

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION FILE

### Methylation of softwood and hardwood kraft lignins with chloromethane

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#### Table of Content

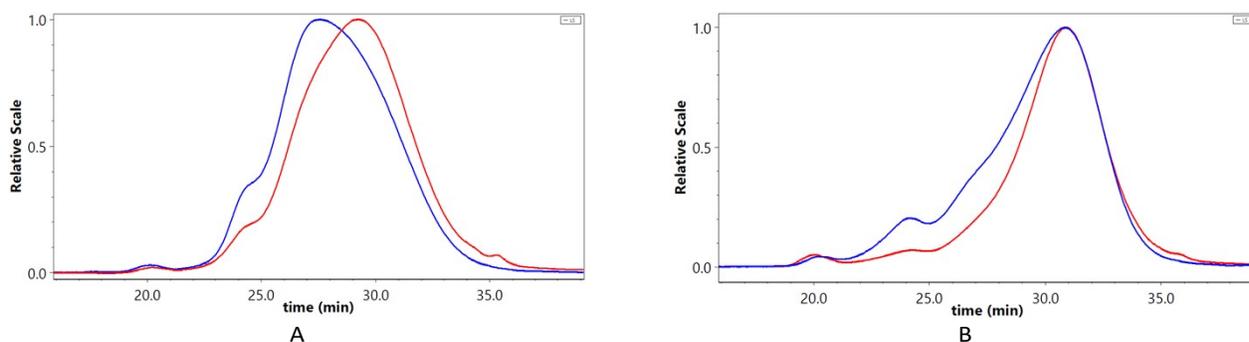
1	Molar mass distributions of methylated kraft lignin samples .....	2
2	DSC thermograms.....	3
3	<sup>31</sup> P NMR spectra.....	4
4	<sup>1</sup> H NMR spectra .....	5
5	<sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra .....	6
6	FTIR spectra .....	8

# 1 Molar mass distributions of methylated kraft lignin samples

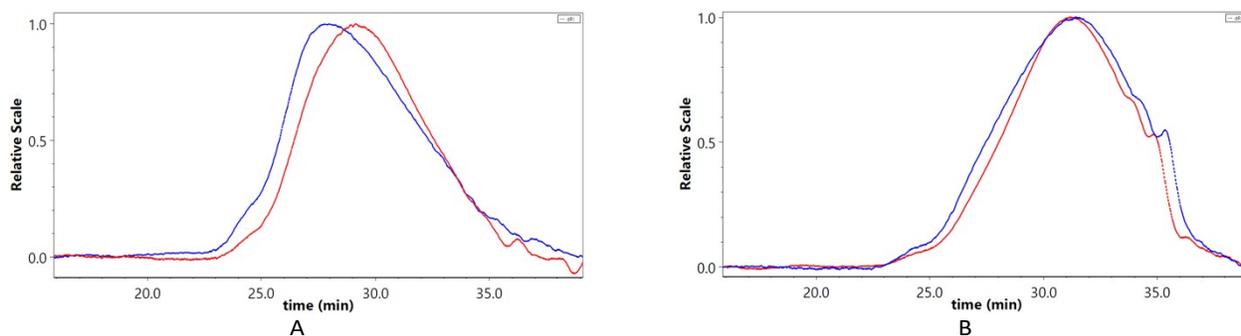
**Table S1.** Average molar mass of methylated kraft lignin isolated during the optimization using chloromethane (0.5-g scale, 40 psi CH<sub>3</sub>Cl).

Entry	Lignin	NaOH (mmol/g)	Temperature (°C)	Time (h)	H <sub>2</sub> O (mL/g)	Average molar mass			
						M <sub>w</sub> (SEC-MALS)	M <sub>n</sub> (SEC-MALS)	M <sub>w</sub> (SEC-RI)	M <sub>n</sub> (SEC-RI)
-	SKL	-	-	-	-	15130	4440	7800	1670
-	HKL	-	-	-	-	8100	2210	4880	910
1	SKL	5	80	4	20	19660	7460	6640	1930
2	SKL	5	90	4	20	26100	7400	9350	2050
3	SKL	5	100	4	20	28580	8820	9460	2170
4	SKL	5	110	4	20	37650	9670	13310	2260
5	SKL	6	90	4	20	18870	6360	10080	1340
6	SKL	6	100	4	20	26800	6760	9640	2140
7	SKL	6	110	4	20	36550	8300	11590	2310
8	SKL	6	110	3	20	27600	7160	11170	2070
9	SKL	7	90	4	20	20730	7260	11480	1400
10	SKL	7	110	3	20	27300	7970	15100	1900
11	SKL	6	90	4	10	20000	7540	10800	1730
12	SKL	6	90	4	8	23200	7720	11400	1470
13	SKL	7	90	4	10	21200	7480	10870	1460
14 <sup>[a]</sup>	SKL	7	90	4	9	21100	5500	8400	1490
15 <sup>[a]</sup>	HKL	7	90	4	9	11300	3440	5280	720
16 <sup>[b]</sup>	SKL	8	110	4	10	15100	4320	8330	1680

<sup>[a]</sup> 100-g scale. <sup>[b]</sup> Reaction done in the absence of CH<sub>3</sub>Cl.

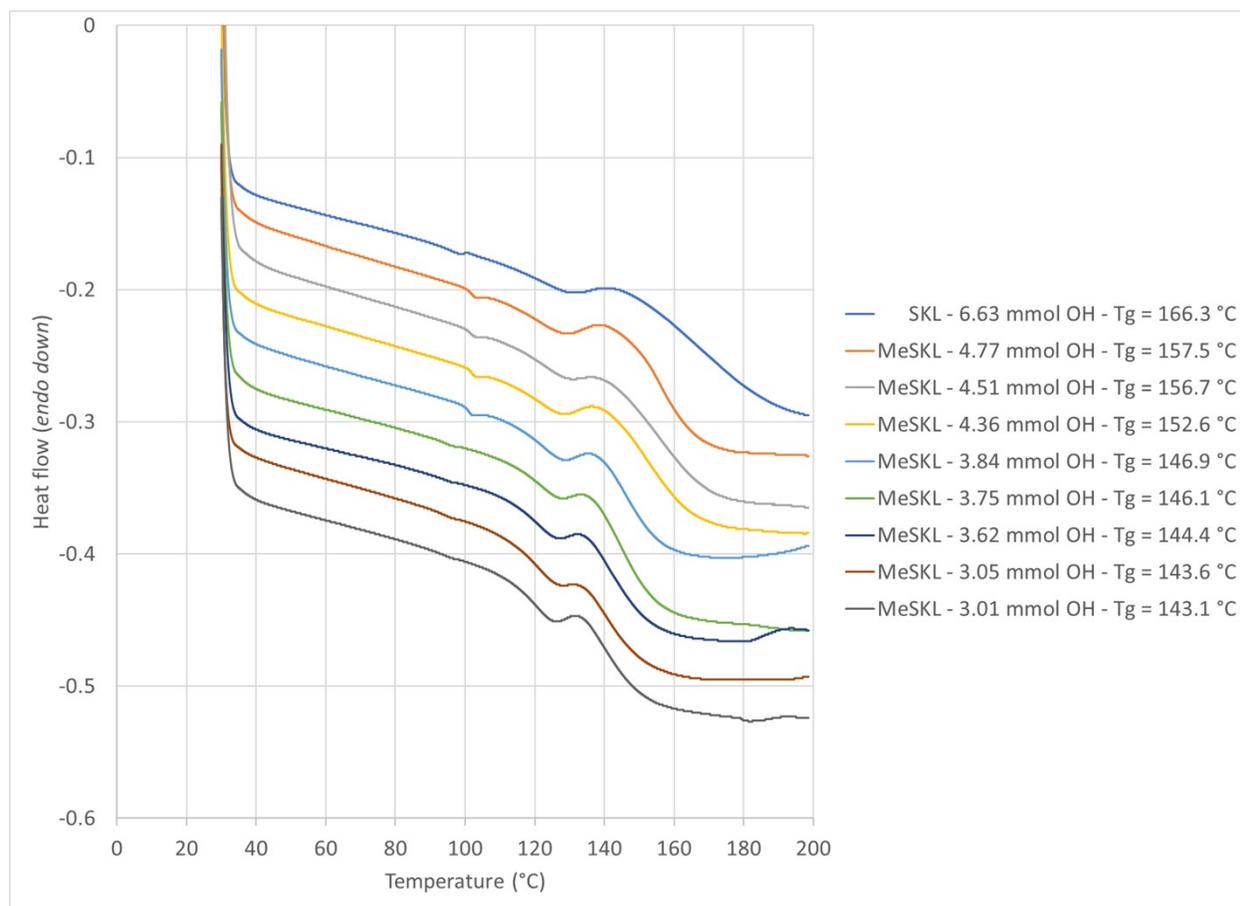


**Figure S1.** SEC-MALS profiles of A) SKL (red) and methylated SKL (blue) and of B) HKL (red) and methylated HKL (blue).



**Figure S2.** SEC-RI profiles of A) SKL (red) and methylated SKL (blue) and of B) HKL (red) and methylated HKL (blue).

## 2 DSC thermograms



**Figure S3.** DSC thermograms of SKL and of various methylated SKL samples.

### 3 $^{31}\text{P}$ NMR spectra

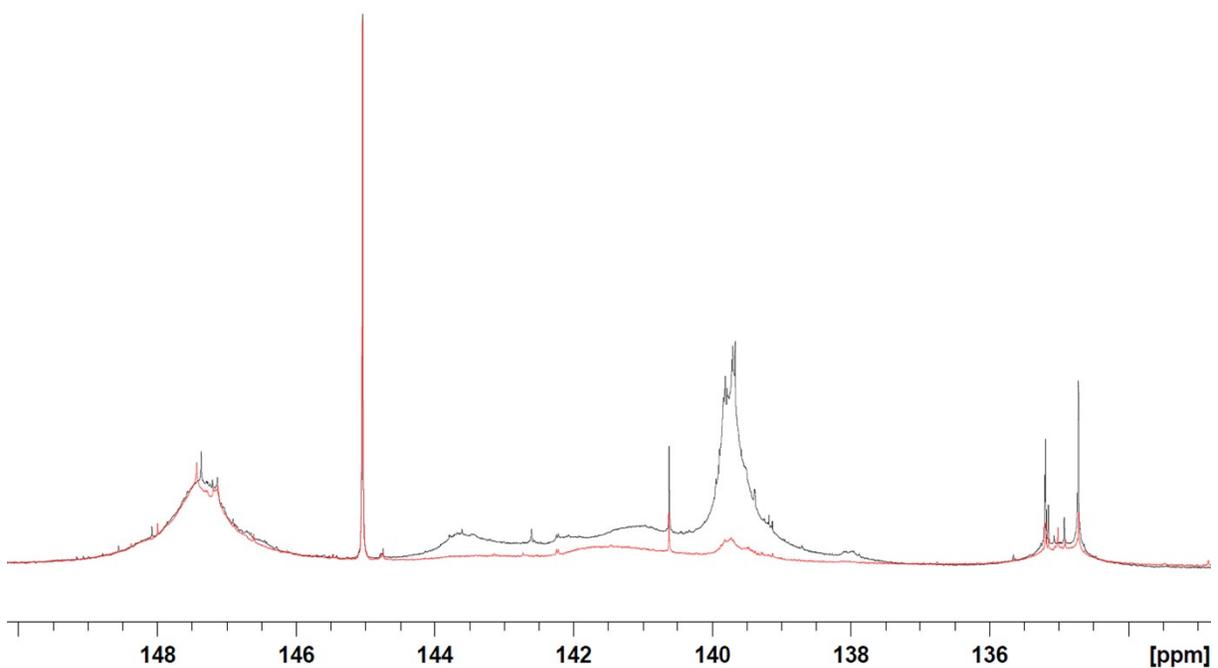


Figure S4.  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra of SKL (black) and of methylated SKL (red).

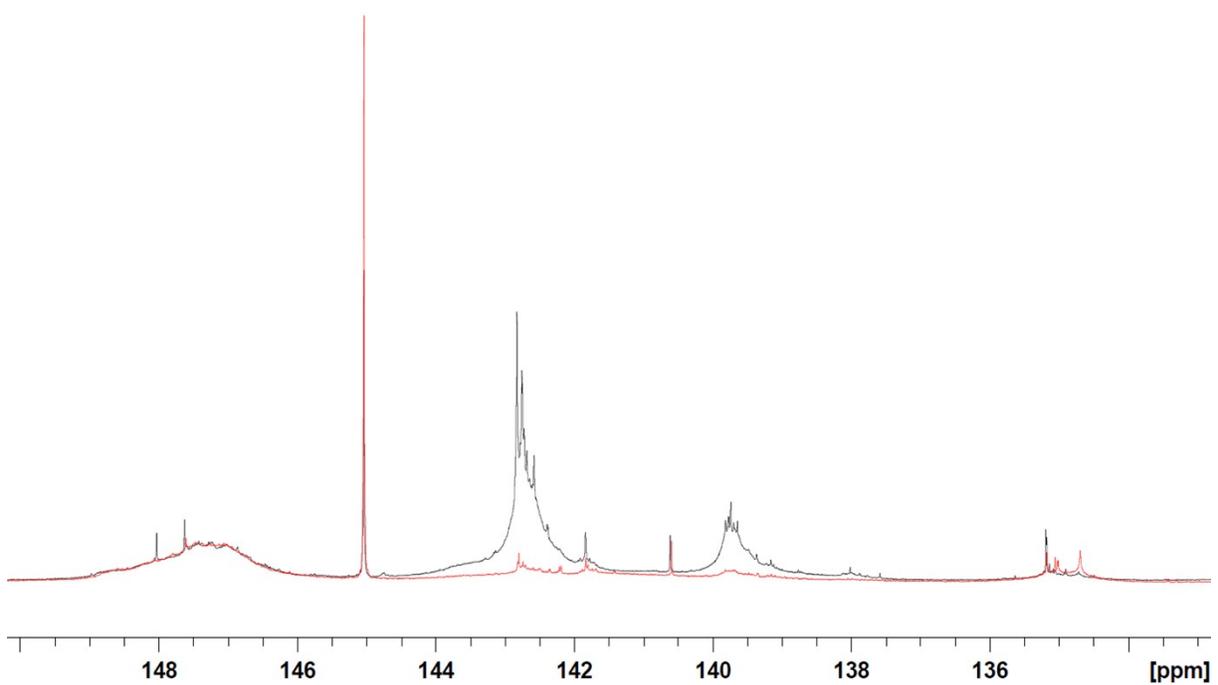


Figure S5.  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra of HKL (black) and of methylated HKL (red).

#### 4 $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectra

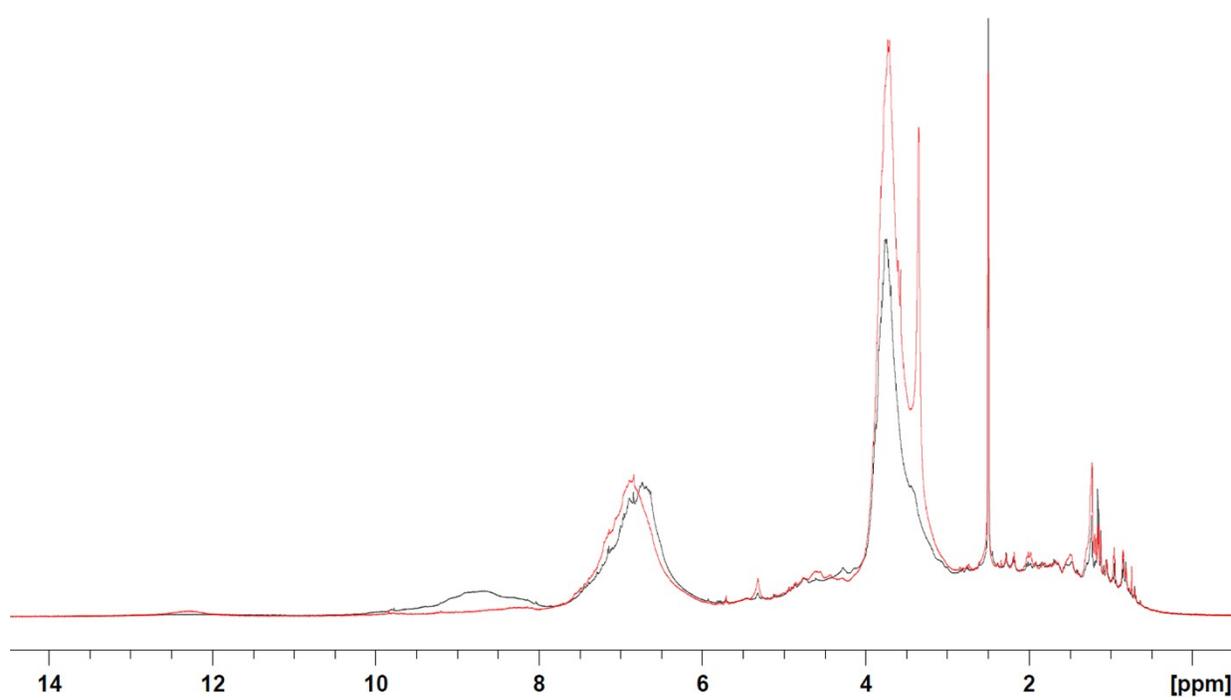


Figure S6.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of SKL (black) and of methylated SKL (red).

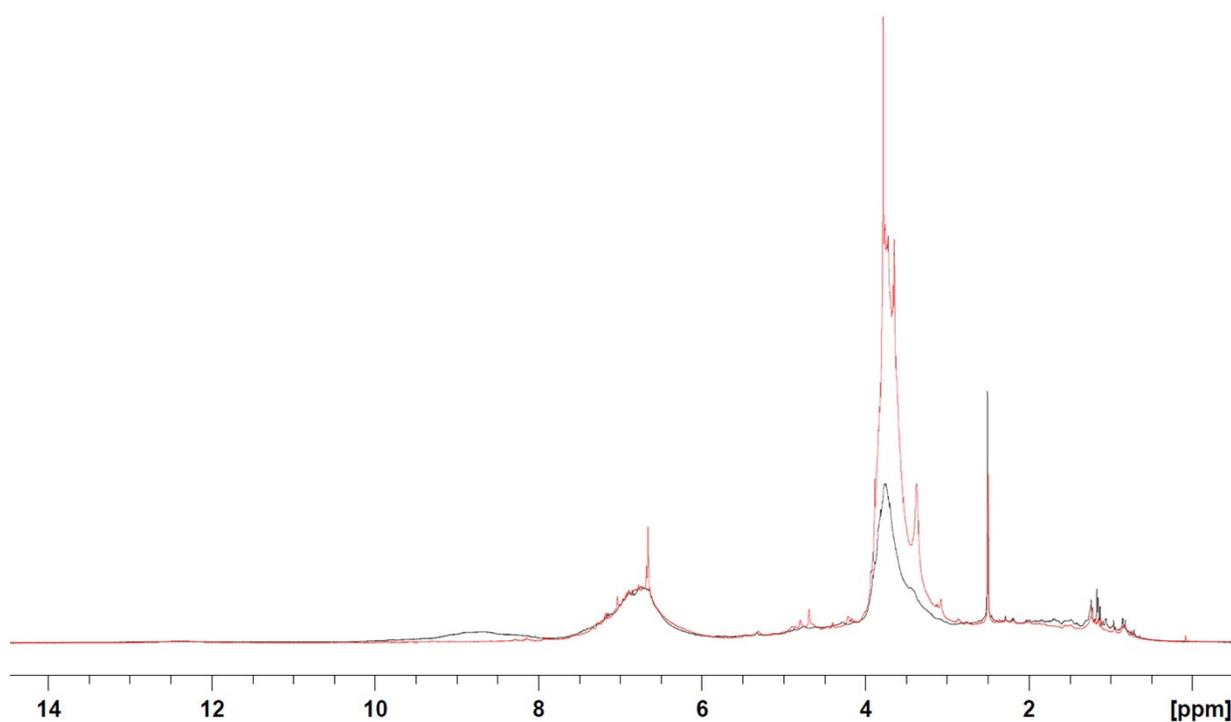


Figure S7.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of HKL (black) and of methylated HKL (red).

## 5 $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra

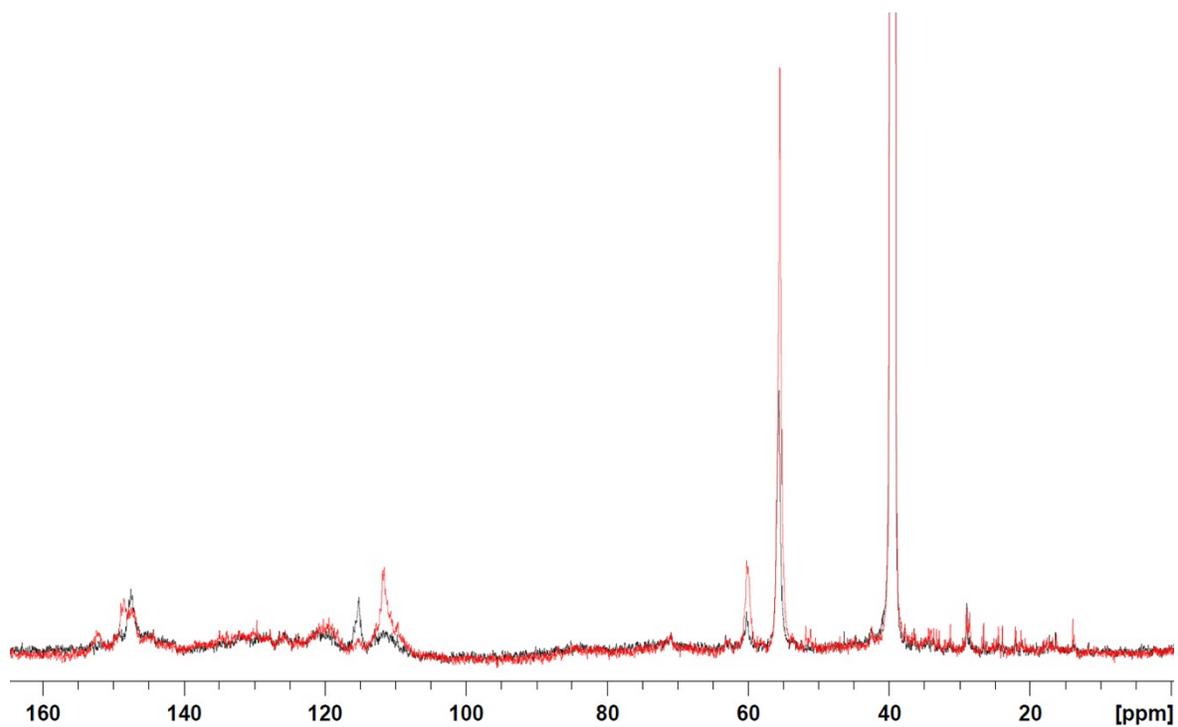


Figure S8.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of SKL (black) and of methylated SKL (red).

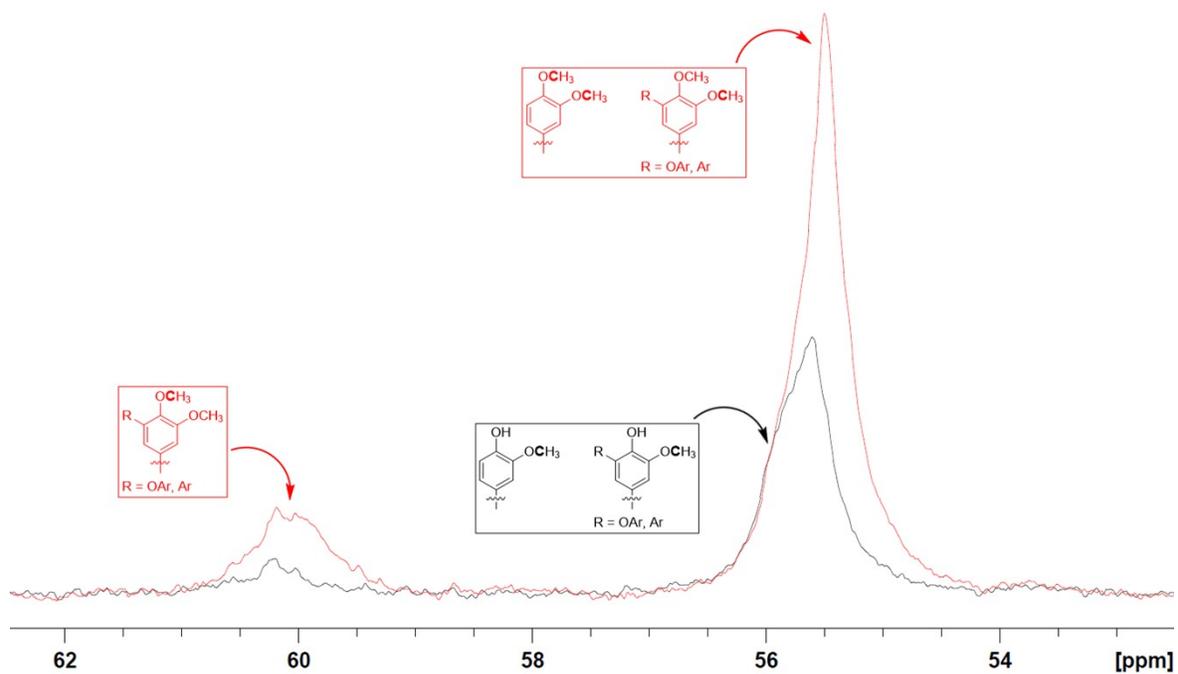


Figure S9. Zoomed fraction of the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of SKL (black) and of methylated SKL (red) with carbon assignments.

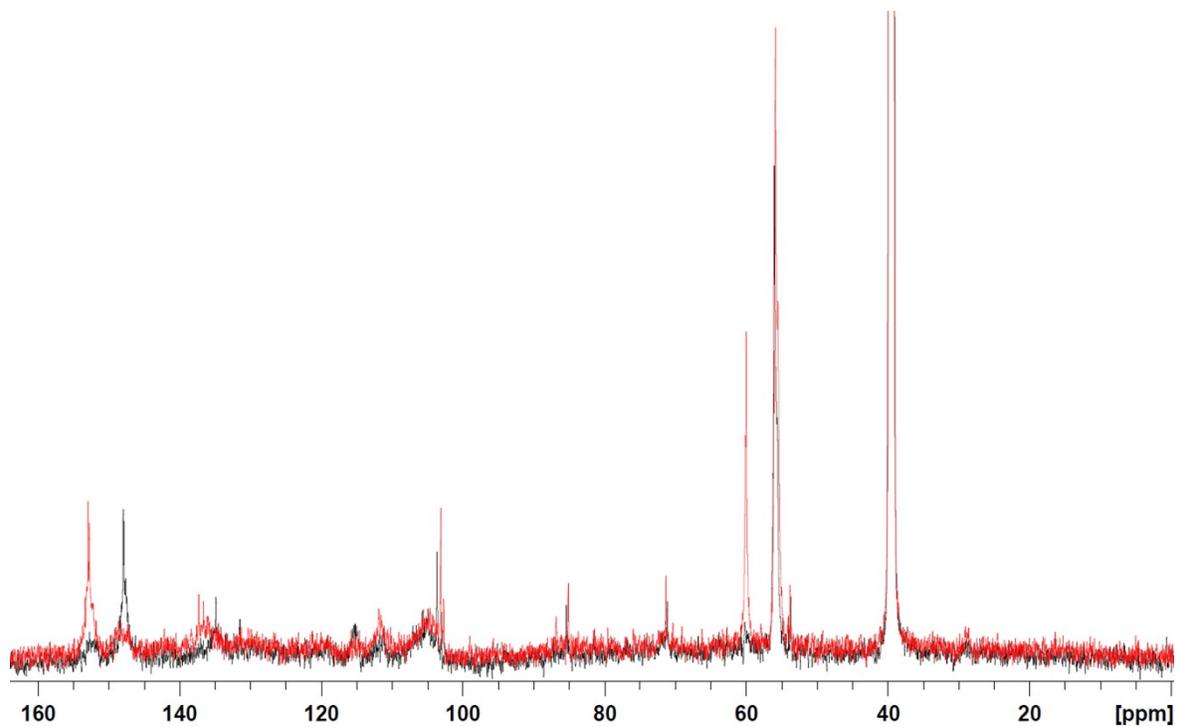


Figure S10.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of HKL (black) and of methylated HKL (red).

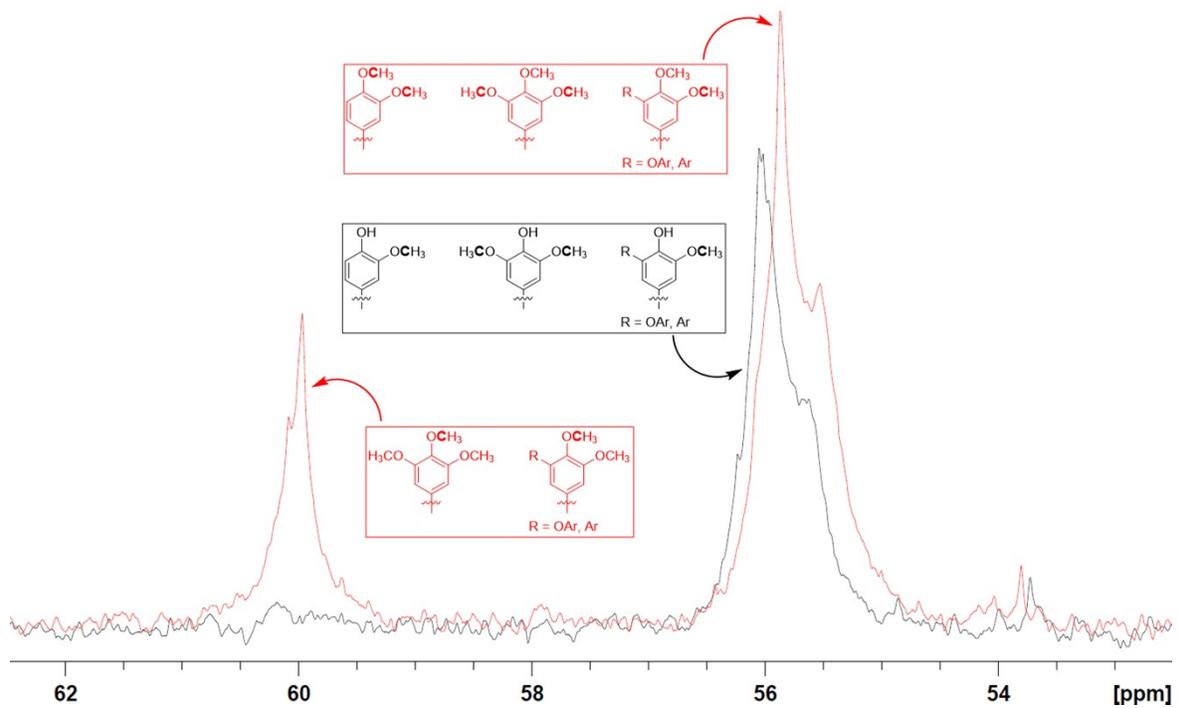
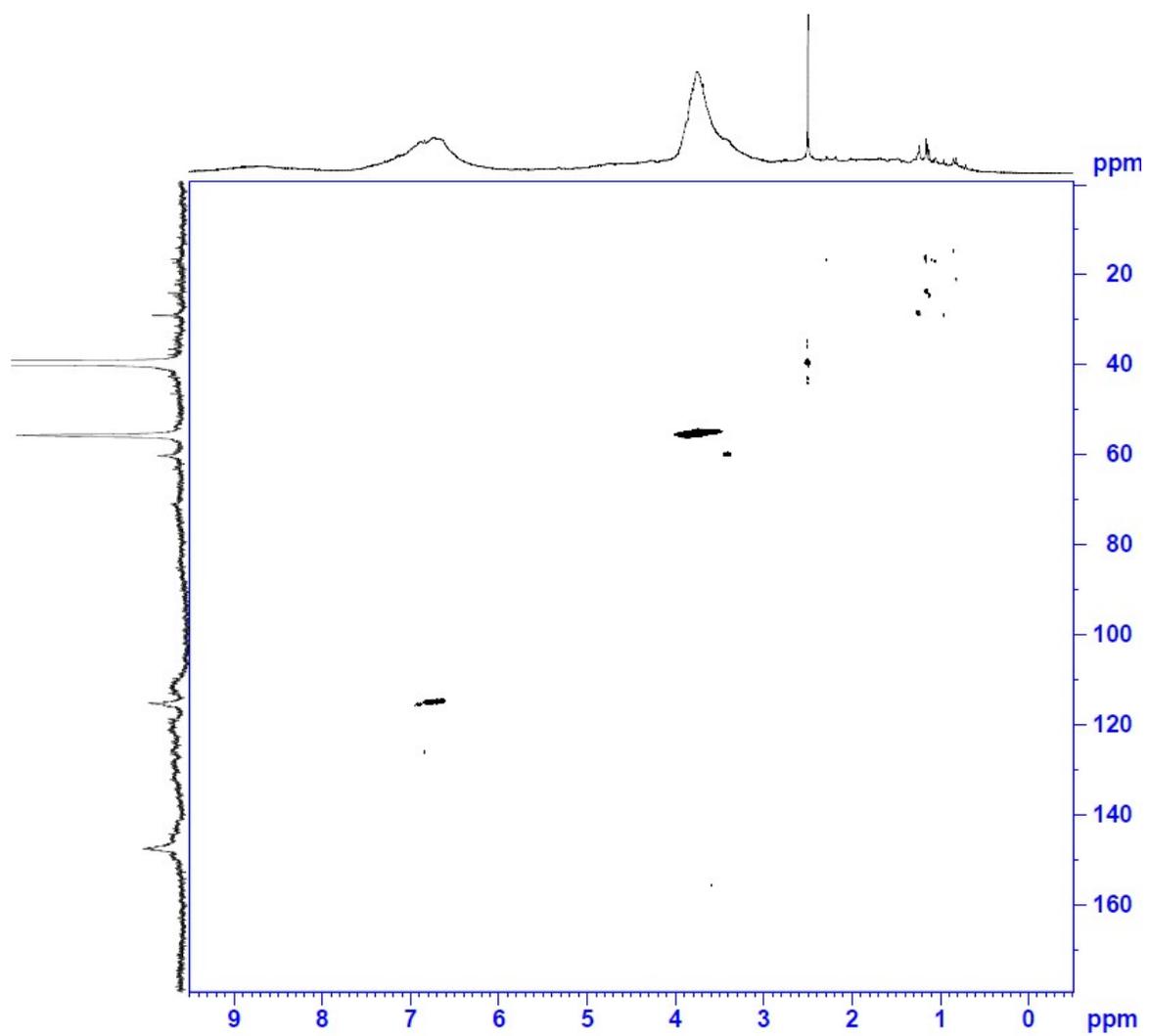


Figure S11. Zoomed fraction of the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of HKL (black) and of methylated HKL (red) with carbon assignments.

## 6 HSQC NMR spectra



**Figure S12.** HSQC NMR spectra of SKL.

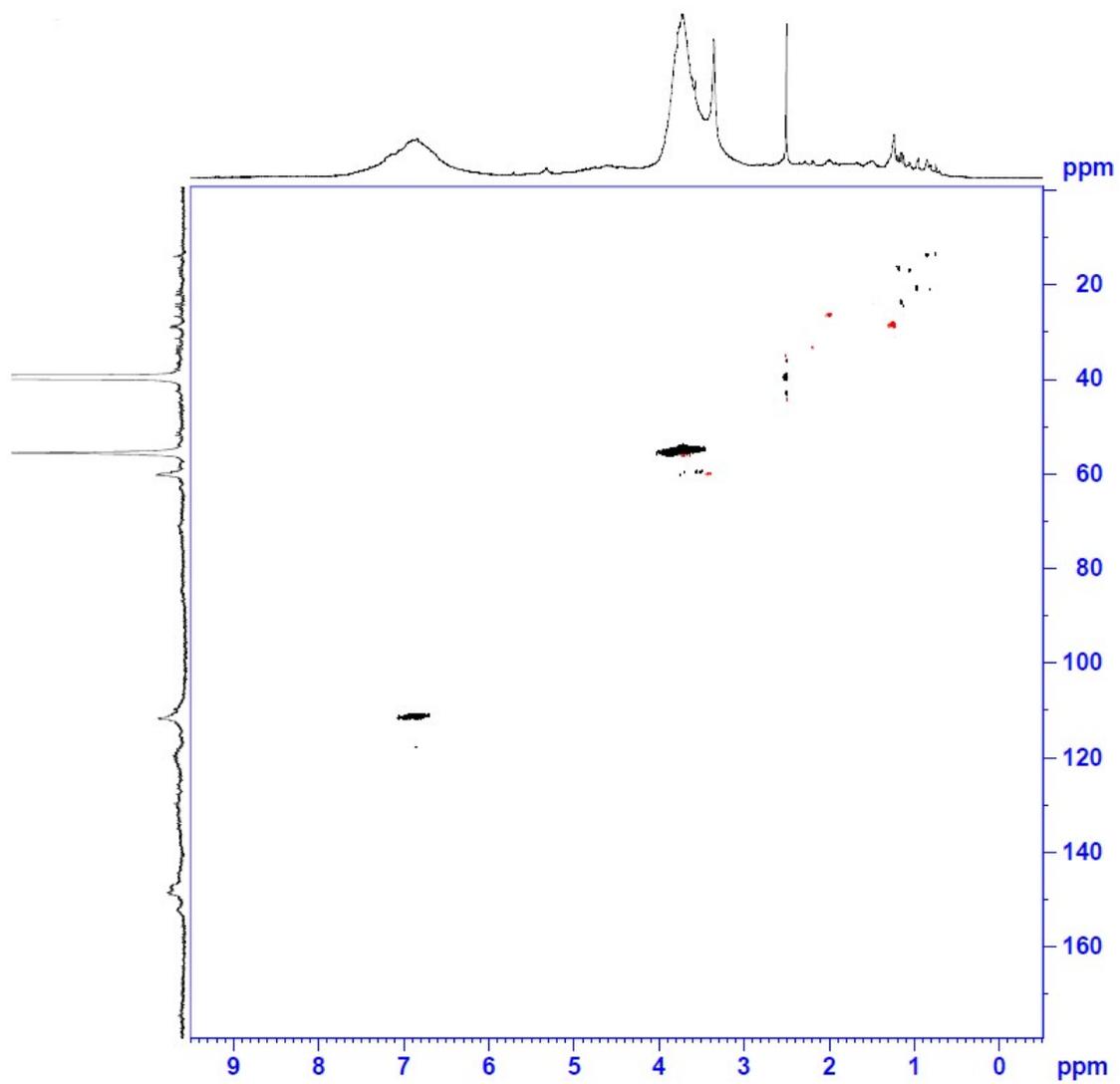


Figure S13. HSQC NMR spectra of methylated SKL.

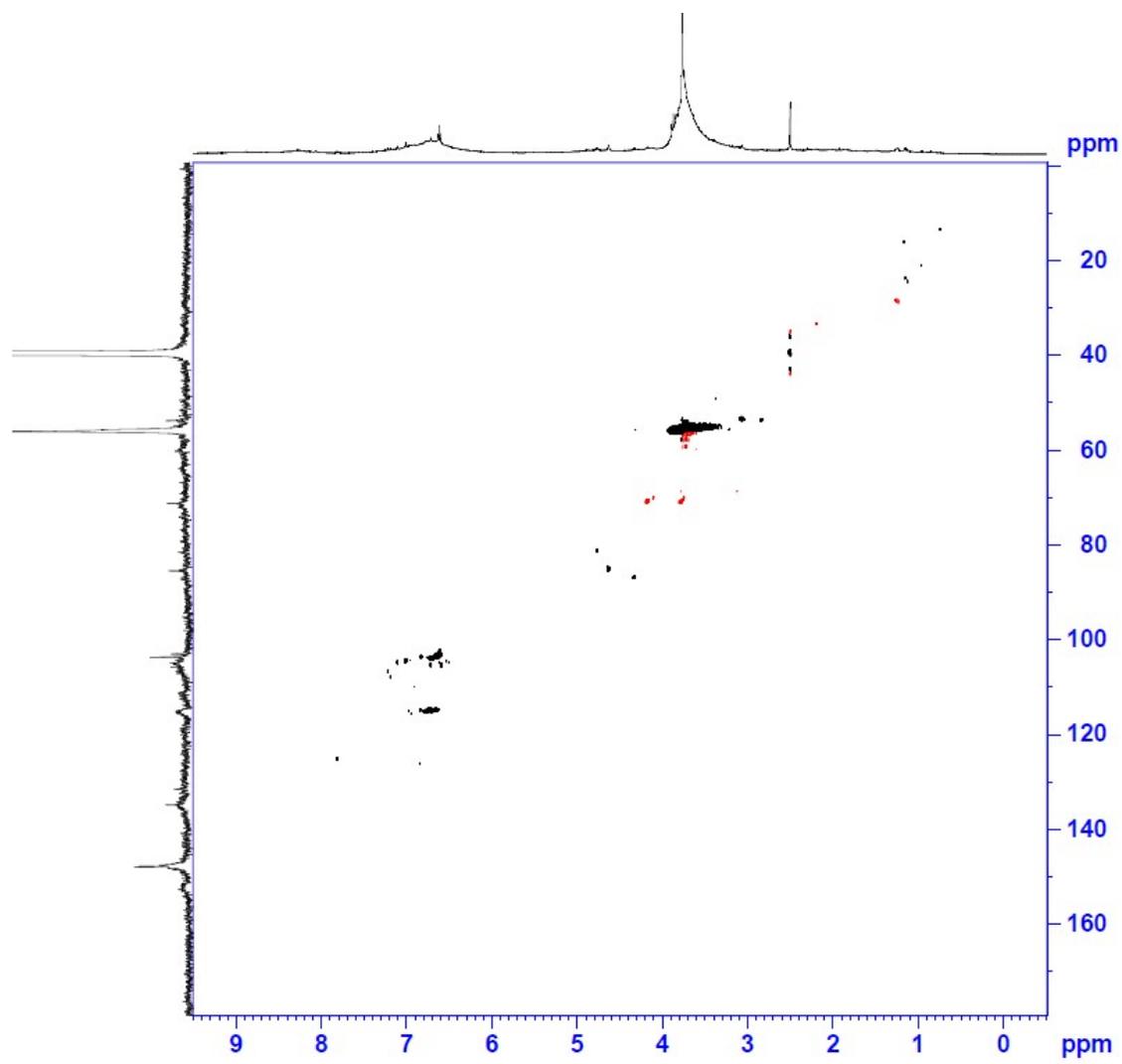
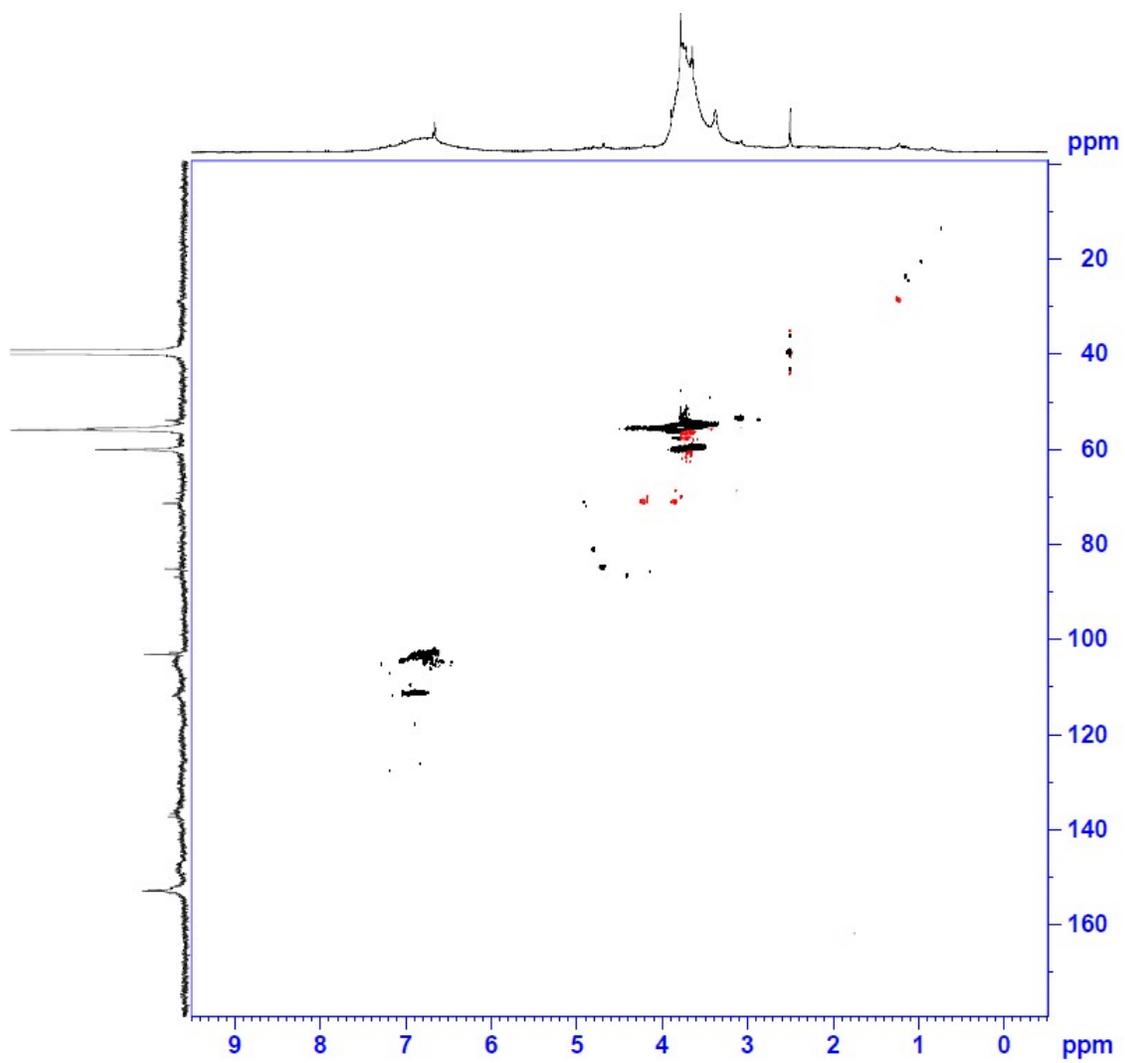


Figure S14. HSQC NMR spectra of HKL.



**Figure S15.** HSQC NMR spectra of methylated HKL.

## 7 FTIR spectra

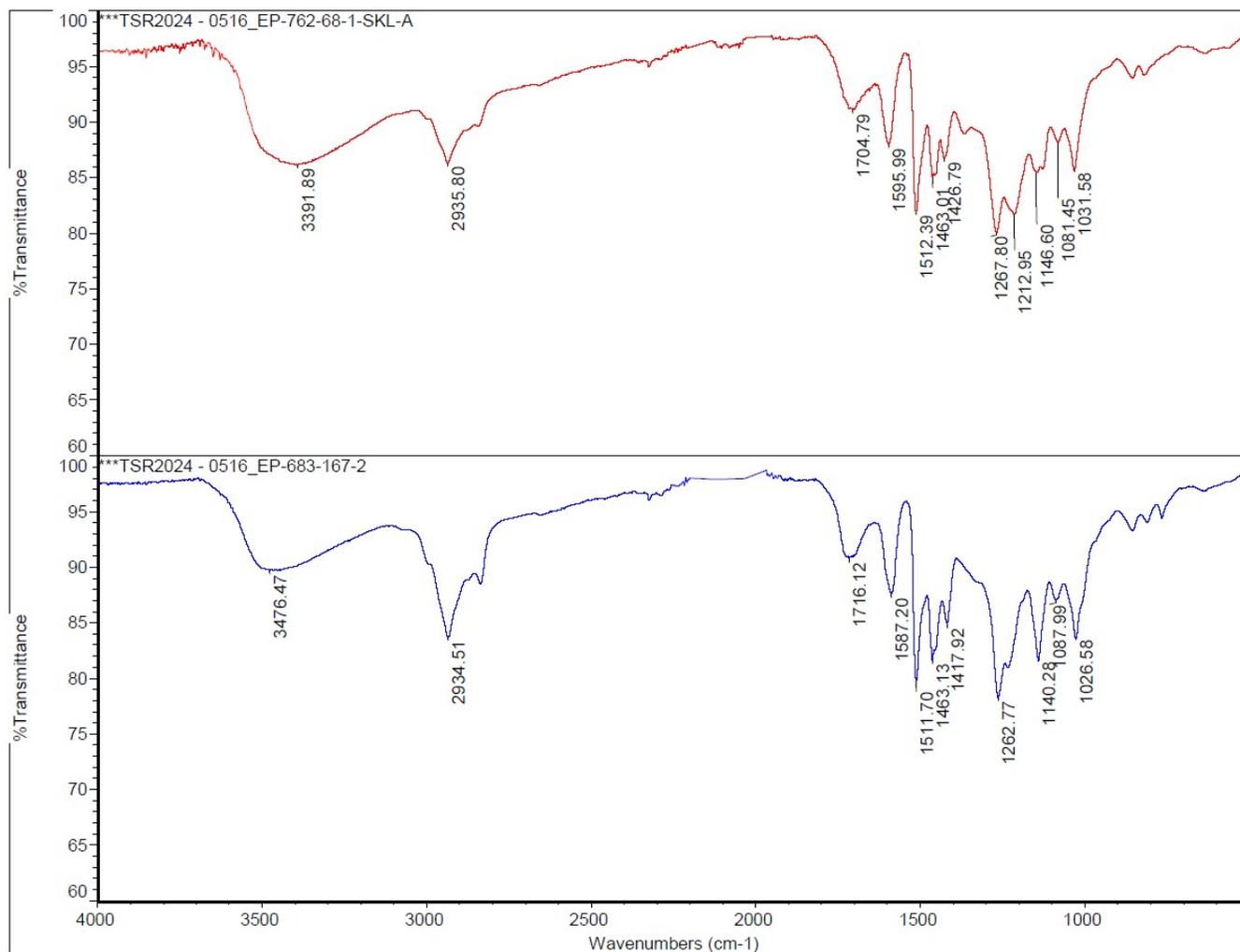


Figure S16. FTIR spectra of SKL (red) and of methylated SKL (blue).

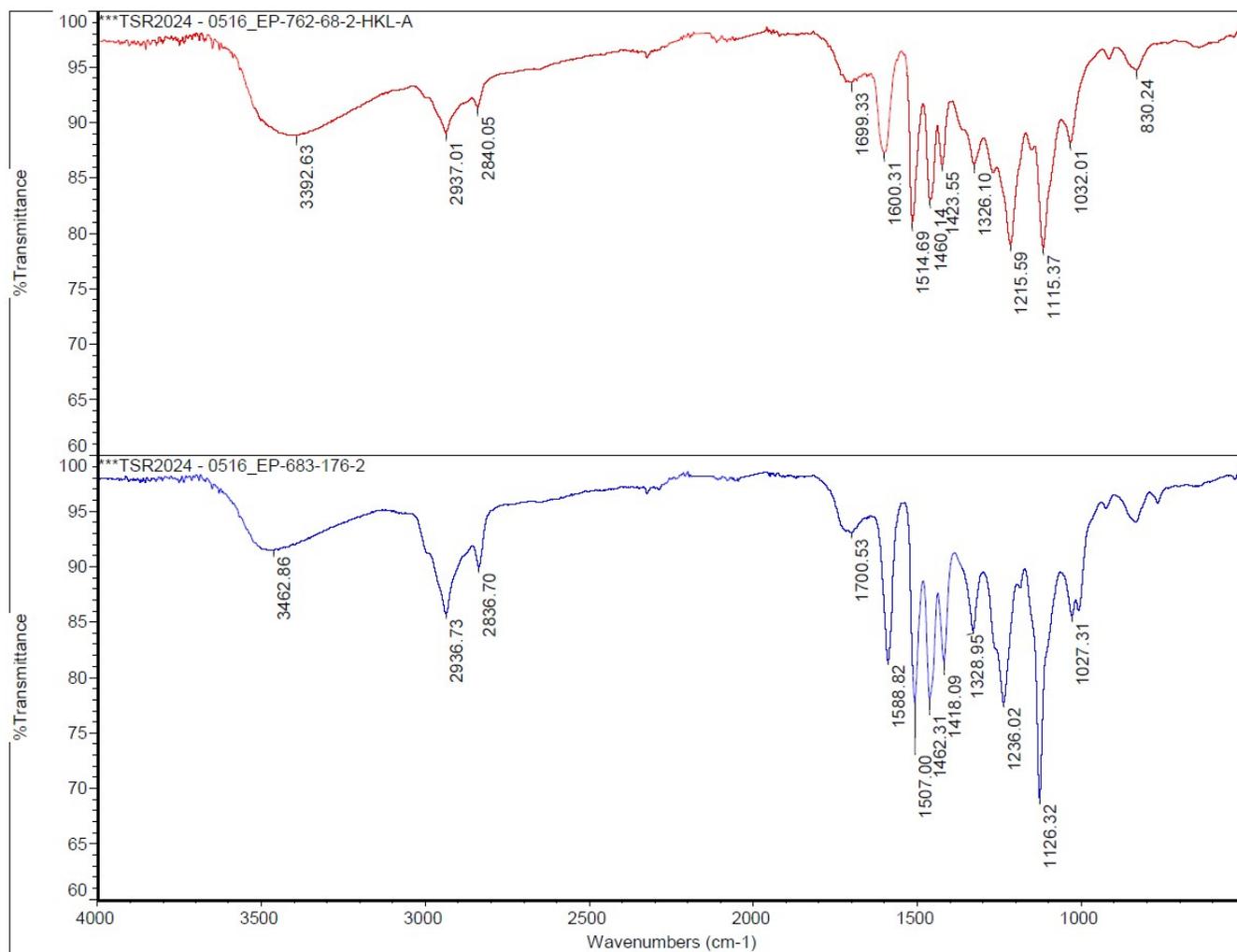


Figure S17. FTIR spectra of HKL (red) and of methylated HKL (blue).