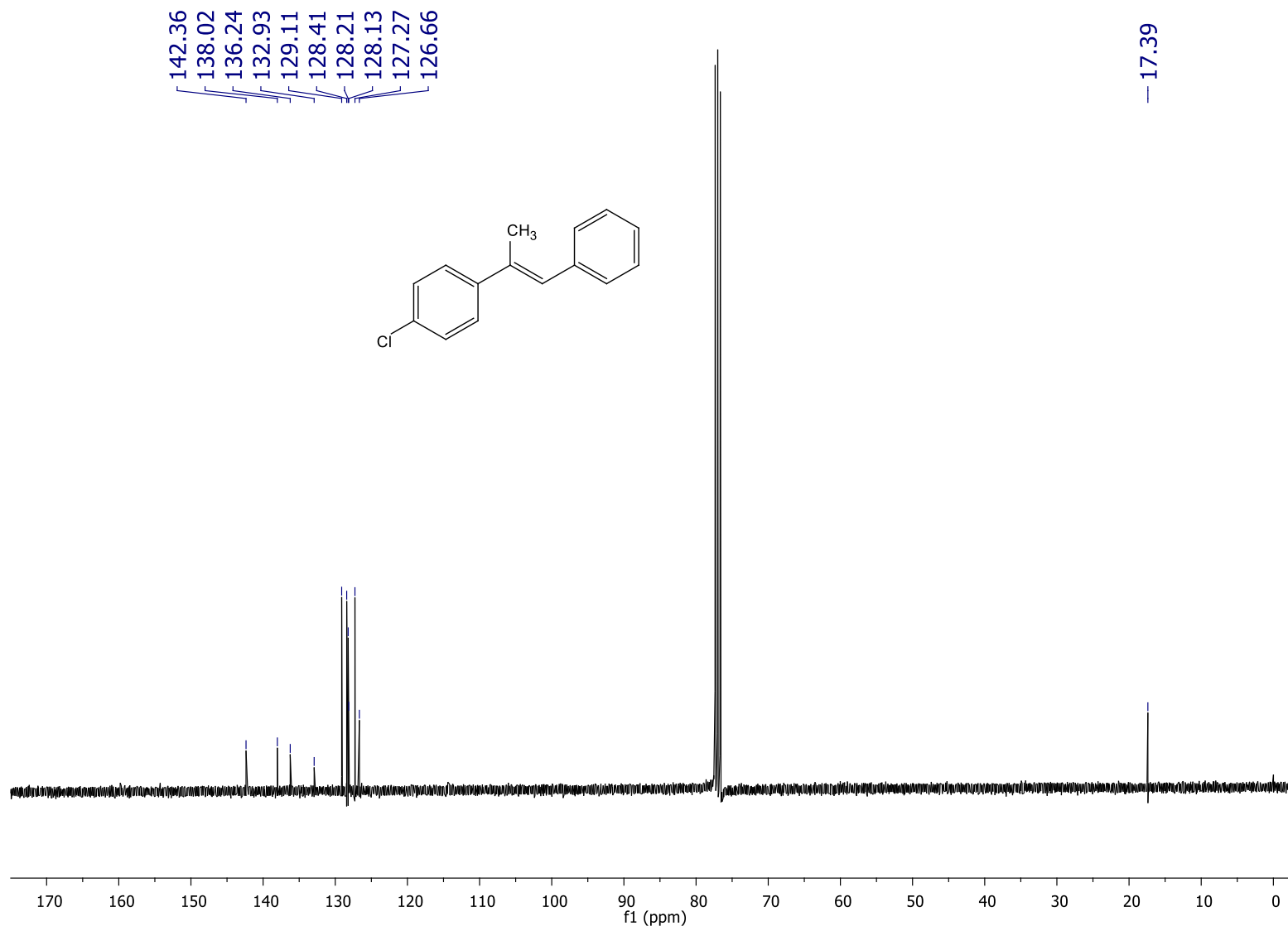


1-Chloro-4-(2-phenylallyl)benzene (**4dm'**)



(*E*)-1-Chloro-4-(1-phenylprop-1-en-2-yl)benzene (**4dn**)

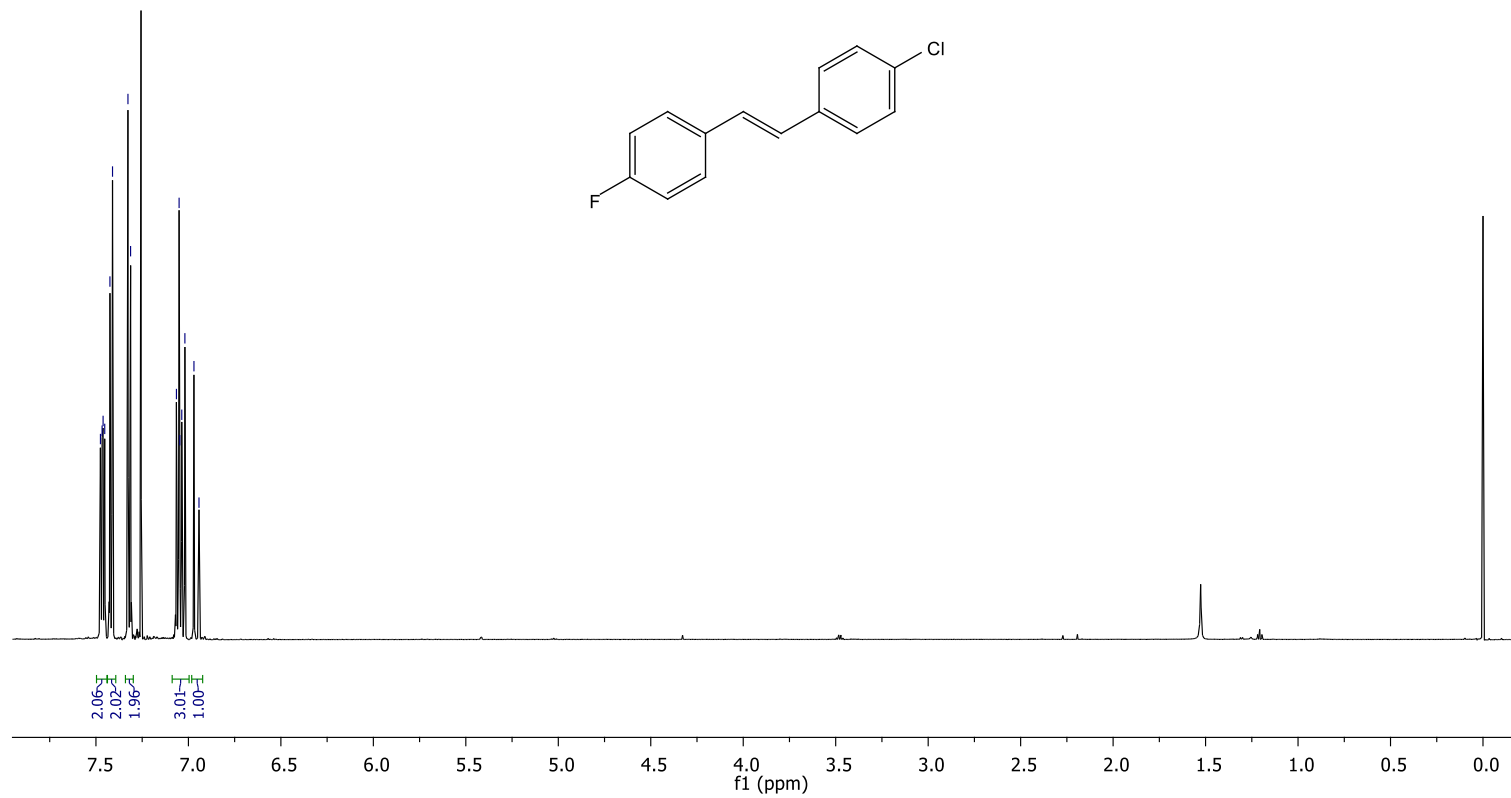
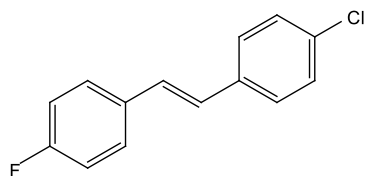


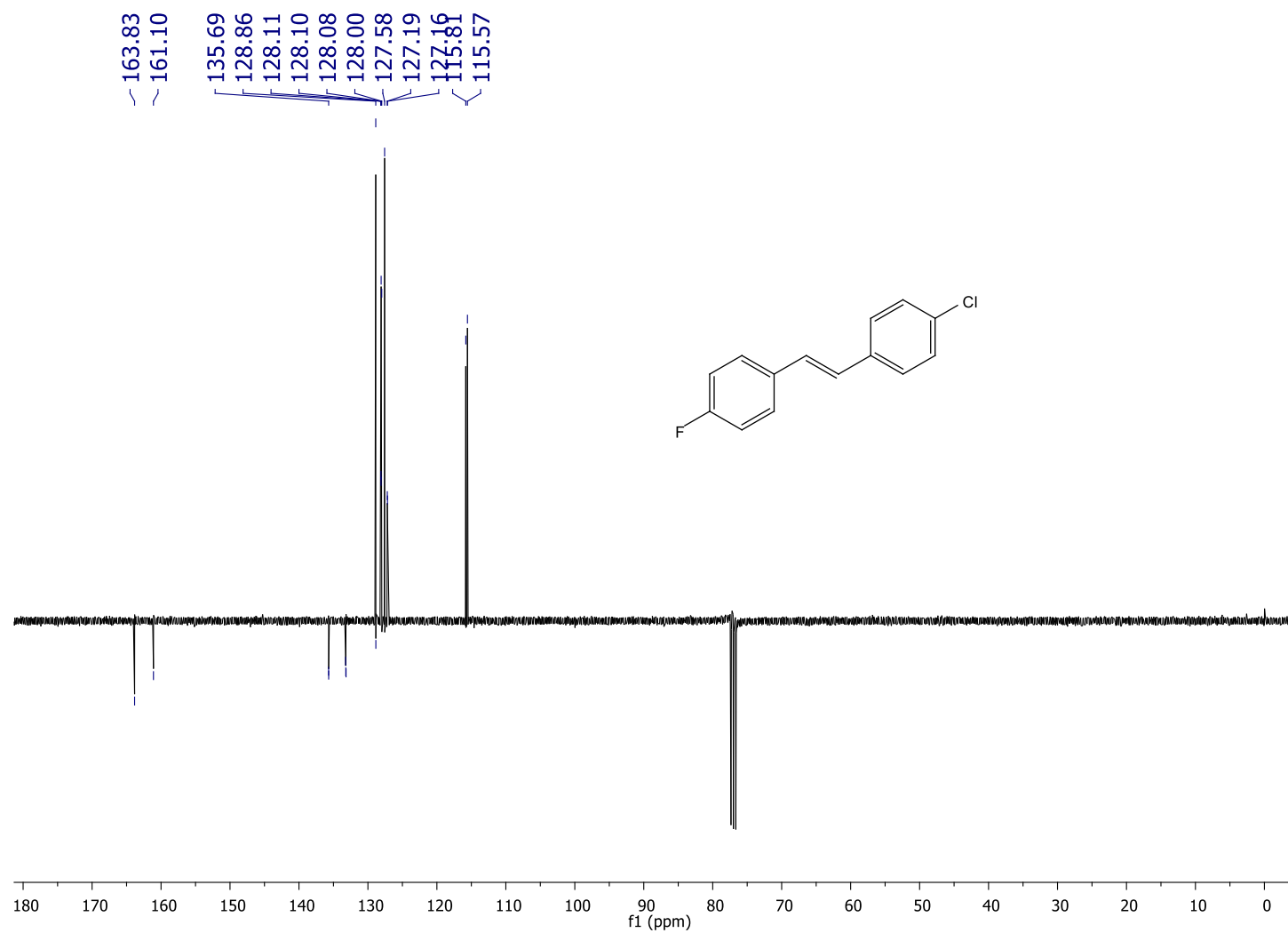




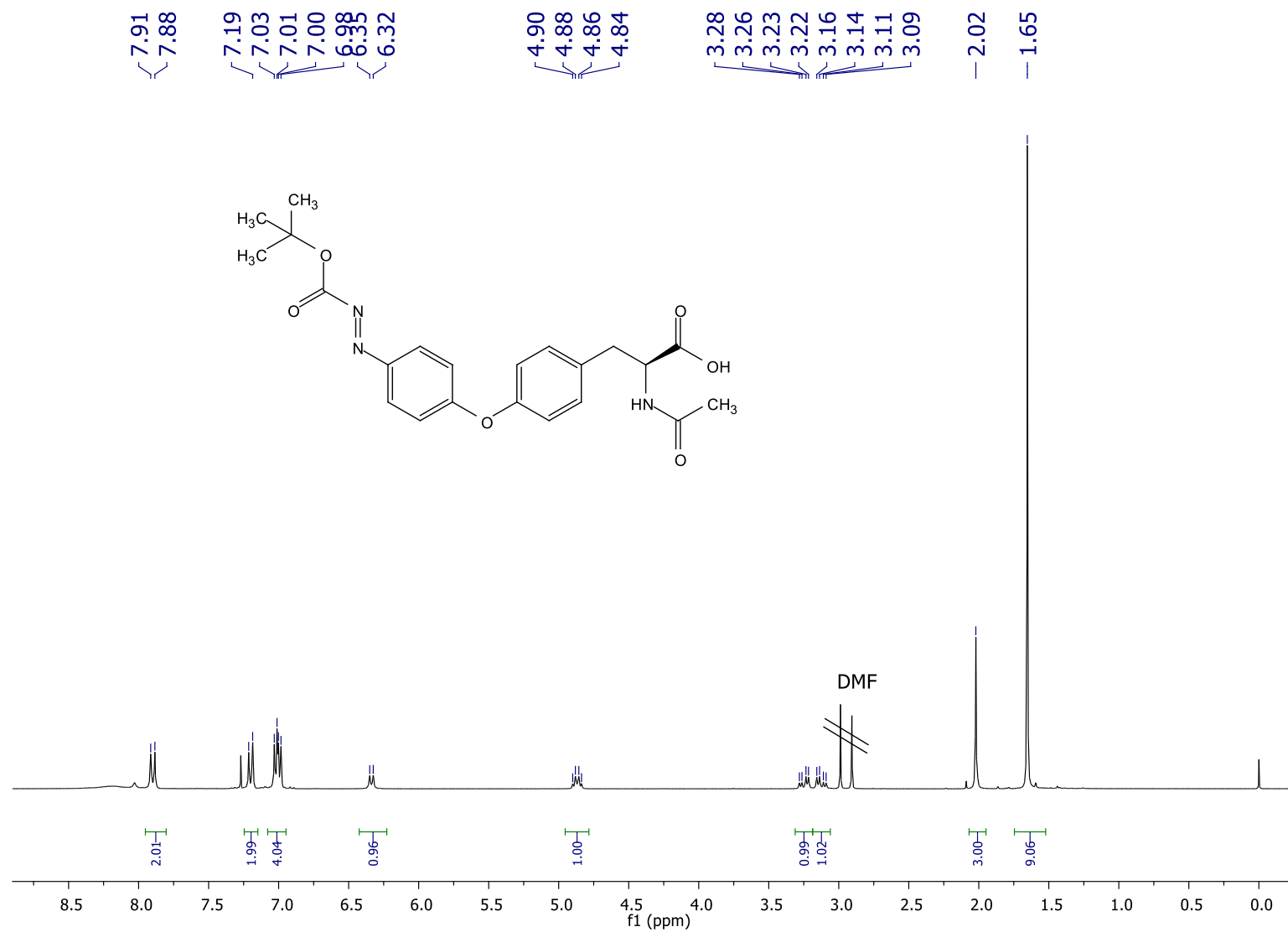
(*E*)-4-Chloro-4'-fluorostilbene (**4dj**)

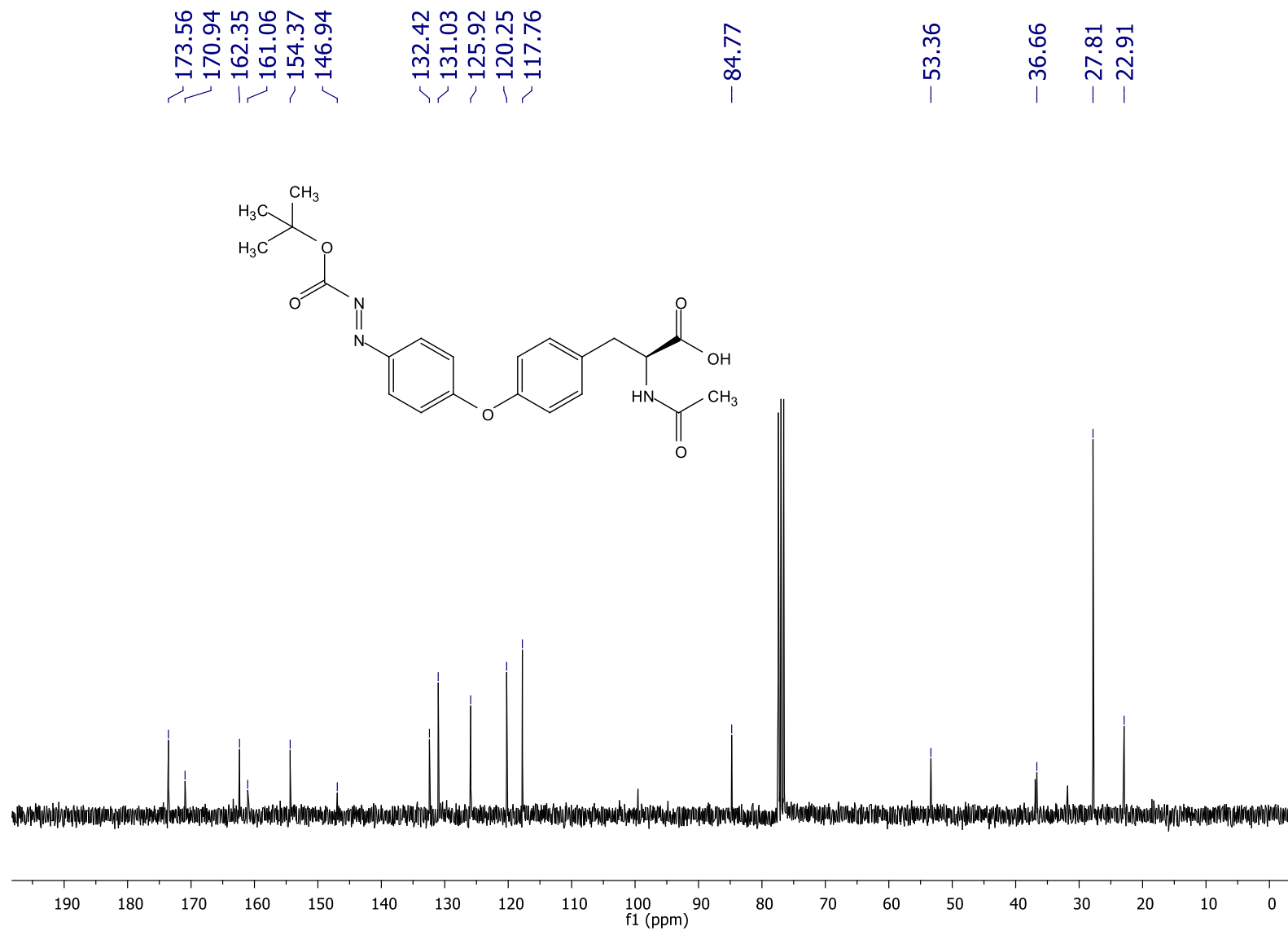
7.48  
7.47  
7.46  
7.45  
7.42  
7.41  
7.33  
7.31  
7.06  
7.05  
7.05  
7.04  
7.02  
6.97  
6.94



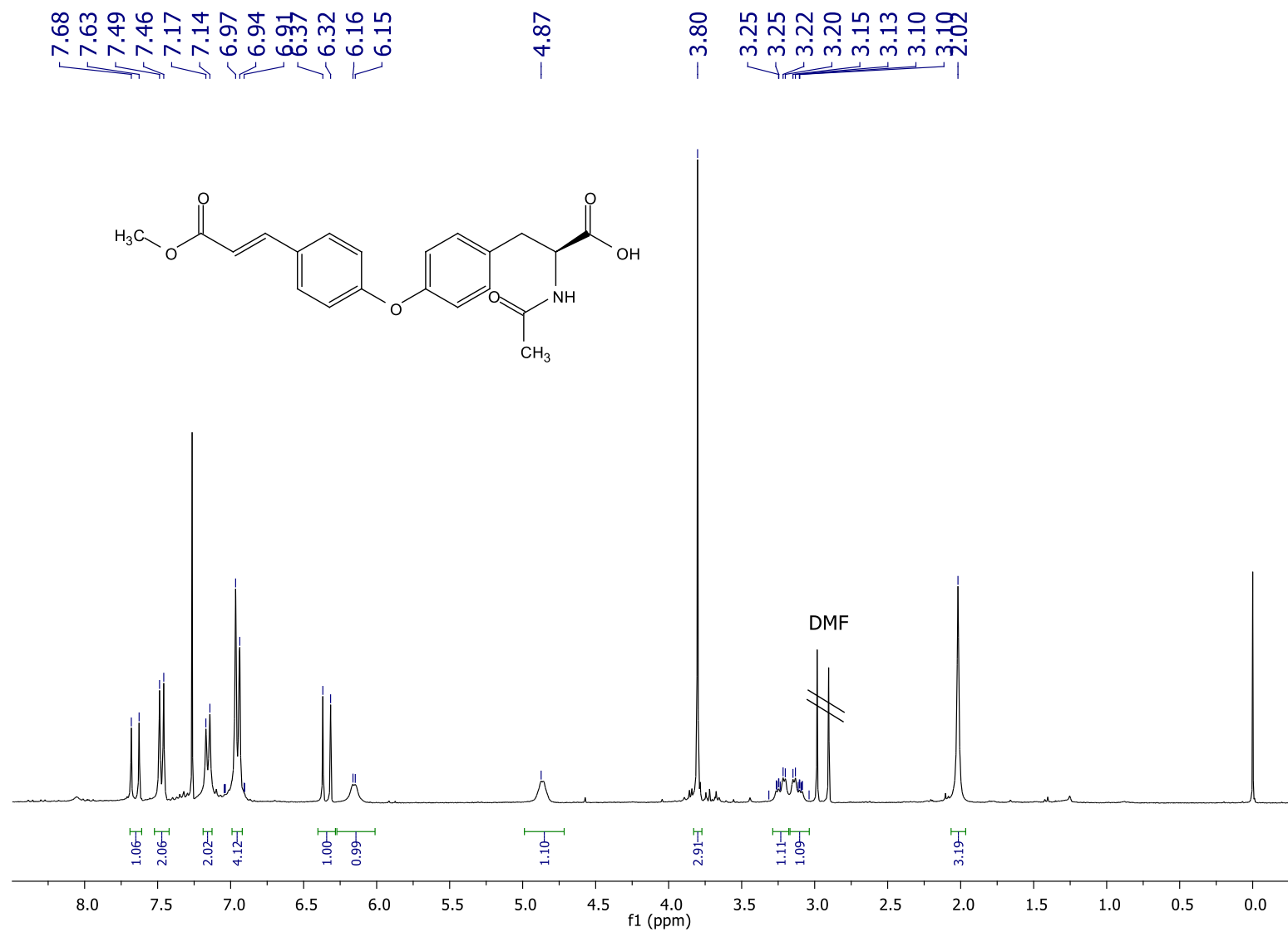


(*S,E*)-2-Acetamido-3-(4-(4-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)diazenyl)phenoxy)-phenyl)propanoic acid (**6**)





(*S,E*)-2-acetamido-3-(4-(4-(3-methoxy-3-oxoprop-1-en-1-yl)phenoxy)phenyl)propanoic acid (**7**)



C:\WINNMR98\Data\las46902c.ALS

#46902//LASCH/RLH-567 HRMS/CDCI3/13C/RT/Nospin/CHP

170.860  
167.671

159.253  
155.347

144.135

131.425  
130.846  
129.780  
129.256

119.652  
118.485  
116.463

77.322  
77.000  
76.688

53.363  
51.727

36.581

22.998

DATIM Fri Mar 04 19:46:56 2016

EXMOD BCM

OBNUC 13C  
OFR 100.50 MHz  
OBSET 123.00 KHz  
OBFIN 14039.2 Hz

IRNUC 1H  
IFR 400.05 MHz  
IRSET 120.00 KHz  
IRFIN 10600.0 Hz

FREQU 30303.0 Hz  
POINT 32768  
SAMPO 32768  
DUMMY 1  
TIMES 10000  
SCANS 1008

RESOL 0.92 Hz

PW1 4.3 us  
PW2 10.0 us  
PW3 10.0 us  
PI1 1.000 ms  
PI2 1.000 ms  
PI3 1.00 ms

ACQTM 1.081 sec  
PD 4.000 sec

SLVNT CDCL3  
CTEMP 22.4 c  
RGAIN 31

BF 1.50 Hz  
EXREF 77.00 ppm  
TMSP 20901