

Supporting Information

Preparation of Metal Oxides Containing ppm Levels of Pd as Catalysts for the Reduction of Nitroarene and Evaluation of Their Catalytic Activity by the Fluorescence-Based High-Throughput Screening Method

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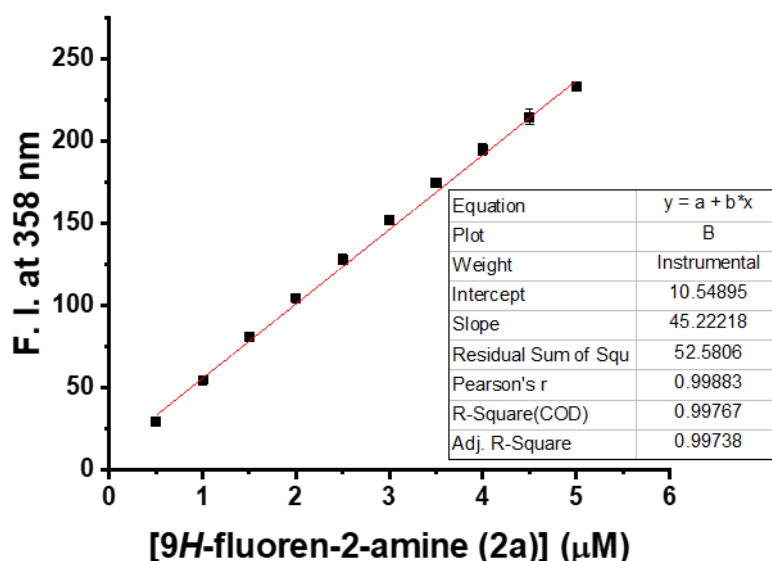


Fig. S1. Plot of fluorescence intensity at 358 nm versus various concentration of **2a** in toluene ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 294$ nm, three replicates) and the standard curve (red line). The equation of the standard curve is in the table (Concentration of **2a** = $(F_{358} - 10.54895)/45.22218$).

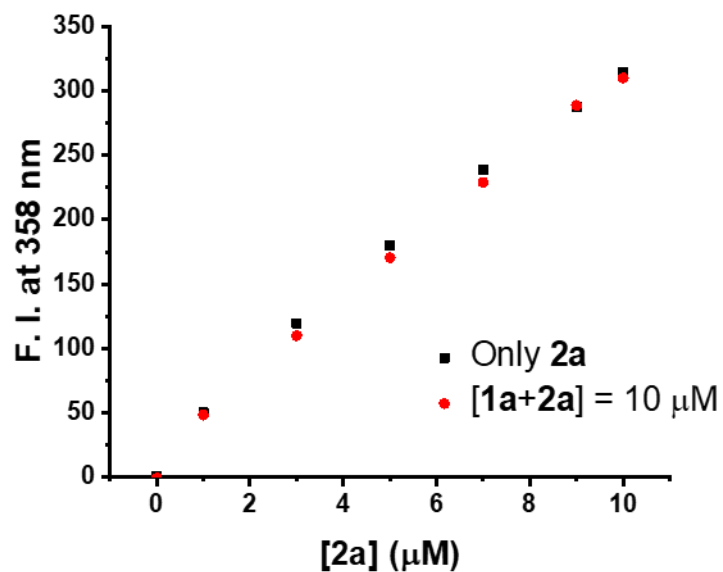


Fig. S2. Plot of fluorescence intensity at 358 nm versus various concentration of **2a** in toluene ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 294$ nm, black: only **2a**, red: $[\mathbf{1a}+\mathbf{2a}] = 10$ μM). The fluorescence of **2a** is the same whether or not **1a** is present. Using different fluorescence spectrophotometer, the intensity is different from Fig. S1.

Table S1. Summary of XRD results of metal oxides

Metal	Metal oxide (by XRD)	Reference
Mg	MgO	[1]
Cr	Cr ₂ O ₃	[2]
Mn	Mn ₂ O ₃	[3]
Fe	Fe ₂ O ₃	[2]
Co	Co ₃ O ₄	[2]
Ni	NiO	[2]
Zn	ZnO	[4]

Al	Al_2O_3	[5]
Sr	SrCO_3	[6]
Ce	CeO_2	[2]
Zr	ZrO	[7]
Cd	CdO	[8]
In	In_2O_3	[9]
Sn	SnO_2	[10]
Ca	$\text{CaO} + \text{CaCO}_3$	[11]
Y	Y_2O_3	[12]
Cu	CuO	[13]

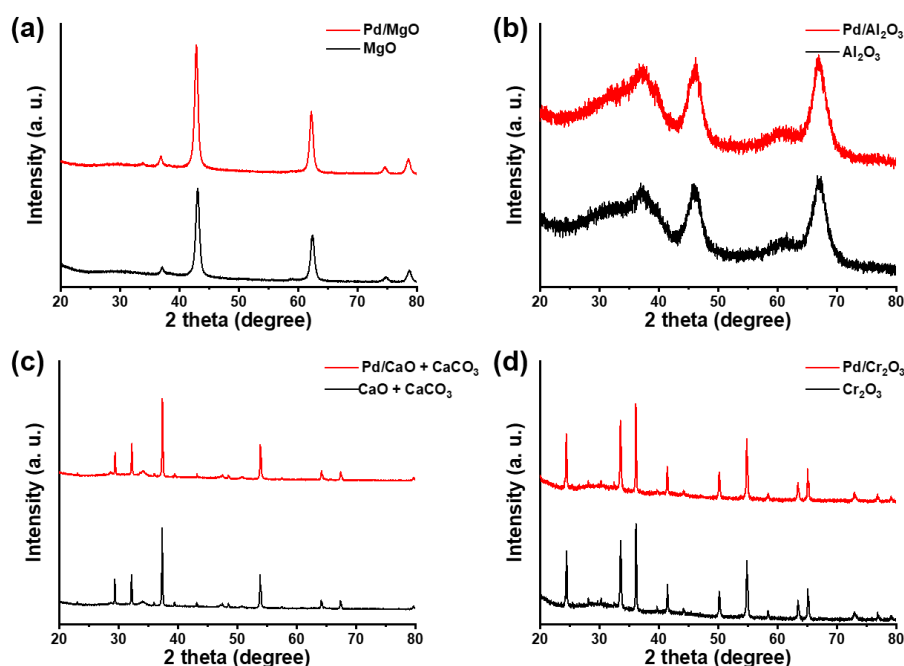


Fig. S3. XRD pattern of metal oxides. (a) MgO (black line) and Pd/MgO (red line). (b) Al_2O_3 (black line) and Pd/ Al_2O_3 (red line). (c) $\text{CaO} + \text{CaCO}_3$ (black line) and Pd/CaO + CaCO_3 (red line). (d) Cr_2O_3 (black line) and Pd/ Cr_2O_3 (red line).

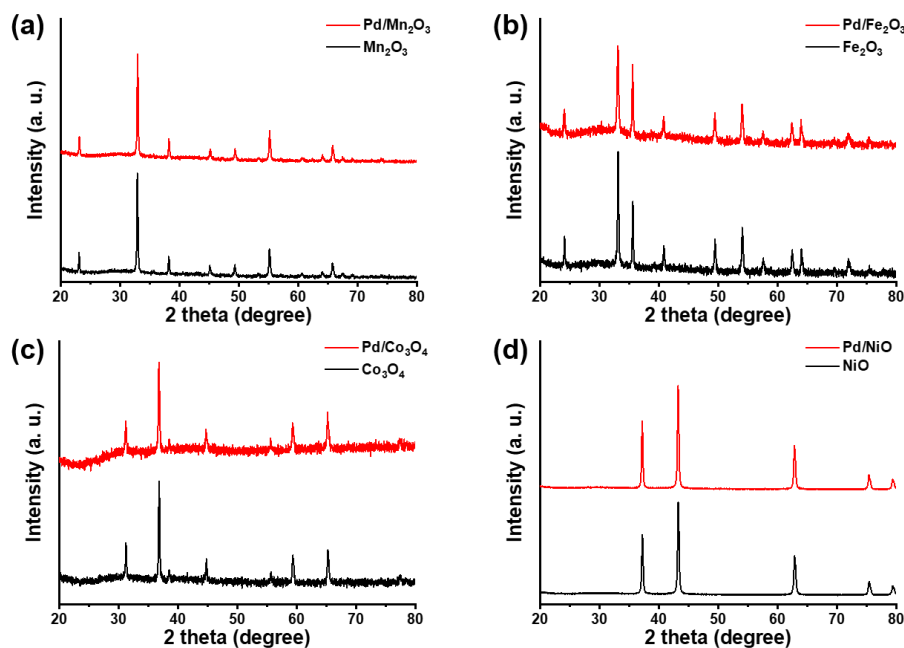


Fig. S4. XRD pattern of metal oxides. (a) Mn_2O_3 (black line) and Pd/ Mn_2O_3 (red line). (b) Fe_2O_3 (black line) and Pd/ Fe_2O_3 (red line). (c) Co_3O_4 (black line) and Pd/ Co_3O_4 (red line). (d) NiO (black line) and Pd/NiO (red line).

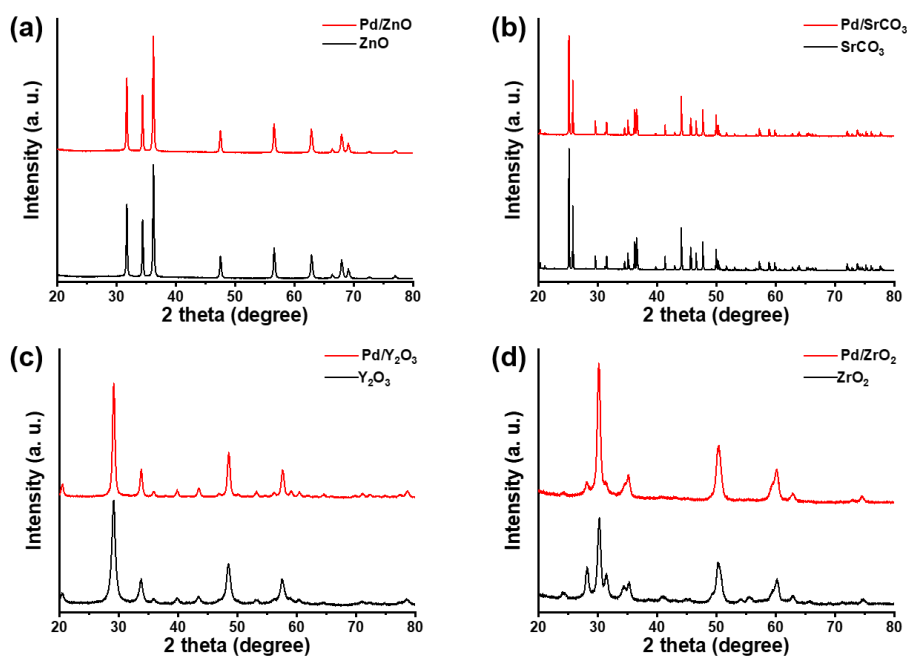


Fig. S5. XRD pattern of metal oxides. (a) ZnO (black line) and Pd/ZnO (red line). (b) SrCO₃ (black line) and Pd/SrCO₃ (red line). (c) Y₂O₃ (black line) and Pd/Y₂O₃ (red line). (d) ZrO₂ (black line) and Pd/ZrO₂ (red line).

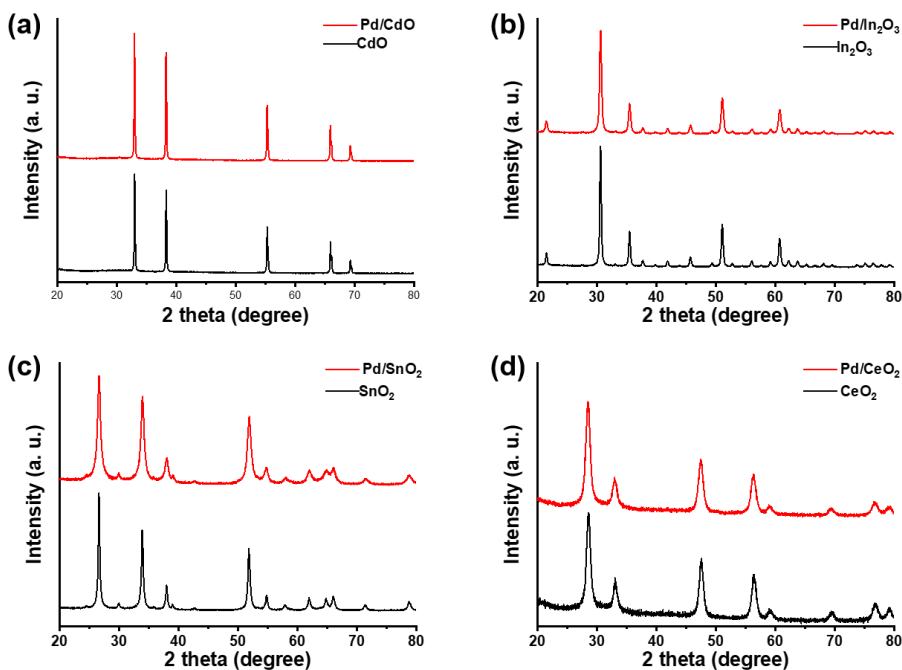


Fig. S6. XRD pattern of metal oxides. (a) CdO (black line) and Pd/CdO (red line). (b) In₂O₃ (black line) and Pd/In₂O₃ (red line). (c) SnO₂ (black line) and Pd/SnO₂ (red line). (d) CeO₂ (black line) and Pd/CeO₂ (red line).

(d) CeO_2 (black line) and Pd/CeO_2 (red line).

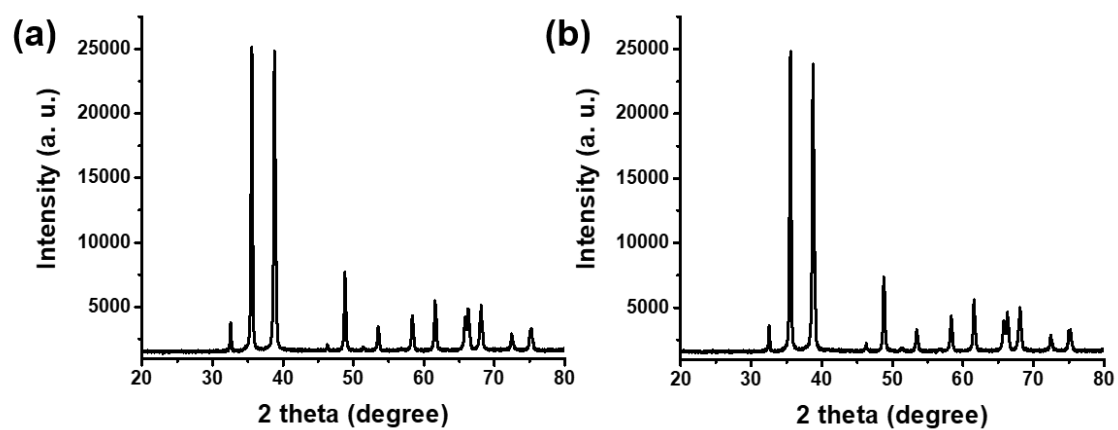


Fig. S7. XRD pattern of (a) CuO and (b) Pd/CuO.

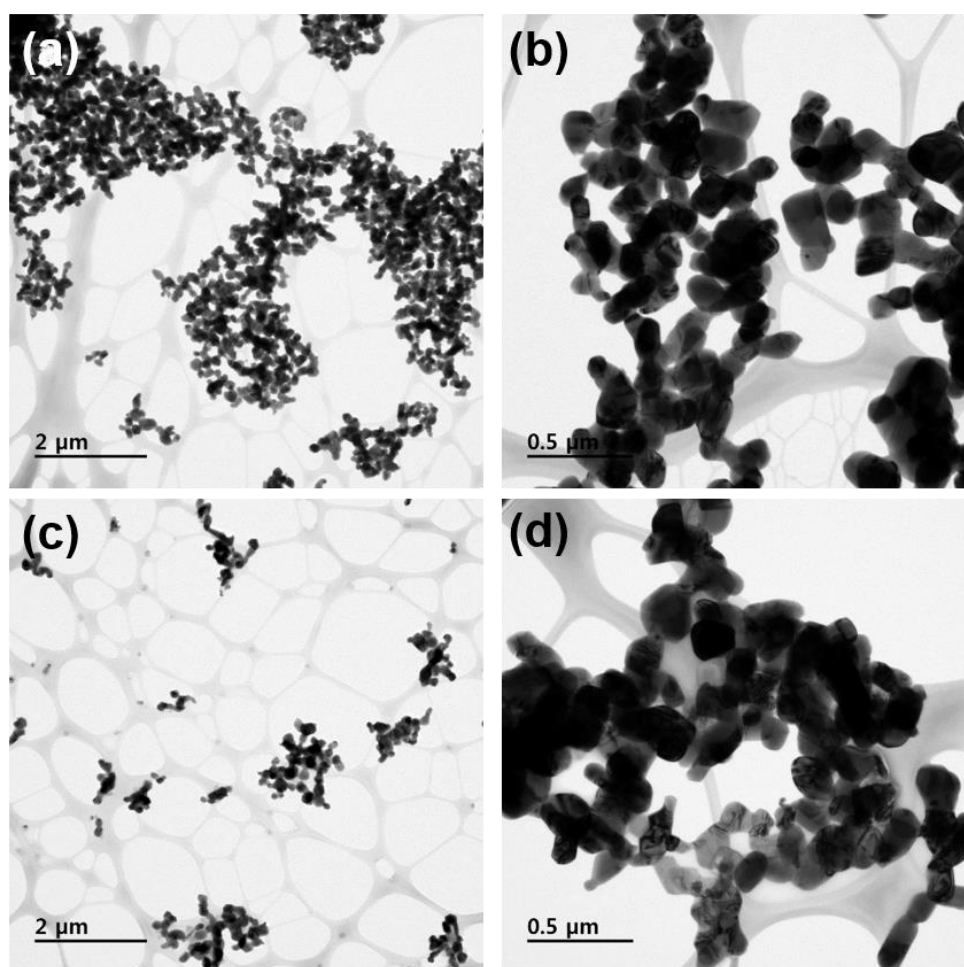


Fig. S8. TEM image of Pd/CuO (a) and (b). TEM image of CuO (c) and (d).

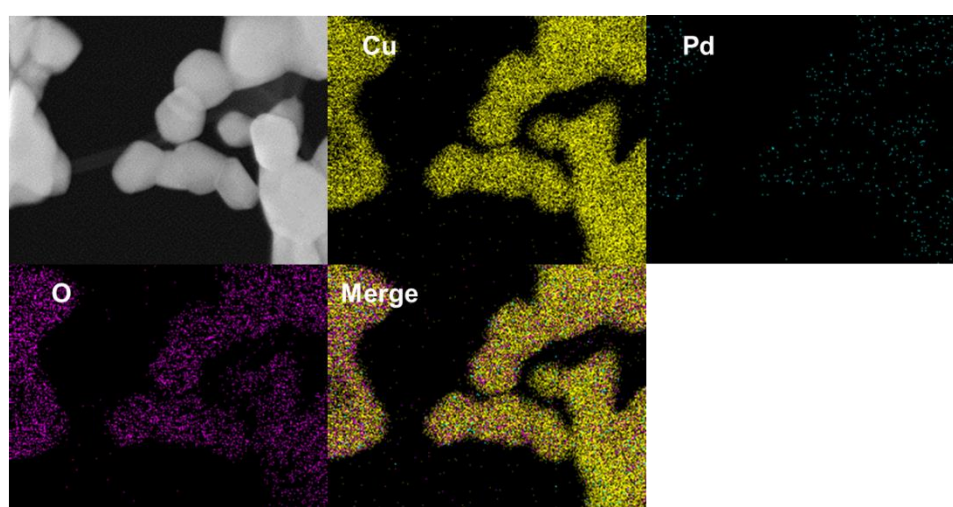


Fig. S9. HAADF-STEM and elemental mapping image of Pd/CuO.

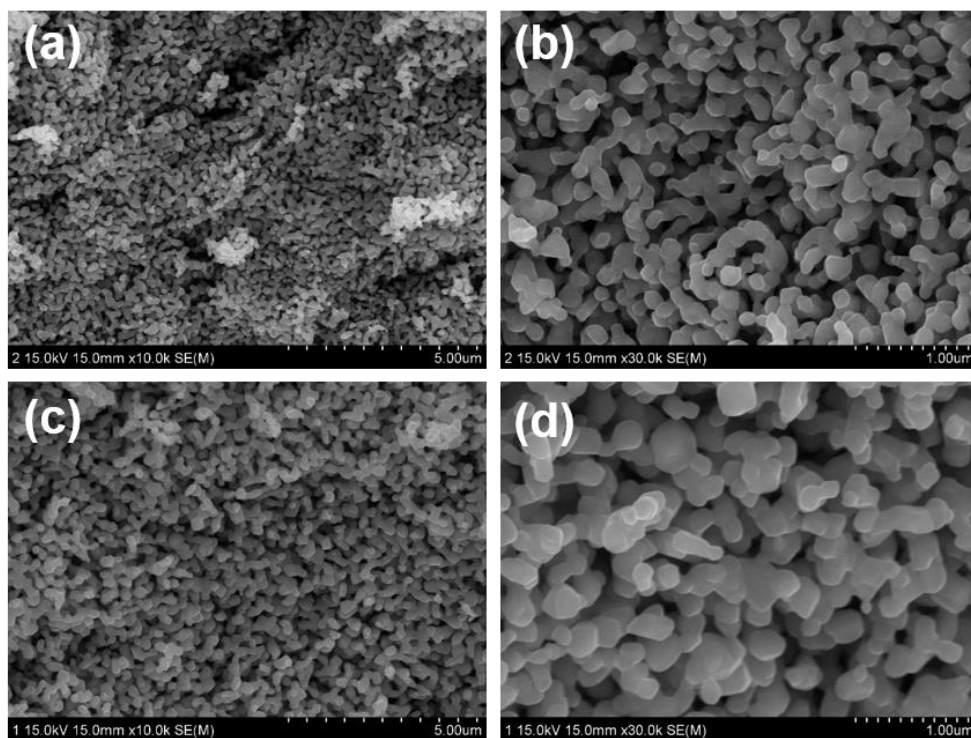


Fig. S10. SEM image of Pd/CuO (a) and (b). SEM image of CuO (c) and (d).

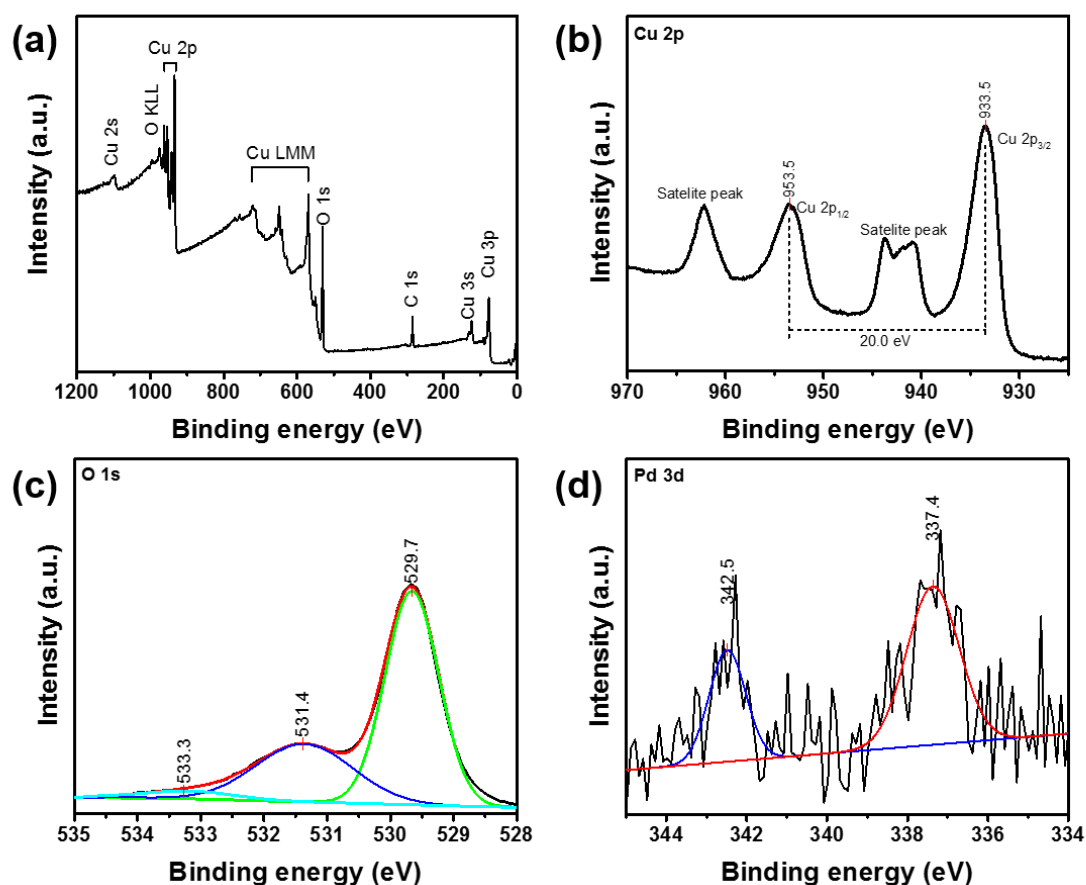


Fig. S11. XPS spectra of Pd/CuO. (a) survey XPS spectrum. (b) High-resolution XPS spectrum of Cu 2p. (c) High-resolution XPS spectra of O 1s. (d) High-resolution XPS spectra of Pd 3d.

XPS analysis was used to investigate the surface composition and valence states of the Pd/CuO. The XPS spectra of the Pd/CuO are presented in Fig. S10. As shown in Fig. S10 (b), the peaks at 933.5 and 953.5 eV were assigned to Cu 2p_{3/2} and Cu 2p_{1/2} of Cu²⁺ in CuO, respectively [14,15]. Also, there were clear satellite peaks located at higher binding energies to Cu 2p. These peaks are typically indicative of the existence of Cu²⁺ in CuO [16]. The O 1s region showed three peaks at 529.7, 531.4, and 533.3 eV, which are attributed to the O in CuO, O-H bond of the hydroxyl group, and adsorbed water molecules, respectively [17,18]. These results were same with the XPS analysis of CuO (Fig. S11). Fig. S10 (d) shows high-resolution XPS spectra of Pd 3d. The two peaks

located at 337.4 and 342.5 eV were assigned to Pd 3d_{5/2} and Pd 3d_{3/2} [19]. These Pd 3d binding energy of Pd/CuO were higher than the Pd 3d binding energy of PdO and metallic Pd [20]. Previously, positive chemical shift of Pd 3d have been observed in Pd²⁺ located in solid solution [21,22]. Similar with that, the high Pd 3d binding energy of Pd/CuO can be come from the change of environmental of Pd²⁺ in CuO.

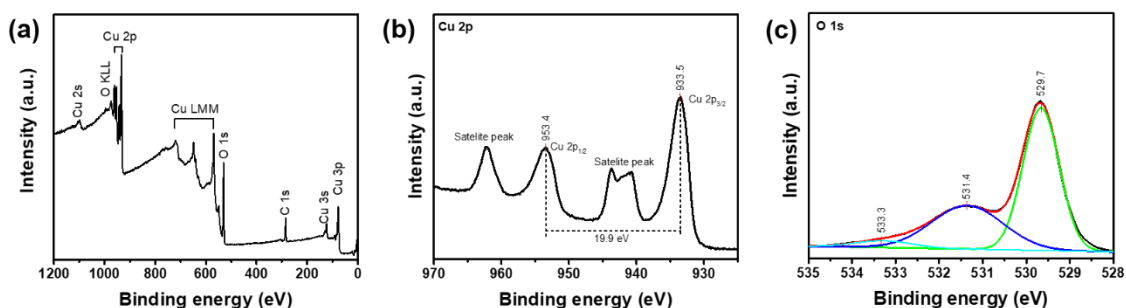
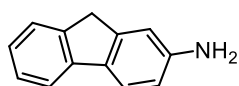


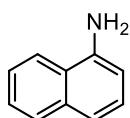
Fig. S12. XPS spectra of CuO. (a) survey XPS spectrum. (b) High-resolution XPS spectrum of Cu 2p. (c) High-resolution XPS spectra of O 1s.

Characterization table



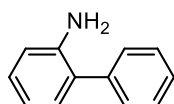
9H-fluoren-2-amine (**2a**)

After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:3) to give **2a** as a yellowish solid (0.0855 g, 94%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.72 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 3.71 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.8, 145.3, 142.4, 142.2, 133.1, 126.7, 125.2, 124.9, 120.8, 118.7, 114.1, 111.9, 36.9. The NMR data were consistent with the reported data.²³



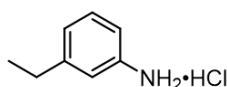
Naphthalen-1-amine (**2b**)

After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:6) to give **2b** as a brownish solid (0.0666 g, 93%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79–7.85 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.49 (m, 2H), 7.28–7.34 (m, 2H), 6.79 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.1, 134.5, 128.6, 126.4, 125.9, 125.0, 123.8, 120.6, 119.1, 109.8. The NMR data were consistent with the reported data.²⁴



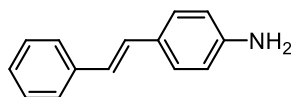
[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-amine (**2c**)

After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:6) to give **2c** as a brownish solid (0.0616 g, 73%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42–7.47 (m, 4H), 7.32–7.38 (m, 1H), 7.16 (qd, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.0, 139.5, 130.6, 129.2, 128.9, 128.6, 128.1, 127.3, 119.2, 116.0. The NMR data were consistent with the reported data.²³



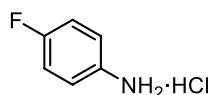
3-ethylaniline hydrochloride (**2d·HCl**)

After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:3) and HCl bubbling to give **2d·HCl** as a gray solid (0.0491 g, 62%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.41 (s, 3H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (q, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 3H), 2.63 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.17 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 146.1, 132.6, 130.1, 127.9, 122.8, 121.0, 28.4, 15.9. The NMR data were consistent with the **2d·HCl** portion of the reported data.²⁵



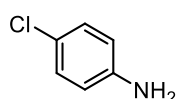
(*E*)-4-styrylaniline (**2e**)

After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:6) to give **2e** as a yellowish solid (0.0842 g, 86%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.26–7.34 (m, 4H), 7.15–7.20 (m, 1H), 6.97 (dd, *J* = 68.3, 16.4 Hz, 2H), 6.54–6.57 (m, 2H), 5.30 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 149.3, 138.5, 129.6, 129.1, 128.2, 127.0, 126.3, 125.2, 123.3, 114.4. The NMR data were consistent with reported data.²⁶



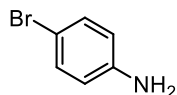
4-Fluoroaniline hydrochloride (**2f·HCl**)

After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:3). The column purified product was dissolved in organic solvent and bubbled with HCl (g) to give **2f·HCl** as a white solid (0.0496 g, 68%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 10.37 (s, 2H), 7.41–7.46 (m, 2H), 7.30–7.36 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 161.5 (d, *J* = 244.4), 129.2 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 125.7 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 117.1 (d, *J* = 23 Hz). The NMR data were consistent with reported data.²⁷



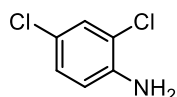
4-Chloroaniline (**2g**)

After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:5) to give **2g** as a yellow solid (0.0450 g, 71%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.10 (td, *J* = 6.0, 3.5 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (td, *J* = 6.0, 3.5 Hz, 2H), 3.65 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.1, 129.3, 123.3, 116.4. The NMR data were consistent with reported data.²³



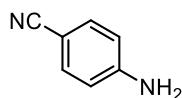
4-Bromoaniline (**2h**)

After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:4) to give **2h** as a white solid (0.0525 g, 61%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.23 (dt, *J* = 9.4, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 6.56 (dt, *J* = 9.4, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.5, 132.1, 116.8, 110.3. The NMR data were consistent with reported data.²⁸



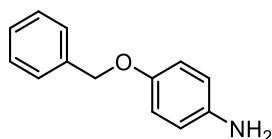
2,4-Dichloroaniline (**2i**)

After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:4) to give **2i** as a white solid (0.0650 g, 80%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.23 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.7, 129.0, 127.8, 122.9, 119.7, 116.4. The NMR data were consistent with reported data.²⁹



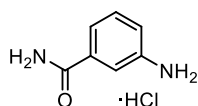
4-Aminobenzonitrile (**2j**)

After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:3) to give **2j** as a brownish solid (0.0615 g, 53%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.38 (dt, *J* = 9.0, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 6.60 (dt, *J* = 9.0, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 6.13 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 153.0, 133.4, 120.7, 113.4, 95.5. The NMR data were consistent with reported data.²⁶



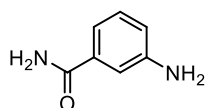
4-(Benzyloxy)aniline (**2k**)

After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:3) to give **2k** as a brownish solid (0.0315 g, 98%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.31–7.45 (m, 5H), 6.84 (td, *J* = 6.2, 3.8 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (td, *J* = 6.2, 3.8 Hz, 2H), 5.01 (s, 2H), 3.23 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.1, 140.3, 137.6, 128.6, 128.0, 127.6, 116.5, 116.2, 70.9. The NMR data were consistent with reported data.²⁸



3-Aminobenzamide hydrochloride (**2l·HCl**)

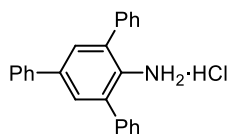
After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:3). The column purified product was dissolved in organic solvent and bubbled with HCl (g) to give **2l·HCl** as a white solid (0.0758 g, 88%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.20 (s, 2H), 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.50–7.56 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 167.3, 136.3, 133.6, 130.2, 126.5, 126.0, 122.8.



3-Aminobenzamide (**2l**)

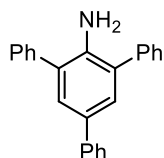
After the base work-up of **2l·HCl**, **2l** was obtained as a white solid and analyzed by NMR. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.03–7.07 (m, 2H), 6.97 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dq, *J* = 7.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz,

DMSO-d₆) δ 169.2, 149.1, 135.7, 129.2, 117.0, 115.2, 113.6. The NMR data were consistent with reported data.³⁰



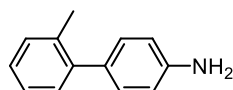
5'-Phenyl-[1,1':3,1''-terphenyl]-2'-amine hydrochloride (**2m·HCl**)

After the general procedures, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:20). The column purified product was dissolved in organic solvent and bubbled with HCl (g) to give **2m·HCl** as a white solid (0.1425 g, 80%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 7.68 (dd, J = 15.7, 7.2 Hz, 6H), 7.53 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.40–7.46 (m, 6H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 139.3, 137.9, 137.1, 135.1, 130.2, 130.0, 129.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.4, 127.8, 127.0.



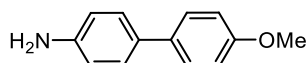
5'-Phenyl-[1,1':3,1''-terphenyl]-2'-amine (**2m**)

After the base work-up of **2m·HCl**, **2m** was obtained and analyzed by NMR. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57–7.62 (m, 6H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.38–7.43 (m, 6H), 7.26–7.31 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.9, 140.1, 139.7, 131.4, 129.5, 129.1, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 127.6, 126.6, 126.5. The NMR data were consistent with reported data.³¹



2'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-amine (**2n**)

After the one-pot reaction, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent: hexane to ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:20) to give **2n** as a yellow oil (0.0750 g, 82%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.22–7.27 (m, 4H), 7.14 (dt, J = 8.9, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (dt, J = 8.8, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 3.70 (s, 2H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.3, 142.0, 135.6, 132.3, 130.4, 130.2, 130.0, 126.8, 125.8, 114.8, 20.7. The NMR data were consistent with reported data.³²



4'-Methoxy-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-amine (**2o**)

After the one-pot reaction, the crude was purified by column chromatography (eluent:

ethyl acetate/Hex = 1:3) to give **2o** as a yellow solid (0.0689 g, 69%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.5, 145.4, 134.0, 131.5, 127.7, 127.5, 115.5, 114.2, 55.4. The NMR data were consistent with reported data.³³

Table S2. Comparison for the reduction of nitroarenes.^a

Catalyst	Amount of catalyst	Reaction condition	time	yield (%)	Reference
Pd/CuO	0.005 mol% Pd 5 mol% Cu	NaBH ₄ (3 equiv) EtOH/H ₂ O (1:1), 40 °C	0.5–40 h	13 examples (53–98)	This work
Fe/ppm Pd + Ni NPs	0.008 mol% Pd 0.16 mol% Ni 2 mol% Fe	NaBH ₄ (3 equiv) 2 wt% TPGS-750-M/H ₂ O, 10% THF, rt	15 min–16 h	27 examples (74–99)	34
Pd cNPs/C@Fe ₃ O ₄	0.73 mol% Pd	Hydrazine hydrate (3 equiv) EtOH, 70 °C	1 h	12 examples 96–99	35
Pd/g-C ₃ N ₄	1 mol% Pd	Formic acid (3 equiv) H ₂ O, 25 °C	5–120 min	12 examples 92–99	19
Fe(OTf) ₃	10 mol% Fe	NaBH ₄ (20 equiv) EtOH, rt	4 h	25 examples 33–95 (24–80)	36
MRN-Pd	1 mol% Pd	NaBH ₄ (1.2 equiv) H ₂ O, rt	45 min	11 examples 83–99	37
AgNCs	5 mol% Ag	NaBH ₄ (10 equiv) H ₂ O, rt	0.5–6 h	12 examples (71–97)	38
Pd@CTF	1 mol% Pd	Formic acid (5 equiv) NH ₃ CO ₂ H (5 equiv) EtOH/H ₂ O (4:1), rt	0.33–2.5 h	14 examples 91–99	39
Cu/SiO ₂ @NiFe ₂ O ₄	2.6 mol% Cu	NaBH ₄ (10 equiv) MeOH/H ₂ O (1:1)	12–210 min	11 examples 59–100	40

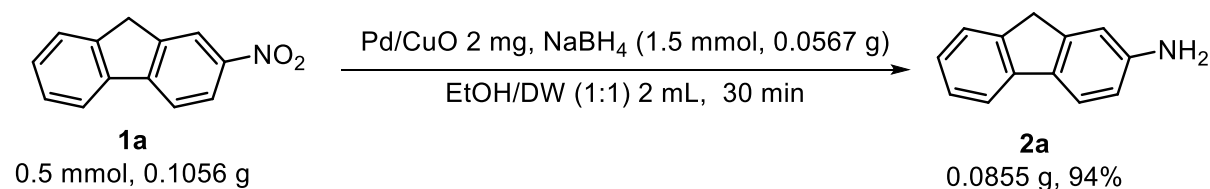
^aThe yield in parentheses is the isolated yield.

Calculation of simple E factor (sEF) using Table 2. Entry 1.^{41, 42}

Recently, a simpler E factor (sEF) was proposed by Roschangar and co-workers.⁴¹ The sEF consist of raw materials, reagents, and product. The sEF value of table 2. entry 1

was calculated, and calculated sEF was 0.92. This value will help in the process development of this reaction.

$$sEF = \frac{\sum m(\text{Raw materials}) + \sum m(\text{Reagents}) - m(\text{Product})}{m(\text{Product})}$$



sEF = 0.92

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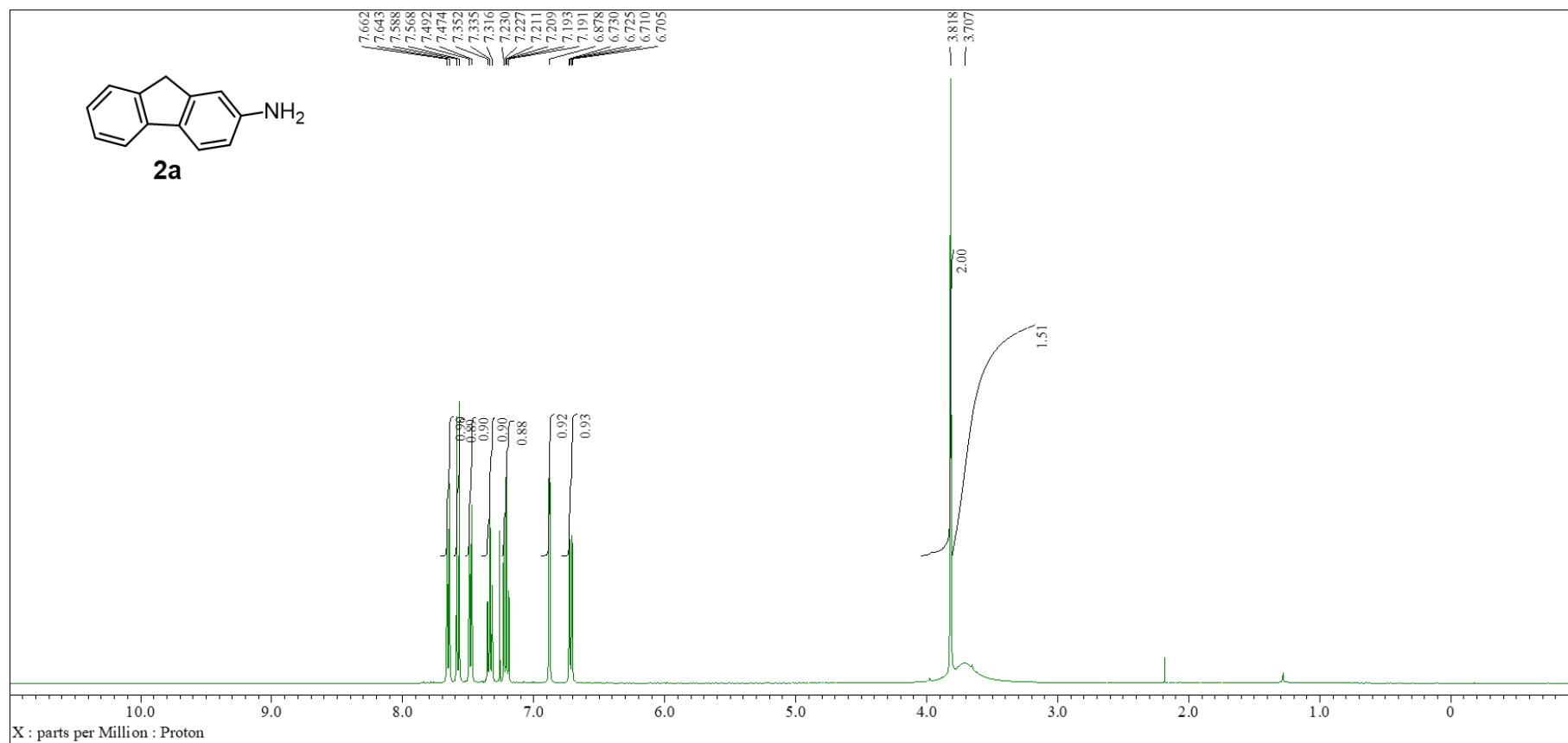
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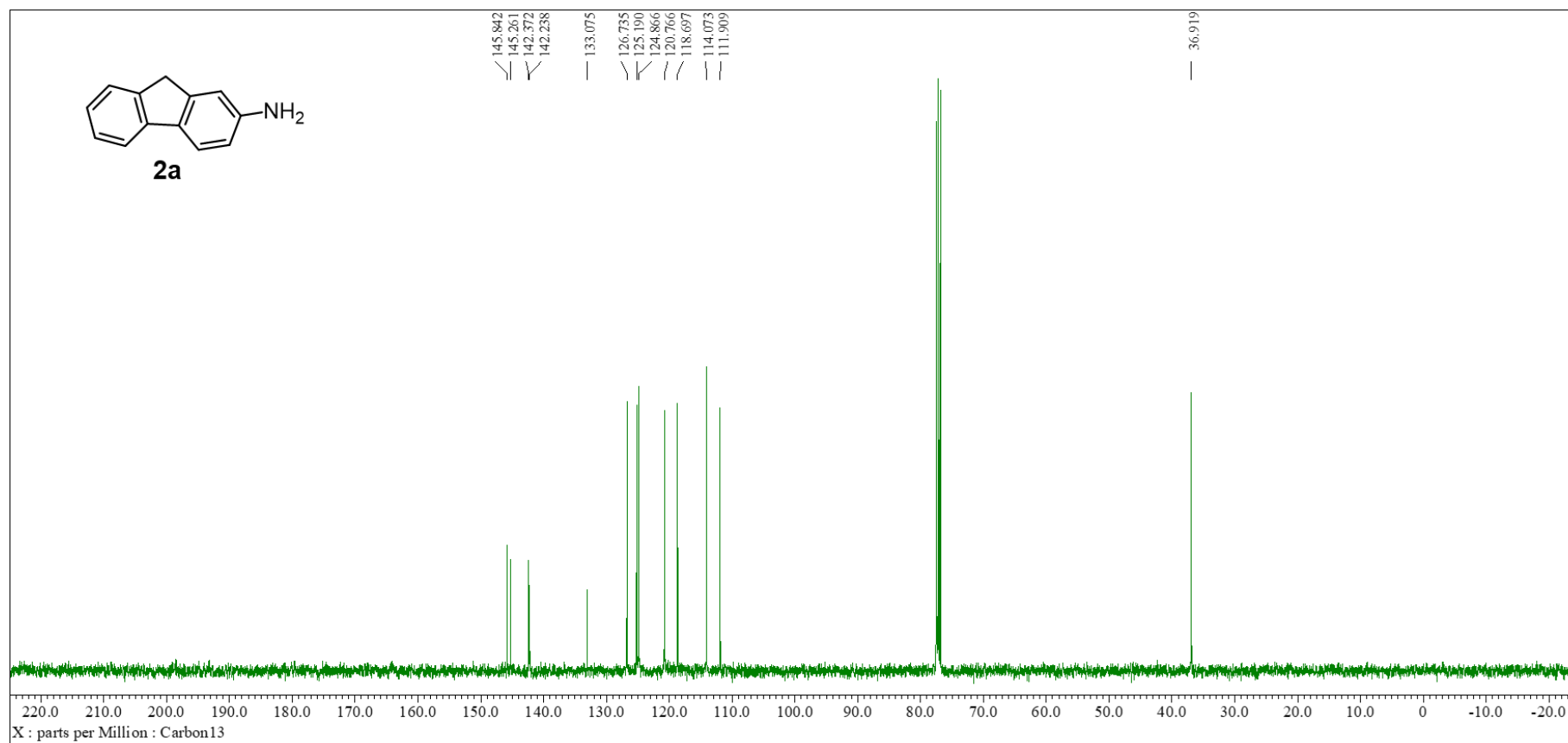
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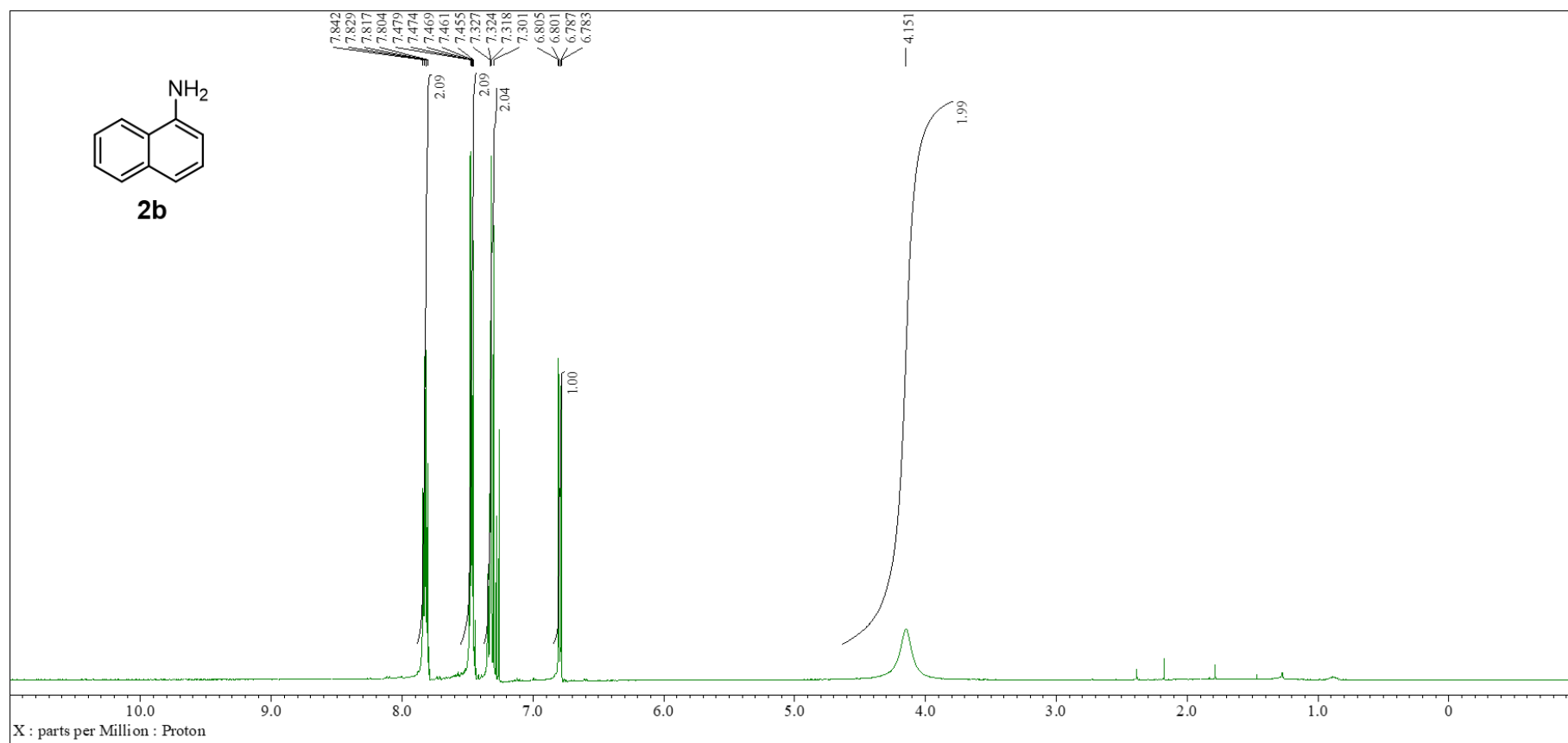
Spectral copies of ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR



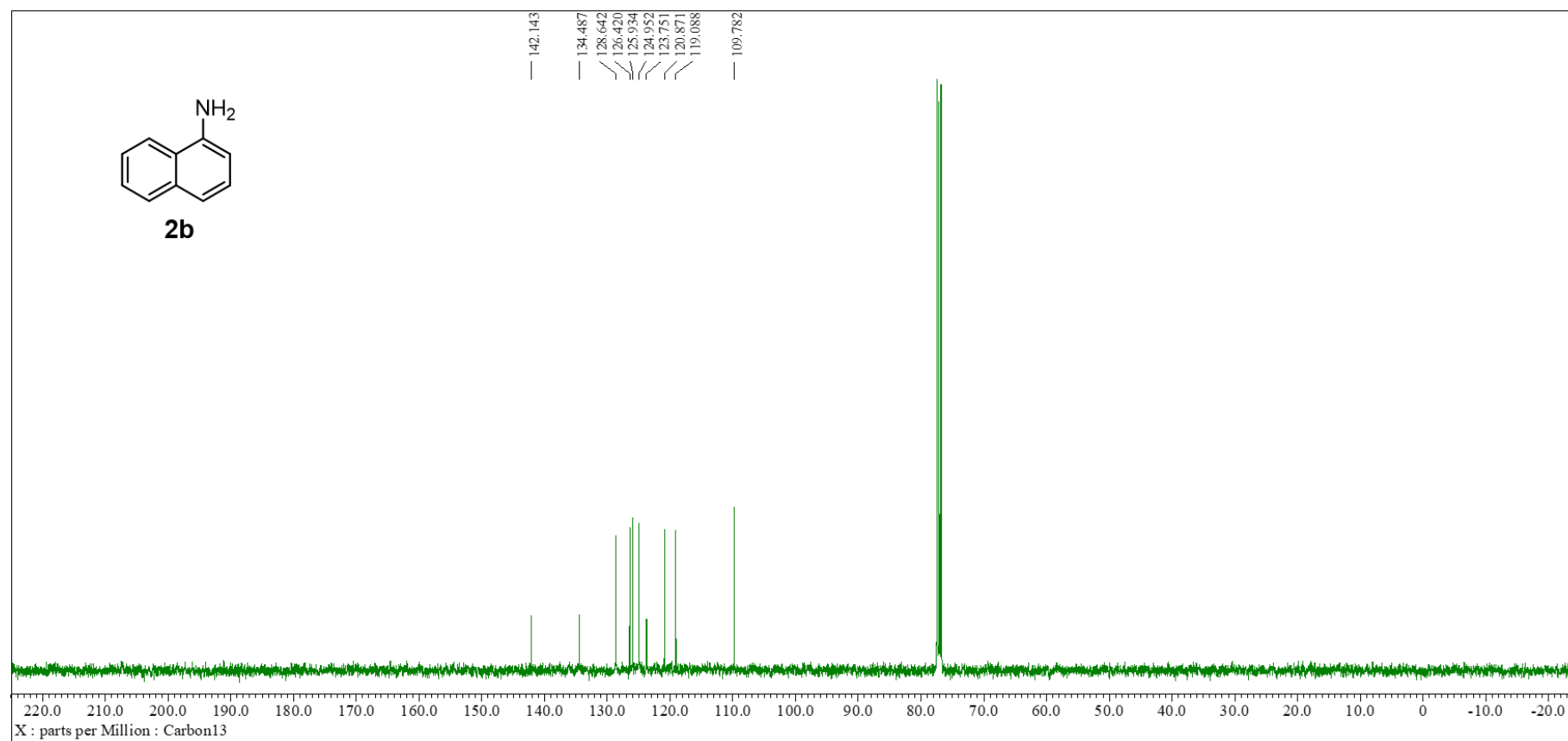
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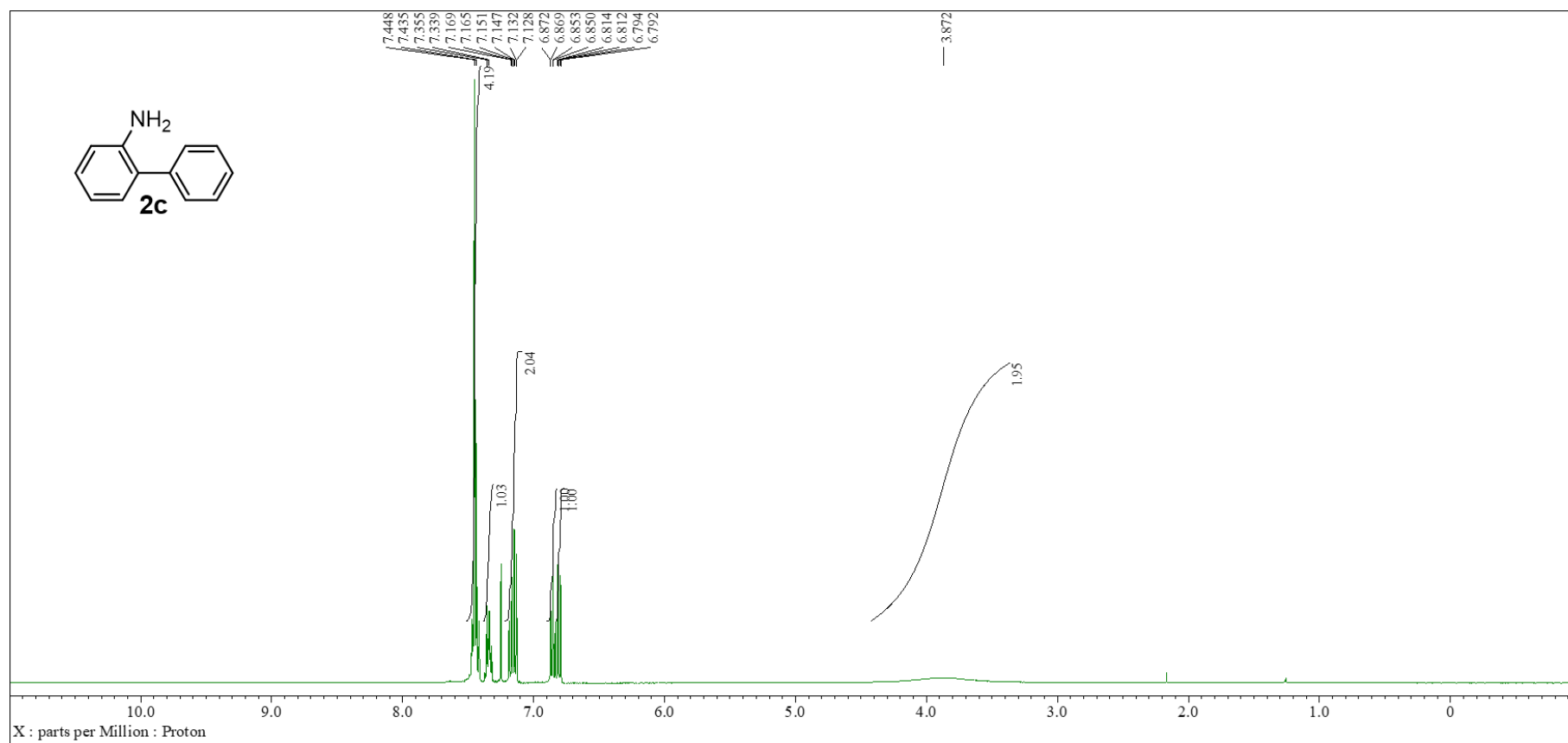
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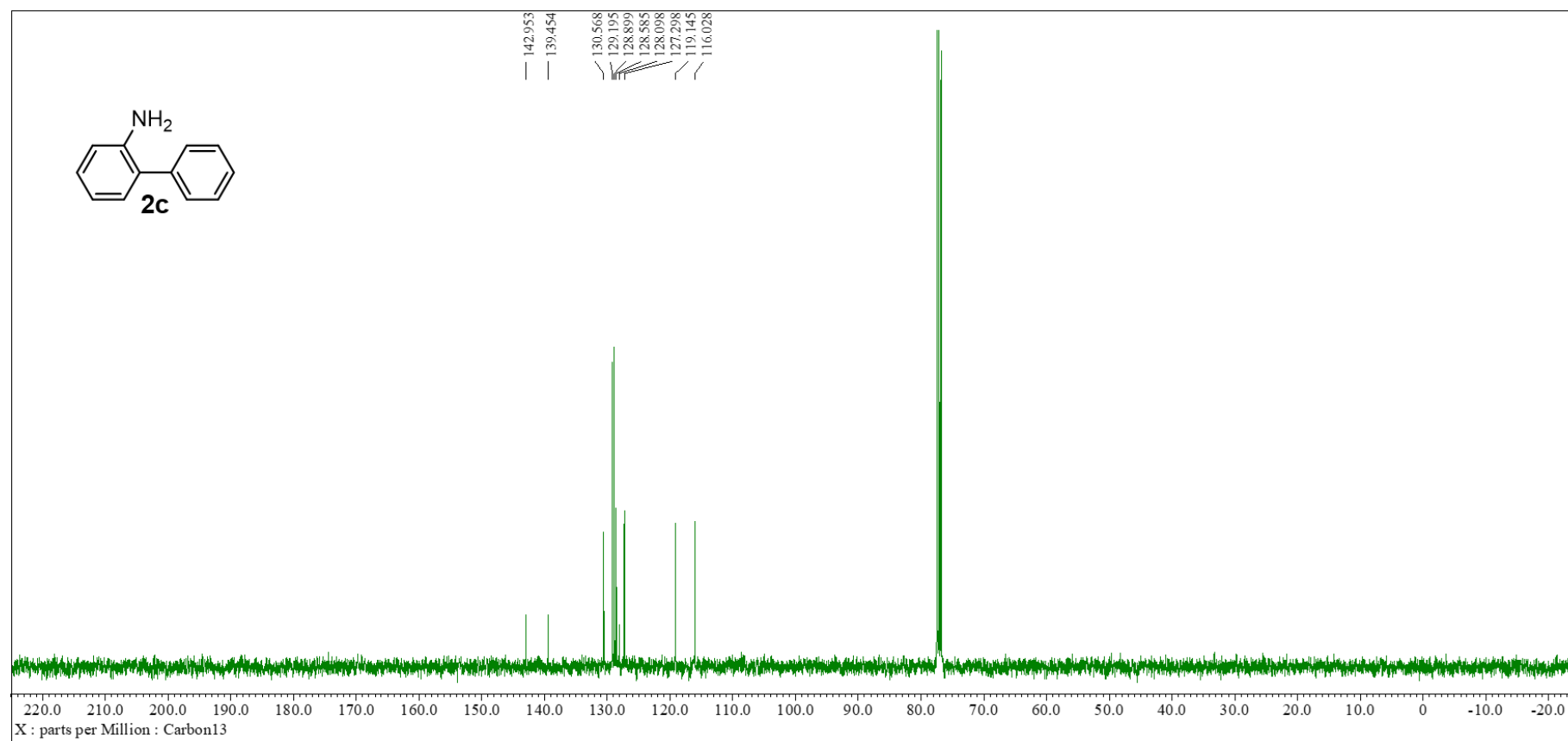
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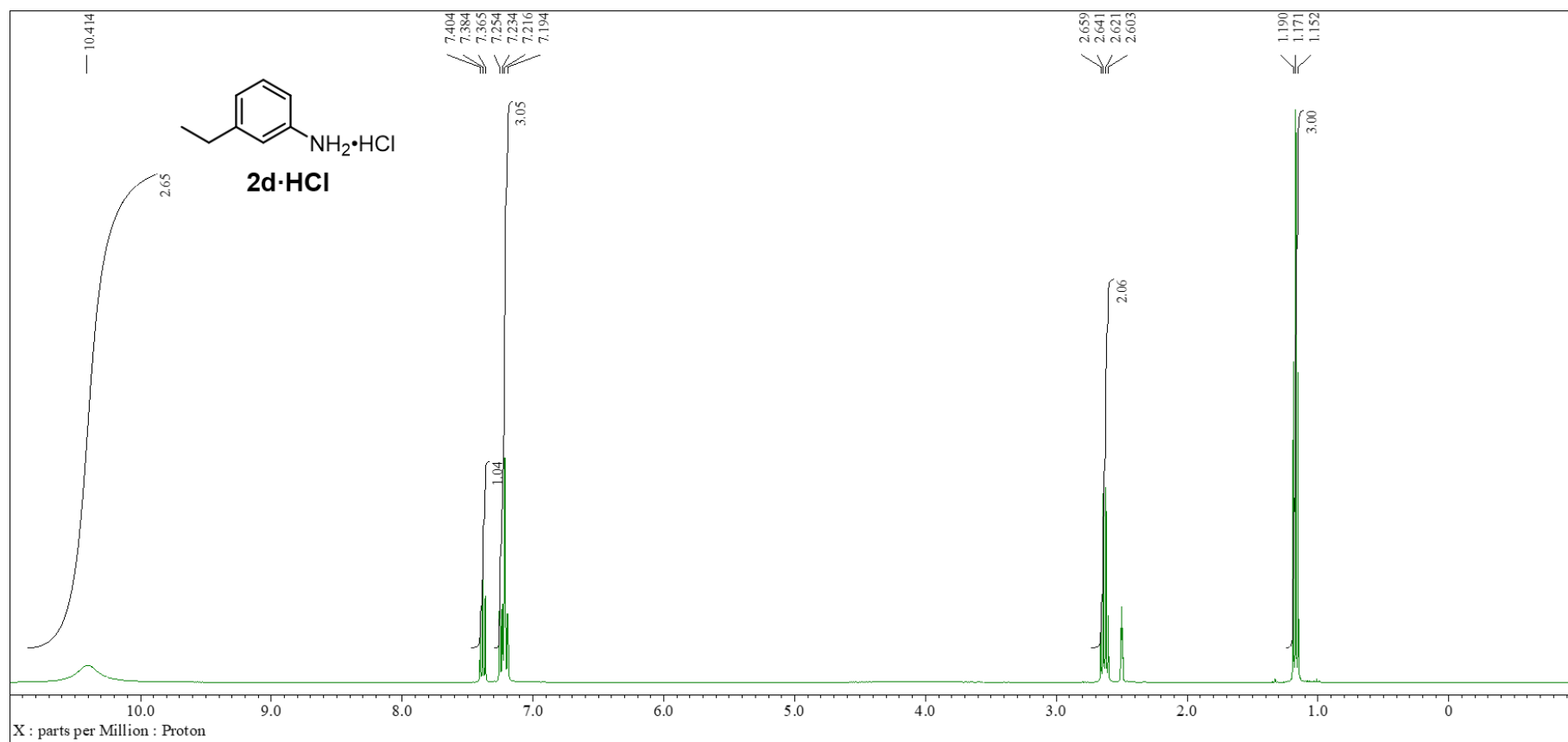
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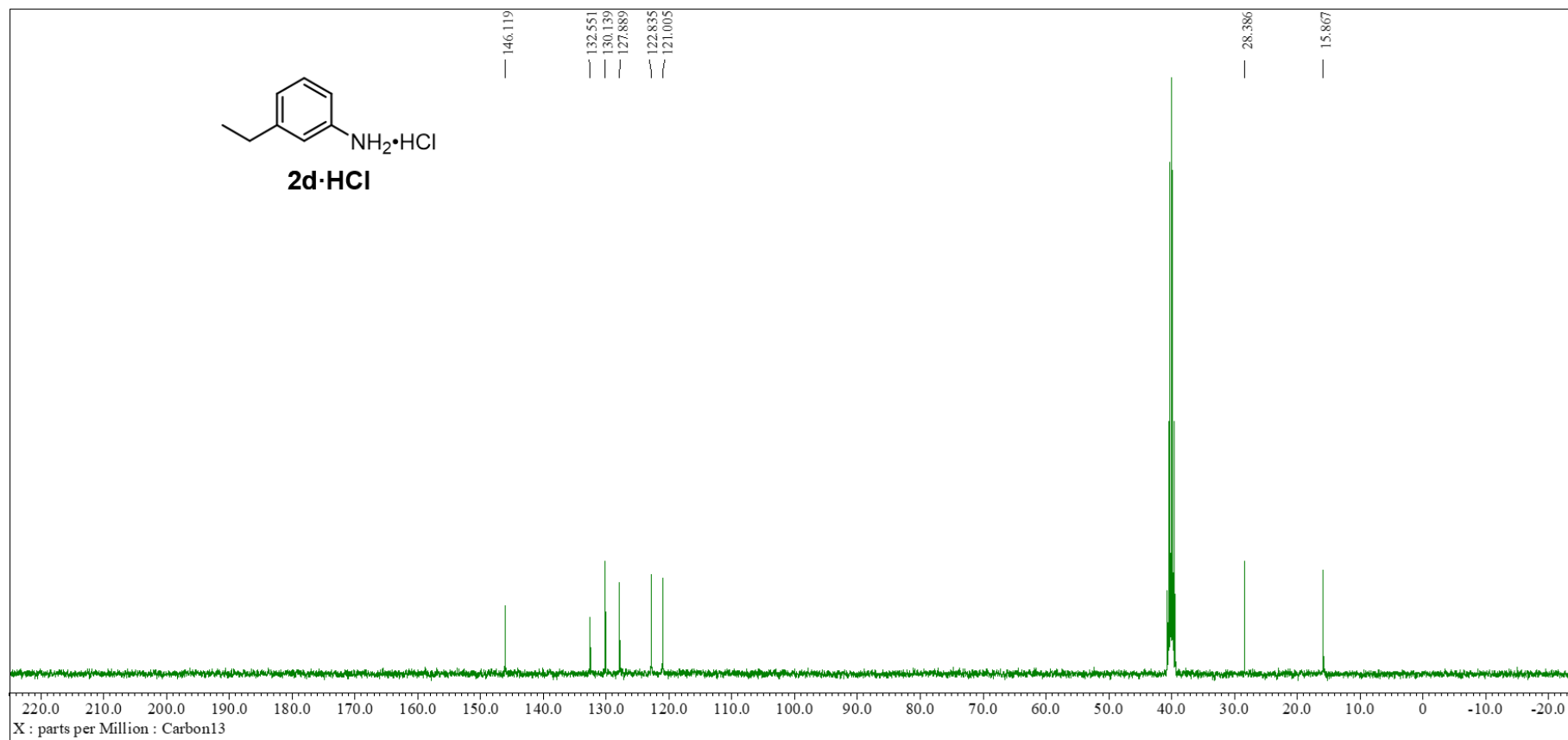
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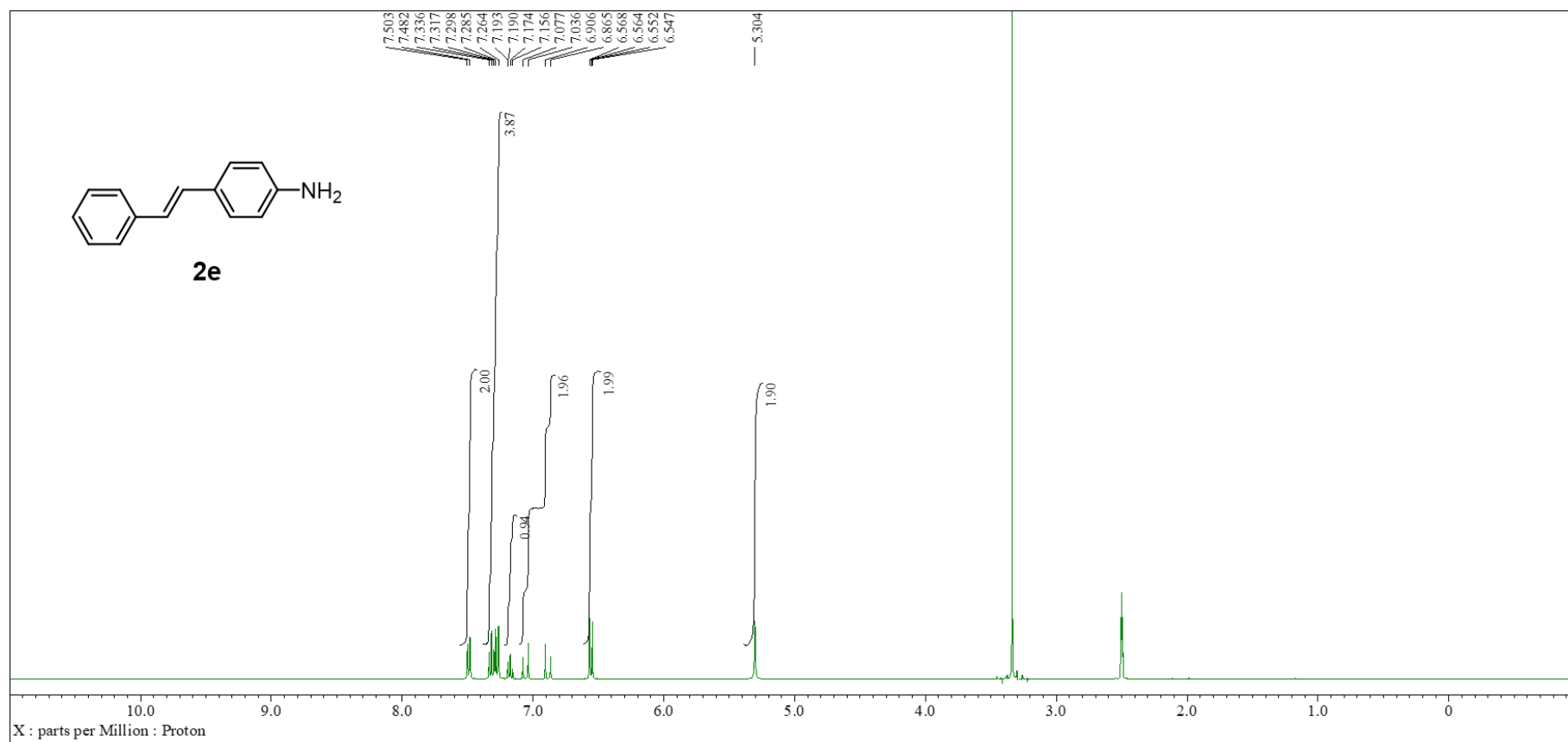
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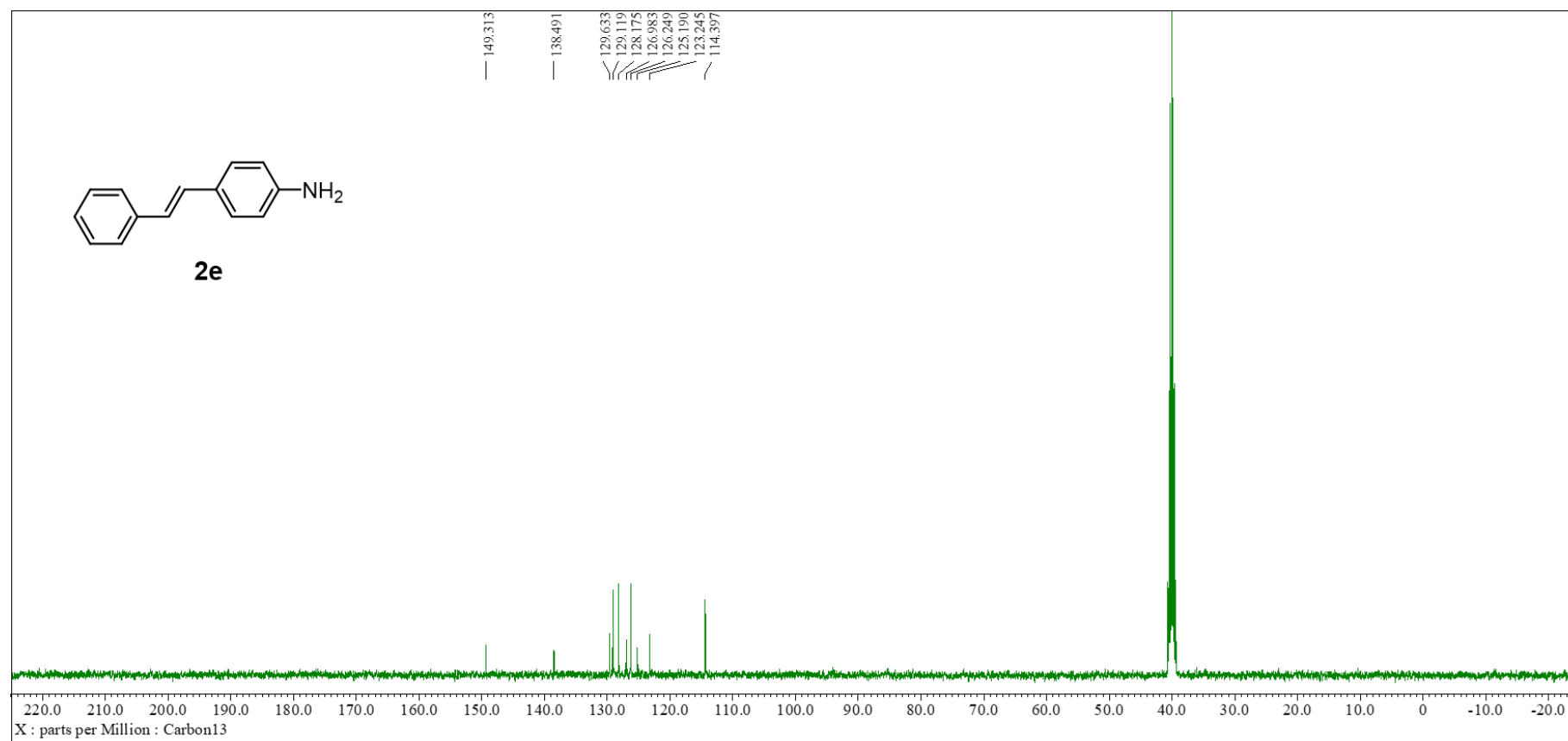
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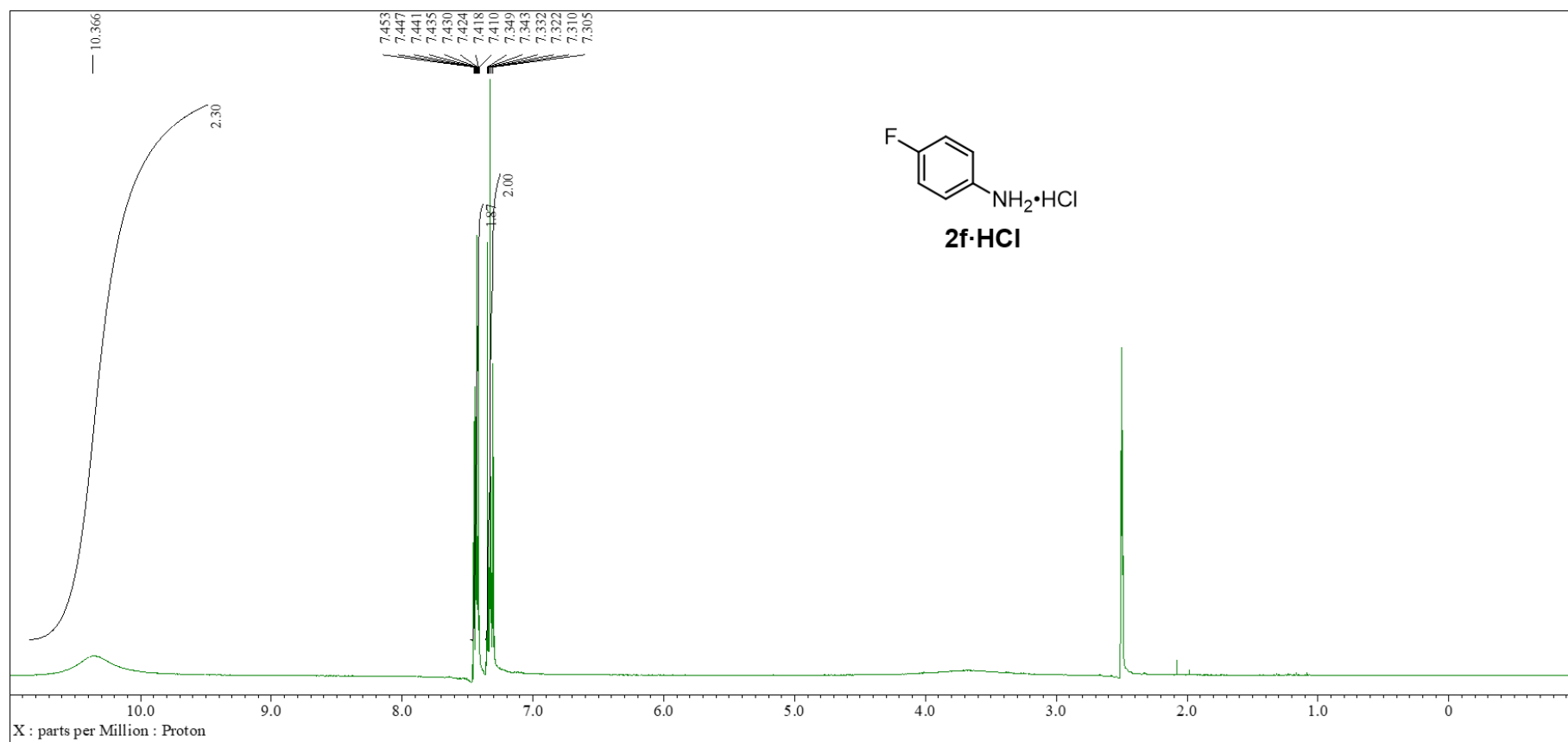
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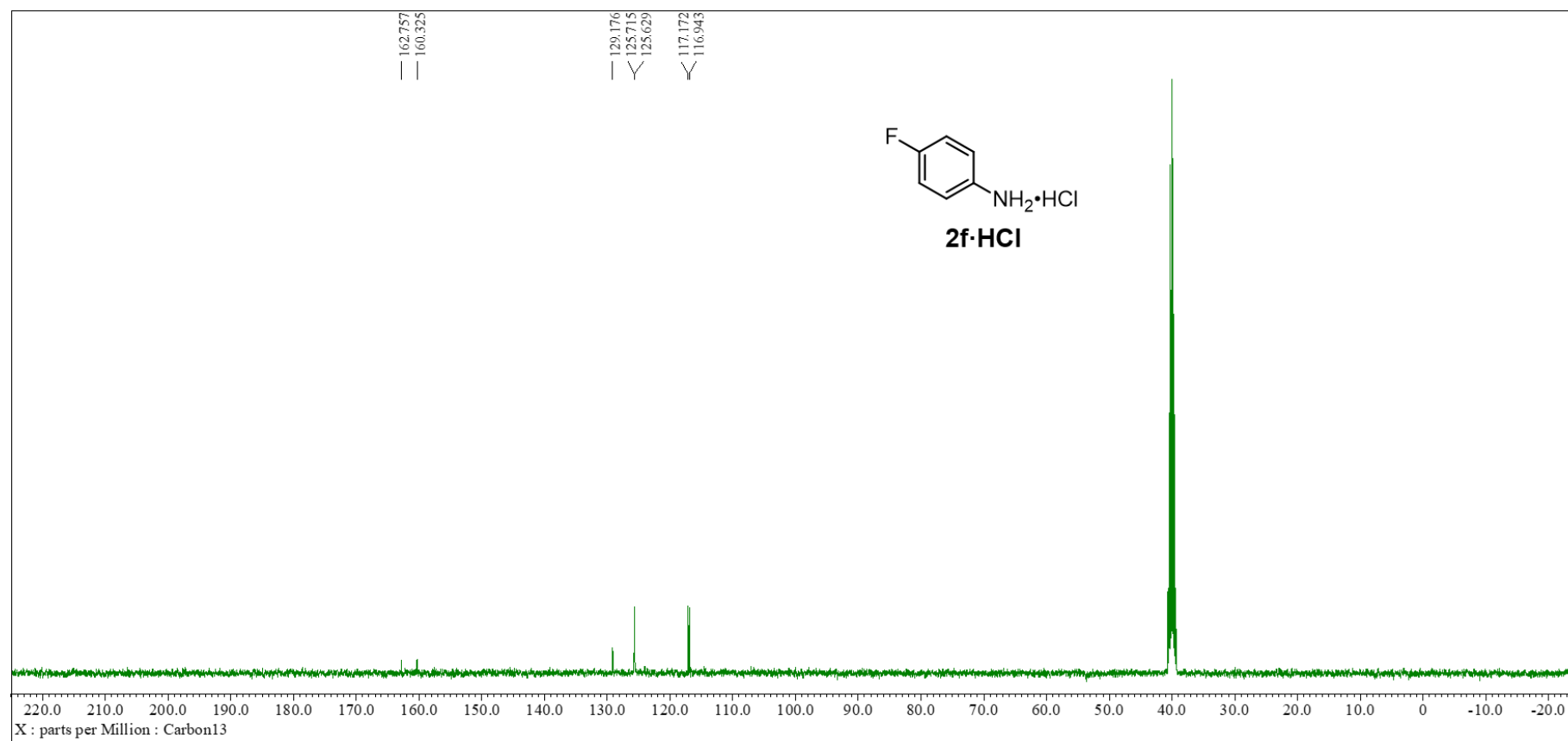
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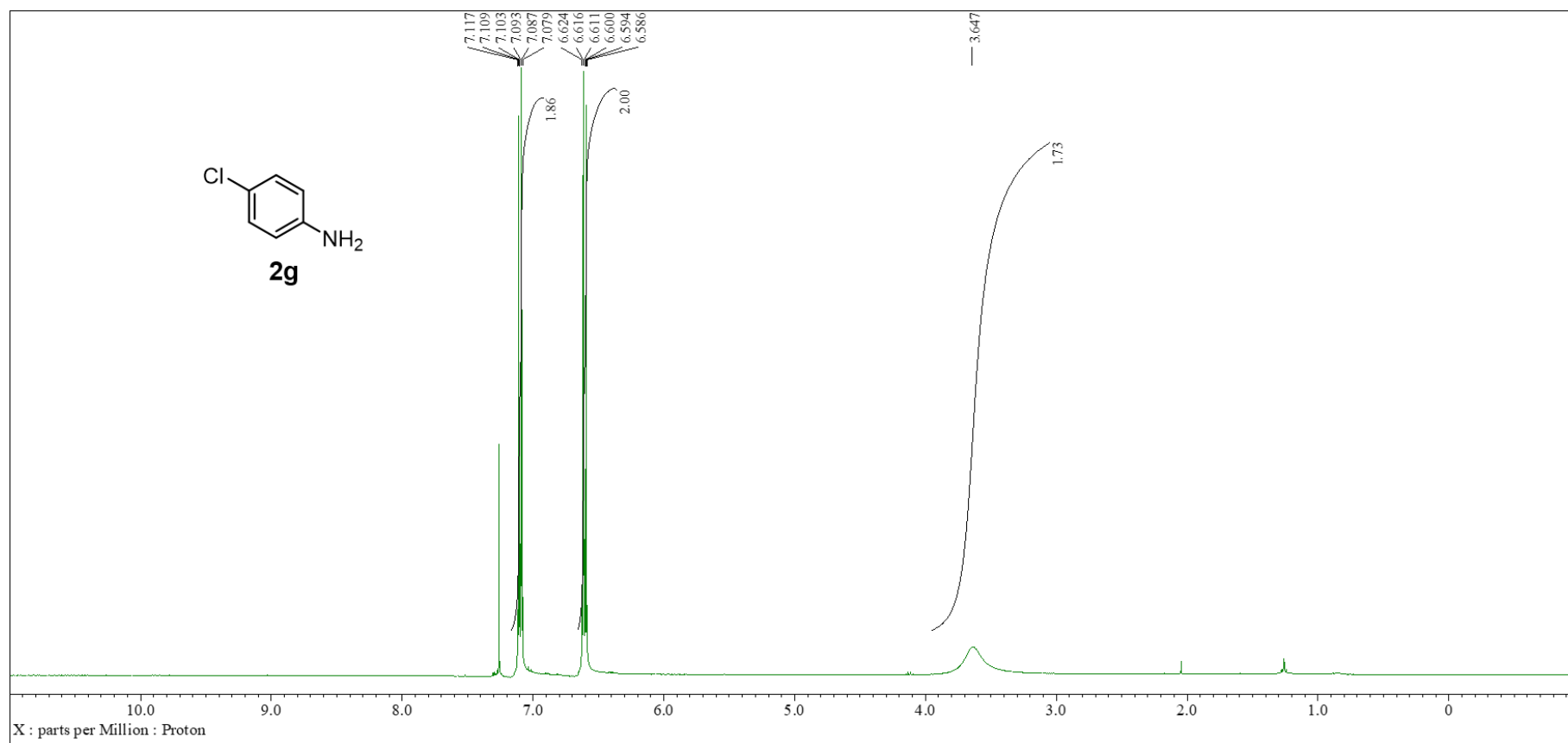
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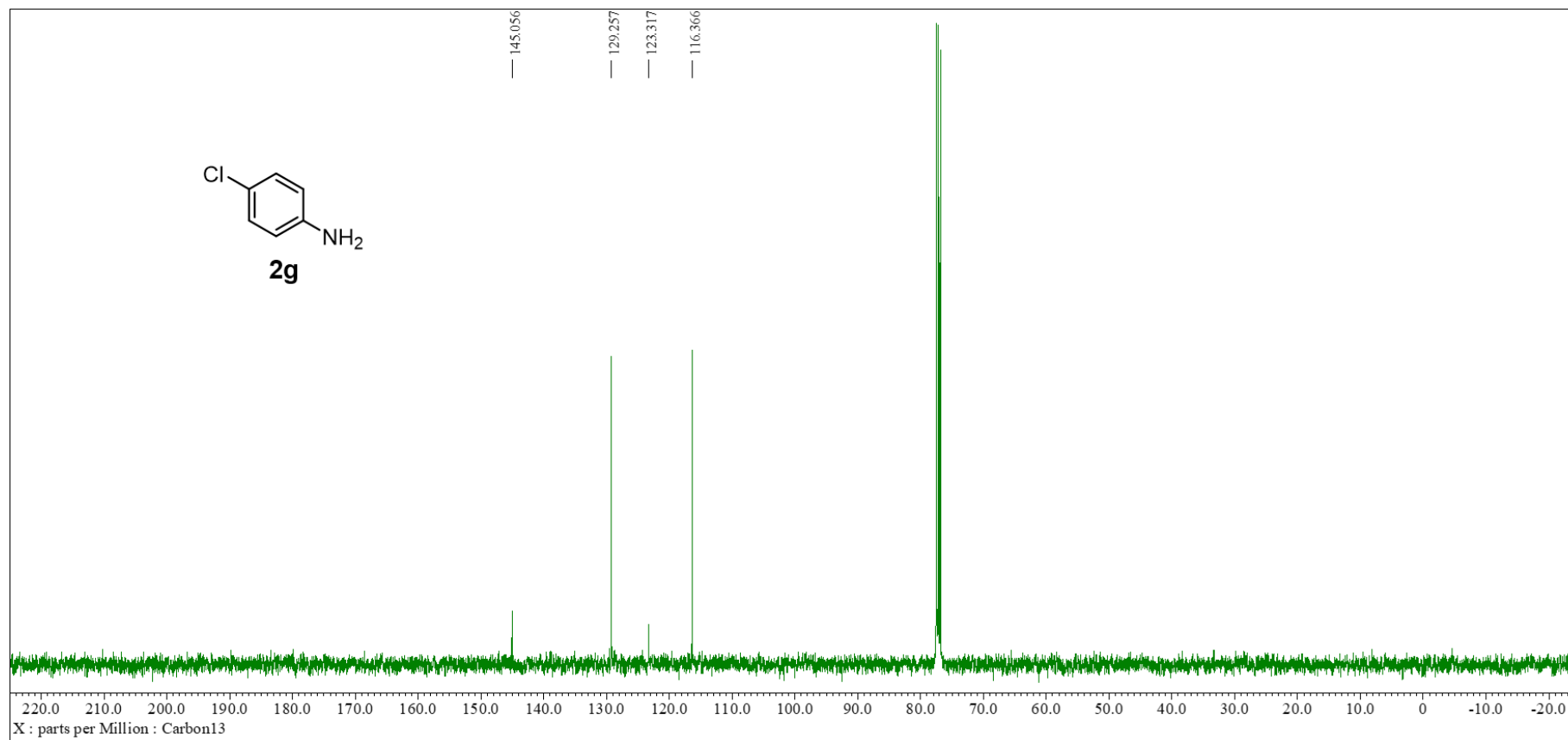
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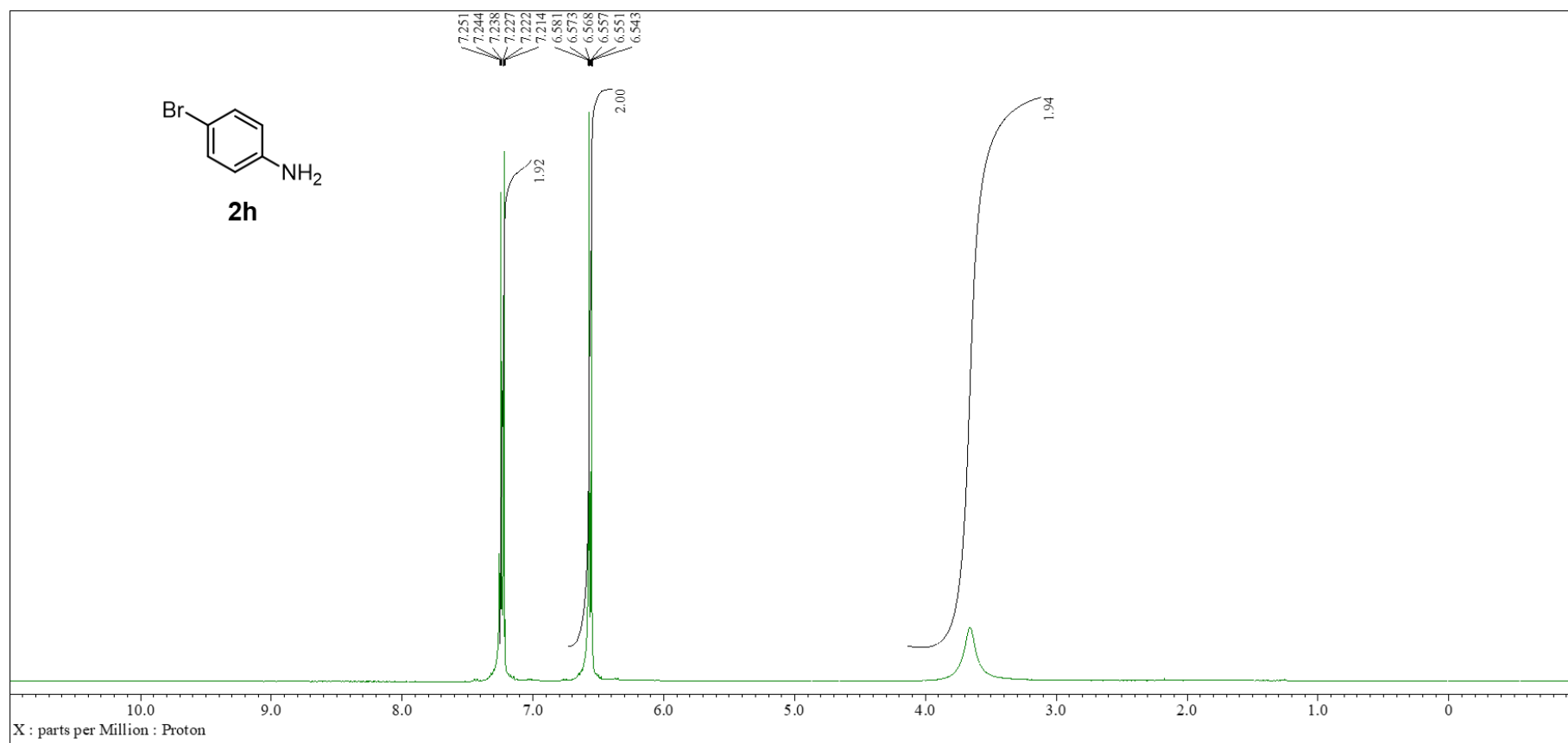
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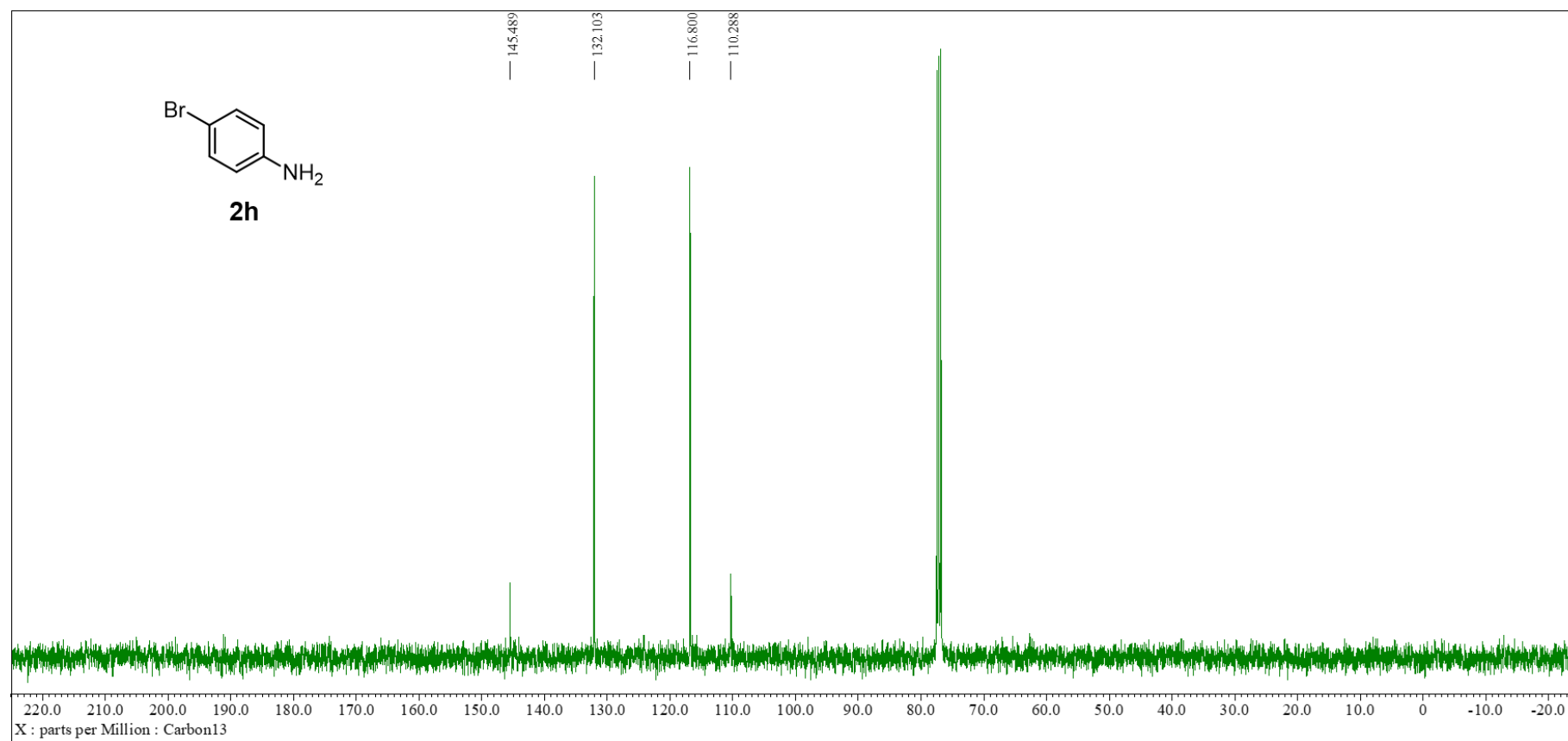
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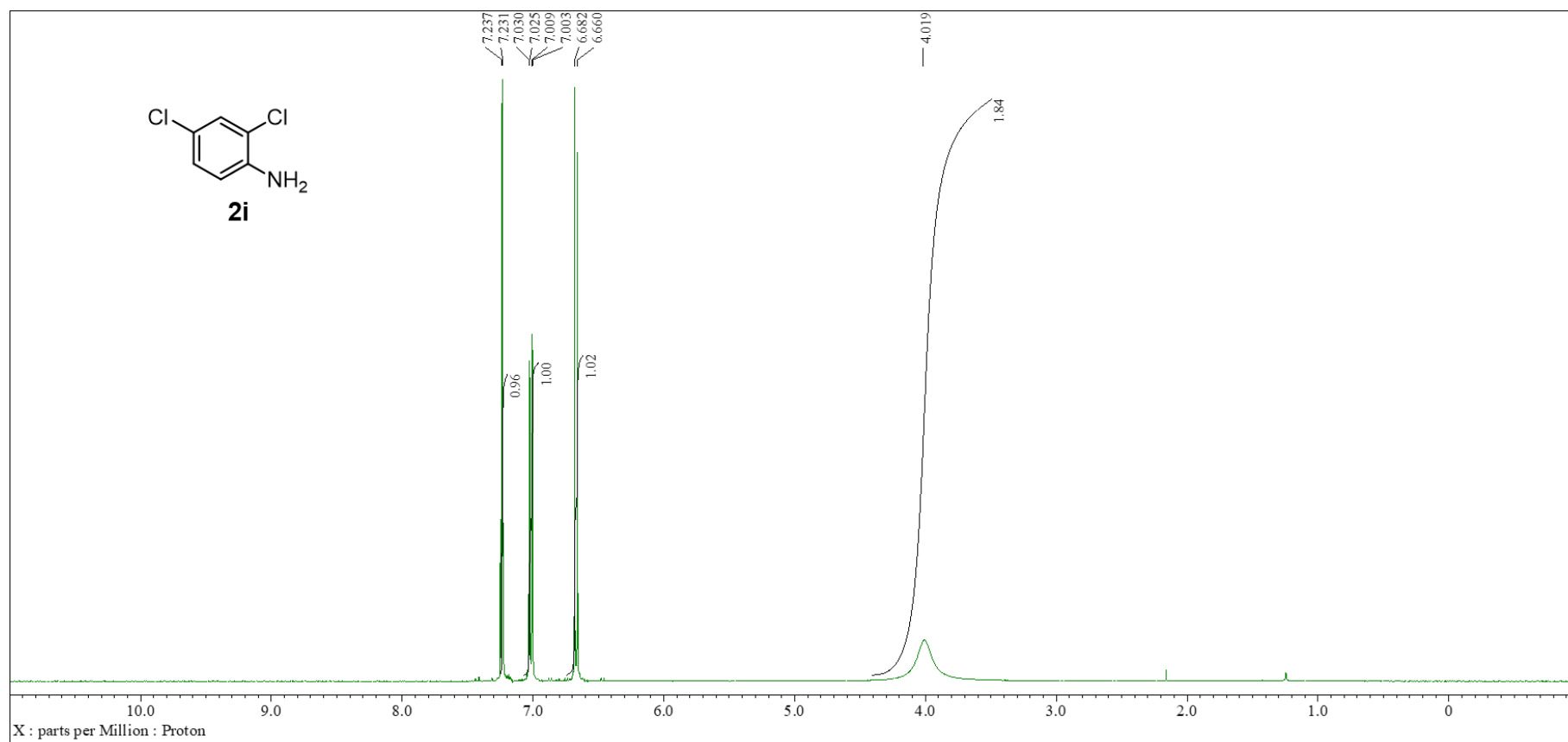
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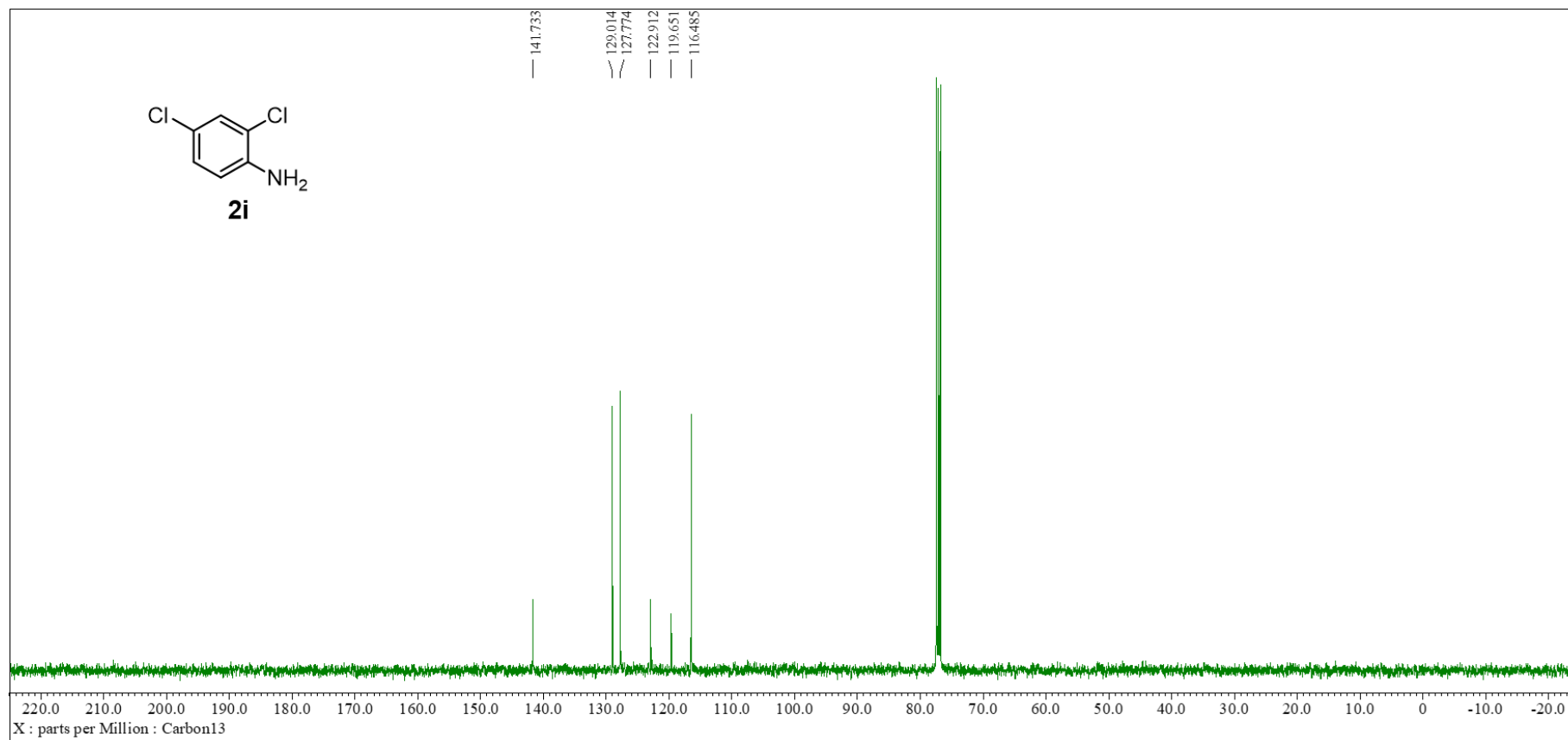
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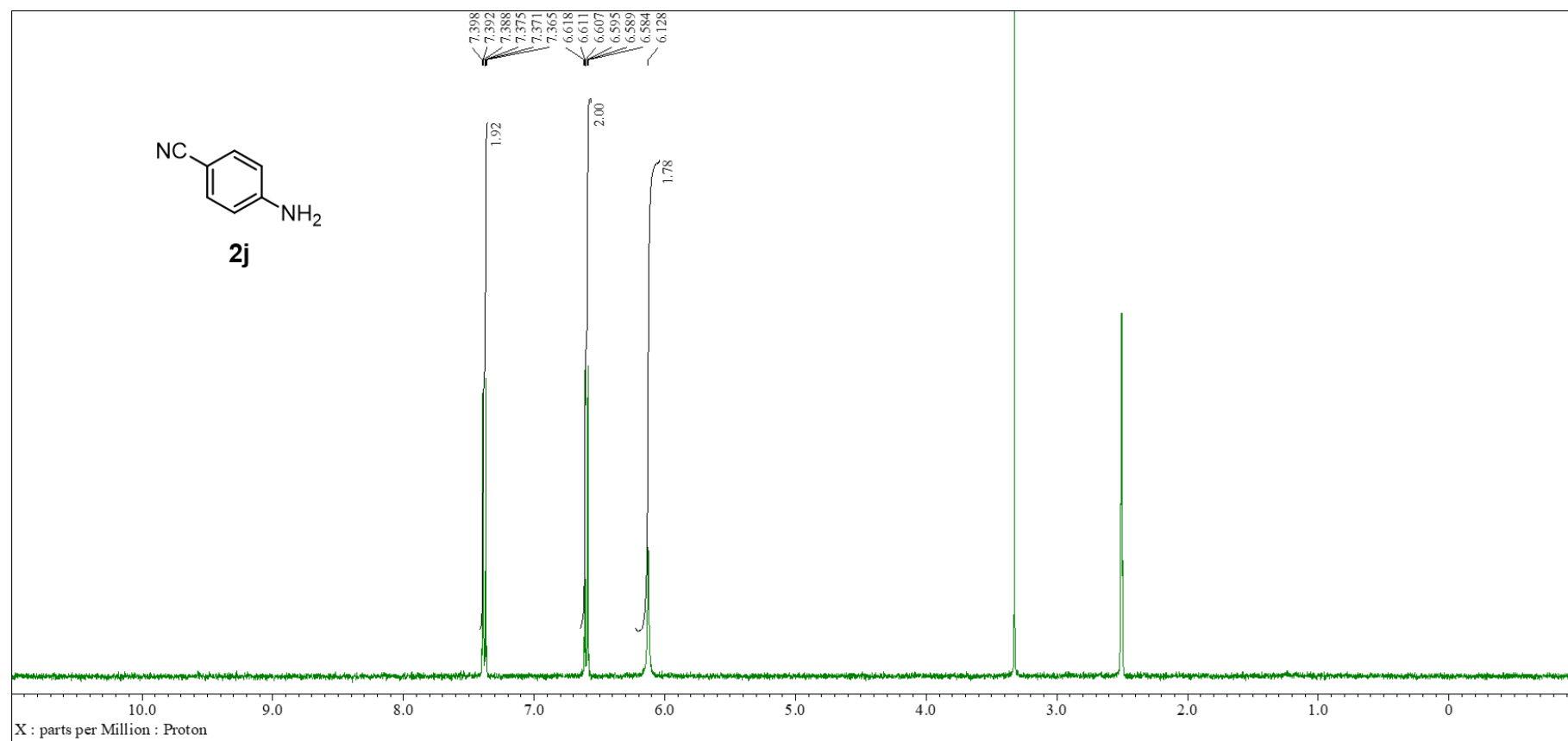
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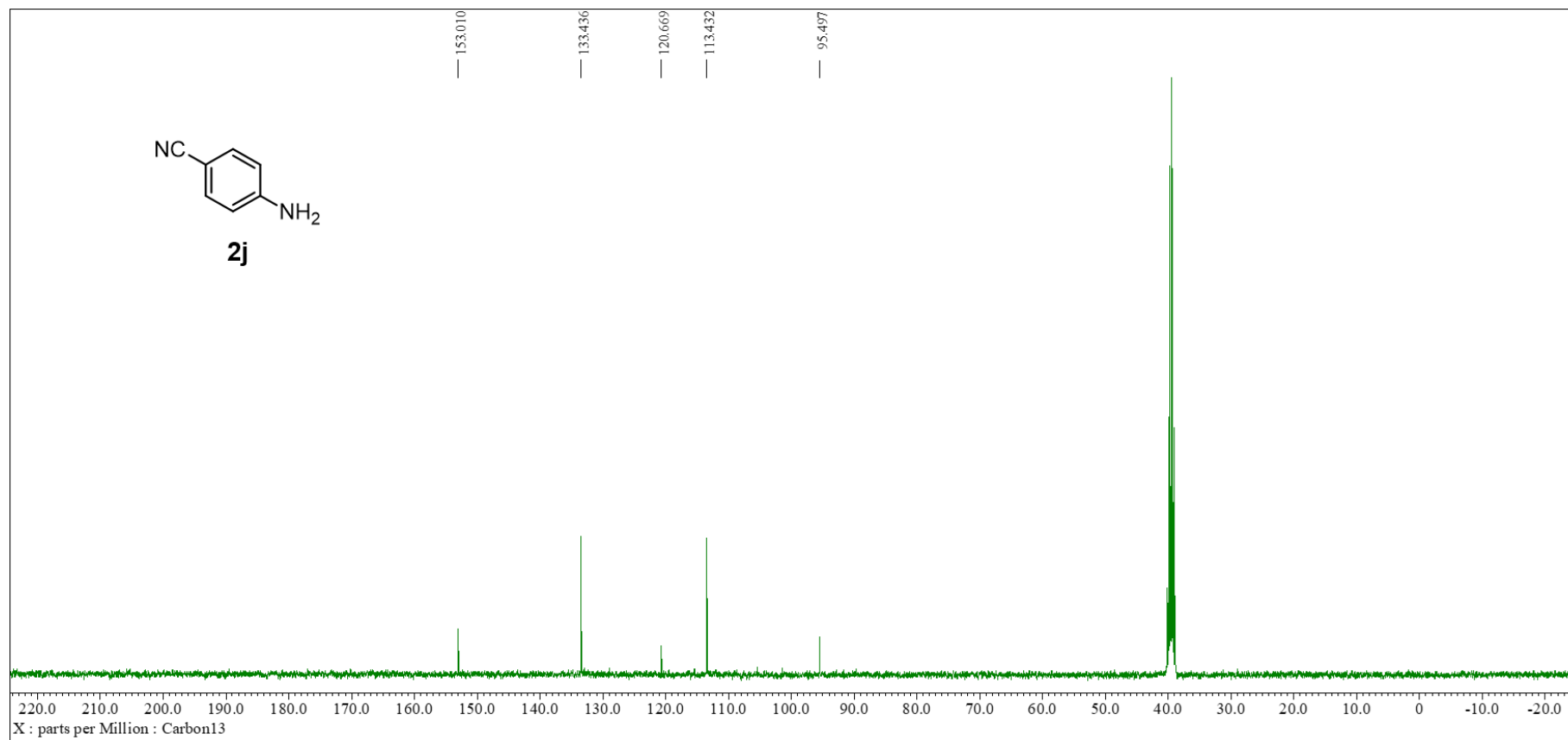
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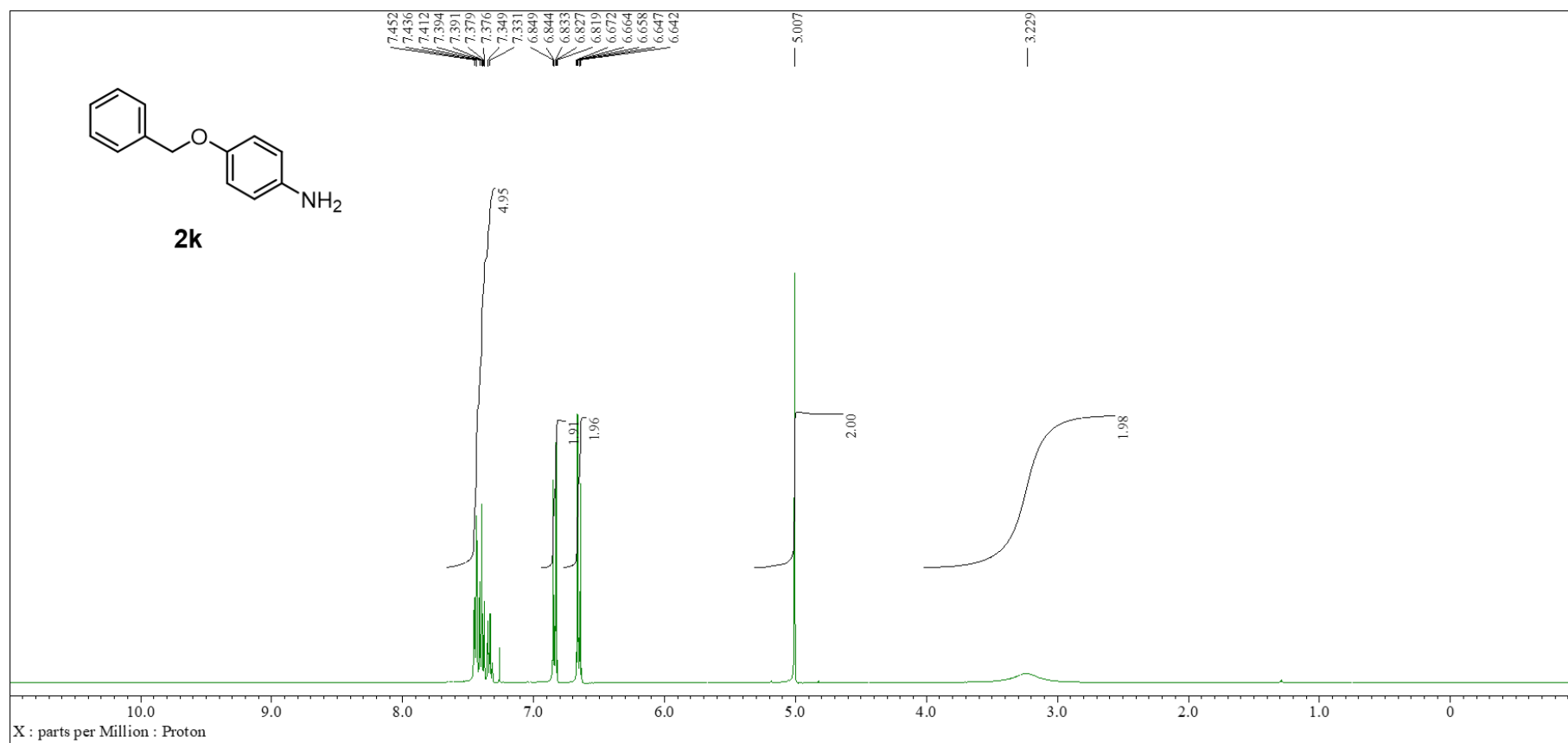
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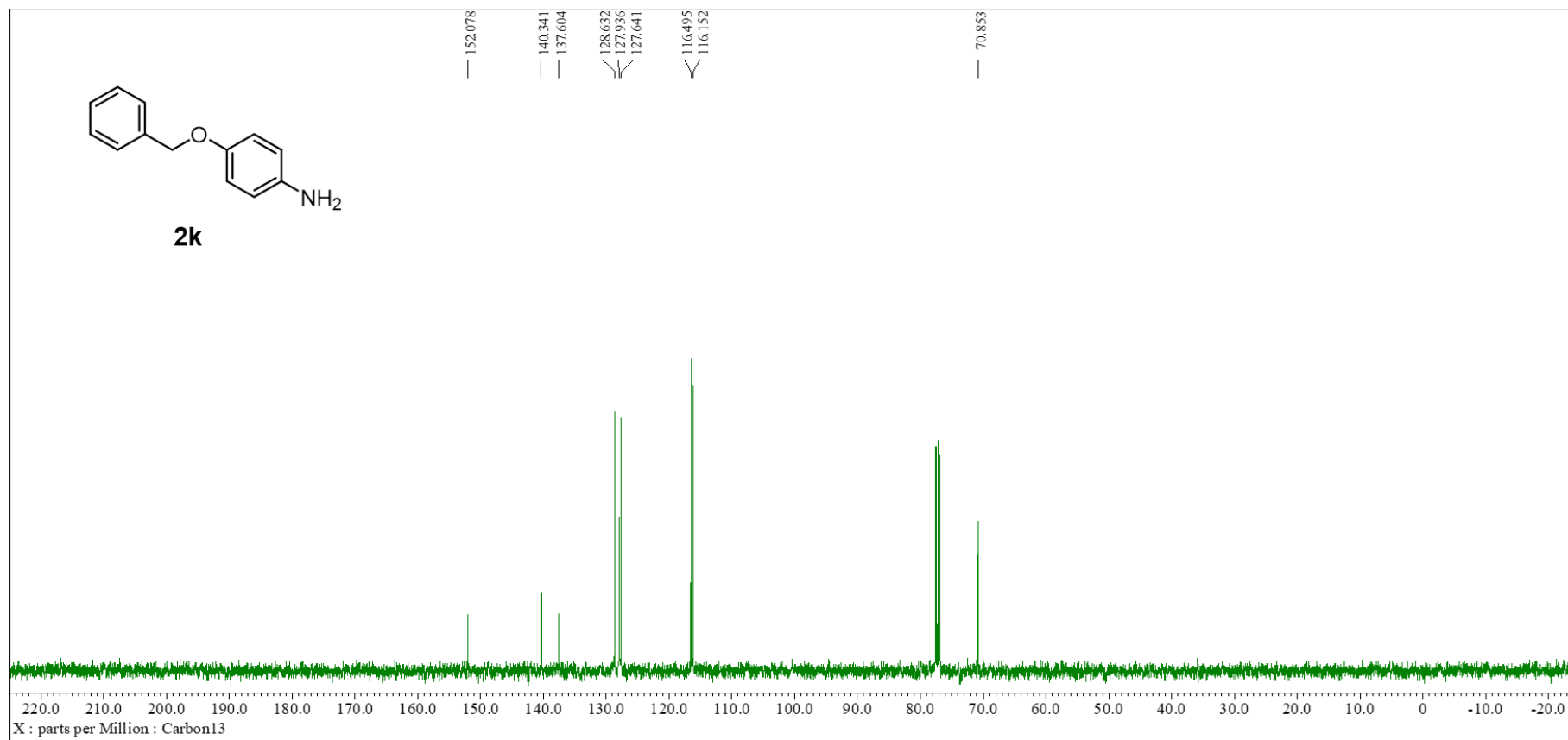
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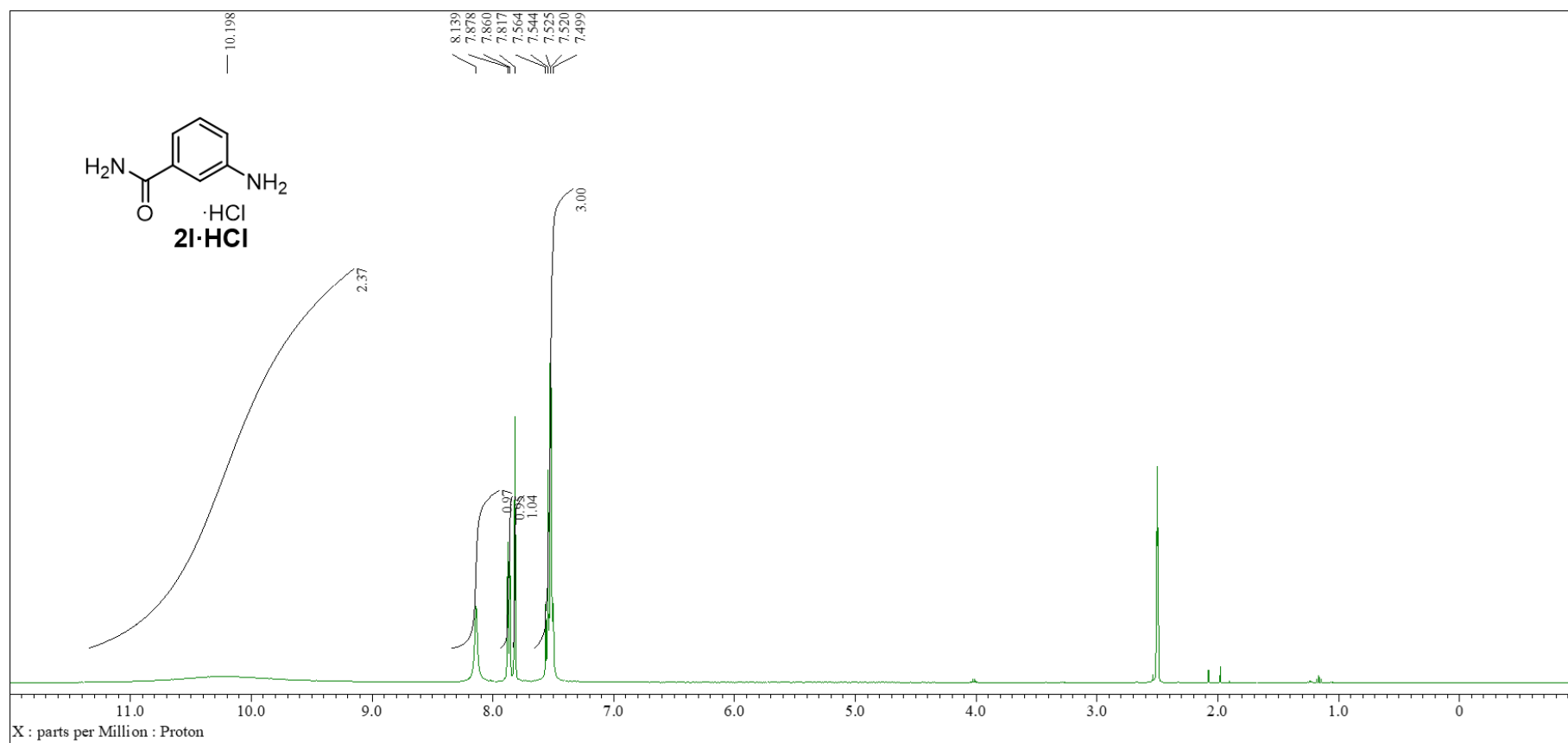
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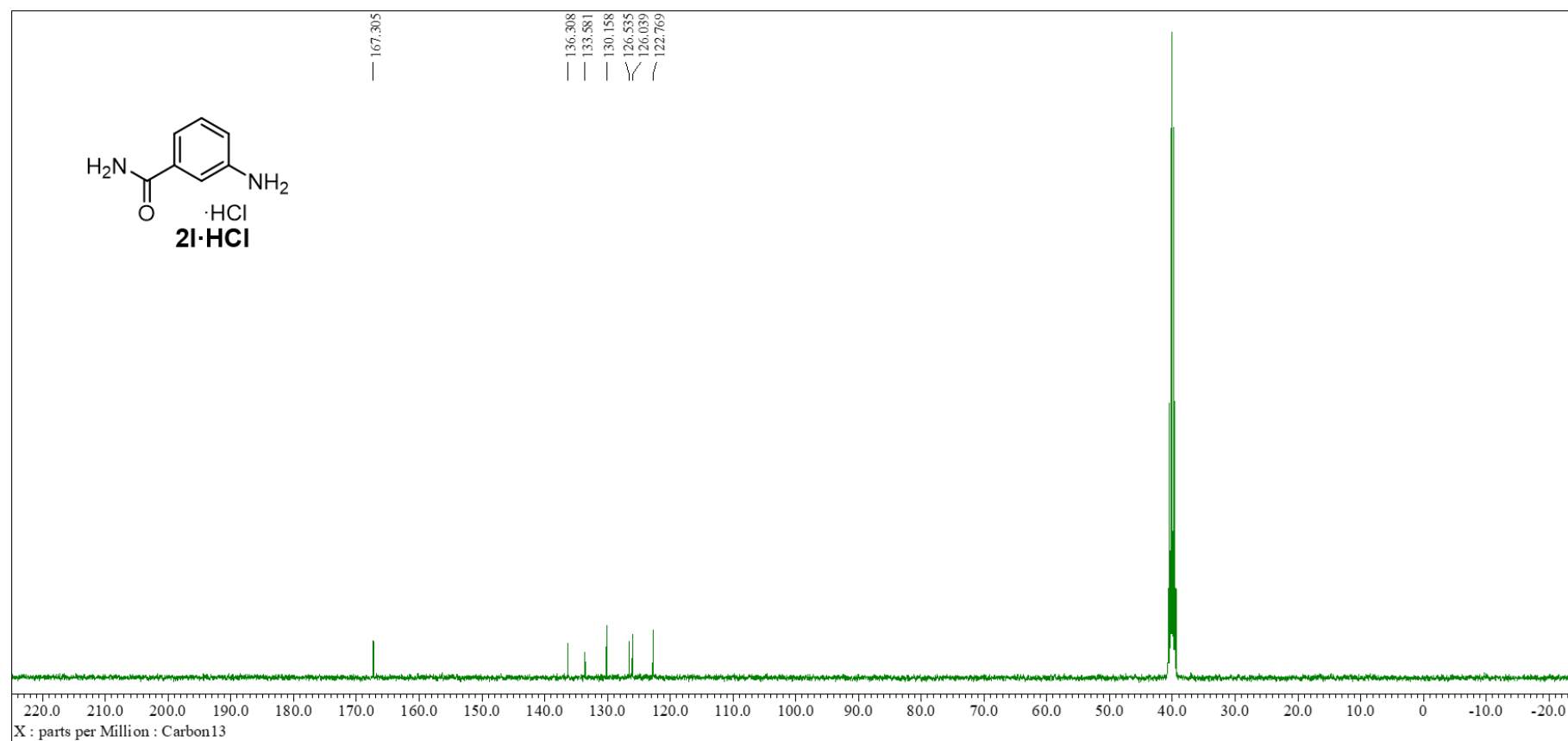
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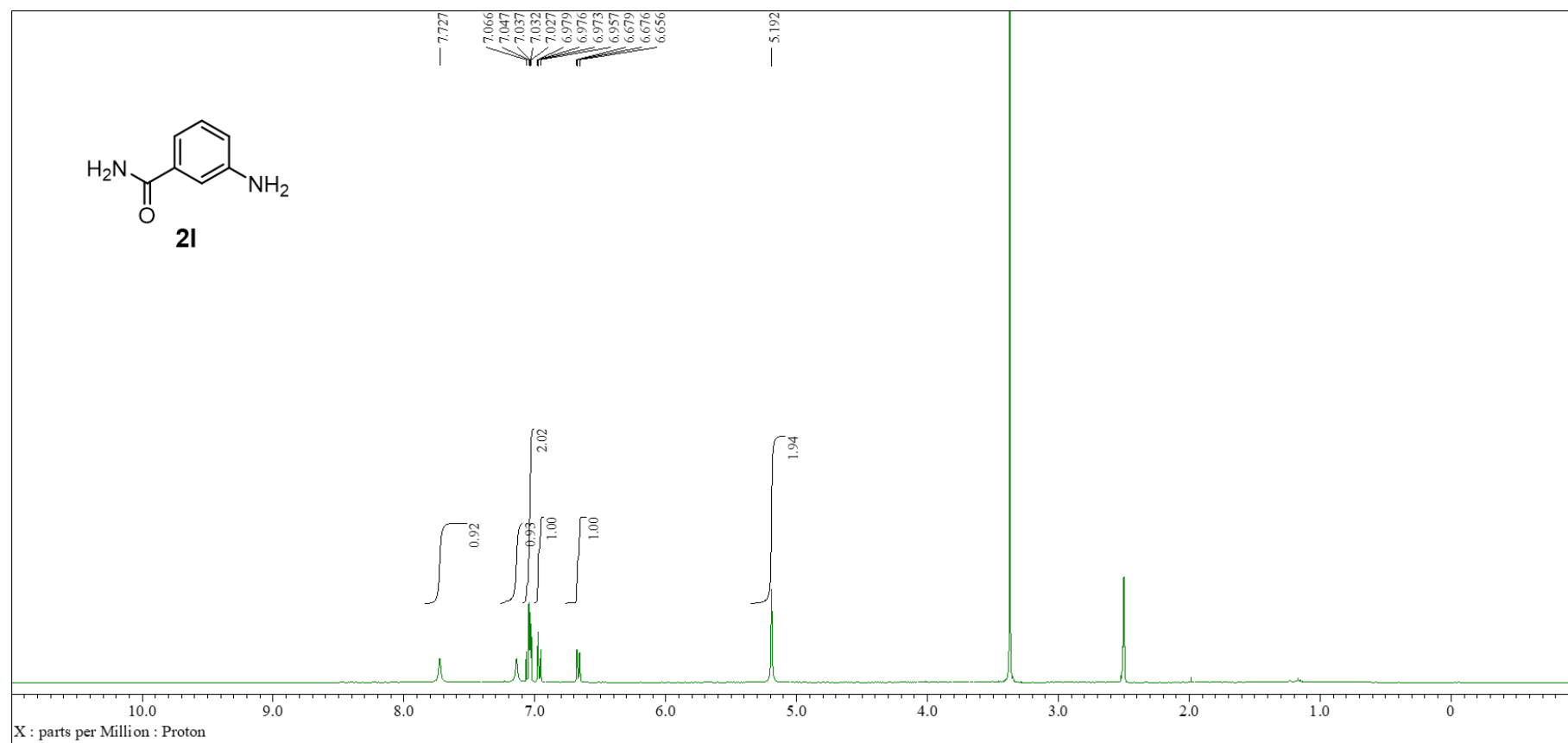
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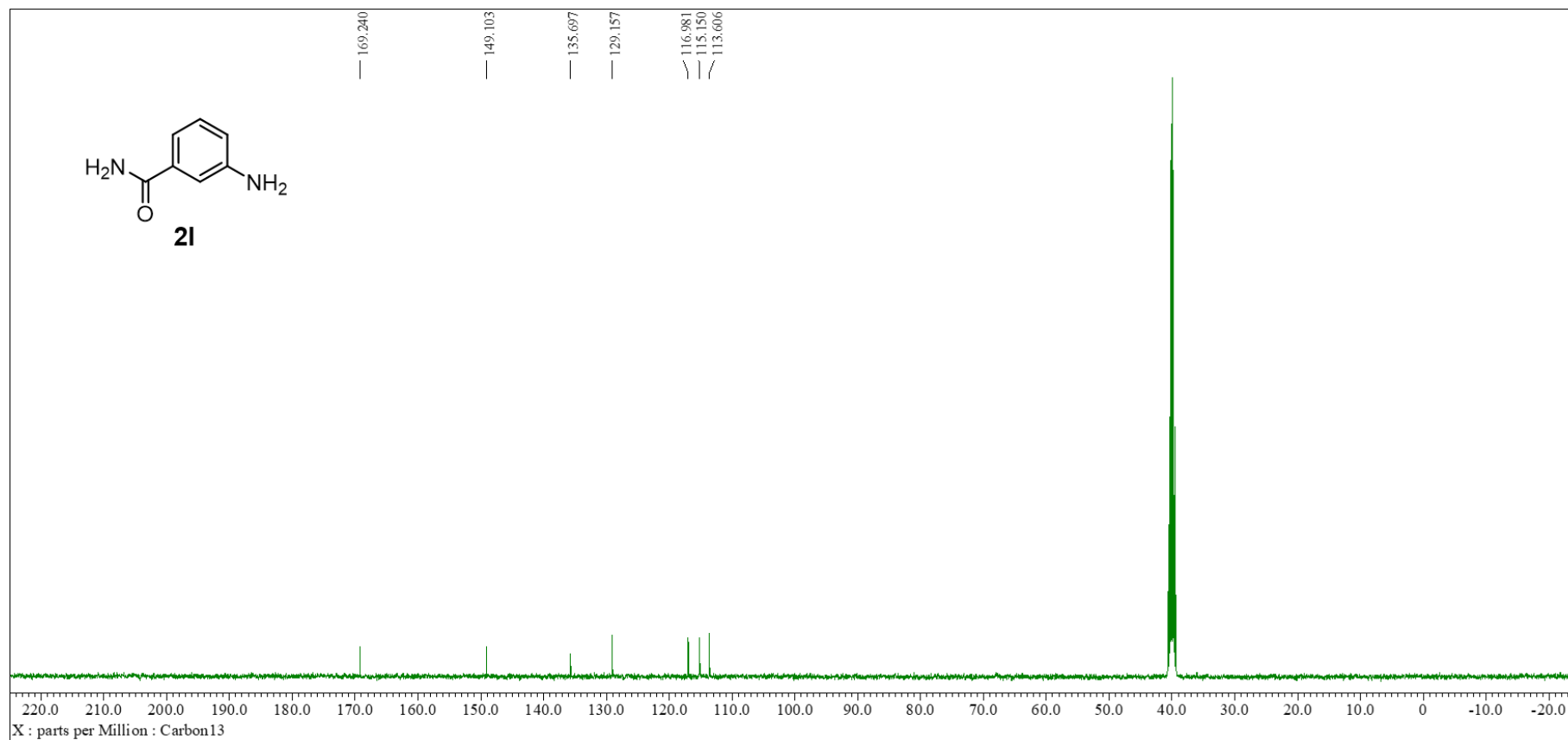
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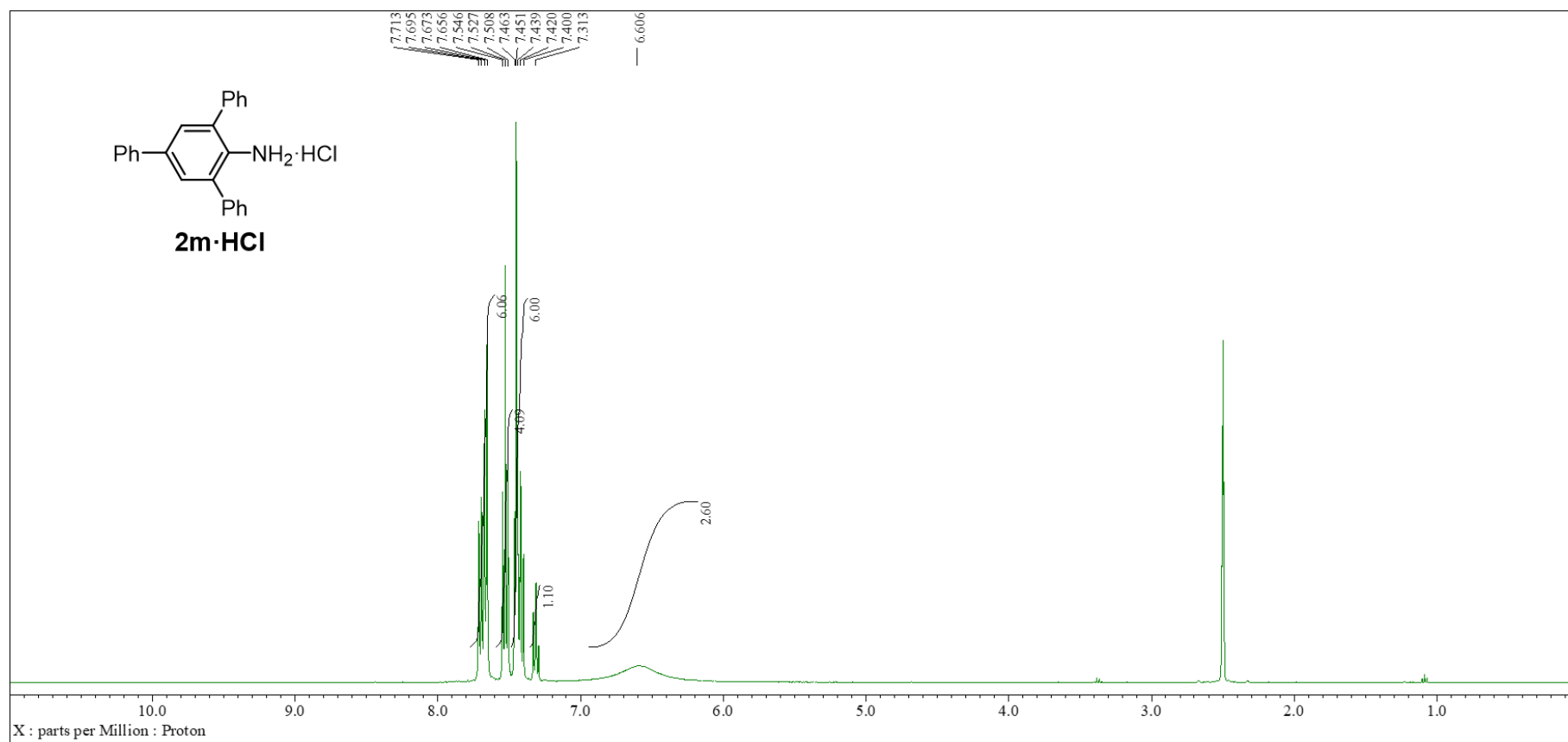
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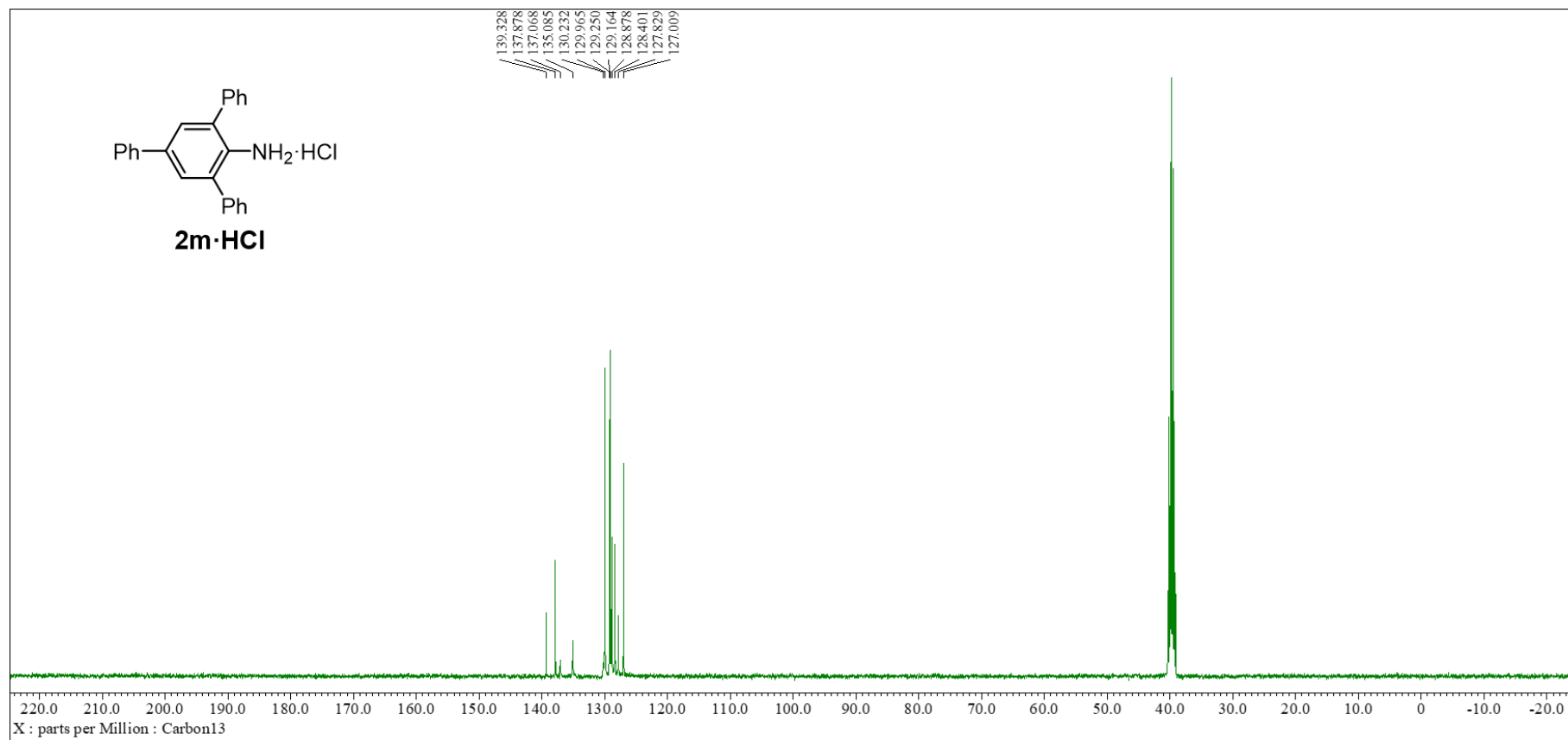
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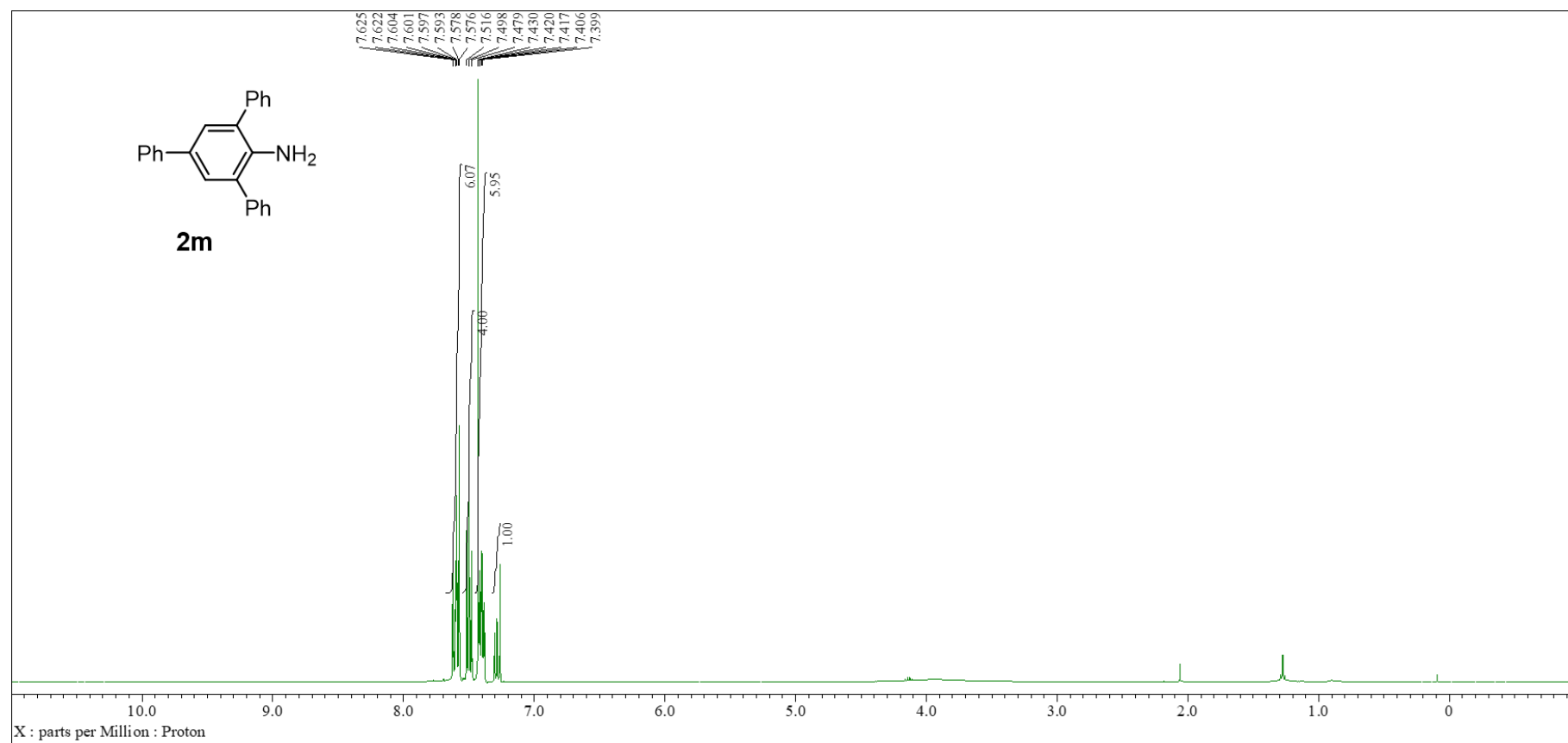
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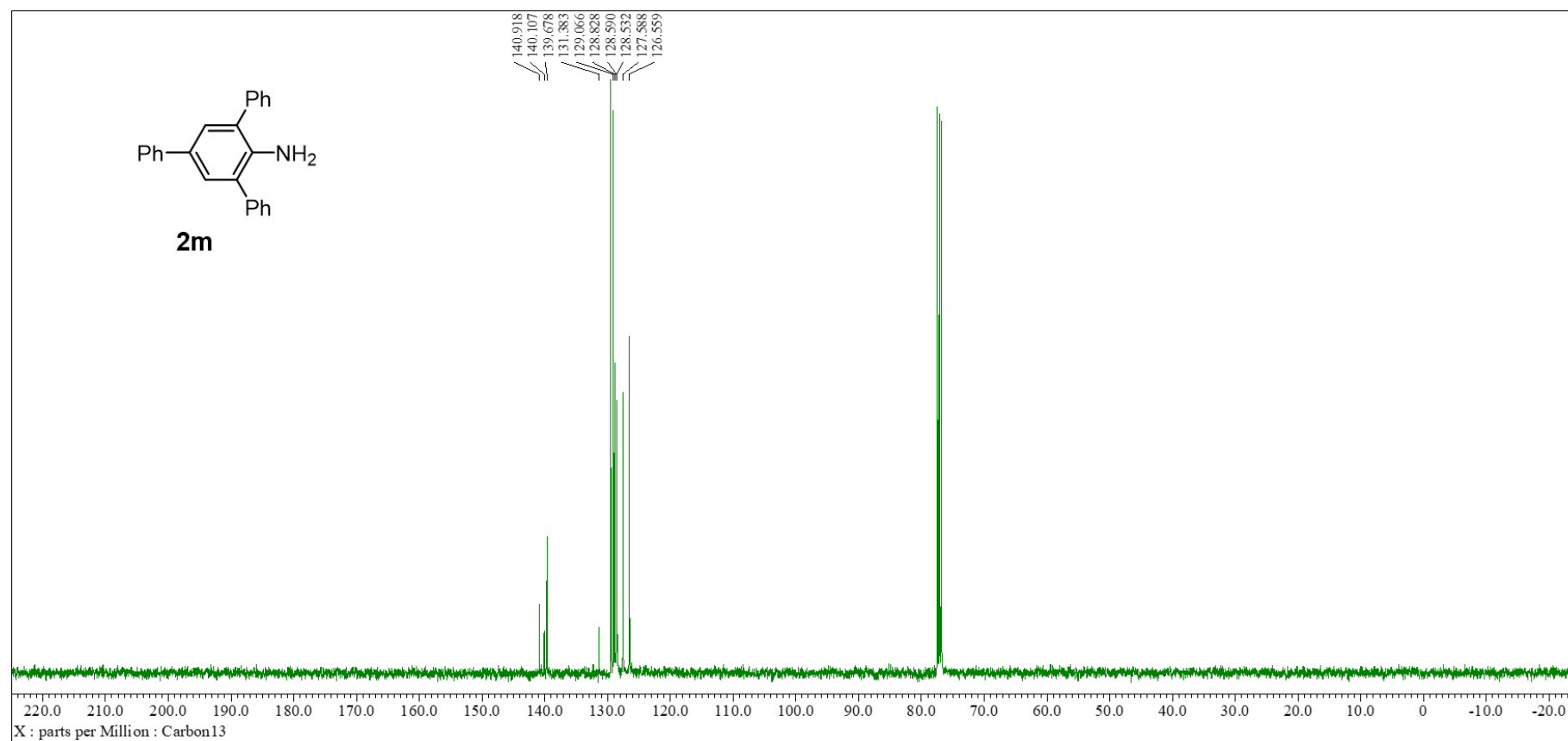
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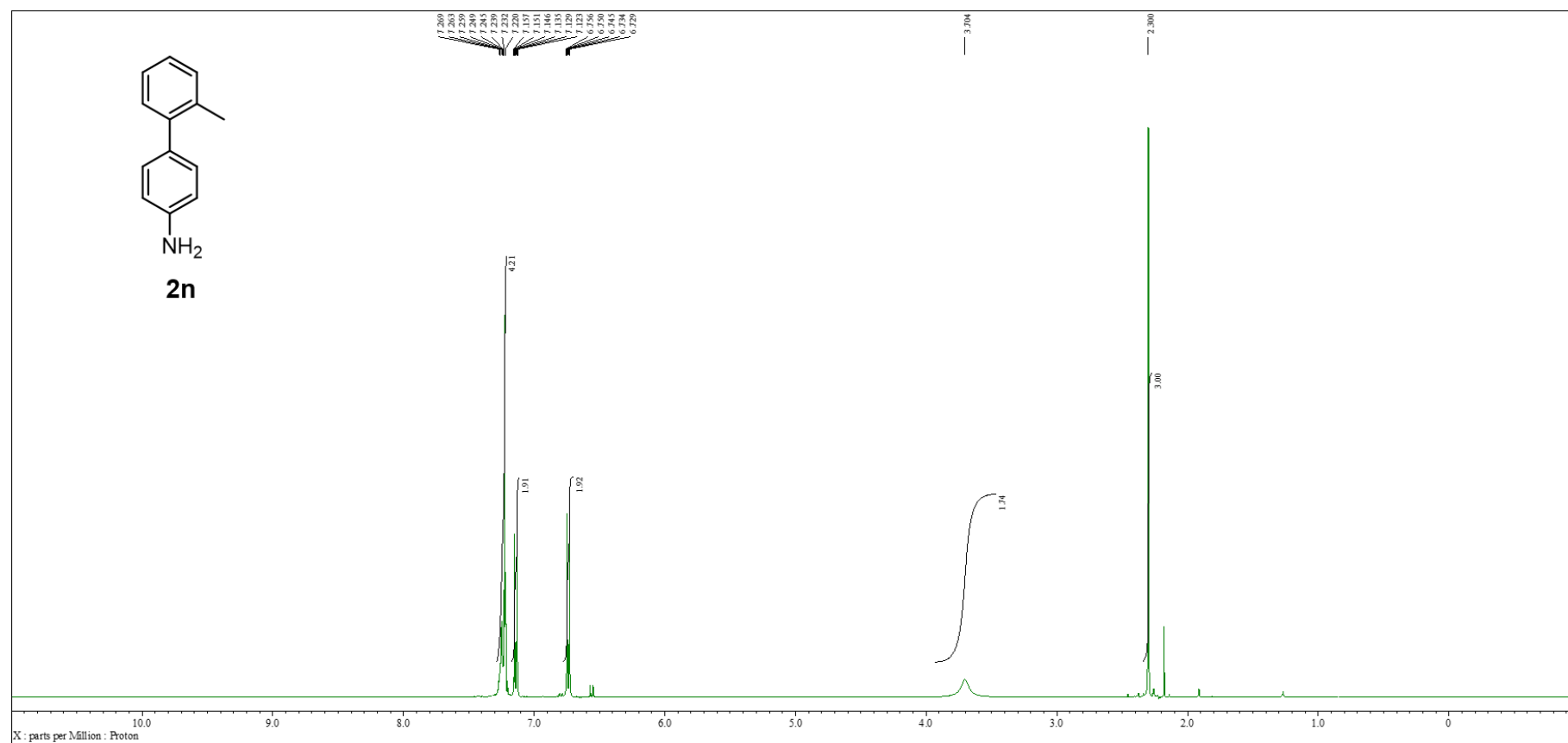
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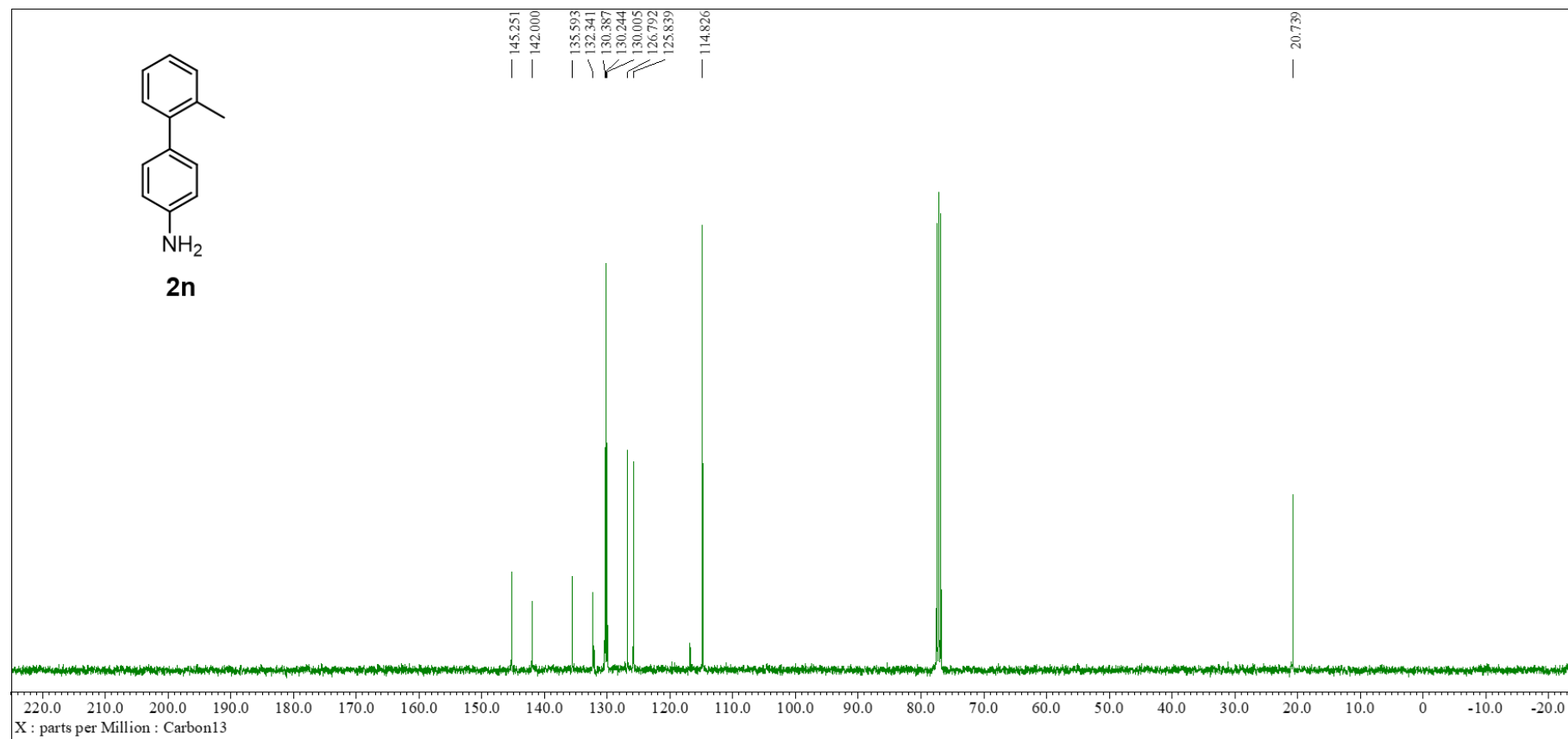
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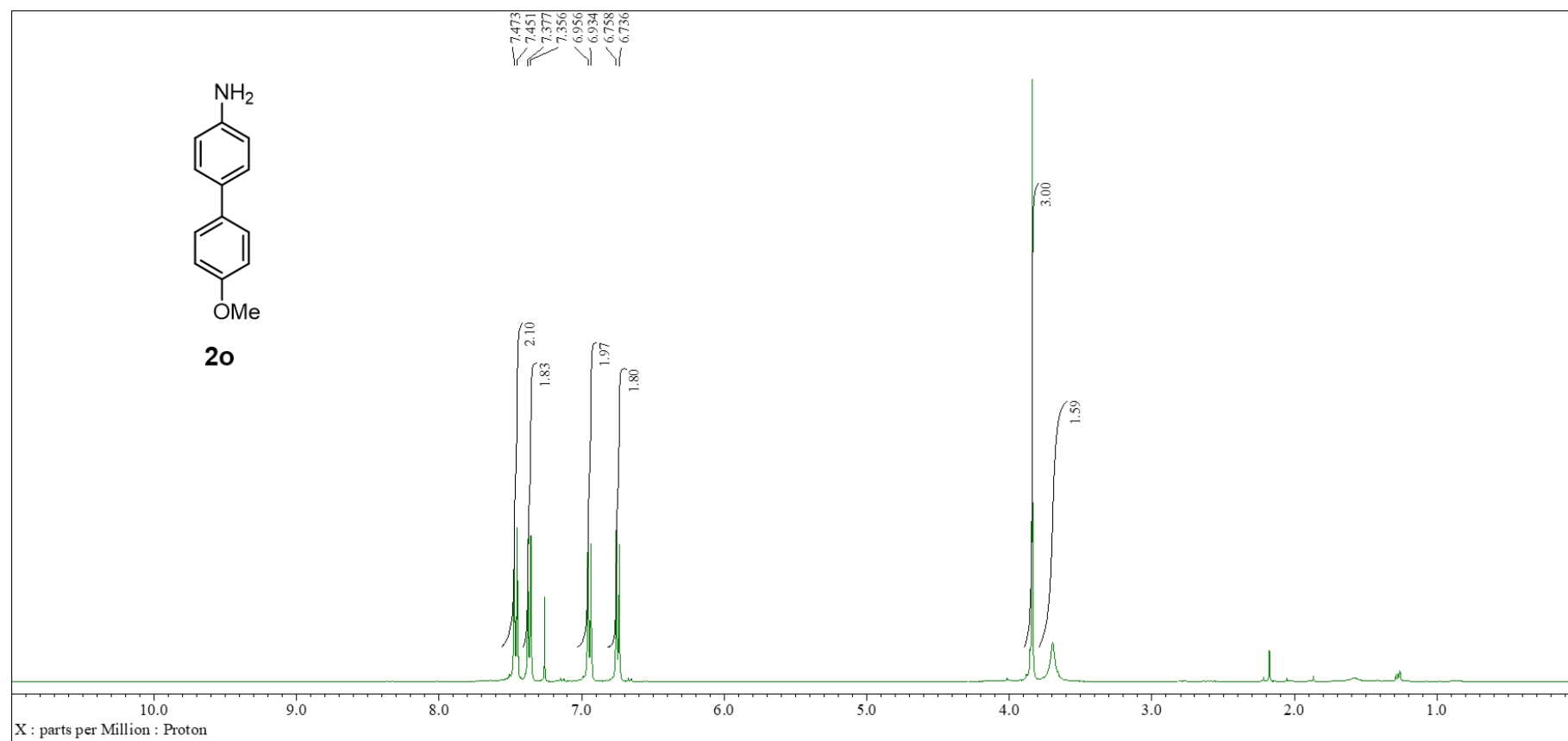
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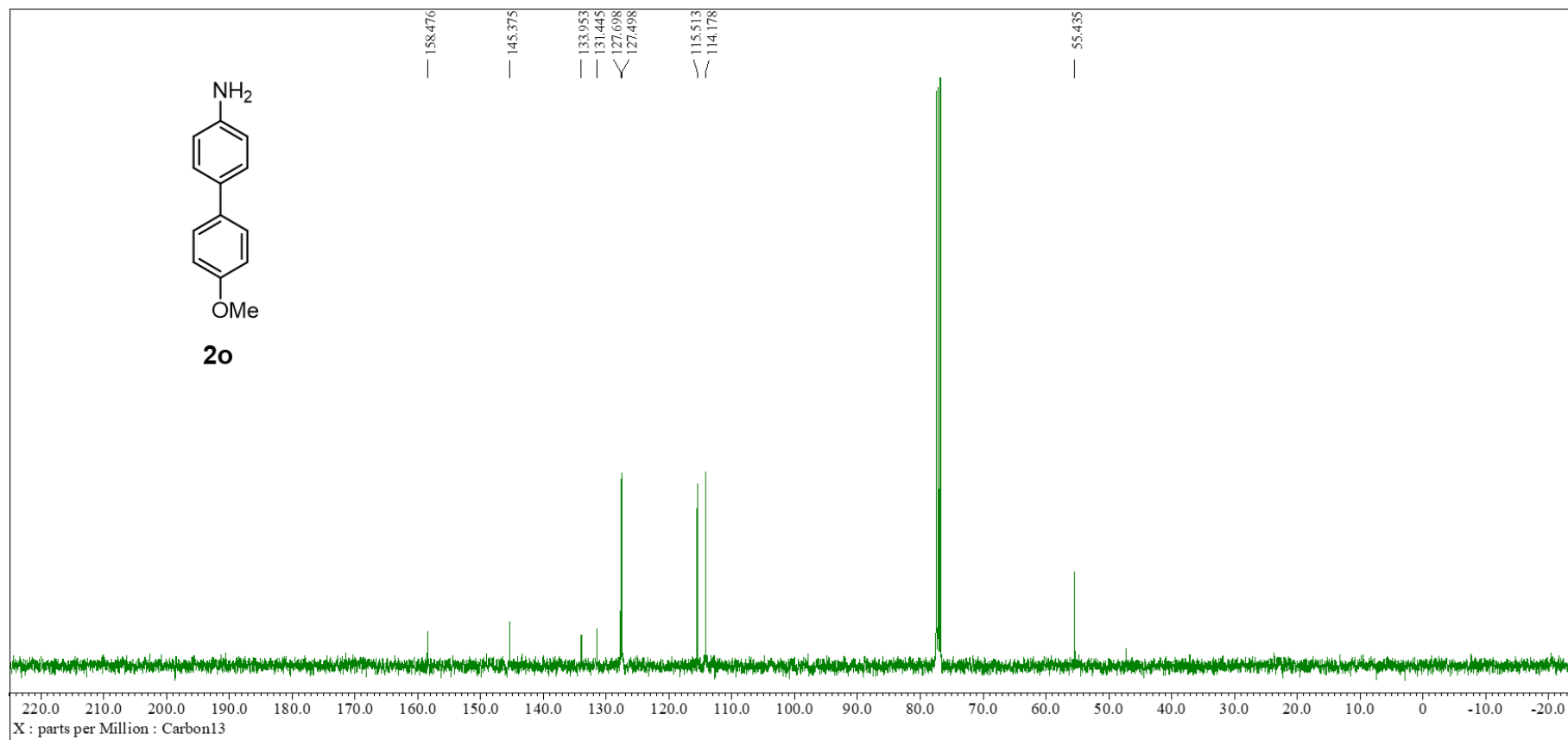
¹H NMR of **2n**



^{13}C NMR of **2n**



^1H NMR of **2o**



^{13}C NMR of **2o**