

**A PASE-based approach towards 12-(1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)indolo-[2,1-*a*]isoquinolines via the reaction of 3-(isoquinolin-1-yl)-1,2,4-triazines with benzyne**

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**General.** Unless otherwise indicated, all common reagents and solvents were used from commercial suppliers without further purification. Melting points were measured in a Boethius apparatus. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were acquired on a Bruker Avance-400 spectrometer, 298 K, digital resolution ± 0.01 ppm, using TMS as internal reference for <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR or CFCl<sub>3</sub> for <sup>19</sup>F NMR. Mass-spectra were recorded on MicrOTOF-Q II (Bruker Daltonics), electrospray as a method of ionization. Microanalyses (C, H, N) were performed using a Perkin–Elmer 2400 elemental analyzer. The structure of compound **8a** was determined on a X-ray diffractometer “Xcalibur E”.

Isoquinoline-1-carbohydrazonamide **3**,<sup>[S1]</sup> isoquinoline-1-carbaldehyde **5**,<sup>[S2]</sup> isonitrosoacetophenone hydrazones **4**<sup>[S3]</sup> were synthesized as described in literature.

**1-Cyanoisoquinoline 6.** Isoquinoline *N*-oxide **7** (1.015 g, 7 mmol) was dissolved in dry DMF (50 ml). Triethylamine (1.07 ml, 7.7 mmol), potassium cyanide (1.37 g, 21 mmol) were added. Then Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl (3.55 ml, 28 mmol) was added dropwise, and the resulting mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 8 h. Then potassium cyanide (0.91 g, 14 mmol) and Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl (2.37 ml, 18.7 mmol, dropwise) were added, and the resulting mixture was stirred at 50 °C for additional 8 h. The resulting mixture was cooled to room temperature, water (100 ml) was added, and this was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The obtained precipitate was filtered off, washed with water and dried in vacuum. The product was used in the next step without additional purification. Yield 755 mg (70%). M.p. 86-88 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ, ppm): 7.78-7.86 (m, 2H), 7.90 (m, 1H), 7.95 (m, 1H), 8.36 (m, 1H), 8.66 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>*J* 5.6 Hz). ESI-MS, *m/z*: 155.06 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>.

*General method for the synthesis of triazines 1b-d*

Isoquinoline-1-carbaldehyde **5** (85 mg, 0.54 mmol) was dissolved in acetic acid (20 ml). The corresponding hydrazone **4** (0.54 mmol) was dissolved in acetic acid (20 ml). The two solutions have been mixed and this was kept at room temperature overnight. Then mixture was

heated to reflux 10-20 min until clear solution was formed. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Ethanol (30 ml) was added to the residue; the resulting solid was filtered off, washed with ethanol and dried. The crude triazines were used directly in the next step without additional purification.

**1-(6-Phenyl-1,2,4-triazin-3-yl)isoquinoline (1b).** Yield 100 mg (61%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ, ppm): 7.61-7.65 (m, 3H, Ph), 7.66-7.70 and 7.79-7.84 (both m, 2H, H-6, H-7), 8.00 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J 5.6 Hz, H-4), 8.08 and 8.27 (both m, 2H, H-5, H-8), 8.33-8.38 (m, 2H, Ph), 8.69 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J 5.6 Hz, H-3), 9.60 (s, 1H, triazine). ESI-MS, *m/z*: 285.11 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: C 76.04, H 4.25, N 19.71%; Found: C 76.13, H 4.33, N 19.63%.

**1-(6-*p*-Tolyl-1,2,4-triazin-3-yl)isoquinoline (1c).** Yield 89 mg (0.30 mmol, 52%). M.p. 204-206 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ, ppm): (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>Ph), 7.42-7.46 (m, 2H, PhCH<sub>3</sub>), 7.64-7.70 and 7.79-7.84 (both m, 2H, H-6, H-7), 8.00 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J 5.6 Hz, H-4), 8.08 and 8.26 (both m, 2H, H-5, H-8), 8.25 (m, 2H, PhCH<sub>3</sub>), 8.69 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J 5.6 Hz, H-3), 9.56 (s, 1H, triazine). ESI-MS, *m/z*: 299.13 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: C 76.49, H 4.73, N 18.78%; Found: C 76.38, H 4.61, N 18.64%.

**1-[6-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazin-3-yl]isoquinoline (1d).** Yield 125 mg (76%). M.p. 194-196 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ, ppm): 7.35-7.42 (m, 2H, PhF), 7.64-7.69 and 7.77-7.83 (both m, 1H, H-6, H-7), 7.97 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J 5.6 Hz, H-4), 8.06 and 8.28 (both m, 1H, H-5, H-8), 8.40-8.47 (m, 2H, PhF), 8.69 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J 5.6 Hz, H-3), 9.60 (s, 1H, triazine). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, δ, ppm): -109.1. ESI-MS, *m/z*: 303.10 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FN<sub>4</sub>: C 71.52, H 3.67, N 18.53%; Found: C 71.41, H 3.55, N 18.44%

**1-(5,6-Diphenyl-1,2,4-triazin-3-yl)isoquinoline (1a).** Benzil **2** (210 mg, 1.00 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of ethanol and THF (50 ml, 1:1), then solution of isoquinoline-1-carbohydrazonamide **3** (186 mg, 1 mmol) in ethanol (50 ml) was added, and the resulting mixture was refluxed for 10 h. After cooling to room temperature, the precipitate was filtered off, washed with ethanol and dried. The crude triazine was used directly in the next step without additional purification. Yield 360 mg (50%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ, ppm): 7.32-7.39 (m, 2H, Ph), 7.40-7.48 (m, 4H, Ph), 7.63-7.73 (m, 5H, Ph), 7.74-7.79 (m, 1H), 7.84-7.88 (m, 1H), 7.94-7.99 (m, 1H), 8.61-8.65 (m, 1H), 8.79-8.82 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J 5.6 Hz, H-3). ESI-MS, *m/z*: 461.15 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: C 79.98, H 4.47, N 15.54%; Found: C 79.87, H 4.34, N 15.40%.

*General method for the reaction 1,2,4-triazines 1 with arynes*

The corresponding 1,2,4-triazine **1** (0.30 mmol) was dissolved in dry toluene (25 ml), and isoamyl nitrite (0.12 ml, 0.90 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred under reflux under argon, while a solution of 2-aminobenzoic acid (124 mg, 0.90 mmol) in dry 1,4-dioxane (10 ml) was added from dropping funnel for 30 min. The mixture was heated under reflux for 1 h and

then cooled to room temperature. Then, the reaction mass was washed with potassium hydroxide solution (3 M, 3×50 ml) and dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate. The solvents were removed under reduced pressure. The products were separated by column chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate as the eluent,  $R_f = 0.8$ ). Analytical samples of products were obtained by recrystallization (from MeCN).

**12-(4,5-Diphenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinoline (8a).** Yield 67 mg (51%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 6.83 (d, 1H,  $^3J$  7.6 Hz, H-5), 7.05-7.11 (m, 2H), 7.12-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.38 (m, 6H), 7.39-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.59-7.63 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.83 (m, 2H), 8.11 (d, 1H,  $^3J$  7.6 Hz, H-6).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 109.8, 110.3, 117.2, 121.6, 122.2, 123.7, 123.9, 124.0, 126.0, 127.2, 127.2, 127.5, 128.0, 128.2, 128.6, 128.7, 129.0, 129.0, 129.2, 129.4, 129.9, 130.0, 131.1, 136.6. ESI-MS,  $m/z$ : 437.18 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ . Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_4$ : C 82.55, H 4.62, N 12.83%; Found: C 82.53, H 4.34, N 12.71%. The XRD analysis of the single crystal of  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_4$  was accomplished on an “Xcalibur 3” diffractometer on standard procedure (MoK-irradiation, graphite monochromator,  $\omega$ -scans with 1 $\circ$  step,  $T=295(2)$  K). Using Olex2,<sup>[S4]</sup> the structure was solved with the ShelXS<sup>[S5]</sup> structure solution program using Direct Methods and refined with the ShelXL<sup>[S5]</sup> refinement package using Least Squares minimization in anisotropic approximation for the nonhydrogen atoms. The H-atoms were added in the calculated positions and were refined in the “riding” model in the isotropic approximation. Crystal Data:  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_4$ ,  $M = 436.50$ , system is monoclinic,  $a = 13.2659(11)$  Å,  $b = 12.4205(6)$  Å,  $c = 14.6024(12)$  Å,  $\beta = 111.610(8)^\circ$ ,  $V = 2236.9(3)$  Å $^3$ , space group P21/c,  $Z = 4$ ,  $\mu(\text{MoK}\alpha) = 0.078$  mm $^{-1}$ . On the angles  $2.84 < \Theta < 33.24^\circ$  32849 reflections measured, 7409 unique ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0442$ ) which were used in all calculations. The final  $R_1 = 0.1222$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.1205$  (all data) and  $R_1 = 0.0496$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.1078$  ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ). Largest diff. peak and hole are 0.225 and -0.182  $\bar{e}$  Å $^{-3}$ . CCDC 1861705 contains the crystallographic data for this compound.

**12-(4-Phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinoline (8b).** Yield 60 mg (56%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 6.89 (d, 1H,  $^3J$  7.2 Hz, H-5), 7.16-7.20 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.38-7.54 (m, 7H), 7.61-7.65 (m, 1H), 7.89-7.93 (m, 1H), 8.01-8.06 (m, 2H), 8.16 (s, 1H, triazole), 8.20 (d, 1H,  $^3J$  7.2 Hz, H-6).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 106.4, 110.0, 110.6, 117.0, 121.5, 122.6, 123.5, 123.7, 123.9, 123.9, 125.5, 126.0, 127.3, 128.2, 128.7, 128.9, 129.0, 129.1 (2C), 129.9, 130.0, 148.0. ESI-MS,  $m/z$ : 361.15 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ . Anal. Calcd. For  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_4$ : C 79.98, H 4.47, N 15.54%; Found: C 79.84, H 4.33, N 15.41%.

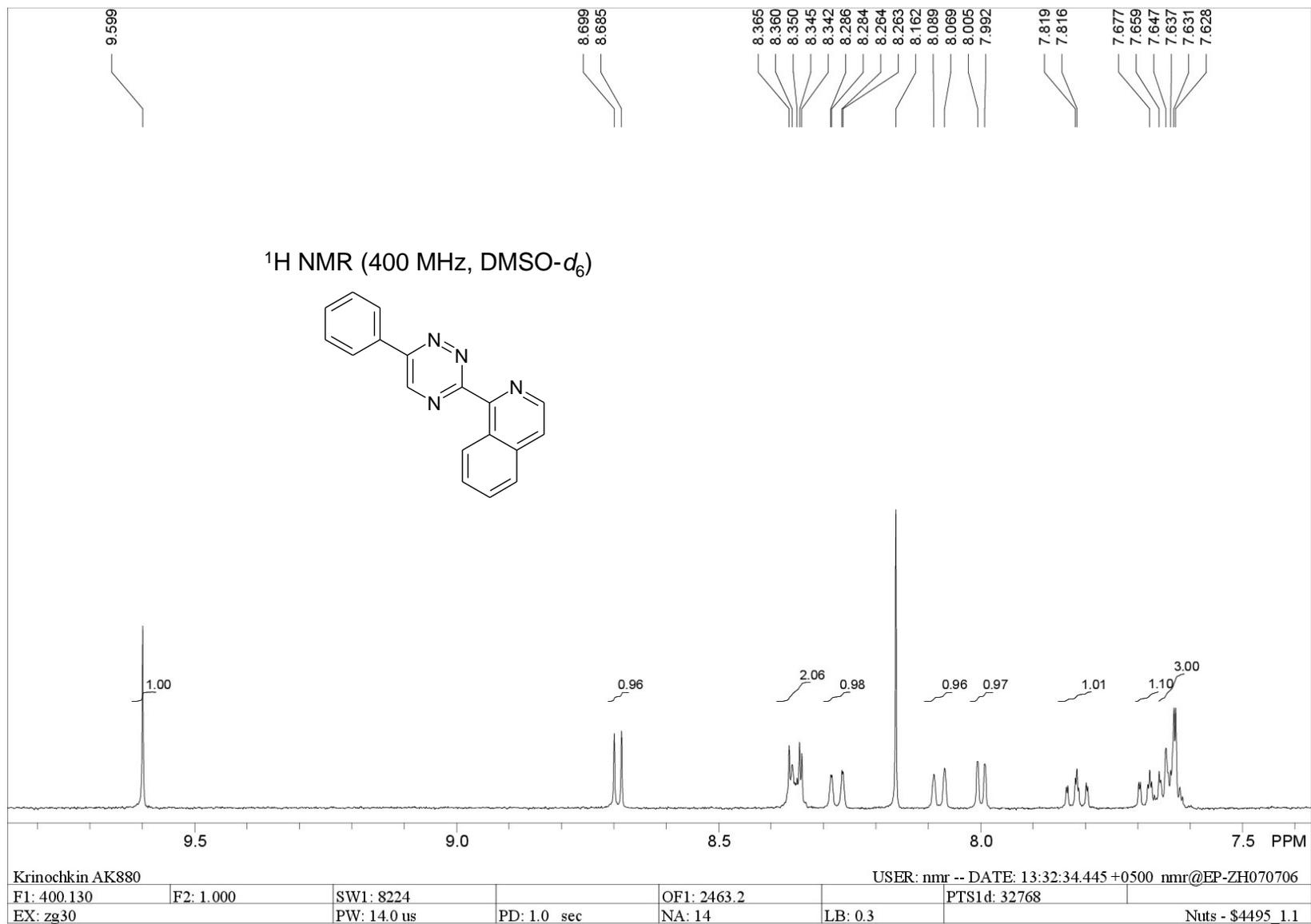
**12-(4-*p*-Tolyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinoline (8c).** Yield 61 mg (54%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 2.40 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 6.71-6.75 (d, 1H,  $^3J$  7.2 Hz, H-5), 7.09-7.13 (m, 1H), 7.20-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.30 (m, 2H,  $\text{PhCH}_3$ ), 7.31-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.41-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.49-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.76-7.81 (m, 1H), 7.88-7.92 (m, 2H,  $\text{PhCH}_3$ ), 8.02-8.06 (d,

1H,  $^3J$  7.2 Hz, H-6), 8.04 (s, 1H, triazole).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 24.5, 101.4, 104.7, 105.1, 111.7, 116.2, 117.2, 117.7, 118.5, 118.7, 120.3, 120.6, 122.0, 122.4, 122.8, 123.4, 123.6, 124.5, 124.7, 133.1, 143.0. ESI-MS,  $m/z$ : 375.16 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ . Anal. Calcd. For  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_4$ : C 80.19, H 4.85, N 14.96%; Found: C 80.03, H 4.72, N 14.83%.

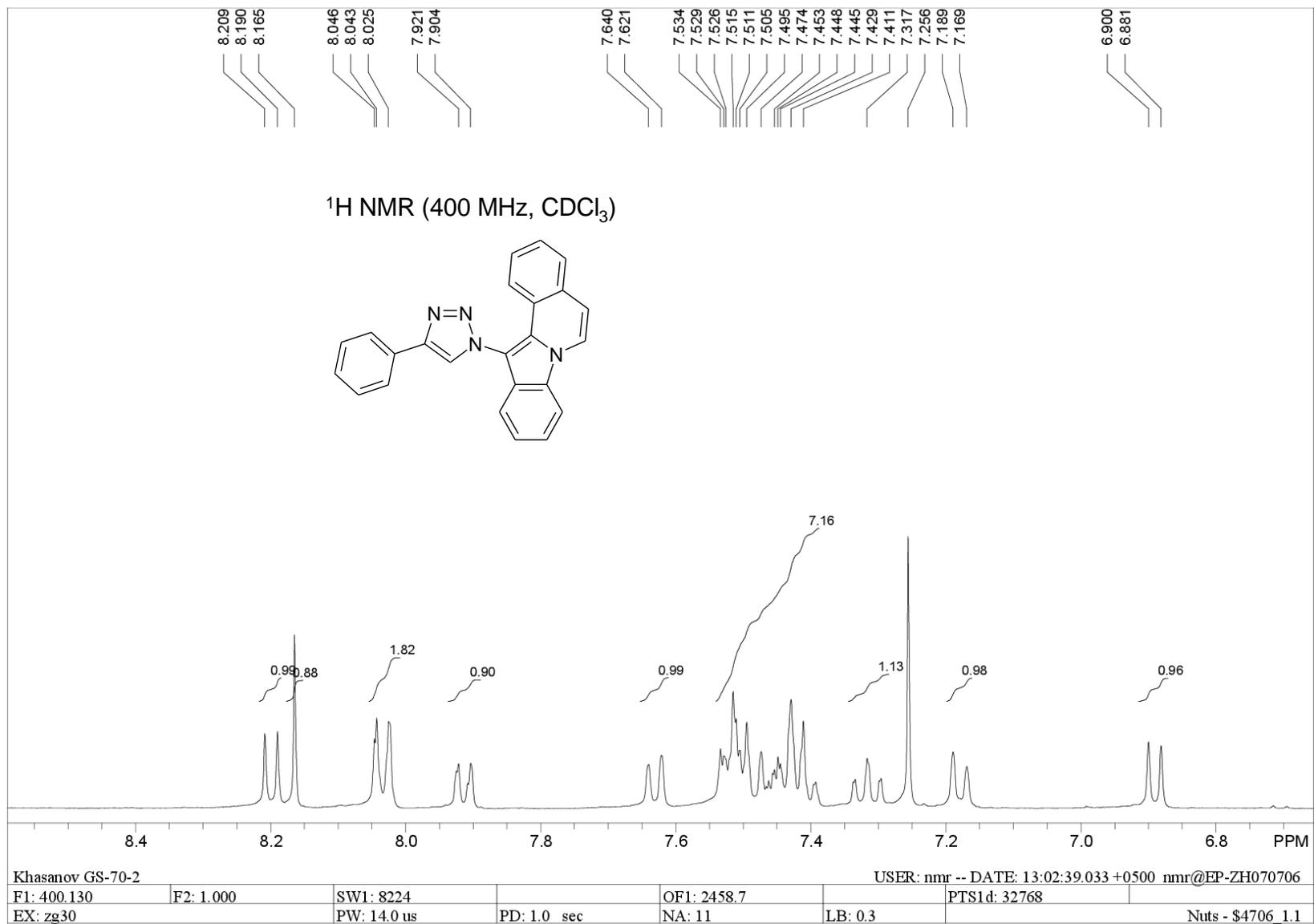
**12-[4-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl]indolo[2,1-a]isoquinoline (8d).** Yield 59 mg (0.156 mmol, 52%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 6.82-6.86 (d, 1H,  $^3J$  7.6 Hz, H-5), 7.08-7.16 (m, 3H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{F}$ , isoquin.), 7.23-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.55-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.83-7.88 (m, 1H), 7.90-7.96 (m, 2H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{F}$ ), 8.06 (s, 1H, triazole), 8.12-8.16 (d, 1H,  $^3J$  7.6 Hz, H-5).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): -113.1.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$ , ppm): 101.2, 104.7, 105.1, 110.8 (d,  $J$  22.0 Hz), 111.6, 116.1, 117.2, 117.8, 118.3, 118.5, 118.6, 120.2, 121.5 (d,  $J$  3.0 Hz), 122.0, 122.4, 122.5, 122.7, 123.4, 123.6, 124.7, 142.1, 157.6 (d,  $J$  246.4 Hz). ESI-MS,  $m/z$ : 379.14 ( $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ) $^+$ . Anal. Calcd. For  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{15}\text{FN}_4$ : C 76.18, H 4.00, N 14.81%. Found: C 76.11, H 4.10, N 14.77%.

## References

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**Figure S1**



**Figure S2**

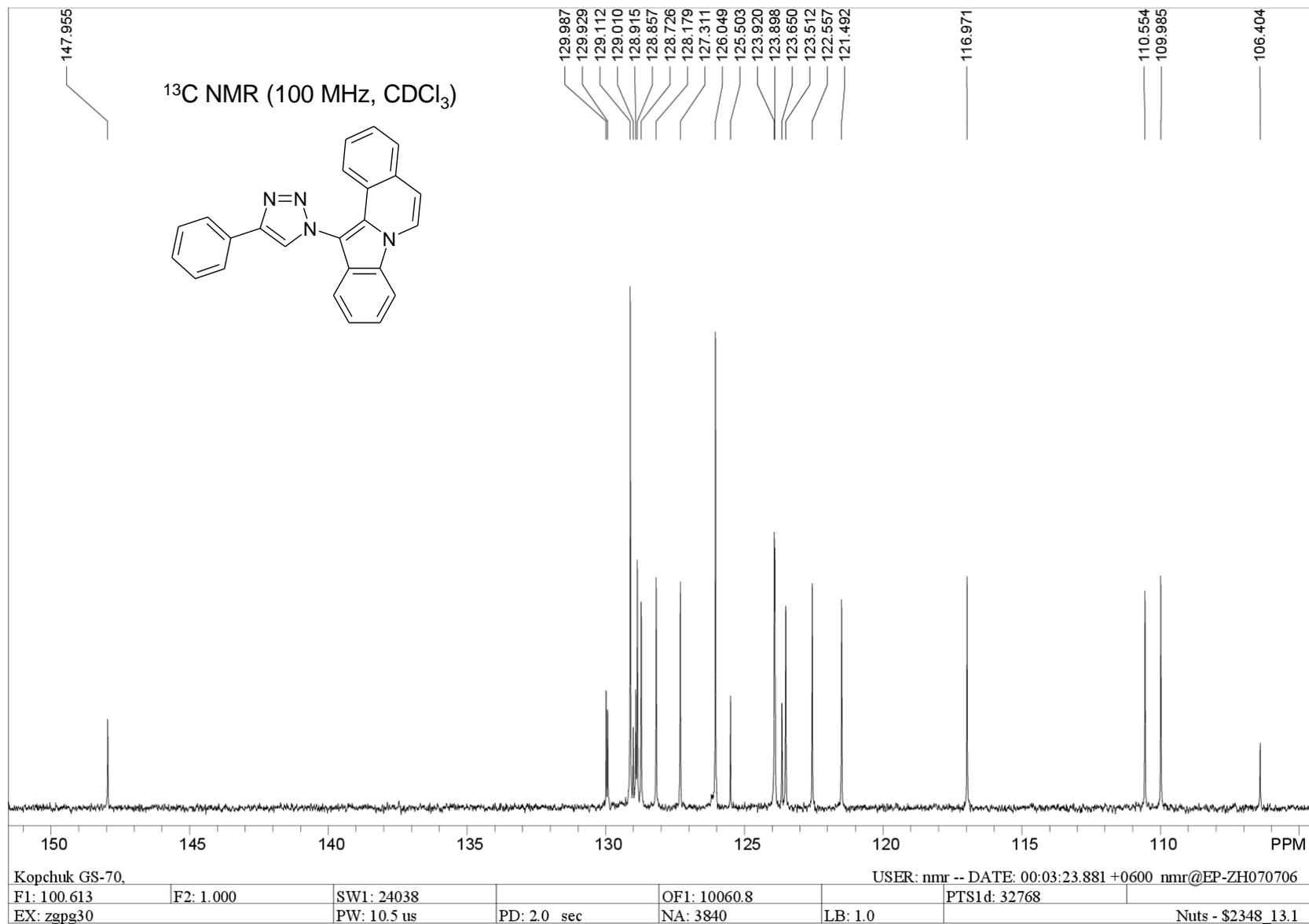


Figure S3

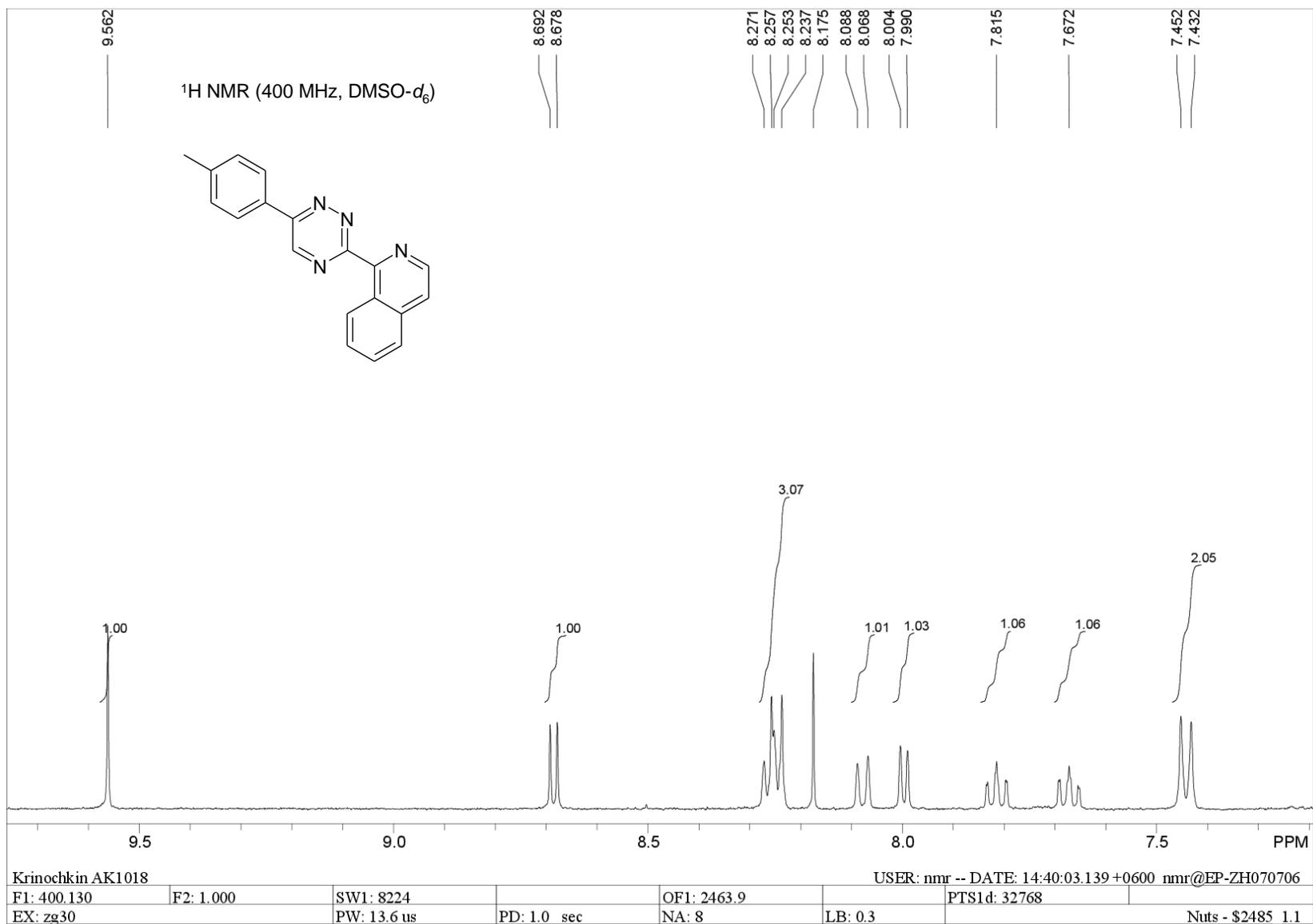
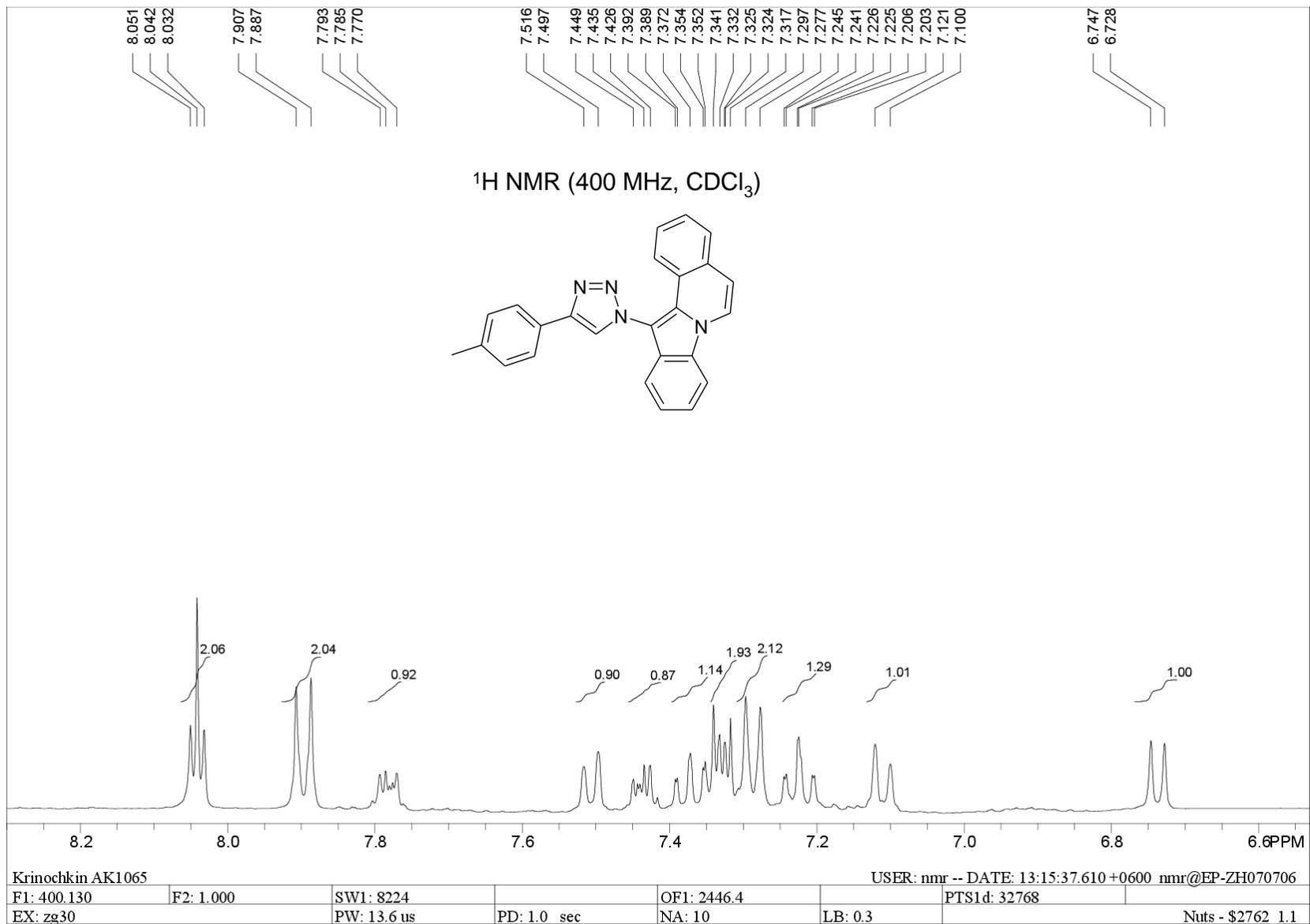


Figure S4



**Figure S5**

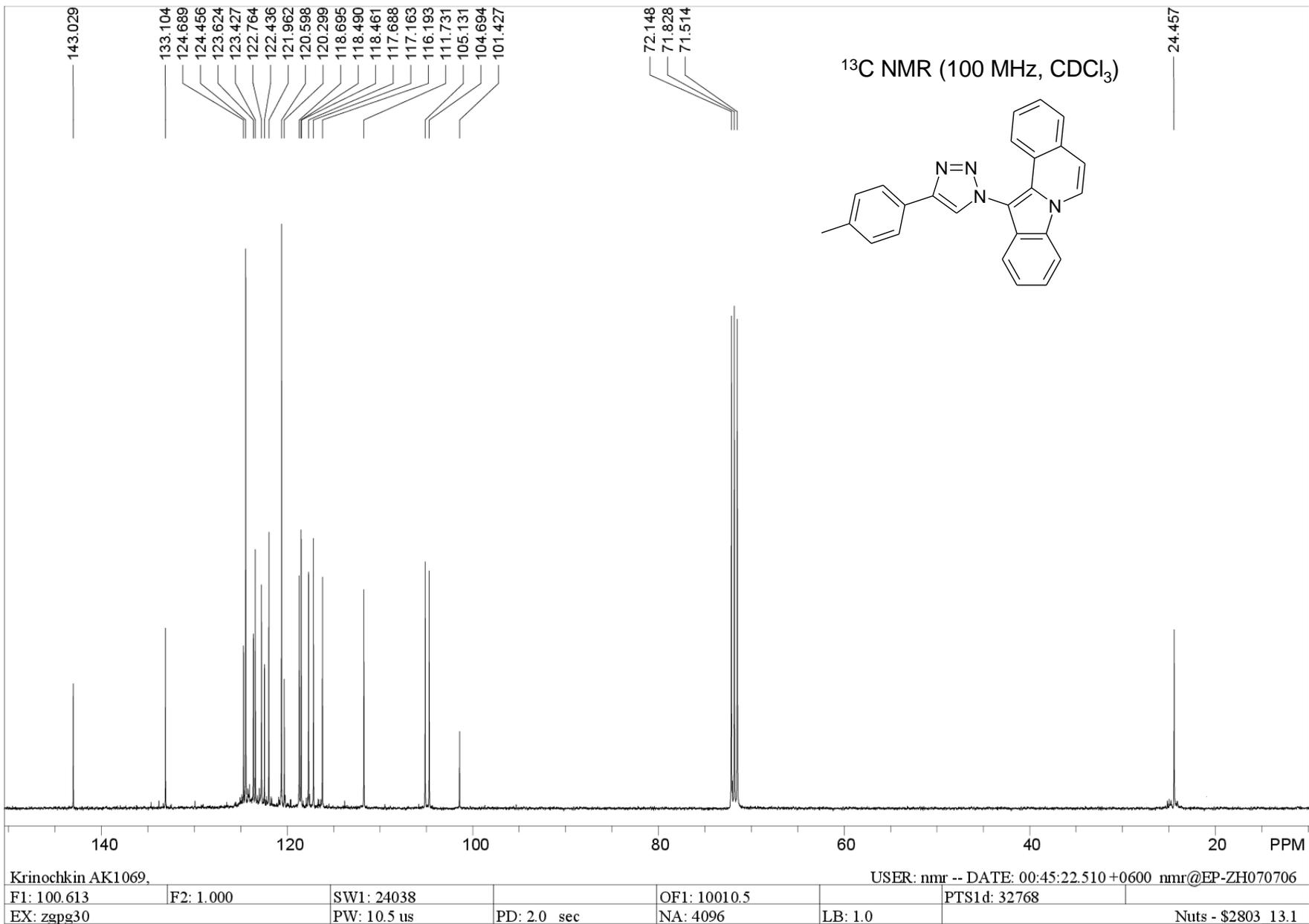


Figure S6

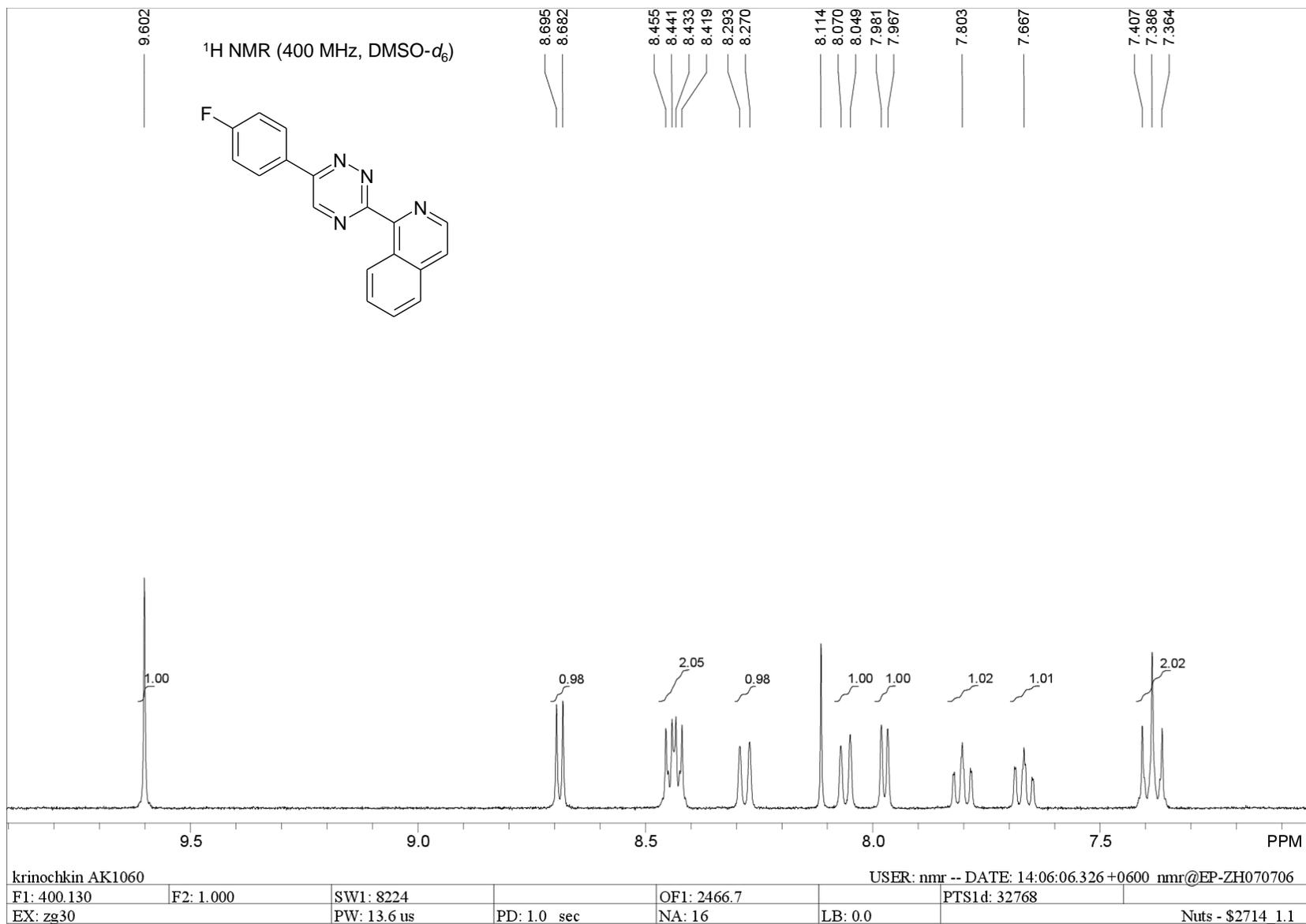


Figure S7

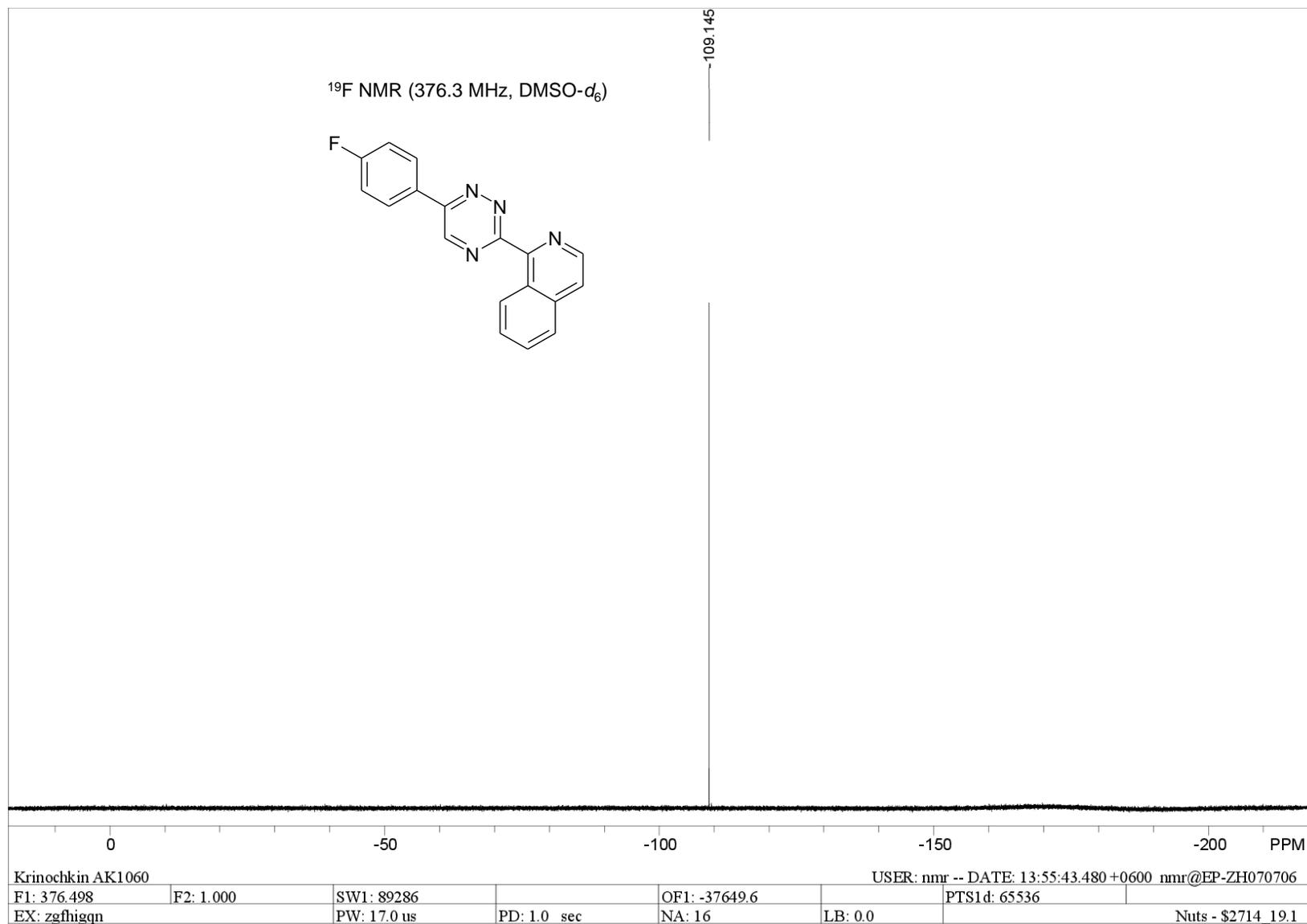


Figure S8

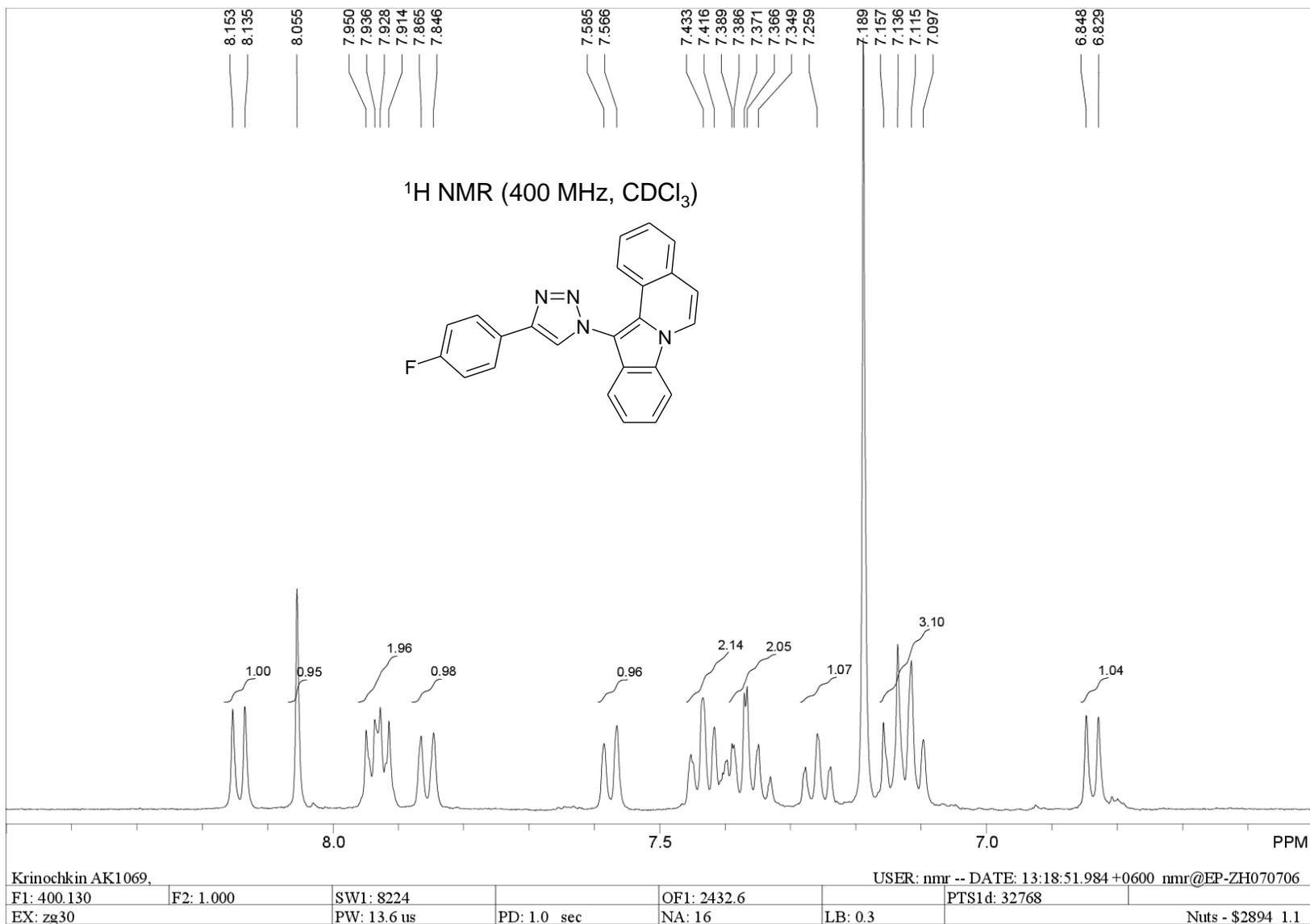


Figure S9

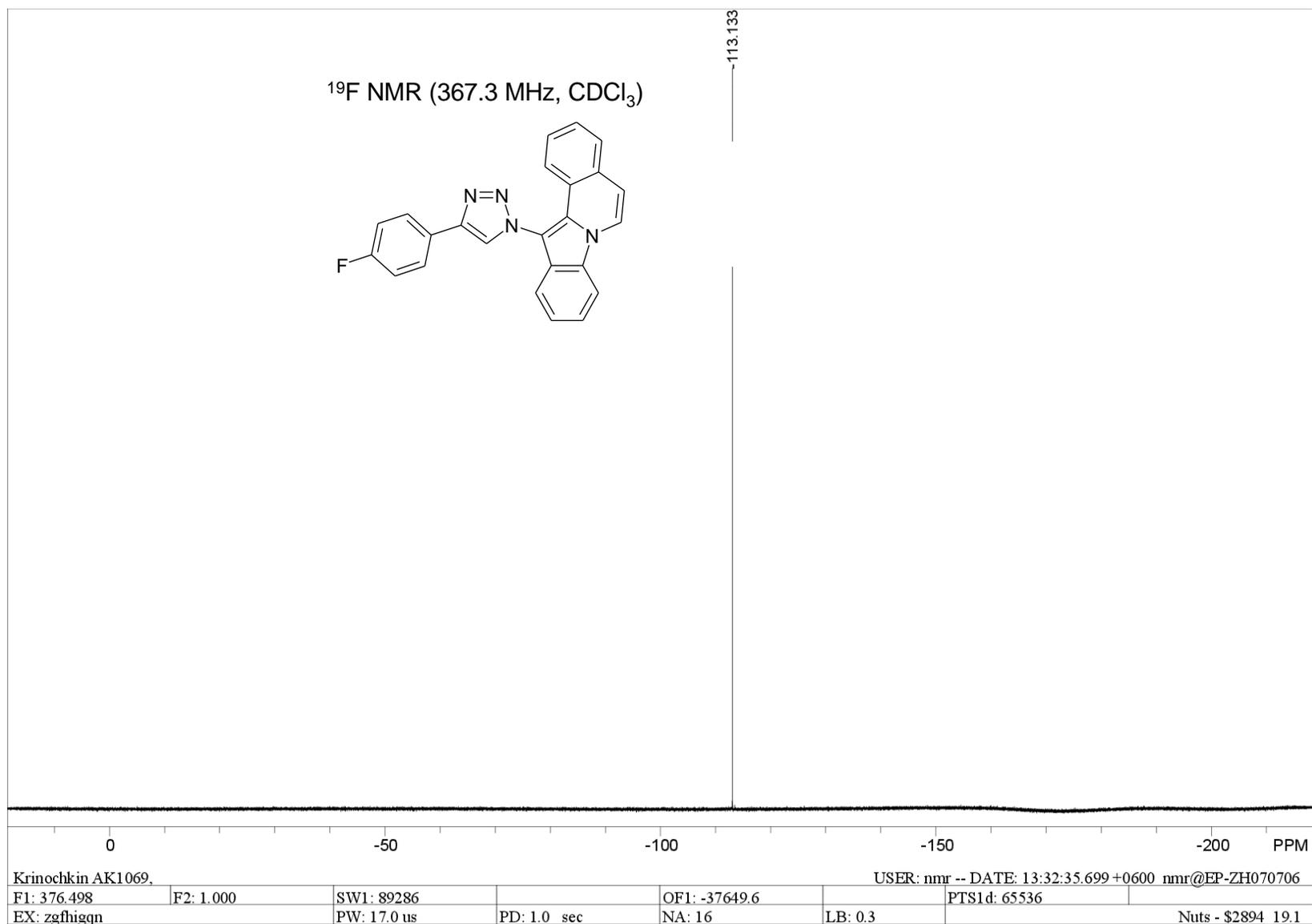


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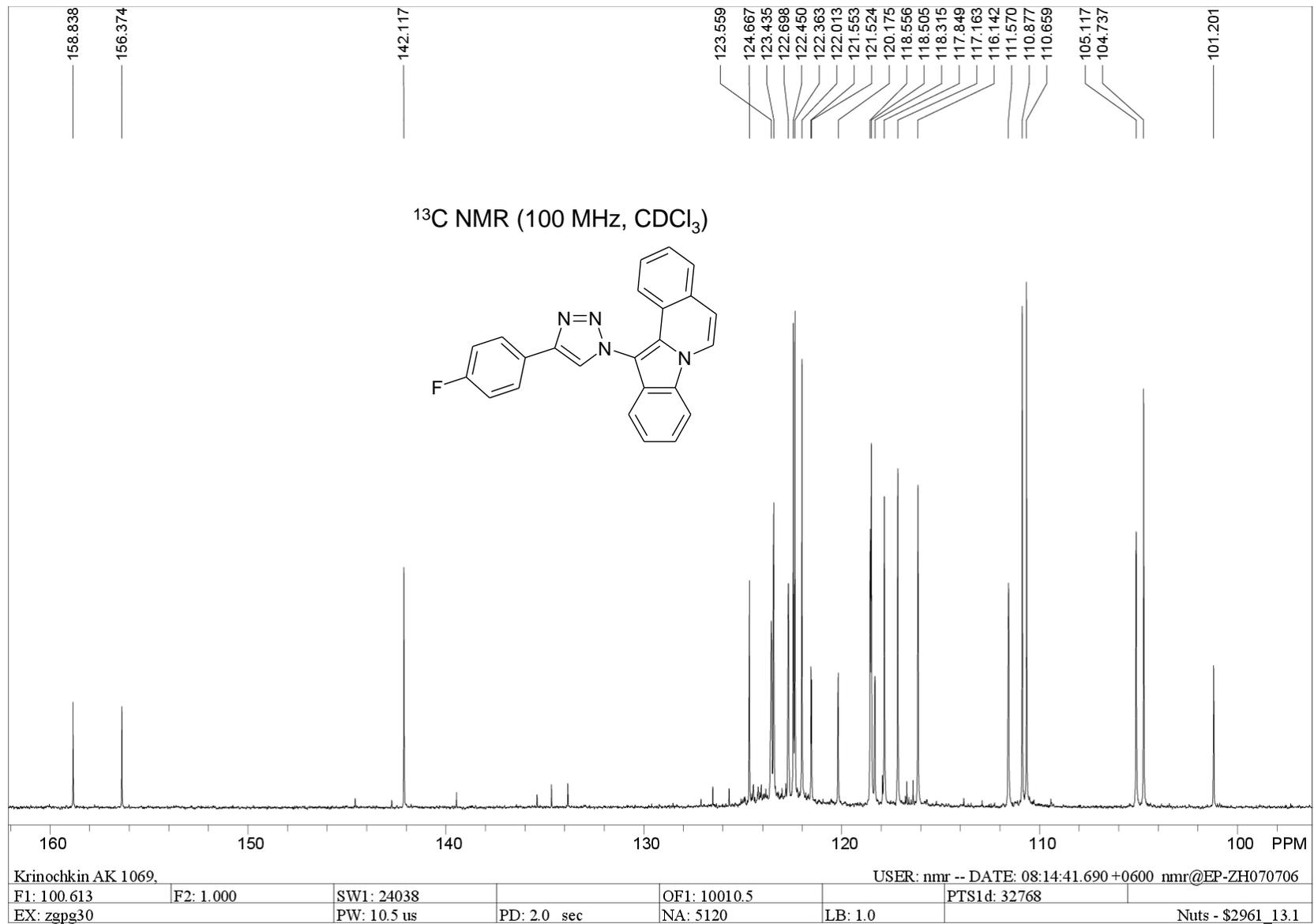


Figure S11

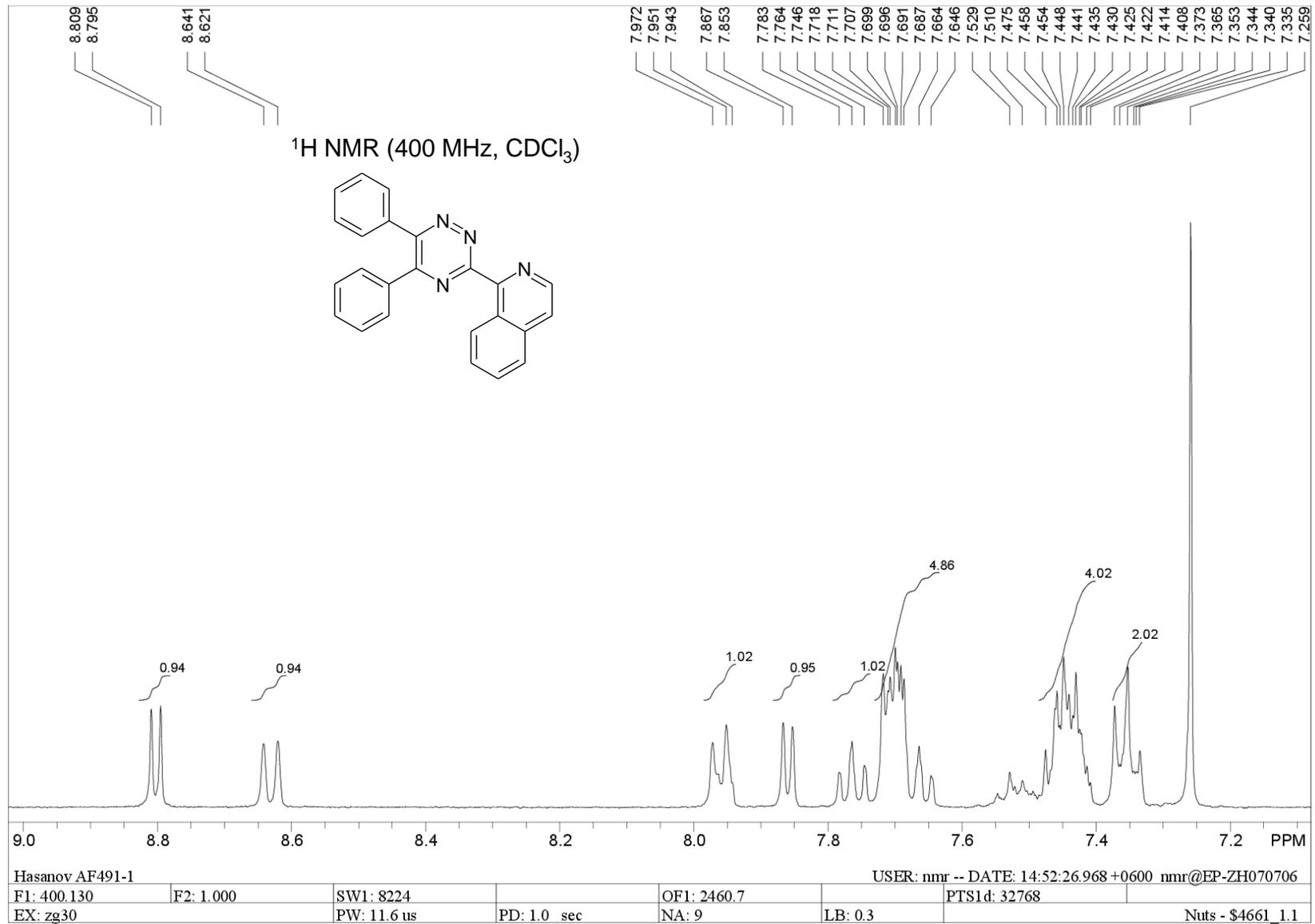


Figure S12

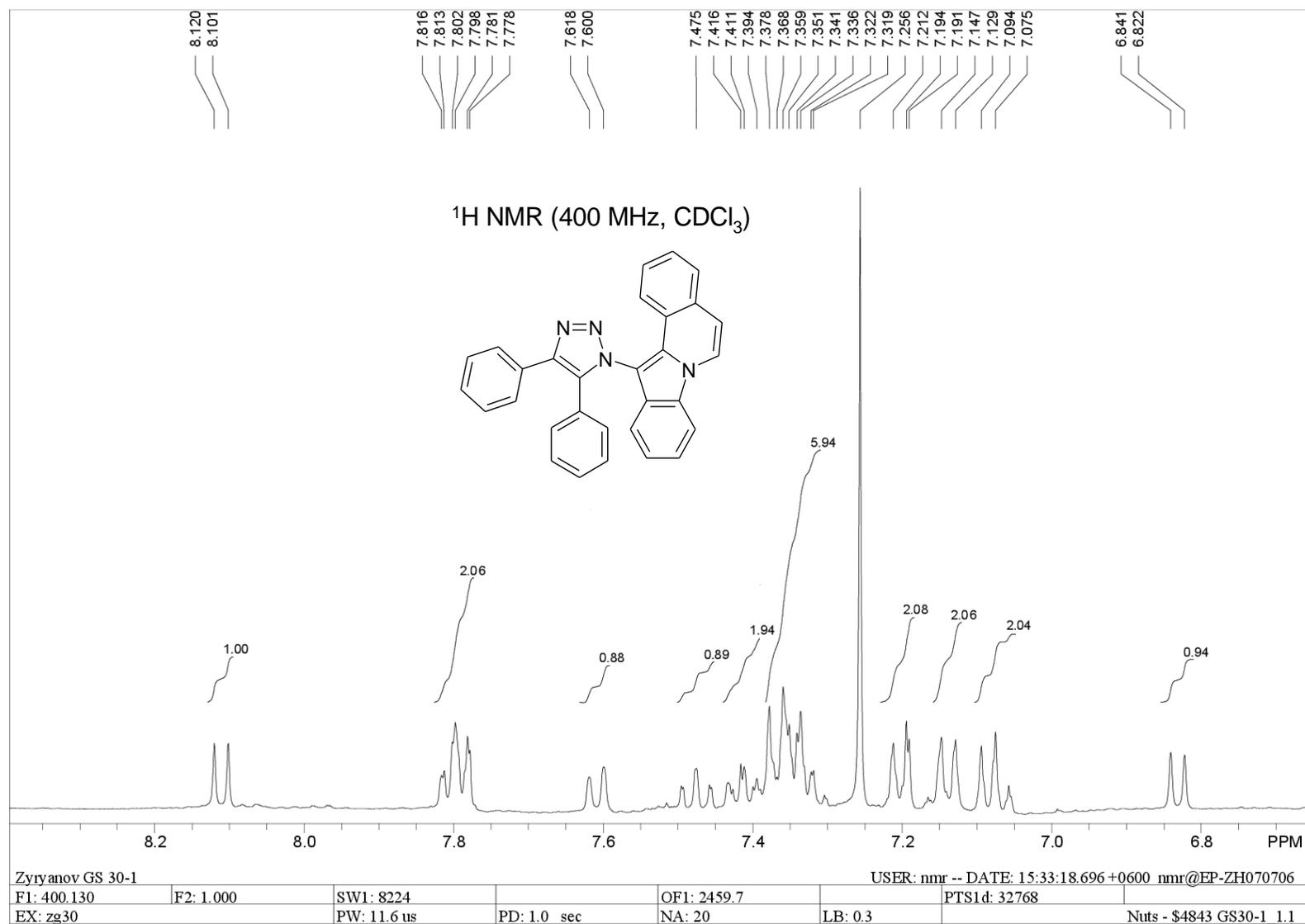


Figure S13