

Supplementary Material

Steric and electronic effects in the synthesis and regioselective hydrolysis of unsymmetrical imides

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Table of contents

Experimental procedures for synthesis of amides 10 and thioamides 11	S2–S8
$^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of imides 13ay and 13by	S9–S30
IR spectra of imides 13ay and 13by	S31–S40

N-Benzylacetamide (10a)

To a solution of benzylamine (2.2 mL, 22.0 mmol) in toluene (5.0 mL) at 0°C was added acetic anhydride (2.2 mL, 23.2 mmol) dropwise. The mixture was stirred under nitrogen for 18 h at room temperature to give the title compound **10a**, which was used in the next step without purification.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33–7.24 (5H, m, ArH), 6.12 (1H, brs, NH), 4.38 (2H, d, *J*=5.7 Hz, CH₂), 1.98 (3H, s, Me); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.0, 138.3, 128.6, 127.8, 127.4, 43.7, 23.2; MS (ESI) *m/z*: 150 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₉H₁₁NO 150.0913 found 150.0929; IR (CHCl₃): 3282, 3068, 3031, 2971, 1739, 1638, 1548, 1373, 748, 695 cm⁻¹.

N-Benzylpivalamide (10b)

A solution of benzylamine (1.0 g, 9.3 mmol), triethylamine (2.6 mL, 18.7 mmol) and HBTU (3.0 g, 11.2 mol) in acetonitrile (20 mL) was added pivalic acid (1.6 mL, 14.0 mmol) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (50 mL) and washed with HCl solution (50 mL, 1 M), saturated aqueous sodium carbonate (30 mL), brine (30 mL) and dried with magnesium sulphate. The solution was concentrated in reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography (1:4 ethyl acetate/petroleum spirits) afforded the title compound **10b** (1.32 g, 74%) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34–7.24 (5H, m, ArH), 6.00 (1H, brs, NH), 4.84 (2H, d, *J*=5.0 Hz, CH₂), 1.22 (9H, s, *t*Bu); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 178.3, 138.7, 128.7, 127.6, 127.4, 43.5, 38.7, 27.6; MS (ESI) *m/z*: 192 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₁₂H₁₇NO 192.1383 found 192.1443.

N-Benzyltrichloroacetamide (10d)

To a solution of benzylamine (1.0 mL, 9.5 mmol) and triethylamine (2.6 mL, 18.7 mmol) in dichloromethane (30 mL) was added trichloroacetic anhydride (2.0 mL, 11.2 mmol) at 0°C. The resulting mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. Purification by column chromatography (1:4 ethyl acetate/ petroleum spirits) afforded the title compound **10d** (2.4 g, 98%) as a white solid.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.37–7.29 (5H, m, ArH), 7.14 (1H, brs, NH), 4.53 (2H, d, *J*=5.8 Hz, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 162.0, 136.4, 129.0, 128.1, 127.7, 92.6, 45.3; MS (ESI) *m/z*: 251 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₉H₈Cl₃NO 251.9744 found 251.9729; IR (CHCl₃): 3319, 3020, 1703, 1520, 1216, 818, 699 cm⁻¹.

***N*-Benzylformamide (10e)**

To a solution of benzylamine (428 mg, 4.0 mmol) and triethylamine (0.7 mL, 4.76 mmol), was added ethyl formate (1.6 mL, 19.8 mmol) at 0°C. The mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. Purification by column chromatography (1:3 ethyl acetate/ petroleum spirits) afforded the title compound **10e** (500 mg, 92%) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.23 (1H, s, HCO), 7.36–7.23 (5H, m, ArH), 6.07 (1H, brs, NH), 4.46 (2H, d, *J*=5.7 Hz, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.5, 137.7, 128.6, 127.6, 127.0, 42.0; MS (ESI) *m/z*: 136 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₈H₉NO 136.0757, found 136.0762; IR (CHCl₃): 3868, 3280, 3033, 1654, 1383, 750, 720, 696 cm⁻¹.

***N*-Benzylbenzamide (10f)**

A solution of benzylamine (1.0 mL, 9.3 mmol), triethylamine (2.6 mL, 18.7 mmol) and HBTU (2.8 g, 9.3 mol) in acetonitrile (40 mL) was added benzoic acid (1.7 g, 14.0 mmol) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. Purification by column chromatography (1:3 ethyl acetate/ petroleum spirits) afforded the title compound **10f** (1.9 g, 95%) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.80–7.26 (10H, m, ArH), 6.46 (1H, brs, NH), 4.65 (2H, d, *J*=5.7 Hz, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.3, 138.2, 134.4, 131.5, 128.8, 128.6, 127.9, 127.6, 126.9, 44.1; MS (ESI) *m/z*: 212 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₃NO 212.1070 found 212.1060; IR (CHCl₃): 3307, 3063, 3031, 2971, 1722, 1635, 1603, 1577, 1537, 1490, 692 cm⁻¹.

N-Benzyl-4-methoxybenzamide (10g)

To a solution of benzylamine (1.1 mL, 9.3 mmol) and triethylamine (2.0 mL, 14.0 mmol) in acetonitrile (20 mL), was added p-methoxyl benzoyl chloride (1.5 mL, 11.2 mmol) at 0°C. The mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. Purification by column chromatography (1:4 ethyl acetate/ petroleum spirits) afforded the title compound **10g** (2.0 g, 89%) as a colorless solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.78–6.90 (9H, m, ArH), 6.32 (1H, brs, NH), 4.64 (2H, d, *J*=5.7 Hz, CH₂), 3.85 (3H, s, OMe); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 162.2, 138.4, 128.8, 128.7, 127.9, 127.6, 127.5, 126.6, 113.8, 55.4, 44.1; MS (ESI) *m/z*: 242 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₅NO₂ 242.1176 found 242.1172; IR (CHCl₃): 3307, 3032, 2929, 2840, 1737, 1630, 1606, 1550, 1505, 1251, 1179, 1029, 845 cm⁻¹.

N-Benzyl-2,4-dimethoxybenzamide (10h)

To a solution of benzylamine (1.1 mL, 9.3 mmol) and triethylamine (1.9 mL, 14.0 mmol) in acetonitrile (25 mL), was added 2,4-dimethoxylbenzoylchloride (2.3 g, 11.2 mmol) at 0°C. The mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. Purification by column chromatography (1:1 ethyl acetate/ petroleum spirits) afforded the title compound **10h** (2.3 g, 91.6%) as a colorless solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.24–6.47 (8H, m, ArH), 8.10 (1H, brs, NH), 4.68 (2H, d, *J*=5.7 Hz, CH₂), 3.88 (3H, s, OMe), 3.85 (3H, s, OMe); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.2, 163.4, 158.8, 139.0, 134.1, 128.6, 127.5, 127.1, 114.4, 105.3, 98.6, 55.9, 55.5, 51.2; MS (ESI) *m/z*: 272 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₁₆H₁₇NO₃ 272.1281 found 272.1341; IR (CHCl₃): 3403, 2942, 2840, 1737, 1642, 1603, 1528, 1496, 1259, 1166, 1115, 1023, 833, 698 cm⁻¹.

N-Benzyl-4-nitrobenzamide (10i)

To a solution of benzylamine (1.1 mL, 9.3 mmol) and triethylamine (1.9 mL, 14.0 mmol) in acetonitrile (25.0 mL), was added p-nitrobenzoylchloride (2.1 g, 11.2 mmol) at 0°C. The mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite,

washed with DCM (20.0 mL) twice. The crude product **10i** (3.2 g) was isolated as an off-white solid which was used in the next step without purification. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.28–7.36 (9H, m, ArH), 6.56 (H, brs, NH), 4.66 (2H, d, $J=5.6$ Hz, CH_2); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 165.3, 137.4, 129.0, 128.9, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 123.8, 44.5; MS (ESI) m/z : 257 [(M+H) $^+$, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ 257.0921 found 257.0915; IR (CHCl_3): 3298, 3032, 2926, 1737, 1643, 1599, 1520, 1344, 699 cm^{-1} .

N-Benzyl-2,4-dinitrobenzamide (10j)

To a solution of benzylamine (0.4 mL, 4.0 mmol) and triethylamine (0.6 mL, 4.0 mmol) in acetonitrile (5.0 mL), was added 2,4-dinitrobenzoylchloride (0.5 g, 2.0 mmol) at 0°C. The mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite, washed with H_2O (5.0 mL) twice. The crude product **10j** (0.27 g) was isolated as a pale yellow solid which was used in the next step without purification. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.91 (1H, s, ArH), 8.51 (1H, d, $J=8.3$ Hz, ArH), 7.75 (1H, d, $J=8.3$ Hz, ArH), 7.39–7.33 (5H, m, ArH), 6.08 (1H, brs, NH), 4.67 (2H, m, CH_2).

General Procedure B: Synthesis of thioamides 11 using Lawesson's reagent

A solution of the amide **10** and Lawesson's reagent (0.55 equiv) in tetrahydrofuran (3 mL/mmol) was stirred at 80°C for 18 h, then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by chromatography on silica gave the thioamide **11**.

N-Benzylthioacetamide (11a)¹

The title compound was prepared from *N*-benzylacetamide **10a** (3.3 g, 24.5 mmol) according to General Procedure B, followed by recrystallization (ether/hexanes) to give **11a** as yellow crystals (3.4 g, 92%). ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.4–7.32 (5H, m, ArH), 7.30 (1H, brs, NH), 4.82 (2H, d, $J=5.0$ Hz, CH_2), 2.59 (3H, s, Me); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 200.9, 136.0, 129.0, 128.4,

128.2, 50.6, 34.1; MS (ESI) m/z : 166 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₉H₁₁NS 166.0685 found 166.0686; IR (CHCl₃): 3207, 3066, 2921, 2720, 1951, 1869, 1739, 1586, 1548, 1383, 1340, 1162, 938, 735, 693 cm⁻¹.

N-Benzylthiopivalamide (11b)²

The title compound was prepared from N-benzylpivalamide **10b** (1.0 g, 5.3 mmol) according to General Procedure B to give the product **11b** (510 mg, 47%) as a yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57 (1H, brs, NH), 7.35–7.28 (5H, m, ArH), 4.84 (2H, d, J =5.0 Hz, CH₂), 1.37 (9H, s, tBu); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 213.4, 136.4, 129.0, 128.03, 128.01, 50.6, 44.5, 30.2; MS (ESI) m/z : 208 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₁₂H₁₇NS 208.1154 found 208.1140; IR (CHCl₃): 3320, 3030, 2965, 2867, 1738, 1605, 1517, 1228, 1218, 1103, 956, 819, 734, 695 cm⁻¹.

N-Benzyltrichlorothioacetamide (11d)

The title compound was prepared from N-benzyltrichloroacetamide **10d** (1.8 g, 7.34 mmol) according to General Procedure B to give the product **11d** (1.0 g, 51.4%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37–7.27 (5H, m, ArH), 7.09 (1H, brs, NH), 4.48 (2H, d, J =5.8 Hz, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 164.4, 136.7, 128.9, 127.9, 127.7, 66.4, 44.2; IR (CHCl₃): 3292, 3032, 1672, 1522, 1455, 1213, 811, 746 cm⁻¹.

N-Benzylthioformamide (11e)³

The title compound was prepared from N-benzylformamide **10e** (1.0 g, 7.5 mmol) according to General Procedure B to give the thioamide **11e** (741 mg, 66%) as yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.49 (1H, s, HCS), 7.55 (1H, brs, NH), 7.37–7.33 (5H, m, ArH), 4.86 (2H, d, J =5.0 Hz, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 188.8, 135.7, 128.9, 128.3, 128.2, 47.5; MS (ESI) m/z : 152 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₈H₉NS 152.0528 found 152.0529; IR (CHCl₃): 3210, 2972, 1714, 1532, 1215, 745, 696, 666 cm⁻¹.

***N*-Benzylthiobenzamide (**11f**)¹**

The title compound was prepared from *N*-benzylbenzamide **10f** (1.8 g, 8.8 mmol) according to General Procedure B to give the product **11f** (1.0 g, 50.5%) as a yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.12–7.35 (10H, m, ArH), 6.36 (1H, brs, NH), 4.99 (2H, d, J=5.1 Hz, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 199.2, 131.2, 130.2, 129.0, 128.5, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 126.7, 51.0; MS (ESI) *m/z*: 234 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₃NS 228.0841 found 228.0887; IR (CHCl₃): 3222, 3029, 2918, 1956, 1738, 1691, 1603, 1584, 1516, 1377, 940, 769, 690 cm⁻¹.

***N*-Benzyl-4-methoxythiobenzamide (**11g**)¹**

The title compound was prepared from *N*-benzyl-4-methoxybenzamide **10g** (1.0 g, 4.3 mmol) according to General Procedure B to give the product **11g** (0.9 g, 83%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.79–6.86 (9H, m, ArH), 7.63 (1H, brs, NH), 5.00 (2H, d, J=5.1 Hz, CH₂), 3.83 (3H, s, OMe); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 198.0, 162.2, 136.4, 133.9, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 113.7, 55.5, 51.0; MS (ESI) *m/z*: 258 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₁₅H₁₅NOS 258.0947 found 258.0980; IR (CHCl₃): 3241, 3029, 2931, 2837, 2553, 2050, 1739, 1602, 1575, 1525, 1498, 1249, 1172, 1027, 940, 834, 733, 695 cm⁻¹.

***N*-Benzyl-2,4-dimethoxythiobenzamide (**11h**)**

The title compound was prepared from *N*-benzyl-2,4-dimethoxybenzamide **10h** (2.0 g, 7.5 mmol) according to General Procedure B to give the product **11h** (2.1 g, 97%) as a yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.60 (1H, brs, NH), 8.66–6.42 (8H, m, ArH), 5.06 (2H, d, J=4.9 Hz, CH₂), 3.84 (3H, s, OMe), 3.82 (3H, s, OMe); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 194.4, 163.3, 157.0, 137.6, 136.9, 128.8, 127.9, 127.8, 120.0, 105.5, 98.4, 56.0, 55.6, 51.2; MS (ESI) *m/z*: 288 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₁₆H₁₇NO₂S 288.1053 found 288.1076; IR (CHCl₃): 3325, 3004, 2940, 2837, 1737, 1604, 1568, 1530, 1495, 1453, 1252, 1206, 1140, 1022 cm⁻¹.

***N*-Benzyl-4-nitrothiobenzamide (**11i**)⁴**

A solution of *N*-Benzyl-4-nitrobenzamide **10i** (2.0 g, 7.8 mmol) and Lawesson's reagent (1.7 g, 4.3 mol) in toluene (20 mL) was heated at 110°C for 16 h. Purification by column chromatography (1:3 ethyl acetate/ petroleum spirits) gave the product **11i** (1.4 g, 62.2%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.24–7.39 (9H, m, ArH), 4.99 (2H, d, *J*=5.04 Hz, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 178.9, 147.4, 129.2, 128.6, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 123.8, 120.3, 51.4; MS (ESI) *m/z*: 273 [(M+H)⁺, 100%]; HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C₁₄H₁₂N₂O₂S 273.0692 found 273.0695; IR (CHCl₃): 2971, 1739, 1602, 1522, 1347 cm⁻¹.

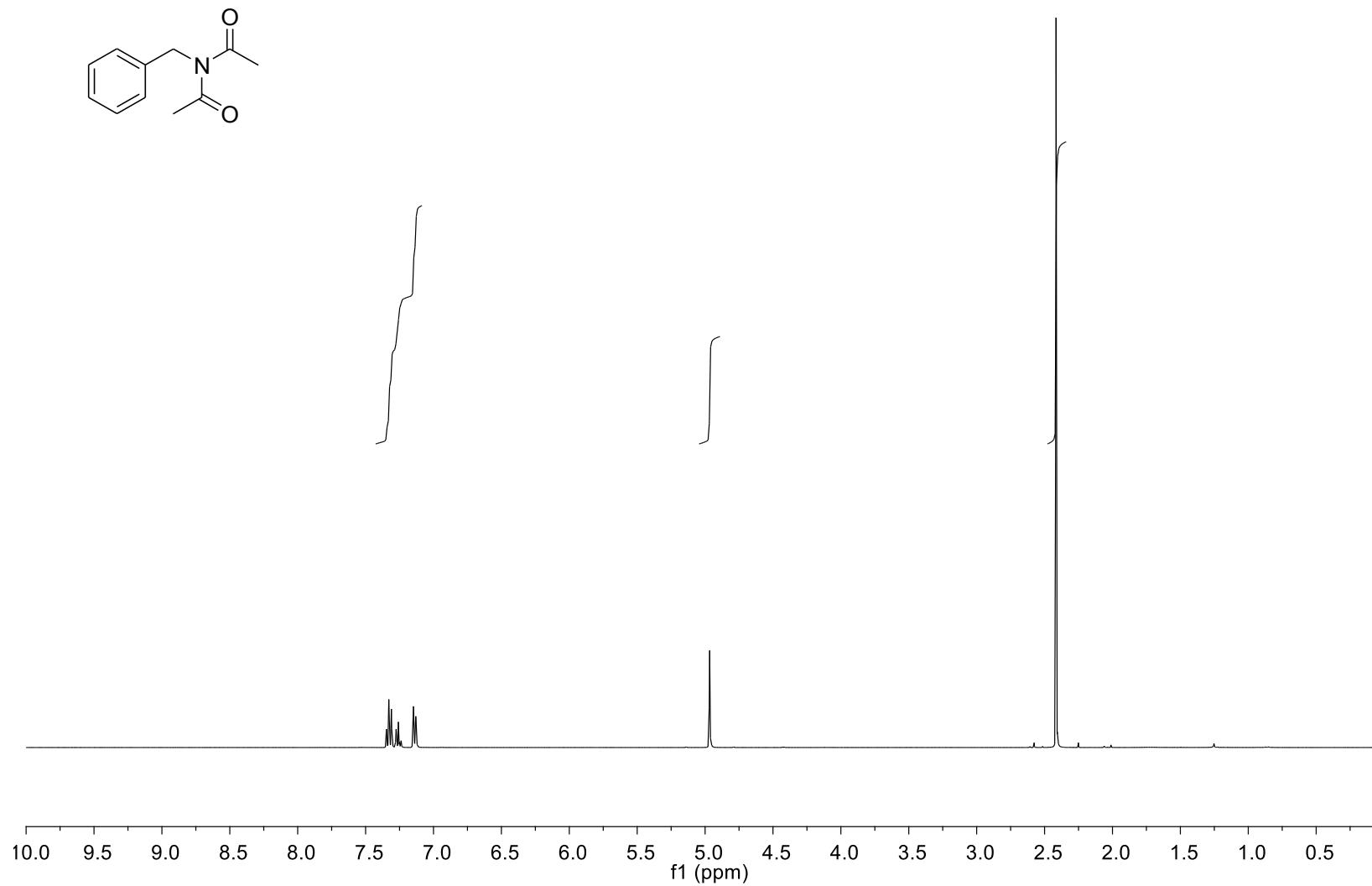
***N*-Benzyl-2,4-dinitrothiobenzamide (**11j**)**

A solution of *N*-Benzyl-2,4-dinitrobenzamide **10j** (0.27 g, 0.9 mmol) and Lawesson's reagent (0.2 g, 0.5 mol) in toluene (10 mL) was heated at 110°C for 16 h. Purification by column chromatography (1:2 ethyl acetate/ petroleum spirits) gave the product **11j** (0.15 g, 60.0%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.86(1H, s, ArH), δ 8.50 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, ArH), δ 7.70 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, ArH), 7.41–7.30 (5H, m, ArH), 4.98 (2H, m, CH₂).

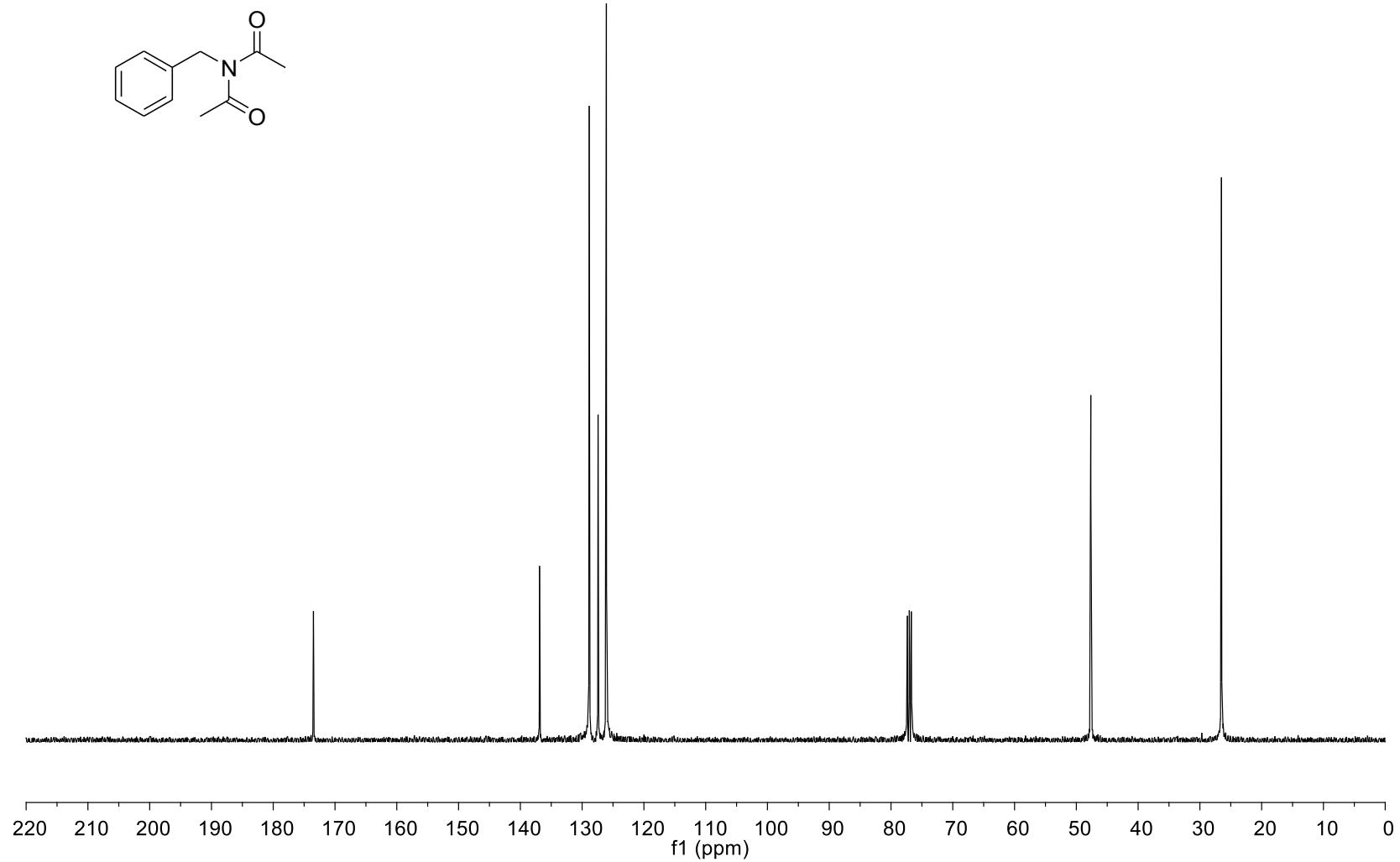
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- (4) Movassagh, B.; Lakouraj, M. M.; Ghodratl, K. *Synth. Commun.* **2000**, *30*, 2353.

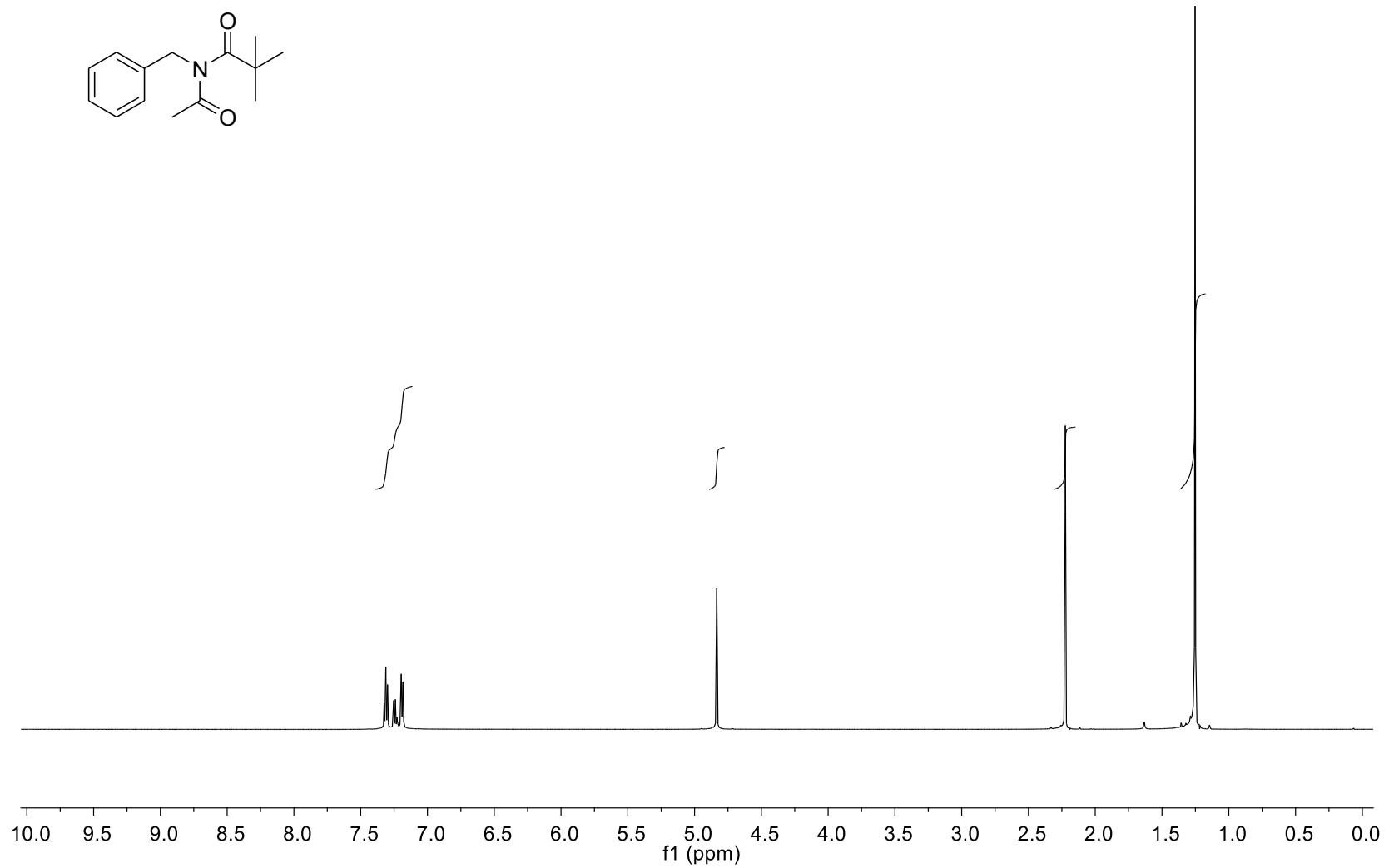
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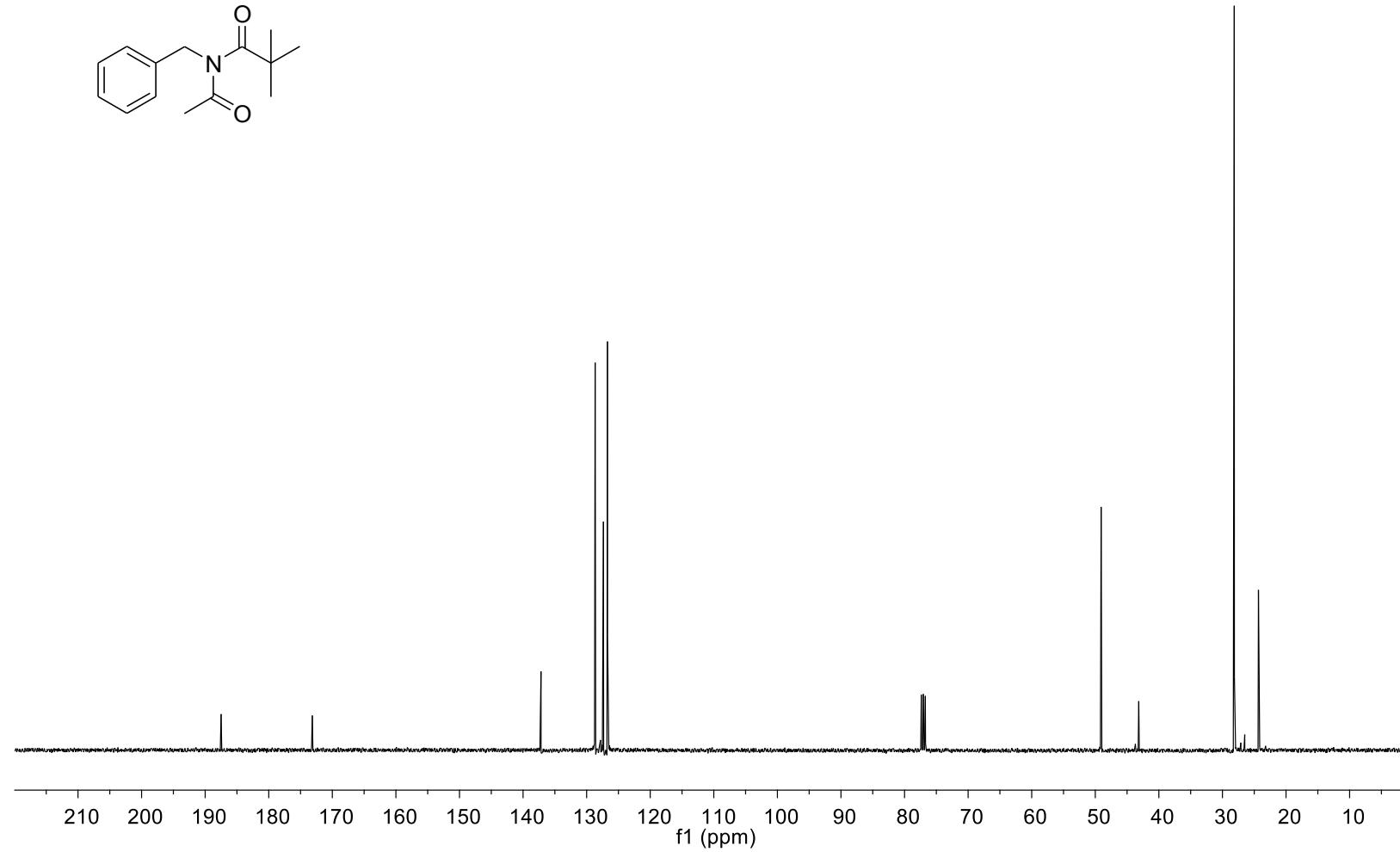
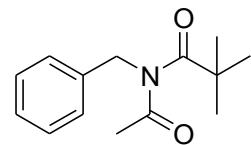
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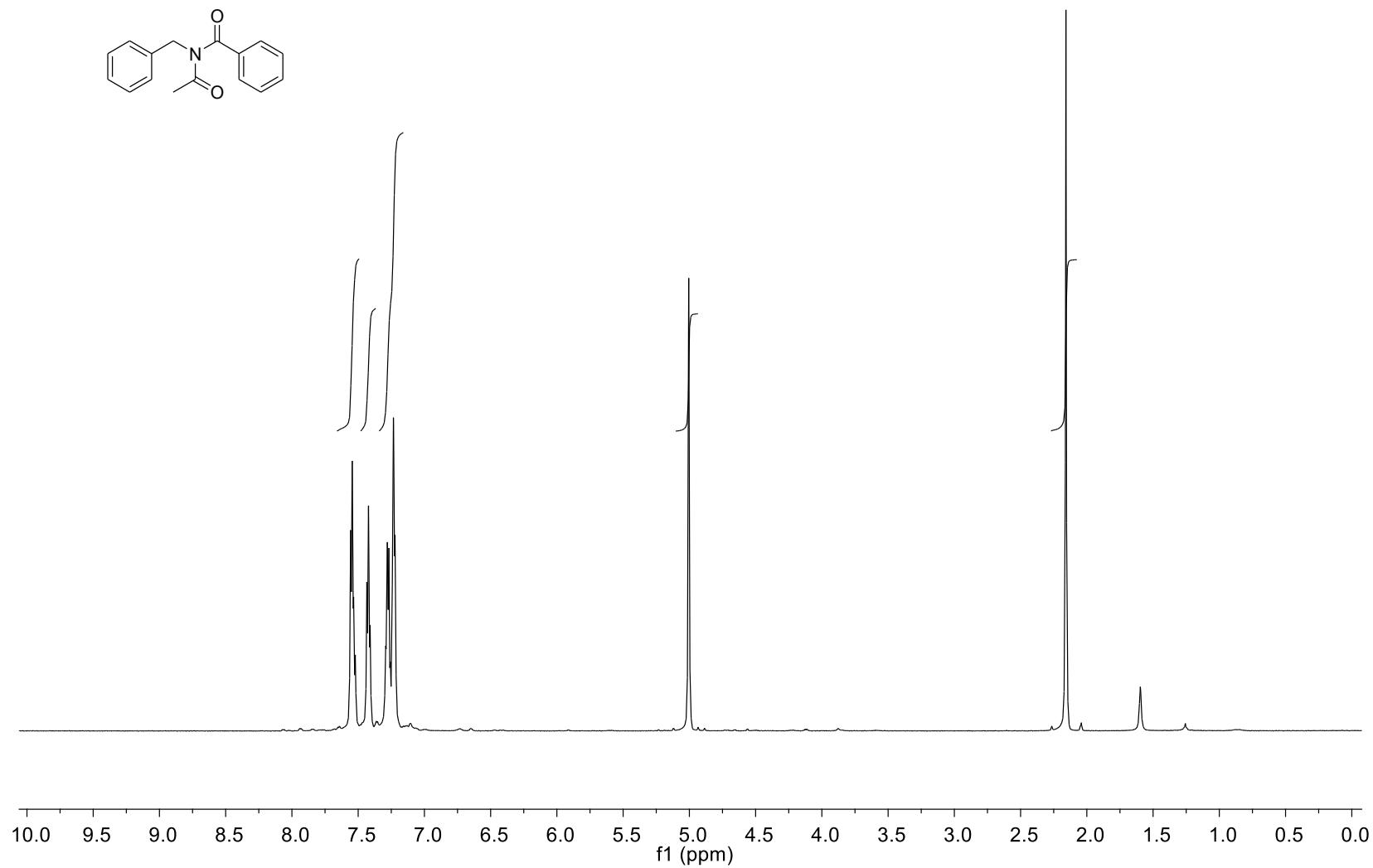
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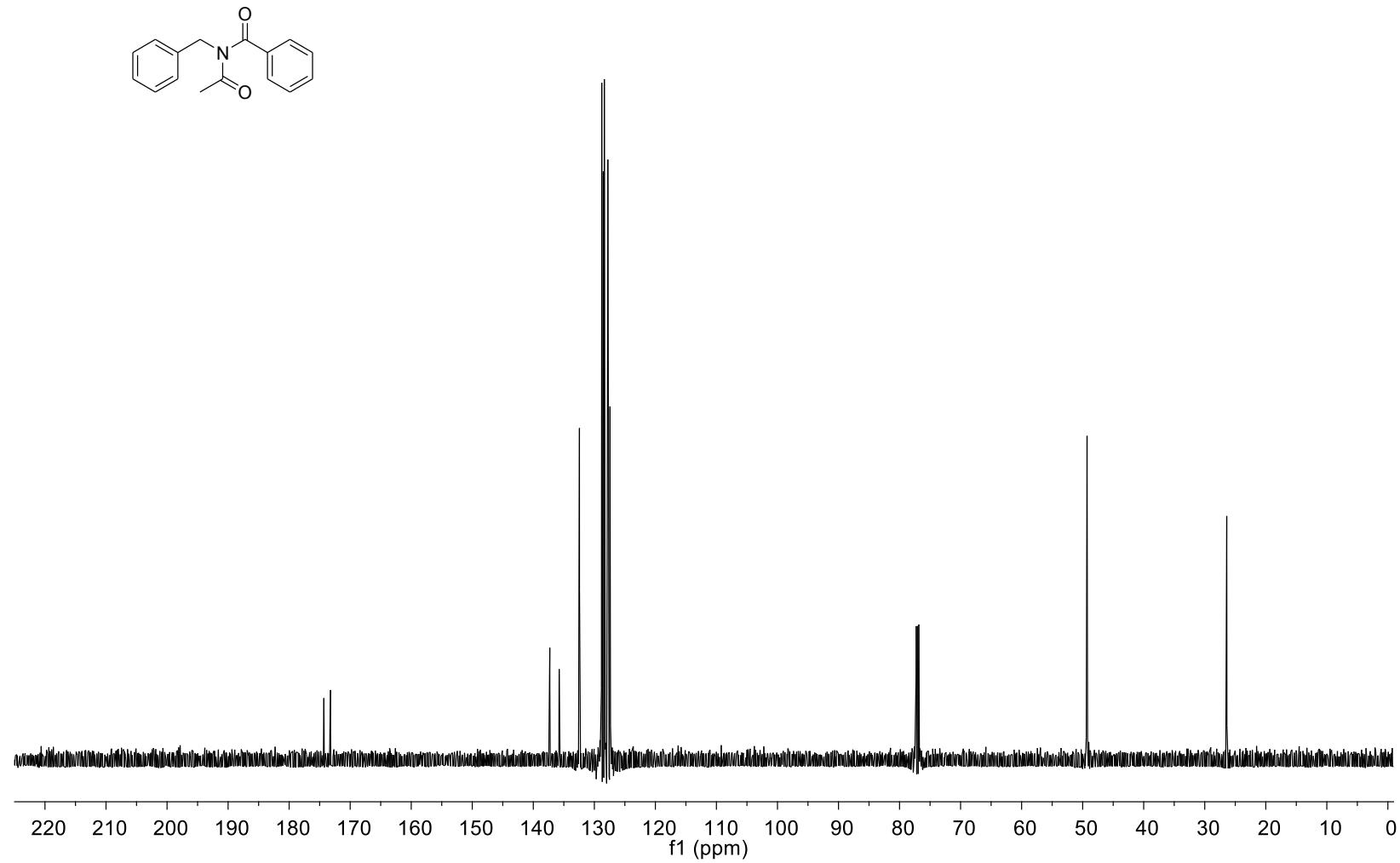
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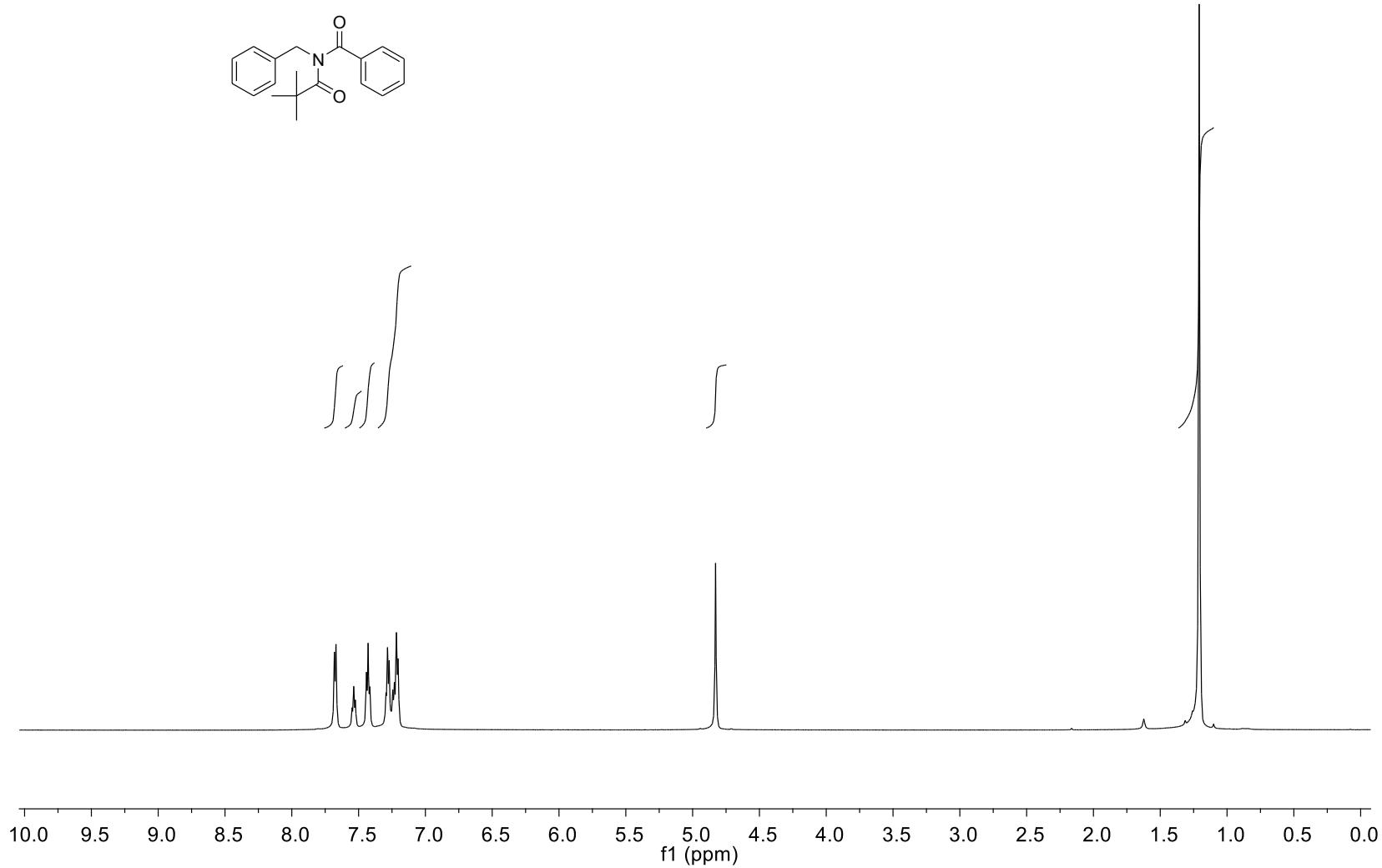
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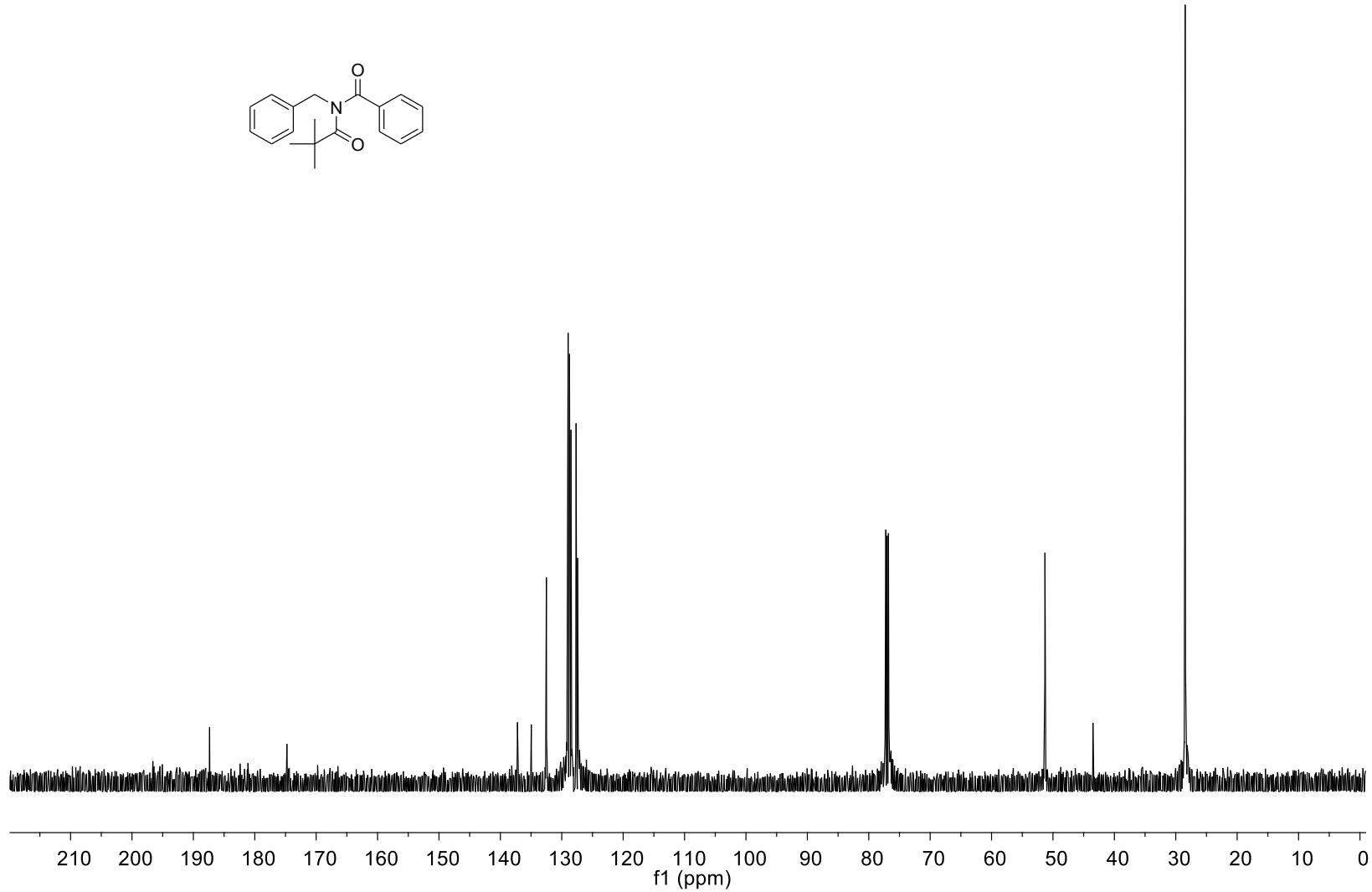
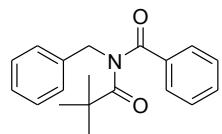
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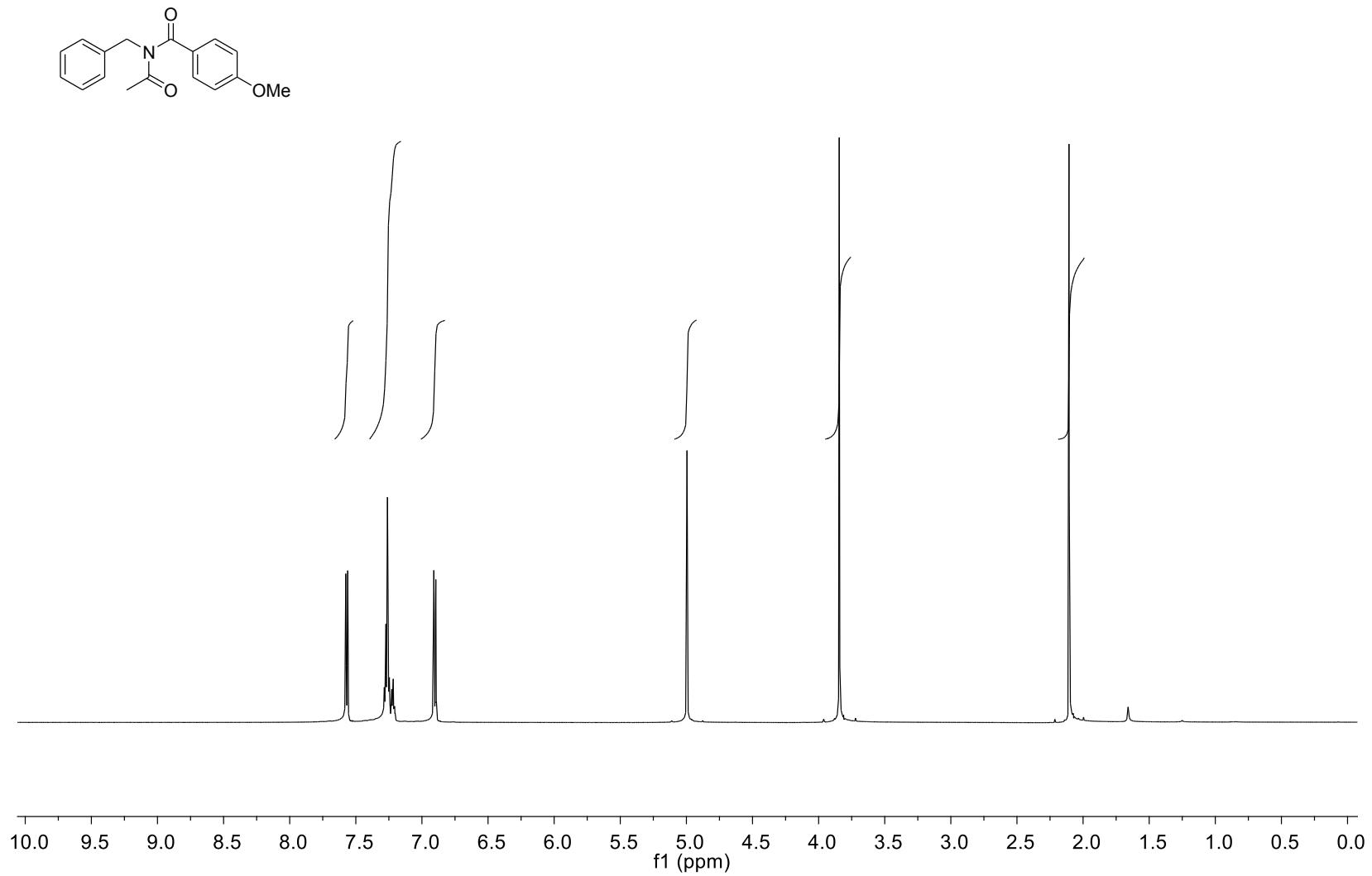
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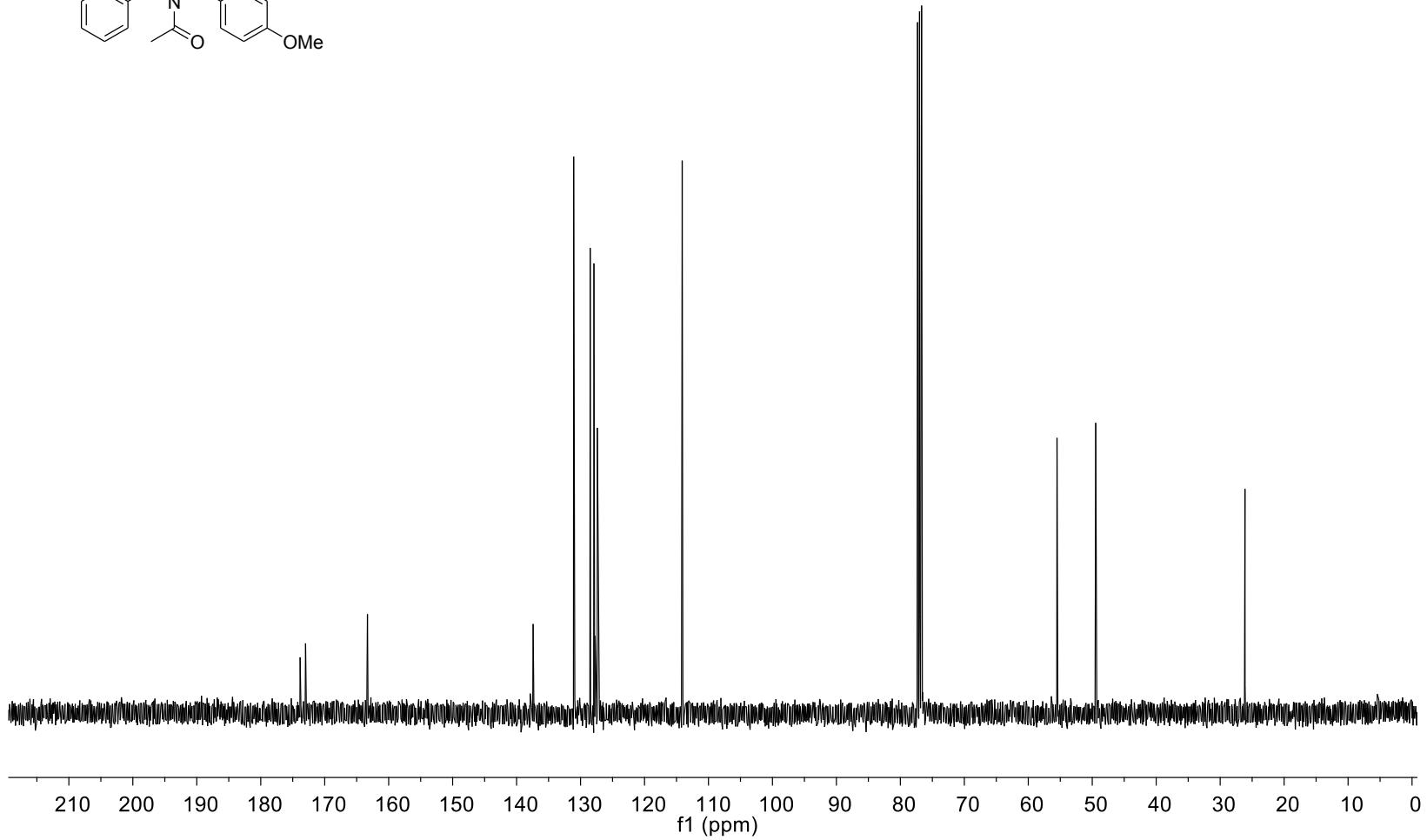
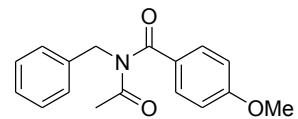
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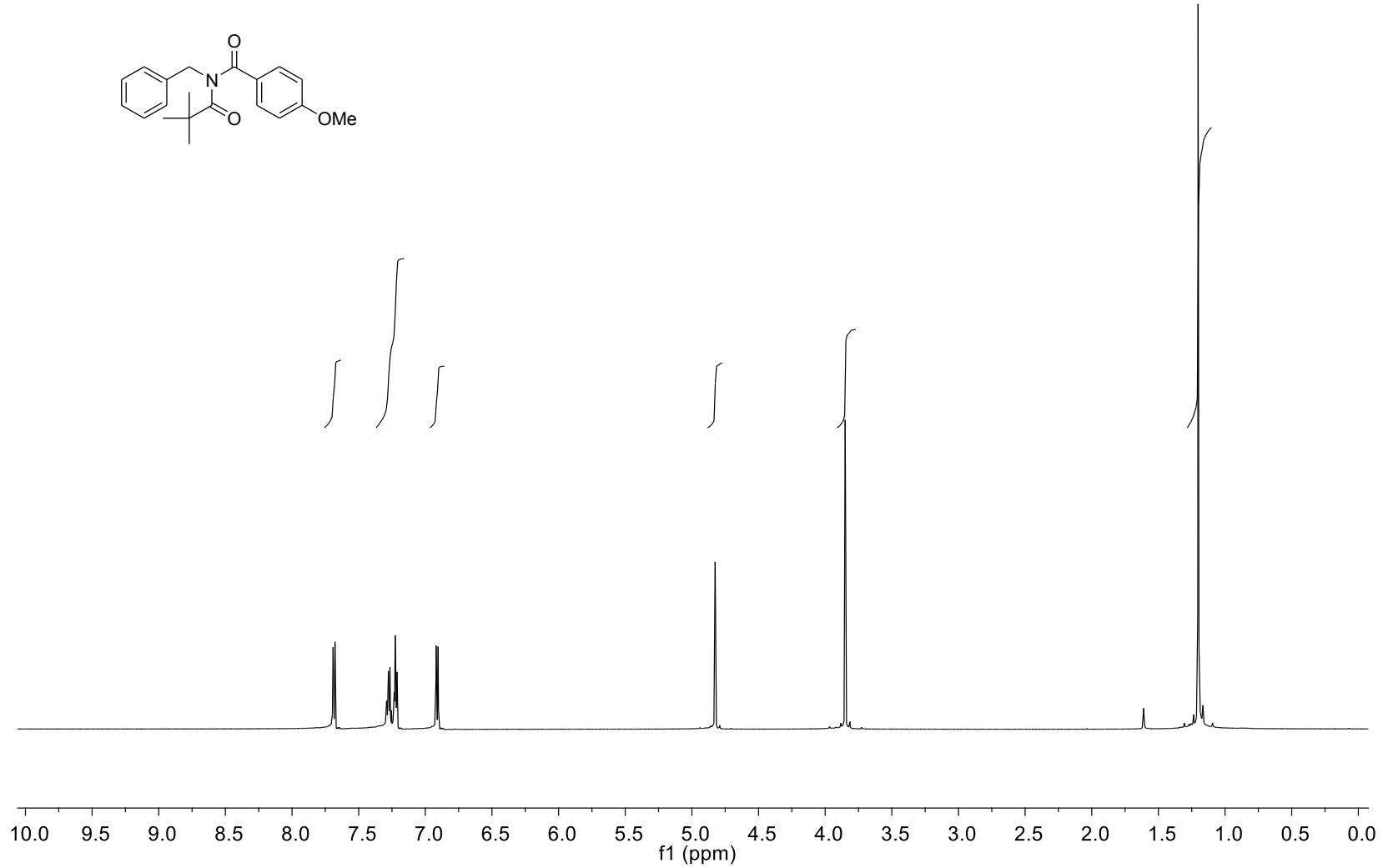
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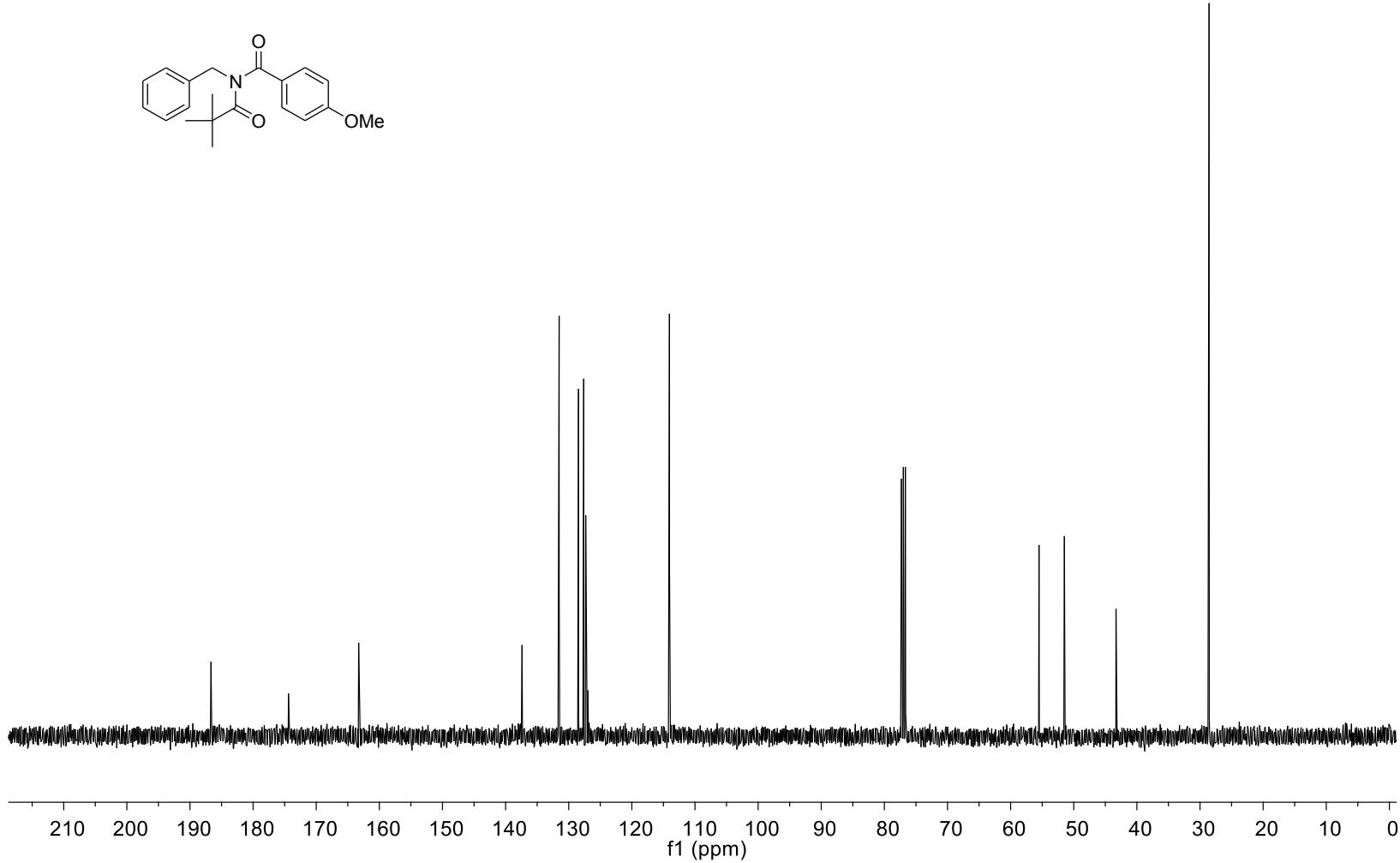
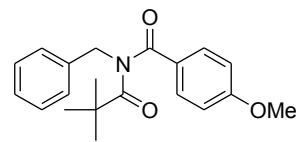
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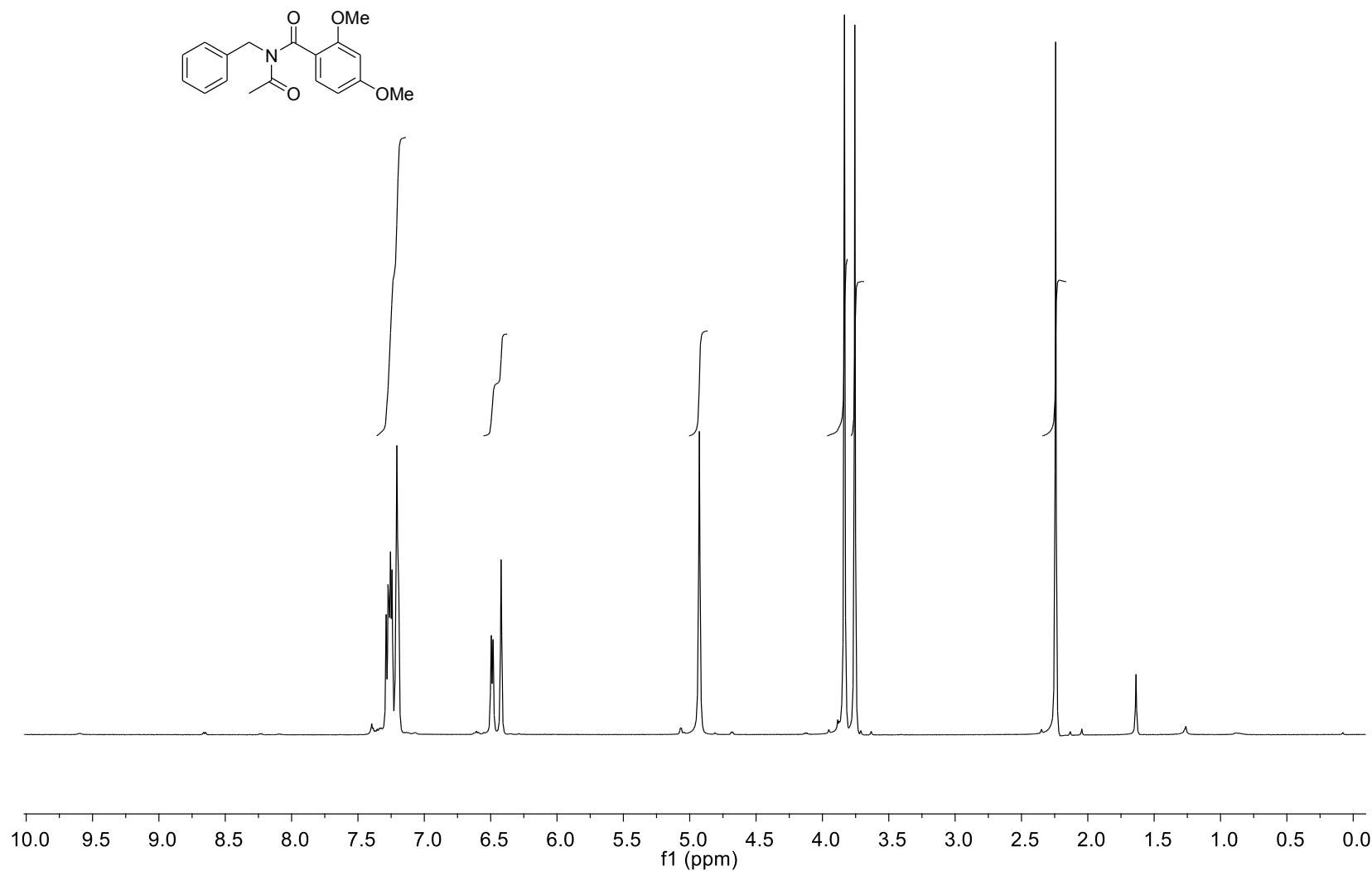
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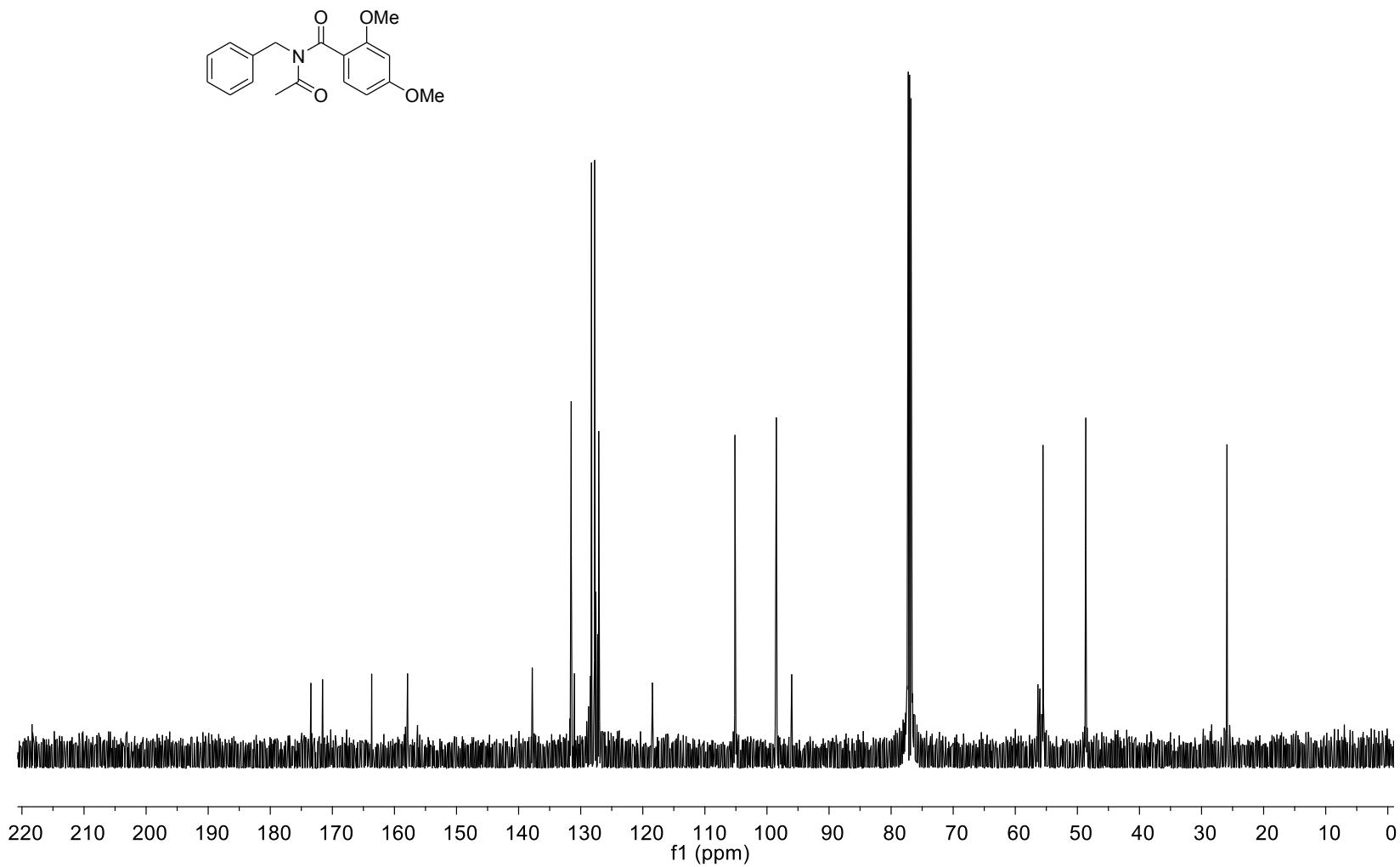
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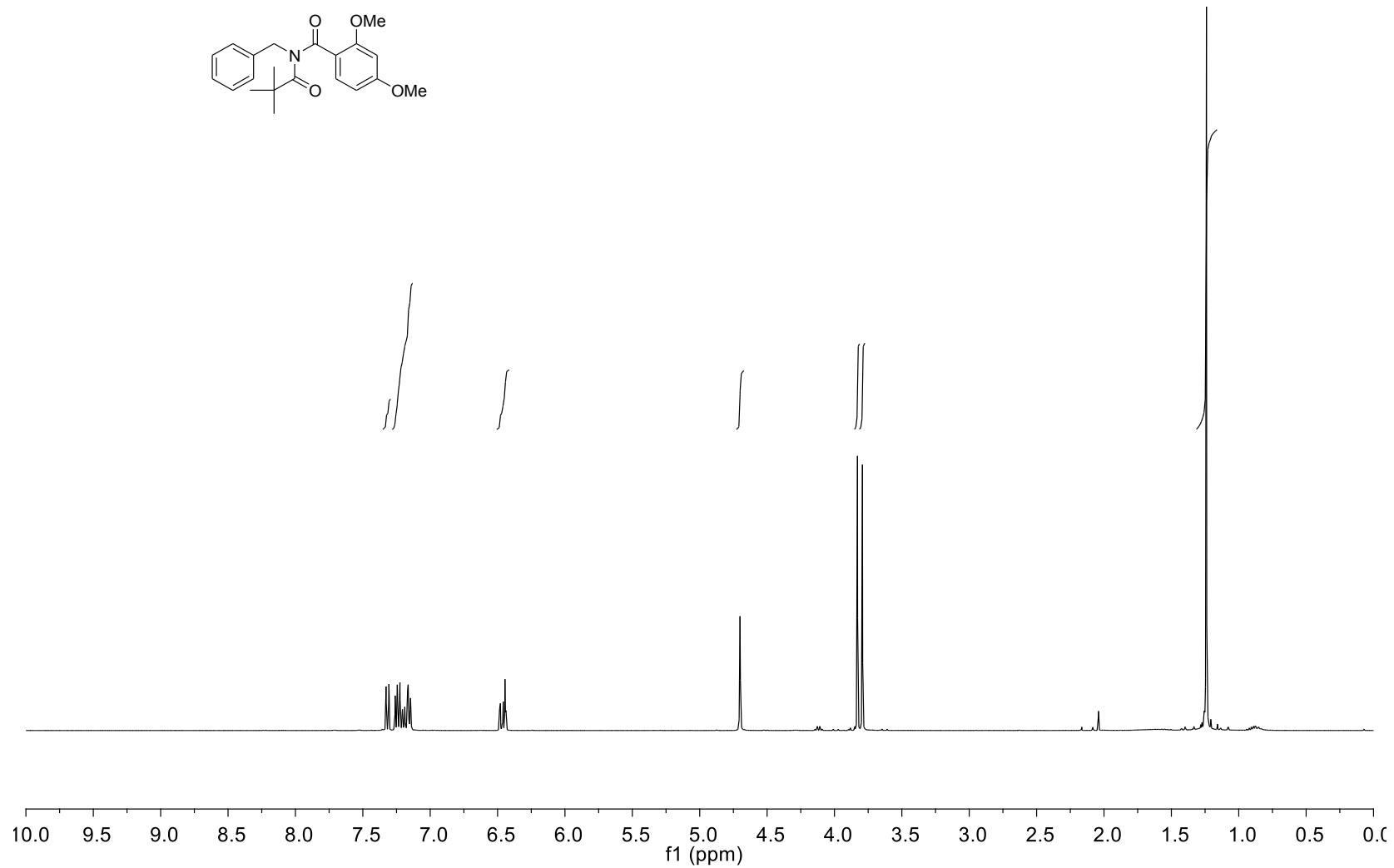
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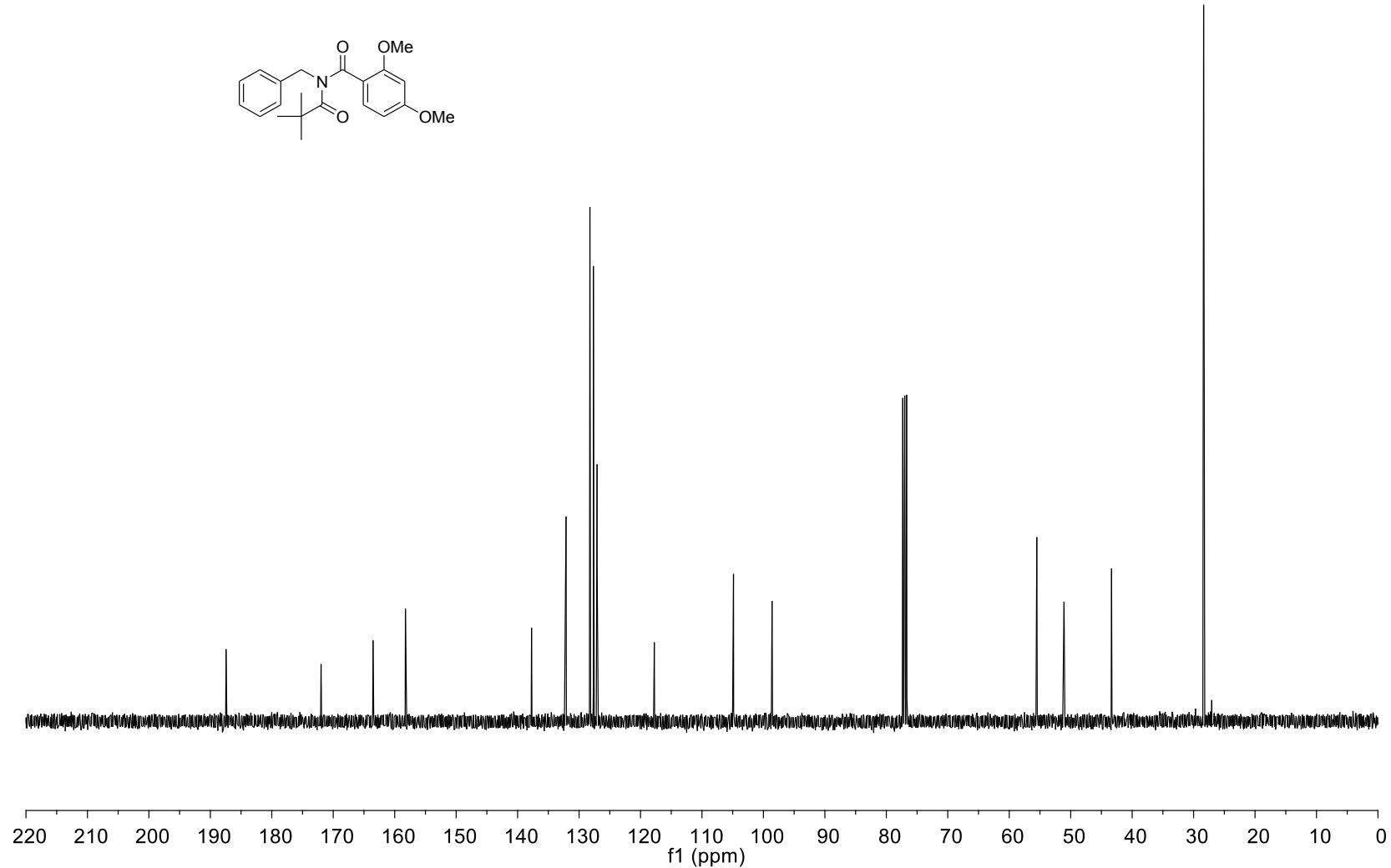
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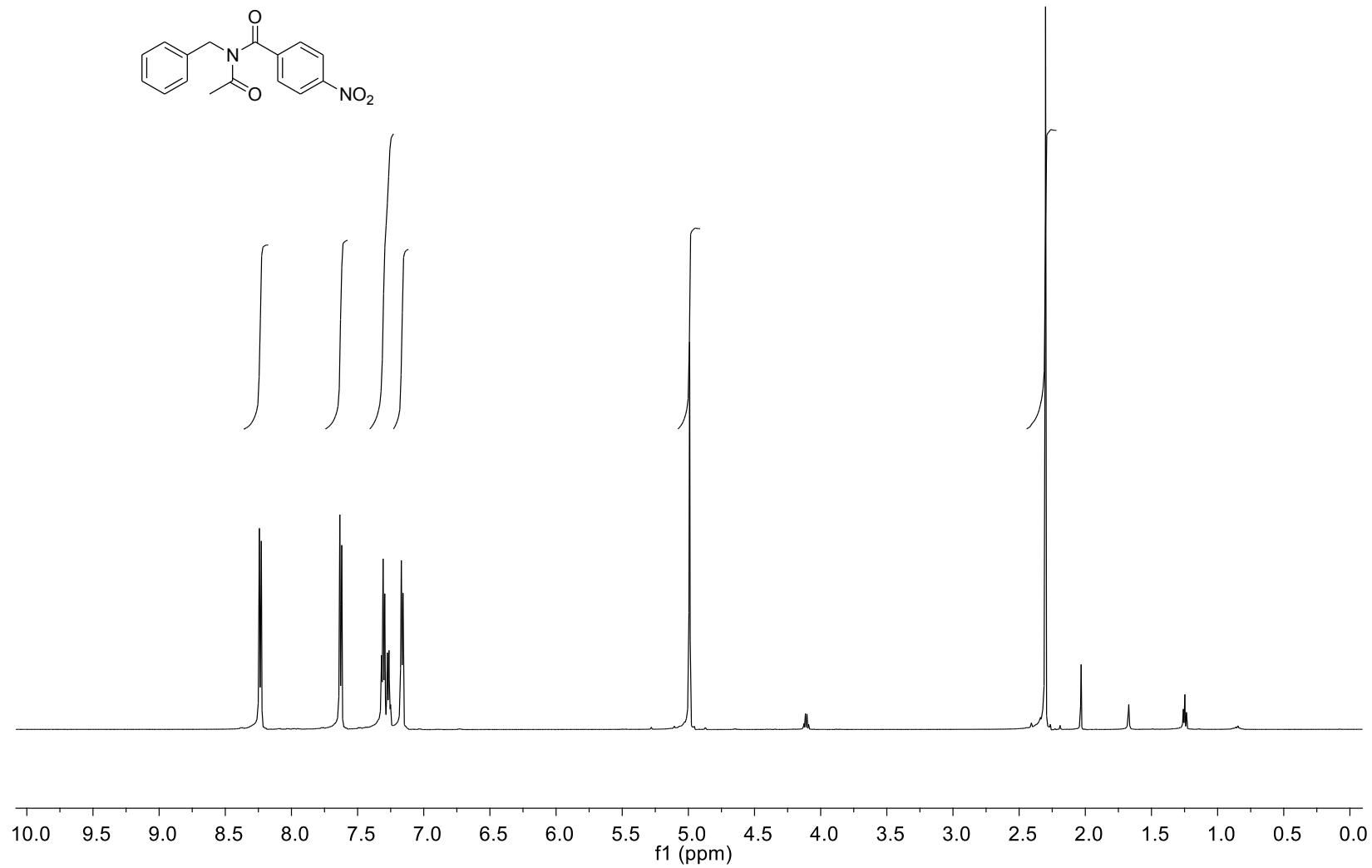
13bh: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz)



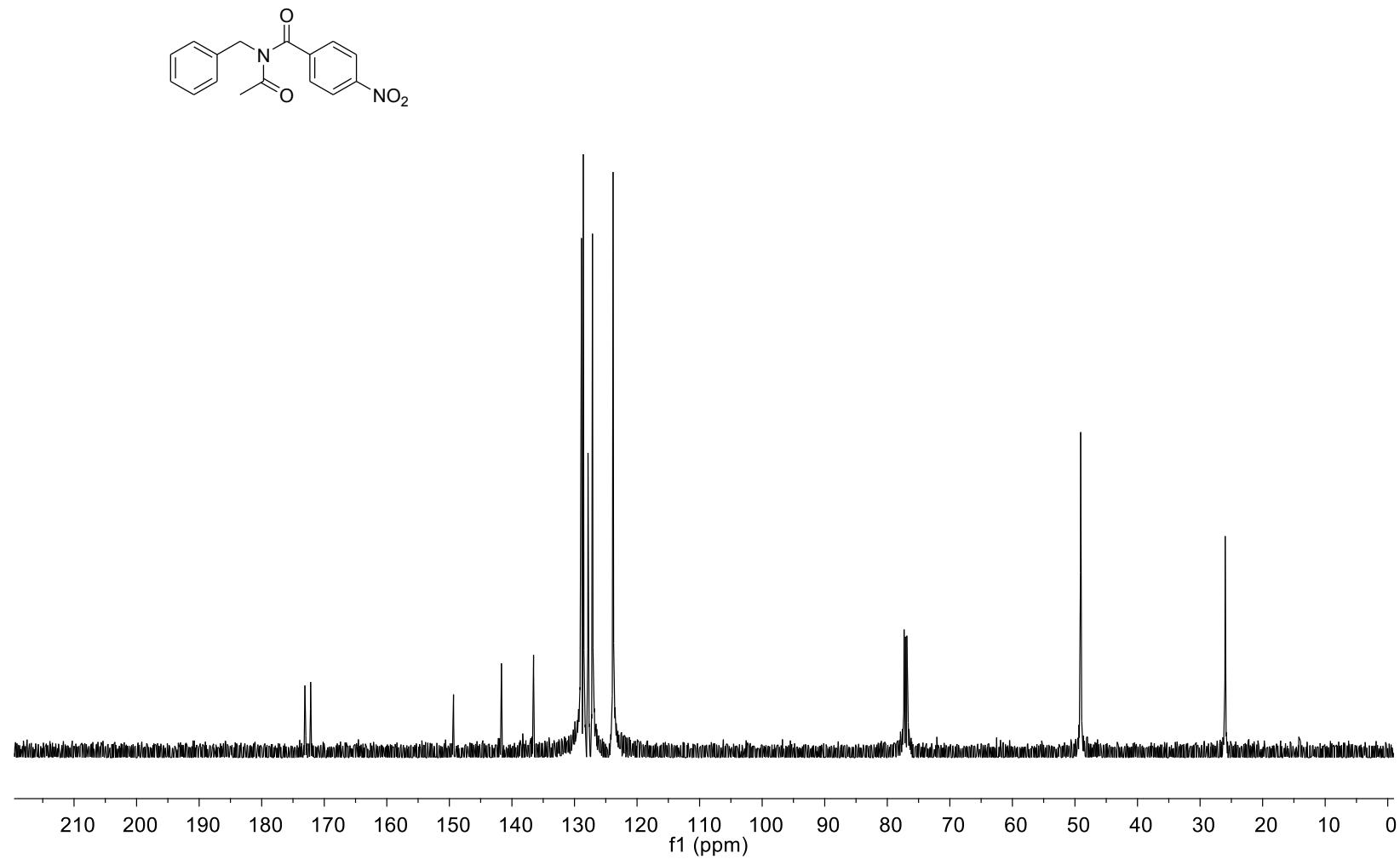
13bh: ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz)



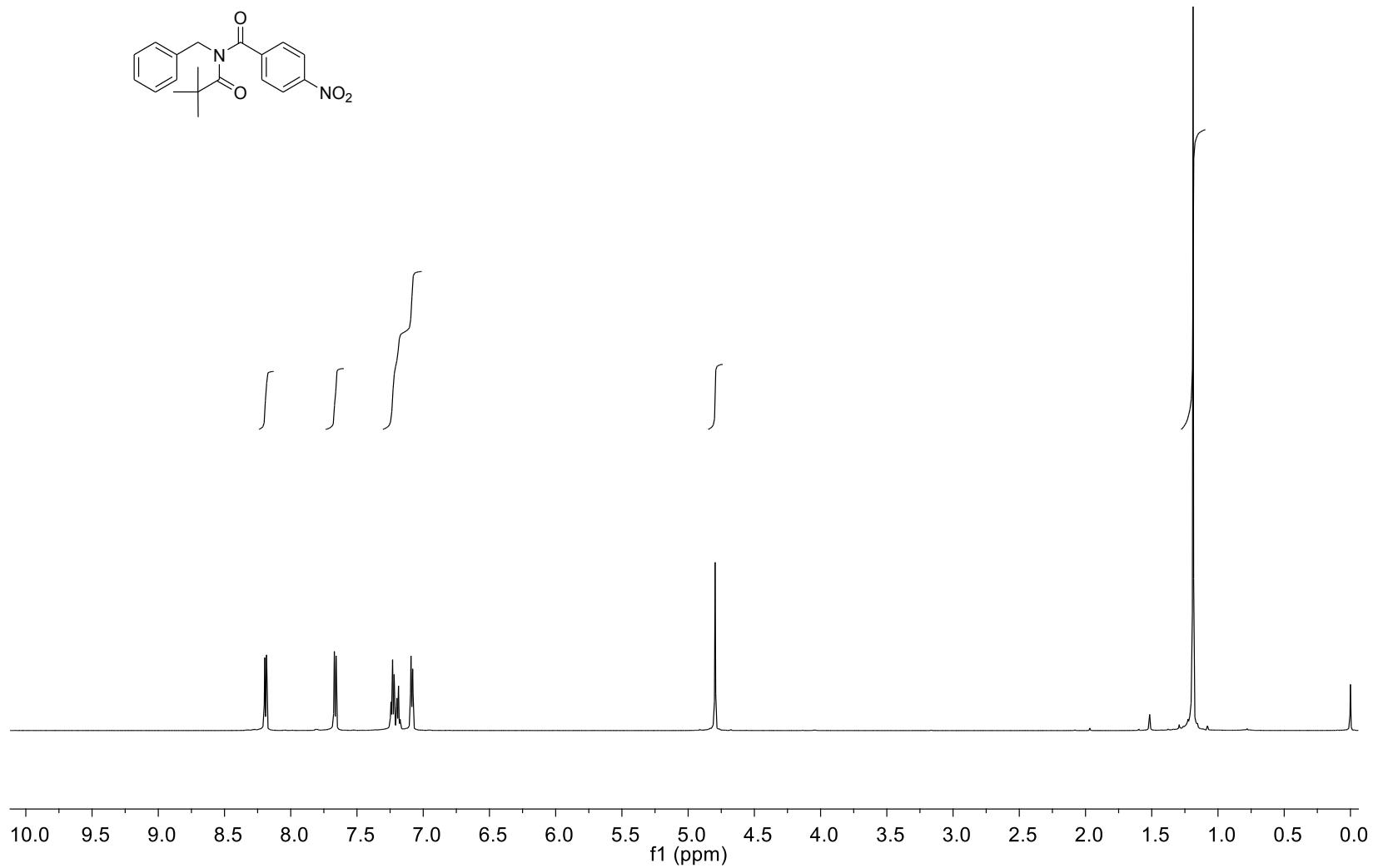
13ai: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz)



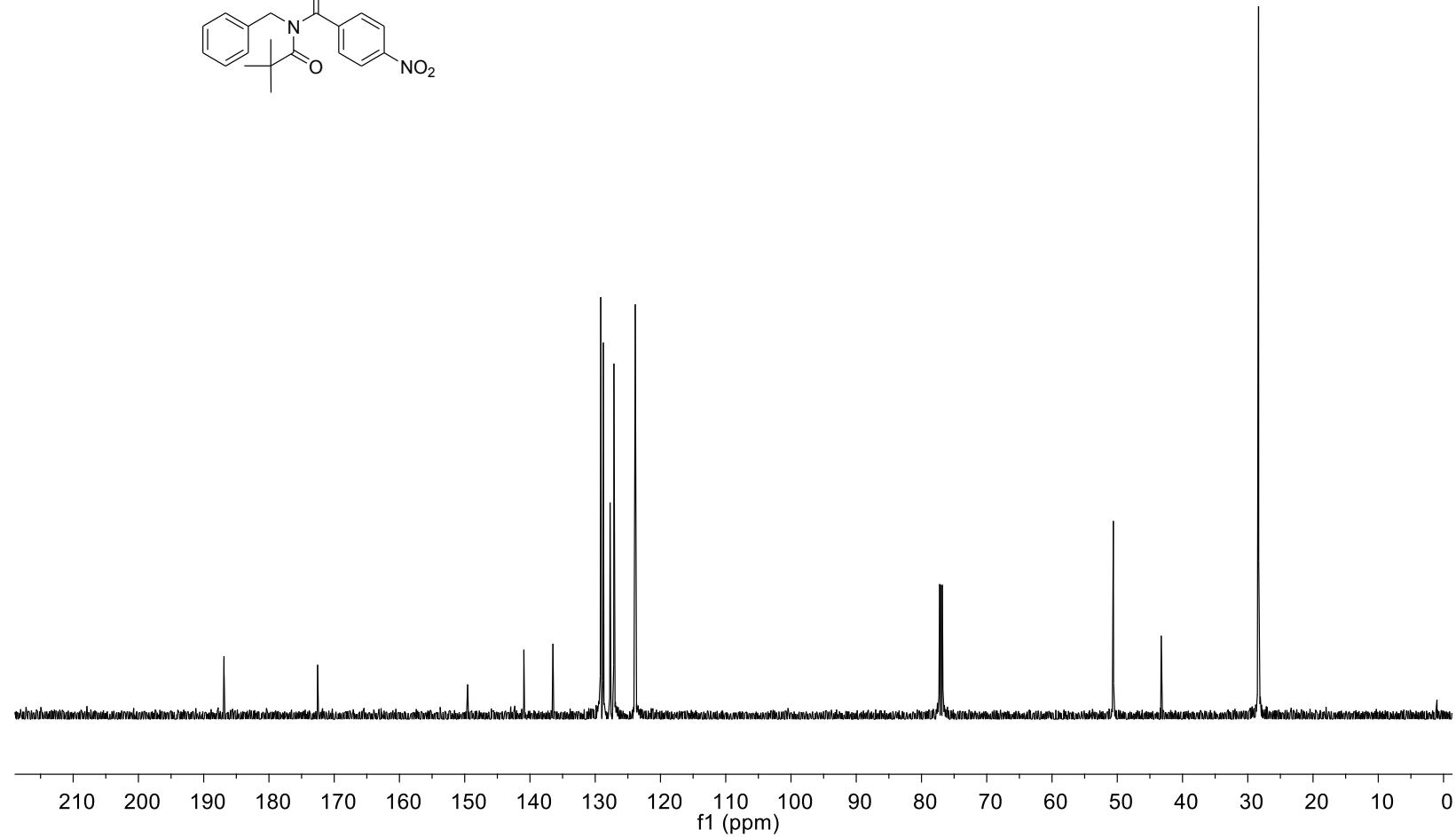
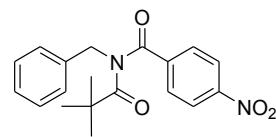
13ai: ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz)



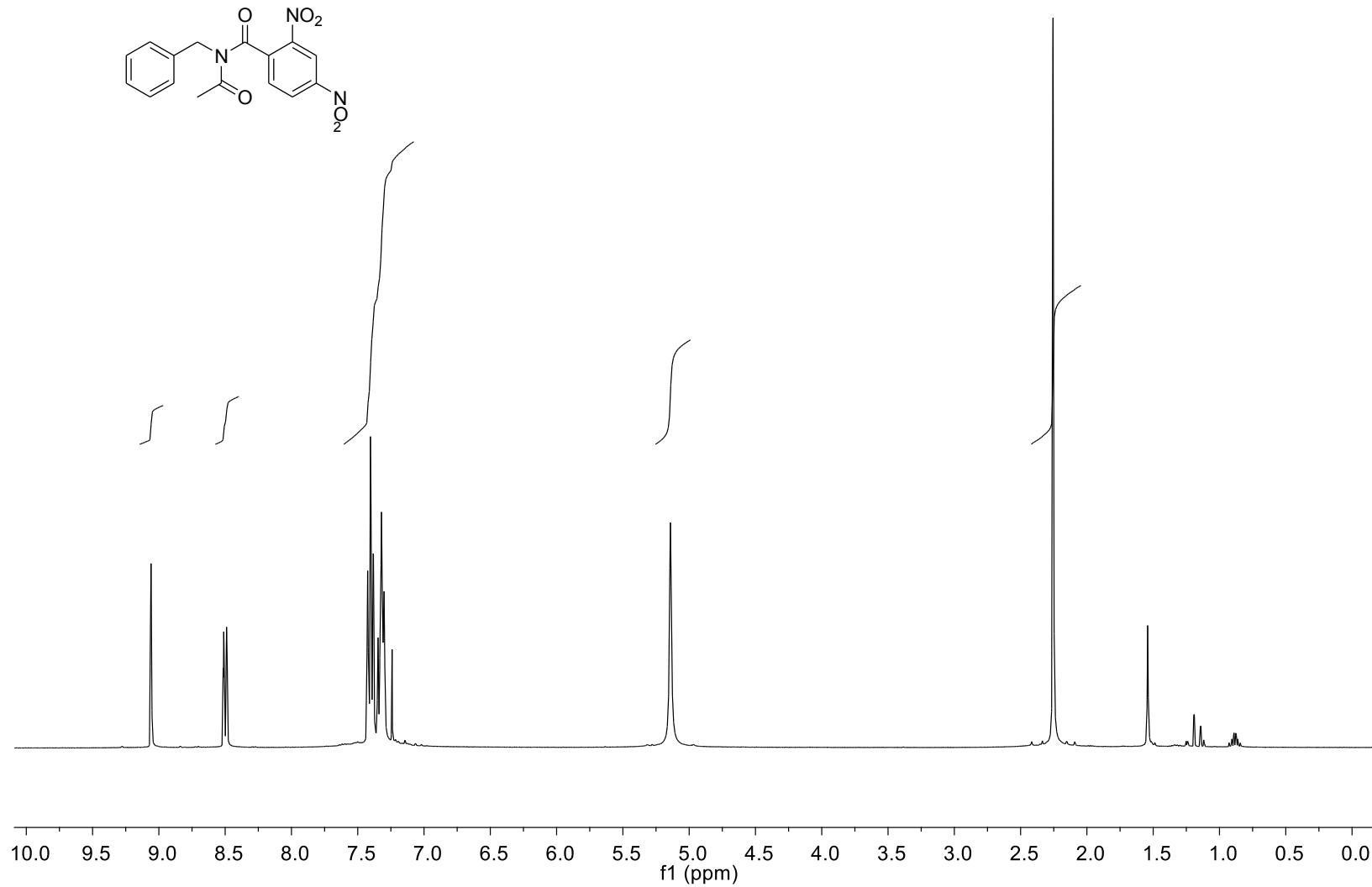
13bi: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz)



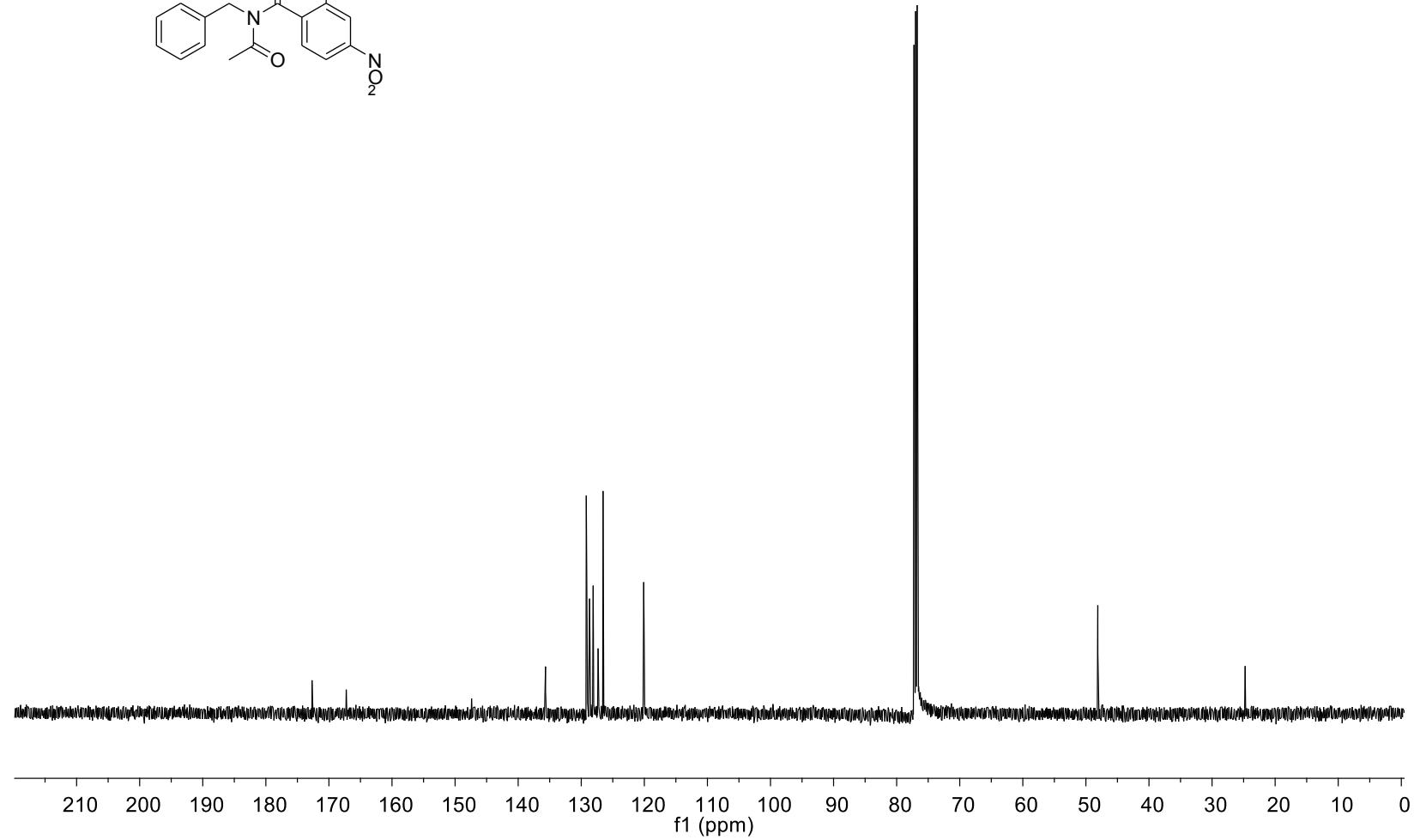
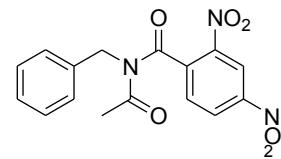
13bi: ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz)



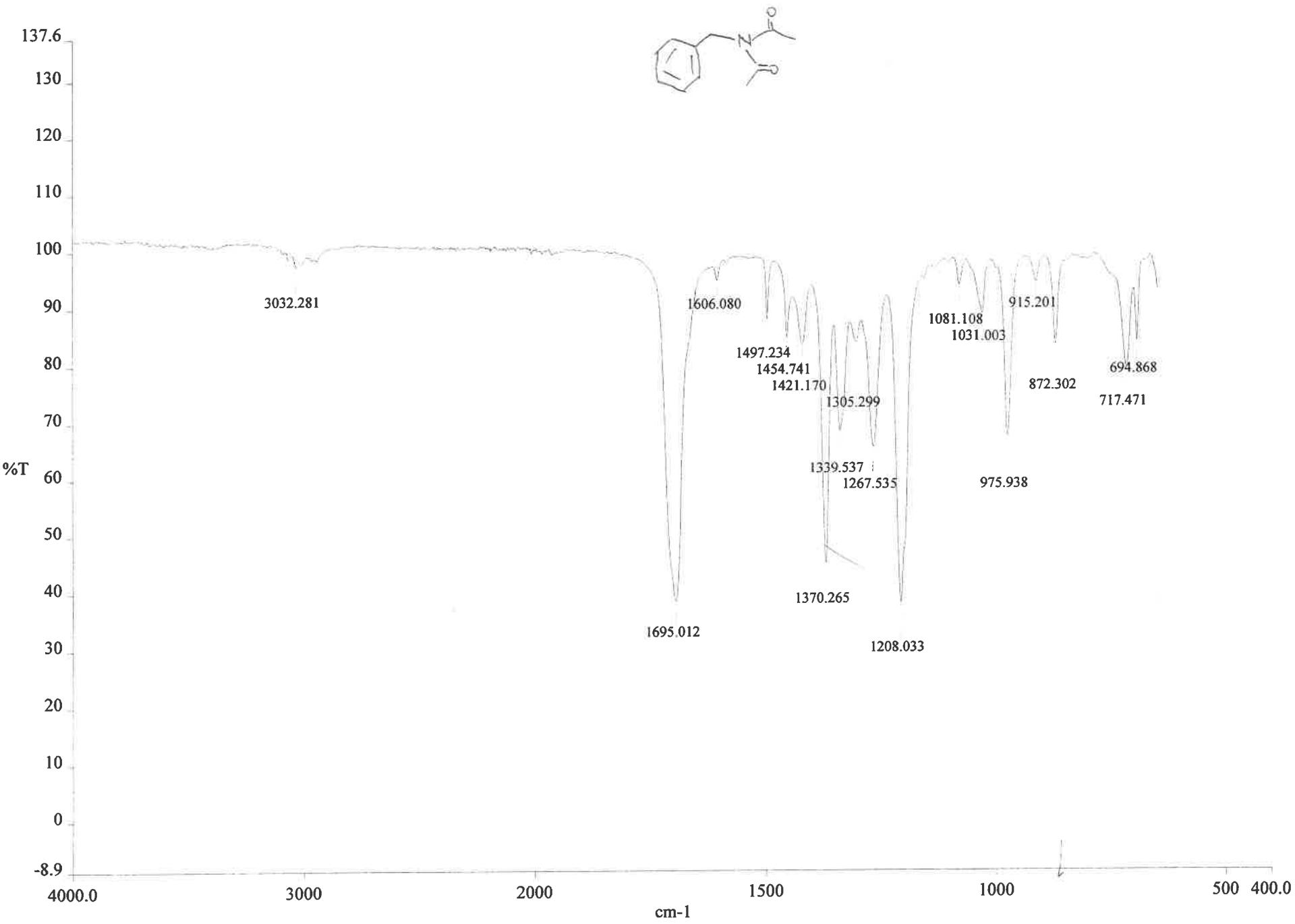
13aj: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz)



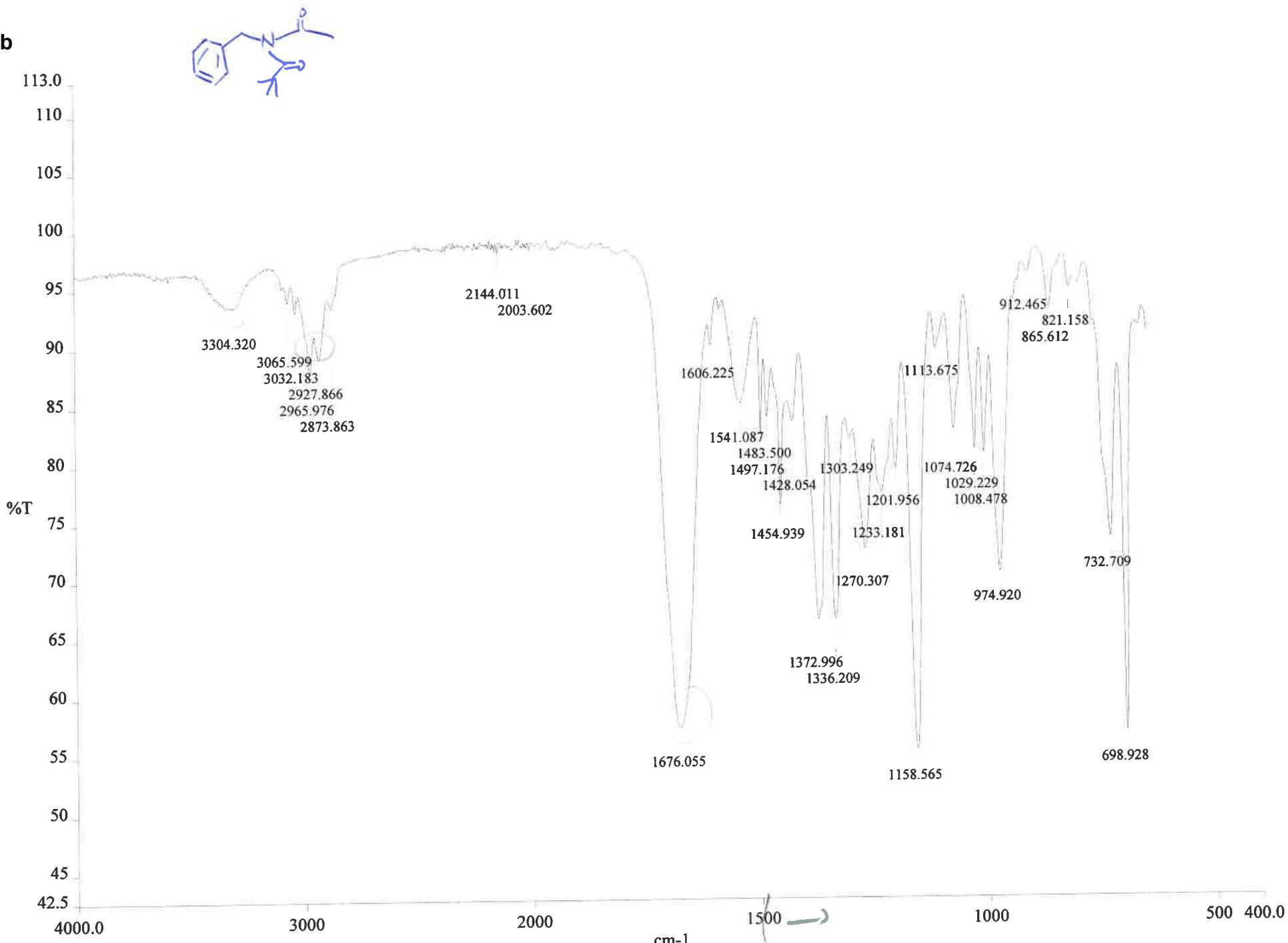
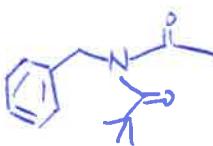
13aj: ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz)



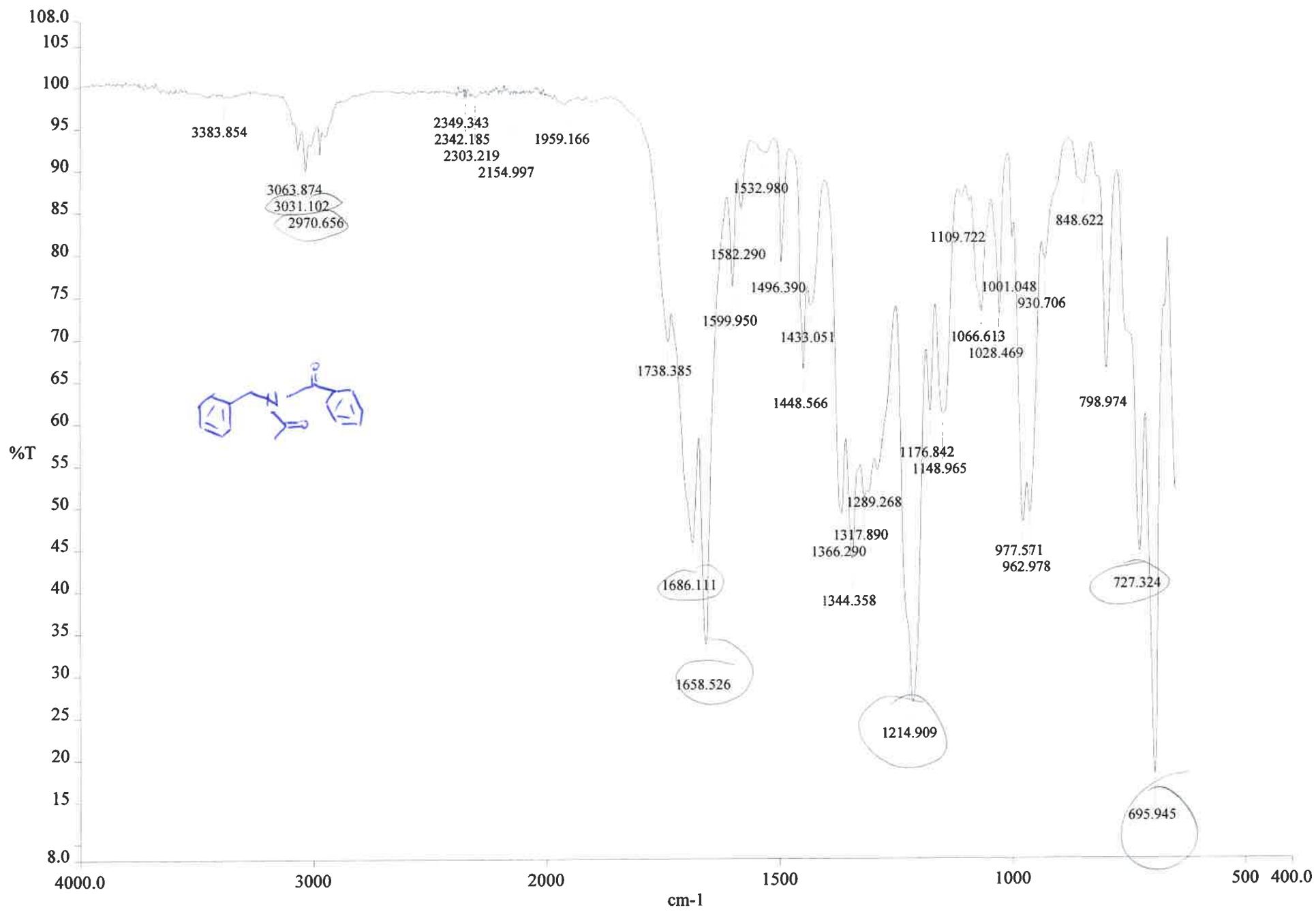
13aa



13ab

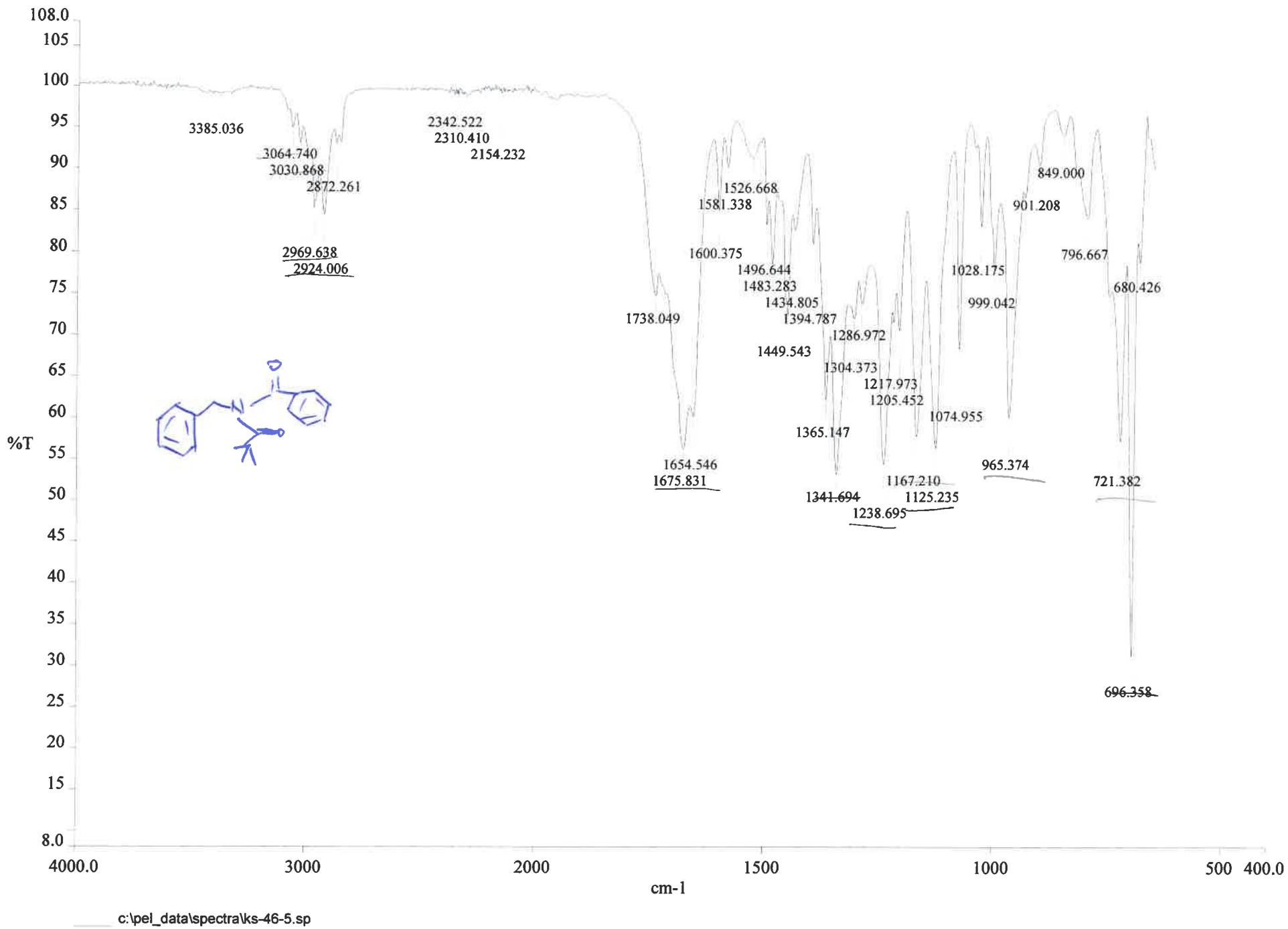


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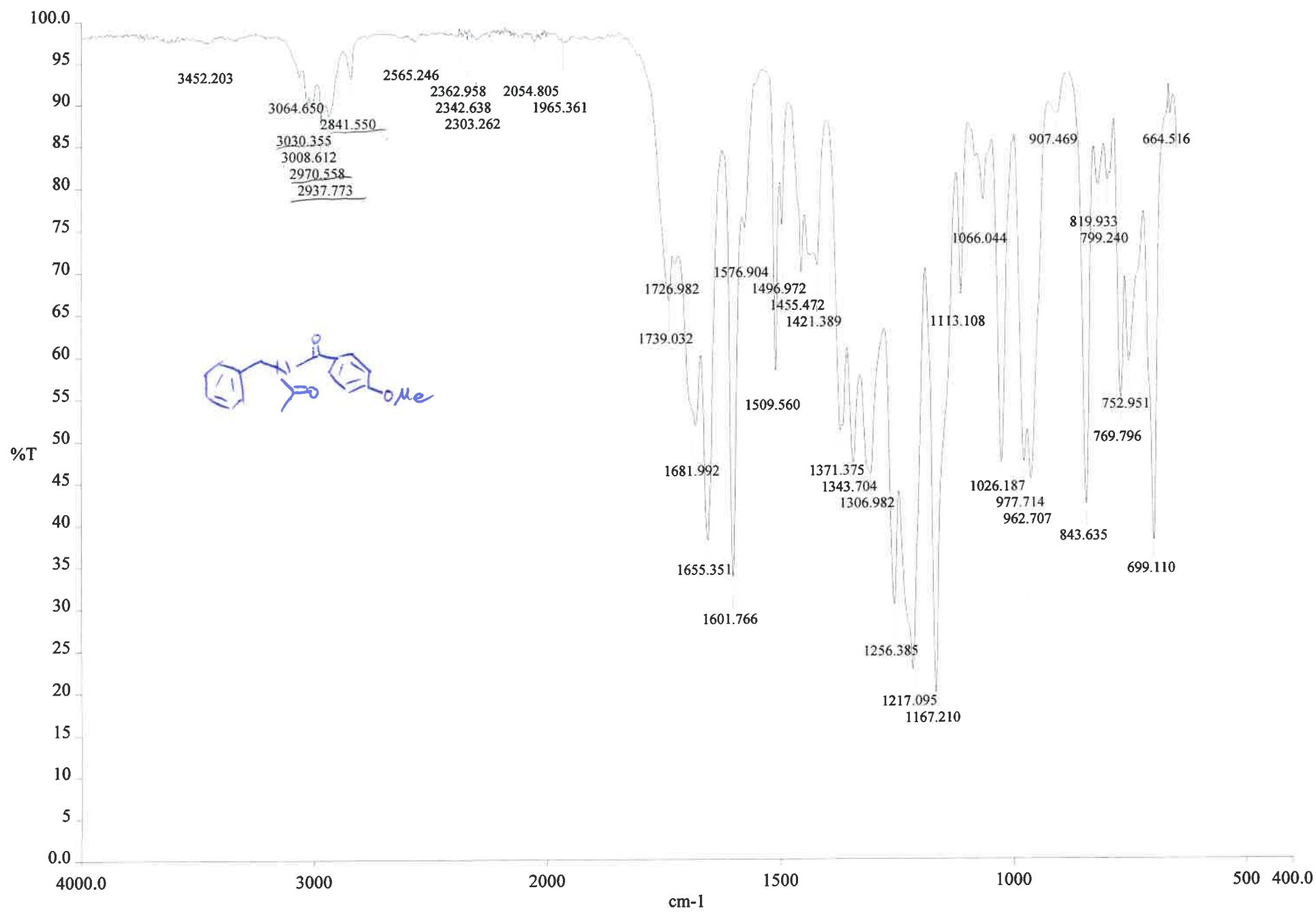


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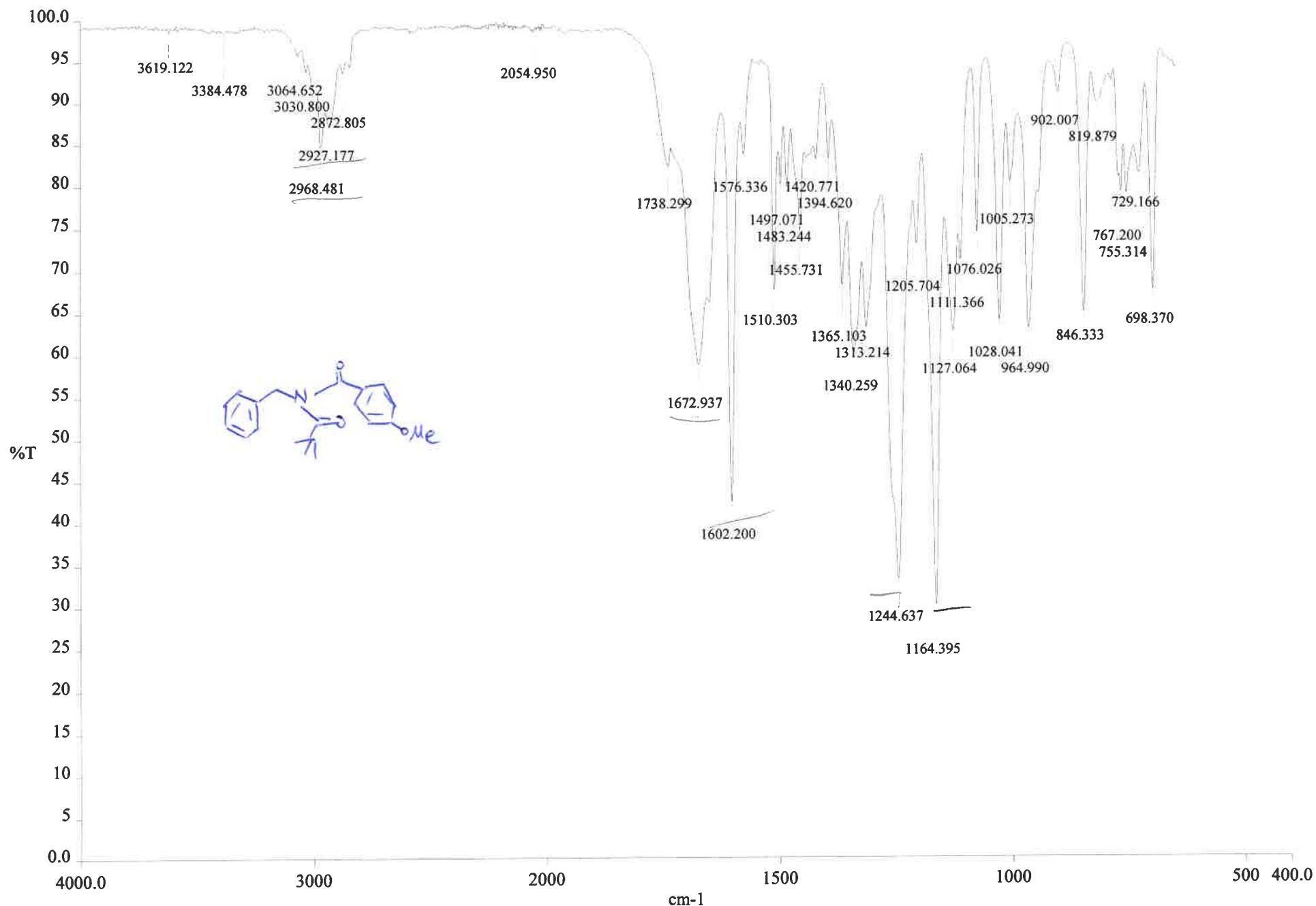


13ag



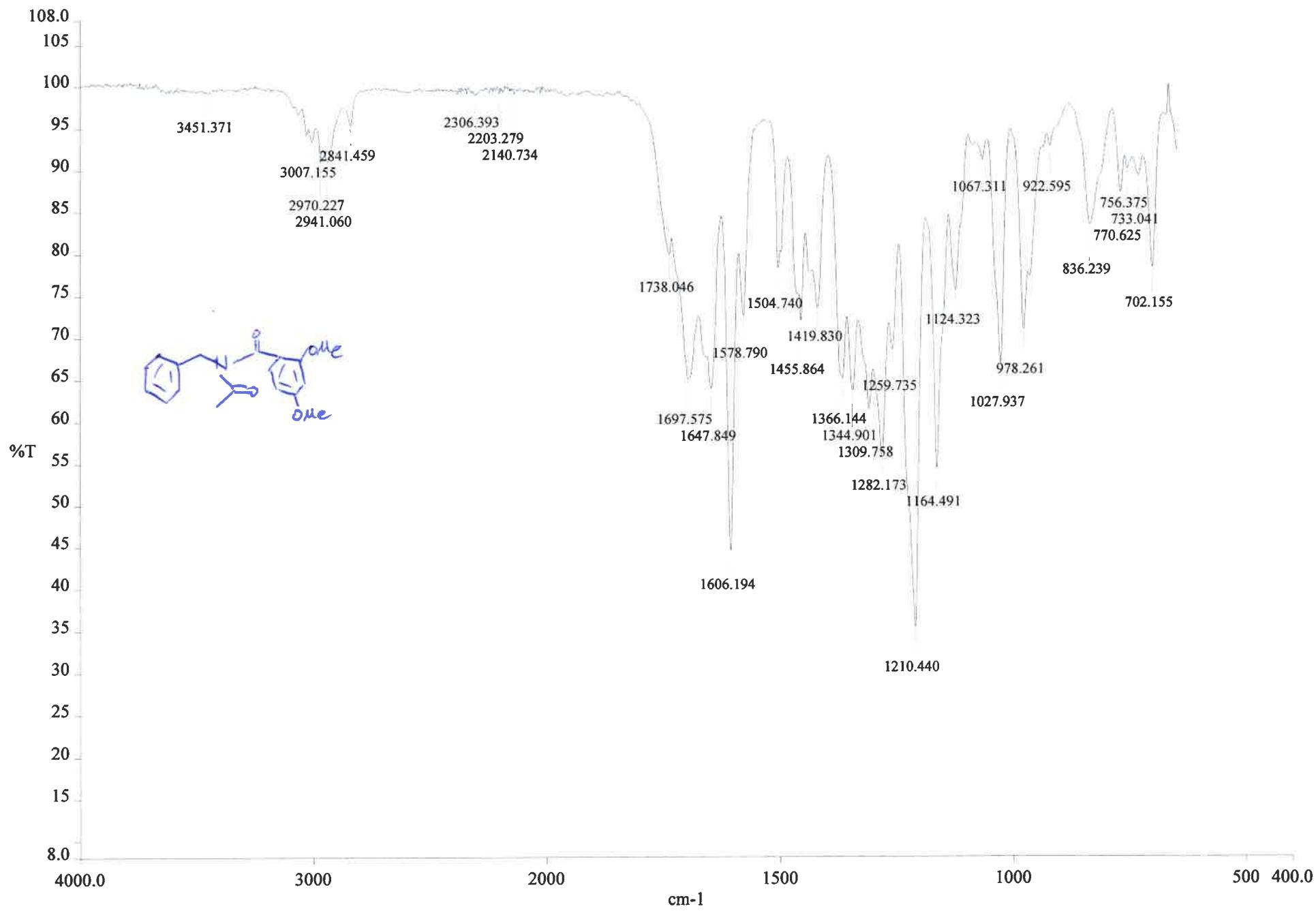
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13bg



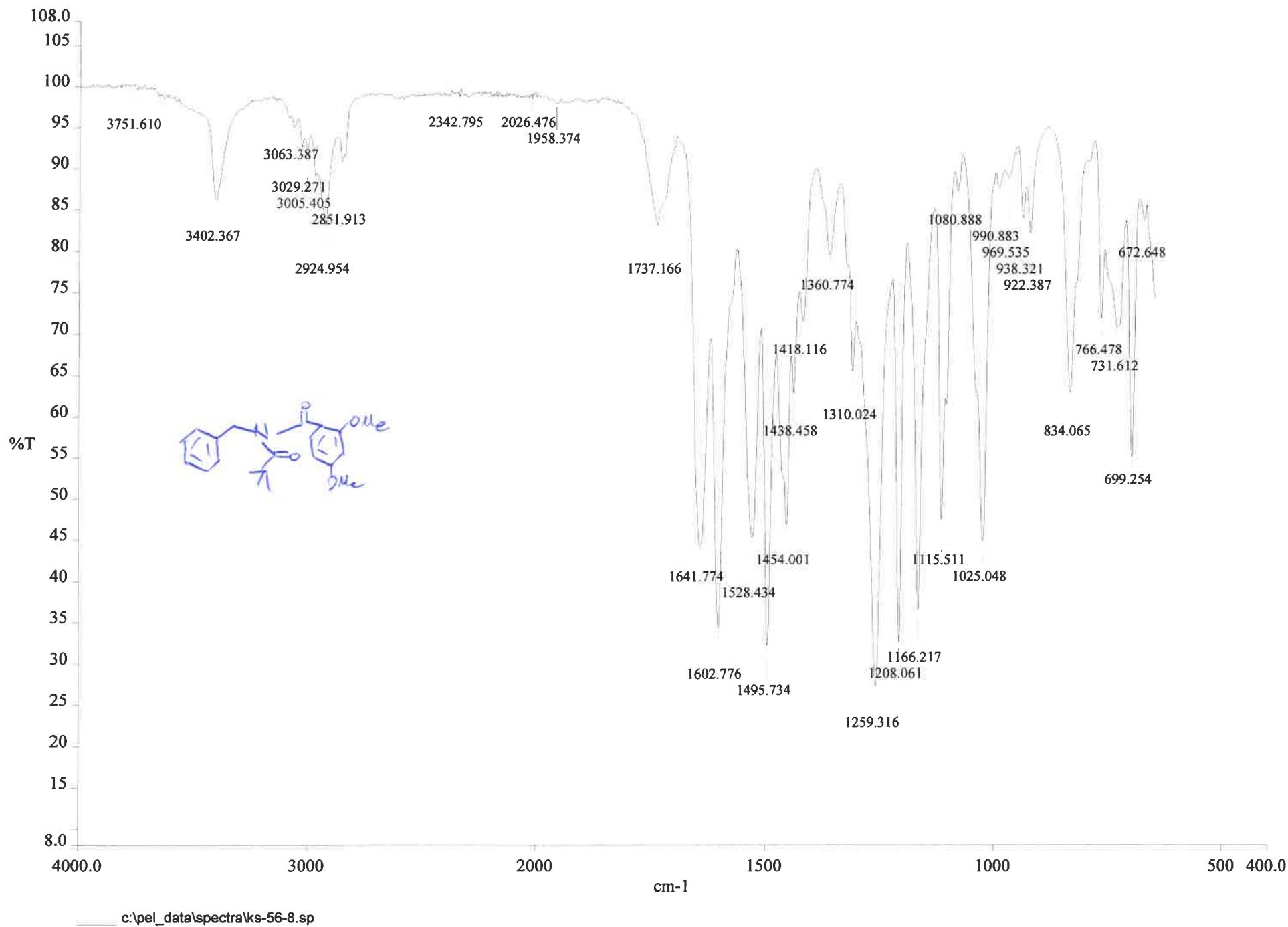
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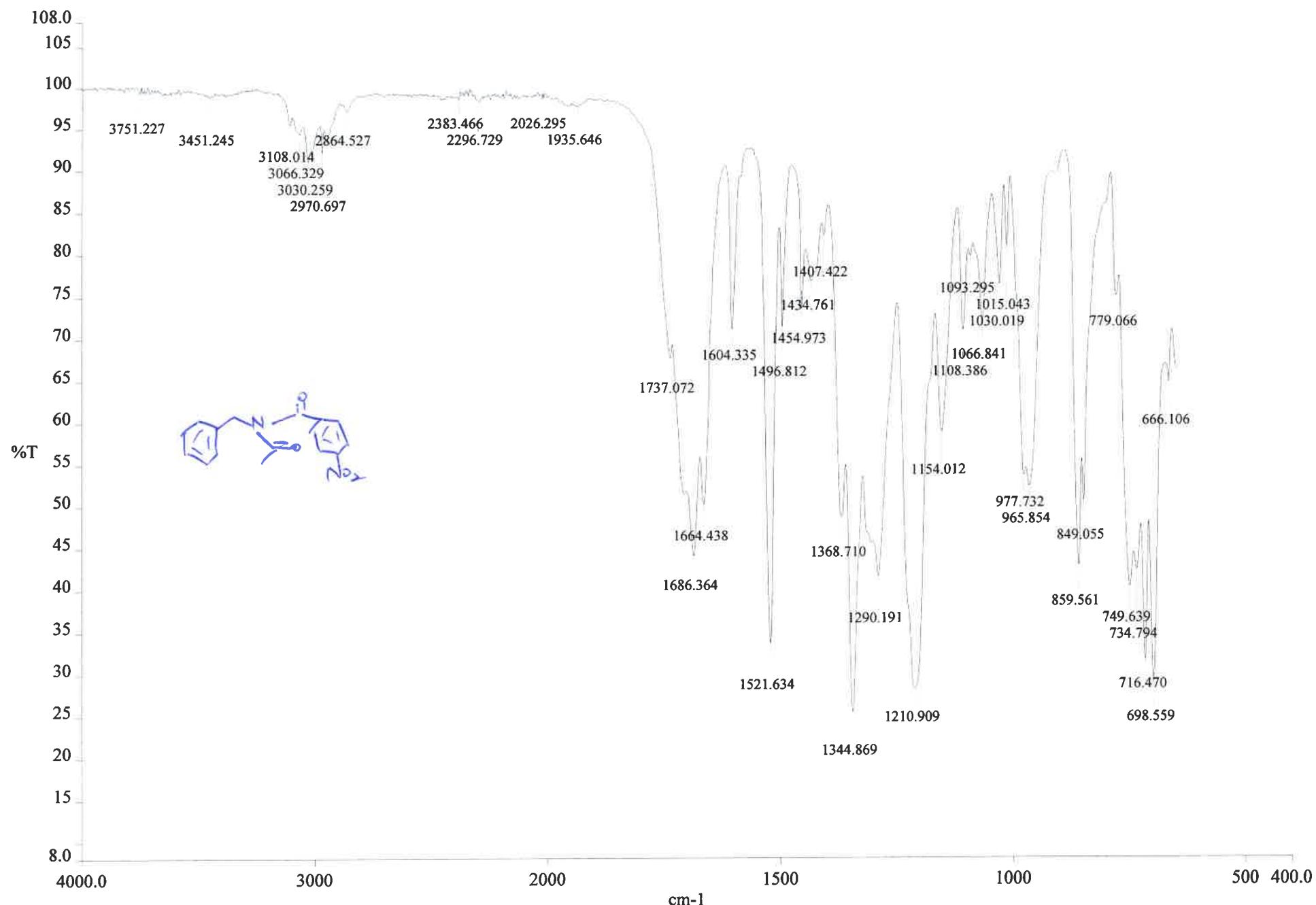
13ah



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13bh





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13bi

