

# Synthesis of Antimicrobial Natural Products Targeting FtsZ: (+)-Totarol and Related Totarane Diterpenes

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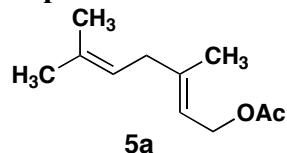
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## Supporting Information

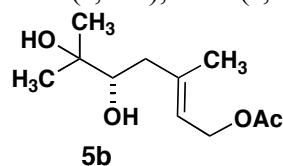
S1	<b>Materials and Instrumentation</b>
S2-S11	<b>Experimental Procedures</b>
S11	<b>References</b>
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**Materials:** Unless otherwise specified, all commercially available reagents were used as received. All reactions using dried solvents were carried out under an atmosphere of argon in flame-dried glassware with magnetic stirring. Dry solvent was dispensed from a solvent purification system that passes solvent through two columns of dry neutral alumina.

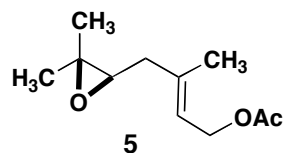
**Instrumentation:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra and proton-decoupled <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained on a 300 or 400 MHz Varian NMR spectrometer. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) relative to residual solvent (CHCl<sub>3</sub>, s,  $\delta$  7.26). Multiplicities are given as: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), dd (doublet of doublets), m (multiplet), br m (broad multiplet), br s (broad singlet). <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts are reported relative to CDCl<sub>3</sub> (t,  $\delta$  77.0) unless otherwise noted. High resonance mass spectra were recorded on positive ESI mode in methanol or acetonitrile. Melting points were taken on an EZ-melting apparatus and were uncorrected. Infrared spectra were taken on a Bruker Tensor 27 spectrometer. Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry data was recorded on a GCMS-QP 2010 Shimadzu spectrometer. Silica gel chromatographic purifications were performed by flash chromatography with silica gel (Silicycle, 40–63  $\mu$ m) packed in glass columns. The eluting solvent for each purification was determined by thin layer chromatography (TLC) on glass plates coated with EMD silica gel 50 F254 and visualized by ultraviolet light or by staining KMnO<sub>4</sub> stain followed by gentle heating. Optical rotations were obtained on a Rudolph AUTOPOL IV polarimeter at a wavelength of 589 nm using a 1.0 dm cell. Specific rotations are reported in degrees per decimeter at 23 °C and the concentrations are given in grams per 100 mL of solvent. Solvents used for optical rotations were EtOH (100%) and CHCl<sub>3</sub> (stabilized with 0.5% - 1% EtOH, then filtered through basic alumina). Chiral HPLC analysis was performed on a Shimadzu LC-20AB system with a Daicel CHIRALPAK® AS-H column (4.6 x 250 mm, 5  $\mu$ m) with a flow rate of 1.0 mL/min in isopropanol:hexane (97:3) and a Shimadzu SPD-M20A photodiode array detector was used. The following abbreviations are used throughout: ethyl acetate (EtOAc), hexanes (Hex), dichloromethane (DCM), triethylamine (TEA).

**Experimental:**

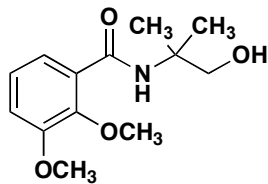
**3,7-Dimethyl-2,6-octadiene acetate (5a).**<sup>1</sup> To a flask containing geraniol (4.0 g, 26 mmol) was added DCM (260 mL). Triethylamine (7.9 g, 78 mmol, 10.9 mL) was added followed by addition of acetic anhydride (6.6 g, 65 mmol, 6.1 mL). A catalytic amount of DMAP was added and the solution was allowed to stir overnight. The clear solution was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (50 x 2 mL) and the organic layer was collected and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. Purification was done via flash chromatography in 5 % EtOAc:Hex to give a clear oil (4.4 g, 87%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum matches those reported in the literature. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 5.31 (t, *J* = 7.2, 1H), 5.04 (t, *J* = 6.3, 1H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 7.2, 2H), 2.02-2.06 (m, 4H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.57 (s, 3H).



**(S,Z)-6,7-dihydroxy-3,7-dimethyloct-2-enyl acetate (5b).**<sup>2</sup> To **5a** (0.20 g, 1.0 mmol) was added *t*-BuOH and H<sub>2</sub>O (6:6 mL) at 0 °C. To this solution was added AD-mix α (1.0 g) and MeSO<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> (0.1 g, 1.0 mmol). The orange mixture was allowed to stir at 4 °C for 48 h. The reaction was quenched with solid Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> and was allowed to stir for 30 min then diluted with DCM (40 mL) and extracted with EtOAc, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> to give a clear oil. Purification was done via flash chromatography in 50 % EtOAc:Hex to give a clear oil (0.13 g, 57%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum matches those reported in the literature. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 5.39 (t, *J* = 7, 1H), 4.59 (t, *J* = 6.9, 2H), 3.34 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.8, 1H), 2.29 (dd, 1H), 2.10 (m, 1H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 1.59 (m, 1H), 1.45 (m, 1H), 1.23 (s, 3H), 1.14 (s, 3H).

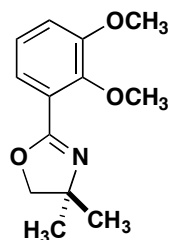


**(R,Z)-5-(3,3-dimethyloxiran-2-yl)-3-methylpent-2-enyl acetate (5).**<sup>2</sup> To a solution of **5b** in DCM (10 mL) at 0 °C, was added TEA and was stirred for 30 min. After 30 min, methanesulfonyl chloride was added and allowed to stir for 35 min. After 35 min, the solution was warmed to 23 °C then a second aliquot of TEA was added and stirred for an additional 30 min. Potassium carbonate (0.23 g, 1.7 mmol) in MeOH (7 mL) was added and stirred overnight. The mixture was filtered and diluted with EtOAc. The solvent was evaporated and dissolved in H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) and washed with EtOAc (30 mL) then dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> to give a clear oil (40 mg, 63%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum matches those reported in the literature. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 5.38 (t, *J* = 6.9, 1H), 4.58 (d, *J* = 6.9, 2H), 2.69 (t, *J* = 6.2, 1H), 2.14 (m, 2H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.63 (m, 2H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H).



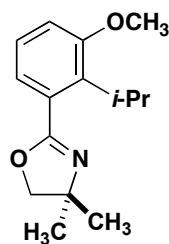
11

***N*-(1-hydroxy-2-methylpropan-2-yl)-2,3-dimethoxybenzamide (11).** In a flame-dried flask, 2,3-dimethoxybenzoic acid (0.2 g, 1.1 mmol) was dissolved in 5 mL of dry THF and the solution was cooled to 0 °C. To the solution was added TEA (0.12 g, 1.2 mmol, 0.16 mL) then isobutylchloroformate (0.16 g, 1.1 mmol, 0.15 mL). Upon the complete formation of the mixed anhydride, a solution of 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol (0.11 g, 1.2 mmol, 0.11 mL) in THF (5 mL) was added to the reaction. The reaction was monitored by TLC until completion. The reaction was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O then extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with brine, and then dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed *in vacuo* to give a white solid. Purification by column chromatography in 50% EtOAc:Hex and recrystallization in 40 % EtOAc afforded white needles (0.27 g, 98%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 8.24 (bs, 1H), 7.63 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 1.2, 1H), 7.14 (t, *J* = 2.9, 1H), 7.02 (dd, *J* = 6.4, 2.0, 1H), 3.88 (d, 6H), 3.67 (s, 2H), 1.38 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 165.7, 152.8, 147.4, 127.1, 124.6, 122.5, 115.6, 70.8, 61.4, 56.2, 56.1, 24.8; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 254.1392, found 254.1381. Melting Point: 88-90 °C.



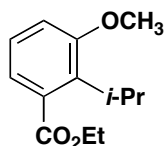
12

**2-(2,3-dimethoxyphenyl)-4,4-dimethyl-4,5-dihydrooxazole (12).** To **11** (0.21 g, 0.80 mmol) was added titanium isopropoxide (0.92 g, 3.2 mmol, 0.95 mL) and heated at 150 °C for 24 h then allowed to cool to 23 °C. To it 3-(dimethylamino)-1,2-propane diol (0.14 g, 0.70 mmol, 0.14 mL) was added and allowed to stir for 30 min to complex with the metal. A solution of EtOAc:H<sub>2</sub>O (4 : 4 mL) was added producing a white precipitate that was allowed to stir for 1 h. The reaction mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The collected solvent was filtered through a plug of silica and MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and the solvent was removed *in vacuo* to give a white solid (0.14 g, 75%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.28 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (t, *J* = 8.1, 1H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.8, 1H), 4.11 (s, 2H), 3.85 (two s, 6H), 1.38 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 161.8, 153.5, 148.9, 124.0, 123.4, 122.8, 115.3, 79.5, 67.5, 61.6, 56.4, 28.5, 21.3; IR (thin film) 2968, 1743, 1652, 1581 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 236.1287, found 236.1292. Melting Point: 48-50 °C.



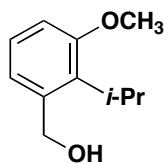
13

**2-(2-isopropyl-3-methoxyphenyl)-4,4-dimethyl-4,5-dihydrooxazole (13).** To a flame-dried flask, **12** (0.24 g, 1.0 mmol) was dissolved in dry ether (10 mL). Isopropyl magnesium chloride (2.0 M in ether, 2.6 mL, 5.2 mmol) was added dropwise, and the orange solution was allowed to stir for 1 h. The reaction was quenched by adding H<sub>2</sub>O (8 mL) dropwise followed by 10 % HCl (4 mL). The solution was extracted with DCM (3 x 15 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and the solvent was removed *in vacuo* to give a clear oil. (0.24 g, 93%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.14 (m, 2H), 6.93 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.8, 1H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.8, 1H), 4.17 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.26 (m, 1H), 1.43 (s, 6H) 1.30 (two s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 165.9, 159.0, 136.1, 128.1, 126.9, 122.5, 114.2, 80.2, 67.1, 55.6, 30.6, 28.2, 21.0; IR (thin film) 2962, 1654 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 248.1651, found 248.1649.



14

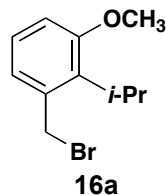
**Ethyl-2-isopropyl-3-methoxybenzoate (14).** In a microwave tube was added **13** (1.0 g, 4.1 mmol) in 5 mL of 10% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> in EtOH. The solution was heated at 160 °C for 1 h. After cooling to 23 °C the ethanol was evaporated from the biphasic solution *in vacuo*. The resulting oil was carefully neutralized with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted with DCM (3 x 15 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. Flash chromatography in 10 % EtOAc:Hex gave a light yellow oil. (0.54 g, 60%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.17 (m, 2H), 4.33 (q, *J* = 7.2, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.36 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.26 (m, 1H), 1.43 (s, 6H) 1.30 (two s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 165.9, 159.0, 136.1, 128.1, 127.0, 122.5, 114.2, 80.2, 67.1, 55.6, 30.6, 28.2, 21.0; IR (thin film) 2957, 2916, 1718 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 223.1334 found 223.1328.<sup>4</sup>



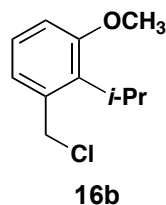
15

**(2-isopropyl-3-methoxyphenyl)methanol (15).** In a flame-dried flask was added LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (0.17 g, 4.6 mmol) in dry ether (4 mL). To the flask, a solution of **14** (0.25 g, 1.1 mmol) in dry ether (12 mL) was added dropwise at 0 °C. After addition, the mixture was allowed to reach 23 °C and stirred for 1 h. The reaction was quenched slowly with an equal mixture of EtOAc:H<sub>2</sub>O (12

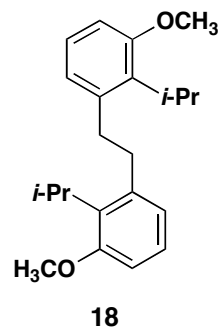
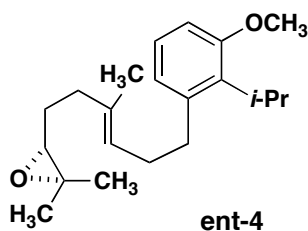
mL) and the precipitate was filtered. The resulting solution was extracted with EtOAc, collected, and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo* as a colorless oil (0.19 g, 90%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.15 (t, *J* = 8, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 4.67 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.32 (m, 1H), 1.85 (s, 6H) 1.36 (two s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 159.3, 139.2, 126.8, 121.4, 111.9, 64.5, 55.5, 28.5, 21.1; IR (thin film) 3289, 2950, 2832, 1581, 1451 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 181.1229 found 181.1237.



**1-(bromomethyl)-2-isopropyl-3-methoxybenzene (16a).** To a flask containing **15** (90 mg, 50 mmol) was added dry DCM (2 mL). Phosphorus tribromide (49 mg, 18 mmol, 17 μL) was added to the solution dropwise at 0 °C. The solution was allowed to stir for 2 h, and then quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with DCM (3 x 15 mL). The organic layer was washed with water, NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, brine, and dried over NaSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue was filtered through a small plug of silica with 100 % Hexane. The solvent was removed to give a white solid (0.11 g, 89%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.11 (t, *J* = 6, 1H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 6, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 6, 1H), 4.53 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.33 (m, 1H), 1.38 (two s, 6H); IR (thin film) 2924, 1579, 1257, 740 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrO (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 243.0385 found 243.0373.

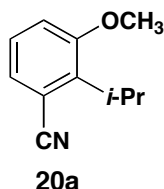


**1-(chloromethyl)-2-isopropyl-3-methoxybenzene (16b).** To a flask containing **15** (0.21 g, 1.2 mmol) was added dry DCM (5 mL). To it was added thionyl chloride (0.21 g, 1.8 mmol, 1.3 mL) at 0 °C and was allowed to stir for 3 h. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*. Purification via flash chromatography in 5 % EtOAc:Hex yielded a white crystals (0.18 g, 78%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.13 (t, *J* = 8, 1H), 6.87 (t, *J* = 6.6, 2H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.33 (m, 1H), 1.36 (two s, 6H); IR (thin film) 2924, 1581, 1255, 742 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClO, (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 199.0889 found 199.0878.

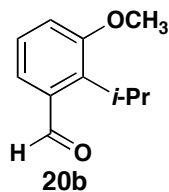


**Ent-(4)**. In a flame-dried flask was added magnesium turnings (11 mg, 0.46 mmol) in dry THF (13 mL). One drop of 1,2-dibromoethane was added and stirred vigorously. Once the magnesium was activated **16** (0.11 g, 0.46 mmol) in dry ether (1 mL) was added dropwise. The enantiomer of epoxyacetate **5** (65 mg, 0.31 mmol) in dry THF (3mL) was added to 10 mol% CuCN (2.7 mg, 0.03 mmol) and cooled to 0 °C. The Grignard **6a** was added to the epoxyacetate dropwise and stirred for 3 h. Sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl was added (1 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The solvent was collected and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and purified via flash column chromatography 5 % EtOAc:Hex yield a colorless oil (33 mg, 34%). The NMR spectrum of **ent-4** matched exactly with the spectrum of **4**. The Wurtz coupled product **18** was isolated as a white solid. GC-MS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, (M)<sup>+</sup> 326 found 326.

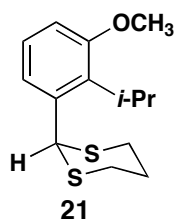
### Synthetic Route 2:



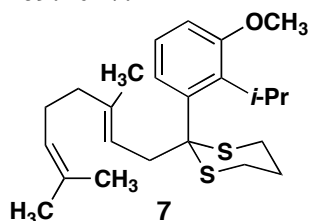
**2-isopropyl-3-methoxybenzonitrile (20a)**. To a stirred solution of nitrile **19** (1.8 g, 11 mmol) in dry ether (100 ml), was added *i*-PrMgCl (2.0 M in ether, 22 mL, 43 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C. The orange solution was warmed to 23 °C and allowed to stir for 4 h. The reaction was cooled to 0 °C and quenched carefully with H<sub>2</sub>O. The solution was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 35 mL) and the organic layer was extracted with 10 % HCl (2 x 25 mL). The solution was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The crude material was purified using flash chromatography in 20 % EtOAc:Hex to give a clear yellowish oil. (1.8 g, 94%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.20 (t, *J* = 7.8, 1H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.5, 1H), 7.04 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.5, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.54 (m, 1H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 159.4, 140.3, 127.6, 125.5, 118.9, 115.6, 112.6, 55.8, 31.1, 20.8.



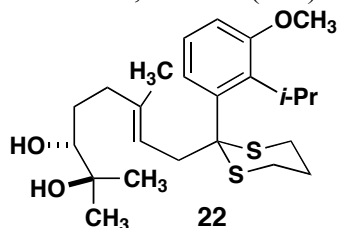
**2-isopropyl-3-methoxybenzaldehyde (20b)**. In a flame-dried flask purged with argon was added **20a** (1.3 g, 7.4 mmol) dissolved in dry toluene (30 mL). The solution was cooled to -78 °C, and to it was added DIBALH (1.0 M in Hexane, 8.2 mL, 8.2 mmol) dropwise. After 1 h, the reaction was poured into a slurry of ice and 10 % glacial acetic acid (100 mL) and stirred for 30 min, then filtered through Celite. The mixture was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> then the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified using flash column chromatography in 10 % EtOAc:Hex and isolated as a clear oil. (1.2 g, 87%): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 10.45 (s, 1H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.2, 1H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 4.03 (m, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 192.8, 159.1, 139.2, 135.6, 127.1, 122.5, 116.6, 55.8, 26.2, 21.7, 20.8; IR (thin film) 2958, 1695, 1577, 1452, 1253 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



**2-(2-isopropyl-3-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-dithiane (21).** To a slurry of **20b** (1.2 g, 6.5 mmol) in glacial acetic acid (5 mL) at 0 °C was added 1,3-propanedithiol (0.97 mL, 1.1 g, 9.7 mmol) and  $\text{BF}_3\text{-OEt}_2$  (2.7 mL, 3.0 g, 21.3 mmol). After 5 min, a white precipitate began to form. The solid was filtered then recrystallized with acetic acid to give a white solid. (1.7 g, 85%):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 7.21 (d,  $J = 6.9$ , 1H), 7.15 (t,  $J = 8.0$ , 1H), 6.81 (dd,  $J = 7.8$ , 1.2, 1H), 5.44 (s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.56 (bs, 1H), 3.09 (td,  $J = 15.3$ , 12, 2.3, 2H), 2.90 (dt,  $J = 14.1$ , 7.5, 4.2, 2H), 2.18 (m, 1H), 1.97, (m, 1H), 1.39 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 158.9, 137.8, 134.1, 127.6, 127.2, 121.3, 55.6, 49.9, 33.1, 33.7, 28.3, 25.6, 21.5, 20.9; IR (thin film) 2947, 1693, 1577, 1449, 1253  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{21}\text{OS}_2$ , ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  269.1034 found 269.1017.

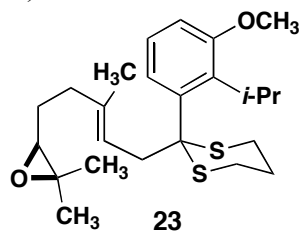


**(E)-2-(3,7-dimethylocta-2,6-dienyl)-2-(2-isopropyl-3-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-dithiane (7).** Dithiane **21** (1.3 g, 4.8 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (30 mL) and cooled to 0 °C and to it was added *n*-BuLi (2.15 mL, 5.3 mmol, 2.5 M THF). The resulting orange solution was stirred for 40 min, and then geranyl bromide **8** (1.4 g, 1.3 mL) was added dropwise. The solution turned light yellow upon addition and was allowed to stir. When the reaction was complete by TLC, the solution was quenched with  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ , and then extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL). The organic layer was collected and dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. Purification using flash chromatography in a gradient of 100 Hex - 5 % EtOAc gave a clear oil (1.5 g, 78%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 7.66 (d,  $J = 8.1$ , 1H), 7.12 (t,  $J = 8.0$ , 1H), 6.85 (d,  $J = 8.1$ , 1H), 5.03 (t,  $J = 7.8$ , 1H), 4.96 (t,  $J = 7.8$ , 1H), 4.24 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.02 (d,  $J = 6.6$ , 2H), 2.79 (t,  $J = 5.6$ , 4H), 1.95 (m, 6H), 1.65 (s, 6H), 1.55 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 161.0, 138.7, 137.9, 136.6, 131.4, 125.4, 124.6, 124.5, 119.2, 111.7, 59.6, 55.4, 40.7, 39.9, 29.2, 28.6, 26.7, 25.9, 24.9, 20.2, 17.9, 16.9; IR (thin film) 2912, 1738, 1574, 1431, 1248  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{37}\text{OS}_2$ , ( $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ) $^+$  405.2286 found 405.2277.

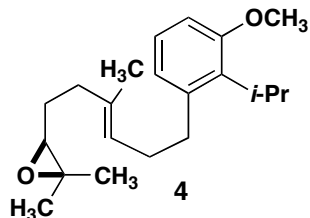


**(R,E)-8-(2-(2-isopropyl-3-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-dithiane-2-yl)-2,6-dimethyloct-6-ene-2,3-diol (22).** The coupled product **7** (3.7 g, 9.3 mmol) was taken up in *t*-BuOH:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (125 mL each) and cooled to 0 °C. Admix- $\beta$  (11.1 g, 2.55 eq.) was added to the solution followed by  $\text{MeSO}_3\text{NH}_2$  (0.88 g, 9.3 mmol). The orange suspension was stirred vigorously at 4 °C for 48 h. The active

oxidizer was quenched with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub> (8 g) and stirred for 30 min. The mixture was diluted with water and DCM, and extracted with DCM (3 x 150 mL). The combined extracts were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. Purification using flash chromatography in 20 % EtOAc:Hex yielded a clear oil (3.44 g, 83%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.66 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.2, 1H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 8.3, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 7.5, 1H), 5.07 (t, *J* = 6.5, 1H), 4.20 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.29 (m, 1H), 3.00 (m, 2H), 2.78 (m, 4H), 2.32 (d, *J* = 4.8, 1H), 2.23 (s, 1H), 2.11 (t, *J* = 6.8, 2H), 1.93 (m, 2H), 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.36 (m, 1H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 161.1, 138.6, 137.9, 136.5, 125.6, 124.3, 120.3, 111.8, 77.4, 72.9, 59.9, 55.4, 40.6, 36.9, 29.2, 28.8, 28.7, 28.6, 26.5, 24.9, 23.6, 20.3, 20.2, 16.6; IR (thin film) 3400, 2914, 1573, 1429, 1247 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>39</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>, (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 439.2341 found 439.2328; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> + 9.96 (c 2.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).



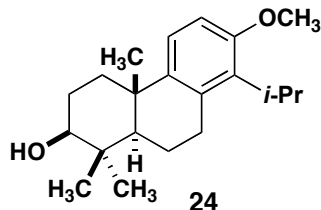
**(*S,E*)-3-(5-(2-(2-isopropyl-3-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-dithian-2-yl)-3-methylpent-3-enyl)-2,2-dimethyloxirane (23).** A solution of **22** (3.4 g, 7.85 mmol) in dry DCM (90 mL) was cooled to 0 °C and to it was added TEA (1.9 g, 2.6 mL). The solution was allowed to stir for 5 min, and then methanesulfonyl chloride (1.8 g, 0.73 mL) was added dropwise. The solution was warmed to 23 °C and stirred for 1.5 h and then a second portion of TEA (0.95 g, 1.3 mL) was added. The solution was stirred for another 2 h, and then the solvent was evaporated. The resulting solid was taken up in MeOH (150 mL) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (3.3 g, 23 mmol) and allowed to stir overnight. The suspension was filtered through celite and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was taken was diluted with water and DCM, and extracted with DCM (3 x 150 mL). The combined extracts were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. Purification using flash column chromatography in 20 % EtOAc gave a pale yellow oil (2.62 g, 79 %). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.1, 1H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 8.1, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.1, 1H), 5.02 (t, *J* = 6.9, 1H), 4.22 (m, 1H), 3.02 (s, 3H), 3.01 (d, *J* = 6.6, 2H), 2.78 (t, *J* = 5.1, 4H), 2.68 (t, *J* = 6.3, 1H), 2.06 (m, 2H), 1.91 (m, 2H), 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.54 (m, 2H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.21 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 161.0, 138.6, 137.1, 136.5, 125.5, 124.5, 119.8, 111.7, 64.2, 59.5, 58.5, 55.4, 40.7, 36.6, 29.2, 28.6, 27.5, 25.2, 24.9, 20.2, 18.9, 16.9; IR (thin film) 2952, 2924, 1738, 1573, 1462 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>37</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>, (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 421.2235 found 421.2235; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> + 4.12 (c 0.9, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).



**(*S,E*)-3-(6-(2-isopropyl-3-methoxyphenyl)-3-methylhex-3-enyl)-2,2-dimethyloxirane (4).** To a stirred solution of **23** (0.88 g, 2.1 mmol) in dry toluene (12 mL) was added SnBu<sub>3</sub>H (1.8 g, 1.7 mL) and a catalytic amount of AIBN. The solution was heated to 90 °C for 2 h. The solvent was evaporated and the crude material was immediately purified using flash column chromatography in a gradient of 100 % Hex – 5 % EtOAc to give a clear oil (0.52 g, 77%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz,

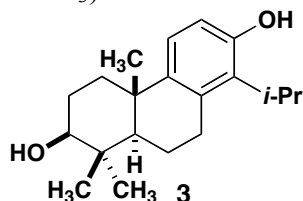


CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.07 (t,  $J = 7.8$ , 1H), 6.74 (d,  $J = 7.8$ , 2H), 5.29 (t,  $J = 6.8$ , 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.25 (m, 1H), 2.70 (m, 3H), 2.20 (m, 4H), 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.62 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 3H), 1.28 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 159.3, 140.9, 134.9, 134.2, 126.4, 124.6, 122.7, 109.8, 64.4, 58.5, 55.3, 36.5, 34.9, 30.6, 28.5, 27.7, 25.1, 21.1, 18.9, 16.2; IR (thin film) 2956, 2868, 1577, 1465, 1251 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>33</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 317.2481 found 317.2492;  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -3.23 (c 1.6, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

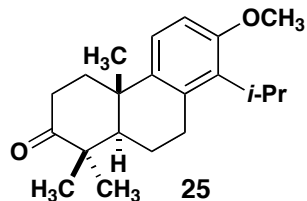


**(2S,4aS,10aR)-8-isopropyl-7-methoxy-1,1,4a-trimethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,9,10,10a-**

**octahydrophenanthren-2-ol (24).** In a flame-dried flask containing the dethiolated epoxide **4** (1.4 g, 2.5 mmol) dissolved in dry DCM (50 mL) was added InBr<sub>3</sub> (3.2, 8.9 mmol). The solution was allowed to stir for 2 h, and then quenched with a sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (20 mL). The two layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with DCM (3 x 40 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the crude material was purified by flash column chromatography in 20 % EtOAc:Hex to yield a white solid (0.82 g, 58 %). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.10 (d,  $J = 8.8$ , 1H), 6.74 (d,  $J = 8.8$ , 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.31 (bm, 2H), 3.00 (dd,  $J = 17, 6.8$ , 1H), 2.78 (m, 1H), 2.30 (dt,  $J = 13.2, 6.8, 3.2$ , 1H), 1.92 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.68 (m, 4H), 1.67 (bs, 1H), 1.54 (ddd,  $J = 17.6, 12.8, 4.8$ , 1H), 1.31 (t,  $J = 7.2$ , 6H), 1.22 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H), 0.91 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 156.7, 142.5, 133.6, 123.0, 109.8, 78.9, 55.3, 49.3, 39.0, 38.0, 37.7, 29.3, 28.4, 28.3, 27.9, 25.5, 20.6, 19.4, 15.6; IR (thin film) 3331, 2939, 1589, 1477, 1259, 1031 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>33</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 317.2481 found 317.2476;  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  +26.2 (c 0.95, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

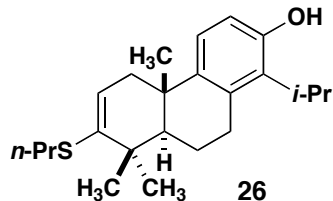


**(2S,4aS,10aR)-8-isopropyl-1,1,4a-trimethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,9,10,10a-octahydrophenanthrene-2,7-diol (3).** Into a flame-dried flask containing dry DCM (5 mL) was added AlBr<sub>3</sub> (0.46 g, 1.7 mmol) and PrSH (1 mL). The protected totarodiol **24** (0.18 g, 0.58 mmol) was dissolved in dry DCM (5 mL) and added to the solution. The reaction was stirred for 2 h and then MeOH was added until the solution was clear of precipitates. A 10% HCl solution (10 mL) was added then extracted with DCM (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic layers was collected and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The crude material was purified using flash column chromatography in 10% EtOAc:Hex to give a white solid (0.13 g, 75%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 6.97 (d,  $J = 8.4$ , 1H), 6.53 (d,  $J = 8.7$ , 1H), 5.17 (s, OH), 3.33 (m, 2H), 3.00 (dd,  $J = 6.0$ , 1H), 2.79 (m, 1H), 2.27 (d,  $J = 12.9$ , 1H), 1.97-1.68 (m, 6 H), 1.53 (ddd,  $J = 17.1, 12.3, 4.8$ , 1H), 1.36 (q,  $J = 7.2, 2.7$ , 6H), 1.20 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H), 0.91 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 152.6, 142.3, 134.0, 131.3, 123.2, 114.6, 79.2, 49.3, 39.0, 37.9, 37.7, 29.3, 28.4, 28.3, 27.6, 25.4, 20.5, 19.4, 15.6;  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  +25.9 (c 0.38, EtOH).



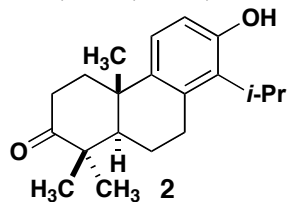
**(4aS,10aR)-8-isopropyl-7-methoxy-1,1,4a-trimethyl-3,4,4a,9,10,10a-**

**hexahydrophenanthren-2(1H)-one (25).** Fresh Jones reagent was prepared by the addition of CrO<sub>3</sub> (0.28 g, 2.8 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (0.18 g, 1.8 mmol) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1.8 mL). In a separate flask, protected totarodiol **24** (0.44 g, 1.4 mmol) was dissolved in acetone (10 mL) and cooled to 0 °C. The Jones reagent was added dropwise to **24**, and was allowed to stir for 30 min. The reaction was quenched with 2-propanol (10 mL) and then extracted with EtOAc (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* to give a white solid (0.33 g, 74%). The solid was taken to the next step without purification; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.7, 1H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 8.7, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.29 (m, 1H), 3.06 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 5.1, 1H), 2.84-2.46 (m, 4H), 1.90 (m, 4H), 1.34 (s, 9H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 1.16 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 217.5, 156.9, 140.5, 133.6, 124.0, 110.1, 55.3, 50.1, 47.4, 38.6, 37.5, 35.1, 29.3, 27.9, 27.0, 25.1, 21.4, 20.8, 20.7, 20.6; IR (thin film) 2950, 1705, 1590, 1480, 1260 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>31</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 315.2324 found 315.2319; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> +74.2 (c 0.58, EtOH).



**(4bS,8aR)-1-isopropyl-4b,8,8-trimethyl-7-(propylthio)-4b,5,8,8a,9,10-**

**hexahydrophenanthre-2-ol (26).** To a flame-dried flask was added protected totarolone **25** (0.33 g, 1.0 mmol) in dry DCM (10 mL). PrSH (1.5 mL) was added to the solution followed by AlBr<sub>3</sub> (0.83 g, 3.1 mmol). After 30 min, MeOH was added and the solution was washed with 10 % HCl. The reaction was extracted with DCM and the combined organic layers were washed with brine, and then dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and material was purified by flash column chromatography in 5 % EtOAc:Hex, to yield a light yellow oil (0.22 g, 72%); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.00 (d, *J* = 6.9, 1H), 6.58 (d, *J* = 8.1, 1H), 5.61 (d, *J* = 22, 1H), 4.91 (s, 1H), 3.34 (m, 1H), 3.02 (d, *J* = 16.2, 1H), 2.72 (m, 3H), 2.58 (dd, *J* = 18.3, 6.6, 1H), 2.21 (d, *J* = 1.8, 1H), 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.73-1.64 (m, 4H), 1.37 (d, *J* = 7.2, 6H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.23 (s, 3H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 1.04 (t, *J* = 7.2, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 152.4, 142.6, 140.5, 134.6, 130.9, 124.7, 121.8, 115.1, 49.2, 42.5, 39.9, 36.9, 35.9, 30.6, 29.6, 27.6, 25.4, 22.4, 21.2, 21.1, 20.6, 20.5, 14.0;



**(4aS,10aR)-7-hydroxy-8-isopropyl-1,1,4a-trimethyl-3,4,4a,9,10,10a-hexahydrophenanthren-2(1H)-one (2).**

**Method 1:** Totarathiol **26** (0.22 g, 0.623 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH (17.3 mL) and 5% HCl (8.7 mL). The solution was heated at 70 °C for 24 h. The light yellow solution was cooled to 23 °C then the MeOH was removed *in vacuo*. The aqueous layer was washed with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and then extracted with ether. The solvent was removed and the crude material was purified using flash column chromatography (5% EtOAc:Hex) to give totarolone as a white solid (0.14 g, 75%).

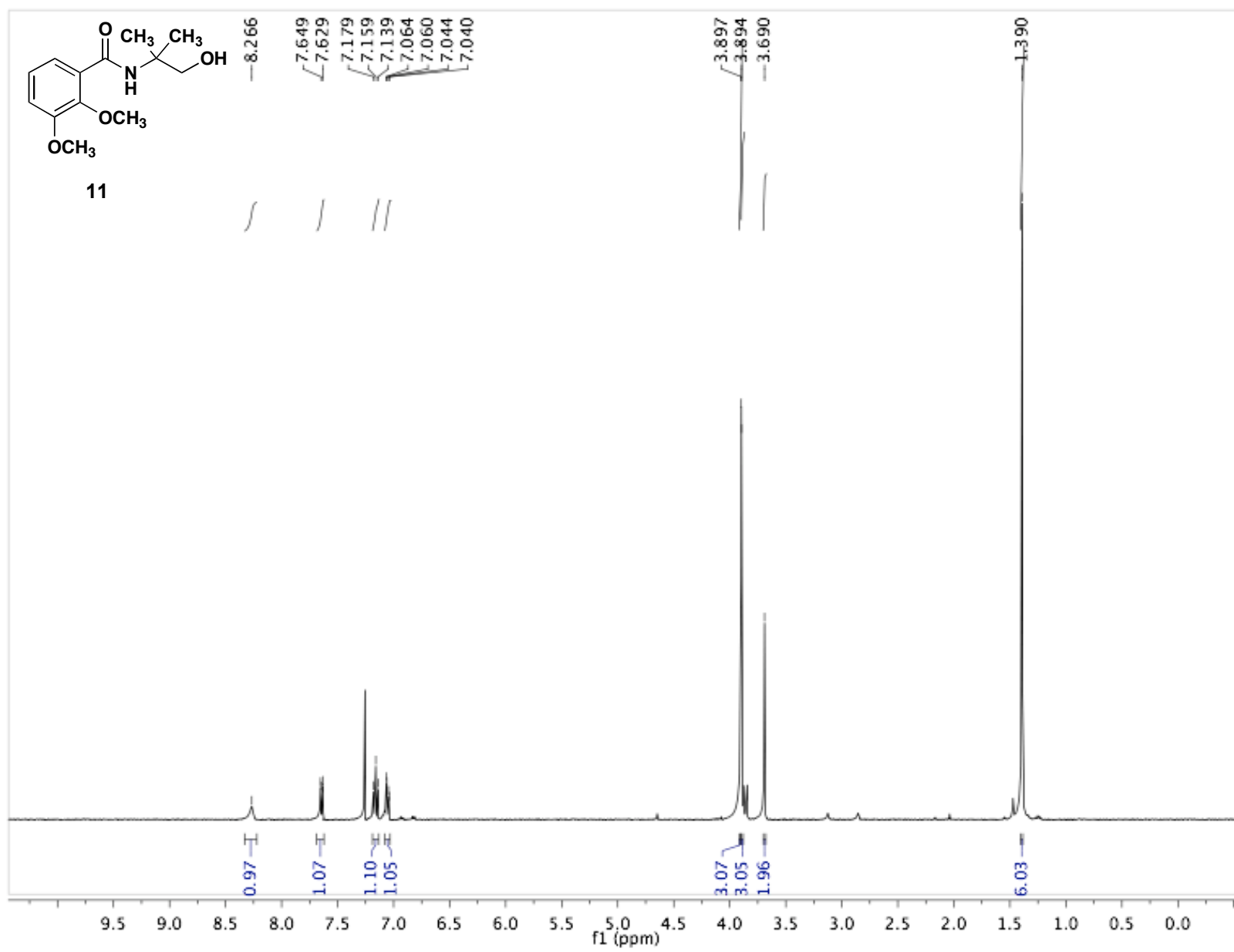
**Method 2:** In dry toluene (20 mL) was dissolved totarodiol **3** (0.13 g, 0.43 mmol). To the flask was added aluminum isopropoxide (0.45 g, 2.2 mmol) followed by cyclohexanone (1.7 g, 17.3 mmol, 1.8 mL). The solution was heated to 150 °C for 3 h then cooled to 23 °C. The lemon yellow solution was concentrated and the crude material was purified by flash column chromatography in 20 % EtOAc:Hex to give totarolone as a white solid (43 mg, 33%).

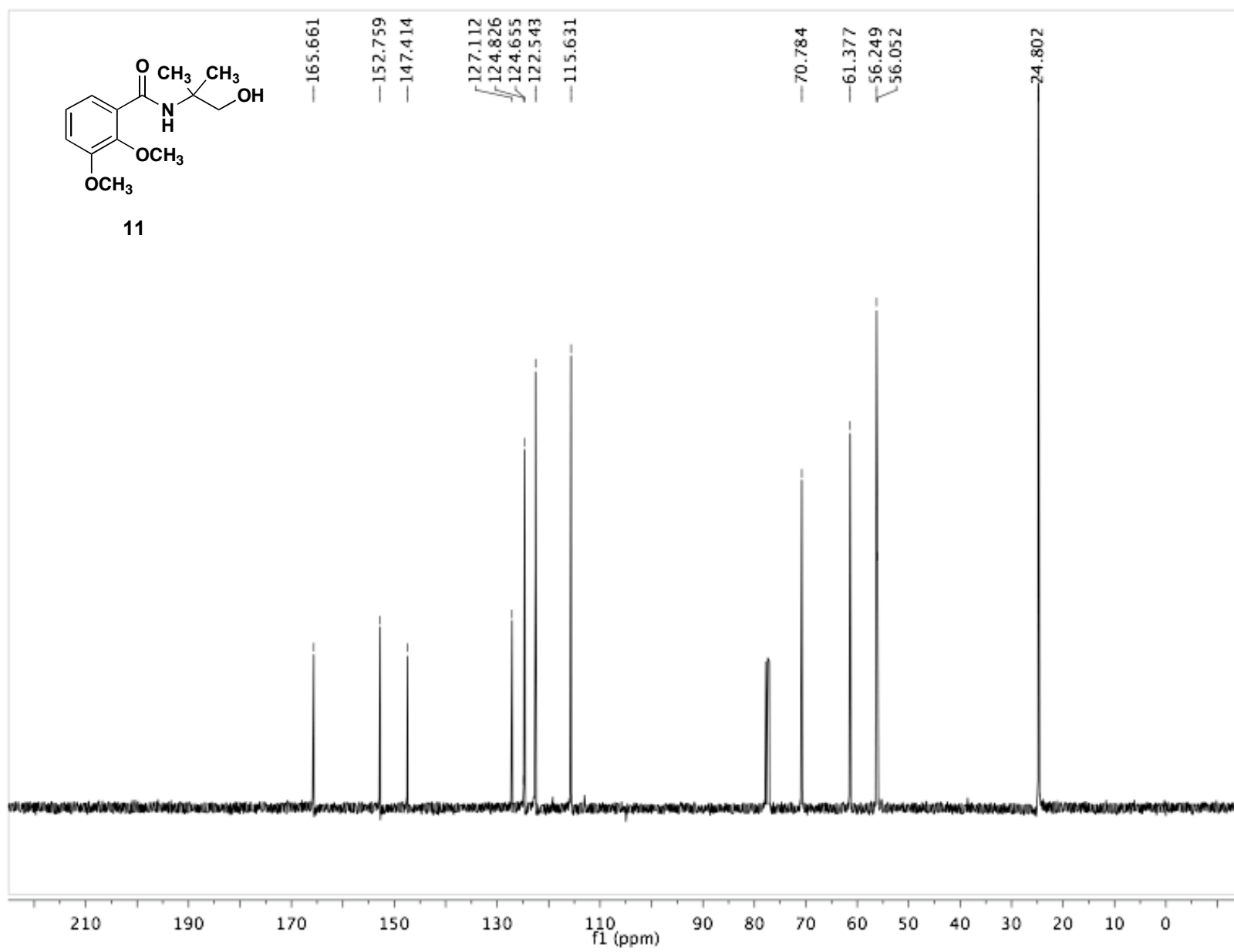
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 6.57 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 4.97 (s, 1H), 3.28 (m, 1H), 3.04 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 5.1, 1H), 2.69 (m, 3H), 2.42 (m, 1H), 1.87 (m, 3H) 1.72 (m, 1H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.17 (s, 3H), 1.14 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 218.3, 152.7, 140.4, 134.0, 131.3, 124.2, 115.0, 50.0, 47.5, 38.5, 37.5, 53.0, 29.2, 27.6, 27.0, 25.1, 21.3, 20.7, 20.6, 20.5; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> +93.2 (c 0.42, EtOH).

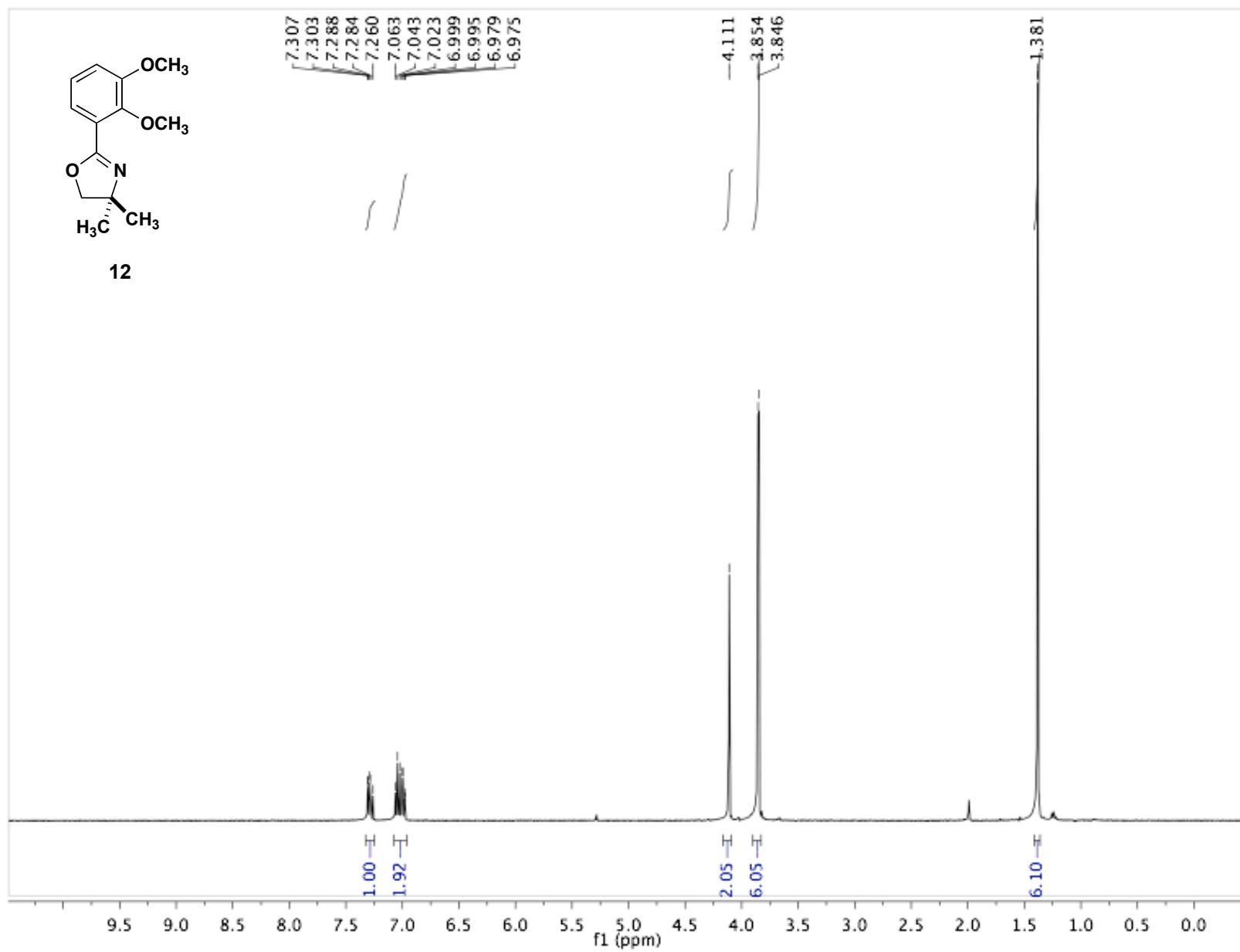
**Totarol (1).** Ketone **2** (9.8 mg, 0.03 mmol) was dissolved in diethylene glycol (1 mL) and to it was added KOH (0.02 g, 0.36 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>NNH<sub>2</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O (0.2 mL, 4.3 mmol, 64%). The reaction was heated at 200 °C overnight. The dark yellow solution was then cooled and then water (10 mL) was added. The solution was then extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL) and the combined organic layers were washed with brine then dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* and purified using flash column chromatography (5 % EtOAc:Hex) to yield a white solid (4.3 mg, 50%); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.7, 1H), 6.51 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 4.41 (s, 1H), 3.29 (m, 1H), 2.93 (dd, *J* = 16.5, 6.3, 1H), 2.78 (m, 1H), 2.23 (d, *J* = 12.6, 1H), 1.91 (m, 1H), 1.74-1.56 (m, 4H), 1.46 (d, 1H), 1.34 (q, *J* = 6.6, 2.7, 6H), 1.27 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 1.17 (s, 3H), 0.94 (s, 3H), 0.91 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 143.4, 134.2, 131.2, 123.2, 114.5, 104.9, 49.8, 41.8, 39.8, 37.9, 33.5, 33.48, 33.46, 28.9, 27.3, 25.4, 21.8, 20.6, 19.7, 19.6; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> +36 (c 0.11, EtOH).

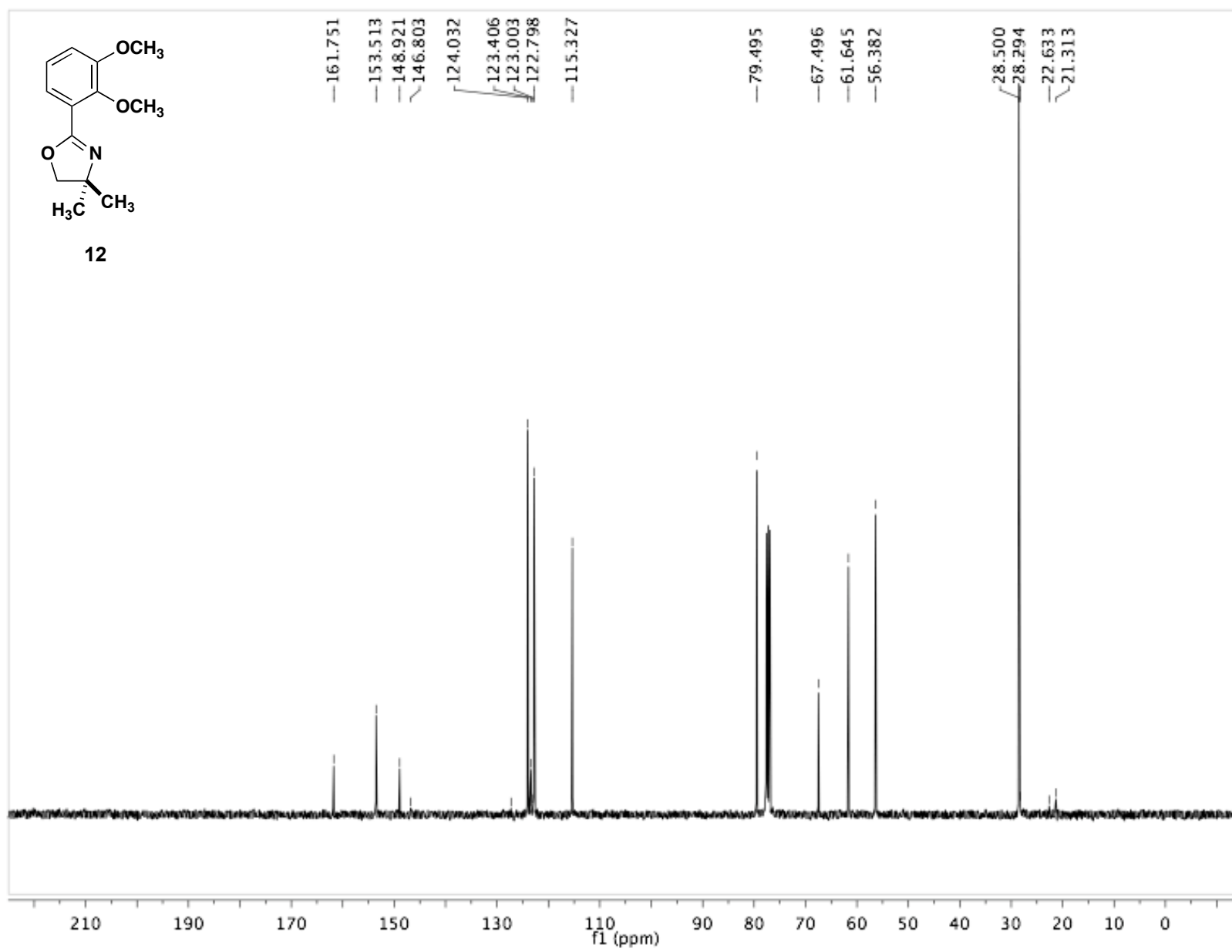
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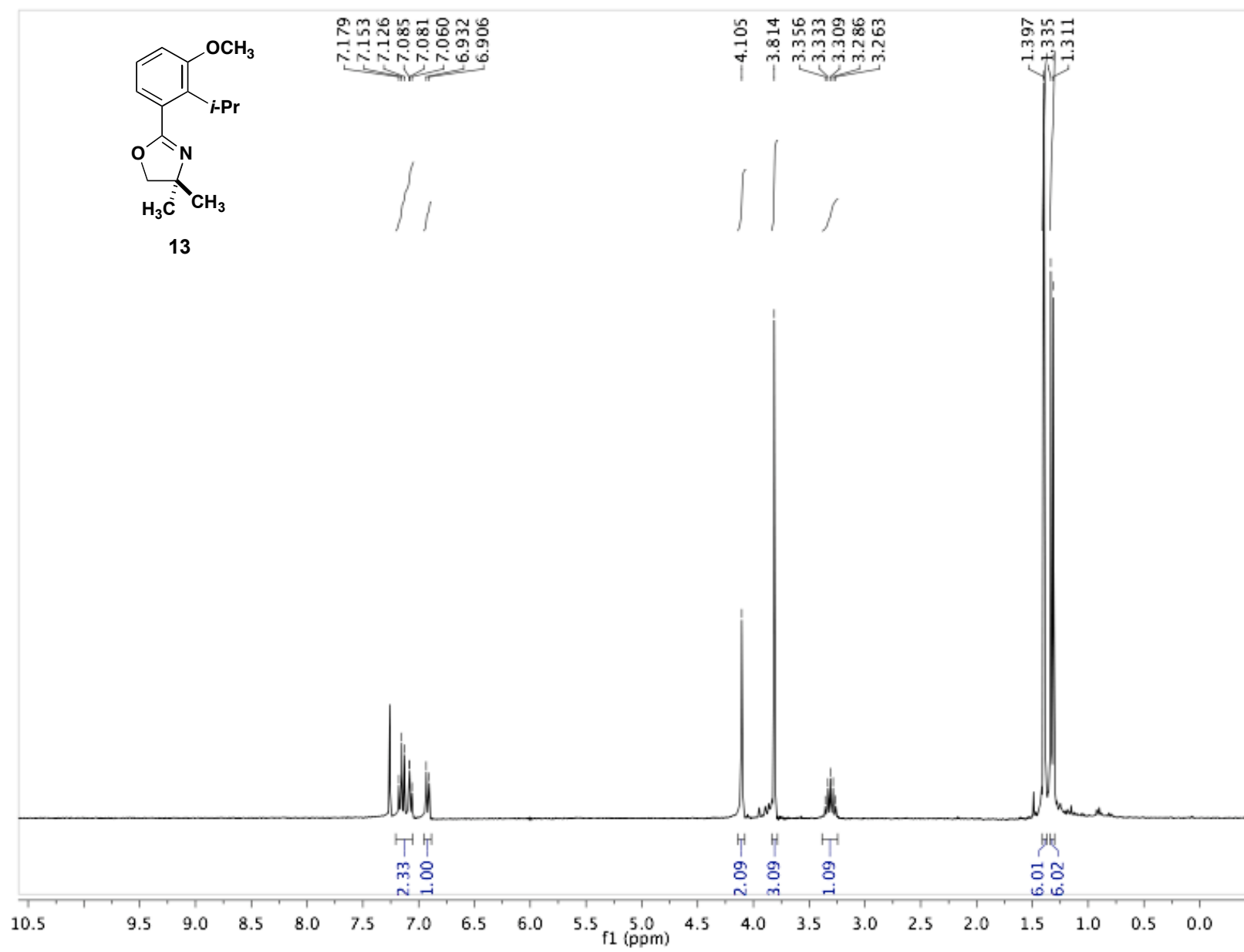
- 1) Felpin, F. X.; Lory, C.; Sow, H.; Acherar, S. *Tetrahedron* **2007**, *63*, 3010-3016.
- 2) Corey, E. J.; Noe, M. C.; Shieh, W. C. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1993**, *34*, 5995-5998.



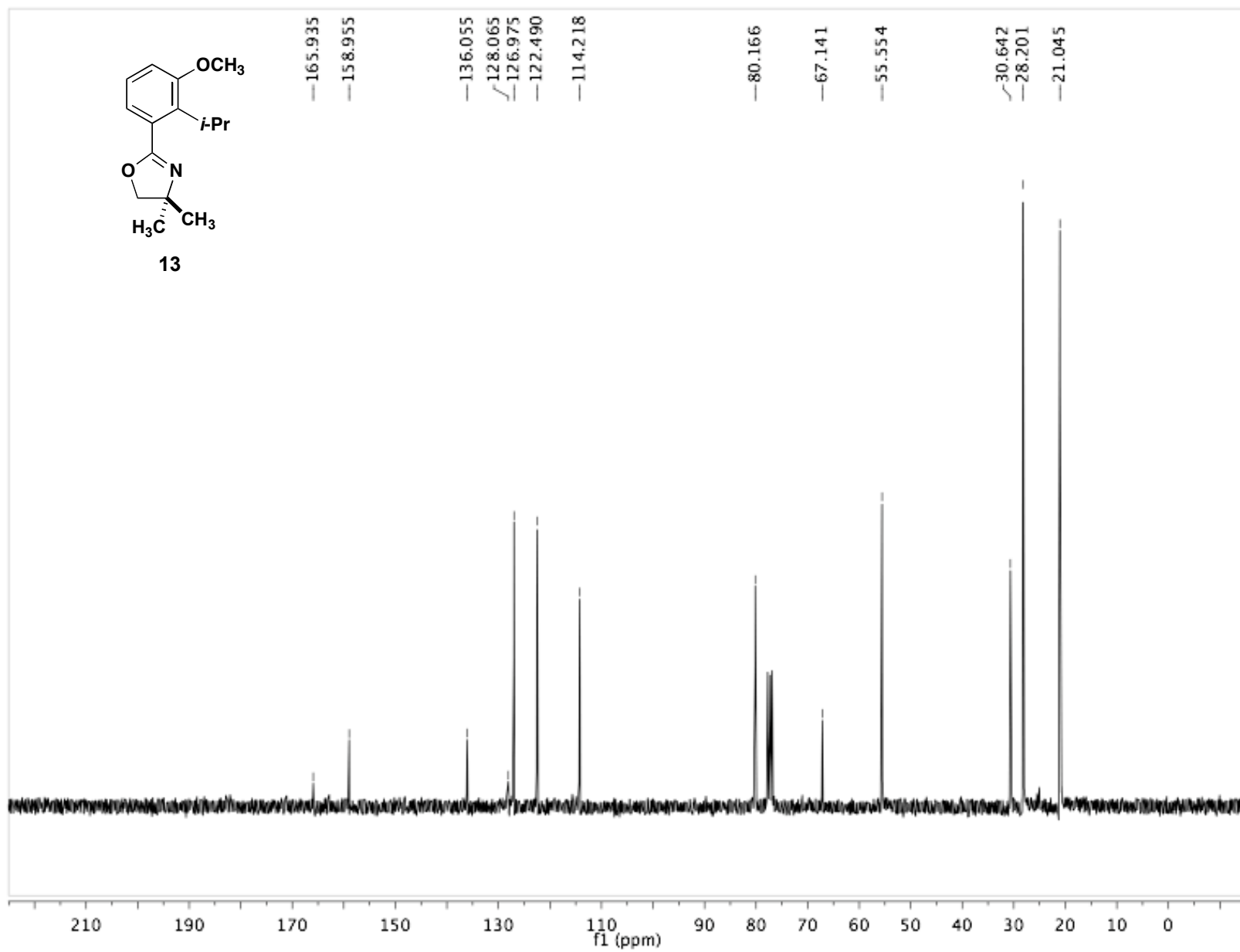


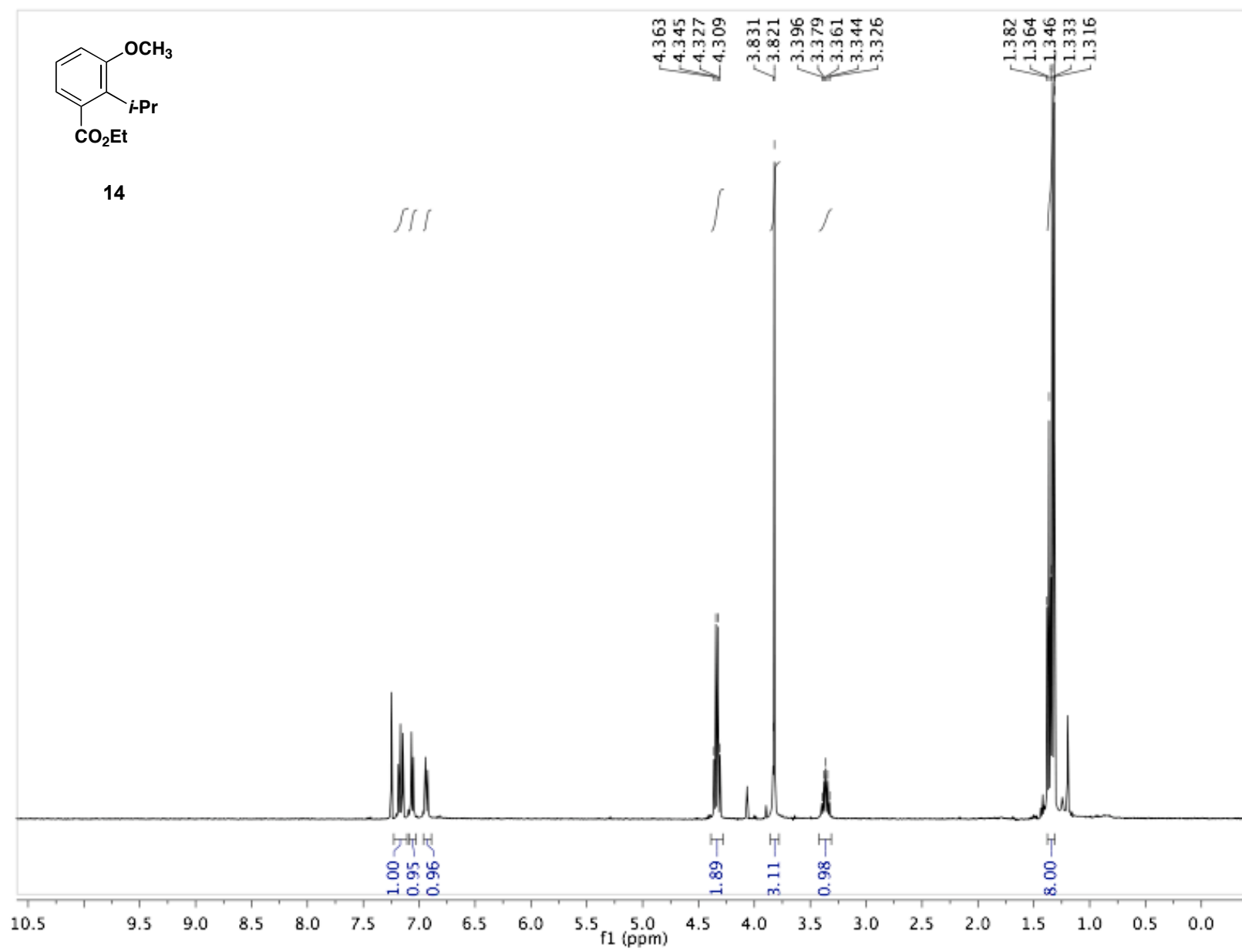


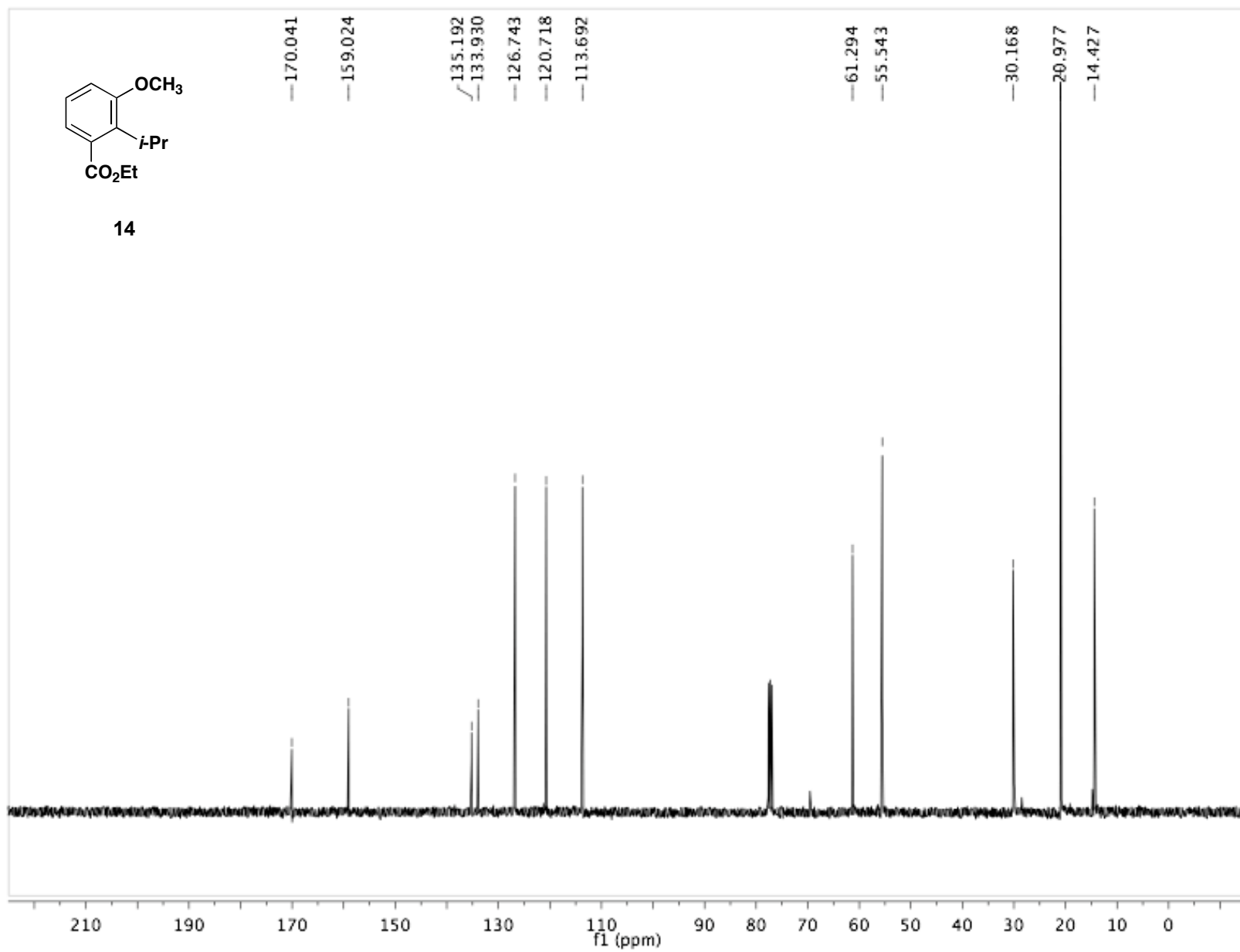


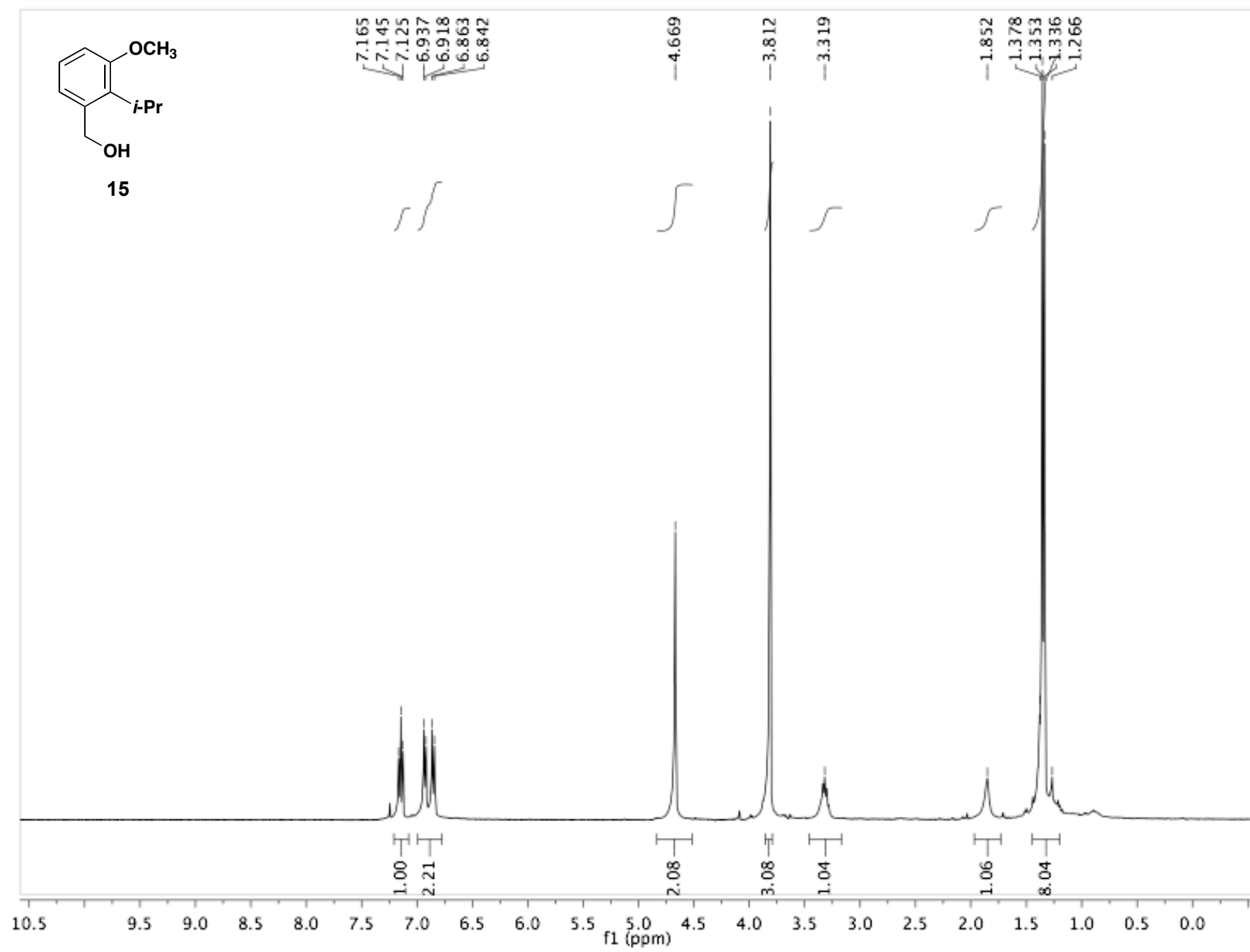


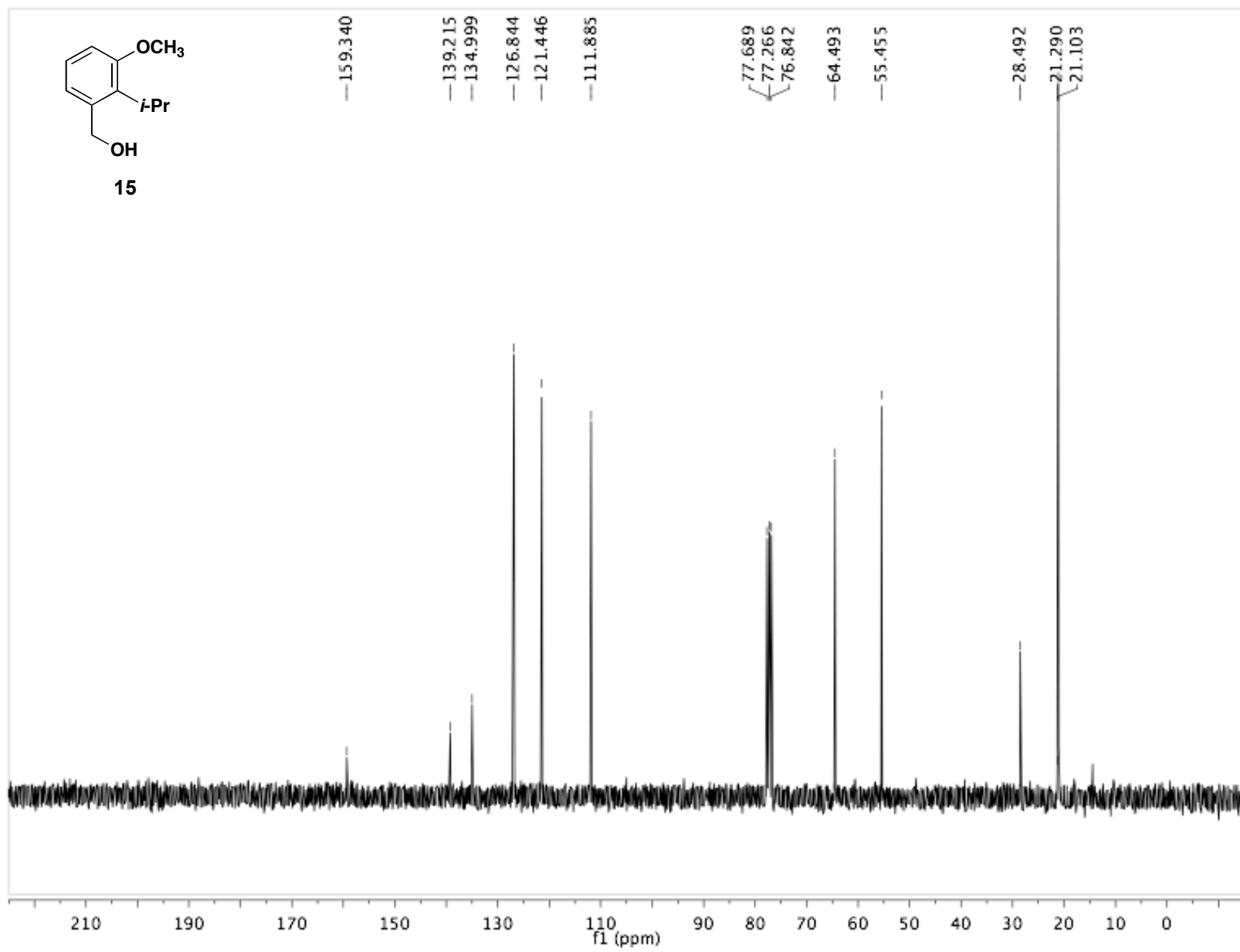


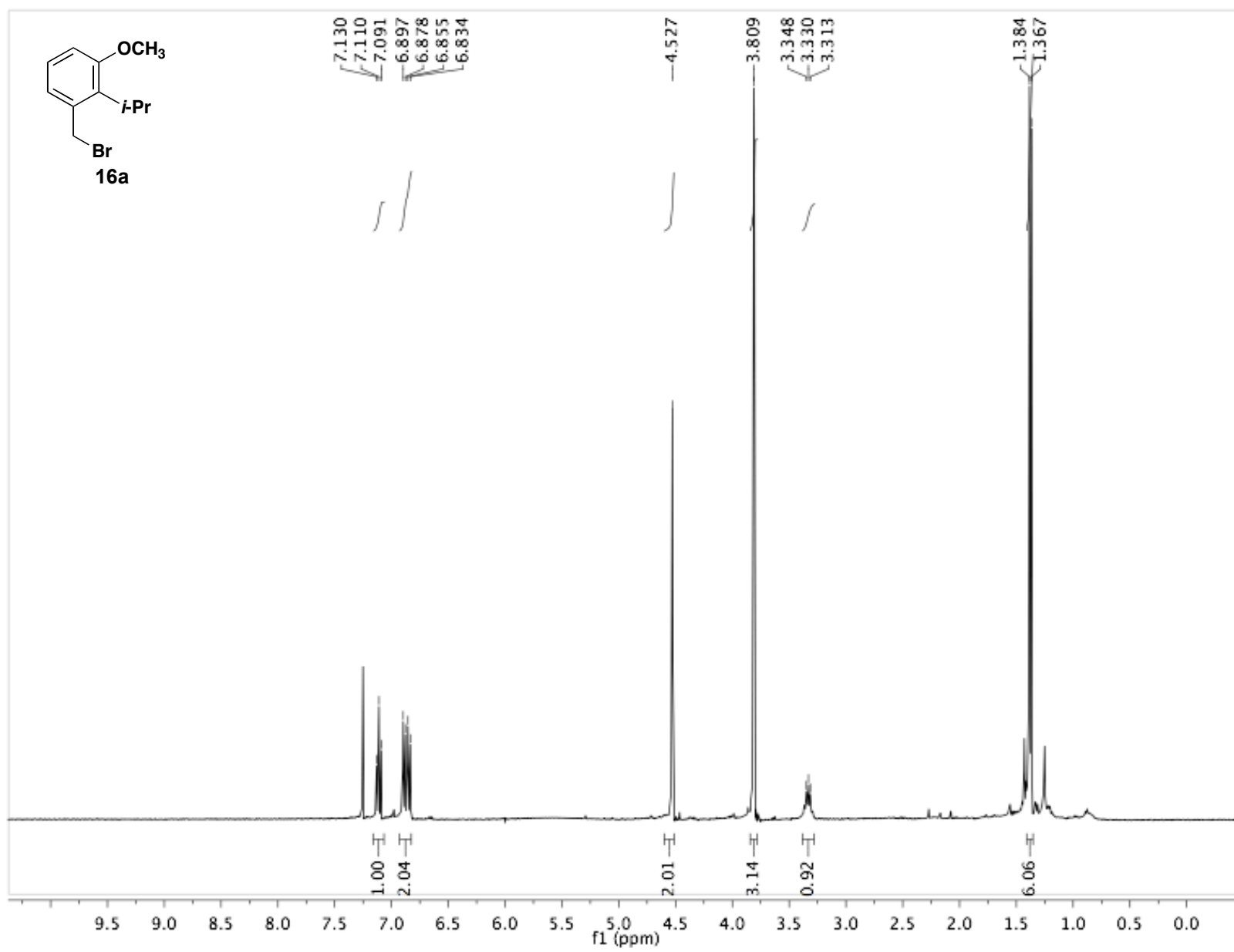


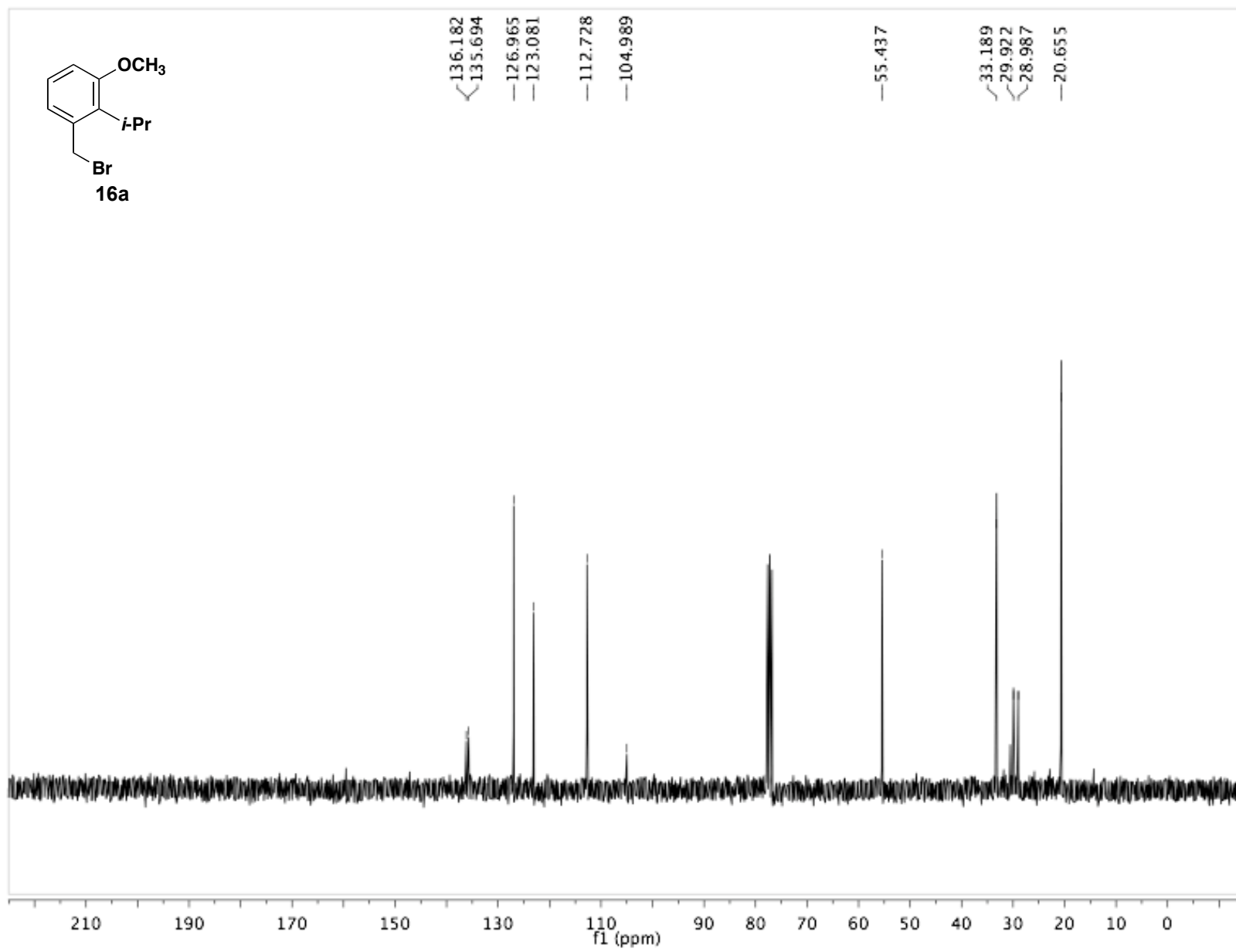


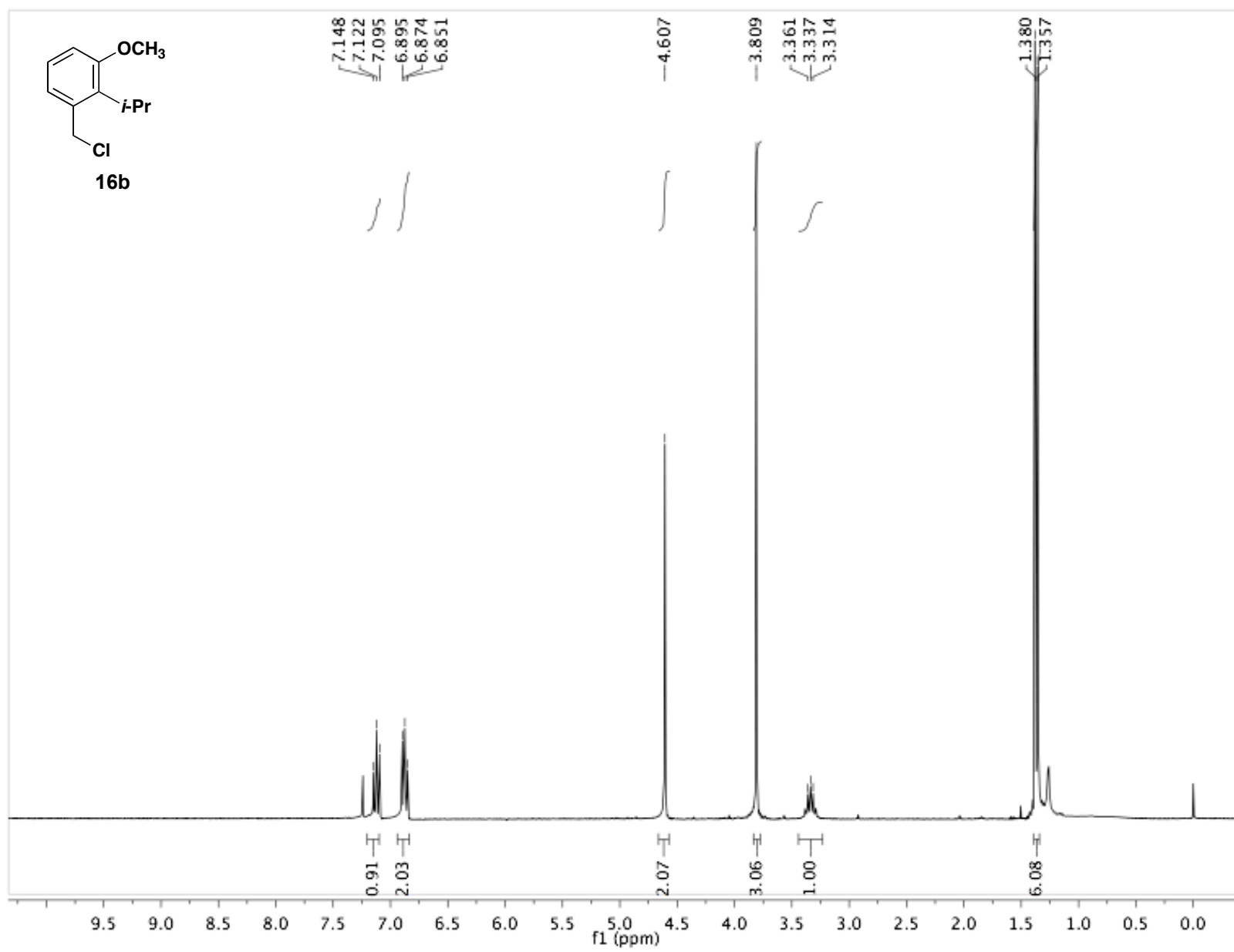




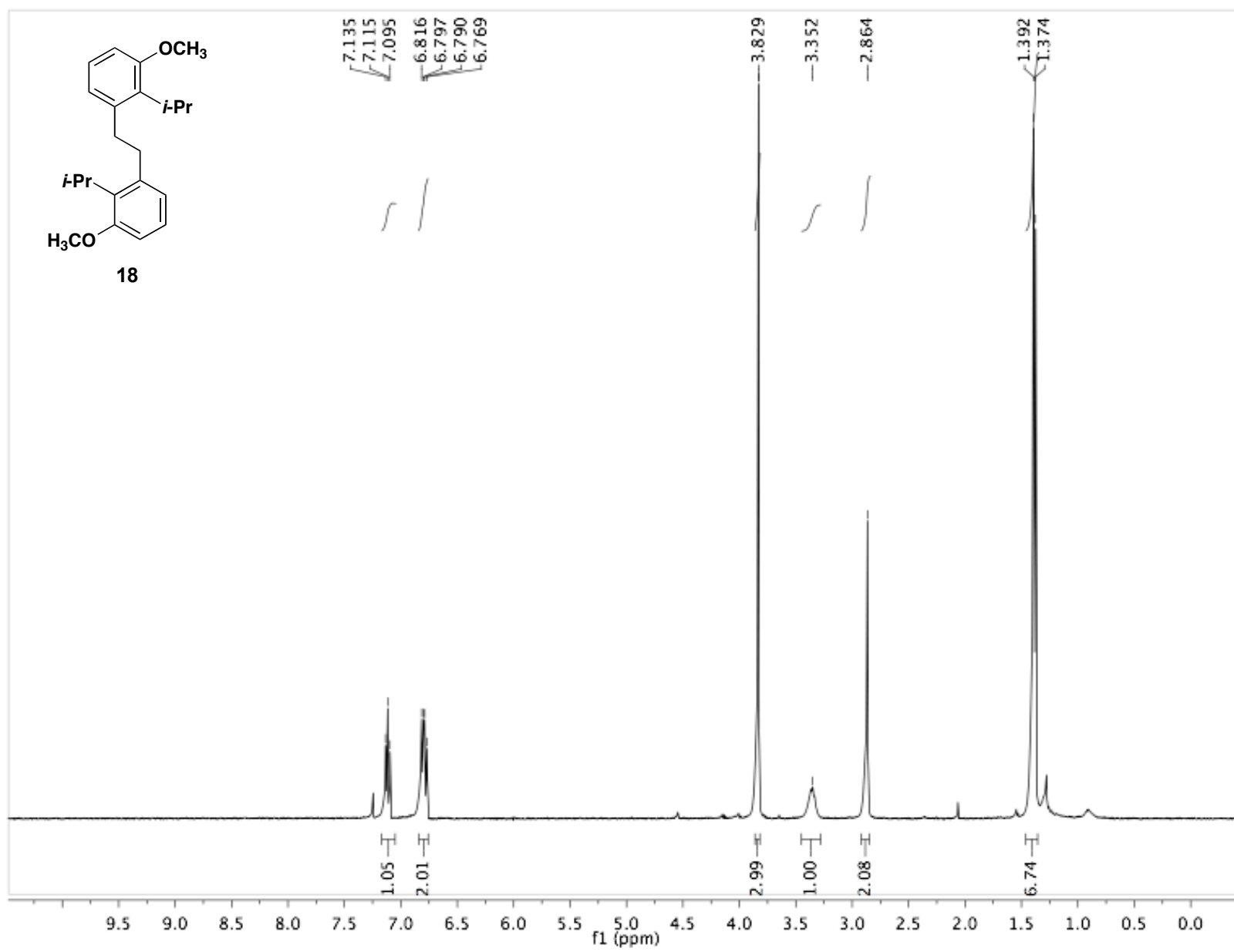


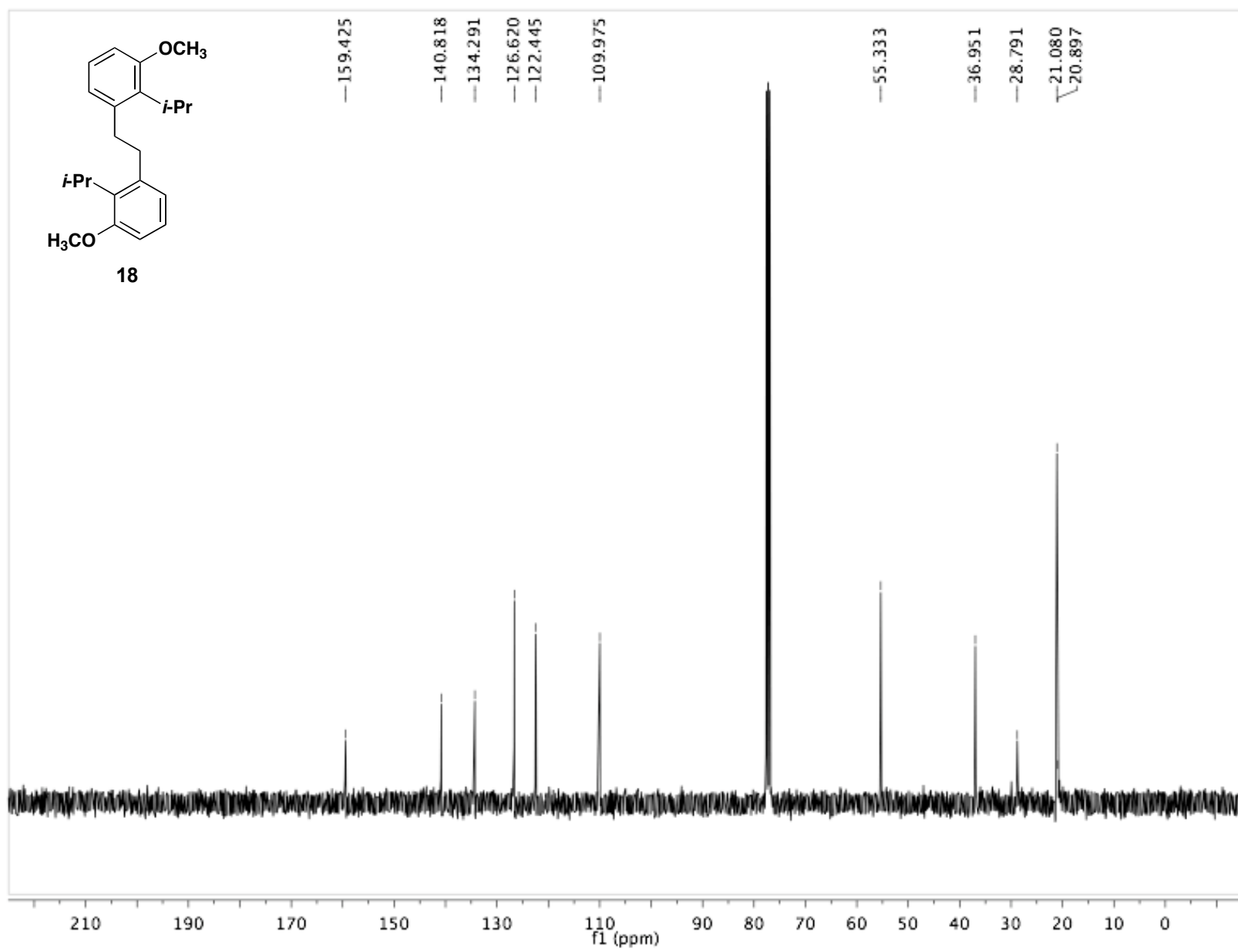


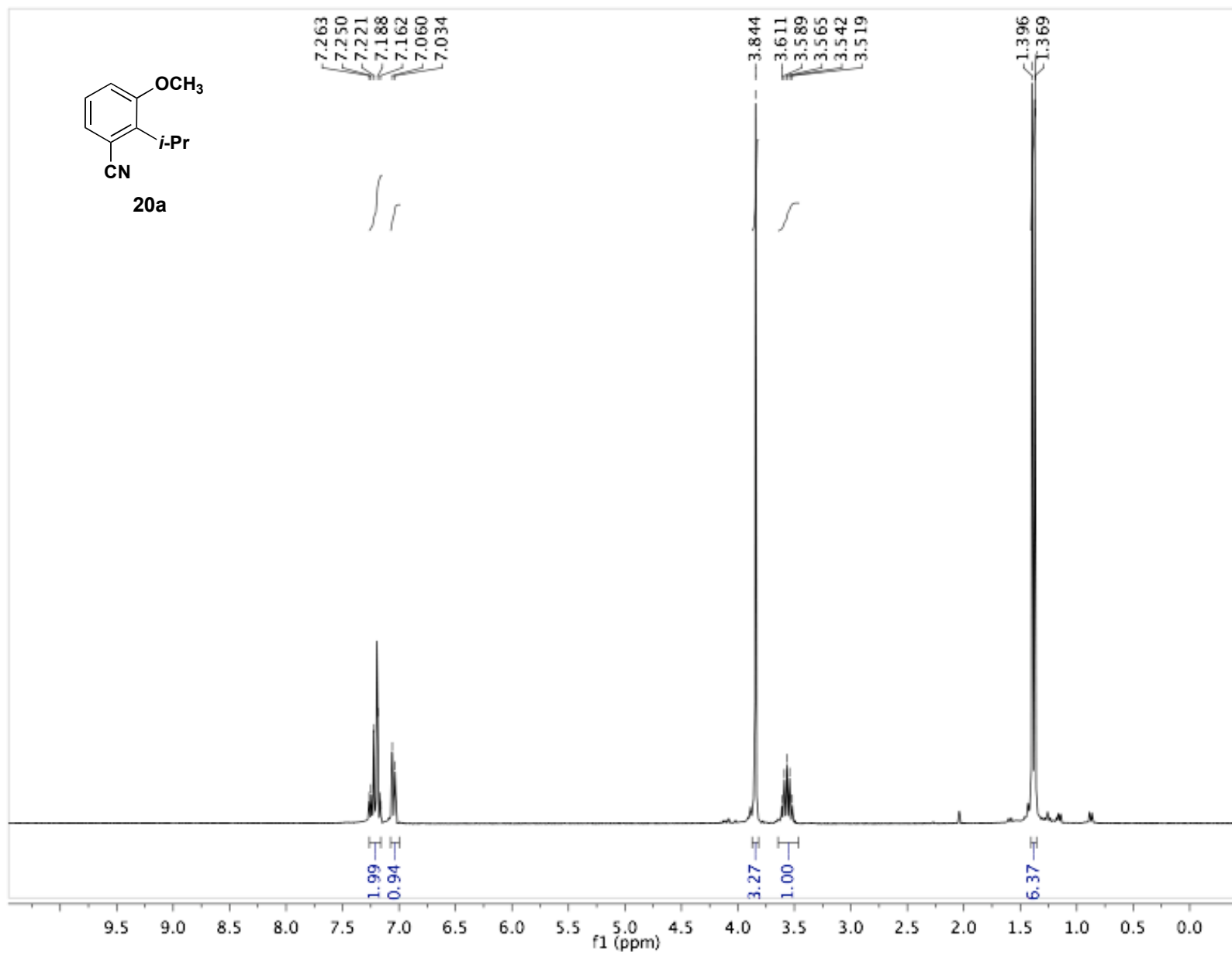


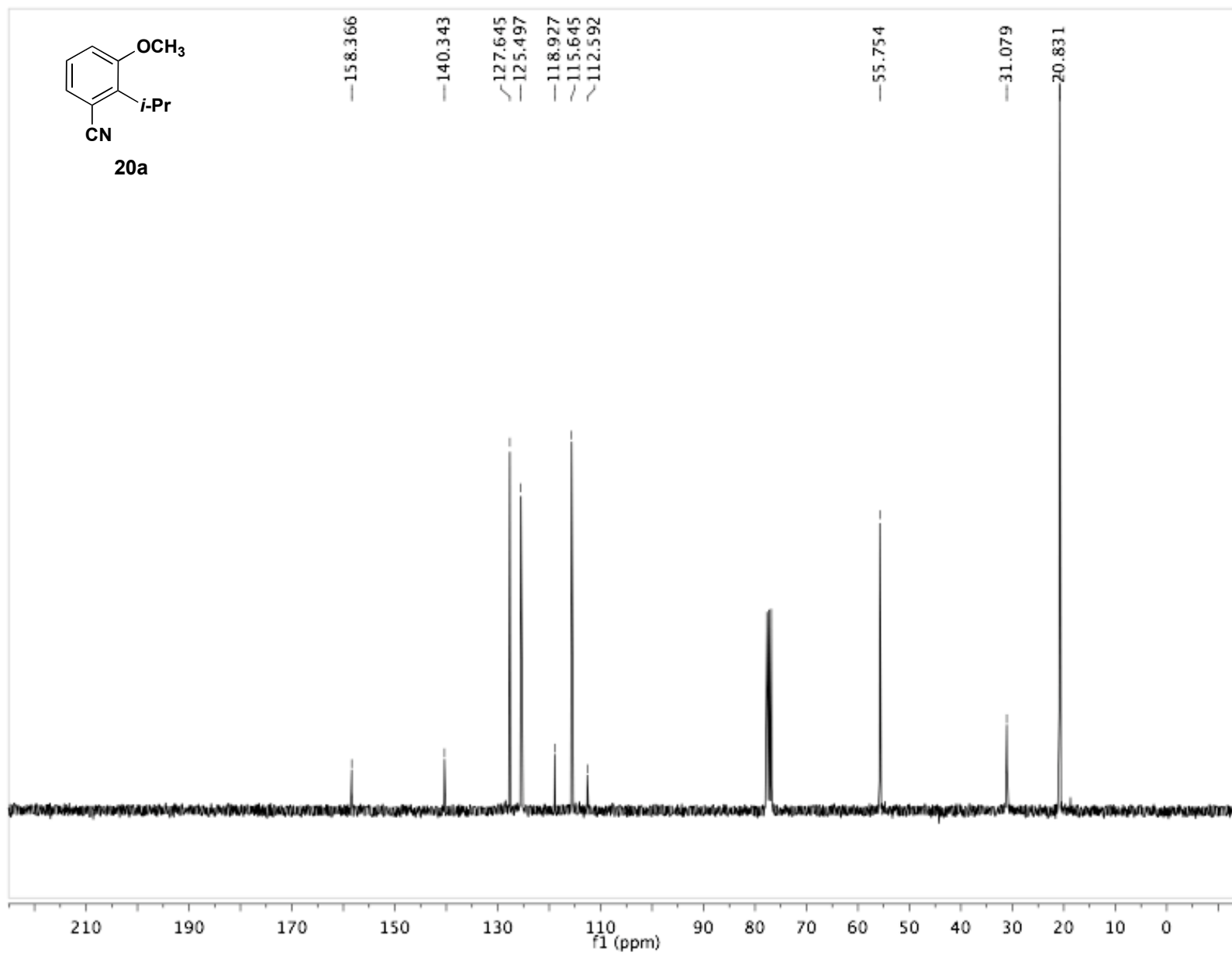


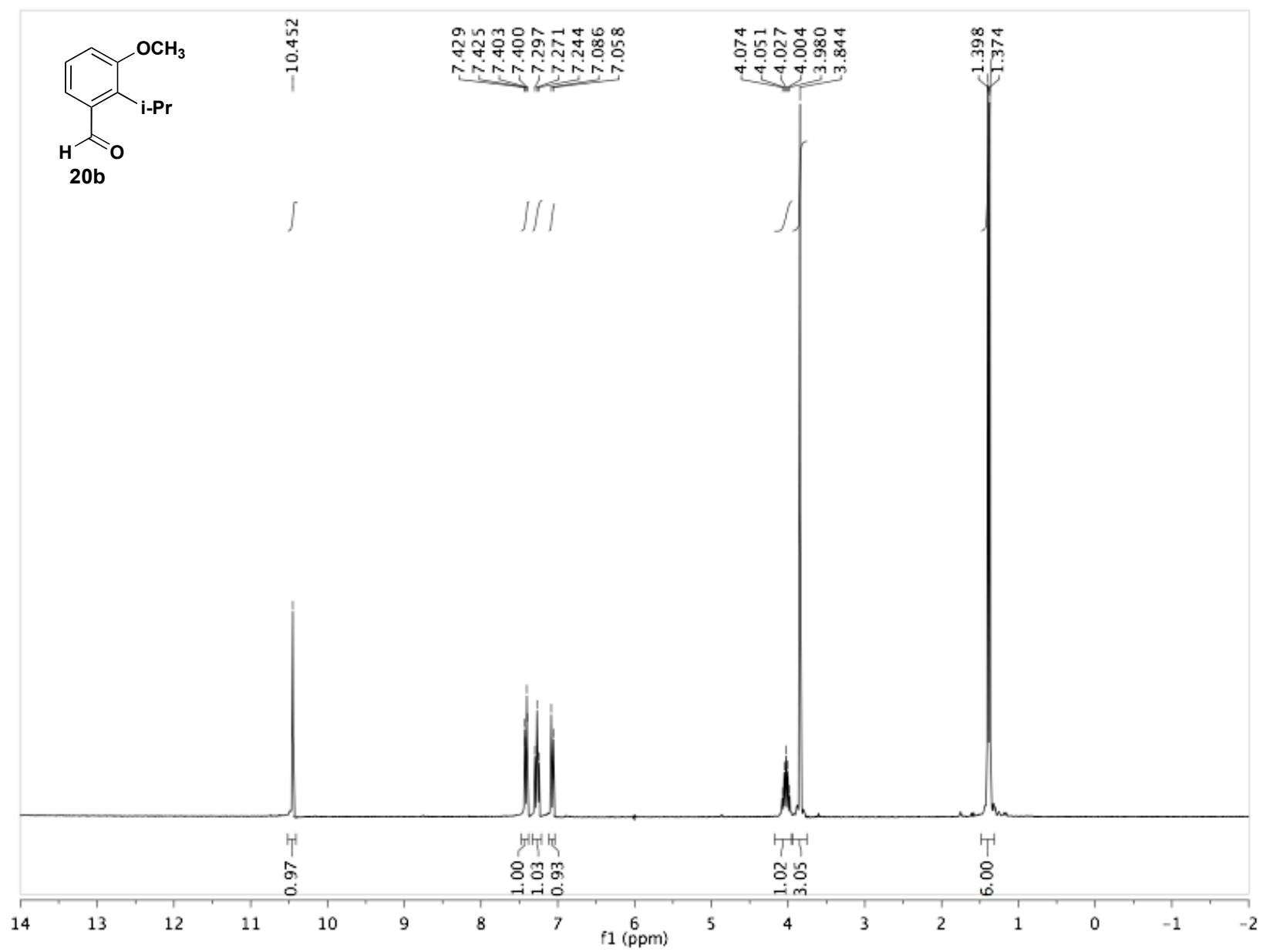


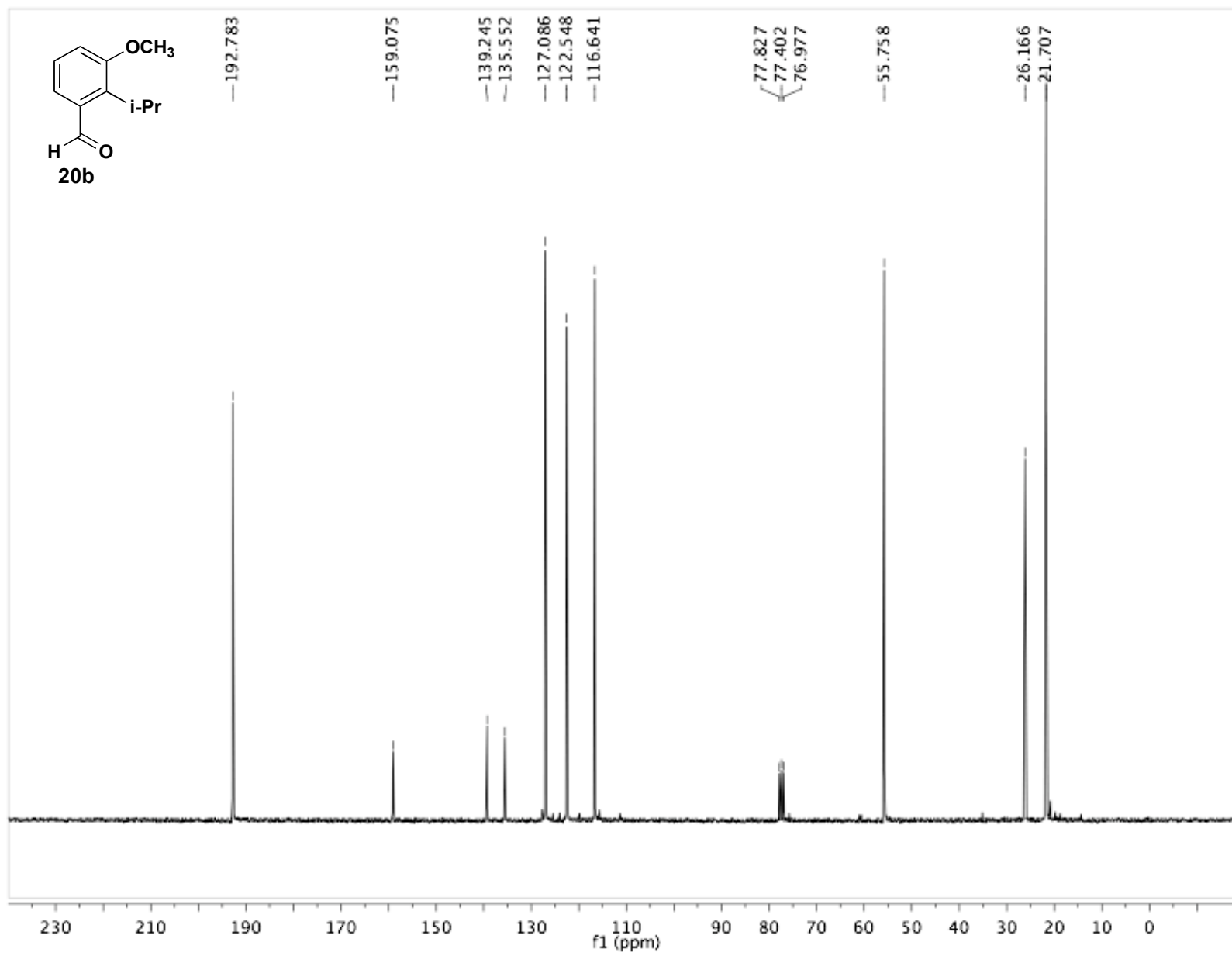


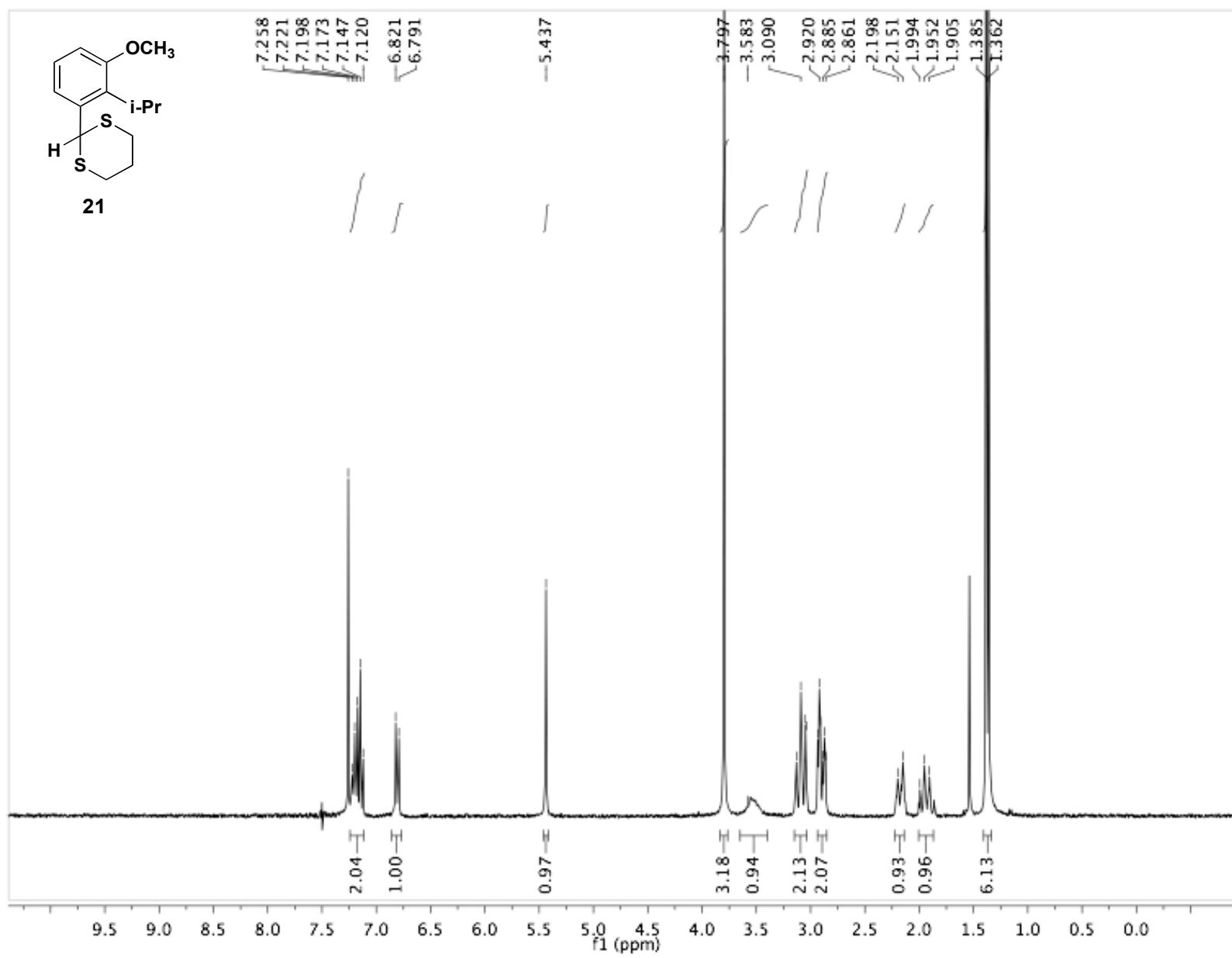


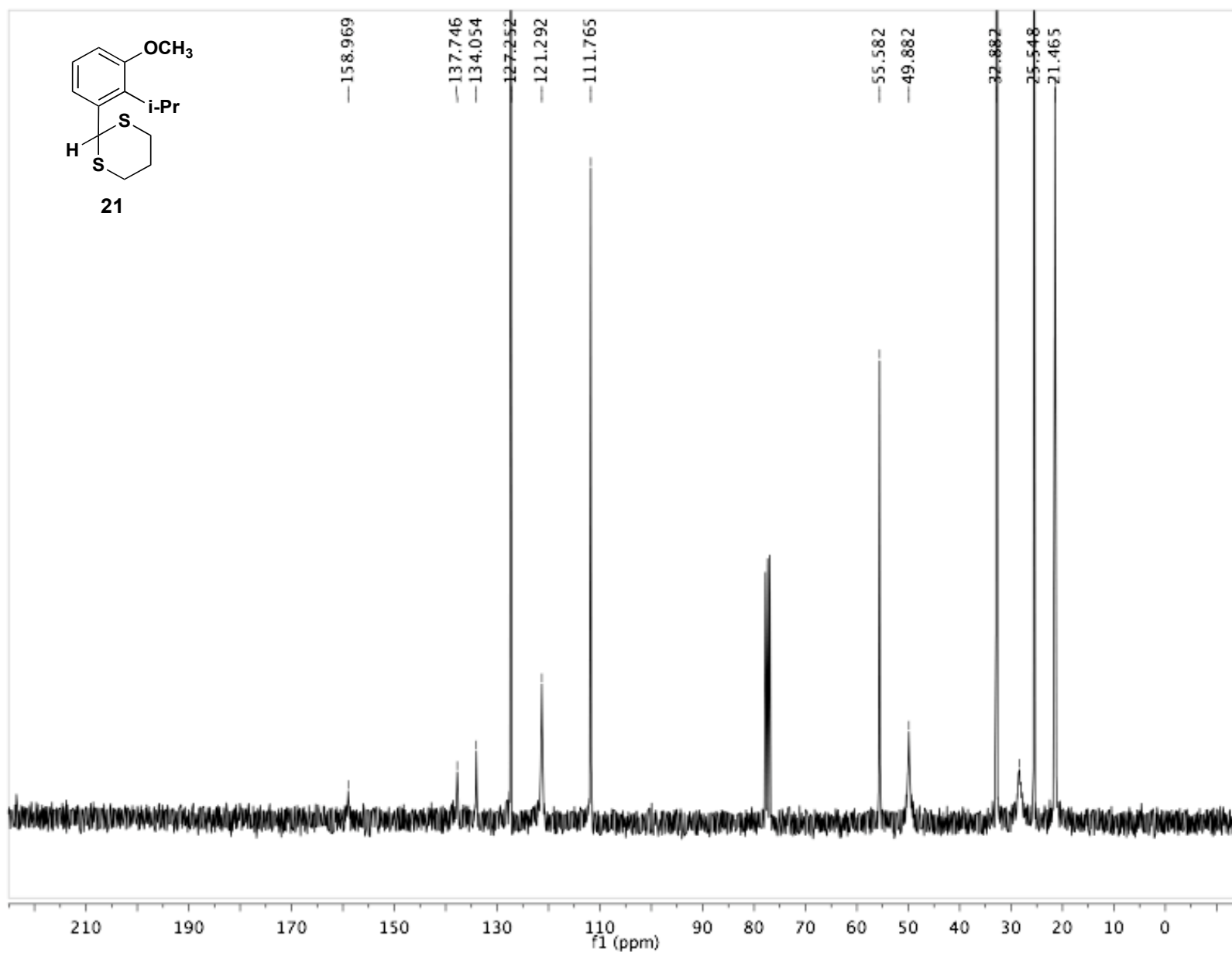






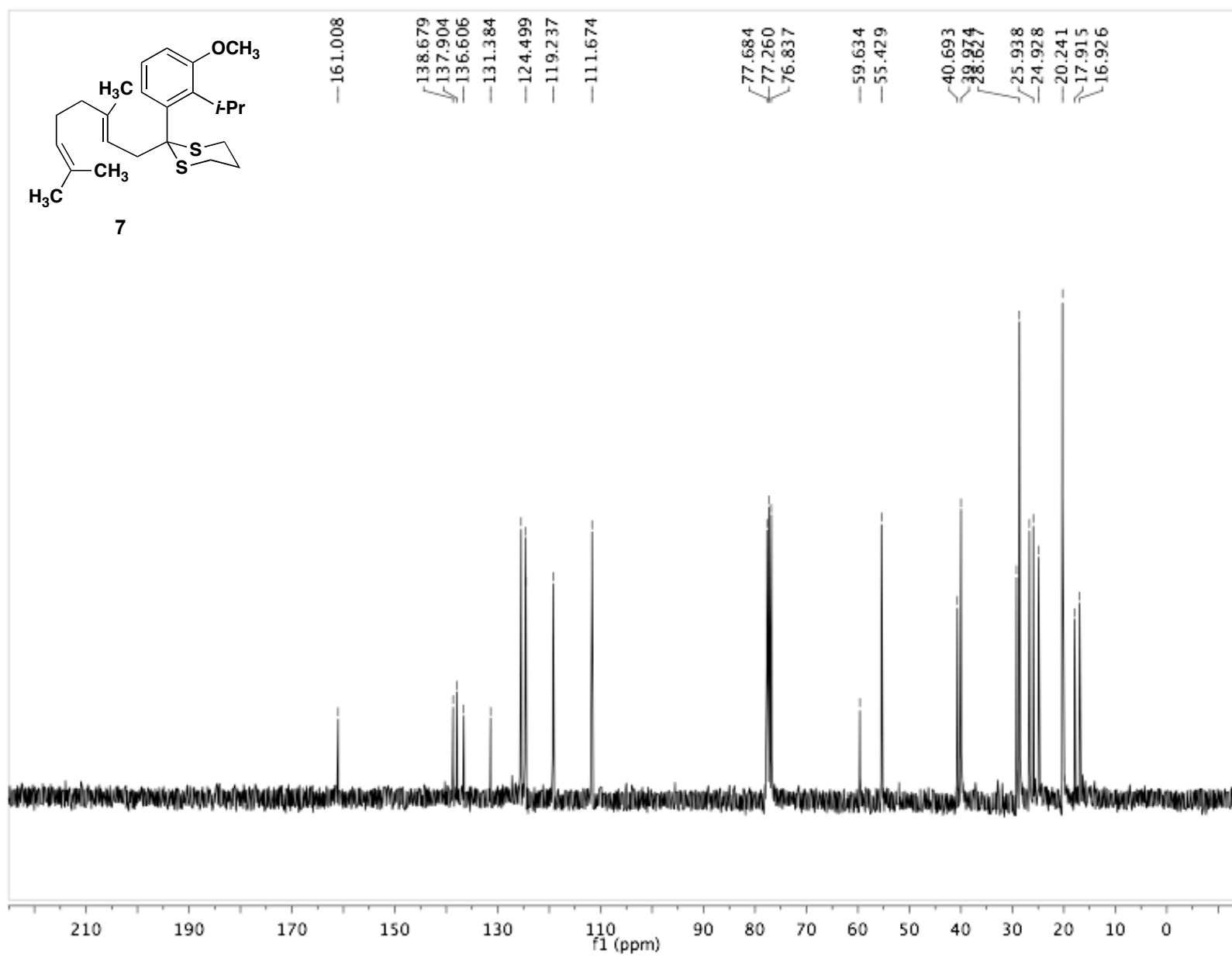


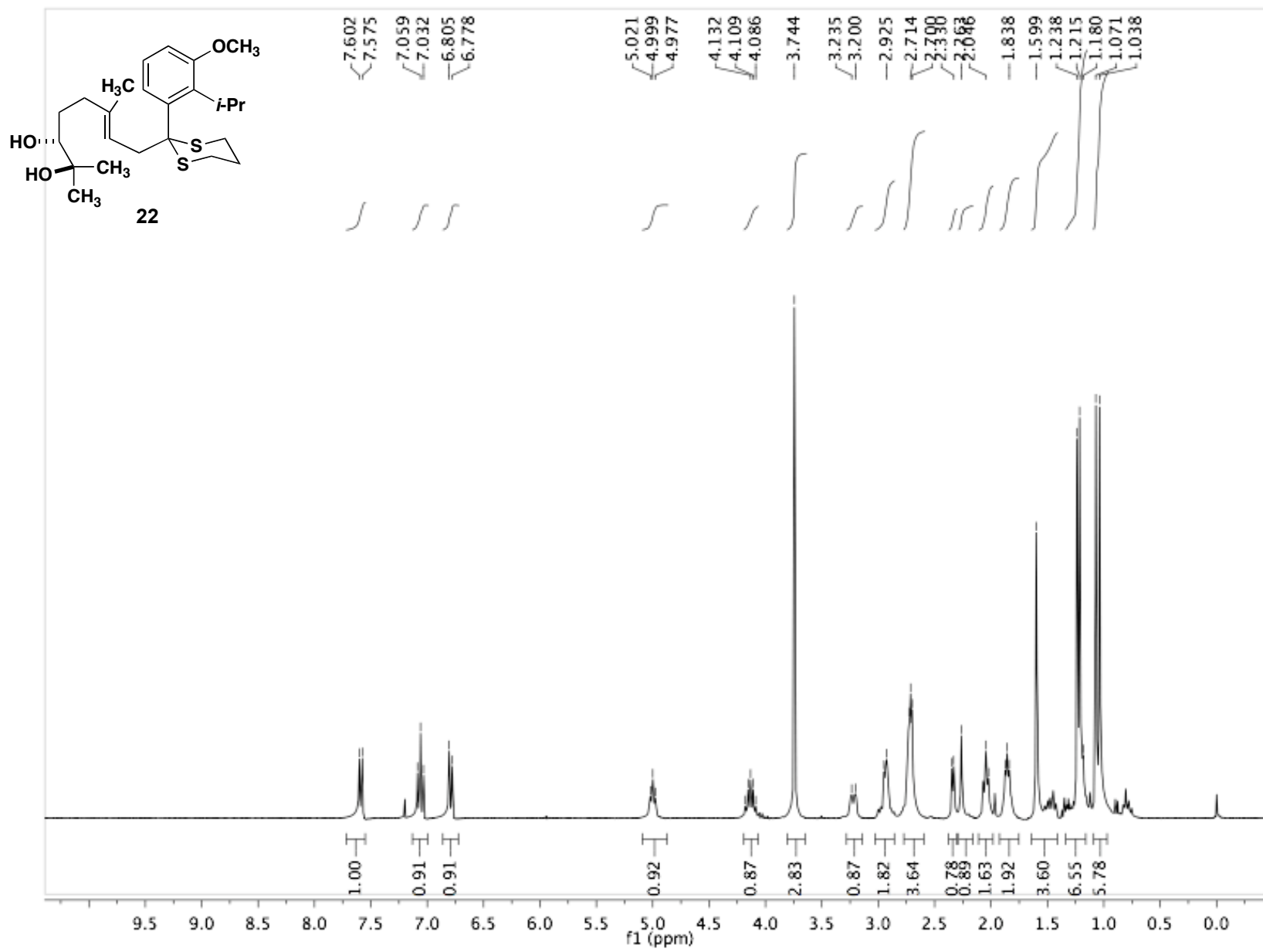


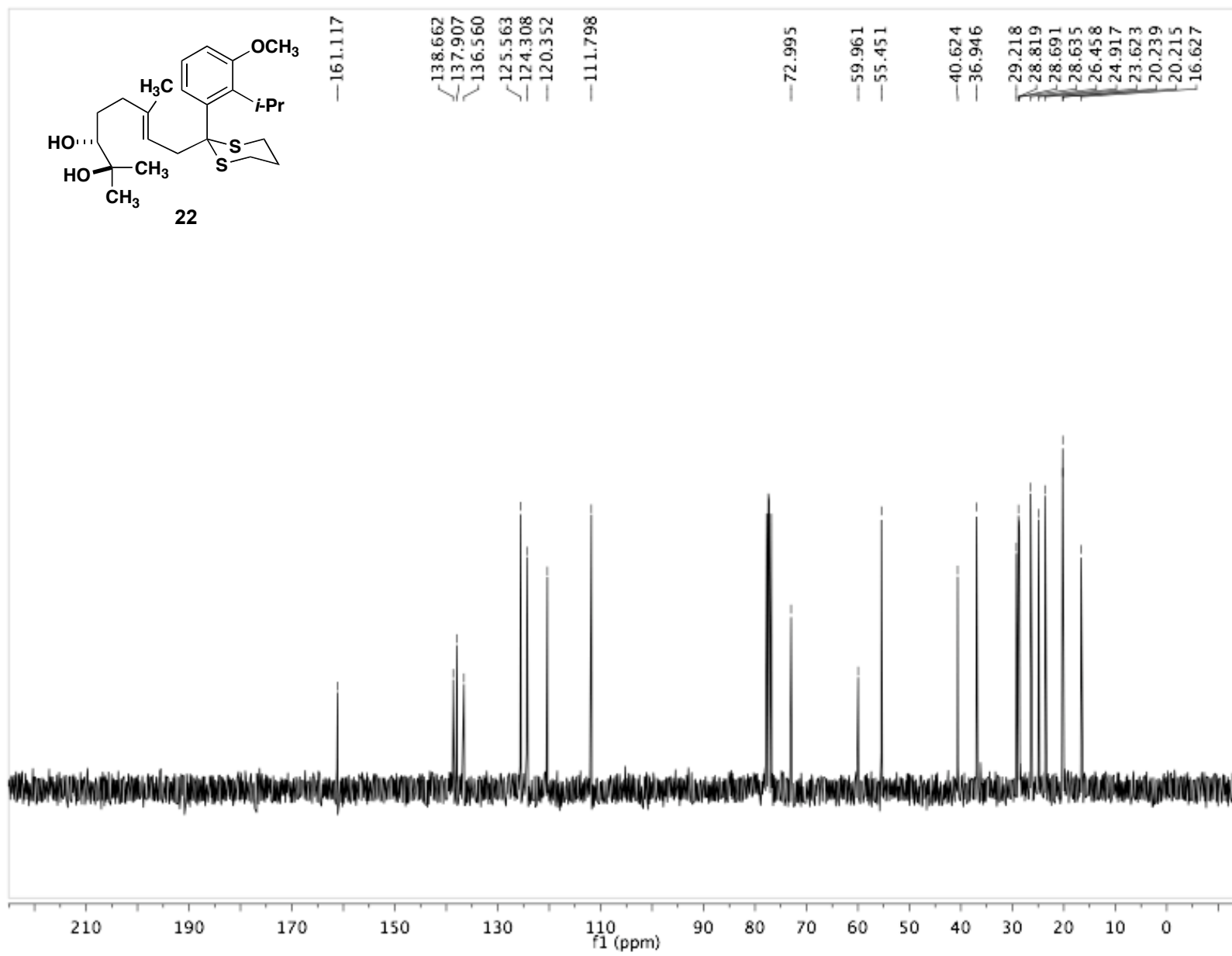


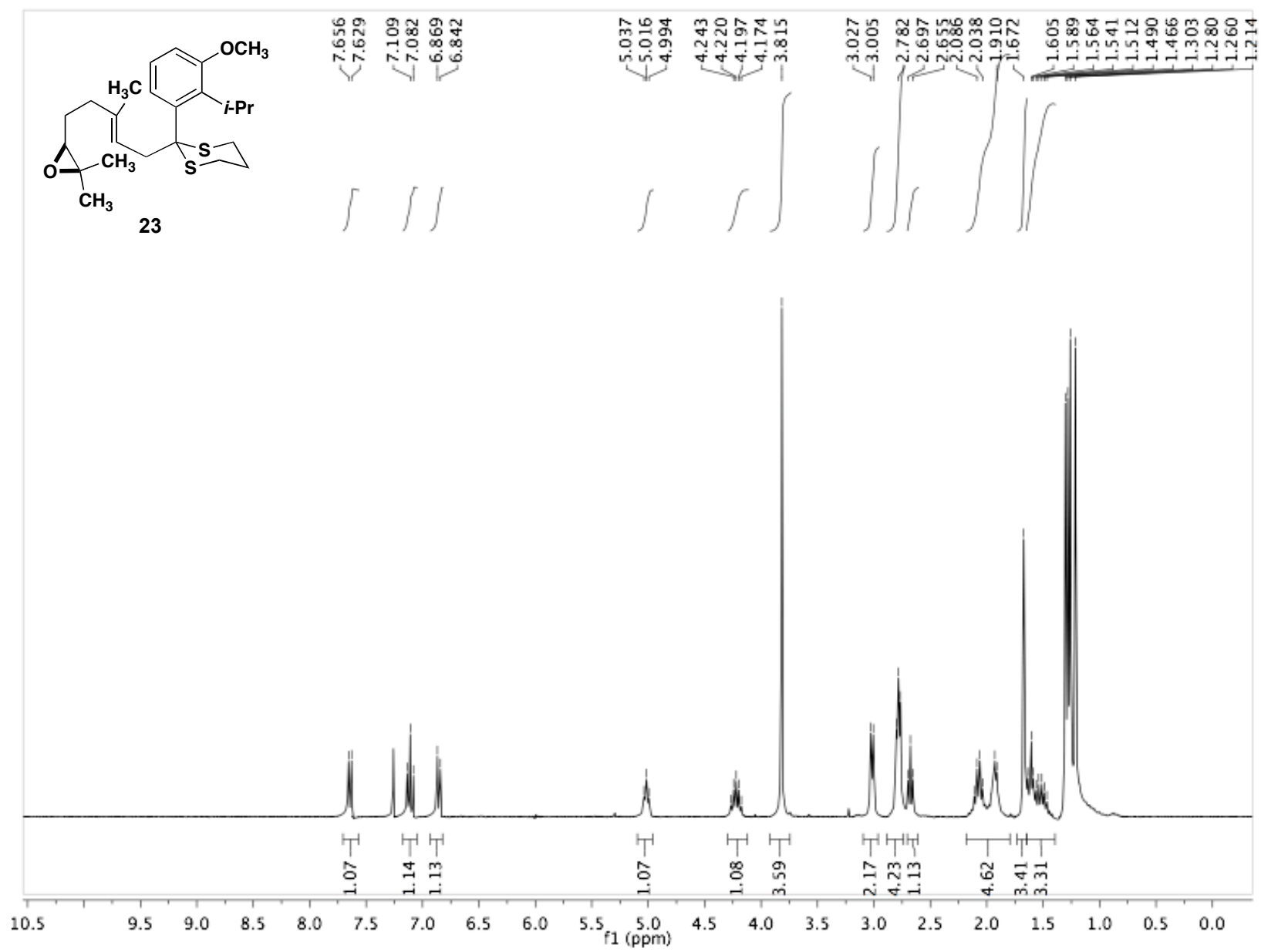


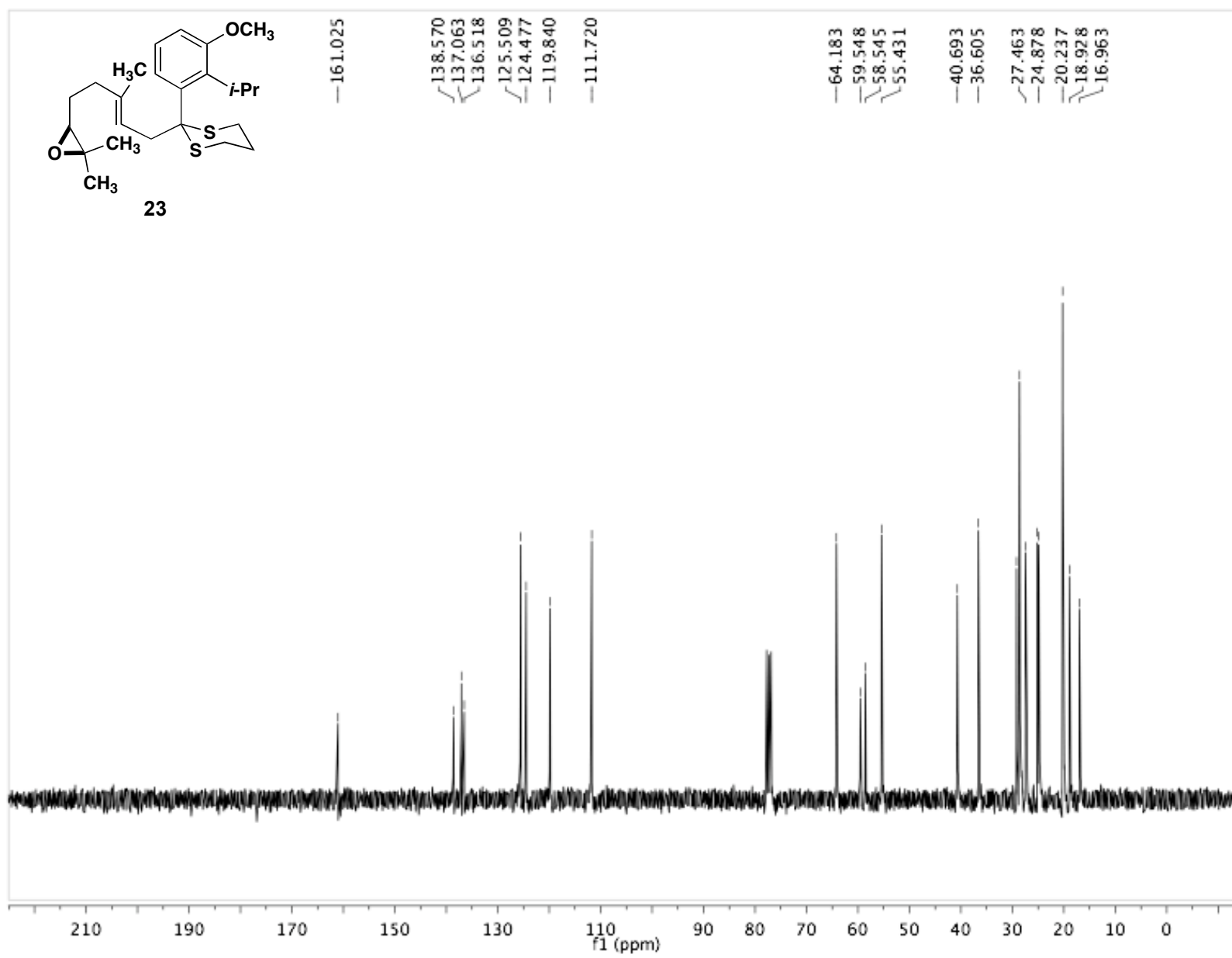


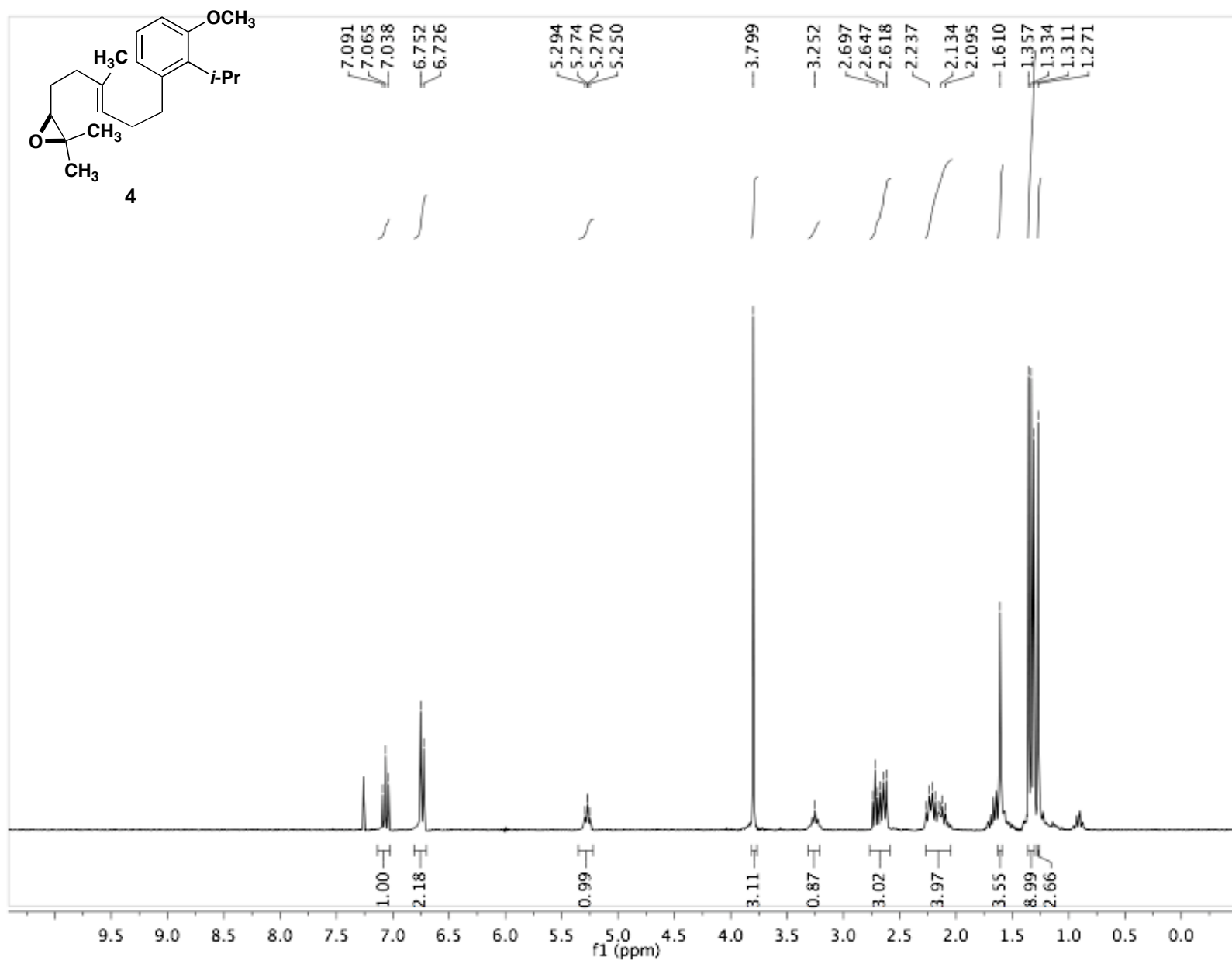


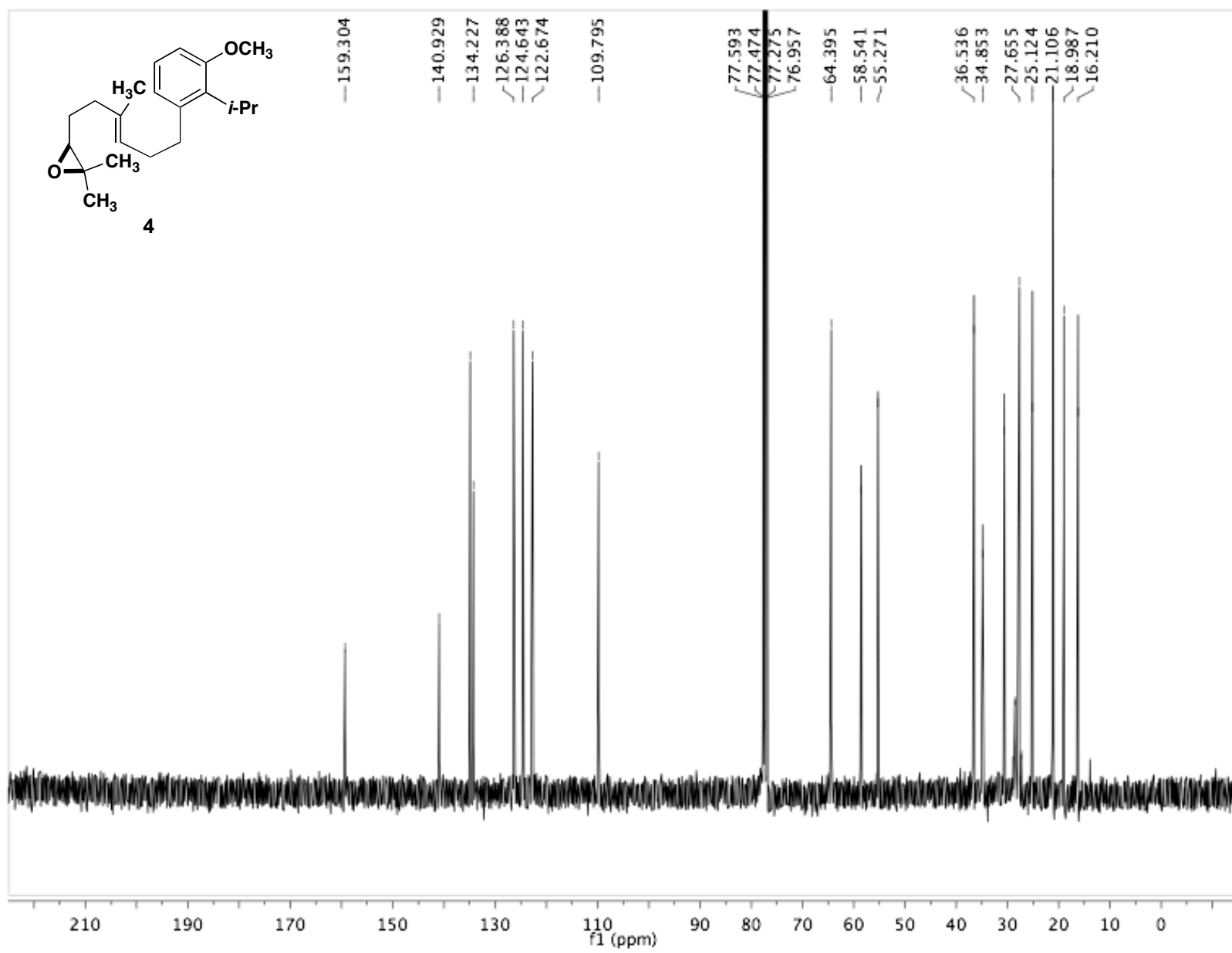




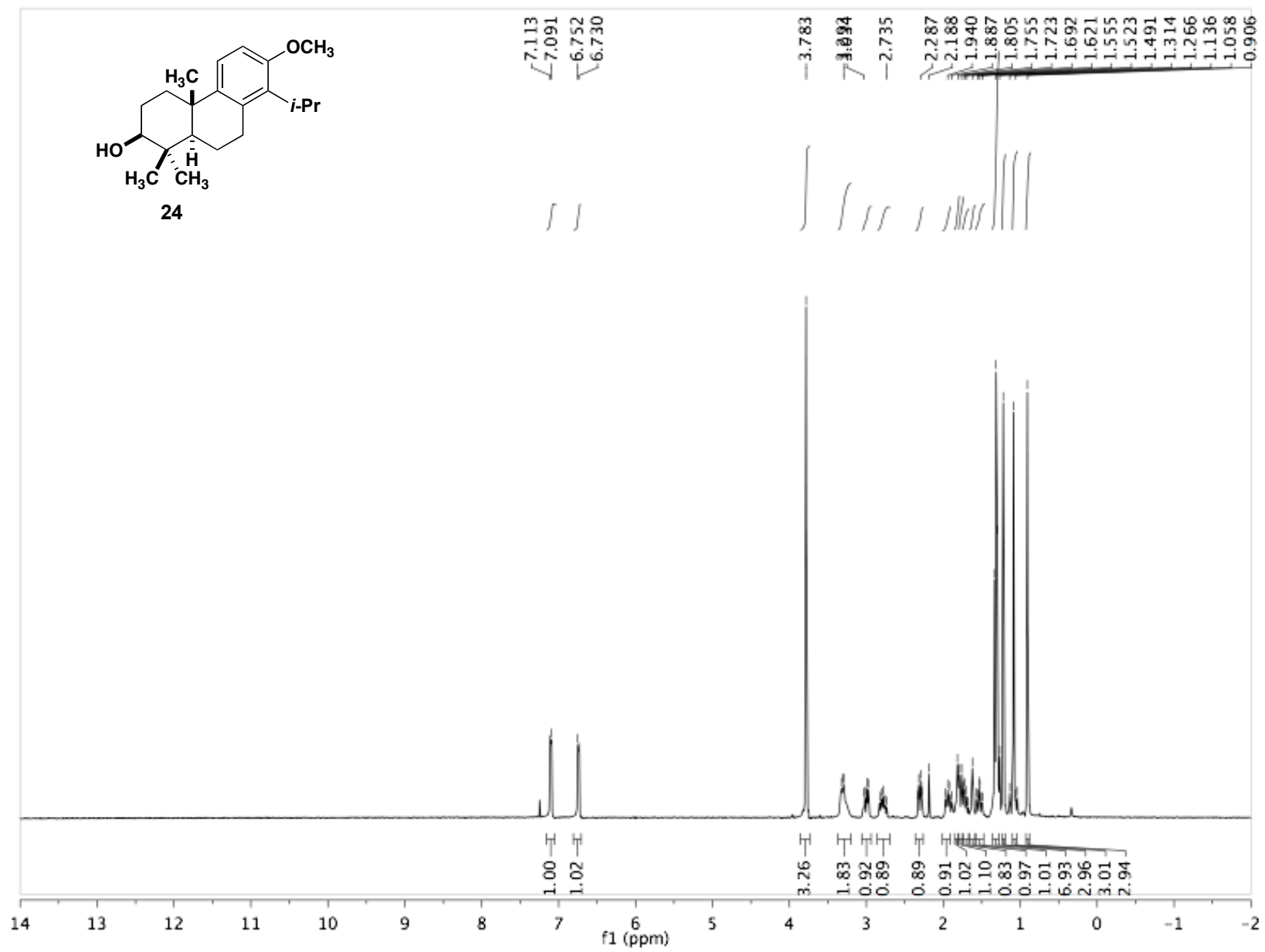


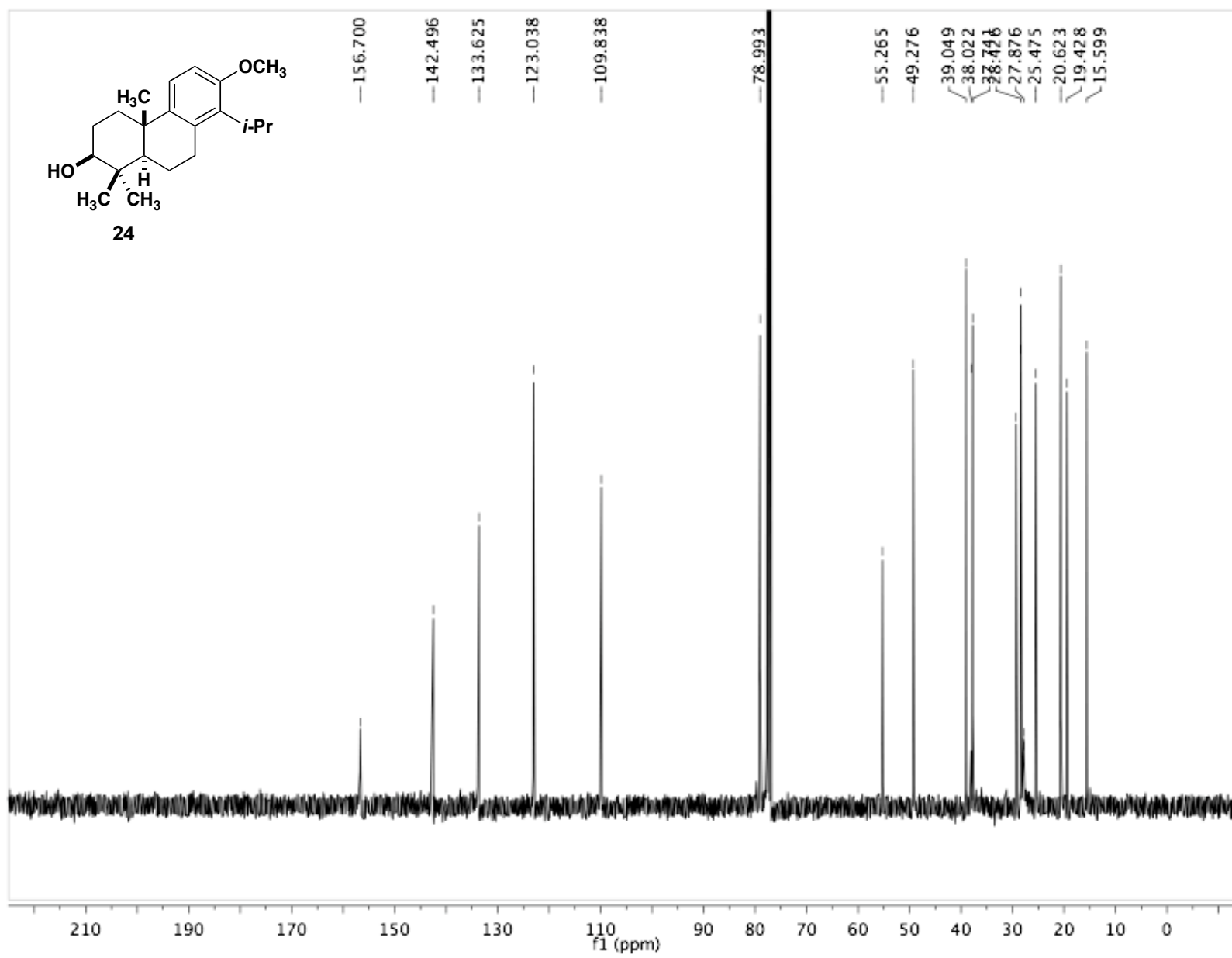


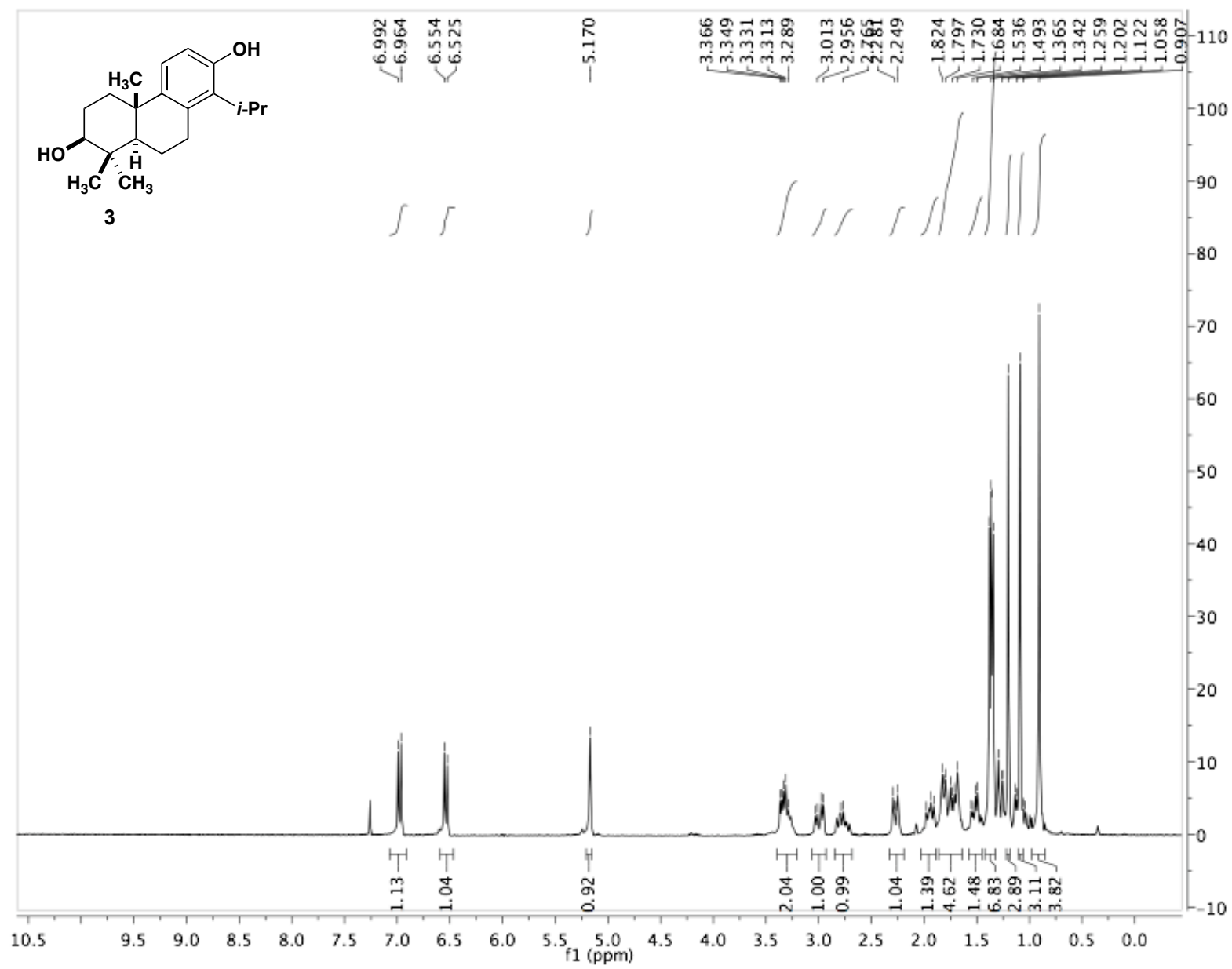


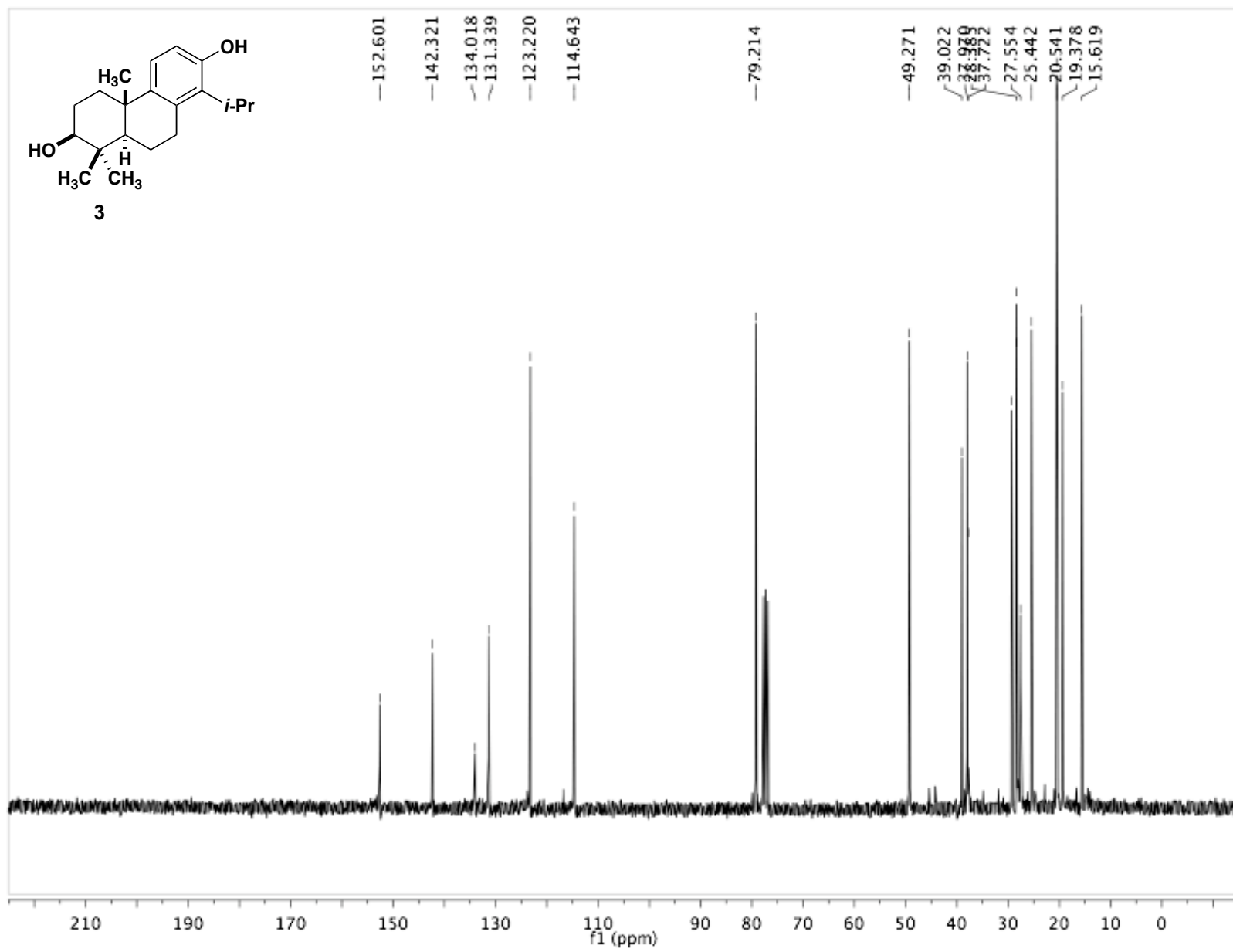


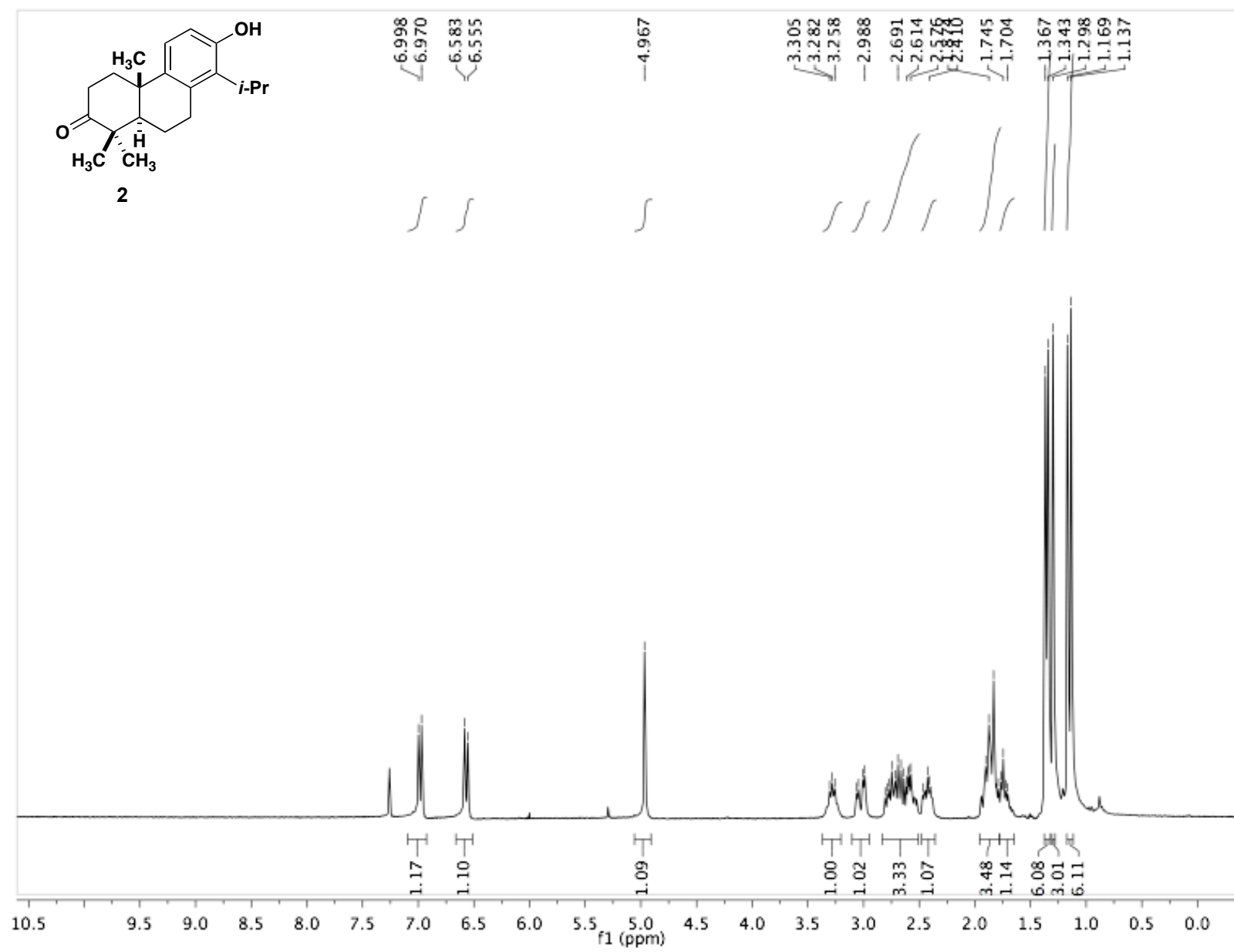




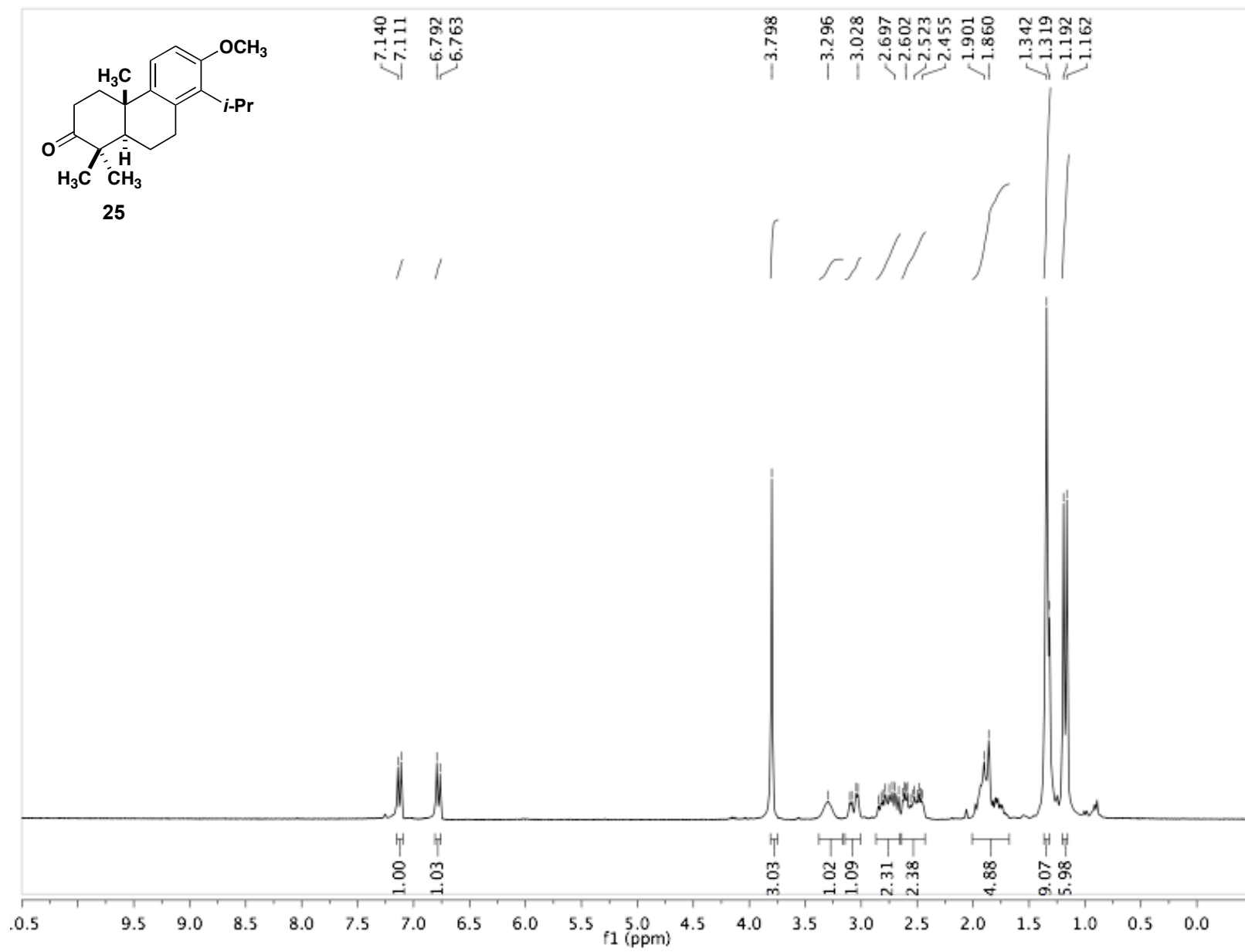


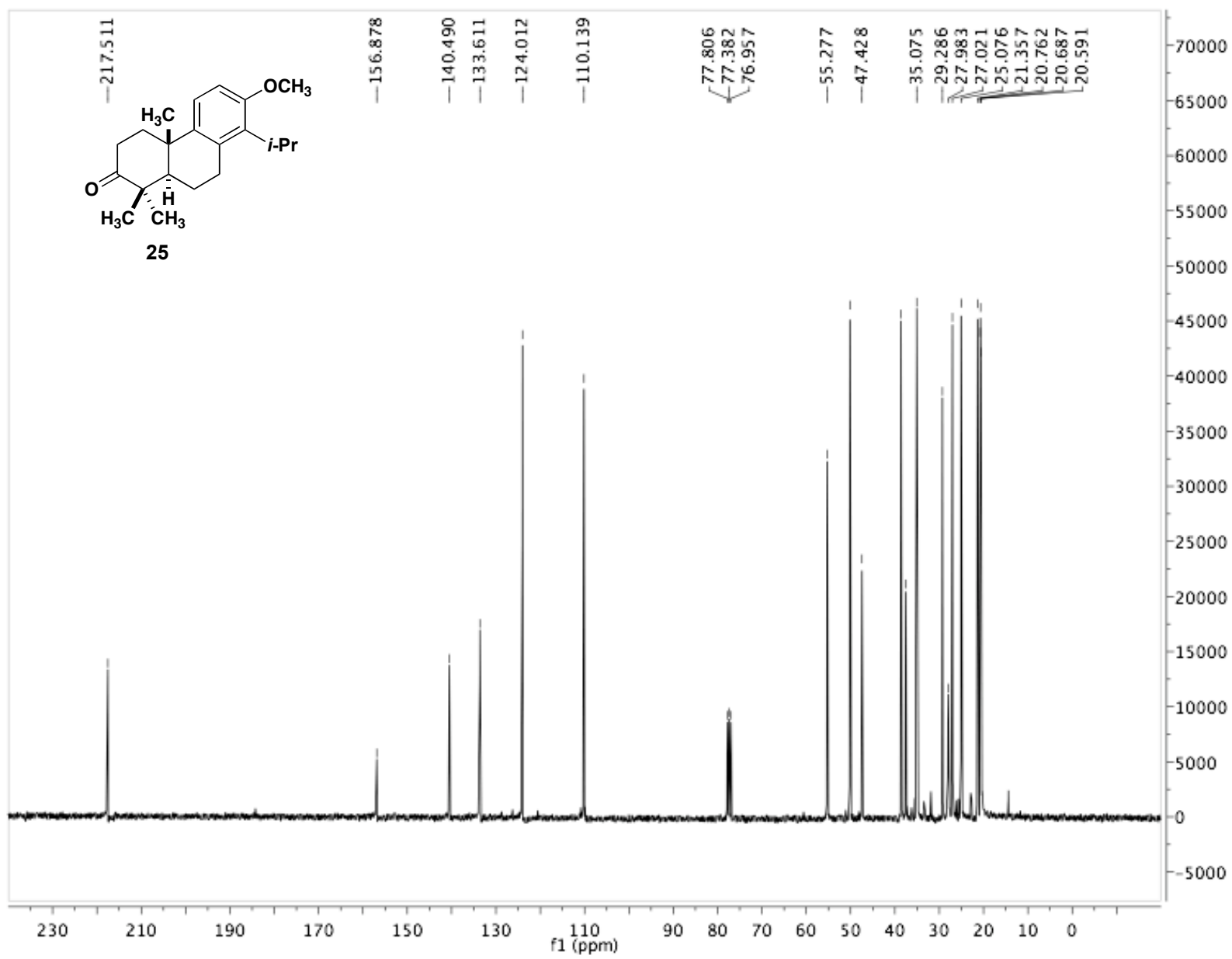




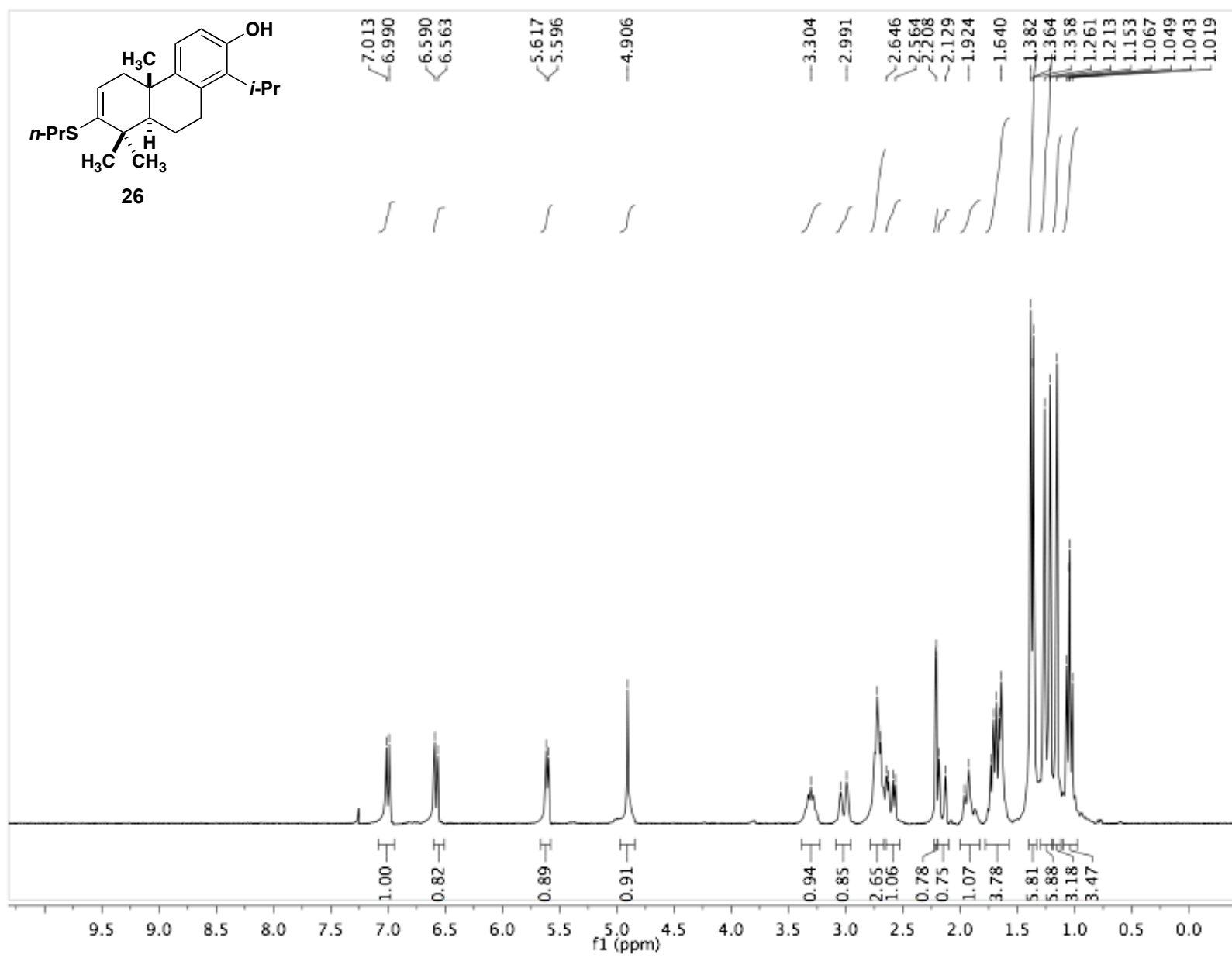


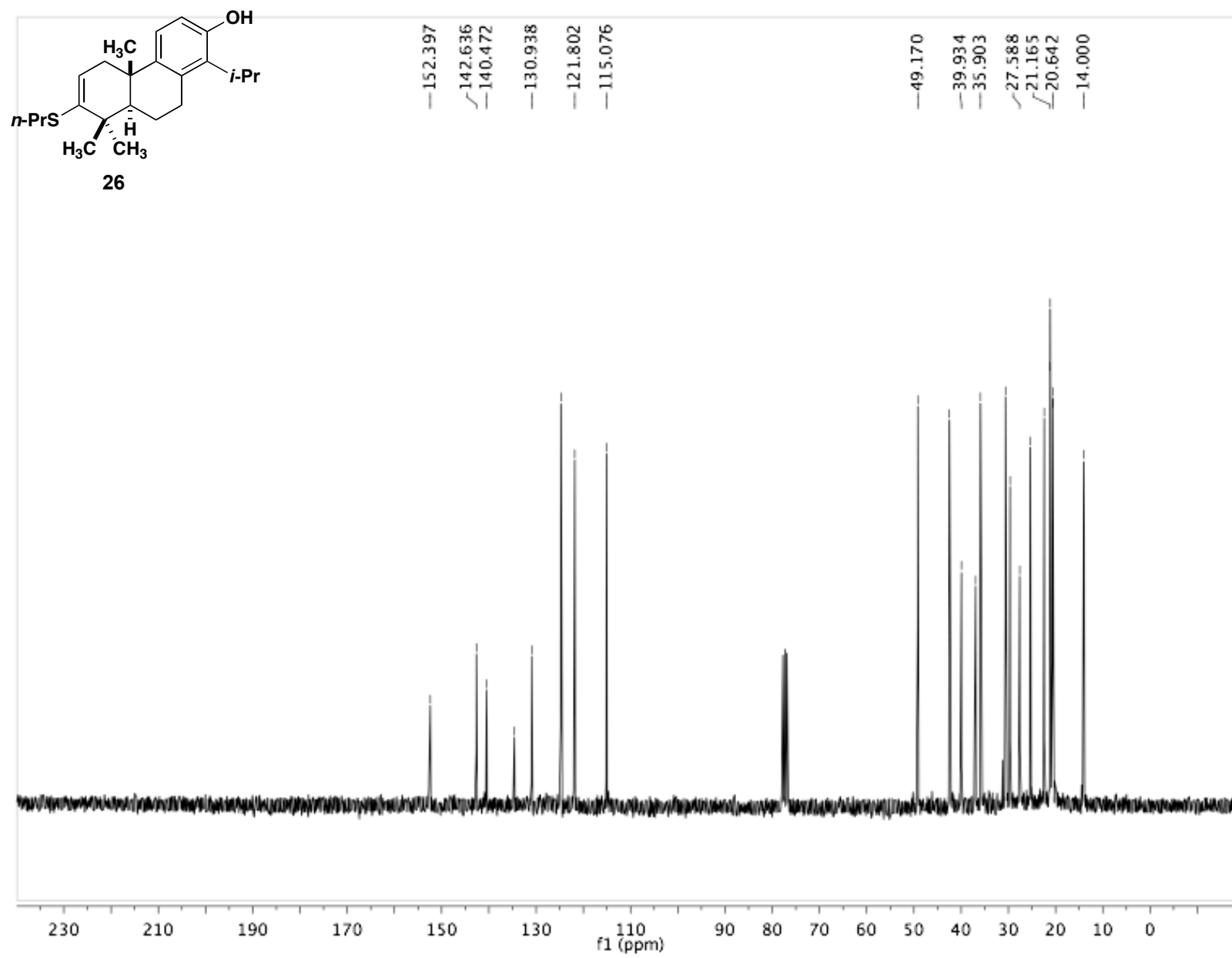


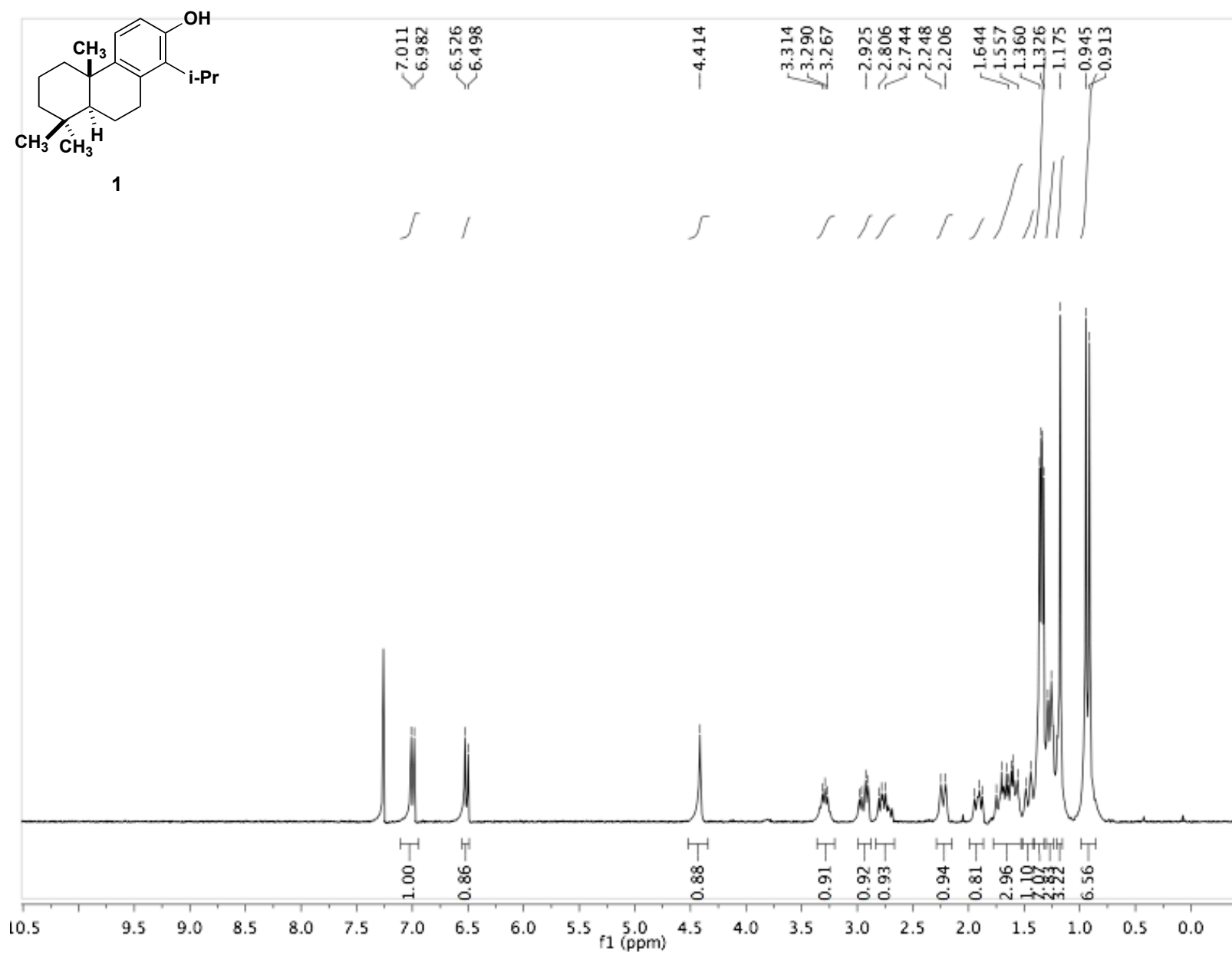


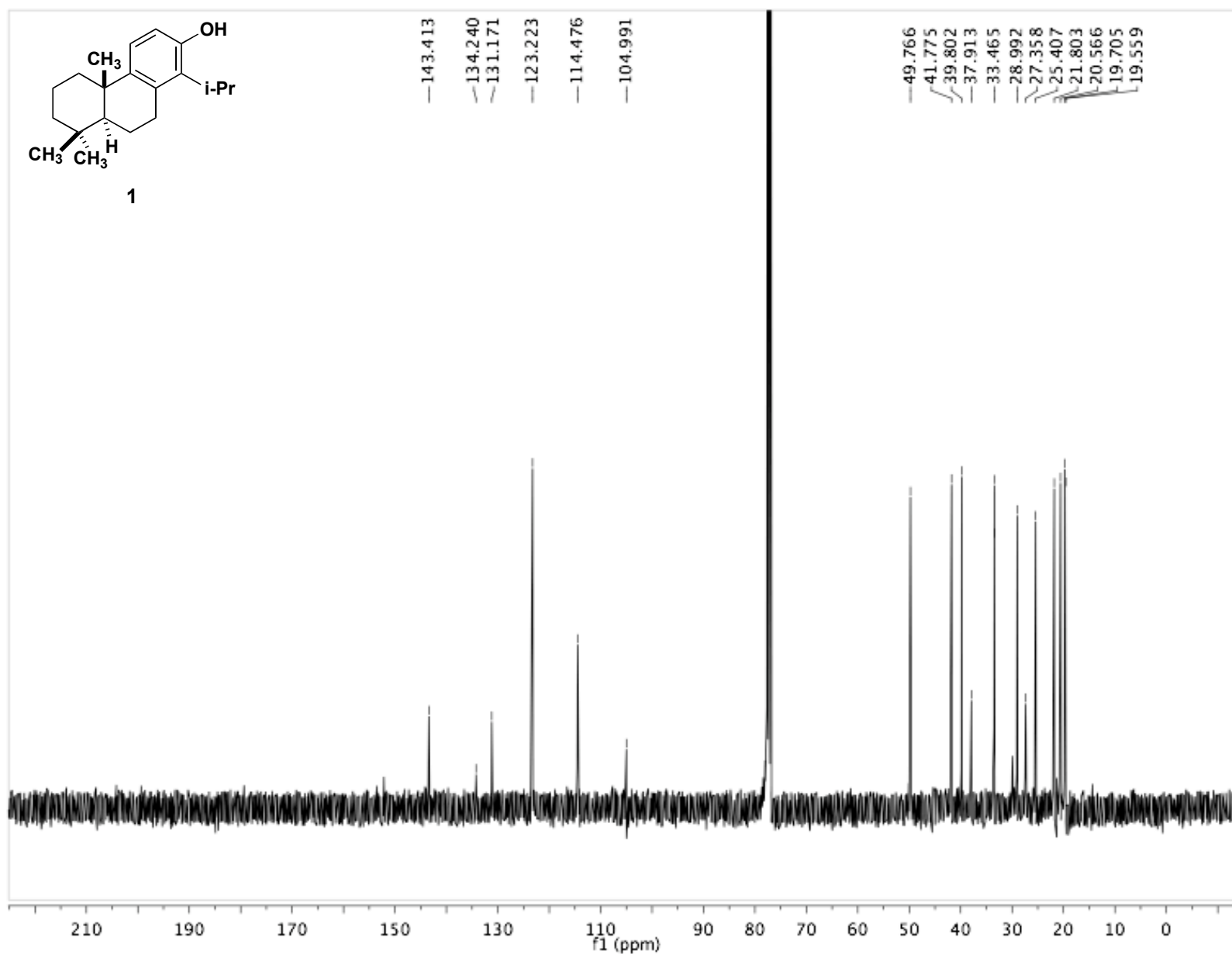


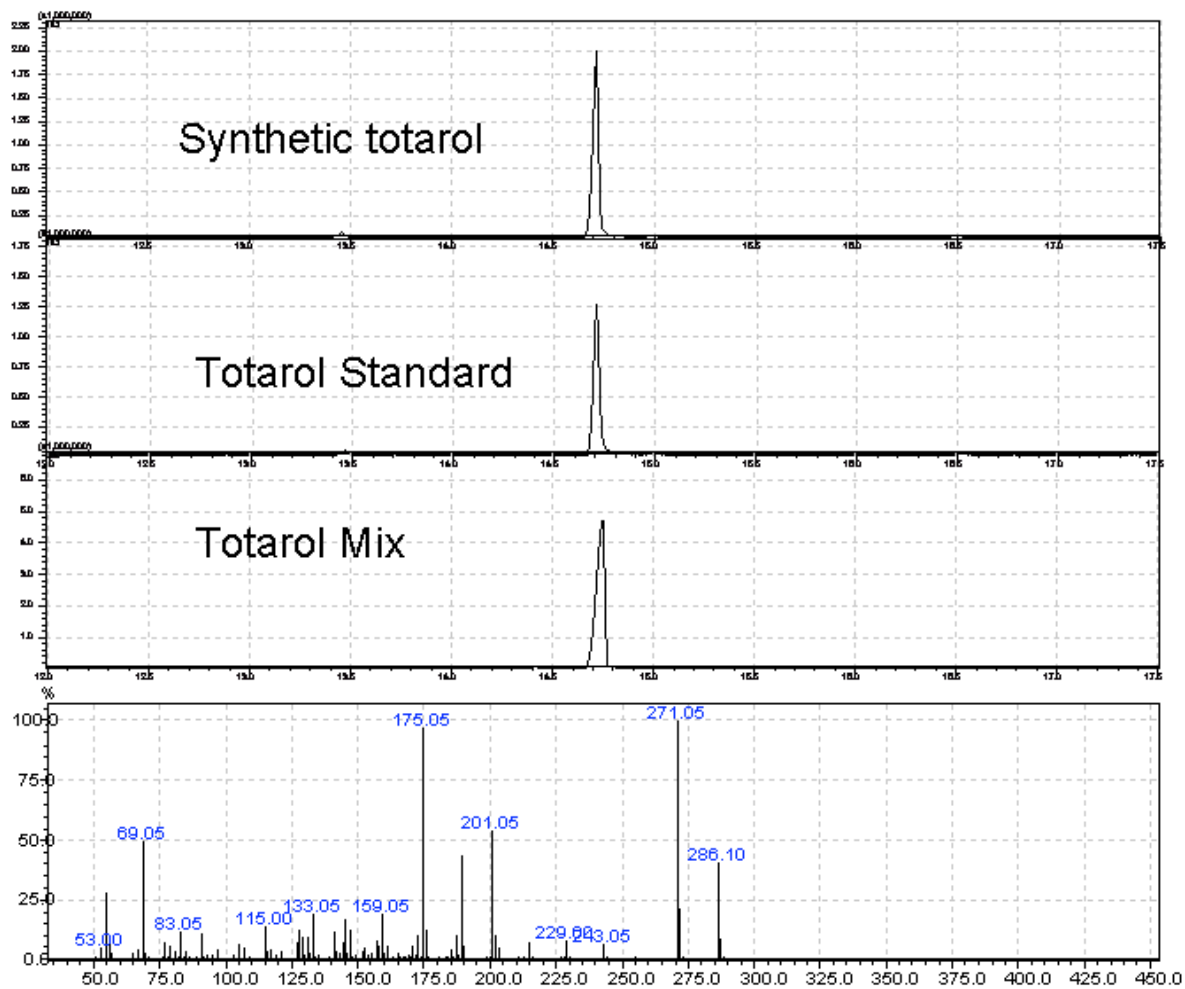


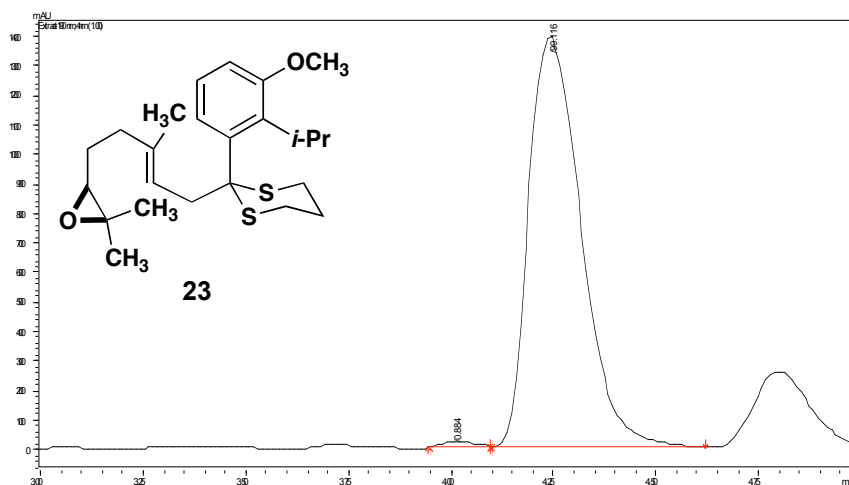
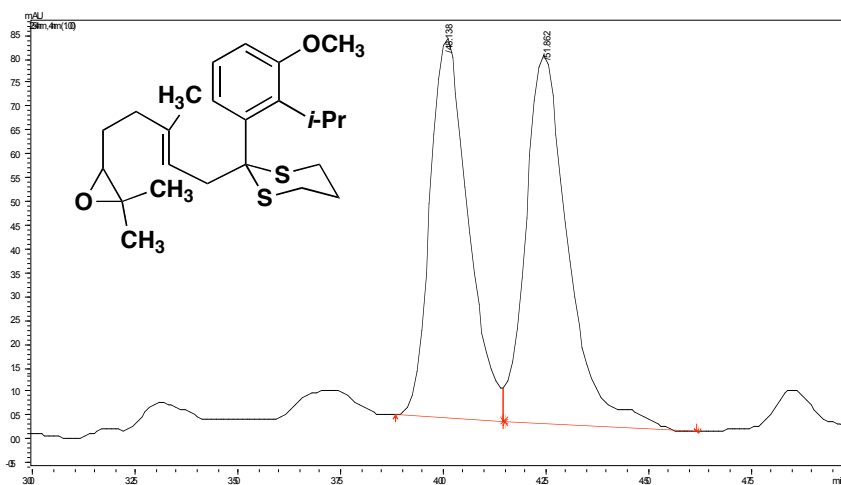












HPLC analysis of **23** and the racemic mixture was performed on a Shimadzu LC-20AB system with a Daicel CHIRALPAK® CHIRALPAK® AS-H column (4.6 x 250 mm, 5  $\mu$ m) with a flow rate of 1.0 mL/min in 97:3 (isopropanol/hexanes isocratic system) using Shimadzu SPD-M20A photodiode array detector.