

Supporting Information

**Efficient synthesis of optically active 4-nitro-cyclohexanones
via bifunctional thiourea-base catalyzed double-Michael
addition of nitromethane to dienones**

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A: General Information:

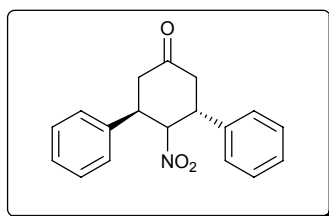
Unless otherwise stated, all reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. All reactions were carried out in air and using undistilled solvent, without any precautions to exclude moisture unless otherwise noted. Organic solutions were concentrated under reduced pressure on an EYELA N-1001 rotary evaporator. Reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) on silica gel precoated glass plates (0.2±0.03 mm thickness, GF-254, particle size 0.01–0.04 mm) from Yantai Chemical Industry Research Institute, P. R. China. Chromatograms were visualized by fluorescence quenching with UV light at 254 nm. Flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel (particle size 0.04–0.05 mm) from Yantai Chemical Industry Research Institute, P. R. China. ¹H (400 MHz) and ¹³C (100 MHz) NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ on Varian Inova-400 NMR spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ ppm) are relative to the resonance of the deuterated solvent as the internal standard (CDCl₃, δ 7.26 ppm for proton NMR, δ 77.00 ppm for carbon NMR). ¹H NMR data are reported as follows: chemical shift (δ, ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), coupling constants (J) and assignment. Data for ¹³C NMR are reported in terms of chemical shift (δ, ppm). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) for all the compounds were determined on Micromass GCT-TOF mass spectrometer with EI resource. High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was performed on an Agilent 1200 Series chromatographs using a Chiralcel OD-H column (0.46cm x 25 cm), Chiralpak AD-H (0.46cm x 25 cm). X-ray data were recorded on a Rigaku Mercury CCD/AFC diffractometer. Optical rotations were measured on an Autopol IV polarimeter, and [α]_D values are reported in 10⁻¹ dg cm² g⁻¹; concentration (c) is reported in g/100 ml. The divinyl ketones were prepared according to reported methods.¹⁻⁶

B: General Procedure for the Double-Michael addition

To a stirred solution of **1a-o** (0.25 mmol) and **IV** (0.05 mmol) in toluene (1.0 mL) was added nitromethane **2** (263.2 uL, 5.0 mmol) at room temperature. After being stirred for the right time, the mono-Michael addition product was purified by flash

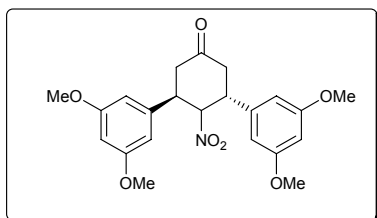
chromatography over silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1 as eluent), and subsequently treated with KOH (1.1 mg, 0.025 mmol) in EtOH (2 mL) at 0 °C for 2 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with a saturated NH₄Cl solution and extracted with ethyl acetate (2×5 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. Filtration and evaporation of the solvents furnished the crude product, which was purified by flash chromatography (SiO₂, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10:1) to afford desired product.

C: Characterization Data of Michael Addition Products



4-nitro-3,5-diphenyl cyclohexanone (3a): 86% yield, 90% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralpak AD-H with hexane/*i*-PrOH (95:5) as the eluent. Flow rate: 1.0 mL/min, λ = 210nm:

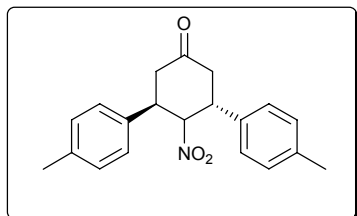
$t_{\text{minor}} = 23.522$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 25.150$ min. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} +44.6$ (c 0.50 in CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.27 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 6.98 (dd, J = 13.7, 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.22 (dd, J = 6.9, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (dd, J = 14.0, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.81 – 3.61 (m, 1H), 3.26 (dd, J = 15.8, 9.4 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (dd, J = 16.2, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.93 – 2.67 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 42.0, 42.4, 42.6, 43.5, 91.7, 127.4, 127.8, 128.3, 128.6, 129.2, 129.5, 137.0, 139.6, 207.9 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for C₁₈H₁₇NO₃, 295.1208, found 295.1207.



4-nitro-3,5-di(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl) cyclohexanone (3b): 77% yield, 92% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralcel OD-H with hexane/*i*-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent. Flow rate:

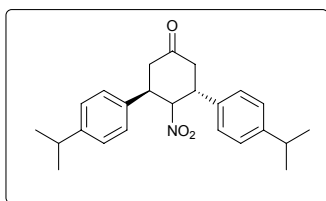
0.75 mL/min, λ = 210nm: $t_{\text{minor}} = 50.982$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 56.363$ min. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} +26.3$ (c 1.00 in CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.37 (s, 3H), 6.20 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 3H), 5.27 (dd, J = 6.8, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.98 – 3.80 (m, 1H), 3.75 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 12H), 3.25 (dd, J = 16.1, 9.3 Hz, 1H), 3.01 (dd, J = 16.3, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 2.80

(dd, $J = 15.4, 5.9$ Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 42.0, 42.5, 42.9, 43.4, 55.5, 91.4, 99.6, 99.7, 105.7, 106.2, 139.3, 142.0, 161.2, 161.6, 207.8 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_7$, 415.1631, found 415.1633.



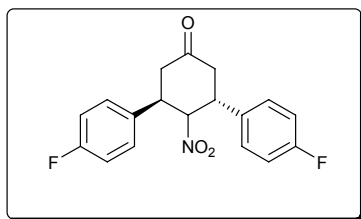
4-nitro-3,5-di(4-methylphenyl) cyclohexanone (3c):

54% yield, 90% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralpak AD-H with hexane/*i*-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent. Flow rate: 0.75 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: $t_{\text{minor}} = 10.843$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 15.619$ min. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} +90.6$ (c 0.50 in CHCl_3). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.05 (d, $J = 13.4$ Hz, 6H), 6.86 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 5.26 – 5.04 (m, 1H), 3.80 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.75 – 3.51 (m, 1H), 3.20 (dd, $J = 15.9, 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.05 – 2.86 (m, 1H), 2.83 – 2.63 (m, 2H), 2.24 (d, $J = 5.9$ Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 21.0, 41.8, 41.9, 42.0, 43.3, 91.6, 127.1, 127.4, 129.6, 129.9, 133.8, 136.3, 137.8, 138.1, 207.9 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_3$, 323.1521, found 323.1525.



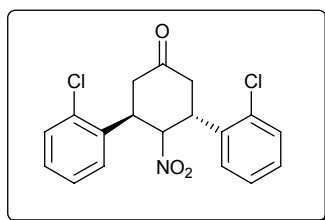
4-nitro-3,5-di(4-isopropylphenyl) cyclohexanone (3d):

67% yield, 90% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralcel OD-H with hexane/*i*-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent. Flow rate: 0.75 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: $t_{\text{minor}} = 19.759$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 14.667$ min. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} +66.0$ (c 1.00 in CHCl_3). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.18 (dd, $J = 17.6, 8.1$ Hz, 6H), 6.98 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2H), 5.27 (s, 1H), 3.90 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.79 – 3.69 (m, 1H), 3.43 – 3.21 (m, 1H), 3.01 (d, $J = 5.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.93 – 2.71 (m, 4H), 1.22 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 12H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 23.7, 23.9, 33.6, 33.7, 41.7, 41.9, 42.2, 43.2, 91.5, 126.9, 127.1, 127.3, 127.4, 134.1, 136.7, 148.6, 148.8, 207.9 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}_3$, 379.2147, found 379.2154.



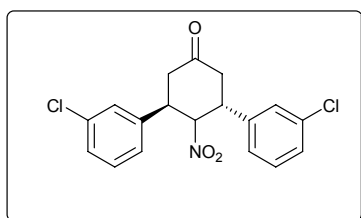
4-nitro-3,5-di(4-fluorophenyl) cyclohexanone (3e):

73% yield, 92% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralcel OD-H with hexane/i-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent. Flow rate: 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: $t_{\text{minor}} = 25.175\text{ min}$, $t_{\text{major}} = 15.165\text{ min}$. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} +33.5$ (c 1.00 in CHCl_3). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.22 (d, $J = 2.9\text{ Hz}$, 2H), 7.13 – 6.88 (m, 6H), 5.23 (dd, $J = 6.7, 4.8\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.96 – 3.60 (m, 2H), 3.25 (dd, $J = 15.6, 8.5\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.00 (d, $J = 5.1\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 2.93 – 2.63 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 41.4, 41.6, 42.0, 43.5, 91.3, 115.8, 116.0, 116.1, 116.3, 128.6, 128.8, 129.2, 129.3, 132.4, 134.8, 206.9 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3$, 331.1020, found 331.1014.



4-nitro-3,5-di(2-chlorophenyl) cyclohexanone (3f):

65% yield, 90% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralcel OD-H with hexane/i-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent. Flow rate: 0.75 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: $t_{\text{minor}} = 20.473\text{ min}$, $t_{\text{major}} = 29.946\text{ min}$. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} -88.0$ (c 1.00 in CHCl_3). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.58 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.21 (dd, $J = 18.7, 8.1\text{ Hz}$, 6H), 7.06 (d, $J = 7.0\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 5.32 (s, 1H), 4.44 (d, $J = 2.8\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.94 (d, $J = 14.2\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.40 (t, $J = 15.0\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.22 (dd, $J = 16.5, 7.0\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 2.88 (d, $J = 14.3\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 2.55 (dd, $J = 15.5, 3.0\text{ Hz}$, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 36.8, 39.7, 40.8, 41.0, 86.2, 127.5, 127.7, 127.8, 128.7, 129.4, 129.5, 129.9, 130.4, 130.5, 133.4, 134.1, 136.6, 208.0 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}_3$, 363.0429, found 363.0426.

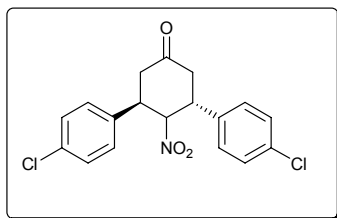


4-nitro-3,5-di(3-chlorophenyl) cyclohexanone (3g):

68% yield, 84% ee. The enantiomeric excess was

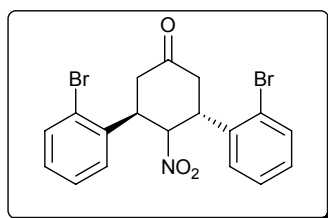
determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralcel OD-H with hexane/i-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent. Flow rate: 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: $t_{\text{minor}} = 34.468\text{ min}$, $t_{\text{major}} = 23.045\text{ min}$. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} +40.4$ (c 0.50 in CHCl_3). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.28 (d, $J = 13.3\text{ Hz}$, 5H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 6.8\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 5.27 (s, 1H), 3.90 (d, $J = 6.8\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.78 (s, 1H), 3.27 (dd, $J = 15.8, 8.9\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.03 (dd, $J = 16.2, 5.0\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 2.92 – 2.70 (m, 2H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 41.6, 41.8, 42.0, 43.1, 90.7, 114.5, 125.4, 127.4, 128.5, 130.3, 134.9, 135.2, 135.2, 138.5, 138.5, 141.0, 141.0, 206.3 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z :

M^+ calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}_3$, 363.0429, found 363.0431.



4-nitro-3,5-di(4-chlorophenyl) cyclohexanone (3h):

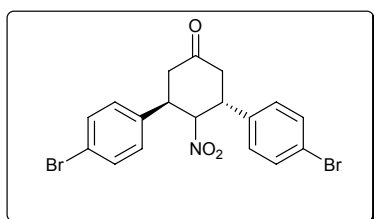
82% yield, 91% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralpak AD-H with hexane/i-PrOH (98:2) as the eluent. Flow rate: 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: $t_{\text{minor}} = 18.953\text{ min}$, $t_{\text{major}} = 17.370\text{ min}$. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} +75.2$ (c 1.00 in CHCl_3). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.32 (dd, $J = 15.2, 7.6\text{ Hz}$, 4H), 7.19 (d, $J = 7.1\text{ Hz}$, 2H), 6.99 (d, $J = 7.1\text{ Hz}$, 2H), 5.22 (d, $J = 5.0\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.84 (dd, $J = 22.2, 15.6\text{ Hz}$, 2H), 3.25 (dd, $J = 15.5, 7.9\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.02 (dd, $J = 15.9, 5.7\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 2.82 (ddd, $J = 24.7, 15.6, 7.0\text{ Hz}$, 2H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 41.5, 41.7, 41.8, 43.3, 90.9, 128.5, 128.9, 129.1, 129.5, 134.0, 134.4, 135.0, 137.4, 206.6 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}_3$, 363.0429, found 363.0427.



4-nitro-3,5-di(2-bromophenyl) cyclohexanone (3i):

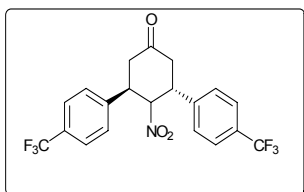
80% yield, 90% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralcel OD-H with hexane/i-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent. Flow rate: 0.75 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: $t_{\text{minor}} = 21.209\text{ min}$, $t_{\text{major}} = 43.508\text{ min}$. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} -112.6$ (c 0.50 in CHCl_3). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.57 (d, $J = 7.9\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 7.43 (d, $J = 7.8\text{ Hz}$,

1H), 7.29 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd, $J = 21.4, 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 4.42 (d, $J = 3.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.88 (d, $J = 14.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.52 – 3.18 (m, 2H), 3.04 – 2.69 (m, 1H), 2.55 (d, $J = 15.3$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 39.1, 39.9, 40.8, 43.2, 86.3, 124.1, 127.3, 127.8, 128.0, 128.4, 129.7, 130.2, 132.3, 133.3, 133.8, 135.7, 144.0, 208.0 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{Br}_2\text{NO}_3$, 452.9419, found 452.9434.



4-nitro-3,5-di(4-bromophenyl) cyclohexanone (3j):

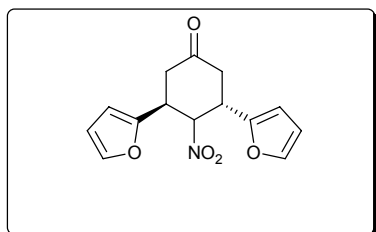
66% yield, 92% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralcel OD-H with hexane/*i*-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent. Flow rate: 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: $t_{\text{minor}} = 38.787$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 24.206$ min. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} +85.6$ (c 0.50 in CHCl_3). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.54 – 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.05 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 3.87 – 3.64 (m, 2H), 3.27 – 3.03 (m, 1H), 2.93 (dd, $J = 16.0, 4.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.73 (ddd, $J = 25.0, 15.8, 6.4$ Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 29.7, 41.7, 41.8, 43.3, 90.8, 122.2, 122.7, 128.9, 129.2, 132.2, 132.5, 135.5, 138.0, 206.5 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{Br}_2\text{NO}_3$, 450.9419, found 450.9417.



4-nitro-3,5-di(4-trifluoromethylphenyl) cyclohexanone (3k):

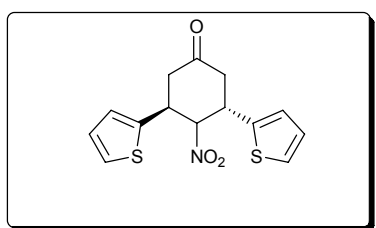
78% yield, 94% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralcel OD-H with hexane/*i*-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent. Flow rate: 0.75 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: $t_{\text{minor}} = 35.729$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 16.428$ min. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} +42.7$ (c 1.00 in CHCl_3). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.62 (dd, $J = 14.8, 7.8$ Hz, 4H), 7.40 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 5.40 – 5.31 (m, 1H), 3.95 (dd, $J = 18.3, 6.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.29 (dd, $J = 15.9, 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.12 – 2.98 (m, 1H), 2.93 (dd, $J = 16.0, 5.1$ Hz, 1H), 2.84 (dd, $J = 16.1, 9.5$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 42.1, 42.2, 42.6,

42.7, 43.7, 43.7, 90.8, 126.3, 126.7, 126.7, 128.0, 128.5, 138.3, 140.7, 140.8, 143.1, 145.5, 206.3 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for $C_{20}H_{15}F_6NO_3$, 431.0956, found 432.1037.



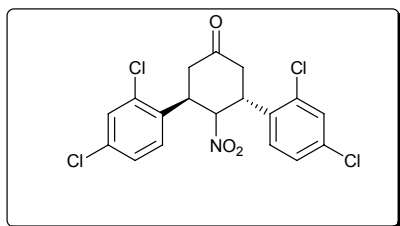
4-nitro-3,5-di(2-furyl) cyclohexanone (3l):

58% yield, 85% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralcel OD-H with hexane/i-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent. Flow rate: 0.75 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: $t_{\text{minor}} = 18.873\text{ min}$, $t_{\text{major}} = 15.009\text{ min}$. $[\alpha]_D^{25} +19.2$ (c 0.25 in CHCl_3). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.43 – 7.12 (m, 3H), 6.25 (s, 2H), 6.10 (d, $J = 25.4\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 5.39 (d, $J = 4.6\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 4.11 – 3.88 (m, 1H), 3.74 (d, $J = 4.0\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.12 – 2.83 (m, 2H), 2.83 – 2.59 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 37.1, 37.2, 40.8, 40.9, 86.0, 108.1, 108.3, 110.5, 110.6, 142.7, 142.9, 150.3, 151.2, 204.7 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for $C_{14}H_{13}NO_5$, 275.0794, found 275.0794.



4-nitro-3,5-di(2-thienyl) cyclohexanone (3m):

74% yield, 92% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralpak AD-H with hexane/i-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent. Flow rate: 0.75 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: $t_{\text{minor}} = 29.212\text{ min}$, $t_{\text{major}} = 17.315\text{ min}$. $[\alpha]_D^{25} +11.6$ (c 0.50 in CHCl_3 , dark sample). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.28 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 6.89 (s, 3H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 5.24 (d, $J = 4.2\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 4.22 (d, $J = 6.0\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.97 (d, $J = 4.6\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.24 (dd, $J = 15.5, 9.5\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.08 (dd, $J = 15.7, 5.8\text{ Hz}$, 1H), 2.95 – 2.68 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 38.0, 38.8, 43.2, 43.3, 91.3, 125.4, 125.5, 126.0, 126.2, 127.2, 127.4, 139.3, 141.9, 205.3 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for $C_{14}H_{13}NO_3S_2$, 307.0337, found 307.0335.

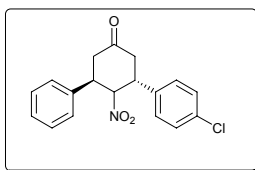


4-nitro-3,5-di(2,4-dichlorophenyl) cyclohexanone

(3n): 71% yield, 91% ee. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralcel OD-H with hexane/i-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent.

Flow rate: 0.75 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: $t_{\text{minor}} = 24.991$

min, $t_{\text{major}} = 20.433$ min. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} -44.4$ (c 0.50 in CHCl_3). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.50 (s, 1H), 7.44 – 7.16 (m, 4H), 7.07 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 5.33 (s, 1H), 4.46 (s, 1H), 3.92 (d, $J = 13.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.43 (t, $J = 14.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.27 (dd, $J = 16.1, 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.91 (d, $J = 16.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.61 (d, $J = 15.3$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 37.1, 40.2, 41.1, 41.2, 86.2, 128.4, 128.6, 129.3, 130.1, 130.2, 130.3, 130.9, 133.1, 134.5, 135.0, 135.4, 135.5, 207.6 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z : M^+ calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{13}\text{Cl}_4\text{NO}_3$, 432.9620, found 432.9606.



3-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-nitro-5-phenyl cyclohexanone (3o):

product was isolated as sum of diastereoisomers in 84% yield and 64% ee on the major diastereoisomer and 91% ee on the

minor (d.r. = 4:1 was determined by integration of ^1H NMR signal: $\delta_{\text{major}} 5.20$ ppm. t , $\delta_{\text{minor}} 5.12$ ppm. t). The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC on Daicel Chiralcel OD-H with hexane/i-PrOH (80:20) as the eluent. Flow rate: 1.0 mL/min, $\lambda = 210\text{nm}$: major diastereoisomer $t_{\text{major}} = 23.534$ min., $t_{\text{minor}} = 32.953$ min.; minor diastereoisomer $t_{\text{major}} = 18.287$ min., $t_{\text{minor}} = 28.448$ min. $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} +54.0$ (c 0.50 in CHCl_3). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.34 – 7.07 (m, 7H), 7.02 – 6.87 (m, 2H), 5.17 (dd, $J = 20.0, 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.90 – 3.53 (m, 2H), 3.19 (dd, $J = 15.9, 8.7$ Hz, 1H), 3.04 – 2.88 (m, 1H), 2.86 – 2.61 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 41.4, 41.5, 41.6, 42.0, 42.3, 42.4, 43.1, 43.5, 91.0, 91.1, 126.6, 127.5, 128.5, 128.9, 129.3, 129.5, 129.8, 133.9, 133.9, 134.2, 135.2, 136.5, 137.7, 139.0, 207.0, 207.1 ppm. HRMS (EI) m/z :

M^+ calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{ClNO}_3$, 329.0819, found 329.0817

D: X-ray Crystal Structure of **3n**

Crystal structure determination of compound **3n**: $C_{18}H_{13}Cl_4NO_3$, $M = 433.11$; a block crystal ($0.75 \times 0.20 \times 0.10$ mm), $T = 293(2)$, λ (Mo-K α) = 0.71070 Å, Monoclinic, space group: $P 2_1$, $a = 11.575(3)$ Å, $b = 7.6295(19)$ Å, $c = 21.699(6)$ Å, $V = 1899.1(8)$ Å³, 18600 total reflections, 6899 unique, $R_{int} = 0.1011$, $R_1 = 0.0991$ ($I > 2\sigma$), $wR_2 = 0.1687$, Absolute structure parameter: -0.06 (12). An ORTEP drawing of **3n** is shown in **Figure S1**.

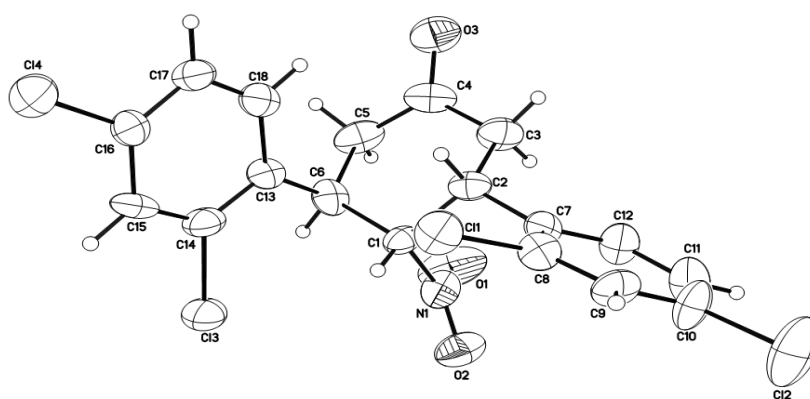


Figure S1. ORTEP drawing of **3n** (40% thermal ellipsoids)

The crystal was prepared from the solution of **3n** in acetone and n-hexane. CCDC 799931 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

E: Reference

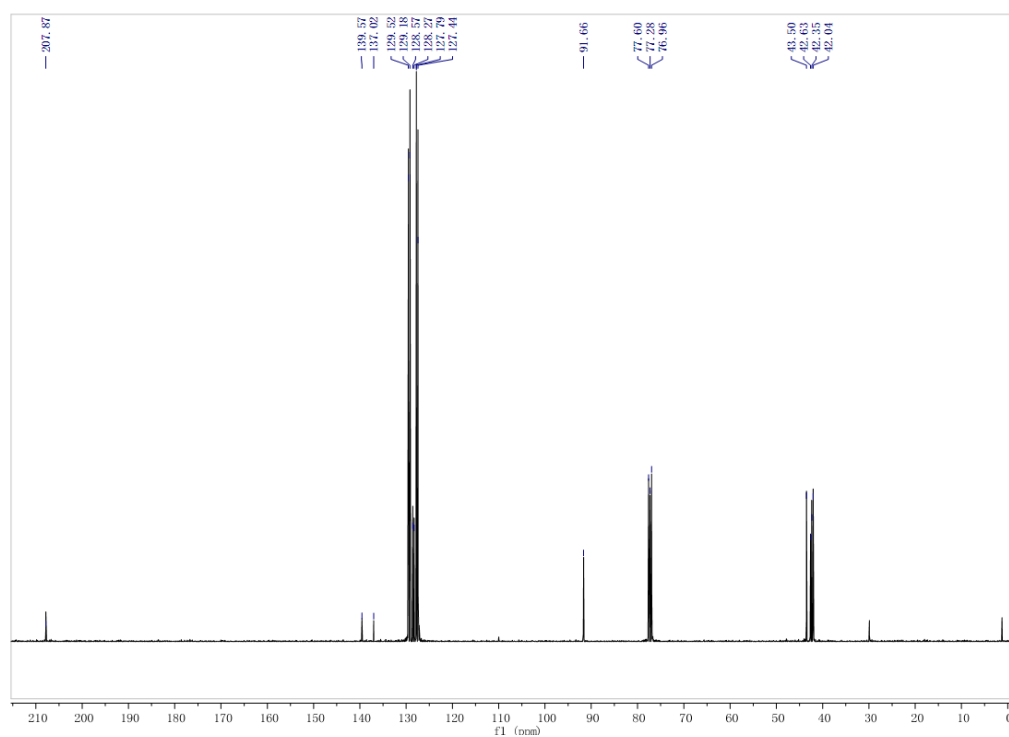
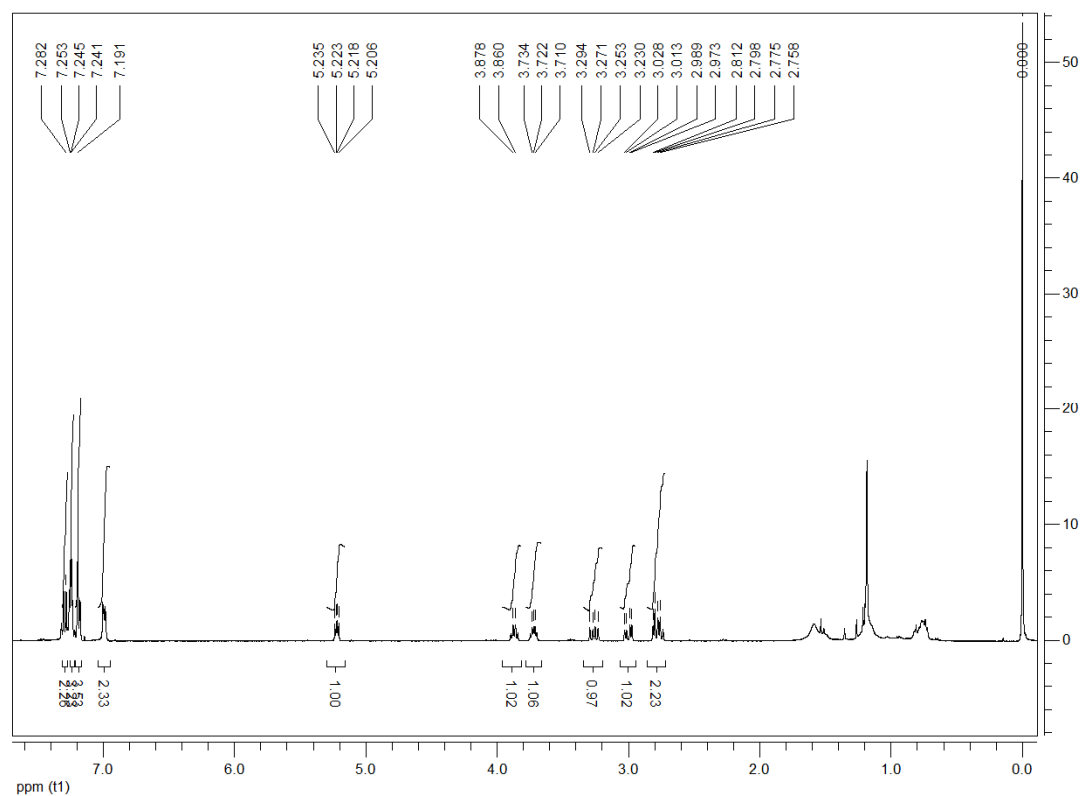
- 1 W. Tully, L. Main, B. K. Nicholson, *J. Organomet. Chem.*, 2001, **633**, 162.
- 2 W. M. Weber, L. A. Hunsaker, S. F. Abcouwer, L. M. Decka, D. L. V. Jagt, *Bioorg. Med. Chem.*, 2005, **13**, 3811.
- 3 W. M. Weber, L. A. Hunsaker, C. N. Roybal, E. V. B. Marjon, S. F. Abcouwer, R. E. Royer, L. M. Decka, D. L. V. Jagt, *Bioorg. Med. Chem.*, 2006, **14**, 2450.
- 4 G. Liang, X. Li, L. Chen, S. Yang, X. Wu, E. Studer, E. Gurley, P. B. Hylemon, F. Ye, Y. Li, H. Zhou, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.*, 2008, **18**, 1525.

5 I. J. S. Fairlamb, A. R. Kapdi, A. F. Lee, *Org. Lett.*, 2004, **6**, 4435.

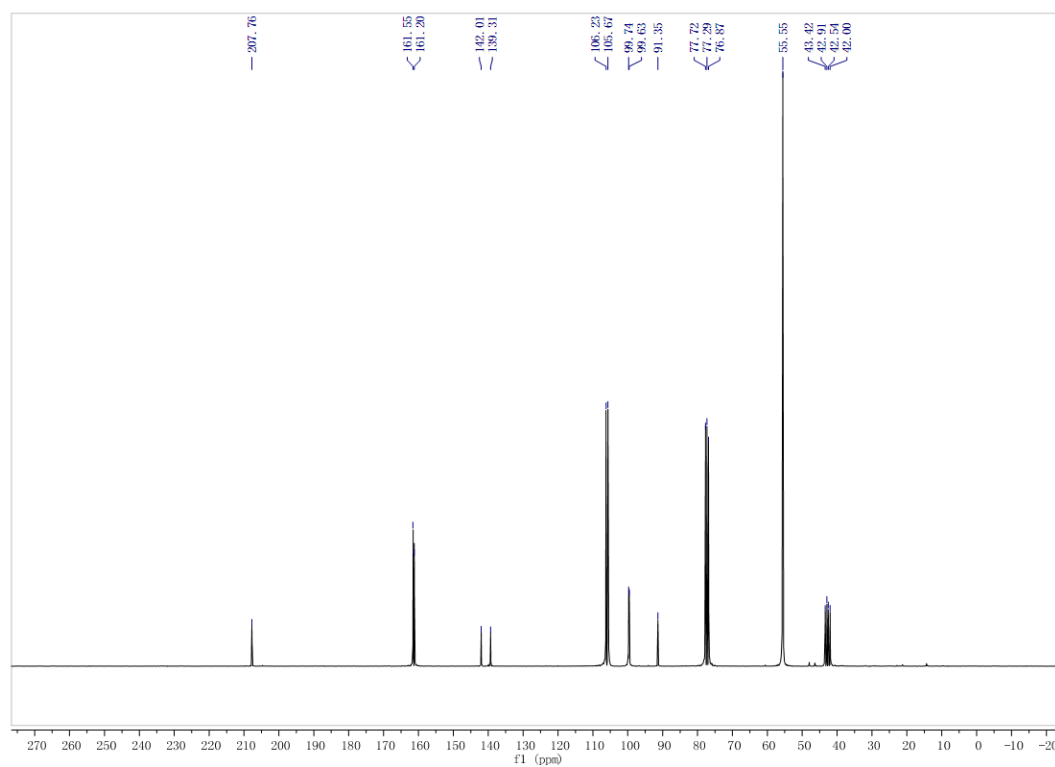
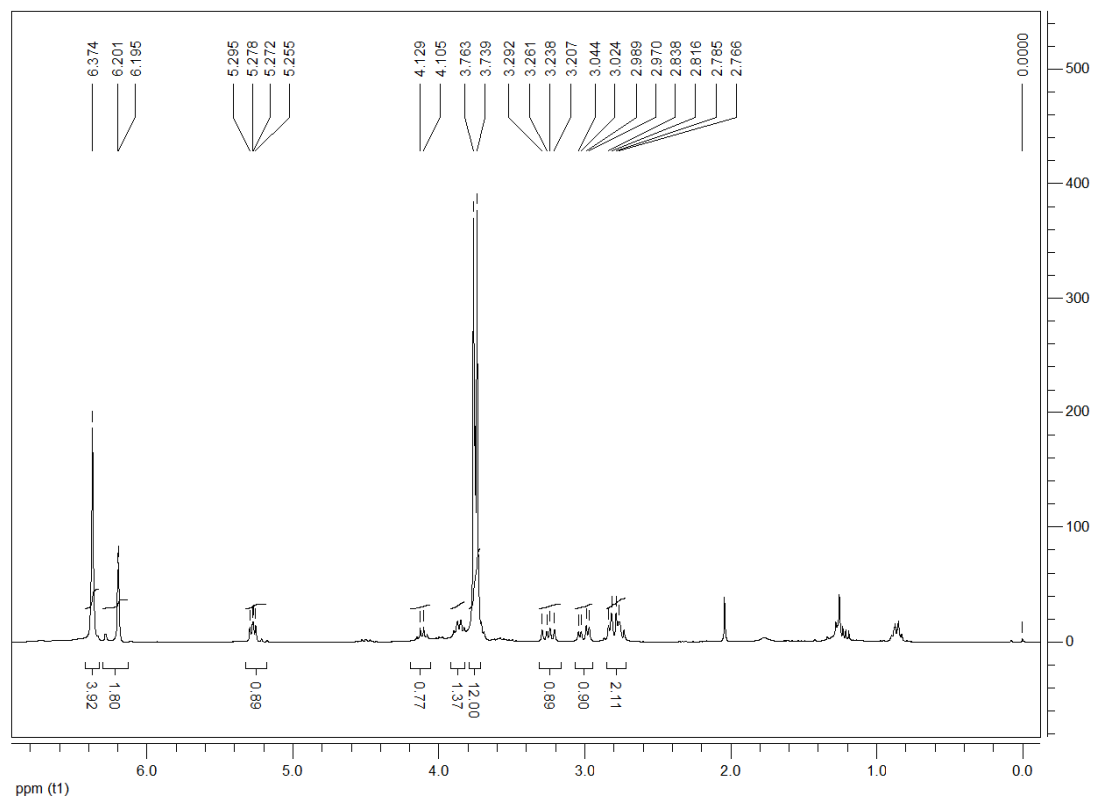
6 A. Arnold, M. Markert, R. Mahrwald, *Synthesis.*, 2006, 1099.

F: NMR Analysis of Michael Addition Products

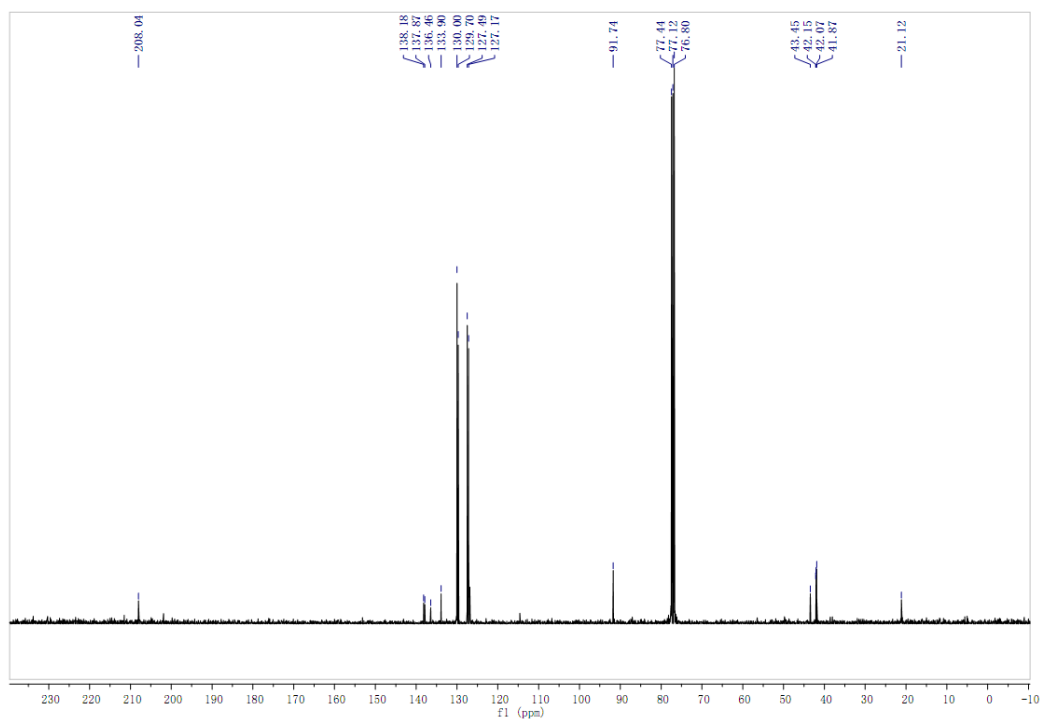
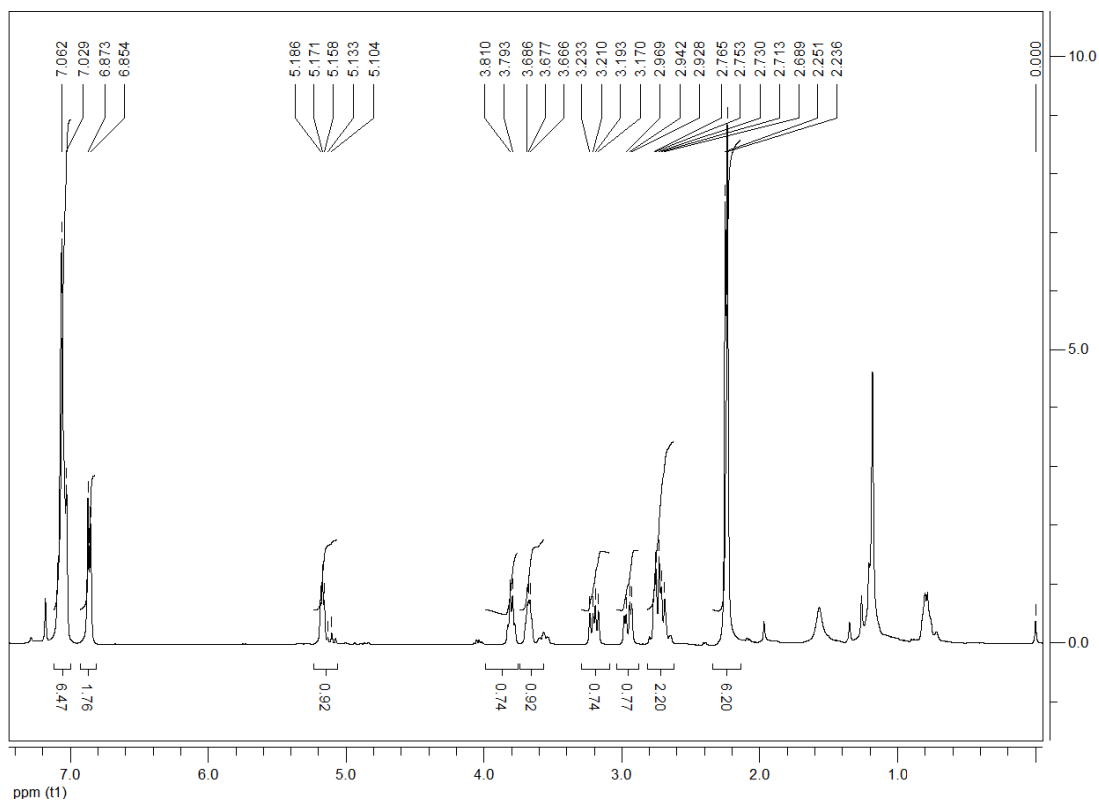
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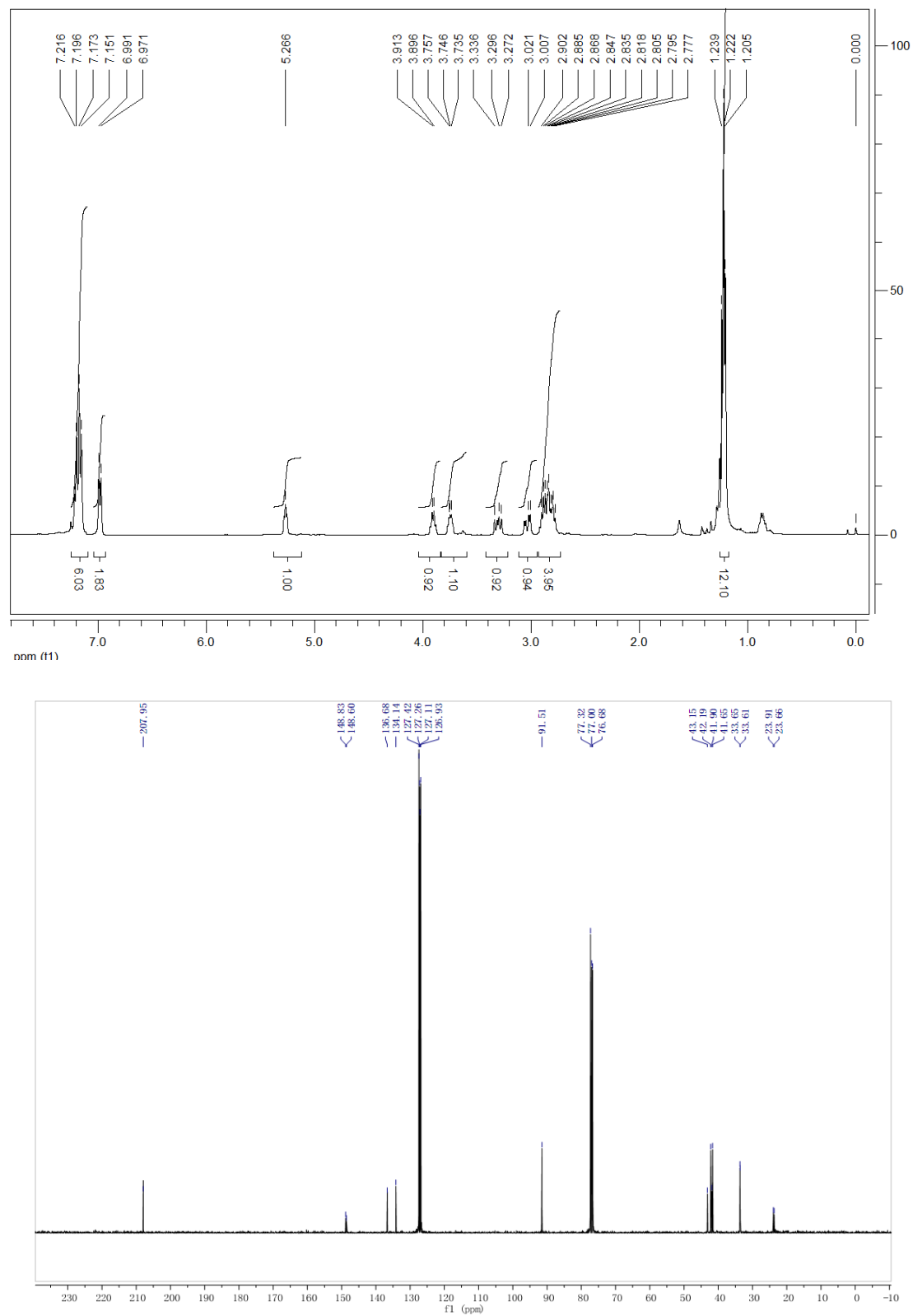
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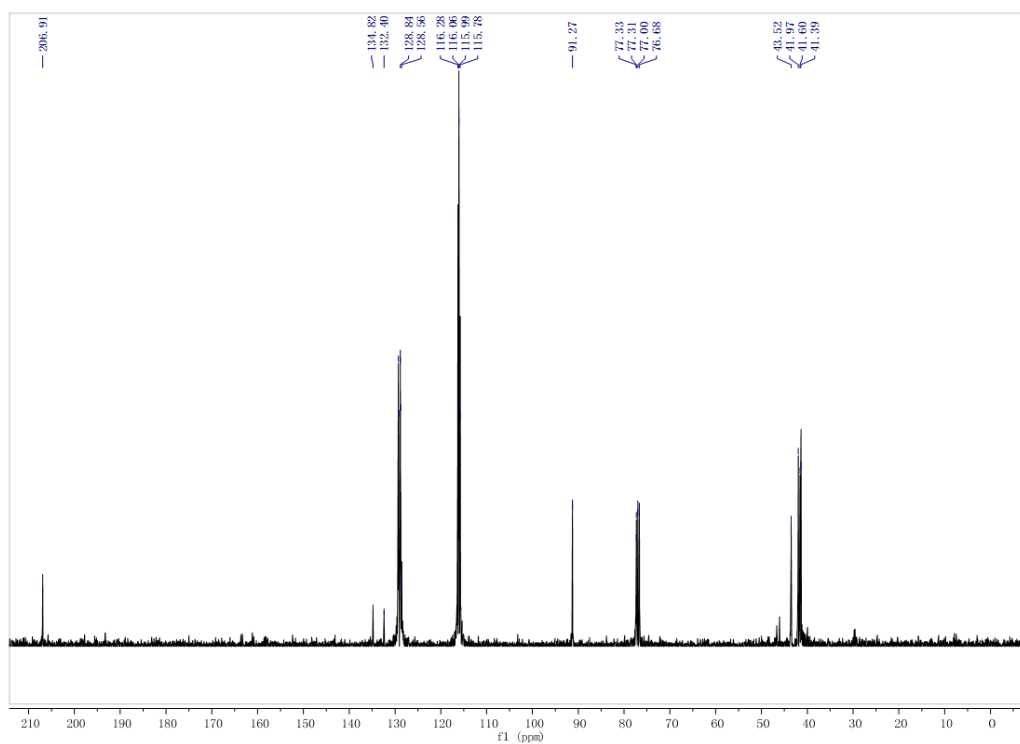
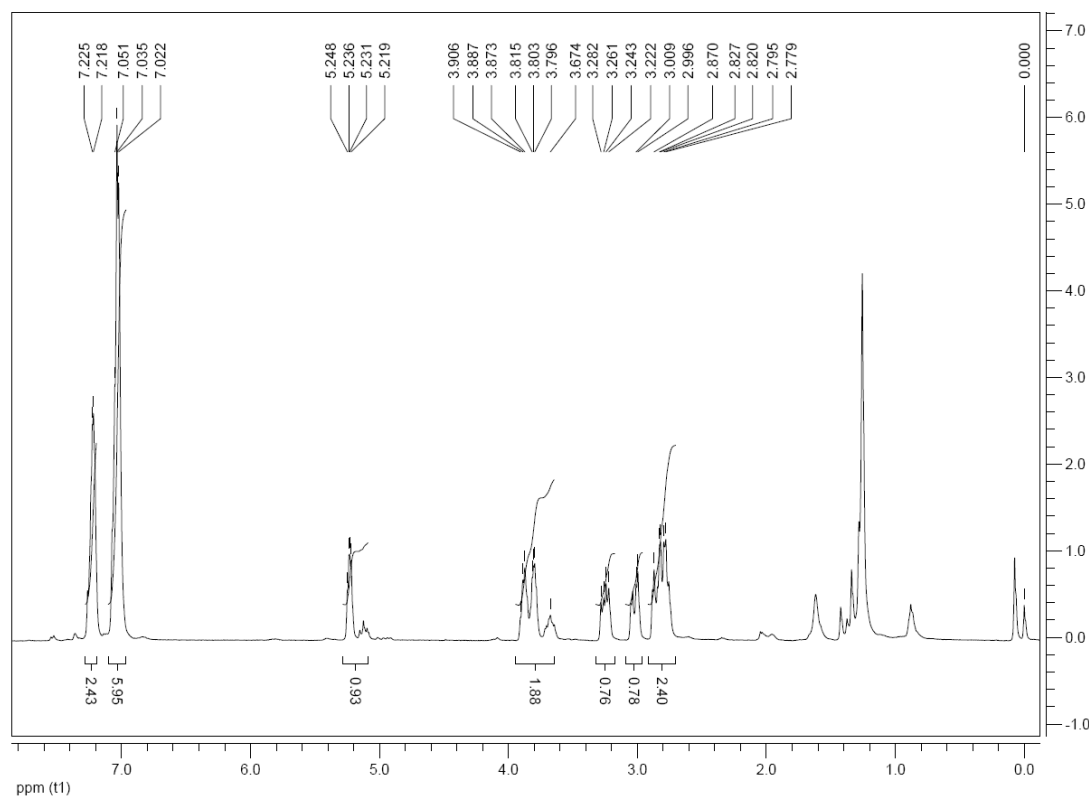
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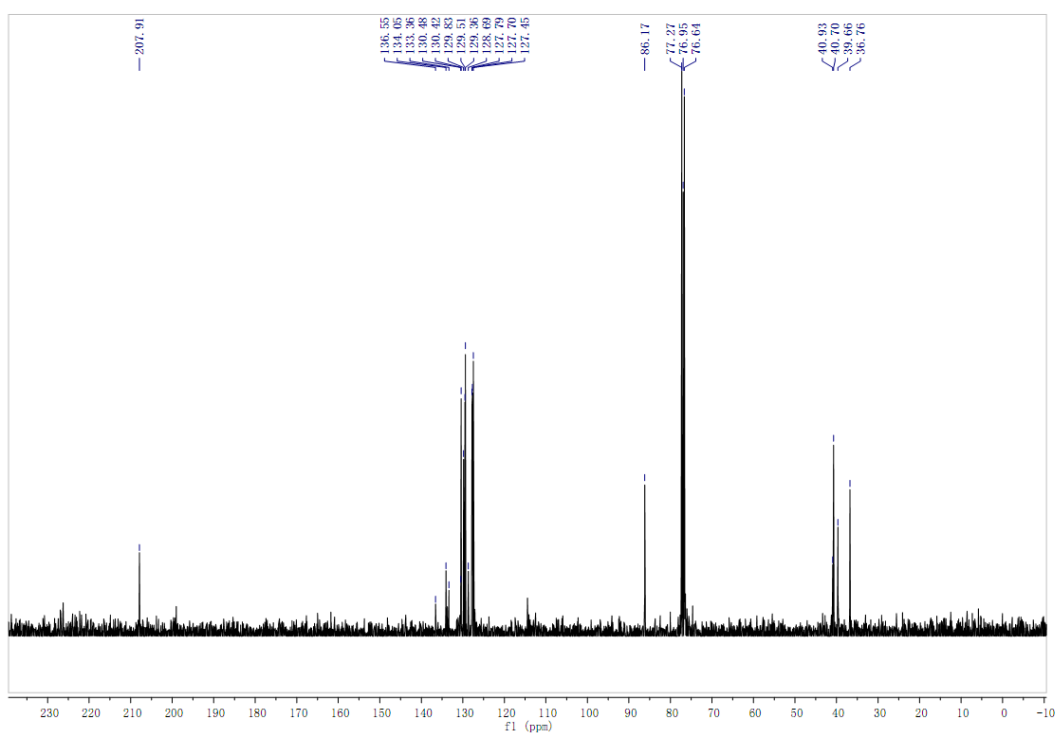
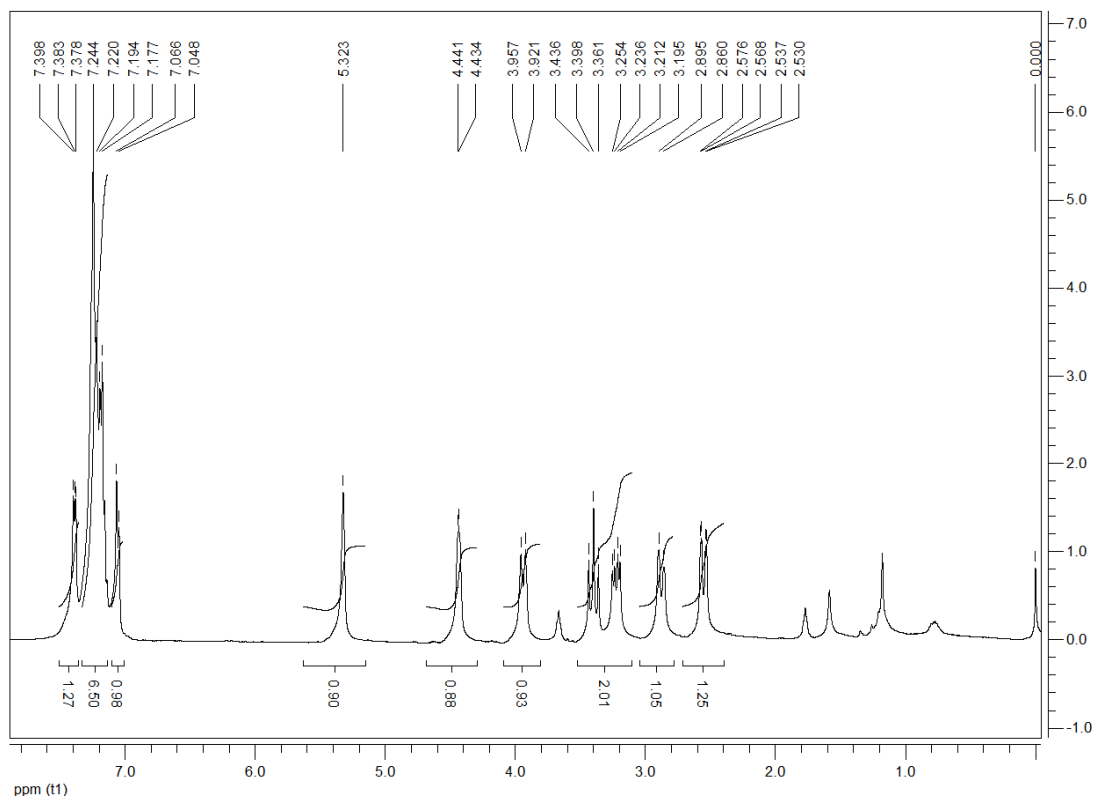
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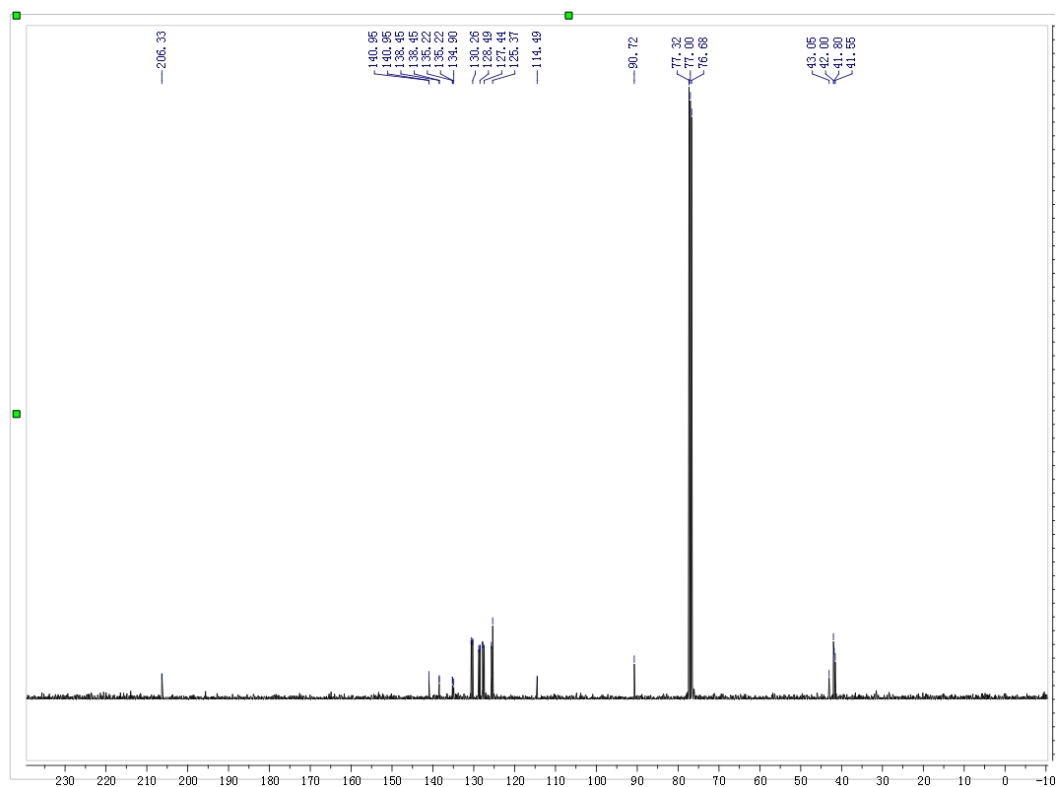
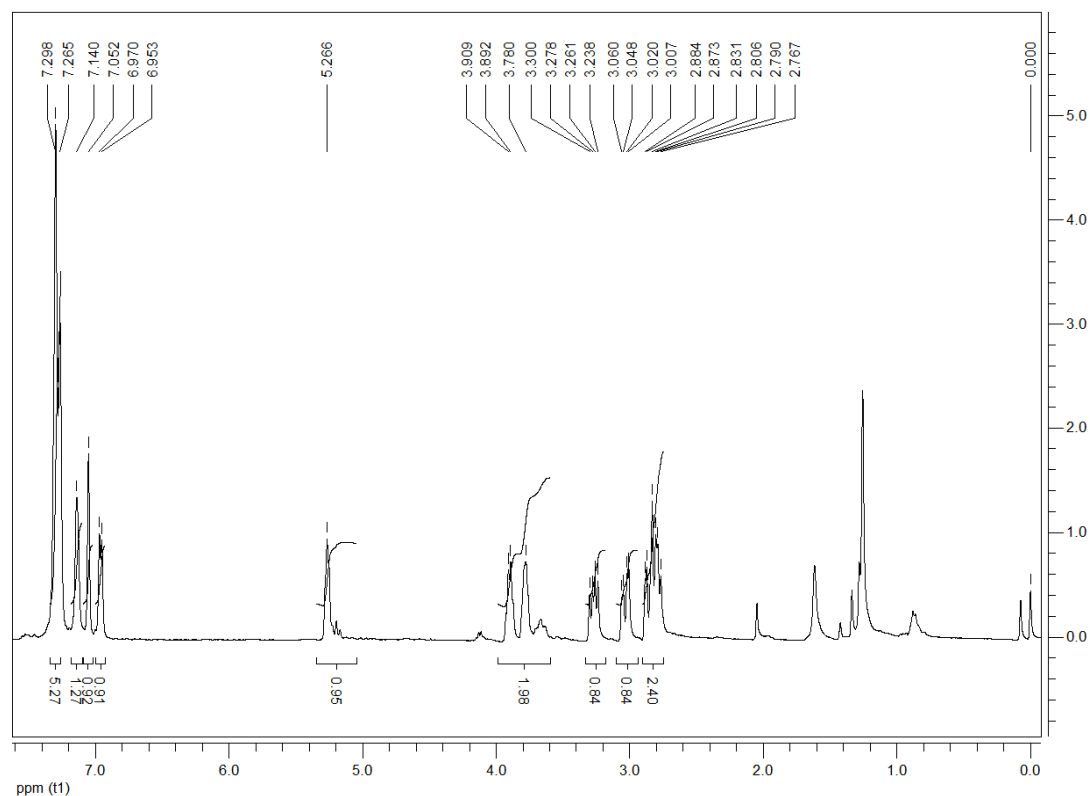


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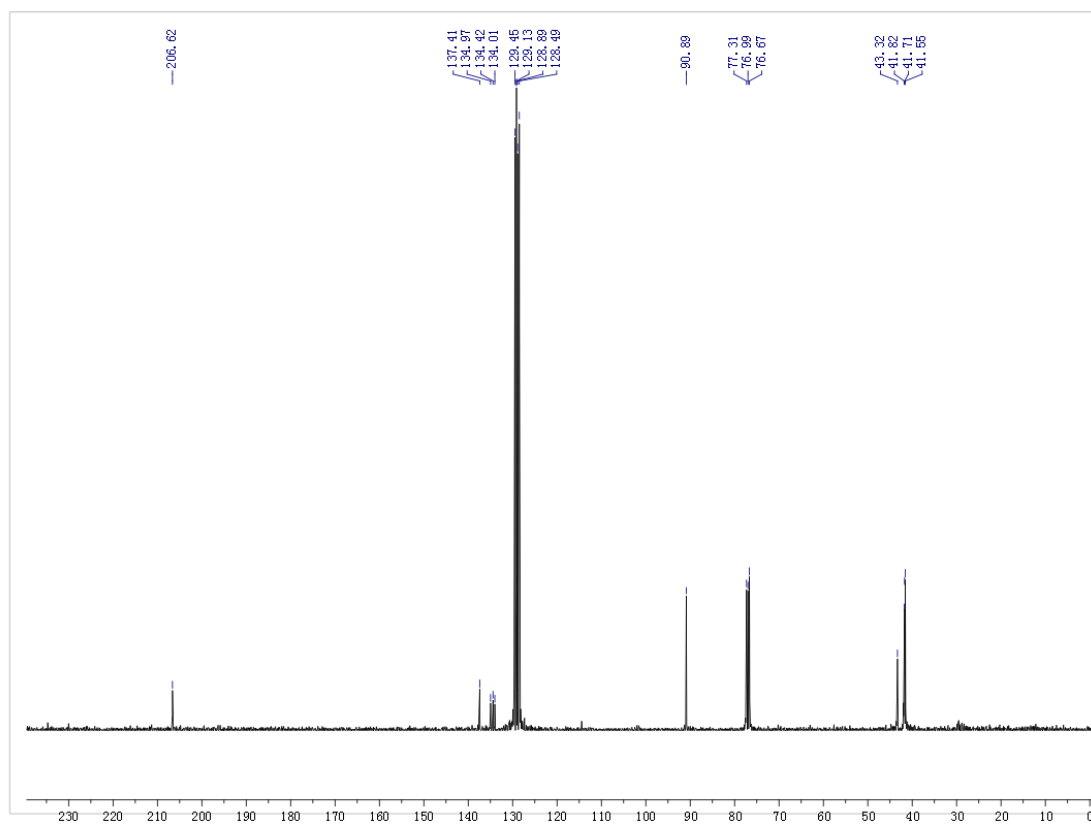
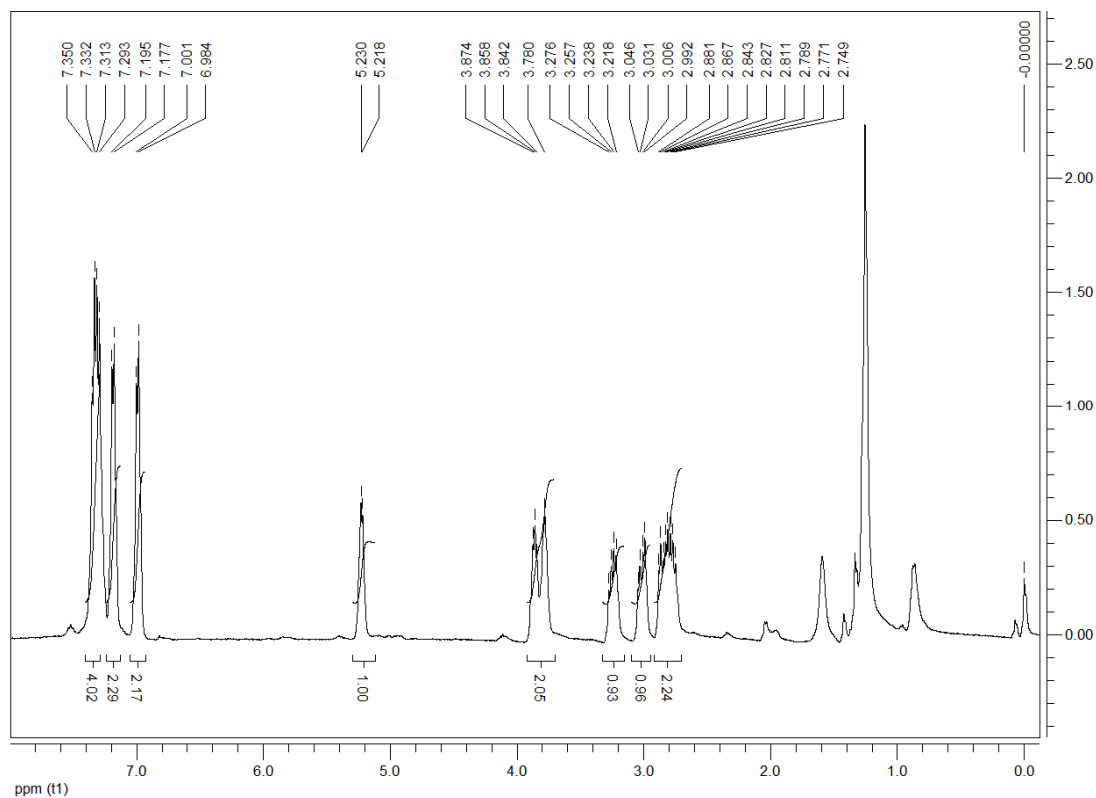


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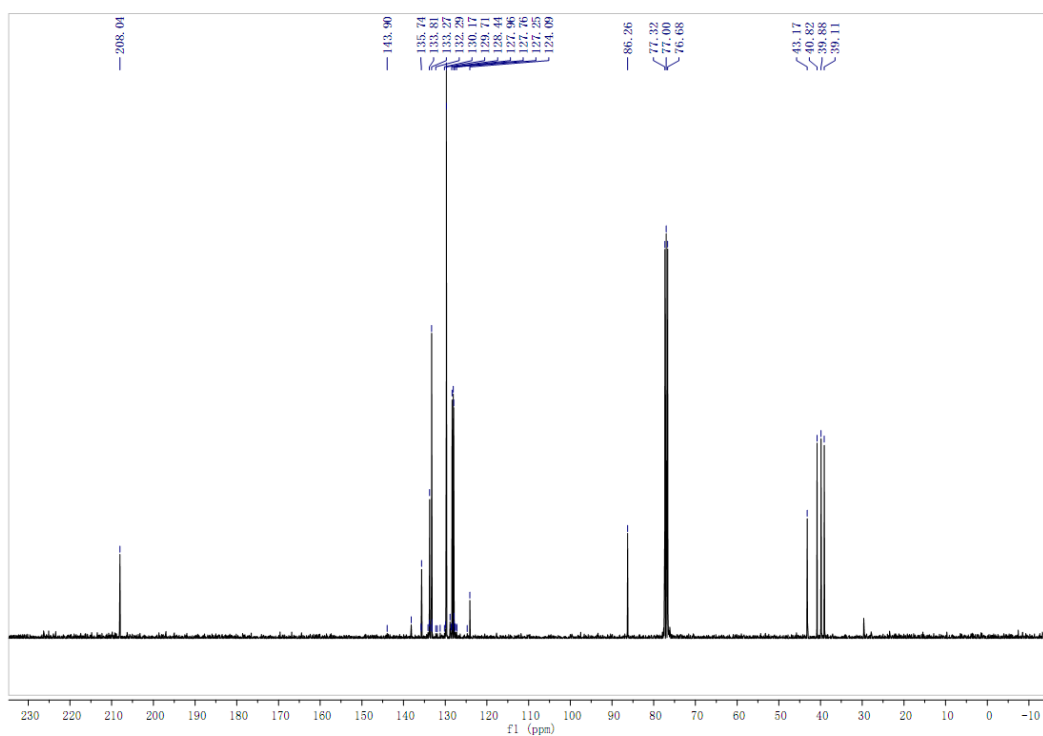
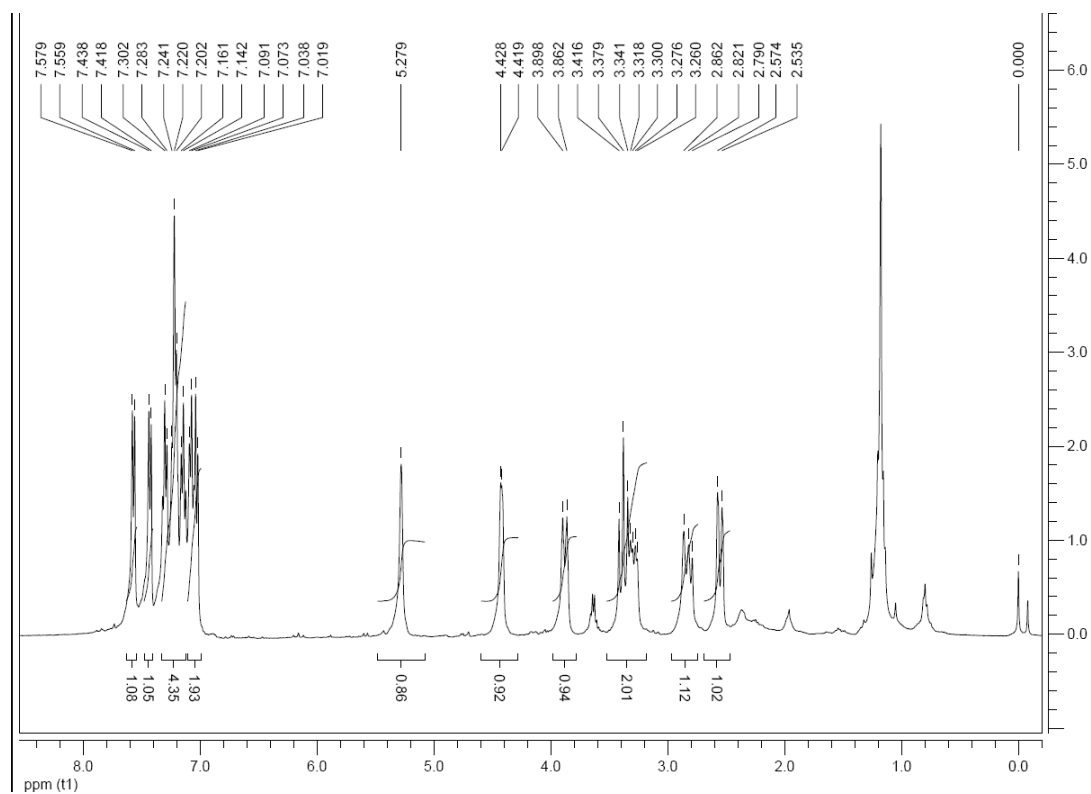




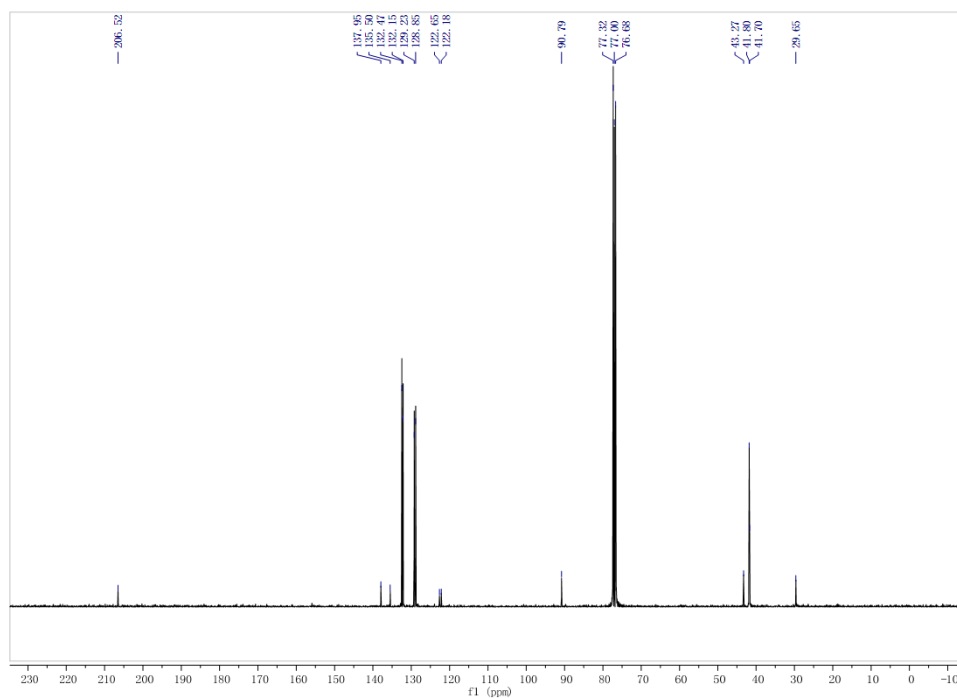
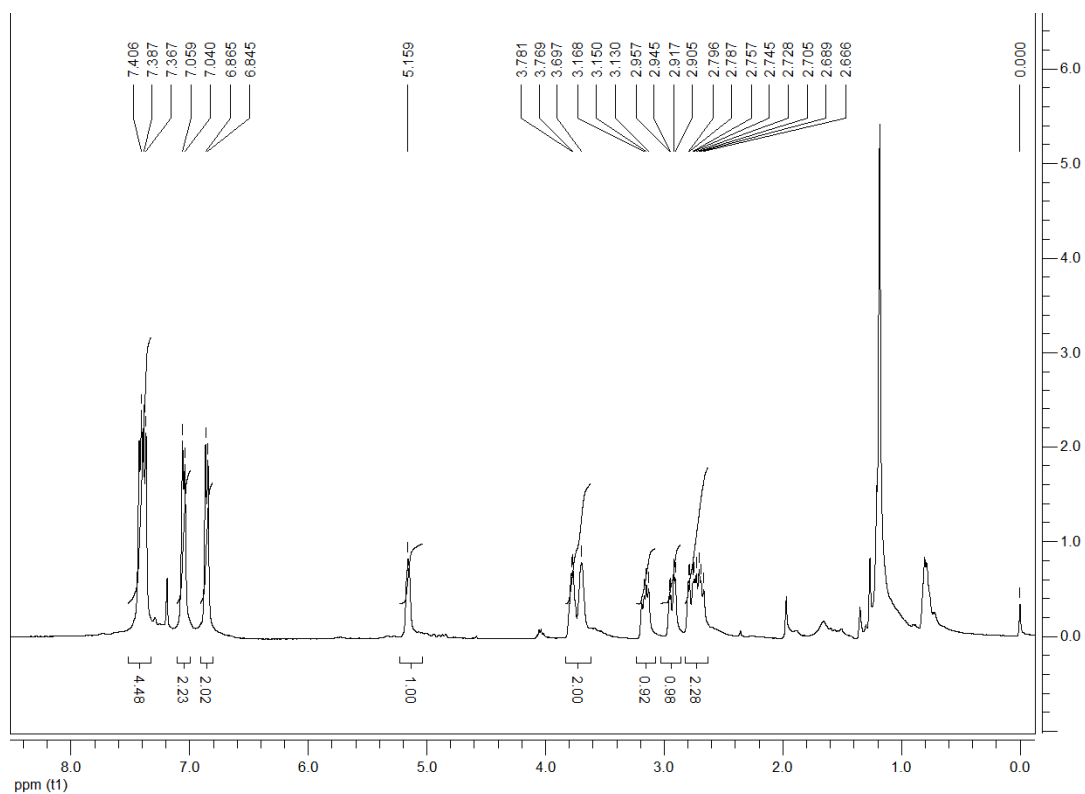
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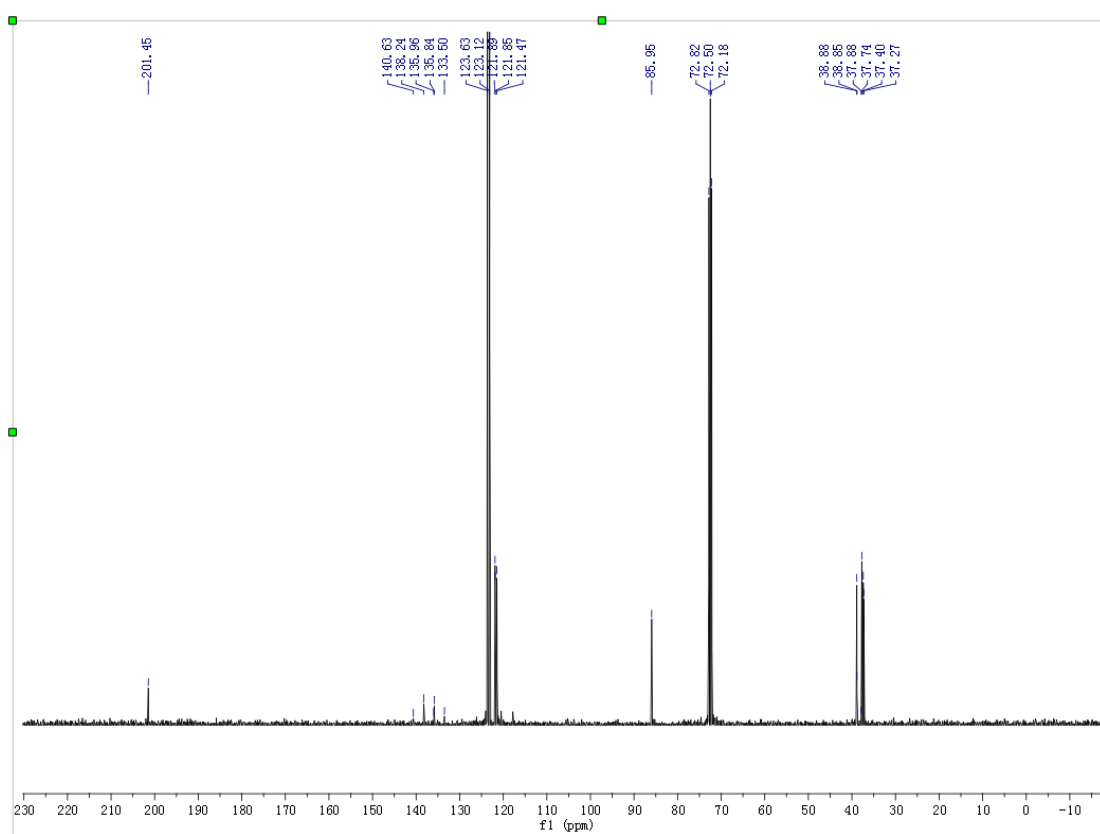
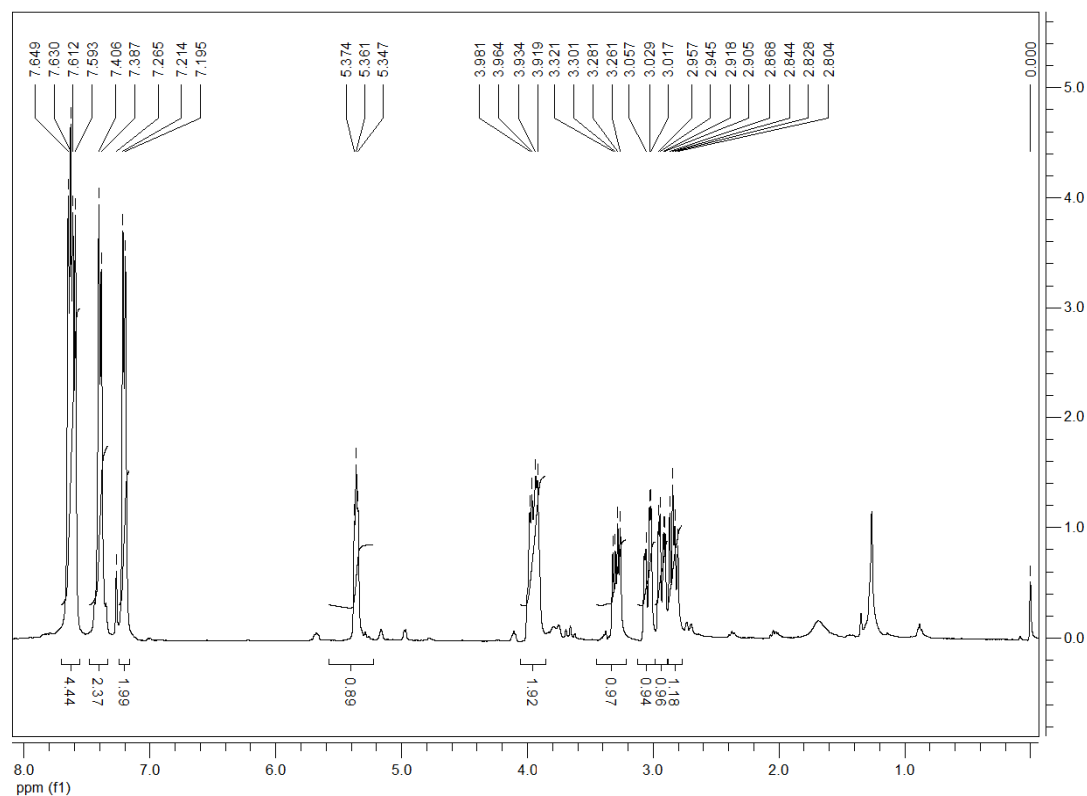
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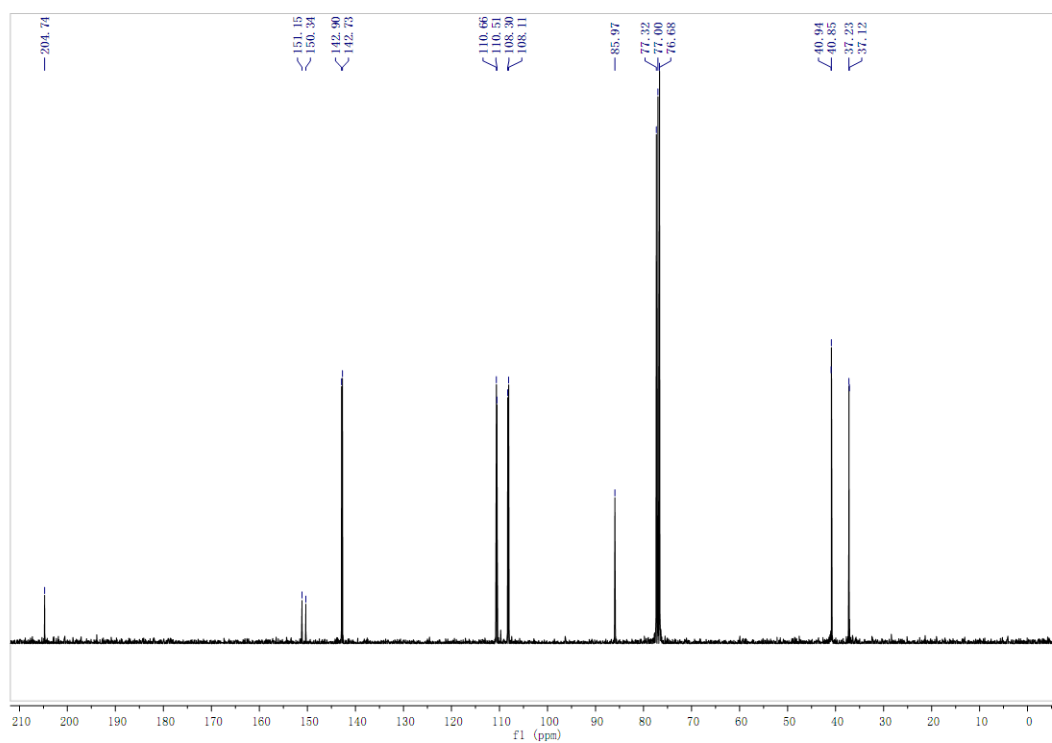
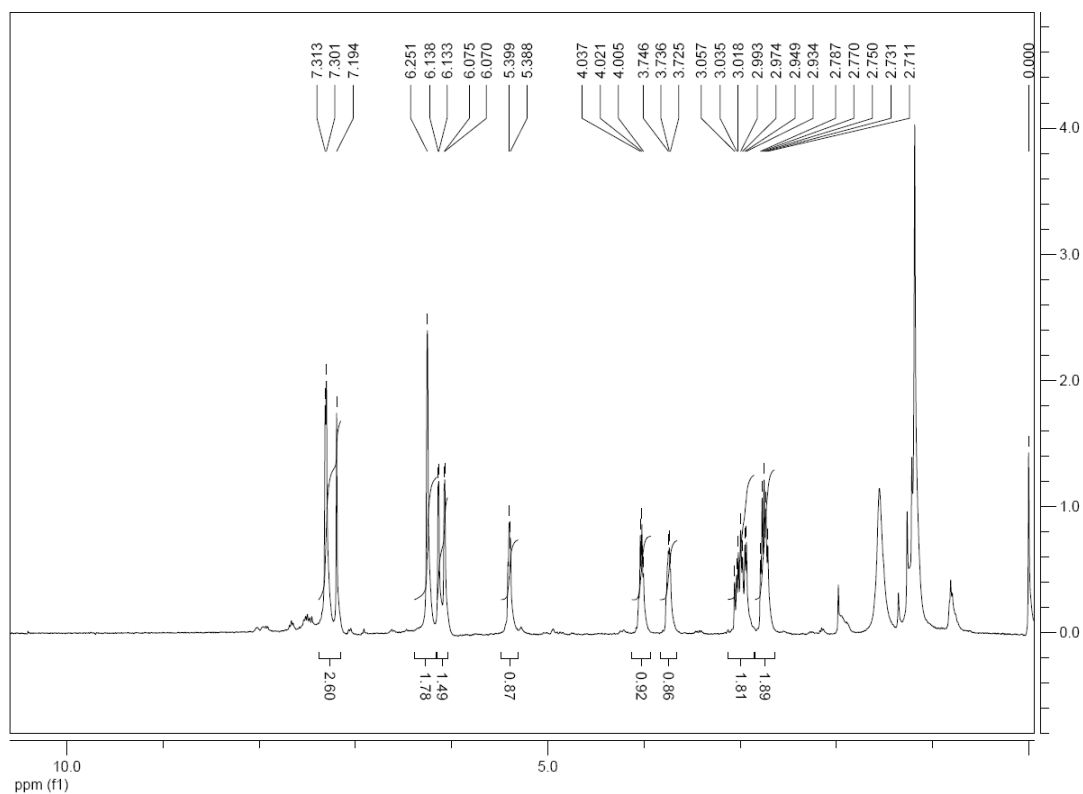
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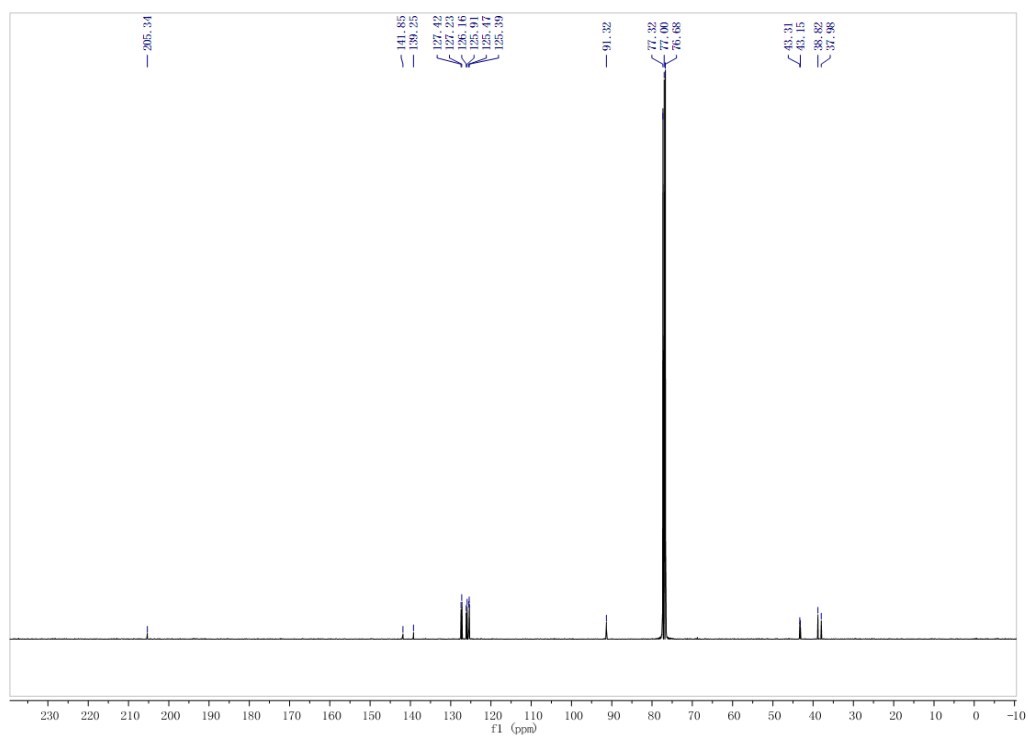
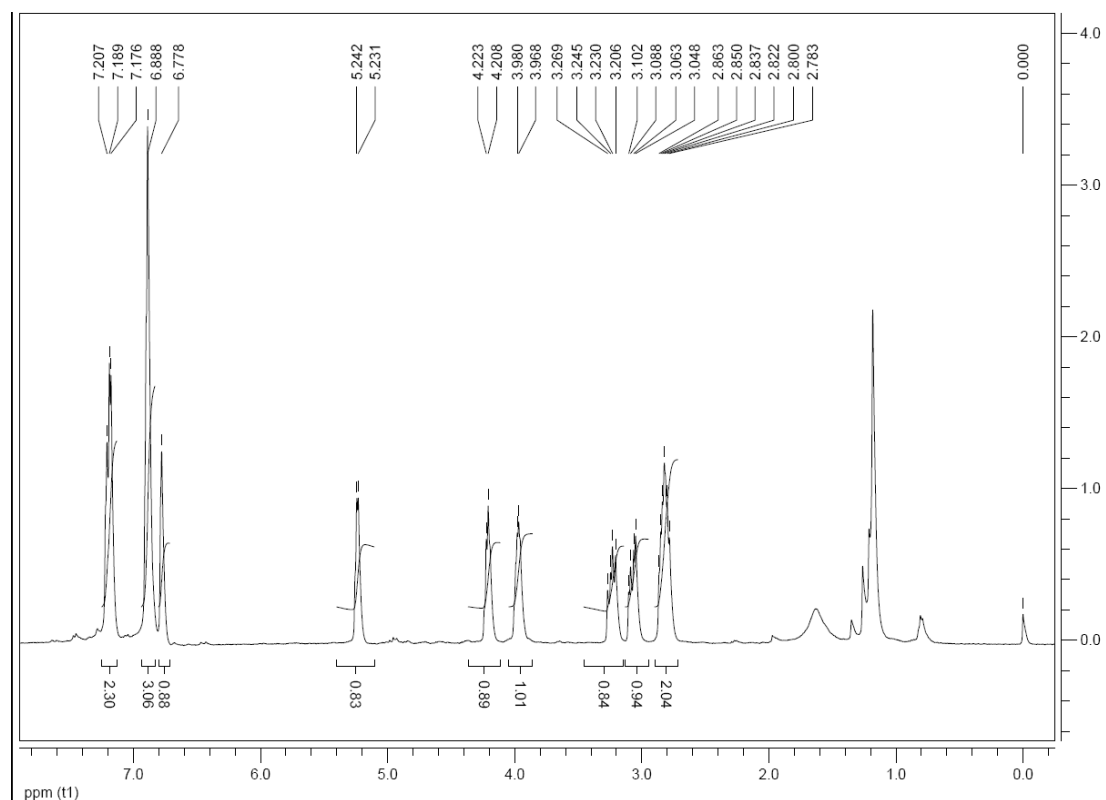
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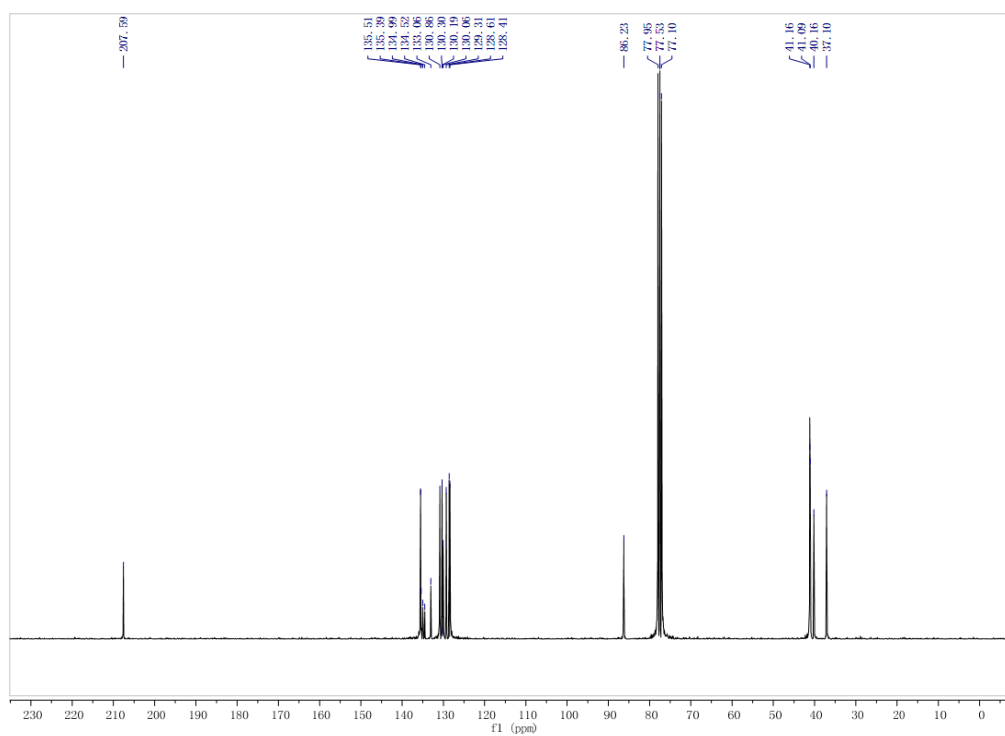
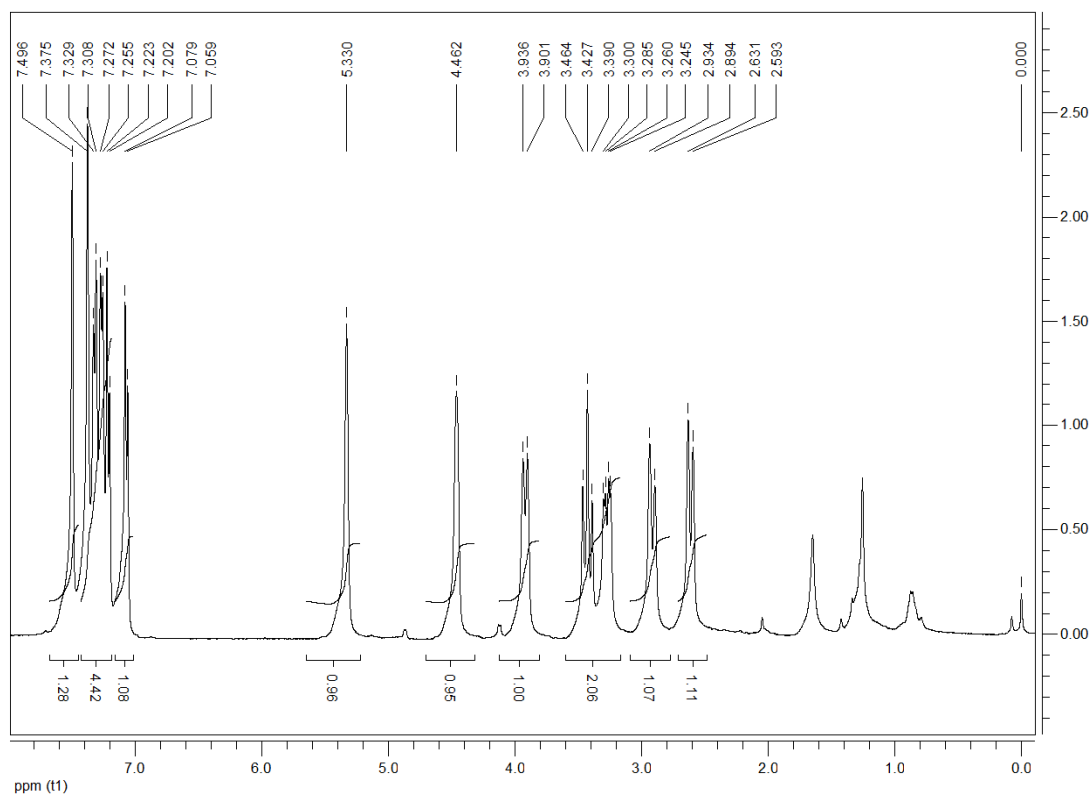
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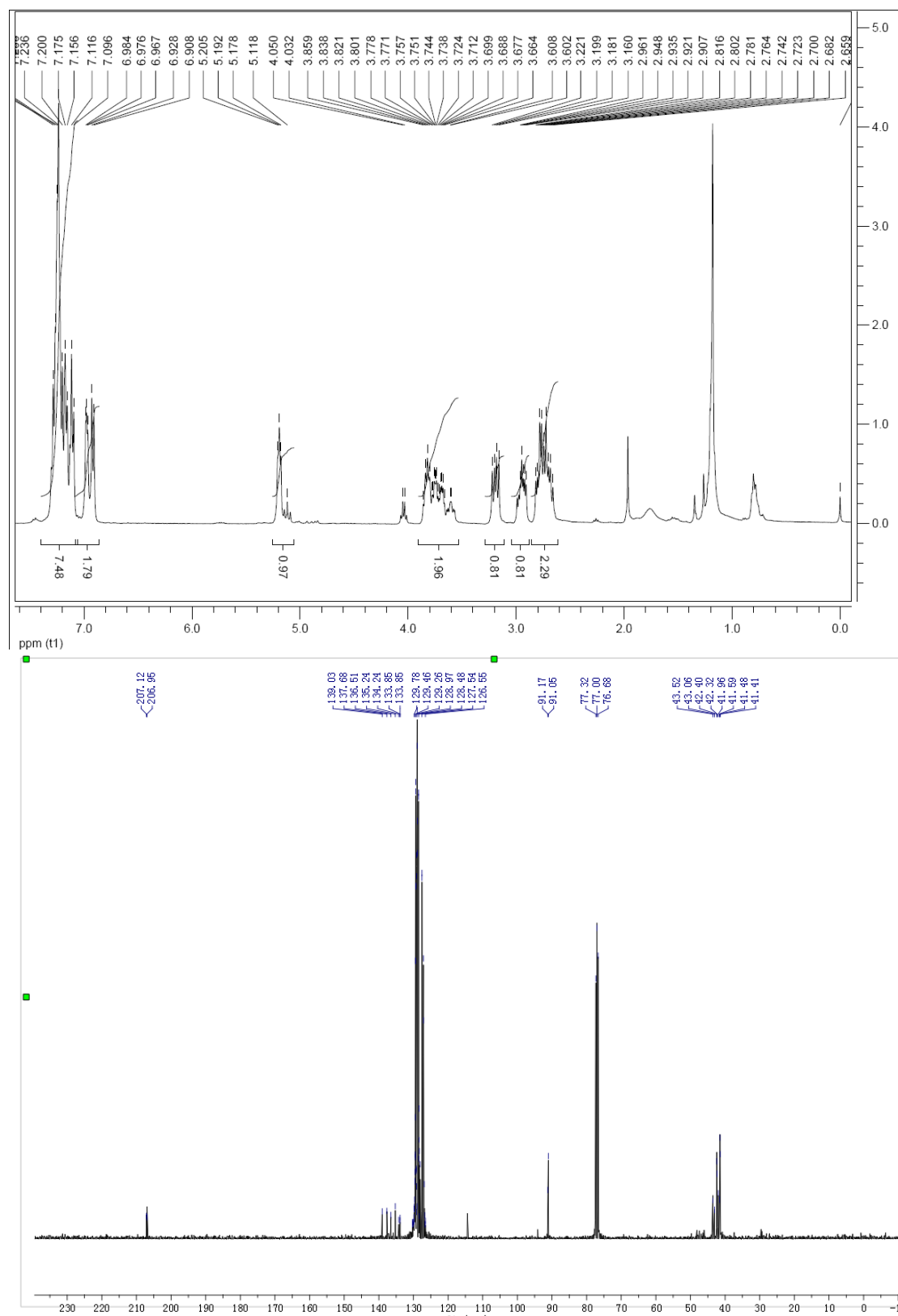
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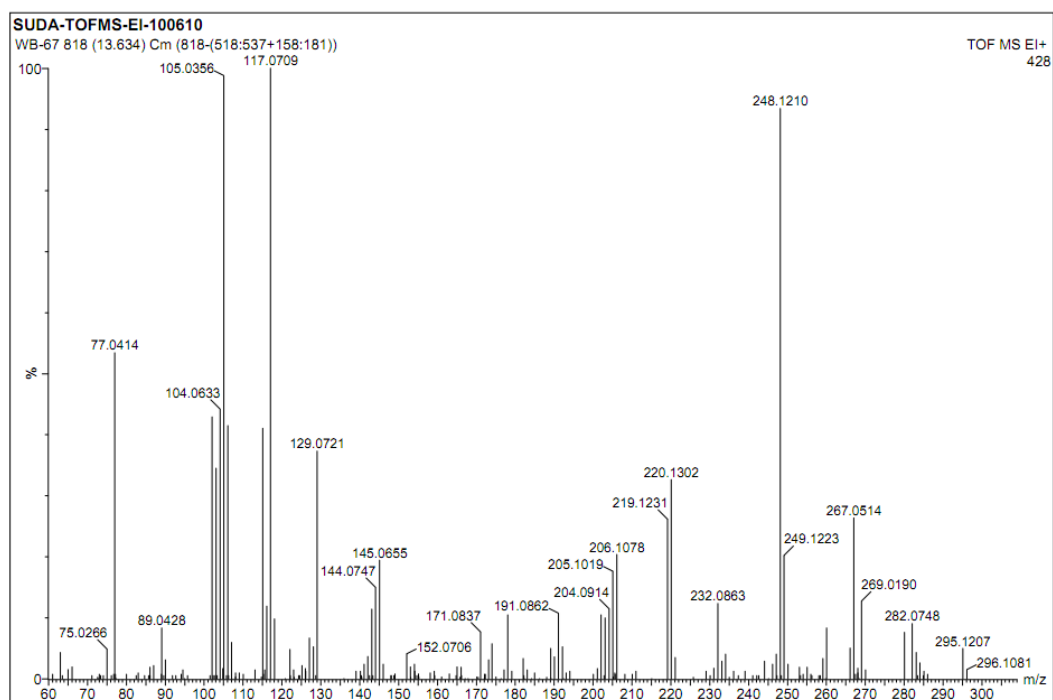


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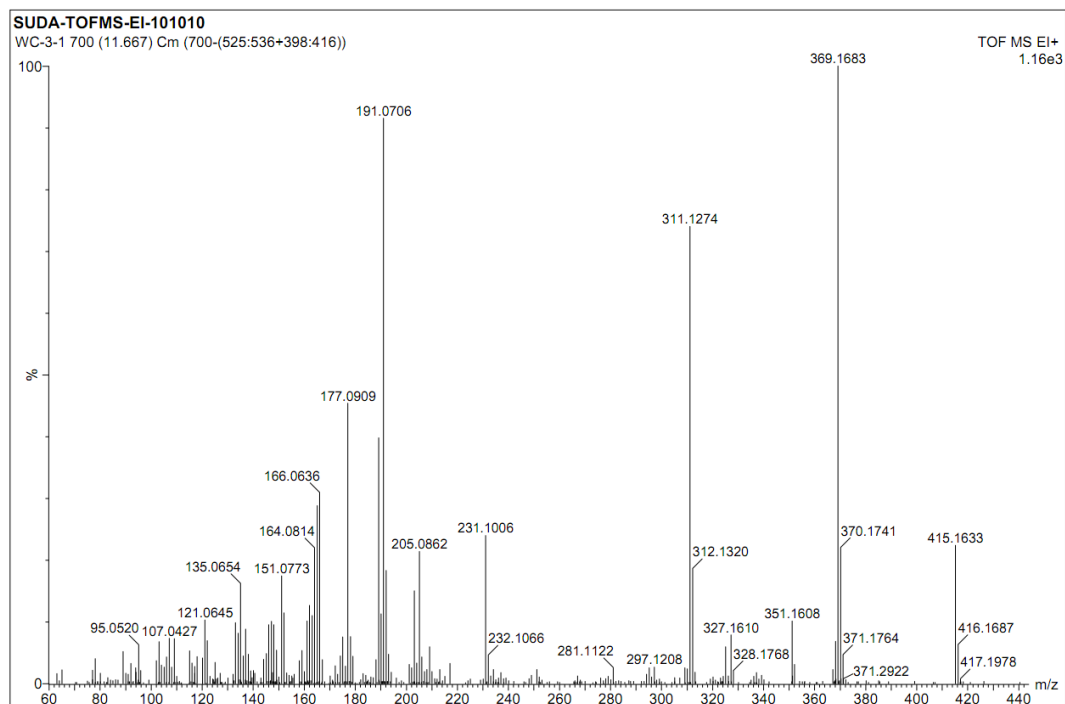


G: HRMS Analysis of Michael Addition Products

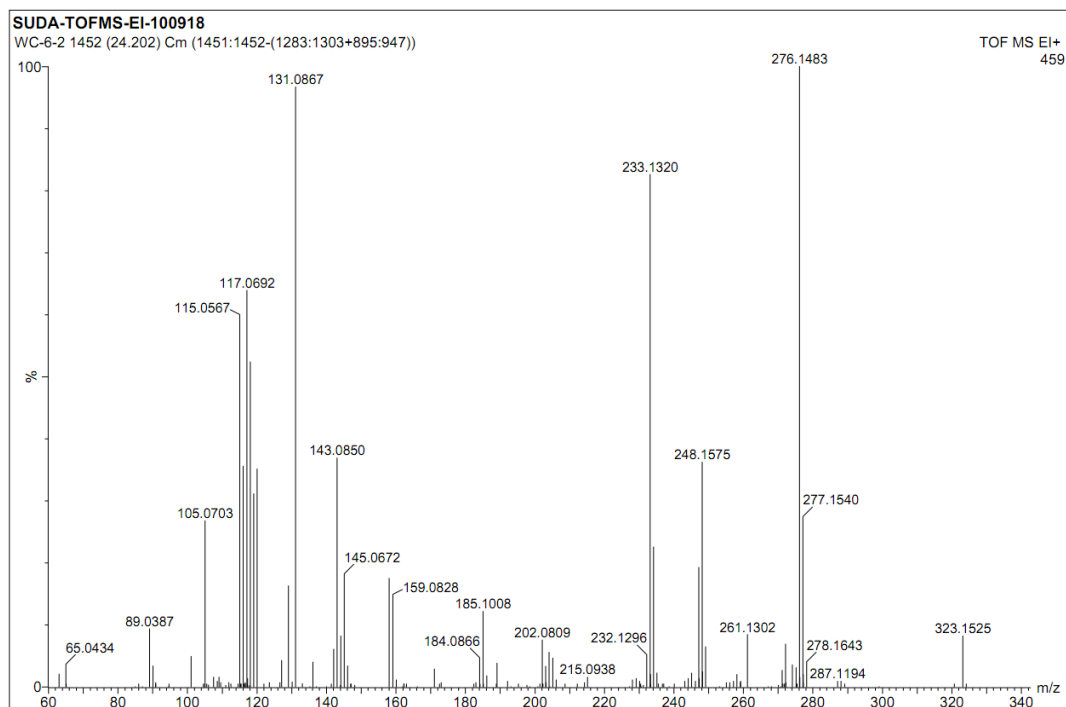
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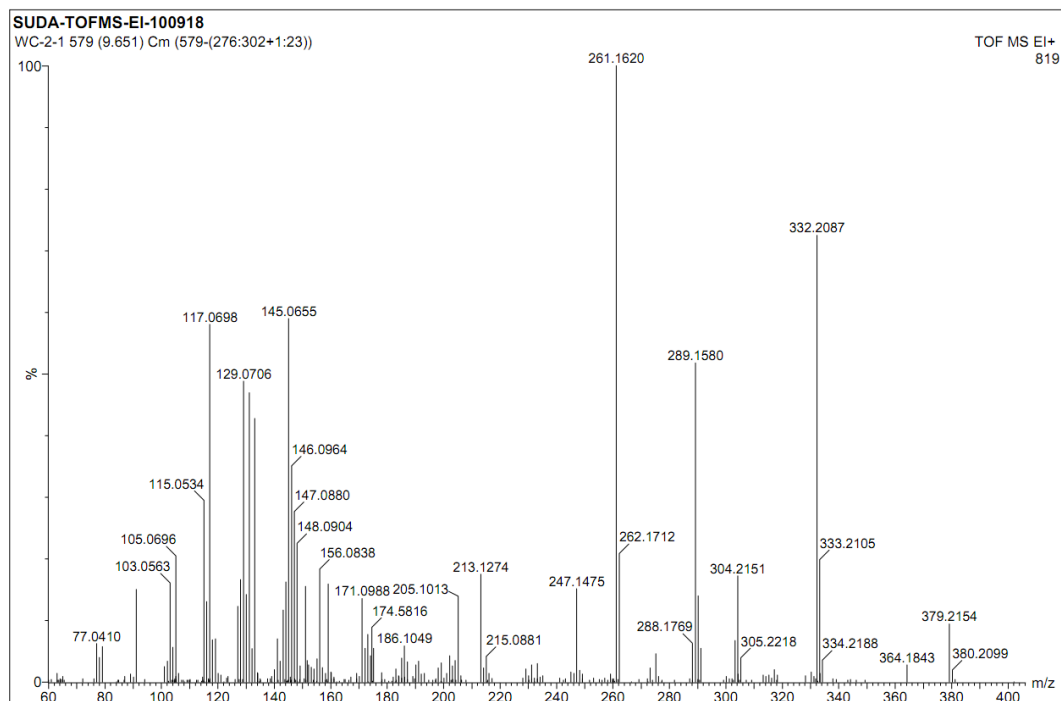
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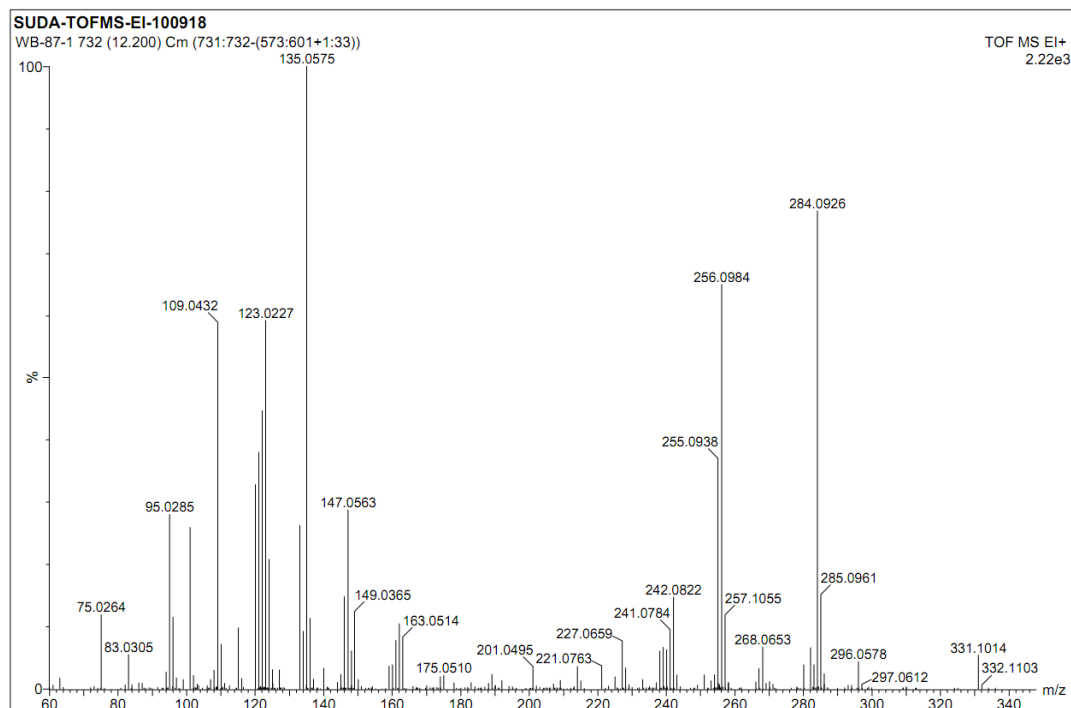
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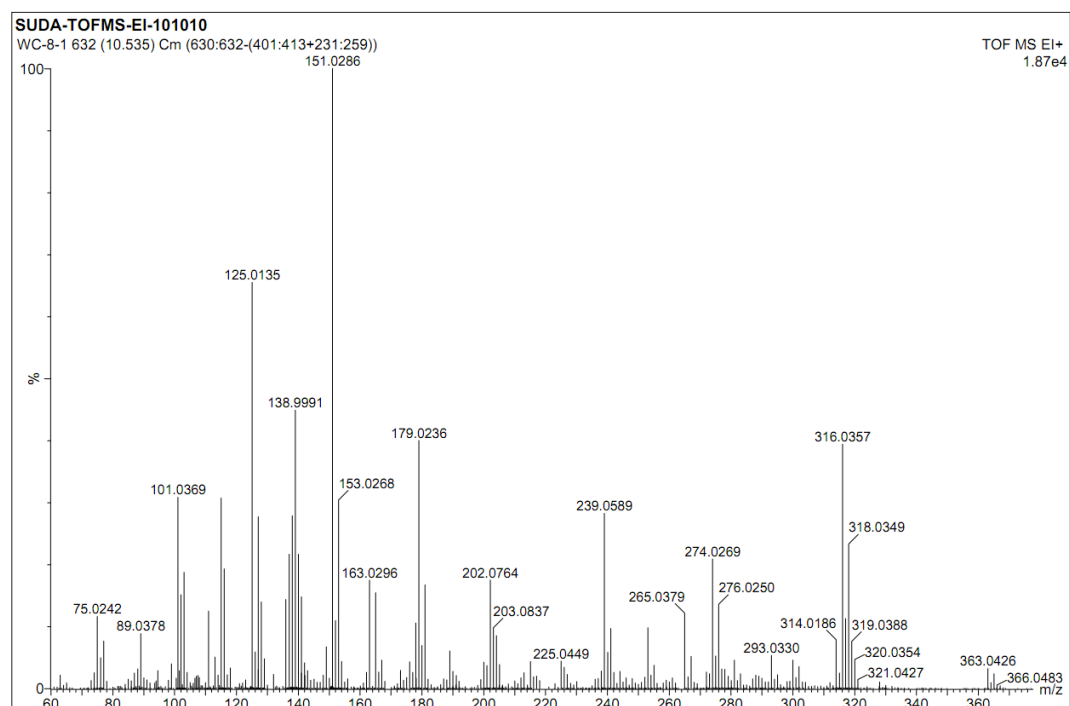
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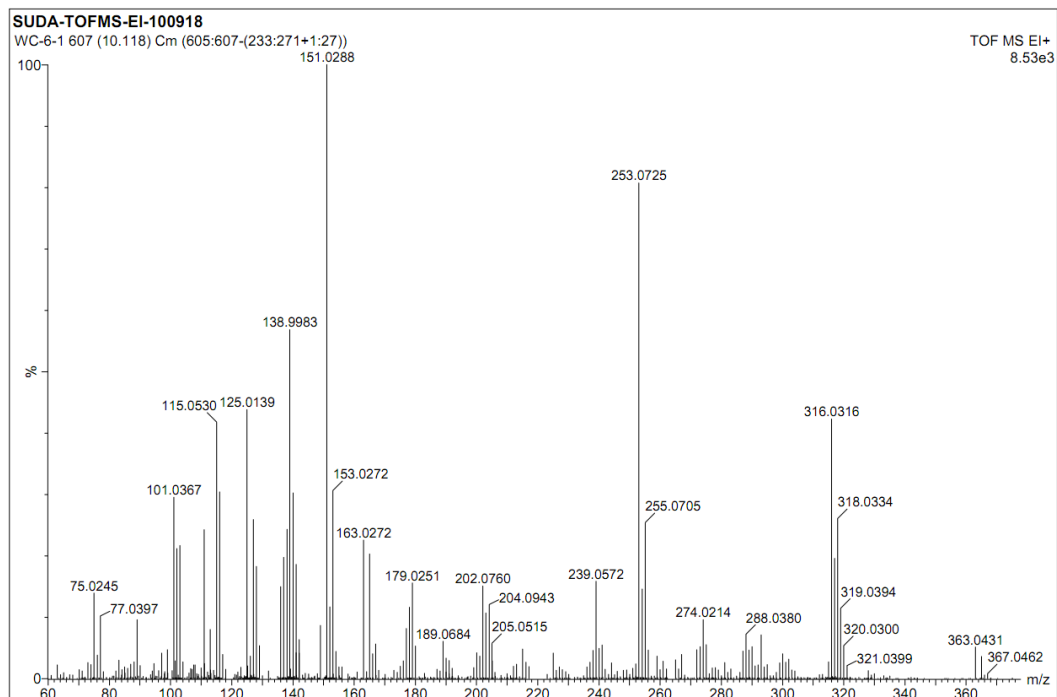
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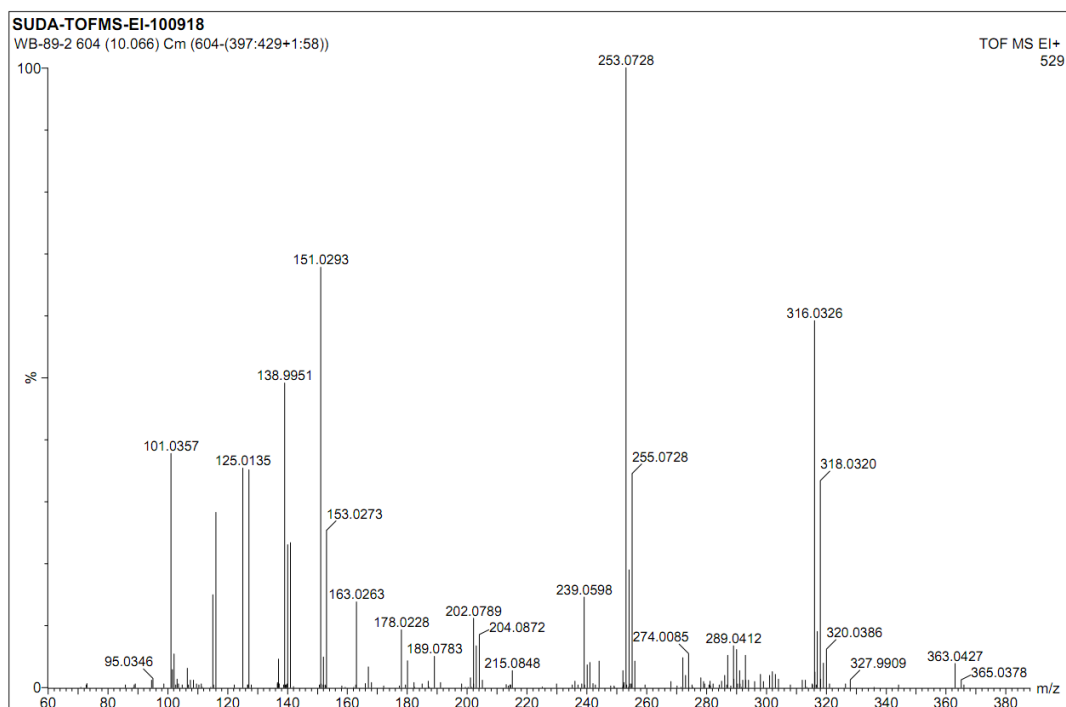
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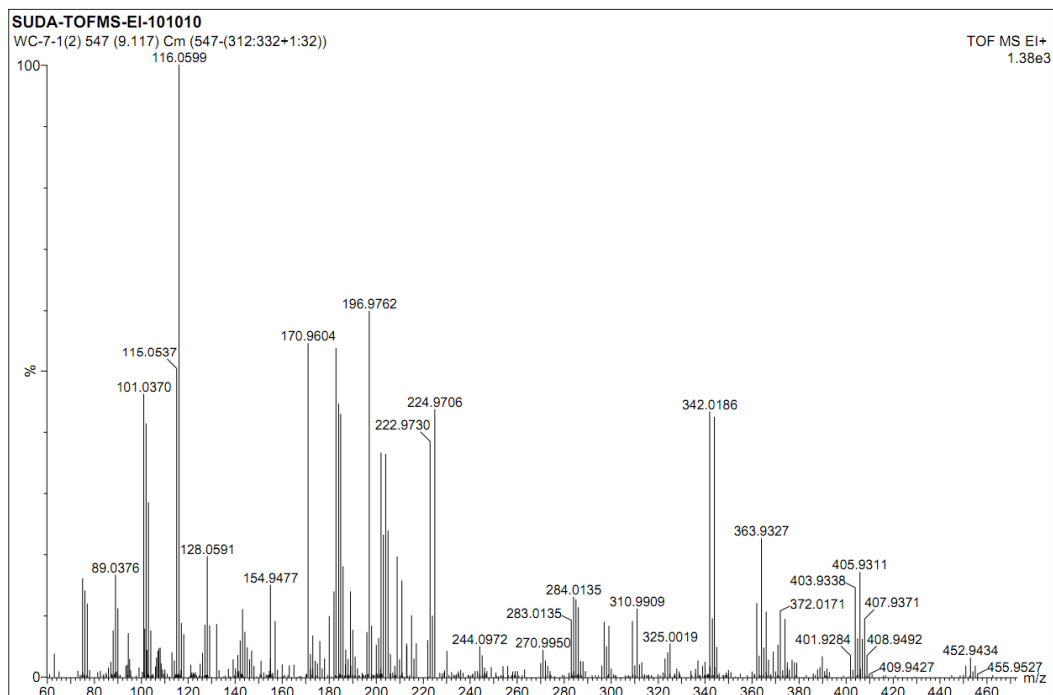
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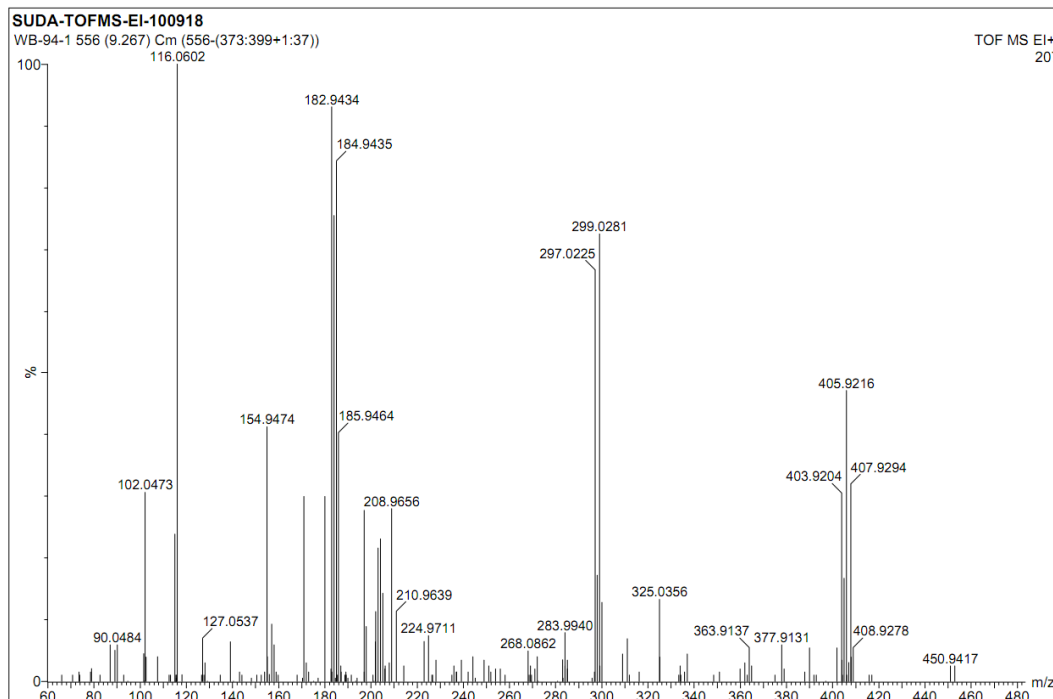
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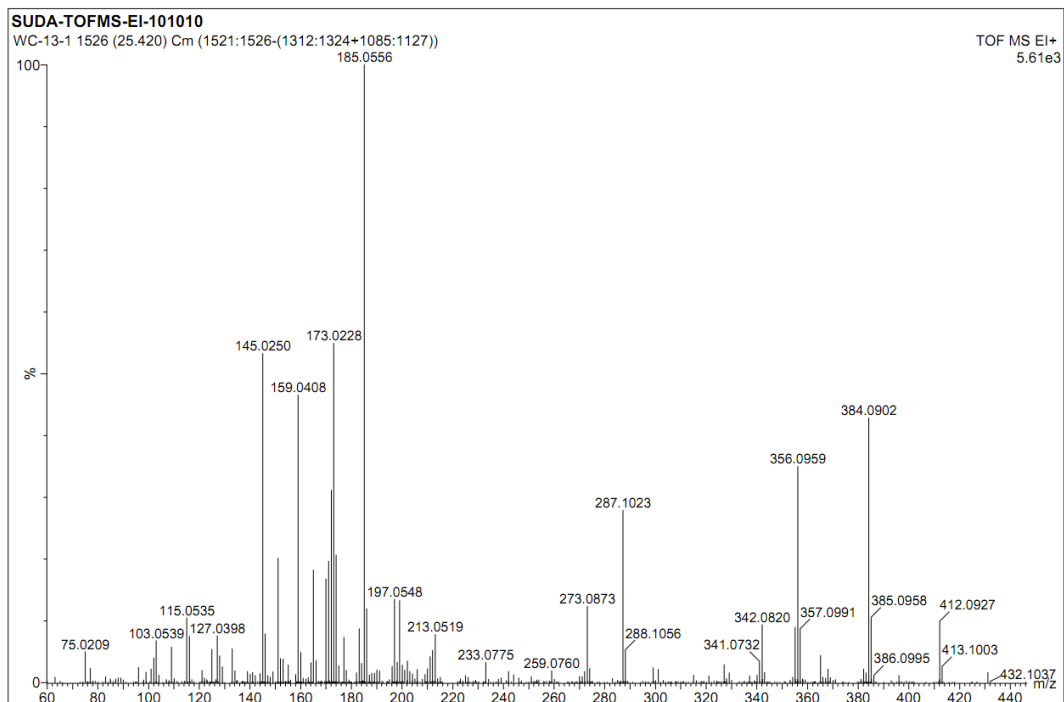
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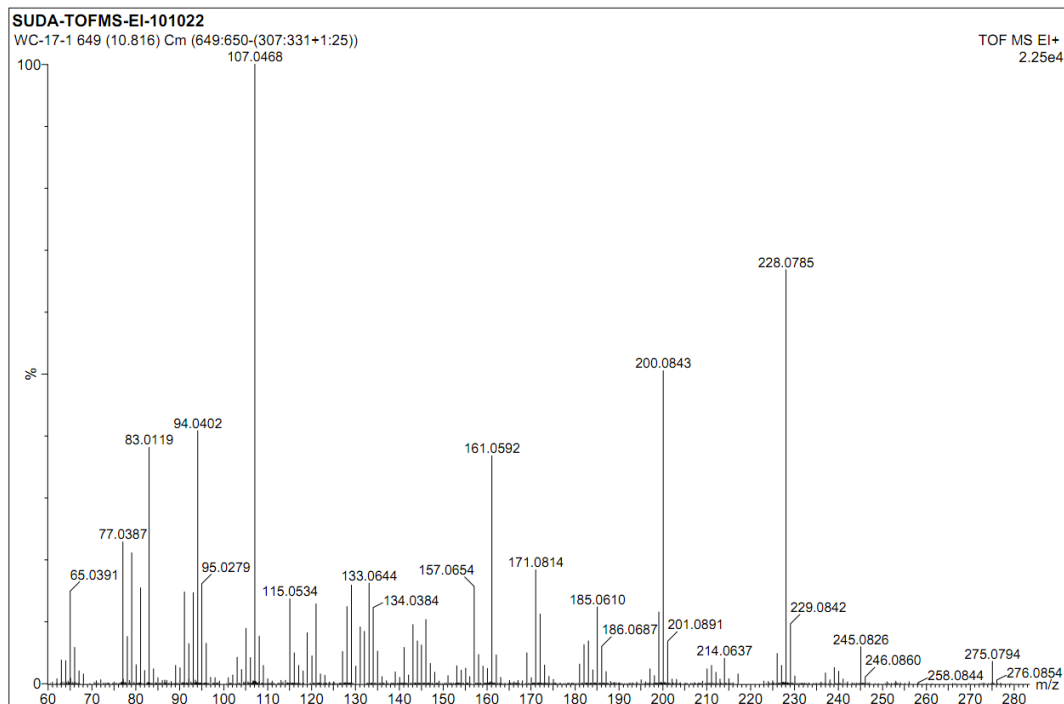
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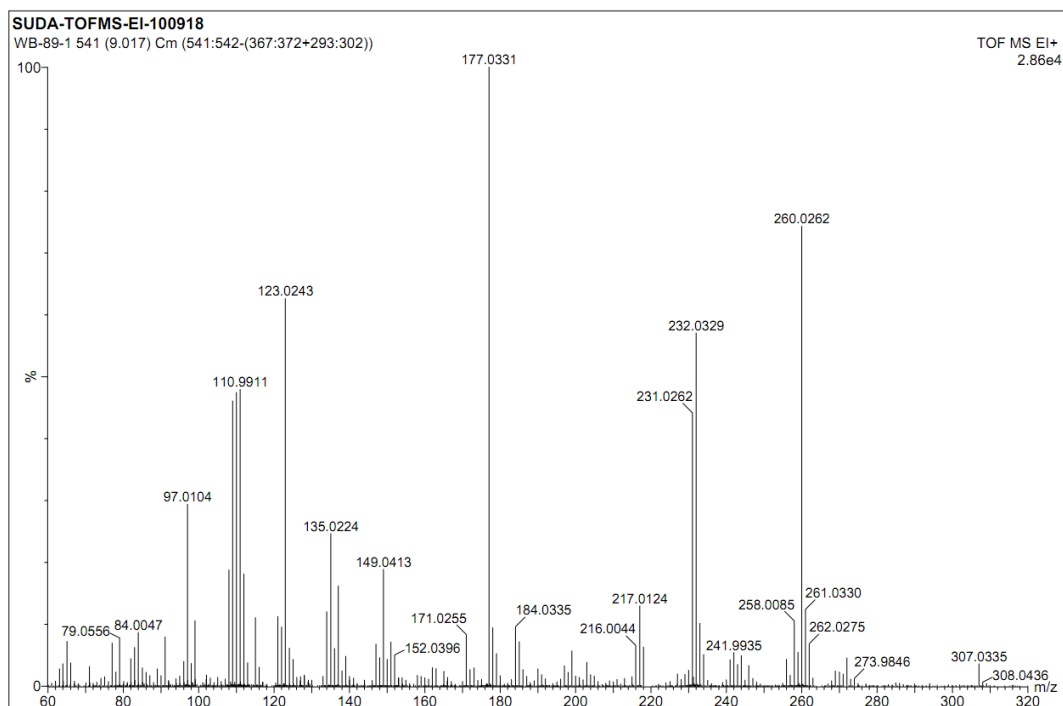
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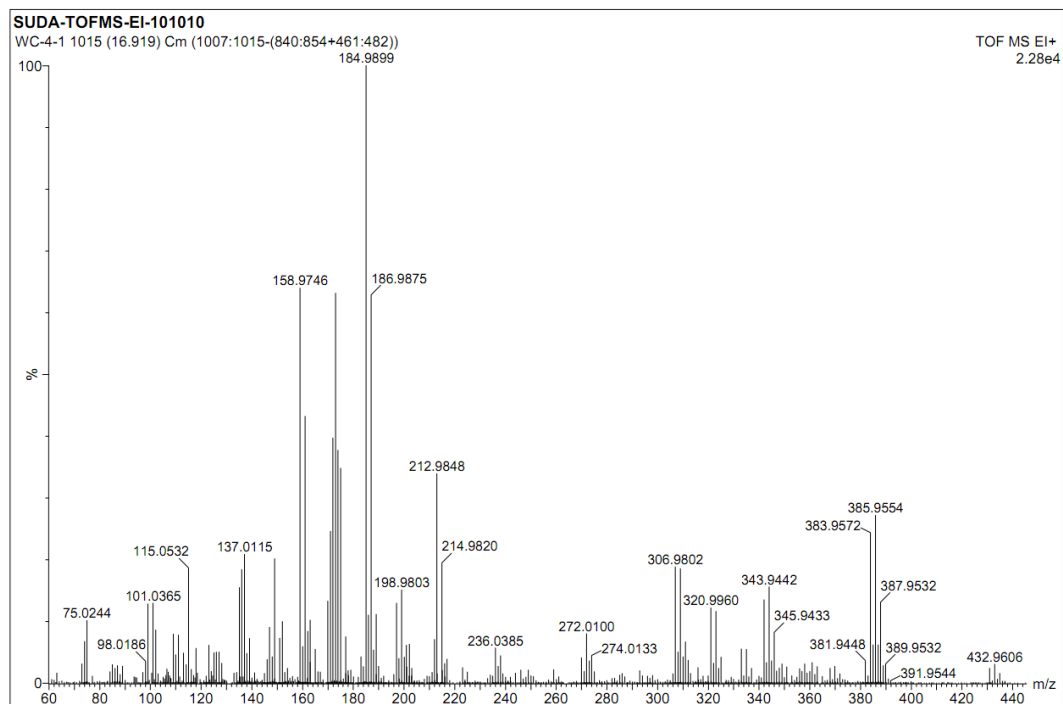
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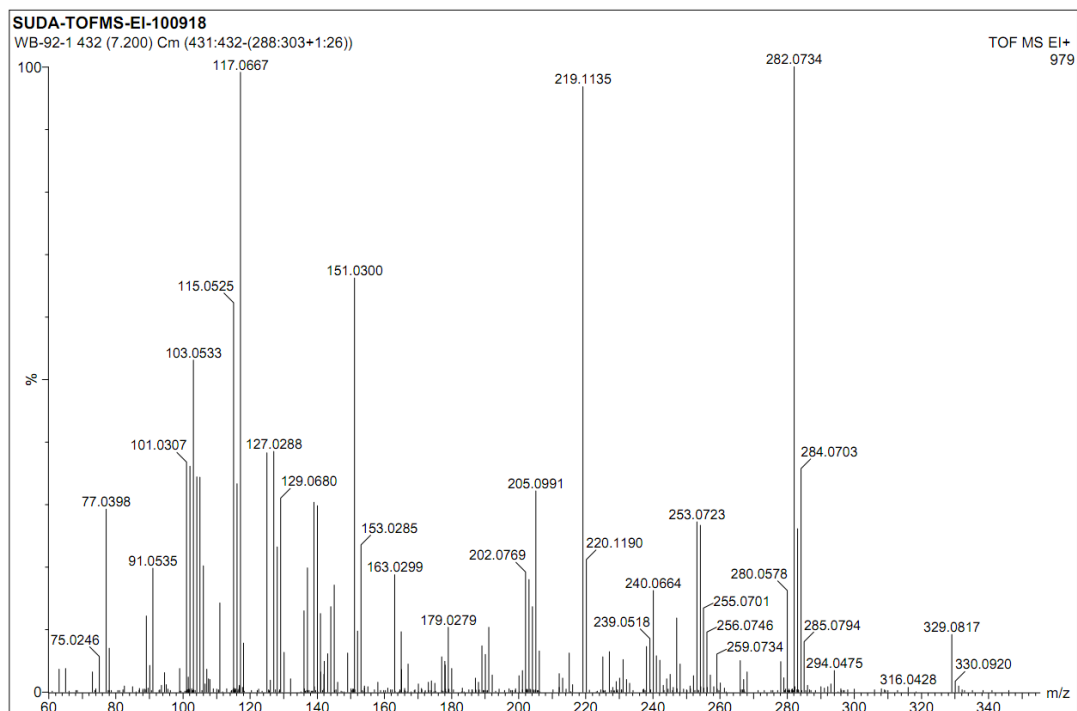
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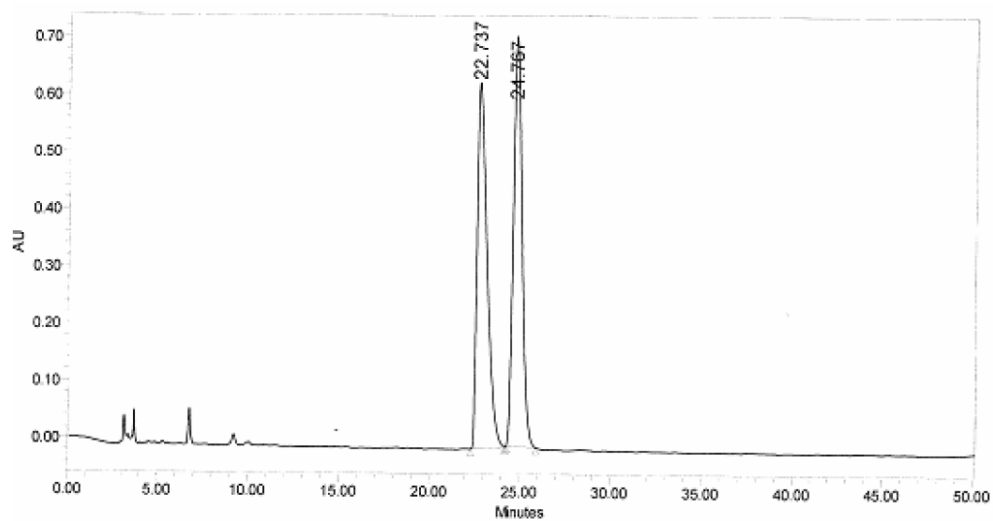


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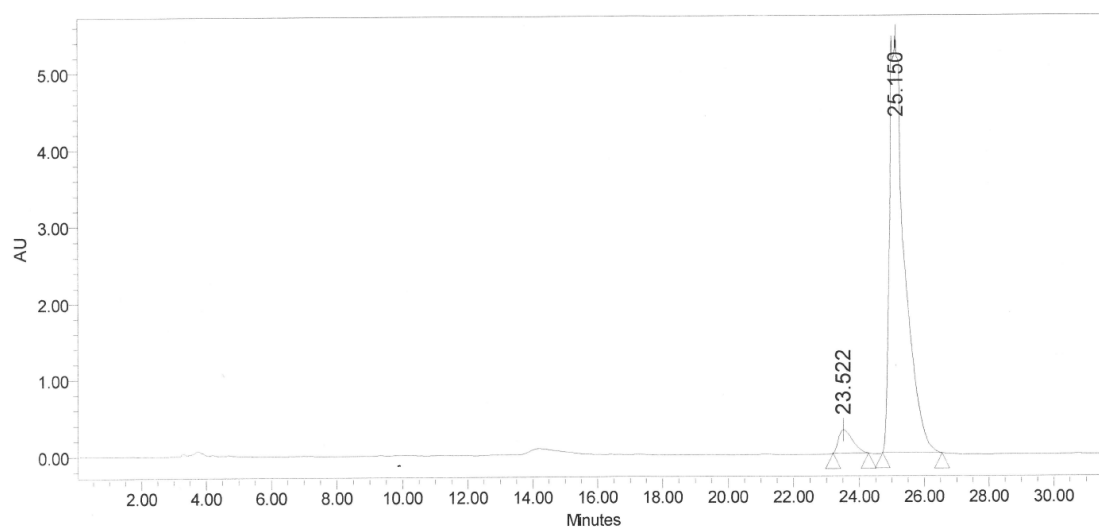


H: HPLC Analysis of Michael Addition Products

3a

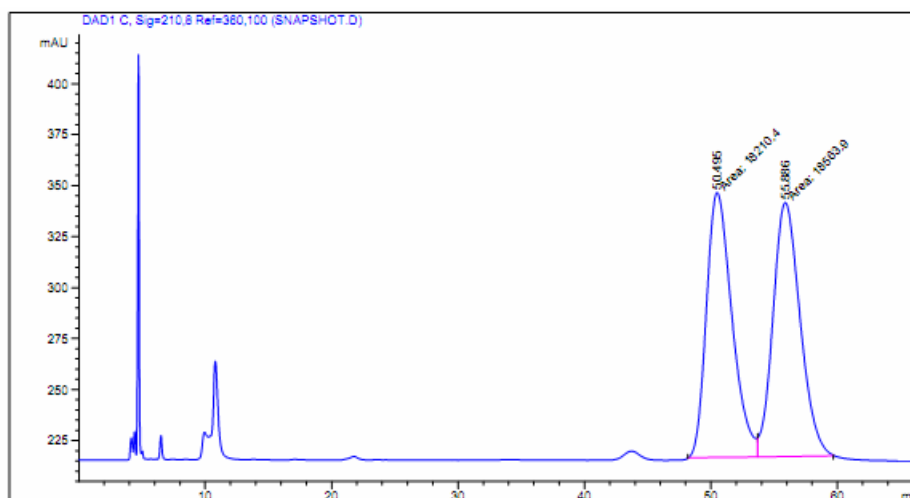


	RT	Area	% Area	Height
1	22.737	24195769	50.44	637786
2	24.767	23778090	49.56	713897



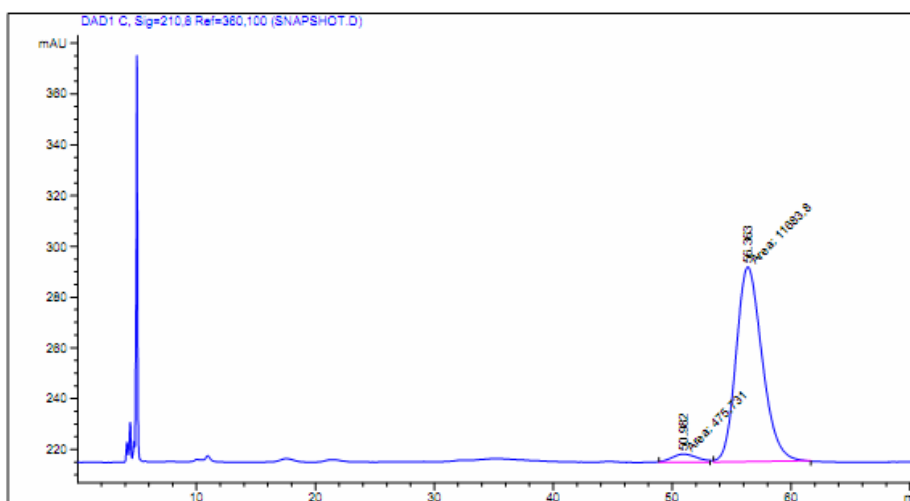
	Name	RT	Area	% Area	Height (μV)
1		23.522	8931199	4.85	301878
2		25.150	175084100	95.15	5437118

3b



Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	50.495	MF	2.3383	1.82104e4	129.80028	49.5194
2	55.886	FM	2.4839	1.85639e4	124.56097	50.4806

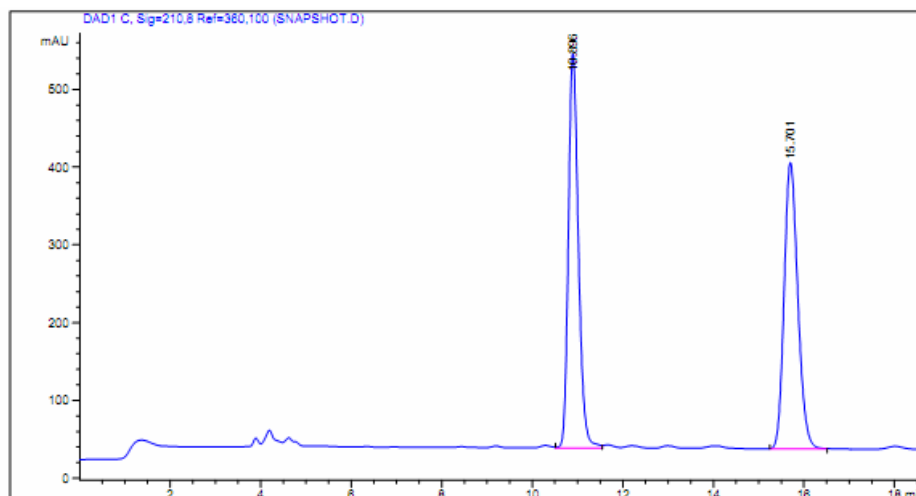
Totals : 3.67742e4 254.36125



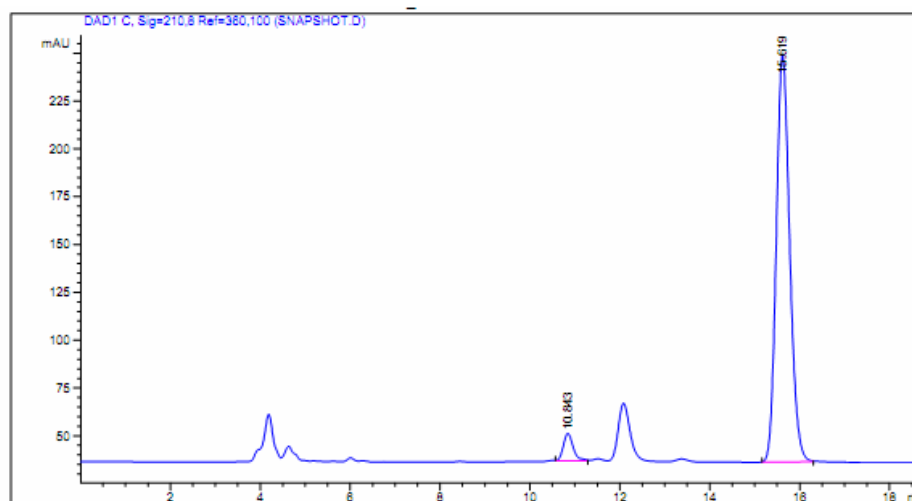
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	50.982	MM	2.5105	475.73080	3.15822	3.9124
2	56.363	MM	2.5388	1.16838e4	76.70048	96.0876

Totals : 1.21595e4 79.85870

3c

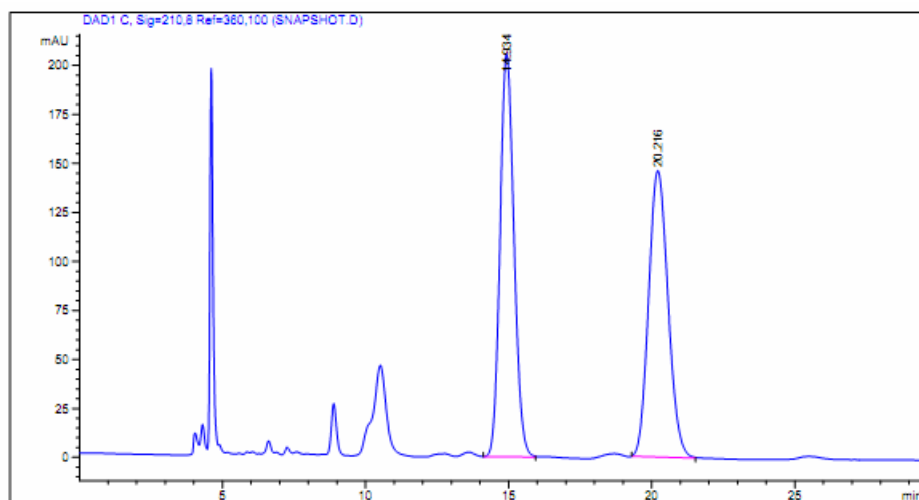


Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	10.896	VV	0.2367	7779.89600	507.79156	50.1676
2	15.701	BB	0.3248	7727.90674	368.31305	49.8324
Totals :				1.55078e4	876.10461	



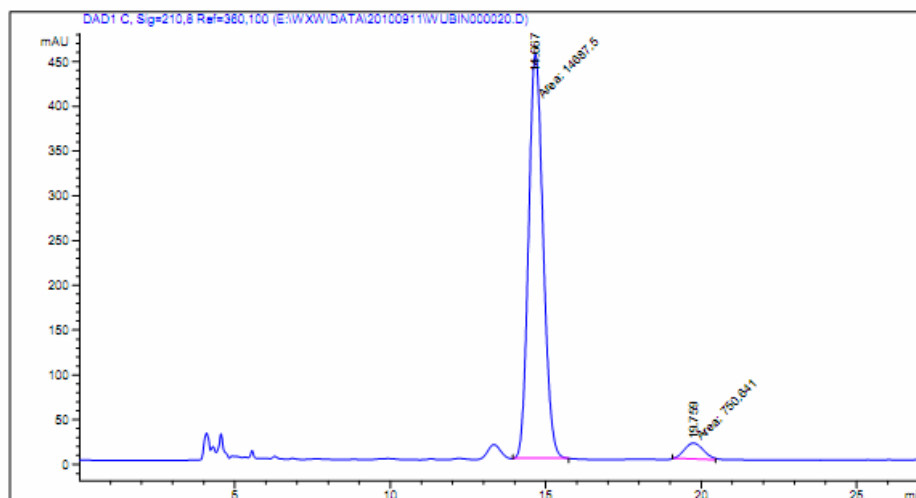
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1	10.843	BB	0.2356	220.40231	14.31716	4.7604
2	15.619	BB	0.3202	4409.47363	212.38193	95.2396
Totals :				4629.87595	226.69909	

3d



Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	14.934	VB	0.5272	6952.54346	205.22092	50.3534
2	20.216	BB	0.7315	6854.94092	146.07912	49.6466

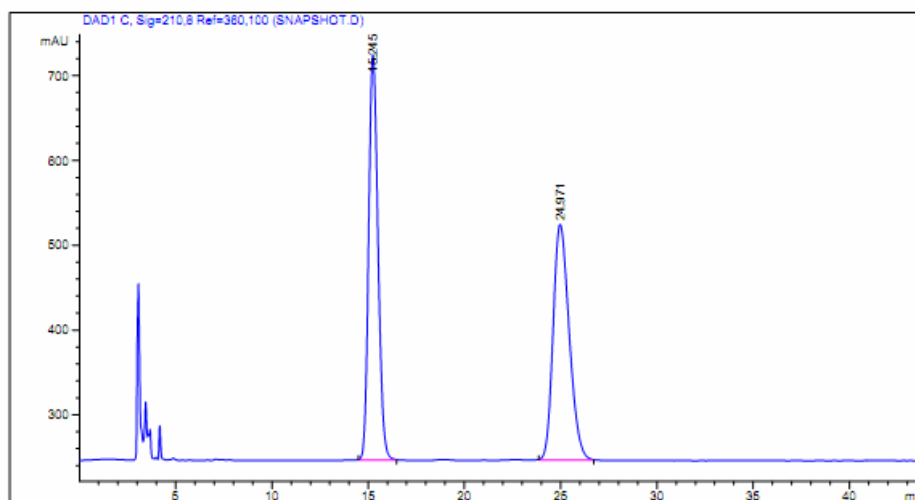
Totals : 1.38075e4 351.30003



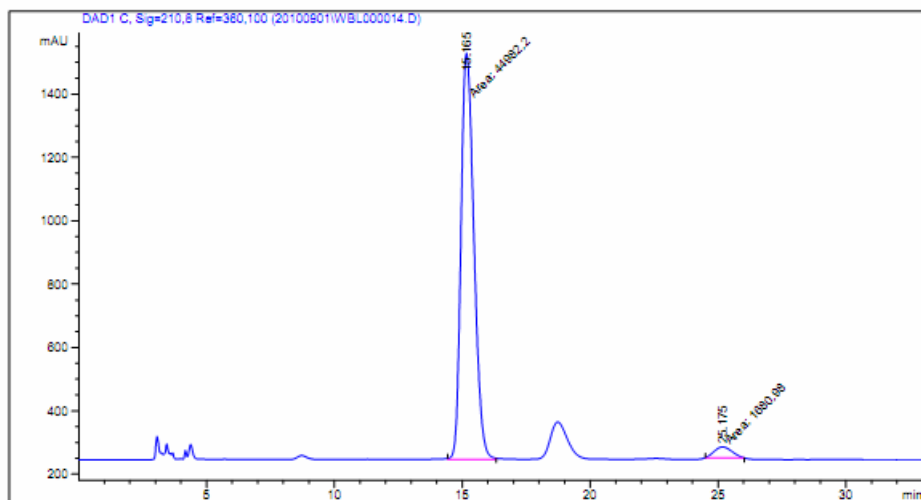
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1	14.667	MM	0.5420	1.46875e4	451.64243	95.1377
2	19.759	MM	0.7022	750.64063	17.81737	4.8623

Totals : 1.54381e4 469.45979

3e

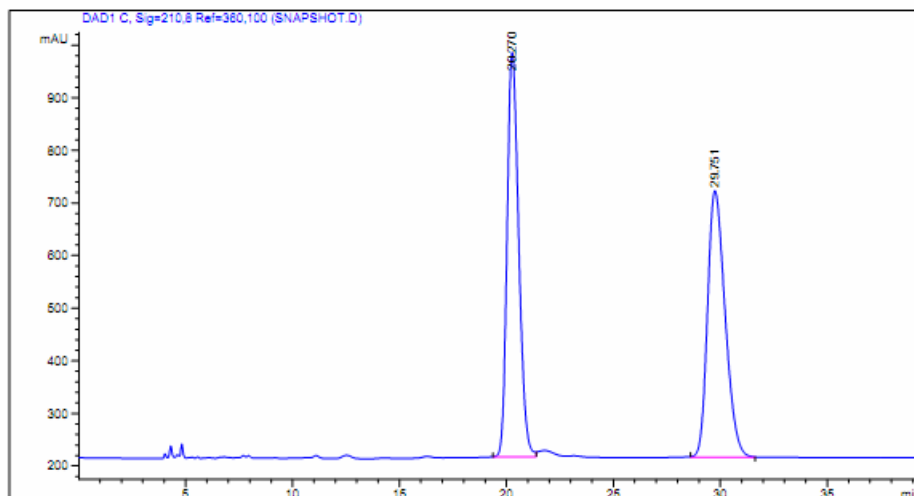


Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	15.245	BB	0.5224	1.60833e4	478.18372	49.9761
2	24.971	BB	0.9003	1.60987e4	277.71735	50.0239
Totals :				3.21819e4	755.90106	

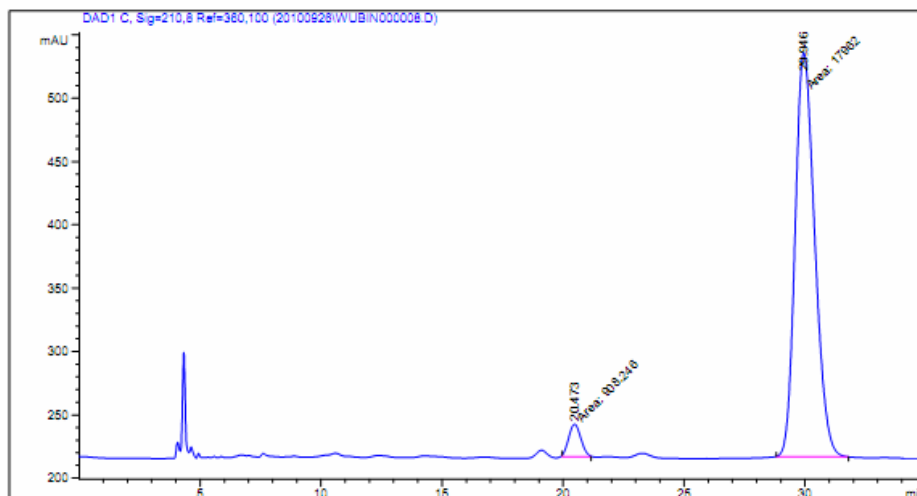


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1	15.165	MM	0.5842	4.49822e4	1283.28906	96.3976
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Totals :				4.66631e4	1317.69351	

3f

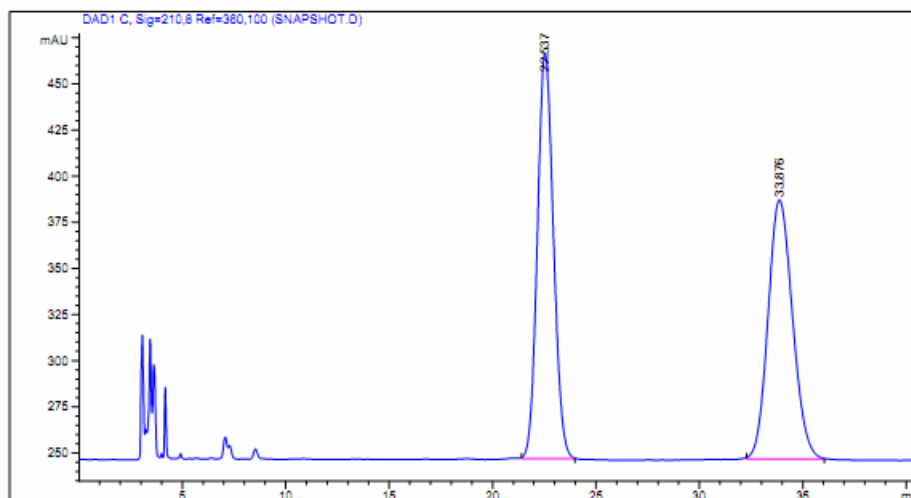


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1	20.270	BB	0.5854	2.89746e4	769.23553	50.1016
2	29.751	BB	0.8803	2.88571e4	506.78421	49.8984
Totals :				5.78316e4	1276.01974	



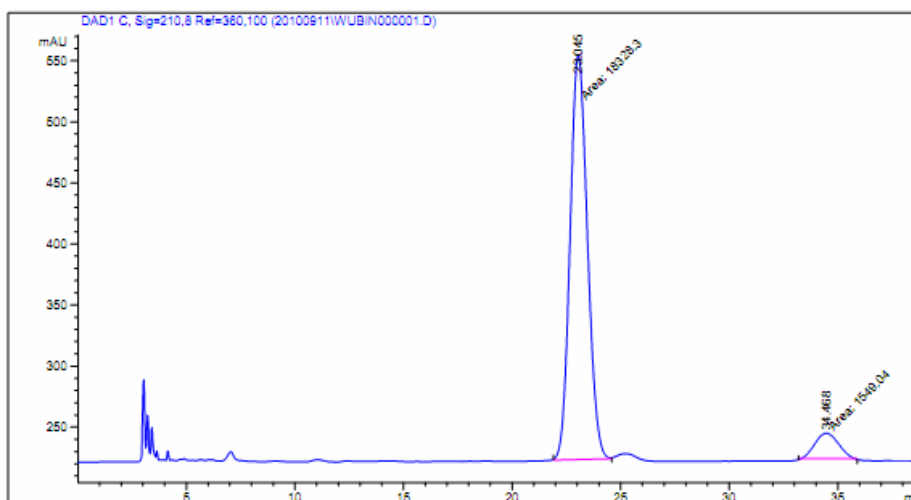
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1	20.473	MM	0.5867	908.24615	25.80091	4.8131
2	29.946	MM	0.9379	1.79620e4	319.19394	95.1869
Totals :				1.88702e4	344.99485	

3g



Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	22.537	BB	0.8407	1.18288e4	219.51790	50.6524
2	33.876	BB	1.2619	1.15241e4	140.36246	49.3476

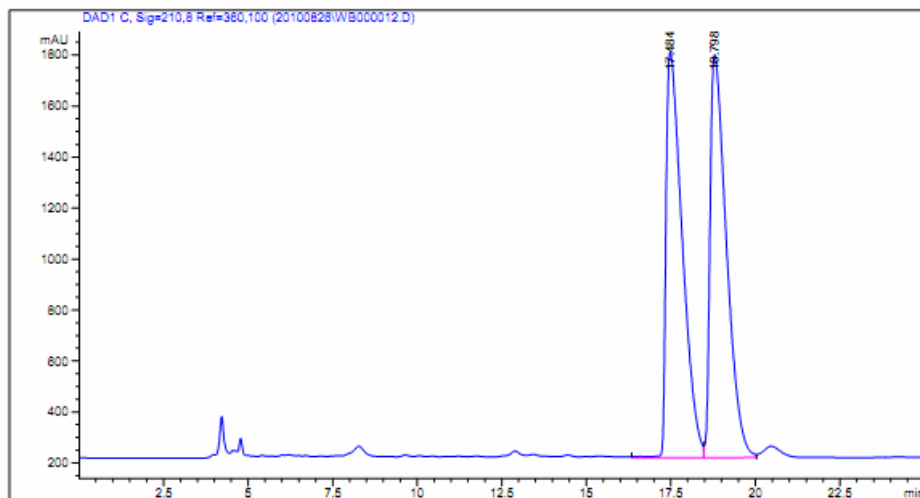
Totals : 2.33529e4 359.88036



Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	23.045	MM	0.9226	1.83283e4	331.09967	92.2070
2	34.468	MM	1.2434	1549.03772	20.76331	7.7930

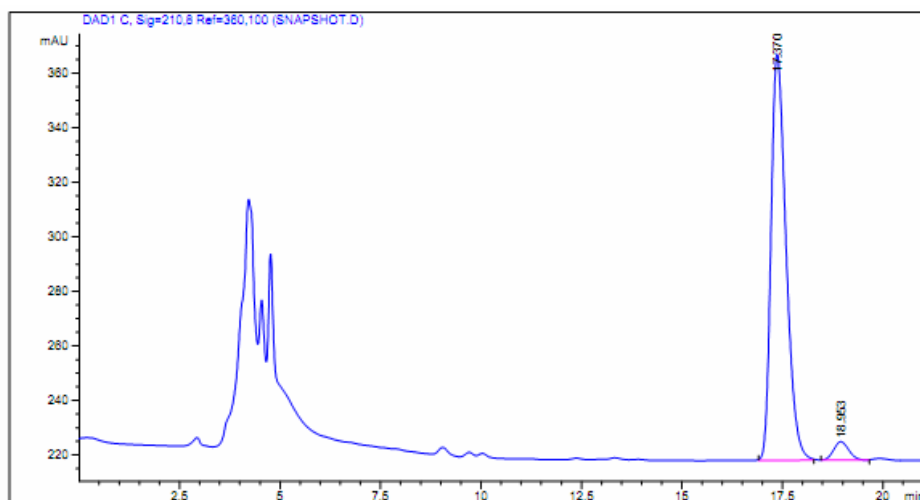
Totals : 1.98774e4 351.86298

3h



Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	17.484	BV	0.5086	5.29886e4	1590.76990	49.8834
2	18.798	VV	0.5170	5.32362e4	1580.55835	50.1166

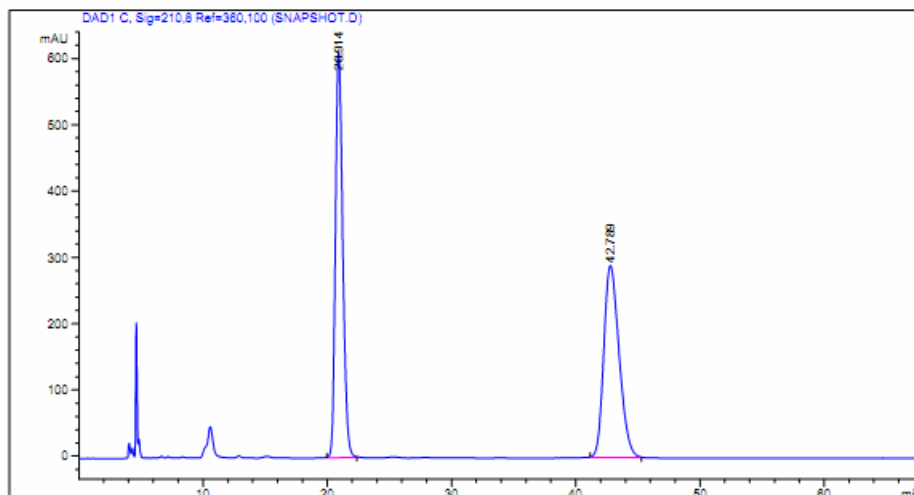
Totals : 1.06225e5 3171.32825



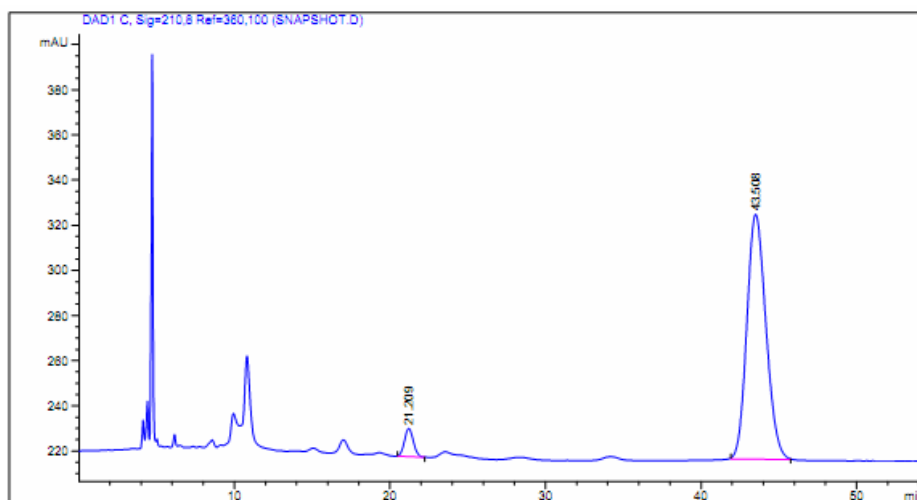
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	17.370	BB	0.4004	3859.76953	148.93201	95.7407
2	18.953	BB	0.3998	171.71487	6.68134	4.2593

Totals : 4031.48441 155.61335

3i

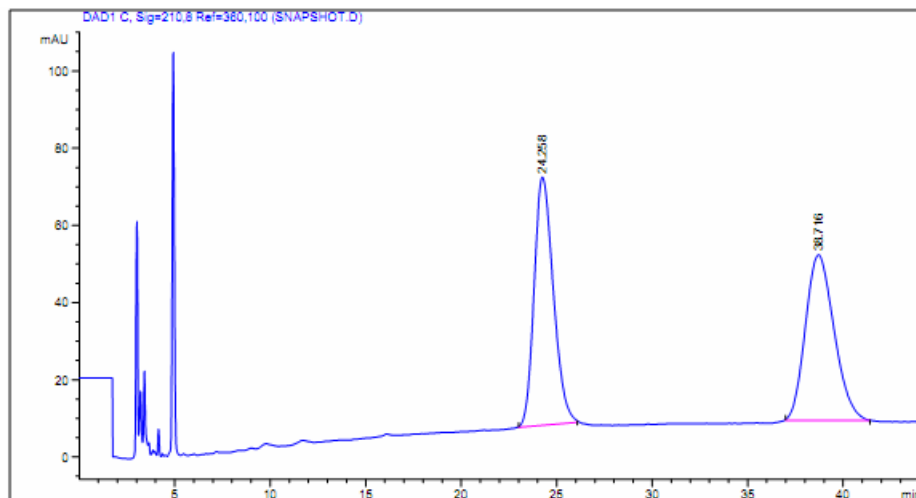


Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	20.914	BB	0.6328	2.49936e4	611.53119	50.2303
2	42.789	BB	1.3299	2.47644e4	289.53589	49.7697
Totals :				4.97579e4	901.06708	



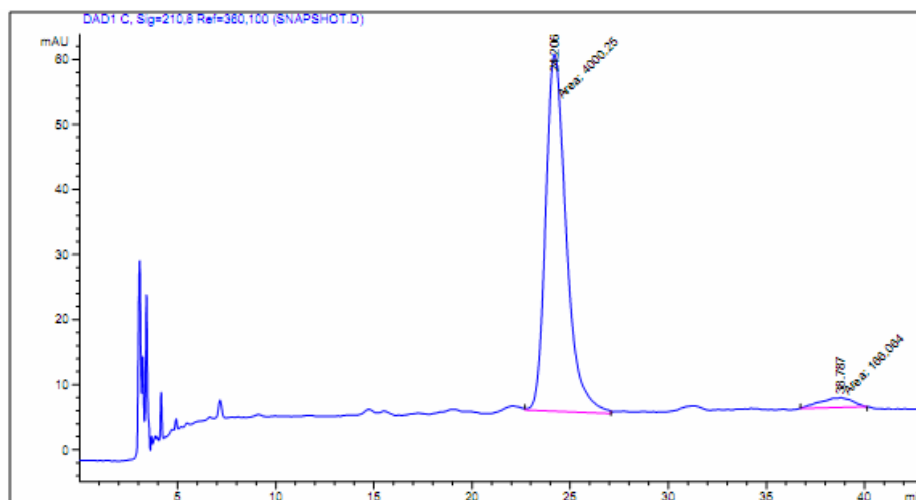
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	21.209	BB	0.6211	493.48630	12.37905	5.0789
2	43.508	BB	1.3167	9222.94336	108.38976	94.9211
Totals :				9716.42966	120.76881	

3j



Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	24.258	BB	1.0630	4491.58105	64.29762	50.0733
2	38.716	BB	1.5267	4478.43701	42.87309	49.9267

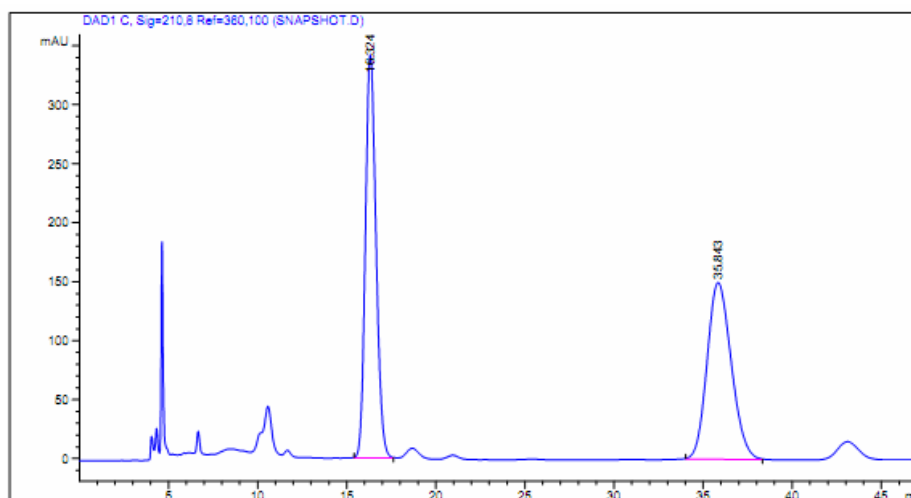
Totals : 8970.01807 107.17070



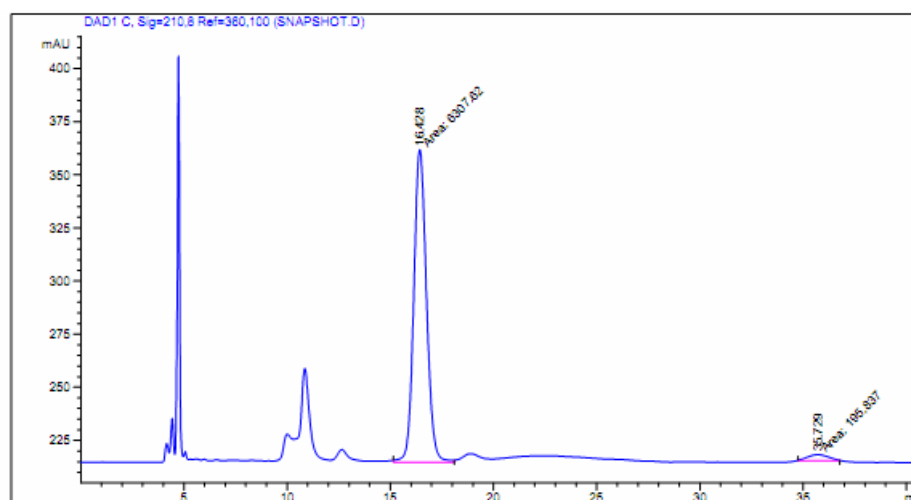
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	24.206	MM	1.2159	4000.24805	54.83383	96.0141
2	38.787	MM	1.8884	166.06404	1.46564	3.9859

Totals : 4166.31209 56.29947

3k

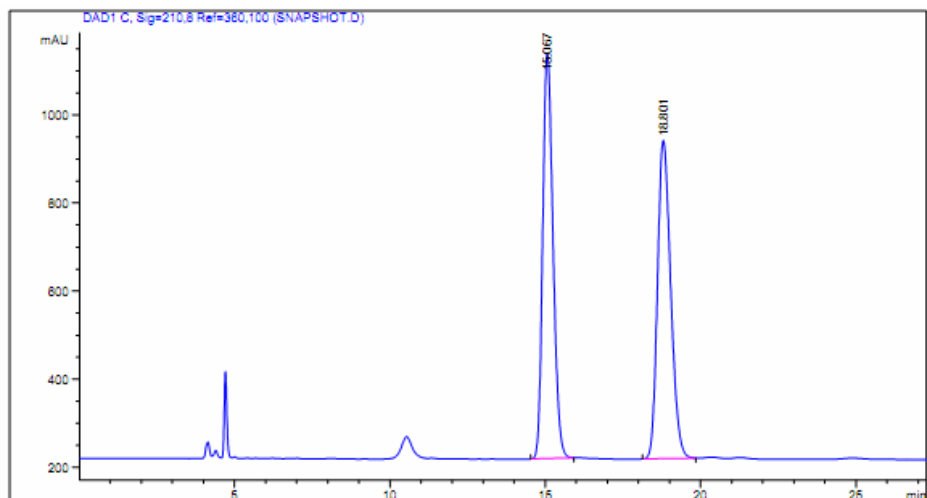


Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	16.324	BB	0.6455	1.41691e4	341.87494	50.1529
2	35.843	BB	1.4632	1.40827e4	149.74373	49.8471
Totals :				2.82517e4	491.61867	



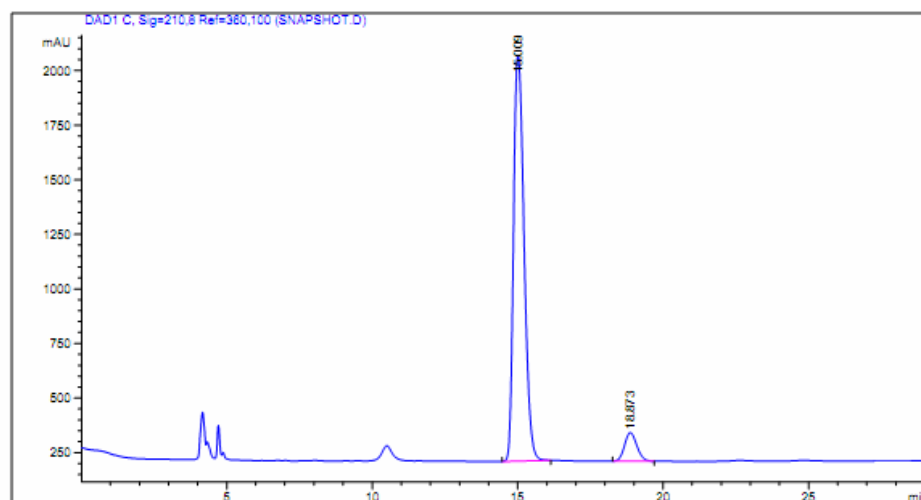
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	16.428	MM	0.7141	6307.61914	147.21034	96.9887
2	35.729	MM	1.1960	195.83699	2.72907	3.0113
Totals :				6503.45613	149.93941	

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Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	15.067	BB	0.3563	2.11813e4	921.16528	49.8879
2	18.801	BB	0.4573	2.12765e4	722.96552	50.1121

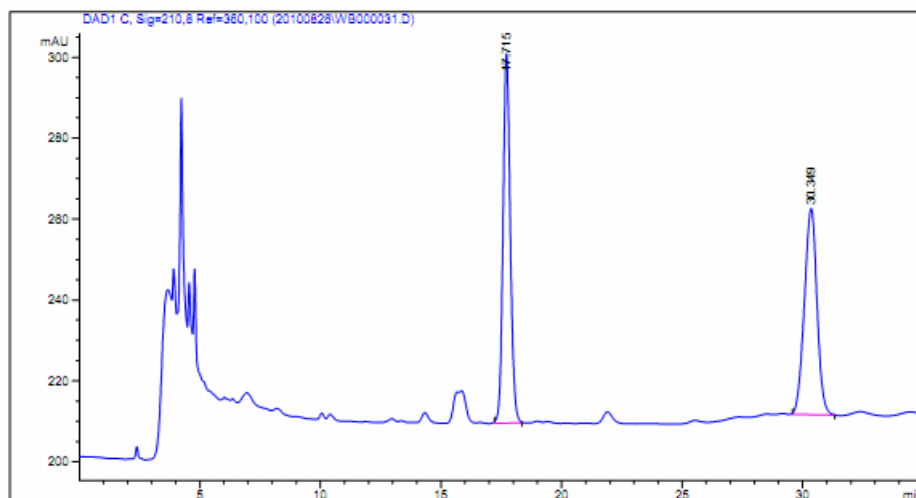
Totals : 4.24577e4 1644.13080



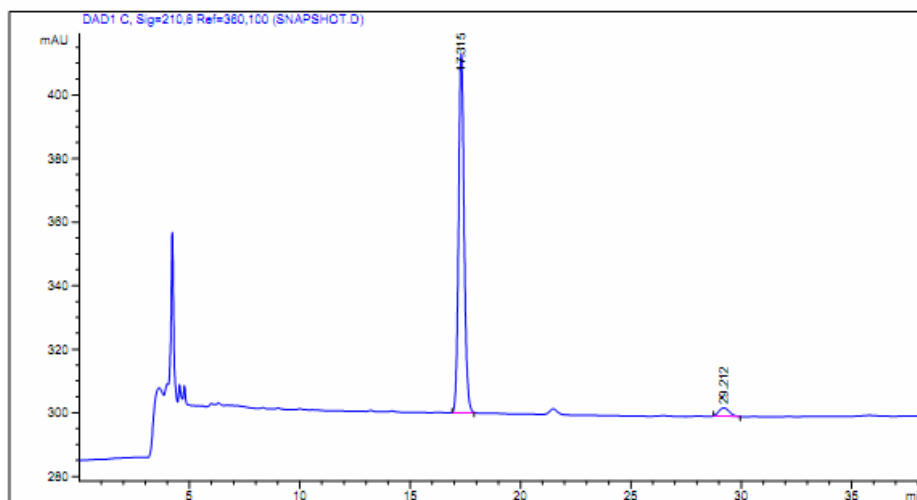
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	15.009	BB	0.3961	4.68355e4	1858.20227	92.4694
2	18.873	BB	0.4544	3814.20972	130.72366	7.5306

Totals : 5.06497e4 1988.92593

3m

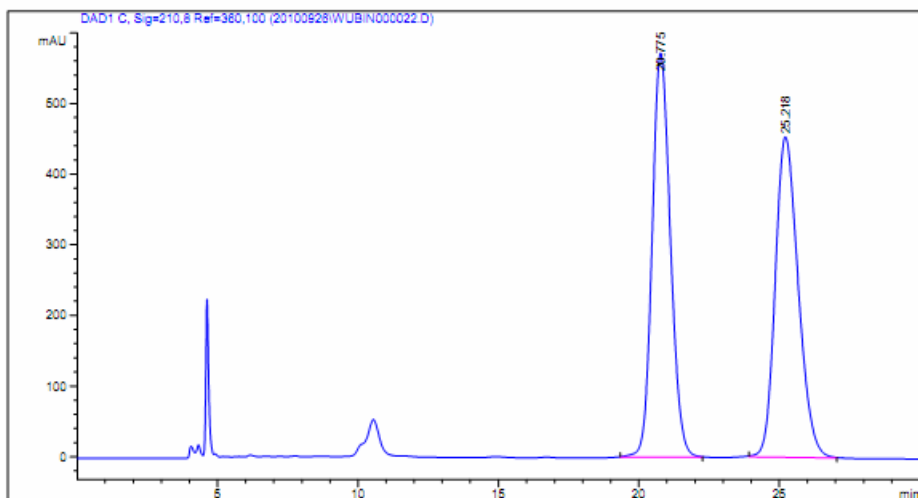


Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	17.715	BB	0.3190	1902.25916	91.31438	50.6276
2	30.349	BB	0.5669	1855.09753	50.93422	49.3724
Totals :				3757.35669	142.24861	



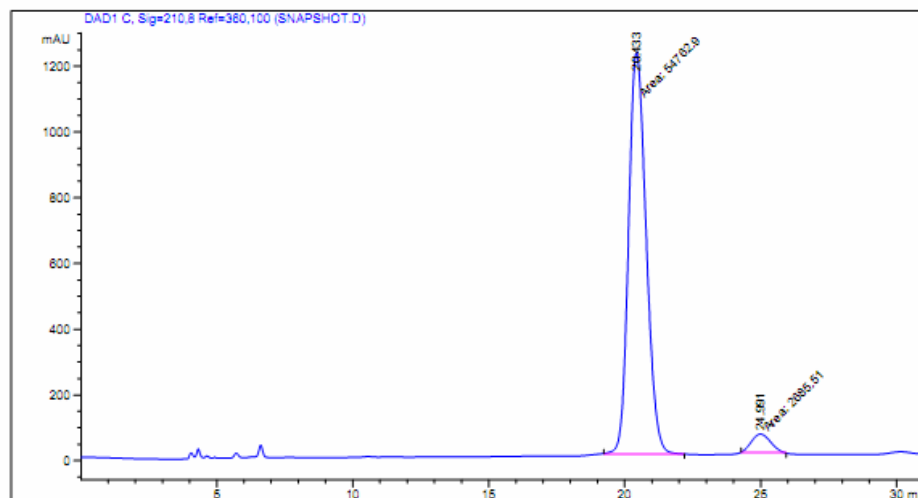
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	17.315	BB	0.2754	1991.28308	113.08757	95.8655
2	29.212	BB	0.4845	85.88069	2.64744	4.1345
Totals :				2077.16377	115.73501	

3n



Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	20.775	BB	0.7018	2.58878e4	572.25684	50.1240
2	25.218	BB	0.8810	2.57597e4	453.29068	49.8760

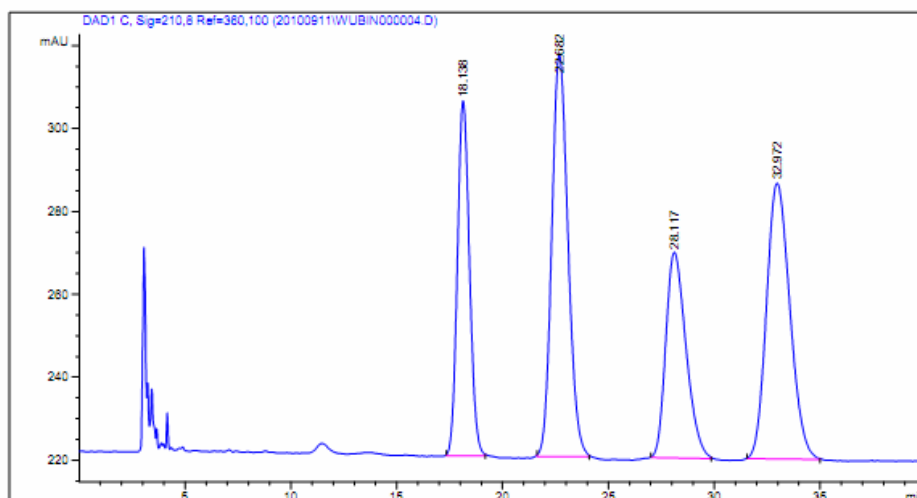
Totals : 5.16475e4 1025.54752



Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	20.433	MM	0.7475	5.47629e4	1221.03650	95.3254
2	24.991	MM	0.8031	2685.50928	55.73405	4.6746

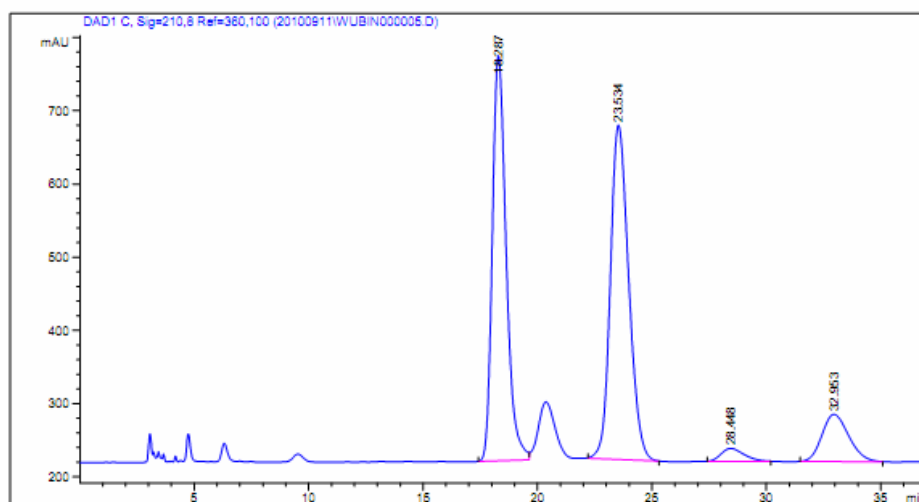
Totals : 5.74484e4 1276.77055

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Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	18.138	BB	0.6128	3383.35132	85.65783	19.9621
2	22.682	BB	0.8237	5170.38184	97.03319	30.5057
3	28.117	BB	1.0255	3297.96582	49.61621	19.4583
4	32.972	BB	1.1861	5097.21436	66.51390	30.0740

Totals : 1.69489e4 298.82113



Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	18.287	BV	0.6477	2.32369e4	553.55780	42.1153
2	23.534	BB	0.8575	2.54345e4	456.87564	46.0983
3	28.448	BB	1.0393	1230.76978	17.61098	2.2307
4	32.953	BB	1.2589	5272.33496	64.68568	9.5558

Totals : 5.51744e4 1092.73010