

Supporting Information for the Manuscript

**Highly Efficient Synthesis of Phenols by Copper-Catalyzed Oxidative
Hydroxylation of Arylboronic Acids at Room Temperature in Water**

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Page S03-S10 the experimental section.

Page S11-S50: the ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra for compounds **2a-t**.

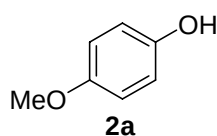
The ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on a JOEL JNM-ECA 300 spectrometer.

List of ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra for compounds 2a-t.

Page S11	^1H NMR of 2a	Page S12	^{13}C NMR of 2a
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Page S15	^1H NMR of 2c	Page S16	^{13}C NMR of 2c
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Page S19	^1H NMR of 2e	Page S20	^{13}C NMR of 2e
Page S21	^1H NMR of 2f	Page S22	^{13}C NMR of 2f
Page S23	^1H NMR of 2g	Page S24	^{13}C NMR of 2g
Page S25	^1H NMR of 2h	Page S26	^{13}C NMR of 2h
Page S27	^1H NMR of 2i	Page S28	^{13}C NMR of 2i
Page S29	^1H NMR of 2j	Page S30	^{13}C NMR of 2j
Page S31	^1H NMR of 2k	Page S32	^{13}C NMR of 2k
Page S33	^1H NMR of 2l	Page S34	^{13}C NMR of 2l
Page S35	^1H NMR of 2m	Page S36	^{13}C NMR of 2m
Page S37	^1H NMR of 2n	Page S38	^{13}C NMR of 2n
Page S39	^1H NMR of 2o	Page S40	^{13}C NMR of 2o
Page S41	^1H NMR of 2p	Page S42	^{13}C NMR of 2p
Page S43	^1H NMR of 2q	Page S44	^{13}C NMR of 2q
Page S45	^1H NMR of 2r	Page S46	^{13}C NMR of 2r
Page S47	^1H NMR of 2s	Page S48	^{13}C NMR of 2s
Page S49	^1H NMR of 2t	Page S50	^{13}C NMR of 2t

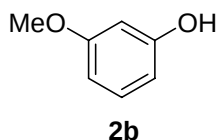
Experimental Section

General Conditions: All melting points were determined on a Yanaco melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-ECA 300 spectrometer in CDCl_3 or CD_3OD . TMS was used as internal reference and the J values are given in Hz. PE is petroleum ether (60-90 $^\circ$).

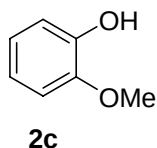


A Typical Procedure for Preparation of 4-Methoxyphenol (2a) by A Copper-Catalyzed Hydroxylation of 4-Methoxyphenylboronic Acid (1a): A mixture of CuSO_4 (16 mg, 0.1 mmol), 1,10-phenanthroline (36 mg, 0.2 mmol), 4-methoxyphenylboronic acid (**1a**, 152 mg, 1 mmol), KOH (168 mg, 3.0 mmol) in H_2O (5 mL) was stirred for 2 h at room temperature in open to air (**without bubbling air**). After **1a** was exhausted completely (monitored by TLC), the reaction was cooled to 0 $^\circ\text{C}$ and quenched carefully by aqueous solution of HCl (2 M, 15 mL). The resultant mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (20 mL) and dried over Na_2SO_4 . After removal of the solvent in vacuum, the residue was purified by chromatography (silica gel, EtOAc:PE = 1:5) to give desired product **2a** (117 mg, 94%) as a colorless solid, mp 57-58 $^\circ\text{C}$ (EtOAc-PE) (lit.⁶ 58 $^\circ\text{C}$). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 6.78 (d, J = 1.7, 4H), 4.78 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ 153.4, 149.4, 116.1 (2C), 114.9 (2C), 55.9.

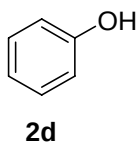
By the similar procedure, products **2b-t** were prepared (see Scheme 2 in the text).



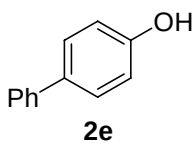
3-Methoxyphenol (2b).⁴ It was a colorless oil, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.9, 1H), 6.50-6.41 (m, 3H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 160.6, 156.6, 130.2, 108.0, 106.4, 101.5, 55.2.



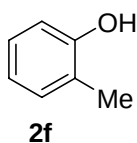
2-Methoxyphenol (2c). It was a white solid, mp 28-29 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.³ 27-28 °C). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 6.94-6.91 (m, 1H), 6.86-6.82 (m, 3H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 146.5, 145.5, 121.3, 120.1, 114.5, 110.7, 55.7.



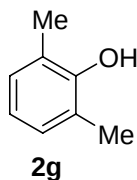
Phenol (2d). it was a colorless solid, mp 41-42 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.¹ 41-42 °C). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.28-7.22 (m, 2H), 6.96-6.91 (m, 1H), 6.85-6.82 (m, 2H), 5.03 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 155.0, 129.7 (2C), 121.0, 115.3 (2C).



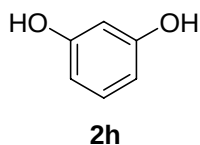
4-Phenylphenol (2e). It was a yellowish solid, mp 165-167 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.⁶ 165 °C). ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 7.48 (d, J = 5.4, 2H), 7.40 (dd, J = 8.6, 2.1, 2H), 7.32 (dt, J = 6.3, 1.6, 2H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 1H), 6.83 (dd, J = 6.5, 2.1, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD): δ 158.1, 142.4, 133.8, 129.7 (2C), 129.0 (2C), 127.4 (3C), 116.6 (2C).



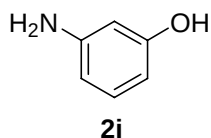
2-Methylphenol (2f). It was a white solid, mp 31-32 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.² 30-32 °C). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.13-7.05 (m, 2H), 6.84 (t, J = 7.4, 1H), 6.76 (d, J = 7.9, 1H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 153.7, 131.0, 127.1, 123.7, 120.7, 114.9, 15.7.



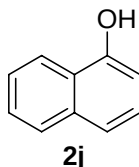
2,6-Dimethylphenol (1g). It was a white solid, mp 42-43 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.⁴ 44-45 °C). ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 6.97 (d, J = 7.2, 2H), 6.75 (t, J = 7.6, 1H), 4.62 (s, 1H), 2.23 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD): δ 152.1, 128.6 (2C), 122.9, 120.2 (2C), 15.8 (2C).



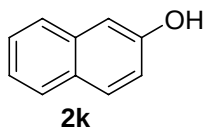
Benzene-1,3-diol (2h). It was a white solid, mp 111-112 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.⁷ 107-109 °C). ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 6.96-6.90 (m, 1H), 6.27-6.24 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD): δ 159.4 (2C), 130.9, 107.7 (2C), 103.4.



3-Aminophenol (2i). It was a grey white solid, mp 117-118 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.⁵ 119-120 °C); ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 6.91-6.85 (m, 1H), 6.23-6.14 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD): δ 159.1, 149.8, 130.8, 108.6, 106.6, 103.7.

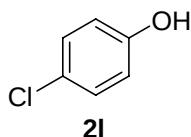


1-Naphthalenol (2j). It was a yellowish solid, mp 91-93 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.¹⁴ 92-94 °C). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 8.18-8.13 (m, 1H), 7.82-7.77 (m, 1H), 7.50-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.30 (t, J = 7.5, 1H), 6.81 (d, J = 7.2, 1H), 5.27 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 151.2, 134.7, 127.7, 126.4, 125.8, 125.3, 124.3, 121.5, 120.7, 108.7.



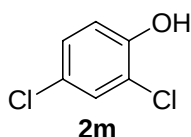
2-Naphthalenol (2k). It was a white solid, mp 122-124 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.⁶ 122°C). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.76-7.71 (m, 2H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.3, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 7.2,

1H), 7.33-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.11-7.05 (m, 2H), 5.32 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ 153.2, 134.5, 129.8, 128.9, 127.7, 126.5, 126.3, 123.6, 117.7, 109.5.

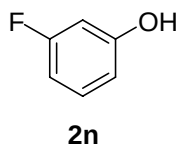


4-Chlorophenol (2l). It was a white solid, mp 44-45 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.¹² 43 °C).

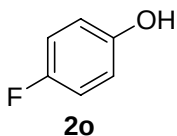
^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 7.23 (d, J = 8.6, 2H), 6.77 (d, J = 8.6, 2H), 4.86 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ 153.6, 129.5 (2C), 125.8, 116.6 (2C).



2,4-Dichlorophenol (2m). It was a white solid, mp 43-44 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.¹³ 41-44 °C). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 7.31 (d, J = 2.4, 1H), 7.14 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.7, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 9.0, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ 150.1, 128.5, 128.4, 125.5, 120.4, 117.1.

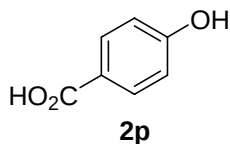


3-Fluorophenol (2n).⁹ It was a colorless oil. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 7.19-7.12 (m, 1H), 6.66-6.59 (m, 2H), 6.57-6.55 (m, 1H), 6.37 (br, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3): δ 163.6 (d, J = 243.8), 156.7 (d, J = 11.5), 130.5 (d, J = 10.1), 111.2 (d, J = 2.9), 107.7 (d, J = 21.5), 103.2 (d, J = 24.4).

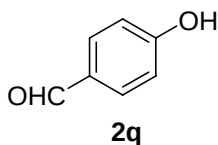


4-Fluorophenol (2o). It was a white solid, mp 46-47 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.¹¹ 46 °C).

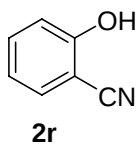
¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 6.95-6.88 (m, 2H), 6.80-6.75 (m, 2H), 5.91 (br, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 157.2 (d, J = 235.9), 151.4, 116.2 (d, J = 10.0, 2C), 116.0 (d, J = 22.9, 2C).



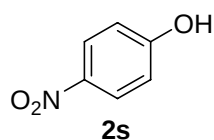
4-Hydroxybenzoic acid (2p). It was a white solid, mp 215-217 °C (MeOH-CH₂Cl₂) (lit.¹⁵ 213-214 °C). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.78-7.73 (m, 2H), 6.72-6.67 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 170.1, 163.3, 133.0 (2C), 122.6, 116.0 (2C).



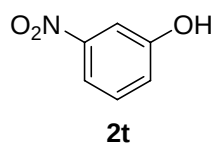
4-Hydroxybenzaldehyde (2q). It was a yellowish solid, mp 114-116 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.⁴ 113-117 °C). ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 9.69 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.6, 2H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.4, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD): δ 192.8, 165.1, 133.4 (2C), 130.3, 116.8 (2C).



2-Hydroxybenzonitrile (2r). It was a grey white solid, mp 96-98 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.⁸ 99-100 °C). ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 7.49-7.40 (m, 2H), 6.95-6.88 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD): δ 161.5, 135.6, 134.3, 120.8, 117.8, 117.0, 100.6.



4-Nitrophenol (2s). It was a yellowish solid, mp 113-114 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.¹⁴ 110 °C). ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 7.99-7.95 (m, 2H), 6.76-6.72 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD): δ 165.1, 141.7, 127.0 (2C), 116.4 (2C).

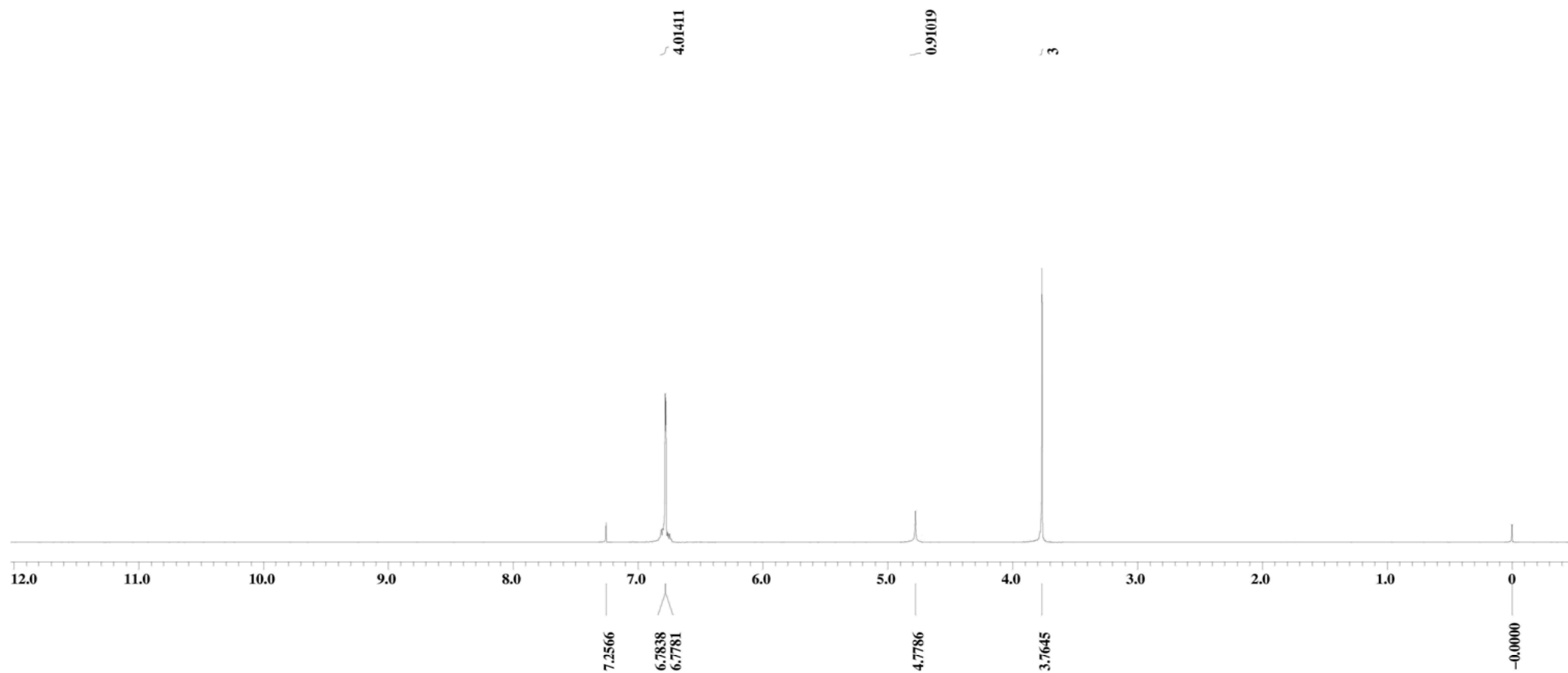
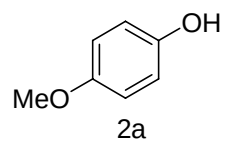


3-Nitrophenol (2t). It was a yellowish solid, mp 98-99 °C (EtOAc-PE) (lit.¹⁰ 95 °C). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.82-7.79 (m, 1H), 7.73 (t, J = 2.4, 1H), 7.41 (t, J = 8.2, 1H), 7.23-7.20 (m, 1H), 6.15 (br, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 156.3, 149.0, 130.3, 122.1, 115.8, 110.5.

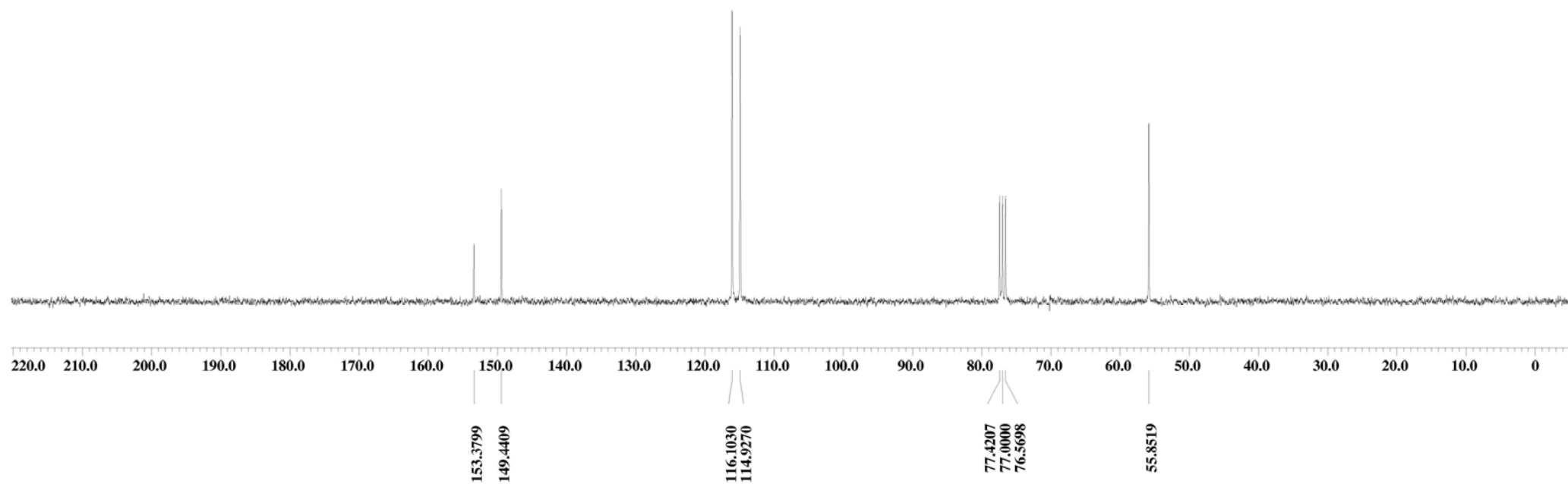
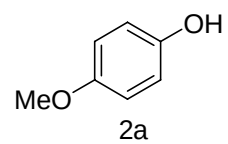
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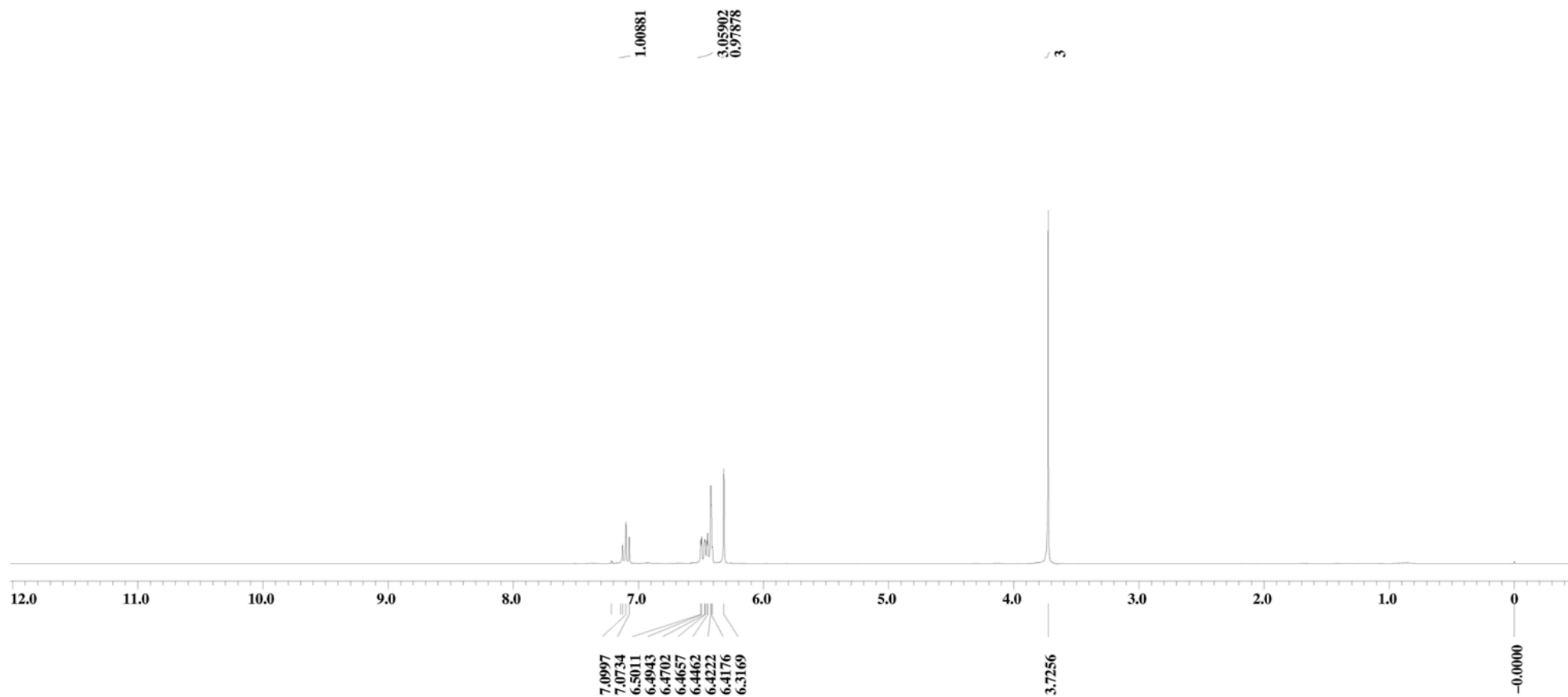
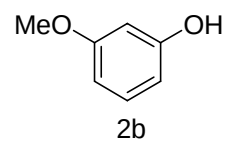
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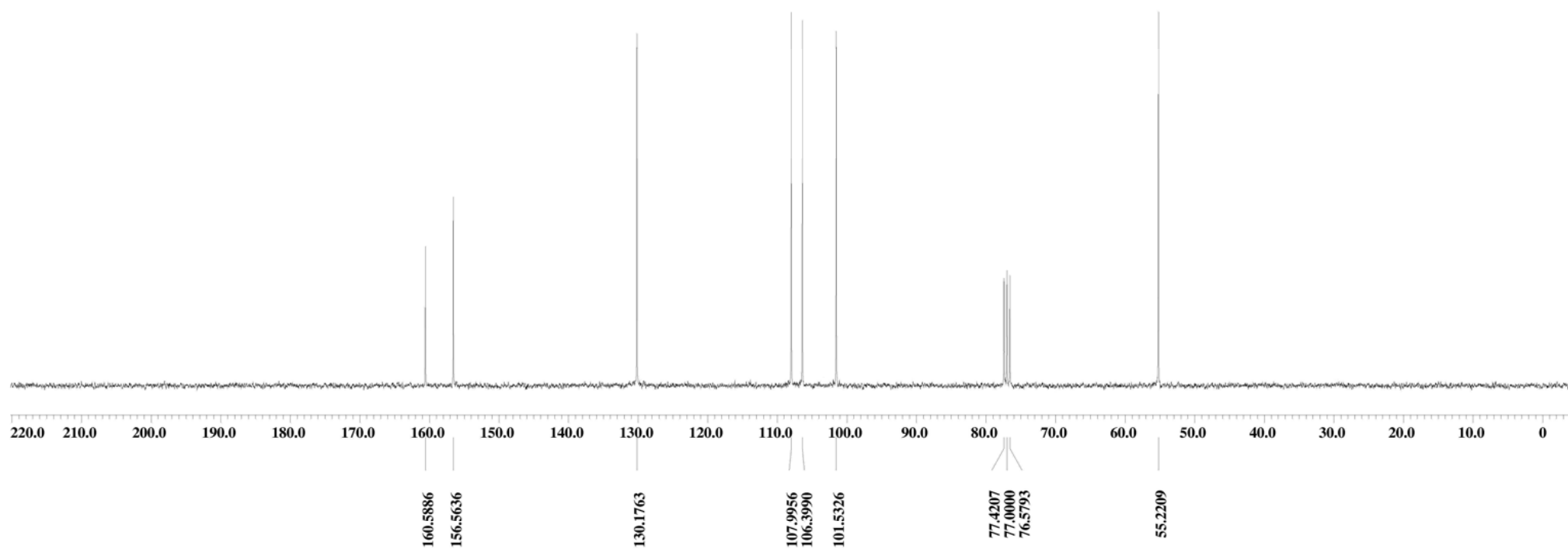
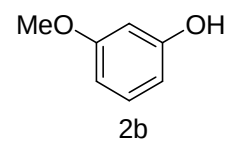


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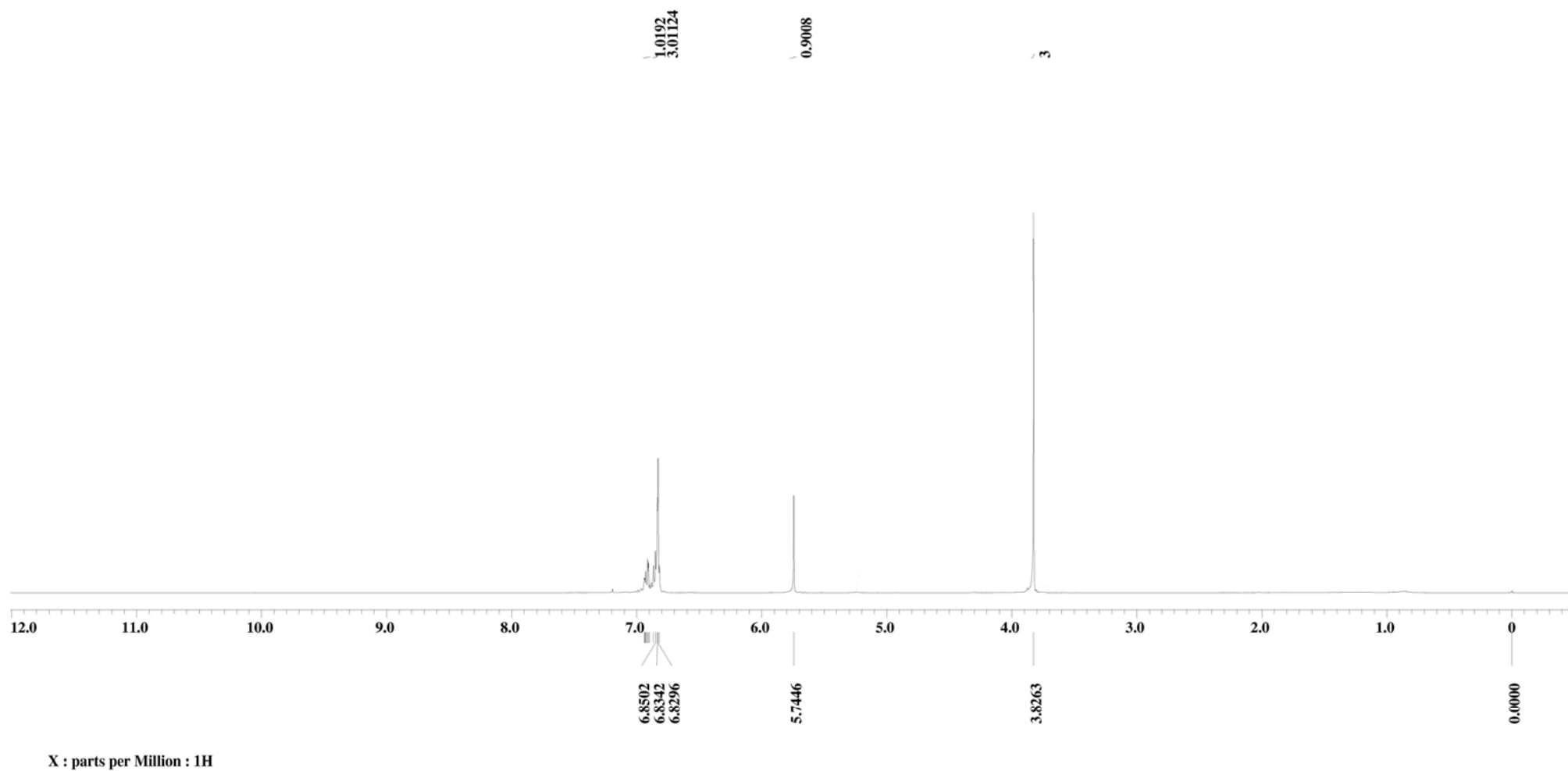
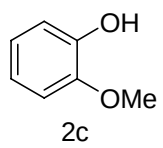


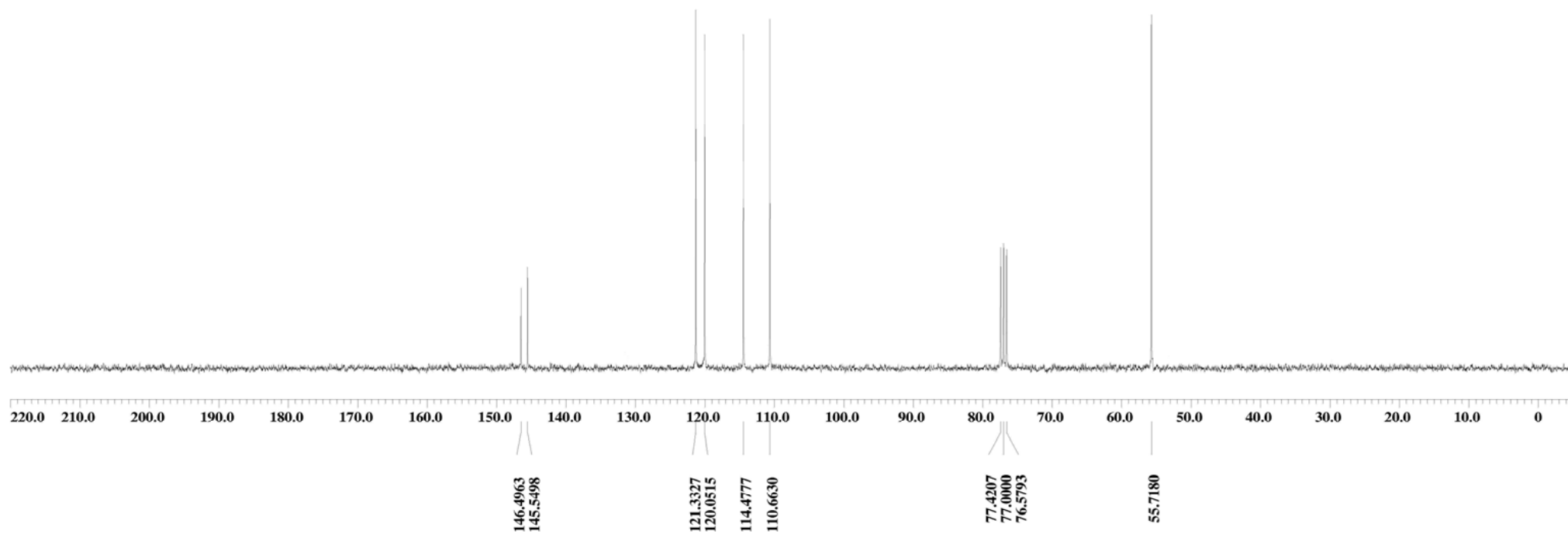
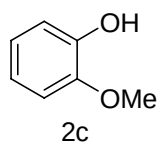


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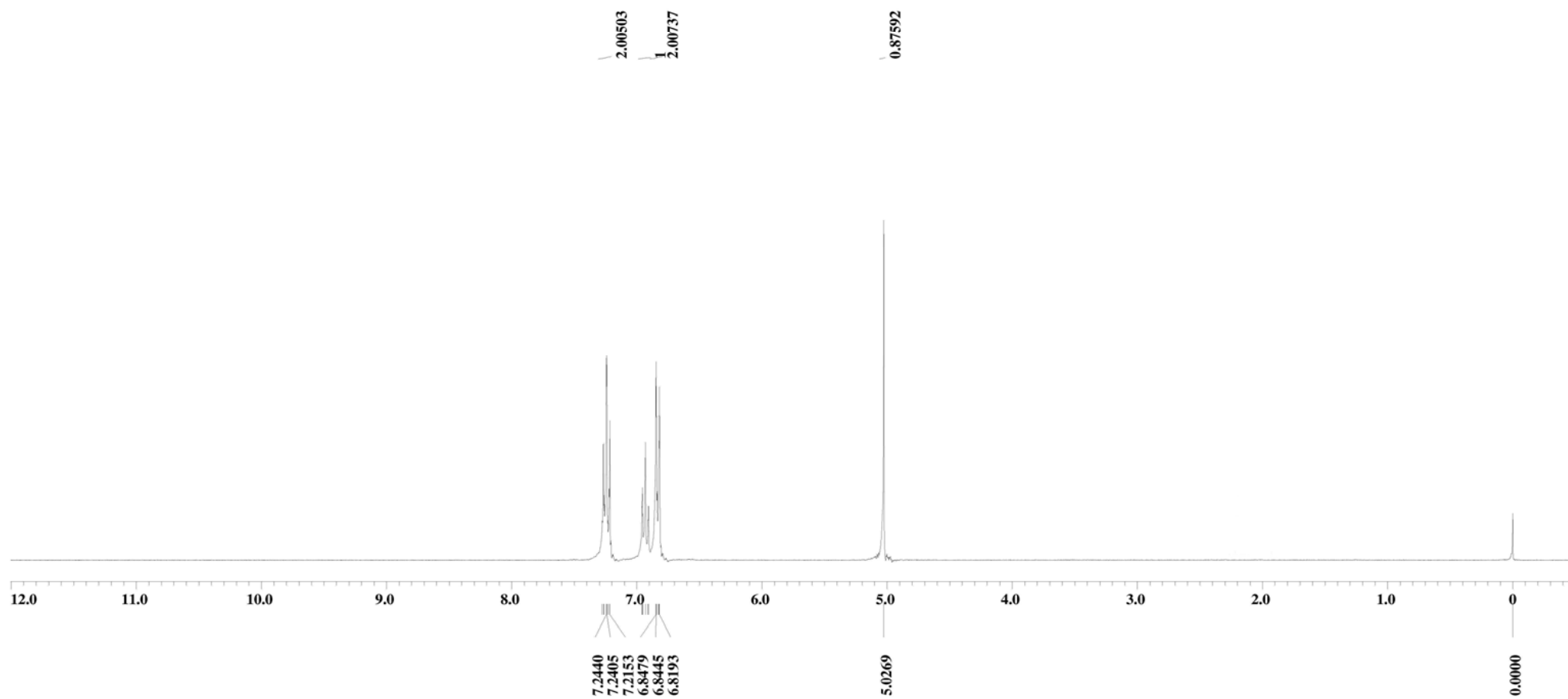
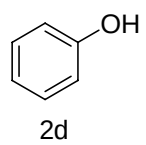


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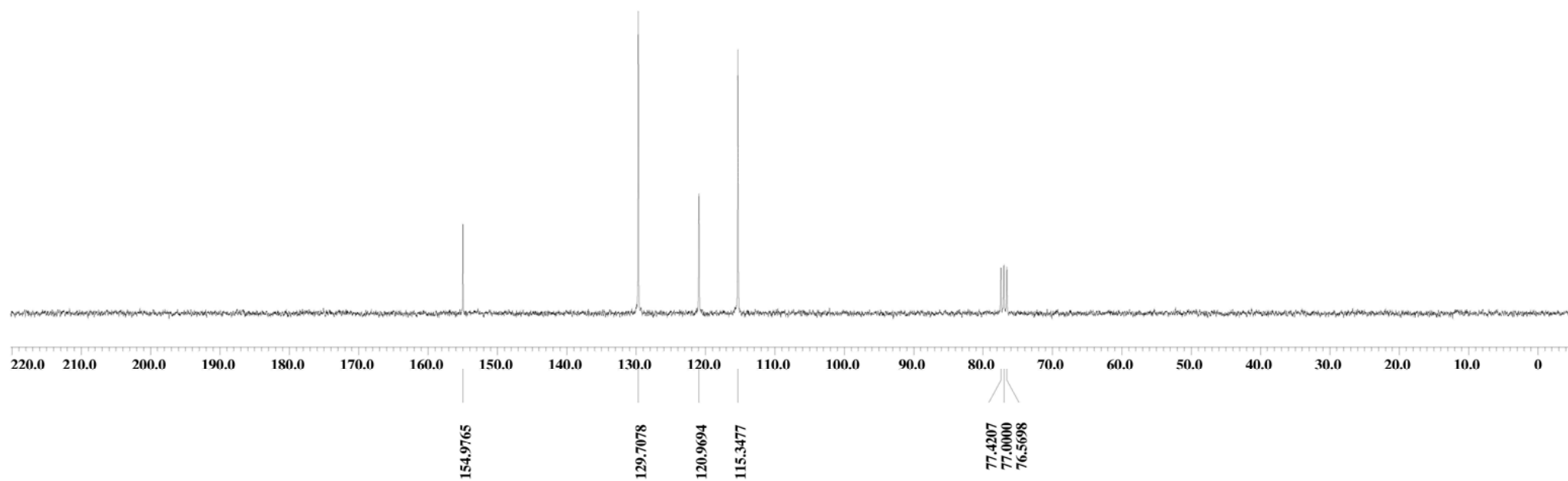
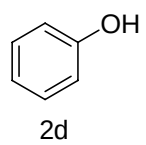




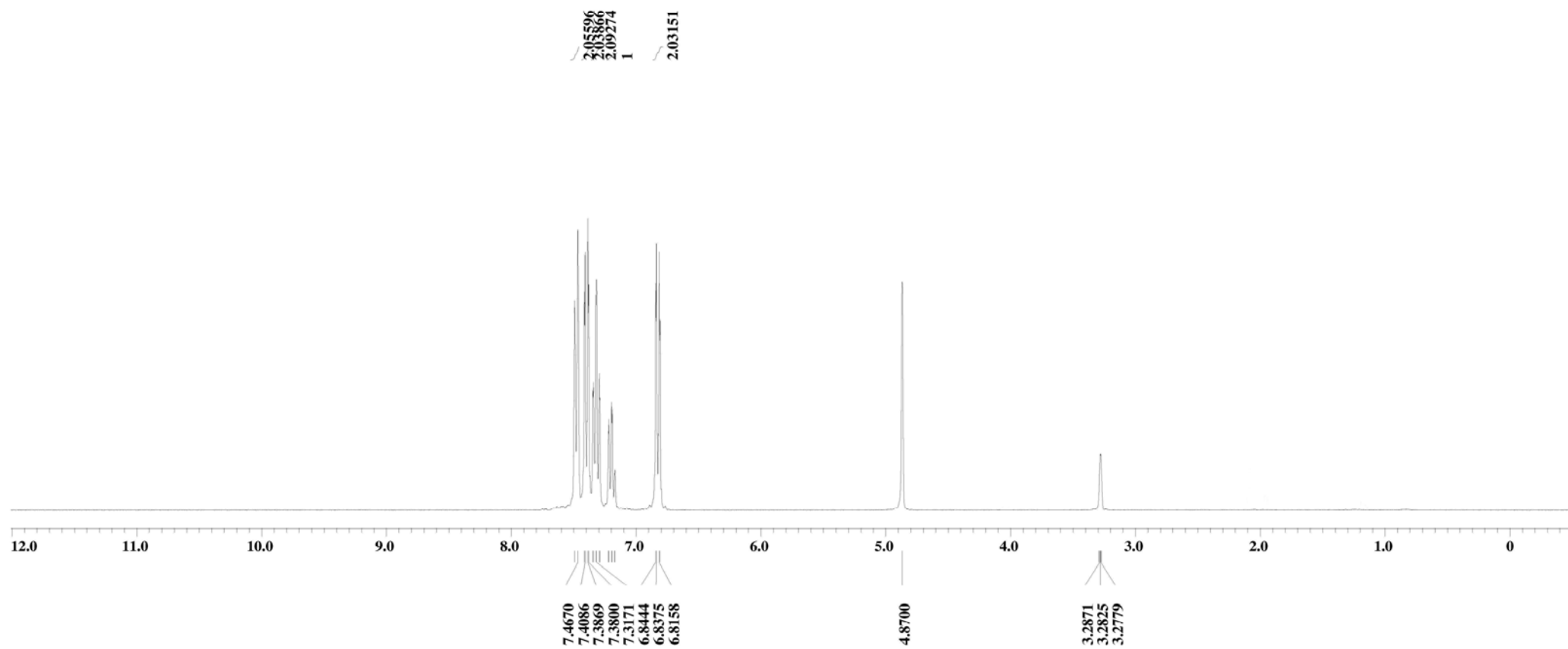
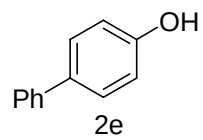
X : parts per Million : ^{13}C



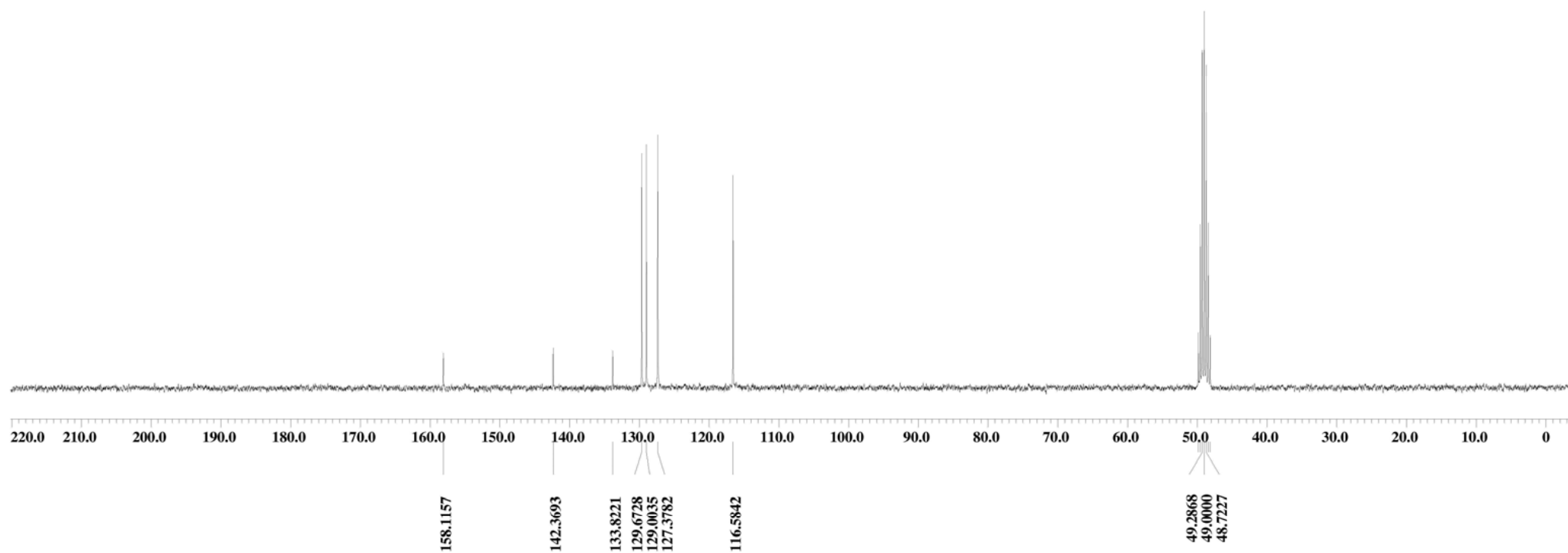
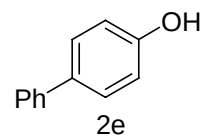
X : parts per Million : ¹H



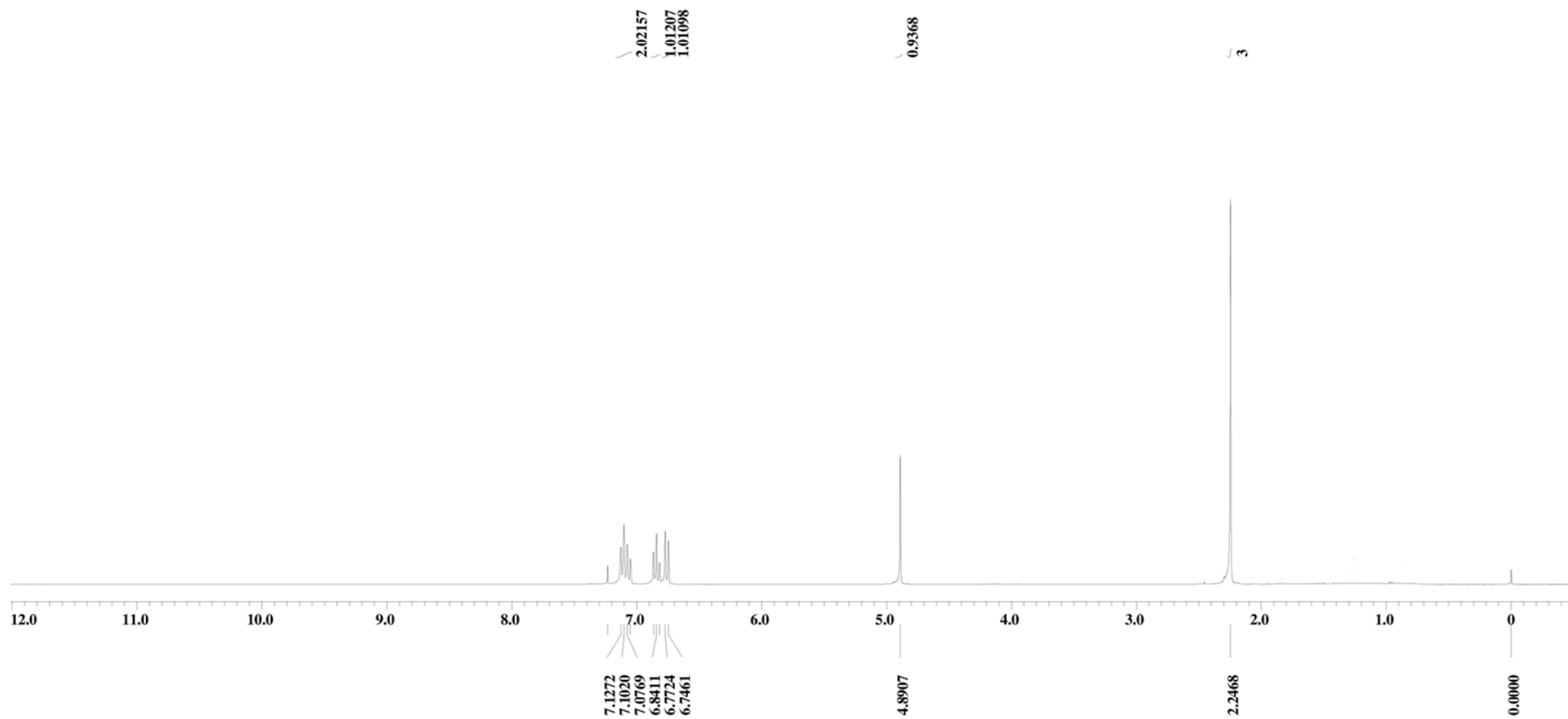
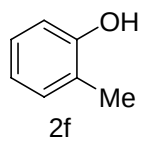
X : parts per Million : ¹³C



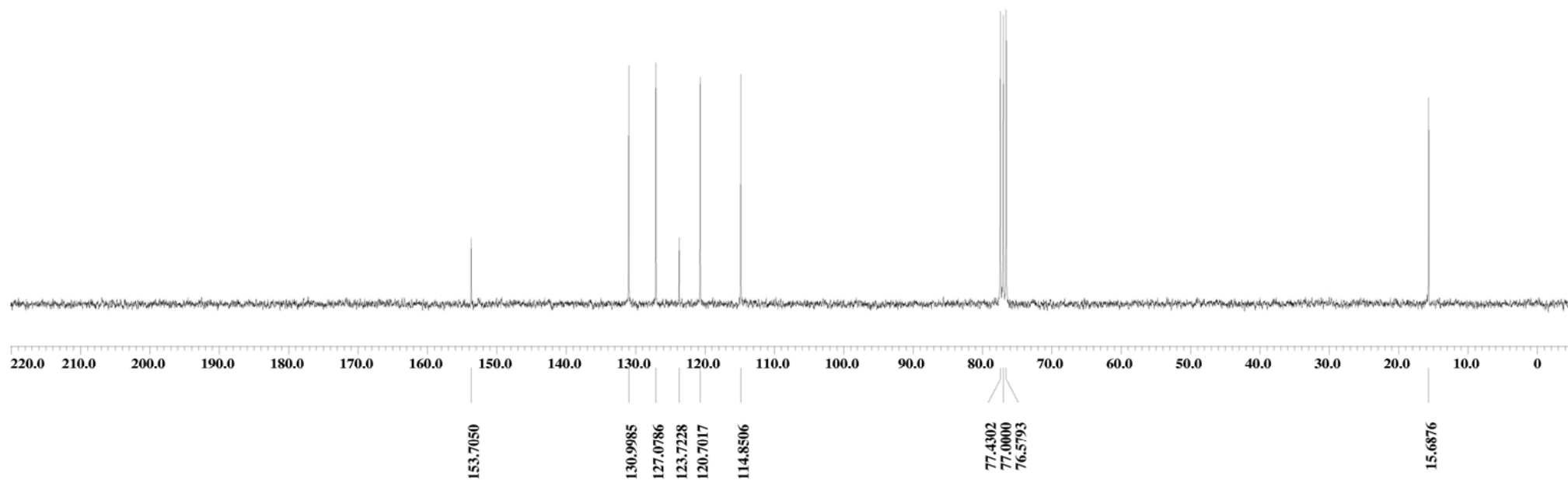
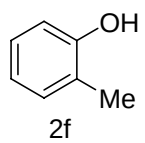
X : parts per Million : 1H



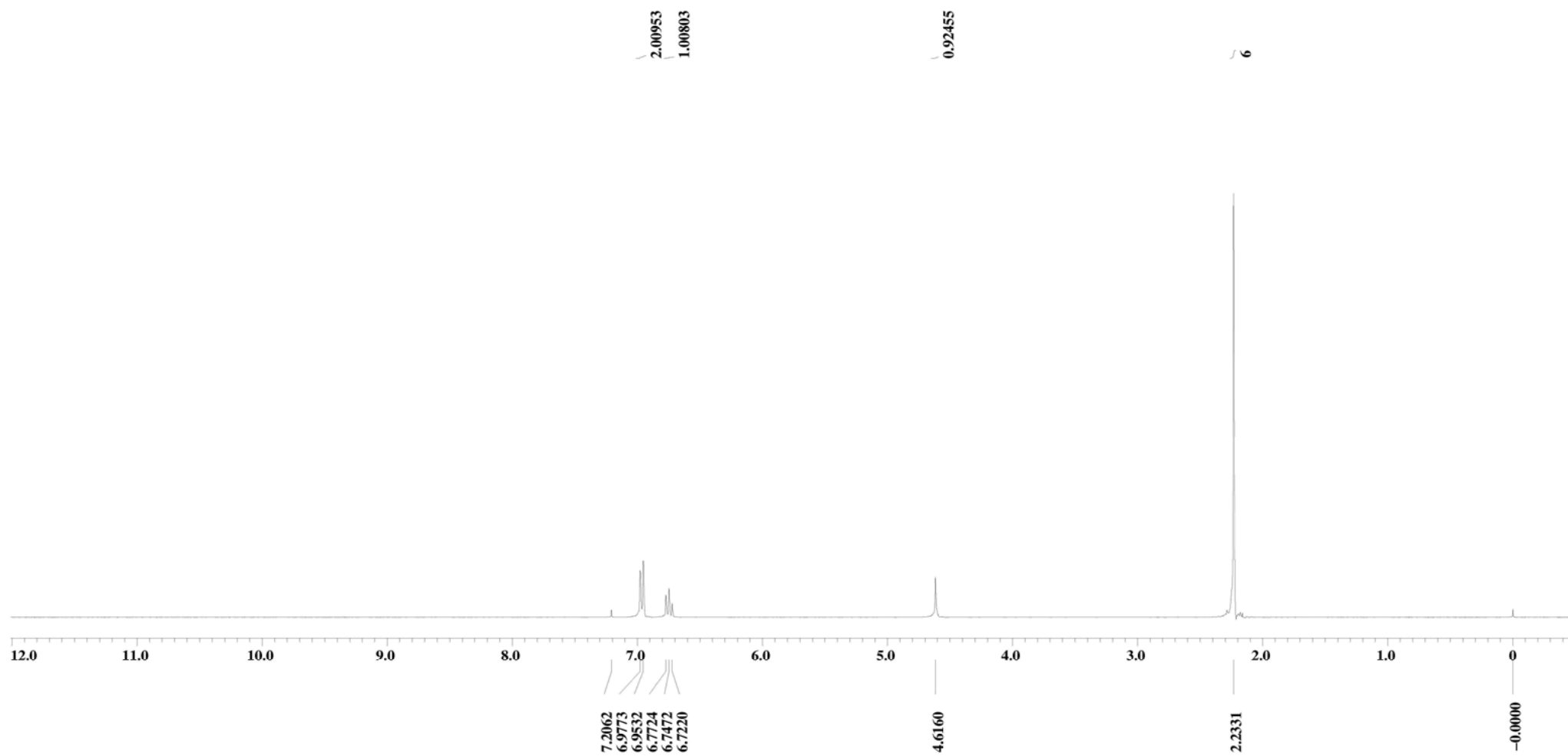
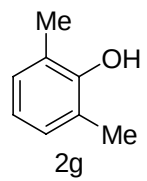
X : parts per Million : ¹³C



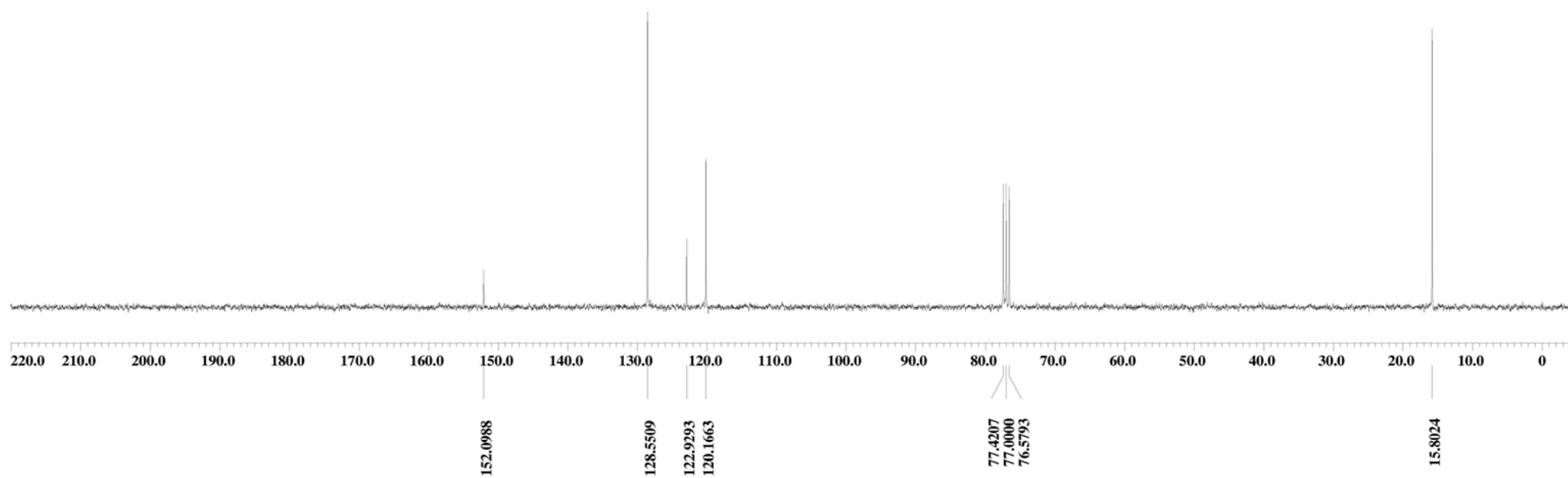
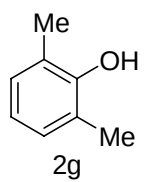
X : parts per Million : 1H



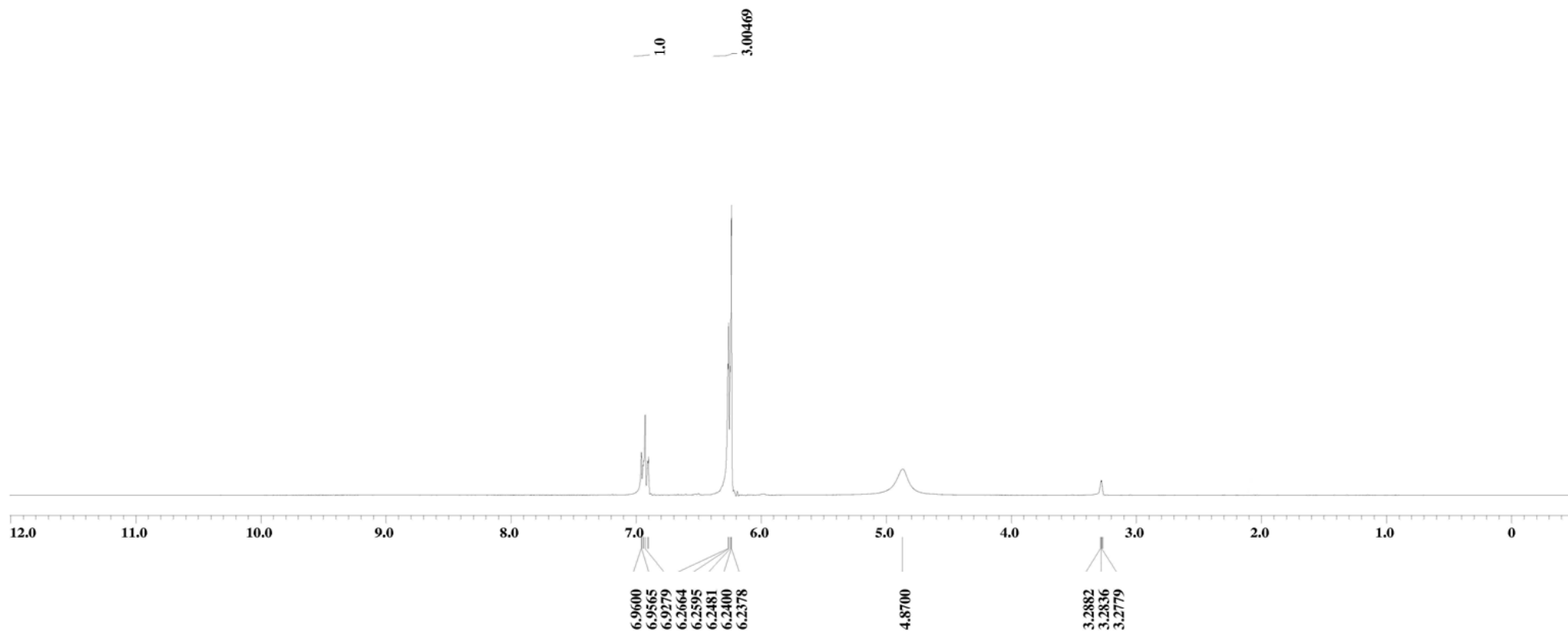
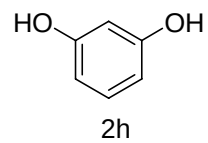
X : parts per Million : 13C



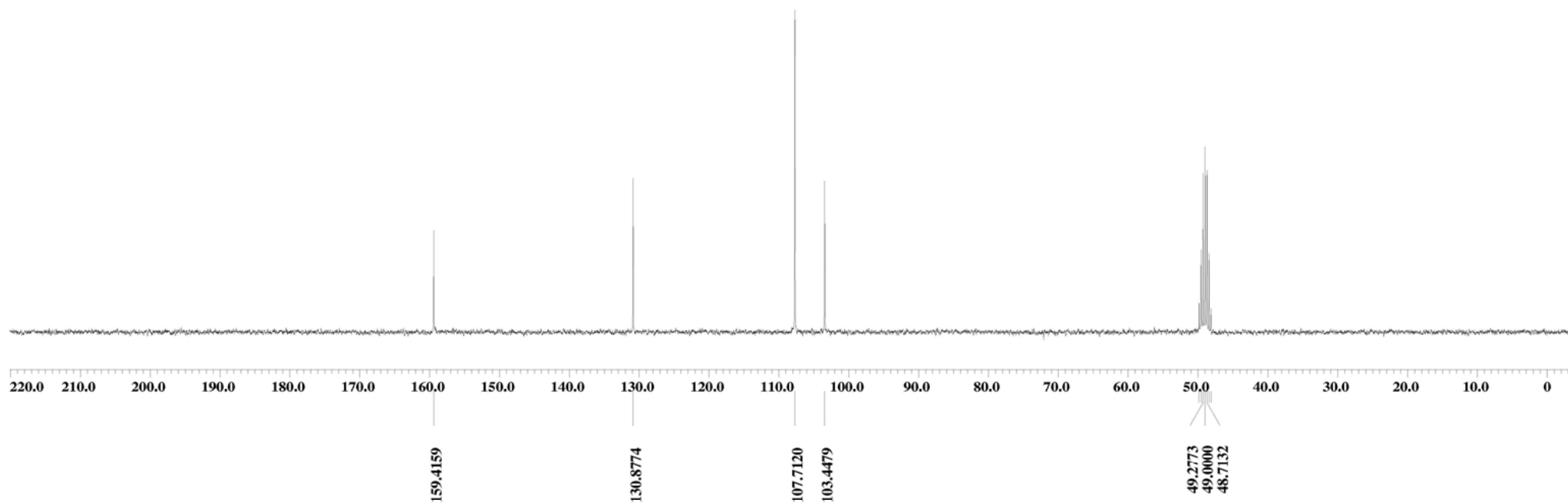
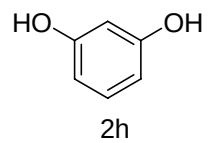
X : parts per Million : ¹H



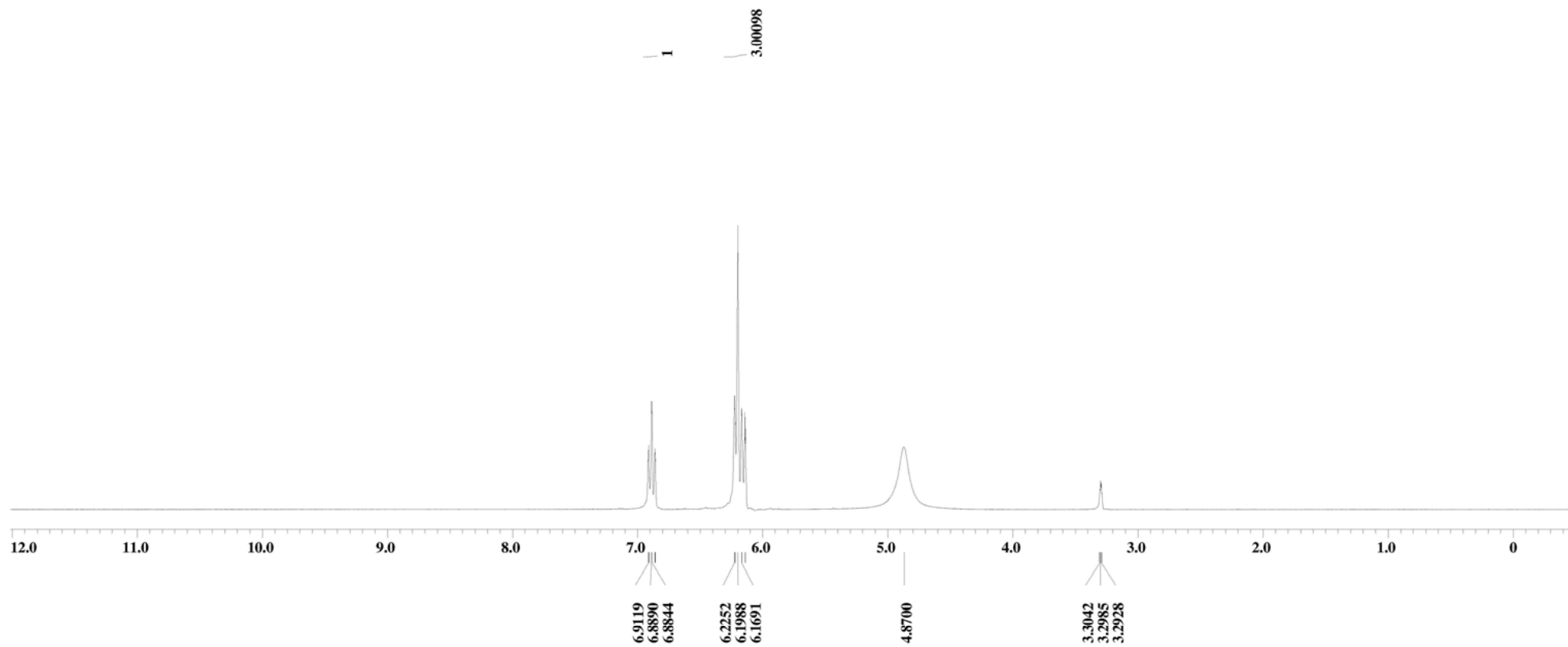
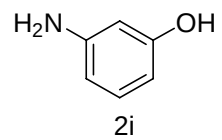
X : parts per Million : 13C



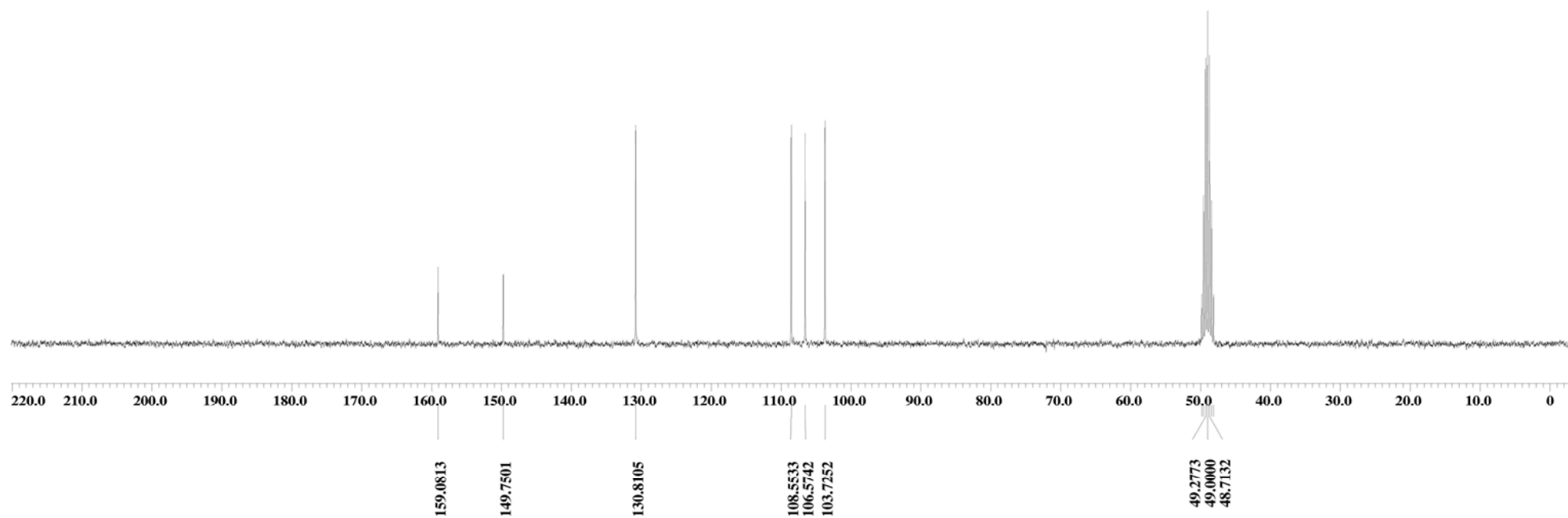
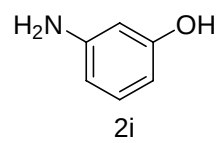
X : parts per Million : 1H



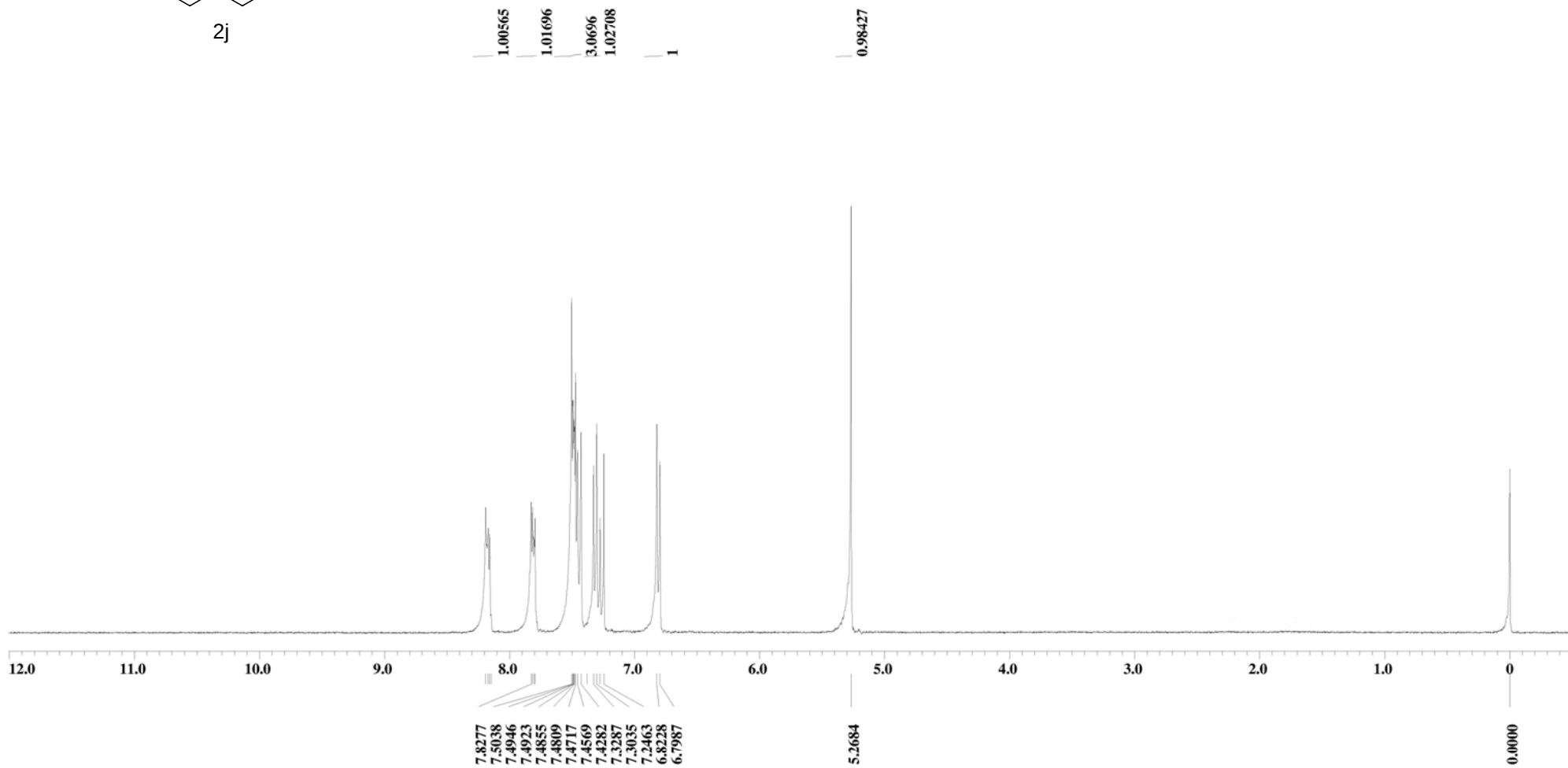
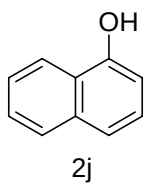
X : parts per Million : ¹³C



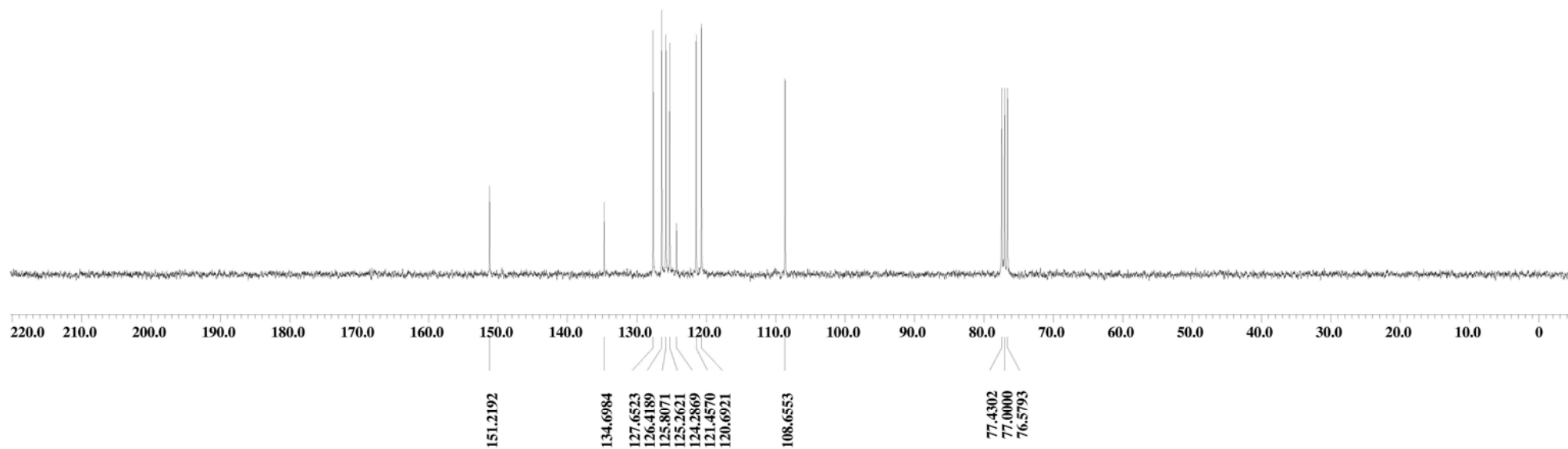
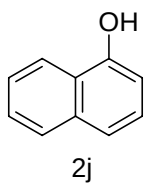
X : parts per Million : 1H

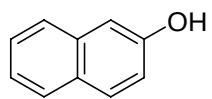


X : parts per Million : ¹³C

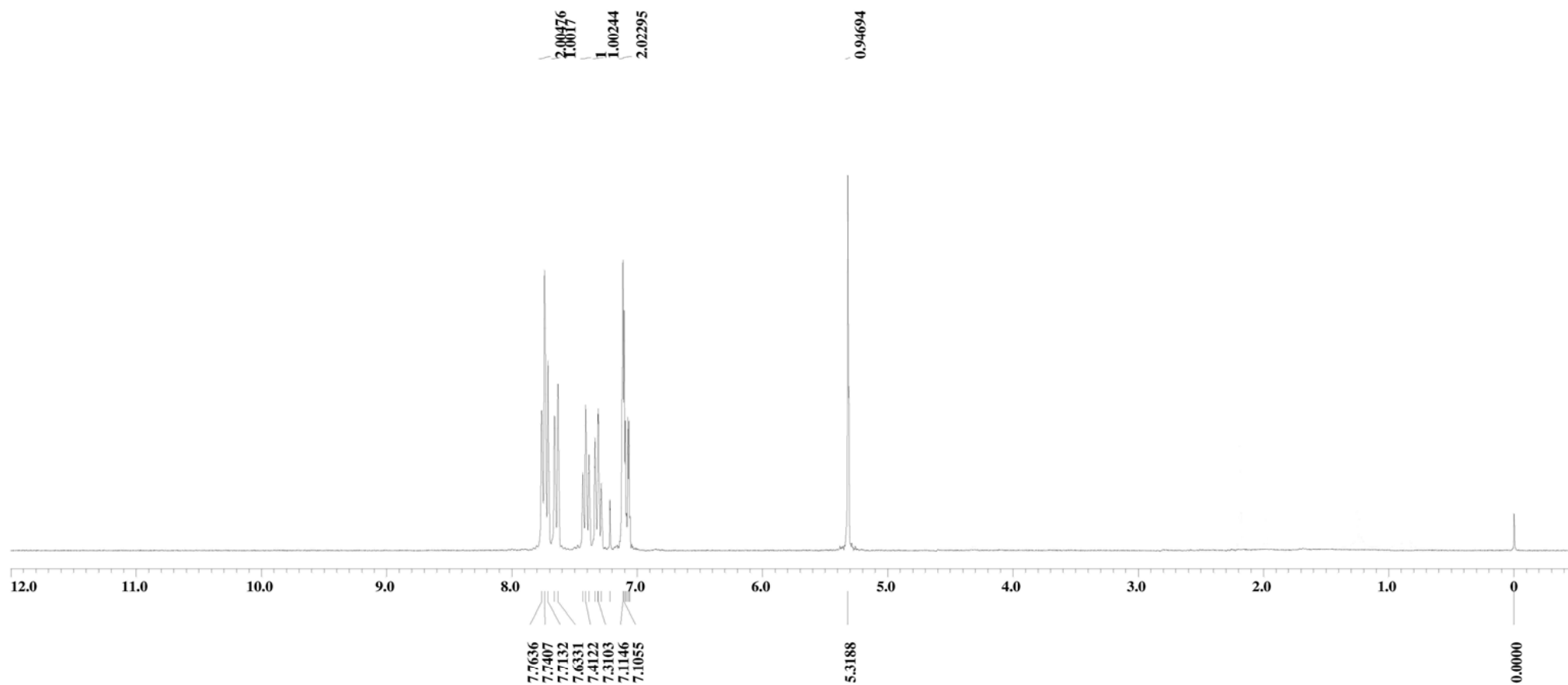


X : parts per Million : 1H

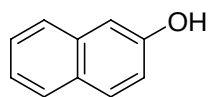




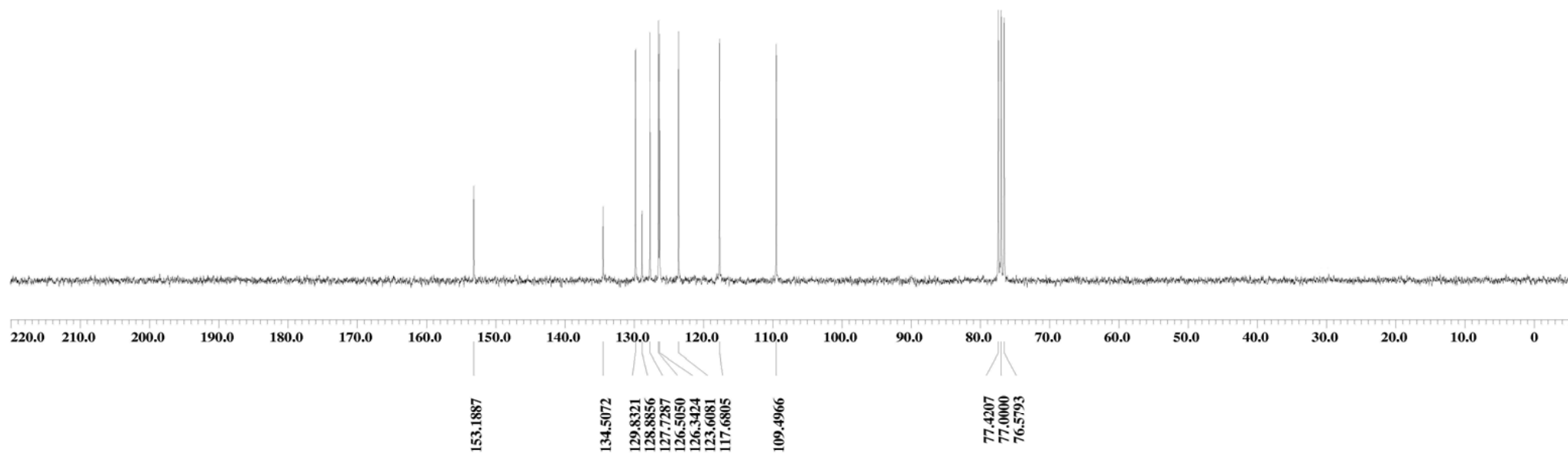
2k

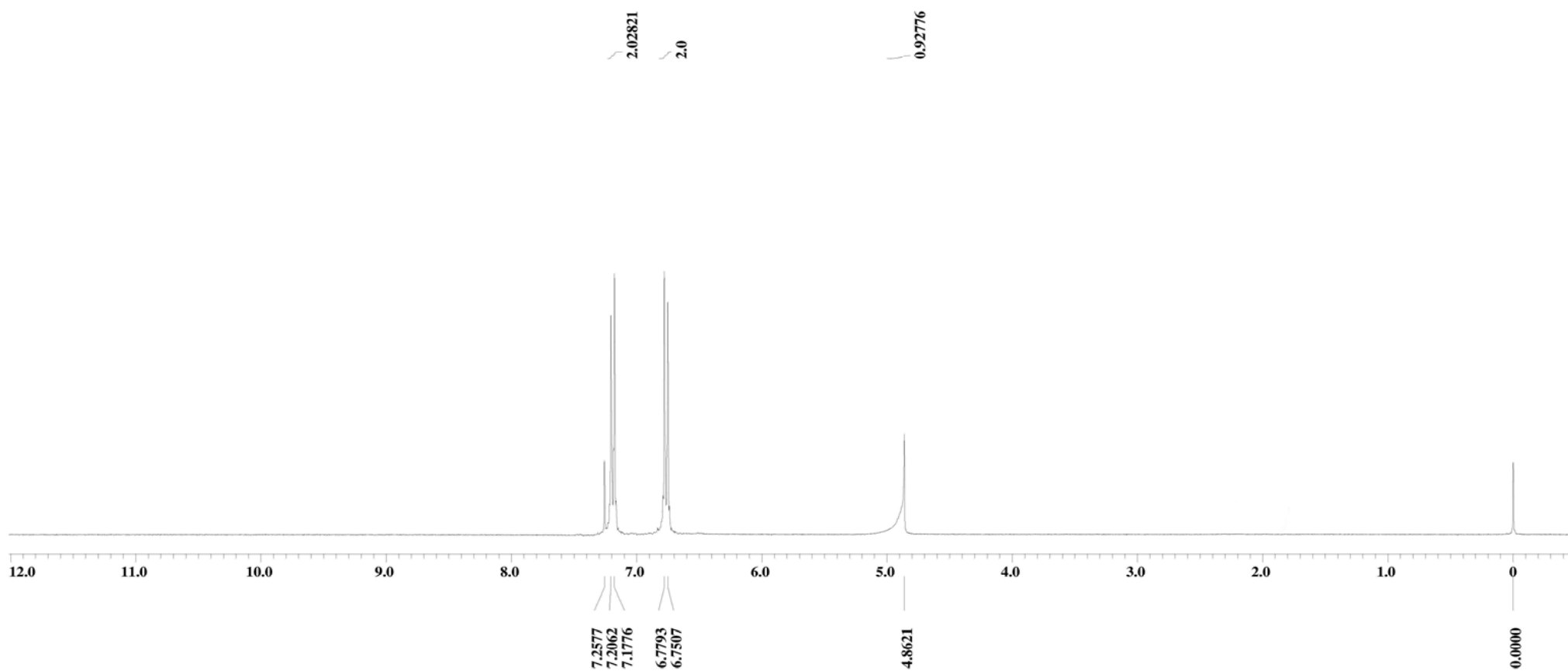
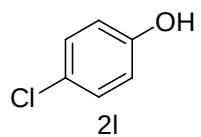


X : parts per Million : 1H

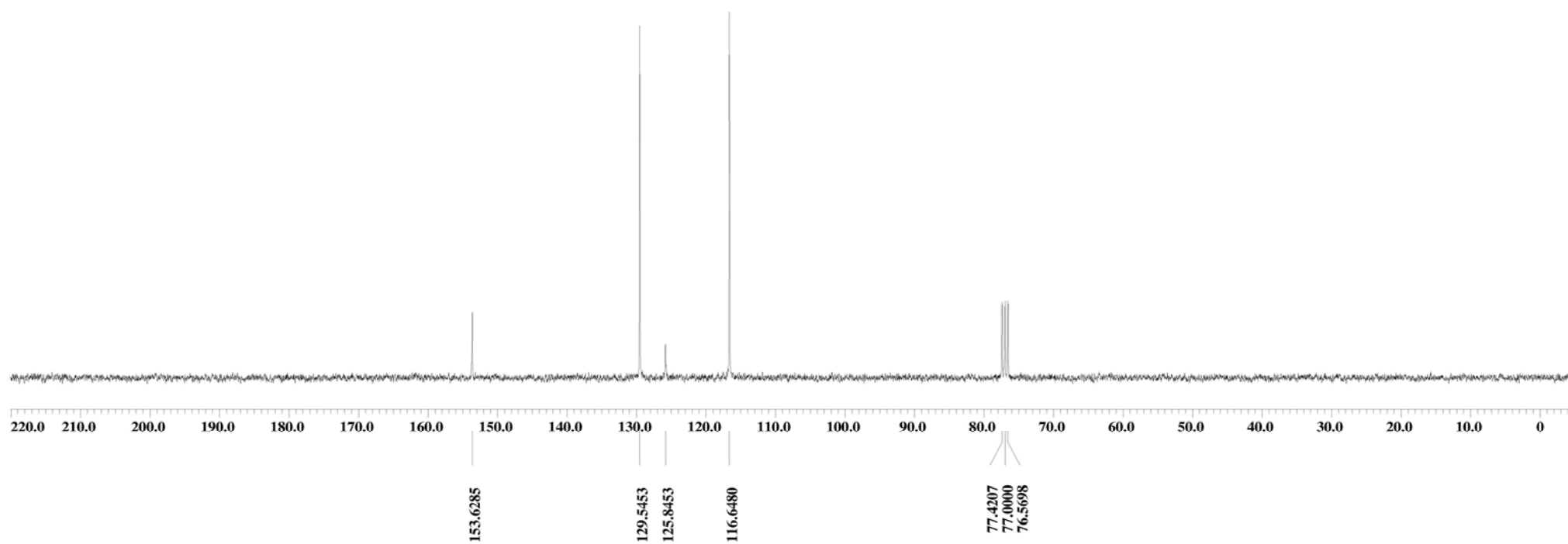
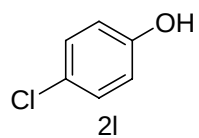


2k

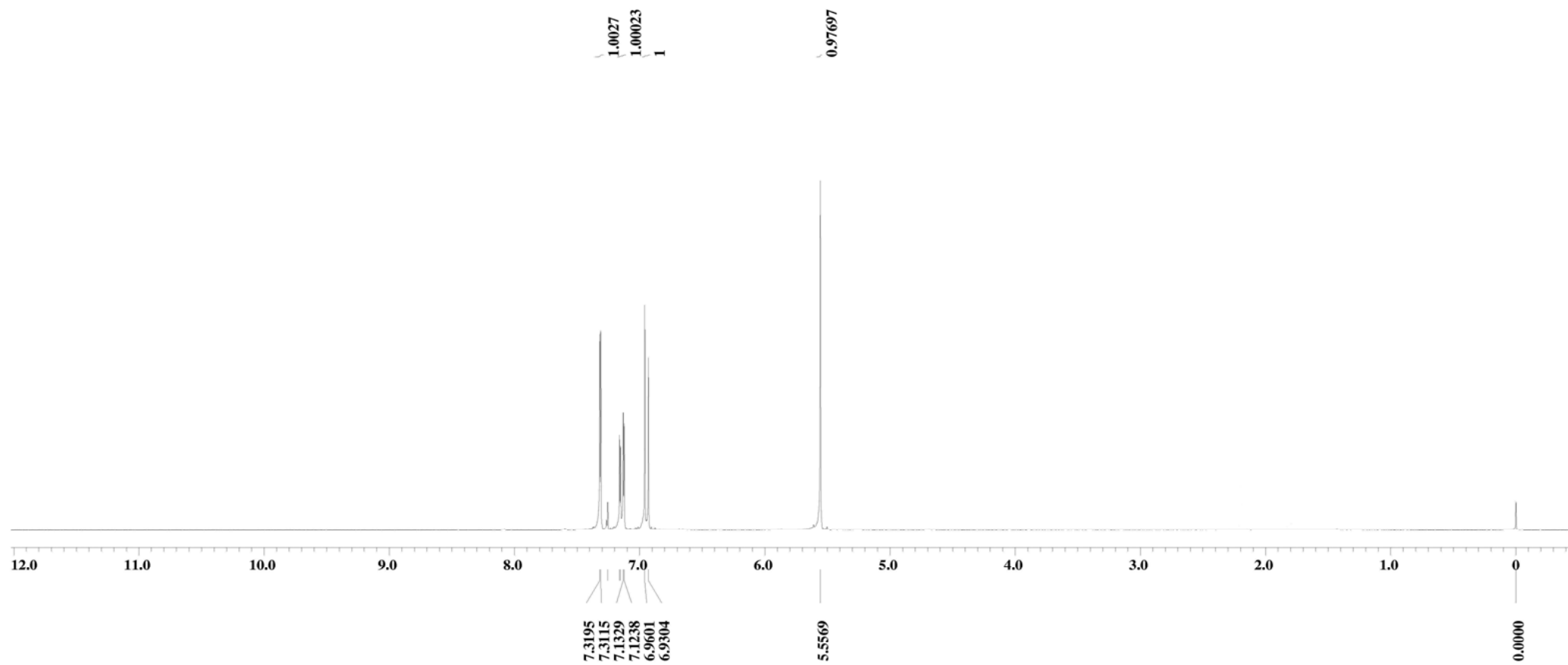
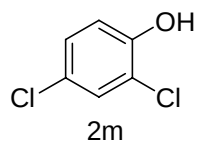




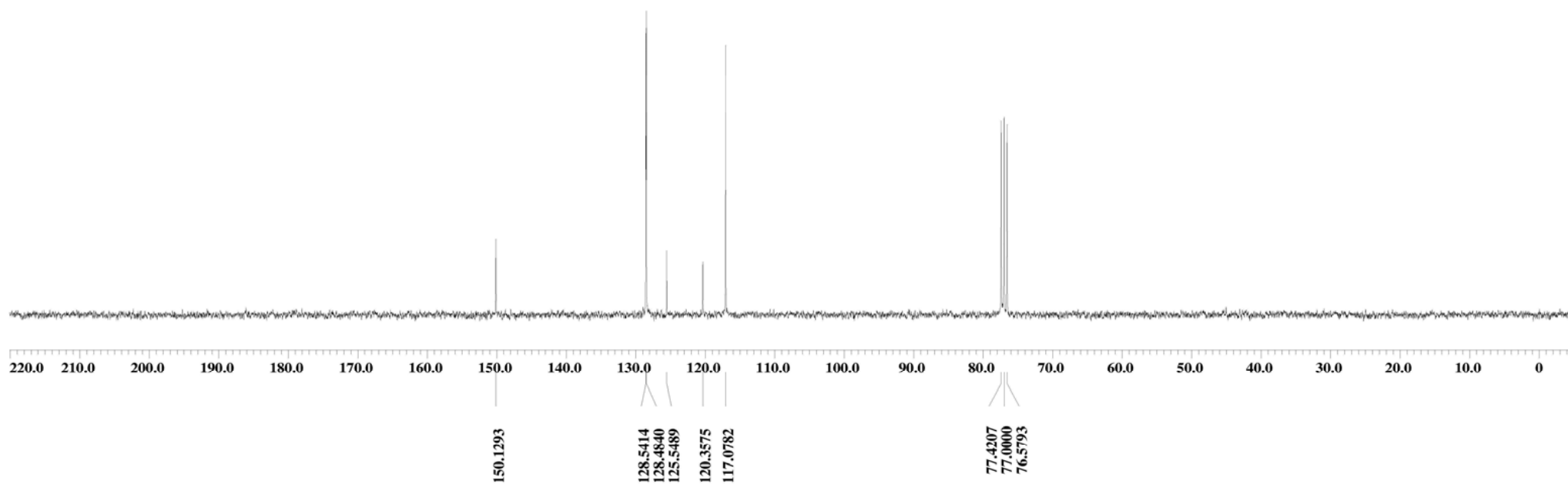
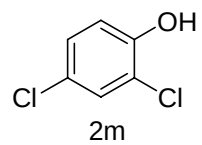
X : parts per Million : ¹H



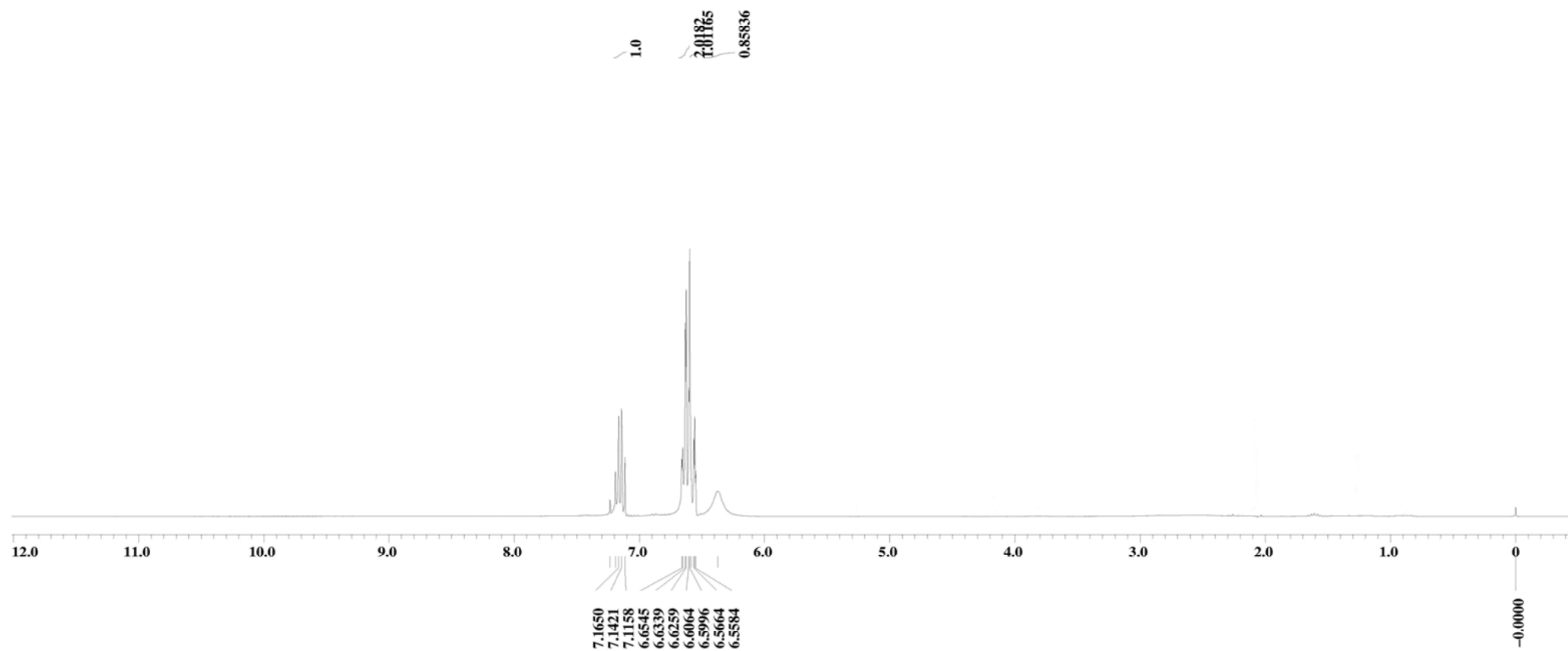
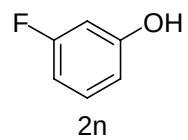
X : parts per Million : ^{13}C



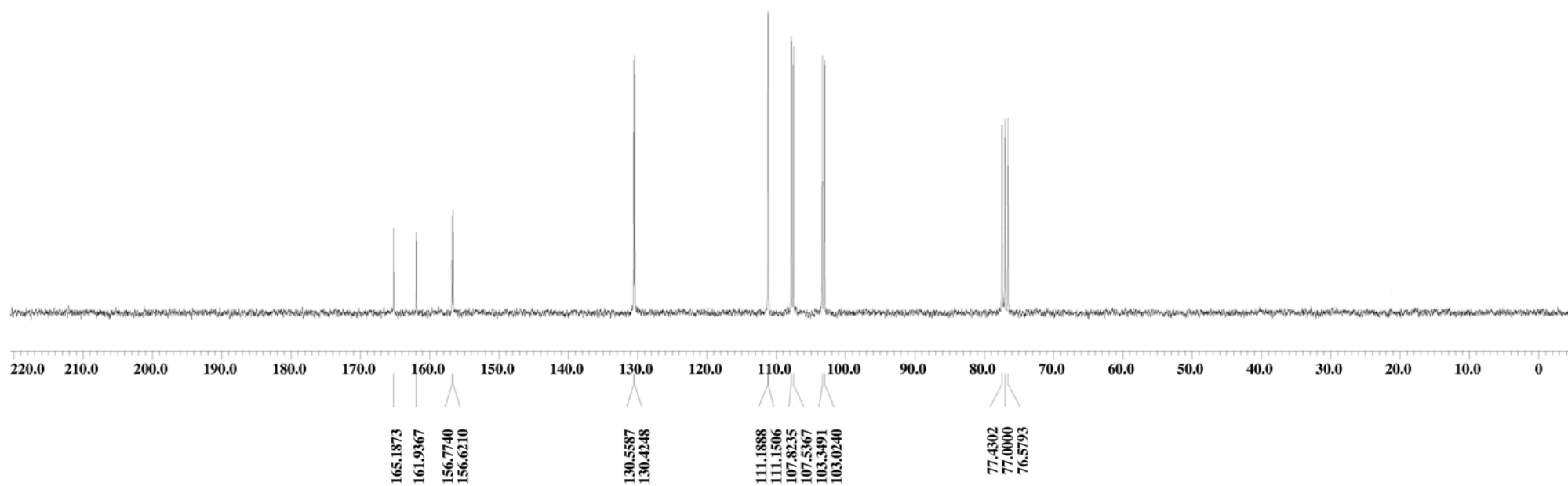
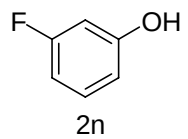
X : parts per Million : ¹H



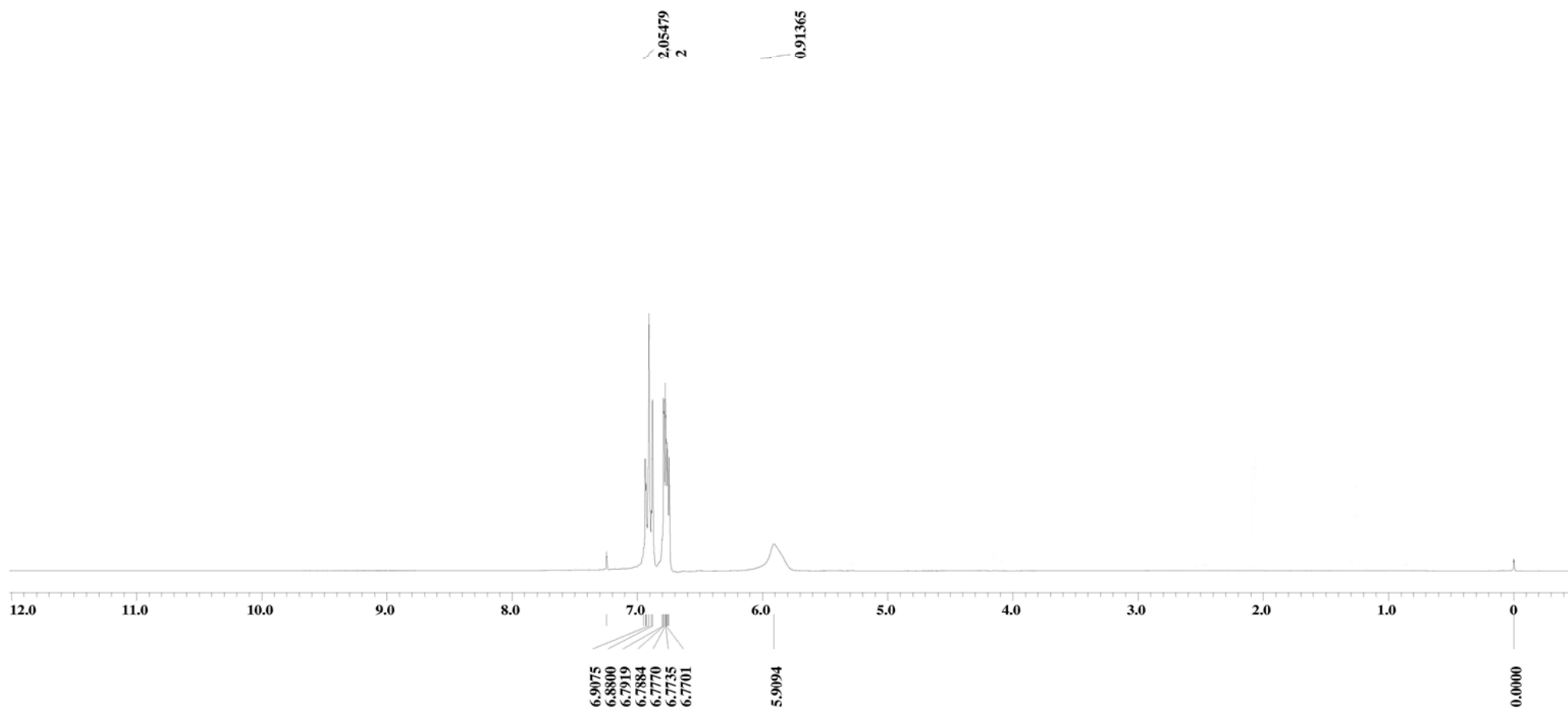
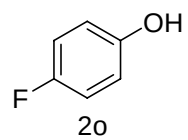
X : parts per Million : ^{13}C



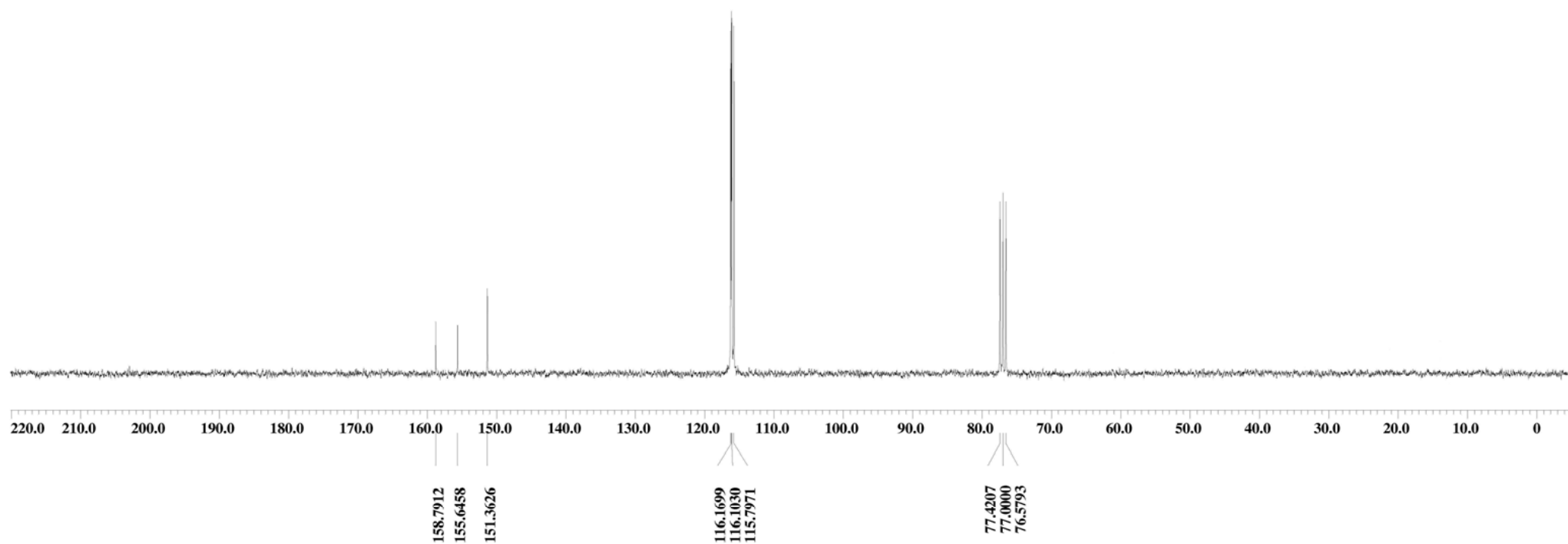
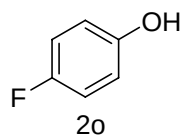
X : parts per Million : 1H



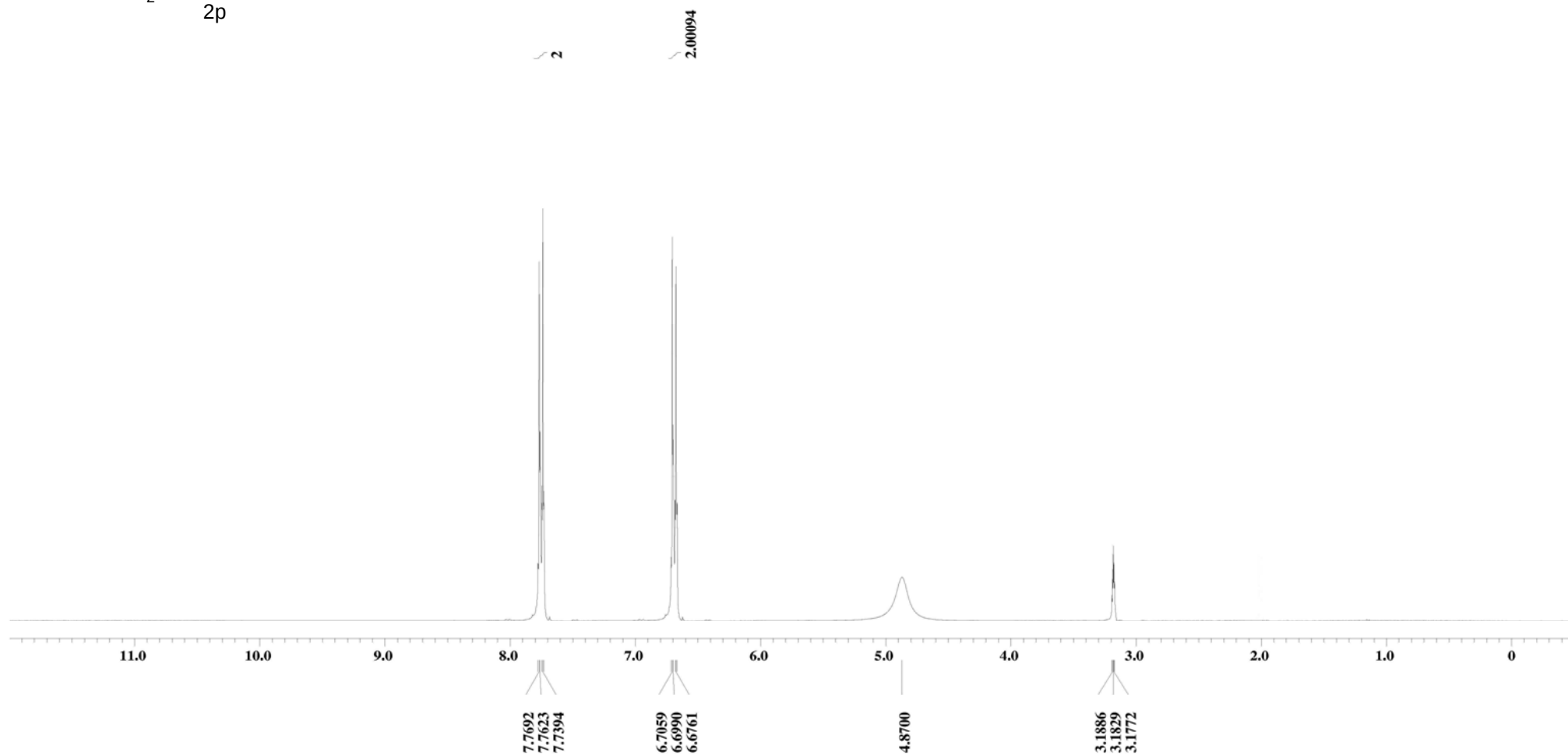
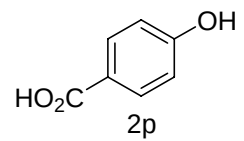
X : parts per Million : ^{13}C



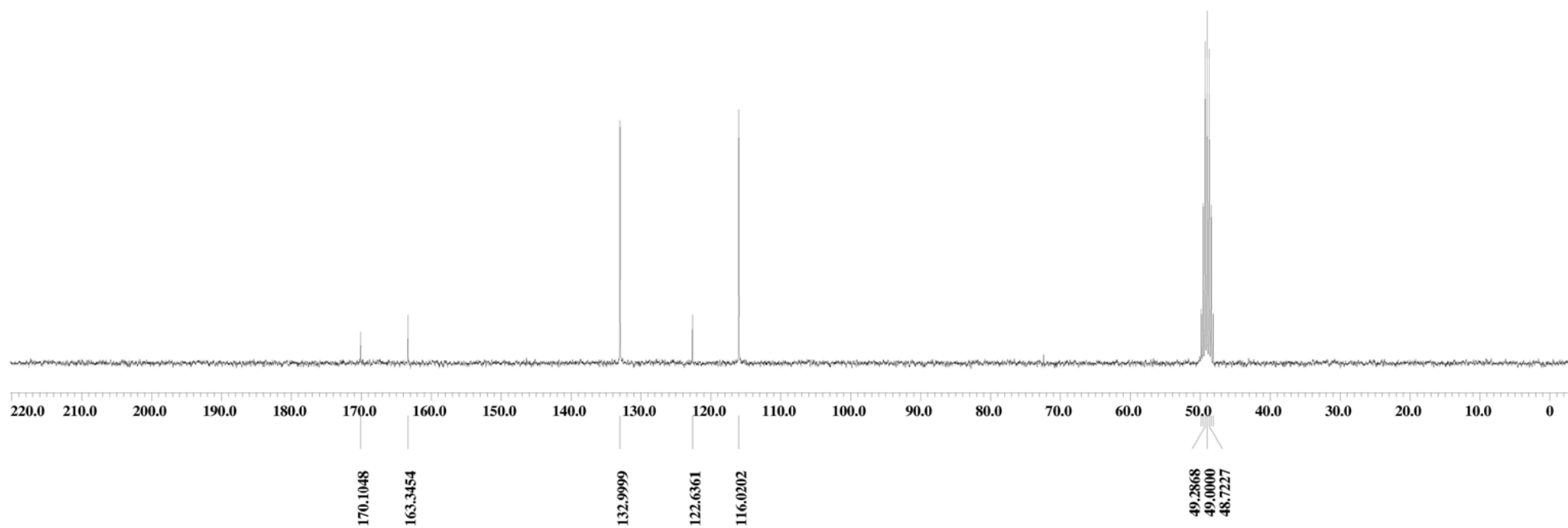
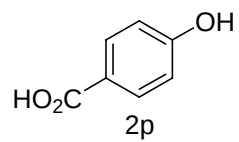
X : parts per Million : 1H



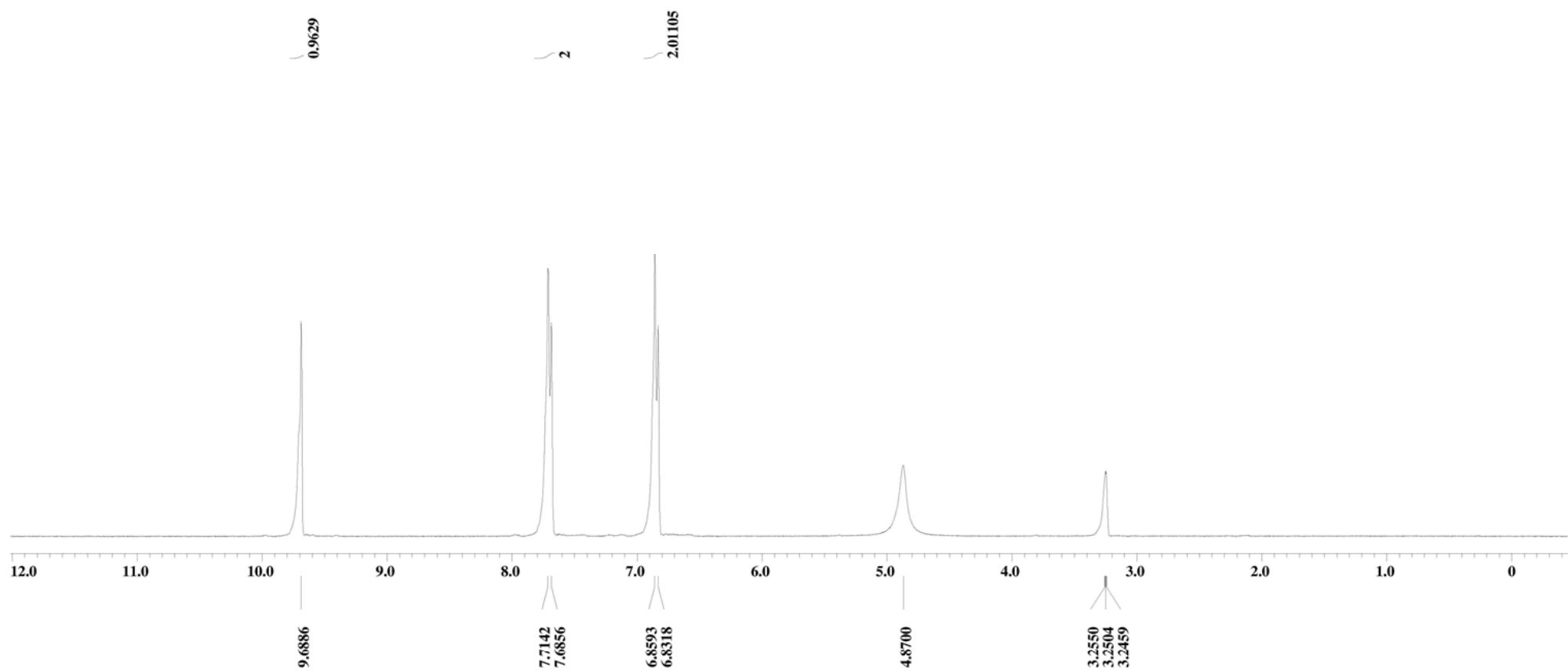
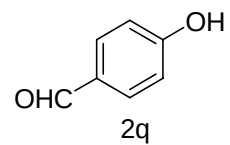
X : parts per Million : ¹³C



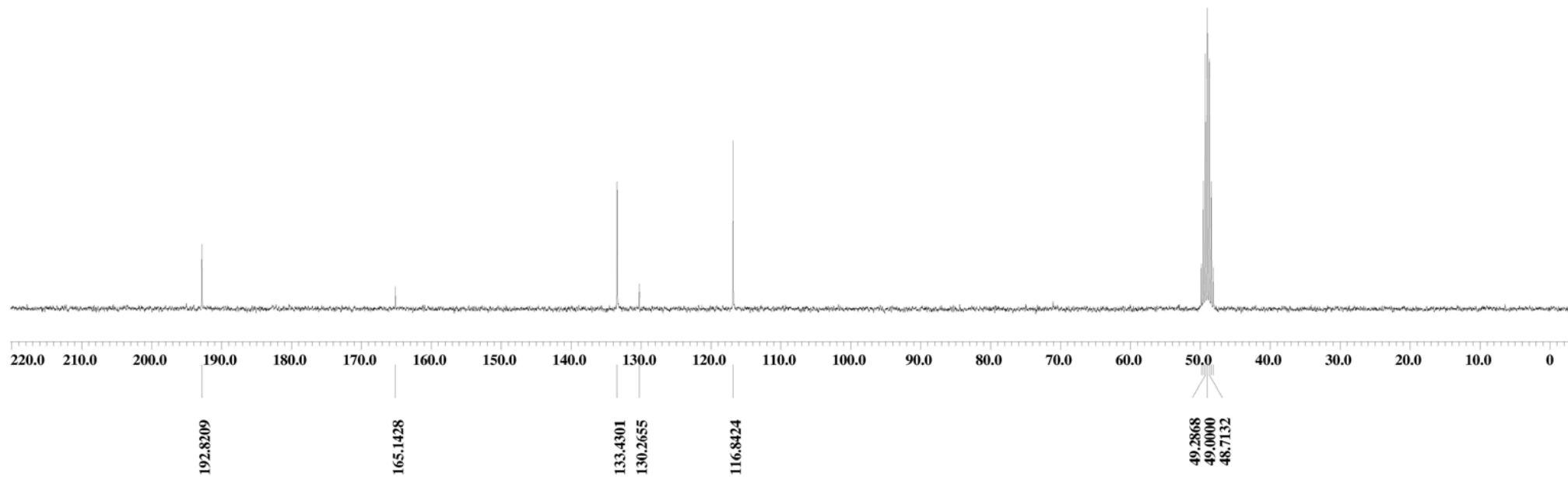
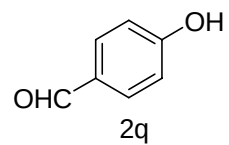
X : parts per Million : 1H



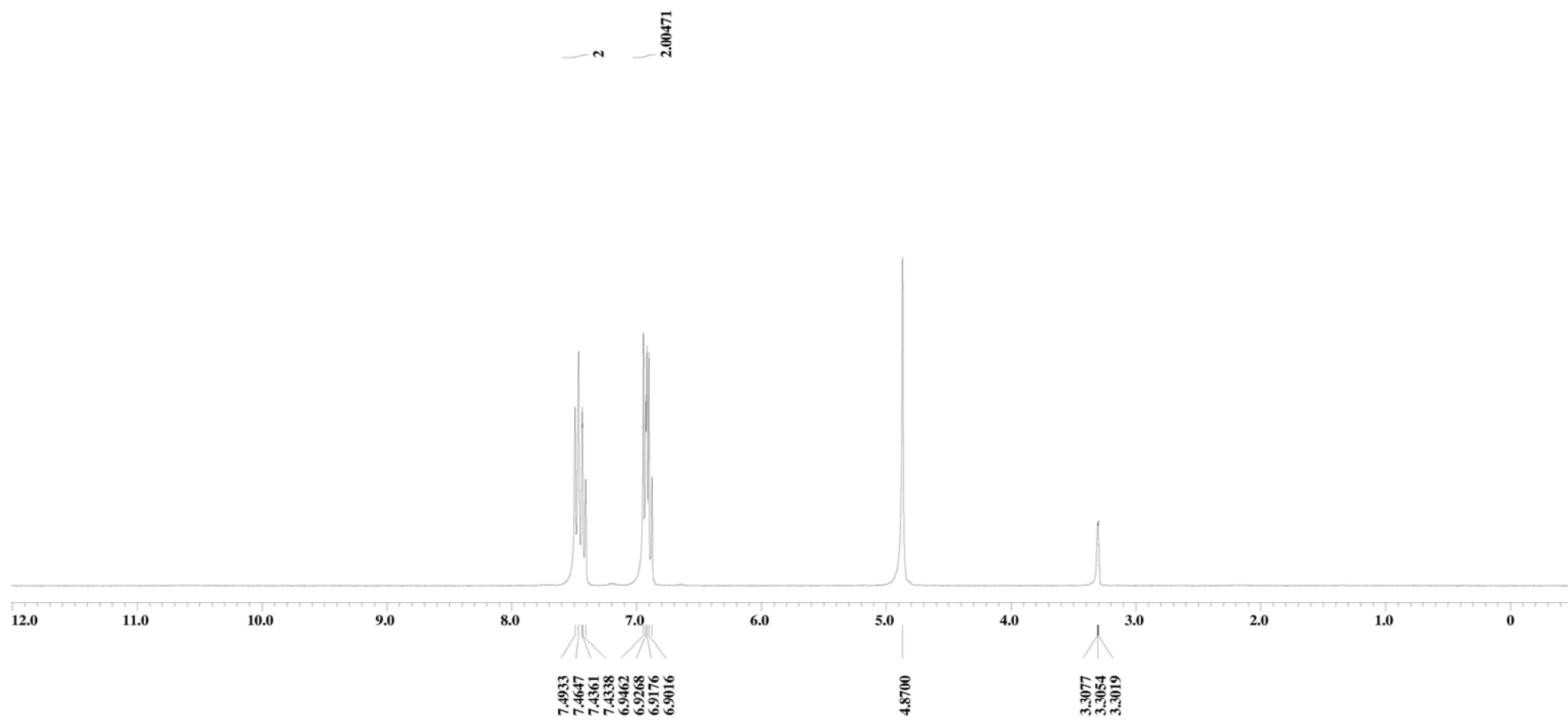
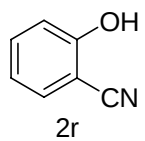
X : parts per Million : ^{13}C



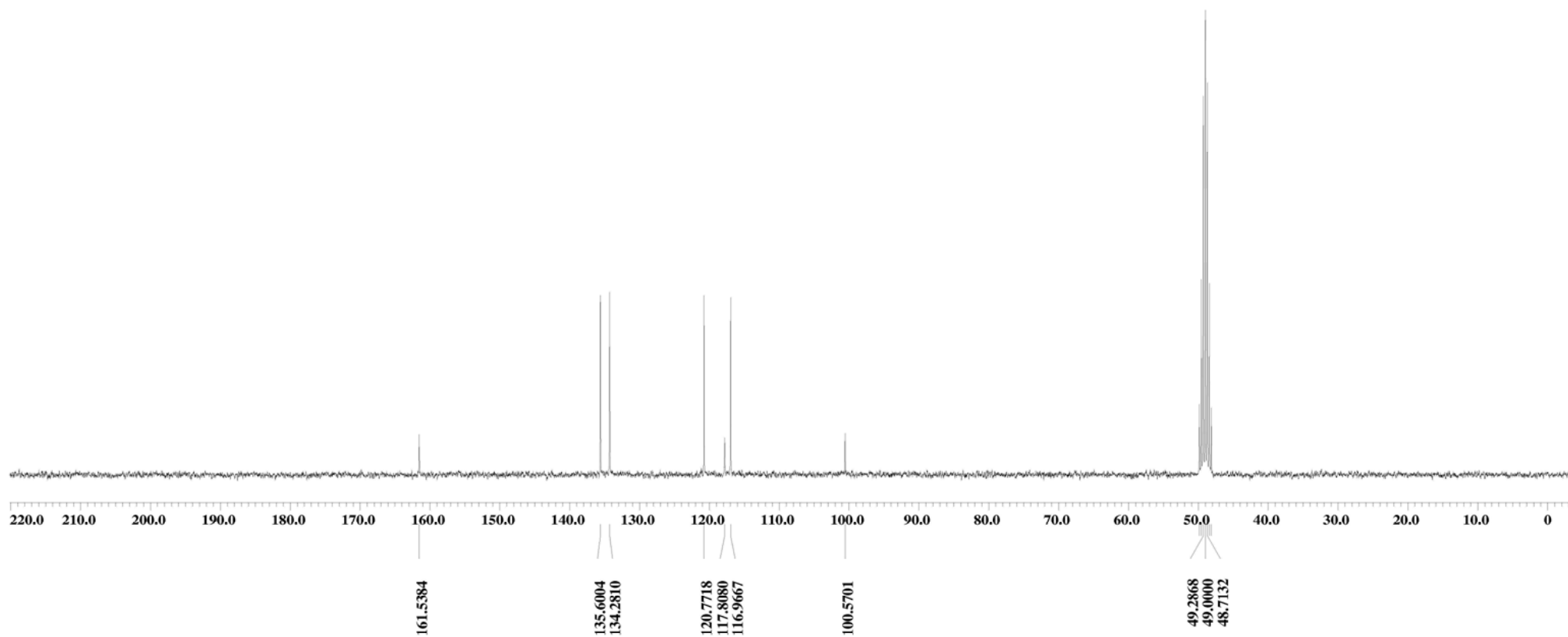
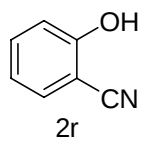
X : parts per Million : 1H



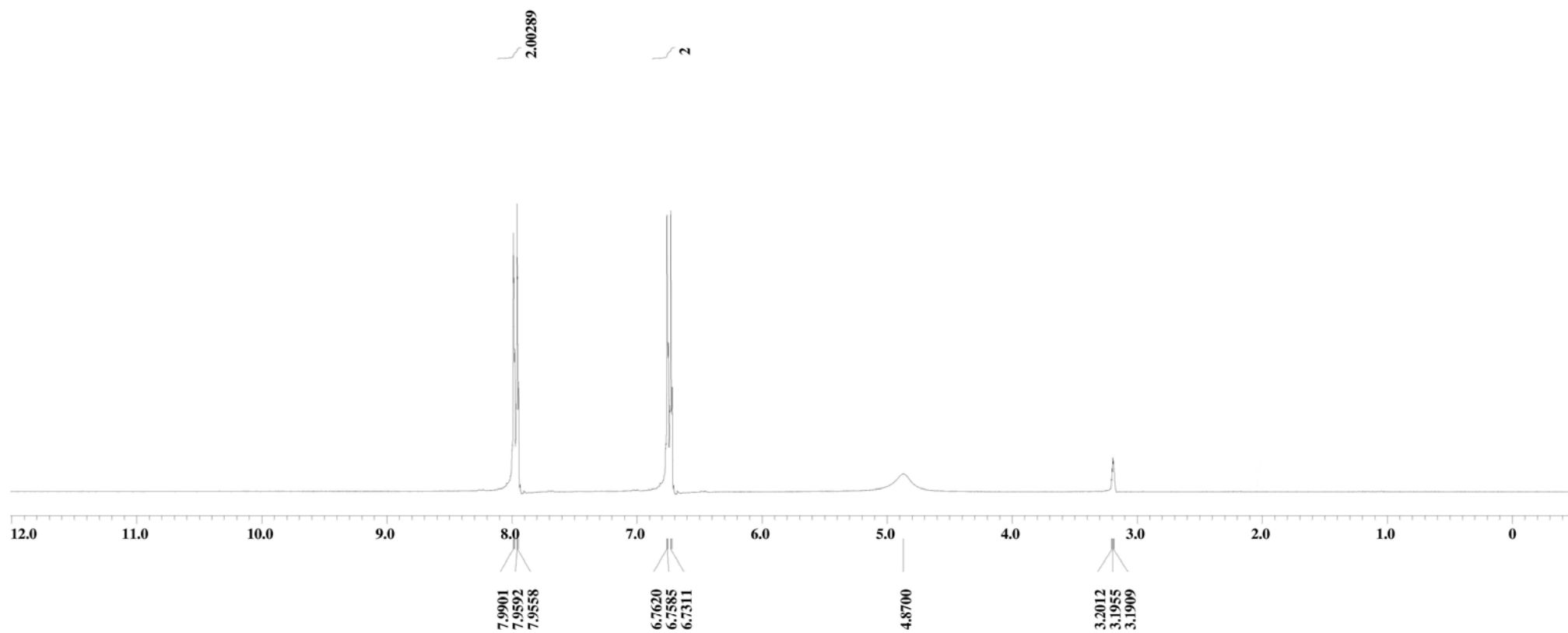
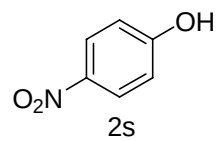
X : parts per Million : 13C



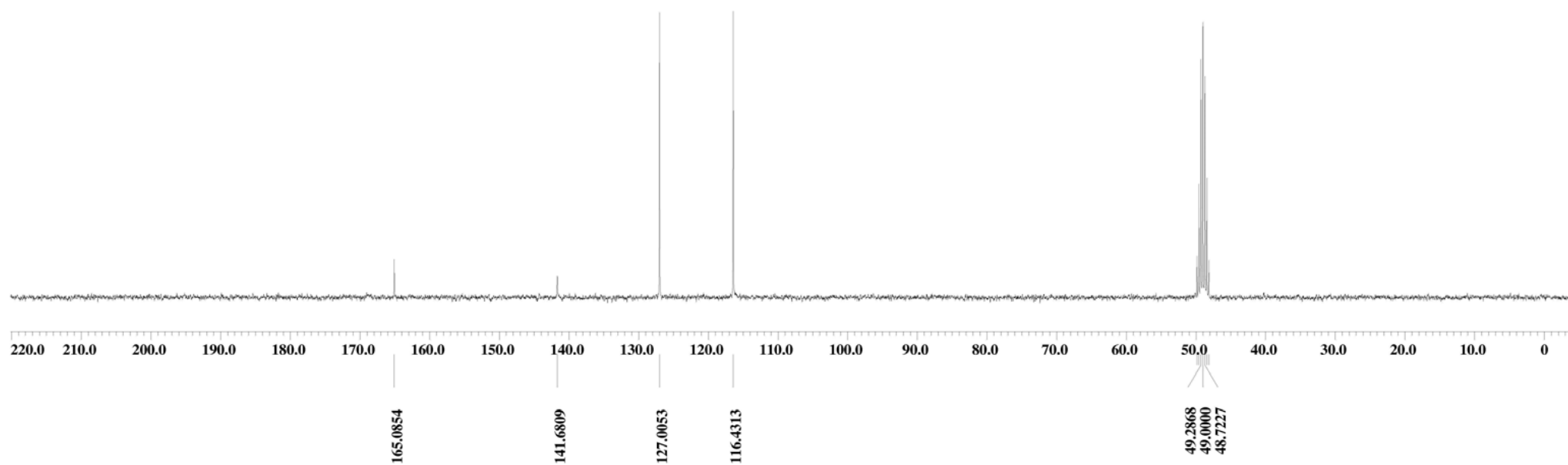
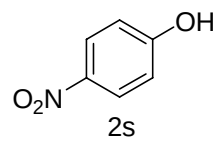
X : parts per Million : 1H



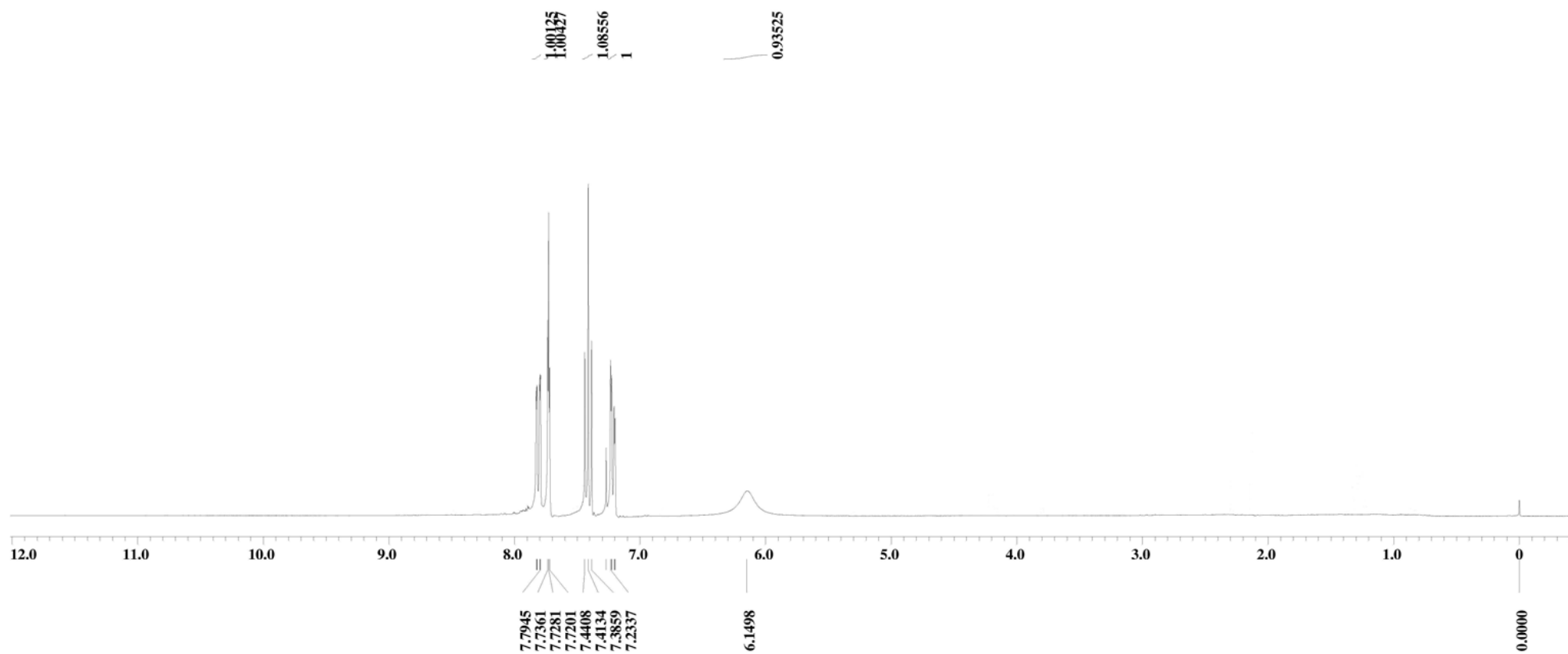
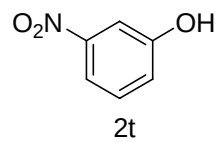
X : parts per Million : ¹³C



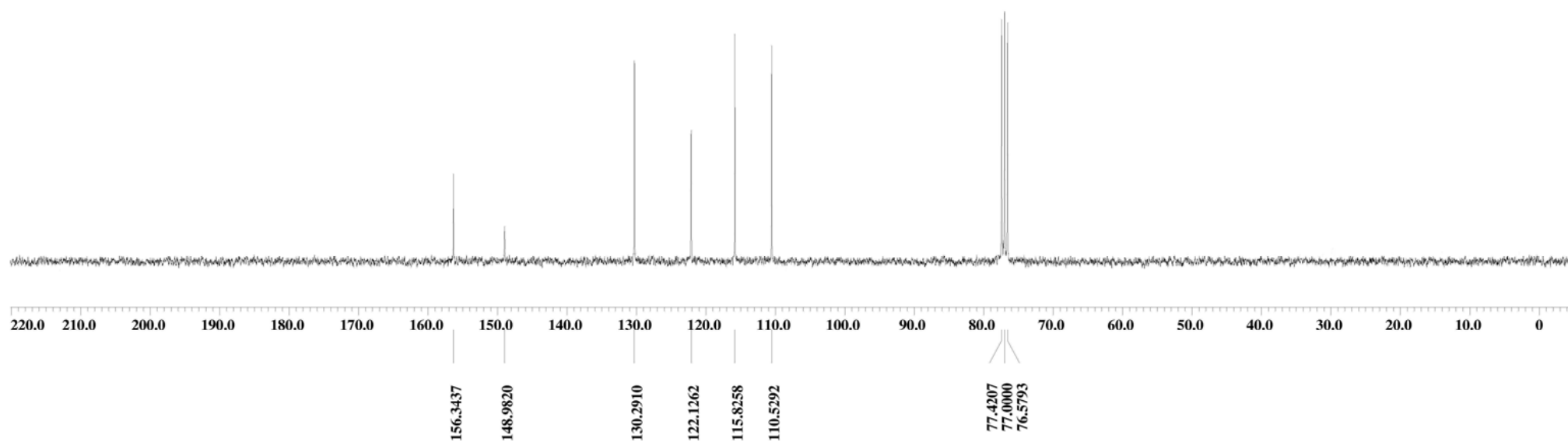
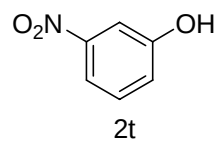
X : parts per Million : 1H



X : parts per Million : ^{13}C



X : parts per Million : 1H



X : parts per Million : ¹³C