

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

### Merging supramolecular catalysis and aminocatalysis: amino-appended β-cyclodextrins (ACDs) as efficient and recyclable supramolecular catalysts for the synthesis of tetraketones

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## 1. Analytical data of ACDs (a0-a3).

### 1.1 Mp, $^1\text{H}$ NMR and HRMS of ACDs

**a0:** mp: 234 °C (decomp.);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  4.99 (s, 7 H, H-1 of CD), 3.90-3.76 (m, 28 H, H-3, 5, 6 of CD), 3.58-3.47 (m, 14 H, H-2,4 of CD), 3.09-3.05 (m, 2H); HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{42}\text{H}_{71}\text{NO}_{34} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 1134.3936, found  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 1134.3954.

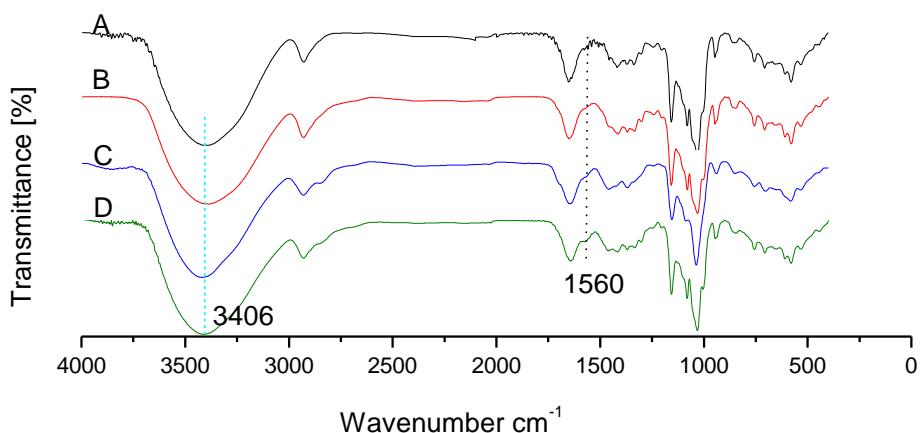
**a1:** mp: 257 °C (decomp.);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  4.92 (s, 7 H, H-1 of CD), 3.83-3.69 (m, 28 H, H-3, 5, 6 of CD), 3.51-3.41 (m, 14 H, H-2,4 of CD), 2.93-2.78 (m, 4H, en); HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{76}\text{N}_2\text{O}_{34} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 1177.4358, found  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 1177.4370.

**a2:** mp: 272 °C (decomp.);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  4.98 (s, 7 H, H-1 of CD), 3.89-3.76 (m, 28 H, H-3, 5, 6 of CD), 3.58-3.47 (m, 14 H, H-2,4 of CD), 2.78-2.65 (m, 6H, en); HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{81}\text{N}_3\text{O}_{34} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 1220.4780, found  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 1220.4792.

**a3:** mp: 283 °C (decomp.);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  5.08 (s, 7 H, H-1 of CD), 3.89-3.38 (m, H-2, 3, 4, 5, 6 of CD), 2.85-2.61 (m, 12 H, en). HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : calcd for  $\text{C}_{48}\text{H}_{87}\text{N}_4\text{O}_{34} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 1263.5196, found  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 1263.5194.

### 1.2 IR of catalyst **a0-a3**.

The FT-IR spectra of **a0-a3** (Figure S1) were collected between 4000 and 400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  by the KBr method.



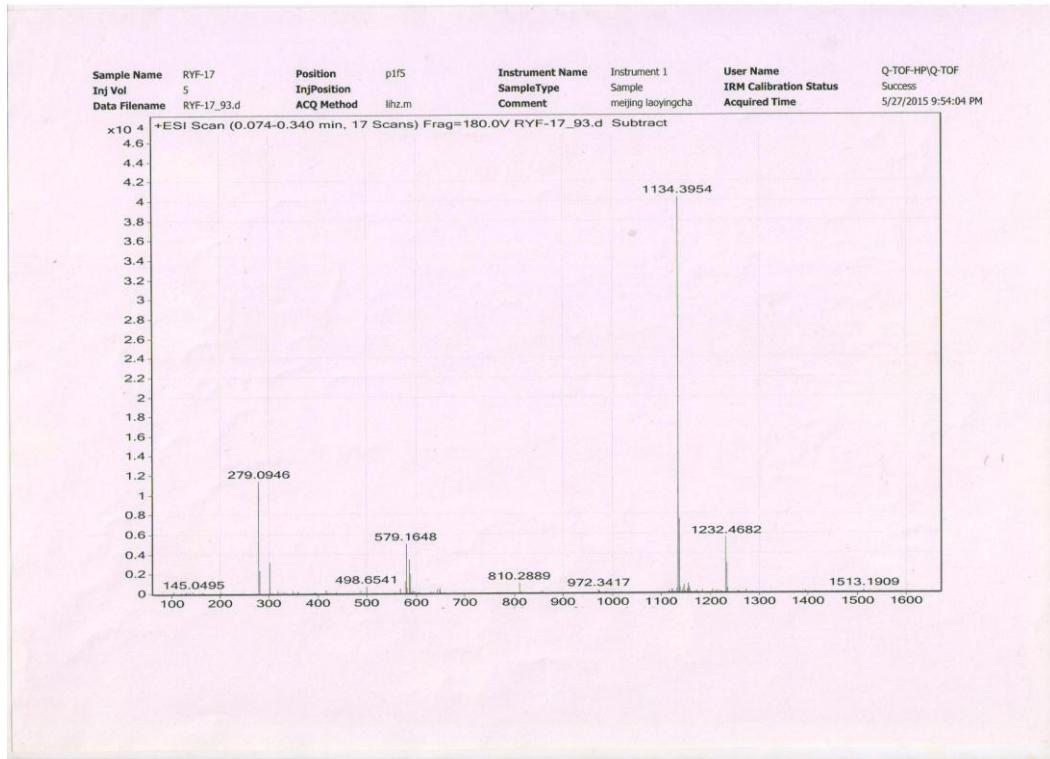
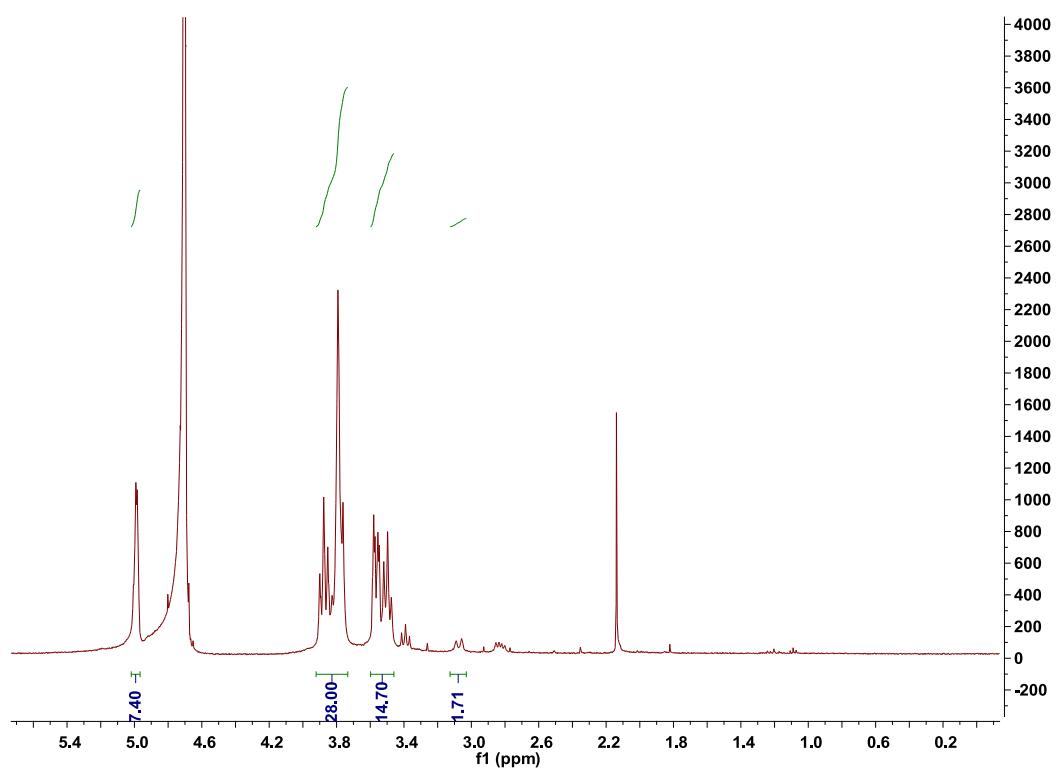
IR spectra of ACDs: (A) **a0**; (B) **a1**; (C) **a2**; (D) **a3**.

### 1.3 Water solubilities of ACDs

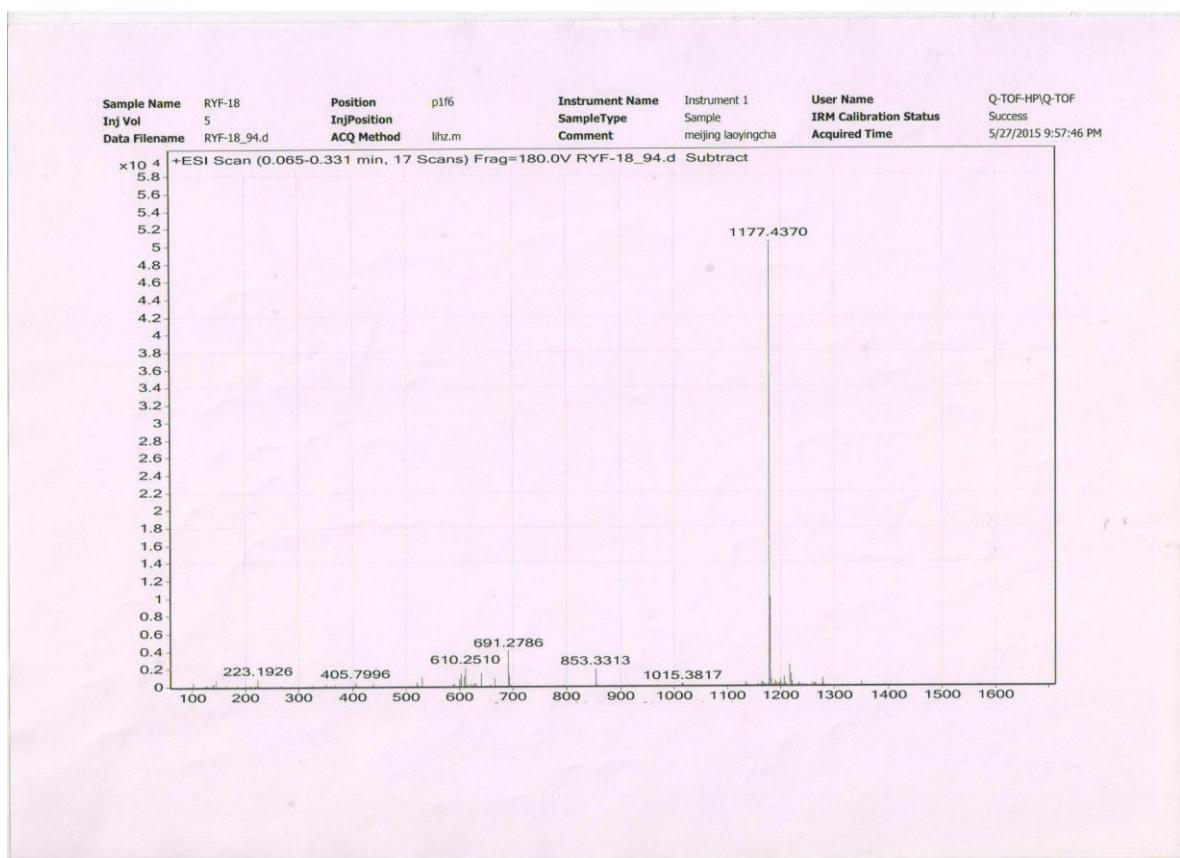
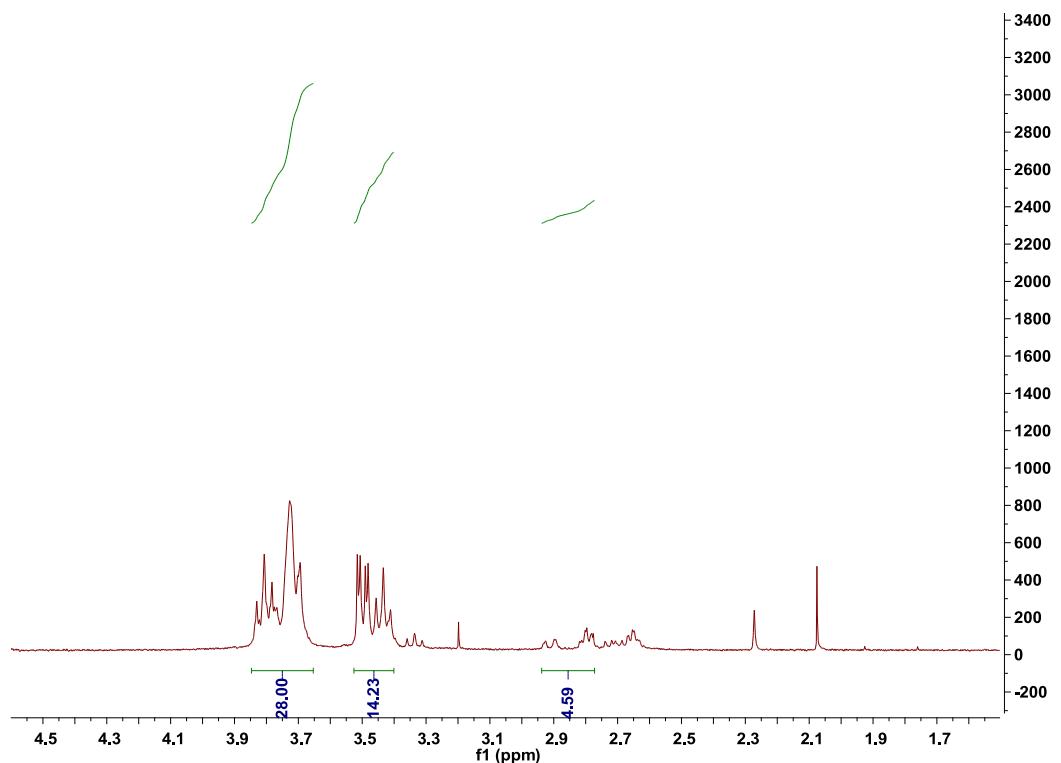
Water solubilities of **a0-a3** were determined by preparing their saturated aqueous solutions. Excess amounts of **a0-a3** was placed in 2 mL of water (ca. pH 7.0) respectively, and the mixture was stirred vigorously for 1 h in dark at  $25 \pm 2$  °C. The solution is then filtered on a 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$  cellulose acetate membrane. The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure to dryness and the water solubilities of **a0-a3** were calculated to be 79.6, 208.9, 393.9 and 656.9 mg/mL, respectively.

## 2. NMR and MS spectral copies of ACDs

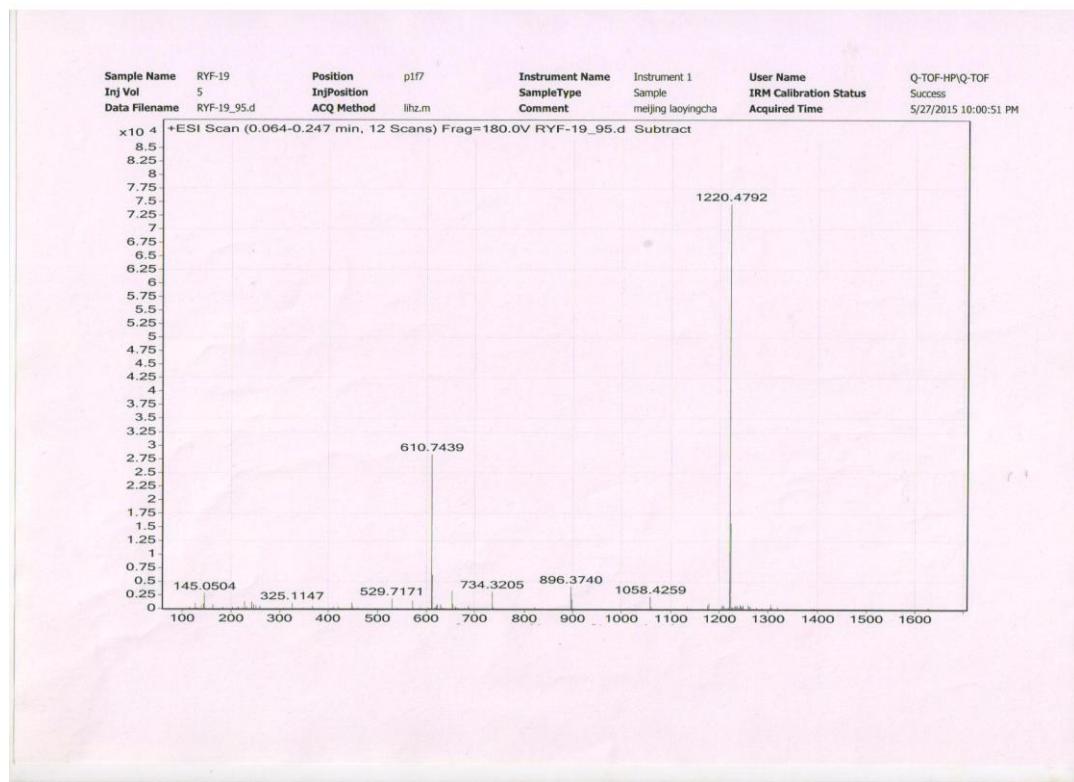
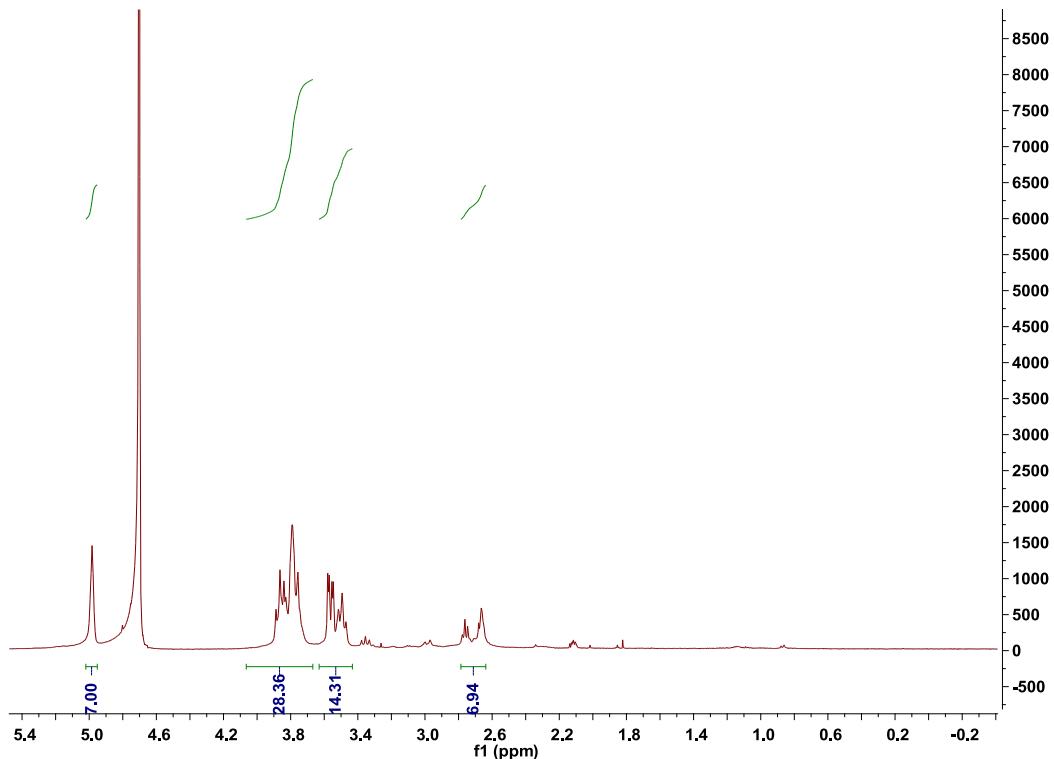
a0



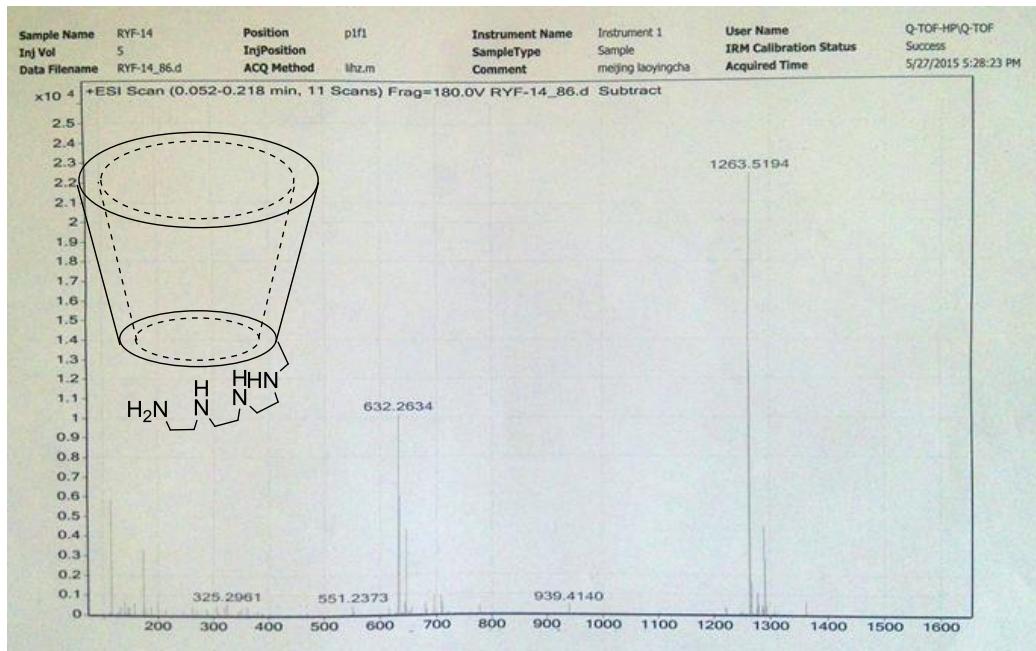
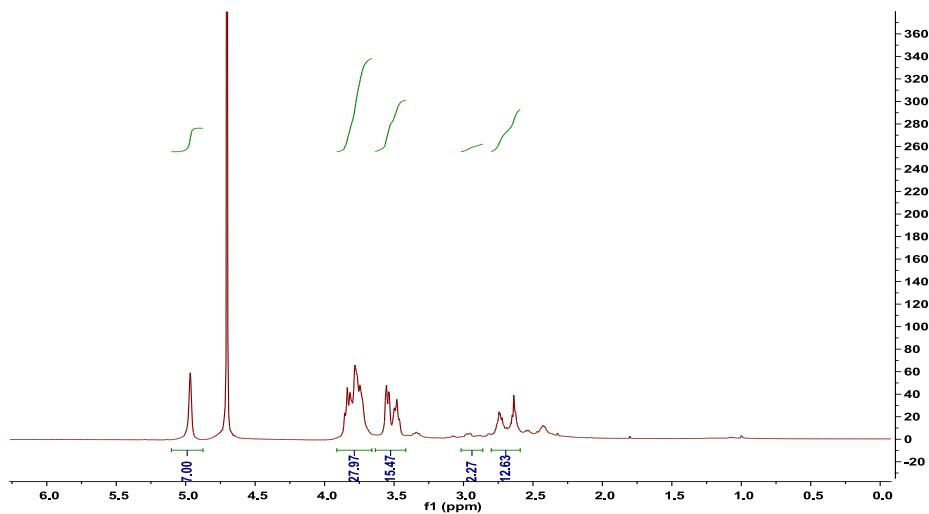
a1

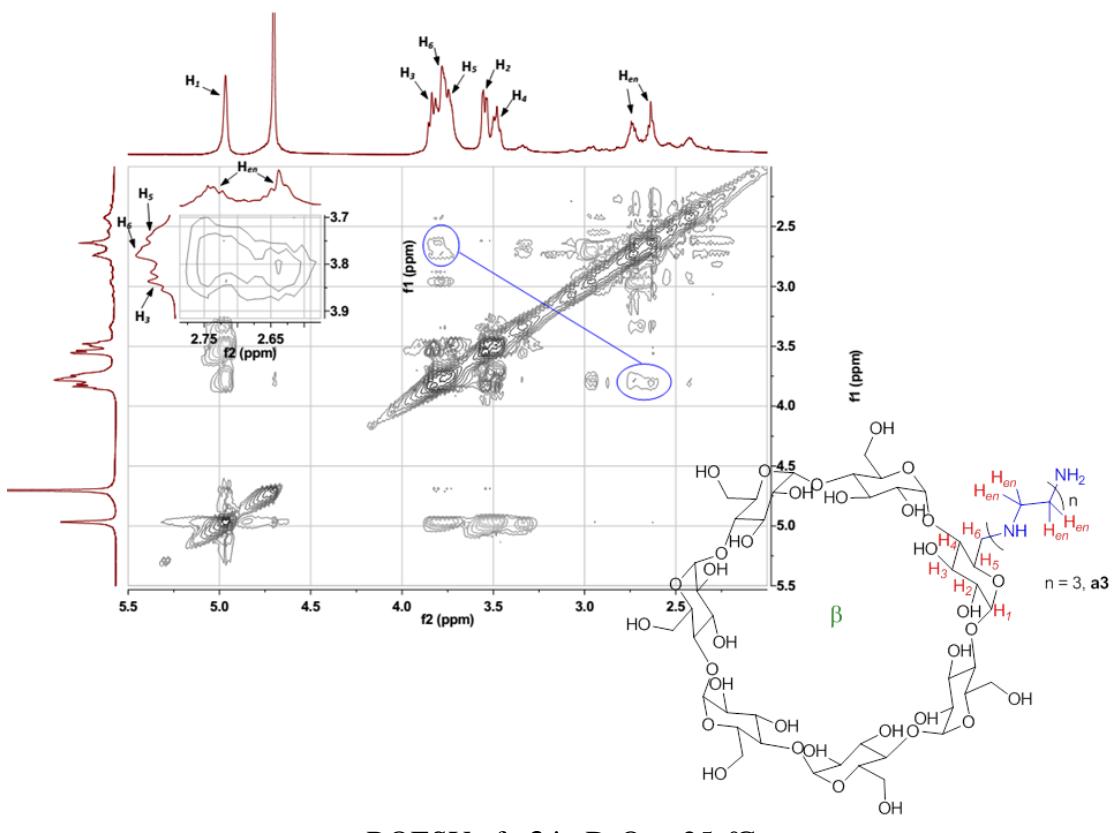


a2



a3





### 3. Analytical data of tetraketones 3

#### 3.1 Phenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3a**)

Yield: 96%; mp: 205-207 °C (Lit.: 204 °C)<sup>1</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3442(OH), 2968, 2929, 2877(C-H), 1600(C=O), 1503, 1457, 1424(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.92(s, 1H), 7.28 (d, J=7.9 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.25 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.17 (t, J=7.3 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.10 (d, J=7.3 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.54(s, 1H, H-7), 2.51-2.26(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4' /H-6'), 1.24(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.11(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 369.2066, found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 369.2063.

#### 3.2 4-Tolyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3b**)

Yield: 90%; mp: 135-136 °C (Lit.: 132-133 °C)<sup>2</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3429(OH), 2969, 2916, 2871(C-H), 1607(C=O), 1515, 1451, 1386(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.92(s, 1H), 7.09 (d, J=8.1 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.99 (d, J=7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.52(s, 1H, H-7), 2.49-2.34(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4' /H-6'), 2.31(s, 3H), 1.24(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.11(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 383.2222, found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 383.2222.

#### 3.3 3-Hydroxyphenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5,5-dimethylcyclohexane-1,3-dione) (**3c**)

Yield: 95%; mp: 243 °C (Lit. 248-250 °C)<sup>3</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3546(Ar-OH), 3384(OH), 2955, 2877, 2825(C-H), 1593(C=O), 1477, 1450, 1386(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.94(s, 1H), 7.12 (t, J=7.9 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.67 (d, J=7.8 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.65-6.61 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 6.57 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 5.49(s, 1H, H-7), 2.38 (dt, J=31.2, 17.6 Hz, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4' /H-6'), 1.23(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.09(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 385.20125 found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 385.2013.

#### 3.4 4-Hydroxyphenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5,5-dimethylcyclohexane-1,3-dione) (**3d**)

Yield: 91%; mp: 196-197 °C (Lit.: 187-189 °C)<sup>4</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3773(Ar-OH), 3416(OH), 2949(C-H), 1625(C=O), 1515, 1385(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.89(s, 1H), 6.94 (d, J=8.3 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.71 (d, J=8.1 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.47(s, 1H, H-7), 2.48-2.27(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4' /H-6'), 1.22(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.10(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 407.1834, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 407.1832.

#### 3.5 4-Methoxyphenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3e**)

Yield: 93%; mp: 143 °C (Lit.: 138 °C)<sup>2</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3429(OH), 2968, 2936, 2903(C-H), 1600(C=O), 1515, 1444, 1392(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.91(s, 1H), 7.03-6.96 (d, J=8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.84-6.77 (d, J=8.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.48(s, 1H, H-7), 3.77(s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.50-2.25(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4' /H-6'), 1.22(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.10(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>5</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 399.2171, found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 399.2171.

#### 3.6 3, 4-Dimethoxyphenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3f**)

Yield: 91%; mp: 183 °C (Lit.: 186-189 °C)<sup>5</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3448(OH), 2968, 2936, 2877, 2832(C-H), 1593(C=O), 1509, 1476, 1444(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.98(s, 1H), 6.78 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.67–6.60 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 5.51(s, 1H, H-7), 3.84(s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.77(s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.50-2.28(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4 /H-6 ), 1.24(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.11(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>32</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 429.2277, found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 429.2274.

**3.7 2, 5-Dimethoxyphenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (3g)**

Yield: 93%; mp: 154-156 °C (Lit.: 146-148 °C)<sup>6</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3390(OH), 2962, 2829(C-H), 1619(C=O), 1496, 1470, 1431(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.83(s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.70(s, 2H, Ar-H), 5.55(s, 1H, H-7), 3.73(s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.67(s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.34(s, 10H, H-2/H-4/H-6/H-2 /H-4 /H-6 ), 1.11(s, 12H, 4×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>32</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 451.2097, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 451.2093.

**3.8 3, 4, 5-Trimethoxyphenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (3h)**

Yield: 96%; mp: 195-196 °C (Lit.: 189-191 °C)<sup>7</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3370(OH), 2955, 2825(C-H), 1625(C=O), 1483, 1392(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 12.03(s, 1H), 6.35(s, 2H, Ar-H), 5.50(s, 1H, H-7), 3.82(s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.75(s, 6H, 2×OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.42 (dd, *J*=32.2, 21.5 Hz, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4 /H-6 ), 1.25(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.13(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>34</sub>O<sub>7</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 459.2383, found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 459.2379.

**3.9 3-Methoxy-4-hydroxyphenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (3i)**

Yield: 94%; mp: 206-209 °C (Lit.: 196-197 °C)<sup>8</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3520, 3442(OH), 2968, 2936, 2877(C-H), 1613(C=O), 1522, 1470, 1431(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.97(s, 1H), 6.81 (d, *J*=8.2 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.70–6.49 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 5.49(s, 2H), 3.77(s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.48-2.30(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4 /H-6 ), 1.23(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.11(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 4371940, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 437.1938.

**3.10 4-Chlorophenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (3j)**

Yield: 87%; mp: 147-148 °C (Lit.: 146-148 °C)<sup>5</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3403(OH), 2942, 2877, 2813(C-H), 1600(C=O), 1496, 1463, 1380(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.88(s, 1H), 7.26–7.19 (d, *J*=8.4Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.07–6.98(d, *J*=8Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.47(s, 1H, H-7), 2.39 (dq, *J*=26.2, 17.6 Hz, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4 /H-6 ), 1.22(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.10(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>27</sub>ClO<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 403.1676, found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 403.1675.

**3.11 4-Fluorophenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (3k)**

Yield: 94%; mp: 193-195 °C (Lit.: 190-192 °C)<sup>5</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3397(OH), 2949, 2903(C-H), 1600(C=O), 1515, 1457, 1398(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ

11.88(s, 1H), 7.04 (dd,  $J=7.9$ , 5.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.95 (t,  $J=8.6$  Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.48(s, 1H, H-7), 2.39 (dq,  $J=32.6$ , 17.6 Hz, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4/H-6), 1.22(s, 6H, 2 $\times$ CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.09(s, 6H, 2 $\times$ CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>27</sub>FO<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 387.1972, found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 387.1969.

**3.12** 3, 4-Dichlorophenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3l**)

Yield: 85%; mp: 194 °C; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3448(OH), 2968, 2936, 2877, 2832(C-H), 1593(C=O), 1509, 1476, 1444(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  11.88(s, 1H), 7.32 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.15 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 6.91 (d,  $J=8.4$  Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 5.44(s, 1H, H-7), 2.54-2.23(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4/H-6), 1.24(s, 6H, 2 $\times$ CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.10(s, 6H, 2 $\times$ CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 437.1286, found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 437.1284.

**3.13** 2-Nitrophenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3m**)

Yield: 96%; mp: 191-193 °C (Lit.: 188-190 °C)<sup>3</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3403(OH), 2975, 2923, 2890, 2832(C-H), 1730(C=O), 1625, 1470, 1398(C=C), 1535, 1295(NO<sub>2</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  11.60(s, 1H), 7.55 (dd,  $J=7.9$ , 1.1 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.50-7.44 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.32 (t,  $J=7.7$  Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.25 (d,  $J=8.0$  Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.04(s, 1H, H-7), 2.51-2.20(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4/H-6), 1.15(s, 6H, 2 $\times$ CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.02(s, 6H, 2 $\times$ CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 414.1917, found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 414.1915.

**3.14** 3-Nitrophenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3n**)

Yield: 93%; mp: 202-205 °C (Lit.: 197-198 °C)<sup>4</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3442(OH), 2975, 2936, 2887(C-H), 1620(C=O), 1542, 1379(C=C), 1457, 1282(NO<sub>2</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  11.86(s, 1H), 8.07-7.99 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.47-7.38 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 5.55(s, 1H, H-7), 2.42 (dq,  $J=28.5$ , 17.7 Hz, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4/H-6), 1.28(s, 6H, 2 $\times$ CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.12(s, 6H, 2 $\times$ CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 414.1917, found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 414.1917.

**3.15** 4-Nitrophenyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3o**)

Yield: 95%; mp: 195 °C (Lit.: 190 °C)<sup>1</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3461(OH), 2968, 2871(C-H), 1613(C=O), 1522, 1347(C=C), 1522, 1248(NO<sub>2</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  11.80(s, 1H), 8.14-8.12(d,  $J=8.8$  Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.26-7.24(d,  $J=9.2$  Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.55(s, 1H, H-7), 2.54-2.30(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4/H-6), 1.24(s, 6H, 2 $\times$ CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.12(s, 6H, 2 $\times$ CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 414.1917, found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 414.1914.

**3.16** 2-Naphthyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3p**)

Yield: 96%; mp: 218 °C; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3435(OH), 2962, 2916, 2871(C-H), 1606(C=O), 1509, 1392(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  11.95(s, 1H), 7.74 (ddd,  $J=16.3$ , 9.1, 6.8 Hz, 3H, Ar-H), 7.51 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 7.47-7.35 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.23 (dd,  $J=8.6$ , 1.7 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 5.68(s, 1H, H-7), 2.55-2.30(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4/H-6),

1.30(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.10(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 441.2042, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 441.2040.

**3.17** 3-Pyridinyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5,5-dimethylcyclohexane-1,3-dione) (**3q**)

Yield: 93%; mp: 98 °C; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3481(Ar-OH), 2923, 2877(C-H), 1613(C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.88(s, 1H), 8.42 (d, J=4.4 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (s, 1H), 7.38 (d, J=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (dd, J=8.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 5.53(s, 1H, H-7), 2.54-2.25(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4' /H-6'), 1.23(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.11(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 370.2018, found [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 370.2019.

**3.18** 2-Thienyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3r**)

Yield: 92%; mp: 160-162 °C (Lit.: 156-157 °C)<sup>9</sup>; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3448(OH), 2968, 2884(C-H), 1606(C=O), 1450, 1392(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 12.32(s, 1H), 7.11 (dd, J=4.2, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (dd, J=5.1, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 6.66–6.62 (m, 1H), 5.63(s, 1H, H-7), 2.47-2.26(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4' /H-6'), 1.22(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.10(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 397.1449, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 397.1448.

**3.19** 1, 4-Bis(2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione))benzene (**3s**)

Yield: 97%; mp: 322-323 °C; IR (KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3429(OH), 2962, 2929, 2871(C-H), 1606(C=O), 1515, 1457, 1424(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.87(s, 2H), 7.04(s, 4H, Ar-H), 5.50(s, 2H, H-7), 2.49-2.27(m, 16H, H-4/H-6/H-4' /H-6'), 1.23(s, 12H, 4×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.10(s, 12H, 4×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>50</sub>O<sub>8</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 681.3403, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 681.3400.

**3.20** 1, 3-Bis(2,2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1,3-dione))benzene (**3t**)

Yield: 90%; mp: 303-305 °C; IR(KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3416(OH), 2929, 2877(C-H), 1600(C=O), 1476, 1457, 1392(C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.90(s, 2H), 7.18 (t, J=7.8 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.92 (d, J=7.9 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 6.87 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 5.51(s, 2H, H-7), 2.47-2.22(m, 16H, H-4/H-6/H-4' /H-6'), 1.18(s, 12H, 4×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.07(s, 12H, 4×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>50</sub>O<sub>8</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 681.3403, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 681.3402.

**3.21** 2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3u**)

Yield: 95%; mp: 188-190 °C (Lit.: 192-193 °C)<sup>8</sup>; IR(KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3455(OH), 2968, 2936, 2877(C-H), 1619(C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.58(s, 1H), 3.16(s, 2H), 2.29(d, J=4.4 Hz, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4' /H-6'), 1.05(s, 12H, 4×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 315.1572, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 315.1573.

**3.22** Methyl-2, 2'-methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3v**)

Yield: 92%; mp: 185-186 °C (Lit.: 182-184 °C)<sup>8</sup>; IR(KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3416(OH), 2968, 2936, 2871(C-H), 1613(C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 12.53(s, 1H), 4.15 (d, J=7.4 Hz, 1H, H-7), 2.29(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4' /H-6'), 1.49(d, J=7.4 Hz 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.05(s, 12H, 4×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 329.1729, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 329.1733.

**3.23** Ethyl formate-2, 2 ‘methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3w**)

Yield: 94%; mp: 100-101 °C; IR(KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3442(OH), 2962, 2877(C-H), 1606C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 11.72(s, H), 4.84(s, H), 4.15 (q, J=7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.34(s, 8H), 1.20 (t, J=7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.11 (s, 12H); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 387.1784, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 387.1785.

**3.24** Propyl-2, 2 ‘methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3x**)

Yield: 97%; mp: 120-122 °C (Lit.: 130 °C)<sup>1</sup>; IR(KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3429(OH), 2962, 2923, 2871(C-H), 1587(C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 12.51(s, 1H), 3.95(t, J=8.0 Hz, 1H, H-7), 2.30(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4 /H-6 ), 2.00(dd, J=15.5, 7.9 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.23(m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.07(d, J=3.4 Hz 12H, 4×CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.87-0.90(t, J=7.3 Hz 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 357.2042, found[M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 357.2044.

**3.25** Isopropyl-2, 2 ‘methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3y**)

Yield: 96%; mp: 153 °C (Lit.: 153-154 °C)<sup>4</sup>; IR(KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3442(OH), 2968, 2884(C-H), 1580(C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 12.44(s, 1H), 3.46(d, J=11.2 Hz, 1H, H-7), 2.89-2.98(m, 1H, CH), 2.38-2.21(m, 8H, H-4/H-6/H-4 /H-6 ), 1.08(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.06(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.85(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.83(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 357.2042, found[M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 357.2041.

**3.26** Isobutyl-2, 2 ‘methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3z**)

Yield: 94%; mp: 170-171 °C; IR(KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3461(OH), 2975, 2942, 2884(C-H), 1613(C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 12.52(s, 1H), 4.3(t, J=8.1 Hz, 1H, H-7), 2.27(m, 8H,H-4/H-6/H-4 /H-6 ), 1.87(t, J=7.7 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.34-1.41(m, 1H) 1.05(s, 12H, 4×CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.86(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.84(s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>32</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 371.2198, found[M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 371.2198.

**3.27** Cyclohexyl-2, 2 ‘methylenebis-(5, 5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3aa**)

Yield: 95%; mp: 185-186 °C; IR(KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3442(OH), 2936, 2851(C-H), 1600(C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 12.42(s, 1H), 3.72 (dd, J=14.0, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.58(d, J=11.1 Hz, 1H, H-7), 2.57 (d, J=10.9 Hz, 1H), , 2.30 (dt, J=29.9, 13.1 Hz, 9H), 1.24(t, J=7.0 Hz, 6H), 1.07(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.05(s, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.74 (d, J=10.5 Hz, 2H); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>34</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 397.2355, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 397.2355.

**3.28** 7-Fluoro-3, 3-bis-(5,5-dimethylcyclohexane-1, 3-dione)-1, 3-dihydro-indol-2-one (**3bb**)

Yield: 58%; mp: 308 °C; IR(KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3442(OH), 3260(NH), 2975, 2910,(C-H), 1729, 1710(C=C), 1606C=O); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.58 (s, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H, NH), 6.99 (t, J=9.2 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 6.91 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 6.63 (d, J=7.4 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 3.51 (s, 1H), 2.26 (m, 8H), 1.14 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 6H), 1.09 (s, 3H), 1.04 (s, 3H); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>26</sub>FNO<sub>5</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 450.1693, found[M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 450.1688.

**3.29** Phenyl-2, 2 ‘methylenebis-(cyclohexane-1, 3-dione) (**3cc**)

Yield: 96%; mp: 213-215 °C (Lit.: 207-208 °C)<sup>10</sup>; IR(KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3305(OH), 2968, 2916, 2890, 2825(C-H), 1613(C=O), 1736, 1638 (C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 12.36(s, H), 7.26 (t, J=7.3 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.17 (t, J=7.0 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.10 (d, J=7.9 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 5.47(s, H), 2.61 (dd, J=21.9, 18.4 Hz, 4H), 2.42 (ddd, J=34.6, 17.4, 8.5 Hz, 4H), 2.03 (m, 4H); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 335.1259, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 335.1257.

**3.30** Phenyl-3, 3'-methylenebis(4-hydroxy-6-methyl-2H-pyran-2-one) (**3dd**)

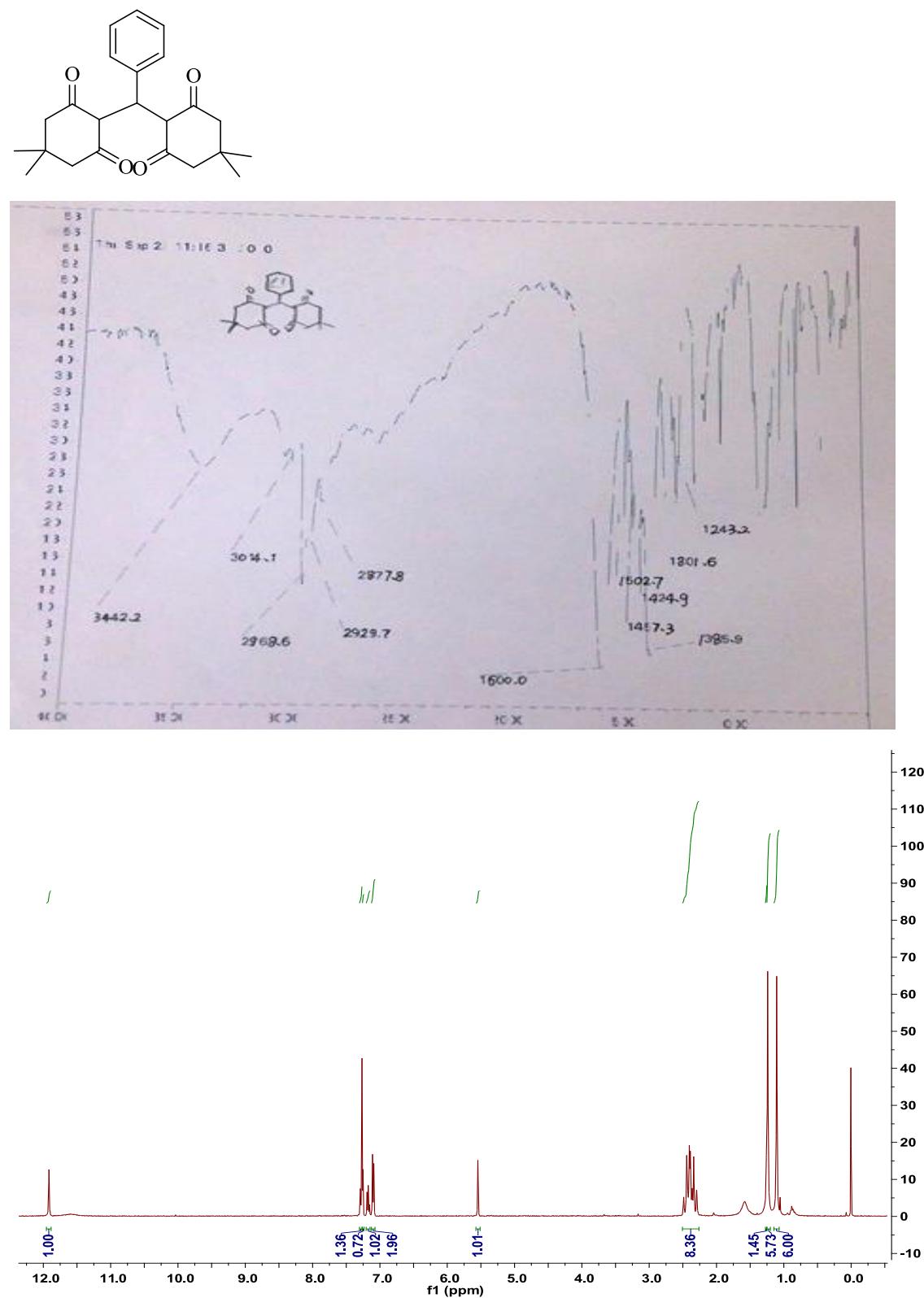
Yield: 90%; mp: 174-175 °C (Lit.: 167-169 °C)<sup>10</sup>; IR(KBr)cm<sup>-1</sup> 3429(OH), 3091, 3020(=C-H), 2936, 2858(C-H), 1684(C=O), 1619, 1574, 1502 (C=C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 10.93(s, H), 7.20(m, 5H, Ar-H), 6.03(s, 2H), 5.73(d, J=21.6 Hz, 1H, H-7), 2.27(d, J=21.5 Hz, 6H, 2×CH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI) m/z: calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>6</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 363.0845, found [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 363.0836.

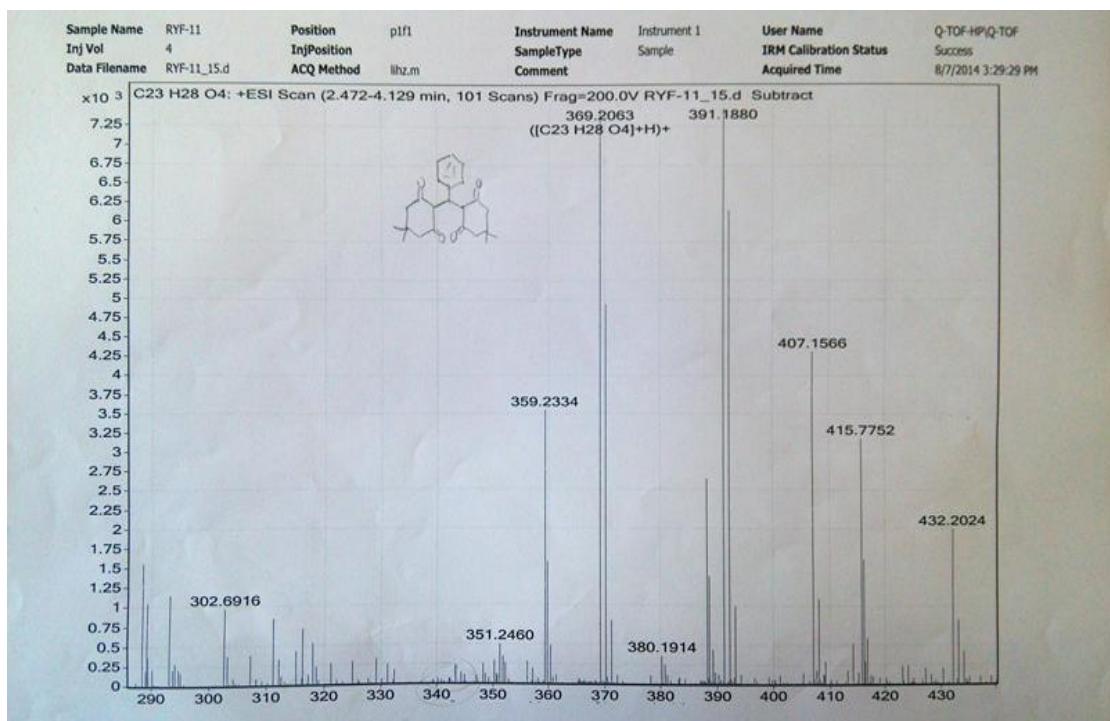
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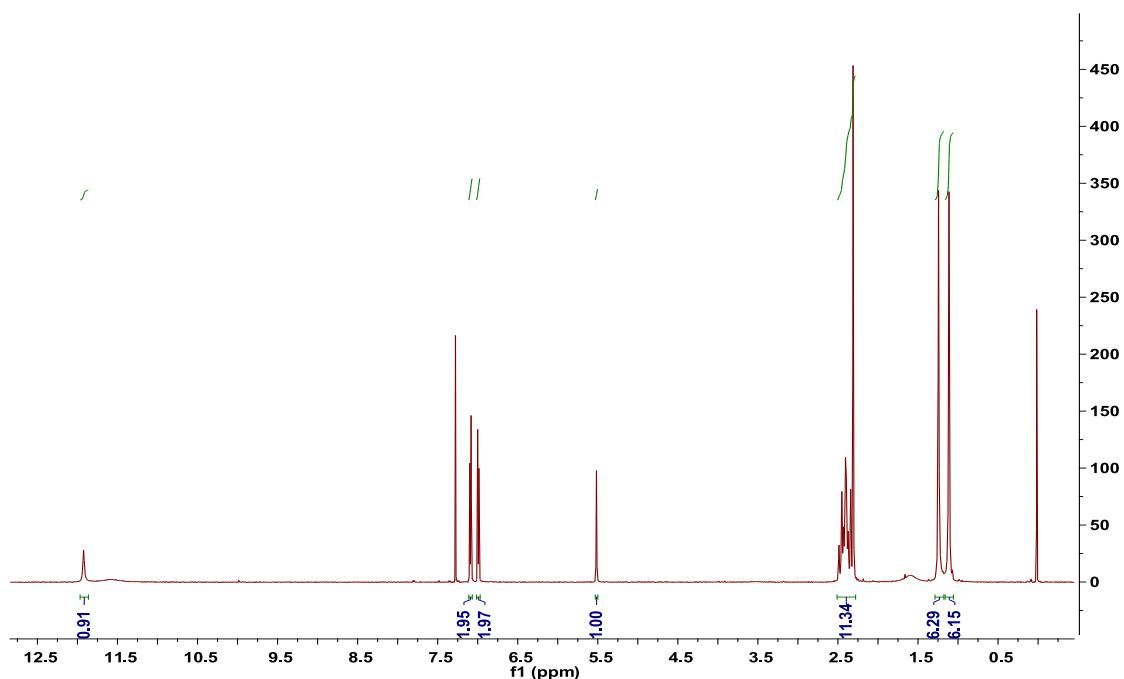
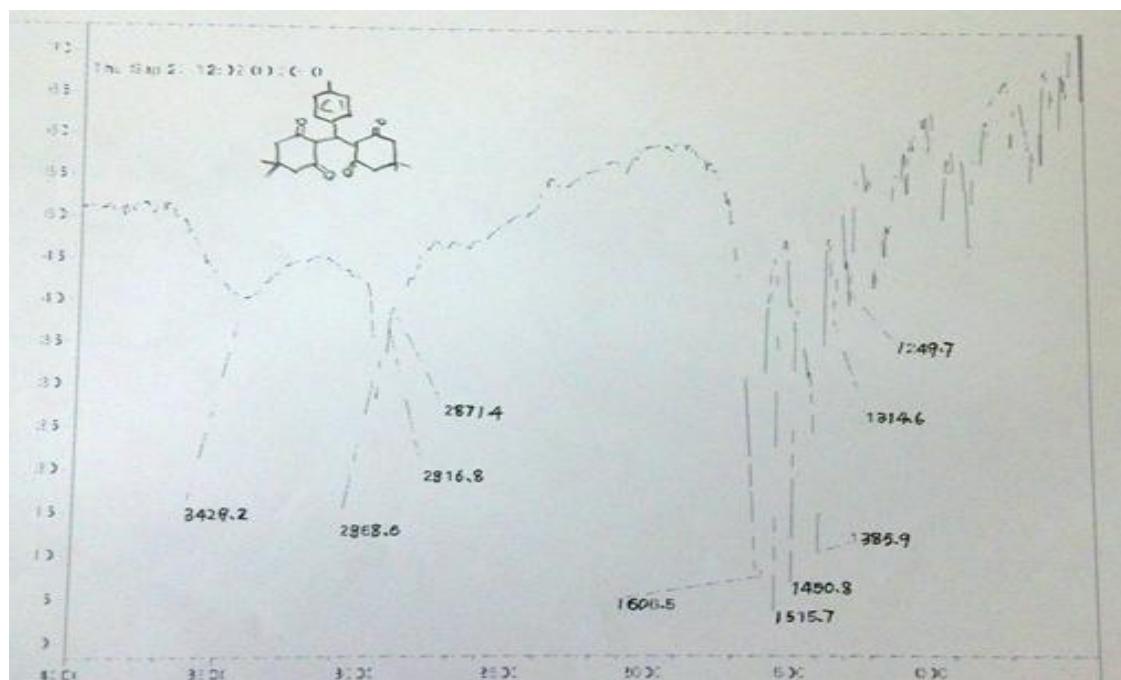
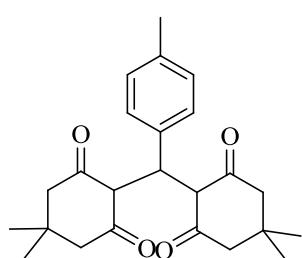
**4. IR,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and ESI-MS copies of tetraketones 3(3a-3dd), xanthenedion 4a and acridinedion 4b**

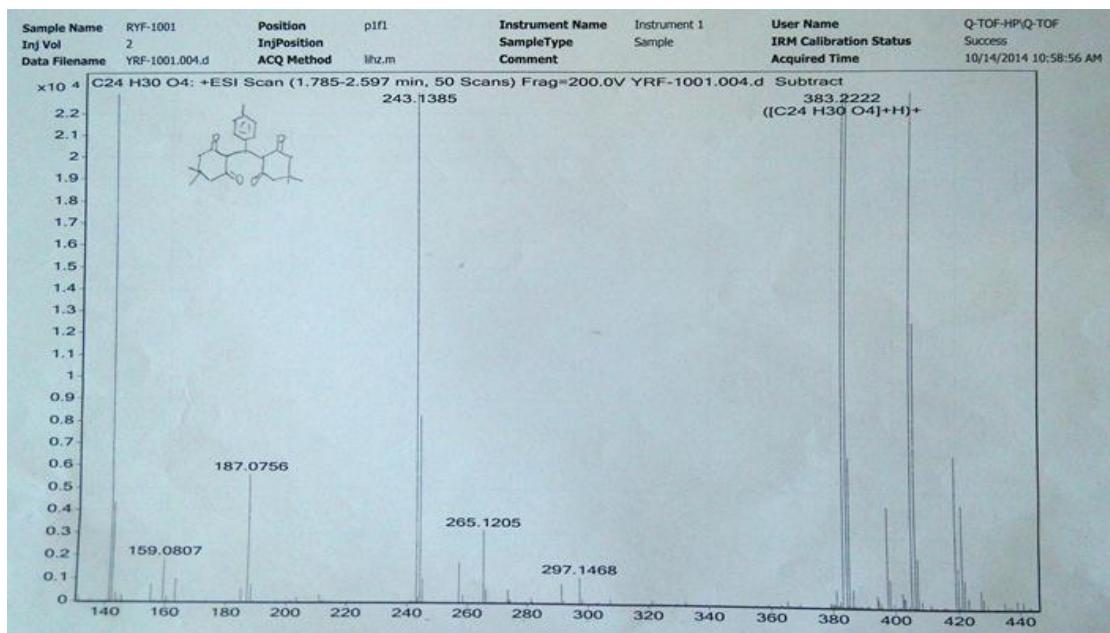
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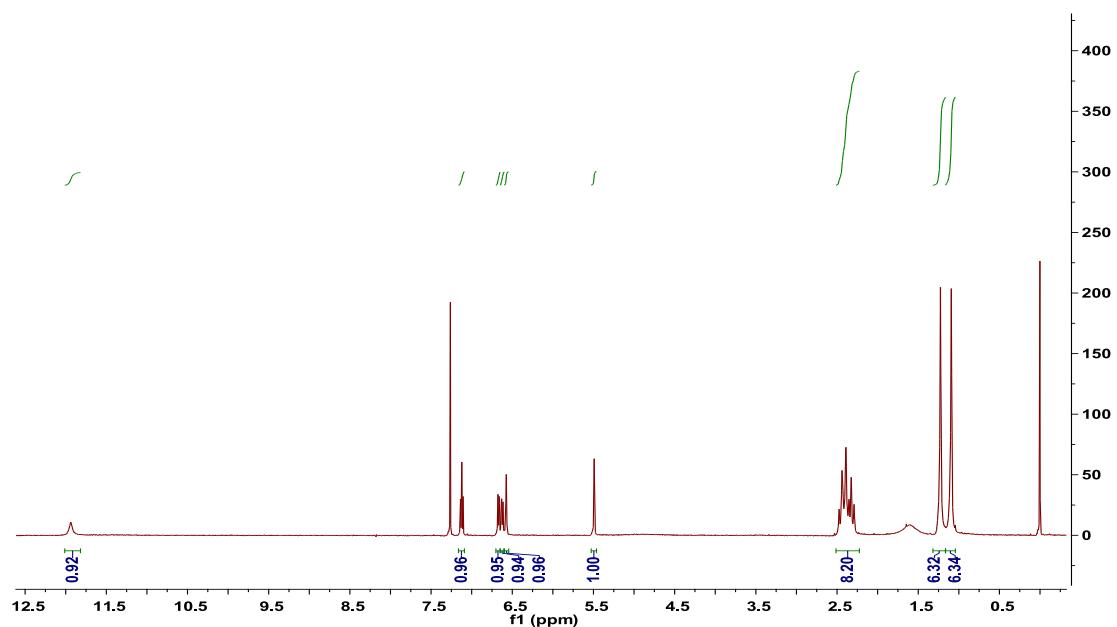
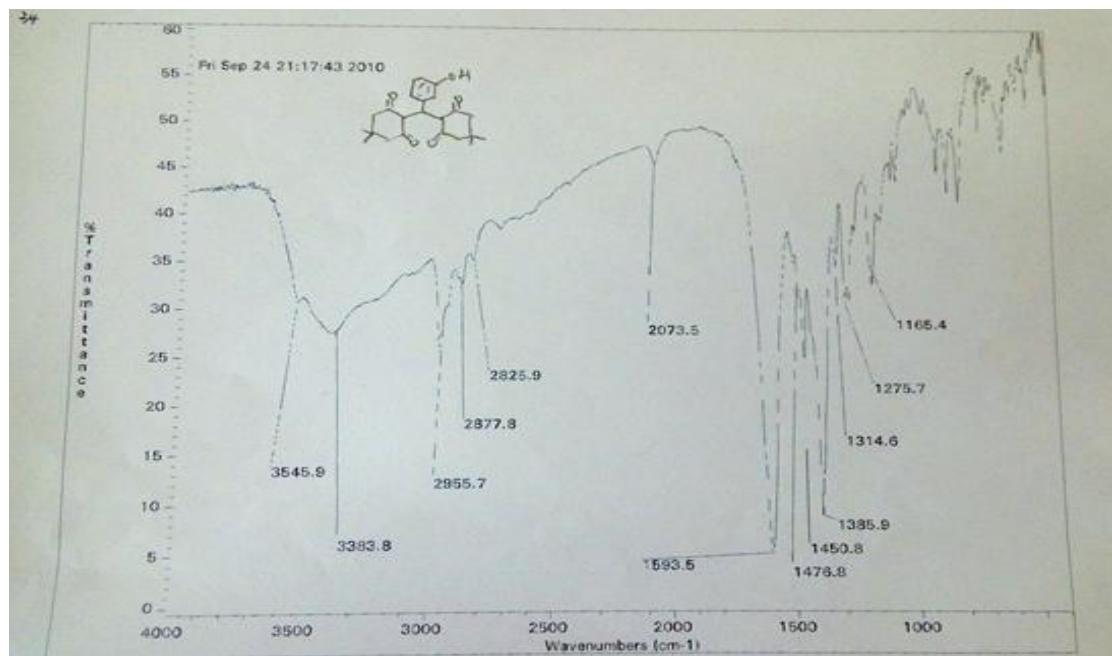
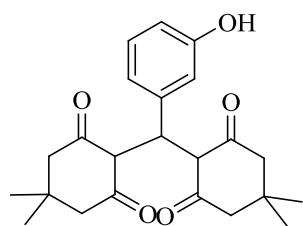


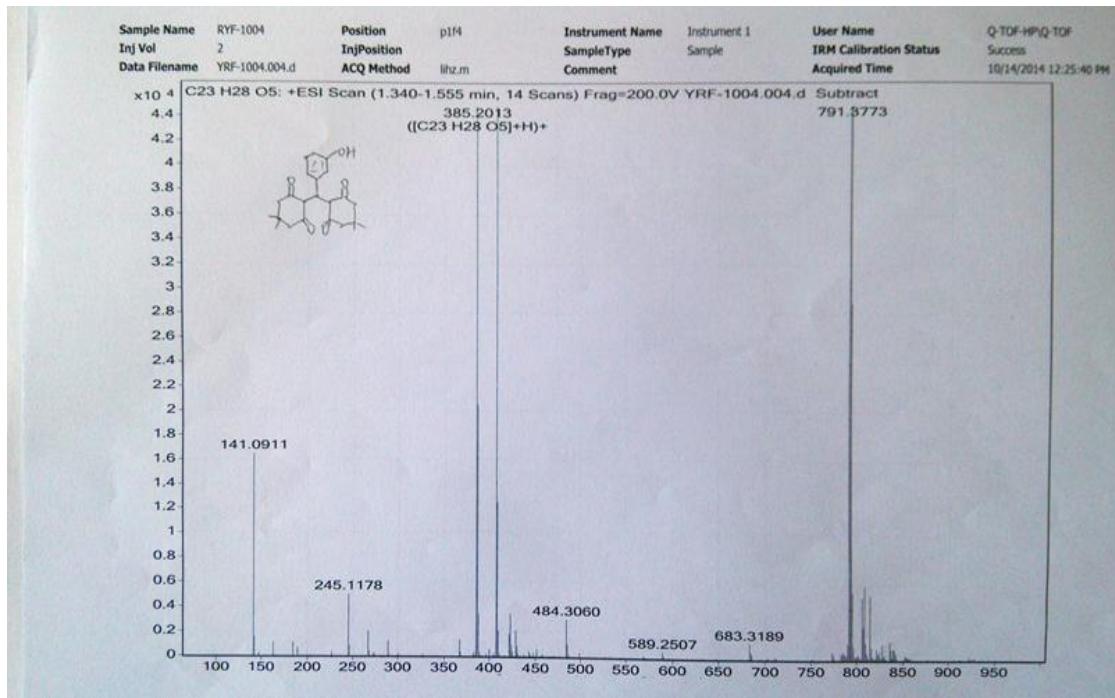
**3b.**



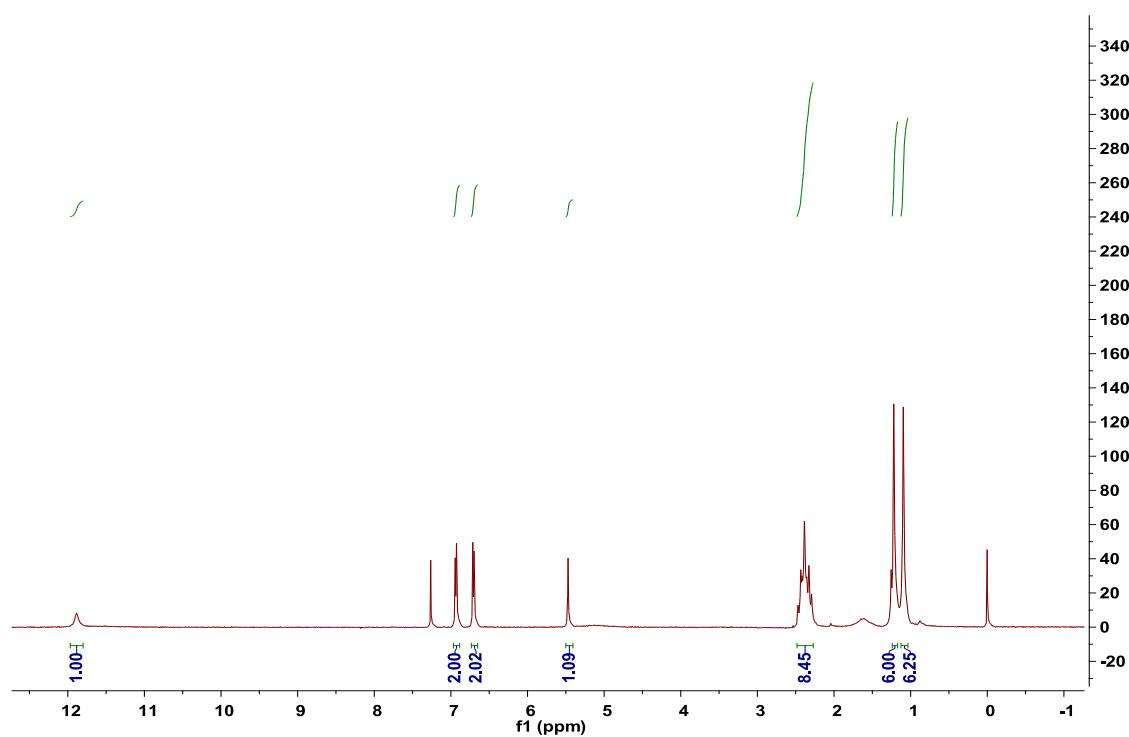
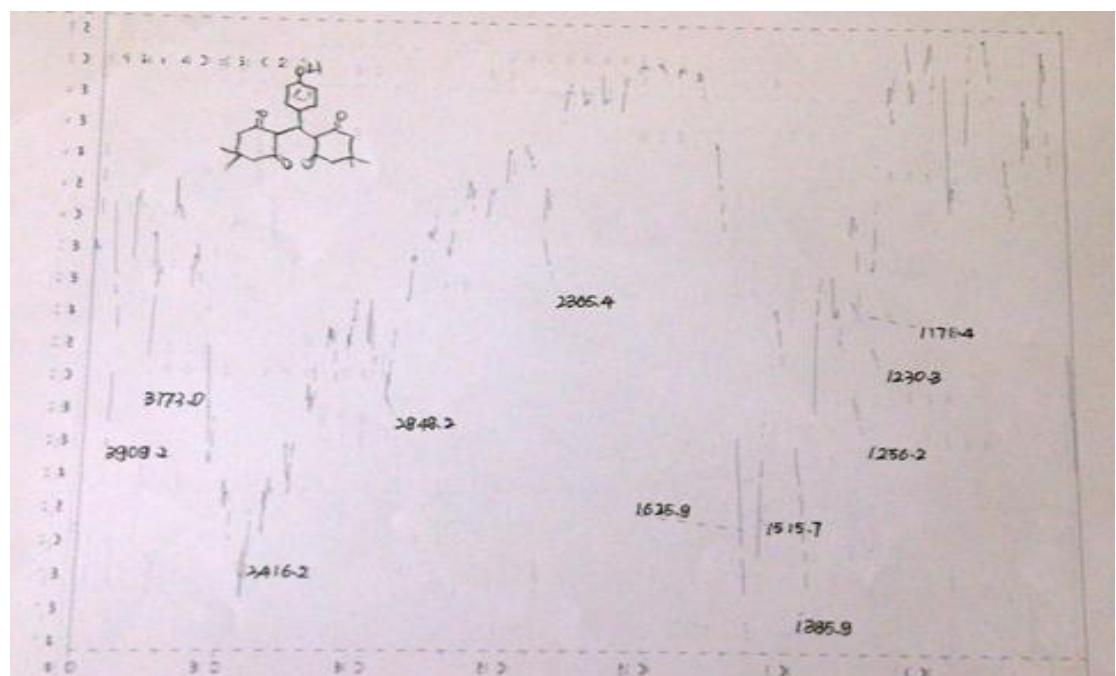
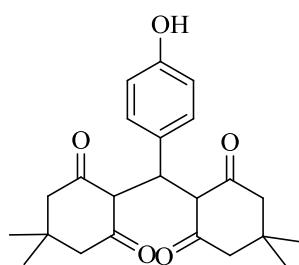


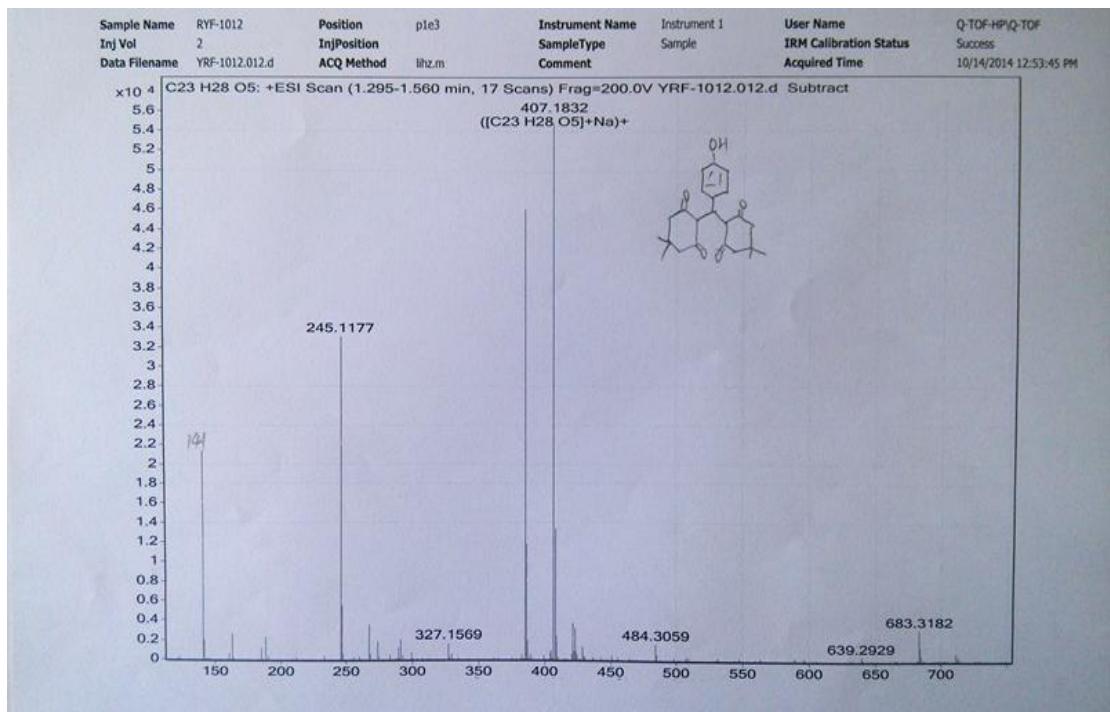
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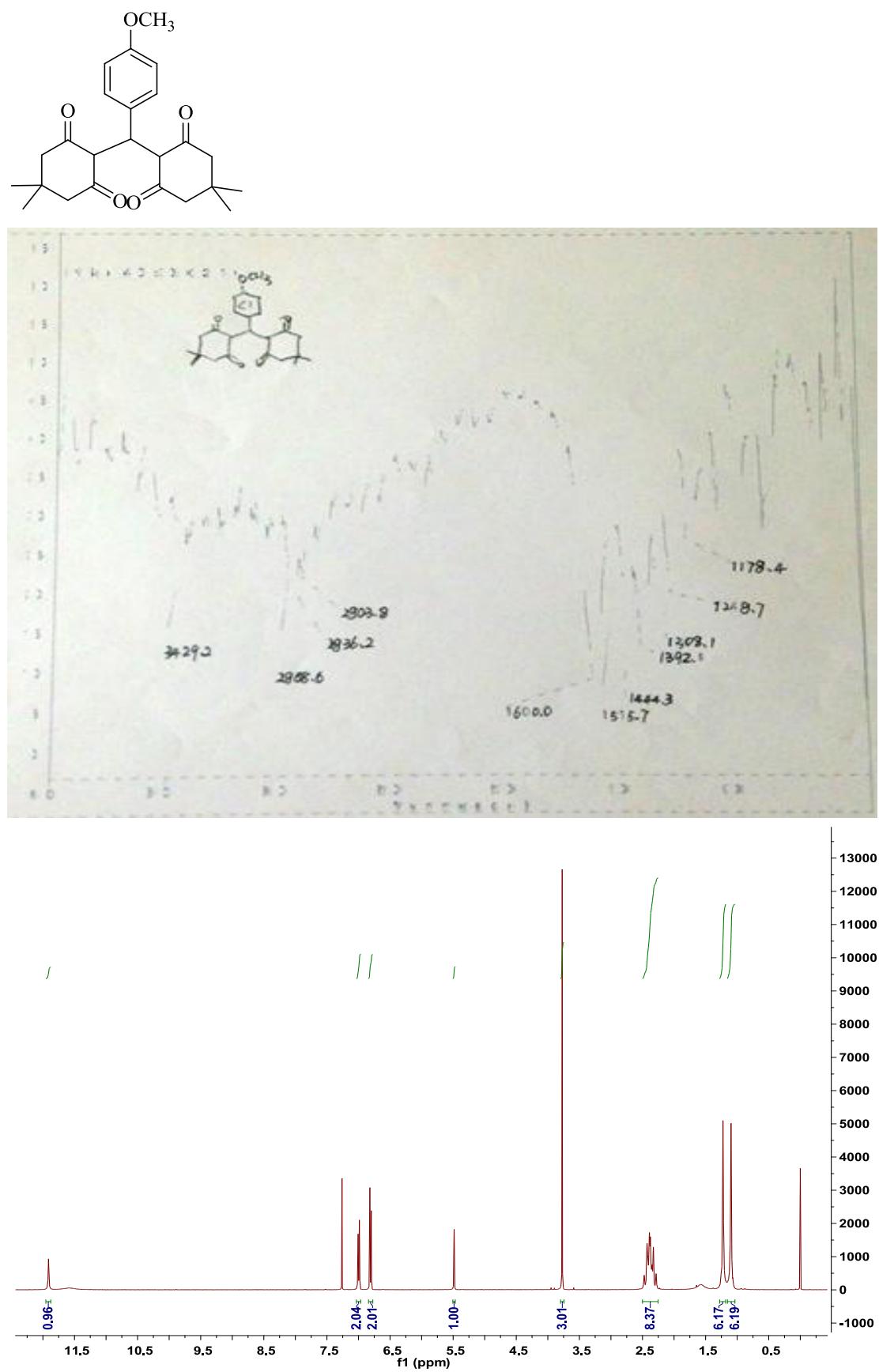


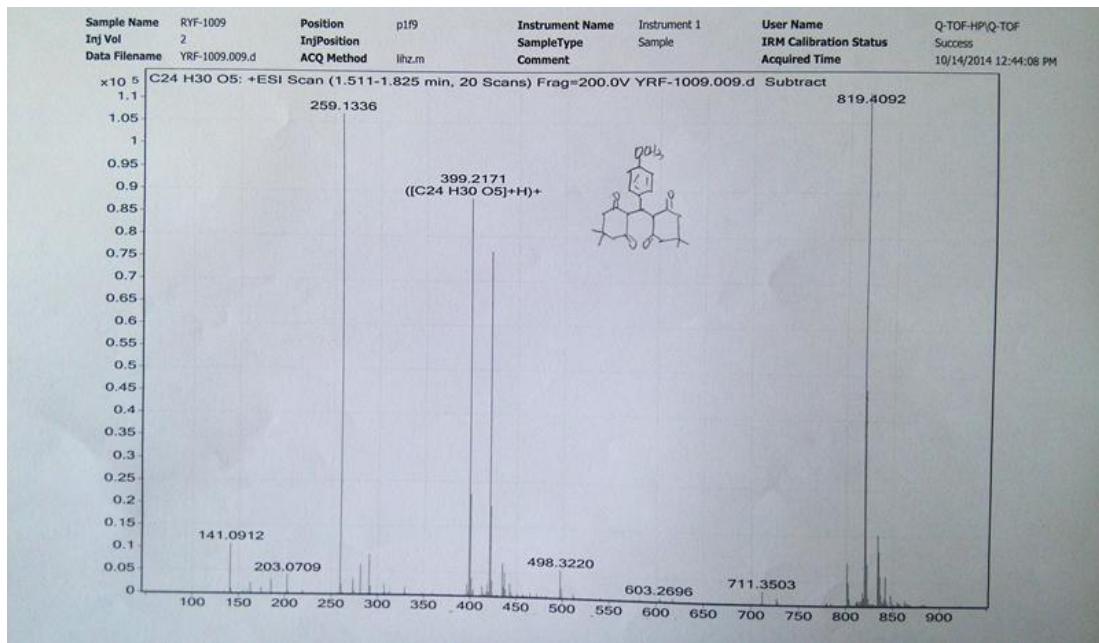
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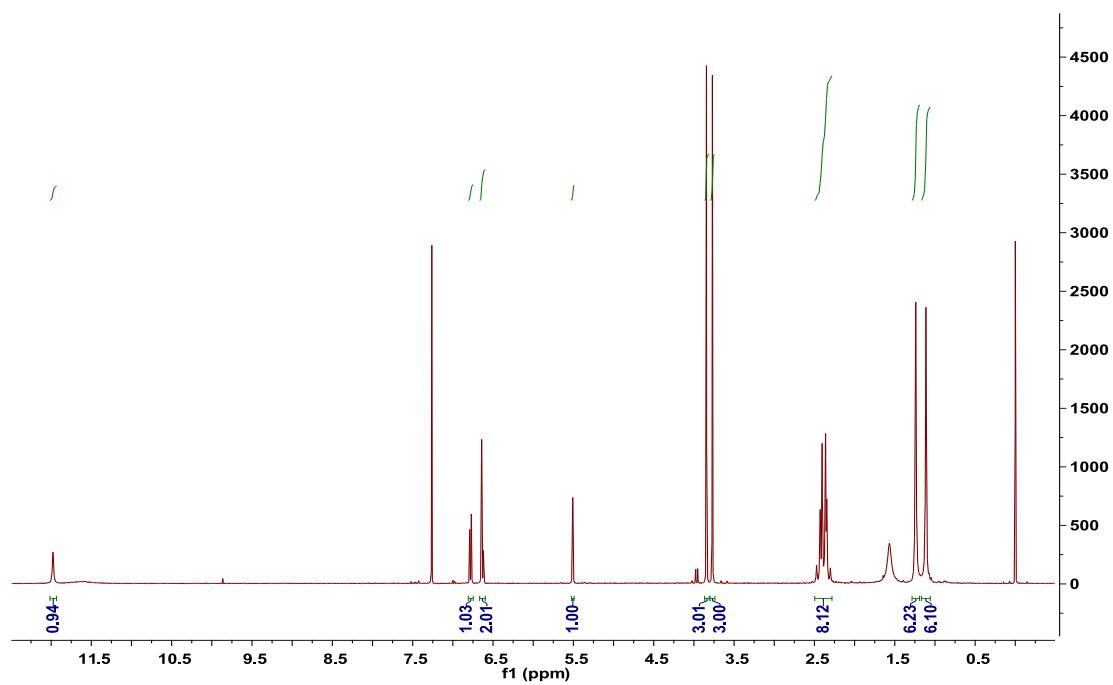
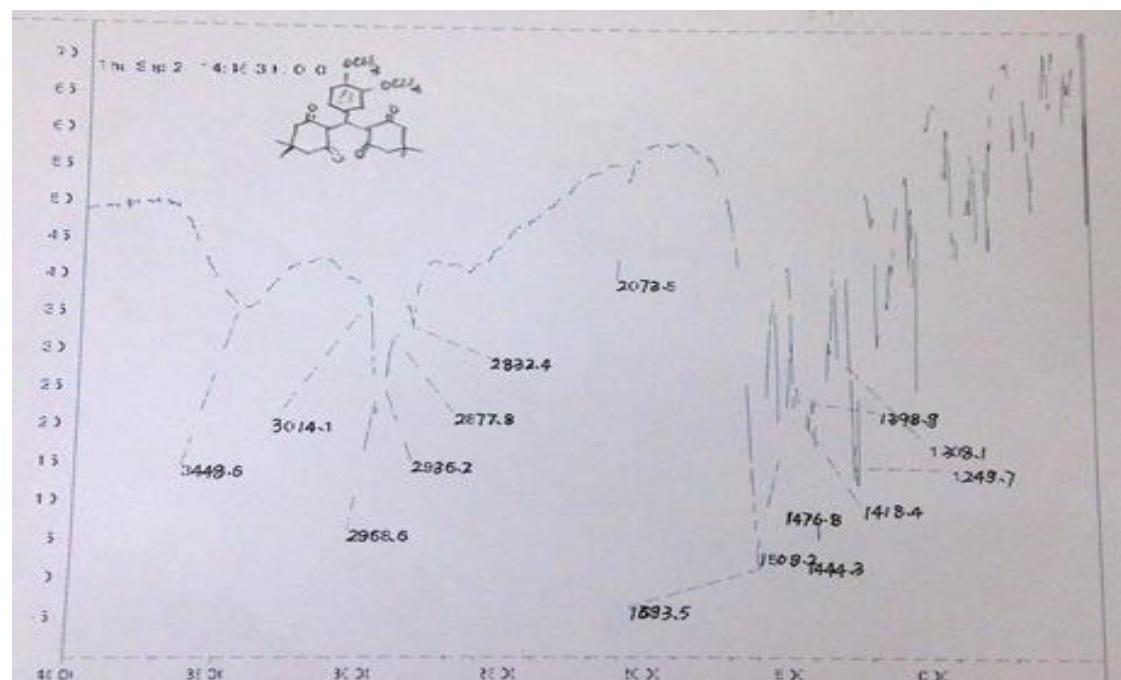
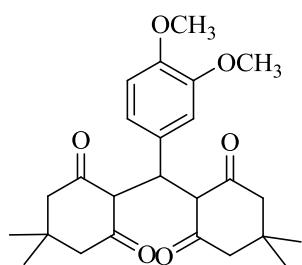


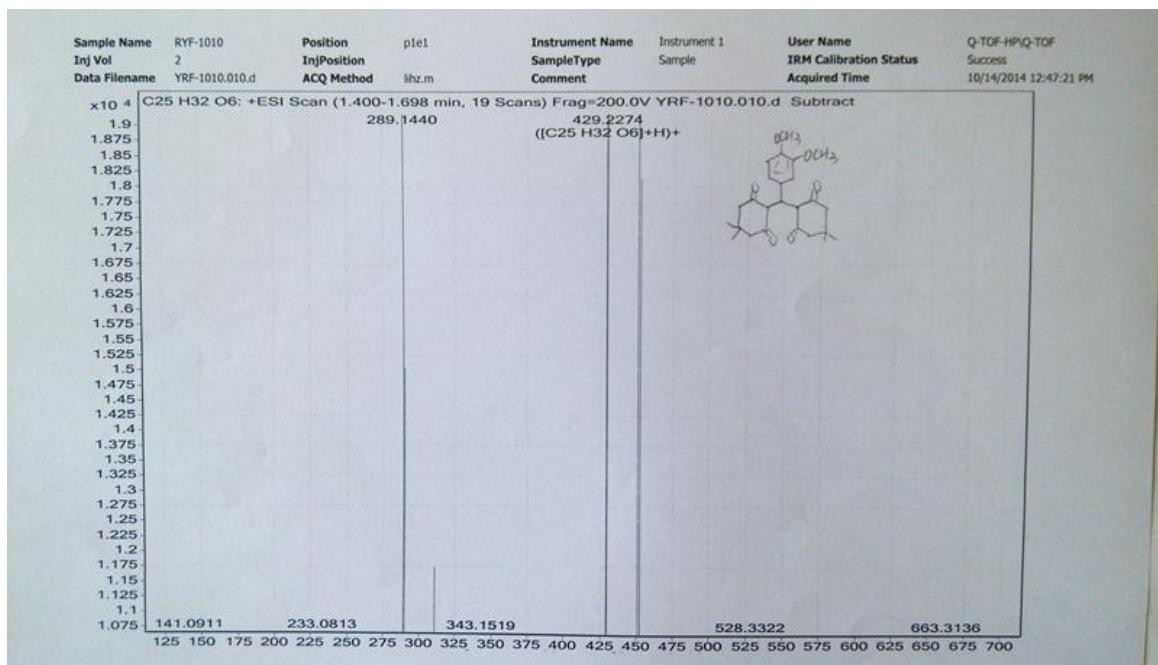
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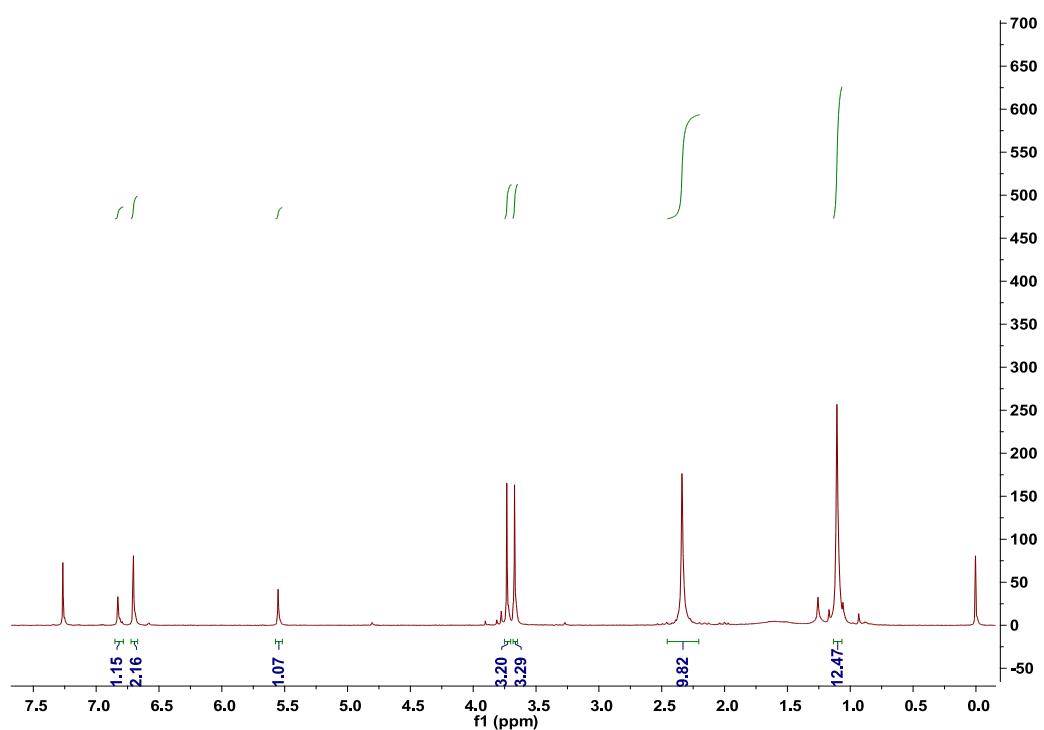
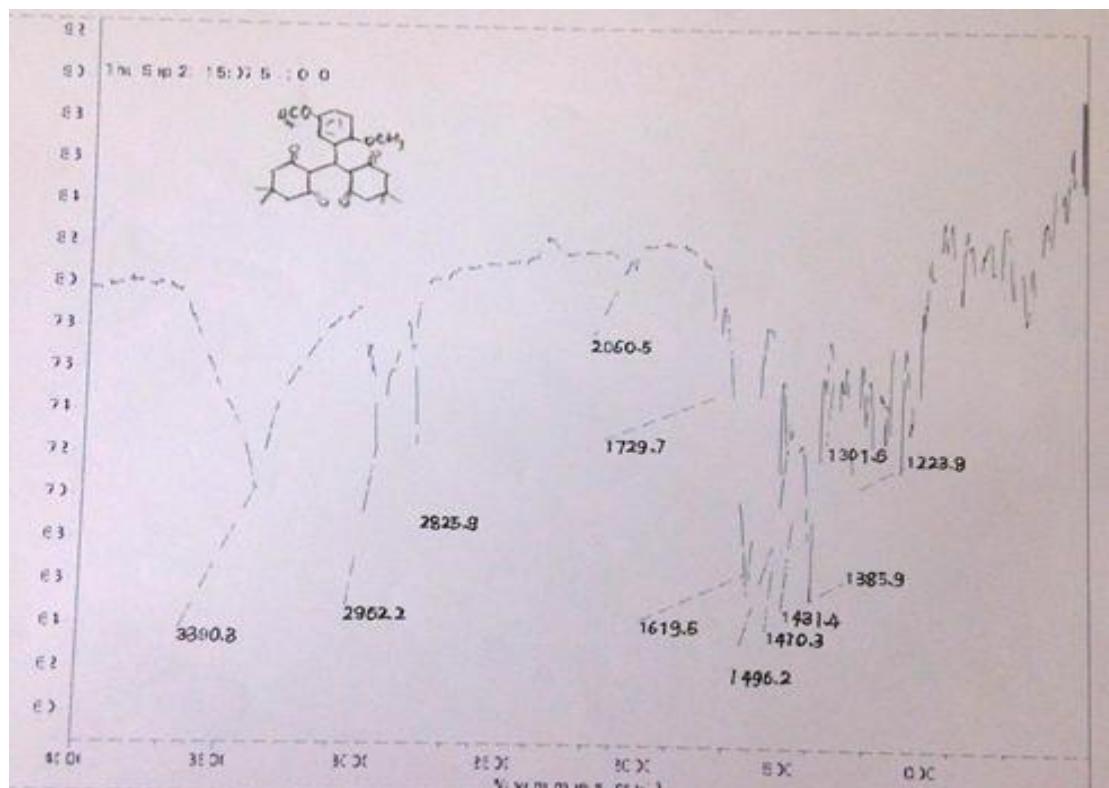
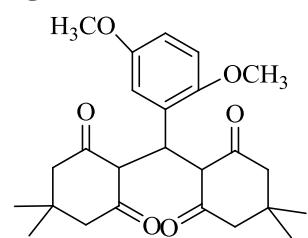


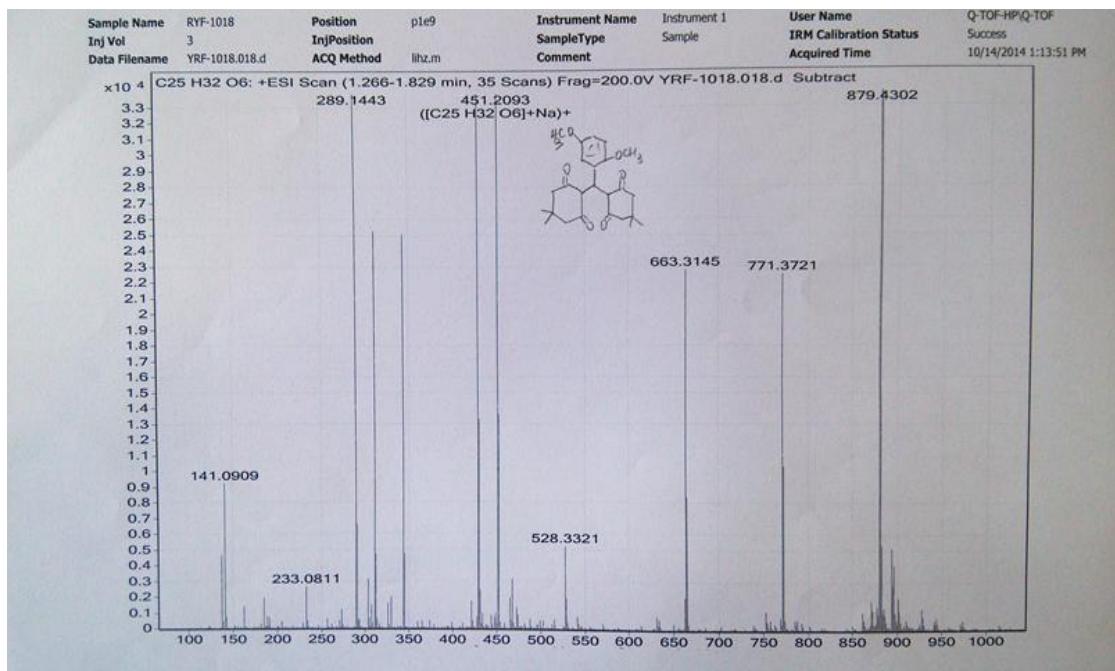
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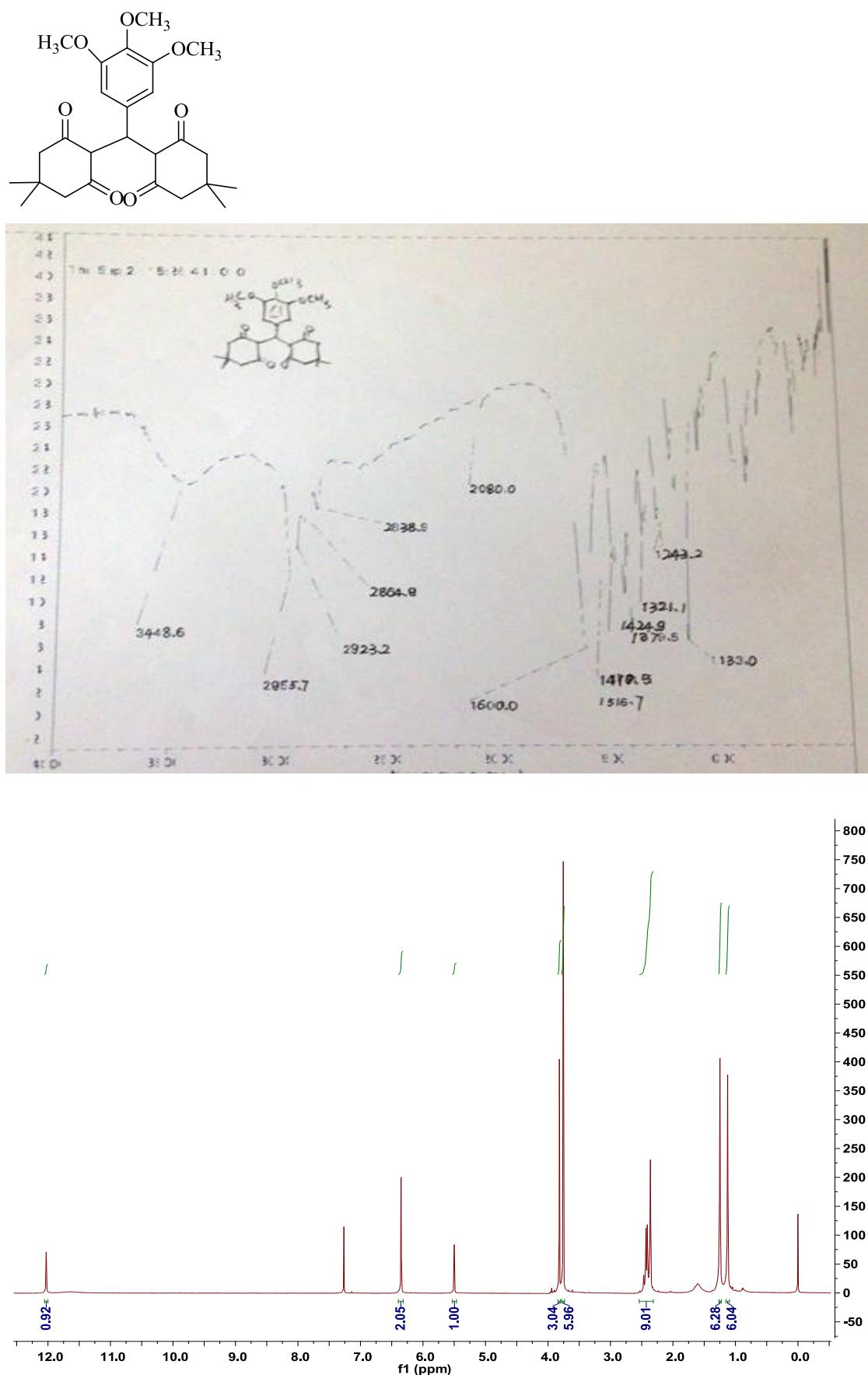


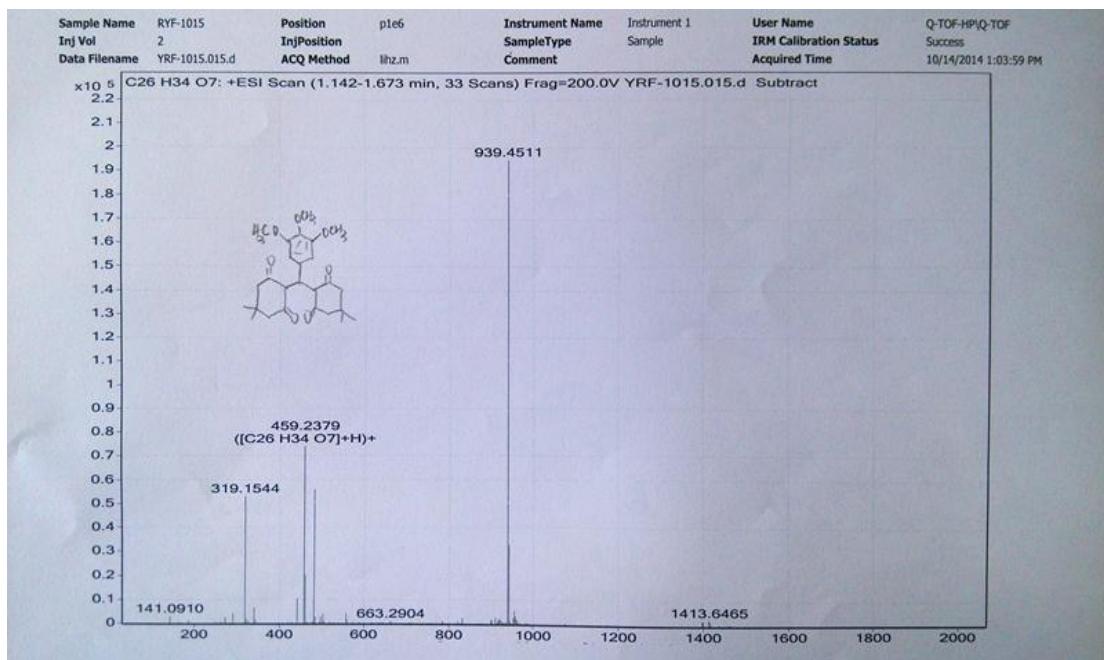
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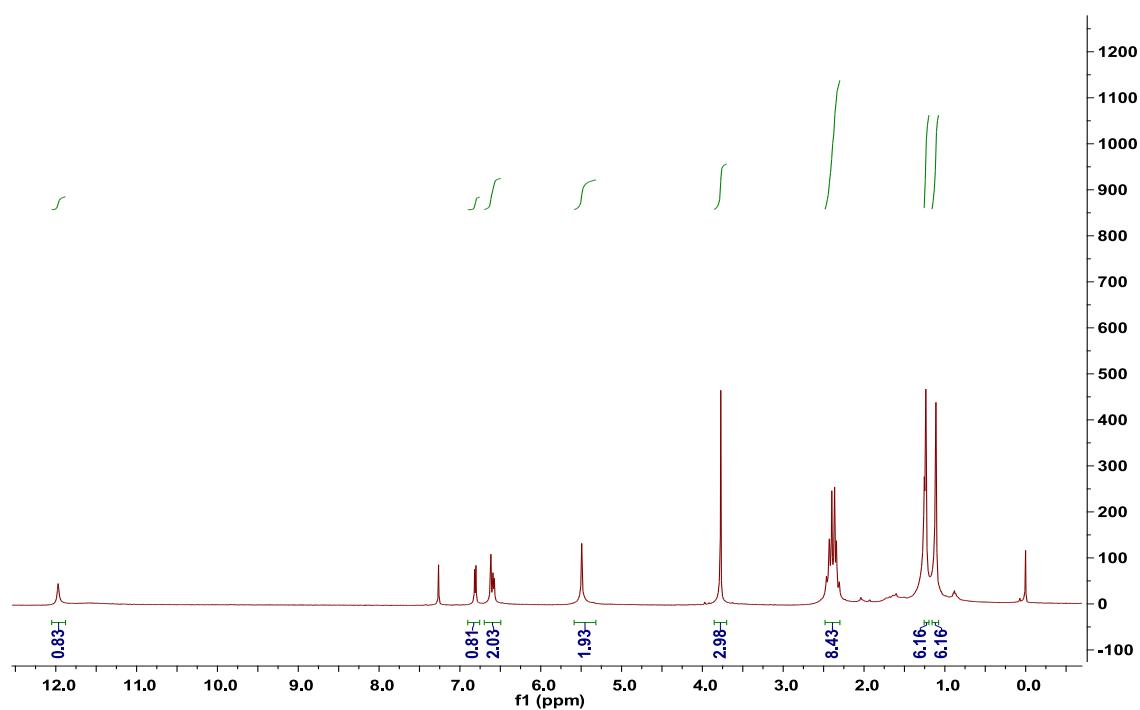
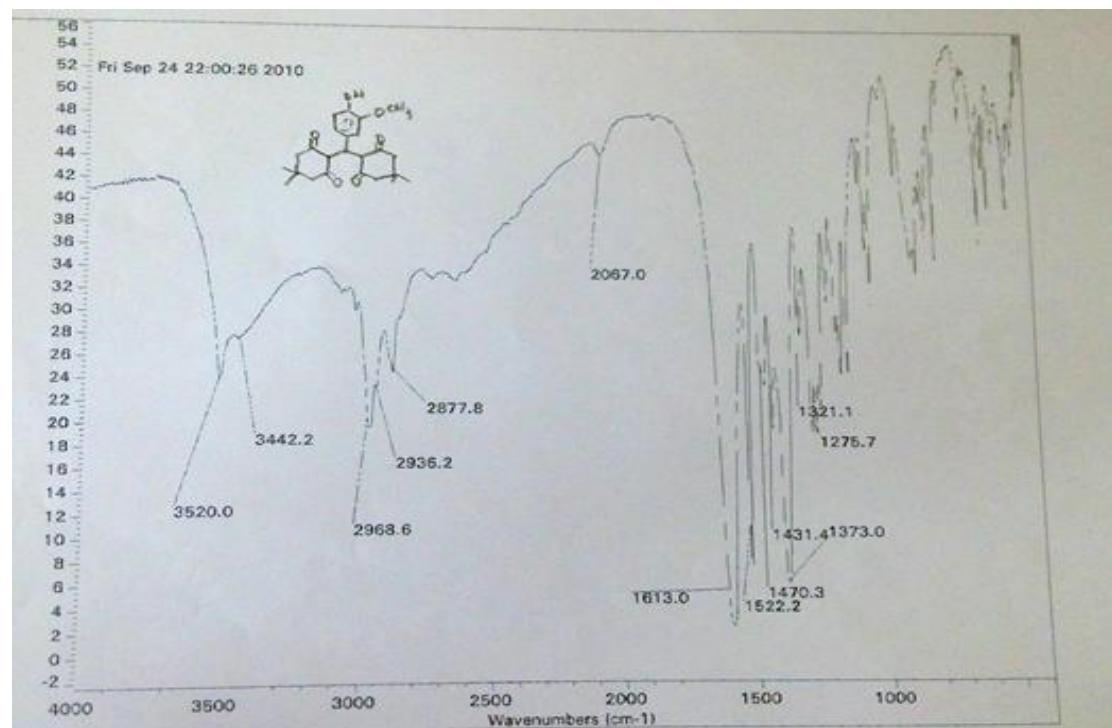
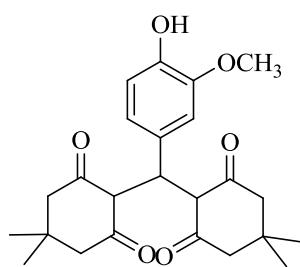


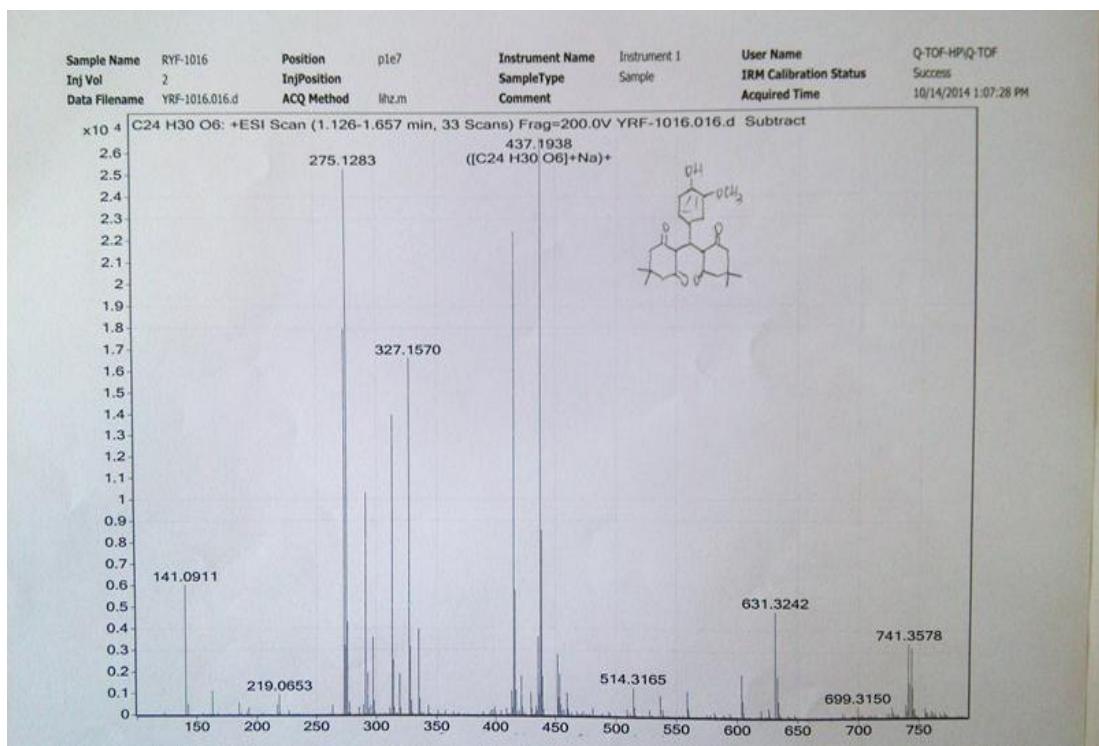
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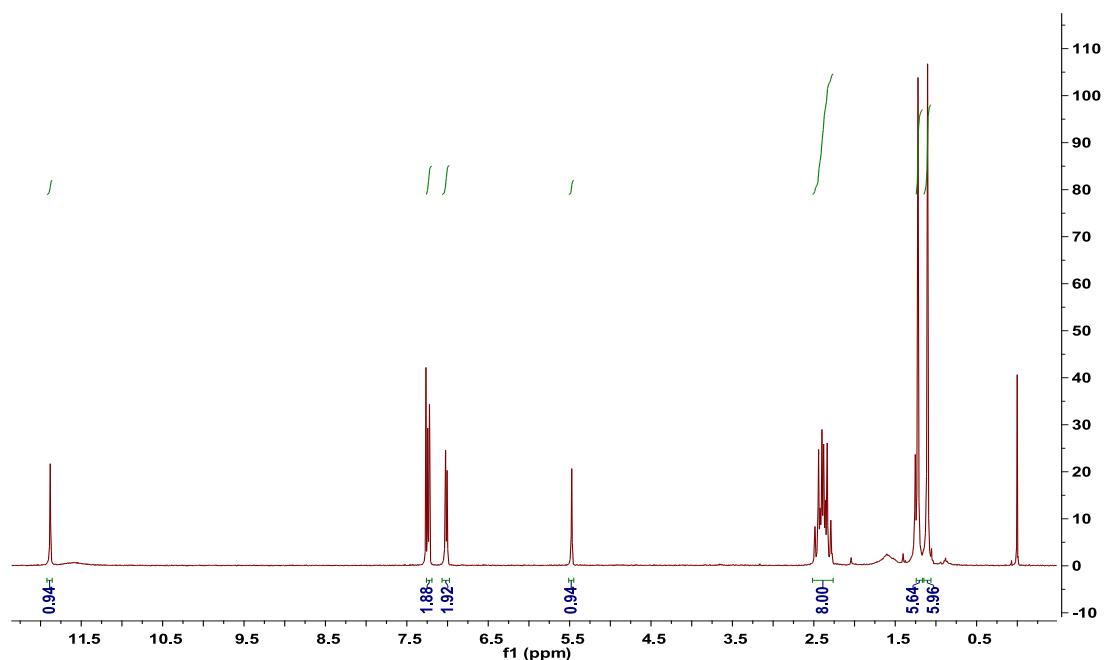
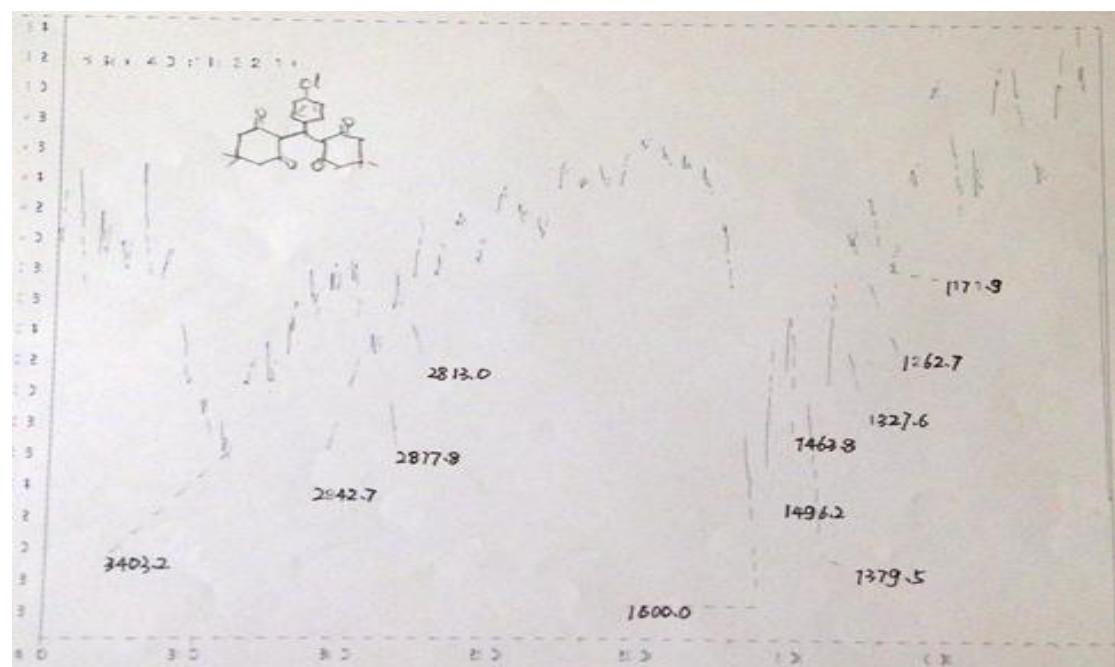
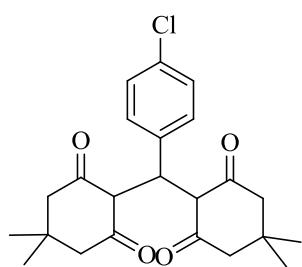


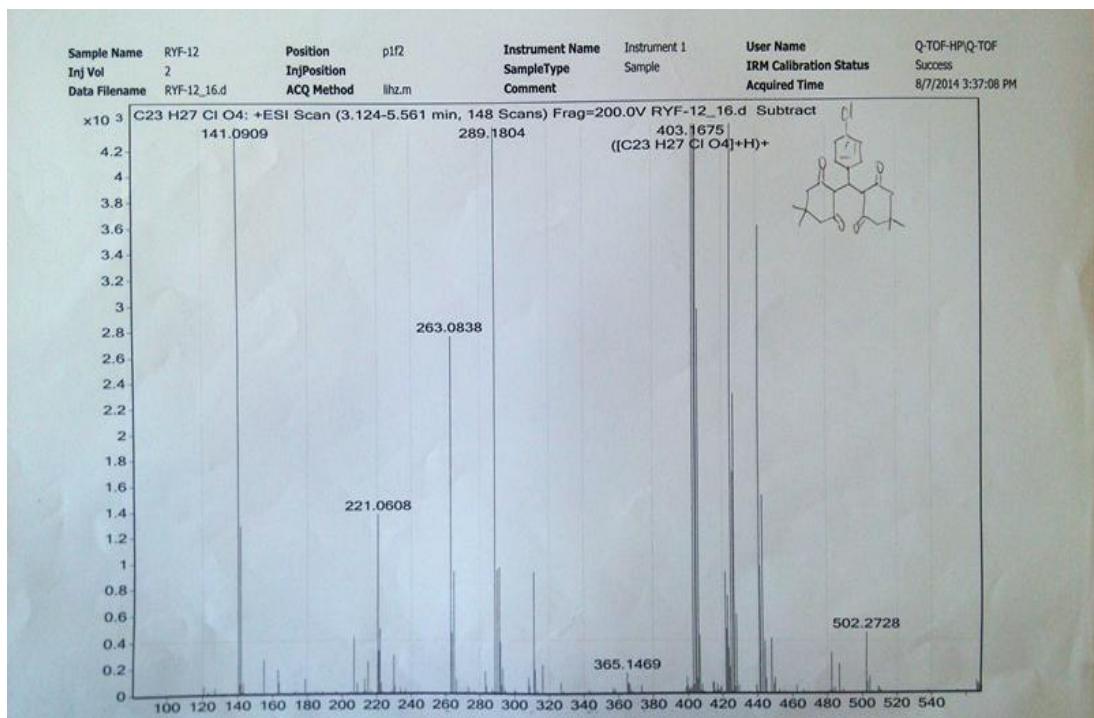
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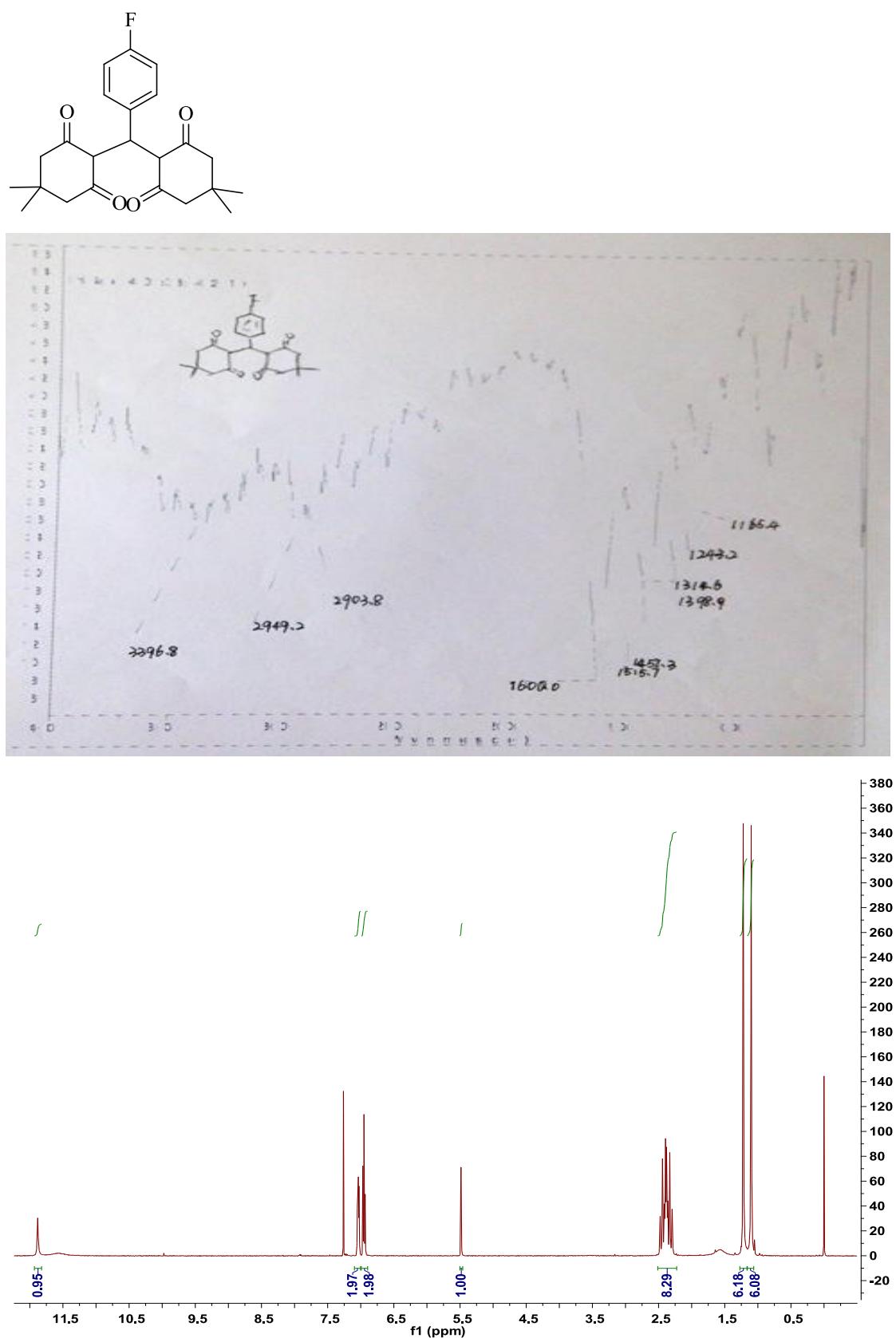


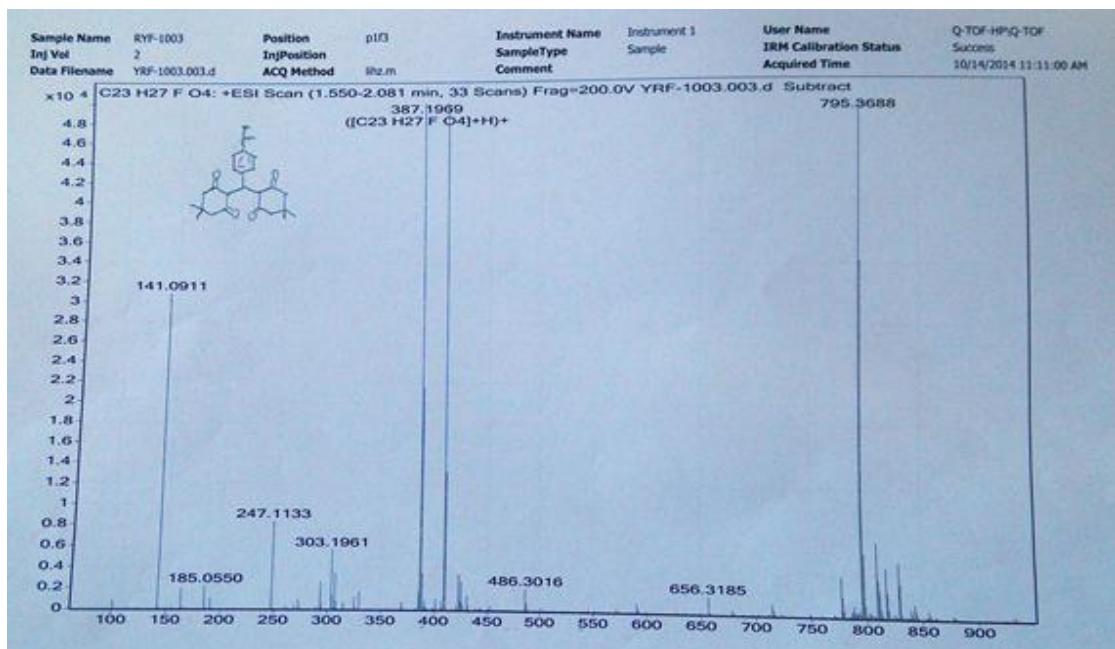
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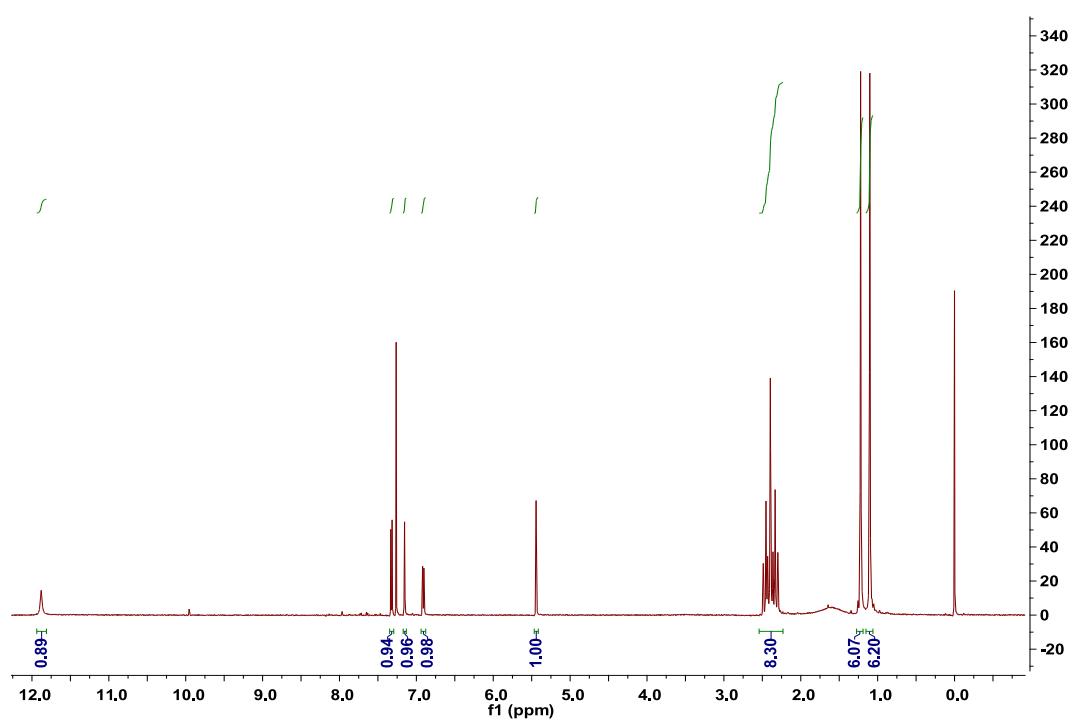
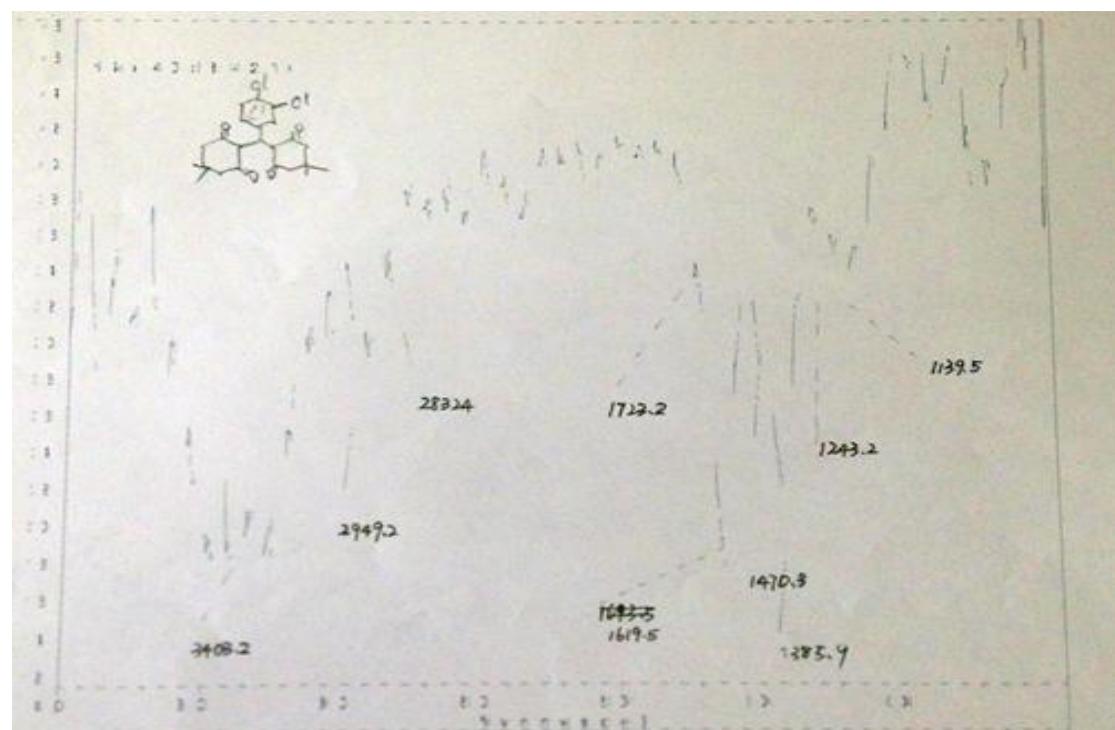
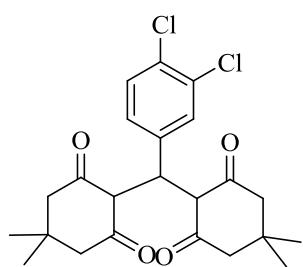


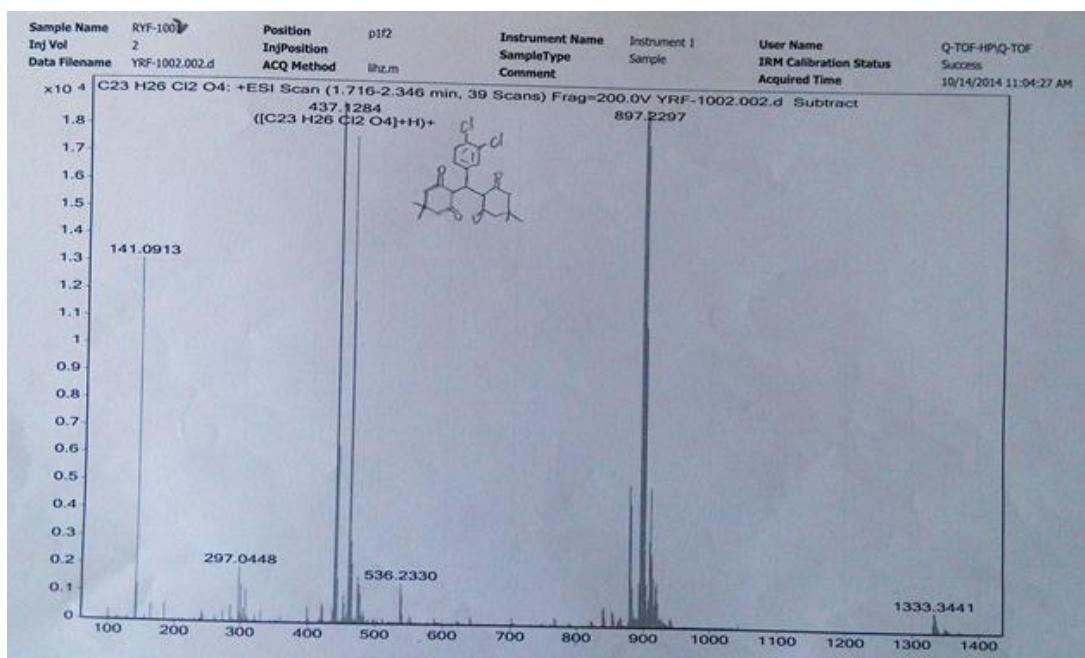
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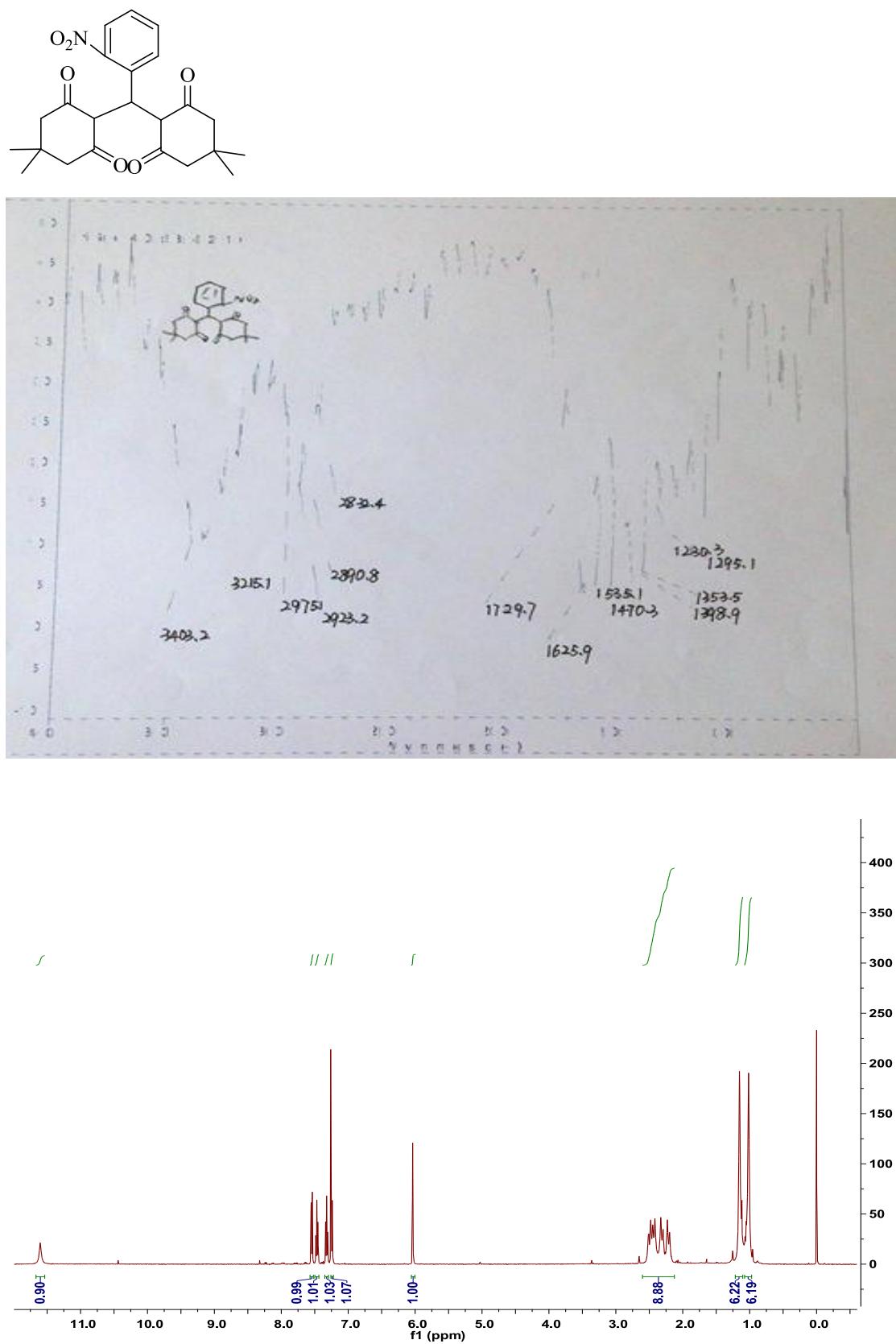


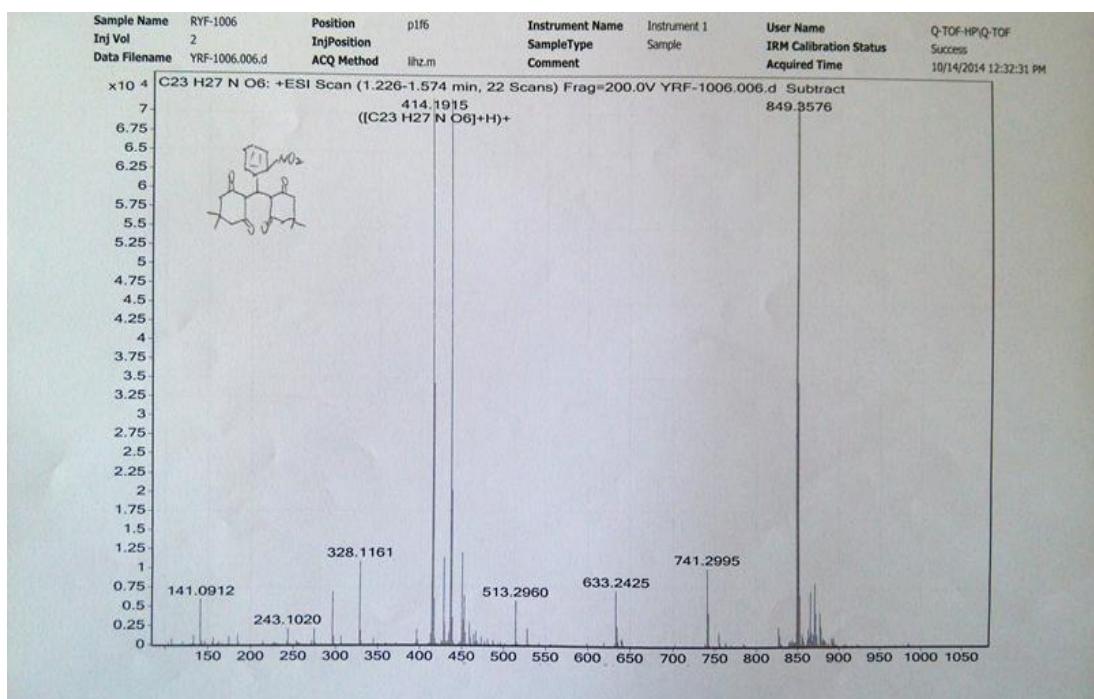
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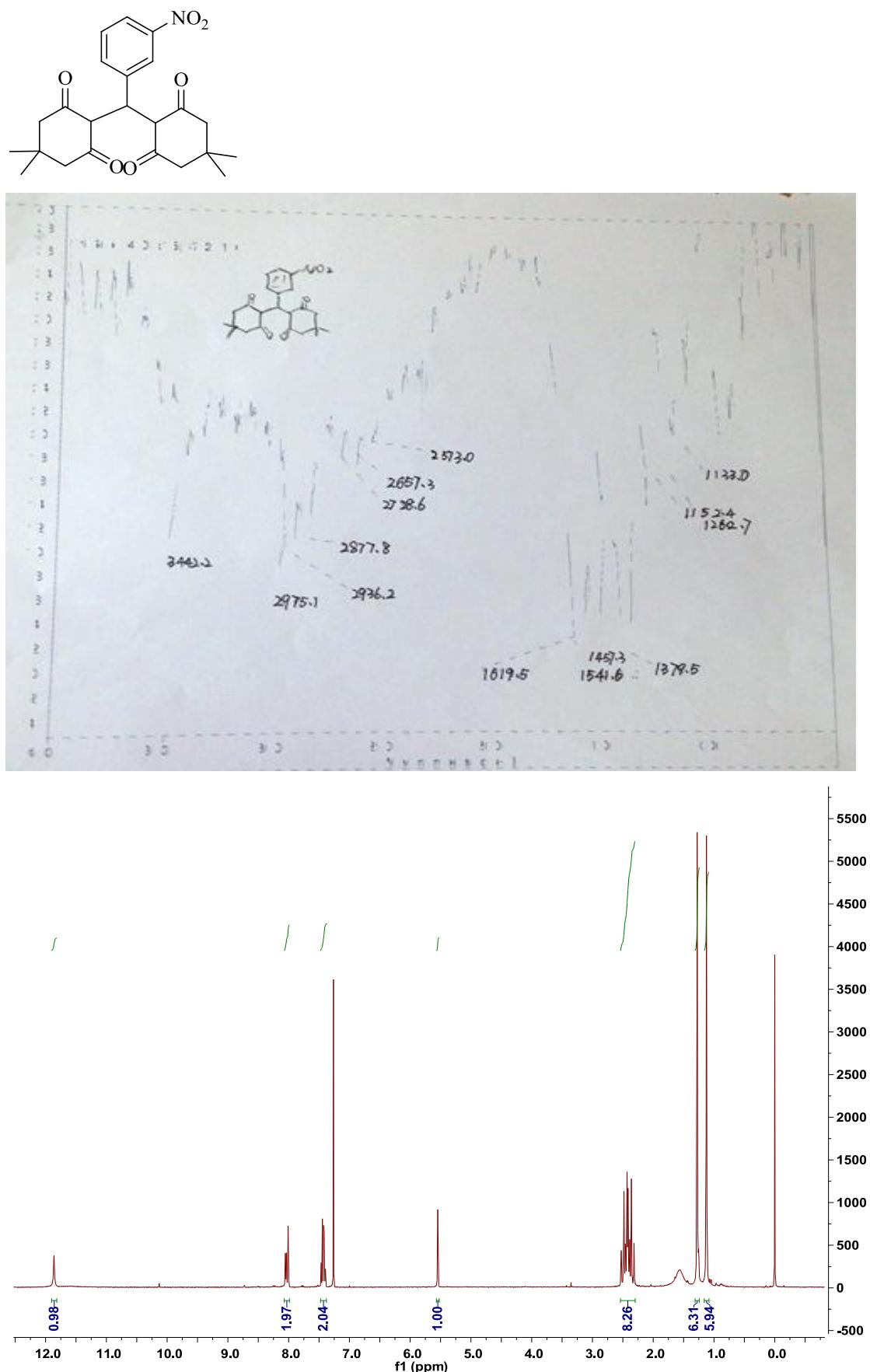


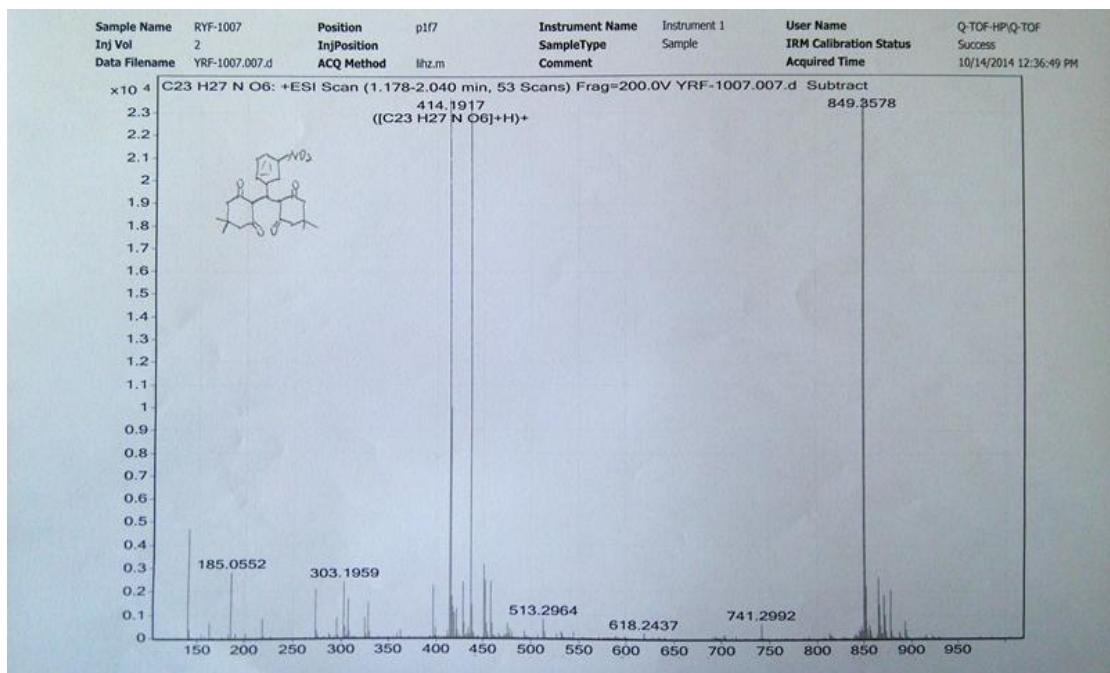
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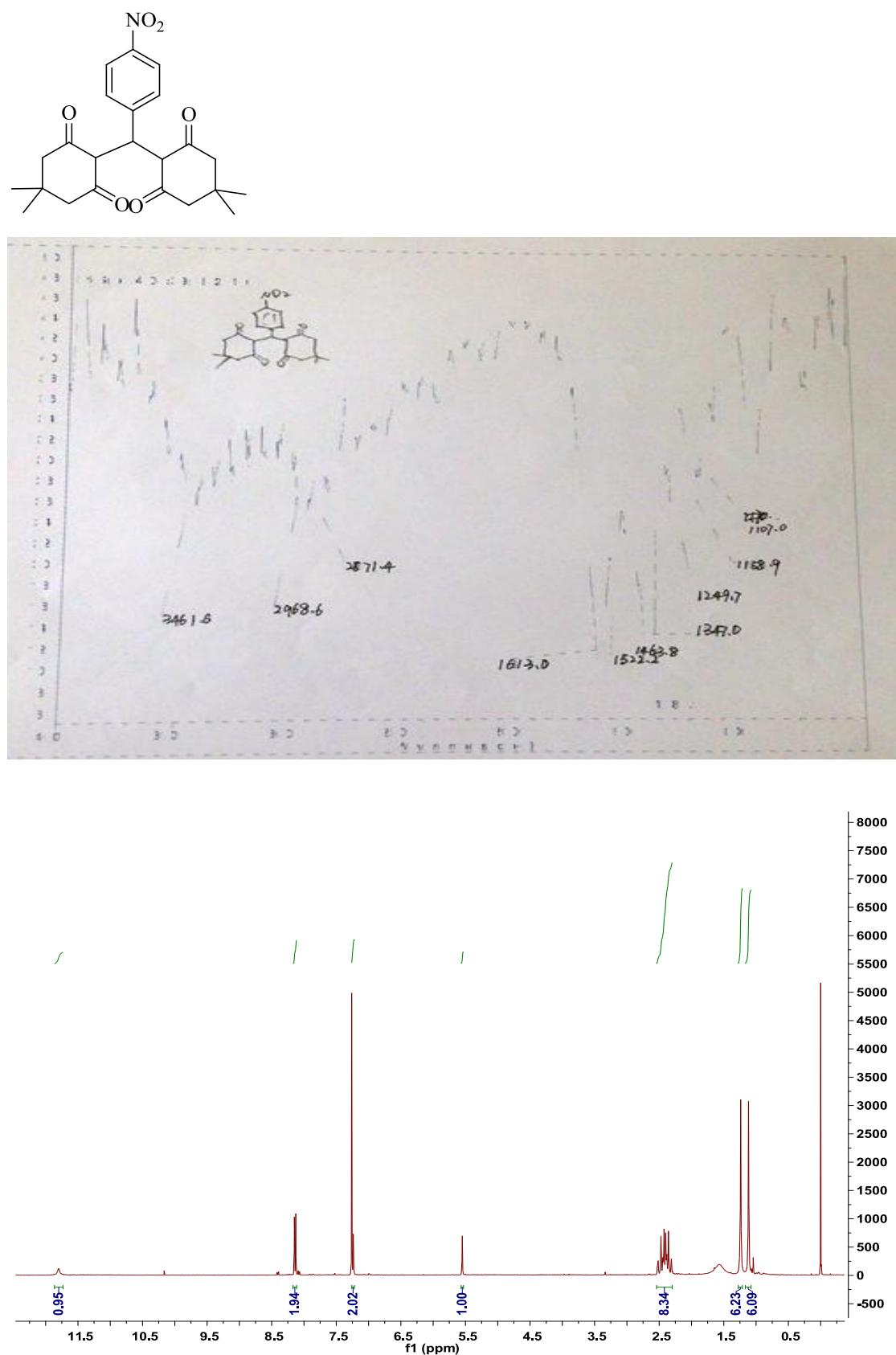


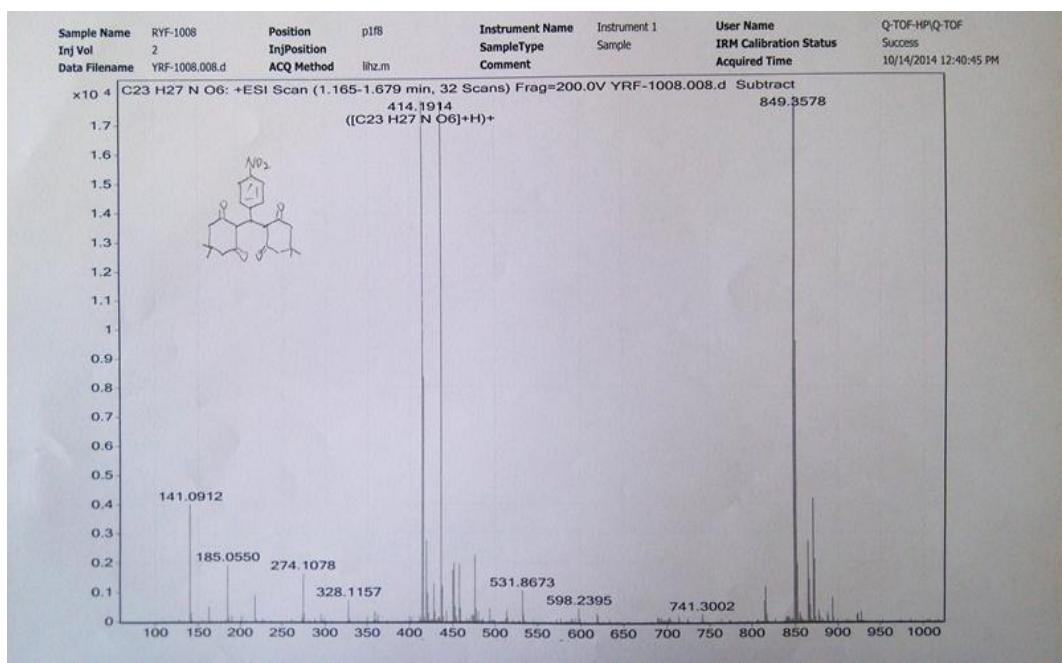
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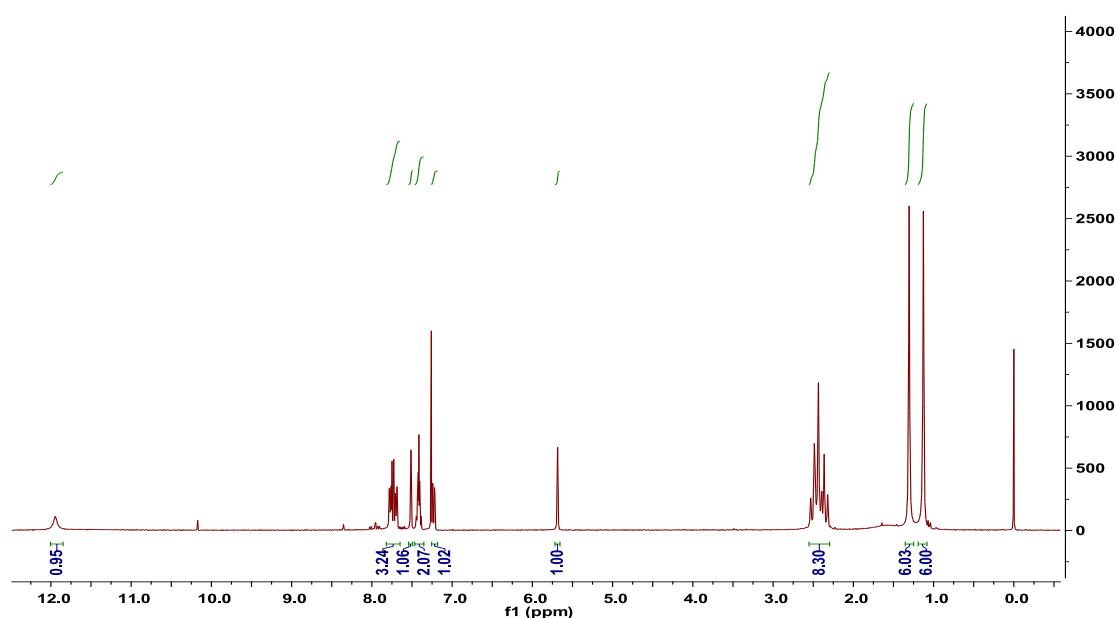
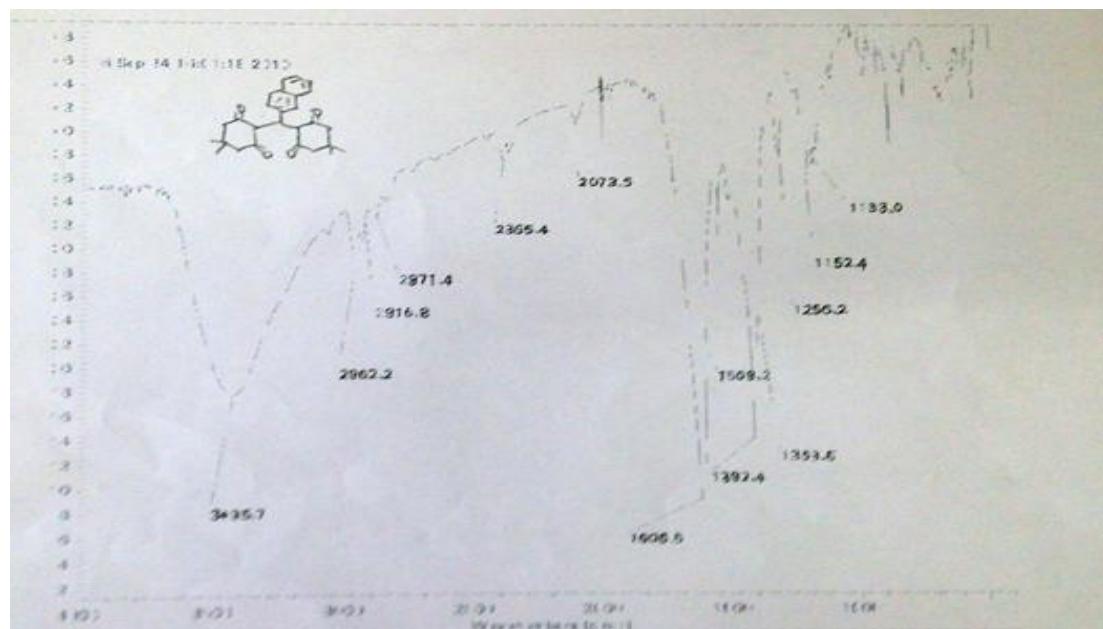
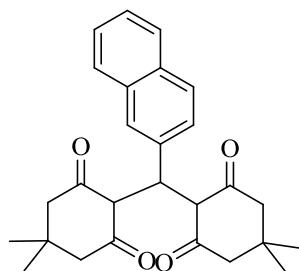


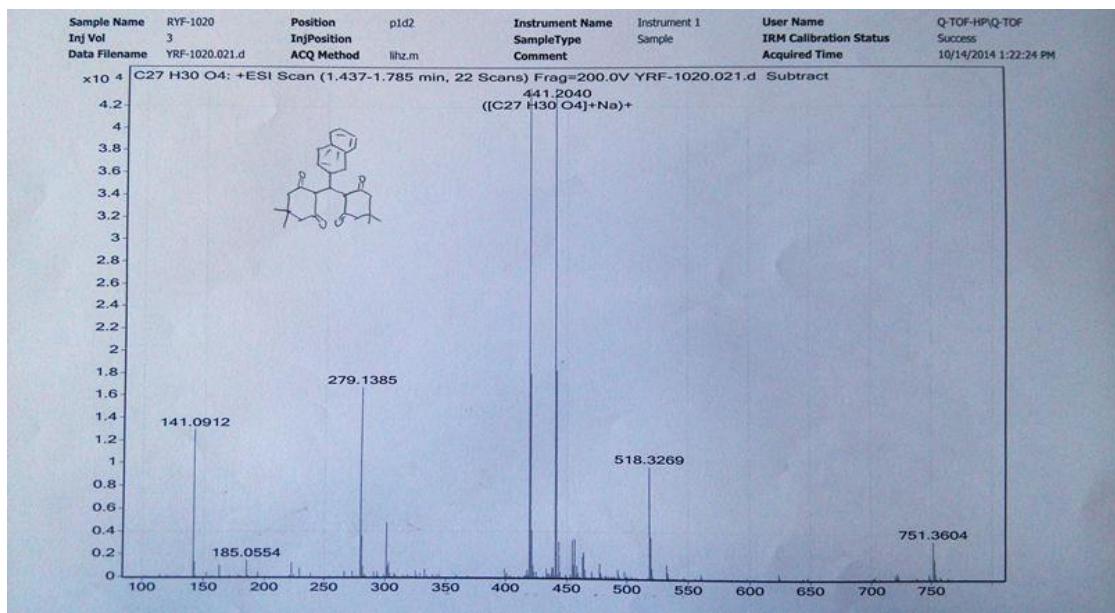
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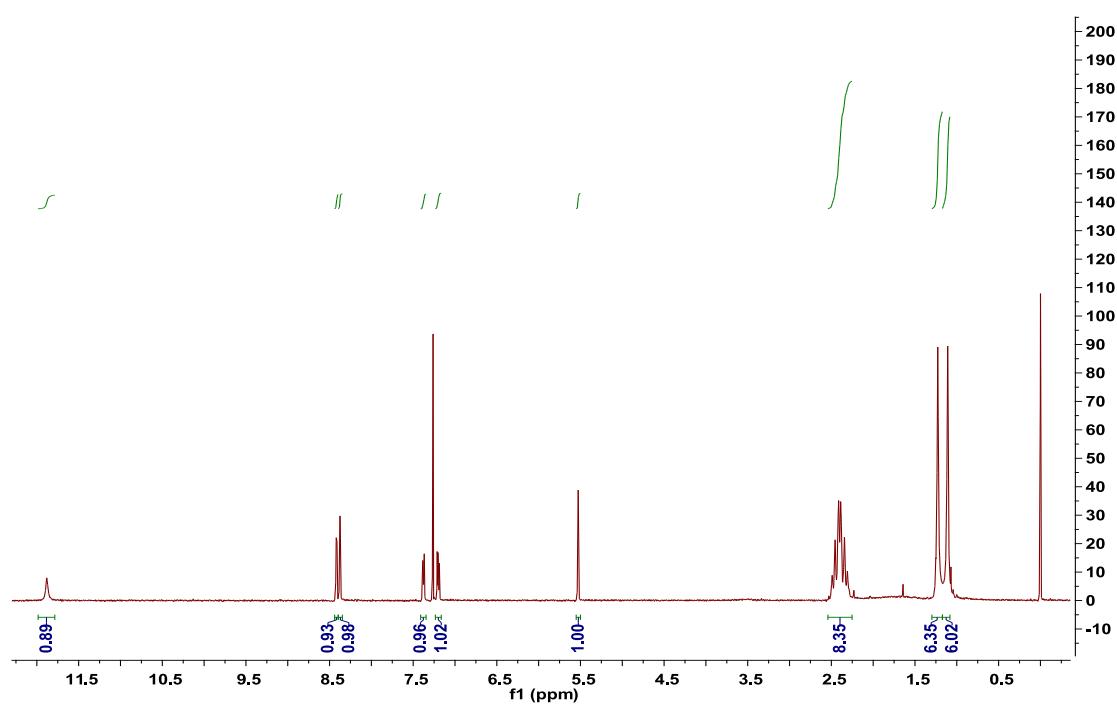
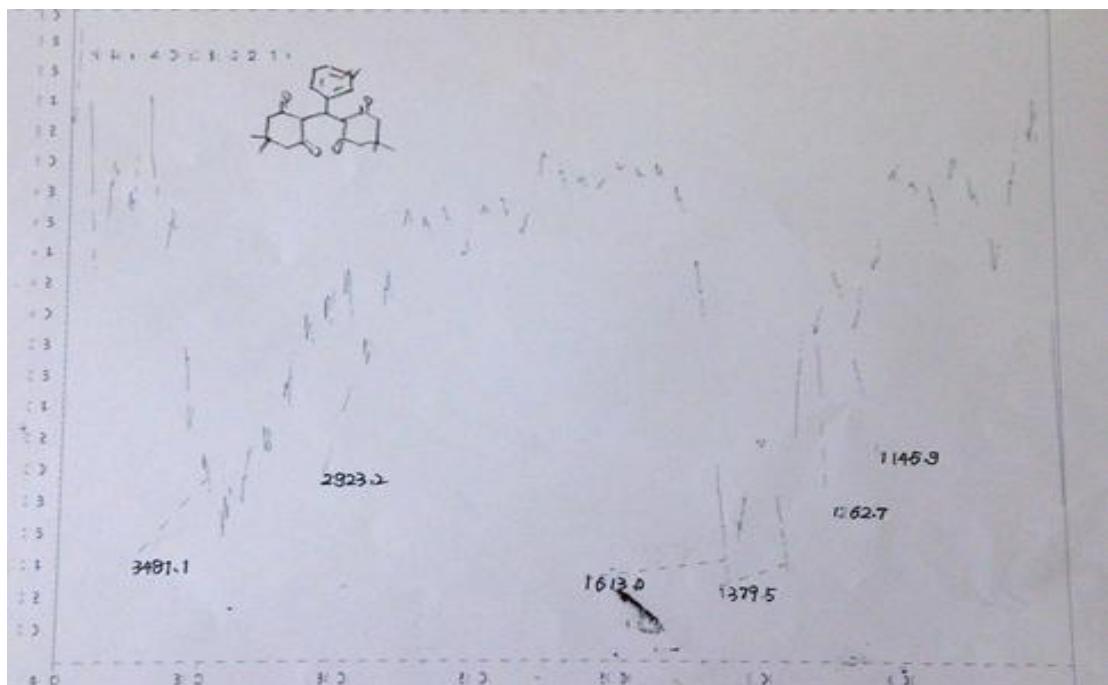
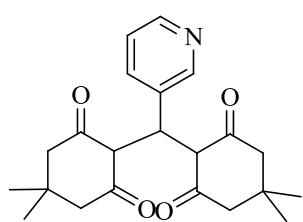


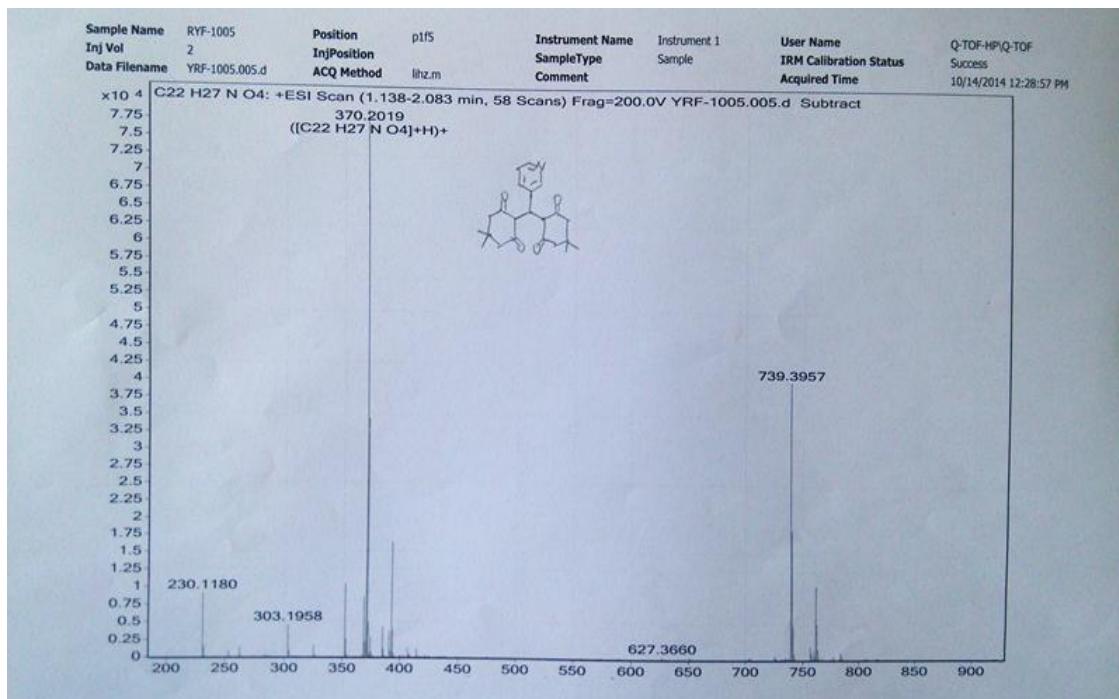
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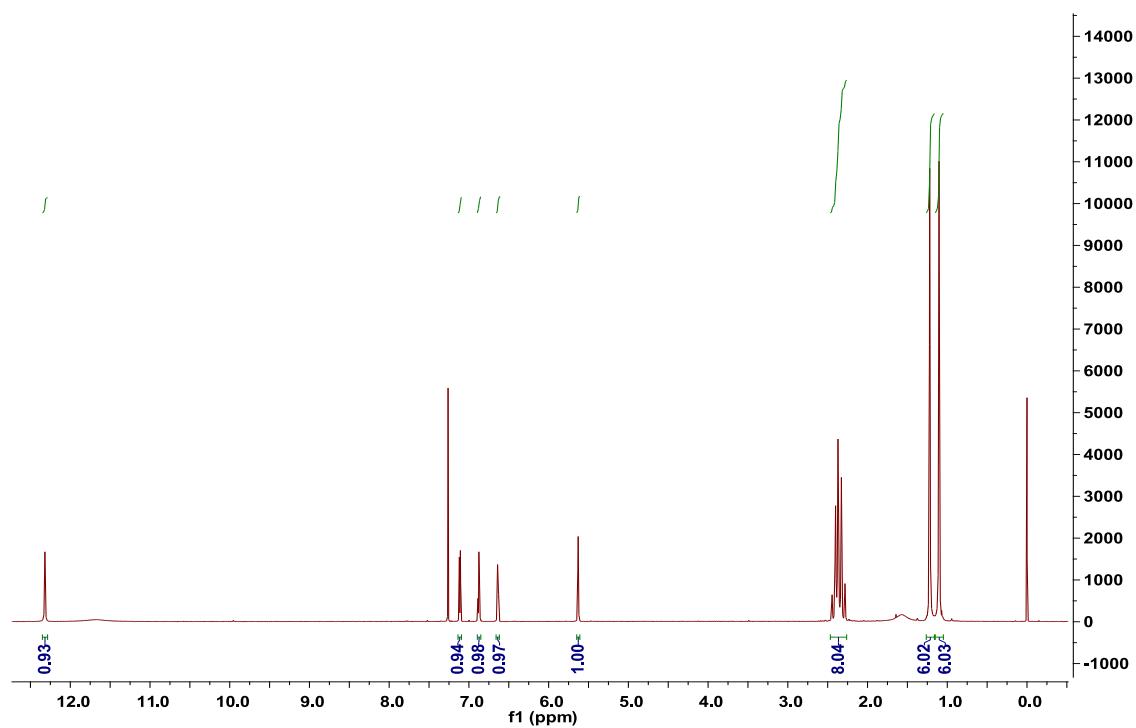
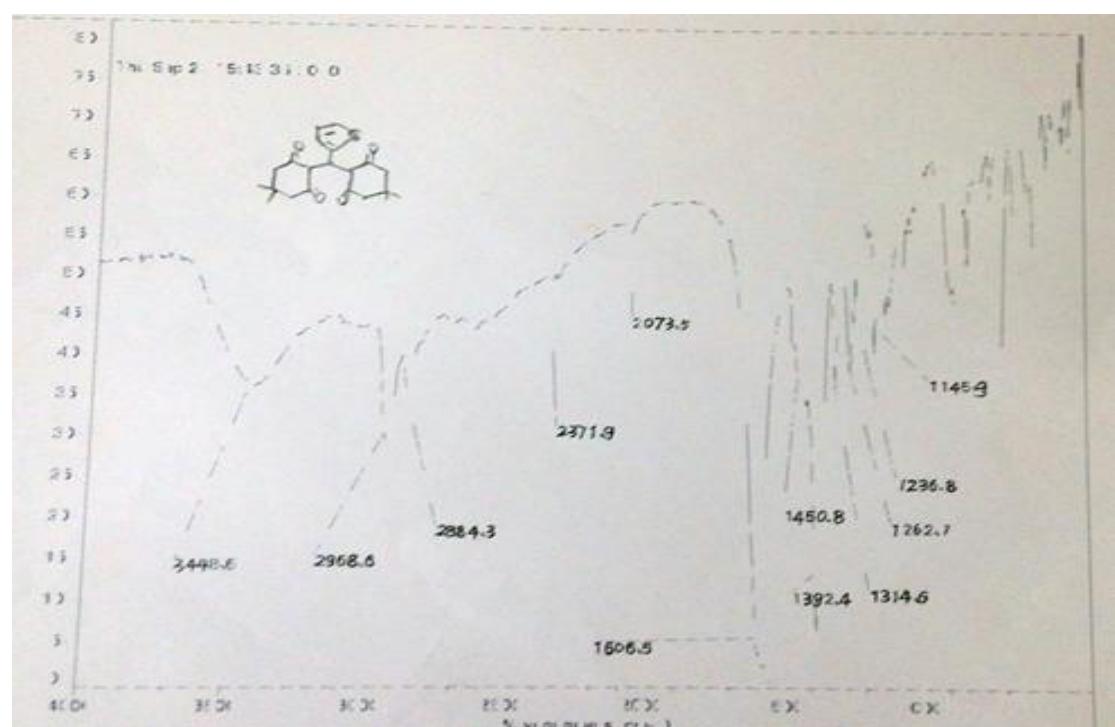
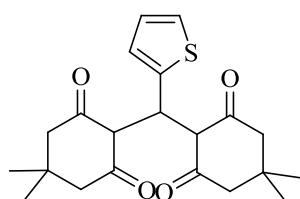


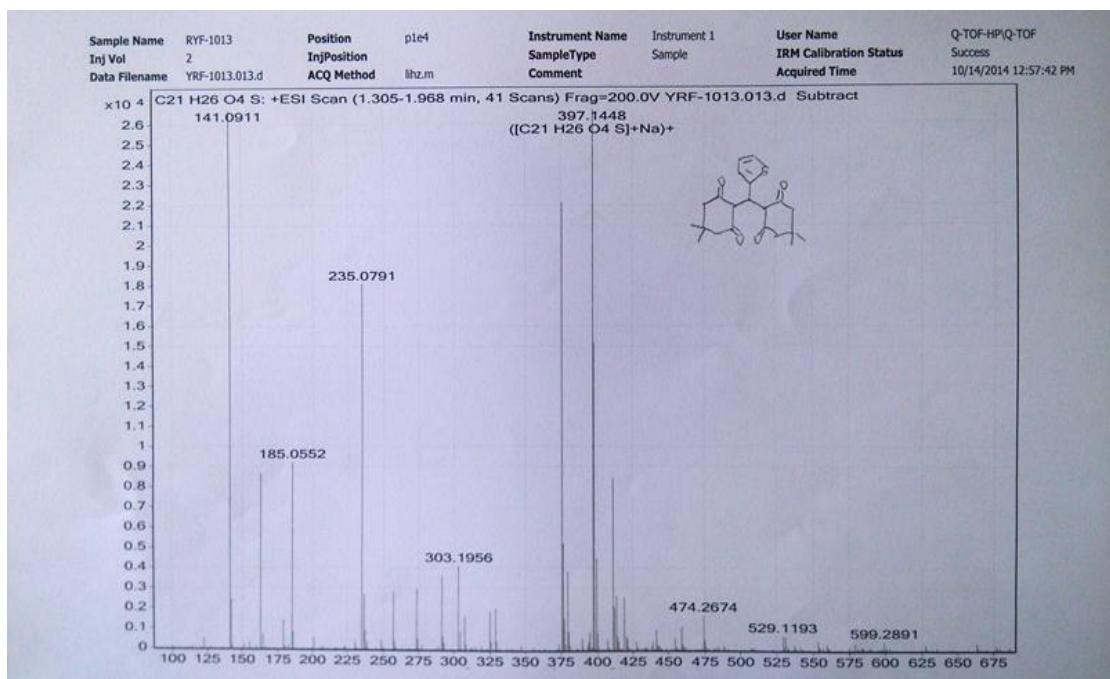
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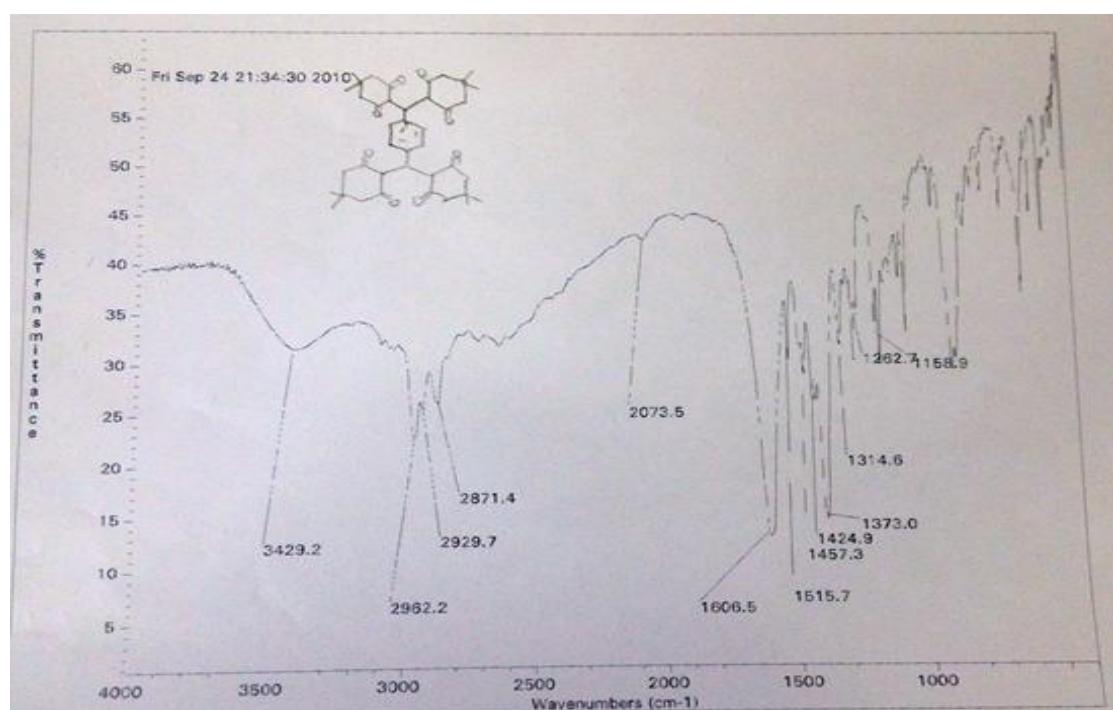
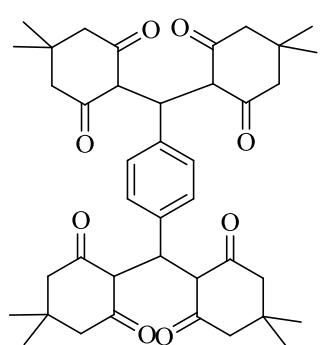


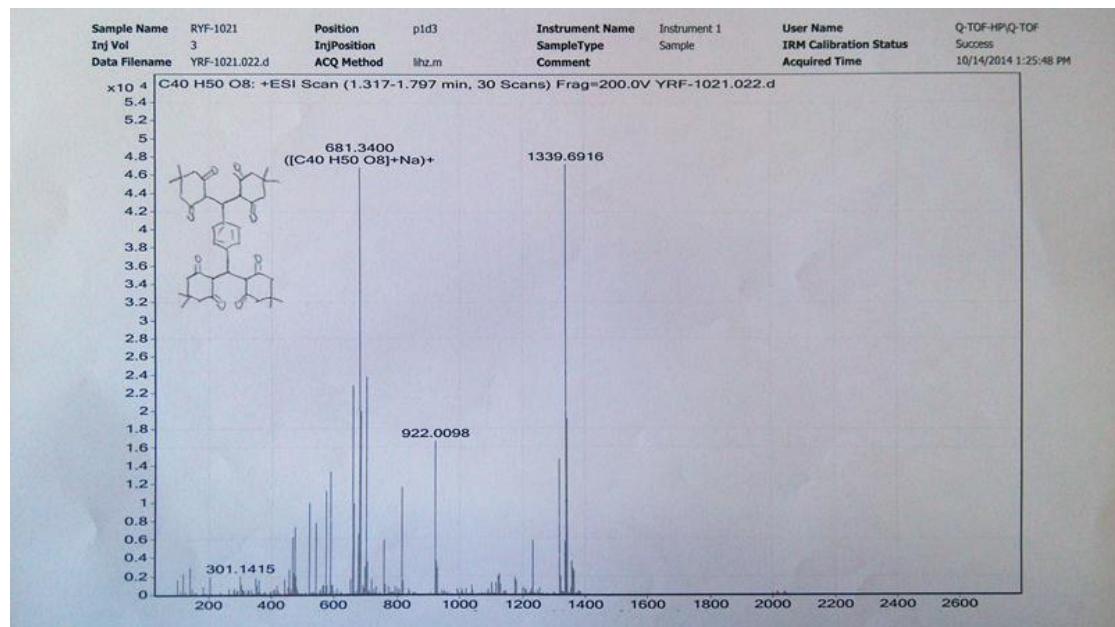
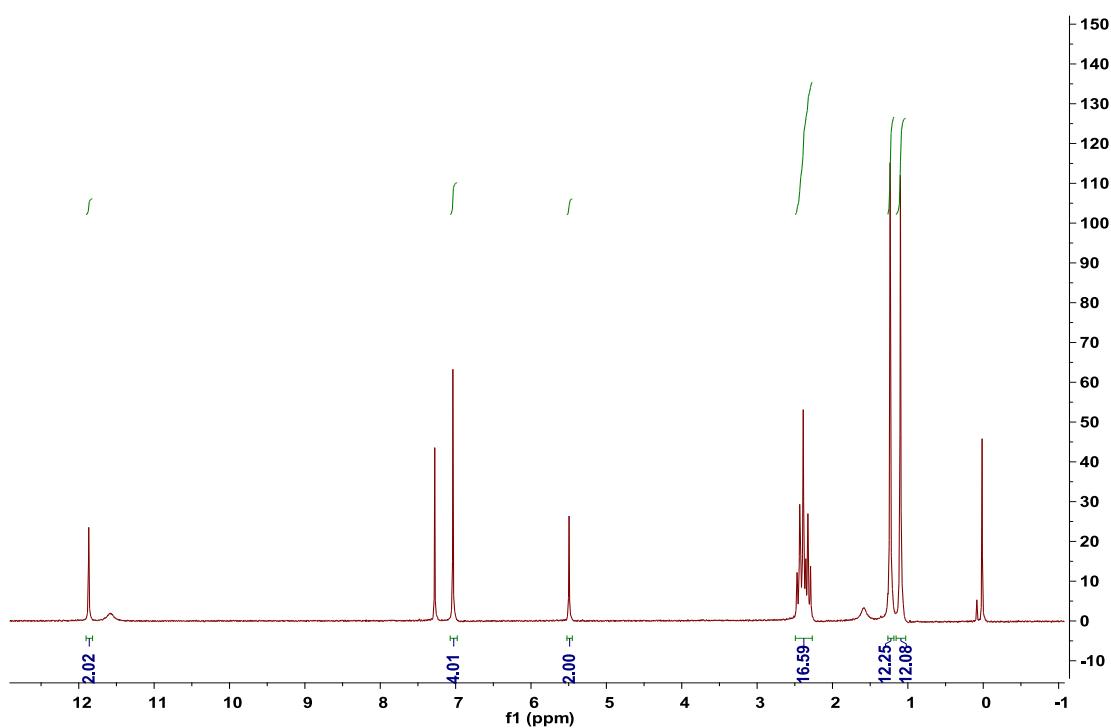
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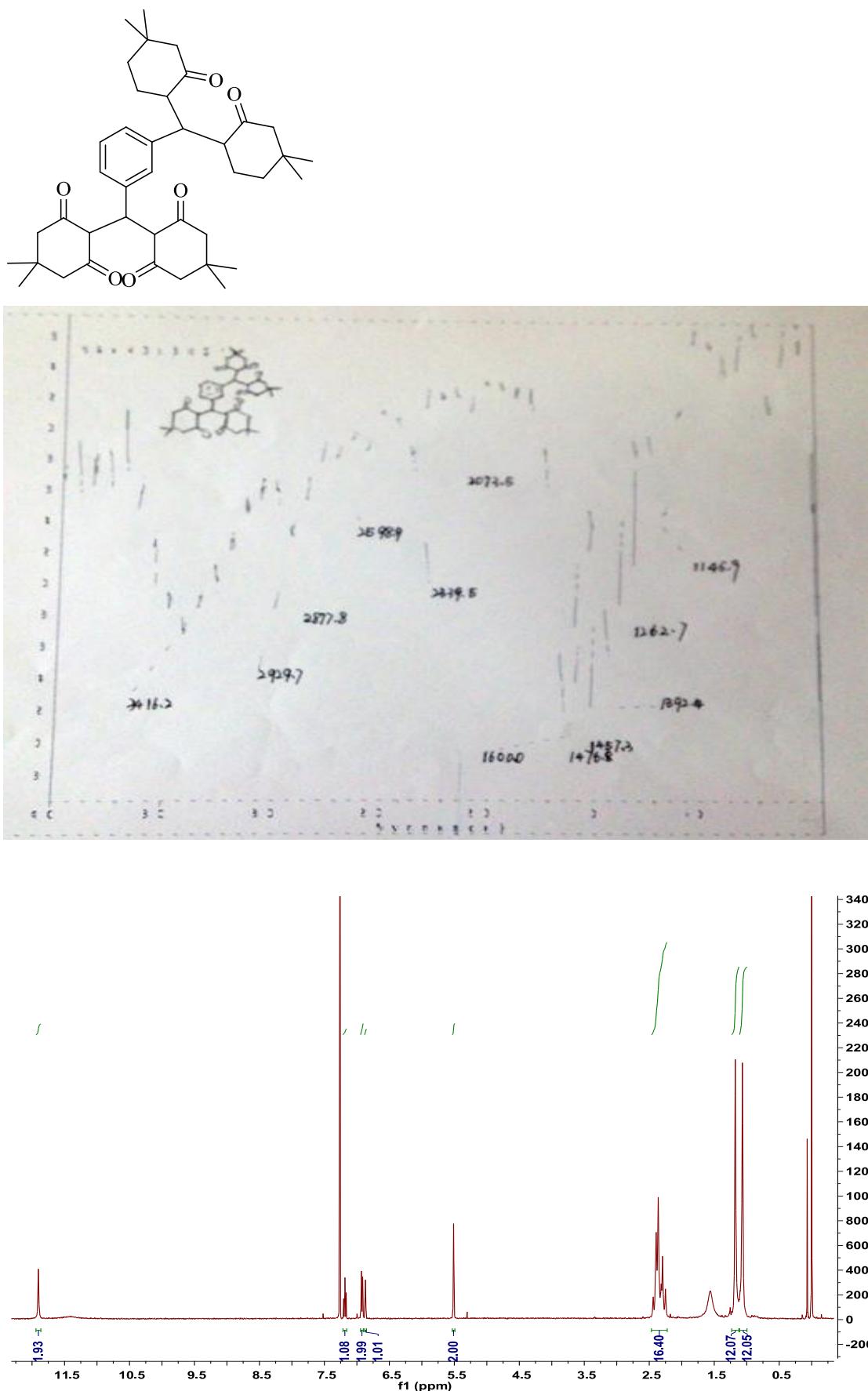


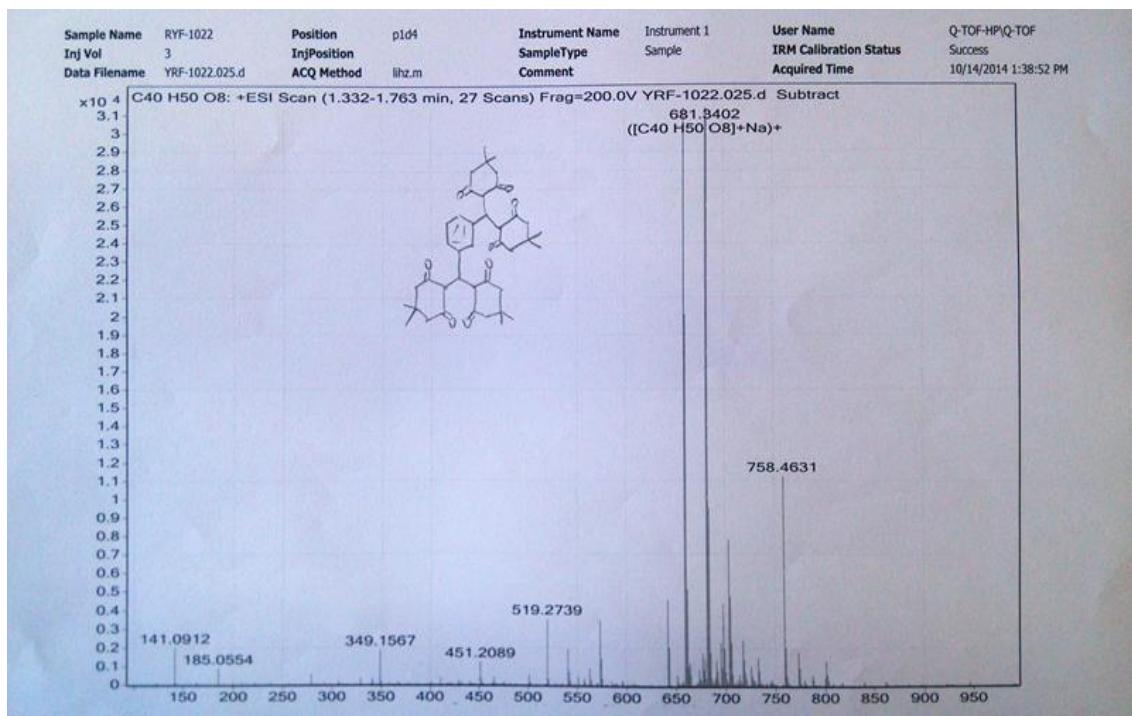
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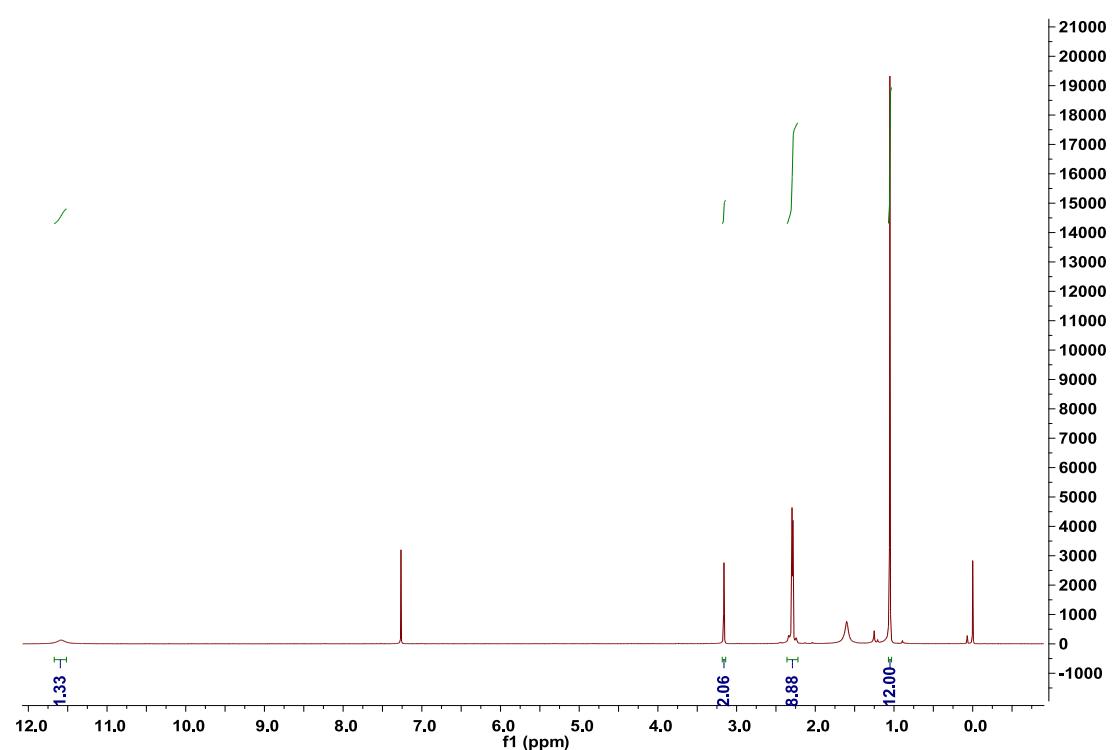
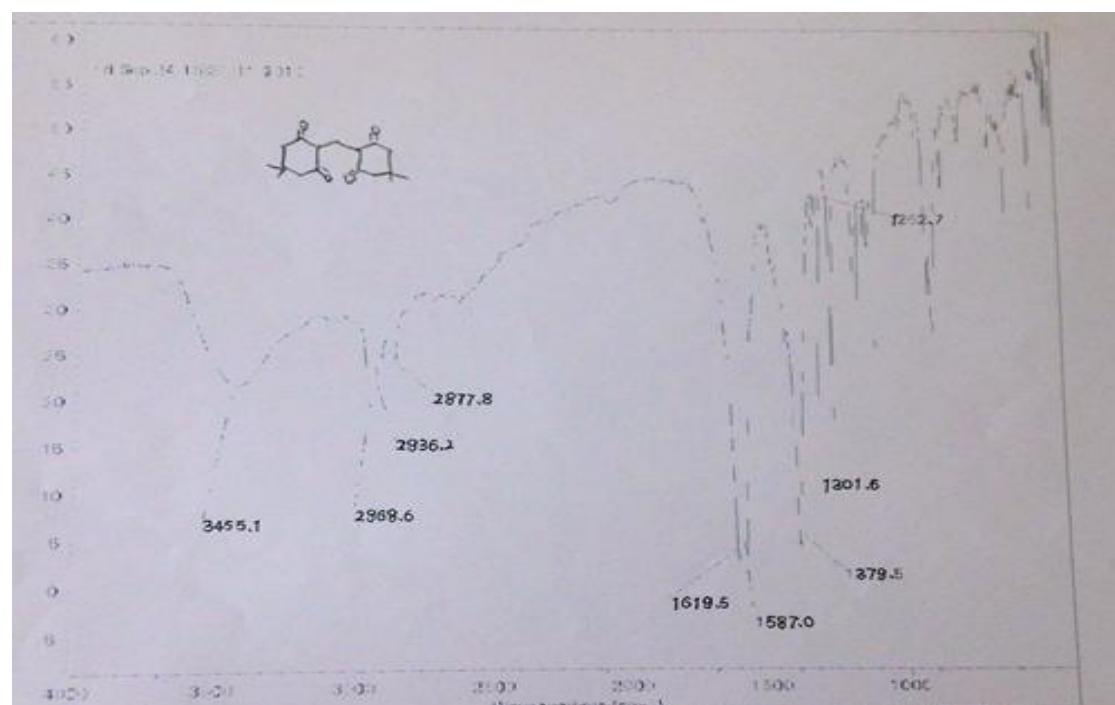
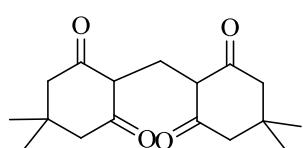


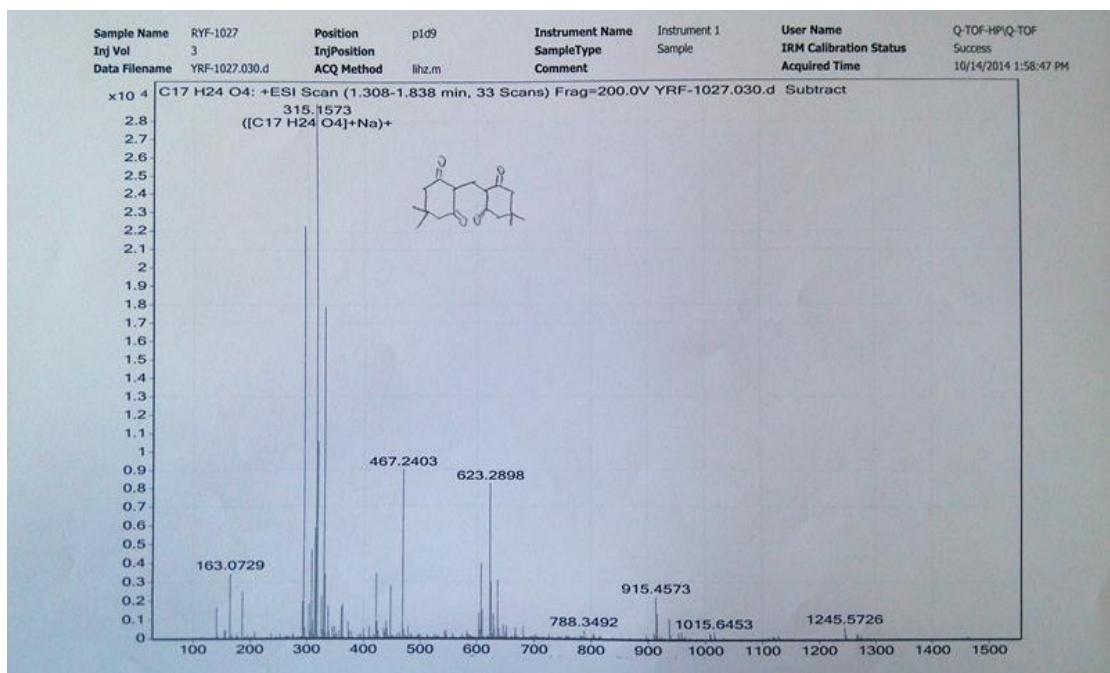
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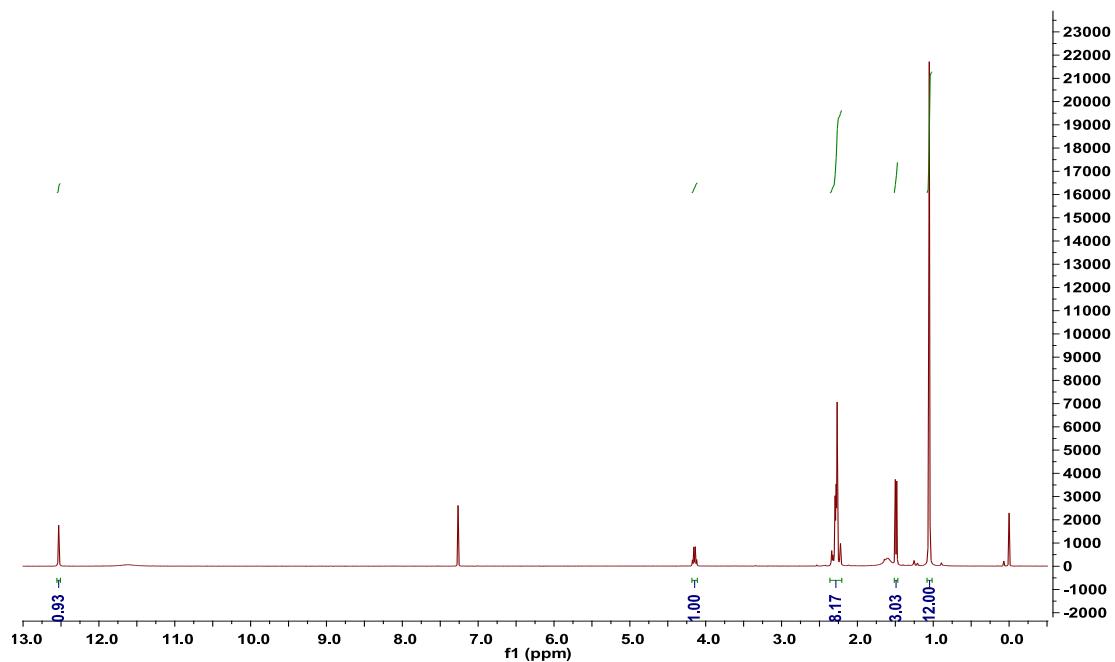
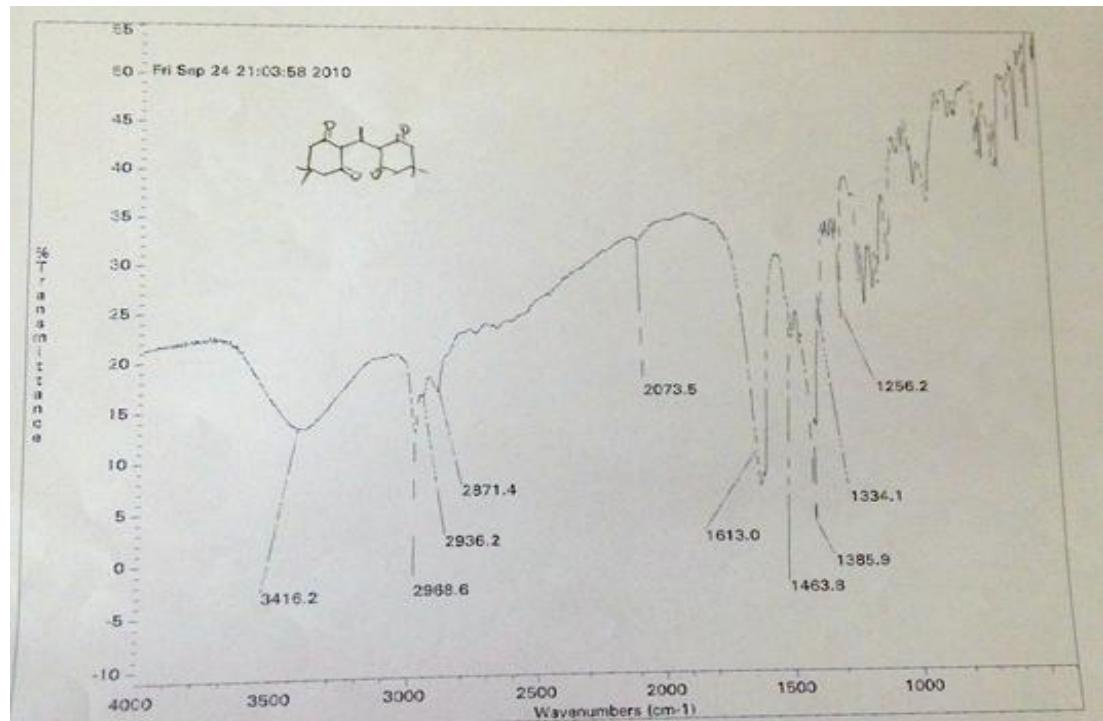
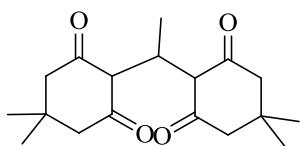


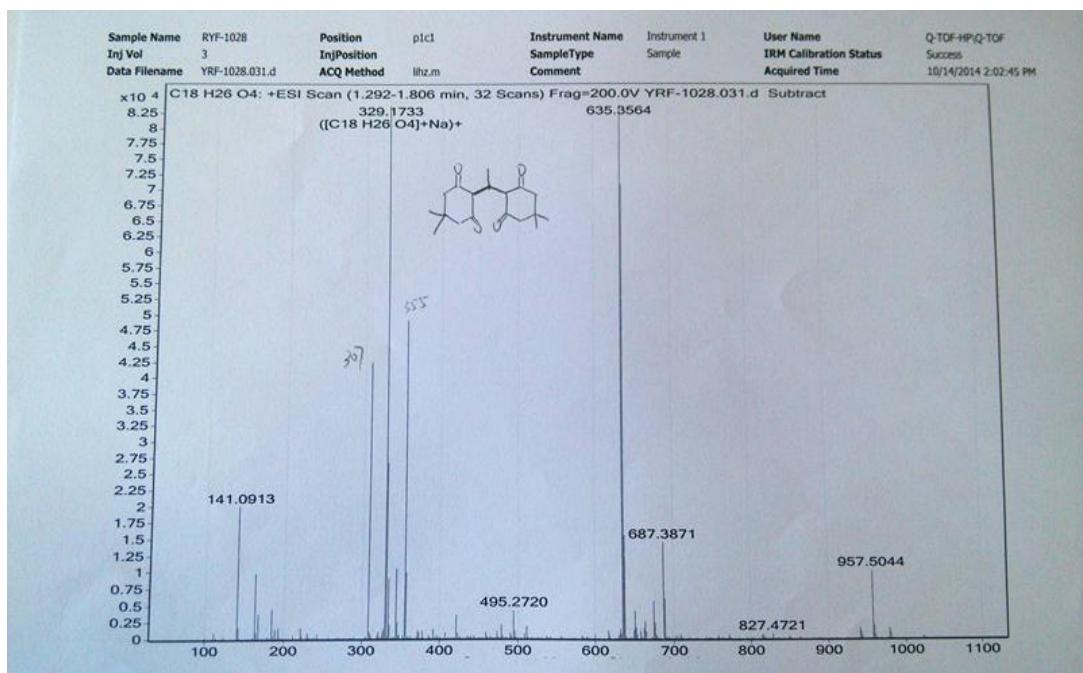
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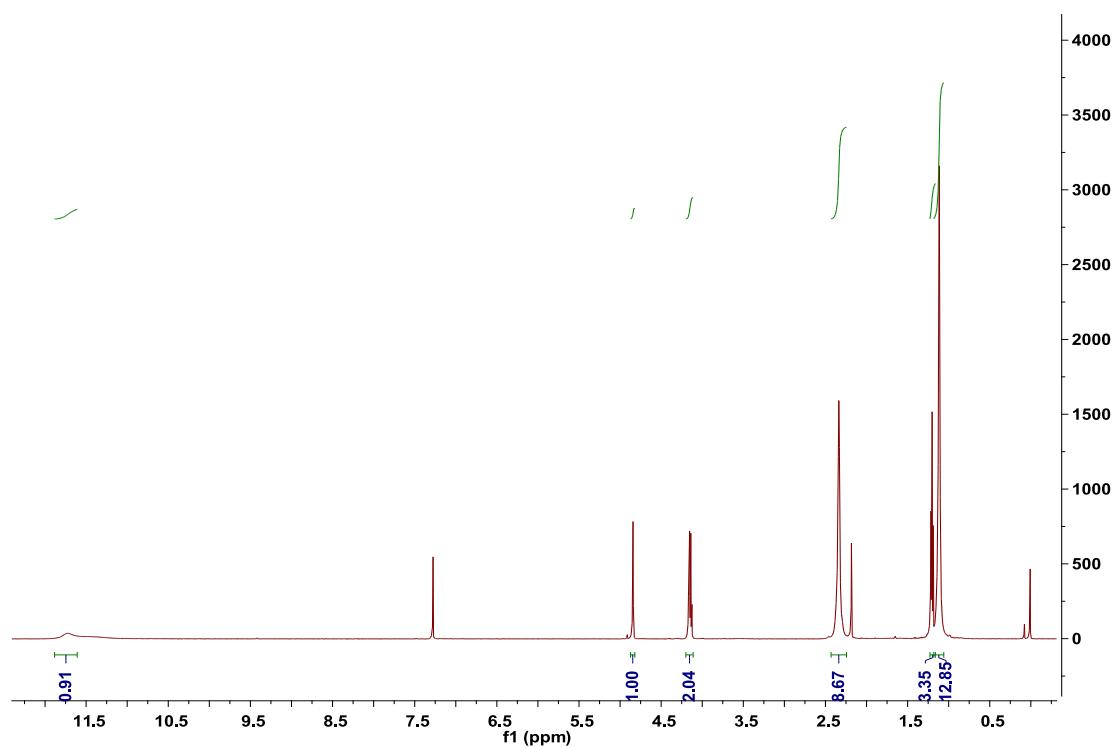
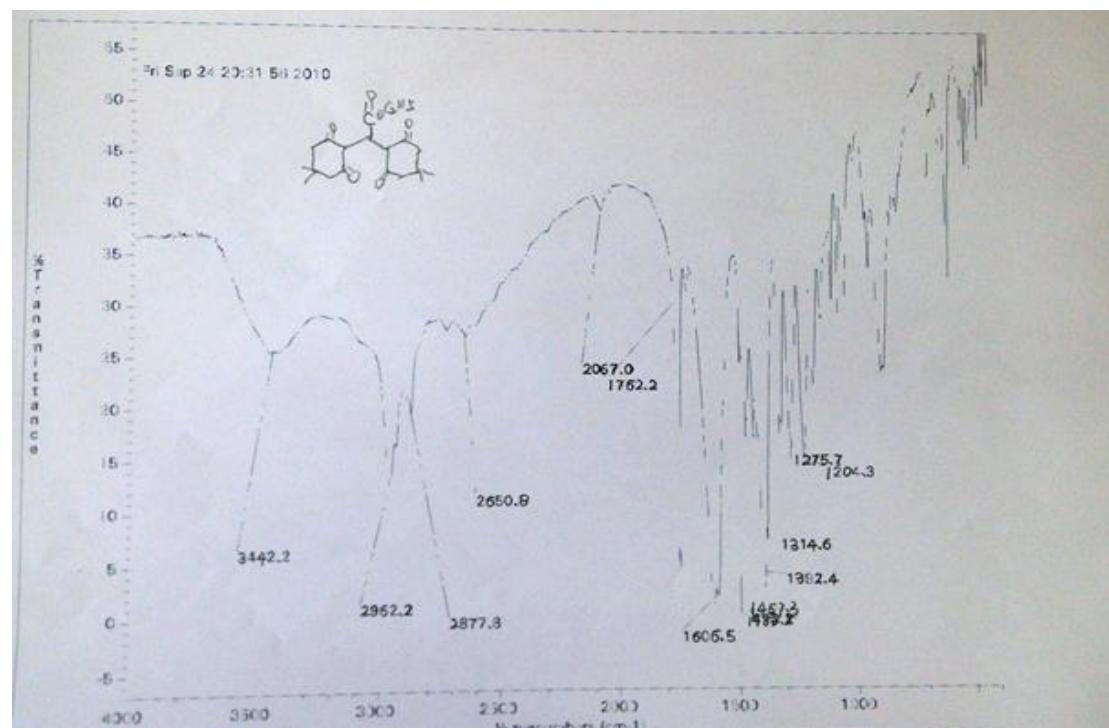
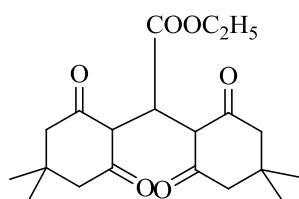


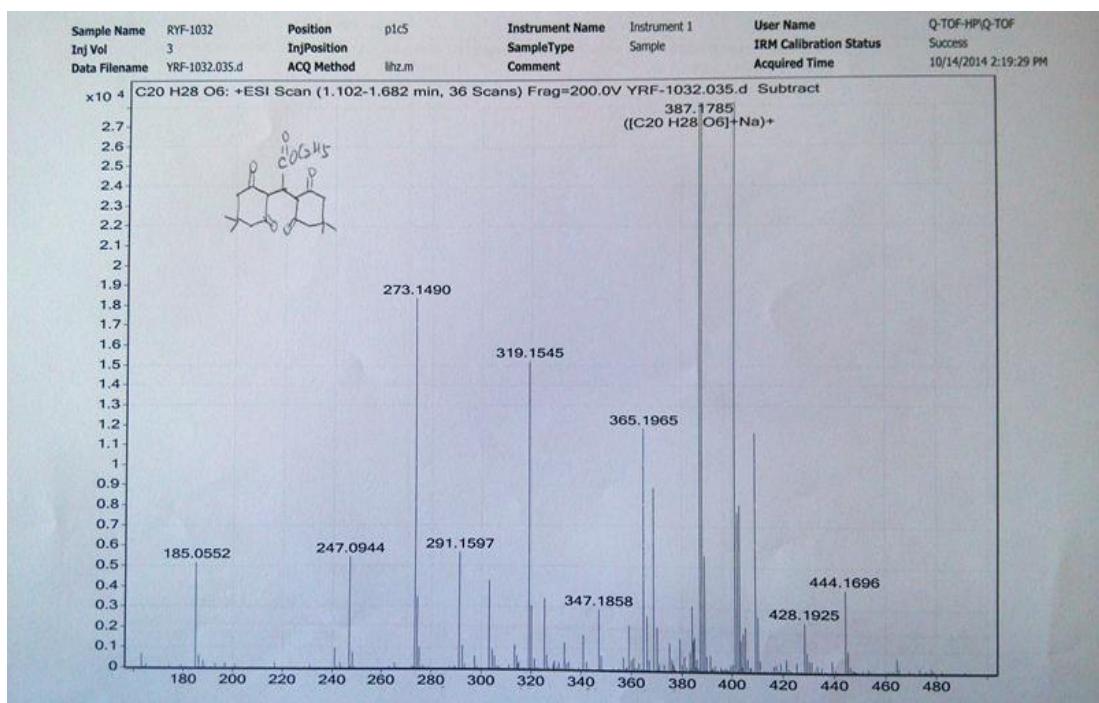
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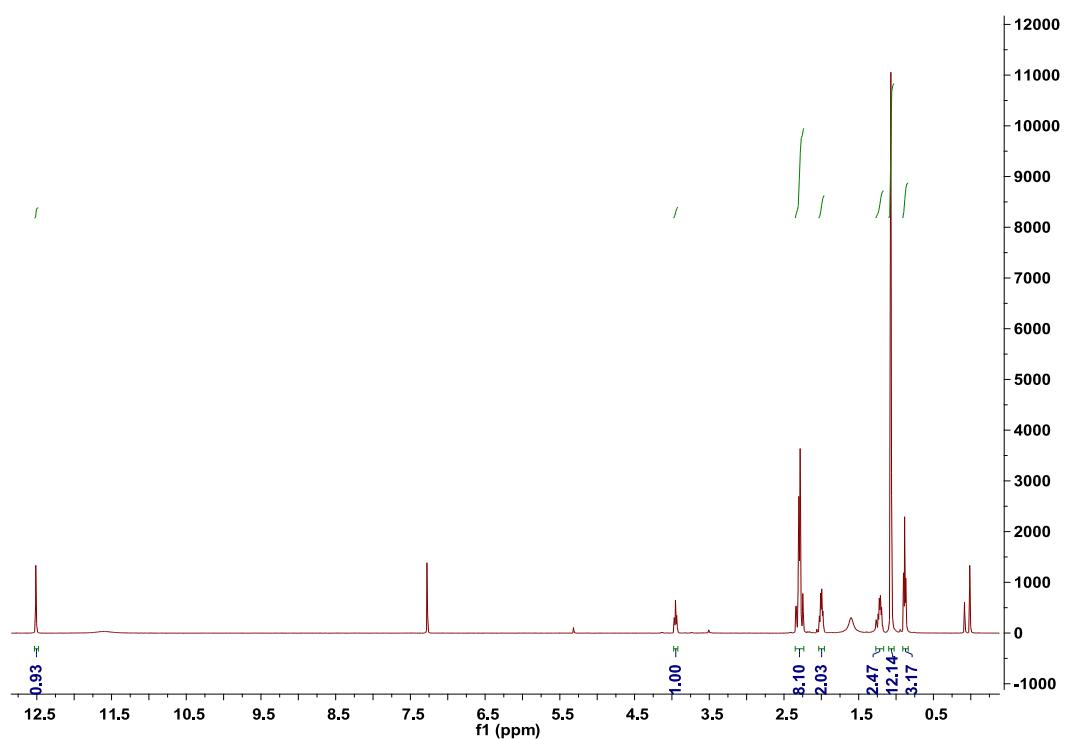
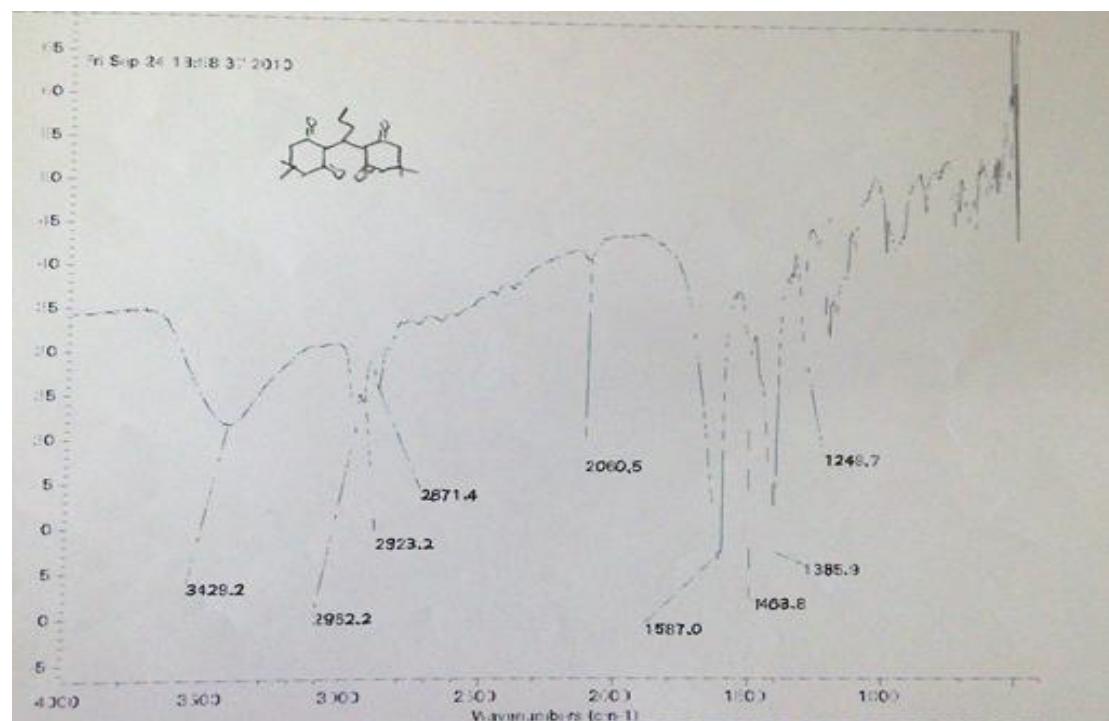
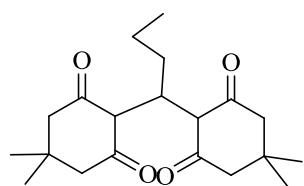


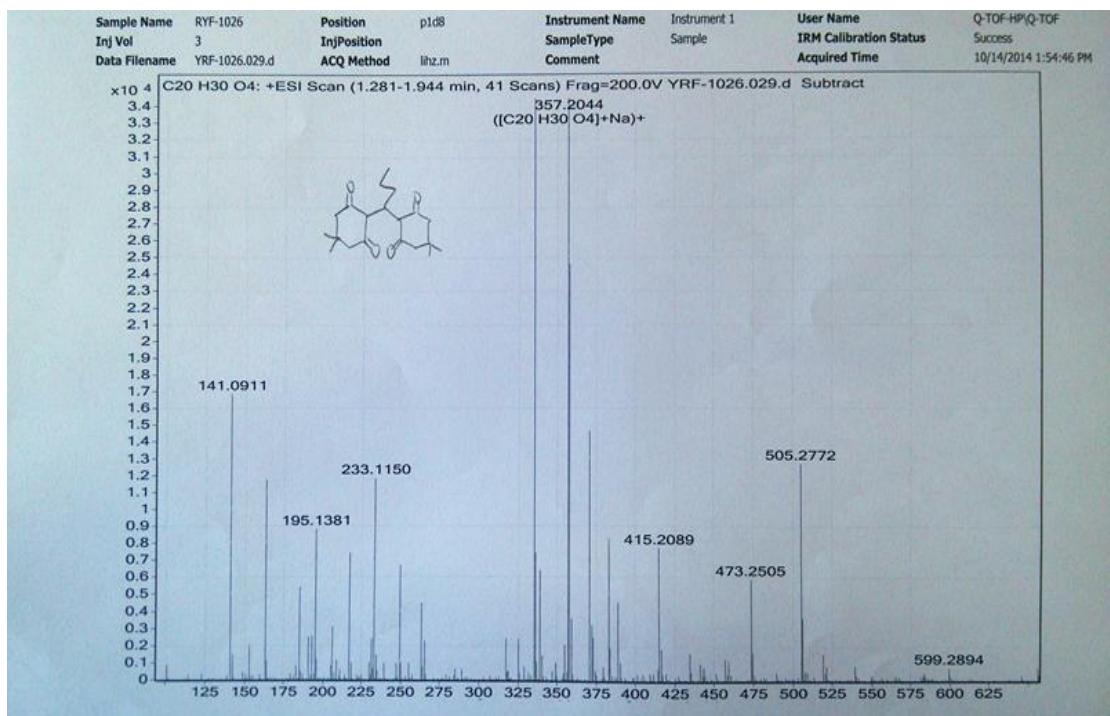
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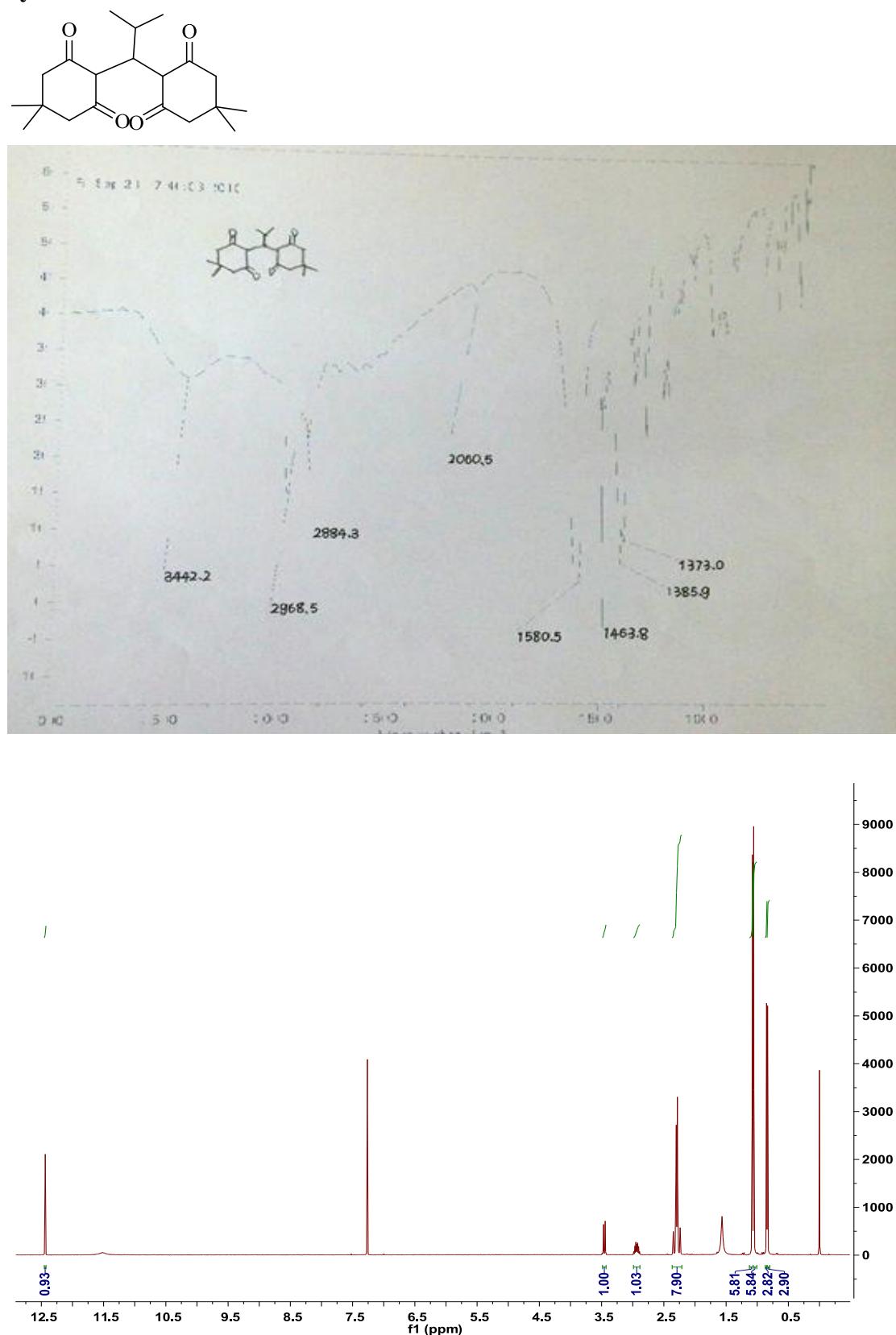


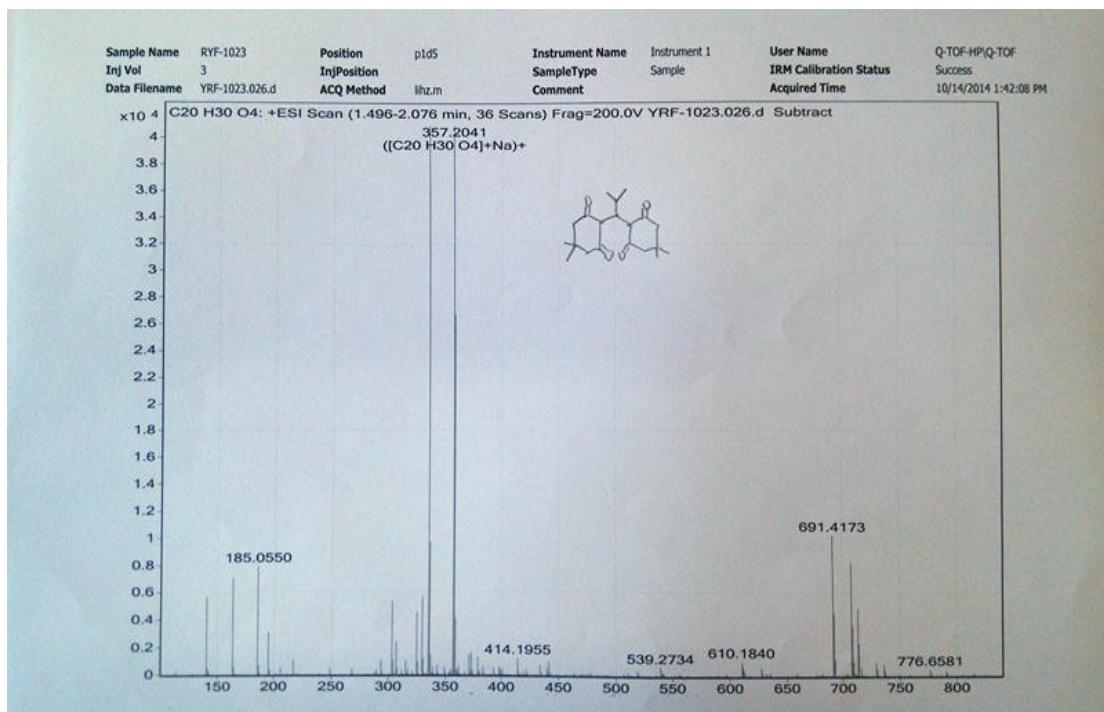
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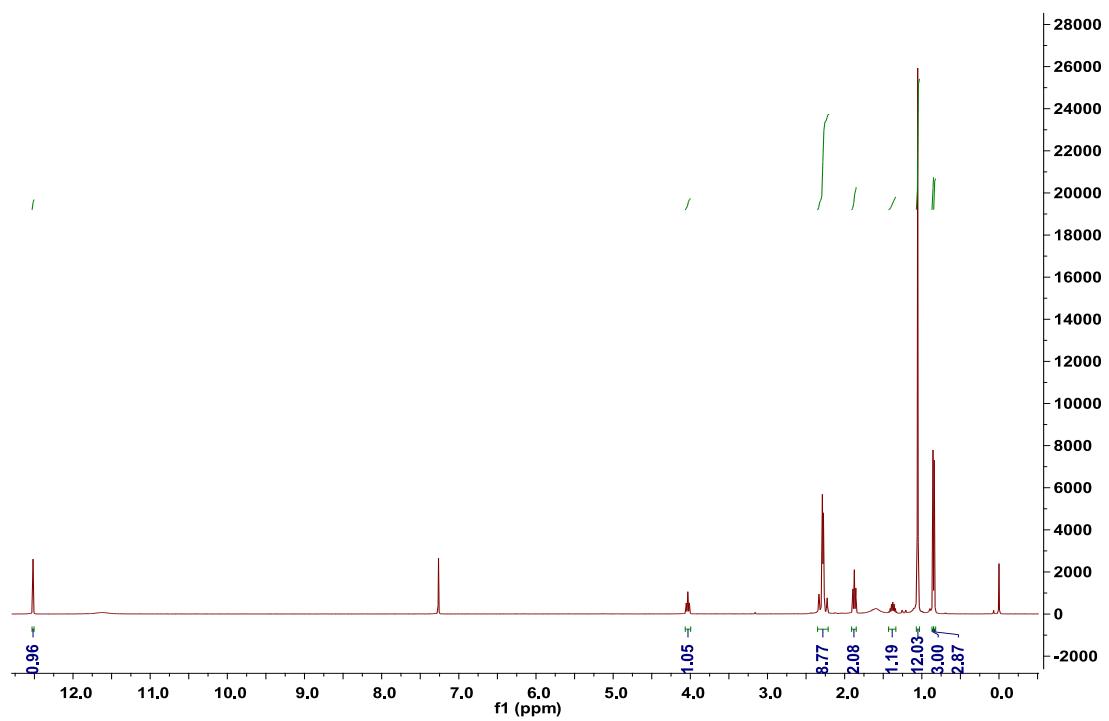
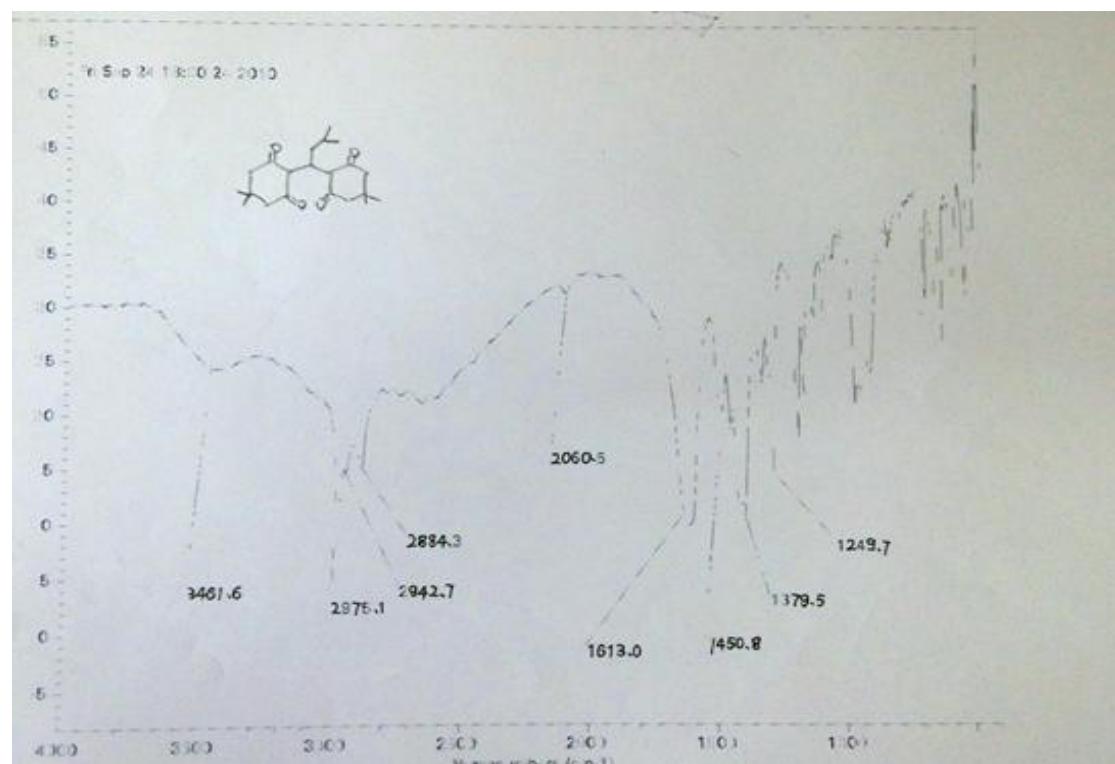
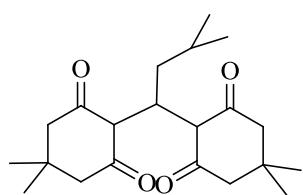


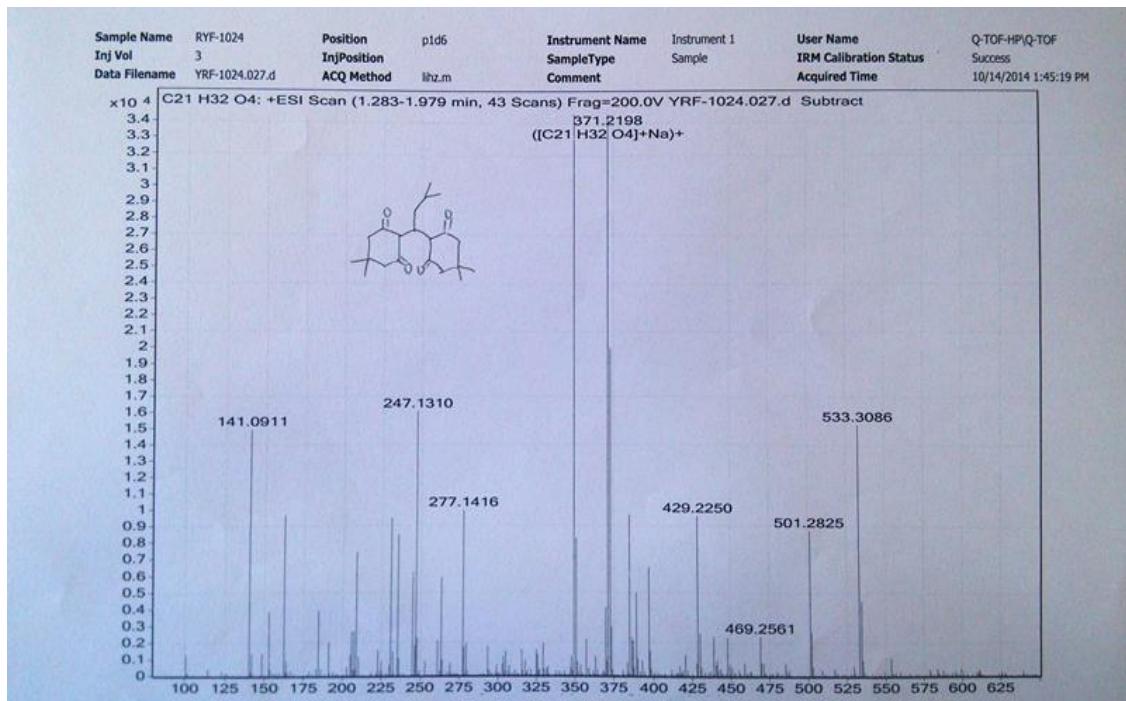
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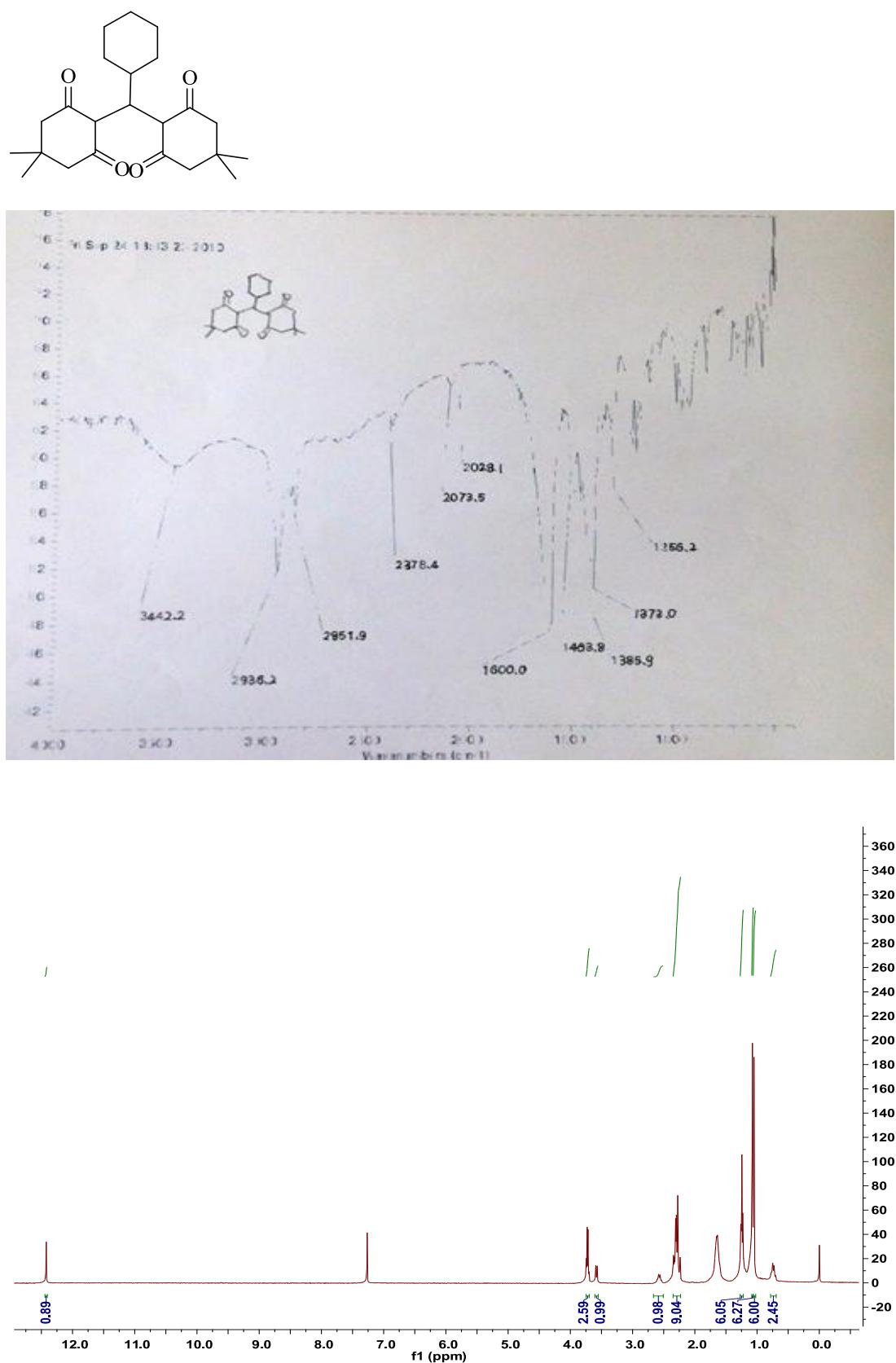


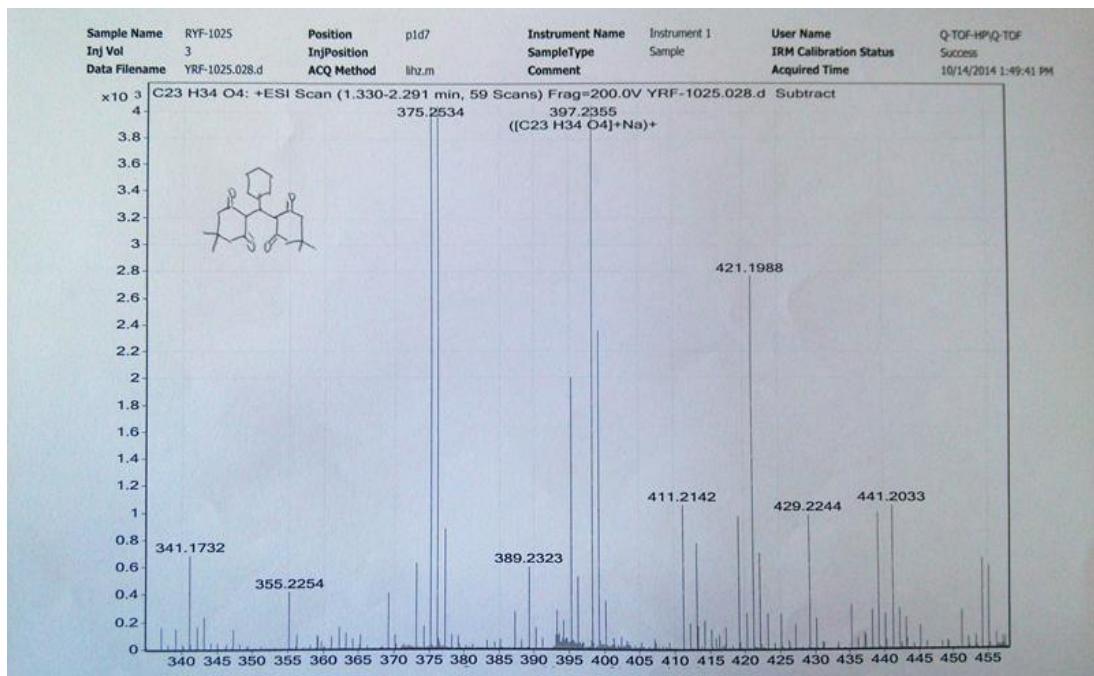
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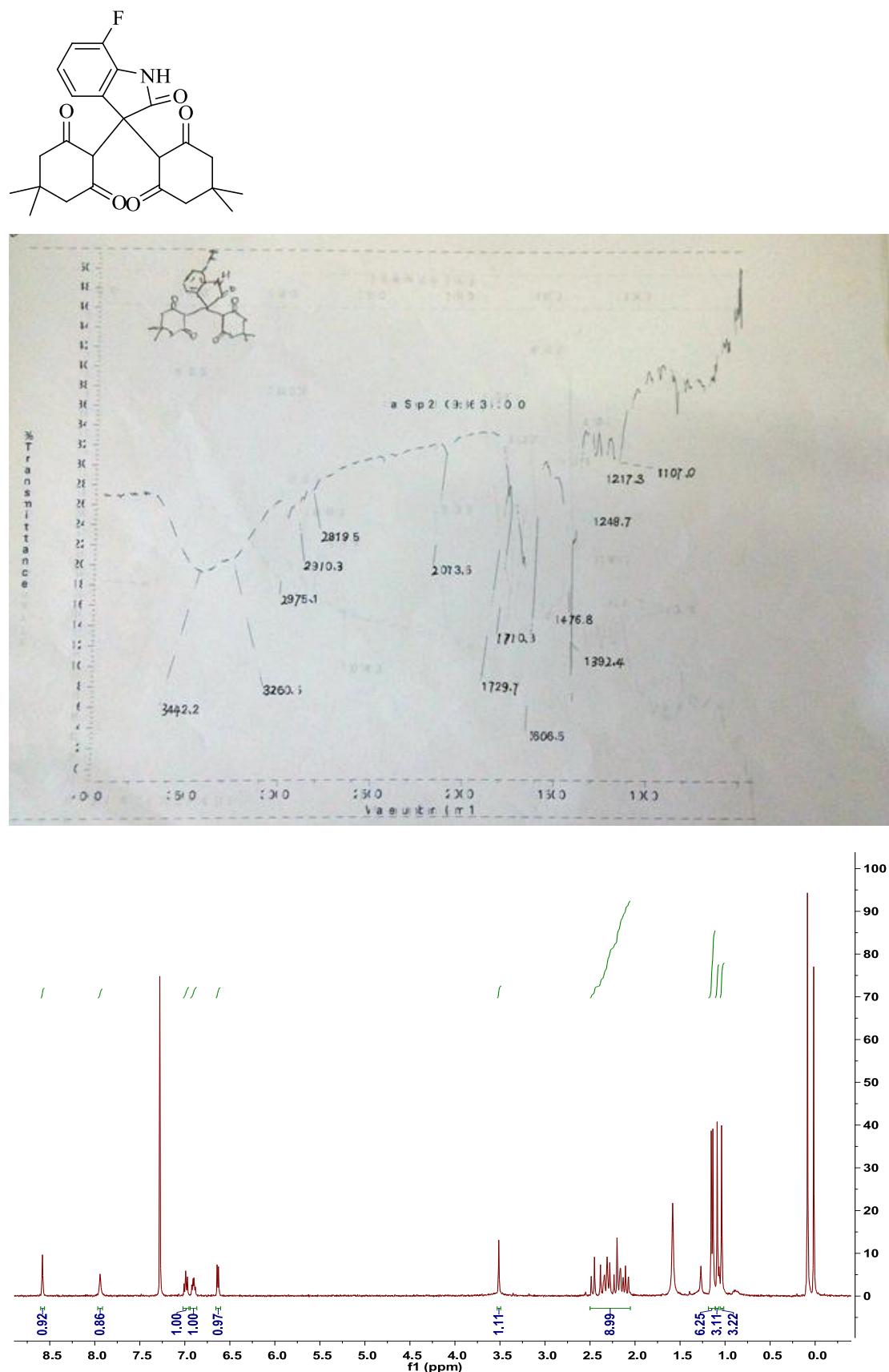


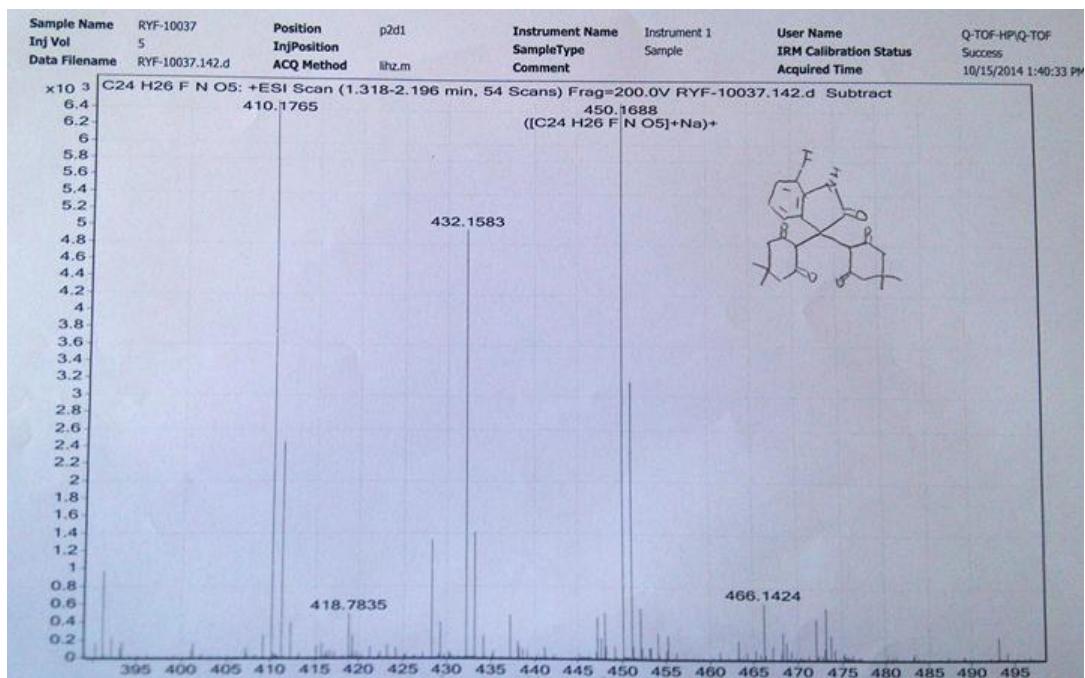
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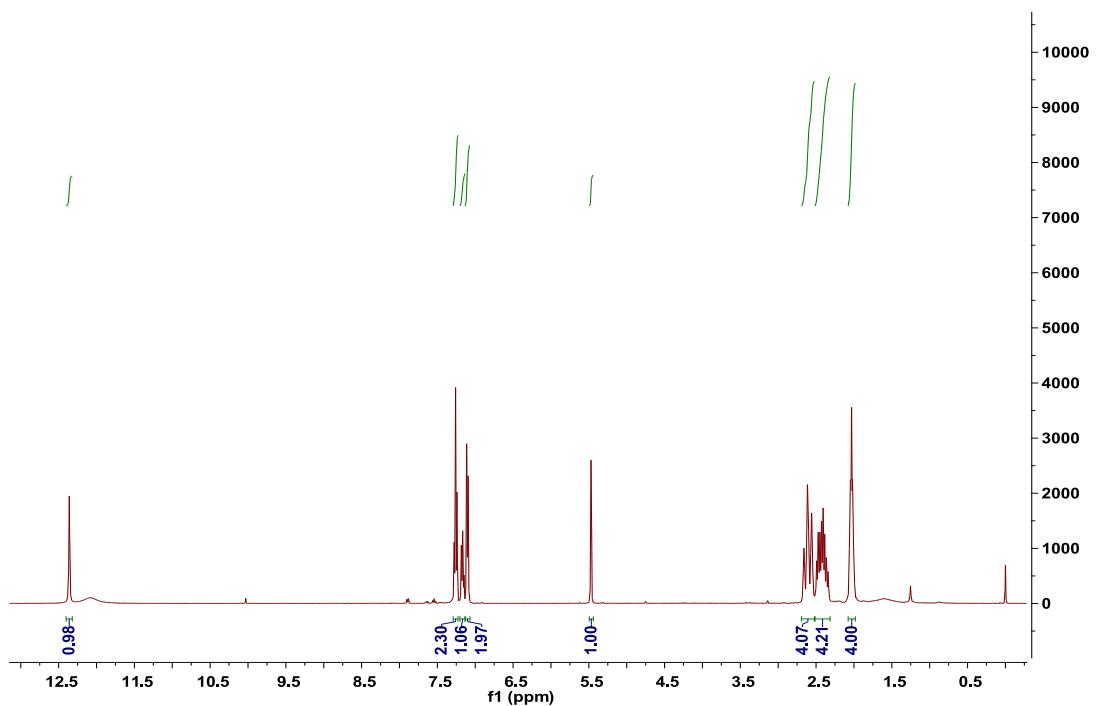
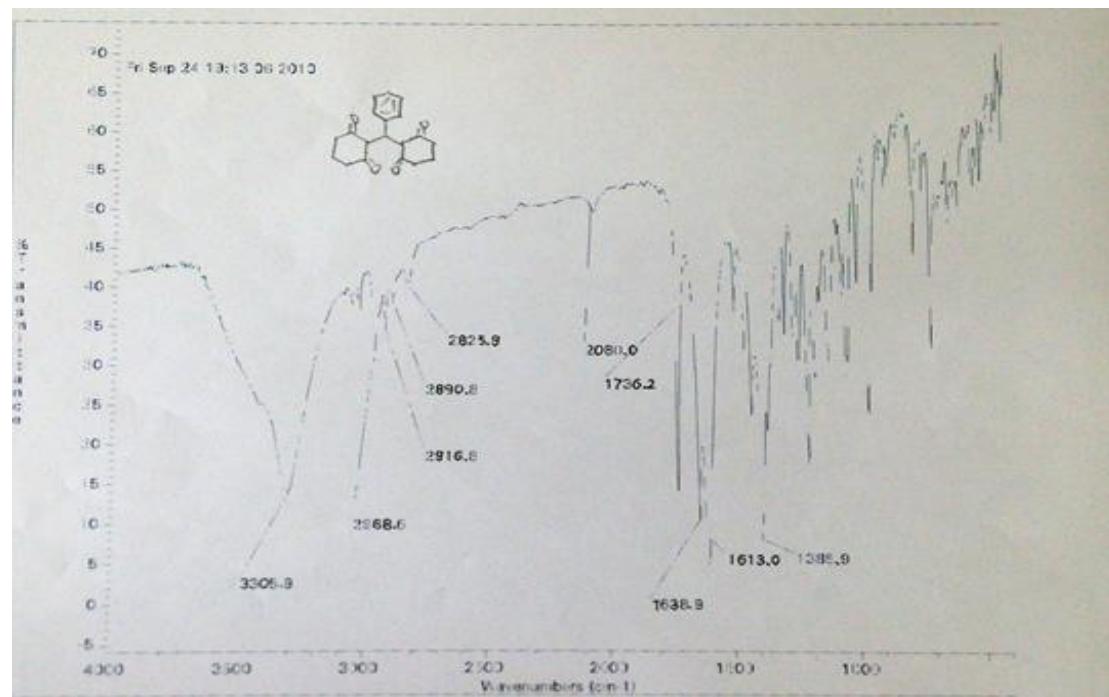
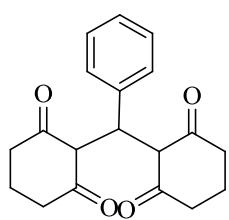


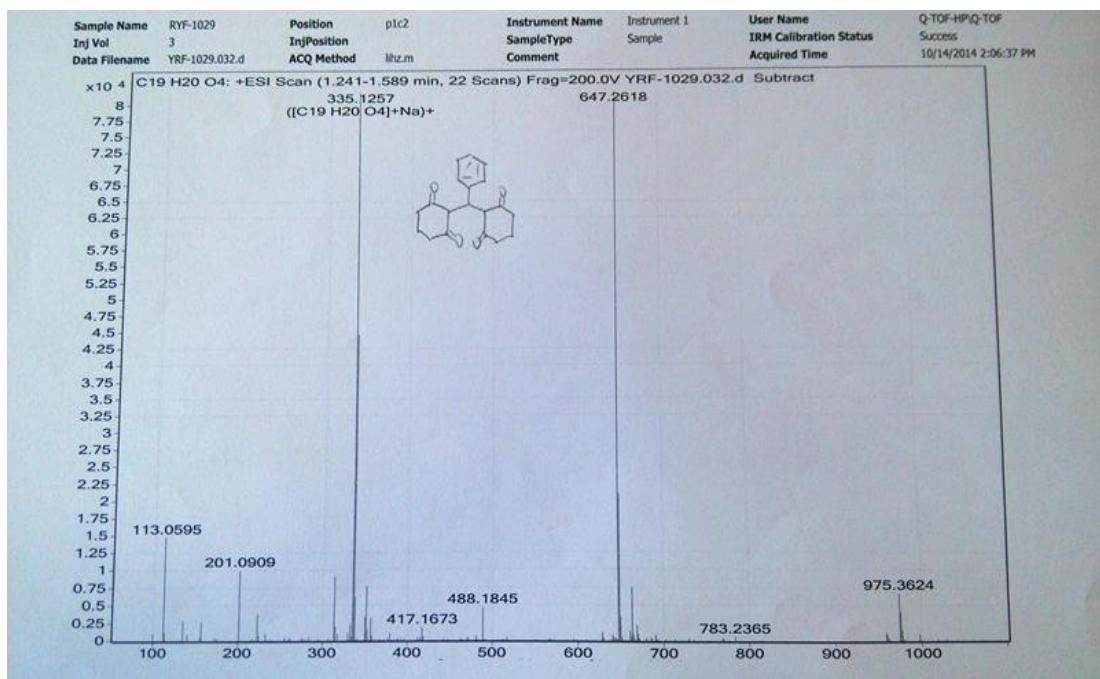
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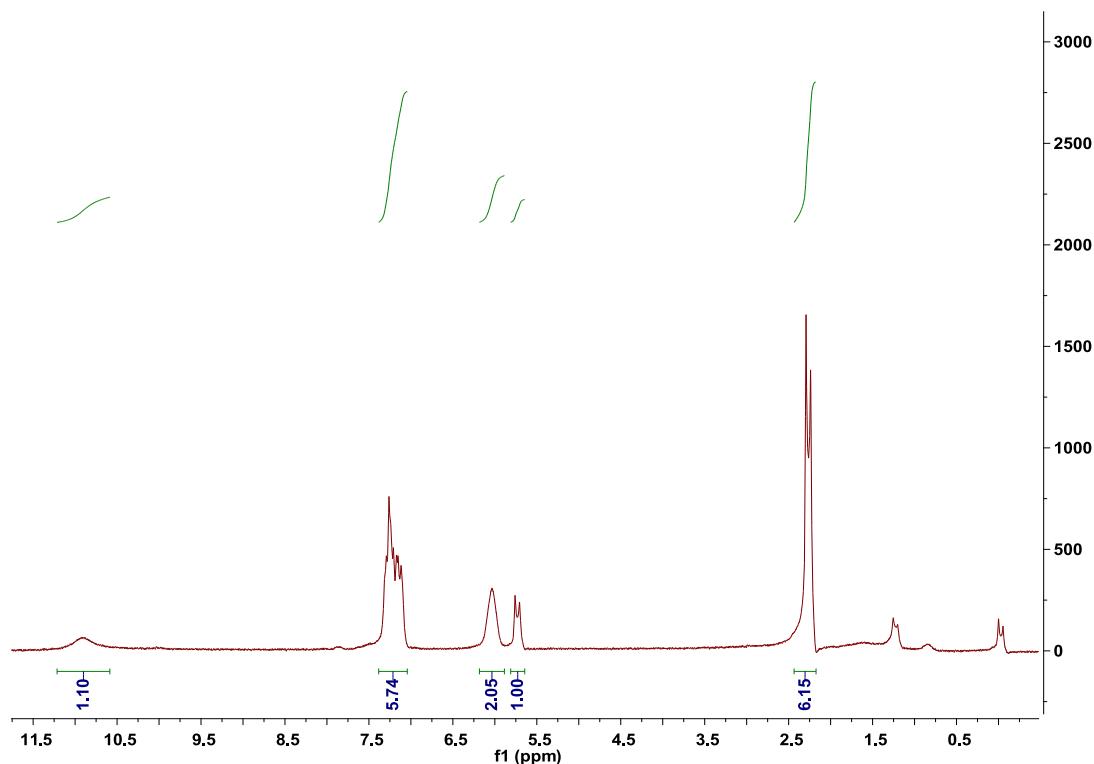
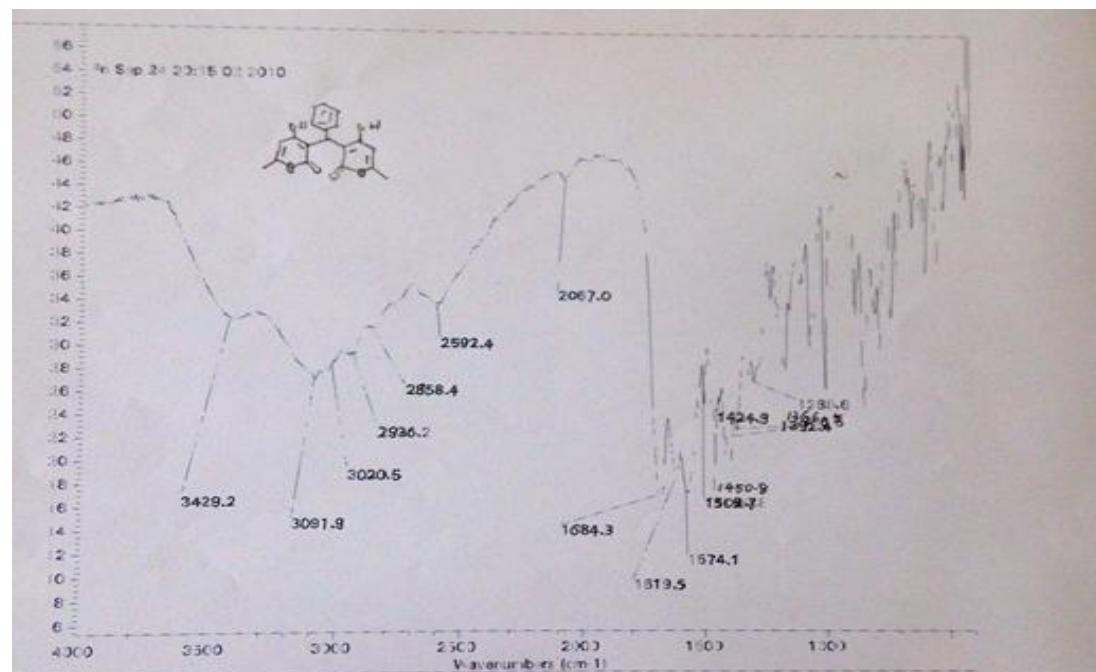
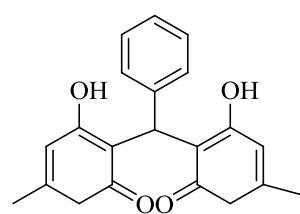


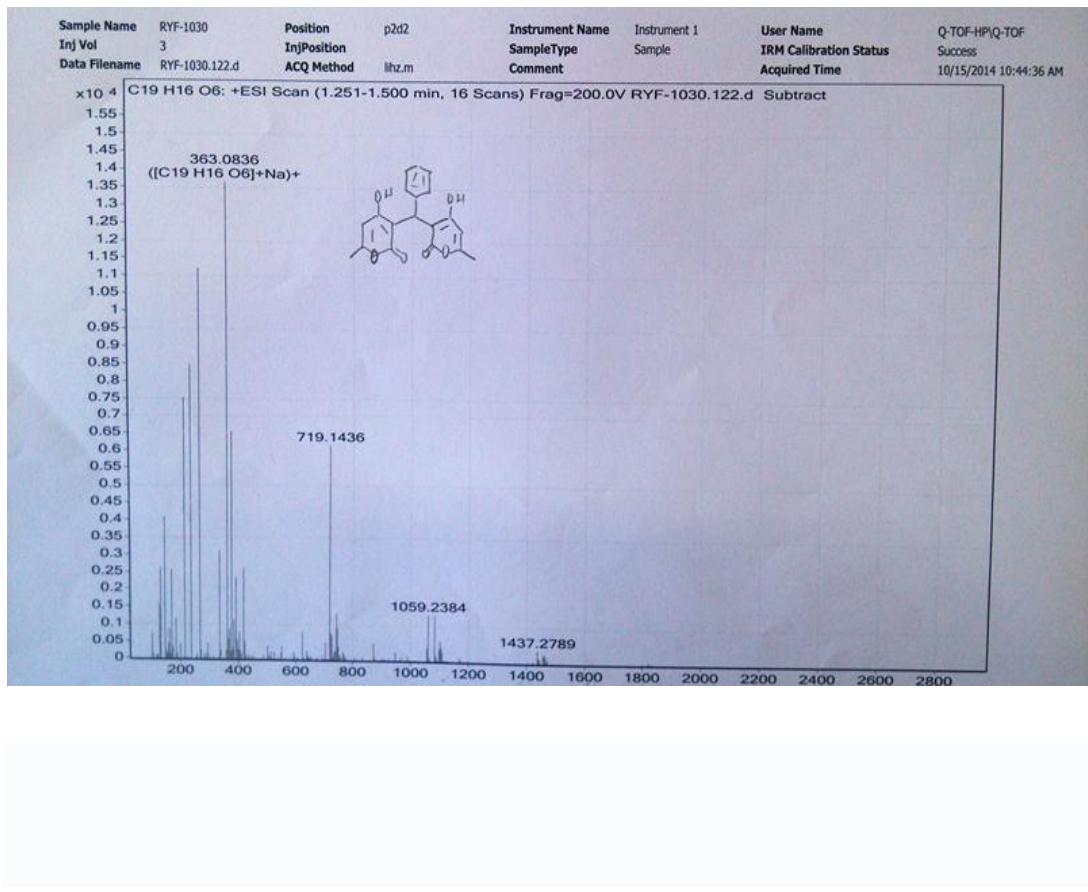
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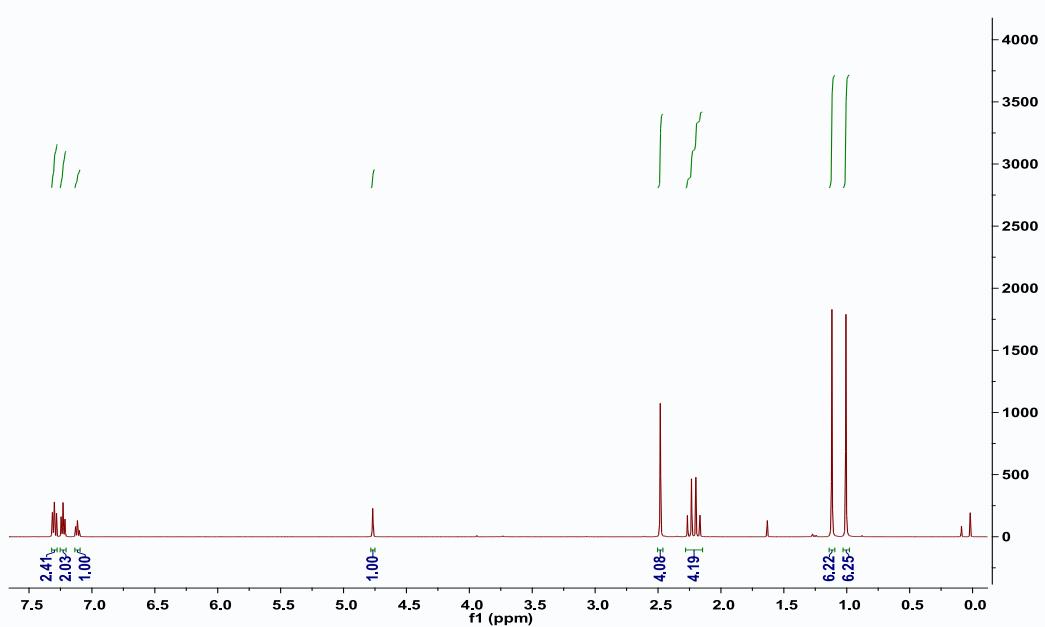
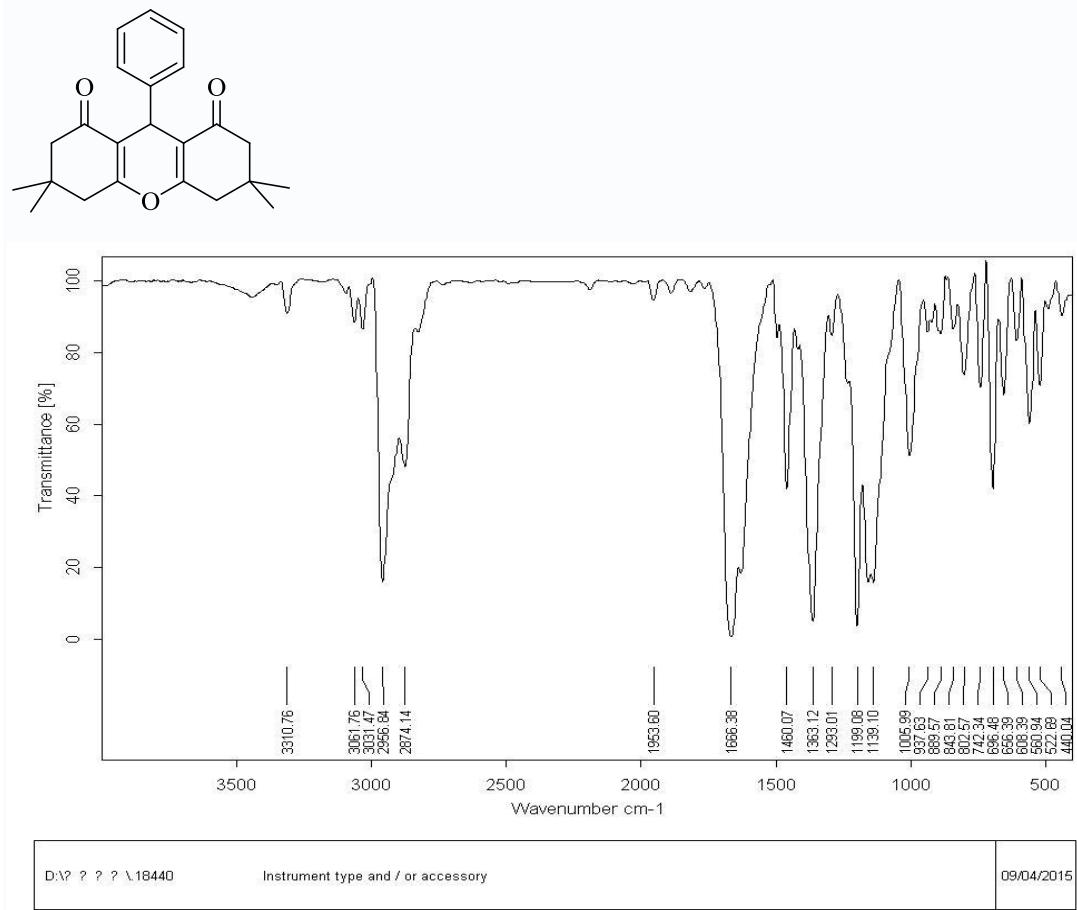


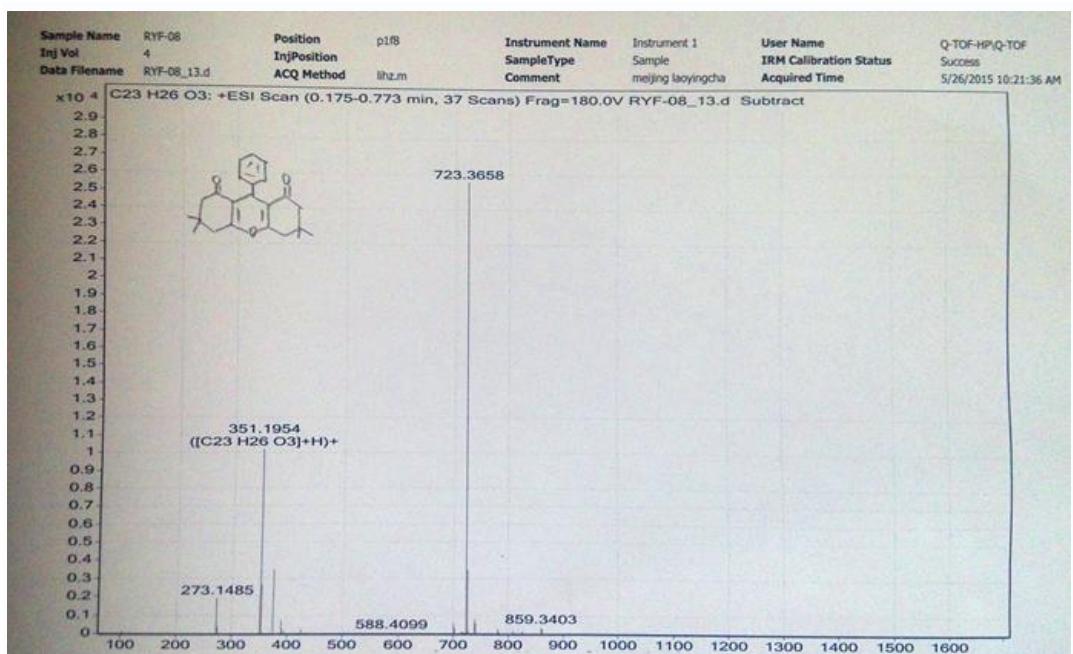
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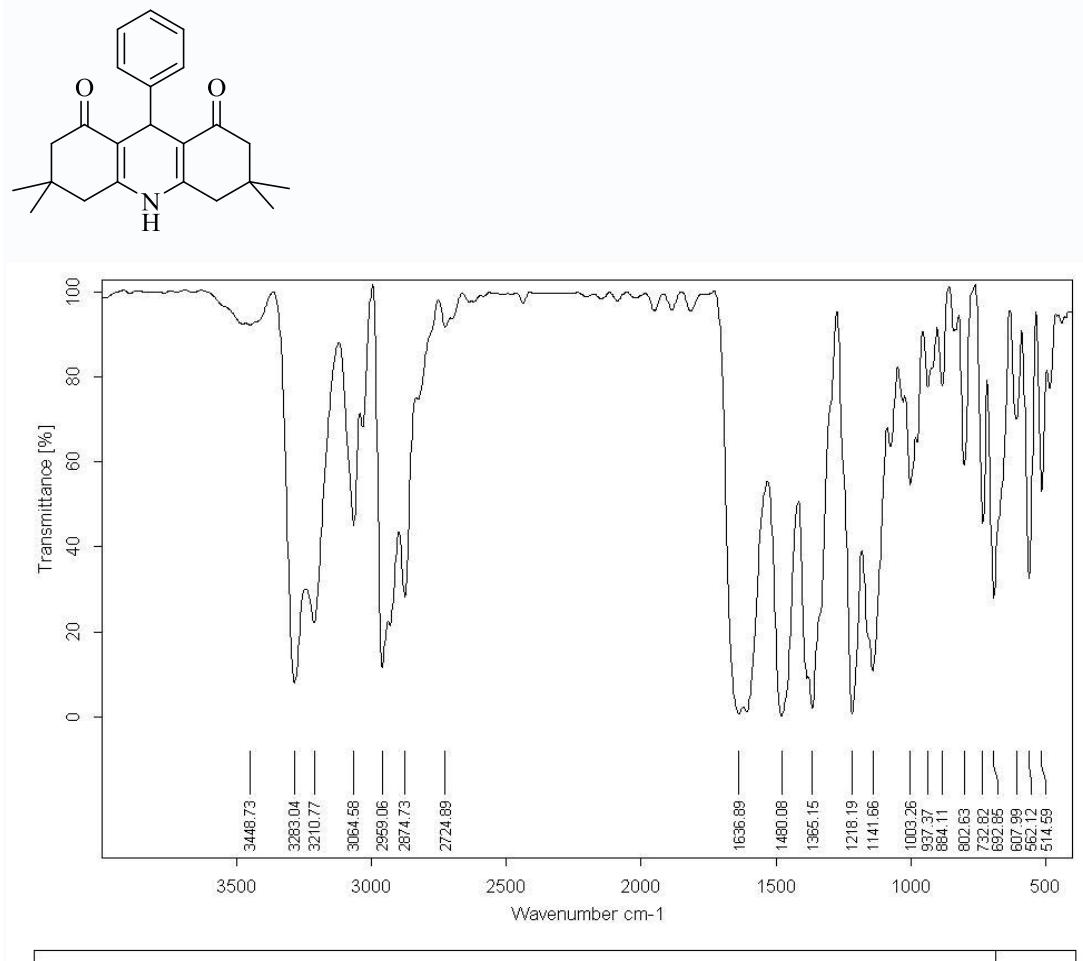


**5. IR,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and ESI-MS copies of xanthenedione 4a and acridinedione 4b**  
**4a.**





**4b.**



D:\? ? ? \18441

Instrument type and / or accessory

09/04/2015

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