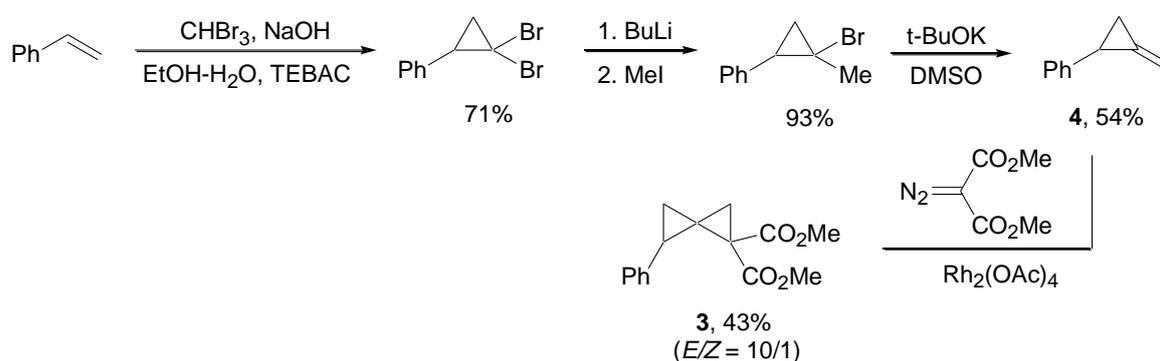


4-Phenylspiro[2.2]pentane-1,1-dicarboxylate: synthesis and reactions with EtAlCl₂ and 4,5-diazaspiro[2.4]hept-4-ene derivative

Dmitry A. Denisov, Denis D. Borisov, Konstantin V. Potapov, Roman A. Novikov and Yury V. Tomilov



Intermediate (2,2-dibromocyclopropyl)benzene and (2-bromo-2-methylcyclopropyl)benzene were prepared according known procedures. [S1, S2]

(2-Bromo-2-methylcyclopropyl)benzene.

A 2.5 M solution of *n*-BuLi (1.45 ml, 3.6 mmol) in hexane was added dropwise to a stirred solution of (2,2-dibromocyclopropyl)benzene (1 g, 3.6 mmol) in THF (5 ml) at -95 °C. The mixture was stirred at this temperature for 10 min, and then iodomethane (1.53 g, 10.9 mmol) was added dropwise. Then the mixture was warmed to room temperature and water was added. Resulting mixture was extracted with Et₂O (twice), washed with water, washed with brine, and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. The title compound was obtained in yield 0.713 g (93%) and was used without further purification for the preparation of known 1-methylidene-2-phenylcyclopropane **4**. [S2]

Dimethyl 4-phenylspiro[2.2]pentane-1,1-dicarboxylate (**3**).

Catalyst Rh₂(OAc)₄ (24 mg, 0.055 mmol) was added to a solution of 1-methylidene-2-phenylcyclopropane **4** (662 mg, 5.09 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (1.5 ml), and the mixture was stirred for 10

min. Then a solution of dimethyl diazomalonate (724 mg, 4.58 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 ml) was added via syringe pump over a period of 4 h. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 days, then filtered through silica gel and concentrated on a rotary evaporator. Product **3** was isolated by chromatography on silica gel (light petroleum – EtOAc, 8:1) in yield 564 mg (43%) as a mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers in ratio 10:1. IR (CHCl₃): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3685, 3033, 2955, 2849, 1732, 1605, 1522, 1498, 1477, 1438, 1425, 1333, 1233, 1198, 1126, 1091 cm⁻¹. HRMS, *m/z*: 283.0942 (calc. for C₁₅H₁₆NaO₄, *m/z*: 283.0941 [M+Na]⁺)

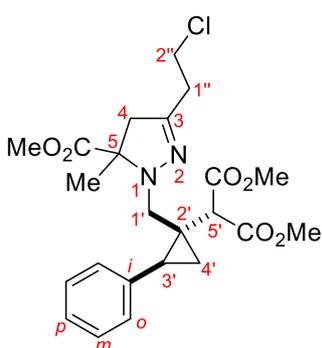
E-Isomer. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.36 (t, *J* 5.6 Hz, 1H, H_a from H₂C(5)), 1.65 (dd, *J* 8.8, 5.6 Hz, 1H, H_b from H₂C(5)), 1.80 (d, *J* 4.4 Hz, 1H, H_a from H₂C(2)), 2.01 (d, *J* 4.4 Hz, 1H, H_b from H₂C(2)), 2.53 (dd, *J* 8.8, 5.6 Hz, 1H, H(4)), 3.73 and 3.77 (both s, 2×3H, 2 OMe), 7.02–7.34 (m, 5H, Ph). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 15.0 (C(5)), 20.1 (C(2)), 22.8 (C(4)), 32.7 (C(3)), 34.6 (C(1)), 52.5 and 52.6 (2 OMe), 126.3 (*p*-Ph), 126.7 and 128.4 (*o*-Ph and *m*-Ph), 140.1 (*i*-Ph), 169.2 and 169.4 (2 COO).

Z-Isomer. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.26–1.58 (m, 2H, H₂C(5)), 1.88 (d, *J* 4.2 Hz, 1H, H_a from H₂C(2)), 2.14 (d, *J* 4.2 Hz, 1H, H_b from H₂C(2)), 3.75 and 3.82 (both s, 2×3H, 2 OMe). The remaining signals overlap with the signals of the major *E*-isomer.

[S1] J. Hu, Y. Xie and H. Huang, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2014, **53**, 7272.

[S2] T. Kippo, K. Hamaoka and I. Ryu, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2013, **135**, 632.

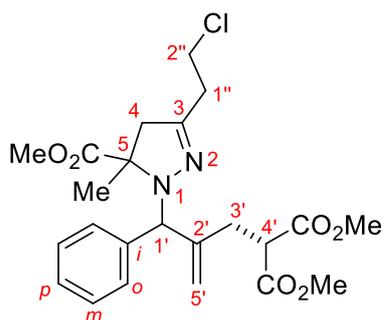
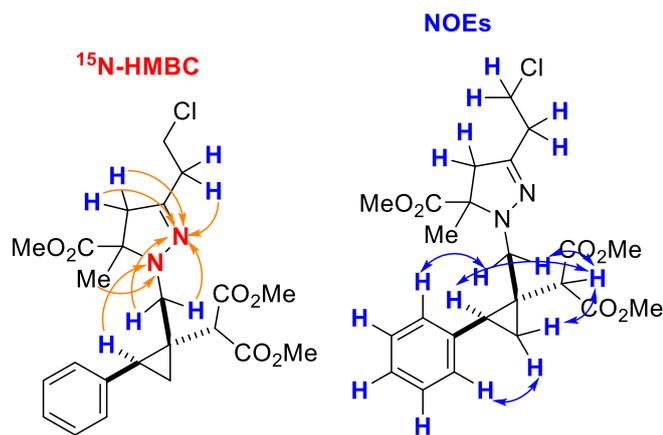
General synthetic procedure and spectroscopic data for compounds 7–10. All operations with EtAlCl₂ were performed under dry argon atmosphere. A 1.0 M solution of EtAlCl₂ (0.6 mmol) in hexane was added to a solution of dimethyl 4-phenylspiro[2.2]pentane-1,1-dicarboxylate **3** (50 mg, 0.3 mmol) and the pyrazoline **5** (101 mg, 0.4 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (2 ml) and the mixture was stirring at reflux for 30 min. Then an aqueous solution of HCl (5%) was added at room temperature until pH 3 was achieved and the reaction mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3×10 ml). The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and the solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (benzene–EtOAc (30:1) to benzene–EtOAc (10:1)) on silica gel to afford the pure product **7** and by-products **8** and **9**.



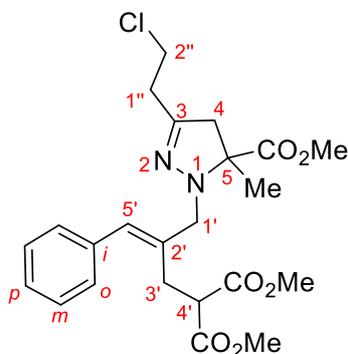
Dimethyl 2-(1-[[3-(2-chloroethyl)-5-methoxycarbonyl-5-methyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]methyl]-2-phenylcyclopropyl)malonate (7) was prepared in yield 48% (67 mg, *cis/trans* > 10:1 and *dr* ~1.1:1) as a colorless oil. IR (KBr) $\tilde{\nu}$ 3084, 3059, 3026, 3000, 2954, 2846, 1734 br. (C=O), 1604, 1498, 1435, 1319, 1288, 1197, 1155 cm⁻¹. HRMS, *m/z*: 487.1591 (calc. for C₂₃H₂₉N₂NaO₆Cl, *m/z*: 487.1606 (for ³⁵Cl) [M+Na]⁺)

cis-Diastereomer A: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.02–1.13 (m, H_a(4')), 1.08 (s, Me), 1.35 (t, ²J = ³J 6.5 Hz, H_b(4')), 2.08 (d, ²J 13.3 Hz, H_a from CH₂N), 2.41–2.51 (m, H(3') and H_a(4)), 2.70 (t, ³J 6.4 Hz, H₂C(1')), 3.10 (d, ²J 11.8 Hz, H_b(4)), 3.19 (d, ²J 13.3 Hz, H_b from CH₂N), 3.64, 3.74 and 3.80 (all s, 3 OMe), 3.72 (t, ³J 6.4 Hz, CH₂Cl), 4.31 (s, H(5')), 7.15–7.23 (m, *p*-Ph), 7.24–7.34 (m, *m*-Ph), 7.35–7.46 (m, *o*-Ph). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 15.5 (C(4')), 18.3 (Me), 24.5 (C(2')), 24.8 (C(3')), 33.5 (C(1')), 41.3 (C(2')), 46.9 (C(4)), 51.8 (C(1')), 51.8, 52.0 and 52.1 (3 OMe), 53.8 (C(5')), 71.4 (C(5)), 126.0 (*p*-Ph), 127.9 (*m*-Ph), 129.5 (*o*-Ph), 138.2 (*i*-Ph), 148.1 (C(3)), 169.0, 169.3, and 173.0 (3 COO). ¹⁵N NMR (30.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 142.7 (N(1)), 339.4 (N(2)).

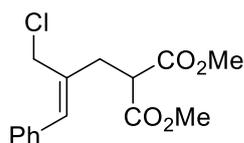
cis-Diastereomer B: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.02–1.13 (m, H_a(4')), 1.13 (s, Me), 1.29 (t, ²J = ³J 6.5 Hz, H_b(4')), 2.22 (d, ²J 13.4 Hz, H_a from CH₂N), 2.41–2.51 (m, H(3') and H_a(4)), 2.72 (t, ³J 6.4 Hz, H₂C(1')), 3.06 (d, ²J 11.8 Hz, H_b(4)), 3.12 (d, ²J 13.4 Hz, H_b from CH₂N), 3.54, 3.75 and 3.79 (all s, 3 OMe), 3.70 (t, ³J 6.4 Hz, CH₂Cl), 4.33 (s, H(5')), 7.15–7.23 (m, *p*-Ph), 7.24–7.34 (m, *m*-Ph), 7.35–7.46 (m, *o*-Ph). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.7 (C(4')), 19.2 (Me), 24.7 (C(2')), 25.6 (C(3')), 33.5 (C(1')), 41.1 (C(2')), 47.0 (C(4)), 51.9 (C(1')), 51.7, 51.9 and 52.2 (3 OMe), 54.3 (C(5')), 71.5 (C(5)), 126.1 (*p*-Ph), 127.8 (*m*-Ph), 129.4 (*o*-Ph), 138.0 (*i*-Ph), 148.5 (C(3)), 168.9, 169.2, and 173.1 (3 COO). ¹⁵N NMR (30.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 142.5 (N(1)), 340.9 (N(2)).



Dimethyl 2-[3-(2-chloroethyl)-5-methoxycarbonyl-5-methyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazol-1-yl](phenylmethyl)allylmalonate (8) was isolated together with compound **7** (ratio ~1:1.4) in yield ~7% (20 mg, *dr* = 4:1). Colorless oil. Major diastereomer. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 1.07 (s, 3H, Me), 2.55 (d, 1H, $^2J = 16.9$ Hz, H(4)), 3.37 (d, 1H, $^2J = 16.9$ Hz, H(4)), 4.64 (s, 1H, H(5')), 4.86 (s, 1H, H(1')), 5.02 (s, 1H, H(5')). Minor diastereomer. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): 4.72 (s, 1H, H(5')), 4.83 (s, 1H, H(1')), 5.00 (s, 1H, H(5')). The remaining signals overlap with the signals of the compound **9**. HRMS calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{Cl}$ (*M*, for ^{35}Cl): $M+\text{Na}$, 487.1606. Found: m/z 487.1600.



Dimethyl (E)-{2-[3-(2-chloroethyl)-5-methoxycarbonyl-5-methyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazol-1-ylmethyl]-3-phenylallyl}malonate (9) was isolated together with compound **8** (ratio ~1:2) in yield ~4% (13 mg, mixture of *E*- and *Z*-isomers ~6:1). Colorless oil. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 6.47 (s, 1H, $\text{H}_{\text{mn}}(5')$), 6.60 (s, 1H, $\text{H}_{\text{mj}}(5')$). The remaining signals overlap with the signals of the compounds **8**.

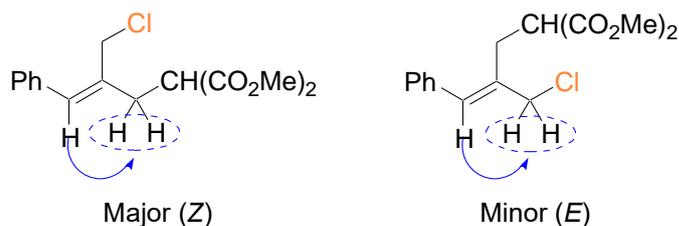


Dimethyl 2-(chloromethyl)-3-phenylallylmalonate (10).

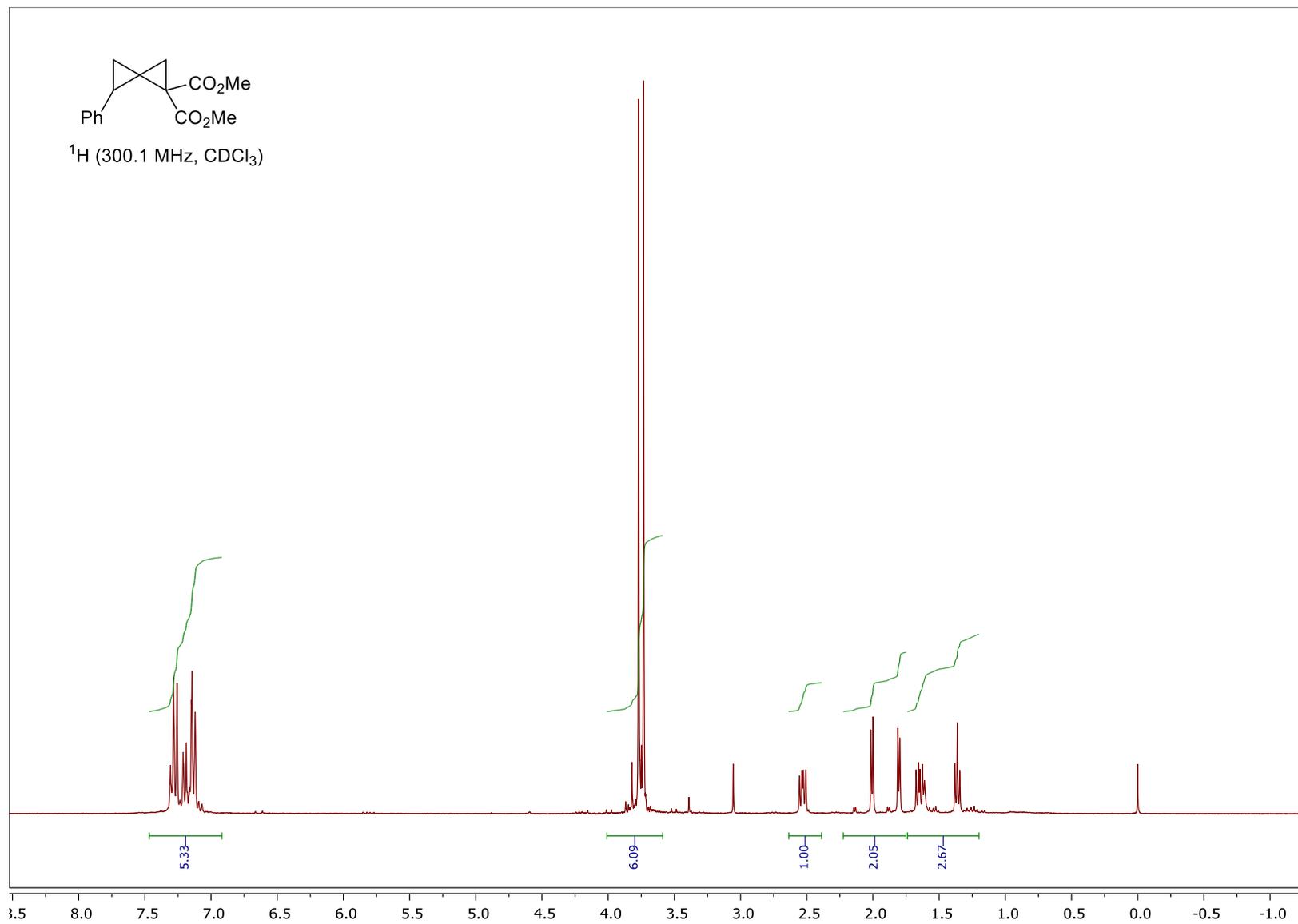
A 1.0 M solution of EtAlCl₂ (0.576 mmol) in hexane was added to a solution of dimethyl 4-phenylspiro[2.2]pentane-1,1-dicarboxylate **3** (150 mg, 0.576 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (5 ml), and the mixture was stirring at reflux for 30 min. Then an aqueous solution of HCl (5%) was added at room temperature until pH 3 was achieved, and the mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3×10 ml). The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and the solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (Petroleum ether – EtOAc = 10:1) on silica gel to afford the compound **10** (67 mg, ~40%) as a colorless oil in a mixture of two isomers (*Z/E* = 2.6/1). IR (CHCl₃) $\tilde{\nu}$ 3006, 2956, 2847, 1751, 1734, 1437, 1334, 1284, 1238 cm⁻¹. HRMS: calcd. for C₁₅H₁₇NaClO₄ (*M*, for ³⁵Cl): *M*+*Na*, 319.0706. Found 319.0708.

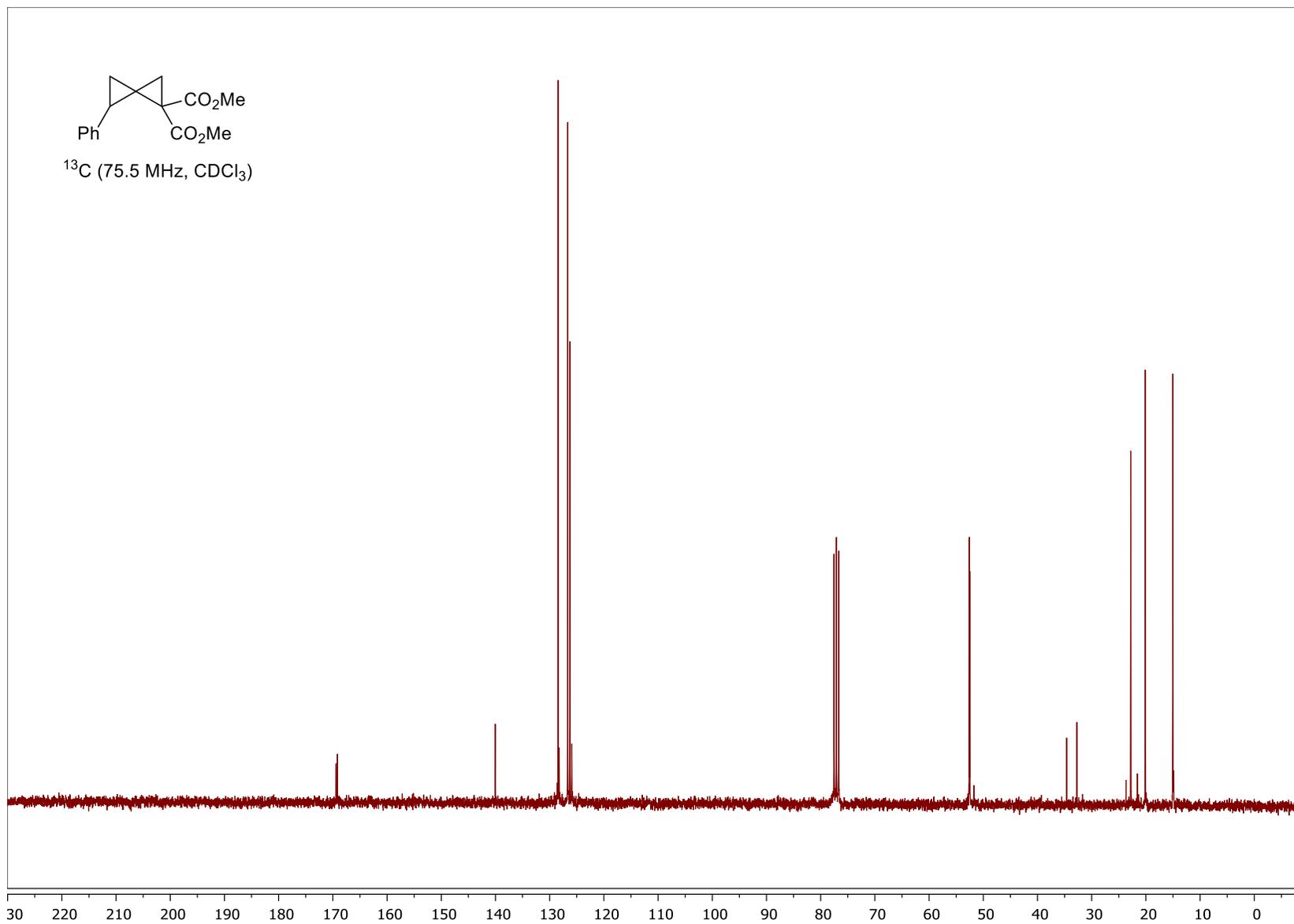
Z-Isomer: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.96 (dd, 2H, ³*J* = 7.9, ⁴*J* = 1.0 Hz, CH₂), 3.66 and 3.76 (both s, 2×3H, 2 OMe), 3.78 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.9 Hz, CH), 4.21 (s, 2H, CH₂Cl), 6.57 (bd.s, 1H, =CH), 7.18–7.39 (m, 5H, Ph). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 34.5 (CH₂), 43.2 (CH₂Cl), 50.6 (CH), 52.7 (2 OMe), 127.7 and 128.7 (*o*- and *m*-Ph), 128.6 (*p*-Ph), 133.1 (CH=), 133.7 (*i*-Ph), 136.0 (=C), 169.2 (2 COO).

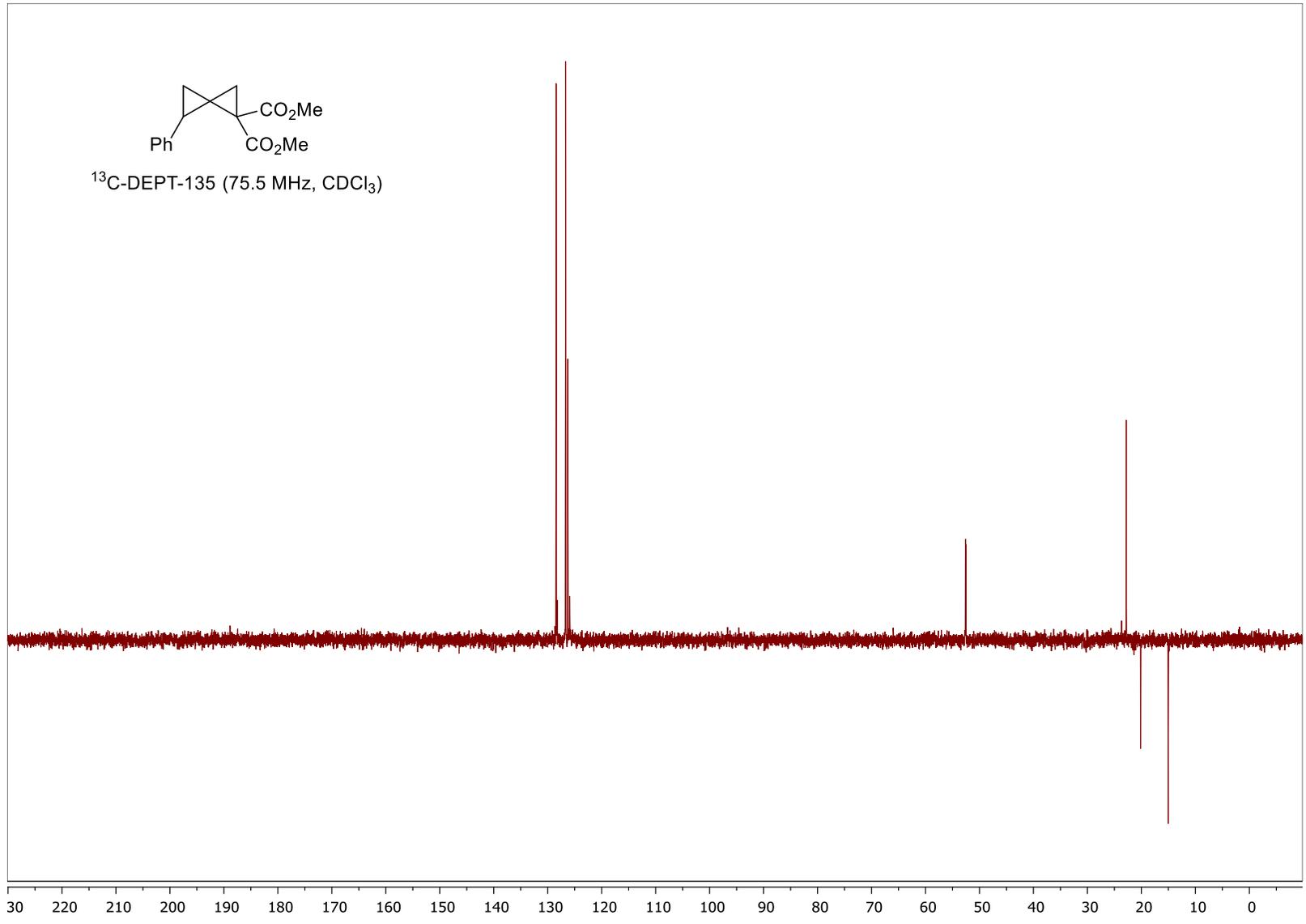
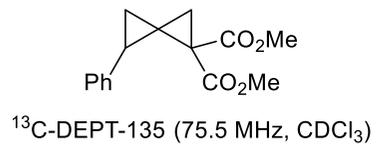
E-Isomer: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.08 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.9 Hz, CH₂), 4.23 (s, 2H, CH₂Cl), 6.72 (s, 1H, =CH). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 27.4 (CH₂), 49.5 (CH), 49.9 (CH₂Cl), 52.6 (2 OMe), 133.2 (=CH), 169.1 (2 COO). The remaining signals overlap with the signals of the major isomer.

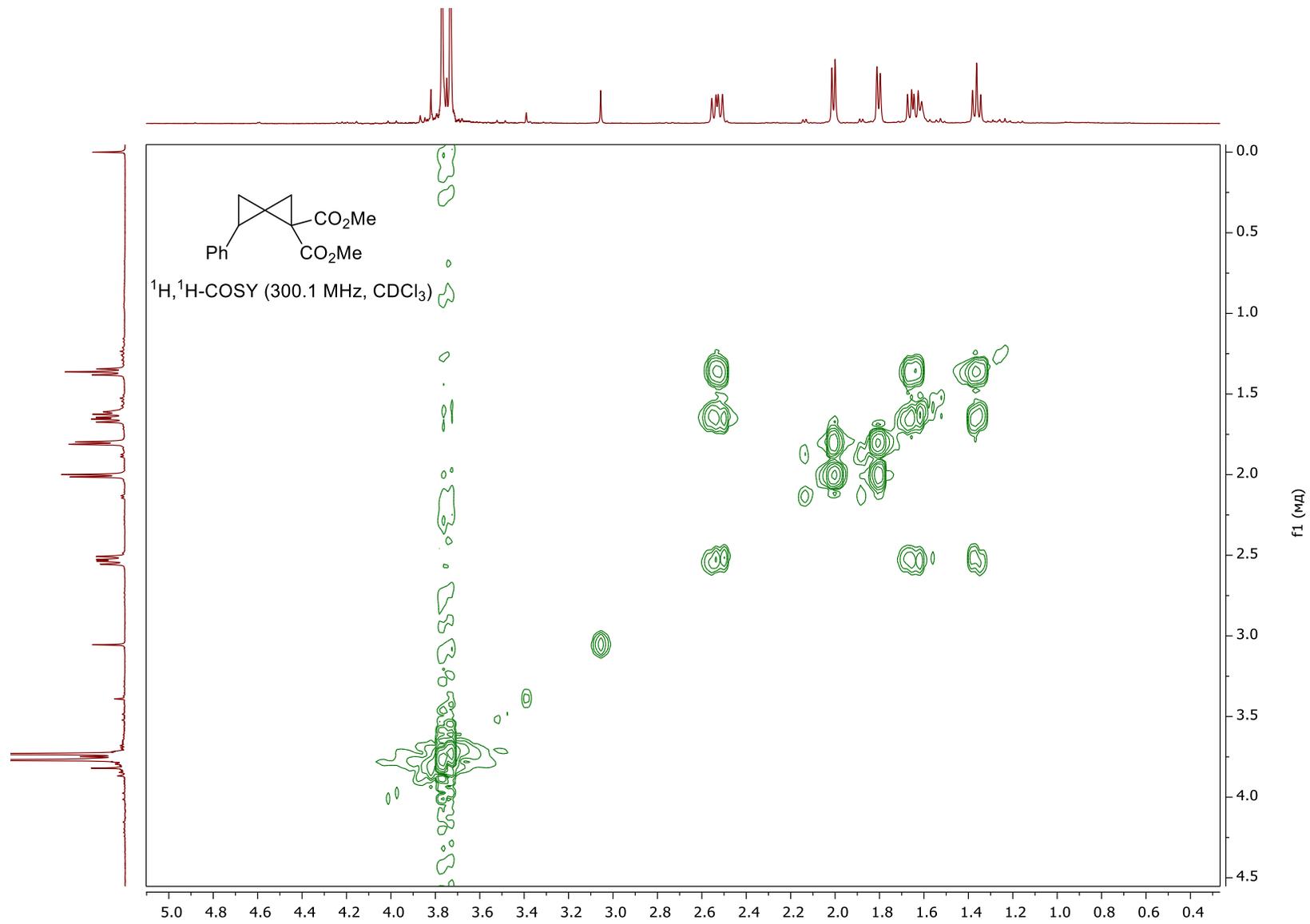


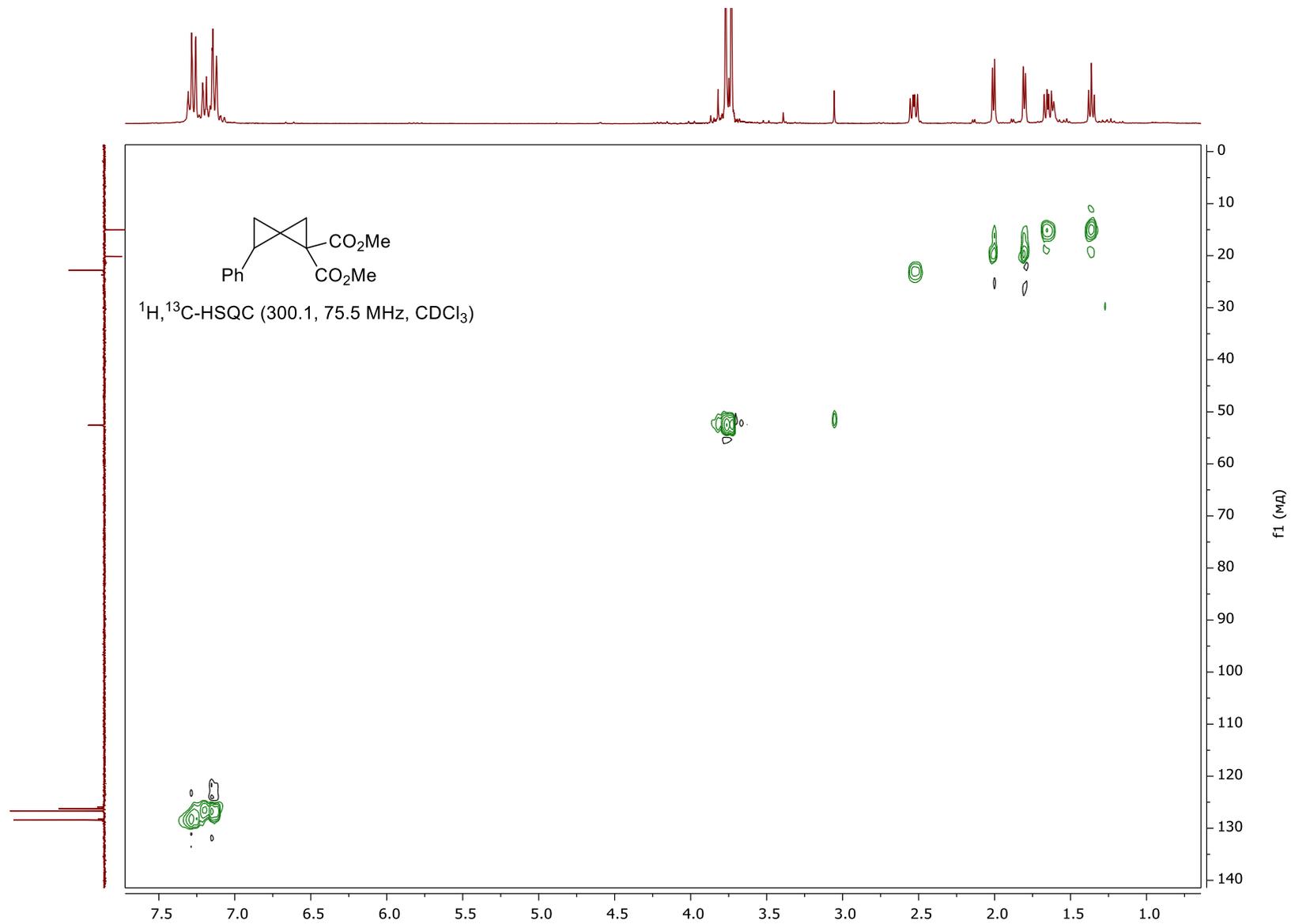
Key NOEs

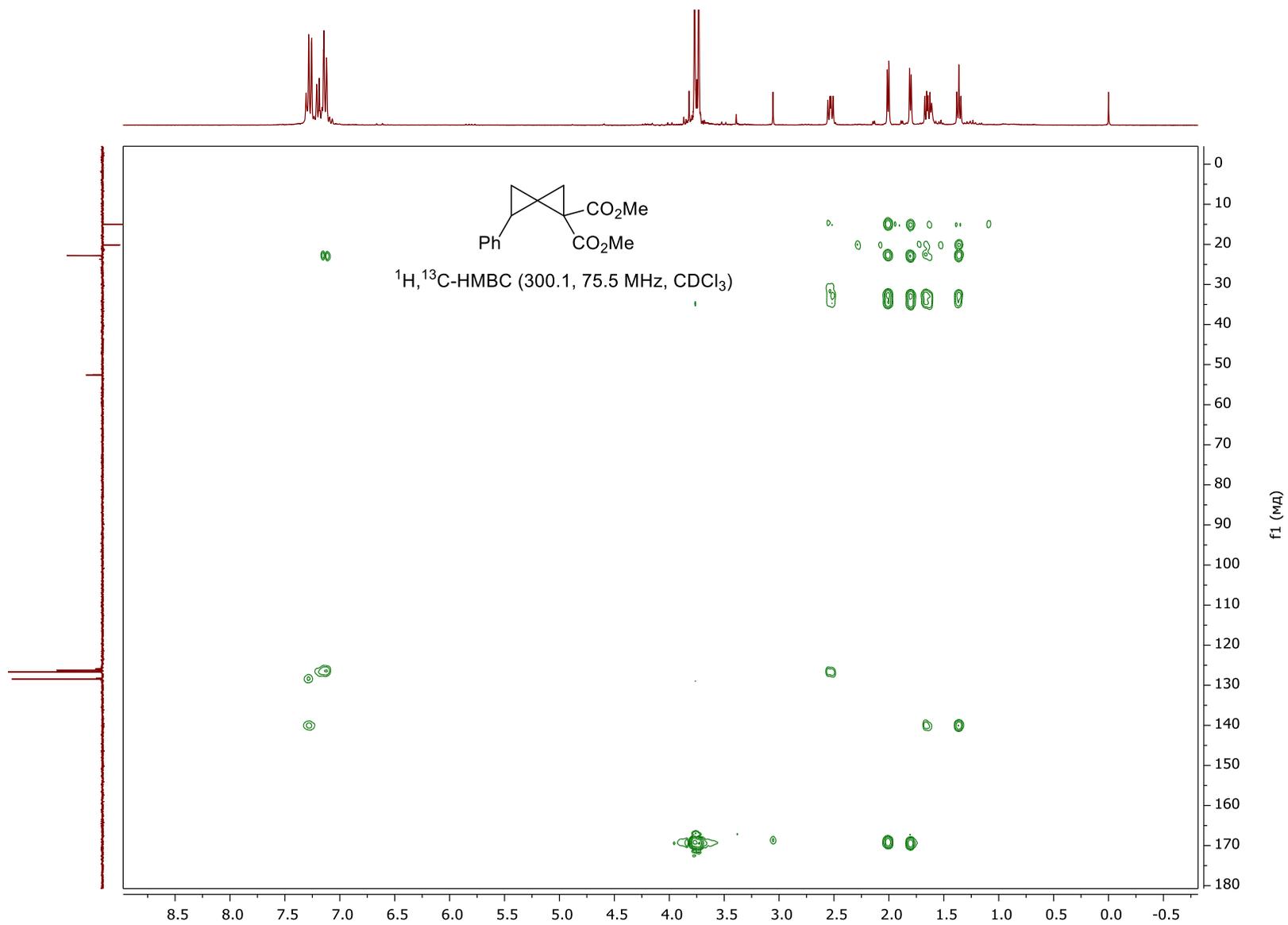


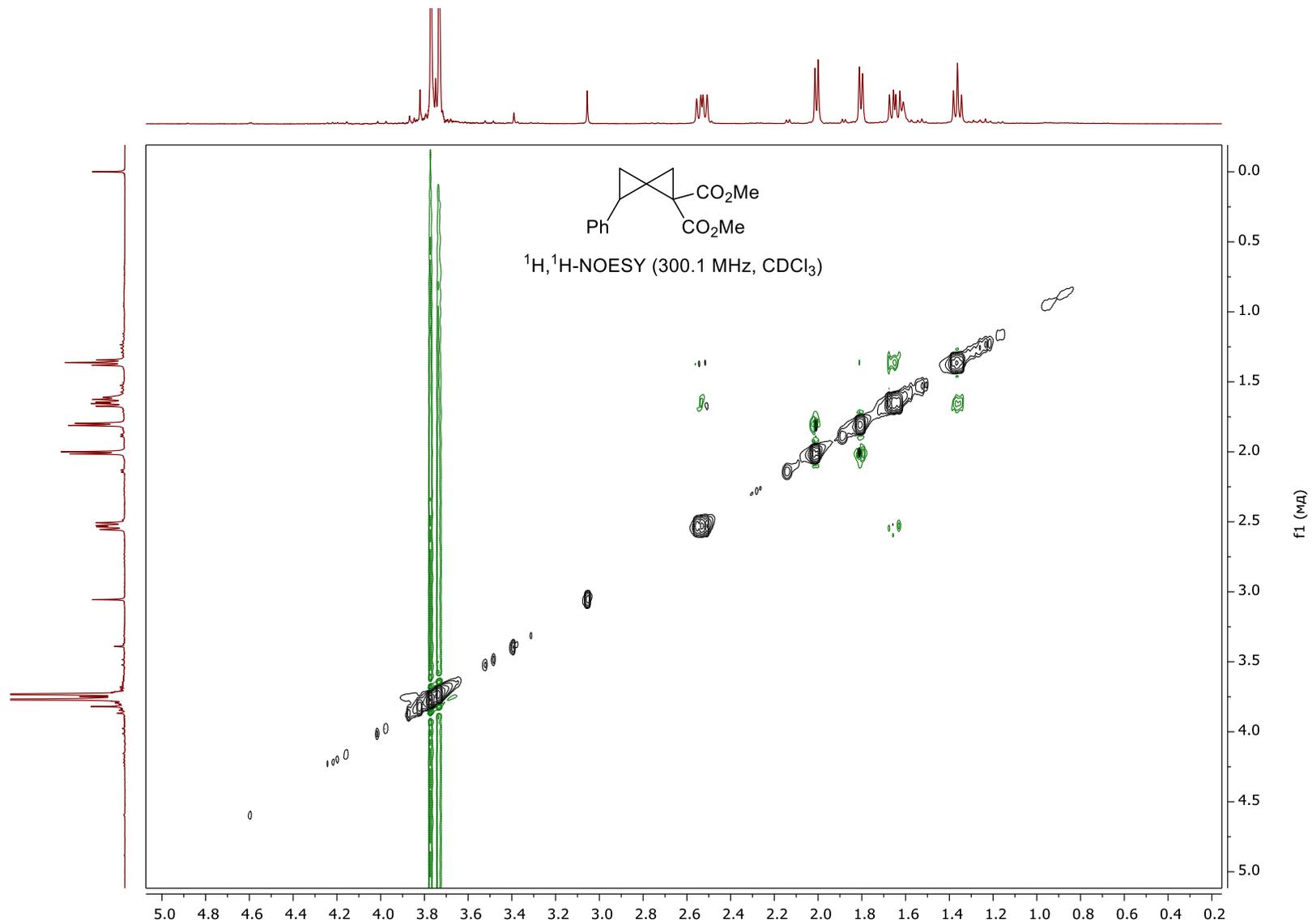


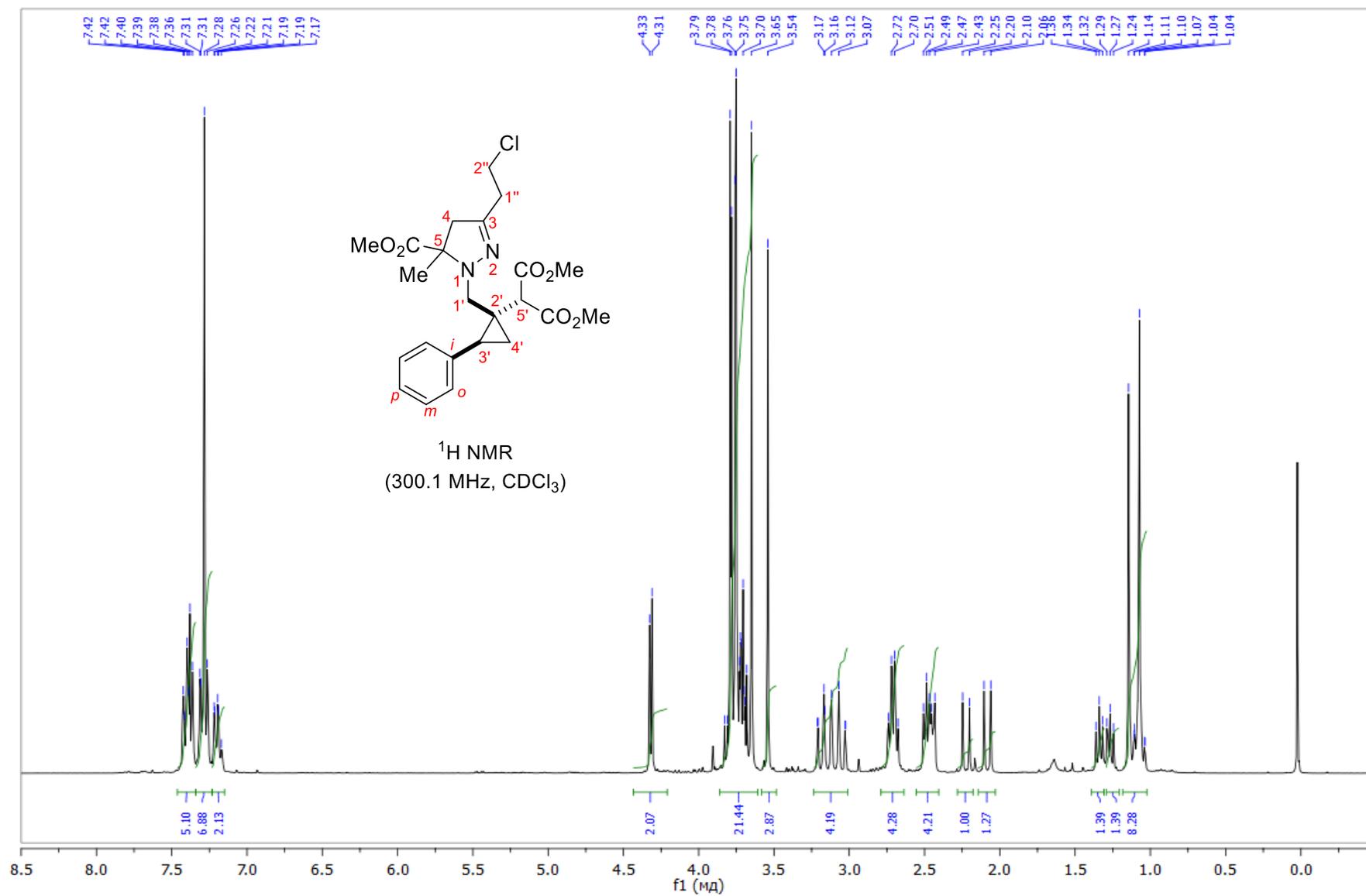


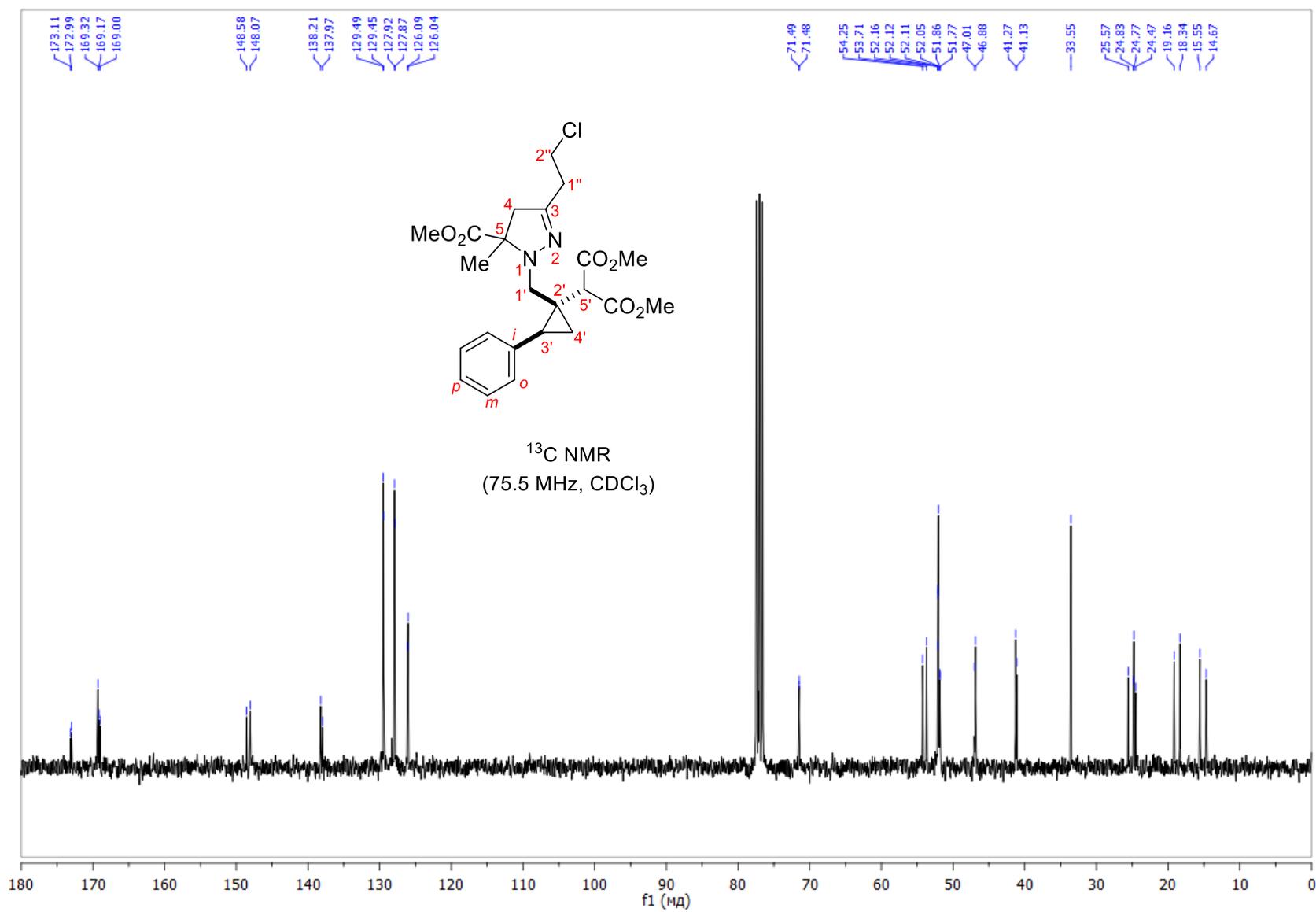


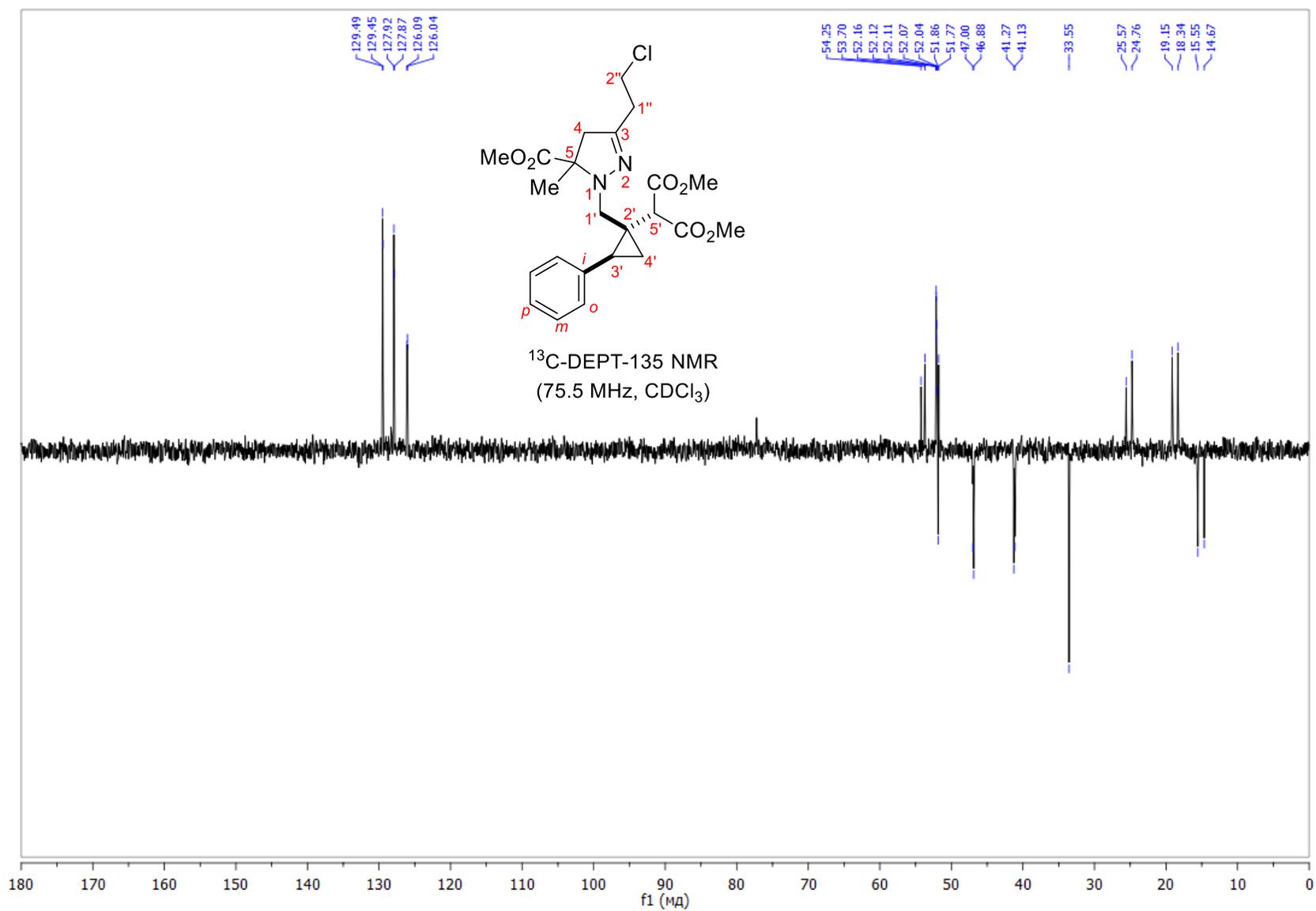


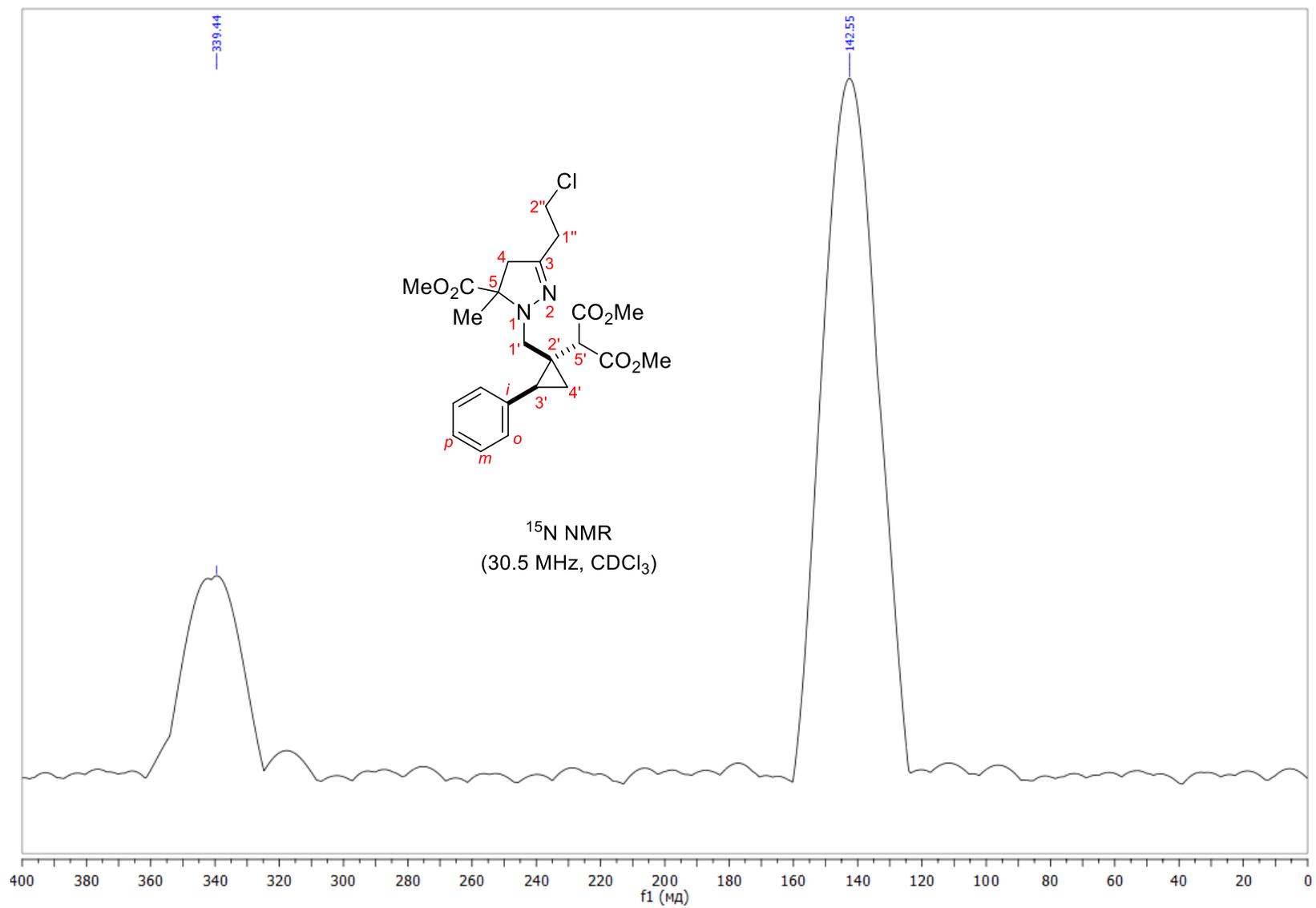


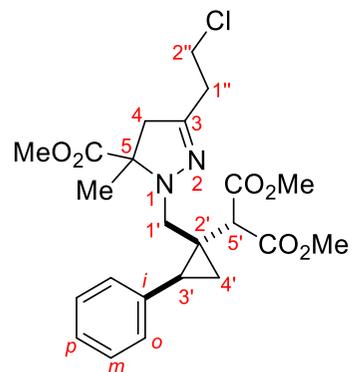




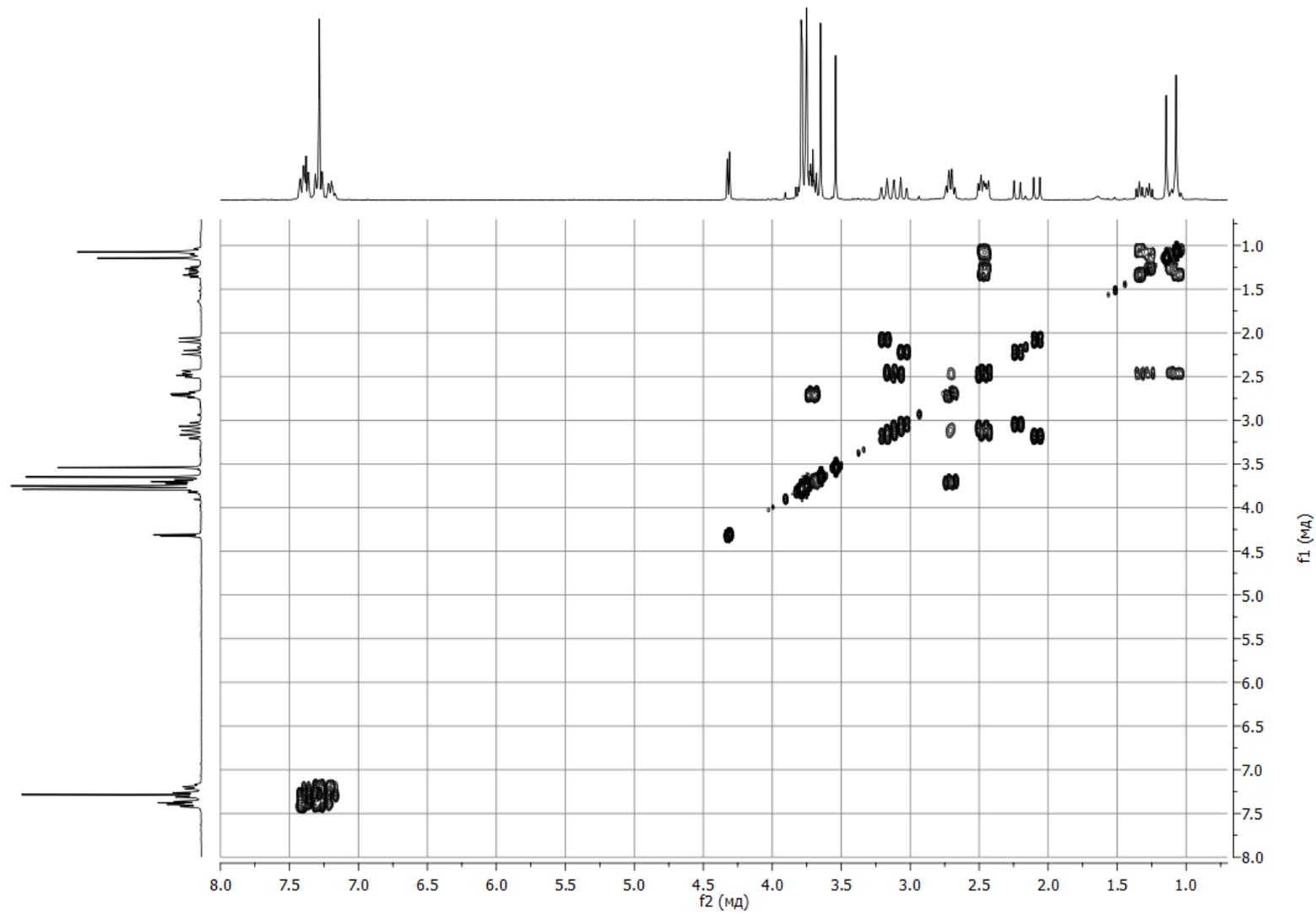


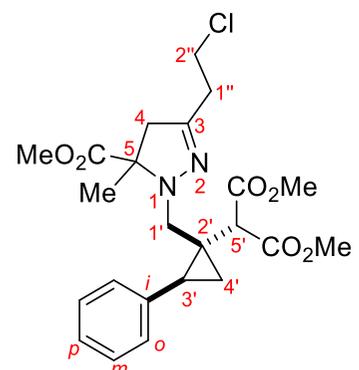




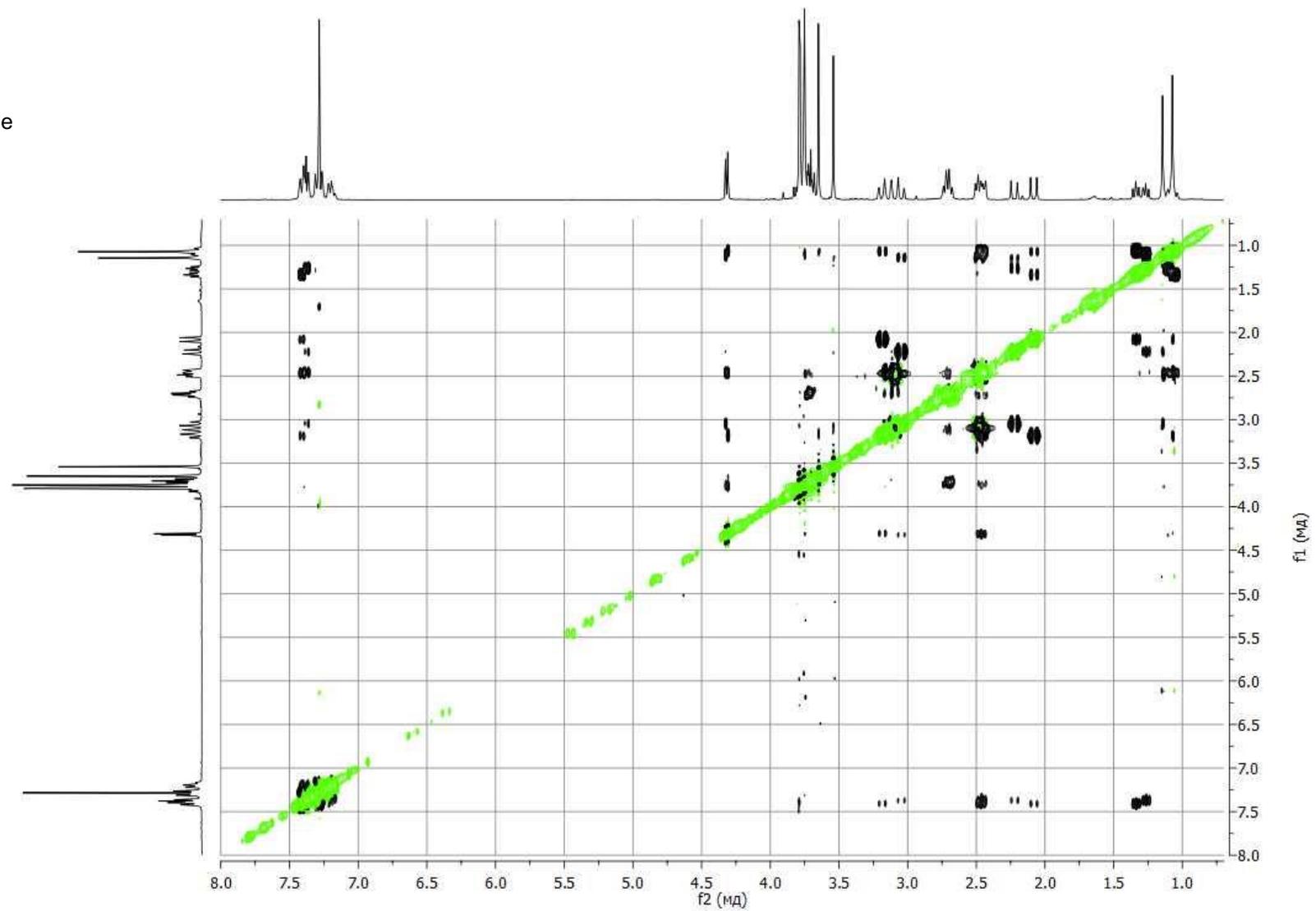


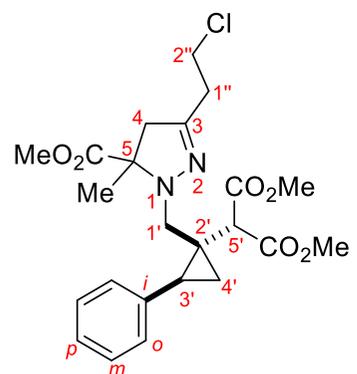
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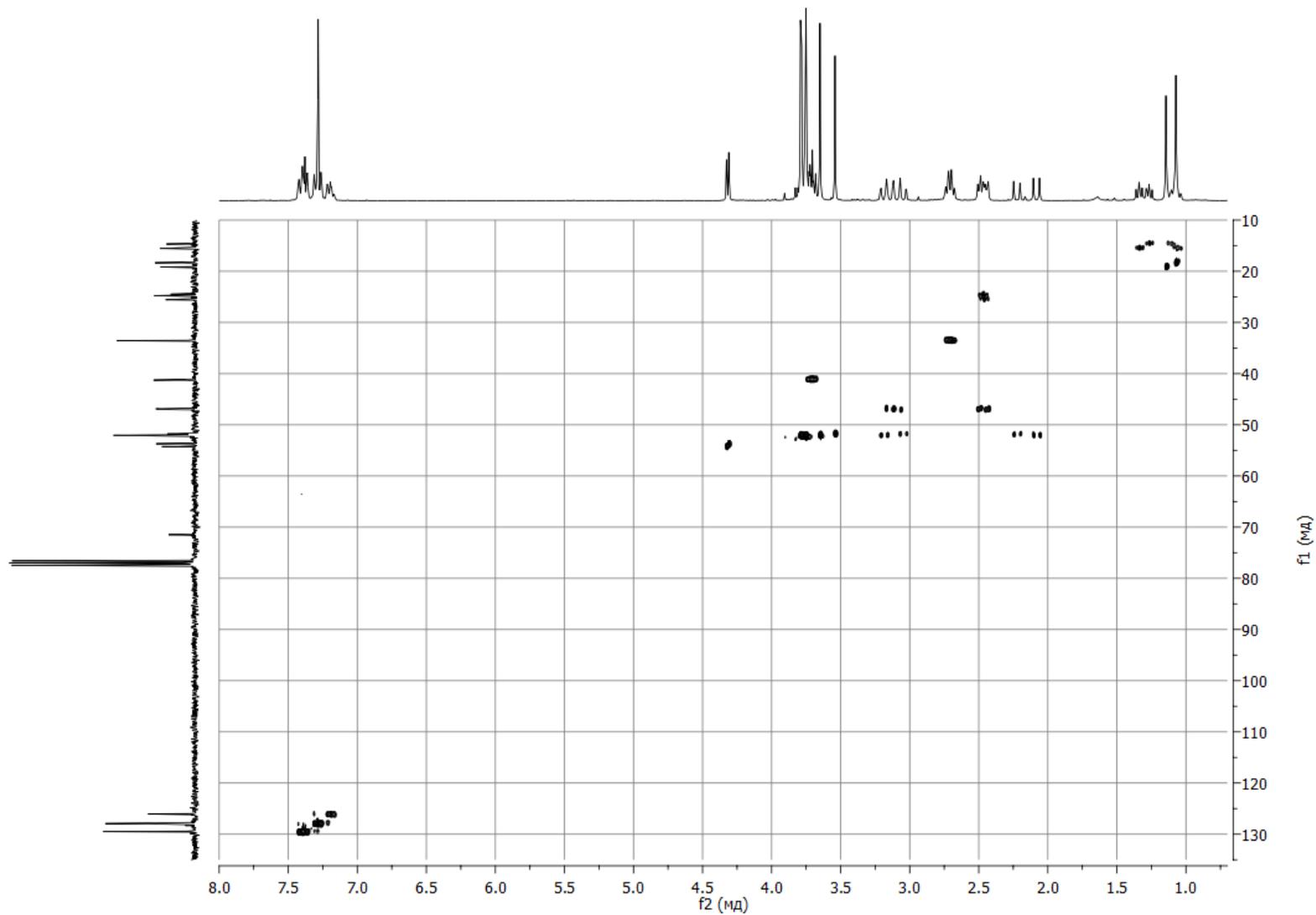


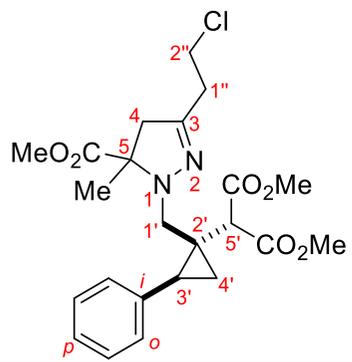
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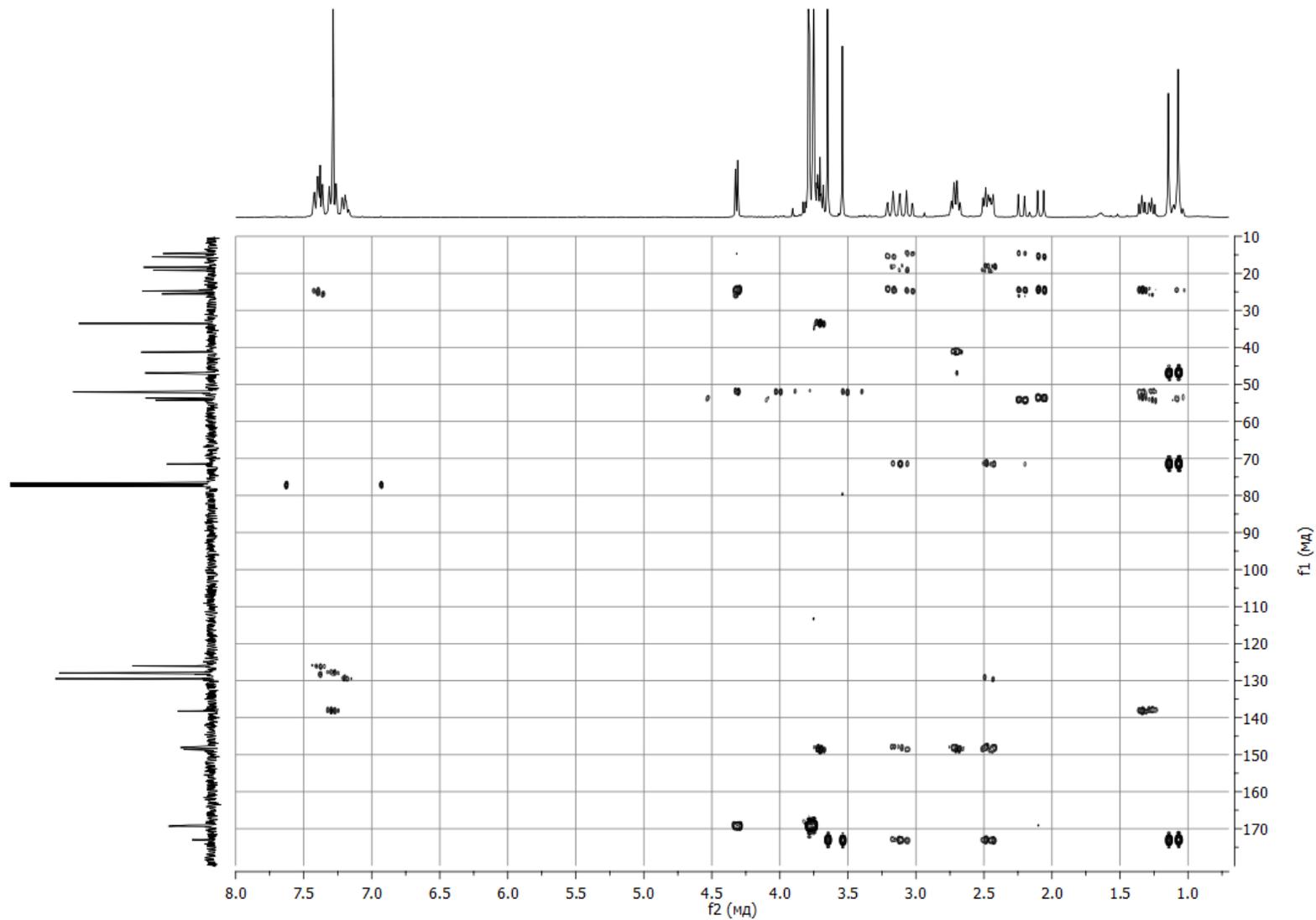


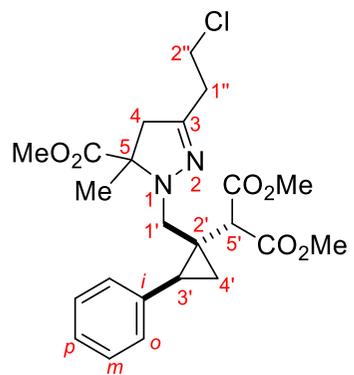
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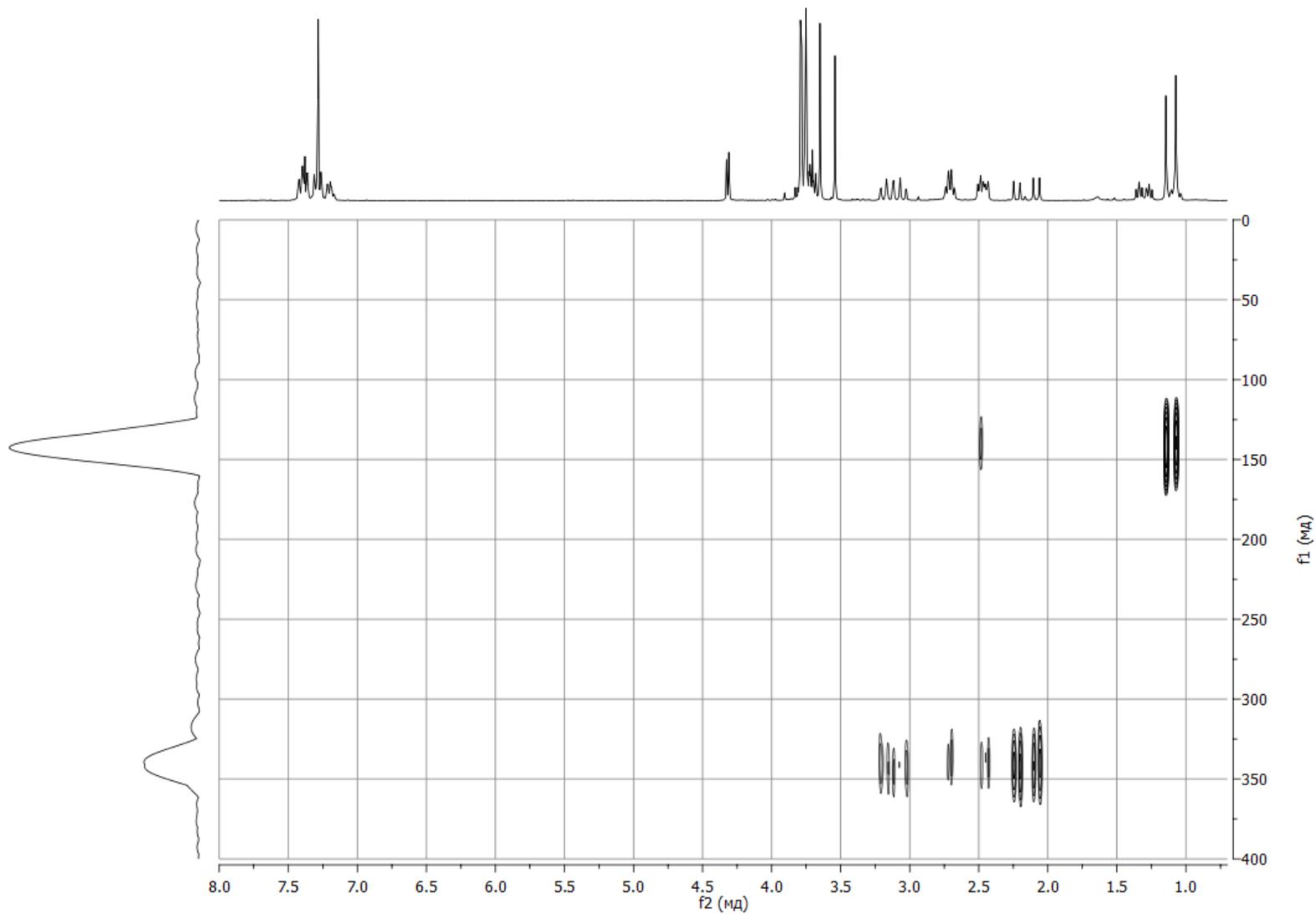


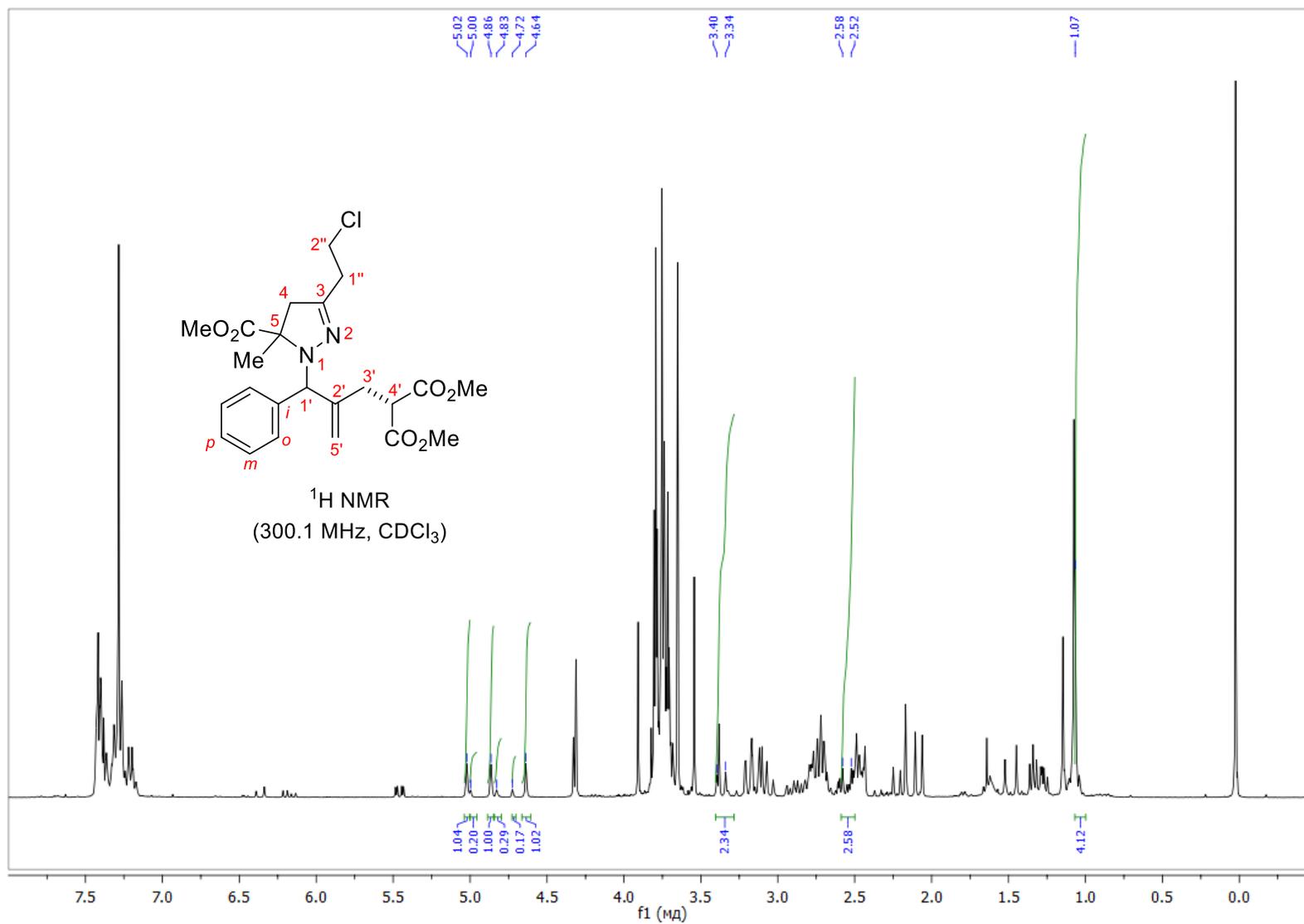
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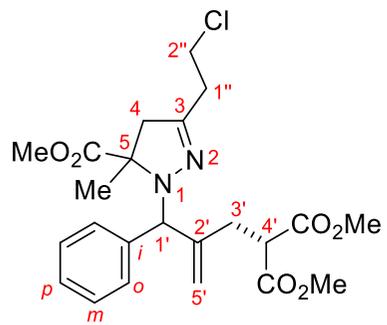




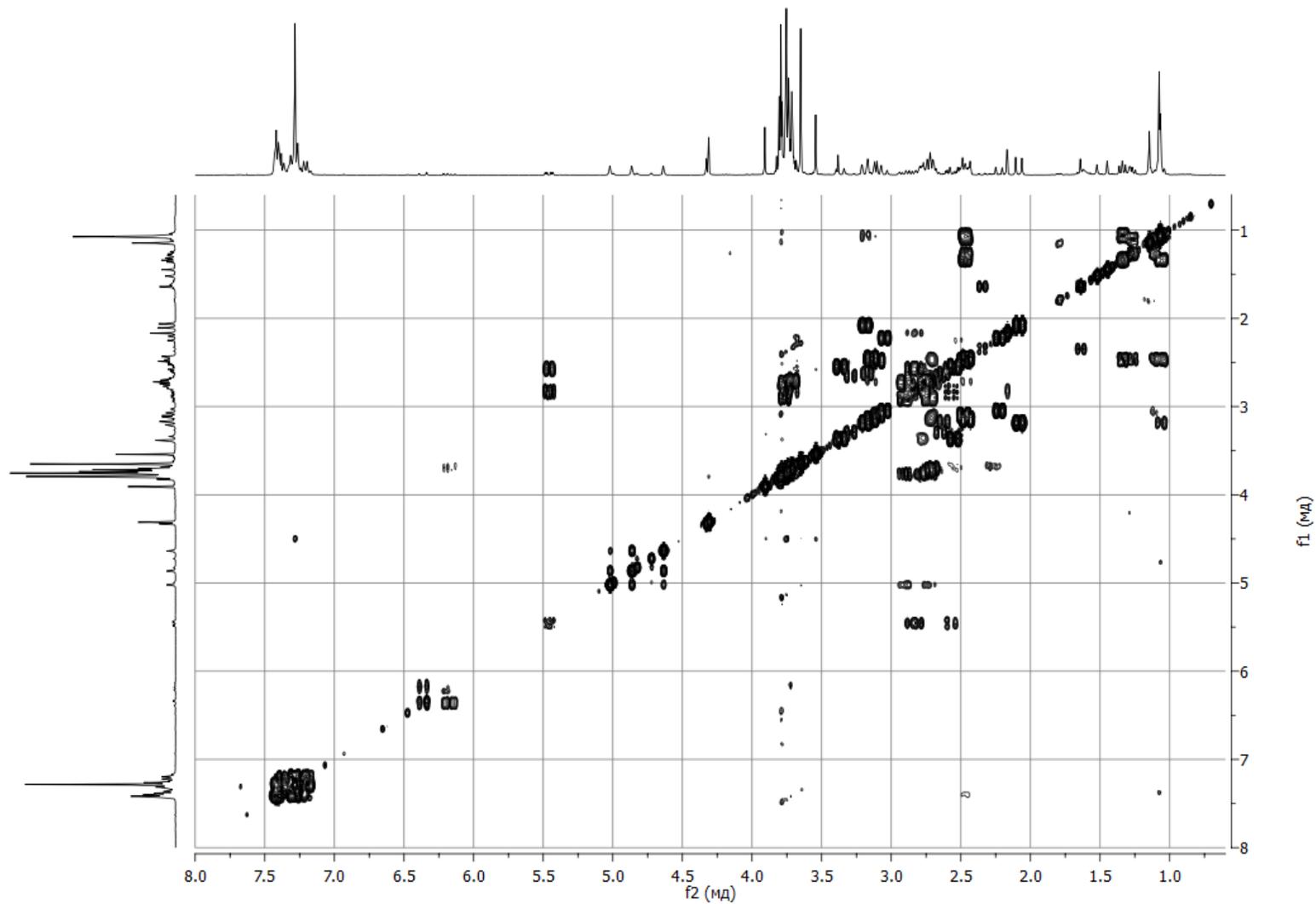
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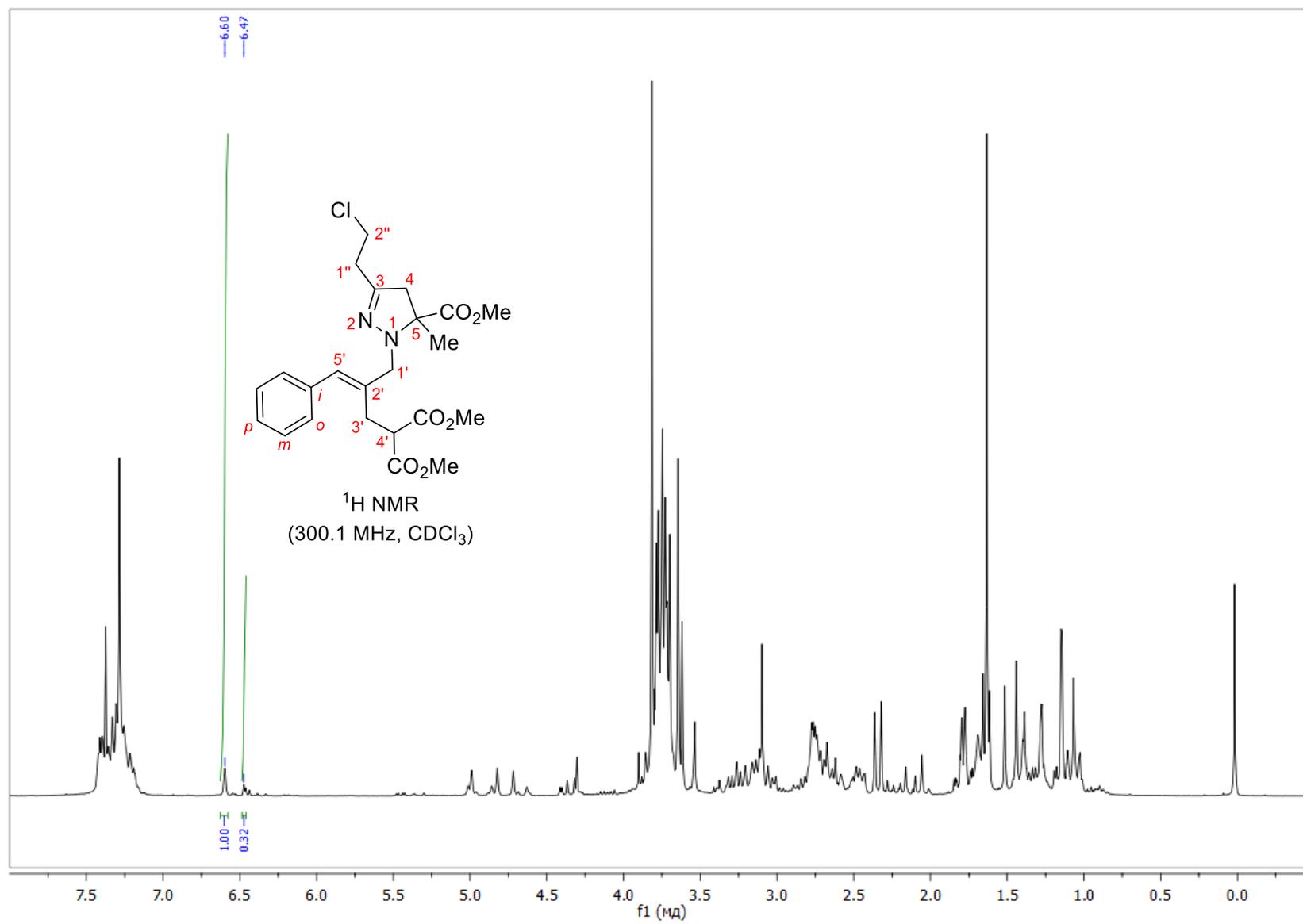


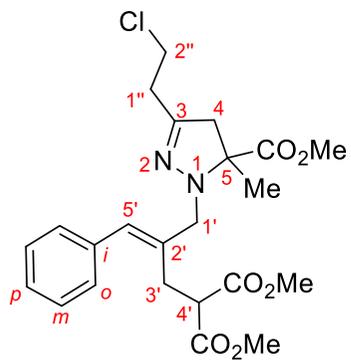




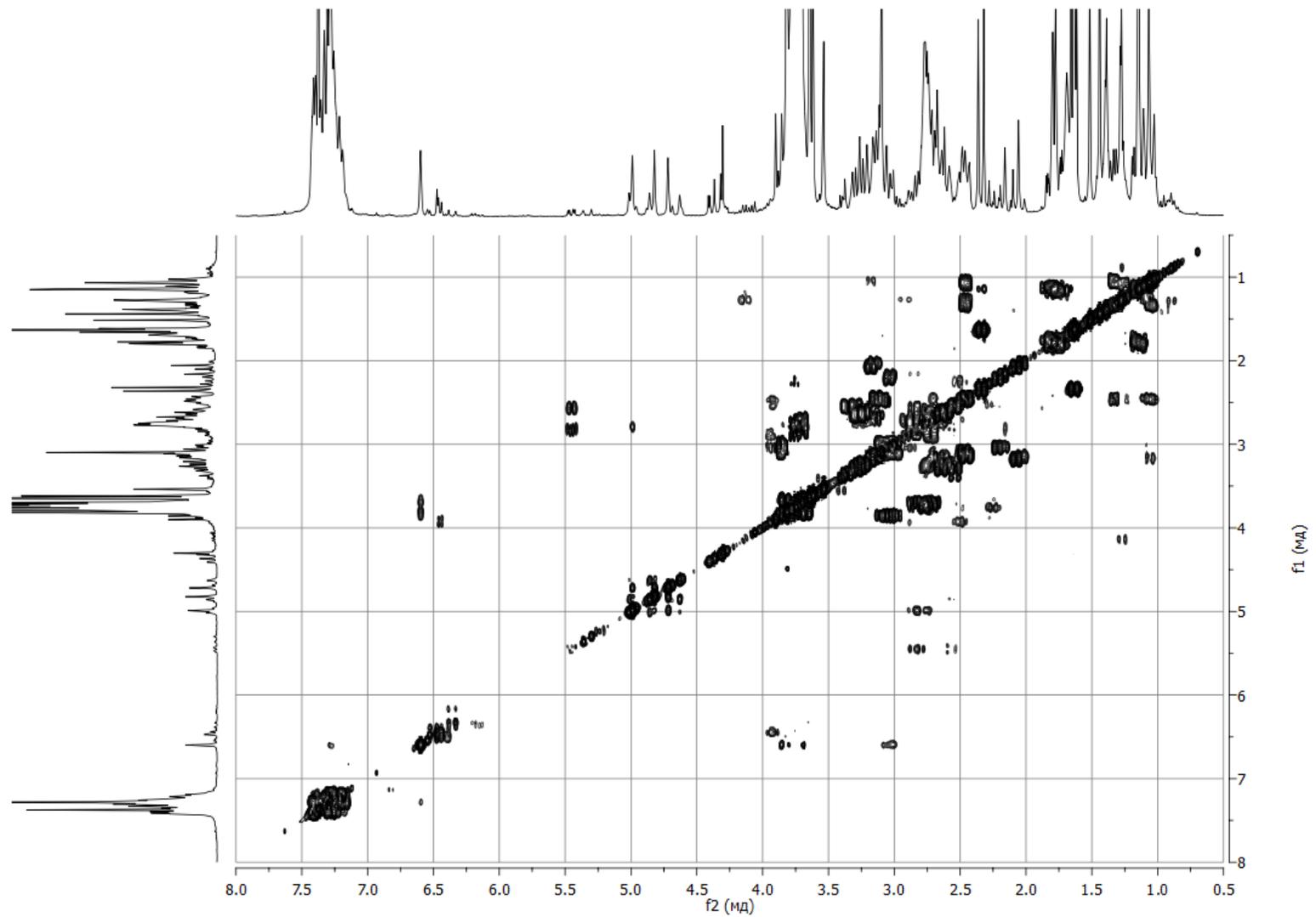
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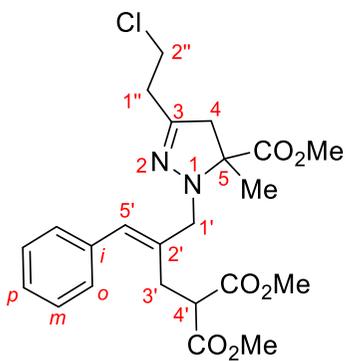




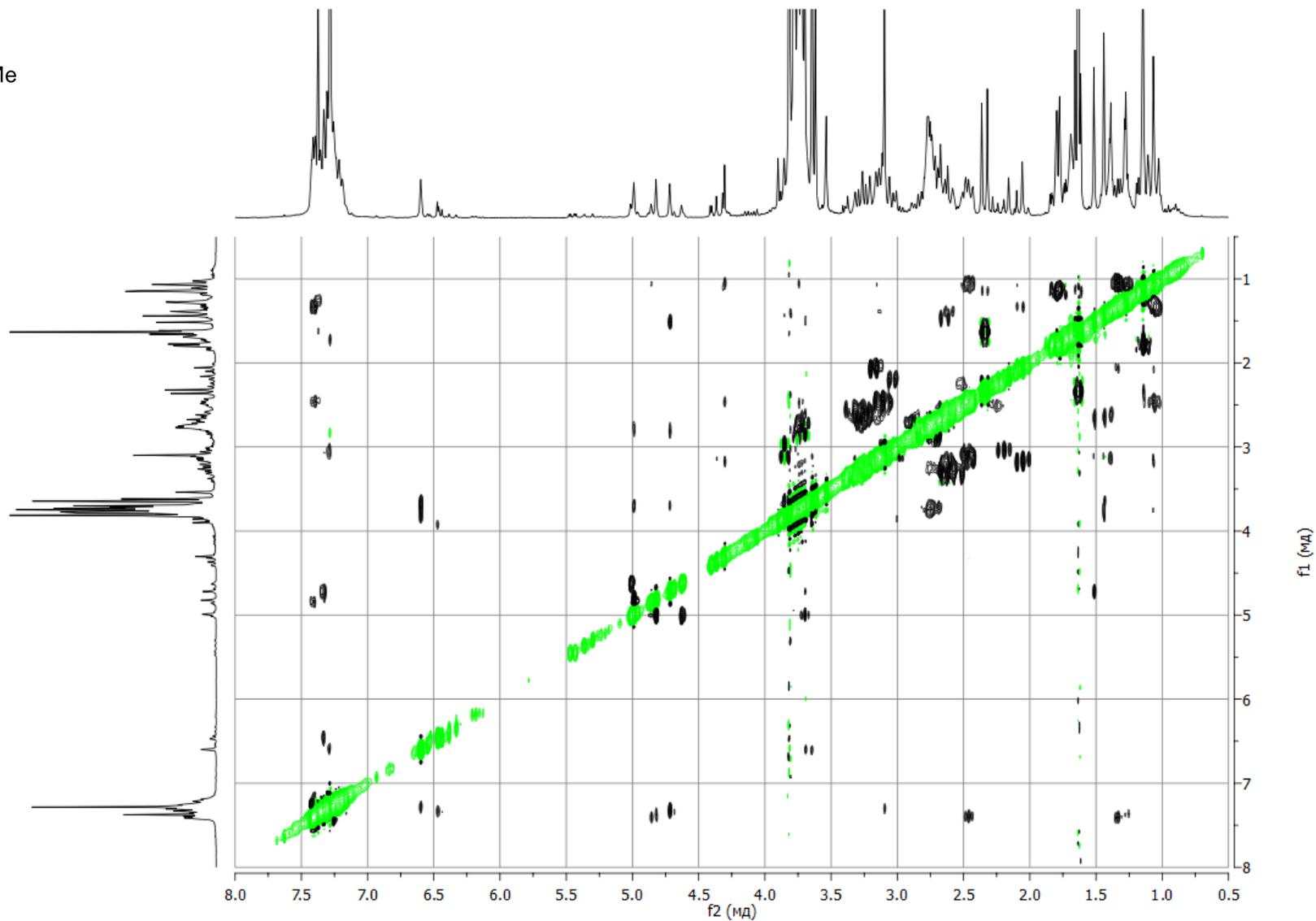


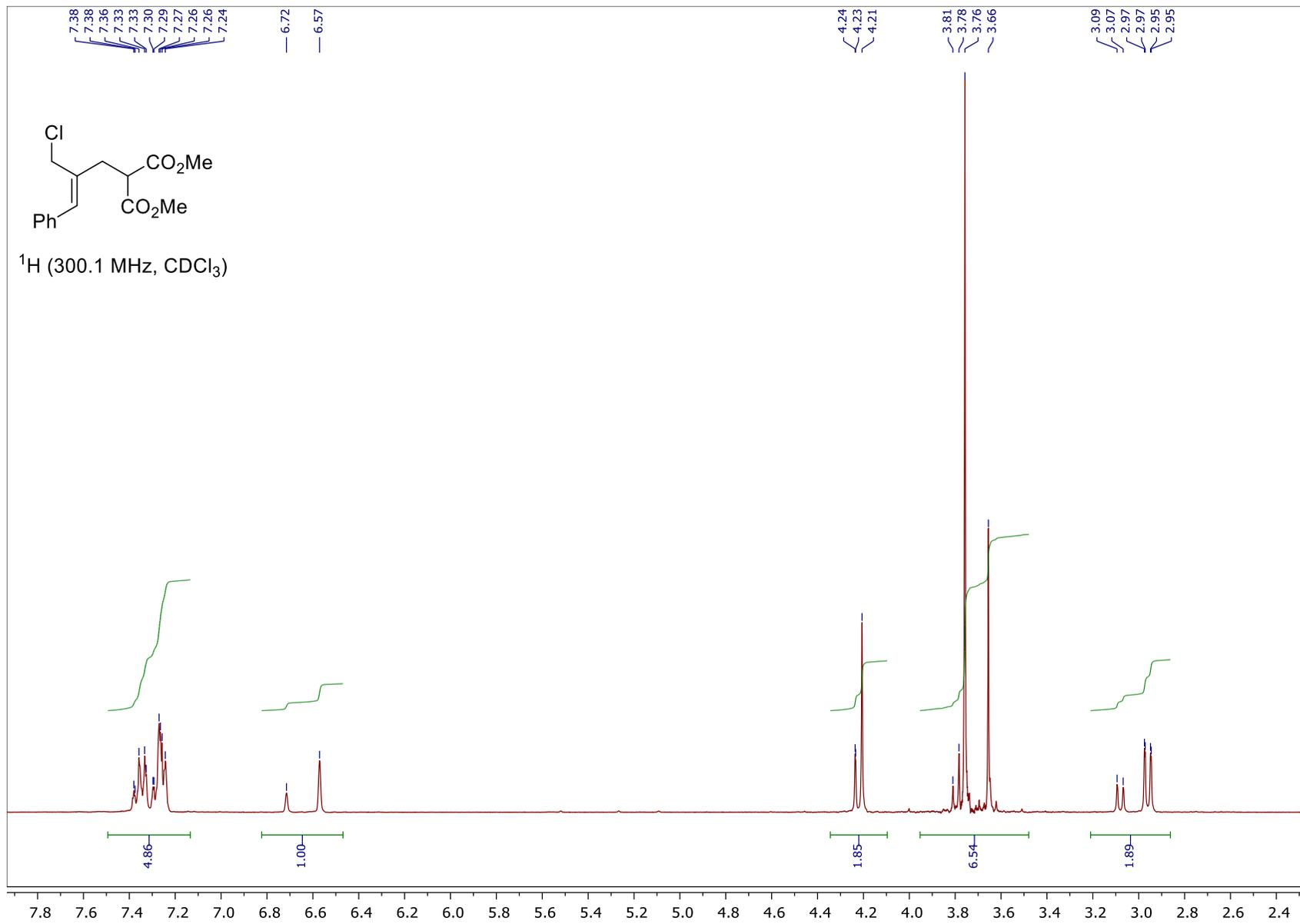
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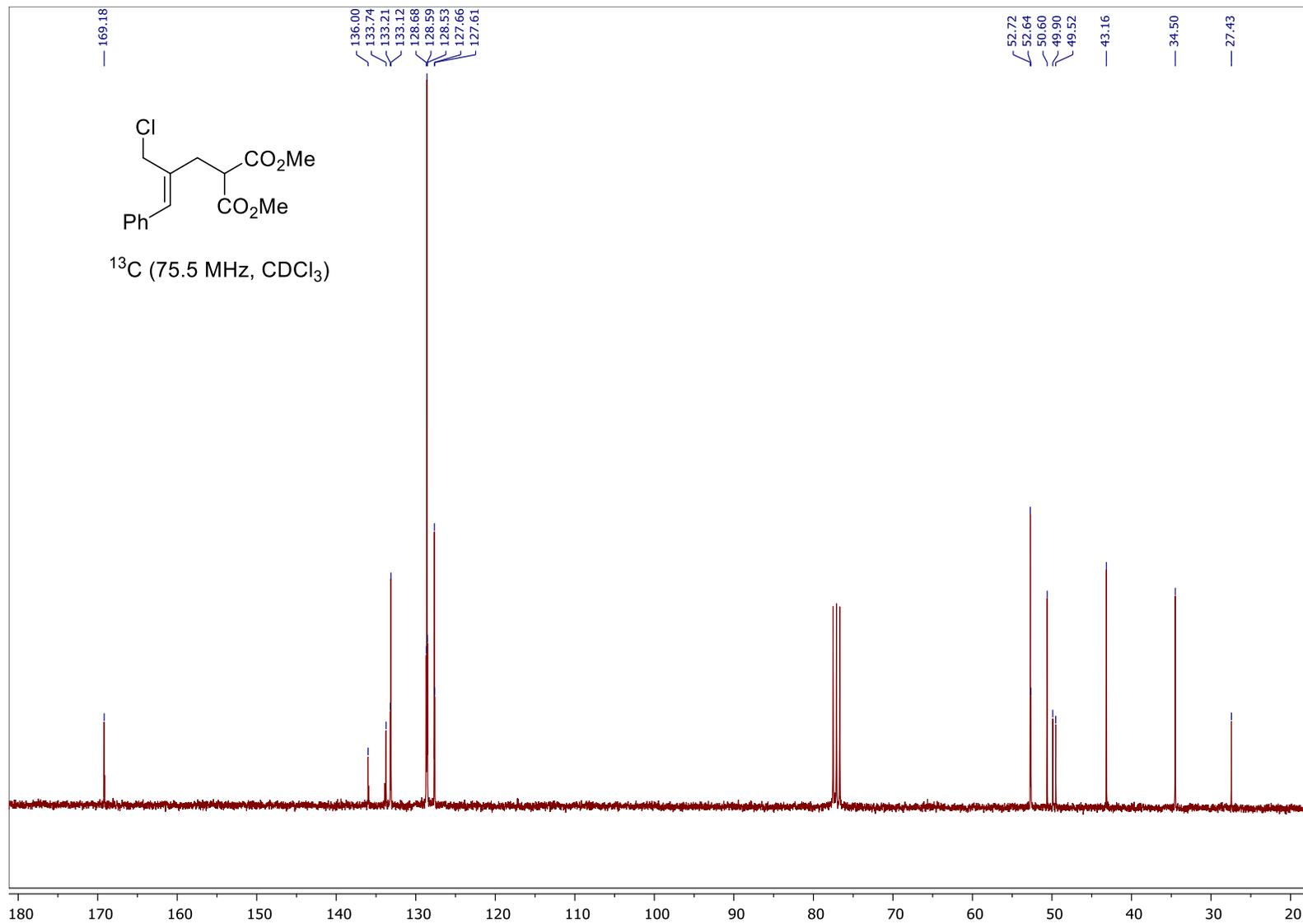


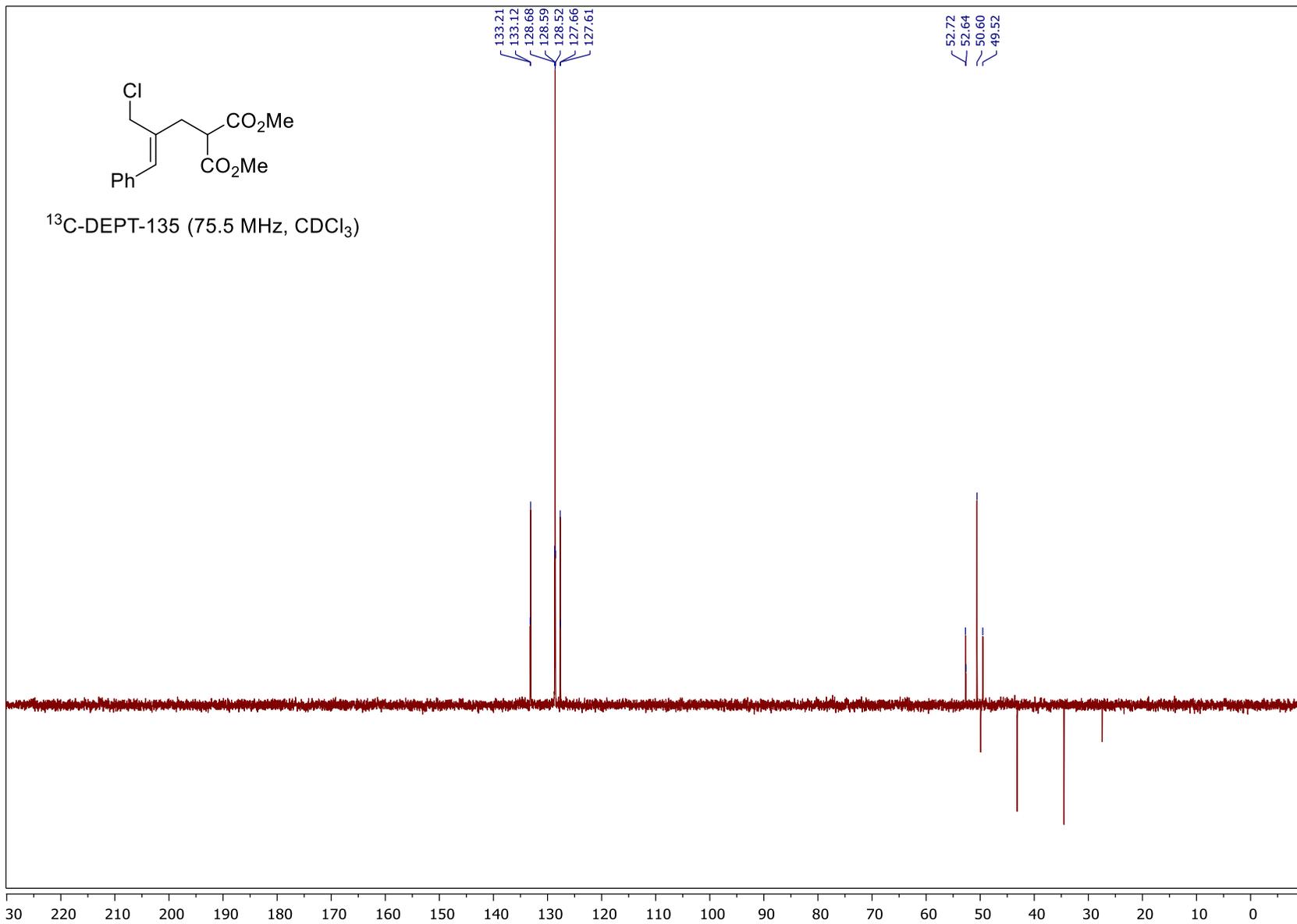


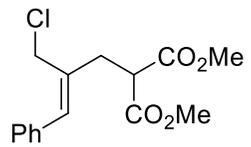
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(300.1 MHz, CDCl_3)



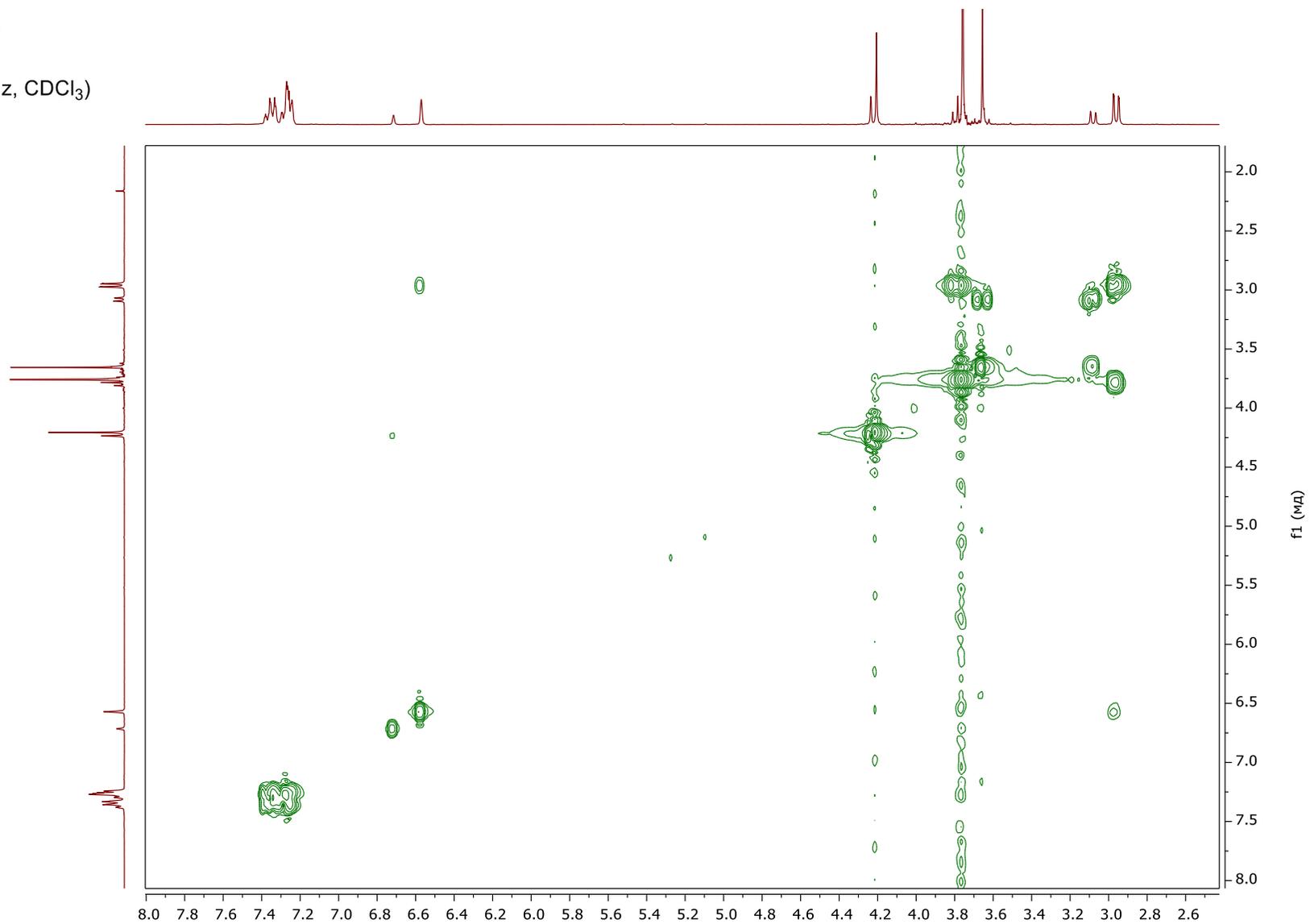


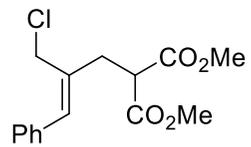




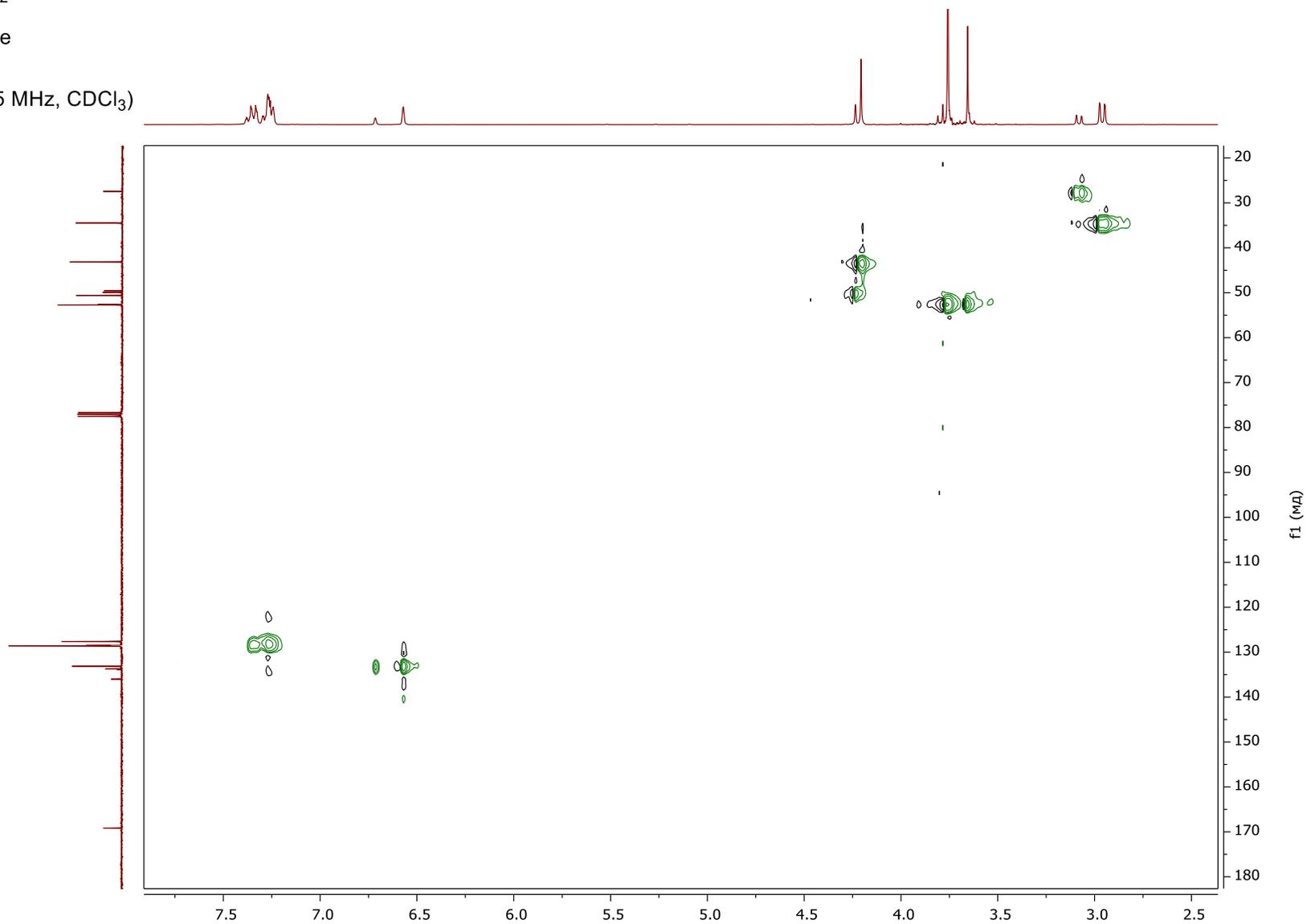


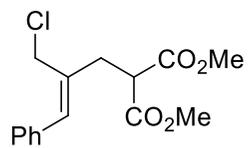
$^1\text{H}, ^1\text{H}$ -COSY (300.1 MHz, CDCl_3)



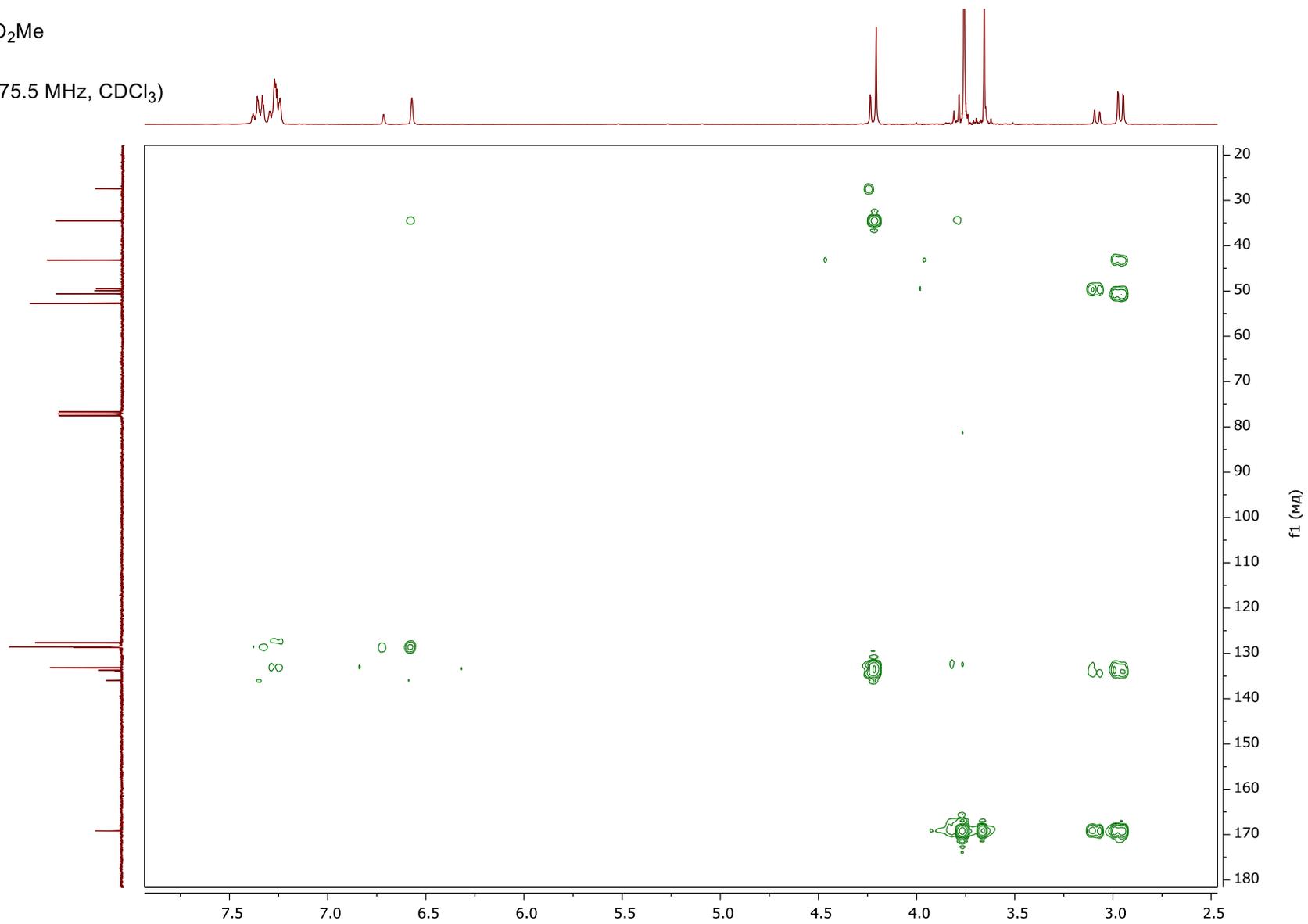


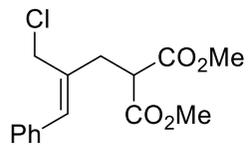
$^1\text{H}, ^{13}\text{C}$ -HSQC (300.1, 75.5 MHz, CDCl_3)





$^1\text{H}, ^{13}\text{C}$ -HMBC (300.1, 75.5 MHz, CDCl_3)





$^1\text{H}, ^1\text{H}$ -NOESY (300.1 MHz, CDCl_3)

