

Electronic Supplementary Information for RSC Advances

Alginate acid: a highly efficient renewable and heterogeneous bio-polymeric catalyst for one-pot synthesis of the Hantzsch 1,4-dihydropyridines

Mohammad G. Dekamin,* Siamand Ilkhanizadeh, Zahra Latifidoost, Hamed Daemi, Zahra Karimi and Mehdi Barikani

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1. Experimental section

1.1. Materials and methods

Melting points were determined using an Electrothermal apparatus. The FTIR spectra of alginate and its derivatives were performed with a Bruker-Equinox 55 IR spectrometer (Ettlingen, Germany) which was equipped by H.ATR accessories with a ZnSe crystal. Moreover, FTIR spectra of 1,4-dihydropyridines were recorded as KBr pellets on a Shimadzu FT IR-8400S spectrometer. The ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra of 1,4-dihydropyridines and sodium alginate were recorded in deuterated chloroform (CDCl_3) and D_2O using spectrometers of Bruker Avance (250 MHz and 400 MHz), respectively. Analytical TLC was carried out using Merck 0.2 mm silica gel 60 F-254 Al-plates. Thermal stability of the sodium alginate and alginic acid were evaluated by the TGA technique on a Polymer Lab TGA-1500 instrument (London) under a N_2 atmosphere from room temperature to 600 °C with a heating rate of 10 °C/min.

1.2. General procedure for the fractionation of sodium alginate to its components

Sodium alginate was partially hydrolyzed according to the controlled gellification method. 1.0 gram of polysaccharide was dissolved in 100 mL of deionized water at 50 °C and heated under reflux conditions with 3 mL of HCl (3 M) for 20 min. After cooling to room temperature, the suspension was centrifuged (3000×g, 20 min) and the insoluble fraction from the centrifugation was refluxed in 100 mL of HCl (0.3 M) for 2 h. After centrifugation (8500×g, 20 min), the insoluble material was neutralized with NaOH (1 M) and the pH was adjusted to 2.85 with HCl (1 M). The soluble fraction was neutralized and added to 100 mL of EtOH. The precipitate was collected by centrifugation (8500×g, 20 min) and dried at 50 °C *in vacuo* for 12 h (block M). The fractions obtained in the first hydrolysis step with HCl (0.3 M) and the soluble fraction at second step at pH 2.85 were rich of heteropolymeric MG and polymannuronic acid residues, respectively. Finally, the insoluble fraction at pH 2.85 was attributed to the polyguluronic acid residues.

1.3. General procedure for preparation of alginic acid (1) from sodium alginate

Alginic acid was synthesized through a procedure described by Babak et al., with some modifications. Sodium alginate (4.0 g) was added to a mixture of HCl (0.6 N, 50 mL) and EtOH (40 mL) and stirred overnight at 4 °C. The solid fraction, alginic acid, was separated by filtration under vacuum using a coarse filter paper. Then, the alginic acid was purified by washing with EtOH and acetone and dried in the oven at 60 °C.

References: (a) F. Llanes, F. Sauriol, F. G. Morin, A. S. Perlin, *Can. J. Chem.* **1997**, *75*, 585–590; (b) T. M. Aida, T. Yamagata, M. Watanabe, R. L. Smith Jr, *Carbohydr. Polym.* **2010**, *80*, 296–302; (c) T. A. Fenoradosoa, G. Ali, C. Delattre, C. Laroche, E. Petit, A. Wadouachi, P. Michaud, *J. Appl. Phycol.* **2010**, *22*, 131–137; (d) S. Holtan, Q. Zhang, W. I. Strand, G. Skjåk-Bræk, *Biomacromolecules*, **2006**, *7*, 2108–2121, (e) H. Daemi, M. Barikani, *Sci. Iran.* **2012**, *19*, 2023–2028; (f) V. G. Babak, E. A. Skotnikova, I. G. Lukina, S. Pelletier, P. Hubert, E. J. Dellacherie, *J. Colloid. Interface Sci.* **2000**, *225*, 505–510; (g) H. Daemi, M. Barikani, M. Barmar, *Int. J. Biol. Macromol.* **2014**, *66*, 212–220.

1.4. Chemical characterization of sodium alginate

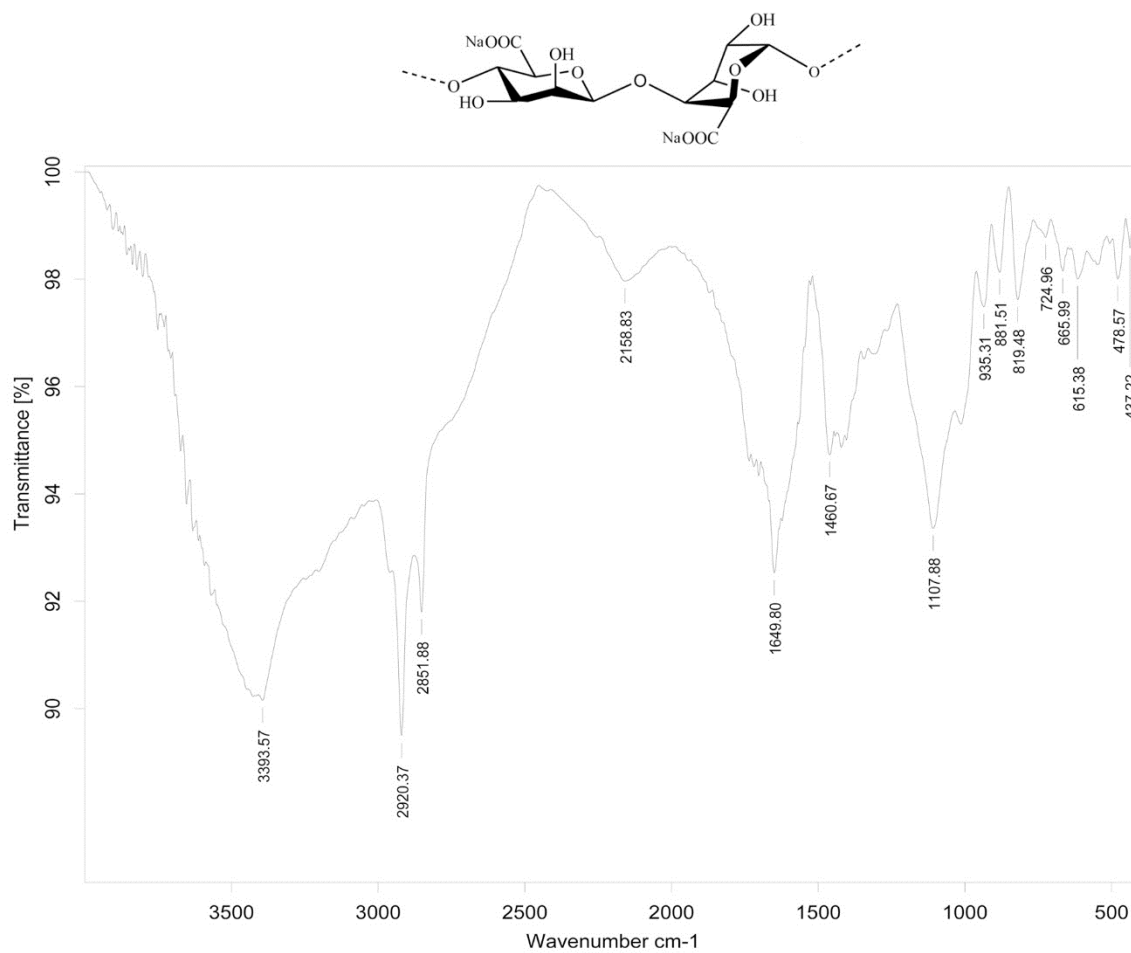


Fig. 1. FT-IR spectrum of the commercial sodium alginate.

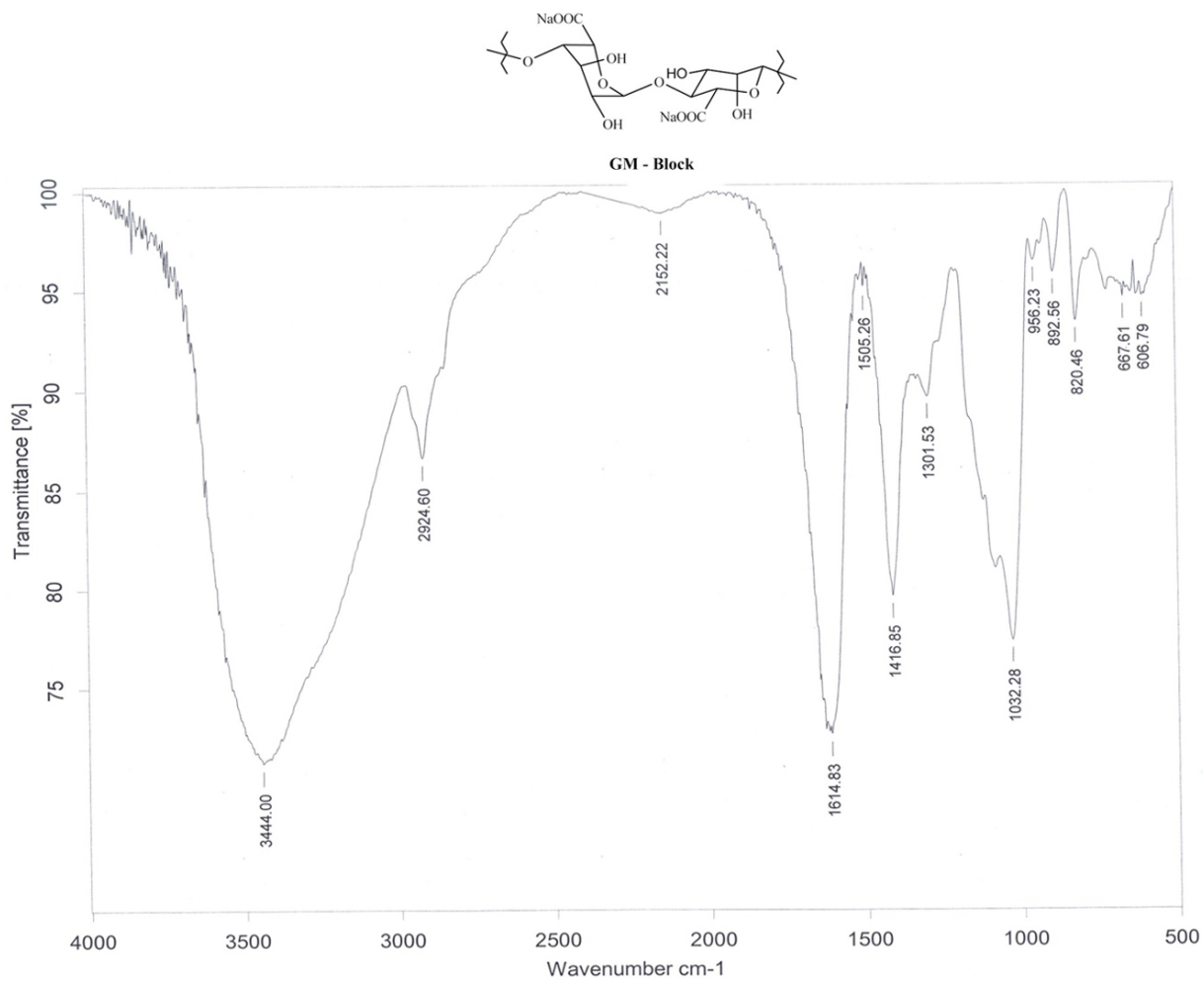


Fig. 2. FT-IR spectrum of the heterogenous copolymer containing random M and G blocks.

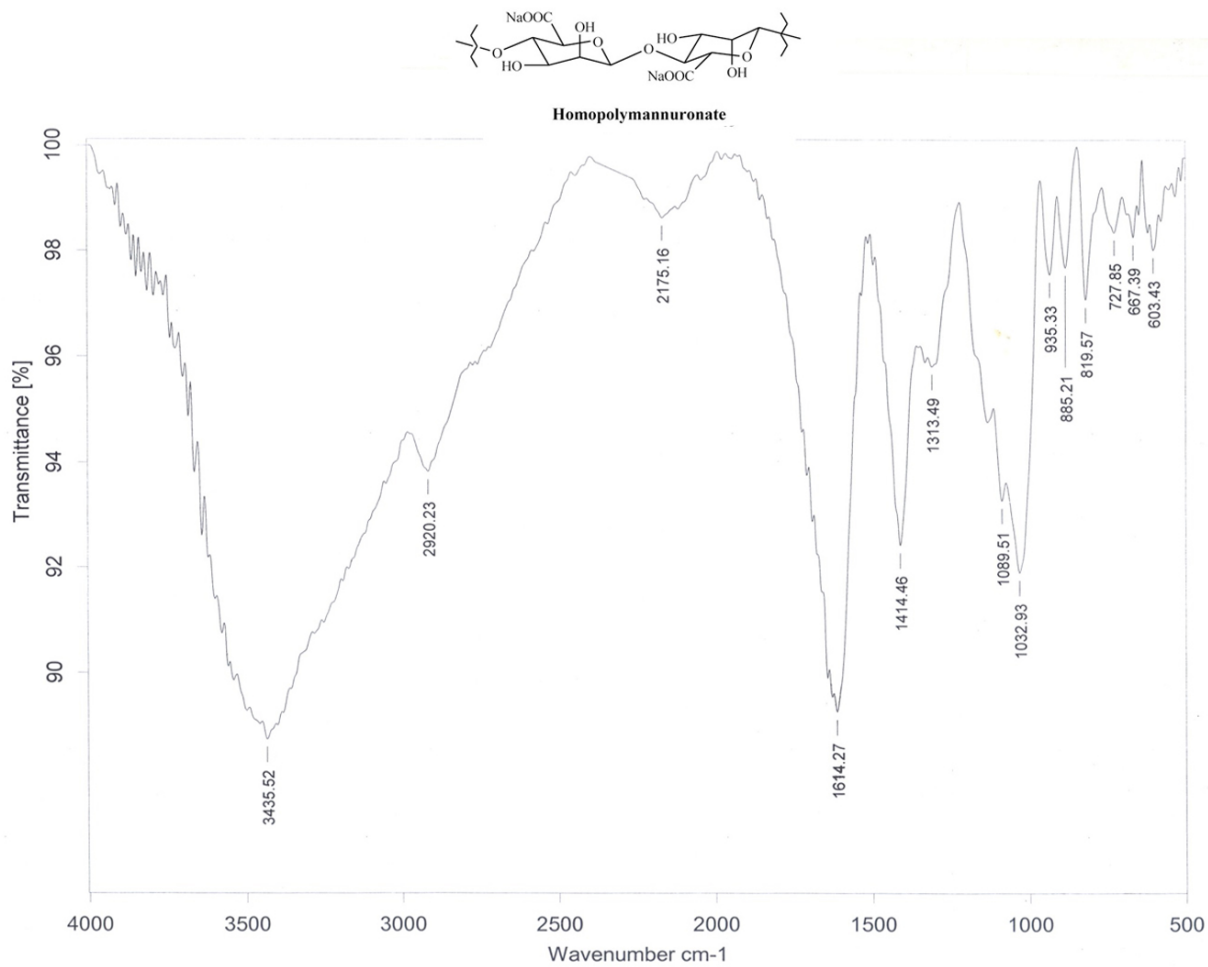


Fig. 3. FT-IR spectrum of the sodium homopolymannuronate.

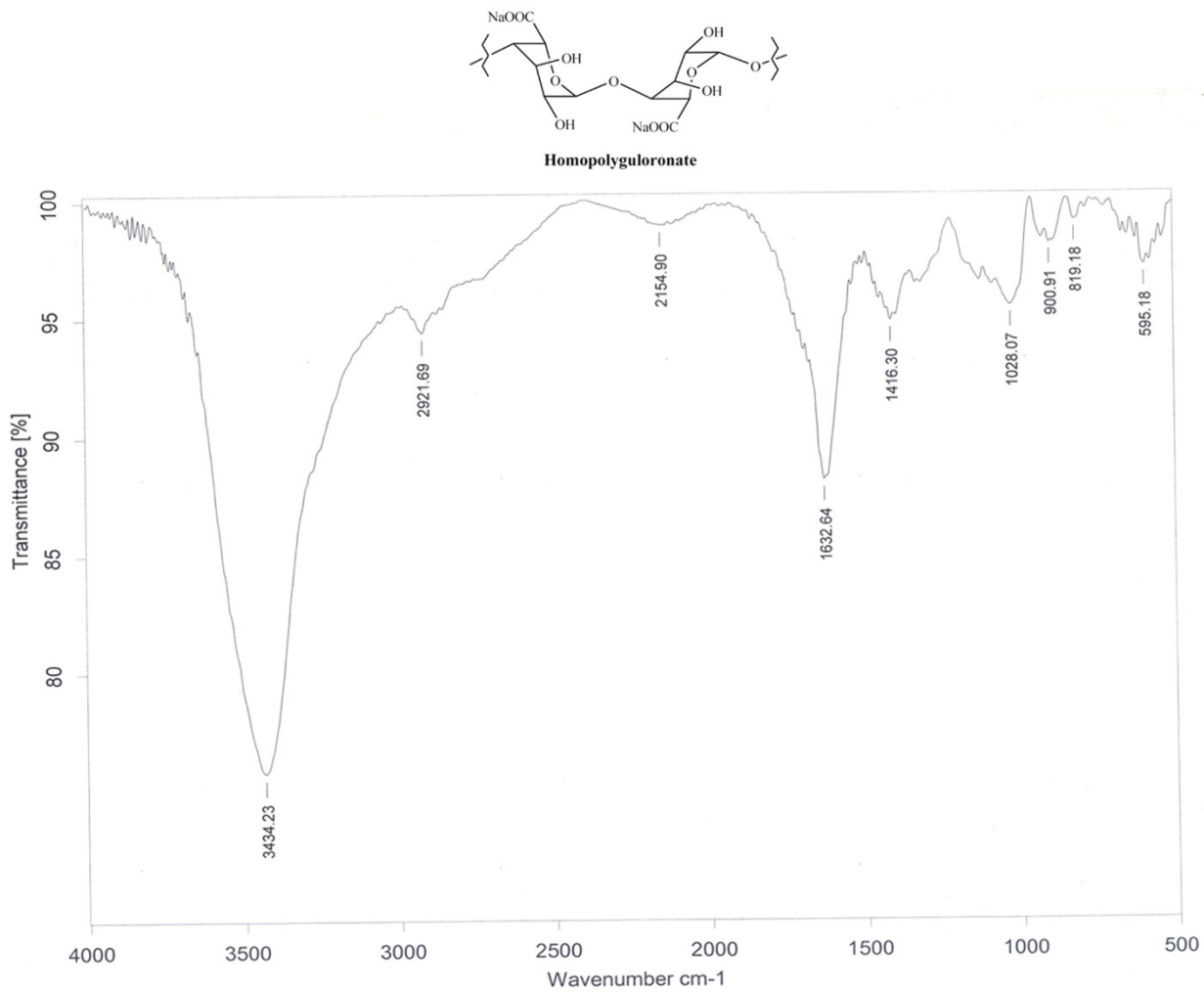


Fig. 4. FT-IR spectrum of the sodium homopolyguluronate.

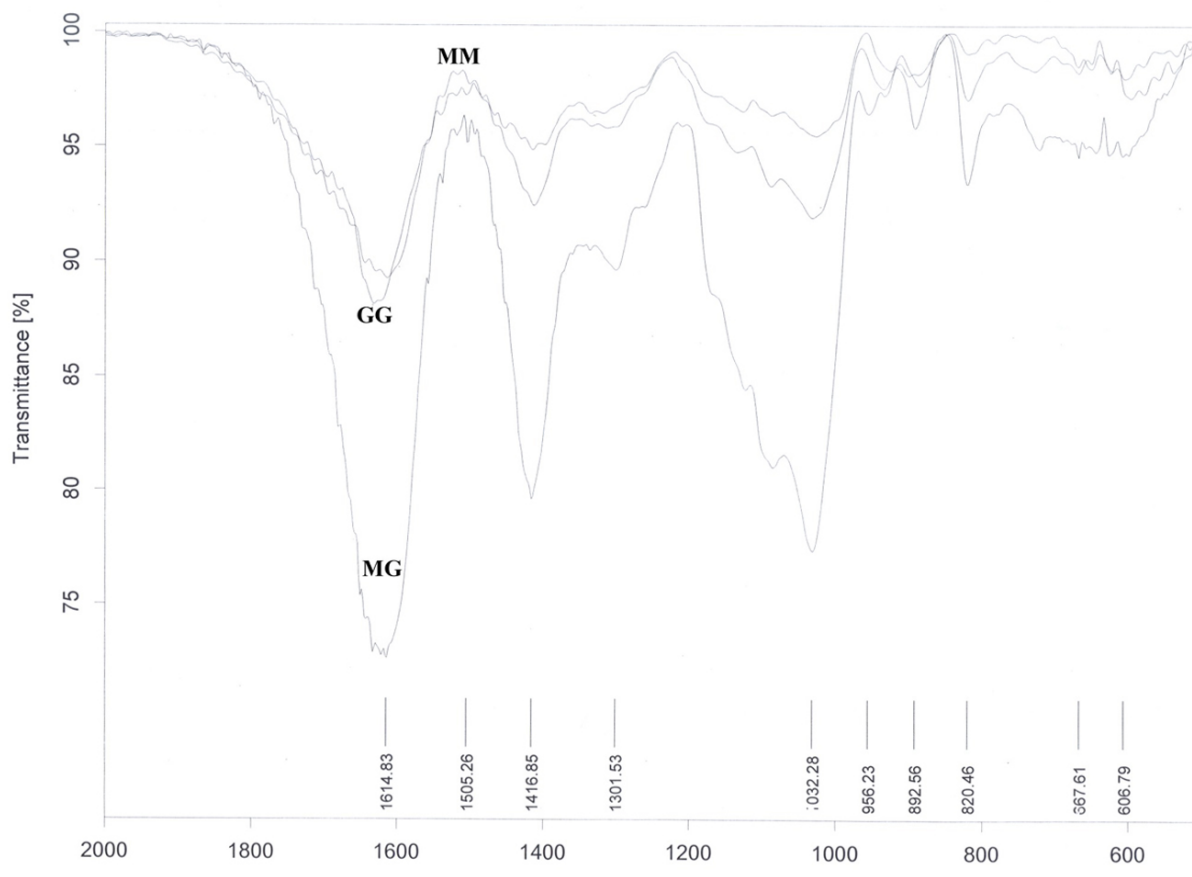


Fig. 5. A comparison between the FT-IR spectra of different constituents of the sodium alginate.

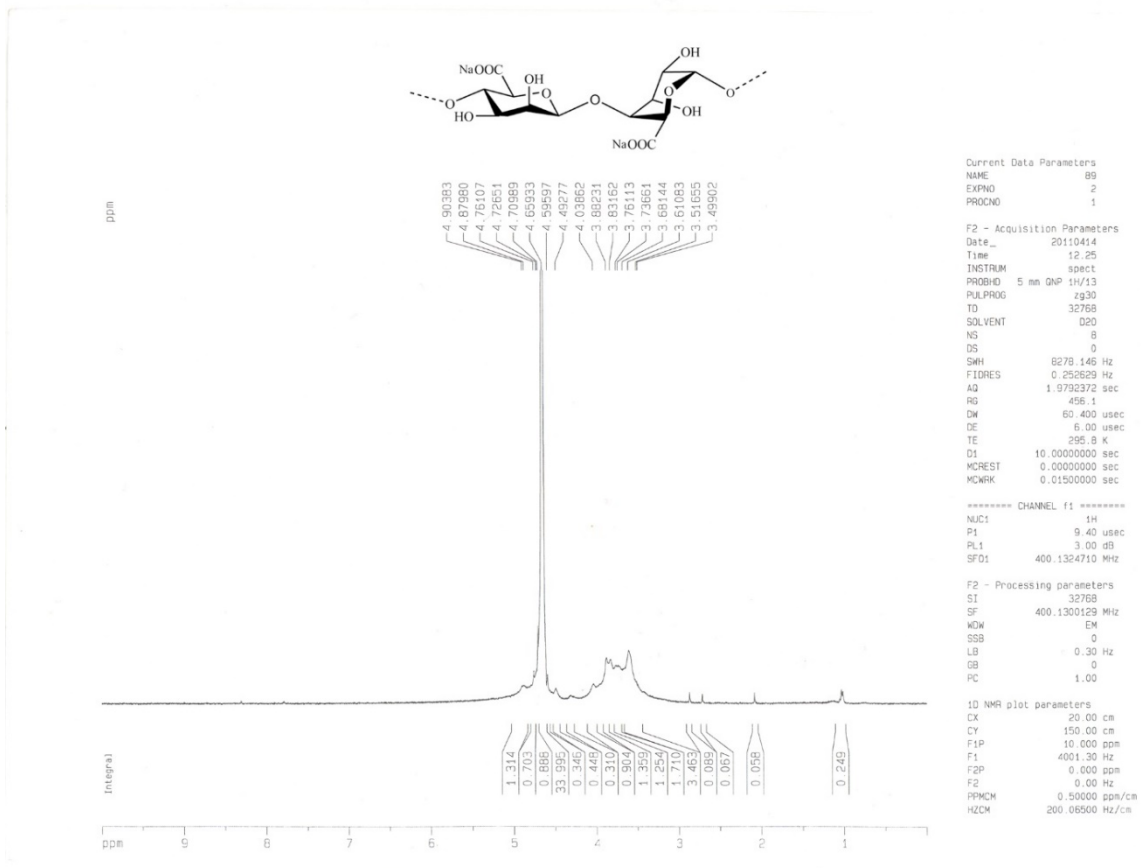


Fig. 6. ¹H NMR spectrum of sodium alginate.

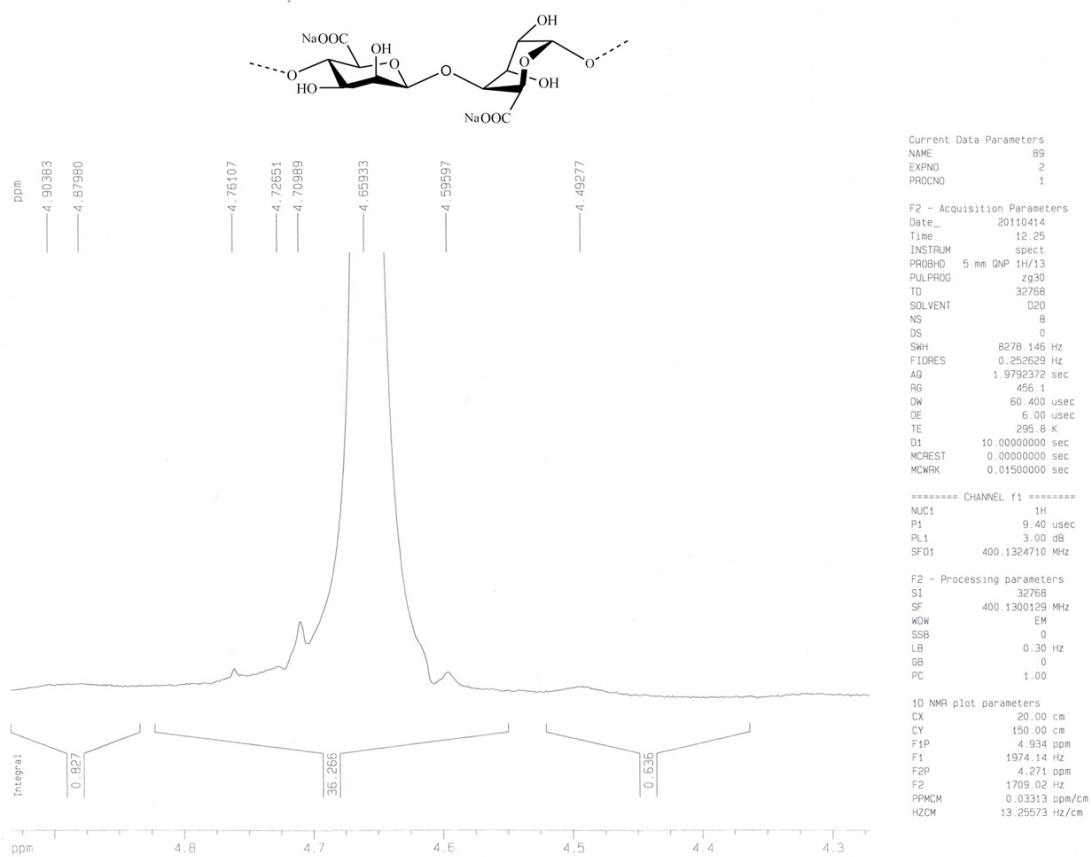


Fig. 7. ¹H NMR spectrum of sodium alginate (Expanded aliphatic region).

1.5. Thermo Gravimetric analysis of sodium alginate and alginic acid (1)

As seen in thermograms of sodium alginate and alginic acid, the hydrophilicity of sodium alginate is significantly more than that insoluble form, i.e. alginic acid. Therefore, the insoluble form of alginate is a more appropriate candidate as a bifunctional heterogeneous catalyst compared to its soluble form.

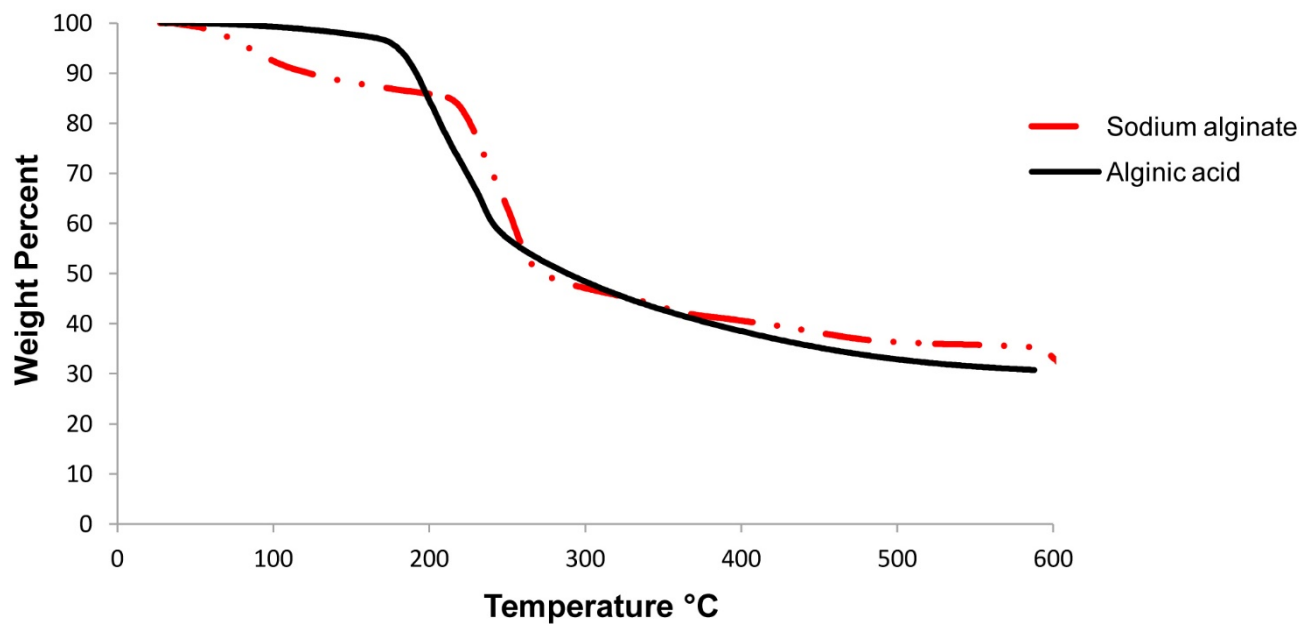


Fig. 8. TGA thermograms of sodium alginate and alginic acid (1).

1.6. Chemical characterization of alginic acid (1)

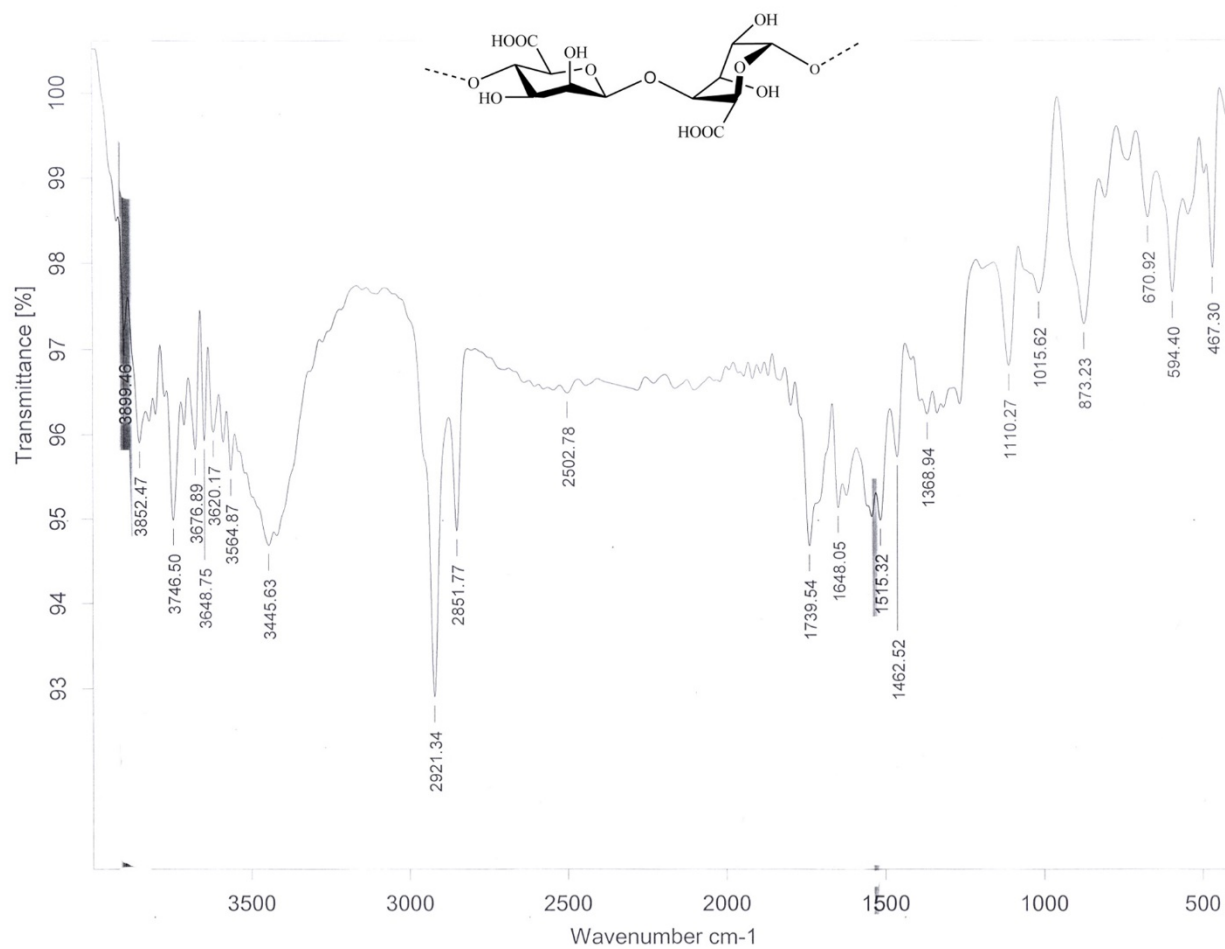


Fig. 9. FT-IR spectrum of prepared alginic acid (1).

1.7. General procedure for the synthesis of 1,4-dihydropyridines (5-6) catalyzed by alginic acid (1)

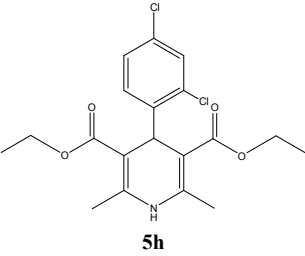
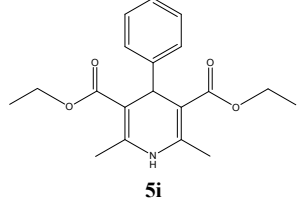
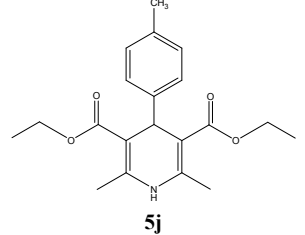
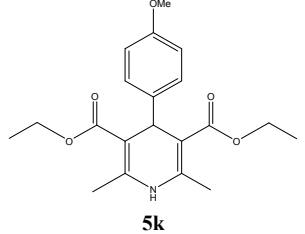
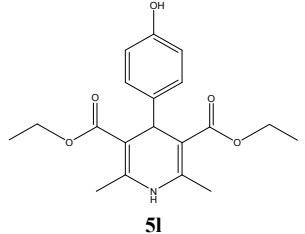
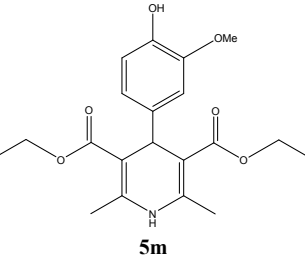
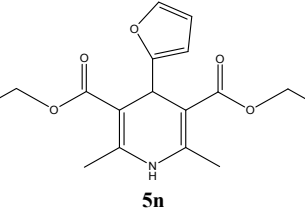
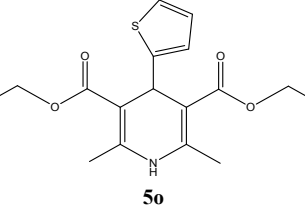
In a 5 mL round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic bar and condenser, a mixture of aldehyde (**2**, 1 mmol), β -ketoester (**3**, 2 mmol), ammonium acetate (**4a**, 1.2 mmol) and alginic acid (**1**, 17.6 mg, 10 mol% relative to the aldehyde) was added to 1 mL of 96% EtOH. The resulting mixture was stirred at reflux conditions for appropriate time indicated in Tables 1 or 2. After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), it was diluted with 2 mL of 96% EtOH and filtered. Then, distilled water was added dropwise with continuous stirring to the filtrate to provide crystals of 1,4-DHP **5** or **6**. The separated crystals were filtered off, washed with cold aqueous EtOH (50% v/v, 2 mL) and dried at 60 °C in an air oven for 1 h.

1.8. Reusability of alginic acid catalyst (1) for the Hantzsch MCR

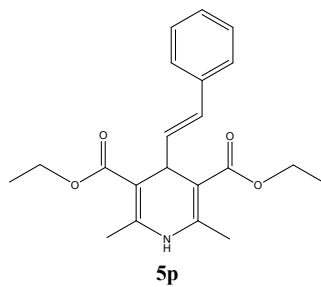
The reusability of the catalyst **1** was investigated in the consecutive Hantzsch reaction of 4-chlorobenzaldehyde (**2a**, 1 mmol), ethyl acetoacetate (**3a**, 2 mmol) and ammonium acetate **4a** (1.2 mmol). The reactions were carried out according to the above general procedure for synthesis of 1,4-DHPs **5**. After the first run, which afforded the diethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5a**) in 96% isolated yield (100% conversion), the separated catalyst was washed with fresh aliquot of EtOAc (3 x 1 mL), dried in an air oven at 60 °C, and then was subjected to a second Hantzsch reaction from which it also gave the Hantzsch reaction products in 100% conversion (95% isolated yield); the average chemical yield for six repeated runs was 94%.

Table 1. Pseudo-four-component synthesis of different diethyl 1,4-DHP-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5a-p**) catalysed by alginic acid (**1**) in EtOH under reflux conditions^a

Entry	Aldehyde 2	Product 5^b	Time (min)	Yield (%) ^c	M.P (Obsd) (°C)	M.P (Ref) (°C)
1	Formaldehyde 2a	 5a (Diludine)	25	97	177-180	183
2	4-Chlorobenzaldehyde 2b	 5b	50	96	144-145	145-146
3	4-Fluorobenzaldehyde 2c	 5c	45	97	152-153	151-155
4	4-Nitrobenzaldehyde 2d	 5d	50	83	125-127	136
5	3-Nitrobenzaldehyde 2e	 4e	60	77	166-168	163
6	4-Bromobenzaldehyde 2f	 5f	35	93	162-164	162-164
7	2-Chlorobenzaldehyde 2g	 5g	60	86	131-133	129-130

8	2,4-Dichlorobenzaldehyde 2h		65	87	146-148	148-149
9	Benzaldehyde 2i		45	96	156-158	157-159
10	4-Methylbenzaldehyde 2j		60	92	135-137	135-138
11	4-Methoxybenzaldehyde 2k		70	91	160-161	158-160
12	4-Hydroxybenzaldehyde 2l		90	92	228-231	229-231
13	4-Hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde (Vanilin) 2m		80	90	160-162	160-164
14	Furfural 2n		55	93	160-161	160-161
15	Thiophen-2-carbaldehyde 2o		70	98	169-171	172-174

16

Cinnamaldehyde
2p

60

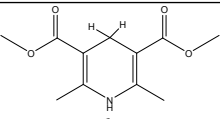
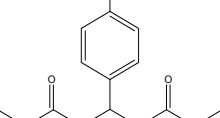
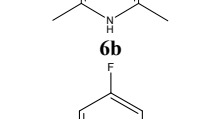
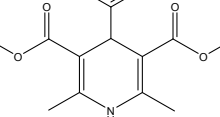
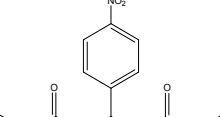
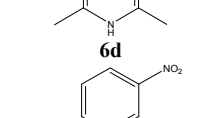
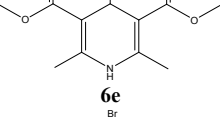
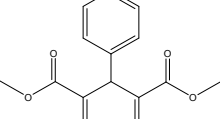
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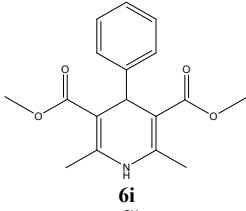
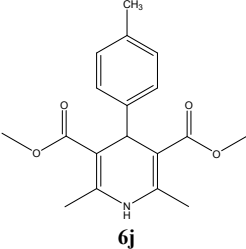
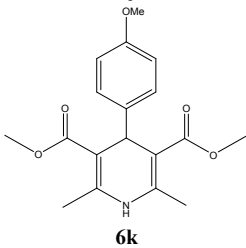
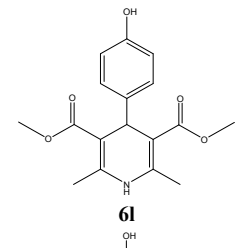
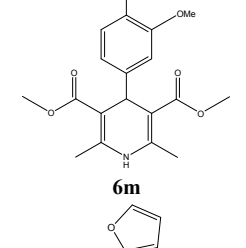
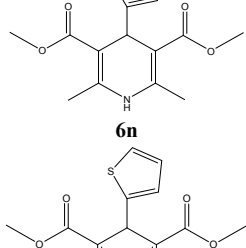
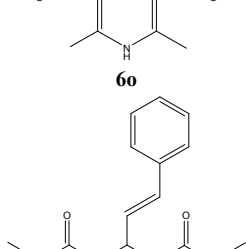
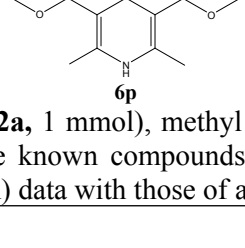
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^a Reaction conditions: Aldehyde (**2a**, 1 mmol), ethyl acetoacetate (**3a**, 2 mmol), ammonium acetate (**4a**, 1.2 mmol). ^b All the products are known compounds and were identified by comparison of their TLC, physical and spectral (IR, ¹H NMR) data with those of authentic samples. ^c Isolated yields.

Table 2. Pseudo-four-component synthesis of different dimethyl 1,4-DHP-3,5-dicarboxylate (**6a-p**) catalysed by alginic acid (**1**) in EtOH under reflux conditions^a

Entry	Aldehyde 2	Product 6^b	Time (min)	Yield (%) ^c	M.P (Obsd) (°C)	M.P (ref) (°C)
1	Formaldehyde 2a	 6a	20	96	220-222	222-224
2	4-Chlorobenzaldehyde 2b	 6b	50	94	196-198	196-198
3	4-Fluorobenzaldehyde 2c	 6c	40	97	171-172	176-179
4	4-Nitrobenzaldehyde 2d	 6d	60	85	196-198	196-198
5	3-Nitrobenzaldehyde 2e	 6e	50	79	210-211	210-212
6	4-Bromobenzaldehyde 2f	 6f	30	94	201-202	200-202
7	2-Chlorobenzaldehyde 2g	 6g	60	88	184-185	185-186
8	2,4-Dichlorobenzaldehyde 2h	 6h	70	93	188-190	190-192

9	Benzaldehyde 2i		40	95	193-194	197-198
10	4-Methylbenzaldehyde 2j		55	93	175-177	173-175
11	4-Methoxybenzaldehyde 2k		70	92	188-191	186-188
12	4-Hydroxybenzaldehyde 2l		80	90	230-232	230-232
13	4-Hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde (Vanilin) 2m		80	91	210-213	213
14	Furfural 2n		50	92	191-193	192-194
15	Thiophen-2-carbaldehyde 2o		60	97	200-201	201-203
16	Cinnamaldehyde 2p		50	93	174-175	176-178

^a Reaction conditions: Aldehyde (**2a**, 1 mmol), methyl acetoacetate (**3b**, 2 mmol), ammonium acetate (**4a**, 1.2 mmol). ^b All the products are known compounds and were identified by comparison of their TLC, physical and spectral (IR, ¹H NMR) data with those of authentic samples. ^c Isolated yields.

References: (a) S. Ghosh, F. Saikh, J. Das, A. K. Pramanik, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2013**, *54*, 58–62; (b) B. S. Furniss, A. J. Hannaford, P. W. G. Smith, Text book of Practical Organic Chemistry, 5th ed.; Singapore: Longman Singapore, 1994. p. 1168; (c) J. Jacques, V. Eynde, F. Delfaese, A. Mayence, Y. V. Haverbeke, *Tetrahedron* **1995**, *51*, 6511–6516; (d) B. Leov, K. M. Snader, *J. Org. Chem.* **1965**, *30*, 1914–1916; (e) B. Leov, K. M. S. Lakshmi, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **2012**, *22*, 6016–6023; (f) P. P. Ghosh, P. Mukherjee, A. R. Das, *RSC Adv.* **2013**, *3*, 8220–8226; (g) M. Nasr-Esfahani, S. J. Hoseini, M. Montazerzohori, R. Mehrabi, H. Nasrabadi, *J. Mol. Catal. A: Chem.* **2014**, *382*, 99–105; (h) A. Debache, W. Ghalem, R. Boulcina, A. Belfaitah, S. Rhouatiand, B. Carboni, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2009**, *50*, 5248–5250; (i) S. Patil, P. B. Pawar, S. D. Jadhav, M. B. Deshmukh, *Asian J. Chem.* **2013**, *25*, 9442–9446; (j) A. Shaabani, A. H. Rezayanand, A. Rahmati, M. Sharifi, *Monatsh. Chem.* **2006**, *137*, 77–81; (k) P. Kaur, H. Sharma, R. Rana, D.N. Prasad, R. K. Singh, *Asian J. Chem.* **2012**, *24*, 5649–5651; (l) R. H. Boecker, F. P. Guengerich, *J. Med. Chem.* **1986**, *29*, 1596–1603; (m) J. L. Wang, B. K. Liu, C. Yin, Q. Wu, X. F. Lin, *Tetrahedron* **2011**, *67*, 2689–2692; (n) B. M. Khadilkar, V. G Gaikar, A. A. Chitnavis, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1995**, *36*, 8083–8086; (o) K. Rajesh, B. P. Reddy, V. Vijayakumar, *Can. J. Chem.* **2011**, *89*, 1236–1244; (p) H. Salehi, Q. X. Guo, *Synthetic Commun.* **2004**, *34*, 4349–4357.

Chemical characterization of diethyl 1,4-dihydro-2,6-dimethyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5o**)

Yellowish white crystals, mp 167–169 °C, yield: 98%, IR (KBr) cm^{-1} : 3344, 3099, 2925, 2853, 1693, 1655, 1487, 1369, 1300, 1211, 1128, 1093, 854, 721, ^1H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm): 1.29 (t, $J=7.1$ Hz, 6H), 2.36 (s, 6H), 4.20 (m, 4H), 5.36 (s, 1H, C-H_{benzylic}), 5.77 (brs, 1H, N-H), 6.81–6.82 (d, $J=3.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.85–6.88 (t, $J=5.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.06–7.08 (dd, $J=5.0$ Hz, $J=1.2$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ (ppm): 15.9, 20.4, 32.8, 61.2, 101.3, 105.1, 111.6, 141.0, 145.9, 159.4, 166.6.

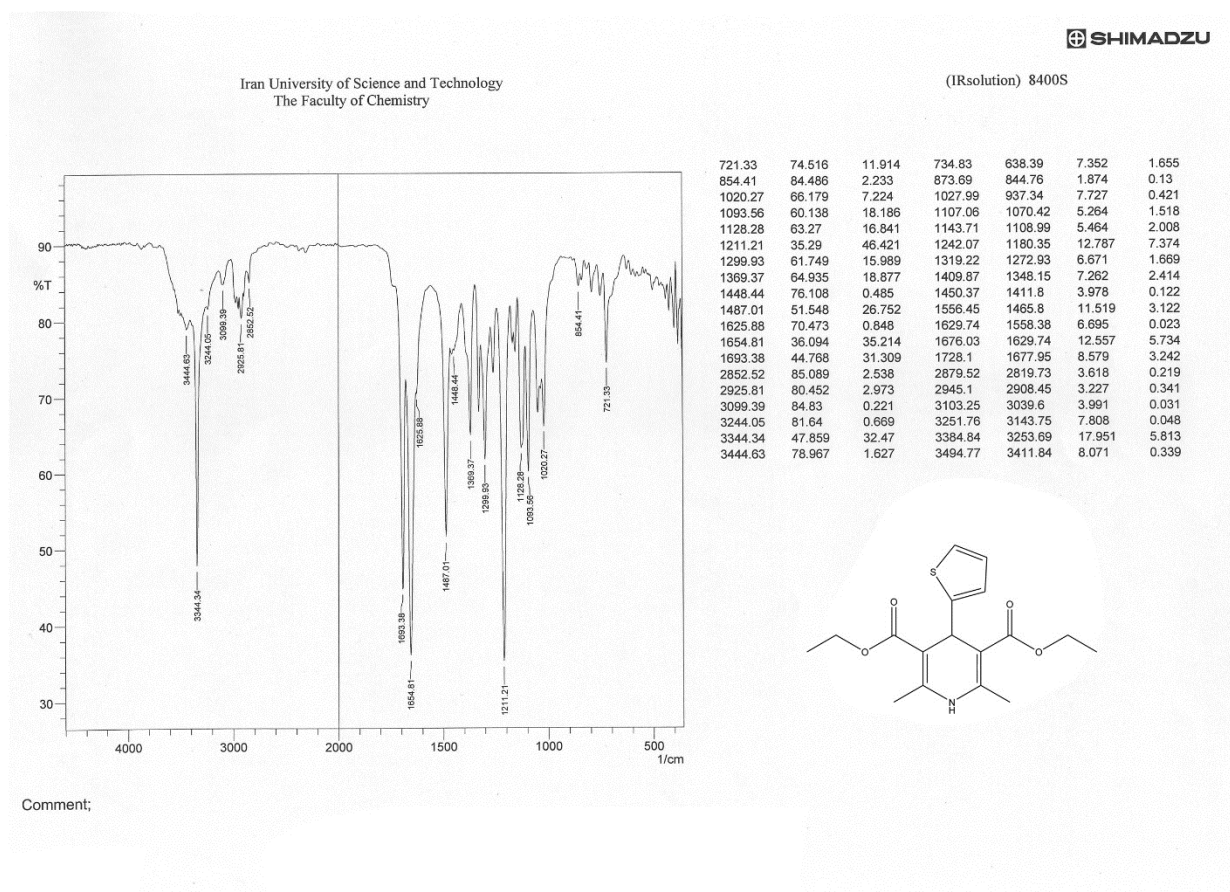


Fig. 10. FTIR spectrum of diethyl 1,4-dihydro-2,6-dimethyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5o**).

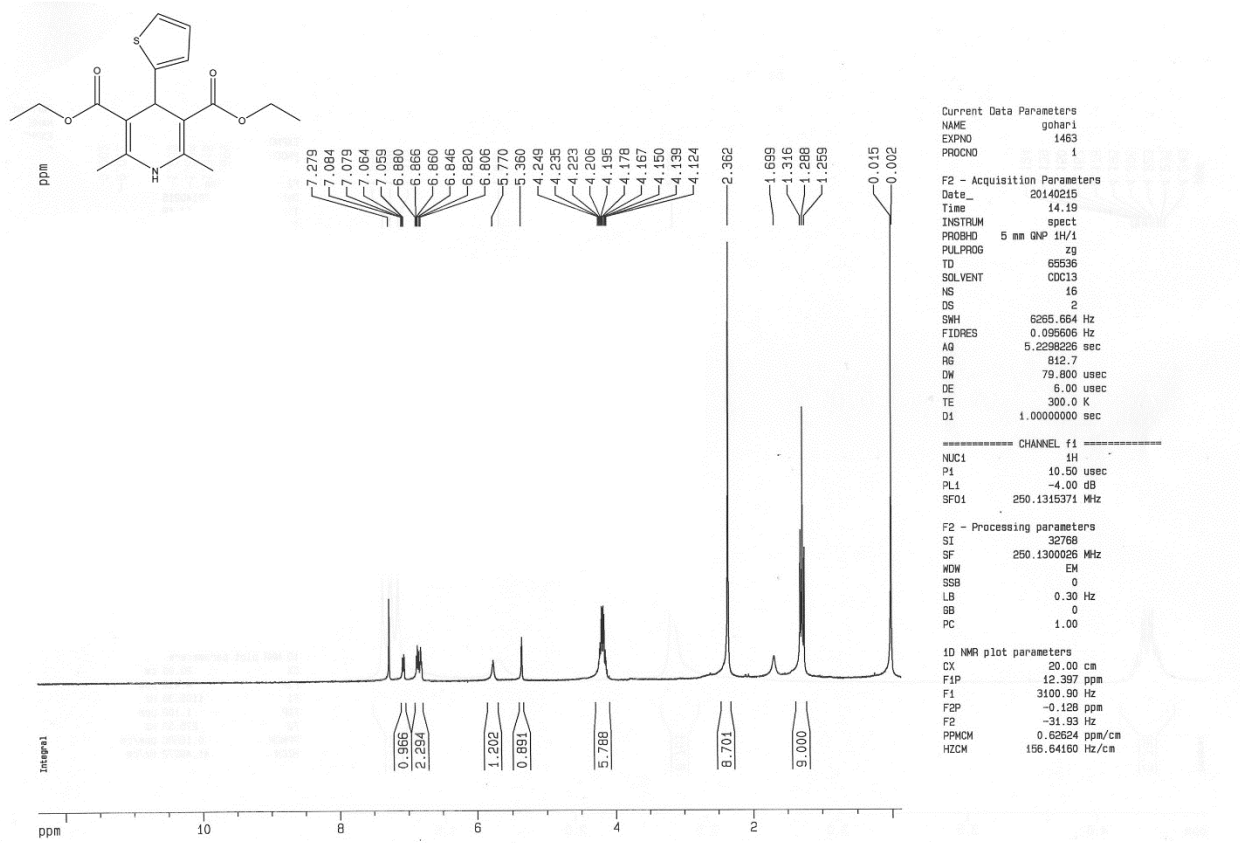


Fig. 11. ¹H NMR spectrum of diethyl 1,4-dihydro-2,6-dimethyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (**50**) in CDCl₃.

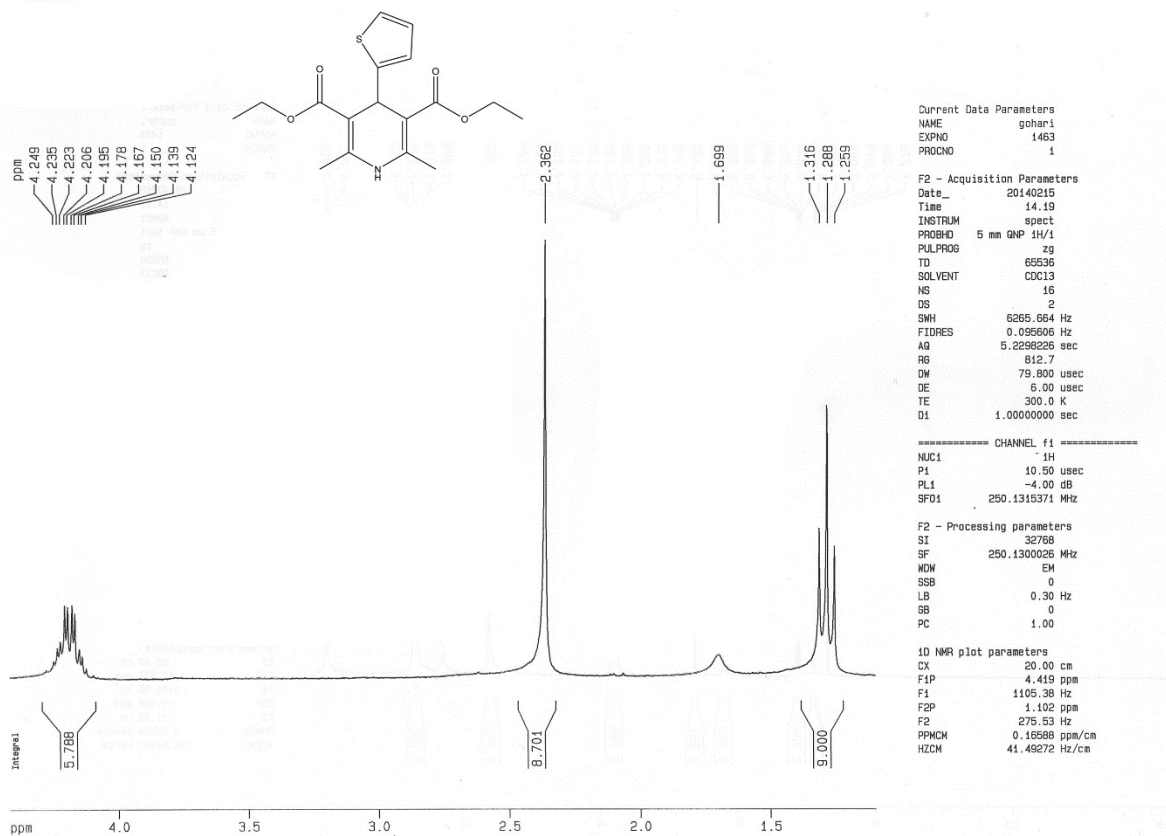


Fig. 12. ^1H NMR spectrum of diethyl 1,4-dihydro-2,6-dimethyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5o**) in CDCl_3 (Expanded aliphatic region).

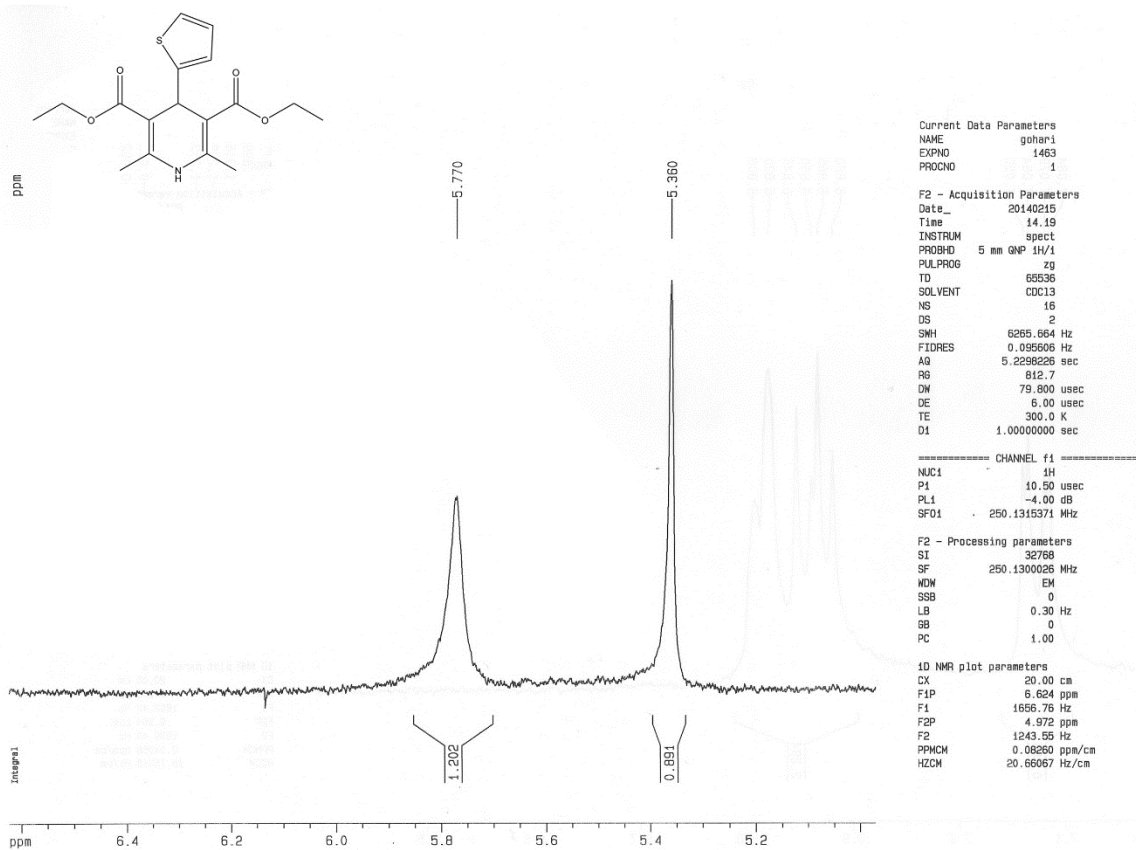


Fig. 13. ^1H NMR spectrum of diethyl 1,4-dihydro-2,6-dimethyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5o**) in CDCl_3 (Expanded aliphatic region).

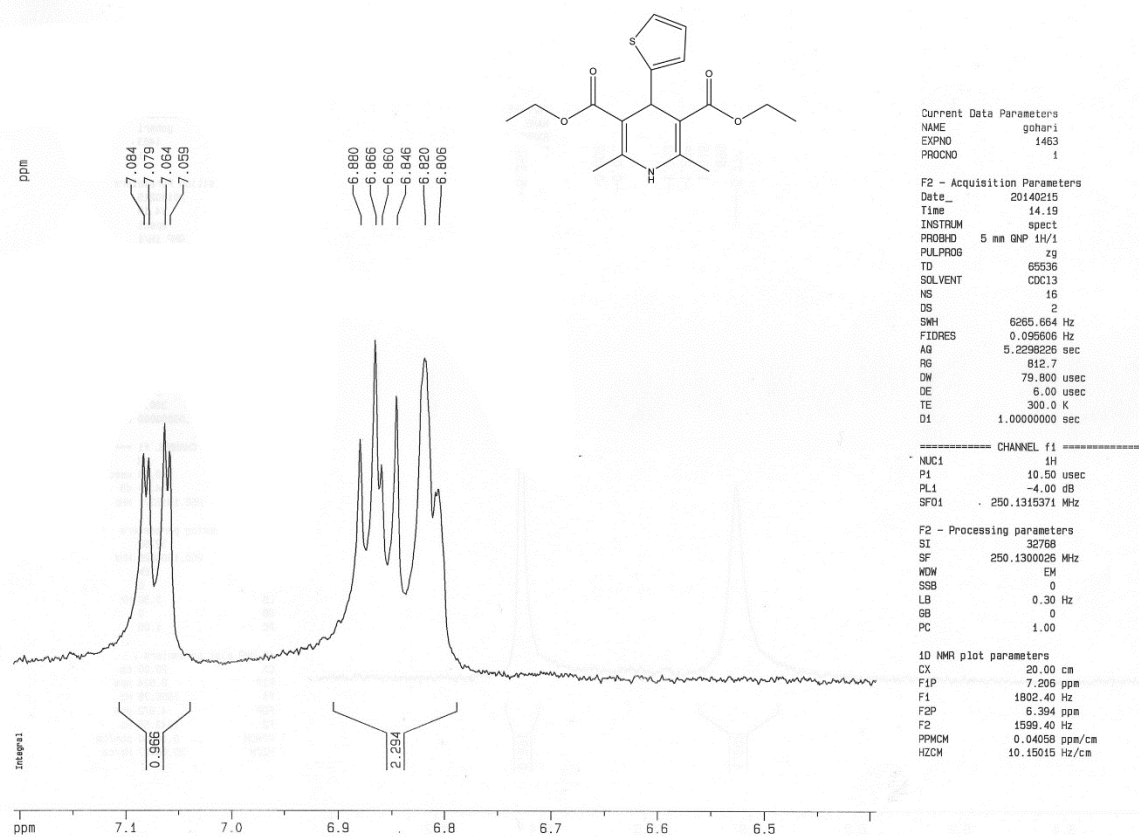


Fig. 14. ^1H NMR spectrum of diethyl 1,4-dihydro-2,6-dimethyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5**) in CDCl_3 (Expanded aromatic region).

Chemical characterization of diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-styrylpyridine-1,4-dihydro-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5p**)

Yellow crystals, mp 145–147 °C, yield: 94%, IR (KBr) cm^{-1} : 3432, 3336, 3244, 3097, 2980, 2320, 1690, 1645, 1491, 1446, 1373, 1327, 1298, 1220, 1120, 749, ^1H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm): 1.31 (t, $J=7.0$ Hz, 6H), 2.35 (s, 6H), 4.20 (m, 4H), 4.64 (d, $J=6.0$ Hz, 1H, C-H_{benzylic}), 5.62 (brs, 1H, N-H), 6.16- 6.29 (m, 2H), 7.14–7.36 (m, 5H), ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ (ppm): 14.5, 19.2, 37.1, 58.1, 102.6, 119.3, 120.2, 127.5, 128.8, 130.9, 133.0, 136.4, 147.7, 169.2.

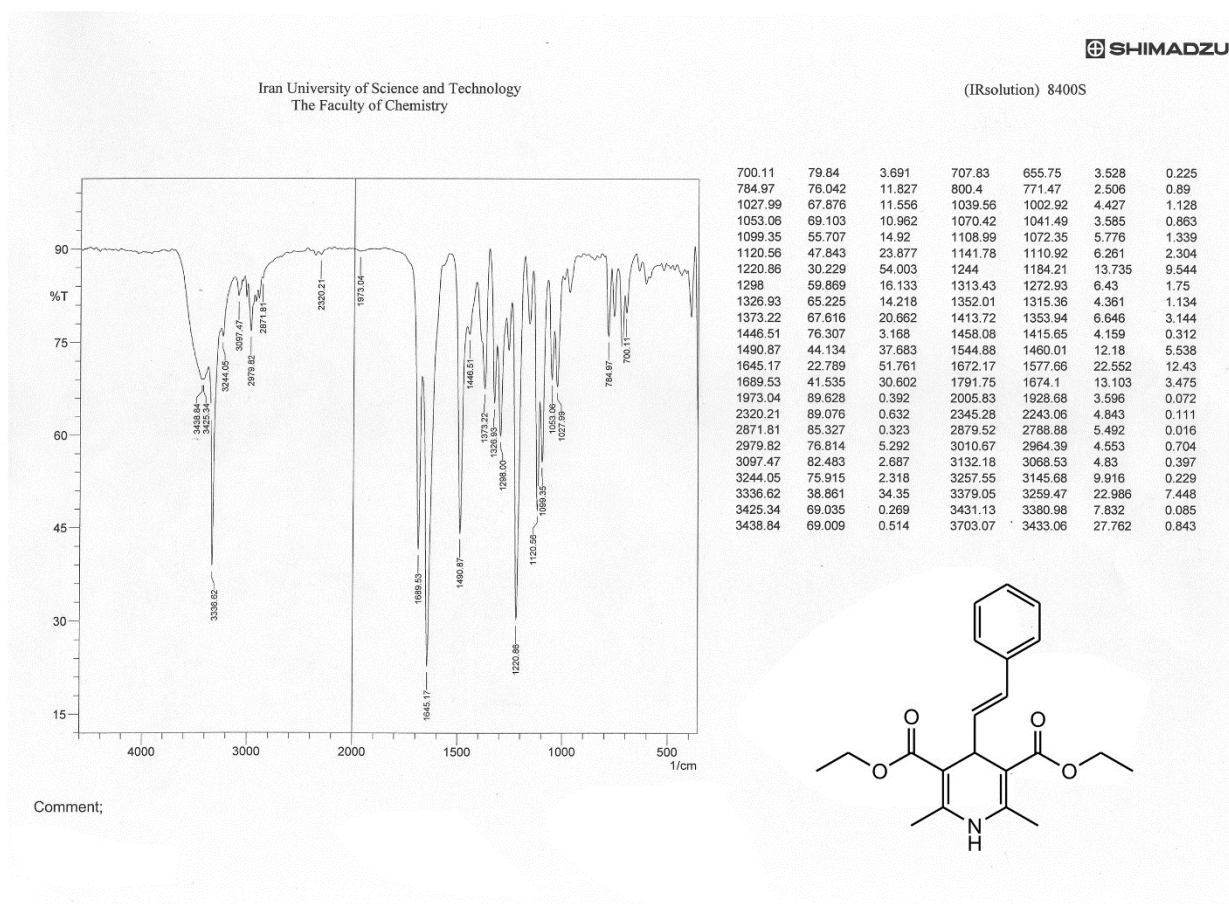


Fig. 15. FT-IR spectrum of diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-styrylpyridine-1,4-dihydro-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5p**).

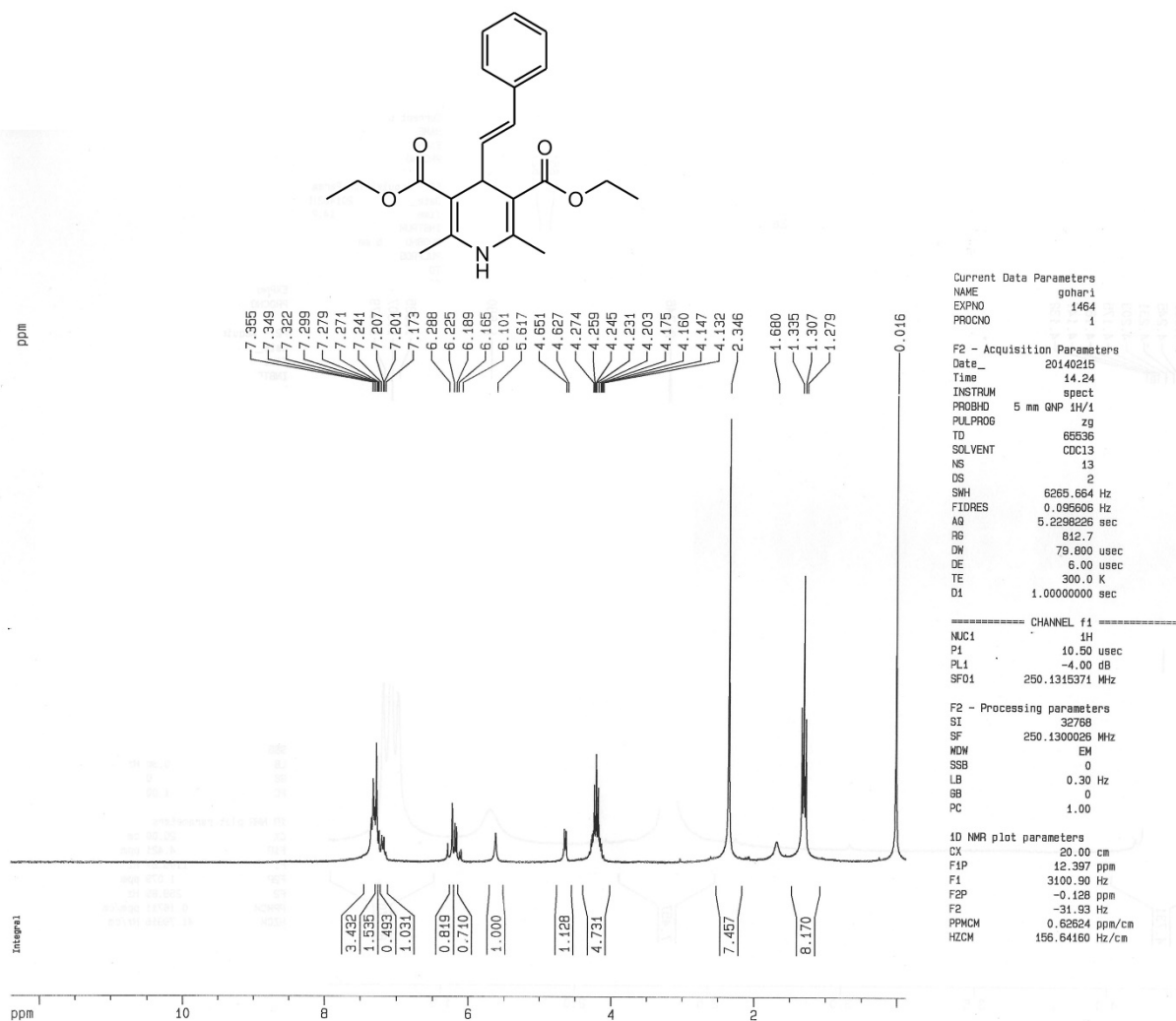


Fig. 16. ^1H NMR spectrum of diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-styrylpyridine-1,4-dihydro-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5p**) in CDCl_3 .

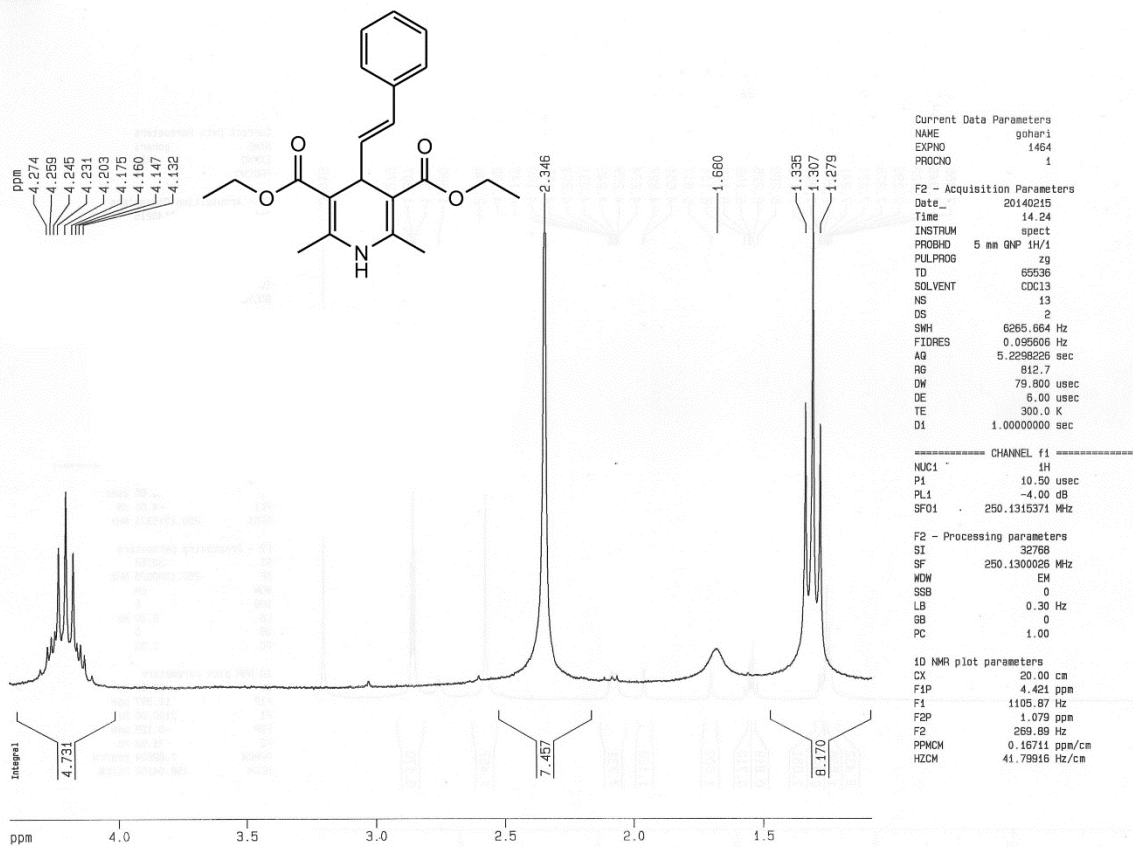


Fig. 17. ^1H NMR spectrum of diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-styrylpyridine-1,4-dihydro-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5p**) in CDCl_3 (Expanded aliphatic region).

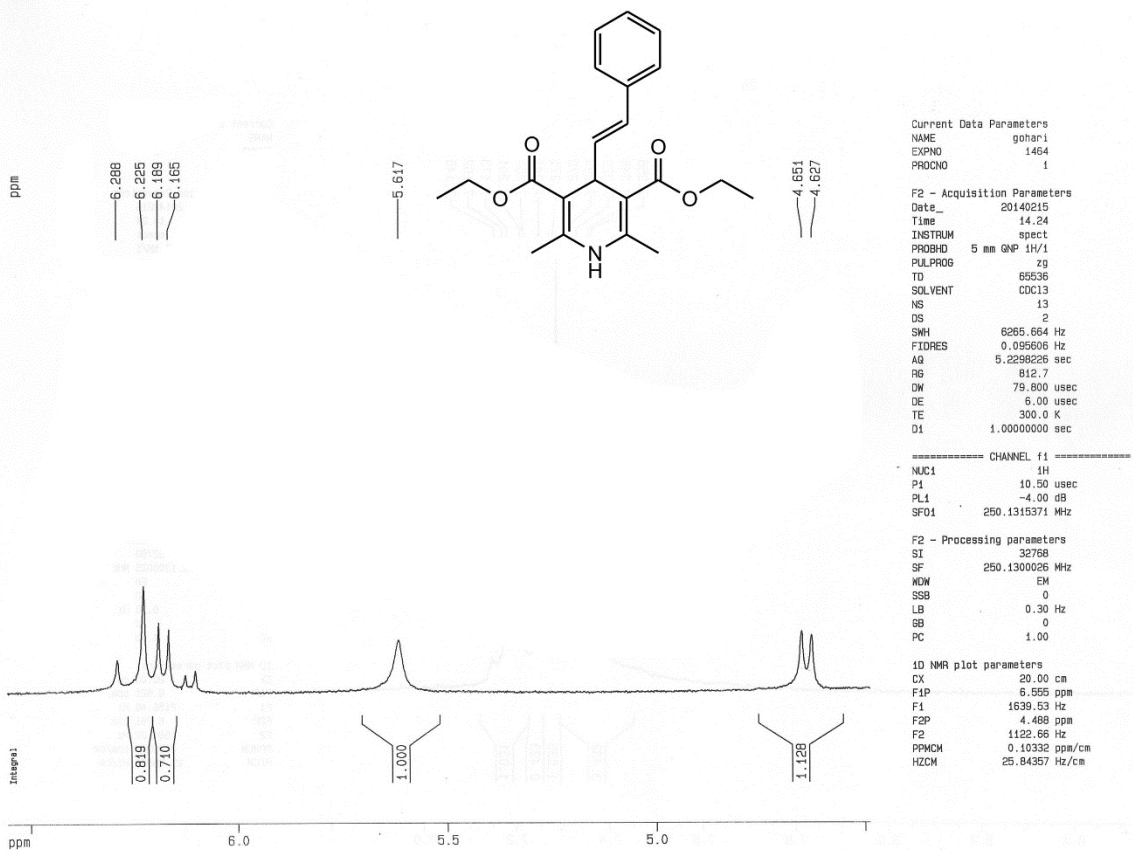


Fig. 18. ^1H NMR spectrum of diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-styrylpyridine-1,4-dihydro-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5p**) in CDCl_3 (Expanded aliphatic region).

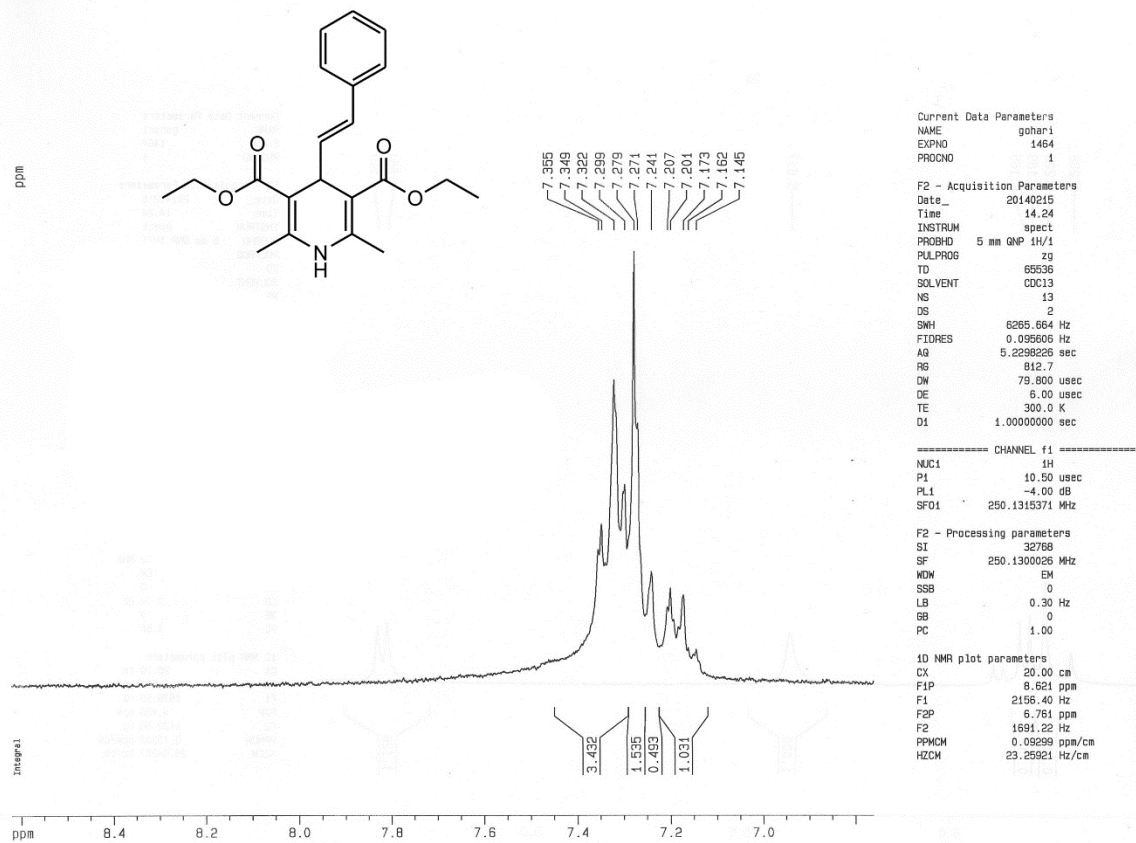


Fig. 19. ¹H NMR spectrum of diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-styrylpyridine-1,4-dihydro-3,5-dicarboxylate (**5p**) in CDCl₃ (Expanded aromatic region)

Chemical characterization of dimethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (6b)

Yellowish white crystals, mp 160–162 °C, yield: 90%, IR (KBr) cm^{-1} : 3336, 3097, 2923, 1699, 1651, 1487, 1434, 1305, 1213, 1184, 1099, 1018, 845, 750, ^1H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm): 2.36 (s, 6H), 3.66 (s, 6H), 4.98 (s, 1H, $\text{C-H}_{\text{benzylic}}$), 5.63 (brs, 1H, N-H), 7.20–7.24 (d, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 75 MHz) δ (ppm): 20.1, 31.4, 39.9, 114.5, 127.7, 129.2, 131.1, 144.9, 195.1.

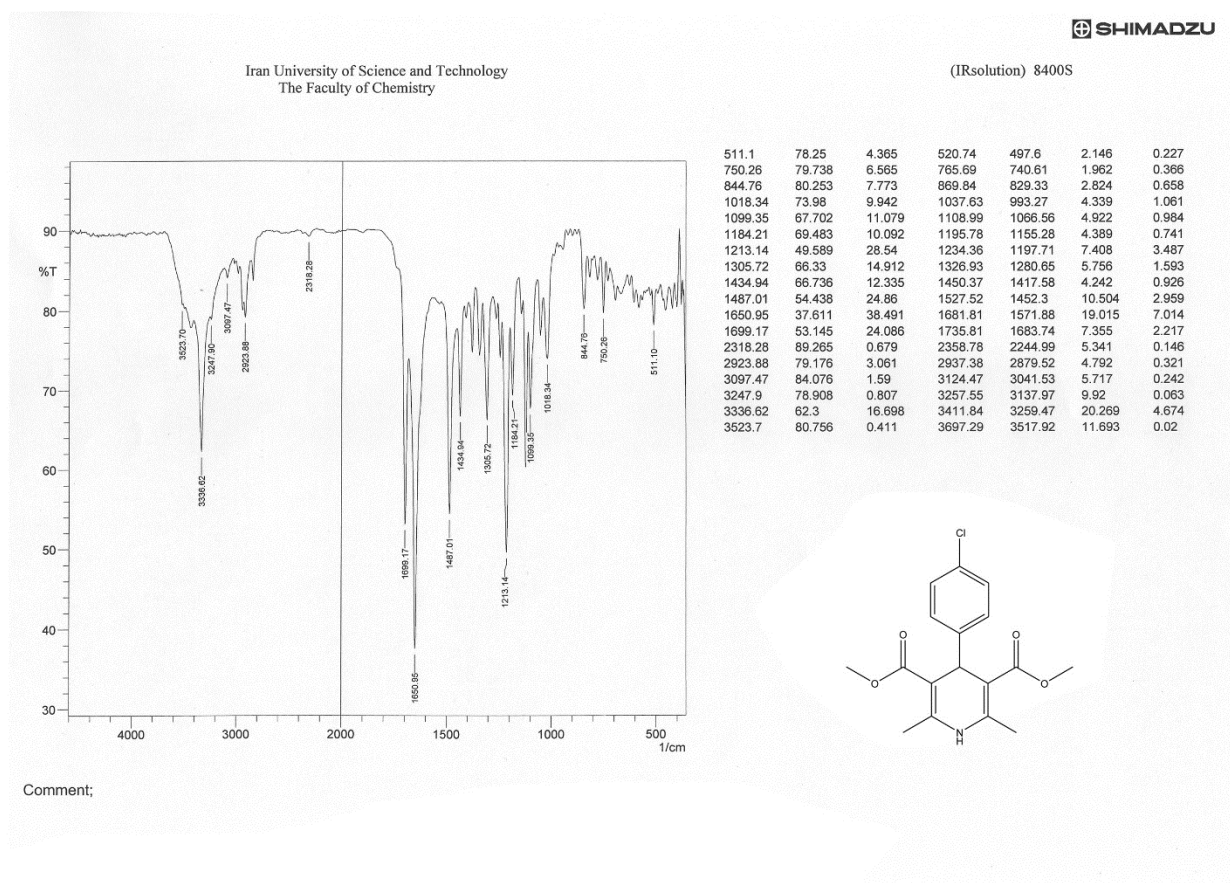


Fig. 20. FTIR spectrum of dimethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (6b).

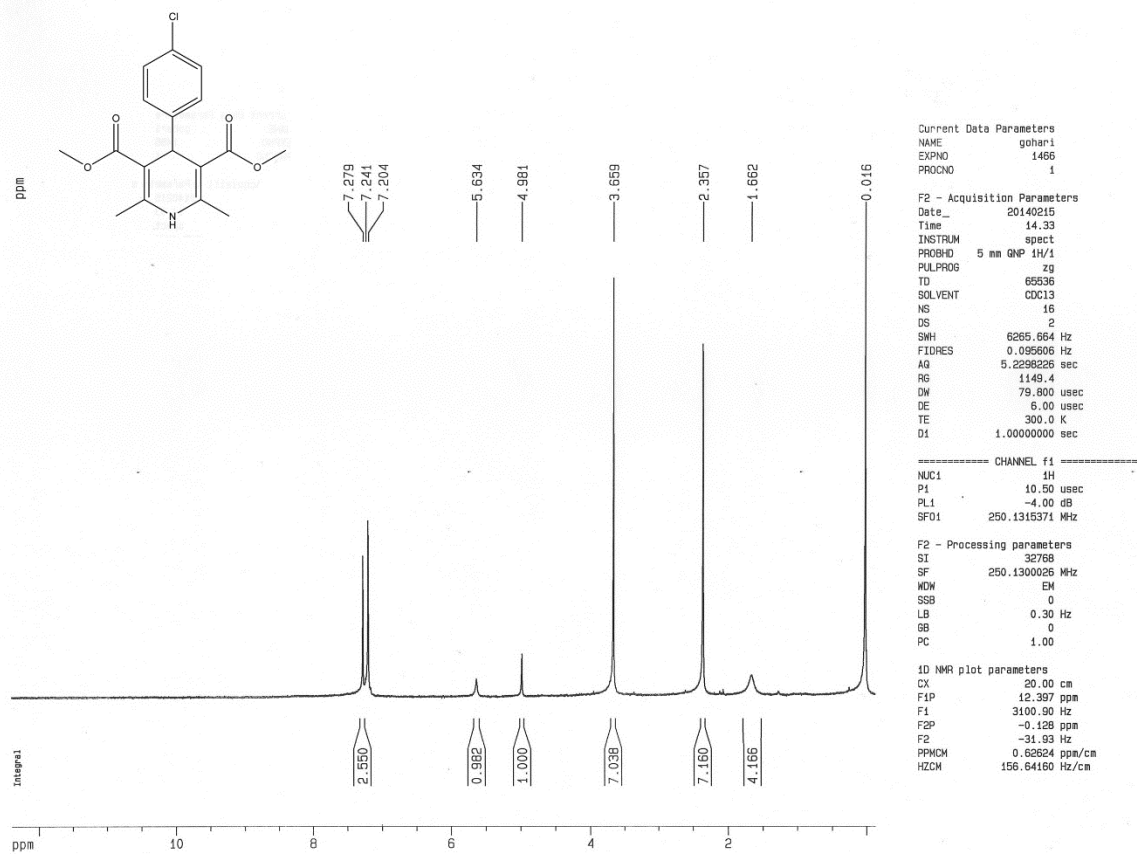


Fig. 21. ¹H NMR spectrum of dimethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (**6b**) in CDCl₃.

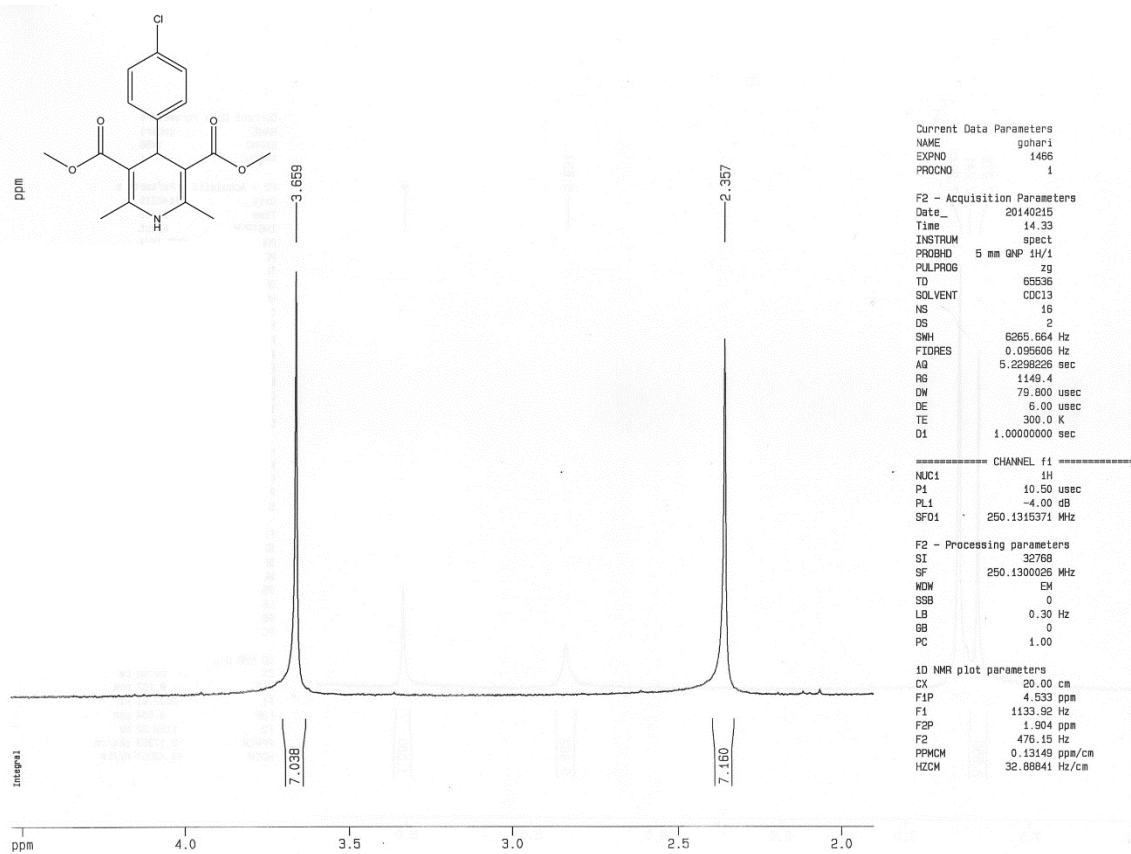


Fig. 22. ^1H NMR spectrum of dimethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (**6b**) in CDCl_3 (Expanded aliphatic region).

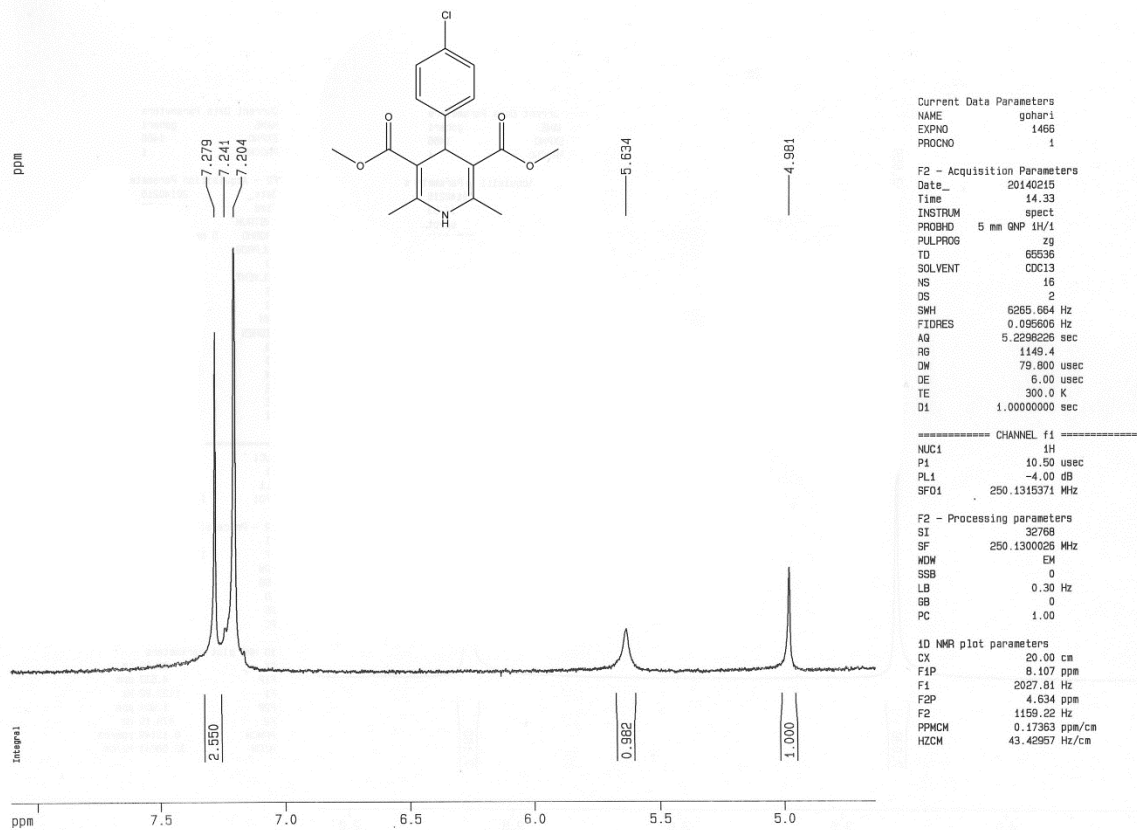


Fig. 23. ^1H NMR spectrum of dimethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (**6b**) in CDCl_3 (Expanded aromatic region).