

**Regioselective synthesis of novel imidazo[1,5-*b*]pyridazine derivatives from diaminoimidazoles and  $\alpha$ -acylacrylonitriles**

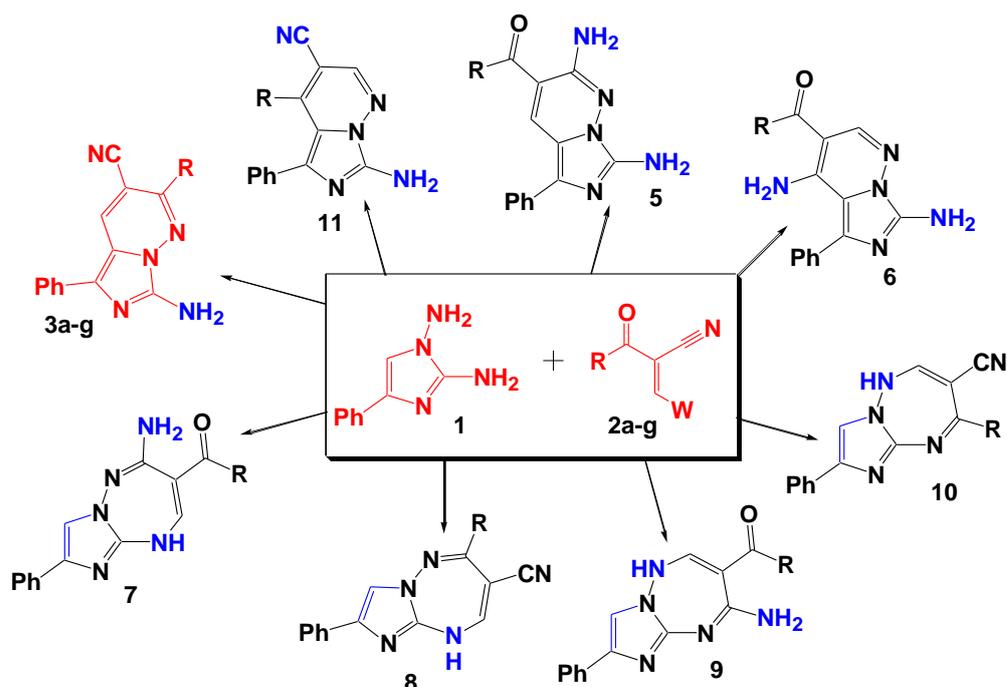
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**Discussion of regioselectivity, chemoselectivity and process mechanism**

Considering the polynucleophilic nature of the initial 1,2-diamino-4-phenylimidazole **1**, whose structure contains several asymmetric dinucleophilic centres, namely 1,3-C,N ( $C^5-N^1-NH_2$ ), 1,3-N,N ( $HN^3-C^2=NH$ ), 1,4-N,N ( $NH_2-N^1-C^2-NH_2$ ), and the theoretical possibility of difference in the sequence of attacks by bielectrophilic reagents. Scheme S1 shows structures of all possible products of its reaction with 2-dimethylaminomethylidene-3-(het)aryl-3-oxopropanenitriles **2a-f** and 2-dimethylaminomethylidene-3-oxobutanonitrile **2g**. Alternative imidazopyridazines **3** and **11** or imidazotriazepines **8** and **10** can be formed due to the difference in the initial attachment of **1** to **2** with CH- or  $NH_2$  – groups respectively, followed by intramolecular condensation with the participation of carbonyl groups. In turn, the competitive formation of imidazopyridazines **5** and **6** or imidazotriazepines **7** and **9** is associated with the possibility of the nitrile group of oxopropanenitriles taking part in the final stage of the cyclisation process.



R: Ph (a); 2-MeOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (b); 4-MeOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (c); 4-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (d);  
 naphthalen-2-yl (e); thiophen-2-yl (f); CH<sub>3</sub> (g).  
 W = NMe<sub>2</sub> or EtO.

**Scheme S1.**

The IR spectra of the obtained compounds demonstrates a stretching vibration band of the nitrile group in the region  $\approx 2205\text{-}2220\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The presence of the CN-group allowed us to exclude the formation of diaminoimidazotriazepines **5** and **6**, and imidazotriazepines **7** and **9**.

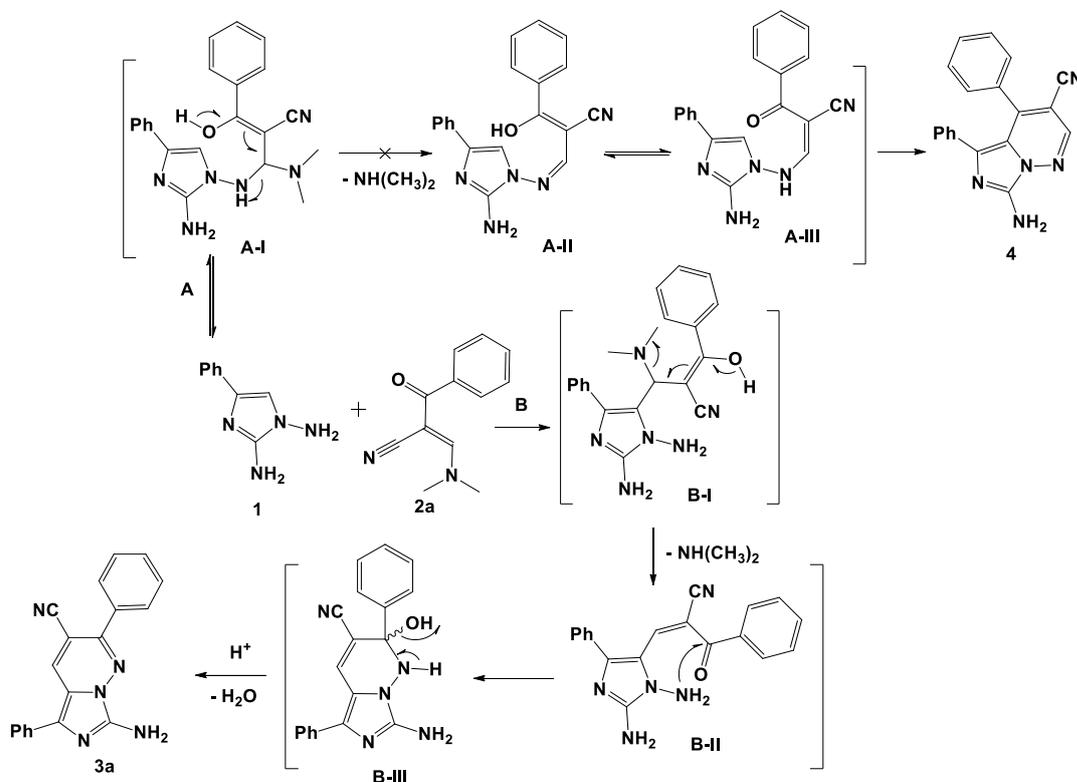
The presence in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the obtained compounds of the singlet of the NH<sub>2</sub> group with C-7 in the region of 6.84-6.97 ppm, and a peak of the pyridazine cycle at 8.85-8.99 ppm (with no proton signal of the imidazole cycle at C-5) also allowed us to exclude imidazotriazepines **7-10** from further consideration.

It appeared to be impossible to choose between isomers **3** and **11** using IR, <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and two-dimensional correlation spectroscopy. Therefore, to determine the structure of the obtained compounds, we performed an X-ray diffraction analysis of the compound **3a**. It demonstrated that during the studied cascade reaction 7-amino-2-(het)aryl-5-phenylimidazo[1,5-b]pyridazine-3-carbonitriles **3a-g** are formed

The obtained results allow us to suggest the following mechanism of the studied reaction (Scheme S2) using the example of the reaction of the initial diaminoimidazole **1** and 2-dimethylaminomethylidene-3-phenylpropanonitrile **2a** with the possible alternative formation of the two most common regioisomers, **3** and **11**. During the first stage, the attack of an NH- or CH-proton of the imidazole cycle and a subsequent elimination of the dimethylamine group can result in the formation of intermediates **A-I**, **A-II** and **A-III** (path A) or **B-I**, **B-II** and **B-III** (path B).

We assume that the process mostly takes place under thermodynamic control, i.e. according to path B, and results in the formation of a more thermodynamically stable (due to steric difficulties) regioisomer, **3a**. This is proved by the fact that the substitution of aryl with

less bulky methyl in oxopropanenitriles significantly increases the speed of the reaction under the same conditions. During the first stage **B-I**, which is a product of a classical Michael-type reaction, separates the dimethylamine molecule and transforms into an intermediate **B-II**. During the last stage, there is an acid-catalysed nucleophilic attack of the N-1 amino group on the carbonyl group followed by the dehydration and formation of the final product **3a** (see Scheme S2).



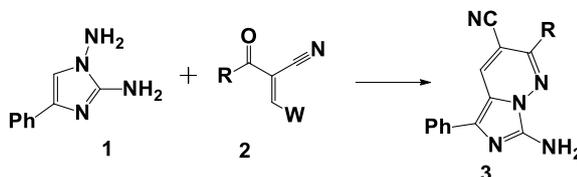
**Scheme S2.**

### General information (instrumentation)

IR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Vertex 70 spectrometer with a Platinum ATR accessory.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, NOESY spectra were recorded on Bruker DRX-500 devices (500.13 and 125.75 MHz, respectively) in DMSO- $d_6$  and TFA- $d$  with the internal TMS standard. Melting temperatures were taken on a Stuart SMP30 device. HPLC/MS spectra were recorded on an AgilentInfinity 1260 chromatograph with MS interface Agilent 6230 TOFLC/MS. Conditions for the separation: mobile phase MeCN/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  + 0.1% formic acid, gradient elution, column - Poroshell 120 EC-C18 (4.6 x 50 mm, 2.7  $\mu\text{m}$ ), thermostat 23-28 $^\circ\text{C}$ , flow rate of 0.3-0.4 ml/min. Electrospray ionisation (capillary - 3.5 kV; fragmentor + 191V; OctRF + 66V - positive polarity). The reaction progress and purity of the obtained compounds were controlled by TLC on Merck TLC Silica gel 60 F254 plates in a 20:1  $\text{CHCl}_3$ -MeOH system (visualisation under UV light). The commercially available reagents were purchased from Lancaster.

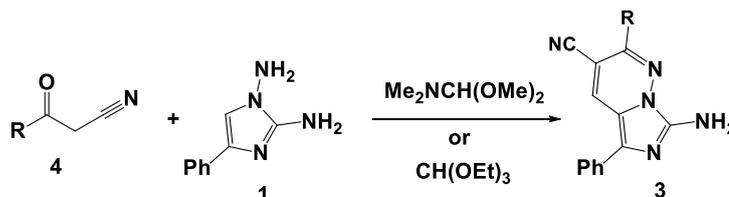
### Synthesis and analytical data for imidazo[1,5-*b*]pyridazine-3-carbonitriles 3a-g

**Procedure A:** A solution of diaminoimidazole **1** (5 mmol), and the appropriate  $\alpha$ -acylacrylonitrile **2** (5 mmol), in Pr<sup>i</sup>OH–DMF mixture (3:1, 5 ml) with the addition of 1-2 drops of acetic acid was boiled for 2 hours in a retort with reflux condenser. The precipitate was filtered and recrystallised from the Pr<sup>i</sup>OH–DMF mixture, 2:1.



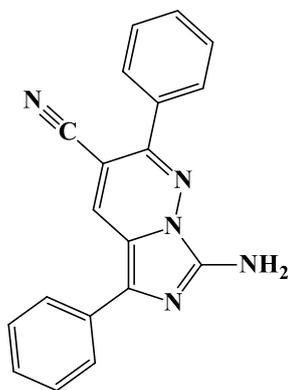
**Procedure B:** A solution of diaminoimidazole **1** (5 mmol), the appropriate  $\beta$ -oxo nitrile **4** (5 mmol) and triethyl orthoformate (5 mmol) in Pr<sup>i</sup>OH -DMF mixture (3:1, 5 ml) with the addition of 1-2 drops of acetic acid was boiled for 2 hours in a flask with a reflux condenser. The precipitate was filtered and recrystallised from the Pr<sup>i</sup>OH – DMF mixture, 2:1.

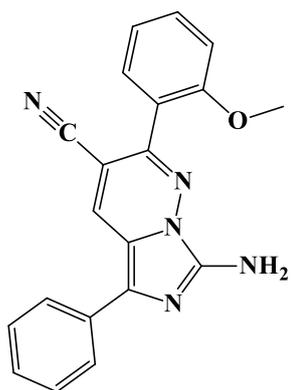
**Procedure C:** A solution of the appropriate  $\beta$ -oxo nitrile **4** (5 mmol), dimethylformamide dimethylacetal (5 mmol), in DMF (1 ml) was left for 6 hours at room temperature. Then, diaminoimidazole **1** (5 mmol), Pr<sup>i</sup>OH (3 ml), and 2 drops of acetic acid were added and the mixture was boiled for 2 hours in a retort with a reflux condenser. The precipitate was filtered and recrystallised from the Pr<sup>i</sup>OH – DMF mixture, 2:1.



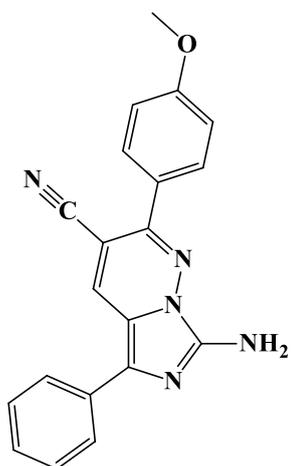
#### 7-Amino-2,5-diphenylimidazo[1,5-*b*]pyridazine-3-

**carbonitrile 3a.** Yield: A - 1061 mg (68%); B/C - 1029 mg (66%), red crystals, mp. 298-300 °C. IR, ( $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3439, 3288 (NH<sub>2</sub>); 3056 (br, C-H + associated N-H); 2208 (CN); 1652 (NH); 1596 (Ph); 1558 (C=N imidazole); 1496 (Ph); 1222 (C-N amin); 1161 (C-N amin); 766 (C-H Ph); 694 (C-H Ph + N-H). <sup>1</sup>H NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm, *J*, Hz): 6.94 (s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>); 7.34-7.38 (m, 1H, Ar-H); 7.46 (t, *J* 7.9 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); 7.55-7.60 (m, 3H, Ar-H); 7.81-7.84 (m, 2H, Ar-H); 7.97-8.00 (m, 2H, Ar-H); 8.95 (s, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm): 90.4, 115.2, 118.3, 126.5, 128.0, 128.5, 128.6, 128.9, 130.3, 133.1; 134.1, 134.2, 136.9, 146.6, 151.0. HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: 312.1246 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>. (calc. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>5</sub>, *m/z*: 312.1244).

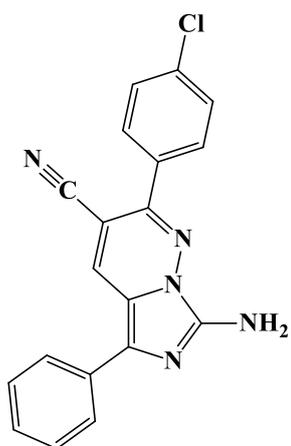




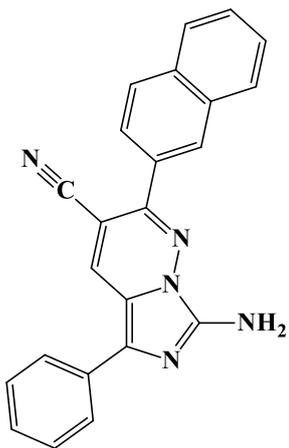
**7-Amino-2-(2-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylimidazo[1,5-*b*]-pyridazine-3-carbonitrile 3b.** Yield: A - 1368 mg (80%); B/C - 1334 mg (78%), red crystals, mp. 288-290 °C. IR, ( $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3401, 3301 ( $\text{NH}_2$ ); 3084 (br, C-H + associated N-H); 2211 (CN); 1653 (NH); 1598 (Ar); 1562 (C=N imidazole); 1497 (Ar); 1243 (Ar-O-Me); 1223 (C-N amin); 1161 (C-N amin); 747 (*o*- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$ ); 697 (C-H Ph + N-H).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm, *J*, Hz): 3.84 (s, 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ); 6.86 (s, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ); 7.11 (t, *J* 7.5 Hz, 1H, Ar-H); 7.22 (d, *J* 8.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H); 7.33-7.37 (m, 1H, Ar-H); 7.43-7.48 (m, 3H, Ar-H); 7.53-7.57 (m, 1H, Ar-H); 7.96-7.99 (m, 2H, Ar-H); 8.85 (s, 1H,  $\text{H}^4$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm): 55.7, 93.3, 111.7, 114.9, 117.8, 120.6, 123.5, 126.5, 127.9, 128.9, 130.4, 131.9, 133.21, 133.8, 135.3, 146.5, 150.6, 157.3. HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: 342.1347 [ $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ] $^+$ . (calc. for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_5\text{O}$ , *m/z*: 342.1355).



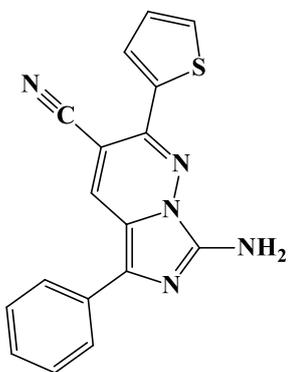
**7-Amino-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-phenylimidazo[1,5-*b*]-pyridazine-3-carbonitrile 3c.** Yield: A - 1471 mg (86%); B/C - 1419 mg (83%), red crystals, mp. 270-272 °C. IR, ( $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3457, 3284 ( $\text{NH}_2$ ); 3076 (br, C-H + associated N-H); 2213 (CN); 1650 (NH); 1596 (Ar); 1559 (C=N imidazole); 1514 (Ar); 1262 (Ar-O-Me); 1223 (C-N amin); 1163 (C-N amin); 838 (*p*- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$ ); 696 (C-H Ph + N-H).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm, *J*, Hz): 3.85 (s, 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ); 6.90 (s, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ); 7.12 (dt, *J* 8.8, 2.1 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); 7.34-7.37 (m, 1H, Ar-H); 7.46 (t, *J* 7.6 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); 7.81 (dt, *J* 8.8, 2.1 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); 7.97-7.99 (m, 2H, Ar-H); 8.91 (s, 1H,  $\text{H}^4$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm): 55.4, 90.4, 113.8, 115.1, 118.5, 126.4, 126.5, 127.9, 128.9, 130.1, 133.15, 134.0, 136.8, 146.5, 150.4, 160.9. HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: 342.1349 [ $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ] $^+$ . (calc. for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_5\text{O}$ , *m/z*: 342.1355).



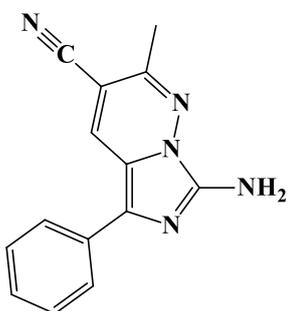
**7-Amino-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-phenylimidazo[1,5-*b*]-pyridazine-3-carbonitrile 3d.** Yield: A - 1296 mg (75%); B/C - 1246 mg (72%), red crystals, mp. 280-282 °C. IR, ( $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3288, 3147 ( $\text{NH}_2$ ); 3072 (br, C-H + associated N-H); 2210 (CN); 1650 (NH); 1593 (Ar); 1558 (C=N imidazole); 1495 (Ar); 1222 (C-N amin); 1162 (C-N amin); 838 (*p*- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$ ); 696 (C-H Ph + N-H).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm, *J*, Hz): 6.97 (s, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ); 7.35-7.38 (m, 1H, Ar-H); 7.46 (t, *J* 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); 7.66 (dt, *J* 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); 7.86 (dt, *J* 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); 7.97-8.00 (m, 2H, Ar-H); 8.96 (s, 1H,  $\text{H}^4$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm): 90.1, 115.2, 118.2, 126.5, 128.0, 128.6, 128.9, 130.5, 132.4; 133.0, 134.4, 135.3, 136.9, 146.6, 150.0. HRMS (ESI), *m/z*: 346.0852 [ $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ] $^+$ . (calc. for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClN}_5$ , *m/z*: 346.0854).



**7-Amino-2-(naphthalene-2-yl)-5-phenylimidazo[1,5-*b*]-pyridazine-3-carbonitrile 3e.** Yield: A - 1683 mg (93%); B/C - 1629 mg (90%), red crystals, mp. >300 °C. IR, ( $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3447, 3287 ( $\text{NH}_2$ ); 3049 (br, C-H + associated N-H); 2210 (CN); 1650 (NH); 1593 (Ar); 1497 (Ar); 1559 (C=N imidazole); 1513 (Ar); 1224 (C-N amin); 1158 (C-N amin); 770 (C-H Ar); 693 (C-H Ph + N-H).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm, *J*, Hz): 6.98 (s, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ); 7.37 (t, *J* 7.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H); 7.48 (t, *J* 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); 7.62-7.68 (m, 2H, Ar-H); 7.94 (dd, *J* 8.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H, Ar-H); 8.00-8.08 (m, 4H, Ar-H); 8.11 (d, *J* 8.6 Hz, 1H, Ar-H); 8.42 (s, 1H, Ar-H); 8.99 (s, 1H,  $\text{H}^4$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm): 90.6, 115.2, 118.4, 125.7, 126.5, 126.9, 127.6, 127.8, 128.0, 128.1, 128.5, 128.6, 128.9, 131.6, 132.3, 133.1, 133.5, 134.3, 136.9, 146.6, 150.9. HRMS (ESI),  $m/z$ : 362.1401 [ $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ] $^+$ . (calc. for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_5$ ,  $m/z$ : 362.1401).

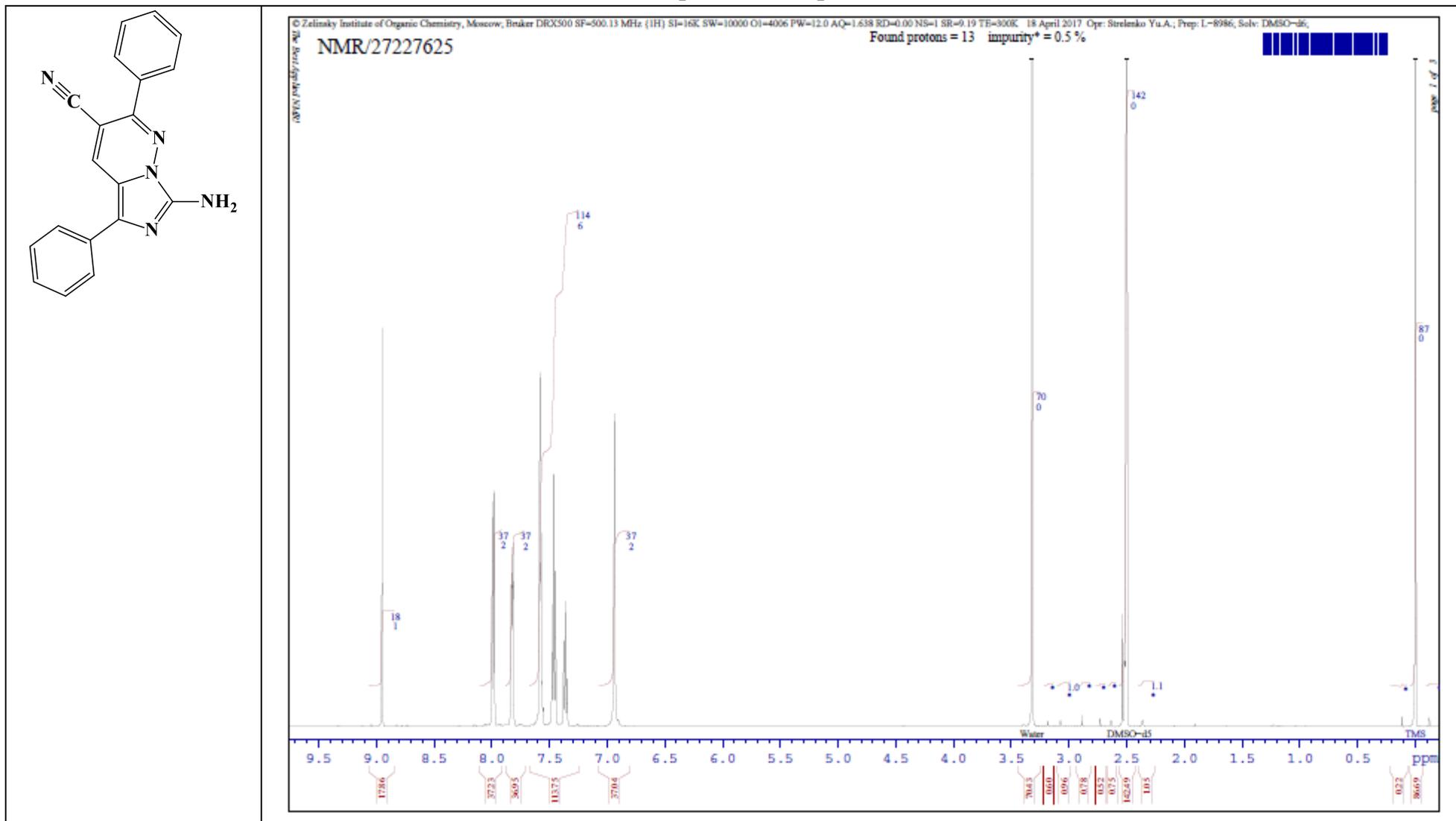


**7-Amino-5-phenyl-2-(thiophen-2-yl)imidazo[1,5-*b*]-pyridazine-3-carbonitrile 3f.** Yield: A - 1018 mg (64%); B/C - 1017 mg (63%), red crystals, mp. >300 °C. IR, ( $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3410, 3287 ( $\text{NH}_2$ ); 3073 (br, C-H + associated N-H); 2212 (CN); 1649 (NH); 1594 (Ar); 1559 (C=N imidazole); 1223 (C-N amin); 1164 (C-N amin); 753 (C-H Ph); 695 (C-H Ph + C-H thiophene + N-H).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm, *J*, Hz): 6.92 (s, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ); 7.27 (t, *J* 4.4 Hz, 1H, thiophen-H); 7.37 (t, *J* 7.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H); 7.46 (t, *J* 7.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); 7.86 (d, *J* 5.1 Hz, 1H, thiophen-H); 7.98 (d, *J* 7.7 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); 8.01 (d, *J* 3.7 Hz, 1H, thiophen-H); 8.93 (s, 1H,  $\text{H}^4$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm): 88.6, 115.0, 118.6, 126.5, 128.1, 128.2, 128.9, 129.7, 130.3, 132.4, 134.8, 136.5, 137.4, 144.5, 146.4. HRMS (ESI),  $m/z$ : 318.0802 [ $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ] $^+$ . (calc. for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_5\text{S}$ ,  $m/z$ : 318.0808).

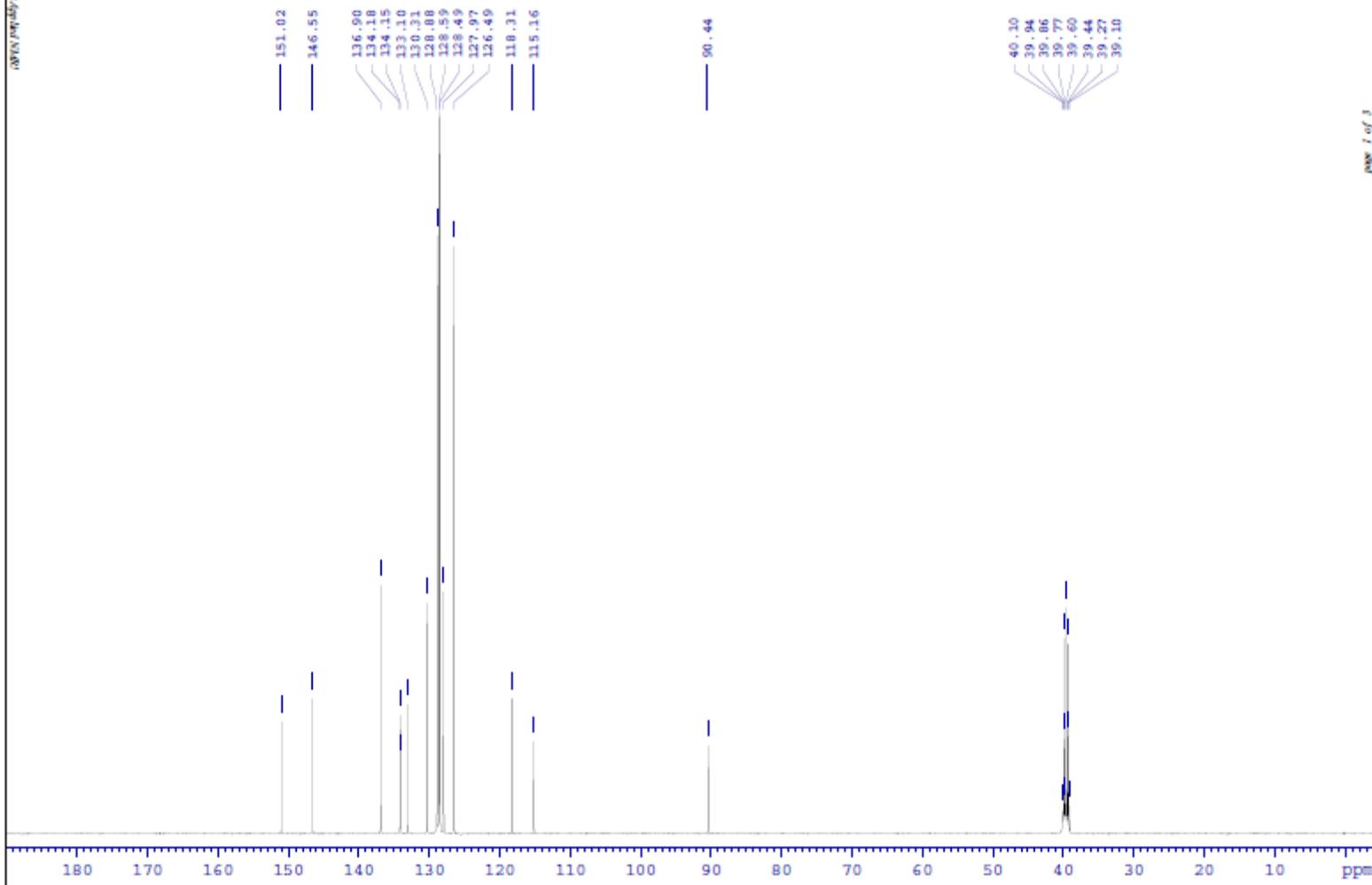


**7-Amino-2-methyl-5-phenylimidazo[1,5-*b*]pyridazine-3-carbonitrile 3g.** Yield: A - 1046 mg (84%); B/C - 1108 mg (89%), red crystals, mp. 260-262 °C. IR, ( $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3453, 3288 ( $\text{NH}_2$ ); 3096 (br, C-H + associated N-H); 2210 (CN); 1646 (NH); 1604 (Ph); 1559 (C=N imidazole); 1497 (Ph); 1227 (C-N amin); 1158 (C-N amin); 767 (C-H Ph); 699 (C-H Ph + N-H).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm, *J*, Hz): 2.41 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 6.79 (s, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ); 7.27 (t, *J* 6.9 Hz, 1H, Ar-H); 7.43 (t, *J* 7.5 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); 7.92 (d, *J* 7.7 Hz, 2H, Ar-H); 8.78 (s, 1H,  $\text{H}^4$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, ( $\delta$ , ppm): 20.4, 91.6, 115.2, 117.9, 126.3, 127.8, 128.8, 133.2, 133.9, 135.2, 146.1, 150.0. HRMS (ESI),  $m/z$ : 250.1088 [ $\text{M}+\text{H}$ ] $^+$ . (calc. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_5$ ,  $m/z$ : 250.1088).

Table S1. Spectra of compound 3a

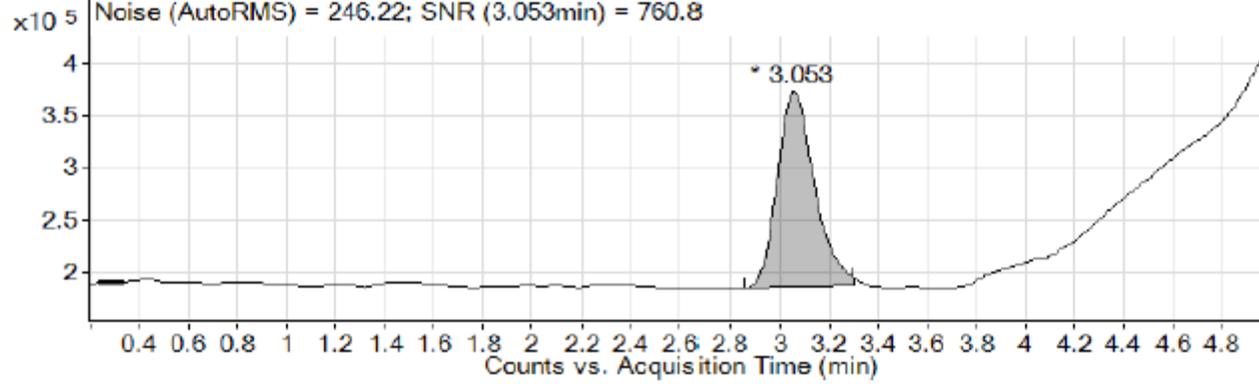


### NMR/27227625



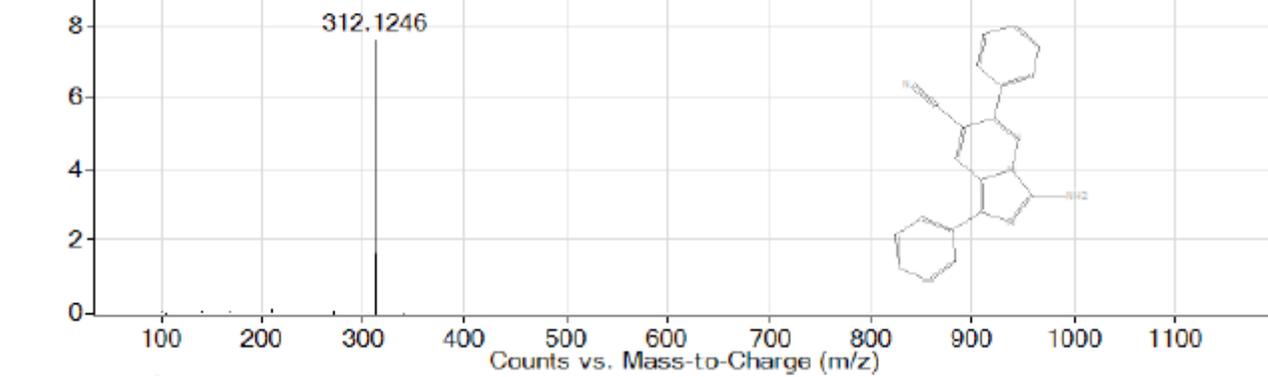
Fragmentor Voltage 191 Collision Energy 0 Ionization Mode ESI

+ESI TIC Scan Frag=191.0V LCMS\_5240.d Smooth  
Noise (AutoRMS) = 246.22; SNR (3.053min) = 760.8



MS Spectrum

7-amino-2,5-diphenylimidazo[1,5-b]pyridazine-3-carbonitrile: +ESI Scan (2.937-3.236 min, 19 Sca...



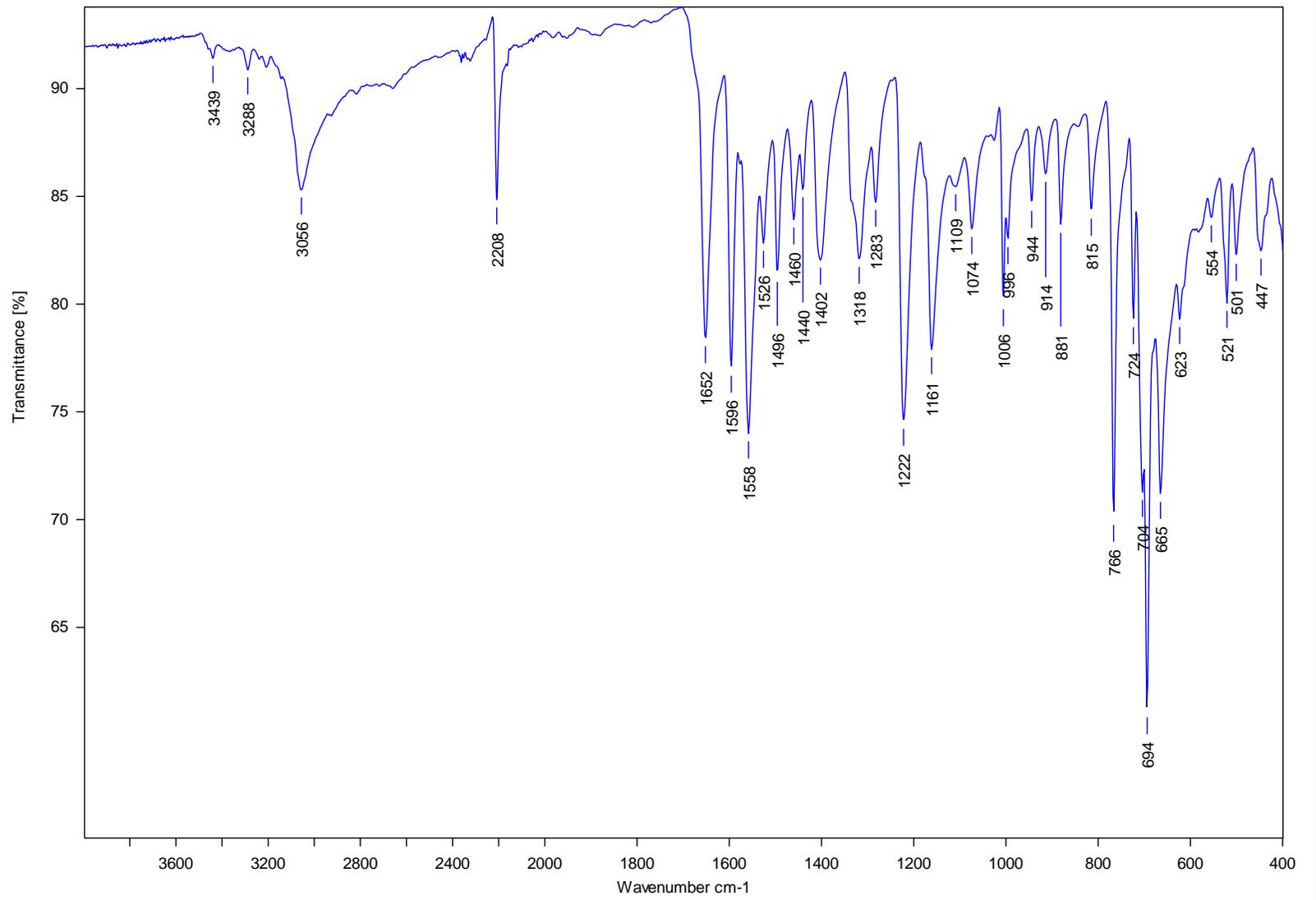
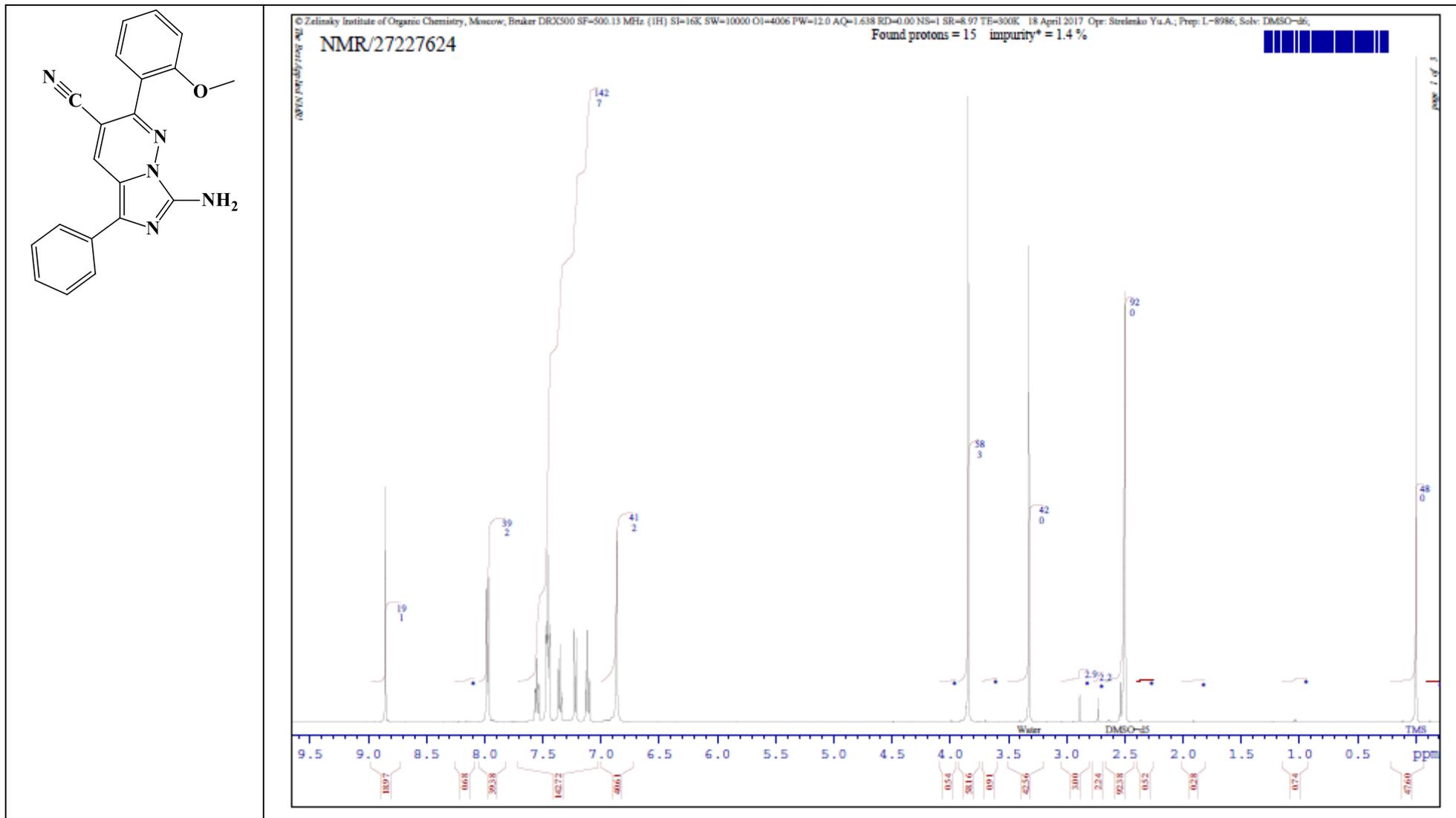
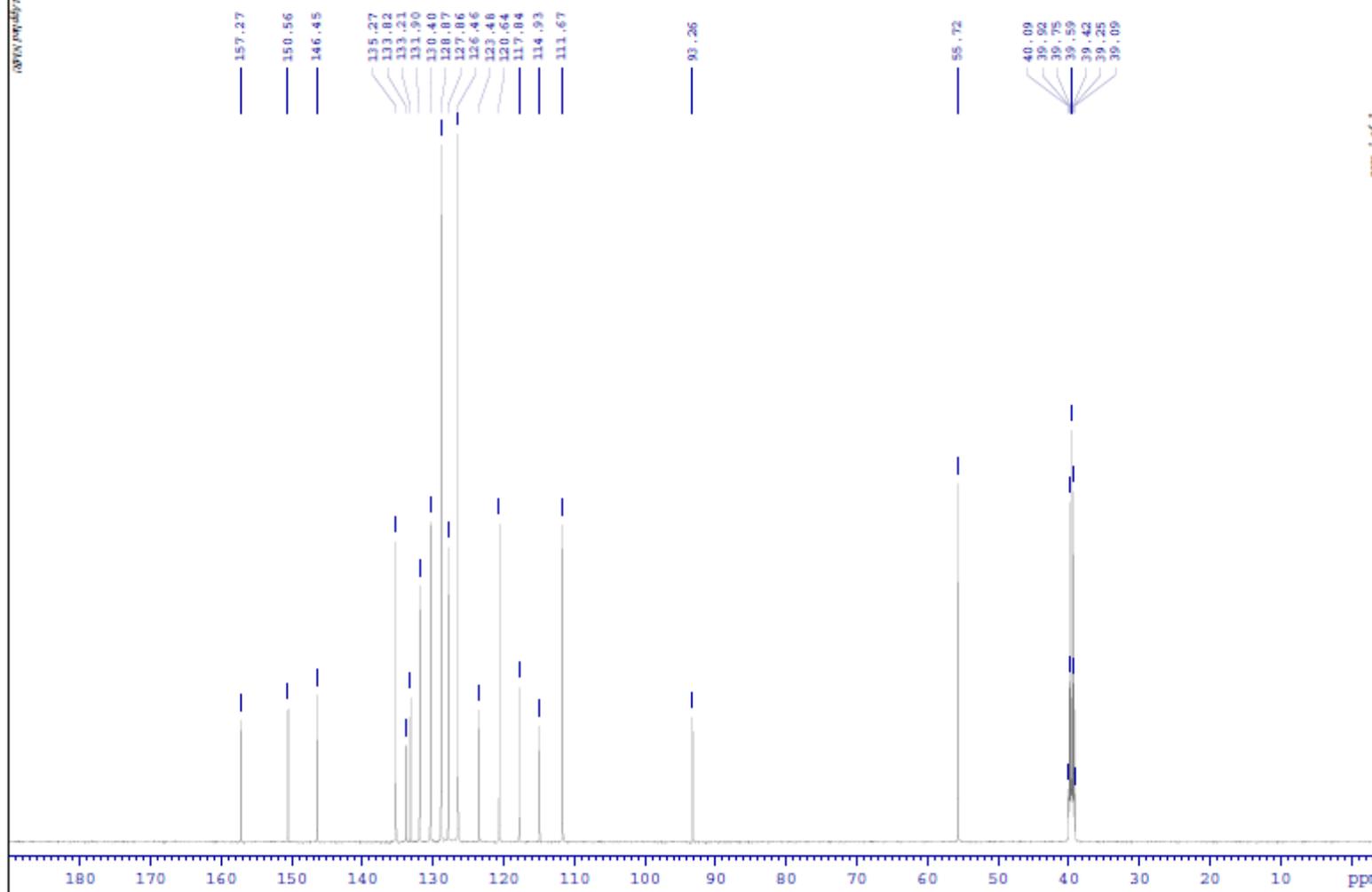


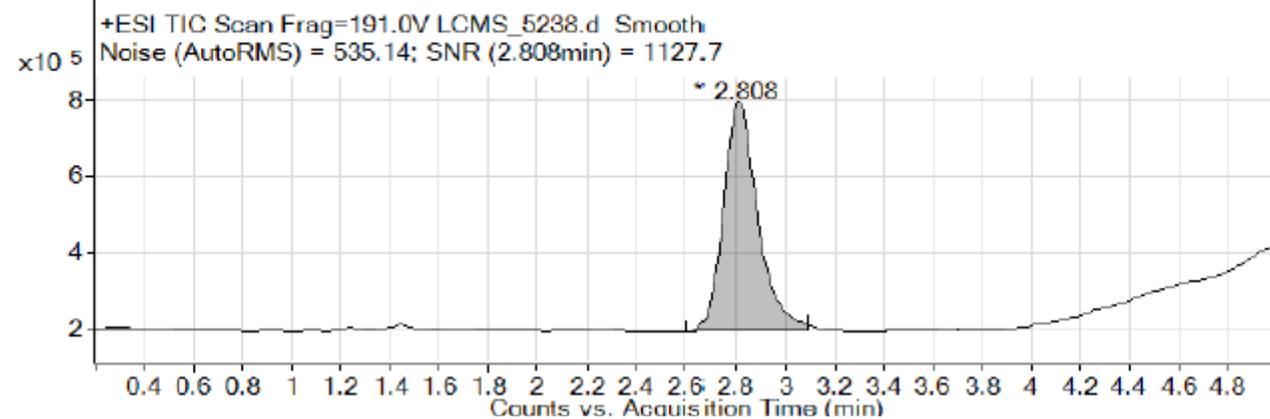
Table S2. Spectra of compound 3b



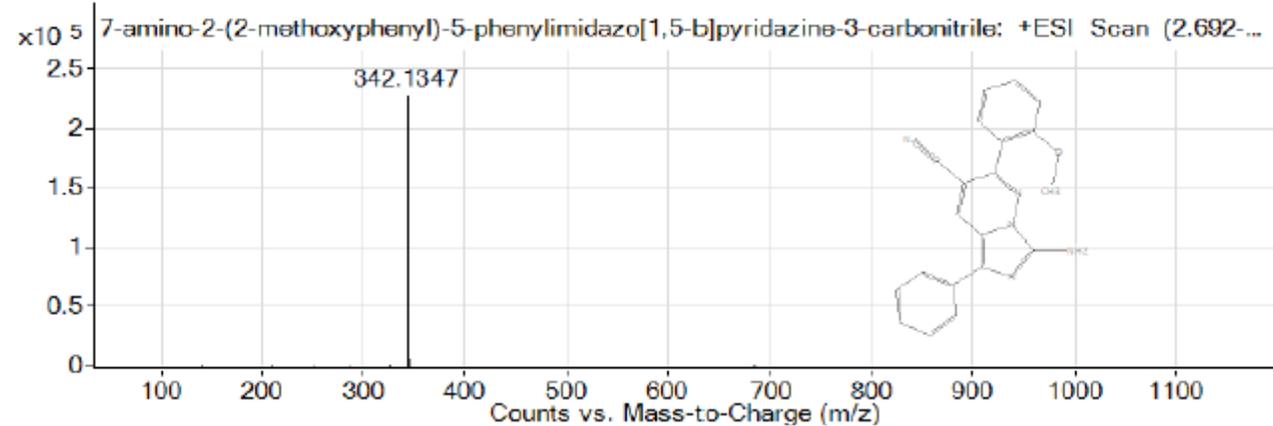
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Fragmentor Voltage 191 Collision Energy 0 Ionization Mode ESI



MS Spectrum



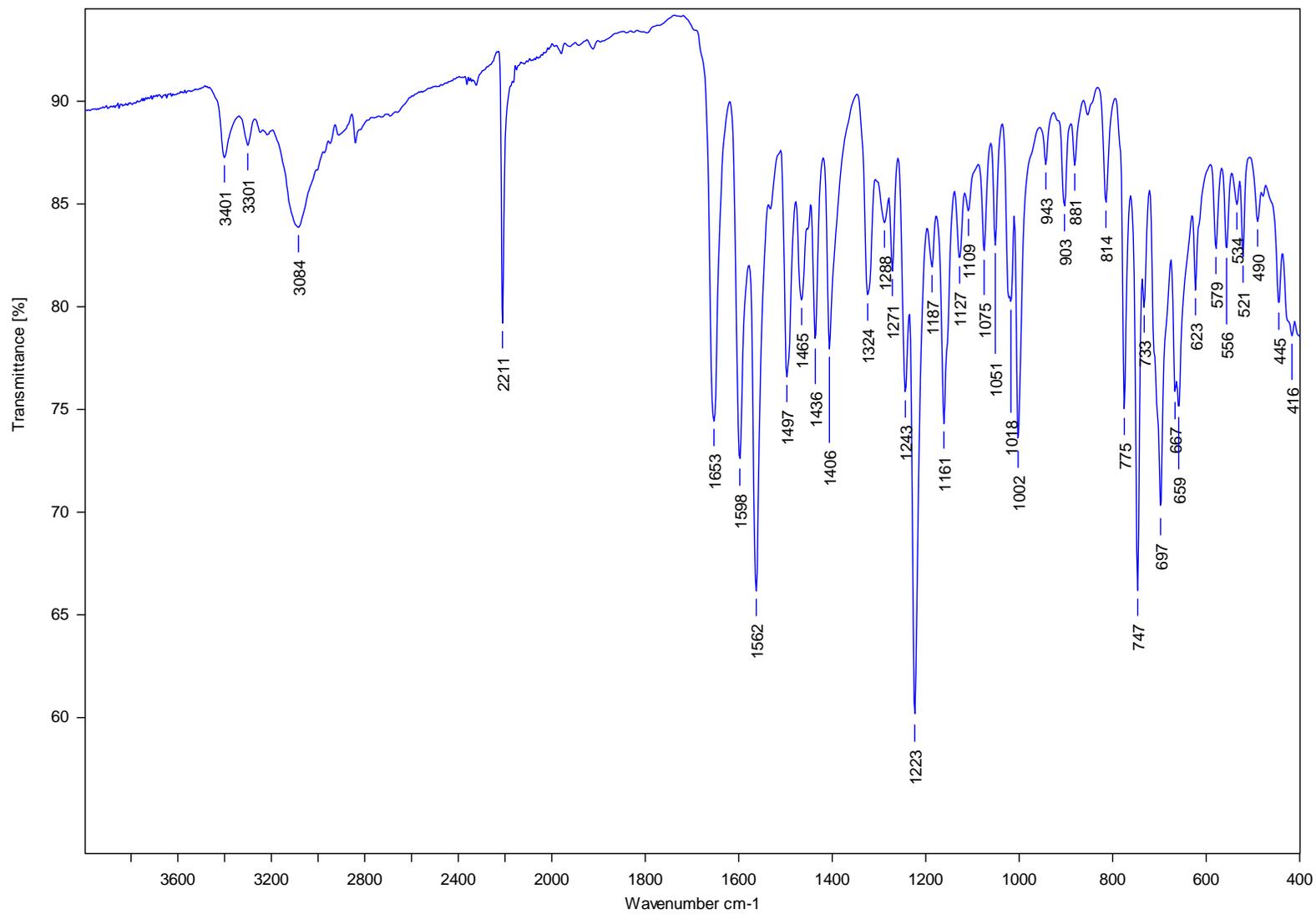
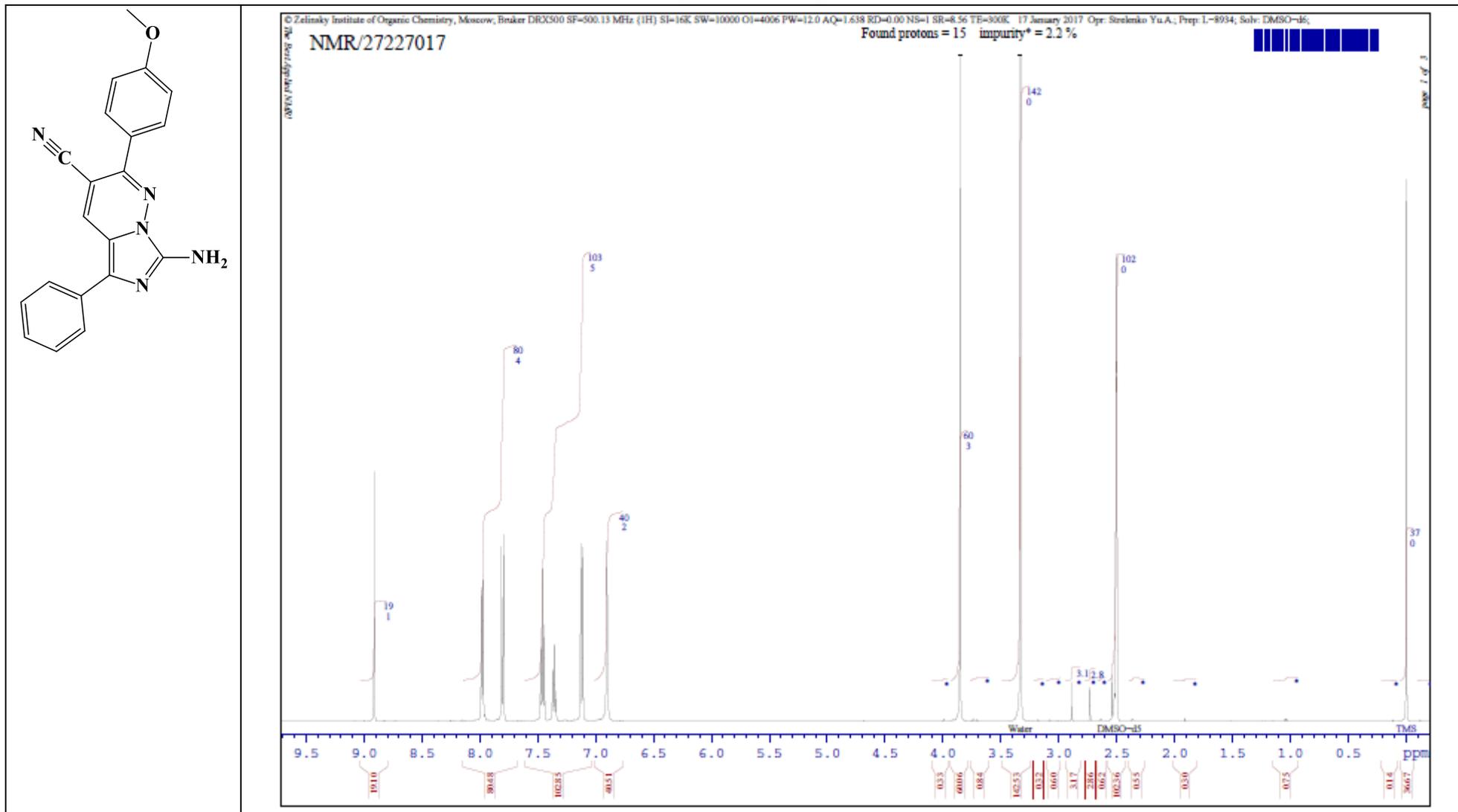
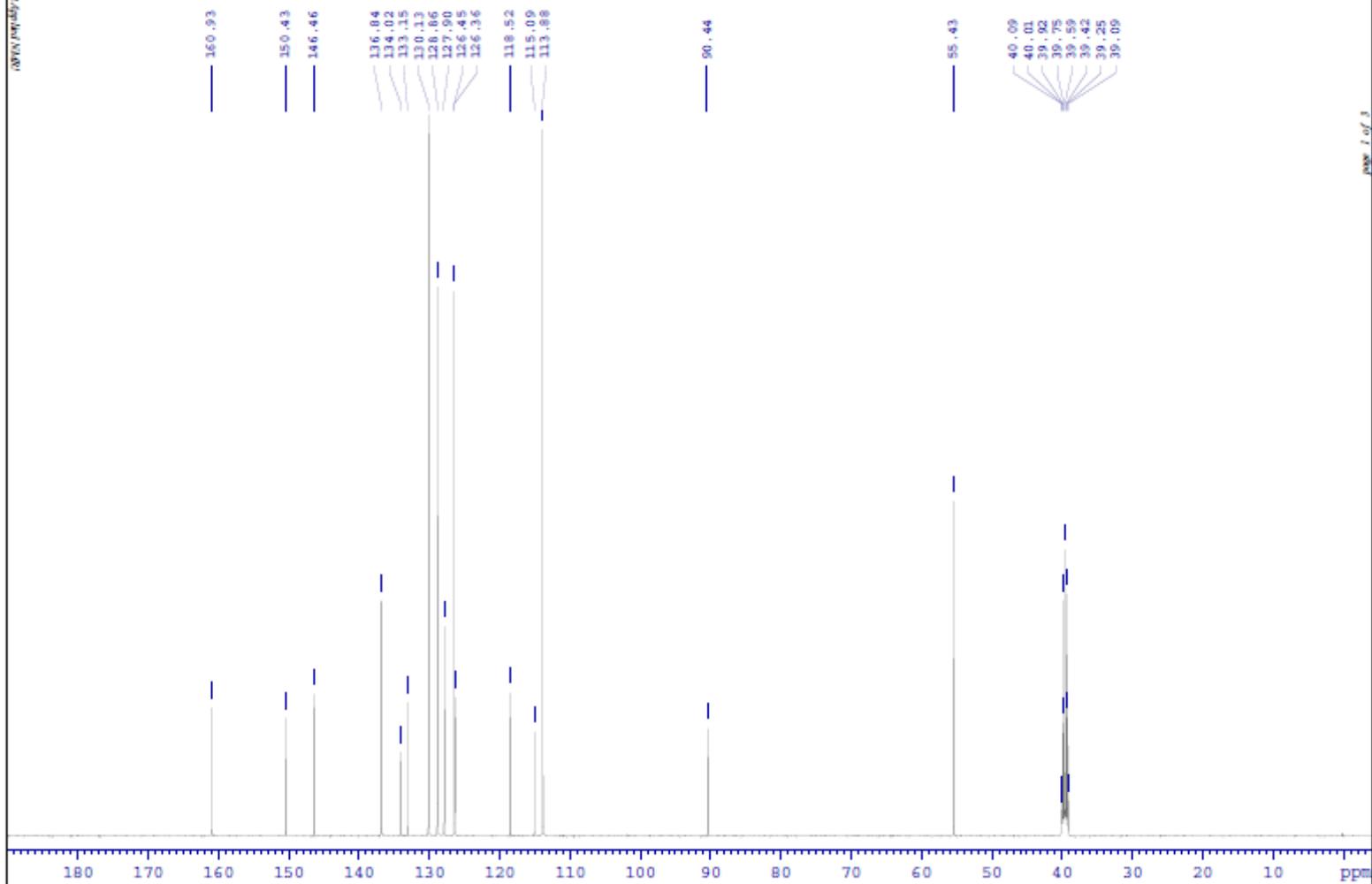


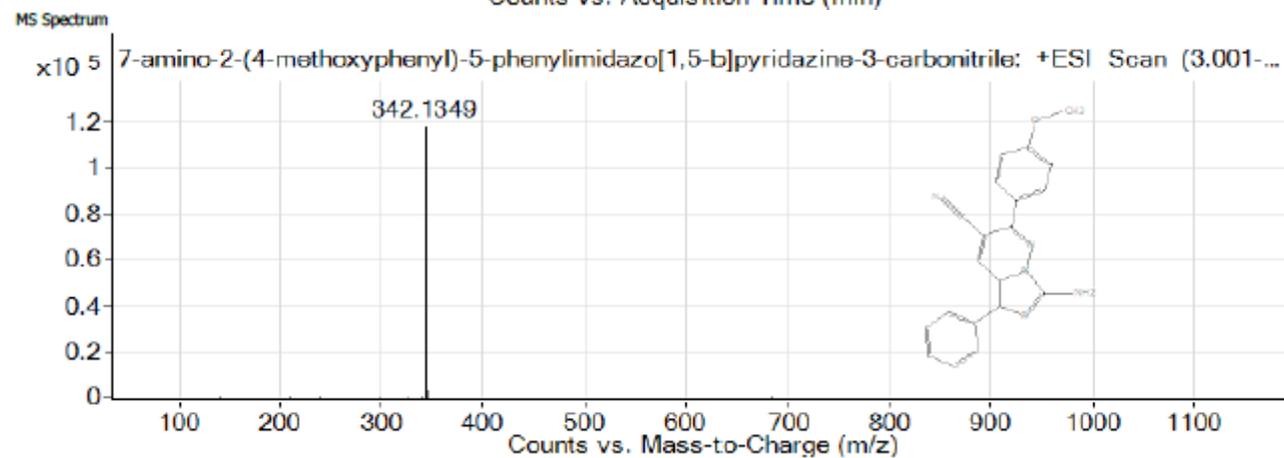
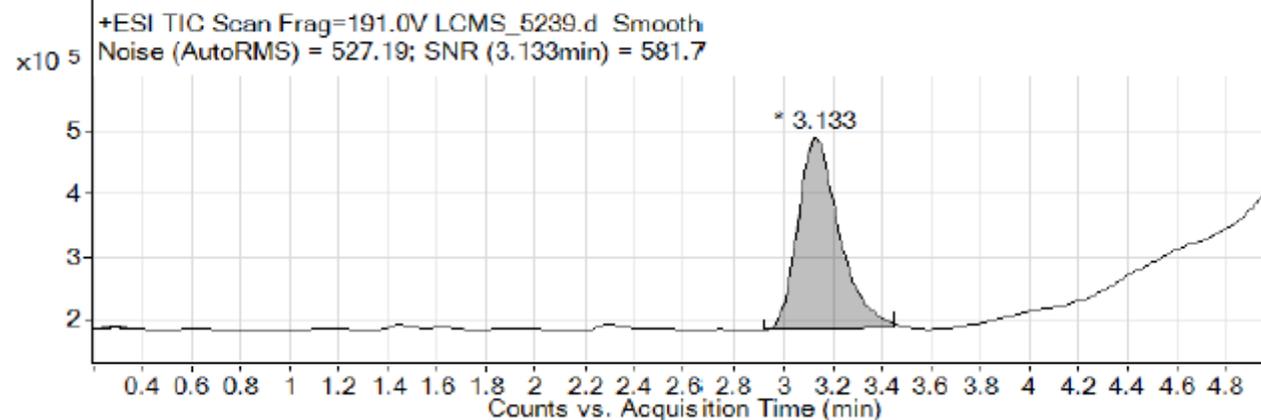
Table S3. Spectra of compound 3c



### NMR/27227646



Fragmentor Voltage 191 Collision Energy 0 Ionization Mode ESI



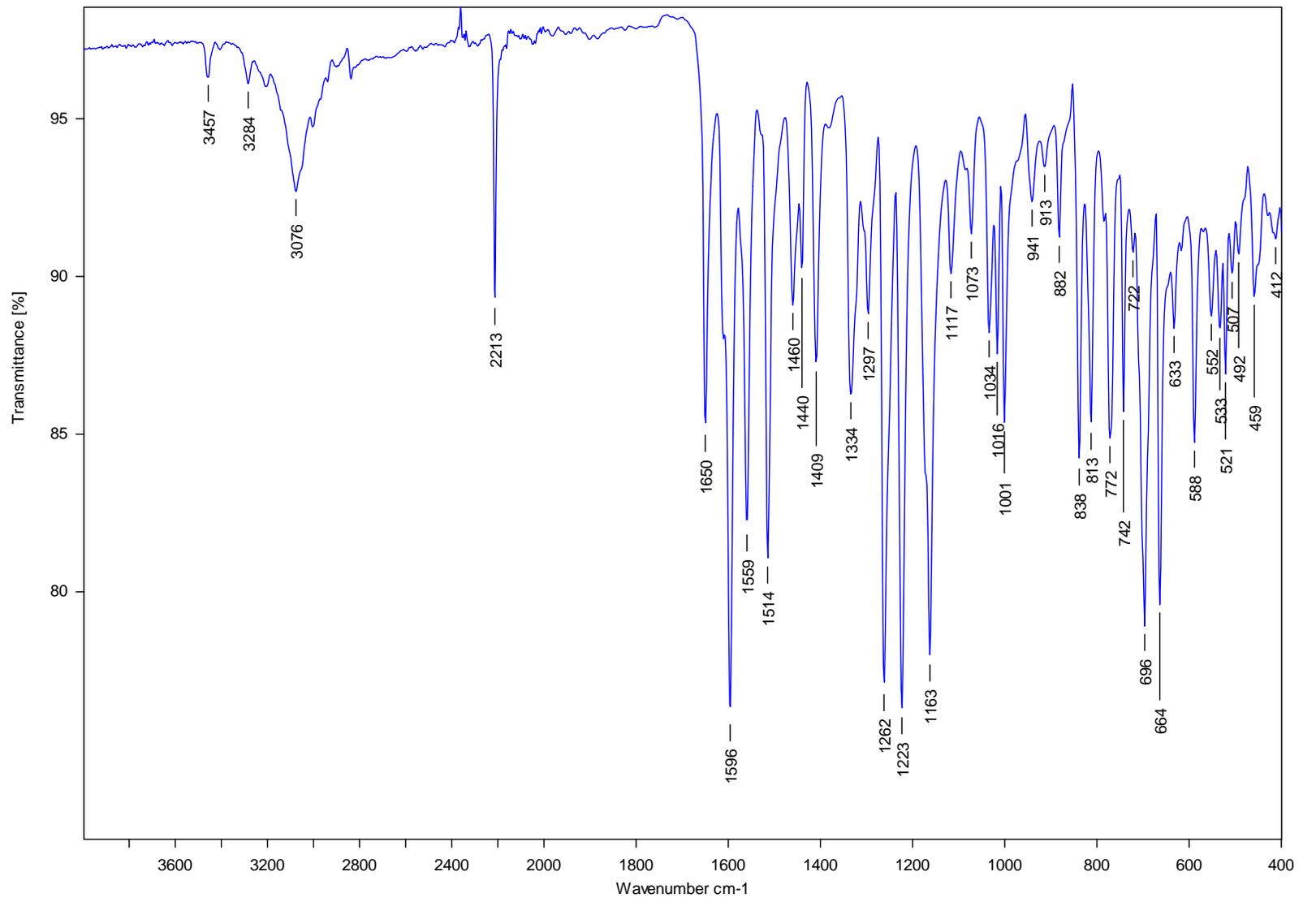
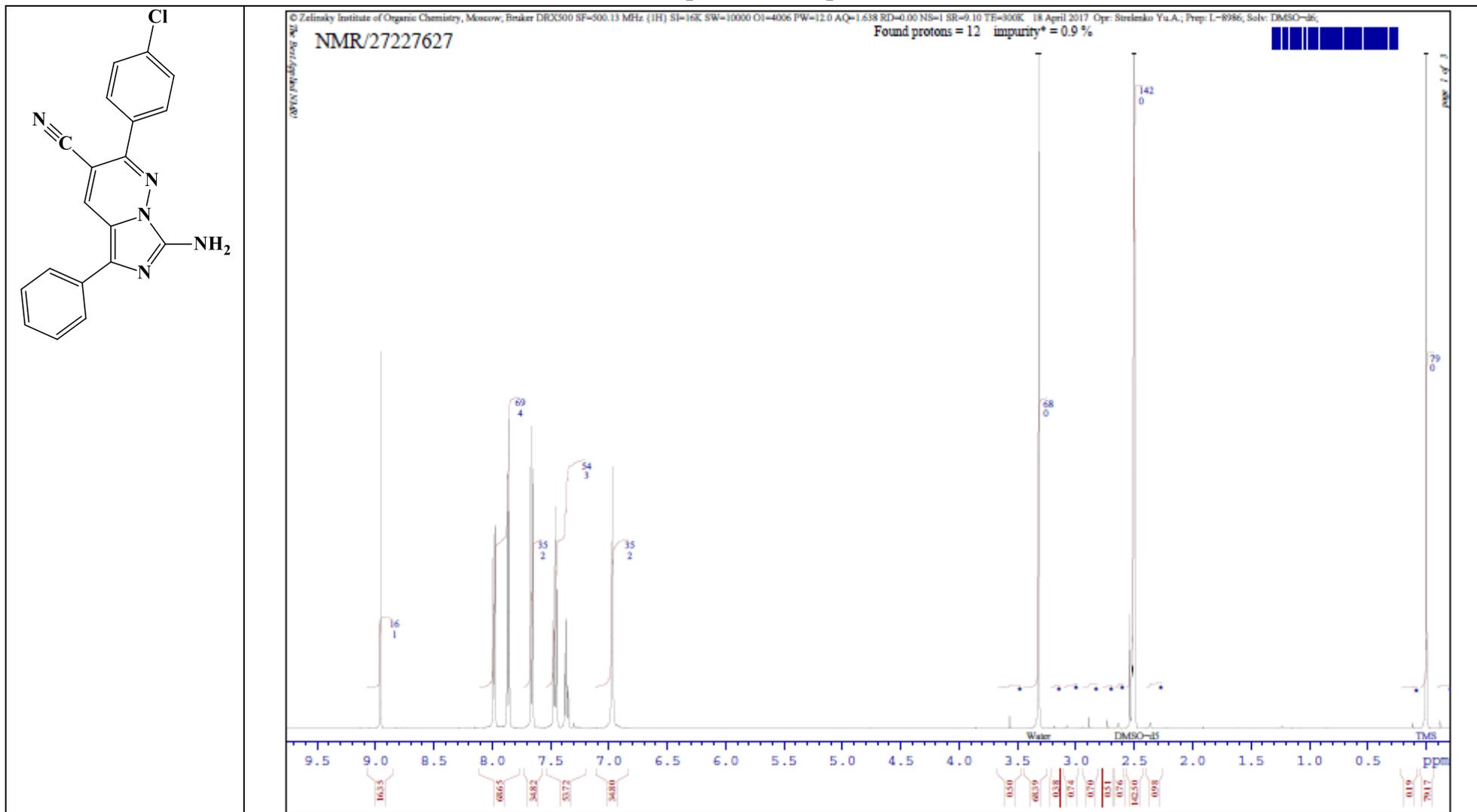
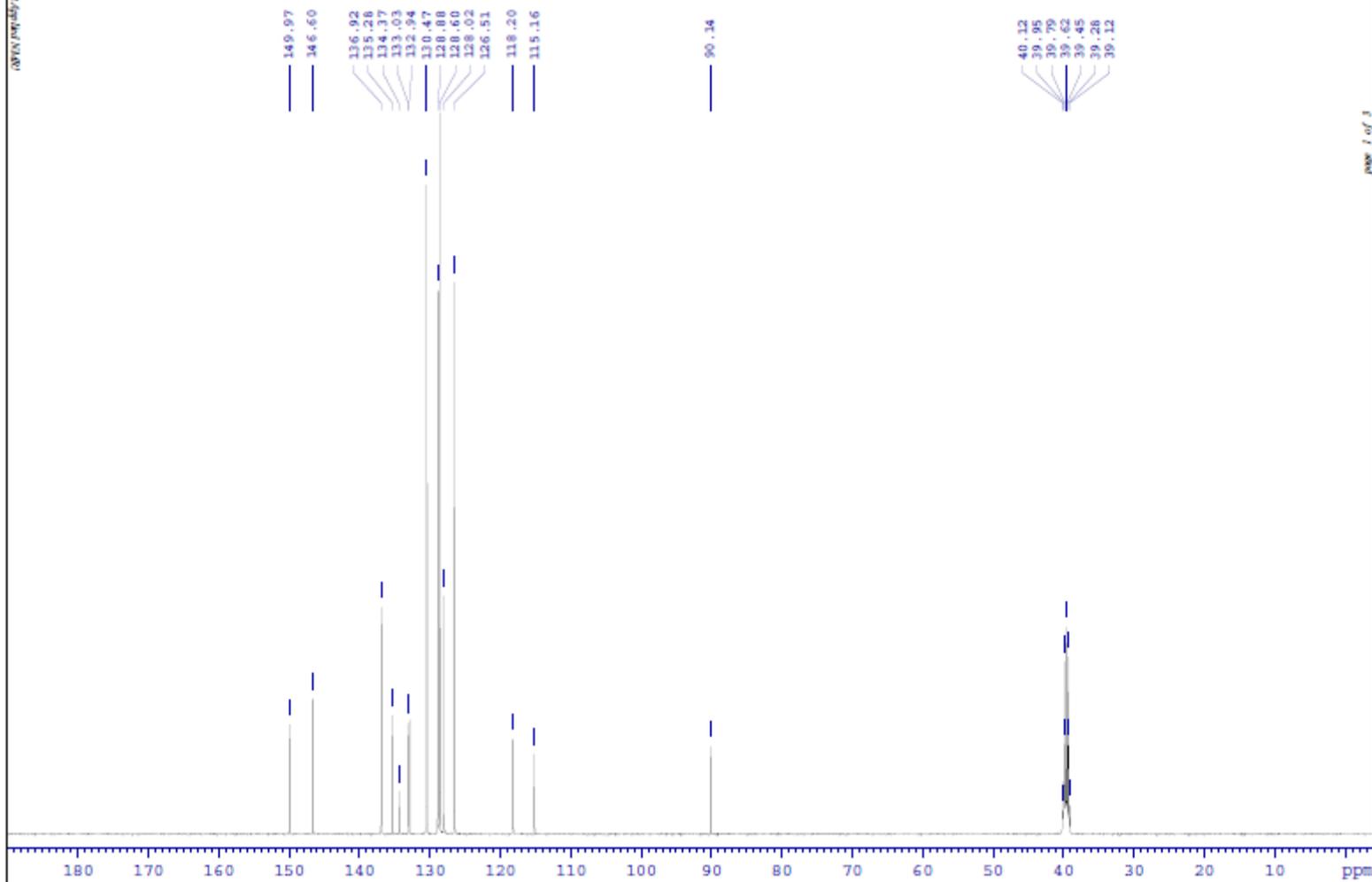


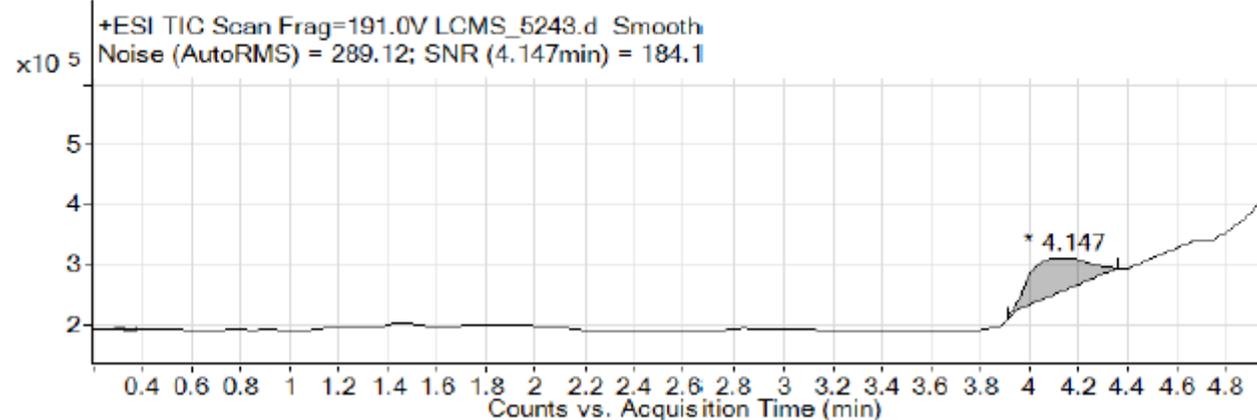
Table S4. Spectra of compound 3d



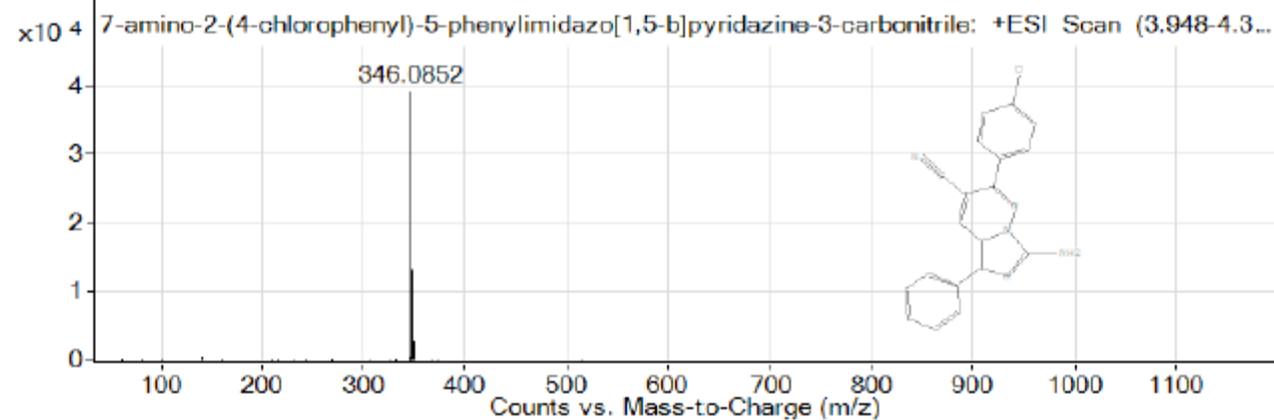
### NMR/27227627



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MS Spectrum



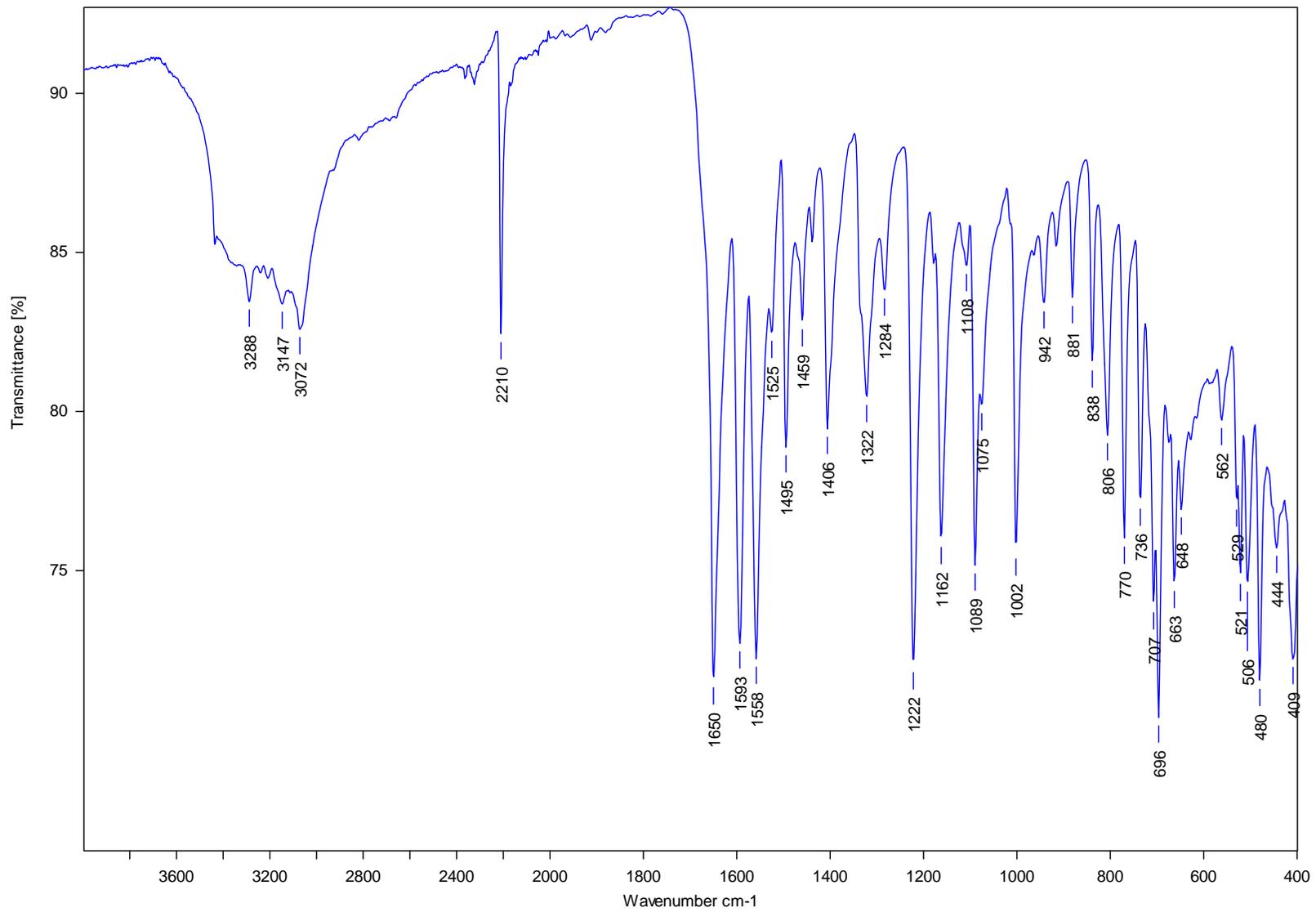
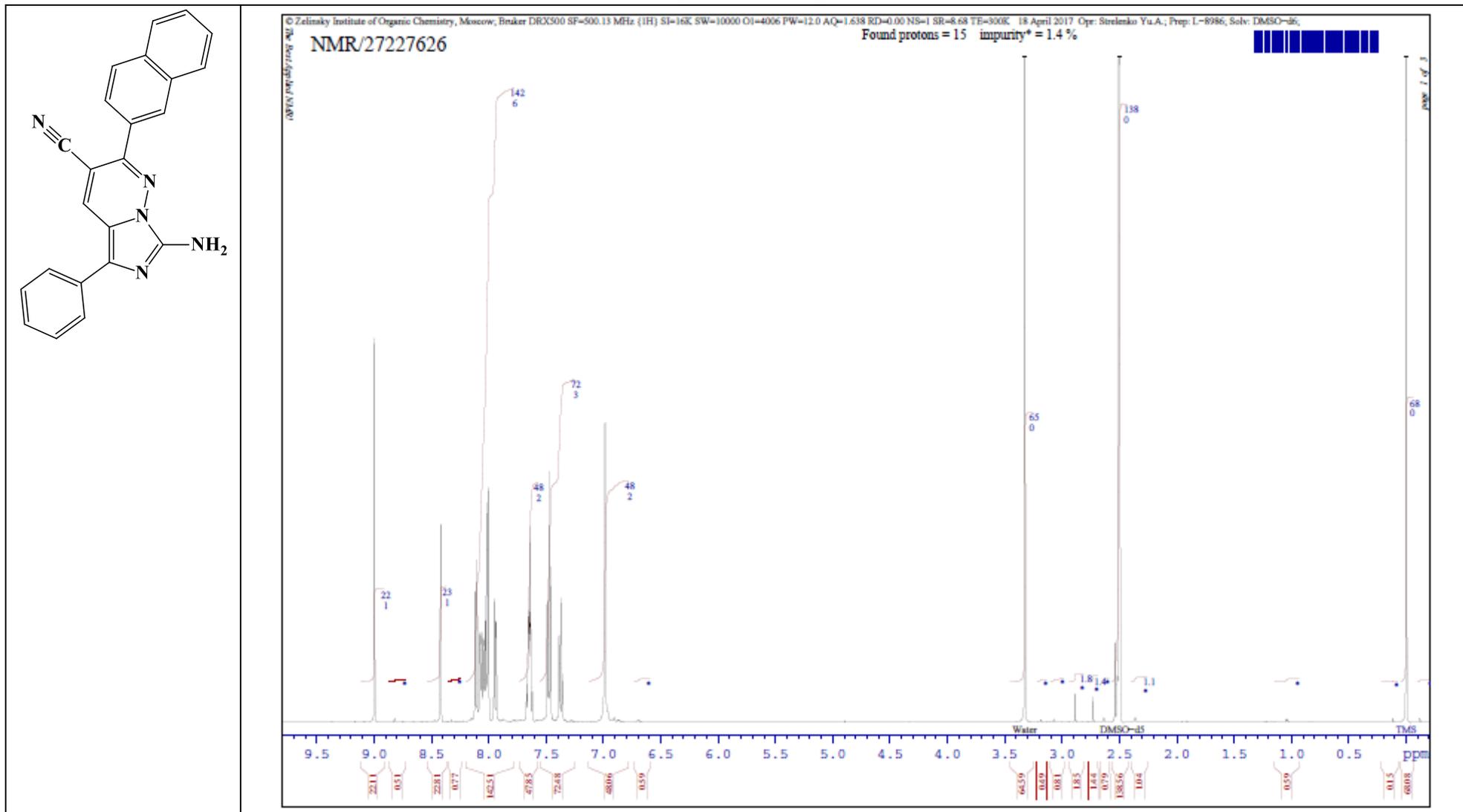
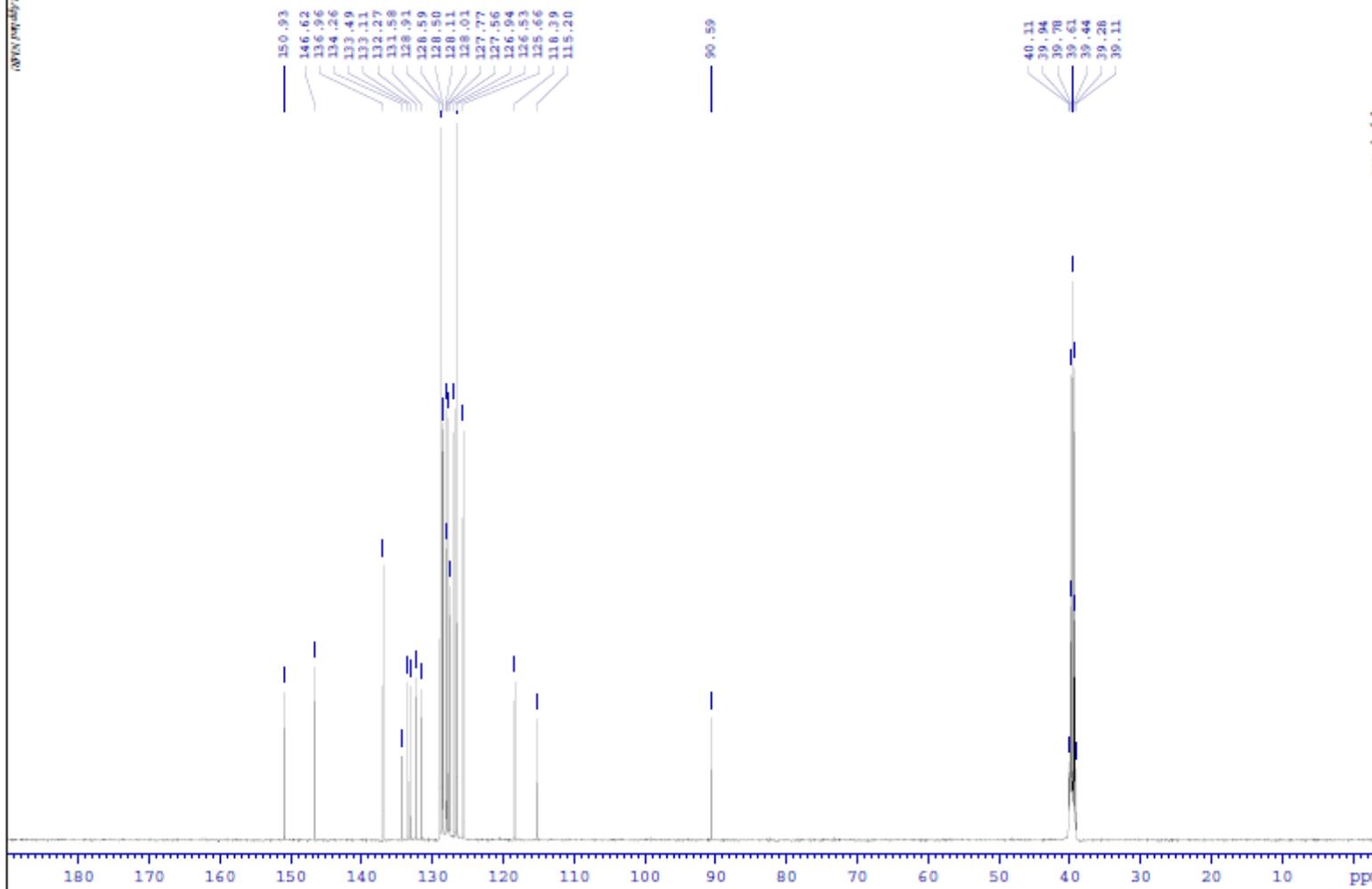


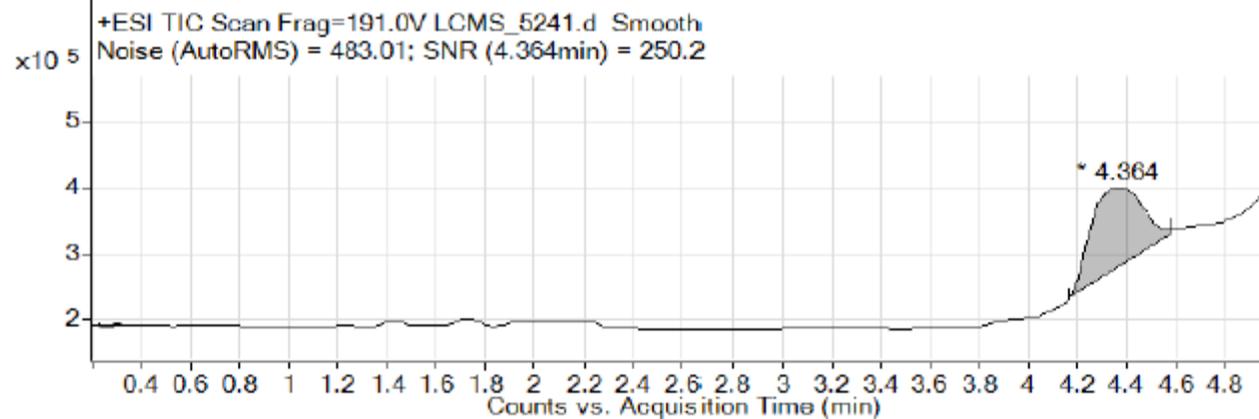
Table S5. Spectra of compound 3e



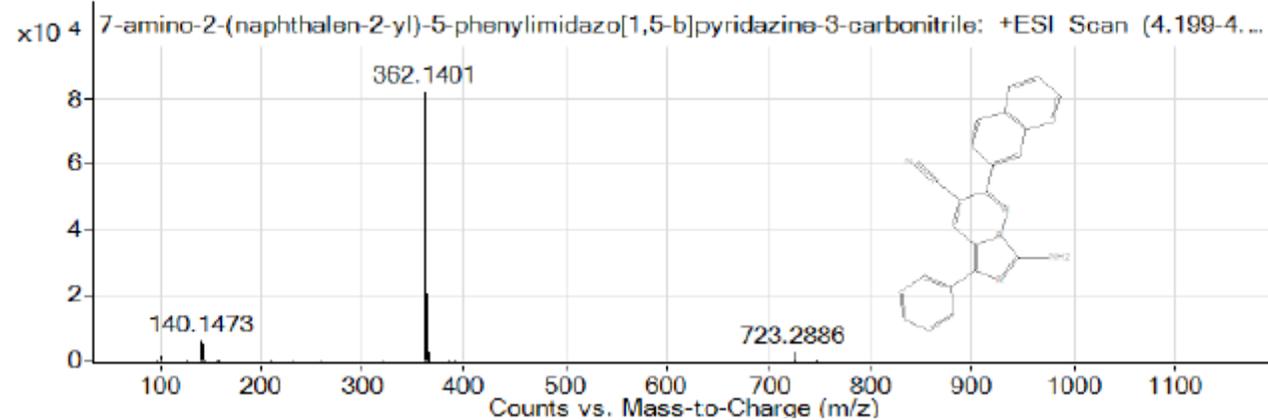
# NMR/27227626



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MS Spectrum



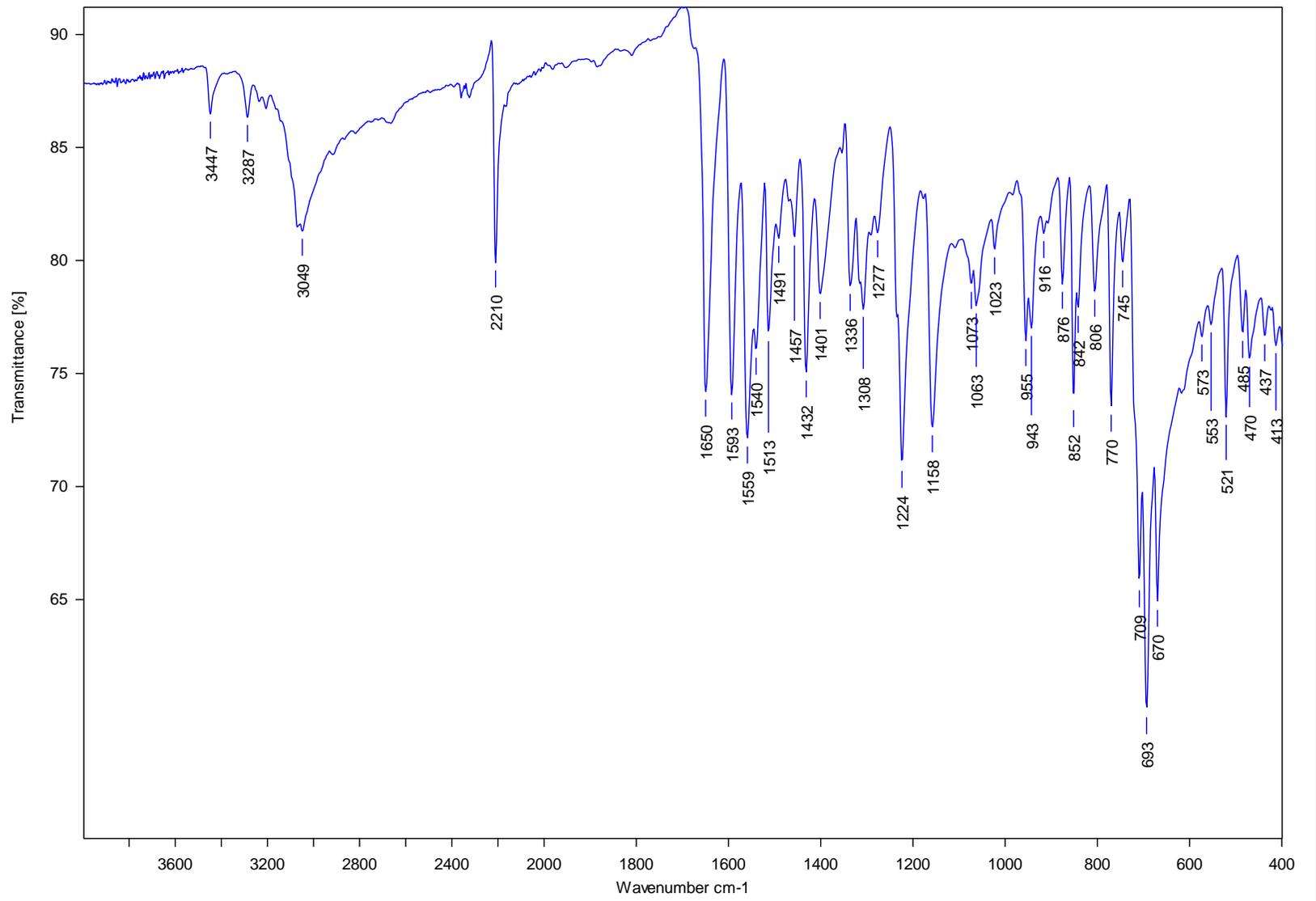
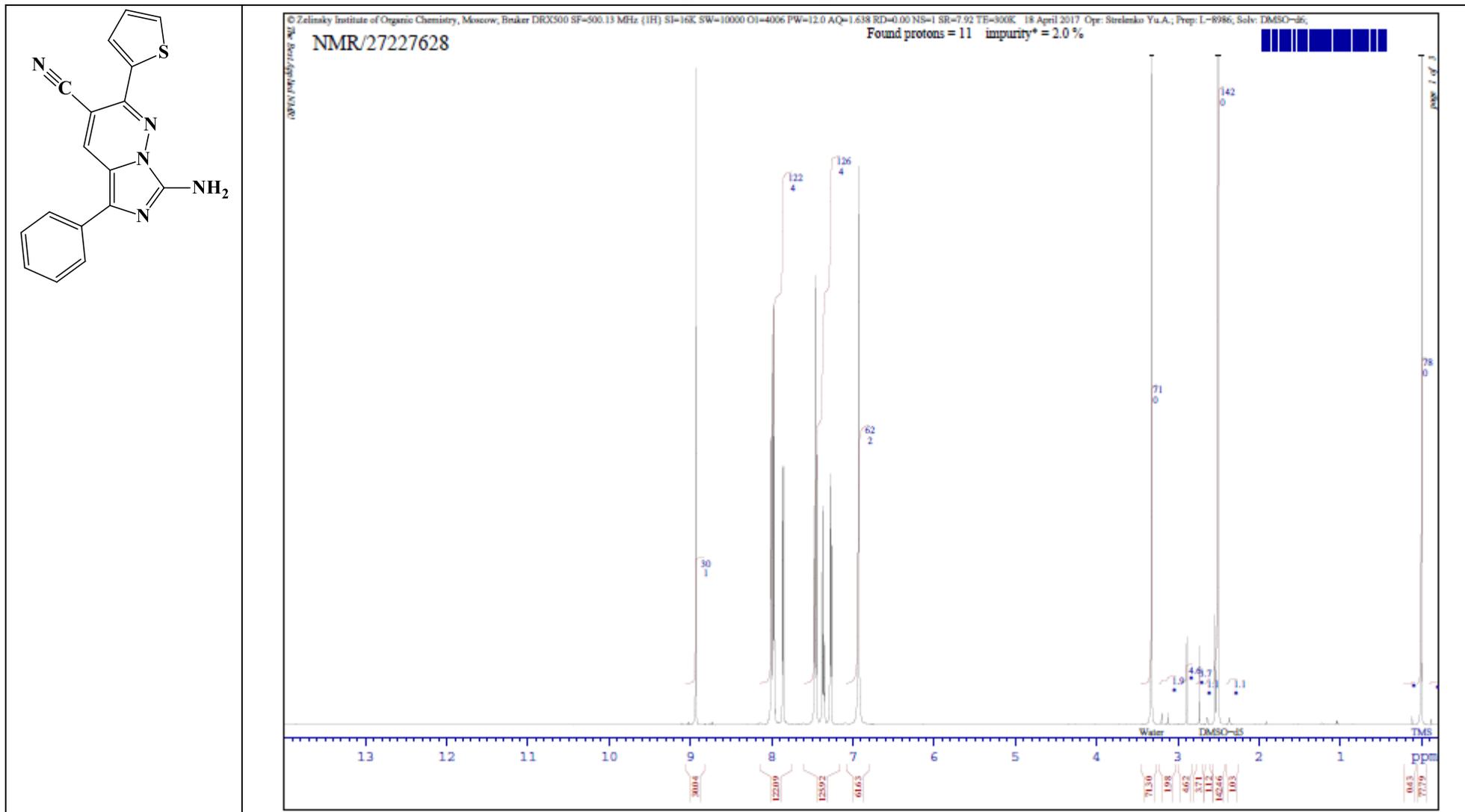
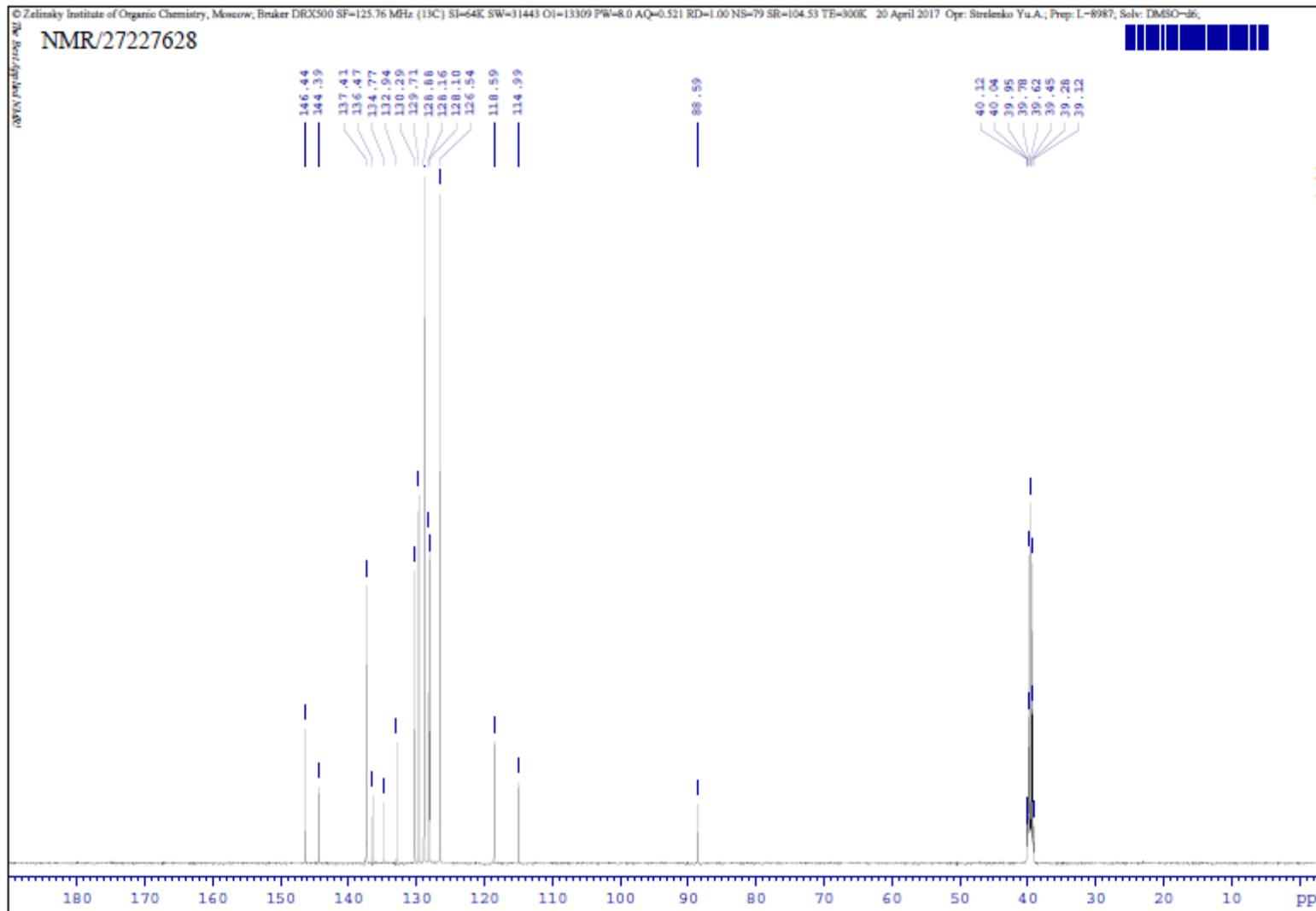
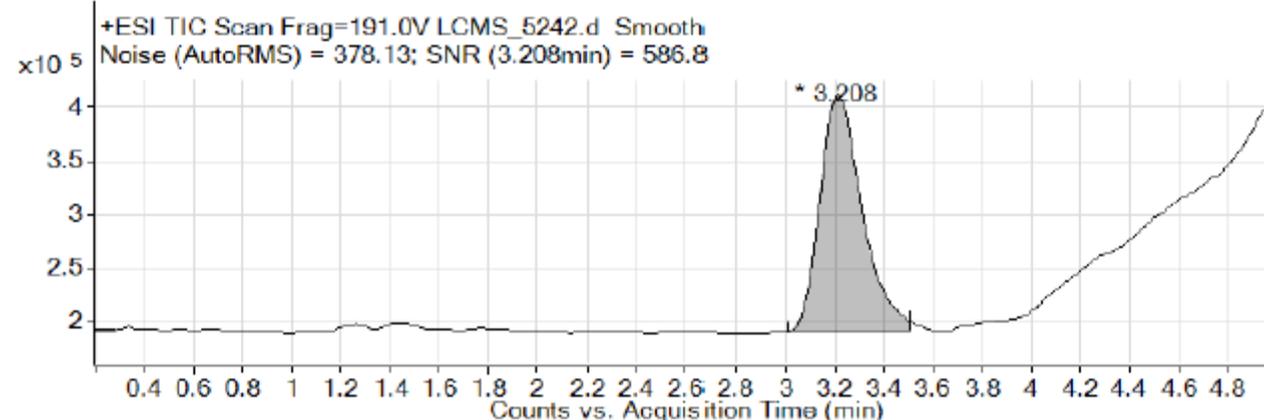


Table S6. Spectra of compound 3f

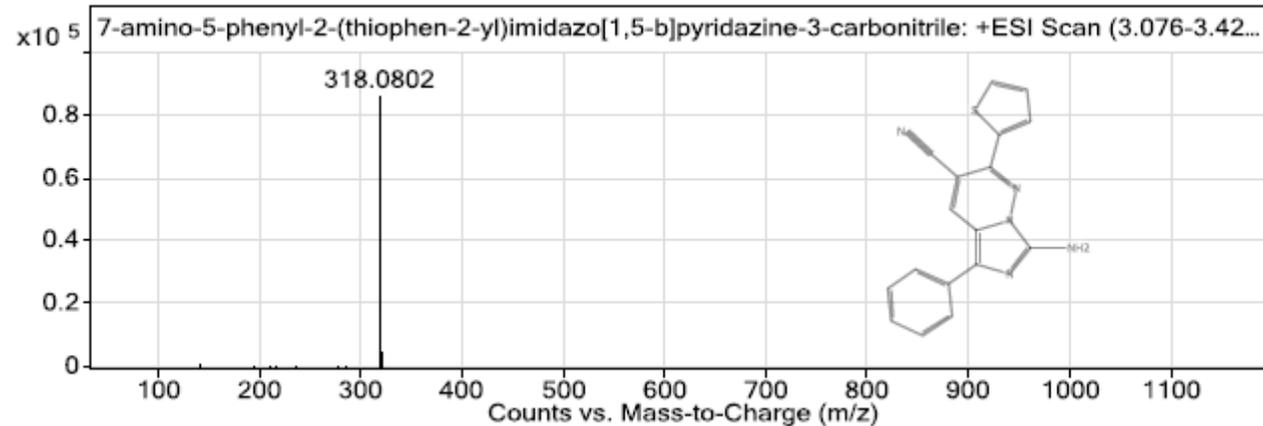


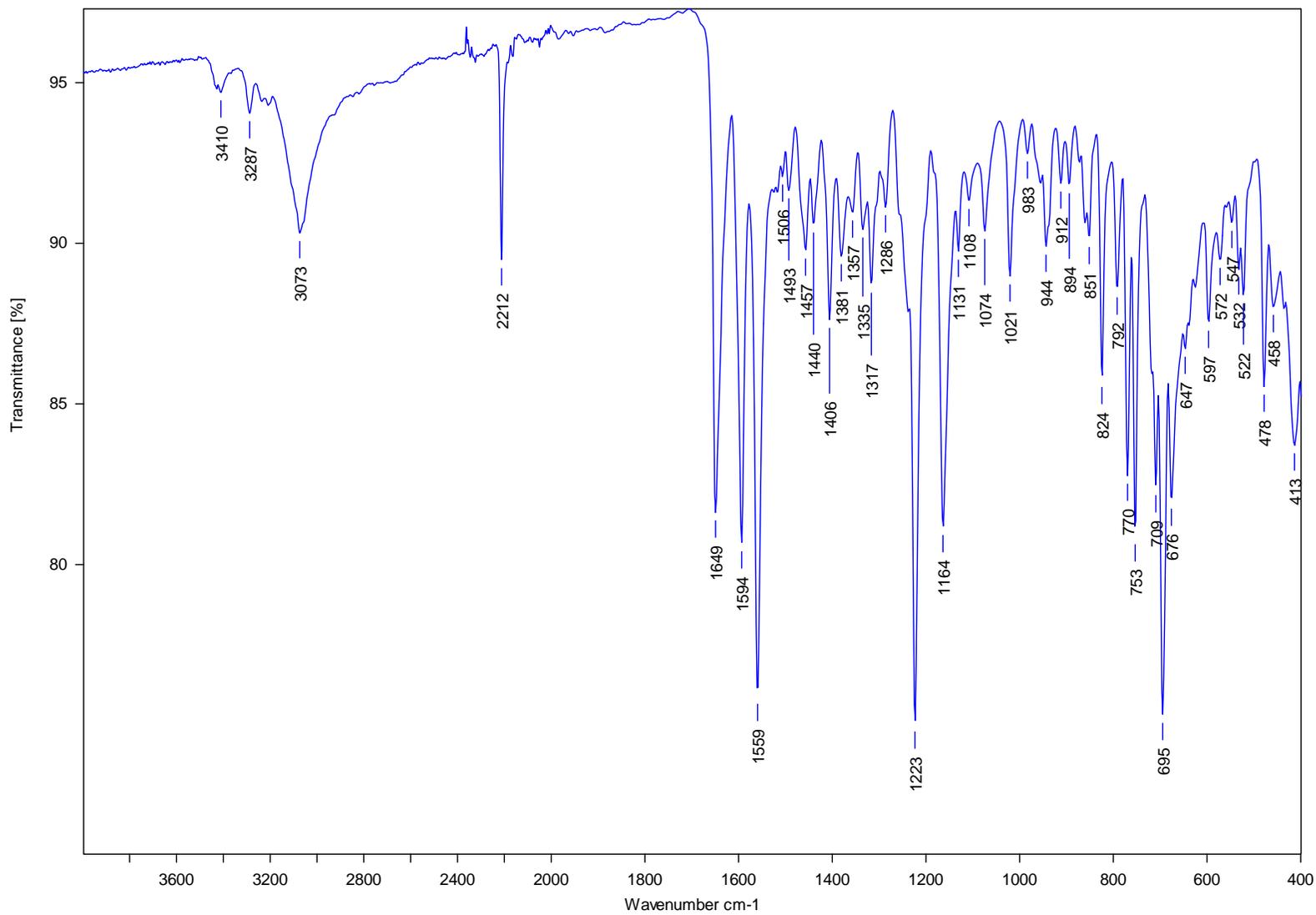


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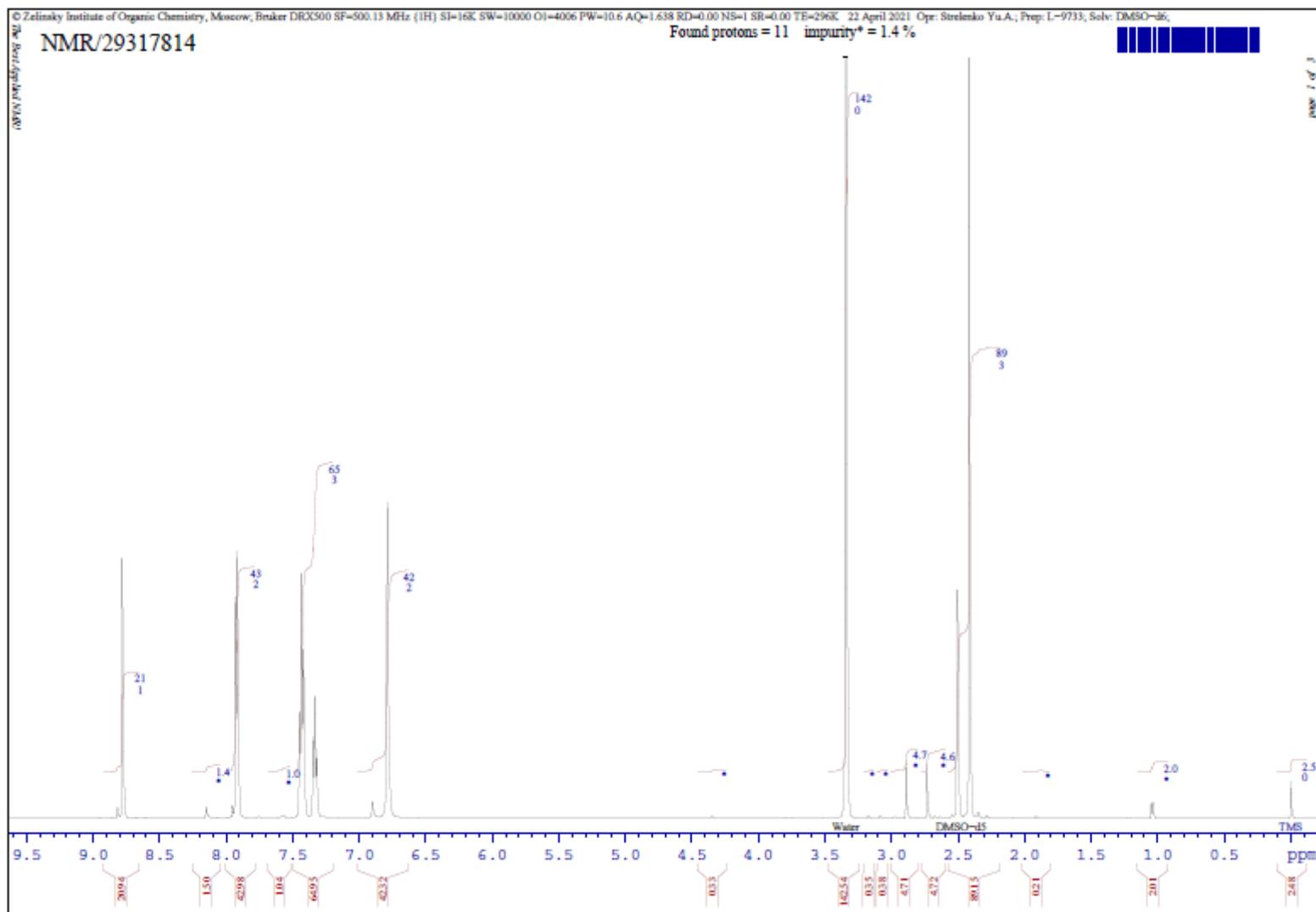
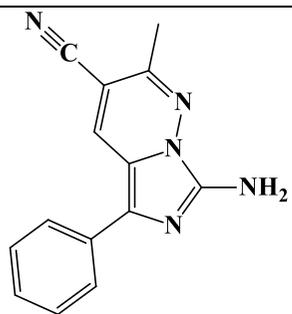


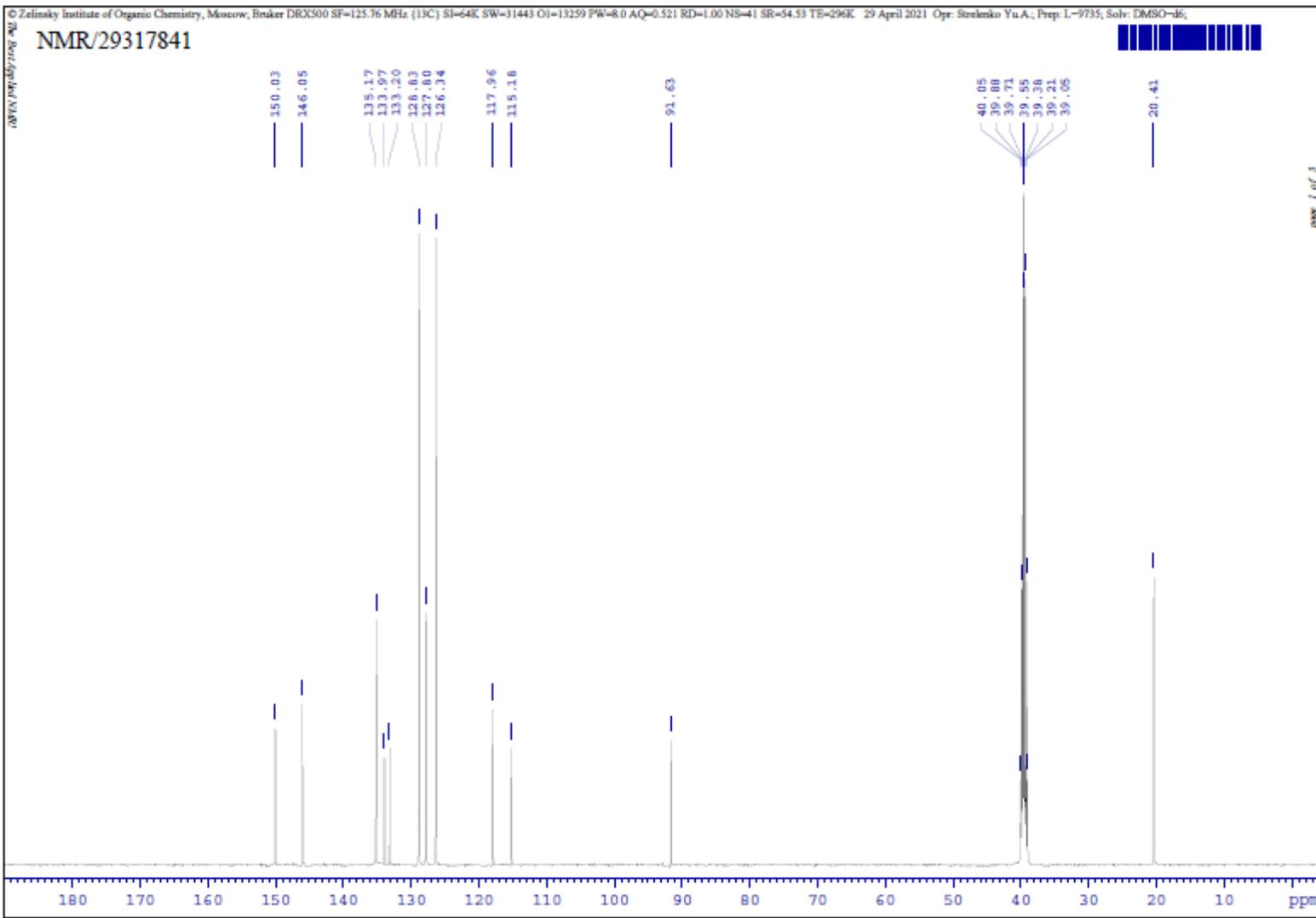
MS Spectrum





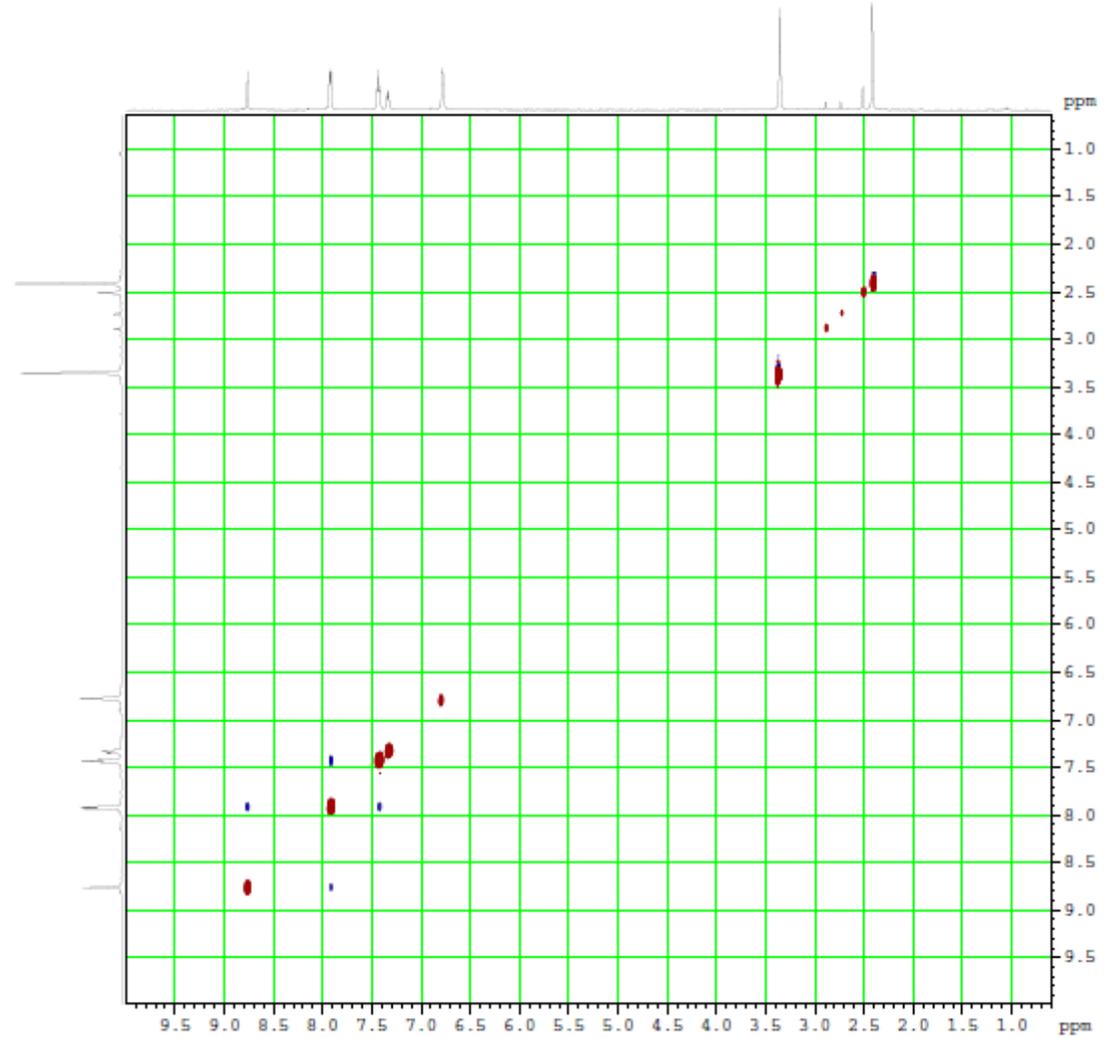
**Table S7. Spectra of compound 3g**

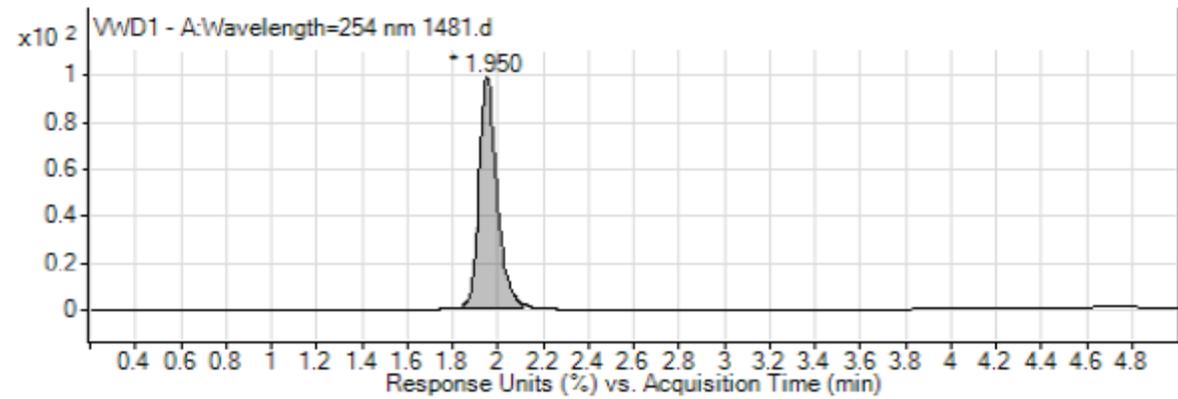




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Collision Energy 0  
Ionization Mode ESI

