

**Supporting Information for**  
**A Novel Strategy To Assemble the  $\beta$ -Diketo Acid Pharmacophore of Integrase Inhibitors**  
**on Purine Nucleobase Scaffolds**

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## Experimental Details.

**General Methods.** All synthetic procedures were performed under inert atmosphere of dry nitrogen unless stated otherwise. Commercial solvents and reagents were used without purification unless stated otherwise.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR were recorded on a 500 MHz NMR spectrometer. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS) and multiplicities as singlet (s), doublet (d), quartet (q) and multiplet (m). High resolution mass spectral data were obtained using a LCT TOF mass spectrometer. Melting points were recorded on an melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. Intermediates, **1a-e**, were synthesized according to literature procedures, which are cited.

**Methyl 4-(9-benzyl-9H-purin-6-yl)-4-ethoxy-2-oxobut-3-enoate (3a).** To a stirred solution of 9-benzyl-6-(1-ethoxyvinyl)purine, **2a**,<sup>24</sup> (0.2 g, 0.7 mmol) and pyridine (0.05 g, 2.1 mmol) in dry chloroform (10 mL) at 0°C was added dropwise, methyl chlorooxoacetate (0.07 g, 2.1 mmol) in dry chloroform (5 mL). The reaction mixture was allowed to stand in the refrigerator at 0°C for 48 h. It was then washed with water (2 x 10 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent removed to give a dark red syrup from which pure product was isolated as a yellow oil by column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/hexane, 6:4). Yield 0.11 g (42 %); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): 1.53 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 3.80 (s, 3H), 4.36 (q, 2H, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 5.49 (s, 2H), 6.72 (s, 1H, CH), 7.36 (m, 5H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 9.10 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): δ 14.0, 30.9, 47.4, 52.9, 67.0, 99.5, 128.0, 128.7, 129.2, 131.2, 134.7, 145.5, 152.0, 152.6, 162.4, 167.4, and 179.7. HRMS: (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 367.1406, found 367.1406.

**Methyl-4-(9-benzyl-9H-purin-6-yl)-2-hydroxy-4-oxobut-2-enoate (4a).** A mixture of methyl 4-(9-benzyl-9H-purin-6-yl)-4-ethoxy-2-oxobut-3-enoate, **3a**, (0.10 g, 0.2 mmol) and FeCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (0.125 g, 0.4 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL) was stirred at 40 °C for 12 h. The solvent was distilled off and the resulting residue was treated with 1 N HCl (50 mL) and stirred at RT for 1 h, extracted with EtOAc (4 x 20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and the solvent distilled off to give a brown residue, which was purified by ion-exchange chromatography (DEAE sephadex anion exchange resin, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O, 1:1) and recrystallized from methanol. Yield 0.038 g (42 %), yellow solid, mp 166-167 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 3.99 (s, 3H), 5.54 (s, 2H), 7.35-7.41 (m, 5H), 7.9 (s, 1H), 8.3 (s, 1H), 9.19 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR

(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz):  $\delta$  47.6, 53.3, 101.4, 127.9, 128.9, 129.3, 131.7, 134.5, 147.4, 147.5, 152.2, 154.3, 162.0, 172.8, and 185.7. FAB-HRMS: (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 339.1093, found 339.1083.

**9-benzyl-8-(1-ethoxyvinyl)purine, 2b** A mixture of 9-benzyl-8-bromopurine **1b** (1.0 g, 3.4 mmol) bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II)chloride (0.24 g, 0.3 mmol) and ethoxyvinyl(tributyl)tin (1.49 g, 4.14 mmol) in dry DMF (50 mL) was heated under N<sub>2</sub> at 65 °C for 48 h. DMF was distilled off and the resulting residue redissolved in EtOAc (50 mL) and filtered through a pad of celite. EtOAc was distilled off and the residue obtained purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/hexane, 3:7). Yield 0.58 g, (60 %), yellow syrup. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  1.35 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 3.95 (q, 2H, *J* = 13.7 Hz), 4.62 (d, 1H, *J* = 3Hz), 5.31 (d, 1H, *J* = 3 Hz), 5.77(s, 2H), 7.15-7.33 (m, 5H), 9.01 (s, 1H), 9.14 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz):  $\delta$  14.1, 47.2, 64.2, 91.8, 126.8, 127.7, 128.6, 133.0, 136.4, 148.1, 151.2, 151.8, 152.8, and 153.0. HRMS: (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O 281.1402, found 281.1409.

**Methyl 4-(9-benzyl-9H-purin-8-yl)-4-ethoxy-2-oxobut-3-enoate (3b).** To a stirred solution of 9-benzyl-8-(1-ethoxyvinyl)purine, **2b**, (0.57 g, 2.0 mmol) and pyridine (0.50 g, 6.0 mmol) in dry chloroform (15 mL) at 0°C, was added (dropwise) methyl chlorooxoacetate (0.73, 6.0 mmol) in dry chloroform (10 mL). The reaction mixture was allowed to stand in the refrigerator for 15 h. It was then washed with water (2 x 20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and the solvent distilled off to give a dark reddish syrup from which pure product was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/hexane, 1:1). Yield 0.54 g, (77 %), yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR

(CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): 1.27 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 3.78 (s, 3H), 4.04 (q, 2H, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 5.45 (s, 2H), 6.57 (s, 1H), 7.22-7.34 (m, 5H), 9.11 (s, 1H), 9.19 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): δ 13.7, 46.9, 53.2, 67.2, 102.1, 127.8, 128.3, 128.7, 132.8, 134.9, 148.0, 150.0, 152.3, 152.7, 161.9, 161.9 and 180.2. FAB-HRMS: (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 367.1406, found 367.1158.

**Methyl 4-(9-benzyl-9*H*-purin-8-yl)-2-hydroxy-4-oxobut-2-enoat (4b).** A mixture of methyl 4-(9-benzyl-9*H*-purin-6-yl)-4-ethoxy-2-oxobut-3-enoate, **3b**, (0.21 mg, 0.5 mmol) and FeCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (0.26 g, 0.9 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (60 mL) was stirred at 40 °C for 6 h. The solvent was then distilled off and the residue obtained was treated with 1 N HCl (50 mL), stirred at RT for 5 min, extracted with EtOAc (4 x 20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and concentrated. The resulting yellow residue was purified by ion exchange chromatography (DEAE sephadex anion exchange resin, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O, 1:1) and then crystallized from methanol. Yield 0.14 g (74 %), yellow solid, mp 137-138 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): 3.98 (s, 3H), 6.03 (s, 2H), 7.29-7.41 (m, 5H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 9.21 (s, 1H), 9.39 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): δ 47.6, 53.4, 102.2, 128.0, 128.1, 128.3, 128.8, 132.8, 135.9, 146.8, 151.6, 152.5, 155.2, 161.9, and 186.2. FAB-HRMS: (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 339.1093, found 339.1099.

**1, 9-dibenzyl-6,9-dihydro-6-oxo-8-(1-ethoxyvinyl)purine (2c).** A mixture of 1,9-dibenzyl-6,9-dihydro-6-oxo-8-bromopurine, **1c**, (1.20 g, 3.04 mmol), bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II) chloride (0.21 g, 0.3 mmol) and ethoxyvinyl(tributyl)tin (2.19 g, 6.07 mmol) in dry DMF (50 mL) was heated under N<sub>2</sub> at 70 °C for 22 h. DMF was distilled off and the resulting residue was dissolved in EtOAc (100 mL) and filtered through a pad of celite and concentrated. The residue

obtained was purified by chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/hexane, 6:4). Yield 0.98 g (88 %), white solid, mp 167-168 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 1.26 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 3.86 (q, 2H, *J* = 7 Hz), 4.46 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 5.27 (t, 2H, *J* = 3 Hz), 5.32 (d, 1H, *J* = 3 Hz), 5.60 (s, 2H), 7.10-7.37 (m, 10H), 7.99 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): δ 14.0, 47.5, 49.1, 63.8, 90.2, 123.4, 126.6, 127.5, 128.2, 128.5, 128.6, 128.9, 129.0, 136.1, 136.7, 146.2, 146.9, 148.9, 151.8, and 156.5. FAB-HRMS: (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 387.1821, found 387.1815.

**Methyl 4-(1,9-benzyl-6,9-dihydro-6-oxo-1*H*-purin-8-yl)-4-ethoxy-2-oxobut-3-enoate (3c).**

To a stirred solution of 1,9-dibenzyl-6,9-dihydro-6-oxo-8-(1-ethoxyvinyl)purine, **2c**, (0.62 g, 1.6 mmol) and pyridine (0.40 g, 4.8 mmol) in dry chloroform (30 mL) at 0 °C was added (dropwise) methyl chlorooxoacetate (0.58 g, 4.8 mmol) in dry chloroform (10 mL), the reaction mixture allowed to stand in the refrigerator for 48 h, then washed with water (2 x 100 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and chloroform distilled off to give yellow syrup. Pure product was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/hexane, 4:6). Yield 0.58 g, (77 %), yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): 1.14 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.87 (q, 2H, *J* = 7 Hz), 5.19 (s, 2H), 5.23 (s, 2H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 7.09-7.28 (m, 10H), 7.98 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): δ 13.7, 47.2, 49.1, 52.8, 66.5, 102.6, 127.4, 128.1, 128.5, 128.6, 129.0, 131.9, 131.9, 132.0, 132.1, 132.2, 133.0, 135.3, 135.9, 143.8, 147.8, 148.6, 156.3, 161.9, 162.6 and 181.2. FAB-HRMS: (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 473.1825, found 473.1811

**Methyl 4-(1,9-benzyl-6,9-dihydro-6-oxo-1*H*-purin-8-yl)-2-hydroxy-4-oxobut-2-enoate (4c).**

A mixture of methyl 4-(1,9-benzyl-6,9-dihydro-6-oxo-1*H*-purin-8-yl)-4-ethoxy-2-oxobut-3-

enoate, **3c**, (0.58 g, 1.2 mmol) and FeCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (0.56 g, 2.1 mmol) in dichloroethane (150 mL) was stirred under reflux for 3 h. Dichloroethane was removed and the residue was treated with 1 N HCl (50 mL), stirred at RT for 5 min and extracted with EtOAc (4 x 20 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, concentrated and the yellowish residue was purified by ion exchange chromatography (DEAE sephadex anion exchange resin, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O, 1:1) and crystallized from methanol. Yield 0.50 g. (91 %), yellow solid, mp 178-179 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): 3.95 (s, 3H), 5.32 (s, 2H), 5.87 (s, 2H), 7.30-7.41 (m, 10H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 13.8 (bs, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): δ 48.1, 49.5, 53.2, 102.4, 127.8, 128.2, 128.4, 128.6, 128.7, 129.2, 135.5, 135.8, 143.0, 149.3, 150.0, 156.7, 162.1, 162.2, 184.1, and 185.9. FAB-HRMS: (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 445.1512, found 445.1520.

**1,3,7-Tribenzyl-8-(1-ethoxyvinyl)-1H-purine-2,6(3H, 7H)-dione (2d)**. A mixture of 8-bromo-1,3,7-tribenzyl-1H-purine-2,6(3H, 7H)-dione **1d** (0.74 g, 1.48 mmol), bis(triphenylphosphine) palladium(II)chloride (0.104 g, 0.14 mmol) and ethoxyvinyl(tributyl)tin (0.81 g, 6.07 mmol) in anhydrous N-methylpyrrolidinone (10 mL) was heated under N<sub>2</sub> at 95 °C for 22 h. The NMP was distilled off and the resulting residue redissolved in EtOAc (100 mL) and filtered through a pad of celite. The solvent was removed and the residue obtained was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc:hexane, 6:4). Yield 0.54 g (75 %), oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 1.33 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 3.94 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 4.60 (d, 1H, *J* = 3.5 Hz), 5.20 (s, 2H), 5.25 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 5.31 (s, 2H), 5.90 (s, 2H), 7.22-7.58 (m, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): 14.1, 44.4, 46.5, 49.7, 64.1, 91.5, 108.1, 126.9, 127.3, 127.6, 127.7, 128.3, 128.4, 128.5, 128.6, 128.9, 136.5, 137.1, 137.4, 147.1, 147.6, 149.9, 151.2, 151.6, and 155.0 HRMS:

(M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 493.2240, found 493.2240.

**Methyl 4-(1,3,7-tribenzyl-2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-2,6-dioxo-1H-purin-8-yl)-4-ethoxy-2-oxobut-3-enoate (3d).** To a stirred solution of 1,3,7-tribenzyl-8-(1-ethoxyvinyl)-1H-purine-2,6(3H, 7H)-dione, **2d**, (0.45 g, 0.92 mmol) and pyridine (0.23 g, 2.7 mmol) in dry chloroform (15 mL) at 0 °C was added (dropwise) methyl chlorooxoacetate (0.33 g, 2.7 mmol) in dry chloroform (10 mL) and the reaction mixture was allowed to stand in the refrigerator for 3 days. It was then washed with water (2 x 100 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc:hexane, 9.5:0.5). Yield 0.16 g, (31 %), yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): 1.31 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 3.78 (s, 3H), 4.03 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 5.22 (s, 2H), 5.26 (s, 2H), 5.57 (s, 2H), 6.49 (s, 1H), 7.25-7.50 (m, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): δ 13.7, 44.5, 46.6, 49.5, 53.0, 66.8, 102.3, 108.1, 127.4, 127.6, 128.0, 128.3, 128.4, 128.5, 128.6, 128.7, 135.5, 136.2, 137.1, 144.8, 147.5, 151.1, 155.1, 160.9, 162.1 and 180.0 HRMS: (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 579.2244, found 579.2232.

**Methyl -4-(1,3,7-tribenzyl-2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-2,6-dioxo-1H-purin-8-yl)-2-hydroxy-4-oxobut-3-enoate (4d).** A mixture of methyl-4-(1,3,7-tribenzyl-2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-2,6-dioxo-1H-purin-8-yl)-4-ethoxy-2-oxobut-3-enoate, **3d**, (0.32 g, 0.5 mmol) and FeCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (0.26 g, 0.9 mmol) in dichloroethane (20 mL) was stirred at reflux for 8 h. Dichloroethane was distilled off and the residue obtained was treated with 1 N HCl (50 mL), stirred at RT for 5 min, extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and concentrated. The residue was



purified by ion-exchange chromatography (DEAE sephadex anion exchange resin, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O, 1:1) and crystallized from methanol. Yield 0.13 g. (46 %), yellow solid, mp 144-146 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): 4.00 (s, 3H), 5.29 (s, 2H), 5.33 (s, 2H), 6.17 (s, 2H), 7.30-7.57 (m, 16H), 13.97 (bs, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): δ 44.8, 46.8, 50.2, 53.4, 102.5, 111.2, 127.7, 127.9, 128.1, 128.2, 128.5, 128.6, 128.7, 128.8, 128.9, 129.0, 129.0, 136.0, 136.1, 136.8, 142.6, 146.9, 150.9, 155.33, 162.1, 163.7 and 185.1. HRMS: (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 551.1931, found 551.1995.

**Ethyl 1-benzyl-5-(1-ethoxyvinyl)-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (2e).** A mixture of ethyl-5-iodo-1-benzylimidazole-4-carboxylate, **1e**, (1g, 3.0 mmol), bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II) chloride (0.25 g, 0.3 mmol) and ethoxyvinyl(tributyl)tin (2.22 g, 6.1 mmol) in dry DMF (50 mL) was heated under N<sub>2</sub> at 65 °C for 12 h. DMF was distilled off and the residue dissolved in EtOAc (100 mL) and filtered through a pad of celite followed by washing with fresh portions of EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined EtOAc portions were concentrated and the crude product was purified by chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/Hexane, 1:1). Yield 0.88 g, (97 %), yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 1.28 (t, 3H, *J* = 7 Hz), 1.38 (t, 3H, *J* = 7 Hz), 3.86 (q, 2H, *J* = 7 Hz), 4.35 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 4.47 (d, 1H, *J* = 2 Hz), 4.61 (d, 1H, *J* = 2 Hz), 5.14 (s, 2H), 7.13-7.35 (m, 5H), 7.44 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): δ 14.2, 14.3, 49.4, 60.4, 63.7, 91.9, 127.2, 128.2, 128.5, 128.8, 132.0, 135.6, 137.2, 149.4, 162.5 HRMS: (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 301.1552, found 301.1555.

**Methyl-4-(1-benzyl-4-ethylcarboxylate-1*H*-imidazol-5-yl)-4-ethoxy-2-oxo-but-3enoate (3e).**

To a stirred solution of ethyl 1-benzyl-5-(1-ethoxyvinyl)-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate, **2e**, (0.91 g, 3.0 mmol) and pyridine (0.75 g, 9.0 mmol) in dry chloroform (50 mL) at 0 °C was added (dropwise) methyl chlorooxoacetate (1.10 g 9.0 mmol) in dry chloroform (10 mL) and reaction mixture allowed to stand at 0 °C in the refrigerator for 48 h. It was then washed with water (2 x 50 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, concentrated and the residue was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/Hexane, 1:1). Yield 0.85 g, (72 %), yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): 1.23 (t, 3H, *J* = 3 Hz), 1.32 (t, 3H, *J* = 3 Hz) 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.88 (m, 2H), 4.02 (m, 2H), 4.29 (m, 2H), 4.89 (d, 1H, *J* = 15.5 Hz), 5.08 (d, 1H, *J* = 15.5 Hz), 6.47 (s, 1H), 7.15-7.34 (m, 6H), 7.51 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): 13.7, 14.2, 49.8, 52.9, 60.6, 66.5, 102.0, 127.9, 128.4, 128.5, 128.8, 132.1, 134.6, 138.2, 161.8, 162.8, 180.4 and 184.1. HRMS: (M + H)<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 387.1556, found 387.1507.

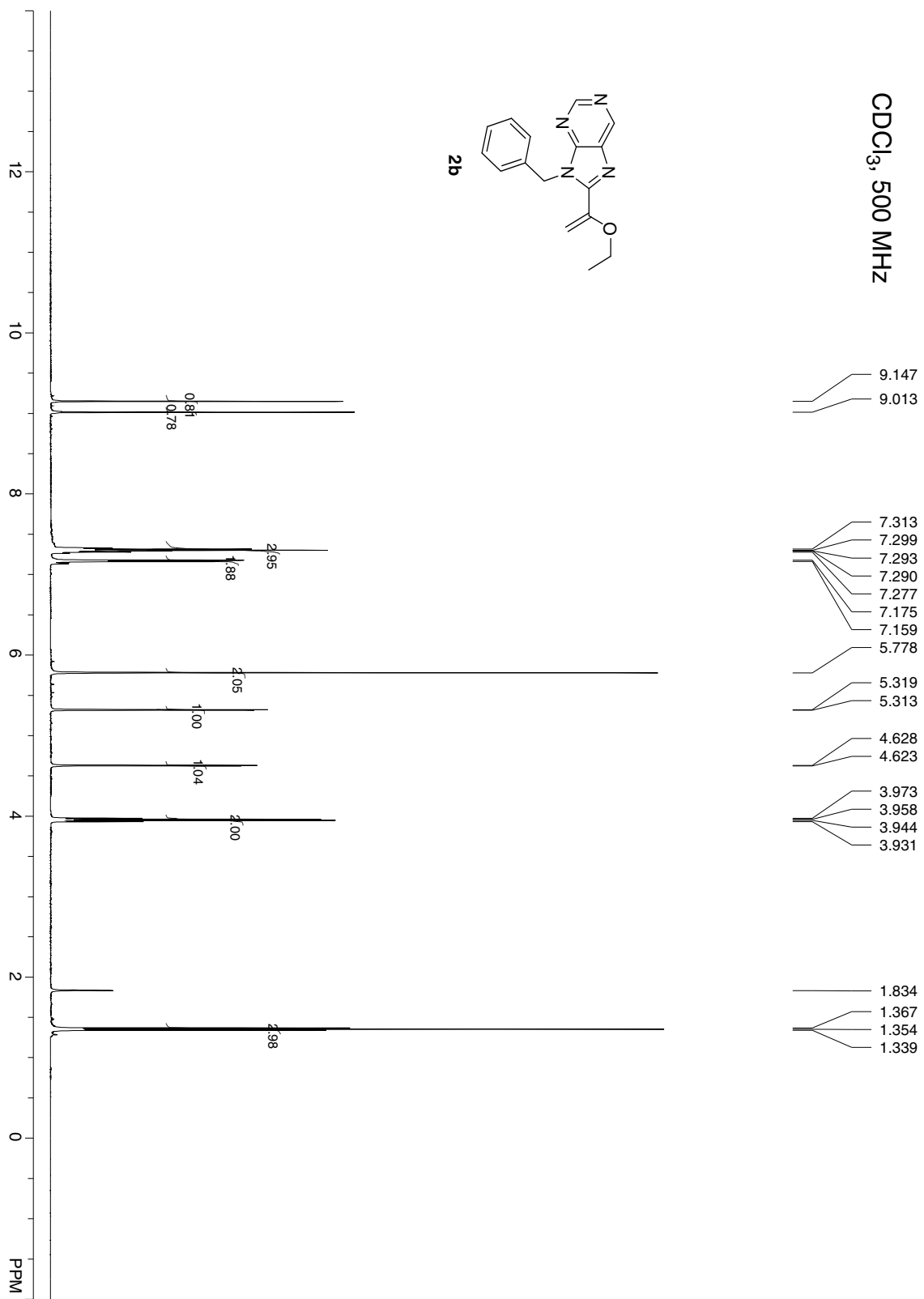
**Methyl-4-(1-benzyl-4-ethylcarboxylate-1*H*-imidazol-5-yl)-2-hydroxy-4-oxo-but-2enoate**

**(4e).** A mixture of methyl-4-(1-benzyl-4-ethylcarboxylate-1*H*-imidazol-5-yl)-4-ethoxy-2-oxo-but-3enoate, **3e**, (0.85 g, 2.2 mmol) and FeCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (1.02 g, 3.7 mmol) in dichloroethane (20 mL) was stirred at reflux 10 h. The solvent was distilled off and the residue obtained was treated with 1N HCl (50 mL), stirred at RT for 1 h, extracted with EtOAc (4 x 20 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and concentrated. The resulting brownish residue was purified by ion-exchange chromatography (DEAE sephadex anion exchange resin, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O, 1:1) and crystallized from methanol. Yield 0.61 g (78 %), yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): 1.40 (t, 3H, *J* = 7 Hz), 3.89 (s, 3H), 4.43 (q, 2H, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 5.42 (s, 2H), 7.10-7.34 (m, 6H), 7.66 (s,

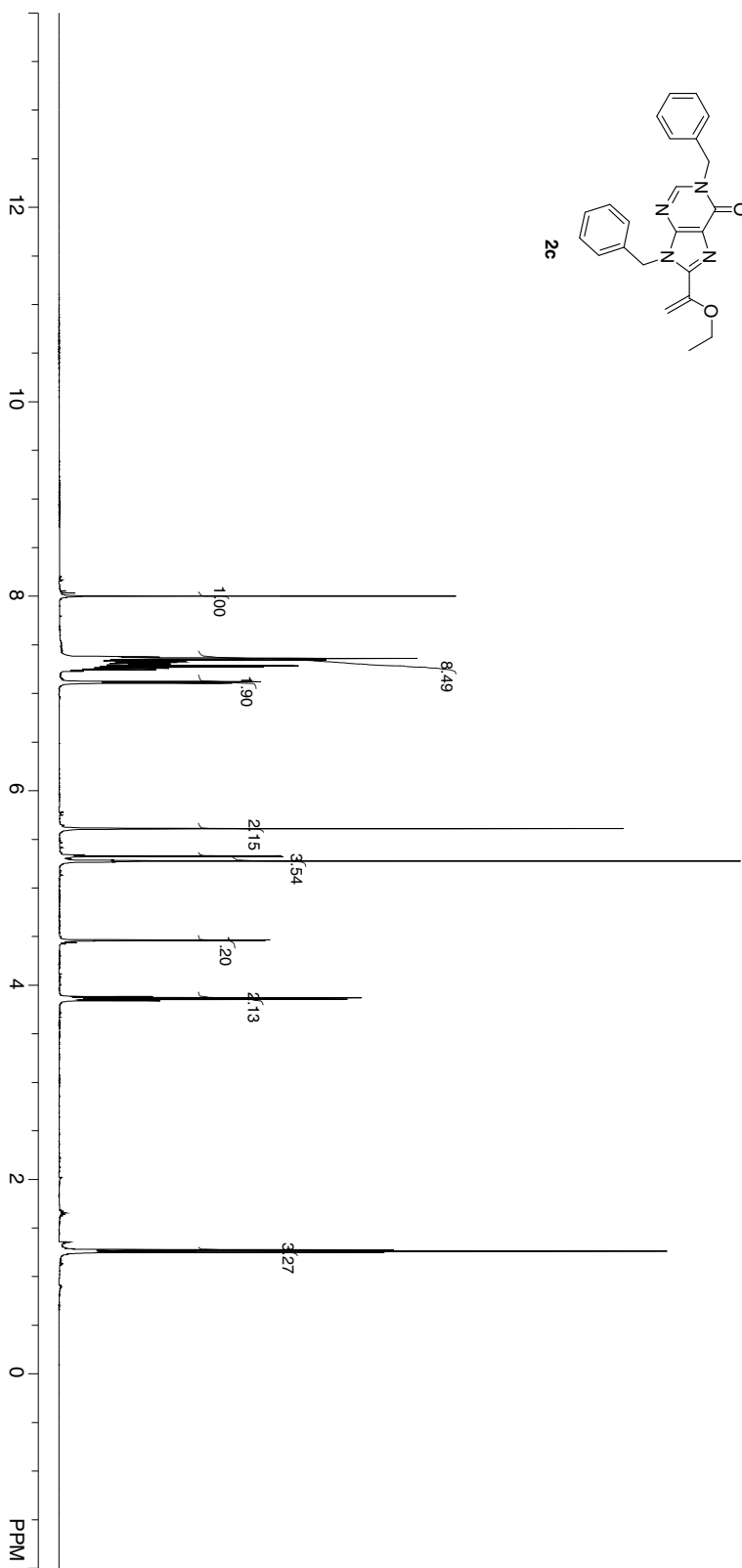
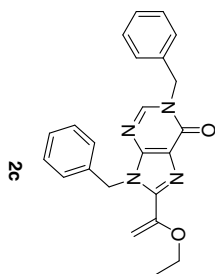
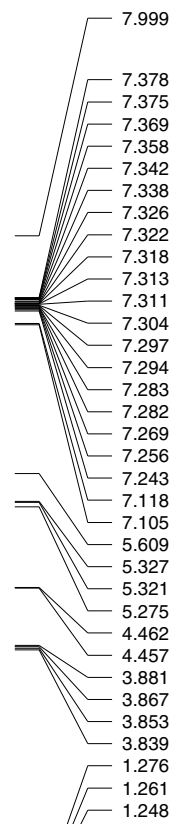
1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125 MHz): 14.1, 50.9, 53.1, 61.7, 105.3, 127.3, 127.6, 128.5, 128.7, 129.0, 135.0, 140.9, 162.2, 163.8, 163.8 and 186.6. HRMS:  $(\text{M} + \text{H})^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6$  359.1243, found 359.1208.

### Hydrolysis of Enol Ester 4c.

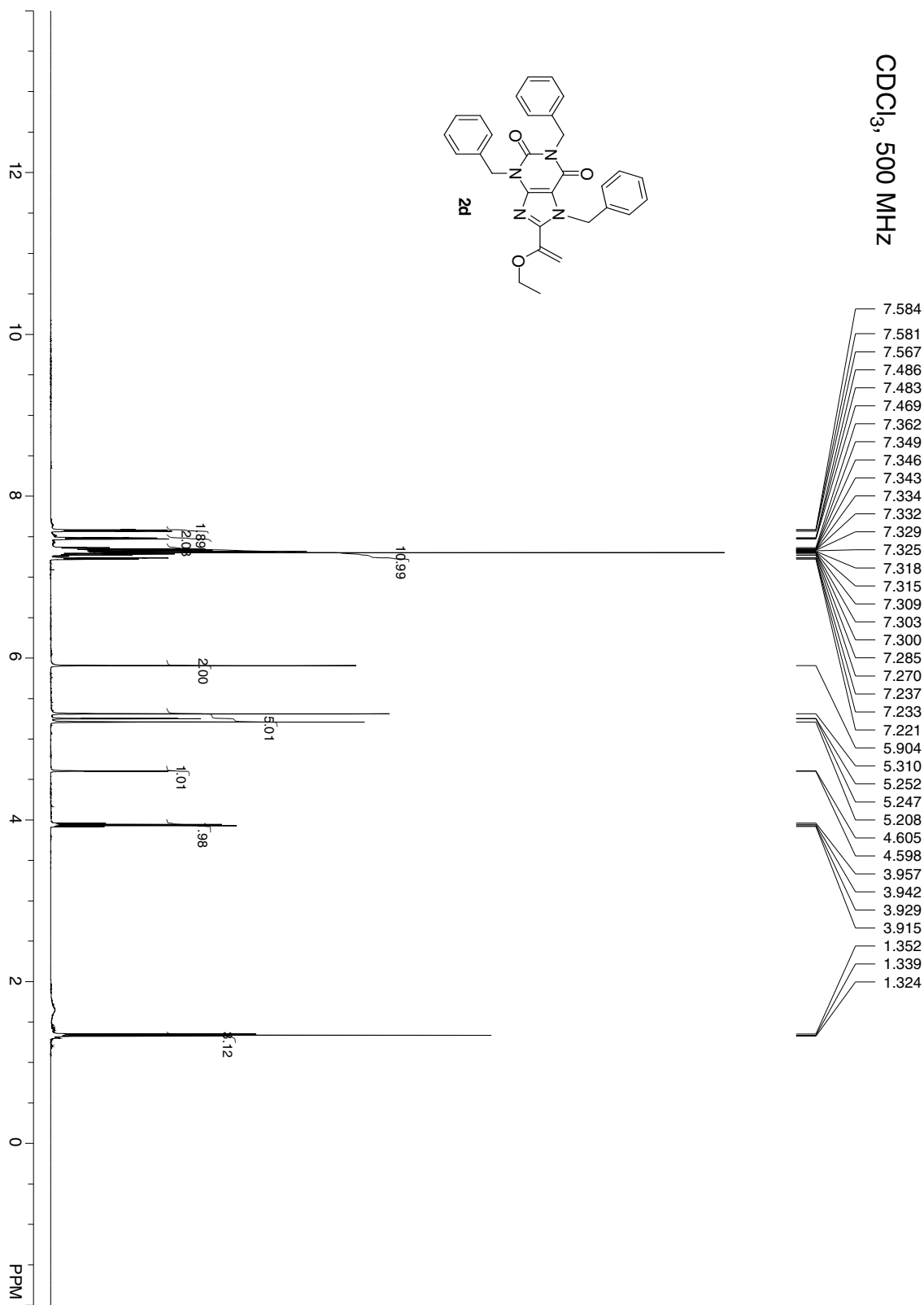
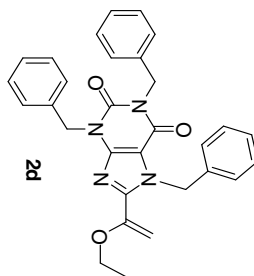
**4-(1,9-benzyl-6,9-dihydro-6-oxo-1H-purine-8-yl)-2-hydroxy-4-oxobut-2-enoic acid.** To a stirred solution of methyl 4-(1,9-benzyl-6,9-dihydro-6-oxo-1H-purine-8-yl)-2-hydroxy-4-oxobut-2-enoate **4c** (0.11 g, 0.24 mmol) in MeOH (10 mL) at 0 °C was added a solution of 1N NaOH (2 mL) and reaction mixture allowed to stir at 0 °C for 30 min and further stirred at ambient temperature for 1 h. The reaction mixture was neutralized with 1 N HCl when a solid separated out which was filtered dried and triturated with diethyl ether to give yellow solid. Yield 91 mg (86 %), mp 167 decomposes. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO, 500 MHz): 5.27 (s, 2H), 5.80 (s, 2H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 7.27-7.37 (m, 10H), 8.77 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz): δ 47.9, 49.3, 101.3, 123.9, 127.4, 127.4, 127.5, 127.5, 128.1, 128.2, 128.6, 128.9, 129.1, 137.1, 137.2, 150.4, 151.5, 156.4, 163.8, 175.9, 179.5. FAB-HRMS: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 431.1355, found 431.1374.



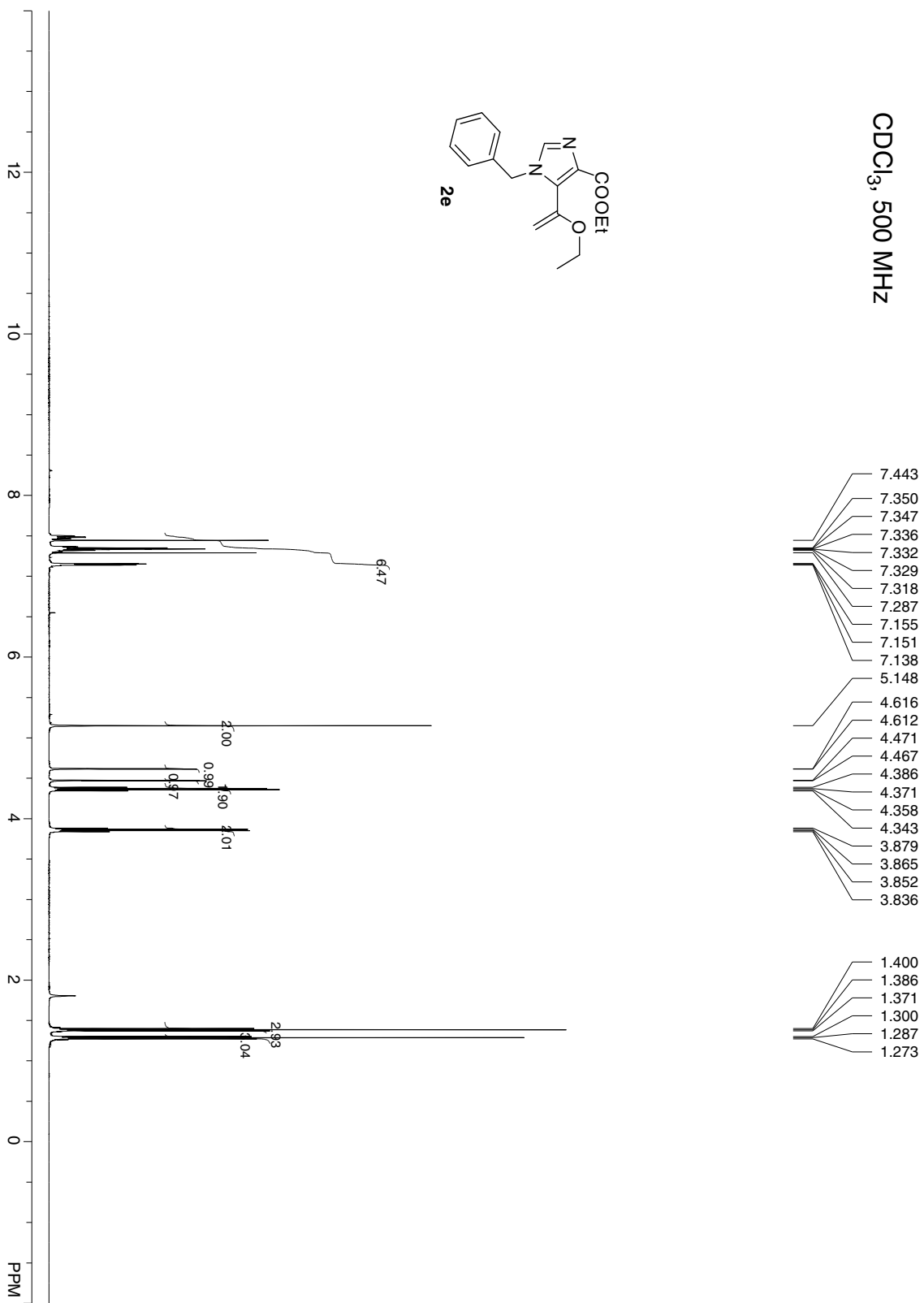
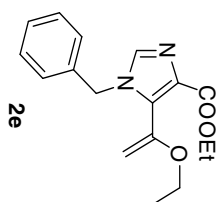
CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz



CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz

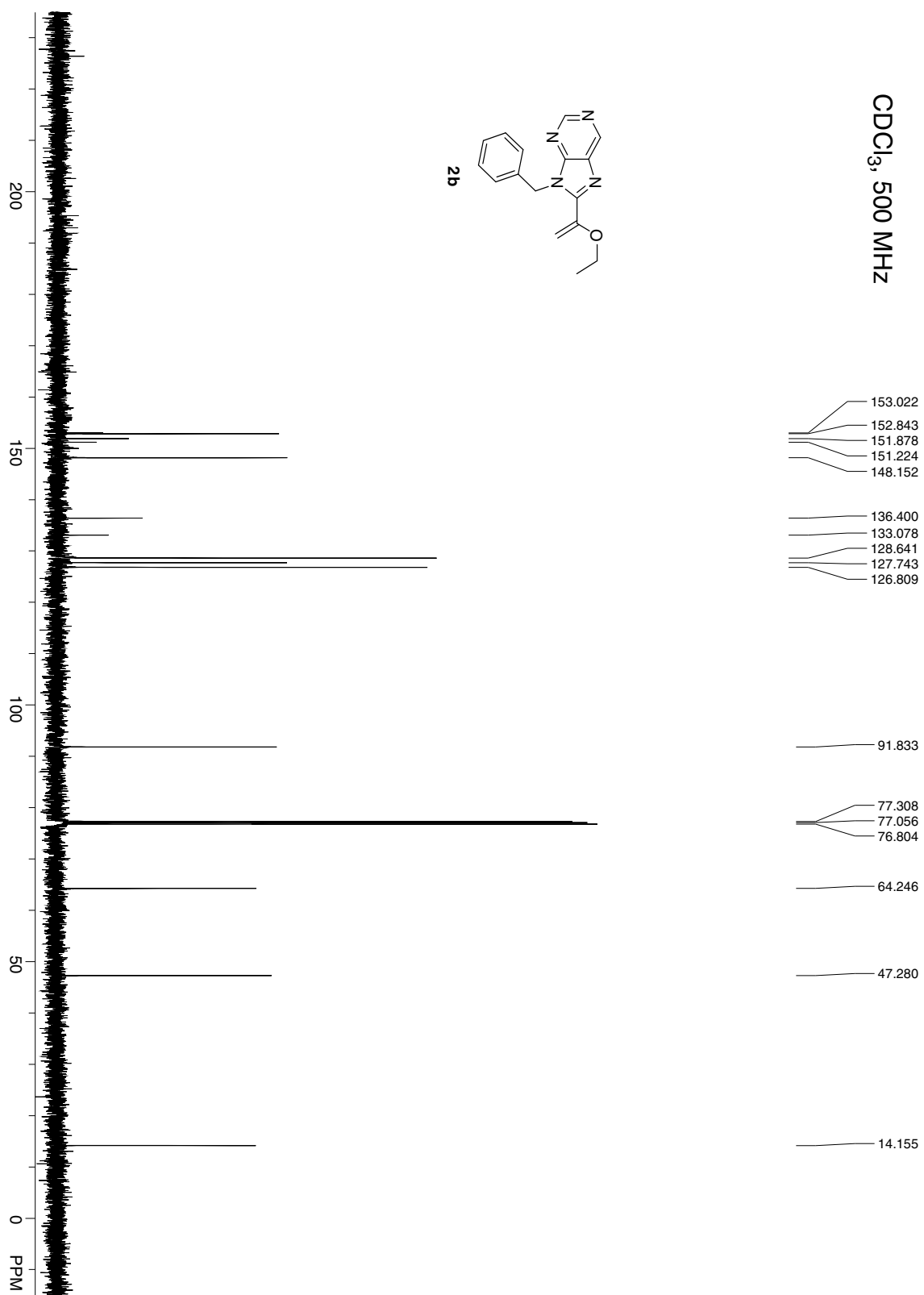
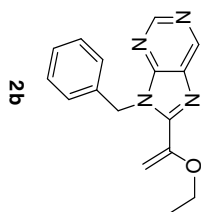


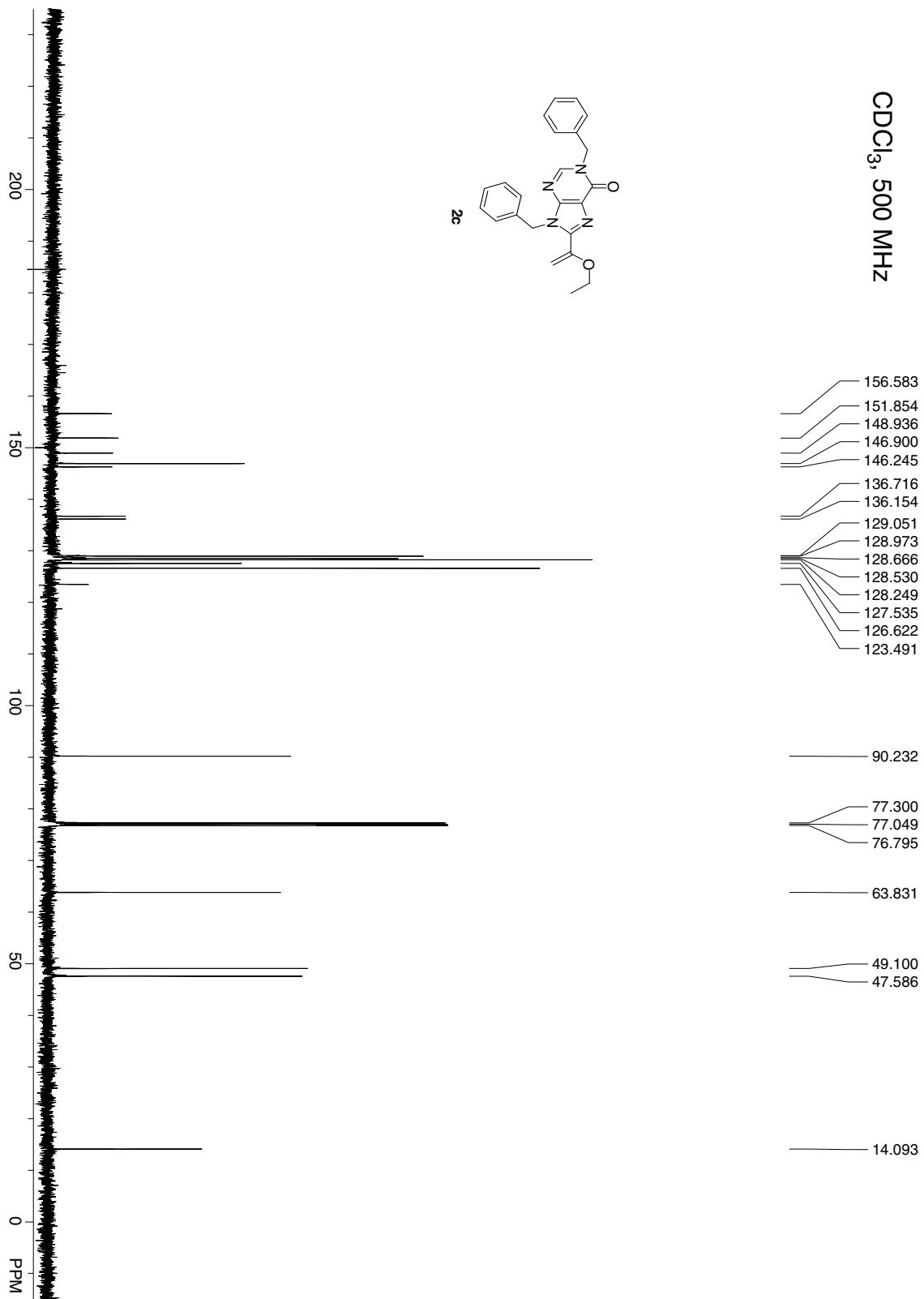
CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz

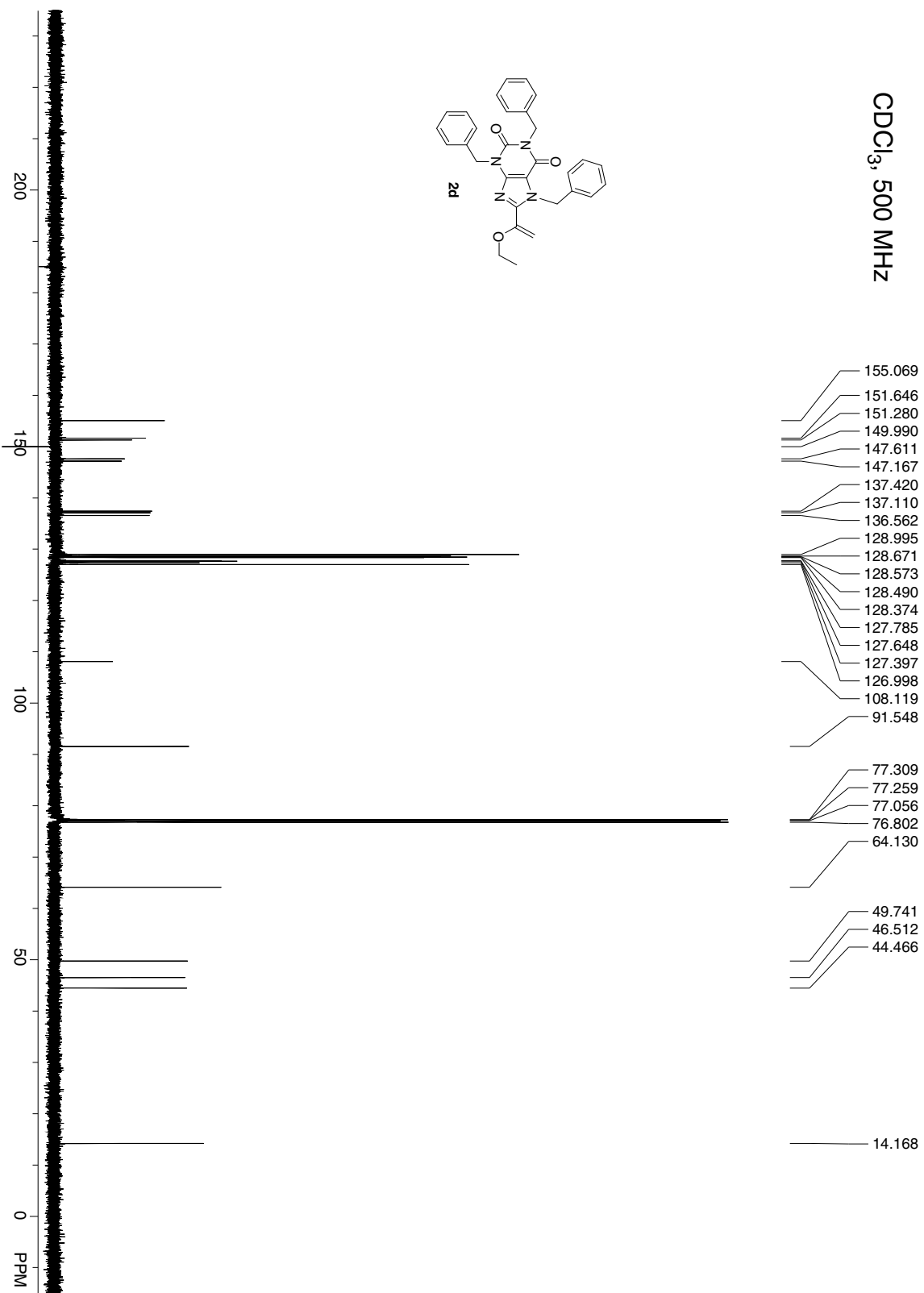


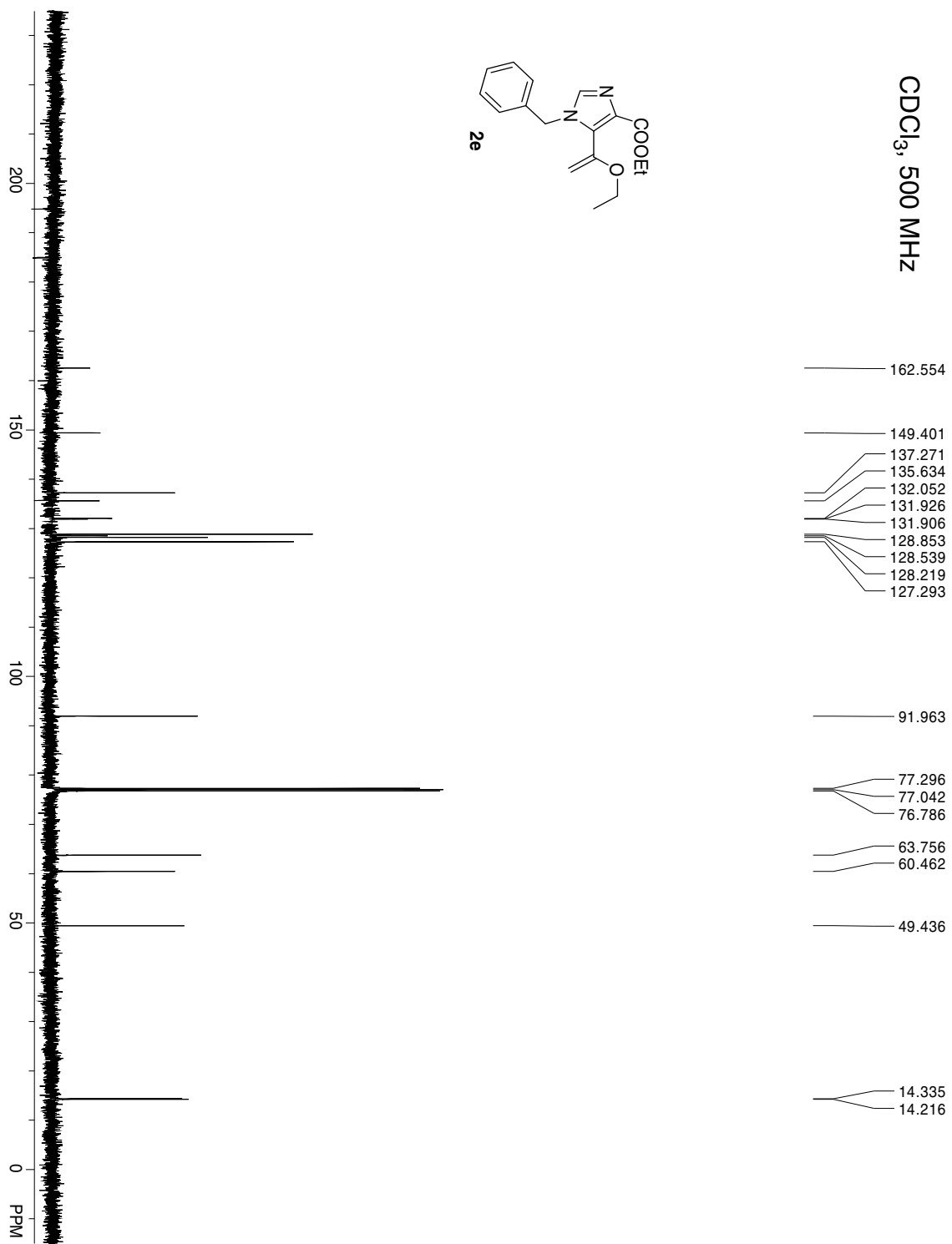


CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz

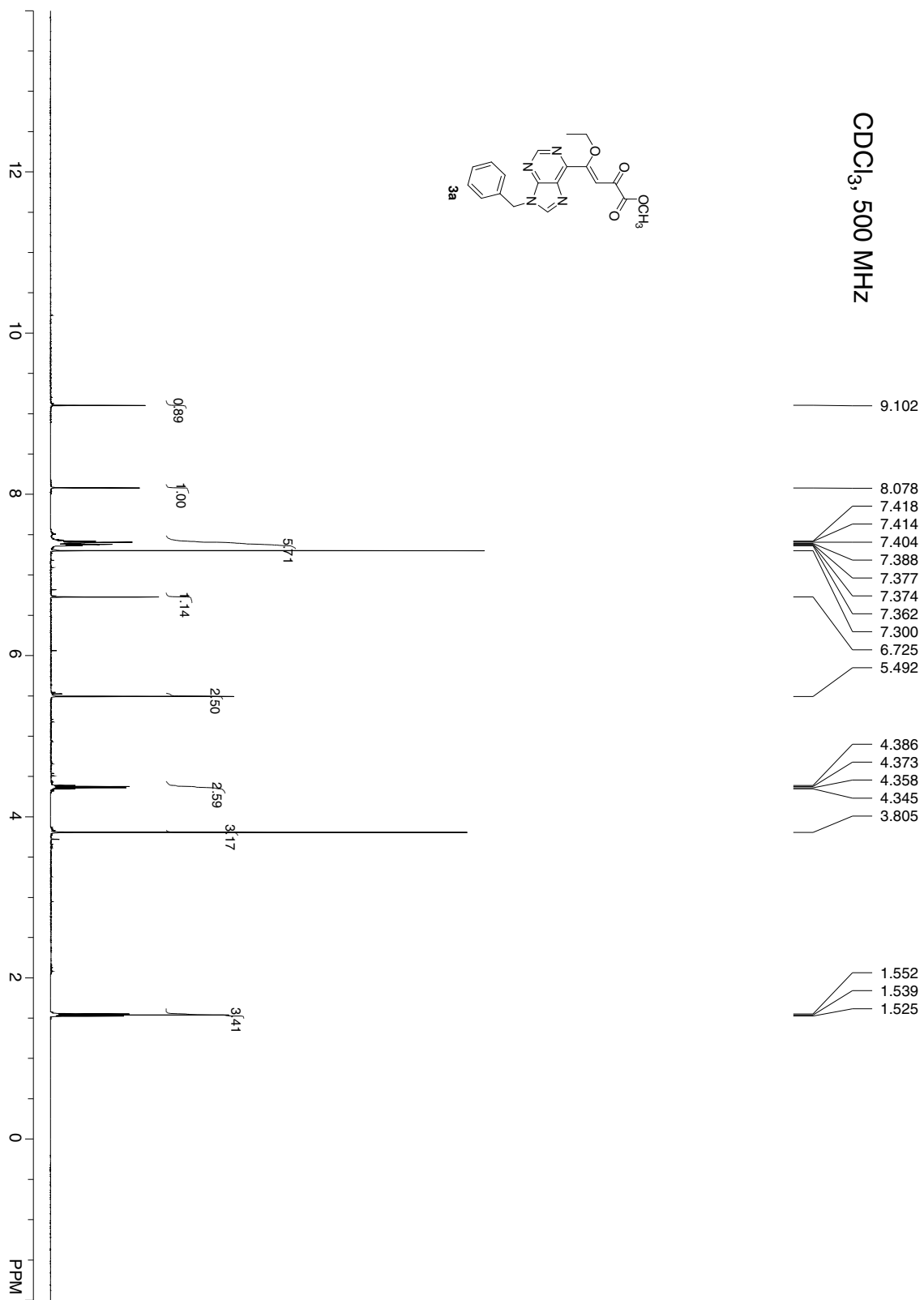
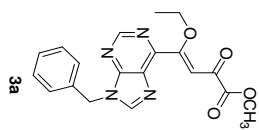


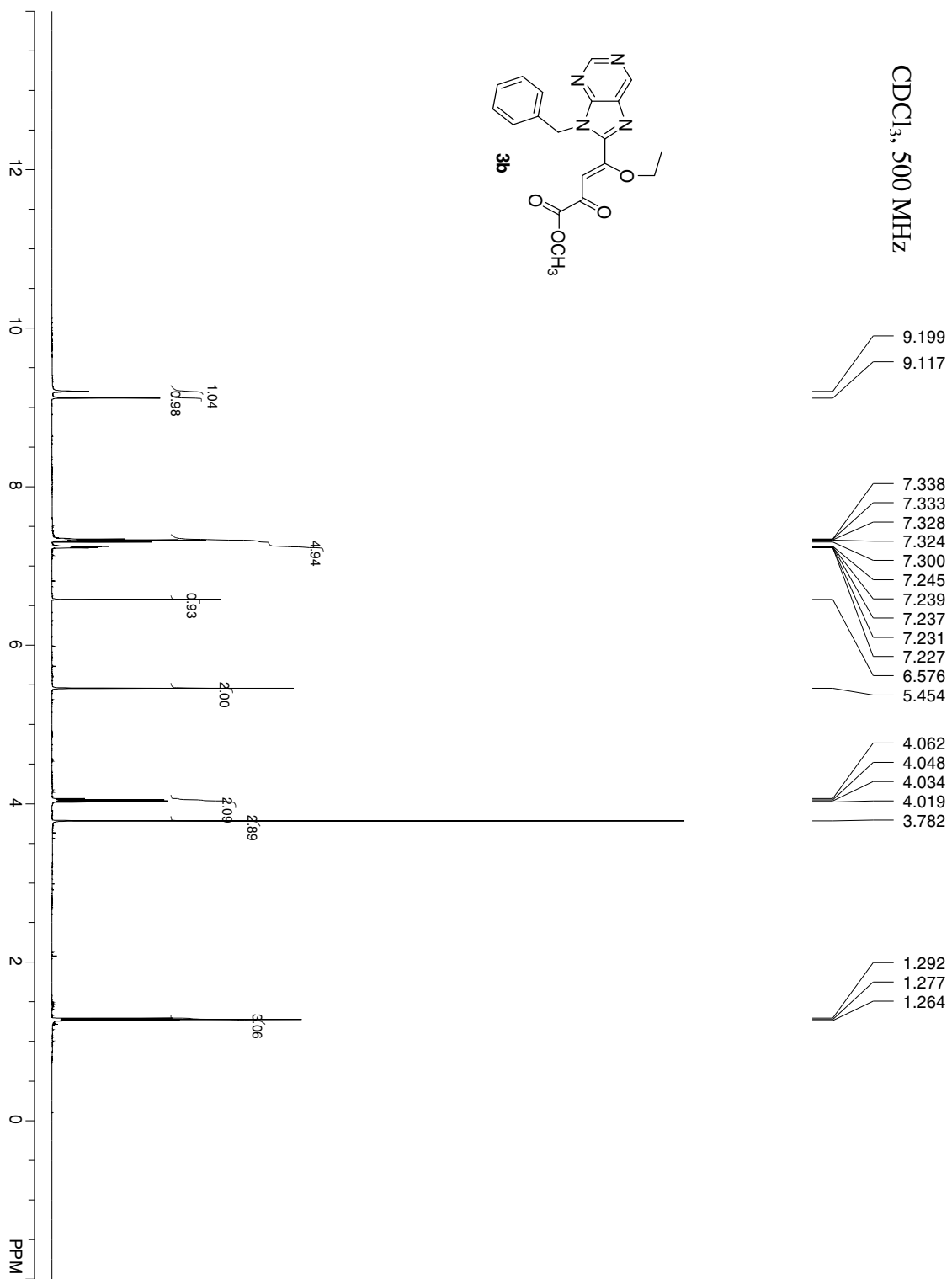


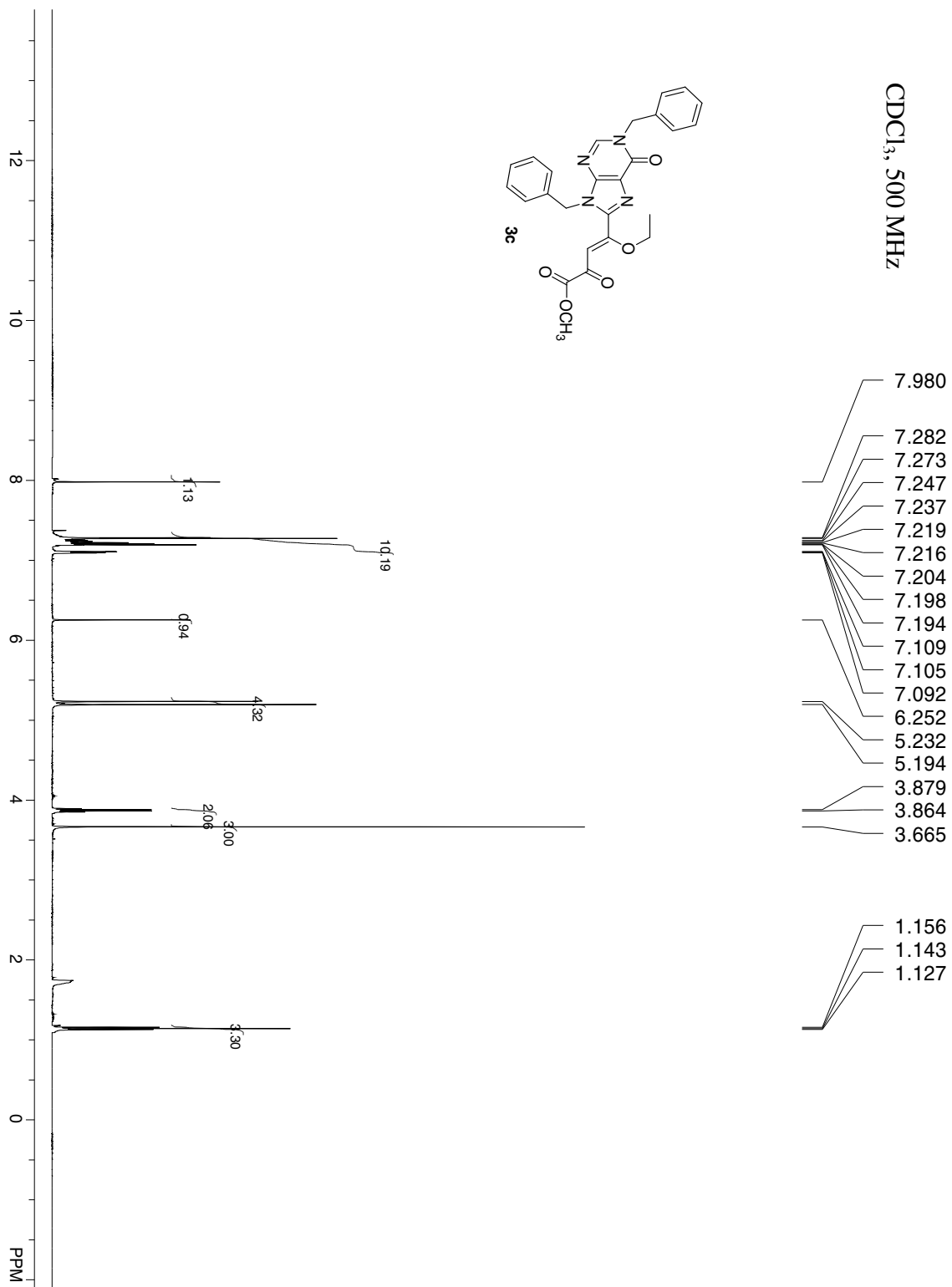




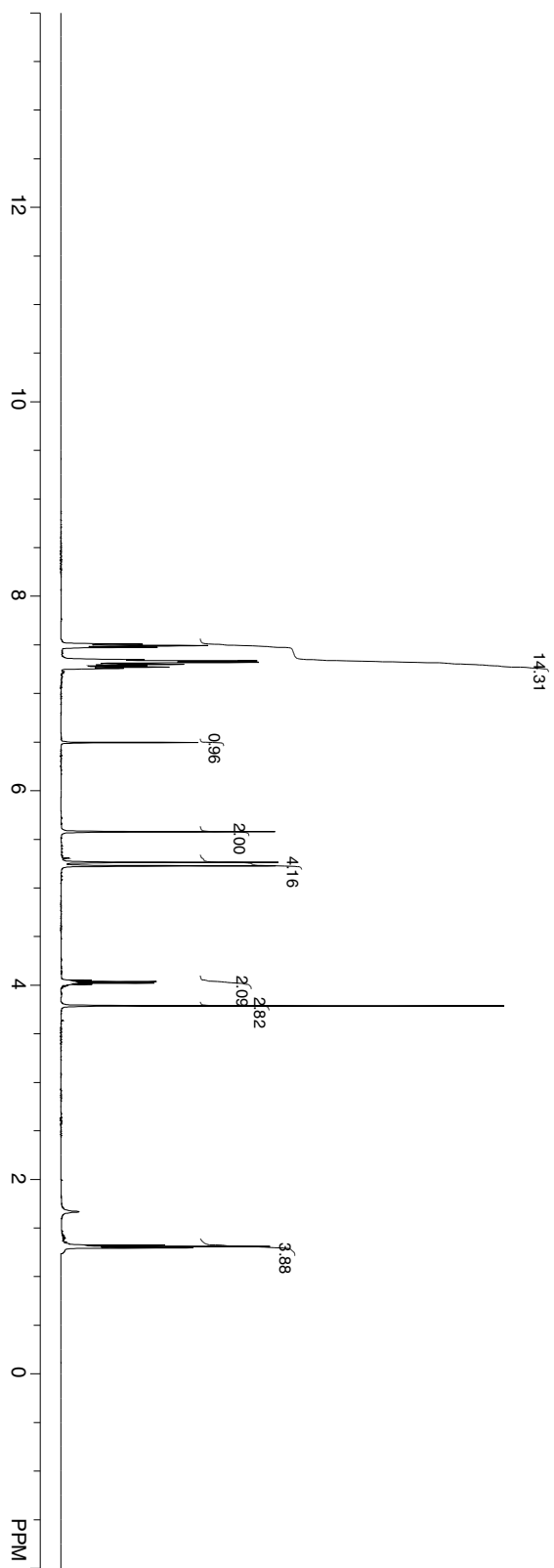
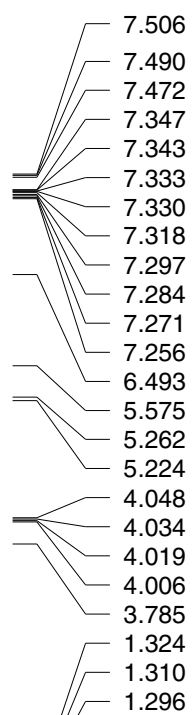
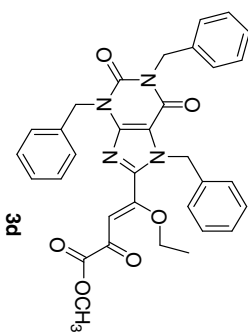
CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz





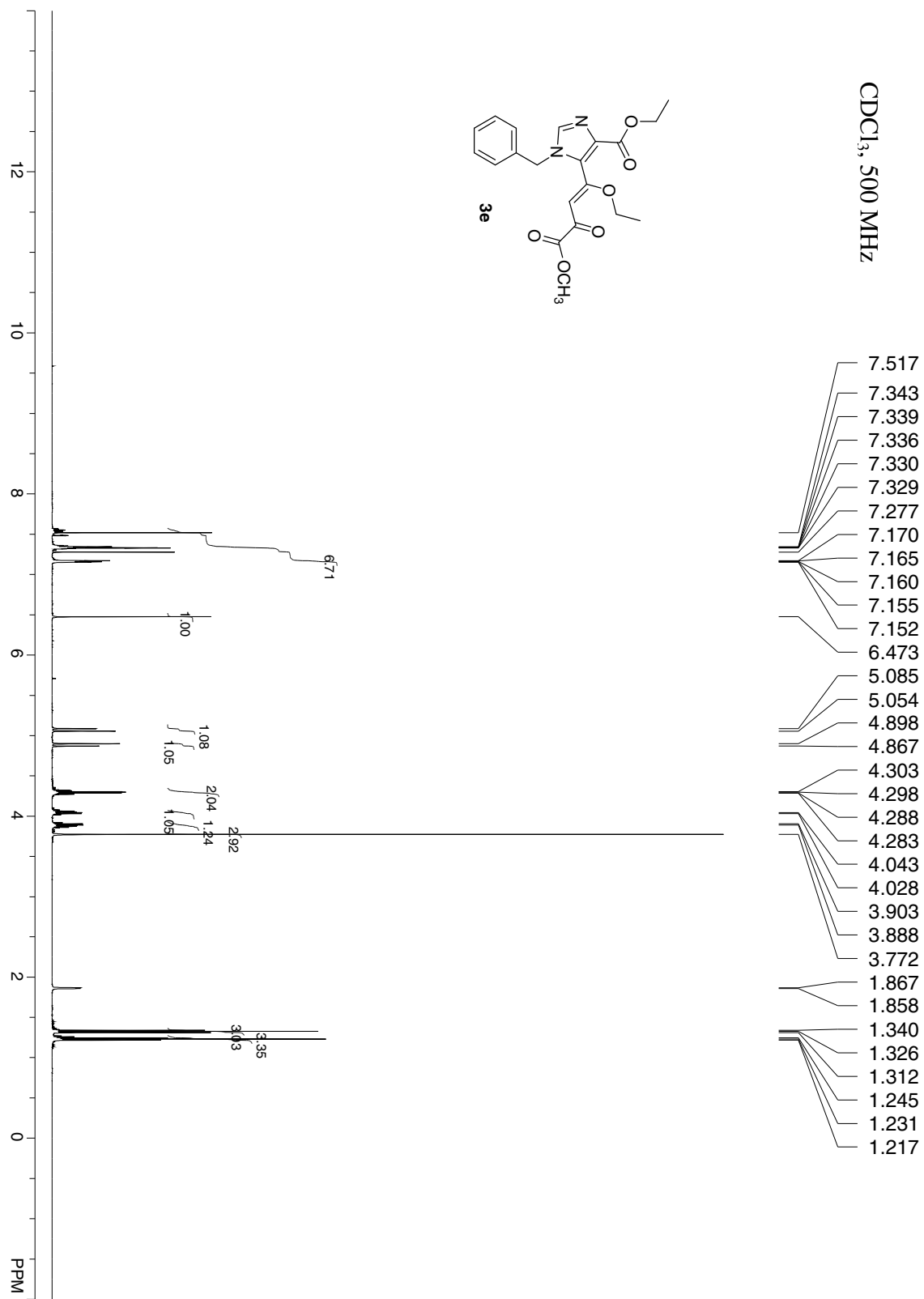
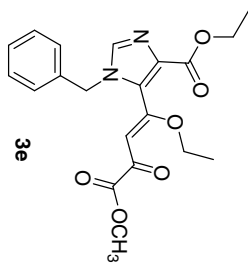


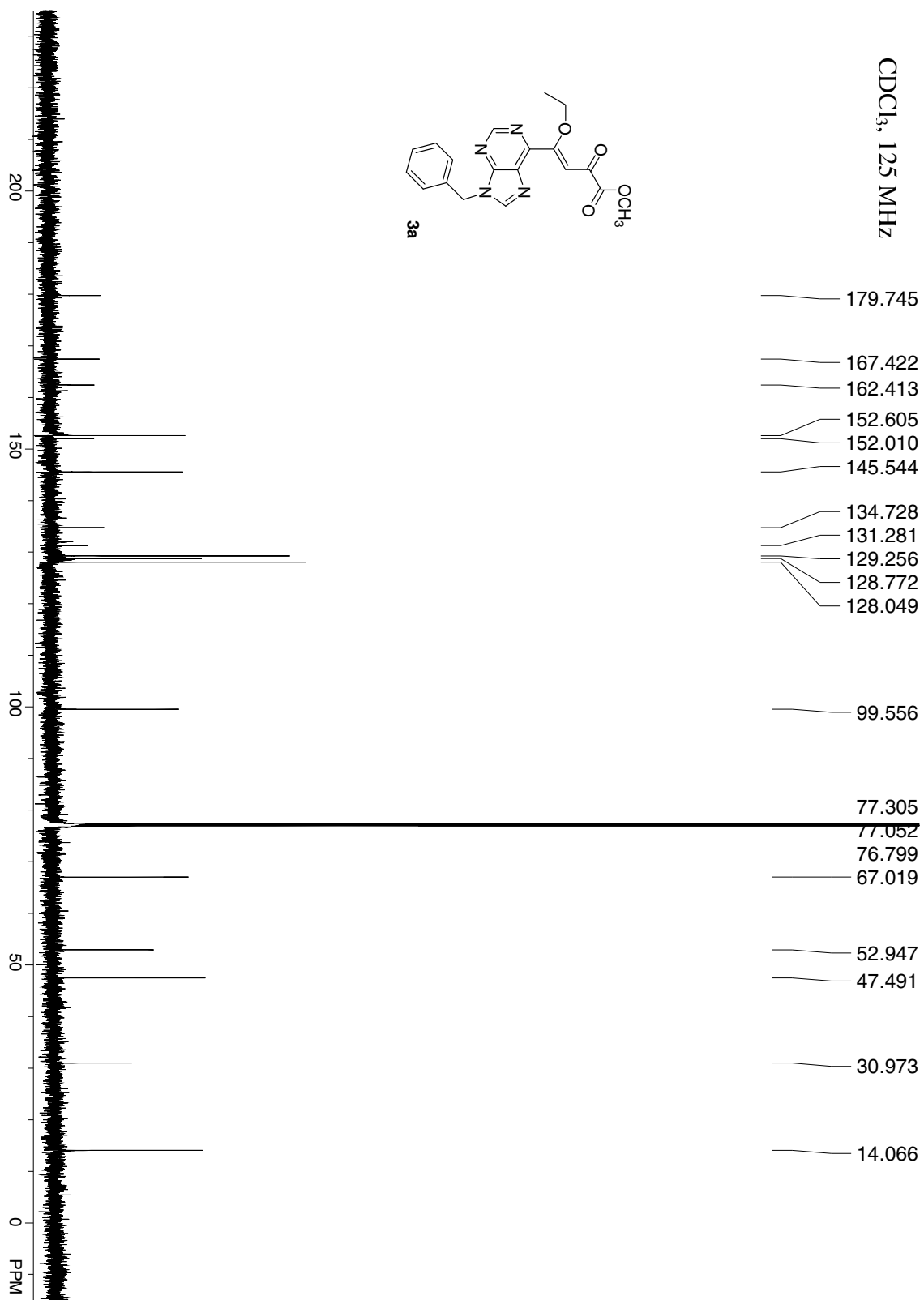
CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz

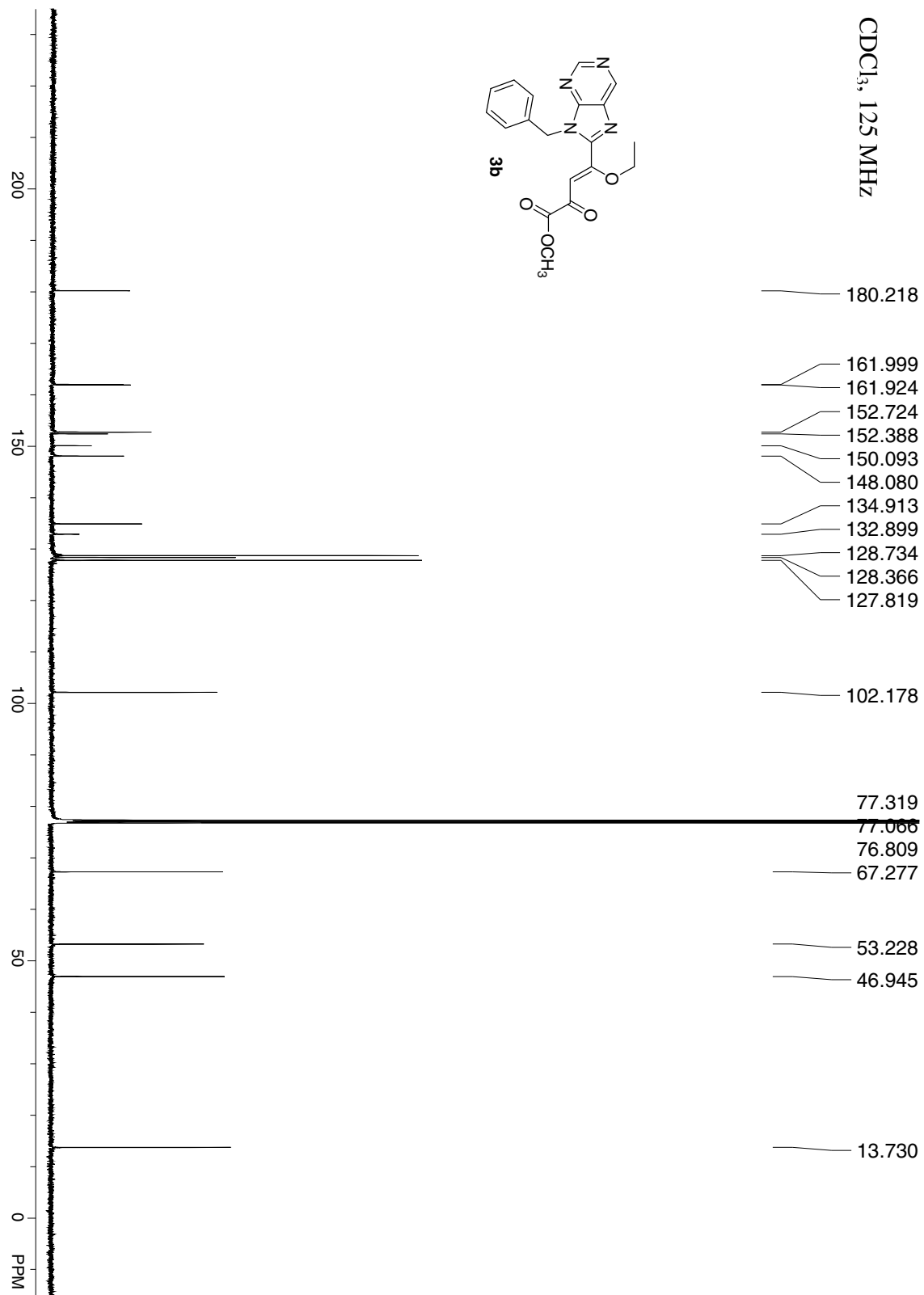


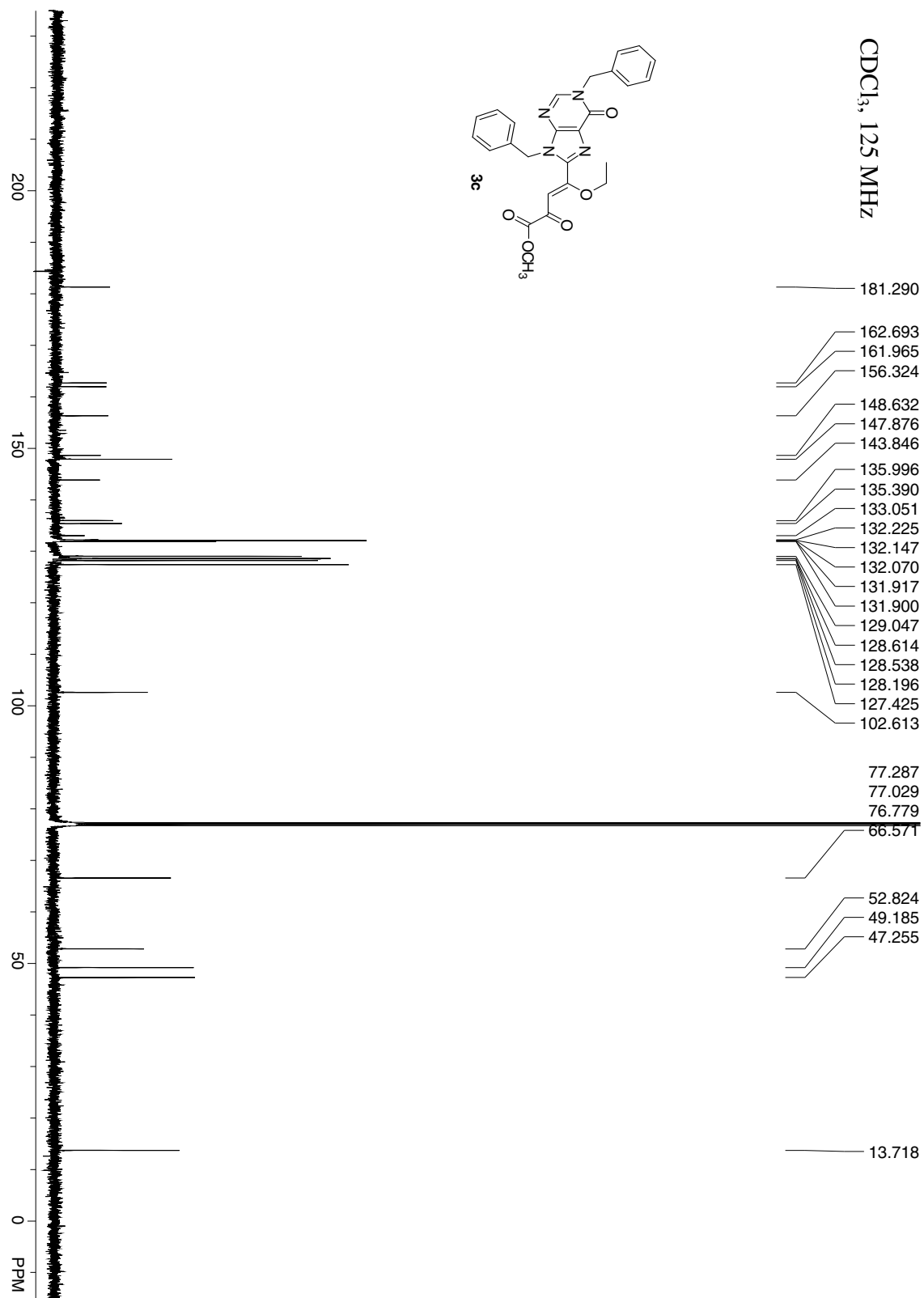


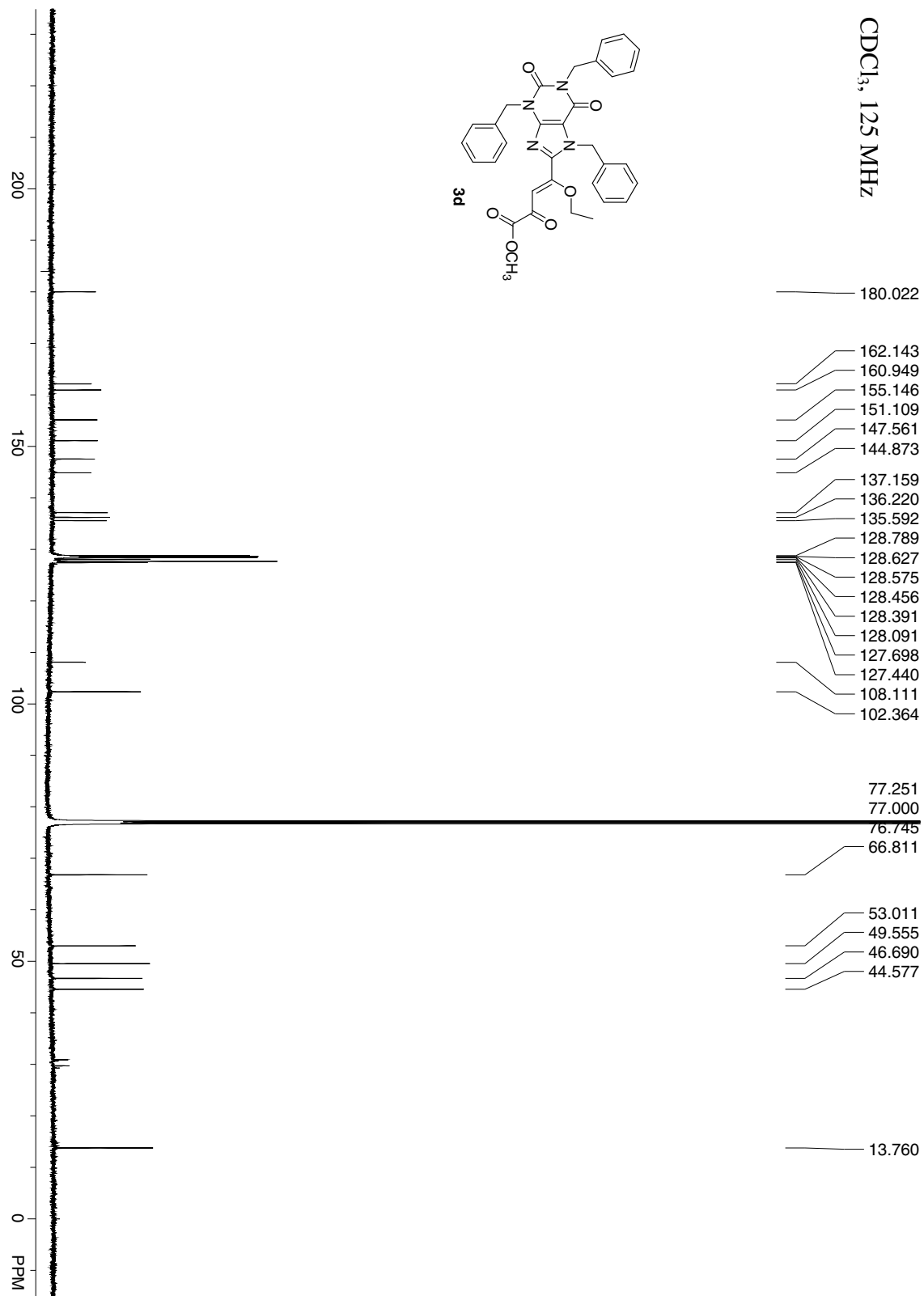
CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz

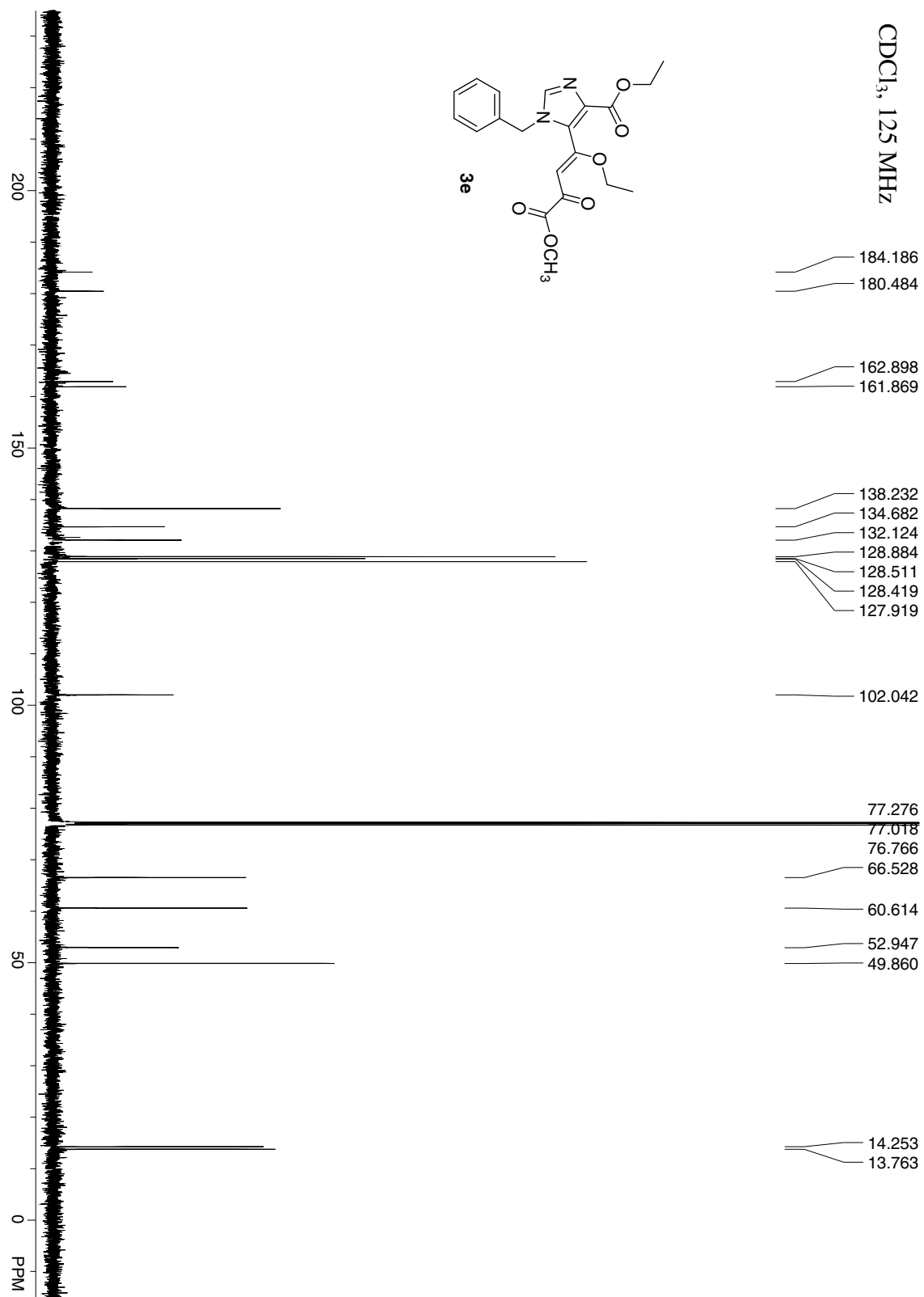




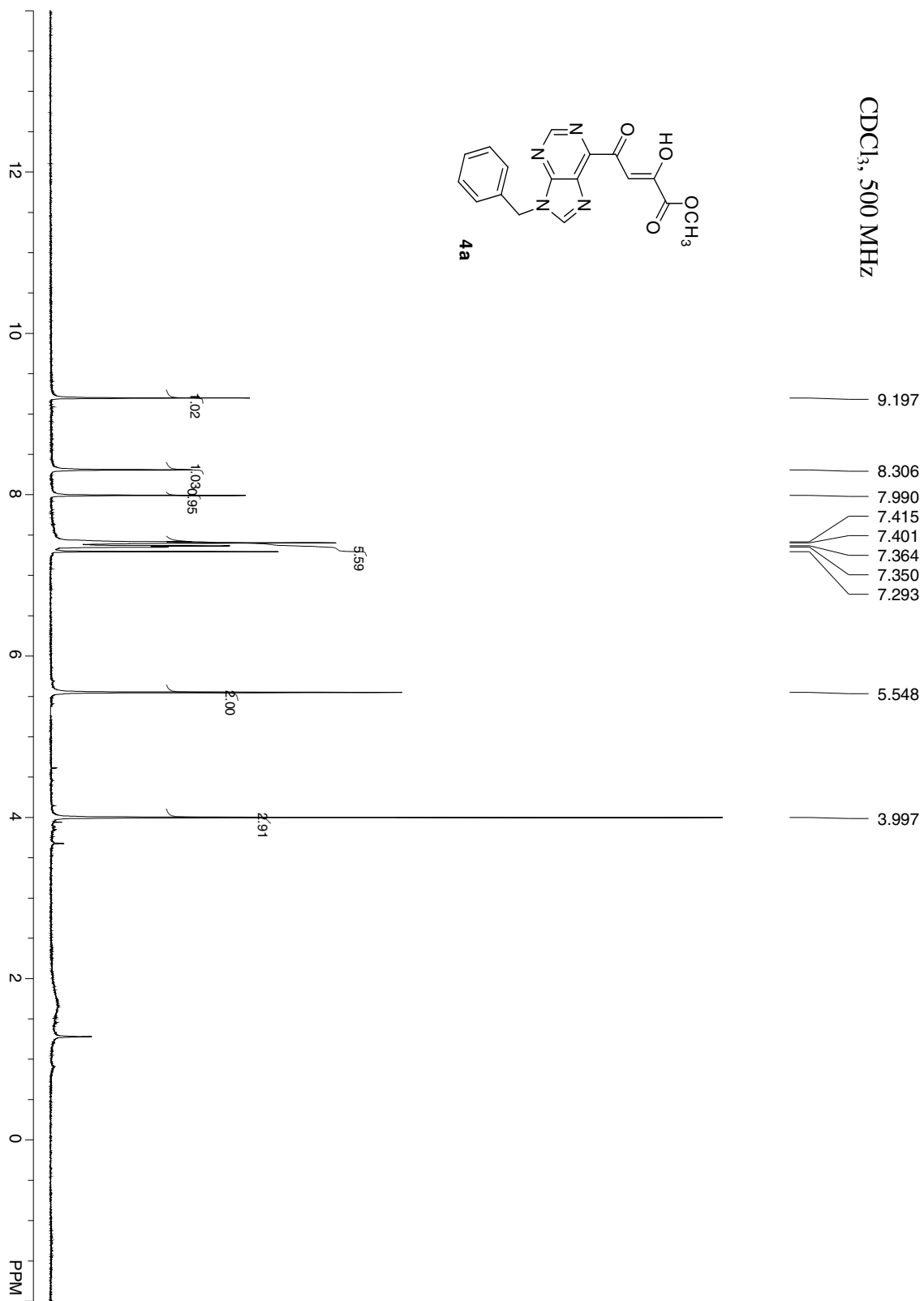
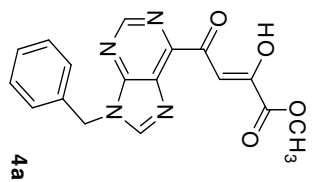


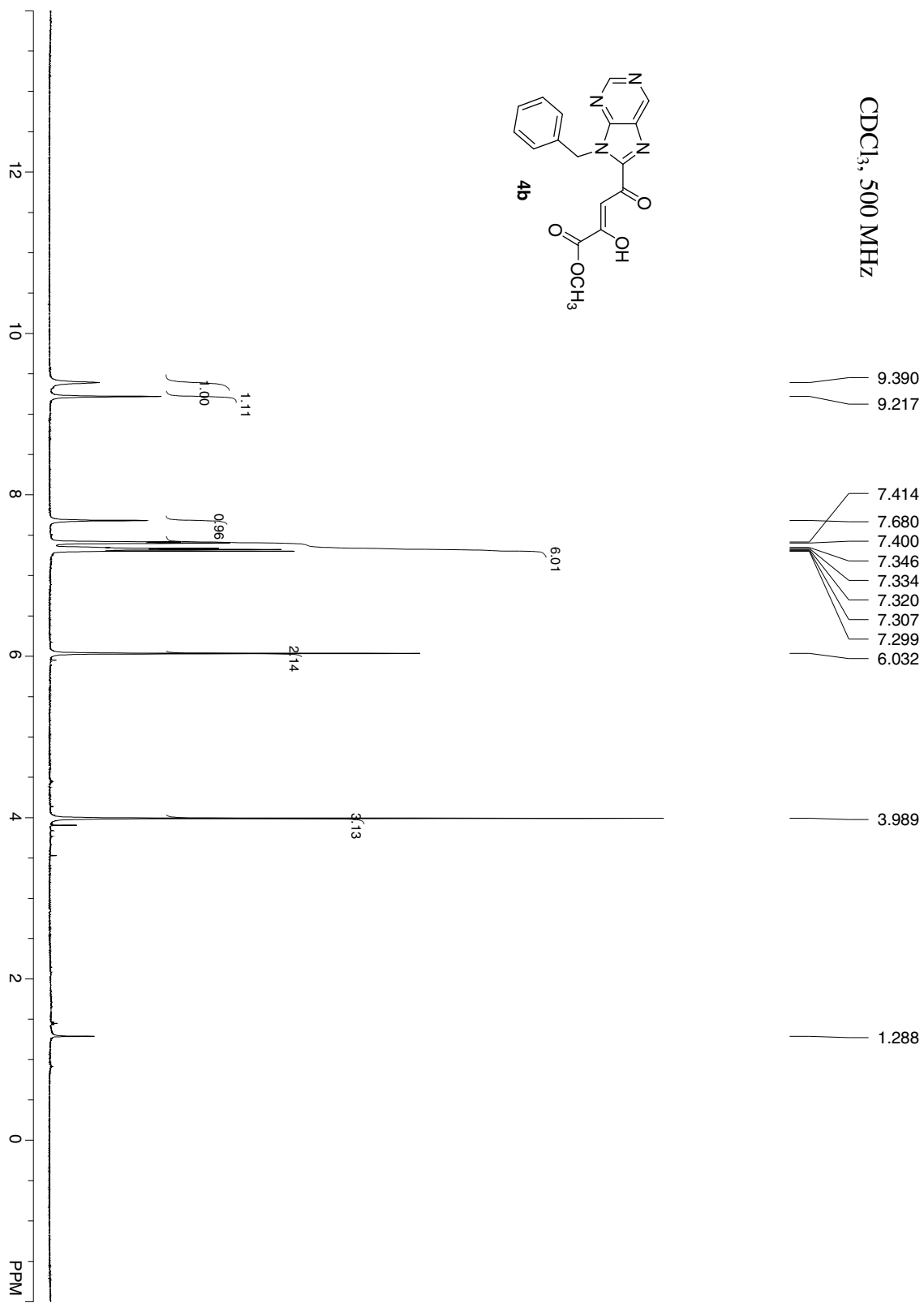






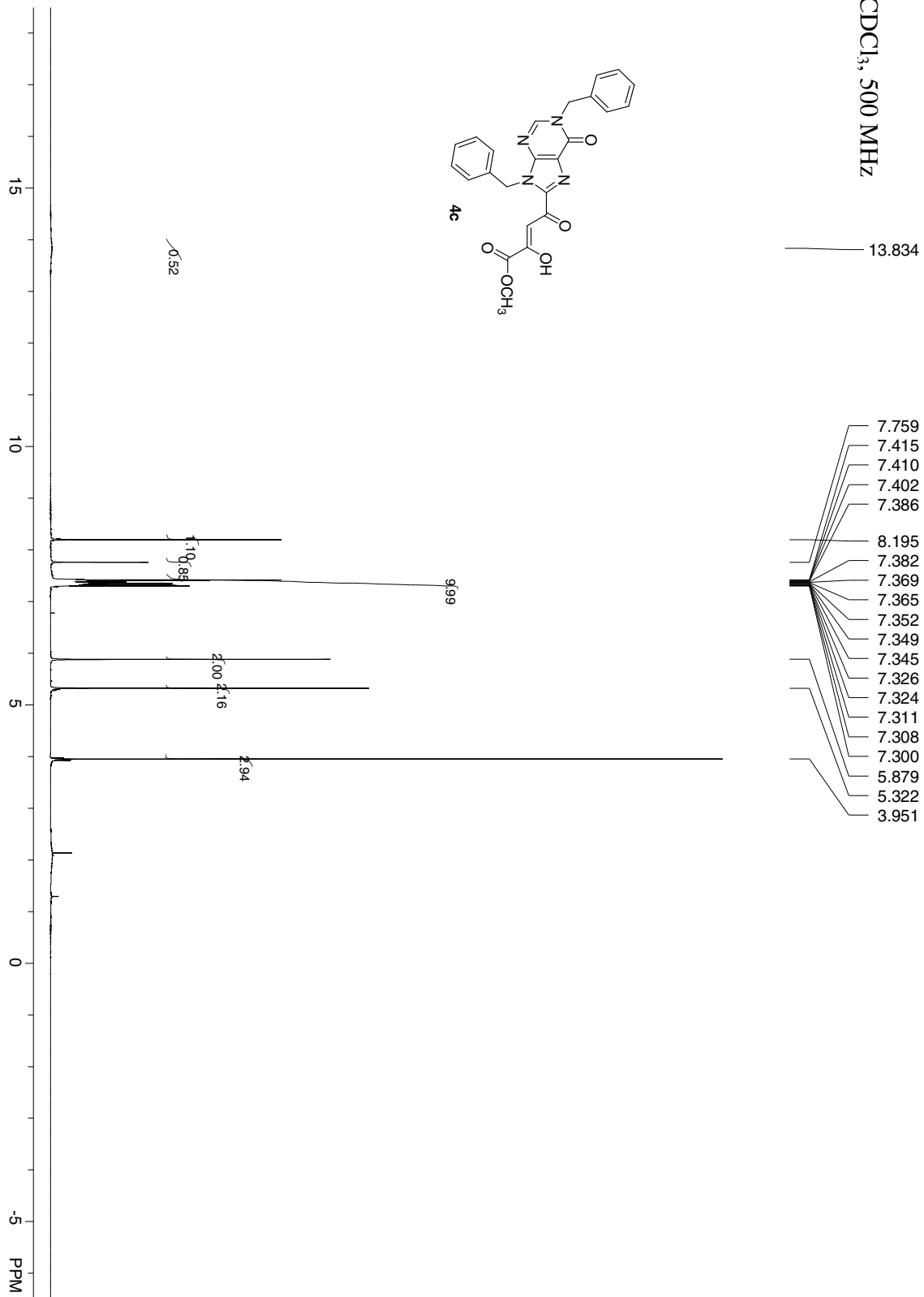
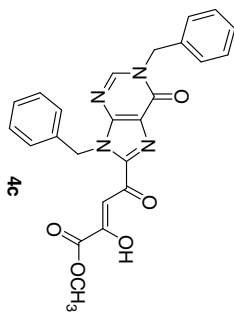
CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz



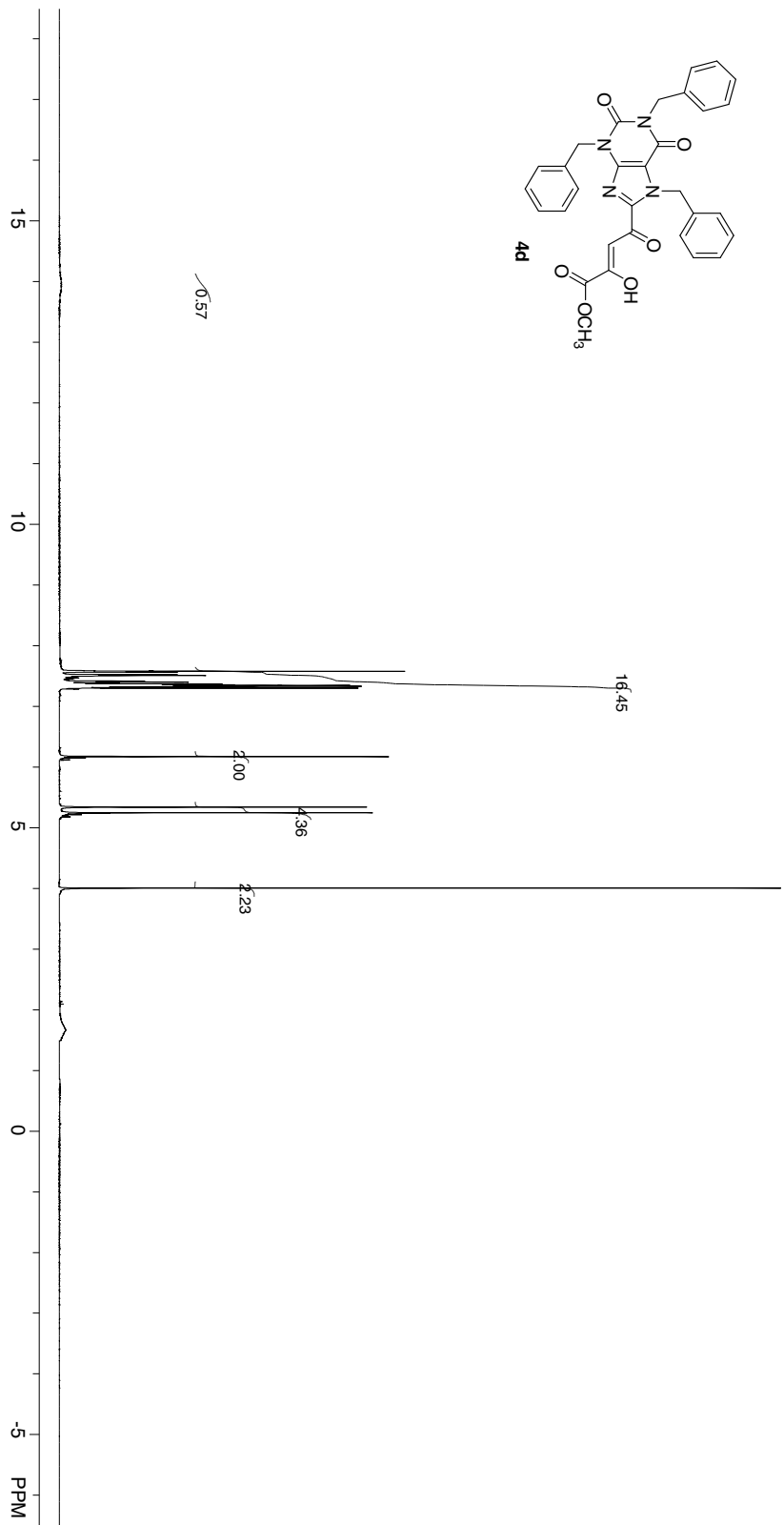
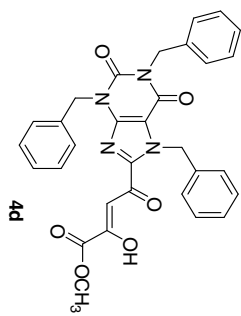
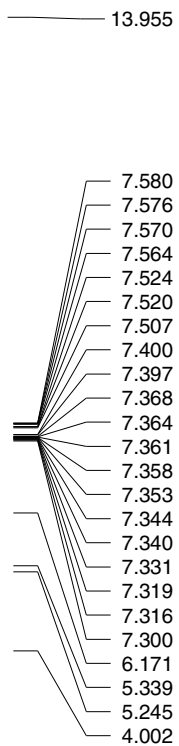




CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz



CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz



CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz

