

## Electronic Supplementary Information for

### The effect of ring size on the selective carboxylation of cycloalkene oxides

Raiedhah Alsaiani<sup>a</sup>, Luke T. Perrott<sup>a</sup>, Ewa Nowicka<sup>a</sup>, Rebecca V. Engel<sup>a</sup>, Peter J. Miedziak<sup>a</sup>, Simon A. Kondrat<sup>a</sup>, Jennifer K. Edwards<sup>a</sup>, David J. Willock<sup>a\*</sup> and Graham J. Hutchings<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>. Cardiff Catalysis Institute, School of Chemistry, Cardiff University, Main Building, Park Place, Cardiff, CF10 3AT, UK.

\* Correspondence to Graham J. Hutchings or David J. Willock

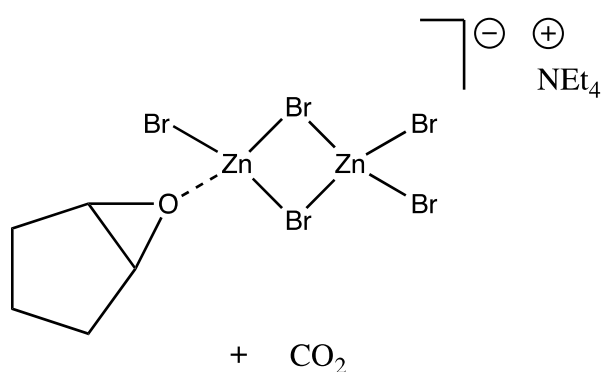
Tel: +44 29 2087 4059, Fax: (+44) 2920-874-030, E-mail: hutch@cardiff.ac.uk

Tel: +44 29 2087 4779, Fax: (+44) 2920-874-030, E-mail: [willockdj@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:willockdj@cardiff.ac.uk)

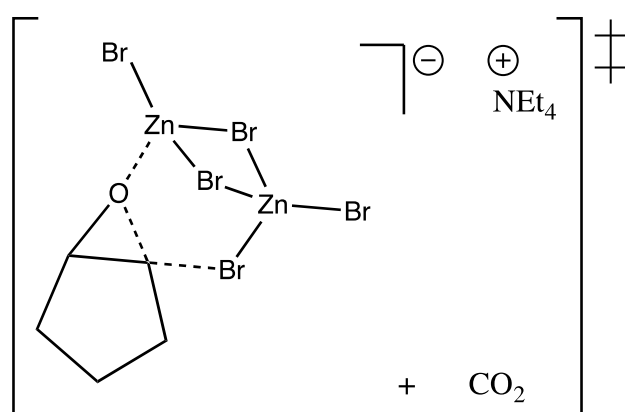
#### Calculated structures

Co-ordinates for all optimised structures and transition states have been uploaded as Car\_Files.rar along side this Supplementary Information document.

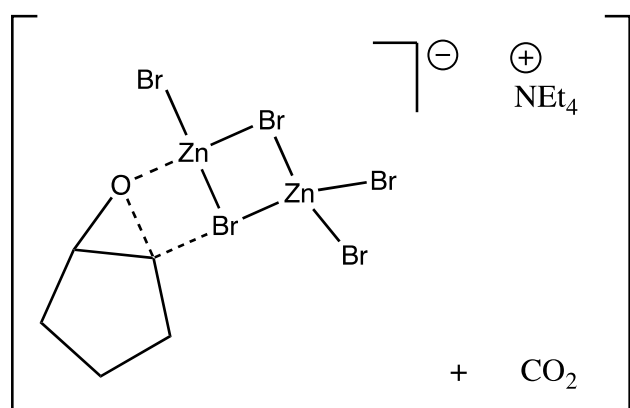
The associated research data can be found at <http://doi.org/10.17035/d.2017.0038069018>.



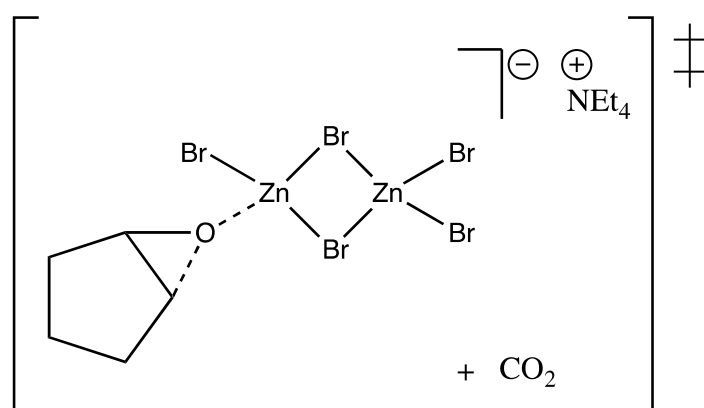
**Int. 1**



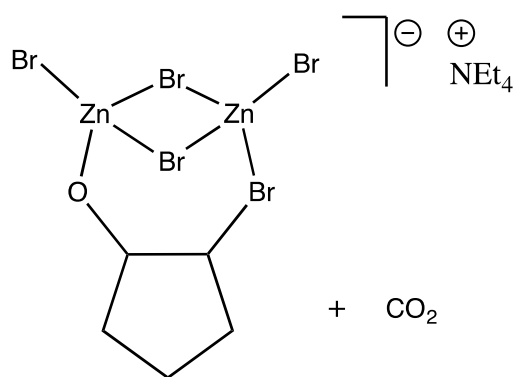
**S<sub>N</sub>2 TS-1t'**



**S<sub>N</sub>2 TS-1b**

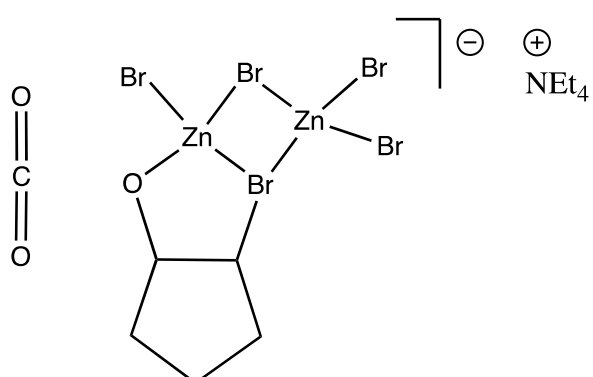


**S<sub>N</sub>1 TS-1t**  
**S<sub>N</sub>1 TS-1b**



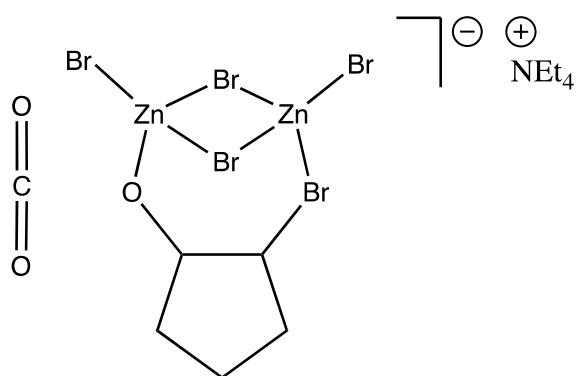
**Int. 2t**

**Int. 2t'**



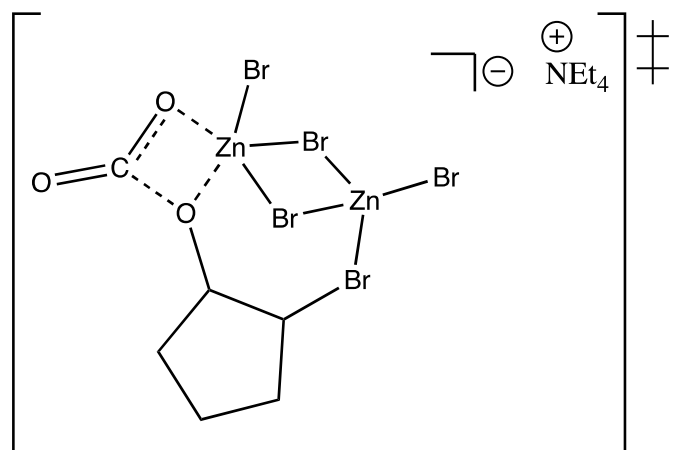
**Int. 3b**

**Int. 3b'**

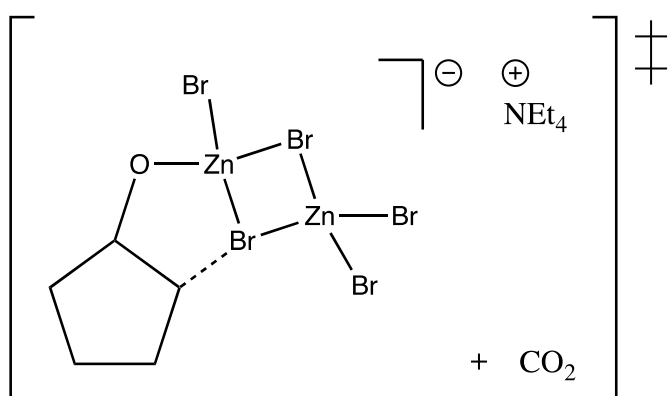


**Int. 3t**

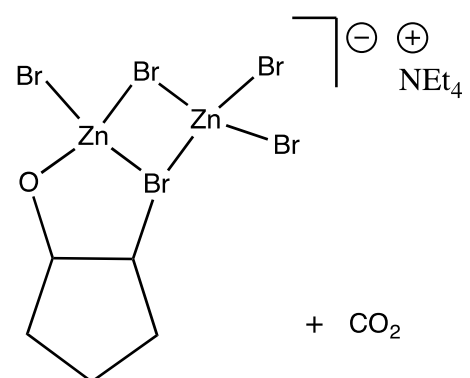
**Int. 3t'**



**Int. 3t'**

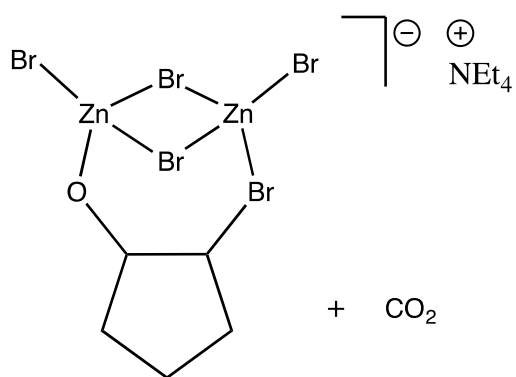


**$S_N1$  TS-1b'**



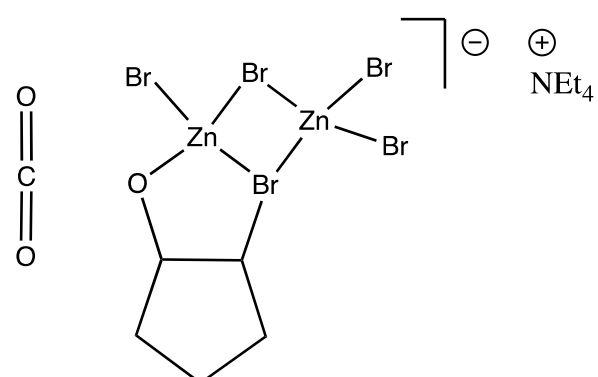
**Int. 2b**

**Int. 2b'**



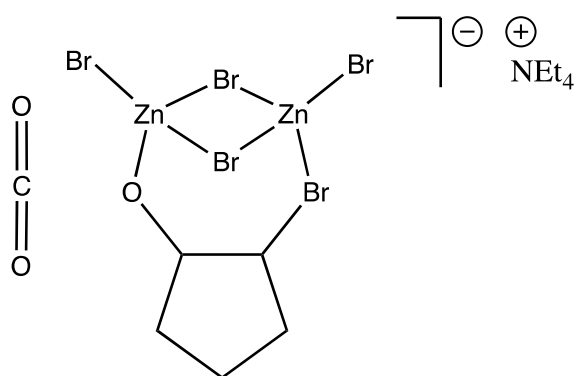
**Int. 2t**

**Int. 2t'**



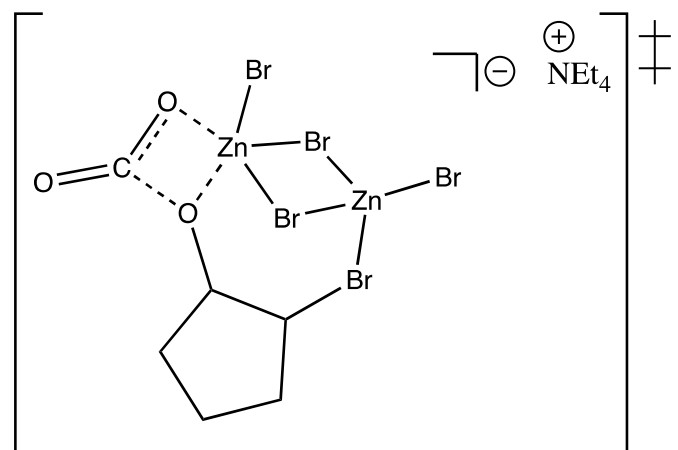
**Int. 3b**

**Int. 3b'**

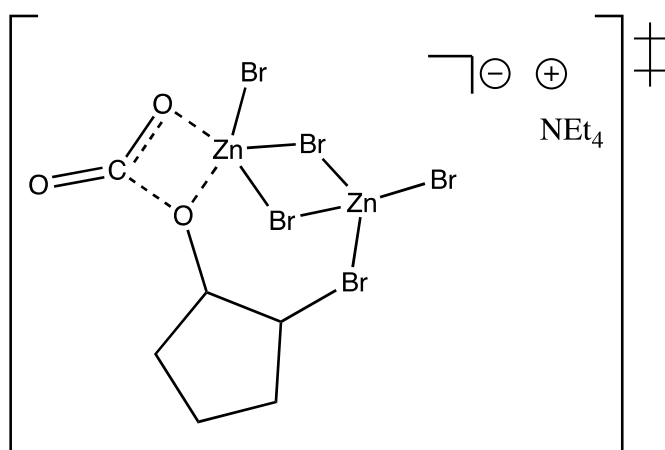


**Int. 3t**

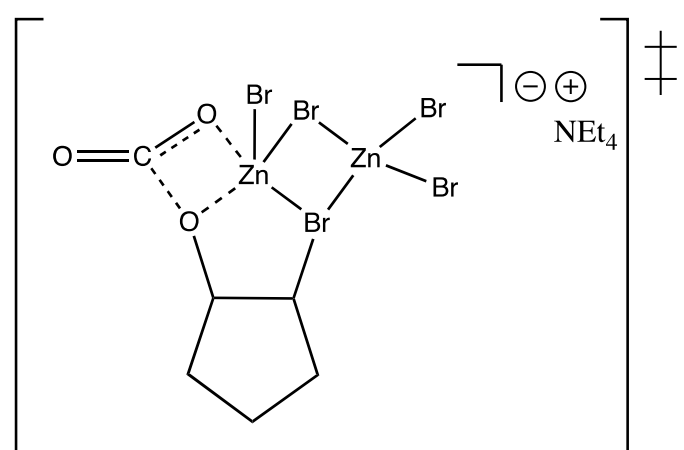
**Int. 3t'**



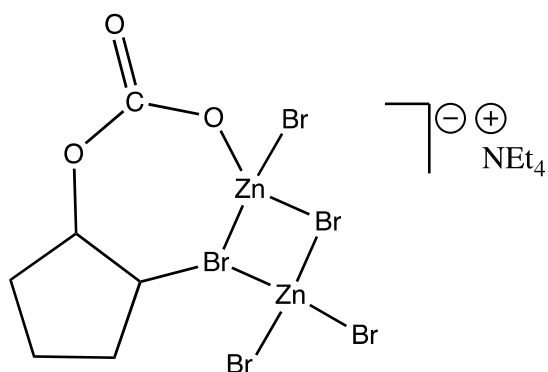
**Int. 3t'**



**TS-2t**  
**TS-2t'**

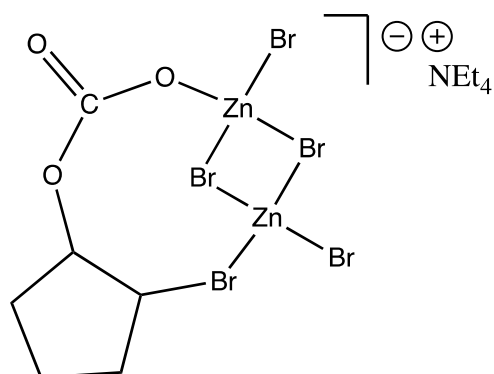


**TS-2b**



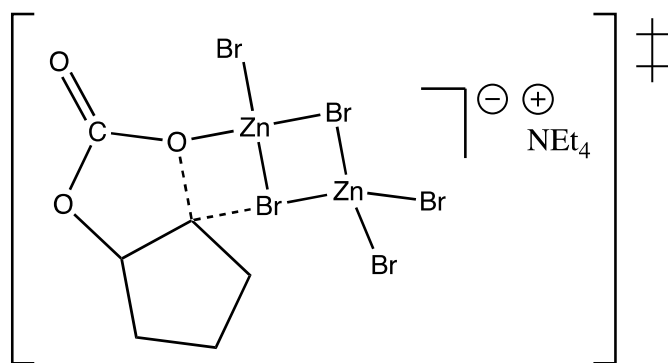
**Int. 4b**

**Int. 4b'**

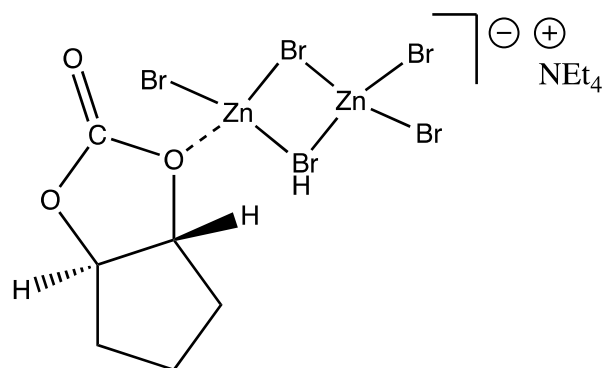


**Int. 4t**

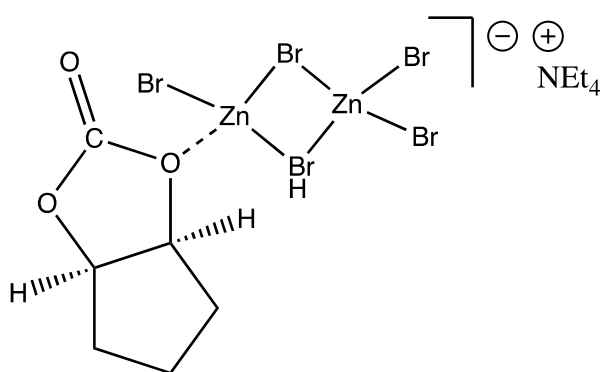
**Int. 4t'**



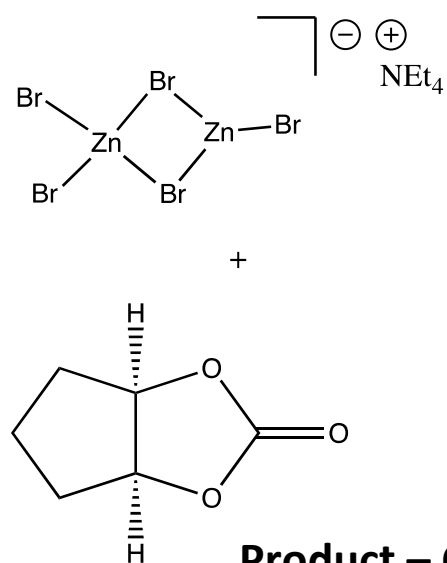
**TS-3 (all)**



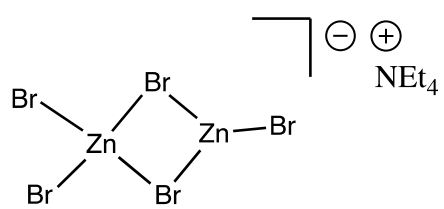
**Int. 5 - Trans**



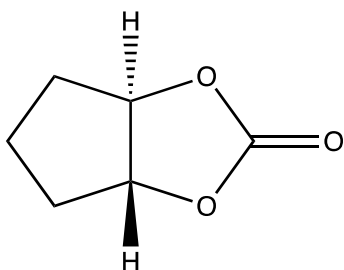
**Int. 5 - Cis**



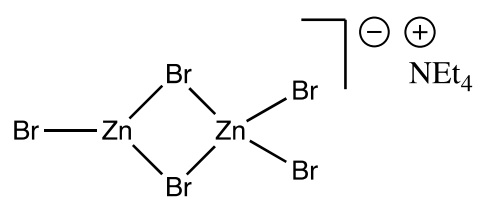
**Product - Cis**



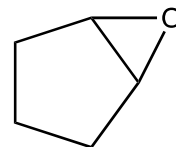
+



**Product – Trans**



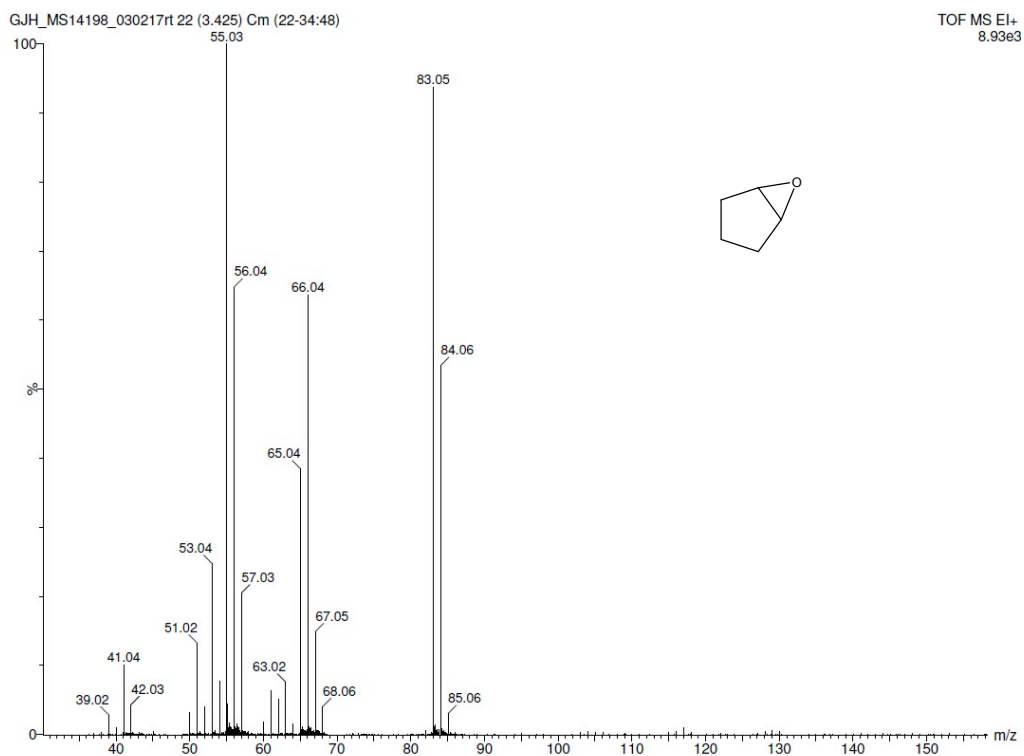
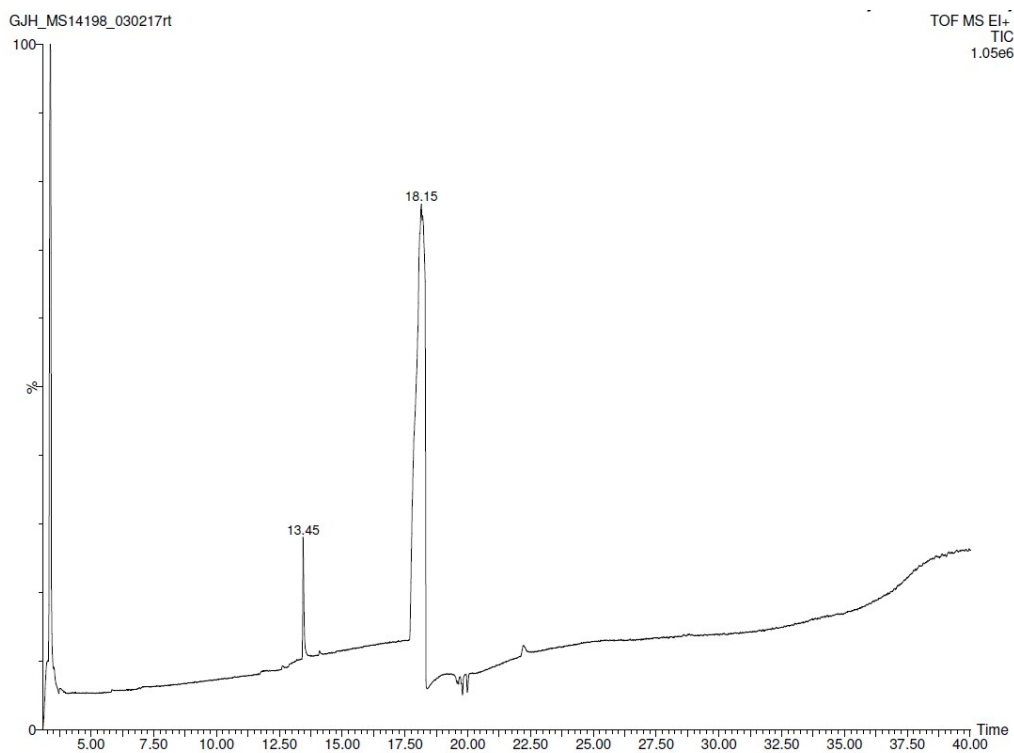
+  $CO_2$  +



**Isolated Reagents**

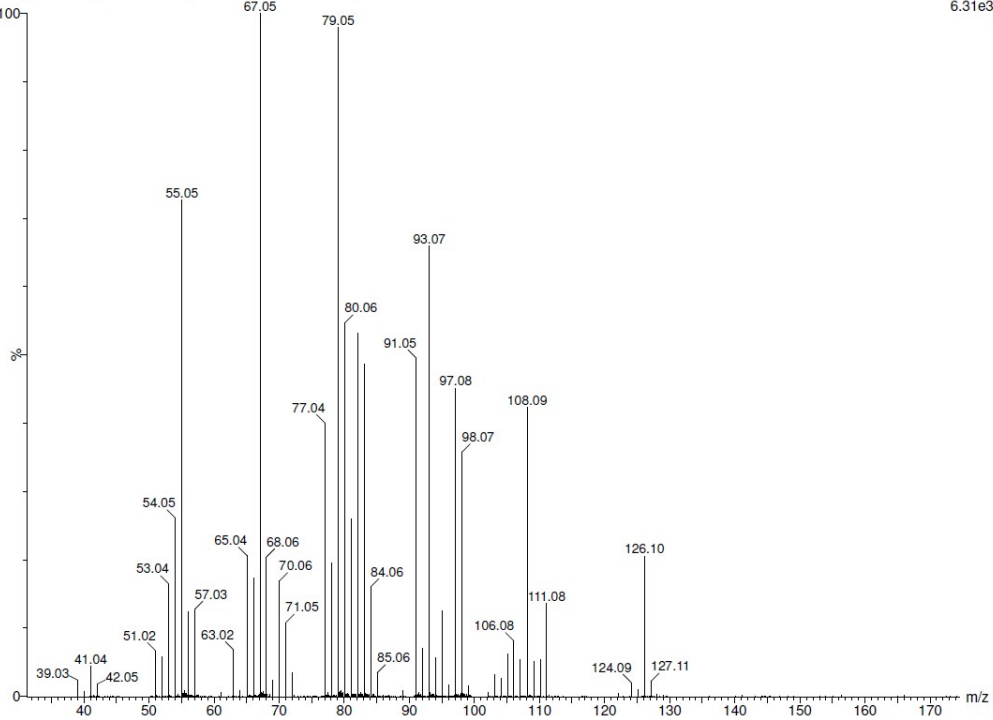
**Spectroscopic Data: Suggested assignments of products are shown on the spectra where it was possible.**

Cyclopentene oxide experiment (90 °C, 20 bar CO<sub>2</sub>, 4 h)



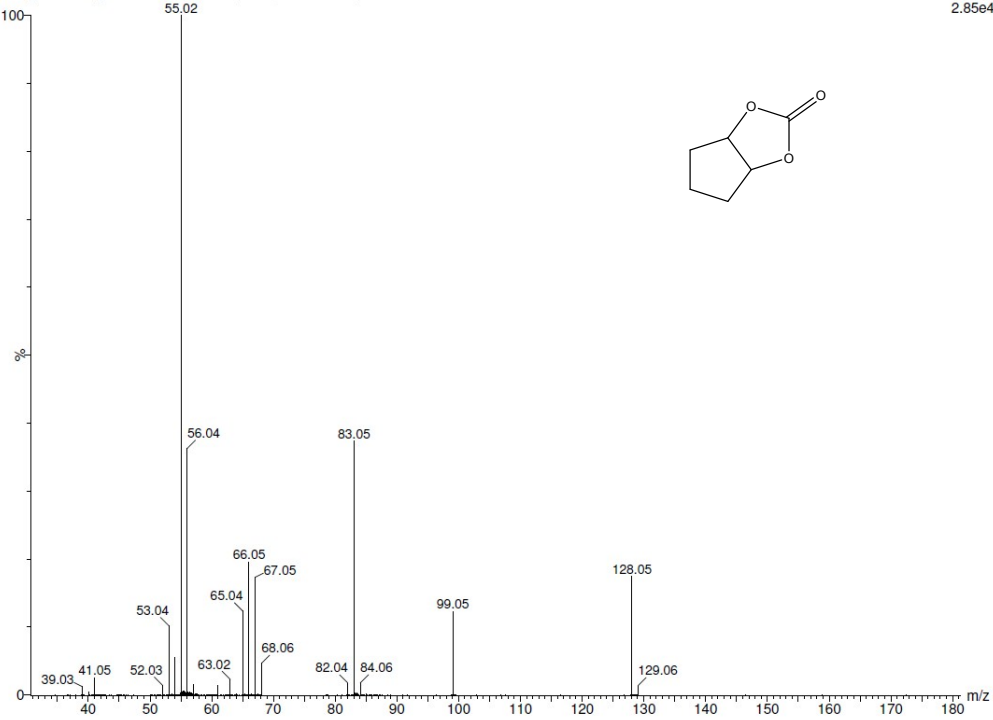
GJH\_MS14198\_030217rt 622 (13.430) Cm (622-608:617)

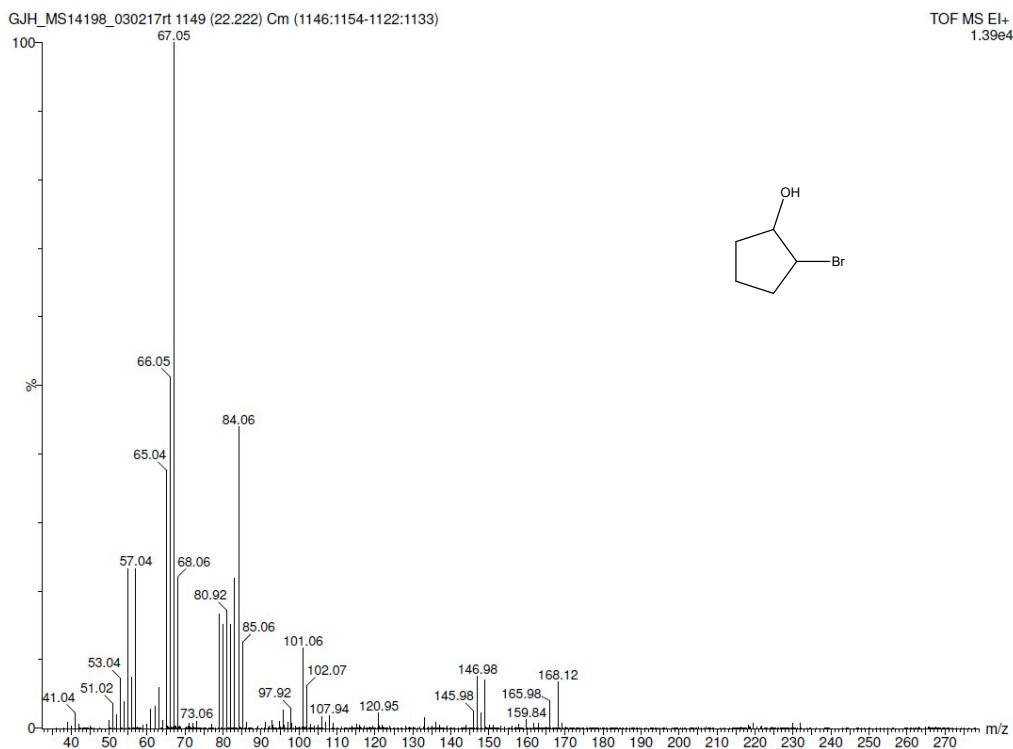
TOF MS EI+  
6.31e3



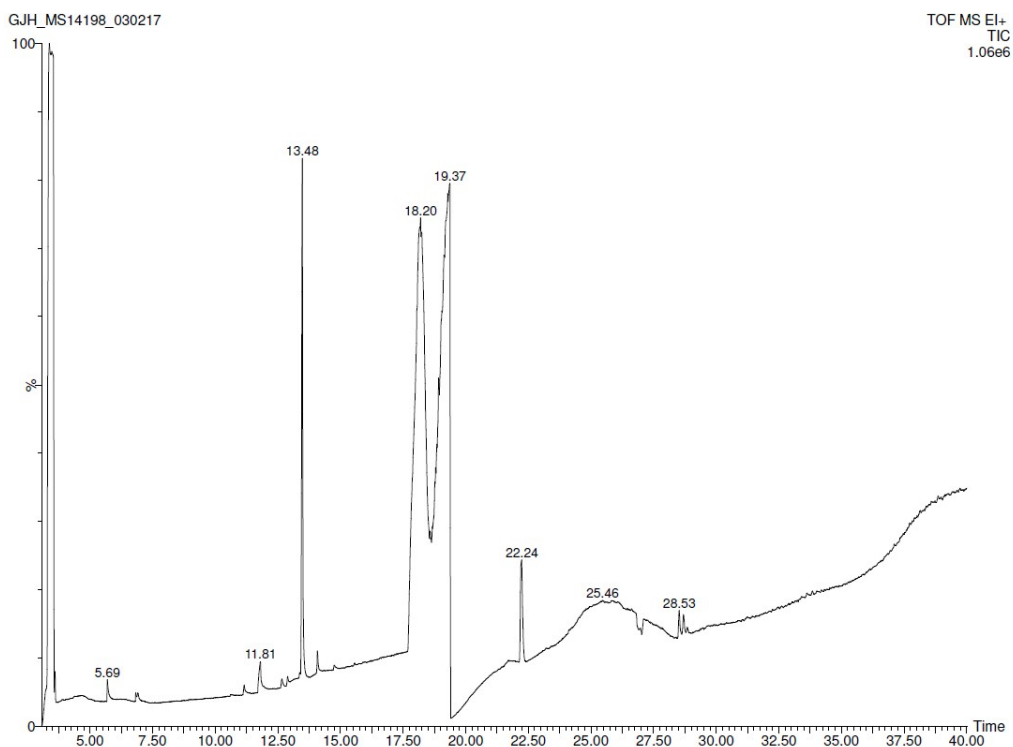
GJH\_MS14198\_030217rt 881 (17.751) Cm (881-799:861)

TOF MS EI+  
2.85e4

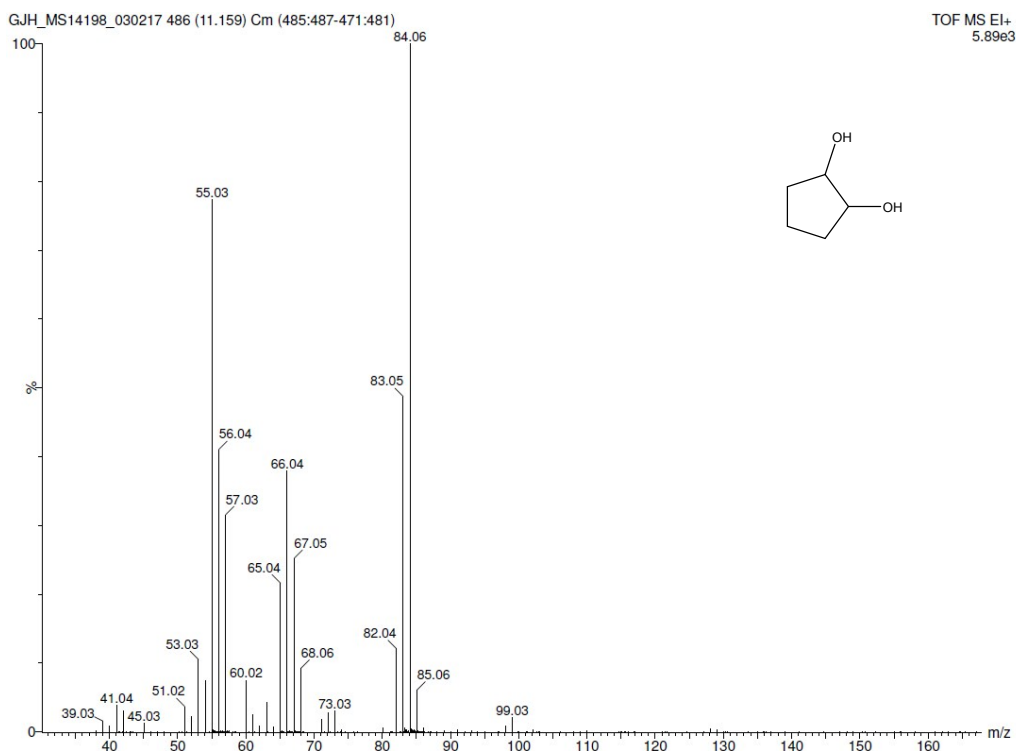
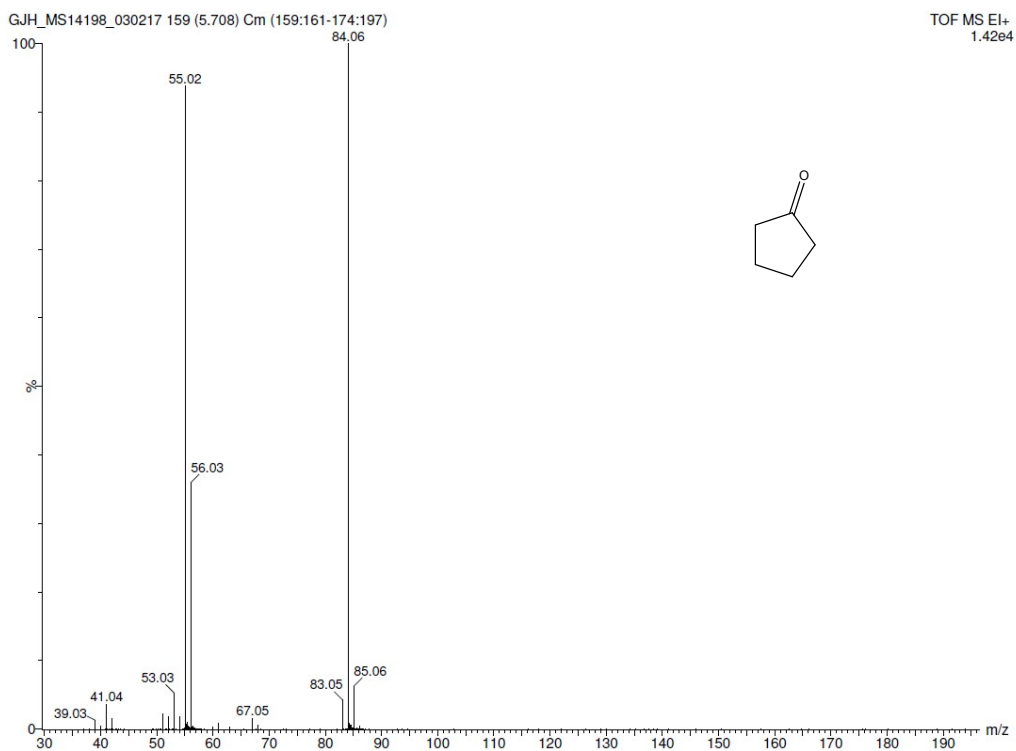




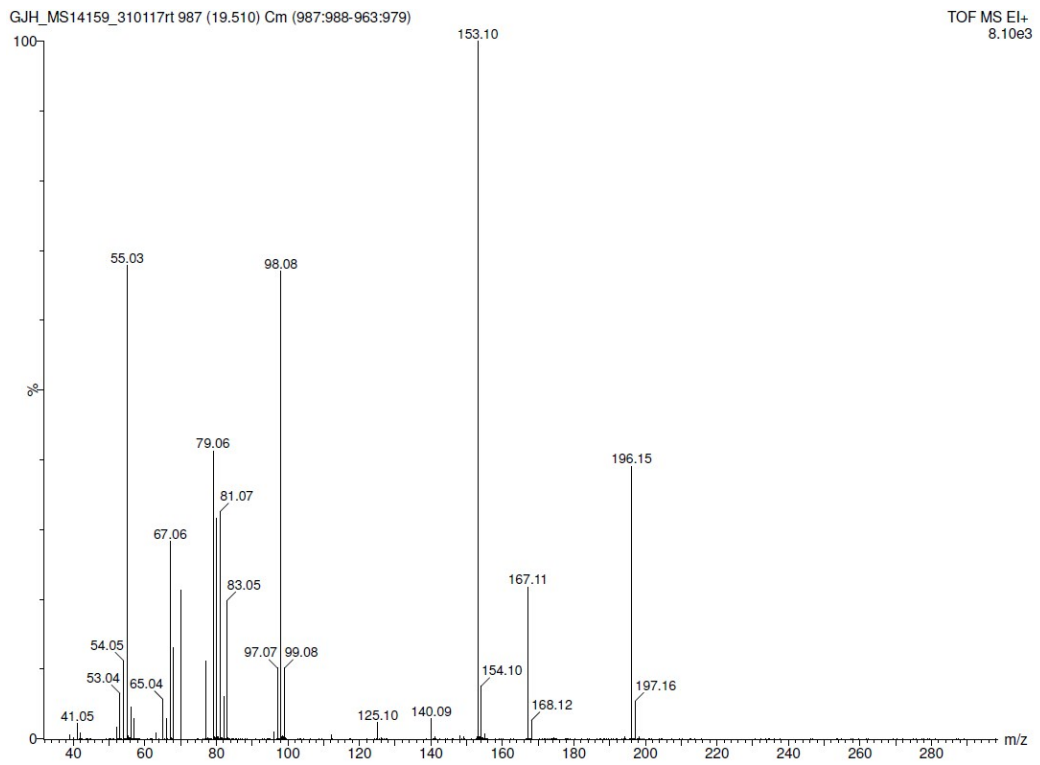
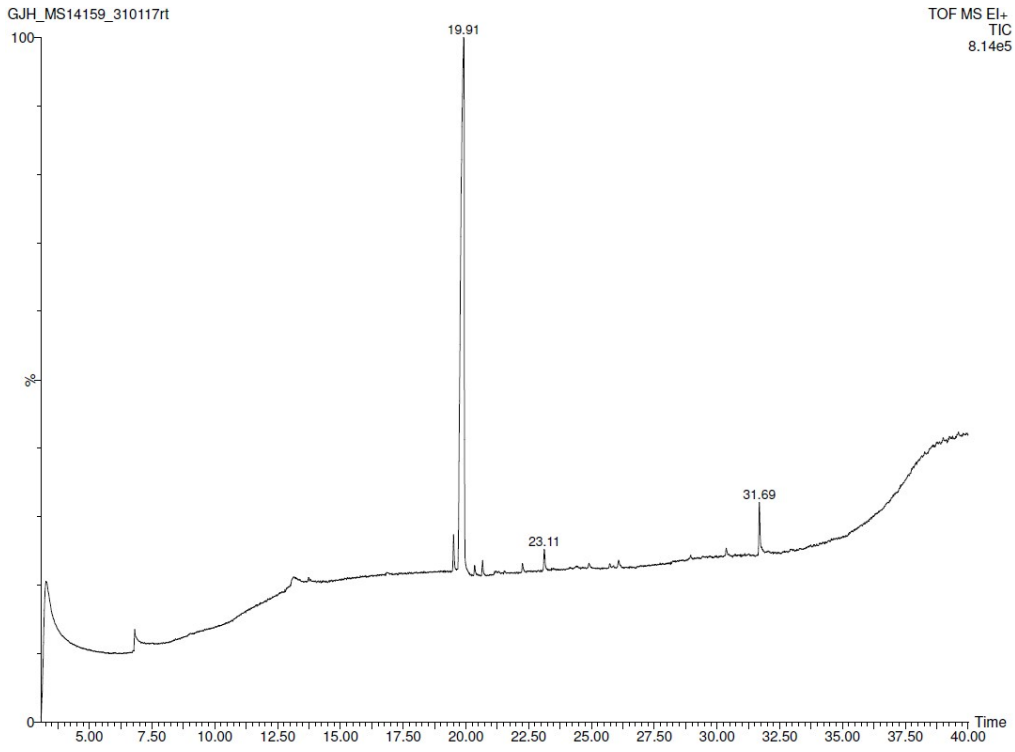
A more concentrated sample shows further side products:





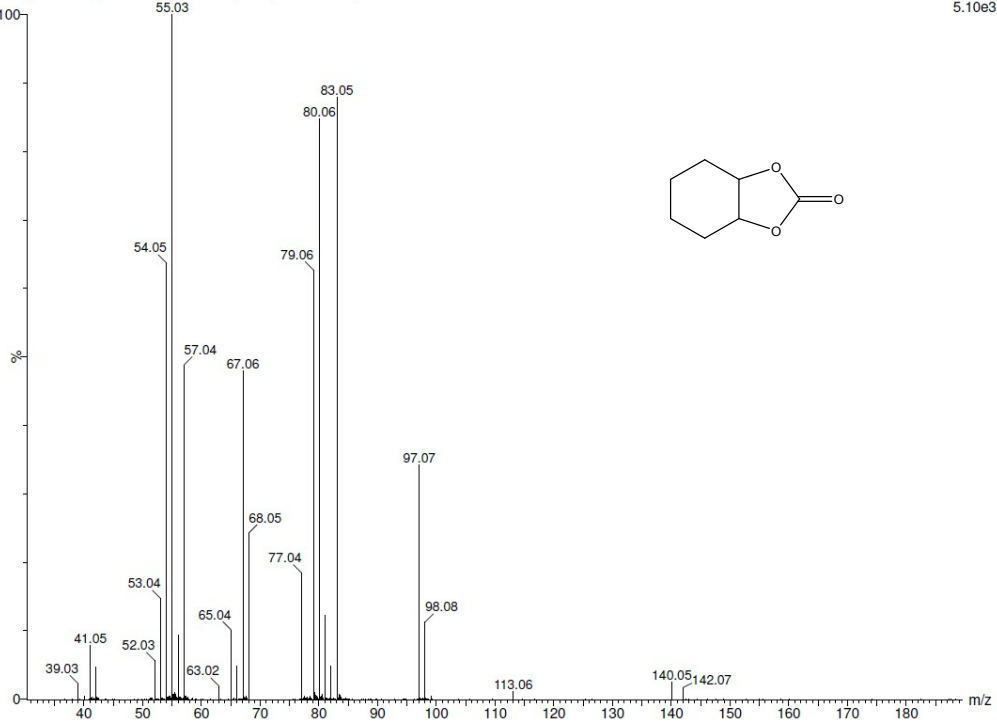


Cyclohexene oxide experiment (125 °C, 20 bar CO<sub>2</sub>, 16 h)



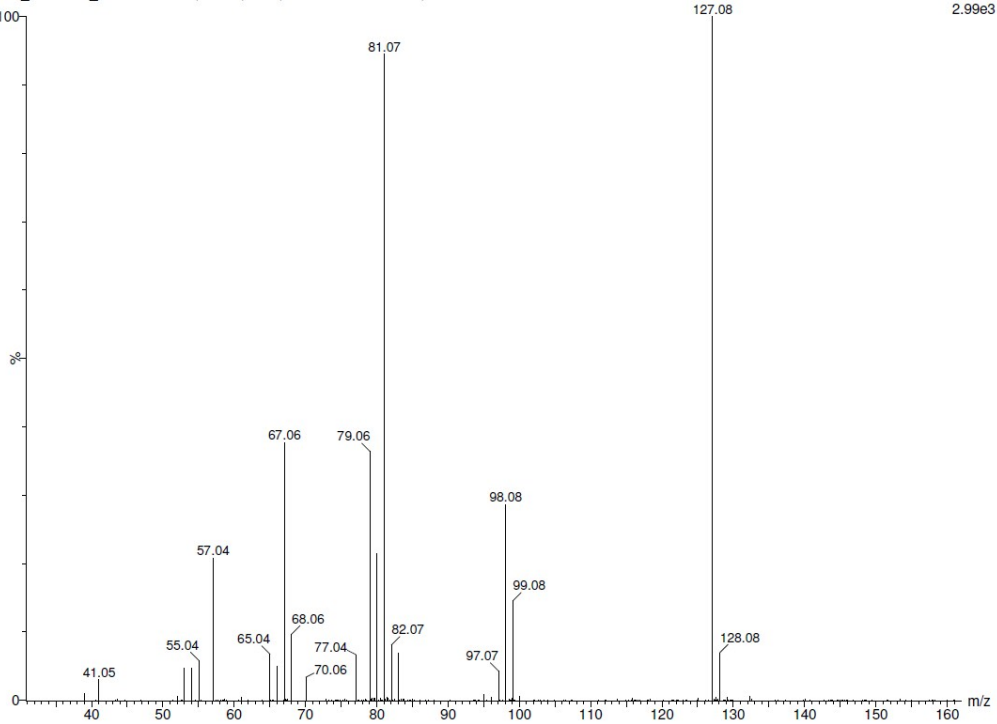
GJH\_MS14159\_310117rt 999 (19.710) Cm (999-961:979)

TOF MS EI+  
5.10e3



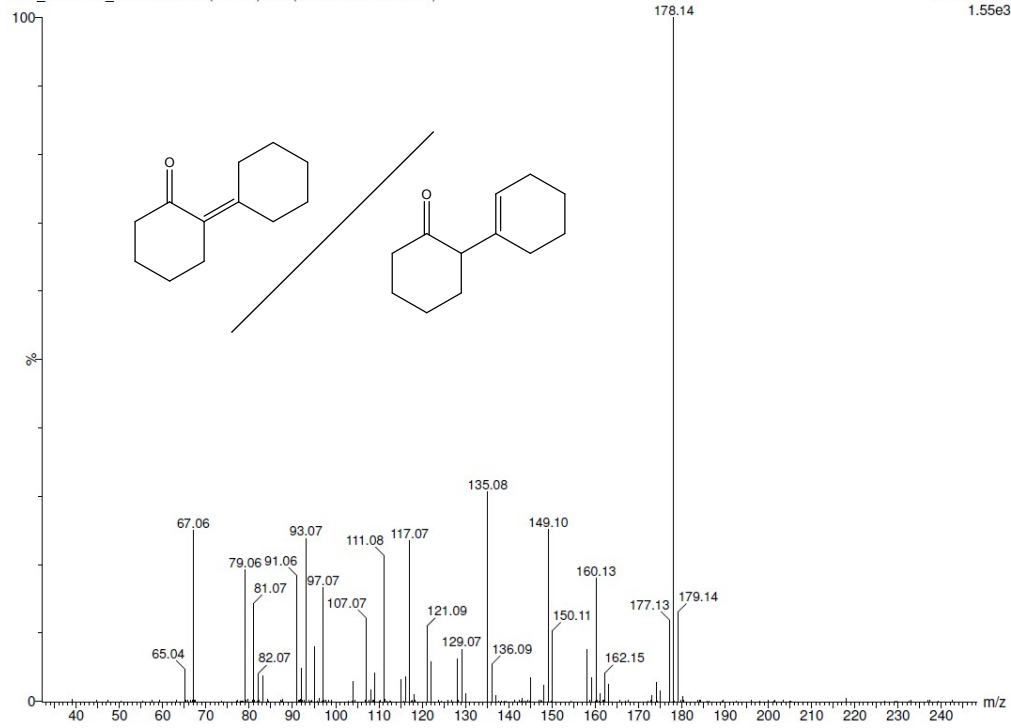
GJH\_MS14159\_310117rt 1037 (20.344) Cm (1037:1038-1047:1052)

TOF MS EI+  
2.99e3



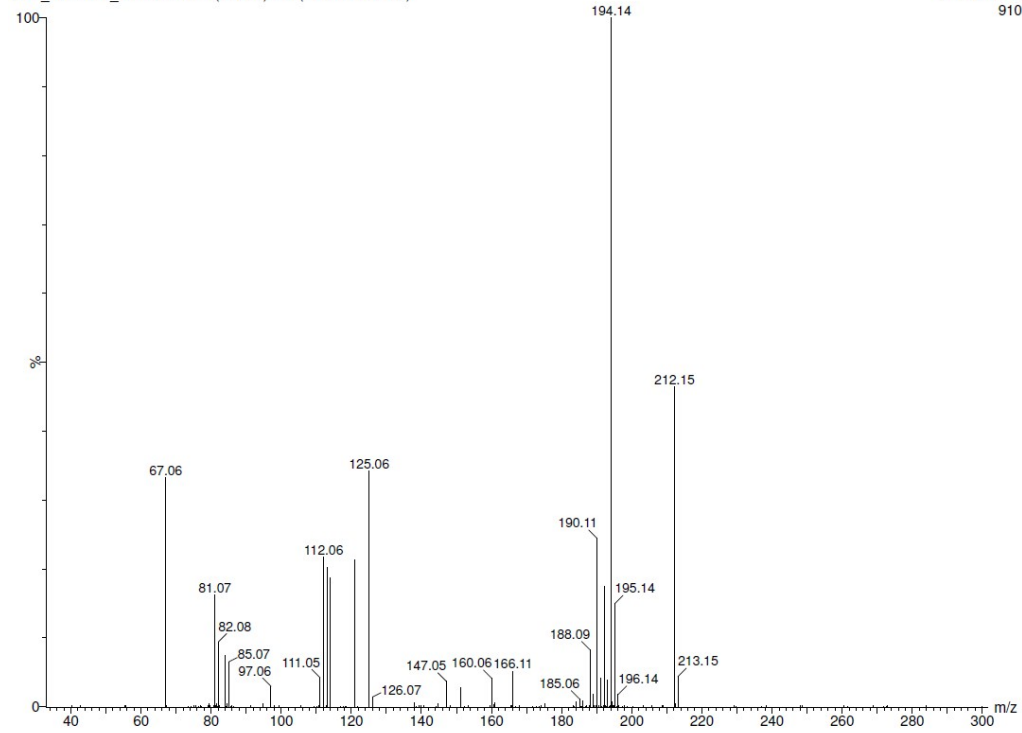
GJH\_MS14159\_310117rt 1151 (22.246) Cm (1151:1152-1162:1176)

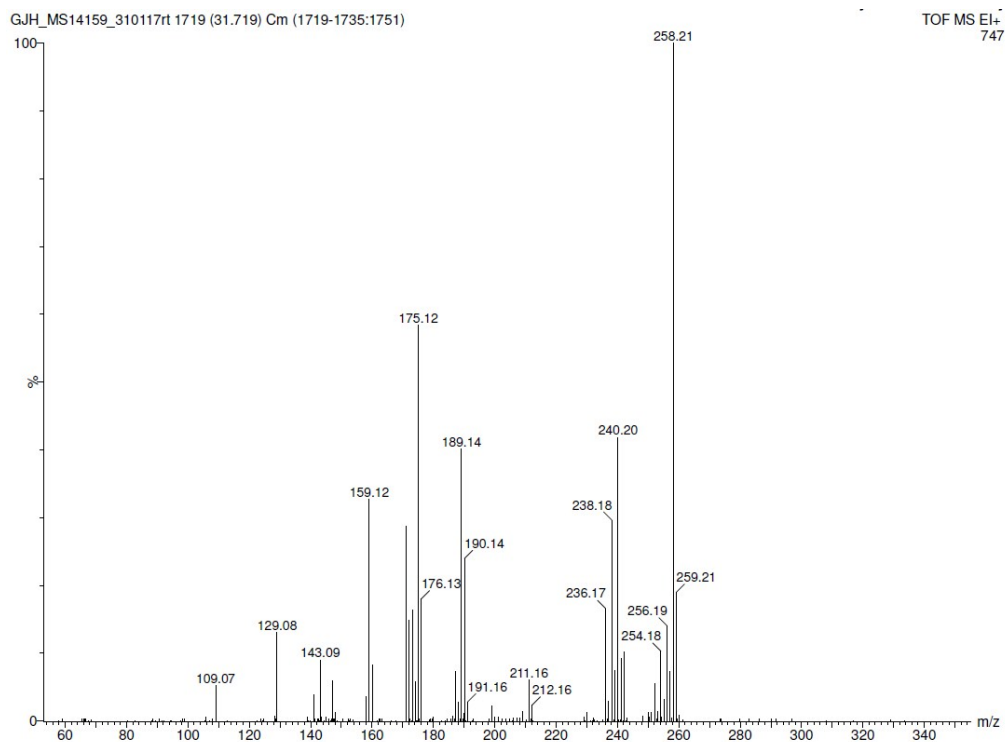
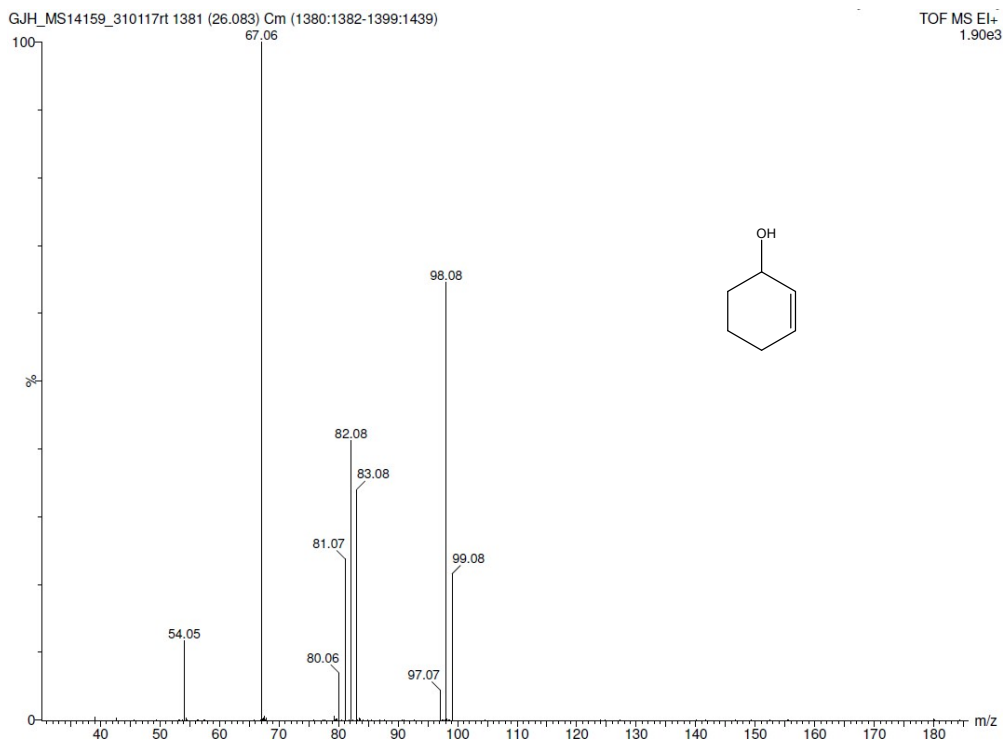
TOF MS EI+  
1.55e3



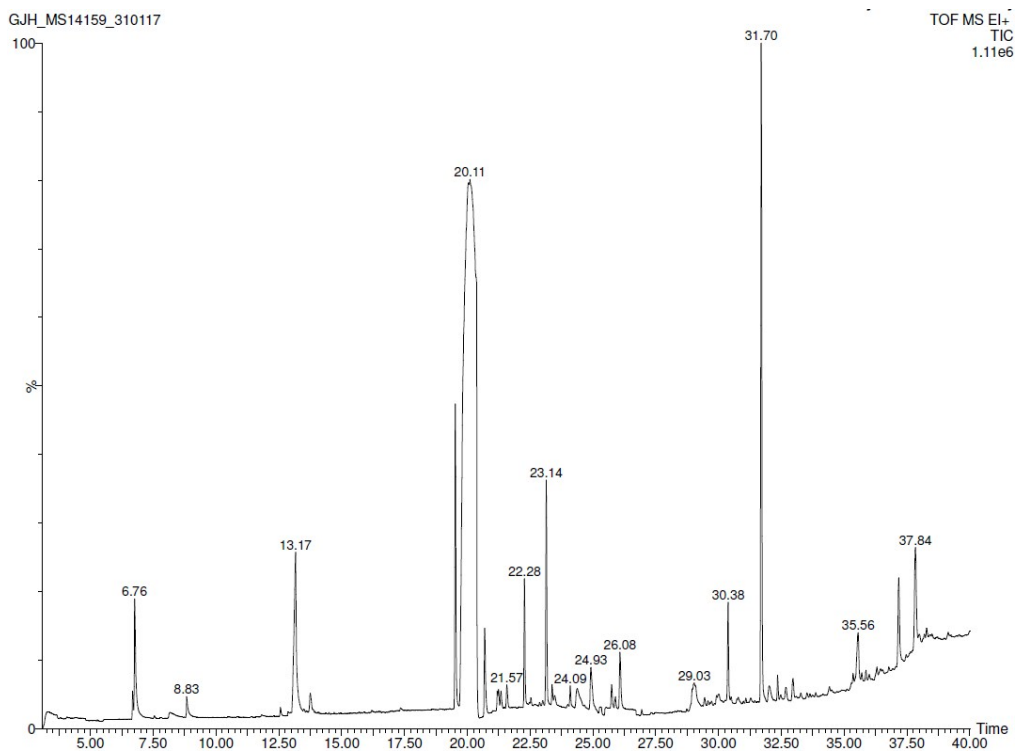
GJH\_MS14159\_310117rt 1202 (23.097) Cm (1202-1178:1192)

TOF MS EI+  
910

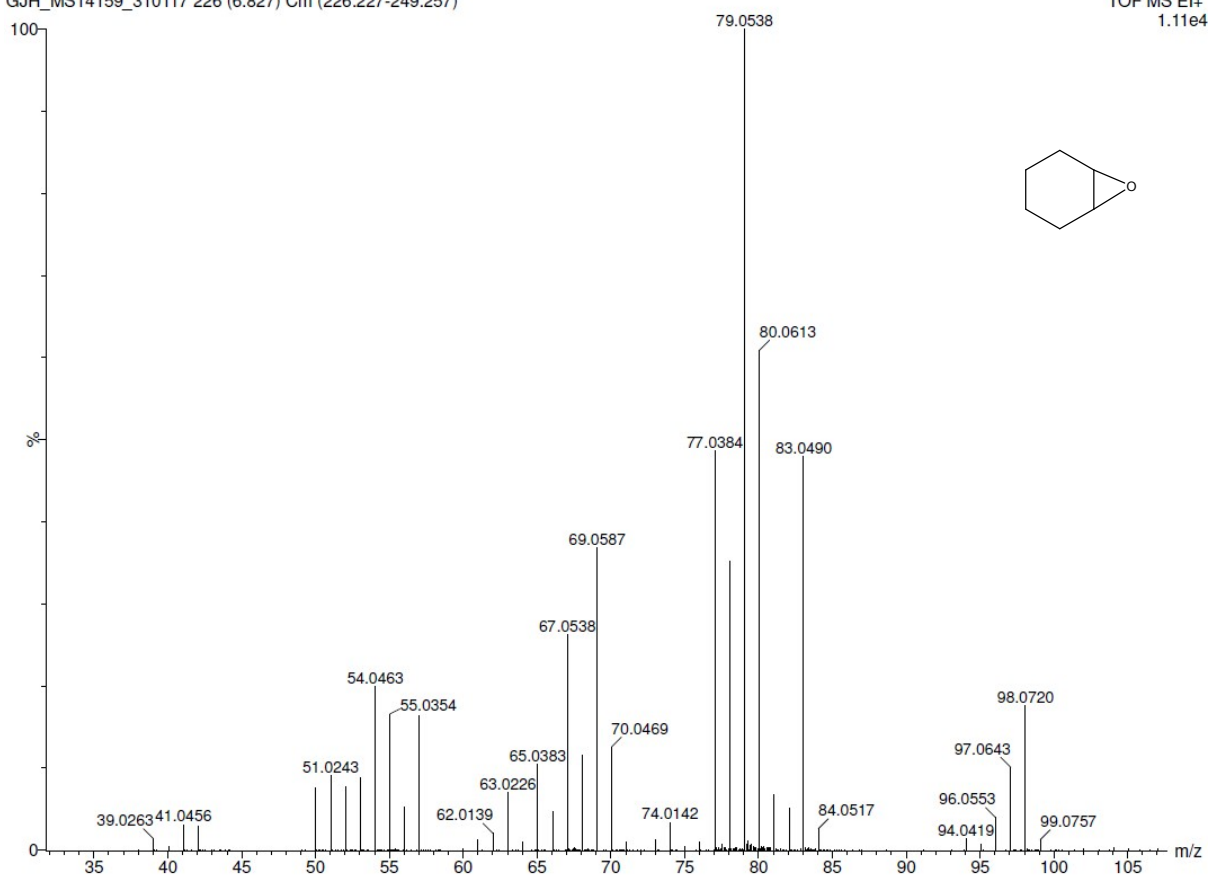


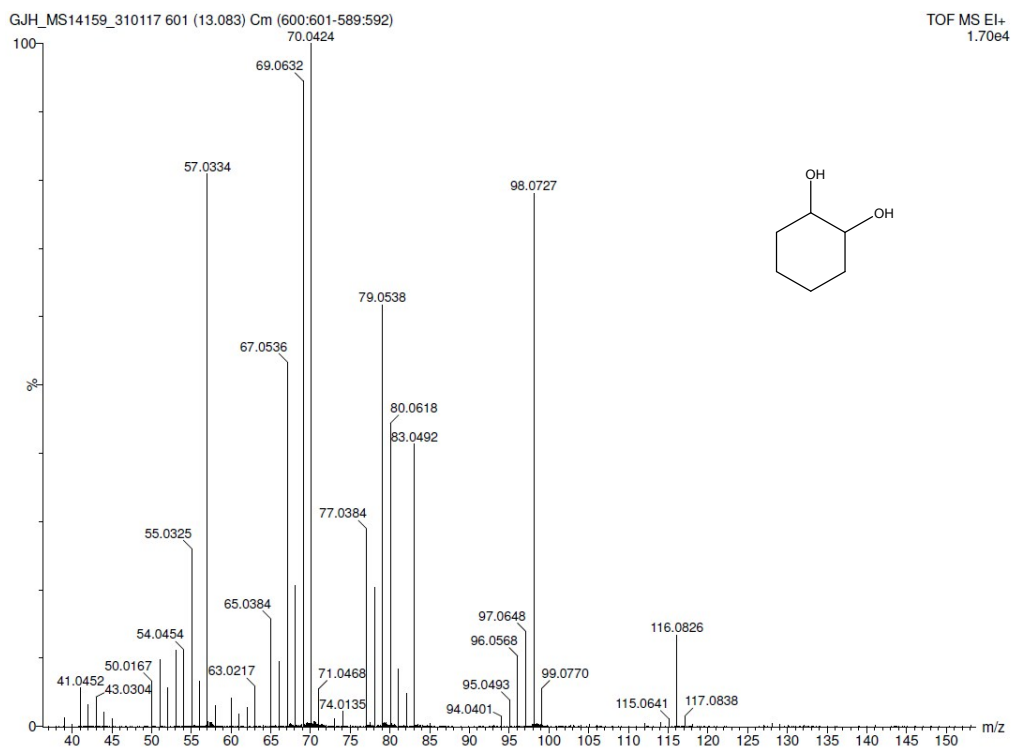


A more concentrated sample shows further side products and the starting material:

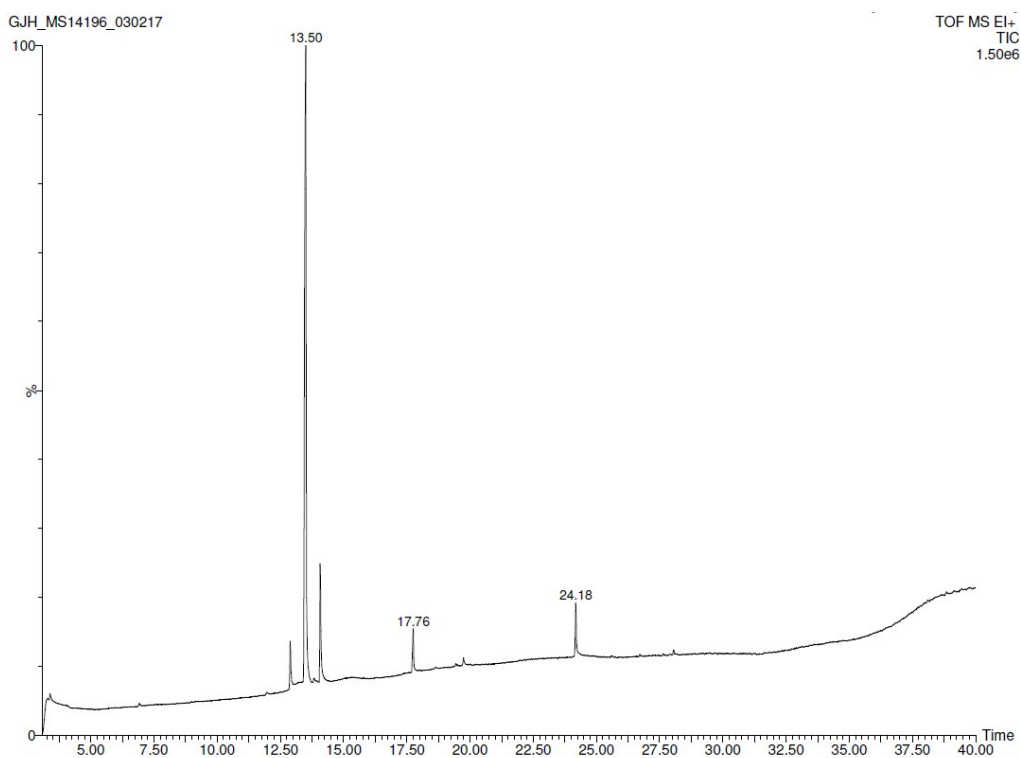


GJH\_MS14159\_310117 226 (6.827) Cm (226:227-249:257)





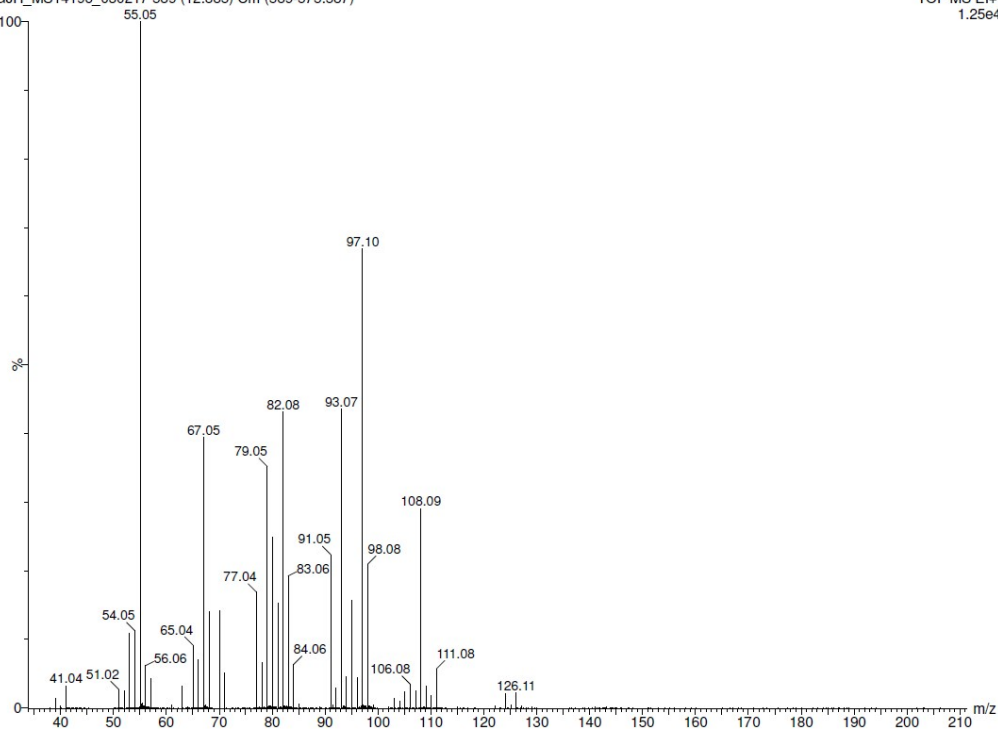
Cyclooctene oxide experiment (130 °C, 20 bar CO<sub>2</sub>, 24 h)



At 12.9 min two compounds are co-eluting, an isomer of the starting material and tributylamine.

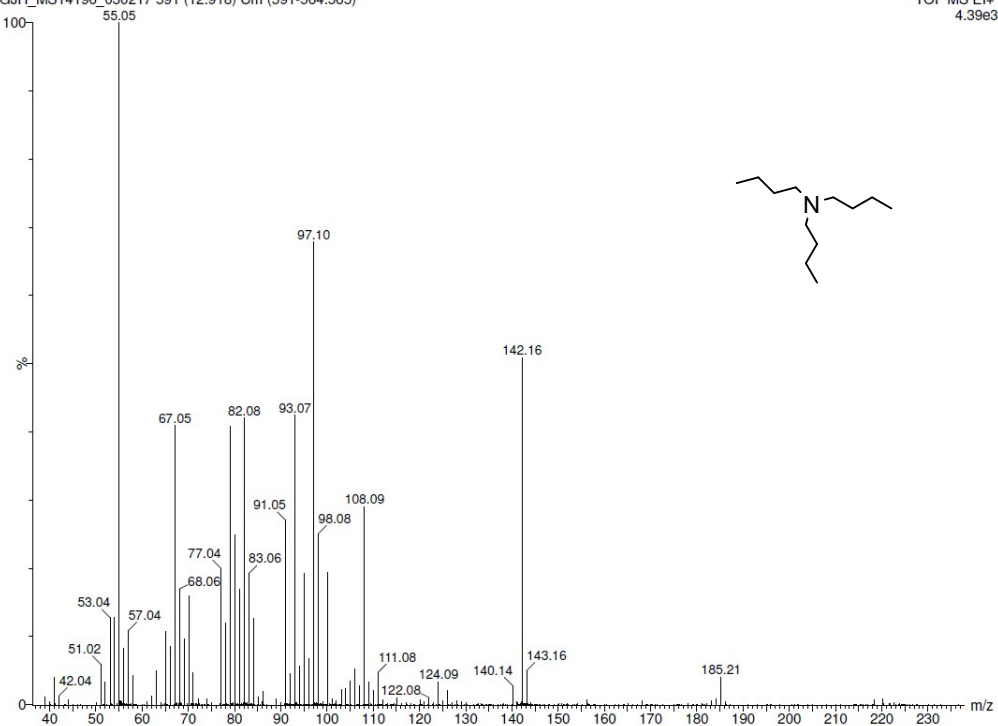
GJH\_MS14196\_030217 589 (12.885) Cm (589-575:587)

TOF MS EI+  
1.25e4



GJH\_MS14196\_030217 591 (12.918) Cm (591-564:565)

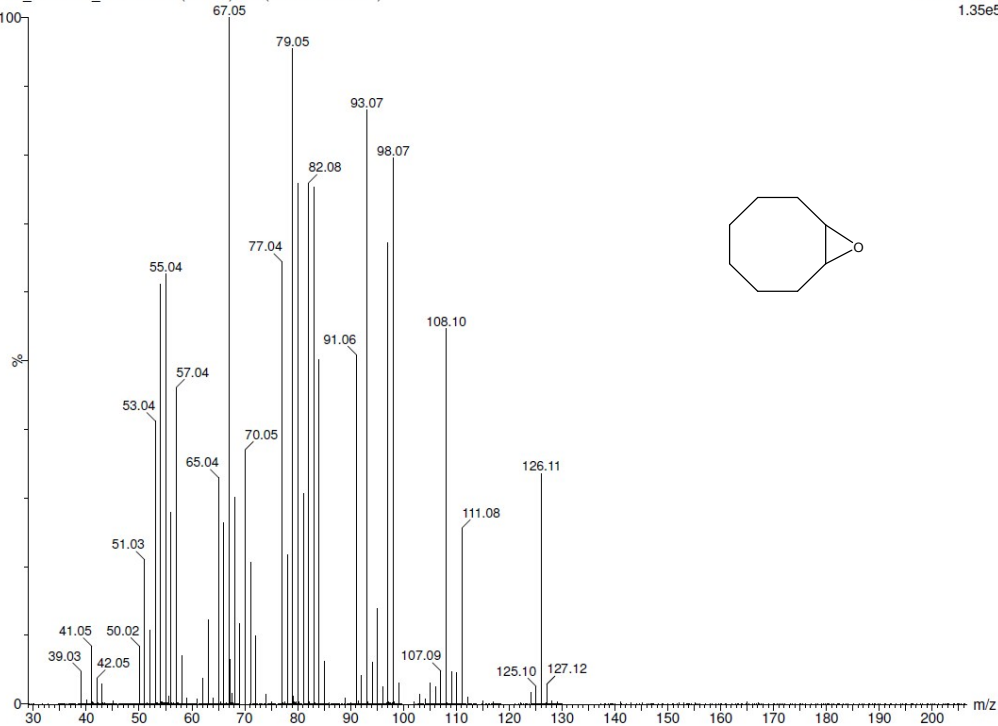
TOF MS EI+  
4.39e3





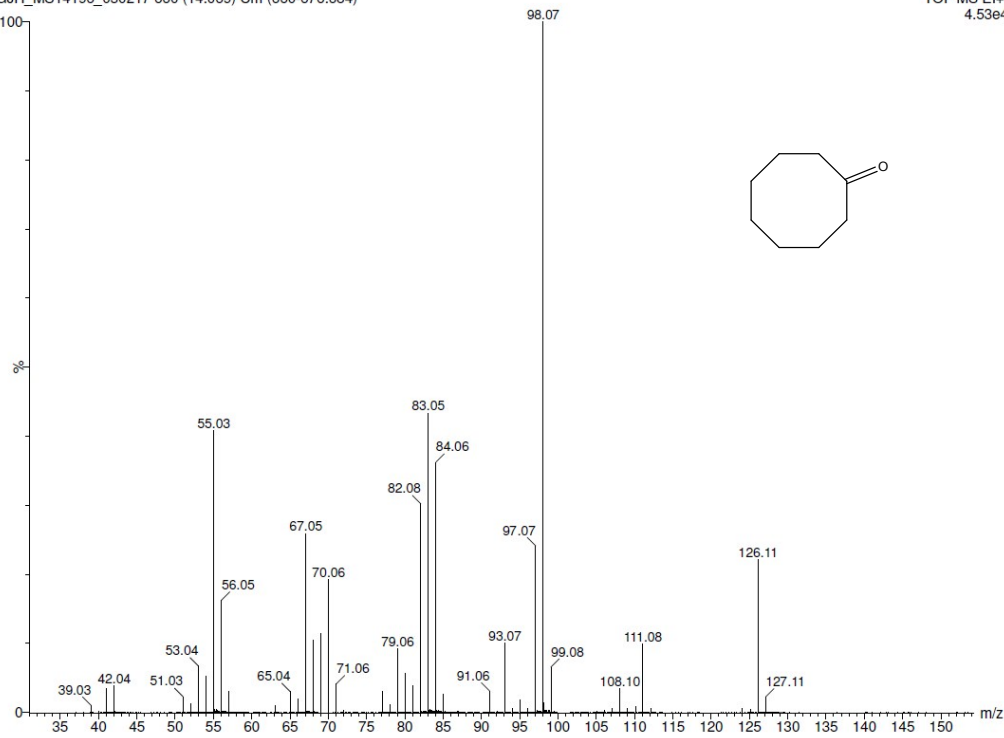
GJH\_MS14196\_030217 624 (13.469) Cm (622:624-600:615)

TOF MS EI+  
1.35e5



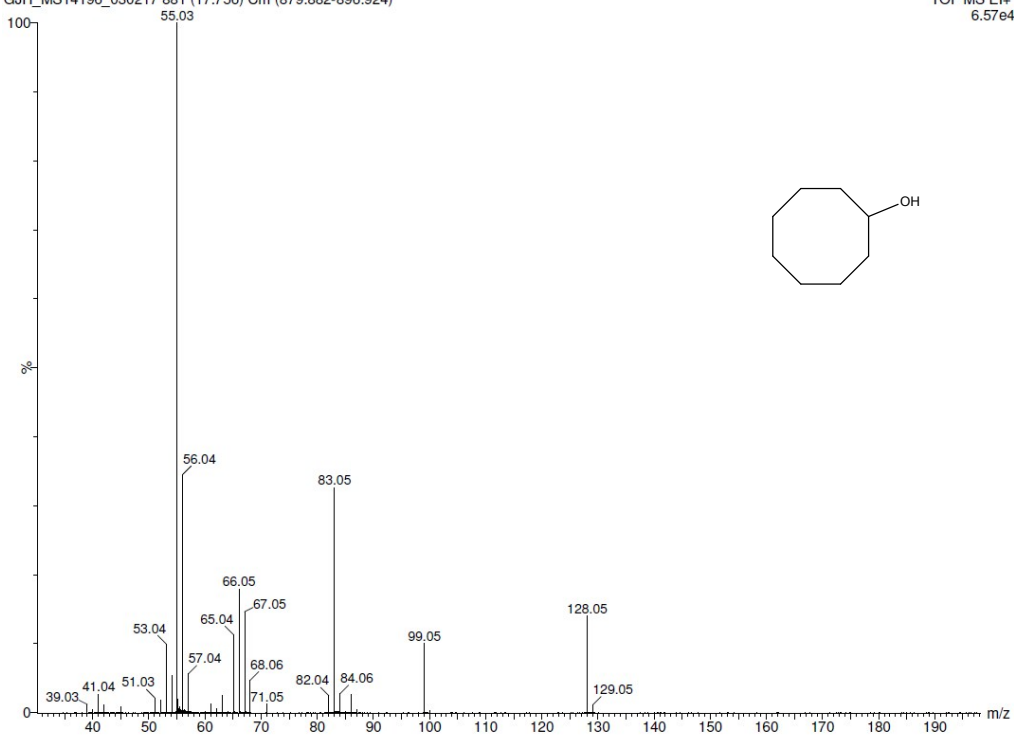
GJH\_MS14196\_030217 660 (14.069) Cm (660:676:684)

TOF MS EI+  
4.53e4



GJH\_MS14196\_030217 881 (17.756) Cm (879:882-896:924)

TOF MS EI+  
6.57e4



GJH\_MS14196\_030217 1266 (24.179) Cm (1265:1269-1287:1309)

TOF MS EI+  
2.74e4

