



*Crude reaction mixture on a rainy day*

## Mike Mandler, 2016

Chemistry Department | Harvard University

**Field strength:** 600 MHz (14.1 T)

**Why is this your favorite spectrum?** This proton spectrum is truly a piece of fine art that surely belongs in a museum of organic chemistry somewhere, since all organic chemists have surely seen this kind of Fourier-transformed spectrum. There seems to be only one compound present, with no overlapping proton signals. Spectrum title is appropriately labeled “OrangeSolid,” which provides a satisfactory representation of the compound’s molecular structure.

After spending several hours running an acetic anhydride-mediated acetylation reaction of an intricate and structurally sensitive compound at 110°C, I took an NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture and crossed my fingers... I typed in the command to perform a Fourier transform... Next thing I know, I saved the FID file as *crap.fid* and posted a picture on FB that got a ton of likes from my synthesis friends. At least the spectrum wasn’t taken in vain!