

# The Sulfone Coupling and Double Elimination Strategy for Carotenoid Synthesis

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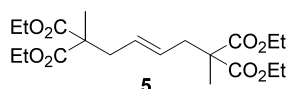
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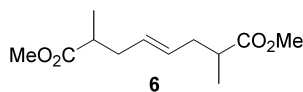
## Experimental Procedure

**General Experimental.**  $^1\text{H}$  (300.40 MHz) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz) spectra were recorded in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  with  $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}$  ( $\delta = 0$  ppm) as an internal standard. Solvents for extraction and chromatography were reagent grade and used as received. Column chromatography was performed by the method of Still using silica gel 60, 230–400 mesh ASTM supplied by Merck. Solvents used as reaction media were dried over pre-dried molecular sieve (4 Å) by microwave oven. All reactions were performed under dry argon in oven-dried glassware, except for those reactions with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  as a solvent, which were run in air.



**2,7-Bis(ethoxycarbonyl)-2,7-dimethyl-4-octenedioic acid, diethyl ester (5).** To a stirred suspension of NaH (8.0 g, 0.20 mol, 60% dispersion in mineral oil) in THF (200 mL) was added a solution of diethyl methylmalonate (17.60 g, 0.10 mol) in THF (10 mL) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at that temperature for 30 min, and a solution of (*E*)-1,4-dibromo-2-butene (10.70 g, 50.0 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was slowly warmed to and stirred at room temperature for 14 h, and 1 M HCl solution was added. The mixture was extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , washed with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by  $\text{SiO}_2$  flash column chromatography (hexanes: $\text{EtOAc} = 10:1$ ) to give the tetraester **5** (17.6 g, 44.0 mmol) in 88% yield.

Data for **5**:  $R_f = 0.58$  (hexanes: $\text{EtOAc} = 4:1$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.24 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 12H), 1.35 (s, 6H), 2.49–2.62 (m, 4H), 4.17 (q,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 8H), 5.33–5.48 (m, 2H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR  $\delta$  14.0, 19.6, 38.7, 53.4, 61.1, 128.8, 171.8 ppm; IR (neat) 2984, 1738, 1731, 1464, 1455  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (CI,  $\text{H}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{33}\text{O}_8$  401.2175, found 401.2170.

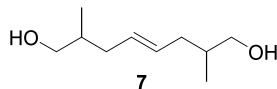


**2,7-Dimethyl-4-octenedioic acid, dimethyl ester (6).** The mixture of **5** (9.4 g, 23.5 mmol) and KOH (26.4 g, 47.0 mmol) in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (200 mL) was heated to reflux for 2 d. The reaction mixture was cooled to

room temperature, and acidified to pH 1 by adding concentrated H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The resulting mixture was heated to reflux for 3 d, and then cooled to room temperature. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product (5.8 g) was dissolved in MeOH (80 mL), and treated with concentrated H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (3.5 mL). The mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 12 h. Most of the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The concentrate was dissolved in EtOAc, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by SiO<sub>2</sub> flash column chromatography (hexanes:EtOAc = 4:1) to give the dimethyl ester **6** (4.75 g, 20.9 mmol) in 89% yield.

Data for **6**: R<sub>f</sub> = 0.50 (hexanes:EtOAc = 4:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 1.13 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 2.05-2.20 (m, 2H), 2.26-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.48 (tq, *J*<sub>t</sub> = 7.0, *J*<sub>q</sub> = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (s, 6H), 5.31-5.48 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR\* δ 16.4 (16.3), 36.4 (36.5), 39.4, 51.3, 129.3 (129.3), 176.4 (176.4) ppm; IR (neat) 2953, 1738, 1461, 1436 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (CI, H<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 229.1440, found 229.1443.

\* The <sup>13</sup>C NMR peaks in parenthesis correspond to those of the diastereoisomer.

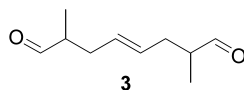


**2,7-Dimethyl-4-octene-1,8-diol (7).** To a stirred suspension of LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (1.64 g, 41.0 mmol) in THF (65 mL) was added a solution of **6** (4.67 g, 20.5 mmol) in THF (15 mL) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at that temperature for 30 min, and warmed up and stirred at room temperature for 1 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with 5% NaOH solution, extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O thoroughly, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by SiO<sub>2</sub> flash column chromatography (hexanes:EtOAc = 2:1) to give the diol **7** (3.53 g, 20.5 mmol) in 100% yield.

Data for **7**: R<sub>f</sub> = 0.33 (hexanes:EtOAc = 1:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 0.91 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 1.69 (ttq, *J*<sub>t</sub> = 6.5, 6.6, *J*<sub>q</sub> = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.85-1.97 (m, 2H), 1.93 (s, 2H), 2.05-2.17 (m, 2H), 3.48 (d of A of ABq, *J*<sub>AB</sub> = 10.5, *J*<sub>d</sub> = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.50 (d of B of ABq, *J*<sub>AB</sub> = 10.5, *J*<sub>d</sub> = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 5.37-5.52 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C

NMR\*  $\delta$  16.4 (16.4), 35.9, 36.6 (36.5), 67.8 (67.8), 129.9 (129.9) ppm; IR (neat) 3343, 2912, 1458, 1035  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (CI,  $\text{H}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_2$  173.1541, found 173.1541.

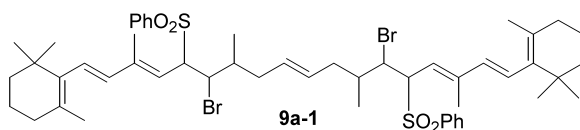
\* The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR peaks in parenthesis correspond to those of the diastereoisomer.



**2,7-Dimethyl-4-octenedial (3).** To a stirred solution of DMSO (0.722 g, 9.24 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (10 mL) was added oxalyl chloride (0.40 mL, 4.62 mmol) at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ . The mixture was stirred for 5 min, and a solution of the diol **7** (0.362 g, 2.1 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (3 mL) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred at  $-78^\circ\text{C}$  for 15 min, and  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  (2.93 mL, 21 mmol) was added. Stirring for 5 min at that temperature, the mixture was then warmed up to room temperature, and quenched with 1 M HCl solution. The mixture was diluted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , washed with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by  $\text{SiO}_2$  flash column chromatography (hexanes:EtOAc = 5:1) to give the dial **3** (0.307 g, 1.824 mmol) in 87% yield.

Data for **3**:  $R_f$  = 0.86 (hexanes:EtOAc = 1:1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.09 (d,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz, 6H), 2.05-2.20 (m, 2H), 2.34-2.50 (m, 4H), 5.38-5.53 (m, 2H), 9.64 (d,  $J$  = 1.3 Hz, 2H) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR\*  $\delta$  12.9 (12.9), 33.4 (33.4), 46.0, 129.2, 204.4 ppm; IR (neat) 2971, 2717, 1725, 1457  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (CI,  $\text{H}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_2$  169.1228, found 169.1226.

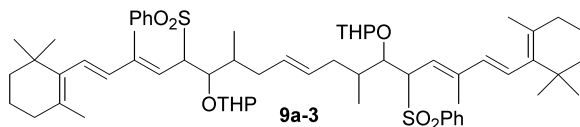
\* The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR peaks in parenthesis correspond to those of the diastereoisomer.



**5,14-Bis(benzenesulfonyl)-6,13-dibromo-3,7,12,16-tetramethyl-1,18-bis(2,6,6-trimethyl-1-cyclohexenyl)octadeca-1,3,9,15,17-pentaene (9a-1).** To a stirred solution of the diol **8a** (1.00 g, 1.17 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  were added pyridine (0.47 mL, 5.85 mmol) and  $\text{PBr}_3$  (0.11 mL, 1.17 mmol) at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ . The mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 1 h, diluted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , washed with 1 M HCl solution, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the dibromide

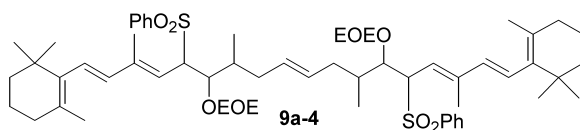
**9a-1** (1.10 g, 1.12 mmol) in 96% crude yield as a shiny yellow solid. The peaks of the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **9a-1** were so broad that those were not able to be assigned.

Data for **9a-1**: HRMS (FAB $^+$ ) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{66}\text{BrO}_2\text{S}$  ( $\text{C}_{52}\text{H}_{72}\text{Br}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}_2 - \text{C}_6\text{H}_6\text{O}_2\text{S} - \text{Br}$ ) 761.3967, found 761.3952.



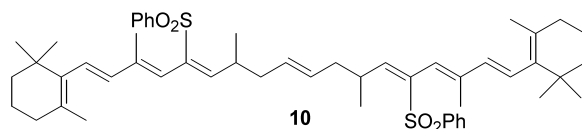
**5,14-Bis(benzenesulfonyl)-3,7,12,16-tetramethyl-1,18-bis(2,6,6-trimethyl-1-cyclohexenyl)octadeca-1,3,9,15,17-pentaene-6,13-diol, bis(tetrahydropyranyl) ether (9a-3).** To a stirred solution of the diol **8a** (1.59 g, 1.85 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (35 mL) were added 3,4-dihydro-2*H*-pyran (1.01 mL, 11.11 mmol) and 10-camphorsulfonic acid (129 mg, 0.56 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 14.5 h, diluted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , washed with 10%  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  solution, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product (2.75 g) was purified by  $\text{SiO}_2$  flash column chromatography (hexanes:EtOAc = 9:1 ~ 7:3) to give the THP diether **9a-3** (1.65 g, 1.61 mmol) in 87% yield as a light yellow solid, which contained many stereoisomers due to the presence of eight chiral centers. The major stereoisomer, which was presumed to be all-(*E*)-isomer, was carefully purified again by preparative TLC for spectroscopic analysis.

Data for **9a-3** (major):  $R_f$  = 0.20~0.25 (hexanes:EtOAc = 4:1);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  0.96 (s, 12H), 0.99 (s, 6H), 1.23 (s, 6H), 1.40-1.94 (m, 20H), 1.66 (s, 6H), 1.94-2.05 (m, 8H), 2.47 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.40 (dt,  $J_d$  = 9.7,  $J_t$  = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 3.76 (dt,  $J_d$  = 9.7,  $J_t$  = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 4.04 (dd,  $J$  = 10.8, 9.4 Hz, 2H), 4.36 (dd,  $J$  = 9.1, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 4.57 (dd,  $J$  = 4.2, 2.9 Hz, 2H), 4.97 (d,  $J$  = 11.2 Hz, 2H), 5.41 (t,  $J$  = 4.1 Hz, 2H), 5.96 (s, 4H), 7.35-7.60 (m, 4H), 7.60-7.70 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.85 (m, 4H) ppm; HRMS (FAB $^+$ ) Calcd for  $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{67}\text{O}_4\text{S}$  ( $\text{C}_{62}\text{H}_{89}\text{O}_8\text{S}_2 - 2 \times \text{C}_5\text{H}_8\text{O} - \text{C}_6\text{H}_6\text{O}_2\text{S}$ ) 715.4760, found 715.4767.



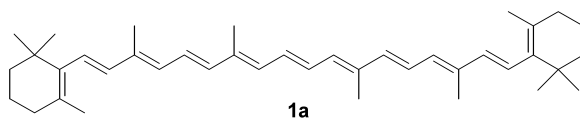
**5,14-Bis(benzenesulfonyl)-3,7,12,16-tetramethyl-1,18-bis(2,6,6-trimethyl-1-cyclohexenyl)octadeca-1,3,9,15,17-pentaene-6,13-diol, bis(1-ethoxyethyl) ether (9a-4).** To a stirred solution of the diol **8a** (0.634 g, 0.74 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (7 mL) were added pyridinium *p*-toluenesulfonate (0.075 g, 0.30 mmol) and ethyl vinyl ether (0.43 mL, 4.44 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 2 h at that temperature, it was warmed and stirred at room temperature overnight. The mixture was diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and 10% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution was added. The organic layer was separated, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product (0.75 g) was purified by SiO<sub>2</sub> flash column chromatography (hexanes:EtOAc = 6:1 ~ 4:1) to give the 1-ethoxyethyl diether **9a-4** (0.674 g, 0.673 mmol) in 91% yield as a white solid, which contained many stereoisomers due to the presence of eight chiral centers.

Data for **9a-4**:  $R_f$  = 0.20~0.40 (hexanes:EtOAc = 4:1).



**5,14-Bis(benzenesulfonyl)-3,7,12,16-tetramethyl-1,18-bis(2,6,6-trimethyl-1-cyclohexenyl)octadeca-1,3,5,9,13,15,17-heptaene (10).** The crude dibromide **9a-1** (515 mg, 0.52 mmol) was suspended in cyclohexane (20 mL), and KOMe (184 mg, 2.62 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h, diluted with ether, washed with 1 M HCl solution, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product (640 mg) was purified by SiO<sub>2</sub> flash column chromatography (hexanes:EtOAc = 4:1) to give **10** (133 mg, 0.16 mmol) in 31% yield as a white solid.

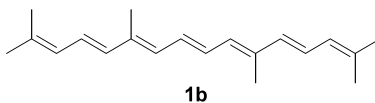
Data for **10**:  $R_f$  = 0.35 (hexanes:EtOAc = 4:1); <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  0.99 (s, 12H), 1.02 (s, 6H), 1.21 (s, 6H), 1.42-1.50 (m, 4H), 1.56-1.67 (m, 4H), 1.68 (s, 6H), 1.97-2.08 (m, 8H), 2.22-2.37 (m, 2H), 5.28 (br s, 2H), 5.71 (s, 2H), 6.06 (s, 4H), 6.75 (d,  $J$  = 10.3 Hz, 2H), 7.41-7.50 (m, 4H), 7.53-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.73-7.82 (m, 4H) ppm; HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>52</sub>H<sub>69</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 821.4637, found 821.4629.



**$\beta$ -Carotene (1a). Condition A.** To a stirred suspension of the crude dibromide **9a-1** (1.34 g, 1.36 mmol) in cyclohexane (40 mL) was added KOMe (2.00 g, 28.48 mmol). The mixture was heated to 60 °C ~ 80 °C for 8.5 h, and cooled to room temperature. The mixture was then diluted with hexanes/benzene, washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and 1 M HCl solution, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give a dark-red solid (779 mg). The crude product was purified by dissolving in hexanes (60 mL) and washing with MeCN (30 mL x 3). The MeCN layer was extracted again with hexanes, and the combined hexanes layer was concentrated under reduced pressure to give **1a** (584 mg, 1.09 mmol) in 80% yield as a red solid, which was consisted of a 4:1 mixture of all-(*E*) and 13-(*Z*) stereoisomers. The product was further purified by SiO<sub>2</sub> flash column chromatography to give all-(*E*)-**1a** in 38% yield.

**Condition B.** To a stirred solution of the THP diether **9a-3** (1.50 g, 1.46 mmol) in cyclohexane (50 mL) was added KOMe (2.05 g, 29.25 mmol). The mixture was heated to 50 °C ~ 60 °C for 6 h, and cooled to room temperature. The mixture was then diluted with hexanes/benzene, washed with 1 M HCl solution, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product (1.26 g), which was consisted of a 4:1 mixture of all-(*E*) and 13-(*Z*) stereoisomers, was purified by SiO<sub>2</sub> flash column chromatography (hexanes:EtOAc = 32:1) to give all-(*E*)-**1a** (228 mg, 0.42 mmol) in 29% yield as a red solid.

**Condition C.** To a stirred solution of 1-ethoxyethyl diether **9a-4** (0.6 g, 0.6 mmol) in cyclohexane (20 mL) was added KOMe (0.842 g, 12.0 mmol). The mixture was heated to 80 °C for 16 h, and cooled to room temperature. The mixture was then diluted with hexanes, washed 3 times with H<sub>2</sub>O, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product (0.317 g), which was consisted of a 4:1 mixture of all-(*E*) and 13-(*Z*) stereoisomers, was purified by recrystallization (THF:MeOH = 1:5) to give all-(*E*)-**1a** (0.226 g, 0.42 mmol) in 70% yield as a red solid.



**2,6,11,15-Tetramethyl-hexadeca-2,4,6,8,10,12,14-heptaene (1b).** According to the general procedure exemplified for  $\beta$ -carotene (**1a**) starting from **2a** through the diol **8a**, the MOM diether **9a-5** and using the double elimination Method D, the C<sub>20</sub> carotene **1b** was prepared. The amounts of the reagents and the yields are as follows.

The solution of prenyl sulfone **2b** (0.812 g, 3.86 mmol) in THF (30 mL), which was treated with 1.6 M solution of *n*-BuLi in hexane (2.89 mL, 4.63 mmol), reacted with a solution of **3** (325 mg, 1.95 mmol) in THF (5 mL) at -78 °C for 2h to give the diol **8b** (1.037 g, 1.76 mmol) in 91% yield as a white solid. The diol **8b** contained many stereoisomers due to the six chiral centers.

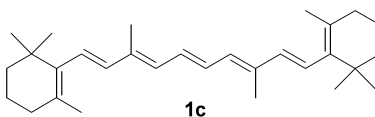
Data for **8b**:  $R_f$  = 0.06~0.13 (hexanes:EtOAc = 4:1).

The diol **8b** (0.447 g, 0.76 mmol) in dimethoxymethane (1.35 mL, 15.2 mmol) was treated twice by 5 h interval, each time with P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (0.065 g, 0.456 mmol) at room temperature for 20 h to produce the MOM diether **9b** (0.473 g, 0.70 mmol) in 92% yield as a light yellow solid.

Data for **9b**:  $R_f$  = 0.06~0.13 (hexanes:EtOAc = 4:1).

The reaction of the MOM diether **9b** (0.339 g, 0.5 mmol) and KOMe (0.702 g, 10.0 mmol) in cyclohexane (20 mL) at 80 °C for 16 h produced the C<sub>20</sub> carotene **1b** (0.135 g), which was purified by recrystallization (THF:MeOH = 1:5) to give all-(*E*)-**1b** (0.66 g, 0.246 mmol) in 49% yield as a yellow solid.

Data for **1b**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  1.81 (s, 12H), 1.93 (s, 6H), 5.93 (d,  $J$  = 11.0 Hz, 2H), 6.11-6.25 (m, 2H), 6.21 (d,  $J$  = 15.2 Hz, 2H), 6.46 (dd,  $J$  = 15.2, 11.0 Hz, 2H), 6.52-6.65 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  12.8, 18.5, 26.3, 124.8, 126.1, 129.4, 131.4, 134.9, 135.7, 136.0 ppm; IR (KBr) 1456, 1361, cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>28</sub> 268.2191, found 268.2195.





**3,8-Dimethyl-1,10-bis(2,6,6-trimethyl-1-cyclohexenyl)deca-1,3,5,7,9-pentaene (1c).** According to the general procedure exemplified for  $\beta$ -carotene (**1a**), the C<sub>20</sub> carotene **1c** was prepared. The amounts of the reagents and the yields are as follows.

The solution of cyclogeranyl sulfone **2c** (0.93 g, 3.34 mmol) in THF (15 mL), which was treated with 1.6 M solution of *n*-BuLi in hexane (2.28 mL, 3.65 mmol) at 0 °C for 20 min, reacted with a solution of **3** (0.26 g, 1.52 mmol) in THF (5 mL) at -78 °C for 1.5 h to give the diol **8c** (0.872 g, 1.2 mmol) in 79% yield as a white solid, which contained many stereoisomers due to the six chiral centers.

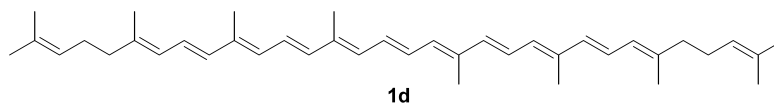
Data for **8c**:  $R_f$  = 0.10~0.18 (hexanes:EtOAc = 4:1).

The diol **8c** (0.58 g, 0.80 mmol) in dimethoxymethane (1.42 mL, 16 mmol) was treated twice by 5 h interval, each time with P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (0.07 g, 0.48 mmol) at room temperature for 20 h to produce the MOM diether **9c** (0.584 g, 0.72 mmol) in 90% yield as a light yellow solid.

Data for **9c**:  $R_f$  = 0.12~0.20 (hexanes:EtOAc = 4:1).

The reaction of the MOM diether **9c** (0.553 g, 0.68 mmol) and KOMe (0.954 g, 13.6 mmol) in cyclohexane (25 mL) at 80 °C for 16 h produced the C<sub>20</sub> carotene **1c** (0.29 g), which was purified by SiO<sub>2</sub> flash column chromatography by using hexanes as the eluent to give all-(*E*)-**1c** (0.211 g, 0.522 mmol) in 77% yield as a red solid.

Data for **1c**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  1.03 (s, 12H), 1.40-1.68 (m, 8H), 1.72 (s, 6H), 1.94 (s, 6H), 2.02 (t,  $J$  = 6.1 Hz, 4H), 6.05-6.25 (m, 6H), 6.55-6.70 (m, 2H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  12.6, 18.9, 21.7, 28.9, 28.9, 33.1, 34.2, 39.6, 118.9, 126.6, 129.3, 130.7, 137.7, 155.8, 178.0 ppm; IR (KBr) 2928, 1456, 1361, 966 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>44</sub> 404.3443, found 404.3454.



**Lycopene (1d).** According to the general procedure exemplified for  $\beta$ -carotene (**1a**), lycopene (**1d**) was prepared. The amounts of the reagents and the yields are as follows.

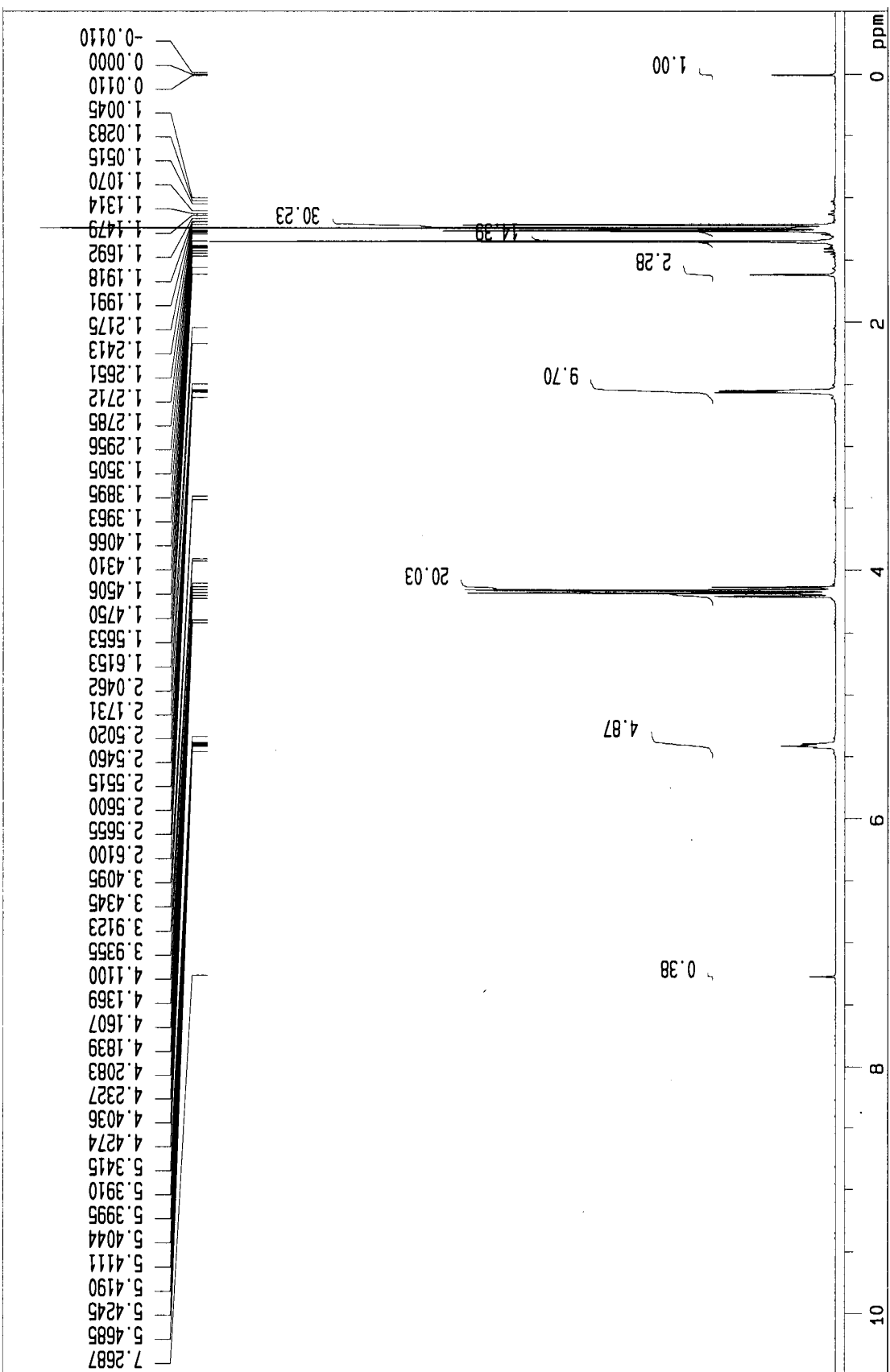
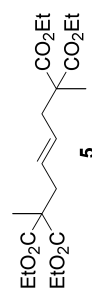
The solution of 1-benzenesulfonyl-2,6,10-trimethyl-dodeca-2,4,6,10-tetraene (**2d**) (0.345 g, 1.0 mmol) in THF (10 mL), which was treated with 1.6 M solution of *n*-BuLi in hexane (0.75 mL, 1.2 mmol) at 0 °C for 20 min, reacted with a solution of **3** (0.084 g, 0.5 mmol) in THF (3 mL) at –78 °C for 1.5 h to give the diol **8d** (0.379 g, 0.44 mmol) in 88% yield as a white solid, which contained many stereoisomers due to the six chiral centers.

Data for **8d**:  $R_f$  = 0.05~0.18 (hexanes:EtOAc = 4:1).

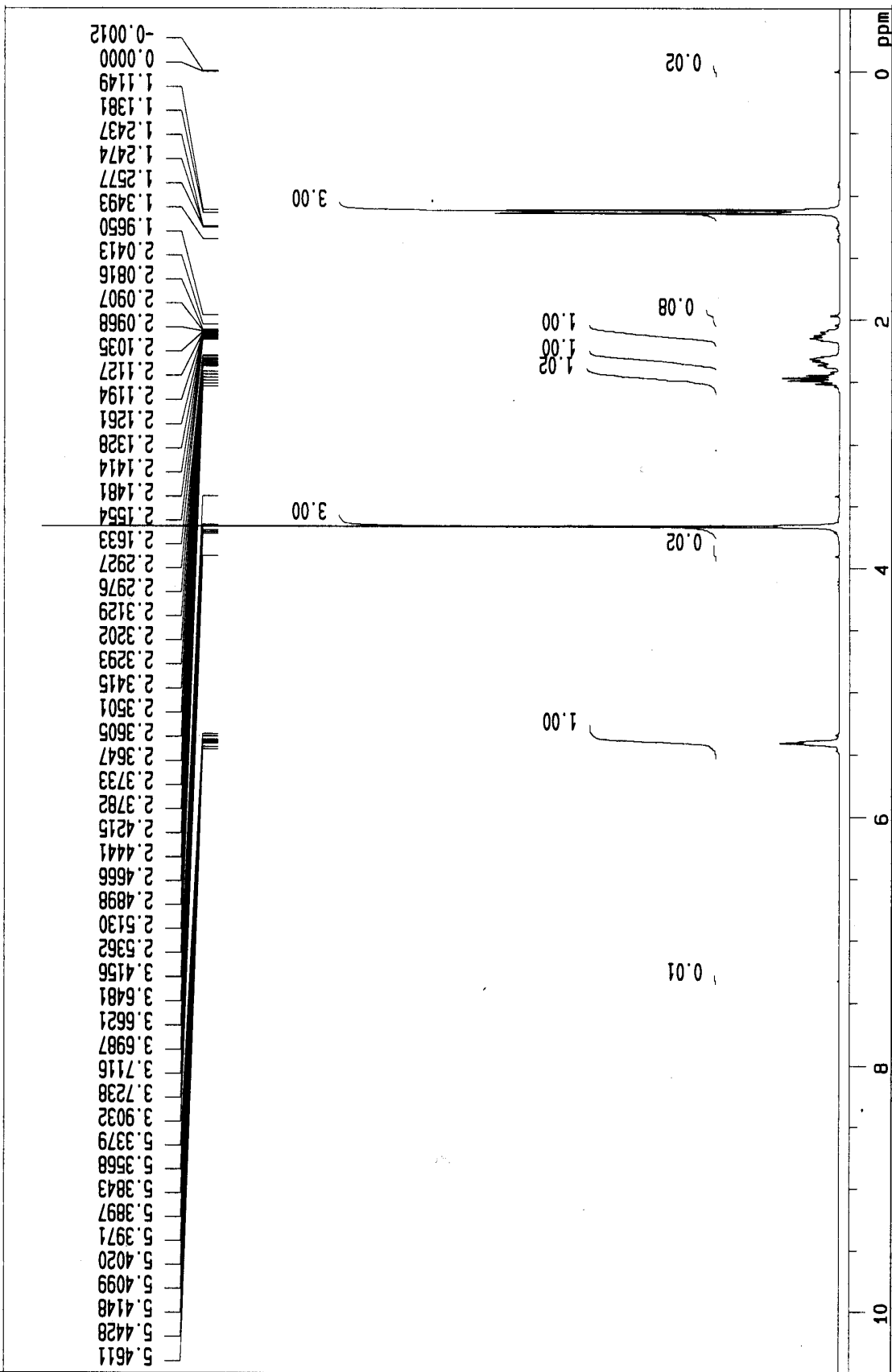
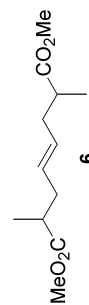
The diol **8d** (0.37 g, 0.43 mmol) in dimethoxymethane (0.76 mL, 8.6 mmol) was treated twice by 5 h interval, each time with P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (0.037 g, 0.26 mmol) at room temperature for 20 h to produce the MOM diether **9d** (0.272 g, 0.288 mmol) in 67% yield as a light yellow solid.

Data for **9d**:  $R_f$  = 0.08~0.18 (hexanes:EtOAc = 4:1).

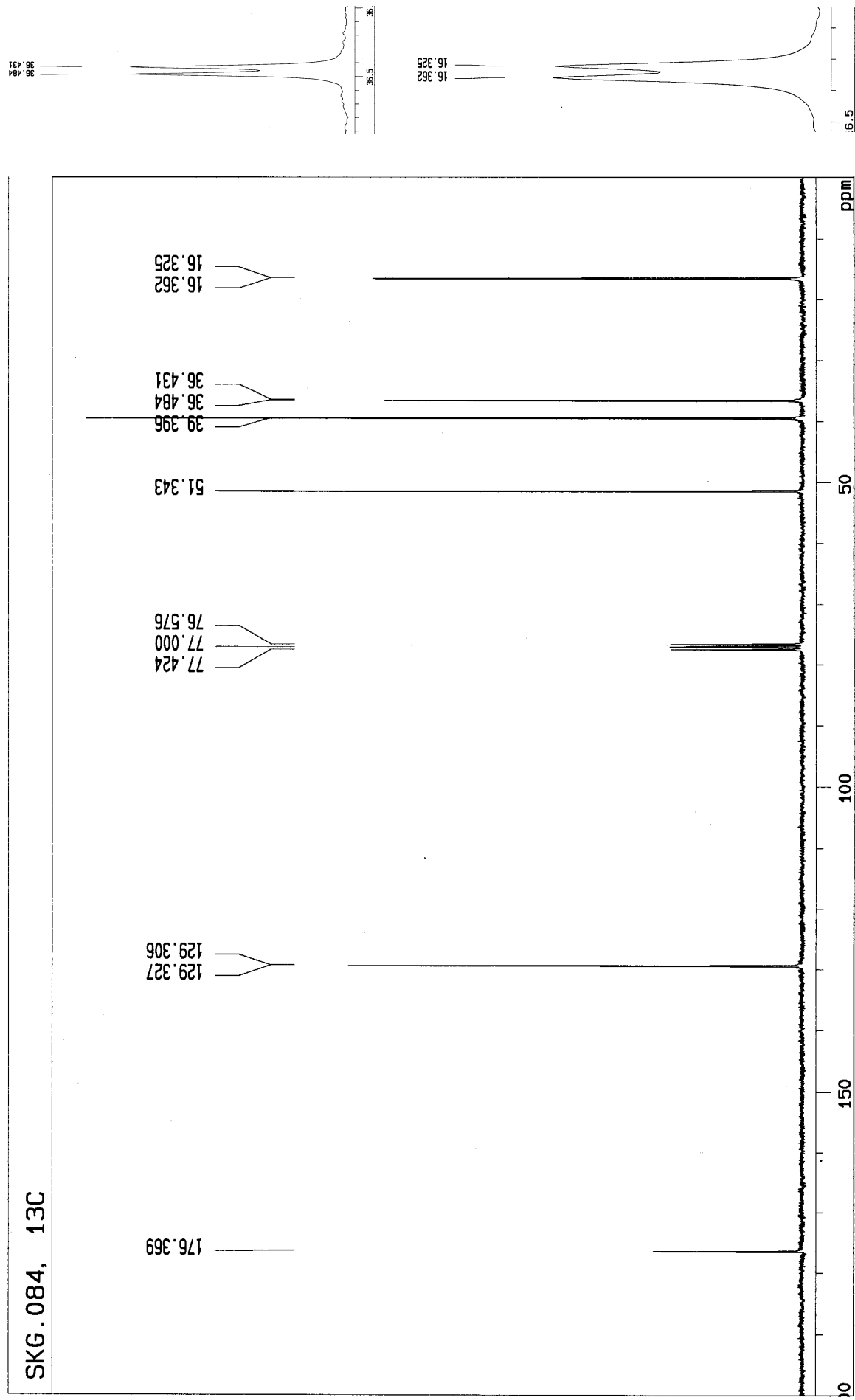
The reaction of the MOM diether **9d** (0.27 g, 0.285 mmol) and KOMe (0.4 g, 5.7 mmol) in cyclohexane (20 mL) at 80 °C for 16 h produced the crude lycopene (0.092 g), which was purified by recrystallization (THF:MeOH = 1:5) to give all-(*E*)-lycopene **1d** (0.043 g, 0.08 mmol) in 28% yield as a red solid. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR data of **1d** was identical with those of the authentic sample.

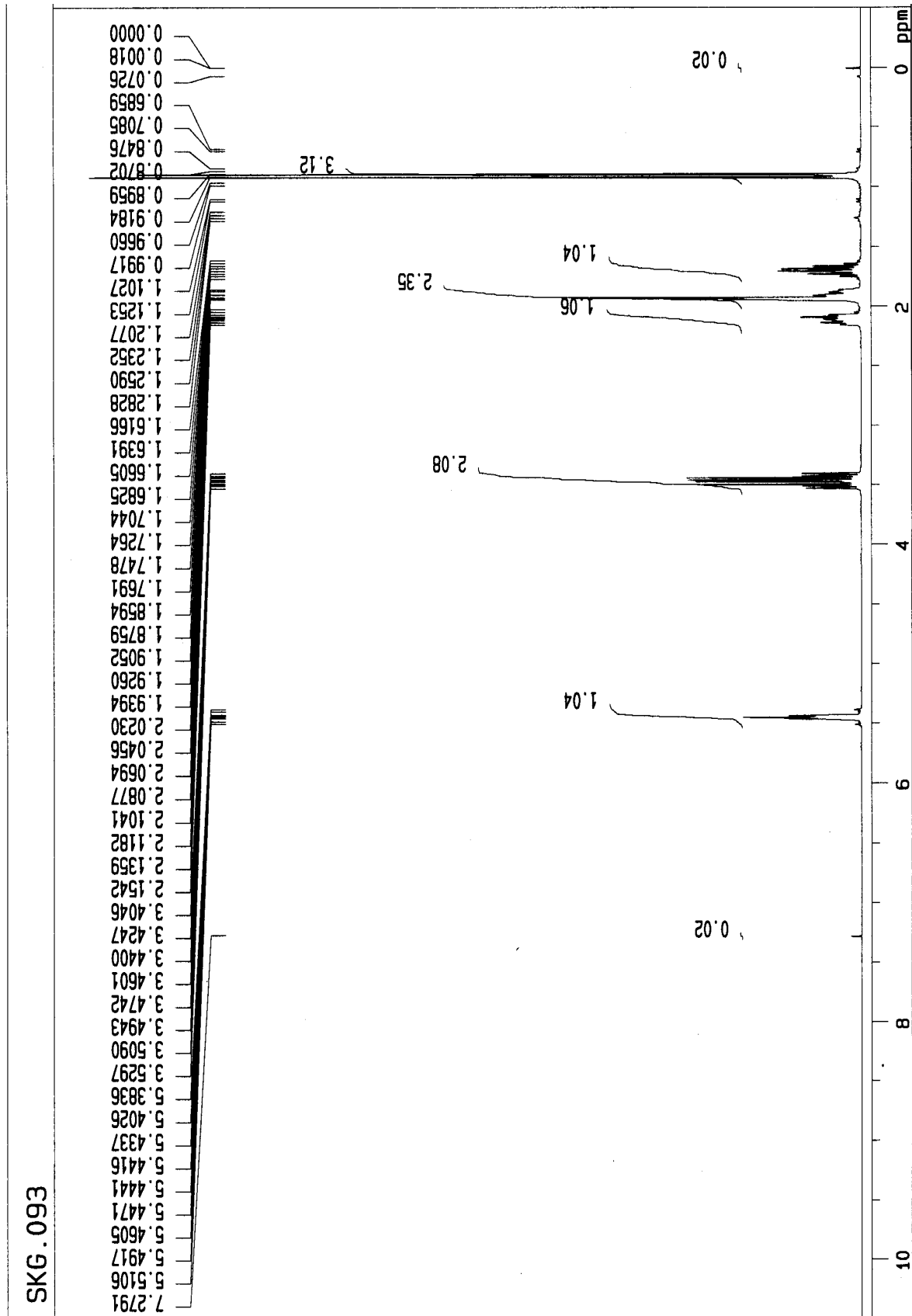
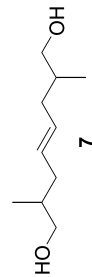


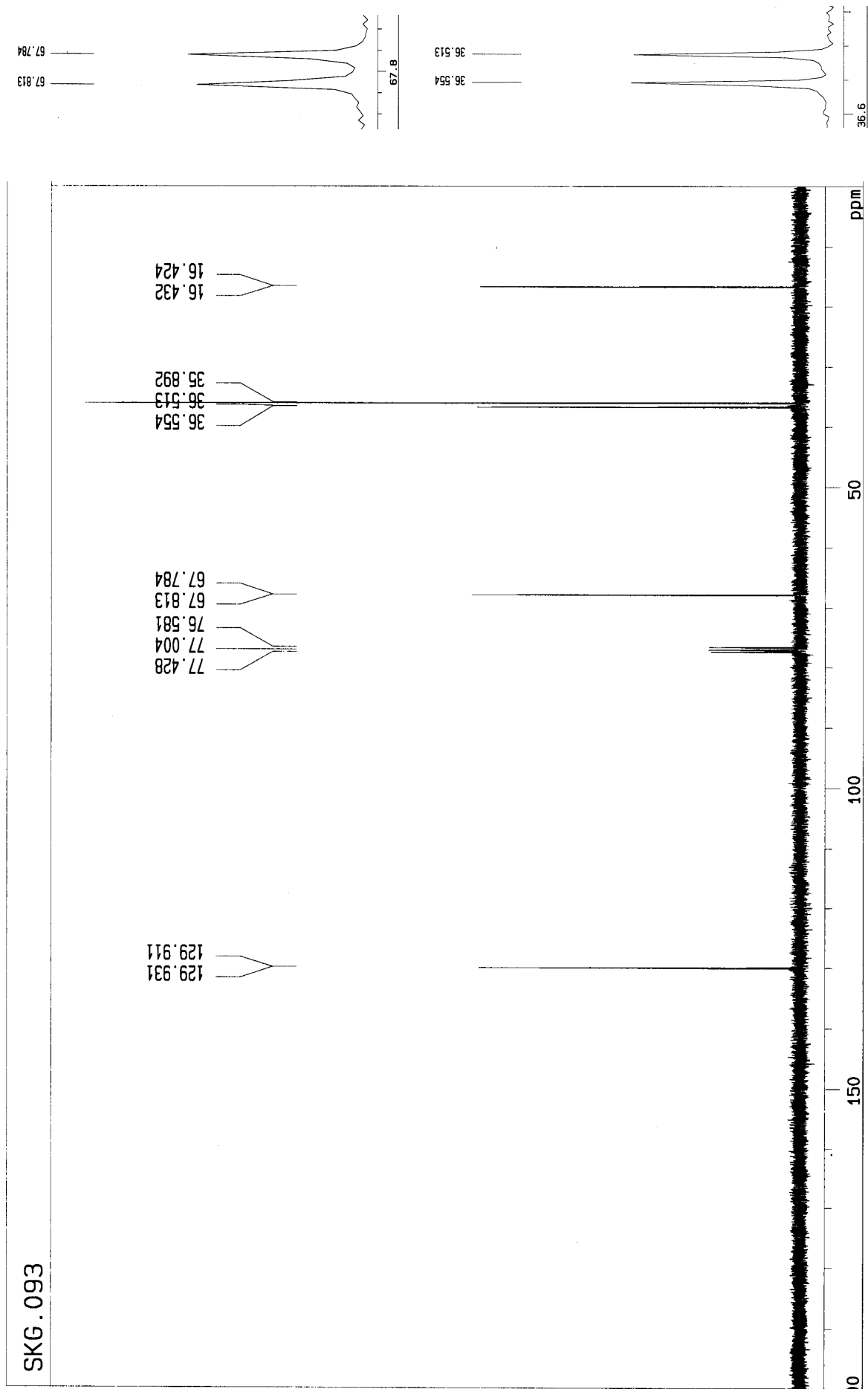
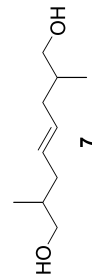
SKG.096

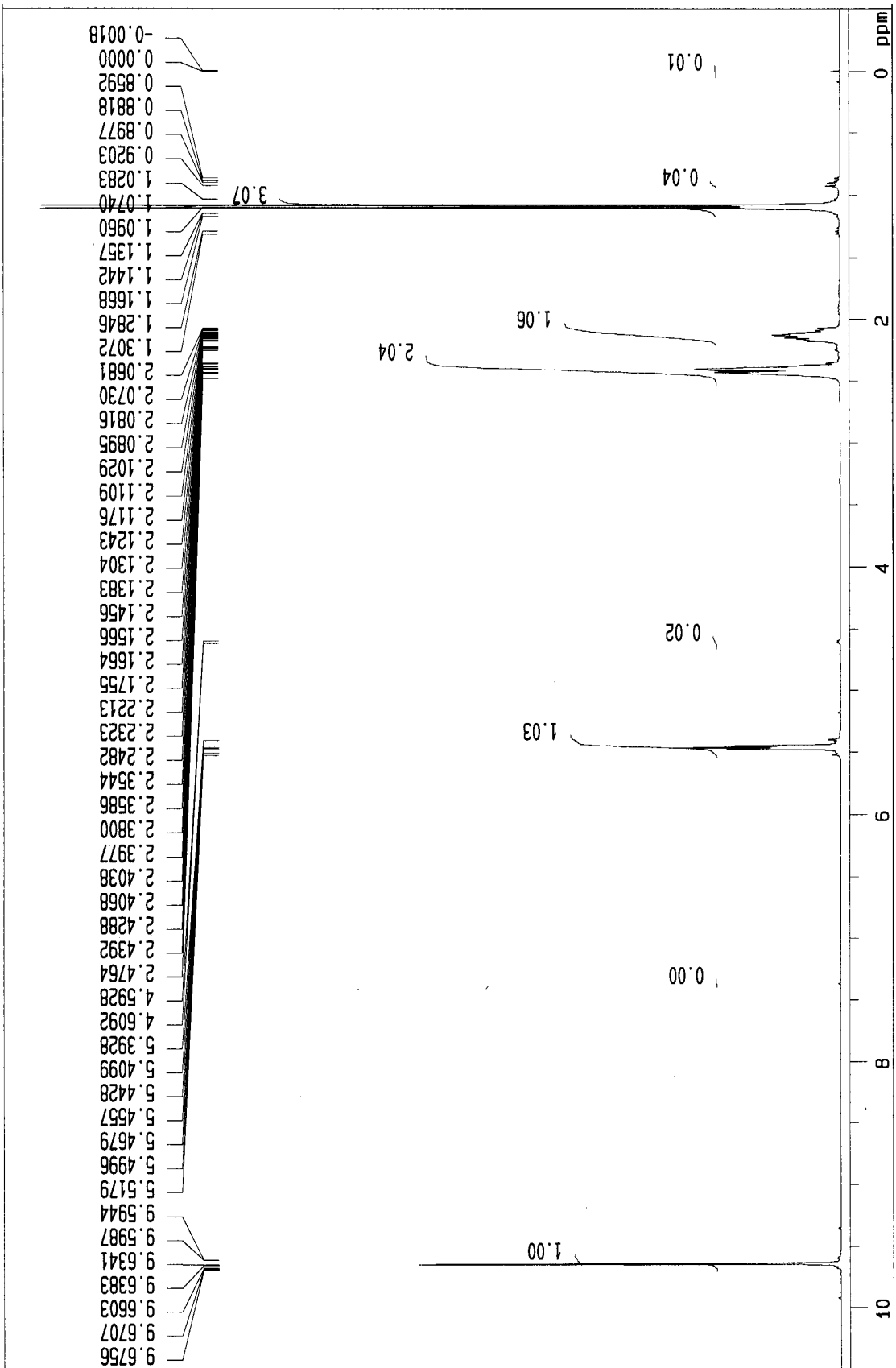
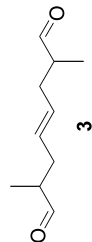


SKG.084



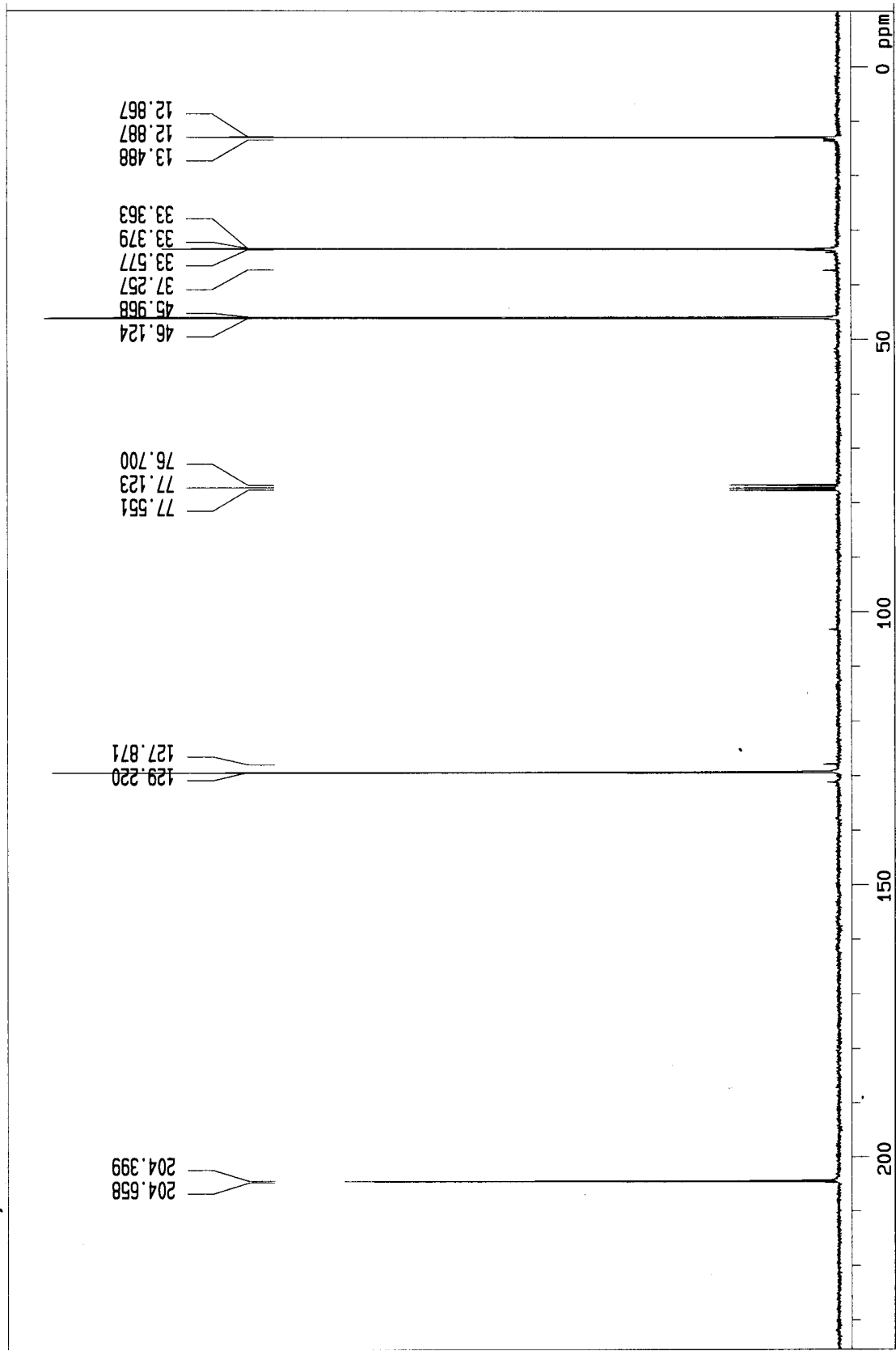
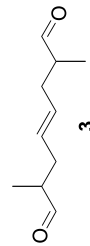




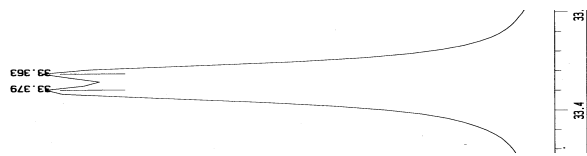


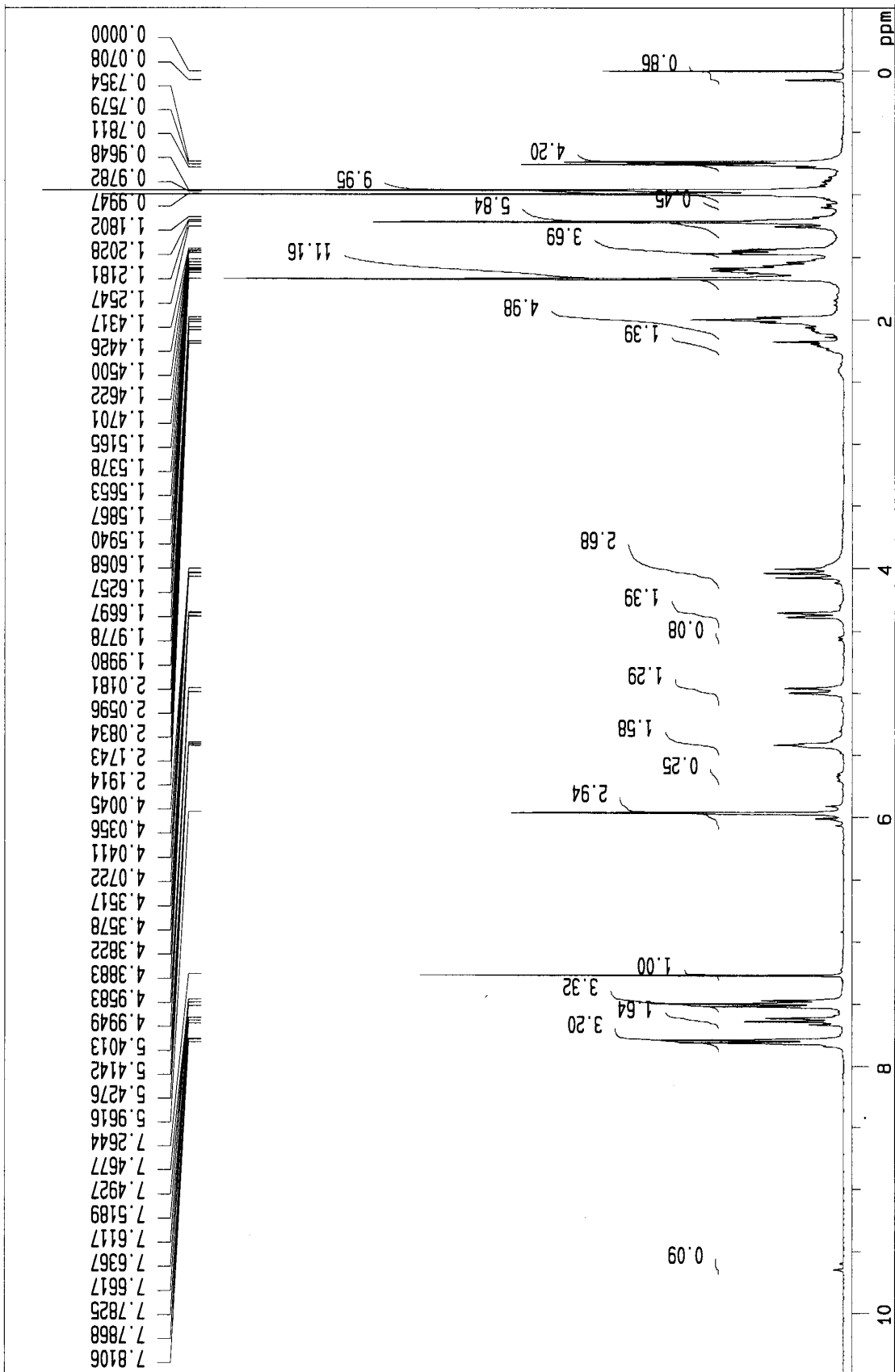
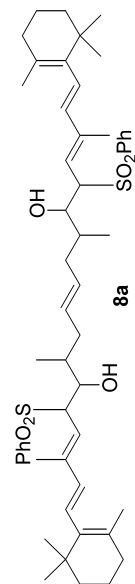
SKG.095



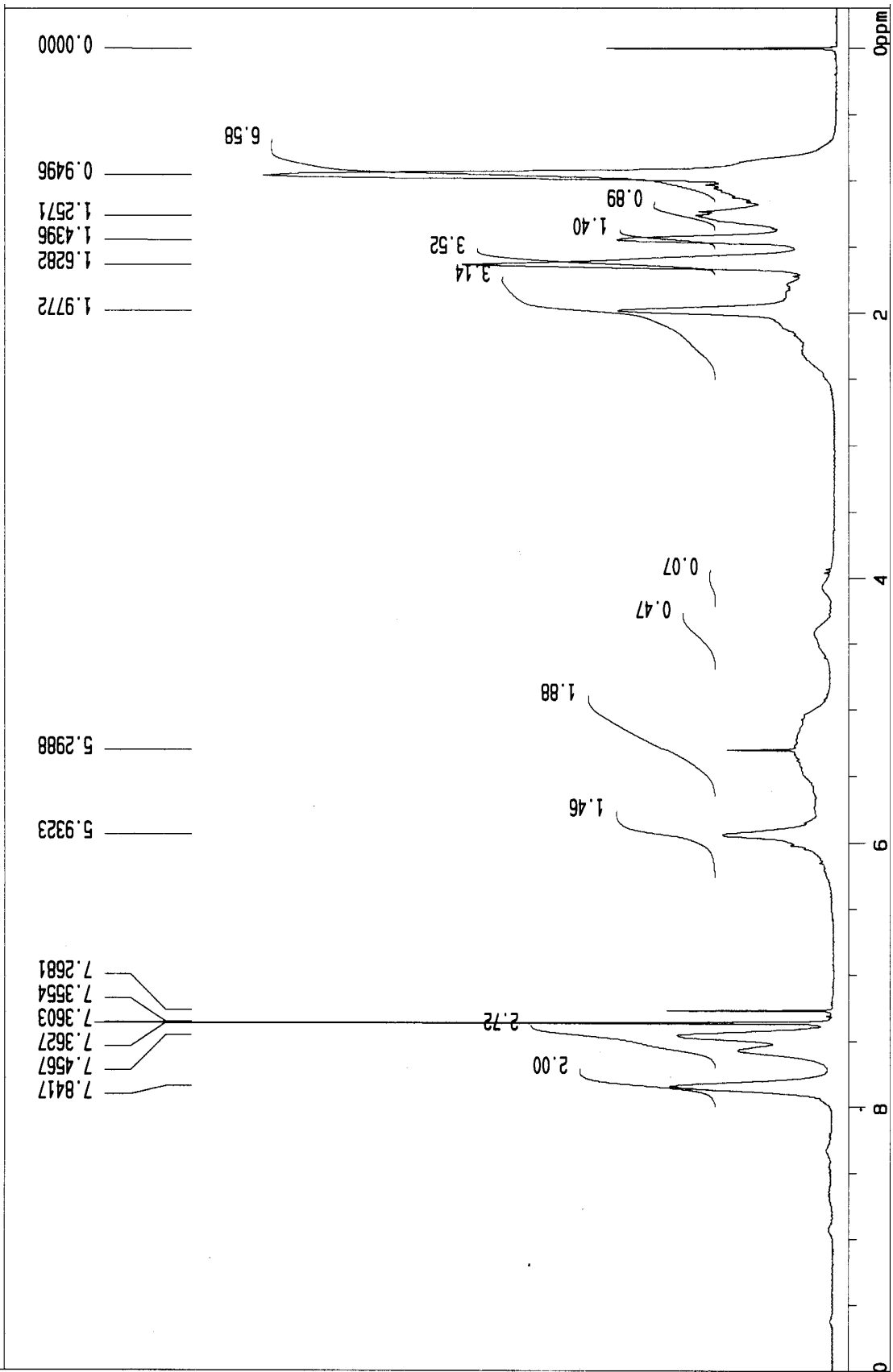
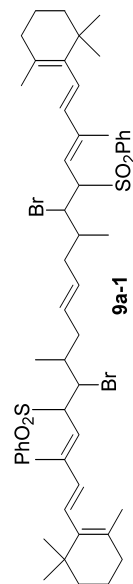


SK6.095, 13C

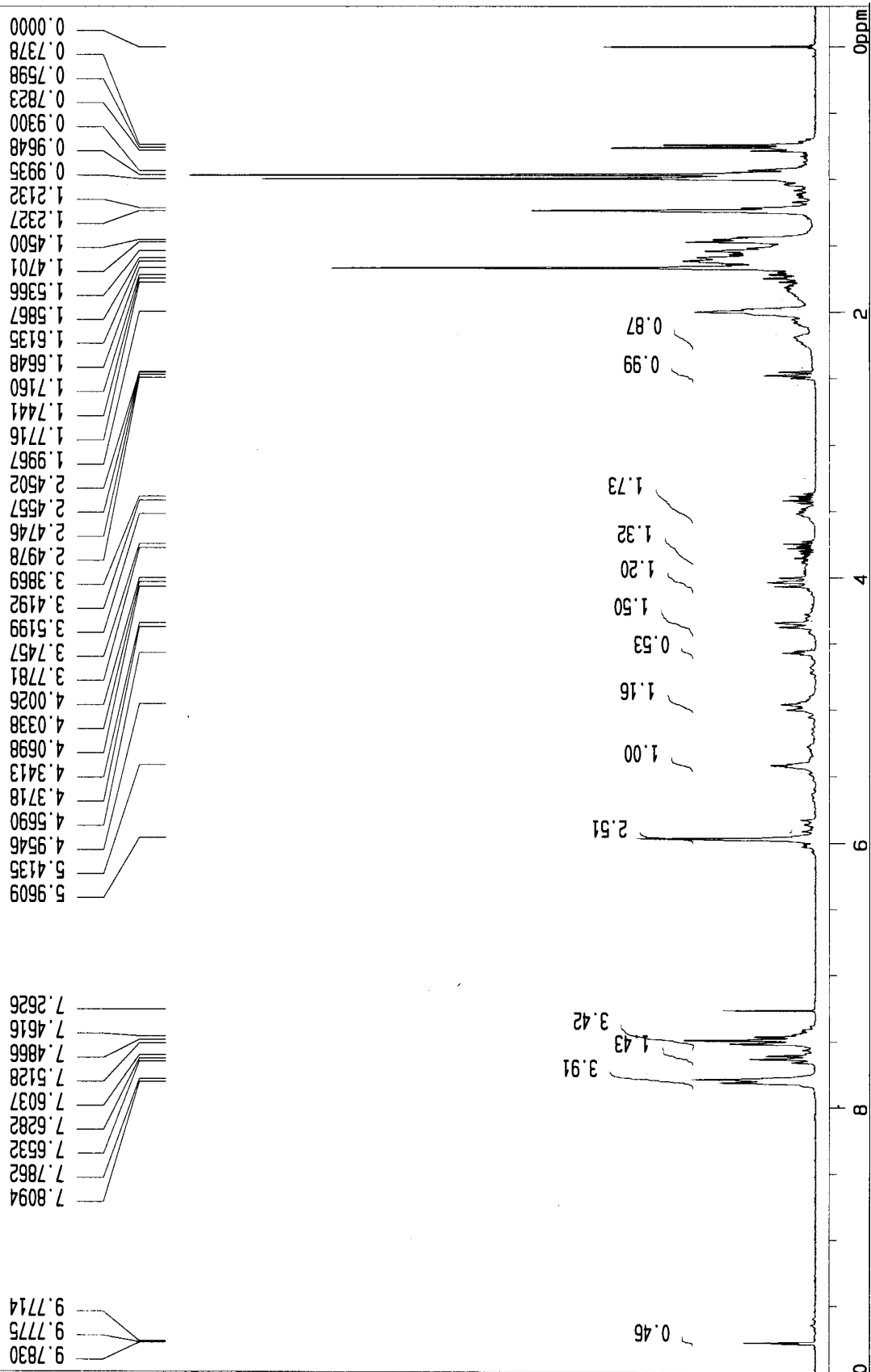
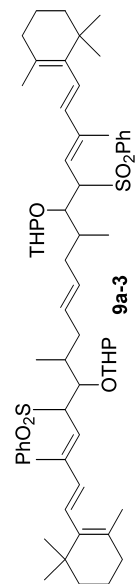




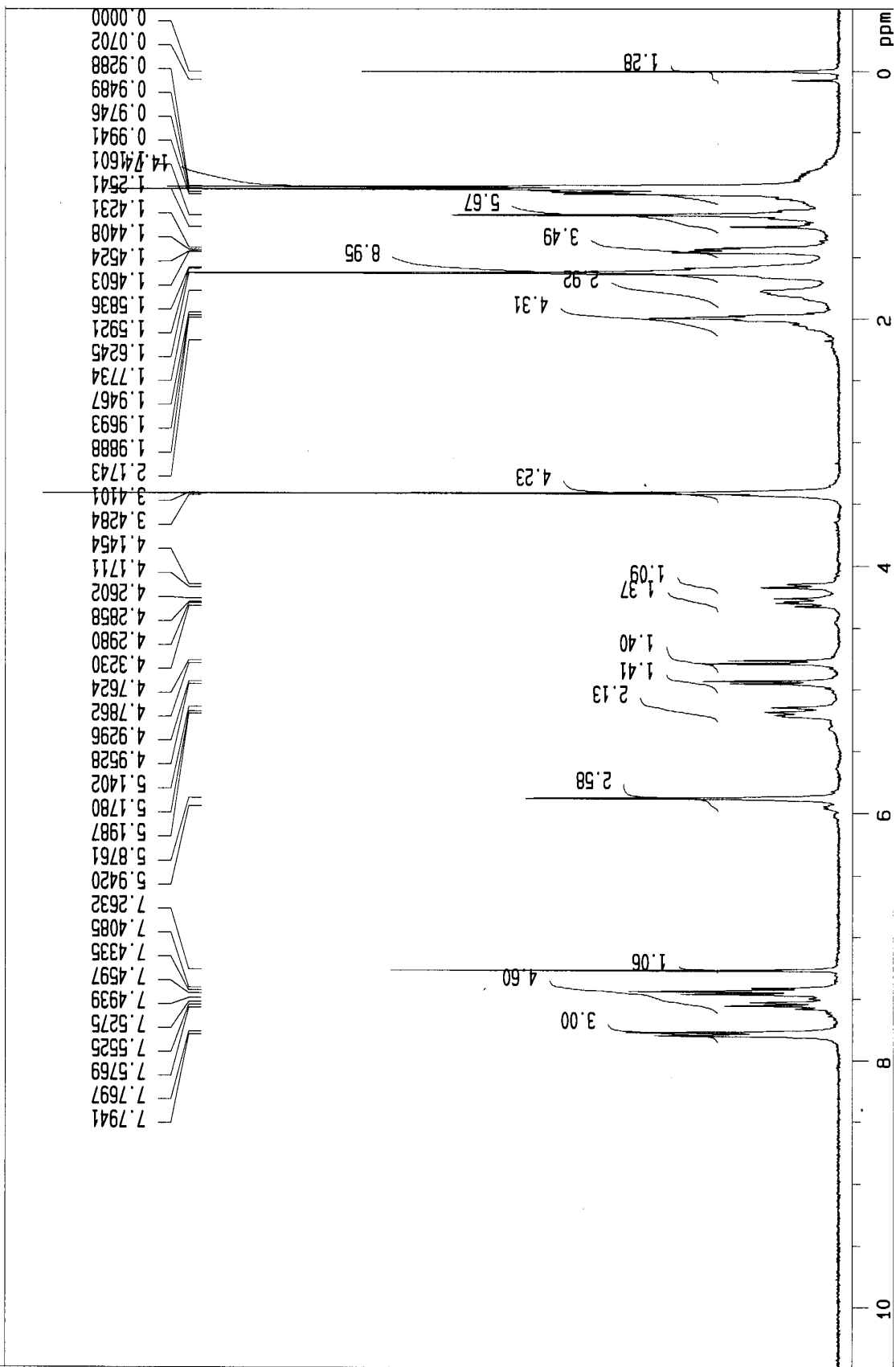
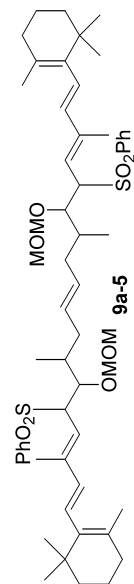
SKG.151



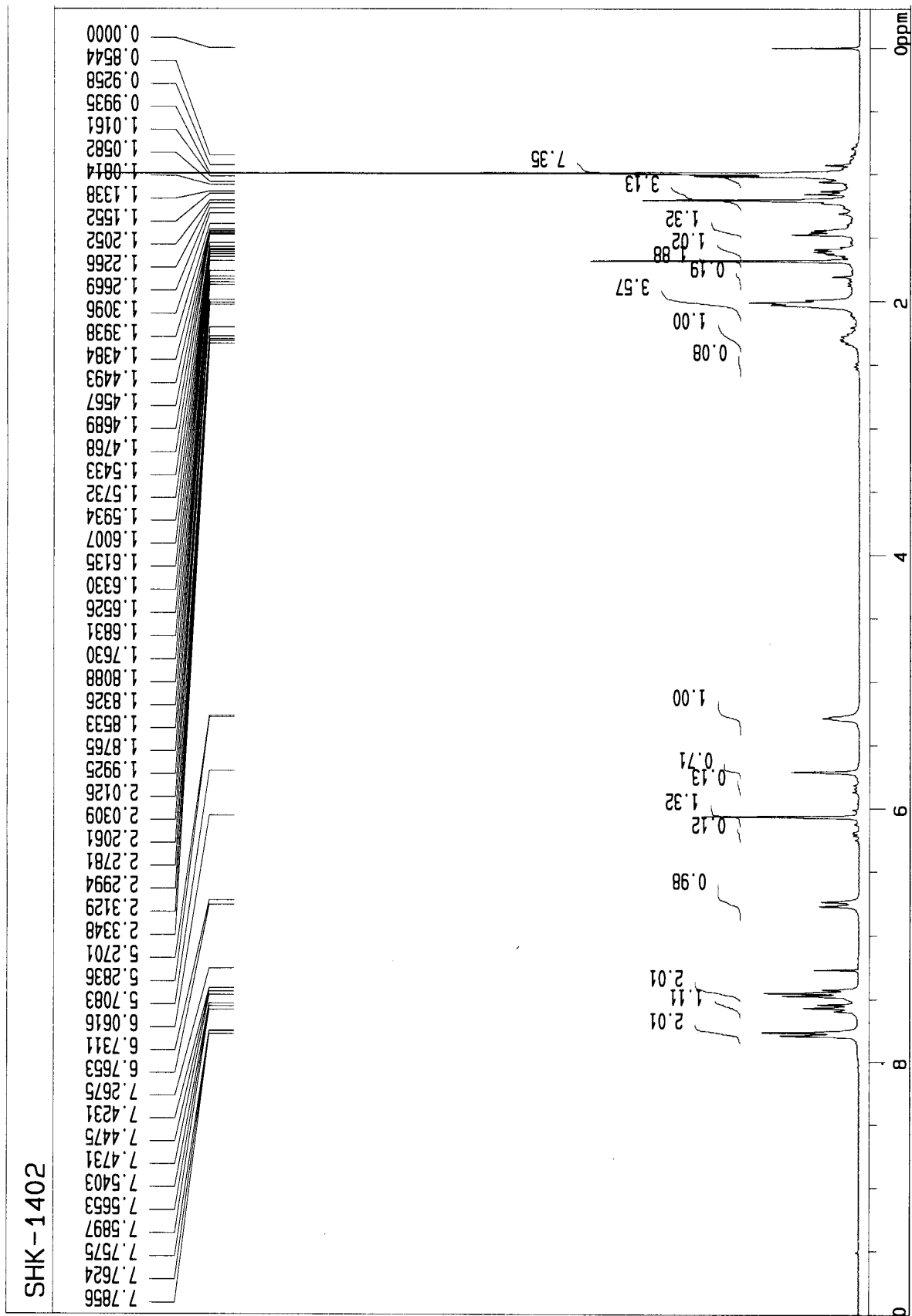
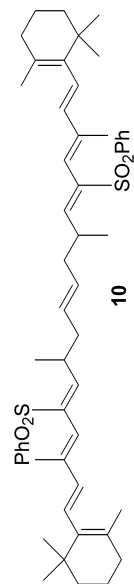
SHK-1408

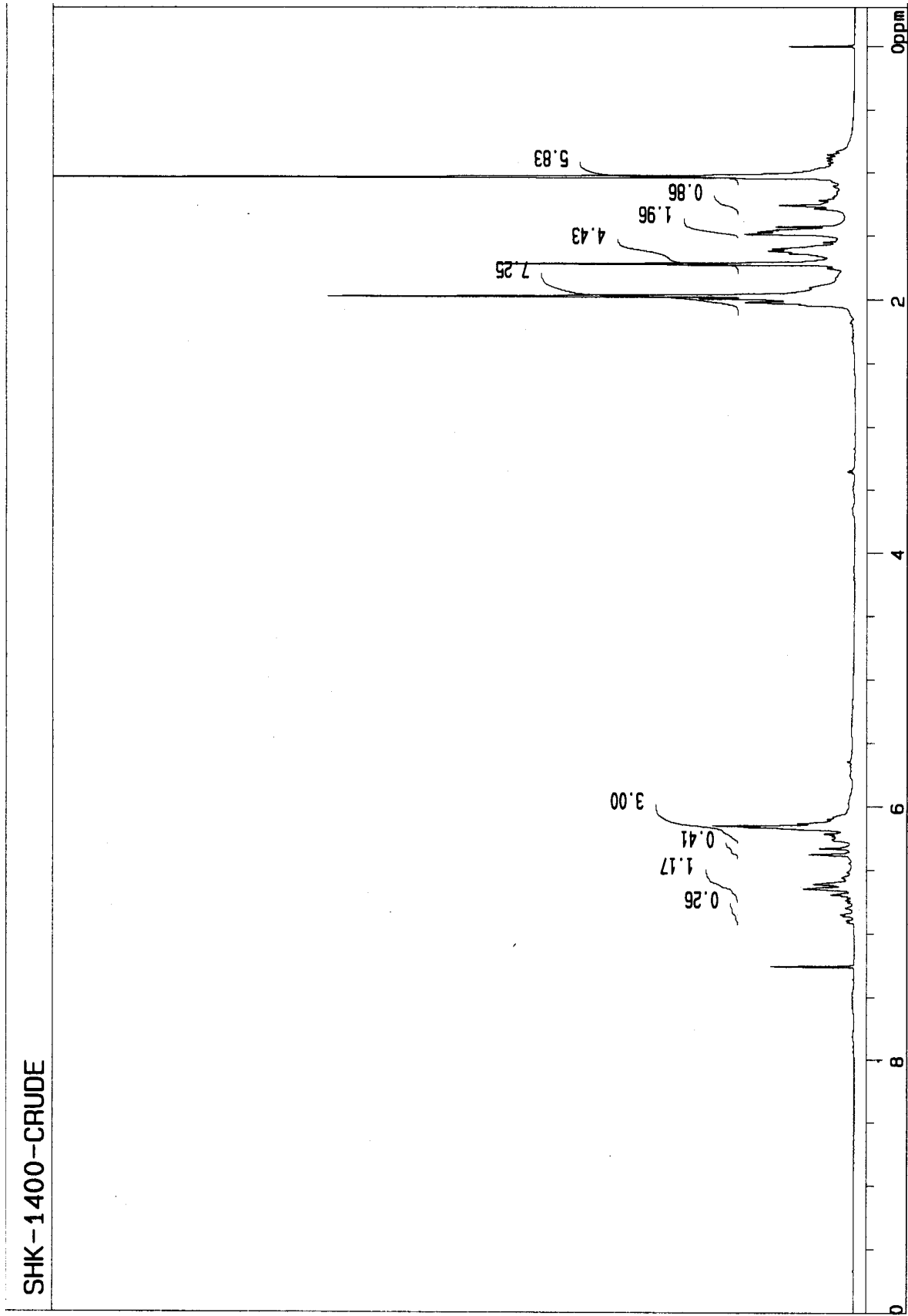
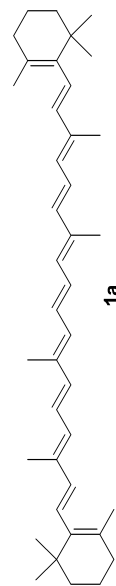


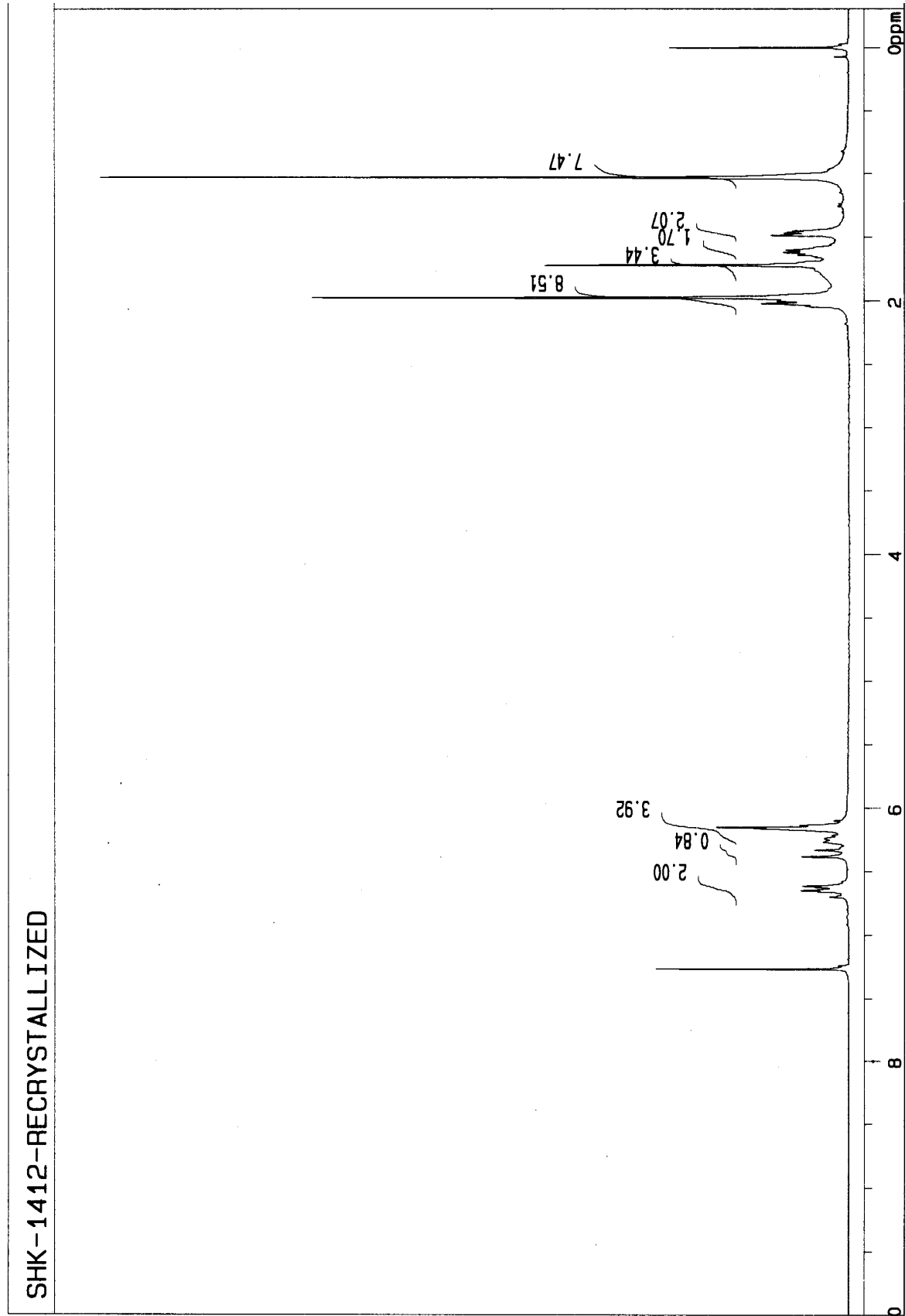
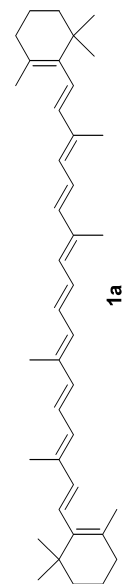
SHK-1370-2



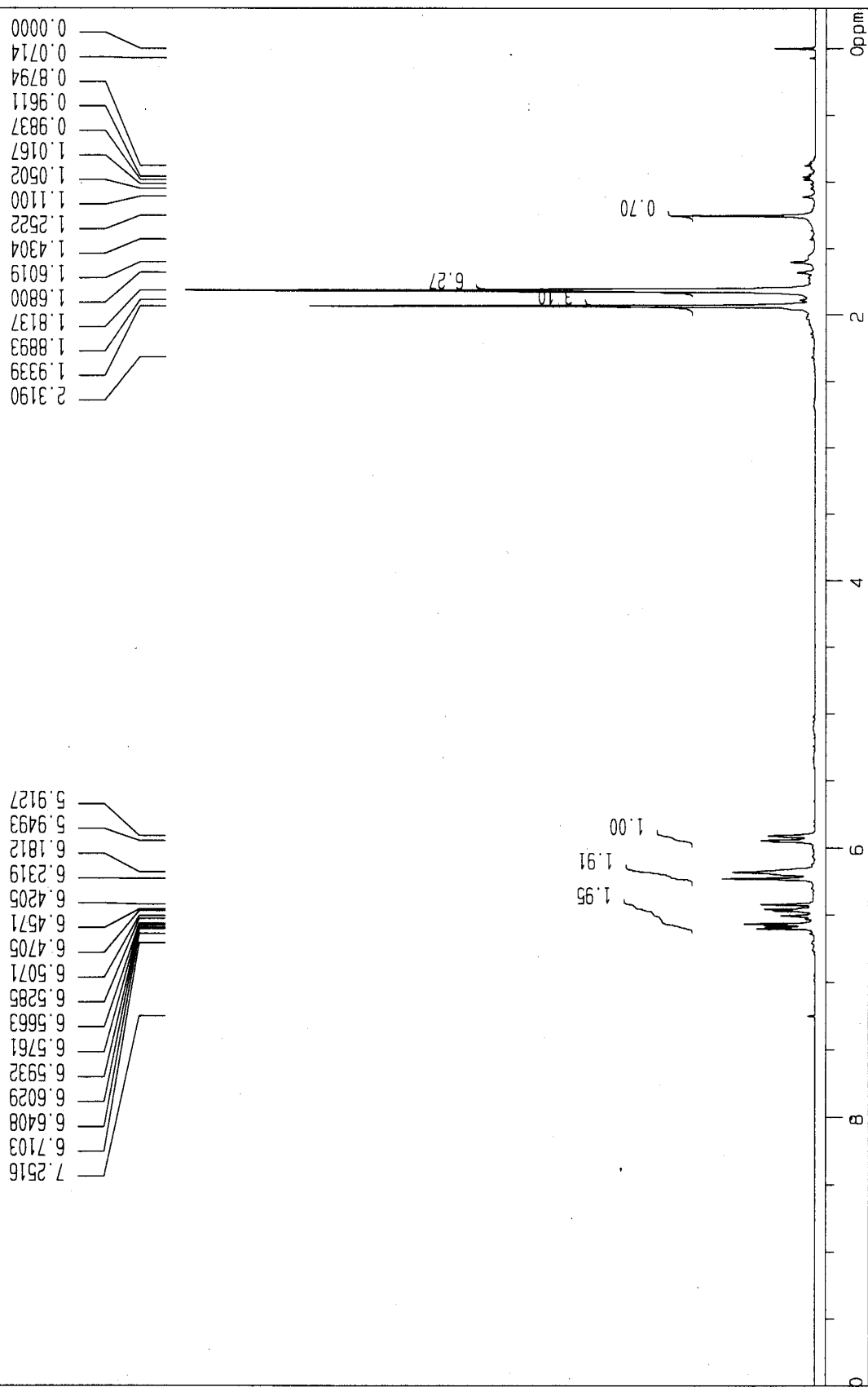
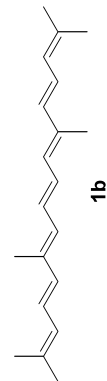
SKG.161, FOR 13C



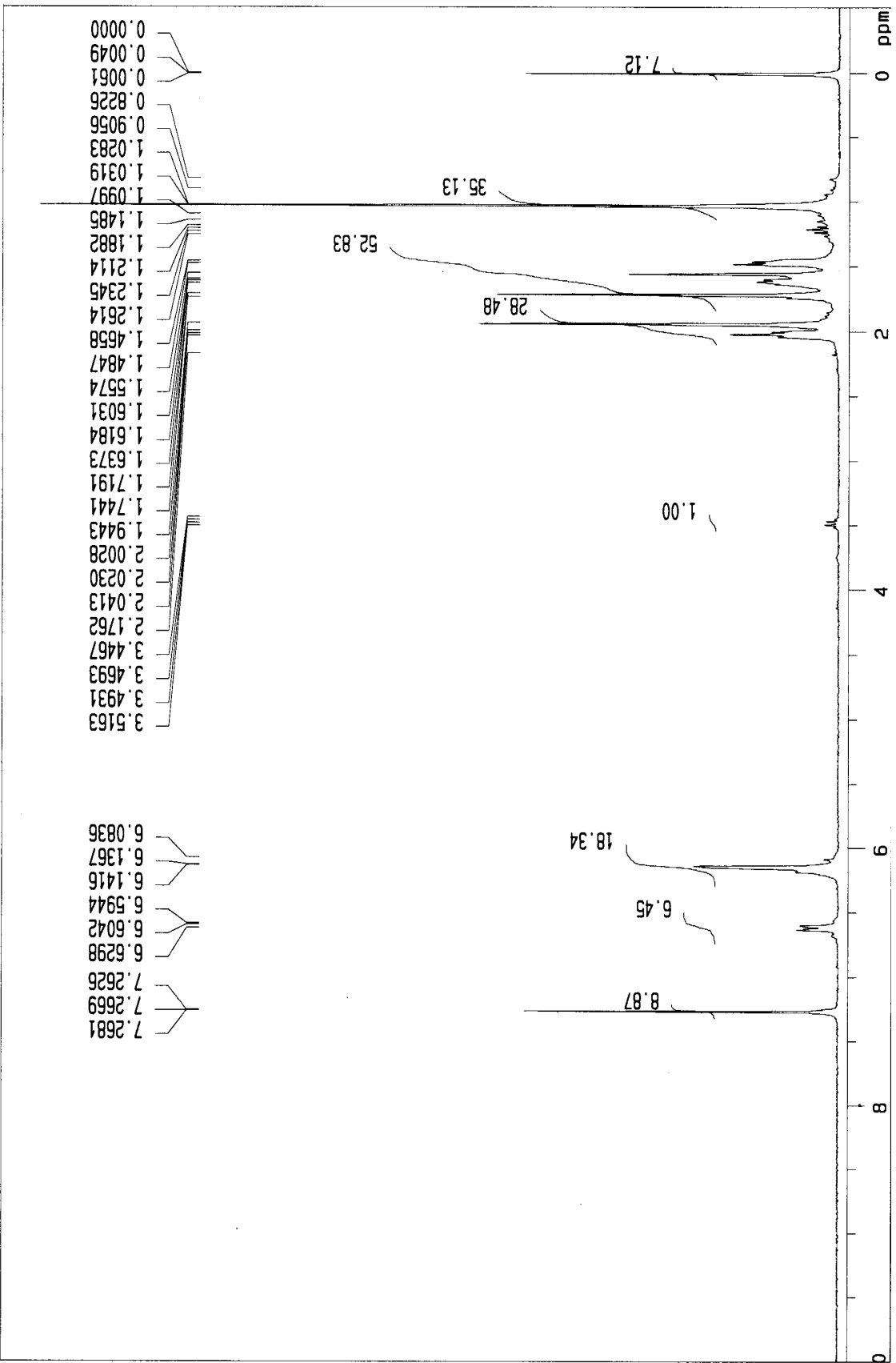
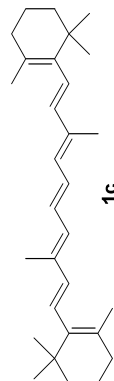




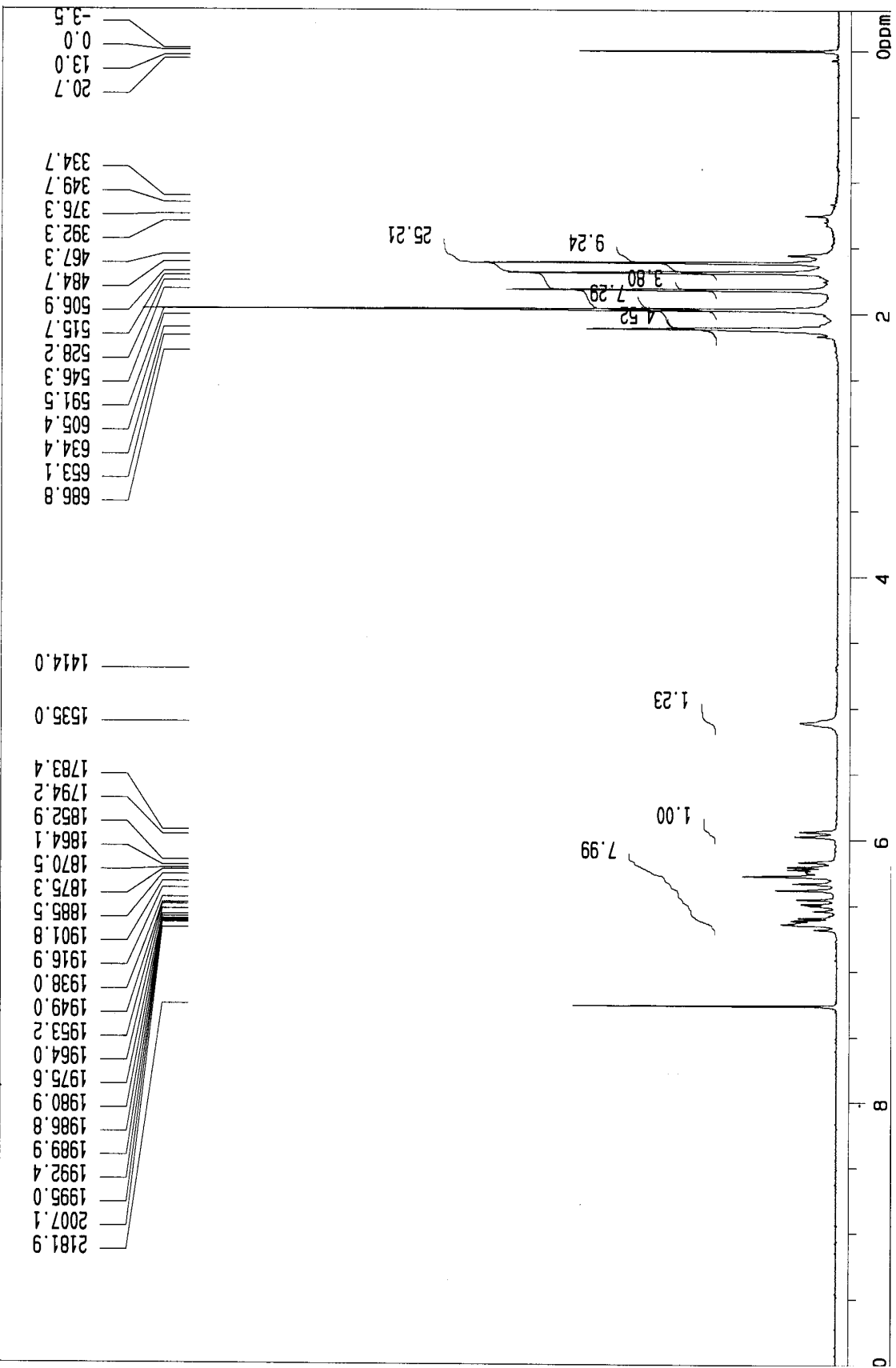
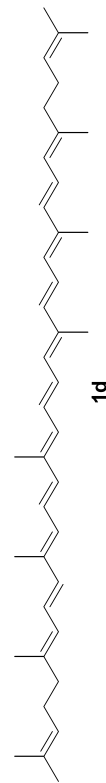




CHJ-173-1



SKG.219, AFTER CRYSTALLIZATION



SHK-1447 - Recrystallized