

Supporting Information

Structure and function of PA4872 from *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, a novel oxaloacetate decarboxylase from the PEP mutase / isocitrate lyase superfamily^{†‡}

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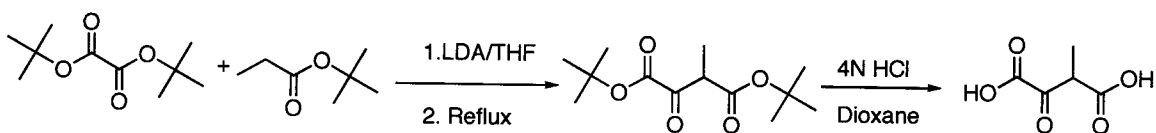
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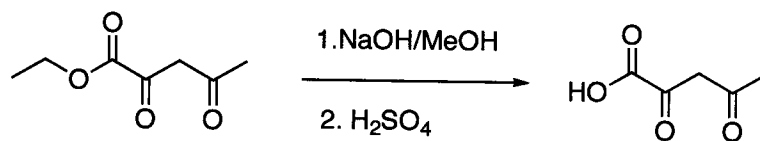
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Di-*t*-butyl 3-Methyloxalacetate. To a solution of LDA, made from diisopropylamine (7.0 g, 0.07 mol) in THF (150 mL) and *n*-butyllithium (28 mL, 0.07 mol, 2.5 M in hexane), at -78 °C was added a solution of *t*-butyl propionate (8.5 g, 0.065 mol) in THF (50 mL). After stirring at -78 °C for 1 h, a solution of di-*t*-butyl oxalate (13.2 g, 0.065 mol) in THF (50 ml) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature, at reflux for 3 h and concentrated *in vacuo*. A solution of the residue in ethyl acetate was acidified and washed with water, dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo* to give a residue, which was subjected to chromatography on silica gel (1:5 acetone-hexane) to provide di-*t*-butyl 3-methyloxalacetate (12.6 g, 75%). Spectroscopic data for the major keto tautomer ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) 1.33 (d, 3H, J = 7.0 Hz), 1.42 (s, 9H), 1.53 (s, 9H), 3.92 (q, 1H, J = 7.0 Hz); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) 11.7, 27.6, 27.7, 49.2, 82.2, 84.1, 159.6, 168.9, 190.5; HRMS (ES) m/z 281.1367, calcd for C₁₃H₂₂O₅Na 281.1365.

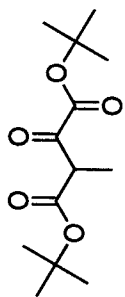
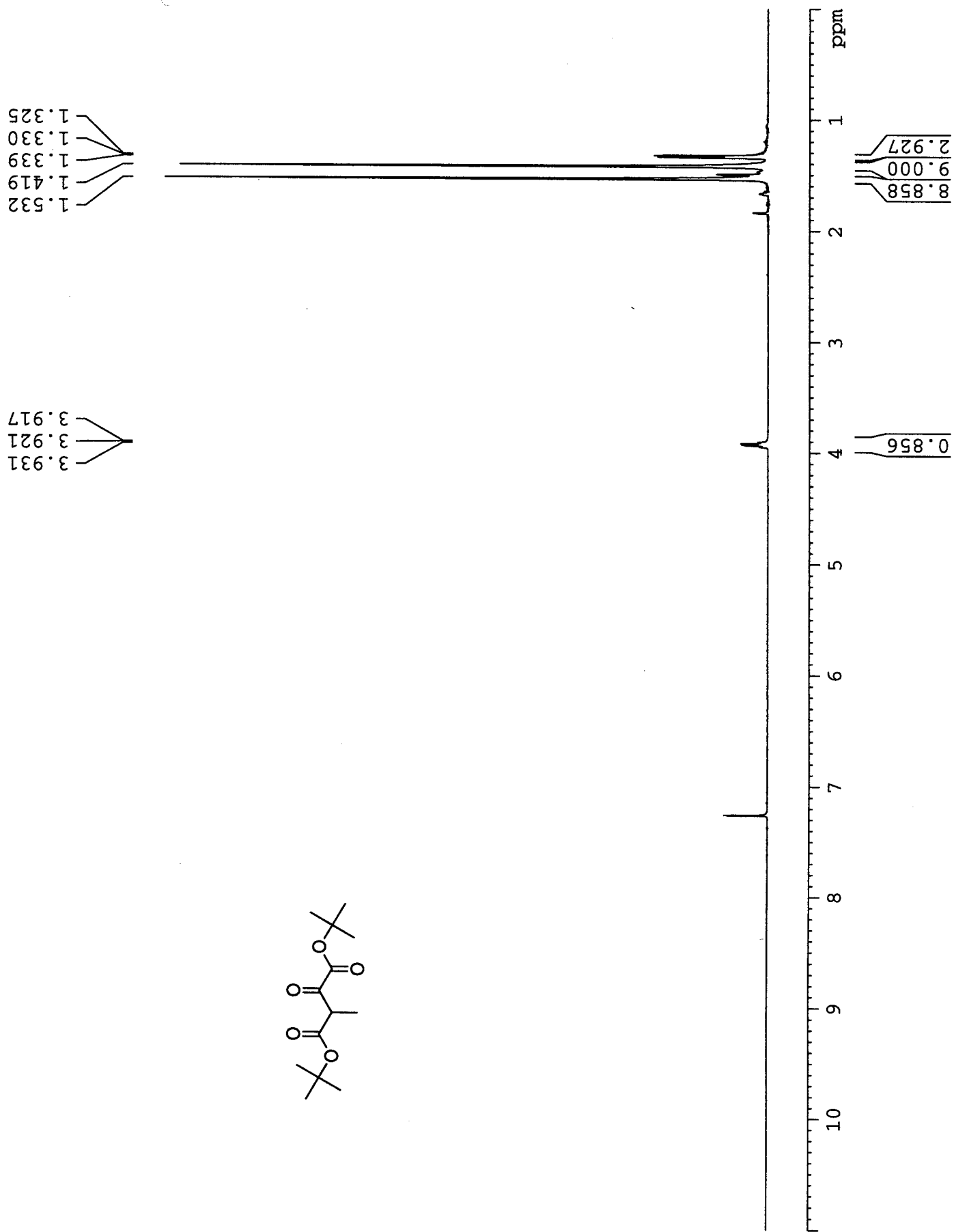
3-Methyloxalacetate. To a solution of 4N HCl in dioxane (20 mL) was added di-*t*-butyl 3-methyloxalacetate (1.0 g, 4 mmol) and MgCl₂·6H₂O (0.79 g, 4 mmol) at 0 °C, The mixture was stirred for 48 h at room temperature and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* to afford 3-methyloxalacetate as a colorless crystalline solid, which was recrystallized from benzene to afford 0.57 g (100%), mp 128 °C (lit mp (1) 144 °C). Spectroscopic data for the major enol tautomer: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) 1.97 (s, 3H), 7.25(s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) 6.8, 112.0, 151.6, 163.3, 165.1.

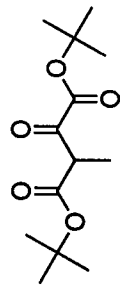
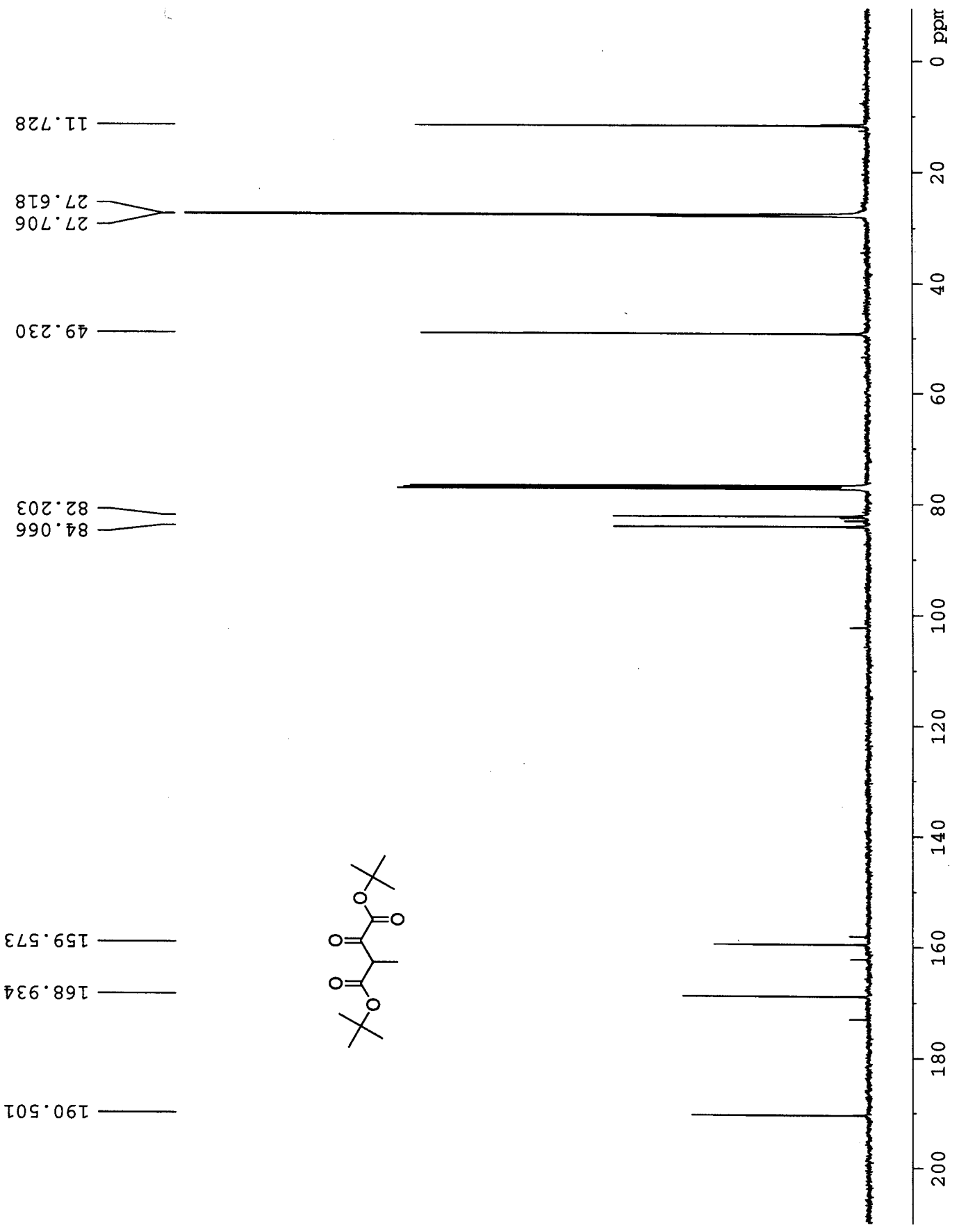
(1) Kabala, G.; Martell, A. E. (1981) *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **103**, 7609-7615.



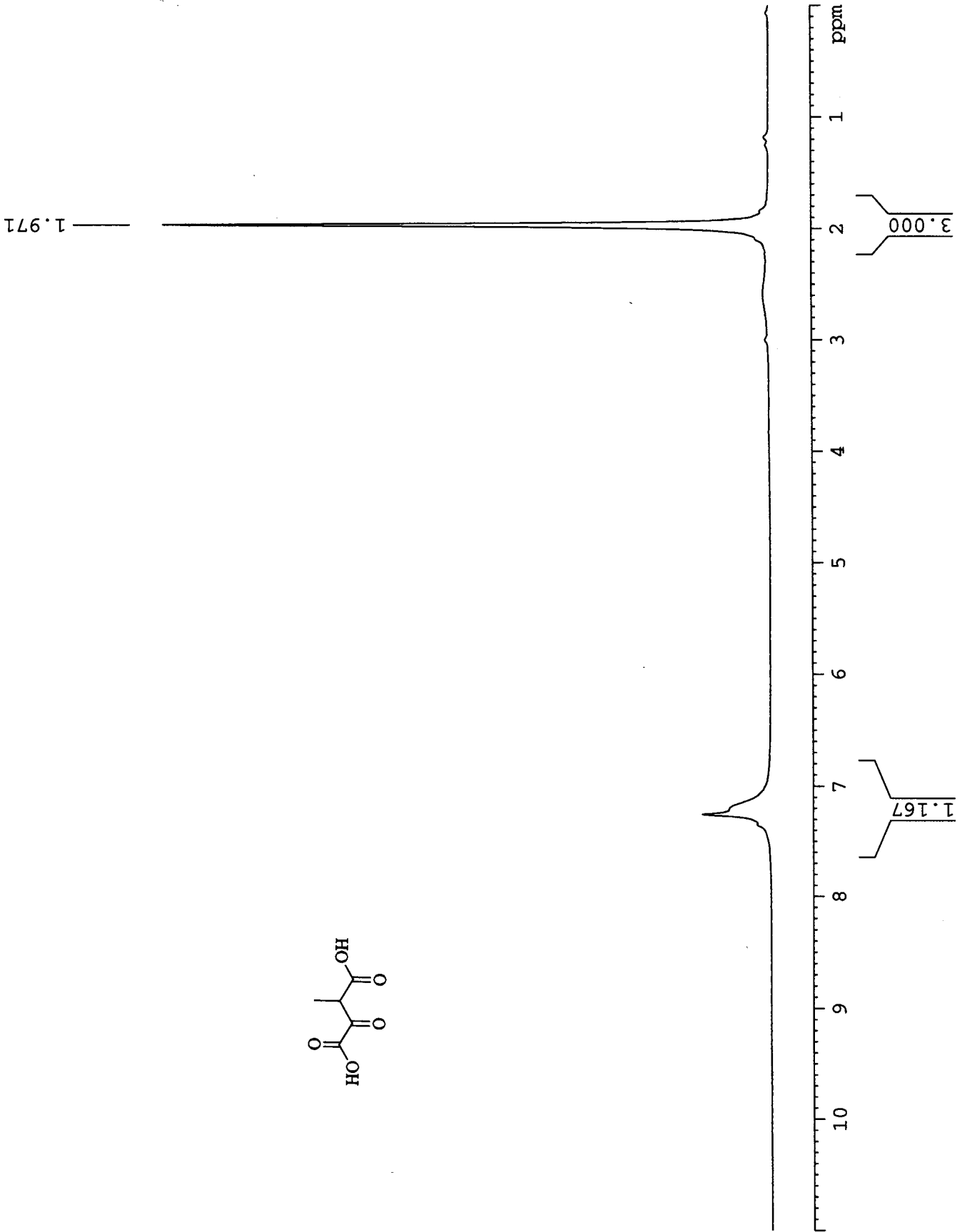
Acetopyruvate. A modification of the procedure described by Brecker *et al.* (2) was used. A solution of ethyl acetopyruvate (4.0 g, 0.025 mol) in methanol (50 mL) at 0 °C containing 5N NaOH (10 mL) was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. Filtration gave a precipitate which was washed with methanol (20 mL) and dissolved in 2 N H₂SO₄ (40 mL). The resulting solution was extracted with chloroform. The chloroform extract were dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford acetopyruvate as a yellow crystalline solid (1.7 g, 52 %). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) 2.26 (s, 3H), 6.45 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) 26.3, 100.7, 163.3, 169.8, 197.5. the spectroscopic data of this substance matched those previously reported (2).

- (2) Brecker, L., Pogorevc, M., Griengl H., Steiner, W., Kappe, T. and Ribbons, D.W. (1999) *New J. Chem.* **23**,437-446.

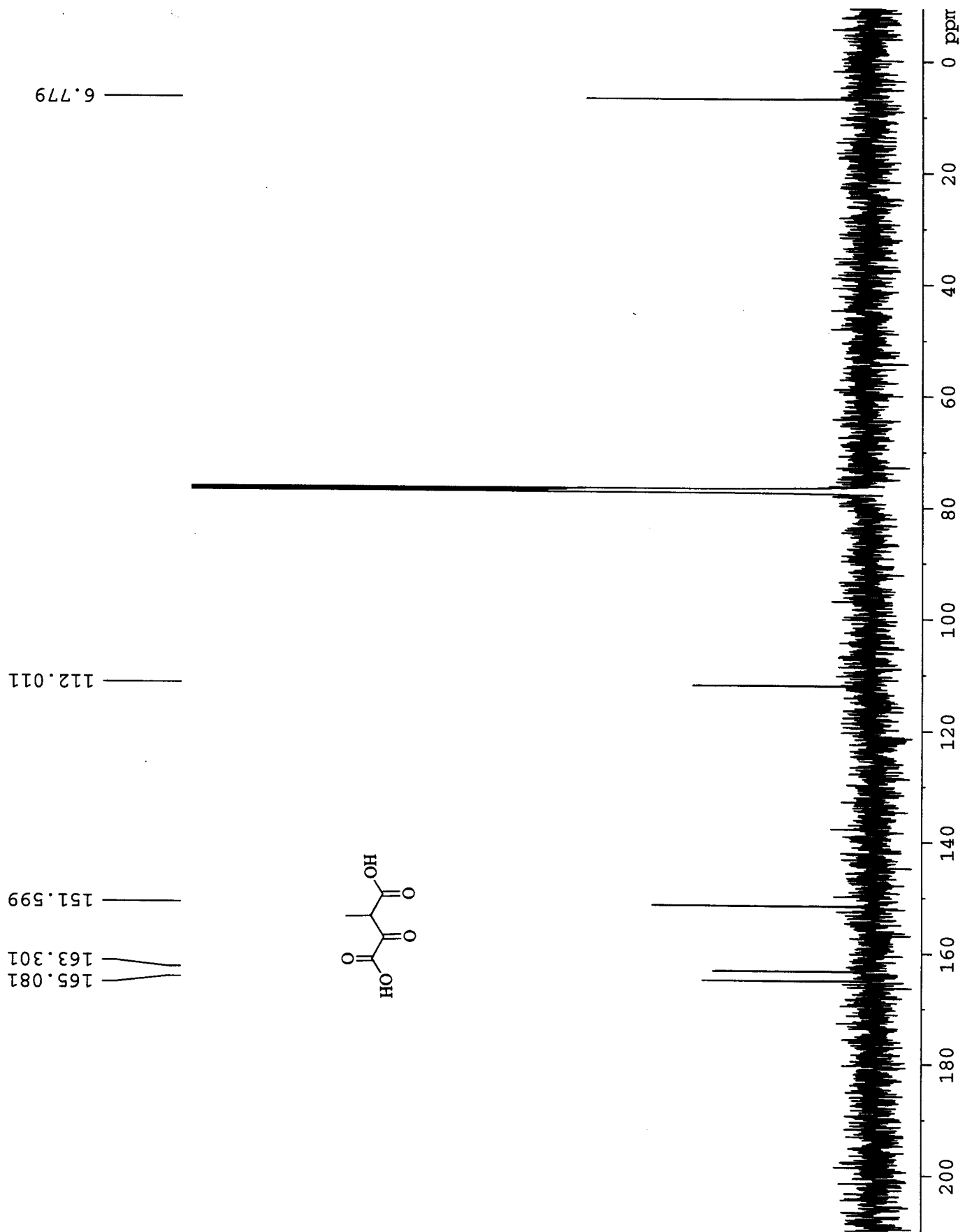




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