

## Supporting Information

# Diisopropylethylamine-Triggered, Highly Efficient, Self-Catalyzed Regioselective Acylation of Carbohydrates and Diols

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**General Information:** All commercially available starting materials and solvents were of reagent grade and were used without further purification. Chemical reactions were monitored with thin-layer chromatography using precoated silica gel 60 (0.25 mm thickness) plates. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained by electrospray ionization (ESI) and Q-TOF detection. Flash column chromatography was performed on silica gel 60 (SDS 0.040-0.063 mm).  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded with a JNM-ECZ600R/S3 instrument at 298K in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  using the residual signals from  $\text{CHCl}_3$  ( $^1\text{H}$ :  $\delta = 7.26$  ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$ :  $\delta = 77.2$  ppm) as the internal standard.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR peak assignments were made by first-order analysis of the spectra and were supported by standard  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  correlation spectroscopy (COSY).

**General Method for Testing the H-bonds between the Diols and Catalysts by Variable-Temperature NMR Experiments:** The catalyst (0.2 equiv. of TBAOAc, 0.2 equiv. of DIPEA or without catalyst) was added to a solution of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol (10 mg) in dry  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  (0.5 mL), and then a series of variable-temperature  $^1\text{H}$  NMR tests were performed from 20 °C to 50 °C.

**General Method for the Regioselective Acylation of Diols and Polyols:** Diol and polyol reactants (50 mg) were allowed to react with anhydride (1.1-2.2 equiv.) in 1 mL of dry acetonitrile or a mixed solvent (MeCN–DMF, 10:1) at 40 °C for 8 h to 12 h in the presence of DIPEA (0.1–0.2 equiv.). After cooling and evaporation of the solvent, the reaction mixture was directly purified by flash column chromatography (hexanes–EtOAc 3:1 to 1:1) and afforded the pure selectively protected derivatives.

Spectroscopic data of all known products were in accordance with those reported in the literature.

**Testing the H-bonds between the Diols and Catalysts by variable-temperature NMR experiments (Figure S1 to Figure S3):**

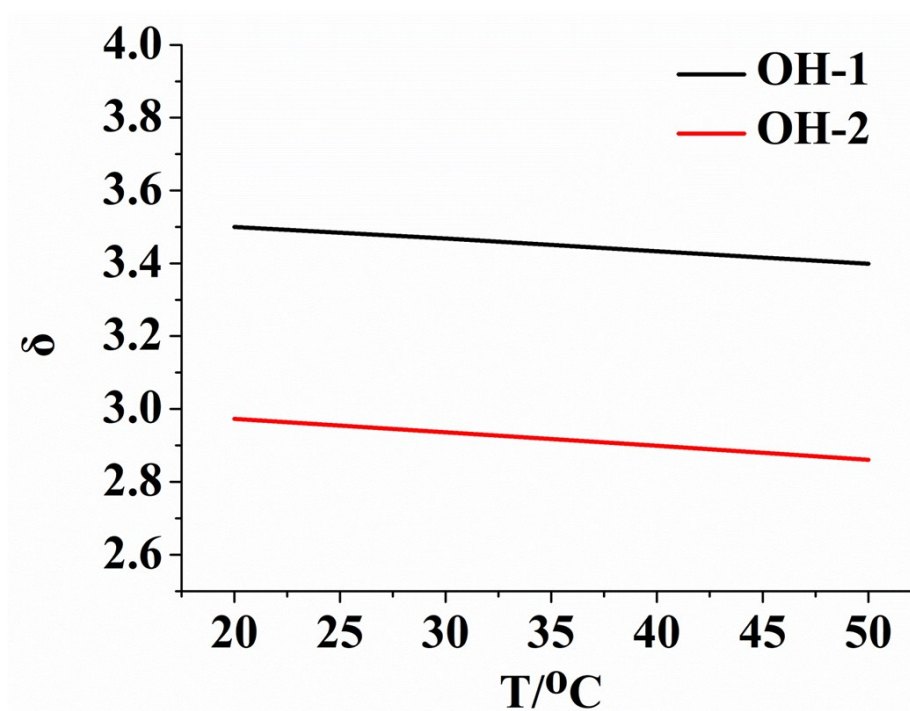


Figure S1. The values of OH chemical shifting transformation constant with temperature  $k$  were measured for 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol in  $CD_3CN$ .  $k_1=3.4 \cdot 10^{-3} K^{-1}$ ,  $R^2=0.9997$ ;  $k_2=3.7 \cdot 10^{-3} K^{-1}$ ,  $R^2=1$ .

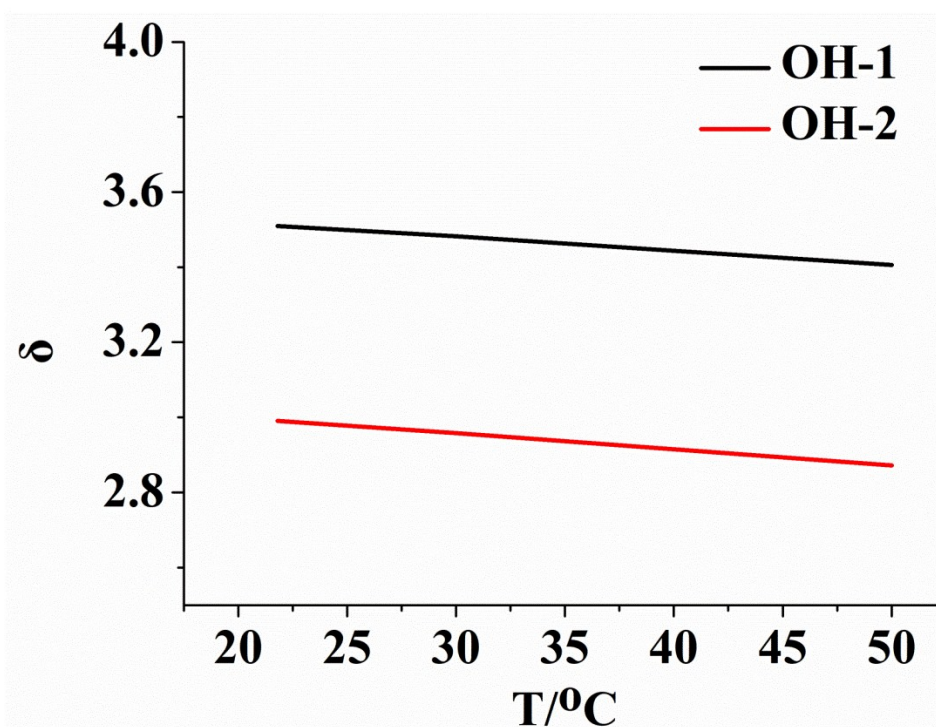


Figure S2. The values of OH chemical shifting transformation constant with temperature  $k$  were measured for 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol and 0.2 equiv. of DIPEA in  $CD_3CN$ .  $k_1=3.7 \cdot 10^{-3} K^{-1}$ ,  $R^2=0.999$ ;  $k_2=4.2 \cdot 10^{-3} K^{-1}$ ,  $R^2=0.9998$ .

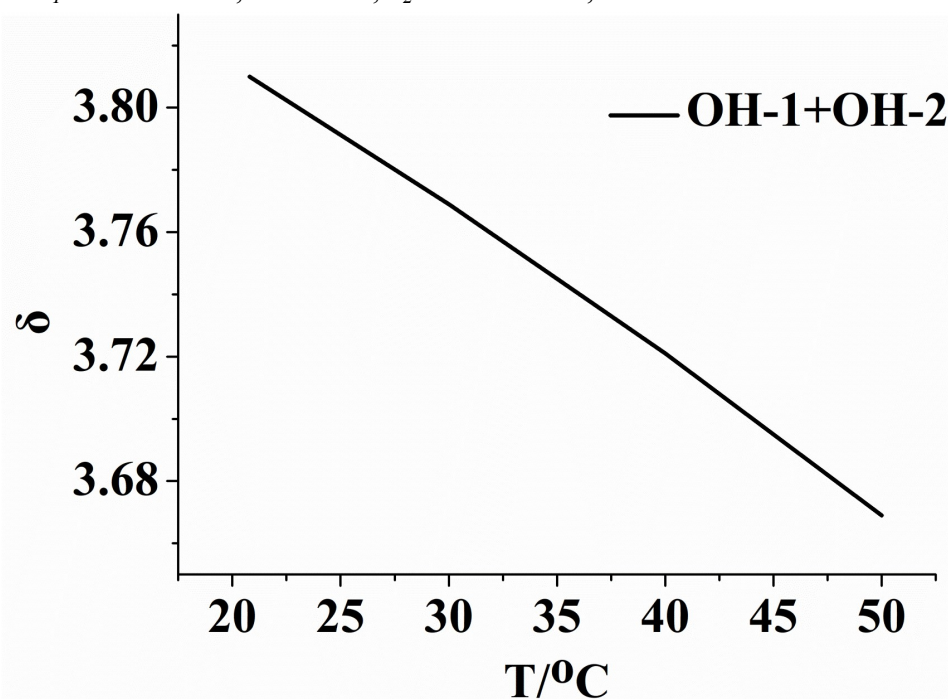


Figure S3. The values of OH chemical shifting transformation constant with temperature  $k$  were measured for 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol and 0.2 equiv. of TBAOAc in  $CD_3CN$ .  $k=4.8 \cdot 10^{-3} K^{-1}$ ,  $R^2=0.9989$ .

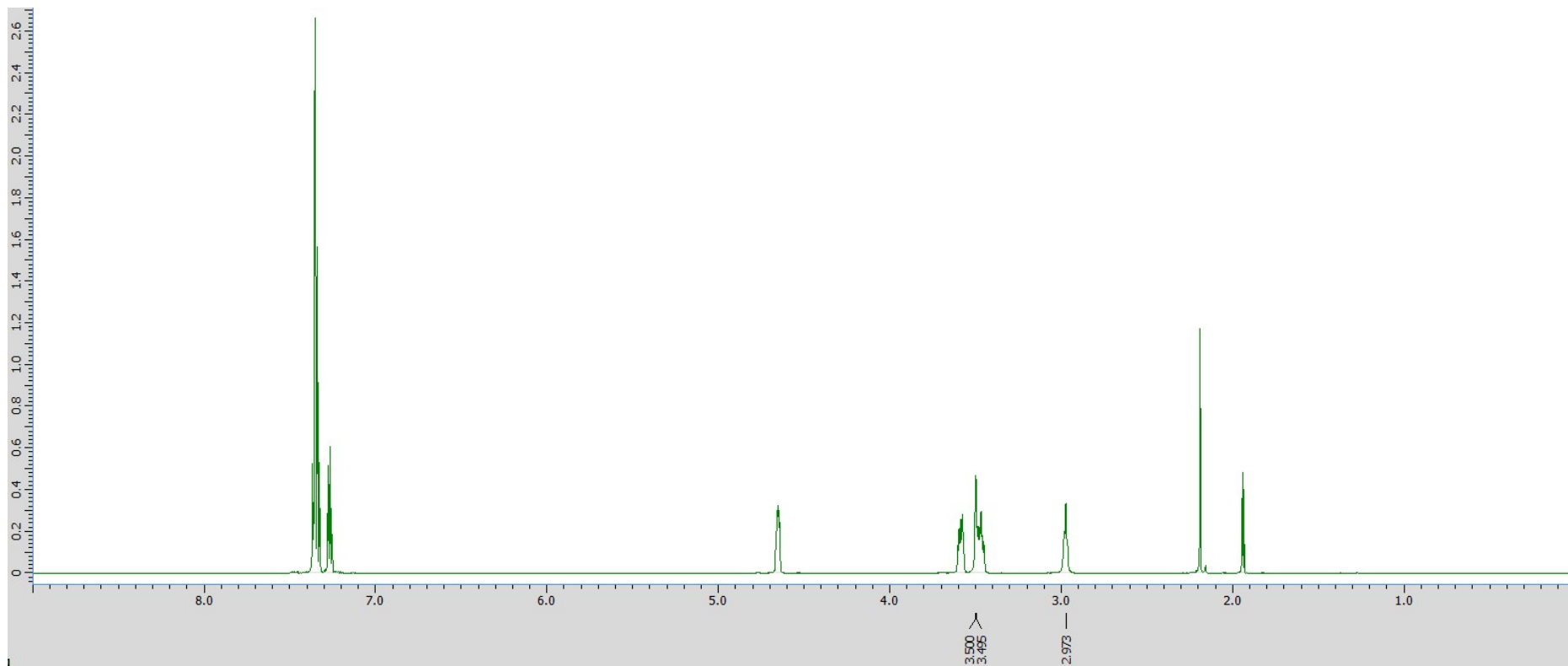


Figure S4. Recorded  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at  $20\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ .

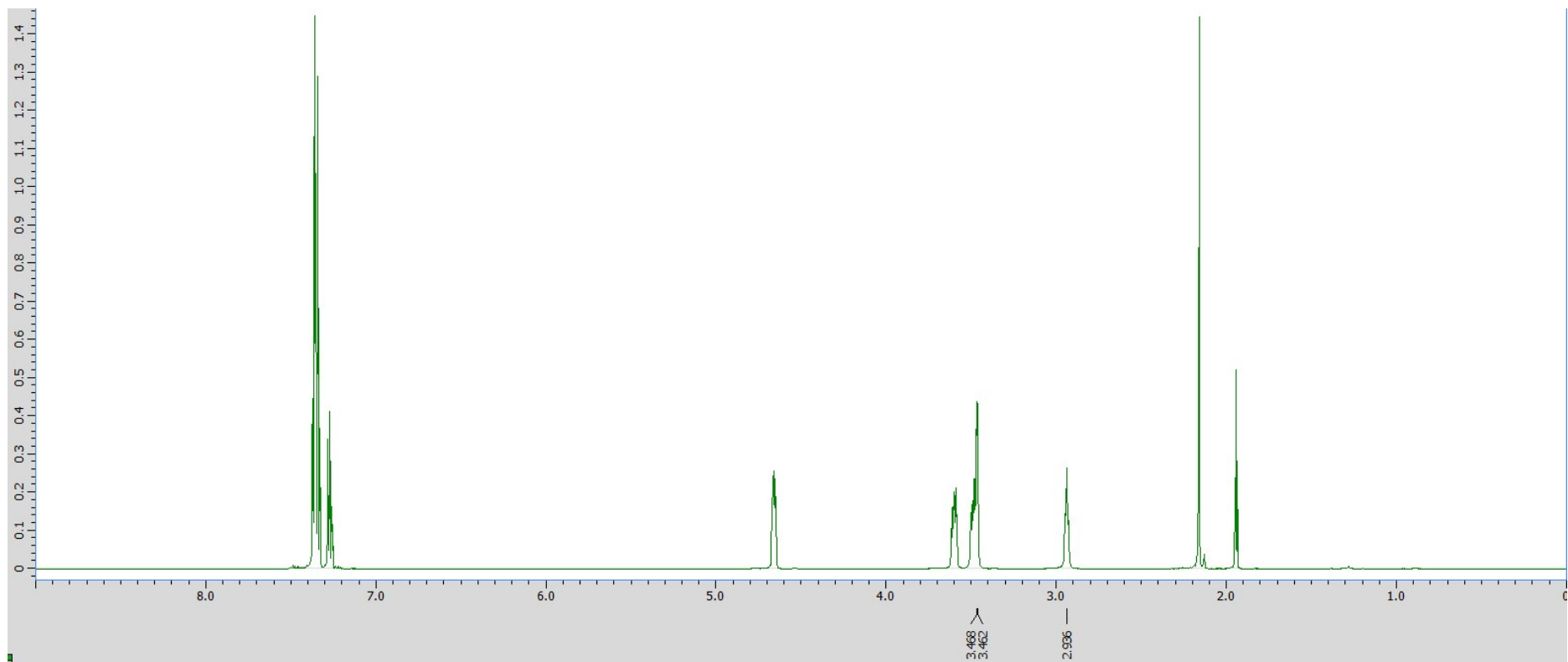


Figure S5. Recorded <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 30 °C.

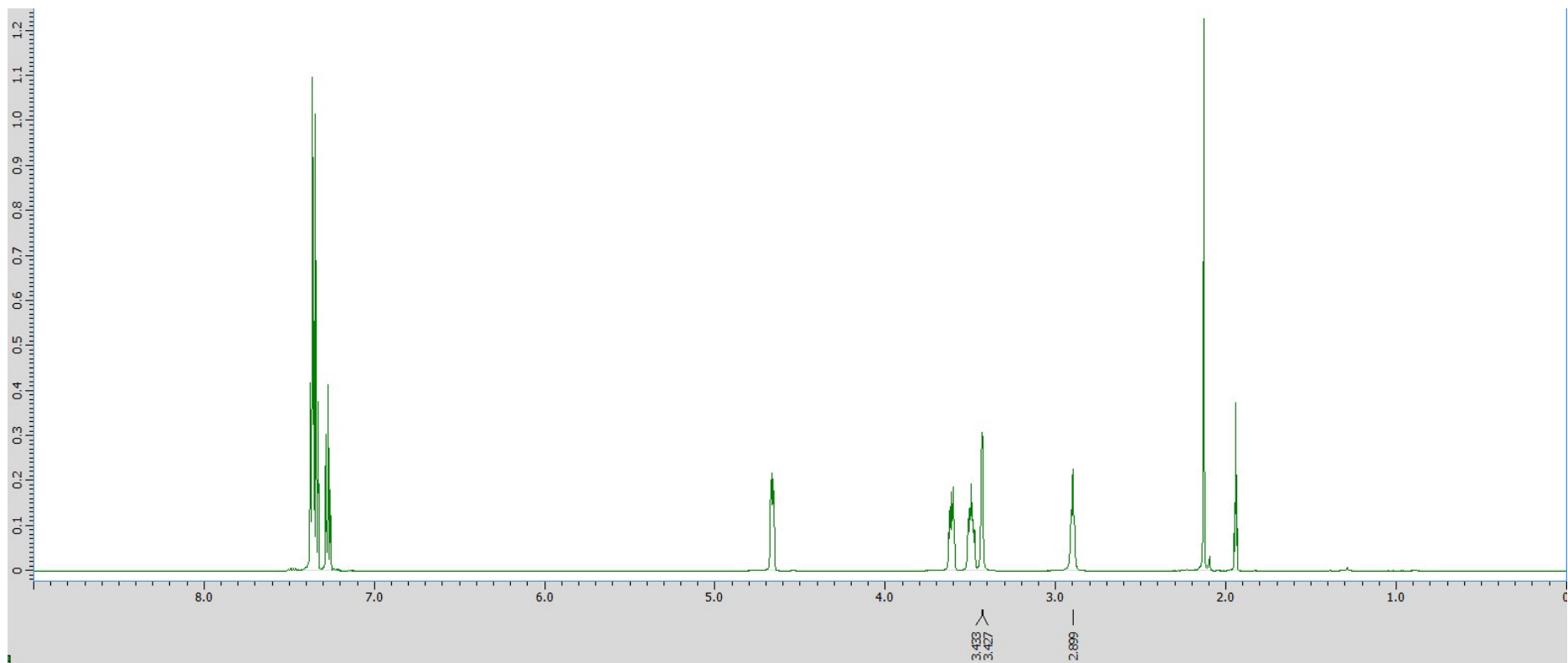


Figure S6. Recorded  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at  $40\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ .

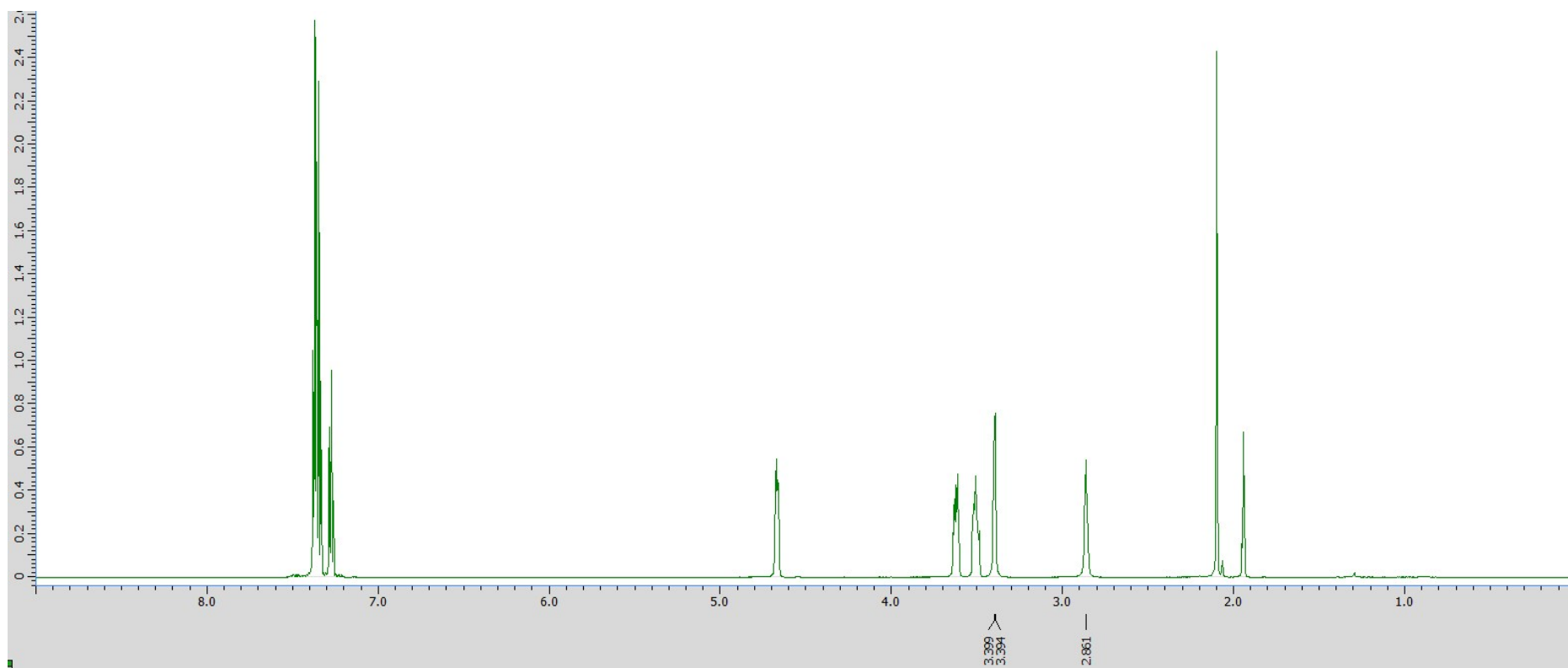


Figure S7. Recorded  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at  $50^\circ\text{C}$ .



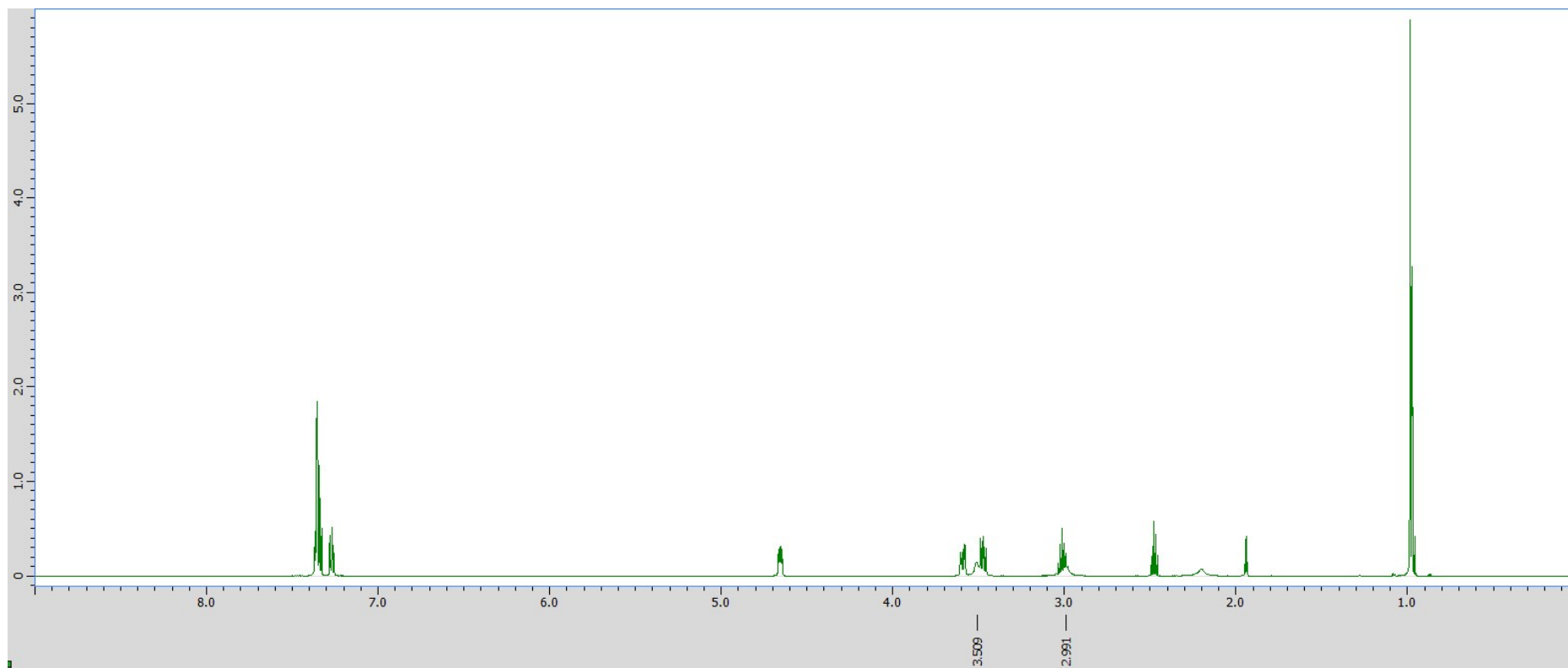


Figure S8. Recorded <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol and 0.2 equiv. of DIPEA in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 21.8 °C.

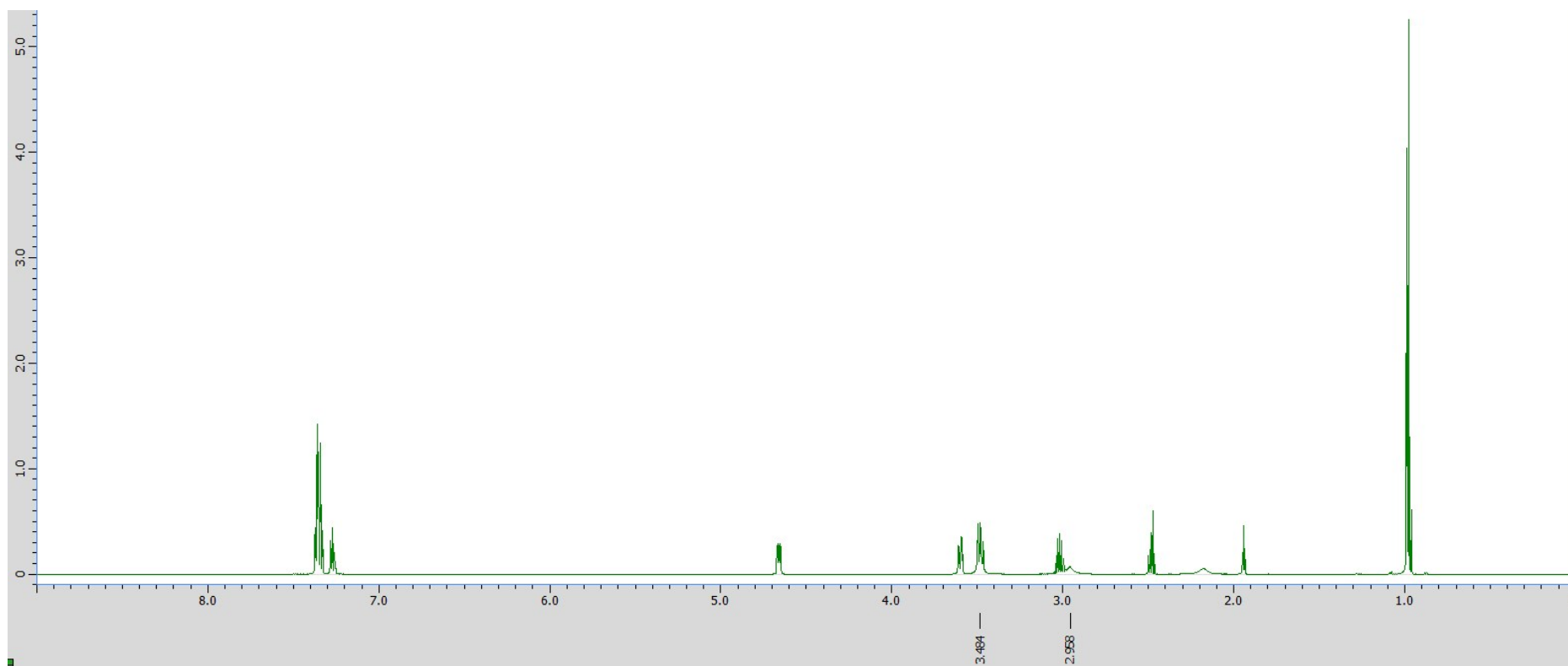


Figure S9. Recorded <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol and 0.2 equiv. of DIPEA in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 30 °C.

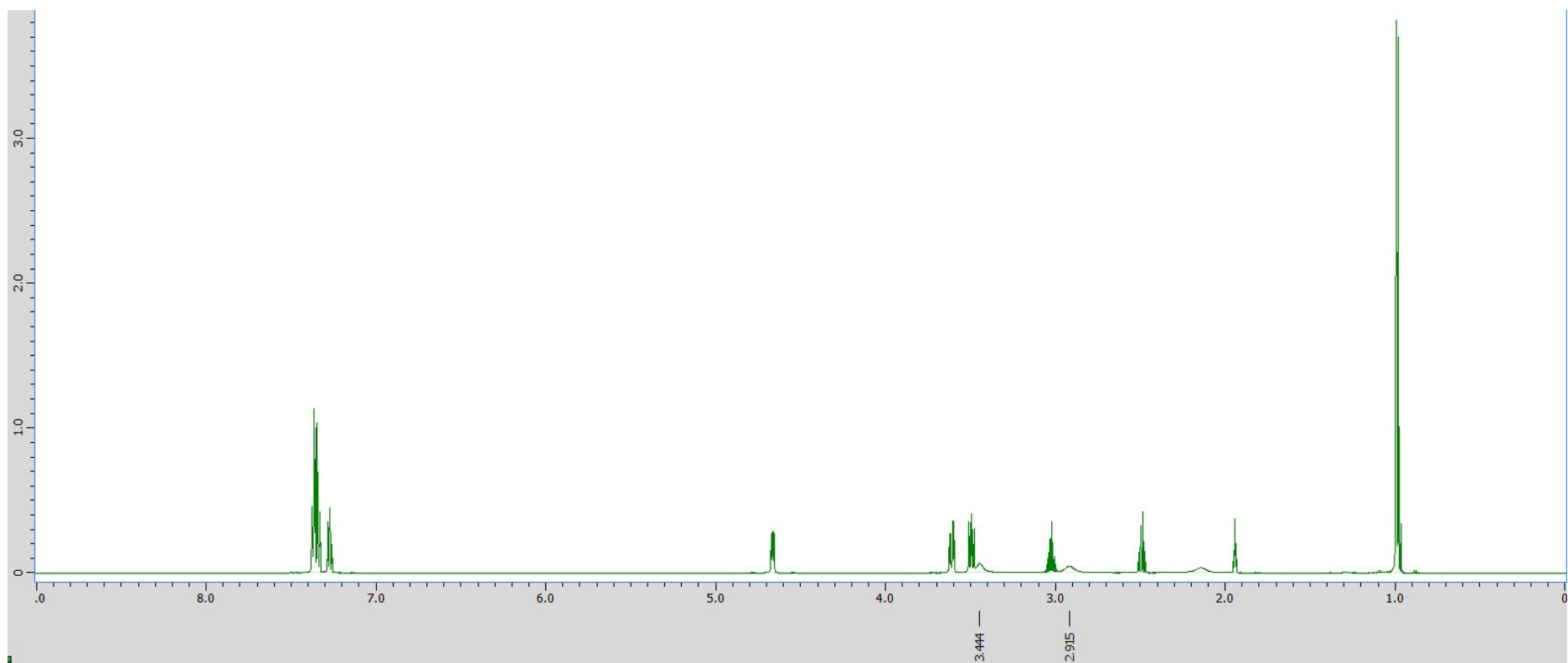


Figure S10. Recorded <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol and 0.2 equiv. of DIPEA in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 40 °C.

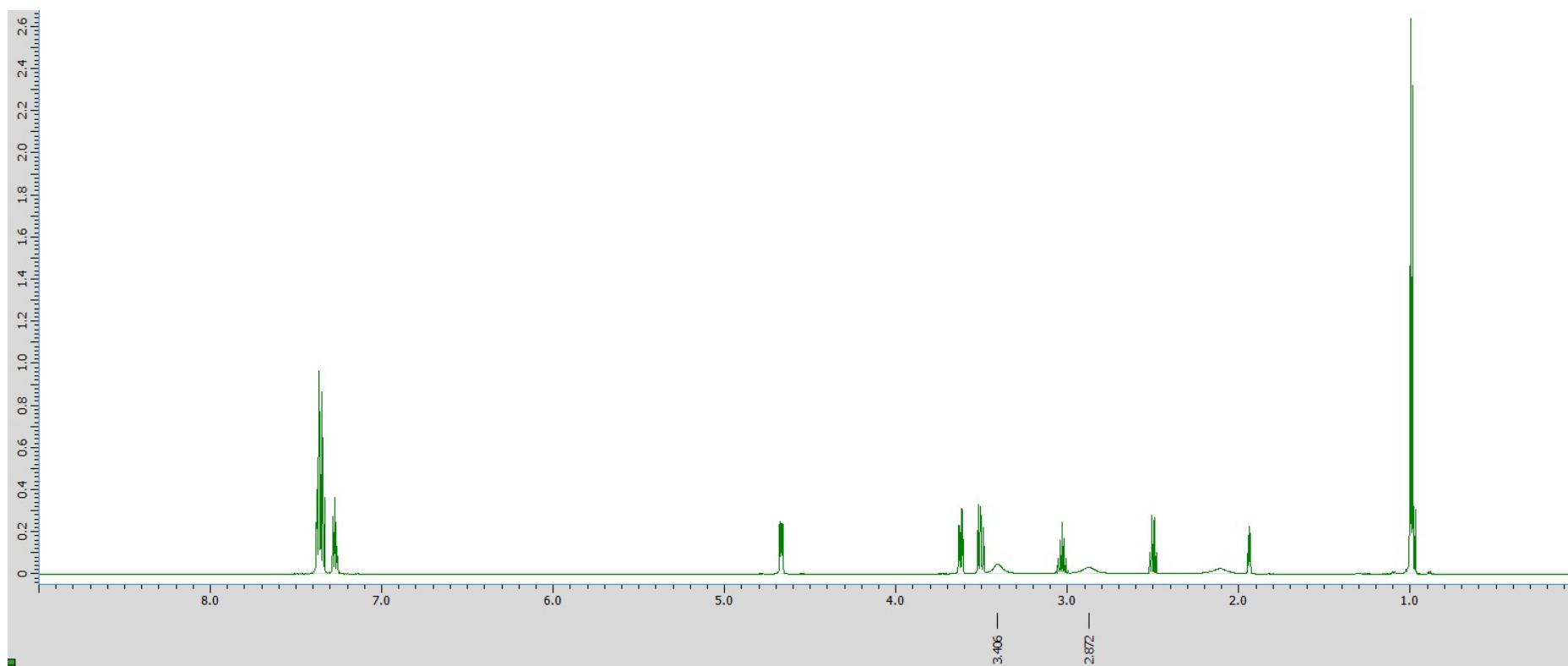


Figure S11. Recorded <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol and 0.2 equiv. of DIPEA in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 50 °C.

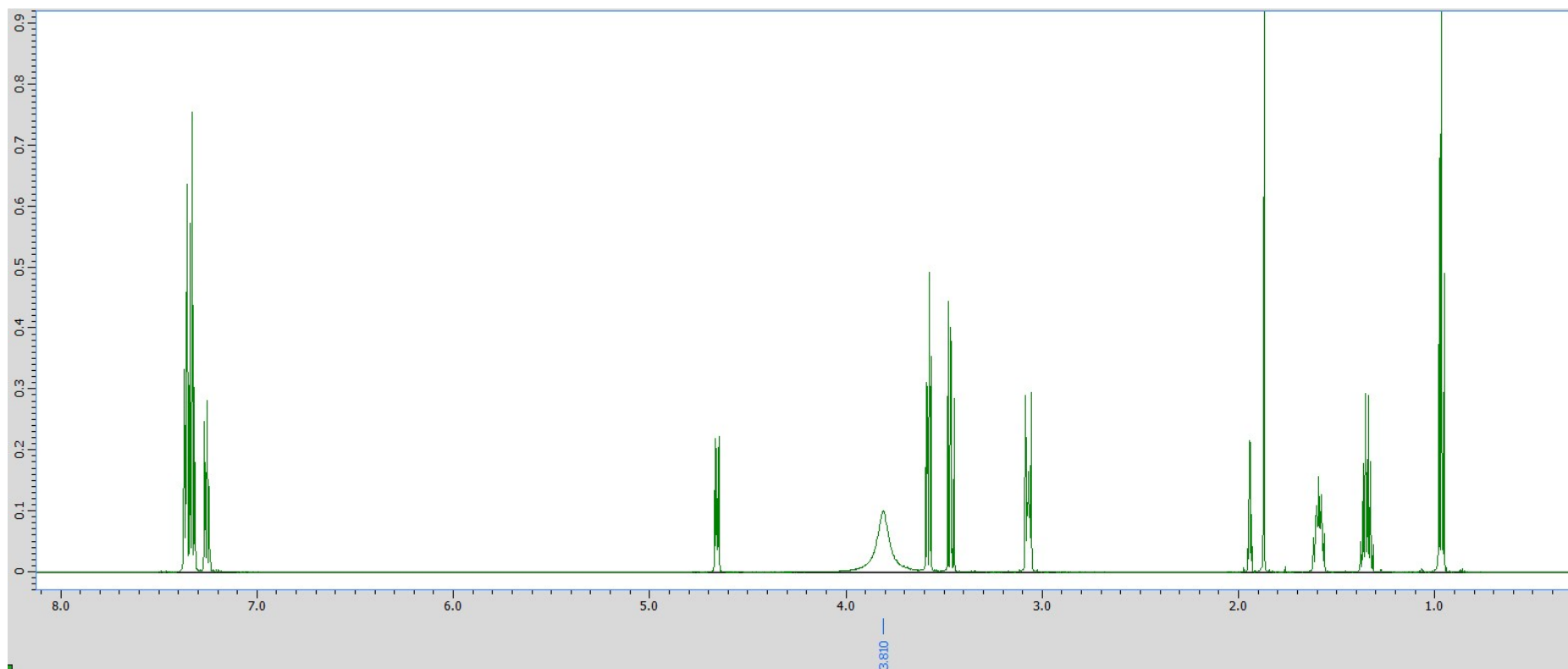


Figure S12. Recorded <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol and 0.2 equiv. of TBAOAc in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 20.8 °C.

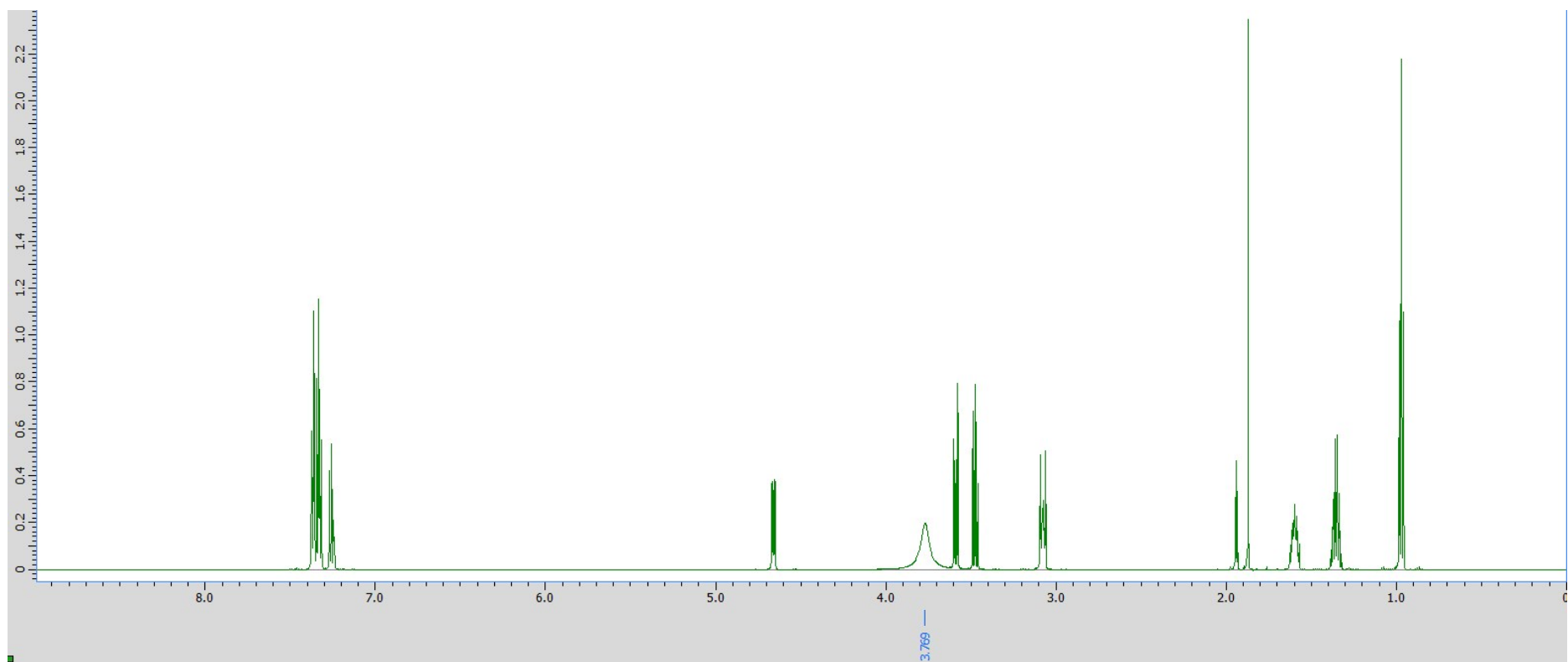


Figure S13. Recorded <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol and 0.2 equiv. of TBAOAc in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 30 °C.

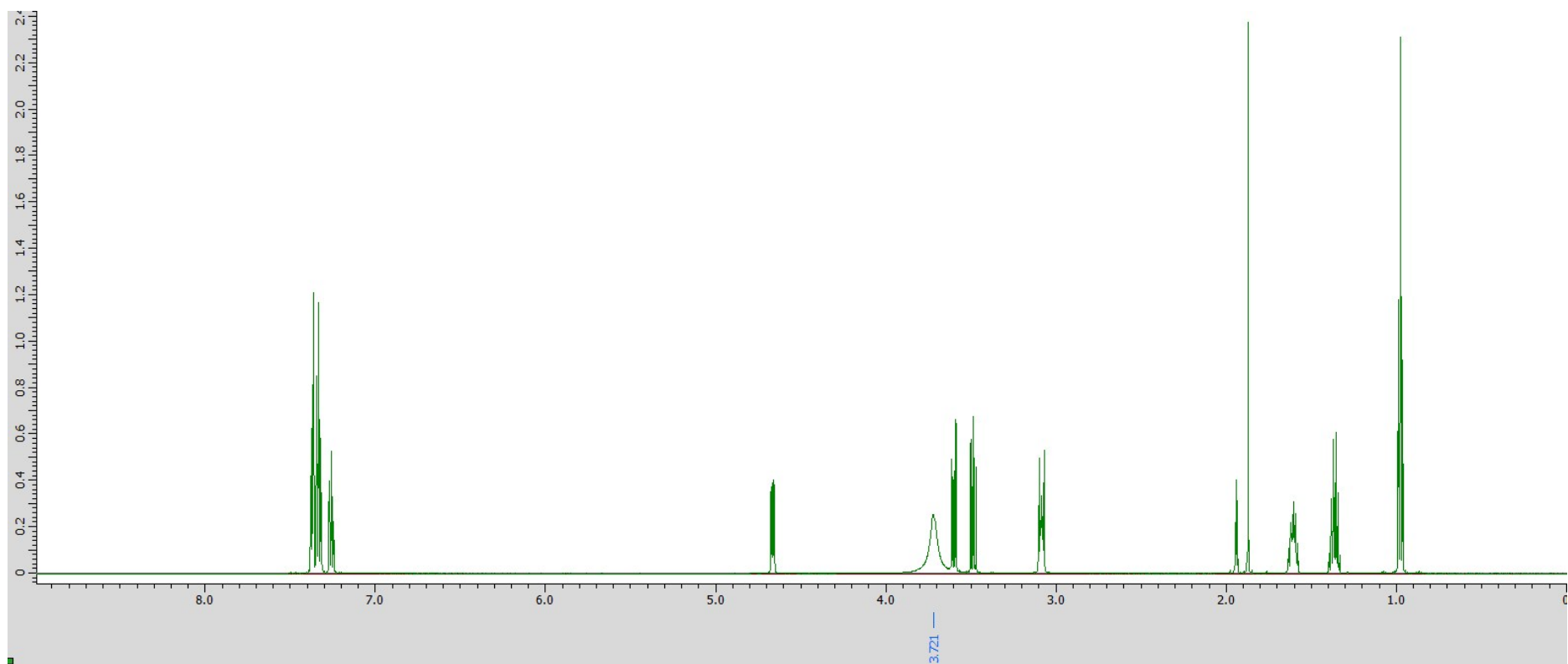


Figure S14. Recorded <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol and 0.2 equiv. of TBAOAc in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 40 °C.

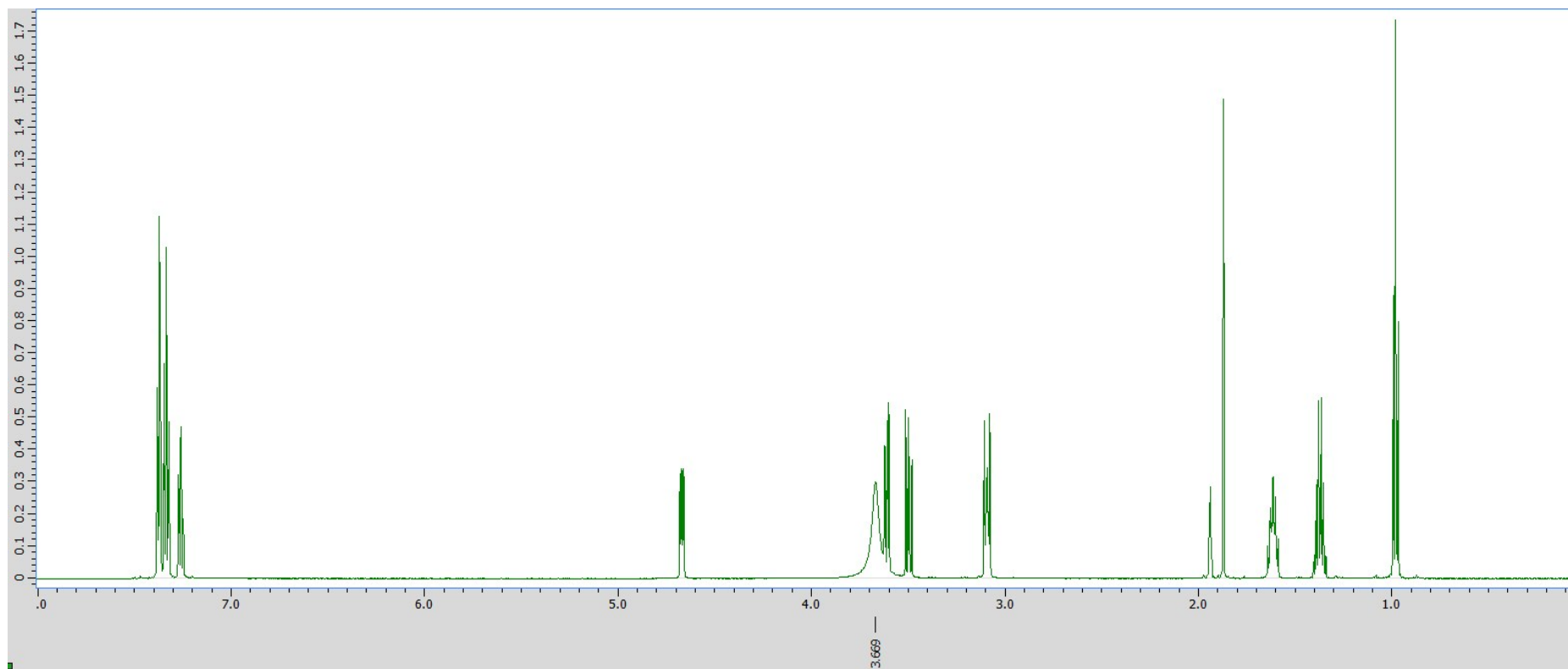


Figure S15. Recorded <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol and 0.2 equiv. of TBAOAc in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 50 °C.



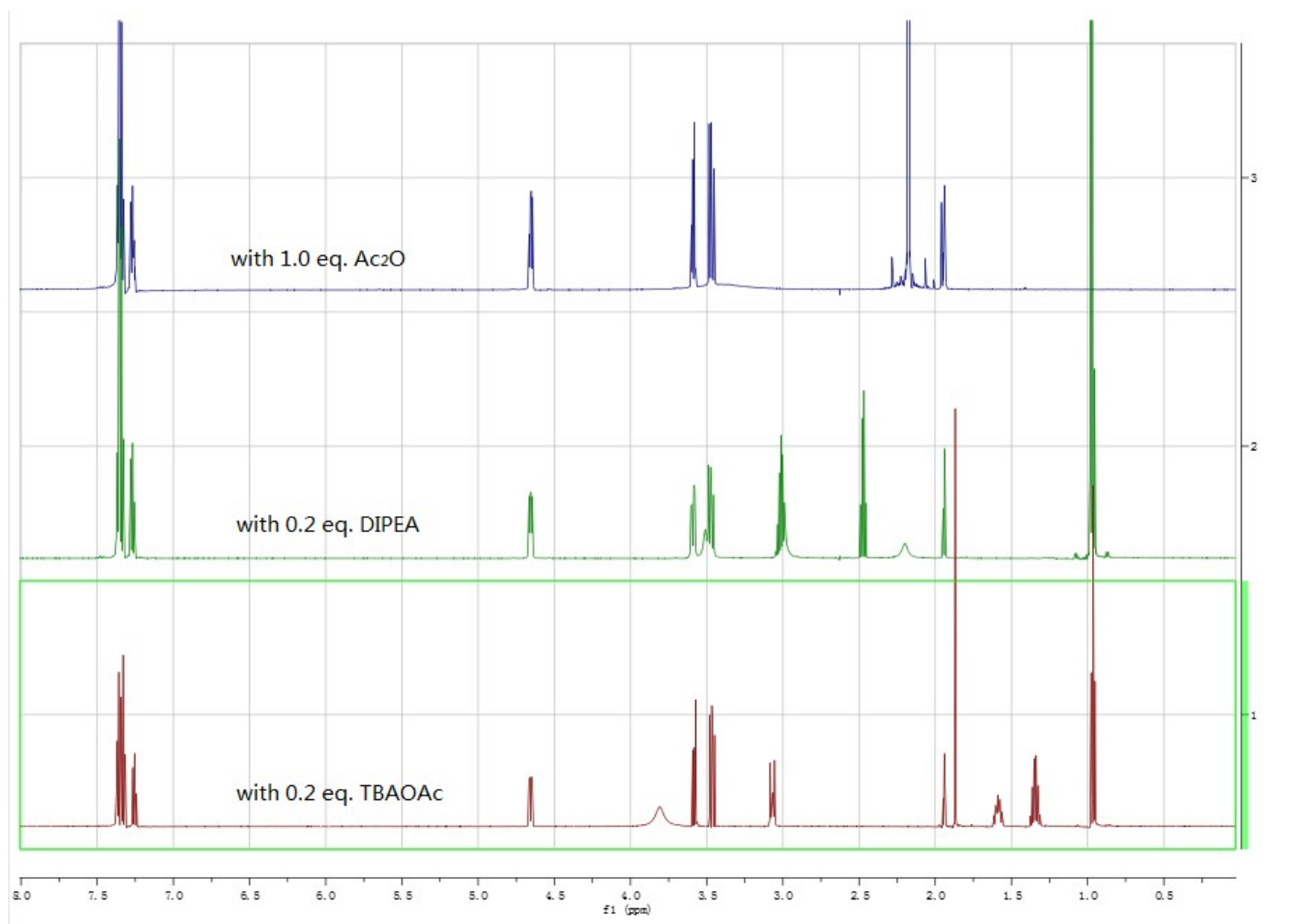


Figure S16. <sup>1</sup>H NMR comparison of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol with 0.2 equiv. of TBAOAc/0.2 equiv. of DIPEA/1.0 equiv. of Ac<sub>2</sub>O in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 20 °C.

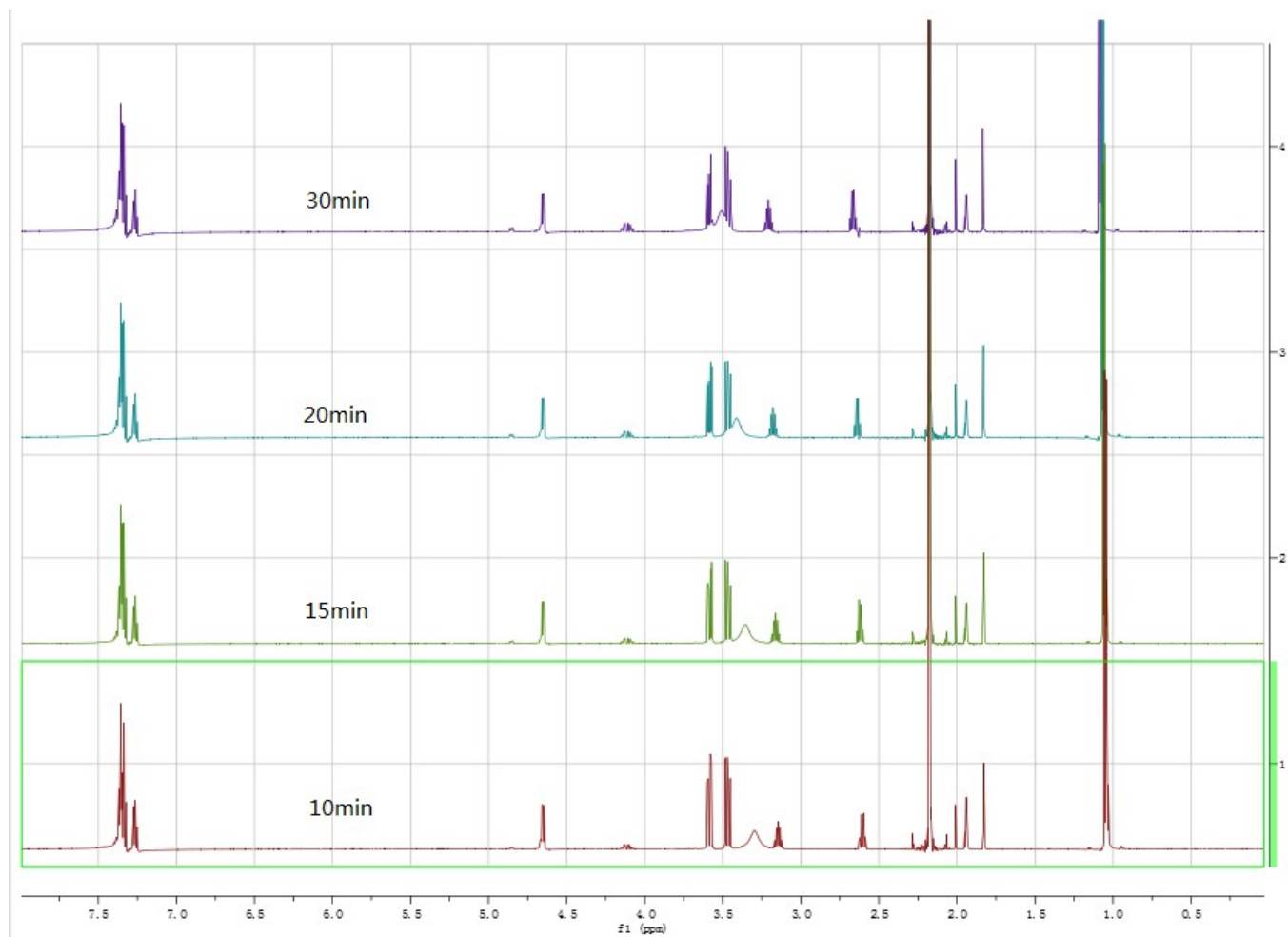


Figure S17. <sup>1</sup>H NMR tracking the reaction of 1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol with 0.2 equiv. of DIPEA and 1.0 equiv. Ac<sub>2</sub>O in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 20 °C.

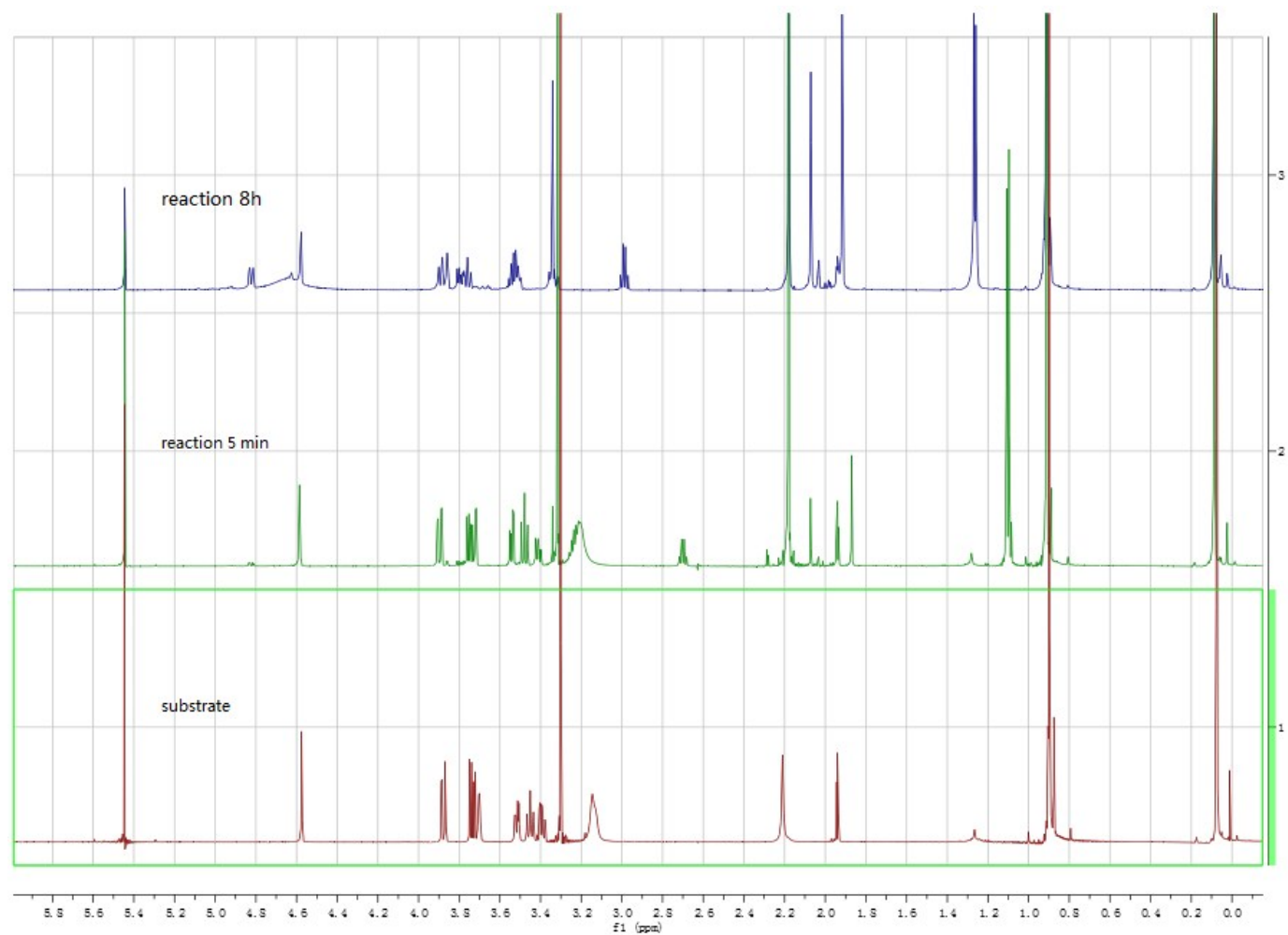
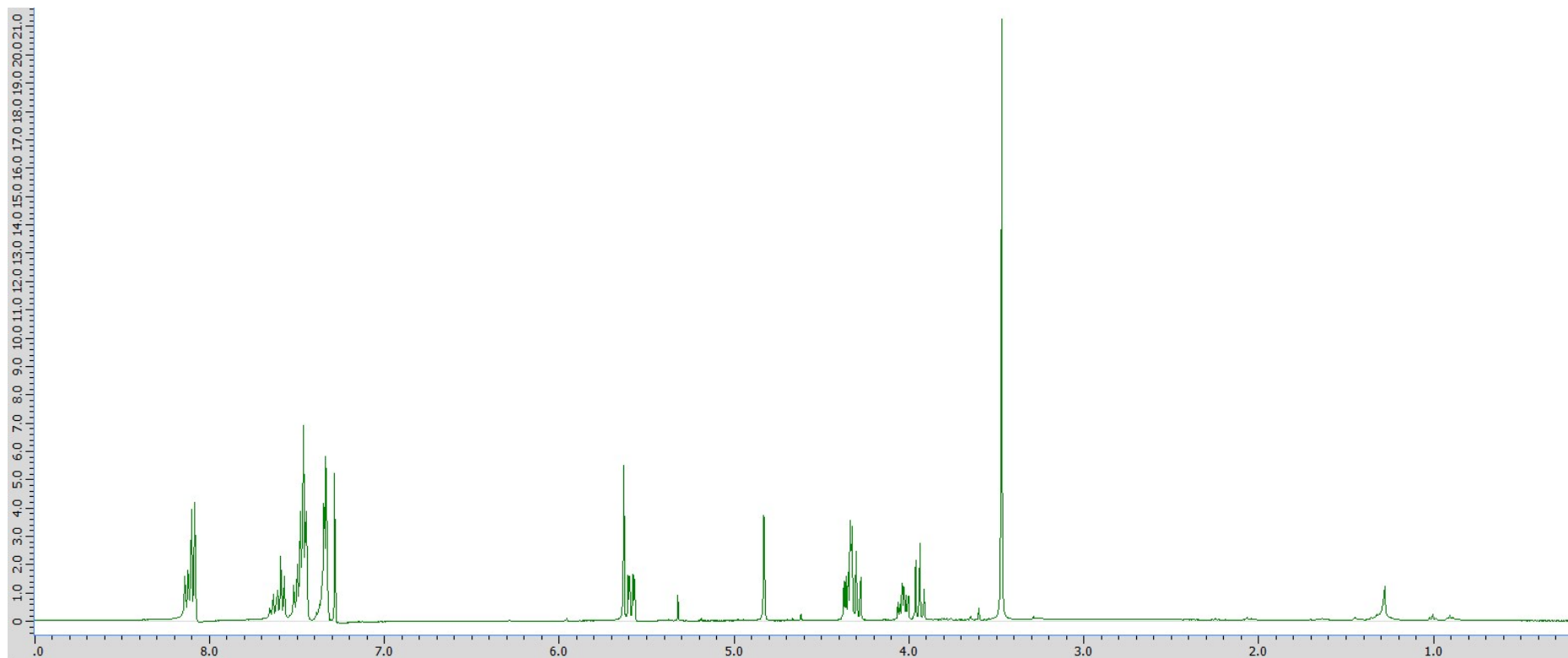


Figure S18.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR tracking the reaction of Methyl 6-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)- $\alpha$ -D-mannopyranoside with 0.2 equiv. of DIPEA and 1.1 equiv.  $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  at 40  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

**NMR Spectra of Products:**

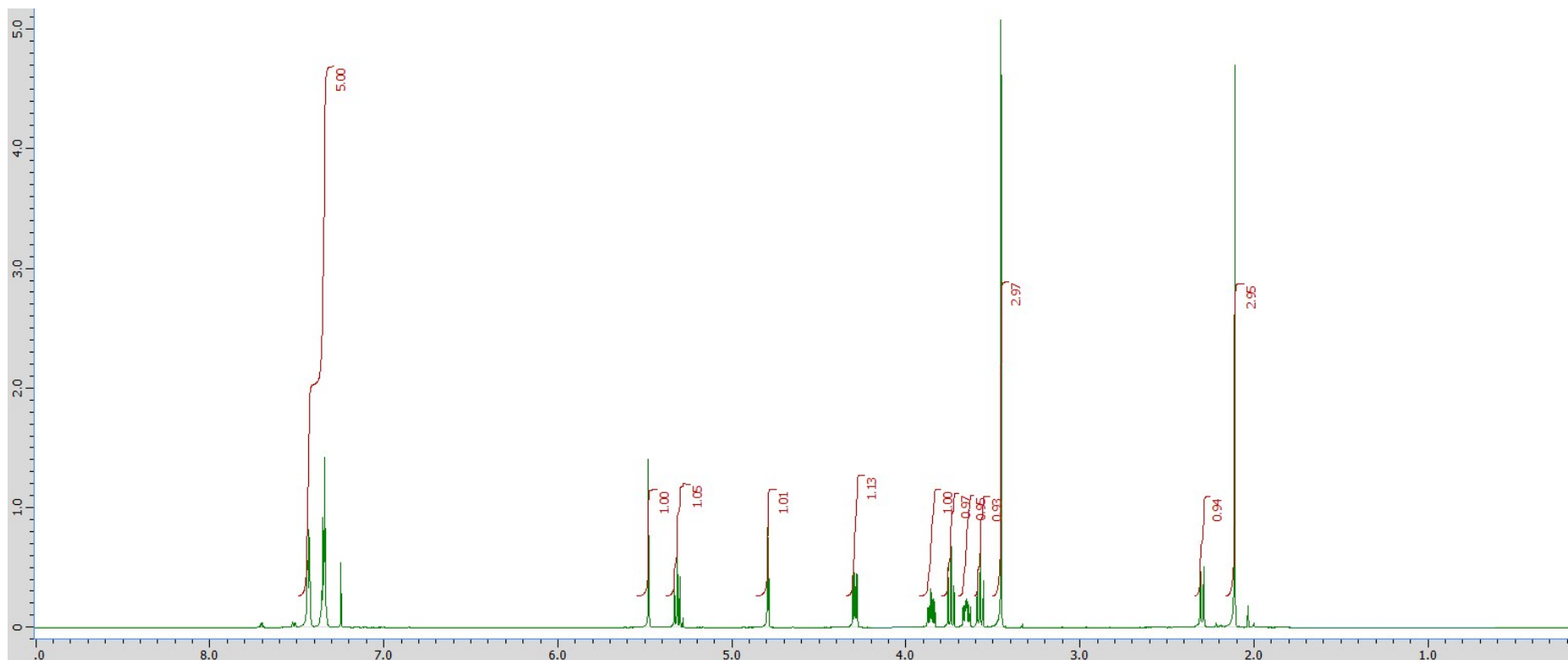
**Methyl 2-*O*-benzoyl-4, 6-*O*-benzylidene- $\alpha$ -D-mannopyranoside (5a)<sup>3</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound 5a (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



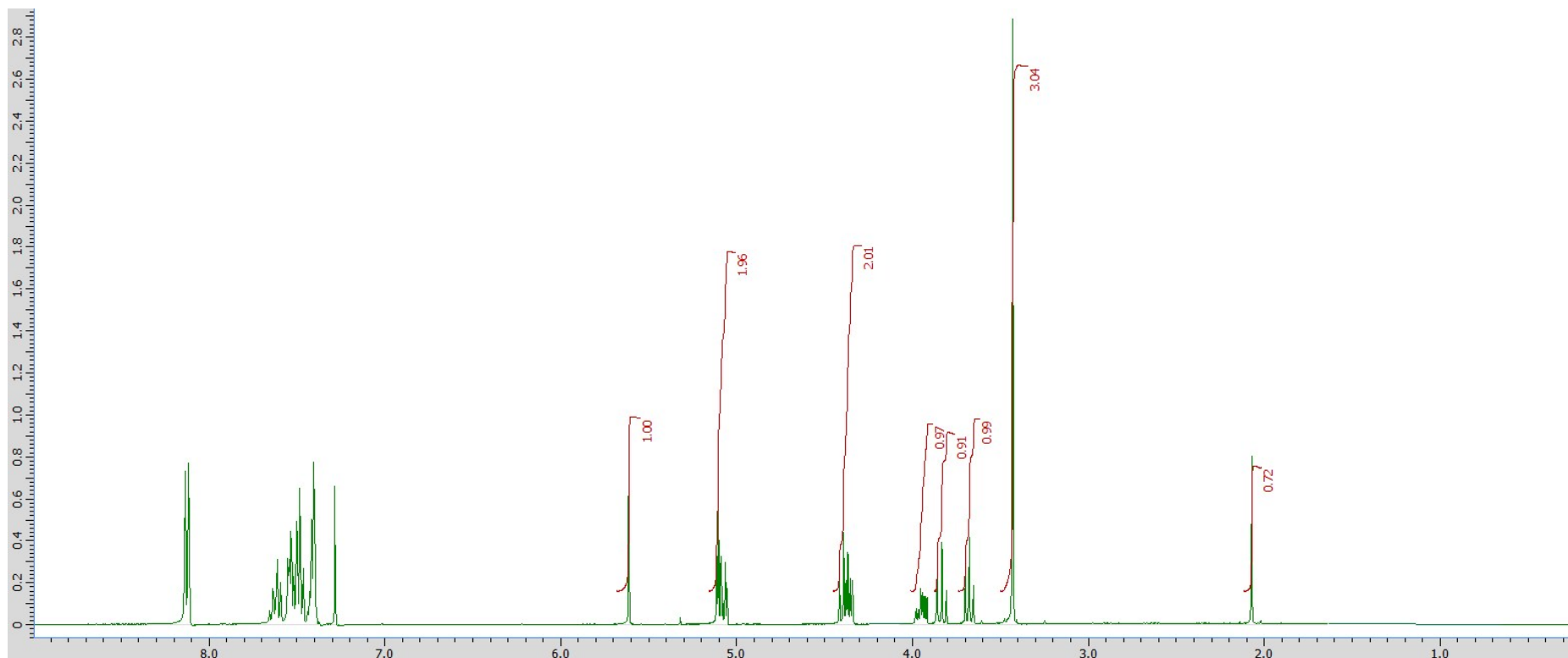
**Methyl 2-*O*-acetyl-4, 6-*O*-benzylidene- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (7a)<sup>1</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound 7a (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

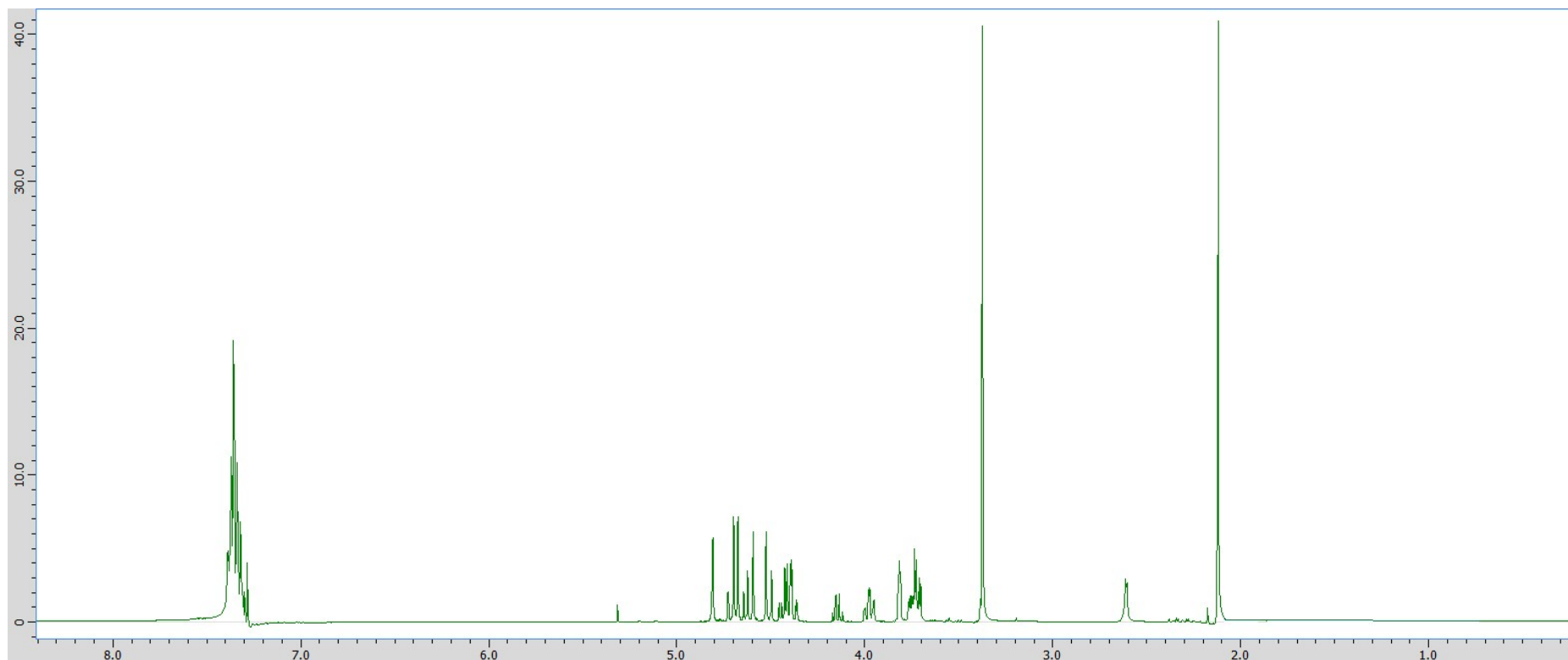


**Methyl 2-*O*-benzoyl-4, 6-*O*-benzylidene- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (8a)<sup>3</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **8a** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

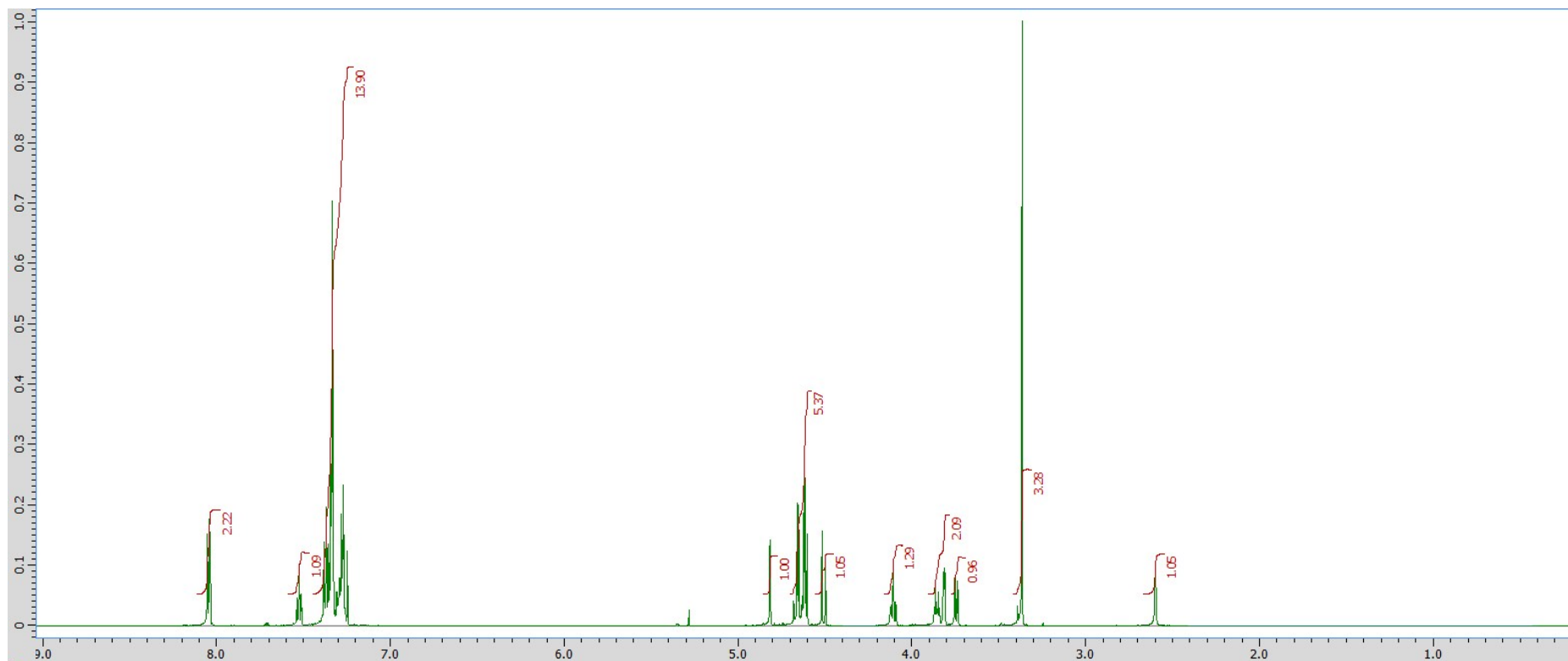


**Methyl 2, 3-di-*O*-benzyl-6-*O*-acetyl- $\alpha$ -D-mannopyranoside (10)<sup>1</sup>:**  
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **10** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



**Methyl 2, 3-di-O-benzyl-6-O-benzoyl- $\alpha$ -D-mannopyranoside (11)<sup>3</sup>:**

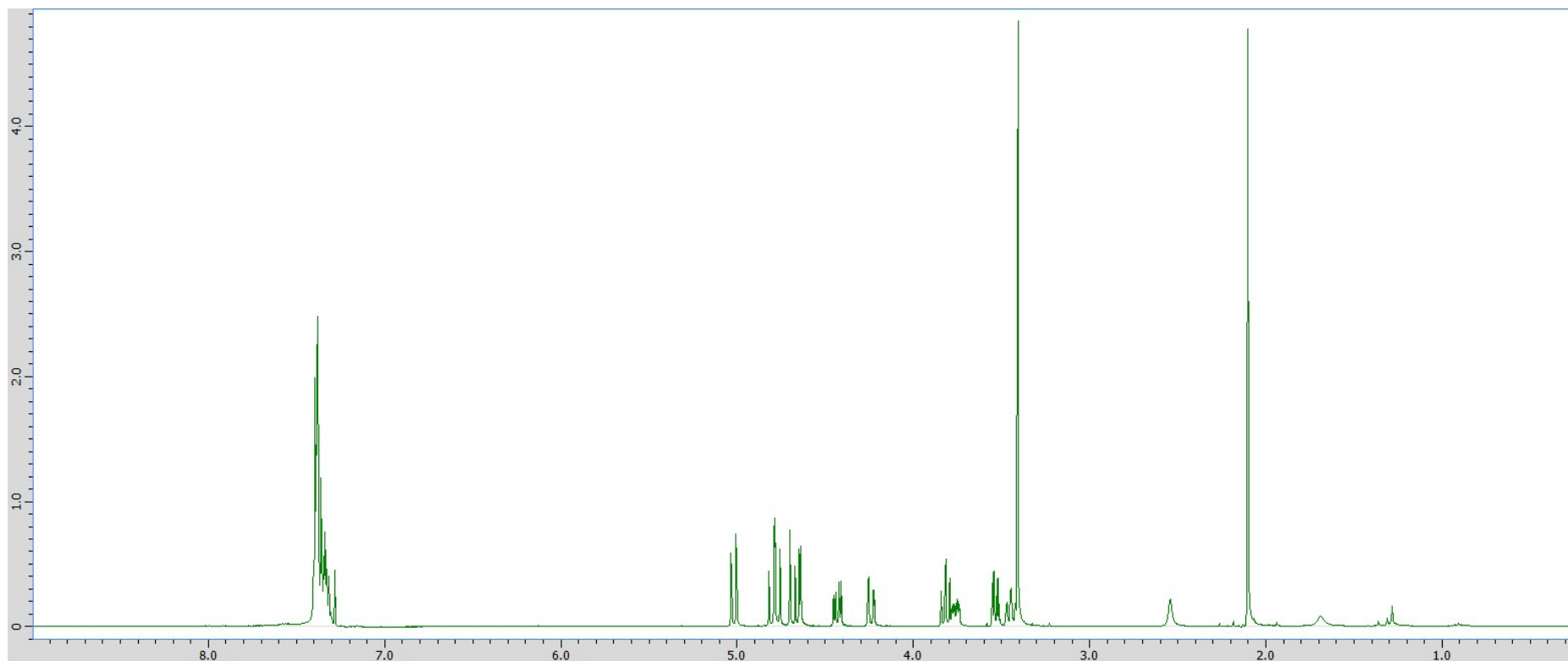
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **11** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





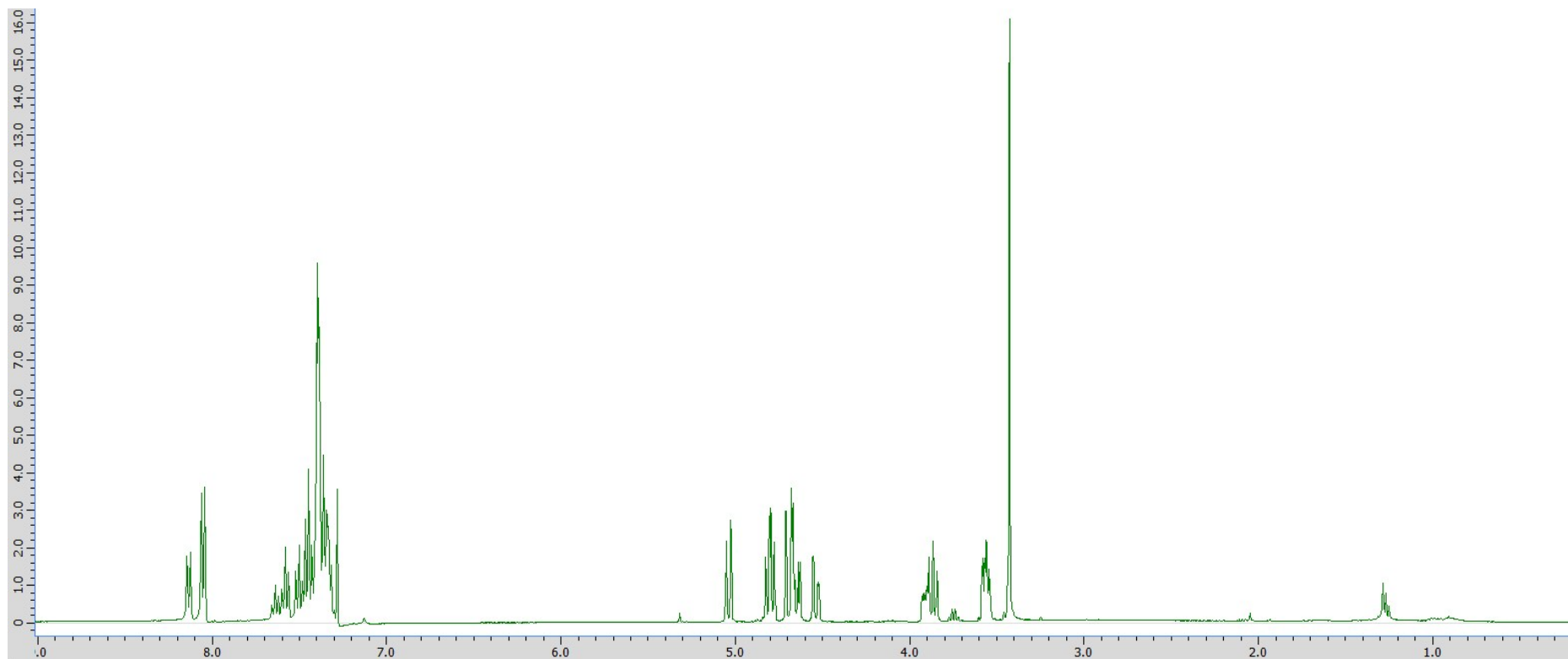
**Methyl 2, 3-di-O-benzyl-6-O-acetyl- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (13)<sup>1</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **13** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



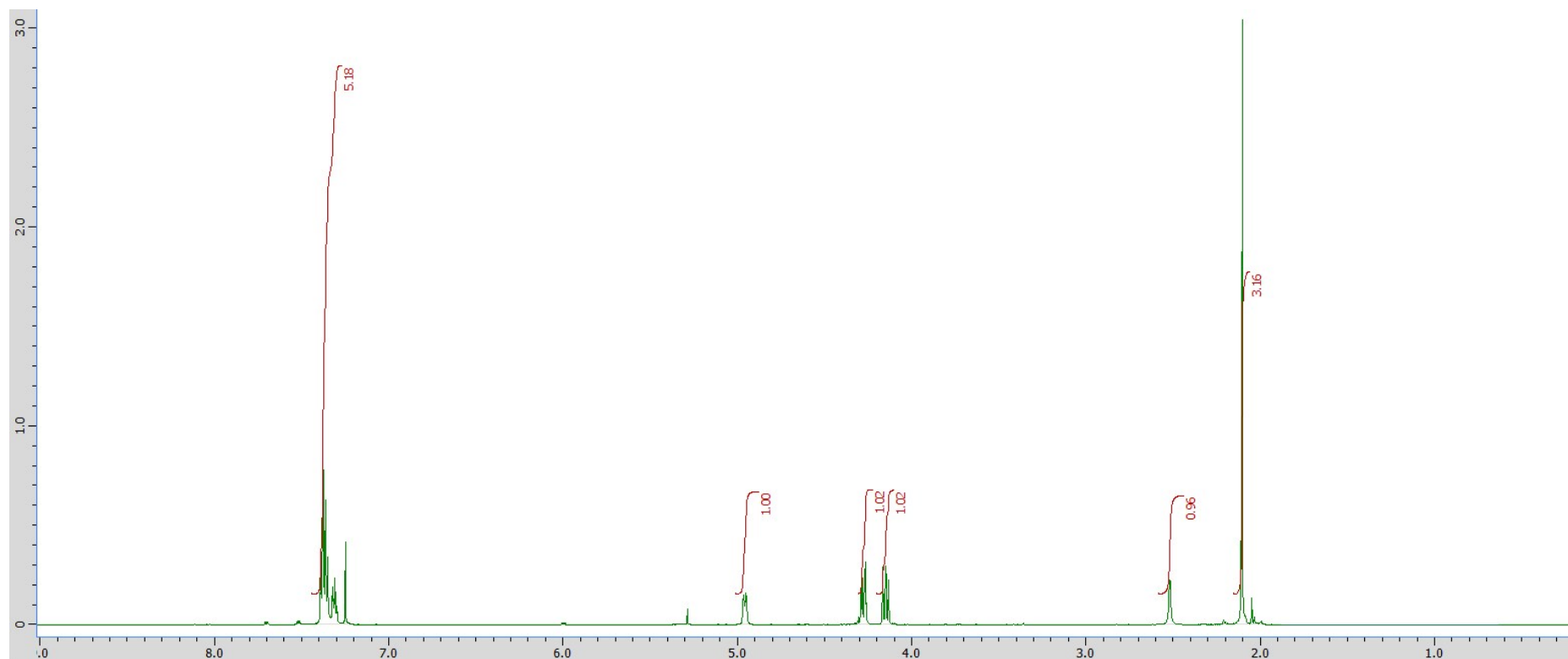
**Methyl 2, 3-di-O-benzyl-6-O-benzoyl- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (14)<sup>3</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **14** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



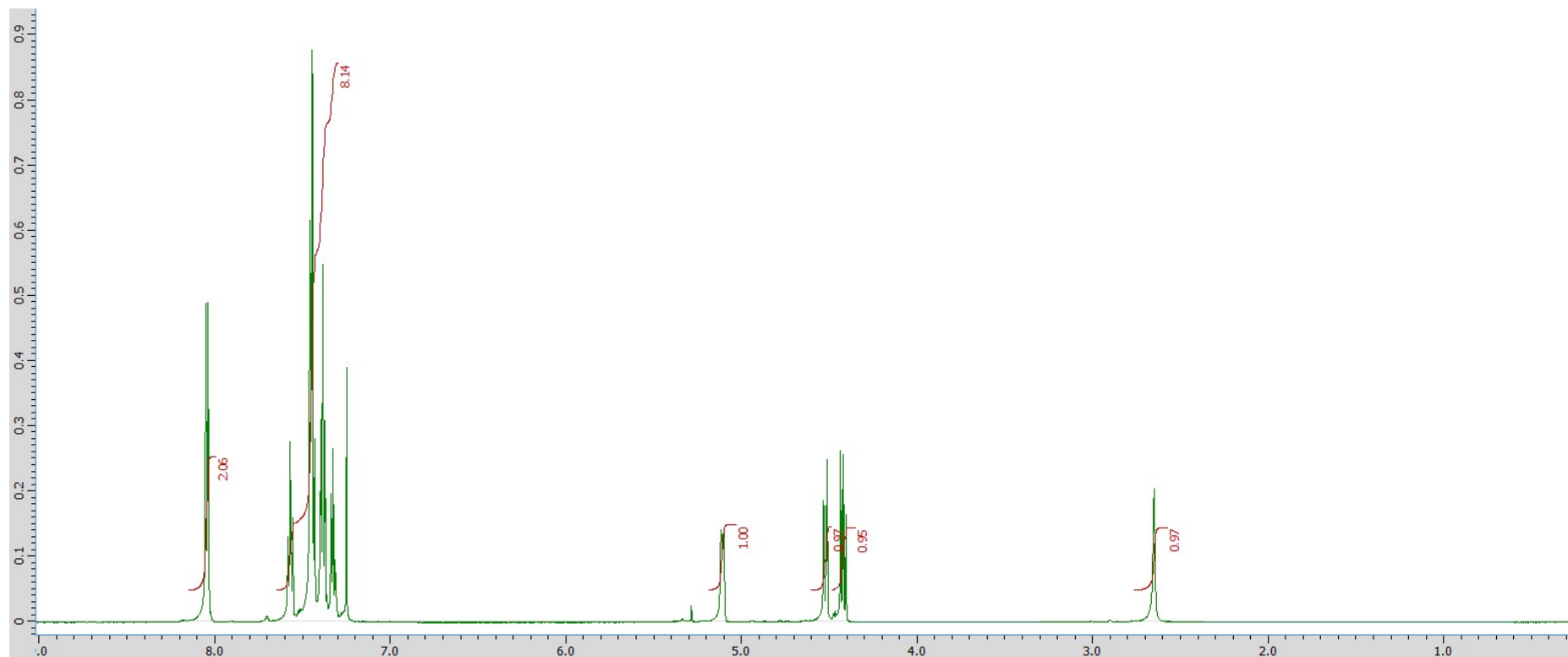
**2-O-acetyl-1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol (16)<sup>1</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **16** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



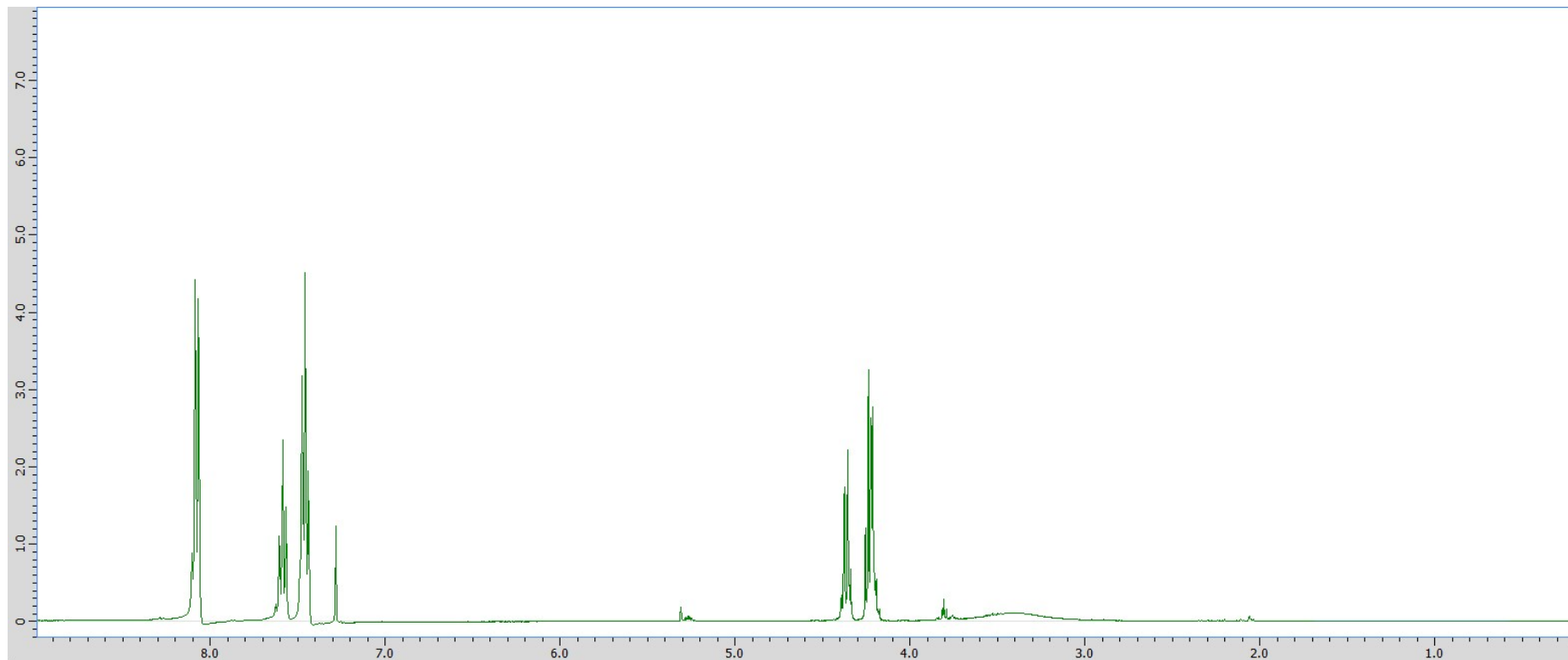
**2-O-benzoyl-1-phenyl-1,2-ethanediol (17)<sup>3</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound 17 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



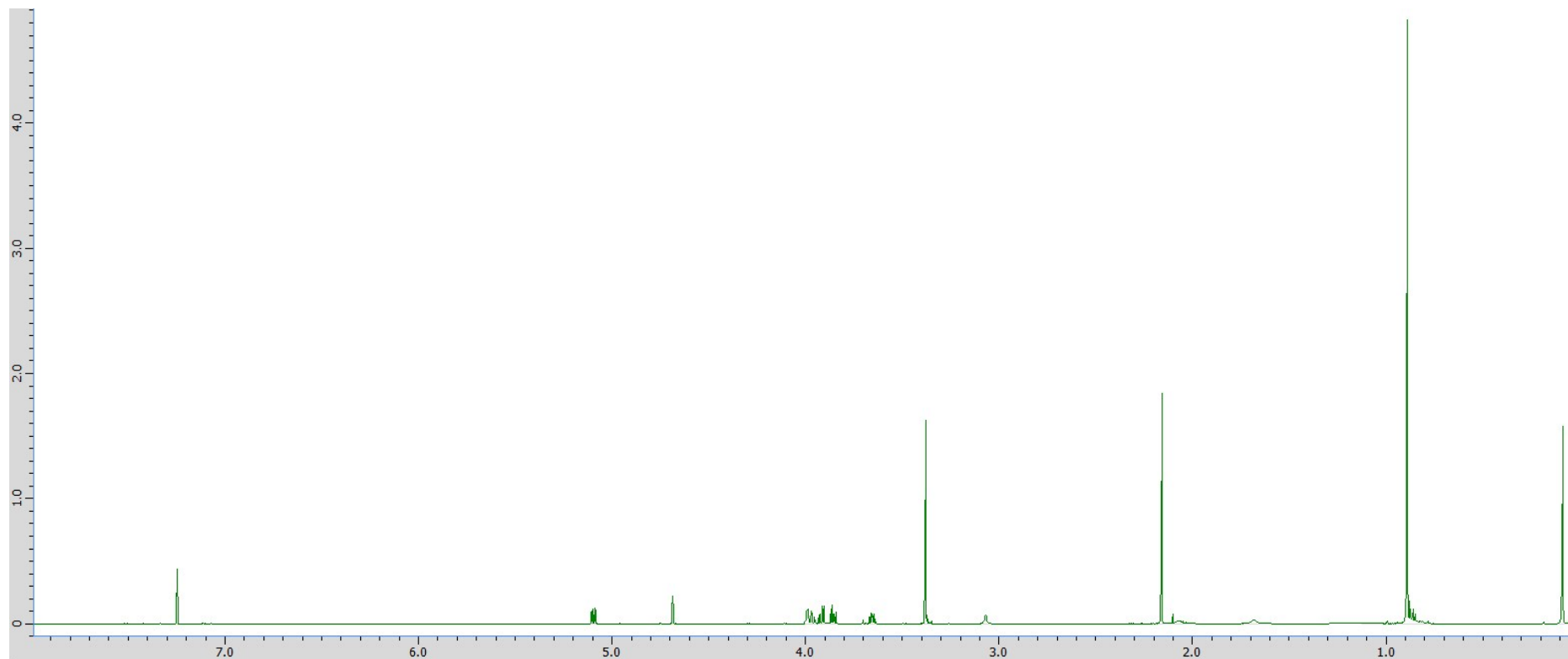
**1-*O*-benzoyl-1,2-propanediol (**20**)<sup>3</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **20** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



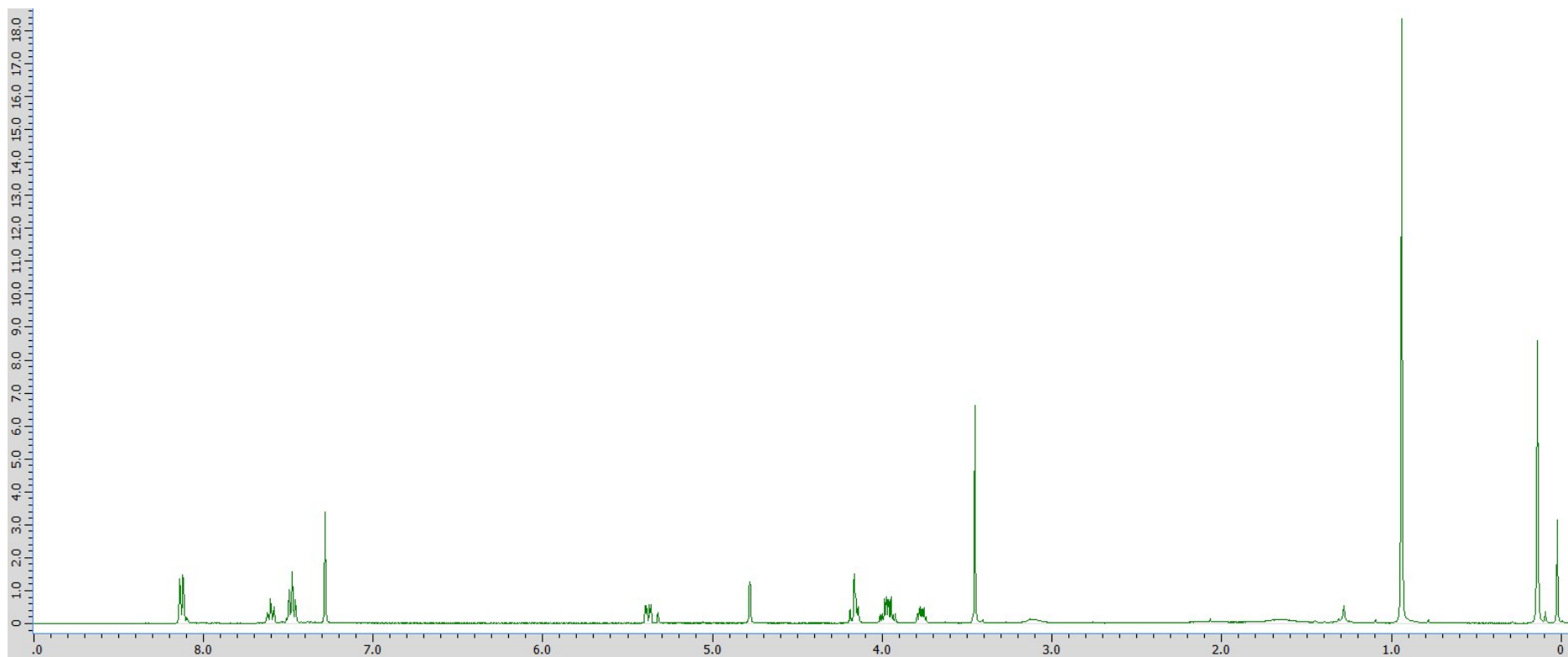
**Methyl 3-*O*-acetyl-6-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)- $\alpha$ -D-mannopyranoside (21)<sup>2</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **21** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



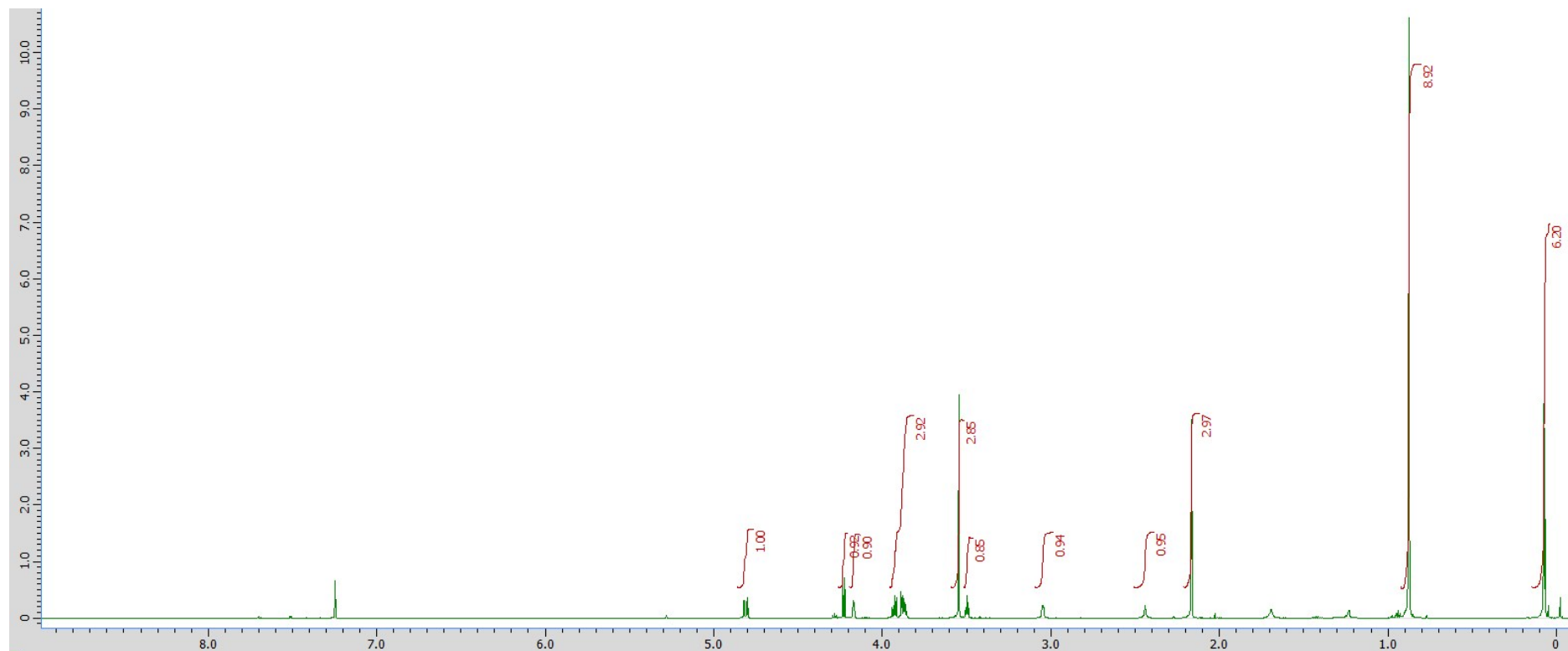
**Methyl 3-*O*-benzoyl-6-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)- $\alpha$ -D-mannopyranoside (22)<sup>3</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound 22 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



**Methyl 3-*O*-acetyl-6-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside (**24**)<sup>2</sup>:**

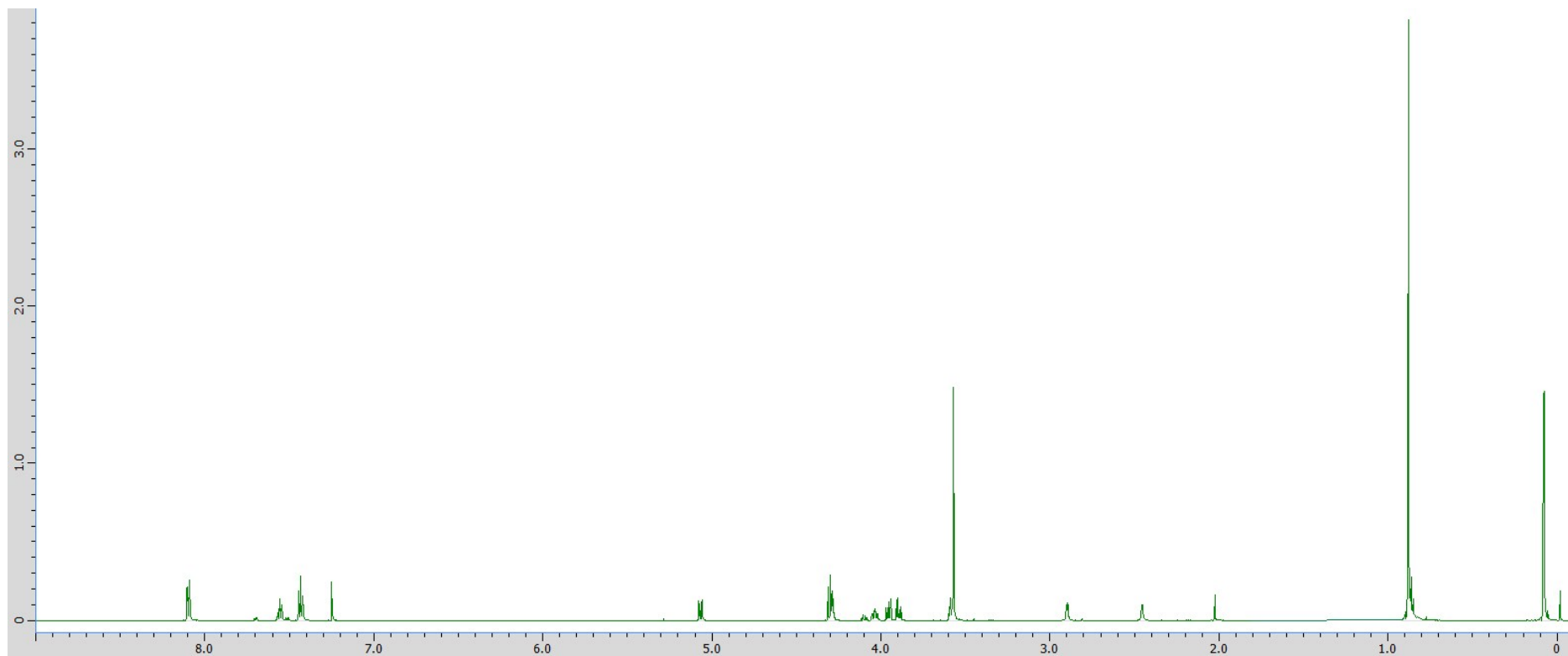
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **24** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





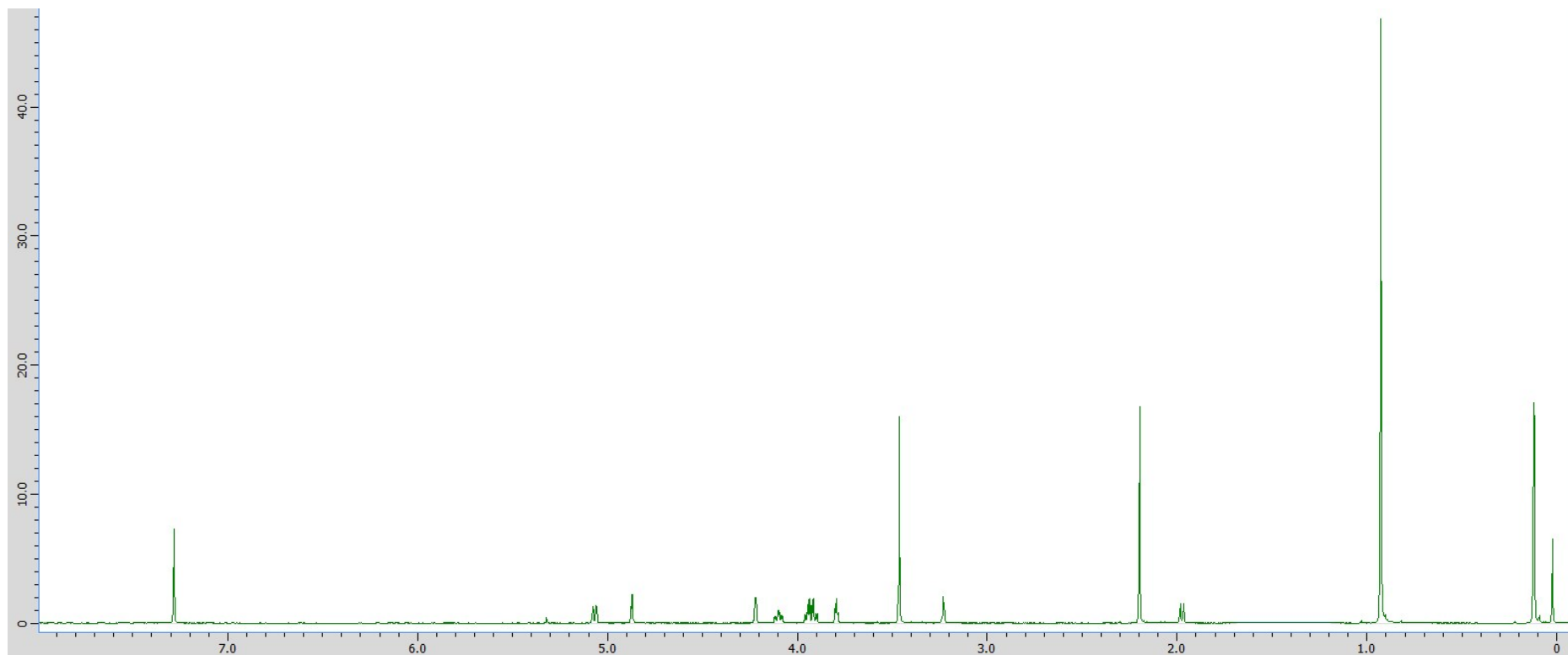
**Methyl 3-*O*-benzoyl-6-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside (25)<sup>3</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **25** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



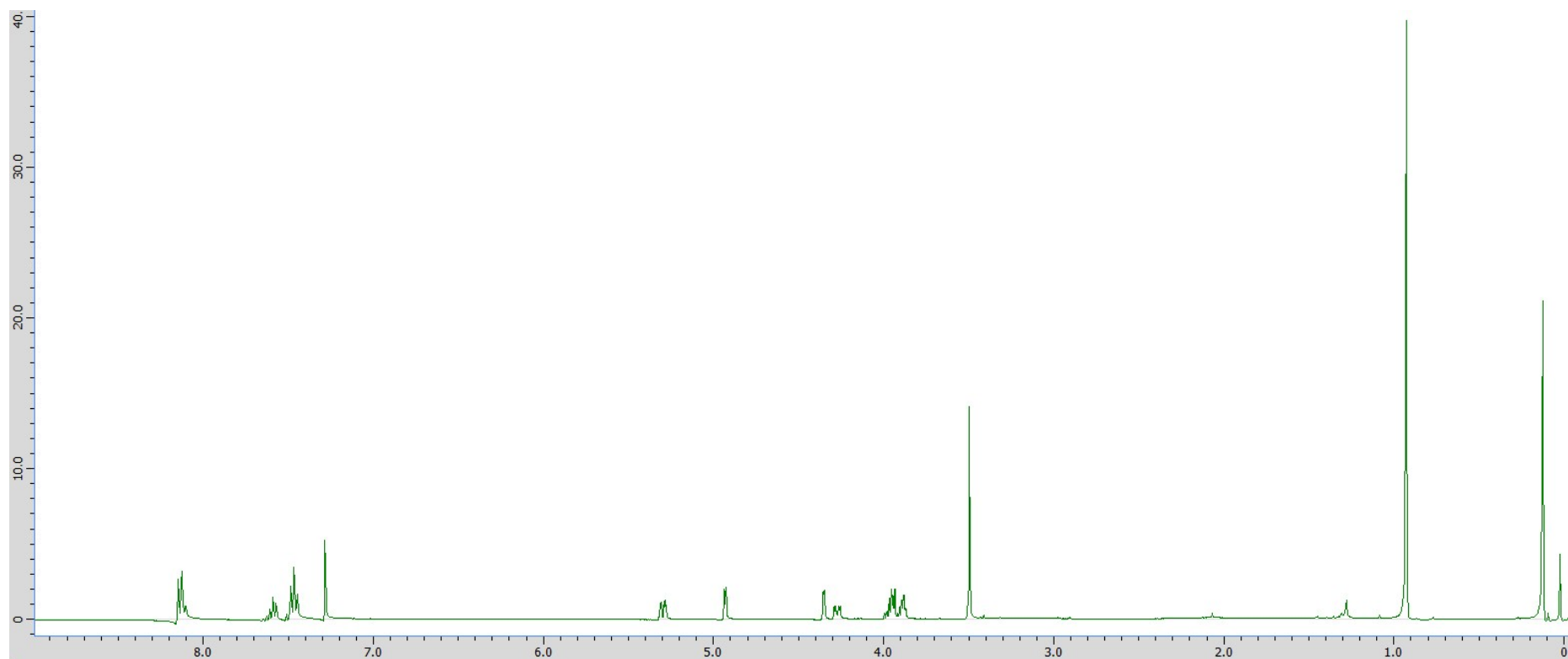
**Methyl 3-*O*-acetyl-6-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranoside (27)<sup>2</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound 27 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



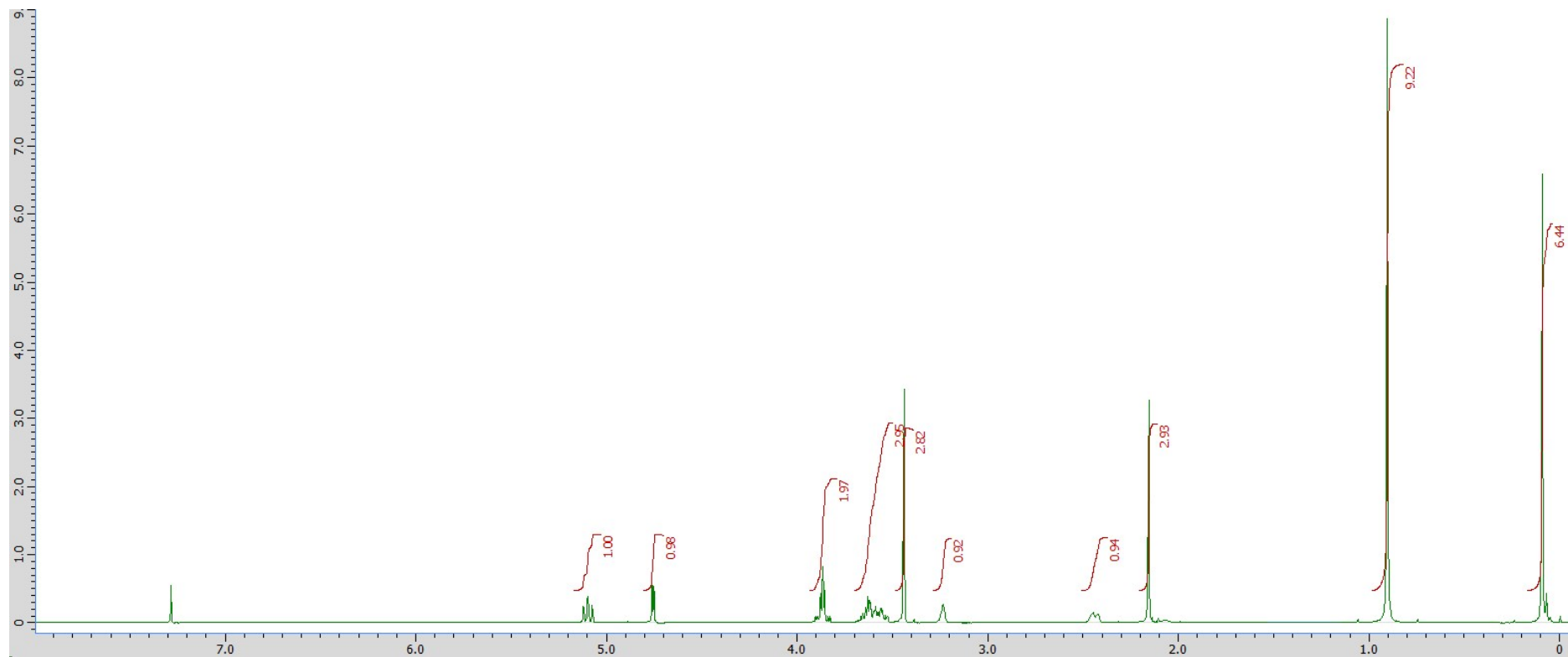
**Methyl 3-*O*-benzoyl-6-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranoside (**28**)<sup>3</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **28** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



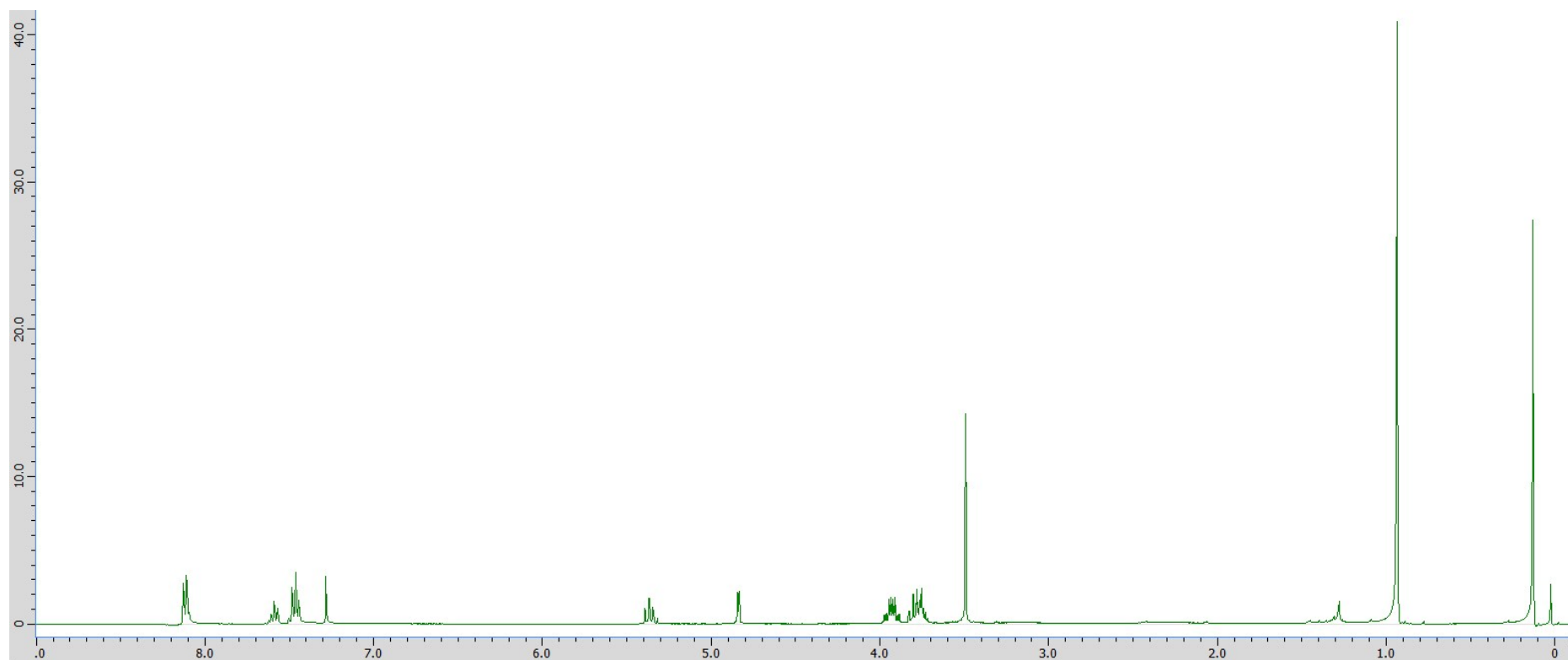
**Methyl 3-*O*-acetyl-6-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (**30**)<sup>2</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **30** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



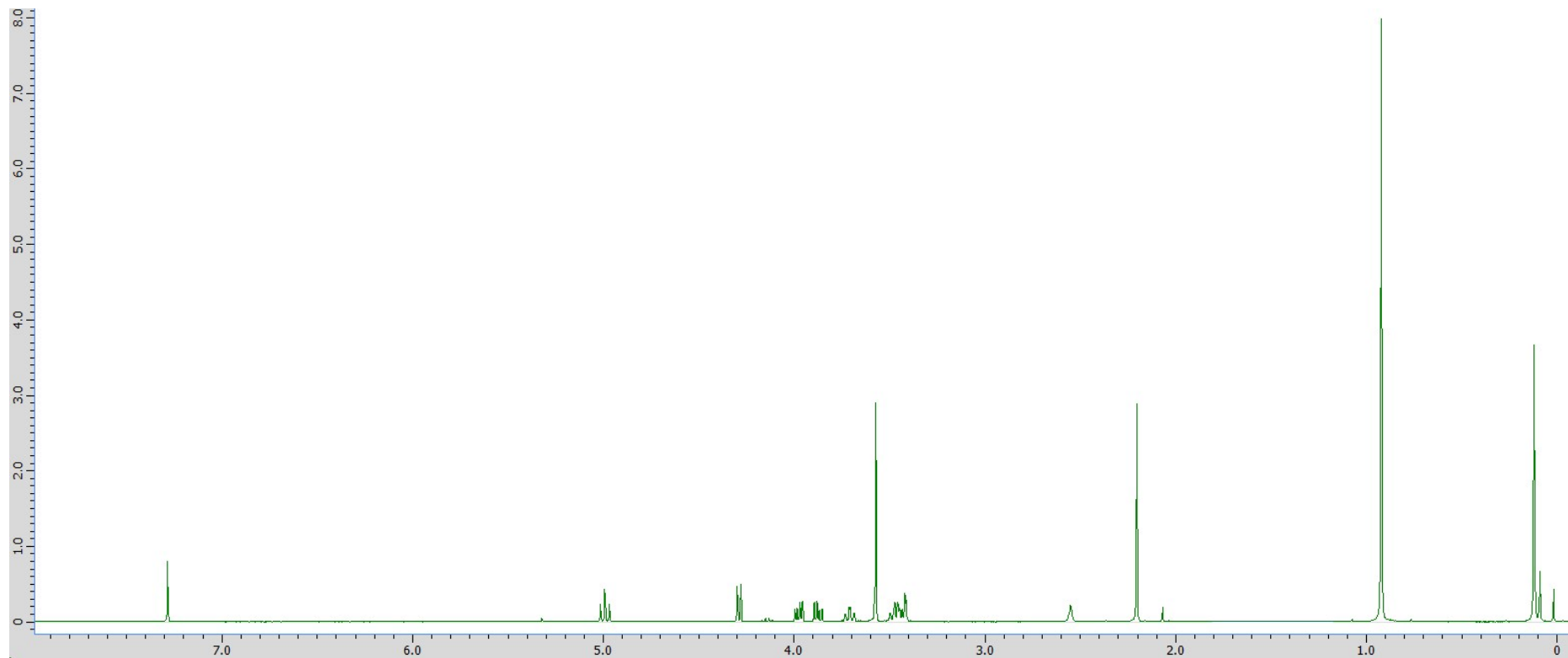
**Methyl 3-*O*-benzoyl-6-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (31)<sup>3</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound 31 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



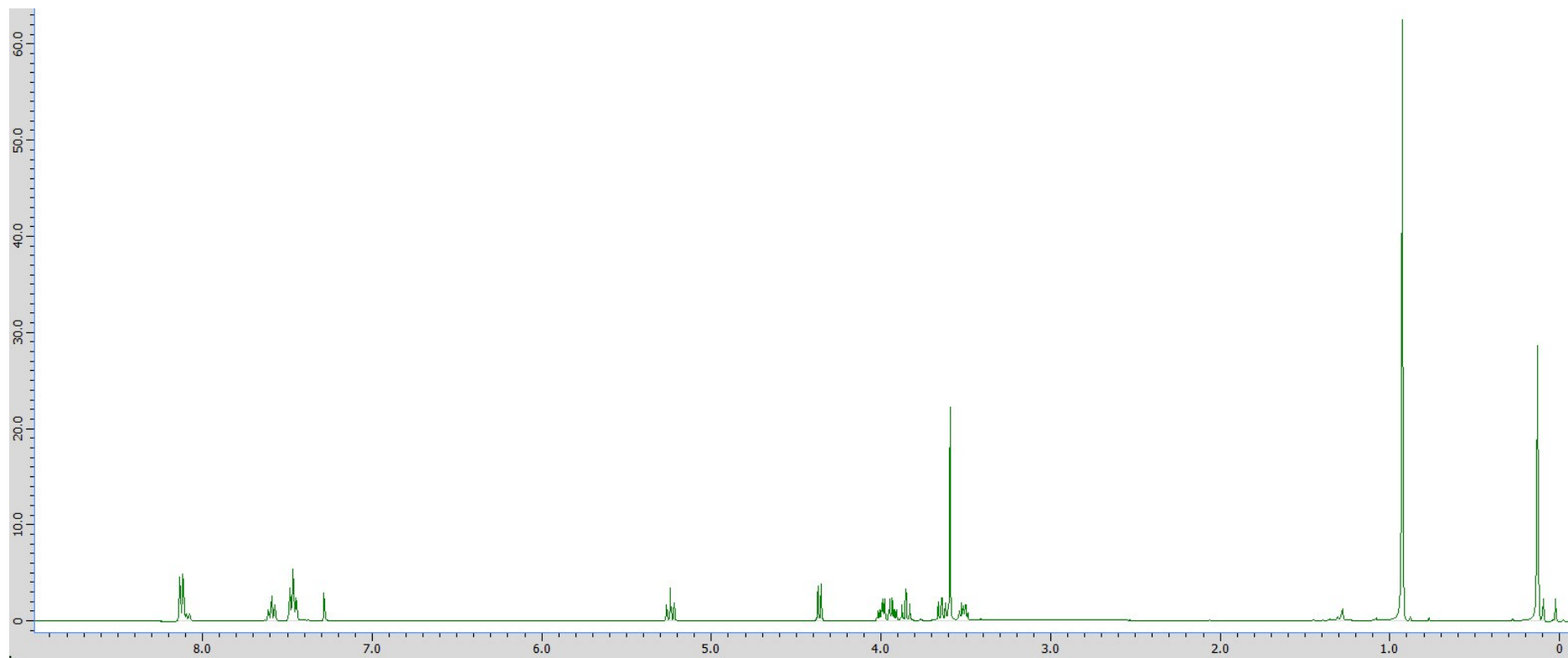
**Methyl 3-*O*-acetyl-6-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside(33)<sup>2</sup>.**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound 33 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



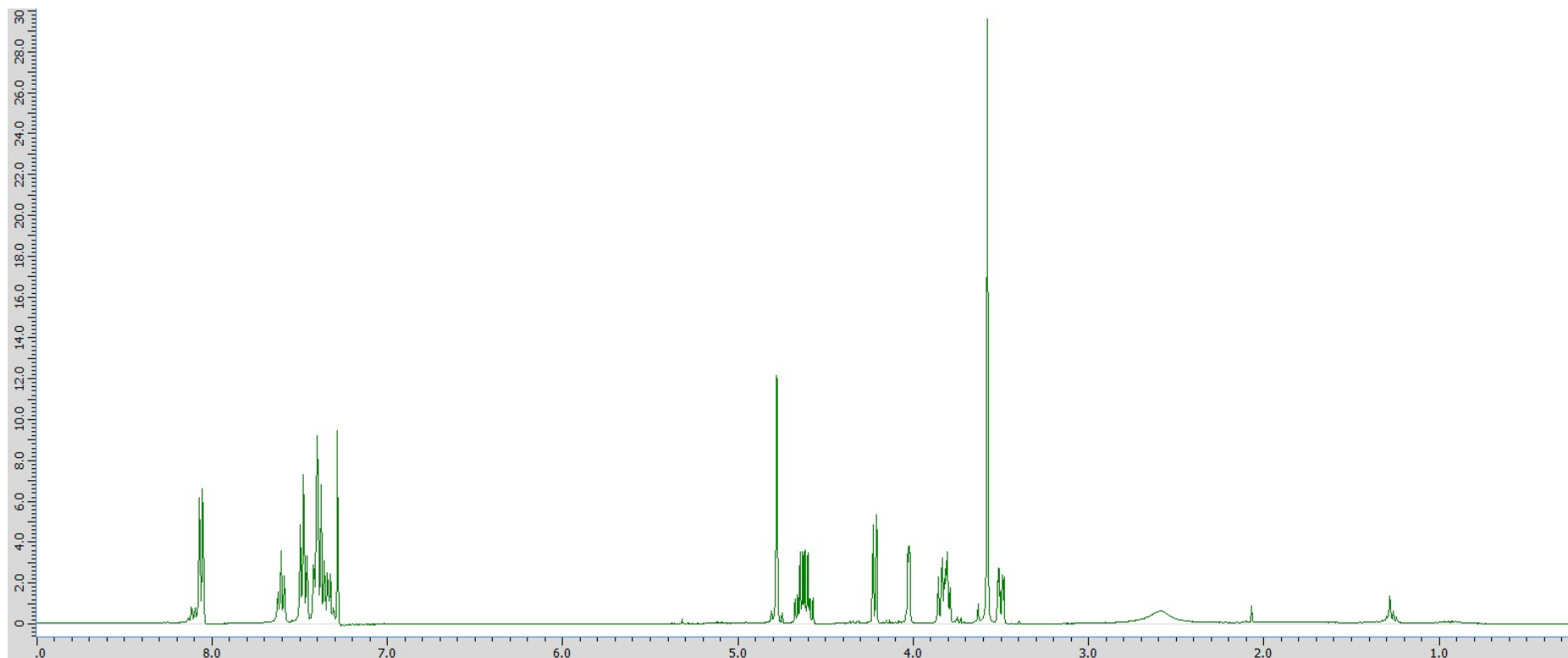
**Methyl 3-*O*-benzoyl-6-*O*-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)- $\beta$ -D-glucopyranoside(34)<sup>3</sup>.**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound 34 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



**Methyl 3-*O*-benzyl-6-*O*-benzoyl- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside (38)<sup>3</sup>:**

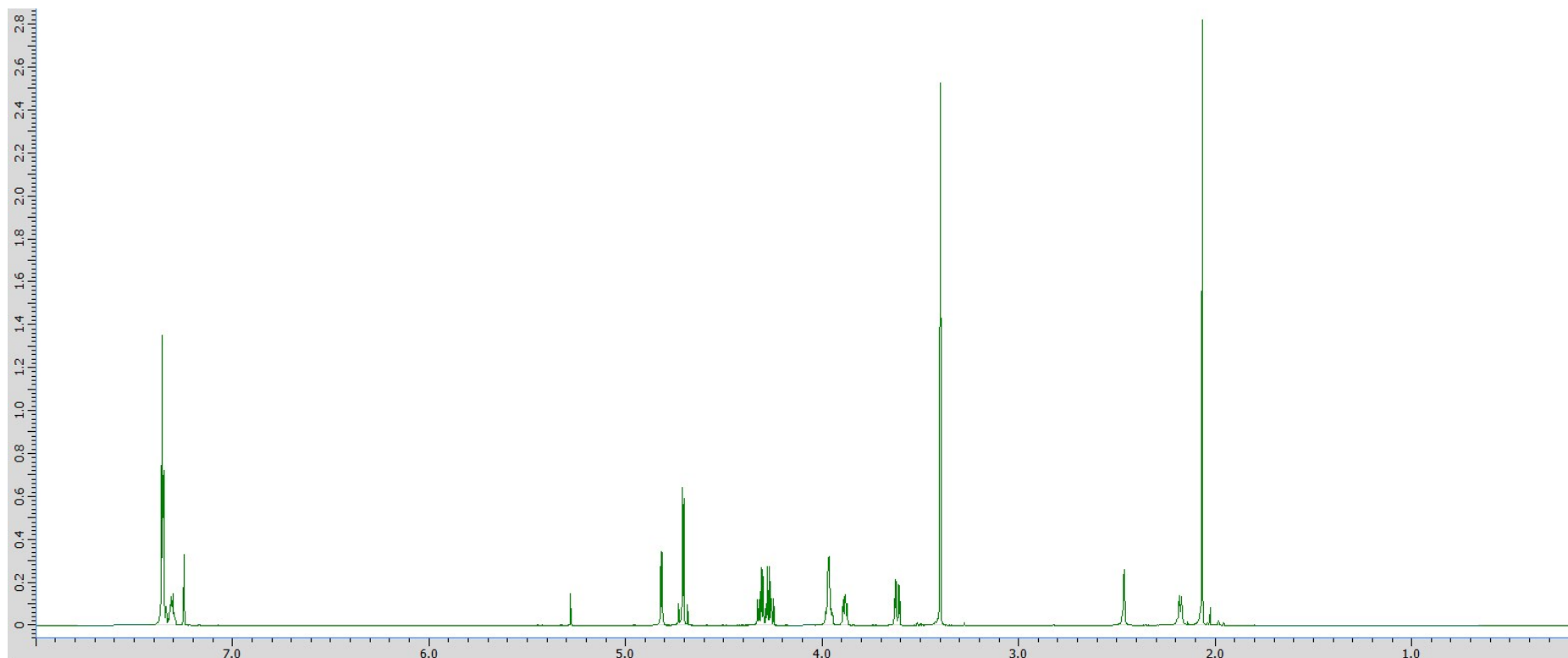
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **38** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





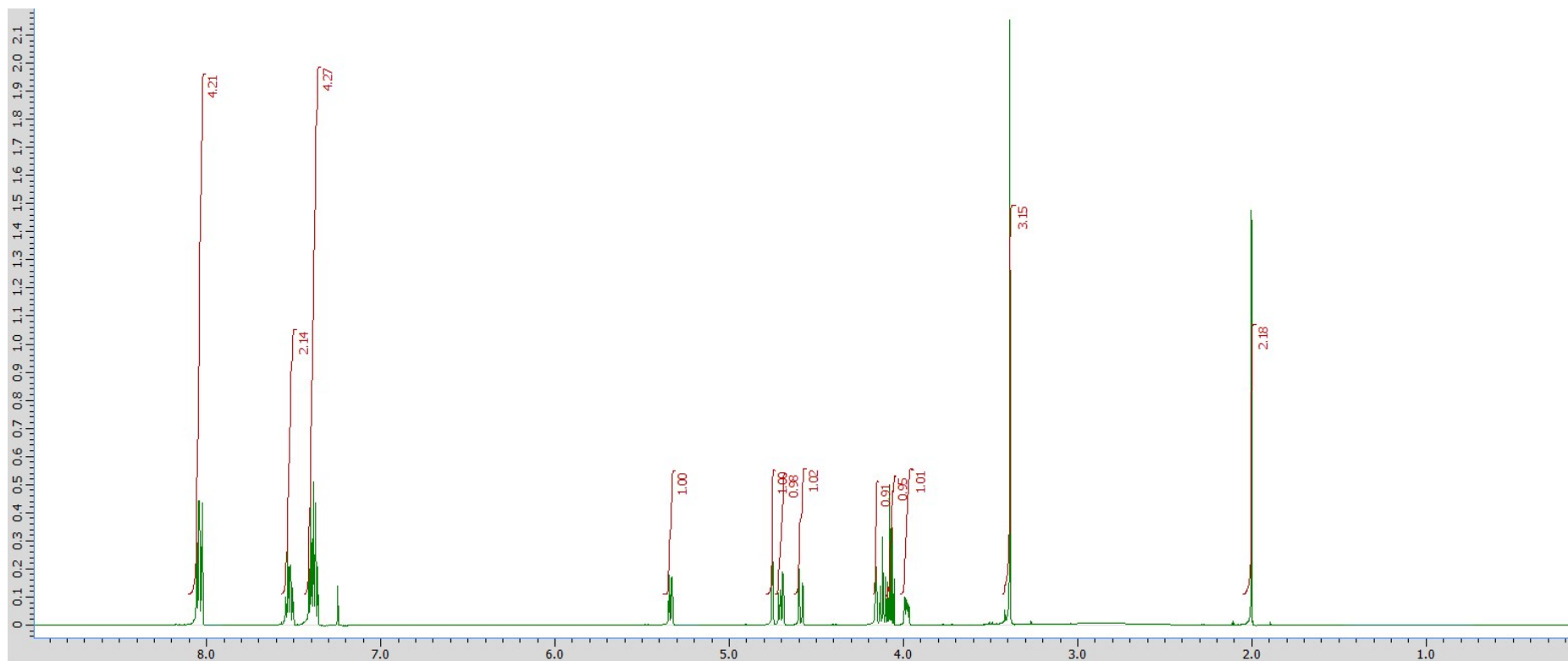
**Methyl 3-*O*-benzyl-6-*O*-acetyl- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranoside (40)<sup>2</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **40** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



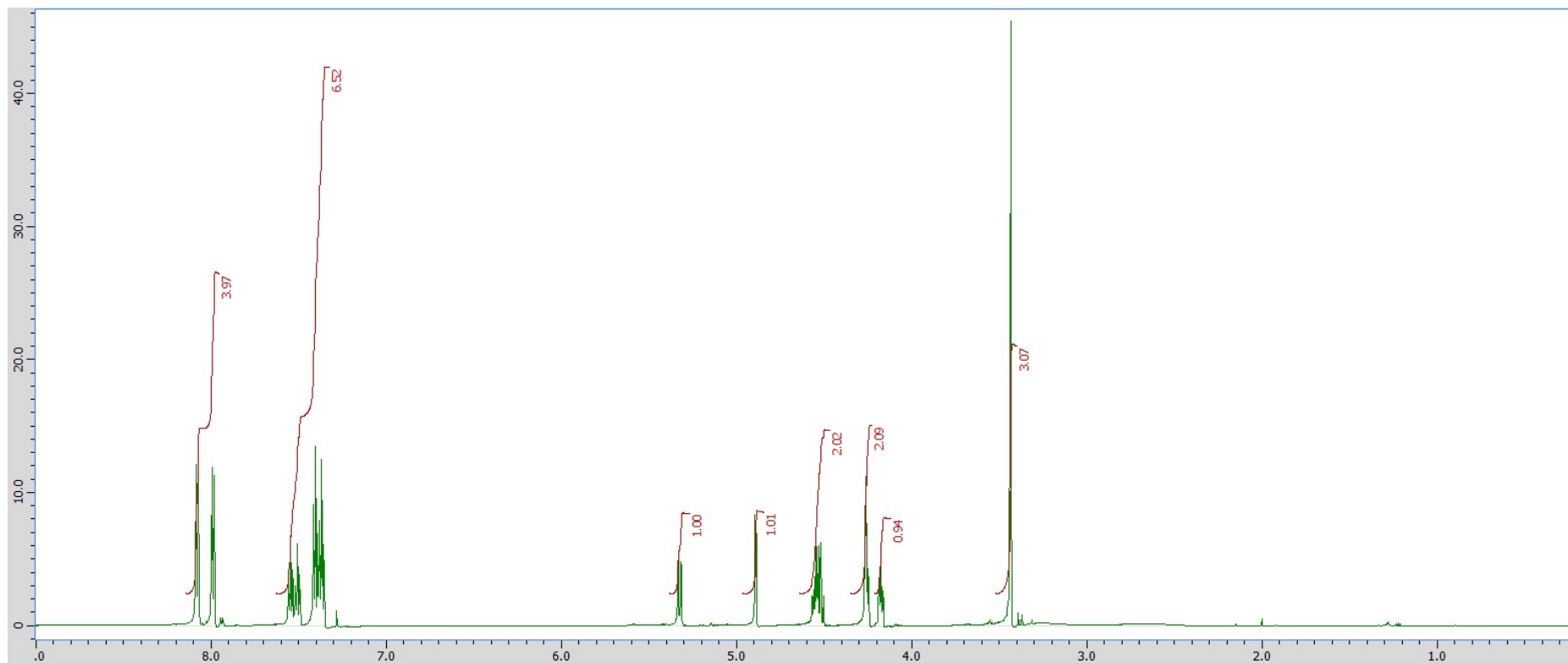
**Methyl 3, 6-di-*O*-benzoyl- $\alpha$ -D-mannopyranoside (42)<sup>3</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **42** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



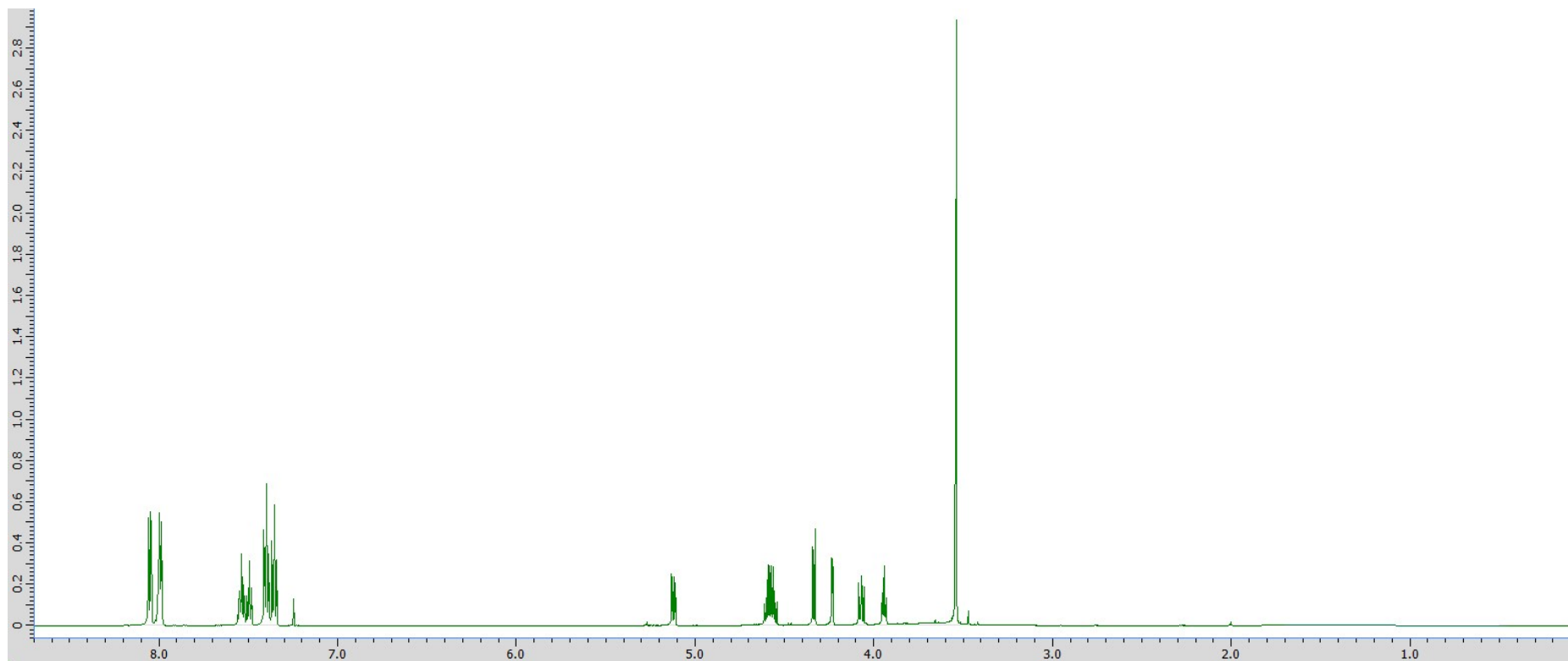
**Methyl 3, 6-di-O-benzoyl- $\alpha$ -D-galactopyranoside (45)<sup>3</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **45** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



**Methyl 3, 6-di-O-benzoyl- $\beta$ -D-galactopyranoside (48)<sup>3</sup>:**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR of compound **48** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



## References

1. Y. Zhou, M. Rahm, B. Wu, X. Zhang, B. Ren and H. Dong, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2013, **78**, 11618.
2. B. Ren, M. Rahm, X. Zhang, Y. Zhou and H. Dong, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2014, **79**, 8134.
3. X. Zhang, B. Ren, J. Ge, Z. Pei and H. Dong, *Tetrahedron*, 2016, **72**, 1005.