

# Organocatalytic Asymmetric Intermolecular Dehydrogenative $\alpha$ -Alkylation of Aldehydes Using Molecular Oxygen as Oxidant

Bo Zhang, <sup>a</sup> Shi-Kai Xiang, <sup>a</sup> Li-He Zhang, <sup>a</sup> Yuxin Cui,<sup>\*,a</sup> and Ning Jiao<sup>\*,a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> State Key Laboratory of Natural and Biomimetic Drugs, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Peking University, Xue Yuan Rd. 38, Beijing 100191, China,

<sup>b</sup> Shanghai Key Laboratory of Green Chemistry and Chemical Processes, Department of Chemistry, East China Normal University, Shanghai 200062, China

E-mail: jiaoning@bjmu.edu.cn

Fax: (+86)10-82805297

## Supporting Information

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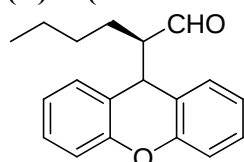
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## 1. General Information

All manipulations were conducted with a standard Schlenk tube under dioxygen atmosphere,  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AVIII-400 spectrometer. Chemical shifts (in ppm) were referenced to tetramethylsilane ( $\delta = 0$  ppm) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as an internal standard.  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra were obtained by the same NMR spectrometer and were calibrated with  $\text{CDCl}_3$  ( $\delta = 77.00$  ppm). Mass spectra were obtained using electrospray ionization (ESI) mass spectrometer. Optical rotations were reported as follows:  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25}$  ( $c$  in g per 100 mL, solvent). HPLC analysis was performed on an Agilent 1200-series instrumentation using Daicel Chiralcel<sup>TM</sup> AD-H columns or Daicel Chiralcel<sup>TM</sup> OD-H columns. Unless otherwise noted, materials and solvents obtained from commercial suppliers were used without further purification. **2j**, **2k** and **2l** were prepared according to literature methods.<sup>1</sup> **1c** were prepared according to literature methods.<sup>2</sup>

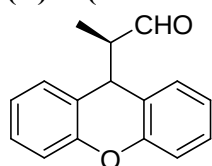
## 2. Experimental procedures and characterization of products

### (*R*)-2-(9*H*-Xanthen-9-yl)hexanal (**3aa**)



**Typical procedure:** xanthene **1a** (36.4 mg, 0.2 mmol) and organocatalyst **B** (13.3 mg, 0.04 mmol) were placed in a 25 mL Schlenk tube, refilled with dioxygen for three times. The  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (10.0 eq.) and dry  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$  1.0 mL was added at  $-5^\circ\text{C}$ , followed by the addition of hexanal **2a** (60.0 mg, 0.6 mmol). The reaction was stirred at  $-5^\circ\text{C}$  for four days as monitored by TLC. The crude reaction mixture was directly purified by flash chromatography column using hexane/DCM = 10/1 as the eluent to afford 39.8 mg (71 % yield, 92% ee) of **3aa**. **3aa**: colorless oil. HPLC analysis (derivatized to alcohol) on a AD-H column at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ : hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda = 254$  nm:  $t_{\text{R}}$  (major) = 19.3 min,  $t_{\text{R}}$  (minor) = 16.6 min;  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{25} = -4.0$  ( $c = 2.03$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , 92 % ee); IR:(KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  2956, 2930, 2859, 1721, 1478, 1458, 1254, 755  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  9.63 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.12-7.04 (m, 5H), 4.46 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.54-2.49 (m, 1H), 1.57-1.47 (m, 1H), 1.42-1.04 (m, 5H), 0.78 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  204.6, 152.9, 152.9, 128.9, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 123.5, 123.3, 123.1, 122.1, 116.7, 116.6, 60.6, 40.0, 29.5, 25.0, 22.5, 13.7; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI): Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{NaO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  303.1356, Found: 303.1355.

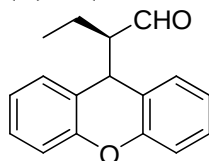
### (*R*)-2-(9*H*-Xanthen-9-yl)propanal (**3ab**)<sup>[3]</sup>



The reaction of xanthene **1a** (36.9 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.3 mg, 0.04

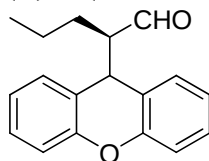
mmol), propanal **2b** (34.8 mg, 0.6 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 eq.) in dry CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) at +5 °C under dioxygen afforded 29.2 mg (61 % yield, 81% *ee*) of **3ab**. **3ab**: colorless oil. HPLC analysis on a AD-H column at 25 °C: hexane/*i*-PrOH = 98/2, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm: *t<sub>R</sub>* (major) = 14.7 min., *t<sub>R</sub>* (minor) = 16.6 min;  $[\alpha]_D^{rt}$  = -1.6 (*c* = 2.50, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 81 % *ee*); IR:(KBr)  $\nu_{max}$  2961, 2925, 2853, 1721, 1479, 1458, 1255, 754 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  9.75 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.12-7.02 (m, 5H), 4.62 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.70-2.64 (m, 1H), 0.91 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  203.7, 153.0, 152.8, 128.9, 128.5, 128.3, 128.1, 123.5, 123.4, 123.2, 121.4, 116.6, 55.7, 39.6, 9.3; MS *m/z* (ESI): [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 261.1.

**(R)-2-(9H-Xanthen-9-yl)butanal (3ac)**<sup>[3]</sup>



The reaction of xanthene **1a** (36.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol), butanal **2c** (43.2 mg, 0.6 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 eq.) in dry CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) at +5 °C under dioxygen afforded 32.6 mg (65 % yield, 90% *ee*) of **3ac**. **3ac**: colorless oil. HPLC analysis (derivatized to alcohol) on a AD-H column at 25 °C: hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm: *t<sub>R</sub>* (major) = 23.6 min., *t<sub>R</sub>* (minor) = 20.2 min;  $[\alpha]_D^{rt}$  = -5.3 (*c* = 2.27, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 90 % *ee*); IR:(KBr)  $\nu_{max}$  2964, 2931, 2876, 1719, 1478, 1458, 1255, 754 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  9.64 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.12-7.03 (m, 5H), 4.46 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.47-2.42 (m, 1H), 1.57-1.39 (m, 2H), 0.82 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  204.5, 152.9, 152.9, 128.9, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 123.5, 123.3, 123.1, 122.1, 116.7, 116.6, 62.3, 39.9, 18.6, 12.0; MS *m/z* (ESI): [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 275.1.

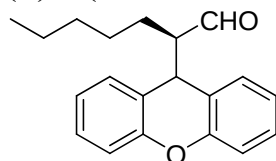
**(R)-2-(9H-Xanthen-9-yl)pentanal (3ad)**



The reaction of xanthene **1a** (36.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.8 mg, 0.04 mmol), pentanal **2d** (51.6 mg, 0.6 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 eq.) in dry CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) at -5 °C under dioxygen afforded 40.7 mg (77 % yield, 90% *ee*) of **3ad**. **3ad**: colorless oil. HPLC analysis (derivatized to alcohol) on a AD-H column at 25 °C: hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm: *t<sub>R</sub>* (major) = 21.6 min., *t<sub>R</sub>* (minor) = 18.2 min;  $[\alpha]_D^{rt}$  = -4.3 (*c* = 1.88, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 90 % *ee*); IR:(KBr)  $\nu_{max}$  2959, 2931, 2871, 1720, 1478, 1458, 1254, 754 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  9.63 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.12-7.03 (m, 5H), 4.46 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.55-2.50 (m, 1H), 1.55-1.04 (m, 4H), 0.78 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  204.6, 152.9, 152.8, 128.9, 128.6, 128.3, 128.2, 123.5, 123.3, 123.0, 122.0, 116.7, 116.6, 60.4, 40.0, 27.4, 20.6, 13.9; HRMS *m/z* (ESI): Calcd. for

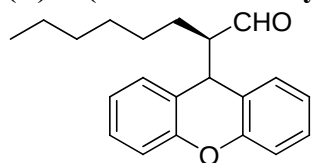
C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 289.1199, Found: 289.1201.

**(R)-2-(9H-Xanthen-9-yl)heptanal (3ae)**



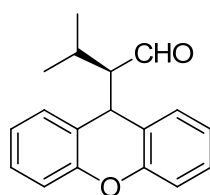
The reaction of xanthene **1a** (36.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.4 mg, 0.04 mmol), heptanal **2e** (68.4 mg, 0.6 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 eq.) in dry CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) at +5 °C under dioxygen afforded 28.4 mg (48 % yield, 89% *ee*) of **3ae**. **3ae**: colorless oil. HPLC analysis (derivatized to alcohol) on a AD-H column at 25 °C: hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min, λ = 254 nm: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 18.1 min., t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 15.3 min; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>rt</sup> = -5.5 (c = 2.17, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 89 % *ee*); IR:(KBr) ν<sub>max</sub> 2928, 2859, 1722, 1478, 1458, 1253, 754 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 9.63 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.12-7.04 (m, 5H), 4.47 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.54-2.49 (m, 1H), 1.54-1.46 (m, 1H), 1.39-1.11 (m, 7H), 0.80 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 204.6, 152.9, 152.9, 128.9, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 123.5, 123.3, 123.1, 122.1, 116.7, 116.6, 60.6, 40.0, 31.6, 27.1, 25.3, 22.3, 13.9; HRMS *m/z* (ESI): Calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 317.1512, Found: 317.1508.

**(R)-2-(9H-Xanthen-9-yl)octanal (3af)<sup>[3]</sup>**



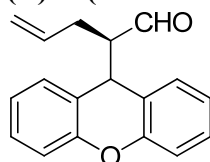
The reaction of xanthene **1a** (36.7 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.6 mg, 0.04 mmol), octanal **2f** (76.8 mg, 0.6 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 eq.) in dry CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) at +5 °C under dioxygen afforded 40.0 mg (65 % yield, 83 % *ee*) of **3af**. **3af**: colorless oil. HPLC analysis (derivatized to alcohol) on a AD-H column at 25 °C: hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min, λ = 254 nm: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 16.7 min., t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 14.4 min; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>rt</sup> = -16.3 (c = 2.22, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 83 % *ee*); IR:(KBr) ν<sub>max</sub> 2927, 2856, 1721, 1478, 1458, 1255, 755 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 9.63 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.12-7.03 (m, 5H), 4.46 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.54-2.49 (m, 1H), 1.54-1.11 (m, 10H), 0.82 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm) δ 204.6, 152.9, 152.9, 128.9, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 123.5, 123.3, 123.1, 122.1, 116.7, 116.6, 60.6, 40.0, 31.4, 29.0, 27.4, 25.3, 22.4, 13.9; MS *m/z* (ESI): [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 331.2.

**(R)-3-Methyl-2-(9H-xanthen-9-yl)butanal (3ag)<sup>[3]</sup>**



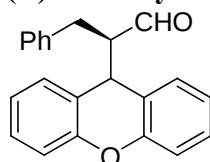
The reaction of xanthene **1a** (36.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol), isovaleraldehyde **2g** (51.6 mg, 0.6 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 eq.) in dry CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> at +5 °C (1.0 mL) under dioxygen afforded 21.1 mg (40 % yield, 69 % *ee*) of **3ag**. **3ag**: white solid. HPLC analysis (derivatized to alcohol) on a AD-H column at 25 °C: hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm: *t<sub>R</sub>* (major) = 20.8 min., *t<sub>R</sub>* (minor) = 17.9 min;  $[\alpha]_D^{rt}$  = -18.7 (*c* = 2.78, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 69 % *ee*); IR:(KBr)  $\nu_{max}$  2960, 1720, 1477, 1458, 1250, 752 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  9.51 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.22 (m, 4H), 7.12-7.05 (m, 4H), 4.49 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.32-2.28 (m, 1H), 2.04-1.92 (m, 1H), 1.11 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.90 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  204.5, 153.2, 152.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.2, 128.2, 124.0, 123.5, 123.3, 123.1, 116.8, 116.8, 66.3, 38.2, 26.1, 21.7, 19.3; MS *m/z* (ESI):  $[M+Na]^+$  289.1.

**(R)-2-(9H-Xanthen-9-yl)pent-enal (3ah)**



The reaction of xanthene **1a** (36.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.6 mg, 0.04 mmol), 4-pentenal **2h** (50.4 mg, 0.6 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 eq.) in dry CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) at +5 °C under dioxygen afforded 35.2 mg (67 % yield, 87% *ee*) of **3ah**. **3ah**: colorless oil. HPLC analysis (derivatized to alcohol) on a AD-H column at 25 °C: hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm: *t<sub>R</sub>* (major) = 23.9 min., *t<sub>R</sub>* (minor) = 20.4 min;  $[\alpha]_D^{rt}$  = -14.7 (*c* = 1.63, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 87 % *ee*); IR:(KBr)  $\nu_{max}$  3075, 3043, 2924, 2852, 1723, 1479, 1458, 1255, 756 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  9.63 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.14-7.04 (m, 5H), 5.67-5.56 (m, 1H), 4.99-4.95 (m, 2H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.70-2.64 (m, 1H), 2.30-2.12 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  203.9, 152.9, 152.9, 135.0, 128.9, 128.7, 128.4, 128.3, 123.6, 123.5, 122.7, 121.9, 117.3, 116.8, 116.7, 59.9, 39.3, 29.6; HRMS *m/z* (ESI): Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>  $[M+Na]^+$  287.1038, Found: 287.1043.

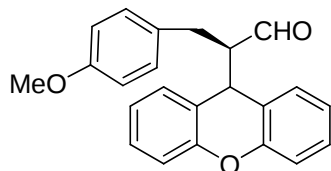
**(R)-3-Phenyl-2-(9H-xanthen-9-yl)propanal (3ai)<sup>[3]</sup>**



The reaction of xanthene **1a** (36.7 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.6 mg, 0.04 mmol), 3-Phenylpropanaldehyde **2i** (80.4 mg, 0.6 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 eq.) in dry CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) at +5 °C under dioxygen afforded 40.0 mg (64 % yield, 92 % *ee*) of **3ai**. **3ai**: white solid. HPLC analysis on a AD-H column at 25 °C: hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm: *t<sub>R</sub>* (major) = 14.5 min., *t<sub>R</sub>* (minor) = 16.4 min;  $[\alpha]_D^{rt}$  = -25.3 (*c* = 1.90, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 92 % *ee*); IR:(KBr)  $\nu_{max}$  3062, 3028, 2925, 2853, 2728, 1722, 1479, 1458, 1254, 756, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  9.65 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.06 (m, 11H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.59 (d, *J* = 4.0

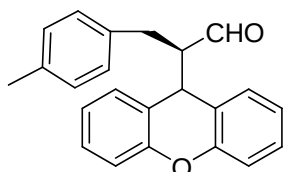
Hz, 1H), 3.01-2.96 (m, 1H), 2.83-2.67 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  203.5, 152.9, 152.9, 138.7, 129.0, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 126.3, 123.7, 123.5, 122.6, 121.7, 116.8, 116.8, 62.4, 39.5, 31.2; MS  $m/z$  (ESI):  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  337.1.

**(R)-3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-(9H-xanthen-9-yl)propanal (3aj)**



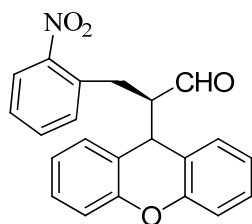
The reaction of xanthene **1a** (36.7 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.6 mg, 0.04 mmol) and 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propanal **2j** (98.4 mg, 0.6 mmol) in commercial  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$  (1.0 mL) at  $-5\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  under dioxygen for 7 days afforded 26 mg (79 % yield based on 48 % conversion of xanthene, 86 % *ee*) of **3aj**. **3aj**: white solid. HPLC analysis on a AD-H column at  $25\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ : hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda = 254\text{ nm}$ :  $t_R$  (major) = 22.1 min.,  $t_R$  (minor) = 26.4 min;  $[\alpha]_D^{rt} = -23.4$  ( $c = 1.37$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , 86 % *ee*); IR:(KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  2958, 2931, 2835, 1722, 1512, 1478, 1458, 1252, 1119, 1096, 827, 753  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  9.64 (d,  $J = 2.0\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.15-7.06 (m, 5H), 6.90 (d,  $J = 8.8\text{ Hz}$ , 2H), 6.74 (d,  $J = 8.8\text{ Hz}$ , 2H), 4.58 (d,  $J = 4.0\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.96-2.91 (m, 1H), 2.77-2.62 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  203.8, 158.1, 152.9, 152.9, 130.6, 129.8, 129.0, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 123.6, 123.5, 122.7, 121.8, 116.8, 116.8, 113.9, 62.6, 55.2, 39.5, 30.4; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI): Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{NaO}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  367.1305, Found: 367.1307.

**(R)-3-*p*-Tolyl-2-(9H-xanthen-9-yl)propanal (3ak)**



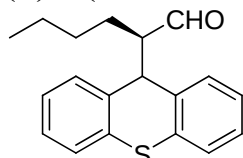
The reaction of xanthene **1a** (36.6 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.4 mg, 0.04 mmol) and 3-*p*-tolylpropanal **2k** (88.8 mg, 0.6 mmol) in commercial  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$  (1.0 mL) at  $+5\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  under dioxygen for 7 days afforded 24.3 mg (82 % yield based on 45 % conversion of xanthene, 80% *ee*) of **3ak**. **3ak**: white solid. HPLC analysis on a AD-H column at  $25\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ : hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda = 254\text{ nm}$ :  $t_R$  (major) = 13.6 min.,  $t_R$  (minor) = 16.7 min;  $[\alpha]_D^{rt} = -14.0$  ( $c = 2.29$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , 80 % *ee*); IR:(KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  2960, 2920, 2881, 1724, 1477, 1456, 1253, 1078, 828, 753, 701  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  9.64 (d,  $J = 1.6\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.14-7.05 (m, 5H), 7.01 (d,  $J = 8.0\text{ Hz}$ , 2H), 6.88 (d,  $J = 8.0\text{ Hz}$ , 2H), 4.58 (d,  $J = 3.6\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 2.98-2.93 (m, 1H), 2.79-2.64 (m, 2H), 2.26 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , ppm)  $\delta$  203.7, 152.9, 152.9, 135.8, 135.5, 129.2, 129.0, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 123.6, 123.5, 122.7, 121.8, 116.8, 116.8, 62.4, 39.5, 30.8, 20.9; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI): Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{NaO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  351.1356, Found: 351.1359.

**(R)-3-(2-Nitrophenyl)-2-(9H-xanthen-9-yl)propanal (3al)**



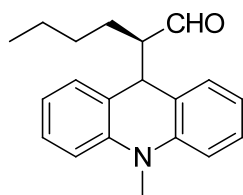
The reaction of xanthene **1a** (36.7 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.6 mg, 0.04 mmol), 3-(4-nitrophenyl)propanal **2l** (107.4 mg, 0.6 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 eq.) in dry CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) at +5 °C under dioxygen for 7 days afforded 25.1 mg (81 % yield based on 43 % conversion of xanthene, 93 % *ee*) of **3al**. **3al**: light yellowish solid. HPLC analysis on a AD-H column at 25 °C: hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm:  $t_R$  (major) = 31.4 min.,  $t_R$  (minor) = 35.8 min;  $[\alpha]_D^{rt}$  = -24.0 ( $c$  = 1.50, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 93 % *ee*); IR:(KBr)  $\nu_{max}$  2924, 2854, 1723, 1524, 1478, 1458, 1253, 1219, 772 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  9.60 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27-7.22 (m, 5H), 7.15-7.07 (m, 5H), 4.64 (d,  $J$  = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.12-3.05 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  202.3, 152.7, 152.6, 149.0, 134.3, 133.2, 133.0, 129.0, 128.7, 128.6, 127.6, 125.0, 123.7, 121.8, 121.7, 116.8, 116.8, 61.4, 40.5, 29.9; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI): Calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 382.1050, Found: 382.1059.

**(R)-2-(9H-Thioxanthen-9-yl)hexanal (3ba)**



The reaction of thioxanthene **1b** (40.1 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol) and hexanal **2a** (60 mg, 0.6 mmol) in commercial CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) at -5 °C under dioxygen afforded 14.2 mg (24 % yield, 77 % *ee*) of **3ba**. **3ba**: colorless oil. HPLC analysis on a AD-H column at 0 °C: hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm:  $t_R$  (major) = 19.3 min.,  $t_R$  (minor) = 21.5 min;  $[\alpha]_D^{rt}$  = -21.7 ( $c$  = 1.29, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 77 % *ee*); IR:(KBr)  $\nu_{max}$  2955, 2929, 2858, 1722, 1465, 1442, 913, 742 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  9.51 (d,  $J$  = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.17 (m, 6H), 4.30 (d,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.10-3.03 (m, 1H), 1.59-1.50 (m, 1H), 1.32-1.10 (m, 5H), 0.76 (t,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  204.2, 135.7, 135.3, 133.2, 133.1, 130.0, 129.5, 127.5, 127.3, 127.0, 126.6, 126.3, 50.9, 49.8, 28.9, 27.9, 22.5, 13.6; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI): Calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaOS [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 319.1127, Found: 319.1132.

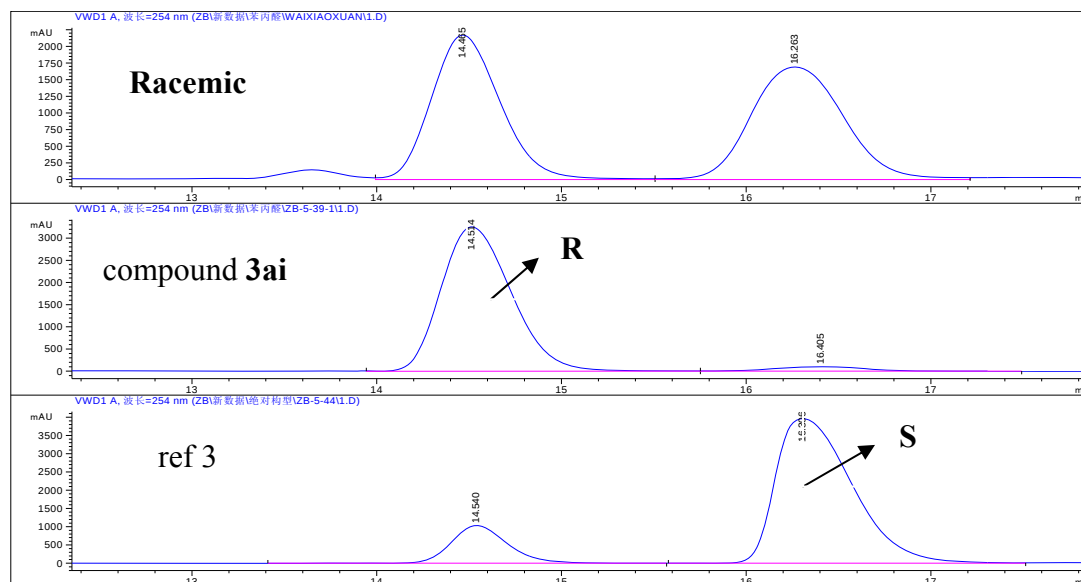
**(R)-2-(10-Methyl-9,10-dihydroacridin-9-yl)hexanal (3ca)**



The reaction of 10-methyl-9,10-dihydroacridine **1c** (39.5 mg, 0.2 mmol), organocatalyst **B** (13.4 mg, 0.04 mmol), hexanal **2a** (60 mg, 0.6 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 eq.) in dry DCM (1.0 mL) at +5 °C under dioxygen afforded 30.5 mg (52 % yield, 45 % *ee*) of **3ca**. **3ca**: white solid. HPLC analysis on a OD-H column at 0 °C: hexane/*i*-PrOH = 98/2, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm:  $t_R$  (major) = 21.9 min.,  $t_R$  (minor) = 19.3 min;  $[\alpha]_D^{rt}$  = +2.1 ( $c$  = 1.91, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 45 % *ee*); IR:(KBr)  $\nu_{\max}$  2956, 2930, 2858, 2826, 1715, 1592, 1474, 1341, 1269, 747 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  9.36 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 2H), 6.99-6.92 (m, 4H), 4.21 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (s, 3H), 2.47-2.41 (m, 1H), 1.59-1.51 (m, 1H), 1.43-1.08 (m, 5H), 0.81 (t,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm)  $\delta$  204.3, 143.1, 143.0, 128.6, 128.5, 127.6, 127.5, 124.8, 124.2, 120.9, 120.7, 112.5, 112.4, 57.7, 45.3, 32.9, 29.3, 26.7, 22.6, 13.7; HRMS  $m/z$  (ESI): Calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 316.1672, Found: 316.1666.

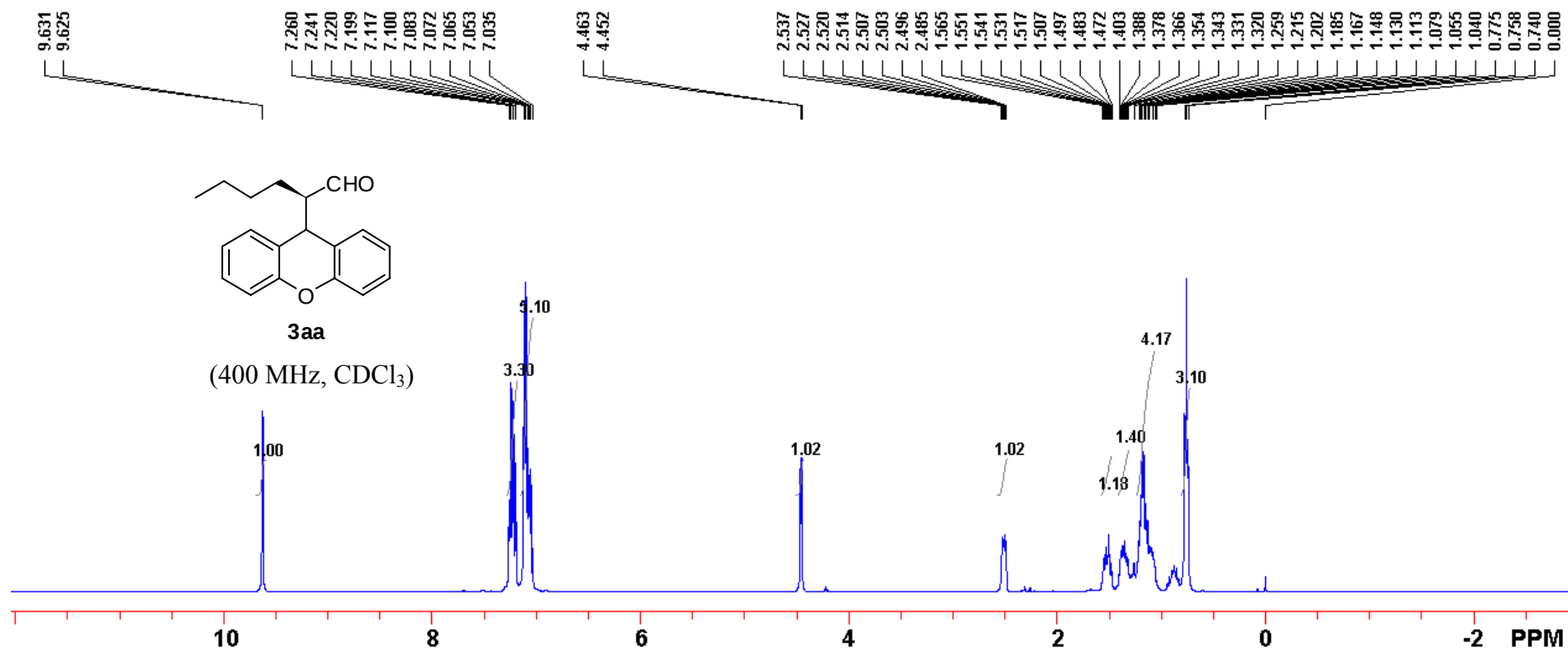
### 3. Determination of the absolute configuration.

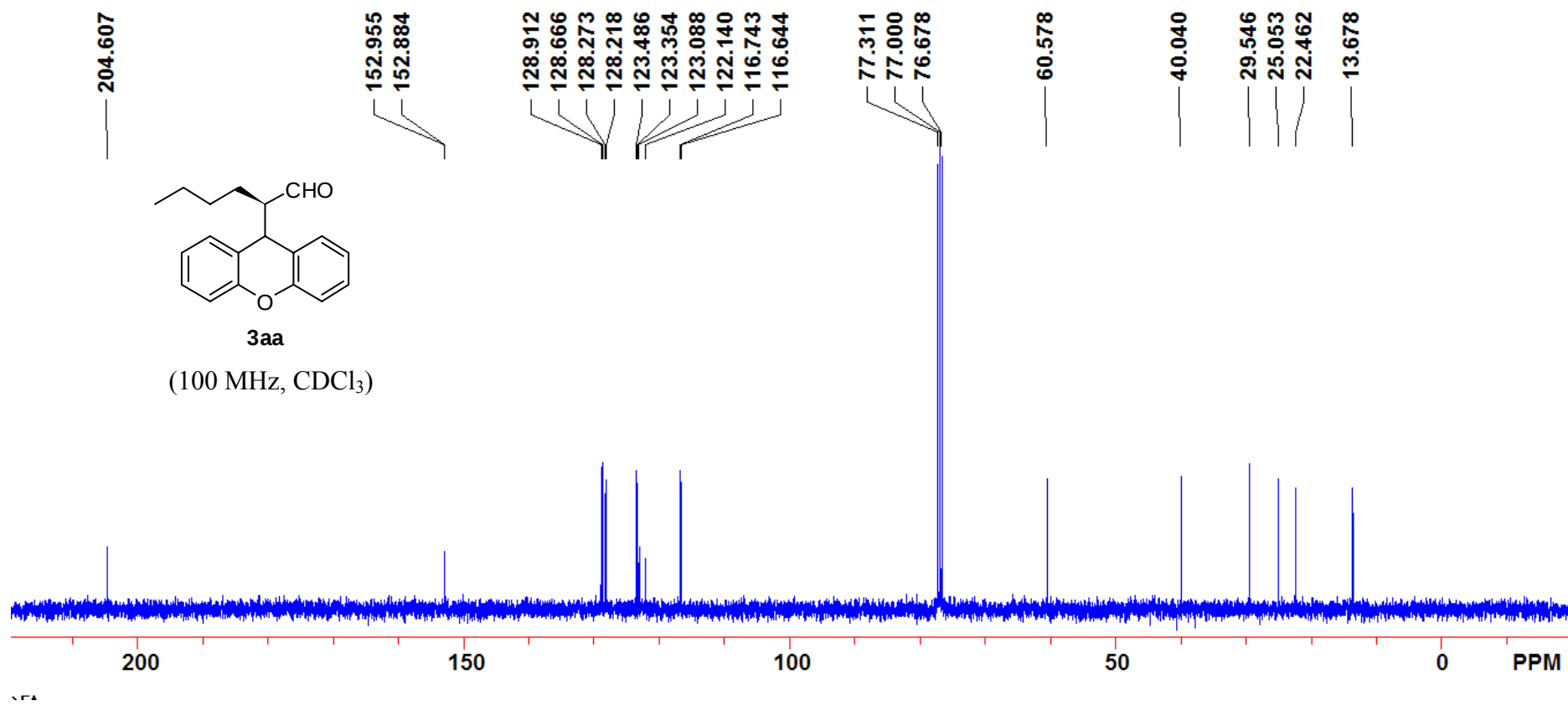
The absolute configuration of compound **3ai** was determined to be *R* by comparison of the elution order of the products from a chiral phase HPLC column to the reported in the literature.<sup>3</sup> HPLC analysis on a AD-H column at 25 °C: hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, flow rate 0.50 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm.



## Reference:

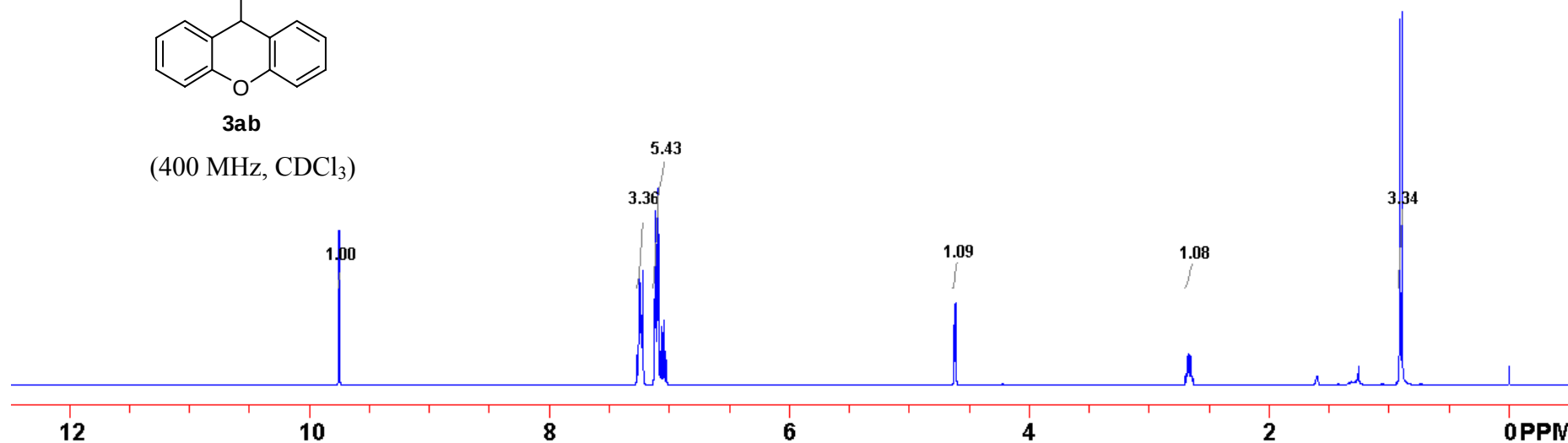
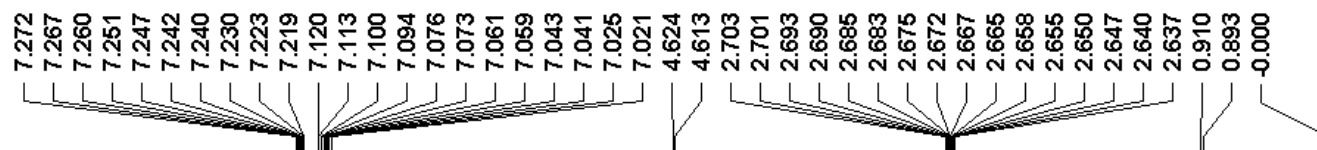
- (1) Yang, J. W.; M. Fonseca, T. H.; List, B. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2004**, 43, 6660.
- (2) Pintér, Á.; A. Sureshkumar, Sud, D.; Klusmann, M. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, 49, 1.
- (3) Benfatti, F.; Capdevila, M. G.; Zoli, L.; Benedetto, E.; Cozzi, P. G. *Chem. Commun.* **2009**, 5919.

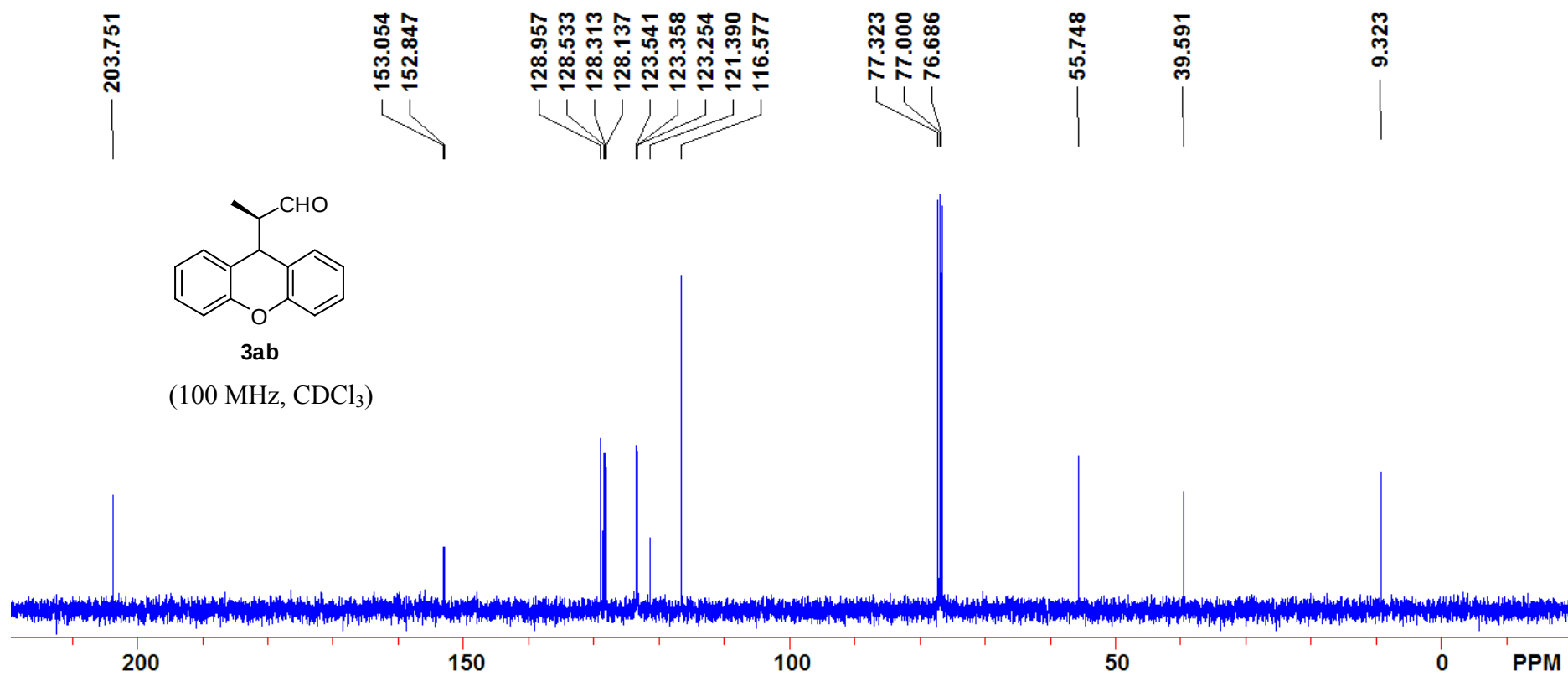


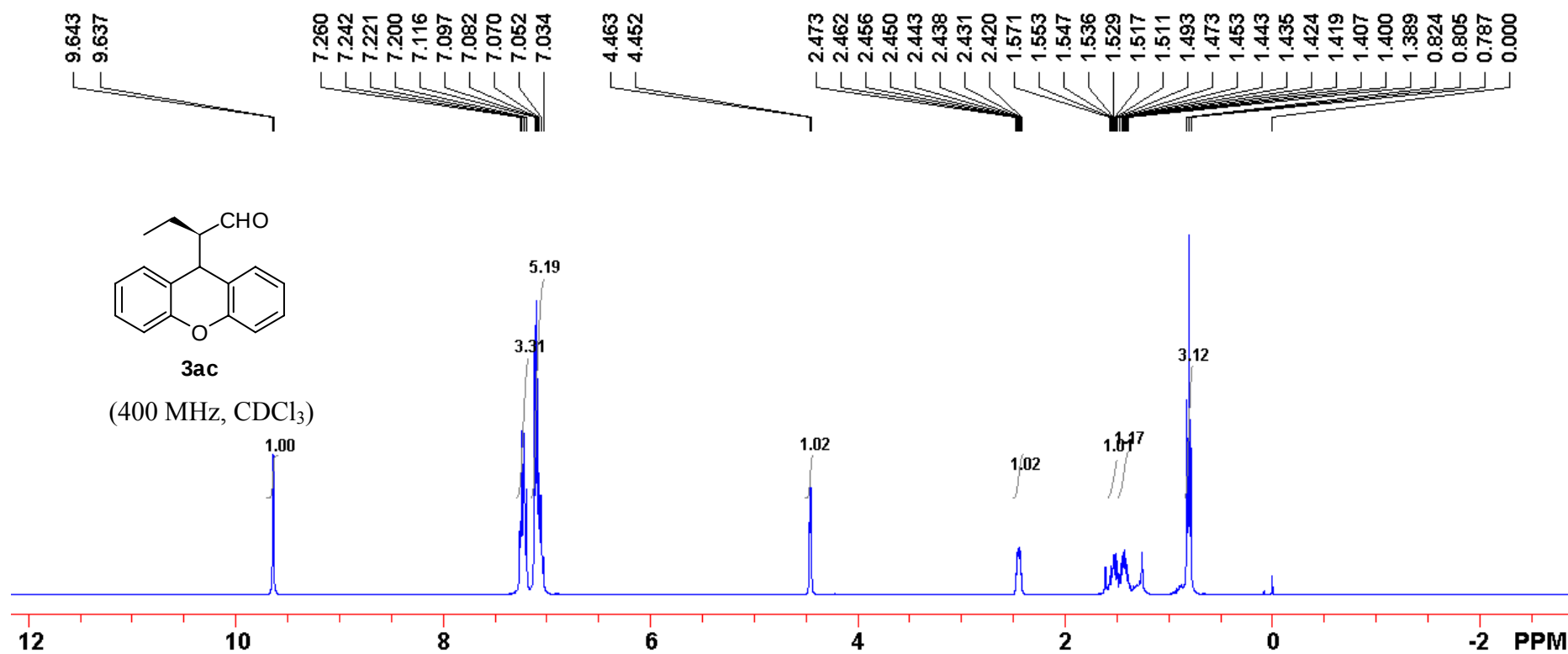


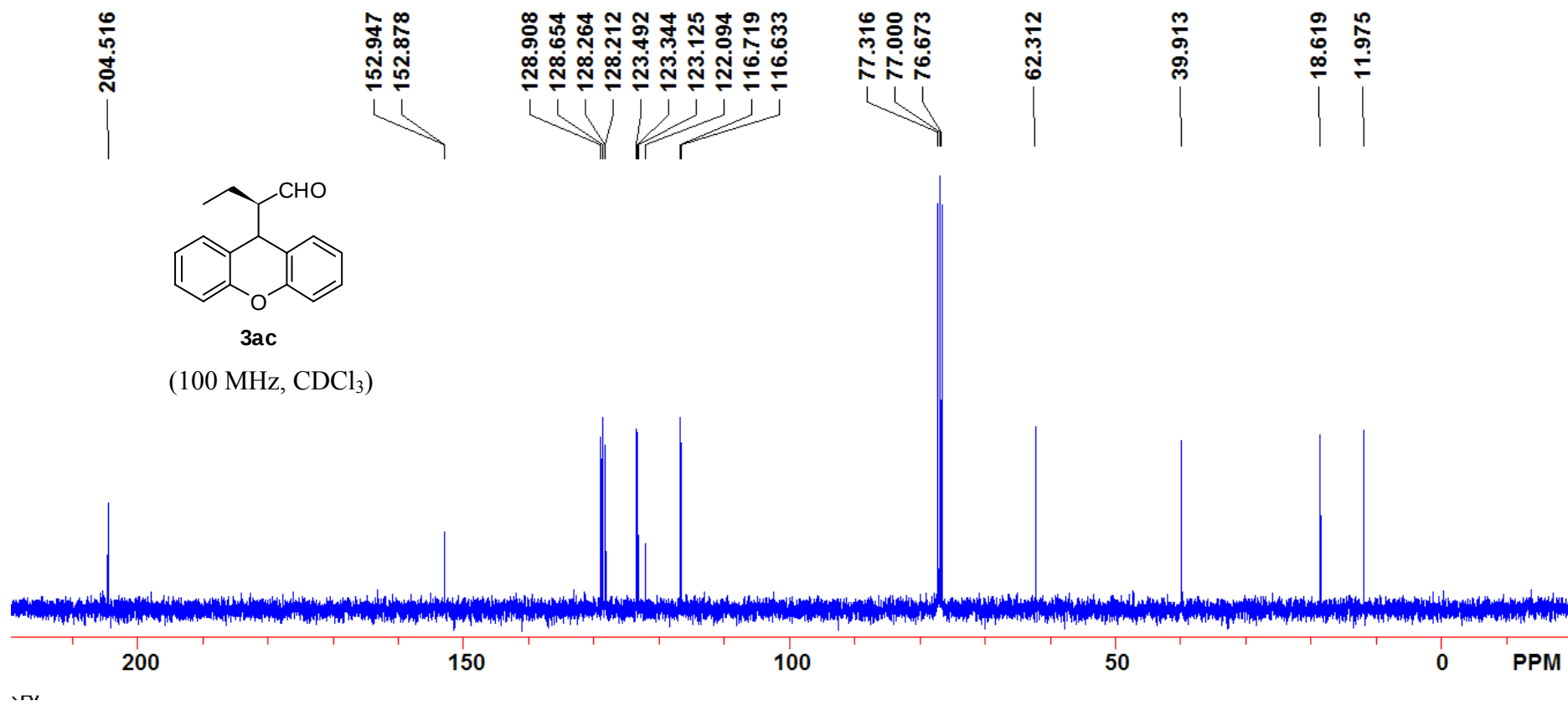


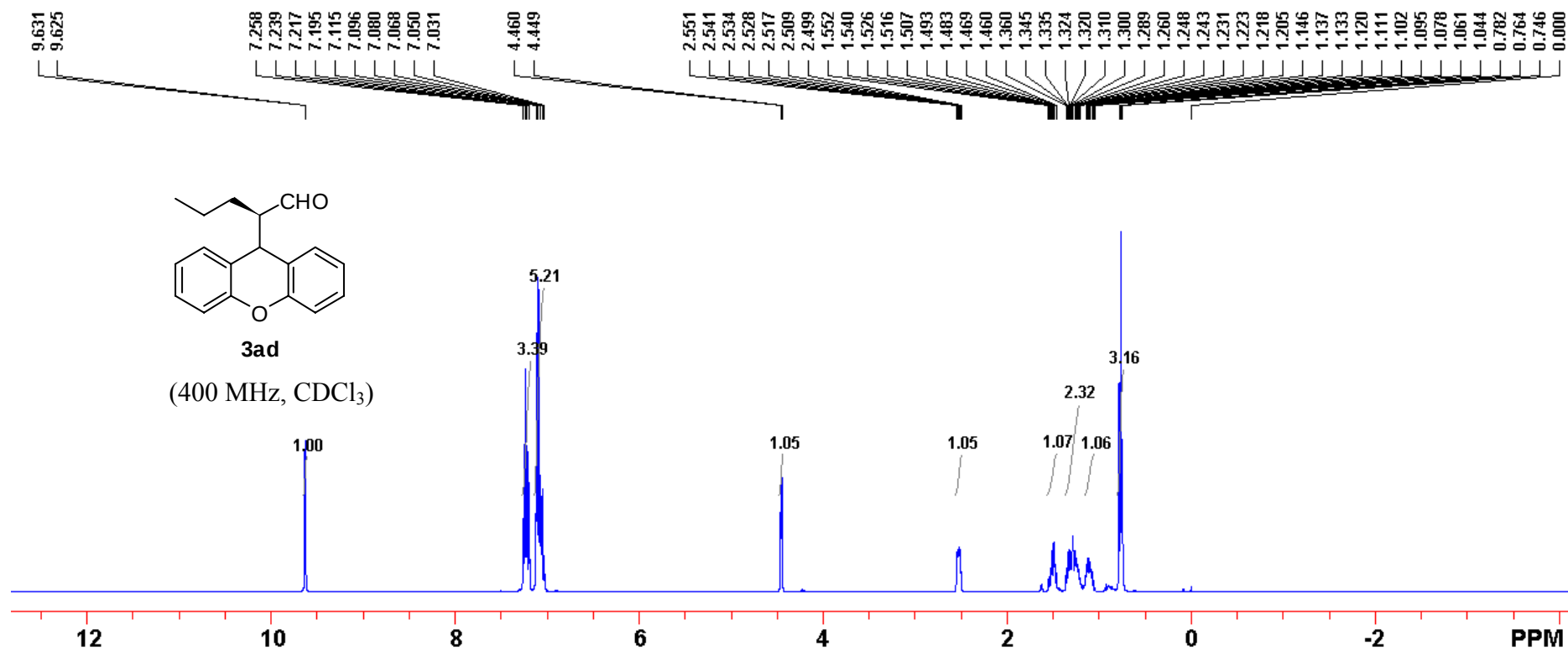
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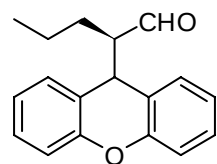






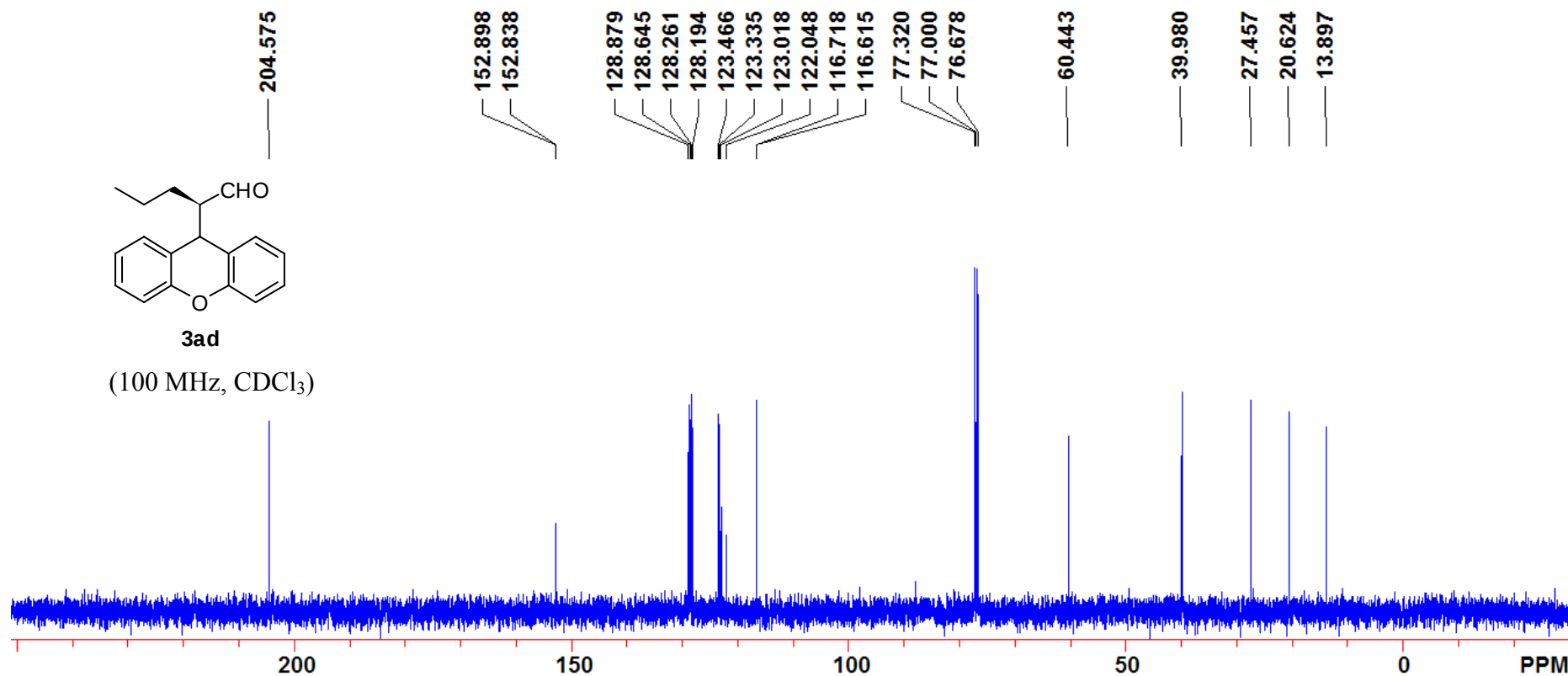


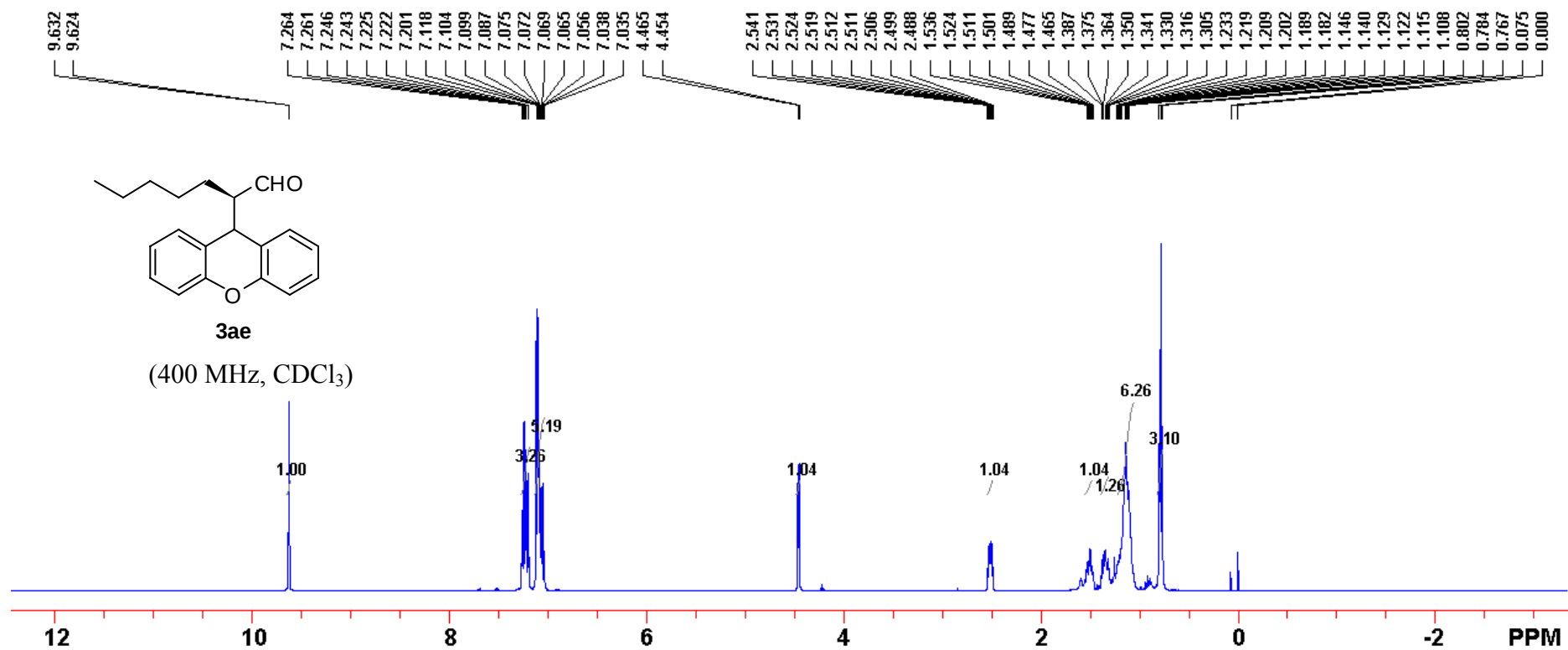


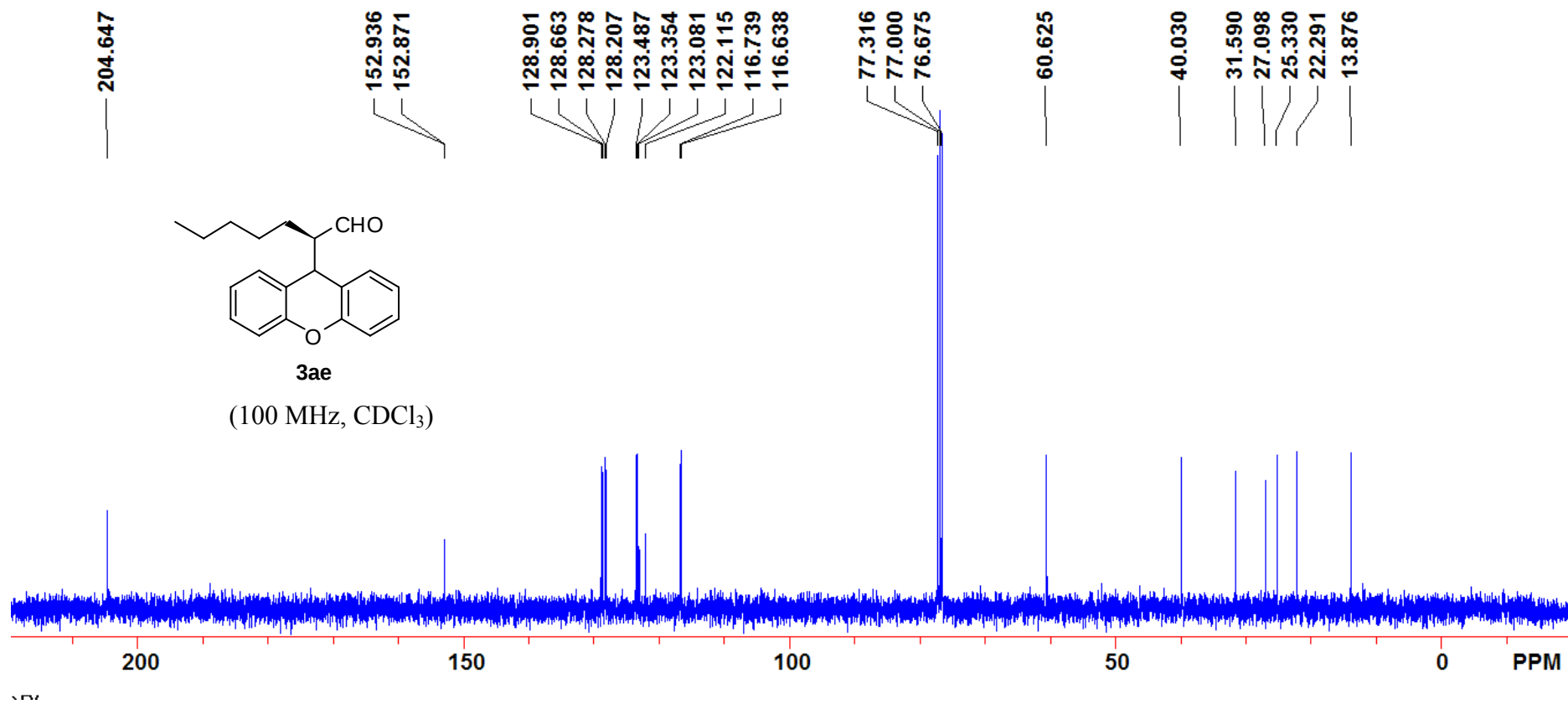


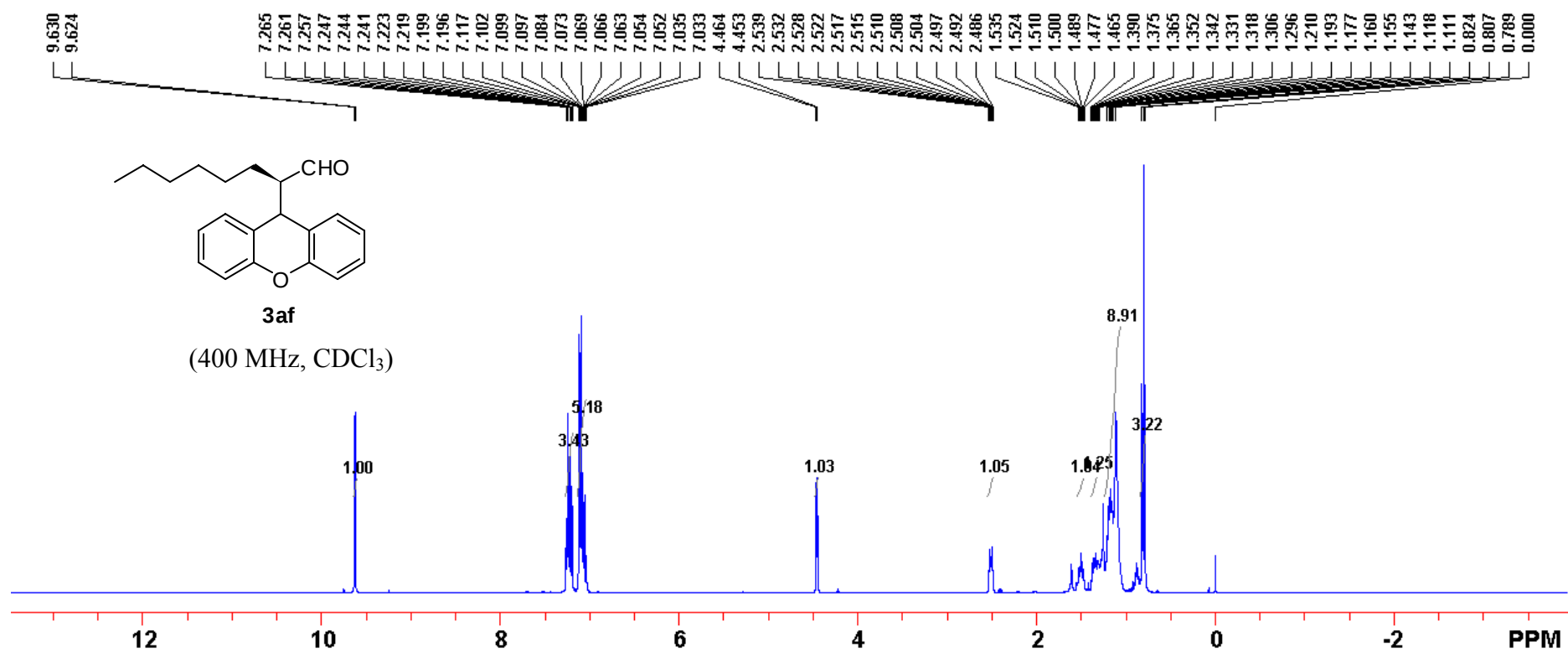
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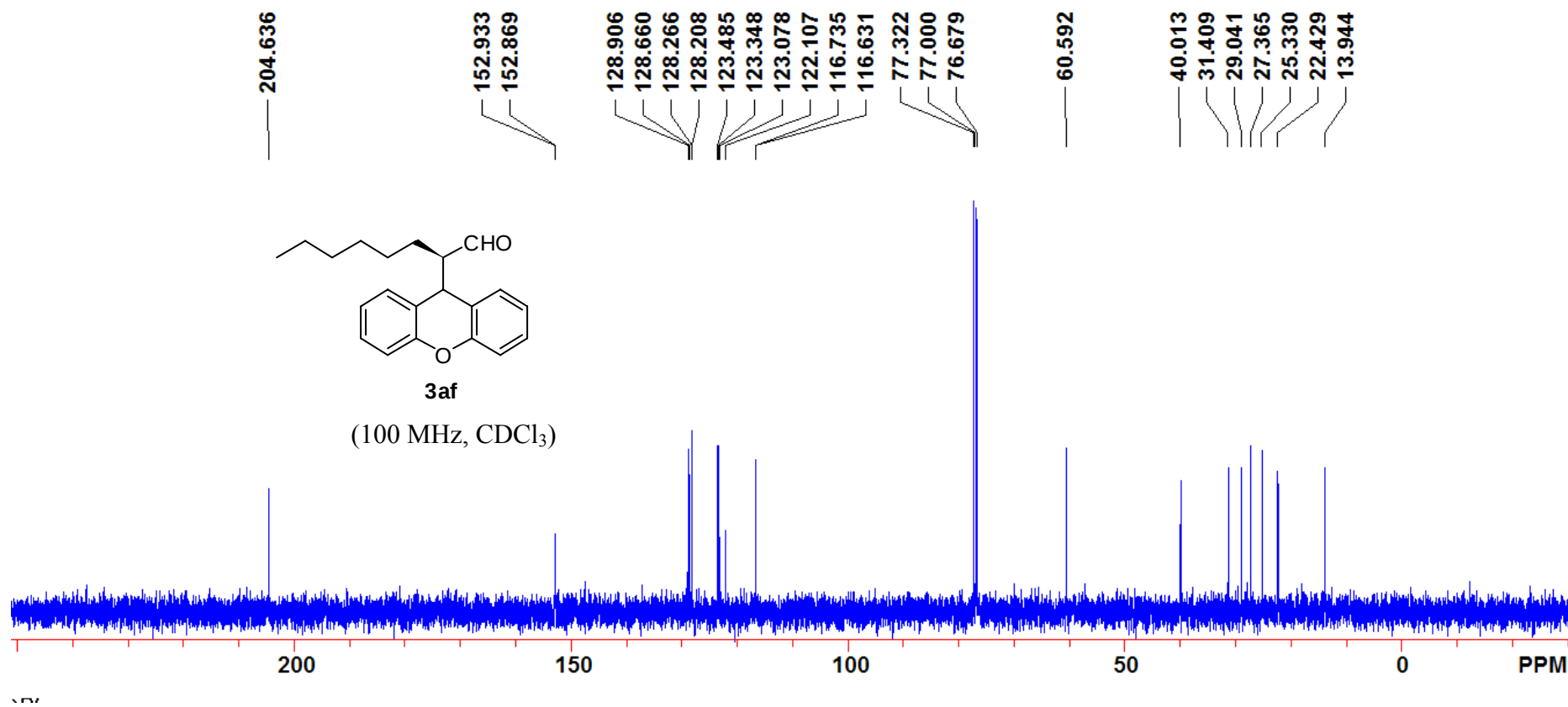
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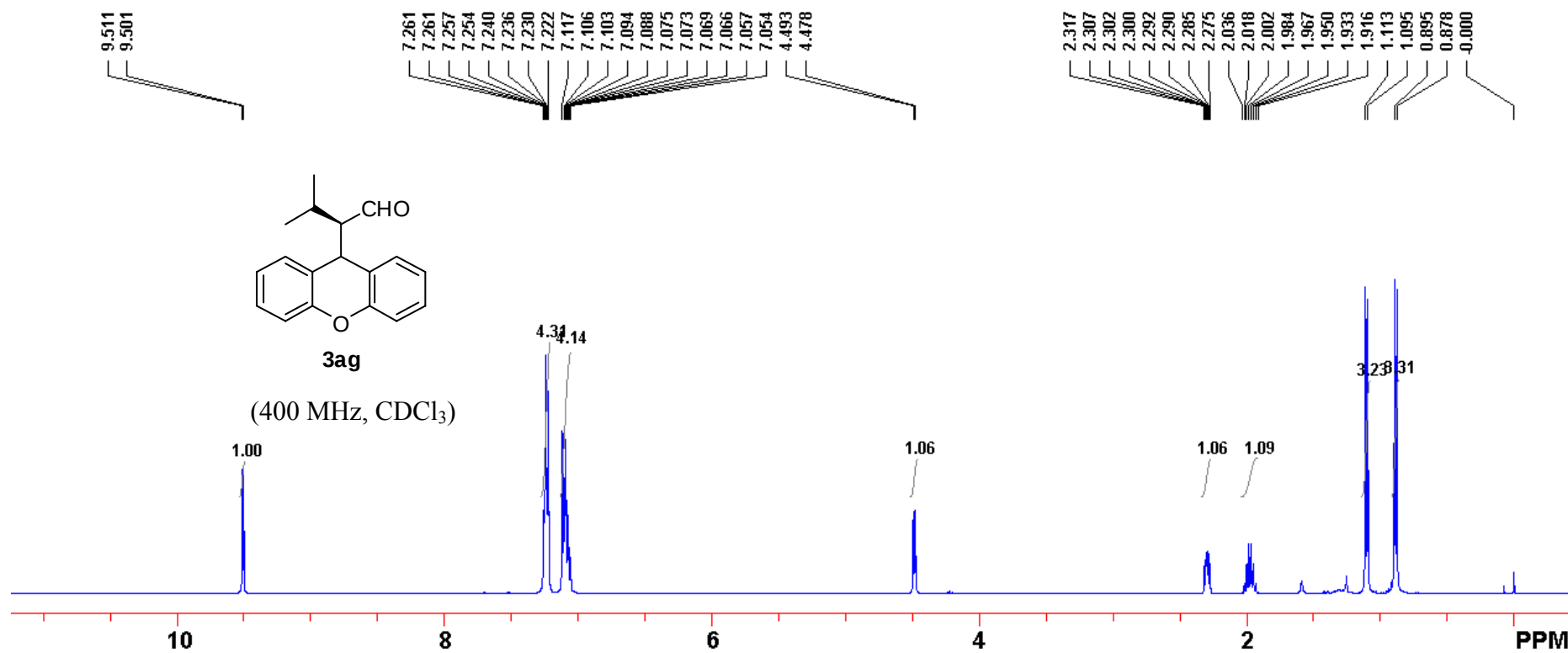


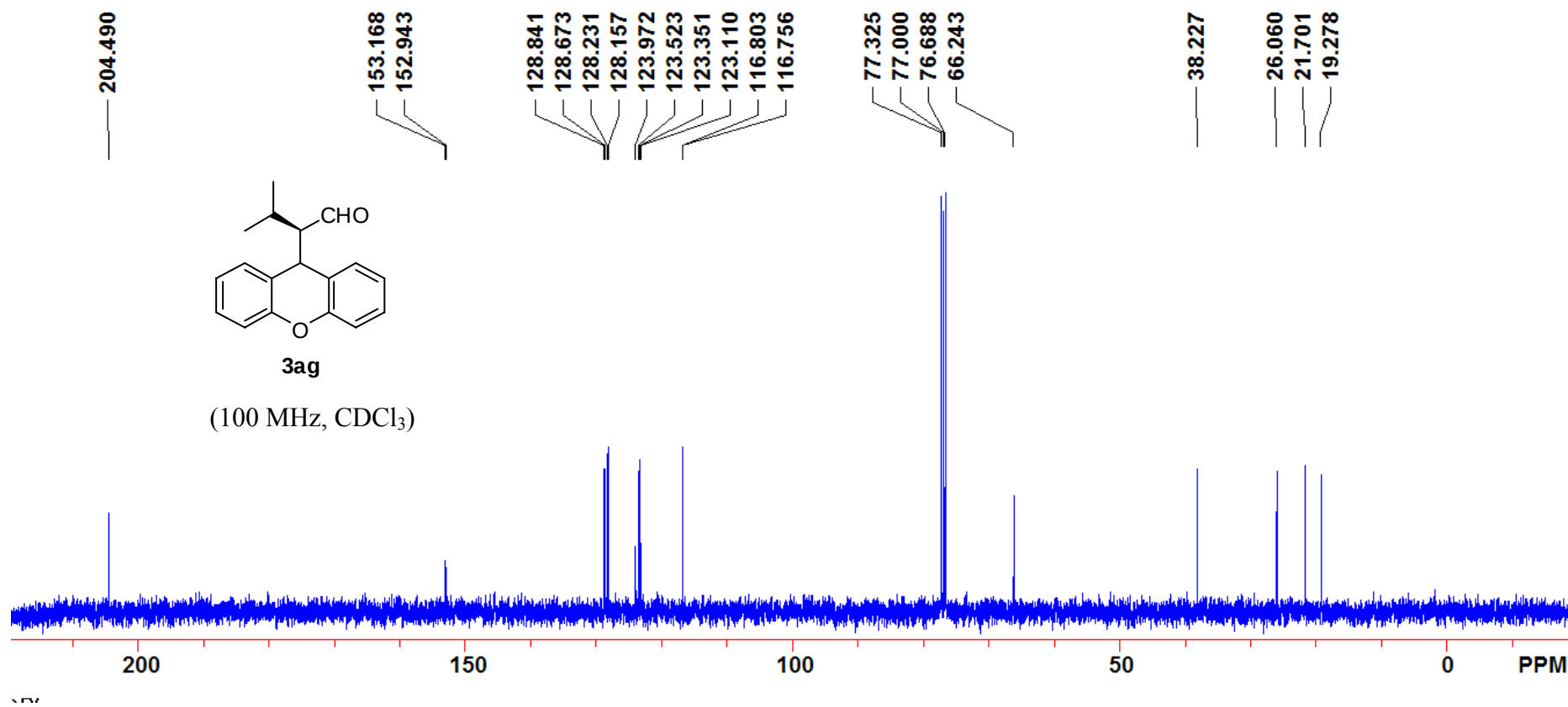


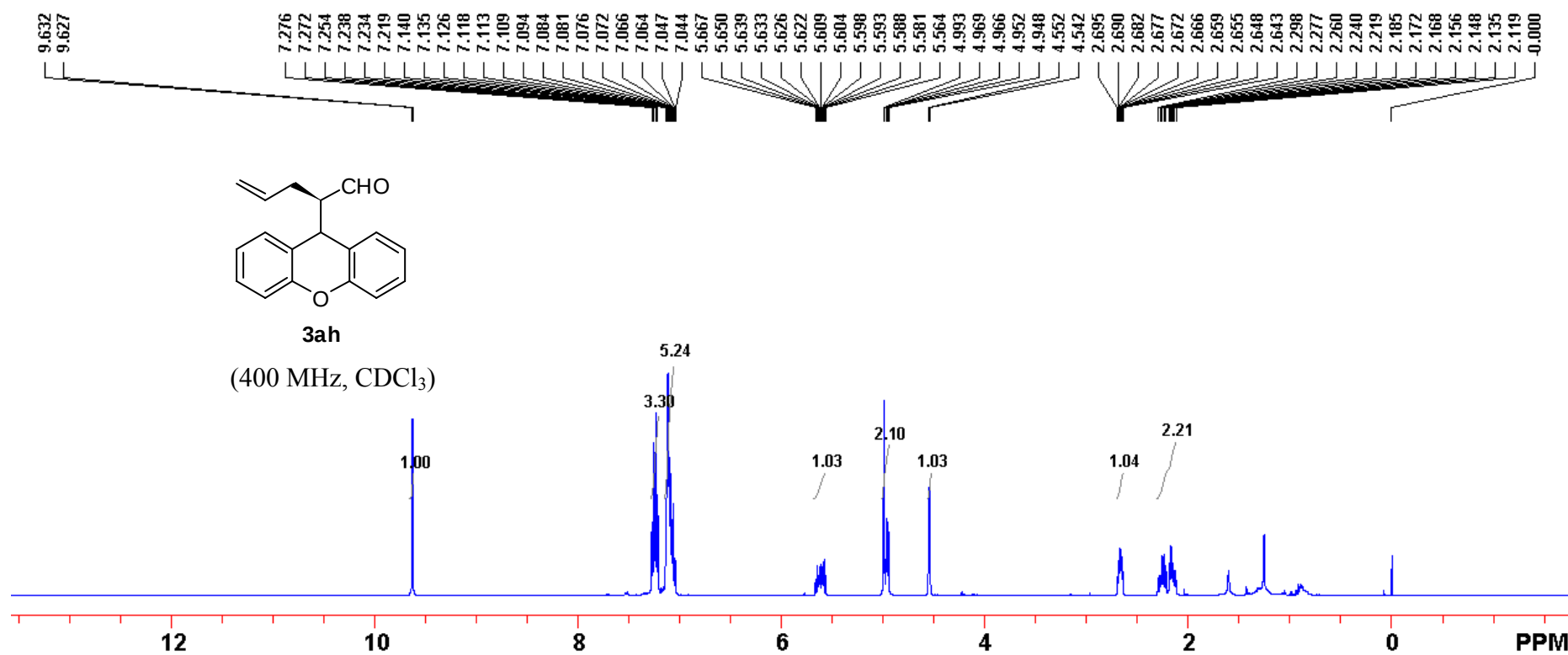


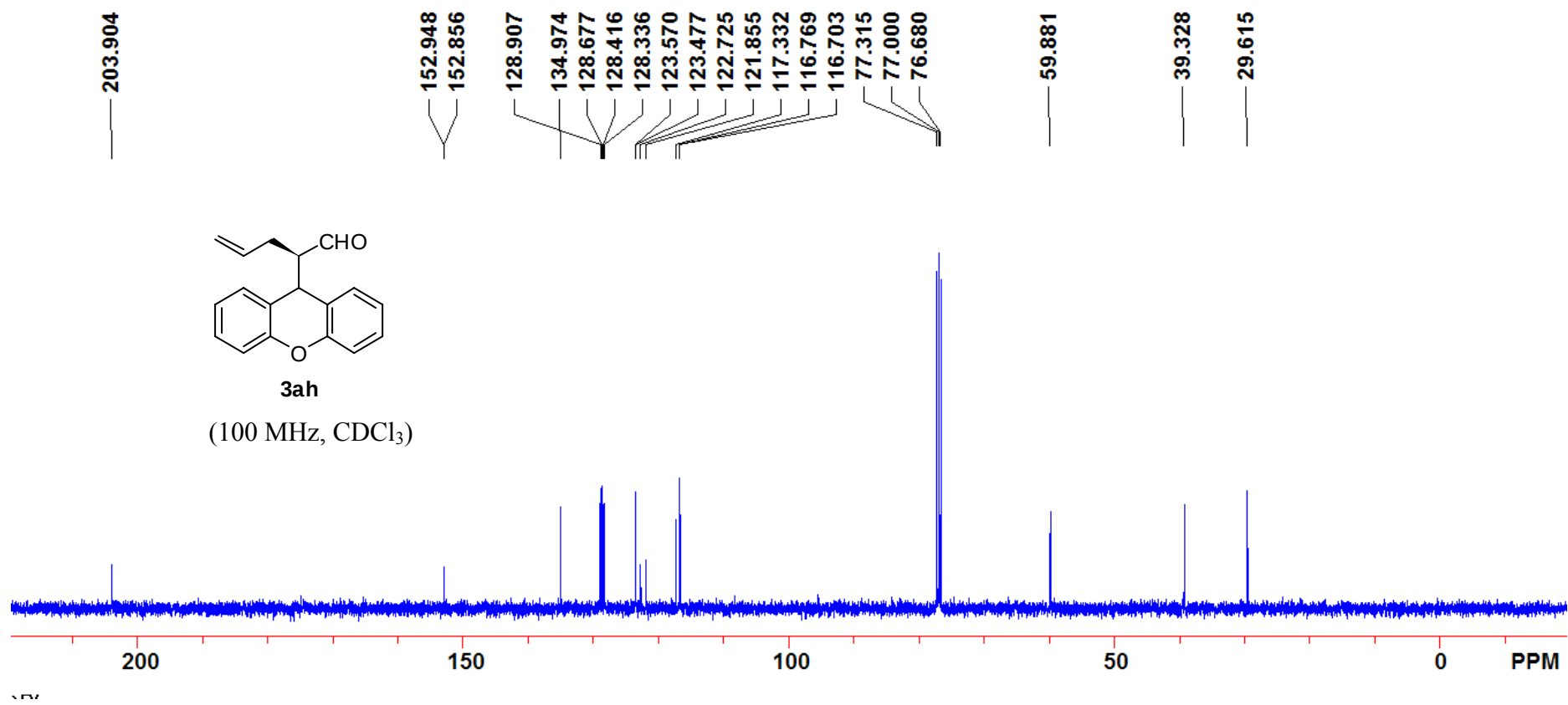


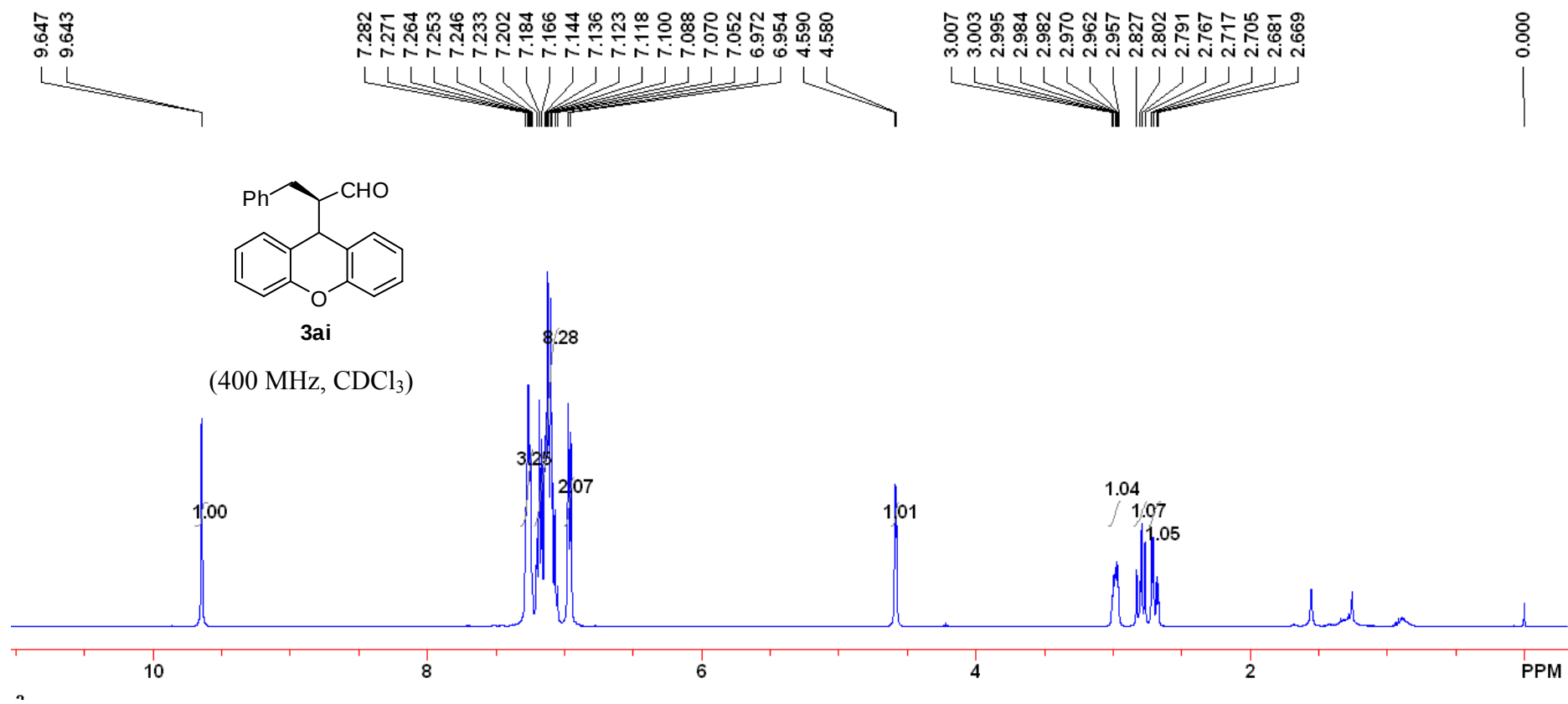


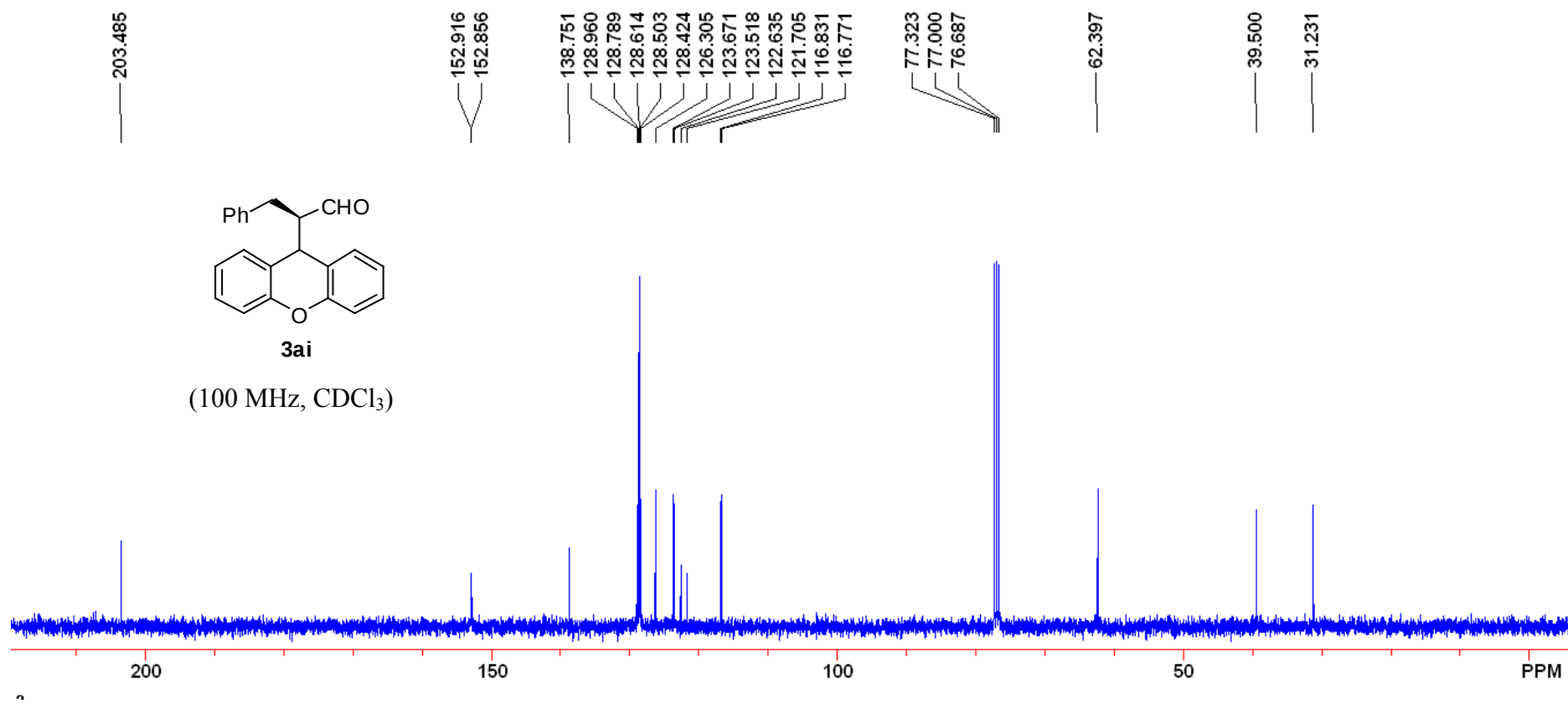


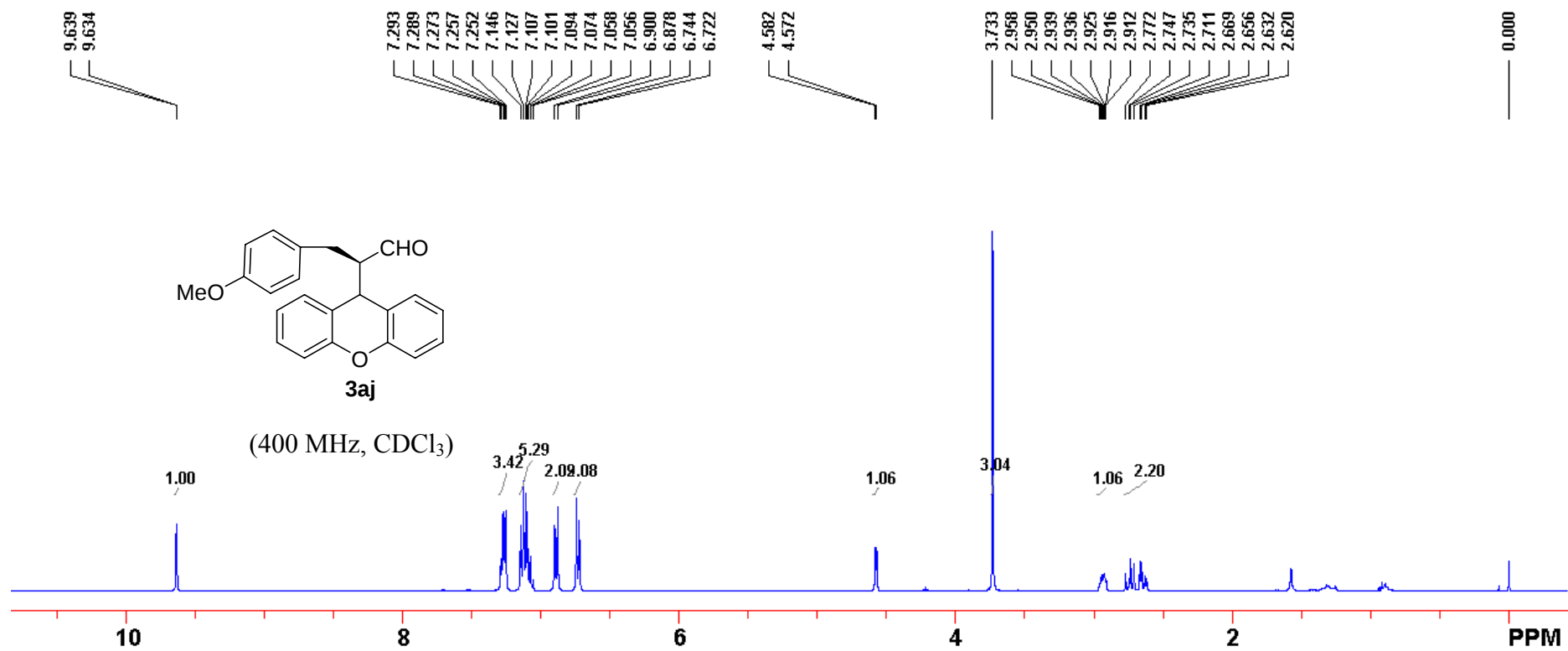


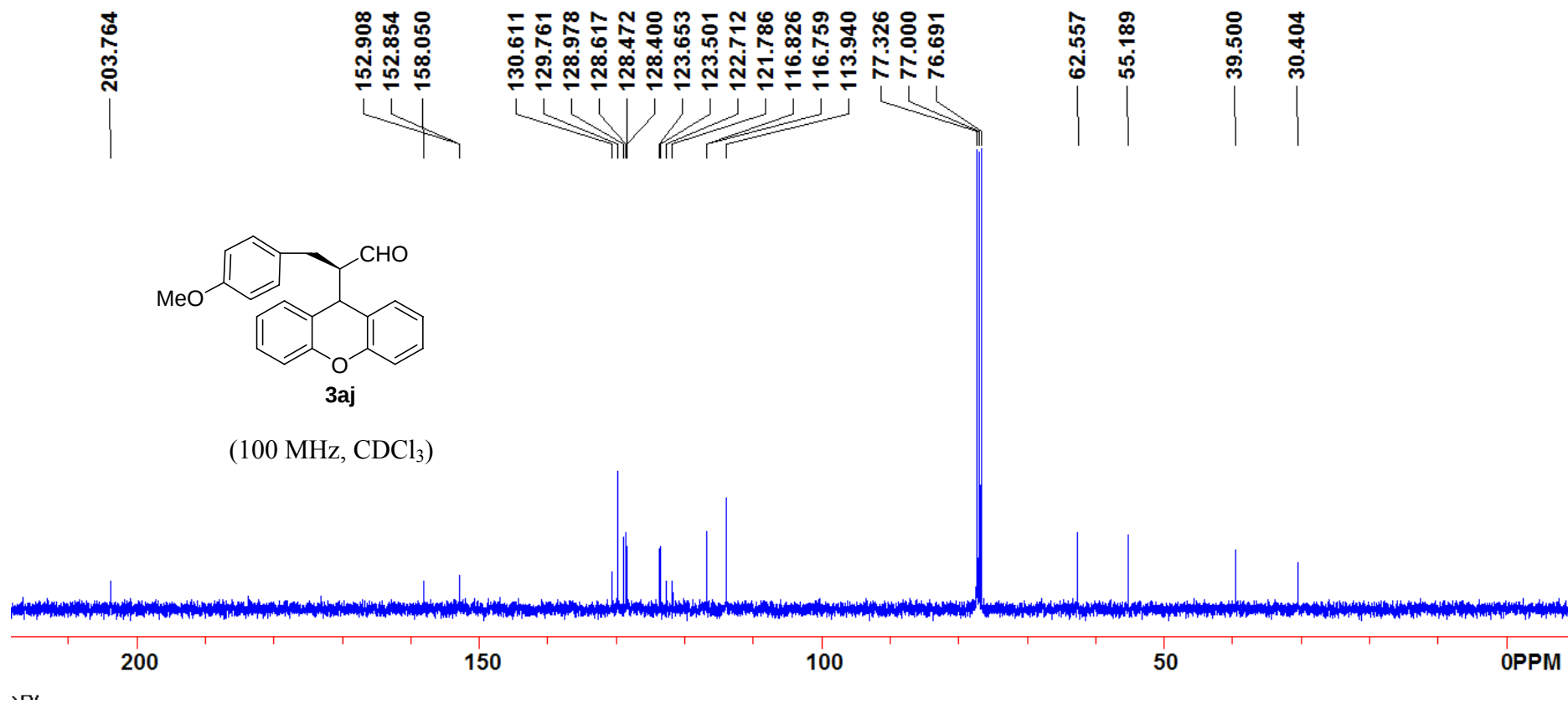


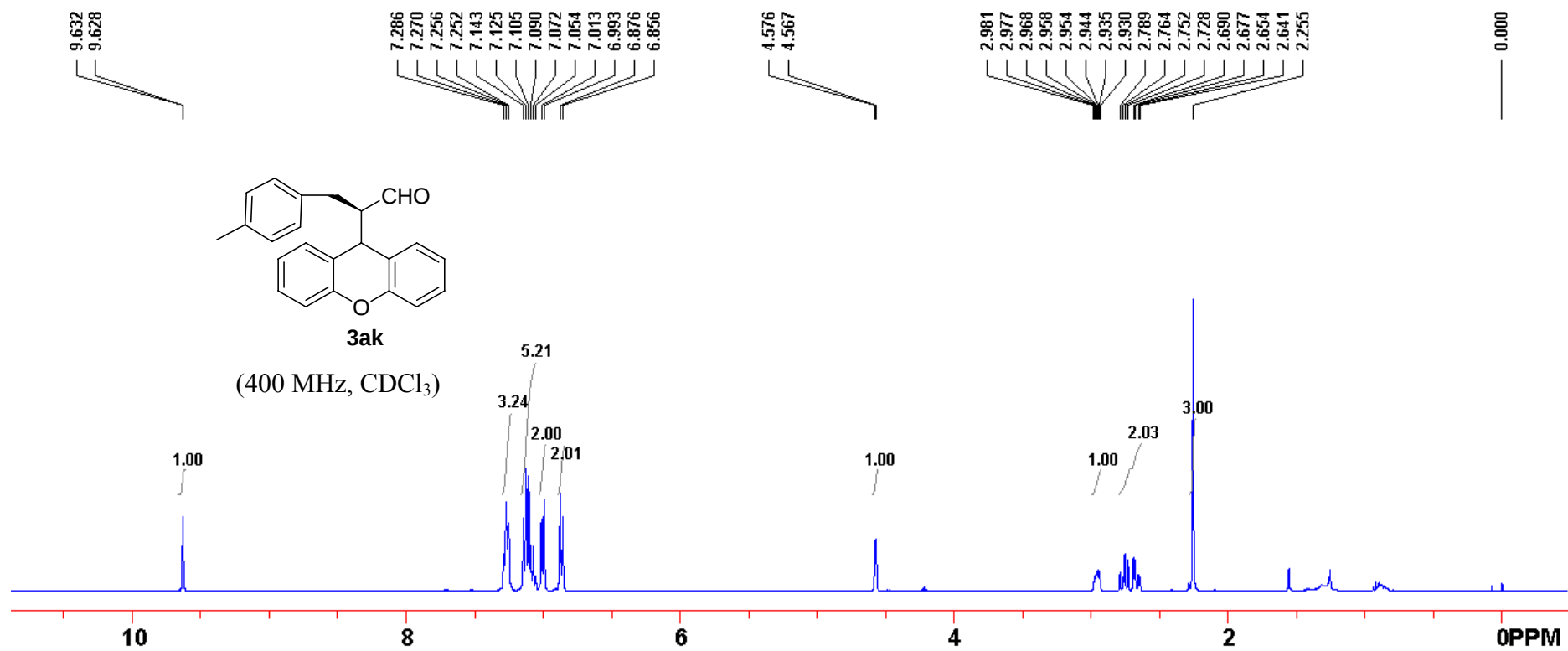


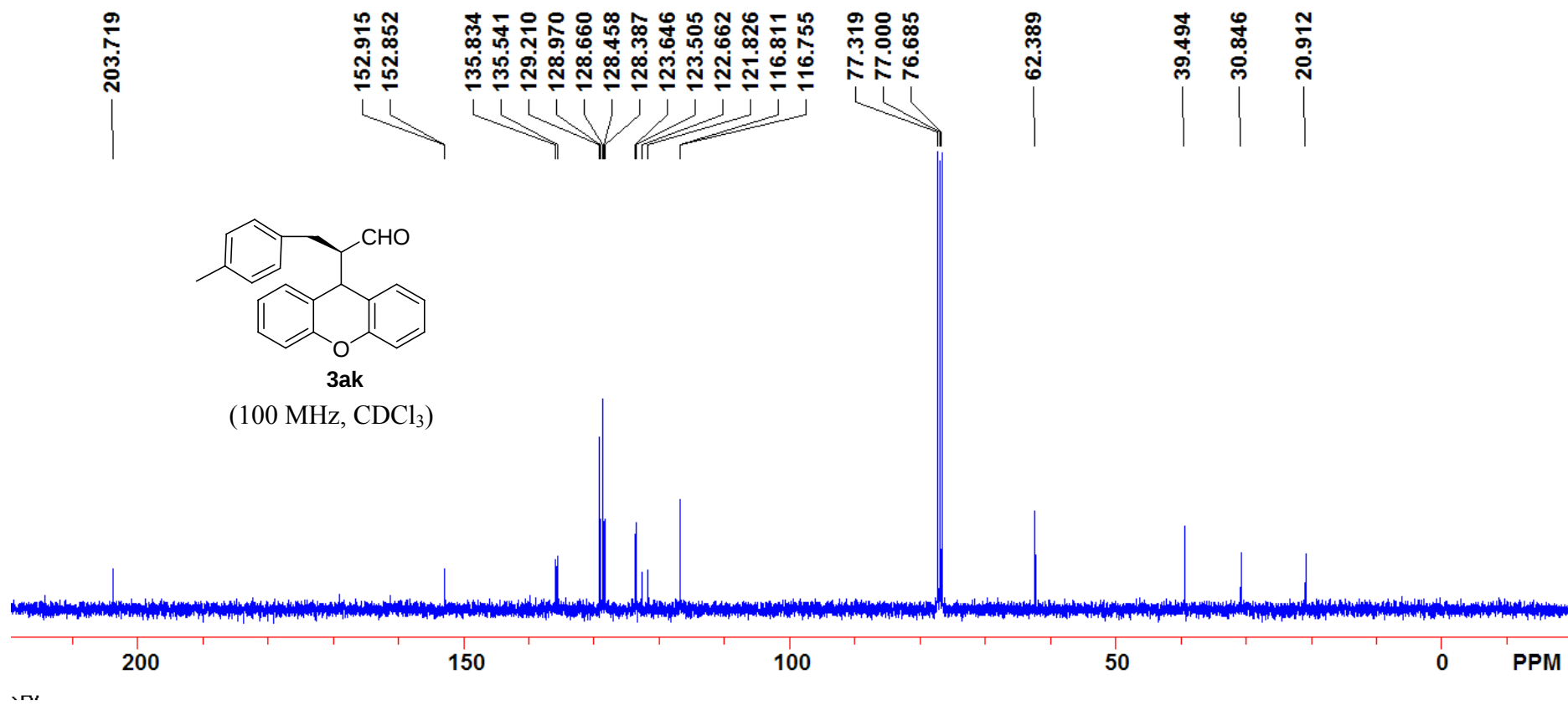


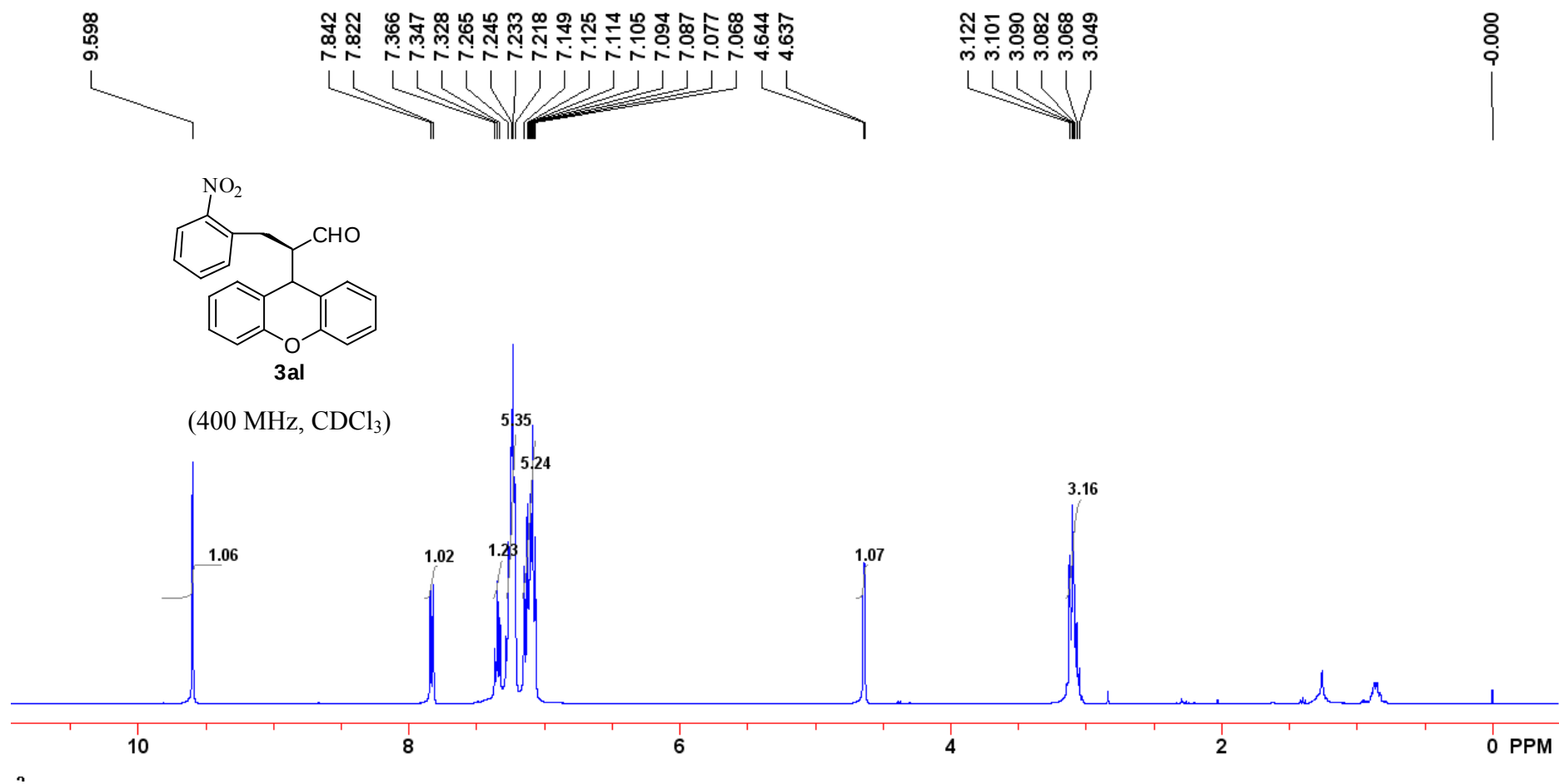


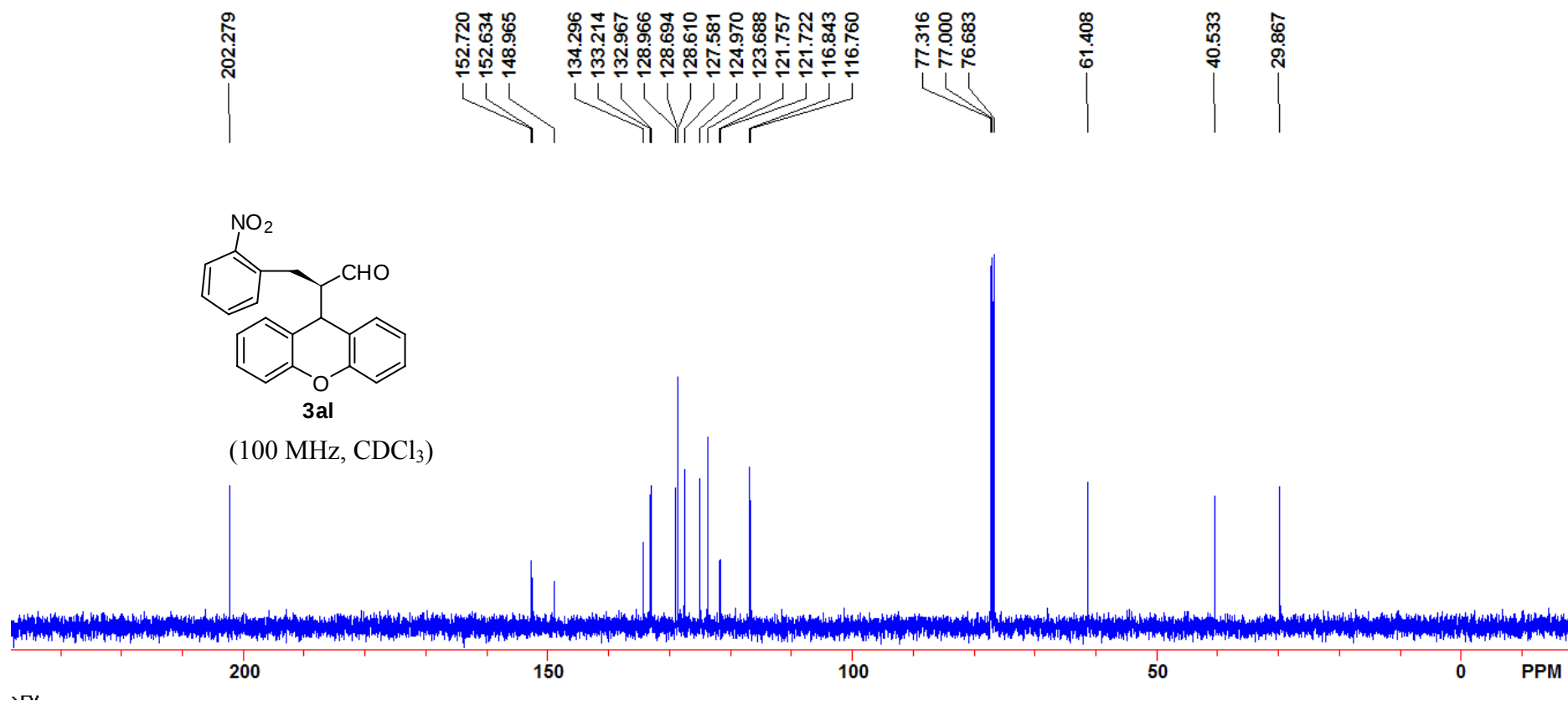


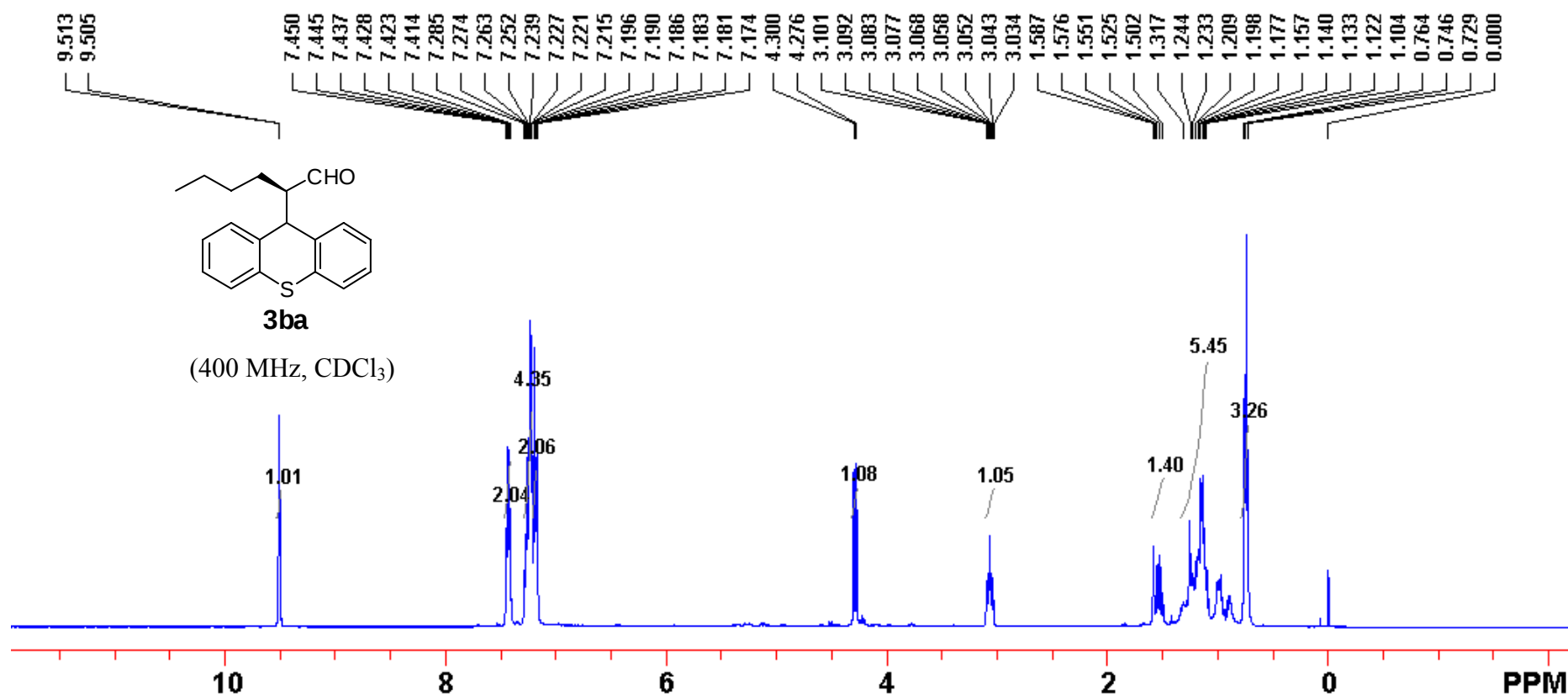


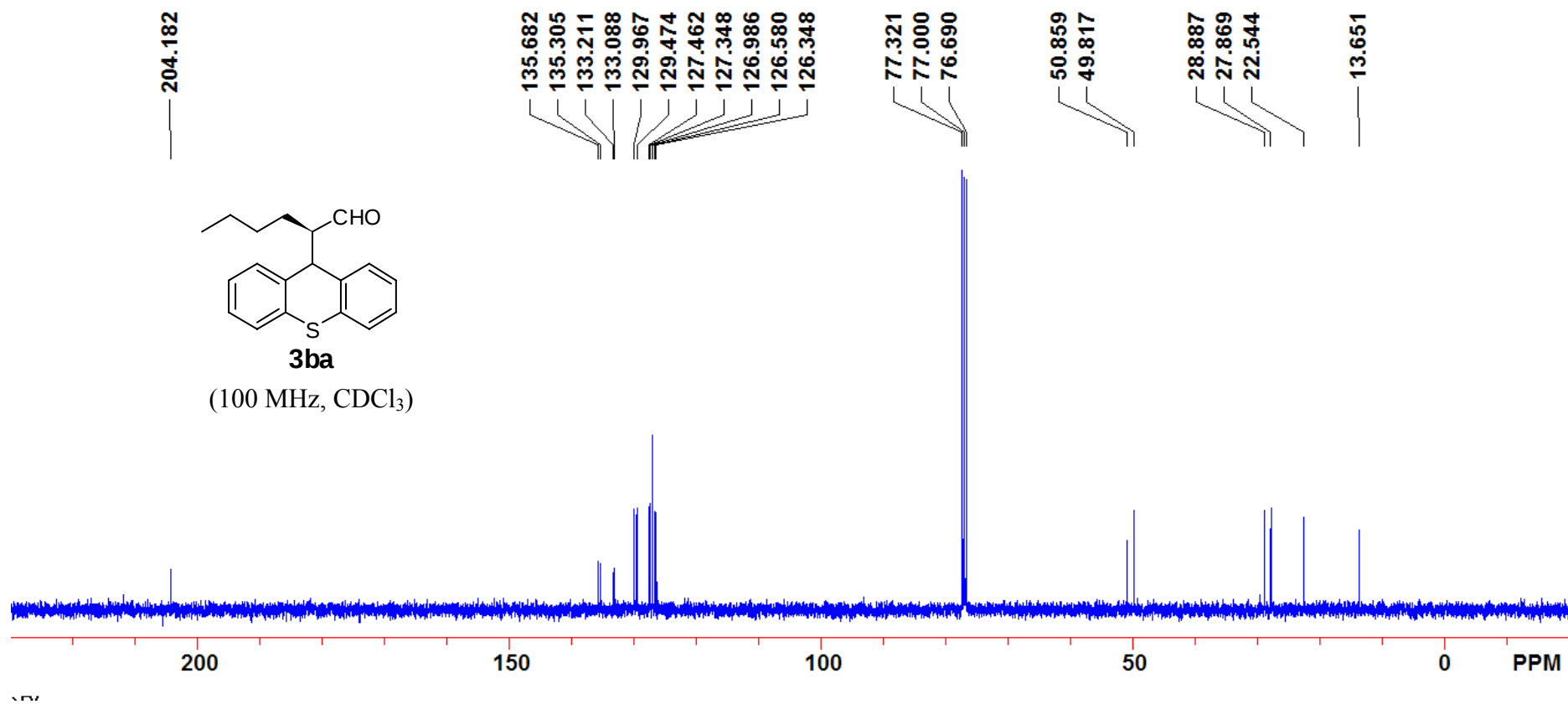


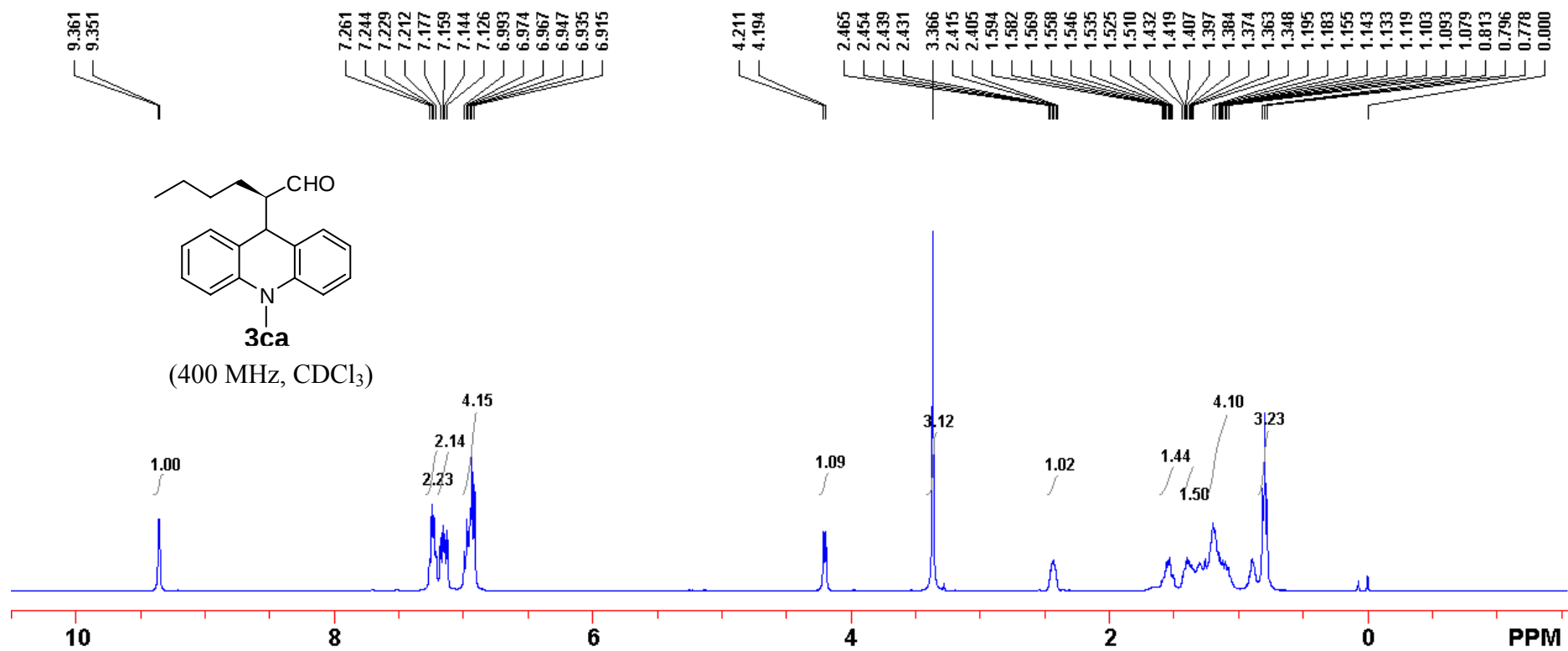


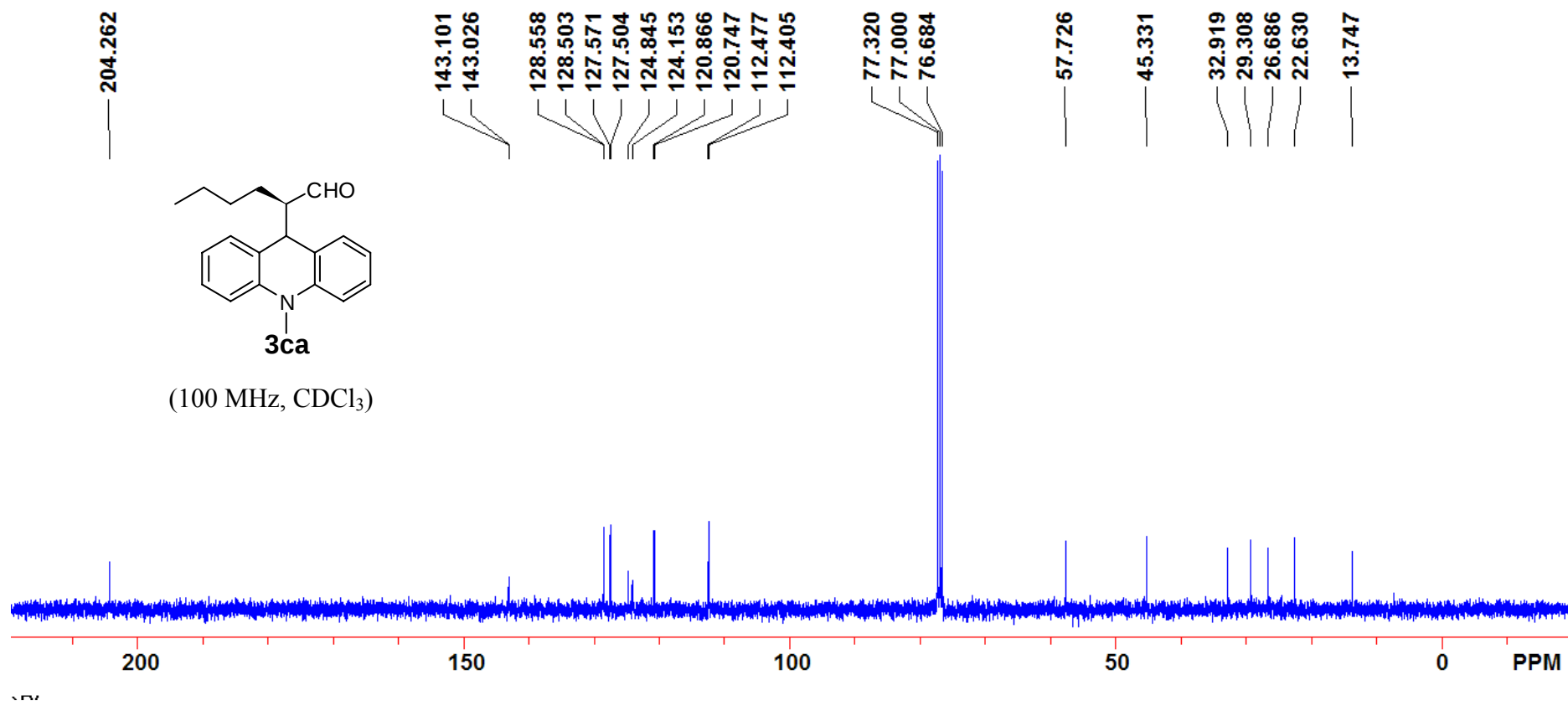




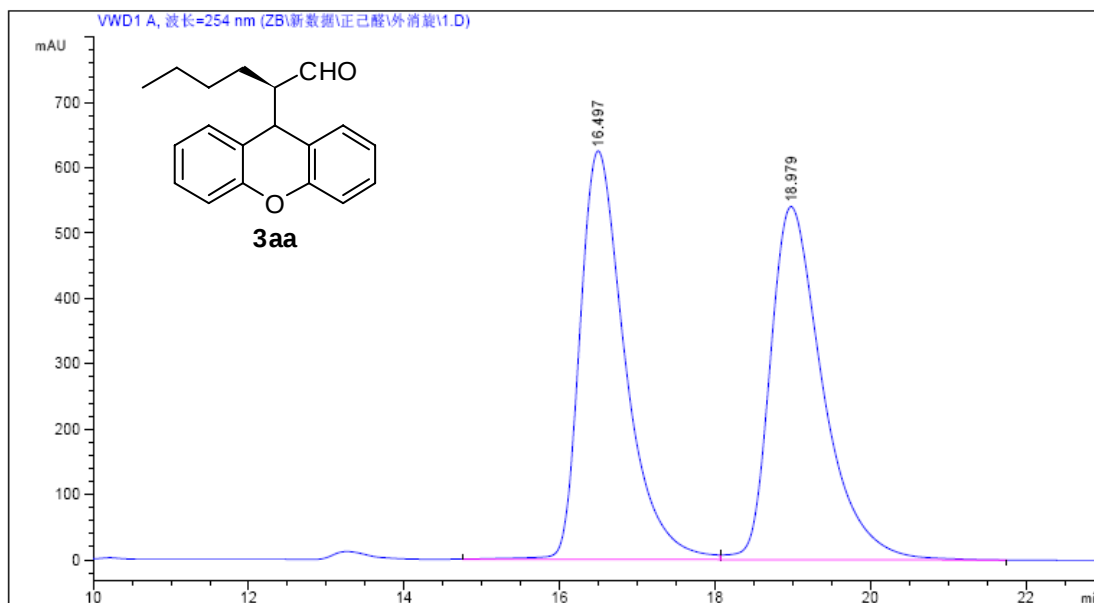






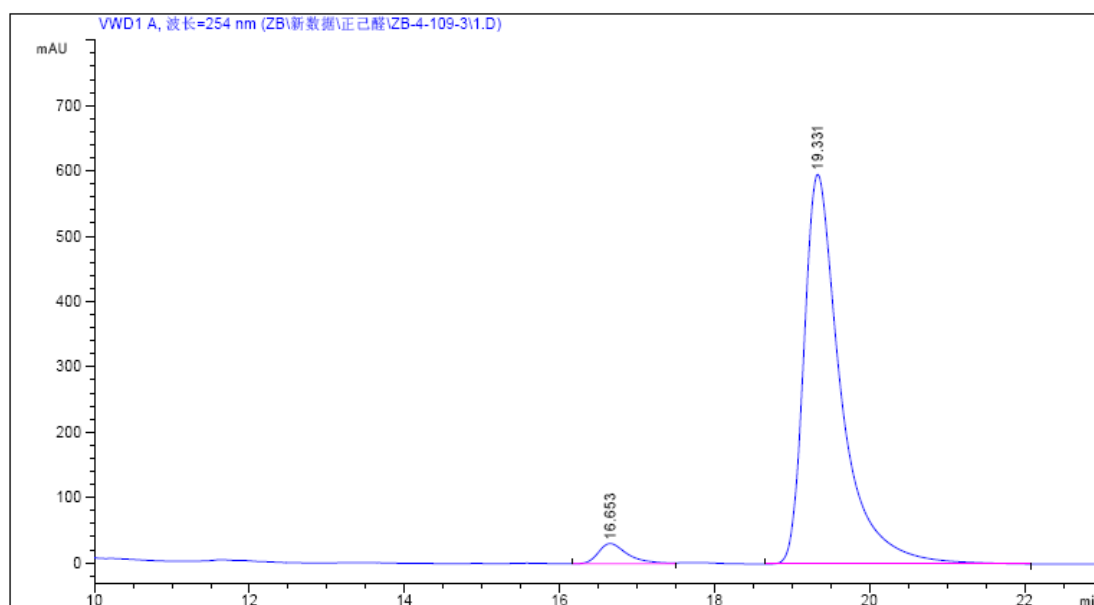


## Racemic



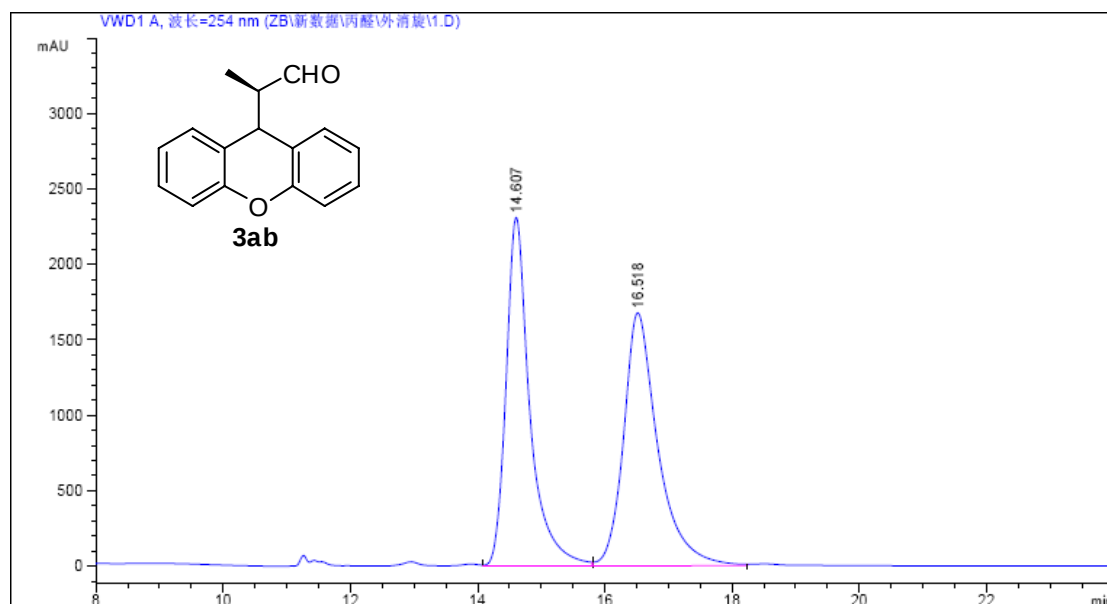
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|-----|------------|----|----------|------------|-----------|---------|
| 1   | 16.497     | BV | 0.6091   | 2.51525e4  | 625.27557 | 49.7979 |
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## Sample



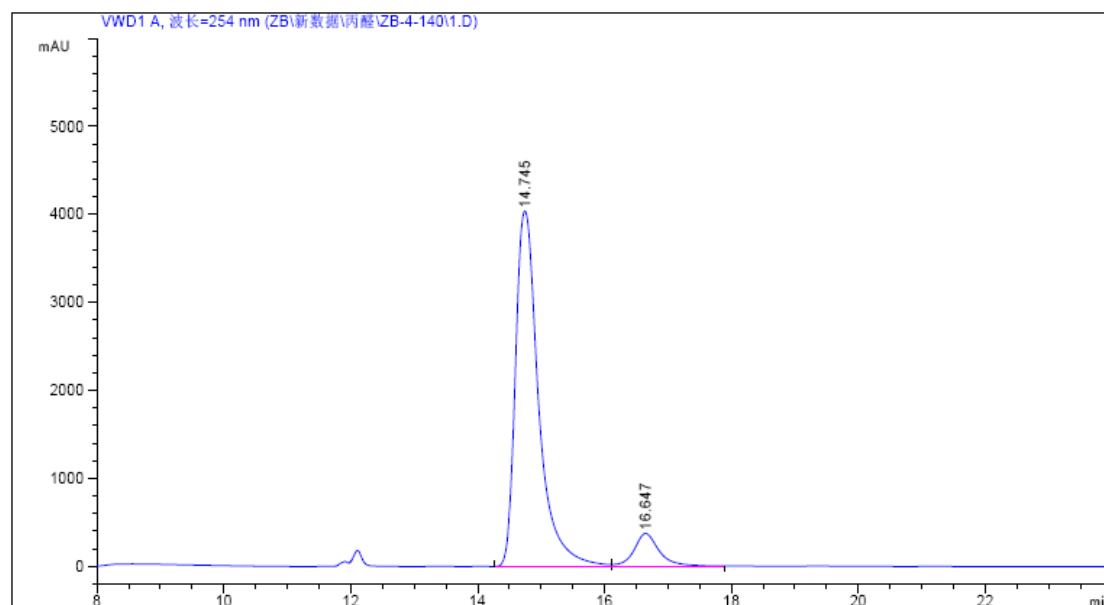
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|-----|------------|----|----------|------------|-----------|---------|
| 1   | 16.653     | VB | 0.4020   | 828.39160  | 31.00143  | 4.0352  |
| 2   | 19.331     | VB | 0.4932   | 1.97009e4  | 596.33691 | 95.9648 |

## Racemic



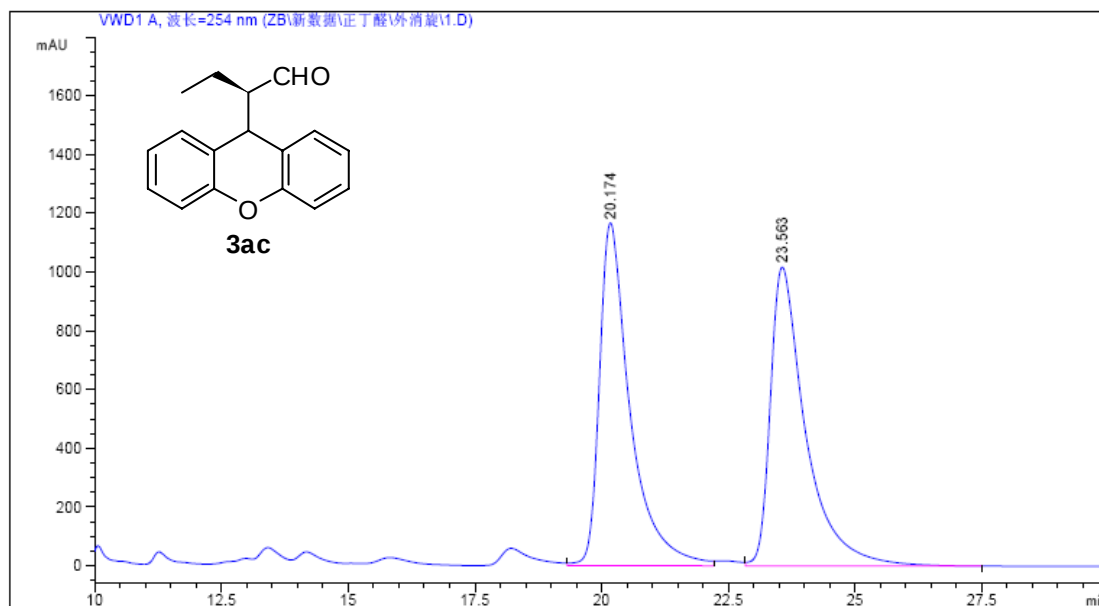
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|-----|------------|----|----------|------------|------------|---------|
| 1   | 14.607     | VV | 0.3788   | 6.00236e4  | 2310.65454 | 48.9004 |
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## Sample

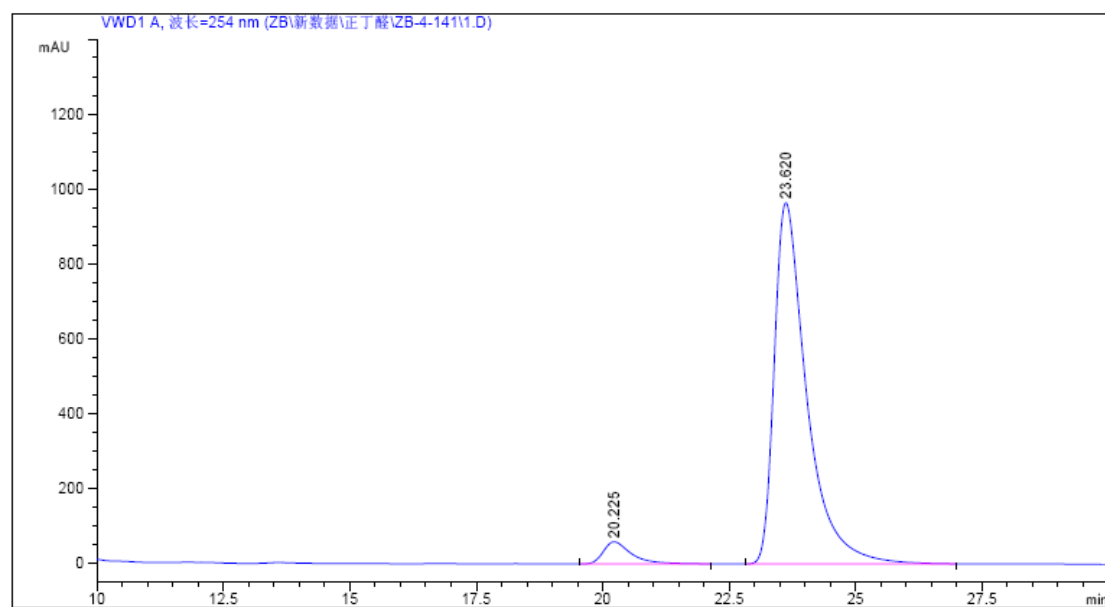


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|-----|------------|----|----------|------------|------------|---------|
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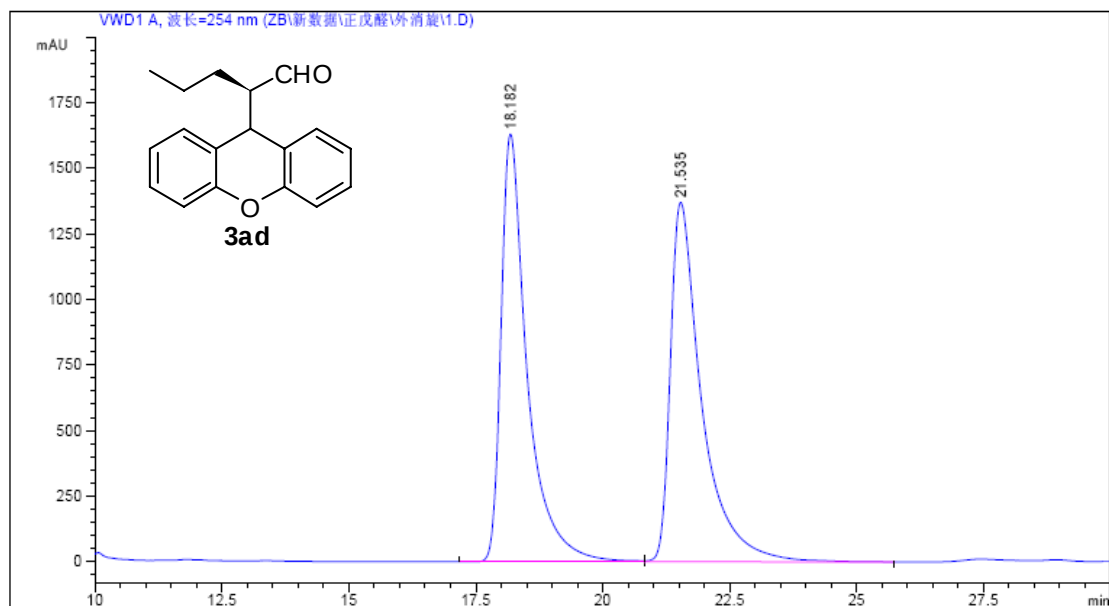
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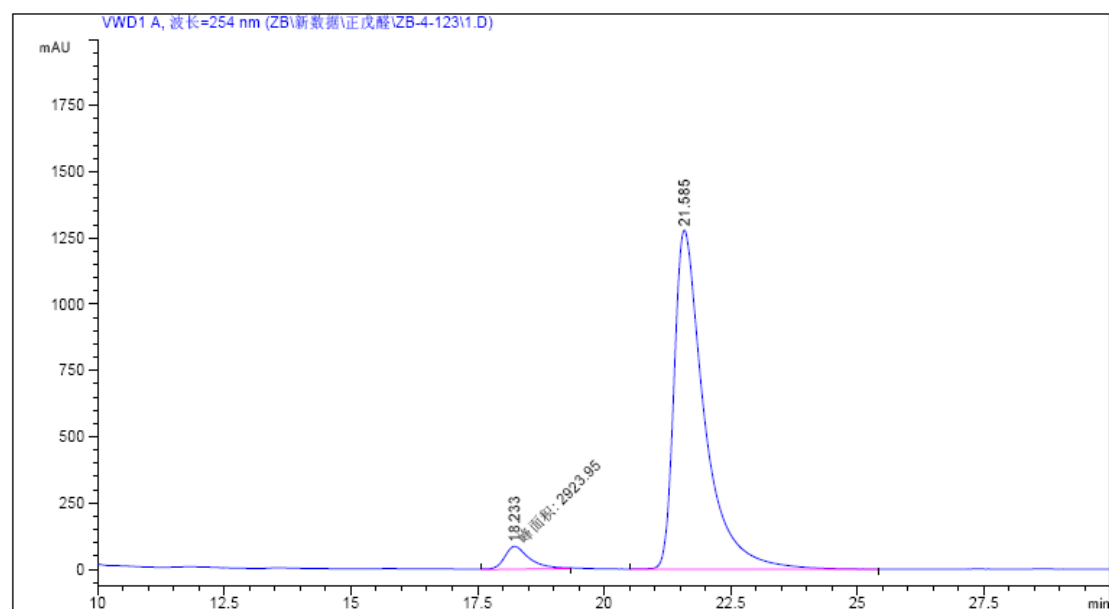
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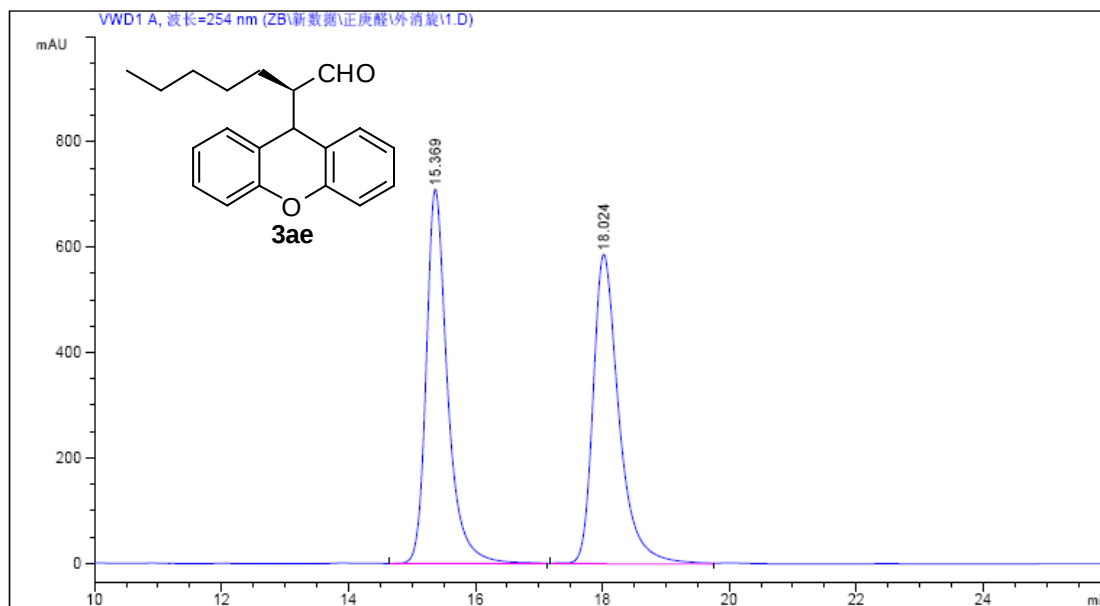
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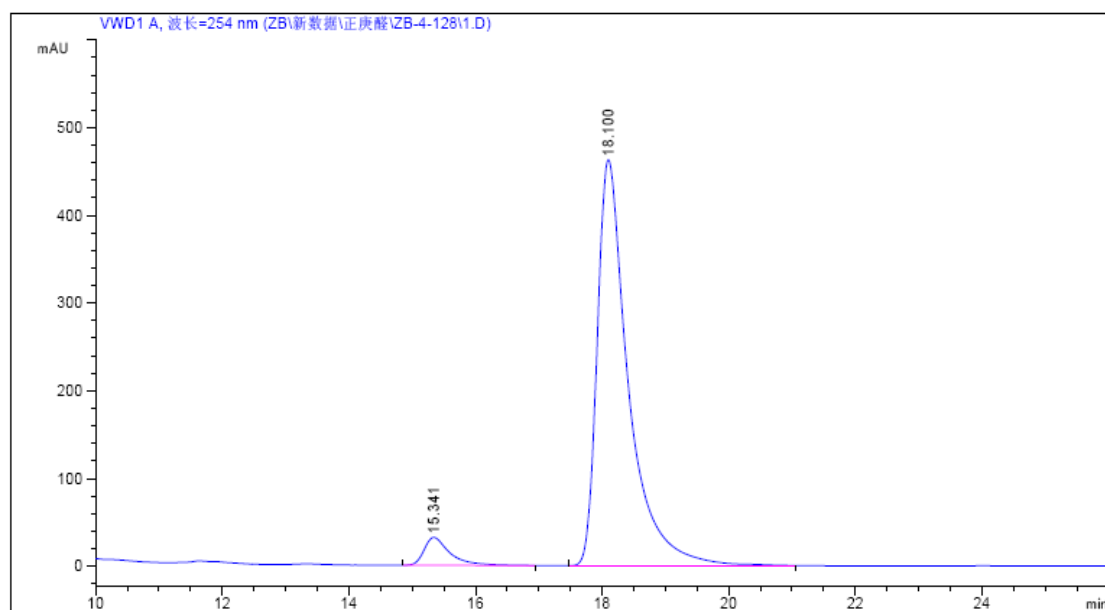
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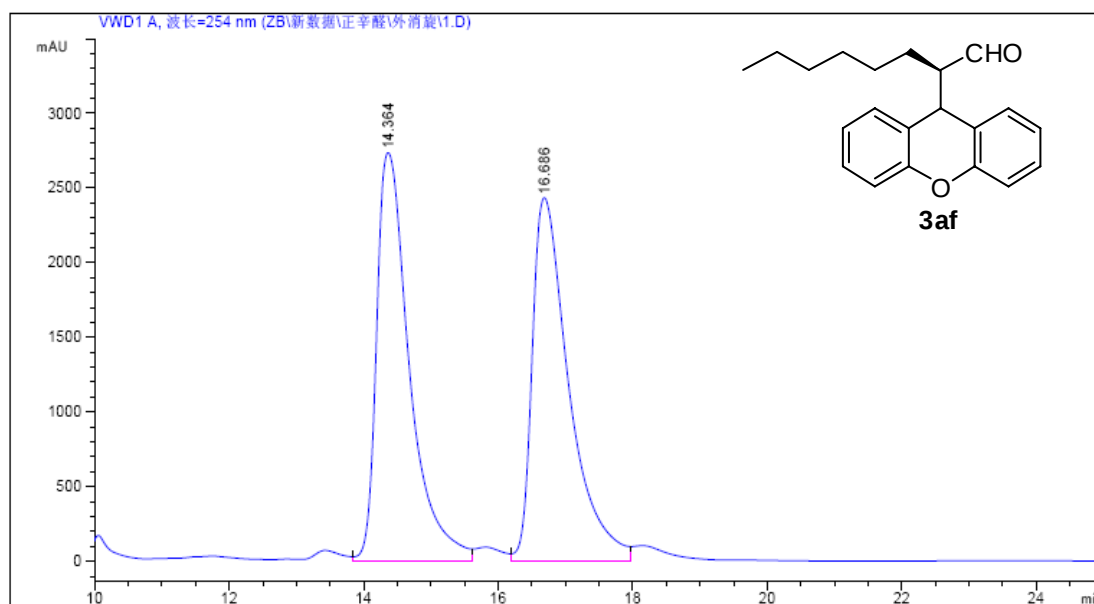
## Racemic



## Sample

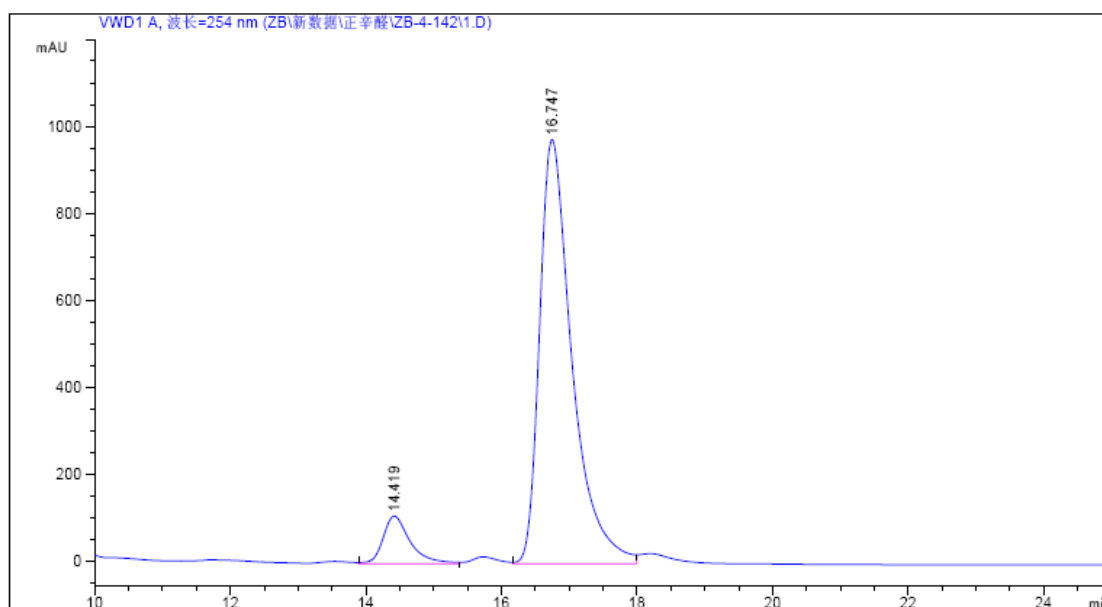


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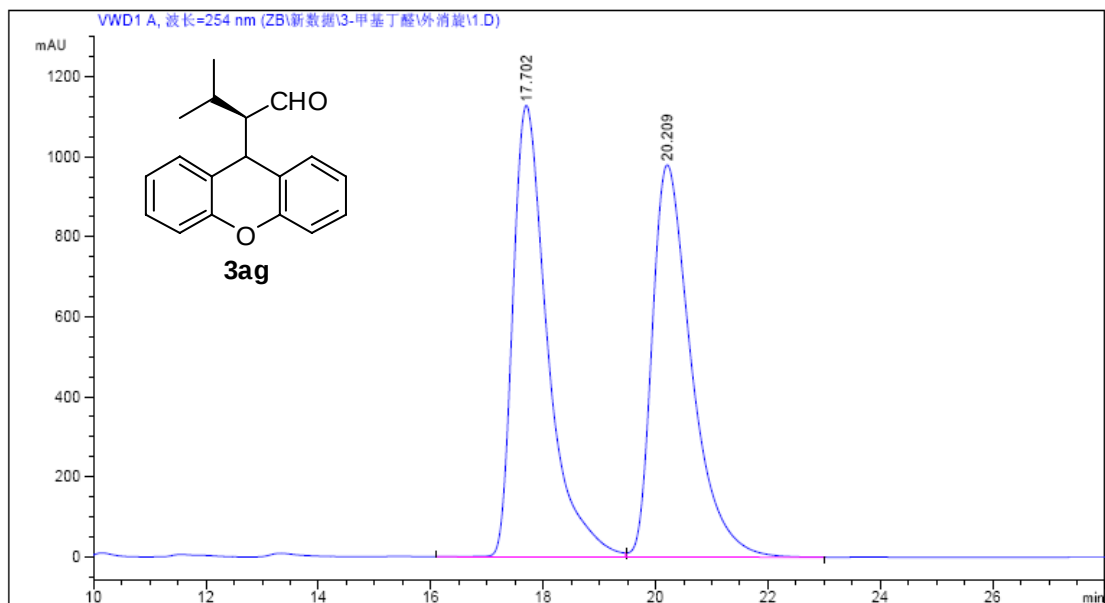
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|-----|------------|----|----------|------------|------------|---------|
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## Sample

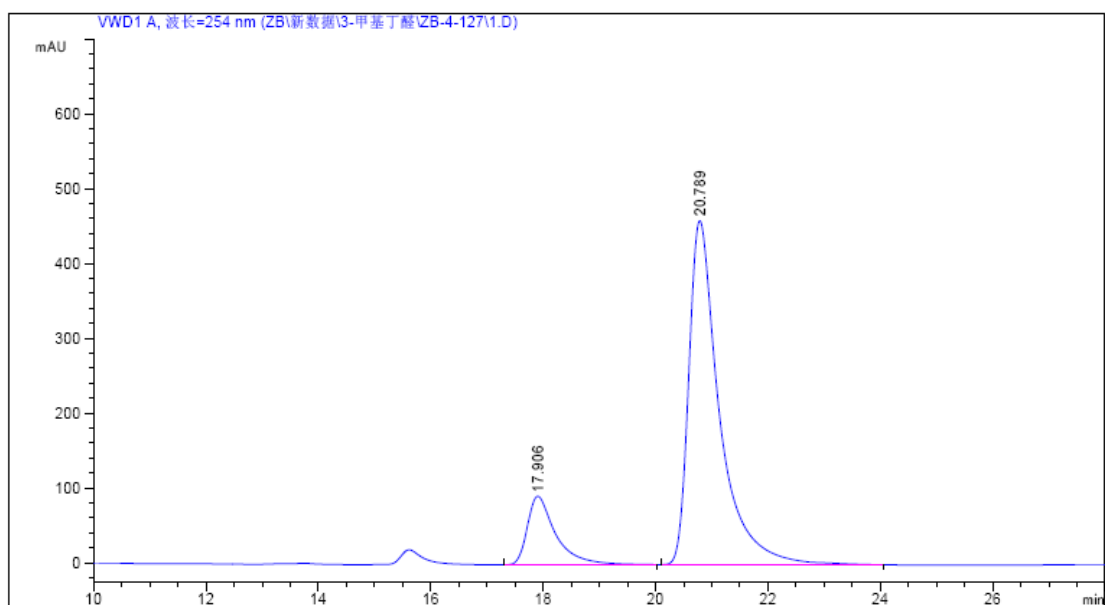


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|-----|------------|----|----------|------------|-----------|---------|
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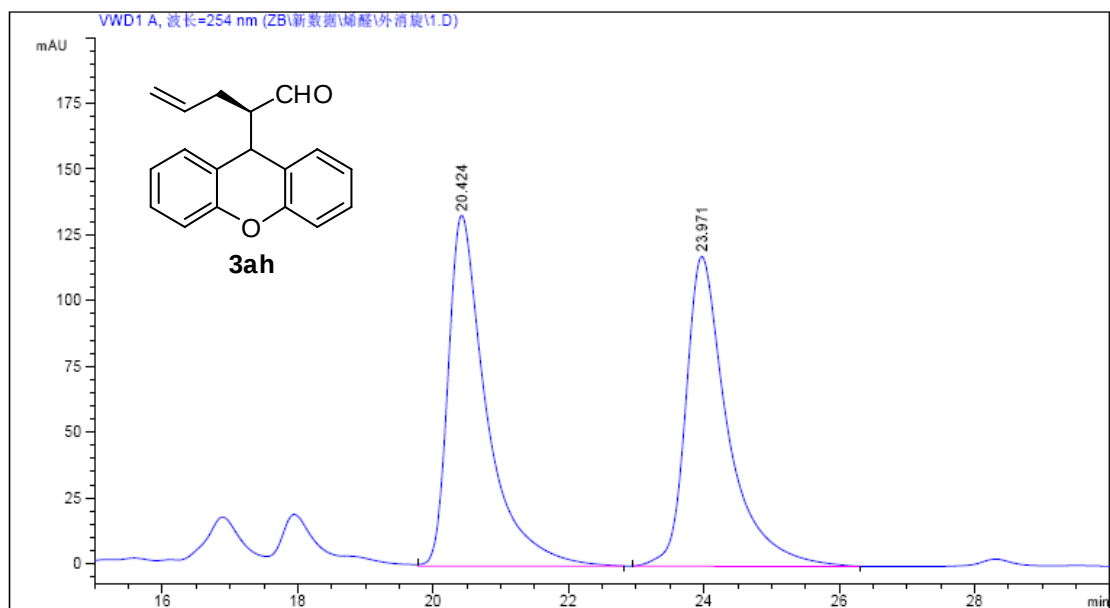
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## Sample

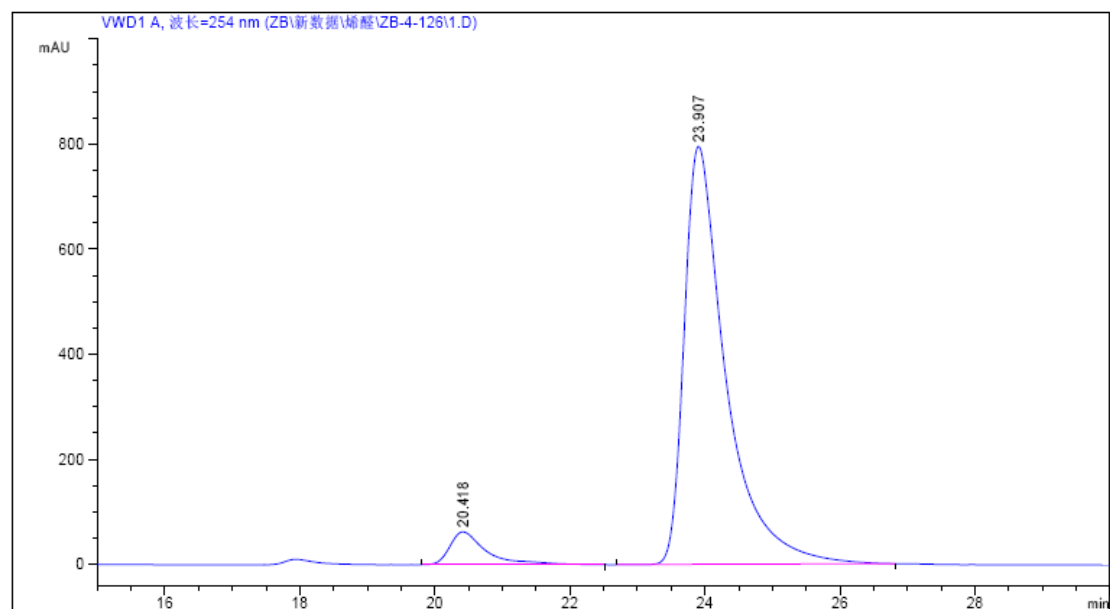


## Racemic



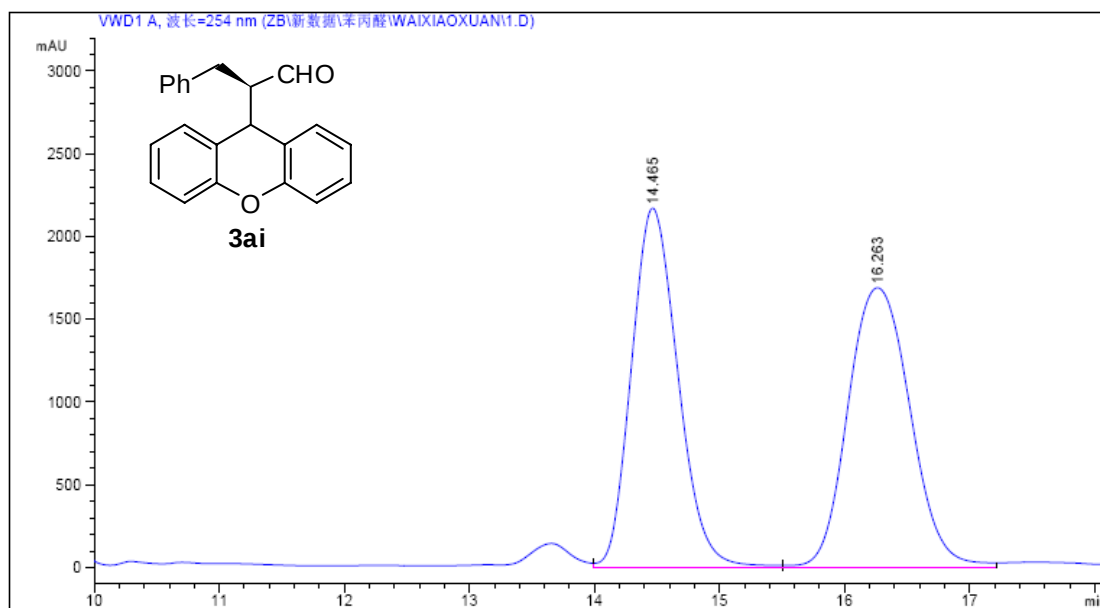
| 峰 # | 保留时间 [min] | 类型 | 峰宽 [min] | 峰面积 mAU * s | 峰高 [mAU]  | 峰面积 %   |
|-----|------------|----|----------|-------------|-----------|---------|
| 1   | 20.424     | BB | 0.5726   | 5227.12061  | 133.26588 | 50.8008 |
| 2   | 23.971     | BB | 0.6299   | 5062.32031  | 117.71165 | 49.1992 |

## Sample



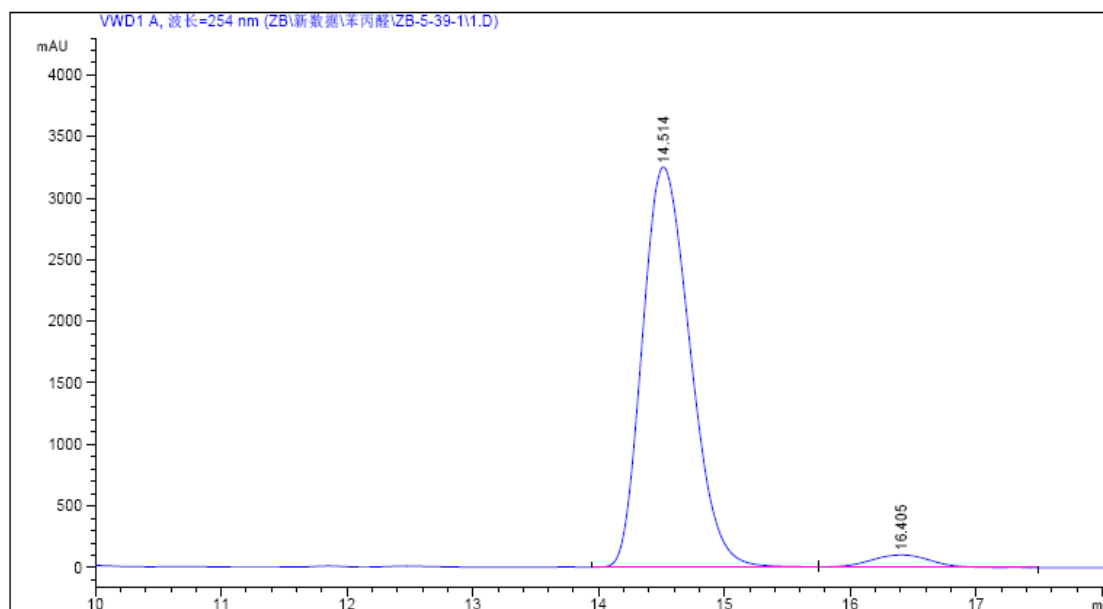
| 峰 # | 保留时间 [min] | 类型 | 峰宽 [min] | 峰面积 mAU * s | 峰高 [mAU]  | 峰面积 %   |
|-----|------------|----|----------|-------------|-----------|---------|
| 1   | 20.418     | BB | 0.5481   | 2342.61743  | 62.47823  | 6.4360  |
| 2   | 23.907     | BB | 0.6334   | 3.40560e4   | 795.53278 | 93.5640 |

## Racemic



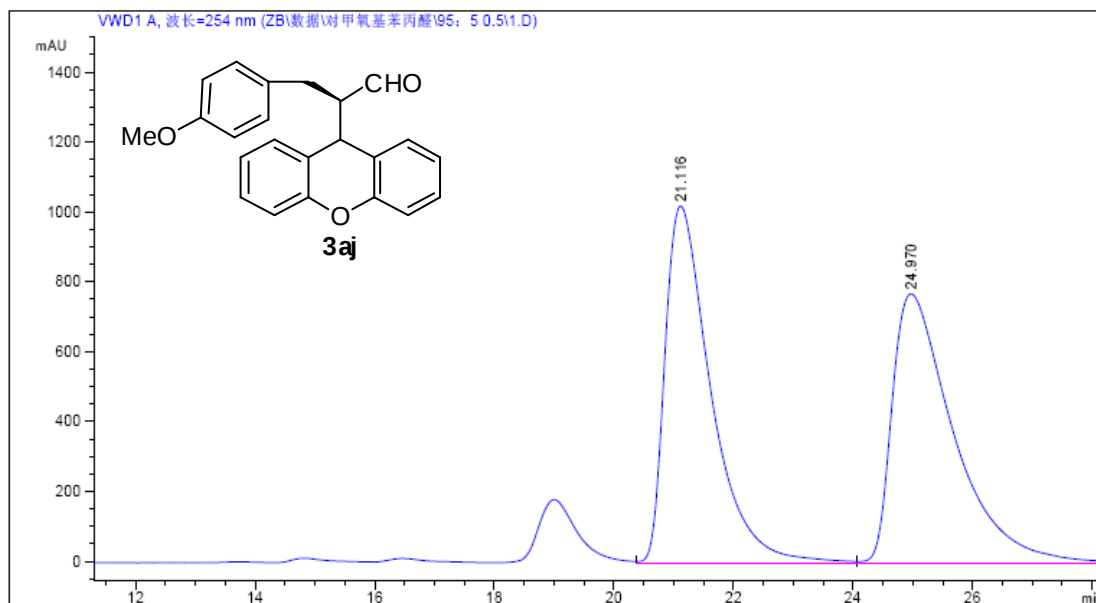
| 峰 # | 保留时间 [min] | 类型 | 峰宽 [min] | 峰面积 mAU *s | 峰高 [mAU]   | 峰面积 %   |
|-----|------------|----|----------|------------|------------|---------|
| 1   | 14.465     | VV | 0.4003   | 5.60807e4  | 2171.46875 | 48.8851 |
| 2   | 16.263     | VV | 0.5489   | 5.86387e4  | 1690.37292 | 51.1149 |

## Sample



| 峰 # | 保留时间 [min] | 类型 | 峰宽 [min] | 峰面积 mAU *s | 峰高 [mAU]   | 峰面积 %   |
|-----|------------|----|----------|------------|------------|---------|
| 1   | 14.514     | VV | 0.4197   | 8.57467e4  | 3252.44189 | 96.1171 |
| 2   | 16.405     | VB | 0.5354   | 3463.91650 | 102.14732  | 3.8829  |

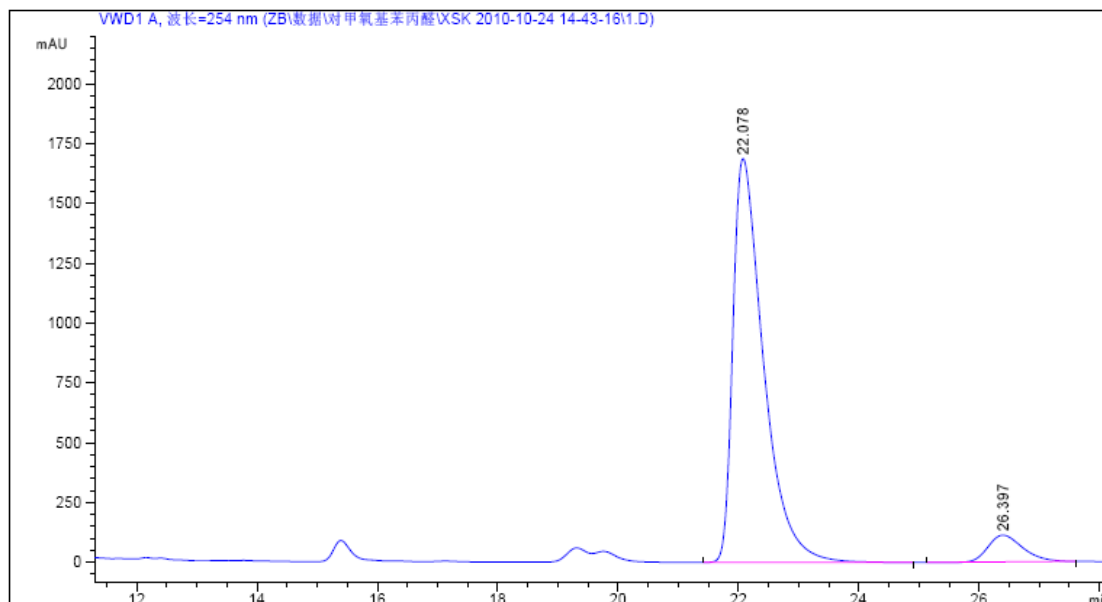
## Racemic



信号 1: VWD1 A, 波长=254 nm

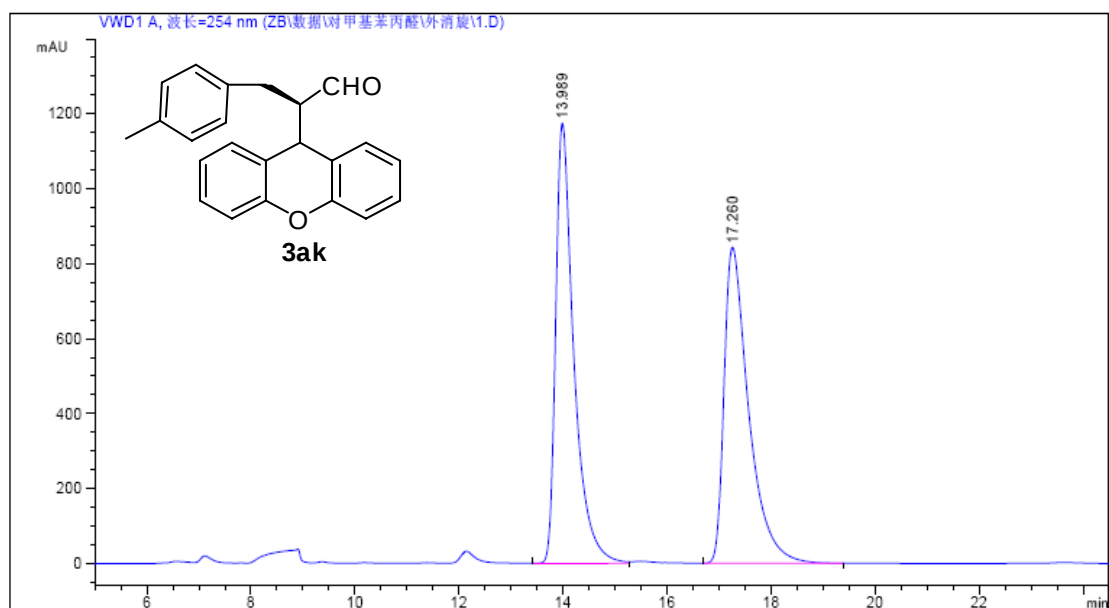
| 峰 # | 保留时间 [min] | 类型 | 峰宽 [min] | 峰面积 mAU * s | 峰高 [mAU]   | 峰面积 %   |
|-----|------------|----|----------|-------------|------------|---------|
| 1   | 21.116     | VV | 0.7850   | 5.43311e4   | 1021.51495 | 49.7755 |
| 2   | 24.970     | VV | 1.0471   | 5.48211e4   | 770.44055  | 50.2245 |

## Sample

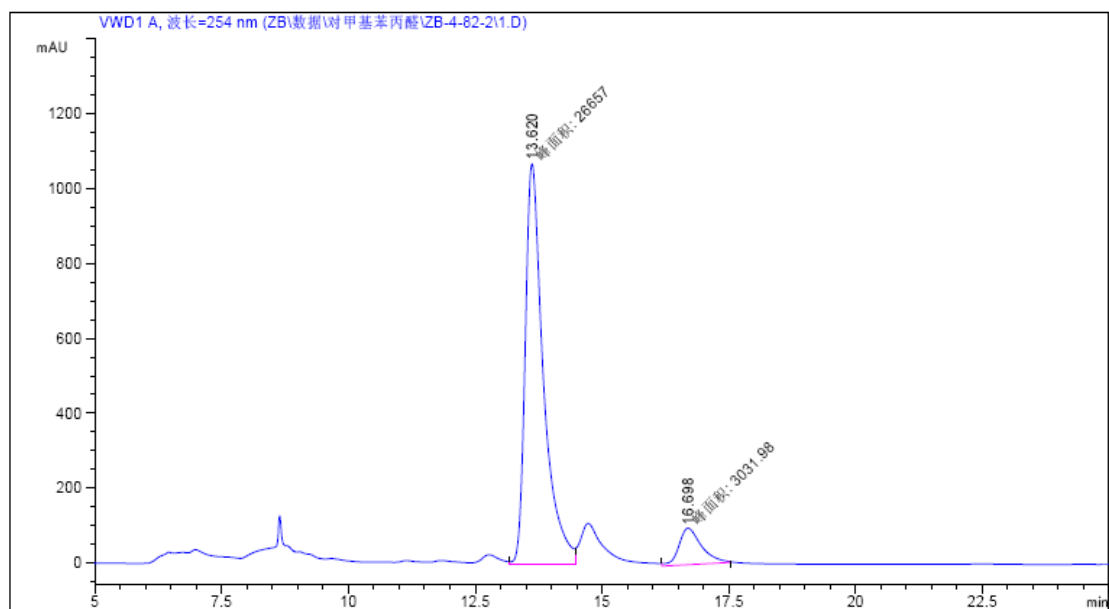


| 峰 # | 保留时间 [min] | 类型 | 峰宽 [min] | 峰面积 mAU * s | 峰高 [mAU]   | 峰面积 %   |
|-----|------------|----|----------|-------------|------------|---------|
| 1   | 22.078     | BB | 0.5203   | 5.96754e4   | 1687.74084 | 93.0336 |
| 2   | 26.397     | BB | 0.6080   | 4468.54443  | 111.68652  | 6.9664  |

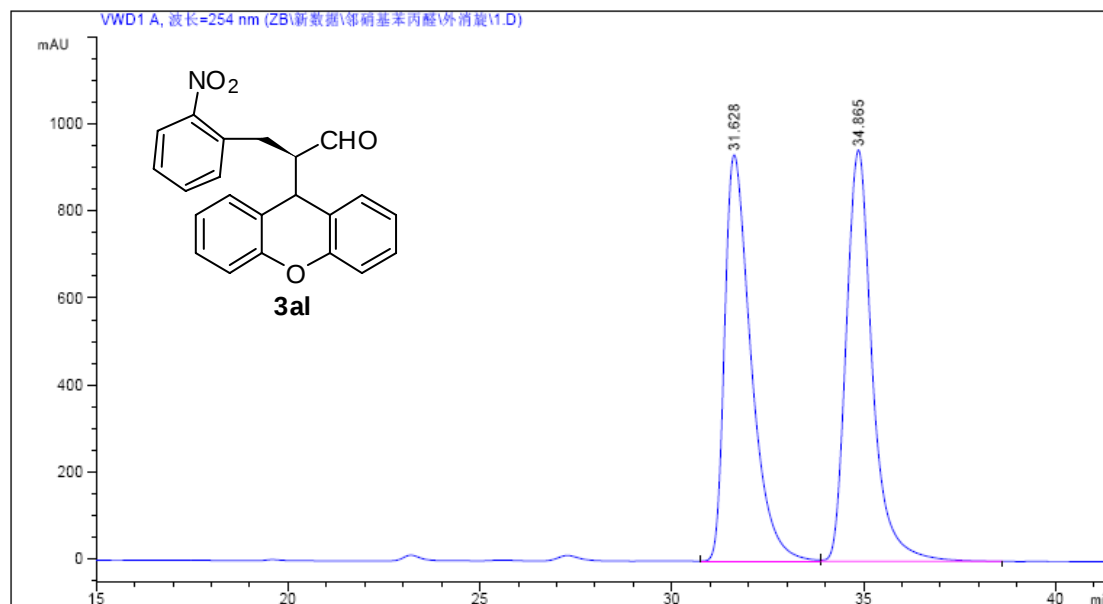
## Racemic



## Sample

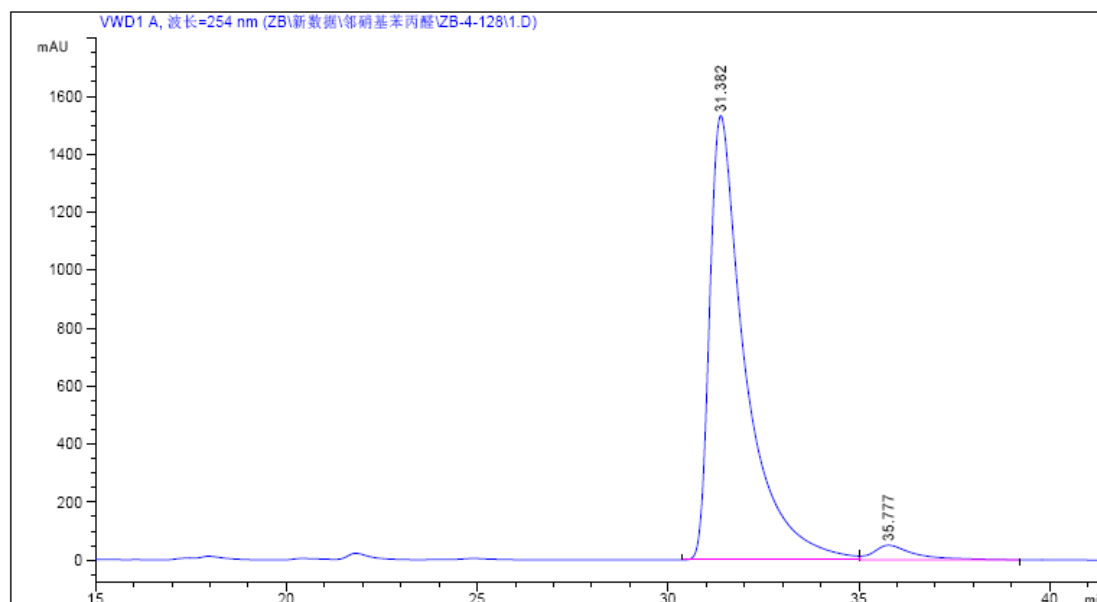


## Racemic



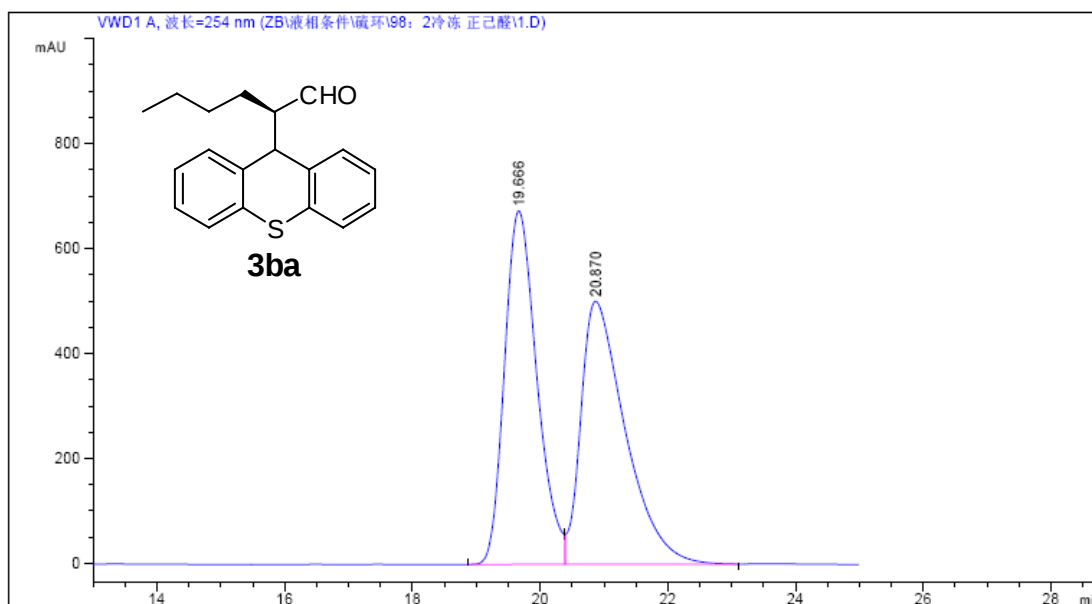
| 峰 # | 保留时间 [min] | 类型 | 峰宽 [min] | 峰面积 mAU *s | 峰高 [mAU]  | 峰面积 %   |
|-----|------------|----|----------|------------|-----------|---------|
| 1   | 31.628     | BV | 0.7141   | 4.44958e4  | 932.29712 | 50.0085 |
| 2   | 34.865     | VB | 0.7100   | 4.44807e4  | 943.80048 | 49.9915 |

## Sample



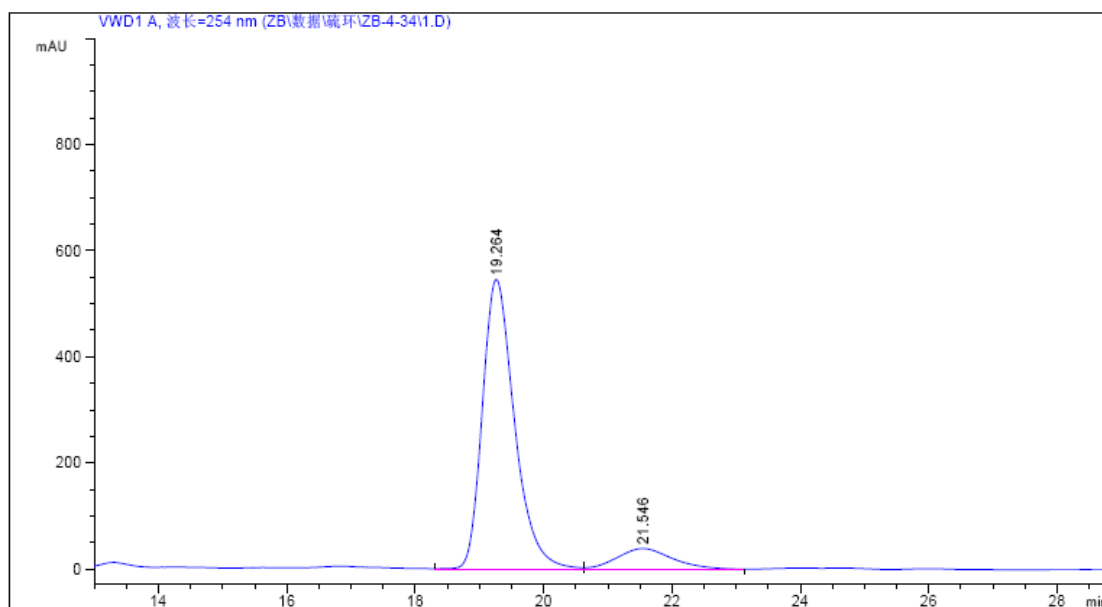
| 峰 # | 保留时间 [min] | 类型 | 峰宽 [min] | 峰面积 mAU *s | 峰高 [mAU]   | 峰面积 %   |
|-----|------------|----|----------|------------|------------|---------|
| 1   | 31.382     | VV | 0.9213   | 9.94038e4  | 1532.41296 | 96.3865 |
| 2   | 35.777     | VB | 1.0567   | 3726.57031 | 50.37516   | 3.6135  |

## Racemic



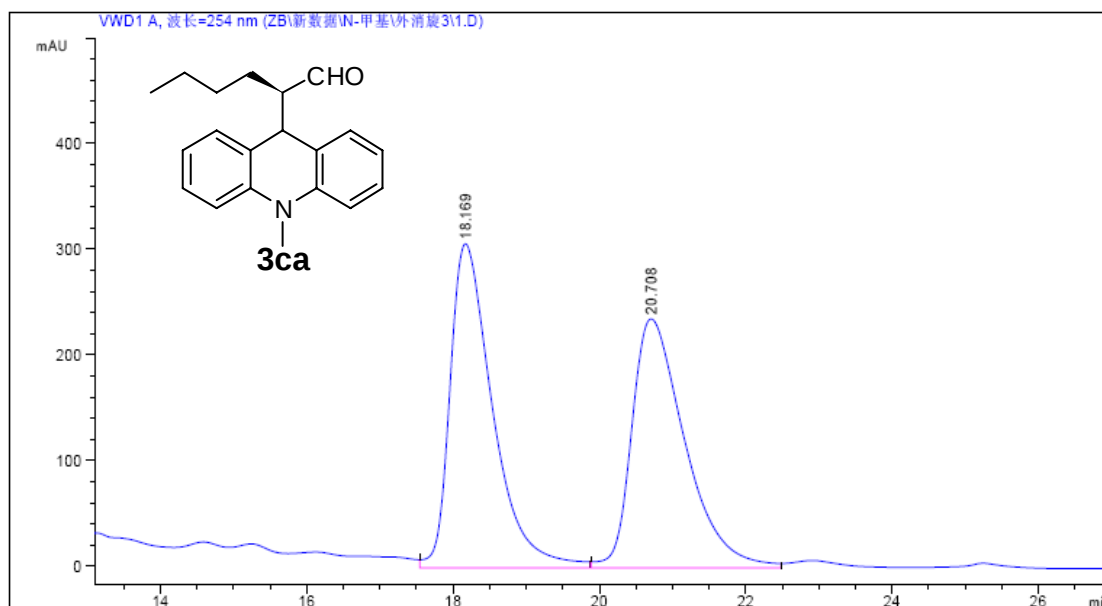
| 峰 # | 保留时间 [min] | 类型 | 峰宽 [min] | 峰面积 mAU * s | 峰高 [mAU]  | 峰面积 %   |
|-----|------------|----|----------|-------------|-----------|---------|
| 1   | 19.666     | BV | 0.5346   | 2.37199e4   | 673.63434 | 49.4959 |
| 2   | 20.870     | VB | 0.7192   | 2.42031e4   | 501.16092 | 50.5041 |

## Sample



| 峰 # | 保留时间 [min] | 类型 | 峰宽 [min] | 峰面积 mAU * s | 峰高 [mAU]  | 峰面积 %   |
|-----|------------|----|----------|-------------|-----------|---------|
| 1   | 19.264     | VV | 0.5296   | 1.91693e4   | 547.09253 | 88.3856 |
| 2   | 21.546     | VB | 0.9090   | 2518.94727  | 40.26244  | 11.6144 |

## Racemic



## Sample

