

# Successive C-C Coupling of Dienes to Vicinally Dioxygenated Hydrocarbons: Ruthenium Catalyzed [4+2] Cycloaddition across the Diol, Hydroxycarbonyl or Dione Oxidation Levels

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## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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## General Comments

All glassware were oven dried at 140 °C overnight and cooled under argon or nitrogen gas before use. All ruthenium catalyzed reactions were carried in sealed pressure tubes (13 x 100 mm). Toluene was purified by distillation from sodium and benzophenone immediately before use. Ruthenium carbonyl [Ru<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub>], PCy<sub>3</sub> and BIPHEP were purchased from commercial suppliers and used as received. Ru(H)<sub>2</sub>(CO)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> is commercially available but was synthesized according to a literature procedure for this report.<sup>1</sup> All dienes were distilled in a Hickman still immediately prior to use. Styrene diol **1a** was synthesized according a general procedure.<sup>2</sup> The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the product was consistent with a literature report.<sup>3</sup> Cycloheptanediol **1g** was prepared according to a literature procedure.<sup>4</sup> All other diols were commercially available and used as received. All dicarbonyl compounds were commercially available and used as received. Hydroxyketones **2a**, **2b**, **2c**, and **2d** were commercially available. 2-Hydroxycyclohexanone **2e** was prepared according to a literature procedure.<sup>5</sup> Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out using 0.25 mm commercial silica gel plates. Visualization was accomplished with UV light followed by dipping in a *p*-anisaldehyde solution and heating. Purification of reaction products was carried out by flash column chromatography using 40-63 μm silica gel. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz) were recorded with a Varian Gemini spectrometer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solutions unless otherwise noted. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were routinely run with broadband decoupling. Chemical shifts for <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C are reported in parts per million (ppm) down field from TMS, using residual CDCl<sub>3</sub> (7.26 ppm and triplet at 77.0 ppm, respectively) or tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. The following abbreviations are used: m (multiplet), s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), dd (doublet of doublets), etc. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Thermo Nicolet 380 spectrometer. Mass spectra (MS) were obtained on a Karatos MS9 and are reported as m/z. Masses are reported for the molecular ion (M-H, M, M+H or M+Na).

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<sup>1</sup> N. Ahmad, J. J. Levison, S. D. Robinson, and M. F. Uttley, *Inorg. Synth.* **1974**, *15*, 45-64.

<sup>2</sup> B. Plietker and M. Niggemann, *Org. Lett.* **2003**, *5*, 3353-3356.

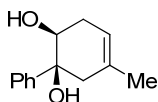
<sup>3</sup> K.C. Nicolaou, S. A. Snyder, D. A. Longbottom, A. Z. Nalbandian, and X. Huang. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2004**, *10*, 5581-5606.

<sup>4</sup> C.A. Horiuchi, G. Dan, M. Sakamoto, K. Suda, S. Usui, O. Sakamoto, S. Kitoh, S. Watanabe, T. Utsukihara, S. Nozaki, *Synthesis* **2005**, *17*, 2861-2864. Spectral data matched literature: C. Yuan, A. Axelrod, M. Varela, L. Danysh, D. Siegel, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2011**, *52*, 2540-2542.

<sup>5</sup> B. Plietker, *J. Org. Chem.* **2004**, *69*, 8287-8296.

## Details for the Syntheses and Characterization of Cycloadducts 5

### (1R\*,2R\*)-5-Methyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-1,2-diol (5a)



#### From 1-phenylethane-1,2-diol **1a**:

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added Ru<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub> (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%) PCy<sub>3</sub> (10.1 mg, 0.036 mmol, 12 mol%) and 1-phenylethane-1,2-diol **1a** (41.4 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **1c** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>: 20% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5a** as a colourless solid in 78% yield (63.9 mg, 6:1 rr).

#### From 2-hydroxy-1-phenylethanone **2a**:

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added Ru<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub> (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%) PCy<sub>3</sub> (10.1 mg, 0.036 mmol, 12 mol%) and 2-hydroxy-1-phenylethanone **2a** (40.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **1c** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>: 20% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5a** as a colourless solid 75% yield (51.2 mg, 4:1 rr).

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, acetone-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.20 (m, 1H), 5.36-5.32 (m, 0.11H, minor isomer), 5.31-5.27 (m, 0.82H, major isomer), 4.12 (dd, 0.12H, *J*<sup>1</sup> = 5.6 Hz, *J*<sup>2</sup> = 7.4 Hz), 4.06 (dd, 0.82H, *J*<sup>1</sup> = 5.7 Hz, *J*<sup>2</sup> = 6.8 Hz), 2.50-2.03 (m, 4H), 1.67 (m, 3H).

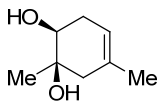
**<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, acetone-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 146.8, 127.7, 126.4, 125.7, 118.4, 74.8, 71.3, 43.8, 31.2, 22.3.

**FTIR** (neat): ν 3426, 3056, 2908, 1446, 1047, 877, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**TLC Rf**: 0.21 (3:2 hexanes:ethyl acetate).

**MS**: Calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> (M+Na): 227.2; Found: 227.3.

## (1R\*,2R\*)-1,5-Dimethyl-cyclohex-4-ene-1,2-diol (**5b**)



### From Propane-1,2-diol **1b**:

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (7.7 mg, 0.012 mmol, 2 mol%) and  $\text{PCy}_3$  (20.2 mg, 0.072 mmol, 12 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.30 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.30 mL, 3.0 mmol, 500 mol%) and 1,2-propanediol **1b** (44.0  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.6 mmol, 100 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 150 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5b** as a colourless oil in 60% yield (51.5 mg, 1.6:1 rr).<sup>6</sup>

### From 1-hydroxypropan-2-one **2b**:

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%)  $\text{PCy}_3$  (10.1 mg, 0.036 mmol, 12 mol%) and 2-hydroxy-1-phenylethanone **2a** (40.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%) was added. The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5b** as a colourless oil in 75% yield (63.9 mg, 1.6:1 rr).<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ )  $\delta$  5.15-5.13 (m, 3H), 4.43-4.42 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 0.14H), 4.40-4.39 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 0.26H), 4.29-4.27 (d,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.25-4.24 (d,  $J = 5.0$  Hz, 1.61H), 4.18 (s, 0.27H), 4.15 (s, 0.14H), 3.95 (m, 1.61H), 3.92 (s, 1H), 3.37-3.35 (m, 1.84H), 2.09-1.99 (m, 8.10H), 1.91-1.81 (m, 3.64H), 1.58-1.56 (m, 9.36H), 1.04 (s, 8.10H), 1.01 (s, 0.82H), 1.00 (s, 0.45H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  132.1, 130.5, 118.7, 116.9, 72.8, 72.2, 71.4, 70.9, 41.7, 36.9, 36.5, 31.6, 24.7, 24.6, 23.2, 22.9.

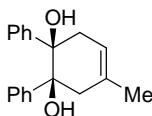
FTIR (neat):  $\nu$  3376, 2966, 2906, 1438, 1372, 1104, 1072, 1053, 910, 875, 794, 732, 687  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

TLC Rf: 0.21 (40% ethyl acetate/hexanes).

MS: Calculated for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2\text{Na}$  (M+Na): 165.2; Found: 165.1.

<sup>6</sup> The sample contained approximately 10% of unknown and unidentifiable but related compounds.

## (1R\*,2S\*)-4'-Methyl-1',2',3',6'-tetrahydro-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]1',2'-diol (**5c**)



From 1,2-diphenyl-1,2-diol (hydrobenzoin) **1c**:

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.1 mg, 0.005 mmol, 2 mol%) BIPHEP (9.5 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and 1,2-diphenyl-1,2-diol (hydrobenzoin) **1c** (64.7 mg, 0.30 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **1c** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 16% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5c** as a colourless solid in 90% yield (80.7 mg).

From 2-hydroxy-1,2-diphenylethanone (benzoin) **2c**:

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (4.0 mg, 0.0063 mmol, 2 mol%) BIPHEP (10.7 mg, 0.020 mmol, 6 mol%) and 2-hydroxy-1,2-diphenylethanone (benzoin) **2c** (67.8 mg, 0.32 mmol, 100 mol%) was added. The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.16 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.16 mL, 1.6 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 16% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5c** as a colourless solid in 98% yield (87.8 mg).

From benzil **3c**:

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}(\text{H})_2(\text{CO})(\text{PPh}_3)_3$  (16.5 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) BIPHEP (9.7 mg, 0.019 mmol, 6 mol%) and 2-benzil **3c** (63.1 mg, 0.30 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%) and >95% formic acid (35  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.9 mmol, 300 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature before slowly opening the reaction vessel to the atmosphere (gas evolution). The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 16% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5c** as a colourless solid in 70% yield (58.8 mg).

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.21 (tt, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2.4 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1.2 Hz), 7.14 (t, 4H,  $J = 7.6$  Hz), 7.00 (m, 4H), 5.66 (m, 1H), 2.89 (s, 1H), 2.82 (s, 1H), 2.92-2.74 (m, 2H), 2.52 (m, 2H), 1.89 (s, 3H)

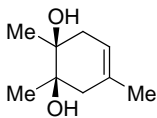
**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  142.3, 142.0, 134.0, 127.2, 127.1, 127.1, 127.0, 126.9, 126.8, 77.3, 44.2, 38.9, 23.2.

**FTIR** (neat):  $\nu$  3423 (br), 3056, 2908, 1446, 1047, 877, 699  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**TLC Rf**: 0.3 (3:1 hexanes:ethyl acetate).

**MS**: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{NaO}_2$  (M+Na): 303.14; Found: 303.1.

## (1R\*,2S\*)-1,2,4-Trimethyl-cyclohex-4-ene-1,2-diol (**5d**)



### From butane-2,3-diol **1d**:

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%) and BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by butane-2,3-diol **1d** (27  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%) and freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 20%-40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5d** as a colourless solid in 84% yield (39.7 mg).

### From 3-hydroxybutan-2-one **2d**:

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%) and BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by 3-hydroxybutan-2-one **2d** (27  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%) and freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 20%-40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5d** as a colourless solid in 84% yield (39.7 mg).

### From 2,3-butanedione (biacetyl) **3d**:

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%) and BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by biacetyl **3d** (26  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%) and freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 20%-40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5d** as a colourless solid in 84% yield (39.7 mg).

$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.28-5.24 (m, 1H), 2.30-2.03 (m, 6H), 1.66-1.64 (m, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 1.18 (s, 3H).

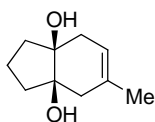
$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  132.1, 118.5, 73.6, 73.1, 43.6, 38.8, 23.1, 22.7, 22.6.

**FTIR** (neat):  $\nu$  3359, 2960, 2914, 1438, 1311, 1091, 1053, 950, 667  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**TLC Rf**: 0.17 (3:2 hexanes:ethyl acetate).

**MS**: Calculated for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{16}\text{NaO}_2$  (M+Na): 179.2; Found: 179.3.

**(3aR\*,7aS\*)-5-Methyl-2,3,3a,4,7,7a-hexahydro-1H-indene-3a,7a-diol (5e)**



To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%), BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and *cis*-1,2-cyclopentanediol **1e** (30.4 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 20%-40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5e** as a colourless oil in 93% yield (47.3 mg).

$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.26-5.23 (m, 1H), 2.31-2.09 (m, 6H), 1.90-1.54 (m, 10H).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  131.2, 117.7, 78.7, 78.0, 40.1, 35.5, 35.1, 34.8, 23.1, 17.4.

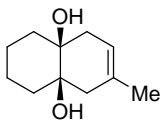
**FTIR** (neat):  $\nu$  3405, 2914, 2859, 1399, 1166, 1005, 898  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**TLC Rf**: 0.21 (1.5:1 hexanes:ethyl acetate).

**MS**: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{16}\text{NaO}_2$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$ ): 191.2; Found: 191.1



**(4aR\*,8aS\*)-6-Methyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydro-4a,8a-diol (5f)**



*From cyclohexane-1,2-diol 1f:*

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%), BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and *trans*-1,2-cyclohexanediol **1f** (34.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 20%-40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5f** as a colourless solid in 90% yield (49.9 mg).

*From 2-hydroxycyclohexanone 2f:*

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%), BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and 2-hydroxycyclohexanone **2f**: (34.0032 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **1c** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 20%-40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5a** as a colourless solid in 68% yield (37.5 mg).

*From cyclohexane-1,2-dione 3f:*

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{RuH}_2(\text{CO})(\text{PPh}_3)_3$  (16.5 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) BIPHEP (9.6 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and cyclohexane-1,2-dione **3f** (33.6 mg, 0.30 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%) and > 95% formic acid (35  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.9 mmol, 300 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 72 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature before slowly opening reaction tube (gas evolution). The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 1:3 to 2:3 EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5f** as a colourless solid in 54% yield (32.9 mg).

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.27-5.23 (m, 1H), 2.34-2.03 (m, 6H), 1.71-1.61 (m, 7H), 1.51-1.37 (m, 4H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  131.0, 117.6, 72.5, 72.0, 41.5, 36.6, 34.0, 33.8, 23.1, 21.99, 21.96.

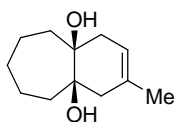
**FTIR** (neat):  $\nu$  3401, 2914, 2859, 1444, 1399, 1005, 898  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**TLC Rf**: 0.33 (1.5:1 hexanes:ethyl acetate).

**Melting Point**: 77-78 °C.

**MS**: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{18}\text{NaO}_2$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$ ): 205.2; Found: 205.1.

**(4aR\*,9aS\*)-2-Methyl-4,4a-5,6,7,8,9,9a-octahydro-1H-benzo[7]annulene-4a,9a-diol (5g)**



To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%) BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and *cis*-1,2-cycloheptanediol **1g** (39.1 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 20% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5g** as a white solid in 80% yield (47.3 mg).

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.27 (s, 1H), 2.29-2.06 (m, 6H), 1.97-1.89 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.71 (m, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H), 1.55-1.45 (m, 5H)

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  131.6, 118.1, 75.4, 74.9, 43.1, 38.3, 35.9, 35.7, 26.2, 23.1, 20.9

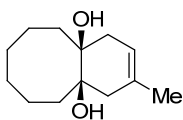
**FTIR** (neat):  $\nu$  3404, 2915, 2862, 1438, 1406, 1321, 1195, 1108, 1091, 1075, 1032, 1020, 959, 931, 894, 885, 860, 796  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**TLC Rf**: 0.23 (20% ethyl acetate/hexanes).

**Melting Point**: 86-88 °C

**MS**: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_2\text{Na}$  (M+Na): 219.3; Found: 219.1 (M+Na).

**(4aR\*,10aS\*)-2-Methyl-1,4,4a-5,6,7,8,9,10,10a-decahydrobenzo[8]annulene-4a,10a-diol (5h)**



To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%), BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and *cis*-1,2-cyclooctanediol **1h** (42.3 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 20% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5h** as a colourless solid in 70% yield (43.9 mg).

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.29-2.25 (m, 1H), 2.32-2.04 (m, 6H), 1.98-1.90 (m, 2H), 1.86-1.75 (m, 2H), 1.69-1.41 (m, 12H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  131.6, 118.1, 75.1, 74.6, 44.8, 40.0, 35.82, 35.75, 28.0, 23.1.

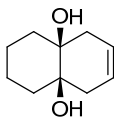
**FTIR** (neat):  $\nu$  3406, 3322, 2923, 2854, 1439, 1147, 1064, 878  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**TLC Rf**: 0.39 (1.5:1 hexanes:ethyl acetate).

**Melting Point**: 95-96 °C.

**MS**: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{22}\text{NaO}_2$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$ ): 233.3; Found: 233.2.

**(4aR\*,8aS\*)-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthlene-4a,8a-diol (5i)**



To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (5.2 mg, 0.0081 mmol, 2 mol%) BIPHEP (12.9 mg, 0.025 mmol, 6 mol%) and cyclohexane-1,2-diol **1a** (47.2 mg, 0.41 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.2 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by 1,3-butadiene (0.2 mL, 2.1 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 2:3 EtOAc:hexanes) to provide the cycloadduct **5i** as a colourless solid in 85% yield (58.3 mg).

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.55 (m, 2H), 2.38-2.16 (m, 6H), 1.66-1.56 (m, 4H), 1.52-1.34 (m, 4H).

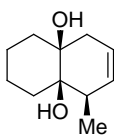
**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  123.8, 72.3, 36.6, 34.0, 22.0.

**FTIR** (neat):  $\nu$  3357, 2959, 2914, 1438, 1311, 1091, 1053, 950, 667  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**TLC Rf**: 0.35 (3:2 hexanes:ethyl acetate).

**MS**: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{16}\text{NaO}_2$  ( $\text{MNa}^+$ ): 191.10; Found: 191.1.

**(4aR\*,5R\*,8aS\*)-5-Methyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5j)**



To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%) BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and trans-1,2-cyclohexanediol **1f** (34.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled 1,3-pentadiene **4c** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 20% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5j** as a white solid in 91% yield (49.8 mg, 5:1 dr).

**mp:** 111-113°C

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.61-5.55 (m, 1H), 5.35-5.32 (m, 1H), 2.64-2.60 (m, 1H), 2.40-2.33 (m, 1H), 2.17 (s, 1H), 2.08-2.02 (m, 1H), 1.77-1.36 (m, 8H), 1.07-1.06 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 3H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  129.5, 123.6, 74.2, 72.5, 38.1, 34.6, 33.9, 30.0, 22.8, 20.5, 14.2.

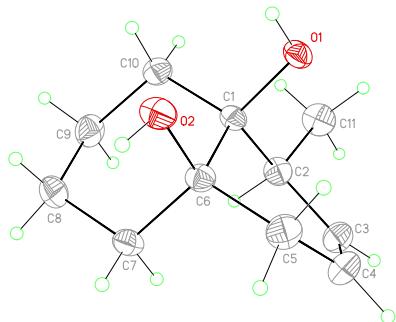
**FTIR** (neat):  $\nu$  3432, 3333, 2950, 2925, 2897, 2861, 1459, 1191, 1158, 1057, 979, 958, 878, 762  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**TLC Rf:** 0.19 (20% ethyl acetate/hexanes).

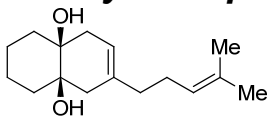
**MS:** Calculated for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_2\text{Na}$  (M+Na): 205.2; Found: 205.1 (M+Na).

**Relative stereochemistry determined by X-ray crystallography**

View of **5j** showing the atom labeling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are scaled to the 50% probability level.



**(4aR\*,8aS\*)-6-(4-Methylpent-3-en-1-yl)-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5k)**



To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%), BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and *trans*-1,2-cyclohexanediol **1f** (34.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled myrcene **4d** (0.16 mL, 0.9 mmol, 300 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 10%-40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5k** as a colourless solid in 84% yield (65.9 mg).

**$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.27 (m, 1H), 5.09-5.03 (m, 1H), 2.34-1.92 (m, 10H), 1.73-1.62 (m, 7H), 1.60 (s, 3H), 1.49-1.36 (m, 4H).

**$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  134.7, 131.6, 124.0, 117.3, 72.6, 72.1, 39.7, 36.9, 36.7, 33.9, 33.7, 26.2, 25.7, 22.0, 21.9, 17.7.

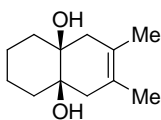
**FTIR** (neat):  $\nu$  3405, 2914, 2859, 1399, 1166, 1005, 898  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**TLC Rf**: 0.33 (1.5:1 hexanes:ethyl acetate).

**Melting Point**: 84-85 °C.

**MS**: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{26}\text{NaO}_2$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$ ): 273.3; Found: 273.2.

**(4aR\*,8aS\*)-6,7-Dimethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5I)**



To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%), BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and trans-1,2-cyclohexanediol **1f** (34.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled 2,3-dimethylbutadiene **4e** (0.10 mL, 0.9 mmol, 300 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 150 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 20%-40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5I** as a colourless solid in 75% yield (44.4 mg).

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.25-2.02 (m, 6H), 1.70-1.61 (m, 4H), 1.60 (s, 6H), 1.49-1.36 (m, 4H).

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR** (100 MHz, acetone- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  122.3, 72.6, 42.9, 33.8, 22.0, 18.6.

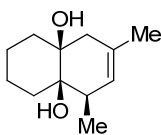
**FTIR** (neat):  $\nu$  3409, 3311, 2918, 1891, 1443, 1403, 1076, 1028, 989, 891  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**TLC Rf**: 0.23 (1.5:1 hexanes:ethyl acetate).

**Melting Point**: 135-136 °C.

**MS**: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{20}\text{NaO}_2$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$ ): 219.3; Found: 219.1.

**(4aR\*,5R\*,8aS\*)-5,7-Dimethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5m)**



To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%), BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and *trans*-1,2-cyclohexanediol **1f** (34.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled 2-methyl-1,3-pentadiene **4f** (0.17 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 150 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 20% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5m** as a colourless waxy solid in 78% yield (53.8 mg, 1.2:1 dr).

**$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.15 (m, 1H), 5.01 (m, 1.2H), 2.64-2.48 (m, 2H), 2.34-2.15 (m, 4H), 1.98-1.20 (m, 34H), 1.01 (d, 3.6H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 0.92 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz).

**$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  133.4, 131.0, 128.8, 123.5, 73.9, 73.8, 72.92, 72.88, 43.0, 36.5, 35.8, 34.3, 34.0, 30.2, 29.7, 23.1, 22.8, 22.7, 22.3, 21.2, 20.5, 14.5, 14.3.

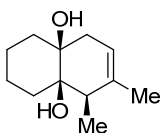
**FTIR** (neat):  $\nu$  3413, 3322, 2946, 2862, 1447, 1169, 983, 878  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**TLC Rf**: 0.31 (1.5:1 hexanes:ethyl acetate).

**MS**: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{20}\text{NaO}_2$  ( $\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$ ): 219.3; Found: 219.1.



**(4aR\*,5R\*,8aR\*)-5,6-Dimethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5n)**



*From 3-methyl-1,3-pentadiene 4g:*

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added Ru<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub> (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%), BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and *cis*-1,2-cyclohexanediol **1f** (34.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled 3-methyl-1,3-pentadiene **4g** (0.17 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>: 20%-40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5n** as a colourless solid in 82% yield (48.8 mg, >20:1 dr).

*From 3-methyl-1,4-pentadiene iso-4g:*

To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added Ru<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub> (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%), BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and *trans*-1,2-cyclohexanediol **1f** (34.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled 3-methyl-1,4-pentadiene **iso-4g** (0.18 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>: 20%-40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5n** as a colourless solid in 91% yield (63.9 mg, >20:1 dr).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, acetone-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 5.24-5.20 (m, 1H), 3.15-2.99 (m, 1H), 2.34-2.21 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.27 (m, 12H), 1.09 (d, 3H, *J* = 7.2 Hz).

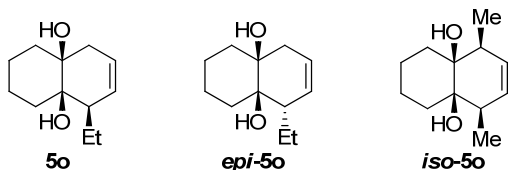
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, acetone-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 135.4, 119.1, 74.1, 72.6, 41.0, 37.9, 35.1, 32.9, 23.4, 22.2, 21.9, 13.0.

FTIR (neat): ν 3420, 2942, 2871, 1391, 1160, 976, 884, 838 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

TLC Rf: 0.13 (4:1 hexanes:ethyl acetate).

MS: Calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> (M+Na<sup>+</sup>): 219.3; Found: 219.1.

**(4aR\*,5R\*,8aS\*)-5-Ethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5o)**



To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%), BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and *trans*-1,2-cyclohexane **1f** (34.8 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled 2,4-hexadiene **4h** (0.17 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 150 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 20%-40% EtOAc:hexane) to provide a mixture of cycloadducts **5o** as a colourless oil in 90% yield (53.1 mg). The isomers were separated from each other and characterized independently.

**(4aR\*,5R\*,8aS\*)-5-Ethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5o)**

$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.65 (m, 2H), 2.36 (m, 1H), 2.27 (m, 1H), 2.14 (br s, 1H), 2.04 (m, 1H), 1.81-1.53 (m, 9H), 1.46-1.18 (m, 4H), 1.03 (t, 3H,  $J = 7$  Hz).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  126.4, 123.8, 74.7, 72.5, 41.9, 38.0, 33.9, 30.1, 22.9, 21.6, 20.6, 12.9.

**MS**: Calculated for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{21}\text{NaO}_2$  ( $M+\text{Na}$ ): 219.3; Found: 219.1.

**(4aR\*,5S\*,8aS\*)-5-Ethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5-epi-5o)**

$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.66 (ddd, 1H,  $J^1 = 2.5$  Hz,  $J^2 = 4.8$  Hz,  $J^3 = 10$  Hz), 5.49-5.43 (m, 1H), 2.58 (br s, 1H), 2.24 (m, 1H), 1.98 (br s, 1H), 1.90-1.16 (m, 14H), 0.91 (t, 3H,  $J = 7$  Hz).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  134.0, 125.6, 74.5, 72.6, 36.6, 36.2, 29.8, 22.3, 21.2, 21.0, 11.7.

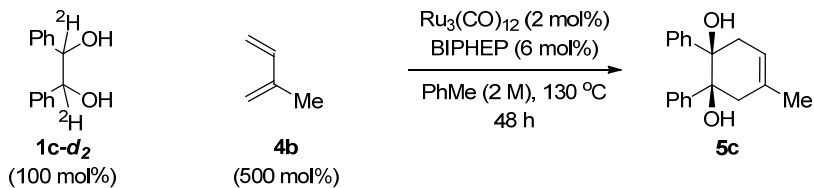
**(4aR\*,5R\*,8S,8aS\*)-5,8-Dimethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (iso-5o)**

$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  5.44 (m, 2H), 2.36 (m, 2H), 1.92 (br s, 2H), 1.71-1.52 (m, 7H), 1.45-1.32 (m, 2H), 1.10 (d, 6H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz).

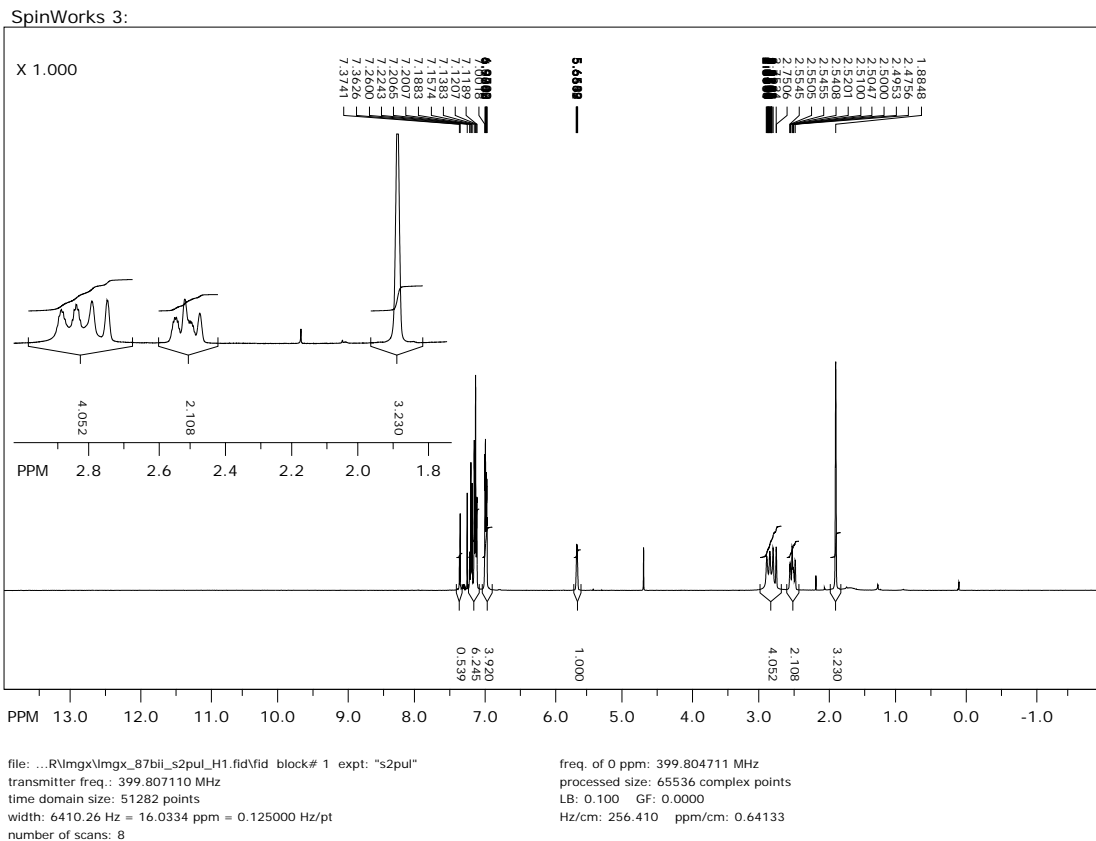
$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  129.1, 74.5, 38.1, 33.3, 21.6, 16.1.

**FTIR** (neat):  $\nu$  3401, 3027, 2940, 2866, 1456, 1365, 1080, 875, 839, 678  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

## Deuterium Labelling Experiment

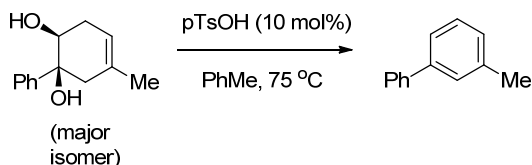


To a dry pressure tube sealed with a septum under an argon atmosphere was added  $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  (3.8 mg, 0.006 mmol, 2 mol%), BIPHEP (9.4 mg, 0.018 mmol, 6 mol%) and  $\text{d}_2$ -hydrobenzoin **1c-d<sub>2</sub>** (64.9 mg, 0.3 mmol, 100 mol%). The pressure tube was purged with argon and toluene (0.15 mL, 2.0 M) was added via syringe, followed by freshly distilled isoprene **4b** (0.15 mL, 1.5 mmol, 500 mol%). The septum was replaced with a screw cap and the reaction was placed in a 130 °C oil bath. After 48 hours, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and was allowed to cool to room temperature. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by flash chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ : 5%-20% EtOAc:hexane) to provide the cycloadduct **5c** as a colourless solid in 76% yield (64.4 mg). No  $^2\text{H}$  incorporation was observed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR.



## Dehydration and Proof of Regioselectivity

### 3-Methyl-1,1'-biphenyl

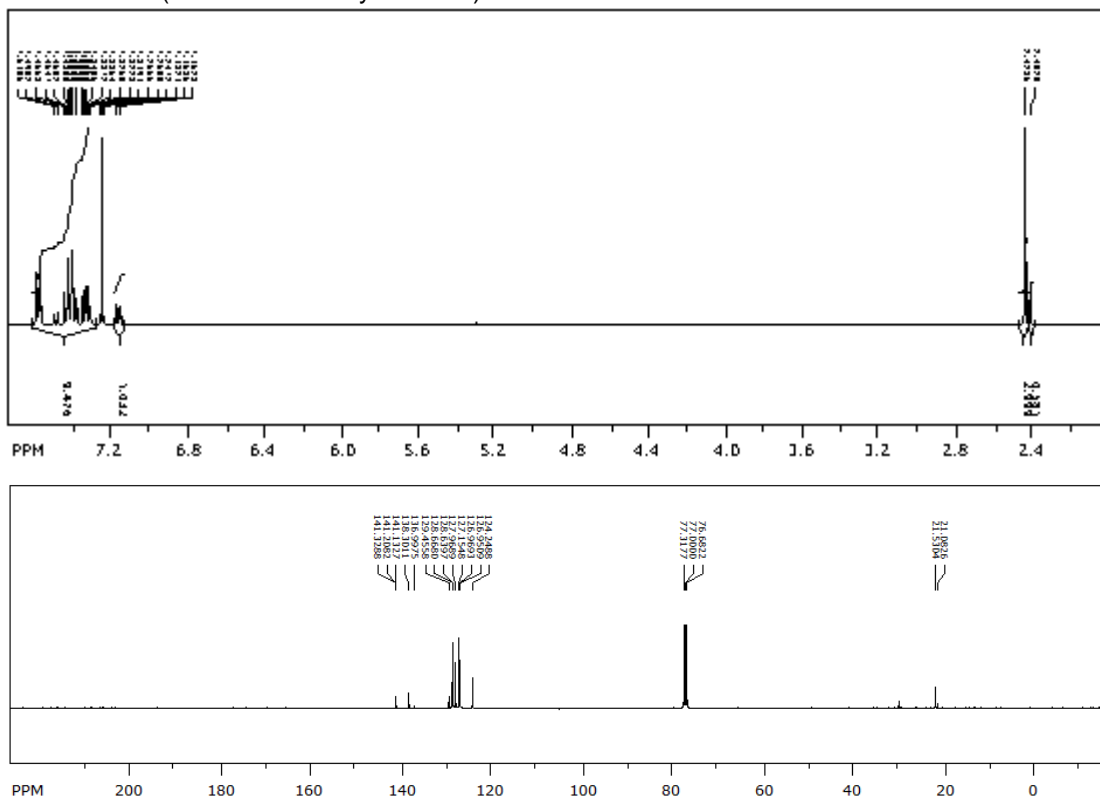


To a round bottomed flask was added cycloadduct **4a** (74.4 mg, 0.36 mmol, 100 mol%) followed by p-toluenesulfonic acid (7 mg, 0.036 mmol, 10 mol%). Toluene was added (5 mL) and the round bottomed flask was fitted with a reflux condenser and the reaction vessel was placed in a 75 °C oil bath. When judged complete by TLC, the reaction vessel was removed from the oil bath and allowed to cool to room temperature. The toluene was removed under reduced pressure via rotary evaporation and the residue was purified via flash chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>: hexanes) to provide methylbiphenyl as a colourless oil in 65% yield (40.2 mg) as a 5:1 ratio of 3-methylbiphenyl<sup>7</sup> to 4-methylbiphenyl.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.61-7.31 (m, 9H), 7.17 (m, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 0.6H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 141.3, 141.2, 141.1, 138.3, 137.0, 129.5, 128.7, 129.6, 128.0, 127.2, 126.97, 126.95, 124.2, 21.5 (major), 21.1 (minor).

TLC Rf: 0.68 (3:2 hexanes:ethyl acetate).

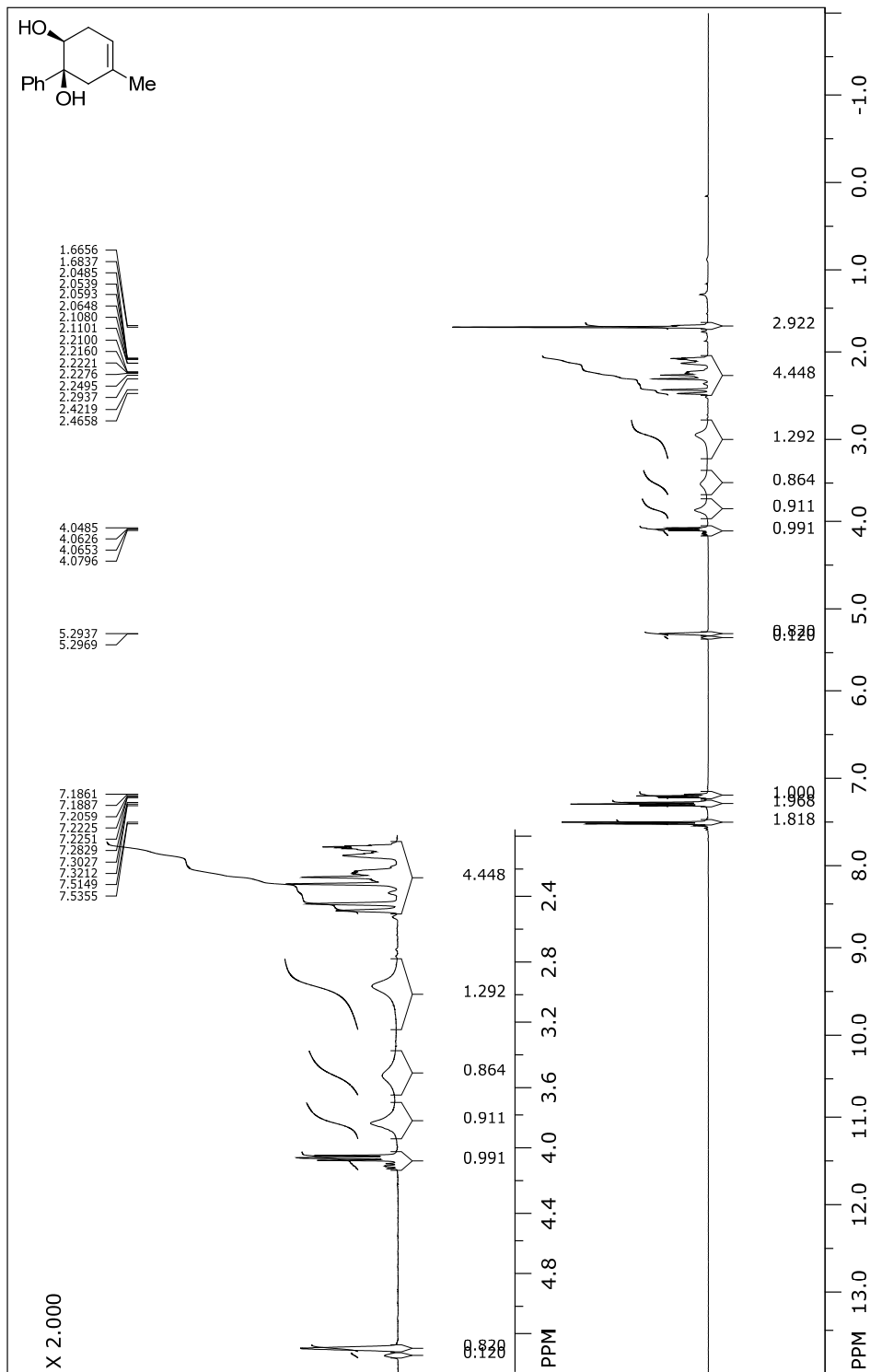


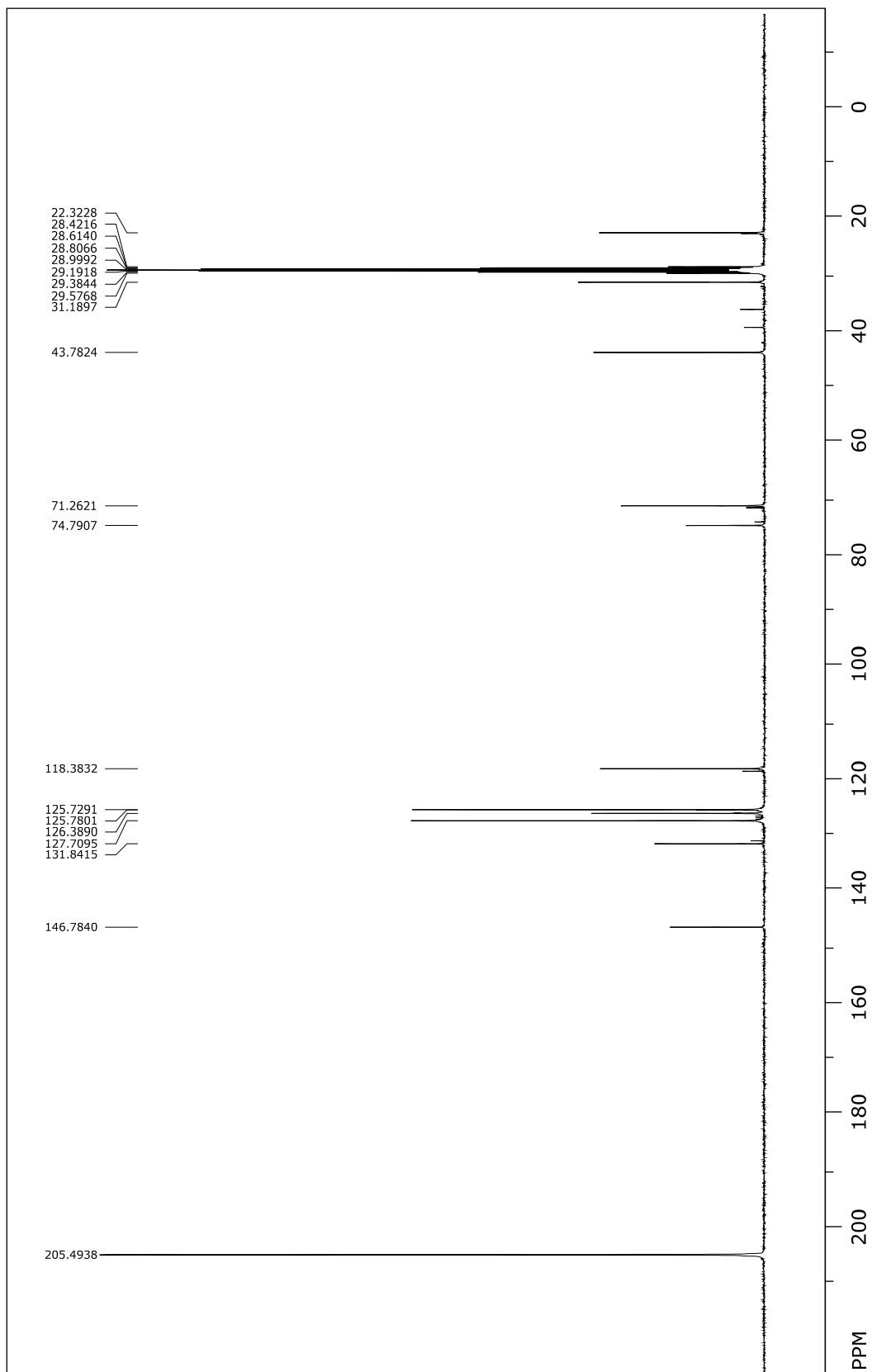
<sup>7</sup> P. D. Stevens, J. Fan, H. M. R. Gardimalla, M. Yen, and Y. Gao *Org. Lett.* **2005**, *7*, 2085-2088.

<sup>8</sup> R. Bandari, T. Höche, A. Prager, K. Dirnberger, M. R. Buchmeiser *Chem. Eur. J.* **2010**, *16*, 4650-4658.

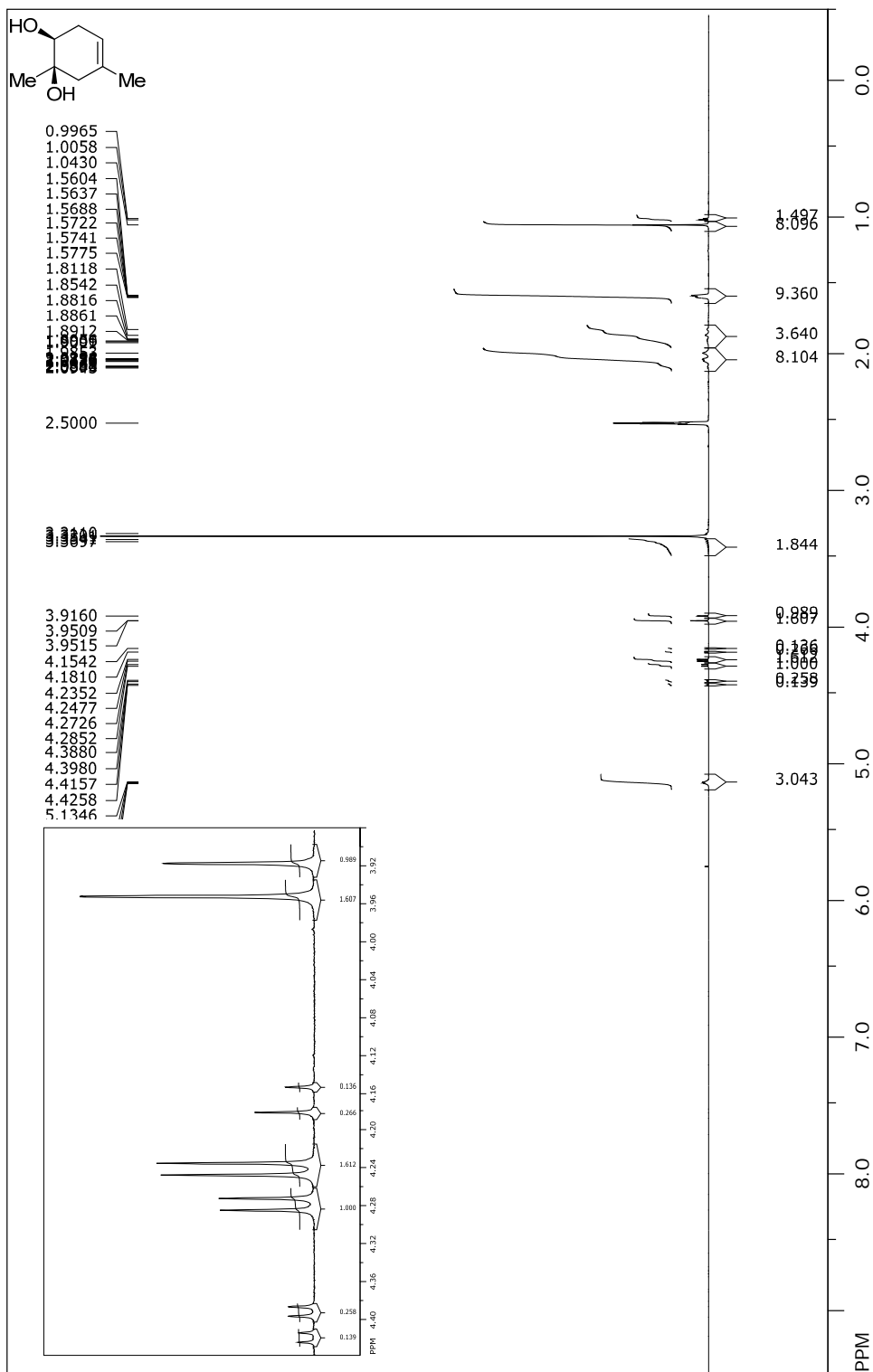
# NMR Spectra

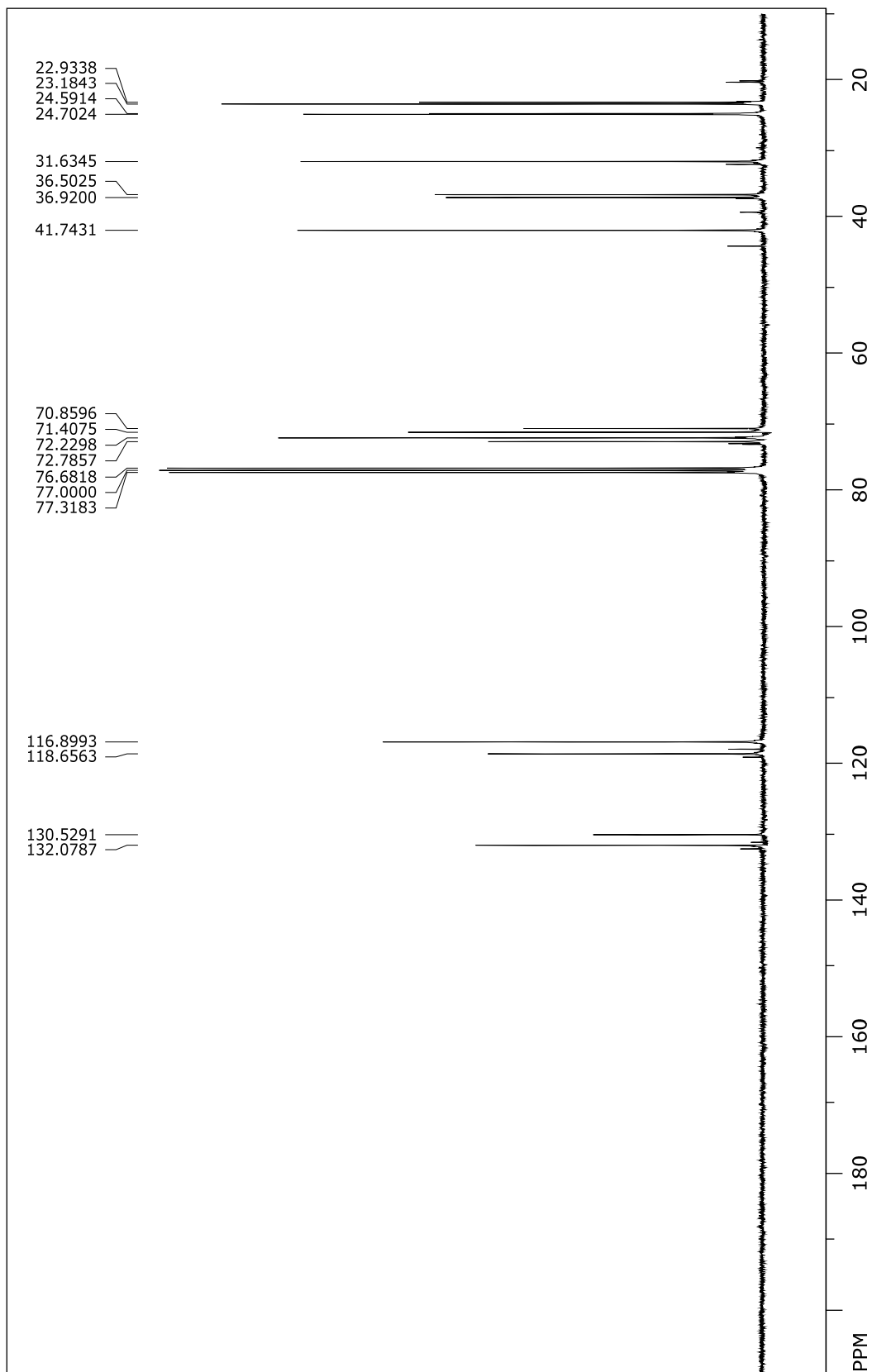
## (1R\*,2R\*)-5-Methyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-1,2-diol (5a)





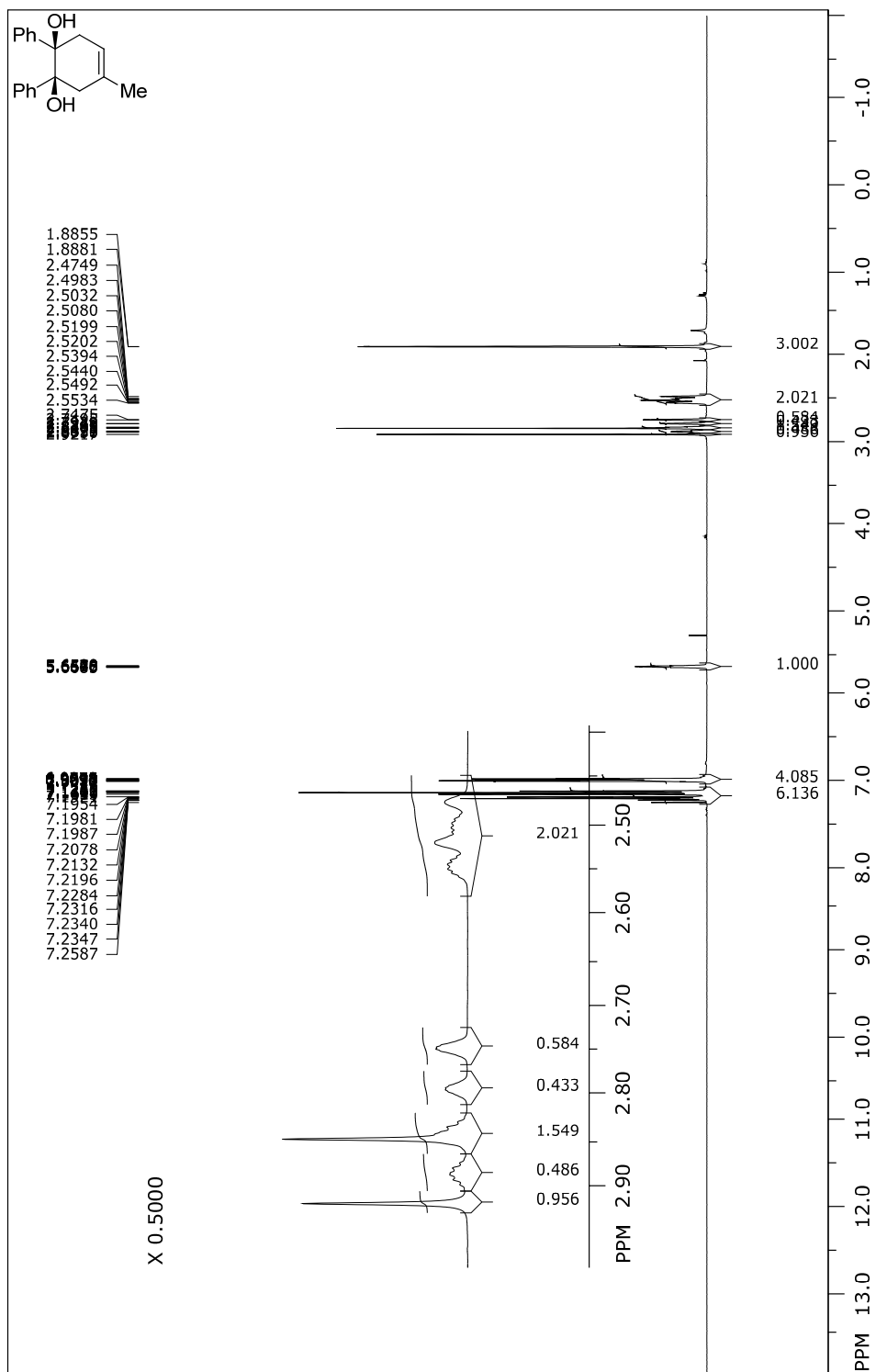
**(1R\*,2R\*)-1,5-Dimethyl-cyclohex-4-ene-1,2-diol (5b)**

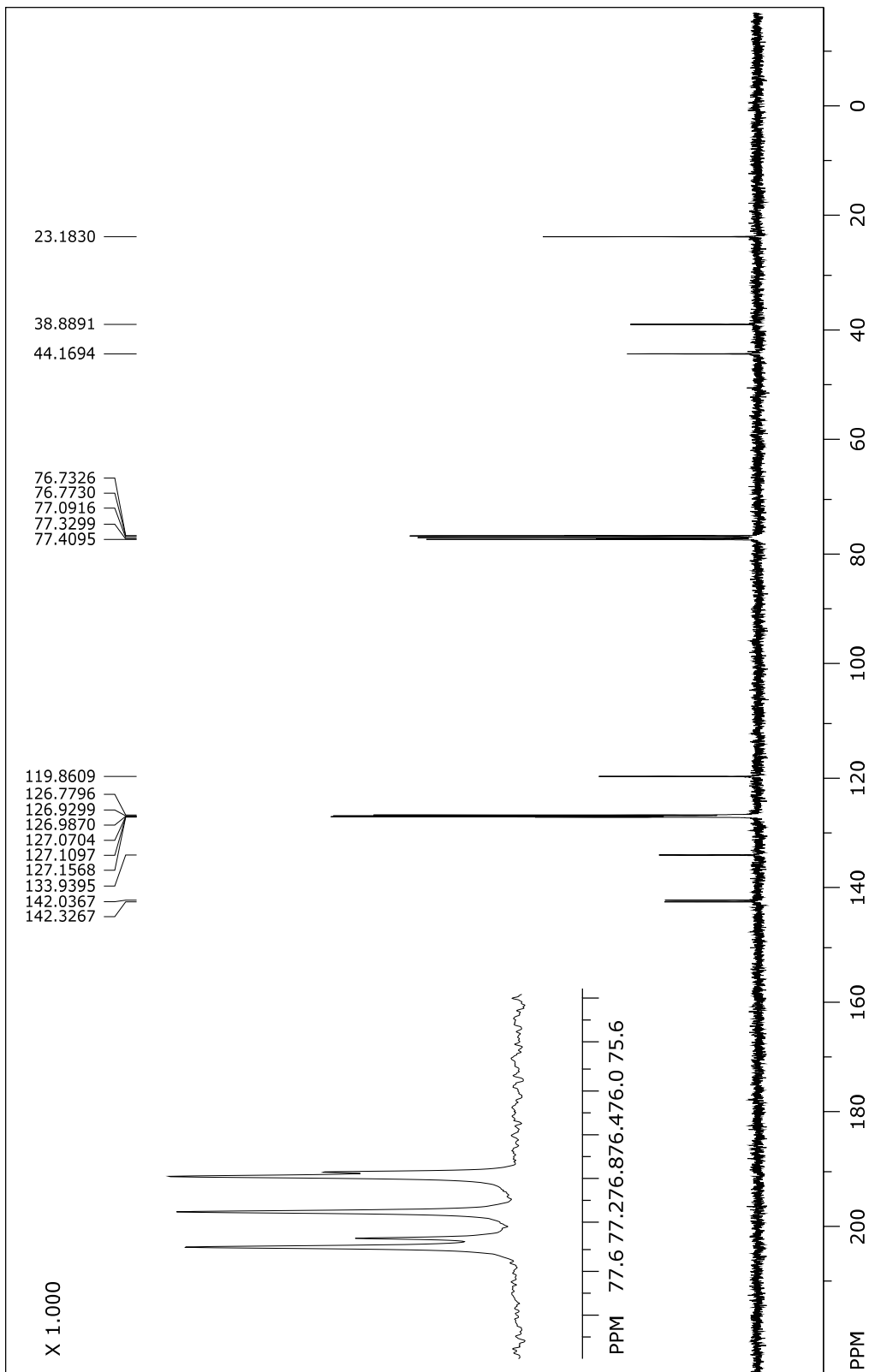




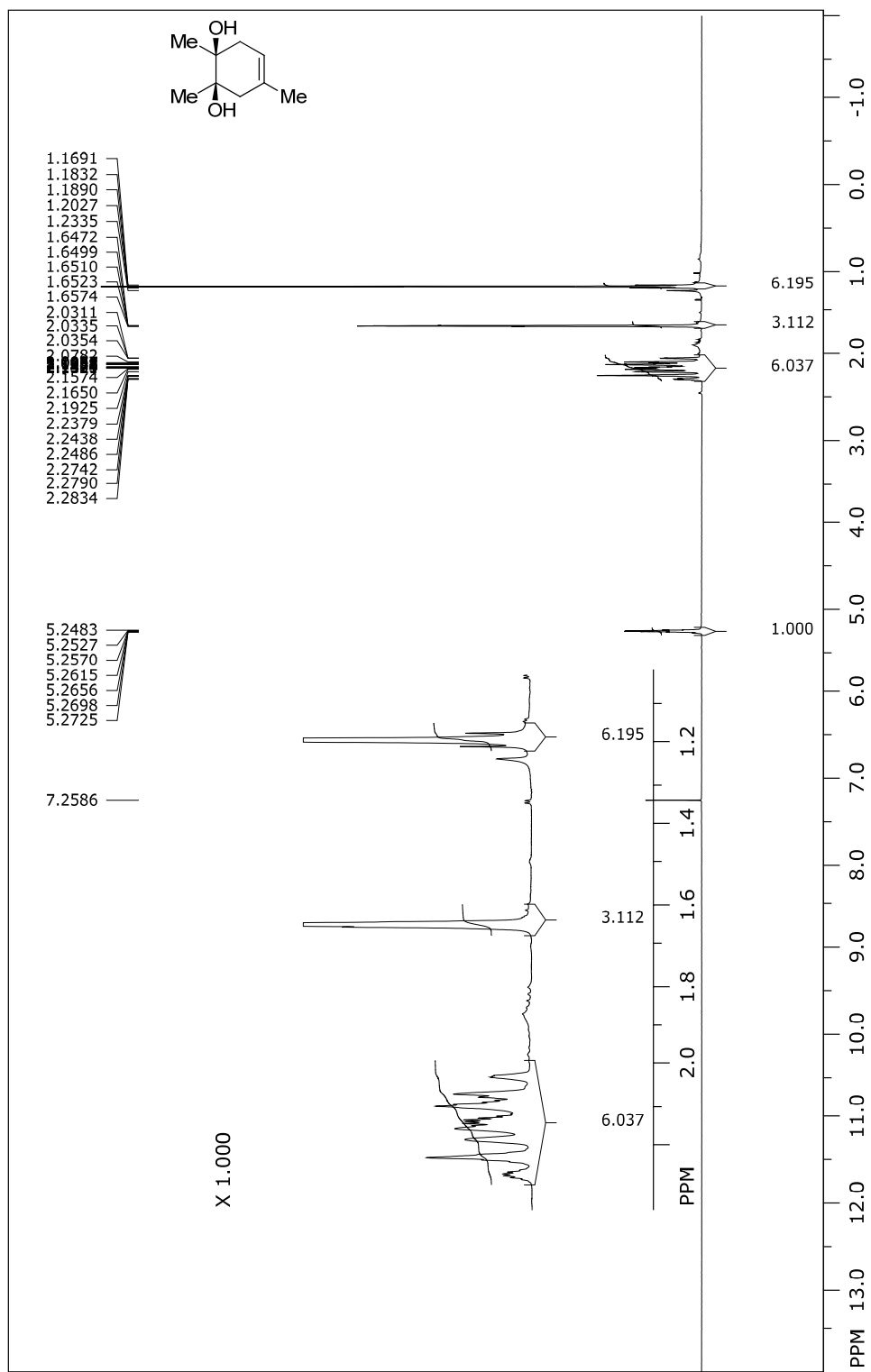


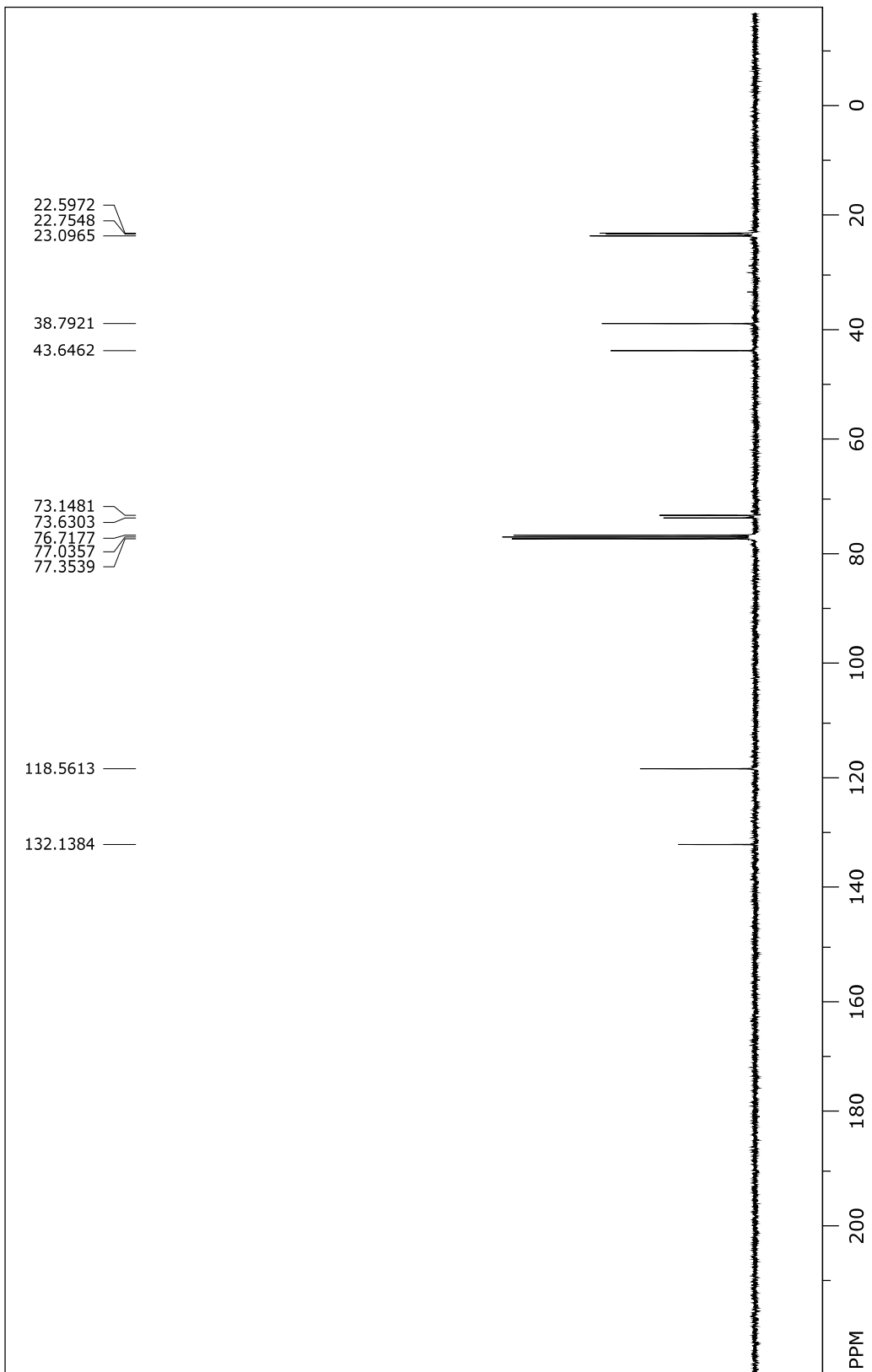
**(1R\*,2S\*)-4'-Methyl-1',2',3',6'-tetrahydro-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]1',2'-diol (5c)**



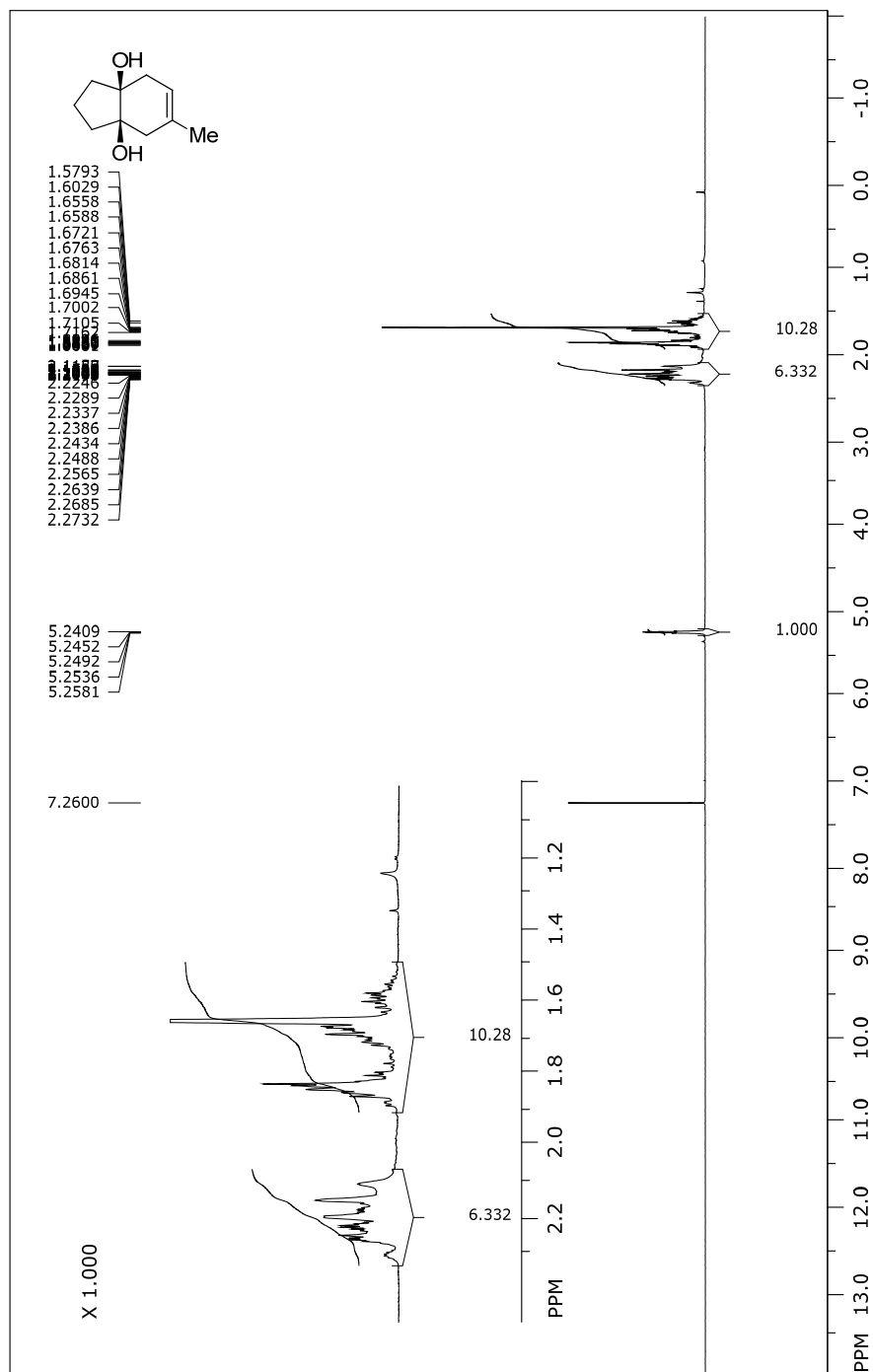


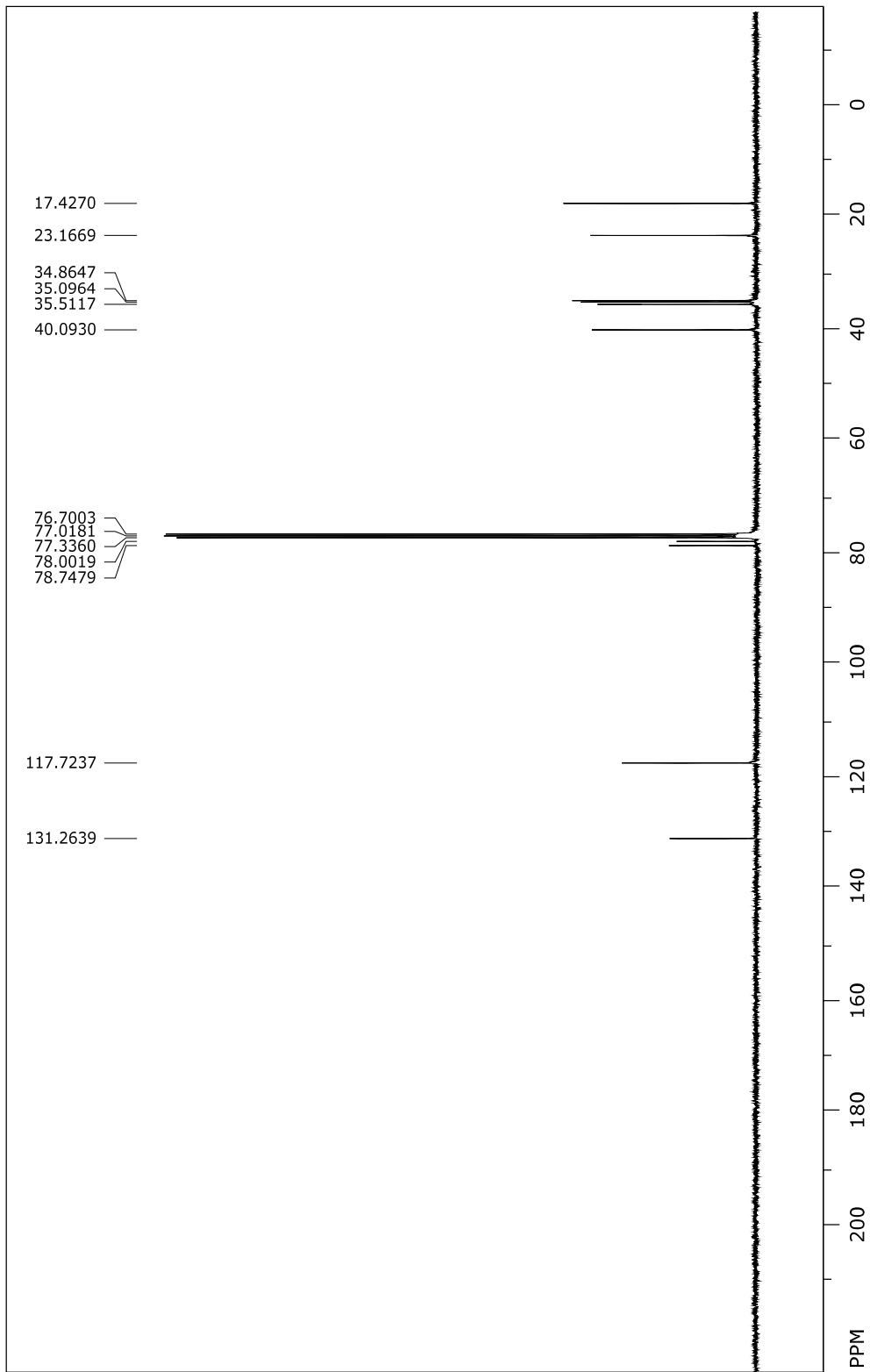
**(1R\*,2S\*)-1,2,4-Trimethyl-cyclohex-4-ene-1,2-diol (5d)**



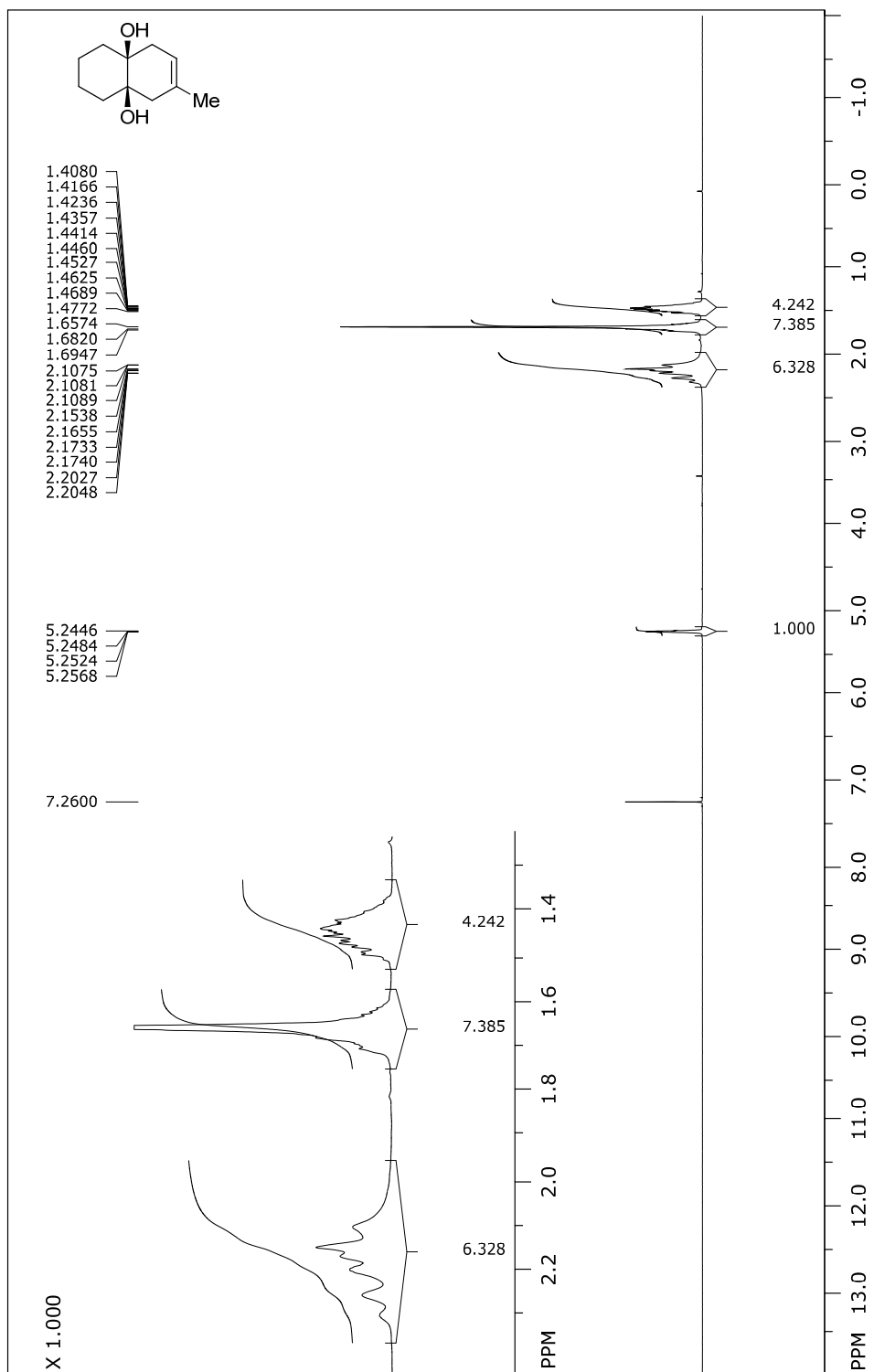


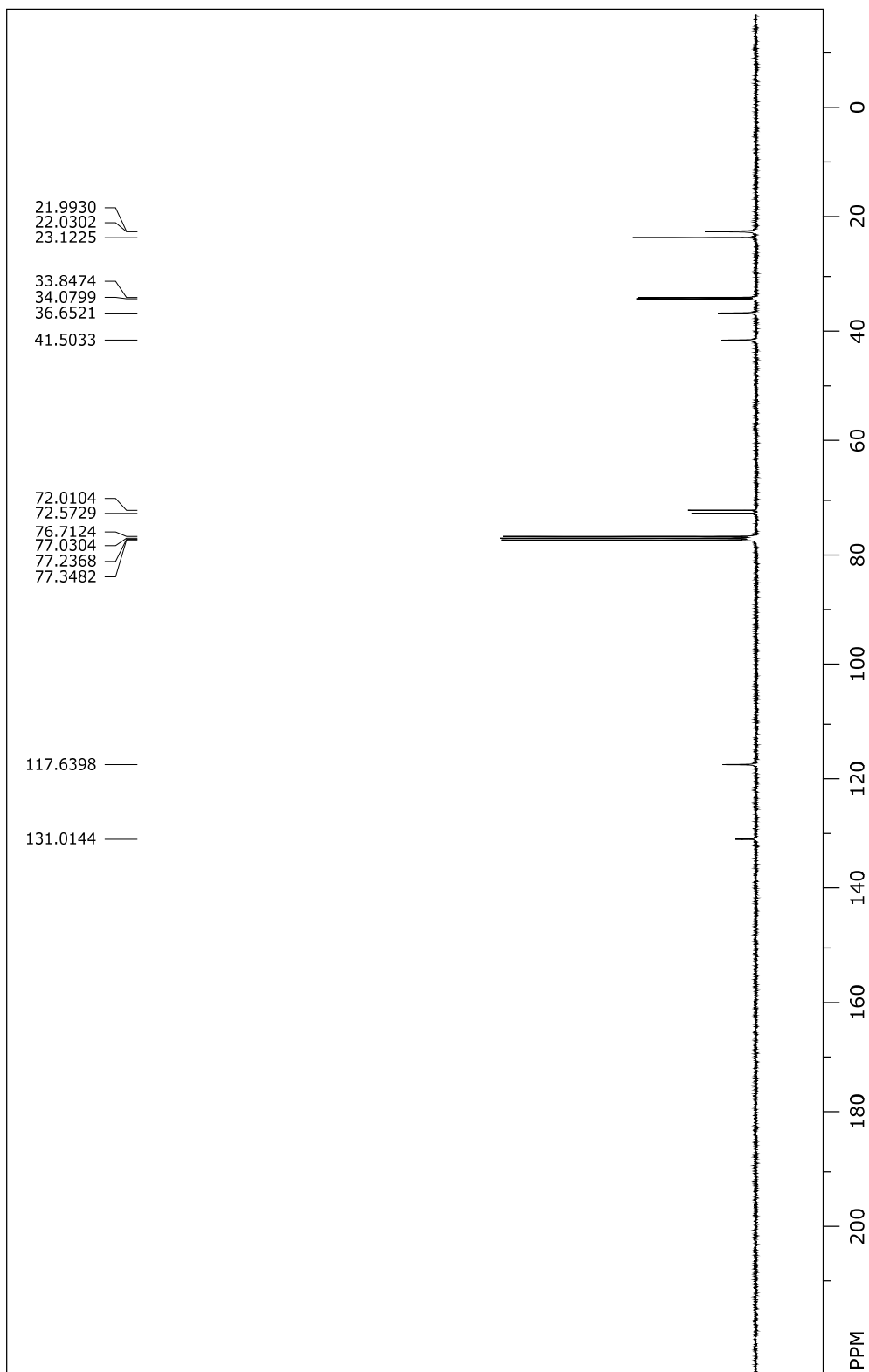
**(3aR\*,7aS\*)-5-Methyl-2,3,3a,4,7,7a-hexahydro-1H-indene-3a,7a-diol  
(5e)**





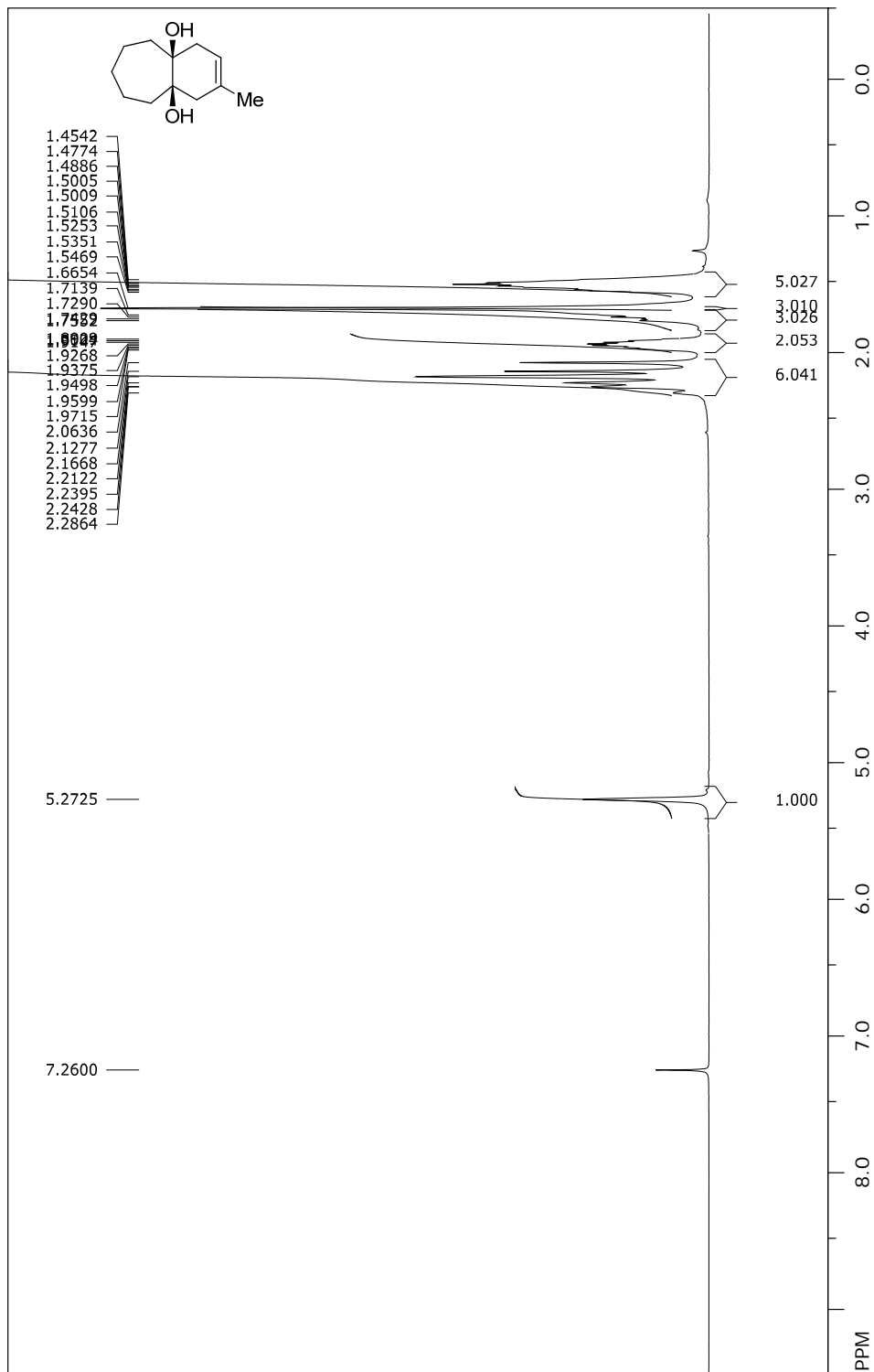
**(4aR\*,8aS\*)-6-Methyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydro-4a,8a-diol (5f)**

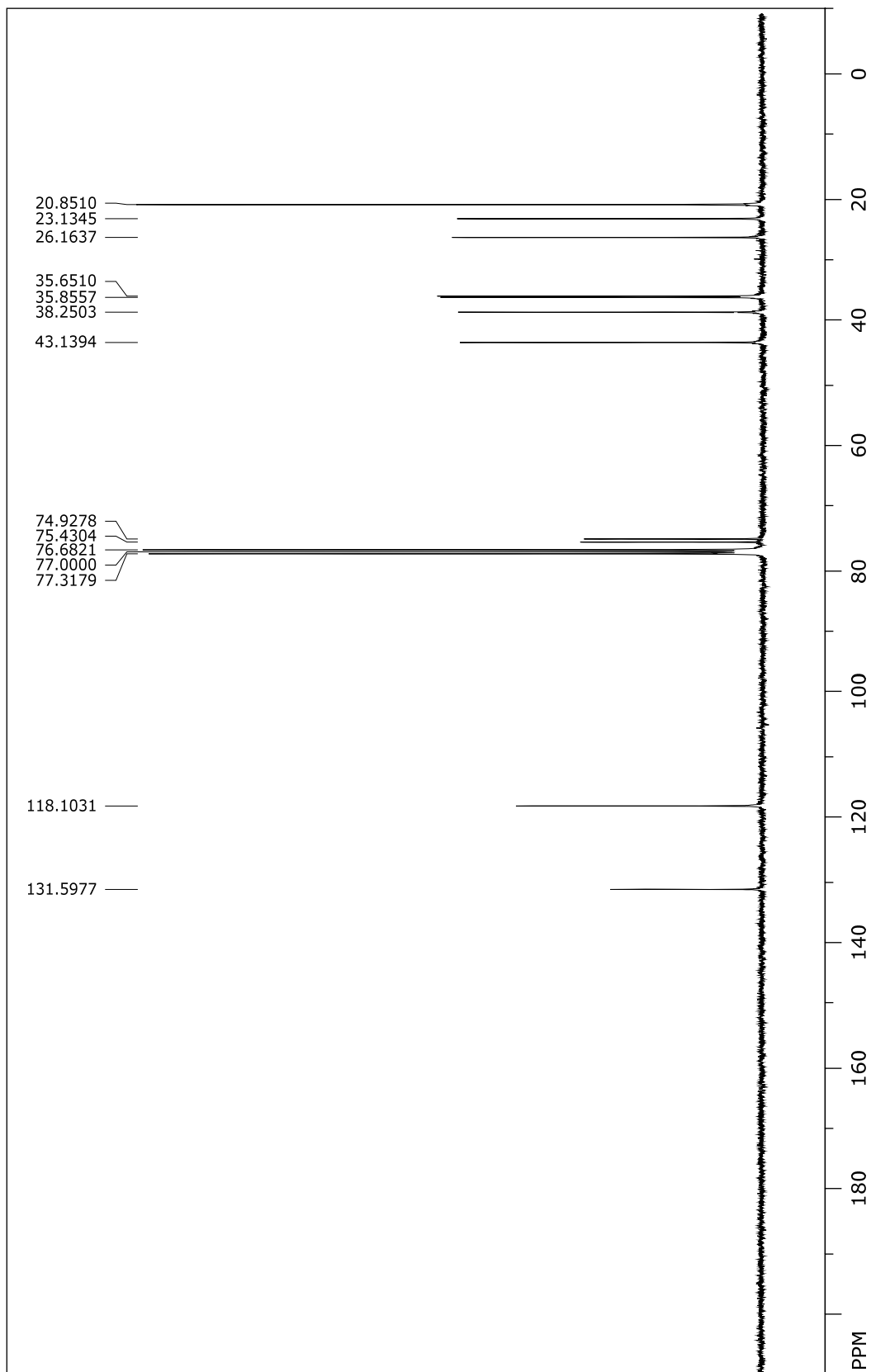




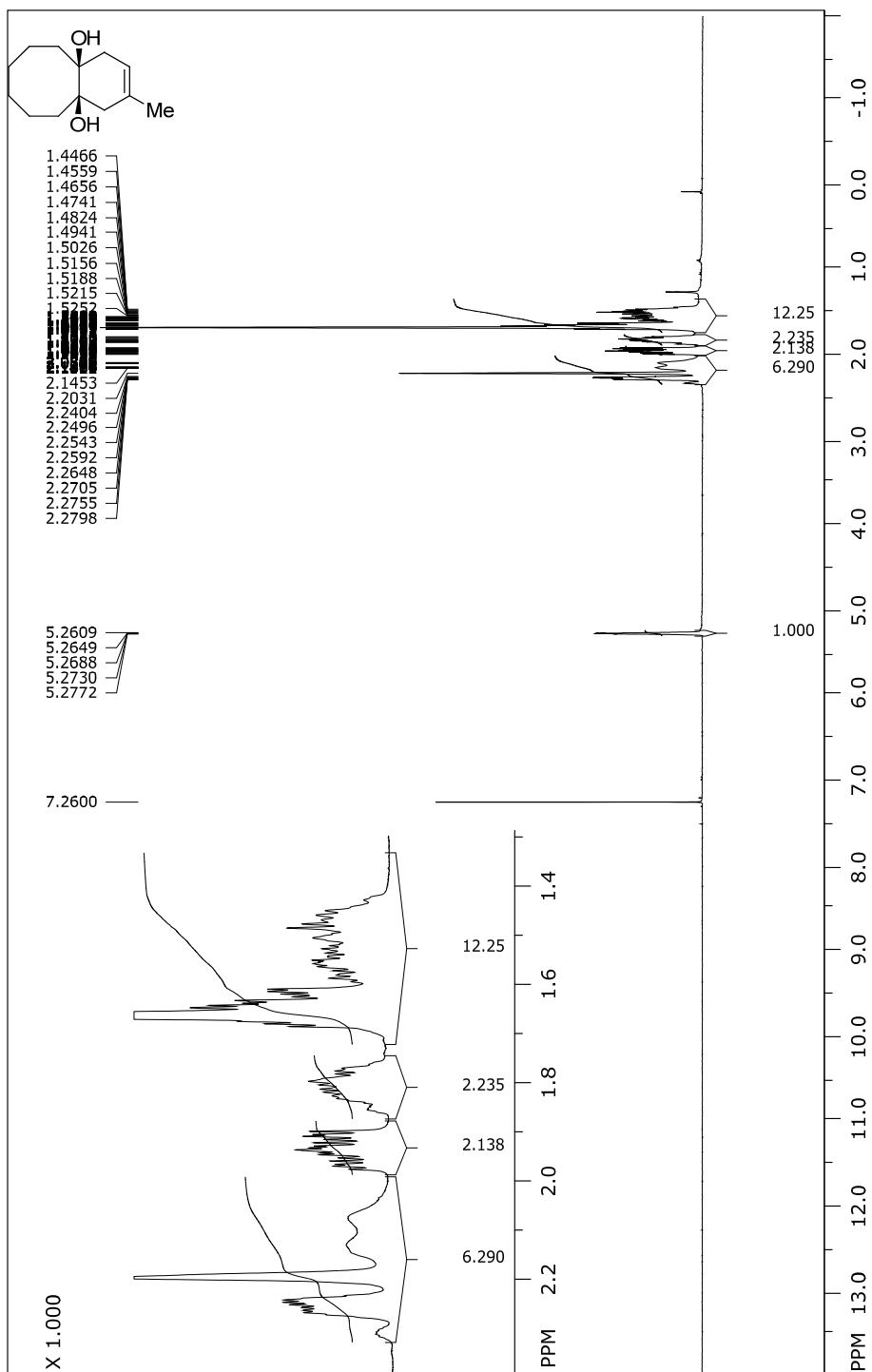


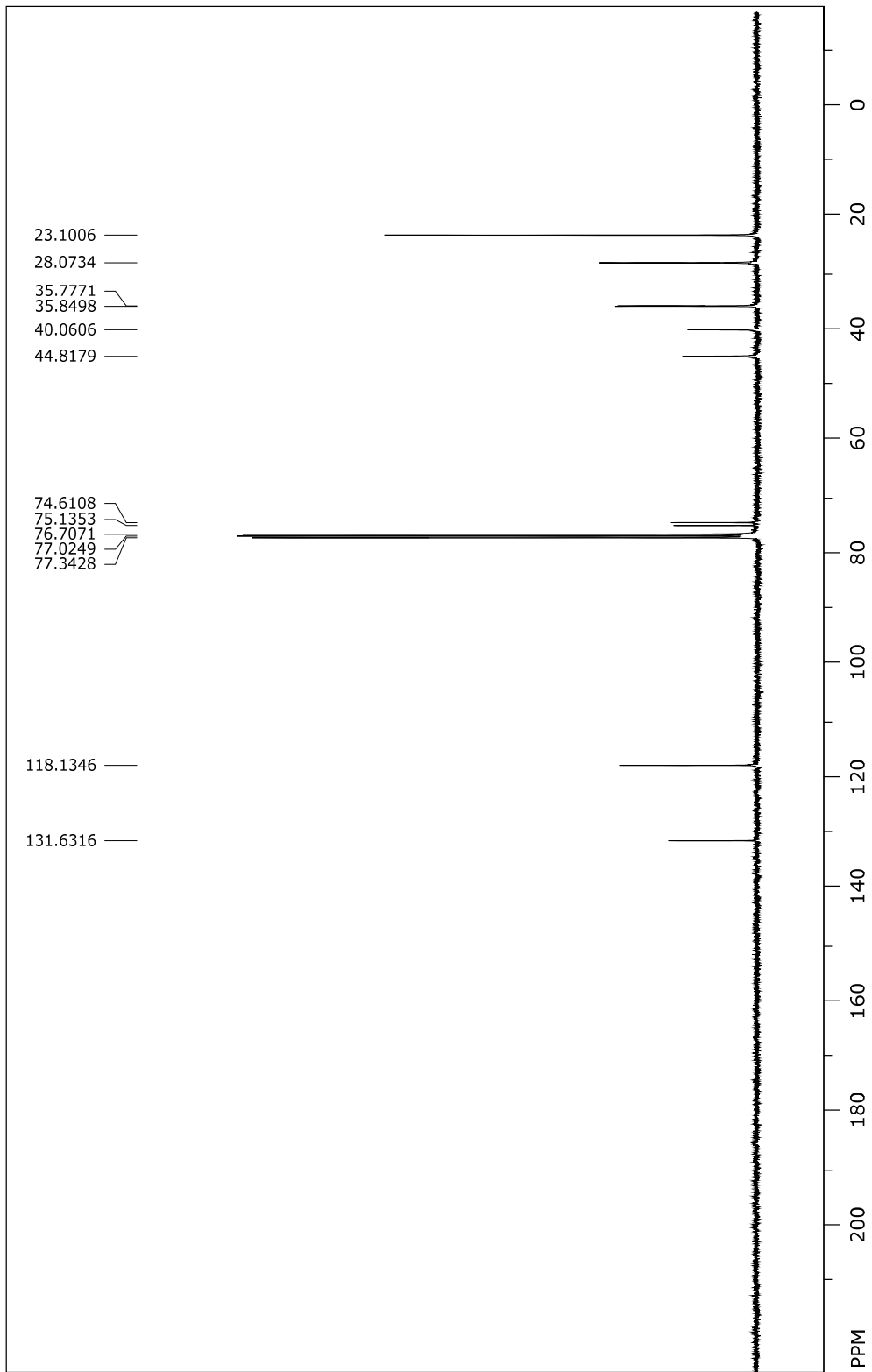
**(4aR\*,9aS\*)-2-Methyl-4,4a-5,6,7,8,9,9a-octahydro-1H-benzo[7]annulene-4a,9a-diol (5g)**



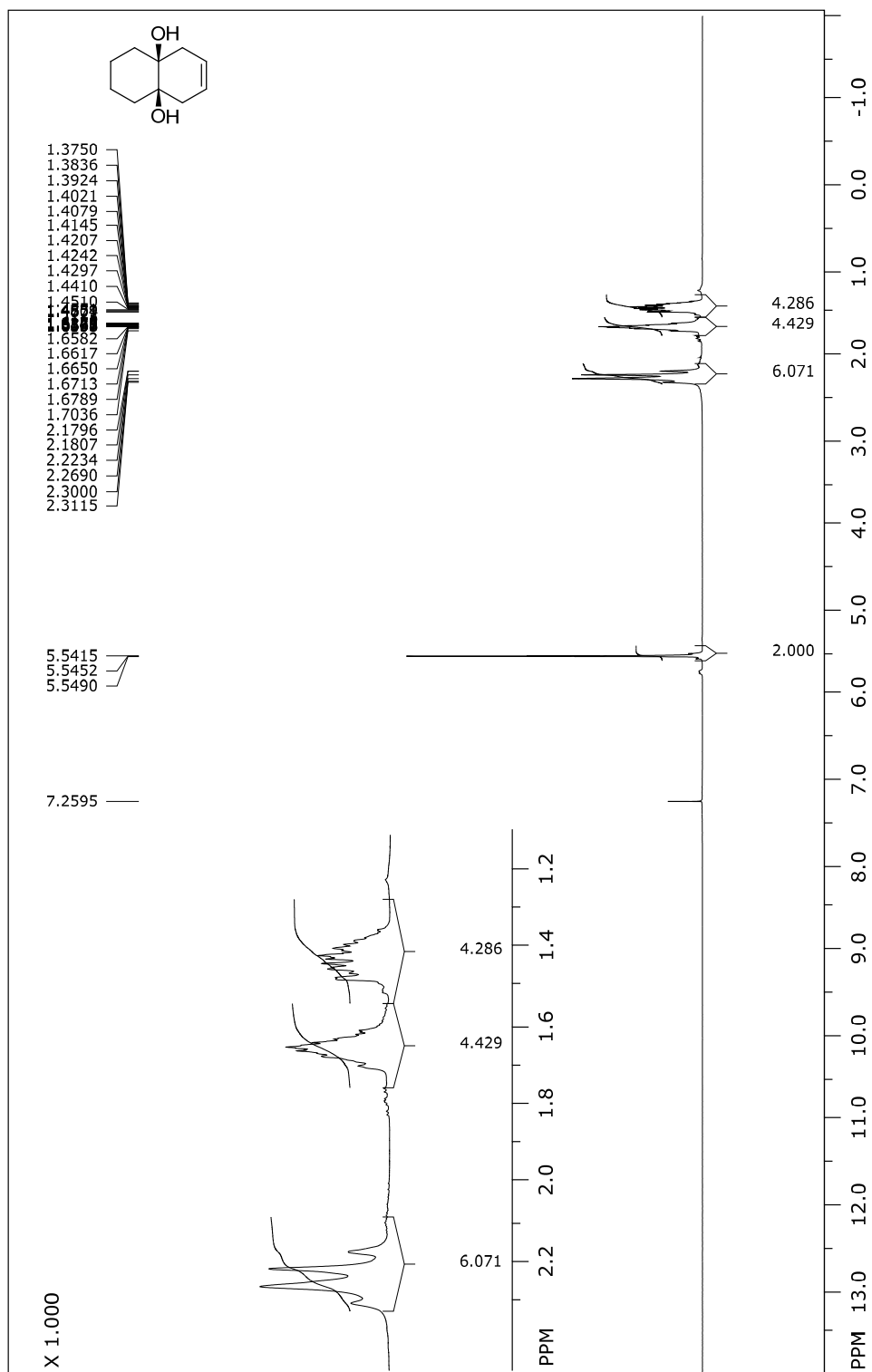


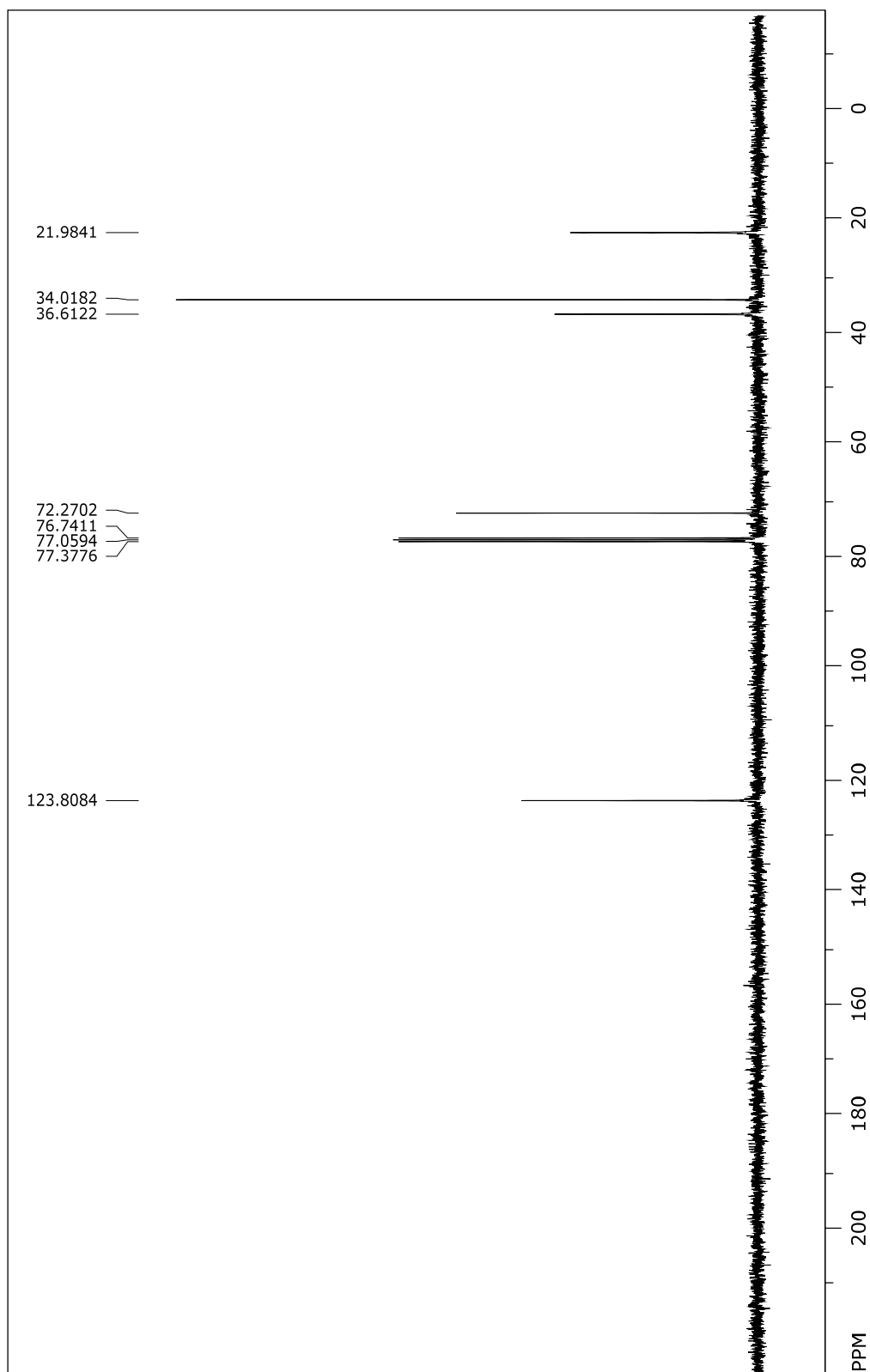
**(4aR\*,10aS\*)-2-Methyl-1,4,4a-5,6,7,8,9,10,10a-decahydrobenzo[8]annulene-4a,10a-diol (5h)**



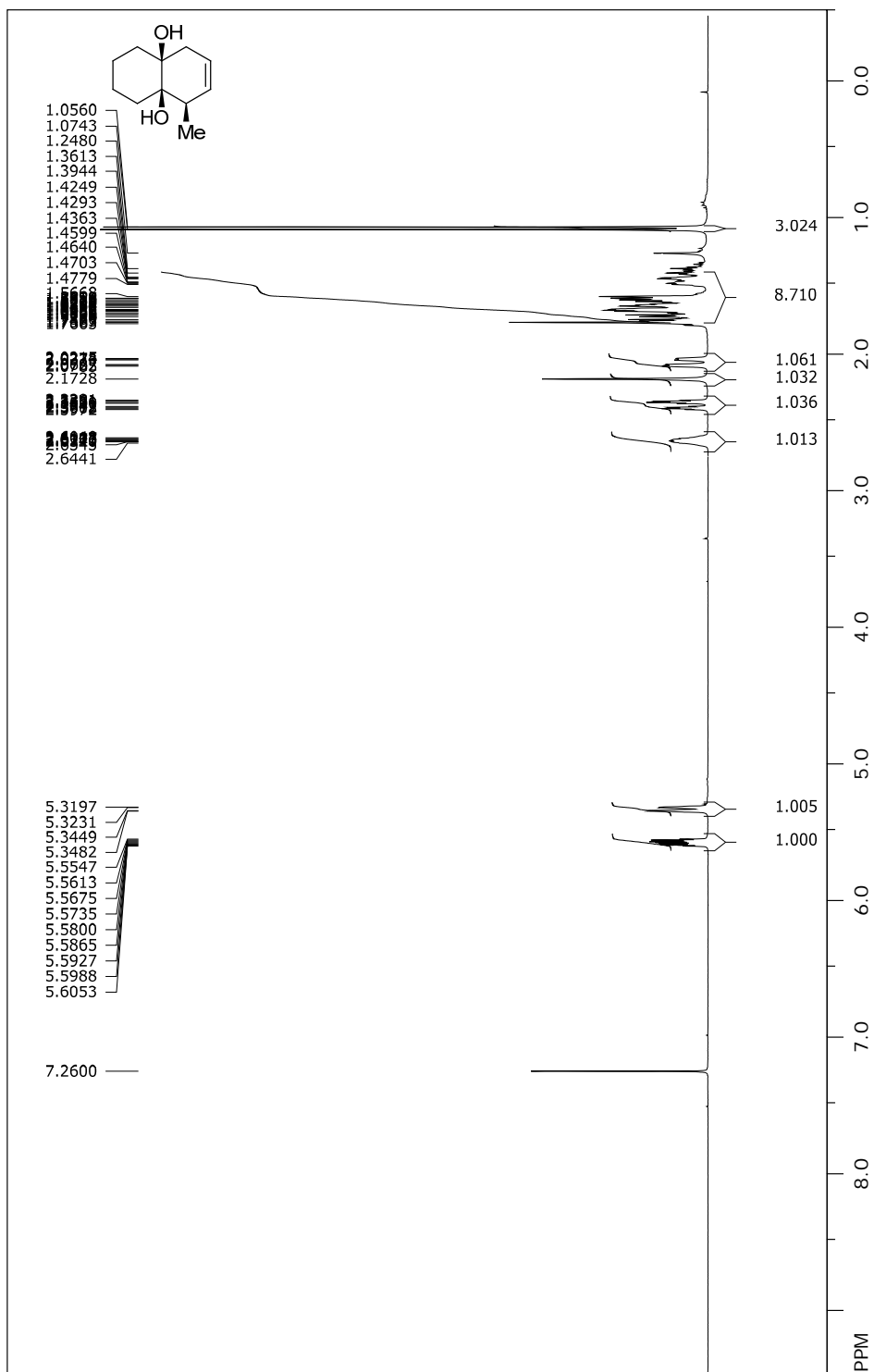


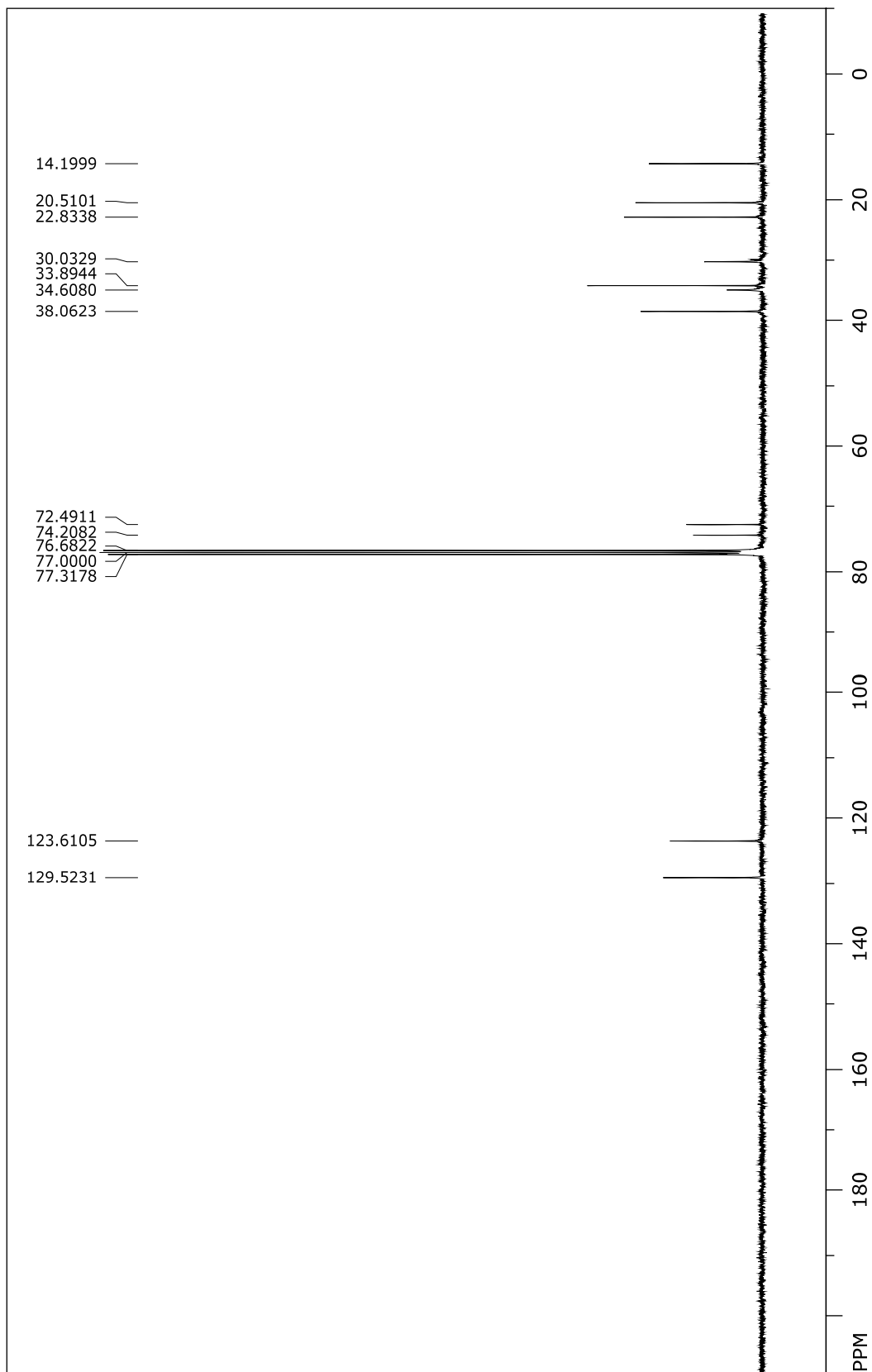
**(4aR\*,8aS\*)-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5i)**





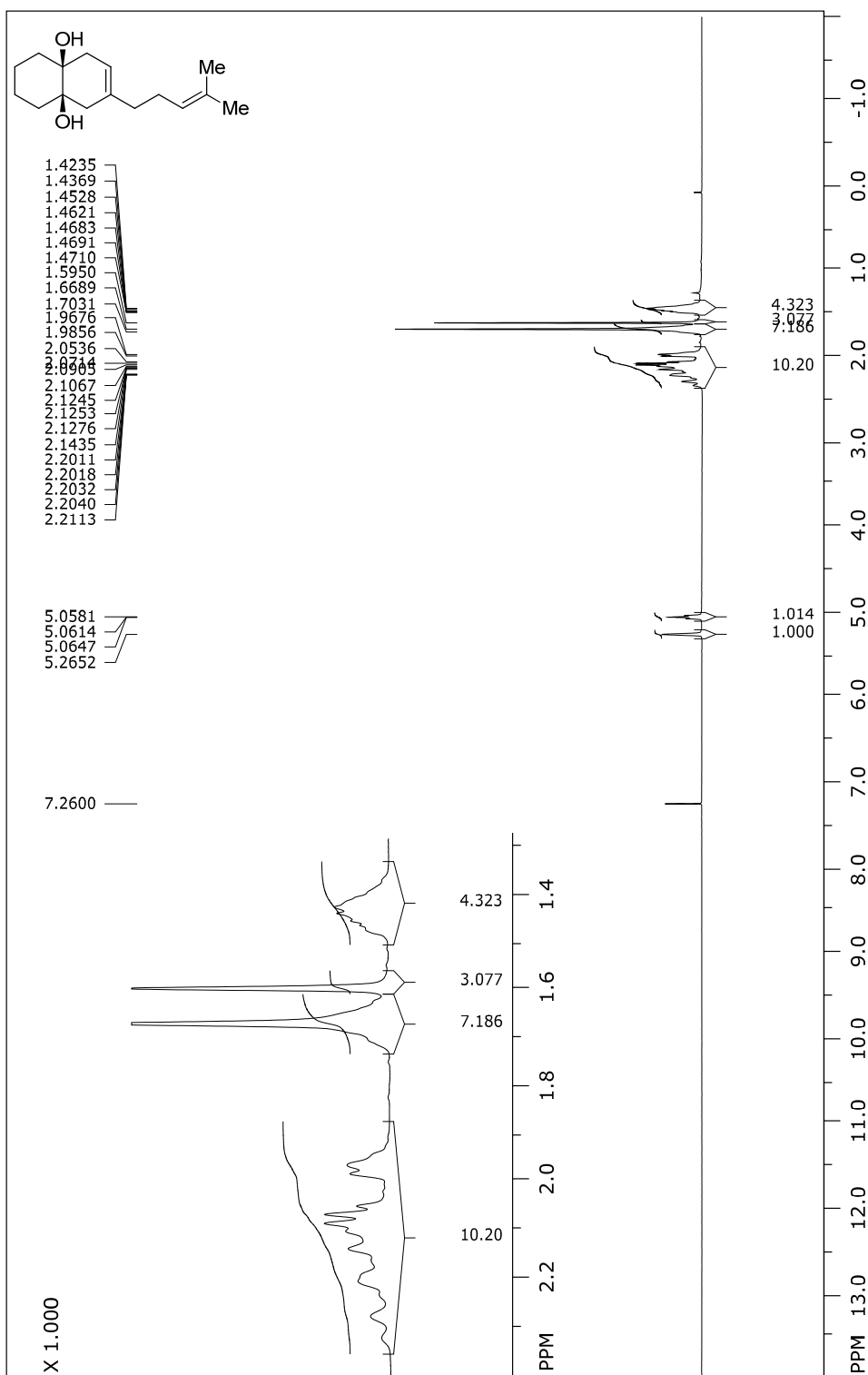
**(4aR\*,5R\*,8aS\*)-5-Methyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthlalene-4a,8a-diol (5j)**

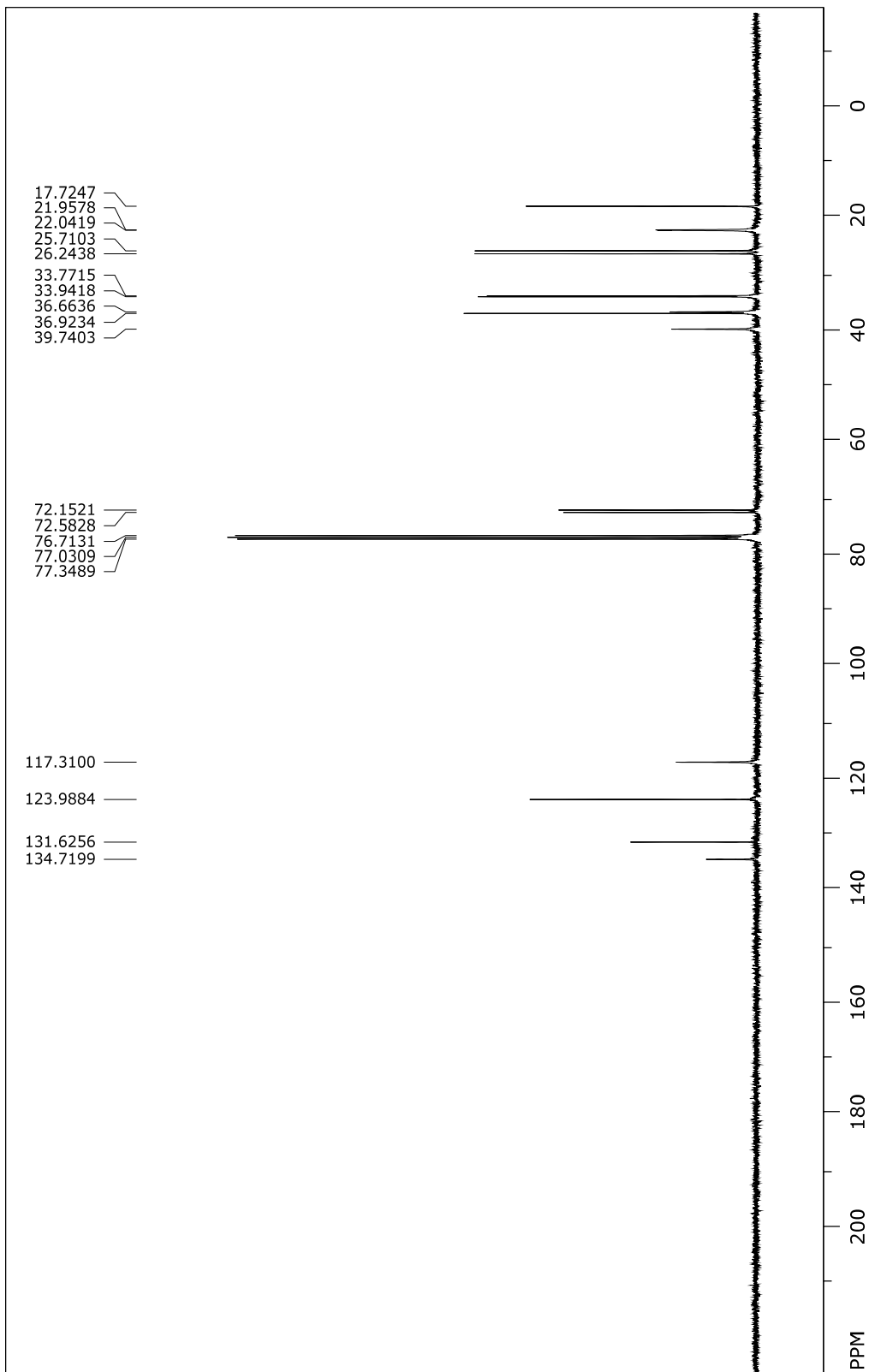




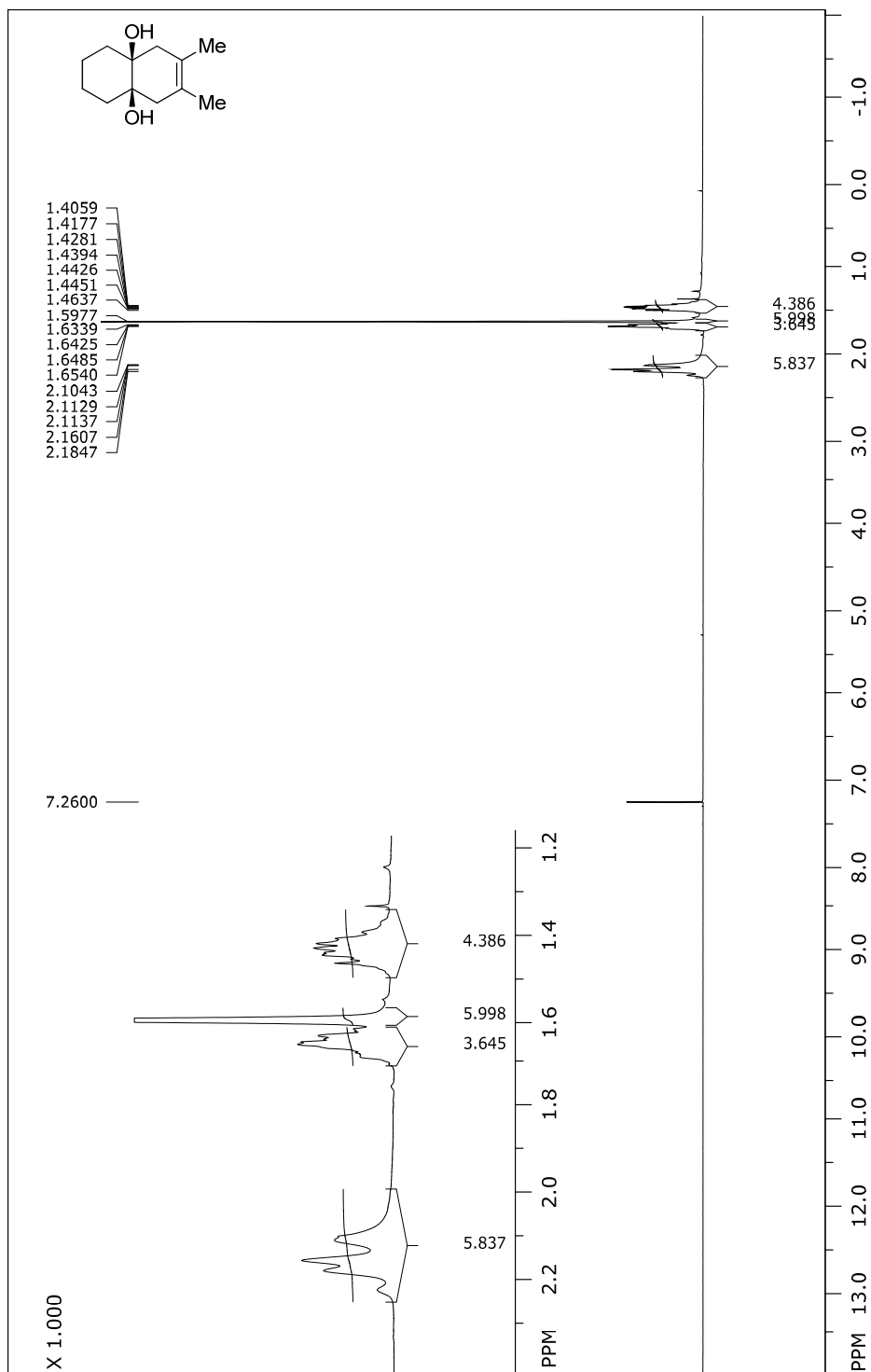


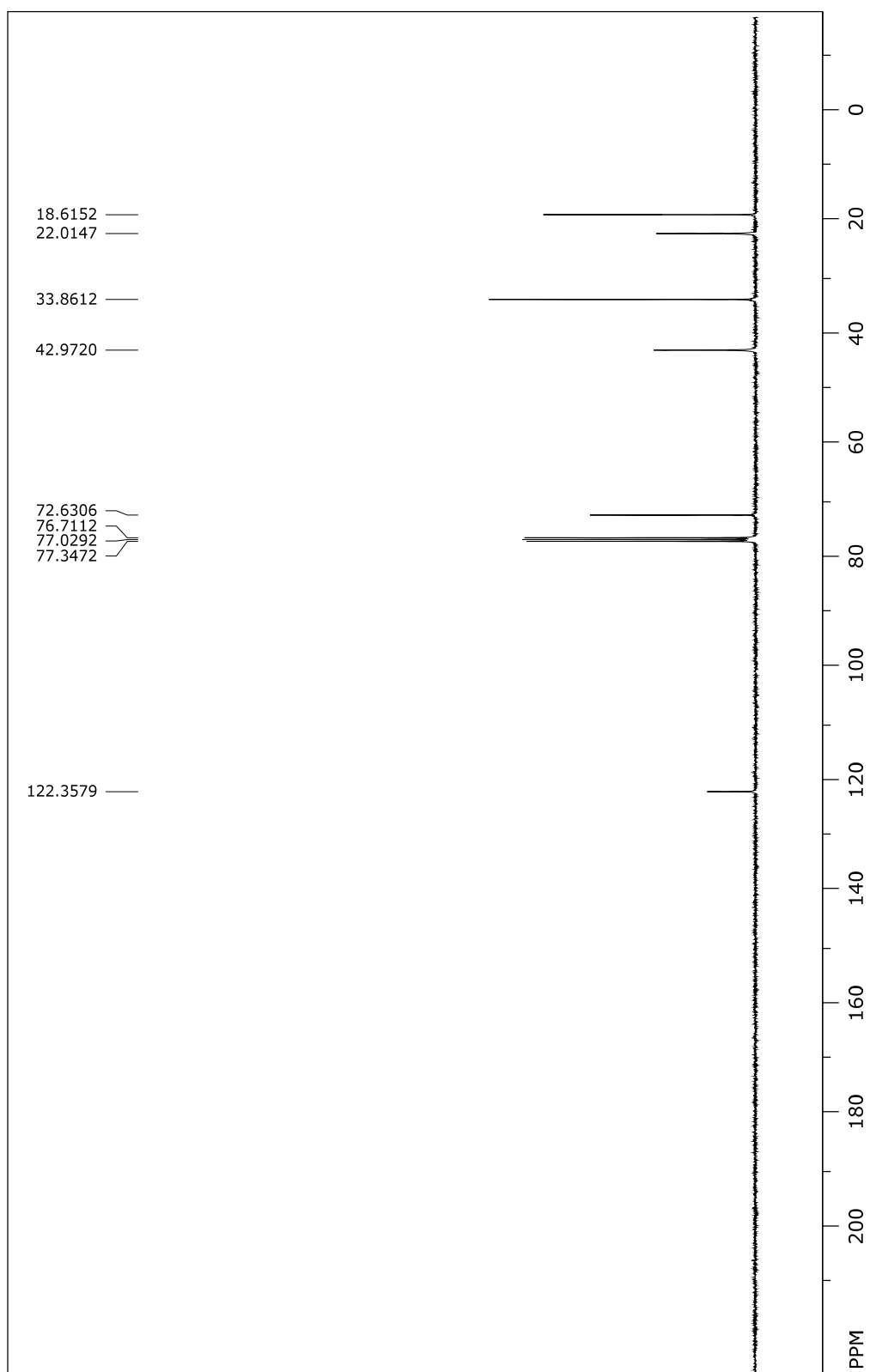
**(4aR\*,8aS\*)-6-(4-Methylpent-3-en-1-yl)-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5k)**



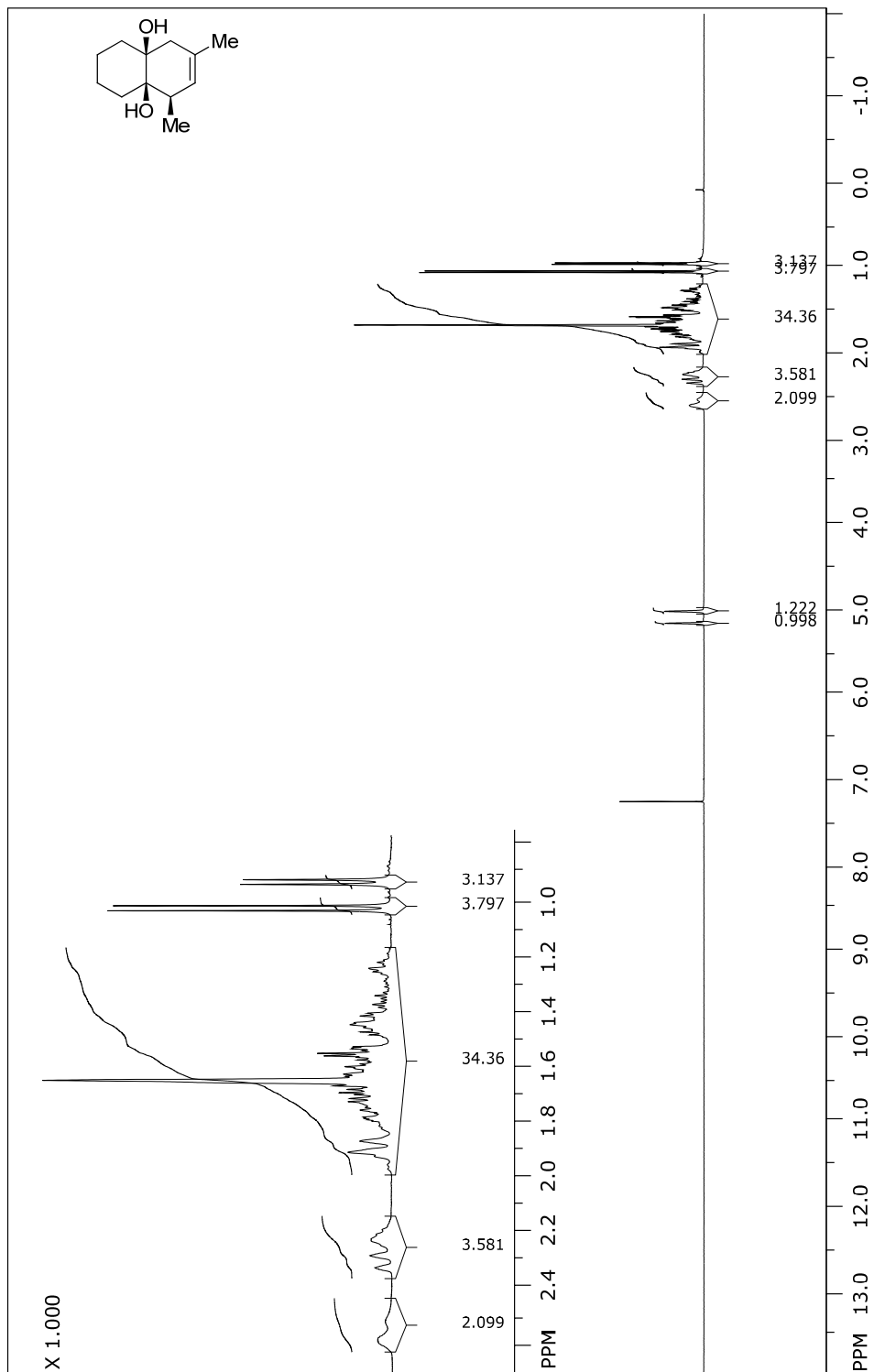


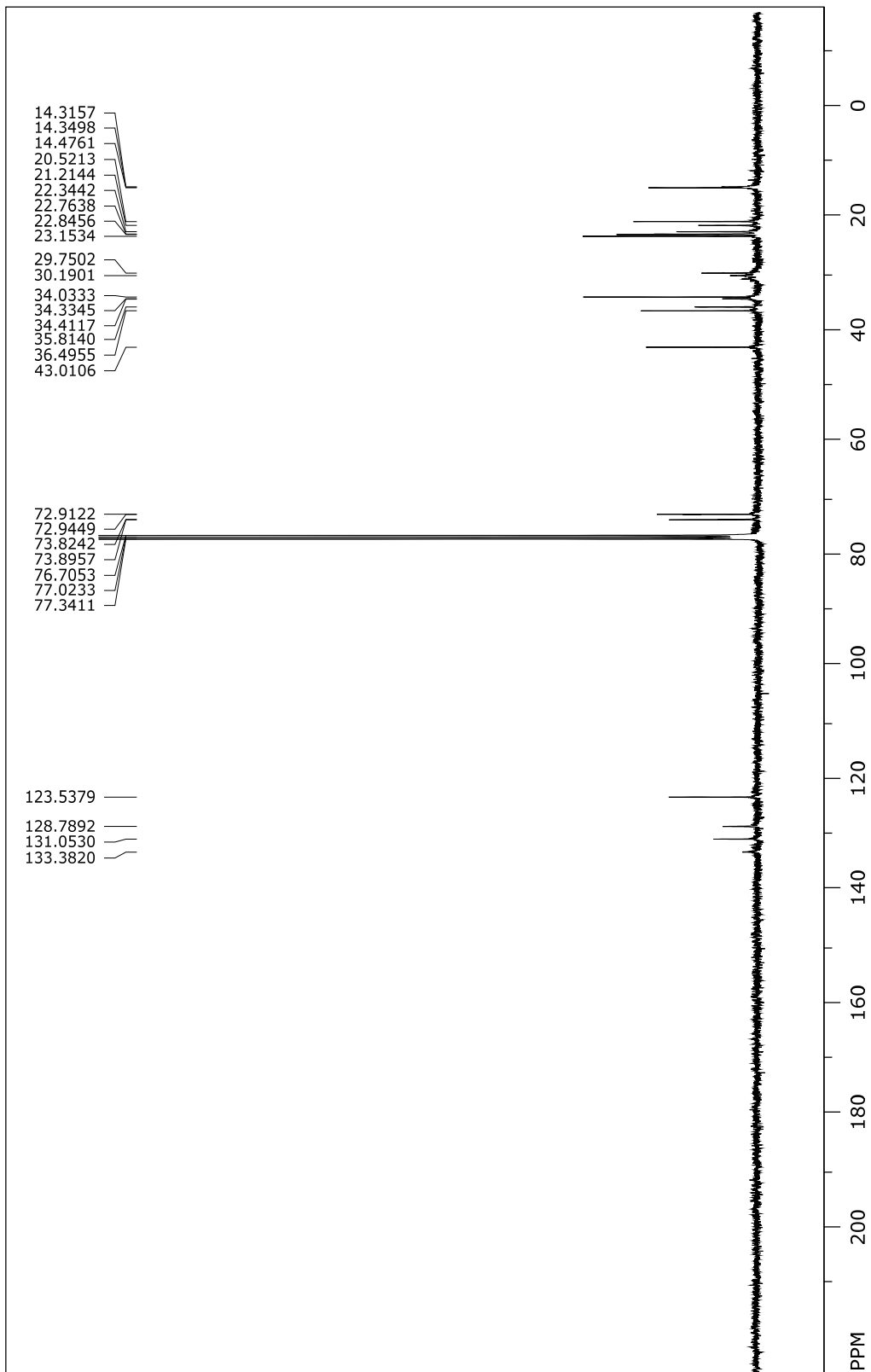
**(4aR\*,8aS\*)-6,7-Dimethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5I)**



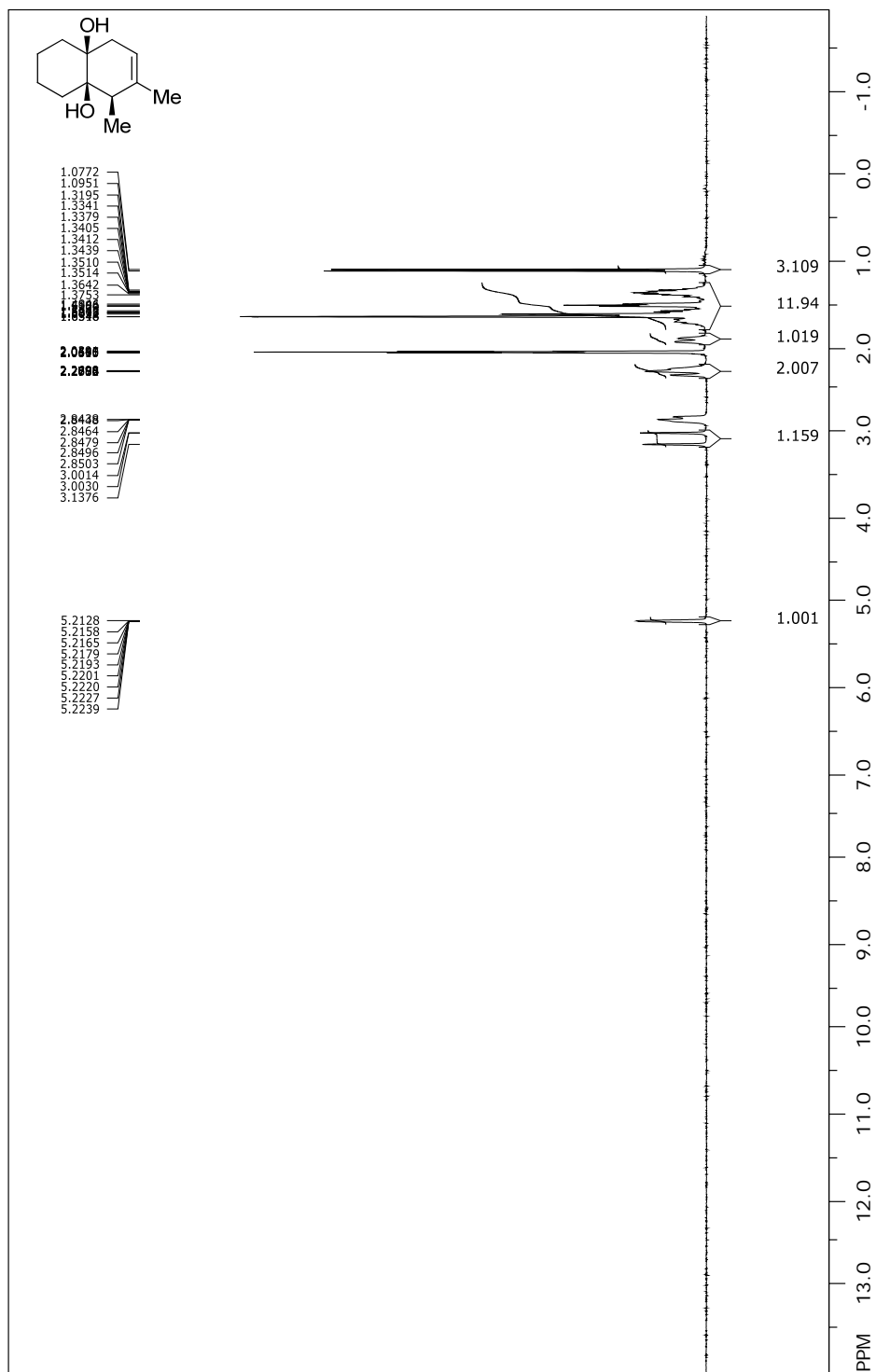


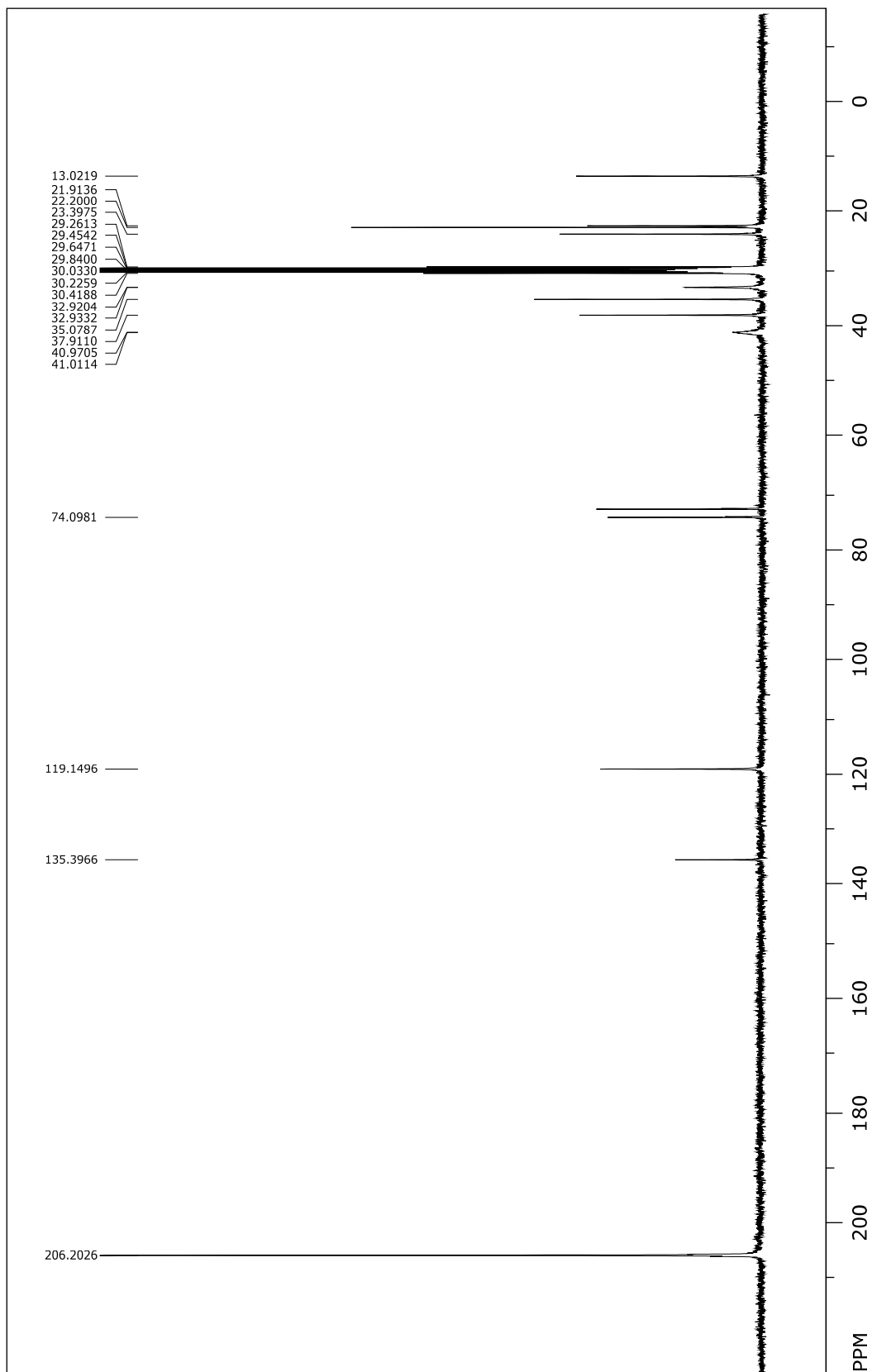
**(4aR\*,5R\*,8aS\*)-5,7-Dimethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5m)**





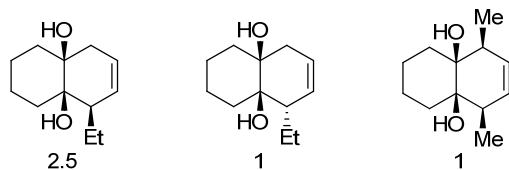
**(4aR\*,5R\*,8aR\*)-5,6-Dimethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5n)**



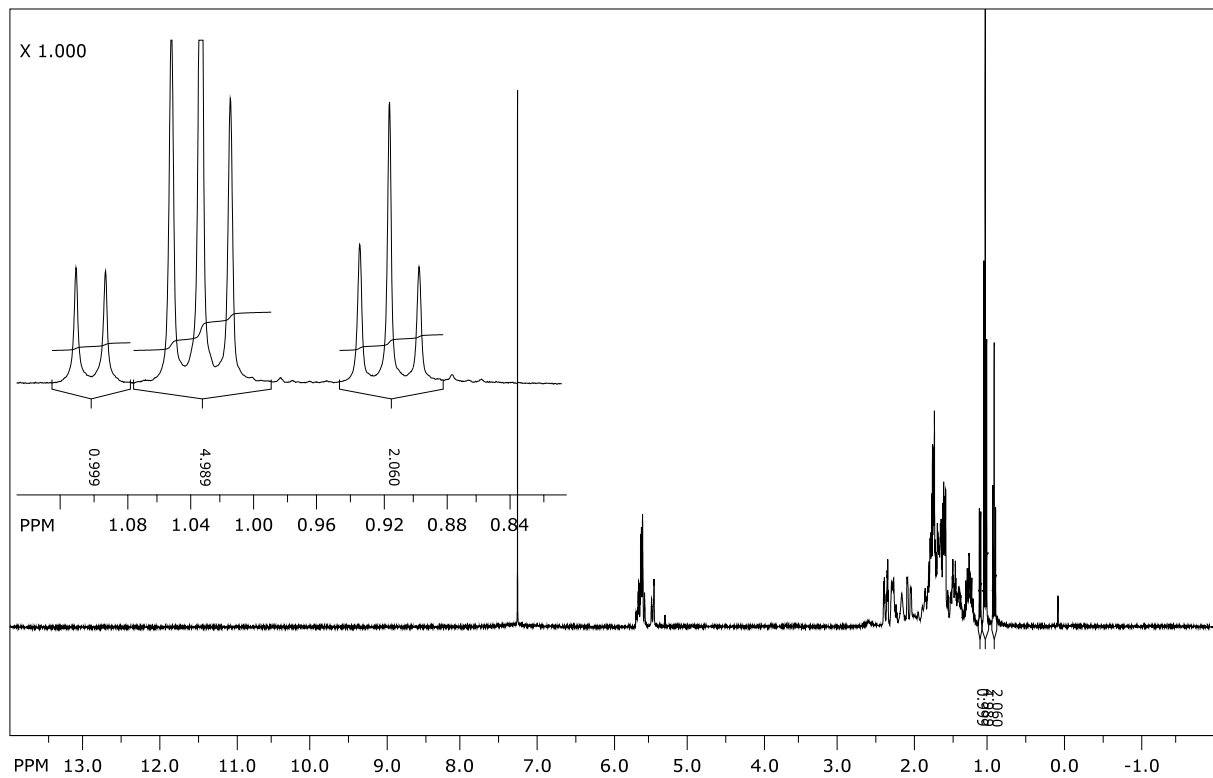




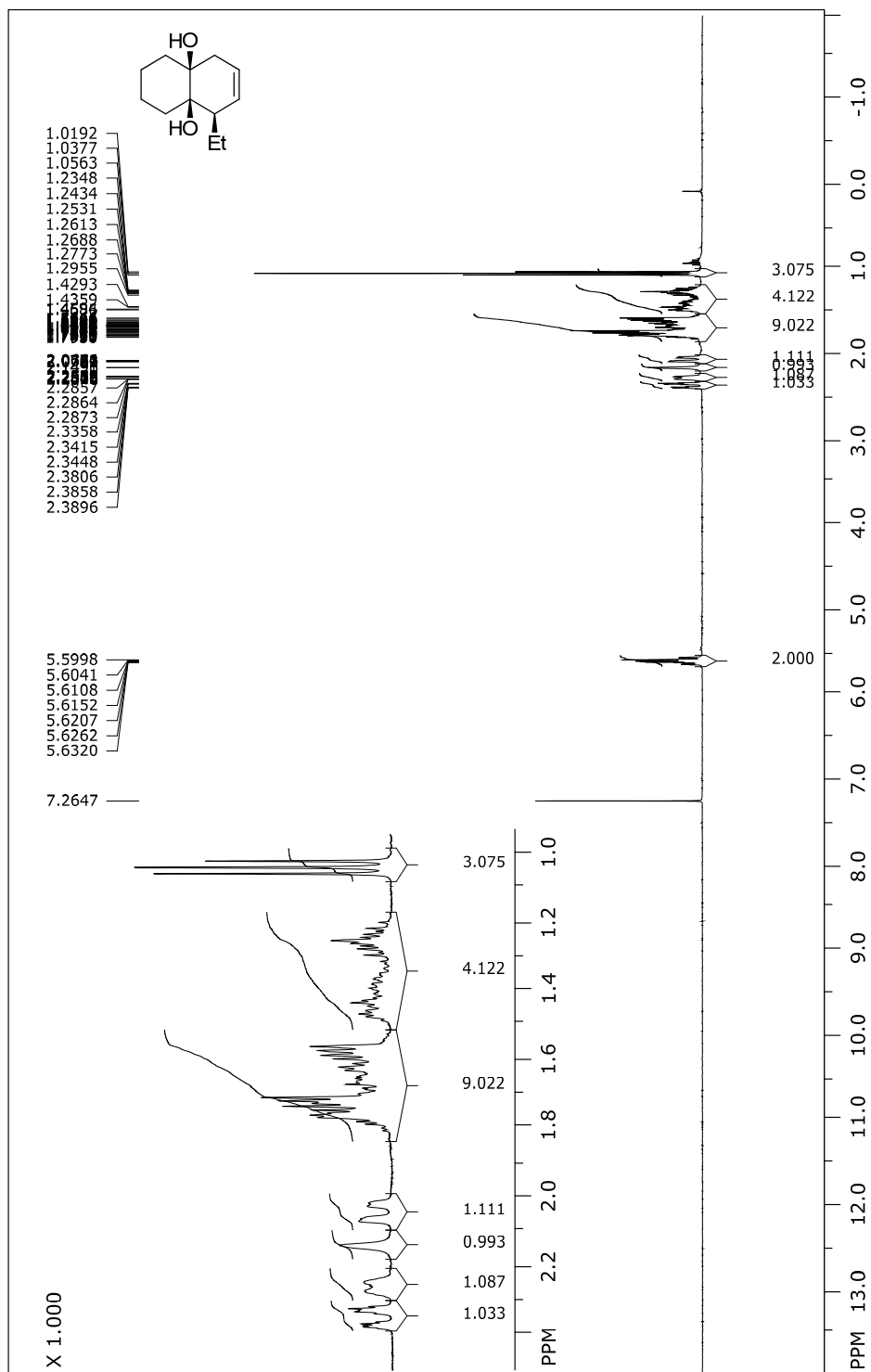
**(4aR\*,5R\*,8aS\*)-5-Ethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5o)**

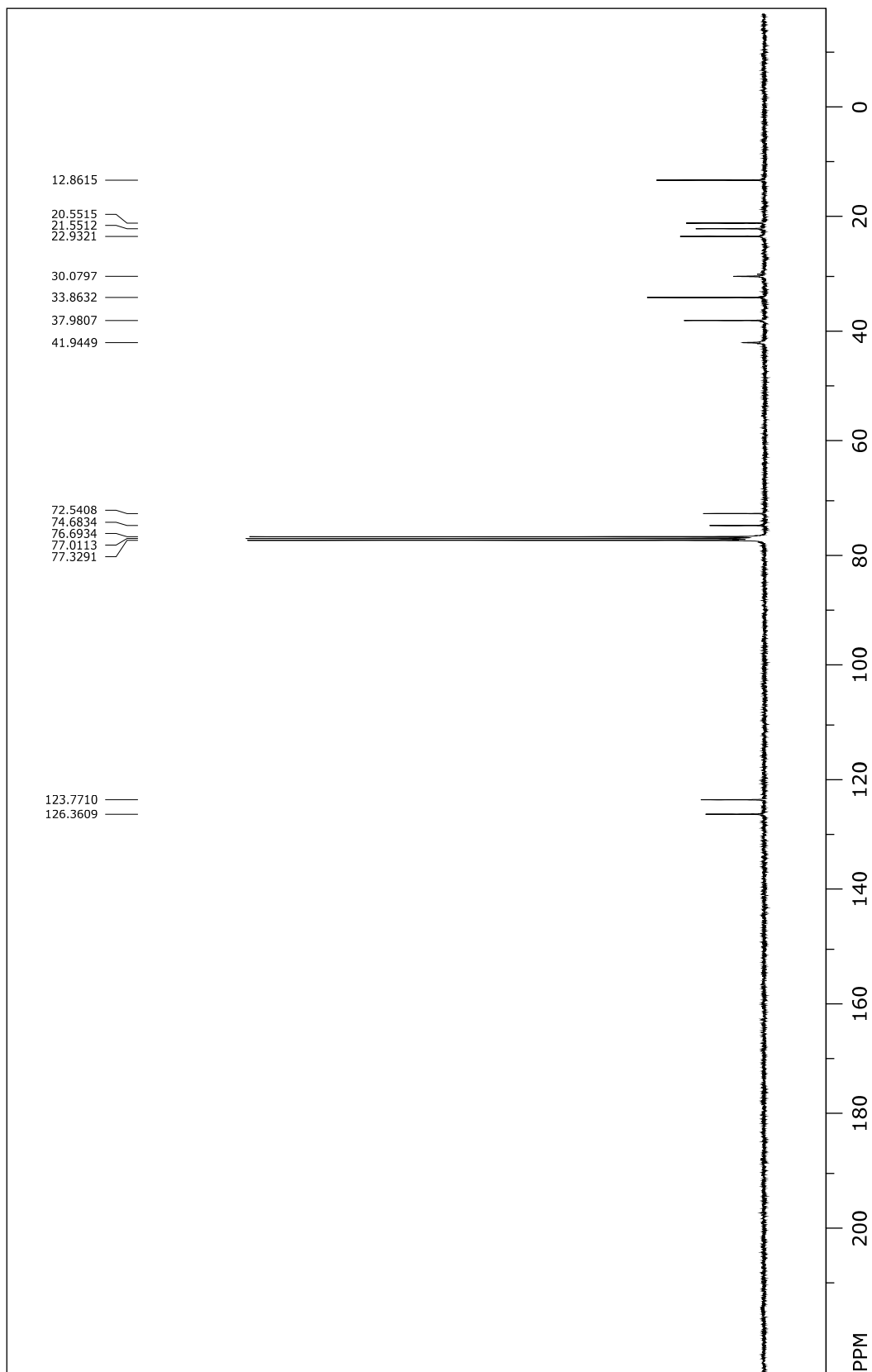


Mixture of all three compounds:

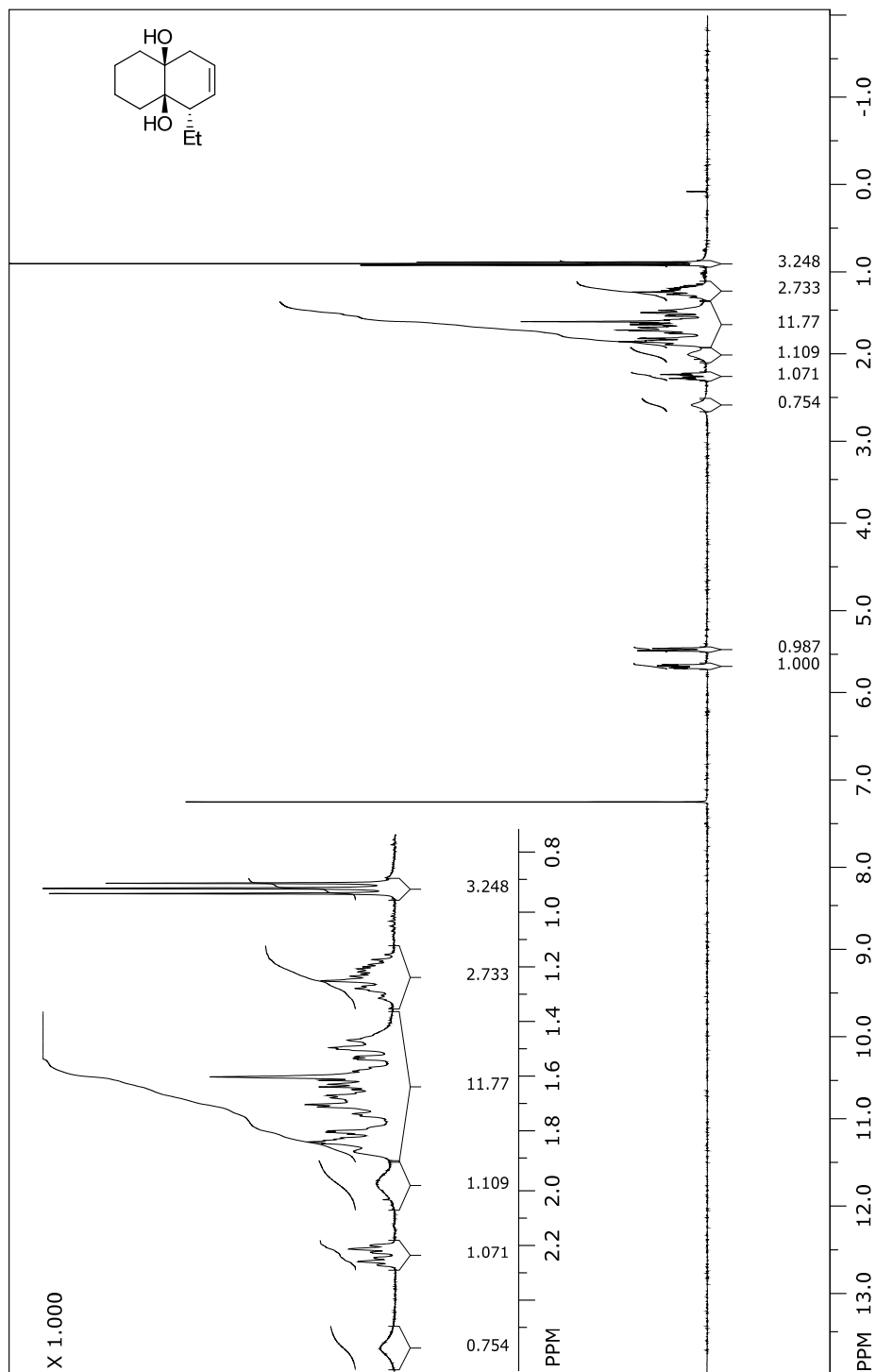


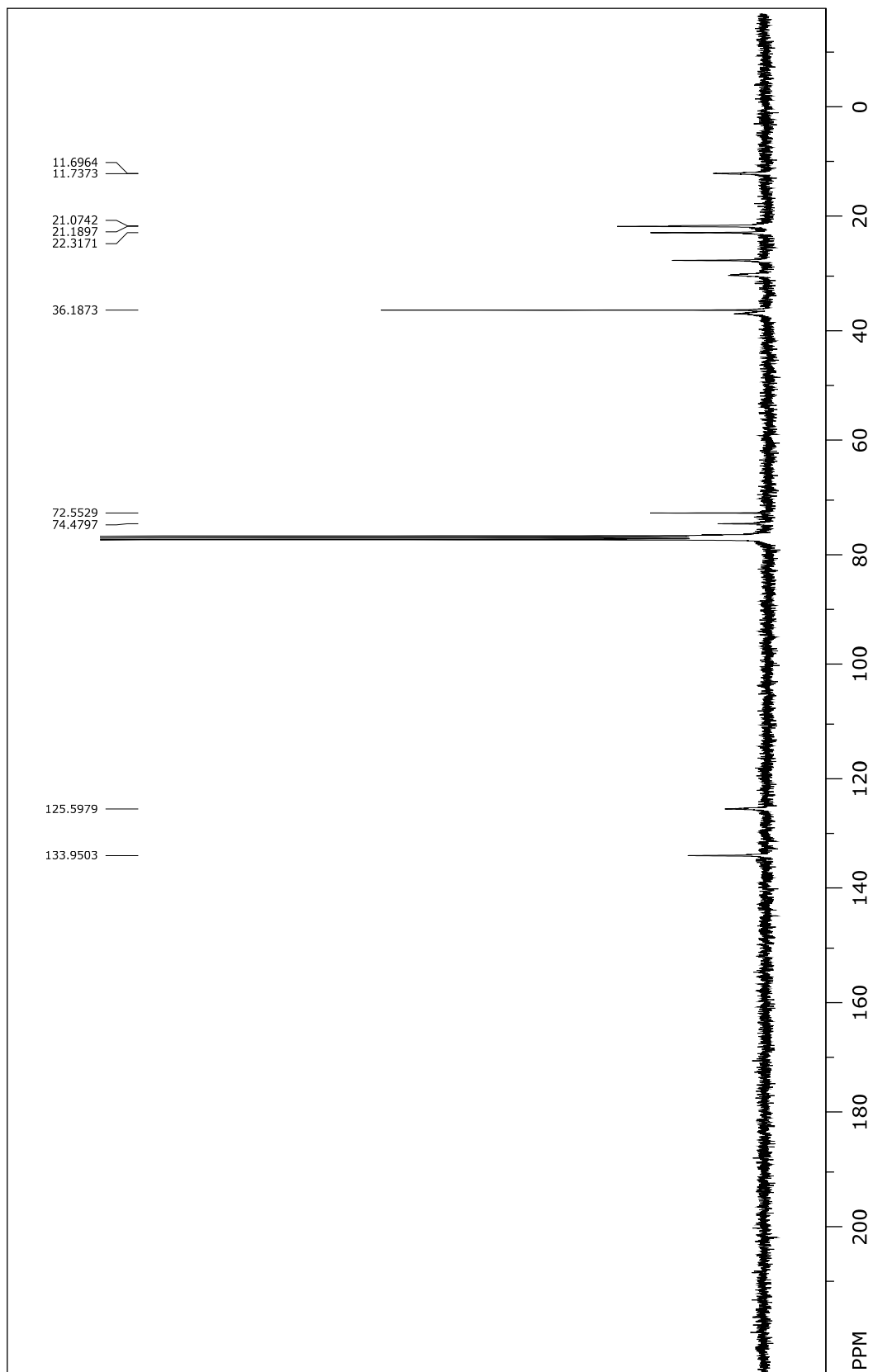
**(4aR\*,5R\*,8aS\*)-5-Ethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5o)**





**(4aR\*,5S\*,8aS\*)-5-Ethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (5-epi-5o)**





**(4aR\*,5R\*,8S,8aS\*)-5,8-Dimethyl-1,2,3,4,4a,5,8,8a-octahydronaphthalene-4a,8a-diol (iso-5o)**

