

Supporting Materials

1,2,4-Triazole-tethered indolinones as new cancer-fighting small molecules targeting VEGFR-2: Synthesis, biological evaluations and molecular docking

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1. Anti-proliferative activity against HepG2 and PANC1 cancer cell lines

The examined human cancer HepG2 and PANC1 cell lines have been obtained from American Type Culture Collection (ATCC). Cells lines were maintained as monolayers in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% FBS, 2 mM L-glutamine, 100 U/ml penicillin and 100µg/ml streptomycin sulfate. Cells were sub-cultured with trypsin /EDTA solution, counted with haemocytometer and plated onto 96-well plates (5000 cells/well) and left overnight to form a semi-confluent monolayer. Cell monolayers were treated in quadrates with vehicle (DMSO, 0.1% v/v), and test samples 1,2,4-triazole-tethered indolin-2-ones **11a-l** and **14a-d** for an exposure time of 48 h. At the end of exposure, MTT solution in PBS (5 mg/ml) was then added to all well including no cell blank and left to incubate for 90 min. The formation of formazan crystals were visually confirmed using phase contract microscopy. DMSO (100 µl/well) was added to dissolve the formazan crystals with shaking for 10 min after which the absorbance was read at 590 nm against no cell blanks on a FLuo Star Optima microplate reader (BMG technologies, Germany). Cell proliferation was calculated comparing the OD values of the DMSO control wells and those of the samples represented as % proliferation to the control. Dose-response experiment was performed on samples producing > or =50% loss of cell proliferation using five serial 2-fold dilutions (50, 25, 12.5, 6.25 and 3.125 µM) of the sample. IC₅₀ values (concentration of sample causing 50% loss of cell proliferation of the vehicle control) were calculated using non-linear regression curve fitting of the dose response plots on GraphPad Prism V.6.0 software.

2. VEGFR-2 Kinase Assay

In vitro VEGFR-2 inhibitory activity of indolin-2-one derivatives **11d**, **11e**, **11g**, **11k** and **14c** was evaluated using serial dilutions (10, 5, 2.5, 1, 0.1, 0.01 μM) against VEGFR-2 Kinase Assay Kits (Cat. No.# 40325 BPS Bioscience) according to manufacturer's instructions. In brief, the master mixture was produced (25 μL per well) and poured into each well. Each well received 5 μL of inhibitor solution designated as "Test Inhibitor". The "Positive Control" and "Blank" groups received 5 μL of the same solution without the inhibitor (Inhibitor buffer). In order to prepare 3 mL of kinase buffer, 600 μL of kinase buffer were combined with 2400 μL of water. The blank wells received 20 μL of kinase buffer. The amount of VEGFR-2 required for the test was measured and the enzyme was diluted to 1 ng/ μL with kinase buffer. 20 μL of diluted VEGFR-2 enzymes was added to the wells designated as "Test Inhibitor Control" and "Positive Control" to start the reaction and the mixtures were incubated at 30 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 45 minutes. After the 45 minutes, each well received 50 μL of KinaseGlo Max reagent and the plate was incubated at room temperature for 15 minutes. The luminescence was measured with a microplate reader.

The autophosphorylation percentage inhibition by compounds was calculated using the following equation:

$$100\% - [(negative\ control)/(positive\ control) - (negative\ control)]$$

Using the curves of percentage inhibition of five concentrations of each compound, IC_{50} was calculated.

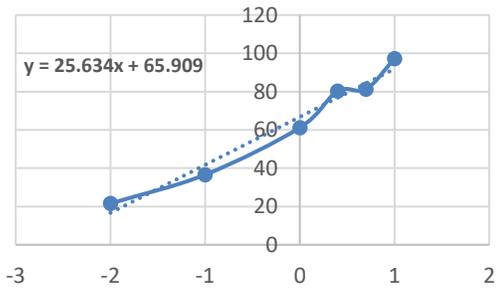
3. Molecular Docking

The complete docking analysis utilized Vina Autodock software to predict binding affinities and protein-ligand interactions. The *.pdb format of the 3D crystal structure of 4ASD complexed with Sorafenib was obtained from RCSB PDB. The protein structural file was subsequently dehydrated and separated from its cocrystallized ligand to save them individually in *.pdb format. MarvinSketch was used to draw the proposed compound **11d**. Since Vina Autodock necessitates the target protein and ligands to be in pdbqt format, MGL tools were created to generate the required *.pdbqt files. The exhaustiveness parameter was set to 32, and the grid box size was 20Åx20Åx20Å, with the center based on the co-crystallized ligand's position in the VEGFR-2 active site. Protocol validation was conducted by the re-docking of the co-crystallized ligand, and the RMSD values were calculated using AutoDock Tools. The previous steps resulted in an RMSD value of 1.15 Å, highlighting the docking validity. Finally, compound **11d** was docked into the VEGFR-2 pre-established active site. The screened compound results were analyzed and visualized using Discovery Studio Visualizer software which generated 2D and 3D interactions for the docked poses.

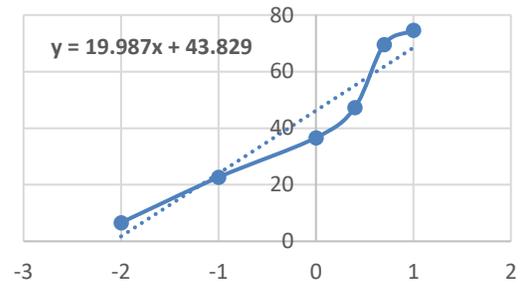
3. Molecular Dynamics

Three 100 ns molecular dynamic simulations (MDS) were executed using GROMACS 2023.2 software. Input structures for MDS were derived from the docking results and crystal coordinates of the VEGFR-2 enzyme complexed with compound **11d** and Sorafenib, respectively, as well as the apo VEGFR-2. PDB2gmx within GROMACS and Acypse Server, respectively, generated receptor and ligand topologies using the AMBER force field. The ligands and receptor topologies were rejoined to create three distinct systems. The standard GROMACS molecular dynamics protocol was then applied to all systems, encompassing solvation, neutralization, energy minimization under the AMBER force field, and two equilibration stages (NVT and NPT). Subsequently, a 100 ns unrestricted production stage was initiated for the two systems, utilizing the Particle Mesh Ewald (PME) method to compute long-range electrostatic values with a 12 Å cut-off and 12 Å Fourier spacing. The stability of the complexes was assessed through RMSD, RMSF, and hydrogen bond stability calculations derived from MDS trajectories during the production phase.

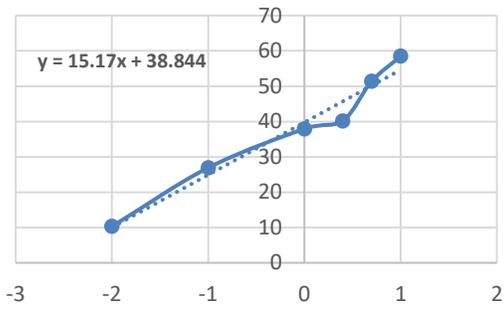
11d



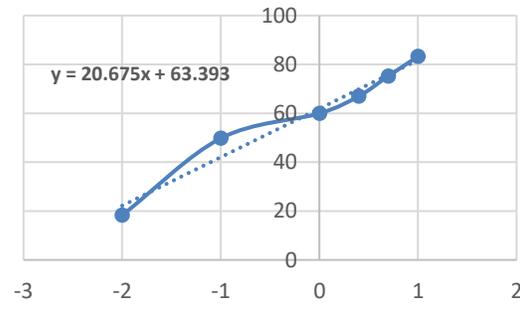
11e



11g



11k



HPLC Purity Analysis

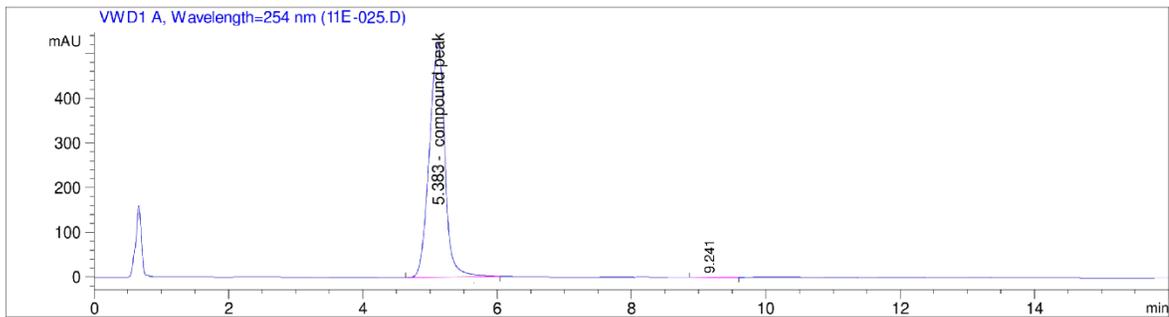
Table S1. HPLC purity of the synthesized compounds **11e**, **11g**, **11k**, and **14c**.

Compound	Retention Time (minutes)	Purity (%)
11e	06:38	99.71
11g	06:52	97.41
11k	05:80	96.81
14c	07:50	99.70

Data File C:\CHEM32\1\DATA\11E-025.D

Sample Name: 11e

```
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Acq. Operator   : SYSTEM
Sample Operator : SYSTEM
Acq. Instrument : HPLC                               Location : Vial 6
Injection Date  : 12/16/2023 5:29:36 AM
                                           Inj Volume : 5.000 µl
Acq. Method     : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\DEF_LC.MCYANO COLUMN.M
Last changed    : 12/16/2023 4:36:15 AM by SYSTEM
                 (modified after loading)
Analysis Method : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\DEF_LC.MCYANO COLUMN.M
Last changed    : 12/16/2023 5:45:00 AM by SYSTEM
                 (modified after loading)
Sample Info     : 40 ACN:60 phosphate buffer pH 3.7, Flow 1.50 mL/min, 254 nm, 5 ul injection
=====
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```
=====
                          Area Percent Report
=====
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Calib. Data Modified : 12/16/2023 5:45:57 AM
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Dilution       :      1.0000
Sample Amount  :           0.500 [mg/ml] (not used in calc.)
Do not use Multiplier & Dilution Factor with ISTDs
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Signal 1: VWD1 A, Wavelength=254 nm

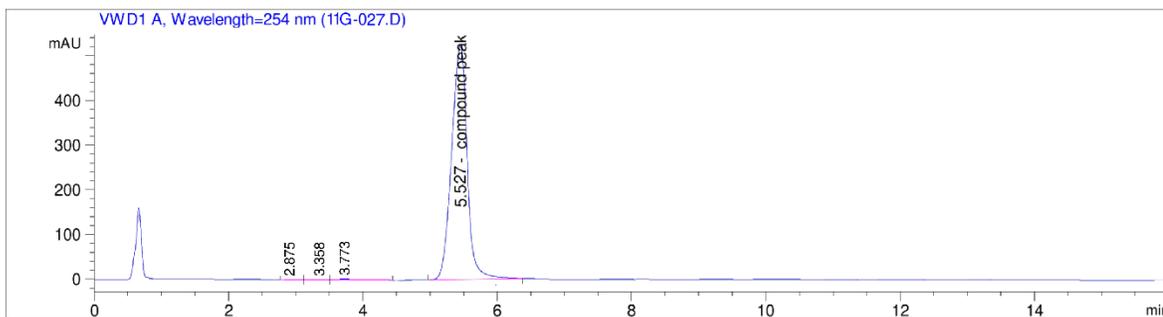
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Area %	Name
1	6.383	BBA	1.0098	1.94119e4	99.7154	Compound Peak

Totals : 1.94119e4 99.7154

*** End of Report ***

Sample Name: 11g

```
=====
Acq. Operator   : SYSTEM
Sample Operator : SYSTEM
Acq. Instrument : HPLC                               Location : Vial 7
Injection Date  : 12/16/2023 5:45:23 AM
                                           Inj Volume : 5.000 µl
Acq. Method     : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\DEF_LC.MCYANO COLUMN.M
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                  (modified after loading)
Sample Info     : 40 ACN:60 phosphate buffer pH 3.7, Flow 1.50 mL/min, 254 nm, 5 ul injection
=====
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=====
Area Percent Report
=====

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Sorted By      : Signal
Calib. Data Modified : 12/16/2023 6:05:57 AM
Multiplier     : 1.0000
Dilution       : 1.0000
Sample Amount  : 0.500 [mg/ml] (not used in calc.)
Do not use Multiplier & Dilution Factor with ISTDs
```

Signal 1: VWD1 A, Wavelength=254 nm

Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Area %	Name
1	6.527	BBA	1.0108	1.99119e4	97.4151	Compound Peak

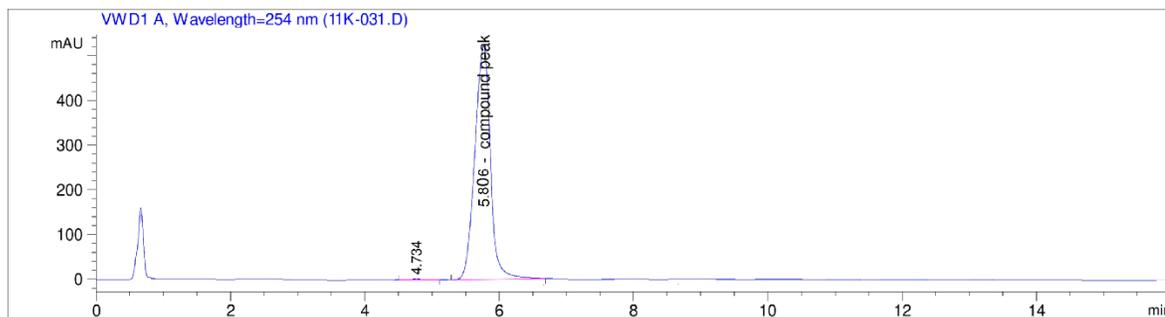
Totals : 1.99119e4 97.4151

*** End of Report ***

Data File C:\CHEM32\1\DATA\11K-031.D

Sample Name: 11K

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Sample Operator : SYSTEM
Acq. Instrument : HPLC                               Location : Vial 12
Injection Date  : 12/16/2023 9:03:20 AM              Inj Volume : 5.000 µl
Acq. Method     : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\DEF_LC.MCYANO COLUMN.M
Last changed    : 12/16/2023 4:36:15 AM by SYSTEM
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Analysis Method : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\DEF_LC.MCYANO COLUMN.M
Last changed    : 12/16/2023 9:30:00 AM by SYSTEM
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Sample Info     : 40 ACN:60 phosphate buffer pH 3.7, Flow 1.50 mL/min, 254 nm, 5 ul injection
=====
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=====
Area Percent Report
=====

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Sorted By      : Signal
Calib. Data Modified : 12/16/2023 9:29:57 AM
Multiplier     : 1.0000
Dilution       : 1.0000
Sample Amount  : 0.500 [mg/ml] (not used in calc.)
Do not use Multiplier & Dilution Factor with ISTDs
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Signal 1: VWD1 A, Wavelength=254 nm

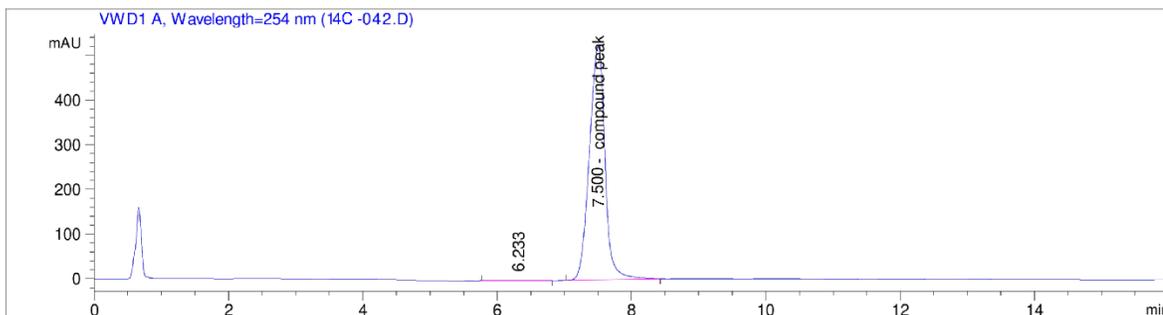
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Area %	Name
1	5.806	BBA	0.8918	1.19169e4	96.8145	Compound Peak

Totals : 1.19169e4 96.8145

*** End of Report ***

Data File C:\CHEM32\1\DATA\14C-042.D
Sample Name: 14c

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=====
Acq. Operator   : SYSTEM
Sample Operator : SYSTEM
Acq. Instrument : HPLC                               Location : Vial 16
Injection Date  : 12/16/2023 10:12:20 AM
                                           Inj Volume : 5.000 µl
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Analysis Method : C:\CHEM32\1\METHODS\DEF_LC.MCYANO COLUMN.M
Last changed    : 12/16/2023 10:31:00 AM by SYSTEM
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Sample Info     : 40 ACN:60 phosphate buffer pH 3.7, Flow 1.50 mL/min, 254 nm, 5 ul injection
=====
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=====
                          Area Percent Report
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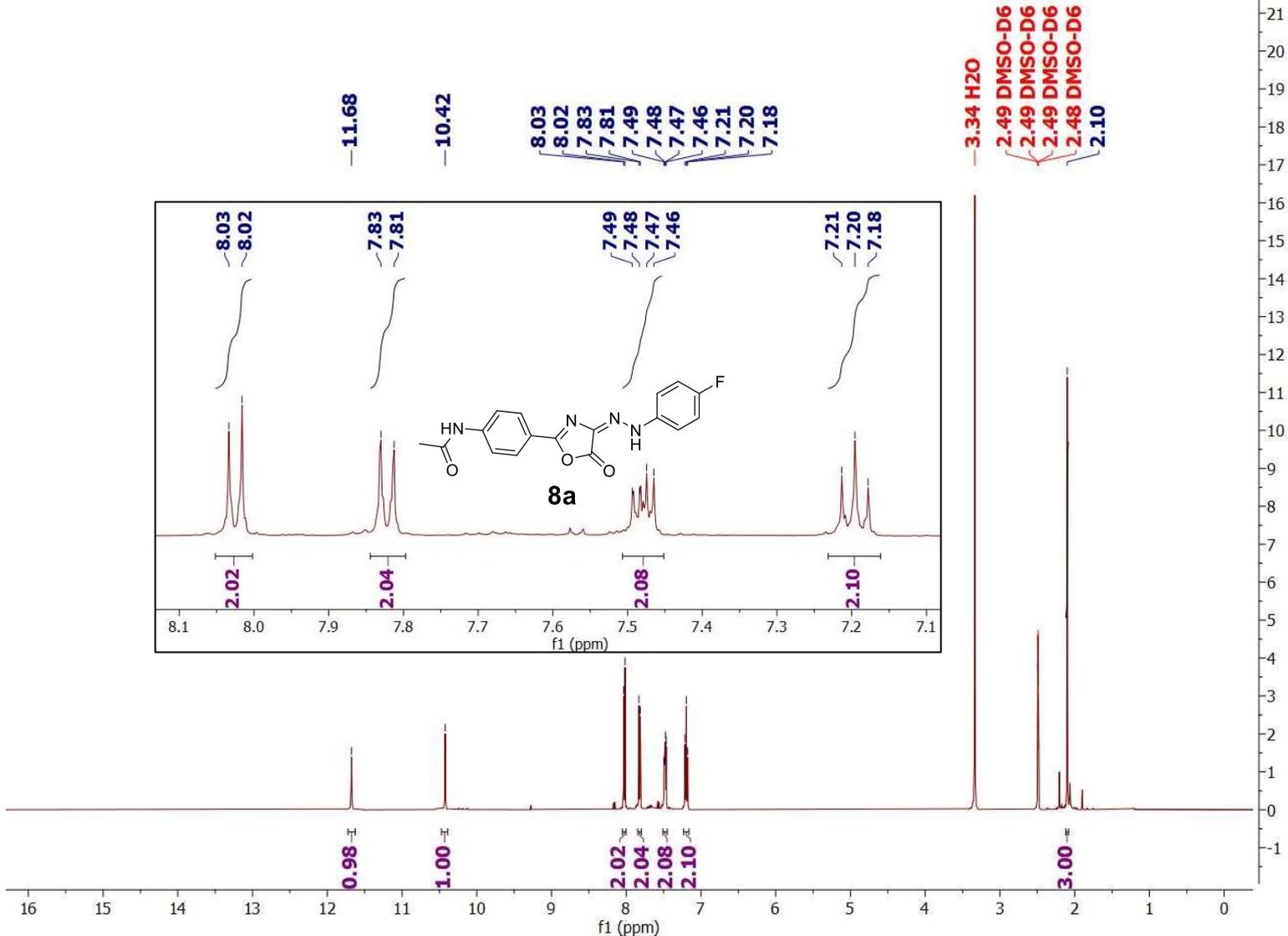
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Do not use Multiplier & Dilution Factor with ISTDs
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Signal 1: VWD1 A, Wavelength=254 nm

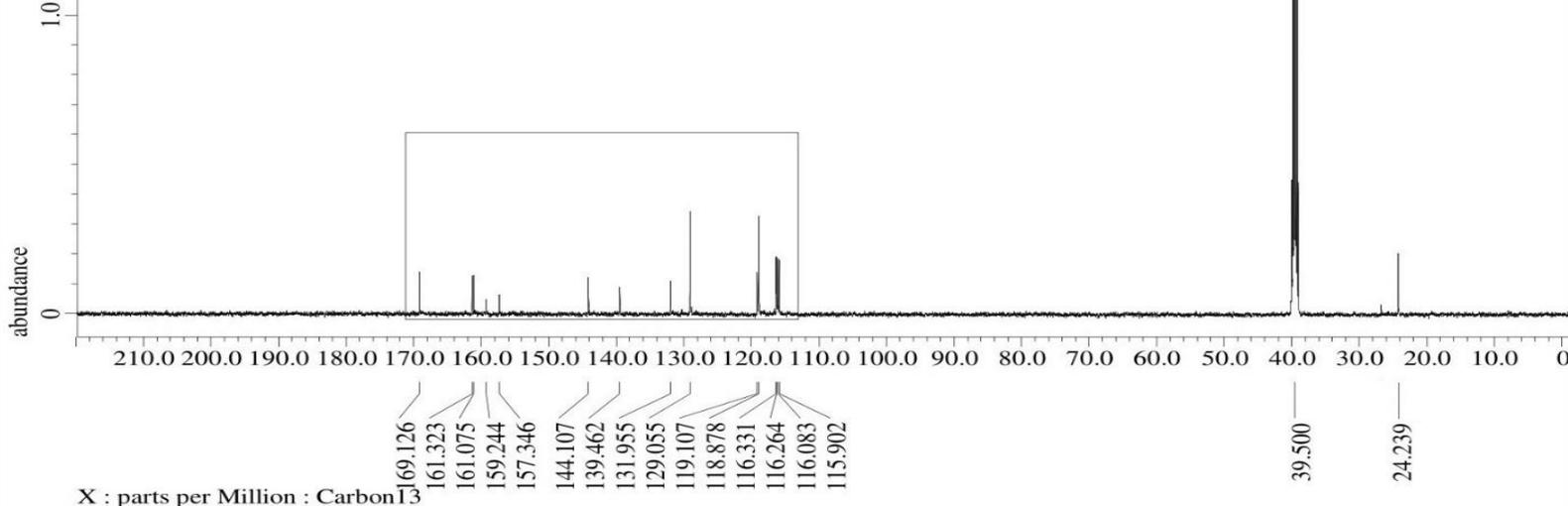
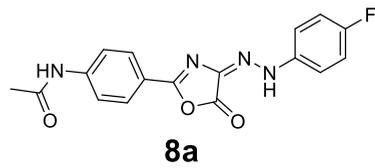
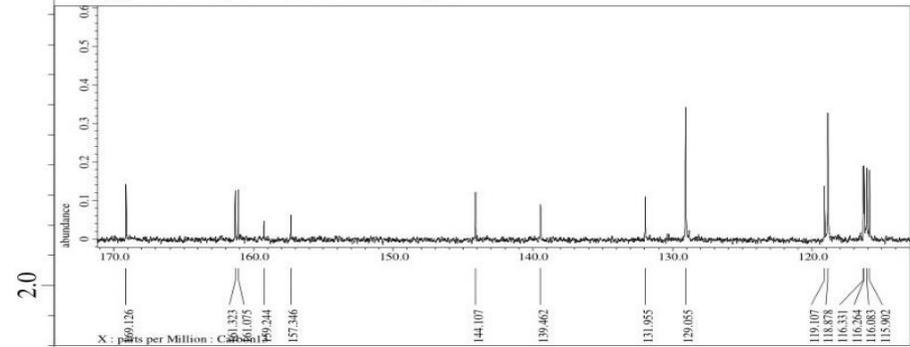
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Area %	Name
1	7.500	BBA	1.9181	2.09105e4	99.7750	Compound Peak

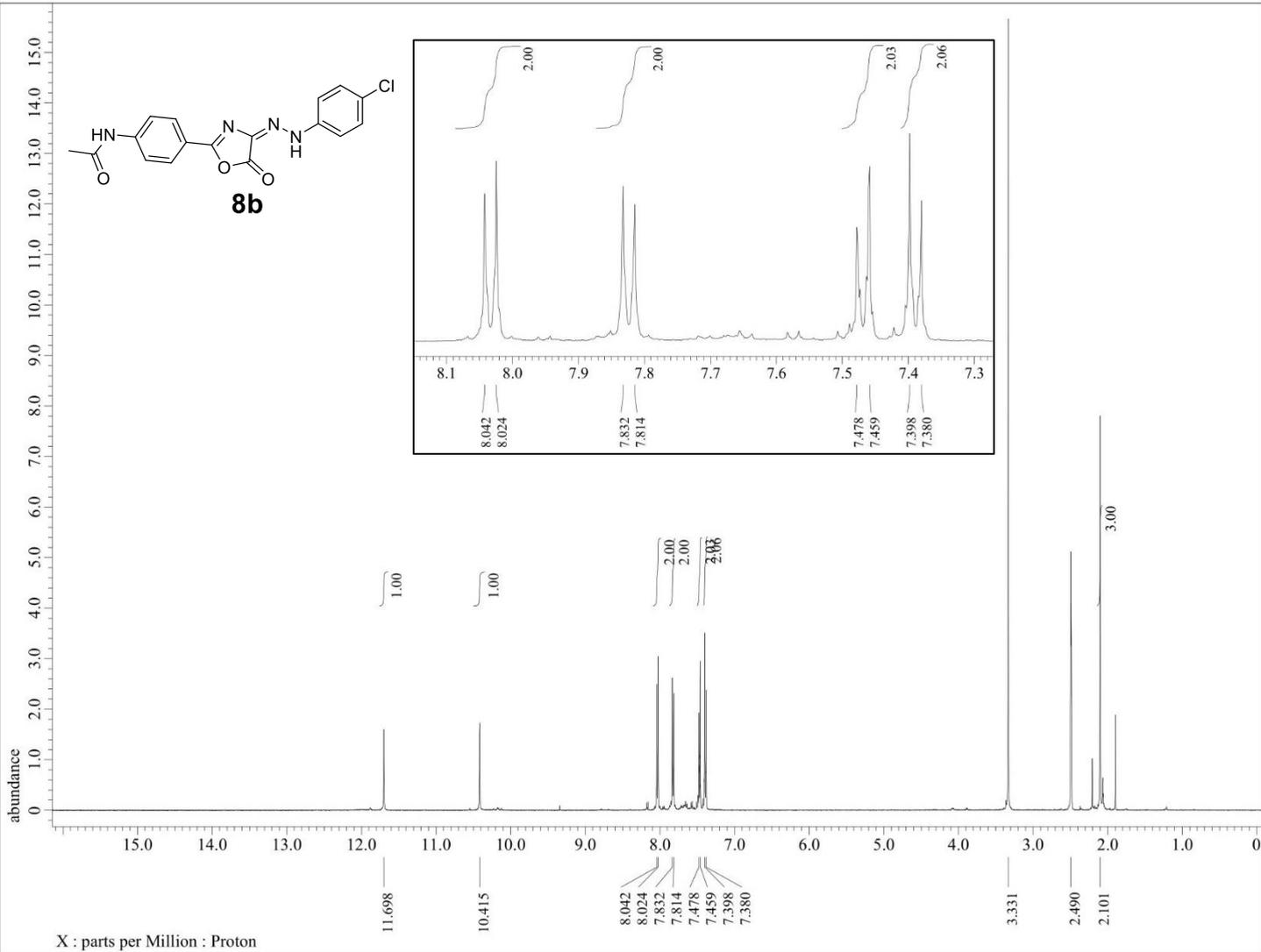
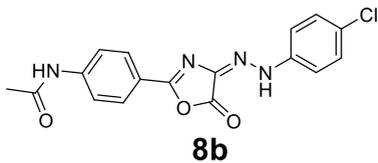
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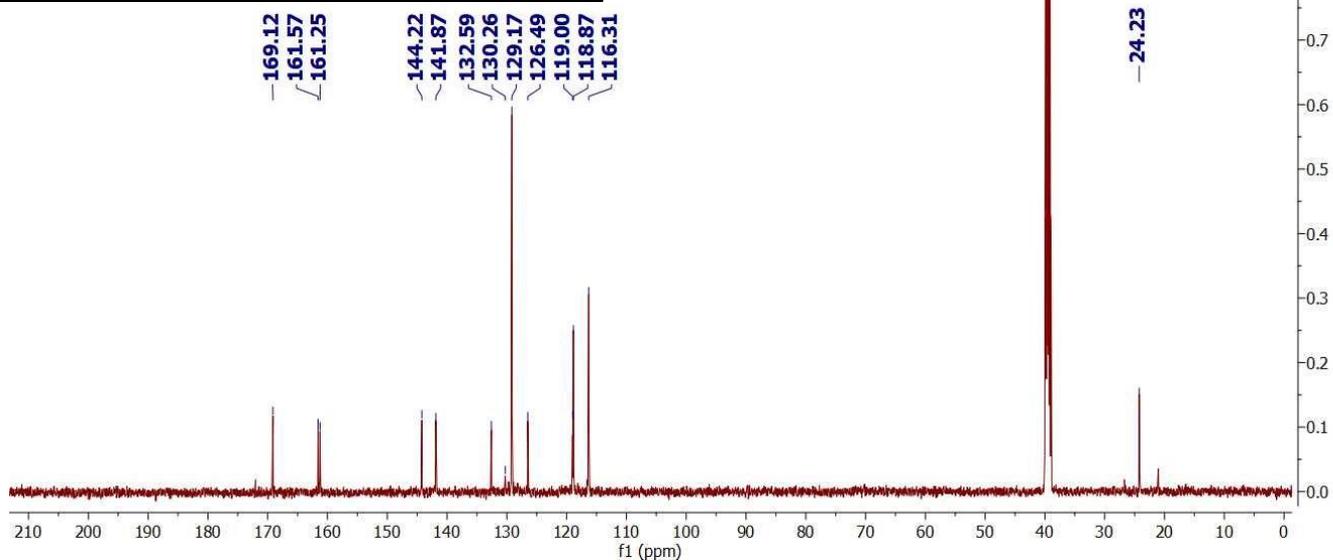
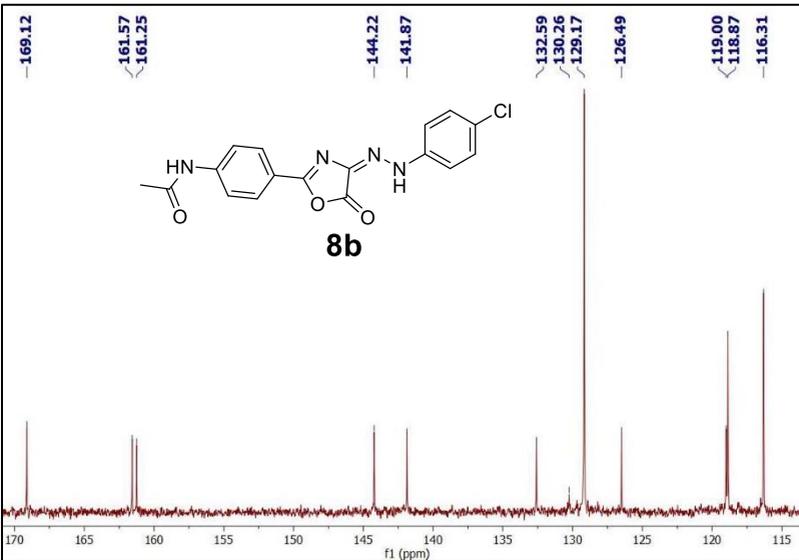
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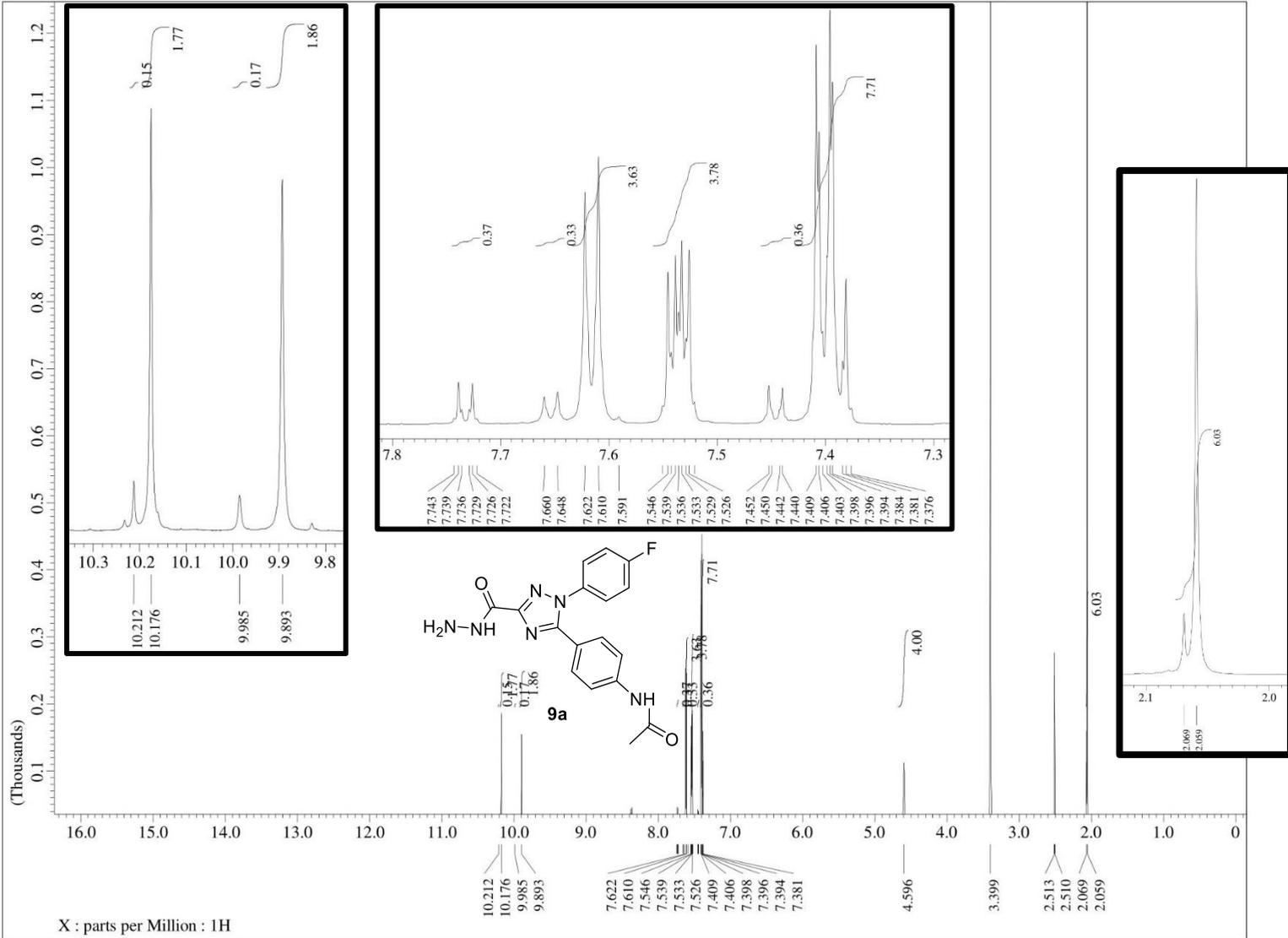


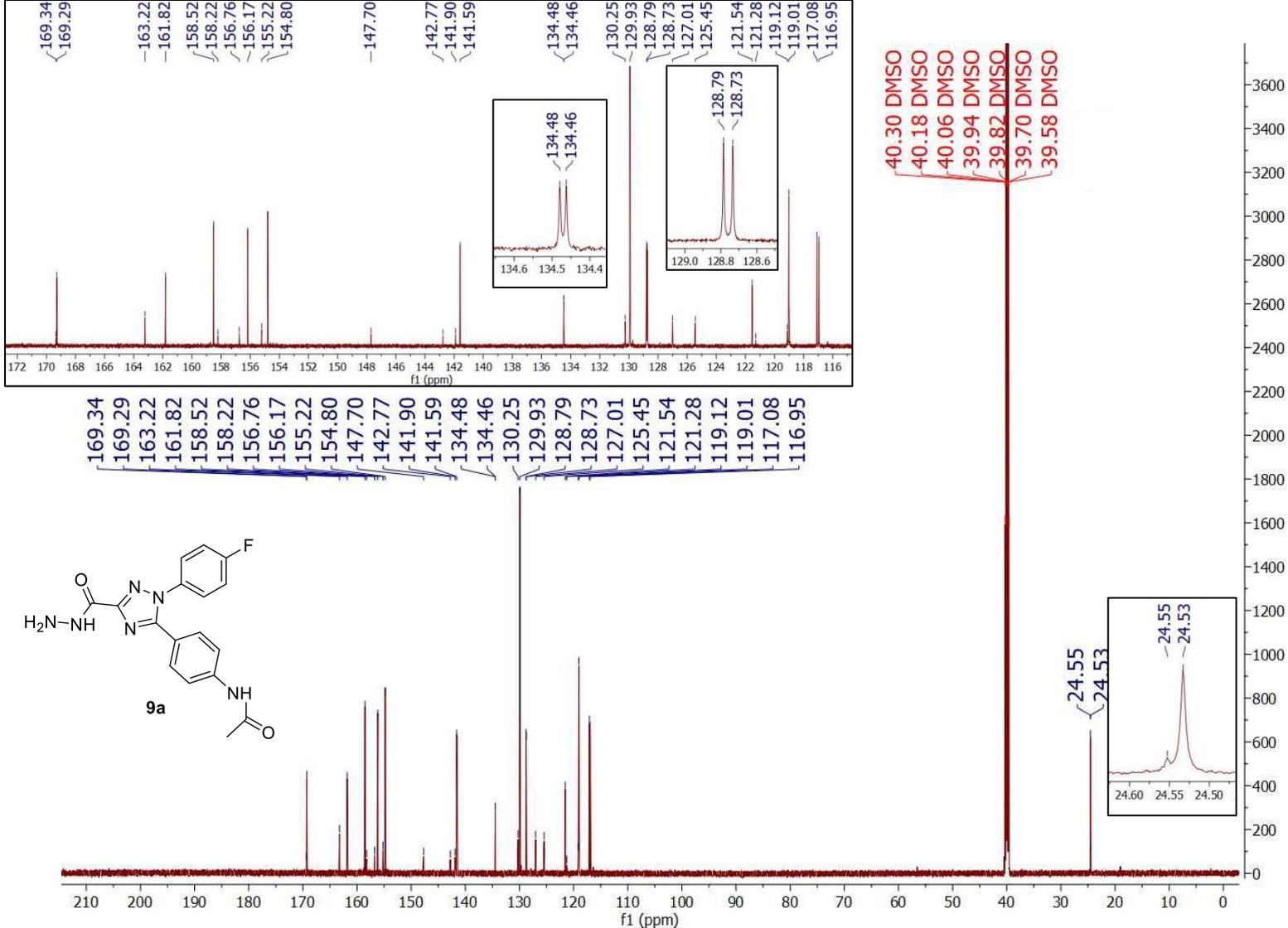
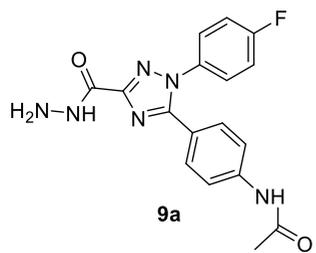
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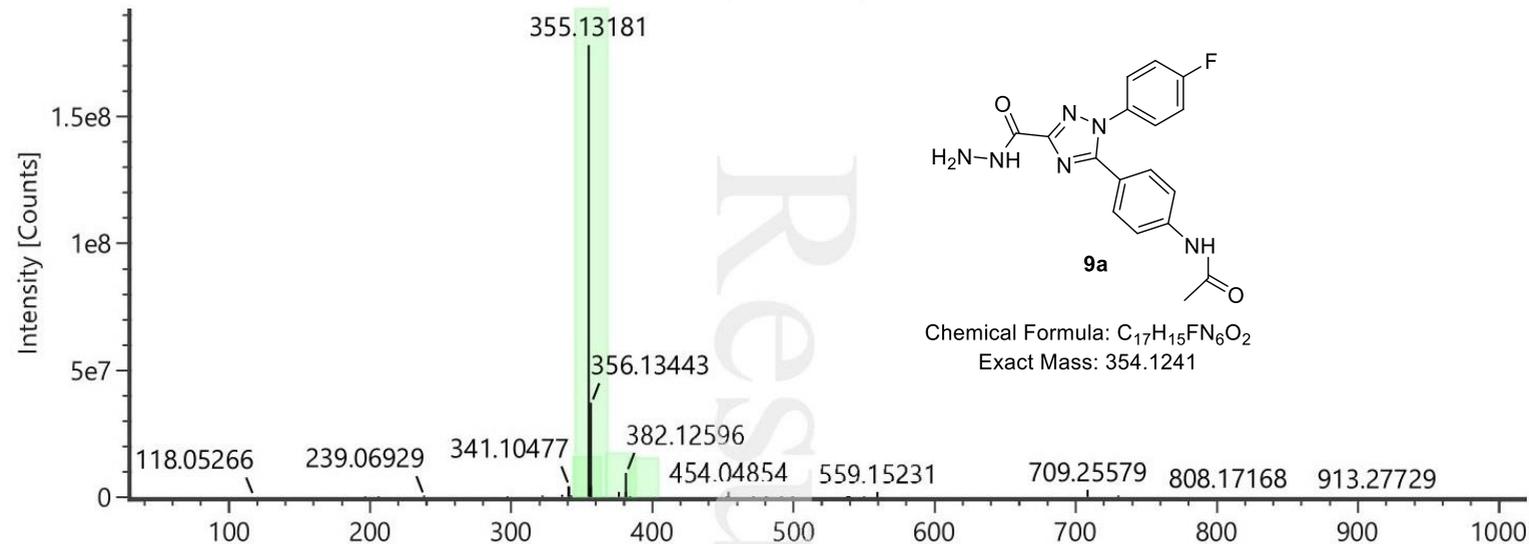


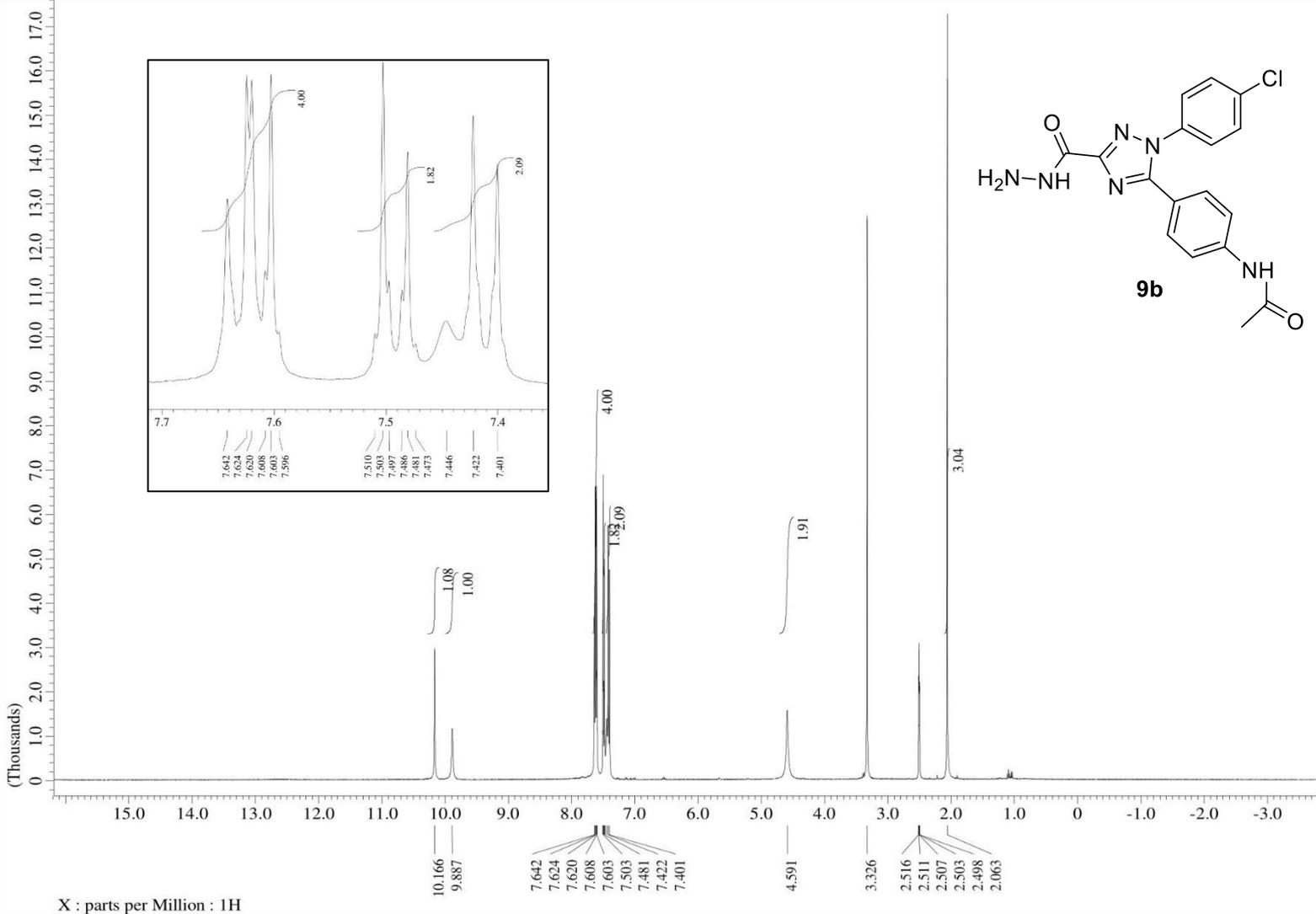


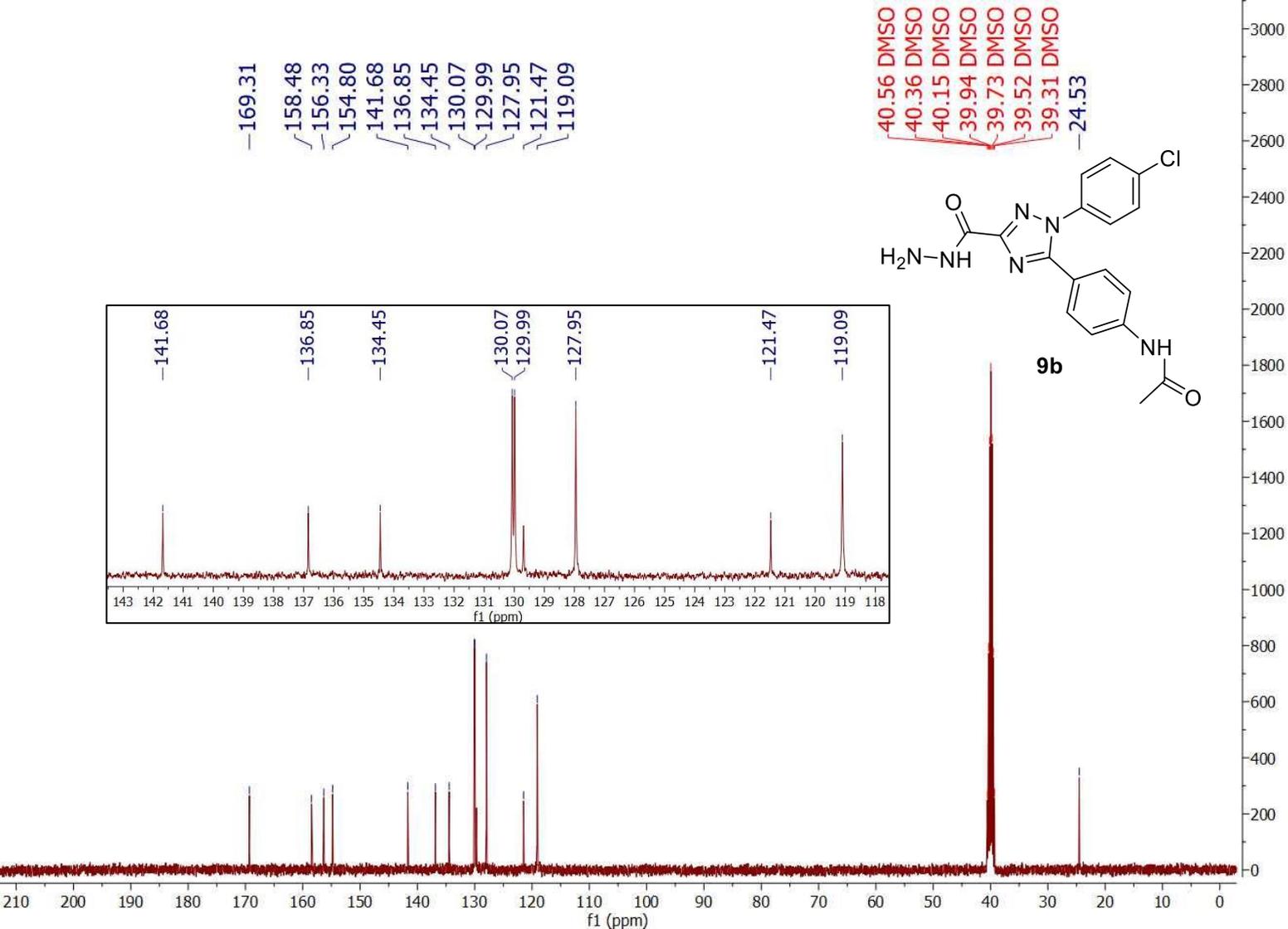
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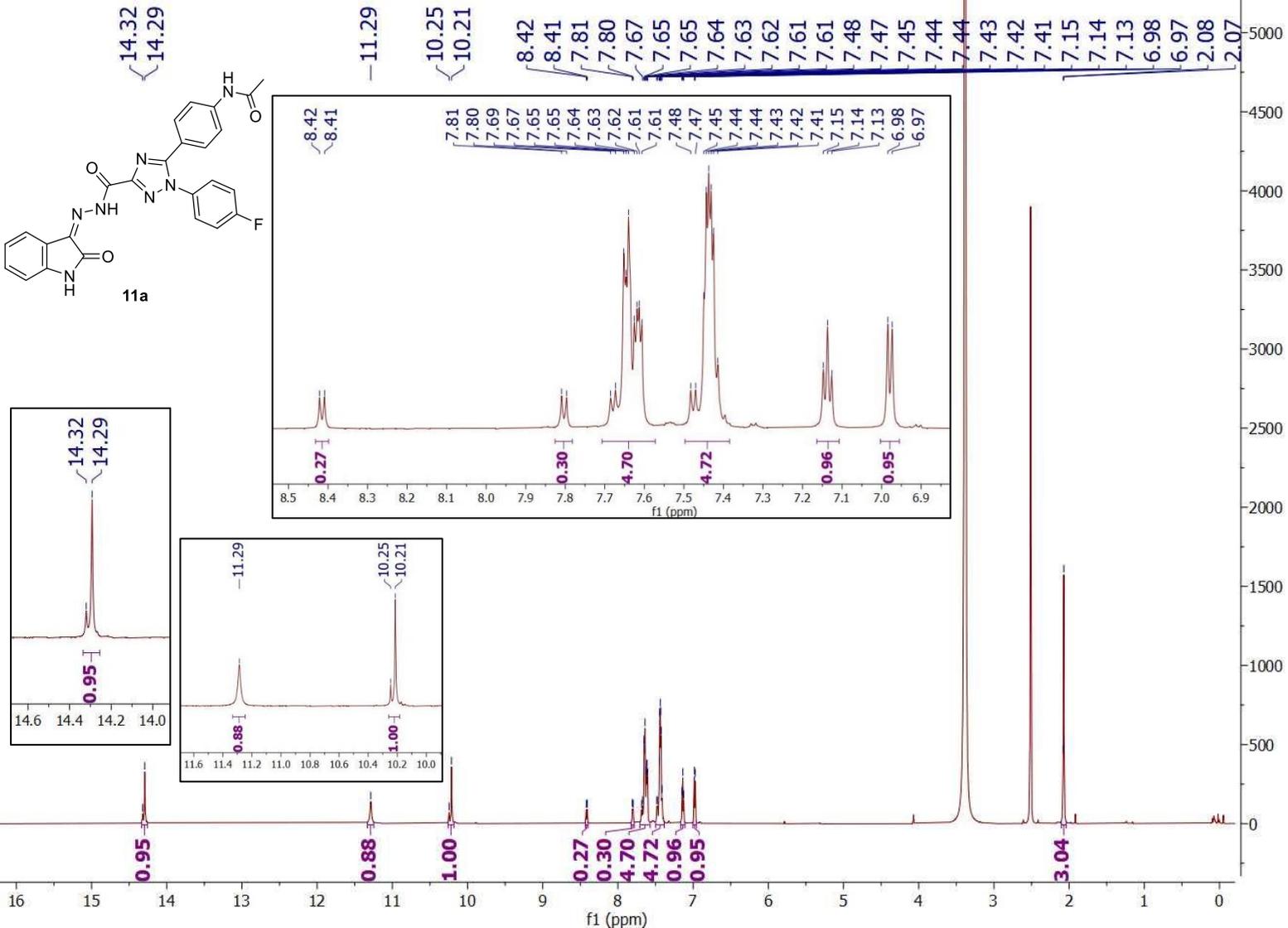
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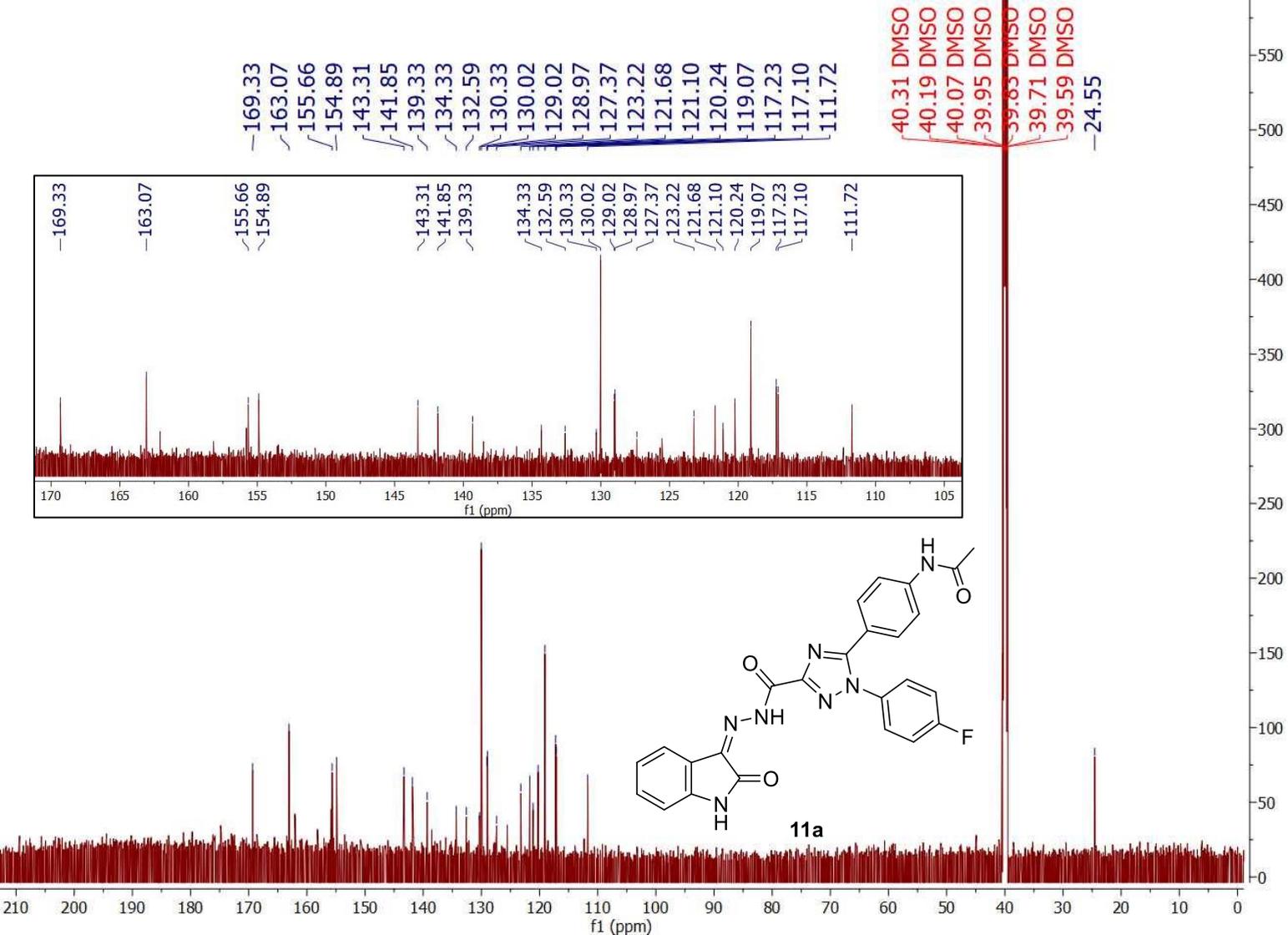
	Component name	Identification status	Formula	Neutral mass (Da)	Observed neutral mass (Da)	Observed m/z	Mass error (mDa)
1	FAZ	Identified	C ₁₇ H ₁₅ FO ₂ N ₆	354.12405	354.1245	355.1318	0.5











Compound Summary

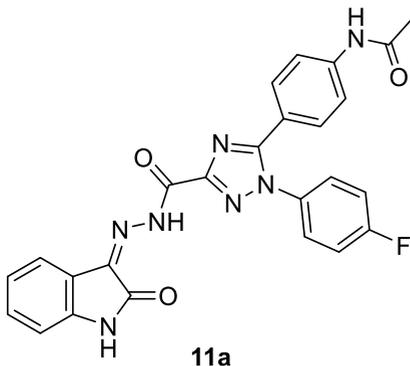
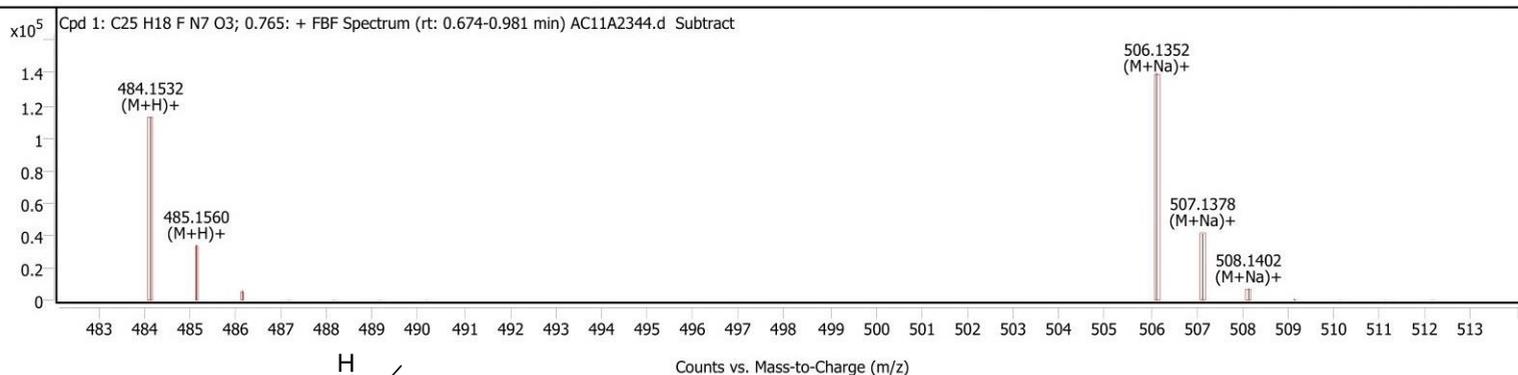
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1		C ₂₅ H ₁₈ F N ₇ O ₃	0.765	483.1459		FBF	99.54				FBF

Compound Details

Cpd. 1: C₂₅H₁₈F N₇O₃

Name	Formula	RT	RI	Mass	Score	Algorithm	Lib/DB
	C ₂₅ H ₁₈ F N ₇ O ₃	0.765		483.1459	99.54	FBF	

Species	m/z	Score (Lib)	Num Spectra	Score (DB)	Score (MFG)	Score (RT)
(M+H) ⁺ (M+Na) ⁺	484.1532 506.1352					



Chemical Formula: C₂₅H₁₈FN₇O₃

Exact Mass: 483.1455

Compound Summary

Cpd	Name	Formula	RT	Mass	CAS	ID Source	Score	Score (Lib)	Score (DB)	Score (MFG)	Algorithm
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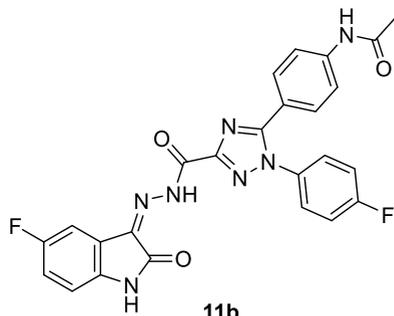
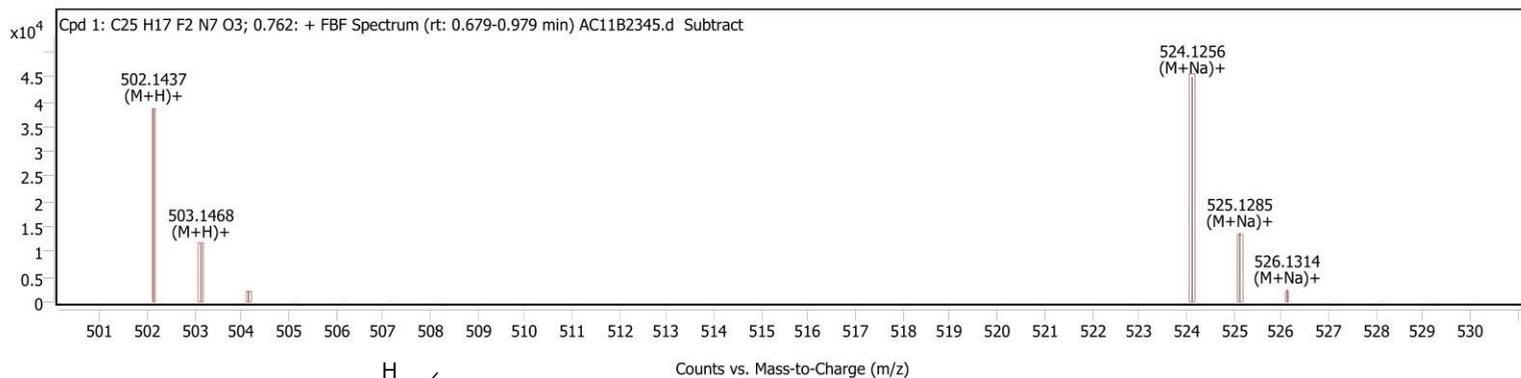
Compound Details

Cpd. 1: C₂₅H₁₇F₂N₇O₃

Name	Formula	RT	RI	Mass	Score	Algorithm	Lib/DB
	C ₂₅ H ₁₇ F ₂ N ₇ O ₃	0.762		501.1365	99.48	FBF	

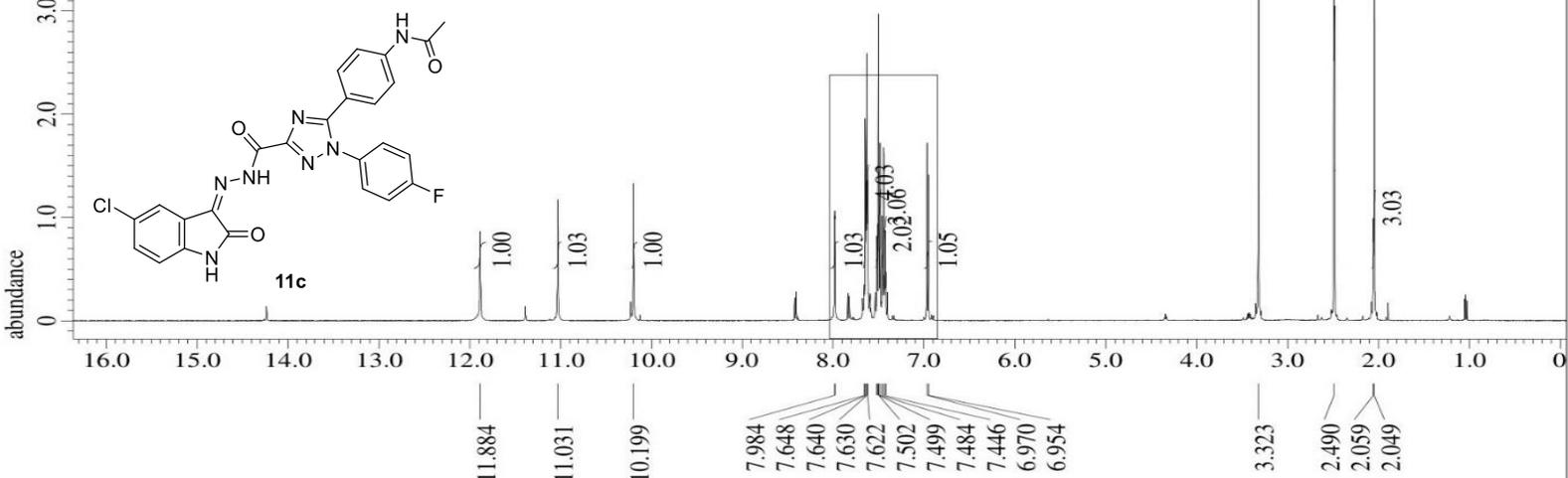
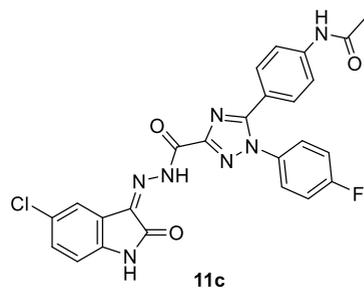
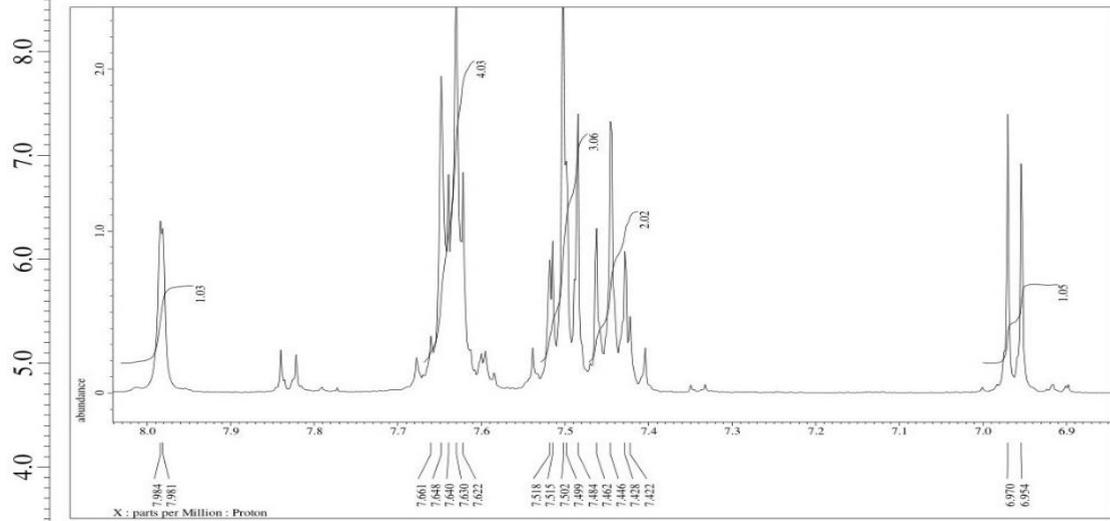
Species	m/z	Score (Lib)	Num Spectra	Score (DB)	Score (MFG)	Score (RT)
(M+H) ⁺ (M+Na) ⁺	502.1437 524.1256					

Compound Spectra



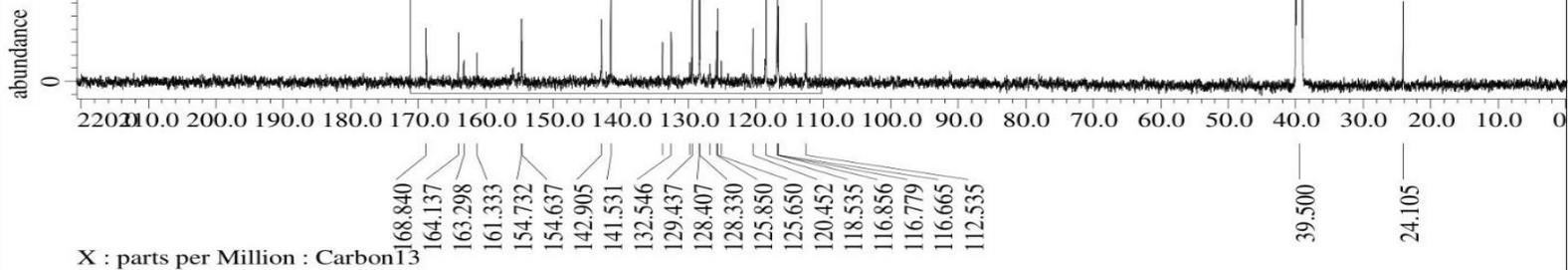
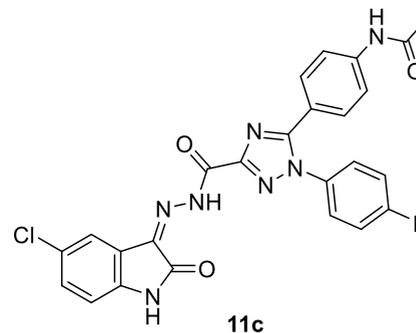
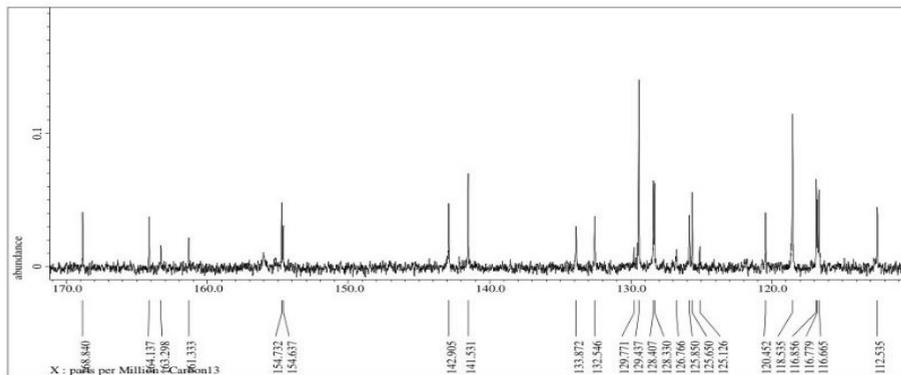
Chemical Formula: C₂₅H₁₇F₂N₇O₃

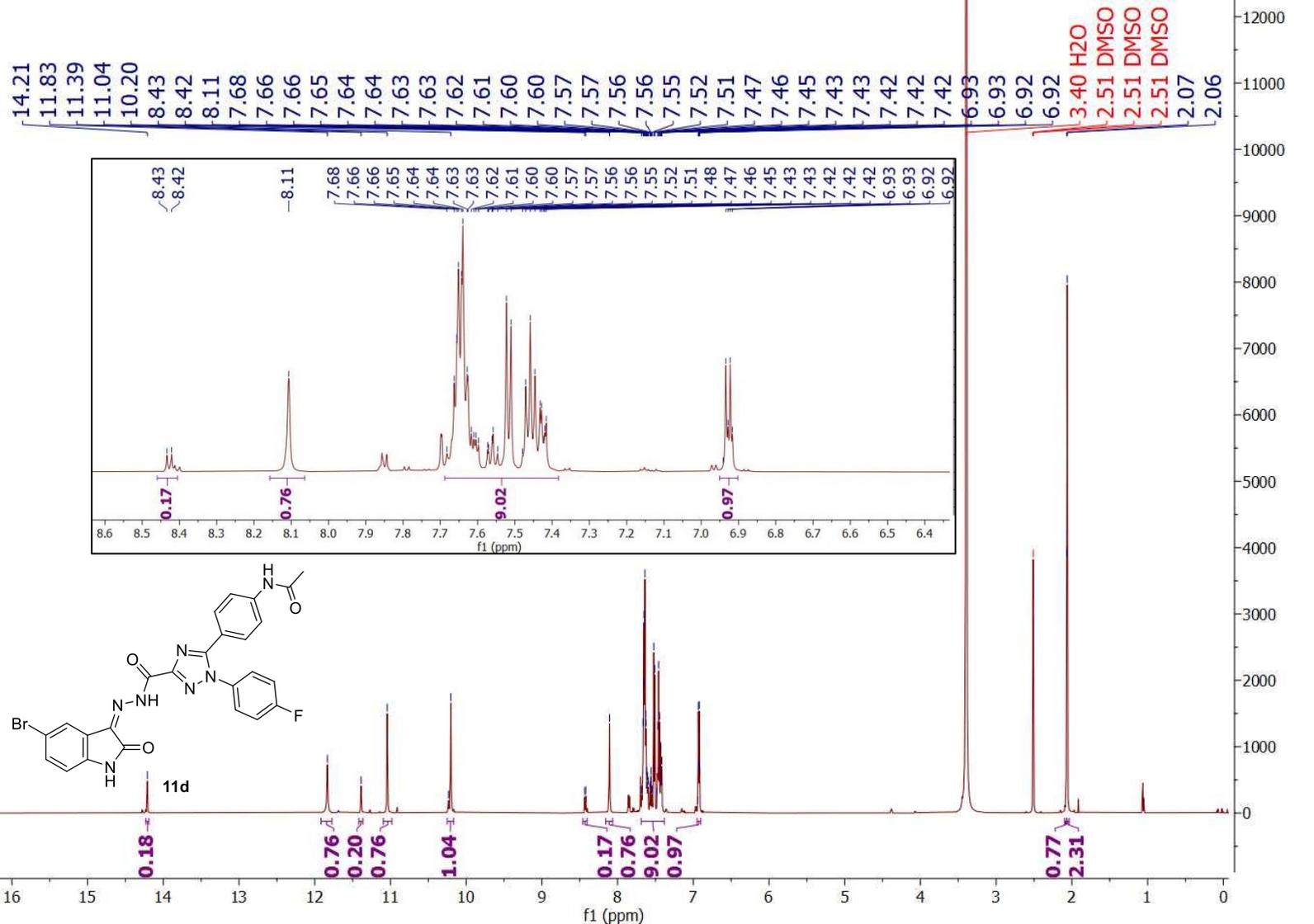
Exact Mass: 501.1361

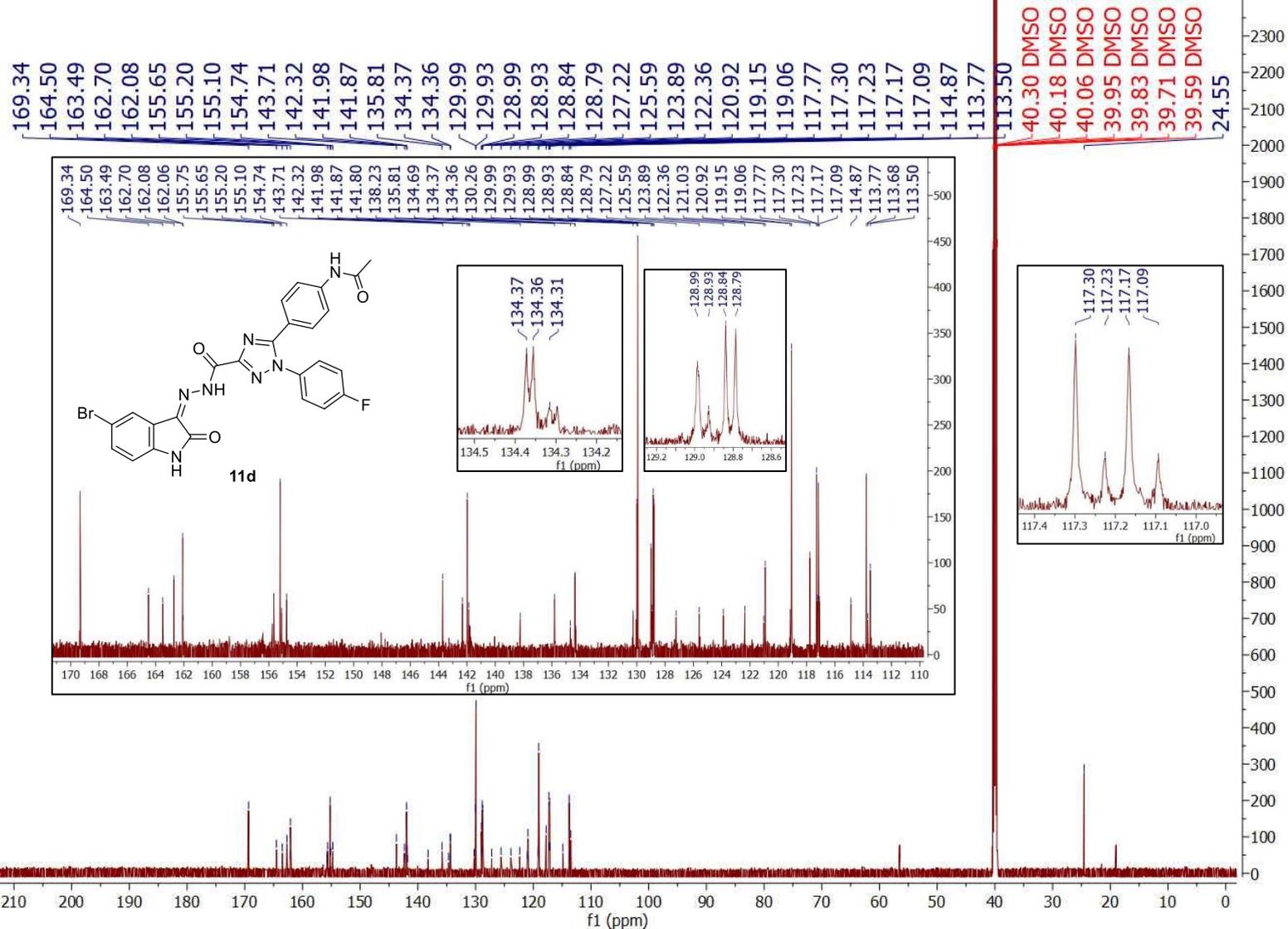


X: parts per Million : Proton

Wagdy Eldehna_AC11C_carbon-1-8.jdf







Compound Summary

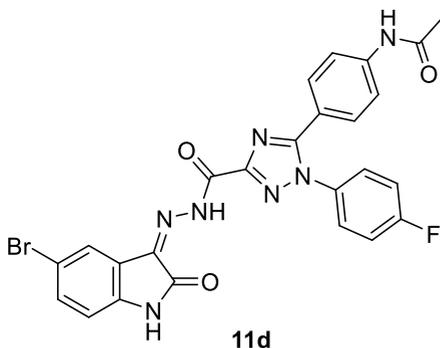
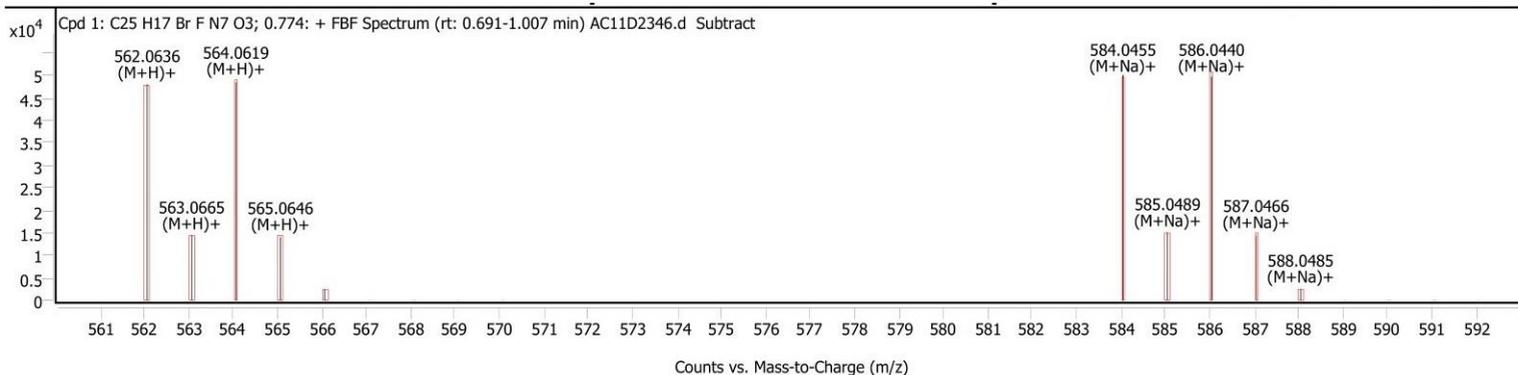
Cpd	Name	Formula	RT	Mass	CAS	ID Source	Score	Score (Lib)	Score (DB)	Score (MFG)	Algorithm
1		C ₂₅ H ₁₇ BrF N ₇ O ₃	0.774	561.0564		FBF	99.73				FBF

Compound Details

Cpd. 1: C₂₅H₁₇Br F N₇O₃

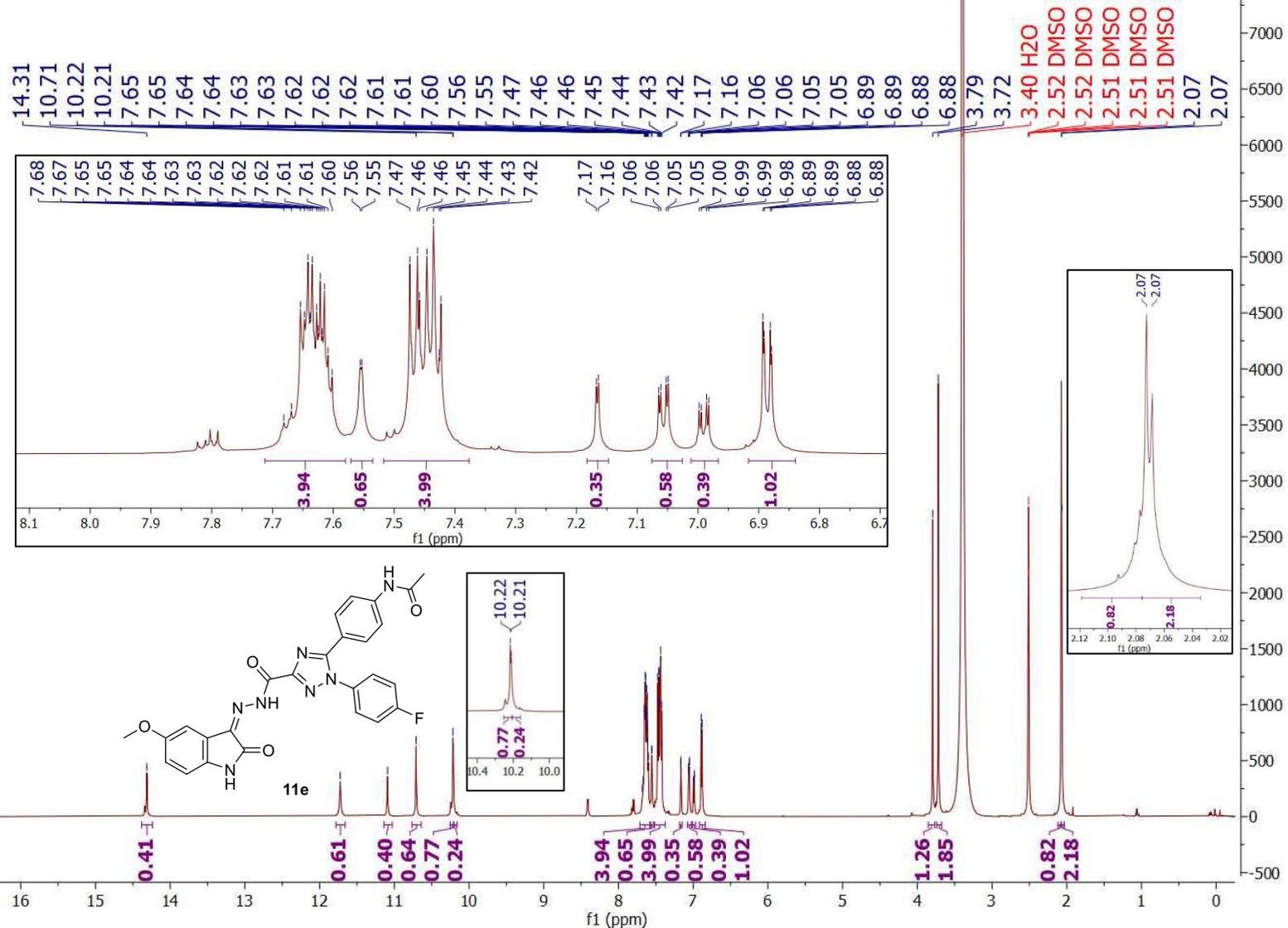
Name	Formula	RT	RI	Mass	Score	Algorithm	Lib/DB
	C ₂₅ H ₁₇ Br F N ₇ O ₃	0.774		561.0564	99.73	FBF	

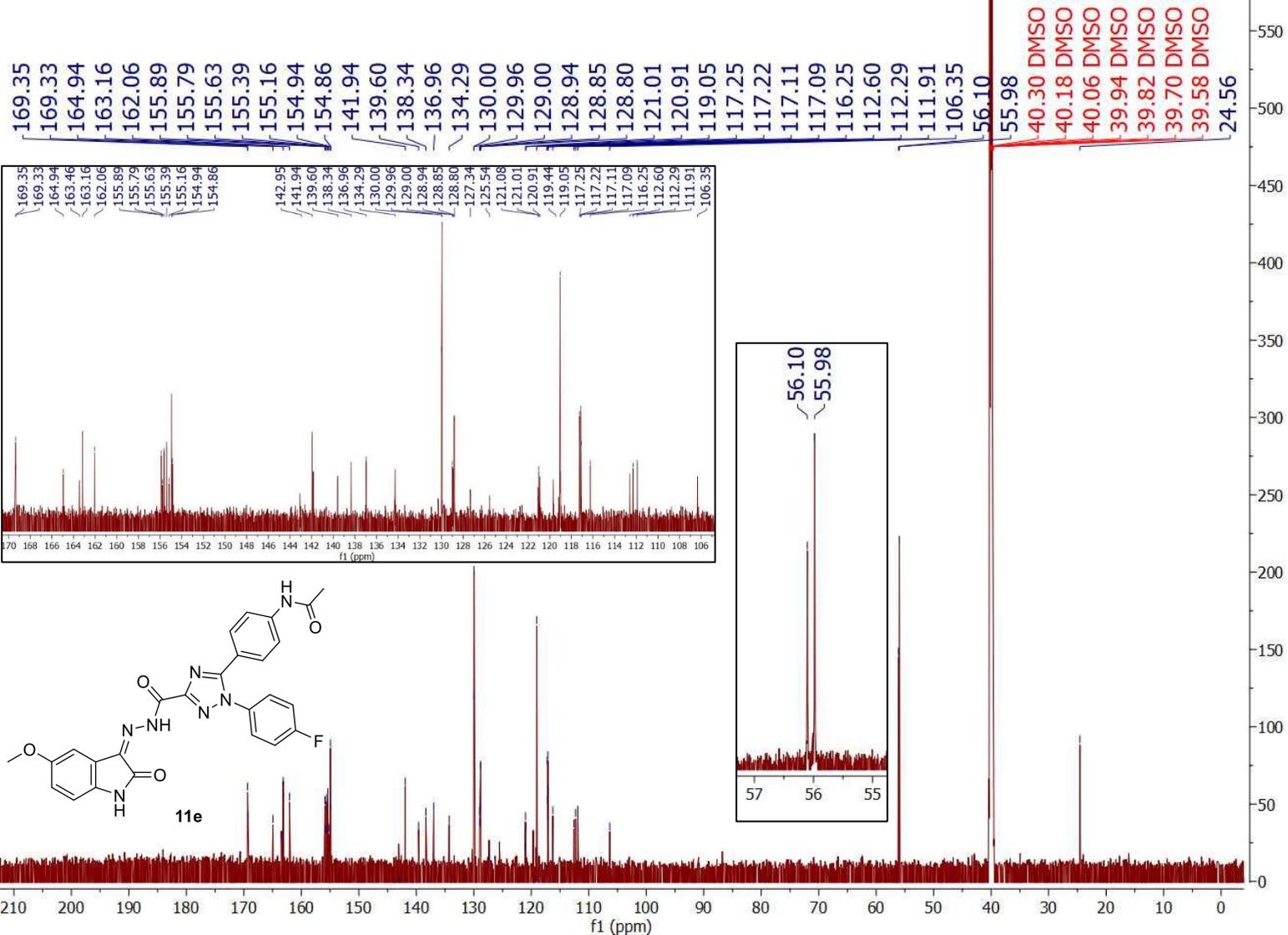
Species	m/z	Score (Lib)	Num Spectra	Score (DB)	Score (MFG)	Score (RT)
(M+H) ⁺ (M+Na) ⁺	562.0636 584.0455					



Chemical Formula: C₂₅H₁₇BrFN₇O₃

Exact Mass: 561.0560





Compound Summary

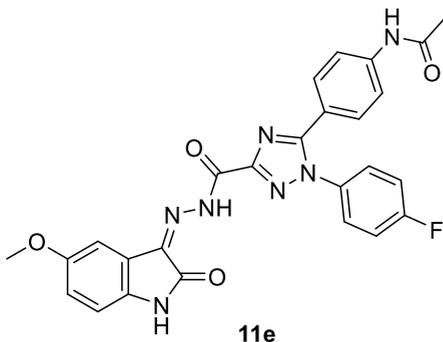
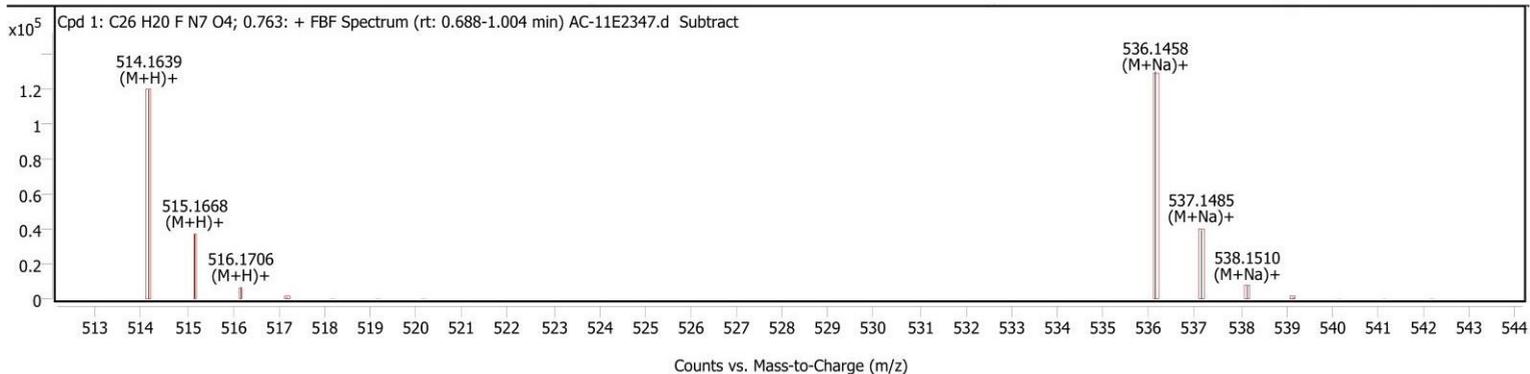
Cpd	Name	Formula	RT	Mass	CAS	ID Source	Score	Score (Lib)	Score (DB)	Score (MFG)	Algorithm
1		C ₂₆ H ₂₀ F N ₇ O ₄	0.763	513.1566		FBF	99.45				FBF

Compound Details

Cpd. 1: C₂₆H₂₀F N₇O₄

Name	Formula	RT	RI	Mass	Score	Algorithm	Lib/DB
	C ₂₆ H ₂₀ F N ₇ O ₄	0.763		513.1566	99.45	FBF	

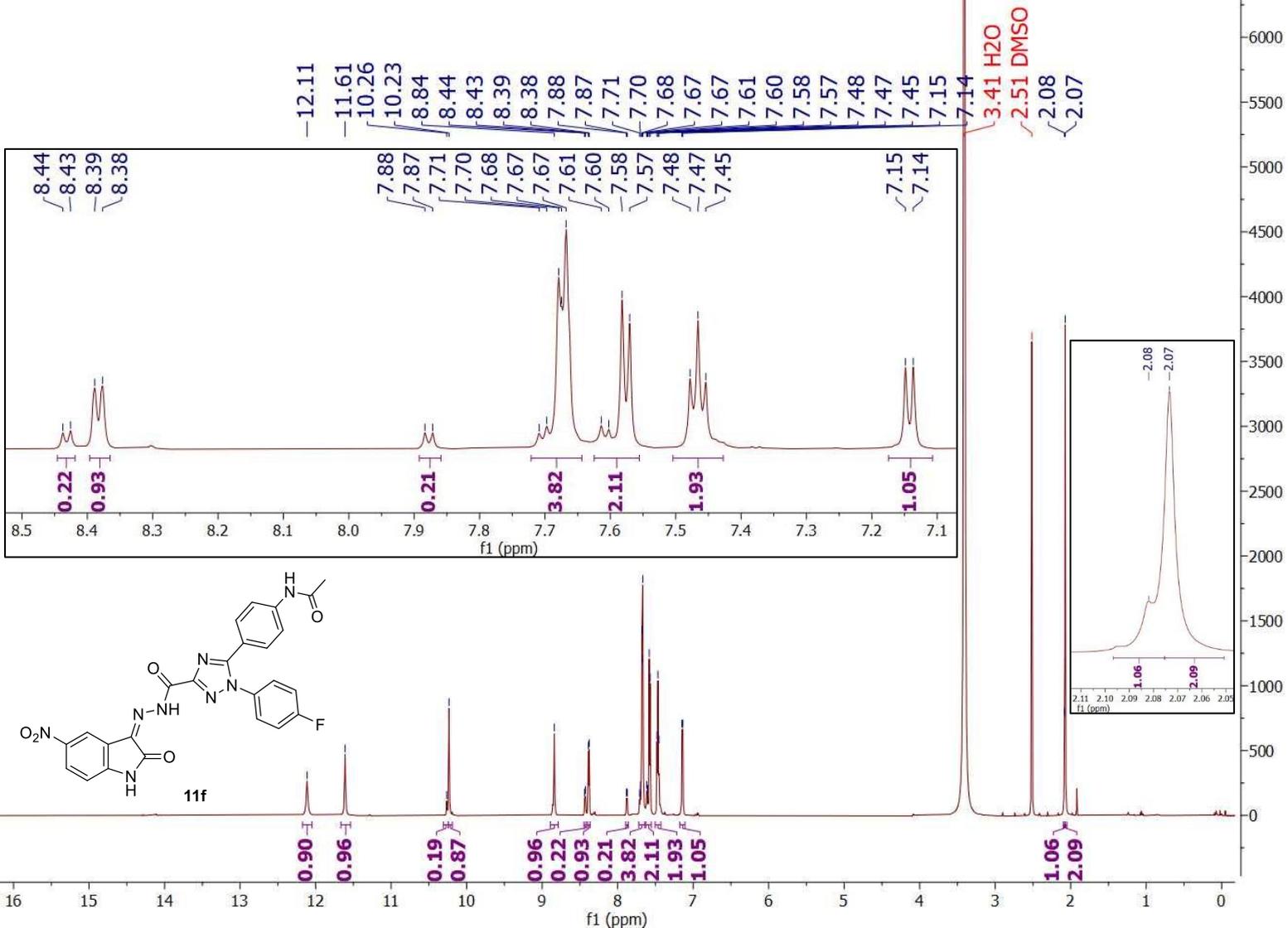
Species	m/z	Score (Lib)	Num Spectra	Score (DB)	Score (MFG)	Score (RT)
(M+H) ⁺ (M+Na) ⁺	514.1639 536.1458					

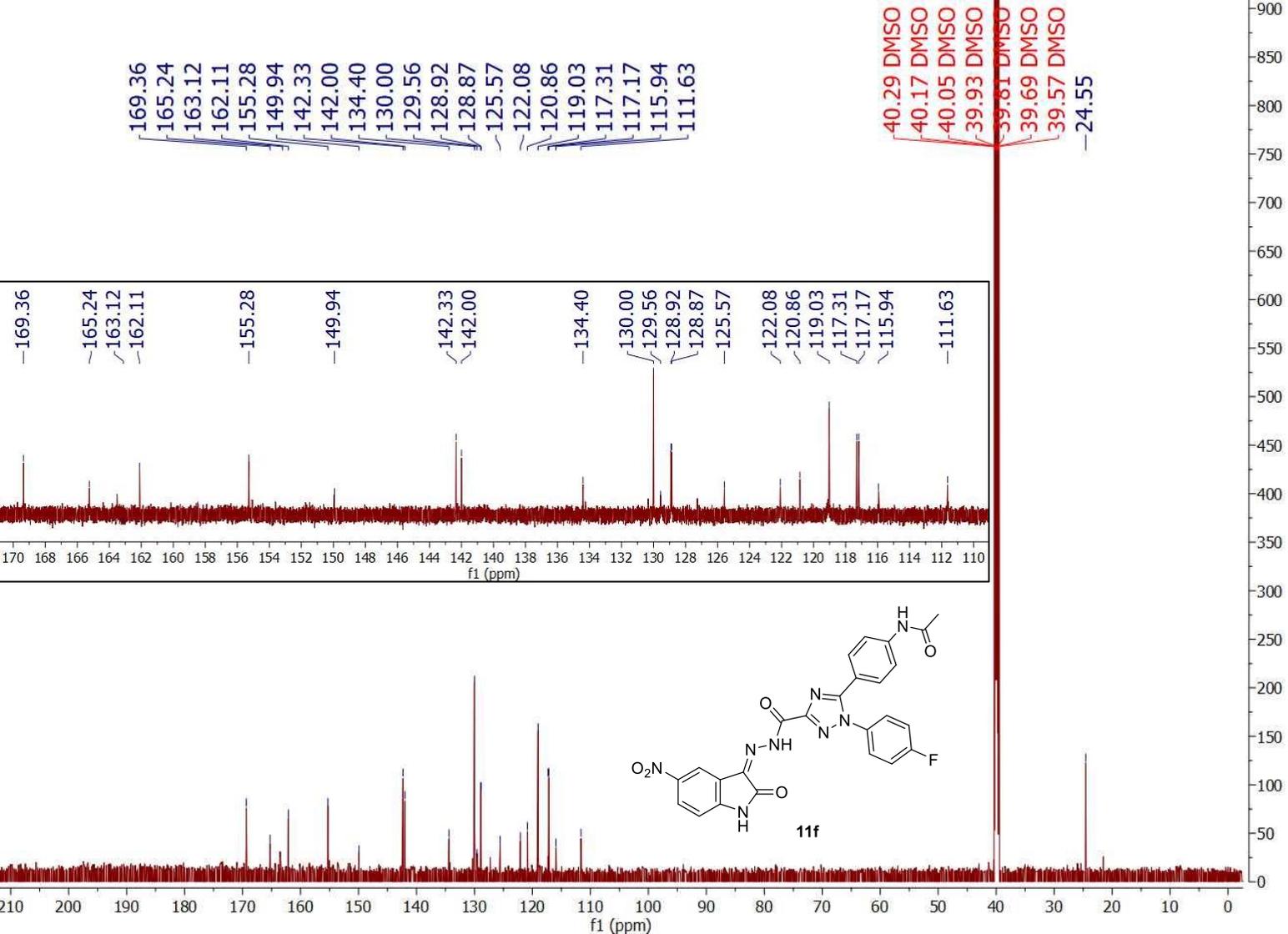


11e

Chemical Formula: C₂₆H₂₀FN₇O₄

Exact Mass: 513.1561





Compound Summary

Cpd	Name	Formula	RT	Mass	CAS	ID Source	Score	Score (Lib)	Score (DB)	Score (MFG)	Algorithm
1		C ₂₅ H ₁₇ F N ₈ O ₅	0.775	528.1310		FBF	99.47				FBF

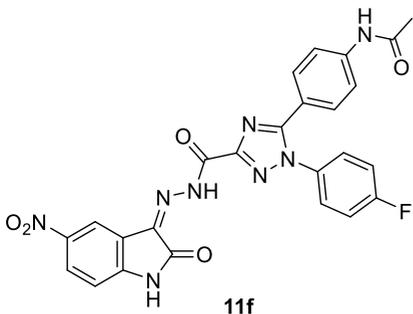
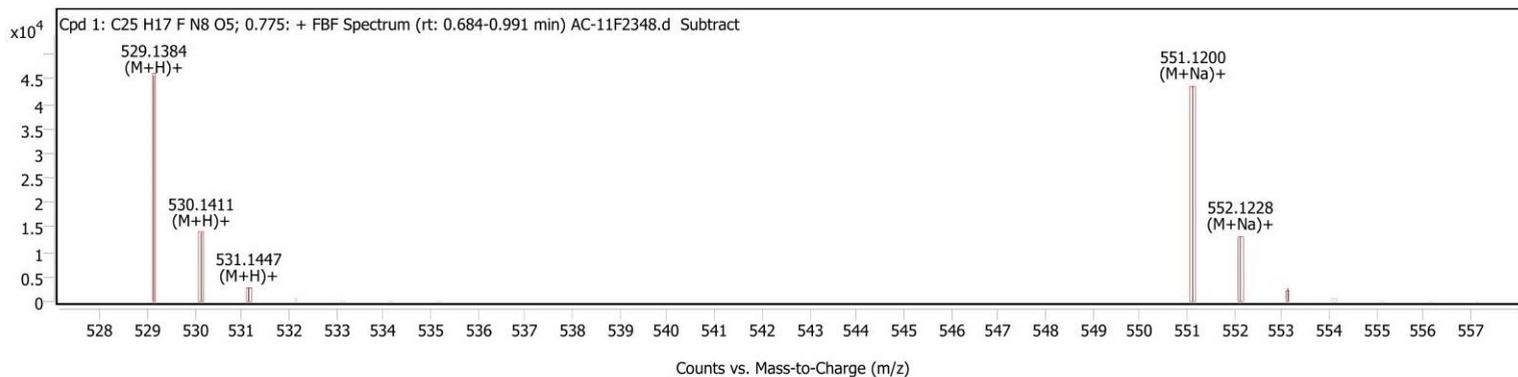
Compound Details

Cpd. 1: C₂₅H₁₇F N₈O₅

Name	Formula	RT	RI	Mass	Score	Algorithm	Lib/DB
	C ₂₅ H ₁₇ F N ₈ O ₅	0.775		528.1310	99.47	FBF	

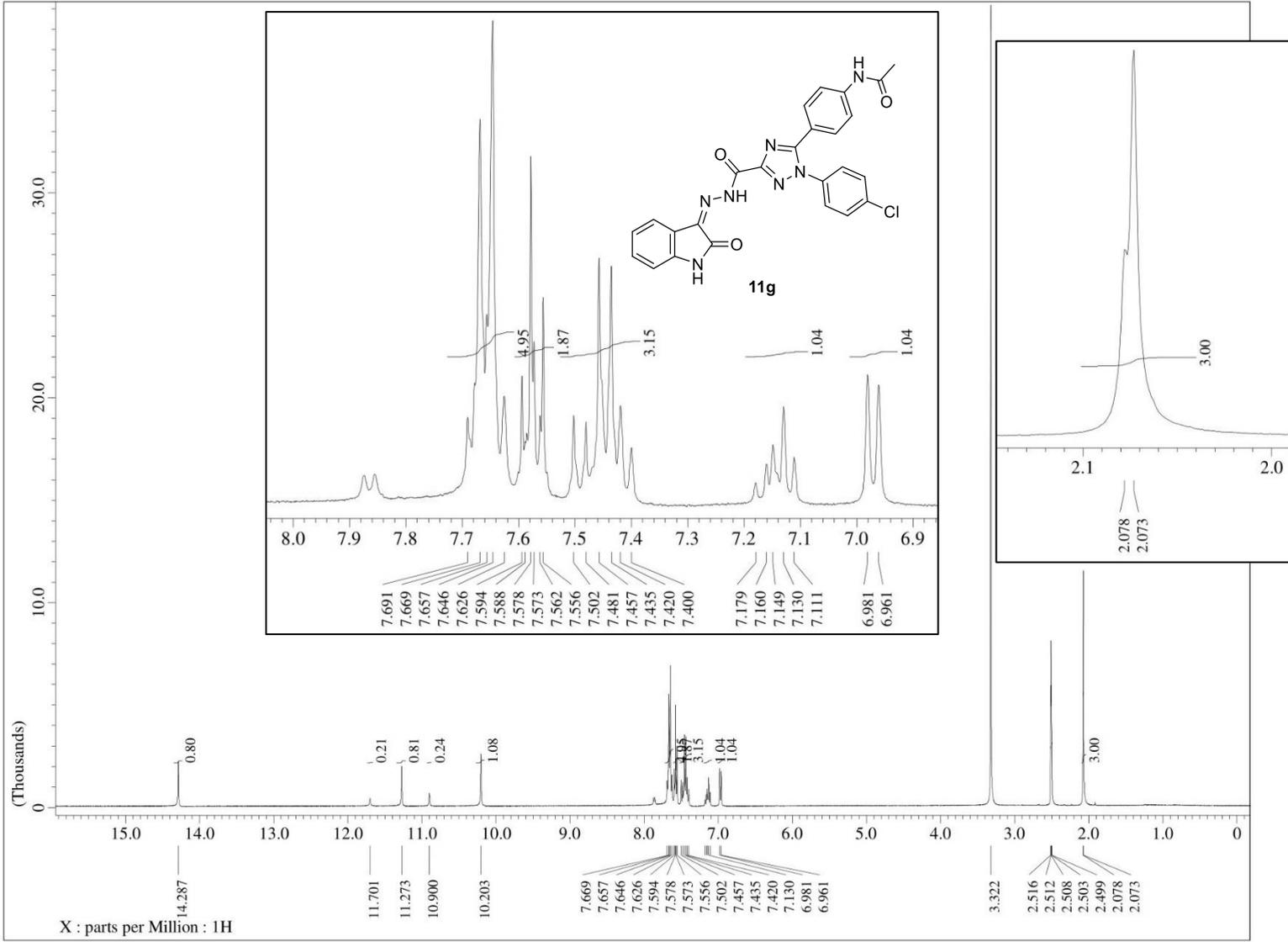
Species	m/z	Score (Lib)	Num Spectra	Score (DB)	Score (MFG)	Score (RT)
(M+H) ⁺ (M+Na) ⁺	529.1384 551.1200					

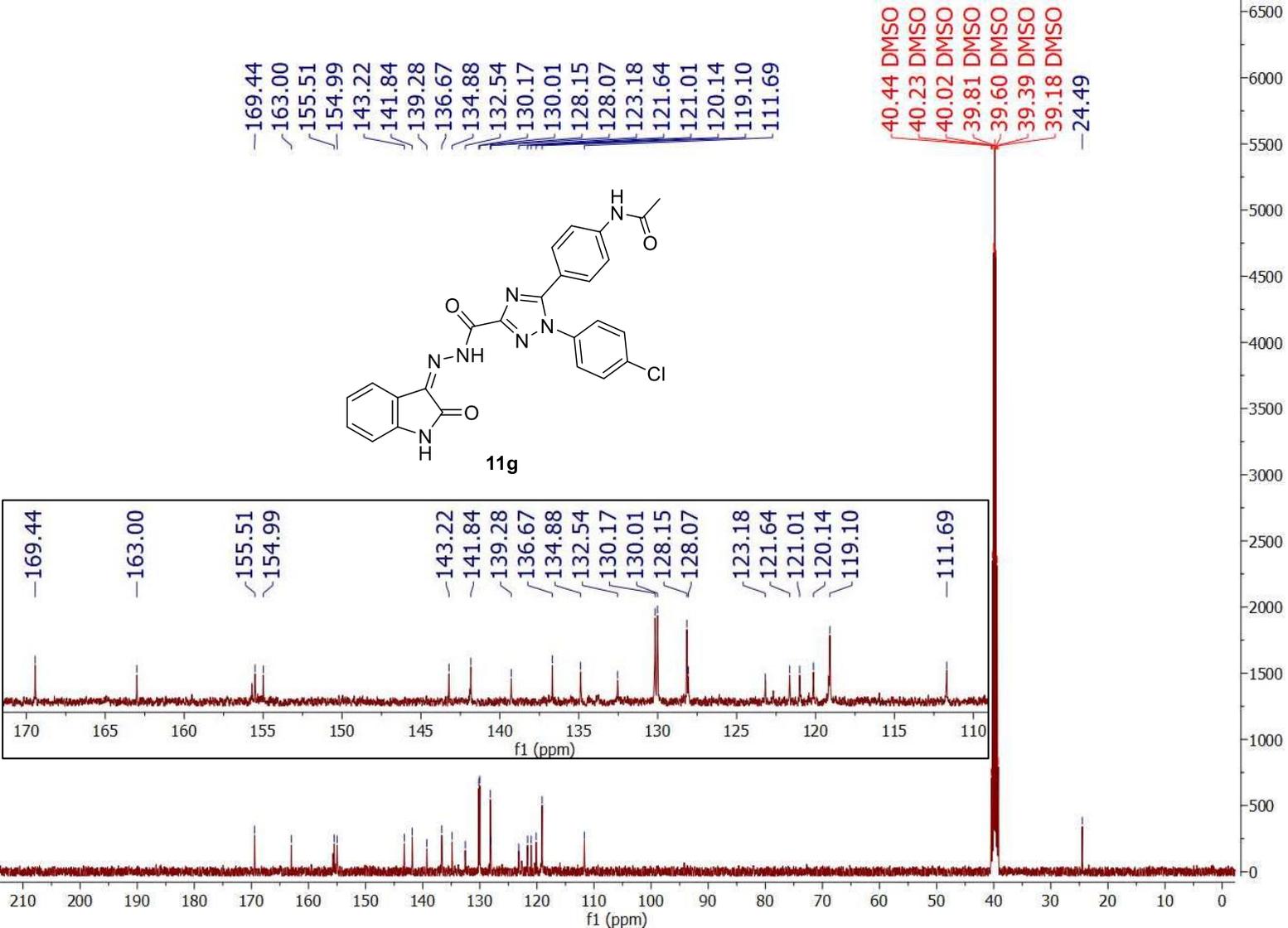
Compound Spectra

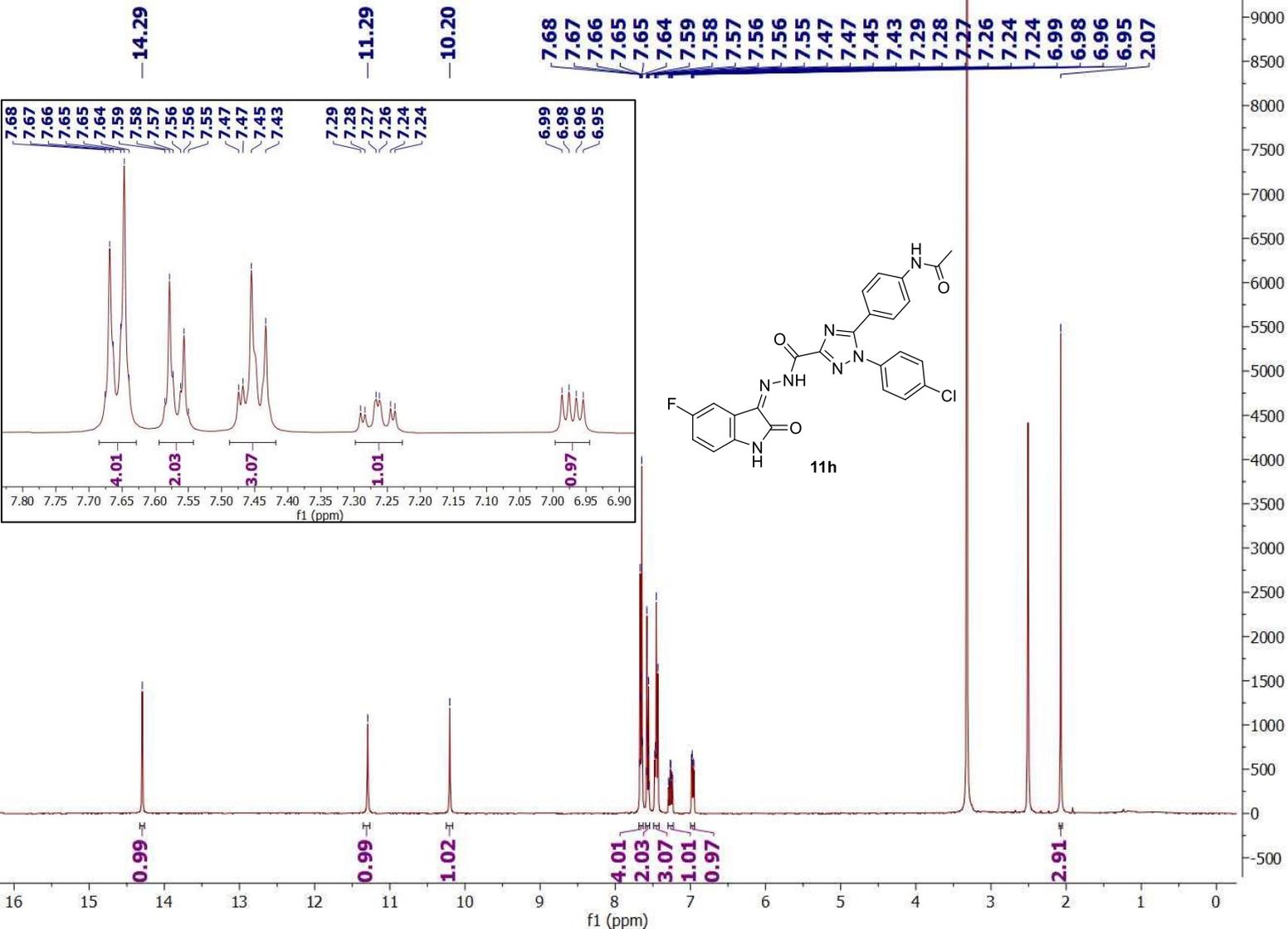


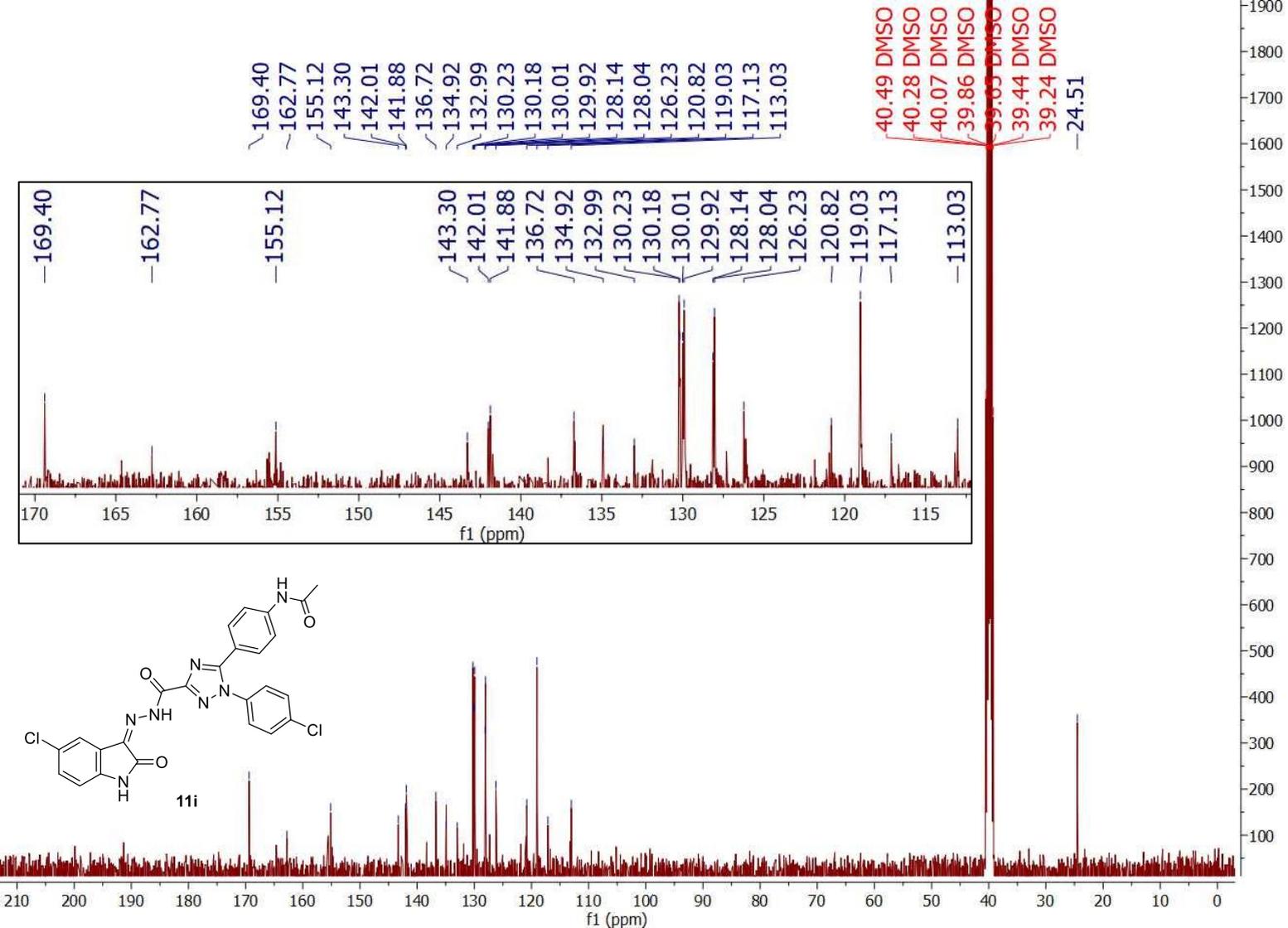
Chemical Formula: C₂₅H₁₇FN₈O₅

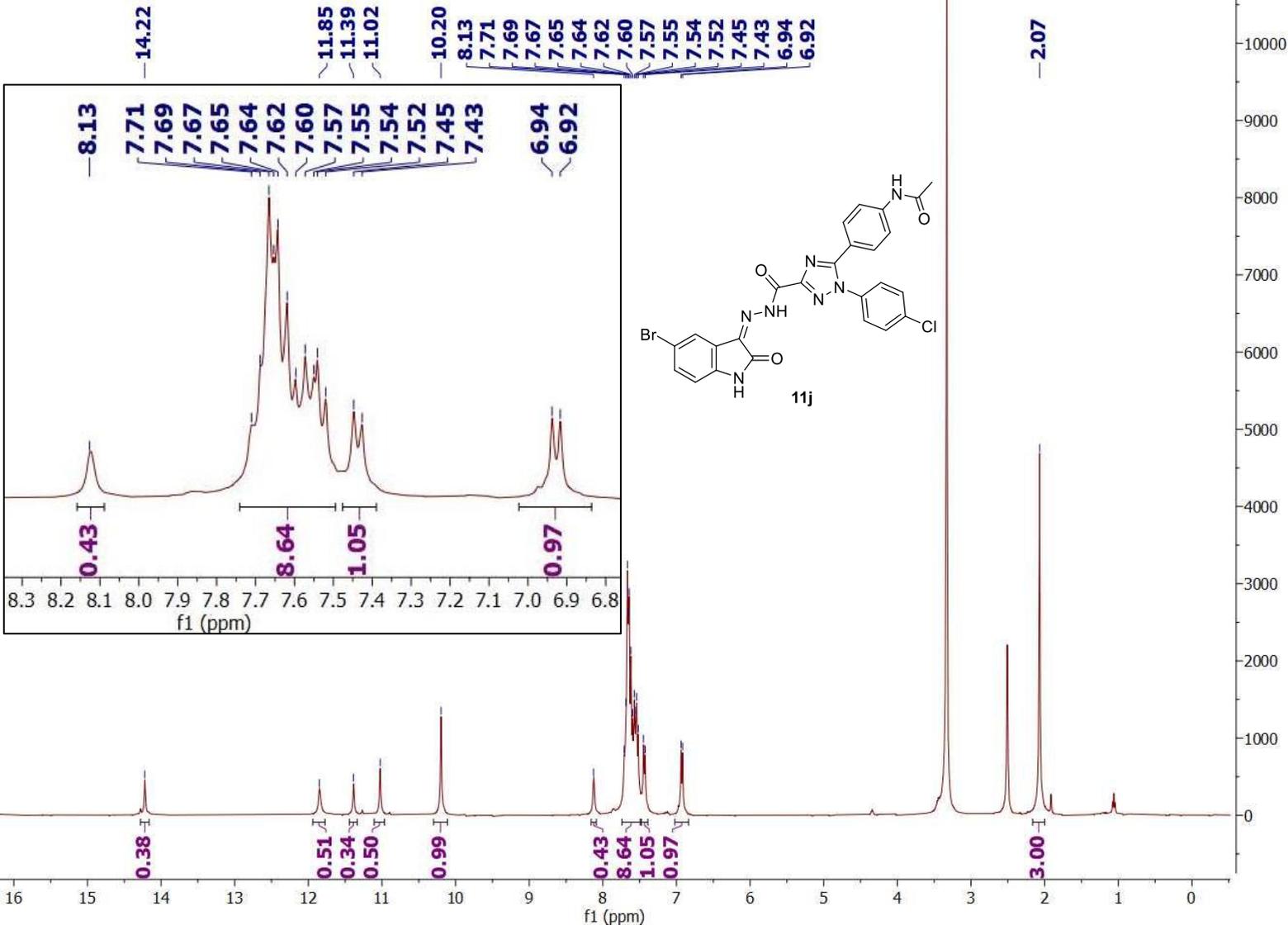
Exact Mass: 528.1306

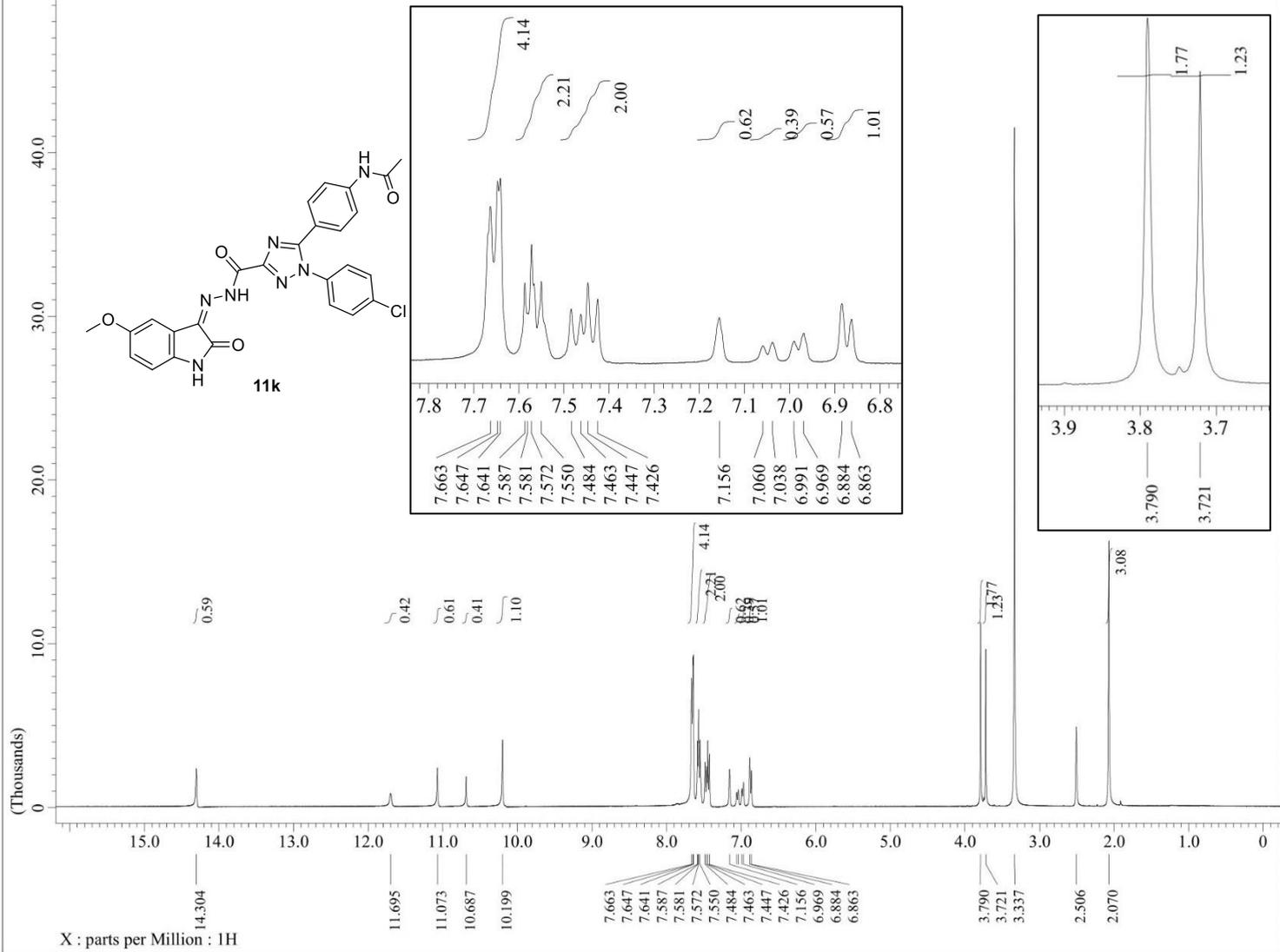


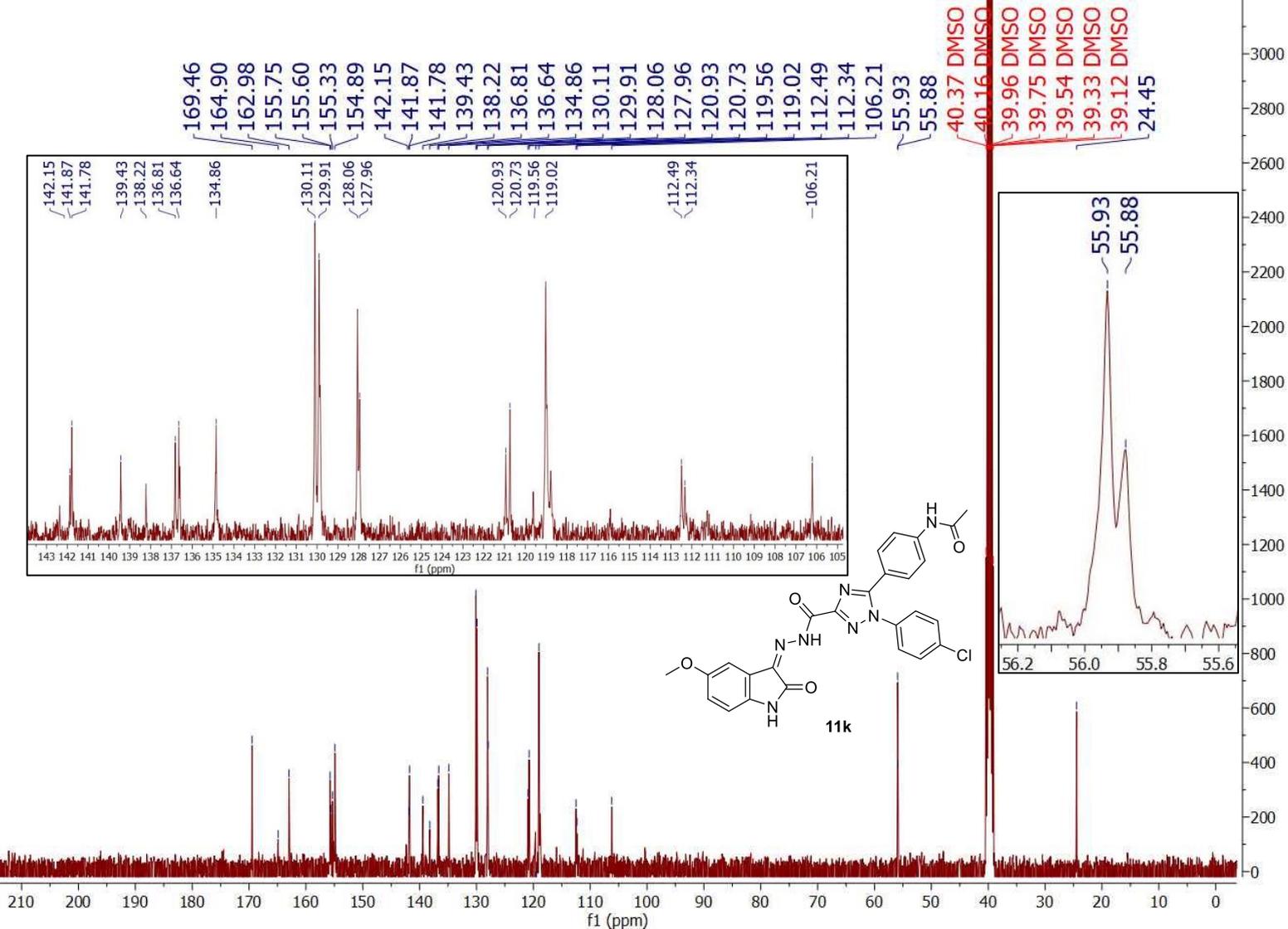


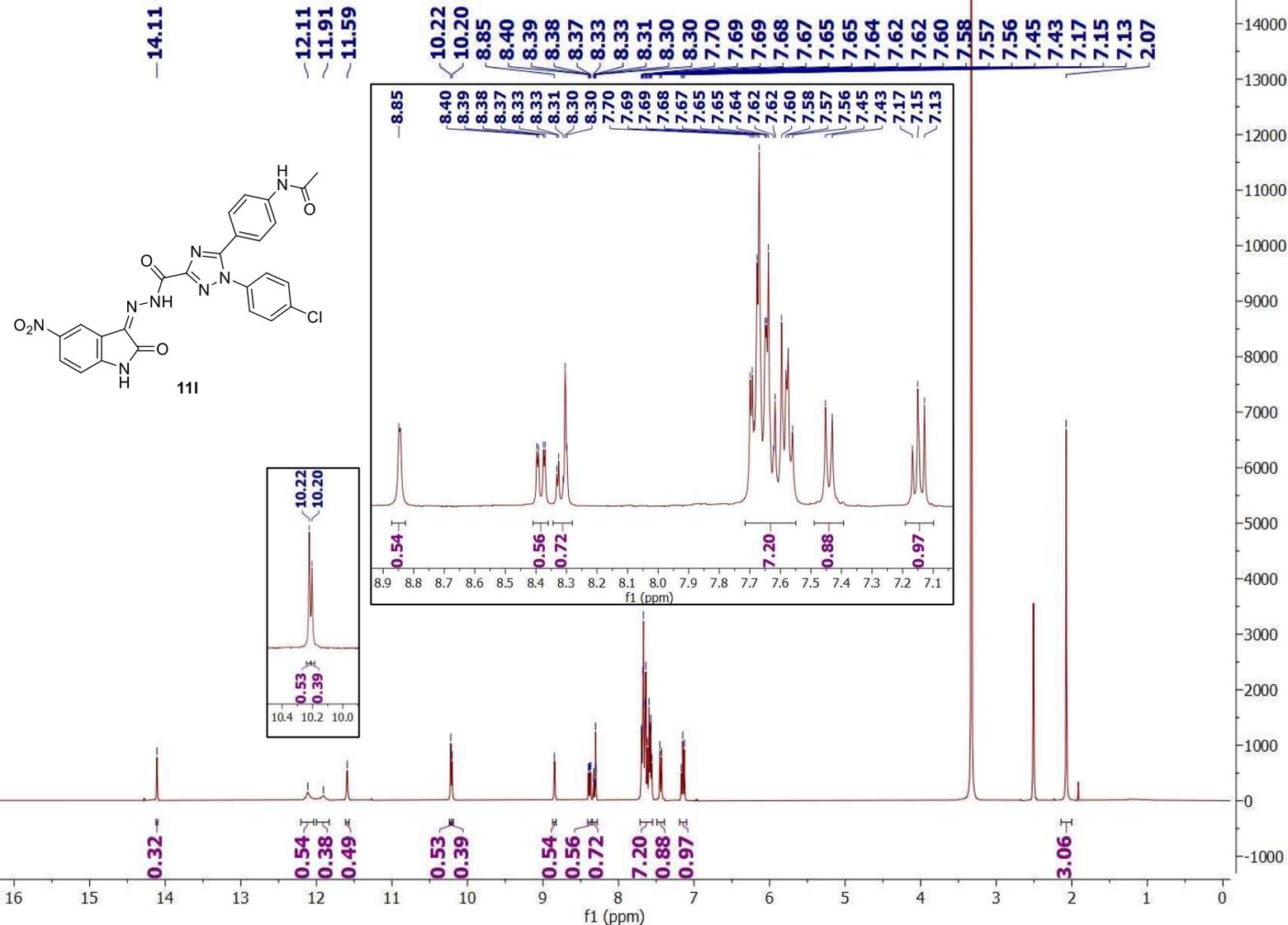


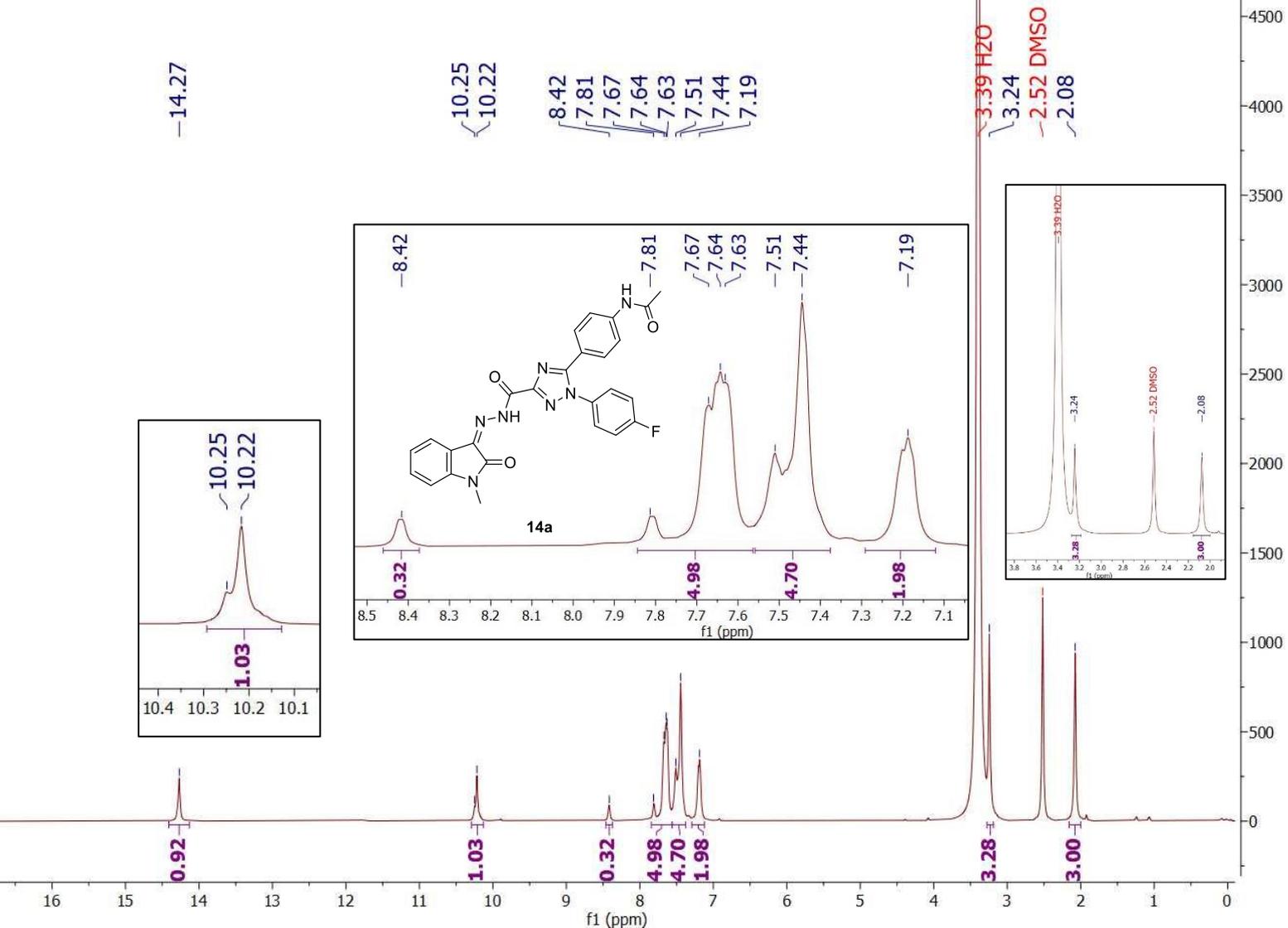


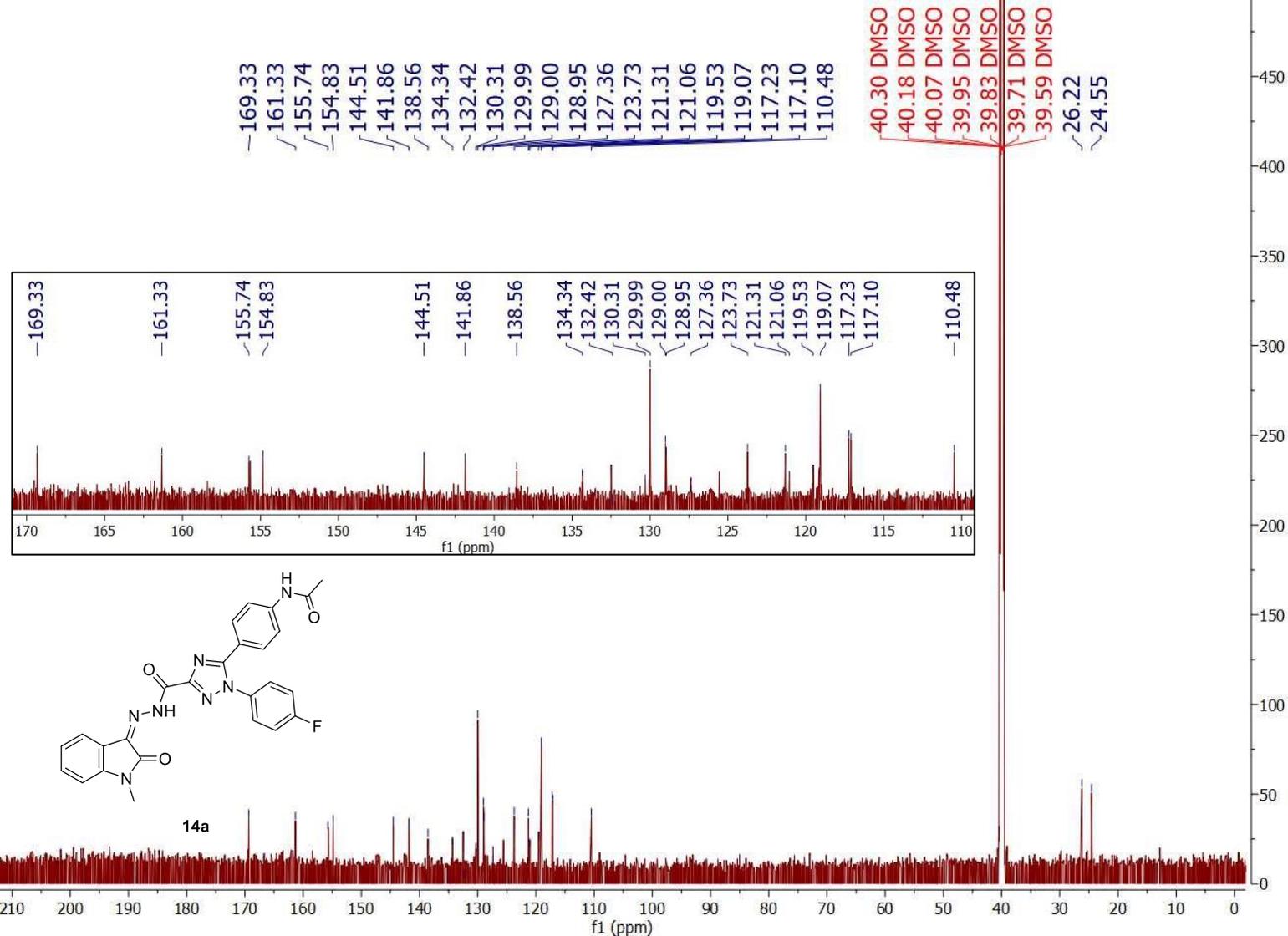












Compound Summary

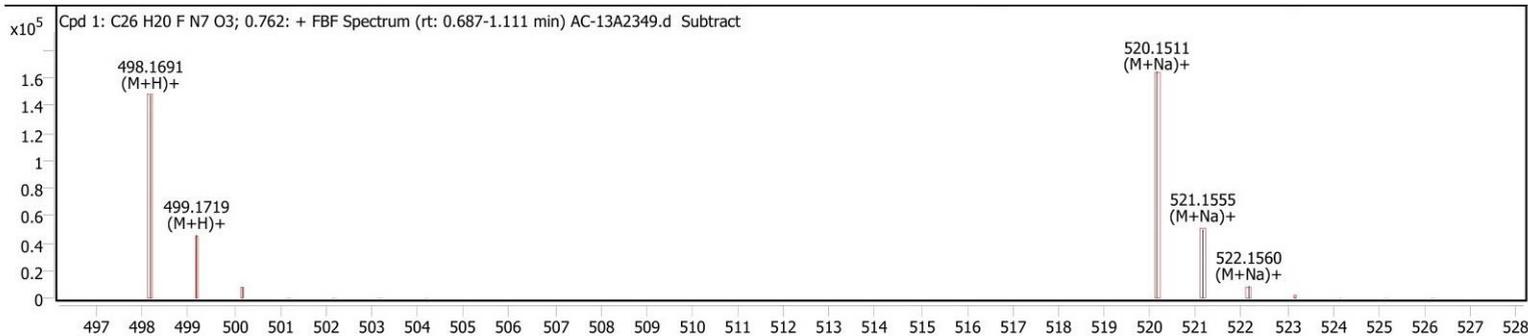
Cpd	Name	Formula	RT	Mass	CAS	ID Source	Score	Score (Lib)	Score (DB)	Score (MFG)	Algorithm
1		C ₂₆ H ₂₀ F N ₇ O ₃	0.762	497.1620		FBF	98.98				FBF

Compound Details

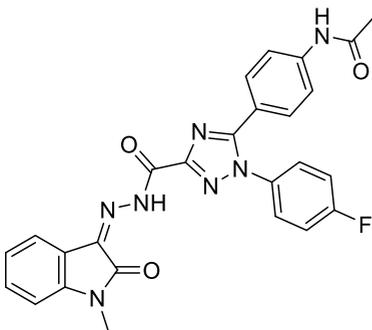
Cpd. 1: C₂₆H₂₀F N₇O₃

Name	Formula	RT	RI	Mass	Score	Algorithm	Lib/DB
	C ₂₆ H ₂₀ F N ₇ O ₃	0.762		497.1620	98.98	FBF	

Species	m/z	Score (Lib)	Num Spectra	Score (DB)	Score (MFG)	Score (RT)
(M+H) ⁺ (M+Na) ⁺	498.1691 520.1511					



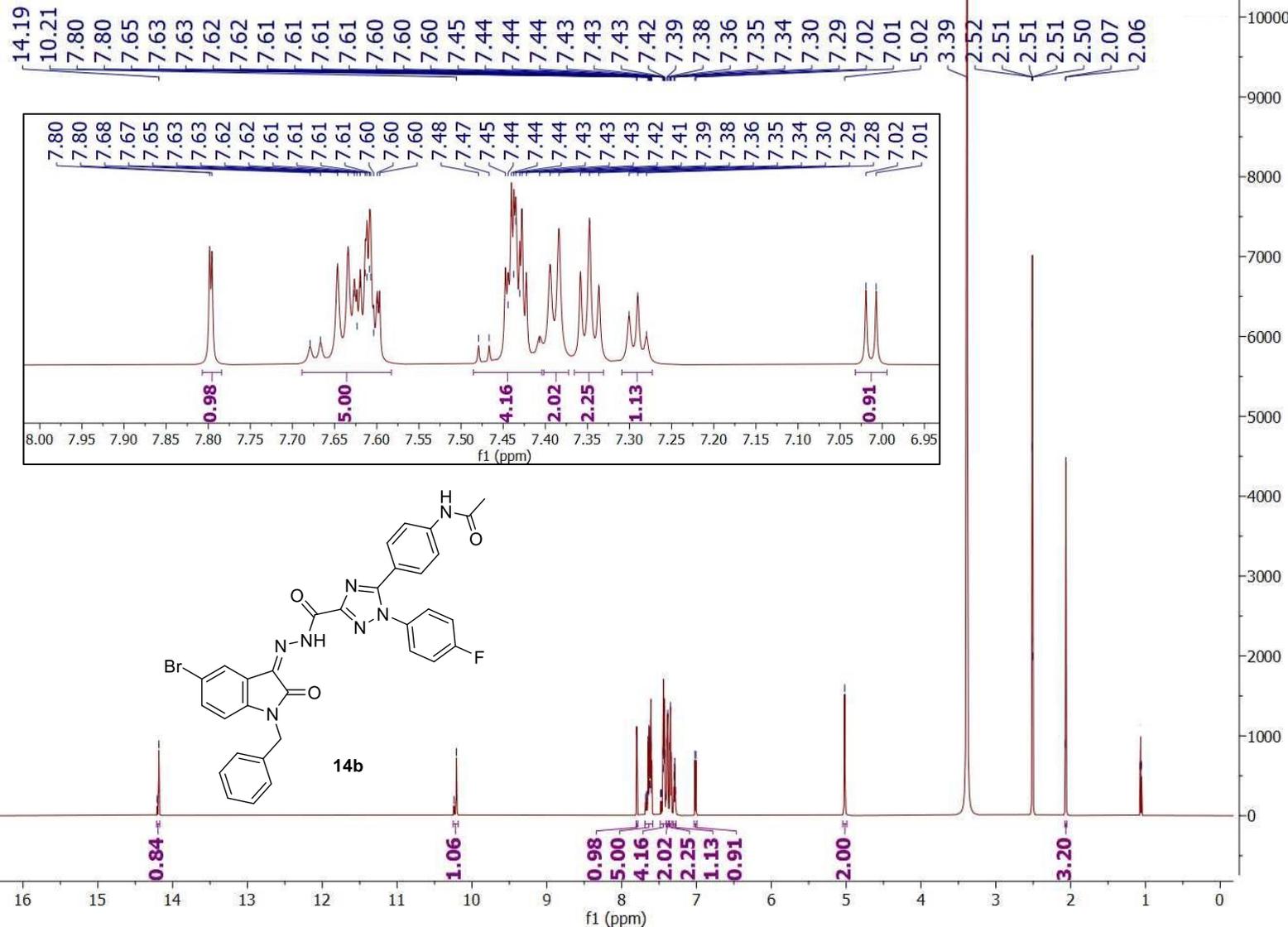
Counts vs. Mass-to-Charge (m/z)

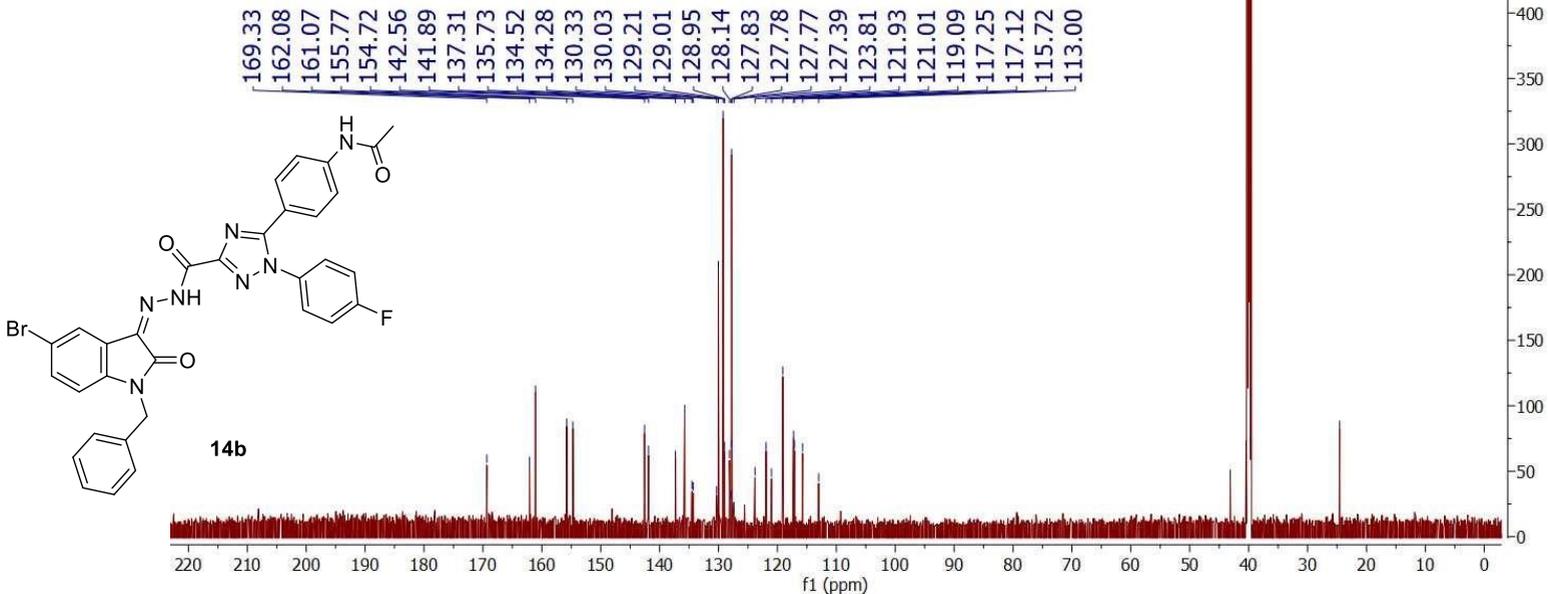
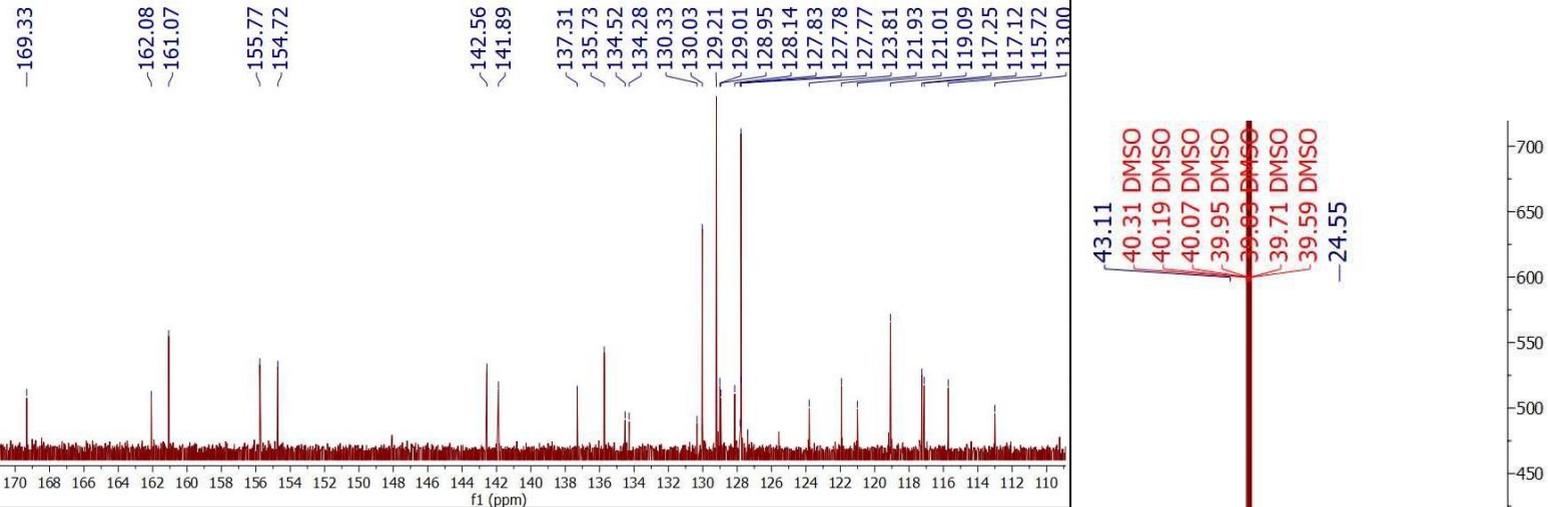


14a

Chemical Formula: C₂₆H₂₀FN₇O₃

Exact Mass: 497.1612

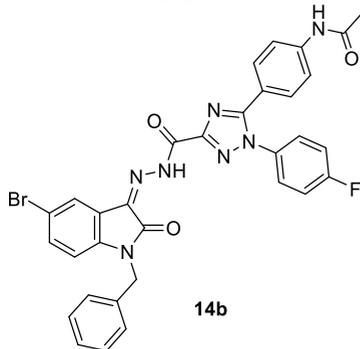
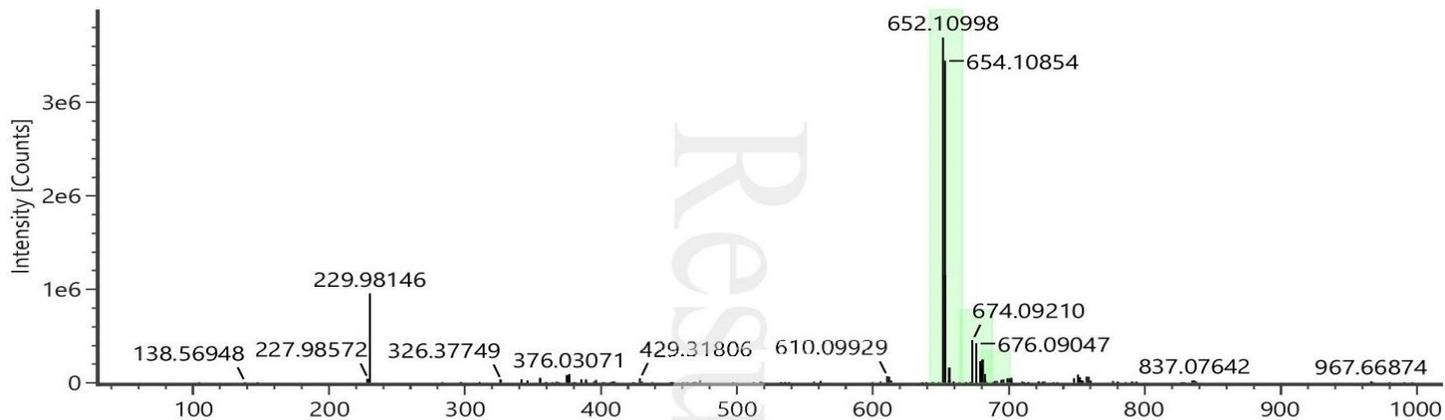




Item name: AC13B

Item name: AC13B, Sample position: 1:B,2, Replicate number: 1

	Component name	Identification status	Formula	Neutral mass (Da)	Observed neutral mass (Da)	Observed m/z	Mass error (mDa)
1	AC13B	Identified	C ₃₂ H ₂₃ BrFO ₃ N ₇	651.10298	651.1027	652.1100	-0.3

Chemical Formula: C₃₂H₂₃BrFN₇O₃

Exact Mass: 651.1030

