

## Supporting information

# STOP strategy to inhibit *P. falciparum* and *S. aureus* growth: molecular mechanism studies on purposely designed hybrids

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**Table S1. MIC values obtained for the PTZ-quinoline hybrid compounds measured for the reference microbial strains**

Compound	MIC ( $\mu$ M)		
	<i>S. aureus</i> ATCC 25923	<i>E. coli</i> ATCC 25923	<i>C. albicans</i> ATCC 10231
<b>1</b>	>100	>100	>100
<b>2</b>	>100	>100	>100
<b>3</b>	>100	>100	>100
<b>4a</b>	12.5	>100	>100
<b>4b</b>	6.25-12.5	>100	>100
<b>5a</b>	12.5	>100	>100
<b>5b</b>	6.25-12.5	>100	>100
<b>6a</b>	>100	>100	>100
<b>6b</b>	50	>100	>100
<b>7</b>	>100	>100	>100
<b>8</b>	>100	>100	>100
<b>GEN*</b>	6.6	1.03	n.d
<b>AMP*</b>	4.2	67.3	n.d.
<b>FLC*</b>	n.d.^	n.d.	0.82

\*GEN: Gentamicin; AMP: Ampicillin; FLC: Fluconazole.

^n.d. not determined

**Table S2. Antibiotic-resistance profile of the clinical isolates of *S. aureus***

<i>Clinical isolate</i>	<b>Antibiotic-resistance profile</b>
<b>MRSA 1<sup>§</sup></b>	GEN <sup>S</sup> , LVX <sup>R</sup> , <b>OX<sup>R</sup>, P<sup>R</sup></b> , TE <sup>S</sup> , TEC <sup>S</sup> , SXT <sup>S</sup> , VA <sup>S</sup>
<b>MRSA 2<sup>§</sup></b>	GEN <sup>S</sup> , LVX <sup>R</sup> , <b>OX<sup>R</sup>, P<sup>R</sup></b> , TE <sup>S</sup> , TEC <sup>S</sup> , SXT <sup>S</sup> , VA <sup>S</sup>
<b>MRSA 3<sup>§</sup></b>	<b>CM<sup>R</sup>, E<sup>R</sup></b> , GEN <sup>S</sup> , LVX <sup>R</sup> , <b>OX<sup>R</sup>, P<sup>R</sup></b> , TEC <sup>S</sup> , TE <sup>S</sup> , SXT <sup>S</sup> , VA <sup>S</sup>
<b>MRSA 4<sup>§</sup></b>	CM <sup>S</sup> , E <sup>S</sup> , GEN <sup>S</sup> , LVX <sup>R</sup> , <b>OX<sup>R</sup>, P<sup>R</sup></b> , TE <sup>S</sup> , TEC <sup>S</sup> , SXT <sup>S</sup> , VA <sup>S</sup>
<b>MRSA 5<sup>§</sup></b>	CM <sup>S</sup> , E <sup>S</sup> , GEN <sup>S</sup> , LVX <sup>R</sup> , <b>OX<sup>R</sup>, P<sup>R</sup></b> , TE <sup>S</sup> , TEC <sup>S</sup> , SXT <sup>S</sup> , VA <sup>S</sup>

CM = Clindamicyn; E = Erythromycin; GEN = Gentamicin; P = Penicillin; LVX = Levofloxacin; OX = Oxacillin; TE = Tetracycline; TEC = Teicoplanin; SXT = Trimethoprim/Sulfamethoxazole; VA = Vancomycin

R = Resistant; S = Susceptible; I = Intermediate, as defined following the EUCAST guidelines

<sup>§</sup>*Staphylococcus* species resistant to oxacillin were declared, by convention, methicillin-resistant.

**Table S3. IC<sub>50</sub> ranges (μM) obtained for MRSA and reference strains**

<i>S. aureus</i>	<b>4a</b>	<b>4b</b>	<b>5a</b>	<b>5b</b>
<b>ATCC 25923</b>	7.34 – 7.64	3.97 – 5.75	5.41 – 8.05	3.31 – 6.75
<b>MRSA (n = 5)</b>	7.75 – 8.98	4.42 – 6.48	6.40 – 9.63	6.18 – 10.34

**Table S4. Molecular docking scores of compounds 1-8 within the evaluated binding sites of *S. aureus* NDH-2 protein.**

Compound	Docking score (kcal/mol)	Docking score (kcal/mol)	Docking score (kcal/mol)
	FAD binding site	NAD <sup>+</sup> /NADH binding site	Q binding site
<b>1</b>	-8.159	-8.153	-8.537
<b>2</b>	-8.353	-8.007	-7.837
<b>3</b>	-8.551	-8.120	-7.211
<b>4a</b>	-8.757	-7.158	-9.794
<b>4b</b>	-8.281	-7.306	-8.129
<b>5a</b>	-9.059	-7.583	-9.575
<b>5b</b>	-9.297	-7.763	-8.628
<b>6a</b>	-9.198	-8.174	-9.732
<b>6b</b>	-9.856	-8.312	-11.174
<b>7</b>	-9.718	-8.011	-8.325
<b>8</b>	-9.895	-8.070	-9.590
<b>NAD<sup>+</sup>*</b>	-	-6.420	-
<b>HQNO*</b>	-	-	-6.170
<b>FAD*</b>	-17.036	-	-

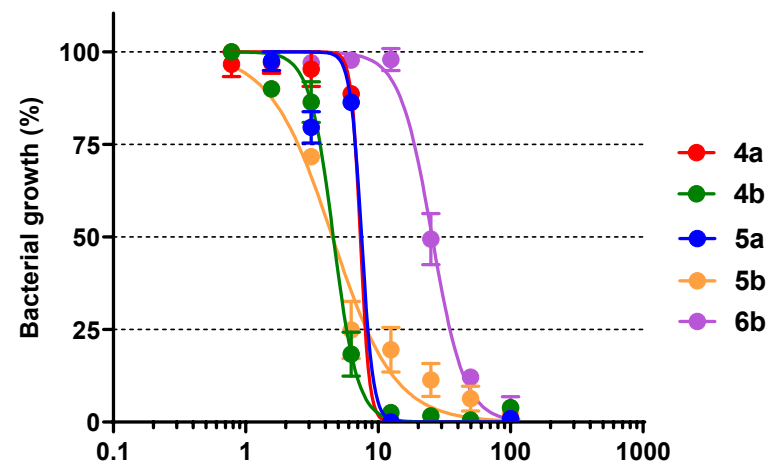
\*NAD<sup>+</sup>, HQNO and FAD are reported as reference scoring compounds.

**Table S5. Molecular docking scores of compounds 1-8 within the evaluated binding sites of *P. falciparum* NDH-2 protein.**

Compound	Docking score		
	(kcal/mol) FAD binding site	Docking score (kcal/mol) NAD <sup>+</sup> /NADH binding site	Docking score (kcal/mol) Q binding site
<b>1</b>	-6.446	-7.721	-7.983
<b>2</b>	-6.937	-6.455	-7.931
<b>3</b>	-6.662	-8.374	-8.014
<b>4a</b>	-7.150	-8.150	-8.206
<b>4b</b>	-7.061	-8.274	-10.208
<b>5a</b>	-7.223	-8.136	-8.911
<b>5b</b>	-7.435	-8.505	-9.374
<b>6a</b>	-7.604	-8.438	-7.987
<b>6b</b>	-7.882	-8.600	-7.566
<b>7</b>	-7.970	-7.274	-8.747
<b>8</b>	-7.867	-8.446	-9.120
<b>NAD<sup>+</sup>*</b>	-	-8.879	-
<b>HQNO*</b>	-	-	-7.799
<b>FAD*</b>	-14.378	-	-

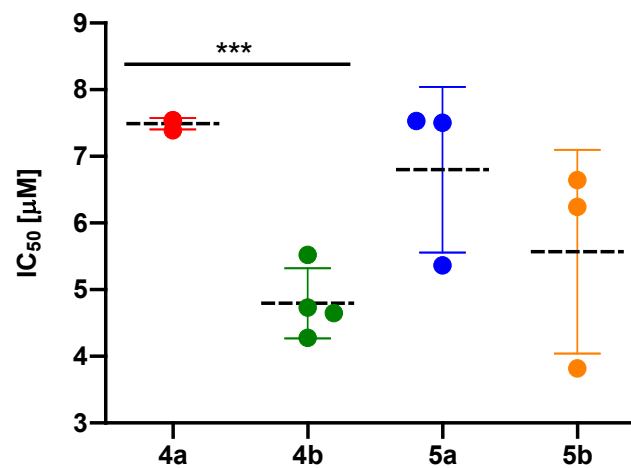
\*NAD<sup>+</sup>, HQNO and FAD are reported as reference scoring compounds.

**Figure S1. Dose-response curves of the active PTZ-quinoline hybrid compounds against *S. aureus* ATCC 25923**



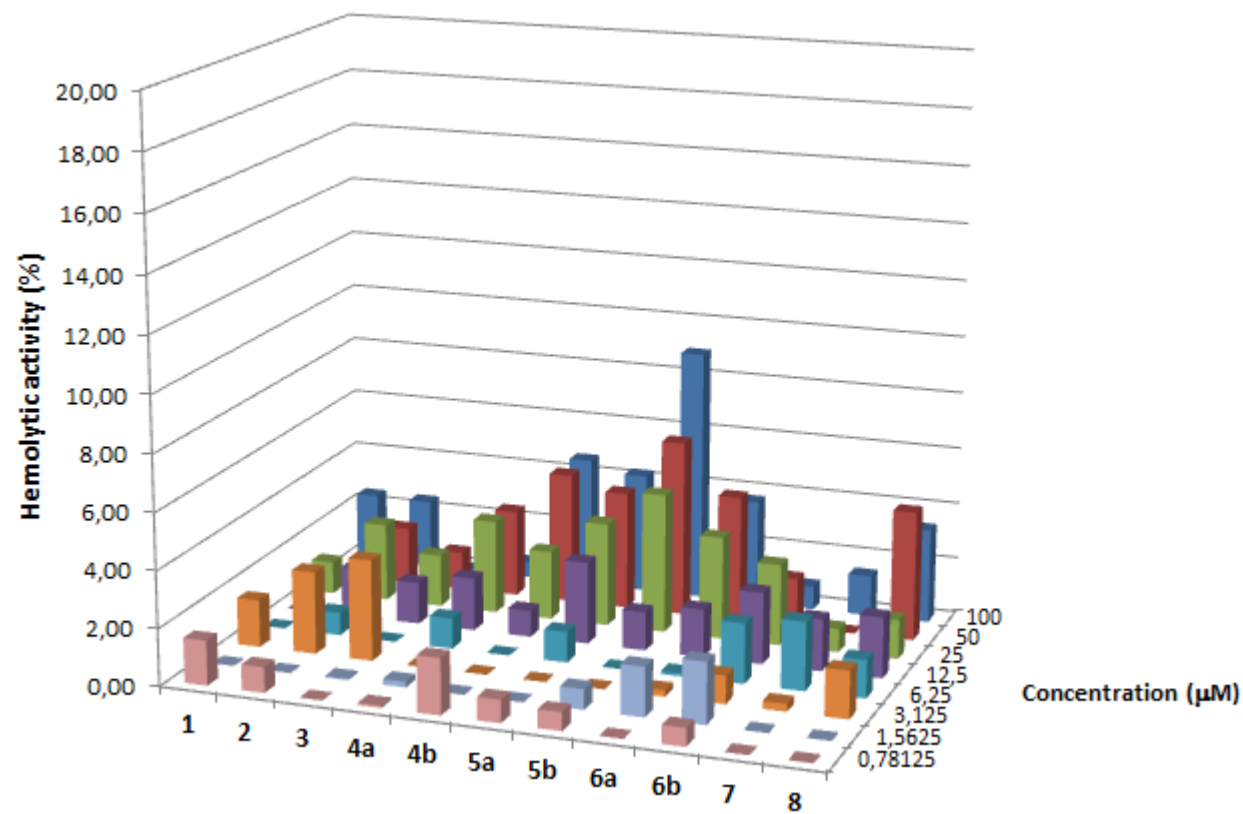
Symbols represent mean values with standard deviations, and lines define the curves obtained from nonlinear regression analysis (GraphPad Prism version 9.4.1). Percentage values are relative to the positive control (bacteria grown in regular medium).

**Figure S2. IC<sub>50</sub> values measured for *S. aureus* ATCC 25923**



Symbols represent IC<sub>50</sub> values obtained in different experiments against *S. aureus*, and the dotted lines define the mean values for the PTZ-quinoline hybrid compounds. A statistically difference is measured comparing the triazole derivatives **4a** and **4b** (\*\*\*) ( $p < 0.0001$  unpaired t test).

Figure S3. Hemolytic activity, expressed in percentage values, for the compounds measured on hRBCs.





**$^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of the final compounds**



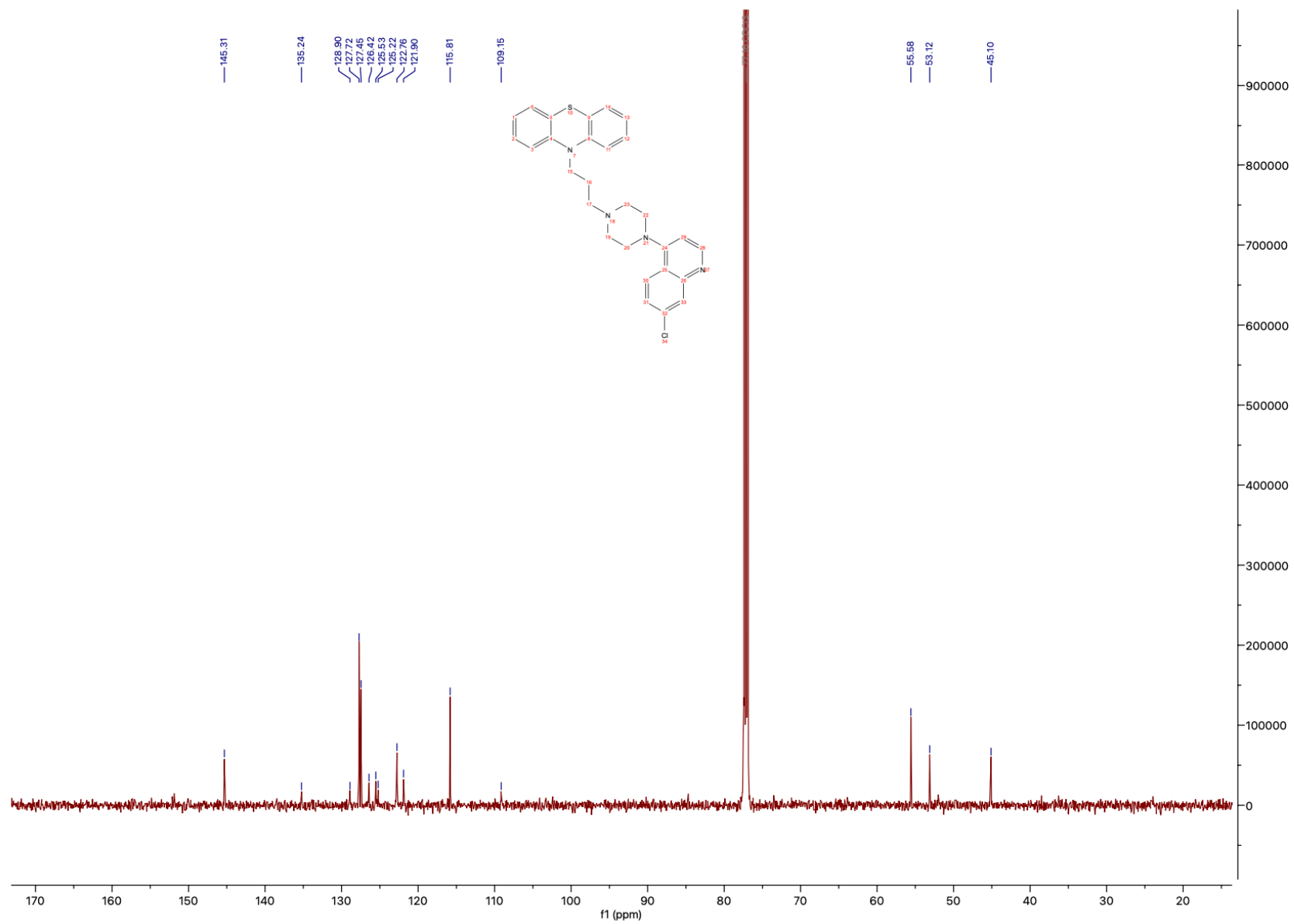


Figure S6: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectra of compound 1

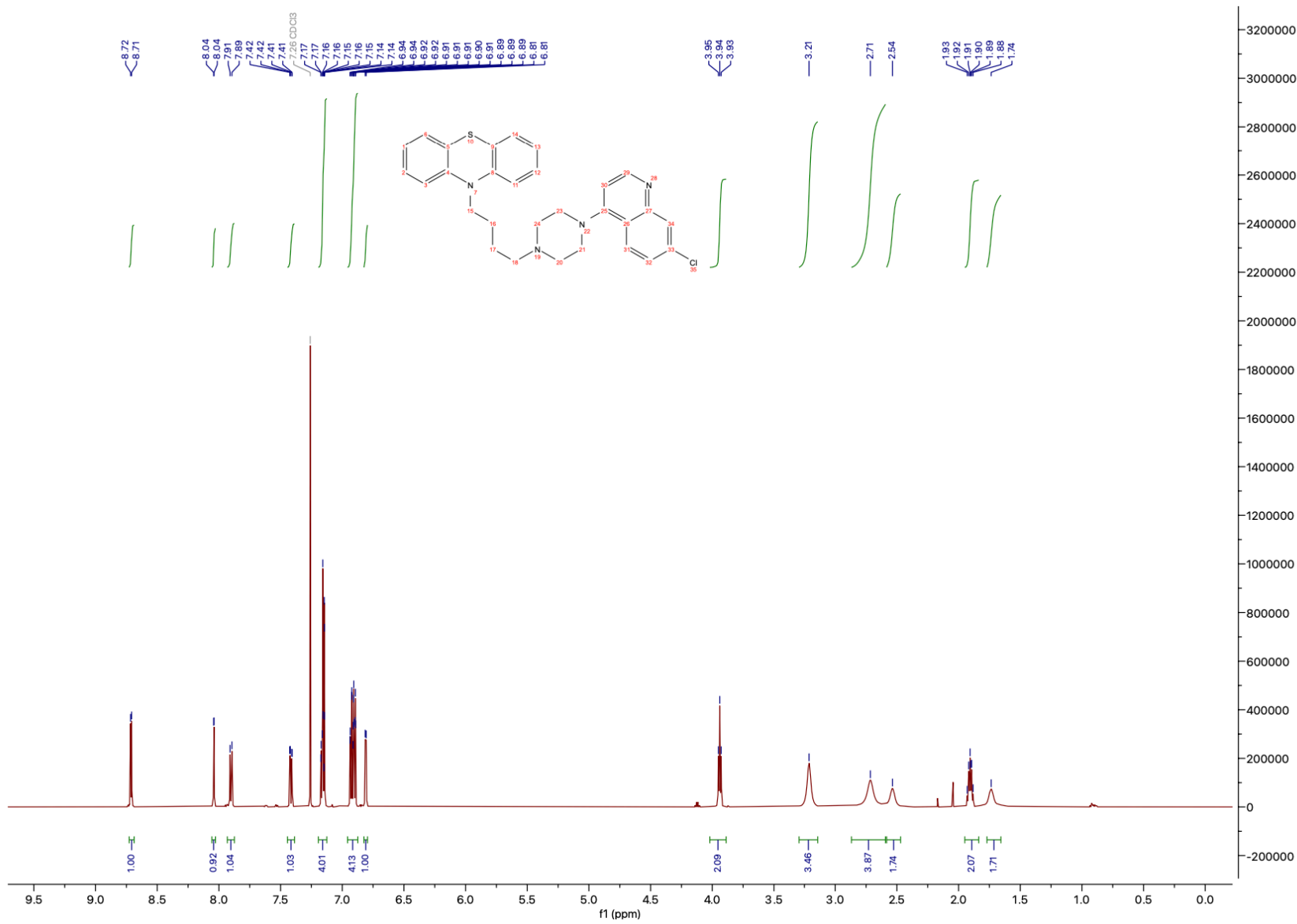


Figure S7: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Spectra of compound 2

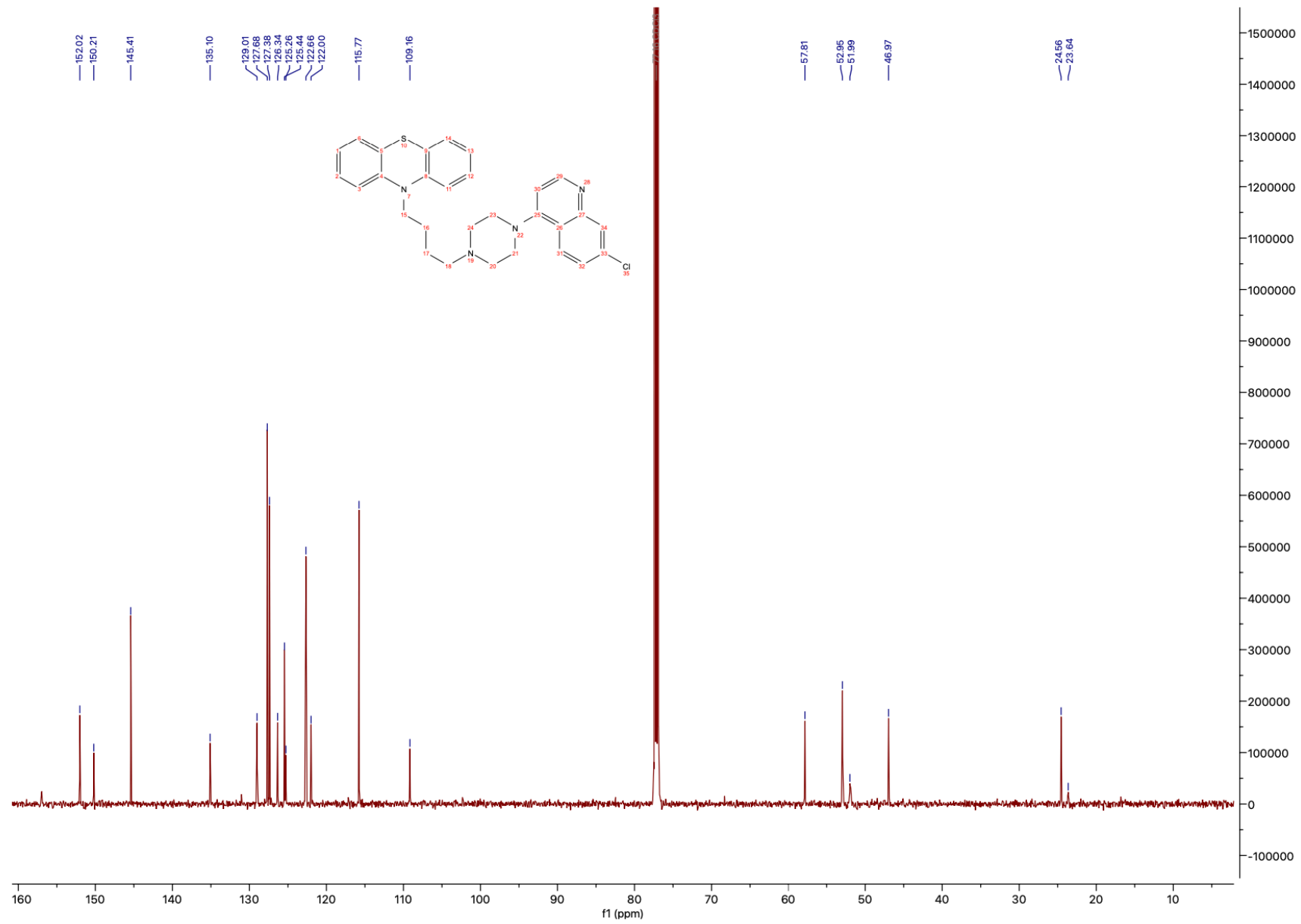


Figure S8:  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Spectra of compound 2

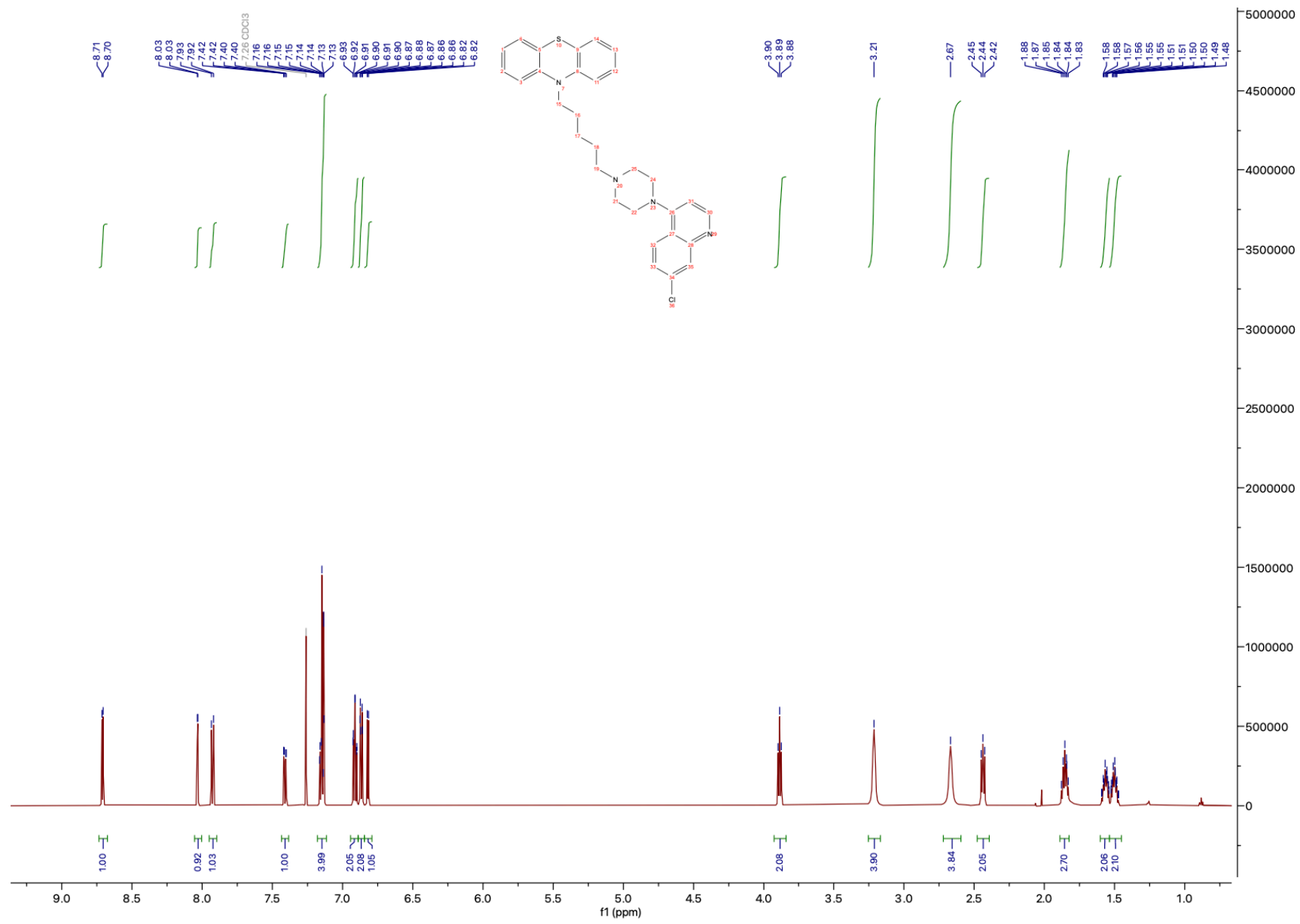


Figure S9: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Spectra of compound 3

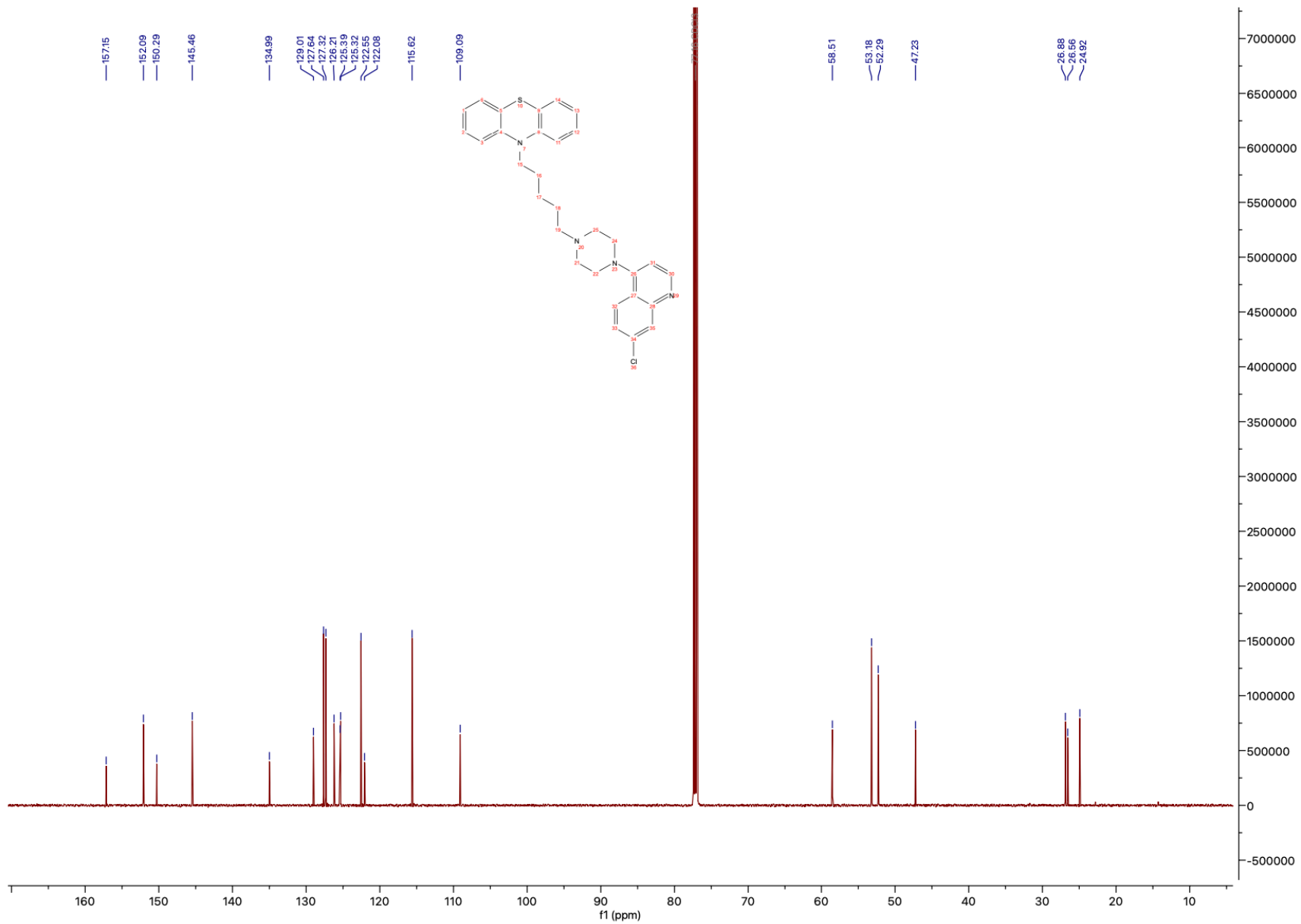


Figure S10: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectra of compound 3

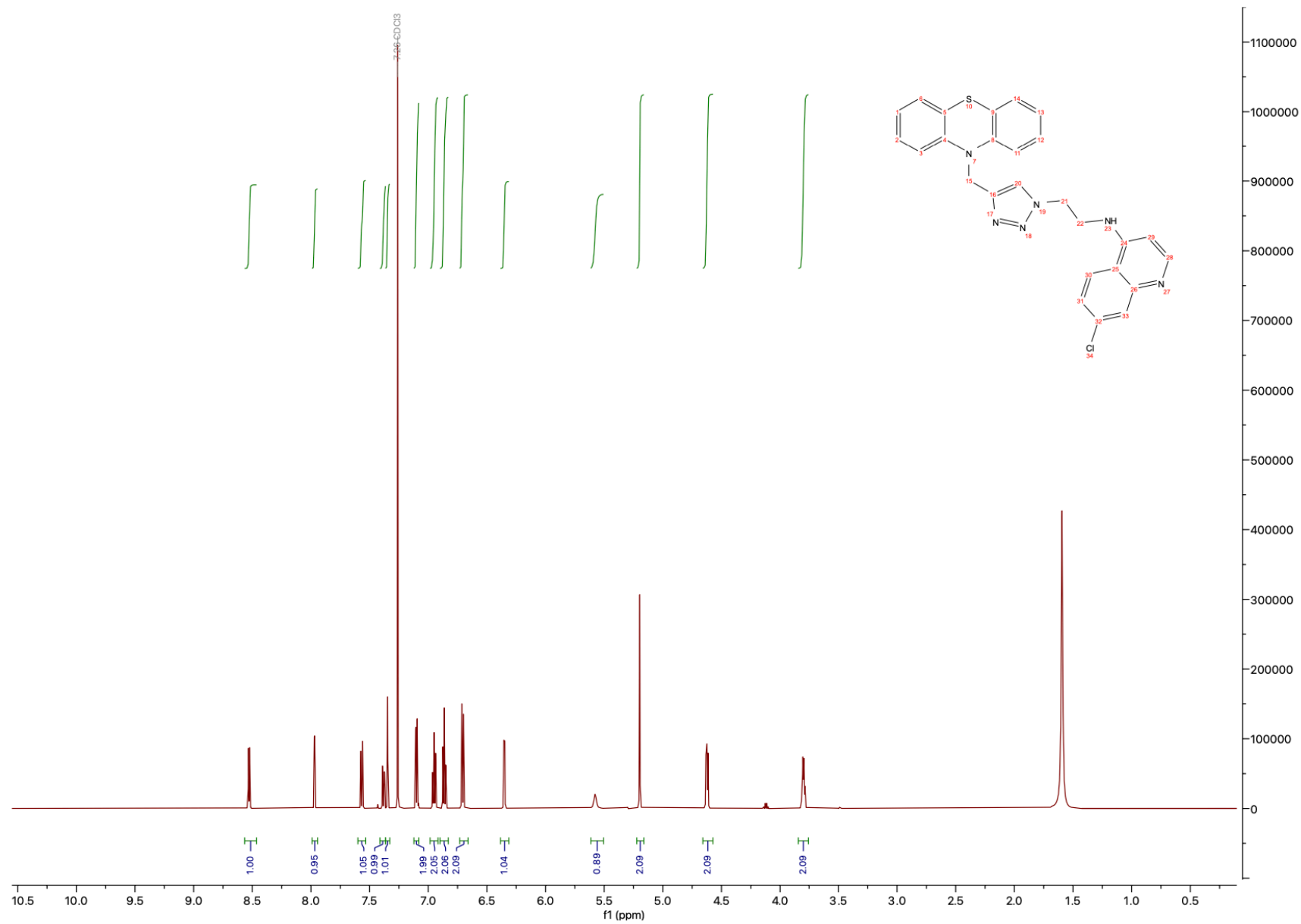


Figure S11: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Spectra of compound 4a

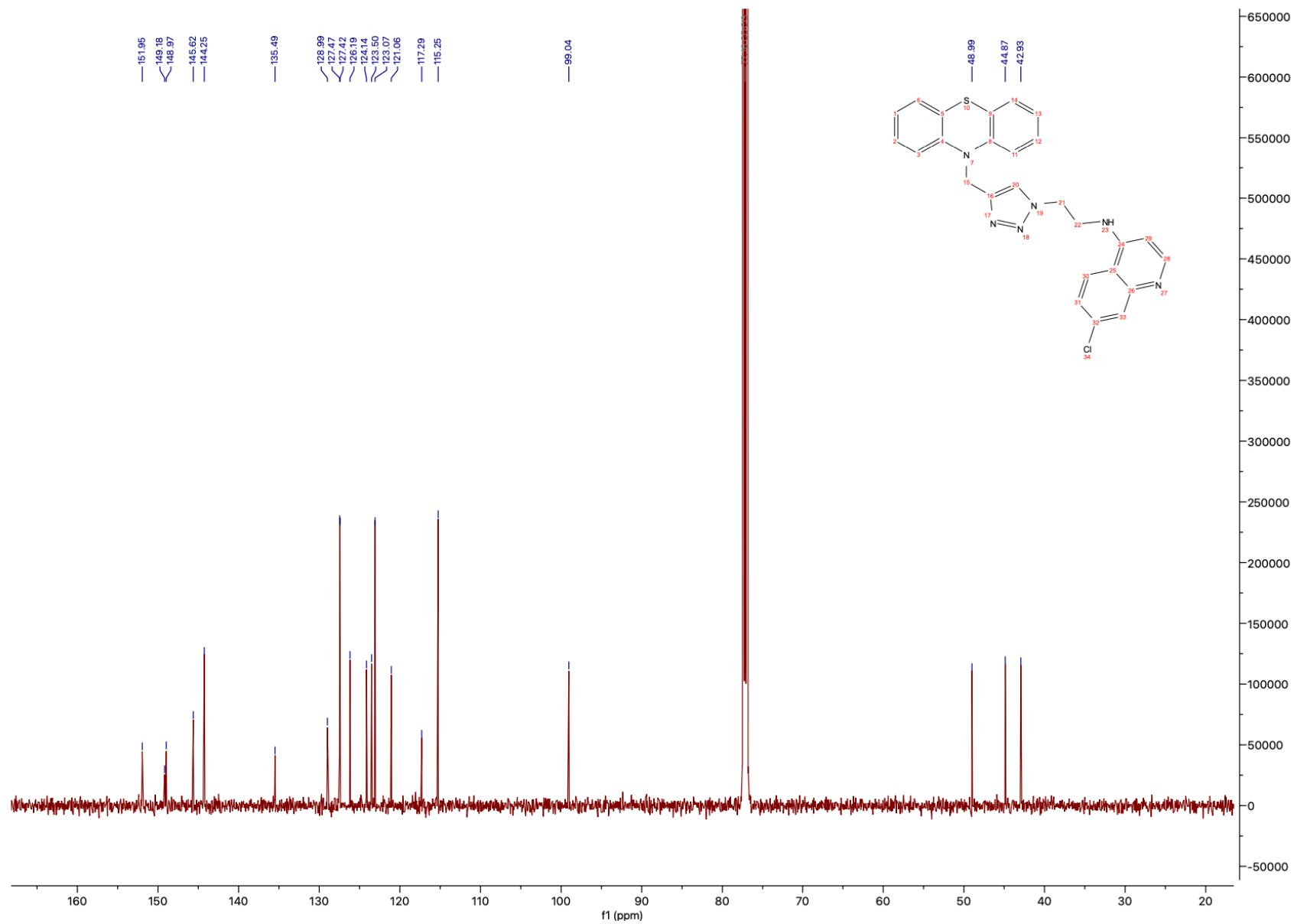
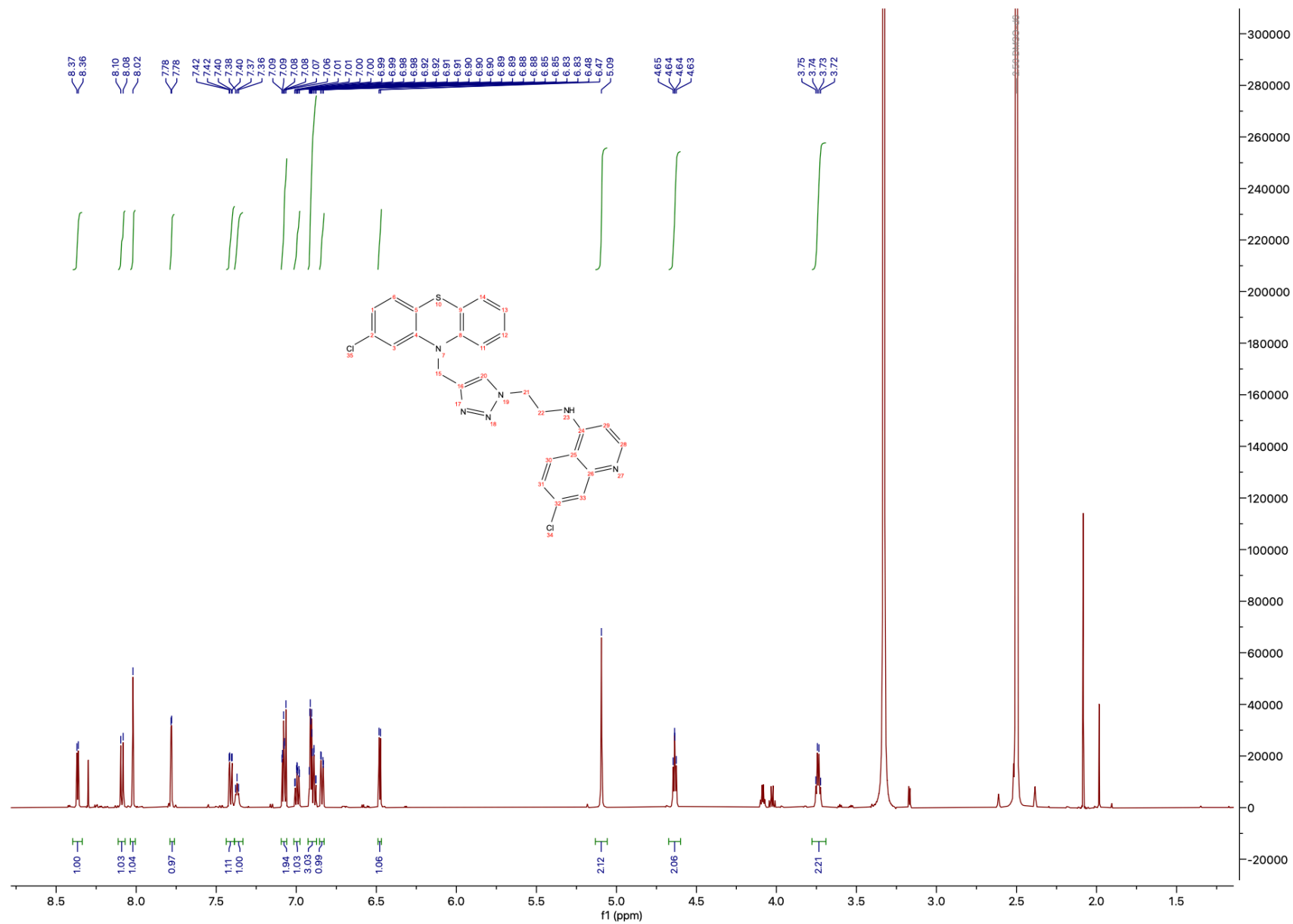


Figure S12: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectra of compound 4a



**Figure S13:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Spectra of compound **4b**

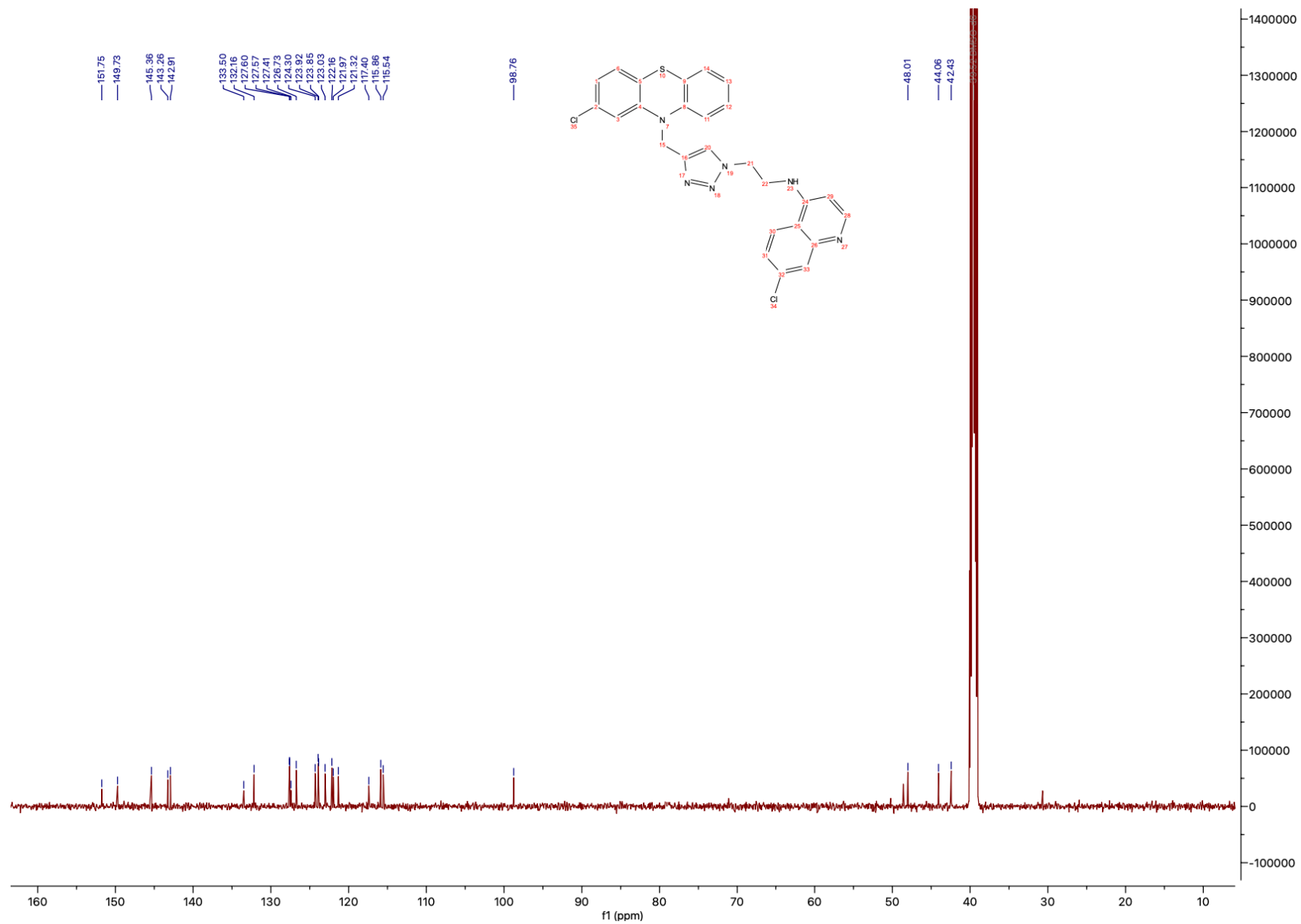


Figure S14: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectra of compound 4b

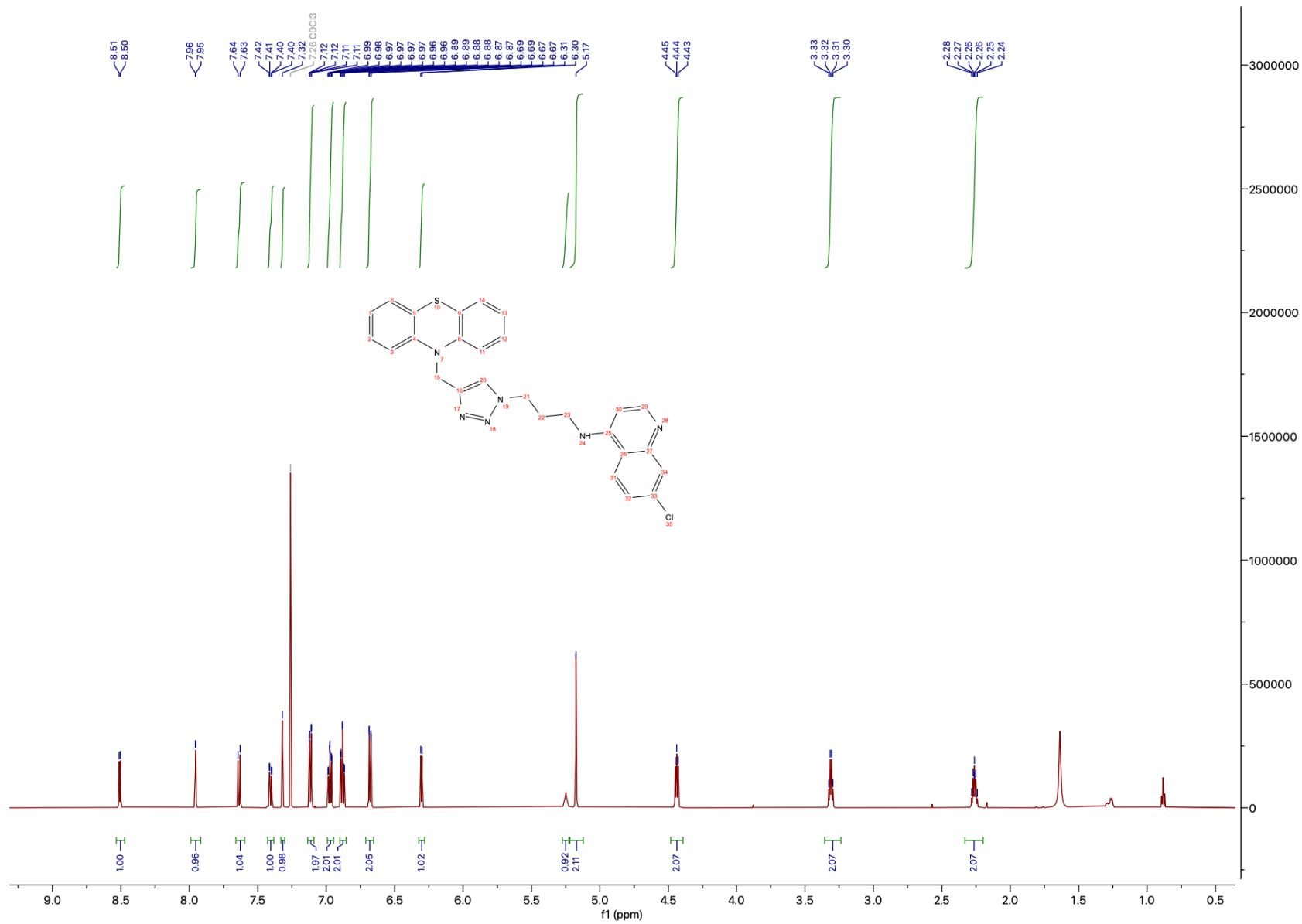


Figure S15:  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  Spectra of compound **5a**

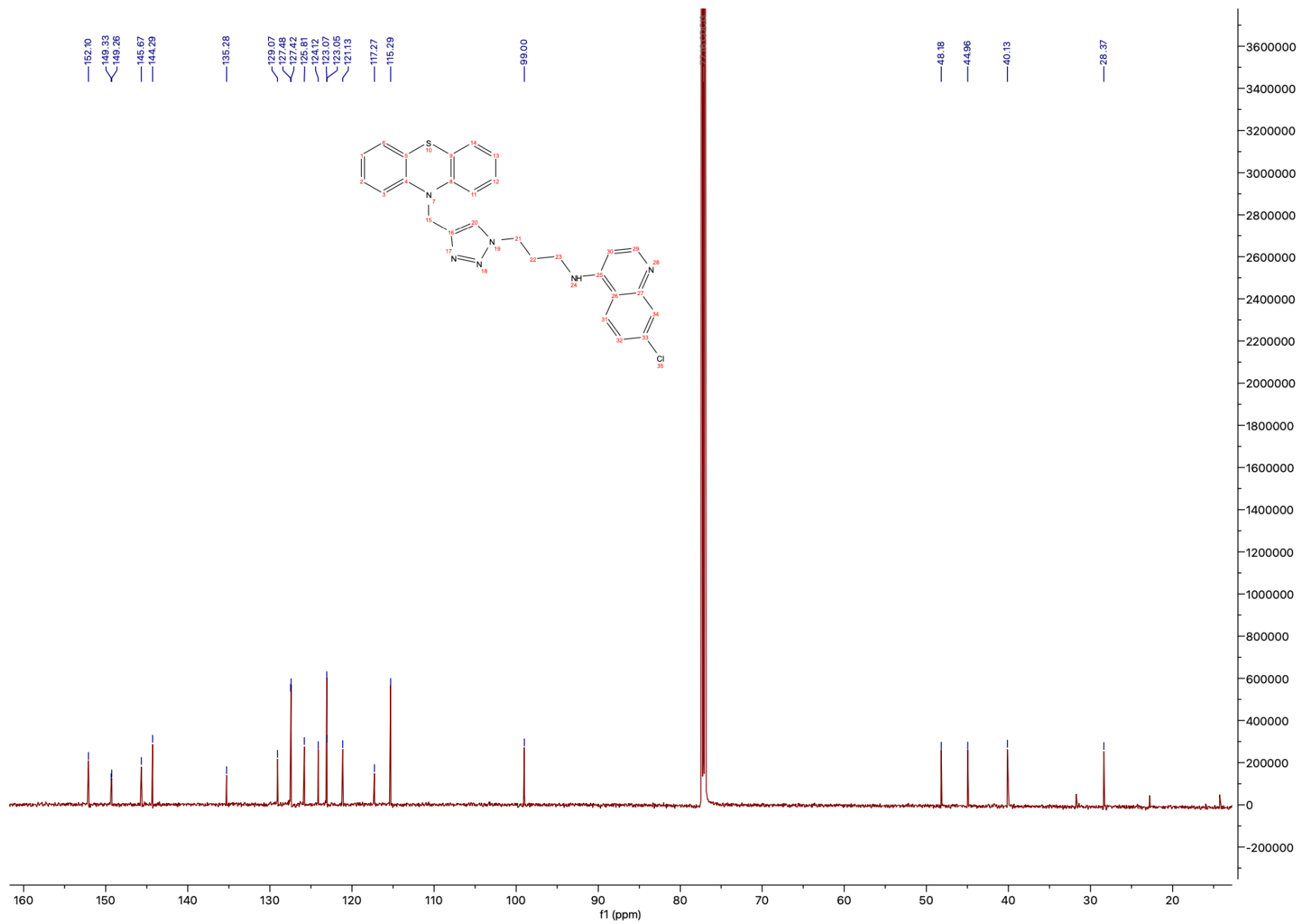


Figure S16:  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Spectra of compound **5a**

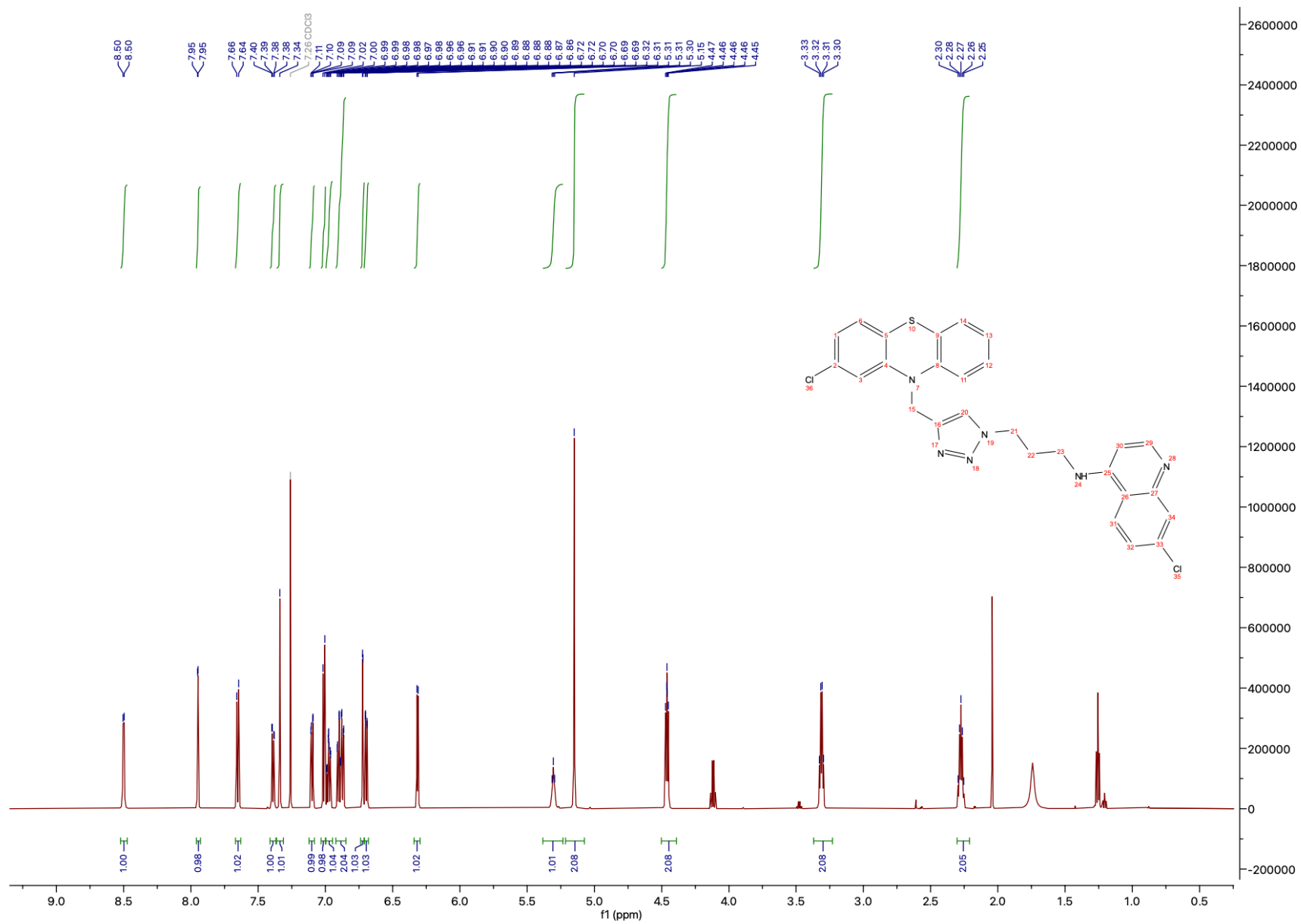


Figure S17:  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  Spectra of compound 5b

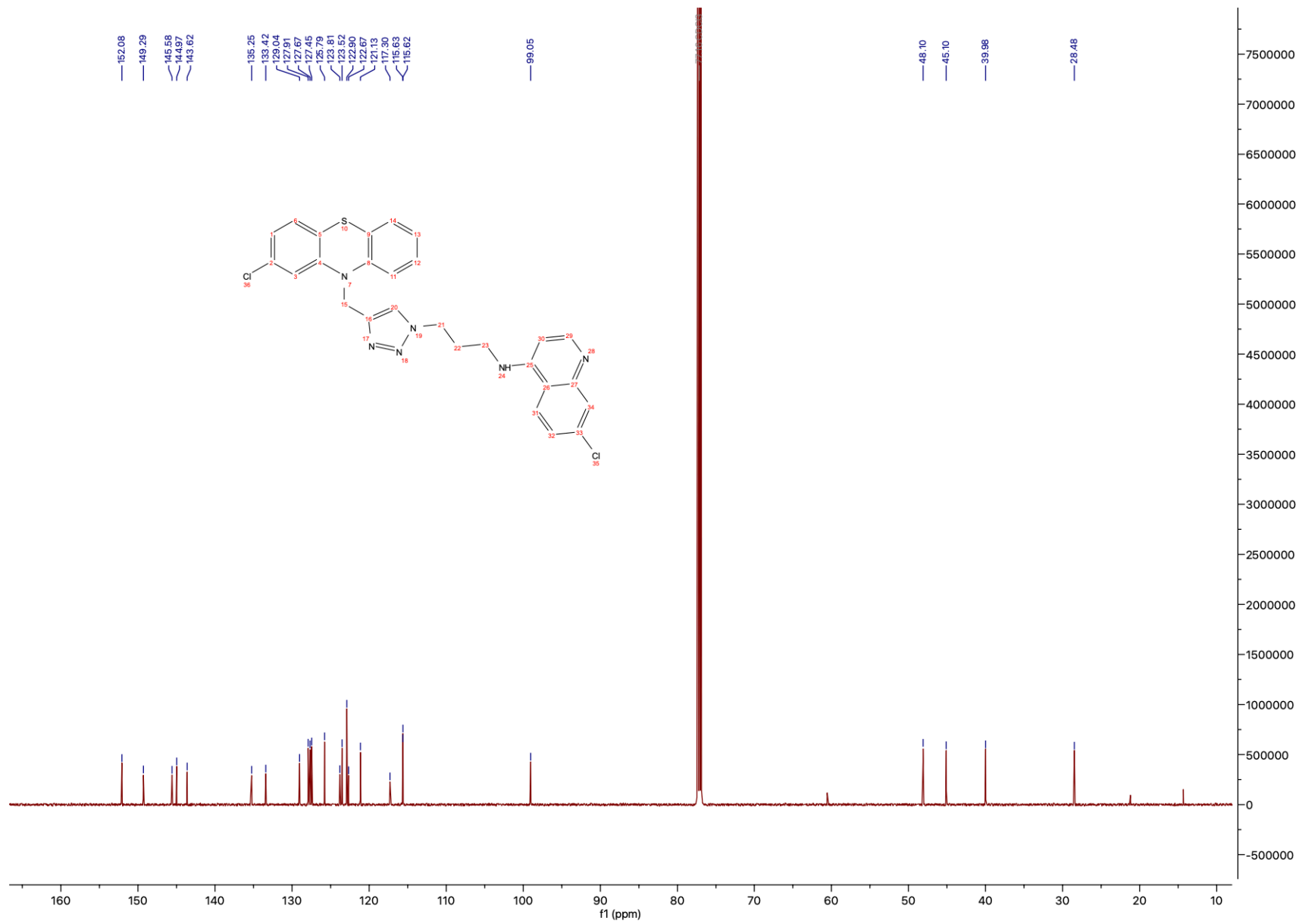


Figure S18: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectra of compound **5b**

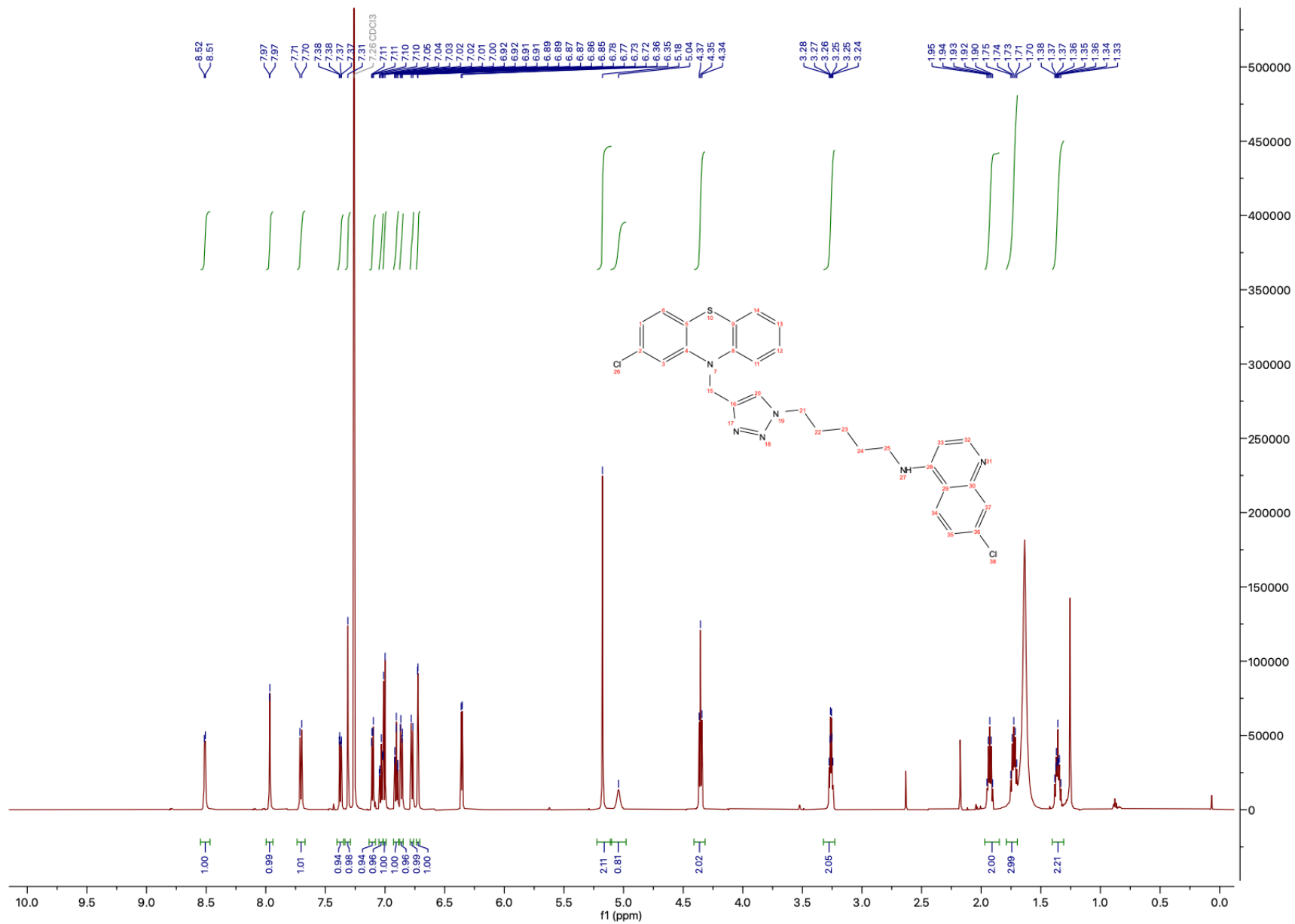


Figure S19:  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  Spectra of compound **6b**

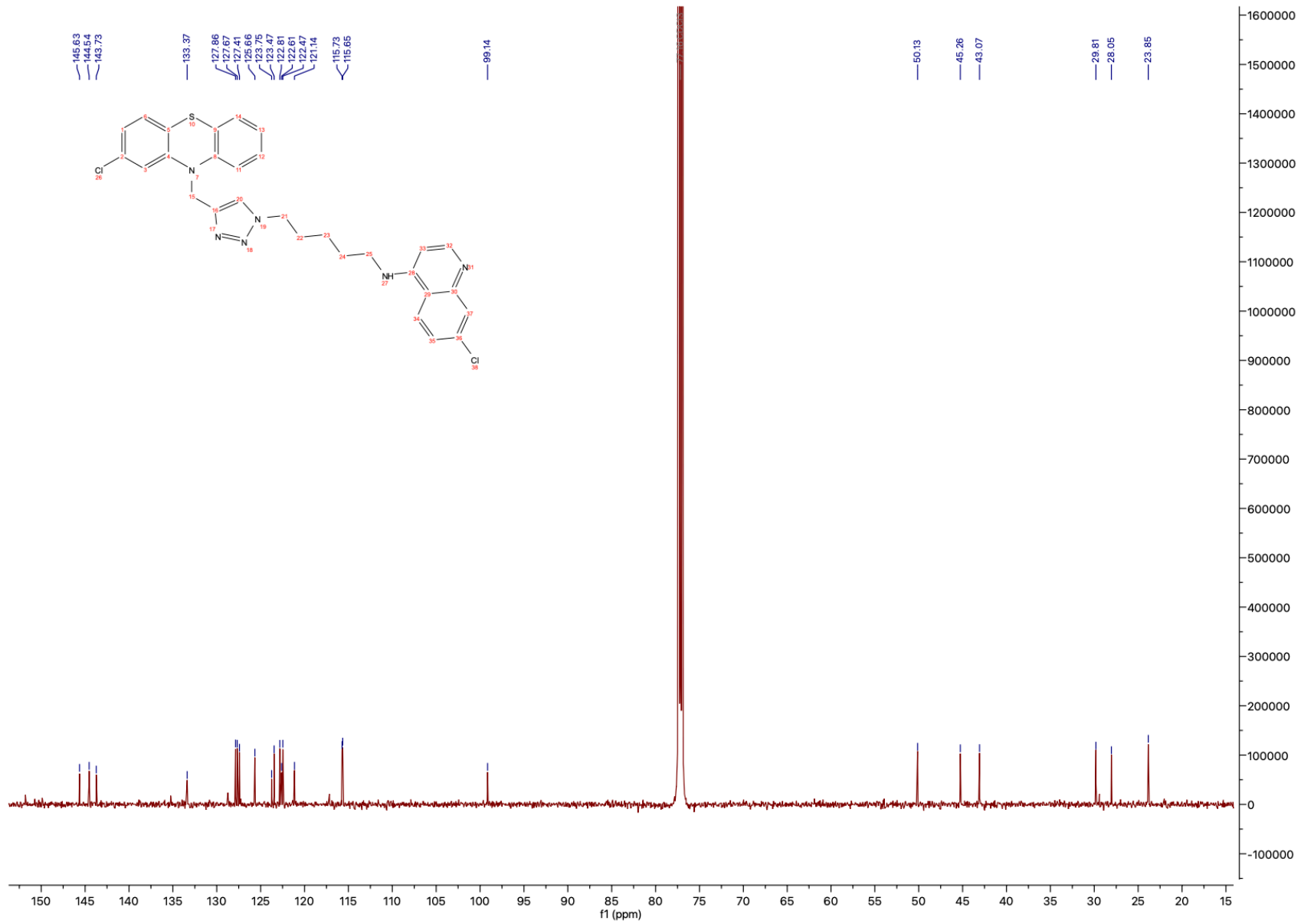


Figure S20: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectra of compound **6b**

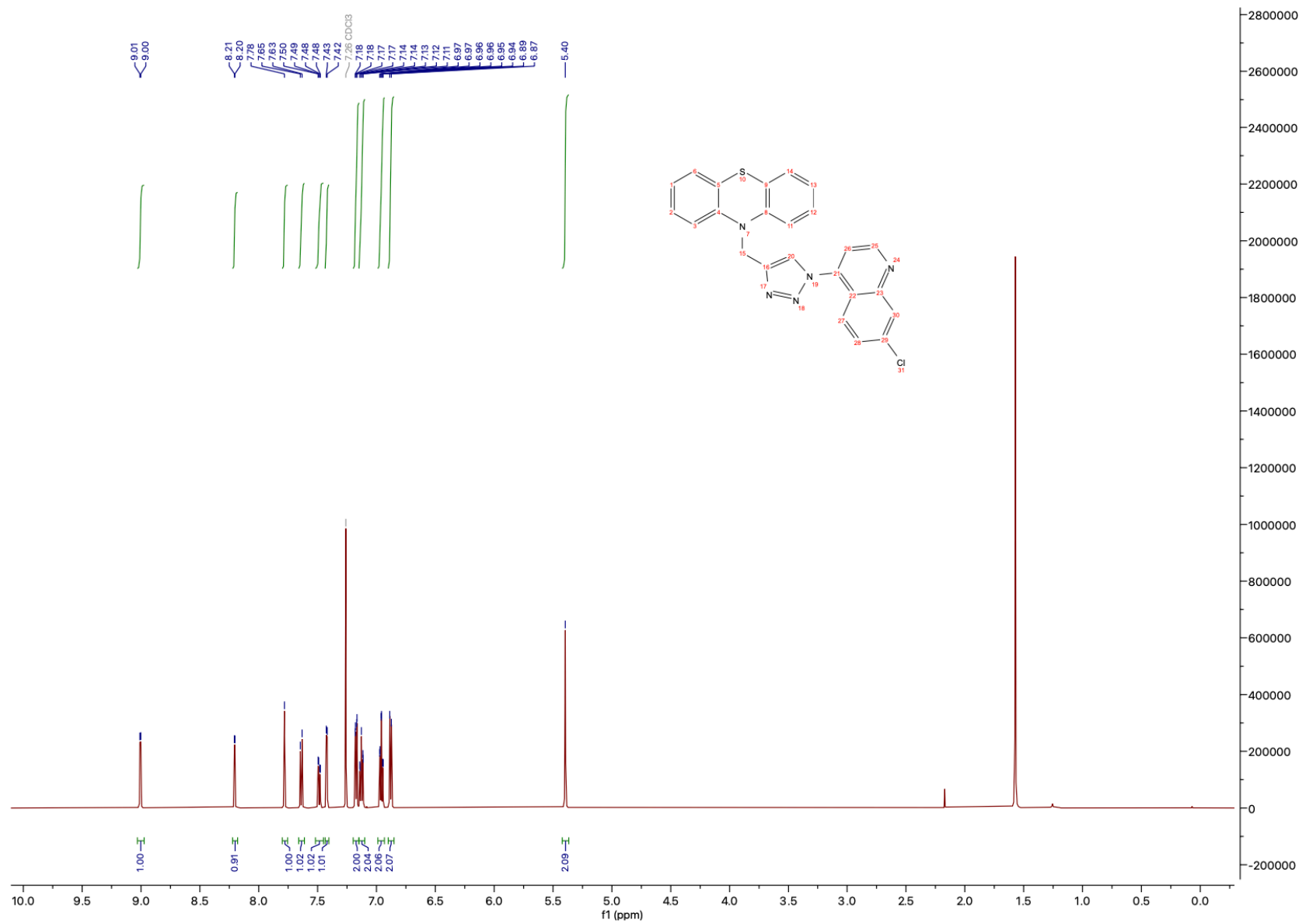


Figure S21:  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Spectra of compound 7

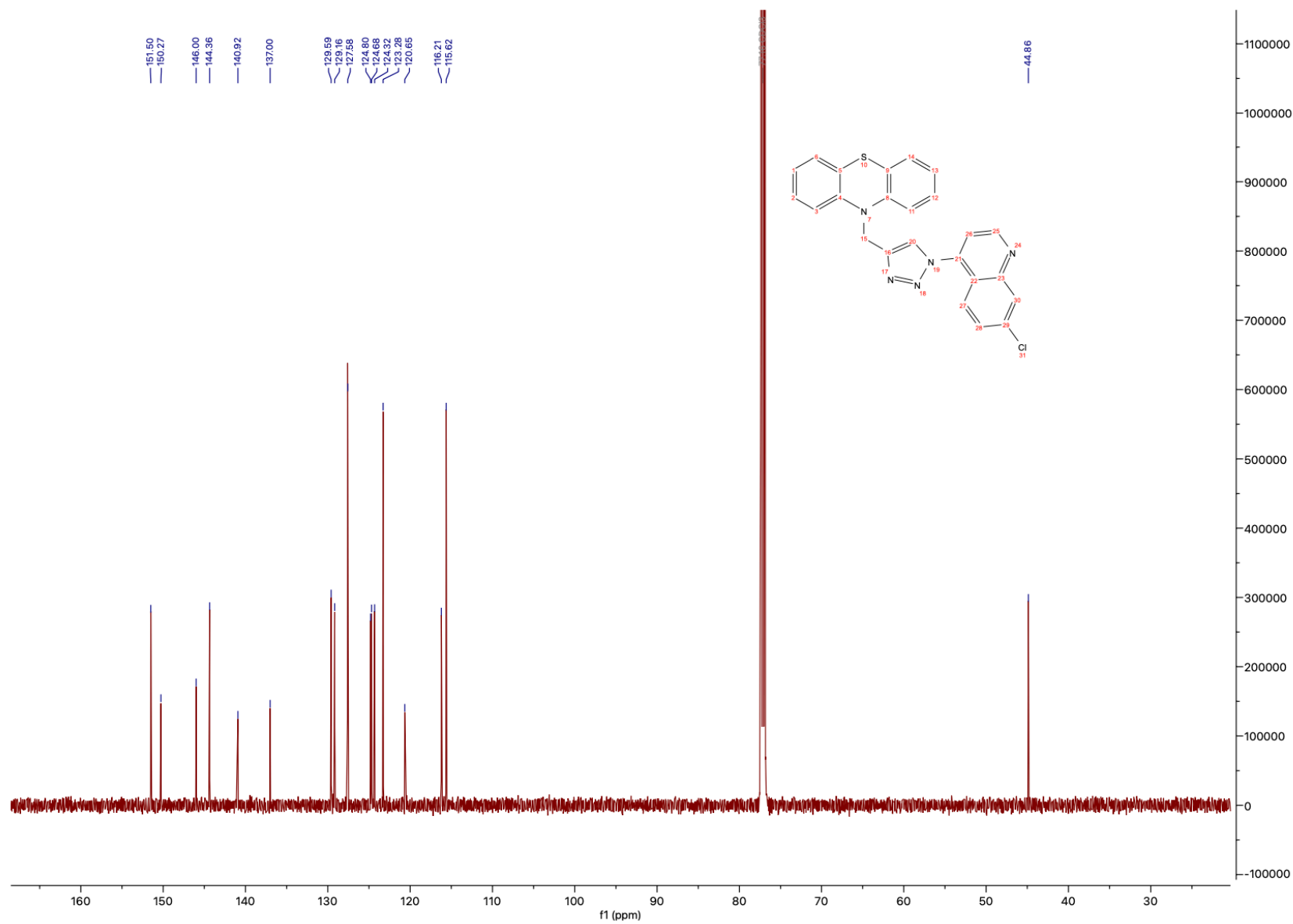


Figure S22:  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Spectra of compound 7

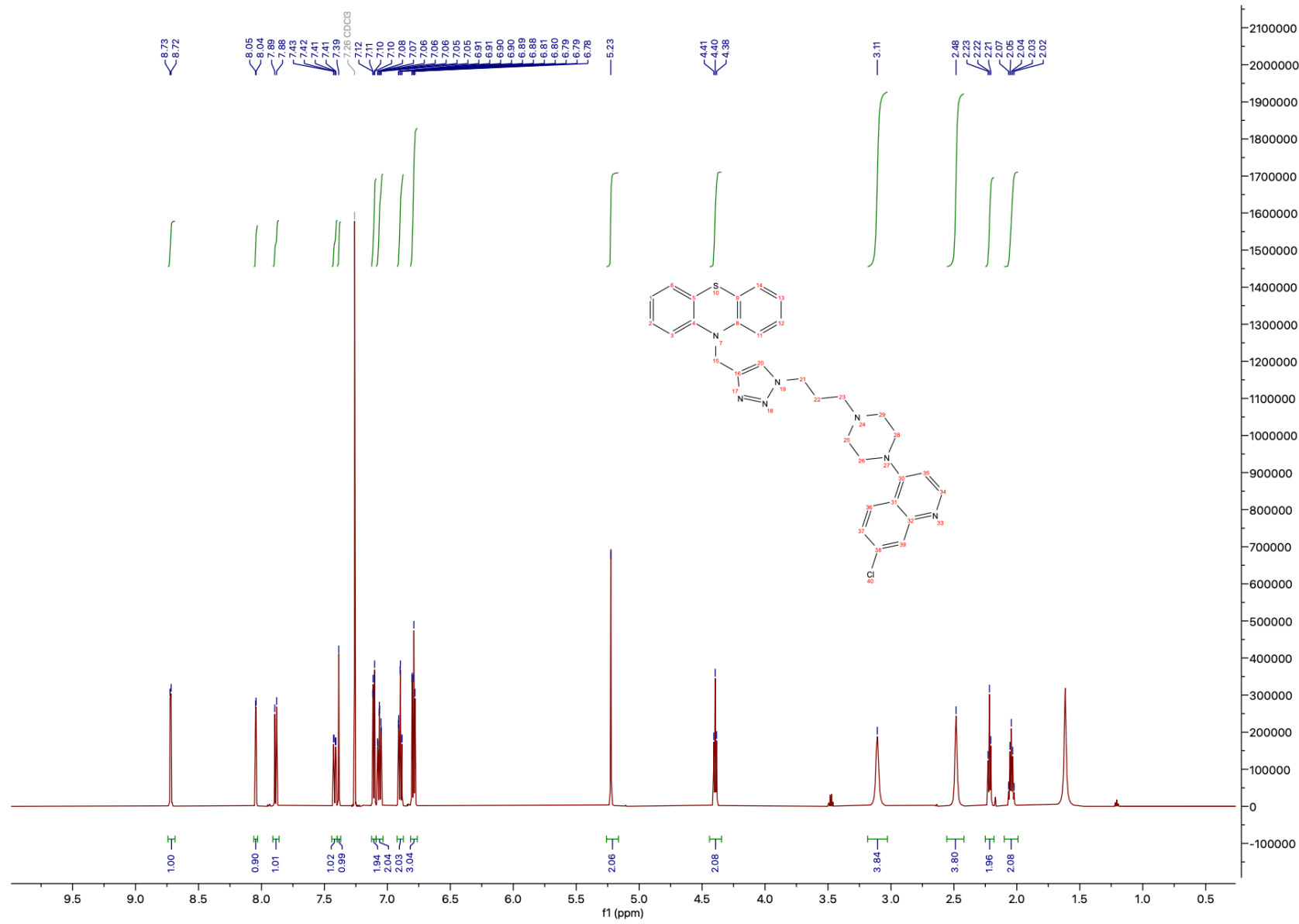


Figure S23: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Spectra of compound 8

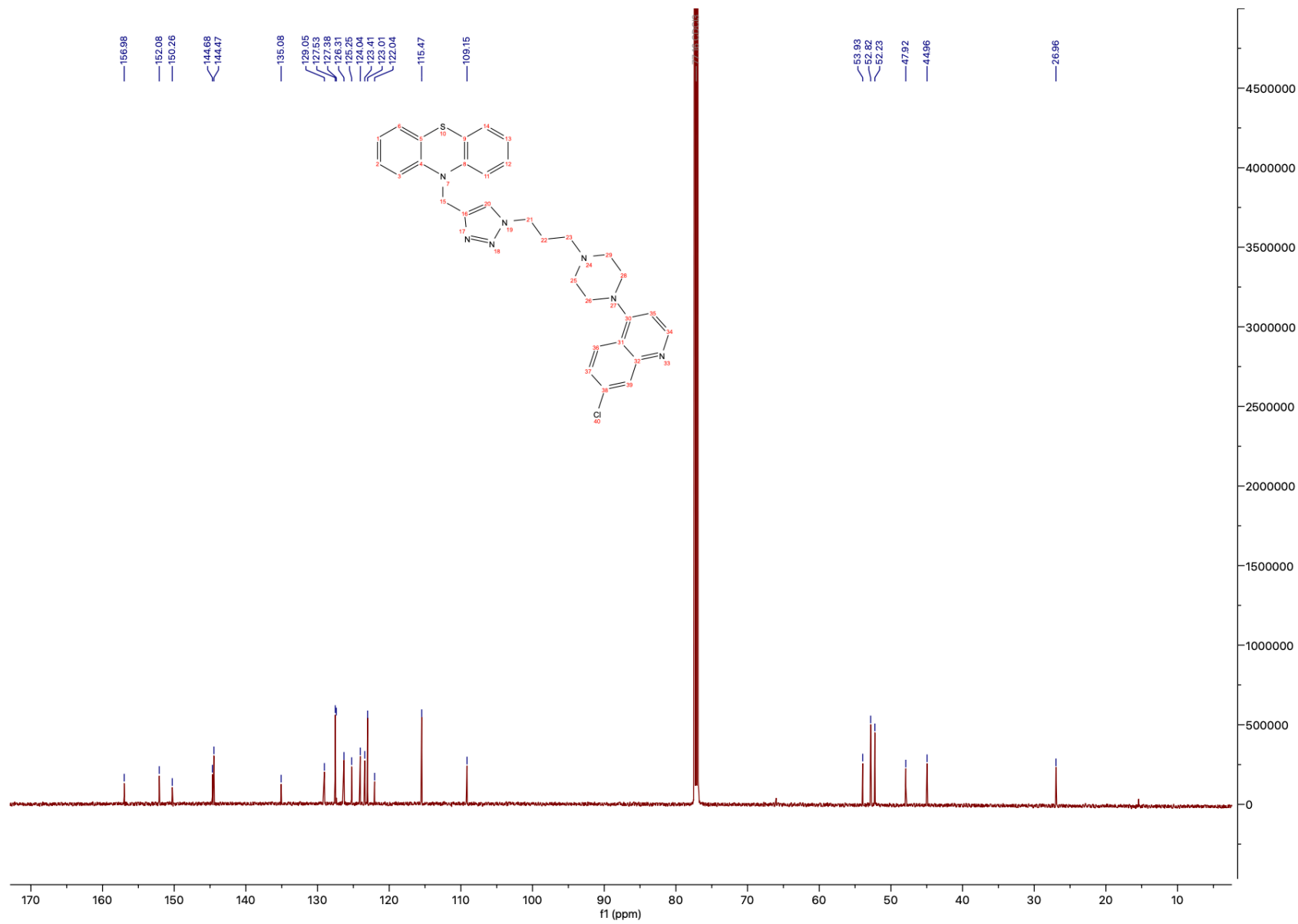


Figure S24:  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR Spectra of compound **8**